

Editorial

Rune Iversen, Thomas Grane, Helene Agerskov Rose, Sarah Croix, Lasse Vilien Sørensen and Xenia Pauli Jensen

2022 was an eventful year as we welcomed two new members to the editorial board, Sarah Croix and Helene Agerskov Rose, along with a new and engaged advisory board. However, 2023 has also brought changes, as Mette Svart Kristiansen, Associate Professor at Aarhus University, decided to leave the editorial board after many years. Mette was part of the team that oversaw the important change in the journal, when it went from Taylor & Francis to the Open Access platform of *tidsskrift.dk*. In more recent years, Mette also functioned as our de facto principal editor. We are very grateful to Mette for the time and effort that she has put into ensuring the well-being of Danish Journal of Archaeology. It has been the goal of the editorial board to secure a wide spectrum of expertise among our editors, and for that reason, we welcome the newest member of our board, Xenia Pauli Jensen, Senior Researcher at Moesgaard Museum. She is a world leading scholar in weapons and warfare in the Iron Age, and also excels in numerous other fields relating to the Iron Age societies of Northern Europe. We are very happy that she is now part of the team.

In 2022, we were pleased to announce admission to the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). This year, we can announce that we have completed the next step, which was to register all published articles within the DOAJ platform. This means that our entire catalogue can now be found via the search engine of DOAJ, something that will greatly broaden our visibility as a scientific journal.

For five years now, Danish Journal of Archaeology has been a full open access journal hosted by the Royal Danish Library at *tidsskrift.dk*. Generous support from Independent Research Fund Denmark, Farumgaard Fonden and Elisabeth Munkegaard Fonden allowed us to acquire the rights to the back issues of the journal from the previous publisher and to continue the high-quality layout and language control that the journal offers. Continuous funding is, however, necessary to keep the journal running and we are therefore happy to announce

that, thanks to renewed support from Independent Research Fund Denmark, we have financing for the next three years, until 2027.

This year's volume contains eleven strong research articles, spanning the period from the Stone Age to the 18th century AD, presented below in chronological order. The chronological span of the articles is therefore wide and covers most of the cultural-historical periods, including the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age, Viking Age, Middle Ages and recent historical periods. In terms of methodology, the articles presented in this volume are wide ranging, including a number of scientific approaches, such as the acid etch peptide-based method to determine the sex of human individuals, stable isotope analysis (carbon, nitrogen and sulphur), chemical composition analyses of artefacts, strontium isotope analyses, pollen analyses, ¹⁴C dating and ground-penetrating radar analysis. They involve fields such as burial, settlement and landscape archaeology, garbology and conservation/preservation of monuments. In geographical terms, the presented studies deal with various regions within Scandinavia and the Baltic countries, and we are very pleased that the authors are from a range of different countries, including Canada, Denmark, England, France, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden.

The article 'Sex Determination and Stable Isotope Analysis of the Nivåfjord Mesolithic Burials, Zealand, Denmark' with Kurt J. Gron as main author, along with an interdisciplinary team of researchers, presents several new results using a range of innovative methods. The acid etch peptide-based method is used to determine the sex of eight individuals from Nivå 10, as well as that of the Nivågård child. Most of the sex determinations confirm the osteological analysis already undertaken on the skeletal remains. One surprise, however, is that the Nivågård child originally identified as possibly a boy, is now identified as a girl based on the recent acid etch peptide-based method. Moreover, the article re-examines the usefulness of stable isotope analysis

of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$), nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$) and sulphur ($\delta^{34}\text{S}$) in human tissues to reconstruct the life histories and diets of the 10 individuals from Nivå 10, as well as the girl from Nivågård. This indicates there was diversified subsistence exploitation of local resources.

Lone Claudi-Hansen and Arne Anderson Stamne's article 'Re-evaluating 'Denmark's Stonehenge'' presents the results of investigations of possible concentric circles of features and large stone holes, interpreted as a large Neolithic stone- or woodhenge surrounding the large hill of Overdrevsbakken, near Kalundborg, West Zealand. The recent excavation and ground-penetrating radar survey in 2019 to 2021 did not reveal any circular structures, which could support the interpretations of a Neolithic stone- or woodhenge. Instead, the recent results documented clusters of Bronze Age fire pits located at the side of Overdrevsbakken, thus associating continuous, communal, diachronic activities involving fire and heating near a large hilltop with neighbouring burial mounds.

In the article 'Maglehøj', Torben Dehn and Poul Klens Larsen present their studies of the Maglehøj passage grave 100 years after the monument was first opened up. Maglehøj is one of the few Danish passage graves, with birch bark incorporated into the construction, that are still preserved today. Investigations undertaken in 1996 revealed that the birch bark was relatively well preserved and that there had been a break-in at one end of the chamber late in prehistoric times. Follow-up investigations in 2013 and 2018 were undertaken to clarify the preservation conditions of the birch bark and control the climatic conditions inside the chamber, in order to establish optimal conditions for the future preservation.

Jens Winther's article 'The Late Neolithic Expansion in Denmark' highlights agricultural intensification as a significant aspect of the Late Neolithic in southern Scandinavia, c.2350-1700 BC, and proposes that these changes in subsistence led to a population increase, which formed the basis for the spread of agriculture and a new Bell Beaker-influenced Late Neolithic culture from Jutland across Scandinavia. Furthermore, the old cultural differences between West and East Denmark resulted in a delay in the introduction of the Late Neolithic in East Denmark and scarcity of Bell Beaker-related artefacts in the region.

