

The Bog Find from Sigersdal

Human Sacrifice in the Early Neolithic

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Much peat digging took place in Danish bogs during the 1940's, to supply fuel for the wartime economy. Many archaeological finds were made as a result, and due to organised efforts on the part of the National Museum many of these were saved for future research (Th. Mathiassen 1947: 1 ff–K. Ebbesen 1985: 28).

One of these finds comes from Sigersdal Mose, near Veksø in northern Zealand (Stenløse parish, inventory no. 110. NMI A 44.101–2) (Danish “mose” = bog) (fig. 1). Peat was dug here in 1948–49, and a lugged flask and

two human skeletons (one with a cord round its neck) were found in 1949 on the 3rd and 11th of April respectively. Svend Th. Andersen carried out an examination of the find location in the period 16th – 23 rd July the same year together with Hans Helbæk and B. Brorson Christensen.

A long stretch of bog lies between Veksø and Søsøm running into Værebros River to the east. A good kilometre northeast of Veksø a side valley runs up towards Sigersdal farm. The find comes from the east side of

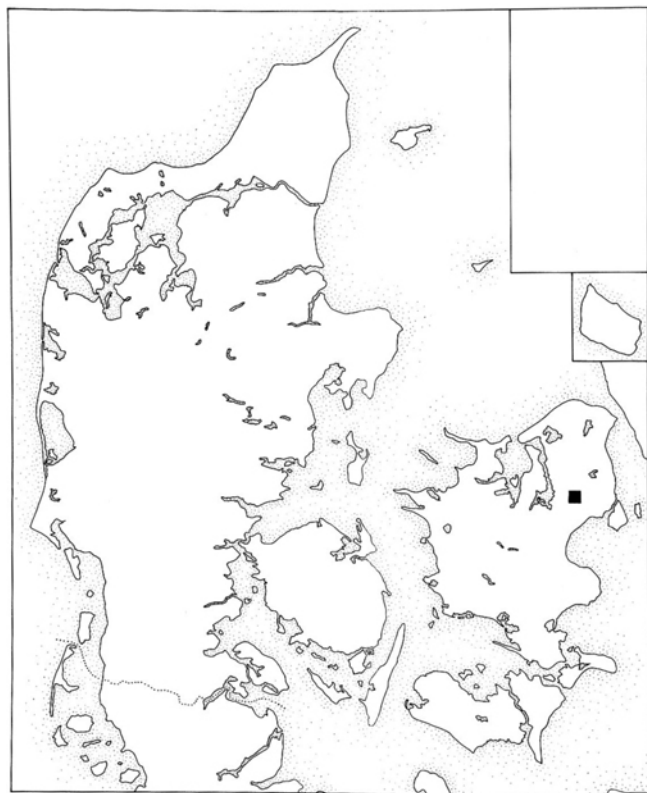
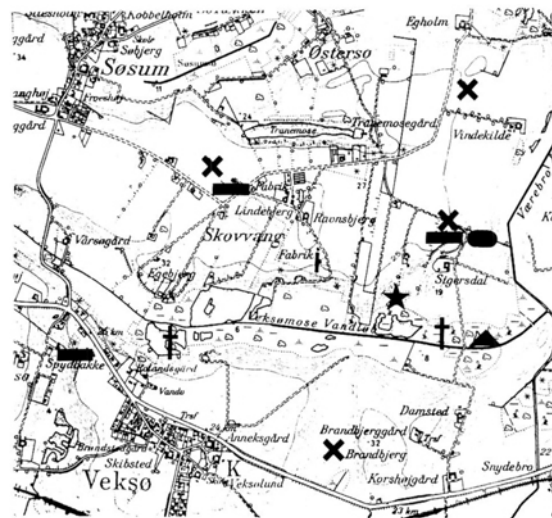


Fig. 1. Sigersdal is located in northern Zealand.



- X Megalithic grave
- ▭ Long dolmen
- ▲ Hoard with flintaxes
- ★ The Sigersdal find
- Passage grave
- † Bog skeleton

Fig. 2. Early neolithic sites and finds in the Sigersdal area. Reduced from map sheet 1513INV. Approx. 1:40,000. Reproduced with permission from the Geodetic Institute no. A. 404/85.

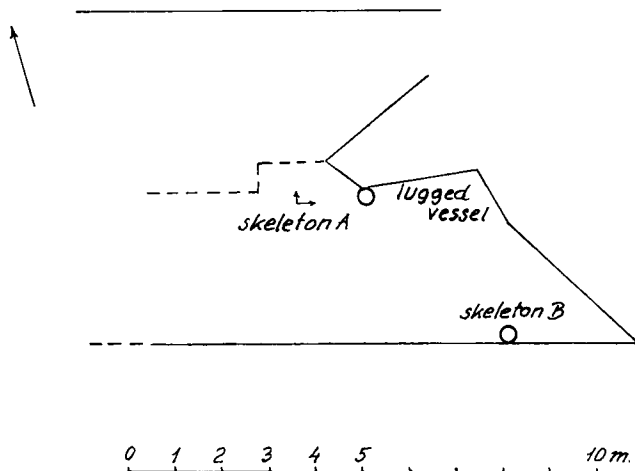


Fig. 3. The positions of the finds in the peat cuttings.

this side valley, which has steep slopes on three sides (fig. 2). Here the peat diggers found: a human skeleton (skeleton B); a lugged flask; a cow's skull; three lower jaws of cattle (all quite young); part of a horse skull (possibly broken before deposition); fragments of the skull of a relatively old goat; the lower jaw of a roe deer; the carapace of a pond tortoise; and ribs of horse or cow (fig. 3). A few bones of another human skeleton (skeleton A) were also recovered, the rest of which still lay in situ when Svend Th. Andersen arrived. It was therefore photographed and documented in great detail before excavation.

It is the detailed investigation of skeleton A together with carbon 14 determinations that makes this find quite unique. Skeleton A has been dated to 2700 ± 140 bc (K-3744); skeleton B to 2730 ± 75 bc (K-3745). The two people were therefore deposited in the bog during early neolithic phase C, in about 3,500 BC (recalibrated years).

THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

The position of the bones

The detailed planning and drawing of the bones was undertaken from several angles, and this has been of the greatest importance for the attempt to reconstruct events in Sigersdal Mose. A first glance at the plans and photographs (figs. 4 and 6) appears to indicate that the bones of *skeleton A* were all disturbed; but closer exami-

nation has revealed that only a small number of bones in fact lay separated from the others and out of anatomical order.

The right femur, the left half of the pelvis, the ribs and the vertebrae are all bones from the central part of the skeleton, and they are all displaced from their natural positions. This observation is of importance for the subsequent interpretation of the placing of the corpse in the bog.

Some of the bones belonging to the skeleton had already been removed before the arrival of the excavators, and their original positions can only be guessed at. One can assume, as the following discussion shows, that the bones that were removed first did not lie below the bones drawn on the plans. Among the bones removed by the peat diggers were the left humerus, radius and ulna. As the skeleton belonged to a young individual, some of the epiphyses of these bones had not yet fused onto the shafts. Thus the distal epiphysis of the left radius was still in situ, together with the bones of the left hand. All these bones lay to the left of the head. There is therefore reason to believe that the bones of the left arm lay uppermost in the bog, and that this arm was strongly flexed at the elbow. Had this not been the case, the bones of the hand and the epiphysis of the distal radius would not have been found where they were. We do not, however, know how the humerus lay in relation to the scapula, and we have therefore not included this bone in fig. 5.

The left femur and right half of the pelvis were also among the bones removed by the peat diggers, and are therefore not included in S. Th. Andersen's drawing. The position of these bones is more difficult to determine. It is therefore likely that they lay apart from the rest of the skeleton, like their opposite numbers. This assumption will be supported in the following.

The excavator's drawings of the position of the bones in the bog are extremely useful, because they show the positions of the bones viewed not only from above, but also from other angles, so that one can among other things determine the relative levels at which the bones were found (fig. 4). The drawings also show why the first communication to the National Museum referred to a skeleton "standing on its head in the bog". The cranium is positioned relatively deep – but so are the feet and tibia particularly of the right side. The soles of the feet and the rear of the legs lay upwards, and the cranium lay face down, correctly positioned with re-

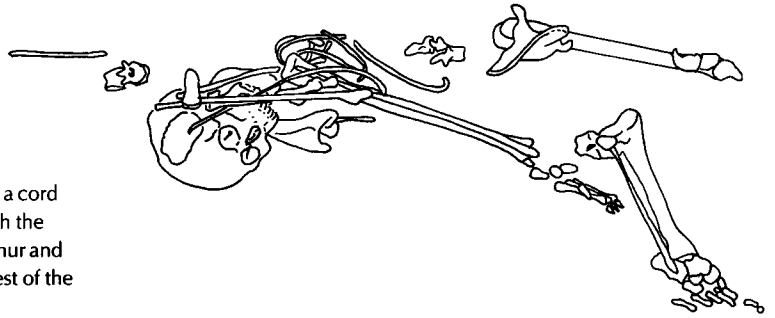


Fig. 4. Excavation drawing of the bones of *skeleton A*, which had a cord around its neck. The drawing shows the different levels in which the bones lie. The distal end of the right leg lies deepest. The right femur and left half of the pelvis lie higher up, slightly displaced from the rest of the skeleton.

spect to the first five cervical vertebrae with the above-mentioned cord.

In forensic medicine it is known that bodies that have been in water for a time usually end up face down (fig. 7) (Ponsold 1957, 376 ff). This is in part due to the decay which will almost inevitably take place in the abdominal cavity, and the gases that form as a result. The rate of decay will of course depend on various circumstances, primarily the temperature of the water. At very low temperatures of under 4°C, decay will slow or maybe completely stop (Gregersen 1979, 54), and this may for example be important with regard to the preservation of the famous bog corpses. The gases which normally form would cause the body to float close to

the bank in the orientation described above. If the depth of water is not great, it may be only the abdominal region that floats, while the head and extremities remain in contact with the bottom.

The process of decay also depends on the medium in which the corpse lies. Those processes of decay that take one week in open air, take two weeks under water or eight weeks under ground (Gregersen 1979, 54). If the water level in the bog was low, and the head, upper torso, arms, and lower parts of the legs were on the bottom submerged in water, then that part of the body which was exposed above or close to the surface could have been affected by quicker processes of decay in the open air. These bones could therefore have become

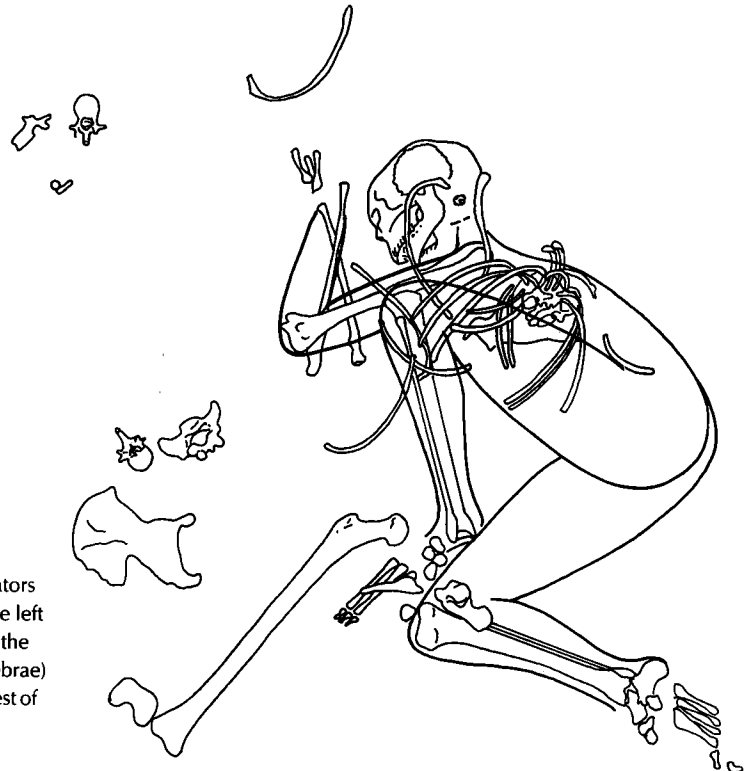


Fig. 5. Some bones of *skeleton A* were removed before the excavators arrived (of the large bones, these included those of the left arm, the left femur and the right pelvis). Others (the right femur, the left half of the pelvis, the sacrum and some smaller ones including ribs and vertebrae) were not in their correct anatomical positions. The position of the rest of the bones gives an impression of the position of *skeleton A*.



Fig. 6. *Skeleton A* during excavation. Not all the bones are in their correct anatomical positions.

detached from the soft tissues and articulations more quickly, and thereafter carried a little way away by the current. It can also be seen on the drawing (fig. 5) that the separate bones all lie on the left side of the body. They almost all derive from the central part of the body. As was the case with the radius and some other bones, the epiphyses of the femur had not fused onto the diaphysis. The drawings show, however, that the distal epiphysis lay correctly positioned in relation to the shaft, although the whole femur complete with epiphysis lay separately from the skeleton. This might mean that the cartilage that joined these two parts of the bone had not decayed when the bone was carried

away from the rest of the skeleton. This explanation of the displacement of some of the bones from and around the pelvis may, however, be somehow contradicted by the fact that the decay of a body lying in water usually starts at the distal part of the extremities and ends at the lower part of the torso, because of the very heavy ligaments in this area. Experience from forensic medical cases therefore suggests (Markil Gregersen, pers. comm.) that the displacement of the bones may have been caused by ice or faults in the bog. Another possible explanation could of course be that the body had been cut into sections before it arrived in the bog. If this was the case, however, traces of such butchery should

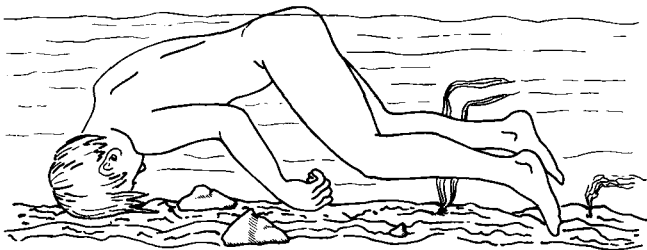


Fig. 7. In forensic medicine it is known that a body in water will often lie in the position shown, with the stomach downwards and the back uppermost. Because of gas formation in the stomach and intestinal regions, as well as any air remaining in the lungs (if death is not due to drowning), the corpse will rise to the surface relatively soon, still in the position shown. This may explain the position of *skeleton A* on the bottom of the bog. (After Ponsold 1957).

be visible on the bones (which are very well preserved); and none are visible.

Because of the rather unusual relative positions of the bones, the excavator suggested that the body fell with its legs crossed, maybe after being hit on the head. The theory that the legs were crossed was based on the position of the feet, and the fact that they lie deeper than the rest of the bones.

The anthropological examination of the bones compared with the drawings has shown that both legs were strongly flexed, but that they were not crossed. The position of both femurs and of the lumbar region of the vertebral column had to be reconstructed; but judging from the positions of the tibiae, and the rest of the vertebral column and thorax, the bones can hardly have been positioned differently than shown in fig. 5.

The left tibia lay with its knee in front of the thorax, and so did the patella. The left leg must therefore have been flexed maximally both at the hip and the knee. The right leg was less flexed at the hip; the femur pointed directly to the front, while the knee joint was completely flexed so that the tibia pointed to the rear. The bones of the right arm lay approximately in their presumed original position, with the hand in front of the face.

As the face was positioned obliquely downwards and the soles of the feet upwards, one must assume that the body was not lying completely on its right side, but also partly on its stomach.

