

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. 223 and identified by their no.

PALAEOLITHIC

1. JELS, South Jutland. Oksenvad s., Haderslev a.

Late-glacial settlement site. In the autumn of 1983 towards the end of the investigation of Jels 1 – the first settlement site of the Hamburgian Culture recorded in Denmark (cp. *JDA* vol. 2 pp. 7–11) – systematic reconnaissance excavations revealed another Hamburgian settlement site only 30 m from the first one. During the summer of 1984 *Haderslev Museum* thoroughly excavated this new site, Jels 2. The excavation covered 225 m² and yielded a rich material: approx. 135 arrow-heads (all of the Halvete type), 150 scrapers (some with and some without longitudinal edge-retouch), 120 burins (predominantly dihedral burins on a retouch), 175 Zinkens (both single- and double-Zinkens), 14 perforators, and 19 combination tools. Furthermore, there were approx. 90 broken Zinken-points. So Jels 2 is not only much richer than Jels 1, it is in fact the largest Hamburgian settlement site found so far as regards area as well as tool-frequency. Furthermore, the excavation showed that this site as well as Jels 1 is ploughed up, and that the relatively few artefacts found below the top soil have been buried by various kinds of bioturbation (uprooted trees, animal activities, etc.). These disturbances also explain the total absence of man-made structures. The presence of a fireplace is, however, indirectly revealed by pieces of burned flint. Judging by types and technique Jels 2 must be roughly contemporaneous with Jels 1 and should consequently be allocated to the Havelte Group. – *Haderslev Museum* 1610. [Jørgen Holm]

MESOLITHIC

2. SPARREGÅRD, Falster. Brarup s., Maribo a.

Settlement site. In September 1984 a rescue excavation of an Ertebølle kitchen-midden was carried out at Sparregård in North-western Falster. There were remains of common mussel, cockle, common European periwinkle, whelk, and oyster. This is the southernmost record of oyster on an Ertebølle site. Besides flint tools there was a large number of animal bones and several bone tools, whereamong fragments of a flat bone ring of the west-Danish type. Furthermore, large quantities of pottery were gathered, which, along with the flint material, date the settlement site to the middle and latest Erte-

bølle period. – *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1121/75. [Peter Vang Petersen]

3. MAGLEBY NOR, Langeland. Magleby s., Svendborg a.

Settlement site. On a former islet in the reclaimed Magleby inlet a small early Maglemose settlement site was excavated in 1984. Near the northern bank of the islet two concentrations (hut-sites?) were unearthed. They contained flint waste and a few bone fragments and bone tools. Further faunal remains were found in waste layers off the islet, which was here covered by sediments from the Atlantic transgression. The predominance of microliths suggests that this is a small, highly specialized, seasonal site. – *Langelands museum* 11372. [J. Skaarup]

4. STENBROGÅRD, Central Jutland. Kobberup s., Viborg a.

Settlement site. In 1984 on a sandy headland near Tastum Lake south of Skive a Maglemose settlement was investigated. The settlement consisted of only a small area with various kinds of flint artefacts and waste flint. The find can be dated to the middle of the Boreal Period. – *Skive museum*, 290A. [Agner Nordby Jensen]

NEOLITHIC

5. TIBIRKE, North-east Zealand, Tibirke s., Frederiksborg a.

Wooden trackway. These remains, which were partly overlaid by an Iron Age road, were originally excavated by G. Kunwald in 1946. Two of the hazel posts from this excavation have recently been C-14 dated to 2300 ± 85 and 2150 ± 85 bc (C-14 years), so the road dates back to the transition period between the Funnel-Beaker and the Single-Grave Cultures. In 1946 78 wood samples were taken, and the analysis shows that 70 (i.e. 90 %) are hazel, the remainder being oak, birch, and willow. Hazel preserves very poorly, and this fact as well as the small diameter of the posts – less than 10 cm – show that they cannot have supported a bridge, but must have been hammered down to support a road built on soft ground. – *Nationalmuseet*, Dept. of Natural Science and 1st. Dept. 3361/80. – Lit. *Fra Nationalmuseets Arbejdsmark* 1944 p. 79ff. – *Skalk* 1984: 4. [C. Malmros]

6. LEJRE, Zealand, Allerslev s., København a.

The site of a passage grave. Prompted by the discovery of 25

polished axes by an amateur archaeologist the museum effected a rescue excavation of a ploughed-down passage grave site in Hulegårds-Marken at Lejre. The passage grave, which turned out to be a double grave, has been located on the crest of a pronounced elevation of the ground. The floor layer yielded many artefacts including transverse arrowheads, blades, polished axes and chisels, tanged arrowheads, amber pendants, and pottery. The artefacts could generally be dated to MN V. The sacrificial layers outside the entrances were not preserved. – *Roskilde museum*, 611/84. [Tom Christensen]

6 a. THE SEA OFF BORNHOLM.

Single find. An Early Neolithic lugged vessel found in a fisherman's net was delivered to *Bornholms Museum* in 1984. It was dredged from the bottom of the Baltic Sea 6–7 nautic miles WNW of Hammeren. The vessel is 20.8 cm tall, has a short, cylindrical neck and a spherical belly with a flattened base (fig. 1). Greatest diam. 17.1 cm. Five horizontally pierced lugs are placed just below the greatest width. It is the third vessel of this type found in the waters near Bornholm (cf. S. Nielsen: *Et nyt fund af en øskenkrukke fra havet ved Bornholm. Bornholmske Samlinger* 1975: 79–84). – Deposited at *Bornholms Museum*, Rønne. – *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. A51090.

