

Arche - Constructional cultural assets in the vocational education and training

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*Project Meeting Summary**05.04.2011 – 06.04.2011 - Leipzig/Trebsen, Germany*

The second partner meeting within the ARCHE project took place in Leipzig, 05.04. - 06.04.2011. On the 05.04.2011 all partners met at the Chamber of Crafts of the City of Leipzig. There the partners were welcomed by Reinhard Schröter, the managing director of the Chamber of Crafts. He introduced the participants to the tasks of the Chamber and explained why and how it is cooperating with the Förderverein für Handwerk und Denkmalpflege e.V. – Rittergut Trebsen. The Chamber of Crafts is a founding member of the Förderverein, because its concern the preservation of old crafts techniques in the building sector and the training of these techniques based on the traditional building materials and assets from the Sächsisches Bauteilarchiv are also of importance to the chamber of crafts which also carries out the final exams for the further educational workshops offered by the Förderverein which lead to the title of certified restorer in crafts(plasterer, painter, mason, stonemason, carpenter, metal worker/smith).



Afterwards the group was led through the city center of Leipzig by Dr. Wolfgang Hocquél, managing director of the cultural foundation of Leipzig, former head of the Förderverein and an expert in monument preservation, who founded the society for monument preservation in 1977 in the GDR and worked as head of the monument conservation department of Leipzig county afterwards till 2008. He pointed out to the group many specifics of the architectural history of Leipzig.



In the afternoon the group clarified some open administrative and financial questions for which purpose Sabine Mahhou from wisamar educational institute joined the group. After that the partners discussed the outlook and functions of the project website and asked some questions about the proceedings of the project especially the implementation of the C.A.S. concept. The answers to this were postponed to the next day because some of the questions would be answered visiting the Förderverein, its further education facilities and the archive in Trebsen the next day.



On the 06.04. the group was welcomed in Trebsen by Uwe Bielefeld who after a short walk along the river Mulde and around the castle and manor to get an impression of the cultural landscape the Förderverein is operating in, showed and explained the further education courses, working rooms and working materials. The courses are offered to craftsmen crafts masters, professionals working in the field of restoration (architects, engineers, and technicians), interested laymen and students. While the craftsmen get to know different historic techniques and materials the crafts masters can complete a course which prepares them for the exam by the chamber of crafts of Leipzig leading to the title 'restorer in crafts'. This course is made up of 600 hours which are taken within three years. The final examination work consists of the analysis of the problem and the actual restoration of the asset. The assets used in these courses are taken from the Sächsisches Bauteilarchiv (Saxonian building material archive).



The archive was visited afterwards. Mr. Bielefeld explained its approach and structure and the future planning for the archive. It is the ambition of the Förderverein to develop it into an educational center open to the public and professionals with thematic exhibitions in order to raise awareness for the cultural meaning of historical building materials and the need for their preservation. The partners were impressed by the vast range objects within the archive and its commercial part, the Bergelager (historical material warehouse) which contains some 5.000 doors and windows and other historical building materials which are for sale.



In the afternoon the piloting partners presented the results and findings of the research and analysis they conducted. They also presented first ideas for the implementation of the concept according to their local conditions. The feasibility of these was discussed by all partners. Many partners worried about the legal restrictions on collecting historical building materials which formerly belonged to monuments. In most countries this is prohibited by the state and only allowed to do by museums. Mr. Bielefeld pointed out that the materials do not have to come from listed monuments. They can come from any old building and their age can be as young as the late 1980s and 1990s. The partners should establish an exhibition room with at least three pieces of the same kind of building material from different decades to show the development of these materials. However, the partners acknowledged the opportunity to see the actual implementation of the concept in Trebsen, which made it much more vivid to them.



In order to establish a standardized catalogue which makes a comparison between techniques and materials of different European regions possible the Förderverein will provide ten different groups of material which should be collected (doors, windows, fittings, locks, handles etc.) and their registry as used in Trebsen already. To have three examples in each group is desirable but not mandatory. The partners collect as many different examples as they are able to. For the online catalogue pictures of these examples with a resolution of 300 dpi should be standard.

Furthermore the Förderverein will provide the translated content of its further educational courses for craftsmen and crafts masters as a suggestion and orientation for the piloting partners who will have to develop own further educational courses in restoration. During the next phase of the project the piloting partners will concentrate on the implementation of the archive and based on it the development of workshops and courses. The Förderverein will provide assistance and advice and will support the partners in their efforts as best as possible. After half of the working period the partners will get together in a Skype meeting in order to discuss the progress, obstacles and problems and possibilities for their solution. The next partner meeting is scheduled 16. – 19.11.2011 at Lepido Rocco vocational school in Motta di Livenza, Italy.