

Station 6 – the Roman Monument – the Three Stones

The in vernacular called “three stones”, the “Sickingen Würfel”, a Roman monument, is one of the most significant documentations from the Roman population time. The former place of discovery was about 25 m north of the Kaiserstraße, on a field near the cemetery. In 1864, the owner had removed the stones and stored them on a path, whereby the fundamentals were destroyed.

In order to save them from further damages through passing vehicles, the rests of the funeral monuments were brought to and built at today’s location, which was located opposite of the former Latin school by the then city government.

Today, the correct array of the stones at their source is unfortunately not comprehensible anymore.

The inscription and the interpretation of the relief art proved very difficult. In 1905, the inscription was deciphered and translated: “The soldiers of the 4th so-called Mainz legion devote this monument Titus V., their brave captain of the 4th company, after his passing in winter camp, with willing heart.”

The relief art shows two soldiers in fighting pose, with a fronted leg and a raised arm.

In front of the three stones, there is a fourth, which is in style of a Roman box of ash in Roman cremation burials, hollowed above. The corresponding copestone is no longer existent.

A myth trails around the Roman monument:

Franz von Sickingen asked the oracle to predict his future and his destiny, after the city and the castle Nanstein were besieged by the armed forces of the three connected princes.

A huge slab of rock was the table and the square stone blocks were its dices.

He diced three times and the dices said him no future, so he threw them with anger into the valley, where you can visit them nowadays.