

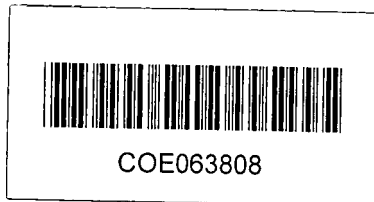
COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 3. February 1970

Confidential
CE/Nat (70) 8

Or. Fr.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSERVATION OF
NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Working Party on
Flora, Fauna and Landscapes

The Siebengebirge Nature Reserve

Site nominated by the Federal Republic of Germany
for the award of the European Diploma in 1971

Note by the Secretariat

The Siebengebirge Nature Reserve was first nominated for the European Diploma in February 1969 (CE/Nat (69) Misc 3). Its candidature was postponed, however, because not all the necessary information had been supplied.

The Secretariat has now received all the requisite material and the Working Party is invited to consider the application attached hereto.

Name of the site: Siebengebirge Nature Reserve

Category: Nature reserve

Name and address of the organisation responsible for its management:

Verschönerungs-verein für das Siebengebirge
53 - BONN
Adenauerallee 7

Country: Federal Republic of Germany

(a) Type of reserve:

Mountainous area of volcanic origin, with typical plant life and large geological faults of scientific interest.

(b) Scientific designation, characteristics and justification for preservation:

The calm of the schistose mountains, with their large plateaux and deep valleys, gives way, at Honnef, to the more varied aspect of the numerous conical hills of the Siebengebirge. For centuries this romantic landscape has been attracting visitors. Mountains, ruins, the Rhine, extensive forest footpaths, and the plain of the Lower Rhine opening towards the north contribute to the singular charm of the area, which is outstanding in Europe.

The unique place which the Siebengebirge occupies in the European geological system is less obvious and can be appreciated only by someone who can see beyond the landscape's immediate appearance and discern the successive changes it has undergone. It has been found that tectonic faults in the shape of furrows weaken the earth's crust and facilitate upsurges of magma. The volcanoes of the East-African rift are well-known examples.

The Siebengebirge is an outstanding example of the formation of rifts and of volcanic activity. It lies at the southern end of the Lower Rhine rift and its volcanoes were active twenty million years ago, when the rift formed. Nowadays it is an area of old volcanoes. The soft layers of tuff have been eroded, leaving the hard volcanic rocks which have formed domes and crests.

The abandoned quarries give even the layman a direct general picture of this interesting geological evolution. The Weilberg - with the volcanic ash, basalt lava which has penetrated in several stages and the effect of this molten rock on the marginal tuffs - is a natural curiosity which can be taken in at a glance. It is referred to in specialist works, and any geologist who goes to Bonn makes a point of visiting it.

The Drachenfels with its ruin and incomparable view over the Rhine is the most romantic of the mountains in the area. But few people know that the configuration of the minerals (feldspar) in the trachyte makes it possible to reconstitute the flow pattern of the volcanic lava. This plasticity is also a unique feature.

Although the Siebengebirge may be spoken of as an area of old volcanoes, there is a small volcano that is not yet an old one, namely the Rodderberg, on the other side of the Drachenfels, which nature formed after some 20 million years, i.e. 10,000-12,000 years ago. Still in its original form, with its embankment of basalt tuff and deep crater, it provides an excellent complement to the Siebengebirge.

(c) European interest of the application:

There is no area in Europe where rifts and old and young volcanoes are so closely linked and complementary as that of the Siebengebirge with its varied and harmonious landscape.

(d) Description of geographical position and/or sketch or tracing on map (scale: 1:500,000 or approximately):

One 1:25,000 touring map.

One 1:25,000 topographical map.

(e) Photographs:

Two 18 x 24 cm. glossy, black and white.

Fourteen colour.

(f) Conservation measures taken so far:

1. The Siebengebirge was the first area in Germany to be designated a nature reserve, on 7 June 1922.
2. Declaration of 9 September 1968 concerning the Siebengebirge reserve in the Landkreis of Bonn and the Siegkreis (Appendix A).
3. Regulation of 4 February 1965 governing the Siebengebirge reserve in the Landkreis of Bonn and the Siegkreis (Appendix B).

