

## Introduction

This report presents the archaeological evidence in the period marking the change in Uppsala from a Viking to a Christian society. Uppsala at this point in history meant today's Old Uppsala or Gamla Uppsala. The present Uppsala then being only a small harbour, Östra Åros, a short stopping off point for goods and people on their way to and from the King's land at Gamla Uppsala. Questionable literary accounts, such as Adam of Bremen regarding Viking Uppsala, are replaced by the last hundred years of modern archaeological evidence from excavations at today's Gamla Uppsala. Based on physical objects from these diggings a more reliable and modern history of the important differences in late Viking and early Christian society in Uppsala can begin to be told.

This report will cover the years from 837AD with the burning of the South Hall of the royal demesne of Gamla Uppsala to 1164AD with the completion of the first cathedral there. The most obvious features of the present day Gamla Uppsala landscape, the three large "Kings Mounds", having been constructed before the above dates, around 550AD, will only be mentioned in passing. The archaeological evidence for four distinct stages on the road from pagan Viking society to Christian Swedish society will be presented (Figure 1). First, the Royal Halls excavated on the plateaus on the north side of Gamla Uppsala and the boat graves in the vicarage grounds; then excavations of a pagan temple; next evidence for the first church and finally the structure of the first cathedral, parts of which are still visible at present day Gamla Uppsala. The main archaeological investigations examined will be those of Carl M. Kjellberg (1896); Sune Lindqvist (1926), Else Nordahl and Gunnar Hedlund (1993) and most recently Alkarp and Price (2005).