There is unfortunately no corresponding information available for the position of *skeleton B*, as all the bones of this skeleton were removed by the peat diggers before museum personnel were called in. The only comment in the excavation report is that the skeleton, according to the peat diggers, lay approximately in a natural position. It is also stated that most of the bones lay in the dark gyttja, above the lighter calcareous gyttja into which only few of the bones extended. Contrary to *skeleton A*, (fig. 8), some of the bones are missing. Most of the bones missing from *skeleton B* (fig. 9) are from the hands, feet, thorax and vertebral column, in other words mainly the smallest bones of the skeleton. From the hands and feet, for example, there is only one single bone, a left metatarsal. As the missing bones are almost all small ones, they could have been removed by the current; but it is most likely that *skeleton B* was not excavated as carefully as most of *skeleton A*. Erosion cannot explain the lack of small bones in *skele-*

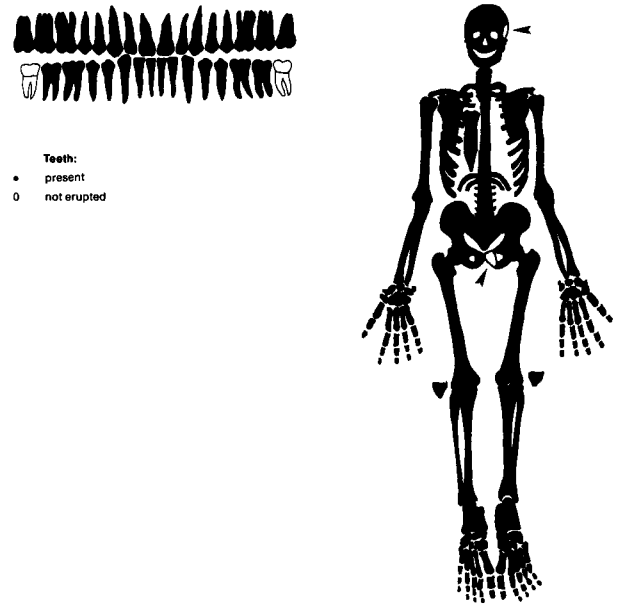


Fig. 8. Black shading shows which bones and teeth were present in Sigersdal *skeleton A*. The skeleton was almost complete. All that was missing was a fragment of the skull, and a part of the left pubic bone, which had been eroded away. All the teeth were present, except for two wisdom teeth which had never developed.

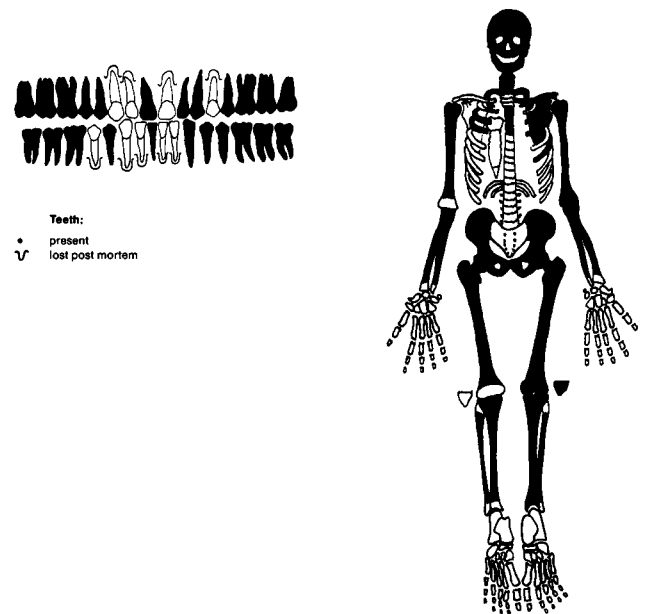


Fig. 9. Black shading shows which bones and teeth were present in Sigersdal *skeleton B*. A number of bones are missing, particularly the smaller bones of the hands, feet, vertebral column and ribcage. Because of the young age of the individual, many epiphyses had not yet fused onto the rest of the bone, and are therefore missing. All the teeth were present at death, but nine were lost during the removal of the bones from the bog.

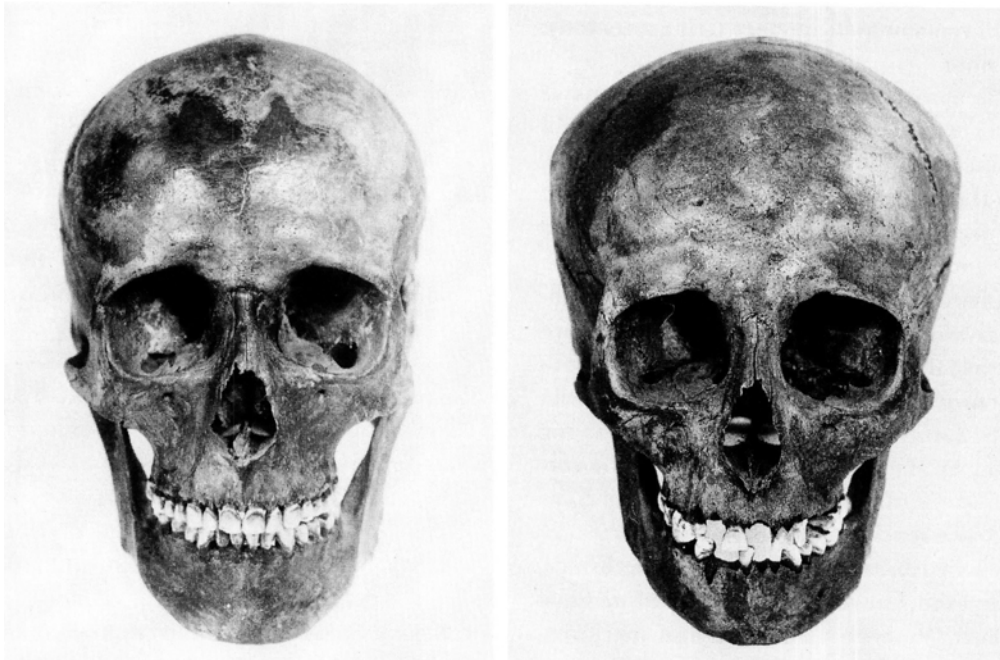


Fig. 10. The skulls of *skeleton A* (left) and *skeleton B* (right) from Sigersdal. There is a considerable size difference between the crania. This is partly due to developmental differences, as *skeleton A* was 18–20 years of age, while *skeleton B* was only about 16. The skull of *skeleton B* still shows some juvenile characteristics which disappear with adulthood (fig. 12). There are also a number of features common to the two skulls, for examples the unusually long narrow nose and the size and shape of the orbits. Photo: G. Hahn.

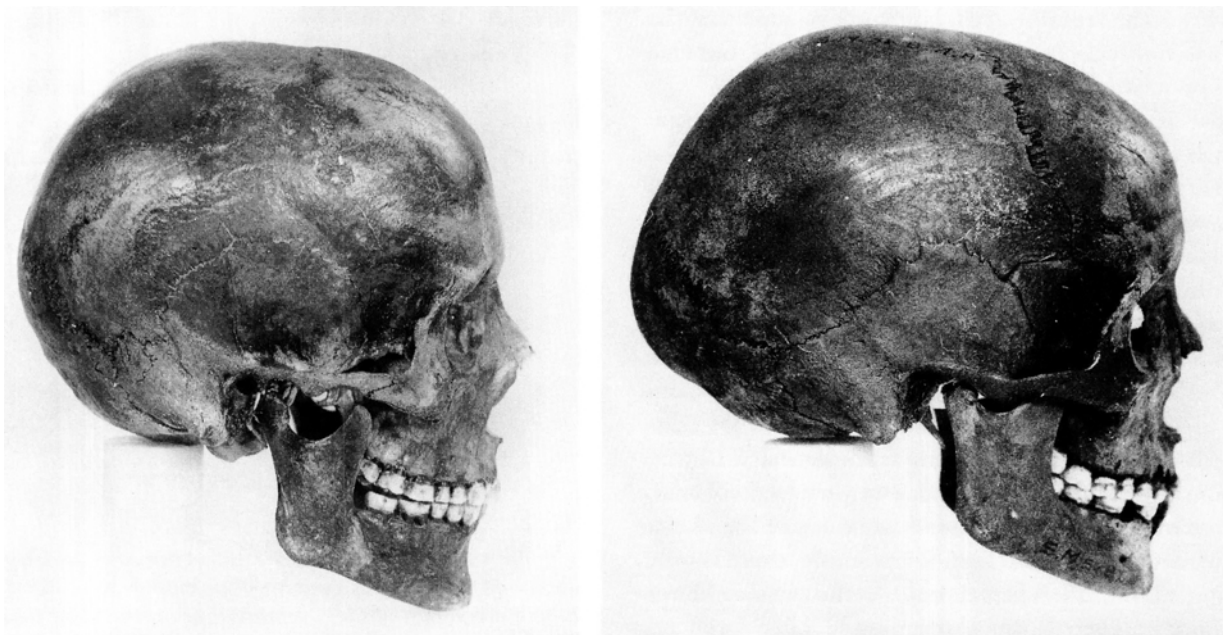


Fig. 11. Profile view of the skulls of *skeleton A* (left) and *skeleton B* (right). The obvious dissimilarities are due to among other things the different developmental stages of the two individuals. Both skulls are mesocephalic, however, with cranial indices (cranial breadth \times 100 divided by cranial length) of 75.7 (*skeleton A*), and 78.0 (*skeleton B*). Photo: G. Hahn.

ton *B*, as the rest of the bones are just as well preserved as those of *skeleton A*.

Anthropology

The two crania from *skeleton A* and *skeleton B* from Sigersdal Mose look rather different from each other (figs. 10 and 11). This is, however, mainly due to the differences in age and developmental stage, because they are both young individuals in which skeletal development has not yet been completed. *Skeleton A* is determined to have been around 18–20 years old, *skeleton B* around 16 years old, at the time of death. In a child the facial region is smaller relative to the neurocranium than in an adult (fig. 12) (Martin and Saller 1959, 1171 ff), and the neurocranium reaches 80% of its total size by the age of 3 years. The skull of a child is often shaped differently from that of an adult, having pronounced convexities (so-called tubera) on both sides of the frontal, parietal and one of the occipital bones, so that when viewed from above the skull appears almost pentagonal. This shape gradually disappears as adulthood is reached, although to a lesser degree in women than in men. The male cranium changes most from its original form, among other things due to its increased size and more pronounced muscle attachments. This is one of the ways in which the anthropologist can determine the sex of an adult skull. These changes do not take place until puberty, however, which means that crania of children can only be sex-determined with considerable reservations. Sex determination of the two skeletons from Sigersdal Mose is problematic for these reasons, and can therefore only be undertaken with considerable reservations.

The skull of *skeleton A* has mainly female features, but there are some reservations, partly due to the young age of the skeleton, and partly due to the presence of a frontal (metopic) suture which other researchers have demonstrated can result in a more female shape of the skull. This includes a steeper cranium, the absence of frontal sinuses, and a broader frontal bone (Martin and Saller 1959, 1316). The pelvis has both typical male and female characteristics. The other bones, particularly those of the limbs, are relatively long, and the stature would have been considerable for a female. However, muscle attachments and robusticity are not pronounced, although articular breadths (for example at the knee) have values lying between typical males and typi-

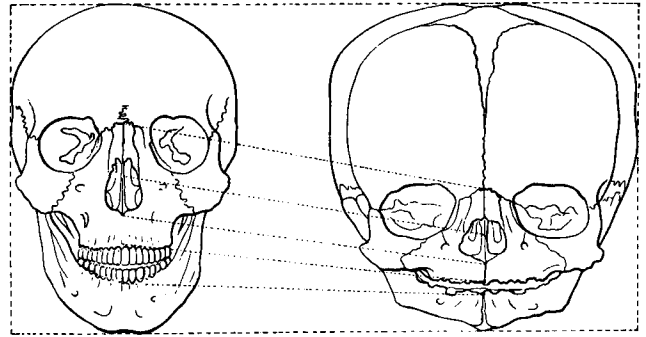


Fig. 12. The proportions of face and cranium in newborn and adult individuals. The large convexities which appear on the frontal, parietal and occipital bones of the child give the skull an almost pentagonal outline when viewed from above, and disappear gradually with age. The cranium of *skeleton B* still has juvenile cranial characteristics. After Martin and Saller (1959, 1171).

cal females. Taking all these characteristics into consideration, sex determination points mostly towards the skeleton being a female. However, because the skeleton is not yet fully developed (cf the missing muscle attachments), this determination is so uncertain that it has little value. Investigations already in progress of these and other early neolithic skeletons from Denmark may lead to a more trustworthy determination, by means of comparative analyses of various characteristics and measurements.

Sex determination of *skeleton B* involves even greater uncertainty, as this individual is only around 16 years of age. The characteristics of both pelvis and skull are female. However, the secondary sexual characteristics which typify the male skeleton do not appear until puberty.

The cranium of *skeleton B* for example still has the tubera mentioned above (figs. 10 and 11), which probably is the main reason for the differences between the crania of *skeleton A* and *skeleton B*. The cranial types themselves are in fact quite similar, and both can be described as mesocephalic. The cranial index (cranial breadth \times 100 / cranial length) of *skeleton A* was 75.7, of *skeleton B* 78.0. Mesocephalic skulls have values between 75.0 and 79.9. The average value for women in the subsequent periods, the middle and late neolithic, is 77.6 ($n = 53$) (Bröste et al. 1956, 45), which also belongs to the mesocephalic category. Average head shape seems to get a little longer in the iron age: values for the early Roman iron age, the late Roman iron age

TABLE I

<i>Nasal breadth (M54)</i>				
	n	\bar{x}	s.d.	var.
middle/late neolithic	36	23.9	1.65	21–26
late Roman iron age	17	23.7	1.93	21–29
Viking period	18	23.4	1.62	20–26
SIGERSDAL SKELETON A		22.0		
SIGERSDAL SKELETON B		19.0		
<i>Nasal height (M55)</i>				
	n	\bar{x}	s.d.	var.
middle/late neolithic	36	46.3	3.49	39–53
late Roman iron age	17	49.2	2.51	43–53
Viking period	18	47.3	1.81	44–51
SIGERSDAL SKELETON A		54.0		
SIGERSDAL SKELETON B		52.0		

TABLE II

	n	\bar{x}	s.d.	var.
middle/late neolithic	36	51.9	4.56	43.4–68.3
late Roman iron age	16	48.3	4.23	41.5–58.0
Viking period	18	49.6	3.38	41.7–55.3
SIGERSDAL SKELETON A		40.7		
SIGERSDAL SKELETON B		36.5		

Table I–II. Nasal index M54/M55 in women from different periods of prehistory. This index is calculated by dividing the height of the nasal fossa by its width. It is clear that the average values vary widely from period to period, and the indices for the Sigersdal skulls lie outside the ranges of variation of all other periods.

and the Viking period are respectively 72.9 ($n = 23$), 71.1 ($n = 21$) and 74.6 ($n = 25$) (Sellevold et al. 1984, 190).

Despite the youth of *skeleton B*, there are facial features on the two skulls which are so similar that they might suggest a possible biological relationship between the two individuals. This is particularly so regarding the long, narrow shape of the nasal bone and fossa (fig. 10). That their nasal morphology is unusual emerges from tables 1 and 2, where breadth and height measurements are compared with average measurements from a large number of Danish crania from the middle and late neolithic, the iron age and the Viking period. In several cases the measurements from *skeletons A and B* fall outside the ranges of variation of the skulls of the different periods. The orbits in both skeletons are very round and relatively large; together with the long narrow noses, the faces may have been regular and harmonious.

With regard to a possible biological relationship, further study must be delayed until the investigation of all Danish early neolithic skeletons in relation to skeletons of the immediately preceding and succeeding periods is completed. This will focus on among other things various non-selective characteristics on bones and teeth. One such characteristic is the presence of a frontal suture in adults and juveniles, the metopic suture. At birth, this suture divides the frontal bone in two, but it usually ossifies during the first year of life. In some individuals this ossification does not, however, take place.

Skeleton A from Sigersdal Mose has this metopic suture (fig. 10), while *skeleton B* does not. This does not rule out the possibility that *skeletons A and B* might have been biologically related, however. Torgersen has shown that non-ossification of the suture is determined by a dominant gene which occurs with varying frequency. In one family the suture was found in 50% of the adults (Torgersen 1951, 209).

The many measurements taken on the two skeletons from Sigersdal will be included in a future publication reviewing all the early neolithic skeletal finds from Denmark. Outside this context the measurements have only limited utility, and must in any case be used carefully because the bones are not fully adult and have not completed their development.

Stature has occasionally been calculated on the basis of femur length (Trotter and Gleser 1952), but this measurement only gives a minimum height. The stature of *skeleton A* was calculated by this means to 167 cm, of *skeleton B* to 154 cm. Mesolithic and early neolithic female skeletons from Denmark are in average not more than 154 cm in height, so in view of this the stature of *skeleton A* is considerable, yet another factor which should prevent us from too readily ascribing a sex to this individual.

Dentition

Figs. 8 and 9 show which teeth are present in the two skeletons. All the erupted teeth are present in *skeleton A*. The two mandibular wisdom teeth (8–8) were however never formed. The dentition is in general very regular, and there are no caries. There are already faint traces of paradontose-like alterations in the molar region, despite the young age of some 18 years and minor tartar formation is visible on several teeth.