7. KLINTEHØJ, Lolland. Birket s., Maribo a.

Settlement site. In the Lolland-Falster area only few Neolithic settlement sites have been investigated. In this area the period is mostly represented by graves – especially the large number of megalith graves – and by single finds. In the autumn of 1984 a trial excavation was carried out near the coast at the foot of an escarpment facing south, on the outskirts of an extensive area of meadowlands. A culture layer appeared, the contents of which dated it to the Middle Neolithic Funnel-Beaker Culture – *Lolland-Falsters Stiftsmuseum*, Maribo, 800–1984–36. [Karen Løkkegaard-Poulsen]

8. SARUP, Funen. Hårby s., Odense a.

Causewayed enclosure. At Sarup in south-west Funen parts of the fortified systems from the Fuchsberg- and the MN-phases respectively, were investigated. The investigation, which mainly dealt with sections that had not previously been excavated, showed that the ditches of both fortified systems had been dug up during the Neolithic period – in the case of the latest system as many as four times within the same period. Dug-up ditches have been recorded in similar fortified systems elsewhere. – *Forhistorisk Museum*, Moesgård, and *Fyns Stiftsmuseum*, Odense. – Lit.: *Kuml* 1973–74, and 1980. *Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt* 5, 1975. [Niels Andersen]

9. DAMSBO, Funen, Jordløse s., Svendborg a.

Megalithic grave. In September 1984 a ploughed-down megalithic grave was investigated. The grave has consisted of a broad chamber encased in a clay mantle, surrounded by a 2 m wide circular ditch filled with stones. The circular ditch contained Fuchsberg pottery. On the bottom of the chamber were more than 300 artefacts (a.o. a richly ornamented miniature

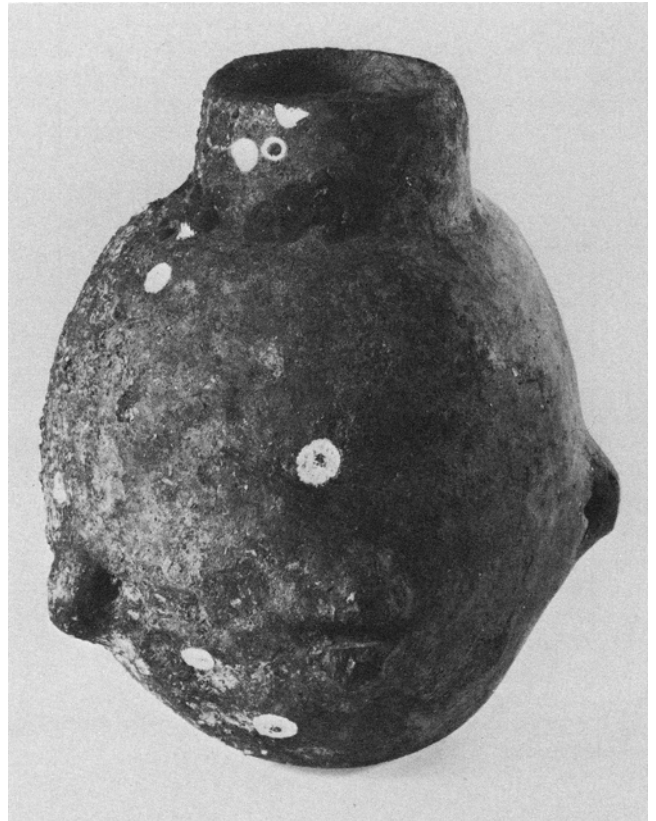


Fig. 1. Early Neolithic lugged vessel dredged from the bottom of the Baltic off Bornholm (No. 6a) (L. Larsen photo, the National Museum). Height: 20.8 cm.

battle axe) and a large heap of bones. – *Forhistorisk Museum*, Moesgård, and *Fyns Stiftsmuseum*, Odense. [Niels Andersen]

10. MORUP MØLLE, North-west Jutland, Bedsted s., Thisted a.

Graves. In an escarpment facing north-west and sloping down towards the meadows along Hvidbjerg Å (river) four Early Neolithic inhumation graves have been investigated. All the graves were NNW-SSE aligned and lay in a 12 m long row at intervals of 40–50 cm (fig. 2). In the section of the escarpment containing the graves the elevation of the ground dropped 1 m from the southernmost to the northernmost of the graves.

Flint waste and a few potsherds from EN C show that the graves have been laid out on a former settlement site. The excavation yielded no indications that the graves had been covered by a long barrow or any other structures that would have made them conspicuous. The graves had only been dug 20–40 cm into the underground.

