



the redgings

Official Newsletter of the Barony of Lochmere
in the Kingdom of Atlantia
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armies. One such renowned archer
is
who is distinguished by both fine skill
and steadfast dedication to her art.
Our Kingdom is safe
when our archers are
strong. And thus to we



Rightful King and Queen of
Atlantia, choose to induct her into
Our Order of the King's
Missiliars, that all may
know her. Done this
day of
Anno societatis



Rex Regina
verum est.

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

If you are new to the Barony of Lochmere, these websites may be of help:

Barony of Lochmere Homepage: <https://www.lochmere.atlantia.sca.org>

Baronial Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LochmereSCA>

Kingdom of Atlantia Homepage: <https://www.atlantia.sca.org>

Kingdom of Atlantia Event Page: <https://www.atlantia.sca.org/events>

Kingdom of Atlantia Online Event Page: <https://virtual.atlantia.sca.org/calender.php>

The Acorn, Atlantia's Official Newsletter: <https://www.acorn.atlantia.sca.org>

Official SCA Homepage: <https://www.sca.org>

You can also contact the Barony of Lochmere's Chatelain at:
chatelain@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org

LOCHMERE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Populace Meeting

First Monday of every month
7:15 pm Via Google Meet or live at the Odenton
Library

Archery Practice

Every Thursday
Lord Ivan's Home
511 Chad Avenue, Severn, MD 21144

Fighter Practice (Heavy & Rapier)

Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm
Severn Christian Church
8132 New Cut Road ,
Severn, MD 21144

Arts and Sciences

Contact Lady Eillionora
moas@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org



CREDITS

- Cover: Lord William Barfoot (Carl Trinkle) (Digital Scribes Project)
- All Baronial devices, badges, etc are stock art of the Barony of Lochmere

INFORMATION ON THE DREDGINGS

The Dredgings is a publication of the Barony of Lochmere of the Society of Creative Anachronism, Inc.

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LOCHMERE BARONIAL OFFICERS

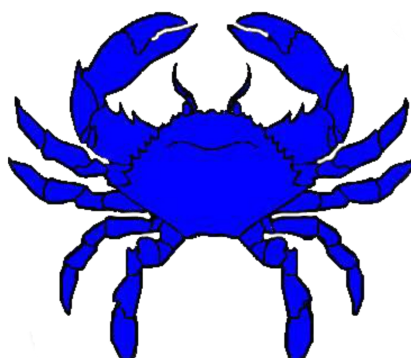
Make sure your information in this newsletter and website is correct. Contact the Chronicler at chronicler@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org for The Dredgings and Webminister at webminister@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org for the website.

Please submit your Baronial Report in advance of the business meeting via email to the Seneschal at seneschal@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org and the Chronicler chronicler@lochmere.atlantia.sca.org.

Thank You!

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Lochmere Business Meeting

8/21/2023

Late start as the library would like to do a "re-faire" at the library this spring

B&B: Pennsic! Small court and will have a small court at BotB to finish business. Combo demo with Storvik yesterday (20th) went well. Please pay your camp fees if you haven't already. Their Excellencies are looking for names for new crab-themed awards and orders.

Sen: Nothing exciting to report. Polling of confidence will be coming up after the crown. Be ready. Make sure memberships are all up to date. Please sign up to poll on the website to save the Barony \$\$.

Exc report submitted Jul 31 Balance 13315.27 but there will be Pennsic costs. Any additional interest in being a dept exchequer then please reach out so we have a pool of people that can do the job.

Moas: report submitted. Calligraphy at practice has been successful and will continue. Please notify of any a&s activity so we can keep track of them. MOAS classes at practice will be illumination in the coming weeks. Class topics will be posted on baronial Facebook page.

Web: website is working. catching up with kingdom level cleanup activities to remove old/dead sites.

Chatelain: demo right before Pennsic that went off really well. Lots of info given out. Great location/foot traffic. Created a new 'link tree' for newcomers.

Herald: report submitted. Also submitted a name-change request.

KM: back to practice, still outside for a few more weeks. Reports submitted. Position is available please reach out if interested.

AR/TW: hoping to pass the torch soon. Practices continue. KWBC tourney went really well. People seemed to really enjoy the activity. Northern regional archery/TW practice scheduled for November 14 (if I heard correctly)

Chron: Godwin has a full signed warrant now and Mel will be working with them to help transition duties. Will revisit the matter of official replacement at the October meeting.

MoM: position is open

EVENT UPDATES:

BotB: minor issues with the electronic registration and we're oversold for the feast but the team is rolling with it. Staffing is OK but will need help with field setup. Storvik is still looking for their list but trying to start setup on Fri afternoon. Need a parking person. Need people to help with water-bearing and moving tables between A&S/Feast. Watercoolers are needed. Tokens are done. Planning continues but is prepped for a full weekend of activities. Servers and entertainers are needed. Please reach out if interested.

