Making a point: A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands (2200-250 BCE)

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Abstract: In this contribution, we discuss the nearly two hundred later prehistoric pins from bronze and iron that were found in the Netherlands, and range in date between the Late Neolithic and the Late Iron Age (2200-250 BCE). For all these pins, we provide information on form, dimensions and decoration, that help to identify local and supra-regional styles in dress-fasteners. Production techniques and compositions of the bronze alloys used are – where available – also discussed. The diachronic and systematic review of their contexts of recovery and object associations, allow to identify diachronic trends in pin use and pin deposition, which means that both local and supra-regional traditions in identity expression using pins can be identified.

Keywords: pins, Bronze Age, Iron Age, ornaments, The Netherlands, identity expression, supraregional contacts, metalwork, European contact networks, later prehistory

1. Introduction: The point of pins

For most of Bronze Age Europe, pins were part of ornament repertoires integral to everyday dress and ceremonial adornments.1 While they were presumably made mostly of organic materials in the past, this paper will discuss the series fashioned in bronze recovered from the Netherlands. Ranging from humble, small and undecorated examples to lavish display items, pins were important objects to the prehistoric communities that crafted and wore them. Principally, findspots in funerary contexts (cf. Innerhofer 2000, 15) indicate that their primary use was to fasten pieces of clothing (Kubach 1977: 2; Říhovský 1979: 2).

Often placed in the area of the shoulder(s)2, they may have fastened a cloak-type piece of clothing (Kubach 1977: 552). In rare cases, their position or state suggests usage as a hair pin3 or as a fastener of a funerary shroud (e.g. Kubach 1977: 562). Differences in whether pins occur near one or both shoulders could signal either different garments or different ways of wearing the pins (Bergerbrandt 2007: 89). This strong functional component to pin usage explains why pins are present in graves across gender categories.4 Despite this commonality, the distribution of Bronze Age pins can suggest differentiated usage across genders in their quantity (e.g. in cases where graves of males more often have a single rather than a pair of pins; Kubach 1977: 559, but see 565) or in their appearance (e.g. the Nierstein-Hummertal-Type pin seems to exhibit variability in form across genders; Kubach 1977: 99, 559, Taf. 5; cf. Laux 1976: 1). Similarly, certain pin types may be restricted to certain age-sets (cf. Bergmann 1987: 45, in Sørensen 1997: 99).

Bronze Age pins evidently embody both a practical function and the potential to inform us about past social categories, such as age and gender. Moreover, the pins represent a category of bronze frequently left with the person as part of the funerary attire,5 resulting in a dataset that is reasonably well-distributed across time and numerically substantial for the Netherlands (we report on 196 pins and pin fragments). Thus, not only are pins from various sub-phases of the Bronze Age represented, but it is also clear that pins – as part of the externally visible elements of outer garments – were particularly susceptible to diachronic stylistic variation. Innerhofer (2000: 15) aptly wrote: “Der Bronzezeitliche Mensch hatte

5 Cf. Lohof 1994: 104, 109 Fig. 6; Innerhofer 2000: 15; Louwen 2021: 125 Table 5.5.

In addition to the potential of Bronze Age metal pins to provide temporal scaffolding to our narratives of their significance, the pins also display sufficient regional variation of form and style to allow discussions of non-local versus local origin of both the object and wearer. For the later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands, none of the above potential advantages of studying bronze pins has yet been capitalized on.

There are several valid reasons why Dutch bronze age pins have yet to be thoroughly studied. First, their small size makes them more susceptible to deterioration in burial environments compared to larger objects, such as axes. This also implies that pins are mostly found during planned excavations of funerary contexts, where sufficient care is taken and/or sieving techniques are applied. Pins from other contexts are limited in number for the period before the wider availability of metal detectors (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2022a: 58). Second, pins found outside closed contexts and not in association with datable finds can be difficult to date. Similarly, pin fragments and pins that do not display distinct form or decoration are also difficult to date precisely. As organic remains are rarely preserved with the pins (but see Butler 1990: 61), there are generally no options for radiocarbon dating. Another limiting factor is that later prehistoric bronze pins have never been analyzed or published as a comprehensive corpus. In general, publications have focused on pins from a few remarkable funerary contexts or notable stray finds (Butler 1958).

In this contribution, we aim to present a corpus of 195 later prehistoric metal pins that – while not exhaustive (cf. Innerhofer 2000: 16 note 10) – is representative enough to discuss the types and shapes once prevalent in the Netherlands. For these pins, we will focus on their (supra)regional affinities and identify trends in the ways they were disposed (e.g. as votive offerings, in hoards, as part of funerary contexts or within settlements). We will begin by focusing on the methodological specifics of the corpus under study.

2. Methods and data: Dutch Bronze Age pins

2.1 Temporal frame
The oldest pin in the corpus (DB 2232) dates to the Late Bell Beaker period (c. 2400-1950 BCE; Lanting & Van der Plicht 1999/2000: 90) and provides a Late Neolithic starting point for our chronological scope. The latest pins in our corpus date to the MIA (particularly Kropfnadeln; Section 3.16). The fact that several of the latter have forms known previously in bronze but now executed in iron showcases the transition from the Bronze Age to the Iron Age and the persistence of long-term transitions of use.

The number of pins known for the respective periods, however, varies significantly. For the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods (c. 2500-1800 BCE), no more
than two pins are known in total. In the first half of the Middle Bronze Age (MBA-A; c. 1800-1500 BCE), the number increases slightly to 10. As is clear from Fig. 1, the majority of pins by far originate from the MBA-B (c. 1500-1100 BCE; n=52) and Late Bronze Age (c. 1100-800 BCE; n=50). The start of the Iron Age (c. 800-600 BCE) is represented by only 17 pins. A few pins (n=10) may even span into the Middle Iron Age (c. 600-400 BCE).

2.2 Contextual background

A preliminary analysis of the recovery contexts for the pins in the present corpus reveals that a large number lack sufficient contextual data (n=48; unknown/stray). These often include pins acquired by museums in the early 20th century, chance surface finds and, albeit in modest number, finds made by metal detectorists. Even the municipality of recovery is unknown for 13 pins, severely hampering any scientific study of regional patterns. Moreover, for the category of finds from rivers (n=26), there is a subset of 11 objects, acquired prior to 1952 by the Leiden and Nijmegen museums, for which only the given antique dealers’ provenance is known. Particularly for objects acquired through certain antiques dealers, a non-Dutch origin for objects claimed to originate from Dutch rivers needs to be considered.\(^9\)

In addition to imprecise categories and the lower actual number of pins from wetland locations, Fig. 2 indicates that few other contexts yielded more than a handful of pins. Settlement sites and peatland deposits figure slightly more prominently (n=10 and 12, respectively), but intentional deposition in hoards across various contexts was generally uncommon. As stated in the Introduction, pins are frequently recovered from both tumulus interments and from urnfield graves in significant number (38 and 36, respectively).

2.3 Supra-regional distribution

The distribution pattern of Bronze Age pins in the Netherlands aligns well with the palaeogeographical reconstructions for that period (Fig. 3). A limited series of pins were recovered from the western coastal beach barrier dunes and several from the Pleistocene outcrop known as Texel’s Hoog (Woltering 1979: 63-70). The adjacent peatland zones are lacking in finds and presumably habituation, due to their high groundwater tables at the time. Only on the former creekridges of West-Friesland (Van Zijverden 2016: esp. 64 Fig. 3.13, 66 Table 3.1) were conditions apparently favourable for settlement (cf. Roessingh 2018: esp. 302-8). The four pins seemingly recovered from the active salt marsh area are partly Early Iron Age in date (DB 3007), indicating that the palaeogeography shown is inadequate, partly of unreliable provenance (DB 396, DB 397) or of unclear type/age (DB 174).

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Fig. 3. Distribution map of later prehistoric pins (indicated by blue flags) in the Netherlands. The underlying map shows the palaeogeographical reconstruction of the Netherlands around 1500 BCE (after Vos et al. 2011: 53). Brown areas represent peatland zones, yellow to orange hues sandy landscapes, light blue riverine deposits and light green coastal marshes. Drawing: S. Arnoldussen, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
A substantial number of pins have been recovered from the Fries-Drents boulder clay plateau (cf. Fokkens 1998: 112-13) of Saalian origin (Van Smeerdijk et al. 1995: 453; De Mulder et al. 2003: 197, 338), testifying to a strong correlation between cemetery locations and pin finds (cf. Hessing & Kooi 2005: 641; but see Kooi 1979: 1-7, 17). Similarly, the numerous barrow landscapes (cf. Bourgeois 2013: 4 Fig. 1.3) and urnfields (cf. Verlinde & Hulst 2010: 81 Fig. 32) of the central Veluwe district (comprising Saale-period displaced riverine deposits and coversand; Van der Meer et al. 1985; De Mulder et al. 2003: 206, 349) have yielded a substantial series of pins (cf. Hulst 2010: 61). The coversand landscapes of the southern Netherlands, comprising Weichselian coversand interspersed with stream and brook valleys (De Mulder et al. 2003: 323, 349-50; Gerritsen 2003: 17-18), are the third main area where pins have been found. Here too, pins seem to originate mostly from the numerous barrow and urnfield locations.\(^{10}\)

A series of pins was recovered from the fluvial landscapes of the Meuse River, specifically along its upper reach in the Limburg province. Another concentration of pins was noted in the central eastern river area, where Rhine and Meuse precursors left higher levees and cresvasse splays (cf. Arnoldussen 2008: 57-61). Only minor numbers of pins were found in the peatland zones adjoining the previously discussed geogenetic regions: for example, in Drenthe, a single pin (DB 165) may have been deposited in the peat zones directly beyond the boulder clay plateau. Similarly, in the southern Netherlands, pins have been found in stream valleys and rivulets.\(^{11}\)

2.4 Terminology and classification

The terminology used to describe and classify pins essentially relies on the morphological traits of the head and shaft of the pin (cf. Innerhofer 2000: 15). The pin’s shaft can have a uniform cross-section (e.g. round, square, faceted, daisy wheel-shaped (Rosettenförmig; cf. Říhovský 1979: 4) or a varied cross-section (e.g. changing from round to square, torqued). Pin shafts can be straight, or intentionally bent or kinked (e.g. Kropfnadeln, gezachte Nadeln). Additionally, some shafts show perforations.

The heads of the pins display a wide array of basic geometric shapes, ranging from globular, (inverted) conical and vase-shaped to disc-shaped in form. Some heads were formed through plastic deformation, for example with the top part rolled back onto the shaft (e.g. Rollenkopfnadeln), flattened elongated heads that roll back towards the pin (e.g. Scheibenkopfnadeln) or heads ending in wire loops bent back to wind around the shaft (e.g. Steifennadeln). Some pins also have elaborate, open-worked heads (e.g. wheel-headed pins/Radnadeln or quoit-headed pins). Usually, there is a clear distinction between the shaft of the pin and its crowning terminal (head), but with some gently tapering types, this distinction is more difficult to establish. In cases where the transition from head to shaft is thick or decorated, the term ‘neck’ may be more appropriate (in German: Hals; Kubach 1979: 1).

In various volumes of the Prähistorische Bronzefunde on Bronze Age pins, authors have applied their own versions of a hierarchical classification system relying on a combination or enchainment of morphological parameters (cf. Laux 1976: VII-XII). Innerhofer (2000: 15) applies a classification tree, starting with whether a perforation is present, moving on to the nature of the cross-section of the shaft, followed by the shape of the head and any decoration. Říhovský (1979: 2) starts with the shape of the head, followed by the shape of the shaft, perforations and decoration. Kubach (1977: 1) primarily used the form, decoration, production technique (and sometimes dimensions and proportions) to identify his pin types, forms and variants. Nordez (2017: 131 Fig. 43) classified pins by the shape of the head, the form of the shaft and decoration (op.cit.: 126-29). In this paper, we prioritize formal descriptive criteria over rigid categorisation into a closed hierarchical system of types and subtypes/variants, but we align with common German typological labels where possible (fig. 4).

In addition to the terminology used for pins, we also discuss a small group of objects presumably used as clothes fasteners in the Bronze and Iron Ages. While functionally serving a similar purpose, their technology is better characterized as fibulae rather than pins (cf. Laux 1973: 3, 51-52; Heeren & Van der Feijst 2017: 9, 27-28). These include spectacle and spiral fibulae from the Late Bronze Age (Laux 1973: 50) and some leech-type fibulae from the Iron Age (cf. Bietti Sestieri & Mcnamara 2007: 17). While not claiming to reflect the full corpus of morphological variability of later prehistoric bronze pins from the Netherlands, the main morphological concepts – and their clarification – in Figure 4 may help the reader visualize what is meant by abstract labels such as Vasenkopfnadeln, Scheibennadeln or quoit-headed pins.

3. Data: Later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands

In what follows, we first briefly address the limited information available on the later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands. After this, we present the corpus as groups based on formal similarities, for which we discuss the contextual and chronological implications. Fragments that escape characterization and/or dating – as well as some exotic pins for which the provenance is unclear – will be examined at the end of this section.

\(^{10}\) Cf. Theunissen 1999: 48 Fig. 3-9; Gerritsen 2003: 126 Fig. 4.5; Louwen 2021: 24 Fig. 1.9, 125 Table 5.5, 133-34.

\(^{11}\) E.g. DB 920, DB 921, DB 1414, DB 2814.
Fig. 4. Schematic overview of the morphological terminology of the pins and traditional (German) terminology. The top register addresses variation in shaft form and cross-section. The second register lists the main categories of head shape: disc, conical, biconical, ovoid and inverted conical. The third register shows examples of paddle-shaped heads, vasiform heads, globular to ovoid heads and rolled heads. The lowermost register displays the shape of ring-headed pins and the variation in decorative repertoire for wheel-headed pins. Drawing: S. Arnoldussen, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
Following the presentation of the corpus, we discuss composition and supra-regional affinities in Sections four and five, respectively.

3.1 Pin technology and production

The information available on the manufacturing process of later prehistoric pins in the Netherlands is limited. For a small series of simple pins, hammering a bronze rod into shape (in some cases, supplemented by plastic (de)formation of the head (e.g. Rollenkopfnadeln, Scheibennadeln) might have sufficed in terms of functionality. Conversely, some pins (e.g. DB 2829) appear to have been fashioned from strips of bronze that have been hammered into a circular cross-section. The symmetry and formal variation observed in different head types, however, suggest that most pins would have been cast either in bivalve moulds or using the lost-wax method (cf. Novotná 1980: 185). The scarcity of bivalve moulds for pins suggests that the latter was the most common method (cf. Kubach 1977: 2; Novotná 1980: 184-85, Taf. 53). Only one half of a bivalve mould (DB 2537; Fontijn et al. 2002) for casting a wheel-headed pin has been identified in the Netherlands. However, casting seams were observed on both wheel-headed pins (DB 440, DB 1504) and a ball-headed pin (DB 2059). From wider European comparanda, it can be inferred that pin templates were occasionally added to moulds for other object types, such as knives (cf. Novotná 1980: Taf. S3 nos 1514-15). For example, half a bivalve mould, used solely for a multi-disc-headed pin, was found in Spindersfeld (Germany; Dresscher 1958: Taf. 28).

For some pins, construction involved the combination of a shaft and a head, which was either separately crafted or cast-on. Examples include disc-headed pins whose disc had become dislodged12 or cases where there are differences in alloy between the shaft and head (e.g. DB 440, DB 1504) and a ball-headed pin (DB 2059). From wider European comparanda, it can be inferred that pin templates were occasionally added to moulds for other object types, such as knives (cf. Novotná 1980: Taf. S3 nos 1514-15). For example, half a bivalve mould, used solely for a multi-disc-headed pin, was found in Spindersfeld (Germany; Dresscher 1958: Taf. 28).

3.2 Paddle-head pins (Schleifennadeln and Scheibennadeln)

This category comprises pins whose heads have been hammered into a flat shape (or left flat if produced from strips/bars). Amongst these, Sleifennadeln have a round shaft usually bent into a curve. The tip of the head is drawn out into the diameter of a thin wire and is coiled back onto the shaft directly underneath the head. Kubach (1977: 44-52) classifies these as Typ Horkheim pins (Kubach 1977: Taf. 1 nos 9-10), which are prevalent in the upper reaches of the Rhine and Donau rivers (op.cit.: Taf. 86A). Kubach (1977: 46) dates the Typ Horkheim pins to the ältere Frühbronzezeit (c. 2025-1900 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

3.2.1 Sleifennadeln

(DB 2232) St. Walrick, gemeente Heumen, Gelderland. Tumulus I, Phase 2

L.: 12.5 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5 cm. Very corroded when found and drawn (Fig. 5). Incomplete (head mostly missing) with fragments of the wire wrapped around the shaft (cf. Butler 1990: 71).

Find circumstances (after Lanting & Van der Plicht 1999/2000: 90): Found in 1953 in a tumulus excavated by W. Glasbergen for the BAI. The period 2 grave was oriented between WNW-ENE and NW-SE (deviation: c. 35° from the E-W line), 3.2 m long and 1.1 m wide. No traces of a coffin or a stone cist. The position of the corpse could still be identified: placed with bent knees, lying its left side with the head to the SE). Tooth enamel from the molars was recovered from the location of the head. The pin was located near the neck.

Museum: Collection BAI (now GIA). In 1990 and 2000, the pin still had wire around the shaft, but at present it is cleaned from corrosion, has no head, wire or point and is glued onto a wooden support.

Map reference: c. 183/421.5.

References: Groenman-van Waateringe 1966: 72-80, Fig. 41; Butler 1990: 71; Lanting & Van der Plicht 1999/2000: 90.

Parallels: Butler (1990: 71) listed a comparable (also headless) pin from Donauberg Tumulus 12 in the Haguenau forest, Alsace (Gallay 1981: 114, no. 275, Fig. 4IA: I-4). It is possible that the singular disc-shaped heads at Hooghalen-Schattenberg (DB 2017) and from the Hijkerveld hoard (DB 2683) were originally attached to an organic shaft (of wood or bone). For some pins in the ball-headed group, such as the Bombenkopfnadeln and Wollmesheim pins, it is clear that their heads were cast onto the shaft.13

12 E.g. DB 1307, DB 2017, DB 2683.
3.2.2 Scheibennadeln
Scheibennadeln have a large, thin paddle-shaped head (spoon-, oval- or round- to diamond-shaped) standing vertically on a straight shaft. The top of the flattened-out head is rolled up and then decorated. According to Laux (1976: 39), these pins were popular in southern Germany, Switzerland and Bohemia in the Early to Middle Bronze Age. Within his area, Laux knew of only one undecorated Lübische Scheibennadel with a thin paddle-shaped head (without a rolled end, now missing: Laux 1976: 39 and Taf. 19 no. 191). Laux (1976: 19) dates this undecorated example to the Zeitstufe Wardböhmen-Kolkhagen (MBA-B) consistent with most of the Lübische Scheibennadeln. The Lübische Scheibennadeln (La 192-219), with broad rounded to rhombic-shaped heads, are sometimes elaborately decorated and have not yet been found in the Netherlands. Kubach (1977: 52) divided the Scheibennadeln into Nadeln mit unversiertem Scheibenkopf (Kubach 1977: 52-55, Taf. 1 nos 11-30, Taf. 3 no. 35) and Nadeln mit versiertem Scheibenkopf (Typ Dexheim; op.cit.: 55-68, Taf. 2 nos 31-33), with the latter not known in the Netherlands. The rolled-up section on spoon-shaped or oar-shaped heads usually constitutes half or slightly more than half of the total head width, but on wider (diamond-shaped) heads, this “roll” is proportionally smaller. Kubach (1977: 54) classified and dated the undecorated Scheibennadeln to the Leitformen der ältere Frühbronzezeit (c. 2025-1900 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1). Similar Scheibennadeln are known from Southern Bavaria too: Ruckdeschel published several undecorated examples, all from Early Bronze Age graves (Ruckdeschel 1978 (II): Taf. 8 no. 18, Taf. 34 no. 13), dated by Holste (1953: 13) to the Straubinger Kultur (Early Bronze Age).

(DB 2829) Gemeente Overbetuwe, Gelderland
L.: 6.2 cm; w. head: 1.77 cm. Pin with oval head, curled on top and folded over the entire width. Reverse shows a distinct stepped outline. Straight neck, bent shaft. Patina: green. Not seen by the authors, drawing after photo PAN (Fig. 6).

Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.
Collection: Private.
Map reference: c. 186/436 (administratively placed).
References: PAN-00000979.

3.3 Pins with swollen shafts and perforations (Lochhalsnadeln)
Lochhalsnadeln is the term for a group of pins with a perforated swelling on the (decorated) upper body or neck. Most researchers subcategorize the Lochhalsnadeln based on a) the shape of the head, b) the shape of the neck or c) the squarish or round shaft (Řihovský 1979: 20-21). The largest subgroup of Lochhalsnadeln has a symmetrical neck swelling and horizontal perforation. These pins were popular in large parts of central Europe in the Middle Bronze Age, ranging from Hungary to the Oberpfalz, and extending to the Main area.14 The smaller subgroup with asymmetrical swelling and horizontal perforation apparently developed from the Nadeln mit Seitenose found within the same regions (Řihovský 1979: 21). The Lochhalsnadeln are found in both female and male graves, although sex determination is often challenging (Innerhofer 2000-2001: 32).

The four Lochhalsnadeln from the Netherlands (Fig. 7) can be divided into (a) pins with an asymmetrical swelling on the neck with round perforation (DB 230), (b) pins with symmetrical swelling and round perforation (DB 1407) and (c) pins with a symmetrical swelling and vertical perforation (DB 1414, DB 1764).

(DB 230) Haamstede, gemeente Schouwen-Duiveland, Zeeland. Kop van Schouwen, western dunes
L.: 9.55 cm; diam. head 1.8 cm; shaft at swelling: 0.4 x 0.65 cm. Pin with conical head; asymmetrical swelling on shaft (diam. oval to rectangular), through which runs a small round horizontal perforation. Patina: blackish, with reddish encrustation in places.


References: Butler 1956: 73-76, Fig. 16, Butler 1958: 14-18, Pl. II no. 1; Laux 1976: 50, no. 238; O’Connor 1980: 7, List 39 no. 3; O’Connor 1989 (i): 78 and (ii): 461, List 39 no. 6.

Parallels: Kubach (1977: Taf. 4 no. 55) lists an undecorated but almost symmetrically swollen example from Tumulus 6 (Ziegenberg, Schneiderwald), which he classifies as Typ Paarstadt (op.cit.: 85) and which has a head identical to DB 230. Říhovský (1979: 22, Taf. 3 no. 32) provides a comparandum with a flatter head from Vedrovice, Bez. Znojmo, Mähren. A decorated example was found in the Smed(e)rov hoard (for- merly Bohemia, now district Plzeňjih, southwest of Prague) in the Czech Republic (Moucha 2005-2007: 261 no. 209, Taf. 187 no. 11; cf. Richly’s 1894: Taf. XXXIII no. 14). The Smed(e)rov hoard also contained six bronze war chisels (Streitmeissel), four knives with bent blades (Rebmesser), a winged axe, a spearhead and a bronze fragment (now missing; Moucha 2005-2007: 261 no. 209). Another parallel, albeit with decorated shaft, was found in the rich grave Hügel 1 from Baven, Kr. Celle, Bonstorfer Heide, Niedersachsen, which also contained a Wohlde sword with four rivets in situ, a round heeled dagger (also with four rivets in situ), a flint spearhead, 17 hollow-based flint arrowheads in the Baven grave are dated to the Soëgel/Wohlde period (Laux 1976: 50). The Haamstede pin can therefore be dated to the Soëgel/Wohlde period, 1575-1475 BCE (Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: Fig. 1). The Typ Paarstadt pin from Ziegenberg was also found in association with a Sögel blade and nicked-flanged axe. It is dated by Kubach (1977: 86-89) to his Stufe Lochham (our MBA-A, c. 1575-1475 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

References: Hermans 1865: 54, 56, 142, 201, Pl. XXI no. 5.

Parallels: Kubach 1977: Taf. 7 nos 123-26 (weitere Lochhalsnadeln mit rundem Schaft, without heads). Two undecorated stray examples are listed: Ku. 123, from Rhein bei Mainz at the Rettergsaue; Ku. 124, from Lautenhausen, Gem. Friedenwald, Kr. Hersfeld-Rotenburg, Hessen, from a sandstone packing together with a flanged axe. Two others were derived from funerary contexts: Ku 125 from a grave find from the “Schlitzer Land”, Vogelsbergkreis, Hessen; Ku 126 from within a mound at Rainrod, Gem. Schotten, Vogelsbergkreis, Hessen, containing several graves whose inventories have unfortunately been mixed up (Kubach 1977: 124).

Dating: The associated flanged axe of Lautenhausen is dated to Stufe Lochham (our MBA-A, c. 1575-1475 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

(A) DB 1407 Berlicum (Stokhasselt), gemeente St.-Michielsgestel, Noord-Brabant. ‘Germaansche begraafplaats’


Find circumstances: Presumably found by Mr. van Spanendonck whilst excavating six tumuli, but not from the tumuli proper (Hermans 1865: 54).


Parallels: Kubach 1977: Taf. 4 nos 238-41, Taf. 24 no. 238, Taf. 58C no. 1).

Examples found outside eastern Europe should be considered imports. According to Butler (1956: 74), the Haamstede pin “came down the Rhine, as an incident of travel or trade”. Whatever the case, the Haamstede pin is the westernmost example of a Lochhalsnadel with a perforated asymmetrical swelling on the shaft. Laux (1976: 50) suggests that such pins must have been imported to the Lüneburgerheide and Niedersachsen via the Elbe and Aller Rivers.

Dating: The dagger, the Wolde sword and the hollow-based flint arrowheads in the Baven grave are all typical of the final phase of the Soëgel/Wohlde period (Laux 1976: 50). The Haamstede pin can therefore be dated to the Soëgel/Wohlde period, 1575-1475 BCE (Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: Fig. 1). The Typ Paarstadt pin from Ziegenberg was also found in association with a Sögel blade and nicked-flanged axe. It is dated by Kubach (1977: 86-89) to his Stufe Lochham (our MBA-A, c. 1575-1475 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

(B) DB 1414 Smakter Spurkt, gemeente Venray, Limburg. Part of Overloon hoard

L.: 15.9 cm; max. diam. shaft 0.45 cm (diam. Swelling: 0.6 cm); diam. head 0.5 cm. Pin with crude elongated vertical perforation (possibly punched in while hot), around which the shaft is swollen. Slightly expanded head (nail head). Tip recently broken off. Patina: fine dark green, with patches of light green corrosion where the objects were in contact (Butler 1990: 74-76 for further information).
Find circumstances: Found in 1934 by Th. Peeters during construction works in the “de Klippen” with two swords (one of which a blade fragment), two spearheads (one decorated) and a nicked flanged axe in a stream valley (Fontijn 2003: 95 Fig. 6.7). Laux (1976: 48) identifies this as a Typ Bargloy pin, which has only two counterparts: the Bargloy pin itself (Oldenburg, Niedersachsen; found with a Sögel blade; loc.cit.) and a gold Lochhalsnadel from Buddinge (Sjælland, Denmark; found with a Valsømagle spearhead, among other objects; Lomberg 1959: 89-90).

Museum: Noordbrabants Museum (‘s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 8374.
Map reference: c. 195.7/396.4.
References: O’Connor 1980 (i): 79, List 39 no. 4; Butler 1990: 74-76, Find no. 12, Fig. 15 no. 6 with further references; Fontijn 2003: 93, 103.
Parallels: Innerhofer (2000 (II): Taf. 24 nos 1-8) presents nail heads with decorated shafts where the eye is in the middle of diamond-shaped decoration on the neck, for example the pins of Hundersingen-Fuchschloch and Würtlingen (Württemberg, Germany).
Dating: c. 1575-1475 BCE or end of Sögel-Wohlde period, based on the associated long rapier and the unusually long flanged axe with a slight, ‘proto-palstave’ stopridge (Butler 1990: 76; Fontijn 2003: 202). This is supported by the association of Sögel blades and Valsømagle spearheads with the international comparanda (supra).

(DB 1764) Ommerschans, gemeente Ommen, Overijssel. From bog hoard
L.: 8.66 cm; th.: 0.2 x 0.2 cm; th. at perforation: 0.4 cm.
Rectangular cross-section, slightly flattened and broken off at lower end; elongated perforation surrounded by a swelling, as if the opening had been punched through (cf. DB 1414). Butler (1990: 87) is unsure whether this should be considered a pin or a needle (presumably due to its small size).

Find circumstances (from Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 6): ‘Found around 1896, by Geert Remmelts, near to the Ommerschans at Witharen (exact location unclear). According to the description, the hoard contained a ceremonial (68.3 cm) aggradged dirk blade of the Ommerschans-Flugresciant type, laying on a platform of birchwood stakes, in peat on sand, onto which a series of smaller items were placed: a razor (DB 1759; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 6-7), two chisels, fragments of rods or pins, fragments of rough (sheet) bronze and several flint and stone artefacts.’

Map reference: c. 223.2/511.6.
Parallels: Gedl (1983: 101-2, Taf. 33 nos 484-502) describes a small group of 16 pins with blunt tops and an elongated opening (eye) through the neck a few centimetres from the top (Unverzierte Nadeln mit länghlicher Durchlochung (Nähnadeln). Their openings were made by punching through with a sharp object, causing the neck to widen at that spot.

References: Butler 1990: 86-90, Fig. 21 no. 7 (= find no. 17, with further references); Fontijn 2001; Amkreutz & Brattinga 2017: 20; Amkreutz & Fontijn 2017.
Dating: The group of ceremonial dirks of the Ommerschans-Flugresciant type is currently dated to c. 1500-1350 BC (Butler 1990: 91; Fontijn 2001: 105, 263; Amkreutz & Brattinga 2017: 20; Amkreutz & Fontijn 2017: 52).

3.4 Pins with rolled-up heads (Rollenkopfnadeln), Fig. 8
This group of roll-headed pins (Fig. 8) comprises pins whose shafts end as a flattened strip that is curved into a spiral eyelet at the top (Rollenkopfnadelen). Roll-headed pins were used in the Aegean, Italy and western and northern Europe, but are most concentrated in central Europe, where no fewer than 175 specimens have been identified (Říhovský 1979: 145, with further references). Their simple morphology complicates stylistic dating and, according to Laux (1977: 51), Kubach (1977: 536-37) and Říhovský (1979: 145), they occur throughout the Bronze Age and Hallstatt periods. For the Dutch examples, securely dated contexts suggest a use from possibly the 16th century (DB 1217) and certainly between 1500 (DB 2425, DB 2827) and 600 BCE (DB 2024). Despite their simple form, some distinctions can be made based on size, shape and decoration. Kubach (1977: 534, nos 1350-93 and Tafeln 82-84) divides the pins into two types: roll-headed pins with a straight shaft that has no evident bend between shaft and head, thus with the eyelet placed eccentrically in relation to the shaft; and roll-headed pins where the shaft bends outwards before the head, meaning the eyelet sits directly above the shaft. Warmenbol (1992: 106) argues that the latter group may be later in date (i.e. Bronze Final I-IIa).

