

# Recent Excavations and Discoveries

The following survey is based on summary reports of archaeological activities in 1987 submitted by the Danish museums to the State Antiquary. A review of all field investigations and major finds, including Treasure Trove and 469 notes on excavations is published in Danish in *Arkæologiske Udgravninger i Danmark 1987* (Det arkæologiske Nævn, Copenhagen 1988).

Please observe the following abbreviations:

s. sogn, Danish parish

a. amt, Danish county

The places mentioned in this list are shown on the map on p. 256, where they can be identified by their number.

## PALAEOLITHIC

### 1. HASSELØ, Falster, Væggerløse s., Maribo a.

**Settlement site.** On the west side of the former island, Hasselø, there was investigated a concentration of late Palaeolithic flint, lying close to the straight of Guldborg Sound. Twenty m<sup>2</sup> were investigated, finds being collected from both the plough layer and from primary position. The flint inventory consisted of many blades, bi-polar unifacial cores with faceted platforms, burins, a blade scraper, and a point which was probably of Federmesser type. – *Museet Falsters Minder*, Nykøbing, 057/1987. [Peter Vemming Hansen].

### 2. RAMSGÅRD I–II, northern Jutland. Bjergby s., Hjørring a.

**Settlement sites.** During reconnaissance there were found 7 flint scatters from the Bromme culture. The scatters measured about 20 × 20 m and occurred on sandy peninsulas and slopes along the S and W sides of a large meadow area, that in prehistoric times was a lake. As the area is under intensive cultivation exploratory excavations were carried out in the autumn of 1987 at two of the most vulnerable sites, Ramsgård I and II. No structural features or original strata from the Bromme culture were found. The flint inventory, obtained partly through reconnaissance and partly by sieving the cultivation layer, attaches clearly to the Bromme culture, tending to an early placing within it. – *Vendsyssels historiske Museum*, Hjørring, 285–186/1986. [Torben Nilsson].

## MESOLITHIC

### 3. SPANGKONGE, western Zealand. Stenmagle s., Sorø a.

**Settlement site.** Excavation of a small, clearly delimited settlement in Store Åmosen bog. Part of a refuse layer was preserved with a large faunal material. It is a single-period site with much pottery, which is typical of the late Ertebølle period with S-profiled vessels and blubber lamps, while the flint shows a number

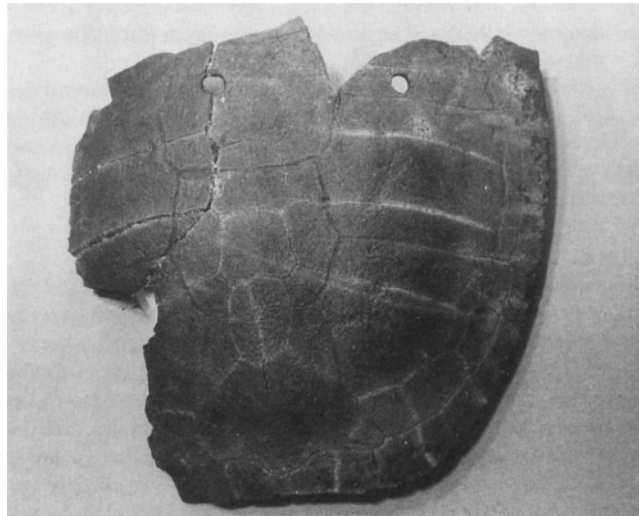


Fig. 1. Perforated shield of marsh turtle found at the late Mesolithic site of Agernæs, Funen (no. 4). 1:2.

of typological traits characteristic of the early Funnel Beaker Culture. – *Museet for Holbæk og Omegn* 146/87. [Anders Fischer/Else Asmussen].

### 4. AGERNÆS, north Funen. Krogsbølle s., Odense a.

**Settlement site.** In autumn 1984 in connection with draining in the fossil part of the fjord “Nærå Strand” there was found worked antler, pottery, and bones, and trial excavations in 1985 and 86 established that the material came from a late Ertebølle settlement. The site has no shell midden, but there is a rich refuse layer. In 1987 about 80 m<sup>2</sup> were excavated and the total area investigated now amounts to c. 200 m<sup>2</sup>.

Thick deposits of lake mud give good conditions for the preservation of organic material. There is much wood, a considerable part of it worked. Mention may be made of parts of a dugout canoe, half a paddle, a complete bow, and many leister prongs. There was also an extensive wood-bearing layer with 25–30 cm long chippings interpreted as remains from making dugouts. Of antler there were a number of axes, fabricators, picks, and harpoons. The large faunal material included the shield of a marsh turtle with four holes in it (fig. 1), a complete eagle claw cut off close under the knee joint. The flint inventory includes both flake and core axes, the latter often with specially worked edge, a few transverse arrowheads, and only a few burins. There are also many sherds of pointed-base vessels and lamps. The excavation will continue in 1988. – *Fyns Stiftsmuseum*, Odense, and *Nordfyns Museum*, Bogense, 5563. [Anders Jæger].

5. BJØRNSHOLM, northern Jutland. Ranum s., Ålborg a. **Settlement site** (kitchen midden). The systematic excavation of the midden was continued from 1986 and is expected to be finished in 1988. The aim is to obtain a representative sample of finds from top to bottom at three different places and to investigate the sandy deposits underneath. The midden lies on a 1–3 m thick layer of marine sand containing flint artifacts, oyster shells, and scattered bones. These must derive from a settlement earlier than the midden, i.e. younger Kongemose or

early Ertebølle. Especial attention was given to the stury of the uppermost clam-rich layer with artifacts of Early Neolithic Funnel-Beaker type. – *Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgård*, 2911 and *Aalborg historiske Museum* 972. [Søren H. Andersen/Erik Johansen].

6. ÅLE, northern Jutland. Ranum s., Ålborg a. **Settlement site** (kitchen midden). A large as yet unfinished excavation was carried out in one of the recently discovered large kitchen middens in the stone age “Bjørnholm fjord”. Excavation will continue in 1988. The extent of the midden in the ploughed surface has been planned and a number of test pits have been dug to establish its depth and condition, but the main emphasis in 1987 was on three 4 × 4 meter squares around a large stone fireplace lying centrally in structural traces interpreted as remains of a hut. Around the fireplace was examined a pronounced activity layer. The finds include much flint, some mammal bones (but no fish bones), and extensive material for scientific study and C-14 dating. The investigated parts of the Åle midden can be dated to the early Ertebølle culture. – *Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgård*, 3521 and *Aalborg historiske Museum* 2304. [Søren H. Andersen/Erik Johansen].

