MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Middelalder ved Kalø

Kære gæst

Velkommen til de arkæologiske udgravninger i landsbyen Bregnet. Landsbyen eksisterer ikke mere, men i middelalderen for 500 år siden, levede menneskene godt på netop dette sted. Her var de tæt på havet og skoven, med en smuk kirke og en beskyttende borg lige i nærheden.

Kom tættere på middelaldermenneskenes liv, når du kigger arkæologerne over skuldrene, læser spændende plancher og bliver klogere på fund og fortidsminder, der fortæller om menneskenes dagligdag.

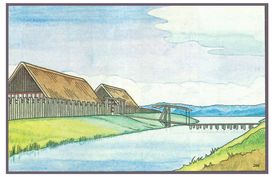
I udgravningsperioden 28. juni – 23. juli vil der løbende være pop-up-begivenheder i området omkring Bregnet og Kalø.

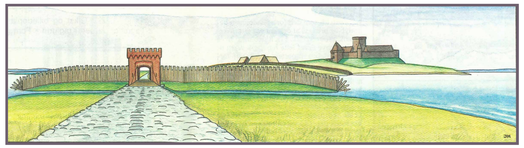
Du kan holde dig orienteret på hjemmesiden
https://nationalparkmolsbjerge.dk/sogneprojektet
Her kan du også se hele programmet for Middelalder ved Kalø.

Husk at holde god afstand til andre besøgende i området.
Følg i øvrigt anvisninger om færden på pladsen, så alle får et godt og sikkert besøg.

God fornøjelse!

Syddjurs Kommune, Nationalparken Mols Bjerge
og Museum Østjylland





Syddjurs KOMMUNE | NATIONALPARK MOLS BJERGE | museum ØSTJYLLAND

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

The Middle Ages at Kalø

Dear guest

Welcome to the archaeological excavations in the village of Bregnet. The village no longer exists but in the Middle Ages, 500 years ago, people lived the good life on this very spot. Here, they were close to the sea and the forest, with a beautiful church and a protective castle close by.

Delve into the lives of the medieval inhabitants as you look over the archaeologists' shoulders, read the interesting information boards and find out more about the ancient monuments and antiquities that tell us about people's daily life.

Throughout the excavation period, 28 June – 23 July, there will be regular pop-up events in the area around Bregnet and Kalø.

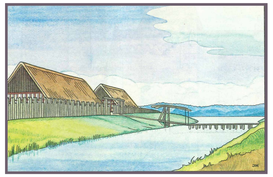
You can keep track of events on the website:
https://nationalparkmolsbjerge.dk/sogneprojektet
Here, you can also find the full programme for "The Middle Ages at Kalø".

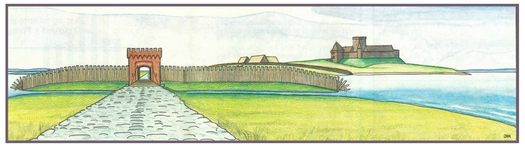
Please remember to keep your distance from other visitors in the area.

Moreover, follow the instructions for movements around the site, so everyone has a safe and enjoyable visit!

Enjoy!

Syddjurs municipality, Mols Bjerge National Park
and East Jutland Museum



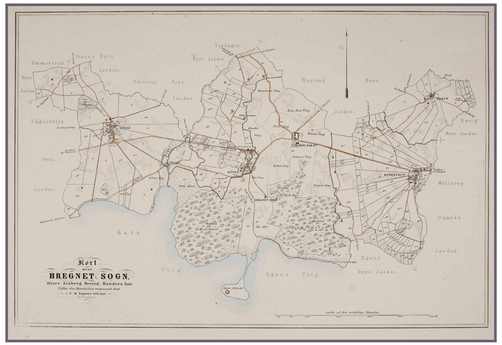


Syddjurs KOMMUNE | NATIONALPARK MOLS BJERGE | museum ØSTJYLLAND

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Om Åben Udgravning 2021 og Sogneprojektet

Åben Udgravning afvikles af Museum Østjylland og er blevet til i et samarbejde med Nationalpark Mols Bjerge og med deltagelse af Syddjurs Kommune.
Udgravningen er et forsknings- og formidlingsprojekt, som skal være med til at styrke og bevare områdets kulturmiljøer og Nationalpark Mols Bjerges kulturhistoriske værdier.
Åben Udgravning 2021 er et element i Sogneprojektet, et undersøgelsesprojekt, hvor fagpersoner og frivillige arbejder med at kortlægge et sogn fra oldtid til nutid. Bregnet Sogn er valgt som undersøgelses-emne til dette projekt, og Åben Udgravning markerer starten på projektet, som løber over de kommende år.
Bregnet Sogn er fyldt med vidnesbyrd om, at mennesker altid har ment, at det var et godt sted at bo. Området er rigt på spændende kulturarv og er derfor et velegnet område til en sogneundersøgelse.



