Chapter 5

The Geographical, Chronological and Contextual Distribution of the Types of Dress-Accessory: A Brief Summary

The individual types of dress-accessory have now been examined separately, and both their spatial distribution and the immediate contexts in which the known items occur have been explicated. From this examination certain trends in the distribution, in time and space, of these selected types of dress-accessory have emerged, and in this chapter these trends are synthesized, and linked more directly to the manifestation of identity through the use of costume. This is done initially by taking a 'step backwards', with an integrated presentation of the distribution of the selected dress-accessories as this distribution occurs in the period under examination. In Chapter 6, the overall distribution pattern will be interpreted in light of the proposition that the jewellery represents components of costume which were used in a discourse concerned with cultural and ethnic identity.

5.1 The Geographical, Chronological and Contextual Distribution of the Types

5.1.1 Distribution patterns in the Migration Period

A synthesis of the distribution patterns of the three different types of dress-accessory – cruciform brooches, relief brooches and clasps – produces a variegated picture with overlaps and continually shifting distributions throughout the Migration Period. From the end of the Roman Iron Age into the transitional phase leading to the Migration Period an extensive western Scandinavian area can be discerned which comprises the southern half of Norway below and including Møre og Romsdal in the north, and reaches to the coastal area of western Sweden (especially Västergötland and Bohuslän), while also including (principally) Jutland, in the south (Maps 5.1 and 5.2). Within this area, spiral- and ring-shaped clasps (types A1 and A2a) were in use. In the northern part of this extensive area, in the southern half of Norway and along the western coast of Sweden, there were also common types of cruciform brooch in use: Types Åk and Lunde. In the southern part of the area, by contrast, within what is now Denmark, it is more common at this date to encounter Continental and/or Dano-Continental forms of cruciform brooch: Types Witmarsum and Groß Siems (Jørgensen 1994a; Reichstein 1975). This area of western Scandinavia emerges gradually from the end of the Late Roman Iron Age onwards and during the transition to the Migration Period. In phase D1, meanwhile, the distribution of cruciform brooches extends further northwards in Norway, and a distinct type evolved in the north-west of western Scandinavia in Møre og Romsdal and Sogn og Fjordane in the form and range of Type Nygard.

A new region also appears in the north, comprising Nord-Trøndelag, Nordland and Troms, through the development of a specific regional type of cruciform brooch, Type Røssøy.

The relief brooches display a partially congruent distribution pattern in the earliest phase of the Migration Period in that these also cluster in western Scandinavia, albeit with a more conspicuous southerly centre of gravity within the zone. With the exception of one find from Sør-Trøndelag, the brooches are distributed largely between the coastal area of southern Norway from Rogaland round to Vestfold, and in the south-west of Scandinavia in Jutland, Sjælland, Falster and Skåne. One can make out a tendency towards the division of the area into two, through the distribution of relief brooches with rectangular headplates to the north and those with semi-circular headplates to the south. There may also be a distinct south-western and western Norwegian type of relief brooch (B-2), but as there are so few finds, and one specimen of the type from Sjælland, the specific regional association of this type has to be considered uncertain. What is most characteristic of this phase is actually the multiplicity of types of relief brooch.

From the transition from the Late Roman Iron Age through into phase D1 there is, as has been noted (Ch. 4.2.1.3), a constant tendency for the development of narrowly local and more tightly regionally distributed variants of brooch-type, and this cumulatively reinforces the further sub-division of the area of western...
Map 5.1 The distribution of types of dress-accessory of Phase C3. The shaded area shows the distribution of spiral- and ring-shaped clasps. The ringed areas show the distribution of cruciform brooches of 1: Type Åk, 2: Type Tveitane-Hunn, 3: Type Witmarsum. The red circle shows the distribution of Type Kvassheim and the blue circle the concentration of ring clasps.
Map 5.2 The distribution of types of dress-accessory of D1. The area with diagonal shading shows the distribution of spiral clasps, and the area with horizontal shading shows the distribution of relief brooches. The ringed areas show the distribution of cruciform brooches of 1: Type Lunde, 2: Type Eine, 3: Type Gross Siemss, 4: Type Nygard, 5: Type Røssøy. The blue circle shows the concentration of copper-alloy spiral clasps.
Scandinavia. This is the case, for example, with the cruciform brooches of Types Tveitane–Hunn and Eine, which are largely restricted to southern Norway, and the concentration of Type Kvassheim in Rogaland – particularly at the cemetery site of Kvassheim. We have also seen that ring-shaped clasps of type A2a have a markedly southern Scandinavian, and probably specifically Jutlandic, distribution. This is also the case with spiral clasps of copper alloy, which concentrate on the cemetery at Sejlflod (cf. Ch. 4.2.3.3).