7. FANNERUP, eastern Jutland. Ginnerup s., Randers a. **Settlement site** (kitchen midden) and **graves**. During earth moving operations an ochre-bestrewn skeleton was found buried 0.4 m in the subsoil. It was well preserved and sealed by a layer of shells, and lay supine orientated NE-SW. The skeleton was that of a 20–40 year old male, buried with a decorated antler axe at the head and a blade knife and a small blade at the right hip. A little further south were recorded the remains of Fannerup shell midden F, of which a portion measuring ca. 2 × 9 m and 0.4 m deep survived. The flint inventory showed that it was approximately contemporary with the grave. Further earth moving has revealed what seems to be another grave, and this will be investigated in 1988. – *Djursland Museum, Grenå*, 2233. [N. A. Boas].

8. NORSMINDE, eastern Jutland. Malling s., Århus a. **Settlement site and grave**. Systematic excavation of the midden continued from 1986 and involved a 3 × 6 m square in its the western part. A partially disturbed inhumation grave was encountered. The skeleton, which lay NE-SW with head to the SW, lay in a layer of gray greasy ash under the shells and immediately above the natural ground. Around it were 11 large stones. There were remains of neither coffin, grave goods, nor ochre. As a consequence of secondary disturbance only some of the bones were in articulation – chiefly those of the upper

part of the body – while the remainder lay scattered in the grave fill. The stratigraphical conditions show that the grave is certainly Stone Age and probably late Mesolithic. – *Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgård*, 1734. [Søren H. Andersen].

9. MØLLEGABET, off Ærøskøbing, Svendborg a. **Submarine settlement**. The earliest submarine settlement to date in the south Funen archipelago. During diving near the well known submarine Ertebølle settlement in the passage, Møllegabet, freshly exposed artifacts belonging to an Early Ertebølle or Kongemose settlement were found at a depth of 5–6 m. The finds were assymetric core axes of rhombic section, burins, knives, scrapers, flakes and cores, two early antler axes, various worked antler pieces, bones of wild boar, red and roe deer, nut-shells, acorns, and 4 human bones. Two of these probably came from the same individual and may represent the remains from an eroded grave. The investigation will continue in 1988. – *Langelands Museum, Rudkøbing*, 12123. [J. Skaarup].

10. MEJLØ NORD/KORSHAVN off the coast of Funen. Stubberup s., Odense a.

**Submarine settlement and dugout canoe**. During marine reconnaissance between Mejlø Klint and Korshavn a dugout canoe of limewood 4.2 m long and 0.5 m wide was found. C-14 dating (K-5040) showed that it was Denmark's oldest craft with a calibrated age of ca. 5250–5180 B.C. The area contains many freshly eroded-out artifacts, including about 20 core axes and some blade implements found by sports divers. These suggest a placing in the late Kongemose or early Ertebølle culture. The boat will be taken up in 1988. – *Langelands Museum and National Museum, Department of Marine Archaeology* 209. [Flemming Rieck].

## NEOLITHIC

11. ONSVED MARK II, north Zealand. Skuldelev s., Frederiksborg a.

**Non-megalithic burial structure**. Ca. 100 m west of a dolmen investigated in 1986 appeared an Early Neolithic structure consisting of a E-W orientated grave with somewhat east of it a N-S orientated trench in which substantial posts had stood. The grave survived as a paving, pointed oval in shape and measuring about 1 × 2 m, laid of flat stones resting on the subsoil surface. In the western part of the grave were at least 11 amber beads and in the middle were two beads and two retouched blades. The trench to the east was 3.7 m long and filled with stones, through which penetrated four deep postholes. Among the upper stones were the remains of a type B funnel beaker and the body of a large beaker or bowl. There were no traces of a barrow, though this could have been removed in antiquity. Across the structure were postholes from a late pre-Roman Iron Age occupation. – *National Museum, Prehistoric Department* 6561/87. – Lit.: *Aarbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed* 1987, 58–83. [Fl. Kaul].

12. ST. VALBYVEJ, north Zealand. Himmelev s., Københavns a.

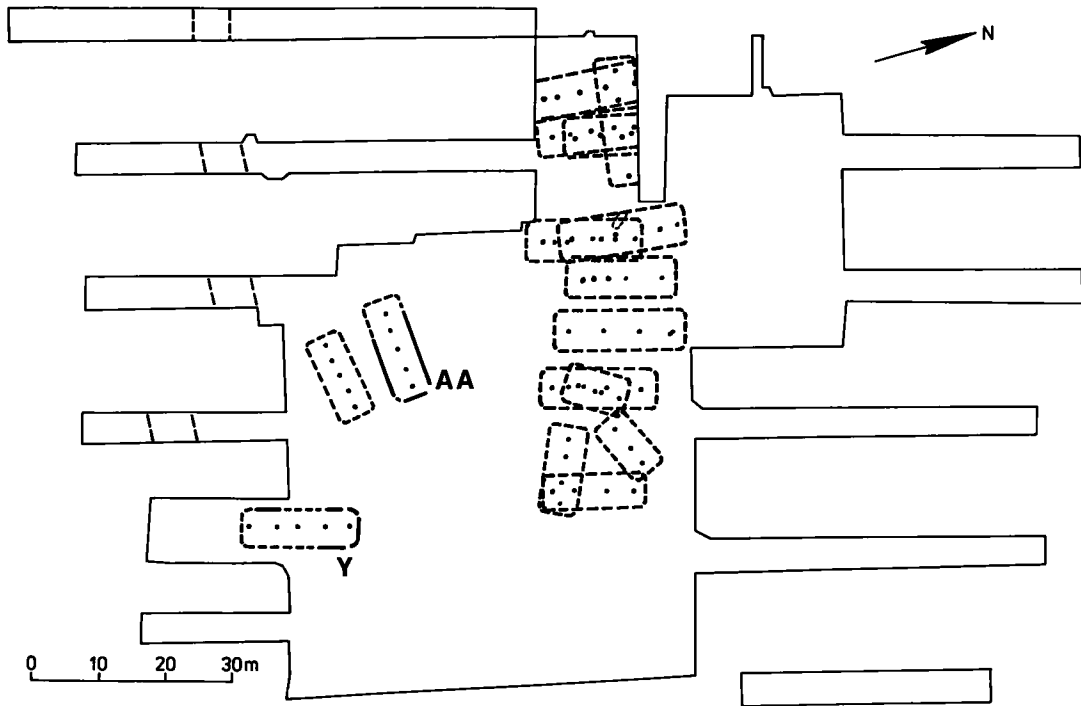


Fig. 2. Plan of the Middle Neolithic settlement at Limensgård, Bornholm (no. 15), showing the reconstructed outlines of 16 houses with one row of central posts.

**Grave mounds and stone cists.** As a consequence of large-scale gravel exploitation there was excavated a double-barrow with two stone cists, one of which was intact and the other partially disturbed.

In barrow I were recorded three phases consisting of round "stone carpets"; around these were kerbstones and traces of a fence. At the centre was a stone cist of "Zealand type", inserted into the natural subsoil and sealed by a layer of clay. It contained at least three individuals, including a child. At the west end was placed a small beaker with constricted foot. In the throwout was found a type I flint dagger and bones derived from at least two individuals.

