Recalling When a Wall Split a City Apart

BY NICOLAS RUBIN

BERLIN — Günter Schlusche, the architect of a memorial that commemorates the 50th anniversary of the construction of the Berlin Wall, died on Saturday in Berlin. He was 83.

Mr. Schlusche, who designed a series of memorials in Berlin, had been in poor health recently.

Mr. Schlusche said of the Berlin Wall Memorial’s location, Bernauer Street 10A, that it was more than just a site for the memorial. “It was a dark moment in history that we should never forget,” he said.

Mr. Schlusche was born in Berlin in 1928, the son of a Jewish family. He was drafted into the German army at the age of 16 and was captured by American troops near the end of World War II. He later studied architecture at the Technical University of Berlin.

Mr. Schlusche’s work includes the Berlin Wall Memorial, which was dedicated in 2009. The memorial is a series of concrete slabs that represent the Berlin Wall. It is located on Bernauer Street near the East Side Gallery, a row of murals that extends for 1.3 miles along the former boundary between East and West Berlin.

Mr. Schlusche also designed the Berlin Wall Memorial project, which opened in 2009. The project consists of a series of concrete slabs that represent the Berlin Wall.

Mr. Schlusche was instrumental in bringing attention to the Berlin Wall Memorial’s location. In 2007, he helped to establish a foundation to raise money for the memorial.

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