

# The Medieval Heritage of Budapest

Academic Program:

Doctor of Philosophy in Late Antique, Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Master of Arts in Comparative History (2 years)

Master of Arts in Late Antique, Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Master of Arts in Cultural Heritage Studies: Academic Research, Policy, Management

Instructor: József Laszlovszky

Credits: 1.0

Term: Spring

## Course Description:

In recent years, the situation with regard to cultural heritage issues in Budapest has become exceedingly complex due to a host of factors: there are the continuing historical and political aspects, the increasing economic possibilities, particularly with regard to tourism and the heritage “business,” and ongoing monument protection concerns. The development of a hierarchy of heritage sites (world heritage, national heritage, local heritage, etc.) has also produced very contradictory practices concerning the ownership, institutional control, public control and scholarly research opportunities. The future of this city depends to a large extent on the ways in which its unique cultures and cultural heritages are preserved, stimulated and developed in a long-term perspective. Therefore, the course offers an introduction to the most important medieval monuments and sites in Budapest by doing a „walking seminar” in the area of Pest, the Margaret Island, Óbuda and Buda. Each seminar will focus on case studies in different parts of the city and after a short introduction of the given sites we will interpret the given archaeological features, buildings, and heritage sites with the students. Participants will also be confronted with heritage policy issues such as conservation, reconstruction, presentation of heritage sites, and the dissemination of related materials for scholars and the wider public.

This a walking seminar. Each time we will walk in different parts of Budapest. The schedule is:

Course dates: 28, 29, 30, 31 May, 1, 4 June. Each day 13.30-15.10

## Selected Bibliography and Resources

### **The most important piece of secondary literature for all related topics:**

Balázs Nagy, Martyn Rady, Katalin Szende and András Vadas (eds), *Medieval Buda in Context*. Leyden – New York: Brill, 2016

For a basic orientation and further bibliography I suggest the following three volumes:

Altmann, Julianna et al. *Medium regni: Medieval Hungarian Royal Seats*. Budapest: Nap, 1999. (Studies on Óbuda by Julianna Altmann; on Buda by András Véghe).

Biegel, Gerd, ed. *Budapest im Mittelalter*. Braunschweig: Braunschweigische Landesmuseum, 1991.

Végh, András. Buda 1686-ig. Buda until 1686. vol. 1 of Magyar várostörténeti atlasz 4. Hungarian Atlas of Historic Towns no. 4. Budapest: Archaeolingua, 2015.

A work based on the research following the destructions of World War II:

Gerevich, László. The Art of Buda and Pest in the Middle Ages. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1971.

### **Some specialized studies:**

#### ***Margaret Island***

Lóvei, Pál. "The Sepulchral Monument of Saint Margaret of the Arpad Dynasty." *Acta Historiae Artium* 26 (1980), 175-221.

Lóvei, Pál. "A Sepulchral Monument of the Arpad Dynasty: the Tomb of Margaret of Hungary." In *Arte Funerario. Coloquio Internacional de Historia del Arte*, Vol. 1. Mexico, 1987, 257-262.

#### ***Buda***

Kubinyi, András. "Topographic growth of Buda up to 1541." *Nouvelles études historiques publiées l'occasion du XIIe Congrès International des Sciences Historiques par la Commission Nationale des Historiens Hongrois* 1 (1965): 132-157.

Katalin H. Gyürky. *Das mittelalterliche Dominikanerkloster in Buda*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1981.

Buzás, Gergely. „Einige Fragen zur Baugeschichte des Schlosses von Buda. Die Epoche von Ludwig dem Grossen und Sigismund." *Acta Historiae Artium* 39 (1997): 71-116.

Feld, István and Zoltán Kárpáti. „Häuser und Parzellen der mittelalterlichen Stadt Buda in der Umgebung der Hl. Sigismund-Kirche." In *Mittelalterliche Häuser und Straßen in Mitteleuropa*, ed. by Márta Font and Mária Sándor, 57-66. Budapest: Archäologisches Inst. der UAW, 2000.

Végh, András. "Skulpturenfunde aus der Zeit Sigismunds aus dem Umfeld des Königpalastes von Buda." In *Sigismundus Rex et Imperator. Kunst und Kultur zur Zeit Sigismunds von Luxemburg; 1387–1437*, ed. by Imre Takács, 219–224, Mainz am Rhein: Zabern: 2006.

Végh, András. "The remains of the first Jewish quarter of Buda in the light of recent excavations." In *Archaeological investigations in Hungary 2005*, ed. by Júlia Kisfaludi, Budapest: Kulturális Örökségvédelmi Hivatal, Magyar Nemzeti Múzeum, 125-148, 2006.