The earliest Scandinavian relief brooches belong to a relatively limited period of time at the end of phase D1, and several of the finds are dated to the transition between D1 and D2a. This is the period in which several of the Scandinavian type C1i clasps were manufactured, and these have been interpreted above as an experimental period in the production of clasps, when the standardized spiral clasps were going out of use and button clasps taking over as the principal form (cf. Ch. 4.2.3.7). The earliest relief brooches of this stage, with their many divergent forms, can also be interpreted in such a way. They may represent an experimental period before the following phase’s standard forms ‘bed in’.

In phase D2a, the outlines of this area of western Scandinavia can be traced further through the distribution of button clasps with punched ornament and one of the sub-groups of relief brooches with rectangular headplates – the ridge-foot brooches. The plane-foot brooches are also distributed in part within the same area, although like the relief brooches of the preceding phase their distribution has a more southerly centre of gravity within the zone. At the same time, button clasps with Style I decoration were used both to the east of the Scandinavian peninsula and the west, while plain button clasps or button clasps with ring designs appear to have been common Scandinavian types, albeit with a limited distribution in northern Norway, where the clasp-habit never seems to have made any great inroads.

What is most characteristic of this phase, however, is the great flourishing of regional and local variants of various types of dress-accessory (cf. Hines 1993a: 88, 91), which helps to distinguish various regions of Scandinavia from one another (Map 5.3). Localized regional variants of cruciform brooch divide the area of Norway into five zones along the coast from northern Norway round to Vestfold, and also mark out a region of western Sweden in Västergötland as well as a northern Jutlandic region in southern Scandinavia. There is also a distinct eastern Swedish region around Mälaren, defined by the use of particular forms of button clasp, while the islands of Bornholm, Gotland and Öland are distinguished by the use of their own types of relief brooch with semi-circular headplates.

Within these regions, it is sometimes possible to identify particularly local individual types of cruciform brooch (such as Type Sagland in Rogaland, and Type Gjerla in Vestfold/Telemark) or relief brooch (for instance Type A-5 on Gotland and Type A-6 on Bornholm, and a distinct version of ridge-foot brooches in Telemark with en face masks as the lobes on the footplate) (Map 5.4). It is also possible to demonstrate trends towards specific regional and/or local variants, for example in the case of relief brooches of the ridge-foot type with a ‘northern’, primarily Norwegian, sub-group that is distinct from the non-Norwegian brooches that usually carry spiral ornament. In some areas there are several of these brooch-types, or indeed all the different types. In Sweden, meanwhile, there is a marked difference between the Mälaren region (Uppland, Södermanland and Västmanland), where particularly local variants of button clasps are concentrated and where there is a general absence of cruciform brooches, and Västergötland, which has no local type of clasp but where there were local variants of cruciform brooch in use (Map 5.3). Some areas also have several local variants of a single artefact-type. This is the case in Rogaland, for example, which is the core area of the distribution of the cruciform brooches of Types Lima and Søndre Gammelsrød and Types Varhaug and Sagland. A similar state of affairs is also found in the Mälaren region, where button clasps both with ‘running spiral’ designs (type B1ii d) and with domed buttons with relief decoration (type B1 vi) are concentrated.

In these cases, however, it is not always possible to exclude the possibility that the types in question represent a chronological development in the course of the phase within which they occur: in other words that the individual types are not contemporary in the sense that they were used by the same generation. The phases cover periods of some 50–75 years and so represent a number of generations (Hines 1993a:91–2; Reichstein 1975:69). It is therefore impossible to ignore the possibility that several of the types of dress-accessory were worn or were in circulation for only a limited amount of time within the overall phase. In this regard, Waller (1996:15) has proposed that the jewellery of the Migration Period and the beginning of the Merovingian Period can be compared with items of jewellery that are used as part of ‘regional costume’ in more recent times: i.e. that they are used throughout the wearer’s adult life, and so have a functioning life of around 30–50 years. This is supported, inter alia, by observations concerning the jewellery of the Migration Period from Anglo–Saxon
The geographical, chronological and contextual distribution of the types of dress-accessory

Map 5.3 Nine areas (ringed) with their own types of jewellery in Phase D2a.
Map 5.4 The distribution of local brooch-types in Rogaland, Vestfold/Telemark, Gotland and Bornholm in Phase D2a (ringed in red). The areas ringed in black show the core areas of other brooch-types: cf. Map 5.3.
Map 5.5 The distribution of types of dress-accessory of Phase D2b.
Kent (Hawkes and Pollard 1981:332). It has also been demonstrated above (Ch. 4.2.1–4.2.3) that several different local and/or regional types were worn in combination on a costume.

