



A Late Viking Age coin hoard from Lahavere, Jõgevamaa County

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A hoard of prehistoric coins was unearthed in September 2022 by an amateur archaeologist in Lahavere, Jõgevamaa County. Immediately after the first coins were spotted, the finder informed the authorities and further investigations were soon conducted under the guidance of Nele Kangert and Krista Karro from the MA. It appeared that the coins were scattered across an area of ca 100 × 60 metres in an arable land.

Three trial trenches were dug in the course of the archaeological inspection to find whether there was any cultural layer present. The ground in the findspot is a layer of clay 40 cm deep with some granite stones, and with natural beige clay at the bottom. No remains of any cultural layer were observed either in the findspot or on the hillock nearby (Kangert 2022).

The total of 149 coins were found.¹ They were mostly intact except for nine fragments, two of which fitted together. It is not entirely clear whether the coins were broken deliberately, or they broke under the pressure of the agricultural machinery working in the field. The hoard consists of seven Islamic dirhams, two Byzantine miliaresia, 76 deniers of the Holy Roman Empire, one denier from Bohemia, 49 English pennies, seven coins from Denmark and one from Sweden, plus six Scandinavian imitations of Anglo-Saxon pennies (Table 1). The *tpq* of the whole hoard is given by an Anglo-Norman penny of the William II type BMC II (no. 135 in the list) that was minted in the early to mid-1090s (Allen 2014, 92).

Table 1. Coins of the Lahavere hoard

Tabel 1. Lahavere aarde mündid

Compiled by / Koostanud: Ivar Leimus

ISLAMIC COINS / ISLAMI MÜNDID

No. / Nr	Dynasty / Dünastia	Ruler / Valitseja	Mint / Vermija	Date AH / Aasta AH	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
1	Abbasids	Unknown	al-Abbasiya?	Late 8th c.?	2.84	Worn, bronze suspension loop
2	Banijurids?	Muhammad ibn Ahmad?	Uncertain	277	1.93	Worn
3	Samanids	Ahmad ibn Isma'íl	Samarqand	xxx	1.87	Broken to halves, with a brass ring
4	Samanids	Nasr ibn Ahmad	Samarqand	321	3.54	Hole in flan
5	Samanids	Nuh ibn Nasr	ash-Shash	3xx (334?). Cf. Leimus 2007, 2949–54	3.20	Pierced twice, remains of bronze suspension loop

¹ The finds are stored at the archaeological collections of the University of Tartu (the hoard – TÜ 3173, other items – TÜ 3174).

No. / Nr	Dynasty / Dünastia	Ruler / Valitseja	Mint / Vermija	Date AH / Aasta AH	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
6	Samanids	Mansur ibn Nuh	Samarqand	354	4.43	Pierced, remains of bronze suspension loop
7	Hamdanids	Nasir ad-daula & Saif ad-daula	Madinat as-Salam	331	3.08	Pierced, remains of bronze suspension loop

BYZANTINE COINS / BÜTSANTSI MÜNDID

No. / Nr	Ruler / Valitseja	Mint / Vermija	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
8	Basil VII & Constantine VIII	Constantinople	Grierson 1973, class IIA	2.10	Clipped
9	Basil VII & Constantine VIII	Constantinople	Grierson 1973, class IIB	2.83	Pierced