Midwinters: check and the contract have been mailed in. The goal is to finish the budget this week. staff meeting will also be scheduled soon. details to follow.

* SIDE NOTE: we need to do an inventory of baronial property this spring.

NotT: budget is being worked. visited the Howard County Fairgrounds and met/toured thge site. All activities are permitted. Still trying to figure out the exact cost. Targeting \$15/head. Would like to approve the budget. There is a possibility for 'site co-use' that will have to be discussed. Awaiting available dates. Can vote on the budget in Oct.

Potential Octoberfest Demo in Ferndale:

Yrsa & Kel are spearheading but need a point person... is the same weekend as Roxberry Milled and that could take people away. Group practice may be a possible regional practice activity. Ferndale Days demo for May 18th.

On Target to be scheduled for May 11th

Kudos to the TW at Pennsic for a quality showing and being inclusive to a variety of people. Atlantia showed well.

The next meeting is the first Mon in Oct.



The Unique Skills and Work of the Medieval Surveyor

By Křišťan Věstonice of Moravia

Introduction

One important element of SCA arts and sciences that may not be intuitively known or understood is the role of a surveyor and the surveyor's value to medieval society. Surveyors existed in the Middle Ages; they were guild members given legal sanction as approved agents for their work by the King or through the military. Medieval surveyors were literate and understood complex mathematics – normally the result of a long and rigorous skilled-labor apprenticeship tenure with a guild.

Unlike fine arts, entertainment, or practical craftsmanship, surveying is a skill that does not produce a product of beauty or functionality that can be appreciated in its final form. Surveying is rather like mathematics or astronomy – a tool that increases our ability to create order and improves our understanding of the world around us.

This article aims to increase our awareness of the roles, functions, and value of the surveyor's craft. In doing so, it is hoped that our lives in the Middle Ages – and our collective sense of place in it – may be more deeply and colorfully enriched.

Greek Mathematics Meet Roman Technology

The revival of interest in Euclidean mathematics was a direct result of the "...Renaissance in education and scientific knowledge ... providing the necessary intellectual foundation for the development of [medieval] surveying." At the time, the medieval human concept of an earth-centric universe combined with Euclidean geometry provided accurate earth measurement; but without calculus, was lacking when projected into space [e.g., for maritime navigation].

Medieval surveyors used crude but effective Roman tools for their work. In the hands of a capable surveyor with a firm grasp of mathematics, these tools were precise and accurate when measured against future scientific standards. There were limitations, however. Roman surveying instruments were restricted in range to the vision of the naked eye, and the equipment was unwieldy and vulnerable to the caprices of weather.

Medieval surveying was – quite simply – grueling mental and physical work, frequently in difficult weather conditions. To accomplish the work normally required a large team of workhands, each with a specific duty to aid the surveyor.

Tax Assessment for the King

"The principal task of the surveyor in the medieval economy was assessing and recording the customary obligations and rights of tenants of the manor, not the technical business of measuring the size of tracts, or making their boundaries. [The surveyor] kept the rolls and records of rights to land, of agricultural production, of the number of trees in the forest, and of the rents, fees, fines, or days of work due from each tenant to his or her lord." In England and throughout central Europe this tax assessment was called *taille* (Tah-LAY), or simply "aid" conducted on behalf of, and under the sanction of, the King.

The scope, therefore, of the medieval surveyor was mathematical, legal, and judicial. In addition, the surveyor was required to be well versed in geology, fish and wildlife ecology, crop and timber production, animal husbandry, and topography and land measurement. In *taille* assessment, the mathematical and technical aspects of surveying were of secondary importance

to the general span of knowledge required for accurate taxation.

Public Works

In addition to legal authority for taille assessments, medieval surveyors also possessed technical expertise to support a variety of public works which benefitted public commerce, the military, and the concerns of the Crown.

- Surveying works for harbors and wharves, canals and aqueducts, and all-weather stone roads supported commercial and military needs.
- Plumbed city walls and fortifications supported military defense.
- Mapping and boundary surveys supported the sovereign interests of the Crown.

Of special note were road and city design surveys.

In laying the course for a road, the surveyor had to understand topography and carry on a fine balance between the cost of expensive road materials and construction against the shortest viable distance between two points. Horse and oxen-drawn commerce required a gentle gradient. As well, a steep road gradient risked washing out in heavy rains. The surveyor had to work with the terrain to lay out a road that could efficiently carry hundreds of years of traffic. Finally, the medieval surveyor supported the interests of organized religion. The urban layout of cities significantly changed in the mid 1300's from a random form to a configuration which conveyed Christian symbolism. City plots and streets were straightened and paralleled through accurate surveying, providing a Euclidean aesthetic designed to reflect order, beauty, and truth – pleasing God as He looked down from Heaven.