Bregnet Sogn 1869

Sogneprojektet rummer mulighed for et større antal delprojekter, som er bundet sammen af en overordnet fortælling om livet i sognet gennem tiden. Udover arkæologiske undersøgelser vil arkivprojekter og historiske undersøgelser være med til at føje brikker til puslespillet. I den forbindelse planlægger Museum Østjylland og Nationalpark Mols Bjerge at involvere frivillige i arbejdet med at registrere billeder, gennemgå folketællinger, dokumentere lokale miljøer og andre aktiviteter.

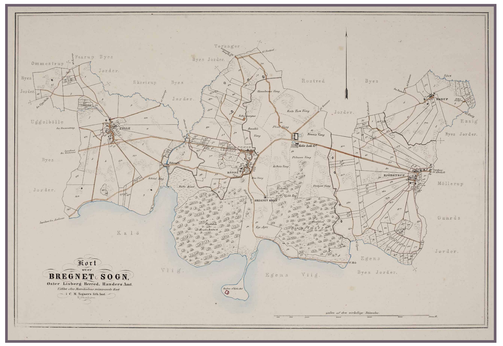
Følg med på:
https://nationalparkmolsbjerge.dk/sogneprojektet

Målet er, at projektet vil munde ud i værdifuld ny viden om området og om Nationalparkens kulturhistorie. Det vil dermed også give basis for nye kulturhistoriske oplevelser i landskabet.

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

About Open Excavation 2021 and the Parish Project

Open Excavation is run by East Jutland Museum (Museum Østjylland) and has come about through a collaboration with Mols Bjerge National Park and the involvement of Syddjurs municipality.
The excavation is a research and communication project aimed at reinforcing and conserving the area's historic environment assets.
Open Excavation 2021 is an element in the Parish Project, an investigative study in which professionals and volunteers work together to map a parish from prehistory to the present day. Bregnet parish was chosen as the subject, and Open Excavation marks the beginning of the work, which will continue over the coming years.
Bregnet parish abounds with evidence that people thought it was a good place to live. The area has a rich and fascinating cultural heritage and is therefore well suited to a parish-based study.



Bregnet parish 1869.

The Parish Project offers the opportunity to include numerous subprojects that are linked together by an overarching narrative on life in the parish through time. In addition to the archaeological excavations, archive studies and historical research will also contribute pieces to the overall jigsaw puzzle. In this regard, East Jutland Museum and Mols Bjerge National Park plan to involve volunteers in work on recording pictures, examining census data, recording local environments and other activities.

Keep posted on:
https://nationalparkmolsbjerge.dk/sogneprojektet

The aim is for the project to produce valuable new information about the area and about the national park's cultural history. It will then provide a basis for new cultural-historical experiences in the landscape.

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Sådan var det i middelalderen (år 1050 - 1536)

Danskerne lod sig kristne i den katolske tro i middelalderen, og allerede i 1000-årene blev de fleste sogne dannet og de første kirker i landet opført.
De ældste skriftlige kilder stammer fra middelalderen, hvor flere og flere mennesker lærte at læse og skrive. Men det gik langsomt. De fleste mennesker i landet var stadig bønder og analfabeter.
I 1536 kom reformationen, hvor den katolske tro blev udskiftet med den protestantiske tro efter Martin Luthers lære.

Hverdagsliv i Bregnet i 1400-tallet
Indbyggerne i landsbyen Bregnet har formentlig været bønder og håndværkere, måske suppleret med fiskeri. Nærheden til borgen Kalø har uden tvivl haft stor betydning for landsbyens erhverv, ja måske for hele dens eksistens.
Kirken har dannet ramme om indbyggernes liv med dåb, konfirmation og bryllupper, ligesom landsbyens indbyggere ligger begravet på kirkegården. Den middelalderlige kirkegård lå tæt på kirken, og er i dag ikke længere i brug.

Fra træstolper til kampesten
De fleste indbyggere i landsbyen boede i træhuse eller bindingsværkshuse. Man kunne også have huse med tørvevægge og træstolper.
I løbet af middelalderen gik menneskene væk fra de nedgravede træstolper og træhuse på grund af mangel på egetømmer. Stolperne rådnede simpelthen for hurtigt. I stedet for træhuse byggede man bindingsværkshuse, der blev opført på syldsten, så tømmeret ikke rørte den fugtige jord.
Boligen havde typisk tre rum med ildsted i det ene. Indtil for et par hundrede år siden var langt de fleste huse i Danmark opført i bindingsværk. Kun de allerrigeste borgere boede i et stenhus.

Kjoler, hoser, kjortler
Tøjet, man havde i 1400-1500-tallet, var som regel lavet af uld eller hør. Men en velhavende købmand kunne ligesom adlen have tøj af silke eller pels og broderier med guld- eller sølvtråd. Kvinderne gik altid i lange kjoler, men snittet ændrede sig med tiden. Mændene gik i hoser/bukser, mens skjorten ændrede sig i takt med, at moden skiftede. Det samme var tilfældet for kapper og kjortel/overtøj.
Fodtøjet var af læder, også sålen, og man kender både sko og støvler fra denne tid. Læderet var garvet, så fodtøjet var vandtæt. Også her skiftede moden gennem middelalderen.

