AVISTA NEEDS MORE OF YOU!

LET THIS ISSUE OF AVISTA FORUM be the call-to-arms—or better, the call to pens and pcs. Carl Barnes has addressed the need for an expansion of membership. As a second prong of persuasion, let me appeal to the present and prospective membership for its intellectual support. We editors do our best to cover the events and scholarship embraced under the AVISTA umbrella. However, the time that each of us can devote to poring through journals, reading articles, and writing reviews and summaries is limited. I plead with all of you to contribute your thoughts and words, in addition to your annual dues. As you read articles or books on science, technology, or art, it seems a small step to compile notes, splice in insightful, critical comments, and drop them in the mail to Carl Barnes (art), Pam Long (science and technology), or me. Entice a colleague to submit a review. At the moment, we do not have the luxury of a backlog of material and your submissions will appear promptly in the next issue. Judging from the responses I have received during the past two years, the AVISTA FORUM has been a success because it is stimulating, yet rigorous, accessible, and multi-faceted. However, to continue to build this publication, it is essential that it draw upon the strength of its members, their expertises, and the continually evolving perspectives of their scholarship.

As mentioned in the minutes of the annual board meeting at the back of this issue, a discussion has been opened concerning the direction which future issues of the AVISTA FORUM should/might take. My sense from that meeting was that opinion was divided rather evenly between those who wished to see an expansion of the reviews and notes and those who felt that the calendar of news, papers, and activities was this periodical's most valuable aspect. Given the organization's current finances, an expansion of AVISTA FORUM to cover more of everything is not possible. I would like to take our readers' pulse in order to shape a publication that is informative, provocative, and responsive. Should we: 1) maintain the present balance of reviews and activities; 2) increase reviews and abbreviate activities; 3) shorten reviews to allow more coverage of news and activities; 4) move in other directions? I hope to hear from as many of you as possible—a postcard with one of the above numbers would be an enormous help.

CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Arms</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From the Editor: News</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for Papers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From the President</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviews of Articles:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent Villard Studies</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval Technology</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval Economics</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Queries</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News from Members and Affiliated Societies</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recent and Forthcoming Papers</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities—Past, Present, Future</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Business Meeting of AVISTA</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial Board</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVISTA membership application</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS, I have been keeping informal track of the articles that appear in the Tuesday Science Times section of the New York Times. In this era of rapid scientific and technological progress, the paper’s concern with the developments that will shape the world, the lives of its inhabitants, and the news of the future seems a particularly farsighted endeavor. Perhaps it should not have been surprising—although I felt as if a high-watt lightbulb had been switched on—that the scientific reporting had a curiously intimate correspondence with major new stories. To a degree, this might be expected as the full ramifications of political debate and actions, of social policies and economic decisions are explored. Articles on military hardware, anti-missile weapons, and laser-guided bombs appeared along with their prime-time debut in the Gulf War (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 26), a piece on Russian rocket production was written as Mikhail Gorbachev toured the West in search of aid for his ailing economy (July 9), and a steady stream of stories on the space program and research played a journalistic continuo to Congressional debates over NASA funding and the latest space shuttle flight.
Most of us would agree, I think, that the media are fundamentally mirrors that reflect our society's values and concerns, yet it is important to recognize their power in molding those concerns. On the one hand, it should only provoke a knowing nod to learn that the majority of front-page leads in the Science Times concerned nature and wildlife and body and health. However, on the other, the way these stories, are set against daily events in a suggestively parallel pattern, invites the simplistic view that the world is, indeed, created in our image and that the true value of science is based on its pragmatic application to increase general utility. Among the nature topics examined, the manufacture of nylon and its effect on the ozone layer (Feb. 26) and pessimistic views of global warming (Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12) formed suitably dramatic equivalents to the ominous military buildup and destructive display of the Gulf War. Moreover, one could hardly ignore the juxtaposition of the long-range threats of warming, the call for increased security for nuclear weapons, and a probe of Saddam Hussein's psyche that hung under the science banner on January 29. Reading between the lines, we envision nature teetering on the brink of a suicidal offensive: it will melt its polar icecaps and redirect rains away from agricultural belts unless we cave into its non-negotiable demands whose consequences will threaten the "American way of life." Three weeks later (Mar. 19), the resurrection of natural habitats sounded an optimistic note in harmony with victory and peace, while the ongoing consideration of endangered species (Mar. 12—hybrids, May 7—rhinoceri, May 28—parrots, July 23—fish) seemed an appropriate metaphor for the conflict's refugees and the victims of the purges in its aftermath. Oddly enough, military action and wildlife peril never appeared together, although the oil-drenched cormorants of the Gulf offered one of the most pathetic images and powerful symbols of the war's environmental destruction.

The second rubric, which I have termed "body and self," embraced reports on hair, the brain's left lobe, cancer, perverse fantasies, George Bush's thyroid gland, the anatomy of rumors, and children of divorce. The article on malaria read like a battlefield account, complete with a diagram of tactical maneuvers, of desperate doctors fighting wily, ruthless parasites (Feb. 12), while immediately below the panegyric to the laser-guided bomb, one noticed that Alzheimer's Researchers Close in on Causes (Feb. 26)—we eagerly await a direct hit! And was it mere coincidence that Who's No. 1 in Science? Footnotes Say U.S. appeared as we bathed in the glow of resounding military triumph brought about by the brilliant but practical technology produced in our unrivaled laboratories and research institutions? Did anyone hear the faint echo of candidate Bush's vow to be known to history as the "education President." What better proof of success than a class of smart bombs?

As suggestive as the choice and treatment of "science" subjects may have been, the location of other items was equally illuminating and tells us a great deal about the configuration of our "tree of knowledge." For example, an exhibition of nineteenth-century inventions, including steam engines, buttonhole cutters, and mousetraps, staged at Cooper Union's Houghton Gallery (A Better Mousetrap: Patents and the Process of Invention, Feb. 25) appeared in The Arts section as did an F-4 Phantom jet, one of the "objets" of the Intrepid Sea-Air Museum whose attendance has been booming since the war (Feb. 12). Marcel Duchamp recontextualized urinals and bicycle wheels and called them art, so why not a fighter plane? However, while one report of new developments in concrete which may lengthen considerably the life of highways was included in the science pages, I did not see a building or bridge outside of the Arts and Leisure section even though their construction often involves sensitive environmental issues, requires detailed geological considerations and complex mathematical calculations, and uses new materials. What does it mean when the dissection of rumor is labelled "science" and plans to build a mile-high structure in Chicago "art?"

In the face of mounting confusion, I found myself turning to the past for clarification and wondering how imaginary editors of 1120, 1230, or 1780 would have conceived of a Science Times, how they would have presented their tree of knowledge in weekly installments. In 1991, the journalistic segregation of military weaponry and architecture implies that these activities grow from completely separate branches of thought. It is instructive to remember that Hugh of Saint-Victor grouped the two together in Book 2, Chapter 22 (Armament) of his Didascalicon under a discussion of the mechanical arts. (For the subsequent trees of knowledge, refer to Robert Darnton, Philosophers Trim the Tree of Knowledge, in The Great Cat Massacre and other episodes in French cultural history, New York, 1984). Villard de Honnecourt, clearly, was born to be such an editor—bearing in mind that he, like his contemporaries, would have defined
science as human knowledge. On five successive folio pages of his portfolio (28v–31r), he represented—these would have been the lead stories for the front page—the Flagellation of Christ, a rich volute of a choir stall panel, a classicizing male figure, a trébuchet, and the elevations of the Reims Cathedral chapels. Like today’s journalists, Villard recorded the news of the day: the great structures that were revolutionizing architecture and transforming industrial methods, the new naturalism in sculpture and painting that was a reflection not only of heightened interest in ancient Rome, but also of changing attitudes toward the body, the siege engines of war, and even homeopathic potions. One look at the layout of the New York Times or virtually any American campus underscores how differently our own conceptual and disciplinary landscape is configured. The scientist can inform herself of the latest newsworthy developments in cosmology, zoology, and computer software without being diverted by a review of Iris Murdoch’s Why Plato Banished the Artists (Feb. 21) while the art specialist may focus on the virtuous aesthetics of the design of a cancer center in Los Angeles without confronting the medical research on the illness itself.