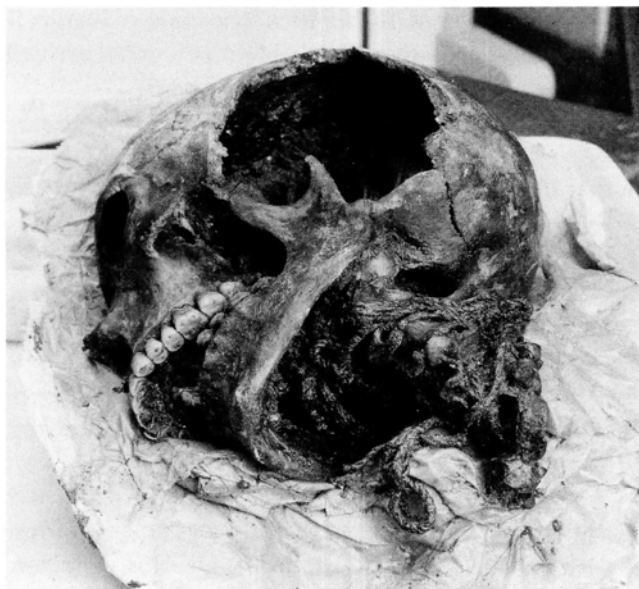


Fig. 13. The skull of *skeleton A* from Sigersdal during excavation in the museum. The skull, the upper cervical vertebrae and the cord were removed from the bog as one unit for later excavation. The photograph shows how the cord was positioned, and also that the jaw was displaced to the right. The large lesion on the left side of the skull was probably inflicted by peat digging implements.

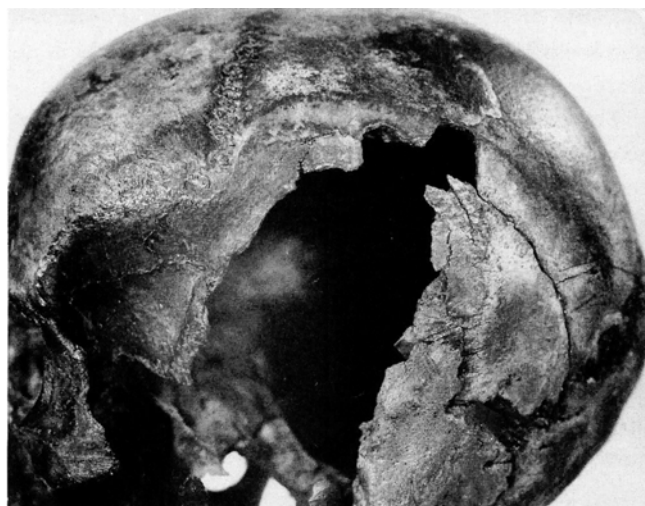


Fig. 14. Close up view of the lesion in the skull of *skeleton A*. Study of its edges shows that the three penetrations can hardly have been made by neolithic weapons. They are more likely to have been made by peat digging implements. Photo: G. Hahn.

The dentition of *skeleton B*, like the rest of the skeleton, has been affected by the circumstances of excavation. All the teeth were present on the death of the individual, but 9 are now missing; these were most likely not recovered during the “excavation”. All four of *skeleton B*’s wisdom teeth are formed, and they have erupted to almost the same height as the rest of the molars. One mandibular molar (6-) has a large caries cavity. Caries were relatively rare in the subsequent neolithic periods – in the middle and late neolithic the frequency of caries in molars was 4.5%. There was a difference in the two sexes: the frequency in males was 4.0%, in women 5.7% (Bennike 1985, 161). Tooth wear was moderate in both individuals, although of course much heavier than today. In *skeleton B* there are enamel defects in several teeth, indicating growth disturbances at around 2–3 years of age. There are also slight traces in the upper surface of the orbits and the parietals, linked with a deficiency, probably of iron.

Early neolithic skeletons from bogs

The two skeletons from Sigersdal Mose were found at the same time, 5 m apart (fig. 3). Other finds of two early neolithic skeletons lying quite close together are also known. There is no uniform distribution of age and sex in such finds, almost all combinations being represented.

Two male skeletons were found in a bog at Døjringe near Sorø. One was not quite fully grown. Two skeletons were also found in a bog at Tysmosen near Copenhagen; these were of children aged 8 and 10 years. Two skeletons of young people were found in a bog at Boelkilde on the island of Als, but their sex has not yet been determined. The well-known skeleton from Porsmose on southern Zealand, with arrowheads lodged in the maxilla and sternum (Becker 1952) was however found alone.

Traces of lesions

The bones belonging to *skeleton B* show no traces that can reveal cause of death, but the skeleton was excavated by peat diggers so there could have been a cord round its neck as with *skeleton A* without this being noticed. Many of the smaller bones and some of the teeth are lacking in *skeleton B* (possibly due to less careful excavation), while *skeleton A* is almost complete.

The cord found around the neck of *skeleton A* (fig. 13) must be regarded as a clear indication that this young person did not voluntarily choose to meet his/her end in Sigersdal Mose. There is a large aperture on the left side of the cranium (fig. 13), earlier regarded as a lesion resulting from violence probably before death. There are no signs of healing round the edges, and such a lesion would fit well with the other find circumstances and the cord round the neck. The recently completed re-examination of the skeleton however produced no definite evidence that the injury was inflicted during life, or even before the body was submerged in the bog. The edges of the large aperture suggest that it was made much later than the neolithic, perhaps during peat digging less than half a century ago. The upper edge of the lesion on the left parietal has three regular, semicircular penetrations, each about 1 cm in diameter, and with a distance between their upper points of about 1.9 cm. At the third penetration the fragment of bone has not been completely broken off, but remains attached to the cranium although depressed inwards (fig. 14).

It is difficult to see how this could result from use of any neolithic weaponry, whether axe, mace or flint halberd. It is more likely to result from a toothed peat digging implement such as a fork.

The entire aperture measures 4.5×9.5 cm. Many of the edges are not breaks but natural suture lines. It is therefore more likely that part of the bone was broken off, rather than smashed in.

The skull, the articulated cervical vertebrae and the cord were all lifted from the bog as a single unit which could subsequently be excavated in the laboratory, and the position of the individual bones recorded photographically. The report on the excavation of the skull states that "those parts of the cranium that were smashed in were found inside the skull, lying almost against its right side. Under the fragments lay what appeared to be part of the brain". The report adds that it was not quite certain that the fragments of the cranium lay precisely as indicated.

The re-examination of the skeleton and the photographs have made it clear that only a small part of the missing cranial bones in fact lay within the skull. The rest, covering the large aperture, was probably never seen by the excavator. This is rather odd, as even the smallest of the other bones was recovered and may still be examined. The missing cranial fragment should

have been recovered during such a careful excavation if it had been there when the museum personnel arrived on the scene.

Closer examination of the excavation report reveals that "some of the bones were removed by the workmen so that the peat cutting could continue, but the rest, in the bottom of the grave, were left in situ. The skull and thorax were partially exposed by the workmen". It is thus likely that the skull was smashed during the peat cutting. The fact that the skull and the adjacent area was uncovered by the peat diggers supports this theory. It is therefore likely that the cranial fragment, which is the only missing part of the skeleton, disappeared during the peat digging.

Photographs of the cranium in situ show that the mandible was pushed to the right, and displaced from its correct articulating position. The position of the left articulation cannot be determined because of the missing cranial fragment. The jaw was probably pushed from the left towards the right, perhaps through a blow or pressure. If this happened before or shortly after death, it would not have been possible to disarticulate the jaw in this way because of the various tendons and soft tissues. These circumstances demonstrate that there are no reasonable grounds for assuming that the large aperture in the left side of the cranium was an ante mortem injury, or can in any way be connected with the individual's death or deposition in the bog. There is a smaller, partially healed depression on the left side of the frontal bone. This injury was inflicted much earlier, and probably resulted from a slight accident.

The colour of the bone at the edge of a lesion can often give an indication of when the injury was received, i.e. whether the lesion occurred at death or much later in time. After the excavation of the skull, it was treated with beeswax and poppy-seed oil until the bone structure was completely filled. Both this and the tanning effect of the bog mean that the bones, including the broken surfaces, are coloured dark throughout. Broken edges of recent lesions are usually paler than those of older ones, but this criterion cannot be applied here.

Lesions on other skeletons

It is quite common for such problems to arise during the examination of skeletons from archaeological exca-

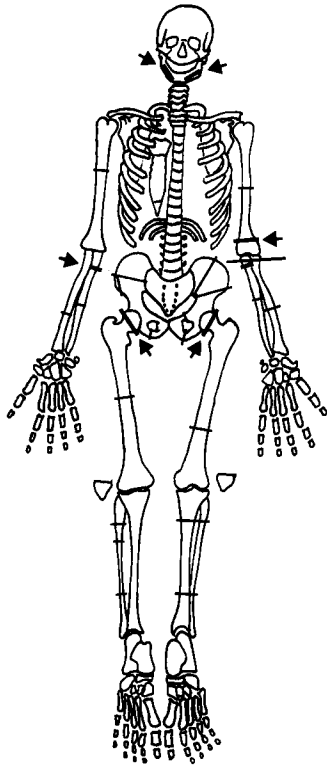


Fig. 15. Markings on the skeleton from Føllenslev Bog show where the bones are probably broken due to pressure from the surrounding deposits and other natural causes, and where there are signs of possible chop marks (arrows). The second category might be evidence of an attempt to butcher the body before it had decayed. This theory is suggested firstly by the symmetry of the lesions, and secondly by their appearance. There is no sign of any splitting of bones for marrow.

vations. It is usually possible to decide with certainty whether a lesion was inflicted before or after death when there are visible signs of healing at the edges. When there are no signs of healing, it can even in forensic studies of bog corpses where skin and soft tissues are preserved, however, be impossible to determine whether a lesion was inflicted before or after death. This was the case, for example, with the injured face of the female body from Borremose (Andersen and Gertinger 1982, 23 ff). Nor could it be determined with certainty when a lesion on a skeleton from Stenstrup Mose on Zealand was inflicted. This skeleton also had a cord round its neck when it was found, and also dates from the neolithic (Bennike and Ebbesen 1985).

While discussing neolithic skeletons with lesions, a find from Føllenslev Mose near Holbæk must be men-

tioned. The find was excavated by C.J. Becker in 1947 and dated to the early neolithic (Rech 1979, 51f). C.J. Becker interpreted the find as a ritual deposition of disarticulate human bones but without indications of cannibalism. The bones have recently been radiocarbon dated to 1580 bc (= 1945 BC, recalibrated, K-3747), *i.e.* the late neolithic period.

Most of the bones of the Føllenslev skeleton were (according to the find description) in a disarticulated state, and it was concluded that this must have occurred in antiquity. It is also stated that some of the bones are broken, and separated from their articular ends, which was also believed to have happened in antiquity. Fig. 15 shows the many breaks in these bones. The overwhelming majority were probably broken by natural causes, such as pressure from the surrounding deposits (a common cause of breakage). A few of the breaks show traces of lesions, but the surfaces of the breaks are remarkably pale, although they should be darker if the lesions were inflicted in prehistory. There are no clear sharp or smooth surfaces on the heads of the femurs, and in several cases the points where lesions might be expected are so badly preserved that no observations can be made. Both femoral heads are, however, fragmented in an unusual way, in a vertical sagittal plane. Those parts of the acetabula (the pelvic articulations of the femur) where one would expect to find traces if lesions were inflicted with the soft tissues present, are unfortunately so badly preserved that it cannot be determined whether the parts are missing due to lesions or bad preservation. It is, however, rare for femoral heads to fragment in this way without a reason.

Other bones of this skeleton do show lesions resulting from a sharp tool such as an axe. They are present on both ulnas, on the rear, in a similar position on each bone. On the right ulna the lesion is only about 20 mm deep, while on the left it continues obliquely upwards and ends on the lowest part of the humerus. The bones of the arm must have been in their correct anatomical positions, and the lesion must have been inflicted while the soft tissues were still present. The arm has been cut through, and one stump of bone (the upper part of the ulna) was still present. There were also lesions on the underside of the mandible, although less clear on one side than on the other. The mandible had two almost identical fractures uncharacteristic of natural breakage.

As shown above some traces of lesions are clearer than others. What is interesting in this case is the symmetry with which they occur in three places on the skeleton from Føllenslev. As the bones are stated to have been found in considerable disorder, it seems unlikely that a spade could have inflicted such symmetrical damage. It is also clear that at least the bones of the right arm must have been articulated when the damage occurred. There are thus reasonable grounds to assume that the lesions were all inflicted in prehistory, as the excavator concluded. Many of the other breaks definitely occurred after burial, due to pressure from the surrounding deposits or some similar cause, and no traces of the use of any weapon are visible.

The reason for the partial butchery of the individual in prehistory must remain an open question for the time being. The bones have been discussed with zoologists, who regularly see the remains of prehistoric meals in the form of animal bones from archaeological sites. In their opinion there is no evidence that the skeleton was butchered in order to be eaten. There is thus nothing that indicates cannibalism in this case either.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

The peat diggers found a large lugged vessel between the two skeletons. This was fragmented, but the workmen succeeded in recovering most of the sherds. The lugged vessel is thus nearly complete (fig. 16 a–b). It consists of a neck 9 cm high and 11 cm wide, and nearly cylindrical, and a sharply differentiated ovoid or globular body with a small basal surface. Seven heavy lugs with narrow perforations are located almost on the widest point of the belly. The upper third is decorated with fine, low and broad vertical mouldings, placed at approximately equal distances apart. The diameter is about 34 cm, the height about 41 cm. There is one impression of emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*, identified by Hans Helbæk).

Because of its shape the lugged vessel is dated to early neolithic C, and is referred to the Virum group (Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, 11 ff). It thus dates to the same period as the skeletons. Unfortunately the pot contains no preserved food remains which could be radiocarbon dated. The question of whether it was deposited at the same time as the two young people or

separately must therefore remain open. The probable close biological relationship of the two individuals suggests that there was a single deposition consisting of one large storage vessel and the two young people. Deposition could, however, also have taken place as three separate events with a few years between them.

There can be little doubt as to the sacred nature of the find. The lugged vessel must be placed together with the other Funnel Beaker culture pots found in bogs, and at least as far as skeleton A is concerned we are dealing with Denmark's oldest documented human sacrifice, carried out in early neolithic C around 3500 BC (recalibrated).

The finds described here are not the only ones from the locality. In 1948–49 the neighbouring peat cutting produced 10 goat skulls, a probable aurochs skull, and three fragments of polished thin-butted axes. 300 metres further east in the bog a hoard originally containing 13 large thin-butted axes of type I was found (fig. 17 – Nielsen 1977: no. 14). This is one of the larger known hoards of thin-butted axes, although it is probably a little older than the lugged vessel and the skeletons (Nielsen 1977, 72 ff).

