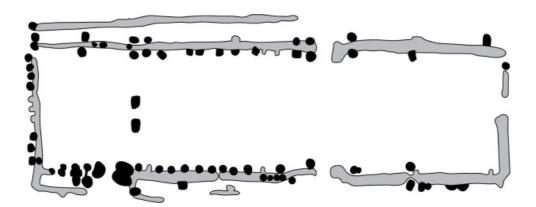
72. Internationales Sachsensymposion

Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Archäologie der Sachsen und ihrer Nachbarvölker in Nordwesteuropa – IVoE Research network for the archaeological study of the Saxons and their neighbouring peoples in northwestern Europe

Castricum-Alkmaar, 9 – 12 October 2021

Making places, making lives

Landscape and settlement in coastal wetlands



THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT

Province of North Holland

City of Alkmaar

Huis van Hilde

ADC, Roel Brandt Foundation

University of Amsterdam

Leiden University













Conference logo

House plan 2 of the excavation Uitgeest-De Dog (7th century). Drawing Jan de Koning, Zaandijk.

Layout and editing programme booklet

Menno Dijkstra

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CONFERENCE VENUE LOCATIONS (SEE MAPS, PAGE 3-4)

Saturday 9 October, City of Alkmaar

Waag (Kaasmuseum), Waagplein 2, 1811 JP Alkmaar

15:00-16:30 Guided city tour, meeting point (under the canopy)

Opening of the conference and keynote lecture

Waag (Kaasmuseum), Waagplein 2, 1811 JP Alkmaar

18:30 - 19:00 Walk in

19:00 - 20:20 Welcome and keynote lecture

20:20 - 21:45 Reception



Sunday 10, Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 October, Castricum

Huis van Hilde, Westerplein 6, 1901 NA Castricum https://huisvanhilde.nl

'Huis van Hilde' (*House of Hilde*) is also the home of the <u>Provincial Archaeological Centre</u>, with exhibitions and finds depot.



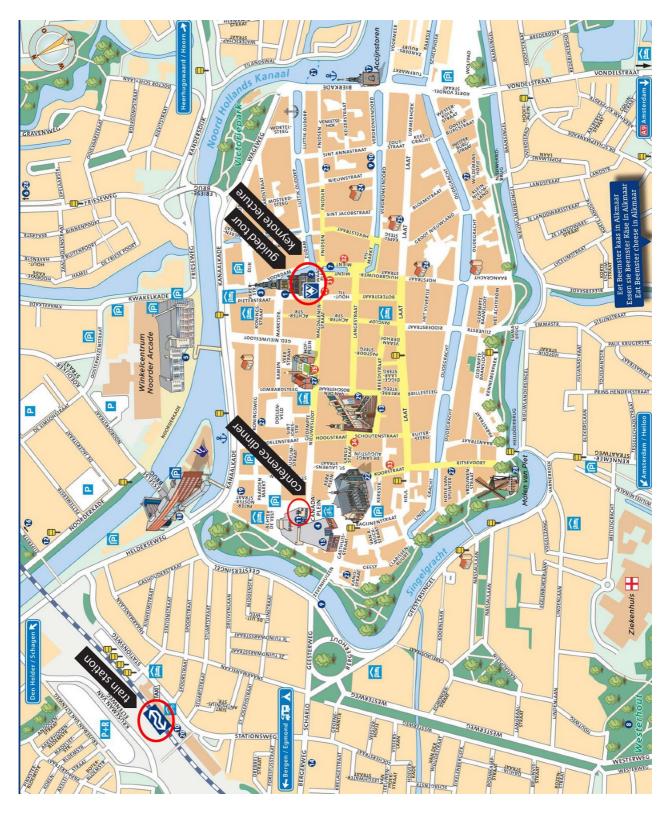
Monday 11 October, City of Alkmaar

Grand Cafe Klunder, Canadaplein 2, 1811 KE Alkmaar (next to theatre De Vest and opposite the Grote Kerk)

19:30-21:30 Conference dinner

ORGANISING AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Province of North Holland	Rob van Eerden
City of Alkmaar, Archaeological Centre	Peter Bitter
	Nancy de Jong-Lambregts
University of Groningen, Institute for Archaeology	Annet Nieuwhof
Archeologisch Diensten Centrum	Henk van der Velde
Groninger Museum	Egge Knol
University of Amsterdam,	Arno Verhoeven
Amsterdam Centre of Ancient Studies and Archaeology	Menno Dijkstra



Locations of the meeting point of the guided tour, keynote lecture (Waag), conference dinner (Grand Café Klunder) and the main train station in the city centre of Alkmaar



Location of Huis van Hilde and the viewing point in the dunes of Castricum

PROGRAMME

In case you are attending the symposium by LIVESTREAM, times are in CEST (Central European Summer Time), which is British Summer Time (BST) +1

SATURDAY 9 OCTOBER 2021 – ALKMAAR

15:00 - 16:30	Guided city tour Alkmaar (English spoken), meeting point: Waag (Kaasmuseum)	
16:30	Spare time to eat something (not provided)	
18:30-19:00	Walk in OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE AND KEYNOTE LECTURE	
	Address: Waag (Kaas Museum), Waagplein 2, 1811 JP Alkmaar	
19:00-19:20	 Welcoming speech by Henk van der Velde, chair of the Dutch Sachsensymposium 	
(UK 18:00 !)	Department	
	 Welcoming speech by Claus von Carnap-Bornheim, chair of the Sachsensymposium 	
	 Welcoming speech and a short introduction to the province of North-Holland by 	
	Rob van Eerden (policy advisor archaeology of the province of North-Holland)	
19:20	Keynote lecture	
	North-Holland in the First Millennium	
	Johan Nicolay, Groningen	
20:30 - 21:45	Reception	

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER 2021 – CASTRICUM, HUIS VAN HILDE

9:00	REGISTRATION and coffee at the conference venue 'Huis van Hilde' Castricum	
10:00	Welcome and introduction Huis van Hilde by Rob van Eerden	
(UK 9:00 !)	Welcome and instructions for livestream, chat and excursions by Henk van der Velde	
	In memoriam by Egge Knol	

