Central because Liminal
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APPENDIX 2
The Material Corpus Catalogue
The catalogue presents the material corpus by giving the most important object
details, following the references to objects in this catalogue in the analysis and
discussion of objects in Chapter 5. The composition of the corpus and of the
catalogue is governed by a number of choices, options and restrictions. These will
be highlighted first, before presenting the catalogue proper.

The corpus: Choices and collections
The material corpus consists of portable metal objects of a number of categories
as presented in the case studies in Chapter 5. These primarily are brooches and
pins, hack-silver and weights, as well as the related material. Also, they include
finger rings, horse harness material, buckles and a type of crucifix pendant which
were analysed in less detail. All have been chosen to be representative and to
highlight different aspects, ranging from identity to exchange. The selection
criteria for objects were rather simple and pragmatic: an object had to fall within or
relate to the categories, to have been found in former Frisia, to display a detectible
link with the Viking North Sea world and to be available for study, preferably in
person but sometimes in publication.

As a starting point, existing inventories, as described in Chapter 1, were used
to find and select objects. Similarly, metal detecting magazines and other relevant
publications were consulted. Secondly, museum and depot collections were searched.
This way, also recent collections of finds from metal detecting were looked into and
incorporated. As was stressed earlier, particularly Dutch Frisia and within it Central
Frisia was in focus. Due to affiliations with the provinces of Friesland and Groningen,
the material in this ‘Central Frisian area’ has been more readily available to me. This
particularly concerns the metal-detected finds. Together, these strategies provided
a short-list of objects that were of interest and could be studied. As a selection, the
corpus is not meant as a complete inventory, but as a representative body of objects.

Most of the portable metal finds are metal-detected; some of them are recent,
but some are chance finds from older collections. The objects discussed here come
from different collections, amongst which the museum collections from the
National Museum of Antiquities, the Museum of Friesland and the provincial depots
of Friesland, Groningen, Drenthe (Northern Archaeological Depot: NAD) and
Zeeland (SCEZ). However, a good share of the objects are also in private possession.
For each of the objects, the ownership or current location of the object will be
specified where possible, but it is fitting to discuss here two metal-detected collections
as exemplary and representing Central Frisia. This concerns two collections which
are now in the NAD: the collections Regtop and Zijlstra.

Regtop was a collector of detector finds in the current province of Groningen.
His collection comprises many stray finds, either found by the collector himself or
bought from other detectorists, from the Groninger soil. Although the collection covers

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110 It must, however, be kept in mind that all of this was carried out before the announcement and instalment of
Portable Antiquities of the Netherlands, which will greatly benefit the researcher wanting to study portable metal finds
in the near future.
a long period of time, most prominent are the early medieval finds. Single objects have been published earlier, and a publication of the entire collection is stated as forthcoming since 2013, (Groenendijk et al.) but has not appeared at the moment of print.

Zijlstra is an active collector of detector finds in the current province of Friesland. The bulk of his collection also stems from Frisian soil and a large share comprises early medieval finds from the terp-region. Amongst them are dress items and jewellery of all types. Part of his collection is now in the NAD, part in the Museum of Friesland (Fries Museum) and part in his private collection. Some of the finds from Zijlstra have been published as single objects and the bulk has appeared together in Zijlstra’s privately published Friese Bodemvondsten in five parts (1990-94).

For all these finds, it must be stressed that we have to rely entirely on personal, oral information from metal-detectorists and the collectors, of the find location and find circumstances. Naturally, this is all done on the basis of trust, although as much as possible has been checked, with the full cooperation of the finders and collectors.

Structure of the catalogue
The objects are presented according to the case studies. For each case study, the discussed and numbered objects will presented first, followed by the related objects. The core objects are the objects numbered 1.1 to 3.11, the related objects for the first two case studies are numbered 1.1.1 through to 2.2/3.4. For the third case study the catalogue objects that are chosen serve as examples of the categories. Wherever an object in the running text of Chapter 5 does not have a catalogue number as a reference, then it does not appear in the catalogue.