9. Références aux publications - References to published descriptions :

1. Géologie - Geology

- BERG G. Geologische Beobachtungen im Siebengebirge - Decheniana 91, 99-134 Bonn 1935
- CLOOS H.u.E. Die Quellkuppe des Drachenfels am Rhein - Zeitschrift für Vulkanologie, 11, 33-40, 1927
- CLOOS H. Der Basaltstock des Weilberges im Siebengebirge - Geologische Rundschau 35, 33-37, 1948
- GRABERT H. Eine ungewöhnlich tiefreichende tertiäre Verwitterungszone im Devon des Siebengebirges bei Königswinter. Decheniana 114-2, 171-176 Bonn 1962
- HERZOG W. (1967) Das Siebengebirge. Mitteilungen der Landesstelle für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege. NRW, 5 Jg. NF 6/7, 5-13.
- KAISER E. Geologische Darstellung des Nordabfalls des Siebengebirges - Verh.Nat. Ver. 54, 78-204, Bonn, 1897
- KUMMEL K. (1956) Das Siebengebirge. Landschaft, Vegetation und Stellung im nordeuropäischen Raum (mit einer Vegetationskarte, Verbreitungskarte und Profilen) (Ebenda siehe auch weitere Literatur) Decheniana Bd. 108, Heft 2, 247-298
- KUMMEL K. (1967) Der Naturhistorische Verein der Rheinlande und Westfalens und die wissenschaftliche Erforschung des Siebengebirges. Diese Mitteilungen, 5. Jg. NF 6/7, 2-5. Siehe dort auch weitere Literatur.
- TROLL C. Land der sieben Berge - Merian-Heft, 8. Jg. Heft 11 (Bonn) 49-55 Hambourg 1955

WILCKENS O. Materialien und Beiträge zur Geologie und Päläontologie der Umgegend von Bonn - Sitzungsberichte, herausgegeben vom Nat. Ver. 1925, C 1-47, Bonn 1925

2. Paléontologie - Paleontology

- DAHMER, G. Revision der Fauna von Menzenberg (Siegen-Stufe) - Decheniana 91, 135-150. Bonn 1935
- GOECKE H. Donaciinen der oligocänen Ablagerungen von Rott - 16. Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Donaciinen (Col., Chrys.) Decheniana 112-2, 279-281, Bonn, 1960
- STATZ G. Über neue Funde von Neuropteren, Panorpäten und Trichopteren aus den tertiären Schieferen von Rott am Siebengebirge - Decheniana 93, 208-255, Bonn, 1936
- STATZ G. Neue Funde parasitärer Hymenopteren aus dem Tertiär von Rott am Siebengebirge - Decheniana 98 A-1, 71-144 Bonn 1938, mit zahlreichen Literaturangaben.

3. Botanique - Botany

- KUMMEL K. Floristisch-soziologische Streifzüge durch die Umgebung von Bonn. I. Über die Pflanzenwelt vulkanischer Böden - Decheniana 97 B, 189-218, Bonn, 1938.
- KUMMEL K. Ebenso. II. Die Pflanzenwelt der Basalte des nördlichen Mittelrheingebietes - Decheniana 99 B, 1-90; Bonn, 1940
- KUMMEL K. Das Siebengebirge. Landschaft, Vegetation und Stellung im europäischen Raum - Decheniana 108-2, 247-298, Bonn 1956 (mit weiteren Literaturangaben).

KUMMEL K. u. A. HAHNE. Die Vegetation des Siebengebirges
in ausgewählten Einzeldarstellungen
(1. Teil) 1953 ; Schlussheft 1954 -
Rotaprintdruck, Selbstverlag. Bonn 1953
und 1954

LAÜBERT R. Schmarotzerpilze aus dem Siebengebirge -
Decheniana 98 B, 113-118, Bonn, 1939

RUHL A. Über das soziologische Verhalten der
schlanken Segge (*Carex strigosa*) -
Decheniana, Bonn, 1958

Siebengebirge und Rodderberg. Beiträge zur Biologie
eines rheinischen Naturschutzgebietes. Teil I-III -
Decheniana Beihefte 7 (1959), 10 (1962)

4. Zoologie - Zoology

LENGERSDORF F. Beitrag zur Höhlenfauna des Siebengebirges -
Ber. d. Bot. u. Zool. Ver. herausgegeben
v. Nat. Ver. 1927, 32-50. Bonn, 1927

LENGERSDORF F. Ergänzung zu dem "Beitrag zur Höhlenfauna
des Siebengebirges" -
Decheniana 108-1, 168. Bonn, 1955

NEUBAUER F. Beiträge zur Vogelfauna der ehemaligen
Rheinprovinz -
Decheniana 110-1, 1-278. Bonn, 1957

A P P E N D I X A

Administrative President
Supreme Authority for the
Conservation of Nature

Cologne, 9 September 1968

21.4.810 (NSG Siebengebirge).

