

HOUSE FROM THE XVITH CENTURY CALLED  
"OLD CITY HALL OF ESCHELSHEIM"

The name of this house is a reference to the old village of Eschelsheim, merged in Rixheim probably in the sixteenth century and long called Unterdorf. This "low village" went from the "rue de l'Ecole" (School Street) to the "rue Basse" (Low Street) and the "rue des Pierres" (Rocks Street). The "rue d'Eschelsheim" (Eschelsheim Street) reminds today the existence of this locality.



On this view from 1910, the front was still decorated with a sundial.

Dated back to 1588, this building is a fine example of a rock house in two floors plus the attic, on a cave and a semi-circular arched carriage gate. The masonry is in limestone with rocks angles. The saddleback roof was redesigned after 1945. The Renaissance windows are of dressed stone, with fixed mullioned, including a corner window, unique in Rixheim. The below of the jambs is decorated with volutes. A barn, figuring on the cadastral plan of 1823, now gone, reminds the agricultural use of this building.

In the eighteenth century, this house was owned by the Welter, a notable family. Among its members was notably Béat Welter, treasurer of the Rixheim Commandery between 1716 and 1726. His father Jean Ulrich Welter was bailiff (Vogt) in Rixheim from the end of the seventeenth century and the beginning of the eighteenth. In 1827 the building was bought by Georges Notter, big land owner. It went by marriage to a Haas family, in 1864, which still own it.



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