In the midst of modern fragmentation and the proud specialist, we might do well to consider these earlier ages, not as quaint and primitive relics, but as alternative models for thought. It has been pointed out that inspiration for breakthroughs occurs not simply through creation ex nihilo or the discovery of the unknown, but by drawing innovatively upon the insights of other arts and disciplines (for example by Brooke Hindle, Emulation and Invention, New York, 1981; Cecelia Tichi, Shifting Gears, Chapel Hill, NC, 1987). Hugh of Saint-Victor advised that “humility...will prompt you to hold no knowledge in contempt and to learn gladly from all...So it is that in our days certain peddlars of trifles come fuming forth; glorying in I know not what, they accuse our forefathers of simplicity and suppose that wisdom, having been born with themselves, with themselves will die” (Didascalicron, Book 3, chapter 13). Perhaps, it is only when we once again take this wider view and regain the perspective and humility that marks the pursuit of knowledge that our science, in the broadest sense of the word, will truly meet the needs of our times.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Association Villard de Honnecourt for the Interdisciplinary Study of Medieval Technology, Science, and Art

The Medieval Healing Arts: Their Setting and Practice

27th International Congress on Medieval Studies
8–11 May 1992
The Medieval Institute
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Mark H. Infusino, Chair/Organizer

Possible Topics Include:
1. The credibility of artistic depictions
2. The interpretation of medical diagrams
3. Architecture and furnishings of medieval hospitals
4. Social roles of physicians, surgeons, barbers, pharmacists, empirics, and healing saints
5. The healer’s role in military campaigns

Papers are limited to twenty minutes. Send one-page abstracts, including audio-visual needs, by 1 October 1991, to:

Dr. Mark H. Infusino
Medical History Division
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
UCLA School of Medicine
10833 Le Conte Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1763
Telephone: (213) 825-4933

MTD
FROM THE PRESIDENT

AVISTA AT THE X-ROADS

AVISTA IS AT THE CROSS-ROADS. Or is it the end of the road? Founded six years ago, AVISTA initially grew in a promising manner, and within three years some 200 members had joined, attracted by the promise that here was a truly flexible, interdisciplinary organization welcoming individuals of many interests and specializations.

Now, AVISTA membership is not merely stable, it has declined. And the simple fact is that AVISTA cannot—and should not—survive if so few care. It is a situation akin to the question, “What if they gave a war and no one showed up?” The officers and directors of the organization do not accept the premise that AVISTA is without merit or that it does not provide service to its members. AVISTA Forum is a newsletter providing information on conferences and symposia, editorials, and of special interest, reviews of articles. How many other publications invite submissions, questions, controversy?

AVISTA has sponsored six exciting programs at Kalamazoo (see AVISTA Forum V/1 (Fall 1990), pp. 4–5 for a summary) and has two more scheduled, “The Medieval Healing Arts: Their Setting and Practice” in 1992 and “The Mechanical Arts—How Things Move and Work: Philosophical and Practical Approaches” for 1993.

Service to members and non-members is there. So what is the problem? Probably some lapsed members simply forgot to renew (and there has been, admittedly, some raggedness in sending renewal reminders). Perhaps others felt that the modest dues scarcely made a difference. Well, they do make a difference. And the board has had to take action to raise dues by five dollars per membership class, beginning with the 1992–93 membership year. Otherwise, AVISTA Forum cannot continue to be printed. As it is, a personal gift from a member made this issue of AVISTA Forum possible.

So what is needed? Not miracles. Not great sacrifice. Not Herculean effort. A little TLC and responsibility will do just fine! If lapsed members would rejoin, and if each current member would recruit just one new member, the human and fiscal critical mass required to maintain AVISTA would be assured. Give a membership to your mother, aunt or uncle, new nephew or niece, postperson, hairdresser, bootlegger, inter alia.

The recipient will think you’re a little strange. But so what? If that were your strangest act ever, you’d be way ahead.

Writing this plea is my last official act as President of AVISTA. To the officers and directors who have contributed so much to AVISTA this past year, especially Richard A. Sundt, who has reorganized the functions of Treasurer, I offer most grateful thanks. Charles Stegeman resumes the office of President in August 1991, and we all welcome his return, no one more sincerely than myself. As a welcome-back present to Charles, become active in AVISTA ... and assure its future. ♦

Carl F. Barnes, Jr., President

REVIEWS OF ARTICLES

The purpose of this section is to encourage comment and create active dialogue on essays and articles. Hundreds of scholarly journals review books. Few, if any, review articles. These reviews will bring significant shorter studies from various disciplines to the attention of AVISTA Forum readers. The editors urge readers to contribute reviews of articles published in periodic literature and in collective works. Readers, including authors of reviewed works, are encouraged to comment on the reviews. Readers are also urged to bring relevant articles to the attention of the editors.

Recent Villard Studies
Carl F. Barnes, Jr.
Oakland University
Rochester, Michigan


A n interesting essay proposing (p. 136) that whatever the practical or aesthetic purpose of Villard’s architectural drawings, certain of them “reveal to us what he regarded as most important about Gothic
architecture, namely that the linear articulating members which animate its surfaces are the key to the aesthetic expressiveness of the Gothic style." This explains, according to Hearn, why Villard was especially interested in the cathedrals at Laon and Reims where interior articulation first found expression on the exteriors of major French Gothic buildings.

Curiously, the author does not cite the essay by James Smith Pierce, The Sketchbook of Villard de Honnecourt, New Lugano Review, 8–9 (1976), 28–36, which discusses in detail the "quality of linear movement" in all of Villard's drawings, while, however, emphasizing Villard's interest in movement more than in articulation.

This reviewer does not agree with Hearn's claim (p. 127) that Villard "clearly was knowledgeable about Gothic architecture." See Carl F. Barnes, Jr., Le 'Problème' Villard de Honnecourt, Les bâtisseurs des cathédrales gothiques (Strasbourg, 1989), 209–223, for a different assessment of Villard's expertise in architectural design and construction.

Reproduces fols. 9v, 10r, 10v, 15r, 21r, 30v, 31v, and 32r from photographic negatives in the Bibliothèque nationale.

Roland Bechmann and Villard de Honnecourt

The most significant thinker and prolific writer about Villard de Honnecourt in our time is, with out any doubt whatsoever, the Parisian architect-historian Roland Bechmann. Bechmann, a revered colleague and personal friend, brings to Villard studies a rare combination of humanistic concern and technical expertise, which makes him uniquely qualified to tackle successfully the enigma of Villard de Honnecourt.


To his credit, when Bechmann has taken on the task of attempting to make Villard accessible to non-specialists through his popular writings, he avoids distorting oversimplifications and repeating by-now-hackneyed and disproved claims.


This work is the most significant study of the subject since Hans R. Hahnloser's Villard de Honnecourt, Kritische Gesamtausgabe des Bauhüttenbuches ms. fr 19093 der Pariser Nationalbibliothek (Vienna, 1935, 2nd rev. ed., Gratz, 1972), generally considered the critical edition of Villard. Unlike Hahnloser, Bechmann has not attempted a facsimile publication nor a critical codicological edition; like Hahnloser, he has ducked no aspect of the drawings, and he constantly brings new insights and solutions to previously unanswered questions. Some of these he has published in separate articles, for example, the explanation of the "bow which cannot miss," fol. 22v (see above, L'arc de Villard de Honnecourt ...) but it is most useful to have these various insights in one place.

It is not possible here to review the entire contents of Bechmann's study, but it will suffice to note that his approach is that Villard's drawings served mnemonic purposes. This is especially true of the so-called "geometric drawings" found on fols. 18r, 18v, 19r, and 19v which have never, until now, been satisfactorily and persuasively explained. One might read, as an introduction to this idea, the article La mnémotechnique des constructeurs gothiques noted above. It is Bechmann's contention that Gothic designers, especially masons, employed short-hand devices such as sketches of human faces, stick-figures, and intertwined animals, to help them remember complex geometric design steps, rather as both ancient and modern peoples used the
names of commonplace objects to help recognize the constellations (Archer, Bear, Big Dipper, etc.).

