

Europa Nostra and ICOMOS International Wood Committee jointly welcome you to the seminar **WOOD, FIRE, AND RECONSTRUCTION.**

Stockholm 7 November 2025

Address: Tyréns Sverige AB, Folkungagatan 44, T-bana Medborgarplatsen

Free admission.

Advance registration latest 24 October required to Kersti Berggren kersti.berggren@me.com. Please indicate in your registration whether you will participate physically or virtually. Link will be provided after registration.



- 12.30 Sandwich and soft drinks
- 13.15 Welcome
- 13.25 14.05 **Vincent Reed - Clandon Park**
Questions
- 14.15 - 14.45 **Marko Huttunen - Reconstructing by the remains – the Porvoo Cathedral sacristy roof structure case.**
Questions
Coffe break
- 15.30 - 16.00 **Karl-Magnus Melin - The Södra Råda method, reconstruction of medieval carpentry and a corner timbered church.**
Questions
- 16.10 - 16.40 **Magnus Arvidson - Operating experiences from fire sprinkler and water mist installations in Swedish heritage buildings – and the development of new installation recommendations.**
Questions
Discussion
- 16.40 - 17.00 *More discussions and questions at roof top space.*
Wine and snacks will be served!



Vincent Reed is a specialist in historic woodwork restoration with over 35 years of experience. He founded Vincent Reed Ltd in 1989, focusing on meticulous restoration of period antique furniture and joinery. His projects range from listed homes to royal and historic buildings, including Buckingham Palace, Kensington Palace, St Paul's Cathedral, The Tower of London and Clandon Park. Internationally, he has advised on ancient timber structures such as the Royal Fortress Qasr al-Hosn in Abu Dhabi. As an ICOMOS delegate, Vincent has studied historic timber structures in Ethiopia and presented at the UN Headquarters international timber conference in Addis Ababa. Vincent also serves as a consultant for both Historic England and Historic Royal Palaces.

Abstract: Vincent will give a presentation on the devastating 2015 fire at Clandon Park, with a particular focus on the historic woodwork and the complex challenges of restoration. The talk will explore how the fire revealed original timber frameworks and joinery, the proposed methods used to conserve surviving elements, and the problematic balance between retaining fire-damaged structures and preparing the building for future use.



Karl-Magnus Melin is a carpenter and a craftresearcher and PhD student at the university of Gothenburg. He was responsible for the reconstruction of the roofconstruction of Södra Råda from 2012-2021. He was project leader for the restoration of Ingatorps tithebarn, from 1294, during 2012-2018 and the project won the Europa Nostra award in 2019. He is also an expert member of ICOMOS Wood.

Abstract: In 2001 the corner timbered church in Södra Råda burnt down. The general director of the swedish national heritage board decided it should be reconstructed to gain more knowledge about medieval building techniques in order to better understand and handle the still extant medieval wooden buildings. The reconstruction project of the building ended in 2021. Over the years a method of research through reconstruction had evolved, known as the Södra Råda method. The presentation will focus on reconstruction as a method of research.



Marko Huttunen (*Architect, Master Restorer*), partner at Livady Architects since its founding in 1994, mainly working on restoration, conservation, and research projects. Huttunen is a member of ICOMOS Finland and an expert member of ISCARSAH, as well as a member of the Advisory Board for Cultural Heritage of the Finnish Church.

Abstract: Porvoo Cathedral (Borgå Katedral) is a stone church located in central Porvoo. Construction began in the 13th century and was completed in its current form around 1480. The building has been the cathedral of the old Porvoo diocese from 1723 to 1923 and of the current Swedish-speaking Porvoo diocese since 1923. An arson attack demolished the church's roof in 2006. The church's interior suffered minor damage thanks to the fact that the ceiling did not burn.



Magnus Arvidson is a Fire Protection Engineer and graduated from Lund University in 1989. He joined RISE Research Institutes of Sweden (then SP) in 1991. He has served as a member in the NFPA 750, CEN and IMO technical committees. He is currently a member of the Scientific Council of the International Water Mist Association. In 2020 he presented a licentiate thesis on water mist fire protection systems.

Abstract: During the past 20 years, the fire protection of ancient churches and other heritage in Sweden has been improved with the installation of fire detection, fire sprinkler and water mist systems. The operating experiences of these systems were documented and revealed many technical problems associated with the use of antifreeze, unintentional system activations, suffocation incidents related to the use of high-pressure nitrogen gas driven pump, corrosion and leakage in pipes and high frequency of fault alarms (operating alarms). Overall, the occurrence of technical problems and excessive costs have contributed to the shutdown or even dismantling of systems in ten documented cases. The experience led to the development of new recommendations for how sprinkler systems should be installed in this type of building. Among other things, a return to traditional sprinkler systems and technically uncomplicated and proven solutions is proposed. For example, antifreeze should be avoided, and stainless-steel, copper, or regular steel pipes should be used.