It should be noted that the size of the graves diminished from the biggest grave at the top of the escarpment (grave 1) to the smallest grave furthest to the north and almost at the bottom of the escarpment (grave 4). The distribution of the grave goods was also in accordance with their respective sizes:

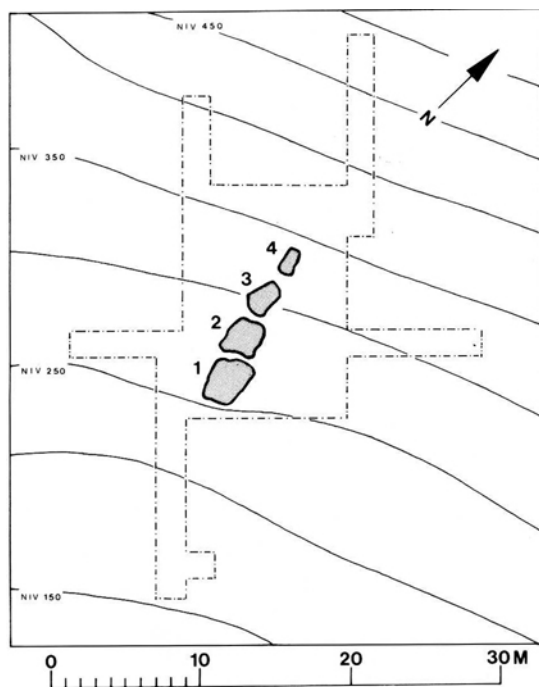


Fig. 2. Four graves from the Early Neolithic at Morup Mølle, North-West Jutland (No. 10).



Fig. 3. Morup Mølle (No. 10). Grave 2 seen from the south (J.-H. Bech photo).

there were numerous amber pendants in graves 1 and 2, only two in grave 3, and grave 4 contained no grave goods at all.

Among the pendants in grave 1 several were oblong, had a clearly marked waist, and no perforation. This type of pendant is known from Early Neolithic graves and sacrificial finds. This

dating of grave 1 clearly goes for the other graves as well due to the uniform nature of the find.

Grave 1 was 3.5 m long and up to 2.75 m wide, and was filled with head-sized stones. Most of the stones lay directly on top of the grave and have presumably covered a wooden coffin. Below the stone layer at the south-end of the grave were approx. 170 amber pendants.

Grave 2 was 2.5 m long and up to 2.4 m wide and had slightly diverging sides so that the grave had a lay-out shaped like a trapeze, which also seemed to be the case with the other graves. As appears from fig. 3, apart from the stone lining along the sides of the grave there is also a row of tightly packed stones along the eastern longitudinal side. These stones must have flanked a narrow wooden coffin placed in the central area of the grave with no stones. A string of amber pendants taken from the southern part of the grave as a sample has so far not been further analysed.

Grave 3 was 2.7 m long and 1.9 m wide, and along its edges was a stone lining consisting of hand- to head-sized stones. At the middle of the grave and in its northern section were three large stones. The only grave goods were two amber pendants found in the southernmost end of the grave.

Grave 4 was the smallest one, measuring only 2.05 × 0.95. It had been equipped with a single row of hand- to head-sized stones along its edges, most of which had been removed by ploughing during the course of time. There were no grave goods. – *Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred*, Thisted, 1961. [Jens-Henrik Bech]

11. KJØLVEJEN, Randers. Hornbæk s., Viborg a.

The site of a passage grave. Ploughed-down mound with traces of a megalithic chamber measuring approx. 13 × 5 m and ENE-WSW aligned. Along the south side of the mound was found pottery from the Middle Neolithic period 1b. The fill also contained settlement pottery from the Middle Neolithic period, and below the mound traces of ard-ploughing were recorded. – *Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers 332/82. [Bjarne H. Nielsen]

BRONZE AGE

12. GUNDSØGÅRD, Zealand. Gundsømagle s., København a.

Settlement site. The museum has investigated parts of a settlement site from the Late Bronze Age periods IV and V. The remains of four long-houses were found along with a large number of pits containing pottery. – *Roskilde Museum*, 572/83. [Tom Christensen]

NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE

13. VIBBERSTOFT, north-west Jutland. Villerslev s., Thisted a.

Barrow. The ploughed-down barrow measuring 25 × 1.25 m before excavation was situated on the crest of a hill close to the banks of the Limfjord. The barrow consisted of six phases and

contained one primary grave and three secondary ones. The primary grave consisted of a circular stone pavement with a diameter of 4 m. At the centre of the stone pavement was an east-west aligned bed for a coffin, containing the remains of a wooden coffin and, at the east end, teeth and traces of a skull. On the stone pavement next to the coffin was an earthenware vessel from late Single-Grave Culture. The grave was covered by a mound with a diameter of 10.5 m and an original height of 1.5 m. The mound was surrounded by a well-preserved stone circle. The second phase was built in exactly the same way and included a secondary grave with traces of a cist, but no artefacts. In phases 3 and 4 the lower part of the side of the mound was covered by a stone pavement. The stone pavement of phase 3 contained 2 cup-marks, and a similar cup-mark was found on one of the stones in a grave dug 0.5 m into the top of the second phase. The grave contained no artefacts but should probably be dated to the Late Neolithic period or the Early Bronze Age. The latest structure in the barrow was a secondary grave from the Late Bronze Age, period IV. It consisted of an oval excavation filled with pebble gravel and large limestone fragments. Besides burnt bone it contained a sword, a pair of tweezers, an awl, a small double-edged knife, and a fragment of a razor. – *Museet for Thy og Vester Hanherred*, Thisted, 1966. [Anne-Louise Olsen]

14. TOFTEPARKEN, North Jutland. Års s., Ålborg s.
Settlement site. At the investigation of a hillock on the north side of Halkær river-valley traces were found of a settlement from three different periods. The latest structure was a house-site from the Late Bronze Age (A324). The house-site is approximately east-west aligned, 18 m long, 5.5 – 6 m wide, has recessed entrance-posts, rounded gables, and a fire-place at the west end. Around the house-site was a number of pits with pottery and charred grain.

