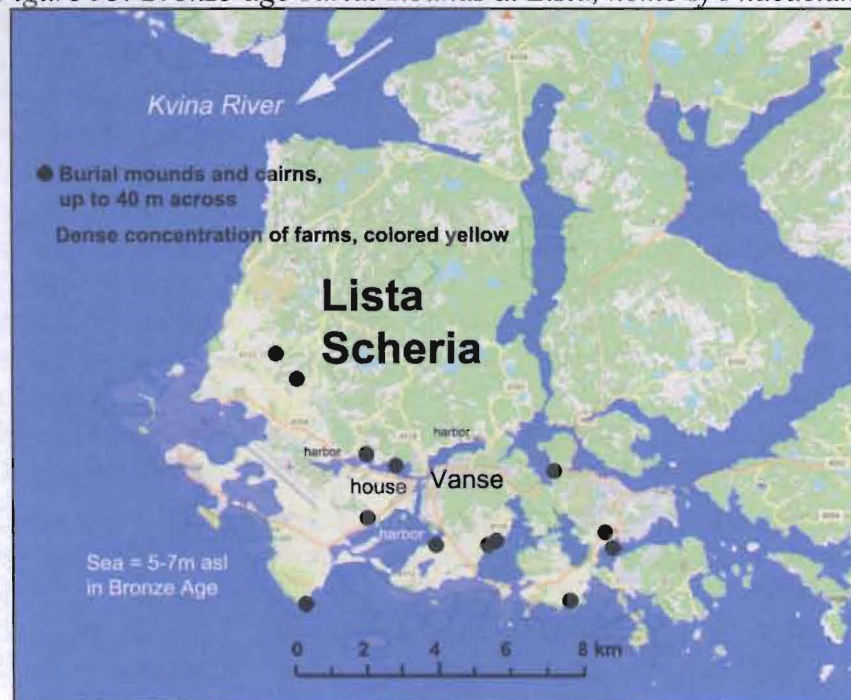


Argonauts in Finland

Vanse, the most southern port of Norway, had three protected harbors. It lies 10 km from the river Kvina, ancient Aigaios (Vinci, 1995). Bronze-Age burial mounds up to 40 m across dot the land. The land supports a dense concentration of farms.

Nine museums and two visitor centers display a wide variety of Bronze-age artifacts from Lista: a large hammer was made with pure copper from America; a soapstone mold made copper or bronze celts; delicate jewelry came from Denmark. A three-aisled farm-house from the Late Bronze Age was excavated at Vanse in 1991

Figure 93: Bronze-age burial mounds at Lista, home of Phaeacians.



(4.552-591) When Apsyrtus had fallen, Zeus was seized with wrath. He ordained that by the counsels of **Aeaeon Circe** they should cleanse themselves from the terrible stain of blood and suffer countless woes before their return.

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158 Melanos Corcyra, 'Black Corcyra'

159 Melite Island

160 Cerossus

None of the chieftains knew this. Onward they sped from the **Hyllean land**, and left behind all the islands that had been thronged by the Colchians -- the **Liburnian isles**, **Issa**, **Dysceladus**, and **Pityeia**. Next they came to **Corcyra**, where **Poseidon** settled the daughter of **Asopus**, fair-haired Corcyra. Sailors beholding it from the sea, all black with its somber woods, call it **Melanos Corcyra**, 'Black Corcyra'. Next they passed **Melite**, and steep **Cerossus**, and **Nymphaea** at a distance.

154 Electra Island

Hera thought of the counsels and wrath of Zeus and devised an ending of their voyage. She stirred up storm-winds, by which they were caught and borne back to the rocky isle of **Electra**.

10 Dodona

Suddenly, there called to them with a human voice the beam of the hollow ship, which Athena had set in the center, made of **Dodonian oak**. The voice told of the grievous wrath of Zeus. It proclaimed that they should not escape the paths of an endless sea nor grievous tempests unless **Circe** should purge away the guilt of the ruthless murder of Apsyrtus.

161 Eridanus Stream

162 Ausonian Sea

It bade **Polydeuces** and **Castor** pray to the gods to grant a path through the **Ausonian Sea** where they should find Circe, daughter of **Perse** and **Helios**.

(4.592-626) Thus **Argo** cried through the darkness. The sons of **Tyndareus** rose and lifted their hands to the immortals praying for each boon. But dejection held the rest of the **Minyan** heroes. On sped Argo under sail, and entered deep into the **Stream of Eridanus**.