Végh, András. "The synagogues in Buda (14th-15th centuries): recent research." In: *Archéologie du judaïsme en France et en Europe. Colloque international, Paris, 14 et 15 janvier 2010*, ed. by Paul Salmona and Laurence Sigal. Paris: La Découverte, 2011.

## *Óbuda*

Altmann, Júlia. "Neue Forschungen über die Burg der Königin in Óbuda." *Acta Archaeologica Hungariae* 34 (1982): 221-232.

### Catalogues of large-scale exhibitions

organized by the Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest History Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts focus on particular periods of the Middle Ages and include studies, catalogue items and bibliography of interest:

Mikó, Árpád, Imre Takács and Sándor Tóth, eds. *Pannónia regia. Művészet a Dunántúlon 1000-1541 / Kunst und Architektur in Pannonien. 1000-1541*. Budapest: Magyar Nemzeti Galéria, 1994.

Réthelyi, Orsolya, Beatrix F. Romhányi, Enikő Spekner and András Végh, eds. *Mary of Hungary: The Queen and Her Court 1521 - 1531*. Budapest: Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, 2005.

Takács, Imre, ed. *Sigismundus, Rex et Imperator: Kunst und Kultur zur Zeit Sigismunds von Luxemburg, 1387–1437*. Mainz am Rhein: Zabern, 2006.

Farbaky, Péter and András Végh, eds. *Matthias Corvinus, the King. Tradition and Renewal in the Hungarian Royal Court 1458-1490*. Exhibition catalogue. Budapest: Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, 2008.

### Some works in Hungarian:

Andrea Haris, ed. *Koldulórendi építészet a középkori Magyarországon (Architecture of the mendicant orders in Hungary)*. Budapest: Országos Műemlékvédelmi Hivatal, 1994. (H. Gyürki, Katalin. "A domonkos rend középkori kolostorai Budán" (Medieval monasteries of the Dominicans in Buda), page 121-136; Altmann, Júlia. "Az óbudai és a budavári ferences templom és kolostor kutatásai" (Research of the Franciscan churches and friaries in Óbuda and Buda, page 137-152; Bertalan Vilmosné. "Az óbudai klarissza kolostor" (Convent of the Poor Claires in Óbuda), page 153-176.)

Györffy, György. *Pest-Buda kialakulása: Budapest története a honfoglalástól az Árpád-kor végi székvárossá alakulásig (Formation of Buda and Pest. History of Budapest from the Hungarian Conquest to its formation as a capital in the late Árpád period)*. Budapest: Akadémiai Kiadó, 1997.

Végh, András. Buda város középkori helyrajza (Medieval topography of the town of Buda). 2 vols. Monumenta Historica Budapestinensia 16. Budapest: Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, 2008. (András Végh is one of the archaeologists who have conducted excavations in Buda for the last decades. These work is a summary of the results of archaeological and archival research. It is available online: <http://mek.oszk.hu/09300/09315/>)

Kubinyi, András. Tanulmányok Budapest középkori történetéről (Studies on the medieval history of Budapest). 2 vols. Budapest: Budapest Főváros Levéltára, 2009. (András Kubinyi was the most prominent historian studying the history of court and town in Hungary; these volumes are his collected works on Budapest in the Middle Ages).

Budapest History Museum is responsible for the archaeological and historical research in the territory of Budapest. Their website: <http://www.btm.hu/english/fooldal/front.htm>

Most of the new scholarly results concerning Buda and Pest have been published in the two series of the Budapest History Museum:

Budapest Régiségei (Antiquities of Budapest)

Tanulmányok Budapest Múltjából (Studies on the Past of Budapest)

Both are available online in the Hungarian Digital Library of Museums (Magyar Digitális Múzeumi Könyvtár):

[http://muzeum.arcanum.hu/kiadvanyok/opt/a101029.htm?v=pdf&a=start\\_f](http://muzeum.arcanum.hu/kiadvanyok/opt/a101029.htm?v=pdf&a=start_f)

under Országos Múzeumok / Budapesti Történeti Múzeum.

If you are interested in recent news in the art of medieval Hungary, here is a blog to follow by art historian Zsombor Jékely

<http://jekely.blogspot.com/>

On the recently found fresco in the Pest Parish Church, see:

<http://jekely.blogspot.com/2010/09/medieval-parish-church-of-pest-part-i.html>

<http://jekely.blogspot.com/2010/09/medieval-parish-church-of-pest-part-ii.html>