

There is a unique example of combining *sacrum* with *profanum* to be found in Northern Poland and Eastern Germany: the gothic churches with millstones embedded into walls by medieval builders. It's a situation second to none, more or less like putting and exposing a part of a present-day hybrid engine into elevation of a contemporary temple. What conditions and determinants led to choose such extraordinary aesthetic, and an unparalleled way to manifest personal beliefs? Have they survived to our times in legends, beliefs or superstitions of local communities?

The rocks of which millstones were made, are mostly completely different than erratic boulders common in this area. So, how and when they were delivered in here? Would discovering the way of how they were processed will also give an answer for a question: in which medieval workshop a given millstone was used? Would it be possible to recognize which stone was used in a windmill, which in watermill, or in a handmill?

An interdisciplinary team of scientists: historians and art historians, archaeologists, ethnologists, geographers, geologists, geomorphologists, and experts in the field of cultural landscape and heritage protection from Poland, Germany and France, wants to find the answers for these questions. In this case they will use various research methods, from archive query and field inventory to petrographic analysis of the stones, rating its weathering degree, tree-ring dating on wooden parts of the temples, mortar analysis, or cosmogenic nuclide ^{10}Be exposure dating performed on surfaces of the millstones.

Millstones themselves were made of various kinds of a rock material. Because every rock was formed in specific conditions, its composition, texture and structure are somehow a '*genetic code written in DNA*', basing on which we can determine a place from where the specific millstones were delivered to Pomerania. Preliminary study results have already shown the areas of origin hundreds of kilometers away.

Complex approach to the research on medieval millstones embedded into church walls on Southern Baltic Lowlands has a chance to show new possibilities, and will begin a wide cooperation between scientist that represent seemingly distant disciplines, like history and geology, or art history and geography. Internationalization of a research team will guarantee a good promotion and a worldwide recognition of these unique objects.