Situated partly below this house-site was a rectangular house-site from the Late Neolithic period (A350). This house-site is 7.5 m long, 4 m wide, and WSW-ENE aligned. The sunk floor has been dug 10–15 cm below the surface. The fill covering the sunk floor and the fill in the post-holes contained pottery and a fragment of a flint dagger. To the west of these house-sites was a large flat-bottomed pit (A 355). The pit is SW-NE aligned, measures 8.75 × 5.0 m, and is approx 0.3 m deep. It contained pottery from the Upper-Grave period of the Single-Grave Culture and some flint waste. Though there were no post-holes, the pit may actually be a sunk floor of a house-site. – *Vesthimmerlands Museum*, Års 228. [Mogens Hansen]

PRE-ROMAN AND ROMAN IRON AGE

15. HØJGÅRD, South Jutland. Gram s., Haderslev a.
Urn cemetery. In an area measuring 5 × 60 m along the edge of a gravel pit at Enderupskov between Gram and Ribe a total of 12 urn-graves has so far been found. One of them contained a sword, a shield, a spear, and two Hanovarian fibulae. Two cremation pits both containing weaponry and equipment. The burial ground can be dated to period IIIb of the Pre-Roman

Iron Age and the beginning of the Early Roman Iron Age. The contents of the urns are varied and exciting, ranging from richly equipped urns to urns containing only burned bones. – *Haderslev Museum* 1706. [Per Ethelberg]

16. GAMMEL SOLE, Central Jutland. Øster Snede s., Vejle a.
Settlement. In 1984 an area along the motorway, measuring 50 × 205 m was partially excavated. It contained 35 house-sites of varying sizes, all dating from the Early Roman period. Only the post-holes from the roof-supporting posts and the entrance-posts were preserved. The houses represent two or three phases and are grouped in a series of farmsteads in a village. There were many pits and two wells. On the same location an area measuring 20 × 200 m was excavated in connection with the construction of a natural gas pipeline in 1983. – *Vejle kulturhistoriske Museum*, m 879. [Dorthe Mikkelsen]

17. KJÆRSING, Esbjerg.

Settlement site. In June-July 1984 a large Iron Age settlement at Solbakkegård in Kjærings was excavated. The site has been known since the 1930s when a. o. G. Hatt, H. Kjør, and P. V. Glob excavated two house-sites with paved stables. Since then the settlement site has constantly been harassed by destruction, partly because it is located on land that was part of Esbjerg's old aerodrome, a busy activity area during the war, and partly because the area has since been intensively cultivated, drained, and ploughed. Thus the pavement was no longer preserved, but in spite of everything much of the settlement site was still intact. The 10,000 m² that were thoroughly investigated in 1984 contained 30 houses of varying sizes and a dozen pits with abundant artefacts. Furthermore there were 6 widely spaced urn-graves in the northern corner of the site. The houses were distributed into two groups (cf. fig. 4): one to the north consisting of 22 houses in a row, all of them WNW-ESE aligned, and one group further to the south consisting of a line of 8 houses. These were similarly oriented, except one which was NNE-SSW aligned. Between the two groups was an area devoid of finds. As regards size and shape they did not differ markedly from the usual early Iron Age house-type. They had wall-ditches and pairs of roof-supporting posts inside the houses. On the basis of size and shape they can be divided into three groups: 1) small storage-houses measuring 4 × 4 with two pairs of roof-supporting posts, 2) somewhat bigger houses with a length of 9–12 m and four pairs of roof-supporting posts, and 3) large houses with a length of 15–20 m and 6–8 pairs of roof-supporting posts. Due to intensive agricultural cultivation there were only few remains of fences, but in several places, especially around the houses, it was possible to prove their presence. Furthermore, a double fence could be established over a fairly long stretch of land. The habitation seems to have been of fairly short duration. Only few of the houses had been reconstructed or repaired, and likewise only few of the house-sites overlapped (there were only two phases). Apart from one house, dated by its type to Per. I of the Pre-Roman Iron Age, the large amount of pottery found in refuse pits and post-holes dates the main occupation to the transition period between the Pre-Roman Iron Age and the