Theme: The early medieval archaeology of the western and northern Netherlands

Chair	Martin Segschneider
10:15	Millennia of coastal dynamics. A new series of paleo-geographical maps of the
	province of North Holland
	Peter Vos, Delft / Rob van Eerden, Haarlem
10:40	Handmade pottery as an indication of habitation history in the province of North
	Holland
	Annet Nieuwhof, Groningen
11:05 - 11.25	COFFEE BREAK
Chair	Letty ten Harkel
11:25	Settlements in North West Frisia (Noord-Holland) between 400 and 900 AD from a
	pottery perspective
	Jan de Koning, Zaandijk

Theme: Research in progress and new research I

11:50	The Merovingian cemetery of Lent-Lentseveld	
	Joep Hendriks, Nijmegen	

12:15 - 13:15 LUNCH BREAK

Chair	Claus von Carnap-Bornheim	
13:15	The Early-medieval Transformation of the East Anglian Fen Edge: Evidence from RAF	
	Lakenheath	

	John Hines, Cardiff
13:40	Looking for a place to stay. Human mobility in the Dutch part of the lower Rhine
	frontier zone
	Henk van der Velde, Amersfoort / Lisette Kootker, Amsterdam
14:05	Medieval Migrants of the North Sea World: a new research project
	Letty ten Harkel / Eleanor Farber / Helena Hamerow, Oxford
14:30	POSTER SESSION WITH PITCHES
	Middle to Late Saxon diet and health at the cemetery of Stoke Quay, Ipswich
	Eleanor Farber / Helena Hamerow / Julia Lee-Thorp, Oxford
	The CRUMBEL-project and research possibilities for early medieval cremations
	Barbara Veselka / Rica Annaert / Christophe Snoeck, Mathieu Boudin / Giacomo
	Capuzzo / Sarah Dalle / Guy de Mulder/ Marta Hlad / Charlotte Sabaux / Kevin Salesse /
	Amanda Sengeløv / Elisavet Stamataki / Dries Tys / Martine Vercauteren / Eugène Warmenbol
	The Wadden Sea of North Frisia (Germany) - Reconstructing a medieval coastal
	landscape Hanna Hadler / Dennis Wilken / Ruth Blankenfeldt / Stefanie Klooß / Bente Sven
	Majchczack
	Majoriozack
	A late Roman strap end with a Vexierbild from Arnhem-Schuytgraaf
	Stephanie Hoss, Lent

15:00 - 15:20 TEA BREAK

Excursions

15:20 - 16:30	Group 1	Visit exhibition Huis van Hilde
15:20 - 16:30	Group 2	Viewing of a selection of early medieval finds in the provincial depot
15:20 - 16:30	Group 3	Short walk to a viewing point in the dunes. Possibility to go for a stroll in
		the dunes

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER 2021 – CASTRICUM, HUIS VAN HILDE AND ALKMAAR

Theme: Studies of craft production and demand I

Chair	Charlotte Behr			
9:00	Made with fire: iron production and other pyrotechnical craft in Merovingian			
(UK 8:00 !)	northern Gaul			
	Martine van Haperen, Leiden			
9:25	The tale-telling glass beads			
	Karen Høilund Nielsen, Beder			
9:50	Variety is the spice of life. Towards a pluralistic understanding of the Carolingian			
	economy			
	Wim Kemme, Leiden			
10:15 - 10:40	COFFEE BREAK			
Chair	Annet Nieuwhof			
10:40	Animal style on seventh century iron belt fittings as a pluriform symbol in the early			
	medieval Christianization process			
	Mirjam Kars, Amsterdam			
11:05	The Staffordshire Hoard and the cultural dimensions of recycling			
	Frans Theuws, Leiden			

Theme: Evidence of (dis)continuity of habitation sites

	of this/community of magnetic in sites		
11:30	Coastal Connectivity in the Early Medieval Period. The Cultural Zones of Cornwall-		
	Britanny and Frisia-Viking World		
	Nelleke IJssennagger-van der Pluijm, Leeuwarden		
11:55	Well constructed. Wells as a source of information on wood use and woodworking		
	techniques in the early Medieval period in the Dutch North-western coastal area		
	Silke Lange, Zaandam		
12:20	REPORT OF BOARD MEETING, by chair Claus von Carnap-Bornheim		
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK		
Chair	Frans Theuws		
13:30	Spaces become places and spaces again: Settlement patterns on and around Hallig		
	Hooge		
	Bente Majchczack, Kiel / Ruth Blankenfeldt, Schleswig		
13:55	The marsh island Wiedingharde from the Migration Period to the Middle Ages –		
	chrono-stratigraphical insights on (dis-)continuity of settlements		
	Martin Segschneider, Wilhelmshaven		
14:20	Settlement and landscape organization in "Denmark" 200-1200 AD		
	Jesper Hansen, Odense		

15:05 - 15:30 TEA BREAK

Excursions

15:30 - 16:40	Group 1	Viewing of a selection of early medieval finds in the provincial depot
15:30 - 16:40	Group 2	Short walk to a viewing point in the dunes. Possibility to go for a stroll in
		the dunes
15:30 - 16:40	Group 3	Visit exhibition 'Huis van Hilde'

19:30 – 21:30 CONFERENCE DINNER - ALKMAAR

Grand Cafe Klunder, Canadaplein 2, 1811 KE Alkmaar

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2021 – CASTRICUM, HUIS VAN HILDE

Theme: The archaeology of house and yard

	raceregy of mease and yard
Chair	Babette Ludowici
9:00	Östergötland's first mead-hall sites
(UK 8:00 !)	Martin Rundkvist, Łódź
9:25	Hummelure – Village, longhouses, and settlement structure in east Jutland
	Rasmus Birch Iversen, Højbjerg
9:50	Every Age its Agriculture: An Agronomic interpretation of 6th century Settlements
	Roeland Emaus, Leiden
10:15 - 10:40	COFFEE BREAK
Chair	Egge Knol
10:40	House building traditions in the western Netherlands: an update
	Menno Dijkstra, Amsterdam

