

Contents

Preface — V

Abbreviations — XV

Section A: The West-Scandinavian Coast

Einar Østmo

- 1 The History of the *Norvegr* 2000 BC–1000 AD — 3**
 - 1.1 Geography, technology, power, and time — 4
 - 1.2 Norway – northern or narrow? — 5
 - 1.3 The sea-route along the western coast of Norway — 11
 - 1.4 Navigation aids — 18
 - 1.5 Sea-route archaeology — 22
 - 1.5.1 Stone Age craft — 23
 - 1.5.2 The Late Neolithic and the Bronze Age — 25
 - 1.5.3 Early Iron Age — 36
 - 1.5.4 Late Iron Age — 45
 - 1.6 Conclusion — 50
 - References — 51

Mari Arentz Østmo

- 2 Intraregional Diversity. Approaching Changes in Political Topographies in South-western Norway through Burials with Brooches, AD 200–1000 — 67**
 - 2.1 Introduction — 67
 - 2.1.1 Landscape and communication — 70
 - 2.1.2 A conceptual framework — 73
 - 2.1.3 Material and methods — 78
 - 2.1.4 Centres and socio-political structure as point of departure — 80
 - 2.2 Sub-regionality – a diachronic perspective — 82
 - 2.2.1 Roman Iron Age, phase C1b–C2 c. 210/220–310/320 — 82
 - 2.2.2 Roman Iron Age, phase C3 c. 310/320–400 — 84
 - 2.2.3 Migration Period c. 400–550 — 89
 - 2.2.4 Merovingian Period c. 550–775/800 — 98
 - 2.2.5 Viking Age c. 750/775–1000 — 105
 - 2.3 Sub-regional trajectories — 114
 - 2.3.1 Karmsund on the outer coast — 115
 - 2.3.2 Jæren — 116

- 2.3.3 The Fjord districts — 119
- 2.3.4 The heathland/moorland — 119
- 2.4 Changing sub-regions, changing political landscapes? — 120
 - 2.4.1 Explaining lacunae — 120
 - 2.4.2 Intra-regional diversity and parallel societal development — 122
 - 2.4.3 ‘Similar difference’ and connectivity — 124
- 2.5 Concluding remarks — 127
- References — 129
- Appendix: Overview of brooches found in burial context — 137

Section B: Rulership in First-Millennium Scandinavia

Dagfinn Skre

- 3 Rulership and Ruler’s Sites in 1st–10th-century Scandinavia — 193**
 - 3.1 Germanic ruler terminology in the first millennium AD: *þiudans*, *dróttinn*, *konungr*, and monarch — 196
 - 3.1.1 The poetic evidence on Scandinavian rulership — 198
 - 3.1.2 Scandinavian rulers’ terminology in the first millennium AD — 201
 - 3.2 Peoples, lands, and rulers — 203
 - 3.2.1 Svíar and Svíþjóð — 204
 - 3.2.2 Danir and Danmörk — 204
 - 3.2.3 Norðmenn and Noregr — 205
 - 3.2.4 Tribes, amalgamation, and monarchies, the 1st–10th centuries — 206
 - 3.2.5 Politics and territories, 1st–10th centuries — 208
 - 3.3 Residences of the Skilfingar, Skjöldungar, and the Vestfold Ynglingar — 210
 - 3.3.1 The Skilfingar in Old Uppsala — 211
 - 3.3.2 The Skjöldungar in Lejre — 213
 - 3.3.3 The Vestfold Ynglingar in Borre and Skiringssal — 214
 - 3.3.4 Three royal lineages, four royal sites — 217
 - 3.4 The societal transition c. 536–650 — 218
 - 3.4.1 Two generations of ruler’s sites — 219
 - 3.4.2 Economic and climatic upheaval — 219
 - 3.5 A tentative synthesis — 221
 - 3.5.1 From *þiudans* to *dróttinn* and *konungr*, 1st–6th centuries — 222
 - The 1st-generation sites of the *dróttinn* — 222
 - The 2nd-generation sites of the *konungr* — 224

- Germanic Europe: Scandinavia, Britain, and the Continent — **226**
- 3.5.2 From *konungr* to monarch, 6th–10th centuries — **229**
 - The instability of kings and royal lineages — **229**
 - Kingship and heroic warrior ideals of the north: the Scandinavian trajectory — **231**
- 3.6 Epilogue: The stability of the rulership institution — **232**
- References — **234**

Frode Iversen

- 4 Between Tribe and Kingdom – People, Land, and Law in *Scandza* AD 500–1350 — 245**
 - 4.1 Introduction — **245**
 - 4.1.1 Research questions and outline — **246**
 - 4.1.2 Background — **248**
 - Tribes — **249**
 - Law provinces — **250**
 - Kingdoms — **252**
 - 4.2 Material and methods — **255**
 - 4.2.1 The onomastic evidence – ethnika of *Getica* and *Widsith* — **260**
 - Getica* — **260**
 - Widsith* — **261**
 - 4.2.2 The archaeological evidence – cemeteries, graves, and hillforts — **263**
 - 4.2.3 The royal manors and sites — **271**
 - 4.3 Results — **276**
 - 4.3.1 Location and size of the early tribes in *Scandza* — **277**
 - 4.3.2 Hillforts and tribes — **280**
 - 4.3.3 Royal sites and manors — **285**
 - 4.4 Discussion – between tribe and kingdom — **290**
 - References — **298**