A small neolithic site has been recorded immediately west of the findspot, on the top of a small promontory projecting into the bog. The finds are said to include among other things heavy discoidal scrapers, and fragments of thin-butted flint axes. It cannot be determined if the sacrifices were carried out from this site. About 500 m to the north is a group of three megalithic graves (fig. 2). A mound measuring 6 × 9 × 2 m contains a dolmen oriented north-south, with the opening to the south, built of three supporting stones and one capstone. There was also a long dolmen, now completely destroyed, and a passage grave oriented NNW-SSE with its passage to the ESE, originally with three capstones. 700 m to the WNW is a long dolmen oriented east-west, and 500 m beyond it in the same direction was a destroyed "dolmen". On the opposite side of the boggy area, about 1 km to the south, was another megalith, now destroyed. The placing of the sacrifice, the settlement and the megaliths in the landscape is thus that already well-known from early neolithic C (Ebbesen 1982, 60). The votive offerings took place in the wet area. The settlement was on the edge of this; and the graves lay further back, towards the bottom of the slope. In general the connection is clear, but no definite link between the various finds can be documented. The

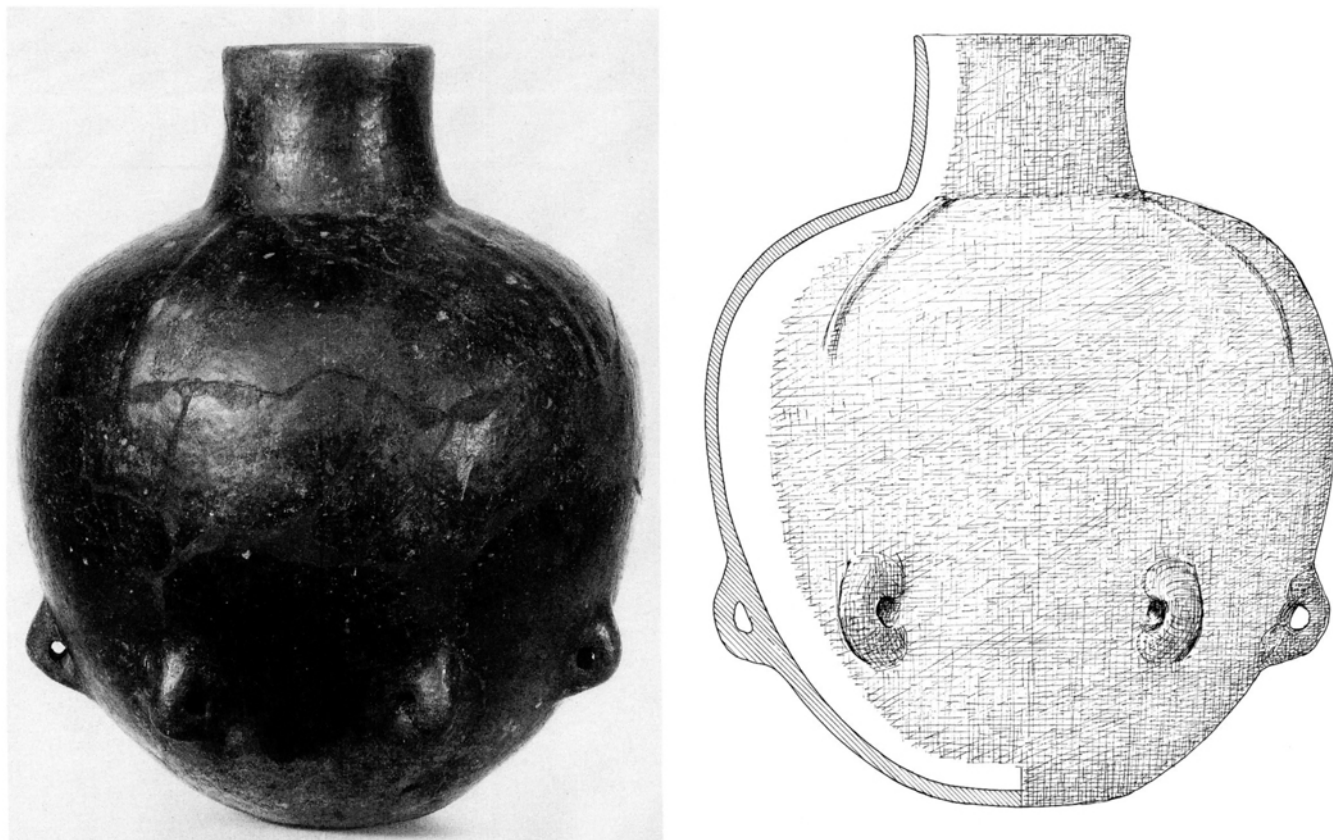


Fig. 16. The lugged vessel from Sigersdal. Photo: L. Larsen; drawing: H. Ørsnes.

exact chronological situation is also unclear in such a case, where we could be talking in terms of years or even months.

Bog finds of Funnel Beaker Culture pottery

The lugged vessel from Sigersdal Mose represents a particular group of neolithic pottery, which first became known through peat digging during and immediately after the Second World War, via the so-called “bog trips” organised by the National Museum.

The overwhelming majority of these finds were made in the period 1940–55, while the number of finds from for example the last century is very limited (fig. 22). Finds from recent times are hardly known. The most frequent depth under the bog surface at which they are found is about 2.0 m, and the overwhelming majority is below 1.5 m (fig. 20). Find frequency through time, and depth of discovery, are very different from those of

thin-butted axes (fig. 26–27). This must result from a combination of the depth in the wet area at which the original depositions took place, and the depths at which peat has been dug in recent times. The pots seem to have been deposited in what was at the time open water, while the flint axe hoards were placed on the water’s edge. This is the cause of the difference in find depth, and consequently also of discovery date.

In 1948 the neolithic bog pottery was studied in depth by C.J. Becker, who published 152 finds in all (Becker 1947). 110 other early and middle neolithic finds, mainly small, can be added to this (catalogue II). The discussion also covers 31 pots found in lakes, rivers or the open sea. A total of 436 early and middle neolithic pots are thus known from wet areas. In the following they are dated according to the classic system of neolithic chronology with some reservations towards its earlier part (Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, 11 ff; Madsen and Petersen 1982/83, 93 ff).

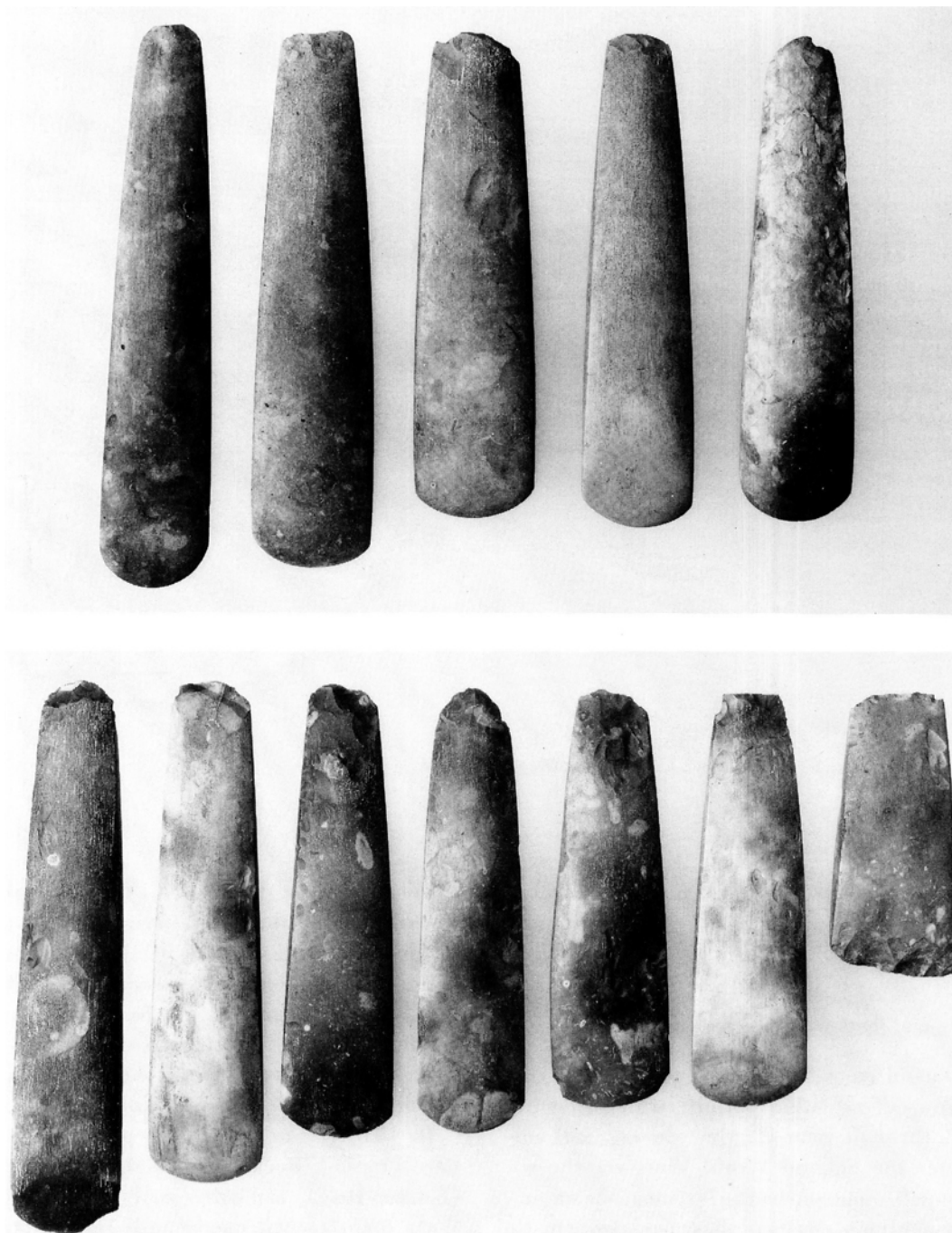


Fig. 17. Hoard of thin butted axes found at Sigersdal. Photo: L. Larsen. 1:4.

The early neolithic A and B groups are represented by 32 and 40 pots respectively. Over half the dated pots come from early neolithic C and middle neolithic I, which have yielded 109 and 72 pots respectively (fig. 21). This depositional practice stops almost completely during the period of the Blandebjerg style, and only a few pots from bogs are known in the later middle neolithic (MN II: 9; MN III/IV: 1; MN V: 4). From the later periods of the neolithic, very few pots from bogs are known (Davidsen 1976, 161 ff; Becker 1947, 119). A number of Ertebølle vessels recovered from wet areas are probably to be regarded as the predecessors of this sacrificial practice (Ebbesen 1980, 12, note 3: also a pot from Neverkær Mose, E. Albrectsen 1974, fig. 8). The deposition of pots in wet areas is thus a practice which as far as the neolithic is concerned occurs mainly in early neolithic C and middle neolithic I.

Geographically the new finds show a similar spread to that published by C.J. Becker (fig. 18). There is no reason to doubt Becker's (1947, 270 ff) interpretation of the finds as votive.

The selection of pottery used for the wet area sacrifices is relatively uniform (figs. 19, 21). In the early neolithic, funnel and cylinder necked beakers predominate, followed by lugged beakers and bowls, and (in early neolithic C) also lugged and collared flasks, which also comprise an important part of the pottery used as grave goods. In middle neolithic I, funnel and cylinder necked beakers are still the most common types, followed now by Troldebjerg bowls, while the rest of the ceramic forms are only rarely used in wet area sacrifices. In the later parts of the middle neolithic the number of pots is so small that one cannot speak of any regular votive practice.

Votive offerings of pottery of early and middle neolithic date are known not only from wet areas, but also from before the entrances of large dolmens and passage graves. Such sacrificial layers have been studied several times in recent years, so their composition is relatively well-known (Kjærum 1967, 9 ff; Jørgensen 1977; Ebbesen 1978, 1979). There are clear differences in the pot types in the wet area and the megalith sacrifices. Clay spoons make up about 10% of ceramic products in the megalith sacrifices, but are never found in bogs. Footed bowls are much more common in megalith sacrifices than in wet areas. Funnel and cylinder necked beakers, on the other hand, are rather more common in finds from wet areas than from before megaliths. They are

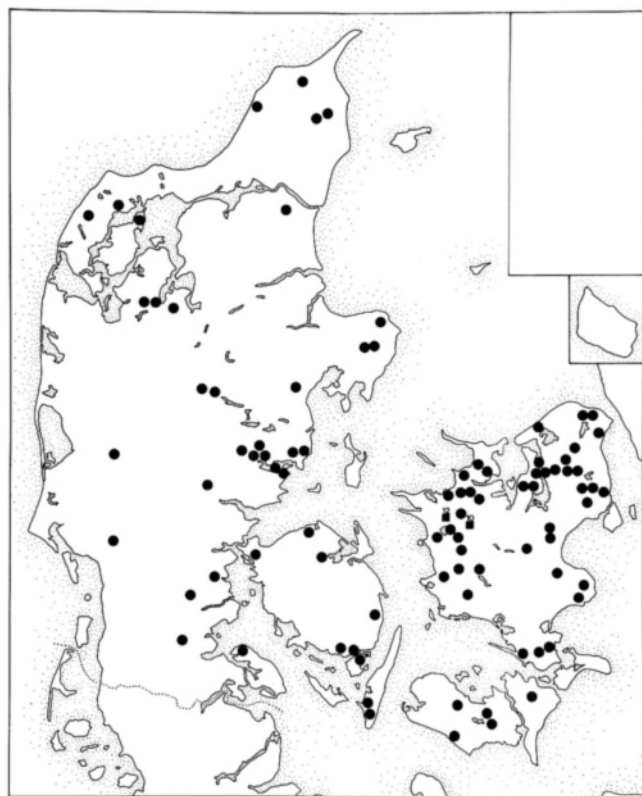


Fig. 18. Distribution of bog finds of neolithic pottery found after 1946.

the most common type in both, but are not present in the same proportions. In megalith sacrifices the funnel and cylinder necked beakers fall clearly into two groups with regard to height and rim diameter: very large storage vessels, and relatively small ones for drinking. In wet area finds of funnel and cylinder necked and lugged beakers, the height and rim diameter do fall within the same range of variation, but the commonest rim diameter is about 20 cm, and a considerable number have diameters between 20 and 30 cm. These wet area finds are typically medium sized, rather coarse pots. Although the same pot types dominate wet area and megalith sacrifices, therefore, there are some differences between them. If the clear differences in the choices of pot types and the chronological differences are also born in mind, it is clear that the wet area and the megalith sacrifices represent two different sacrificial practices. It is natural to see the megalith sacrifices as an expression of ancestor worship. On the other hand, the wet area sacrifices, probably involving food-stuffs, most likely represent a fertility cult.

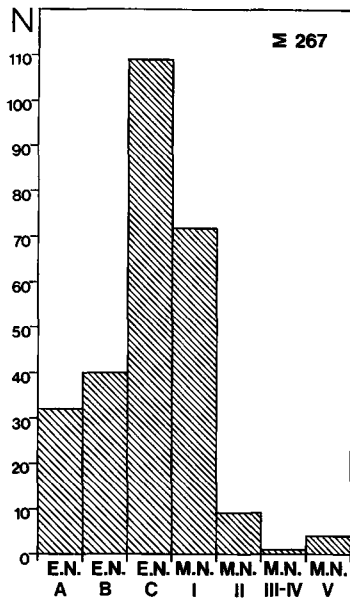


Fig. 19. The quantity and date of the bog vessels of the TRB Culture in Denmark.

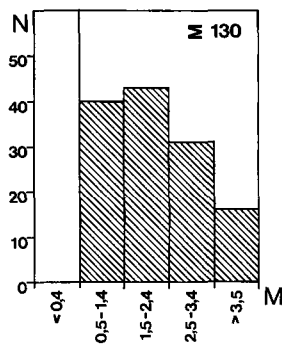


Fig. 20. Find depths of bog vessels.

Conclusion: Neolithic human sacrifice

The skeleton from Sigersdal Mose represents a particular type of find: a human, found in a bog, most commonly during peat cutting. The late bronze and early iron age bodies have been objects of particular interest (Glob 1965; Lund 1976; Thorvildsen 1952, 33 ff; Fischer 1979, 7 ff; Ebbesen 1986).

The bog corpses are so well preserved purely because they were deposited in acidic water with temperatures

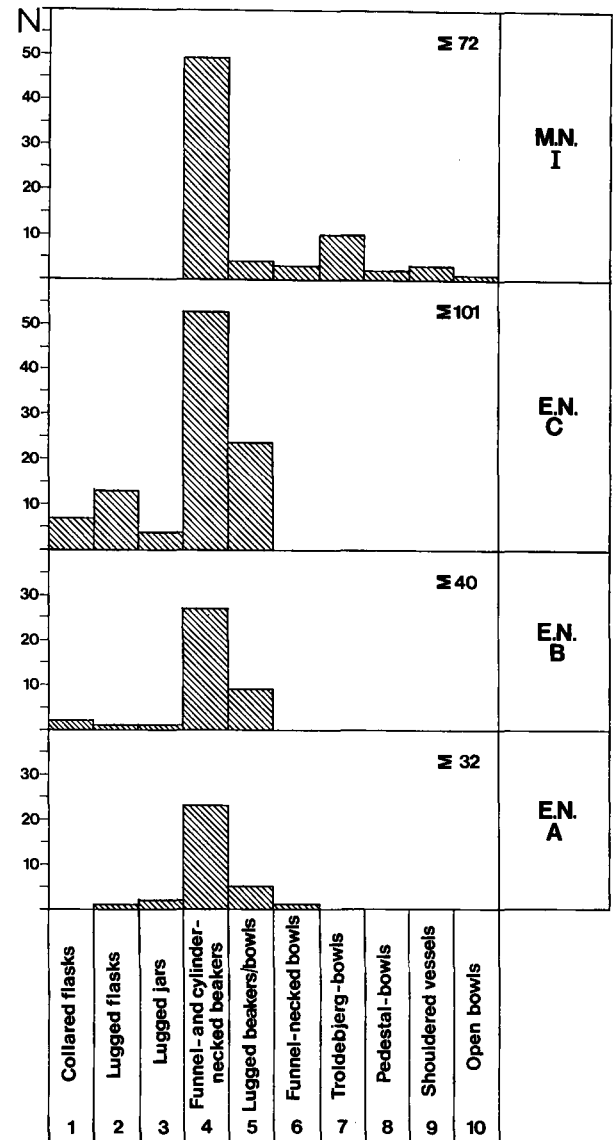


Fig. 21. The quantity of different types of vessels in the bog finds from the early neolithic and the MN I.

below 4°C (Gregersen 1979, 45 ff). Bodies deposited in these same bogs during the summer have almost completely disappeared. Finds of skeletons almost all come from alkaline bogs.