Theme: Research in progress and new research II

	, , ,
11:05	The Vindelev Find: Multipla, Bracteates and other Treasure Morten Axboe, Virum / Charlotta Lindblom / Kent Laursen / Mads Ravn, Vejle
11:30	Ritual actions by the river Motala ström, 7000 BC-AD 1000
	Maria Petersson, Linköping
11:55	Journeys through time and space: beads travelling from distant shores and back
	again
	Mette Langbroek, Leiden
12:20 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK
Chair	Judyta Radzínska-Nowak
13:30	War Horse – The Introduction of Cavalry in Early Iron Age Scandinavia
	Xenia Jensen, Højbjerg
13:55	A black shiny pot from Ribe – a re-appraisal of Tating ware
	Pieterjan Deckers, Brussel
14:20	Archaeological investigation of a medieval Prussian settlement demonstrates
	contacts with the Kievan Rus'
	Jaroslaw Prassolow, Schleswig / Konstantin Skvortsov, Moscow
15:05	Presentation of the next Sachsensymposion in Krakau

CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE

15:10 - 15:30 TEA BREAK

Excursions

LACUISIONS		
15:30 - 16:40	Group 1	Short walk to a viewing point in the dunes. Possibility to go for a stroll in
		the dunes
15:30 - 16:40	Group 2	Visit exhibition 'Huis van Hilde'
15:30 - 16:40	Group 3	Viewing of a selection of early medieval finds in the provincial depot

PAPER ABSTRACTS

SUNDAY 10 OCTOBER 2021

Millennia of coastal dynamics. A new series of palaeo-geographical maps of the province of North Holland

Peter Vos & Rob van Eerden

The landscape of the province of North-Holland in the 1e millennium consisted of different natural coastal environments such as tidal-inlets and channels, coastal barriers and dunes, tidal-flats, salt-marshes, peat areas and higher Pleistocene outcrops. It was a dynamic coastal environment with diachronic trans- and regressive landscape changes. Humans were adapted to these environmental changes and migrated when the environments became unfavourable for living. They occupied the higher silted up salt marshes, the drained fringe areas of the coastal peat bogs and the higher sand grounds of the coastal barriers and dunes and Pleistocene outcrops.

To provide insight in the coastal dynamics and human migrations palaeogeographical reconstructions were made for the province. These landscape reconstructions are based on geological (for a large part boreholes) LIDAR and age (e.g. 14C- and archaeological) data.

Specially for the planned (geo-)archaeological book about the 1e millennium of the province North-Holland new palaeogeographical map reconstructions of the province haven been made for the six moments of time: 500, 250 BC and 100 500, 800 and 1250 AD.

In the presentation, the backgrounds of the construction of these maps are explained. Thereafter, on the bases of these maps, they habitation history and population density will be discussed for the different coastal regions in the province. Environmental aspects of safety and flooding, eolian sand drifts, groundwater table and drainage and opportunities for agriculture are being treated.

Handmade pottery as an indication of habitation history in the province of North Holland

Annet Nieuwhof

The densely populated coastal area of the Northern Netherlands was abandoned in the course of the 3rd century and was virtually empty in the 4th century. The area was repopulated in the 5th century. The material culture of the new population indicates strong ties with and probably immigrants from the areas that are usually considered the homelands of the Angles and Saxons. The pottery of the new population, with its characteristic and expressive decoration, is therefore usually called Anglo-Saxon-style pottery. This style is characteristic of a socio-cultural network that included the coastal areas of the Northern Netherlands, Niedersachsen and probably Schleswig, and that can be traced back to the early Roman Period. It is remarkable that this pottery style is not found in excavated settlements of the present province of North-Holland, including the island of Texel. Discontinuation of habitation has been assumed for North-Holland, but when and in how far was this area abandoned? To answer these questions, a research programme was set up by the Province of Noord-Holland. One of the lines of inquiry was aimed had the most numerous material category, that of handmade pottery. To investigate the Roman-Period pottery styles, habitation history and cultural connections in North Holland, indigenous handmade pottery from a number of key sites was reassessed, and compared to pottery from the same period in the northern Netherlands. A new typology was designed, in line with the widely used pottery typology that was designed by Taayke (1996) for that area. It includes late-Roman Period types that do occur in North Holland but are largely missing in the northern Netherlands. The habitation histories of these areas are clearly diverging in this period. This paper will discuss the implications of the pottery study for what we know about (dis)continuity and about cultural connections in the Roman Period and thereafter.

Settlements in North West Frisia (Noord-Holland) between 400 and 900 AD from a pottery perspective

Jan de Koning

Twenty years ago this story could not have been told. Some early medieval settlements were published but these sites were just too few to compare. Since then some large excavations have been analysed and published and some will be published in the near future. So, with these sites at hand, from the various subregions or "kerngewesten' within Northwestern Frisia like Texel, Kennemerland and West-Friesland a new perspective on the settlement history can be presented. The history of this particular part of the Frisian coastal kingdom was shrouded in mist for a long time, especially compared to the adjacent regions like the Frisian terp area to the north and the Old Rhine estuary in the south. North Holland, in between, was lacking precious and presentable golden objects as well as the cemeteries to provide these objects.

From the late Iron Age on until the end of the third century most subregions were densely populated. In the fourth century the same regions were completely uninhabited according to the archaeological record of 1990. In the seventh century the same subregions were populated again and even some other regions like Wieringen and West-Friesland were colonised. So, the picture of North Holland between 300 and 600 was like nothing happened there at all. This period of nothingness is exactly the focus of this contribution, because pottery tells another story.

The Merovingian cemetery of Lent-Lentseveld

Joep Hendriks

In 2011, a hitherto unknown Merovingian cemetery has been found just outside the village of Lent, directly north of Nijmegen. The small but largely complete cemetery – consisting of 55 inhumation and 25 cremation burials – dates to the 6th century and has been excavated by modern standards. The site can be considered as quite unique, not only in a regional but also in an international perspective. The quality of the grave features, the skeletal material and the many objects deposited in the graves open up the possibility for a full-scale analysis of the site. Embedded within the Leiden Rural Riches project, research on many aspects of the cemetery hopefully answers questions about the origin and composition of the burial population as well their connectivity towards the Merovingian society and economy. Moreover, the analysis will shed new light on the habitation continuity of the Nijmegen region, in which the village of Lent appears to have played a considerable role.

The location of the Lent cemetery – just 15 km south of the river Rhine – is also of great importance for the debate on the genesis of the early medieval society in the Dutch river area and the constitution of a new rhetoric and practices concerning the deceased. Although the results of DNA and isotope research are not yet available, the analyses of the grave constructions and material culture points out that the inhabitants of Lent had been connected to both the 'Germanic north' and the 'Frankish south'. For instance, the pottery that has been found in the graves comprises both handmade and wheel-thrown vessels, which represent traditions from different regions. And the study of the beads convincingly illustrates that the people of Lent (still) had access to an extensive network that stretched far beyond the Alps.