Jan Bill

- 5 The Ship Graves on Kormt – and Beyond — 305**
 - 5.1 Ship burials – the archaeological dimension — **307**
 - 5.1.1 Monumental ship burials – an *ad hoc* definition — **307**
 - Sizes of ships in graves — **310**
 - Sizes of mounds — **312**
 - Sizes of ship settings — **314**
 - 5.1.2 The Storhaug and Grønhaug ship graves — **315**
 - Storhaug — **315**

- Grønhaug — 318
- Dendrochronological connections to other ship graves — 322
- 5.1.3 Known monumental ship graves in northern Europe — 323
 - Distribution patterns in time and space — 329
 - Ritualization and ritual patterns in the monumental ship mound graves — 331
- 5.1.4 Known monumental ship settings — 340
- 5.2 Ship graves in written sources — 345
 - 5.2.1 Late traditions, examples nos. 5–19 — 353
 - 5.2.2 Early traditions — 356
 - Húsdrápa — 356
 - Beowulf — 361
 - The Vita of St. Gildas — 367
 - 5.2.3 King lists and royal pedigrees in the time and region of the monumental ship burials — 368
- 5.3 Towards a synthesis — 372
 - 5.3.1 Monumental ship burial rituals – an interpretation — 372
 - 5.3.2 The ship graves on Kormt – harbingers of a new era — 381
- References — 382

Section C: The High-Medieval Royal Manor

Anette Sand-Eriksen, Erlend Nordlie

- 6 The High-Medieval Royal Manor Complex — 395**
 - 6.1 Discovering the Avaldsnes Royal Manor — 397
 - 6.2 Excavating the Avaldsnes Royal Manor — 398
 - 6.3 Before 1250: topography and archaeology — 401
 - 6.4 The high-medieval manor complex: physical remains — 403
 - 6.4.1 Main phases — 407
 - Phase 1 – AD 1247–c. 1300 — 407
 - Phase 2 – c. 1300–68 — 408
 - Phase 3 – 1368–1698 — 410
 - 6.4.2 A60010 – Northern building — 410
 - Walls and floor — 413
 - Western portal — 415
 - Northern entrance — 416
 - 6.4.3 A60030 – Connecting wall — 417
 - 6.4.4 A60020 – Southern building — 423
 - Outer masonry walls — 423
 - A60024 – Drainage — 425
 - Cellar and doorway — 427

- A60021 – Ground floor partitions, internal walls — 430
- A60022 – Fireplace and oven — 435
- A60023 – Buttresses? — 439
- A60025 – Privy — 443
- 6.4.5 The 1368 attack and 15th–17th-century continuity — 444
- 6.5 The Avaldsnes high-medieval royal manor complex — 447
 - 6.5.1 New light on certain details of St Óláfr’s Church — 454
- References — 457
- Appendix: Radiocarbon datings — 461

Alf Tore Hommedal

- 7 The Royal Edifice at Avaldsnes: A *Palatium* for the King or a Residence for his Canons? — 465**
 - 7.1 Historical setting and theoretical framework — 466
 - 7.1.1 What is a royal *palatium* in the 13th and 14th century? — 466
 - 7.2 Norwegian parallels to Avaldsnes — 468
 - 7.2.1 Bergen – the royal residence at Holmen with the Church of the Apostles and the collegiate — 469
 - The (second) chapel of the Holy Apostles — 471
 - The two stone halls: The great “Stone Hall” or “*Breiðastofu*” (Håkonshallen) — 472
 - The two stone halls: The smaller “Yule Hall” — 478
 - The first royal lodgings in stone, from the mid-13th century — 480
 - The curtain wall with at least two gatehouses — 481
 - The residential stone keep, “the keep by the sea” — 481
 - The second royal lodging in stone, from the late 13th century — 483
 - The (third) chapel of the Holy Apostles — 484
 - Summing up the royal 13th-century *palatium* in Bergen — 487
 - 7.2.2 Oslo — 487
 - The royal residence with the St Mary church and the collegiate — 487
 - A keep construction initiated by the later St Óláfr Church in Oslo? — 489
 - 7.2.3 Tønsberg – the royal residences, in the town and at Tønsberghus, with the St Michael Church and the collegiate — 494
 - The royal edifice or *palatium* located in the northern part of the town centre — 494

- The royal edifice or *palatium* at the castle of Tunsberghus — 494
- The Royal Chapel of St Michael — 497
- The residential brick keep, “Teglkastellet” — 497
- Bredestuen — 498
- 7.2.4 Other west-Norwegian edifices — 498
 - Utstein as a royal manor — 498
 - Bergen – the archbishop’s residence — 502
 - Stavanger – the bishop’s residence — 506
 - The other Norwegian episcopal edifices — 509
- 7.3 Conclusion: Avaldsnes in light of other Norwegian princely edifices — 512
- References — 514

Erik Opsahl

- 8 Avaldsnes’ Position in Norway in the 14th Century — 517**
 - 8.1 The Norwegian kingdom in the 14th century — 519
 - 8.2 The royal travels and royal building complexes in Norway in the 13th and 14th centuries — 525
 - 8.3 The use of the royal chapel organisation in the 14th century — 532
 - 8.4 Avaldsnes as a juridical and economic centre in the 14th century — 534
 - 8.5 The Hanseatic League and Avaldsnes — 536
 - 8.5.1 The burning of Avaldsnes — 539
 - References — 543