At the transition to the following phase, D2b, the cruciform brooches disappear. This type of brooch had contributed substantially to regional differentiation during the first two phases of the Migration Period; however, the distribution of specifically regional and local variants of dress-accessory continues in phase D2b in the form of different types of relief brooch and clasp. The number of relief brooches also rises markedly in comparison with the preceding phase. It is less easy to demonstrate an increase in the use of clasps but it is possible that the level of use remained at the same level in both of the last two phases of the Migration Period (cf. Ch. 4.2.3.5). In several cases areas which in phase D2b were defined or marked by particular types of relief brooch were, in the preceding phase, characterized by, inter alia, specific local types of cruciform brooch (Map 5.5). There is, for instance, an area in the south-west of Norway, in Rogaland, which is defined in phase D2a by several different types of cruciform brooch, while in phase D2b three local types of relief brooch – the Rogaland group, relief brooches with a spatulate footplate (type B–1), and the simple bronze group – have a concentrated distribution here. There is also an area of western Norway which corresponds with the core area of the cruciform brooches of the earlier phase's Types Mo and Skaim, and which is demarcated in this later phase through the distribution of relief brooches of the Sogne group.

The Mälar region continues to be distinguished by the use of its own forms of clasps, and is also defined by equal-armed relief brooches. Gotland can still be distinguished through relief brooches of the Gotlandic group and domed button clasps which it shares with the Mälar region. In southern Scandinavia, there is still a distinct focal zone in Denmark which is marked out by finds of a specific type of de luxe brooch. A new feature in this phase, however, is the emergence of a larger zone running east-west, in the provinces of Trøndelag and Norrland, embodied in relief brooches of what is called the Bothnian group. Partly in the same area, albeit with a slightly wider range of distribution, occur relief brooches of the northern ridge-foot group. Meanwhile there is also the basis of a more general Scandinavian area, comprising, essentially, the main Scandinavian peninsula, represented by the use of the northern plane-foot group of relief brooches and button clasps with zoomorphic decoration (type B1 v.). This area coincides, to a certain extent, with the core region of the distribution of cruciform brooches of Type Mundheim in the preceding phase, but with a difference in that the Mälar region is included in the later phase. Undecorated button clasps are found over the whole of Scandinavia, and distinguish this area from the neighbouring regions to the south and the east.1

The distribution patterns of the selected types of dress-accessory show that some clusters are detectable as early as phase D1, consolidate in phase D2a, and continue on to the end of the Migration Period. Further marking or definition of areas appears, conversely, at times to emerge within the period, only to disappear again. The most intense definition of regions was a feature of phase D2a. This phase is distinguished, as noted above, by the near-explosive introduction of regional and local types of dress-accessory (see also Hines 1993a:91–5). Although this sort of differentiation continues into the concluding phase of the Migration Period, the quantitative range of such marking seems to be receding. This is a trend that can be followed into the first phase of the Merovingian Period.

5.1.2 Distribution patterns in the Merovingian Period

The most striking feature of the distribution patterns of the beginning of the Merovingian Period when compared with the concluding phase of the Migration Period is the fact that overall there are fewer jewellery finds in Norway. Both the number of finds and the range of types of dress-accessory are markedly reduced. Another feature that characterizes this phase is that brooches of one sub-type, conical brooches with geometrical ornament, occur throughout the area in which conical brooches are found. This area stands out as a core area with its centre of gravity in northern Scandinavia, and particularly in Norway, where there are only a few regional sub-types. On the other hand a tendency towards regional variation within the overall area has been demonstrated in respect, for instance, of the distribution of conical brooches with Style II decoration. These are found primarily in the southern half of Norway, as well as in Lofoten-Vesterålen. There is also some suggestion of a particular version of zoomorphic decoration on

