



***Regionalität und Transfersgeschichte. Ritterordenskommenden der Templer und Johanniter im nordöstlichen Deutschland und in Polen*, hrsg. v. Christian Gahlbeck, Heinz-Dieter Heimann, Dirk Schumann (Studien zur brandenburgischen und vergleichenden Landesgeschichte, Bd. 9; Schriften der Landesgeschichtlichen Vereinigung für die Mark Brandenburg, N.F. Bd. 4), Berlin 2014, 649 pp. + 203 figures and 21 maps, ISBN: 978-3-86732-140-2.**

The reviewed publication presents the results of a 2008 conference which took place in Potsdam and focused on the state of research on the Templar and Hospitaller Orders in the March of Brandenburg and its neighbouring regions, notably Silesia, Pomerania, Pomerelia and Greater Poland, in the middle ages. The book contains studies by an interdisciplinary team of researchers, historians, art historians and archaeologists, from Germany and Poland. The first part of the book *Templer und Johanniter im Spiegel der Forschung* includes two articles by the editors of the volume. These articles are devoted to the history of research on the topic. In the chapter 'Innerhalb und außerhalb der Johanniterordensballei Brandenburg. Ansprüche und Chancen raumkonstruierender Forschung', Heinz-Dieter Heimann discusses the methodological conditioning of the research on the Brandenburg bailiwick of the Order of the Hospital of St John in the 20th century (pp. 23–29). In the article 'Die Templer und Johanniter im nordöstlichen Deutschland und in Polen als Gegenstand interdisziplinären Forschung' (pp. 30–45), Christian Gahlbeck and Dirk Schumann, provide a concise description of the main trends that characterised research on the Templar and Hospitaller Orders in north-eastern Germany and Poland, undertaken by archaeologists, historians and art historians in the 20th century.

The second part of the publication, 'Der Templer- und der Johanniterorden im mittleren Europa' is devoted to the history of the Templar and Hospitaller Orders in various countries of central and east-central Europe. In 'Zur Geschichte der Templer in Polen' (pp. 47–62), Maria Starnawska uses the case studies of convents located in the archbishopric of Gniezno and the Kammin diocese, to demonstrate how the Templars adapted to the socio-political conditions on the Polish-German borderland. Karl Borchardt addresses the issue of defining the nature and origin of a bailiwick as an administrative unit in his article 'Die Johanniter und ihre Balleien in Deutschland während des Mittelalters' (pp. 63–76). In 'Zur Geschichte

der Johanniter und ihrer politischen Rolle in Polen bis zum Jahre 1370' (pp. 77–90), Marek Smoliński discusses the religious and political motivations for the land donations given to the Order of St John in the Piast duchies and in the regions of Pomerania and Pomerania. In her article 'Fecit pulsare companas. Kriegsdienste und Frömmigkeit deutscher Templer aus der Perspektive ihrer Wohltäter' (pp. 91–119), Marie-Luise Heckmann discusses the attitudes towards religiosity and military engagement characteristic of the Templars in the second half of the 13th century, on the basis of territorial conflicts in the south-western part of the Holy Roman Empire, as well as fragments of obituaries from the convent in Quartschen.

The third part of the volume, 'Regionale Entwicklungen – die Templer im Raum westlich und östlich der Oder', is composed of articles analysing how regional conditions influenced Templar activity in the German-Slavic borderland. In his article 'Templer und Machtpolitik. Bemerkungen zur Kommende Tempelhof im Süden Berlins' (pp. 121–139), Ralf Gebuhr suggests, contrary to previous research, that there was a connection between the founding of the Templar convent in Tempelhof, and the political rivalry between the House of Wettin and the House of Askania. In 'Die Herzöge von Großpolen und Schlesien und die Templer im Raum an der mittleren Oder und unteren Warthe' (pp. 140–154), Maciej Przybył analyses the foundation of Templar commanderies in the context of the political rivalries between the Piast rulers of Greater Poland and Silesia. The article 'Die Aufhebungen des Templerordens in der Neumark und in Pommern' (pp. 155–170) by Jacek Brzustowicz, concerns the processes of acquisition of Templar possessions by the Hospitaller Order after 1312.

The five articles found in section four of the edited volume ('Regionale und überregionale Entwicklungen – die Johanniter in der Ballei Brandenburg'), focus on the details of the history of the Hospitaller Order in the region between the Weser and Vistula rivers until the early 16th century. Lutz Partenheimer provides an exhaustive history of the commandery in Werben in his article 'Die Johanniterkommende Werben (Altmark) von 1160 bis zur Reformation' (pp. 173–203). The article 'Die Kommenden der Johanniter Mirow, Gardow und Nemerow in der Herrschaft Stargard in Südmecklenburg' (pp. 203–247), by Rainer Szczesiak and Christian Gahlbeck is in a similar vein, as it presents a detailed history of the Hospitaller Order's Mecklenburg commanderies, with a particular focus on their endowments, personnel and architecture. The research of Agnieszka Lindenhayn-Fiedorowicz on the parish church in the Pomeranian city of Stargard, which is presented in the paper 'Johannitisches Patronat und städtische Architektur. Die Marienkirche zu Stargard (Stargard Szczeciński) in Pommern' (pp. 248–270), suggests that the fact that the Hospitallers were the patrons of this