For all he has done to clarify the many problems encountered in the Villard drawings, Roland Bechmann has wider interests. Two of his books—Les racines des cathédrales: l'architecture gothique, expression des conditions du milieu, (Paris, 1981; Italian ed., 1984) and Des arbres et des hommes: La forêt au moyen-âge (Paris, 1984; English ed. 1990)—are significant overviews of the Middle Ages which offer penetrating insights, especially Des arbres et des hommes: La forêt au moyen-âge. Both should be read by anyone seriously interested in medieval social history.

Manufacture and use of Medieval art
François Bucher
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL


The third and last volume summarizing the now-legendary Rennes symposium of 1983 deals, as do the first two tomes with the manufacturing and use of medieval art, architecture, and artifacts. The elegantly edited and annotated essays range from single discoveries of work processes to extraordinary finds of documents, the description of unusual objects, such as easels and palettes used by painters and the graffiti found on fortress walls. Geographically, the items cover most European countries and Coptic Egypt, while, chronologically, the articles range from the fourth century C.E. to the beginning of the Renaissance. Throughout, the analyses of patronage, be it clerical or secular, produce new insights into social history.

The categories discussed include pre-fabrication and serial production, taking into account rarely discussed materials, such as plaster, terracotta, floor tiles, and brass, sculpture, including folk objects, cartoons for figures (Lyman), working methods, and techniques in manuscript production including pigments, geometric page organization, sketches, models (A. Stones), and non-iconographical notations. Other sections deal with the reception and contemporary discussions of artistic activities, as seen in inscriptions, programs, incipient realism (Belting), the representation of artists, political control, and financing of production. The final talks describe the marketing and export of types of art including English alabasters (Ramsey), altars, and tapestries.

Ernst Kitzinger’s closing remarks celebrate the “splendid event” and the enormous chronological and geographical range of the program, while at the same time deploiring the lack of emphasis on contacts between Byzantium and the West. In spite of this, the three volumes offer a remarkable variety of information, much of it new, with a number of talks representing long years of work on such subjects as medieval bridge builders or twelfth-century roof construction. The passionately committed scholars presented this suite of highly original papers at a moment when Rennes was seized by the tensions of a doctors’ and nurses’ strike and the fear of Breton terrorism. How Xavier Barral I Altet managed to organize one of the liveliest symposia in decades would remain a mystery were it not for the shadow of Mont-Saint-Michel which beckoned from a distance.

Images of the chariot
Michael T. Davis
Mount Holyoke College


Marjorie Nice Boyer opens a vein of inquiry whose further mining promises to yield important technological and social insights. The author’s stated purpose “is to investigate whether artists working in the time from the Carolingian period through the thirteenth century borrowed their ideas from ancient or contemporary sources and what was the relationship between the illustrations and the vehicles actually in use” (p. 25). She finds that although in a number of codices illustrating, for example, Prudentius’s Psychomachia, chariots may have been copied from earlier Roman models, medieval artists frequently depicted kings and other luminaries in vehicles that reflect the humbler carts and baggage wagons of the day.

This seeming indecision may have both an artistic and iconographical significance. On the one hand, images such as Luxuría in a chariot from a late-ninth or early-tenth century manuscript (London, British Library lat. 8085) reveal the antique sources that guided
the artist and testify to the tenacious survival of the classical visual heritage. On the other hand, because carts were considered a demeaning form of transportation, as witnessed by Einhard’s comments on Chilperic III or Chrétien de Troyes’ Lancelot or the Knight of the Cart, Luxuria’s mode of transport may carry with it a negative connotation. There must have been powerful new attitudes in medieval Europe that led the renovatio-minded Carolingians to shun the chariot, a royal form of transport for over two millennia: Charlemagne built his chapel in a consciously Roman manner, encouraged his court scholars to study classical literature, and even donned a toga for his imperial coronation at Saint-Peter’s in 800, but, as far as we know, the emperor remained firmly in the saddle his entire life.

In addition to cogent observations on the details and manufacture of wheeled carriages, one of Boyer’s most telling points is built on the diminishing number of vehicle types mentioned in the works of such scholars as Isidore of Seville and Rabanus Maurus. One feels the contraction of travel horizons and, with them, economic vitality, during the early Middle Ages. The disintegration of the power and coherent administrative system of the Empire meant not only that long-distance travel became increasingly hazardous along the unpatrolled roads, but also that the means to maintain the vast infrastructure evaporated.

There are a number of issues outside the scope of this study that hopefully will be addressed in further investigations. To mention but one, there may be a gender-related dimension, in addition to the well-known class distinction, inherent in the mode of travel. Boyer cites the obvious value which a Frankish noblewoman attached to her ox-drawn carruca in 700, only a generation of so before Chilperic III’s humiliating arrival in a similar vehicle. Are we dealing with a sudden change of “fashion” introduced by the Carolingians or rather a long-standing difference in what was acceptable behavior for aristocratic males and females? It might be remembered that the Oseberg ship burial of the early 9th-century, a grave mound of a high-born Viking woman, included a lavishly carved cart and a tapestry, reconstructed from the same burial, depicts three four-wheeled carts bearing both freight and humans. One wishes that more images and objects had been surveyed over a broader geographical area for the Carolingian view of prestige transportation does not appear to have been universally held throughout Europe.

**Anglo-Saxon Military Thinking**

Pamela O. Long

Washington, DC


The authors combine a shrewd analysis of a single document, the Burghal Hidage, with an evaluation of what is known about Anglo-Saxon weapons and carts. They succeed both in reconstructing early tenth-century Anglo-Saxon defensive strategy against the Vikings and in suggesting the logic behind that strategy. The brilliance of this article lies in its success in choosing and evaluating highly disparate and often quantitative information to reconstruct a military mentality.

The document itself lists thirty-three burghs or fortifications along with a number of hides. As the authors explain, a hide is the “income from a stipulated landed resource—required to support the garrison troops needed to defend the perimeter wall of each stronghold.” Every hide was represented by one man. Every “pole of wall” (16 1/2 feet) could be manned by four men. The document contains the results of measuring the perimeter defenses of the thirty-three fortifications in Wessex (30) and Mercia (3). Then the income-producing landed resources are listed and assessed. The authors emphasize the high quality of the administrative work which “hints at the type of governmental sophistication that in the future would produce the Domesday Book.” For instance, at Winchester, 2,400 hides were allocated to support men required to defend a perimeter of 9,954 feet. The error was less than one percent. The Burghal Hidage concerned a total of 27,000 men mustered for garrison duty. The authors infer the strategy of Anglo-Saxon military policy from some of the data. They observe that no burg was more than 20 miles (a day’s march) from at least one other burg. So no military unit on march to another fortification had to camp in the open (a dangerous undertaking), and reinforcements could be sent quickly to help a burg under siege. “A defense in depth was developed to protect all of Wessex.”

The further observation is made that a great variety of both old and new fortifications are used. Yet the variables of size and quality are not taken into con-
The authors conclude that for the Anglo-Saxon planners, “the quality of the defenses was not a variable of tactical significance.” They suggest that those who conceived the burghal defense system believed that the enemy was as unlikely to breach the walls of the weakest stronghold in the system as of the strongest.

This leads to an analysis of Viking tactics. The Norseman had difficulty succeeding against fortified positions. They could not carry heavy siege equipment in their shallow boats and were left with the option of “storming defenses and scaling the walls with ladders.” It was a costly tactic to the attackers and difficult to sustain, especially when not assisted by missile weapons. They could be assaulted during their approach by the arrows of the Anglo-Saxon short bow. Only a few could reach the top of the ladder at any one time to engage in hand-to-hand combat on the ramparts.

The authors continue with a detailed analysis of the weapons that probably would have been used and their effectiveness. They analyze the nature of the pole weapons used by the Anglo-Saxons, and the effectiveness of the barrage of arrows that would have met the approaching Vikings. The analysis of arrow barrage effectiveness by modern probability theory that forms an appendix to the article constitutes fun and games for military buffs. It results in the usual conclusion—pre-modern practitioners had a good practical knowledge of what they were doing.

Economic Ascendancy in Medieval Flanders
Pamela O. Long
Washington, DC


A development of fundamental importance in the central medieval period was the rise of the woolen cloth industry in the county of Flanders and neighboring areas, the economic ascendancy of this area with respect to manufacturing (most importantly of cloth), and the development of markets there for all kinds of goods. The rise of the cities and the growth of manufacturing and markets throughout Europe were influenced by economic changes in the Low Countries from about 1050 to 1200. Medieval urbanism transformed the landscape of Europe and altered much of its material culture. An understanding of what David Nicholas calls the “Flemish economic miracle” is thus important for a more general picture of European economic development.

