

Editorial

The articles in the 2014 volume of *Lund Archaeological Review* deal with a dynamic transitional period in Scandinavian prehistory, namely the end of the Iron Age and the beginning of the Middle Ages. The volume opens with an article by Andreas Svensson, in which he presents the preliminary results from his survey of multimetal sites, i.e. sites with traces of complex metalworking. His results indicate the presence of multimetal craftsmanship on several levels in the landscape and he thus argues that the traditional association between this form of metalworking and urbanity needs to be nuanced. Three of the five articles address runestones, although from quite different perspectives. Gabriel Norburg demonstrates how the use of spatial statistics and least-cost path analysis can be used to explain runestone locations in the landscape. He suggests that the orderly spatial pattern which emerges is due to external factors in Viking Age society, such as infrastructural considerations. The articles by Anne-Sofie Gräslund and Lise Gjedssø Bertelsen both deal with runestones in Västergötland in western Sweden. Gräslund uses the runestones as a case study to demonstrate how her previously published method of analysing chronological variation in ornamentation is applicable to runestones outside the Mälars valley. Bertelsen, on the other hand, focuses her study on the cross motif and argues that the elements of its design show an intimate familiarity with Christian theology and symbolism. Finally, Ing-Marie Nilsson presents and evaluates a number of children's burials discovered inside the nave of Uppåkra church. After exploring possible Christian influences in Viking Age Uppåkra, she suggests that 10th century Uppåkra was a society characterized by religious heterogeneity and further that a partly Christian Uppåkra may be a prerequisite for a Christian Lund.

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