

M22	SOLDIERS, TRADERS AND ENGINEERS. MILITARY AND URBAN SOCIETY IN EUROPE (1650-1850)
Organisers:	Mikko Huhtamies (University of Helsinki) University of Helsinki (The department of Philosophy, History, Culture and Art Studies)
Period:	Early modern/Modern
Date:	Thursday, 30 August 2012
Time:	14:00-17:30
Room:	16

Description

Since the Roman times militarization has played a central role in the foundations of urban Europe. According to the new military history and its leading authors, Michael Roberts and Geoffrey Parker militarization was a major factor behind the rise of the early modern states. Innovations in firearms and new tactics also led to more sophisticated, technically oriented training and to the rise of large standing armies. In the public sector, increasing military expenses brought reorganization in administration (e.g. a population census and cadastral mapping) to strengthen the taxation. Furthermore, temporary recruited mercenaries were replaced by professionals with technical education. One result of this military revolution was the enlarged planning and construction of military bases, fleets, docks, transport communications, arsenals and magazines. This militarization had a profound socio-economic impact on urban societies. The densely populated urban concentrations formed the core of the economic and intellectual networks. Moreover, military bases and installations of the early modern period were often located near towns, or frequently formed, as a matter of fact, the heart of urban centers, and therefore had a perceptible and direct influence on urban societies. In many cases, the military can be seen as an engine of the demographic and economic growth of towns and their geographical expansion to the rural hinterlands. Some of these towns, such as 18th century Helsinki-Sveaborg, can be characterized as a military-civic twin-town. It has been argued that this type of urban variant often formed a kind of creative milieu (Borsay), a fertile ground for instance for the diffusion of innovations. Among these can be identified not only technical but also social and cultural novelties (Clark). The power politics, armament and wars of the dynamic 18th century played a central role in the lives of the people throughout Europe. The construction, maintenance and transportation needs of the armed forces formed, in many cases, the most important element of the transactions of the burghers. The general growth demand extended the radius of urban trade deeper into the agrarian hinterlands (Clark and Lepetit). In the rural zones surrounding the towns this led to legislative modifications, resource allocations for example in the form of a new kind of parceling out of land (storskift, a Swedish variant of enclosure) and to urban and overseas migration. Gradually, the urban innovations, habits and for instance even fashion were adopted in the rural areas as well. The aim of the session "Soldiers, traders and engineers. Military and urban society in Europe" is to shed light on these questions within time the period of 1650-1850.

The session deals with five major themes:

- 1) The influence of military in the social life of the burghers
- 2) The role of the military in the field of urban economy

- 3) The military and military towns and cities as a center of inventions and innovations
- 4) Urban centers as a stronghold of the armies and navies
- 5) Military installations, diplomacy and international financing (e.g. the French financial aid to Sveaborg). The role of the military in urbanization and modernization process has had only a minor role in the historiography of urban history. The fundamental intention of this session is to bring up and bring together the scholars of these themes and to outline further co-operation.

Scientific Programme

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Mikko Huhtamies (University of Helsinki, Department of Philosophy, History, Culture and Art Studies, Helsinki, Finland)
- 1172 A MEDITERRANEAN CASE OF CONTRASTED MILITARIZATION: THE HARBOUR CITY OF MESSINA**
Carmelina Gugliuzzo; G. Restifo (Department of History and Human Sciences, Messina, Italy)
- 773 IMPACT OF MILITARY PRESENCE IN DANISH TOWNS 1660-1848**
Karsten Skjold Petersen (Royal Danish Arsenal Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark)
- 566 HELSINKI AND SVEABORG - TOWN, FORTRESS AND INTERACTION**
Juha-Matti Granqvist (University of Helsinki, Department of Philosophy, History, Cultural Studies and Art Studies, Helsinki, Finland)
- 424 BARRACKS IN THE CITY (XVIth-XXth CENTURY)**
Catherine Denys (Université de Lille, Histoire, Lille, France)
- 414 THE MILITARY FACTOR IN A DAILY LIFE OF THE CAPITAL OF RUSSIAN EMPIRE IN XVIII CENTURY**
Kirill Nazarenko; N. Rogulin (Saint-Petersburg State University, Department of History, Saint-Petersburg, Russia)
- 403 THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SEA FORTRESS OF SVEABORG – GEOGRAPHIC PERSPECTIVES OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT**
Sofia Gustafsson (University of Helsinki, Department of Philosophy, History, Culture and Art Studies, Helsinki, Finland)
- 1602 BREED AND BOOZE, NAVAL SUPPLY AND EARLY MODERN PRODUCTION**
Karl Bergman (Blekinge Institute of Technology, Department of Spatial Planning, Karlskrona, Sweden)