Argonauts in Finland 163 Rhodanus Stream

164 to Gulf of Ocean

165 Sardinian Sea

(4.627-658) They entered the stream of **Rhodanus** which flows into **Eridanus**. That river on one side goes to **Ocean**, on another to the **Ionian Sea**, and on a third to the **Sardinian Sea**.

From **Rhodanus**, a certain branch was bearing them towards a gulf of Ocean, from which they never would have returned in safety. Hera pealed a cry from the **Hercynian rock**; backward they turned and noted the path.

166 Sardinia

After a long while they came to a **beach**, passing unharmed through countless tribes of **Celts** and **Ligyans**. For round them the goddess poured a mist each day.

167 Stoechades Islands

Sailing through the midmost mouth, they reached the **Stoechades Islands**.

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The Argonauts retraced their route to Melite, entered Rhodanus Stream, then missed the turnoff to the Sardinian Sea. They would have followed Rhodanus to the Gulf of Bothnia of the Baltic Sea if Hera had not warned them to turn back. They stopped at the only beach on Sardinia, then passed the Stoechades Islands, Aethelia, Ausonia and landed at Aeaea Harbor.

Figure 94: Melite Island to Circe's palace.



168 Aethalia Island

Leaving the Stoechades, they passed to the island **Aethalia**. Pebbles like skin in color are strewn on the beach.

169 Ausonia

170 Aeaea Harbor

(4.659-684) From there they passed through the sea, beheld the **Tyrrhenian** shores of **Ausonia**, came to the harbor of **Aeaea** and landed.

Argonauts in Finland

Circe's Palace at Aeaëa's harbor was a hexagonal building that straddled a hill overlooking the harbor. It likely measured 128 m across. A smaller building occupied a hill closer to the entrance. A nearby cairn may be hers.

Figure 95: Circe's palace.



171 Circe's Palace

Here they found **Circe** bathing her head in the sea-spray, for she had been scared by visions of the night. Her chambers and walls of her **palace** seemed to be running with blood; flame was devouring the magic herbs she used to bewitch strangers. With blood she quenched the flame, drawing it up in her hands, and ceased the deadly fear.

Wherefore, when morning came, she rose and bathed her hair and garments with sea-spray. Monsters with shapeless form followed her.

As the Heroes gazed on the form and face of Circe, they readily guessed that she was the **sister of Aeëtes**.

(4.685-717) With her hand, she bade the heroes follow. The host remained steadfast at the bidding of Aeson's son, but Jason and the Colchian maid followed to the hall of Circe. Amazed at their coming, she bade them sit on brightly burnished seats. They sped quietly to the hearth and sat there, as is the wont of wretched suppliants.

Medea hid her face in both her hands. Jason fixed in the ground the mighty sword with which he had slain Aeëtes' son. Nor did they raise their eyes to meet her look.

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And straightway Circe became aware of the doom of a suppliant and the guilt of murder. She began to offer the sacrifice with which ruthless suppliants are cleansed from guilt when they approach the altar.

To atone for the murder still unexpiated, she held above their heads the young of a sow whose dugs yet swelled from the fruit of the womb, and, severing its neck, sprinkled their hands with the blood.

She made propitiation with drink offerings, calling on Zeus the Cleanser, the protector of murder- stained suppliants.

All the defilements her attendants bore from the palace. Circe, standing by the hearth, kept burning atonement-cakes without wine, praying the while that she might stay from their wrath the Furies, and that Zeus himself might be propitious and gentle to them both, whether with hands stained by the blood of a stranger or by the blood of a kinsman, they should implore his grace.

(4.718-737) When she had wrought her tasks, she re-seated them and sat face to face. She asked of their business and their voyaging, whence they had come to her land and palace, and had seated themselves as suppliants at her hearth.

The hideous dreams entered her mind as she pondered, and she longed to hear the voice of the maiden, her kinswoman, as soon as she saw her eyes. For all those of the race of **Helios** were plain to discern, since from their eyes shot a gleam as of gold.

Medea told her all she asked, speaking gently in the **Colchian tongue**, both of the quest and of the journeyings of the heroes, of their toils in the contests, and how she had sinned through the counsels of her sorrowing sister, and how with the sons of Phrixus she had fled from the tyranny of her father. But she shrank from telling of the murder of Apsyrtus.

