

Museum "Upper Silesian Ethnographic Park in Chorzów" would like to invite to the 3rd international interdisciplinary conference of the **LOST VILLAGE** conference series **"Lost Village 3: Community, Self-governance, Space"**, which will be held in Chorzów, in the seat of the Museum on 21-22 November 2018

The inspiration for organizing the third rural historical conference of the "Lost Village" cycle are great interests both in this topic and in the papers presented during the previous conferences in 2014 and 2016. Important is also the willingness, declared by the Museum "Upper Silesian Ethnographic Park", to organize regularly (every two years) scholarly meetings devoted to this topic. In 2018, the Museum is also going to publish the papers and proceedings from the 2016 conference. Still noticeable divergence between the state of knowledge on late medieval and modern villages in Poland and other central European countries as well as the increasing interest in the history of the former settlements assured the organizers to return to the interdisciplinary discussion in this field.

Just as in 2014 and 2016, the first part of the 2018 conference will be devoted to the analysis of the material relics of former villages. Our aim is to present relics of settlements as well as buildings and structures of such kind, discovered during archaeological surveys (this time we want to focus on the traces of a developing self-governance: village leaders' [*scultetus / iudex*] seats – including their manor houses with households – mills, court-inns etc.). We would also like to continue the discussion on the interdisciplinary methods of analyzing the lost villages, run by archaeologists, historians, cultural anthropologists, geographers and other specialists of different fields of science.

The second module (generally well related to the first one) are topographic structures that are often still visible in the landscape – much transformed since the middle ages – like homesteads, which, when being funded and organized – were not a self-generated phenomenon but rather a result of the next level of both legal and economic development of settlements (we are interested the most in the traces of results of cooperation within these communities, like: reclamation or melioration works, digging the mill races or mill ponds etc.).

The third part will focus on immaterial traces – traditions, narrative tales and stories, topographic names – analyzed in terms of their socio-cultural functioning, customs and rituals of the rural populations as well as their transformations and disappearing. The most interesting will be the aspect of the self-governed villages seen as communities of peasants and of – connected with it – awareness and identity of the villagers, potentially perceptible during queries in the archives.

The program of the conference presumes 30-minute-long paper and 15-minute-long communique. Everyone who wants to participate in the paper sessions, is asked to fill in and send the application **until 31st August, 2018** to the following e-mail address: dumin@muzeumgpe-chorzow.pl. The organizers of the conference reserve for themselves the right to choose among the received proposals. You will be informed about the decision of the organizing committee not later than on 20th September, 2018.

The deadline for paying the conference fee, which is 200 PLN (and embraces conference materials, two lunches, gala dinner, beverages, post-conference publication), is 30th September, 2018 (account number: SWIFT: INGBPLPW; IBAN: PL 18 1050 1243 1000 0024 0029 5966, title: Conference – Lost village 3, Name and Surname of the participant).

The detailed program of the conference will be available in the second half of October 2018.

The text of those lectures, which would be reviewed positively, will be published in the Annals of the Museum "Upper Silesian Ethnographic Park in Chorzów" or as a monography. The deadline for sending articles is 31st March, 2019. The authors of the published texts will not receive any remuneration, but they will obtain one copy each of the periodical, in which the text will be published.

Conference organizers:
Andrzej Sośnierz, Director, MGPE
Dr. Przemysław Nocuń Dr. Krzysztof Fokt Dr. Agnieszka Przybyła-Dumin