GERMAN COINS / SAKSA MÜNDID

No. / Nr	Mint / Vermija	Ruler / Valitseja	Date / Dateering	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
10	Metz?	B. Dietrich II	1006–47	Dbg. 24; CNG 9.18	1.06	Very worn, cracked
11	Trier	Archb. Eberhard	1047–66	Dbg. 473; Weiller 1988, 56	1.18	
12	Andernach	Emp. Konrad II & Archb. Pilgrim	1027/30–1050/60	Dbg. 449/451; CNG 22.17	1.18	
13	Herstal?	Emp. Konrad II & Duke Gozelo I	1027–44	Dbg. 1438; Ilisch 2014, 37.14	1.08	
14	Royal mint next to Holland	Henry IV?	Late 11th c.	Dbg. 1233a; Ilisch 1997/98, 15.1	0.78	
15	Maasland, mint?	Emp. Henry II	1014–24	Ilisch 2014, 35.10	1.32	
16	Cologne	Otto III	983–1002	Häv. 34; Ilisch 1983/84	1.36	
17	Cologne	Emp. Henry II	1014–24	Häv. 189	1.64	
18	Cologne	Archb. Pilgrim & Emp. Konrad II	1027–36	Häv. 222	1.43	
19	Cologne	Archb. Pilgrim & Emp. Konrad II	1027–36	Häv. 222i	1.29	
20	Cologne	Archb. Pilgrim & Emp. Konrad II	1027–36	Häv. 222i, crescent below	1.27	
21–22	Cologne	Archb. Hermann II & Emp. Konrad II	1036–39	Häv. 251	1.63, 1.53	
23–24	Cologne	Archb. Hermann II	1039–56	Häv. 278	1.53, 1.40	
25	Cologne	Archb. Hildolf	1076–79	Häv. 360	1.52	
26–27	Cologne	Archb. Hermann III	1089–99	Häv. 403	1.54, 1.42	
28	Imitation of Cologne	anonymous		Häv. 78	1.43	
29	Imitation of Cologne	anonymous			1.25	Obv. totally worn
30	Imitation of Cologne	anonymous			1.11	Piece missing
31	Deventer	B. William	1054–76	Ilisch 1997/98, 1.20	0.61	
32	Deventer	B. Konrad	1076–99	Ilisch 1997/98, 1.23	0.72	Cracked
33–34	Groningen	B. Bernolf	1040–54	Ilisch 1997/98, 18.1	0.76, 0.76	
35	Tiel	Konrad II	1024–39	Ilisch 1997/98, 3.8	1.40	
36	Tiel	Henry IV?	Late 11th c.	Ilisch 1997/98, 3.37	0.97	
37	Vicinity of Tiel?			Ilisch 1997/98, 5.10?	0.80	Very worn
38	Region of Nijmegen–Tiel	Emp. Konrad II	1027–39	Ilisch 1997/98, 8.17	1.14	Very worn
39	Leeuwarden	Count Brun III	Ca. 1050–57	Ilisch 1997/98, 21.14	0.82	
40	Dokkum	Count Brun III	Ca. 1050–57	Ilisch 1997/8, 21.20	0.90	

No. / Nr	Mint / Vermija	Ruler / Valitseja	Date / Dateering	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
41	Jever	Count Hermann	1060–70s	Dbg. 597	0.72	Piece missing
42	Soest	'Otto III'	Ca. 990–1000	Häv. 73; Ilisch 1983/84	1.39	
43–44	Soest	'Otto III'	Early 11th c.	Häv. 850c; Ilisch 1983/84	1.39, 1.22	
45	Soest	'Otto III'	Early 11th c.	Häv. 73/849	1.25	Very worn
46	Soest	'Otto III'	Early 11th c.	Häv. 73/849–850	0.73	Frg.
47	Imitation of Soest			Sign in the 2nd angle, obv.: +VVARHHE...VT	1.13	Pierced
48	Minden	anonymous		Ilisch 1977, 43–44, fig. 9 var.	1.45	
49–50	Marsberg	anonymous		Dbg. 1622; Dethlefs 2000, 47–51	1.30, 1.04	
51	Stade	Margrave Lüder Udo	1057–82	Dbg. 1846	0.96	
52	Bardowick?	anonymous		Dbg. 373; Häv. 309; Leimus 1979, no. 407–408	1.06	
53	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, IV10?	0.74	Very worn
54	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, IV10-11	1.58	Very worn
55	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, IV	1.44	Very worn
56	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, V2i	1.18	
57	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, V5f	1.20	
58	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, V5	1.02	
59–60	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, V	1.41, 1.16	Very worn
61	Goslar <i>et al.</i>	Otto-Adelheid-Pfennig		Hatz 1961, VI2c (Gittelde?)	0.97	
62	Goslar	Emp. Henry III	1046–56	Dbg. 668a; Matthaei 2021–22, 4?	1.13	
63	Goslar	K. Hermann von Salm	1081–88	Dbg. 676a; Matthaei 2021–22, 22b	1.19	
64	Gittelde	anonymous		Dbg. 1310a; Kipp 2016, 6a	0.97	Heavily bent
65	Gittelde	Adv. Dietrich III	1085–1106	Dbg. 689; Kipp 2016, 10c	1.30	
66	Magdeburg	anonymous		Dbg. 648, rv. retrograd	1.36	
67	Magdeburg/ Halle–Giebichenstein?	anonymous		Kilger 2000, 4.2.2, Gruppe MgHP 3	0.92	
68	Erfurt	anonymous	Early 11th c.	Stoess 1989, fig. 11?	1.10	Very worn
69	Fritzlar	anonymous		Ilisch 2004	1.06	
70	Bamberg?	B. Ruprecht?	1075–1102	Dbg. 1655?	1.10	Very worn
71	Mainz	Henry III	1039–56	Dbg. 793	0.58	Broken half
72	Mainz	Emp. Henry III & Archb. Lupold	1051–59	Dbg. 807	1.14	Cracked
73	Worms	Henry II	1002–24	Dbg. 845	1.01	Heavily bent
74	Worms	Henry II	1002–24	Dbg. 845	1.01	Broken edge
75	Worms	Emp. Henry III	1046–56	Dbg. 847	0.46	Frg.
76	Worms?	Emp. Henry III?	1046–56	Dbg. 847?	0.73	Broken frg.
77	Speyer	anonymous		Dbg. 836	0.98	In 2 pieces
78	Speyer	Henry III	1039–56	Dbg. 829, Ehrend 1976, 2/27	0.91	Piece missing
79	Strassburg	anonymous		Dbg. 715	1.09	
80	Strassburg	B. Dietwald	1079–84	Hatz 1965, no. 22	0.87	Cracked
81	St. Gallen? Reichenau?	anonymous	Early 12th c.?	Obv. cf. Wielandt 1971, no. 36	0.27	Broken half
82	Regensburg	Duke Henry V	1018–26	Hahn 1976, 31b8	0.90	

