

# Recent Excavations and Discoveries

Please observe the following abbreviations:

s. – *sogn*, Danish parish

h. – *herred*, Danish district

a. – *amt*, Danish county

All places mentioned in this list can be located on the map p. 191 and identified by their no.

## PALAEOLITHIC

### 1. TROLLESGAVE II, Southern Sjælland Fensmark s., Tybjerg h., Præstø a.

#### Late-glacial settlement site

In the autumn of 1981, a newly-discovered settlement site of the Brommean Culture was excavated on the edge of Holmegård Mose in southern Sjælland. The find-material consists almost entirely of flint. Three types of retouched tool occur in the flint-inventory: scrapers, burins, and tanged points. The inventory displays great similarity to that of the neighbouring findspot Trollesgave I, which has been dated to the later Allerød Period.

Most of the flint objects were found within an area 6–8 m. across. A number of flint objects occurred in deep marine-deposits outside the settlement site. A series of features were found on the edge of the flint-concentration which must come from a hut.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1041/75

Anders Fischer

### 2. LØVENHOLM, East Jutland Gjesing s., Sønderhald h., Randers a.

#### Late glacial hunting-stand

Excavations in 1980–81 revealed a concentration of approximately 550 flint artefacts in a rounded area of 5×6 m. Burnt flints and charcoal indicated the position of a central hearth.

The inventory comprises 24 tanged points, 18 endscrapers, 7 burins, 2 borers, etc. Typologically the tool types belong to the Brommean Culture, though the endscrapers exhibit archaic traits like retouch on the lateral sides of the blade. Most of the tanged points show macro damage, a wear-type typical of penetration into flesh and bone. Due to re-use, the tools are rather small in comparison to those from

other contemporary sites. Several tanged points have been modified into a new shape for a new function.

Attempted refitting of cores, flakes, and tools, suggests that the larger tools, principally points and knives, were brought to the site from the outside. That activity on the site was episodic is underlined by the scarcity of evidence of flint-knapping that actually did take place there. The local lithic outcrop, mainly morainic deposits, must be considered poor. Only four or five cores, with some conjoined flakes, the total non-tool lithics, are local material.

*Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers, 27/74

Bo Madsen

### 3. LANGÅ I, East Jutland Langå s., Middelsom h., Viborg a.

#### Late glacial habitation site

Excavation in 1982 revealed a dense concentration of more than 3,000 flint artefacts scattered around a central, deeply placed hearth, in an area of 4×7 m. The tool inventory, typical of the Brommean Culture, comprises approximately 40 tools, mainly endscrapers on blades, and burins, together with two tanged points.

The largest group of flint artefacts includes blade-cores, thick blades 'outré passages', blade core trimming flakes, and unmodified blades. A 'soft type' hammerstone was also found.

Due to a superimposed clay layer and permanently wet conditions, some faunal remains have survived for approximately 11,000 years. For the first time in Jutland, small fragments of bone and antler and a few complete teeth have been found in the context of a late glacial habitation site.

The excavated site is situated amongst a group of 5 late glacial sites which cluster on a plateau on the late glacial terraces of the Gudena river. The immediate surroundings are unusually rich in morainic flint of senonian origin. Most of the nodules are still covered with primary cortex.

The archaeological evidence is so far interpreted as the remains of a base camp, one of the dominant factors in the placement of which was the access to suitable raw material for blade-production.

*Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers

Bo Madsen

4. JELS I, South Jutland  
Øksenvad s., Gram h., Haderslev a.

**Late-glacial settlement site**

During a trial excavation in the area Jels I in 1981 a late-glacial settlement site with several types of the Hamburg Culture was discovered. These types include double-Zinken, single-Zinken, scrapers with lateral-retouch, Kratzer, flakes with angled end-retouch, centre burins, borers, etc. Fragments of true Kerbspitzen were found during the continued excavation in 1982.

*Haderslev Museum* j.no. 1356

J. Holm

## MESOLITHIC

5. VEDBÆK, VÆNGET NORD, Northern Sjælland  
Søllerød s., Sokkelund h., København a.

**Settlement site**

An undisturbed settlement site of the Kongemose Culture, situated on raised ground, once an islet by the southern side of the prehistoric Vedbæk Fjord. The settlement layer is sealed by peat and surrounded by mud. Total excavation began in 1980 and continues in 1983. Besides rich flint-tool material, fire-cracked stones, pits, and driven-in wooden posts have been found.

*Institute of Prehist. Arch., University of Copenhagen. – Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 1659/76*

E. Brinch Petersen

6. VEDBÆK, MARIEVEJ, Northern Sjælland  
Søllerød s., Sokkelund h., København a.

**Settlement site**

A settlement site with two culture-layers of the later Ertebølle Culture situated on a shore-bank. Both layers, separated by a transgression layer, include pottery. The upper layer is distinguished by the occurrence of core-axes with specially-treated edges. Above were found scattered neolithic finds of a secondary character.

*Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 3213/80*

Peter Vang Petersen

7. SKJOLDNÆS, ÆRØ  
Søby s., Ærø h., Svendborg a.

**Submerged settlement site**

Beyond Skjoldnæs in north-western Ærø, underwater archaeological investigation of a mud layer containing many branches and tree-trunk pieces has been carried out.

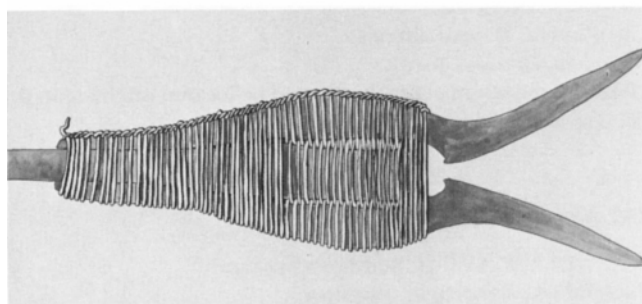
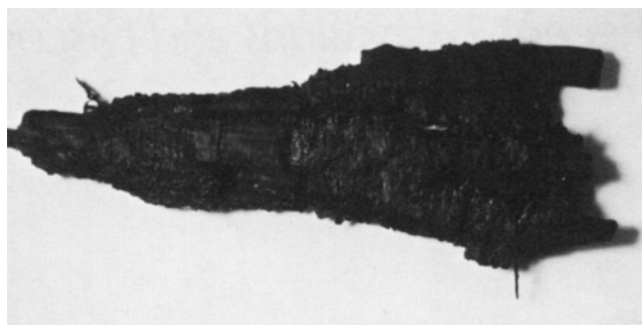


Fig. 1. Leister of hazel and thorn from Skjoldnæs by Ærø (no. 7). Reconstruction by Jens Kortermann Larsen.

Auroch, red deer, elk, seal, cod, and human bones have been found spread in and above the mud. Domesticated animals are represented by ox and pig. Artefacts found include a number of flake- and core-axes, borers, an awl, a large rim-shoulder of an Ertebølle vessel, and the lower part of a leister, almost intact (fig. 1).

The hazel shaft is virtually square in cross-section by the break, but flattens out right down to ½ cm. thick between the side-branches, where it ends, again in a break, but not one that has removed significant length. It is a common belief amongst those who have worked on the reconstruction of leisters that a central spike of bone or wood was situated between the branches, possibly produced by the pointing of the shaft, but there is no sign of this here.

The side-branches of thorn must originally have been about 40 cm. long. Inwardly they end fast by the shaft; both the branches and the shaft are planed flat to this end. Soon after however they begin to bend out, and continue thus to the break. Obviously the damage is regrettable, but it is not difficult to reconstruct what is missing thanks to earlier finds.

Substantial pieces of the lashing which held the pieces together are preserved. It takes the form of a tight row of half-hitches, used by seamen and fishermen then as now. The lashing changes form where the side-branches are to diverge, with the string now taken alternately over and under the shaft. The lashing is a lightly twisted plant-fibre, possibly nettle.

*Langlands Museum, Rudkøbing, 10138.*

Jørgen Skaarup

**8. DEJRØ, Ærø**

Ærøskøbing s., Ærø h., Svendborg a.

**Submerged settlement site**

To the east of the islet Dejrn outside Ærøskøbing an extremely rich settlement site of the Ertebølle Culture has been located under barely 2 m. of water. It appears that both remains of a kitchen-refuse deposit and a heavy mud layer with a large amount of wood have been preserved. Investigations so far have produced a great number of flint tools, cores and flakes, some Ertebølle pottery, and a number of faunal remains. A complete human humerus may have come from a washed-out grave.

Amongst the finds from 1982's investigations was a 40 cm long antler axe, with a socket for an inset flint edge.

*Langelands Museum, Rudkøbing, 10137*

Jørgen Skaarup

**9. TINGBJERGÅRD, Central Sjælland**

Undløse s., Merløse h., Holbæk a.

**Decorated amber pendant**

A trapezoid amber pendant of red-brown amber with prominently rounded front- and back-sides. (Fig. 2:3). A double-conical hole towards the narrow end. A major rupture on the back-side near the hole. The surface is scraped smooth, glossy in some places, matt in others. The front-side is decorated with fine incised strokes. Two lines run from the hole towards one corner. They form an oval figure, open at one end. From here three groups of lines emanate, with 3-4 strokes each, plus one single line. A rather similar motif, with two groups of strokes between single parallel lines, can be seen on the right-hand side/edge of the front. Four to five small ladder motifs appear in various places on the front- and back-sides.

The pendant was found in 1978 during a systematic survey of the Mesolithic settlement site at Tingbjerggård in Åmosen.

*Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. A 51041*

P.O. Nielsen

**10. DOKKEDAL, North Jutland**

Mou s., Flesum h., Ålborg a.

**Decorated amber pendant**

A pendant of yellow-brown amber, 9.6 cm. long, 4.8 cm. wide, 2.1 cm. thick, oval with sharp angled edges (fig. 2:4). Clear wear-marks from the string can be seen on the edge of the suspension-hole. Decorated on both sides with both thin and heavy strokes. Highest up on the most rounded side, towards the suspension-hole, is an H-figure. In the middle is a decoration consisting of two vertical and one heavy horizontal strokes, from which slighter parallel strokes emanate.

Below are two fringed motifs in heavy strokes, the upper of these cutting across a similar but more weakly incised motif together with 6-7 long, slight strokes. On the other side, three fringed motifs are placed over one another, with a horizontal stroke only in the uppermost. A number of short, heavy strokes, and several rather weak ones, are spread about the surface. Overall the piece is very worn. Weight: 63 g.

The pendant was found in a newly-ploughed field only one or two hundred metres from the sea.

*Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. A 51055*

P.O. Nielsen

**11. VEDERSØ STRAND, West Jutland**

Vedersø s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

**Decorated amber pendant**

Small, irregular pendant of matt yellow amber. (Fig. 2:2). The trace of a suspension-hole can be seen at the narrow end. The upper half is decorated all the way round with densely-packed, heavily-incised strokes, which in some places emanate from a horizontal line above. On the lower part's two downward-facing surfaces a motif consisting of 2-3 parallel lines with adjacent groups of short lines is placed.

The pendant was found on the beach on the west coast of Jutland.

*Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. A 50844*

P.O. Nielsen

**12. FANØ VESTERSTRAND, South West Jutland**

Nordby s., Skast h., Ribe a.

**Decorated amber pendant**

Small, irregular three-sided pendant of clear orange amber, broken off in the suspension-hole. (Fig. 2:1). The object has cutting-marks on its uppermost part, but otherwise there is no apparent attempt to modify its natural form. On all three sides a fringed motif is found, formed of incised lines, one horizontal, with densely-packed, short lines perpendicular to it. Two such motifs are placed slightly overlapping one another on the broader side. Four short lines are incised on the thick bottom-end.

The pendant was found washed up on the flat beach on the west coast of Fanø.

*Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. A 50750*

P.O. Nielsen

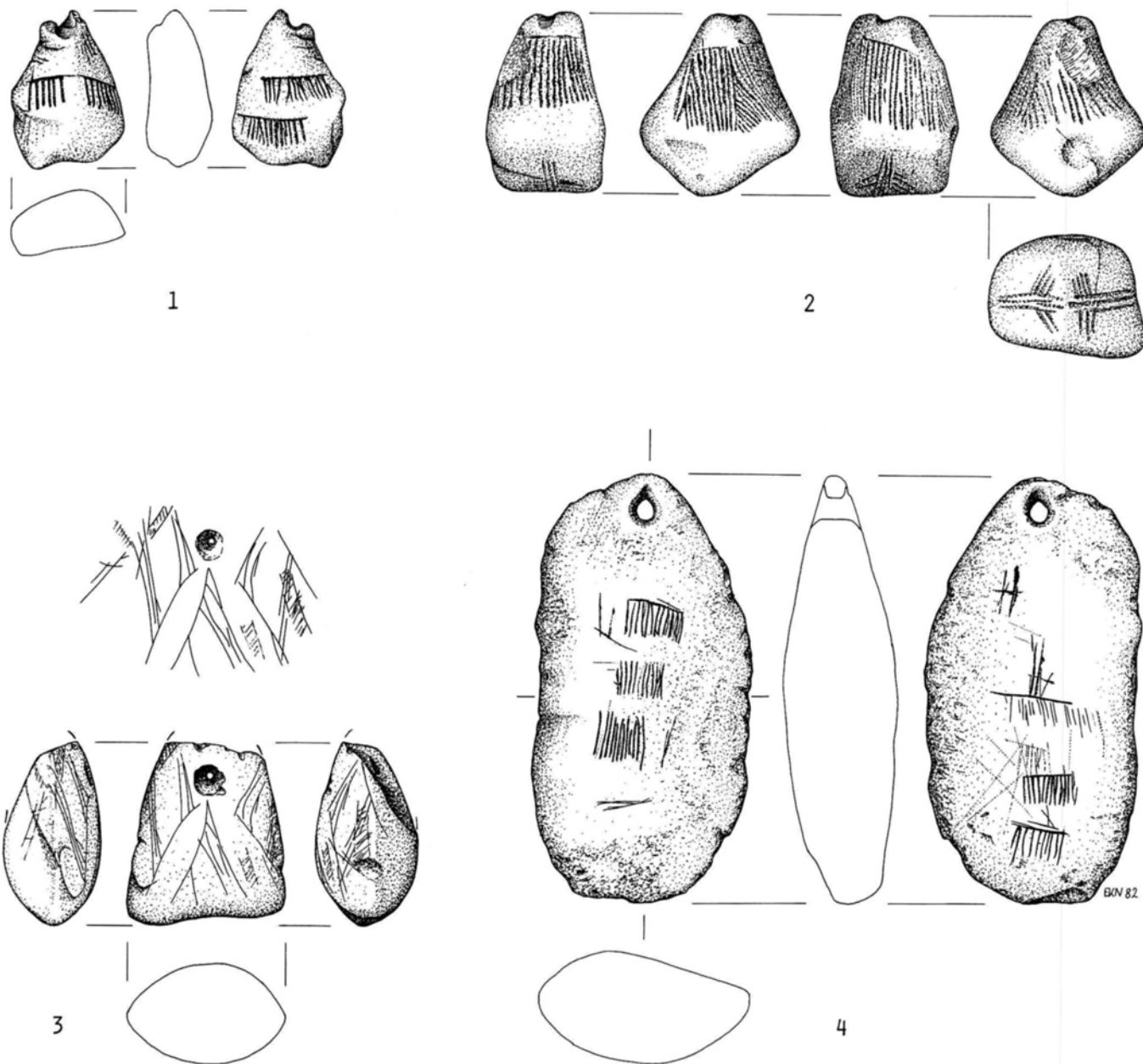


Fig. 2. Decorated amber pendants. (1) Fanø Vesterstrand (no. 12), (2) Vedersø Strand (no. 11), (3) Tingbjerggård (no. 9), (4) Dokkedal (no. 10). 2:3 (drawn by Eva Koch Nielsen).

## NEOLITHIC

### 13. RUNEGÅRD, Bornholm Åker s., Bornholm Sdr. h.

#### Middle-neolithic settlement site

Pits and post-holes with finds of the middle-neolithic Funnel Beaker Culture in an area with finds from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, and early Iron Age. The find-material includes

sherds of at least 75–100 different ornamented pots, with a significant element of Middle-Neolithic Period III pottery. Investigations continue.

*Bornholms Museum, Rønne* – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 4, pp. 67–76. – *Fra Bornholms Museum* 1980, pp. 19–23.

Margrethe Watt

**14. SPODSBJERG, Langeland**  
 Longelse s., Langelands Nørre h., Svendborg a.

**Settlement site and dam**

In 1979–82 sections of an extensive and exceptionally rich settlement site of the late Funnel Beaker Culture, more accurately MN V (the Store Valby Phase), were investigated near Spodsbjerg by the east coast of Langeland. The settlement site lies along and around the foot of a promontory, which in the Stone Age was surrounded by salt or brackish water towards the east, south, and south-west, while west of the promontory lay a fresh-water marsh.

Outside the settlement site a rich refuse layer including many bone and antler tools, pottery, and wooden objects, was investigated. The finding of a well-preserved ash paddle, 1.5 m. long with a blade 50 cm. long, deserves particular mention.

South-west of this promontory, a well-preserved dam, associated with the settlement, was investigated. The construction consisted of two 10 m.-long barrages placed parallel across the outlet of the marsh mentioned above, built of an earth fill supported by timber-work, and provided with water-resistant layers of bark-chips. A basin about 10 m. long and 1.5 m. broad lay between the barrages, interpreted as a kind of intermediate cistern in which fresh water could collect. The timber-work of the barrages was fully preserved, and, like the settlement site itself, has provided a great quantity of trimmed and pointed timber piles in the best state of preservation conceivable. The investigation resulted from road-works begun in 1982. Upto 1982 only those parts of the site which will be destroyed by the road-works have been excavated. The greater part of the settlement site lies outside this area, where covering culture-layers are ploughed up during farming, and which should be the subject of future investigations.

*Langelands Museum, Rudkøbing, 9688*

Jens Bech

**15. SKJOLDBORG, North West Jutland**  
 Skjoldborg s., Hundborg h., Thisted a.

**Single-grave mound**

In 1979 a barrow with two single-graves was excavated. The primary grave was a ground-grave, surrounded by an irregular stone construction ca. 6×6 m., and covered by a small mound ca. 8 m. in diameter and 1 m. high. A large number of amber beads, at least 160, were found in the grave. The second single-grave was partially cut into the primary mound, and covered by the barrow's second construction phase. The grave contained two amber rings. Additionally, three secondary late Bronze Age cremations were found.

*Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred, Thisted, 1408 x 1–118*

Jens Henrik Bech

**16. SEJLFLOD, North Jutland**  
 Sejlflod s., Fleskum h., Ålborg a.

**Early-Neolithic grave**

Two Early-Neolithic graves, both aligned E-W, were found during the excavation of a later Roman- and early Germanic Iron Age cemetery. Immediately east of the two graves two pits were found, one stone-lined. Grave AS contained a collared flask, a thin-butted flint axe, 220 amber beads, and two copper fragments. Grave PY produced two thin-butted flint axes, six transverse arrowheads, a blade-knife, and a piece of amber.

*Ålborg historiske Museum, j.no. 669*

J.N. Nielsen

**17. VESTHIMMERLANDS FLYVEPLADS, North Jutland**  
 Ulstrup s., Års h., Ålborg a.

**Single-grave mounds**

Three barrows beside Vesthimmerland airfield were investigated in 1980. They lay 75–250 m. distant from one another, and all contained large timber-built North Jutish grave-cists, or large timber-built cists as they shall be called here.

In Barrow 3 (VMÅ j.no. 49) a ditch was found surrounding a pear-shaped burial-chamber aligned E-W with an entrance to the east. The chamber measured 2.8×2.0×0.7 m. Stones were found at the bottom of the ditch, and traces of decayed wood and charcoal along its inner side and partially up over the chamber floor. These timber traces are from the chamber wall, which was roughly vertical. There were also traces of wood on the chamber floor, and at a level about 15–20 cm. above the floor a corresponding layer which must be the remains of the chamber ceiling. A single-grave battle-axe (Glob 1944, Type G) of the earlier ground-grave period was found on the chamber floor, together with a thin-bladed flint axe, and two amber rings, one large, one small. Two C-14 dates were taken: one of oak and lime from the walling (K-3627), 2080 ± 85 B.C.; one of oak, lime, and alder from the floor-layer (K-3628), 2060 ± 85 B.C.

In Barrow 1 (VMÅ j.no. 47) a very similar construction was found. The chamber here was roughly rectangular, 2.9×2.2 m., with a passage to the east. No stone foundations were found in the ditch. An amber bead, which itself cannot be closely dated, was found in the chamber.

In Barrow 2 (VMÅ j.no. 48) another large timber-built cist was found. It was rectangular, 2.4×1.9 m., aligned ENE-WSW, with an entrance to the WSW, but no passage. The grave contained a Late-Neolithic pot.

The danger of grave-clearance and later burials is very small in the case of the large timber-built cists because of the limited time that these graves were accessible before collapsing. One may therefore assume that the objects found in the grave are contemporary with its construction. The situation is quite the opposite with the large stone-built cists, where

clearance and reuse of the grave often occur sooner or later. The large timber-built cists could therefore hold the key to a better understanding of the whole large-cist complex: their dating, development, and origin.

A provisional survey of the large timber-built cists now known, (about 14 from Denmark), and some of the stone-built, shows that it is possible to make a typological-chronological classification which is common for both timber- and stone-built large cists.

The oldest type, from the earlier ground-grave period, is the pear-shaped, as the one described above from Barrow 3. A comparable example from Kjeldgård, Aars parish, is already published (*Fra Himmerland og Kjær Herred* 1980, pp. 91–100). This contained a Swedish boat-axe, and a battle-axe of the Single-Grave Culture, (Glob 1944, Type G or H). Two C-14 datings are available, one of oak from the walling of  $2150 \pm 85$  B.C. (K-3626), and one of hazel from the floor-layer of  $2050 \pm 85$  B.C. (K-3625). The latter must be supposed to be closest to the grave's construction date.

The subsequent types of the ground-grave and upper-grave periods have a rectangular chamber and a fore-room and/or passage, as the one from Barrow 1 at Vesthimmerland Airfield.

The Late-Neolithic types are rectangular with only a very short passage if any at all. The type is known from Vesthimmerland Airfield Barrow 2 and from Kjeldagerhøj, Tånum s. (Glob 1944 p. 195). Glob dated this to the Single-Grave Culture, but a fresh look at the pottery shows it to be Late-Neolithic.

These finds of large timber-built cists have helped to show continuity of construction of both timber- and stone-built large cists from the Single-Grave Culture's ground-grave period into the Late-Neolithic.

*Vesthimmerlands Museum*, Års, no. 47–49. – Lit.: P.V. Glob: *Studier over den jyske Enkeltgravskultur. Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie* 1944 (1945). – *Fra Himmerland og Kjær Herred* 1980.

Mogens Hansen

**18. TASTUM SØ**, Central Jutland  
Kobberup s., Fjends h., Viborg a.

#### Late-Neolithic settlement site

A house-site with a sunken floor, ca. 11 m. long and 5 m. wide, was discovered as a result of road-works between Skive and Kjeldbjerg. Flint and potsherds were found both in and above the floor-layer. The potsherds include rim-sherds with one or two horizontal mouldings, and sherds with Bell Beaker decoration.

*Skive Museum* 219A

J. Simonsen

**19. TANGE SØ**, Central Jutland  
Højbjerg s., Lysgård h., Viborg a.

#### Mortuary house of the TRB Culture

The house was ca. 3 m. across and 2.6 m. deep, with a forecourt of about 1 m. The side-ditches were 50 cm. wide and 50 cm. deep, and contained traces of upright posts. The fore-wall contained well-preserved traces of four vertical posts spaced 50 cm. apart. The only finds were a handful of undecorated sherds and a single sherd with vertical stripes.