When an object is depicted in the chapter (image or distribution map), there is a reference to this figure. In the general remarks section of Chapter 5, there are combined distribution maps (Fig. 5.27 and 5.28) of the material. Since these concern most of the material in the catalogue and not one specific find type, these are not added as a reference in the catalogue, and it suffices to have mentioned them here.

The find-location is at the level of toponym, with sometimes more detailed location information in the discussion of the object in the case study, as a result of the metal-detected and older finds and the information available. The details that are provided for each object are as follows and in this order, after the catalogue number:

inventory number
collection
date (centuries (years))
material
dimensions
weight
type
find-location (place, province)
figures in the text
description
photo/drawing credits
Catalogue

Case Study 1

1.1
G2008-II.31a
NAD; Former collection Regtop
(Late 9th – early) 10th century
Leaded bronze/copper alloy
29 mm diam.

Jansson type II D
Oosterwijk, Groningen
Fig. 5.1 and 5.2

Borre-style disc brooch
Convex disc brooch, found in Oosterwijk, Groningen, in a dug-away ‘wierde’ or ‘terp’.
Decorated in Borre style, Jansson type II D. The decoration is of interlace patterns, with three concentric circles in the middle, divided into three symmetrical elements of lines and animal heads. Surrounded by three circular rims. The arrangement of the pin-attachment and third loop on the back are clear Scandinavian features.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker

1.2
FM1995-XII-2.277
NAD; Former collection Zijlstra
(Late 9th – early) 10th century
Bronze /copper alloy
26 mm diam.

Jansson type III C
Wijnaldum, Friesland
Fig. 5.3 and 5.2

Terslev/Borre-style disc brooch
Fragmented convex disc brooch. Probably Jansson type III C, with Borre style or specifically Terslev type VII decoration. Found in Wijnaldum, Friesland. Although fragmentary, a third loop is clearly discernible.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker
1.3

Private collection Zijlstra
Early 10th century (AD 900-950)
Copper alloy

Jansson type I A1
Kenwerd, Groningen
Fig. 5.6 and 5.7

Jellinge/Borre-style disc brooch
Convex, open-worked upper plate of a composite disc brooch. Decorated in Jellinge (or Jellinge/Borre) style, displaying a gripping beast.

Photo: Jan Zijlstra

1.4

G2008-II.31a
NAD; Former collection Regtop
9th - 10th century
Leaded bronze/copper alloy
33 mm diam.

‘Limfjord-type’
Unidentified, Groningen
Fig. 5.8 and 5.10

Terslev-style disc brooch
Brooch of unspecified type which here is deemed ‘Limfjord-type’ after the two exact parallels from the Limfjord area. Flat but with Scandinavian-style pin-arrangement.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker
1.5
WD771.2.38
National Museum of Antiquities (RMO)
Late 8th – 9th century (AD 750-850)
Copper alloy
85 x 50 mm
- TT or R643-type
Wijk bij Duurstede (Dorestad), Utrecht
Fig. 5.11

Tortoise brooch
An early tortoise-type or domed oblong brooch, possibly of TT or R634 type. Incised decoration in quadrangles. No pin or pin-arrangement visible.

Photo: National Museum of Antiquities (RMO), Leiden

1.6
FM 2016-0031.121
Private collection Zijlstra; currently kept in FM
9th-10th century (AD 850-950)
Copper alloy
33 mm length
5.59 gr.
Group I,E
Hallumerhoek, Friesland
Fig. 5.12 and 5.14

Penannular brooch terminal
Dragon-head shaped terminal of penannular brooch with ring-dot decoration. Classified as a group I,E-type by Graham-Campbell (2011, 99), which are generally Norwegian but based on Insular examples.

Photos: Johan Koning, Fries Museum Leeuwarden.
1.7
F1940/12.2
National Museum of Antiquities (RMO)
9th century or possibly later copy?
Silver
68 x 40 mm
- Petersen type 215
Possibly Wijk bij Duurstede (Dorestad), Utrecht
Fig. 5.15 and 5.16 and 5.18

Ring-pin
Decorated silver ring-pin of Petersen type 215, but with unusual short pin and attachment-loop on the back.