The Early-medieval Transformation of the East Anglian Fen Edge: Evidence from RAF Lakenheath John Hines

The full report on the excavations of the Anglo-Saxon burial grounds at RAF Lakenheath, Eriswell parish, Suffolk, is at present with referees, and should be published in 2021. This presentation will ouline the development of the sites, and will concentrate on the demography of the population, and in particular on how local resources, topography and connexions both inland and across the Fens were made use of. This reveals the dynamic and effective exploitation of opportunities, especially in the case of exchanges across the variably flooded Fens. Longer term settlement patterns and economic structures emphasize the transitional character of the Early to Middle Anglo-Saxon Periods

Looking for a place to stay. Human mobility in the Dutch part of the lower Rhine frontier zone Henk van der Velde & Lisette Kootker

Since the spectacular results from aDNA and isotopic research discussions about human mobility are (again) in the centre of archaeological debate. For the first time it may be possible to collect direct evidence for the provenance of people found at cemeteries. With this contribution we aim to give an overview on the state of knowledge concerning human mobility in the Dutch frontier zone during the later Roman period and discuss the value of the results of isotopic analyses on human remains. Although the number of samples is still small, the results create a picture of human mobility in this region that is more complex than historical narratives like to suggest.

Medieval Migrants of the North Sea World: a new research project

Letty ten Harkel, Eleanor Farber & Helena Hamerow

of the 5th to 8th centuries AD.

Human migration and mobility across the North Sea region during the Migration Era are widely studied, but less is known about patterns of mobility in the period that followed, from c. AD 700-1100. This includes the period of the emporia and the emergence of trading sites across the North Sea littoral, as well as the period known as the Viking Age.

Although the far-reaching connections of the emporia are often emphasised based on the evidence from material cultural assemblages, we know far less about the movement of people, a situation that may partially result from the absence of detailed historical references and the dominant unfurnished burial rite that characterises this period. The situation is slightly better for the Viking period, especially in Scandinavia, where the continued practice of furnished burial is more inviting to studies that compare cultural and biological identities through combined artefactual and bioarchaeological analyses. Yet it is especially with regards to unfurnished burials that bioarchaeological approaches have much to offer.

The Medieval Migrants of the North Sea project is a pilot project, focusing on the period c. 700-1100, to synthesise bioarchaeological evidence (mainly stable isotopes and physical anthropological studies) from around the southern North Sea region to shed light on patterns of human mobility during this period. In collaboration with partners from the Netherlands and Denmark, it draws together published bioarchaeological studies to make an inventory of the available evidence for England, the Netherlands and Denmark, as a first step towards a larger-scale international collaboration. The paper will present preliminary research questions, challenges and conclusions, and set out the research agenda for the future.

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER 2021

Made with fire: iron production and other pyrotechnical craft in Merovingian northern Gaul

Martine van Haperen

Merovingian period craft production has long been an understudied topic, but recent research is beginning to bring together pieces of the puzzle. The Rural Riches project is doing its part in researching this fascinating aspect of the Merovingian economy by on the one hand piecing together a database of production sites in North-West Europe, while on the other hand zooming in on specific workshop sites for detailed study.

The research area has revealed rich evidence for pyrotechnical artisanal activities, including iron smelting and forging. This paper will present an overview of iron production workshops from the Merovingian period, focusing on aspects such as date, scale of production and geographical context. We will look in detail at several case studies form the Netherlands and Northern France, including Oegstgeest, Ludres and Messein Noires Terres.

This paper brings together new data and insights from multiple researchers, to reconstruct both the technical and social aspects of iron workers' modus operandi, placing them in the general context of Merovingian society and the pyrotechnical craft production from this period.

The tale-telling glass beads

Karen Høilund Nielsen

In an ongoing project I am using glass beads as the basis for chronological and regional analyses of the late Roman and early Medieval period in southern Scandinavia. The chronology of the fifth to sixth centuries in southern Scandinavia is still weak and by focussing on the glass beads I hope to change that.

Beads are common, especially in female burials, but also in some type of hoard. Glass beads is a widely distributed type in this period, and many bead-types are spread over large parts of the Continent as well as Anglo-Saxon Britain. As most glass beads are produced in the Continent, their wider spread may reflect inter-regional contacts. Like the brooches, the glass beads are susceptible to changes in fashion. However, whereas brooches often show significant regional variation, beads of the same types are geographically much wider distributed.

The analysis of the bead-assemblages of southern Scandinavia is challenging as there is a significant re-use of old beads, which means that it is more important to identify the date of introduction of a bead-type, than how long it was used or when it disappeared. It is also significant that some necklaces are made up of 'identical' beads and probably 'bought' as entire strings or even entire necklaces, made in the same workshop, whereas others are composed of the same colours, but with beads of varying age and shape from perhaps a whole variety of workshops.

Very comprehensive analyses of the glass beads from the Continent as well as for Anglo-Saxon Britain forms a solid background for the analysis of the glass beads from southern Scandinavia. Included is also for the first time the beads from Sejlflod, which are presented in the original publication in tables and a short text only – entirely without any sort of picture. The assemblages from Sejlflod cover a period from the late Roman Iron Age into the later part of the early Germanic Iron Age, which is rarely seen in the cemeteries dated within this period.



After Natalie Kampen, Römische Strassenhändlerinnen, Antike Welt. 1985.

Variety is the spice of life. Towards a pluralistic understanding of the Carolingian economy.

Wim Kemme

In most historical and archaeological research on the Carolingian economy rural communities are hardly considered a constituent element in exchange systems. Instead, the focus and emphasis is on the role of elite groups. I attempt to determine the degree in which the consumptive preferences of non-elite rural communities gave direction to the circulation of goods. This is based on the examination of the distribution patterns of certain artefact groups, mainly ceramics, metal artefacts and quernstones, discovered on Carolingian sites in the Netherlands.

To an extent the aim is to redress the balance in the current debate by assessing rural communities' part in exchange systems of the Carolingian period. Nonetheless, my research contains examples of demand being generated by the consumption of a variety of actors, each playing a part in the complicated exchange network. Understanding the interaction between the preferences of these actors forms the key to understanding the development of the Carolingian economy.

Seventh century Animal Style II belt fittings as pluriform symbols in the early medieval Christianization process.

