

Leiden, November 20th 2000

Re: 'Network Archaeological Open-air Museums'

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

During many conversations in the in crowd of colleagues, it became clear, that often the wish was expressed for more communication and coordination between archaeological open-air museums. On the other hand, organizations like universities and experimental groups play a significant role as well in the educational and experimental archaeological world. These considerations have led to an initiative of forming an international network in this field.

The subscribers have had different meetings in March and made a list with some issues that could be part of an experimental & educational Network in Europe.

With a network, information could be compiled and spread. Subjects could be

- (Archaeological) science and the conversion to the public;
- Experiences on (pre-) historic techniques;
- Education (for both children and adults);
- Public Relations and marketing;
- All over management;
- Et cetera.

A Network could involve spreading information and know how, but could for example also involve the exchange of specialists.

One of the focal points could be a website with external and internal information, with access restricted to members. We could use e-mail lists for fast exchange of information, questions and answers, activities, and the like.

One of the activities of the Network could be the (annual) organization of conferences on several subjects, like for example:

- Standardization of criteria of quality of experimental and educational archaeology in general;
- Concepts of archaeological open air museums;
- Round table conference on constructing and documenting (burnt) houses;
- Educational programs for teenagers and grown ups.
- Training / schooling of educational staff and handicraft people

In the initial phase, it is suggested to start on a low profile basis. If proven successful, there are possibilities to extend the network to a larger, European scale. This would demand more input, both concerning finances and organization, but could also provide spectacular results. However, the possibility and realization of extension will depend on the results of the initial phase.

To start with, we invite you and your colleagues to the

conference on concepts of archaeological open air museums
thursday February, the 15th to saturday February, the 18th 2001

It is clear that the initial concept of open air museums as it was formed around 30 years ago, needs certain revision and has to be adapted to modern times. Therefore, we would like to discuss the experiences of various museums, gained over the last 30 years, during a three days meeting in Germany. One of the main objectives of the conference will be to form a common, shared idea of a strategy for the future, based on positive and negative results of the past.

The meeting will take place in the village of Oerlinghausen, near Bielefeld and will be hosted by the Archäologisches Freilichtmuseum (AFM) Oerlinghausen. If you wish more information in order to participate, please write to the secretary address below.

This letter is sent to about twenty different museums, in approximately fifteen European countries. Next to this, a small number of other organizations are contacted as well. A list of addresses is enclosed. We ask you to reply with a letter of intent, hoping you will see the necessity of such a network and the possibilities of what we could accomplish together. We invite you to add your own ideas or hesitations on this subject. We kindly ask you to react before December 20th 2000. Please, feel free to inform your colleagues about this project.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Martin Schmidt
Archäologisches
FreilichtMuseum (AFM)
Oerlinghausen
Germany

Jeroen Flamman
University of Amsterdam,
Amsterdam Archaeological
Center (AAC)
the Netherlands

Tomas Johansson
Institute of Ancient
Technology (IAT)
Sweden

Yvonne Lammers-Keijsers
Leiden University
Faculty of Archaeology
the Netherlands

Roeland Paardekooper
Association of
Archaeological Experiments
and Education (VAEE)
the Netherlands

Secretary Adress:

Lopsenstraaat 3a, 2312 ZW Leiden, The Netherlands, +31 (71) 5123802 r.paardekooper@pae.nl

The following people have been contacted:

Jánis Apals: Institut für Geschichte Lettlands (Araisi) Turgenewstraße 19, LV 1518 Riga, Lithuania

Anneke Boonstra: POM Eindhoven, 161b Boutenslaan, NL 5644 TV Eindhoven, the Netherlands

Christian Chevillot: Parc archeologique de Beynac, La Tour du Couvent, F 24220 Beynac, la France

Edward Culleton: Irish National Heritage Park, Ferrycarrig, Wexford, Ireland

Léonce Demarez und Nadine Barrois: Archeosite d'Aubechies, 15 rue de l'Abbaye, B 7972 Aubechies-Beloeil, Belgium

Gerard Dieudonne: SAMARA, La chaussée Tirancourt, F 80310 Picquigny, la France

Per Ethelberg: Haderslev Museum, Dalgade 7, DK 6100 Haderslev Denmark

Jeroen Flamman: Universiteit van Amsterdam van Zuylen van Nijveltstraat 201 2242 LE Wassenaar, the Netherlands

Marie-Chantal Frere-Sautot : SAPRR, 36 rue du Docteur Schmitt, F 21850 Ribemont-sur-ancre, la France

Klaus Goldmann: Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin, Museumsdorf Düppel, Clauertstraße 11, D 14163 Berlin, Germany

Paloma González Marcén: Dept. d'Antropologia i Prehistòria Facultat de Lletres Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona 08193 Bellaterra - Spain

Frans Herschend: Eketorpmuseum, Riksantikvarieämbetet, Box 5405, S 114894 Stockholm, Sweden

Thomas Johansson: IAT, S. Strandvägen 7, S 832 42 Frösön, Sweden

Jake Keen: Ancient Technology Centre, Cranborne, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 5RP, UK

Yvonne Lammers: Universiteit Leiden Herensingel 24, 2316 JT Leiden, the Netherlands

Wolfgang Lobisser: Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Franz Klein Straße 1 A 1190 Wien. Austria

Trond Loken & Sverre Bakkevig: Archaeological Museum in Stavanger, Box 478, N 4001 Stavanger, Norway

Roeland Paardekooper: VAAE Lopsenstraat 3a 2312 ZW Leiden, the Netherlands

Harm Paulsen: Altfeld 23, 24837 Schleswig, Deutschland

Karol Pieta: Archäologisches Institut der Slowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften
(Freilichtmuseum Liptovská Mara) Akademická 2, 94921 Nitra, Slovakia

Wojciech Piotrowski & Wiesław Zajączkowski: State Archaeological Museum, Biskupin Dept, P
88410 Gaśawa, Poland

Ildikó Poroszlai: "Matrica" Museum, Gesztenyes u. 1-3, H 24440 Szazhalombatta, Hungary

Aurelio Priuli: Archeopark Boario Terme Località Gattaro, I 25041 Darfo Boario Terme, Italy

Marianne Rasmussen: HAF Lejre, Slangeallé 2, DK 4320 Lejre, Denmark

Peter Reynolds: Butser Ancient Farm, Nexus House, Gravel Hill, Waterlooville, Hampshire
PO8 0QE, UK

*Martin Schmidt: Archäologisches Freilichtmuseum Oerlinghausen, Am Barkhauser Berg 2-6, D
33813 Oerlinghausen, Germany*

Gunter Schöbel: Pfahlbaumuseum Unteruhldingen, Strandpromenade 6, D 88690 Uhldingen,
Germany

Jack Veltman: Archeon Novum BV Postbus 600, NL 2400 AP Alphen a/d Rijn, the Netherlands

Marlise Wunderli: AEAS, Kantonales Museum für Urgeschichte, Hofstraße 15, CH 6300 Zug,
Switzerland