Nicholas argues that “the reasons for Flanders’ rapid rise to economic pre-eminence have not been explained satisfactorily.” He insists that the problem is “crucial for our understanding of the dynamics of the larger European economic expansion.” He suggests that Flemish cities were not particularly large by eleventh-century standards. Yet he also argues that Flanders could not support its cities without substantial imports of food and industrial raw materials. Large imports “created patterns of consumption with a significant impact on the economy of the entire region.” Flanders had only woolen cloth to sell. But the area also “fulfilled significant service functions.” It provided a huge internal market and eventually functioned “as a gateway to the eastern Low Countries and Germany for English and French raw materials.” Enormous income was derived from tolls, customs, fees, and monopolies of local shipping and brokerage guilds levied on goods in transit. This helped pay for the large amounts of food and raw materials being imported. Nicholas’s thesis is that “contrary to previous explanations advanced for the economic pre-eminence of Flanders, its sway owed more to its role as a consumer and transmitter than to its production of goods and services.” The underdeveloped state of the early Flemish economy created patterns of demand “that made Flanders the touchstone of a broadly based economic region in the late eleventh and twelfth centuries”. At precisely this time, he further argues, a change in Flemish property law produced greater liquidity of property and thus more available capital, leading to the pre-eminence of Germanic Flanders (especially Ghent, Bruges, and Ypres) and away from the Walloon areas.

To support his thesis, Nicholas must argue against two alternative explanations that have held sway. The first is that economic development in the area is due to the sophistication of Flemish governing institutions. Nicholas argues against the explanation, suggested by the work of Pirenne and elaborated by Jan Dhondt, that the eleventh- and twelfth-century counts were shrewd administrators who founded new towns, built castles, promoted canal building and established the “five fairs” of Flanders thus providing an environment in which trade and industry would flourish. Nicholas
suggests that no evidence supports this claim before the early twelfth century. He points to the extraordinary violence of the area as an argument against a strong central administration. His argument here is supported by anecdotical evidence of violence. He has not convinced me (a non-specialist) that the area was more violent than the rest of Europe. Nor does violence in itself preclude innovative administration.

The second explanation was elaborated by Pirenne and his disciples and “constitutes the basic point of departure for the traditional economic explanation of Flanders’ growth.” In the Roman period northwestern Gaul was famous for its textiles, a tradition that persisted into the early Middle Ages. Pirenne argued that cloth from “Frisia” was actually from Flanders and that the medieval Flemish textile industry was built on this strong prior foundation. He also argued for the importance of the reclamation of maritime Flanders, seeing this as the catalyst for intense population growth that established the population of the cities. Scholars after Pirenne have proposed that the land clearance led to an end of serfdom, because to get labor the founders of towns offered charters of liberties (Bryce Lyon’s thesis); and that the advanced status of Flemish agricultural technology promoted high productivity on small plots of land.

Nicholas suggests that after initial reclamation of maritime areas, the soil would not support grain cultivation or large scale human habitation but was suitable for sheep raising. This explains the “precocious export textile industry” of small towns in western Flanders. Yet as time went on, the soil became suitable for grain production and was so planted. This led to the necessity for increased import of wool. The merchants in the larger cities had the capital to buy English wool and control the supply. The advantage thus passed to them.

Flemish draperies were initially founded on an abundant wool supply that became inadequate after 1050 as rapid population growth led to the conversion of sheep runs to grain fields.Nicholas points to the “ingenious and plausible” explanation of H.P.H.Jansen, building on the suggestions of W. Endrei and P. Váczy, that there was a substantial Flemish industry based on native wools that preceded the industry based on English wool. This revises the supposition of Pirenne that the rise of Flemish textile centers in the twelfth century was based on the beginning of wool imports from England. Finally, Nicholas turns to the marketplace itself. He notes that the regulations by which goods are exchanged are basic to any economy and that “a high degree of liquidity in the marketplace is essential for commercial pre-eminence.” He points to a progressive change in inheritance laws in Germanic Flanders in the mid-eleventh century. A shift in marriage customs contributed to an exceptional degree of economic equality between the sexes. Flemish community property law gave widows extensive rights over their husbands’ estates. This led to increased
liquidity in that it allowed frequent inheritance of unencumbered property. On the one hand, this fostered investment, and on the other, it caused people to be wary of tying up assets in marriage portions. Both situations led to liquidity which in turn facilitated the function of Flanders as a gateway market and as an international marketplace.

This is an exceptionally important article that would reward study by all medievalists, not only specialists in Flanders. It offers a model that reverses the traditional view of a one-to-one relationship between agricultural productivity and the growth of the cities. It focuses on conditions of the marketplace itself as a crucial area for understanding economic prosperity. Its positing of urban prosperity as one outcome of rural impoverishment is of great interest, as is its focus on inheritance laws as an important factor in the development of a market economy. Many of the specific conclusions of the article are based on the collection and interpretation of local studies, as well as on data that are always insufficient for this particular time period. Thus the specifics of the author’s argument will undoubtedly be extensively evaluated and debated by specialists in medieval Flemish history. Yet it stands as a masterful reinterpretation of a fundamental development in medieval history.

Deneux, “Signes lapidaires et épures du XIIIe siècle à la cathédrale de Reims,” Bulletin monumental, 84 (1925), 99–131. In the case of Menerbes, these placement marks point to the fabrication of particular and important ornamental pieces of the church, such as the jambs of the entry, away from the building site: either at the quarry or in another workshop. If the triangles indicate the direction or orientation of the blocks, they may have been intended to function as guides to the masons to insure accurate installation. An identification of the origins of the jambs’ carvers may provide a further understanding of their habitual construction techniques and assist in decoding the role of these marks.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Jean Gimpel submits a query regarding the unusual “signes de position” in the jambs of the western portal of the parish church of Menerbes, a hilltop site, located east of Avignon, in France. The present church was apparently built between 1510 and 1551, not in the fourteenth century as is commonly stated, on the site of a much earlier church. M Gimpel asks if, in fact, these marks are “signes de position”? Further, is anyone aware of similar signs in an equally prominent position (western door jambs)?

Editor: This would seem to be a logical interpretation of these marks, although such triangular forms appear often enough as masons’ marks. I am reminded of the system of signs, including horizontal lines and “arrows,” used on the west façade of Reims Cathedral to set out the position of the statues on the wall (see Henri

NEWS FROM MEMBERS AND AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS:

AVISTA members and affiliates, please send items for this column to the News Editor. News items should be of interest to AVISTA membership but need not be about members or affiliates.

Projects, Institutions and Societies:

Inventory of Medieval Manuscripts in Wales: to make medieval illuminated manuscripts in Welsh collections more generally known to art historians, iconographers, and manuscript specialists, and to facilitate their study, Drs. William Marx and Alcuin Blamires of the English
Department, University of Wales at Lampeter, have begun to compile a collection of color slides of all illuminations and significant decoration found in manuscripts in some sixty collections in Wales, and to develop a descriptive iconographic index of the illustrations. A description of the project, *Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts in Wales*, by Drs. Marx and Blamires is available in *The Word and the Visual Imagination* (English Department, St. David's University College, Lampeter, Dyfed, Wales SA48 7ED, 1989).

**Center for the Study of Architecture**, based at Bryn Mawr College, has been established since 1988 to promote the application of advanced technology to the study and analysis of architecture and to serve as a repository of CADD (Computer Assisted Drafting and Design) models. To date, the Center has been involved with ancient architecture, such as the pre-Mnesiclean entrance to the Athenian Acropolis, but is eager to expand its network to include medieval structures. A newsletter containing information on new technologies, surveying methods, field reports, and relevant computer news is published quarterly. While there are no formal membership dues, donations to assist in defraying publishing expenses are welcomed. Contact Harrison Eiteljorg II, Director, P.O. Box 60, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010; 215-649-8235 - n_eiteljorg@brynmawr.bitnet.