There is a large number of skeletons from bogs (Becker 1947, 274 ff; 1971, 27 ff; Christensen 1967, 150 ff; Fischer 1979, fig. 2; Dieck 1965; 1972, 365 ff; Bennike and Ebbesen 1985, 28 ff; Ebbesen 1986), and two more skeletons are known from the wet area that yielded the Sigersdal skeletons. Neither of these are dated, nor are

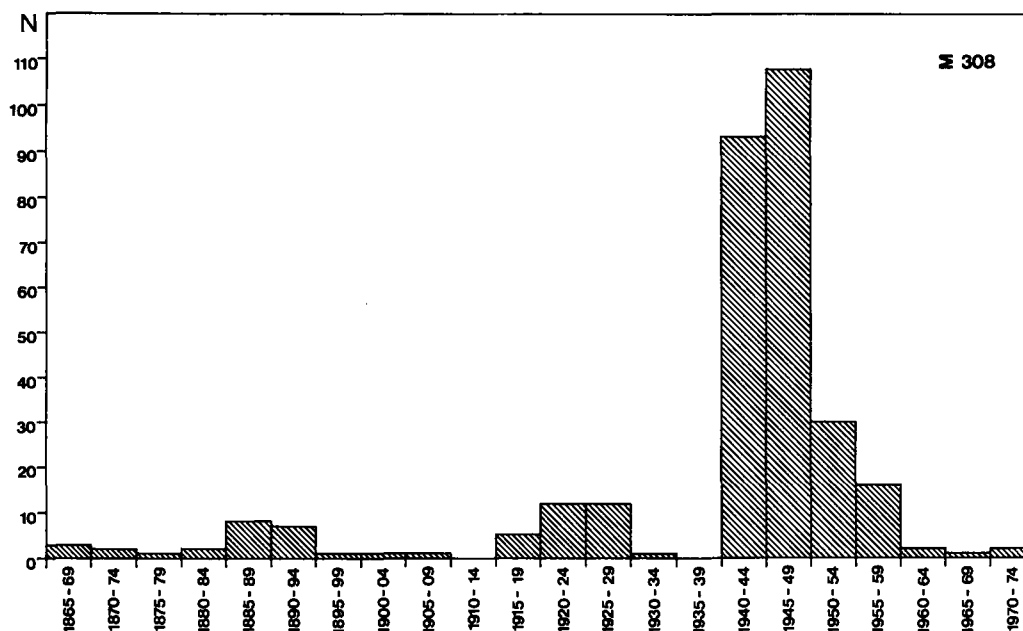


Fig. 22. The number of bog vessels according to year of discovery.

most of the other 500 or so known from Danish bogs.

The best known find is that from Porsmose, in Toksværd parish. This is of a man 35–40 years of age, who has been killed by two bone-tipped arrows, which are still lodged in his nasal fossa and sternum (Becker 1952, 25 ff). The skeleton has been radiocarbon dated to 2760 ± 90 bc (K-3748). Like the Sigersdal individual, the Porsmose man met a violent end, but in his case there is no certainty of any cultic connection. He may equally well have been killed by an enemy and thereafter disposed of in water.

The interpretation of a male skeleton found in 1941 in a small bog near Stenstrup dairy, Højby parish, is more certain. It had a rope round its neck, the other end of which was attached to two large stones weighing 15–20 kg, the rope being wound round them several times (Bennike and Ebbesen 1985, 28 ff). This skeleton has been dated to 1600 ± 80 bc, i.e. to late neolithic C, and most probably represents a human sacrifice.

The same is true of two early neolithic skeletons found in 1946 at Bolkilde on the island of Als.

There may be another parallel in the find from Sludegårds Sømose in Frørup parish (Albrechtsen 1954, 14 ff). This is a large sacrificial find containing objects mainly from the Funnel Beaker culture. There are also parts of the skeletons of four individuals, including one skull

which has clearly been struck on the temporal bone. Neither radiocarbon nor pollen dates are available, however.

Another group of bog finds comprises small heaps of human and animal bones, occasionally also containing chance admixtures of fragments of artifacts. Human bones usually only form a minor part. There can be little doubt that these depositions took place in connection with cultic activities – in this case presumably feasts where humans made up part of the menu (Becker 1947, 274 ff; Rech 1979, 48 ff; Ebbesen 1982, 75; 1986).

This practice is best documented from the early iron age (Vestergaard Nielsen 1938, 297 ff; Kunwald 1949, 13 ff; 1970, 48 ff; Becker 1971, 40, note 76; 1980, 219 ff; J. and K. Ferdinand 1961, 47 ff; Simonsen 1953, 61 ff; Struve 1967, 56 f; Jankuhn et al. 1958, 189 ff; Liversage 1980, 51 f; Albrechtsen 1944, 241 ff; 1946, 448; 1949, 11 ff; 1974, 85 f). A couple of finds may date from period VI of the bronze age (Broholm and Fischer Møller 1934, 23 ff; Broholm 1946, M 215 a and M 221 a – the find from Radbjerg Mose, Veggerløse parish (Broholm 1946, 171 ff) is too uncertain). Some finds of this type are also known from the neolithic.

A find that has long been known must be mentioned first, that from “Myrebjerg” near Nordenbro, Magleby parish (Winther 1929, 51 ff; Broholm and Fischer-Møl-

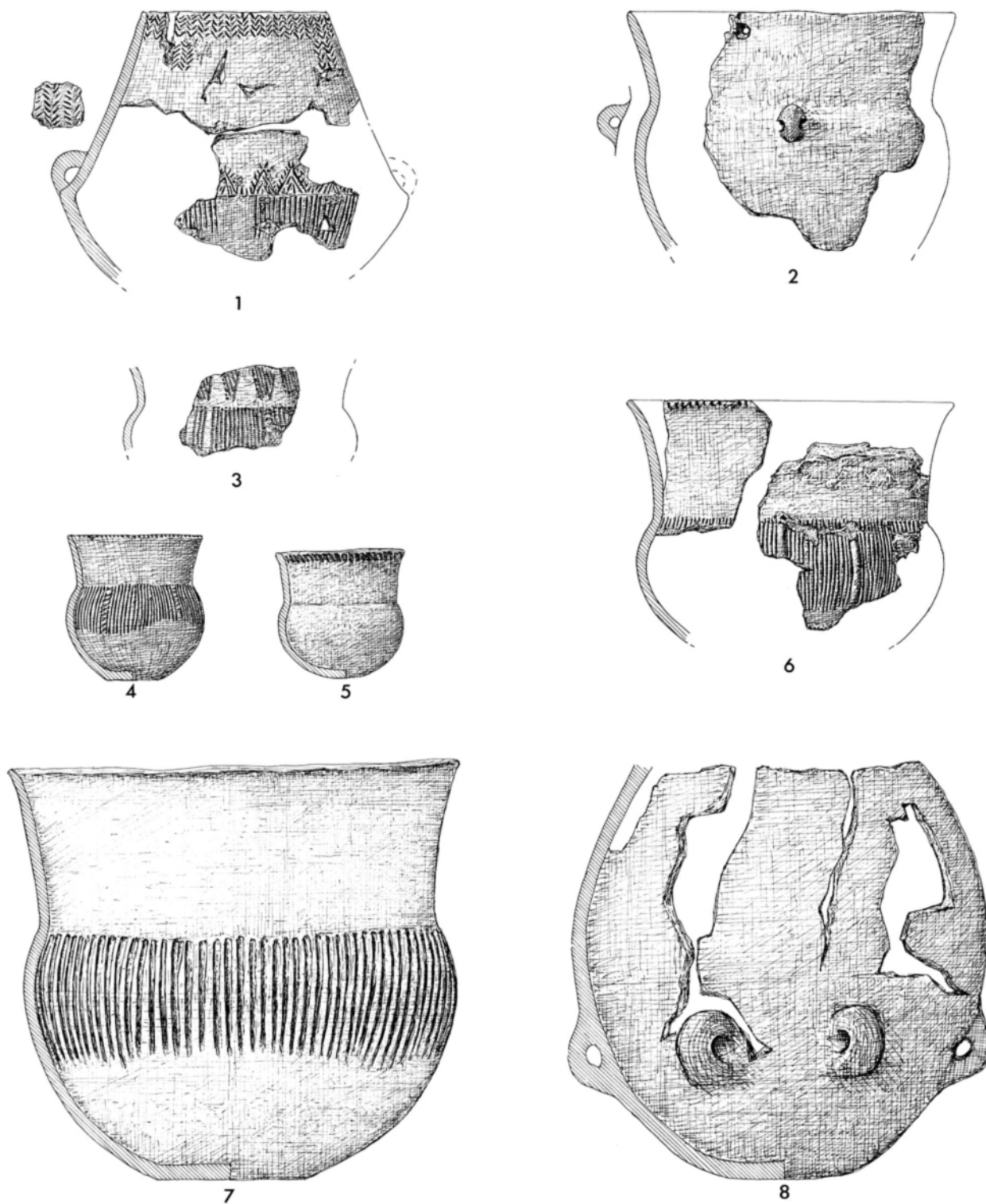
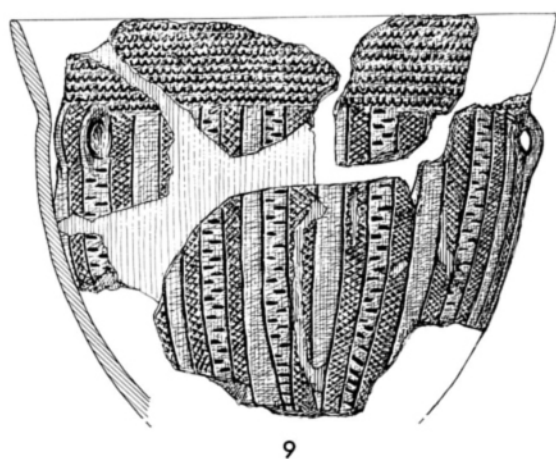
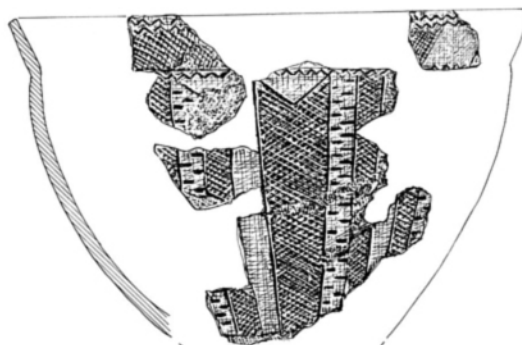


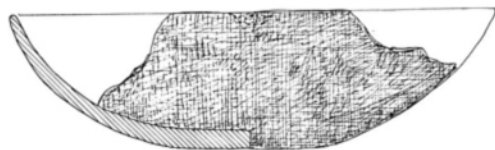
Fig. 23. Neolithic pottery from bogs (catalogue 1). Drawing: H. Ørsnes. 1:4.



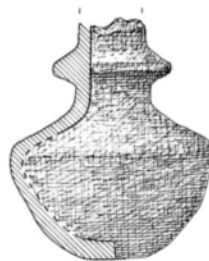
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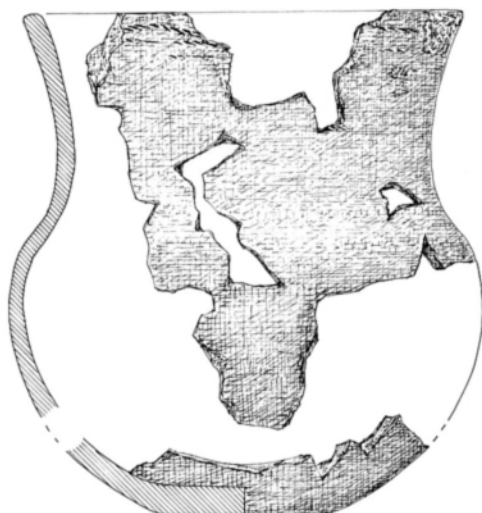
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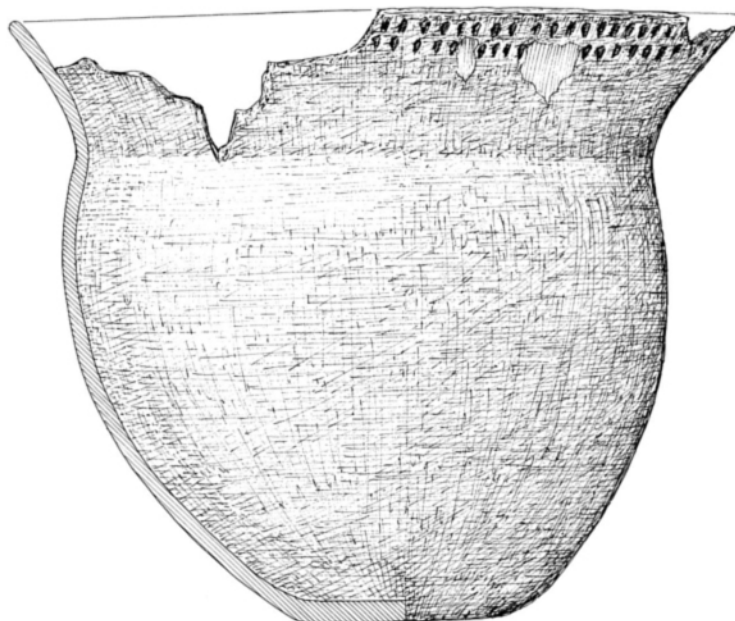
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Fig. 24. Neolithic pottery from bogs, continued. (Catalogue 1). Drawing: H. Ørsnes. 1:4.

	EN A	EN B	EN C	MN I	MN II	MN III-IV	MN V	Undat.	Total
Collared flasks		2	7					13	22
Lugged flasks	1	1	13					2	17
Lugged jars	2	1	4					9	16
Funnel- and cylinder-necked beakers	23	27	53	49			2	55	209
Lugged beakers/bowls	5	9	24	4				11	53
Funnel-necked bowls	1			3				1	5
Troldebjerg-bowls				10					10
Pedestal-bowls				2					2
Open bowls				1				6	7
Shouldered bowls				3	1				4
Pendant wessels					3	1			4
Beakers/bowls with concav neck					4			7	11
Bucket-shaped wessels							2		2
Unidentified			8		1			65	74
Total	32	40	109	72	9	1	4	169	436

Fig. 25. The number of different vessel types in the bog finds from the various periods of the TRB Culture (early and middle neolithic).

ler 1934, 23 ff; Skaarup 1985, 76 f). The heap of bones includes elements from domestic cow, sheep, pig, horse and human. The human bones come from at least five different people: two children aged 3–4 years, two young persons aged 15–20 years; and an adult woman of about 25–30 years. All the bones are smashed. The find was earlier dated to the bronze age (period IV bronze items were found in peat from the same cutting); but the find contains cord ornamented pottery from early neolithic C/ middle neolithic I, and a radiocarbon date has been obtained of 2690 ± 320 bc (K-3702). The find must thus date to early neolithic C.

A similar find is known from Føllenslev, in Føllenslev parish (Becker 1945, 167 f; 1947, 275), and a couple of other finds are described in the literature. C.J. Becker interprets them as cultic food sacrifices, a view followed by Rech (1979, 51 f) and which is also followed here.