(DB 1217) Weerdinge, gemeente Emmen, Drenthe.
Kamper Esch, Tumulus 2. “Lady of Weerdinge”

Find circumstances: Found in 1926 by Van Giffen (1930: 76-80) during the excavation of a secondary coffin grave (extended inhumation), as one of four radially arranged graves around a barrow with a post circle (Type III; Glasbergen 1954b: 19, 23, 27). The primary phase consisted of a sod-built tumulus with a Type III post circle. The primary grave was disturbed. Excavated Feb.-Mar. 1926 by A.E. van Giffen. Found with
two *Radnadeln* (DB 1215, DB 1218) and a disc-headed pin (DB 1216, with pointillé-embellished longitudinal grooves on lower shaft). A bronze ring of thin wire (DB 1219), a bracelet (DB 1220) and an amber bead necklace (DB 1221) were found in the same grave. These finds could be indicative of high-status female attire from the Hessen region (Butler 1990: 61).

**Museum:** Drents Museum (Assen), inv. No. 1926/III.3.

**Map reference:** c. 256.52/538.75.

**Documentation:** Verslag 1926: 12, no. 15.

**References:** Van Giffen 1927: 305-6, 1944: 476-77; Van Giffen 1930: 76; Abb. 66-67; Felix 1945: 439, Abb. 51-56, Taf. VI; Glasbergen 1954b: 27, Fig. 48a; Butler 1969: 114-16, Afb. 51, Pl. 12; De Laet & Glasbergen 1959: 124, Fig. 50 no. 11; Butler 1990: 59-61, 60, Fig. 7 no. 3, with further references.

**Parallels:** Only a single parallel is known for a roll-head pin with daisy-wheel lower shaft from Bruneck (Italian Tirol; Innerhofer 2000 (II): Taf. 16 no. 8). No additional parallels are known in Laux (1976); Kubach (1977), Říhovský (1979) and Novotná (1980). Shafts of daisy-wheel cross-section are known from Balloërveld Tumulus 4 (DB 1243, 1244), the Schuilingsoord Tumulus (DB 123), Hijken-Hooghalen Tumulus 5 (DB 1068), Nistelrode (DB 1894) and Ootmarssum (DB 2554).

**Dating:** Based on the associated wheel-headed pins (DB 1215, DB 1218), a date at the end of the MBA-A and start of the MBA-B (c. 1600-1400 BCE) is plausible. This aligns with the suspected age for the post circle barrow (cf. Bourgeois 2013: 34) and dates for pins with daisy-wheel cross-sections (DB 123, DB 1068, DB 1243; Infra, cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 24 no. 238; Kubach 1977: Taf. 4 no. 50; Říhovský 1979: 4). The Tirolan comparandum is dated by Kubach (1977; Innerhofer 2000 (I): 75) to his *Stufe Locham* (c. 1575-1475 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

**DB 2414** Geldermalsen, gemeente West Betuwe, Gelderland. Eigenblok Oost, Site 6

L.: 8.8 cm; w. head: 0.6 cm; w. shaft: c. 0.3 cm. Rolled head of rectangular cross-section, ‘pouched’ grooves on both faces below head. Rectangular cross-section for c. 3.3 cm, then transitioning to a round cross-section at the lower end of the shaft. Patina: dark brown, laboratory treated.

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Fig. 8. Pins with rolled-up spiral head terminals (*Rollenkopfnadeln*) from the Netherlands. DB 1217: Weerdinge; DB 2024: Eigenblok Oost; DB 2024: Valkenswaard; DB 2827: Gemeente Overbetuwe; DB 3184: Ewijk (after photo RAAP); DB 2708: Huissen; DB 1867: Hijken; DB 174: Dorkwerd. Drawings: DB 2024: ROB (now RCE); DB 2414, DB 2827, DB 3184, DB 2708: H. Steegstra; otherwise, Butler Archive, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
Find circumstances: Found during excavation with a metal detector at Eigenblok Site 6, a settlement site (ROB, inv. no. 21432, put 72, vlak 1, spoor 1) near – although not directly associated with – a three-aisled house plan.
Collection: RCE (formerly ROB), inv. no. 21432.
Map reference: c. 142.075/429.090.
References: Hielkema 2001: 339-40, Fig. 6.

Parallels: Kubach offers over a dozen parallels (Kubach 1977: Taf. 82-84) for the Eigenblok specimen, while in Laux (1976: Taf. 25: 259-68) there are only two: his Typ Hohne from Kr. Celle: La. 259 from Bleckmar and La. 264-265 from Wardböhmens (from Hügelgraber 2 and 4 respectively).

Dating: A contextual date range for the Eigenblok occupation based on radiocarbon dates spans the period of 1500-1295 BCE (Jongste 2008: 107). Laux’s Rollenkopf pins of Variante Hohne mostly come from graves without dateable grave goods, but the specimens from Wardböhmens are dated by Laux (1976: 14) to his Zeitgruppe Bonstorf and following Zeitgruppe Berg-Bleckmar i.e. jüngere zu frühe Urnenfelderzeit, c. 1400-1200 BCE (Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

(DB 2024) Valkenswaard, gemeente Valkenswaard, Noord-Brabant. Urnfield ‘Het Gegraaf’
L.: + 9 cm. Pin with rolled head.
Museum: Present locus unknown.
References: Brunsting & Verwers 1975: 71 Fig. 11 no. 51.
Parallel: The pin from Schoonaarde, Belgium (Warmenbol 1992: 106 and Fig. 58 no. 103) is a close morphological parallel.

Dating: The Valkenswaard urnfield is dated to LBA-EIA (Brunsting & Verwers 1975: 71; Gerritsen 2003: 296) or c. 1100-600 BCE (Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2827) Gemeente Overbetuwe, Gelderland
L.: +4.23 cm; head: 0.61 x 0.89 cm, rolled head of rectangular section; diam. shaft: 0.25 cm. Faint incised lines on top segment of shaft (imitation of torqued shaft?). Patina: brown with green patches. Find circumstances: Found with metal detector. Not seen by the authors, description and drawing from PAN photo.
Collection: Private.
Map reference: c. 186/436 (administratively placed).

Reference: PAN-00001225.
Parallels: Two comparable pins – albeit lacking decoration – are known from the Han-sur-Lesse cave (B; Mees 1988: 133 Fig. 4 nos A66.158 and A66.160) and another from Schoonaarde (B; Warmenbol 1992: 106 and Fig. 58 no. 103). A pin with similar ribbing/torquing on the upper shaft is known from Kobéřice (CZ; Řihovský 1979: Taf. 41 no. 917).

Dating: Warmenbol (1992: 106) dates the Rollenkopfnadeln with bent back neck to Bronze Final I-IIa (c. 1325-1125 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2708) Huisen, gemeente Lingewaard, Gelderland. Agropark II
L.: 12.4 cm; w. head: 0.5 cm; th. head: 0.33 cm; diam. shaft 0.3 cm. Patina: bronze, with blue/green in pits. Shaft: slightly bent. Not seen by the authors, description and drawing from photo.
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector during 2008 ARC excavation on the dump from Pit 2 of Site 20.
Collection: Provinciaal Depot voor Bodemvondsten Gelderland (PDBG).

Dating: Unclear. Most metalwork from this excavation could be dated to the Roman Period (Daleman 2011). However, a Late Bronze Age spearhead (op.cit.: 107, 206 no. 210/1) was found within 100 m from the pin suggesting that older material was also present. If prehistoric, a date of c. 1325-1125 BCE, based on Warmenbol’s estimate for the Rollenkopfnadeln with bent back shaft (1992: 106), is most plausible.

(DB 3184) Ewijk, gemeente Beuningen, Gelderland.
Keizershoeve
L.: 7.5 cm. Undecorated bronze pin with thin (>0.1 cm) flat hammered head that was bent over to form a roll with the same width. Dimensions round shaft: 0.25-0.3-0.25 cm. Patina: bronze colour.
Find circumstances: Found in 2016 during a RAAP excavation at Ewijk – Hekkeslag, from a MBA pit/well (S223).
Collection: RAAP, inv. no. VI72.
References: ’t Hart & Norde 2019: 83-84, Fig. 11.1.
Parallel: -

Dating: MBA, based on the context (’t Hart & Norde 1984: 84), presumably MBA-B (cf. DB 2024).
**3.5 Wheel-headed pins (Radnadeln) (Figs 9a-b)**

Wheel-headed pins, or Radnadeln, are defined by their flat, open-worked, circular heads (diam.: c. 4-7 cm), which display a combination of inner and outer circular motifs connected by several ‘spokes’ (Fig. 4, lower register; cf. Kubach 1977: 129). Previous typologies of Radnadeln have primarily used the number and placement of the ‘spokes’ as the main distinguishing criterion (Holste 1939: 54, Taf. 31 no. 1; Kubach 1977: 129). Frequently, there is a loop, triangle or crown of varied shapes positioned at the head’s apex. These pins were cast in a two-piece mould, as indicated by casting seams on various examples. While most wheel-headed pins are decorated on both the front and back (Doppelseitig profiliert), examples where only the front is decorated are also known, primarily from the Lüneburg area (einsichtig profilierte Lüneburgische Radnadeln; Laux 1976: 15-39). The doppelseitig profilierte Radnadeln are common in Westfalen (Südholz 1964: 59) and in central and southern Germany (Kubach 1977: 129-249). A limited series of wheel-headed pins is known from Poland (n=4; Gedl 1983: 40-41, Taf. 5 nos 1-4) and only two from Denmark (Aner & Kersten 1976 (II): 175-76, Taf. 110 no. 1264A; op.cit. 2008 (XII): 189, Taf. 86 no. 599).

Wheel-headed pins were presumably used to fixate and adorn female costumes, and the number of pins varies by region. In Westphalia, eastern Hessen and Lower Saxony, one Radnadel was usually sufficient. In southern Thuringia, however, two were needed, which were recovered on the chests of the deceased with their heads facing towards the shoulders (Kubach 1977: 222). Unfortunately, almost nothing is known about how wheel-headed pins were worn in Westphalia. In the grave from Bad Driburg-Pömbsen, for example, the Radnadel was located under the skull of the deceased (Bérenger 2008: 58). Wheel-headed pins are dated by Kubach (1977: 173) to his Jüngere Hügelgräberzeit, Stufe Traisbach (i.e. 1400-1325 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). This also fits the date range suggested for the Danish examples (Per. II, or 1475-1325 BCE; Aner & Kersten 1976 (II): 175-76; Bergerbrandt 2007: 113). A mould for wheel-headed pins from Oss has been dated to 1530-1295 BCE (DB 2537; Jansen & Arnoldussen 2007: 23).

Two wheel-headed pins, one with textile attached, from the Tumulus 2 central interment. (DB 1215) L.: 23 cm; w.: 5.6 cm. Pin with oval wheel-head and incised decoration. Four inner spokes and eight outer spokes (Fig. 4; Type C) with an oval loop on top of head. Cast in a two-piece mould. Incised decoration (nicking) on the face of the head. Piece of woven material 1.2 cm wide wrapped around the neck of pin. (DB 1218) L.: c. 21 cm (broken); w.: 5.6 cm. Pin with oval wheel-head, four inner spokes, eight outer spokes (Fig. 4; Type C) with an oval loop on top of head. Cast in a two-piece mould. No visible surface decoration, nicking. Surface more corroded. Fragment of shaft missing.

Find circumstances: See DB 1217 (supra).

Museum: Drenths Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1926/III.1 and inv. no. 1926/III.4, respectively.

Map reference: c. 256.52/538.75.

References: Verslag 1926: 12 no.15; Van Giffen 1927: 305-6, Van Giffen 1930: 76, Abb. 66-67, Van Giffen 1944: 476-77; Felix 1945: 439, Abb. 51-56, Taf. VI; Glasbergen 1954b: 27, Fig. 48a; Butler 1969: 114-16, Afb. 51, PL.: 12; De Laet & Glasbergen 1959: 124, Fig. 50 no. 11; Butler 1990: 59-61 (find no. 4), 60 Fig. 7 no. 4, with further references.

Parallels: Kubach lists various examples of similarly decorated oval wheel-headed pins of the Type C configuration of 'spokes', which he classifies as his Typ Unterbimbach (Kubach 1977: 166-79). Such pins are common in the Fulda-Werra area but seem to concentrate in Osthessen (op.cit.: 174, Taf. 92A). Laux lists numerous comparanda from Niedersachsen (Laux 1976: Taf. 3: 24, 28 and 31, Taf. 4: 34, 38, Taf. 5: 47, Taf. 6: 51, 53, 55, 58, Taf. 7: 60, 63, 65).

Dating: Kubach (1977: 174) dates the wheel-headed pins of Typ Unterbimbach to his Stufe Traisbach (i.e. 1400-1325 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). This aligns with the suspected age for the post circle barrow (cf. Bourgeois 2013: 34) and the date of associated pin DB 1217.

References: Jaarverslag 1887: 3 A.A; Bruijn & Bunte 1961: photo 60.

Parallels: Kubach has published various round wheel-headed pins with a Type C configuration of 'spokes'. Based on the projected shape of the broken top loop, DB 1508 could be either a Type Kling (parallel-sided loop: Kubach 1977: 179-82), a Typ Unterbimbachs (oval loop; op.cit.: 166-79) or Doppelradnadeln mit convergierender Öse (oval loop; op.cit.: 182-93). Excessive flashing is also preserved on pin nos 309 and 324 (Kubach 1977: Taf. 25 and Taf. 26, respectively).

Dating: The German comparanda are placed in Stufe Traisbach (i.e. 1400-1325 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) according to Kubach (1977: 181, 192).

(DB 2176) Molenhoek, gemeente Mook en Middelaar, Limburg

L.: (16.9 cm); w. 6.4 cm; w. shaft: 0.35 cm. Pin, with round wheel-head with incised decoration (diam. outer wheel: 7.2 x 6 cm), Type C configuration of 'spokes' (Fig. 4, bottom) and remains of loop (unknown shape; broken in antiquity). The lower part of the shaft is presumably missing. Patina: green, with bronze colour visible in damaged areas.

Find circumstances: Found in February 1995 in a construction pit, after careful sieving of about 1 m³ of soil. Restored from fragments by the ROB.


Map reference: c. 188/418.

References: PAN-00056825; De Jong & Van Suylen 1995: 7-10, Fig. 1.1; Van de Graaf 1995/1996: 152.

Parallels: Incised decoration is known on pin of both Types, Unterbimbach (e.g. Kubach 1977: Taf. 23 nos 288, 295-96, 25 no. 307) and Kling (op.cit.; Taf. 25 nos 315-17).

Dating: See DB 1508.

(DB 2278) Limburg, Roermond surroundings (dredge)

L.: 24.8 cm; diam. wheel: 6.5 cm. Round, wheel-headed pin with Type C configuration of 'spokes' (Fig. 4, bottom). Well preserved, despite three breaks in the wheel and bent-over top loop. Patina: light green.

Find circumstances: Found during dredging activities near Roermond.


Map reference: c. 196/358.

References: -

Parallels: Based on the shape of the top loop, it would classify as Kubach's Doppelradnadeln mit convergierender Öse (Kubach 1977: 182-193 Taf. 26-29, esp. Taf. 26 no. 322 and Taf. 27 nos 332, 334).

Dating: See DB 1508.

(DB 1508) Nijmegen, gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland. Hunebergen

Pin, with round wheel-head (diam. 6.6 cm) and remains of loop (unknown shape; broken in antiquity). Type C configuration of 'spokes' (Fig. 4, bottom). The lower part of the shaft is missing (broken off recently?). Flashing from casting in two-piece mould still present in many locations. Patina: dark, glossy green.

Find circumstances: Found in 1887.

Museum: Museum Het Valkhof (Nijmegen), inv. no. AC 40.

Map reference: c. 190.1/430.7.
Fig. 9a. Wheel-headed pins in the Netherlands. DB 1215 & DB 1218: Weerdinge; DB 2278: from river (no further provenance); DB 2176: Molenhoek; DB 1508: Nijmegen; DB 2331: Roermond (during Maaswerken); DB 440: Nijmegen (River Waal). Drawings: DB 2278: Stadsarchief Roermond; DB 2331: Ton Lupak; DB 2176 & DB 1508: H. Steegstra; otherwise, Butler Archive, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
Roermond, gemeente Roermond, Limburg. Isabellagriend

L.: +8.8 cm; diam. wheel: 5.5 cm; th.: 0.2 cm (worn down to 0.05 cm at one place). Weight: 17 gr. Double-sided wheel-headed pin with Type B configuration of ‘spokes’ (Fig. 4, bottom) and converging loop. Bronze-coloured, with green patina.

Find circumstances: Found while dredging near camping Donk, E. of Noordenplas, at a depth of 4-18 m under water. Drawing: Ton Lupak.

Collection: Historiehuis Roermond (Roermond), on loan from private owner.

Documentation: E-mail Annemiek Broeke (Cuypershuis, Roermond) to authors, 20 June 2022.

Map reference: c. 196/357.

References:

Parallels: Kubach (1977: 197, Taf. 32: 392-96) lists five pins of this type in Hessen, of which only one has a rounded loop on top (Kr. 395 from Hassenroth, Oldenwaldkreis, Hessen). Laux (1976: Taf. 2 nos 13-16) lists a comparandum from a barrow at Sulze (Kr. Gelle; Laux 1976: 17)

Dating: Kubach (1977: 198, 199) dates the Hassenroth type (based on associated finds in the grave of Wixhausen) to his Stufe Bessingerwald/Traisbach (i.e. 1400-1325 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

Oss, gemeente Oss, Noord-Brabant. Horzak excavation

Mould for wheel-headed pin. Fragment (11.5 x 11 cm, th.: 4 cm) of a fine clay double-sided bi-valve mould. Templates for a wheel-headed pin on one side, and arrowheads and palstave on the other.

Find circumstances: Found in 2001 in a pit containing pin-prick decorated MBA pottery, worked stone (including a quern fragment), charcoal and a flint scraper (Fontijn et al. 2002: 65 Table 1). Both clay and pin-type are uncommon for the Netherlands.

Collection: Provinciaal Depot voor de Bodemvondsten, ’s-Hertogenbosch.

Map reference: c. 164/421.

References: Fontijn et al. 2002: 67 Fig. 4.

Parallels: Moulds for wheel-headed pins are rare but not altogether lacking, and there are examples from Siebenbürgen (D) and Grub/Stillfried (AT) (see Kubach 1977: 132 note 15 and 16).
3.6 Ring-headed pins (quoit-headed pins)

Ring-headed pins have a circular, perforated flat disc head that is annular in shape. The outer diameter of the ring varies from 2.2 to 13.2 cm, while the aperture is typically less than 1.5 cm from the outer diameter. The rings generally have a flat cross-section, or occasionally rhomboid (e.g. Megaw & Simpson 1979: 250 Fig. 6.3 no. 1), triangular or round (e.g. Roberts 2007: 2 Fig. 1 nos 1-2). The shafts generally have a round cross-section. Some of the larger head-rings have geometric decoration. It is possible that most ring-headed pins were produced in southern England, but spread across the Channel into NW France (Nordez 2017: 153 Fig. 63). Notable examples include two from Prat, Dép. Côtes-du-Nord (Gallay 1981: Taf. 51: C4) and others found in grave mounds at Pleudaniel, Dép. Côtes-du-Nord, alongside daggers and arrowheads (Galley 1981: Taf. 53: B6). Gallay (1981: Taf. 49: E1) has also noted a quoit-headed pin from Saint-Mathieu-de-Tréviers, Dép. Herault in southern France. Surprisingly a quoit-headed pin also came to light in the southern Bohemian hoard Heraut in southern France. Parallels: While quoit-headed pins are common in southern English Taunton assemblages (cf. Rowlands 1976: Pl. 20; Megaw & Simpson 1979: 248; Wilkin 2017: 22-23), a close parallel in terms of overall shape – albeit much larger – is the pin from Chilton Polden, Somerset (Pearce 1983: 509 no. 633).

Dating: Based on the associated pottery and castable products, c. 1400-1200 BCE (Fontijn et al. 2002: 67). The associated charcoal has been dated to 1530-1295 BCE (Jansen & Arnoldussen 2007: 23).

3.7 Disc-headed pins (Scheibenkopfnadeln)

The group of disc-headed pins is characterized by an essentially disc-shaped head, that may display embellishments such as central bosses of varied shapes, a sunken head or flanged disc edges. Whereas most discs are flat, some bowl-shaped disc heads are also known. Kubach (1977: 395-98) has published the pins in Germany as Nadeln mit horizontaler Kopfscheibe (Taf. 65: 962-66) and Plattenkopfnadeln. Laux (1976: 58-64, Taf. 26-27) classified them as Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln. There is a great deal of variation in the thickness, width and decoration of the heads. Pins with small flat heads have been identified as Nagelkopf Nadeln in various regions (e.g. Laux 1976: 58-63; Novotná 1908: 70-72). Innerhofer classifies these pins variously as Sichelnadeln (Innerhofer 2000 (II): Taf. 13), Nagelkopfnadeln (op. cit.: Taf. 29-30), Petschaftkopfnadeln (op. cit.: Taf. 31-33), Rheinische Scheibenkopfnadeln (op. cit.: Taf. 40) or Plattenkopfnadeln (op. cit.: Taf. 41).

Due to great variation in form and decoration, no generalized dating for this group can be proposed. Kubach (1977: 397) argues that the dates range from the end of his Hügelgraberzeit (i.e. Stufe Bessingerwald/Traisbach, 1400-1325 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) to his mittlere Urnenfelderzeit (i.e. HaA2, c. 1125-1025 BCE).
BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). Laux (1976: 111-17) proposes dates for disc-headed pins that focus on his Per. IV and IV (Lüneburger Heide periode, c. 1075-800 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). The presentation of our corpus below warrants a case-by-case review of dating evidence.

In what follows, we first present the group of pins with flat heads, followed by pins for which the disc head shows a depression (as if pushed-down, hence the term ‘sunken head’) and thus has a ridge or lip on the disc’s upper surface. After this, we discuss the group of disc-headed pins with a central boss.

3.7.1 Flat disc-headed pins
This group comprises disc-headed pins for which the top of the disc is neither lowered nor decorated with a central boss (Fig. 11).

(DB 1311) Holtinge, gemeente Westerveld, Drenthe. Tumulus 5, Uffelterweg
L.: +4.4 cm. Two fragments of a pin with damaged horizontal disc head (diam.: 2.8 x +2.1 cm) and \ / neck.
Find circumstances: Found during an investigation of several burial mounds on the Havelterberg, from 28 February to 8 May 1943 by A.E. van Giffen. Recovered from Tumulus 5, at former ground level, roughly in the middle of the barrow that was encircled by a ring-ditch (tentatively suggested to be a disturbed central grave; Van Giffen 1951: 109).

(DB 2014) Hooghalen, gemeente Midden-Drenthe, Drenthe. Tumulus ‘De Schattenberg’
L. 11 cm; diam. head: 1.3 cm. Pin with horizontal disc head; part of funerary assemblage.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1950/III.11-12a.
Map reference: c. 236.16/548.19.
References: Glasbergen 1954(II): 24, 36 no. 40-2, Fig. 48b no. 6, Photo album BAI 1950a, No. 7-26; Lohof 1991b: 81.

Parallels: -

Dating: Montelius II, according to Glasbergen (1954(II): 36), or c. 1475-1325 BCE (cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2056) Haarle, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel.

**Urnfield de Schanse**

L.: 12.5 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm. Pin with flat disc head. Patina: glossy, bluish green.

**Find circumstances:** Urnfield graves excavated between 1905-1909 by GJ. ter Kuile. Found with DB 2057 (urn with cremation): concave upper part, slightly convex below shoulder carination. H.: 10 cm; rim diam.: 10 cm.

**Collection:** Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. no. 83a (old no. 0.224), acquired 1954. ROB drawings.

**Map reference:** c. 254.8/492.2.

**References:**

- Parallels: Morphologically, some parallels can be found within the category of *Nadeln mit doppelkonischem oder seitlich abgerundetem Plattenkopf* in Kubach (1977: Taf. 74: 1141; 1144).
- Dating: Based on the associated urn (Verlinde 1987: No. 570, Fig. 82 no. 570, 144) and urnfield context, a Late Bronze Age date (c. 1100-800 BCE) is plausible.

(DB 3007) Gemeente Waadhoeke, Friesland. Found on the base of a barrow

L.: 6.1 cm. Disc-headed pin; faint dashes on the back of the disc head. Patina: dark green, mottled. **Find circumstances:** Found near the base of a raised dwelling mound (Dutch: *terp*). Complete when found but broken in two pieces after picking up. Very fragile and corroded, glued by owner to keep together. Upper part of round shaft decorated with incised ribbing, lower part with vague longitudinal grooves. Some parts of shaft missing/corroded.

**Collection:** Private ownership.

**Map reference:** c. 165/578 (administratively placed).

**References:** PAN-00006519.

**Parallel:** Close parallels for the combinations of disc and ribbed neck shapes are known (e.g. Kubach 1977: Taf. 52: 696), yet never with a non-round cross-section for the lower shaft.

**Dating:** Based on the lack of comparanda and the (geological) context, a later (e.g. late Roman) date cannot be excluded.

(DB 413) Stroeërland, gemeente Barneveld, Gelderland

Fragments of pin with flat disc head (+0.8 cm) and incised transverse lines on top of shaft. Shaft presumably transitions from round in cross-section at the top to daisy-wheel-shaped in cross-section towards its lower part.

**Find circumstances:** Found in a tree-trunk coffin grave with gold wire (DB 412) and fragments of a bent bronze wire object (DB 414).

**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1929/43, purchased March 1929, ex coll. Westendorp.

**Map reference:** c. 171/464.

**References:**

- Parallels: Kubach (1977: Taf. 4: 60) presents a close match in terms of cross-section and head shape (albeit this example is a *Lochhalsnadel*). While its incomplete state allows for the postulation of a pierced shaft, there are comparanda in terms of decoration and head type in the groups of *Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln der Varianten Deimern* (Laux 1976: 63-64, Taf. 27), although these lack the daisy-wheel cross-section of the lower shaft.
- Dating: Laux (1976: 64) dates his *Variante Deimern* to c. 1325-1125 BCE but, based on the daisy-wheel lower cross-section and associated gold wire fragment (cf. Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2022), this pin can be dated to c. 1600-1400 BCE.

(DB 148) Nijlande, gemeente Aa en Hunze, Drenthe.

**Tumulus II**


**Find circumstances:** Found near the head of an individual in multi-period tumulus in a peripherally-situated secondary tree-trunk coffin grave. Excavated in 1939 by Van Giffen.

**Museum:** Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1939/III.15.

**Map reference:** c. 238/554.

**References:** Van Giffen 1941: 107-12, Afb. 7 no. 15; Glasbergen 1954(II): 33 no. 22-4, Afb. 48b no. 6; Lohof 1991b: 65.

**Parallels:** Morphologically, some parallels can be observed among Kubach’s *Nadeln mit doppelkonischem oder seitlich abgerundetem Plattenkopf* (Kubach 1977: Taf. 74: 1141, 1144) or Laux’s *Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln der Varianten Wohldle* (1976, Taf. 27: 326-31).

**Dating:** Lohof dates the second barrow period to the MBA-B (c. 1500-1100 BCE; Lohof 1991b: 65). Lohof dates the *Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln der Varianten Wohldle* (Laux 1976: Taf. 27: 326-31) to his Zeitstufe Bonnsdorf (op.cit.: 63; c. 1400-1325 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369, Fig. 1).
(DB 2683) Hijkerveld, gemeente Midden-Drenthe, Drenthe. From the hoard
Fragment of thin disc of bronze, without shaft (perished organic shaft?); diam.: 3.4 cm; edges fairly sharp; central perforation with burr.
Find circumstances: Found with two omega-bracelets (DB 1303, DB 1304; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 61), three longitudinal multi-ribbed omega bracelets (DB 1299, DB 1300, DB 1301; op.cit.: 68), one omega bracelet with three transverse ribs adjacent to the terminals (DB 1302; op.cit.: 71), two dome-shaped bronze buttons (DB 1305, DB 1306), fragments of several wire ornaments (DB 2682) and a sunken head-disc of another pin (DB 1307; infra). Found around 1938 in the Hijkerveld, 2-3 km north-east of the potato factory Oranje at the Oranjekanaal, close to Diependal.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), 1941/V.8(12), purchased May 1941 from J. Huizinga of Assen.
Documentation: Museumverslag 1941: 14, no. 25, 26, handwritten note Brunsting (with footnote from Van Giffen) with description of the objects.
Map reference: 226.5/547.5.
References: Butler 1965: 175, Figs 9–10; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 382–83 Fig. 4 no. 12; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2019/2020: 61, Fig. 11b.
Parallels: DB 2017 (from children’s coffin).
Dating: Based on the associated omega bracelets, a date in HaB3 (c. 925-800; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 71) can be postulated.

(DB 2017) Hooghalen, gemeente Midden-Drenthe, Drenthe. Children’s grave in tumulus de Schattenberg
Fragments of a thin bronze disc, diam.: 3.7 cm, without shaft (perished organic shaft?).
Find circumstances: Found in 1950 during excavations by Van Giffen in tumulus de Schattenberg (a three-period barrow with timber post circle). Recovered from the northernmost of two children’s coffins (Glasbergen 1954b: 36, nos 40–2, Fig. 67 no. 11), situated within a mortuary house/structure, forming the first period central interment.
Documentation: fotoalbum BAI 1950a, Nos 7–26 (26=plan).
Map reference: 236.16/548.19
References: Glasbergen 1954b: 36 nos 40–42, Fig. 67 no. 11; Lohof 1991b: 81.
Parallels: DB 2683.
Some pins from the flat disc head group can be subcategorized according to a decorative element on their lower shaft (Fig. 12), often achieved by punching or chiselling the lower shaft into a daisy-wheel cross-section, sometimes creating individually recognizable punch marks.18

(DB 1068) Hijken, gemeente Midden-Drenthe, Drenthe. Tumulus V (single-period mound)
L.: 8 cm; diam. head: 1.1 cm. Disc-headed pin; flat, nail-type head with incised decoration along the rim; below the head, bands of horizontal grooves (covering a length of 3.5 cm), followed by vertical grooves with a punctuated design (Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 227 Fig. 38 no. 19).

