

GUEST LECTURE

HOHENZIERITZ CASTLE PARK – THE TREE POPULATION IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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The castle park in Hohenzieritz is a total work of art, which is of great art-historical significance for garden art not only in the area of the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, but for the entire Baltic Sea region. The history of the English-style landscape park of Hohenzieritz began in the middle of the second half of the 18th century. The decisive factor for the redesign of the previously baroque complex was the commissioner, Duke Charles of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and his English garden artist Archibald Thompson, who was called to Hohenzieritz on the recommendation of Charles of Mecklenburg-Strelitz's sister, Sophie Charlotte, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. Between 1772 and 1794, the site was prepared with great effort, taking advantage of the natural topography of this turbulent landscape.

The original tree population of the castle park is still strongly influenced by native woody plants. In recent years, the park has experienced a variety of impairments, especially on these historically valuable old trees, which lead to a permanent increased traffic risk or to the loss of the historic substance. In the recent years, the continuous assessment of the vitality of the trees in the course of the constant trees' inspections has led to the assumption that various damages are also caused in Hohenzieritz by climatic changes, among other things.

As part of the lecture, the history of the park will be presented, but also the latest findings on the old tree population and its development under changing climatic conditions.



ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Prof. Dr. Caroline Rolka, Dr.-Ing., studied landscape planning and the Master's program in Monument Conservation at the Technical University of Berlin, freelance landscape architect and garden monument conservator since 2002, 2003–2017 lecturer in garden monument conservation in the Master's program in Monument Conservation at the Technical University of Berlin, 2007–2009 academic internship in garden monument conservation at State Monuments Office Berlin, 2010–2011 research assistant in the Department of Object Building and Landscaping at the Technical University of Berlin, 2011–2014 substitute professor for garden monument conservation at the Technical University of Dresden, since 2017 professor for the history of garden art and garden monument conservation at the Neubrandenburg University of Applied Sciences and conservator for practical garden monument conservation at the Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania State Office for Culture and Monument Conservation.

Association activity: Since 2019, expert in the FLL (AG Garden Monument Conservation) regulatory committee, since 2018, member of the BDLA's Garden Monument Conservation Working Group, since 2022, spokesperson for the VDL's Garden Monument Conservation Working Group.