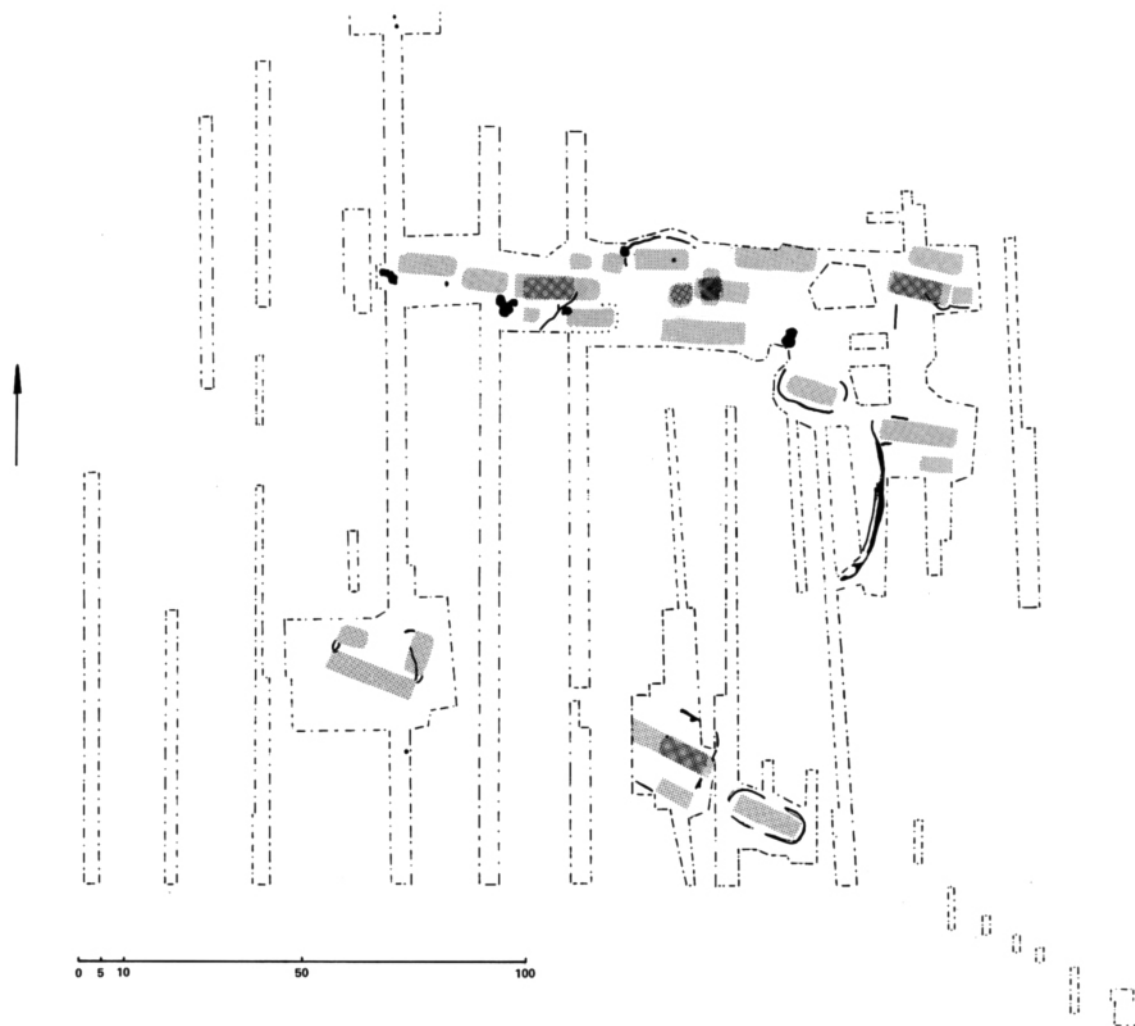


Fig. 4. Kjærsging, Esbjerg. Late Pre-Roman/Early Roman Iron Age Settlement (No. 17).

Early Roman Iron Age, i.e. to around the Birth of Christ. – *Esbjerg Museum*, j. no. 864. – *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., C22620. – Lit.: Thomsen, N.: *Jernalderens brolagte stalde*. *Fra Ribe Amt* 1960–63: 266–80. – Villadsen, H.: *En Boplads fra den senere Jernalder*. *Fra Ribe Amt* 1932–35: 361–65. [Henrik Christiansen]

LATE ROMAN AND GERMANIC IRON AGE

18. SELKÆR, East Jutland. Kastbjerg s., Randers a.

Settlement. In 1984 1000 m² containing refuse layers, preserved wooden wells, post-holes, and one sunken hut dating from the early Germanic Iron Age were excavated within the boundaries of the present-day village Selkær. The structures contained large amounts of pottery, iron scoria, millstones, and manufactured wood. Furthermore, traces were found of settlements from the early middle ages, the late middle ages, and the 18th cent. – *Djursland Museum*, Grenå, 1993. [Esbjen Kannegaard Nielsen]

19. NØRRE SNEDE, Central Jutland. Nørre Snede s., Skanderborg a.

Settlement site. The excavation of villages from the 3rd to 7th centuries (cp. *JDA* vol. 1, p. 181) was continued. In 1984 an area of 9000 m² with 30 long-houses, 6 smaller houses, and 12 small buildings was excavated. Around the houses were several systems of fences with a total of approx. 20 outhouses. – *Vejle Kulturhistoriske Museum*, M211. [Torben E. Hansen]

20. VORBASSE, South-central Jutland. Vorbasse s., Ribe a.

Settlement site. In 1984 the excavation of the extensive settlement area (cp. *JDA* vol. 2, pp. 127–136) with farmsteads and villages from the Iron Age and Viking Age was continued. Inside an area of 16,000 m² the following structures were investigated:

Third to 5th cents. A.D.: two farmsteads, each with 3–5 phases. This included the excavation of 8 long-houses, 2 smaller houses, 2 small buildings, 2 sunken huts, and 6 wells. Furthermore, wheel tracks and traces of ard-ploughing were recorded.