1 Clasps are also found to a certain extent in specific regions of Finland, and through scattered examples in the Baltic lands and in Schleswig-Holstein (cf. Ch. 4.2.3), as well as in Anglo-Saxon England, to which I shall return (Ch. 7.1.3).
Map 5.6 The distribution of types of dress-accessory of Phase 1 of the Merovingian Period. The contrastive shading shows the core areas of different types of dress-accessory.
the conical brooches to the west and north within the southern zone. Another regional preference is the use of paired brooches, which in Norway seems to be most common in its northern half, from and including Møre og Romsdal, at this date (cf. Ch. 4.3.1.4). This is in fact a tendency that can be traced further into the following phase of the Merovingian Period (Vinsrygg 1979:53). Compared with the preceding phase, there is also a more pronounced marking of the area of northern Norway now, through the strong presence of conical brooches along the coast of Helgeland and in Vesterålen. South-western Norway, including Rogaland, by contrast, moves into the background, forming a very conspicuous contrast compared with the prominent distribution of specific types of dress-accessory here at the end of the Migration Period.

The conical brooches help to distinguish a separate area of northern Scandinavia which proves to be one of four principal or core areas of distribution of particular types of jewellery of this phase in Scandinavia (Map 5.6). These four areas are marked, to a great extent, by different types of jewellery, but the boundaries between them are far from watertight, as finds of ‘southern’, ‘south-eastern’ and ‘eastern’ Scandinavian types made in Norway show. Similar ‘cross-finds’ are known, as has been observed, in the other core areas as well. As in the previous phase, in some measure the same types of dress-accessory were used in different areas, but the fact that different types of dress-accessory are now used to a greater extent in areas where it was normal, in the Migration Period, to see different forms of the same artefact-type can be interpreted as an increasing inclination to mark difference. This is possibly the clearest change from the preceding phases. At the same time, a degree of reservation has to be maintained with regard to the use of beads and dress pins, since, as has been noted, there are dress pins with polyhedral heads, opaque glass beads in shades of red and orange, and barrel-shaped wound beads of copper-alloy wire throughout Scandinavia (Nielsen 1987:59; 1997:189–93; Vinsrygg 1979:51–2; Ørsnes 1966:164–5, 185). The representation of some of the four regions can also be, to some extent, traced through from the two last phases of the Migration Period into the Merovingian Period. I return to this point below, when I attempt to summarize the trends that have become visible through the geographical and contextual analysis of the jewellery evidence.

5.1.3 Overview of development throughout the Migration Period and at the transition to the Merovingian Period

The patterns of distribution of the selected types of dress-accessory through the four different phases reveal that differentiation was increasing as the Migration Period progressed. The beginning of this period is characterized by the same types of jewellery being found over large areas: the three categories of the cruciform brooches, the clasps and the relief brooches had a partially, although not completely, overlapping distribution (Map 5.2). The southern half of Norway emerges as a core area for the distribution of spiralled clasps and of the same types of cruciform brooch (Type Lunde, and in part also Type Eine). Relief brooches were produced in this phase that are found primarily in south-western Scandinavia: in the south-west of Norway, the south-west of Sweden, and on the Danish islands. The design of both cruciform brooches and clasps was on the whole quite uniform at this date. Variation in terms of the design of cruciform brooches is limited, and the clasps, which are dominated by spiral clasps, were virtually standardized in appearance. This was not the case, with the relief brooches, which are, by contrast, characterized by great variation. This variation is, however, a feature of the individual specimens and so can scarcely be systematized in any scheme of sub-types. What one may just about discern, nonetheless, is a movement towards a differentiation in the distributions of brooches with rectangular headplates in the north, and semi-circular headplates in the south. It is also possible to note some local preferences in the design of relief brooches and clasps, although the overall picture is one of an overlapping distribution of relatively homogeneous types of dress-accessory in the context of an extensive western Scandinavian zone.