church, did not necessarily mean that they had influence on its architecture. In 'Lagow (Łagów) oder Sonnenburg (Słońsk). Zur Frage der Residenzbildung in der Ballei Brandenburg der Johanniter von 1317 bis 1527' (pp. 271–337), Christian Gahlbeck focuses on six convents which served as residences of the preceptor of the Brandenburg bailiwick from the first half of the 14th century till 1527. In his article 'Ein Tausch der Balleien Brandenburg und Apullien? Zur Geschichte der Verhandlungen zwischen dem Deutschen Orden und dem Johanniterorden an der Römischen Kurie um 1450' (pp. 338–354), Bernhart Jähmig uses source materials from the old archive of the Teutonic Order, to present and discuss the negotiations which took place in 1440's and early 1450's, concerning an exchange of properties belonging to the Hospitaller and Teutonic Orders.

The fifth section of the publication, 'Architektur und Ausstattung mittelalterlicher Kommenden westlich und östlich der Oder', concerns research in archaeology and art history. Two of the articles focus on the furnishings of Templar and Hospitaller churches. In the article 'Die Werbener Johanniskirche und ihre mittelalterliche Ausstattung' (pp. 357–393), Peter Knüvener and Dirk Schumann use the example of the parish church in Werben to demonstrate the significant role played by the Hospitallers in the furnishing of the church. Peter Knüvener provides a well-documented reconstruction of the furnishings of the church in Templehof (which belonged first to the Templars, and later to the Hospitallers) in the article „Die Kommende Tempelhof und ihre mittelalterlichen Kunstwerke" (pp. 394–411). In the article 'Die mittelalterlichen Ordensbauten der ehemaligen Templerkommenden in Lietzen und Quartschen (Chwarszczany). Konzepte sakraler Architekturgestaltung im späten 13. Jahrhundert' (pp. 412–441), Dirk Schumann focuses on the religious, residential and domestic buildings belonging to the Templar Order. This theme is also discussed in two more articles from the volume: 'The Templars' sites in Rurka (Rörchen) and Chwarszczany (Quartschen) in the light of the latest studies' (pp. 442–457) by Przemysław Kłosowski and Dominika Siemińska, and „Grave n° 58 in the Cemetery of the Order of the Temple in Rurka (Rörchen). A contribution to studies on late medieval funeral rites' (pp. 458–464), by Przemysław Kołosowski. Both of these articles present the results of archeological research carried out at two Templar commanderies in Neumark since 1999.

The sixth section of the publication, 'Geschichte und Kultur der Johanniter-Ordens-Ballei Brandenburg von der Reformation bis zur Gegenwart', focuses on the history of the Brandenburg bailiwick after the reformation. Heinrich Kaak discusses the history of this bailiwick in the 16th and 17th centuries with a particular focus on its relations with Brandenburg electors and the commanderies outside of the Margraviate of Brandenburg, in his article 'Verteidigung und Festigung

der Position des Johanniterordens in der Neumark im 16. und 17. Jahrhundert' (pp. 467–496). Ludwig Biewer, discusses the history of the Hospitaller Order in the Margraviate of Brandenburg in later centuries in his article entitled: 'Die Johanniter vom 19. Jahrhundert bis zur Gegenwart. Ein Überblick' (497–511). In 'Tröstliche schöne Sprüche so wider allerley geistliche anfechtunge im gantzen leben... Das Gebetbuch des Herrenmeisters Martin von Hohenstein (1569–1609) als Forschungsaufgabe' (pp. 512–520), Agnes Baumert contributes to the discussion of Hospitaller religiosity during the reformation. Two further articles concern the architecture of Hospitaller residences. Margus Jager focuses on the palaces of the bailiwick's dignitaries ('Herrenmeister') located in Sonnenburg (1662–1667) and in Berlin (1737–1762) in the article 'Das Ordensschloss Sonnenburg (Słońsk) und das Ordenspalais am Berliner Wilhelmplatz' (pp. 521–539). Ernst Badstübner analyses the artistic value and the symbolism of the frescoes in the palace in Lietzen in the article 'Die barocken emblematischen Deckenmalereien im Herrenhaus der ehemaligen Johanniterkommende Lietzen' (pp. 540–556). In 'Die Restaurierung der Johanniterkirche in Sonnenburg (Słońsk) seit 1994. Ein Beispiel deutsch-polnischer Zusammenarbeit' (pp. 557–576), Eva Riks presents the Polish-German conservation work carried out in the town church of Sonnenburg since 1994. The volume ends with a list of sources and secondary literature used in the 25, presented articles.

The publication is of high quality. The studies within provide an exhaustive knowledge of the current state of research on the subject, while at the same time, they also show where more research is needed and suggest potential venues for conducting future studies. Finally, one should also note that a great advantage of the publication is its graphic design, numerous illustrations and very well prepared, accurate maps.

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