Mirjam Kars

Through storytelling, people give meaning to their individual and communal lives in relation to the past, present and future. That objects, especially in non-literary societies, can be important bearers of these stories is the starting point of this presentation. This perspective is explained by means of the iron belts of the 7th century with Animal Style II ornamentation. It is argued that these belts are characterised by multi-interpretable symbolism, which gave them a signifying function that matched well with a surrounding world that was undergoing profound changes by the ongoing Christianisation process.

Besides their symbolic function, attention will also be paid to the way the production of these objects was organised and whether their narrative function was the most important incentive to get it going. Moreover, other sorts of Early Medieval objects will also be briefly examined from the outlined perspective.

The Staffordshire Hoard and the cultural dimensions of recycling

Frans Theuws

Now that the Staffordshire hoard has been published in extenso in a beautiful volume it is possible to discuss its meaning. Many suggestions have already been made about its meaning, why it was buried and how it got assembled.

The modern discourse is mainly about battling bishops, kings and aristocrats. This discourse is of course informed by the specific composition of the hoard consisting mainly of fragments of swords, and some Christian objects. One wonders whether this discourse is the main discourse one should develop on the basis this hoard. The present discourse is mainly based on an analysis of the relevant objects as complete items departing from some kind of authenticity perspective. But they are not. I would like to develop another discourse, already touched upon, but one which could be developed further, departing from the extreme fragmentation of the objects in the hoard on the one hand and on concentrating on the conceptualisation of 'value' on the other. Value is at stake in the recycling of objects such as those in the Staffordshire hoard. In contrast to the opinion of one of the authors who suspects that 'The total disregard for the contemporary cultural worth of the Hoard objects and their ornament might be considered further evidence that the dismantling and ultimately the burial of the collection took place far from where the majority of the metalwork was made.' (Fern p. 276) I will argue that it is exactly the opposite: fragmentation is the result of a deep conscience of the cultural value of the original objects. This interpretation touches also upon the interpretation of the meaning of the rich finds in the Dutch coastal area in the 6th and 7th centuries.

Coastal Connectivity in the Early Medieval Period. The Cultural Zones of Cornwall-Britanny and Frisia-Viking World

Nelleke IJssennagger – van der Pluijm

The importance of waterscapes for transport and communication in the Early Medieval world is fully recognized and increasingly understood through archaeological research. Therefore, we can also better study the effect cross-sea communication has on the long-term 'making' of coastal places and the creation of cultural zones. There is a particular opportunity to study coastal connectivity as a structural phenomenon where those coherent cultural zones were formed across the sea and across modern national boundaries and cultures. As this idea of the connectivity resulting in cultural zones in the longer term goes far beyond the important question of exchange and import/export, to where material and non-material culture meet, it crosses into the realm of cultural aspects including stories, traditions, ways of looking at and engaging with the world.

Through two case studies of different cultural zones and in different moments of the Early Medieval period, this paper will explore and present these ideas on cultural zones and coastal connectivity. The earlier case of Cornwall-Britanny will be presented through the relation of two sites, Gunwalloe and Landevennec, and the latter case will highlight the Frisian coastal area in relation to the Viking coasts of Scandinavia and he British Isles.

Well constructed. Wells as a source of information on wood use and woodworking techniques in the early Medieval period in the North-western coastal area

Silke Lange

This presentation focuses on the construction methods and wood use of early medieval wells in the Dutch north-western coastal area and the neighbouring regions. Particular attention is paid to the early medieval habitation that came to light during recent research in North Holland in the municipality of Heiloo, where more than eighty wells dating from the fifth to the eighth century AD were excavated. Thanks to the favourable preservation conditions in the Holocene coastal zone, organic finds, including wood, are excellently preserved in the ground. The timber from the wells not only offers a wide range of research possibilities like dating and identification of wood species, but investigating tool marks and traces of wear as well. An integrated approach in which various research disciplines were addressed enhances our knowledge of local woodworking techniques and the use of wood as a raw material. It is remarkable that a number of construction types of wells are of a supraregional nature and seem to form a coast-bound phenomenon. This idea is substantiated with examples from the Dutch, Belgian and German coastal regions.

Spaces become places and spaces again: Settlement patterns on and around Hallig Hooge

Ruth Blankenfeldt & Bente Majchczack

Hallig Hooge is one of the small tidal islands in the North Frisian Wadden Sea without a high and thus completely protective dike. Today, the inhabitants live on raised terps due to flooding during storm surges. This is quite comparable to earlier settlement patterns.

Historical records prove that during the "Groten Mandränke" in 1362, the parish of Hooge was heavily flooded, large parts destroyed and turned into mudflats. This led to heavy losses of cultivated land and settlements.

In a joint project of the Universities of Mainz and Kiel as well as the ZBSA and the Archaeological State Office, both in Schleswig, large areas of the North Frisian Wadden Sea are being brought into the focus of archaeology, geophysics and geoarchaeology and its current investigation methods (see also poster presentation). This also includes Hallig Hooge and the surrounding tidal flats. In several small field campaigns, areas have been surveyed here and the first interesting results have already been obtained. For example, a site of a church terp in today's tidal flats, which was briefly exposed in the 1970s, could be mapped over a large area using magnetic gradiometry. The results of these investigations revealed further interesting structures in this area.

On the Hallig itself there is an early medieval site with pottery finds from the 8th/9th century where geophysical surveys indicate a possible residential mound and rectangular structures. A first archaeological excavation is scheduled for the End of July 2021. The results of this and other investigations on and around Hooge will be the subject of this lecture.

The marsh island Wiedingharde from the Migration Period to the Middle Ages – chronostratigraphical insights on (dis-)continuity of settlements

Martin Segschneider

The Wiedingharde is an often overlooked settlement area in the marshes of northernmost Germany. Due to excavations in the 1990s and a PhD thesis by the author, several settlements could be examined with surprising results. Not only some level-ground settlements from the migration period and the Viking age were present, but also first signs of dwelling mounds with wells filled with various archaeological finds. In order to answer the question, if there was a continuous or interrupted inhabitation of the settlements, well-defined pottery types with a rather short timespan like shell-tempered ware and Ribe-wheel-thrown ware proved to be most helpful. Their occurrence in stratigraphic contexts showed that no continuity was present, but large amounts of potsherds from older layers were relocated into younger layers due to the re-use of the same settlement site. All in all, the Wiedingharde has seen at least three colonization phases, with differing settlement heights due to the rising sea-level and the connected landscape changes.

