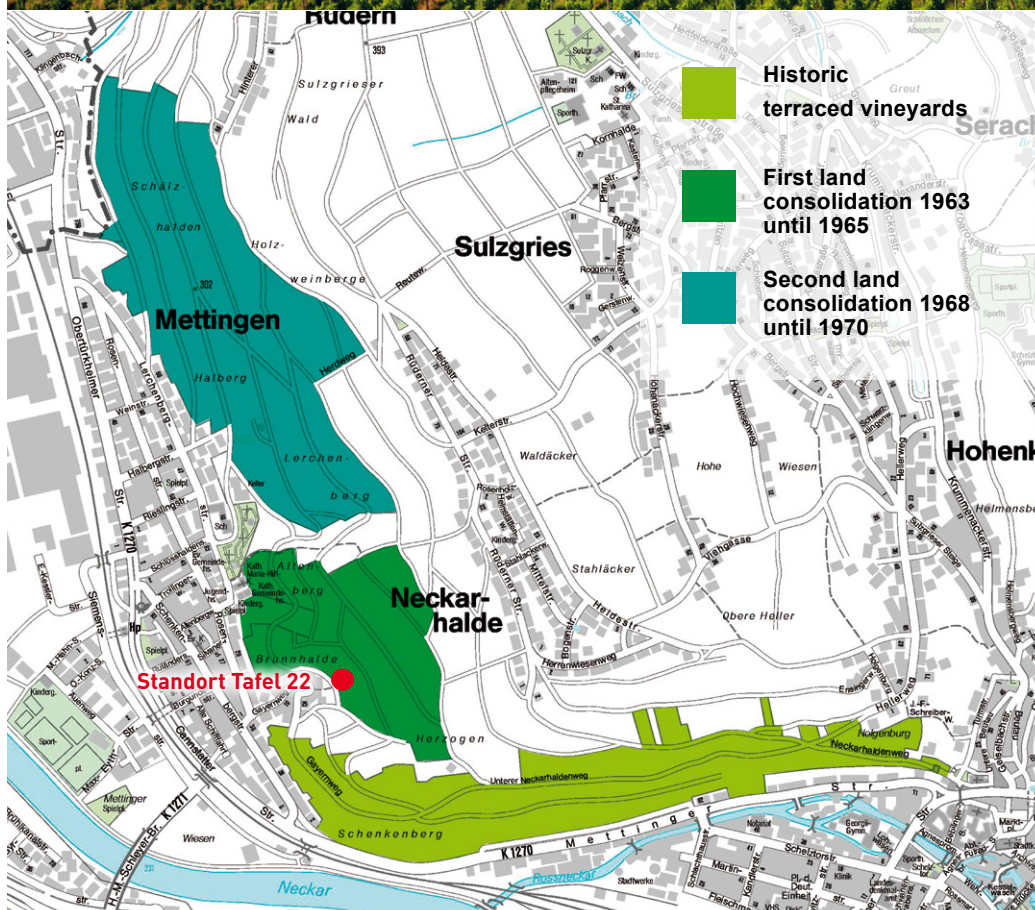


Esslinger Weinerlebnisweg

Station 22

New structures – land consolidation



First land consolidation of the steep slopes
Esslingen-Mettingen took place in the territory of Gayern, Brunnhalde and Altenberg. In 1963 Minister Dr. Linsenmeyer of the Ministry of Agriculture disposed the reorganisation together with the Mettingen winegrower Karl Hemminger.

After the bricks of the dry walls were put away caterpillars came and leveled and filled the ground. At that time in Stuttgart was built the underground and so there was enough earth excavation. Many cubic meters of this material was transported from the Stuttgart underground to Esslingen.

This work was a big challenge, as at that time there was no experience with land consolidation in such a steep terrain.

In sloping parcels of land they tried sweeping off. In order to avoid sweeping off the soil they inserted 1 up to 3 cubic meter compost.

The winegrowers were demanded lots of courage and readiness to make sacrifices. In addition to a multi-year loss of earnings they had to bear big parts of the costs for the reorganisation: approx. 30.000 DM per hectare.

After 3 hard years in 1965 it was finished and the winegrowers could start to grow the vine. But at long last it was worth: the expenditure of work in the terraced vineyards is about 1800 up to 2000 hours per hectare, in the cleared area it is only about 600 up to 1000 hours.

The path network had to be reorganized so that all vineyards can be reached with the machine available today. With these measures this site was turned into a recreational area. So you can walk through the vineyards paths at any weather and enjoy the new created structures.

(according to the records of Otto Rapp)



Before caterpillars could move in countless bricks, stones and boulders had to be crushed and moved and transported away (Images Margit Rapp above, Paul Clauss below)



Further impressions of the first land consolidation from 1963 - 1965 (many thanks to Paul Clauss)



The territory of Bronnhalde at Gayernweg November 1963, cleared from vine. (Photos: Paul Clauss)

