



INVITATION

Agrarian Technology in the Medieval Landscape

RURALIA X Conference
Smolenice Castle (Slovakia)
September 9th-15th 2013

Ruralia is an international association for the archaeology of medieval settlement and rural life. It provides a colloquium of current problems in rural archaeology from most participating European countries to strengthen the exchange of knowledge in, and the development of, archaeologically comparable studies, and to make archaeological results available to other disciplines. The time-range of Ruralia covers the period from ca. 500-1700 AD. The key activity of the RURALIA association is a conference held every two years in one of the participating countries. The conference languages are English, French and German. The 2013 conference theme, **Agrarian Technology in the Medieval Landscape**, will focus attention on an aspect of rural landscape studies that is too often neglected. The conference will present the regional diversity of agricultural activities in the European Middle Ages. Papers will present and examine the agrarian cycle in different European regions, mainly on the basis of archaeology, but also using iconography, documentary evidence, archaeo-environmental approaches, etc. A poster section is included.

The main body of the conference will concentrate on agrarian technologies in the medieval landscape as seen in different European countries, and papers that consider technology as process are particularly encouraged. Landscape analysis has become a dominant theme in modern research and it is an appropriate moment to consider the underlying technologies that facilitated agrarian development throughout the period. Change results from bottom-up as well as top-down processes, and while the technologies of production have been seen as key

determinants of change, this remains a wide subject area for new insight and critical analysis. It is hoped that the conference will highlight a basis upon which fresh directions are being pursued to reveal the importance of the topic to current and future research.

Subject areas in which to place papers will include cultivation, livestock husbandry, gardening, viticulture, woodland management, agents and agencies of change. Typology-focussed papers are welcome in the poster section.

The proceedings of Ruralia conferences (30 papers and all posters) are published as peer-reviewed Ruralia volumes, which typically contain the 30 papers read at the conference. It is expected that the posters presented will also be submitted for publication the conference volume as full papers.

Applicants who wish to present a paper (25 minutes) or a poster can send their application together with an abstract of the proposed paper latest 31st of December 2012 to the organisers : Mgr. Barbara Zajacová (nraubzaj@savba.sk) and Mgr. Marek Vojteček (marek.vojtecek@savba.sk)

Schedule of the conference

Monday, 9th September - 6 papers on the agrarian cycle in different European regions
(speakers invited by the Ruralia committee)

Tuesday, 10th September – 12 papers, main topic: Agrarian technologies in the medieval landscape

Wednesday, 11th September – Excursion

Thursday, 12th September – 6 papers, suggested topic: Garden and gardening Half-day excursion

Friday, 13th September – 6 papers

Friday, 13th September – Sunday, 15th September – Optional excursion

Conference fee (actual fee: 100 € + booking a room)

single room, full day meals ...400 €

double room, full day meals ...340 €

triple room, full day meals ... 320 €

optional excursion ... 200 €

Please send the conference fee latest 31st of June 2013 to the account number:

7000005540/8180

IBAN: 2381800000007000005540

SWIFT CODE: SUBASKBX

Variable symbol: 92013