

schichte des Fürstentums Lüneburg dargelegt.

Der umfangreiche Hauptteil stellt auf 392 Seiten in alphabetischer Reihenfolge 74 Güter vor, die aktuell in der Ritterschaft des vormaligen Fürstentums Lüneburg immatrikuliert sind. Nahezu jedes Objekt wird mit mindestens einer Ansicht vorgestellt. Im Vordergrund stehen aber nicht die Architektur oder ihre Ausstattung. Es gibt nur zwei historische Grundrisse, zwölf Innenansichten von Profanräumen (allein vier davon aus Langlingen) und zwölf Innenansichten von Sakralräumen. Die Rittergüter der Lüneburger Landschaft sind eher bescheiden und bieten nur selten kunsthistorisch Herausragendes. Insofern ist die Schwerpunktsetzung auf die Geschichte von Gütern und Familien nicht als Mangel anzusehen. Denn die Historie ist aufgrund der im ehemaligen Fürstentum sehr langen Rechtstradition, die zum Teil bis heute fortbesteht, von viel höherem Interesse. Es ist kaum angemessen wertzuschätzen, wie viel Aufwand der AutorInnen allein für Archivrecherchen notwendig war. So ist eine zukünftig unverzichtbare Dokumentation entstanden, die Grundlage für weitere Forschungen sein wird.

Ein umfangreicher Anhang, der nicht nur Quellen und Literatur sowie ein Abkürzungsverzeichnis, sondern auch Maße und Münzen, ein Verzeichnis der Lüneburger Rittergüter, die Matrikel der Ritterschaft von 1566 sowie eine tabellarische Übersicht der immatrikulierten Rittergüter 1774–2012 enthält, rundet den Band ab.

Hindersmann und Brosius haben ein bislang kaum beachtetes Forschungsfeld eröffnet, denn die Güter des Adels im Nordosten des heutigen Bundeslandes Niedersachsen wurden bisher nicht gewürdigt, anders als etwa die Herrenhäuser Schleswig-Holsteins. So ist dem Band zweierlei zu wünschen: zum einen eine wohlwollende Aufnahme der Leser und zum anderen eine interessierte Rezeption durch die Wissenschaft, auf dass weitere Untersuchungen noch mehr bislang Unbekanntes über diese traditionsreiche Region zu Tage fördern mögen.

Heiko Laß

English summaries

Michael Swithinbank

Klaus Endemann: Observations concerning the imperial palace at Ingelheim

Among the more than 90 known Carolingian palaces, Ingelheim has held a special interest for historians. In the symmetrical layout, reminiscent of Roman villas, they saw the desire of Carolingian rulers to adopt the culture of late imperial times to project their own image. In addition to the symmetry, an arrangement distinguished by an exedra with a monumental portal was also perceived as a sign of Charlemagne's intention to establish ancient building practices in his empire. In none of the other known palaces, historians felt, was the Carolingian attempt to emulate ancient building practices as clearly identifiable as in Ingelheim.

Though it had long been assumed that this was the Frankish rulers' remodeled continuation of a Roman villa, recent archaeological investigations have ruled out the possibility of its being of ancient origin. Indeed, Roman villas in the nearby surroundings had been numerous, but at the location itself no traces of Roman buildings are to be found.

An examination of the existing literature on the subject and observations made on the site of the ruins now lead to the conclusion that the creators of the complex known today followed the example of an ambitious Roman villa complex.

Andrea Mariani: The province of Brianza between the 10th and 13th centuries: interdisciplinary studies – a successful approach to research into castles

In accordance with the firm conviction that castle research calls for an interdisciplinary approach, this study consists of findings from written, architectural-history and archaeological sources. Accordingly, the research is based on statements by architects, archaeologists, historians and art historians, but also by laymen who show

great familiarity with the places under discussion.

The subject matter comprises the castles of Brianza (north of Milan), an area within Lombardy (Northern Italy) located between the cities of Monza, Como and Lecco (these cities are not part of the study). While individual castles in Brianza have been examined in the past, this study looks in some depth at the region of Brianza and its castles as a whole for the first time.