Declaration

concerning the Siebengebirge Reserve in the Landkreis
of Bonn and the Siegkreis

The preservation of the unique beauty of the oldest nature reserve in Germany has always been a matter of particular concern to the German Government and the great majority of the German public. With the help of the Siebengebirge Amenities Association ("Verschönerungsverein für das Siebengebirge", VVS), founded a hundred years ago at the instance of the King of Prussia, ownership of the former "Quarry of Europe" passed, through purchase and in some cases expropriation, into the hands of the public authorities and the VVS itself, and after the quarries had closed down, its romantic beauty and originality were preserved through landscape management measures.

In 1933 the area was designated a nature reserve and in 1960 a national park. The highly effective conservation regulations which are stringently applied to the area and the continuous vigilance exercised by the VVS as the body responsible for its management are guarantees that the Siebengebirge will remain unaffected by the demands of urbanisation, technology and traffic.

The regulation governing the Siebengebirge will enable the forest which covers most of the area to be properly managed, but it expressly stipulates that the preservation of the beauty of the landscape shall take precedence over considerations of economic profit. Thus provision has been made to ensure that by far the larger part of the original deciduous forest retains its character and that forest management, under the continuous supervision of the nature conservation authorities, is carried on as an almost imperceptible process. Large-scale felling is prohibited and in some parts no forestry operations at all may be carried out.

With the exception of three through-roads, the 4,200 hectares of the reserve are closed to motor traffic. Numerous footpaths make the beauty of the mountains accessible to the many visitors. Recently, the Weilberg, one of the most interesting geological features in Europe, was purchased by the Linz Basalt Company and was opened to the general public as a demonstration of numerous conservation measures. An objective with which the VVS is particularly concerned is that of saving the vineyards in this wine-growing area, the northernmost in Europe, from being converted to uses that would be economically more profitable. It is intended to purchase vineyards which have already been abandoned and restore them to their original purpose.

(signed) Dr. Heidecke

Regierungspräsident

A P P E N D I X B

Official Gazette of the Regierungsbezirk of Cologne

Special edition

Edition A and B

145th Year Published in Cologne on 22 March 1965 No. 11a

234.

Regulation

governing the Siebengebirge Nature Reserve
in the Landkreis of Bonn and the Siegkreis

New text of the regulation of 1 September 1944 of the
Regierungspräsident at Cologne (Official Gazette 1944, p. 35,
No. 87) as modified by the amendment of 20 October 1955
(Official Gazette 1955, p. 545, No. 565).⁷

Pursuant to

Articles 4, 12 para. 2, 13 para. 2, 15, 16 para. 2,
23 of the Reichsnaturschutzgesetz (Nature Conservation
Act) of 26 June 1935 (RGBl. I, p. 821), as modified
by the Third Amending Act of 20 January 1938
(RGBl. I, p. 36),

Articles 7 para. 5, 17, of the Implementing Order of
31 October 1935 (RGBl. I, p. 1275), as modified by
the Supplementary Regulation of 16 September 1938
(RGBl. I, p. 1184),

and Article 41 (b) of the Ordnungsbehördengesetz, OBG
(Act on the Organisation and Powers of Public
Authorities) of 16 October 1956 (GS NW, p. 155),

the following regulation is hereby promulgated with
the consent of the Supreme Authority for the Conservation
of Nature:

Article 1

(1) By its entry in the Landesnaturbuch (Nature Conservation Register of the Land), the Siebengebirge area was placed under the protection of the Reichsnaturschutzgesetz (Nature Conservation Act of the Reich).

(2) Notice of this entry is hereby re-issued.

Article 2

(1) The reserve has an area of 4,200 hectares.

(2) The boundaries of the reserve are specified in the annex hereto which forms an integral part of this regulation.

(3) In addition, the boundaries of the reserve are shown in red on the survey maps filed with the Supreme Authority for Nature Conservation of the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia at Düsseldorf and with the High Authority for the Conservation of Nature at Cologne.