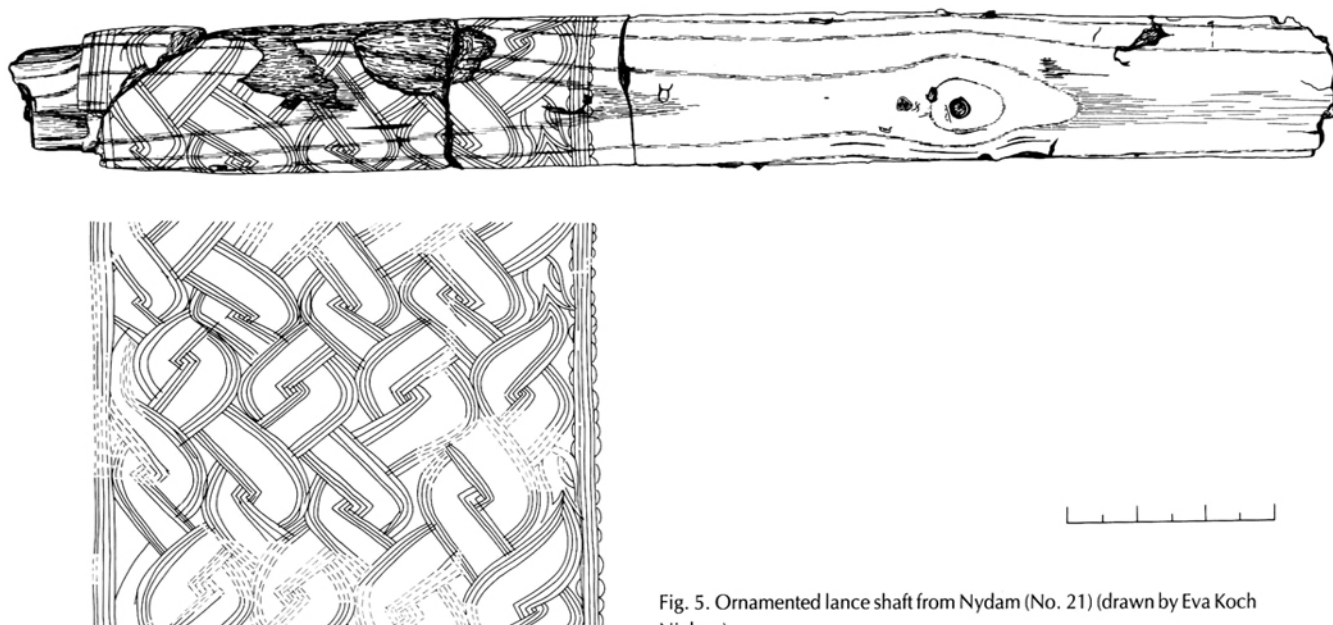


Fig. 5. Ornamented lance shaft from Nydam (No. 21) (drawn by Eva Koch Nielsen).

Eight and 10th cents. A.D.: two and a half enclosed farmsteads with 2 long-houses, 14 smaller houses, 2 sunken huts, and 2 large wells with fully preserved wooden structures.

Eleventh cent.: a farmstead with one house of the Trelleborg-type, and 3 smaller houses. – *Vejle Kulturhistoriske Museum* and *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept. 1124/84. [Steen Hvass]

21. NYDAM III, South Jutland. Sottrup s., Sønderborg a. **Votive offering of weapons.** In 1984 a new votive offering was found approx. 90 m from the spot where Conrad Engelhardt excavated three big boats and weaponry from the late Roman Iron Age in 1859–63, and approx. 60 m from the spot where the richly decorated silver fittings for scabbards dating from the Early Germanic Iron Age were found in 1888, – the find that is known as Nydam II.

The investigation covered an area of around 104 m², yielding around 150 iron weapons, including: lance points, sword blades, umboes, and knives. Only few items were of bronze: some fittings for shields, one knife hilt button, a U-shaped tip for a sword scabbard, and a sword hilt button with ends shaped like animal heads. The excavation was heavily disturbed by peat-diggings, but between these were untouched sections with stratified swamp peat. Sword blades and spear points were stuck into the peat, which must have been a steady lake bank at the time of the offering. In a small area parts of the original surface were preserved showing poorly preserved fragments of shield boards, lance shafts, arrow shafts, and bows made of yew tree. Around 20 lances had their shafts preserved, and these all displayed fine braided patterns in accordance with the patterns found by Engelhardt in Kragehul bog in south-west Funen. (fig. 5).

Nydam III has so far been dated to Early Germanic Iron Age. The investigation was carried out in collaboration with *Hader-*

slev Museum. – *Nationalmuseet*, Prehist. Dept., 1426/75. [Peter Vang Petersen]

VIKING AGE

22. BAKKENDRUP, West Zealand. Bakkendrup s., Holbæk a. **Burial ground.** In 1979 skeleton remains were found north of the village Bakkendrup. An investigation showed that there was a series of interments from the Viking Age. Along with a number of settlement pits a total of 10 graves containing more or less well-preserved skeletons was investigated. Most of the graves were rather simply equipped with iron knives and whetstones. A few graves were somewhat more elaborately equipped with a.o. bronze belt-ornaments and beads of glass and quartz, and a gilt disc-shaped fibula of bronze. Furthermore, a pit was investigated, containing a complete female outfit consisting of two cup-shaped bronze fibulae, a wooden casket with iron fittings, an iron key and an iron knife, but no skeleton remains. Furthermore, bones from at least seven individuals were gathered along with a few artefacts found in the earth heaps around the investigated area.