No. / Nr	Mint / Vermija	Ruler / Valitseja	Date / Dateering	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
83	Regensburg	Duke Henry V	1018–26	Hahn 1976, 31d7	1.33	
84	Freising	B. Egilbert	1028–39	Hahn 1976, 128	1.23	
85	Uncertain				0.79	

BOHEMIAN COIN / BÕÖMI MÜNT

86	Praha	Duke Spytihněv II	1048–54	Cach 1972, 331	0.82	
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ENGLISH COINS / INGLISE MÜNDID

No. / Nr	Ruler / Valitseja	Type / Tüüp	Mint / Rahapaja	Moneyer / Müntmeister	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
87	Aethelred II	Long cross	Lincoln	Aethelnoth	1.36	
88	Aethelred II	Long cross	London	Eadwine	1.37	
89	Aethelred II	Long cross	London	Godric	1.65	
90	Aethelred II	Long cross	York	Leofstan	1.50	
91	Aethelred II	Helmet	Exeter	Dudel	1.11	
92	Aethelred II	Helmet	London	Osulf	1.40	
93	Aethelred II	Helmet	London	Wulfstan	1.15	
94	Aethelred II	Helmet	York	Colgrim	1.27	
95	Aethelred II	Last small cross	Colchester	Edwine	1.34	
96	Aethelred II	Last small cross	Stamford	Godaeg	1.03	
97	Aethelred II	Last small cross	Winchester	Aelfstan	1.16	
98	Aethelred II	Last small cross	York	Snecold	1.41	
99	Cnut	Quatrefoil	Canterbury	Leofstan	1.49	
100	Cnut	Quatrefoil	Colchester	Aelfwine	0.91	
101	Cnut	Quatrefoil	Lincoln	W[ulf]geat	0.86	Thrice pierced
102	Cnut	Quatrefoil	London	Aelfstan	0.97	
103	Cnut	Quatrefoil	London	Eadsig	1.30	
104	Cnut	Quatrefoil	Norwich	'Lifringa'	0.84	
105	Cnut	Quatrefoil	Shrewsbury	Ettige	1.23	
106	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Chester	Croc	0.98	
107	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Chester	Godwine	1.03	
108	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Exeter	Edmaer	1.13	
109	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Lincoln	Aegelmaer	1.20	
110	Cnut	Pointed helmet	London	Elewine	1.16	
111	Cnut	Pointed helmet	London	Gode...c	1.03	
112	Cnut	Pointed helmet	London	Leofstan	1.00	
113	Cnut	Pointed helmet	London	Wynsige	1.00	
114	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Shaftesbury	Aelric	0.97	
115	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Thetford	Aelfwine	0.99	
116	Cnut	Pointed helmet	Totnes	Wulfwerd	0.95	Without sceptre
117	Cnut	Short cross	Chester	Leofnoth	1.11	
118	Cnut	Short cross	Chichester	Aegelne	1.13	
119	Cnut	Short cross	Dover	Aelfstan	1.03	
120	Cnut	Short cross	Gloucester	Wulnoth	1.10	
121	Cnut	Short cross	Hastings	Brid	0.99	
122	Cnut	Short cross	Lincoln	Leowol	0.70	