(4.738-748) Circe pitied the weeping maiden: "Poor wretch, an evil and shameful return hast thou planned. Not for long, I ween, wilt thou escape the wrath of Aeëtes. Soon he will go to Hellas to avenge the blood of his son, for intolerable are the deeds thou hast done. But since thou art my suppliant and my kinswoman, no further ill shall I devise against thee. Begone from my halls, championing the stranger, this unknown one that thou hast taken in despite thy father. Kneel not to me, for never will I approve thy counsels and thy shameful flight."

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(4.749-752) Measureless anguish seized the maid. Over her eyes she cast her robe and poured forth a lamentation, until the hero took her by the hand and led her from the hall quivering with fear. So they left the home of Circe.

4.753-756) But they were marked by the spouse of Zeus - **Iris** saw them faring from the hall. For **Hera** had bidden Iris to watch when they should come to the ship.

(4.757-769) "Dear Iris, bid **Thetis** arise from the sea and come hither. Then tell **Hephaestus** to still the blasts of fire until Argo passes. Then go to **Aeolus**, tell him my purpose so that he may make all winds cease and no breeze ruffle the sea. Then let the west wind blow until the heroes reach the **Phaeacian** isle of **Alcinous**."

127 Mount Olympus

28 Aegean Sea

(4.770-779) Straightway Iris leapt down from **Olympus** and cleft her way, with light wings outspread. She plunged into the **Aegean Sea**, came to **Thetis**, told her the tale, and roused her to go to the goddess. Next, she came to **Hephaestus**, and made him cease his iron hammers. Thirdly, she came to **Aeolus** and gave him her message.

(4.780-832) Thetis came to Hera, and the goddess made her sit by her side. "Harken now, lady Thetis. Thou knowest how honored in my heart is Aeson's son, and the others that have helped him. Thee from infancy did I love beyond all others because thou didst refuse to share the couch of Zeus. Yet he ceased not from craving thee, until **Themis** declared that it was thy fate to bear a son mightier than his sire. Wherefore he gave thee up, fearing another should be his match and rule the immortals.

172 Elysian Isles

When thy son comes to the **Elysian Plain**, it is fated that he be the husband of Medea, Aeëtes' daughter.

How to find Elysian Isles

The Elysian Plain was by Ocean: "The Elysian plain, where Ocean sends blasts of the West Wind." Homer, *Odyssey*, 4.563-567.

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To reach Hades, the stream of Ocean had to be crossed: "But when thee hast crossed the stream of Ocean, go to the dank house of Hades." Homer, *Odyssey*, 10.508-512.

Ocean bounded Earth: "She came to deep-flowing Ocean that bounds Earth." Homer, *Odyssey*, 11.13.

Ocean meant the Baltic Sea. "There is a river to the Ocean, broad and deep, called Ister." Apollonius, *Argonautica*, 4.290

Olympos was built upon the previous city of Asgard. The mountain at Olympos is named *Multamäki* meaning 'Earth Hill'. Urð, the first wife of Odin, presided over the ruling council of Asgard.

Tartarus lies below Earth. "A bronze [anvil](#) would take nine days to fall from Earth to Tartarus." Hesiod, *Theogony*, 720-725.

Below Earth, across the Baltic Sea, lies Estonia.

Coming from north to south, Elysium would be on the right, Tartarus on the left. "Thy road, the right, toward Pluto's dwelling goes, and leads us to Elysium. But the left speeds sinful souls to doom, and is their path to Tartarus the accursed." Virgil, *Aeneid*, 6.539.