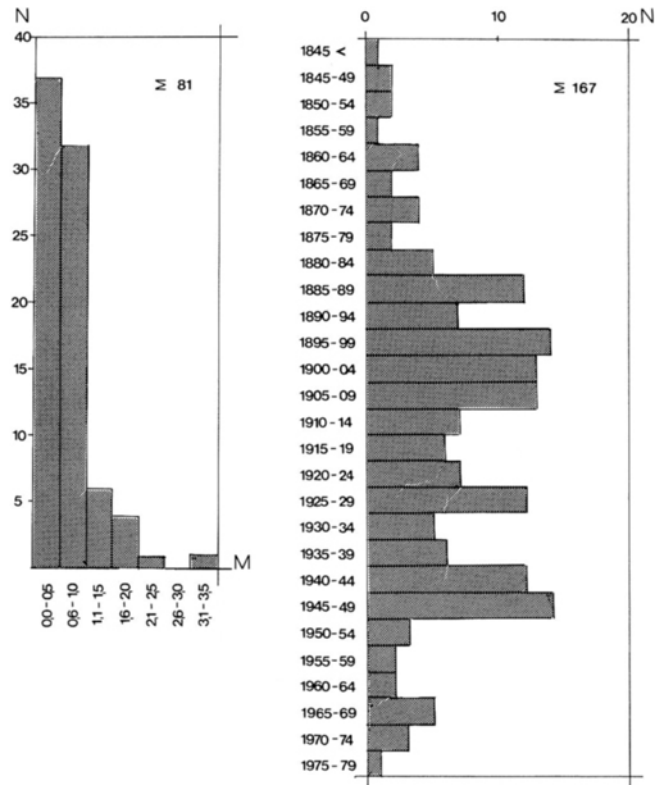


Fig. 26 (left): Depth of bog finds of hoards with thin-butted axes.

Fig. 27 (right): Year of discovery of bog finds of hoards with thin-butted axes.

The Sigersdal find thus provides crucial new information about prehistoric sacrificial practices. Human sacrifices, most visible in the case of the bog corpses, are not restricted to a short period in prehistory. They are known from most millennia in prehistory, and Sigersdal (the oldest find known so far) is only a few centuries later than the introduction of a neolithic economy.

Translated by Peter Rowley-Conwy

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The String from Sigersdal Mose

by LISE BENDER JØRGENSEN

Around the neck of the skeleton from Sigersdal Mose was found the remains of a piece of string – in all probability the cord with which the victim was strangled.

According to the report, the string seems to have been laid double, and twisted several times around the neck of the deceased. A knot on the string is still to be seen, but is probably partly undone: it may now at best be termed a granny knot, and would not have been able to hold anything (fig. 28–29). The string is now in 12 pieces, the longest fragment 30 cm, diameter 3 mm. It is S-plyed from three Z-spun yarns, and made of vegetable fibres.

The date of the find, phase C of the Early Neolithic (c. 3,500 BC), calls attention to the string; organic material, especially textiles to which group the Sigersdal string must be assigned, from such an early date are very rare. From North Europe only a small group of Stone Age textiles can be listed: in Germany a Late Neolithic find from Wiepenkathen, Kr. Stade in the Elbe-Weser-Triangle and two pieces from Central Germany, both belonging to the TRB culture, Spitzes Hoch and Kreienkopp (v. Stokar 1938, p. 103, and Schlabow 1959); and from Denmark a small number of finds dated to the Ertebølle culture or the Early Neolithic.

The three finds from the Ertebølle culture are Møllegabet (Dejrø) and Skjoldnæs, both submarine settlements off the coast of Ærø (Skaarup 1980, 1981 and 1982), and a similar settlement at Tybrind Vig off the west coast of Funen (Andersen & Bender Jørgensen 1985, Andersen 1985). The two sites from Ærø both yielded pieces of string: Møllegabet a float with a piece of line still attached to it (Skaarup 1980, p. 6); Skjoldnæs an eel spear wound with lashing (Skaarup 1981, 1982 p. 166); the Tybrind Vig site has yielded several strings and plaits, together with fragments of fabric in a technique best termed *nålebinding*, i.e. a sewing technique (Andersen & Bender Jørgensen 1985).

The Early Neolithic Period has up to now supplied three sites: Tulstrup Mose, North Zealand (Becker 1947, p. 10ff) with several pieces of string, plaits and fabrics in twined weave; Kongsted Lyng from South Zealand (Becker 1947, cat. 89, p. 42) with a piece of string, and finally the bog corpse of Sigersdal Mose.

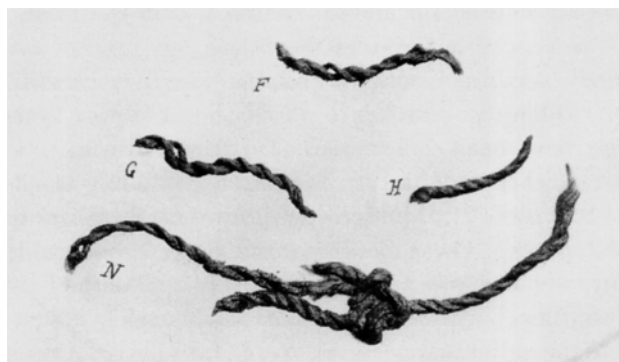


Fig. 28. Fragments of the string from Sigersdal Bog with knot. Photo: L. Larsen. 1:2.

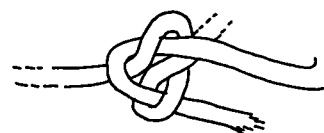


Fig. 29. Drawing of the "granny knot" from Sigersdal Bog.

The Sigersdal Mose corpse has been dated by the Carbon 14-method; the other finds here listed are all dated by archaeological means, i.e. by accompanying artefacts. The Ertebølle sites all belong to the phase Dyrholmen II (4500–4000 BC), the two Early Neolithic sites to respectively phase B (Tulstrup Mose) and C (Kongsted Lyng), i.e. within the chronological range of 4000–3400 BC. This means that all Danish samples of Stone Age textile remains date within a thousand years: appr. 4500–3400 BC; no samples from the remaining part of the Neolithic have yet been found (note 1); the next find is dated to phase 1 of the Bronze Age, i.e. after 1800 BC (Bender Jørgensen 1986, cat. D:I:1).

Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic textiles from Denmark are still rare and very much fragmented, and fall into several categories such as string, plait and various kinds of fabric. Some features, however, are consistent: without exception all pieces have been identified as made from vegetable fibres; and similarly, they are all Z-spun (and sometimes consequently S-plyed).

The next chronological group of Danish textile finds, from the Early Bronze Age, are always made of wool. They have S-spin as a normal feature; most fabrics have S-spun warp, Z-spun weft, some have S-spin in both systems. The latter combination becomes the rule in

the Late Bronze Age and in the Pre-Roman Iron Age.

The vegetable fibres of the Stone Age textiles are usually very much decayed and therefore they are difficult to identify according to species. Some fabrics, however, have been determined: Tulstrup Mose as lime bast (Becker 1947, p. 10f); Tybrind Vig possibly as willow bast (note 2); Skjoldnæs possibly as nettle (Skaarup 1982, p. 166). These identifications suggest that a wide range of basts were exploited by the people of the Late Mesolithic/Early Neolithic, most likely closely adjusted to the individual purpose. Wool fibres have not been found; considering the small sample of finds this may be accidental, but it is more likely because woolly sheep had not yet been introduced in North Europe in the period in question. Sherratt has argued (1983) that wool first was introduced in North and Central Europe in the 3rd millennium BC, probably in a Corded Ware Culture context; this suggestion fits well into the pattern presented by the Danish material.

The second common feature of the Danish Stone Age textile remains, the Z-spin, may perhaps be seen as a feature of the vegetable fibres. In more recent times, the preparation of wool and vegetable fibres demanded very different sets of tools, and it seems a reasonable interpretation that S-spin was introduced in North Europe with the new fibre material.

The string fragments from Sigersdal may look rather sorry and insignificant; but in connection with other similar remains from the period around the transition between the Mesolithic and the Neolithic they may be fitted in as a useful piece in the great puzzle of Prehistory.

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NOTES

1. A find from Øksnebjerg on Funen, published by S. Müller in 1913, has often been quoted as a sample of linen cloth from the Early Neolithic Period. In 1979, E. Munksgaard showed that the piece in question was neither linen nor Neolithic (Munksgaard 1979).
2. Letter of 13/11-1985 from B. Lorentzen & A. M. Rørdam, Danmarks Farmaceutiske Højskole, to Else Østergaard of the Textile Conservation Laboratory of the National Museum.

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Catalogue I

Notes to illustrations and maps

Fig. 2 (sb = parish inventory number)

Respectively Stenløse parish, sb 88 (Kunwald 1949, 11 ff, upper); sb 102 (surface find in private collection); sb 16 (NM I A 49.327, B 15.326–27 and C 29.911–12. Aner and Kersten 1973, 89 ff); sb 17 (Langben Rises Grav, a passage grave completely destroyed in 1875, regarded by Müller in the same year as constructed under an artificial mound); sb 12 (Langben Rises Dysse). In 1975 the long dolmen was surrounded by 32 kerbstones, of which 4 were to the east, 3 to the west. The middle one of these was the highest. Towards the west end was a chamber under a mound, constructed of 4 supporting stones and one capstone. The chamber is said to have contained human bones and a clay vessel, and stone implements near the kerbstones; sb 45 (the dolmen "Lindebjerg"). Also Veksø parish, sb 19 (Skadedyssen, a low mound surrounded by kerbstones and with 3–5 large stones in the centre). The other two skeletons from the wet area are no. 90 in Stenløse parish (NM I j. 632/44) and no. 42 in Veksø parish (NM I j. 589/46, a woman of 20–30 years, lying on her back with her head to the northeast).

Fig. 17 (sb = parish inventory number)

The hoard from Sigersdal, Stenløse parish (sb 88). NM A 40.250–61. Kunwald 1949, 3 ff; Nielsen 1975, list I no. 14. The find was made during peat cutting in 1942. The axes lay close together, about 1.5 m deep, near the northern edge of the bog. It was not observed how they lay. The find originally consisted of 13 axes, of which only 12 were handed over: 1) a heavy flint axe, polished on all surfaces, with a sharp butt. The edge shows traces of use, and there is a "grinding error" on one of the broad surfaces. The edge is secondarily reworked, maybe after being damaged. Length 16.5 cm, edge width 7.8, butt index 6.0 × 2.4 cm, greatest thickness 3.3/9.5 (2.6) cm, weight 625 g. 2) a heavy flint axe, polished on all surfaces, with unworked butt. There is an area of cortex on one of the broad surfaces. Length 24.5 cm, edge width 6.9 cm, butt index 4.7 × 2.0

cm, greatest thickness 3.0/13.2 (1.5) cm, weight 700 g. 3) a heavy flint axe, polished on all sides, with a sharp butt. Length 26.8 cm, edge width 6.7 cm, butt index 4.4×2.5 cm, greatest thickness 3.4/13.0 (1.5) cm, weight 875 g. 4) a heavy thin butted flint axe with sharp butt, polished on all surfaces. One broad surface has large unpolished areas. The corners of the edge have been damaged, probably in recent times. Length 24.6 cm, edge width 7.0 cm, butt index 3.7×2.5 cm, greatest thickness 3.3/12.3 (1.6) cm, weight 810 g. 5) a heavy thin butted axe with sharp, worked butt, polished on all surfaces. It seems unused. Length 29.2 cm, edge width 6.6 cm, butt index 4.3×2.2 cm, greatest thickness 3.3/14.5 (1.8) cm, weight 975 g. 6) a heavy thin butted flint axe with partially worked butt, polished on all surfaces. It seems unused. Length 33.1 cm, edge width 5.5 cm, butt index 4.1×2.6 cm, greatest thickness 3.5/16.5 (2.0) cm, weight 1200 g. 7) a heavy thin butted flint axe with sharply worked butt, polished on all surfaces. It seems unused. Length 31.5 cm, edge width 7.1 cm, butt index 4.8×2.2 cm, greatest thickness 3.3/16.0 (1.6) cm. 8) a heavy thin butted flint axe with sharply worked butt. The piece is polished on all surfaces, but not at the base near the butt. Length 28.8 cm, edge width 6.8 cm, butt index 4.3×2.1 cm, greatest thickness 3.5/19.3 (1.6) cm, weight 975 g. 9) a heavy thin butted axe with sharp butt, polished on all surfaces. There is a little cortex at the butt. One corner of the edge has been removed by retouch. Length 32.7 cm, edge width 6.4 cm, butt index 4.7×2.1 cm, greatest thickness 3.7/17.5 (2.1) cm. 10) a heavy thin butted axe with sharp butt, polished on all surfaces. There is a patch of cortex on one of the broad surfaces. It appears to be new; one corner of the edge has been damaged in recent times. Length 26.2, edge width 6.6 cm, butt index 4.7×2.3 cm, greatest thickness 3.6/14.7 (1.8) cm, weight 800 g. 11) a heavy thin butted axe with sharply worked butt, polished on all surfaces. It seems new. Length 29.4 cm, edge width 6.8 cm, butt index 5.0×2.4 cm, greatest thickness 3.3/15.6 (1.6) cm, weight 1000 g. 12) a heavy thin butted flint axe with flat, worked neck, polished on all four surfaces. There is a patch of cortex on one broad surface. The piece seems new. Length 28.9 cm, edge width 7.3 cm, butt index 5.6×2.3 cm, greatest thickness 3.2×15.0 (1.6) cm, weight 1025 g.

Figs. 23–24. Pots found in bogs.

1. Rudegård, Munkebjergby parish. NM A 50.623. Reference: below, list I, 49. Most of a shouldered hanging vessel with only one lug preserved. There are 4 or 5 stamped chevrons under the rim, and under these rows of vertical double chevrons on the upper part of the neck. The same is found on the lug. On the shoulder and at the base of the neck is a row of 3 standing triangles, surrounded by short strokes to the sides. The upper part of the belly is decorated with groups of vertical incised lines. Rim diameter 12.5 cm, height 18 cm.
2. Torbenfeldt Mose, Tømmerup II, Undløse parish. NM A 39.666. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 36.2. Sherd of undecorated lugged beaker with one lug preserved at the transition from neck to belly. Repair hole under the rim. Rim diameter c. 22 cm.
3. Magleby Lyng I, Magleby parish. NM A 39.329 c. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 80.7. Sherd of lugged funnel beaker (type C). On the belly are broad groups of vertical lines, interspersed with narrow smooth areas or rows of vertical incisions. On the neck is a design probably consisting of hanging triangles on one side, bounded by a row of round impressions. The decoration is carried out with whipped cord.
4. Sperrestrup, Ølstykke parish. NM A 41.674. Reference: below, list I, 13. A nearly complete funnel beaker with short, offset neck and high rounded belly. There are oblique incisions on the outer part of the rim. On the belly are vertical strips, interrupted in five places by vertical rows of oblique strokes. Height c. 9.7 cm, rim diameter 9.2 cm, basal diameter 3.5 cm.
5. Salpetermosen, Frederiksborg Slots parish. NM A 41.161. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 10.3. A nearly complete miniature funnel beaker (type B). The neck is funnel shaped, with marked transition to the round belly. Under the rim is a horizontal row of faint seicircular impressions. Height 8.5 cm, rim diameter c. 8.0 cm.
6. Jordløse Mose V, Jordløse parish. NM A 40.215. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 59.4. Two sherds of a funnel beaker (type C). There is a lip around the rim, with nail impressions in it. On the upper part of the belly are spaced, vertical three-dimensional mouldings, and between them vertical incised lines to cover the spaces. Rim diameter c. 23 cm.
7. Tømmerup Mose III, Undløse parish. NM A 42.049. Reference: below, list I, 28. A complete funnel beaker, with a hint of a lip on the funnel shaped neck, the transition to the rounded belly being not strongly marked (type C). On the upper part of the belly is a decoration of coarse vertical lines. Height 27.5–28.5 cm, rim diameter 30–31 cm, basal diameter 10.0 cm.
8. Maglelyng III, Stenmagle parish. NM A 47.408. Reference: below, list I, 52. Most of an undecorated lugged beaker with flat base and originally 6 lugs c. 9.0 cm above the base. Height 28.0 cm, basal diameter about 8.0 cm.
9. Rørlykke Mose I, Tryggelev parish. NM A 8231. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 123. Parts of a Troldebjerg bowl, originally with two double lugs opposite each other on the upper part of the belly. The neck is slightly concave, the transition to the belly abrupt. On the neck are 8–9 horizontal rows of crescentic incisions. On the belly is a repetitive design of vertical triple bands, the middle filled with zipper motif, the outer ones with cross hatching. The decoration continues up over the lugs. Rim diameter c. 29–30 cm, height 21 cm.
10. Salpetermosen, Frederiksborg Slots parish. NM A 41.161. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 10.3. Fragments of a funnel bowl with smoothed surface, short funnel shaped neck, and with its maximum diameter at a point high on the belly. Under the rim and on the upper part of the belly are respectively 2 and 1 rows of horizontal, stamped chevrons. On the neck are alternating areas of smoothed surface and cross hatching. On the inside are two horizontal

- rows of vertical, stamped strokes. The belly is decorated with alternating zones of vertical cross hatching, zipper motif and smoothing. One of the cross hatched zones is topped by a smoothed hanging triangle. Rim diameter 27.5 cm, height 17 cm.
11. Jordløse Mose XXI, Jordløse parish. NM A 40.220. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 75. Sherd of an open bowl with evenly convex sides and rounded base. Height c. 7.2 cm, rim diameter 26.0 cm.
 12. Søperup Mose I, Snesere parish. NM A 39.654. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 92. Most of an undecorated collared flask, with the neck broken off. The belly is nearly biconical, the upper part being higher, and with a flat base. There is a collar on the lowest part of the neck. Height 13.0 cm, basal diameter 3.0 cm, greatest diameter 11.0 cm, collar diameter 6.0–6.8 cm.
 13. Gerrild, Gerrild parish. NM A 39.154. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 34. A nearly complete undecorated collared flask, with nearly globular belly and cylindrical neck, in the middle of which is the collar. The belly/neck transition is gentle. Rim diameter c. 3.2 cm, height 15.0 cm, collar diameter 6.0 cm.
 14. Jordløse Mose III, Jordløse parish. NM A 40.626. Reference: Becker 1947, no. 57. Most of a funnel beaker with smoothed surface, flat base, and evenly curved transition from neck to belly (type B). Under the rim are 1–3 skilfully executed horizontal lines of whipped cord impression. Height 26–27 cm, rim diameter c. 25.0 cm.
 15. Magleø, Stenlille parish. NM A 49.256. Reference: below, list I, 25. A slightly crooked funnel beaker (type A), almost complete. The short neck is considerably offset from the belly. The base is flat. There are two horizontal rows of finger impressions under the rim. Rim diameter c. 39–40 cm, basal diameter c. 11 cm, height c. 32 cm.