Find circumstances: Found beside the skull in the Tumulus 5 barrow at Hijken-Hijkerveld (op. cit.: 206-7). This NW-SE grave was the primary grave placed in a tree-trunk coffin, positioned on the old surface within a barrow delimited by a circle of small stakes.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1953/VII.19.

References: Butler 1990: 61; Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 206-7, 227 Fig. 38 no. 19.

Parallels: DB 1068 is unusual outside the Netherlands, but see Südholz 1964: 55-56, 104, No. 241, Taf. 12:2 from Wünnenberg, Kr. Büren, Westfalen, Hügel b. The pin from the Rhine near Mainz (Kubach 1977: Taf. 4: 60) is a close match in terms of cross-section and head shape (albeit a Lochhalsnadel) but it lacks the decorated top of the pin. Longitudinal grooves containing pointillé can also be found on the straight shaft of the Lochhalsnadel with disc head from Grave 5 in Wilsingen, Kr. Reutlingen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany (Pirling et al., 1980: 94, Taf. 54: 2).

Dating: According to Van der Veen & Lanting (1991: 207), the bronze pin dates Tumulus 5 to the first half of the Middle Bronze Age (MBA-A; 1800-1500 BCE), which aligns with a date of c. 1600-1400 BCE for pins with daisy-wheeled cross-sections (cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 24: 238; Kubach 1977: Taf. 4: 50; Říhovský 1979: 4).

Pin (L.: +13.8 cm) with small disc head (diam.: 0.9 cm).

Upper part of shaft decorated with incised transverse ribs; lower part with longitudinal grooves containing pointillé. Patina: dark green, with patches of pale green to almost white.

Find circumstances: Found in 1926 by Van Giffen (1930: 76-80) during excavation of a secondary coffin grave (extended inhumation), as one of four radically arranged graves around a barrow with a Type III post circle (Glasbergen 1954b: 19, 23, 27). The primary phase consisted of a sod-built tumulus with a Type III post circle. Its primary grave was disturbed. Excavated Feb.-Mar. 1926 by A.E. van Giffen. Found with two Radnadeln (DB 1215, DB 1218; supra) and a roll-headed pin (DB 1217, also with pointillé-embellished longitudinal grooves on the lower shaft; supra). A bronze ring of thin wire (DB 1219), a bracelet (DB 1220) and an amber bead necklace (DB 1221) were found in the same grave.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1926/III.2.

Map reference: c. 256.52/538.75.

References: Verslag 1926: 12 no.15; Van Giffen 1927: 305-6, Van Giffen 1930: 76, Abb. 66-67, Van Giffen 1944: 476-77; Felix 1945: 439, Abb. 51-56, Taf. VI; Glasbergen 1954b: 27, Fig. 48a; Butler 1969: 114-16, Afb. 51, Pl. 12; De Laet & Glasbergen 1959: 124, Fig. 50 no. 11; Butler 1990: 59-61 (find no. 4), Fig. 7, with further references.

Parallels: See DB 1068.

Dating: Based on the associated wheel-headed pins (DB 1215, DB 1218; supra) a date between the end of the MBA-A and start of the MBA-B (c. 1600-1400 BCE) is plausible. This aligns with the suspected age for the post-circle barrow (cf. Bourgeois 2013: 34) and date for pins with daisy-wheeled cross-section (DB 123; DB 1068; DB 1243; infra, cf. Říhovský 1979: 4; Kubach 1977: Taf. 4: 50; Laux 1976: Taf. 24: 238).

(DB 123) Schuilingsoord, gemeente Tynaarlo, Drenthe. Tumulus I, Grave C
L.: 18.1 cm, diam. head: 1.75 cm; th. neck: 0.69 cm under head. Pin: disc head; neck decorated with fine incised transverse lines; shaft decorated with longitudinal incised lines containing pointillé. Patina: light green to whitish. Shaft in fragments, embedded in plaster.

Find circumstances: Found on the left side in a coffin, with the tip of the shaft pointing towards the NNO. In the secondary coffin, Grave C of Tumulus 1, located on the edge of the so-called ‘Schipborger Meer’ (Van Giffen 1923: 193-94).

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1921/VII.11.


Parallels: See DB 1068.

Dating: Tumulus I is dated to the MBA-B (1500-1110 BCE) by Lohof (1991b: 85), which aligns with the proposed Reinecke B date (c. 1575-1475 BC; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig 1) for the pin, according to O’Connor (1980 (i): 74, List 30).

(DB 1894) Nistelrode, gemeente Bernheze, Noord-Brabant
L.: +6.9 cm; diam. top: 1.25 cm; diam. straight shaft: 0.35 cm. Lower part of the shaft is decorated with longitudinal grooves containing pointillé.

Find circumstances: In July 1958 (while levelling the ground for the construction of a new road south of the mill in Vorstenbosch), a Hilversum urn with barbed wire decoration was found, standing upright in the ground. By the time an ROB field technician arrived, the pit from which the pot originated had been closed, and needed to be reopened. Some sherds and a large fragment from this bronze pin were found in the disturbed soil. The pin was most likely buried...
Fig. 13. Pins with disc heads of the sunken head variety from the Netherlands. DB 1865: Hijken/Hooghalen; DB 2464: Deurne; DB 121: Schuilingsoord; DB 3055: Kilder; DB 1307: Hijkerveld; DB 1075: Emst; DB 2083: Tubbergen, DB 2071: Mander; DB 2680: Hubertustunnel; DB 727: Tubbergen; DB 1970: Elp. Drawings: DB 2071, DB 727: ROB (now RCE); DB 2464, DB 2680, DB 3055: H. Steegstra (DB 3055 after Van der Linde 2013: Fig. 5.7); otherwise, Butler Archive, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
with the pot. During the ensuing test-excavation, a surface area of 6 x 22 m was uncovered around the site. No other archaeological finds were made.

**Museum:** Noordbrabants Museum (‘s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 09893.

**Map reference:** c. 166/407.

**References:** Modderman 1959: 288-89, Fig. 11; Butler 1969: 46 Fig. 13, 1990: 61.

**Parallels:** See DB 1068.

**Dating:** See DB 1068. The stylistic characteristics (Hilversum sensu stricto) of the possibly associated urns were common between 1880-1660 BCE (Arnoldussen 2014: 22 Fig. 3).

(1865) **Hijken/Hooghalen, gemeente Beilen, Drenthe. Tumulus 9, Period 2**

L.: 30 cm; disc head: (1.3 cm), slightly concave. The V-shaped neck is decorated with six horizontal grooves and pointillé. At two places, where the shaft is over c. 2 cm thick, it also has grooved decoration. The shaft has broken into several pieces. Patina: dark brown.

**Find circumstances:** Found in a tree-trunk coffin placed centrally in Period 2 of a ditch-enclosed barrow (Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 219-22).

**Museum:** Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1953/VII.31.

**Map reference:** 230.25/547.83.

**References:** Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 219-22, 228 Fig. 230.25/547.83.

**Parallels:** The pin is uncommon in the Low Countries but comparable to Kubach’s Typ Reckerode pins (Kubach 1977: 263-73, Taf. 44-46). However, these pins generally have one swollen and decorated section, whereas the Hijken pin has two. The same applies to the pins classified as Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln der Varianten Klein Bünstorf by Laux (1976: Taf. 26: 310-20) and Trichterkopfnadeln Typ Haitz by Innerhofer (2000 (ii): Taf. 37), which each display only one swollen decorated zone. The pin from Točník (Innerhofer 2000 (ii): Taf. 32: 6) has a decorated head and two discrete decorated zones but lacks the swelling observed on the Hijken pin. Pins with double swollen and decorated sections are known from Eglingen, Ringelberg (Grave 3; Pirling et al. 1980: Taf. 9 F 1;4) and Mehrstetten, Böttinger Steigle (Innerhofer 2000 (ii): Taf. 35 Cl;9).

**Dating:** See DB 1867 for the terminus post quem. Laux (1976: 60) dates Klein Bünstorf pins to his Stufe Bons- torf (i.e. jüngere zu frühe Urnenfelderzeit, c. 1400-1200 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1). Kubach (1977: 271-72) places the Typ Reckerode pins in the Mittlere and jüngere Hügelgräberzeit (c. 1575-1400 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 361 Fig. 1).

3.7.2 **Disc-headed pins with sunken heads (Fig. 13)**

This group of disc-headed pins is characterized by the top surface of the disc head being situated lower than the rim, giving the impression that the surface has ‘sunken into’ the head, hence the name. While ‘sunken’ heads can be observed on specific disc-headed pins in Laux (e.g. 1976: Taf. 27: 333, 344), Kubach (e.g. 1977: Taf. 74: 1131) and Innerhofer (e.g. 2000 (II): Taf. 33: 1011, Taf. 41: 3), their low occurrence presumably did not merit discussing them as a separate group in these studies. No generalized dating for this group can therefore be proposed, but dating for individual pins will be discussed further below.

(3175) **Medel, gemeente Tiel, Gelderland. De Roeskamp**

L.: 19 cm; slightly damaged disc, diam.: 2.3 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5-0.2 cm. Upper part of shaft (5.3 cm) decorated with punchmarks and incised horizontal, diagonal and vertical lines. Lower part of shaft (13.7 cm) is grooved (daisy-wheel-shaped cross-section). Patina: mottled green/brown.

**Find circumstances:** Found with metal detector in a thin finds layer (S46) during the excavations. Description after Roessingh & Lohof 2004, 2023.

**Collection:** ADC, inv. no. V274.

**Map reference:** c. 160/435.

**References:** Roessingh & Lohof 2003-2005: Fig. 53.10.

**Parallels:** For the decoration, see Kubach (1977: Taf. 65 no. 962 (but with round cross-section of shaft).

**Dating:** MBA (Roessingh & Lohof 2004, 2023) or final MBA-B/start LBA (Roessingh & Lohof 2006: Fig. 53.10).

(2554) **Ootmarsum, gemeente Dinkelland, Overijssel. Grave (?)**

L.: 24.6 cm; diam. disc: 1.8 cm. Disc with slightly sunken head. Shaft: 1 cm below disc is undecorated; the following 5.6 cm have a round cross-section and are decorated with horizontal incised lines; the remaining 17.6 cm are daisy-wheel-shaped in cross-section with pointillé on the incised edges.

**Find circumstances:** Allegedly found in a barrow at Ootmarsum. Not seen by authors (due to not being in Overijssel provincial repository), but written card with DB number and drawing is in Butler archive at the Groningen Institute of Archaeology.

**Museum:** Present locus unknown.

**Map reference:** c. 256/490.

**References:**

**Parallels:** See DB 1068.

**Dating:** See DB 1068.
**Parallels**


Find circumstances: Found by the owner at Klein Kasteel (north of Deurne, on the edge of the Peel).

Collection: Private owner.

Map reference: c. 183.9/386.1.

Parallels: The 29.5 cm-long pin from the river Scheldt at Merendree, Noord-Brabant.

Klein Kasteel

L.: 22 cm; w.: 1.55 cm; th. head: 0.4 cm. Horizontal disc head with slight flanges on top and bottom of disc. Convex sides with two encircling grooves. Neck portion slightly V-shaped, with large number of fine encircling groove lines forming a zone 2.6 cm long. Below this, the majority of the shaft is slightly wavy in outline (and presumably daisy-wheel-shaped in cross-section), with parallel vertical grooved lines.

Find circumstances: Found by the owner at Klein Kasteel (north of Deurne, on the edge of the Peel).

Collection: Private owner.

Map reference: c. 183.9/386.1.


Dating: Tumulus I is dated to the MBA-B (1500-1100 BCE) by Lohof (1991b: 85), which aligns with the proposed Reinecke B date (c. 1575-1475 BC; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) for the pin according to O’Connor (1980 (i): 74, List 30 no. 4). The Groß-Stavern pin is tentatively dated to 1400-1200 BCE by Laux (1976: 64).

**DB 2464** Deurne, gemeente Deurne, Noord-Brabant.

Klein Kasteel

L.: 22 cm; w.: 1.55 cm; th. head: 0.4 cm. Horizontal disc head with slight flanges on top and bottom of disc. Convex sides with two encircling grooves. Neck portion slightly V-shaped, with large number of fine encircling groove lines forming a zone 2.6 cm long. Below this, the majority of the shaft is slightly wavy in outline (and presumably daisy-wheel-shaped in cross-section), with parallel vertical grooved lines.

Find circumstances: Found by the owner at Klein Kasteel (north of Deurne, on the edge of the Peel).

Collection: Private owner.

Map reference: c. 183.9/386.1.


Dating: Tumulus I is dated to the MBA-B (1500-1100 BCE) by Lohof (1991b: 85), which aligns with the proposed Reinecke B date (c. 1575-1475 BC; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) for the pin according to O’Connor (1980 (i): 74, List 30 no. 4). The Groß-Stavern pin is tentatively dated to 1400-1200 BCE by Laux (1976: 64).

**DB 3055** Kilder, gemeente Montferland, Gelderland.

Zuiderstraat 14a

Disc-headed pin, diam. disc: 3 cm; th.: 0.35 cm. Round disc with very low flanges and sunken head. A double-row cuff is attached at the bottom of the disc head where the surviving part of the shaft is located. Diam. shaft: 0.4 cm; majority of shaft broken off and missing. Patina: mottled green.


Dating: Tumulus I is dated to the MBA-B (1500-1100 BCE) by Lohof (1991b: 85), which aligns with the proposed Reinecke B date (c. 1575-1475 BC; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) for the pin according to O’Connor (1980 (i): 74, List 30 no. 4). The Groß-Stavern pin is tentatively dated to 1400-1200 BCE by Laux (1976: 64).

**DB 121** Schuilensoord, gemeente Tynaarlo, Drenthe.

Tumulus I, Grave D

L.: 23.6 cm; head: 3.3 x 0.26 cm; shaft under head: 0.67 cm. Pin: large disc head, with faint raised rim; upper part of shaft plain, lower part torqued. Patina: dark green to blackish; glossy surface. Broken shaft fragments now encased in plaster.

Find circumstances: Found in Grave D (secondary coffin from the Rhine near Mainz (Kubach 1977: 91, op.cit.: 197). The shaft of the pin from Zwijndrecht (Verlaeckt 1993: 7) proposes a final MBA-B to LBA date for the Merendree Iron Age II (find no. 15; Van der Linde 2013: 35).


References: Van der Linde 2013: 35 and Fig. 57.

Parallel: No adequate parallel yet known. In terms of disc shape, the pin from Vernaison (Innerhofer 2000 (II): Taf. 2: 6).

**DB 1307** Hijkerveld, gemeente Beilen, Drenthe.

From the hoard

Diam. disc: 3.9 cm. Disc-headed pin with low flanges and sunken head. There is a ring of 20 small pellets/studs in the centre of the disc, encircling a roughly broken-out irregular perforation. The shaft is missing (either broken off or originally made of organic material). Patina: grey-green, breaks patinated.

Find circumstances: Found with another bronze disc (head of another disc-headed pin; DB 2683; supra), two omega-bracelets (DB 1303, DB 1304; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 61), three longitudinal multi-ribbed omega bracelets (DB 1299, DB 1300, DB 1301; op.cit.: 68), one omega bracelet with three transverse ribs adjacent to the terminals (DB 1302; op.cit.: 71), two dome-shaped bronze buttons (DB 1305, DB 1306) and fragments of several wire ornaments (DB 2682).

Found in around 1938 in the Hijkerveld, 2-3 km north-east of the potato factory Oranje at the Oranjekanaal, close to Diependal.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1941/V.8 (11), purchased in May 1941 from J. Huizinga of Assen.
Parallels: The combination of head shape (sunken head) and decoration (although punched-in rather than cast-on) can be seen on the disc head of Gilching-Rottenfried H5 (Innerhofer 2000 (II): Taf. 51). Rings of true studs can be seen on the Dorchester pin (Nordez 2017: 150 Fig. 60 no. 20).

**Map reference:** c. 226.5/547.5.

**References:** Butler 1965: 175 Fig. 9–10; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 382–83, Fig. 4 no. 11; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2019/2020, 61, Fig. 11b.

**Parallels:**
- Studded decoration: Butler 1965: 175 Fig. 9–10; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 382–83, Fig. 4 no. 11; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2019/2020, 61, Fig. 11b.

**Mander, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel.**

**Mander heide.**

**Mander heide. Tumulus Mooi Uitzicht**

L.: 12.3 cm. Pin with sunken disc head, diam.: 0.9 cm. Shaft with horizontal incised lines below head with, eight vertical incised lines on the rest of the shaft, creating a daisy-wheel-shaped cross-section. **Find circumstances:** Excavated in 1957 by C.C.W.J. Hijszeler from a three-period tumulus with 16 graves and a post circle on northern part of the Mander Heide (Hijszeler 1970: 46–48; Drenth & Lohof 2005: 447 Fig. 19.12). The pin came from Grave 3, which was placed tangentially, cutting away part of the potholes of the post circle around it. Laboratory treated by the ROB: “broken, glued, hardened” according to Verlinde’s description Sept. 1974.

**Collection:** Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. no. 1005.

**Map reference:** c. 253.82/496.97.

**Documentation:** AN-NBKNOB 15–6–1957, col. 107 and AN-NBKNOB 15–7–1857, col. 130.


**Parallels:** In terms of head shape and decoration, some comparanda are listed by Říhovský (e.g. Taf. 11 no. 216, Taf. 12 no. 234, Taf. 14 no. 254) and Kubach (1977: Taf. 53 nos 698, 701-2), though all other examples lack the daisy-wheel cross-section of the lower shaft.

**Dating:** Lohof (1991b: 97) dates the primary phase to the MBA-A, and Periods 2 and 3 to the MBA-B (1500–1100 BCE). The fact that Grave E cuts the post circle indicates a plausible MBA-B date (or later).

**Mander heide.**

**Mander heide. Tumulus Mooi Uitzicht**

L.: 12.3 cm. Pin with sunken disc head, diam.: 0.9 cm. Shaft with horizontal incised lines below head, with eight vertical incised lines on the rest of the shaft, creating a daisy-wheel-shaped cross-section. **Find circumstances:** Excavated in 1957 by C.C.W.J. Hijszeler from a three-period tumulus with 16 graves and a post circle on northern part of the Mander Heide (Hijszeler 1970: 46–48; Drenth & Lohof 2005: 447 Fig. 19.12). The pin came from Grave 3, which was placed tangentially, cutting away part of the potholes of the post circle around it. Laboratory treated by the ROB: “broken, glued, hardened” according to Verlinde’s description Sept. 1974.

**Collection:** Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. no. 1005.

**Map reference:** c. 253.82/496.97.

**Documentation:** AN-NBKNOB 15–6–1957, col. 107 and AN-NBKNOB 15–7–1857, col. 130.


**Parallels:** In terms of head shape and decoration, some comparanda are listed by Říhovský (e.g. Taf. 11 no. 216, Taf. 12 no. 234, Taf. 14 no. 254) and Kubach (1977: Taf. 53 nos 698, 701-2), though all other examples lack the daisy-wheel cross-section of the lower shaft.

**Dating:** Lohof (1991b: 97) dates the primary phase to the MBA-A, and Periods 2 and 3 to the MBA-B (1500–1100 BCE). The fact that Grave E cuts the post circle indicates a plausible MBA-B date (or later).

**DB 1075**

Emst, gemeente Epe, Gelderland

**Find circumstances:** Found in tree-trunk coffin grave, as the central burial of a second barrow phase. The first period interment concerns a Bell Beaker Culture period grave with wristguard (Van Giffen 1930: 75). Excavated in 1928 by A.E. van Giffen.

**Collection:** BAI (now GIA, Groningen), inv. no. 1928.III (present locus unknown).

**Map reference:** c. 192/481.

**References:** Vondstenboek BAI 1928; Van Giffen 1930, 74-75, Taf. 70, Abb. 65.

**Parallels:** See DB 1970.

**Dating:** Unclear. Based on DB 1970 and DB 2083, presumably MBA-B.

**DB 2083**

Tubbergen, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel.

**Hilbertshaar urnfield**

L.: +12.7 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4 cm; diam. head: 1.07 cm. Pin with sunken disc head, concave edges with horizontal line ornament; slightly swollen neck, decorated with lines incised in spirals and a zone of cross-hatching. Tip missing.

**Find circumstances:** Found with cremation, ca. 1 m deep; no urn, excavated in 1949 by G.J. Eshuis.

**Collection:** Oudheidkamer Enschede, inv. no. 1978-8, old no. E8 (ex coll. Eshuis).

**Map reference:** c. 248.2/491.9.


**Parallels:** The combination of head shape (sunken head) and decoration (incised, zoned) is found among the pins from Moravia and Lower Austria (e.g. Říhovský 1979: Taf. 10 no. 209, Taf. 11 no. 216).

**Dating:** The associated cremation has been dated to c. 1395-1120 BCE (GrA-7586: 3005±40 BP; Lanting & Van der Plicht 2003: 163).

**DB 2680**

Hubertustunnel, gemeente ’s-Gravenhage, Zuid-Holland.

**From Grave 10**

Two (non-contiguous) fragments of a decorated bronze pin with a slightly sunken disc head.

L.: +5.8 cm and 12.8 cm, respectively; diam. disc: 0.9 x 1 cm. Round shaft (diam.: 0.55 cm), decorated with horizontal incised lines, zig-zags and hatched triangles.

**Find circumstances:** Found in 2004 during the construction of the ‘ring road’ around The Hague. Found with cremated bones in Grave 10 of the 16 prehistoric cremation pits (graves) along the Oude Waalsdorperweg.

**Museum:** Present locus unknown.

**Map reference:** c. 82.291/458.294.

**References:** Bulten 2007: 68 Fig. 4.7; Lanting 2016: 183.

**Parallels:** In terms of head shape (sunken) and decorative motifs (zig-zag and horizontal lines), the pin from Breckenheim (Kubach 1977: Taf. 53 no. 704) is a good comparandum.

**Dating:** The associated cremated bones were radiocarbon dated to 1395-1120 BCE (GrA-51715: 2930±35 BP; Lanting 2016: 183).
(DB 727) Tubbergen, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel. Hilbertshaar urnfield
References: Butler 1990: 65-67, find no. 8, 66 Fig. 11A no. 230.25/547.83.
Parallels: In terms of head shape (undecorated) and decorative motifs on shaft, the pin from Darmstadt-Arheilgen (Tumulus 3, Grave 4; Kubach 1977: Taf. 52 no. 697) is a good comparandum. Dating: Unclear. The cited Type Feudenheim pin from Darmstadt-Arheilgen is dated by Kubach (1977: 303) to 1575-1325 BCE.

Tumulus
L.: +4.3 cm (three fragments of a pin), with flat disc (diam.: 1.2 cm), low flanged rim and sunken head. Find circumstances: Found in one of the secondary tangentially placed interments (d) in a tree-trunk coffin, placed near the chest/abdomen of the deceased (Waterbolk 1961a: 164, Abb. 22, 1964: Map 1). The barrow had a double post circle around it.
Parallels: Kubach (1977: Taf. 53 nos 701-4) lists several examples of sunken head pins but these are decorated. An undecorated example is known from Saint-Pierre en Chastre à Vieux-Moulin (Oise; Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 53 Fig. 1). Dating: Based on the double widely-spaced post circle around the barrow, a tentative date of 1800-1400 BCE (Bourgeois 2013: 34) may be proposed, though an MBA-B date (cf. Arnoldussen & Bourgeois 2006: 14) may be more plausible considering the chronology of the adjacent settlement remains (Arnoldussen 2008: 212 Fig. 5.24, 223-24).

3.73 Disc-headed pins with central boss (Fig. 14)
This group comprises disc-headed pins with a protrusion or ‘boss’ in the centre of the disc’s upper surface. These bosses can be dome-shaped (e.g. DB 2082), conical (\(\backslash\)),\(^{19}\) inverted conical (\(\backslash\)),\(^{20}\) or other shapes (e.g. DB 1971, DB 2482). The pins have been classified by Laux variously as Scheibenkopfnadeln der Varianten Adendorf (Laux 1976: Taf. 38 nos 639-49), Scheibenkopfnadeln der Varianten Oerel (op.cit.: Taf. 39 nos 662-68) and Gezackte Nadeln, norddeutsche Form (op.cit.: Taf. 30 nos 366-70).
A few such pins are also known from Hessen and have been classified by Kubach (1977: Taf. 80 nos 1299-3000) as Nadeln from Typ Kleine Englis. In Atlantic contexts, embossed disc-headed pins occasionally occur as well (cf. Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 77). In terms of dating, most can be dated to c. 1075-800 BCE (Laux 1976: 113, 116; Kubach 1977: 511; Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 78), although an earlier date (to c. 1375-1200 BCE; Laux 1976: 69) is plausible for the Gezackte Nadeln.

(DB 1869) Hijken/Hooghalen, gemeente Beilen, Drenthe. Tumulus 9, Period 1
Pin with disc head and \(\backslash\)-shaped boss. The edge of the disc is milled. L.: 14 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm; diam. disc: 1.2 cm.
Find circumstances: Found in 1953 during excavation of Tumulus 9 at Hijkerveld. The pin was recovered from a coffin grave in the primary burial chamber placed centrally under a ring-ditched barrow (Van der Veen & Lanting 1989: 215), found with a pair of gold coils (DB 1863, DB 1864; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2022: 210 Fig. 4), a roll-headed pin (DB 1867; supra), 10 bronze sheet arrowheads (DB 1866) and a flint strike-a-light (DB 1862; Butler 1990: 65-66 Fig. 11).
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1953/VII.39b. Map reference: 230.25/547.83. References: Butler 1990: 65-67, find no. 8, 66 Fig. 11A no. 3; Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 216-19, 216 Fig. 24, 218 Fig. 27, 227 Fig. 39A Parallels: Laux illustrates several related examples (Laux 1976: 68-70, Taf. 30 nos 366-70). He considers them to be a north German variant (probably made in the Middle Weser area) of the central European Gezackte Nadel.
Dating: See DB 1867. The comparanda cited date to Laux’s Zeitgruppe II/III (Laux 1976: 69) or c. 1400-1200 BCE (cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 1971) Elp, gemeente Westerbork, Drenthe. Tumulus
L.: +14 cm. Bronze pin: biconical head with large straight to \(\backslash\) boss on a bulbous to discoid head; round shaft (0.4 cm); tip broken off. Find circumstances: From the primary central grave of a burial mound with double post-circle at Elp (cf. DB 1970; supra).
Parallels: Not known. The shape of the disc is anomalously bulbous. Crude derivative or fashioned to mimic Gezackte Nadeln (cf. DB 1869).
(DB 2632) Nijmegen-Lent, gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland. Smiteesland
L.: + 25 cm; height boss: 0.35 cm; diam. head: 3.3 cm; shaft 0.35 cm at top. Pin with long shaft; horizontal disc head with \(\backslash\) boss. Tip broken off (old break); roughly bent. Patina: mottled green; somewhat glossy (has been lab-treated). Pin and head joined by soldering (casting-on?).
Collection: Gemeente Nijmegen, archeologisch depot.
References: Van den Broeke 2004; Van den Broeke & Ball 2012: 74, 76, Fig. 6.21; Van den Broeke 2020: 87 Table 1, 89 Fig. 6.
Parallel: A close match is the disc-headed pin with conical \(\backslash\) boss from Grembergen (Belgium), decorated with radial ‘spokes’ and triangles on its head (Warmenbol 1992: 106-7 and Fig. 58 no. 104). It may be part of the Rhin-Suisse-France-Orientale group (Warmenbol 1992: 107; cf. Audouze & Gauchier 1981: 77-78). Two other comparanda - but with a rounded \(\backslash\) boss - originate from the Han-Sure-Lesse cave (Jasinsky & Warmenbol 2017: 169 Fig. 9.11; Warmenbol 2018: 27 Fig. 9 no. 3) and from the "Trou de la Leuve" at Sinsin (Namur) cave (Warmenbol 2022: 180-81, Fig. 4 no. 3, with further references).

Find circumstances: From one of the tangentially placed graves (Grave G) of a later use phase of the barrow with a double post circle (the grave cuts two posts of the inner post circle).

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1962/VI-17.
Map reference: c. 239/545.
References: Waterbolk 1961a: 165, Abb. 23 no. 10, 1961b: 130 Fig. 2, 1964: 283 Fig. 21.17, 1987, 1990.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: Unclear. Presumably MBA-B or LBA (contra Van Heeringen et al. 1998: 60), see DB 2632.

Tumulus
L.: 20.7 cm; diam. head: 3.10 cm. Pin with disc head and low conical \(\backslash\) boss. A pair of double bronze wire hooks and a double wire spiral eyelet, possibly fasteners for shoes or legwear, were found in the same grave near the feet (Butler 1961: 127).
Find circumstances: From one of the tangentially placed graves (Grave G) of a later use phase of the barrow with a double post circle (the grave cuts two posts of the inner post circle).

Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. h 1929/2.1, purchased from Th. den Elzen of Noordwijk.
Map reference: c. 99.27/479.2.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: Unclear. Presumably MBA-B or LBA (contra Van Heeringen et al. 1998: 60), see DB 2632.

(DB 408) Zanderij Guldemond, gemeente Noordwijk, Zuid-Holland
L.: 21.5 cm. Disc head, crudely decorated with incised radial strokes near the head’s perimeter; conical \(\backslash\) boss; inverted conical shaft, decorated with groups of transverse lines and diagonal strokes alternating directions. The head is now somewhat disconnected from the shaft. Patina: bronze colour.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. h 1929/2.1, purchased from Th. den Elzen of Noordwijk.
Map reference: c. 99.27/479.2.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: Unclear. Presumably MBA-B or LBA (contra Van Heeringen et al. 1998: 60), see DB 2632.

(DB 2082) Hilbertshaar, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel. Urnfield
Pin fragment, burnt. L.: +3.8 cm. Disc head (diam.: 1.2 cm) with dome-shaped to conical \(\backslash\) boss, shaft decorated with horizontal incised decoration.
Find circumstances: Found in urn with cremation (h.: 20 cm, diam. rim: 31 cm).
Collection: Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. no. 1978-5.
Parallel: A close parallel includes a pin from Langwedel near the feet (Butler 1961: 127).

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1962/VI-17.
Map reference: c. 239/545.
References: Waterbolk 1961a: 165, Abb. 23 no. 10, 1961b: 130 Fig. 2, 1964: 283 Fig. 21.17, 1987, 1990.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: Unclear. Presumably MBA-B or LBA (contra Van Heeringen et al. 1998: 60), see DB 2632.