*Viborg Stiftsmuseum* 706D

Mette Iversen

**20. KAINSBASSE and KIRIAL BRO**, East Jutland  
Ginnerup and Enslev s., Djurs Nørre h., Randers a.

#### Middle-Neolithic settlement sites

Two settlement sites in the eastern part of Djursland were investigated in 1980–81. Both sites lie on the edge of an earlier fjord complex, Kolindsund. Flint-types and pottery date the sites to the late Funnel Beaker Culture, Middle-Neolithic period V, and the early Pitted-Ware Culture. Pitted-Ware Culture tanged arrowheads of type A1 are here found together with MN V types for the first time. The topography indicates different settlement-site types, and the bone material shows the presence of both domestic and wild animals.

*Djurslands Museum*, Grenå, no. 1900 & 1930. – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 104–114

Lisbeth W. Rasmussen

**21. FORSØGSGÅRDEN**, South West Jutland  
Esbjerg s., Skast h., Ribe a.

#### Single-grave mound

In the summer of 1981 a small group of four barrows lying within the present town of Esbjerg, three of which had not previously been registered, were excavated. One of the barrows contained four graves, one of which lay centrally, and was alligned E-W, furnished with a Single Grave Culture battle-axe, a club-head, and an amber bead. The other three graves lay off-centre in a long row running NE-SW. Two of these were connected by a feature ca. 20 cm. broad and 15 cm. deep.

The excavation of these two graves gave surprising results. Both had clear coffin-traces, and above one grave, on the traces of the coffin-lid, lay a battle-axe of Glob's Type F/G and four amber beads. At the bottom of the grave lay a dog's skeleton. This was poorly preserved, but the cranium and four teeth survived quite substantially. The bones were analysed by Tove Hatting, Københavns Universitets Zoologiske Museum, who describes the dog as a Neolithic pointer, cf. the dogs from the settlement site at Bundsø (cf. *Aarbøger for*



Fig. 3. Votive axe of bronze from North Sjælland (no. 23). Ca. 1:2 (L. Larsen photo).

*nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie* 1939). The second grave produced neither skeleton nor grave-goods. It is suggested that the dog's grave, axe, and amber beads were grave-goods of the deceased in the second grave.

*Esbjerg Museum*, j.no. 931

Michael Lauenborg

## 22. BUNDSØ, Als

Havnbjerg s., Als Nørre h., Sønderborg a.

### Middle-Neolithic settlement site

In 1978 the National Museum undertook a trial excavation at Bundsø in northern Als, right beside the place where a large Middle-Neolithic settlement site had earlier been excavated (*Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie* 1939). A rich culture-layer with mollusc-shells, pottery, flint, and faunal remains from Middle-Neolithic period III was investigated in the subsequent excavations of 1979–81. Many preserved timber stakes were found over the whole area, but their function is indeterminable. A ditch-system belonging to a causewayed camp of the Sarup-type is earlier than the main occupation phase.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 2329/78

P.O. Nielsen

## BRONZE AGE

### 23. NORTH SJÆLLAND

#### Votive axe

It has long been known that large votive axes were an important part of the cultic equipment in the Bronze Age. Their significance was further emphasized when in 1977 the National Museum acquired, as treasure trove (Danefæ) three large massive bronze axes weighing a total of 20 kilogrammes. At this time a survey of the complete material was published (J. Jensen 1978), in which reference was made to 10 finds of such axes, most of them from the Early Bronze Age. In publishing these finds, it was emphasized that the axes represented a cultic form which, like many other Bronze Age symbolic expressions, ranged, with an astonishing continuity, through both the Early and the Late Bronze Age. This viewpoint has been convincingly confirmed by the find of yet another Bronze Age axe, acquired by the National Museum in 1980. This axe, fig. 3, is 22.5 cm long and 17.2 cm wide. Its weight of 200 grammes indicates that it was cast in the lost-wax technique, as were the well-known axes from Brøndsted Forest in Jutland (H.C. Broholm 1952, 253). The metal varies in thickness from 1 to 2 millimetres, and the axe thus clearly differs from the axe forms of the Early Bronze Age, nearly all of which are massively cast.

The finding place of the new axe is uncertain. For many

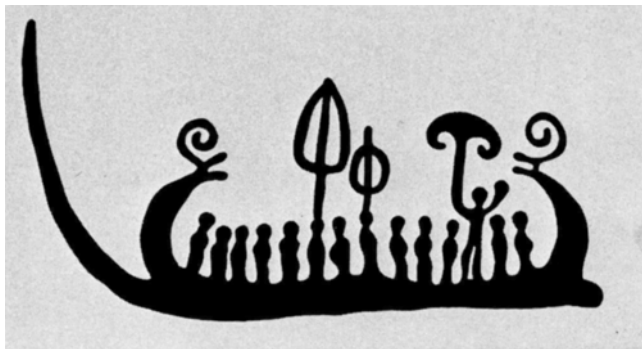


Fig. 4. Rock carving from Äby in Bohuslän, Sweden.

years it was in private possession in Asminderød, near Fredensborg, northern Zealand. Most probably the axe comes from northern Zealand, and to judge by the patina it was a bog find. This surmise as to the original finding place of the axe is supported by a find from the Frederiksborg region, also in northern Zealand, namely a fragment of a similar axe (Aner and Kersten 1973, no. 166), which to date has been dated to the Early Bronze Age, but which, like fig. 3, ought to be ascribed to the Late Bronze Age instead.

A piece which is nearly identical, though somewhat larger, measuring 36 cm in length, is known from Galstad, Tumbergs parish, Västergötland, Sweden (M. Stenberger 1979, 287), where it was found together with 5 thin so-called wendelringe which can be dated to Bronze Age period V–VI (E. Baudou 1960, 56). In type, this axe is very likely to the axe seen on the well-known bronze figurines from Grevensvånge (H.C. Broholm 1953, 105a) and on various rock-carvings such as the one from Äby in Bohuslän, fig. 4 (G. Burenhult 1981, 376). The many Bronze Age cult axes which have gradually come to light bear witness to a religious symbolism which must have prevailed in the southern Scandinavian Bronze Age core region for more than a thousand years.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 3058/80

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Jørgen Jensen

#### 24. ROSKILDE, Sjælland

Roskilde s., Sømme h., Københavns a.

##### Two hollow-cast ankle rings

In May 1973 two finds were made, two days apart, of a couple of hollow-cast ankle rings (German: Hohlwülste) at the edge of the town of Roskilde. The rings were found in soil which had been dug up from a little damp natural depression in which about a half-metre of peaty soil was still preserved. One of the rings (fig. 5, right) was nearly intact and measured 16.5 cm in diameter. The second ring found (fig. 5, left) had been somewhat damaged by the excavation machine but seems to have been identical to the first ring.

The two newly-found hollow-cast ankle rings belong to a group of rings originating in the Central European Ha C milieu. A North European variant of this type which evolved in period VI is known from about 250 finds. Its distribution extends from East Thuringia over the entire North European lowland region to southern Scandinavia. In Denmark about half a dozen finds of this type are known (J. Jensen 1966, 57), and 5 of these doubtless come from wetlands (J. Jensen 1972, 164). This type seems to have been made in Denmark as well, as indicated by the find of a fragmented mould from a period VI refuse pit at Flædemose on Stevns, eastern Zealand (H. Thrane 1980).

There has been some doubt as to the dating of the hollow-cast ankle rings. Their origin in a Central European Ha C milieu dates them to period VI in North Europe as confirmed, for example, by the appearance of the type in the Holbæk Slots Ladegård hoard (H.C. Broholm 1946, M 213). But the type has also long been known to extend down to the beginning of the pre-Roman Iron Age (J. Jensen 1966, 58), where it appears, for example in period I grave finds (J. Jensen 1971, 10). Thus, like a number of other bronze types, such as the so-called wendelringe, it appears on both sides of the boundary between the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.

With regard to their find circumstances, the two new hollow-cast ankle rings seem to be typical for the large group of single finds of bronzes, particularly occurring in wetlands at the close of the Bronze Age. During the Nordic Bronze Age period VI, votive deposits consisting of many objects decreased in number. Instead, there was a predominance of votive finds consisting of objects deposited singly or in pairs, for example pins and neckrings, a custom which continued late into the pre-Roman Iron Age and which in its way testifies to a cultural continuity from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age (J. Jensen 1972). The changes in religious customs seem instead to indicate that the bronze import from Central Europe began to decline from the beginning of Ha D, corresponding to the close of period VI of the Nordic Bronze Age.



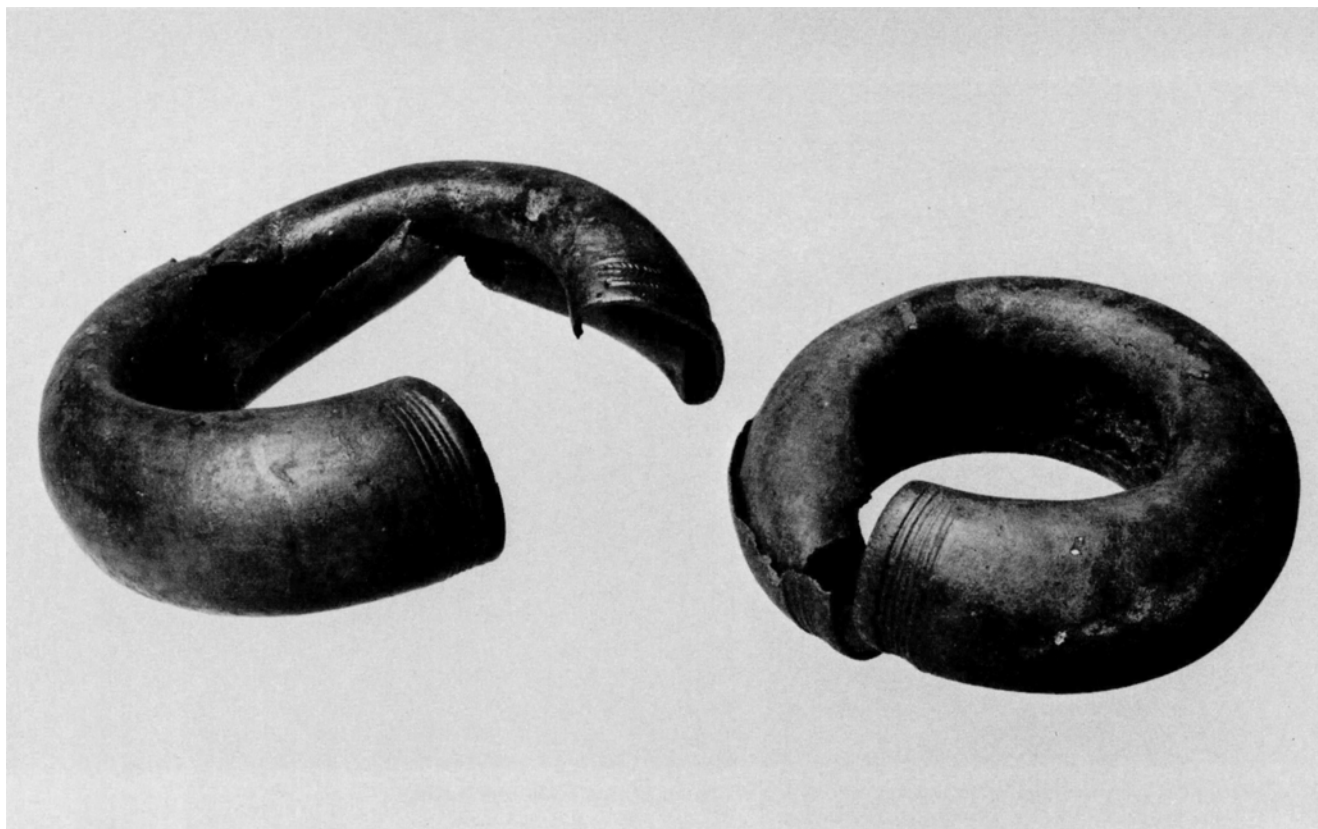


Fig. 5. Two hollow-cast ankle rings from Roskilde (no. 24). Ca. 2:5 (L. Larsen photo).