Settlement and landscape organization in "Denmark" 200-1200 AD

Jesper Hansen

The origin and formation process of the structures which still characterize large parts of rural Denmark has for more than a hundred years played a central part in general theory building concerning the late Iron Age and the early medieval period.

Since the beginning of the 1980s until the mid-2010s, an overall consensus characterized the debate among Scandinavian scholars, supporting a theory suggesting that the basic structure of modern time settlement was to be seen as a result of a general restructuring of farms and villages in the centuries around the turn of the 1st millennium AD.

A comprehensive regional study from Funen carried out by the author between 2006 and 2015, has however demonstrated significant deviations compared with that previously generally accepted theory. In repeated cases, the micro level of village structure as well as the macro level of the villages' resource boundaries appears to be considerably older. The decades leading up to around 600 AD stand out as crucial for the structure we still today see reflected on Funen and in Denmark in general. It will be argued that simple obligations bound to land resources, rather than specific relations between people, is to be regarded as an important ingredient when explaining the markedly change and organizational shift in the early (continental) Middle Ages (late Iron Age in Scandinavia).

The paper will present the specific results from Funen as well as parallel examples from classic Jutish sites, demonstrating that the events occurring in the decades leading up to around 600 AD, is to be seen as a general phenomenon transgressing types of landscape and types of farming in the late 7th century.

TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER 2021

Östergötland's first mead-hall sites

Martin Rundkvist

Elite life in the Germanic-speaking parts of 1st millennium AD pagan Northern Europe centred around the mead-hall, as famously depicted in Beowulf and the Icelandic sagas. Archaeology knows the royal mead-hall intimately from many sites in Scandinavia, England and areas in between. One of the original core provinces of Medieval Sweden has been conspicuously lacking in mead-halls: Östergötland. In 2012 Björn Hjulström's team found and fully excavated Östergötland's first mead-hall at Ströja in Kvillinge parish. It was used in the early 6th century and measured 40 by 10 metres. There is a strange flat oval barrow at Aska in Hagebyhöga parish, near the site of the grave with the famous silver goddess pendant. It was trial trenched in the 1980s whereupon radiocarbon analysis dated its construction most probably to the 8th century. In 2013 geophysicist Andreas Viberg and I surveyed the Aska barrow's top with ground-penetrating radar. We found that it is a building platform of the Old Uppsala type on which a mead-hall measuring 48 by 14 metres has stood. Every posthole in the building is clearly visible on the depth slices, and the closest known architectural parallel is also in fact from the Old Uppsala platforms.

In 2014 Annica Ramström performed an evaluation brief in a field next to the ruins of Alvastra Abbey. Opening only a few small trenches and placing them judiciously, she was able to demonstrate that there is a ploughed-over mead-hall here as well. It is 12 metres wide. Its length and the details of its layout are as yet unknown. Two radiocarbon dates suggest a construction date in the 11th century. In my talk I will share the results of fieldwork on the building foundations at Aska and Alvastra during 2020.

Hummelure – village, longhouses, and settlement structure in east Jutland

Rasmus Birch Iversen

The late Roman and Migration period village Hummelure, excavated between 2009 and 2012 and recently published, is one of few examples of the structured and regulated villages of the Vorbasse-Nørre Snede type in the area covered by the archaeology of Moesgaard Museum. During the process of separating the many overlapping farmstead phases, correspondence analysis was applied to develop a typology of longhouses. The seriation analysis was backed by 14C-dates of numerous East Jutland long houses suggesting a weak continuity in the settlement structure before the first half of the third Century CE and after the mid-sixth Century CE. This pattern is also found in the burial data, not only in the region, but in all of Jutland.

The paper presents the Hummelure village and the more dispersed settlement structure of the surrounding region, the typology of the late Iron Age long house in eastern Jutland and discusses possible explanations for the settlement lacunas of the early third and the sixth-seventh Centuries which may include warfare, pandemics, emigration, climate change or just reorganization.

Every Age its Agriculture: An Agronomic interpretation of 6th century Settlements

Roeland Emaus

Current interpretations of excavated building layouts and settlement structures mainly focus on aspects of the construction of walls and posts and meaning, identity, status and hierarchy of its residents. Although I agree that it is indeed impossible to know a society without a decent understanding of their belief systems and values, this doesn't justify the lack of focus on the functioning of their actual household economics. For, also in the more mundane day-to-day life, the choices people make might show just as much about their values and the structure of society as can be derived from the more monumental interpretations of buildings. Taking an agronomic perspective on settlement structure, there is a lot to be learnt on land-use strategies and possible attitudes on surplus-production.

Traditionally, our understanding of the farming practices of pre-modern societies comes from studies in bio-archaeology, paleo-ecology and historical geography, providing us with an overview of average

field size calculations, ecological reconstructions and probable crop and livestock ratios. Although this is providing an answer on what people were farming, I would like to take this further and discuss how people organized their agriculture and what choices they made. In my discussion it's not so much what type of cereal people decided to grow but how they chose to grow it. The key to unravelling the 'how' and the 'why' of medieval agriculture, however, lies in the layout of buildings and organization of settlements.

Here, I will review a series of early medieval building plans and settlement layouts from the central and southern Netherlands and discuss them from an agronomical perspective, leading to new insights in land-use strategies and possible attitudes on surplus-production. This framework will try to enrich current interpretations on the archaeology of settlements and ultimately add to our understanding of medieval society.

Early medieval house building traditions in the western Netherlands: an update

Menno Dijkstra

For a long time, early medieval house plans in the western Netherlands were uncharted territory. Fortunately, the new 'Malta' legislation over the past 25 years has led to a boom in research and excavated house plans, leading to much new insights. In 2011 a first house typology for the western Netherlands was presented by the author in his dissertation (in Dutch), emphasizing the regional differences with the well-known typology of Drenthe developed by the late H.T. Waterbolk. Besides presenting an overview of new discoveries of the past decade, this paper will also go into the origin of the Dutch western house types. Were they still related to Roman farm houses, despite a population drain in the migration period, or the result of immigrants from the North, East or even the opposite English shores?