Photo: National Museum of Antiquities (RMO), Leiden

REL 1.2.1
F 2010-VI-13204
NAD; MISSING
Possibly 9th or 10th century
Silver
-
-
Wijndalum, Friesland
-
Dirham fragment (hack-silver)

REL 1.2.2
F 2010-VI-5332 (NUMISnr. 1033938)
NAD
8th – 9th century (between AD 725-821)
Silver
13 mm diam
-
Abbasid
Wijndalum, Friesland
-
Dirham fragment (hack-silver)
Found in the Wijndalum excavations of 1991-93. Dated roughly between AD 725 and 900 (NAD) and 749-821 (NUMIS); issuer, date and place unreadable due to fragmentation.

Photo: author
**REL 1.2.3**
FM 1995-XII-2.572 (NUMISnr. 1033937)
NAD; Former collection Zijlstra
8th – 9th century (AD 725-821)
Silver
24 mm. diam
-
Abbasid
Wijnaldum, Friesland
-

Dirham fragment (hack-silver)
Half, cut-up dirham found in Wijnaldum by a metal detectorist. Dated roughly between AD 725 and 900 (NAD) and 749-821 (NUMIS). Issuer, date and place unreadable due to fragmentation.

Photo: author

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**REL 1.2.4**
F 2010-VI-5338 (NUMISnr. 1033939)
NAD
Late 8th century (AD 791-792)
Silver
34 mm diam.
4.95 gr.
Abbasid, Harun al Rashid, Balkh (170-193 AH / AD 786-809)
Wijnaldum, Friesland
-

Dirham jewellery
Dirham turned into jewellery by being mounted in four beaded rims, which are incomplete. No attachment. Found in the Wijnaldum excavations 1991-93.

Photo: author
REL 1.2.5
FM 1995-XII-2.326
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
Viking Age (c. AD 800-1100)
Copper alloy
28 mm wide
-
-
Wijnaldum, Friesland
-

Thor’s hammer
Possible corroded Thor’s hammer fragment
of copper alloy, undecorated. First and so far
only possible Thor’s hammer known from
Frisia and the Netherlands.

Photo: NAD Nuis

REL 1.2.6
Q4
Museum Boymans van Beuningen
9th century or later copy?
Copper alloy – brass?
68 x 40 mm
-
Petersen type 215
Possibly Wijk bij Duurstede (Dorestad),
Utrecht
-

Ring-pin
Ring-pin allegedly found in Wijk bij
Duurstede. An exact parallel of 1.7, with a
similar short pin, but in different material.
Possibly made of brass. Relation between the
finds is uncertain.

Photo: author
Case Study 2

2.1
- Private collection
  Late 9th – early 10th century (AD 850-950)
  Silver
  103 x 13 mm
  13 gr.
  Hiberno-Scandinavian broad-band arm-ring
  Driehuizen, Texel, Noord-Holland
  Fig. 5.19, 5.20 and 5.21

  Arm-ring fragment (hack-silver)
  Half of a tapering Hiberno-Scandinavian broad-band arm-ring, made from hammered-out ingot. Decorated with bar-shaped stamps with pellets in relief, on the wider end the stamps are crossed. First and only find of this type in Frisia and outside of Scandinavia and the British Isles.

  Drawing: Rachel Onstwedder, Groningen Institute of Archaeology, University of Groningen

2.2
- Private collection
  9th – 10th century
  Copper alloy
  9 x 8 mm
  4.5 gr.
  Cubo-octahedral
  Dongjum, Friesland
  Fig. 5.22

  Weight
  Cubo-octahedral weight of copper alloy, decorated with six dots in a beaded border on the main sides and one on the facetted sides.

