

Holz
Verwendung



Historical Wood Utilization



Michael Grabner



*„Die alte Wirtschafts- und Arbeitsweise,
die lang her vererbten Fertigkeiten,
Kenntnisse, Erfahrungen und Zustände
und mit ihnen viel nötiges Sprach- und
Kulturgut ziehen sich immer höher
die Wälder und Berge hinauf.“*

Josef Blau (1917)

*"Old principles of economics and operation,
old inherited skills, knowledge and experiences
together with necessary knowledge of language
and culture retreat to higher mountains in forest areas"*



Why do we talk about Historical Wood Utilization?

Scientific interest:

Safeguarding material and intangible cultural heritage:

Material heritage:

Even in museums problems are obvious – private property

Intangible cultural heritage:

“The “intangible cultural heritage” means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage.”

Article 2 presents the domains – amongst others:

“knowledge and practises concerning nature and universe (d)”;

“traditional craftsmanship (e)”



Why do we talk about Historical Wood Utilization?

Knowledge for the future:

Sustainable forests?

New (old) assortments?

Reprise of knowledge



Holz
Verwendung



What is meant by “historical wood utilization”?





What is meant by “historical wood utilization”?

wood species selection
wood quality
dendrochronological dating
conservation
rarely used wood species
crooked assortments
forestry rules
the culture of wood and forest utilization
arts
crafts
material and intangible cultural heritage
the history of wood utilization
social effects of wood utilization
economy of wood utilization





What is meant by “historical wood utilization”?

Various scientific disciplines are dealing with “historical wood utilization”:

- wood science
- dendrochronology
- forestry
- forest history
- archaeology
- ethnology
- architecture/building history
- history
- environmental history
- conservation





What resources do we have?

Archaeological excavations

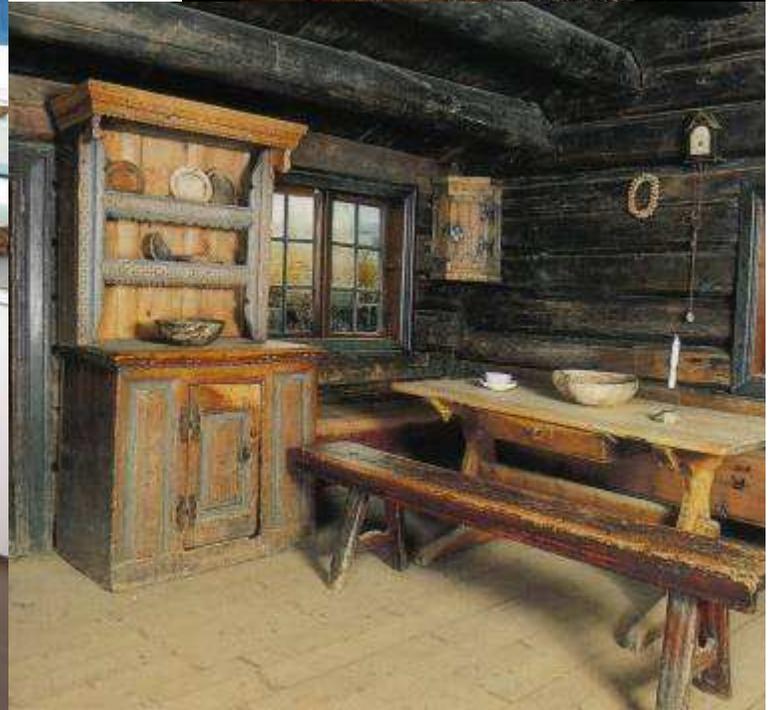


Holz Verwendung



What resources do we have?