Catalogue II

Early and middle neolithic pottery found in wet areas

A review of the finds up to 1946–47 is given by Becker (1947, 10 ff). This can still be used, although as mentioned pot nos. 25; 62,2; 95,1; 137; 142, 3–4; and 149 date to later parts of the neolithic, and nos. 55,3; 61,1; 95,3–4; and 142,5 (in part) can only be dated to the neolithic in general. More recent work on pottery also means that a few finds must be redated and a few other changes made to Becker's list. Thus nos. 74,6–7; 88,2–3; and 135,4–5 represent only a single pot, the latter two respectively a hanging vessel and a lugged bowl. No. 125 represents 2 different lugged beakers, while no. 142 also includes fragments of two funnel beakers, one dated to early neolithic C. Find no. 7 comprises 12 different pots in all, one an undecorated lugged vessel.

Nos. 4,2; 36,2 and 37,2 are lugged beakers, as are nos. 110 and 152 which Becker called lugged vessels. Nos. 145 and 151 are funnel beakers, while no. 130 is a cylindrically necked

beaker; no. 108 is however a funnel bowl. Nos. 66,9 and 83,6 are Troldebjerg bowls; no. 54 is a lugged bowl; no. 80.1 is a hanging vessel; no. 83,2 a middle neolithic II beaker with concave neck; no. 62,6 a bucket-shaped pot; and no. 102,2 an undeterminable pot.

Nos. 41,46 and 122,1 must belong to the A group; 10,1–2; 35; and 127 to the B group; nos. 12; 44,1; 102; 124,2; 141; and 159,4 to the C group. No. 122,2 can be dated to early neolithic C/middle neolithic Ia; nos. 1,3; 28,2; and 59,2 to early neolithic C/middle neolithic I. Nos. 93, 104, 108 and 131 can be dated to middle neolithic I, and no. 62,6 to MN V. Nos. 20; 37,2; 40; 43; 48,2; 51,4; 52,3; 59,5; 62,3–5; 63; 66,3; 68,2; 69,2; 70,1–2; 72,1; 73; 75; 76,2; 79; 83,3–4; 90; 101; 110; 120; 135,2; 145; and 151 are so uncharacteristic as to be dated to any of the period's styles or phases.

A number of other finds have appeared. Some from Åmosen have been published by Troels-Smith (1953, figs. 10–14). 110 other finds were also made up to 1980. (In the following sb = parish inventory).

1. Øverup Mose, Esbønderup parish (GIM O 1320). Funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Bog find.
2. Øverupgård, Esbønderup parish (GIM O 1252). Funnel beaker with pricked decoration at the neck/ belly transition (type C/D). Bog find.
3. Tisvilde Bymose, Tibirke parish (GIM O 1022). Undecorated funnel beaker (type B). Found in the bog with two other pots. They stood upright, 10–15 cm apart.
4. Manderup Søgård, Skibby parish (sb 60 – NM A 35.562–65 and A 41.169).
 - (a) undecorated collared flask (early neolithic A?).
 - (b) funnel beaker with pricked decoration under the rim (type A or Svaleklint group). Found in a natural shell bank at different times. Animal bones and a fragment of amber were found with (a).
5. Manderup Søgård II, Skibby parish (sb 58, – NM A 44.483–84). Two undecorated funnel beakers (type A). Found during shell digging.
6. Salpetermosen II, Frederiksborg rural parish (private ownership, NM j. 453/61). Funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly, and lines of chevrons under the neck (type D). Found in bog.
7. Roskilde Fjord, near Krp. Frederiks Bro, Frederiksund (NM A 49.576). Undecorated lower part of pot (undated). Found during shell digging.
8. Sperrestrup Mose, Jørlunde parish (NM A 42.168). Fragments of a funnel/lugged beaker, decorated with wound cord impressions (type C/D). Found in a bog, which has also yielded human bones.
9. Roskilde Fjord I–II, off Kølholmen or Marbæk, Oppe-Sundby parish (sb 15–16 and 23. NM A 44.730–37, A 44.729, A 49.680, A 50.419, A 50.438).
 - (a) a small, undecorated funnel beaker (type A).
 - (b) a magnum funnel beaker, with horizontal chevrons on the neck, groups of vertical lines on the belly, and a three-dimensional moulding on the neck/belly transition (type D).

- (c) a funnel beaker with horizontal chevrons on the neck and vertical bands on the belly (type D).
 (d) similar funnel beaker (type D).
 (e) neck fragment of a funnel beaker with horizontal chevrons under the rim and at the bottom of the neck (type D).
 (f) Cylinder neck beaker (?), decorated on the neck and belly with identical designs of alternating vertical and horizontal lines (Svaleklint group).
 (g) Undecorated lugged beaker with 4 lugs at the neck/belly transition (type B).
 These pots were found at various times during shell digging in a quite large area of the fjord, along with 3 flint axes, a chisel and a blade. The find is in private hands. Reference: Davidsen 1983, 127 f.
10. Gl. Strandvej 440, Egesbækvang parish (FLE not numbered). Funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found in a layer of peat near 12 blades and a thick butted axe. Reference: Anon. 1962, 4 (illustration).
11. Stenlille Mose, Stenløse Parish (sb 97, privately owned, not seen). Fragments of a funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly and pits under the rim (type D?). Found in bog.
12. Sigersdal Mose, Stenløse parish (sb 110, – NMA 44.101). Undecorated lugged vessel (type C). Found during peat digging. Animal bones were found in the vicinity, and two human skeletons, see the present article.
13. Sperrestrup, Ølstykke parish (NM A 41.673–74).
 (a) fragments of a magnum funnel beaker with pricked decoration below the rim (type A).
 (b) small funnel beaker with strokes on the rim and vertical bands on the belly, interrupted in places by vertical lines with transverse strokes. Found in peat digging together with a thick butted axe and the handle of a dagger. The objects were found c. 2.5 m deep, spread over an area about 10 m across. Reference: Ebbesen and Larsen 1978, fig. 13.1, note 7. – above, fig. 23.4.
14. Ejby Mose, Ejby parish (sb 3 – NM A 42.050). Sherd of undecorated magnum lugged beaker (undated). Found by itself, about 2 m down in the bog. Reference: Ebbesen and Larsen 1978, note 20, fig. 13.2.
15. Toftegård, Ørsted parish (sb 5 – NM A 47.391). Two undecorated body sherds (undated). Found 1 m deep in a bog.
16. Søndersø Mose, Værløse parish (private ownership, NM j. 692/42, not seen). Funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly and chevrons under the rim (type D). Found during peat cutting.
17. Skatholm, Værløse parish (NM A 38.869). 22 undecorated body sherds (undated). Found in peat from the farm.
18. Posemandens Hus, Gentofte parish (NM A 33.817a). Fragment of funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly and pricked decoration under the rim and at the neck/belly transition (type D). Found together with some animal bones in spoil removed from a ditch through a bog.
19. Harrestrup River, Vigerslev parish (NM A 39.280). Fragmentary funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C/D). Found during cleaning of the river.
20. Fællesskovgård, Buerup parish (sb 101, NM A 46.136–39).
 (a) fragment of a lugged flask with vertical bands on the belly.
 (b) belly sherd with vertical three dimensional mouldings.
 (c) lug with three dimensional mouldings, possibly from the same pot as (b).
 Found in a small bog together with an unpolished flint axe.
21. Langedamsgård, Ulstrup, Gørlev parish (KAM 10.931).
 (a) an undecorated neck sherd.
 (b) a fragment of an undecorated lugged bowl (type B). Both found during digging in the bog.
22. Sønderød Mose, Rerslev parish (sb 55, – NM A 43.327). Funnel beaker with two horizontal lines of cording under the rim (Svaleklint group). Found during peat digging. Reference: Becker 1949, 11).
23. St. Åmose, Nidløse parish (NM A 39.855). Neck/belly sherd decorated with horizontal rows of round impressions (Svaleklint group?). The pot was complete when removed from the bog.
24. Skuerup Mose, Stenlille parish (sb 35, – NM A 43.009). Lugged vessel, with whipped cord decoration under the rim and on most of the belly. Found during peat cutting, over 1 m deep. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, note 74, fig. 19.1).
25. Magleø, Stenlille parish (NM A 49.256–57).
 (a) magnum funnel beaker with two horizontal rows of finger impressions under the rim (type A).
 (b) undecorated, crudely made open bowl (undated). Found during peat cutting close to each other. Reference: above, fig. 24.15.
26. Øgårde, Undløse parish (sb 57, – NM A 42.704–5).
 (a) funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly and chevrons under the rim (type D).
 (b) fragment of a Troldebjerg bowl, with horizontal lines below the rim, and under these zones of cross hatching and crescentic impressions (middle neolithic Ib). Found c. 7 m from each other in the spoil thrown up from a drainage ditch.
27. St. Åmose, Undløse parish (sb 59, – NM A 43.320–26).
 (a) fragmentary funnel beaker with horizontal lines of cording under the rim (Svaleklint group).
 (b) undecorated beaker with concave neck.
 (c) sherds of undecorated open bowl with convex sides.
 (d) undecorated sherds of pot with concave neck.
 Found during digging of drainage ditches, together with an axe haft and a human skeleton. Reference: Becker 1949, fig. 7–8.
28. Tømmerup Mose III, Undløse parish (NM A 42.049). A magnum funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found during peat digging, standing close to several other pots, not preserved.

29. Asnæs, Asnæs parish (sb 393 – NM j. 1003–75 not seen). An early funnel beaker found during peat digging.
30. Veddinge Mose, Fårevejle parish (sb 496, NM A 49.458). A funnel beaker with strokes on the rim and vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found on the surface of the bog, at a spot where peat had been dug earlier.
31. Holte, Grevinge parish (sb. 284 – NM A 46.310). Rim sherd of funnel beaker with vertical three dimensional mouldings under the rim (undated).
32. Føllenslev, Føllenslev parish (sb 99 – NM A 42.166–67). About 30 undecorated sherds, probably from a funnel beaker. Found in a small bog; 30 m away a heap of bones was found, consisting of human bones and the skull of a goat.
33. Sandhuse Mose, Jordløse parish (sb 105 – NM A 42.026–27a).
 (a) fragment of a funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (undated).
 (b) fragment of a funnel beaker with undulating beading under the neck and vertical bands on the belly (type D).
 (c) sherd of funnel beaker with groups of vertical lines and three dimensional mouldings on the belly (undated).
 Found together with a few pieces of flint, including a blade, within an area 10 m across which contained many sherds.
34. Jordløse Mose XXIII, Jordløse parish (sb 84 – NM A 41.714). Body sherds of funnel beaker (?) with vertical bands (undated). Found about 2 m deep, during peat digging.
35. Jordløse Mose XXIV, Jordløse parish (sb 85 – NM A 42.023). Sherd of undecorated pot (early neolithic). Found c. 2 m dow, during peat digging.
36. Jordløse Mose XXV, Jordløse parish (sb 93 – NM A 41.896). Fragment of undecorated funnel beaker (undated). Collected from a 5 m² area in the bog.
37. Jordløse Mose XXVI, Jordløse parish (sb 97 – NM A 42.031). Two undecorated body sherds from different pots. Found during peat cutting.
38. Jordløse Mose XXVII, Jordløse parish (sb 99 – NM A 42.030). Fragment of pot with applied boss under the rim, with a finger impression in it (undated). Found about 0.7 m down in the bog.
39. Jordløse Mose XXVIII, Jordløse parish (sb 100 – NM A 42.028–29).
 (a) most of an undecorated lugged beaker (early neolithic).
 (b) sherd of pot with round impressions below the rim (middle neolithic I/II?).
 Found in a restricted area during harrowing.
40. Jordløse Mose XXIX, Jordløse parish (sb 116 – NM A 42.835). Undecorated pot base. Found during peat digging.
41. Jordløse Mose XXX, Jordløse parish (KAM, not numbered). Fragmentary funnel beaker with pricked decoration under the rim (early neolithic A). Bog find.
42. Jordløse Mose XXXI, Jordløse parish (NM A 42.706–7).
 (a) funnel beaker with chevrons below the rim, and vertical bands of the belly (type D).
 (b) fragmentary funnel beaker with horizontal oblique strokes below the rim and vertical groups of lines on the belly (type D).
 (c) rim sherd of funnel beaker with vertical strokes under the rim (undated).
 Found during peat digging, with an animal bone said to have been inside (a). The pots were near the base of the peat, in a layer with small mussel shells.
43. Jordløse Mose XXXII, Jordløse parish (NM A 45.889). Rim sherd of funnel beaker with horizontal lines of cording under the rim (undated). Found during peat digging.
44. Jordløse XXXIII, Jordløse parish (NM A 49.258). Funnel beaker with oblique strokes under the rim and groups of vertical lines on the belly (type D). Found during peat digging together with a large number of other pots, all now lost.
45. Kundby Mose, Kundby parish (NM A 47.959). Fragment of cylinder neck beaker with round impressions under the rim and vertical bands on the belly (middle neolithic I). Found during harrowing.
46. Arnakkegård, Svinninge parish (NM A 41.670–72).
 (a) undecorated funnel beaker (type B).
 (b) neck sherds of funnel beaker with pricked decoration under the rim (undated).
 Found during digging for shells, about 15 m apart. Reference: Becker 1949, fig. 4.
47. Svinninge Vejle, Svinninge parish (private collection, to be published by K. Davidsen, to whom thanks are due for the information). Sherd of lugged beaker (?), decorated with horizontal rows of vertical strokes and rectangular impressions (Svaleklint group). Found during shell digging.
48. Suserup, Lynge parish (sb 63 – NM j. 627/53 not seen). A collared flask, found in peat cutting.
49. Rudegård, Munke-Bjergby parish (NM A 50.623). Hanging vessel (middle neolithic III). Found in peat during ploughing of a patch of bog. Reference: above, fig. 23,1.
50. Maglelyng I, Stenmagle parish (sb 221 – NM A 49.818–20).
 (a) funnel beaker, decorated with a horizontal row of pricked decoration under the rim (type A).
 (b) funnel beaker, decorated with two horizontal rows of faint pricked decoration under the rim (type A).
 (c) Most of an undecorated lugged vessel with four lugs, opposite each other at the height of maximum diameter (type B).
 Found in peat digging. (b) and (c) were about 1 m down and c. 4–5 m apart, with the funnel beaker on one end of a split piece of wood. At its other end were some goat bones. (a) was found where harrowing had been carried out.
51. Maglelyng II, Stenmagle parish (sb 216 – NM A 44.340–43).
 (a) funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C).