Barrow II was "hooked" on to barrow I and consisted of four constructional phases, likewise consisting of "stone carpets". The cist in this barrow was also inserted into the subsoil, but owing to disturbance only two capstones remained in place. It contained at least two individuals, of which the last buried was a woman 1.60 m tall and ca. 30 years old. There were no artifacts in the cist, but in the throwout were found fragments of an egg-shaped storage vessel with three cordons under the rim. There was also a fragment of a thin-bladed axe with curved blade.

The finds indicate that the features were constructed in the Late Neolithic A period.

South of the barrow was found an urn burial from period III of the pre-Roman Iron Age, containing two fibulae; there was

also kerb stones probably from a ploughed-out Bronze Age barrow that originally covered the two above-mentioned ones; an urn from period V of the Bronze Age was also found close to the barrows. – *Roskilde Museum* 659/86. [Palle S. Schiellerup].

13. SKRÆPPEKÆRGÅRD, north Zealand. Sæby s., København a.

**Settlement and house site.** On a low plateau was found an occupation layer with remains of an E-W orientated house. The house had slightly convex sides with 8 wall postholes surviving on the southern and 3–4 on the northern side. There was a single row of roof-bearing posts down the middle. The house had been ca. 13 m long and ca. 4.5 m wide. The western part was covered with an occupation layer that fanned out to the south. It seemed to come to an end inside the house at a place where there was a transverse feature consisting of 3–4 postholes, perhaps an internal partition. Pottery in the occupation layer and some of the postholes gives a dating to non-megalithic C (Svaleklint group). There were also flint artifacts and much burned daub, sometimes with wattle impressions.

Close north appeared a smaller number of postholes probably indicating another house with the same orientation. Ca. 25 m west of the first house was a new area with occupation layer and postholes, but it was not possible to disentangle a building from them. It seems that each settlement event in the field is represented by small areas of occupation layer mea...

ring about 20 meters square and postholes, between which there are quite sterile areas. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6418/86. [Fl. Kaul].

14. KLEKKENDEHØJ, Møn. Damsholte s., Præstø a.

**Passage-grave.** Owing to danger of collapse the southern chamber has long been closed to the public. In connection with the restoration of this monument a 2 m wide trench was dug through the barrow and over the chamber, making possible various observations about the construction of the monument. Around the chamber was a massive clay packing and a packing of shattered flint, enclosed by a packing of stones. The last packing was built up stepwise and held in place by boulders laid as concentric circles inside the barrow. The lowest step is visible on the surface as a platform and this is widest at the entrance to the chambers. Pollen samples were taken from soil deposits in the barrow and have given a detailed impression of the local flora when the barrow was built (see Sv. Th. Andersen, this volume). The work was carried out by the Forestry and Nature Agency, the Geological Survey of Denmark, and the National Museum in co-operation. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6579/87. [Fl. Kaul].

15. LIMENSGÅRD, Bornholm. Åker s., Bornholms a.

**Settlement site.** In continuation of excavations in 1984 and 1985 an area of ca. 1600 m<sup>2</sup> was excavated in the central part of the site. There were found remains of houses from the late Funnel-Beaker culture (fig. 2), the Late Neolithic, and the Early Iron Age. There were found 9 new houses from the late Funnel Beaker culture, of the type with big central posts. The excavation of three Late Neolithic longhouses was completed, showing that they were respectively 27 m, 25 m, and 23 m long, and three new Late Neolithic houses were dug. The excavation of three Iron Age houses was finished and four new ones were found, and also the remains of a post fence. A small number of inhumation burials were encountered, including one from the Late Neolithic with upside-down pot. 450 meters of trial trenches were dug north and south of the main excavation, establishing the extent of settlement. They revealed Early Neolithic, late Funnel Beaker, Late Neolithic, and Early Iron Age features, and the trial excavation was carried out of an Early Iron Age occupation layer. See *JDA* vol. 4, p. 101–114. – *Bornholms Museum, Rønne, and National Museum, Prehist. Depart.* 5166/83. [F. O. Nielsen/P. O. Nielsen].

16. STORE MYREGÅRD, Bornholm. Nylars s., Bornholms a.

**Settlement site.** NW and W of the passage grave, Lille Myregård near Arnager, were found remains of two settlements from period I of the Middle Neolithic. 529 m<sup>2</sup> of a very rich occupation layer were excavated at the more northerly of them. The finds include the following: of local pebble flint, small knives and scrapers; of imported flint, fragments of thin-butted axes, blades, blade knives, and blade and flake implements; of stone, hammerstones and crushers, polishers, querns, and thin-butted axes. The extensive pottery included sherds of large and small funnel beakers, bowls, pedestal bowls, spoons, and clay discs. Bone was only present if burnt, and the amount of organic material was slight because of the sandy soil. – *Born-*

*holms Museum, Rønne, and National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 5839/84. [F. O. Nielsen/P. O. Nielsen].

17. HULSØ, Falster. Falkerslev s., Maribo a.

**Settlement site.** On a prominent plateau near the lakes Hulsø and Møllæsø in central Falster were investigated part of a large Middle Neolithic settlement. In the ca. 20 × 20 m excavation there was a marked concentration of pits, which were unusually rich in finds. There was much “settlement ware”, but also fine decorated wares were well represented. There was also much struck flint, and some of the pits contained a varied and well-preserved faunal material. Provisional dating MN II/IV. – *Museet Falsters Minder, Nykøbing, 731/1986.* [Peter Vemming Hansen].

18. SVENDEKILDEGÅRD, Lolland. Musse s., Maribo a.

**Passage-grave.** Ploughed-over remains of a passage-grave with small oval chamber. The type is characteristic of eastern Lolland. The internal dimensions of the chamber were 6 × 3 m (WNW-ESE). The outline was indicated by stone-holes and by yellow clayey fill overlying a packing of broken flint. From the south side of the chamber near the eastern end issued a 5 m long and 0.75 m wide passage indicated by 8 stoneholes on the west and 3 on the east. In the chamber were found concentrations of human bone and the following objects: – from the Middle Neolithic MN II–IV pottery, from the Single Grave Culture two late battle-axes (found during the initial investigation), and from the Late Neolithic two flint daggers, one of early type, and a flat-flaked arrowhead. Also amber beads and transverse arrowheads were found. – *Lolland-Falsters Stiftsmuseum, Maribo, 800-1984-18.* [Jens Nyberg/Karen Løkkegaard Poulsen].

19. HYGIND, western Funen. Husby s., Odense a.

**Causewayed enclosure.** A trench measuring 23 × 2 m was cut through two of the ditch segments. Matters were complicated by the fact that into these had been dug pits from later phases of the Funnel Beaker Culture. There were abundant finds, amounting to 4476 items, of which 2075 were well-preserved animal bones. These had in some places been deliberately sorted, for instance ribs had been laid in one place and skulls in another. The skulls include a number from cattle, a wild ox, sheep/goat, and two human fragments (one with distinct cut-marks). Also bone implements (including new types) and a bear canine. The site is notable for the good conditions for the preservation of organic materials. – *Fyns Stiftsmuseum, Odense, and Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgård 3246.* [Niels H. Andersen].