(DB 3125) Tiel, gemeente Tiel, Gelderland. Panovenweg (Tiel Noord)
L.: 29 cm; height boss: 1.6 cm; diam. head: 4.45 cm; th. shaft: 0.5-0.2 cm. Pin with long, bent shaft; horizontal undecorated and fragmented head with \(\backslash\) boss. The detached disc was found with five fragments corroded together. One fragment was found bent; others are missing. Shaft and fragments were found very close to each other. Patina: bronze colour.
Find circumstances: Found in a Bronze Age vegetation horizon uncovered between 25 May and 20 July 2020 in Trench 12 of an ADC excavation. The excavation area was situated in a zone of crevasse, levee and residual channel deposits.
References: Roessingh 2023: 101-3, Afb. 4.45.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: LBA (c. 1100-800 BCE).
anten Tangendorf, dating to Stufe Tangendorf (c. 1175-1075 BCE; Laux 1976: 77, Taf. 63; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1)).

(DB 1248) Weerdinge, gemeente Emmen, Drenthe. Tumulus ‘De Paaschberg’

L.: 16 cm; diam. head: 1.45 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm. Pin, disc head with central dome-shaped boss, and slightly raised rim; plain shaft. Patina: light green; found in several fragments. Find circumstances: Recovered from a tangentially placed secondary grave. The pin was at the coffin’s northern edge (Van Giffen 1936: 117) with DB 1249 (fragments of a bronze ring of flat cross-section).

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1934/IV. 7.
Map reference: c. 258.2/538.1.
Parallel: For general head shape, see the Daverden (Laux 1976: Taf. 38 no. 641). For a comparable dome shape (but more angular disk), see the pin from Garbsen (Lauf 1976: Taf. 39 no. 668).
Dating: Van Giffen (1936: 117) has dated the pin to the Late Bronze Age. The cited German comparanda are dated by Laux (1976: 113, no. 668) to the LBA (Period V; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2926) Markerwaardweg, gemeente Medemblik, Noord-Holland. From the hoard
L.: 15.7 cm; w. disc: 5.4 cm. Bronze undecorated disc-headed pin with \boss, broken into two pieces (find nos 634 and 638). Patina: green/brown (has been laboratory treated and restored by Restaura).
Find circumstances: Excavated in 2015 by Archol between the Streekweg and N3072 roads. Found in a prehistoric ditch (s1544), neatly packed on a bank covered with reed, with three Oerel-type spectacle fibulae (DB 2921 A-C; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2020: 73-74; infra), two omega bracelets (DB 2921; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2020: 73-74), two necklace spacer plates (DB 2925), five rings (DB 2927), two rings with interlocking ring (dangles; DB 2922), a flint sickle (DB 2924) and a stone pendant (Fontijn et al. 2019: 500-1).
Collection: Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Holland, inv. no. 5437-06.
References: Knippenberg et al. 2016: 6; Fontijn et al. 2019: 503-4, 500 Fig. 16.5.
Parallels: In Belgium, two pins with flat headed disc with \boss were found in the urnfield of Court-Saint-Etienne, unfortunately without their location recorded (Desittere 1968: 144). Desittere dates these pins to Ha B.

(DB 1294) Holtinge, gemeente Westerveld, Drenthe. Tumulus 7
L.: 12.6 cm; diam. head: 4.1 cm. Pin with large flat disc head and conical \boss.
Find circumstances: Found broken into four fragments: the disc was still connected to the shaft with three remaining disjointed fragments. Found on 9 April 1937 by farmer G. Scheper while clearing his field in the Smeenholten (along the Studentenkamp to Uffelte-Wapserveen), in an already partially-levelled barrow approximately 1.25 m high. Two fragments of a sword blade (DB 1295) were also recovered from this barrow (Essink & Hielkema 2000: 309). The bronzes came into the possession of amateur archaeologist H.G. Voerman of Havelte and in his sketch (9 April 1937) the base of another tumulus was visible on the east side. According to Van Giffen, this was a damaged burial mound (Tumulus 7; Van Giffen 1951: 113, Fig. 1 no. 7), lying between Tumuli 5 and 6. Essink & Hielkema (2000: 308-9, citing inv. nos collection Voerman) wrote that the bronzes were not found on the same date.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1940/II, presented by H.G. Voerman.
Map reference: c. 213.22/535.01.
References: Van Giffen 1951: 113-14, Afb. 14 nos 7a-b; Essink & Hielkema 2000: 308-9, Cat. no. 251-c.
Parallel: See DB 2632.
Dating: Unclear, plausibly LBA. Essing & Hielkema have dated the sword fragments from the tumulus to the MBA-B (Essing & Hielkema 2000, 2009) but they suspect (no closed association) that the pin may be later in date (ibid.).

(DB 2482) Op den Berg, gemeente Ede, Gelderland
L.: 15.8 cm; th.: 0.35 cm. Disc-headed pin (upper disc 1.8 cm diam., lower disc 1.95 cm) with a central disc-on-stem type of boss, round shaft. Neck decoration: circumferential groove lines in bundles, alternating with short vertical hammered curved impressions. Below the neck: eight wide longitudinal grooves.
Find circumstances: Found during excavations in the years 1984-1985 and 1987-1988 in a native Roman settlement, which also contained a number of pits and a house plan from the Middle Bronze Age. This pin was found in posthole 6.1.1 (pers. comm. Ernst Taayke, 15 Dec. 1999).
Collection: Provinciaal Depot Bodemvondsten Gelderland, inv. no. PDB.1992.5.ED.6.1.1
References: Huist et al. 1985: 35-36; Taayke et al. 2012: 158-59 Fig. 7.4.
Parallel: Unknown. The longitudinal grooving (daisy-wheel cross-section) is often seen on Lochhalsnadeln mit horizontalem Scheibenkopf from the Rhine-Main area (Kubach 1977: Taf. 4 nos 59-61, 63, 64, 64A), but
Fig. 15. Pins with inverted conical head (top register), conical heads (lower left) and shallow cup/bowl-shaped heads (lower right) from the Netherlands. DB 1820: River Maas; DB 1385: Wederwerp; DB 149: Nijlande; DB 1842: Valthe?; DB 570: Alem; DB 3054: Leidschendam; DB 518: River Waal; DB 521: River Waal; DB 410: Barneveld; DB 161: Elst; DB 3008: gemeente Zevenaar; DB 3027: Zutphen. Drawings: DB 3027 (after Van Straten & Fermin 2012: Fig. 62), DB 3054, DB 570, DB 161, DB 3008: H. Steegstra (GIA); otherwise, Butler Archive, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
the shape of the head and pin overall is closer to the **Gezachte Nadel, norddeutsche Form** discussed by Laux (1976: 68-70, Taf. 30 nos 366-70). Neither of these two types, however, shows the distinct double disc on top.

**Dating**: Unclear, tentatively MBA. The associated settlement remains are dated by Taayke et al. (2012: 159-60) to the MBA-B.

### 3.8 Pins with an \( \vee \) (inverted conical) head (Fig. 15, top)

This group comprises pins where the shaft gradually widens towards the head, creating a flaring, trumpet-shaped or inverted conical shape for the head and shaft (cf. Kubach 1977: VIII). Within this group, there is considerable variation of the top surface of the head, which can be funnel- or trumpet-shaped (e.g. DB 1842), slightly convex (e.g. DB 570) or flat.21 This gradual transition from shaft to head is common in pins of *Typ Reckenrode* (Kubach 1977: 263-73, Taf. 46 nos 597-602), *Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadeln der Varianten Vorwohle* (Laux 1976: Taf. 26 nos 294-99) and *Variante Deimern* (op.cit.: Taf. 27 nos 339-43), or with the pins of Types Ostwald (Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 59; Nordez 2017: 140) and Cessieu (Nordez 2017: 139 Fig. 52). The generic morphology of the pins implies that their general shape alone is not a solid base for dating, and cited comparanda range in date from the älteren zur Mittleren Hügelgräberzeit (c. 1525-1425 BCE; Laux 1976: 58) to Bz. C (c. 1475-1325 BCE; Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 59; Nordez 2017: 140) and Stufe Bergen-Bleckmar (c. 1325-1250 BCE; Laux 1976: Taf. 63). Some Dutch pins can be dated by association to Montelius Per. V (e.g. DB 1385; infra).

**DB 1820** River Maas, North of Roermond, Limburg

L.: 12.05 cm; w. head: 5.5 cm; w. shaft: 0.4 cm. Pin with small \( \vee \) head; dark bronze colour.

**Find circumstances**: Found during dredging in the River Maas.

**Collection**: Private owner.

**Map reference**: c. 197/361.

**References**: -

**Parallels**: This simple shape with undecorated form is observed within the group of pins of *Form Niederelungen* (Kubach 1977: Taf. 53 nos 709-18), hügelgräberzeitliche Nadeln oder Nadelfragmente ohne ausgeprägten Kopf (op.cit.: Taf. 54 nos 736-40), the Nagel- und Plattenkopfnadel der Varianten Vorwohle (Laux 1976: Taf. 26 nos 294-99) and Scheibenkopfnadel der Varianten Langen (Laux 1976: Taf. 39 nos 672-78).

**Dating**: The German comparanda have been dated to c. 1475-1200 BCE (Laux 1976: 58, 118, Taf. 63; Kubach 1977: 307, 312).

21 E.g. DB 149, DB 1820, DB 3054.

**DB 1385** Wedderveer, gemeente Stadskaanal, Groningen. Urnfield cemetery, Grave 32

L.: 7.1 cm; diam. head: 0.65 cm. Pin with \( \vee \) head, round shaft.

**Find circumstances**: Found with cremated remains and an asymmetrical ship-shaped derivative (Nordic) razor (DB 1384; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 15) in a large biconical urn with impressions of emmer wheat (Van Giffen & Waterbolk 1949: 95). Found in 1943 during a rescue excavation by A.E. van Giffen of an urnfield cemetery with keyhole-shaped graves, a long-bed barrow and graves with circular ditches (Van Giffen & Waterbolk 1949: pl. 15) in the southern part of the urnfield. There was no ring-ditch around this grave (Grave 32).

**Museum**: Groninger Museum (Groningen), inv. no. 1943/III.32b.

**Map reference**: c. 267.82/567.54.


**Parallels**: See DB 1820.

**Dating**: Based on the associated razor (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 15) and urn (cf. Van den Broeke 2005: 610 Fig. 27.8; Lanting & Van der Plicht 2003: 254-55), a Hallstatt B date (c. 1025-800 BCE; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) is plausible.

**DB 149** Nijlände, gemeente Rolde, Drente. Tumulus II

L.: 13.1 cm; diam. head: 0.86 cm. Pin with \( \vee \) head. Patina: mottled green.

**Find circumstances**: Found in 1939 in a secondary grave by J.S. Jansen while levelling a barrow, which was subsequently excavated by Van Giffen (1941). The pin was found near the centre of the tumulus, about 30 cm above the old ground level, but its exact context was not established (Van Giffen 1941: 110, Fig. 7 no. 17). The barrow had a widely-spaced post circle.

**Documentation**: Jaarverslag 1939: 22 no. 43 (erroneously listed as 1939/III.37).

**Museum**: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1939/III.17.

**Map reference**: c. 238/554.


**Parallel**: See DB 1820. Van Giffen (1941: 110 note 2) cites DB 1248 as a comparandum, but this has a different head.

**Dating**: Lohof (1991b: 65) dates the second barrow period to the MBA-B.

**DB 1842** Probably near Valthe, gemeente Borger-Odoorn, Drente. Tumulus

L.: 8.4 cm; diam. head: 1.44 cm; lower part missing. Pin (two fragments) with trumpet-shaped \( \vee \) head; the neck is decorated with plastic bands and incised decoration. Patina: glossy mottled green.
Find circumstances: “Found in an urn of unusual shape in a burial mound,” according to Westendorp (1819: 11). Urn not preserved. Errorneously published by Janssen (1857-1859) and Pleyte (1882) as found together with a bronze tanged knife.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1963/1.9.A. In the printed catalogue of 1891, the pin (at that time broken into two parts) was catalogued under ‘Odoorn No. 3’. The pin was registered by Van Giffen as 1863/1.9A (mentioning ‘three parts of an 18 cm-long pin’; Lanting 2001: 371). Some time after this, the pin broke again and the lower part (4.4 cm) was lost and replaced by a much larger fragment of another pin (DB 1843, this paper).

Map reference: c. 256/540 (administrative coordinates).

References: Westendorp 1819: 8, 11; Pleyte 1822 (I) 30: (II) Pl. 33:2-3; Janssen 1854: 5; Butler 1973: 16-27, Fig. 6; Lanting 2001: 367-69 Fig. 1 left.

Parallels: A fitting comparison is published as one of the Schälchenkopfnadel mit profiliertem Kopf by Schabowski (2014: 99 Fig. 5.6.4). Laux (1976: 122-23, Taf. 40 nos 713-29) categorizes them as Schälchenkopfnadel der Varianten Duddenhuisen.

Dating: The Schälchenkopfnadel der Varianten Duddenhuisen are dated by Laux (1976: 122-23) to his Stufe Wessenstedt (c. 800–600 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 3504) Leidschendam, Gemeente Leidschendam-Voorburg, Zuid-Holland. Leidse Kade

L.: 26.3 cm. The shaft gradually thickens to a cylindrical V/-shape to form the ‘head’ and is decorated with horizontal lines and chevron motifs.

Find circumstances: Found by Pauw while digging in his house near the Vliet. The pin was donated by the finder to the RMO in June 1985.


Map reference: c. 87.31/455.1.

References: Hallewas 1985: 34, Afb. 2.

Parallels: We know of a decorated example from the Han-sur-Lesse cave in Belgium (Mees 1988: 135 Fig. 6 no. 4), but pins of the einfache Keulenkopfnadel type (e.g. Řihovský 1979: Taf. 47 nos 1113-35; 1137-52) were mainly distributed in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Bavaria (Řihovský 1979: 145-50, Taf. 45-47 nos 1061-1152).

Dating: Unclear, presumably LBA. Řihovský (1979: 151-52) notes the shortage of precisely datable associated grave goods but finally states that the einfache Keulenkopfnadeln occur from the mittleren und jüngeren Hügelgräberzeit to the ältere Hallstattzeit (c. 1025-925 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

3.9 Pins with a V (conical) head (Fig. 15, lower left)

This group of pins is characterized by a conical upper part of the head. The connection to the shaft at the base of the head can be concave (e.g. DB 518), straight (e.g. DB 521) or irregular (e.g. DB 410). Both the shaft and head are often decorated. This generic morphology allows these pins to be recognized in many parts of western and central Europe, where they are variously classified as Nadeln mit doppelconischem Kopf (Laux 1976: Taf. 35 nos S14-26), Type Landau (Kubach 1977: 467-70 Taf. 75 nos 1157-69), Epingles groupe a (petit) tête cylindro-conique / biconique (Audouze & Gaucher 1981: 93-95; cf. Audouze & Courtois 1970: 19-22, Pl. 4) or Type Vel’ká Lehota /Ilava (Novotná 1980: Taf. 36). The dating of these pins is generally focused on the period c. 1125-800 (600?) BCE.22 The provenance of two of the

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pins is unclear (DB 518, DB 521), while a funerary context may cautiously be assumed for another (DB 410).

(DB 518) River Waal, Gelderland. Dealer’s provenance
L.: 15.6 cm; diam. head: 0.8 cm. Pin with \( \wedge \) head.

*Museum*: RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1949/4.1, purchased from antique dealer, Esser of Nijmegen.

*Map reference*: -

*References*: -

*Parallels*: The pin from Saléve (Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 4 no. 78) is a close parallel. See also Kubach 1977: Taf. 34 no. 513.

*Dating*: Unclear, but based on European comparanda, 1125-800 BCE (supra).

(DB 1739) Gemeente Ede, Gelderland

L.: +8.5 cm. Diam. sharp \( \wedge \) head: 0.9 x 1 cm with concave transition to shaft. Shaft end broken off?

*Find circumstances*: Found between Wekeromse Zand, Roekel and urnfield Ede-Honslog.

*Collection*: RMO Leiden, inv. no. WI 8 (but not mentioned in Catalogue Holwerda 1908 and not present now).


*References*: Huist 2010: 71 Afb. 30 (after Pleyte 1889 (Gelderland): Pl. XV:3).

*Parallels*: See DB 518.

*Dating*: See DB 518.

(DB 521) River Waal, Gelderland. Dealer’s provenance
L. 21.2 cm; diam. head 0.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.25 cm. Pin with \( \wedge \) head.

*Museum*: RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1949/4.4, purchased from antique dealer, Esser of Nijmegen.

*Map reference*: -

*References*: -

*Parallels*: In terms of form and decoration (horizontal bands interspersed with chevron zones), the pin from Brison-St Innocent (Grésine) is a close match (Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 4 no. 103)

*Dating*: See DB 518.

(DB 410) Gemeente Barneveld, Gelderland. Stroeërland
L.: 14.2 cm; diam. head: 1.2 x 1.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4 cm. Bronze pin with \( \wedge \) pointy head featuring incised circular decoration; shaft with two groups of five closely-set fine horizontal parallel lines and one group of two fine horizontal parallel lines.

*Find circumstances*: Found in 1947 during excavations under the church of the village of Elst by Bogaers (1955).


*Map reference*: c. 186.1/437.3.


*Parallels*: In terms of overall form, the pin from Rosdorf (Laux 1976: Taf. 40 no. 710) is an adequate parallel.

*Dating*: Uncertain. Based on the context, it is not possible to rule out a Roman date. If prehistoric, it presumably dates to the Early Iron Age, based on the associated Harpstedt urns with Laux’s nos 705-6; op.cit.: 122.

(DB 161) Elst, Gemeente Elst, Gelderland. Excavation under church
L.: 11.65 cm. Pin with shallow cup-shaped head, diam.: 1.5 cm; undecorated.

*Find circumstances*: Found in 1947 during excavations under the church of the village of Elst by Bogaers (1955).


*Map reference*: c. 186.1/437.3.


*Parallels*: In terms of overall form, the pin from Rosdorf (Laux 1976: Taf. 40 no. 710) is an adequate parallel.

*Dating*: Uncertain. Based on the context, it is not possible to rule out a Roman date. If prehistoric, it presumably dates to the Early Iron Age, based on the associated Harpstedt urns with Laux’s nos 705-6; op.cit.: 122.
(DB 3008) Gemeente Zevenaar, Gelderland
L.: 12.2 m; diam. head: 1.8 cm. Shallow cup-shaped head.
Patina: bronze colour. Not seen by the authors, drawing from PAN photo.

Find circumstances: Found in an urn (DB 2093) from a
Gemeente (DB 3008)
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Parallels: DB 3027 shares similarities with the
Van Straten & Fermin 2012: 63-64 and Fig.
References
c.

Collection: Private.

(DB 3027) Zutphen, gemeente Zutphen, Gelderland.
Grave 1, urnfield Leesten-Meijerink
Fragments of a burnt pin with a bowl-shaped head
(diam. head.: 2.9 cm). Three perforations: two small,
rounded openings very close to the inside boss/ knob,
where the shaft was soldered; and one irregular
shaped perforation near the damaged rim. The head
is crafted from lead-plated tin bronze (c. 13% Sn; Van
Straten & Fermin 2012: 64). On the underside of the
bowl, there is a piece of the shaft/collar. The corroded
and fragmented shaft (l.: +5 cm, diam.: 0.5-0.3 cm)
is more coppery and is made of a mixture successively
copper, antimony, arsenic and silver (ibid.; Van
Straten & Fermin 2012: 199-200). Not all pieces of the
shaft fit together. Patina: mottled green.

Find circumstances: Found in an urn (DB 2093) from a
rich grave (labelled ‘prinsessengraf’; Grave 1) during
the 2010-2011 excavation before the construction of
roads/cycle path for the Sportpark ‘t Meijerink. The urn
also contained a miniature pot (a second one was
found outside the urn), two spindle whorls (one outside
the urn), 76 glass beads, of which four blue Rinn
augeperlen; Arnoldussen et al. 2023), eight recognizable spirally-wound ribbon beads with accompa
nying loosened fragments (DB 3089), five fragments
of bronze (hair) rings (DB 3092), 29 small looped
bronze tutuli (DB 3091) and a round bronze button
with loop (DB 3090, diam.: 1.2 cm).

Collection: Gemeentelijk Depot voor Bodemvondsten,
Zutphen.


References: Van Straten & Fermin 2012: 63-64 and Fig.
62; Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017 (II): Fig. C18.1 no. 9;
Warmenbol et al., 2022 (forthcoming).

Parallels: DB 3027 shares similarities with the Schälchenkopfnadelen (bowl-headed pins), which can have either a straight shaft or a goose neck shaft, with
or without decoration (for example, ribs below the
bowl). The bowl-headed pins with straight shafts
were found in central Europe, spanning from the
central Alps (West Hallstatt) to Jutland, with concen
trations in Thuringia, the Elbe basin and the Weser
basin (e-mail dr. Bartłomiej Kaczyński, 3 February
2023, to authors, with reference to Tackenberg 1971:
Liste 102 and Karte 40). The bowls of these pins are
never wider than 2 cm (Laux 1976: 123). Since only
fragments of the DB 3027 shaft were found, which
do not fit together, it is not known if DB 3027 had a
straight shaft with a rib or a goose neck. Dr. Kaczyński
(State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw, Depart
ment of the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age) believes
it to be a straight shaft where the small holes at the
base of the bowl could have been used to fasten it to
a robe. Wider bowls (from eastern Germany, Poland,
Slovakia, Hungary) were generally placed on thicker
goose neck shafts (cf. Petersen 1929: Taf. 22 no. a2,
Taf. 25–6; Kaczyński 2015: 266, 267, Abb. 1).

The Leesten-Meijerink glass beads, spirally-wound ribbon
beads (some used as pendants) and looped button
parallel finds from Grave 28 in Overpelt-Kruiskiezel, Belgium (e-mail Eugène Warmenbol, 25 Dec.
2022, to authors): an urn containing a necklace of
454 glass beads, nine spirally wound bronze ribbon
beads and an object for fastening the necklace, ident
ical to the round button with loop from Grave 1 in the
Leesten-Meijerink urnfield (Warmenbol 2023: 79
Fig. 6).

Dating: The associated cremated bones have been radio
carbon dated to c. 810-550 BCE (GrN-49737: 2570±35
BP; Van Straten & Fermin 2012: 91, Table 5).

3.11 Pins with a ball-shaped head

Pins from this group have a globular, flattened globular or ovoid head that can be cast either as a solid sphere or as a hollow head using the cire-perdue method (cf.
Dresscher 1958: Taf. 7). Laux subdivides pins with small ball heads (Kugelkopfnadelen) into eight Variante
to our terminology, however, these are ball- or egg
headed pins. Kubach (1977: 481-87) identified very
few pins with round heads and therefore grouped them with pins with egg heads and rounded biconical
heads in his Tafeln 77-78: 1219-67. A special variety
(with subvarieties) is the Typ Deutsch-Evern, which has a
three-sectioned head with a finely decorated round
middle section and decorated shaft (Laux 1976: Taf. 31
nos 406-20). One example has been identified in the
Netherlands (DB 2958). There are straight pins with
round (or almost round) heads, including eggheads,
lozenge-shaped heads and ball heads, of varying size
and with varied decoration, such as ‘wave’, ‘triangle’
and ‘ladder’ patterns. These basic shapes were common
throughout the Bronze Age (e.g. Laux 1976: 70-77;
Říhovský 1979: 220) and Early Iron Age (cf. Van der
Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 226). Therefore specific date
ranges will be discussed for individual pins below.
3.11.1 Pins with solid cast ball heads
(Kugelkopfnadeln; Fig. 16)

This subset of pins is characterized by massive globular to ovoid heads, which are generally cast on with the pin but occasionally been fixed on at a later stage (e.g. DB 2421). They seem to date to the final MBA-B to Early Iron Age, with particular emphasis on the Late Bronze Age.

(DB 2059) Hilversum, Gemeente Hilversum, Noord-Holland. Zuiderheide
L.: +4.0 cm; th.: 0.5cm. Pin with spherical head, diam.: 1.0 cm. Upper part of shaft of circular section, with traces of longitudinal casting seams; becoming square in section; lower part broken off and missing.
Well preserved; patina: dark bronze.
Collection: Private owner.
Map reference: c. 143/472.3.
References: Jager & Woltering 1990: 301-2, Afb. 5.

Parallels: Laux categorizes a similar pin as a Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Lehmkte (Laux 1976: Taf. 30 no. 377) from Gollern, Kr. Uelzen.
Dating: Laux dates the Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Lehmkte to his Späte Hügelgräberzeit (c. 1325-1200 BCE; Laux 1976: 71; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2424) Betuwe, Gelderland. Along the River Waal
L.: 10.2 cm; diam. head: 0.75-0.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm. Pin, with round-sectioned shaft slightly thicker toward the centre, onto which a small ball head has been set; apparently fixed with an unidentified substance, now shiny black in colour. Patina: black. Weight 5.9 g.
Find circumstances: Found by metal detector along the River Waal.
Collection: Private possession.
Map reference: c. 177/433.
References: -
Parallels: Laux categorizes a comparable pin from Melbeck as his Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Lehmk (Laux 1976: Taf. 30 no. 379).
Dating: Laux dates the Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Lehmk to his Späte Hügelgräberzeit (c. 1325-1200 BCE; Laux 1976: 71; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 520) River Waal, Gelderland. Dealer’s provenance
L.: 12.7 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm. Pin with round head and round shaft. Patina: bronze colour.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1949/4.3, purchased from dealer, Esser of Nijmegen.
Collection: Private possession.
Map reference: -
References: -
Parallels: See DB 2424.
Dating: See DB 2424.

(DB 2686) Neer, gemeente Leudal, Limburg
L.: 5.65 cm; diam. head: 0.75-0.8 cm. Pin with small, rounded head. Patina: brown. Has been treated.
Find circumstances: Found on a field by owner with metal detector.
Collection: Private possession.
References: -
Parallels: A comparable pin (with droplet-like head) from Lehmk was the type fossil for Laux’s (1976: Taf. 30 no. 378) Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Lehmk.
Dating: See DB 2424.

(DB 3038) Amby, gemeente Maastricht, Limburg.
Urnfield Amberveld
L.: +10.5 cm; diam. head: 1.2 cm. Sub-spherical head (bulbe d’oignon) with part of shaft: the shaft is horizontally-ribbed over 1 cm below the head. The remaining shaft is (intentionally? Cf. Dyselinck 2013: 102) broken into at least seven fragments.
Find circumstances: Half of a bronze ribbed phalera (DB 3110) was also found with the (unurned) cremation B20. The pin is believed to have been damaged by fire and was found during excavations of the complete urnfield by the BAAC in August-September 2009 and January 2010.
Collection: Gemeentelijk depot van Maastricht (GDBM).
Map reference: c. 179.4/320.4.
References: Dyselinck 2013: 95, 100, 102, Fig. 29 no. 1.
Parallels: A pin from Ostheim, Windecker Stadtwald has a similarly ribbed neck (Kubach 1977: Taf. 78 no. 1266).
Dating: The collective radiocarbon dates for the Amberveld cemetery suggest that it was in use between 1300 and 900 BCE (Dyselinck 2013: 136). The parallels quoted by Dyselinck for the phalera indicate a Ha B1-B3 date for the Amby pin (c. 1025-800 BCE; Dyselinck 2013: 102; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2657) Echt, gemeente Echt, Limburg. Industrial Estate ‘De Berk’
L.: 11.3 cm; w.: 1.4 cm. Pin with bulbous head (diam.: 1.5 cm), flattened on top. Patina: mottled glossy green, has been preserved.
Find circumstances: Found in 2004 with a metal detector on a factory construction site, c. 70 cm below the surface.
Collection: Private possession.
Map reference: c. 189.3/347.7.
References: -
Parallels: A pin from Mont-du-Chat (Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 5 no. 113) is nearly identical. Kubach depicts a pin with a comparable head, but with a ribbed shaft (Kubach 1977: Taf. 77 no. 1255, no findspot known).
Dating: Unclear. Comparanda are dated to Bronze Final III (c. 1025-800 BCE; Audouze & Courtois 1970: 24; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) or c. 1325-1200 BCE (Kubach 1977: 486).

(DB 2671) Roermond, gemeente Roermond, Limburg
L.: +2 cm; diam. head: 1.3 cm; diam. shaft: 0.55 cm. Bronze pin.
Find circumstances: Found between Roermond-Linne, east and along the railway.
Collection: Private ownership.
References: -
Parallels: Pins from Brison-St. Innocent (Lac du Borget; Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 5 no. 114) and Wiesbaden (Kubach 1977: Taf. 77 no. 1256) have similar heads.
Dating: The comparanda cited are dated to Bronze Final III (c. 1025-800 BCE; Audouze & Courtois 1970: 24; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) or c. 1325-1200 BCE (Kubach 1977: 486).

(DB 920) Tegelen, gemeente Tegelen, Limburg. Along the Maas
L.: 13.2 cm; head: 1.5 x 1.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4 cm. Very well-preserved bronze pin with rounded, slightly ovoid head, decorated on the lower part with three horizontal circumferential grooves. The transition from the head to the shaft is gradual.
Find circumstances: Found in summer 1972.
Museum: Limburgs Museum (Venlo), inv. no. G03787.
References: Bloemers 1975: 27, 29, Afb. 17 no. 2.
Parallels: A similar pin in terms of decoration, with two grooved lines in the lower half, was allegedly found in the River Rhine (Kubach 1977: Taf. 77 no. 1288).
Dating: The comparandum presented by Kubach (no. 1288) is dated to his Stufe Pfeddersheim-Kornwestheim (c. 1025-925 BCE; Kubach 1977: 485; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).
(DB 2421) Oosterhout, gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland. Verburgtskolk
L.: 10.5 cm; diam. head: 1.45-1.3 cm. Solid ball head which is set on a shaft with grooved vertical lines. Patina: glossy brown; on head intact, on shaft mostly peeled off, showing blue-green. Head very well preserved.

Find circumstances: Found in 1986 by F. Spaan. The location is presumed to be at the confluence of the Waal River and a smaller tributary (Fontijn 2003: 177).

Collection: Historische Kring Oosterhout.


References: -

Parallels: -

References: Hulst 1988: 187 Afb. 5; Fontijn 2003: 175-78, 177 Fig. 8.18, 336.

(DB 2476) Alem, gemeente Maasdriel, Gelderland
L.: 10.2 cm; diam. head: 0.8 cm. Head slightly pointed; neck with eight ribs; twice bent shaft. Patina: black.