Value to Royalty and to the People

Using Greek mathematics and Roman technology, the role and work of a surveyor spans a significant part of medieval life. Kings, Barons, and Lords relied on trusted taille assessors to assure effective yet equitable taxation from their subjects. Surveying support to public works promoted efficient commerce for economic growth and welfare to the populace; and it maximized the effectiveness of the King's instruments of war. The surveyor's work also reproduced mathematical order in city design that reflected medieval Christian aesthetic values designed to please God.

The author hopes that our lives and personas of the Middle Ages are enriched by a consideration of how surveying as an art and science touches nearly everything we do, and improves our medieval world.

Křišť'an Věstonice - spoken: "Khrish TAHN Vest oh NEET seh", is a surveyor from Moravia (southern Czechia) in 1435. He conducts taille aid assessments on behalf of the Crown; however, his primary surveying work is determining precise elevation measurements used to drain marshes and swamps, thereby securing viable farmland. Křišť'an is currently a subject in the Barony of Ponte Alto.

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1. Bosshardt, William and Lopus, Jane S. (2013). Business in the Middle Ages: What Was the Role of Guilds? Social Education, 77(2), 64-67.
 2. The Renaissance of course would be hastened by the arrival of the printing press in 1436.
 3. Hughes, Sarah S. (n.d.) 16th Century Surveyors. Backsight Magazine, published by

Surveyors Historical Society. Retrieved November 7, 2022 from

http://www.surveyhistory.org/16th_century_surveyors1.htm

4. Hughes, Sarah S. (n.d.) Roman Surveying. Backsight Magazine, published by Surveyors Historical Society. Retrieved November 7, 2022 from http://www.surveyhistory.org/roman_surveying1.htm

5. A future article is planned which will discuss these Roman surveying tools and their use.

6. Ibid. Roman Surveying.

7. Ibid. 16th Century Surveyors.

8. Encyclopaedia Britannica. (1998).

9. Ibid. 16th Century Surveyors.

10. A future article is planned which will discuss Medieval land measure and the taille tax system.

11. Lilley, Keith, D. (2003). Cities of God? Medieval urban forms and their Christian symbolism. London: Royal Geographical Society.

12. Křišťan has submitted his device (displayed above) through the College of Heralds of Atlantia. Final SCA approval for the device is currently pending.



Upcoming Events

September - 2023

09-01 - 09-04 : Emerald Hastilude II :Lanexa VA (Tir-y-Don)
09-01 - 09-04 : Sacred Stone Baronial Birthday :Boonville NC (Sacred Stone) (Q K P)
09-09 - 09-09 : Duke Uni. SCA Demo :Durham NC (Windmasters' Hill)
09-09 - 09-09 : Stierbach Baronial Birthday XXV :Spotsylvania VA (Stierbach) (Pr)
09-16 - 09-17 : Fall University :Durham NC (Kapellenberg)
09-22 - 09-24 : Trial by Fire and Lochmere Arrow :Glen Arm MD (Bright Hills) (Pr)
09-23 - 09-23 : Silver Chalice :Harleyville SC (Hidden Mountain) (Q K P)
09-30 - 09-30 : A&S Workshop: Music and Dance :Spartanburg, SC (Nottinghamhill Coill)
09-30 - 09-30 : Roxbury, Milled! :Montgomery Village MD (Roxbury Mill) (Pr)

October - 2023

10-06 - 10-09 : Atlantia Fall Coronation :La Plata MD (Dun Carraig)
10-17 - 10-22 : War of the Wings :Boonville NC (Atlantia) (Q K)
10-28 - 10-28 : Royal Archer :Midland VA (Sudentorre)
10-28 - 10-28 : A&S Workshop :Spartanburg, SC (Nottinghamhill Coill)

November - 2023

11-03 - 11-05 : Crown Tournament :Courtland VA (Marinus)
11-10 - 11-12 : Highland Havoc :Ijamsville MD (Highland Foorde)
11-10 - 11-12 : Swamp Wars :Halifax NC (Raven's Cove)
11-11 - 11-12 : Buckston's Buccaneer Birthday :Snow Camp NC (Buckston-on-Eno)
11-18 - 11-18 : The Curly Cross Tavern :Hope Mills NC (Attilium) (K)
11-18 - 11-18 : Holiday Faire 2023 :Fredericksburg VA (Stierbach) (Q)



You can find the full Atlantian calender at
<https://atlantia.sca.org/events>

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Rapier Fighting: Noble Blaze Frostell

Archery & Thrown Weapons: Ethan of Lochmere

Equestrian: Lady Aine d'Alton