20. HELLIGSØ, north Jutland. Helligsø s., Thisted a.

**Passage-grave.** Remains of a passage grave with accessory chamber. The main chamber was orientated N-S with exit from the E and measured 7 × 2.5 m. In its southern part was found an intact flooring consisting of flat, fist to saucer sized pieces of chalk. The accessory chamber measured 2.5 × 2 m and was also floored with flat pieces of chalk. The entranceway consisted of two pairs of stones, and the course of the passage could be followed for about 2.5 m. The entire structure was symmetrical around an axis passing through passage, main

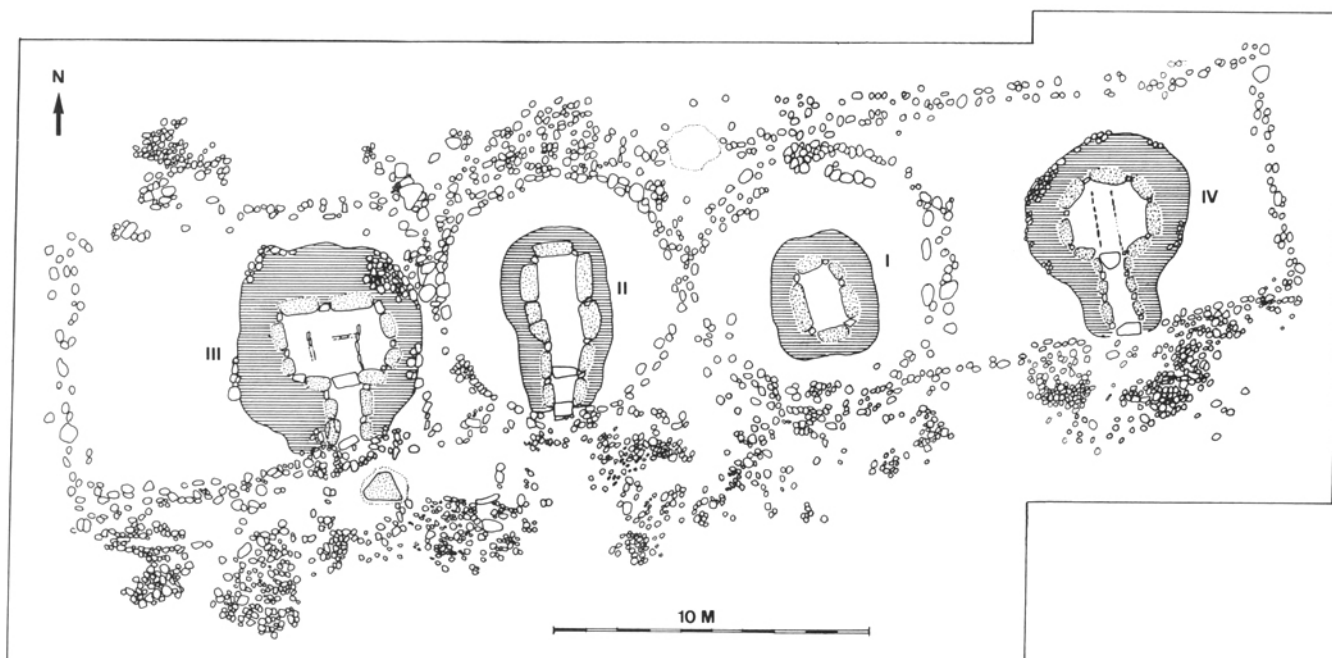


Fig. 3. Excavation plan of the long barrow at Lønthøje, south Jutland (no. 24), with the remains of four megalithic graves.

chamber and subsidiary chamber. All the finds were from the floor and a 2.5 cm thick layer resting on it: 7 polished thick-butted flint axes and 5 stone axes, of which 3 were Middle Neolithic battle-axes. There were also found about 30 blades, 40 club and double-axe shaped amber beads, and some potsherds, including a few from a hanging vessel. There were also skeletal remains. Around the barrow were found a number of graves from period III of the pre-Roman Iron Age and the later Roman Iron Age. In a nearby area were found settlement traces which are probably from the Late Bronze Age. – *Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred*, Thisted, 2350. [Jytte Nielsen/Jens-Henrik Bech].

21. ØSTER TØRSLEV, eastern Jutland. Ø Tørslev s., Randers a.

**Stone-packing graves.** Below a Bronze Age barrow were found 12 stone-packing graves and 5 “mortuary houses”, arranged in two overlapping N-S rows. The finds to date are 2 thin-bladed and 1 thick-butted flint axes, which date the features to MN IV–V. Also some remains of teeth were found, of which one was determined as ox. The excavation will continue in 1988. – *Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers, 260/87. [Ragna Stidsing/Niels Sterum].

22. LOKES HEDE, north Jutland. Nørre. Onsild s., Randers a.

**Causewayed enclosure.** Part of the site was excavated in connection with construction of the Jutland motorway. It lies on a sandy peninsula bounded on three sides by low wet areas. To the west lie 16 protected barrows, including a long barrow. About 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> were excavated, and the Neolithic enclosure

is estimated from surface finds to occupy between 25 and 40 Danish acres. Six ditch segments following an arc were excavated. Inside the ditch alignment a number of pits with much pottery were excavated. Some of them contained burned daub and are interpreted as a kind of oven. The pottery dates the feature to the early Middle Neolithic Funnel Beaker Culture. – *Aalborg historiske Museum* 2145. [Peter Birkedahl].

23. ELBÆK, eastern Jutland. Gårslev s., Vejle a.

**Grave mound.** A ploughed over barrow was totally excavated to make way for a building. On a slight natural hill was found a roughly rectangular mortuary structure measuring 260 × 210 cm. The wall timbers had stood in a footing trench about 60 cm deep, and at each corner there had been a now carbonised plank 50 cm wide and 10 cm thick, which survived to a height of about 70 cm. From one of the walls also survived some thin, 30 cm wide carbonised boards, and traces of further boards were found. In the middle was a grave measuring 20 × 100 cm, containing the following grave goods: – a large battle-axe, a large polished flint axe, a smaller flint axe, and two pots. Inside the mortuary house beside this grave was another, containing a smaller battle-axe and a single pot. Both graves are from the ground-grave period of the Single Grave Culture. Above this structure was a younger grave measuring 400 × 100 cm with a row of stones along each side. The grave goods consisted of a pot at each end, three triangular arrowheads, and an upper-grave battle-axe. Just outside the partially surviving kerb was found a smaller footing-trench structure measuring 130 × 100 cm. *Vejle kulturhistoriske Museum* 1329. [Lone Hvass].