Wooden collections in museums:

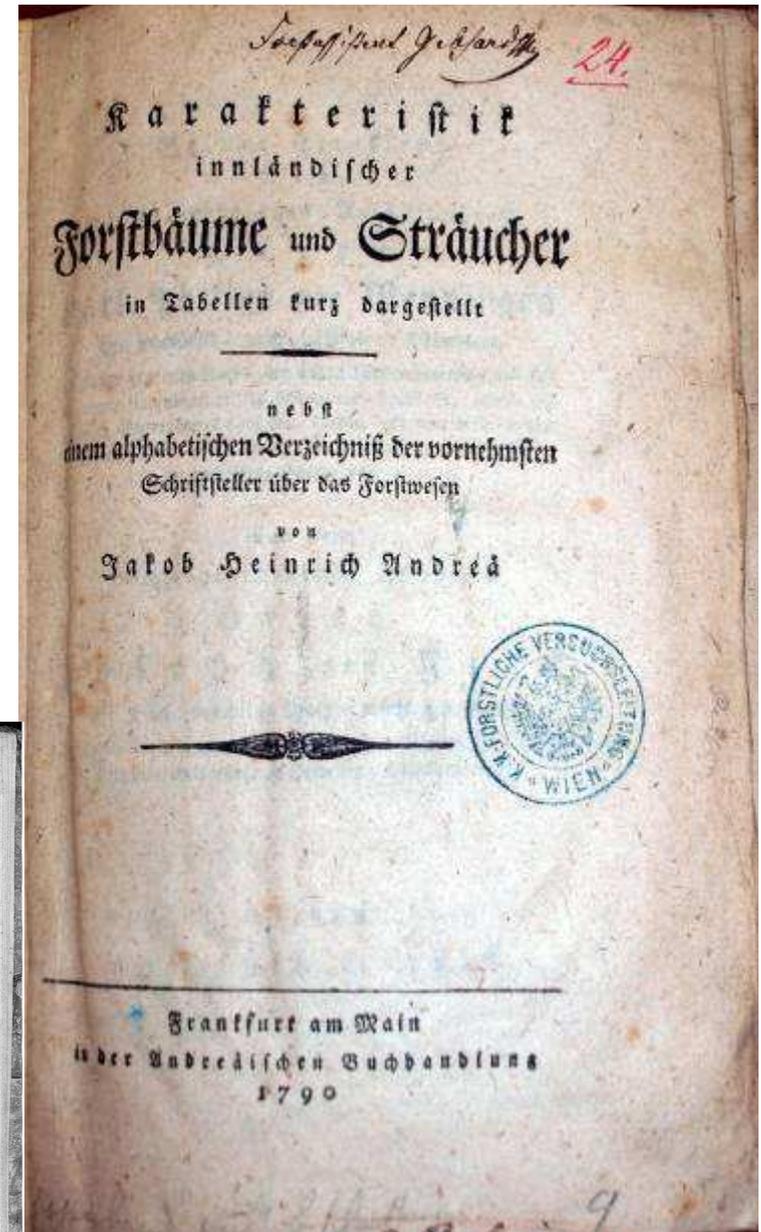
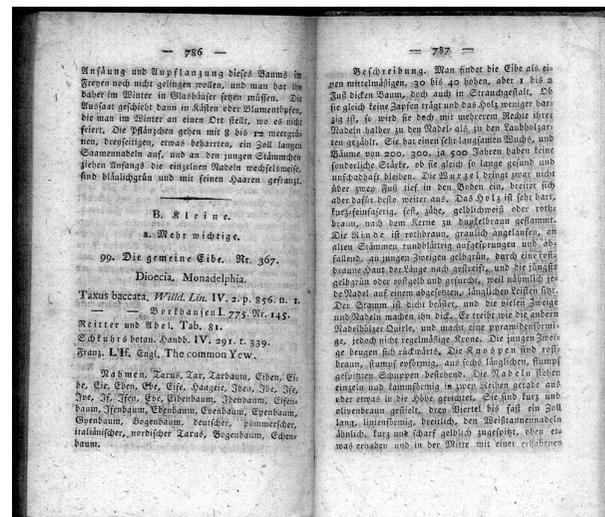




What resources do we have?

