

OTTO BARTNING-ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT KIRCHENBAU e.V.

www.otto-bartning.de

bartning-kirchen@otto-bartning.de Dietzgenstr. 92 ● D-13156 Berlin +49 (0)30 400 58 333

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"eurOB" project: OTTO BARTNING IN EUROPE

Summary

The application intends to further the knowledge of Otto Bartning's work, its meaning, and testimony to architecture. This is to be realized through Europe-wide, cross-cultural, adult education, project-oriented research and the exchange of experience. The results are to be shared with the wider public and opinion leaders in a methodical and well-informed fashion. The project aspires to enable the utility of the label "Otto Bartning" and its affiliated cultural assets. Aside from detailed documentation, planned tangible activities are e.g. public presentations.

Among experts Otto Bartning (1883-1959) is known as one of the most distinguished modern architects and is considered one of the most significant church architects of the 20th century. Recently, his sphere of influence, beyond architecture, has been further revealed as he held many social positions as well as talks and writings (which are by no means only technical papers as Otto Bartning was also an author). Noteworthy is that he supported the unity of all peoples and quickly overcame the church's denominational narrowness in favour of an ecumenical understanding – both well ahead of his time.

In this project people with entirely different frames of reference will come together (culture, church, scientific research, monumental protection, educational practitioners), who have an interest for Otto Bartning in common (for example a congregation with a Bartning church). We will learn from each other, collect historical materials and discover new ways of investigating and conveying knowledge to fulfil the project's ambitions.