Find circumstances: Found c. 1991 by L. Maurix of 's-Hertogenbosch with metal detector in sand processing site (where sand from Maren-Kessel is stored).

Collection: Private possession.

Map reference: c. 152.5/423.0.

References: -

Parallels: Close parallels in terms of globular head and neck ribs are the pins from Tresserve - Le Saut/Les Fiollets (Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 7 nos 180-81) or the pin from Mainz-Zahlbach (Kubach 1977: Taf. 76 no. 1195).

Dating: Unclear. Comparanda date to Bronze Final II and start of Bronze Final III (cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) or c. 1200-800 BCE (Kubach 1977: 485).

(DB 3106) Hunsel, gemeente Leudal, Limburg. Damshof II
L.: 2.4 cm; diam. head: 2 x 1.9 cm; th. shaft: 0.7-0.45 cm.

Weight: 19.9 g. Patina: bronze with green patches, corroded. Composition analysis with pXRF (Table 1; Drenth & Van Os 2022: Table 6.11).

Find circumstances: Found during excavation of Damshof II, in Trench 12. LBA ceramics and features were recovered from the same site.

Collection: Unknown.


References: Drenth & Van Os, in press (BAAC-project A-19.0379).

Parallels: Kubach has published a pin with a similarly shaped head (Kubach 1977: Taf. 77 no. 1233).

Dating: Unclear. The comparandum cited by Kubach dates to c. 1200-1025 BCE (Kubach 1977: 485; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). Based on the LBA ceramics from the site, a provisional date of 1200-900 BCE is suggested.

(DB 275) Heerewaarden, gemeente Maasdriel, Gelderland
L.: 13.3 cm; diam. head: h.: 0.85 cm; w.: 1.1 cm wide. Pin with spherical head, flattened top and bottom (barrel-shaped). Patina: mechanically cleaned; traces of black.


Parallels: A similarly shaped (barrel-head) pin is known from Marxen (Kugelkopfnadeln Variante Addenstorf; Laux 1976: Taf. 30 no. 379; Kubach 1977: Taf. 77 no. 2157).

Dating: Unclear. The comparandum cited by Laux is dated to his Zeitstufe Tangendorf (c. 1175-1075 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 3180) Hoogkarspel-Reigersborg, gemeente Drechterland, Noord-Holland. Excavation
L.: 12.5 cm; diam. Ball head: 0.4 cm; diam. round shaft: 0.3-0.45-0.3 cm. Pin with small ball head, heavily corroded (parts of skin peeled off). No decoration visible on photo (drawing after photo). Patina: mottled green-brown. Cereals from Pit 16 were 14C dated: Poz-151175: 2945±30BP = 1260-1048 cal BC.

Find circumstances: Found in 2022 during ADC excavations at Hoogkarspel - Reigersborg Zuid V at the bottom of Pit 16.


Map reference: c. 140.01/522.32.


Parallels: DB 2459 (but with one neck rib).

Dating: MBA-B by associated radiocarbon date (MIII acc. to Butler & Steegstra 2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2459) Cuijk, gemeente Land van Cuijk, Noord-Brabant
L.: +13.7 cm; diam. head: 0.6-0.35 cm. Pin with small ball-head on one neck rib. Patina: glossy green; very well preserved except for the broken-off tip.

Find circumstances: Found c. 1980 in urnfield "de Heeswijkse Kampen" by the owner. Associated with a cremation in an urn with an accessory cup.

Collection: Private possession.


References: -

Parallels: Unknown. The distinct swollen collar/neck rib is rare (but see Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 6 no. 157).

Dating: Unclear. In general terms, the urnfield dates to the Late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age (Gerritsen 2003: 294 no. 192).
(DB 641) Gedrop, gemeente Geldrop-Mierlo, Noord-Brabant. Genoehuis excavation

L.: 14.7 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4-0.2.5 cm. Iron pin with small globular head and torqued shaft just below the head: four turns to the left, four turns to right.

Find circumstances: Found between cremation remains in a Harpstedt urn (Grave 40; Hissel et al. 2007: 85 Fig. 7.11) during excavations in 2004 prior to construction of the Genoehuis residential site. Not seen by the authors, drawing from photo in Hissel et al. 2007: Fig. 7.16.

Collection: Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Brabant.

Map reference: c. 166.044/379.807.

References: Hissel et al. 2007: 100 Fig. 7.16.

Parallels: DB 2761 (infra).

Dating: Based on the associated pottery, a date in the Parallels).

Hissel et al. 2007: 85 Fig. 7.11) during excavations in 2004 prior to construction of the Genoehuis residential site. Not seen by the authors, drawing from photo in Hissel et al. 2007: Fig. 7.16.

Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Brabant.

Collection: Private.

Map reference: c. 188/416 (administratively placed).

References: PAN-00032731.

Parallels: Various pins of the Deutsch-Evern type have similar form and decoration. In terms of the shape of the head, the pin from Undeloh (Laux 1976: 75, Taf. 32 no. 433) is a good comparandum. The pin from Beckedorf bears a similar cross-hatched pattern on the shaft (Laux 1977: Taf. 31 no. 406).

Dating: Unclear. Based on the comparanda (Laux 1976: 76, 79), a final MBA-B to early LBA age may be suspected.

3.11.2 Pins with a solid segmented and decorated ball head (Type Deutsch-Evern; Fig. 17)

This subset contains pins with rounded (or almost rounded) heads divided into three sections: the bottom and top parts are decorated with vertical or diagonal punched-in lines, while the middle section is decorated with incised zig-zags or grooves. Generally, the shaft has incised decoration too (e.g. Laux 1976: 73, Taf. 31-32). Laux dates the pins to his Zeitstufe Oldendorf der späten Hügelgräberzeit (Fig. 17.2-49b).

Fig. 17. Pin with a solid segmented and decorated ball head from gemeente Land van Cuijk (Type Deutsch-Evern). Drawing: H. Steegstra, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA), after PAN photo.

( DB 2761) Uden, gemeente Maashorst, Noord-Brabant. Slabroekerheide excavation 2010

L.: +19.2 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.2-0.25 cm at the decorated diamond-shaped part, 0.2 cm at rounded part. Iron pin with small globular head and decorated shaft: four turns to the left, straight piece, four turns to right, straight piece. Patina: brown (has been laboratory treated).

Find circumstances: Found in 2010 during excavations at the Slabroekerheide by the Faculty of Archaeology at Leiden University. Part of an ornament set comprising bracelets (DB 2875, DB 2876; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2020: 65 DB), a vasiform pin (DB 2759; infra) and a toiletry set (DB 2756; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 21) recovered from an inhumation grave (Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 226, Table C32.2; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021). Found under a thick layer of charcoal in an inhumation grave with a bronze bracelet around the deceased’s right wrist. Only a few bone fragments were found with the corroded bronze fragments, but a silhouette of the body was preserved in situ and was used for measuring its length: 160 cm.

Museum: Noordbrantens Museum (s'-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. US 17.

Map reference: c. 169.75/412.55.

References: Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 226; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021: 140 Table 6.9, Fig. 6.12, 144 Fig. 6.18-6.19

Parallels: DB 641 (supra)

Dating: The remarkable grave is best dated to the start of the Early Iron Age (Ha Cl-2; Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017 II: 226; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021: 148).

3.11.3 Pins with a hollow (un)perforated undecorated ball head (mostly Bombenkopfnadeln; Figs 18a-b)

Ball-headed pins from this subset have hollow-cast heads. The majority comprises pins with large, hollow, perforated bodies, often with a collar at the transition to the straight shaft at the top and bottom of the head (but see DB 483). The heads were generally cast onto the pins using a clay core, after which the clay was removed through the openings (e.g. Dresscher 1958: 42, Taf. 7 Wollendorf, but see Bernatzky-Goetze 1987: Taf. 103 nos 11, 15-16). These pins are generally identified as
Bombenkopfnaäden of the Form Ockstad variety. Their form may be derived from pin types with globular heads.

the openings were originally inlaid with bronze, tin or other materials (Kimmig & Hell 1965: 70 Abb. 71; Wirth 1998: 73-80). The round, decorated Bombenkopf pins are strongly connected to the Palafitte areas,24 and date to the Late Bronze Age,25 but the undecorated examples of Form Ockstad are concentrated in the southwest German areas along the Rhine (Kubach 1977: 505). In addition to these typical Bombenkopfnadeln, pins with unperforated spherical heads also occurred (e.g. DB 2020), for which both regional affinity and dating is less clear.

Undecorated pins of Ockstadt type

(DB 23-DB 24) Gemeente Heerde, Gelderland. Estate de Dellen. From hoard

Description: (DB 23) L.: + 42.8 cm. Pin with spheroid head with six perforations (five circular, one large and irregular), containing a small stone just big enough not to pass through the perforations; long shaft, rectangular in cross-section at the point where it passes through tubular extensions of head, becoming round in cross-section 1 cm below the head. Small bronze wedge is placed in the lower opening of the head to secure the shaft. Diam. head: 6.15 cm; l. (incl. collars): 6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.52 cm. Shaft broken into two pieces. Patina: glossy dark green (has been lab treated).

(DB 24) L.: 29.1 cm. Pin of same type as (DB 23); head sub-biconical, with four round perforations; tubular extensions top and bottom; shaft rectangular in section, becoming rounded c. 4 cm below head; end of shaft broken off and missing. Diam. head: w.: 4.4; l. (incl. collar): 4.5 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5 cm. Patina: glossy dark green (has been lab treated).

The hoard finds of “de Dellen” also comprise one long, socketed, pegged spearhead with a slightly flame-shaped blade (DB 25) and one long, tubular, ferrule with a disc-shaped terminal (DB 26).

Find circumstances: The objects were found on 1 August 1949 by forest worker, T. de Weerd of Epe, while digging a pit for tree-planting on afforested heath land, c. 6 km west of Heerde. The local podzol iron pan was broken by a pit of c. 30 x 30 cm, in which the objects were found “together, standing vertically in the ground” as told by the finder to G. Elzinga (and subsequently to Arnhem Museum staff). The end of the shaft of DB 23 was missing, but was recovered later the same day when the trench was widened and deepened to c. 50 x 60 x 80 cm. After the find-spot had been carefully plotted by forester Mulder, the hoard was placed in the kitchen drawer in his house, where it remained until May 1957 (dixit the 89 year-old son of the forester, e-mailed to the authors by D. Haasjes, member of the Heerder Historische Vereniging [HHV], 1 November 2022). In June 1957, the owners (het Geldersche Landschap en Kasteelen), via their manager, S.H. Frederiks of Arnhem, loaned the find to the Geldersche Archeologische Stichting Collection (inv. no. 1957-7.1-4) in the Arnhem Museum. This collection eventually moved to Museum Het Valkhof (Nijmegen).

Collection: Provinciaal Depot voor Bodemvondsten Gelderland, inv. nos GAS 1957-7-1, 2.


Parallels: The globular-shaped head of DB 23 parallels a pin from Meisen, while the more bulbous shape of DB 24 parallels a pin from Ockstadt (Kubach 1977: 506, Taf. 80 nos 1296-97). In Belgium, another example has been found in the Han-sur-Lesse cave (Mees 1988: 142, Fig. 11 no. 4).

Dating: The associated spearhead (DB 25, GAS 1957-7-3) has parallels in the well known Penavenn-Rosnoën phase in Brittany. Briard (1958: Fig. Iia, 1965: Fig. 51 no. 1), had previously illustrated a close parallel from the hoard of Penavenn-Rosnoën, Finistère (France). Another spearhead of this type from the same hoard was published by Nallier & Le Goffic (2008: 143, Fig. 11 no. 58) and dated to the Bronze Final Atlantique I period (op.cit.: 156).

The tubular ferrule (DB 26, GAS 1957-7-4) with ribs and a base in the form of a disc is unusual. There are similar parallels from the cave exit site at Han-sur-Lesse, Namur, Belgium (Mariën 1973: 127-30, Fig. 1; Warmenbol 2018: 23 Fig. 4) and the Picardy hoard of Caix, Somme (Blanchet 1984: 246 Fig. 133). Wood in the comparable spearhead C89-1 from Han-sur-Lesse, Namur, Belgium (Mariën 1973: 128, Fig. 1; OʼConnor 1980 (I): 182, 416 no. 206; Wassink 1984, DB 24 parallels a pin from Ockstadt (Kubach 1977: 506, Taf. 80 nos 1296-97). In Belgium, another example has been found in the Han-sur-Lesse cave (Mees 1988: 142, Fig. 11 no. 4) and dated to the Bronze Final Atlantique I period (op.cit.: 156).

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A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands

(DB 2330) Herten, gemeente Roermond, Limburg. Ool
L.: +19.0 cm; w.: 3.0 cm; diam. pin with hollow head: 3.0 cm; with three perforations (0.45-0.55 cm). Shaft (+16.6 cm) is square in cross-section at the top 3 cm, the rest is round in cross-section. Low collars. Patina: dark bronze, with black patches. Well preserved, but the end of the pin is missing.

Find circumstances: Dredge find from the Maas River.
Museum: Limburgs Museum (Venlo), inv. no. L04589 (on loan).

Dating: Unclear, see DB 23-24.

(DB 830) Provenance unknown
L.: 49 cm; diam. head: 4.4 x 4.4 cm. Spherical, hollow head and low collars. Three round perforations in head and one irregular perforation (likely due to miscasting or damage). The shaft is round in cross-section but slightly squared-off near the base of the head. The shaft penetrates the head over a length of at least 4 cm and protrudes slightly from the head’s apex. Patina: glossy dark green. The undecorated examples of Form Ockstad are most common in the German areas from the Main-Rhine area (Kubach 1977: 505).

The pin has no provenance, but we assume it is from the Netherlands.
Museum: Het Rondeel (Rhenen), inv. no. Aa 104.
Map reference: -

Dating: Unclear, see DB 23-24.

(DB 441) Gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland. River Waal
L.: 36.6 cm. Pin with hollow globular head (4.6 x 4.6 cm); four round perforations in head (one irregular perforation, due to miscasting or damage). Tubular collars. Shaft: 32 cm; round in cross-section and slightly flattened near the base of the head. Patina: bronze colour.

Find circumstances: Allegedly from the River Waal (dealer’s provenance).
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1931/2.78, legacy Gilde-meester.
Map reference: c. 185/430?

Dating: Unclear, see DB 23-24.

(DB 483) Ravenstein, gemeente Oss, Noord-Brabant.
Dredge find River Maas. Dealer’s provenance
L.: 28.35 cm; diam. head: 2 cm; diam. shaft: 0.45 cm. Pin with hollow, spheroid head with irregularly placed perforations. No collars at the interface of the 26 cm-long shaft and head. Patina: blackish. Find circumstances: Dredge find from the River Maas.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. k 1938/11.6. Purchased from A. Sprik of Zaltbommel.

Dating: Unclear, see DB 23-24.

(DB 829) Oosterhout, gemeente Nijmegen), Gelderland.
Verburgstokkol
The pin is of extraordinary size: L: 46 cm; with bent shaft. The head is globular (5.8 x 5.6 cm) with four small round perforations and a slight collar at the top and bottom. There are a few small perforations in the sides. The shaft’s top end is square near the base of the head, but the remainder is round in cross-section. Patina: dark green.

Find circumstances: Found in 1985 by F. Spaan, according to whom the pin was located within a radius of c. 5 m from ball-headed pin DB 2421 (supra, found in 1986) and a pegged spearhead (DB 2419, found in 1983).
Collection: Historische Kring Oosterhout.

Dating: Unclear, see DB 23-24.

(DB 2020) Zutphen, gemeente Zutphen, Gelderland.
Excavation Voorsterallee
Diam. ball head: 1.8 cm. Part of a hollow spheroid head that has lost its core. Two round 5 mm openings (at the top and bottom of the head) for the missing shaft, but no perforations (in contrast to the “true” Bombenkopfnadeln). This globular head may have been the sole crowning element of a pin or may have formed part of a Mehrkopfnadel DB 2986 (cf. DB 2865; Říhovský 1979: Taf. 67 nos 1886-1979). Patina: brown. Not seen by the authors, drawing from photo (Fermin 2011: Fig. 36).

Find circumstances: Found on a spoils dump with a metal detector.
Collection: Gemeentelijk Depot Bodemvondsten Zutphen.
Map reference: c. 212/462.
References: Fermin 2011: 26, 27 Fig. 36.
Parallels: -

Dating: Unclear. Pottery and features from the (final) MBA-B and LBA were uncovered during this excavation (Fermin 2011: 23-24).
3.11.4 Pins with a hollow decorated ball-shaped to ovoid head (Pfahlbaunadeln; Fig. 18b)

These often lavishly decorated pins with ball-shaped or (pointy) ovoid heads are generally classified as Pfahlbaunadeln due to their dominance in the Swiss-French Palafitte area. They were cast in moulds (cf. Eberschweiler et al. 1987: Taf. 3 no. 22) but some very big heads were cast separately and/or later cast onto the shafts (cf. Drescher 1958: Taf. 7 Nördlingen; Audouze & Courtois 1970: 33). The decorative repertoire centres on various geometric motifs such as concentric circles around perforations, pointillé lines connecting such perforations, triangular incised figures and undulating/wave patterns (cf. Rychner 1979: 34, 62-63, with further references). Related forms and motifs occur beyond the palafitte area proper, often displaying a distinct regional style in shape and decoration (cf. Kimmig 1992: Taf. 14; Rychner-Faraggi 1993: 12, 48). Their date ranges from Ha A (c. 1200-1025 BCE; Bauer 2002: 1050) to Bronze Final IIIb (c. 925-800 BCE; Audouze & Courtois 1970: 33).

(Leave blank)

DB 1454

Provenance unknown

L.: 26 cm; diam. head: 3.4 x 3.8 cm. Pointy ovoid-headed pin, cast in one piece (head cast around a clay core and decorated afterwards). Original surface of the head corroded away; but surviving traces of incised decoration of concentric arcs remain. Patina: green.

Museum: Museum Het Valkhof (Nijmegen), inv. no. XXX.b.12.

Map reference: -

References: Elzinga 1958, footnote 23.

Parallels: Comparanda include pins from Erpfingen, Kr. Reutlingen, Germany (Rieth 1938: 77, Abb. 29 no. 5), Greifensee-Böschen, Switzerland (Eberschweiler et al. 1987: Taf. 5, nos 7-9), Hagnau, Bodenseekreis, Germany (Schöbel 1996: Taf. 74 nos 16-21) and Heidesheim Kr. Frankenthal, Germany (Kilian-Dirlmeier 1975; 84, Taf. 61E). From Belgium, two examples are known from Han-sur-Lesse (Mees 1988: 138, Fig. 9): one from the Scheldt between Schellebelle and Wichelen (Destexhe & Warmenbol 2023: Fig. 7) and one from Pitet, Namur (Destexhe & Warmenbol 2023: 55-56, Figs 2-3).

Dating: Unclear, presumably LBA (Ha A- Ha B2; Rychner 1979: 34, 62-63).

3.11.5 Pins with a hollow bulbous head with multiple neck ribs (Type Wollmesheim; Fig. 19)

Characteristic of pins of the Wollmesheim type is a hollow, flattened head that varies in shape from rounded to almost kidney-shaped, and sometimes almost biconical. Below the head, there is a series of one to six neck ribs, which can be sharply profiled (German: wulstförmige Halsrippen; Kubach 1977: 422). The heads are cast onto the pins using a clay core, which is still visible where the head is damaged (Drescher 1958: Taf. 7 St. Goar; Kubach 1977: 422). Kubach (1977: 422-50, Taf. 67-71) classifies these pins into different subtypes based on the head shape and number of neck ribs. Their distribution centres on the southern part of Hessen (Kubach 1977: Taf. 103), though related types are focused around Neuchatel lake (e.g. Typ Binningen; Kubach 1977: Taf. 104A). Kubach (1977: 430, 439 note 110) considers Typ Wollmesheim pins a Leitform of the older and middle urnfield period (c. 1200-1025 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

In the Netherlands, three pins of Kubach’s Typ Wollmesheim have been identified. These pins, classified as Variante Weinheim (Kubach 1977: Taf. 69 nos 1046-55), have three neck ribs and a globular to slightly rounded biconical head. Their heads are cast on separately (mit aufgesetztem Kopf) and their neck ribs are either biconical and round (DB 2399, DB 2281, DB 2247) or simply round (DB 2814).
A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands

A close match comes from the Rhine-Mainz area, Kubach’s Variante Weinheim type (Kubach 1977: Taf. 69 no. 1049).

Parallels:

3.12 Pins with vasiform heads (Vasenkopfnadeln; Fig. 20)

This group of pins is characterized by the vasiform shape of their heads, typically with a round to bulbous lower section topped with a funnel-shaped section or disc-on-neck.27 The top of the pin can vary, some more articulated or disc-shaped, others more rounded. The degree to which a neck is distinguishable also varies across regions and subtypes.28 In some cases, the shaft appears to be deliberately bent (cf. Laux 1976: 99) and was recovered from Grave 40 at the Herk-de-Stad urnfield (Donk, B.) (Van Impe 1983: 71 Fig. 4).

Dating: See DB 2399. Grave 40 at Herk-de-Stad has been dated to c. 1200-885 BC (De Mulder 2020: 69).

(DB 2281) Boekend/Blerick, gemeente Venlo, Limburg. De Römer

L.: 14.3 cm; diam. head: 1.8 x 1.1 cm. Pin with globular head and three neck ribs. Head and shaft were cast separately (the head has a different patina). The pin was restored in the Limburgs Museum (Venlo). Not seen by the authors, drawing from museum photo.

Find circumstances: Found with a metal detector.
Collection: private.
References: -
Parallels: All stray finds from the Rhine-Mainz area (Kubach 1977: Taf. 69 nos 1048-1054). A similar pin...
both head and shaft can be decorated with incised lines or ribs. Pins with small vasiform heads are dated to Ha B2/3 (Tackenberg 1971: 175; Kubach 1977: 513) or LBA in general.29 Their distribution covers the northern part of Germany, extending from Poland to southern Denmark to the Netherlands and Belgium (Tackenberg 1971: Karte 38; Mees 1988: 132-33, Fig. 5), and also stretches into Moravia, Slovakia, the Palafitte area and northern Italy.30 While numbers in the Netherlands are modest, several tens of examples are known from the caves at Han-sur-Lesse and Sinsin (Warmenbol, pers. comm., February 2024; Mees 1988: 132-33).

Find circumstances: Excavated from a tumulus by A. Perk, 25 October 1855, on Section C, Kadastraal No. 79, close to Doodweg street. Found close to unurned cremation remains in addition to a pair of open bracelets with a slightly oval cross-section and a slightly expanded paw-shaped terminal (DB 1102-1104; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 63), another fragment (l.: +5.1 cm; th.: 0.5 cm) of presumably the same type of bracelet, a small bronze spiral and a triangular bronze (Wimmers 1988: 125).

Museum: Present locus unknown.
Map reference: c. 141.1/473.3.
References: Janssen 1856: 83-85, Pl. X nos 3 and 6; Wimmers 1988: 118, 138 no. I.16, 134 Fig. 10; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 63.
Parallels: In terms of the rounded top and ribbing details, the pins from Vienne (Laux 1976: Taf. 37 no. 590) and Ibbenbüren – Auf’m Trüssel (Gaffrey 2008: 121) are evident comparanda.
Dating: Based on pottery recovered from the same tumulus (Wimmers 1988: 133 Fig. 9 no. 1.12; 135 Fig. 11 no. 22), a LBA-EIA date (cf. Wimmers 1988: 134) is plausible, which is also in line with the HaB3 date proposed for the associated bracelets (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 63). The cited comparanda can also be dated to the LBA (Laux 1976: 106; Gaffrey 2008: 122).

(DB 222) Posterholt, gemeente Roerdalen, Limburg.
Eremietenberg. Grave find?
L.: 20.2 cm; diam. head: 0.7 cm; diam. shaft: 0.35 cm.
Pin with small vasiform head; incised decoration on shaft (three groups of closely set fine horizontal parallel lines). Patina: glossy dark green.
Find circumstances: Found by P. Deberger while ploughing in 1932 with urn and handled cup, according to Inventory Book D1, 228 on the Eremietenberg.
Museum: Bonnefanten Maastricht, inv. no. 242 (736 FIII, acquired through mediation of J. Krekelberg; on loan in Limburgs Museum (Venlo), inv. no. L20160.
Map reference: c. 201/349.
References: -
Parallels: A pin from Dustrüp (Laux 1976: Taf. 36 no. 578) is a close match in terms of head shape and series of disconnected incised rings (although with four groups of three rings here).
Dating: Laux categorizes the Dustrüp pin as his Variante Westerweyhe group (Laux 1976: 103), dated to Zeitgruppe V (c. 975-800 BCE; Laux 1976: 104; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2759) Uden, gemeente Maashorst, Noord-Brabant.
Slabroek excavation 2010
L.: 10.8 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm. Bronze pin with vasiform head. Patina: glossy green (has been laboratory treated).
Find circumstances: Found in 2010 during excavations at the Slabroekerheide by the Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University. The deliberately broken pin (Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017 [II]: 224, Fig. C32.3) was found with a piece of textile (Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017 [II]: 226, US 19). Recovered from an inhumation grave (Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 226, Table C32.2; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021), which contained an ornamental set comprising bracelets (DB 2875, DB 2876; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2020: 65), a torqued ball-headed iron pin (DB 2761; supra) and a toletry set (DB 2756; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 21). Found under a thick layer of charcoal around the deceased’s right wrist. Only a few bone fragments remained in the corroded bronze fragments, but a silhouette of the body was preserved in situ, allowing for an estimation of the body’s length at 160 cm.


Map reference: c. 169.75/412.55.

References: Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017 (II): 226; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021: 140 Table 6.9, Fig. 6.12, 144 Fig. 6.18-6.19.

Parallels: Another pin from Düstrup (Laux 1976: Taf. 36 no. 566) is a close parallel in terms of the double globular head (‘snowman-shaped’).

Dating: See DB 2761: The remarkable grave is best dated to the start of the Early Iron Age (Ha Cl-2; Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 226; Van der Vaart-Verschoof et al. 2021: 148). The Düstrup pin is grouped by Laux (1976: 102) to his Variante Düstrup, which he dates to a late phase of the Urnfield period (op.cit.: 103).

(DB 320) Gemeente Deurne, Noord-Brabant
L.: 2 cm; diam. head: 1.1 cm. Pin with hollow vase head and rounded perforation (original?) from urn ND 3. Patina: mottled green-grey (burnt and distorted).

Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. ND 3a (II.128), purchased at auction Frederik Muller in 1884.

Map reference: c. 185/382.

References: Cat. Holwerda 1908 B.II.128.

Parallels: The shape of the head, with a disc almost recklessly on a globular body, is matched by many pins (e.g. Laux 1976: Taf. 35 no. 550, Taf. 36, no. 571; Říhovský 1979: Taf. 59 no. 1620; Novotná 1980: Taf. 43 no. 983). However, none of these have perforations.


(DB 3160) gemeente Overbetuwe, Gelderland
L.: 2.3 cm; w.: 1.3 cm. Head fragment of a Vasenkopfnadel. Patina: mottled green, decoration on the neck of the vase almost faded away. We did not examine this vase head, drawing after photo.
to the final centuries of the MBA-B and the LBA. In the subsequent sections, we will first discuss the decorated pins with biconical heads (Fig. 21), followed by the undecorated pins (Fig. 22). Wherever possible, we will provide more precise typological classification and dating evidence for the individual examples.

(DB 420-DB 421) Gemeente Hillegom, Zuid-Holland. Veenenburg. From the hoard

(DB 420) L.: 17.5 cm; diam. head: 1.2 cm. Pin with flattened biconical head decorated with six incised horizontal lines and punch strokes at the top; shaft has incised decoration of two groups of horizontal varied zones of zig-zag lines, diagonal hatching, horizontal lines and cross-hatching. Patina: well-preserved surface of bronze colour, with remains of original black patina and a few spots of green.

(DB 421) L.: 16.5 cm; diam. head: 1.2 cm. Flattened head of pin bears incised horizontal lines, with a ring of punch strokes below. The neck has a long band of horizontal lines and a short band of diagonal hatching. Patina: well-preserved surface of bronze colour, with remains of original black patina and a few spots of green.

Find circumstances: Found in 1897 within a sand-extraction pit for the railway on the Veenenburg estate at Hillegom, alongside other bronze items, including a tanged chisel (Ledermesser), a bronze sheet fragment and two knobbled sickles (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2016: 96). There were also six bar/rod bracelets, two open bracelets, three originally-open but forged-closed bracelets and one bracelet with overlapping terminals (for the bracelets, see Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 52ff). The assemblage was recovered from a depth of c. 40 cm within a layer of peat measuring 1-1.5 m in thickness, suggesting a votive deposit (Butler 1990: 97-98).

Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. nos h 1930/7.39 and h 1930/7.40, respectively.


References: Butler 1990: 95-98, Fig. 26 nos 24-25.

Parallels: Butler 1990: 95-98, Fig. 26 nos 24-25.

(Var. 263) A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands, though the top section of the head at Kroge is also decorated.

Dating: Unclear. The pin from Kroge is characterized by Laux (1976: 79) as his Variante Kronsberg, which he dates to his Zeitgruppe III (c. 1175-1075 BCE, cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(2016) Exaten, gemeente Leudal, Limburg

L.: 20 cm; diam. head: 2.7 cm; diam. round shaft: 0.4 cm. Biconical head, decorated with groups of horizontal incised lines: three lines below and five above. Shaft undecorated. Patina: powdery mottled green.

Find circumstances: Found with metal detector during ground works along the Haelense beek.

Map reference: c. 190.18/361.80.

References: -

Parallels: Pins with a sharp and relatively biconical head showing incised circles and undecorated shafts have been published by Audouze & Courtois (1970: Pl. 8 no. 216, with pointillé motif), Laux (1976: Taf. 39 no. 662), Kubach (1977: Taf. 76 no. 1209) and Warmenbol (et al. 1992: 104 Fig. 69 no. 98, 105).


(2021) Gasteren, gemeente Aa en Hunze, Drenthe. Urmfield, Tumulus 41

L.: + 11.2 cm, diam. head: 2.1 cm; h. head: 1.0 cm. Pin with biconical head, rounded on top. Top of head decorated with four diametrically placed motifs of incised arcs with joining verticals. Neck decorated with four incised lines. Patina: dark green, glossy; most of the surface well preserved. Top worn; end of shaft missing.

Find circumstances: Found in 1939 during excavation by A.E. van Giffen in a Gasteren urn (1939/VII.54) with a cremation, an accessory vessel (miniature Gasteren urn: 1939/VII.54a, DB 1266) and a small spiral (1939/VII.54c, DB 1268) under Tumulus 41, next to a small stone packing. These were placed in the NW of the featureless Barrow 41 (Van Giffen 1945: Afb. 16).