The medieval region of Brianza, whose hilly ground and many bodies of water were certainly significant preconditions for the construction of fortifications, incorporates over one hundred castles (*castra*). Amongst them are to be found simple as well as complex building structures, depending on the castles' date of origin. Only a small number have remained fully intact to this day: most of them have undergone some serious constructional changes over time or been integrated into modern buildings.

Hardly any of the castles of this area built between the 10th and 13th century adhered to a general concept geared to protecting the population: rather, they were created by *domini loci*, regional worldly and clerical lords, who intended to strengthen their claim to power in the region.

Stefan Lehmann: Castello San Materno in Ascona (Switzerland) – observations on archaeology and art history

Indications provided by archaeology, a description of the building, art history and history render it possible to draw a multifaceted picture of Castello San Materno.

In the period before 1050, a refuge fort with a simple curtain wall for protection was built on the mound where today's castle can be found; on the side facing Losone and Locarno, a tower was built. The exact appearance of this forerunner complex is still largely unclear as are the questions of who built it and when. Any evidence of the existence of a chapel in San Materno at that time is also lacking. Despite the lack of evidence in this regard, the existence of a late Carolingian building within the county of

Stazzona seems plausible. In the Early Middle Ages (866), Locarno housed the king's court, which might have prompted the fortification of the hill in order to back the count's claim to power. Around the turn of the millennium, the Bishop of Milan de facto disempowered the local counts, and the local gentry were directly enfeoffed. For this period, precise name references are missing for Ascona. However, judging from this show of force, the magnificent extension of the church of SS Sebastiano e Fabiano undertaken by the house of the Duni just before this period as well as the San Materno chapel's sumptuous painting just shortly after should be re-evaluated. When the tower was under modification to become a chapel, a series of new buildings inside the complex must have been added. Which ones, however, and in which sequence exceed the current state of knowledge. Nevertheless, scattered remains of masonry and today's main building allow some suggestions to be made. We can only hope for new findings to be made as soon as possible through archaeological research.

Gerhard Hess: aspects of the construction and operation of drawbridges operated by chains or lifting arms and turning bridges

There is evidence for drawbridges having existed since the 12th century. They were used as road barriers or to hamper the approach to castles, fortifications, city gates and noble residences, but also on towers. Few have survived to this day, as gateways were modified or removed at the time of demilitarisation of the sites to which they belonged or were replaced with stone bridges to ease access. Moreover, drawbridges and their lifting mechanisms – mostly made of wood – have rarely survived into modern times because of the ephemeral nature of their material. What has survived, as a kind of negative of drawbridge structures, is supporting stones, recesses in masonry occupied by drawbridges when they were in raised position, chain grooves and the recesses for lifting arms. These make it possible in many cases to reconstruct drawbridges, at least in broad outline,

identifying their mode of construction and dimensions. In his article, the writer looks at many examples in order to examine the functions of the various drawbridges, whether operated by chains or by lifting arms, and turning bridges, and even to calculate the force required to operate them and therefore how many people were needed to man them.

More force is required to operate a chain-operated drawbridge than for the other types of structure. At least two people are needed. In the case of drawbridges operated by lifting arms, counterweights on the arms make it possible to achieve an almost perfect balance, so that the drawbridge can be raised or lowered by a single person. A turning bridge, pivoting vertically around a central axis, is in balance, so that a single person can raise or lower it. It also does not require any special lifting mechanism such as a windlass or lifting arms.

Albert Distelrath: Schloss Burg an der Wupper – archaeological accompanying plans for the historic castle complex

The archaeological accompanying plans for Schloss Burg presented here have shown how the preservation and care of underground remains can be adequately catered for in preparation for and during the process of restoration of the site. This is important on the one hand to ensure the protection and preservation of notable underground remains by means of the findings and on the other to allow the construction to proceed as smoothly as possible.

Through extensive archival research it was possible to obtain information for mapping disturbed surfaces as well as to identify areas where finds were likely. By matching these findings with the planned reorganisation measures, suggestions were made for archaeological surveys that needed to be performed.

However, the archival research not only produced findings for the archaeological accompanying plans for Schloss Burg but also offered new insights into the architectural history of the site.