

Shelter hut Essener Hütte (2405 m)



Abteilung
Natur
und Landschaft

Ripartizione
Natura
e paesaggio



Festgäste bei der Einweihung
Il rifugio Essener Hütte
all'inaugurazione
Celebration guests at the official
opening
(anno 1903, Historisches AlpenArchiv München)



Essener Hütte mit Seeber Ferner und Hochfirst
Il rifugio Essener Hütte col ghiacciaio Seeber Ferner e la cima Hochfirst
Shelter hut Essener Hütte with glacier Seeber Ferner and Hochfirst
(Historisches AlpenArchiv München)

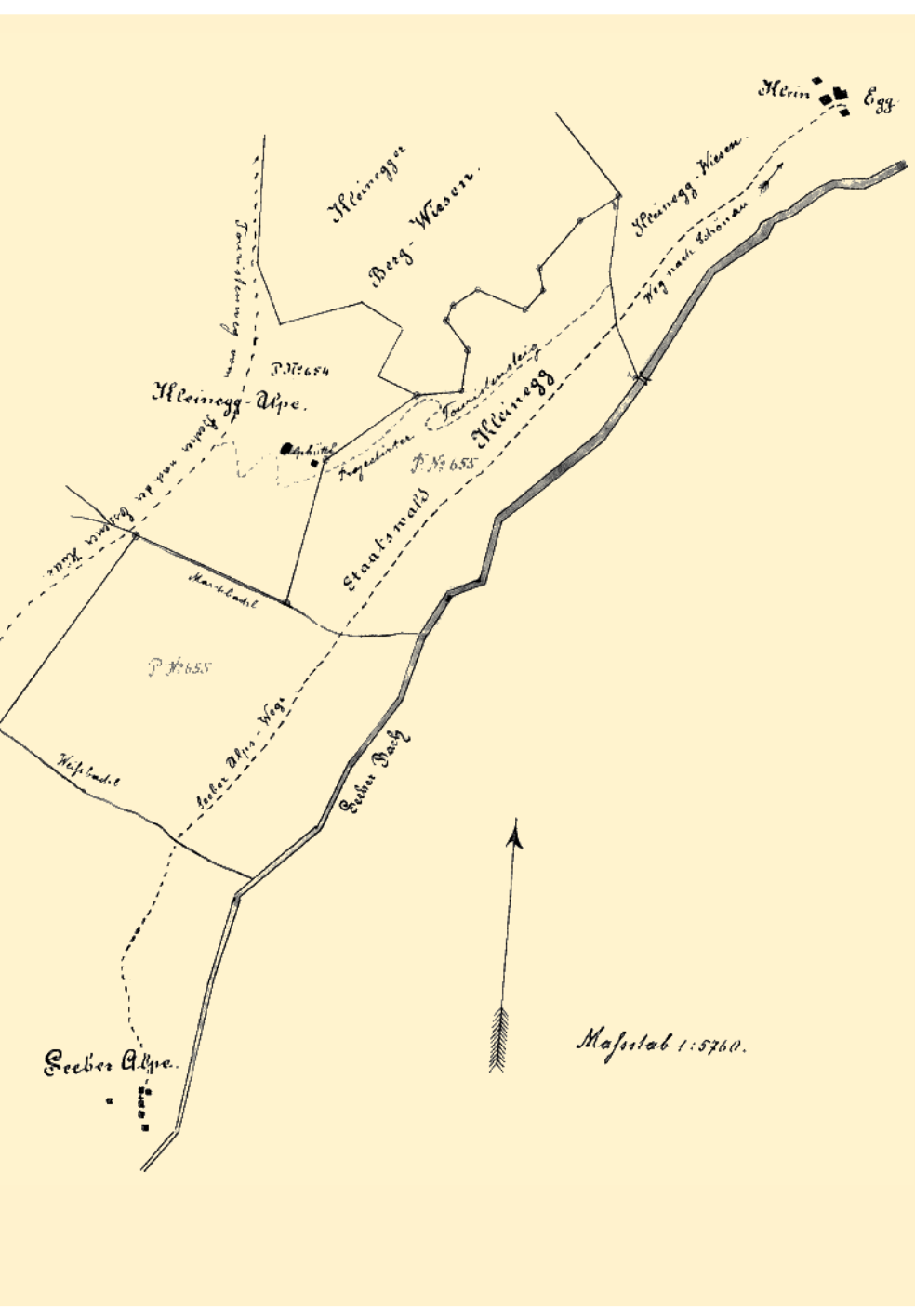
Shelter hut Essener Hütte (2405 m)

Only few remnants remind us of the shelter hut Essener Hütte at the Miespichl in the upper Valley Seebertal, which was once an accommodation for many hikers and mountain-climbers. Already in the year 1896 Gustav Becker from the section Essen of the DuÖAV in North Rhine-Westphalia suggested building a shelter hut in the Seeber Valley. As a site for building the Miespichl was chosen, which is a rise above the lake Seebersee. It was not until 1902 that the carpenter Josef Platter started the construction work. A two-storey stone building was built. On 18 August 1903 the "excellently furnished" shelter hut Essener Hütte was opened solemnly. The hut was located favourably as a base for summit tours as well as for the crossing of the col Aperes Verwalljoch to Obergurgl and as a stopping-place on the tourist mountain path (path no. 44) from the shelter hut Lodnerhütte passing by the shelter hut Stettiner Hütte and the shelter hut Zwickauer Hütte.