No. / Nr	Ruler / Valitseja	Type / Tüüp	Mint / Rahapaja	Moneyer / Müntmeister	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
123	Cnut	Short cross	London	Godman	1.15	
124	Cnut	Short cross	Winchester	Aelfsige	1.14	
125	Harold I	Jewel cross	Winchester	Ladmaer	1.10	Cracked
126	Harold I	Fleur de lys	Cambridge	Aelfi	0.87	Cracked
127	Harold I	Fleur de lys	London	Brihtmaer	1.13	
128	Harold I	Fleur de lys	London	Corfe	1.19	
129	Edward III	Radiate small cross	London	Aegelwii	0.92	
130	Edward III	Radiate small cross	Thetford	Aelfric	1.19	
131	Edward III	Radiate small cross	Winchester	Leoffwine	1.04	
132	Edward III	Trefoil quadrilateral	Lincoln	Othgrin	1.15	Slightly cracked
133	William I	BMC VII	London	Aedwi	1.17	
134	William I/II	BMC I	London	Edric	1.37	
135	William II	BMC II	Colchester	Goldhfoc	1.09	

DANISH COINS / TAANI MÜNDID

No. / Nr	Ruler / Valitseja	Mint / Rahapaja	Moneyer / Müntmeister	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
136	Hardeknud	Lund	Othener	Hb. 23	0.91	
137	Hardeknud	Lund	Leafwine	Hb. 23 var.	1.02	Rv. Long cross with dots in angles
138	Hardeknud	Hedeby		Hb. 50	0.63	
139	Magnus	Lund	Wulen...od	Hb. 4	0.96	
140	Svend Estridsen	Lund		Hb. 23	0.97	In 2 pieces
141	Svend Estridsen	Lund	Suafi	Hb. 31	1.08	Runic
142	Svend Estridsen	Roskilde		Hb. 36	1.36	

SWEDISH COIN / ROOTSI MÜNT

143	Anund Jakob	Sigtuna	Thormoth	Malmer 2010, 14.312/1253	1.34	
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IMITATIONS OF ANGLO-SAXON COINS / ANGLOSAKSI MÜNTIDE IMITATSIOONID

No. / Nr	Ruler / Valitseja	Type / Tüüp	Reference / Viide	Weight g / Kaal gr	Remarks / Märkused
144	'Aethelred II'	'Long cross'	Malmer 1997, 416/1259	1.33	Bust to right
145	'Aethelred II'	'Long cross'		0.40	Minor frg.
146	'Aethelred II'	'Long cross'		0.25	Minor frg.
147	'Aethelred II/ Cnut'	'Last small cross rv./ Quatrefoil rv.'		1.24	West-Slav?
148	'Cnut'	'Quatrefoil'	Malmer 1997, 743/1951	1.53	
149	'Cnut'	'Pointed helmet'	Malmer 2023, 377/1355	0.96	

The modest number of dirhams is typical for the Estonian late 11th century finds, since monetary imports from the East to the North and West had already ceased by around 1015. Moreover, five of the seven dirhams in the hoard have been pierced or possess suspension loops, meaning they were used as pendants. They may well have been in use much longer as ornaments than as circulating coins. One of the two miliaresia is pierced as well.