The cessation in bronze import and the consequent changes in the sacrificial customs may very well be attributed to the peripheral position of North Europe within a larger exchange system, the fluctuations of which were determined by political and economic conditions as far south as the Alpine region and the Mediterranean lands (J. Jensen 1982).

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. B 16805-06

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Jørgen Jensen

25. JERSIE STRAND, Eastern Sjælland  
Jersie s., Tune h., Københavns a.

#### Late Bronze Age settlement site

As a result of building work, a major settlement site of the Late Bronze Age was discovered in 1981, with many pits, post-holes, one long-house 32×6.2 m., and two minor buildings. One-third of the pits produced pottery, mostly of Late Bronze Age period VI. Substantial fragments of two pots were found in the long-house.

*Køge Museum*, no. 695. – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 251–2

Sv. Å. Tornbjerg

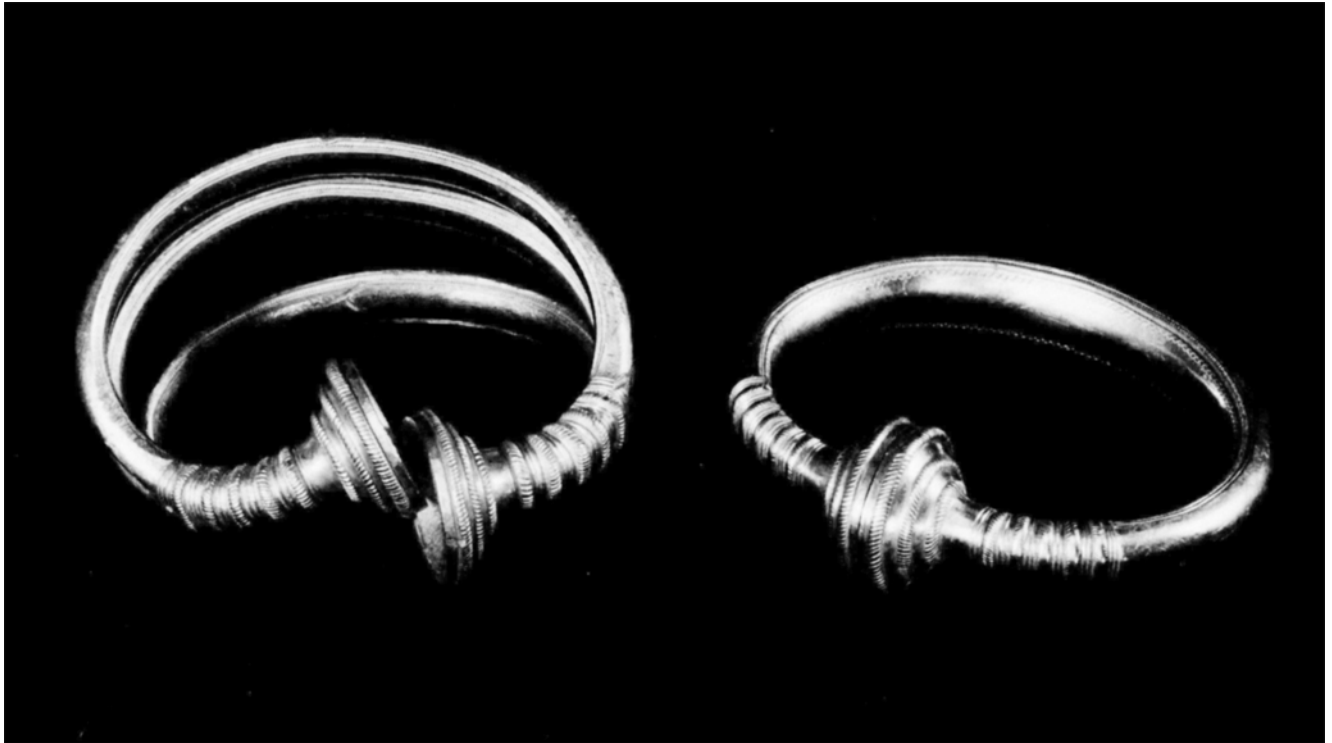


Fig. 6. Two massive gold rings from Neble by Boeslunde, West Sjælland (no. 26). Ca. 4:5 (L. Larsen photo).

**26. NEBLE, West Sjælland**  
Boeslunde s., Slagelse h., Sorø a.

**New gold finds**

In March 1981 the National Museum acquired two massive gold rings, found at Neble, southwestern Sjælland. The two gold rings (fig. 6) were probably unearthed in November 1980 during digging for a sewer at a little boghole just a few hundred metres from the well-known Borgbjerg Banke (H. Kjær 1928). The rings were found the following spring: the single one on the edge of the little boghole, the triple one about 100 m away, where it had probably been dragged during spring harrowing. No doubt the two gold rings had originally been deposited together. The big ring weighs 770 grammes and has a purity of 819 o/oo. The smaller ring weighs 572.5 grammes and has a purity of 811 o/oo.

Mention of the two rings in the press brought yet another ring to light (fig. 7); unfortunately its exact finding place is unknown. For many years this ring had been in private ownership in the Boeslunde region. However, as it is so closely related to the first two rings in shape and style, there can be little doubt that it also originated in the Boeslunde region. The weight of this third ring is 517.3 grammes, and its purity is 812 o/oo.

The first two gold rings were, as mentioned, found only a few hundred metres from the Borgbjerg hill, where 6 gold cups from the Late Bronze Age had been found in the last

century (H.C. Broholm 1946, 271). This total of approximately 4 kilogrammes of gold is the largest quantity of gold from the Bronze Age to be found within a single Danish parish. Such a large concentration of wealth cannot be coincidental. In periods IV and V of the Bronze Age a number of notable concentrations of wealth developed within certain regions of southern Scandinavia and northern Germany. This holds true especially of period V, to which the newly-found rings may be dated (J. Jensen 1982). Of the total of 5.9 kilogrammes of gold known from Denmark east of the Great Belt in period V, more than 3 kilogrammes of gold have been found within an area of just a few hundred square kilometres in southwestern Zealand.

From the same area and the same period there is a corresponding concentration of imported goods from central and northern Europe. Similarly symbolic objects such as miniature swords are also clearly concentrated in southwestern Zealand.

The concentration of wealth, so distinctly indicated by the newly-found gold rings, closely resembles another concentration observed in recent years namely in the southwestern part of the island of Funen, in the Voldtofte area (J. Jensen 1967 and H. Thrane 1978), where a hierarchical settlement pattern also seems to have prevailed. Similar conditions are also encountered in northern Germany, for example in the Seddin region (H. Wüstemann 1974) and elsewhere.

The period in question corresponds to Ha B 3 in central

Europe, which was in fact a period of marked cultural expansion, as indicated by rich warriors' graves, the so-called Adelsgräber (H. Müller-Karpe 1952 and A. Jockenhövel 1974). From Switzerland and the Rhineland there was an extensive distribution of metal wares to a zone south of the Baltic and hence a secondary distribution, mainly to eastern Denmark (H. Thrane 1975, 238 ff). There can be little doubt that the formation of such powerful centres of wealth as those on Funen and Zealand is related to the central and northern European exchange system of raw materials and finished products which culminated at this very time in the 8th century B.C., after which it declined sharply in the course of the following centuries.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 3635/81, 3669/81.

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Jørgen Jensen

#### 27. LÆKJÆR, North West Jutland

Nors s., Hillerslev h., Thisted a.

##### Early Bronze Age grave

Central grave in a ploughed-over barrow, excavated 1979. The grave was a stone cist, aligned WNW-ESE, built of a single layer of six large, heavy stones, one at either end and two at each side, and covered with three large stones. The cist measured 1.6×0.5 m., and was 40 cm. deep. Burnt bone was found at the bottom, upon which lay a belt-plate, a tutulus, a dagger, and a scabbard chape, all of bronze. Montelius period 2.

Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred, Thisted, 1492 x 1–7

Jens Henrik Bech



Fig. 7. Gold ring from Boeslunde, West Sjælland (no. 26). Ca. 2:3 (L. Larsen photo).

#### 28. TILSTED, VORUPØRVEJ 14, North West Jutland Tilsted s., Hundborg h., Thisted a.

##### Early Bronze Age graves

A ploughed-over burial mound with a child's grave of Early Bronze Age period 3 as central grave was investigated in 1979. There was a secondary grave consisting of a stone cist plus burnt bone. The contents of the grave, which also dates to period 3, include a small ring of gold wire, and two armbands, a dagger, a double-button, and a belt-box with a flat base decorated with a star-motif and resin-inlay, all of bronze. The belt-box contained an armring composed of small bronze spiral-beads and glass beads, a bronze tutulus, and a fragment of a bronze sickle. A stone construction radiating out from the centre was also found in the barrow. Outside the barrow a settlement site layer of period III or the Late Bronze Age.

Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred, Thisted, 1417 x 1–128. – Lit.: J-H. Bech: En rig kvindegrav fra Thylands ældre bronzealder. *MIV* vol. 10, Viborg 1980, p. 96ff.

Jens Henrik Bech

#### 29. TASTUM SØ, Central Jutland Kobberup s., Fjends h., Viborg a.

##### Late Bronze Age settlement sites

As a result of road-works between Skive and Kjeldbjerg two settlement sites have been found close by one another. One of these produced a long-house, cooking-pits, and a large

refuse-pit with sherds from many pots. The other produced post-holes and a single refuse-pit.

*Skive Museum* 219A

John Simonsen

**30. RAVNING MARK**, East Jutland  
Bredsten s., Tørrild h., Vejle a.

**Late Bronze Age settlement site**

The trial excavation of a settlement site was undertaken in 1979, and two house-sites of the Late Bronze Age and several refuse-pits were found.

*Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Vejle, M 193

Steen Hvass

**31. OMGÅRD**, West Jutland  
Nørre Omme s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

**Late Bronze Age settlement site**

Two 'farmsteads' lying ca. 300 m. apart. One major house has been partially excavated on the eastern site. It was surrounded by a ring of pits with fire-shattered stones. Only the eastern part of the other site was investigated, consisting of a half-ring of pits with fire-shattered stones. These two farmsteads are succeeded by a village of the pre-Roman Iron Age period Ia. The excavation took place in 1976 and 1981.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., 1140/75 & 2947/80

Leif Chr. Nielsen

**PRE-ROMAN AND ROMAN IRON AGE**

**32. RUNEGÅRD**, Bornholm  
Åker s., Sønder h., Bornholms a.

**Settlement site of the Early Iron Age**

A settlement site with finds from the Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Early Iron Age, was investigated near Grødby on southern Bornholm in 1979–80. Several well-preserved house-sites from about the time of Christ were excavated. The investigation continues.

