

STUTTGART REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Division 86 Preservation of Monuments

List of Cultural Monuments in Baden-Württemberg Part A1  
Statement of Reasons for Status as Historic Monument

Administrative district: Stuttgart  
County/city borough  
Municipality: Stuttgart  
Subdistrict: Feuerbach  
District/neighbourhood Feuerbach  
Street/house no.: Wiener Platz 3  
Field division:  
Forest district:  
Parcel: 0-3106, 0-3106/1  
Maps: TK 25: 7121  
FK: NO 2908  
DGK:

Status: 31 July 2014  
Author: Geiger-Schmidt

Object:

Underground bunker, built in 1940 as an air raid shelter, converted in 1971-74 into a Cold War civil defence facility and for longer stays as protection against the effects of a nuclear war.

Status: § 2

Starting in 1940, on the basis of the Führer's Immediate Action Programme from 10 October 1940, an underground bunker was built as a civilian air raid shelter near the train station in Stuttgart-Feuerbach. Feuerbach was one of the seven locations in Stuttgart, which, on the basis of a report from 29 October 1940, were considered urgently in need of such construction due to their population and workplace density. The underground bunker was completed within a period of six months and provided room for ca. 1,000 people. The walls and ceilings were constructed from steel-reinforced concrete and had a thickness of 1.6 to 1.8 meters.

Due to the extreme shortage of housing in Stuttgart following the war rooms in suitable bunkers, amongst other places, were leased as living space. In July 1954 the bunker in Feuerbach was occupied by 43 households with a total of 117 people. After the last refugees and homeless people vacated the underground bunker in 1957 it was rented by the company Bosch from October 1959 to the end of 1960 for the accommodation of Italian guest workers.

Following the end of World War II all facilities and organisations serving air-raid protection were initially banned. From 1950, following the founding of the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic in 1949, and as a result of the increasing nuclear threat due to the Korean War, the Western Allies gave their consent to the recommencement of civilian air raid protection measures. The Soviet Union responded to the founding of the German Federal Armed Forces in 1955 and the Federal Republic of Germany's accession to NATO with the creation of the Warsaw Pact and proclaimed the sovereignty of the GDR. In 1957 the first law on measures for the protection of the civilian population was passed. The building of the Berlin Wall in 1961 and the Cuban Crisis of 1962 "definitively divided the world in West and

East” and “placed the world, as well as German civil defence, in fear of a Third World War” ([www.geschichtsspuren.de](http://www.geschichtsspuren.de)).

In 1961 Stuttgart responded to the nuclear threat with the establishment of the Office for Civil and Population Protection, and in 1965 the federal government passed a law on the building of shelters for the civilian population. In 1960 an initial application for the refurbishment of the underground bunker in Feuerbach as a nuclear shelter was drafted.

The underground bunker in Feuerbach was the first civil defence building in Stuttgart to be retrofitted for a “long-term” stay of up to 14 days to meet the requirements in the event of a nuclear war. For the improvement of the shelter in the years 1971-74 the following technical and structural features were added: Three entrances via so-called “dosage airlocks”, in order to control the inflow of people seeking shelter—a maximum of 1,172 people—, diesel generators and oil storage room for the emergency electricity supply, a ventilation system for the supply of fresh air via a coarse sand filter system, a water station with a deep well, water pumps and reservoirs for the water supply, pressure absorption room, decontamination chamber etc. The small-roomed cell structure of the 1940s bunker was largely retained for the sleeping and sitting space used in a shift system. The space allocation plan also included functional rooms for supervisory staff, bathrooms and toilets, as well as a kitchen.

Following German reunification and the end of the Cold War the utilisation programme for bunkers and tunnels and other building programmes were discontinued. In 2007 the Conference of the Ministers of the Interior agreed on the complete discontinuation of the comprehensive shelter building programme. Following the completion of a reverse transaction process the buildings are now available to the owners for unrestricted usage. The civil defence facilities owned by the City of Stuttgart are administered by the Public Real Estate Office.

In 2006 the underground bunker in Feuerbach was handed over for use by the association *Schutzbauten Stuttgart e. V.* The association added further moveable objects from other bunkers in Stuttgart to the building, preserved with the aforementioned rooms and technical facilities, which since then has been used as a museum and a site for the concrete teaching of history. With its clarity and completeness it is unique in Stuttgart.

The bunker complex, built in two construction phases, 1940 and 1971-74, together with the entrance building on Wiener Platz, and throughout the whole underground area with the original floor plan and the aforementioned structural and technical features, is for scientific (above all historical and contemporary historical) and local historical reasons a cultural monument in accordance with Section 2 of the Preservation of Historical Monuments Act of Baden-Württemberg. Due to its scientific-documentary value, its importance for the interpretation of the epoch of the Cold War, as well as its originality and integrity, there is a public interest in the preservation of the building.

Literature:

Mertens, Melanie: “Unbequeme Kolosse. Hochbunker in Mannheim”, in: *Denkmalpflege in Baden-Württemberg*, 40, 2011, pp. 9-15.

Zielfleisch, Rolf: *Feuerbacher Geschichte. Fast vergessene Bauwerke. Luftschutz in Feuerbach*. Stuttgart 2005

Zielfleisch, Rolf: *Stuttgarter Bunkerwelten*. Stuttgart 2006

[www.bbk.bund.de](http://www.bbk.bund.de) / [www.geschichtsspuren.de](http://www.geschichtsspuren.de) / [www.schutzbauten-stuttgart.de](http://www.schutzbauten-stuttgart.de)

## STATE OFFICE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS

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