

Texts and Contexts of the Oldest Runic Inscriptions



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19. FRIEDBERG (Hessen, Germany), silver disc-brooch with almandine-inlay, one of a pair. Dated 3rd th. 6th c. (Arntz & Zeiss 1939:232 ff.). Found in 1885 in a woman's grave; lost in World War II. The runes read: þuruphild

ÞURUPHILD

This may be a PN, with a svarabhakti first *-u-*; nsf. *jō*-stem *Thruphild*, cf. the attested OHG name *Drūdhilt*. OHG *thrūt*, *drūd* 'force, fierce'; ON *þrúðr* f. 'force, woman, daughter of Thor'. *hild* < Gmc **hildjō*, OHG *hiltia* 'battle', nsf. *jō*-stem, a well-known name-element in female names.

A svarabhakti vowel, such as the first *-u-* here, is otherwise rare in the Continental Corpus.

I think *Thruphild* was a suitable name for a Valkyrie-like woman (the skeleton was that of an extremely strongly-built female).

The rune *r* has a special form, similar to WEINGARTEN I, NORDENDORF II, WURMLINGEN, NIEDERSTOTZINGEN, GRIESHEIM, BÜLACH and SOEST. See p. 271.