The coins minted on the territory of the Holy Roman Empire dominate in the discovered hoard, as they do in other Estonian finds of the period. They were overwhelmingly minted in the first half of the 11th century, and only a few coins can be dated to the end of that century. Those later coins are the two deniers of Henry IV (1056–1105), one of them from Tiel and the other from somewhere in the vicinity of Holland, plus a denier of Bishop Konrad (1076–99) from Deventer, and those of Archbishop Hermann III (1089–99) from Cologne, Anti-king Hermann (1081–88) from Goslar, and Advocatus Dietrich III (1085–1106) from Gittelde.



Fig. 1. Holy Roman Empire, Minden, anonymous denier.
Jn 1. Püha Rooma keisririik, Minden, anonüümne denaar.
 Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus

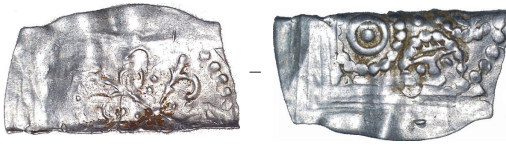


Fig. 2. Holy Roman Empire, St. Gallen or Reichenau, anonymous denier.
Jn 2. Püha Rooma keisririik, St. Gallen või Reichenau, anonüümne denaar.
 Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 3. England, Cnut, Pointed helmet type, Totnes, moneyer Wulfwerd.
Jn 3. Inglismaa, Cnut, Pointed helmet tüüp, Totnes, müntmeister Wulfwerd.
 Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus

The hoard is relatively small in size, but it contains several rarities including the two deniers of Henry IV, two anonymous coins from Marsberg, and a denier of Bishop Egilbert (1028–39) from Freising. However, the most significant coin in the hoard comes from Minden. An anonymous denier of this type has been seen before, but the inscriptions on the only comparable specimen are mostly distorted. The specimen from Lahavere by contrast is very well preserved and totally legible, and it reads \blacksquare MINDA-CIVITAS on the obverse and S-PETR-VS on the reverse (Fig. 1).

A cut Swiss halfpenny that may have been minted in either St. Gallen or Reichenau is also particularly eye-catching (Fig. 2). Only three coins of that type have previously been found, all of them in the hoard of Gannarve, Gotland (*tpq* 1120; personal communication with Hans-Ulrich Geiger of 29.10.2022). It has been suggested that this type of coin may even date from the first quarter of the 12th century, but this can be neither proved nor rejected as so few such coins have been found.

The second most numerous coin in the hoard is the English penny. This is also typical for Estonian finds from the 11th century. There are only three coins from the late 11th century and the reigns of William I and II, and the dates on all the other coins are no later than the middle of the 11th century. None of the English issues are especially rare, except the Cnut's Pointed helmet penny from Totnes that depicts the king without the obligatory sceptre (Fig. 3). The last coin in the hoard to be minted was a penny struck by mint master Goldhroc in Colchester.

All the Danish coins in the hoard are of well-known and widely spread types. The most interesting Danish denier is the one struck by mint master Suafi in Lund at the time of Svend Estridsen. It bears runic inscriptions that date the coin to the 1060s (Leimus 2012).

The only Swedish coin in the hoard is, however, an outstanding rarity (Fig. 4). It imitates the Pointed helmet type of Anglo-Saxon King Cnut and was struck by mint master Thormoth in Sigtuna in the name of Anund Jakob. Although all the coins of Anund Jakob are extremely rare, there are several of them found in Estonia (Molvõgin & Talvio 1980). The two dies used in minting this denier have both been recorded for other coins made by Anund Jakob, but not in this particular combination.

Finally, the imitations of the Anglo-Saxon pennies of Aethelred II and Cnut are of some interest. They were mostly produced in Scandinavian centres, and two of the six Lahavere imitations were probably minted in Sigtuna. Another imitation of the Pointed helmet type most probably comes from Denmark (Fig. 5). Six such pennies were known previously according to the hand-written data supplied by Brita Malmer (personal communication with Bo Gunnarsson of 25.10.2022).

However, one imitative coin that copies the reverses of the Last small cross coins of Aethelred II and the Quatrefoil coins of Cnut was apparently minted not in Scandinavia, but somewhere on the continent, possibly in the territories inhabited by the West-Slavonic peoples (Fig. 6). There are also two minor fragments of imitations in the hoard that cannot be identified precisely.

