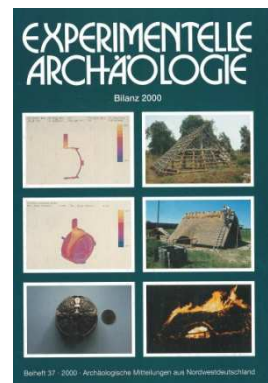


## Back at the old level

J.P. Flamman

(Bulletin VAAE jrg 6, nr 3 (2001), pg 36-39)

This year already the eighth book in the series "Experimental Archaeology in Germany" appeared. Last year the book was of somewhat lower level but the most recent edition is of better quality. The sixteen articles in the so called 'Bilanz 2000' are written in German, except for the book review of "The Constructed Past" by R. Paardekooper which is in English.



M. Lindemann writes about the manufacturing of bone and antler artefacts from the West European Late Palaeolithic by soaking the bone and antler several days before cutting and carving. A new initiative for an archaeological open air museum near Albersdorf in northwest Germany with a special interest for the Neolithic landscape is presented by R. Kelm. A experimental test for the research of the possibilities for determining if ceramic pots are used for food- or salt production is the subject of the article of N. Künzler Wagner. E. Berdelis describes in her contribution her experience in decorating ceramics with tinfoil. The results of many years of experimenting the melting of iron at the Danish Museum at Moesgård is the article by J. Lund and A. Jouttijärvi. The construction of little barns and the documentation of the burning down of the buildings is the subject of the contribution of R. Leineweber. An rather unusual aspect in experimental archaeology is the use of computer simulations by K. Hedegaard in the research for the casting of Viking jewellery and trying to understand the problems which occurred during the experimental (and also archaeological) casting. A second presentation of a new initiative is the article of A. Boonstra and R. Paardekooper on the building of medieval houses at the Prehistoric Open air Museum in Eindhoven. Another experiment in building is the construction of and sailing with a Slavonic ship from the ninth and tenth century, written by H. Fichtner. The variety in ways how to treat flax is demonstrated in the contribution of F. Knöchel and U. Vogeler, who have collected all the information from old books and publications of the last three hundred years. Combined with this last article J. Berthold and A. Werner have written an article on their experiments using a subterranean medieval oven for drying the stems of the flax. E.-M. Pfarr tells about her experiences on producing woven wool textiles for medieval clothes, where F. Peise is sharing his knowledge on the reconstruction of staved cups. D. Todtenhaupt explains the archaeological finds of the excavations on which the medieval museum village Düppel in Berlin and their activities are based. The final article of the book by K. Goldmann is a worried observation of the rather quick expansion of new built archaeological open air parks without attention for the serious matter of archaeological information on which these objects are based.

'Bilanz 2000' is recommended for all persons who are interested in experimental archaeology and can read German.

Fansa, M. (editor) 2001, Experimentelle Archäologie Bilanz 2000. Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Nordwestdeutschland: Beiheft 37, Isensee Verlag, Oldenburg, 184 pg, ISBN 3-89598-779-4 (sold out).

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