



Ole Crumlin-Pedersen

Archaeology and the Sea in Scandinavia and Britain

A personal account

Published 2010 by the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde. 184 pages, illustrated, hard cover, ISBN 978-87-85180-05-6 Price: DKK 349/€ 47 + postage

Half a century ago, archaeology entered a new field of work with the excavation of ancient ships found under water. A new discipline emerged: maritime archaeology.

In this book, Ole Crumlin-Pedersen, the Danish pioneer of maritime archaeology, gives a fascinating overview of more than forty years of work.

Beginning with the natural conditions for seafaring, the author explains the evolution of basic water craft into those plank-built, sail-carrying ships which enabled the seaborne activities of the Viking Age and the following medieval period, concluding with case studies of the maritime cultural landscape of Roskilde Fjord and the ship as symbol.

The themes of this volume were first presented in six Rhind Lectures for the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in Edinburgh in 2008.

FOREWORD

by Barbara Crawford & Tinna Damgård-Sørensen

INTRODUCTION

I. STUDYING THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MARITIME CULTURES

The seafarer's geographical framework
What defines a maritime culture?
The potentials of waterlogged sites
Studying maritime archaeology
The ship
Some aspects of Danish maritime archaeology
Hydrography and shipping lanes
A national and international research programme
The Danish situation
Other ship finds
The Centre for Maritime Archaeology in Roskilde
Publications
Shipbuilding resources and craftsmanship
Sea trials and voyages

II. BOATS AND SHIPS BEFORE AD 800

Wood technology and tools
The archaeological evidence

III. ANGLO-SAXON AND SCANDINAVIAN LONGSHIPS

The origin of longship concept
Maritime expertise
The source groups
Four conceptual approaches
The vessels of Franks and Frisians
The ships of Britain and Ireland
Ships of Scandinavia and the Baltic area
Viking longships
The Hedeby 1 longship
The Skuldelev 5 ship
Roskilde 6, a royal longship at the doorstep of the Viking Ship Museum
The Puck longship

The ship as a status object
Names for the ship types
Longships in Central and Southern Europe
Conclusion
The aftermath of the longship period

IV. THE SHIPS OF VIKING-AGE AND MEDIEVAL TRADERS AND SETTLERS

The world of the Vikings
Sutton Hoo
The introduction of the sail
Viking expansion, loot or trade?
The early Viking phase, c. 700-840
The middle Viking phase, c. 840-950
The late Viking phase, 950-1100
Scandinavian ships of the period 1100-1250
Other high- and late-medieval ship types
Conclusion

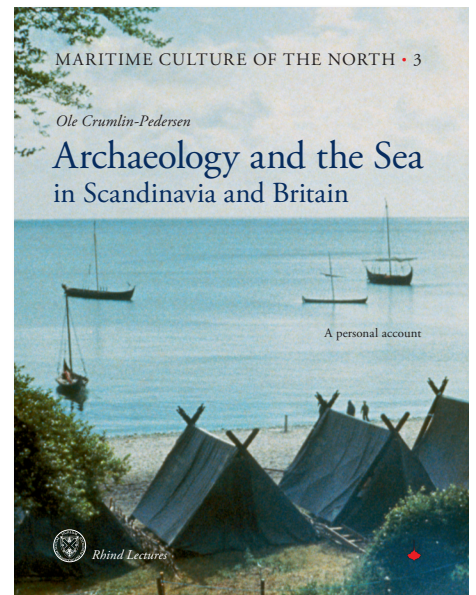
V. THE MARITIME CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

The Skuldelev example
Routes across land and sea
Roskilde Fjord

VI. THE SHIP AS SYMBOL IN THE SCANDINAVIAN IRON AGE AND VIKING PERIOD

Ship representations in several media
Traditional interpretations
Criteria for boat graves
'Rich' graves with ships and boats
'Ordinary' grave boats
The Slusegård cemetery
The interpretation of the boat grave custom
The confrontation with the Christian mission
Transition to Christianity
The source value of icons
Summary of the evidence from boat graves and stone ships
The Valhalla myth
King Scyld and the Beowulf poem

BIBLIOGRAPHY



The international series Maritime Culture of the North

Published volumes:

Vol. 1: Ohthere's Voyages

A late 9th-century account of voyages along the coasts of Norway and Denmark and its cultural context

Edited by Janet Bately & Anton Englert, Roskilde 2007. 216 pages, hard cover. DKK 299/€ 40 + postage

Vol. 2: Wulfstan's Voyage

The Baltic Sea region in the early Viking Age as seen from shipboard

Edited by Anton Englert & Athena Trakadas, Roskilde 2009. 374 pages, hard cover. Price: DKK 399/€ 54 + postage

Vol. 3: Archaeology and the Sea in Scandinavia and Britain

A personal account

by Ole Crumlin-Pedersen, Roskilde 2010. 184 pages, hard cover. Price: DKK 349/€ 47 + postage

Publications by
the Viking Ship Museum
Vindeboder 12
DK-4000 Roskilde

Viking Ship Museum books
can be ordered online via
www.vikingshipmuseum.dk
or via www.oxbowbooks.com

