

Neo-Latin Inscriptions in Istria Outline of a research project

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Despite being extremely numerous and of great historical and philological interest, early modern Latin inscriptions have still not received the scholarly attention they deserve. The modest number and size of projects, publications, associations and conferences dedicated to early modern Latin inscriptions stands in sharp contrast to the rich and long-established discipline of ancient epigraphy.

In this lecture, I will present an attempt at a systematic documentation and analysis of a corpus of such inscriptions from Istria, a region placed at the intersection of Germanic, Romance and Slavic linguistic and cultural spheres. This involves preparatory actions, fieldwork, creation of a database and bringing out a catalogue of inscriptions. As the inscriptions are a complex artefact, the endeavour is necessarily interdisciplinary, involving experts in various areas of archaeology, art history, philology, and history.

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