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

How it was in the Middle Ages (AD 1050-1536)

The Danes became Christians in the Catholic faith during the Middle Ages, and by the 11th century most of the parishes had already been formed and the country's first churches had been built.
The earliest written records are from the Middle Ages, when increasing numbers of people learned to read and write. But it was a slow process. Most people in the country were still illiterate peasants.
In 1536 came the Reformation, and with that replacement of the Catholic with the Protestant faith according to the teachings of Martin Luther.

Everyday life in Bregnet in the 15th century
The Bregnet villagers were probably peasants and craftsmen, who perhaps also fished. The proximity to Kalø castle would doubtless have been of huge significance for the village's subsistence activities, perhaps even for its very existence.
The church formed the framework for the inhabitants' lives, hosting baptisms, confirmations and weddings, as well as funerals, when the villagers were buried in the churchyard. The medieval cemetery lay close to the church and is no longer in use today.

From wooden posts to boulders
Most of the villagers lived in wooden or half-timbered houses, but there were also buildings with turf walls and wooden posts.
During the Middle Ages, people abandoned earthfast posts and wooden buildings, in part due to a lack of oak timber, but also because the wooden posts simply rotted too quickly. Instead of wooden houses, half-timbered buildings were constructed. These were built on foundation stones, so the timber did not touch the damp earth.
A dwelling typically had three rooms, with a hearth in one of these. Until a couple of centuries ago, most of the houses in Denmark were half-timbered buildings. Only the wealthiest citizens lived in brick-built houses.

Dresses, stockings and coats
The clothes people wore in the 15th-16th centuries were usually made of wool or linen. But a wealthy merchant could, like the nobility, have clothes of silk or fur , embroidered with gold or silver thread.
The women always wore long dresses, but the cut of these changed through time. The men wore stockings/trousers, and their shirts changed with the fashion. The same was true of cloaks and coats, i.e. the outer garments. Footwear was of leather, including the soles, and both shoes and boots are known from this time. The leather was tanned, so the footwear was waterproof. Here too, fashion changed throughout the Middle Ages.

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Landsbyen, der forsvandt

Landsbyen Bregnet, der forsvandt i 1600-tallet, lå på begge sider af landevejen fra Rønde til Kalø. I dag er Bregnet Kirke den eneste bevarede bygning fra landsbyen.
Bregnet nævnes førstegang i en skriftlig kilde tilbage i år 1338. Dengang hed landsbyen Bregnetved, som betyder åbning eller rydning i skoven med bregner.
Arkæologer har tidligere udgravet et lille stykke af landsbyen.

Hvornår er landsbyen fra?
De ældste spor efter landsbyen er dukket op tæt på kirken, og sporene har arkæologerne dateret til 1100-1200-tallet. På denne del af marken er der tidligere fundet en del af landsbyen fra tiden mellem 1400 og 1600-tallet. Der er flere faser af bygninger og andre anlæg, der afløser hinanden.

De ældste huse
De ældste huse har jordgravede vægstolper, og de er alle mindre bygninger. Der var ingen spor efter ildsteder i husene, der nok har været udhuse.
Overalt på området har arkæologerne fundet stolpehuller og affaldsgruber med husholdningsaffald.
De yngre huse var alle bygget på syldsten (kampesten), der skulle forhindre træværket i at rådne. Der er desuden fundet spor efter en smedje.

Da bagerens hus brændte
Ved et af husene fandt arkæologerne en stor bageovn. Den lå ved en bygning, tre meter bred og kun delvist udgravet i længden. Sporene viste, at bygningen var et bindingsværkshus, og ved siden af huset lå en stor brødovn bygget af munkesten i bunden. Ovnrummets diameter var 175 cm, så den var ganske stor og har sikkert tilhørt landsbyens bager, der her har bagt brød til hele landsbyen.
Stolpehuller viser, at ovnen nok stod under et halvtag tæt ved huset. Hele hustomten var dækket af et tykt sort lag af trækul, hvor arkæologerne fandt brændt lerklining, der viser, at bagerens hus var brændt!
Uden for ovnens bagvæg fandt arkæologerne også en mønt fra 1420'erne.
Nord for den brændte tomt var der spor efter to huse, der begge havde væggrøfter og stolpehuller, og begge var kun delvist bevarede. I det ene hus var fire ovnbunde fra fire faser af samme ovn, oval og af forskellig størrelse. Den største målte 85 x 147cm.
Måske blev et nyt bagerhus bygget kort tid efter branden - og denne gang med ovnen i en bygning for sig selv!

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

The village that disappeared

The village of Bregnet, which disappeared in the 17th century, lay on both sides of the road from Rønde to Kalø. Today, Bregnet church is the village's only surviving building.
Bregnet is mentioned for the first time in a written record in AD 1338. Back then, the village was called Bregentved, which means opening or clearing in the forest with ferns.
Archaeologists have previously excavated a small part of the village.