24. LØNTHØJE, south Jutland. Sønder-Starup s., Haderslev a.

**Megalithic long barrow.** Ploughed-over long mound 40 m long and 8 m wide covering remains of four megalithic structures (fig. 3). Earliest was structure I, a round dolmen with a closed 1,9 m long rectangular chamber. Close outside its kerbstones were found sherds of 9 pots from MN Ia. Structure II was a round dolmen contiguous to structure I, containing a 3,5 m long chamber with passage. In the chamber were found human bones, amber beads, Store Valby pottery, a thick-butted flint axe, and three flint chisels. Outside the passage entrance were found large quantities of pottery. Structure III was a passage grave built close beside structure II and enclosed by a rectangular extension of the barrow. The chamber was rectangular and measured 3 × 2 m and was subdivided into at least four sections. Some sherds from MN Ib and Store Valby pottery were found, as well as blades, etc. Outside the barrow was found much pottery and material thrown out of the chamber. Structure IV was a rectangular enlargement of the barrow contiguous to structure I. The chamber was polygonal, measuring 2.3 × 2.1 m, and had a passage. It contained human bones, a few potsherds etc., a flint halberd, and a double-bladed battle axe. Outside the entrance to the passage lay many sherds of ritually placed vessels and material thrown out of the chamber. The old soil under structures I and II contained sherds assignable to the Fuchsberg phase. – Lit.: *Nationalmuseets Arbejdsmark* 1988, pp. 195–208. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6574/87. [Erik Jørgensen].

## BRONZE AGE

25. GANLØSE MOSEVEJ, north Zealand. Ganløse s., Frederiksborg a.

**Settlement.** In continuation of earlier investigations a 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> area was trenched. There were found further remains of an Early Iron Age settlement parts of which were excavated in 1986, and of a later Bronze Age settlement found in 1984 when a natural gas pipeline was laid. In 1987 a further pair of Early

Iron Age farmhouses were excavated and also some pits from period IV of the Bronze Age. One of these produced a large amount of pottery, animal bones, antler, bone implements, moulds, crucibles, and two antler axes, one of them with circle ornament. – *Gilleleje Museum* 3192. [Steffen Stummann Hansen].

26. BRUNSVANG, Lolland. Vesterborg s., Maribo a.

**Bronze neckring** with twisted hoop and pointed-oval terminal plates with spiral extensions (Baudou's type XVI C 3) (fig. 4). This is the largest example of this type hitherto found in Denmark. Received as treasure trove from Lolland-Falsters Stiftsmuseum, Maribo. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6637/87.

27. LERBJERG, Funen. Håstrup s., Svendborg a.

**Burial mound.** Completion of the excavation of a large barrow, diameter 38 m, covering four separate crematorium features. Three of these were surrounded by stone settings, the third was without stones. In each feature were found either 3 or 6 stakeholes. The barrow and the crematoria are datable to period VI of the Bronze Age. Ard marks under barrow. Close by were found pits with pottery of the same period. – *Fyns Stiftsmuseum, Odense*, 6201. [Claus Madsen].

28. ÅS, northwest Jutland. Skjoldborg s., Thisted a.

**Settlement.** Partial excavation of a site with separate groups of Late Bronze Age houses. Houses were found at five places within an area measuring about 300 m from N to S, the groups consisting respectively of 1, 2, 2, 4 and 1 houses. The area excavated was 17 m wide so that only 3 E-W orientated three-aisled buildings could be fully uncovered. At one of the localities a thin occupation layer still survived, where at the western end of a house measuring ca. 13 × 6 m (house IX) there was found a paved fireplace with west of it a sunken storage vessel. House II measured 15 × 7 m with entrance unusually far east, with the result that the western part was twice as long as the eastern part. House VII measured about 20 × 7–7.5 m with entrances slightly west of the middle. – *Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred, Thisted*, 2354. [Martin Mikkelsen].

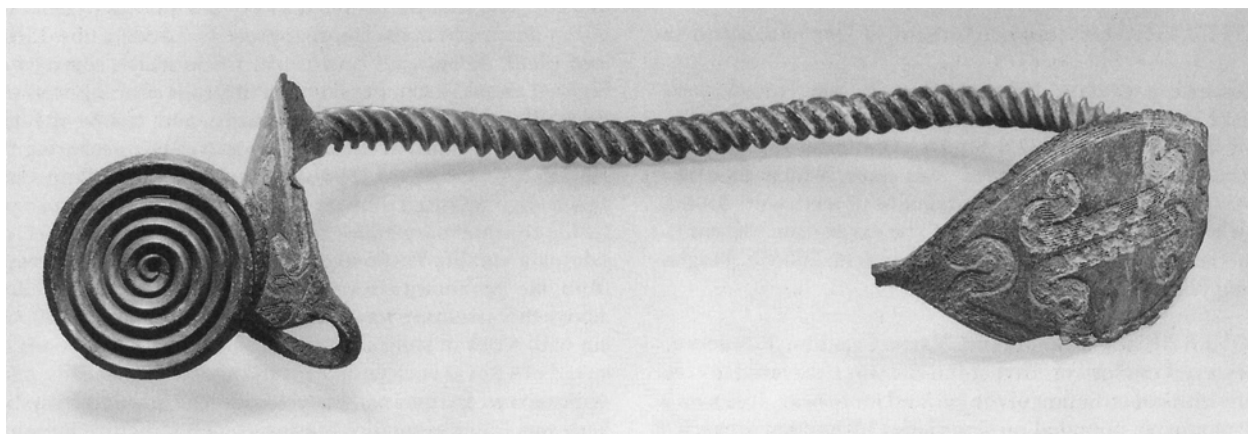


Fig. 4. Large bronze neckring from Brunsvang, Lolland (no. 26). L. Larsen photo.