Jørgensen (1994a) has also drawn attention to the existence of a line of division between west and east in brooch-forms in the Nordic countries, with the western area consisting of Norway, Denmark and western Sweden, and the eastern area of eastern Sweden, including Öland and Gotland, along with Bornholm and Finland. He claims that there had been an earlier trend towards regional differentiation in the eastern area than in the western, because there are several local forms of bow brooch in the former. The study conducted above has shown that this claim needs to be moderated, since it is possible to glimpse trends towards both local and limited regional marking in the western area as well. In relation to the following phase, the range of dress-accessories is relatively limited, and the demarcation of areas in phase D1 is also far from
observably strong compared with what would happen in the next phase of the Migration Period. There is a dramatic change in the picture as a result of the ‘explosion’ that took place in phase D2a, when the quantity of items of jewellery increased substantially, while at the same time a considerable number of specifically local and regional variants of types of dress-accessory came to dominate the distribution patterns. The spatial distribution of relief brooches, clasps and cruciform brooches no longer strikes one as distinctly western Scandinavian, since all of the artefact-types in question are now found across eastern Sweden and, in a few cases, on Gotland and Öland. At this date a number of groupings can be seen in the distribution pattern which appear, to some extent, then to be reproduced or maintained throughout the remainder of the Migration Period and into the first phase of the Merovingian Period. Some of them can also be traced back, in some form at least, to the first phase of the Migration Period. The demarcation of both the northern and western zones of Norway that had its origin in phase D1 carried on in this phase. The distribution pattern is nevertheless extremely complex: there are overlapping distributions of the various types of dress-accessory and also regional or local variants of the same general type; there are combinations of different regional types being worn together; and there are a large number of individualistic forms, particularly amongst the cruciform brooches – all of these factors help to make the identification of definite regions a complex matter because they obscure the boundaries between core areas of distribution for specific types. Several common forms of button clasp were, for instance, in use over large areas of Scandinavia at the same time as certain areas also had their own peculiar types of clasp (cf. Ch. 4.2.3.5).

The concluding phase of the Migration Period, phase D2b, is characterized to a great extent by the maintenance of this state of affairs by means of the continuation of regional demarcation. All the same, there was a reduction in this phase not only in the overall quantity of items of jewellery but also in the number of different types. This contributes to the impression that regional demarcation is a little less intense than in the previous phase. It is to be stressed, nevertheless, that this impression could be attributable to the fact that this study concentrates selectively and deliberately on types of dress-accessory that are found primarily within Norway. Since the most numerous type of all, the cruciform brooch, went out of use at this juncture, this may distort or influence the view of the remainder of Scandinavia. Even though cruciform brooches were no longer in use, the whole of Scandinavia continues to appear relatively homogeneous because the use of relief brooches is now common to much of the main Scandinavian peninsula. Button clasps were also used in most regions of Scandinavia.

It is possible that the manufacture of a specific type of de luxe brooch that is found principally within Denmark (cf. Ch. 4.2.2.9) may be interpreted in terms of increased distancing, or a need to make this area more distinct. The form or shape of the Danish de luxe brooches is, however, closely related to that of the relief brooches with a rectangular headplate and rhomboidal footplate, although in place of relief decoration the brooches are adorned with filigree and cloisonné ornament and/or inlaid semi-precious stones. These styles of decoration are also found on, inter alia, Continental jewellery, although the designs, like those on the relief brooches, are in Style I (Jørgensen 1994a:533). Filigree and cloisonné and/or inlaid semi-precious stones are relatively commonly found in Scandinavian contexts otherwise, perhaps particularly in the decoration of sword pommels and scabbard mouthpieces (Lindqvist 1926:55–87). There are also several relief brooches of phase D2b, such as the brooch from Hauge in Klepp,2 which show the influence of filigree decoration. The occurrence of these brooches does not, in my view, constitute evidence of a sharp break or the manifestation of a complete separation between Denmark or the south-west of Scandinavia and the remainder of Scandinavia, but perhaps, instead, an attempt to define a distinct form within, yet still connected to, a wider Scandinavian zone of culture. This interpretation may be supported by the fact that the use of clasps associates the area of southern Scandinavia with the principal Scandinavian peninsula (cf. Ch. 4.2.3.5). It is possible that this represents the seed of the development that came about in the following phase, phase 1 of the Merovingian Period, with its growing differentiation within Scandinavia (cf. below). At the same time, it is still possible to identify some continuity in local manifestation through details of relief brooches; in Rogaland, for instance, where there are similarities between brooches of the Rogaland group and individualistic brooches (referred to by Meyer as ‘three late works’: cf. Ch. 4.2.2.7). Another feature which bears witness to the maintenance of demarcation is that, both in the preceding phase and in this phase, Rogaland stood out with a particularly dense distribution of items of jewellery, and with the presence of relatively many concurrent types and variants of dress-accessory.