(4) The boundaries of the reserve are likewise shown in red on a 1:25,000 map which is also filed with both the Supreme and the High Authorities for Nature Conservation. Further copies are deposited with the following: Landesstelle für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege in Nordrhein Westfalen, Düsseldorf; Bezirksstelle für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege im Regierungsbezirk Köln, Cologne; Untere Naturschutzbehörden - Landkreise - at Bonn and Siegburg; Kreisstellen für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege, Landkreis Bonn and Siegburg.

Article 3

Inside the reserve, it is prohibited:

- (a) to damage, pull up or dig up any plants or pluck, cut or otherwise remove any parts therefrom;
- (b) to pursue or wilfully disturb wild creatures, set devices designed to catch, trap or kill them, and to remove or damage chrysalises, larvae, eggs or nests or any other breeding places or habitats of wildlife. This shall not apply to proper measures of protection against parasites, harmful insects or leeches;

- (c) to bring in any plants or animals;
- (d) to walk anywhere except on the paths, enter caves, light fires, discard litter or disfigure the area in any other way;
- (e) to remove anything from the soil, cause explosions, carry out excavations, tip refuse, rubble or soil or in any other way alter or damage the contours of the area, including natural water courses and sheets of water;
- (f) to erect buildings, including huts, or put up walls or wire-mesh fences;
- (g) to put up signs or boards other than those relating to the protection of the reserve or to the regulation of traffic;
- (h) to set up camping grounds and pitch tents;
- (i) to make noise or operate loud-speakers or other sound apparatus loudly out of doors.

Article 4

(1) Normal and appropriate measures of forest management may be carried out, but the preservation of the beauty of the original landscape shall take precedence over considerations of economic profit.

The purpose of forest management in the Siebengebirge reserve shall be to protect and establish healthy and well-maintained plantations which as far as possible match the original appearance of the forest.

To this end, at least three-quarters of the forest shall continue to consist of deciduous trees indigenous to the Rhineland. Conifers shall, in principle, be planted only separately or in small clumps. No foreign species may be grown. Rare species which form part of the natural forest, such as *Sorbus torminalis*, *Sorbus aria*, lime, elm and wild-fruit species, shall be protected, cultivated and nurtured on their sites.

./.

As a rule, operations which enable forest management to be carried on almost imperceptibly shall be preferred. Small openings may be cut wherever they can provide particularly attractive views. Clear cutting shall not be permissible; instead, periodical thinning or selective cutting shall be done so as to obtain strong well-crowned trunks which can subsequently be preserved in isolation or in groups. In individual cases, old giant trees shall be preserved until they die naturally.

Some permanent stands shall be left untouched in their natural state.

(2) Any forestry measure shall be subject to the approval of the Regierungspräsident, Supreme Authority for the Conservation of Nature, Cologne. Except in special cases where the Regierungspräsident reserves the right to take a decision himself, the State Forestry Department's forestry officer for the Siebengebirge at Siegburg may authorise both individual forestry measures and whole forestry schemes comprising individual measures, provided that such schemes are submitted to the forestry and water authorities.

(3) Agriculture, fruit-growing, horticulture and wine-growing may be carried on within their present boundaries. The conversion of meadow and pasture-land, even into woodland, shall be subject to the approval, in each case, of the Regierungspräsident, Supreme Authority for the Conservation of Nature, Cologne.

Article 5

Hunting, shooting and fishing, as provided for by law, shall be permissible. Special care and support shall be given to the natural stock of animals and birds. The stock of wild boar, deer, etc., shall be adjusted according to the need to preserve the character of the forest, particularly the need to ensure its continuous renewal. The development and cultivation of thickets and forest edges shall be so managed as to ensure that all animals have thick and extensive cover; in open country it shall be ensured that there are suitable hedges for the purposes of shelter and hatching.

Article 6

Exceptions to the requirements of Articles 3-5 may be authorised in special cases by the Regierungspräsident, Supreme Authority for the Conservation of Nature, Cologne, in agreement with the Höhere Forstbehörde, where forestry operations are concerned, and in agreement with the Höhere Jagdbehörde, where hunting and shooting are concerned.

Article 7

Any person who contravenes Article 3-5 shall be liable to prosecution in pursuance of Articles 21 and 22 of the Reichsnaturschutzgesetz and Articles 15 and 16 of the regulation issued thereunder.

Article 8

This regulation shall come into force on 19 March 1965.

Cologne, 4 February 1965

(signed) Grobben
Regierungspräsident