

Viking Archery

The following is a short annotated list of resources for those interested in Viking Age archery tackle. I have found a few other references, but none more significant than these.

Paulsen, Harm (1999) "Pfeil und Bogen in Haithabu", in Das Archäologische Fundmaterial VI: Wachholtz Verlag, Neumunster. pp 93 – 146, ISBN 3-529-01933-X.

The most recent resource I've found. Excellent descriptions of the bows and arrowheads found at Hedeby (Haithabu). Includes information on the performance of reproductions based on the original finds.

Rausing, Gad (?) "The Bow – Some Notes on Its Origin and Development"; Acta Archaeologica Lundensia (Papers of the Lunds Universitets Historiska Museum), Series IN 8°. No 6: Rudolph Habelt Verlag, Bonn A. R., Germany, 177 pp.

Excellent overview of the development of the bow from prehistoric times. Most of the major finds are discussed. Extensive bibliography. It was also published by the Simon Archery Foundation, The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, M13 9PL, England. I don't know why I am missing a date of publication...

Groenman-vanWaateringe, Willy (1984) Die Lederfunde von Haithabu: Karl Wachholtz Verlag, Neumunster (Berichte Über Die Ausgrabungen in Haithabu, Bericht 21), 70 pp plus tables. ISBN 3-529-1921-6.

Predominately, this paper deals with shoes. However, beginning on page 38, there is a description of the remains of two leather quivers, and a line drawing of one of the reconstructed quivers.

Hoj, Dan (?) Bue Og Pil Fra Danmarks Sten-, Bronze-, og Jernalder.

Unfortunately, this is the only information I have on this book. I have only seen a few pages, sent to me by the author. It has excellent line drawings of the more recent Viking finds. It seems to be primarily aimed at reproducing these bows, and a lot of information is given concerning the tools to make the bows, making bowstrings, etc. The book may be ordered from Danage of Scandinavia, www.danage.dk.

Du Chaillu, Paul B. (1970 reprint of the 1889 edition) The Viking Age: AMS Press, New York; Two Volumes. ISBN 0-404-02187-5.

A very early work. A great deal of the material in the book should be examined carefully before citing it as a reference. However, on page 229, Volume I, there

is a drawing of a wooden quiver and a bow from the Nydam find. The quiver is interesting, but I don't have any references for wooden quivers continuing into the Viking Age.

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