How old is the village?
The earliest traces of the village have turned up close to the church, and these have been dated by archaeologists to the 12th-13th century. Part of a village dating from the 15th-17th centuries has previously been found on this area of the field. During this period there was a succession of buildings and other features and structures that replaced one other.

The earliest buildings
The earliest houses have earthfast posts and are all smaller buildings. There were no traces of hearths in these buildings, so they are interpreted as outhouses.
Everywhere across the area, archaeologists found postholes and rubbish pits containing household waste.
The later buildings were all constructed on foundation stones (boulders), to prevent the woodwork from rotting. Remains were also found of a smithy.

When the baker's house burnt down
By one of the houses, archaeologists found a large bread oven, the base of which was built of big medieval bricks. The oven lay next to a building that was 3 m wide and only partially excavated along its length. The remains revealed this to be a half-timbered house. The internal diameter of the oven was 1.75 m, a considerable size, and it probably belonged to the village baker, who baked bread in it for the entire village.
Postholes show that the oven had probably stood under a lean-to close to the house. The entire house site was covered by a thick, black layer of charcoal, where archaeologists found remains of burnt daub, which shows that the baker's house had been destroyed by fire! Archaeologists also found a coin from the 1420s just outside the rear wall of the oven.
To the north of the burnt-down house were traces of two further buildings, which had wall trenches and postholes. Both were only partially preserved. Inside one of the houses were four oven bases representing four successive ovens built in the same place. These were oval in shape, and of different sizes. The largest measured 0.85 x 1.47 m.
Perhaps a new baker's house was built shortly after the fire – and this time the oven had a building of its own!

Arkæologi

Hvad er fortidsminder?
Fortidsminder er spor efter fortidens aktiviteter. De kan være synlige – som gravhøje, stendysser, borge og kirker. Men de kan også være skjulte – som hustomter, bopladser, grave og offerfund.

Hvad er et anlæg?
Når man graver i det åbne land, er nogle mørke pletter i den lysere undergrund under muldlaget oftest de eneste bevarede spor efter aktivitet fra middelalderen. Pletterne, der f.eks. kan være stolpehuller, ildsteder, grave eller affaldsgruber, kaldes med en fællesbetegnelse for anlæg.

Anlæggenes mørke farve skyldes, at der i middelalderen er gravet ned i undergrunden, og at hullet sidenhen (af forskellige årsager) er fyldt op med muld, sten, keramik osv. Stolpehullerne er oftest de eneste spor efter de træbyggede konstruktioner, f.eks. huse og hegn, der har udgjort en middelalderbebyggelse.

Muldafrømningen bliver overvåget af en arkæolog, der med skovl renser fladen for de sidste muldrester, ridser alle anlæggene ind med skovl og markerer dem med træpinde.

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

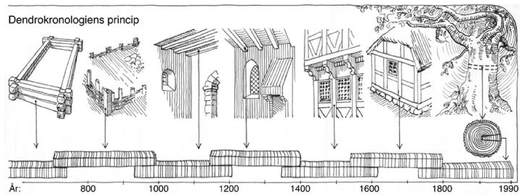
Opmåling og tegning
Alle anlæggene samt feltgrænserne opmåles med GPS. Yderligere Detailopmåling laves enten analogt ved at arkæologen tegner anlægget i hånden på tegnepapir eller ved hjælp af 3D fotoregistrering. Ved sidstnævnte metode fotograferes anlægget fra alle vinkler. Ud fra disse fotos kan computeren danne en målfast 3D model, der kan suppleres med håndtegnede noter og fremhævelser. Denne metode er meget effektiv til at registrere anlæg hurtigt og præcist.

3D model af teglovn fra Auning

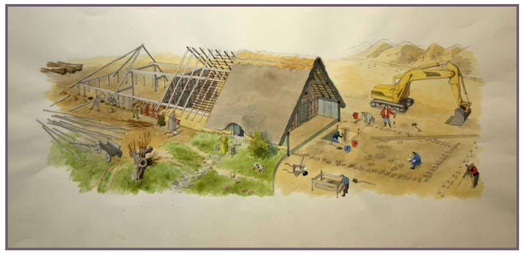
Udgravning
Når arkæologer skal undersøge et anlæg, vil de typisk bortgrave den ene halvdel af anlægget, hvorved den resterende del fremstår som en lodret profil. Dette sker for at kunne måle anlæggenes dybde, registrere farven og sammensætningen af den mørke kulturjord samt indsamle de oldsager, der evt. findes i dem. Profilet tegnes og fotograferes herefter. Ved mere komplicerede anlæg kan det være nødvendigt at udgrave hele anlægget. Dette vil oftest ske mere forsigtigt med brug af graveske fremfor skovl.

Stolpehulprofil tegnes efter den ene halvdel er gravet væk.