Anette Sand-Eriksen's and Axel Mjærums article on 'Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age settlements and agro-pastoral developments in the Oslo Fjord area, southeastern Norway' fits thematically and chronologically with Winter's article on Late Neolithic Denmark. Compared to western Norway, the Oslo Fjord area is generally characterised by a more fragmented archaeological record, without Neolithic longhouses and direct empirical evidence of the introduction of farming. However, based on radiocarbon-dated buildings, cereals and cultivated soils, Sand-Eriksen and Mjærums can demonstrate a general delay in the establishment of longhouses, from 2200-2100 BC, and a stepwise intensification in crop farming from c.2100 BC. They interpret this as a more gradual and adaptive development of farming in this part of southern Norway, contradicting the idea that a comprehensive 'Neolithic package' was introduced at the onset of the Late Neolithic.

With 'Tales from Ginderup Mound in Thisted County, Denmark' we are back in southern Scandinavia and in chronological terms in the Early Nordic Bronze Age, c.1700-1100 BC. Here, Samantha S. Reiter et al. conducted strontium isotope provenancing and osteological analyses on several individuals from an Early Bronze Age mound at Ginderup. The results suggest that one of the individuals, a female interred with a possible corded skirt, was probably of local origin, but that she was also repeatedly mobile during her lifetime. The authors link this mobility pattern to possible fosterage practices, a somewhat understudied cause of female mobility during this period. The study supports the notion that the Nordic Bronze Age was a period which was characterised by complex socio-dynamics.

The article 'Where water wells up' by Malene R. Beck, Lise Frost and Renée Enevold revisits a forgotten deposition tradition from the Late Bronze Age on Funen, Denmark. The authors aim to improve the understanding of the Bronze Age depositional practices in relation to flowing water, and suggest that offerings in and around springs are an overlooked component of the Bronze Age depositional tradition. The article presents a detailed archaeological and scientific study of a new multi-type spring deposition at Hedegyden, which included three hanging vessels and a belt ornament dating to the Late Nordic Bronze Age Period V. A *chaîne opératoire* is

proposed for the various sub-elements and phases of the depositional act, and non-pollen Palynomorph (NPP) analysis of organic materials from the hanging vessels indicates the presence of bee hairs. This suggests that honey or beeswax were included in the deposition, and the authors propose that the former may have had a medicinal role, whereas the latter may have been related to bronze casting.

Torben Sode, Mads Dengsø Jessen and Bernard Gratuze present in 'Viking Age Windows' a ground-breaking study of windowpane fragments from selected Viking Age centres in Scandinavia. This group of finds, they argue, are contemporary with the activities at the sites where they were found, and not considerably later, as the research tradition has previously assumed. This raises questions concerning procurement networks, as well as in relation to symbolic architecture. Windowpanes are indeed remarkably associated with aristocratic residences, which combined political, economic, social and religious functions. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach, integrating archaeological analysis with chemical composition analysis (via LA-ICP-MS), the authors are able to confirm the Viking Age date of the finds and suggest two possible routes for importation of the raw materials. They discuss the symbolic connotations associated with the use of glass in buildings and the possible magical significance of this material.

In 'Sukow Ware at Vester Egesborg, Denmark?', Jens M. Ulriksen and Torbjörn Brorsson investigate whether a group of finds resembling Sukow Ware, an Early Slavic pottery type, found at the Late Germanic Iron Age/Viking Age landing site of Vester Egesborg in southern Zealand, can definitely be identified as Slavic imports. In terms of shape and fabric, Sukow Ware is not easily distinguishable from contemporary South Scandinavia pottery, with rim forms its most diagnostic trait. The authors used ICP-MA/ES analyses to identify the provenance of the clays used to make the presumed Early Slavic pottery and South Scandinavian pottery found at the site. The results indicated that most of both groups were made of local clay from various different sources in the vicinity. Only three samples pointed to a non-local origin: two of South Scandinavian type (possibly the Hedeby area and the Ystad area) and one of Early Slavic type (a decorated

Feldberg sherd, possibly from a vessel made in the Roskilde area). The difficulties in disentangling the different pottery traditions attest to the high degree of integration in the western Baltic region.

The archaeological evidence from the medieval castle at Boringholm (1369-early 15th century) is examined by Rainer Atzbach in the article 'The Garbage, the Castle, its Lord and the Queen'. Atzbach uses Boringholm as a case study to embark on a methodological discussion of how archaeologists should deal with apparently paradoxical material evidence: on the one hand, a broad range of artefacts, signalling modes of consumption associated with the elite and a courtly lifestyle; on the other hand, a more modest architecture, resembling more a farmstead than a castle. The author puts forward the principles of garbology, as developed by William Rathje, as a methodological framework to explain why 'elite' waste may to a greater extent reflect a desire to achieve elite status than the pre-existing possession of that status. Considering both finds and contexts, he therefore proposes that the castle at Boringholm was home to the household of a parvenu.

The article dealing with subject matter of most recent date is by Rūta Karaliūtė and colleagues, who present a historic case study from the Old Town of Vilnius, Lithuania. In the article 'The Dietary Stories of One Household: Multi-proxy Study of Food Remains at Dominikonų St. 11 in Vilnius Between 15th-18th Century', they present new results of archaeological, zooarchaeological and archaeobotanical investigations, and combine these with historical written sources to investigate the dietary stories of the residents of a land plot in Vilnius. The residents themselves are not analysed (through stable isotope analysis), but instead their material remains, surroundings and available food sources. This approach enables the authors to discuss long-term dietary changes in relation to, for example, the spatial distribution and architectural developments of the buildings at the site. Specifically, they establish that buckwheat, which historically has been assumed to be a food source of the poor, was instead a reliable food source for all social classes, thus successfully demonstrating the advantage of multi-proxy studies.

We hope you will enjoy this volume!
The editorial team

