Dalby in Skåne is one of only three places in Sweden where monastery buildings are still standing. Compared to the two other sites – Vadstena and Ystad – Dalby is relatively unknown. The anonymity stands in sharp contrast to the cultural importance of the place. During a few years of the 1060’s Dalby was a bishopric. The church that stems from this time encloses the oldest preserved masonry in Scandinavia, and further contains a unique hallway in two storeys constructed in the twelfth century. West of the church are stone foundations from the 11th century, interpreted as the remains of a royal manor. The Danish king Harald Hein - one of Sven Estridsen’s fourteen sons – was, according to the Roskilde Chronicle, buried in Dalby. Around the year 1100, the Benedictine monk Ailnoth (the hagiographer of St. Canutus, King of Denmark) labels Dalby as “locus celebris” - the famous place. This coincides in time with the period when the Augustinian monastery, later to became one of the richest in Denmark, was founded.

The conference will bring together experts from different academic disciplines and from different countries. The intention is to search for a many faceted and fuller understanding of this influential, both ecclesiastically and politically, site. The first day will be open to the public and the talks will be in Swedish. During the following days of the symposium, sessions on different themes will take place, all in English.

Initiators, and responsible for the conference, are Prof. Stephan Borgehammar, Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, and Prof. Jes Wienberg, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, in cooperation with Prof. Hanne Sanders, historian, and director of Centre for the Study of Denmark.

We hereby cordially invite you to participate in the symposium.

Registration and questions: By email to Mrs Bergner, Centre for the Study of Denmark, Lund University barbro.bergner@hist.lu.se

Registration fees: SEK 1 000 (lunches and morning and afternoon coffees are included) + SEK 300 if you also want to partake in the dinner party on Saturday evening April 24. After receiving acceptance on your registration from Mrs Bergner, make your payment to Lund University’s bank giro account with the following codes.

BIC/SWIFT-code: ESSESESS
IBAN SE55 5000 0000 0543 9103 1116.
Bank address: Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken (SEB), SE-106 40 Stockholm, Sweden

Payment reference: 859575 and your full name.

Closing date for registration: March 31, 2010.