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1939/VII.54b.


References: Van Giffen 1945: 69-121, esp. 82, 86, 102 (No. 18), 118-19 (No. 97) and Afb. 15B; Butler 1969: 76 Fig. 32, Photo 29, Butler 1987: 21-23.

Parallels: The overall shape and motif observed at the top is similar to that of several pins from the French Villetierry hoard (dép. Yonne, France; Mordant & Prampart 1976: 31 Fig. 17 (nos 104, 105, 107, 110), 32 Fig. 18 (nos 99, 106, 108), 76). This hoard was found in a vase packed with bronze fragments of tools and weapons, almost complete fibulae, pendants, bracelets, rings and one pair of tweezers. Most objects were pins: 488 examples, of which 99 roll-headed pins and 56 pins of a Rollenkopf variant (Mordant &
Prampart 1976: 20). The remaining 333 pins have a (rounded or flattened) biconical head with different patterns of incised decoration (some shafts bear incised decorations too).

**Dating**: Uncertain. Presumably final centuries MBA-B. Butler (1987: 21) dates it to Bronze Final I (c. 1325-1200 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1). The Villettierry pins are dated by Mordant & Prampart (1976: 200; cf. O’Connor 1980 (II): 125) to Bronze Final IIb (c. 1125-1025 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 1199** Valthe, gemeente Borger-Odoorn, Drenthe

L.: + 8.4 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3-0.5 cm. Pin with flattened biconical head, diam.: 2.4 cm. Incised decoration of transverse lines on head and horizontal rib in the middle. Shaft decorated with zig-zag bands and alternating diagonal hatching. Part of the shaft is missing.

**Find circumstances**: Found in 1920 by P. Drenth of Valthe with an urn (DB 1198) with cremation in a small stone cist or packing in a wind-eroded tumulus south of the finder’s house, ‘somewhat south of the new road’ and c. 100 m east of hunebed D XXXV, SW of Valthe.

**Museum**: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1920/VII.6 (urn) and 1920/VII.6A (pin).

**Map reference**: c. 254.9/539.5.

**References**:

- Parallels: The Valthe pin has several close parallels in Laux’s pins of Variante Holthusen (Laux 1976: Taf. 32 nos 426, 432, 437-38)
- **Dating**: The associated urn (DB 1198) can be classified as a G0 type of vessel datable to the (final) LBA and EIA (c. 900-500 BCE; Taayke 1996: 182 Abb. 10). The comparanda in Laux (supra) are however dated to his Zeitgruppe III (c. 1175-1075 BCE; Laux 1976: 79; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1), but may – according to Říhovský (1979: 121) – span the entire urnfield period.

**DB 1784** Stein, gemeente Stein, Limburg.

**Sanderboutlaan/Mauritsweg (urnfield)**

L.: + 8.1 cm; diam. head: 0.6 cm. Biconical head: horizontal incised lines on head, diagonal lines below head.

**Find circumstances**: Found in November 1959 with sherds of biconical urn (with inverted conical neck and broad horizontal grooves on neck), an accessory vessel (biconical, with Kerbschnitt decoration above carination) and cremated bones. Found while planting trees in a pit about 60 cm deep during the construction of new streets and gardens. The finds were rescued by Father Munster of Stein.

**Collection**: Archeologisch Museum Stein, inv. no. S7c (ex coll. father Munster).

**Map reference**: c. 183.00/329.66.

**References**:

- Schuyf & Verwers 1976: 80-81, Fig. 3-S7c.
- **Parallels**: Comparable biconical pins with plain heads, but with either shorter (e.g. Kubach 1977: Taf. 59 no. 866) or longer (e.g. Říhovský 1979: Taf. 36 nos 713, 716) decorated sections of the shaft directly below the head.
- **Dating**: The Kerbschnitt decoration on urn S7b suggests a Late Bronze Age date for this pin (Schuyf & Verwers 1976: 81). Kubach dates the comparanda to Br. D (c. 1350-1200 BCE; Kubach 1977: 357; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1), but may – according to Říhovský (1979: 121) – span the entire urnfield period.

**DB 519** River Waal, Gelderland.

**Dealer’s provenance**

L.: 14.4 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm. Rounded biconical head, diam.: 1.8 cm, with incised horizontal lines (1.3 cm) under the head.

**Museum**: RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1949/4.2, purchased from antique dealer Esser of Nijmegen.

**Map reference**: -

**References**: -

**Parallels**: See DB 1784.

**Dating**: See DB 1784.

**DB 1812** Provenance unknown (Netherlands)

L.: 12.1 cm; th. shaft: 0.3 cm; w. head: 1.0 cm; h. head: 0.8 cm. Pin: biconical head; spirally incised line on neck. Patina: bright bronze; traces of black.

**Collection**: Private ownership.

**Map reference**: -

**References**: -

**Parallels**: See DB 1784.

**Dating**: See DB 1784.
(DB 1960) Witreit, gemeente Bergeijk, Noord-Brabant. Urnfield, Grave 10
L.: +4 cm. Pin with concave biconical head with one central rib, diam.: 1.4 x 1.2 cm.
Find circumstances: Found in Grave 10 with an urn, a cup and a bowl.
Collection: Present locus unknown. Not seen by the authors.
Map reference: c. 146/369
References: Desittere 1968 (I): 35, (II) Fig. 40:4.
Parallel: Despite the outspoken form, supra-regional comparanda are lacking.
Dating: Ha. B, according to Desittere (c. 1025-800 BCE; Desittere 1968: 35; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 1224) Schuilingsoord, gemeente Tynaarlo, Drenthe
L.: +4.5 cm. Pin with staggered, flattened biconical head: diam.: 1.2 x 1.3 cm. Zones of diagonal hatching on head and faint diagonal to zig-zag hatching on shaft. The shaft is bent, end broken off and missing.
Patina: mottled green.
Find circumstances: Found in a natural elevation near the Annertol.
Museum: Dreents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1926/XII.9, purchased 18 Dec. 1926 from Mrs A. Hovenkamp of Schuilingsoord, through amanuensis H. Lijn.
References: -
Parallel: See DB 2984.
Dating: See DB 2984.

(DB 184) Riethoven, gemeente Bergeijk, Noord-Brabant. Urnfield
L.: + 10.5 cm. Biconical head: diam.: 0.7 x 0.9 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4 cm. Shaft decorated with horizontal lines: two groups of four lines and one group of five lines. End of shaft broken off and missing.
Find circumstances: From Grave 6 in the Riethoven urnfield, excavated by the RMO in 1909.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. k 1910/5.22
Map reference: c. 154/374
References: Bursch 1942: 50-51, Afb. 22; Desittere 1968: Fig. 56 no. 3.
Parallel: Pins with small, biconical, undecorated heads and interspersed groups of incisions have been published by Audouze & Courtois (1970: Pl. 4 no. 85) and Kubach (1977: Taf. 67 no. 1216).
Dating: Ha B (c. 1025-900 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) according to Bursch (1942: 51) and Desittere (1968 (B): 126, Fig. 58 no. 2).

(DB 1813) Provenance unknown (Netherlands)
L.: 7.6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm; diam. head 0.8 x 0.65 cm. Pin with biconical head, grooved line in a spiral on neck.
Collection: Private ownership.
Map reference: -
References: -
Parallel: A spiral-decorated shaft underneath a biconical head can also be observed on the pin from Mainz-Zahlbach (Kubach 1977: Taf. 76 no. 1195).

(DB 3006) Best, gemeente Best, Noord-Brabant. Urnfield Aarlese heide
L.: 9.7 cm; diam. head: 0.6 x 0.55 cm. Pin with biconical head with two incised lines on lower section, now faded. Diam. shaft: 0.4 cm. Patina: grey green with blue parts. Heavily corroded.
Find circumstances: Found during excavations in 1935 by W.J.A Willems with cremated remains. Located slightly off-centre within a small ring-ditch, whose central grave contained yet another biconical pin (DB 2696; infra) and a Kerbschnitt-decorated urn.
Museum: Noordbrabants Museum (’s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 08270.
References: Willems 1935: 114 no. 43.
Parallel: Biconical pins that have decoration only on the lower section of the head have been published by Kubach (1977: Taf. 77 no. 1228) and Říhovský (1979: Taf. 35 no. 710).
Dating: LBA, based on the date of the central grave (DB 2696; infra).

(DB 1900) Goirle, gemeente Goirle, Noord-Brabant. Urnfield Rielse Dijk
L.: 7.4 cm. Pin with rounded biconical head (0.7 x 0.6 cm), bent shaft; incised lines on head and on the shaft just below the head.
Find circumstances: Found in or before 1924 during sand quarrying. This pin and an accessory cup were collected by E.J. Puyenbroek, industrialist of Goirle, prior to the systematic excavation immediately to the south of the findspot by A.E. Remouchamps in 1924-1925. Pin and accessory cup were found in the same urn (all three now lost: Verwers 1966: 47 nos 60-62), but fortunately copies had been made in the RMO. Urn with biconical body; cylindrical neck; smooth-walled (Verwers 1966: 43 Fig. 8 no. 60). Cup with hemispherical body, small D handle springing from rim (Verwers 1966: 41 Fig. 7 no. 61).
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. k 1925/5.31 (copy), acquired May 1925.
Map reference: c. 130.7/393.3.
References: Remouchamps 1926: xciii no. 1, xciv, Afb. 14 no. 1, 1a, 1b, Verwers 1966: 47 nos 60-62, Fig. 7 no. 61, Fig. 8 nos 60, 62; Desittere 1968: Fig. 50 nos 1-3.
Parallel: -
**(DB 1991) Riethoven, gemeente Bergeijk, Noord-Brabant. Uurnfield.**
L.: +7.4 cm. Biconical pointy head: diam.: 1.3 x 0.8 cm; upper part of shaft decorated with six horizontal incised lines. End of shaft broken off and missing.


**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. k 1910/5.35.

**Map reference:** c. 153/1/374.1.

**References:**
- Bursch 1942: 51 and Afb. 22; Desittere 1968 Map reference: c.
- Desittere 1968: 126, Fig. 58.3.
- References: Bursch 1942: 51 and Afb. 22; Desittere 1968 (B): 126, Fig. 58.3.
- Parallels: Audouze & Courtois (1970: Pl. 4 nos 79-80) list pins with comparable decoration and acute top of head.
- **Dating:** The French comparanda date to Bronze Final II - III (c. 1200-925 BCE; Audouze & Courtois 1970: 22; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

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**(DB 635) Eersel/Veldhoven, gemeente Veldhoven, Noord-Brabant. De Heibloem, Tumulus 100**
L.: 10.2 cm; head: 2.5 x 1.5 cm. Pin with ovoid biconical head (on the lower part of which there are four transverse, crudely incised lines), and smaller swelling, with incised lines on the shaft below the head. Tip broken off and missing. Pin possibly used to fasten the organic container (cloth?) in which the cremation was placed (Modderman & Louwe Kooijmans 1966: 21). Patina: mottled green, somewhat glossy (treated?).

Find circumstances: Found at the perimeter of the 100th barrow in SW quadrant with cremation and small drinking cup (everted lip, ribbed neck) during the 1953 excavation.

**Museum:** Noordbrabants Museum (‘s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 81601.

**Map reference:** c. 154.40/377.40.

**References:**
- Modderman & Louwe Kooijmans 1966: 23 Fig. 12; Desittere 1968 (B): 121, Fig. 47 no. 7.
- Parallels: Rare morphology. Similar pins with a collar underneath a double conical head have been published by Říhovský (1979: Taf. 29 nos 530-34).
- **Dating:** Ha. B (c. 1025-800 BCE) according to Modderman and Louwe Kooijmans (1966: 23) and Desittere (1968: B): 121), which aligns with the associated pottery (cf. Arnoldussen & Ball 2007: 196).

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**(DB 285) Epe, gemeente Epe, Gelderland. Wuusterbergen.**
L.: 13.7 cm. Pin with biconical head, diam.: 1.4 cm; fine transverse lines incised on neck. Patina: dull black.

Find circumstances: Found in March 1845 by Haas-loop-Werner in a small urn (lost sometime prior to 1863) with bone, ash and a bracelet (DB 284).

**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. FE 4. Presented by Jhr. van der Feltz, former mayor of Epe, March 1863.

**Map reference:** c. 193/482.

**References:**
- Parallels: Despite the outspoken form and decoration, supra-regional comparanda are lacking.
- **Dating:** Based on comparanda for the bracelet (De Mulder 2018: 90 Fig. 10 no. 5), a date in the LBA (to EIA?) seems probable (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 66).

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**(DB 422) Gemeente Hillegom, Zuid-Holland. Veenenburg estate (NOT part of the hoard)**
L.: 16.4 cm; diam. head: 1 cm. Pin with staggered biconical head with one central rib (diam.: 1 cm) and geometric decoration on its shaft.

Find circumstances: Found on the Veenenburg estate but, based on the reports by Leembruggen, not part of the original hoard (Butler 1990: 95-96).

**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. h 1930/7.41.

**Map reference:** c. 99.2/476.7.

**References:**
- Butler 1990: 97 Fig. 27 no. 2.
- Parallels: This combination of shaft decoration and head type parallels the Schweringen (Laux 1976: Taf. 31 no. 416; cf. Butler 1990: 98).

**Dating:** The Schweringen pin is classified by Laux (1976: 76-77, Taf. 32 nos 421-24) as his Type Deutsch-Evern, Varianten Tangendorf and dated to his Stufe Tangendorf (c. 1175-1075 BCE; Laux 1976: 77, Taf. 63; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1), which is slightly later in date than the Br. D previously proposed (Butler 1990: 98).
A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands

(DB 297) Deurne, gemeente Deurne, Noord-Brabant
L.: +2.05 cm; th. head: 0.7 cm; shaft: 0.3 cm. Fragment of bronze pin with small biconical head, shaft broken off and missing. Two incised lines on the lower section of head. Patina: dull dark green (burnt).


Map reference: c. 182/373.

References: -

Parallels: See DB 3006.


(DB 3036) Amby, gemeente Maastricht, Limburg.
Urnfield, Ambyerveld
L.: +0.7 cm; diam. head: 0.63 cm. The edge is serrated where the two cones meet.

Find circumstances: Found in Urn 24 of the Maastricht - Ambyerveld urnfield.

Collection: Gemeentelijk Depot Bodemvondsten Maastricht (GDBM).

Map reference: c. 179.441/320.444.

References: Dyselinck 2013: 95, 100, Fig. 29 no. 3.

Parallels: The head of the pin from Brison-St. Innocent (Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 3 no. 58) is also nicked at its widest point (cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 35 no. 517).

Dating: The collective radiocarbon dates for the Ambyerveld cemetery suggest that it was in use between 1300 and 900 BCE (Dyselinck 2013: 136).

Undecorated pins with biconical head (Fig. 22)

(DB 2698) Best, gemeente Best, Noord-Brabant.
Urnfield, Aarlese heide, Grave 53
L.: +9.6 cm. Biconical head: 1.8 x 1.6 cm.

Find circumstances: Found on 2-7 October 1933 during excavation of the so-called Aarlese heide (Section E, No. 1271) in a low Kerbschnitt-decorated bowl no. 8277 (with cremation), located centrally in a ring-ditch (Willems 1935: Fig. 17).

Museum: Noordbrabants Museum (’s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 8294.


References: Willems 1935: 115 nos 53-53a, Fig. 17 no. 53; Desittere 1968 (B): 120, Fig. 44 no. 4.

Parallels: Simple, undecorated biconical pins are common across Europe (e.g. Audouze & Courtois 1970: Pl. 4 nos 74-87, 81-84; Laux 1976: Taf. 33 nos 455-58; Kubach 1977: Taf. 76 nos 1215, 1217-19; Taf. 77 nos 1221, 1223-24; Říhovský 1979: Taf. 36 nos 720, 721, 725, 739).

Dating: Based on the Kerbschnitt-decorated bowl, a LBA/Ha.B date (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) can safely assumed.

(DB 528) Drenthe? Dealer’s provenance
L.: 11 cm; diam. head: 1.2 cm; diam. shaft :0.2 cm. Pin with rounded biconical head.

Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. c 1950/2.3, purchased from antique dealer Esser.

Map reference: -

References: -

Parallels: See DB 2698.
Dating: Unclear. Based on DB 2698 and the supraregional comparanda, presumably LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 1669** Drenthe (or NW Germany)
L.: 10.1 cm; diam. head: 1.2 cm; diam. shaft: 0.18 cm. Pin with biconical head.
Map reference: -
References: -
Parallels: See DB 2698.
Dating: Unclear. Based on DB 2698 and supraregional comparanda, presumably LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 1821** Neer, gemeente Leudal, Limburg. Kappesberg
L.: 12.2 cm; diam. head: 1.0 cm; shaft: 0.35 cm. Pin with rounded biconical head, dark bronze colour.
Find circumstances: Found with urn sherds (not preserved).
Collection: Private ownership.
References: -
Parallels: See DB 2698.
Dating: Unclear. Based on DB 2698 and supraregional comparanda, presumably LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 2697** Best, gemeente Best, Noord-Brabant.
Urnfield Aarlese heide, Grave 42
L.: +5.6 cm. Pin, biconical head: 1.6 x 2.1 cm.
Find circumstances: Found on 2-7 October 1933 during excavation of the so-called Aarlese heide (Section E, No. 1271) with cremation bones and Kerbschnitt-decorated Trichterhalsurn (Willems 1955: nos 42-42a and Fig. 17 no. 42 [urn]). Central interment in a small ring-ditch.
Museum: Noordbrabants Museum (s-Hertogenbosch), inv. no. 8297.
References: Willems 1935: 114, Fig. 16; Desittere 1968 (A): 34, (B): 120 Fig. 44 no. 2.
Dating: Based on the Kerbschnitt-decorated urn, a LBA/ Ha.B date (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1) can safely assumed (cf. Desittere 1968 (B): 120).

**DB 1202** Annertol, gemeente Tynaarlo, Drenthe.
Tumulus II
L.: 12.6 cm; diam. head: 1.27 cm; diam. shaft: 0.98 cm. Pin with narrow biconical head, slightly flattened on top; plain shaft. Patina: dark green.
Find circumstances: Found during barrow excavations by A.E. van Giffen in 1921, in a barrel-shaped urn (Van Giffen 1923: 199) with cremation remains, two bronze pins (DB 1202, DB 1203 (infra)) and a pair of tweezers (DB 1204; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24). This urn was placed as a secondary interment into the SW quadrant of a Middle Bronze Age barrow.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1921/VII.1a.
References: Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24, with further references.
Parallels: See DB 2698, esp. Laux 1976: Taf. 33 no. 468 for the ovoid head.
Dating: LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; see discussion in Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24).

**DB 2139** Millingen a/d Rijn, gemeente Millingen a/d Rijn, Gelderland. Biesterveld
L.: 11.9 cm; diam.: 0.3 cm. Bronze pin; round shaft; rounded-biconical head.
Find circumstances: Found in 1974; finder unknown.
Collection: Private ownership.
Map reference: c. 198.08/428.97.
References: -
Parallels: See DB 2698, esp. Kubach 1977: Taf. 76 no. 1221 for the shape of the head.
Dating: Unclear. Based on DB 2698 and supraregional comparanda, presumably LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 1318** Gemeente Emmen, Drenthe. From a tumulus
L.: + 8.65 cm; diam. head: 0.75 cm. Pin with biconical head; end of shaft broken off. Well preserved.
Map reference: -
References: Bontekoe et al. 1965: 270.
Parallels: See DB2698.
Dating: Unclear. Based on DB 2698 and supraregional comparanda, presumably LBA (c. 1125-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

**DB 3037** Amby, gemeente Maastricht, Limburg.
Urnfield Ambyerveld
L.: +3.6 cm; diam. head: 0.8 cm. Pin with biconical head that is heavily damaged by the fire.
Find circumstances: From Grave B4 of the Maastricht - Ambyerveld urnfield.
Collection: Gemeentelijk Depot Bodemvondsten Maastricht (GDBM)
Map reference: c. 179.441/320.444.
References: Dyselinck 2013: 95, 100, Fig. 29 no. 3.
Parallels: See DB 2698.
Dating: The collective radiocarbon dates for the Ambyerveld cemetery suggest that it was in use between 1300 and 900 BCE (Dyselinck 2013: 136).
3.14 Spiral wire fibulae and pins (Fig. 23)
This group comprises (fragments of) bronze wire spirals that may come from pins or fibula-type clothes fasteners. Such spiral elements have been identified, for example, in the northeast of Niedersachsen from Spiralkopfnadeln that have spirals with three to five turns on a straight shaft, although they frequently break away from their shaft.\textsuperscript{38} Spiral elements also feature on spectacle-shaped wire fibulae (Haarknotenfibeln), often behind the head (Laux 1973: 9-22; Taf. 1-20), and on Spiralplattenfibeln, often in the chest region (Laux 1973: 37-44, Taf. 29-38). In Hessen and Südwürttemberg, spiral elements also occur on Brillenadeln or Doppelspiraladeln, where the end of the straight shaft forks into one spiral on the left and one on the right (Kubach 1977: 261; Stufe Traisbach; Pirling et al. 1980: 23; dritter Mittelbronzezeitstufe).

Many Dutch finds may include spectacle-shaped wire fibulae, which were made of one piece of bronze coiled wire, forming a bow, and two spiral-discs. The fastening pin was cast separately, usually made of the same wire, and bent towards the back or the front. Sometimes the bow/wire is twisted in two loops forming a figure-of-eight (Romano & Trefný 2015: 216). Spectacle-shaped wire fibulae are characteristic of female burials (accompanied by other grave goods) and are found from Switzerland to the Black Sea, and from the Baltic to the Aegean. They have been divided into regional groups based on the form of the bow, the (decorated) spirals, the number of turns and the fastening pin. They were worn on the left or right shoulder/breast, depending on the social standing of the bearer (Romano & Trefný 2015: 203-4, citing Pabst 2011). Depending on the type of spiral decorations, the distribution of pins ranges from local types (cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 53 A; Kubach 1977: Taf. 97A) to pins that span middle and southern Europe (e.g. DB 313; Pabst 2011: 199) or central Europe from the Balkans and Aegean to Switzerland and the Black Sea (Romano & Trefný 2015: 203-4, 211).

(DB 313) Provenance unknown
L.: 9.4 cm; h.: 4.5 cm; th.: 1.1 cm. Wire thickness: 0.3 cm.
Spiral spectacle fibula: each spiral has seven turns, joined by a piece of eight-shaped wire. Fastening pin present at the back side. Patina: glossy dark green.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. KG 20.
Map reference: -

References:
- Historical European pins of the Gyermely type
(Romano & Trefný 2015: 215, showing a distribution map taken from Pabst 2011: 205 Fig. 3). See also Lo Schiavo 2010: Taf. 617.

Dating: Pins of the Gyermely type are dated to c. 1100-900 BCE (Romano & Trefný 2015: 204 note 21).
(DB 343) Cuijk, gemeente Land van Cuijk, Noord-Brabant
L.: 11.9 cm; w. of tutulus shaped spirals: 4.6-4.8 cm; h.: 1.7 cm; th. wire: c. 0.4 cm. Double spiral ornament, connected by wire bow. Patina: mottled green; badly corroded. The fastening pin is missing.
Museum: RMO Leiden, inv. no. VdN 5, presented April 1846.
Map reference: c. 188/415.
References: Cat. Holwerda 1908: B.I.590

(DB 397) Kimswerd, gemeente Zuidwest Fryslân, Friesland
Map reference: c. 158/572.
References: -
Parallels: These fragments could belong to Laux’s Flachkopffibeln (Laux 1973: Taf. 26-27) or Spiralplattennfibeln (Laux 1973: Taf. 29-38). Considering the modest size and torqued bow, the fragments presumably represent a Flachkopffibel (cf. Laux 1973: Taf. 26 no. 158, Taf. 27 nos 162-64), common to northern Germany and southern Scandinavia (Laux 1973: 34, 36).
Dating: The most plausible date for the cited comparanda is the (later part of) Montelius Per. II (c. 1400-1325 BCE; Laux 1973: 34-35; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(3.15 Spectacle brooches of the Oerel Type (Fig. 24-25)
This group comprises medium to large spectacle fibulae (German: Plattenfibeln), the plates of which are decorated with C-shaped and/or horseshoe-shaped ribs with or without diagonal punched nicking. The closing pin – often lost – swivels around the rounded and generally decorated lower arms of the bow (Laux 1973: 48; Heeren & Van der Feijst 2017: 27-28). Often, we observe dots-and-circle ribs, sometimes in a horseshoe configuration. The connecting bow varies in shape: narrow with a semi-circular cross-section or band-shaped, widening towards the centre. The bows are often decorated with horizontal ribbing (Laux 1973: 48). Our database contains over 75 Oerel fibulae, none of which are identical (see Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: App. III, with further references). The spectacle blades and their bows must have been cast using the cire-perdue method, while the fastening pin was cast seperately, then hammered and attached afterwards.

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The distribution of these pins centres on the Baltic area, with 15 examples known from Denmark (plus a fragment of a clay mould from Alpegaard), 22 from southern Sweden and 31 from northern Germany (see Appendix C in Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 392 [Map 2], 412-13). They occur in smaller number in Poland (Sprockhoff & Höckmann 1979: 92-93), Hessen (Jacob-Friesen 1967: Taf. 155 no. 4; Richter 1970: Taf. 94 nos 9-11) and one from the hoard of Pierrevillers (Cote de Drince, dép. Moselle), France (Griette et al. 2019: 136-37

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So far, seven examples from four locations are known from the Netherlands. The assumed chronology differs, with the simpler Type Oerel fibulae attributed to Montelius Per. IV and the more richly decorated examples to Period V (c. 1125-925 BCE and 925-750 BCE, respectively). The example from the Pierreville hoard is dated to the HaB2/3 period (Griette et al. 2019: 139).

(DB 2045) Noordwijkhout (near), gemeente Noordwijkhout, Zuid-Holland

L.: 16.2 cm. Spectacle fibula of Type Oerel, consisting of two oval, hollow plates (6.8 x 7.6 cm each) joined by a ribbed bow (4.8 x 2.4 cm; h.: 3.3 cm). The plates have a raised, imitation-corded rim and three horseshoe patterns with eight dot-and-ring elements in the widest horseshoe. The bow has a thick central rib flanked on each side by four thin ribs; at one end there are three transverse ribs. The corresponding part on the other side is covered over by a cast-on repair, by which one of the oval plates has been rejoined to the bow at an incorrect angle. This plate has a small cast-on loop, presumably intended for fastening the (now missing) pin. The reverse side of each is as-cast, but has a ribbed pattern, consisting of a cross with forked and shield-pattern ends. Patina: blackish, glossy. The reverse side has been treated with a bronze-coloured paint. Exceptionally well-preserved surface.


Map reference: c. 94.8/475.

References: Jaarverslag RMO 1982 (1983): 222; Van Heerden 1989: 20(104) Fig. 14; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 388, 391 Fig. 8c.

Parallels: In terms of decoration on the reverse side, see the spectacle brooch from Franzensburg (hoard): Langner 1957: Abb. 1-4; Laux 1973: Taf. 24 no. 226; Maraszek 2006: 190, Abb. 93: 4ab.

Dating: Based on the assumed dating of this type (supra), Montelius Per. V (c. 925-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 165) Bonnerveen, gemeente Aa en Hunze, Drenthe. Part of small hoard

L.: 19.5 cm. Spectacle fibula of Type Oerel, with large hollow oval plates (10.2 x 8.2 cm), with simple ribbed C and five dot-and-ring motifs on each. The connecting bow (5.6 x 2 cm, h.: 3 cm) is ribbed on all sides (four above and below, two left and right). The reverse sides of the plates have a triangular decoration at the sides of the bow. Patina: black.

Find circumstances: Found in peat c. 1837 with DB 166 (chain, consisting of four rings (two small, two large; Van der Sanden 1998: 34(134) Fig. 2) near the stream ‘de Beek’.) Acquired 1874 by the Groninger Museum from “Academische Archeologische Verzameling”, inv. no. 1837/IV.1.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1964/IV.1a. A tip of “black or dark saaijet (i.e. twined woollen thread)”, also belonging to the find, has no longer been preserved (Van der Sanden 1998: 32(132)).

Map reference: c. 252/560.

References: Pleyte 1882: Drenthe, Pl. XLVI no. 4; De Laet & Glasbergen 1959: Pl. 31; Sprockhoff 1966: 106 Fig. 4; Van der Sanden 1998: 31(131)-34(134), 34(134) Fig. 2; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 388, 391 Fig. 8b.

Parallels: DB 2923A (infra) has a similar ‘open C’ motif.

Dating: Based on the commonly accepted dating of this type (supra), Montelius Per. V (c. 925-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 1271) Drouwen, gemeente Borger/Oodoorn, Drenthe. From the 1939 “Princess of Drouwen” hoard

L. (as restored): 18.9 cm. Spectacle fibula of Type Oerel (found in three fragments), one plate broken off and missing. The remaining oval hollow plate (9.2 x 7.9 cm) is decorated with one C-shaped rib and two horseshoe ribs with a ring of 14 small bosses at the widest point. Most of the ornamental ribs have diagonal punched nicking. The plates were connected with an elongated ribbed bow (4.8 x 2 cm, h.: 3 cm). The bow has been rejoined to the surviving plate by a cast-on repair. The pin is a separate piece of simple wire, one end of which is curled round the bow.

Find circumstances: Hoard or grave deposit (Totenschatz) located at edge of tumulus in an urnfield excavated by Van Giffen in 1939 (cf. Kool 1979: 91-93, Figs. 87-88). The rich Drouwen hoard included rare imports from the northern European area (Butler 1986: 133-68, and references therein), including a bronze ‘hanging vessel’ (DB 1270; belt box, cf. Nørgaard 2018: 74), bronze wire bracelets (DB 1272-1275; cf. Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2017: 59), seven cast omega bracelets (DB 1276-1278; cf. Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2017: 68-70), double-wire bracelets and rings (DB 1272-1275), bronze buttons (DB 1283), jet beads (DB 1287), a drawing aid (DB 1284, compass?), spacers (DB 1285, DB 1286) and a bronze ring (DB 1282). When ploughed up, the objects must have been intact, because all observable breaks were unpatinated. The complete hoard is in the Museum Assen, inventoried under inv. nos 1939/XII.4a-s.

Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1939/XII.4b.

Map reference: c. 249.25/552.75.

References: Butler 1986: 153 Fig. 20; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 384 no. 26, with further references.