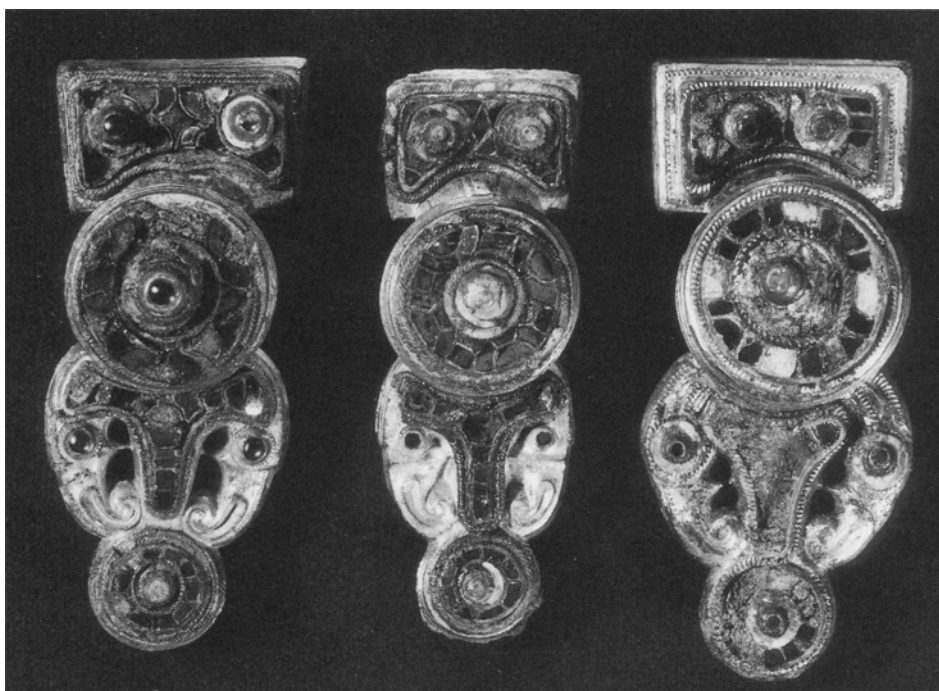


Fig. 5. Three disc-on-bow fibulae of gilt bronze from three female graves at Nørre Sandegård, Bornholm (no. 33). L. Larsen photo.

29. HEMMED CHURCH, eastern Jutland. Hemmed s., Randers a.

**Settlement site.** Middle Bronze Age house with surviving clay floor. The dimensions of the house were ca. 11 × 31 m. Below it were found settlement remains from the Single Grave Culture and the Late Neolithic. There were also remains of Late Bronze Age houses, occupation layers, deposits of burnt stones, and traces of metalworking. – *Djurslands Museum, Grenå*, 2051/87. [N. A. Boas].

30. HØJGÅRD, south Jutland. Gram s., Haderslev a.

**Settlement site.** Further excavation of the Early Bronze Age settlement excavated in 1984 (cf. *JDA* vol. 5, pp. 152–167). In 1987 yet another cluster was exposed consisting of a large three-aisled longhouse (32.8 × 8.4 m) with internal partitioning and the characteristic accumulation of stone-filled cooking pits between the last two pairs of roof-bearing posts in the west. Also a smaller, ploughed down building with no sign of internal roof posts or cooking pits. In connection with this a further sunken building. Close west of this was found a pit containing a type A beaker of the Single Grave Culture. West of this group of houses appeared 11 longhouses of which all that survived was indications of the roof-bearing posts. These antedated the Early Roman Iron Age, from whose early part there were excavated 9 inhumation graves divided into two groups of 4 and 5 graves respectively. An area of 118.000 m<sup>2</sup> has now been excavated. – *Haderslev Museum* 1706. [Per Ethelberg].

## IRON AGE

31. DAMGÅRD I, eastern Zealand. Herstedvester s., Københavns a.

**Settlement site.** A total of 39 buildings were excavated, including barns, extending over at least three major phases. The greatest intensity of occupation seemed to lie in later Roman/early Germanic times, but pottery from rubbish pits shows that there was also activity at the site in early Roman times. It is possible to distinguish eight different house types, some with and some without surviving wall postholes. The development goes from straight rows of roof-bearing posts to curved rows, and from long to short span between the posts in the transverse pairs. Altogether about 20.000 m<sup>2</sup> were investigated. Damgård is the first site with intensive Iron Age occupation to be excavated in Copenhagen county. – *Søllerød Museum* 297. [Eliza Fonnesbech-Sandberg].

32. VEMMETOFTE, eastern Zealand. Hylleholt s., Præstø a.

**Roman bronze saucepan.** Acquired from private owner. From early Roman Iron Age cemetery. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6630/87.

33. NØRRE SANDEGÅRD, Bornholm. Østerlars s., Bornholm a.

**Graves.** In 1987 there were found 50 ploughed-through inhumation graves, most of which can be dated to the younger Ger-

manic period. They were all unusually richly equipped and were evenly divided between male and female graves. Among the grave goods was typical male gear consisting of single or double edged swords, lance, and shield. In connection with certain of the male graves were found horse burials with harness mounts. The female graves held typically 3 fibulae (disc-on-bow, zoomorphic, and saucer), strings of glass beads, spacers, pendants, bronze chains, bracelets, etc. (fig. 5). Also a large number of textile fragments were found, and in a grave from the later Roman Iron Age was found a glass beaker. – *Bornholms Museum, Rønne, 1409.* [Lars Jørgensen/Margrethe Watt]

34. STÆRKÆRVEJ (GUDME III), Funen. Gudme s., Svendborg a.

**Settlement site.** Continued excavation of an area where a hoard of siliquae had been found as well as dwelling structures from the end of the later Roman Iron Age and the beginning of the Germanic Iron Age. In 1987 about 2000 m<sup>2</sup> were excavated and 11 houses from the 4th-5th centuries were found. Eight of them were E-W orientated longhouses, some with the walls surviving as double post rows. With up to six pairs of roof-bearing posts they are the longest houses to date in Gudme, and six of them appear to represent rebuildings of a single dwelling, which was 37 m long in its earliest phase. Around this main structure were smaller N-S orientated buildings and many pits with cultural remains – pottery, beads of glass and amber, iron objects, etc. In a more restricted area there were pits with crucible sherds, tuyères, fused lumps of metal, and other waste from metal working. Especial mention may be made of a denarius, a fragment of a relief fibula of gilded silver, and sherds of four Roman drinking bowls – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept. 6320/85.* [Peter Vang Petersen]

35. LUNDEBORG, Funen. Hesselager s., Svendborg a.

**Settlement site.** Continued investigation of coastal settlement and trade mart from the 3rd-4th centuries A.D. Rich occupation layer with bronze, iron, glass, pottery, bones, coins, gold and silver objects, and iron slag. It was found that the site extends about 250 m along the coast and 50 m inland – the area covered by the occupation layer, whose depth varied from 40 to 70 cm. About 100 m to the north is another similar area, separated from the southern one by a marshy depression. Soundings in this area have revealed a culture layer similar to that at the southern site. It extends about 150 m along the coast and reaches 25–30 m inland. It may reasonably be supposed that there is a connection between some old discoveries of gold ornaments and the northern site. – *Svendborg og Omegns Museum, A 2–86.* [Per O. Thomsen]

36. HEJRHØJ, northeast Jutland. Thisted s., Thisted a.

**Settlement.** Excavation of a site from the later Roman/early Germanic periods with occupation layer surviving to a maximum depth of 0.5 m. Fifteen houses were excavated, including parts of 4 E-W orientated three-aisled longhouses with sod walls; also 2 smaller houses had sod walls. As an example can be described house II, 12 meters of the eastern part of which have been excavated. The sod wall was 1 m thick and there was



Fig. 6. Large bird fibula from Kumlhøj, eastern Jutland (no. 37). L. Larsen photo.

