

**RUNES AROUND THE NORTH SEA AND
ON THE CONTINENT AD 150-700;
TEXTS & CONTEXTS**

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van het doctoraat in de Letteren,
aan de Rijksuniversiteit van Groningen
op gezag van de
Rector Magnificus, dr. F. van der Woude,
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door

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15. *Hantum* (Friesland), a small decorated plate made of (sperm whale?) ivory. Found in 1914. Seen at the FM, Leeuwarden. No date. Any function of the object is unknown. Several sorts of decoration motives seem to be practised on it. One side bears runes. The other side has in Roman letters ABA. The runes read ?:**aha**:k| or ?:**æhæ**:k|

∶|**h**|∶|**h**∶|**h**

æhæ reminds of *eh(w)ē* dsm. *a*-stem 'to the horse', a legend found on the bracteates of *Åsum* and *Tirup Heide* (Bracteate Corpus). The **h** rune is double-barred. Since the edges of the object have been notched, and the decorations have partly been cut away, the object may have been much larger and so would have been the runic text. Maybe **aha** or **æhæ** is a PN, nsm. *n*-stem.