The Vindelev Find: Multipla, Bracteates and other Treasure

Morten Axboe, Charlotta Lindblom, Kent Laursen & Mads Ravn

A preliminary presentation of the gold hoard from Vindelev in East Jutland with almost 1 kg of gold, including Roman medallions, gold bracteates, a pendant, and a golden scabbard mount. Several of the bracteates are unusually large, often with elaborate filigree 'de luxe' loops, and they present both new dies and intriguing links with the bracteates of Funen. They all belong to the earliest half of bracteate production. With medallions, bracteates, and the scabbard mount, the hoard spans around 200 years. Both the composition and the site of the hoard open for interesting questions.

Ritual actions by the river Motala ström – 7000 BC-AD 1000

Maria Petersson

I explore the long-time perspective of the ritual activities in and around the river Motala ström. Motala ström is the main watercourse in the landscape of Östergötland, Sweden, connecting the lakes Vättern and Boren. The upper reaches of the river have been the focus of ritual actions from the Mesolitic to the Early Middle Ages, as attested by archaeological excavations in recent years. For 8000 years the stream was a contact zone for the super- natural.

To understand the varied expressions of ritual activity from the period ca 7000 BC–1000 AD, I use a framework departing in cognitive and evolutionary psychology as well as anthropological research established by Dutch archaeologist Annet Nieuwhof (2015). This framework has been adapted to archaeological material from the province of Östergötland, Sweden. In Motala, the traces of ritual activity have varied from acts by individuals, acts concerning households or families, to building enterprises undertaken by the local society. The purpose has also varied. There are signs of Mesolithic ancestor cult centered on the different households, actions connected to passage rites during the Neolithic, death rituals from the Late Bronze Age, communal actions (human sacrifice) undertaken during the Pre-Roman Iron Age and the deposition of small objects undertaken by individuals, during the Late Iron Age. The purpose of the rituals varies, but the focus on particular stretch of the river Motala ström is however a constant.

Journeys through time and space: beads travelling from distant shores and back again

Mette Langbroek

People, places and things can be several things at once. A person can be a daughter, a mother, an artist and your boss at the same time. An object can be an heirloom, a functional tool, a reviver of memories and a piece of junk all at once. A symbol can have multiple meanings. A place like a coastline can be an unyielding barrier, and the gateway to other worlds, both literally and figuratively. When you look closely, everything is multiple. The same goes for northern Gaul in the 6th and 7th century.

In this lecture, I want to explore this idea for beads found by the thousands in Merovingian cemeteries. They lend themselves well for this topic, as they were both mass produced commodities and so special that they were deposited in graves simultaneously. Merovingian beads had a role to play in all spheres of exchange, and can be used to show the relationship between trade, exchange and ritual in early medieval northern Gaul. I will demonstrate that these beads travelled through time and space, across huge distances, into other worlds and back again. Summing up, I want to demonstrate that a simple thing like a Merovingian bead may have simply been a bead, but may have been an instrument to create meaning and value at the same time.

War Horse – The Introduction of Cavalry in Early Iron Age Scandinavia

Xenia Pauli Jensen

Horses made their appearance in southern Scandinavia during the Early Nordic Bronze Age, and rock art show the use of horses as draught animals till the beginning of the Iron Age, approx. 500 BC, where riders are illustrated for the first time. During the Nordic Bronze Age, horses are visualised as celestial beings pulling the sun across the heavens through the day. Horses were essential in the operation of the universe and the continuous recreation of the night-and-day cycle. There is no evidence of the horse losing their religious impact at the beginning of the Iron Age, but the meaning and the actual use of horses in religious practice changes. And with the turn of the millennium, the horse slowly emerges as a tool for warfare and develops into an integrated part of the Scandinavian armies from the 3rd century AD as trained war horses with heavy bridles and saddle fittings of precious metals.

But what happened during the 700 years from the introduction of horses as riding animals till they turn up as fully trained war horses in the professional Germanic armies? The on-going project War Horse focuses on the earliest traces of cavalry by analysing rider's and horse equipment from the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age. Furthermore, an osteological approach is integrated in the projects, as the horses themselves are represented by comparing finds of horses from rural and military contexts.

In this paper, special attention is paid to the horse equipment of organic materials, such as the antler cheek pieces, and the new analysis of the horses from Illerup Ådal, eastern Jutland, and Vimose, Funen.

A black shiny pot from Ribe – a re-appraisal of Tating ware

Pieterjan Deckers

Over the past century, the high-quality pottery with tin-foil decoration known as Tating ware has become one of the iconic trade goods of the age of the emporia, and a sure sign of integration in the long-distance trading network for any site where it is discovered. Despite this status, relatively little attention has been given to detailed archaeological analysis of this category; all too often, it is literally reduced to 'dots on a map', a mere signifier of commercial exchange and cultural globalisation.

This paper is based on a close examination of the Tating sherds found on a recent, large-scale excavation on the Viking Age trading site of Ribe (Denmark), but takes in the full body of available evidence across the North Sea and Baltic regions, with particular attention to N Europe. In doing so, it aims to critically re-consider previous interpretations of Tating ware and shed new light on aspects of

its production, distribution, use and deposition. It will be argued that Tating ware was not just a trade good, but an active part of material culture across multiple contexts. In particular, the paper will highlight the overlooked role Tating ware played in consumption, not least at trading sites.

Archaeological investigation of a medieval Prussian settlement demonstrates contacts with the Kievan Rus'

Jaroslaw Aleksei Prassolow & Konstantin Skvortsov

Before the WWII, the Sambian peninsula belonged to the best archeologically investigated regions in Europe. However, archaeological research was primarily focused on burial mounds, rich burial grounds and to a lesser degree hillforts, while unfortified settlements remained understudied. The situation started to slowly change only in the last decades due to the intensification of settlement research on the modern Kaliningrad peninsula. This gap in our knowledge has a significant negative influence on the reconstruction of the local prehistoric settlement structure.

Therefore of big interest is a recent discovery of an unfortified settlement of Privol`noye (former Gunthenen), situated not far from the northern shore of the peninsula.

