

The Frankfurter Feldbahnmuseum does not understand itself as being a museum railway in the normal sense of things. In many ways we have set ourselves a goal to create a living museum. We have tried to produce a memorial to the part that the Feldbahn played in the field of transport and work. Future generations should be able to experience how the predecessors of lorries and conveyor belts functioned. We have tried to give the public an insight into the important role that the Feldbahn had in the many facets of the transport world. Due to the many tasks it had to perform there developed a wide range of vehicles adapted to their particular functions.

The moving force behind the museum is a society comprised of ca. 150 members. Approximately 20 % are actively involved in developing the museum. It is financed mainly through the sales of tickets, souvenir and snack sales, plus membership subscriptions. The city of Frankfurt and various private companies support us as well. Our society has existed since 1975. With the end of the steam era on the Deutsche Bundesbahn, a small group of railfans decided that it would be nice to save a locomotive or two! By coincidence the choice fell upon a narrow gauge loc and this decision was the foundation of the subsequent development of our society. 1976 in Mainflingen near Aschaffenburg we presented our first locomotive under steam. In the following years our membership continued to grow. In 1979 we had our first move, into the empty locomotives repair sheds at Nied, Frankfurt. Due to demolition of this premises our society one more had to move and were offered the use of the empty Tram Depot in Bockenheim, Frankfurt. Although the locomotive collection, due to restrictive circumstances was not open to the public, our membership increased further, The popularity and recognition of our work was slowly accepted by the regional government.



Due to the support of the City of Frankfurt am Main, we were able to move in 1985 onto land next to the Rebstock Park where we could construct a 600 qm building. This is divided into three parts; the main area for storage and general repair work with three tracks; the west wing with carpenter shops and two tracks for coach storage; the east wing with fitters, exhibition and meeting rooms. Added to this was the possibility to construct a 1,7 Km long stretch of running track on which our locomotives could run twice a Month on the average. On every open day there is at least two locomotives in action. On special events we organise a parade of all our locomotives and wagons, showing the historical development of the "Feldbahn".



Part of our function as a museum is to build up an archive of photos and documentation as well as producing publications and exhibitions both in our museum and elsewhere. Naturally our main interest is in the main-tenance and preservation of the examples which we have been able to require. All the work involved is car-ried out volentary by the members. The locomotives are owned by individual members and are loaned to the society. The buildings, track and wagons are the direct property of the society. Due to limited workshop capacity, not all repairs are done at Frankfurt. Various locomotives have recently been sent to outside workshops.



Our ultimate goal is to restore all the vehicles in our possession and design the museum so that it gives the impression and atmosphere of a original Feldbahn. We have been able to save from scrap 15 steam loco-motives of which 9 are in steam, 1 compressed steam loco, 26 diesel locs, 3 petrol locs, 1 draisine, 2 battery loc, 1 electro loc, 1 compressed air loco and more than 150 wagons. Our collection extends to various equipment and tools associated with narrow gauge workings.

The museum is open on every first Saturday in the month from 14 to 17 hours. Only on special steam days are locomotive running.

**Frankfurter Feldbahnmuseum e. V. - Am Römerhof 15 f - D-60486 Frankfurt am Main
Telefon 069/70 92 92 - e-mail: ffmev@feldbahn-ffm.de - <http://www.feldbahn-ffm.de>**