---

2 B4000.
Despite that, the marking/stressing of a west–eastern oriented area, between central Norway (Trøndelag) on the one hand and Norrland and parts of Svealand/ the Mälar region on the other, appeared as something new (cf. Ch. 5.1.1). This connection might also be said to have been anticipated by the earlier distribution of cruciform brooches of Type Mundheim in both of these areas in phase D2a – although that type has a more coastal distribution, along the coastal regions of Norway and the Gulf of Bothnia.

At the beginning of the Merovingian Period there are further changes. What is typical of this phase is the presence of distinct brooch-types that divide Scandinavia into four core regions (cf. Ch. 5.1.2). It is to be emphasized, however, that what this concerns is core areas, not areas with exclusive and complementary ranges of types of dress-accessory. Nielsen’s (1991:fig. 2) distribution map makes it clear that there is a degree of overlap between the areas in this phase too. There are, for instance, small equal-armed brooches in both southern and eastern Scandinavia (Jørgensen 1994a:533) and, as already noted, there are also finds of this type from the southern half of Norway (Ch. 4.3.2). Furthermore, since bead necklaces and dress pins with polyhedral heads are common types over the whole of Scandinavia, they can be said to go against the divergent tendency between the four core areas. The primary impression is nevertheless one of the demarcation of larger and fewer regions than in the preceding pair of phases.

There are certain ‘threads’ that may be traced through the patterns of distribution with regard to the development of regional marking in the course of the period under investigation. One feature is the fact that the marking out of certain areas can be followed through several of the phases. This is the case in northern Norway, which becomes distinct in phases D1 and D2a, in Rogaland where regional demarcation can be demonstrated in both phases D2a and D2b, and in the Mälar region where such manifestation started to develop in phase D2a and continued into the first phase of the Merovingian Period. There is also an area in Sogn og Fjordane that stands out in the last two phases of the Migration Period and can additionally be traced back, at least in part, into phase D1. The areas of concentration with locally specific variants and/or principal types, in Jutland and Gotland respectively, are in evidence in both phase D2a and D2b, while on Gotland the range of distinctive forms of jewellery continued in phase 1 of the Merovingian Period. The definition of a wider region of western Scandinavia can also be followed through an extended period of time, from the beginning of the Migration Period and through phase D2a. Another tendency is for areas to be marked out in one period, only to ‘disappear’ subsequently. The demarcation of Västergötland in phase D2a, with its own types of cruciform brooch, is an example of this. In some cases, such demarcation then ‘re-appears’ at a later date. This was the case in Rogaland, for instance, which at the transition from the Roman Iron Age to the Migration Period stood out as a core area for the geographical range of Nydam/cruciform brooches of Type Kvassheim. The demarcation of this area disappeared in phase D1, but in the two final phases of the Migration Period it is precisely this area which stands out through what can be described as a ‘massive’ concentration of distinctive forms of dress-accessory. At the beginning of the Merovingian Period, such regional manifestation here (apparently) disappears again: from this date only common forms of dress-accessory, such as conical and small equal-armed brooches (of Merovingian-period form: see Jørgensen 1998:43, 75, 171, 175), occur here. Another example is northern Norway, which is distinguished through its own cruciform brooches of phases D1 and D2a, but where such demarcation apparently disappeared in phase D2b, only to re-appear, in part, through the use of paired brooches in phase 1 of the Merovingian Period.

Since I have only analysed a selection of types of dress-accessory, we cannot exclude the possibility that there were also instances of demarcation through other forms of jewellery, which could result in certain areas standing out during more phases than what has been observed here; or that more regions would be discernible than this study has revealed. This appears – as I shall discuss further, below – to have been the case in Norrland, for instance (Åberg 1953:34–79, cf. Chs. 6.2 and 7.1.1, below). It is also possible that regional and local variation in the study area could be traceable though other artefact-types, such as the bucket-shaped pots (Engevik 2007; Kristoffersen and Magnus 2010). Here, the aim of this study is neither to undertake an exhaustive mapping of all divergent cultural features that can be found in this period, nor to provide an overview of the distribution of all types of jewellery in Scandinavia. The objective is, as has been emphasized earlier, to investigate changes that may be linked to the marking of identity through the use of costume in the chosen period. Even though the core evidence represents a selection, and so provides only a limited insight into the use of dress-accessories for this purpose within Scandinavia, I would assert that the study does, nonetheless, reveal general tendencies in respect of how this phenomenon played its part in this period.