The results of the preliminary archaeological studies testify to the unordinary character of the monument and allows its dating into the 11th-12th centuries. Stone pavements in its central part represent the remains of residential and outbuildings. A large number of bronze ingots, bronze and silver smelts and trimmings, weights and casting moulds etc. indicate presence of a manufacturing center in the settlement. A found fragment of (production stamp for?) a silver lunula-shaped chain holder has full analogues in the antiquities of modern Latvia. Finds of the 10th-11th centuries Arab and European coins suggest a high social status of the settlement inhabitants (local nobility?). Unique for the Old Prussians areal is a find of an old Russian hanging seal of a Novgorod and later Pskov prince Vsevolod Mstislavich (c. 1095 - 1138). This find is the first archaeological evidence of the already earlier assumed political contacts between the Old Prussians and the Kievan Rus' principalities as early as in the 12th century.

POSTER ABSTRACTS

Middle to Late Saxon diet and health at the cemetery of Stoke Quay, Ipswich

Eleanor Farber, Helena Hamerow & Julia Lee-Thorp

Ipswich underwent important changes between the Middle and Late Saxon periods, growing from a small trading site, or emporium, to a larger proto-urban settlement with evidence for the trade and production of diverse goods. Though Ipswich is known to have been closely tied to the kingdom of East Anglia, until recently there has been a relative dearth of information about the diet and health of its early medieval population, or the relationship between its inhabitants and the wider North Sea world.

This poster presents recent isotopic and palaeopathological work on later Middle and Late Saxon individuals buried at the site of Stoke Quay, Ipswich. Diet at the site is explored through the application of carbon and nitrogen stable isotopes on bone collagen from 20 Middle Saxon (late 6thearly 8th c.) and 116 Late Saxon (late 9th-early 11th c.) skeletons. Osteological and palaeopathological observations are combined with the isotopic results to yield insights on changes in diet and place of origin between these two periods, with a particular focus on the timing of the 'Fish Event Horizon' in Ipswich.

The results indicate that the shift to increased marine resource consumption was well underway in Ipswich by the late 9th c., and that some Late Saxon males at Stoke Quay may have been participating in the growing fishing trade. In combination, the evidence suggests that by the Late Saxon period the population of Ipswich was both closely linked to and increasingly reliant upon the southern North Sea, its resources, and its coastal communities.

The CRUMBEL-project and research possibilities for early medieval cremations

Barbara Veselka, Rica Annaert, Christophe Snoeck, Mathieu Boudin, Giacomo Capuzzo, Sarah Dalle, Guy de Mulder, Martha Hlad, Charlotte Sabaux, Kevin Salesse, Amanda Sengeløv, Elisavet Stamataki, Dries Tys, Martine Vercauteren, Eugène Warmenbol

The EOS funded project 'Cremations, Urns and Mobility – Ancient Population Dynamics in Belgium' (or CRUMBEL) aims to collect all known and preserved collections of cremated bone found in Belgium dating from the Neolithic to the Early-Medieval period. By studying these collections using osteological, analytical and geochemical analyses, CRUMBEL will improve our current understanding on mobility, landscape use, funeral practices, ritual beliefs and social life from the Neolithic to the Early-Medieval period in Belgium. Indeed, since it has been demonstrated that osteological analyses, radiocarbon dating and strontium isotope analyses can provide important information on cremated individuals, it is time to unlock the secrets of these precious but underestimated collections. The multidisciplinary method was applied to the Early Medieval collection from Echt, the Netherlands. Demographic information from 73 cremation deposits dating to the 5th and 6th centuries was combined with strontium isotope ratios and concentrations. Our results suggest that, despite the great variability in strontium isotope ratios, the individuals experienced little mobility later in life, although regional movement early in life was observed. Future research will look at additional Early Medieval sites with a relatively large number of cremation deposits, such as Broechem (n = 75) and Brecht-Eindhovenakker (n = 26) in Belgium and compare the observed patterns in demography, strontium isotope ratios and concentrations, which will increase our understanding of mobility, landscape use, and health in the Early Medieval period

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Veselka B., Capuzzo G., Annaert R., Mattielli N., Boudin M., Dalle S., Hlad M., Sabaux C., Salesse K., Sengeløv A., Stamataki E., Tys D., Vercauteren M., Warmenbol E., De Mulder G., Snoeck, C., (2021), Divergence, diet, and disease: the identification of group identify, landscape use, health, and mobility in the fifth to sixth century AD burial community of Echt, the Netherlands, in: Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences.

The Wadden Sea of North Frisia (Germany) - Reconstructing a medieval coastal landscape Hanna Hadler, Dennis Wilken, Ruth Blankenfeldt, Stefanie Klooß, Bente Sven Majchczack,

The North Frisian Wadden Sea is now protected as a National Park and UNESCO World Heritage Site. However, it is not only a significant natural area that has always been subject to major geomorphological changes. It also represents the relic of lost cultural landscapes. The natural marsh and fenlands areas on the coast of today's North Frisia were dyked, drained and cultivated by Frisian settlers, especially from the Middle Ages onwards.

Extraordinary storm surges had devastating effects on the settlements along the coast. A major storm surge in 1362 (1. Grote Mandränke) drowned wide areas of cultivated medieval marshland along the north-western coast of Germany and turned them into tidal flats. In an interdisciplinary research project, selected areas of the North Frisian Wadden Sea are being investigated using a broad spectrum of modern prospecting methods from geophysics, geomorphology and archaeology.

A large target area is located in the vicinity of the present-day Hallig Südfall. Archaeological artefacts and features are uncovered and covered up here daily by a tideway and are interpreted as the remains of the sunken trading centre of Rungholt.

For the first time, it has been possible to reconstruct the course of a medieval dyke, rectangular dwelling mounds and drainage ditches in the tidal flats, and also to identify various locations of tide gates. Another study area of the joint project is Hallig Hooge and the surrounding wadden areas (see presentation Majchczack/Blankenfeldt).

A late Roman strap end with a Vexierbild from Arnhem-Schuytgraaf

Stefanie Hoss

My poster will present a rather spectacular find from Arnhem Schuytgraaf, excavated in the early 2000s and discovered in a settlement dating from the late Iron Age to about AD 350. The find is a strap end belonging to the chip-carved belt sets of Böhme type 3 (dated AD 400-470). It is a semifinished product and was not reworked after casting, probably because the main representation on one side did not turn out well.

It is this main representation that makes this find interesting and the reason why I would like to present it, as this is a 'Vexierbild' depicting a man with a beard en face, whose arms and legs are formed by two opposing animals (griffins?). If the dating of this find is correct, it would be one of the earliest finds of a Vexierbild on a belt piece in the Roman Empire.

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34	54				
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