

Ithaca, a Bronze-age city on the island of Lyø in Denmark

At the center of the island of Lyø in southern Denmark lies a Bronze-Age city that can be seen in aerial photographs. The city is Ithaca, home of Ulysses. It is the first Bronze-age city found in Denmark, and its construction differs markedly from later cities. Based on similar buildings in Finland and England, its roots may originate in the Copper Age of Bell-Beaker people, circa 2000 BC.

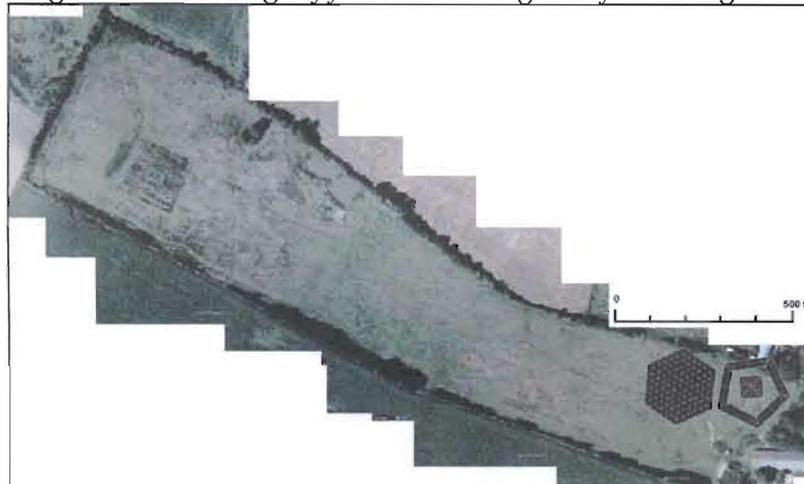
Felice Vinci published a guide of how to find Ithaca in *Omero nel Baltico* (1995), translated into English as *The Baltic Origin of Homer's Epic Tales* (2006).

While much of the old city has been plowed up or lies under the present town of Lyø, a single field west of the city remains untouched by the plow (Figures 1 and 2). In this field, traces of buildings appear, postholes where clumps of grass grow much darker.

Figure 1 The untouched field lies west of the town of Lyø. Source: Scankort in Denmark.



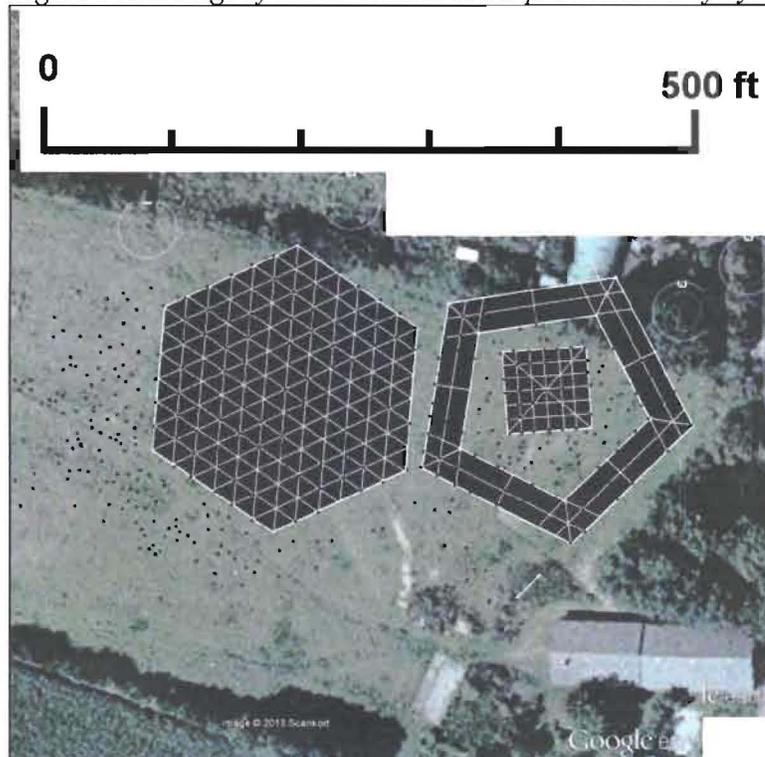
Figure 2 High resolution image of field stitched together from Google Earth, 2005.



By connecting clumps of dark green grass that lie equally spaced on straight lines, surrounded by parallel rows of similar straight lines, geometric buildings emerge. At Lyø, about 80% of the intersections that once held a post have a spot of dark green grass. On the reconstructed buildings, these appear as black dots at the intersection of the grid of white beams.

The buildings closest to the present town are a pentagonal school for men, open in the center like a monastery, and a hexagonal home (Figure 3). The hexagonal timbered hall measures 216 feet across with twelve rows of post holes on 3 fathom centers (1 fathom = six feet). Within the open center of the pentagonal building lies a square storehouse.

Figure 3 Buildings of Ithaca closest to the present town of Lyø.



The site has not been examined; any traces will be very faint. They did not use foundation stones, nor build stone chimneys, nor cook in clay pots, nor use pottery dishes.

Over the next few months I plan to examine the rest of the field using Photoshop. If anyone would like to help, contact Stuart Harris, stuhar@onlymyemail.com, or Christine Pellech, editor of *migration-diffusion/info* in Austria.