

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



ASSESSMENT and
QUALIFICATIONS
ALLIANCE

ARCHAEOLOGY
Unit 2 Post-Excavation, Dating and Interpretation

ACH2

Tuesday 5 June 2007 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book
- a Sources Booklet (enclosed).

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen. Use pencil only for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is ACH2.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Do all rough work in the answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this unit is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- **Figures 1 to 5** and **Sources 1 and 2** for use in answering the questions are printed in a separate Sources Booklet.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.
- In answering the questions you must clearly demonstrate that you have used or drawn upon all the sources to which you are specifically directed. You must also use your own knowledge and understanding as appropriate to each question.
- You may use a magnifying glass to assist interpretation of figures.
- You may make illustrations in your answer book provided they explain or add to your answer.

Read the following Introduction and study the material in the enclosed Sources Booklet.

Then answer the questions on page 4.

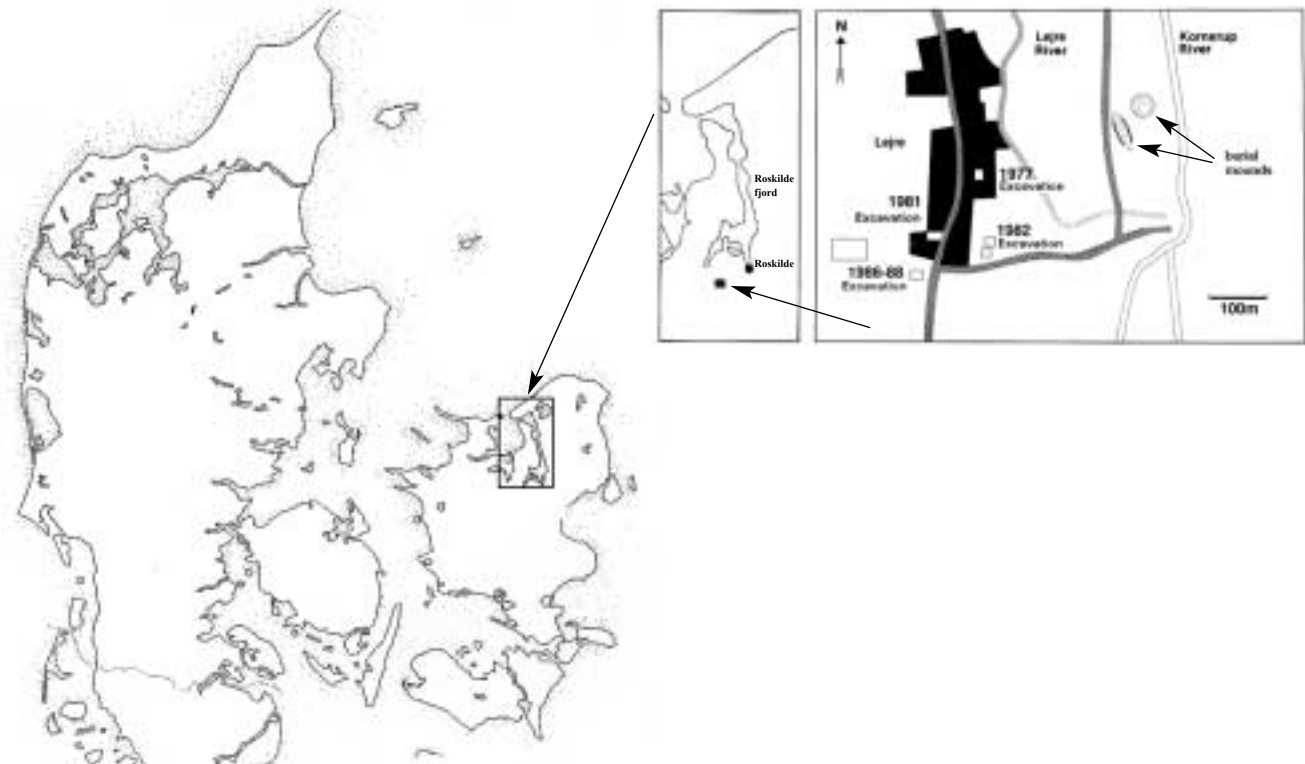
Introduction: Viking halls from Lejre

Lejre is a village in Denmark close to many rich, prehistoric burial mounds. According to legends and medieval sources Lejre was also a royal residence during the later part of the Danish Iron Age, what we call the Saxon/Viking period in Britain.

In 1986–1998 research excavation revealed traces of a huge hall dating to the 10th century AD. Underlying this hall were the remains of a similar structure dating to around AD 660 and surrounding it were finds and features from the same period. In 2005, a 48-metre long hall containing luxury artefacts dating to the 6th century AD was discovered nearby. The size of these halls has led to speculation that they were the site of Heorot, the hall mentioned in sagas and poems from the Anglo-Saxon period, including the early English poem *Beowulf*.

Close to the site a major experimental archaeology centre has been established. This includes a reconstructed village and a hall. In addition to experiments using ancient technology, people can dress up as Vikings and ‘experience living in the past’.

Map 1: Location maps of excavation around Lejre in Denmark



Photograph 1: Aerial view of hall IVa during excavation with paper plates marking its outline



Turn over for the questions

Having read the Introduction and studied the material in the Sources Booklet, answer **all** the questions which follow.

1 Study **Figure 1** and use your own knowledge.

Explain what types of evidence from the excavation would have enabled archaeologists to distinguish between the halls shown on the plan. *(7 marks)*

2 Study **Figures 1 and 2** and **Source 1** and use your own knowledge.

Discuss the types of evidence archaeologists have used to ‘recreate’ this building. *(12 marks)*

3 Study **Figure 3** and use your own knowledge.

Explain each of the numbers or elements of the diagram labelled A–D. *(6 marks)*

4 Study **Figure 3** and use your own knowledge.

Explain the principle behind thermoluminescence, referring to the information in the diagram and caption in your answer. *(6 marks)*

5 Study **Figure 4** and use your own knowledge.

Select either **a**, **b** or **c**. Outline how your chosen artefact(s) might be analysed by archaeologists investigating this site. *(5 marks)*

6 Study **Figure 5** and use your own knowledge.

What can archaeologists learn from information such as that provided in this table? (You are not expected to know the individual plants.) *(7 marks)*

7 Study **Source 2** and use your own knowledge.

What is the value of the activities in **(a)** and **(b)** for archaeology? *(7 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

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All figures: ‘Journal of Danish Archaeology’, Vol. 10, Odense University Press, 1999

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Figure 5 Analysis of numbers of plant remains from selected locations at Lejre

	English Name	hall IV west		12 samples (6 litres)		Oven 473		1 sample (0.5 litres)		Pit House XIV		6 samples (3 litres)	
		Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%		
Cultivated													
	Oats	4	5	0	0	2	1						
	Hulled Barley	42	49	0	0	113	38.5						
	Naked Barley	1	1	0	0	0	0						
	Rye	21	24	700	99.9	44	15						
	Wheat	0	0	1	0.1	1	0.5						
	Unidentified cereal	18	21	0	0	141	45						
Gathered													
	Hazel	1		0		0							
Arable weeds													
	Corn Cockle	1		3		0							
	Fat Hen	1		4		200							
	Persicaria	0		2		4							
Other													
	Brome	0		3		1							
	Pea	0		0		8							
	Vetch	0		4		2							

Total = total number in sample. % = made up this percentage of the total cultivated grain in the sample.