*Bornholms Museum*, Rønne. – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 4, 1980, pp. 67–76. – *Fra Bornholms Museum* 1980, pp. 19–23

Margrethe Watt

**33. VOGN**, North Jutland  
Mosbjerg s., Horns h., Hjørring a.

**Cemetery**

A fully excavated cemetery of the Late pre-Roman and Early Roman Iron Age. In all about 100 interments were found, mostly cremations. Several of these were weapon-graves. The investigations of the cemetery were begun by Holger Friis in 1912, continued by Ole Klindt-Jensen in 1953 & 55 and Jens-Henrik Bech in 1974–5 & 78, and completed by Anne-Louise Haack Olsen in 1980.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring no. 1948/101ff., 1951/1ff., 1975/9ff. – *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. C 28000ff. – Lit.: *Acta Archaeologica* XX, 1949 (1950), pp. 53ff., 207f. – *Kuml* 1979 (1980) pp. 141ff. – *När järnet kom. Polen-Vendsyssel-Göteborg vid tiden omkring Kr. f.* Göteborg 1976, pp. 197ff. – *Die Vorrömische Eisenzeit im Kattegatt-Gebiet und in Polen.* Göteborg 1980, pp. 68ff

Jens Henrik Bech

**34. EGEBJERG**, North Jutland  
Ugilt s., Vennebjerg h., Hjørring a.

**Stone-built cellar**

Circular, stone-built cellar, ca. 1.7×2 m. at the bottom, and 90 cm. deep. The entrance to the cellar appears to be connected to an as yet unexcavated house-site. This is the most westerly appearance of this particular construction-form characteristic of northern Vendsyssel.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring 154/1981

Per Lysdahl

**35. HAMBORG**, North Jutland  
Ugilt s., Vennebjerg h., Hjørring a.

**Cemetery**

19 graves were investigated in 1979–80: 4 cremation graves, 3 collapsed stone-built graves, and 12 inhumations. Five inhumation graves were covered by an offering layer consisting of whole and crushed pots, which are formally similar to the pottery-types found in votive-deposits in bogs.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring 387/1979

Torben Dehn  
Per Lysdahl

**36. SKÅRUP**, North West Jutland  
Sjørring s., Hundborg h., Thisted a.

**Settlement site**

In 1980–81 a settlement site with 17 house-sites was excavated; 6 house-sites were fully investigated and one partially. Several of the houses had burnt down, and several building-phases separated by layers of blown-sand could be seen. Internally the buildings were 10–12 m. long and about 5 m. wide. They had turf walls with clay facing on the inside, and clay floors. In several cases a byre with stone-lined gutters was placed at the east end. Two of the burnt sites produced pottery with charred grain. The settlement site is dated to pre-Roman Iron Age period II on the basis of the pottery. The extent of the site is estimated at 12,000 sq.m.

*Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred*, Thisted, no. 1482 x 1–442.  
– Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 253–4.

Anne-Louise Haack Olsen  
Lis Helles Olsen

**37. TOLSTRUP**, North Jutland  
Års s., Års h., Ålborg a.

**Settlement site and graves of the pre-Roman and Roman Iron Age**

In 1980–81, in connection with building-work, an area of 17,000 sq.m. was investigated at a site in the town of Års where parts of a settlement site had been excavated by the National Museum in the 1920's & 30's (by G. Hatt, Johs. Brøndsted, & G. Rosenberg, cf. *Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie* 1928). During the new investigations, 22 buildings, rubbish-pits, 3 inhumations, and 3 cremations, were found. The cremations and refuse-pits are dated to the Early pre-Roman Iron Age, the buildings and inhumations to the Early Roman Iron Age. Very thick culture-layers associated with the house-sites were investigated. Remains of fencing were found around the buildings and the settlement.

*Vesthimmerlands Museum*, Års. – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 255–6.

Mogens Hansen

**38. ÅLESTRUP**, Central Jutland  
Østerbølle s., Rinds h., Viborg a.

**Settlement site**

In 1978 a number of the best-preserved house-sites on a settlement site of the Late pre-Roman/ Early Roman Iron Age were investigated. The site lies 3 km. from the settlement site at Østerbølle, which is dated to the 1st. century A.D. (G. Hatt, *Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie* 1938). At Ålestrup most of the settlement site was removed

before excavation, so its original extent is not known. It appears to have covered more than 1 ha., and to have included about 20 buildings. One of the excavated sites was a burnt house, with, *inter alia*, a number of pots lying broken on the floor, charred grain, and charred remains of posts and roof. A second house-site was emptied and produced almost no finds. The clay floor was about 15 cm. thick, and raised at the west end as in the houses at Østerbølle. A sea-urchin was found in the wall-line. Underneath this house the site of a burnt building with clay-lined walls was found.

A house with turf walls preserved to a height of 40 cm. was partially investigated. Finds of rubbing- and polishing-stones, lumps of raw clay, and misfired pottery, indicate that the building functioned as the workplace or refuse-place for a potter after occupation in it ceased. Other finds from the same building include hammer-stones, sausage-shaped flint-nodules, and masses of potsherds, including fragments of a number of fire-dogs.

*Viborg Stiftsmuseum* 664D

Mette Iversen

**39. PRIORSLØKKE**, East Jutland  
Horsens s., Nim h., Skanderborg a.

**Settlement site and fortification**

A settlement on a low bank situated fast by a low-lying and damp area was investigated in 1980–81. Remains of a fortified site, consisting of a dry moat behind which stood a pallsade of heavy oak stakes, were found. Post-holes from a settlement were uncovered within the fortified site. Pottery from the settlement dates the site to the Early Roman Iron Age.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1180/75

C.L. Vebæk

**40. OMGÅRD**, West Jutland  
Nørre Omme s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

**Settlement site**

5 buildings belonging to a village, several pits, and fields with ardmarks have been investigated. An early phase can be dated by pottery to pre-Roman Iron Age period Ia, and a later phase to period Ib, and possibly period II.

The single farmstead consists of four buildings, of which Building C I was a house, with a fireplace to the west and probably a byre in the east, C II probably a smithy, and the remaining buildings, C III a & b, probably store-houses. The site was fenced-off with a pallsade in which five gateways were found (Fig. 8). A contemporary hollow-way lay west of the farmstead. This forded the River Tim to the north. Here the road was stone-paved. A number of fire-pits were found parallel to the road on either side of the river. Two C-14

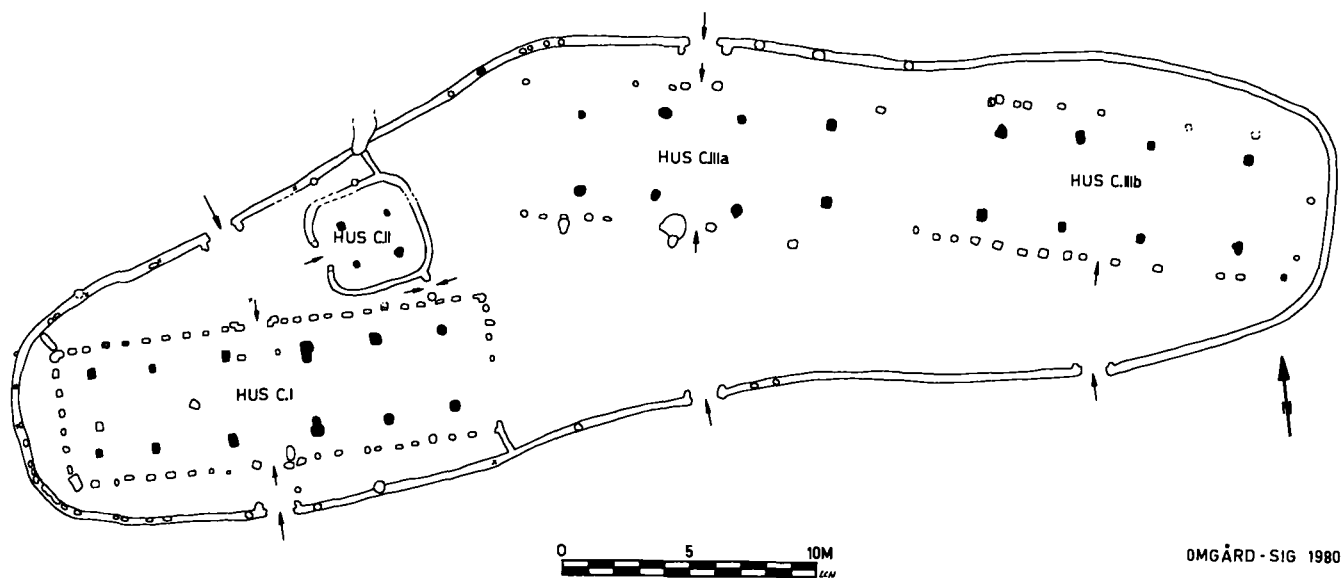


Fig. 8. Plan of the single farmstead of the late pre-Roman Iron Age at Omgård, West Jutland (no. 40).

dates are available for Building C I,  $80 \pm 70$  B.C. (K-3566) and  $200 \pm 70$  B.C. (K-3567). There is one for Building C IIIb,  $90 \pm 70$  B.C. (K-3568). All of these are from oak charcoal. The farmstead had burnt, and much more charcoal was found, all of oak.

The farmstead is dated by pottery to late in the pre-Roman Iron Age period IIIa. A similar farm site was investigated at Omgård in 1972, pottery-dated to late period II and early period IIIa. At both sites a fine-tempered, black shiny ware with broad faceted rims was found. A contemporary village lies about 1,000 m. from the farmsteads.

The investigation took place in 1975–6 and 1979–81.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 1140/75 & 2947/80

Leif Chr. Nielsen

**41. ADELVEJ/NUSTRUP, South Jutland**  
Nustrup s., Gram h., Haderslev a.

**Settlement site and cemetery**

Settlement site of the Early Roman Iron Age with 6 excavated house-sites plus fencing. 4 inhumations were excavated in the contemporary cemetery.

Haderslev Museum j.no. 1111

**42. ANDERSMINDE, South West Jutland**  
Ribe Domkirke s., Ribe h., Ribe a.

**Settlement site**

Settlement traces of the early Roman Iron Age were dis-

covered through the excavation of an area of ca. 3,100 sq.m. to the north of the Ribe River, on the edge of the marsh. Traces of roof-bearing posts of two Early Iron Age buildings could be distinguished, but it proved impossible to sort out the remaining middle of pits and post-holes. Most distinctive amongst the find-material are the substantial pottery remains which date the settlement to the pre-Roman Iron Age period III through to the Early Roman Iron Age, with by far the most material belonging to the latter period. Other finds include a spindle-whorl, and a whetstone. A settlement of the Viking Age/Early Medieval Period has also been found on the site.

Den Antikvariske Samling i Ribe, ASR 19M80C

Steffen Stummann Hansen

**43. GALSTED NORD, South Jutland**  
Agerskov s., Nørre Rangstrup h., Haderslev a.

**Settlement site and cemetery**

Comprehensive investigation of a settlement site and cemetery of the Early Roman Iron Age. 6 house-sites, refuse-pits, fencing, and two stone-built ovens, were excavated. 6 cremations were found in the cemetery, one containing a gold finger-ring.

Haderslev Museum j.no. 1099

## ROMAN IRON AGE

**44. RUGTVED**, North Jutland  
Asdal s., Vennebjerg h., Hjørring a.

### Cemetery

A small cemetery with two stone-built graves and one interment. Above one stone-built grave was a compact offering-layer of sherds from about 30 broken pots. These pots are of coarser and larger types than those from the bottom of the grave.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring, 201/1980

Per Lysdahl

**45. EGEBJERG**, North Jutland  
Ugilt s., Vennebjerg h., Hjørring a.

### Votive place

The find was made in 1980 on the edge of a meadow. A compact layer of sherds, roughly oval, lay around a large earth-bound stone. The greatest extent of the sherd-layer was 4 m., and its maximum thickness 16 cm. The sherds date the site to the Early Roman Iron Age. Spread amongst them were fist-sized and smaller stones.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring, no. 1980/1–3

Anne-Louise Haack Olsen

**46. OMGÅRD**, West Jutland  
Nørre Omme s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

### Settlement site of the Late Roman Iron Age

A farm site of the third and fourth centuries A.D., consisting of four buildings surrounded by a fence. Finds of slag indicate the smallest building to have been a smithy.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1140/75

Leif Chr. Nielsen

**47. GALSTED SYD**, South Jutland  
Agerskov s., Nørre Rangstrup h., Haderslev a.

### Settlement site of the Late Roman Iron Age

Large settlement site with house-sites of the Late Roman Iron Age, partially excavated in association with the laying of a gas pipe-line. 5 long-houses, several post-fences, and refuse-pits, have been investigated.