Old literature:

- Andrea 1790,
- Bechstein 1812,
- Nördlinger 1860,
- Möller 1883,
- Nördlinger 1890,
- Heß 1895,
- Thenius 1896,
- Graef 1905,
- Laris 1910,
- Hunziker 1916,
- Hufnagl 1920,
- Gayer 1939,
- Knuchel 1954,
- König 1956,
- Schafflützel 1974

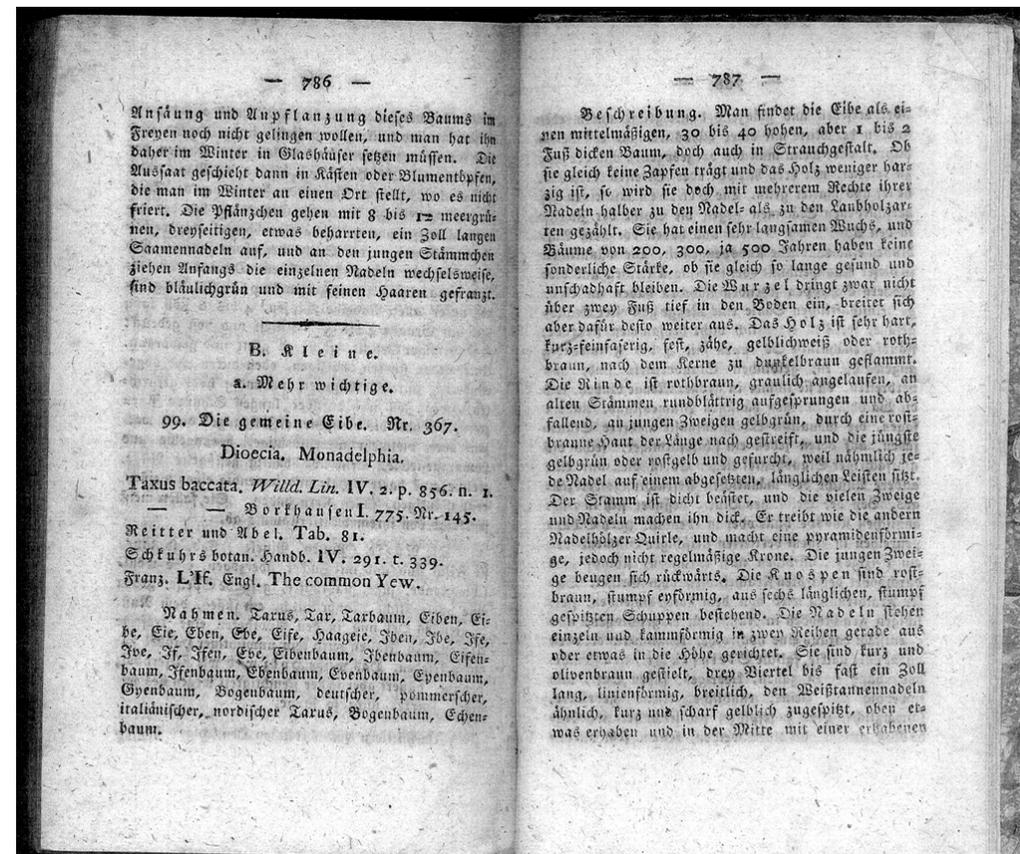




What resources do we have?

Archives:

like forestry rules,
invoices of amounts of wood
used for buildings or fire-wood
Custom rules (Mautbüchl)

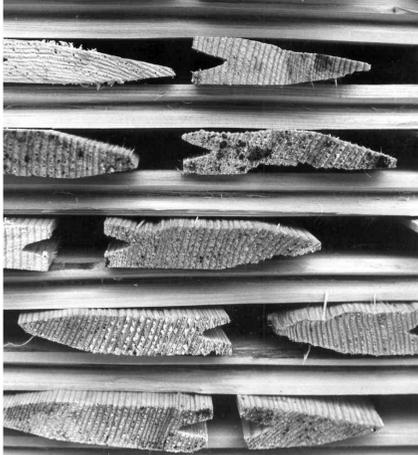


Holz Verwendung



What resources do we have?

Oral history and crafts-men knowledge:





How can we foster interdisciplinary research on “historical wood utilization”?

- *) What questions and analyses do exist within “Historical Wood Utilization”?**
- *) How can we foster the communication and discussion across the different disciplines?**
- *) How can we bring together all available “case studies” for common analyses?**



How can we foster interdisciplinary research on “historical wood utilization”?

- *) Where can we publish our results
(to be recognized in different scientific fields)?**
- *) How can we link to handicraft-men
(experimental archaeology)?**
- *) Is there a way to bridge borders due to language
and local dialects?**



Many thanks for your attention!

Fruitful discussions!

Supported by the Austrian Science Fund – TRP21-B16