**Nautilus Foundation**, founded in 1988, was established as a center for creative research and teaching. Located in Lloyd, Florida, near Tallahassee, it will sponsor international conferences, seminars, publications, performances, and special events, such as the recent exhibit of the work of Buckminster Fuller (October 1990-February 1991). The Nautilus Foundation encourages concentrated research and will organize workshops dealing with essential concerns. With a rich and varied collection of artifacts, libraries, archives, and study rooms, the Foundation serves as an intimate, self-contained institution dedicated to the use of the past as a foundation for the future. The Nautilus Foundation seeks to pioneer ideas and to offer perceptions and solutions focussed on immediate and long range global needs. For information regarding the Nautilus Foundation and its programs, contact: Dr. François Bucher, President, P.O. Box 368, Lloyd, FL 32337; 904-997-1778.

**Grants and Prizes:**

**The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation** announces its 1991-92 program of pre- and post-doctoral grants for research in Venice and the Veneto. Grants ranging from $500 to $10,000 will be awarded for research in various aspects of the history of Venice and its empire: art, architecture, music, archaeology, theater, literature, natural science, political science, the law, and economics. Applicants must have experience in advanced research, and, if graduate students, must have fulfilled all doctoral requirements except the dissertation; only citizens and permanent residents of the United States are eligible. Contact: The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, 40 West 57th St. (30th fl.), New York, NY 10019.

**The Cesare Barbieri Endowment for Italian Culture at Trinity College**, in cooperation with the Society for Italian Historical Studies, awards an annual Trinity College Barbieri Grant to an American scholar working in any period of Italian history from the medieval period to the present. The award ($3500-$5000) is to enable American scholars to conduct research in Italy. Applicants must be U.S. citizens resident in the U.S.; doctoral candidates or post-doctoral scholars. Contact: A.J. Reinerman, Executive Secretary, Society for Italian Historical Studies, Dept. of History, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167-3806.

**The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** funds a fellowship program to assist scholars who wish to conduct research in the Vatican Film Library at St. Louis University. Travel expenses and aper diem are granted to researchers with well-defined two- to eight-week projects in such areas as classics, paleography, patristics, history, philosophy and sciences in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Fellowships must be scheduled within one of the following periods: January 15-May 15, June 1-July 31, September 1-December 22. Contact: Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship Program, Vatican Film Library, Pius XII Memorial Library, St. Louis University, 3650 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

**The National Gallery of Art's Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts** offers Visiting Senior Fellowships for those who have held a Ph.D. for five years.
or more or who possess a record of professional accomplishment. Awards are for a maximum period of 60 days; fellows receive a stipend for travel, research and expenses, and are provided with a study and subsidized luncheon privileges. Soros Visiting Senior Fellowships are offered to visiting scholars from central and eastern Europe and the U.S.S.R. The application deadline for the March 1-August 31, 1992 award period is September 21, 1991. The Center also offers ten Predoctoral Fellowships for work in the history of art, architecture, and urban form. Contact: Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC 20565; 202/842-6480.

The University of Oklahoma offers junior- and senior-level Rockefeller Foundation Fellowships in the humanities for research in the history of science. Candidates should hold doctorates in history, history of science, or related fields. Contact: S.J. Livesey, Dept. of History of Science, University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm, Room 622, Norman, OK 73019; 405/325-2213.

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS

This column will list papers read or to be read at professional meetings (whether or not meant for publication), papers complete but not yet published, and papers recently published. Its purpose is to inform readers of work being done in a variety of disciplines. The News Editor has selected papers of interest to AVISTA members and welcomes additions.

Façades Romanes, an international colloquium organized by the Centre d'Études Supérieures de Civilisation Médiévale at Poitiers, was held 26-29 September, 1990. Papers included: C. Heitz, Rôle de l'église-porche dans la formation des façades occidentales de nos églises romanes; R. Gem, La façade pré-romane en Angleterre, VIIe-XIe s.; D. von Winterfeld, La façade et le corps de l’édifice dans l’architecture romane en Allemagne; M. Baylé, Les relations entre massif de façade et vaisseau de nef en Normandie avant 1080; A. Peroni, La façade de la cathédrale de Modène avant l’introduction de la rosace; J. Thirion, Les façades provençales; D. Kahn, Le décor de l’oculus dans la façade romane anglaise; Y. Christe, Aux origines du grand portail roman: les précédents picturaux; G. Zarnecki, Le portail roman en Angleterre au deuxième quart du XIe s.; S. Moralejo, Façades et programmes iconographiques dans l’art roman espagnol; W. Sauerländer, closing remarks. Contact: Secretariat du C.É.S.C.M., 24, rue de la Chaîne, F-86022 Poitiers; Tel. 49.41.03.86.

Il Curso de Cultura Medieval: Alfonso VIII y su Época, a seminar, was presented by the Centro de Estudios del Románico at the Monasterio de Santa María la Real in Aguilar de Campoo (Palencia), on September 30-October 6. Papers included: J. Williams, El Románico en España. Diversas Perspectivas; J. Valle Perez, El trazado y construcción de los monasterios cistercienses castellano-leoneses; J. Ara Gil, Aspectos de la escultura gótica palentina; P. Lavado Paradinas, El Arte mudéjar en Palencia; M. Melero Moneo, Problemas de la escultura navarra en el románico tardío; S. Moralejo Alvarez, El Panteón Real de Santiago; X. Barral i Altet, El mito de los terrores del año 1000 y el arte románico. Contact: Il Curso de Cultura Medieval, Centro de Estudios del Románico, Monasterio de Santa María la Real, 34800 Aguilar de Campoo, Palencia, Spain; tel. 988/12.27.31 or 12.55.54, Monday-Friday, 9 A.M.-2 P.M.

The Future of History in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Twelfth Barnard Medieval and Renaissance Conference, was held on December 1. Papers included: P.J. Geary (Univ. of Florida), The Memory of Women in the Eleventh Century; M.H. Caviness (Tufts Univ.), Objectivity, Alterity, and the (Re)construction of the Past; M. Camille (Univ. of Chicago), The Courtly Body and the Invention of Pleasure in the Middle Ages; K. Park (Wellesley College), From Double to Between: Hermaphrodite and Lesbian in Renaissance France; N.F. Partner (McGill Univ.), Antidotes to Antiquarianism in Medieval Studies; M.D. Carroll (Wellesley College), Adulterous Women: Political Community and Market Economy in the Art of Bruegel and His Contemporaries.

City and Spectacle in Medieval Europe, sponsored by the Center for Medieval Studies, was held at the University of Minnesota, February 28-March 2. Papers included: S. Lindenbaum (Indiana Univ.), Ceremony and Oligarchy in Late Medieval English Towns; G. Nijsten (Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen), The Duke
and His Cities: The Power of Ceremonies, Feasts, and Public Amusement in the Duchy of Gelre (East Neth-erlands) in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries; D. Nicholas (Clemson Univ.) and J. Murray (Univ. of Cincinnati), Ceremonies of Resistance and Recruitment: Ghent and Bruges in the Burgundian State; S. Chojnacki (Michigan State Univ.), The Peaceful Institutions of Our Republic: Governmental Regulation and Social Change in Late Medieval Venice; L. Bryant (California State Univ., Chico), Configurations of the Community in Late Medieval Spectacle; L. Attreid (Holy Cross College), The Politics of Welcome—Ceremonies and Constitutional Development in Later Medieval English Towns; D. Perret (New York Univ.), From Tableau to Theater in the French Royal Entries of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries; E.A.R. Brown (CUNY Graduate School/Brooklyn College) and N. Regalado (New York Univ.), “La grande feste”: Philip the Fair’s Pentecostal Celebration in Paris of the Knighting of His Sons (1313); J.R. Eastman (Crofton, MD), The University of Naples and the Common Intellectual Heritage of the Capetian and Angevin Royal Houses in the Late Thirteenth and Early Fourteenth Centuries; B.R. McRee (Franklin and Marshall College), Social Wholeness and Urban Ceremony; B. Bedos-Rezak (Univ. of Maryland), Civic Liturgies: Ritual and Urban Records in Northern France (Thirteenth-Fourteenth Centuries); A. Gouron (Université de Montpellier), Court Proceedings in the Public Sphere; R. Potter (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara), Public Execution as a Moral Spectacle; F.R.P. Akehurst (Univ. of Minnesota), Seeing Justice Done; W. Tronzo (The Johns Hopkins Univ.), Cities and Processions in the Later Middle Ages; A.J. Wharton (Duke Univ.), Baptistry as Theater: Urban Politics of the Paschal Ritual; B. Kempers (Institute of Art History, Gröningen), Icons, Altarpieces, and Civic Ritual in Siena Cathedral 1200-1483; I. Herklotz (Univ. of Constance), Funerary Monuments in Fourteenth-Century Italy: The Urban Context; M. Flynn (Univ. of Maryland), The Spectacle of Suffering in Spanish Streets; T. Ruiz (CUNY Graduate School/Brooklyn College), Elite and Popular Culture in Late Fifteenth-Century Castilian Festivals: The Case of Jaén.

