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over\*) (Kl. 116), makes it clear that Oswald's attitude towards Haunstein was not essentially negative; both positive and negative topographical descriptions depended on his personal situation, and also on the season. The description, then, clearly reflects Oswald's mood and also specific literary themes.

There was, of course, a background of noise at castles. We have the evidence of archaeological research and our knowledge of livestock management etc. derived from the written sources. Given the complex literary structure and the manifold intentions of the poet, it is not possible to deduce from Oswald's poems how late mediaeval man lived in respect of aspects such as comfort, warmth and cold and noise etc. Some impression of what life was like can be obtained by comparing contemporary forms of accommodation: for example, a simple peasant's dwelling compared with a nobleman's seat and life in a monastery. But this, too, is only an approximation. One would search in vain for an unimpeachable, unambiguous source.

**Werner Meyer: Drapham Dzong. Excavations at a castle in Bhutan in 2008–2010**

Bhutan in the Himalayas is virgin territory for archaeologists. The first ever excavation took place from 2008 to 2010 at Drapham Dzong, an extensive ruined fortification. It lies at ca height of 3 000 m in the district of Bumthang. The castle is in four parts: a donjon at the highest point of the mountain, two outlying defensive works on lower-lying terraces and a fortified settlement in the valley. The excavations concentrated on the donjon. Before work started it was covered in dense jungle and building debris under which only a few traces of the wall were visible.

The work resulted in exposing a section of wall of ca. 95 by 35 m. This was a two-phase operation. The surviving buildings are grouped around an inner courtyard. They are a main tower on the north side (Utse), a smaller tower on the southern side (Ta Dzong) with two long wings consisting of several sections on the long sides of the cour-

tyard. The surrounding wall is protected by three projecting rectangular towers. Access is through two representative gates on the southern side.

The finds consist of animal bones, local pottery, Chinese porcelain and a limited number of metal objects (including arrowheads and lead musket balls). The castle can be provisionally dated to the 16th and 17th centuries. It came to a violent end some time before 1700 when the main tower was destroyed by fire.

**Ingo Nuss: Dry Rot – A Disaster?**

Dry rot is one of the most feared and most frequently described fungi. It has an impressive ability to adapt to varying conditions in flats and houses. There are, however, a number of incorrect assumptions that only someone familiar with the biology of dry rot can counter. A dry rot mycelium needs a moisture content in wood of at least 20% and a relative humidity in the immediate surrounding air of at least 85% to live and grow; a draught-free environment is also essential. The DIN standard (68800, Part 4) which is the official guide for conservation assessors and experts, must therefore be regarded with extreme scepticism since it ignores these factors. As a result, expensive and pointless conservation action is often taken which may even destroy conservable building fabric for no purpose. The author refers to a six-point plan for all dry rot treatments: elimination of the cause of the infestation; drying-out of all damp areas; replacement of all clearly rotten wood; isolation of wood bordering the infested area; creation of air circulation; and preventive protection with a suitable wood conservation product (e.g. Wood Bliss).

*Philip Côle/Ivor Bloor*

**Richtigstellung:**  
Im Autorenverzeichnis von „Burgen und Schlösser“ 2/2011 hat sich leider ein Fehler eingeschlichen. Es muss richtig heißen:  
**M. Sc. Bettina Heger M.A.,**  
Hechtstraße 31, 01097 Dresden,  
E-Mail: [BJurschik@web.de](mailto:BJurschik@web.de)

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