

***Medieval Towers of Euboea: Construction-Function-Relationship with the Landscape***

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The Medieval towers have been dominant diachronic feature in the landscape of Euboea. Notably, their density distribution is quite remarkable in areas of fertile agricultural land. The towers' importance lies not only in their numbers, but it also related more with the fact that their construction is reminiscent of the Western European practice of *encastellation* or *incastellamento*. Towers were the striking landmarks of the Western feudal system, which the Latins introduced into Euboea or Regno di Negroponte after the conquest of 1205 by Boniface of Montferrat. It is proposed that the towers served as an administrative centre of the fief and symbolized the status of the lord by marking his position as ruler on his domain. Last but not least, the towers served as a temporary or permanent residence of the lord, providing two to three different storeys for the accommodation of the daily domestic and social activities of the dwellers.