Naturvidenskab
I dag gør arkæologer også brug af en lang række naturvidenskabelige metoder. Hovedparten af disse tager udgangspunkt i jordprøver. Således kan man ved at si jorden, fint udskille brændt plantemateriale eller makrofossiller. Analyser af dette kan fortælle om husholdning og dyrkningsmetoder. Man kan også anvende makrofossilerne til C14 dateringer. De mest præcise dateringer fås dog igennem dendrokronologiske dateringer (årringsdateringer). Et træ sætter hvert år en ny, unik årring, hvis tykkelse afhænger af træets levevilkår. Herved danner træet en art stregkode, som passer til den tid, det er vok set i. Ved at sammenligne med kendte veldaterede træstykker kan man datere et stykke træ meget præcist.



Princippet bag dendrokronologi. Kendte veldaterede trækonstruktioner bruges til at skabe en "stregkode" for årringene.
© Tegning: Flemming Bau.



Principtegning af et jernalderhus fra opførelse til moderne udgravning.
© Tegning: Charlotte Clante

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

Archaeology

What are ancient monuments?
Ancient monuments and antiquities are traces of past activities. They can be visible – like burial mounds, dolmens, castles and churches. But they can also be hidden – like house sites, settlements, graves and votive offerings.

What is a feature?
When excavating in open country, dark patches in the pale subsoil below the topsoil are often the only surviving traces of activities in the Middle Ages. These patches, which may for example represent postholes, hearths, graves or rubbish pits, are all referred to by one common term – features.
The features are dark coloured because in the Middle Ages a hole was dug into the pale subsoil after which it was (for various reasons) filled in again with darker topsoil, stones, pottery etc. Postholes are often the only surviving traces of wooden structures, for example buildings and fences, that have made up a medieval settlement.

Removal of the topsoil is monitored by an archaeologist, who uses a shovel to clean away any remaining remnants of topsoil and to highlight the outlines of all the features before marking them with wooden pegs.

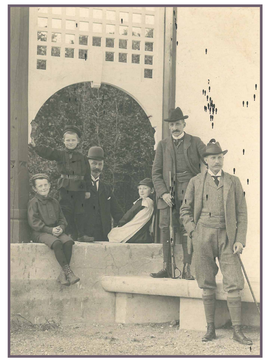
MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Jagtslottet ved Kalø

Jagt har til alle tider haft stor betydning for de danske godser. Dette gælder også for Kalø, hvis betydelige skove har været hjemsted for store mængder vildt. Området omkring Kalø, der i 1824 var blevet købt af en hovedrig senator og købmand fra Hamborg, Jenisch, udviklede også en tradition for sportsjagt, især efter den meget jagtinteresserede Martin Johan Jenisch i 1881 arvede godset. Nogle år senere bekostede han bygningen af Jagtslottet, der blev tegnet af tidens hotte arkitekt Hack Kampmann.

Jernbane og landevej – ikke på Kaløs jord!
I 1894 vedtog Danmarks Rigsdag en ny jernbaneplan med bl.a. en linjeføring fra Thorsager over Rønde til Ebeltoft. Linjen ville berøre herlighedsværdierne ved Kalø, hvorfor godsejeren på ingen måde var interesseret i at støtte sagen. Jernbanen til Ebeltoft endte nogle år senere med en linjeføring fra Trustrup i stedet. I 1934 var landskabet ved Kalø igen i farezonen, da det daværende Randers Amt vedtog at anlægge en vej, der skar sig gennem herregårdslandskabet.

Fredningsloven af 1937
Det blev en fredning af området, der sikrede en bevaring af herregårdslandskabet ved Kalø. I 1939 frededes bl.a. borgruinen og et 500 m bælte langs stranden mellem Ringelmoseskoven og Hestehaveskoven. Desuden sikredes offentligheden ret til at færdes i skovene og langs stranden.



Ca. 1903. Fra venstre Ulf Olsen, Ejnar Olsen (Engelbrekt Olsens sønner), godsinspektør på Kalø Engelbrekt Olsen, Gerda Olsen (E. Olsens niece), Oscar Rücker (von Jenisch bror), Baron von Jenisch

Jagtslottet ved Kalø er opført i 1899 af Hack Kampmann i en holstensk nationalromantisk stil.

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

The hunting lodge at Kalø

Hunting has always been of huge importance to Danish manors. Kalø is no exception, and its extensive forests have hosted large quantities of game. The area around Kalø, bought in 1824 by an immensely rich senator and merchant from Hamburg, Martin Johan Jenisch, also developed a tradition of recreational hunting, especially after the manor was inherited by the great hunting enthusiast Martin Johan Rücker von Jenisch in 1881. Some years later, von Jenisch financed the building of the hunting lodge, which was designed by one of the foremost architects of the time, Hack Kampmann.

Railway and highway – not on Kalø's land!
In 1894, the Danish parliament passed a new railway plan that included a route from Thorsager via Rønde to Ebeltoft. The line would impact on the amenities at Kalø, and the landowner had no interest in supporting the plan. The railway to Ebeltoft later ended up taking a route from Trustrup instead. In 1934, the landscape around Kalø again came under threat when the then Randers county passed a plan to build a road cutting through the manorial landscape.

