

# Texts and Contexts of the Oldest Runic Inscriptions



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50. WURMLINGEN (Baden-Württemberg, Germany). In the Württembergisches Landesmuseum, Stuttgart. An iron spearhead, dated around 600 or a little later. Ornaments and runes were inlaid with silver. The runic part is preceded by a sign with unknown meaning: ᚱ. It recalls Hachmann's "Sarmatische Heilszeichen" (Hachmann 1993), or of one of the Anglo-Saxon **beonna** coins, which display a sign ᚷ, meaning 'rex'. The initial sign of the Wurmlingen inscription is followed by a word-divider, and the runes :**dorih**, which may be (part of) a PN nsm. *a*-stem *Dorih*, possibly second part of a PN like *Theodorich*.

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