The Impact of Printing: 1450-1550, the Twenty-Second Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, was held at The Ohio State University on March 1-2. Papers included: R. Barnes (Davidson College), Printing and Popular Almanacs; E. Eisenstein (University of Michigan), On the Printing Press and an Agent of Change; J.-U. Fechner (Ruhr-Universität, Bochum), Aspects of the Early Frankfurt Book Fair: Trade and Distribution of Books; J. Haar (Univ. of North Carolina), Music in Print: An Explosive Impact; R. Kolb (Concordia College), Printing—God’s Unique Gift, the Book in Theological Education at Wittenberg; R. Mathiesen (Brown Univ.), Eisenstein Reconsidered: The Impact of Printing in Eastern vs. Western Europe; P. Needham (Sotheby’s), Early Printing As Seen By Contemporary Eyes; P. Parshall (Reed College), The Renaissance Printed Image: Replication, Representation, and Authority.

The Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians met at the University of Winnipeg on March 1–2. Papers included: C. Neuman de Vegvar (Ohio Wesleyan University), “Anglorum extremis de finibus”: Perceptions of Peripherality in Northumbrian Art; J. Mann (Wayne State Univ.), Romanesque Portal Decoration and Its Meaning in Medieval Aragon; J. Givens (Univ. of Connecticut), Harvesting the Exegetical Vineyard: Medieval Art and its Exclusions; J. Osborne (Univ. of Victoria), Lost Images of Pope Urban V; R. Schneider (York Univ.), Royal Portraiture as Royalist Propaganda: Public and Private Self-Images of Richard II; M. Farquhar-Montpetit (Ottawa), Turning Over an Old Leaf: An Investigation with a Surprise Ending; A. McNairn (Lethbridge, Alta.), Romance and Anti-Romantic Polemic in the Ogee Prejudice in English Architectural Theory; S.-A. Brown (York Univ.), “The Late Gothic” in the Canadian Stained Glass of C.E. Kempe; V. Paul (Texas A & M Univ.), All in the Family: The Cathedrals of Narbonne, Toulouse and Rodez; L. Hoey (Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee); Sketching a Revisionist View of Early French Gothic; W. Clark (Queen’s College, CUNY), The Cathedral of Sens and the Question of the Transsept; M. Thurby (York Univ.), The Glastonbury Lady Chapel; B. Greenberg (Ryerson Polytechnic Inst.), The Proportioned and Settled Parts of Matter: Order and Beauty in Medieval Architecture; H. McCague (York Univ.), Discerning the Order: The Masonic Tradition of Practical Geometry at Durham Cathedral; E. Goodstein (Univ. of Southwest Louisiana), W.R. Lethaby’s Church at Broadhampton (Herefordshire); L. Panyotidis (York Univ.), The Amphitheatrical and the Akron Plan in Canada: the Development of Knox Presbyterian, 1897.
**Trésors Médiévaux**, a conference at the Louvre to mark the opening of an exhibition, *Treasures of Saint-Denis*, was held Mar. 15–16. Papers included: D. Kötzsche, *The Quedlinburg Treasure*; W. Wixom, *The Treasury at Christ Church, Canterbury*; B. Boehm, *The Reliquary Head of St. Denis*; H. Fillitz, Overview of German Church Treasuries; M. Brandt, *The Treasury at Hildesheim*.


**Spanish Architecture: European Contexts & New World and Asian Legacies**, held at Ohio Wesleyan University on April 19–20. Papers included: C. Neuman de Vegvar (Ohio Wesleyan Univ.), *Visigothic Artisans and Anglo-Saxon Sculpture*; J. Mann (Wayne State Univ.), *Victory Proclaimed: Royal Patronage and the Rise of Romanesque Architecture in the Medieval Kingdoms of Northern Spain*; M. Stokstad (Univ. of Kansas), *Gothic and Mudéjar Gardens in the Kingdom of León*; J. Myers (Santa Fe), *Santiago, Saint of Two Worlds*; S. Sanabria (Miami Univ. of Ohio), *Technical Innovation and Conservatism in Spanish Architecture and Architectural Theory of the Siglo de Oro*;
F. Richardson (Ohio State Univ.), *Spanish Baroque Churches in the Philippines*; C. Kent and D. Prindle (Ohio Wesleyan Univ.), *Spain's Assimilation of European Culture: Continental Medievalism and Modernism in the Formation of Gaudi's Park Güell*.

Carl F. Barnes, Jr., former president of AVISTA, has accepted an invitation by the city of Frankfurt to deliver a paper on *The Role of model Books in the diffusion of Style in Gothic Sculpture as exemplified by the Portfolio of Villard de Honnecourt*. Barnes will speak on 8 December 1991 at one of four conferences, sponsored by Frankfurt's Städtische Galerie Liebieghaus, dealing with the history of European sculpture.

Michael Bever is seeking historians of technology who can write articles with an economic orientation for an upcoming *Encyclopedia of Materials Economics, Policy and Management*; subjects are: base non-ferrous metals: production history; prices of metals: history and current problems; and prices of industrial minerals: history. He also seeks authors of articles on *The Humanistic Aspects of Materials* for supplemental volume 3 to the *Encyclopedia of Materials Science and Engineering*. Contact: M. Bever, Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering, 13-5026, MIT, Cambridge, MA 02139.


Two papers from the 1990 AVISTA sessions at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, MI are about to be published in expanded form in *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance History*, 34 (1991). The articles are: *Practical Chivalry: The Training of Horses for Tournaments and Warfare* by Carroll Gillmor and *The Literary Evidence for Mast and Sail during the Anglo-Saxon Invasions* authored by Michael Jones. It is also hoped that an article by Christiane Villain-Gandossi, based on her paper on medieval ship depictions, will appear in a later issue. In addition, Barbara M. Kreutz, organizer of the 1990 sessions at Kalamazoo, will write an introduction for the articles by Gillmor and Jones.

**Periodicals**

*Collegium Medievale* is published by the society for medieval research of the same name, founded by scholars at the University of Oslo. The purpose of *Collegium Medievale*, both the society and the journal, is to counteract the tendency to disciplinary isolation by providing a forum where medievalists of all kinds can learn about what is going on in fields other than their own. The journal is open to scholars outside Norway, and accepts papers in English, German and French as well as in the Scandinavian languages. Contact: *Collegium Medievale, Interdisciplinary Journal of Medieval Research*, O.O. Box 104, Blindern, University of Oslo, N0315 Oslo 3.

*Mediavistik: Internationale Zeitschrift für interdisziplinäre Mittelalterforschung* is a new periodical on medieval studies. This journal accepts contributions in English, French, German, and Italian. Contact: P. Dinzelmacher, Editor, Markart-Kai, 17/29, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria.

*Computers and the History of Art*, an international journal published in association with CHArt, will publish articles dealing with the application of computers to art history, including research articles on new methodologies and review articles on installation development. It will also seek to promote links with other disciplines, such as history and archaeology. Contact: Harwood Academic Publishers, PO Box 90, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 8JL, UK, or PO Box 786, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276.

*Hwaet!* is a nonprofit journal of interdisciplinary medieval studies conceived, written, produced and distributed entirely by graduate students, and published twice yearly. Contact: *Hwaet!*, Box 1852, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912.
ACTIVITIES . . . PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

This column reports activities relevant to the interdisciplinary interests of AVISTA members. The list is selective rather than comprehensive, and will not replace reports of activities published by professional societies of the various disciplines represented by AVISTA members. Neither will it always constitute due notice of an activity, because of AVISTA FORUM’s bi-annual publication schedule. On the other hand, scholars may be informed of activities that their own professional groups do not report. The purpose of the column is to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas across the boundaries of various disciplines. Please send reports of activities to the News Editor. Items are not necessarily listed in chronological order. All dates are 1991 unless otherwise specified.