In 1983 another excavation was made south of the 1979 excavation. This investigation yielded five interments. The material from these graves includes iron knives, whetstones, ring-headed pins, spindle-weights, wooden caskets with iron fittings, glass beads, and a gilt disc-shaped fibula with an imitation effigy on one side and a stylized Christ-figure on the other.

The burial ground should be dated to the latter half of the 9th century. The 15 investigated graves probably only make up a small part of the original burial ground, the rest of which has



Fig. 6. Piece of antler with runic inscription from Kalundborg (No. 28; (L. Larsen photo, the National Museum).



Fig. 7. Boxwood knife handle with carved decoration from Fuglslev (No. 30) (M. Aagreen photo).

been destroyed by ploughing and gravel-digging. – *Rigsantikvarens arkæologiske Sekretariat*. [Svend E. Albrethsen]

23. LADBY, Funen. Kølstrup s., Odense a.

Soundings were made in the tumulus over the **Ladby Viking ship burial** prior to a renovation of the hall and the mound. The sections showed intact parts of the mound and gave stratigraphical evidence, that the tumulus was made in the Viking Age. Surrounding the mound was a circle of vertical posts of 20 cm diam. giving the diam. of the mound as 29 m. – Fyns Stiftsmuseum, Odense, j.nr. 1923. – Lit.: K. Thorvildsen: *Ladbyskibet*. *Nordiske Fortidsminder* VI, 1, 1957. – H. Thrane in *Skalk* 1985: 1 pp. 3–7. [H. Thrane]

24. KAAGÅRDEN, Langeland. Lindelse s., Svendborg a.

Cemetery. Already in 1900 Jens Winther of Langelands Museum excavated a richly equipped, stone-covered horseman's grave from the 10th century at Kaagården, south Langeland. The finds from this grave and from a couple of earlier graves that had been inexpertly excavated (containing a.o. gilt rein-fittings, fragments of an oval brooch, and an axe) have been described by J. Brøndsted in *Acta Arch.* VII (1936).

In the autumn of 1983 LMR was notified in order to examine a ploughed-up stone pavement. In the autumn of 1984 a trial excavation was undertaken (2500 m²). In 10 ditches a total of 16 interments was found, 7 of which were excavated. All the graves were located on the eastern slope of a small hillock approx. 100 m from the coast-line. The investigated graves revealed the poorly preserved remains of 6 individuals and a

horse. This latter lay in the grave originally excavated by Jens Winther. The graves were not aligned alike, and only approx. half of them were covered by stone pavements. A common feature was the presence of burned animal bones and remains of fireplaces on top of all the examined graves.

The most interesting grave (B) contained the bodies of two women. The grave goods consisted of an iron knife, an iron buckle, and a 22 cm long two-pronged iron fork with a wooden handle.

The other graves also contained moderate quantities of grave goods. All the bodies were equipped with iron knives (one of which had a handle with silver-thread windings). Furthermore, there were one mille fiori bead, the decomposed remains of iron buckles, and a small double-conical bronze bead with a flat rear-side. There are probably more graves on this cemetery; and as many of them are located only 15 cm below the surface, it is hoped that the investigations may be continued before the graves are destroyed by ploughing. – *Langelands Museum*, Rudkøbing, 11563. [Annemarie Kruse]

25. LILLE KNUDS HOVED, Fur. Fur s., Viborg a.

Single find. In 1961 at Lille Knuds Hoved a turf-built structure was found of the same type as the presumed boat-houses (nausters) at Harrevig (cp. Th. Ramskou in *Aarbøger f. nord. Oldk. Hist.* 1960 pp. 168–173). So far it has been impossible to give a close dating of these structures. In 1984 a stirrup from the mid 10th century was found at the structure at Lille Knuds Hoved, indicating a Viking Age date for this site. – Fur Museum 70. [John B. Bukk]

26. KJØLVEJEN, Randers. Hornbæk s., Viborg a.

Cemetery. During the investigation of a ploughed-down mound (see no. 11) a Viking Age burial ground was discovered. In 1984 approx. 3500 m² were investigated yielding 58 graves. Another 20 have been located by means of trial trenches. Some of the graves were placed so that they formed a tangent to the above-mentioned mound. Most of the others were ENE-WSW aligned. The graves varied considerably. Some were simple interments, some were covered by large stones, some had a frame of hammered-down pointed posts. One grave was simply filled with stones, and the body had been placed in a cist. One grave contained fittings from a coffin and a large number of nails whose position show that this is a burial in a waggon-body. The grave goods were very varied; there were a large number of knives, a few whet-stones, oval brooches, a triple-fluked brooch, bronze needles, amber and glass beads, the metal fittings of a casket with a lock, 2 iron keys one of which fits the lock of the casket, a spindle-weight, a belt-buckle and other belt-fittings. The man's outfit consisted of lance points, axes, and a spur. In connection with some of the bronze artefacts woollen and flaxen textiles were preserved and possibly also some fur. Furthermore the find included an hemispherical earthenware vessel and a soapstone sherd. – *Kulturhistorisk Museum*, Randers, 332/82. [Bjarne H. Nielsen]



Fig. 8. Bygholm, Horsens (No. 31). Foundations of parish church seen from the south.