There are notable differences in the chronological distribution of the German and English parts of the hoard (Fig. 7). The Anglo-Saxon pennies are quite clearly concentrated in the reign of King Cnut. It is possible that a major part of the English collection was brought to Estonia from Gotland at a later stage in the accumulation of the hoard, since the proportion of the earlier Anglo-Saxon issues is significantly higher in the Gotland finds than in the Estonian ones. The distribution of German deniers in the hoard is much more even, and there is a steady increase from the late 10th century to the 1050s. There is a slight but distinct increase



Fig. 4. Sweden, Anund Jakob, Sigtuna, moneyer Thormoth.

Jn 4. Rootsi, Anund Jakob, Sigtuna, müntmeister Thormoth.

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 5. Scandinavian imitation of Cnut's Pointed helmet type pennies.

Jn 5. Cnuti Pointed helmet tüüpi penni Skandinaavia järelmünt.

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus

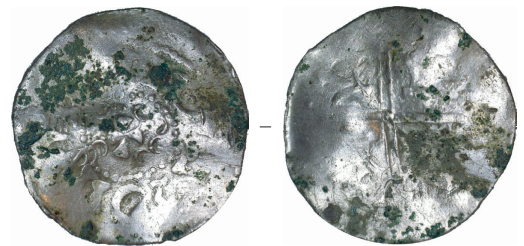


Fig. 6. West-Slavonic? imitation of Aethelred II Last small cross type and Cnut's Quatrefoil type pennies.

Jn 6. Aethelred II Last small cross ja Cnuti Quatrefoil tüüpi pennide lääneslaavi? järelmünt.

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus

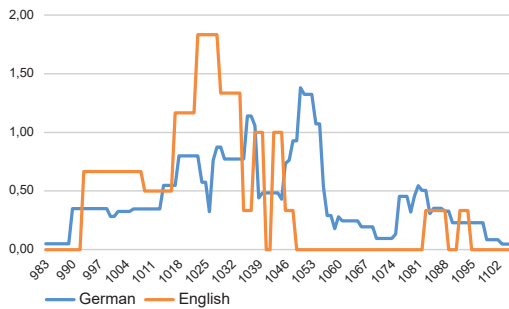


Fig. 7. Chronological distribution of German and English coins in the hoard of Lahavere (coins per year).

Jn 7. Lahavere aardes sisalduvate Saksa ja Inglise mündide ajaline jaotus (mündite aasta kohta).

Graph / Graafik: Ivar Leimus

60–65; Leimus 2018b, 339–340). Coins from the last quarter of the 11th century make up around 7% of the hoard.

The hoards of the late 11th – early 12th century that have been found in the coastal area of Estonia contain significantly more fresh monetary silver, as it is 37% of the coins in Kukruse (*tpq* ca. 1095, Leimus 2018b), at least 20% in Kohtla-Käva (*tpq* 1113, Molvõgin 1994, no. 75), also around 20% in Kose (*tpq* 1121, Molvõgin 1994, no. 76), and 17% in Saanika in West-Estonia (*tpq* 1136, Leimus 2018c; 2020).² The numbers become lower towards the south, as 2% of the coins in the hoard of Vao (*tpq* 1089) were struck after 1075, as were only 0.3% of the hoard of Aru (*tpq* 1090), 1% of the hoard of Pööravere (*tpq* 1092), 4% of the hoard of Paimre (*tpq* 1092), and around 5% of the hoard of Raadimõis (*tpq* 1125, Molvõgin 1994, no. 63, 64, 68, 69, 77). An exception is the huge hoard from Otepää (*tpq* 1092), of which 13% was relatively newly minted coins (Molvõgin 1994, no. 67). This all suggests that recently purchased coins could indeed move from the coastal regions to the inland countryside, but did so only in limited quantities. This makes the hoard of Lahavere a good case study for where and to what extent monetary silver was moved in the period under observation.