The conservation act of 1937
It was scheduling of the area in 1939 that eventually secured preservation of the landscape at Kalø. The scheduling order included the castle ruin and a 500 m belt along the shore between Ringelmose forest and Hestehave forest. In addition, the public were secured right of access to the forests and along the shore.

Around 1903. Left to right: Ulf Olsen, Ejnar Olsen (Engelbrekt Olsen's sons) steward at Kalø Engelbrekt Olsen, Gerda Olsen (Engelbrekt Olsens niece), Oscar Rücker (von Jenisch's brother), Baron von Jenisch.

The hunting lodge at Kalø was built in 1899 to a design produced by Hack Kampmann in a Holstein national romantic style.

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Hvorfor og hvornår blev Kalø bygget?

Erik Menveds gravmonument i Skt. Bendts Kirke i Ringsted

Storpolitik
Erik Menved ønskede at blande sig i storpolitik i de omkringliggende lande, men adelen var langt fra altid enig med kongen og afstod således ofte fra at bistå med tropper. Den kongelige hær kom følgelig i stigende grad til at bestå af tyske lejetropper, og for at kunne betale disse udskrev kongen ustandseligt nye skatter. I 1311 skulle en ny særskat således finansiere et felttog til Sverige. Netop i 1311 beretter flere samtidige krøniker om "stor tørke hele året og misvækst over det ganske land". Bønderne havde derfor ikke mulighed for at betale skatterne, og flere stormænd indgik egenhændigt forlig med bønderne om at udskyde indbetalingen af skatten. Kongen genfremsatte derfor kravene om indbetaling af skatten, og bønderne reagerede voldsomt på dette, da de retmæssigt mente at have ordnet denne sag med kongens embedsmænd.

Slagscene. Samtidig illustration. Slaget ved Courtrai i Belgien 1302

Bondeoprøret
Der rejste sig derfor i foråret 1313 et større oprør i Midt- og Vestjylland mod kongen. En kongelig hær blev slået af oprørerne ved Kolding, og Erik Menved måtte samle en stor hær for at bringe ro i landet. Det er usikkert, om det kom til kamp, eller om hæren alene var nok til at kølne gemytterne. I hvert fald blev der indgået et forlig i september, og oprørerne måtte indrømme at have forbrudt sig mod kongen. For at sikre sig mod yderligere oprør blev bønderne tvunget til at opføre borge ved Horsens, Kalø, Viborg og Ulstrup samt at udbygge borgen ved Kolding. Fra disse støttepunkter har kongen effektivt kunnet kontrollere hele oprørsområdet. Disse borge har fået navnet "tvangsborge", fordi bønderne blev tvunget til at bygge dem.

Inddrivelse af skatter. Træsnit fra 1555

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

Why and when was Kalø built?

Eric VI Menved's sepulchral monument in St. Bendt's church in Ringsted.

International politics
King Eric Menved wanted to get involved in high politics in neighbouring countries, but the nobility did not always agree with the king and often refused to support him with troops. As a result, the royal army was, to an increasing degree, made up of German mercenaries, and to be able to pay them, the king incessantly imposed new taxes. A new special tax introduced in 1311 was aimed at financing a military campaign to Sweden. But it is precisely in 1311 that several contemporary chronicles report of "great drought all year and crop failure across the country". The peasants were therefore unable to pay their taxes, and several noblemen entered into individual agreements with them to defer payment. The king therefore repeated demands for payment of the taxes, prompting a vehement reaction from the peasants who, quite rightly, believed they had already settled the matter with the king's officials.

Battle scene. Contemporary illustration. The Battle of Courtrai 1302.

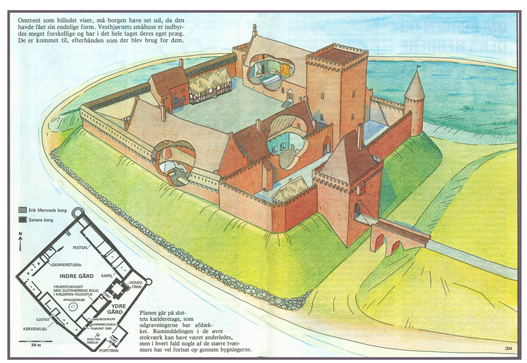
The peasants' revolt
As a result, a major revolt against the king arose in central and western Jutland in the spring of 1313. Royal troops were defeated by the rebels at Kolding, and Eric Menved was forced to assemble a great army to bring peace to the country. It is uncertain whether it came to actual combat, or whether the army alone was sufficient to cool tempers. Whatever the process, an agreement was reached in September, and the rebels were obliged to admit that they had offended the king. To hinder further rebellion, the peasants were forced by the king to build castles at Horsens, Kalø, Viborg and Ulstrup, as well as expanding the fortress at Kolding. From these strongholds, the king was effectively able to control the entire area affected by the revolt. These castles have been given the Danish name tvangsborge (literally "forced castles"), because the peasants were forced to build them.

Collecting taxes. Wood cut from 1555.

MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Den kongelige borg Kalø

For beboerne i landsbyen Bregnet har den store kongelige borg Kalø været allestedsnærværende. Der har skullet bages brød til besætningen og brændes teglsten til vedligehold af bygninger og befæstning. Byggeriet af den store borg blev iværksat i 1314 af den daværende konge, Erik Menved, og der er ligeledes blevet bygget under Valdemar Atterdag i anden halvdel af 1300-tallet. Borgen er bygget op således, at en angriber har skullet indtage flere adskilte forsvarsværker for endeligt at nedkæmpe borgens besætning.



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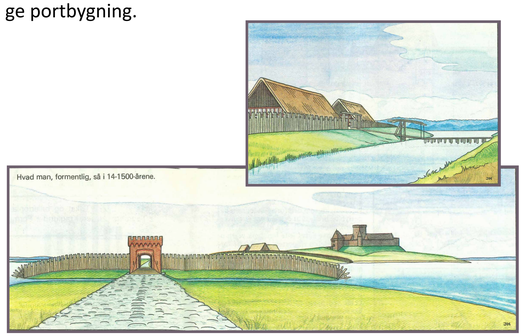
Hovedborgen

Borgen består af en indre borggård, hvor der langs murene har ligget bygninger til den daglige drift af borgen. I sydmuren sidder det store hovedtårn, som har udgjort det sidste forsvar, hvor man har kunnet trække sig tilbage, når alle andre forsvarsværker var faldet. Den ydre borggård har været en del af forsvarsværkerne. Skulle en fjende trænge igennem hovedporten, ville denne være fanget i den ydre borggård og blive beskudt fra murene. For at komme herind har man dog først skullet over den meget store voldgrav og igennem den kraftige portbygning.



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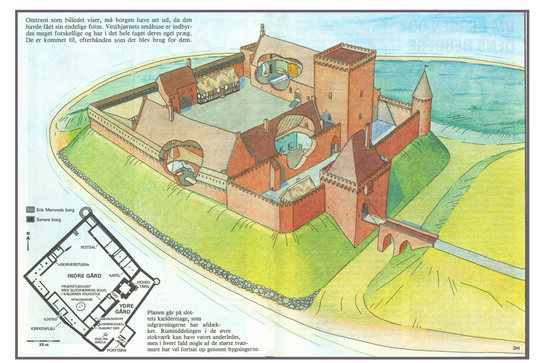
De ydre forsvarsværker

Der har dog også være flere forsvarsværker ud over dem i tegl. Omtrent midt på øen vil man have passeret en voldgrav. Denne fremstår i dag som to små aflange lavninger. Udover voldgraven har der været en palisade i træ. Ved adgangen til borgøen, lige på den anden side af dæmningen, har der ligeledes været en palisade og formodentlig også en voldgrav. Denne kan dog ikke ses i dag. Til gengæld blev der i 2015 fundet spor efter en mindre bygning i tegl netop her. Denne bygning har tjent som opholdsrum for vagtposterne.

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

The royal castle of Kalø

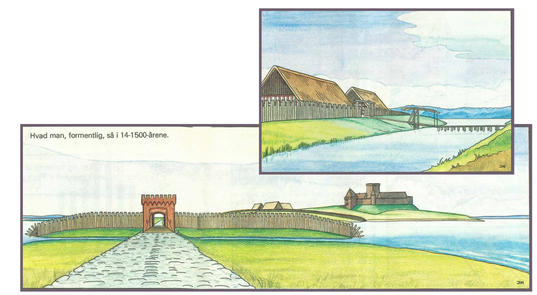
For the inhabitants of the village of Bregnet, the great royal castle of Kalø was omnipresent. Bread had to be baked for the garrison and bricks and tiles had to be produced for maintenance of the buildings and the fortifications.
Construction of the great castle was initiated in 1314 by the king at that time, Eric VI Menved, and building work was also undertaken under Valdemar IV Atterdag in the second half of the 14th century. The castle is designed so that an attacker must overcome several individual fortifications before finally having to defeat the castle's garrison.



Reconstruction of the royal castle of Kalø.
© Drawing: Flemming Kraglund

The main castle

The castle consists of an inner courtyard, with buildings involved in the daily running of the castle lining the walls. In the south wall stands the great keep, which constituted the final line of defence. Here the garrison could fall back, when all the other fortifications had fallen. The outer courtyard formed part of the fortifications. Should an enemy penetrate the main gate, they would be trapped in the outer courtyard and fired upon from the walls. But to reach this point, they had first to traverse the huge moat and breach the sturdy gatehouse.



How Kalø probably looked in the 15th-16th centuries.
© Drawing: Flemming Kraglund

The outer fortifications

But there were other fortifications than those built of brick. Roughly in the middle of the island was a moat that had to be crossed. This is evident today as two small, elongate depressions. In addition to the moat, there was also a wooden palisade. At the entrance to the castle island, at the other end of the causeway, there was a palisade and probably a moat, too. No evidence of this is, however, visible today, but traces of a small brick building were found just here in 2015. This served as a guardroom for the sentries.