a paved doorway through the eastern end and probably doorways through the sides about 10 m from the east end. Immediately inside the eastern doorway was a probable hearth with around it stone mullers, stone sinkers, pieces of iron, a pot, and lumps of clay. The smallest of the houses with sod walls probably only measured 2.2 × 3.3 m with posts at the two ends only and entrance in the middle of the northern side. Remains were also found of at least three and probably five E-W orientated three-aisled longhouses with post walls. Probably these belonged to a later phase than the houses with sod walls. Finally there were found two houses from the Late Bronze Age and three graves from the later Roman period. – *Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred, Thisted.* [Martin Mikkelsen]

37. KUMLHØJ, eastern Jutland. Albøge s., Randers a.

**Large bird fibula** from the later Germanic Iron Age (fig. 6), found with metal detector together with other metal ornaments from the later Iron Age and Viking period. Submitted as Treasure Trove by Djurslands Museum, Grenå. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept. 5990/85.*

38. JELLING, south Jutland. Jelling s., Vejle a.

**Grave** found during trial trenching around the two large farmhouses from the Early Roman period that were excavated in 1986. Further trenching showed that the grave lay alone on a little rise only 50 m from the farmhouses, with which it was contemporary.

The grave pit measured 460 × 280 cm and contained remains of a wooden cist or chamber which measured 400 × 165 cm and was at least 70 cm high. In the western part of the grave was found a man in a crouched position. He had a gold-mounted fibula at his shoulder, a silver fingerring, a belt buckle with iron belt-end mount, and had by his feet the poorly preserved remains of spurs. In the exact middle of the cist was a shield with a diameter of 120 cm. Along much of its circumference there were edging mounts, and it had a very large, spiked iron



umbo with domed silver-mounted rivet heads. There had probably been three silver discs applied to the wood. Under the shield was found an iron knife. Beside the person buried were found a lancehead and spearhead of iron and a table set of eight pottery vessels. The grave must have belonged to one of the farms, one of which in view of its size and number of out-buildings is the largest known from this period in Denmark. Its size and equipment link this grave with a small number of similar richly-furnished graves from a restricted part of Vejle county. – *Vejle Kulturhistoriske Museum*, 1262. [Dorthe K. Mikkelsen]

39. STORE SKINDBJERG, western Jutland. Dejbjerg s., Ringkøbing a.

**Graves and settlement.** Less than 1 km west of the place where the Dejbjerg carts were found extensive trial excavations have revealed a concentration of burials with urn or cremation pit. Seven graves have been found on a slight rise in the terrain, and six of them have been excavated. The size of the cemetery is estimated as 50 × 50 m at the most. East of the cemetery appeared a contemporary settlement covering an area of about 100 × 100 m. One of the longhouses was fully exposed. It was a well preserved house with wall trenches and byre with stalls, much like the chieftain's farm at Hodde. However it was rebuilt so many times that excavation will be very complicated. The excavation of the cemetery at Store Skindbjerg will continue in 1988 as part of the current investigations around the site of the Dejbjerg carts. – *Skjern-Egvad Museum* 270. [Torben Egeberg Hansen]

40. VELDBÆK IV, western Jutland. Esbjerg s., Ribe a.

**Graves.** A small excavation at a moundlet cemetery revealed many features that were not fully investigated in 1983. There were found ca. 15 urns, three of them containing metal objects. The two excavations showed that the cemetery began at a row of barrows in the north and extends southwards. Its limits are known on three sides and are unknown only on the east. The area investigated measures about 100 × 100 m. A total of about 90 features with ring-ditch have been uncovered, and one separate urn. The urns in the graves are usually in fragments. Seven urns contain metal objects, usually pins, but a lugged ring of bronze with a little chain has also been found. The cemetery can be dated to periods I and II of the pre-Roman Iron Age. – *Esbjerg Museum* 1357. [Palle Siemen]

41. HJEMSTED BANKE, western Jutland. Skærbæk s., Tønder a.

**Graves and settlements.** Since 1977 a total of nearly 90.000 m<sup>2</sup> has been excavated and fieldwork can now be said to have been brought to an end. The discoveries include a tent circle from the Maglemose culture; a large stone with cup-marks; a village from the Bronze/Iron Age transition; six urn cemeteries from the Early Roman Iron Age (a seventh was excavated back in 1919); five inhumation cemeteries from the 3rd-4th centuries; and two large inhumation cemeteries from the 5th-6th centuries. There are a few farmhouses from the 3rd century, but the main part of the excavated settlement remains (34 farms with over 100 longhouses, wells, pit huts, pits, ritual pot-

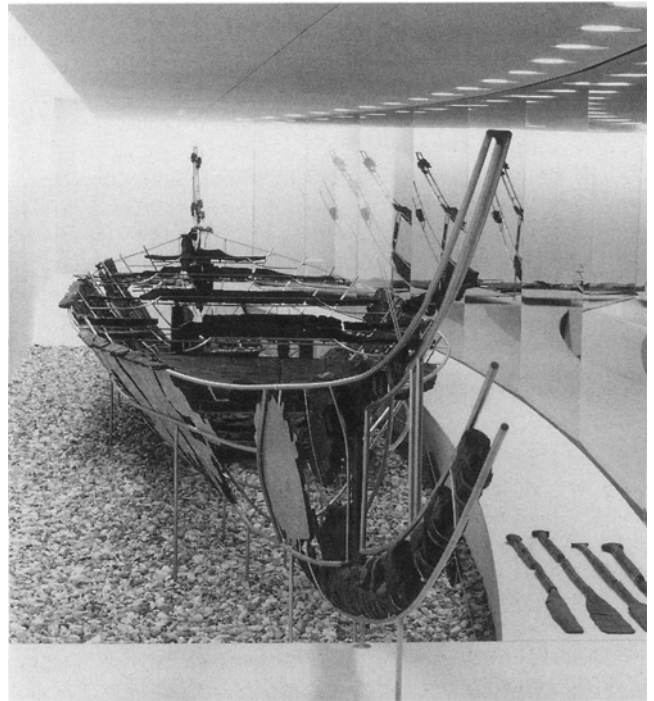


Fig. 7. In 1987 the site of the Hjortspring weapon deposition (no. 42) was reexcavated. Samples for radiocarbon dating were obtained and three such dates place the deposition around 300 BC. In 1988 the Hjortspring boat was presented to the public at the National Museum after total recon-servation. Leif Hammelev photo.

tery deposits, and fences) are from the second half of the 4th to the 6th century. Important for dating purposes are the many wells in which wood is preserved. At present the relative chronology has been set up, but absolute chronology is still lacking. Also excavated were a limited number of pits from the later Germanic and Viking periods, but no houses contemporary with them. Finally there were some houses and many pits and ditches from the 11th-12th centuries. – *Haderslev Museum* 1004. [Per Ethelberg]

42. HJORTSPRING, Als. Svenstrup s., Sønderborg a.

**Ritual weapon deposit.** Supplementary investigations at the site where the 19 m long Hjortspring boat was found accompanied by weapons and other equipment from the pre-Roman Iron Age. The deposit was excavated in 1921–22 and in 1986–88 was subjected to recon-servation at the National Museum in preparation for re-exhibition (fig. 7). The aim of the 1987 investigation was to obtain material suitable for radiometric dating (untreated wood). The date of the boat has been controversial. The new results place the deposition at about 300 B.C. – *National Museum, Dept. of Marine Archaeology and Prehist. Dept.* 6555/87. [Flemming Rieck]



Fig. 8. Thor's hammer from Tågemosen, eastern Zealand (no. 43). L. Larsen photo.