MEDIEVAL

27. MARGRETHEHÅB, Roskilde.

Settlements. On the western outskirts of Roskilde approx. 1.5 km from its centre, Roskilde Museum has undertaken an extensive investigations to forestall construction work planned in that area. Excavations were made in two areas: Margrethehåb I is a small farmstead consisting of two smallish long houses and a sunken hut, covering an area of 1500 m². The material seems to date the site to the 11th century. Seventy-five m west of site I on a hill-top surrounded by ditches and meadows site II was found. In the centre of the site, which covers approx. 10,000 m², was a 28 m long and 6 m wide long-house with curved long sides and heavy roof-supporting posts in the walls. In the surrounding area was a number of out-houses and stack sheds, and short sections of fences were preserved in various places. Furthermore the area contained a large number of refuse pits and other remains including an oven.

Besides Baltic ware the material includes knives, needles, bronze fittings, and bone artefacts. This site, which must be interpreted as a large farm, must be dated to the first half of the 12th century. – *Roskilde Museum* 623/84. [Tom Christensen]

28. KALUNDBORG

Single find. In collaboration with the National Museum *Kalundborg og Omegns Museum* has carried out an investigation of the medieval settlement in the north-western part of *Højbyen*, approx. 200 m north of the church. In a sediment from the 13th–14th centuries a piece of antler was found with a Latin inscription in runes (fig. 6). Translated the inscription goes as follows: ‘may a wonderful vessel be made for flowers and twigs’. On the other side the name ‘Josef’ was inscribed. This Latin sentence is part of a quotation or a riddle known from

15th century manuscripts from Basel and England. – *Kalundborg og Omegns Museum*, 2/84. [Lisbeth Pedersen & Marie Stoklund]

29. VIBORG SØNDERSØ

Settlement. During June–August 1984 a series of trial excavations was carried out in a largish area at Viborg Søndersø. The purpose of the investigation was to get an idea of the scope and extension of the Early Medieval settlement found in 1981. The settlement covers the time span from approx. 1,000 to 1,300 A.D. At the end of the period the water level of the lake had risen approx. 2 m, so the bottom part of the occupation layer is below the present-day water level. Consequently the conditions of preservation for organic material are uncommonly good. Thus remains have been found of both shingled houses and mud-and-wattled houses. To preserve the valuable occupation layer the municipality of Viborg has decided not to develop the area. – *Viborg Stiftsmuseum*.

30. FUGLSLEV, East Jutland. Fuglslev s., Randers a.

Wooden structure and single find. In 1982 in a tract of bogland south of Fuglslev Church a drainage ditch was dug revealing various timbers. A dendrochronological dating by the Wormianum Laboratory, Højbjerg, gave the result 1077 A.D. The bog was seriously threatened by desiccation, which is why trial excavations were initiated in 1984, yielding the following results: In the middle of the bog the lower part of a wooden structure was found, consisting of a 13 m long NS shingle or stave wall flanked by heavy logs on one side. Between the timbers and the fill were wooden tools, wooden vessels, bones, slag, and pottery that could be allocated to Late Viking Age/Early Medieval time. Roughly in the middle of the timber layer was a boxwood knife handle (fig. 7) two sides of which were ornamented with a carved relief consisting of six pictures

framed by arcade arches and ring chains respectively. The picture closest to the knife-blade was covered by four silver-thread windings. The pictures represent fabulous animals and birdmen. – *Djursland Museum*, Grenå, 1945 [N.A. Boas]

31. BYGHOLM, Horsens.

Church site and churchyard. A few hundred m west of Bygholm skeleton remains were found during the excavation for the foundation of a factory building in July 1984. A hitherto unknown church with a churchyard dating from the Early Medieval had been found, and a rescue-excavation was initiated by the National Museum Dept. of Medieval Hist. and Vejle kulturhistoriske Museum, jointly. It is the first rural parish church in southern Scandinavia to have been totally excavated.

On a hillock the remains of the foundations of a small travertine church were found (fig. 8). It consisted of chancel and nave and measured 6 × 16 m. The chancel had been built first as a small rectangular building, to which the nave has been added. Immediately north-west of the stone church were post-holes from a wooden building measuring 7 × 13 m. This must be construed as a wooden church as it has partly co-existed with the churchyard, so this site is perhaps another example of a stone church built next to a wooden church. Furthest to the west on the churchyard 6 post-holes were found clearly representing a bell frame.

The churchyard, which covered approx. 3100 m², was surrounded by a ditch, and within the churchyard were almost 600 graves. It seems that one group is of immediate interest: in approx. 70 graves the skeletons are framed by stones, e.g. one at the crown of the head, one at the feet, two at the cheeks, and two at the ankles. So far this phenomenon seems not to have been investigated. Among the anthropological results can be mentioned that the bodies were generally shorter than for instance contemporaneous people in Viborg, which may indicate a difference between people in town and country. Two small abnormalities appear surprisingly often in the skeletons from Bygholm – abnormalities that have been of no fatal consequence to the people, but which strongly suggest inbreeding among the local community. A segregation of the sexes (women to the north and men to the south), which is known from other churchyards, doesn't seem to have taken place here.

So far the dating is very uncertain. The church and churchyard were founded in the 12th or even the 11th century and ended in the 14th century, when the agricultural crisis and the foundation of Bygholm may have played their parts. – *Vejle kulturhistoriske Museum og Nationalmuseet*, Dept. of Medieval hist. [Jakob Kieffer-Olsen & Peter Pentz].

'Recent Excavations and Discoveries' was translated by Ul S. Jørgensen.

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

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|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 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 | |

