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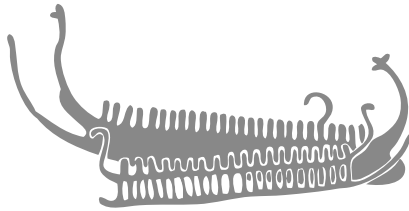
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Editors:
Fredrik Fahlander & Anders Högberg

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THE SWEDISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

In 1947 the statutory meeting for the Swedish Archaeological Society took place at the Museum of National Antiquities. The Society is a common body for professional Swedish archaeologists, regardless of specialty. According to the statutes the purpose of the Society is to further Swedish archaeological research and to support this research by granting scholarships. The Society shall especially take care of the vocational interest of the archaeologists. This task shall be carried out by taking part in the public debate, by influencing the public opinion, and by being a body to which proposed measures are submitted for consideration. The Society arranges discussions and seminars on different archaeological topics, and every second year the Society holds a thematic meeting for Swedish archaeologists.

In 1993 the annual journal *Current Swedish Archaeology* began to be issued. The journal has since then contained articles mirroring current archaeological research and theoretical trends. The Society's board has eleven members from universities, museums and archaeological institutions in various parts of Sweden. Anita Synnestvedt, from the Department of Historical Studies at Gothenburg University, is the present chairman.

EDITORIAL

The year 2013 started with a lot of positive feedback on the keynote discussion from last year's volume 20. Apparently the theme, where theoretical archaeology stands today, spawned a lot of interest and debate. We are of course happy that the discussion was appreciated and we hope that this year's topic about archaeometry and archaeological interpretation will also be thought-provoking and generate constructive discussion.

The interdisciplinary approach of archaeometry has found increasing appreciation by archaeologists and is now considered indispensable and an integral part of archaeological studies. The last three decades have seen a steady growth in the development and application of scientific methods to archaeology. New results are published regularly. Classical archaeological disputes concerning ethnicity and migration are targeted and the results are frequently argued to rewrite prehistory in a groundbreaking way. In recent years archaeometry has become a key research area for the development of new archaeological knowledge.

The increased specialization and diversification of archaeology has, however, made it difficult for the individual researcher to grasp the whole field of archaeology. A mutual understanding between humanist and natural scientists is hampered because they publish in separate types of journals with divergent epistemology and rhetoric. Also, archaeometrical studies sometimes present scientific results with little or outdated theoretical considerations and there can be discrepancies between the conclusions drawn and the representativeness of the data (which by no means is unique to archaeometrical studies). The scope and aim of the studies and the manner of presenting data as facts can thus be provocative to some archaeologist, making part of the archaeological community reject important results more out of bias than for scientific reasons.

The keynote addresses aspects of this "state of the art" archaeology, touching upon questions such as: How might the future look in

the light of new information gained from archaeometry and how will different archaeological communities come to grips with these new developments? Kerstin Lidén and Gunilla Eriksson took on the challenge to write a keynote on these topics, and we are pleased to present an interesting discussion with comments from Andrew Jones, Åsa Larsson, Johannes Müller, Christopher Prescott, and Stephen Shennan.

This year's issue also contains five other articles which all reflect current topics in North European archaeology. Christina Fredengren employs critical posthumanism to conflate boundaries between the body and the environment and argues for viewing the human body as a transcorporeal assemblage. Irene Garcia-Rovira likewise explores posthumanist-inspired strands of thought as a means to understand the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition. Christian Horn bases his contribution on micro-wear traces found on Bronze Age weapons in order to discuss how they were used and the manner of fighting. In his article, Leif Gren points out the importance of the Christian spatial worldview as one reason why the Norse colonisation of Vinland lost energy in the 11th century. Finally, Dawid Kobińska explores the roles of materiality in present-day re-enactment.

This year's issue also contains a review and a note concerning the announcement from the Swedish Research Council that they are about to retract their support for a number of Swedish journals in the fields of humanities and social science. This is fatal for a number of journals, including *Current Swedish Archaeology*, which depends on financial support to be able to continue. The planned cut-backs have stirred a lot of protests among the universities and institutions, and we may hope that the retraction plans will be reconsidered.

Fredrik Fahlander & Anders Högberg, editors