- (b) funnel beaker with horizontal rows of vertical strokes under the rim (type B).
 (c) funnel beaker decorated with cord impressions; crescents under the rim, vertical lines on the belly (type C).
 (d) sherd of undecorated lugged beaker (undated).
 (e) sherd of lugged flask (?) with three dimensional mouldings on the upper part of the belly.
 (f) sherd of an undecorated lugged vessel (undated).
 (g-h) three undecorated body sherds of at least two vessels. Traces of lugs are visible on two of them.
 The near complete pots were standing close together, with the sherds a few metres away. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, note 78, fig. 20–22.
52. Maglelyng III, Stenmagle parish (sb 216 – NM A 47.408–13).
 (a) lower part of an undecorated lugged vessel.
 (b) c. 13 sherds of a funnel beaker with three dimensional mouldings under the rim.
 (c) rim sherds of a pot with a horizontal row of pricked ornamentation under the rim (undated).
 (d) two sherds, possibly from a funnel beaker with two horizontal lines of cording under the rim (undated).
 (e) three sherds, possibly of a funnel beaker. Under the rim are two rows of pricked impressions, under which are vertical rows of the same (undated).
 (f) sherds, including a rim sherd, possibly of an undecorated funnel beaker (undated).
 (g) undecorated neck/belly sherd from a pot with concave neck (undated).
 (h) undecorated rim sherd of (?) funnel beaker (undated).
 (i) neck/belly sherd of a (?) funnel beaker (undated).
 (j–k) a rim sherd, 3 base sherds and about 140 undecorated body sherds, representing at least two more pots.
 Found dispersed in a restricted area of peat litter.
53. Maglelyng IV, Stenmagle parish (sb 216 – NM A 44.344–47).
 (a) undecorated fragment of a lugged vessel (undated).
 (b) rim sherds of a funnel/cylinder necked beaker with short strokes under the rim.
 (c) fragments of undecorated pottery.
 Found during harrowing, together with a stone axe and a flake axe, on the surface.
54. Maglelyng V, Stenmagle parish (sb 240 – NM A 45.154).
 Rim sherds of a funnel beaker; under the rim is a horizontal row of beading with finger impressions (undated).
 From the bog.
55. Broby Mose, V. Broby parish (NM A 34.513–16).
 A lugged beaker, with horizontal and vertical lines under the rim, only vertical ones on the belly, all in whipped cord (type C). Found in a bog together with a thick butted axe and two axe roughouts.
56. Hørsø Mose, Jystrup parish (sb 7 – private collection, NM j. 713/56).
 A undecorated lugged beaker (type A). Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, note 45, fig. 16.
 Found during peat digging.
57. Sørbylille Mose III, Sludstrup parish (SAM 400).
 Funnel bowl, decorated under the rim with a band of chevrons, and below this chevrons in stab-and-drag technique. On the belly are vertical groups of lines, alternating with vertical rows of pricked decoration (middle neolithic I). Found lying on its side at the bottom of the peat layer. Reference: Ebbesen 1971, 19 ff, fig. 1 (the drawing shows the reconstructed pot, and is not precisely accurate as it was one of the first drawings of an artifact I ever did).
58. Nr. Mern, Mern parish (sb 60 – NM A 42.696).
 Funnel beaker, decorated on both neck and belly with a design of horizontal and vertical lines in stab-and-drag (Svaleklint group). Found by itself in a bog, although c. 10 m away 4 sheep skulls were found.
59. Kulsø, Vordingborg rural parish (sb 89 – NM A 42.697–703).
 (a) lugged beaker with lugs under the rim. Decorated with cord impressions under the rim and on the upper part of the belly, mainly in the form of vertical lines (type C).
 (b) fragment of a funnel/lugged beaker, decorated on the belly with vertical lines and on the neck with a row of chevrons, formed with whipped cord (type C).
 (c) three neck sherds, decorated with shipped cord impressions.
 (d) neck/belly sherd of a pot decorated with vertical lines of stab-and-drag.
 Found together with a bone point, spread out over a patch of bog which had earlier yielded an unpolished thin butted axe and a thick butted hollow ground axe. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, note 79, fig. 23.
60. Lilliendal, Ø. Egesborg parish (NM A 39.974).
 4 undecorated body sherds of a (?) funnel beaker. Found together with some animal bones in a small bog.
61. Havnelev, Havnelev parish (sb 14 a – NM 50.348).
 Funnel beaker with pricked decoration in the rim, and vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found in a depression.
62. Sigerslev Mose, St. Hedinge parish (sb 36 – NM A 42.051–57).
 (a) lugged flask with vertical three dimensional mouldings on the belly (type C).
 (b) fragment of a lugged flask with vertical three dimensional mouldings on the belly (type C).
 (c) fragment of lugged beaker, decorated on the neck with horizontal zones of vertical strokes alternating with round pricked decoration (Svaleklint group).
 (d) body sherd of a vessel decorated on the belly with vertical lines of whipped cord impression (early neolithic C).
 (e) fragment of undecorated lugged vessel (undated).
 (f) undecorated rim sherd.
 (g) body sherd (of lugged beaker?) decorated with whipped cord impressions (early neolithic C).
 (h) 2 sherds, possibly from an undecorated lugged vessel (undated).
 (i) undecorated rim sherd.
 (j) 3 undecorated neck sherds from one pot.

- (k) 2 undecorated basal sherds, 2 undecorated neck sherds, one body sherd, 1 ribbon shaped lug and 18 undecorated body sherds, from at least one more pot. Found near the northern edge of the bog. There was a dug out canoe surrounded by branches, stones and pot sherds.
63. Tryggevælde River, Præstø county (KØM, not numbered). Fragment of funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found in the river.
64. Ravnstrup, Glumsø parish (NM A 44.769). Fragment of a funnel beaker (type A). Found in a small bog.
65. Skørringe Lyng, Falkerslev parish (sb 4 – NM A 42.063–64).
 (a) fragment of lugged beaker, decorated on the neck and belly with double cord impressions (type C).
 (b) fragment of funnel beaker, decorated on the belly with vertical rows of whipped cord impressions (type C). Found during peat digging. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, 81, fig. 25.
66. Sørup Mose, Østofte parish (LSM 859–61).
 (a) funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C).
 (b) funnel beaker with finger impressions on the lip and groups of vertical lines on the belly (type C).
 (c) fragment of funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C).
 Found at the bottom of the bog. Reference: Boyhus 1972, 11, fig.
67. Humblemosen, Slemminge parish (sb 25 – NM A 45.190). Funnel beaker, decorated on the belly with whipped cord impressions (type C). Found during peat digging together with the sherds of another pot. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, fig. 24, note 80.
68. Slemminge, Slemminge parish (LSM 23.191). An undecorated cylinder necked beaker/bowl (type B). Found during peat digging in a bog.
69. Rødby Fjord, Maribo county (LSM 1992). Fragment of collared flask with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found in a drained area of the fjord.
70. Anderup, Lumby parish (sb 27 – NSM 9776). Funnel beaker with round pits under the rim, and groups of vertical lines on the belly (type D). Found at the base of a drained bog. Reference: Albrechtsen 1974 fig. 10.
71. Klinte Strand, Klinte parish (FSM, K. Ehlers' collection nos. 1360 and 2026–28).
 (a) neck/belly sherd of a funnel beaker with vertical lines of twisted cord impressions (type C).
 (b) belly sherd of vessel decorated with groups of vertical lines and feather patterns in stab-and-drag, and horizontal chevrons below (middle neolithic II?).
72. Gamborg, Gamborg parish (sb 12 – private ownership, not seen). Small undecorated funnel beaker. Found in a bog.
73. Bogø Nor, Humble parish (LMR A 7591). Beaker with concave neck, decorated under the neck with a horizontal row of round impressions (middle neolithic II). Found at the upper edge of the peat.
74. Dagsmose II, Tryggelev parish (LMR A 7799). Lugged beaker decorated on neck and belly with groups of vertical lines. Dug up out of the bog. Reference: Winther 1935, 59.
75. Valdemars Slot, Bregninge parish (SOM, not numbered, not seen). Magnum funnel beaker with round pits below the rim, and vertical bands on the belly. Found in peat under 3–4 fathoms of water.
76. Åmose, Ollerup parish (SOM 17.014). Lugged vessel, decorated with whipped cord impressions (type C). From near the bottom of a peat bog. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, fig. 26, note 87.
77. Sludegårds Sø, Frørup parish (sb 37 and 37 a – FSM 8466–86, 8615–29, 8632–36 and 8696–8705).
 (a) funnel beaker, decorated with chevrons under the rim and vertical chevrons on the belly (type D).
 (b) undecorated lugged flask (early neolithic A?).
 (c) funnel beaker with round pricked decoration under the rim and groups of vertical lines on the belly (type D).
 (d) undecorated lugged vessel (type C).
 (e) sherds of Troldebjerg bowl (middle neolithic I).
 The pots are part of a large votive offering, also containing axes handles and other wooden objects, many flint tools, and remains of meals consisting mainly of domestic cattle, but also of human bones. In one place 10 mandibles of domestic pigs were found, 9 from sows, 1 from a boar. Reference: Albrechtsen 1954, 4 ff.
78. Svendborg Fjord, Svendborg County (FSM 7792). Funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found on a bank of oyster shells.
79. Løkken, Furreby parish (VHM 1954/36). Fragment of a pot decorated with vertical and horizontal lines of cord impressions (early neolithic C). Found in a peat bog.
80. Mostrup Mose, Bindslev parish (VHM 9/1952). Most of a magnum lugged beaker, decorated on neck and belly with identical designs of alternating vertical and horizontal strokes and *Cardium* impressions (Volling group). Found in the bog.
81. Studbjerggård, Skærum parish (VHM 1948/90). Funnel beaker with cord impressions under the rim (type B). Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1978, fig. 14, note 41. Found during peat digging in the bog.
82. Skærum River, Åsted parish (VHM 1954/390–91). Magnum funnel beaker with 3 rows of pricked impressions under the rim (type B). From a bog near the river.
83. Hundborg Mose, Hundborg parish (private ownership).
 (a) rim sherd of funnel beaker with crescentic impressions under the rim.
 (b) rim sherd of funnel beaker with three dimensional mouldings applied under the rim and horizontal rows of chevrons (early neolithic C). Found in the bog.
84. Landlyst, Thisted rural parish (private ownership). Fragment of undecorated funnel beaker (type B). Found in a bog.
85. Lundby Mose, Gunderup parish (ÅHM j. 404).
 (a) magnum beaker with cylindrical neck, and round pricked impressions under the rim (middle neolithic I).

- (b) funnel beaker with round pricked impressions under the rim and at the neck/belly transition (middle neolithic I/IV).
- (c) magnum funnel beaker with round pricked impressions under the rim and groups of vertical lines on the upper part of the belly (type D).
- (d) fragment of undecorated funnel beaker (type D).
- (e) neck sherd of collared flask with pricked decoration on the collar (early neolithic).
- (f) belly sherd (of lugged beaker?) decorated with vertical lines of stab-and-drag and crescentic pricked impressions (Volling group).
- (g) rim sherd of (?) funnel beaker, with a three dimensional moulding with horizontal *Cardium* impressions applied below the rim, and horizontal cord impressions below this (Volling group).
- (h) a sherd with fir tree motif (middle neolithic II/IV). These are part of a large votive find from the bog. Reference: Davidsen 1978, 122 ff, fig. 85.
87. Højslev Mose, Højslev parish (sb 119 – NM A 43.923, from Refsgård's second collection). Fragment of funnel beaker with chevrons under the rim and vertical bands on the belly (type D). Found in the bog.
88. Klosterlund, Engesvang parish (SIM 19/1962 and 448/64).
- (a) a magnum funnel beaker.
- (b) magnum bucket shaped vessel with finger impressions (middle neolithic V).
- References: Ebbesen 1972, 58 f; Davidsen 1975, 66 f; 1978, 80 f, pl. 105).
89. Moselund, Funder parish (sb 21 – NM A 44.849–50). Fragment of an undecorated funnel beaker (type B?). Found in peat digging in the bog, c. ½ m from a fragmentary late neolithic storage vessel.
90. Hemmersvej, Skive (sb 129 – SMS 51A). Cylinder necked beaker, decorated with stab-and-drag ornamentation (Volling group). Found during sewerage work. Reference: Ebbesen and Mahler 1979, fig. 15 note 41.
91. Rimsø Kær, Rimsø parish (sb 51 – A 48.056). Lower part of a pot, decorated with alternating vertical and oblique stab-and-drag lines (Volling group). Found near an old peat cutting.
92. Albøge Mose I, Albøge parish (NM A 42.515). Most of a magnum Hagebrogård bowl (middle neolithic II). Found in a small bog. Reference: Ebbesen 1978, fig. 48.2, note 10a.
93. Albøge Mose II, Albøge parish (sb 59 – NM C 25.248). Fragments of an indeterminate vessel (undated). Reference: Simonsen 1953, 64 ff.
94. Randlev Mose, Randlev parish (sb 7 – NM A 42.065). Neck/belly sherd of a funnel beaker with vertical lines (undated). Found at the base of the peat in a water meadow.
95. Bedinge Mose, Tilst parish (FHM, not numbered). Funnel beaker, decorated under the rim with horizontal cord impressions, on the belly with similar groups of vertical lines. Found in the bog.
96. Smedrup Mose, Århus county (OOM 2058–59).
- (a) fragment of Troldebjerg bowl (middle neolithic I).
- (b) sherd with whipped cord decoration.
- Bog finds.
97. Boring Mose, Hvirring parish (HOM A 424). Rim sherd of a funnel beaker, decorated under the rim with vertical lines of whipped cord (type B). Found in the bog.
98. Egebjerg Kær, Hansted parish (HOM A 281). Fragment of funnel beaker with pricked decoration under the rim and vertical bands on the body (type C). Found during peat digging.
99. Nørrestrand, Nebel parish (NM A 45.287–90). Fragment of funnel beaker (undated). Found during shell digging with other neolithic objects.
100. Tvingstrup, Ørridslev parish (HOM 1646). Fragment of undecorated collared flask (early neolithic B?). Found during drainage work.
101. Horsens Fjord I, Vejle county (HOM A 959). Fragment of funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C). Found under 1.5 m of water.
102. Snaptun, Horsens Fjord, Vejle county (GLM not numbered).
- (a) funnel beaker with chevrons under the rim and vertical bands on the belly (type D).
- (b) funnel beaker with oblique whipped cord impressions under the rim, and vertical ones on the belly. Recovered from Horsens Fjord. Reference: Stürup 1963, illustration p. 67).
103. Bygebjerg Mose, Hejls parish (NM A 49.689). Troldebjerg bowl (middle neolithic I). Found during peat digging. Reference: Ebbesen 1978, fig. 48,1, note 10.
104. Fåruphus, Jelling parish (NM A 44.568–71).
- (a) rim sherd of cylinder necked beaker with horizontal cord impressions under the rim (type B).
- (b) neck/belly sherd of funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (type C).
- (c) rim sherd of funnel beaker with pricked decoration under the rim (undated).
- (d) rim sherd of pot with applied three dimensional mouldings under the rim, and horizontal chevrons in the same area (type C).
- Found during peat digging.
105. Estvadsgårds Enge, Estvad parish (SMS S 193). Most of a lugged beaker, with area stab-and-drag decoration and faint impressions (Volling group). Found during canalisation of Skive-Karup River. Reference: Knöll 1976: 1 ff.
106. Tarp, Sdr. Felding parish (HEM 216/29). Funnel beaker with pricked decoration at the neck/belly transition (middle neolithic V). Found in a bog. Reference: Davidsen 1973/74, fig. 2; 1978, 81.
107. Rousthøje, Grimstrup parish (sb 520 – NM A 42.165). Neck/belly sherd of a funnel beaker with vertical bands on the belly (early neolithic C/middle neolithic I). Found during the cleaning of a stream.
108. Simmersted Mose, Magstrup parish (sb 54 – HAM 10.421). Undecorated rim sherd of funnel beaker (undated). From a bog.

109. Elsholm, Barsmark, Egvad parish (NM j. 584/40, private ownership, not seen). Early neolithic pot, found in a bog.
110. Sjellerup Mose, Nordborg parish (private ownership). Lower part of a collared flask with three dimensional mouldings on the belly (type C). Found in the bog.

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