Oct. 9-12, 1990: Kommunikation und Alltag im Spätmittelalter, a conference, was held at Krems. Contact: H. Hundsbichler, Editor, Medium Aevum Quotidianum, Krems.


February, 1991: A series of colloquia on Renaissance art history was held at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies of the University of California at Los Angeles. Led by Samuel Y. Edgerton, Jr. (Williams College), the series topics included Galileo, Florentine disegno, and the “Strange Spottednesse of the Moone” (Feb. 1); and Icons of Earthly Justicia in the Renaissance City State (Feb. 8). Contact: Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.

Feb. 15-16: Law in the Middle Ages: Canons, Customs, and Courts, a conference, was held at the University of Victoria. Topics included: canon law, Norse and Celtic law, state craft, and the feud. Contact: J. Tucker, Dept. of English, University of Victoria, P.O. Box 3045, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P4, Canada; 604/721-7247.

Feb. 28–Mar. 2: City and Spectacle in Medieval Europe sponsored by the Center for Medieval Studies, was held at the University of Minnesota. See RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS. Contact: K. Reyerson, Center for Medieval Studies, 304 Walter Library, 117 Pleasant St., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0139; 612/626-0805.

Mar. 1–2: The Impact of Printing, 1450–1550, the Twenty-Second Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at The Ohio State University. See RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS. Contact: F.C. Porcheddu, Conference Coordinator, CMRS, Ohio State University, 322 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Ave. Columbus, OH 43210-1311.

Mar. 1–3: Nature and Society, the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Conference of the Medieval Association of the Pacific, was held at the University of California, Davis. R.W. Southern gave the keynote address on Local Influences and Metropolitan Themes in the Development of Medieval Learning. Contact: K.P. Roddy, Medieval Studies, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; 916/756-2912.


Mar. 8: Byzantine Society and Civilization in the Eighth Century; a seminar co-sponsored by the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the Uni-
versity of California at Los Angeles and the Alexander S. Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies at New York University, was held at UCLA. Contact: Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.

Mar. 15–16: Trésors Médiévaux, a conference at the Louvre to mark the opening of an exhibition of the treasures of Saint-Denis. See RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PAPERS. Contact: E. Taburet-Delahaye, Conservateur, Département des objets d’art, Musée du Louvre, 75041 Paris.

Apr. 2–May 26: Fashions in Illuminated Manuscripts, an exhibition at the Pierpont Morgan Library, includes about 15 Northern European manuscripts from the Library’s holdings, dating from ca. 1340 through the early 16th century. A lecture, Reflections of an Obsession: Fashion in Illuminated Manuscripts, will be given by Roger Wieck, Associate Curator of Manuscripts on May 23, at 6:00 P.M.

Apr. 4–6: Minorities in Medieval Life and Thought, the Eighteenth Annual Sewanee Medieval Colloquium; contact: Sewanee Medieval Colloquium, Walsh Hall, The University of the South, Sewanee, TN 37375.

Apr. 18–19: Leonardo Da Vinci’s Sforza Monument Horse: The Art and the Engineering, at Lehigh University and Lafayette College. The focus of the conference was a plan to cast a full-size replica of Leonardo’s never-completed Sforza Horse, an equestrian monument planned at 24 feet in height and 80 tons. The keynote speaker was Carlo Pedretti, Director of UCLA’s Center for Leonardo Studies. Others speakers included: D. Covi, J. Wasserman, M. Kemp, V. Bush, C. Kirwin, M. Marabelli, H. Tanaka, D. Ahl. Contact: S.H. Cutcliffe, STS Program, 327 Maginnes Hall W, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015; 215/758-3350; FAX 215/758-3079; BITNET: SHCO@Lehigh.

Apr. 19–20: The Twelfth Medieval Forum, sponsored by the Medieval Council of Plymouth State University, had two specific themes: The Twelfth-Century Renaissance, and Medieval Science and Technology. Contact: M. Marquez-Sterling, Director, Medieval Studies Council, Plymouth State University, USNH, Plymouth, NH 03264.

Apr. 19–20: Old and New in the Fifteenth Century, the Eighteenth Annual ACTA Conference, was held at SUNY Stony Brook. Contact: C.L. Miller, Dept. of Philosophy, SUNY Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-3750; 516/632-7570.

Apr. 20: The Second Annual Conference on Local and Transportation History was hosted by the History Department of the California University of Pennsylvania. Contact: J.K. Folmar, Dept. of History, California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA 15419; 412/938-4053/7856.

Apr. 22–24: Science Institutions in Islamic Civilization, a symposium sponsored by the Society for the History of Science, Turkey; the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science; and the Research Centre for Islamic History, Art, and Culture, was held in Istanbul. Contact: Secretariat, P.O. Box 24, 80692, Besiktas, Istanbul, Turkey; (telephone) 160 5988; FAX (01) 158 4365.

May 2–4: The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study met at Amherst, MA. Contact: F. Hugus, Dept. of Germanic Languages, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, 413/545-0310.

May 3–4: State of the Art(s): Religion and Politics in the Renaissance, Renaissance Conference of Southern California: Southwest Regional Conference. Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. Contact: S. Stewart, President, RCSC, Dept. of English, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521.

May 3–4: Women and Gender in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance: A Workshop on Pedagogy and Research was presented at the Newberry Library. Contact: Center for Renaissance Studies, Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610-3380; 312/943-9090.

May 27–30: “Ratio Fecit Diversum:” San Bernardo e le Arti an international congress organized by the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, the Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana, and the first chair of the History of Medieval Art at the University of Rome I, was held in Rome on the occasion of the 900th anniversary of the birth of St. Bernard of Clairvaux. The congress was divided into three sections: Gli edifici, L’immagine
e il segno, and Il lavoro e le strutture. Contact: Enciclopedia dell’Arte Medievale, Istituto della Enciclopedia Italiana, Monte de Cenci, 8, 00186 Roma; tel. (06) 6731-2522/2517.

June 13–15: The Society for Industrial Archeology held its annual conference in cooperation with the Public Works Historical Society in Chicago. Contact: H. Rosen, PWHS, 1313 East 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637; 312/667-2200.


July 19–21: The Ninth Annual Conference on Textiles was held at Purdue University. Papers considered textile history, theory, practice, and development. Contact: C. Nelson, Dept. of Consumer Sciences and Retailing or L.L. Peterson, Dept. of Creative Arts, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907; 317/494-8316 or 317/494-3062.

July–Aug.: Columbus: The Face of the Earth in the Age of Discovery, a summer seminar for university and college faculty, addressed economic, political, geographic, scientific, and technological contexts of Columbus. Contact: UCLA 1992 Quincentenary Programs, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.

Sept. 9–12: The Social Mastery of Technology: Issues and Methods, an international symposium organized by the CNRS Research Group in Industrial Economics and the Maison Rhône-Alpes des Sciences de l’Homme, will focus on the history of the science of techniques and of general theories of techniques, interdisciplinary approaches to the technical system; and the social mastery of technology. Contact: M. Joubert or J. Perrin, MRASH, 14, avenue Berthelot, 69363 Lyon cedex 07, France.

Sept. 11–13: Tenth Naval History Symposium, sponsored by the History Department of the United States Naval Academy; contact: J. Sweetman, History Dept., U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD 21402-5044.

Sept. 20–21: Classical Influences on the Middle Ages, the annual conference of the Medieval Association of the Midwest, will be hosted by Central Missouri State University. The keynote speaker will be Giles Constable (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton), Dictators and Diplomats in the 12th Century: Classicism, Letter Writing, and the Birth of Modern Bureaucracy. Contact R.E. Lovell, Dept. of English and Philosophy, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO 64093.

Oct., 1991: Spain and the Mediterranean World, a two-day conference honoring UCLA History Professor Robert I. Burns, S.J. in the year of his retirement will address many topics in the age of Columbus. Contact: UCLA 1992 Quincentenary Programs, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.