Fig. 9. Reverse of Thor's hammer from Tågemosen with net pattern. L. Larsen photo.

## VIKING AGE

43. TÅGEMOSEN, eastern Zealand. Spjellerup s., Præstø a. **Thor's hammer** of silver, decorated on the front with stamped circles and on the back with cut net pattern (fig. 8–9). The hammer was hung in link-in-link cable made with beaded silver wire. Single find. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6590/87.

44. BØGELUND, eastern Zealand. Varpelev s., Præstø a. **Settlement.** 20.000 m<sup>2</sup> have been excavated with 8 longhouses, 7 small houses, and 10 barns. The houses were about 30 m long and 6–7 m wide. One was a “Trelleborg house” 30 m long and 7 m wide. The houses are grouped in three farmsteads. Pottery from the houses and pits is datable to the late Iron Age or the early Viking Age. In the southern farm was found a little Baltic ware. In the middle farm, which consisted of three longhouses, the youngest being of “Trelleborg type”, there was found quite a lot of Baltic ware and also loom weights, spindle whorls, iron shears, a bronze finger-ring, and iron knives. In the third, northern, farm were excavated two longhouses surrounded by smaller buildings. Also here the pottery was mostly of Baltic type. – *Køge Museum* 1200. [Svend Åge Tornbjerg]

45. GJERRILD KLINT, eastern Jutland. Gjerrild s., Randers a.

**Silver hoard.** During the excavation of a long barrow there was found a hoard containing the following items: – fragments of Kufic coins, namely 3 dirhems minted under the Abbasids and 64 from the central Asian Samanids (or of indeterminate origin). The last coin seems to be 334 or 335 on the Islamic calendar (945–47 A.D.). Also a fragment of a Hedeby coin and cut pieces of plaited wire torques. Acquired as Treasure Trove from Djurslands Museum, Grenå. – *National Museum, Prehist. Dept.* 6249/87. – *Royal Coin Cabinet* 4527.

46. LANGVANG, eastern Jutland. Randers s., Randers a.

**Settlements.** In Randers' northern margin 24.000 m<sup>2</sup> were uncovered with settlement traces from various periods ranging from early Neolithic to Medieval. The most important settlements were late Bronze Age/early pre-Roman Iron Age, Viking period, and Medieval. From the Bronze/Iron Age were excavated two houses, a fence, and 49 find-bearing pits with much pottery, among them one with quantities of pale grey, light-weight slag. The Viking settlement was parts of at least three farmsteads. The well preserved houses were all of the familiar types with curved sides and straight ends often with a pair of the roof-bearing posts in the end-wall. One house had a length of at least 47 m, but most were 15–25 m long and 6.5–8 m wide. Twenty-one sunken huts lay in groups of two to four. It was in these that the largest number of Viking finds were made – pottery, burned loom weights, spindle whorls, fragments of metal, a glass bead, iron slag, and some animal teeth. The Medieval settlement takes the form of two parallel rows with pronounced remains of settlement. Between them is an area with thin settlement. – *Kulturhistorisk Museum, Randers*, 351/86. [Hugo H. Sørensen]



Fig. 10. Aerial view of the Viking Age farm at Gammel Hviding, south Jutland (no. 48). The 40 m long and almost 11 m wide main building is seen from the east. Stig Jensen photo.

47. MALT, south Jutland. Malt s., Ribe a.

**Runestone.** A large stone, ca. 220 × 85 × 60 cm, with runic inscription on one side. The inscription consists of 153 letters arranged in horizontal and vertical bands. On the same side as the inscription is a small, incised male head. The stone was found close north of the Kongeå river and near a system of old road tracks. Excavation provided indications that the stone was found where it originally stood. – *Egnsmuseum Holsted-Brørup-Vejen* 169 and *Esbjerg Museum* 1592. [Svend Aage Knudsen]

48. GAMMEL HVIDING, south Jutland. Hviding s., Tønder a. **Settlement.** Continued excavation of a large Viking farm west of Hviding church. In 1986 a 35 m long Trelleborg house with associated outbuildings was excavated. In 1987 a further 3.500 m<sup>2</sup> was cleared. In addition to outbuildings a second main dwelling appeared – presumably the successor of the Trelleborg house. It had curved walls and there was no sign of internal roof-bearing pots (fig. 10). The northern wall line was cut by a well, the lining of which was a hollowed-out log felled at about 1100 A.D. At the bottom of the well was found an Urnes brooch of bronze. – *Den antikvariske Samling, Ribe* 440. [Stig Jensen]

## MEDIEVAL

49. RYE, north Zealand. Rye s., Københavns a.

**Manor house.** Close west of Rye's medieval church a trial excavation has been carried out on the site of Ryegård, a medieval manor thought to have been in use in c. 1100–1575. Oldest were two walls of cut tufa blocks, preserved as two courses on boulder foundations. The walls belonged to separate buildings. Of later date is the boulder foundation of a round tower, from which issued a covered brick drain. There were also recorded a number of postholes which may be older than the stone buildings. The position and character of the manor indicate that it should be seen in connection with the church. It may be the dwelling of the founder. The excavation will continue in 1988. – *Roskilde Museum* 1304/87. [Michael Andersen]

50. VEJERSLEV, central Jutland. Vejerslev s., Viborg a.

**Water mill.** In 1986 there was excavated part of a mill dam reinforced with a strong piling of oak planks. These have been dated dendrochronologically to about 1185 A.D. Also the millhouse itself was found. Its excavation was completed in 1987. It appears to have been in use for only a short time. As well as unusually well preserved foundations and remains from the mill works there was found a little millhouse with earthfast posts, measuring only 7 × 7 m. Various components such as paddle blades, gear wheels, and teeth from gear wheels, show that the millwheel had been of the vertical type with a single felloe and transverse paddles. Of other finds may be mentioned fragments of millstones of Norwegian mica-schist and of Rhenish basalt, bone combs, bone pins, awls, ornaments, a hoe or ploughshare of iron, and refuse from a wood-turner's workshop. – *Silkeborg Museum* 88/1981. [Chr. Fischer/Knud Bjerring Jensen]

*Translated by David Liversage*

The map on page 256 shows 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 |                |