Parallels: No perfect parallel is available for the decorative motifs on the plate(s) (but see Laux 1973: Taf. 43 no. 227).

Dating: HaB3 (c. 925-800 BCE; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2017: 70).
(DB 2923 A-C) Markerwaardweg, Gemeente Medemblik, Noord-Holland. From the hoard

Three Oerel Type spectacle fibulae. Patina: green/brown (have been laboratory treated and restored by Restaura).

DB 2923A (inv. no. 5439-1): diam. oval plates: 8.8 x 8.4 cm and 8.8 x 8.6 cm; band-shaped bow: 4.9 x 1.7 cm. Decoration of plates: one centred C-rib; one dot-in-circles motif inside the C-rib and five along the rim. Decoration of bow: four pairs of vertical ribs flanking one prominent horizontal midrib (w.: 2.9 cm) accompanied by two small parallel ribs above and below. The right plate has a small cast-on loop, presumably intended for fastening the (now missing) pin.

DB 2923B (inv. no. 5439-2): diam. rounded oval plates: 9 x 8.9 cm and 9.1 x 9 cm; oval bow: 6 x 2.7 cm. Decoration of plates: one C-rib along the rim, followed by a horseshoe rib with four dot-in-circles inside and one dot-in-circle in the centre of the plates. Decoration of

Fig. 25. Spectacle brooches of Type Oerel from the Medemblik - Markerwaardweg hoard (DB 2923) and from Texel (DB 2774, DB 2848, DB 3063). DB 2923: photo taken from Roessingh & Tol 2019: Fig. 16:3; DB 2774, DB 2848: photo: PAN 00052197 & 00055723; DB 3063: photo courtesy of Huis van Hilde. Scale 2:5.
bow: prominent horizontal broad rib (w.: 4.7 cm) in the centre with two very small horizontal ribs above and below. Pin still present: a separate piece of simple wire, one end of which is curled round the bow. Straight small loop on the right plate.

DB 2923C (inv. no. 5439-3): diam. rounded oval plates: 8.4 x 8.25 cm and 8.4 x 8.4 cm; rounded trapezoid-shaped bow: 5.7 x 2.4 cm. Decoration of plates: two C-ribs along the rim of the plates, four dot-in-circles along the inner C-rib and one dot-in-circle in the centre of the plate. The right plate has a cast-on, closed spiralled loop (two turns); fastening pin is missing. Decoration of bow: small horizontal prominent midrib (w.: 4.2 cm), with three smaller horizontal ribs above and below.

Find circumstances: Excavated in 2015 by Archol between DB 2923C (inv. no. 5439-3): diam. rounded oval plates: 8.4 x 8.25 cm and 8.4 x 8.4 cm; rounded trapezoid-shaped bow: 5.7 x 2.4 cm. Decoration of plates: two C-ribs along the rim of the plates, four dot-in-circles along the inner C-rib and one dot-in-circle in the centre of the plate. The right plate has a cast-on, closed spiralled loop (two turns); fastening pin is missing. Decoration of bow: small horizontal prominent midrib (w.: 4.2 cm), with three smaller horizontal ribs above and below.

Find circumstances: Excavated in 2015 by Archol between the Streekweg and N3072 roads. Found in a prehistoric ditch (st544), neatly packed on a bank covered with reed, with a disc-headed pin with y/ boss (DB 2926; supra), two omega bracelets (DB 2921; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2020: 73-74), two necklace spacer plates (DB 2925), five rings (DB 2927), two rings with interlocked ring (dangles; DB 2922), a flint sickle (DB 2924) and a stone pendant (Fontijn et al. 2019: 500-1).

Collection: Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Holland, inv. nos 5439-1,2,3.


References: Fontijn et al. 2020: 503-4 and Fig. 16.5.

Parallels: For A, DB 165 (supra) is a close match. B and C presently lack comparanda.


(DB 2774, DB 3063, DB 2848) Den Hoorn/Den Burg, Texel, Noord-Holland

Two plate fragments, each with part of C-rib and dot-and-circle motif and a fragment of a bow with incised ribbing. All three fragments from one fibula?

Dimensions: DB 3063: 2.58 x 2.17 cm; DB 2774: 5.4 x 2.85 cm; DB 2848 (bow): 5.9 x 1.87 cm; h.: 3.35 cm. Patina: brown with green reddish spots.

Collection: Private collection and Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Holland, inv. no. 5348-02 (bow).

Map reference: c. 111.5/562.0.

References: Kleijne & Philippeau 2017: 41-42, 43 Fig. 3; PAN-00051197, PAN-00055723 and PAN-00055722

Parallels: DB 2923A may be a very close match, although the Texel example has more ribs on the bow.

Dating: Based on the commonly accepted dating of the type (supra), Montelius Per. V (c. 925-800 BCE; cf. Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

3.16 Iron Age Kropfnadeln (Fig. 26)

This group of pins consists of relatively short pins featuring a distinct angular bend in the shaft near the top of the pin (Kropfnadeln). These pins are made of both bronze and iron (cf. Groenewoudt 1984: 61) and have a variety of head shapes. The head may have a top resembling the shaft41, be round or bulbous,42 be hammered flat and rolled up,43 be hammered flat into a paddle/oar shape,44 be hammered flat into a paddle/oar shape that is subsequently rolled-up.45 Outside our corpus, similar pins are known with annular (ring-shaped) heads as well (Heynowski 2017: 59: Gekröpte ringkopfnadeln).

Their distribution appears to be mainly within northern Germany and southern Scandinavia (Jastorf),46 but they also occur further south (cf. Heynowski 1992: 104, Karte 39; Nakoinz 2004: 140-41). In terms of dating, the pins span the Early and Middle Iron Age (c. 800-400 BCE).47

Bronze gekröpte Rollenkopfnadel

(DB 2222) Ezinge, gemeente Westerkwartier, Groningen. Excavation wierde

L.: 9.8 cm, diam. shaft: 0.4-0.2.5 cm. Pin with ribbed head and “kropf”.


Museum: Groninger Museum (Groningen), inv. no. 1933-04-1541.


References: Van Giffen 1936c: Pl. 5; Miedema 1983: Fig. 111 no. 3; Lanting & Van der Placht 2005/2006: 279; Knol 2014: 194 Fig. 9 no. 1541, 201.

Parallels: Heynowski 2017: 46 Fig. 1.5.5.

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References: Miedema 1983: Fig. 111 no. 2, Type 5.1.2.1. Parallels: Krüger 1961: Taf. 10 no. 13; Heynowski 2017: 46 Fig. 1.5.5.1.

(DB 3101) Garnwerd, gemeente Westerkwartier, Groningen. Oostum wierde

L.: 9.5 cm; round head, diam.: 0.45 cm, damaged where head and shaft meet. Slim shaft, diam. below head; 0.2 cm; at Kropf: 0.15 cm. Patina: bronze colour with green patches.

Collection: Groninger Museum (Groningen), inv. no. 1913/LI.37.

Map reference: c. 228.7/588.5

References: Miedema 1983: Fig. 111 no. 2, Type 5.1.2.1. Parallels: Krüger 1961: Taf. 10 no. 13; Heynowski 2017: 46 Fig. 1.5.5.1.

Dating: Unclear. Based on national (DB 2222) and international (supra) comparanda, possibly 600-400 BCE.
(DB 642) Beuningen, gemeente Beuningen, Gelderland.
De Heue
L.: 18 cm. Bronze Kropfnadel; part of the shaft corroded away. Patina: brown and light green (has been treated).
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector. Not seen by the authors, drawing after museum photo (courtesy of Ben Teubner).
Museum: Museum Kasteel Wijchen, inv. no. S.v.S.4.12, presented by owner.
References: -
Parallels: -
Dating: -

(934) Enter, gemeente Wieren, Overijssel.
Enterveen (Hoard I)
L.: 17.9 cm. Bronze needle with spatula-shaped head (Gekröpfte Spatelkopfnadel); tip of bent shaft missing. Square to slightly oval cross-section. Under the flat head, the needle’s shaft has the characteristic bulge. Patina: green.
Find circumstances: Part of the Enterveen hoard, purchased in 1954 by the Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. nos 934a-f (ex coll. Ter Kuile). It was found in c. 1935 (April) by G.J. Geels from the village of Enter while digging for fire-wood. The hoard lay 20 cm deep within the peat under a boulder (size of two fists) and contained c. 40 cm bronze wire (now lost, inv. no. 934a), three amber beads (DB 3097), two bronze bars (one complete and one broken: DB 3098), a bronze ring (DB 3099) and this bronze Kropfnadel (DB 3096).
Museum: De Museumfabriek (Enschede), inv. no. OKT 934-f, on loan.
Map reference: 235.5/476.81.
References: Verlindel 1980: 18-20, 21 Fig. 2.
Parallel: Tackenberg 1934: 13 Taf. no. 12; Krüger 1961: Taf. 11 no. 17; Heynowski 2017: 67 Fig. 4.1.5.
Dating: 600-500 BCE (according to Verlinde 1980: 19).

(3096) Enter, gemeente Wieren, Overijssel.
Wijkse Veld
L.: c. 7 cm; diam. Shaft: 0.25 cm. Head rolled back (Gekröpfte Rollenkopfnadel). Patina: green with brown and bluish patches; part of the shaft corroded away. Not seen by the authors, drawn from museum photo (courtesy of Ben Teubner).
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector during archaeological observations of the sand extraction at the Wijkse veld.
References: Jansen 1977: 249, 258, 260 Fig. 11.
Parallels: DB 644 (bronze), DB 3104 (iron).

(3106) Doddendaal
L.: 11.5 cm; w. head: 0.7 cm; diam shaft: 0.3 cm. Patina: green. Head rolled back (Gekröpfte Rollenkopfnadel). Not seen by the authors, drawing after museum photo (courtesy of Ben Teubner, Museum Wijchen).
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.
Museum: Museum Kasteel Wijchen, inv. no. T.S.50.1, presented by owner.
Map reference: c. 179.3/431.95.
References: -
Parallels: DB 644 (bronze), DB 3104 (iron).
Dating: -

(3107) Bergharen, gemeente Wijchen, Gelderland.
Wijkse Veld
L.: +9 cm. Pin with S-shaped broken neck (decorated with four small vertical ribs) and rolled-up spoon-shaped head, w.: 2.4 cm. Shaft broken into three fragments, end missing. Patina: dark green, corroded.
Find circumstances: According to the description on the box, the pin was found in the summer of 1899 in a tumulus in the municipality of Emmen.
Map reference: -
References: Bontekoe et al. 1965: 270.
Parallel: DB 489, DB 1319.
Dating: Unclear, presumably Early to Middle Iron Age (600-400 BCE).

(3119) Gemeente Emmen, Drenthe. From a tumulus
L.: +12 cm; w.: 2.7 cm. Pin with rolled-up spatula-shaped head on top of bent shaft (a combination of Gekröpfte Spatelkopf and Rollenkopf pin properties). The head with its bent neck was inventoried under inv. no. 1960/I.22. The shaft, broken into four fragments and with a missing end, was separately (inv. no. 1963/VI.4). Head and shaft were found to fit together and subsequently reunited. Patina: dark green, corroded.
Find circumstances: According to the description on the box, the pin was found in the summer of 1899 in a tumulus in the municipality of Emmen.
Map reference: -
References: Bontekoe et al. 1965: 270.
Parallel: DB 489, DB 1316.
Dating: Unclear. Presumably Early to Middle Iron Age (600-400 BCE).
Iron kropfnadeln

(DB 489) Ermelo, gemeente Ermelo, Gelderland.
Groevenbeekse heide
L.: 9.6 cm; cylindrical head: 1.4 x 0.6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5 cm (neck); 0.3 cm (midway). Has been laboratory treated. While the head has clearly been flattened and welded round (rolled up), it is currently unclear whether the interior of the ‘roll’ in the head is a solid cylindrical rod or compacted welded iron sheet.
Find circumstances: Iron pin from the destroyed urnfield along the railway (Hulst 2010: 61-64).
References: Hulst 2013: 63 Fig. 26B.
Parallels: DB 1316, DB 1319.
Dating: Ha D to Middle Iron Age (c. 610-275 BCE, cf. Arnoldussen & Jansen 2010: 380 Fig. 1) according to Hulst (2010: 61). Presumably 600-400 BCE.

(DB 3104) Woezik, gemeente Wijchen, Gelderland.
Excavation Woezik noord
L.: 8.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm. Iron Gekröpfte Rollenkopfnadel.
Find circumstances: From cremation Grave 11, of child approximately seven years old. The interment contained c. 14 bronze fragments (from bracelets, torques and a chain).
Collection: Gemeente Nijmegen, bureau Archeologie.
References: Heirbaut 2011: 44-47, 46 Fig. 9.11.
Dating: 600-400 BCE (Heirbaut 2011: 47).

(DB 3102) Haps, gemeente Land van Cuijk, Noord-Brabant.
Urnfield
Iron pin. L.: 8.2 cm; diam. shaft: 0.4 cm.
Find circumstances: Found within the Kamps Veld urnfield within a 6 m diam. ring-ditch. Part of a cremation grave that also contained an antenna sword and three iron spearheads (Verwers 1972: 58-59; De Wit 1998: 362).
Museum: Unknown, but plaster cast exists in RMO: req.55.
References: Verwers 1972: 59 Abb. 32.
Parallels: DB 2996.

(DB 3103) Nijmegen, gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland.
Zuiderveld cremation cemetery. Grave 8
Iron pin, no head, bent tip. L.: 9.5 cm; diam. Shaft: 0.3 cm.
Find circumstances: Found in a cremation grave that also contained a Wendelringe, another torqued neck ring, three bronze rings and an iron bracelet (Eimermann & Van den Broeke 2017: 60).
Collection: Unknown (presumably Museum Het Valkhof (Nijmegen)).
References: Eimermann & Van den Broeke 2017: 136-41, 138 Fig. 5.16.
Parallels: -
 Dating: c. 780-510 BCE (GrA-67854: 2360±30 BP; Eimermann & Van den Broeke 2017: 47 Table 4.2).

(DB 2130) Nijmegen, gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland.
Zuiderveld cremation cemetery. Grave 22
Iron pin from Grave 22. L.: +9 cm; diam. shaft: 0.25-0.2 cm. Broken into three, one piece is missing; gekröpfte Kolbenkopfnadel.
Find circumstances: Found in a cremation grave of a male individual that also contained a Marnes-type pot, various iron sheet fragments and strips (presumably scabbard decorations) and two iron rings (scabbard mounts?) (Eimermann & Van den Broeke 2017: 48, 78, 140).
Collection: Unknown (presumably Museum Het Valkhof (Nijmegen)).
References: Eimermann & Van den Broeke 2017: 144-45, Figs 5.21(1)-5.22(1).
Based on the Marne-style pot, c. 475-450 BCE (op.cit: 78).

(DB 3100) Deventer, gemeente Deventer, Overijssel.
Colmschate
L.: 11 cm; diam. round shaft: 0.4 cm. Iron pin with Kropf and small quoit (ring-shaped head), diam.: +0.7 cm. Found in Pit I during excavations of AWN members before building the new residential area Ostrik.
Museum: Present locus unknown.
Map reference: c. 211/473.
References: Groenewoudt 1984: 51 Fig. 5.
Parallels: Heynowski 2014: 3.1.3.
Dating: Final EIA or MIA (c. 600-200 BCE; Groenewoudt 1984: 61).

(DB 2996) Ermelo, gemeente Ermelo, Gelderland.
Groevenbeekse heide
L.: 5.6 cm; diam. shaft: 0.25 cm; no head. Faceted shaft, end broken off. Has been laboratory treated.
Find circumstances: From cremation Grave 1 of child (Hulst 2010: 61-64).
3.17 Exotics: Pins and fibulae of unusual forms/types (Fig. 27)

In this section, we discuss a small group of pins from various Dutch collections for which the provenance is unclear or questionable. The uncertainty arises from the rarity or even uniqueness of the form within the wider Dutch corpus and/or the lack of information regarding their attributed context. We will discuss our concerns for these examples below.

(DB 2305) Beegden, gemeente Maasgouw, Limburg

Urnfield. Excavations 1986/1987

Iron pin. L.: +11 cm. S-neck; head missing; diam. round shaft: c. 0.5 cm. Pin completely covered in rust.

Find circumstances: Found during 1986/1987 excavations in Urn 17 (decorated Schäghals-urn) between cremation remains.


Map reference: c. 192/356.

References: Roymans 1999: 63-86, Fig. 5.


Dating: Early phase Iron Age (c. 775-650 BCE; Roymans 1999: 73).

(DB 3105) Woezik, gemeente Wijchen, Gelderland

Holenbergseweg

L.: 12.8 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5 cm.

Find circumstances: From a cremation grave of a 20-40-year-old, possibly male. Grave also contained an open bowl, a small cup with carination and a bronze bracelet (Tuijn & Vissers 2004: 59-60). Presumably part of a small cremation cemetery (ibid.).


References: Roymans 1999: 60, Fig. 2 no. 4.

Parallels: Krüger 1961: Taf. 5 no. 6, Taf. 14 no. 7.


3.17 Exotics: Pins and fibulae of unusual forms/types (Fig. 27)

In this section, we discuss a small group of pins from various Dutch collections for which the provenance is unclear or questionable. The uncertainty arises from the rarity or even uniqueness of the form within the wider Dutch corpus and/or the lack of information regarding their attributed context. We will discuss our concerns for these examples below.

(DB 2454) Vlagtwedde, gemeente Westerwolde, Groningen

L.: 7.2 cm; diam.: 0.35 cm. Pin with four neck ribs under the deformed head and round shaft. A small bulge can be seen just below the deformed head and, below this, a small depression on the first rib of the shaft: could this be the remaining evidence for a small loop? Patina: green.

Find circumstances: Found west of Vreele; find circumstances unknown.


References: -

Parallels: Unclear. Given the deformity on one side of the head, three options are worth mentioning. The first possibility is a similarity with a pin from the Aunjetizer Ösenkopfnadeln group, which includes heads with (damaged) small loops that have almost detached from the head, for example from Grave 450 of the Únětice cemetery Franzhausen, Niederösterreich (Knoll & Meller 2016: 293 Abb. 9, Liste 7, Kat. 278). Innerhofer (2000 (II): Taf. 18:10) also presents a close parallel within his Böhmsche Ösenkopfnadeln group, notably his Form Unteruhldingen: the pin has an opening under the head and its loop pushed away. The second possibility is that the pin aligns with Kubach’s Typ Binningen series (cf. Kubach 1977: Taf. 66 nos 985-94) from Hessen and Niederhessen. This type has a flattened, rounded head, slightly wider than the three or five neck ribs below (Kubach does not present any pins with four neck ribs). The third possibility is offered by the group of pins presented by Říhovský (1979: 228, Taf. 65 nos 1793-1801) as jüngere Rippenkopfnadeln mit geripptem Oberteil und wenig ausgeprägtem Kopf (Říhovský 1979: Taf. 65 nos 1793-94, 1976-77), exclusively from the Czech Republic (Říhovský 1979: 218). No other similar Dutch pins are yet known.


(DB 2999) Gemeente Beuningen, Gelderland

L.: +7.8 cm; l. head: 2.8 cm. Octagonal conical head on top of three different shapes: a rounded biconical, a stretched biconical and a normal conical shape. Dimension upper head: 1.15 cm.

Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.

Collection: Private ownership.

Map reference: c. 177/430 (administratively placed).

References: PAN-00064225.

the conclusion that there are no Bronze Age parallels. Essen's nos 284 and 284A are far heavier and larger than DB 2999 with round heads. We therefore assume DB 2999 is not of later prehistoric date.

 Dating: Unclear. If prehistoric, the hoard of Maćków-ka consisted of 18 arm rings (15 decorated, three undecorated), two arm spirals, a decorated annular neck ring, four penannular and seven annular neck rings, two decorated discs, a high flanged axe and five socketed axes. The whole hoard is situated within Montelius Per. VI (c. 750-575 BCE; Essen 1985: 53; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2986) Gemeente Beuningen, Gelderland
L.: +2.7 cm; w.: 2.7 cm. Fragment of a pin with a series of at least two ovoid to biconical “beads”.
Collection: Private ownership.
Map reference: c. 177/430 (administratively placed).
References: PAN-00064230.
Parallels: If prehistoric (though the area is rich in Roman remains, so the prospect of a Roman hair pin should also be considered), there are parallels within Říhovský’s (1979: 232-33) central European Mehrkopfnadeln group (e.g. Říhovský 1979: 229, Taf. 67 nos 1886-1979, Taf. 67 nos 1892, 1894, 1908, 1909).
Dating: Unclear. If prehistoric, possibly späte Urnenfelderzeit-ältere Hallstattzeit (HaB3-HaC, c. 925-800 BCE; Říhovský 1979: 232; Butler & Steegstra 2007/2008: 369 Fig. 1).

(DB 2320) Gemeente Beesel, Limburg. ’t Haselt
L.: +9.60 cm; w. head: 0.8 cm, diam. shaft: 0.5 cm. Pin with biconical head; part of shaft with rectangular cross-section; incised decoration on shaft. Patina: blackish, with green patches. Point end broken off and missing. Somewhat corroded; bent.
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.
Collection: Private possession.
References: -
Parallels: The combination of decoration, head form and squared cross-section of shaft is extremely rare in western Europe. Occasionally, squared shaft segments were noted by Říhovský (1979: Taf. 55 no. 1437) and Essen (1985: Taf. 5 no. 93).
Dating: Unclear. Related to eastern/central European MBA-LBA forms?

(DB 2321) Gemeente Beesel, Limburg. ’t Haselt
L.: +7.6 cm; w. head: 0.82 cm, w. shaft: 0.51 cm. Pin, ‘poppy’ head with incised decoration on shaft, which is bent. Patina: black. Very well preserved, tip of shaft broken off and missing.
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.
Collection: Private possession.
References: -
Parallels: Form of head somewhat suggestive of Říhovský’s Spindelkopfnadeln (Říhovský 1979: Taf. 54-55), but the extended vertical motif is not known.
for such pins. Comparanda for this pin are currently lacking in the studied corpora (Aner & Kersten 1973-1993; Laux 1976; Kubach 1977; Rihovský 1979; Novotná 1980; Blanchet 1984; Innerhofer 2000), rendering a central/west European origin improbable.

**Dating:** Unclear. Related to eastern/central European MBA-LBA forms?

**(DB 513) Nijmegen, Gemeente Nijmegen, Gelderland. 'From the Waal'. Dealer's provenance**

L.: 3.7 cm. Massive bow of an Italian leech (Sanguisuga) fibula. Fastening pin and part of foot missing. Patina: glossy green, bronze colour where patina is missing.

**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. e 1948/6.5, purchased from antique dealer Esser.

**Map reference:** -

**References:** -

**Parallels:** Several Italian fibulae have been found in the north of France (e.g. Forêt de Compiègne; Blanchet 1984: 387, Fig. 219 no. 15), but they are considered to be Italian (Blanchet 1984: 386, with further references).

**Dating:** 800-600 BCE; Blanchet 1984: 388; Heeren & Van der Feijst 2017: 29.

**(DB 233) Haamstede, gemeente Schouwen-Duiveland, Zeeland. Kop van Schouwen, western dunes**

Dimensions: 5.1 x 2.2 cm. Massive bow of an Italian leech fibula with alternating groups of incised zig-zag decoration and punched dots. Fastening pin missing.

**Find circumstances:** Found between 1911 and 1940.

**Museum:** Zeeuws Museum (Middelburg), collection KZGW, G 3271-02 (legacy of J.A. Hubregtsse).

**Map reference:** c. 38/413.

**References:** Van der Feen 1952: Fig. 5.

**Parallels:** The Haamstede leech fibula closely parallels those from the necropolis of Osteria dell'Osa (Bietti Sestieri 1992: Tombs 244 no. 8, 250 nos 1; 3 and 288 no. 13.1).

**Dating:** 825-725 BCE (pers. Comm. Dr. Alessandri [GIA], November 2022).

**(DB 396) Ferwerd, gemeente Noardeast-Fryslân, Friesland. From the terp (dealer's provenance)**

Dimensions: 11.1 x 4 x 4.6 cm; weight: 49.5 g. Boat-shaped (Navicella) Italian fibula with ribbed hollow bow, coil spring. Foot and small part of bow missing. Patina: dusty light green; encrusted with loam.

**Museum:** RMO Leiden, inv. no. a 1921/10.126, purchased in October 1921 from A. Verleur.

**Map reference:** c. 183/595.

**References:** -

**Parallels:** It represents an example of the Fibule a navigella ed a sanguisuga decorate (cf. Lo Schiavo 2010: Taf. 286 no. 3833).


### 3.18 Fragments and headless pins (Fig. 28)

At the close of the corpus presentation, we list a series of fragments (usually headless pins), which, due to their fragmented nature, are difficult to characterize and date. Nevertheless, since some may still provide valuable insights into the spatial distribution of later prehistoric ornaments, they are briefly mentioned here.


L.: + 10 cm; upper part of shaft with square cross-section: 0.25 cm; lower part round: 0.20 cm. Five fragments of bronze pin, headless when found.

**Find circumstances:** Excavated in 1972 by P.J. Woltering for R.O.B., Amersfoort. Found close to the head of a skeleton with ‘nordic’ palstave (DB 600) placed on the chest. From a centrally-placed inhumation grave, situated below the centre of the remains of a mound constructed of heather-sods on a podzolized old surface.

**Collection:** Huis van Hilde (Castricum), No. 5354-32.

**Map reference:** c. 115/563.

**References:** Woltering 1975: 21; Butler & Steegstra 1997/1998: 173, Fig. 45 middle; Woltering 2000-2001: 25, Fig. 15.

**Parallels:** Laux 1976: Taf. 16: 304, 306-9, his Variante Westendorf (upper part shaft square in cross-section, lower part round) found in men’s graves.

**Dating:** c. 1402-1010 BCE based on a radiocarbon date from wood remains on the accompanying palstave (GrN-7456: 2995±75 BP; Butler & Steegstra 1997/1998: 173; Woltering 2000/2001: 25.)


L.: +10.95 cm; diam. shaft: 0.3 cm. Six fragments of a bronze pin, head missing. From Tumulus 9, Period 2.

**Find circumstances:** Found near the right shoulder of a corpse in a tangential grave with a tree-trunk coffin (Lohof 1991b: 22) with a set of 16 amber beads (DB 1870) and a small Kummerkeramik vessel, 5.5 cm in height (DB 1868).

**Museum:** Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1953/VII.36a. **Map reference:** c. 230.25/547.83.

**References:** Butler 1990: 68 Fig. 11 B3; Lohof 1991b: 22; Van der Veen & Lanting 1991: 216-19, 216 Fig. 24, 218 Fig. 27, 227 Fig. 39C.

**Parallels:** -

**Dating:** Charcoal from the old surface underneath Tumulus 9 was dated to c. 1665-1455 BCE (GrN-10747: 3290±35 BP) and may provide a terminus ante quem. The grave may provisionally be dated to c. 1500-1000 BCE based on the typology of the Kummerkeramik vessel.
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**Tumulus de Galgenberg, excavation 1938**

L.: + 6.7 cm. Pin (frag.) with incised decoration: bands of transverse lines alternating with zig-zag bands.

**Find circumstances:** From the head of a NS coffin grave, secondary/peripheral, in Per. III (with a widely-spaced post circle) of a multiperiod tumulus. Found during the 1938 excavation in the remaining NW and SE quadrant by A.E. van Giffen. The first two quadrants (SW and NE) were excavated in 1934 by Van Giffen and W.J.A Willems (Willems 1935: 121-31; Van Giffen 1936: 104; Van Giffen 1943: 476-78). The central grave of Per. III contained at least 11 barbed and tanged sheet bronze, a palstave (Butler 1990: 86), two gold wire spirals (DB 686, DB 1251; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2022: 209 Fig. 4) and a twisted bronze ring (DB 1252; Van Giffen 1943: 476-78; Butler 1990: 85-86).

**Museum:** Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1938/VI.33.

**Map reference:** c. 249/533.


**Parallels:** For a related shaft decoration, see Laux (1976: Taf. 31 no. 416) or Kubach (1977: Taf. 57 no. 810).

**Dating:** The central grave of the third period is dated to c. 1500-1300 BCE (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2022: 209).
(DB 1203) Annertol, gemeente Tynaarlo, Drenthe. Tumulus II.
L.: 10.35 cm; th.: 3.8 cm. Fragment of pin; head missing; shaft undecorated, S-curved.
Find circumstances: Found during barrow excavations by A.E. van Giffen in 1921, in a barrel-shaped urn (Van Giffen 1923: 199) with cremation remains, two bronze pins (DB 1202 (supra) and a pair of tweezers (DB 1204: Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24). This urn was placed as a secondary interment into the SW quadrant of a Middle Bronze Age barrow.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1921/VII.1b. Found with DB 1202 (pin) and DB 1204 (tweezers, inv. no. 1921/VII.1c).
References: Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24, with further references.
Dating: LBA (c. 1125–800 BCE; see discussion in Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 24).

L.: + 7.3 cm. Fragmentary shaft of undecorated pin, recovered from the back of the head.
Find circumstances: Found in the central grave, EW extended inhumation in a coffin with two pieces of bronze wire near the feet. Coffin was supported by stones (amongst which two quern fragments). Tumulus II (with two incomplete post circles).
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1977/IX.80-81b. (ROB: inv. no. 1943.III.10)
Map reference: c. 212.67/532.35.
References: Kooi 1979: 83–84, 82 Fig. 75 no. 6; Lohof 1991b: 50–51.
Parallels: The excavation report lists this pin as nail-headed (Dutch: spijkerkopspeld; Lohof 1991b: 52).
Dating: Probably 1800–1400 BCE based on the widely-spaced post circle (Bourgeois 2013: 30 Fig. 3.4), second period dated to 1500–1100 BCE by Lohof (1991b: 52).

(GB 1155) Soesterheide, gemeente Soest, Utrecht. From urn.
L.: 15 cm; th.: 0.6 cm. No distinct head; neck around section with incising incised lines. Shaft has rectangular cross-section, on two opposing sides with transverse punch marks, thus creating a zig-zag profile when observed from the two other sides. Point missing. Patina: glossy green (has been treated).
Find circumstances: Found on 5 November 1879 in urn “Ca 27, 28 or 29, from Tumuli 3, 4 and 5, a secondary interment in Tumulus 3” (Glasbergen 1954 (II): 95, 133 note 21).
Museum: Flehite (Amersfoort), inv. no. Ca 39.
References: Glasbergen 1954 (II): 95, 133 note 21; De Boone 1961: 33, Pl. VIII.
Parallels: While punch marks underneath a zone of horizontal incised lines on shaft of square cross-section are known from Lochhalsnadeln, published by Kubach (1977: Taf. 4 esp. nos 56 and 60), none of these have a deformed staggered shaft due to such punch marks.
Dating: Unclear. Most of the tumuli from that group yielded MBA pottery (Glasbergen 1954b: 97 Fig. 57).