The location of the find of Lahavere puts it in a group of hoards that emerged during the second half of the 11th century in the eastern part of central Estonia. Mauri Kiudsoo argues that the owners of these deposits could communicate with the more distant world using the western route of the waterway down Peipsi and Pihkva lakes that connected the Gulf of Finland with the town of Pskov (Kiudsoo, 2019, 97–98, fig. 87). However, no Viking-Age hoards from the later stage of silver imports have yet been found in the Pskov region. The Russian hoards of the region do not as a rule date from later than the 1070s.³ Consequently, the hoards of central and eastern Estonia either reflect the regional traffic along inland waterways or show that the coins may have moved along some overland routes.

Other artefacts were also found in the field besides the coins. A fragment of silver sheet (Fig. 8) that had been cut by a sharp instrument like a knife or scissors must definitely have belonged to the hoard since it is covered with a number of pecks – proof marks that are

² Henry IV ruled as king from 1056 to 1084 and as emperor from 1084 to 1105. His reign consequently covers a long period that cannot always be divided into shorter intervals.

³ The hoard of Skadino that has been dated to the 1130s in the topography of Russian hoards by Vsevolod M. Potin (Potin 1967, 133–135, no. 170) is, at least in its main part, significantly older. A denier of Bishop Adalbert of Erfurt (1111–1137) has been listed as the last minted coin in the find, but even if this is true, it stands completely isolated among the other 839 coins of the hoard that mostly seem to be from no later than the 1070s.

in the imports of both German and English coins in the last quarter of the 11th century, which is also typical of other Estonian and Gotland finds from the late 11th – early 12th centuries.

Looking at the chronological composition of the hoard in a broader context reveals that the coins overwhelmingly originate from the first wave of the influx of monetary silver from the West, which generally ceased in the Nordic countries by the mid-11th century or slightly later (Jonsson 1993, 206, fig. 1; Leimus 2018a, 65–67). Imports resumed in the 1080s and continued for some decades, but not to the previous extent (Leimus 1986,

very common on coins and hacksilver in finds from the late Viking Age in the North (Moesgaard 2023). The slightly curved lines which are engraved and can be seen on the sheet suggest that it may have been part of some smaller plate.

A bronze figurine of an animal that is contemporary to the hoard was found, and its bridle and gender identity show it to represent a stallion (Fig. 9). The weight of the horse is 12 g, which corresponds exactly to one and a half Scandinavian örtugs or half an öre, which supports the argument that figurines like this are actually ancient weights (for a discussion on the zoological identity of the animal and the possible purpose of figurines, see Kurisoo 2021, 103–104). Objects of the same weight but of a different, spherical shape with two indentations on one side and one on the opposite are very common in archaeological finds in Estonia and in the neighbouring countries (see for example Zhukovski 2022, 198–203), and they are usually considered to have been part of a merchant's equipment. A horse figurine that weighs one örtug (8.26 g) was, for instance, found together with other items belonging to a tradesman near Klooga in Keila parish (Kiudsoo & Russow 2011, 229). The stallion from Lahavere may also have been part of the hoard, though that is not certain.

The pendant of a pebble coated in lead or tin (Fig. 10) remains a mystery. The metal coat probably covered the whole stone initially, but it has broken in the course of time. The purpose of the stone is not clear. It could clearly not be used as a rattle since the coat sits tightly around the pebble and does not let it move. The dating of the item is uncertain as well, as it does not appear among the archaeological finds of the 9th–13th centuries (Kurisoo 2021) and consequently may not be prehistoric.

A long sewing needle of about 100 mm has been made by rolling up a narrow piece of a bronze sheet (Fig. 11). This item quite obviously does not belong to the hoard, but whether it dates from prehistoric times or the Middle Ages remains uncertain.



Fig. 8. A fragment of silver sheet.

Jn 8. *Hõbepleki katke.*

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 9. A stallion-shaped bronze weight.

Jn 9. *Hobusekujuline kaaluviht.*

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 10. A lead/tin-coated pendant.

Jn 10. *Tinaümbrises ripats.*

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 11. A bronze sewing needle.

Jn 11. *Pronksist õmblusnõel.*

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus



Fig. 12. A silver needle of a brooch.

Jn 12. Söle höbenöel.

Photo / Foto: Ivar Leimus

Finally, there is a silver needle of a brooch (Fig. 12) that should be dated to the Middle Ages or even to the early modern era. The shape of the needle and the traces of wear suggest it was fixed to an annular or a ring brooch, two types of brooches that were unknown in prehistoric times.