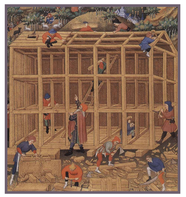
MIDDELALDEREN VED KALØ

Landsbyens yngre fase

Den yngste fase af den udgravede del af landsbyen bestod af en vej, et fint hus, en brønd og en række anlæg til teglproduktion.

Grusvejen gennem landsbyen
Vejen var cirka tre meter bred, og den kunne følges over en strækning på 35 meter. Vejen havde retning fra teglovnen og gik tværs gennem landsbyen med retning mod kirken. Vejen lå ovenpå både de ældste huse samt bagerens hus, og vejen er derfor anlagt efter dem.

Det fine hus i Bregnet
Ud til vejen fandt arkæologerne et fint hus. Huset var hvidkalket og havde blyindfattede ruder. Inde i bygningen fandt arkæologerne et lergulv over et tykt opfyldningslag. Der har været en kakkelovn (bilæggerovn) med grønglaserede kakler.



Huset lå med gavlen ud til vejen og var opført efter midten af 1400-tallet som et bindingsværkshus på en bred sokkel af syldsten. Der har været en indgang i vestsiden.

Der var mange fine fund i huset. Det mærkeligste fund fandt arkæologerne under gulvet – det var et helt hundeskelet fra en ung hund af stor race. Skelettet var ikke gravet ned men lå indlejret i fylden under gulvet som et ”offer”.

Hvor ligger hunden begravet?
Ofringer af hunde, der ligger begravet under gulvet, kendes tilbage fra jernalderen. Men også senere ofrede menneskene hunde til guderne. Ofringerne blev i kristen tid set som noget hedensk og derfor forbandet.
I dag betyder talemåden ”der ligger en hund begravet”, at der er et problem.

Brønden
Brønden lå lidt for sig selv i landsbyen. Den var firkantet foroven, og rund længere nede med en indvendig diameter på cirka 75 cm. Brønden bestod af hovedstore marksten, der sad sammenkilet i 2-3 lag omkring nedgravningen.
Arkæologerne fandt også et stolpehul, som de tolker som spor efter en vippebom.
Brønden blev nedlagt og fyldt op i 1500-1600-tallet.

Gang i teglproduktionen
Tegl måtte der til, og ved landsbyen er der fundet mange spor efter produktion af munkesten og tagsten. Foruden teglovne har arkæologerne fundet en 16 meter lang askegrav, en ældtegrav og en tørrelade.
Der var rester af flere teglovne, der har ligget omtrent samme sted. Den yngste og bedst bevarede ovn var bygget af munkesten og målte 4,5 x 4,5 meter. Den havde tre indfyringsåbninger samt bevaret teglstensgulv og bund op i fem skifters højde.
Teglovnen var stærkt varmepåvirket og nedbrudt.

THE MIDDLE AGES AT KALØ

The later phase of the village

The latest phase of the excavated part of the village consisted of a road, a grand house, a well and a series of features associated with brick and tile production.

The gravel road through the village
The road was about 3 m wide and could be followed over about 35 m. It ran through the village from the brick kiln towards the church. The road overlay the remains of the earliest buildings and the baker’s house and was therefore constructed after these.

The grand house in Bregnet
By the road, archaeologists found the remains of a grand house. It was whitewashed and had leaded windows. Inside the building, archaeologists found a clay floor laid over a thick fill layer. There had also been a stove (jamb stove) with green-glazed tiles.

The house stood with its gable facing the road and was built as a half-timbered building on a broad plinth of foundation stones sometime after the mid-15th century. There was an entrance in the west side.

There were numerous interesting finds inside the building. The strangest one was discovered by archaeologists under the floor – an intact dog skeleton from a young animal of a large breed. The skeleton was not buried but lay incorporated into the fill below the floor as an “offering”.

Why bury a dog?
Offerings of dogs, buried beneath the floor, are known all the way back in the Iron Age. But people also sacrificed dogs to the gods in later periods. In Christian times, these offerings were seen as pagan, and therefore damned.
Today, there is a Danish saying “that’s where the dog is buried”, meaning “that’s the problem”.

The well
The well lay rather detached in the village. It was square at the top and circular lower down, with an internal diameter of about 0.75 m. It was constructed of head-sized boulders, which were wedged in two to three layers around the well shaft.
Archaeologists also found a posthole which they interpret as the remains of a well sweep.
The well went out of use and was filled in during the 16th-17th centuries.

Brick- and tile-production
Bricks and tiles were essential building materials, and numerous traces of the production of big medieval bricks and roof tiles have been found at the village. In addition to the brick kiln, archaeologists have found a 16 m long ash pit, a kneading pit and a drying shed. There were remains of several successive brick kilns, which had stood in the same place. The latest and best-preserved kiln was built of big medieval bricks and measured 4.5 x 4.5 m. It had three stoke holes, as well as a preserved brick floor and a base up to five courses in height. The brick kiln had been severely affected by heat and was very degraded.