L.: + 8.7 cm. Pin (fragments of shaft) with longitudinal grooves containing pointillé. Heavily corroded, only a few remaining green patches. Head missing, shaft of daisy-wheel cross-section.
Find circumstances: Found in secondary grave of Tumulus 4, together with roll-headed pin DB 1244 (now missing) and fragments of curved strips (DB 1245). These were not mentioned by Van Giffen but have the same inventory number. DB 1245 and DB 1244 not seen by the authors.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1933/III.25.
Map reference: c. 239/559.
Parallels: DB 123, DB 1068, DB 1894, DB 2554.
Dating: Presumably MBA-A, based on other pointillé-decorated shaft pins (e.g. DB 123, DB 1894, DB 2554; cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 24 no. 238; Kubach 1977: Taf. 4 no. 50; Říhovský 1979: 4).

L.: 13.5 cm; diam. shaft: 0.5 cm. Pin (two fragments); slightly curved shaft with incised decoration; head and tip broken off and missing (breaks recent). Patina: glossy dark green, with dull brown loamy encrustation.
Collection: Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Holland, inv. no. 5341-01.
Map reference: c. 143/472.

(GB 1843) Provenance unknown.
Pin, fragment of shaft, undecorated; diam.: 0.5 cm. Used to replace the lower part of the broken Valthe pin which was originally 18 cm long. Patina: glossy mottled green.
A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands

Map reference: -
Parallels: -
Dating: -

(DB 1962) Vledder, gemeente Westerveld, Drenthe.
Cemetery
L.: +5.5 cm; th.: 0.5 cm. Slightly bent fragment of round decorated shaft. Patina: light brown.
Find circumstances: Found by H.J. Popping.
Museum: Drents Museum (Assen), inv. no. 1940/X.58A. A bronze needle, a pecking/rubbing stone and five microlites have been registered under the same inv. no.
Map reference: c. 209/541.
References: -
Parallels: Very similar shaft decoration can be observed on the pin from Wöllfersheim. - Breslauer Strasse (Kubach 1977: Taf. 60 no. 872).

(DB 1762) Ommerschans, gemeente Ommen, Overijssel. Part of hoard
L.: 10.6 cm; w.: 0.2 cm; th.: 0.17 cm. Pin/rod of rectangular cross-section; one end thinning as if a cutting edge; but no trace of hammering or grinding is detectable (awl? punch? tattooing needle?).
Find circumstances: Found in around 1896, by Geert Remmelts, near the Ommerschans at Witharen (exact location uncertain). According to the description, the hoard contained a ceremonial, agrandized dirk blade (68.3 cm) of the Ommerschans-Plougrescant type (Fontijn 2001), laying on a platform of birchwood stakes, in peat on sand, onto which a series of smaller items were placed: a razor (DB 1759; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 6), two chisels, fragments of rods or pins, fragments of rough bronze sheet and several smaller items were placed: a razor (DB 1759; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 6), two chisels, fragments of rods or pins, fragments of rough bronze sheet and several small flint and stone artefacts (see Butler 1990: 87 for a full inventory).
Map reference: c. 223.2/511.6.
References: Butler & Bakker 1961: 199, 206-7, Fig. 3 no. 2; Jockenhövel 1980: 81 no. 232, Taf. 13 no. 232; Butler 1990: 87-91, 89 Fig. 21 no. Amkreutz & Brattinga 2017: 20; Amkreutz & Fontijn 2017.
Parallels: -

(DB 2182) Velsen, gemeente Velsen, Noord-Holland.
Waterland estate
L.: 14.3 cm; th.: 0.6 cm. Pin with gently widening shaft, at the top of which there is a groove. A picture of the head, made available by the ‘Huis van Hilde’, shows that this is not a flat-topped, inverted, conical pin with a groove (contra Kleijne 2018: 8) but a pin (presumably a Lochhalsnadel) with the upper part above the perforation missing. Patina: light brown/light green, blue patches in notch.
Find circumstances: Found with undecorated Middle Bronze Age pottery while digging a trench for a gas pipe in estate Waterland (‘Velsen zuid’) from Layer I in Trench 29 by members of the AWN Velsen (Kleijne 2018: 8). Presented 2016 to the Provinciaal Bodemdepot Noord-Holland (Huis van Hilde).
Collection: Huis van Hilde (Castricum), inv. no. 5367-52.
Map reference: c. 104.7/496.5.
References: Kleijne 2018: 7-8, 4 Fig. 2, 8 Fig. 5.
Parallels: Possible parallels could be the pin of Kubach’s Lochhalsnadeln der Typen Nierstein-Hummertal, varianve Waldlaubersheim (Kubach 1977: Taf. 5 nos 82-84).
Dating: Unclear. MBA based on the associated pottery (Kleijne 2018: 8) and älteren zur Mittleren Hügel- graberzeit (c. 1525-1425 BCE) based on the German comparanda (Kubach 1977: 105).

(DB 2317) Beesel, gemeente Beesel, Limburg. ‘t Haselt
L.: (9.1 cm); w. shaft: 0.3 cm. Pin fragment; head part missing. Incised decoration on shaft (groups of encircling parallel lines; zone with parallel vertical zigzags). Patina blackish.
Find circumstances: Found with metal detector.
Collection: Private ownership.
References: -
Dating: -

(DB 2067) Hilbertshaar, gemeente Tubbergen, Overijssel
L.: +4.2 cm. Fragment of a burnt bronze pin.
Find circumstances: Found in August 1938 in urn (inv. no. 844) with cremation and tweezers (DB 2066; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 22). Tweezers not burnt. Urn 33 cm high with three vertical strap handles.
Collection: Oudheidkamer Twente, inv. no. 844, former collection of G.J. ter Kuile
Parallels: -
Dating: Late Bronze Age to Per. V (c. 1100-750 BCE), based on the associated urn (Verlinde 1987: 215).
(DB 921) Tegelen, gemeente Tegelen, Limburg. Along the River Maas

L.: +3.55 cm; diam.: 0.35 cm. Fragment of a decorated shaft of pin: upper part decorated with three groups of horizontal incised lines. Patina: light mottled green.
Find circumstances: Found in the summer of 1972.
Museum: Limburgs Museum (Venlo), inv. no. G03786.
Parallels: Generic motif (cf. Kubach 1977: Taf. 55 no. 756, Taf. 57 no. 801, Taf. 58 no. 801, Taf. 60, no. 875
Dating: -

(DB 2167) Beesel, gemeente Beesel, Limburg. Dreessen Campken

Remains of presumably two pins, burned. The longest fragment is 12 cm (without head and tip) and diamond-shaped (diam.: 0.4 cm); two smaller and possibly decorated fragments are completely bent (diam.: 0.3 cm).
Find circumstances: Found on 4 July 1981 in complete Kerbschnitt urn with cremation while erecting a fence. No drawing, only unclear photo (Willems 1983: Afb. 11:1-3).
Collection: Private possession.
Map reference: 201.34/365.05.
Dating: Ha B1, based on the Kerbschnitt urn (Willems 1981: 150).

4. Composition

Only very few compositional analyses of pins have been undertaken (Table 1). This is partly due to the fact that non-destructive analysis techniques, such as pXRF, are relatively novel (Arnoldussen et al. 2022: 2-4) and many pins were discovered long before these techniques were available. Another reason is that subsoil conditions affect the measurable composition of pins when using non-destructive techniques due to corrosion (ibid.). For example, the bronze pins from Hijken and Sleenerzand48 show severe signs of ‘tin-sweating’ (i.e. the overrepresentation of tin due to underrepresentation of soluble copper in oxides),49 with copper content seemingly reduced to below 10% weight. For such corroded objects, pXRF analysis can only provide general information on trace elements of their alloy.

For the pins referred to above, the alloy seems to have comprised a mixture of tin, antimony and arsenic in reasonable amounts (c. 1% weight). Such Fahlohr alloys (14: As+Sb+Ni and 6: As+Sb) were common during the MBA-B period to which these pins are dated (cf. Arnoldussen et al. 2022: Fig. 6). The ball-headed pin from Hunsel (DB 3106) has a comparable Fahlohr composition, albeit with slightly lower antimony levels. The quoit-headed pin from Amsterdam (DB 941) has remarkably high nickel and arsenic content (combined with low antimony and silver), suggesting a Welsh origin (Great Orme mine) for its base ore (Drenth et al. 2023). This supports the proposed Atlantic origin for this pin (DB 941; supra).

The composition of two Iron Age pins has also been identified. For the bowl-headed Early Iron Age pin from the Zutphen - Meijerink Urnfield (DB 3027), the head and shaft differ in composition, most notably in lead content (van Straten & Fermin 2012: 64). This may indicate

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48 DB 1867, DB 1869, DB 1252.
that more complex shapes required more malleable leaded alloys (cf. Arnoldussen et al. 2022: 10-13). The final object studied is an iron (95% weight Fe) KropfnaDEL (DB 3103), whose surface may have absorbed some dissolved copper from other items in the grave (cf. Van Os 2017: 149).

5. Interpretations

The above presentation of the corpus on later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands allows us to revisit the themes raised in the introduction. Specifically, two issues will take centre stage: (1) what are the (diachronic) patterns observed for the usage and deposition of pins? (2) What evidence exists that such pins signalled local or rather supra-regional origins or affinities?

5.1 Diachronic trends in pin use and deposition

The evidence for the later prehistoric use of pins as clothes fasteners, while limited, is convincing. On the quoit-headed pin from Amsterdam (DB 941), an organic residue indicative of fabric was preserved (Drenth et al. 2023). On one of the Weerdinge wheel-headed pins (DB 1215; Butler 1990: 59-61 find no. 4), a small strip of fabric remained. At Uden - Slabroek, a Vasenkopf-pin (DB 2759) was found on a piece of textile (Van der Vaart-Verschoof 2017b: 40, Table C32.2: US14/US29). In Schuilingsoord Grave D, woollen threads were originally observed with the disc-headed pin placed on the right side of the deceased's chest (DB 121; Van Giffen 1923: 191), though these were not collected. Similarly, a fragment of twined woollen fabric was observed with the Bonnerveen Type Oerel fibula (DB 165; Van der Sanden 1998: 32(132)) but presumably has since perished. It is important to note that whereas DB 1215 and DB 121 indicate the presence of clothes fasteners with the deceased in inhumation graves, DB 941 and DB 165 indicate that perhaps clothing (with their fasteners) rather than pins senso stricto were deposited in wetland locations.

In cases where no textiles were preserved, the positioning of the pin on the chest,\(^50\) shoulder,\(^51\) or neck\(^52\) could still suggest its use to fasten a cloak or a garment for the upper body. In rarer cases, pins may have been placed in the head-region, suggesting (an additional) use as hairpins.\(^53\) With the rise of cremation burial at the close of the MBA-B (cf. Theunissen 1999: 84-85; Louwen 2021: 68-69), we lose track of the positioning of pins with the deceased. Numerous pins have been found with cremated remains in urnfield graves\(^4\) and the burned state of several pins\(^5\) suggest that these accompanied the deceased onto the pyre. Sometimes, pins (and their associated fabrics?) were retained from the pyre but still placed with the cremated remains in the grave (e.g. DB 1267) or used to seal an organic container (cloth or leather) in which the cremated remains were packed (DB 635; Modderman & Louwe Kooijmans 1966: 21).

There is limited information about the former owners or wearers of the pins discussed here. Rare occurrences of pins in graves attributed to children\(^56\) shows that their presence is not exclusive to adults. The fact that the shaft of DB 2017 presumably was made of a perishable substance (cf. DB 1307) suggests that many more (children’s?) graves may have contained pins than discussed here. Without physical-anthropological data for most inhumation burials, it is difficult to substantiate gendered patterns. The ‘Weerdinge’ funerary ornament set, comprising a roll-headed pin (DB 1217), two wheel-headed pins (DB 1215, DB 1218), a disc-headed pin (DB 1216), bronze ring of thin wire (DB 1219), a bracelet (DB 1220) and an amber bead necklace (DB 1221), has been argued to represent high-status female attire from the Hessen region (Butler 1990: 61). Physical-anthropological observations of the cremated remains from interments at Woezik (DB 3105) and Nijmegen (DB 2130) show that, in the Early Iron Age, biological males were interred with iron pins. The association of the Wedderveer pin (DB 1385) with a ship-shaped razor (DB 1384; Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 15) only cautiously suggests male identity (cf. Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2018: 30).

The above observations remain anecdotal and hardly allow us to trace diachronic patterns in the specifics of the funerary usage of pins. Moreover, it should be stressed that we are even less informed about their production, alloy composition and cultural signals represented by their decoration. It should be noted, however, that in addition to their use in life (suggested by settlement finds such as those from Laren (DB 1110), Eigenblok (DB 2414), Ede (DB 2482) and Hunsel (DB 3106)) pins figured in multi-object depositions (hoards) and single object depositions over the period under study. In what follows, we discuss the occurrence of pins in such depositions.

The oldest multi-object hoard in which pins figure, is the Smakter Spurkt/Overloon hoard (DB 1407), datable to the 16th century BCE (Fontijn 2003: 99). This suggests that - as far as presently known finds indicate - later prehistoric metal pins were not incorporated into
multi-object hoards prior to the MBA-A. The Overloon assemblage has been interpreted as the deposition of a (double) Wohldr rapier set into a stream-valley (Fontijn 2003: 103). From later periods, hoards comprising pins with such martial associations are lacking, although the LBA Heerde assemblage (DB 23/24) contained a spear with bronze spearhead and ferrule, in addition to two Bombenkopfnadeln. Rather, the two hoards with bronze pins from the MBA-B (Ommerschans (DB 1764) and Veenenburg (DB 420/421)) seem to combine pins with crafting items such as chisels, sickles and bronze sheet, as well as weapons, such as an aggrandised dirk of the Plougrescant-Ommerschans series (Fontijn 2001) and accessories, such as bracelets (Arnoldussen & Steegstra 2021: 53). Both the Veenenburg and Ommerschans hoards were placed in peatlands, with the Ommerschans objects presumably carefully placed onto a birchwood platform (Amkreutz & Brattinga 2017: 20; Amkreutz & Fontijn 2017).

The Veenenburg hoard with its bracelets may foreshadow a more recurrent association of pins with bracelets in the LBA period: at Drouwen (DB 1271), Bonnerveen (DB 165) and the Markerwaardweg (DB 2923A-C), bracelets were invariably part of hoards comprising pins. In each of these three hoards, ornament sets comprising Type Oerel fibulae - often with multiple bracelets - were deposited. It has been argued that the Drouwen assemblage (DB 1271) could represent a high-status (female) identity from the Nordic interaction zone.57 For the Markerwaardweg assemblage, the excavators are hesitant in assigning a distinct female identity and point out that the assemblage comprises both local/southern and Nordic elements (a cosmopolitan/heterogeneous costume; Fontijn & Knippenberg 2019/2020, 61 fig. 11b).

<table>
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<th>DB</th>
<th>Hoard</th>
<th>Dating</th>
<th>Pin type</th>
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<td>Overloon' (Smaker Spituk)</td>
<td>MBA-A (16th century BCE)</td>
<td>Bargloy (perforated shaft)</td>
<td>Wohldr rapier, rapier fragment, nick-flanged axe</td>
<td>Placed as assemblage in stream valley</td>
<td>Fontijn 20003, 92 fig. 6.5; 95 fig. 6.7; 99; 103; 224; 229; 305</td>
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<tr>
<td>1764</td>
<td>Ommerschans</td>
<td>MBA-B (15th-14th century BCE)</td>
<td>Bargloy? (perforated shaft) or needle</td>
<td>Aggrandised dirk of Plougrescant-Ommerschans type, razor, two chisels, fragments of rods or pins, sheet bronze and flint and stone objects</td>
<td>Placed on birchwood platform in peat, objects placed onto the dirk blade</td>
<td>Butler 1990, 86-90; Fig. 21 no. 7; Fontijn 2001; Amkreutz &amp; Brattinga 2017, 20; Amkreutz &amp; Fontijn 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>420/421 Veenenburg</td>
<td>MBA-B (14th-12th century BCE)</td>
<td>Biconical (flattened top, 2x)</td>
<td>Tanged chisel, sheet bronze fragment, two knobbled sickles, ten bracelets</td>
<td>At c. 40 depth in a 1-1.5 m thick layer of peat</td>
<td>Butler 1990, 95-98, fig. 26 nos. 24-25; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2016, 77-87; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2021, 53</td>
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<tr>
<td>2683 Hijkerveld</td>
<td>LBA (9th century BCE)</td>
<td>Disc-headed pin (2x)</td>
<td>Six bracelets, two dome-shaped buttons and fragments of several wire ornaments</td>
<td>In the Hijkerveld (sand)</td>
<td>Butler 1965, 175, figs. 9-10; Butler &amp; Steegstra 2007/2008, 382-383; Fig. 4 no. 12; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2019/2020, 61 fig. 11b</td>
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<td>23/24 Heerde</td>
<td>LBA (9th century BCE)</td>
<td>Bombenkopf-nadel (2x)</td>
<td>Pegged spearhead, ferrule</td>
<td>Placed in a pit of 30x30 cm, objects placed vertically in pit (sand/heathland)</td>
<td>Butler 1965, 175, figs. 9-10; Butler &amp; Steegstra 2007/2008, 382-383; Fig. 4 no. 12; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2019/2020, 61 fig. 11b</td>
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<tr>
<td>1271 Princess of Drouwen' (Drouwen 1939 hoard)</td>
<td>LBA (9th century BCE)</td>
<td>Type Oerel spectacle fibula</td>
<td>Eleven bracelets and four bronze wire bracelets/rings, bronze buttons, jet beads, drawing aid/compass, necklace spacers, bronze ring, placed in Nordic ‘hanging vessel’ (belt box)</td>
<td>Placed at edge of tumulus (Totenschatz?)</td>
<td>Kooi 1979, 91-93; Figs. 87-88; Butler 1986, 133-168, Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2017, 59-68-70</td>
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<tr>
<td>165 Bonnerveen</td>
<td>LBA (9th century BCE)</td>
<td>Type Oerel spectacle fibula (2x)</td>
<td>Chain consisting of two larger and two smaller rings</td>
<td>From the Bonnerveen peat, near the ‘De Beek’ stream valley</td>
<td>Kooi 1979, 91-93; Figs. 87-88; Butler 1986, 133-168; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2017, 59-68-70</td>
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<tr>
<td>2923A-C Markerwaardweg</td>
<td>LBA-EIA (9th-8th century BCE)</td>
<td>Type Oerel spectacle fibula (x 3) Disc-headed pin</td>
<td>Two bracelets, two necklace spacers, seven (interlocking: 2, separated: 5) rings, stone pendant and flint sickle</td>
<td>From a prehistoric ditch, within a settlement area</td>
<td>Fontijn et al. 2019, 500-501; Arnoldussen &amp; Steegstra 2020, 73-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>3096 Enterveen - hoard I</td>
<td>EIA</td>
<td>Gekröpfter Spatelkopf-nadel</td>
<td>Bronze wire, three amber beads, two bronze bars, bronze ring</td>
<td>From the Enter peat bog, Found underneath a boulder 20 cm deep in the peat</td>
<td>Verlinde 1980, 18-20; 21 fig. 2</td>
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Table 2. Pins in multi-object depositions from the Netherlands.

Another remarkable cross-connection between these hoards is the presence of bronze necklace spacers (DB 1285, DB 1286, DB 2925) at Markerwaard and Drouwen and the presence of interlinking chains at Markerwaardweg and Bonnerveen. The interpretation of pins being deposited as part of costume sets may also be valid for the EIA. For example, the Gekröpfte Spatelkopfnadel, placed in the peat near Enter (DB 3096; Verlinde 1980: 18-20), was associated with amber beads as well as bronze bars and rings. Noteworthy is that such costume assemblages could be placed in settlement spaces (Markerwaardweg) or in peat bogs.
(Bonnerveen, Enterveen), yet were not placed with the deceased. Even if recovered from an urnfield, such as the Drouwen 1939 assemblage (Kool 1979: 91-93, Figs. 87-88), the spatial separation of the ornament set from the deceased individual appears deliberate and could signal what Fontijn has labelled the deconstruction of identities (Fontijn 2003: 239-44).

For single objects, it is much more difficult to argue for deliberate deposition as opposed to chance loss (cf. Autenrieth & Visser 2019: esp. 53-54). Despite this, the context of recovery may help in identifying single object depositions, for example when these systematically occur in specific landscape zones (op.cit.: 56). In Dutch later prehistory, wetland zones such as rivers, river confluences, stream valleys, bogs and mires are known foci for object deposition. Below, we will argue that between ca. 1500 and 900 BCE, several types of pins (esp. Radnadeln, Bombenkopfnadeln and other ball-headed pins) ended their use-lives in major rivers, while smaller wetland zones, such as bogs/mires and stream valleys, were rarely chosen for single object deposition (but see DB 1414; DB 2814).

The series of pins allegedly originating from Dutch rivers is substantial, but mostly unreliable. In the case of five examples, no precise provenance is known, as these were sold by antiquities dealer, Esser, to the RMO (DB 518-521, DB 528), at a time when the museum would only buy finds with a Dutch provenance. Similarly, the spectacle fibula (DB 510), leech fibula (DB 513) and three wheel-headed pins presumably originated from the Rivers Maas (DB 2278, DB 2331) and Waal, respectively (DB 440). This indicates that - in addition to ending up in graves (DB 1215, DB 1218) - their biography could alternatively end with river deposition. Pin DB 570 was bought by the RMO from A.J. Sprik and was found while dredging a silted-up River Meuse meander. From the same antiquaries dealer and claimed provenance is Bombenkopfnadel DB 483. The fact that two more Bombenkopfnadel are claimed to originate from the River Waal (DB 441, DB 829) and a third from the River Meuse (DB 2330), could hint at structured deposition of such pins in rivers (but see DB 23/24; supra).

During construction works (Dutch: Maaswerken) of the River Waal near Maasdriel, two biconical-headed pins (DB 273, DB 274) and a ball-headed pin (DB 275) were found. Another decorated ball-headed pin (DB 920) was recovered from the River Maas near Tegelen. The distribution of all ball-headed pins (Fig. 29) appears to be centred on the Meuse river valley and eastern central Dutch river area (with DB 641, DB 2059 and DB 2761 as notable outliers, but DB 641 and DB 2761 are EIA in date).

5.2 Local versus supra-regional identity expression

In the introduction, we argued that pins, due to being worn on the outside of garments and/or in the hair, may have served as prominent media for social communication. In particular, the shape of the head, any decoration, their material(s), number and position of the pin on the body may have communicated socially salient information to later prehistoric onlookers. In cases where pins have been recovered from reliable contexts and appear to be better represented outside the region of recovery, they could indicate supra-regional contacts. The Hessian affinity of the (pins of the) famous ‘Lady of Weerdinge’ (DB 1215, DB 1217, DB 1218) is the classical case in point (Butler 1990: 61; supra), but we feel that several other pins recovered from the Netherlands may be indicative of such supra-regional contacts.

For example, the single quoit-headed pin (DB 941) from the Netherlands evidently originated from an Atlantic cross-channel network, in which such pins spread from the southeast of the United Kingdom to Brittany and our regions (Fig. 30, A; Nordez 2017: 163 Fig. 63). Contact with northern French communities (and/or their ornaments) is evidenced by the pin found at Gasteren (DB 1267; Fig. 30, D), whose form and decoration is well-known from the Villettehoiard and other finds in the upper Seine region (Mordant & Rampart 1976: esp. 202 Fig. 173). Similarly, the decorated Keulenkopfnadel (DB 3054) found at Leidschendam is one of few pins of this type to reach the Low Countries from their main zone of circulation in the central Czech Republic and northeastern Austria (Fig. 30, C; Říhovský 1979: Taf. 42, 43, 70), though another one is known from Han-sur-Lesse (Mees 1988: 135 Fig. 6 no. 4)). These two examples show that in the MBA-B, complementary contacts existed that connected the Low Countries both to Atlantic and central European networks (cf. DB 230, DB 1224, DB 2984). Similarly, the ribbed (pseudo-torqued) shaft of the pin from Overbetuwé (DB 2827) finds its closest parallels in central European finds (cf. Říhovský 1979: Taf. 41 no. 917). These two networks were clearly not the only ones, as pin types such as wheel-headed pins of type C (Fig. 30, B) and Typ Wollmesheim pins (Fig. 30, E) show that, during the MBA-B, contacts with central west Germany were common. In these exchanges, particularly for the Typ Wollmesheim pins (Fig. 30, E), the distribution of our pins suggest that the River Rhine served as a significant vector for such interactions.

The importance of rivers for maintaining and reflecting supra-regional contacts through depositional patterns persists into the Late Bronze Age. For example, the distribution of both ball-headed pins (Fig. 29) and Bombenkopfnadeln (Fig. 30, F) appears to follow a pattern heavily influenced by the courses of the Meuse and

Fig. 30. Supraregional affinities mapped for a selection of later prehistoric pins/pin types (A to G) from the Netherlands. H shows the location of the best comparanda for the Hijkerveld Tumulus 9 pins. Maps by S. Arnoldussen, Groningen Institute of Archaeology (GIA).
Rhine Rivers and their tributaries. Through these riverine pathways, disc-headed pins with conical bosses, akin to those of the Rhone-Suisse-France-Orientale groups, such as those from Elp (DB 1977) and Lent and Tiel-Noord (DB 2632, DB 3125), may have reached our study areas. As before, complementary networks must have been at play. For example the distribution of Type Oerel fibulae (Fig. 30, G) vividly demonstrates that the northern part of the Netherlands was well-integrated into contemporary Nordic networks. Within this network, it is likely that bowl-headed pins (Schälenkopfnadeln) were also prevalent (cf. Laux 1976: Taf. 53B who notes a concentration between the Elbe and Weser Rivers).

It is easy to downplay the significance of these networks of exchange by assuming that 'people got dressed with the material culture available within the network(s) current in their time', but there are good reasons to avoid such simplistic narratives. For example, in a single barrow at Hijken (Tum. 9e), the central grave of the first mound period contained a pin (DB 1869) that may be part of a local or regional stylistic group spanning northwest Germany and the adjacent northeastern Netherlands (Fig. 30, H; cf. Laux 1976: 68-70, Taf. 30 nos 366-70), but it also contained a pin (DB 1867; roll-headed pin with torqued shaft) with its best counterparts found in the central Czech Republic and northeastern Austria (Fig. 30, H; cf. Rihovsky 1979: Taf. 45 nos 1058-59). This combination of the regional and the supra-regional is difficult to imagine having gone unnoticed (cf. Arnoldussen 2015; Fontijn & Knippenberg 2019: 749-50) or without meaning. Noteworthy is that the central grave of the second mound period of this barrow also contained a pin with central European (specifically, north Alpine) affinity. Regardless of whether we should envision the exchange of pins or the movement of wearers of pins that retained their local costume, the expression of non-local origins (even if geographically imprecise) appears to have been significant.

Whereas we have thus far dealt with evidence for non-local or supra-regional affinities of the later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands, we should stress that many pins were presumably fashioned in locally and regionally current styles fit for the wearer and/or purpose of costume, yet perished in the crucible. In rare instances where moulds were recovered (DB 2537), the types produced from them appear to be non-local, suggesting the import of the mould itself. This means that, due to the absence of local production evidence, arguing for a local or regional origin of pins is complicated. However, given the availability of well-studied corpora for adjacent Germany, central Europe and France, there must be some explanatory power in our inability to trace comparanda for stylistically distinct pins. For example, the studded disc of the Hijkerveld hoard (DB 1307) is - despite its distinct form and decoration - without supra-regional comparanda, suggesting that it may converse be a distinct local form. The fact that several other relatively wide disc-headed pins are known to lack suitable comparanda suggests that these disc-headed pins may have been a regional style in the MBA-B. A similar case may be made for the undecorated pins with sunken heads and possibly several others. As tempting as such indications might be, only future study may elucidate which styles and forms were locally produced in what periods of later prehistory, based on new production evidence and locally focused distribution patterns for particular pin types.

The present study has shown that later prehistoric pins were primarily used as clothes fasteners and occasionally as hairpins or closing pins of pouches. Since they were attached to garments, many ended up with the deceased in inhumation graves. Burnt pins from urnfields indicate that these were still pinned onto the deceased on the pyre. From our inventory, it is clear that adults of both sexes and occasionally children were interred with pins. For adults in particular, pins took on a role beyond a purely practical function as dress accessories through which social information could be encoded. For various pins, we have argued that their distinct morphology made them instantly recognizable as non-local, such as the quoit-headed pin from Amsterdam (DB 941) or the pin from Gasteren (DB 1267). Both are excellent examples that demonstrate integration of this part of Europe into Atlantic exchange networks. Similarly, finds such as the Keulenkopf pin from Leidschendam (DB 3054) or the torqued-shaft pin from Hijken (DB 1867) suggest integration into central European networks. For Nordic interaction patterns, the distribution of Type Oerel spectacle fibulae (Fig. 30, G) provided a strong indication.

While the above examples emphasize ‘the exotic’, we could also show that later prehistoric pins of various types recovered from the Netherlands were part of wider distribution zones that simply spanned into our region (for example the wheel-headed pins or pins of types Ockstadt and Wolfensheim). Based on their localized distribution patterns (and lack of suitable comparanda abroad), we have suggested that pins with wide disc heads may very well have been a recognizably
local type. This, as well as the attention paid to visual elements of the pin's head in general, indicates an importance beyond the practical. This significance of pins as signifiers of social clues, such as age or identity, was equally important when such pins were deposited singularly (often in rivers) or as part of multi-objects weapon or ornament sets. To see pins as purely practical would be to miss the point of pins.

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Abbreviations

AN-NBKNOB : Nieuwbulletin Koninklijke Nederlandse Oudheidkundige Bond, anonymous author.
BAI: Biologisch Archeologisch Instituut (now Groningen Institute of Archaeology)
KZGW: Koninklijk Zeeuws Genootschap van Wetenschappen
NAD: Noordelijk Archeologisch Depot
ORT: Oudheidkamer Twente
PAN: Portable Antiquities Netherlands
PDBG: Provinciaal Depot Bodemvondsten Gelderland
RCE: Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed (formerly ROB)
RMO: Rijksmuseum van Oudheden

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A study of later prehistoric pins from the Netherlands