The random finds from the field consequently prove that there was continuity of settlement around the findspot of the Lahavere hoard during the Middle Ages up to the early modern era.

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HILISVIKINGIAEGNE MÜNDIAARE LAHAVEREST JÕGEVAMAALT

Ivar Leimus

Septembris 2022 tuli Jõgevamaalt Lahaverest päevalgele muinasaegne mündiaare. Leiust teavitati kohe Muinsuskaitseametist, edasised otsingud toimusid ameti teadmisel ja juhiste järgi. Aarde leiukohas oli 40 cm tüsedune ühtlane savine pinnasekiht üksikute raudkividega, selle all paljandus looduslik beež savi. Ei leidude kontsentratsioonikohas ega eemal kõrgemal künkal ei ilmnenud märke kultuurikihist.

Ühtekokku leiti 149 münti (tabel 1): seitse islami- maade dirhemit, kaks Bütsantsi miliareesi, 76 Saksa ja üks Böömi denaar, 49 Inglise penni, seitse Taani

ja üks Rootsi münt, ning kuus anglosaksi järelmünti. Aarde noorim verming on normanni soost kuninga William II BMC II tüüpi penn, mida vermiti 1090. aastate algusest keskaigani.

Nagu selle aja leidudes tavaline, oli aardes kõige rohkem Saksa münte. Valdavalt kuuluvad need 11. sajandi esimesse poole. Sajandi lõpust pärineb ainult mõni üksik Saksa raha. Leiu kõige olulisem Saksa münt pärineb Mindenist (Jn 1). Seda anonüümset denaari oli maailmas seni teada ainult üks eksemplar. Märkimist väärib ka pooleks lõigatud Šveitsi münt

(jn 2), mis võib olla vermitud kas St. Gallenis või Reichenaus ja mida oli seni teada vaid kolm eksemplari. See münt võib kuuluda isegi 12. sajandi algusse.

Arvukuselt teisel kohal on aardes Inglise mündid. Ka nendest kuulub 11. sajandi lõpuossa kõigest kolm eksemplari. Taani vermingud esindavad meie aaretes levinud münditüüpe. Seevastu aarde ainus Rootsi denaar kuulub eriliste rariteetide sekka (jn 4). Selle on löönud kuningas Anund Jakobi müntmeister Thormoth Sigtunas.

Aarde Saksa ja Inglise müntide ajalist jaotust võrreldes võib täheldada teatavat eripära (jn 7). Kui anglosaksi pennid koonduvad selgesti 11. sajandi teise-kolmandasse kümnendisse, siis Saksa denaaride jaotus on märksa laugem ja ilmutab tasapisi tõusvat trendi 990. aastatest kuni 1050. aastateni (incl.).

Seega pärineb valdav osa münte Lääne-Euroopast lähtunud hõbedavoolu esimesest etapist, mis Põhja-maades rauges 11. sajandi keskpaigaks või pisut hiljem. 1080. aastatel taastus see mõneks dekaadiks,

ehkki mitte endises mahus. Lahavere aardes on 11. sajandi viimasel veerandil löödud münte umbes 7%. Võrdlus Eesti ranniku ja sisemaa leidude vahel näitab, et sajandi lõpul liikus värskemata raha sissemaale vaid vähesel määral.

Oma asendilt kuulub Lahavere peitleid 11. sajandi teisel poolel Kesk-Eesti idaosas kujunenud aarete gruppi. Nende kunagiste omanike suhtlus välismaailmaga käis arvatavasti Peipsi–Pihkva veeteed mööda, järve lääneranniku kaudu, kuid välistada ei saa ka maismaaühendusi.

Lisaks müntidele korjati samalt põllult üles mõned esemed – hõbepleki katke, pronksist loomakujuke, tinaümbrises ripats, pronksist õmblusnõel ja hõbedast sõlenõel (jn 8–12). Nendest pärineb kindlalt aardest vaid hõbepleki katke. Pronksist hobuke kaaluuga 12 g kujutab endast muinasaegset pooleöörise kaaluvihti, mistõttu ka selle kuulumist käsitletud leidu ei saa välistada. Ülejäänud esemed on kas kesk- või koguni uusaegsed.