*Haderslev Museum*, j.no. 1097

## ROMAN and EARLY GERMANIC IRON AGE

**48. STAVAD**, North Jutland  
Tise s., Børglum h., Hjørring a.

### Settlement site and cemetery

A settlement site of the later Roman Iron Age (ca. 300–400 A.D.), and possibly the beginning of the early Germanic Iron Age, with buildings, drainage-ditches, wells, plough-marks, and much well-preserved faunal material, situated on the edge of a wet area. Ten buildings were excavated in all, some with preserved culture-layers. Two grave-mounds contemporary with the settlement were investigated, one situated above a house-site.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring. – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 115–137 *Vendsyssel nu og da*, 1980 (Vendsyssel historiske Museum, Hjørring) pp. 34–45

Torben Dehn

**49. ØRNEFENNER**, North Jutland  
Thise s., Børglum h., Hjørring a.

### Road and settlement site

In 1981 a section of roadway built of large stones covered with sand, ca. 30 m. long and 2.5 m. broad, was investigated. In prehistoric times the road led over a swampy area with a small stream. Two rows of stepping-stones were found connected to the road. South of here a settlement site of the Late pre-Roman/Early Roman Iron Age was found, with a 50 cm. thick culture-layer. The paved road itself was probably constructed in the Late Roman/Early Germanic Iron Age. At the end of the prehistoric period the area was covered by 3–4 m. of bog peat.

*Vendsyssel historiske Museum*, Hjørring, no. 1981/51–72. – Lit.: *Vendsyssel nu og da*, 1982 (Vendsyssel historiske Museum, Hjørring) pp. 46–53

Anne-Louise Haack Olsen

**50. SEJLFLOD**, North Jutland  
Sejlfloed s., Fleskum h., Ålborg a.

### Cemetery and settlement site

The first year's excavations at Sejlfloed are described elsewhere in this volume. In 1981 the number of excavated graves reached 225. Some of these are exceptionally richly furnished, e.g. Grave 00 with a Silver-sheet brooch, 2 Haraldsted brooches, an equal-armed brooch (silver-gilt and stamped), a scutiform pendant, a large string of beads, and a wooden vessel. 7 Early Roman Iron Age inhumations have been excavated right beside the Germanic Iron Age graves.

Beside the cemetery, a 14,000 sq.m. area with Early



Fig. 9. Plan of the 4th.-5th. century settlement at Nørre Snede, Central Jutland (no. 52).

Germanic Iron Age settlement traces has been investigated. These include 25 long-houses, 2 sunken-dwellings, and rubbish-pits. The buildings are 17–35 m. long, and ca. 5.5 m. broad. Finds from these include potsherds, loom-weights, iron knives, and much faunal material.

*Aalborg historiske Museum*, j.no. 669 – Lit.: *Antikvariske Studier* 5, 1982, pp. 263–4

Jens N. Nielsen

**51. FOULUM, Central Jutland**  
Tjele s., Sønderlyng h., Viborg a.

**Settlement site**

In 1980–81 parts of three settlement complexes of the 4th.–5th. centuries A.D. were excavated. One consisted of

about 20 buildings, only a few of which cut another. The second complex was only partially investigated, and produced 11 buildings with fences, representing at least 3 building-phases. Only one corner of the third area has been investigated, producing 2 buildings.

Traces of three long fences emanating from the settlement but apparently ending blind have been found. They extended 420, 300, and 200 m. respectively. A cremation cemetery and a few inhumation graves of the Late Roman Iron Age were also investigated.

*Viborg Stiftsmuseum* 804D

Mette Iversen



**52. NØRRE SNEDE**, Central Jutland  
Nørre Snede s., Vrads h., Skanderborg a.

**Settlement site**

In 1980–81 an area of 32,000 sq.m. was investigated in association with municipal development in Nørre Snede. Traces of about 120 buildings were found, of various lengths from 2 to 37 m. (fig. 9). There are a number of building phases, and a shift towards the NW with time is inferrable. Remains of about 15 building-groups from the later part of the settlement have so far been uncovered, each consisting of one or more buildings and surrounded by a fence. The northern boundary of this part of the settlement is not yet investigated. As a whole, the Nørre Snede excavations show an agrarian community, similar in many ways to the contemporary settlement at Vorbasse (cf. *Acta Archaeologica* 49, 1978 (1979), pp. 61–111). But the two are not identical: the village structure at Nørre Snede is clearly different and the buildings are generally shorter, especially the byre-sections. Date: ca. 300–500 A.D.

*Kulturhistorisk Museum, Vejle.* – Lit.: R. Zölit: Phosphat-untersuchungen zur funktionalen Differenzierung in einem völkerwanderungszeitlichen Langhaus von Nørre Snede, Dänemark. *Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt* 10, 1980, pp. 273–280

Torben Egeberg Hansen

**53. HJEMSTED**, South West Jutland  
Skærbæk s., Hviding h., Tønder a.

**Settlement site and cemetery**

A major settlement site of the 4th.–5th. centuries A.D. of which an area of 15–20,000 sq.m. was investigated in 1980. 9 long-houses, 4 pit-dwellings, 5 wells, and fencing have been excavated. At the same site a number of cremations of the Early Roman Iron Age have been found.

*Haderslev Museum* j.no. 1004

Erik Jørgensen

**GERMANIC IRON AGE**

**54. VIBY**, Sjælland  
Syv s., Ramsø h., Københavns a.

**Gold spiral**

Tiny spiral of gold alloyed with silver, with three turns. The diam. is 1.4 cm. and the thread is 0.2 cm. thick. Weight: 7 g. Single find from a field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 3784/81.

E. Munksgaard



Fig. 10. C-bracteate from Tranegilde Strand, East Sjælland (no. 55). 2:1 (L. Larsen photo).

**55. TRANEGILDE STRAND**, East Sjælland  
Ishøj s., Smørum h., København a.

**C-bracteate**

The bracteate depicts a male head looking left, placed over a four-legged animal (fig. 10). The 'rider' has an elaborate hairstyle which terminates in a plait. In front of the man's face is a bird with a curved beak. The bracteate is of the well-known Zealand type with a sharp bend between the animal's neck and back. Struck with a hitherto unknown die. Found several years ago on a sandy bar near the coast.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. no. 1/79. – Lit.: M. Axboe: The Scandinavian Gold Bracteates. *Acta Archaeologica* vol. 52, 1981.

E. Munksgaard

**56. SCT. HANS HOSPITAL**, Roskilde  
Sct. Jørgensbjerg s., Sømme h., Københavns a.

**Bronze oval-brooch**

The brooch measures 3.7×1.4 cm. (fig. 11). The rounded upper surface is covered with a quadruped animal with round eyes. The back is shown by three lines. On either side of this emanate two almost pear-shaped thighs, both ending in a foot. On the back-side remains of the pin-anchor and catch are visible. Found in a ploughed field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 4040/81.

T. Ramskou



Fig. 11. Bronze oval-brooch from Sct. Hans Hospital, Roskilde (no. 56). 1:1.

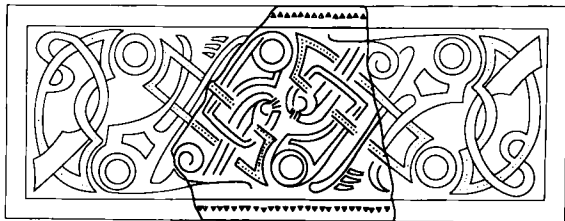


Fig. 12. Fragment of a bronze plate brooch from Kalmergården, West Sjælland, with reconstructed design (no. 57). 1:1.

**57. KALMERGÅRDEN, Western Sjælland**  
St. Fuglede s., Arts h., Holbæk a.

**Bronze plate-brooch**

Fragment of a rectangular bronze plate-brooch, gilt on the front (fig. 12). Present length ca. 3 cm., breadth 3.1 cm. The ornamented surface is framed by a ridge with punched holes. The ornamentation is a typical style-D animal. The body-lines have punched holes like the framing. The back-side has white-metal plating, in which a pattern of hatched triangles is incised in very fine lines. Possible remains of green and red enamel are visible in the eyes. Date: Late Germanic Iron Age. A single find in a ploughed field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1423/75.

T. Ramskou

**58. SKÅNINGGÅRDS MARK, Central Sjælland**  
Haraldsted s., Ringsted s., Sorø a.

**Bronze bird-brooch**

A rounded brooch measuring 5.8×1.7 cm. Heavily corroded. The lines forming the wings end at the shoulders in a circular bow. The turned-up legs emanate from two dot-in-circles, of which only the right-hand one is fully preserved. Remains of pin-anchor and catch on the back-side. Date: 8th. century A.D. Found in a ploughed field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 4039/81.

T. Ramskou

**59. TAGESGÅRD, Lolland**  
Stokkemærke s., Lollands Sønder h., Maribo a.

**Gold spiral**

Spiral of silver-alloyed gold with three turns. The ring is 2.1 cm. in diam., the thread measures 0.2 cm. in diam. Weight 9 g. Found in a field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 3995/81.

E. Munksgaard

**60. ALLESE, Fyn**  
Allese s., Lunde h., Odense a.

**Gold spiral**

Ring made of a heavily silver-alloyed, faceted gold rod in a little more than two turns. 3.4 cm. in diam., the rod is 0.6 cm. in diam. Weight: 47.5 g. Found about 70 years ago in a field near a peat bog.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 4012/81.

E. Munksgaard

**61. GUDME, Fyn**  
Gudme s., Gudme h., Svendborg a.

**Bronze bird-brooch**

A flat brooch, although the head is lightly rounded. The eyes only lightly marked. The neck is separated from the body by a transverse rib. Two pointed-oval openings mark the wings. Remains of white-metalling are visible on the back, together with several incised lines. Remains of pin-anchor and catch on the back-side. Length: 5.1 cm. Found in a ploughed field. Date: Late Germanic Iron Age.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 2498/78.

T. Ramskou

**62. HASSERIS, North Jutland**  
Hasseris s., Ålborg by

**Bronze bird-brooch**

The brooch is 5.5 cm. long, cast bronze, and lightly rounded. It has been plated with white-metal. The type corresponds most closely to M. Ørsnes: *Form og Stil*, fig. 56, type D5. The eyes are sharply distinguished, and the edge of the head by the body marked with a large rib. Below this a heavy entrelac pattern framing the upper part of the wings whose upper ends have two circular knobs, a little larger than the eyes. The points of the wings reach some way down into the almost trapezoid 'crow's-tail'. Along this the back-turned legs and outstretched feet are visible. The forming of the wing-section is such that it can certainly be understood as a mask, similar to those known from the Viking Age. Rusty remains of a



Fig. 13. Gold spiral from Romalt, East Jutland (no. 64). Ca. 1:1 (L. Larsen photo).

pinanchor and catch on the back-side. Date: Late Germanic Iron Age. Found in a ploughed field. Placed in Ålborg historiske Museum.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. C 30164.

T. Ramskou

**63. SDR. KIRKEGÅRD**, North Jutland  
Hasseris s., Hornum h., Ålborg a.

#### **Bronze bird-brooch**

The fragmentary brooch shows the fore-part of a bird with neck bent forward. The beak is extended. A curving line emanates from this, which continued out over the hind-parts. The breast is marked with inscribed semi-circles. Similar semi-circles mark the front edge of the wing. The hind-parts and tail are broken off, though the end of the foot remains. Size: 3×4.5 cm. Found by a member of the public and sent to Ålborg historiske Museum, where the find is kept.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. C 30158.

T. Ramskou

**64. ROMALT**, East Jutland  
Kistrup s., Sønderhald h., Randers a.

#### **Gold spiral**

Spiral in about four turns, not as usual shaped like a ring, but as a flat spiral, 5.3 cm in diam. (fig. 13). The outer end of the rod is the thicker of the two. Weight: 138.3 g. Found in a potato-field.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 6/79 (deposited at *Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers).