  Photo: author
2.3

Private collection
9th – 10th century
Lead, copper alloy
25 mm diam.
62–65.25 gr. (various measurements)
Cylindrical disc weight
Dongjum, Friesland
Fig. 5.22

Weight
Lead disc weight with presumed copper-alloy core and inlaid metalwork. The inlay is decorated with a zoomorphic design, a spiral-shaped animal. Slightly raised dots can be seen on the upper rim of the disc. Found about 10 to 20 metres apart from 2.2, in the same field.

Photo: author
2.4
F 2008-VIII-94
NAD
9th – 11th century
Copper alloy
7 x 7 mm
2.3 gr.
Cubo-octahedral
Friesland (exact location unknown)
Fig. 5.22

Weight
Slightly worn cubo-octahedral weight with three punch-dots on each of the main sides.

Photo: NAD Nuis

2.5
869-16
KZGW
9th – 11th century
Copper alloy
7.5 x 8 mm
3.23 gr.
Cubo-octahedral
Schouwen, Zeeland
Fig. 5.23

Weight
Cubo-octahedral weight with four punched dots on main sides in beaded rim.

Photo: Gemma van der Hoogte, Koninklijk Zeeuws Genootschap der Wetenschappen
2.6
0032-76
KZGW
9th – 11th century
Copper alloy
7.5 x 8 mm
3.28 gr.
Cubo-octahedral
Domburg-Oostkappelle
Fig. 5.23

Weight
Cubo-octahedral weight with six punched dots on the main sides, in beaded border, and one on each facetted side.

Photo: Gemma van der Hoogte, Koninklijk Zeeuws Genootschap der Wetenschappen

REL 2.1.1
NUMISno. 1035493
Private collection
Late 8th century (AD 754–758)
Silver
25 x 15.5 mm
1.54 gr.
Abbasid, Harun al Mansur (136–38 AH / AD 754–74)
Driehuizen, Texel, Noord-Holland

Dirham fragment (hack-silver)
Cut-up dirham, which was bent when found. Found about 50 metres from 2.1, but 10 years prior.

Photo: Jan Jaap Waverijn
**REL 2.2/3.1**
F 2007-IV-187
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
Late 9th to 13th century (Possibly AD 850-900; possibly AD 1000-1300)
Copper alloy (brass)
170 mm length
- Possibly Steuer Typ 7; possibly an earlier type
Dongjum, Friesland
-

Folding balance
Copper-alloy folding balance with short tongue, attached to knotted wire. The arms, one of which is broken, are decorated with cubical shapes. On the ends, there are still attachment-rings. The balance is cleaned and conserved.

Photo: NAD Nuis

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**REL 2.2/3.2**
F 2011-VII-55, NUMISnr 1008827
NAD
Late 9th century (AD 821-892)
Silver
11 mm length
- Abbasid (AH 206-279 / AD 821-892)
Dongjum, Friesland
-

Dirham fragment (hack-silver)
Cut-up dirham, very small fragment remaining. Due to fragmentation the issuer, date and place unreadable, but it is suggested to be post Harun al Rashid.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker
**REL 2.2/3.3**

F 2005-XII-402  
NAD  
8th – 9th century (?)  
Silver  
24 x 20 mm  
-  
Arm-ring terminal (?)  
Dongjum  
-  

Hack-silver  
Fragment of thick silver wire, bent into a loop at the thinner end. Possibly the terminal of an arm-ring.  

Photo: author

**REL 2.2/3.4**

F 2005-XII-397  
NAD  
11th century  
Copper alloy  
40 x 28 mm  
-  
Williams Class B, Type 2  
Dongjum, Friesland  
Fig. 5.26  

Stirrup-strap mount  
Williams (1997) Class B Type 2 stirrup-strap mount. Found in Dongjum, together with 3.5, amongst others, and therefore under the same inv.no.  