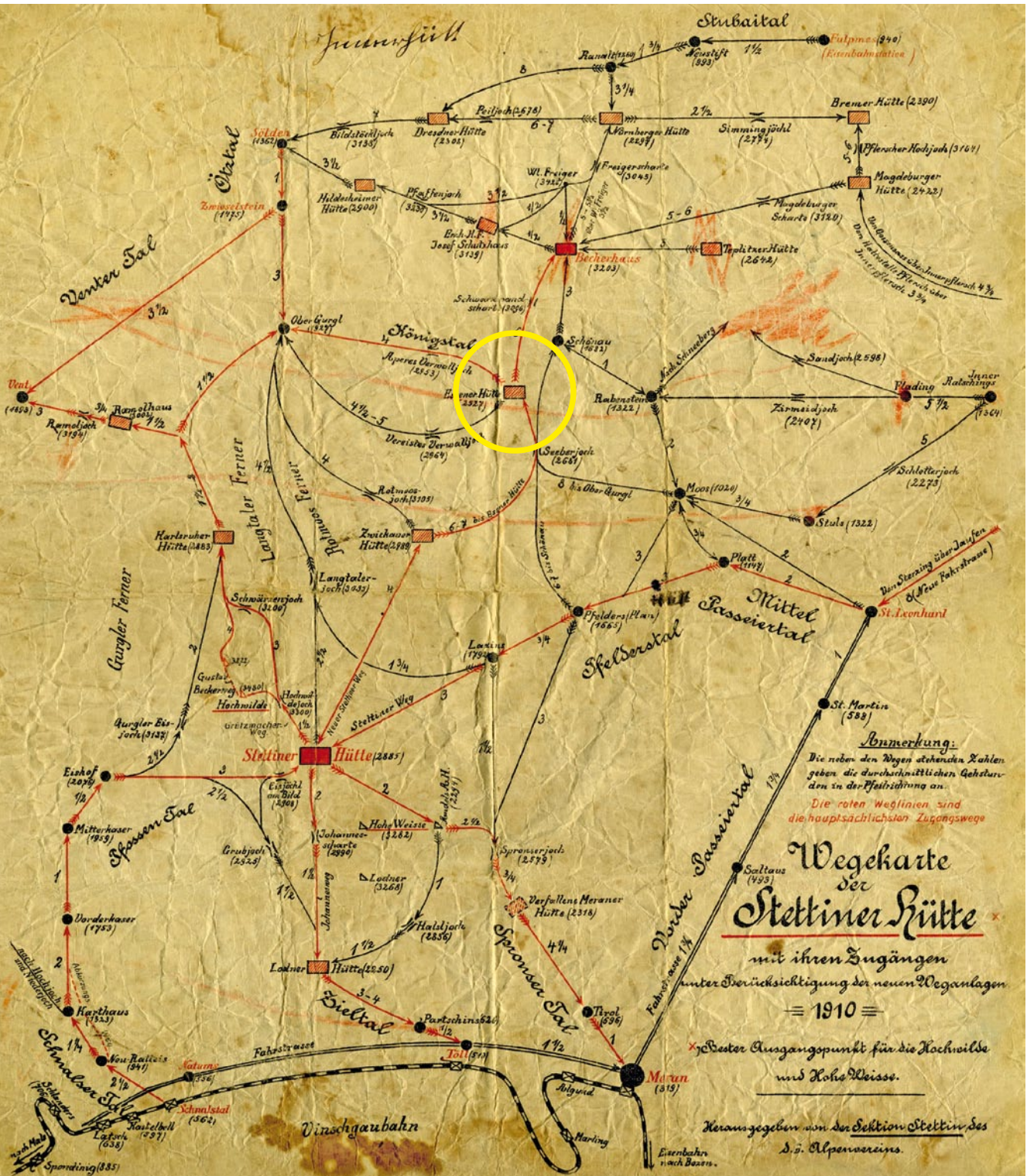
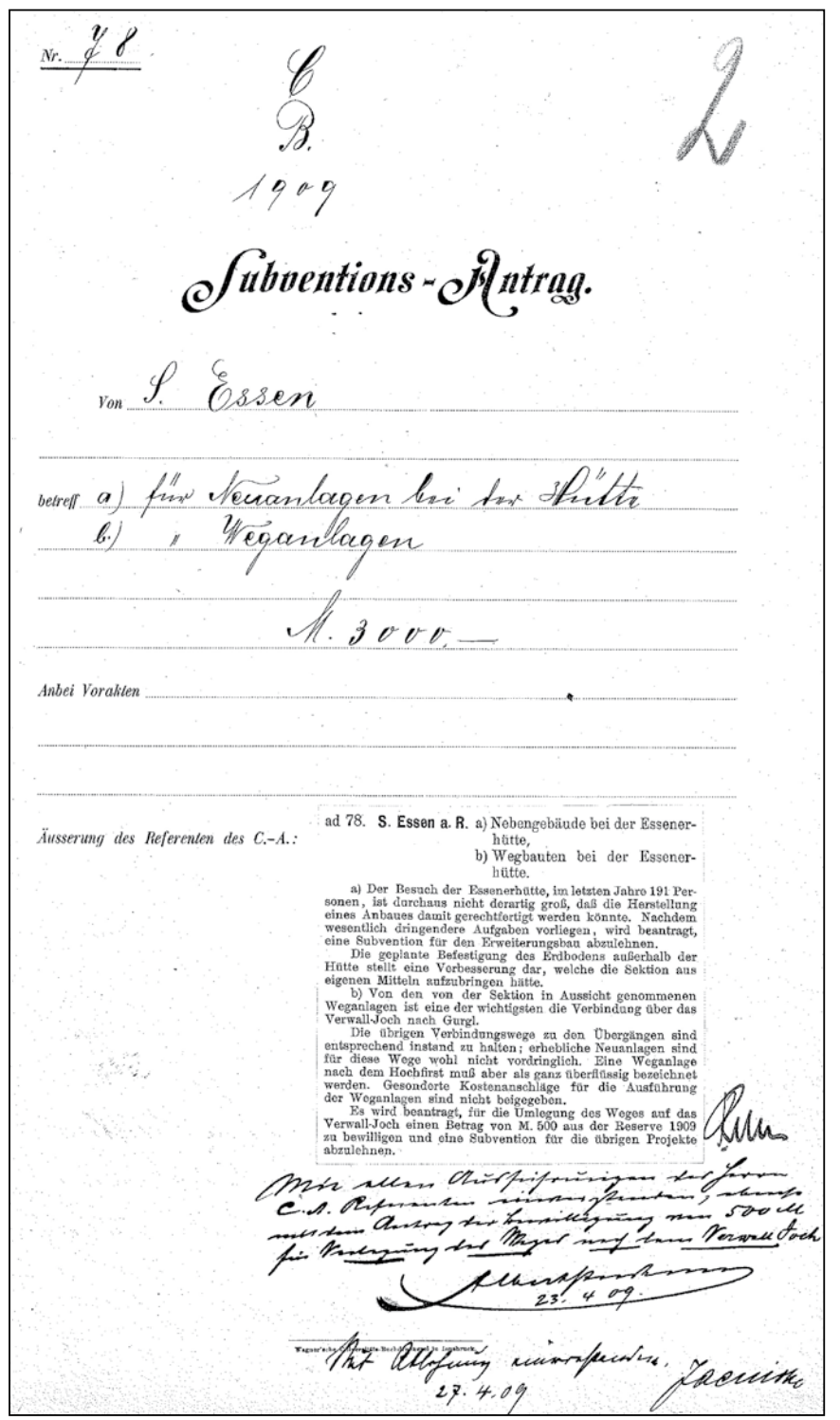
At the beginning the Essner Hütte was run by the mountain guide Johann Pfitscher from Rabenstein. After the first World War the hut was administered by the CAI-section Milan and was then renamed Rifugio Principe. Also in the interim of the two wars the hut was much frequented; for 19 years it was run by Alois Pfitscher, called Locher Luis, from St. Leonhard. In the middle of September 1947 the hut was completely destroyed by fire. The possible reconstruction of the shelter hut Essener Hütte caused many fierce discussions among the board of the AVS-section Passeier. Together with the official responsible for the construction of shelter huts the ruin was given a close inspection on 27 August 1972. But it was always only a subject of discussion, not of concrete planning. At the annual meeting on 23 February 1975 the project "Essener Hütte" was abandoned as the walls and the grounds belonging to it could not be redeemed from the military administration. Also trying to buy the grounds from the mountain pasture interest group was not successful. The pass road Timmelsjochstrasse, which had been completed in the meantime, also was of importance within the discussion about the shelter hut Essener Hütte. The former position of the hut was no longer considered as being worth a reconstruction by most members of the board, as the new road was only one hour walk from it.

Tourist path Touristensteig

Around 1900 several sections of the DuÖAV built the shelter huts Essener Hütte, Zwickauer Hütte and Stettiner Hütte in the mountains of the Valley Passeiertal. Between these huts and the huts of the neighbouring valleys daring connecting paths were built through the alpine terrain, which was normally impassable. Many of these paths are still in good condition and generally known as tourist paths (Touristensteig). A good width for hiking also in impassable terrain and stairs of stone in steep parts are typical for the tourist paths.



Lageskizze als Beilage zum
Subventions-Antrag
Scizzo topografico come allegato
alla domanda di sovvenzione
Sketch of the area as attached
to the request for sub-sidy
(anno 1904, Historisches AlpenArchiv München)



Gesamtes Wegenetz mit Angabe der Gehzeiten
Rete intera dei sentieri con l'indicazione dei tempi di percorso
Complete network of paths stating the time needed
(anno 1910, Guffler Josef, Stuls)