Oct. 25–26: Patronage of Artists, Writers, and Scientists, the fifth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Symposium on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, will be held at the University of Pittsburgh. Contact B. Sargent-Bauer, 1328 C.L., Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

Nov. 15–16: Numbers–Theory and Practice, the Twenty-First Medieval Workshop at the University of British Columbia; contact: R.S. Baudouin, Dept. of French, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5, Canada.


Nov. 22–23: Sex and Sexuality in the Late Middle Ages and Renaissance, University of Toronto. Contact: J. Murray, Dept. of History, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ont. N9B 3P4, Canada.
Jan. 1992: Maps and the Columbian Encounter, an exhibit assembled from the collections of the American Geographic Society, the Newberry Library, the James Ford Bell Library of the University of Minnesota, and the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan, will be presented at the Powell Library at the University of California at Los Angeles. Contact: UCLA 1992 Quincentenary Programs, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.

Mar. 6-7, 1992: The Twelfth Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians will be held at the George R. Gardiner Museum of Ceramics, Toronto, Ontario. Contact M. Thurlby, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Ross Building N918, York University, 4700 Keele Street, Downsview, Ont. M3J 1P3, Canada.

Aug. 16-21, 1992: Society of the History of Technology, Annual Meeting, Uppsala University, Sweden. Contact: Uppsala Turist & Kongress, "SHOT," Box 216, S-75104 Uppsala, Sweden; FAX +46-18-32895. Send 25-line suggestions for sessions or abstracts, in five copies, to H.W. Andersen, Center for Science and Technology, University of Trondheim at Lade, N-7055 Dragvoll, Norway; FAX +47-7-591327; BITNET: H_Andersen@avh.unit.uninett

Nov. 1992: Columbus in Portugal and Africa, a seminar on the years that Columbus spent in Portugal aboard Portuguese vessels sailing to Africa and Iceland, critical to his development as a cosmographer and navigator, will be organized by P.E.H. Hair (Univ. of Liverpool). Contact: UCLA 1992 Quincentenary Programs, 212 Royce Hall, University of California, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024-1485.


The Society for the Study of Women in the Renaissance will continue to meet monthly at the City University of New York Graduate Center. Contact: B. Travitsky, chair; 718/645-3950; or J. Hartman, secretary-treasurer (Dept. of English, College of Staten Island, CUNY).

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF AVISTA**

Minutes of the Board of Directors and Annual General Assembly Meeting Western Michigan University, Thursday, 9 May 1991

President Carl F. Barnes, Jr. opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed those present, noting that he brought greetings from Charles Stegeman and Marie-Thérèse Zenner. AVISTA member James Addiss remarked that he had very recently seen Charles and Marie-Thérèse in France and that both were well. Barnes announced that in the absence of the Secretary, he would keep the minutes of the meeting.

President Barnes called for additions to the agenda of which there were none. Barnes then called for a motion of approval of the 1990 Annual General Assembly Meeting Minutes (AVISTA FORUM, vol. V/1 Fall 1990), p. 26). The motion was made by Michael T. Davis and seconded by W. Ted Szwejkowski. The motion was approved.

President Barnes called for additions to the agenda of which there were none. Barnes then called for a motion of approval of the 1990 Annual General Assembly Meeting Minutes (AVISTA FORUM, vol. V/1 Fall 1990), p. 26). The motion was made by Michael T. Davis and seconded by W. Ted Szwejkowski. The motion was approved.

President Barnes announced that he would have some comments to make under new business items but had no report at this time. He then reported on behalf of Barbara M. Kreutz, Acting Secretary, noting that Barbara and he had received help from Ingrid Muan at Haverford College in mailing items, including AVISTA FORUM, and asked for approval to write Ms. Muan a letter of thanks on behalf of AVISTA. Those present supported this informal motion.

Richard A. Sundt, Treasurer, then made a detailed report of the association's finances. As of 1 May 1991 there was a positive balance of $1277.77 in the account and the association had 142 memberships paid for
1991–1992. Sundt noted that various members had contributed $250 in donations to the association in addition to membership fees. Sundt noted that there is much confusion about the “AVISTA Year,” and President Barnes noted that it has been considered to be from one annual meeting to the next, therefore more or less from early May to early May.

Michael T. Davis, Editor of AVISTA FORUM, reported that while he had material for volume V/2 (Spring 1991), production was on hold at the President’s instructions pending the results of this meeting. Davis asked for comments and suggestions, especially about what should be cut back or eliminated if smaller issues had to be printed. Some thought the article reviews were of special value and others believed that information about future conferences was most important, and the discussion was inconclusive.

Ronald Edward Zupko, organizer of the 1991 AVISTA sessions reported briefly, inviting everyone to attend the sessions later in the afternoon and noting that he had received a sufficient number of good abstracts to have held five sessions instead of two and that he directed some of those applicants to other sessions. Mark H. Infusino, organizer of the 1992 AVISTA sessions, reported that at present he did not have sufficient proposals to fill two sessions.

President Barnes then opened the meeting to new business, beginning with the Report of the Nominations Committee submitted by Harry B. Titus, Jr. This committee nominated the following officers for the 1991–92 AVISTA year:

President .................. Charles Stegeman*
Vice-President .......... Ronald Edward Zupko
Secretary.................... Marie-Thérèse Zenner
Treasurer................... Richard A. Sundt
Counsel .................... Holbrook M. Bunting, Jr.
European Director....... Jean Gimpel
*Carl Barnes to serve as Acting President until 20 August 1991

President Barnes reminded those present that only directors could vote and called for a motion to approve the slate. This motion was made by Michael T. Davis and seconded by Dale Kinney. The vote was called and approval was unanimous.

President Barnes then called for a motion to approve the slate of Directors—Michael T. Davis and Barbara M. Kreutz—to serve until May 1994. This motion was made by Ron Zupko and seconded by Vivian Paul. The vote was called and approval was unanimous. Barnes noted that up to four directors should be elected and called for recommendations and nominations. James Addiss was nominated and agreed to serve. Additional suggestions were Bert Hall and Bernard S. Bachrach. Barnes agreed to invite Hall first and, if Hall were unavailable, to invite Bachrach.

President Barnes asked Vivian Paul to serve as chair of the 1992 Nominations Committee and she agreed to do so.

President Barnes then called for suggestions for the topic of the 1992 AVISTA sessions at Kalamazoo, noting that he had two overlapping suggestions, one from Harry B. Titus, Jr. and one from W. Ted Szwejkowski, concerning mechanics. No additional topics were proposed and after discussion, the following topic was approved: The Mechanical Arts—How Things Move and Work: Philosophical and Practical Approaches. W. Ted Szwejkowski agreed to serve as organizer of the sessions.

President Barnes then opened the floor to discussion of AVISTA finances and the future of AVISTA FORUM, noting that he and his wife have agreed to fund up to half the cost of the next issue of AVISTA FORUM, and that directors who had contacted him indicated that it was clearly necessary to increase dues since membership was not growing. The discussion which followed was inconclusive, but the general feeling seemed to be that dues would have to be raised at least $5.00 beginning with the 1992–1993 year. Barnes noted that members who have just paid their dues are entitled to two issues of AVISTA FORUM, and that dues cannot be raised at this time. Barnes authorized Michael T. Davis to proceed with vol. V/2 (Spring 1991) of AVISTA FORUM as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl F. Barnes, Jr., President
The deadline for the Fall 1991 issue is 1 December 1991.
Please send your contributions to the appropriate editors, or to the Editor-in-Chief.

Editor-in-Chief
Michael T. Davis, 233 Mosier Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

Article Reviews
(Science & Technology) Pamela O. Long, 3100 Connecticut Avenue, NW #137, Washington, DC 20008

(Art & Architecture) Carl F. Barnes, Jr., 749 Cambridge Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48309-2315

Notes & Queries George Ovitt, Department of Humanities, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA 19104

News, Papers, Activities Carol L. Neuman de Vegvar, Fine Arts Department, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH 43015

Join AVISTA
Membership application - includes subscription to AVISTA FORUM.

Name:
Address:

Send check, payable to AVISTA, to Richard Sundt, Art History Dept., Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403
Individual members: $15 per year. Past issues of AVISTA FORUM available at
Libraries and institutions: $25 per year. $3.00 to members and $6.00 to non-members
Students, retired, unemployed: $10 per year. and institutions.

* Please make foreign checks in US dollars, payable at a bank with an American Branch.