Photo: author
Case study 3

3.1
2009-XI-1
FM
9th – 11th century
gold
24 mm diam.
4.96 gr.
Twisted rods
Nijemirdum (Gaasterland), Friesland

Finger ring
Golden finger ring of the twisted-rod type.
Made from two thicker and two thinner rods
which are pressed together to close the ring

Photo: Fries Museum, Leeuwarden

3.2
126-4
FM
9th –10th century (c. 901-911)
Silver (with gold, copper, tin, lead, zinc)
21 mm wide, 19 mm diam.

Midlum, Friesland

Finger ring
Part of the Midlum hoard that was uncovered
in 1911, which consists of 193 Carolingian
dinars of Louis the Child. According to
Boeles (1915) and Coupland (2006, 265)
minted and deposited between 899 (901)
and 911. Decorated with four triangular
stamps with pellets in relief.

Photo: Fries Museum, Leeuwarden;
Collectie Het Koninklijk Fries Genootschap
3.3
157-85
FM
9th – 10th century
Silver (with copper, tin, lead)
25 mm wide, 26 mm diam.
-
-
Tzum, Friesland
-

Finger ring
Silver finger ring with knotted closing at the back. Front decorated with pattern of stamped triangular shapes with pellets in relief.

Photo: Fries Museum, Leeuwarden;
Collectie Het Koninklijk Fries Genootschap

3.4
FM2016-0031.115
Private collection Zijlstra; currently kept in FM
9th – 10th century
Gold
23 mm diam.
7.1 gr.
‘Gotlandic type’
Wijns, Friesland
Fig. 5.25

Finger ring
Golden finger ring of Viking date and ‘Gotlandic’ style.

Photo: Johan Koning,
Fries Museum Leeuwarden.
3.5
F 2005-XII-397
NAD
9th – 11th century
Copper alloy
25 x 19 mm
- ‘Haithabu type’
Dongjum, Friesland
-

Crucifix pendant
Small copper-alloy crucifix pendant of the ‘Haithabu type’, with Christ’s head suggested by a protruding triangular shape. Loop missing.

Photo: NAD Nuis

3.6
F 2006-XII-378
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
9th – 10th century
Copper alloy; iron and bronze
16 mm high
-
-
Pingjum, Friesland
-

Mount
Mount in the form of an animal head with pointy ears. Probably a stirrup mount.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker
3.7
F 2006-XII-418
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
9th – 10th century (?)
Copper alloy
28 mm high
-
-
Pingjum, Friesland
-

Mount or pendant
Horse harness mount or pendant depicting a human face.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker

3.8
G 2008-II-109h
NAD; former collection Regtop
9th – 10th century
Bronze; copper alloy
21 x 18 mm
-
-
Westerwijdwerd, Groningen
-

Mount
Mount, possibly related to horse harness, depicting a stylised animal head in a Borre style or related style. Fragmented.

Photo: NAD Nuis, Jelle Schokker
3.9
F 2006-XII-412
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
9th – 11th century
Bronze; copper alloy
15 mm length
-
-
Pingjum, Friesland
-

Openwork mount
Fragment of a mount, probably related to horse harness. Interlace pattern. Possibly openwork strap-end in Urness style.

Photo: NAD Nuis

3.10
F 2007-IV-113
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
10th – 11th century
Bronze; copper alloy
34 x 30 mm
-
-
Pingjum, Friesland
-

Openworked mount
Openworked horse harness mount or possibly stirrup strap-end in Urness style or related style, ending in animal head.

Photo: NAD Nuis
3.11
F 2007-IV-256
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
9th – 11th century
Bronze; copper alloy
25 x 20 mm
-
-
Pingjum, Friesland
-

Mount; cheek-piece
Bronze mount with an animal-head terminal, possibly deriving from a cheek-piece. Related to horse harness.

Photo: NAD Nuis

3.12
F 2007-IV-160
NAD; former collection Zijlstra
9th – 11th century
Copper alloy
38 x 8 mm
-
‘Domburg-type’
Pingjum or Achlum, Friesland

Mount
Small bronze mount with zoomorphic or anthropomorphic design, the two heads are facing each other. One rivet still present. Known primarily from Domburg, hence reference as ‘Domburg-type’.

Photo: author