E. Munksgaard



Fig. 14. Gold scabbard mount from Tøjstrup, East Jutland (no. 65). Ca. 2:3 (L. Larsen photo).

**65. TØJSTRUP**, East Jutland  
Vejlby s., Sønderhald h., Randers a.

#### **Gold scabbard mount**

Scabbard mount made of a gold rod wound in about seven flat turns. (fig. 14). Four of the seven turns are tight and regular whereas three turns are twisted and the rod is cut over at this end. Weight: 100.7 g.

Six such scabbard mounts are known from Danish finds. Two from the Kaasbygaard hoard (Bornholm) are ornamented with a crescent-shaped stamp which is also seen on contemporary necklets (cf. O. Klindt-Jensen: *Bornholm i Folkevandringstiden*, Copenh. 1957, p. 156ff, fig. 129). The rest are undecorated, the largest, from Højstrup Skov, Stevns (East Sjælland) is built up of no less than ten turns.

The new mount was found in a field after a boundary ditch had been cleared.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 9/79. (Deposited at *Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers).

E. Munksgaard

**66. HØJRIS**, West Jutland  
Nørre Omme s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

#### **Settlement site**

A major village of which some parts have been investigated. The building-groups consist of one or more buildings. Each building-group is fenced-off. The fences are built of double posts. On the inner side of each fence is a row of paired, vertical posts. There are gateways in the fences.

The village is dated to the 5th. century from the pottery. It is the last of a long series on this site. Settlement runs back unbroken to the end of the later Bronze Age.



Fig. 15. Plan of the settlement site of the Early Germanic Iron Age at Omgård, West Jutland (no. 67).

The excavation took place in 1981. Earlier investigations took place in the 1960's. The investigations continue.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 3882/81

Leif Chr. Nielsen

#### 67. OMGÅRD, West Jutland

Nørre Omme s., Hind h., Ringkøbing a.

##### Settlement site

4–5 building-groups have been investigated. The village is larger yet. Two phases are distinguished, one, probably the earlier, with the building-groups fenced-off. The largest building-group of this phase had three buildings. The largest of these had an occupation area in the west, a workshop in the middle, a byre beside this with room for 28 beasts, and finally a room of uncertain function in the east. The other two buildings had no byre. Of two other building-groups of

this phase, one has two buildings (Fig. 15), the other, one. Loom-weights were found in the east end of the largest building of the former. Querns, grindstones, iron-slag, loom-weights, and pottery are found in both phases. The loom-weights always occur in the east ends of buildings, and fire-places in the west. The pottery is evenly spread, although only in the west end of buildings with byres.

Two C-14 dates are available from Building C IV of the largest group: one of  $210 \pm 70$  A.D. (K-3569); the other  $510 \pm 70$  A.D. (K-3570). The former is oak charcoal, the latter birch charcoal. The house-site overlay an earlier one of pre-Roman Iron Age period IIIa. This house-site contained much charcoal, entirely oak. K-3569 could therefore be contaminated with the earlier charcoal. This cannot affect K-3570. Building C IV also produced charcoal of hazel, lime, ash, and aspen or willow.

The pottery dates to the middle or later part of the Early Germanic Iron Age. The village is succeeded by one of the 7th. and 8th. centuries which was investigated in 1974–6.

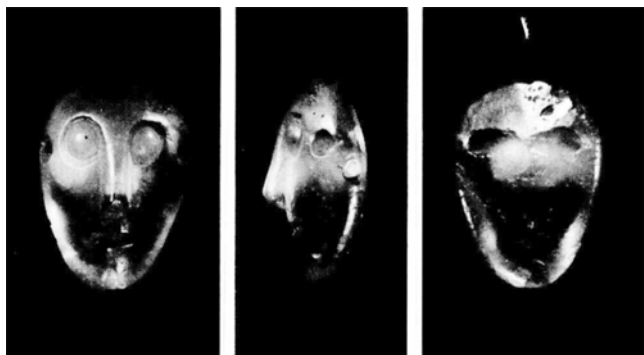


Fig. 16. Amber mask from Eskør Strand, Fyn (no. 68). Height: 1.9 cm (L. Larsen photo).

This village gives way to a single Viking Age farmstead. The investigation took place in 1976, and 1980–81.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1140/75 & 2947/80  
Leif Chr. Nielsen

## GERMANIC IRON AGE and VIKING AGE

### 68. ESKØR STRAND, Fyn Husby s., Vends h., Odense a.

#### Small amber mask

A small, delicately carved human head of clear yellow amber, height 1.9 cm. (fig. 16). The eyes are formed by circular cavities so that the points of the eyes lie plane with the face. The nose projects, its point broken off. The mouth is formed by an incised groove in a slightly raised section which forms the lips. The object was handed in by a member of the public to Fyns Stiftsmuseum, Odense, where it is kept. Find-information lacking, the object can only be dated to the Late Iron Age/Viking Age on stylistic grounds.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. C 29981.

T. Ramskou

### 69. HANS BROGESGADE, Århus Århus, Hasle s., Århus a.

#### Gold bracelet

Bracelet of gold, about 7 cm. in diam., made of a flat rod which is folded together, so that a rather untidy seam appears on the inner side (fig. 17). The ends are flat and hooked together. Weight: 28.6 g. There are no exact parallels from the Germanic Iron Age, the date may be 10th cent. – Found about 1 m. below the surface in a ditch dug for district heating pipes.

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., no. 4/80. (Deposited at Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgård).

E. Munksgaard

### 70. SYSVIG, South Jutland Nustrup s., Gram h., Haderslev a.

#### Settlement site

An area of about 8,000 sq.m. was investigated in connection with the laying of a gas pipe-line, and produced traces of 16 long-houses, and 27 pit-dwellings. The settlement continues through the period ca. 400–1000 A.D. The finds include pottery, loom-weights, and querns. An associated find of pottery, a bronze, circular brooch, and an English silver coin of the end of the 9th. century, was discovered in one of the pit-dwellings.

*Haderslev Museum*, j.no. 1112.

Flemming Rieck  
Erik Jørgensen

## VIKING AGE

### 71. GAMMEL LEJRE, Central Sjælland Allerslev s., Voldborg h., København a.

#### Settlement site

During excavations below Mysselhøjgård at the south-western edge of Gammel Lejre in 1981, an uninterpretable mass of post-holes together with three pit-dwellings of the second half of the 10th. century were found. The very rich find-material included coarse-tempered pottery of flat-bottomed East Danish vessels, together with Baltic pottery, soap-stone vessels, simple combs, loom-weights, smith's slag, bronze slag, glass beads, and bone-working debris, including red deer antler. An Arab coin was also found.

The pit-dwellings measure between 2×3 m. and 3×4 m., and had roof-bearing posts at the gables.

*Roskilde Museum*, 175/81.

Frank Birkebæk

### 72. KALMERGÅRDEN, Western Sjælland St. Fuglede s., Arts h., Holbæk a.

#### Bronze plate-brooch

Most of the plate of this brooch is covered by a mask which differs greatly from other Scandinavian Viking Age masks (fig. 18). It has large ears and hair curling up at either side. The eyes are round buttons above rounded cheeks. A double, beaded ribbon winds about the upper part of the face, running behind the crown of the head, round the ears, round the hanging hair, and behind the neck. The drooping moustache is formed of a single, beaded ribbon. Three

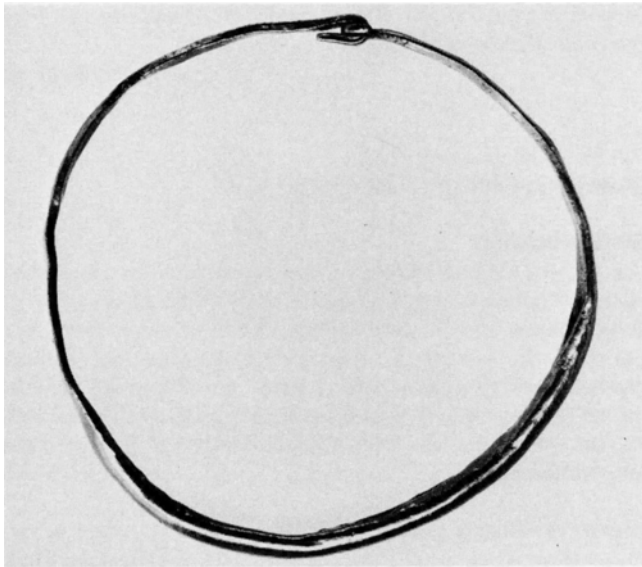


Fig. 17. Gold bracelet from Hans Brogesgade, Århus (no. 69).  
Diam. 7 cm (L. Larsen photo).

powerful teeth bite on a double, beaded ribbon whose ends are turned up like the hair. The chin is formed of a triangle with convex sides. Five knobs above a roughly anvil-shaped element, both halves of which are decorated with chevrons, are visible above the head. In its centre is a 'kviétra'. Triskeles appear on either ear and on the two areas lying above the upturned ends of the ribbon the mask bites upon. The oblong section below the chin with 5 angled lines may be interpreted as a beard, framed by a plain area. At the bottom a further convex-sided triangle is visible, below three horizontal lines. A double, beaded ribbon winds over these, and under two angles of the triangle. A pin-anchor on the back-side, with part of the pin, and the catch. In cross-section the brooch is shaped rather like a box with an inturned edge. Length 7 cm., max. width 2.5 cm. Date ca. 900 A.D. Surface-find in a ploughed field.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 2654/79.

T. Ramskou

**73. KLINTESKOVEN, West Sjælland**  
Buerup s., Løve h., Holbæk a.

**Small gold ring**

The ring (fig. 19) measures 3.4 cm. in diam. It is shaped like the flat, ribbon-like bracelets with stamped ornaments which appear in silver hoards from the 9th cent. AD. The front of the ring is flat, with stamped, T-shaped ornaments. The back is rounded, with a twisted fastening. Two gold bracelets of this type are known, one from Råbylille, Møn (*Aarbøger f. nord. Oldk.* 1942, p. 36, fig. 6), the other from Nabbe, Fyn



Fig. 18. Bronze plate-brooch from Kalmørgården, West Sjælland (no. 72). 2:1 (L. Larsen photo).

(*Fynske Minder* 1969, p. 6). The new ring is too small for a bracelet and too large for a finger-ring. It might have served as a hair ornament. – Found in a wood.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept., no. 8/79.

E. Munksgaard

**74. BYBJERG, Orø**  
Orø s., Tuse h., Holbæk a.

**Broad-edged iron axe**

The axe has a broad, curved edge with a shoulder about 3 cm. thick. Length 21 cm., the edge 18 cm. from corner to



Fig. 19. Gold ring from Klinteskov, West Sjælland (no. 73). 2:1 (L. Larsen photo).

corner. Date: Late Viking Age (cf. Jan Petersen: *Vikingetidens sværd*, Type M). Found in a ploughed field.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. 3698/81.

T. Ramskou

**75. BORRE MOSE, Møn**  
Borre s., Mønbo h., Præstø a.

**Openwork bronze brooch**

Made in a variant of the Urnes style (fig. 20). "The Great Beast's" head with extended jaws and the characteristic eye are seen uppermost on the left. A pear-shaped thigh section to end the body. Two hind-legs emanate from this, one also with a thigh section and a foot which goes out under the tail (to the right). The other foot goes over the tail and extends into a piece of entrelac. The element that lies over the tail can be interpreted as a tongue emanating from the animal's extended jaws. The snake's weakly distinguished head is visible underneath the pear-shaped thigh, and its twisted body ends by "The Great Beast's" mouth. The body and tail are ridged, with raised cross-bands. The snake and the tongue are beaded. On the back-side are remains of a pin-anchor and catch. Size: 3.8×3.8 cm. Date: 11th. century. Single-find from a ploughed field.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept. C 30201.

T. Ramskou

**76. FREDERIKSDAL, Lolland**  
Sandby s., Lollands Nørre h., Maribo a.

**Silver ring (bracelet?)**

Well-preserved ring, the size of a bracelet, upon which hang miniature silver rings (fig. 21). The large ring is made of a rod, the two ends of which are bent together.

The type is well-known from the silver hoards of 10th-century date: Mandemark, Sejro, Rømersdal, and Gravlev. One stray find, from Kragerupgård, West Zealand, is made

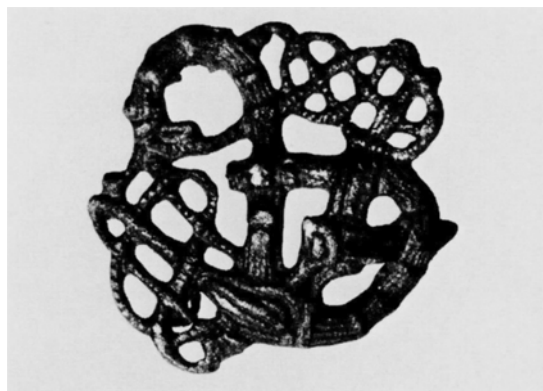


Fig. 20. Bronze brooch from Borre Mose, Møn (no. 75). 3:2 (L. Larsen photo).

of gold. The number of small rings varies from two (Gravlev) to ten (Sejro). – Found in a ploughed field.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept., no. 3/80.

E. Munksgaard

**77. FRUENS BØGE, Odense**  
Odense s., h. and a.

**Fragment of trefoil fibula**

One "leaf" of a trefoil fibula made of partially gilt silver. The fragment measures 2.9 cm. and is decorated with Carolingian leaf ornament in the form of spirals and tendrils. – Found in a garden.

Nationalmuseet, Prehist. Dept., no. 4124/81.

E. Munksgaard

**78. KØSTRUP, Fyn**  
Brenderup s., Vends h., Odense a.

**Inhumation grave with textiles**

When a Viking Age inhumation grave was excavated, two gilt-bronze tortoise brooches, style-dated to ca. 950 A.D., containing well-preserved textile fragments, were found. Analysis has shown that the textiles come from a woollen goose-feather eiderdown, and a female costume consisting of two pinafore-dresses – a long, pleated, woollen under-dress, and a short linen over-dress. A fancy-woven, decorative woollen ribbon was sewn to the under-dress.

Fyns Stiftsmuseum, Odense, 3502.

Henriette Wielandt

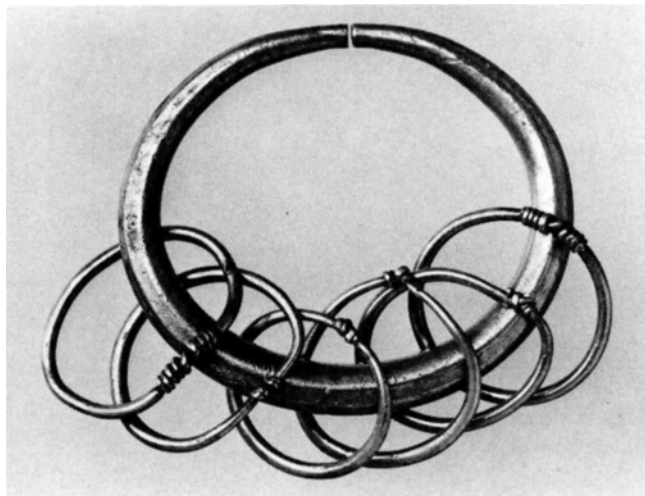


Fig. 21. Silver ring from Frederiksdal, Lolland (no. 76). Ca. 3:4 (L. Larsen photo).

**79. FOURFELD BÆK, South West Jutland**  
Guldager s., Skast h., Ribe a.

**Bronze tortoise-brooch**

Tortoise-brooch, ca. 8.7 cm. long, and 5 cm. broad, with 6 pear-shaped sections for now lost decorative knobs (fig. 22). Each of these sections is framed by a hachured ridge, and the sections are connected by similar ridges. On the back, two rectangles with concave sides can be seen. On the side-areas, four gripping-beasts with round ears, gripping themselves. A gripping-beast's head is visible over each end-section. On the back-side is the mark of woven material. Date: 9th. century. (Cf. Jan Petersen: *Vikingetidens Smykker*, Berdals Type). Found in sand and peat during the deepening of a water-course in the western part of Esbjerg town.

The brooch may have been made in Ribe, as its form and decoration correspond closely to a number of moulds which were found in the bronze-caster's workshop there. (Personal communication, H. Brinch Madsen.)

*Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. C 30154.

Thorkild Ramskou  
Ingrid Stoumann

**80. ANDERSMINDE, South West Jutland**  
Ribe Domkirke s., Ribe h., Ribe a.

**Settlement site**

During the excavation of an area of ca. 3,100 sq.m. on the north side of the Ribe River, on the edge of the marsh, and about 1,000 m. from Ribe town, settlement traces of the Viking/Early Medieval Period have been found. 2 long-houses could be distinguished, one of the type with internal roof-bearing posts, aligned N-S, the other aligned E-W, apparently with roof-bearing posts in the walls. Both houses



Fig. 22. Tortoise brooch from Fourfeld Bæk, South West Jutland (no. 79). 1:2 (Esbjerg Museum photo).

could only be partially excavated. Besides these, 15 pit-dwellings were found, of which 11 were excavated, 5 wells, and fence-remains. There were no stratigraphic relationships between long-houses, pit-dwellings, and wells.

The find-material includes pieces of soap-stone vessels, Pingsdorffware, about 100 loom-weights, spindle-whorls, unworked amber, a quern, slag, a fragment of a forge-stone for a bronze-founder, 3 glass beads, a glass rod, pieces of a green, funnel-shaped, glass beaker, whetstones, and a finger-ring of jet (fig. 23). Domestic pottery includes hemispherical and globular vessels, one cup, and one dish.

The settlement is to be dated within the period 800–1200 (a dendrochronological dating of one of the wells indicates the end of the 12th. century.) – A settlement of the early Iron Age was found on the same site.

*Den Antikvariske Samling i Ribe*, ASR 19M80C.

Steffen Stummann Hansen

**81. ULDAL NORD, South Jutland**  
Skrydstrup s., Gram h., Haderslev a.

**Settlement site**

8 long-houses and 11 pit-dwellings were excavated on this Viking Age settlement site. In the pit-dwellings, pottery, loom-weights, spindle-whorls, a glass bead, and a well-preserved bronze ornament, were found. In one of the pit-dwellings a number of constructional details could be seen. It transpired that the long walls of the building had been built of horizontal planks, while the gables were stave-built. In one corner of the building was a stone-built oven, and traces of a bench were found by one end. The building is reconstructed to life-size and exhibited in Haderslev Museum's permanent exhibition. It is the excavator's conclusion that the buildings represent a brief phase.

*Haderslev Museum*, j.no. 1109.

Per Ethelberg





Fig. 23. Fragment of jet ring from Andersminde, South West Jutland (no. 80). External diam. 2.3 cm. Found in a pit-dwelling.

## MEDIEVAL

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL TOWNS

In 1977 the Danish Research Council for the Humanities initiated a project called 'The Medieval Town'. The aim was to expand the knowledge of the Danish medieval town through archaeological excavations, and as a natural consequence of the means chosen, to improve the understanding of its topography. Of more than 50 Danish medieval boroughs, the following were selected for closer examination: Ribe, Horsens, Århus, Viborg, and Ålborg, in Jutland; Odense and Svendborg on Fyn; Roskilde, Næstved, and Køge on Sjælland. In association with the project the National Museum has also worked on Søborg in northern Sjælland, demoted from the status of borough in post-medieval times.

An axiom of the activities under this project has been to embark only on well-prepared excavations with a specific aim. The first years were therefore spent in collecting all the available information on the medieval topography of the selected towns. The date consists of archaeological, geological, cartographical, and written sources. A preliminary examination of this data has been the basis of nearly 50 excavations in the towns in the years 1979–82. The project itself has principally concentrated on small excavations on sites where the preliminary investigations had shown a possibility of solving important problems in the topographical development. Many local initiatives have also been supported in the project's work, and in several cases it has been possible to give a definite goal to suddenly necessary rescue excavations. All the excavations have been carried out in close cooperation with the local museums, who receive all finds and other material from the excavations.

The results gathered will be included in the final reports of the project. These will take the form of monographs on each town, aiming to present a picture of the town from its origin, through the Middle Ages, to the middle of the 16th. century. Some of the excavations are, or shall be, more thoroughly

published elsewhere. Only the main results of the work in Ålborg, Viborg, Næstved, and Ribe will be sketched here.

In Ålborg, investigations have been made of the northern defences, and of layers from the town's beginning. On the previously known site of the Franciscan Friary the church was localized, under which floor layers from 11th.- and 12th.-century buildings were found. In the same period settlement layers at Strandstien began. Amongst the finds were traces of silver-working, and debris from comb-making.

A long trench from Farvergade to the river that runs through Næstved showed culture-layers from the period of ca. 900–1600. The layers from the 10th. and 11th. centuries seem to be those of a settlement based on agrarian production rather than on trade and craft.

An excavation close to the lake that defines the eastern borders of Viborg revealed houses from the period of ca. 1000–1350, the oldest being dendrochronologically dated to 1017. The rich culture-layers contained imported objects and traces of craftsmens' work. The desertion of the area must have been caused by a rise of ca. 2 m. in the level of the lake, recognition of which throws new light on the early history of Viborg, both as regards which areas were fit for settlement, and the possibility of dry roads to Asmild on the other side of the lake.

The development of Ribe has long been a puzzle. Before the project began, layers of the 8th. century were known north of the river, Ribe Å, in an area that was later a suburb of the medieval town south of the river, archaeologically known from the 12th. century. No layers have yet been found from the period of ca. 800–1100, a time at which occupation of the site is documented, but several new excavations now seem to provide an explanation. Investigations north of the Ribe Å seem to indicate that soil has been removed from these parts in the first half of the 13th. century, only leaving the lowest layers of human activity. Perhaps this was done to provide material for the construction of a dam that was to carry a road as well as a mill. To-day this dam is still the main street of the town, offering only limited possibilities for further archaeological investigation. The defences have also been investigated, including the royal castle of Riberhus. The results of the new excavations, combined with a re-examination of the old archaeological material and written sources, now show us a town that was radically remade south of the river in the first half of the 13th. century, while the areas north of the river, probably where the town began, were first degraded to the status of a suburb, and later totally deserted.

One very important side-product of the work must be mentioned. The initiative of the Research Council for the Humanities has greatly stimulated interest in town archaeology. The pattern of this project has been followed as similar work in creating a solid basis for future excavations in several other towns has been taken up.

Ingrid Nielsen

**82. GLATTRUP, Central Jutland**  
 Skive s., Hindborg h., Viborg a.

**House-site**

In association with a local plan for areas in Glattrup, south of Skive, a late medieval house-site, amongst other things, has been investigated. The find was made on slightly raised ground in a meadow area near Glattrup Bæk.

*Skive Museum 210A.*

John Simonsen  
 Bi Skaarup

The short reports in this volume were translated or corrected by John Hines.

Map showing the location of sites mentioned in the section 'Recent Excavations and Discoveries'.  
 The counties (Danish *amter*) are numbered in the following way:

- |                  |                 |                |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Frederiksborg | 9. Svendborg    | 17. Vejle      |
| 2. København     | 10. Hjørring    | 18. Ringkøbing |
| 3. Holbæk        | 11. Thisted     | 19. Ribe       |
| 4. Sorø          | 12. Ålborg      | 20. Haderslev  |
| 5. Præstø        | 13. Viborg      | 21. Tønder     |
| 6. Bornholm      | 14. Randers     | 22. Åbenrå     |
| 7. Maribo        | 15. Århus       | 23. Sønderborg |
| 8. Odense        | 16. Skanderborg |                |