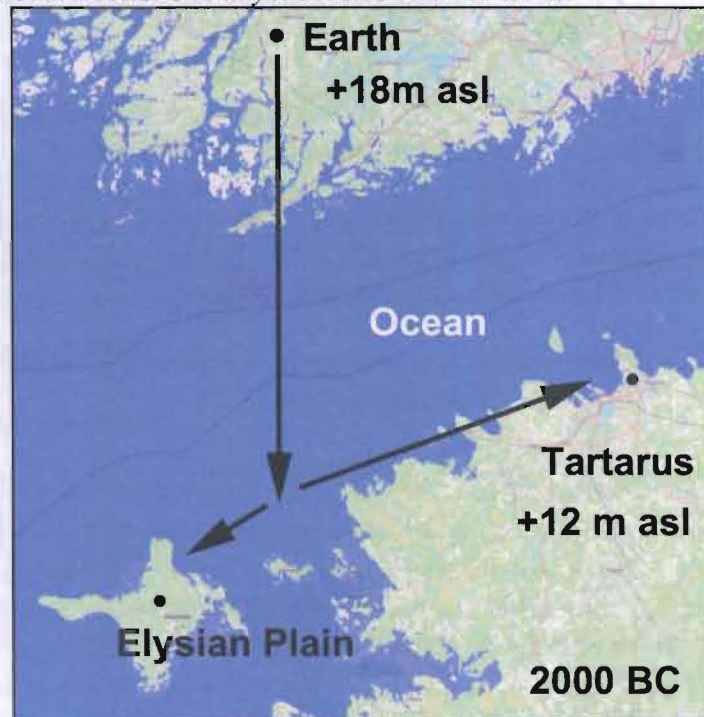
To the right lie Hiiumaa and Saare, the islands of Elysium.

To the left lies Tartarus, 6 km east of Tallinn, beside a river where Cronus and Hades operated furnaces to make steel. Artifacts from 2000 BC lie strewn about this area.

Argonauts in Finland

To reach the Elysian Isles: south of Earth, cross Ocean and turn right. To reach Tartarus, turn left. In 2000 BC, relative sea level was +18 m at Earth, and +12 m at Tartarus.

Figure 96: Directions to Elysian Isles and Tartarus.



Do thou aid thy daughter-in-law as a mother-in-law should, and aid Peleus himself.

Why is thy wrath so steadfast? He was blinded by folly. For blindness comes even upon the gods.

At my behest I deem that Hephaestus will cease from kindling the fury of his flame, and that Aeolus will check all but the steady west wind, until they reach the havens of the Phaeacians. Do thou devise a return without bane. Rocks and waves are my fear, which thou canst foil with thy sisters' aid. Guide their ship where there shall still be a hair's breadth escape from destruction."

(4.833-841) Thetis answered, "If the stormy winds cease, I promise to save the ship. It is time to find my sisters who will aid me. At early dawn the heroes may begin their return home."

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(4.842-855) She darted down from the sky, fell amid the eddies, and called the **Nereids**, her sisters. They heard her and quickly sped to the **Ausonian Sea**. Herself hastened through the sea, until she reached the **Aeaeon** beach of the **Tyrrhenian** mainland.

The heroes she found by the ship taking their pastime with quoits and shooting of arrows. She drew near and touched the hand of **Peleus**, her husband. She appeared to his eyes alone.

173 Planctae Rocks

(4.856-864) "No longer stay on the Tyrrhenian beach. At dawn loosen the hawsers in obedience to Hera, your helper. At her behest the daughters of **Nereus** will draw your ship through the midst of the rocks which are called **Planctae**, for that is your destined path. Keep my person secret, lest thou anger me more than before."

(4.865-884) She spoke and vanished into the sea. Sharp pain smote Peleus, for never before had he seen her, since she left her bridal chamber in anger, on account of **Achilles**, then a babe. Amazed, he related to his comrades the bidding of Thetis. They ceased their contests, prepared their meal and beds, and slept through the night.

(4.885-920) At dawn, with the coming of the west wind, they drew up anchors and spread the sail, stretching it taut with sheets from the yard-arm.

174 Anthemoessa Island

Soon they saw an **island**, **Anthemoessa**, where the **Sirens** used to beguile whoever cast anchor there, and destroy him. They were about to cast hawsers to the shore, had not **Orpheus** with his lyre rung forth a melody to overcome the maidens' voice.

The Sirens kept uttering their song and the son of **Teleon** leapt from the bench into the sea. He swam to the **beach**, where the goddess **Cypris** saved him to dwell on the **Lilybean height**.

175 Scylla and Charybdis

(4.921-981) But other perils awaited them. On one side appeared the smooth rock of **Scylla**; on the other **Charybdis** ceaselessly spouted; in another the **Wandering Rocks** [Planctae] were booming beneath the mighty surge. The air was misty; though Hephaestus had ceased from

Argonauts in Finland

his toils, the sea was sending up a warm vapor. [Scylla and Charybdis may not exist.]

On both sides the daughters of Nereus met them, and Thetis set her hand to the rudder-blade, to guide them amid the Wandering Rocks. The ship rose aloft as the current smote her, and all around the furious wave broke over the rocks. Round them the water spouted and foamed.

176 Thrinacia Meadow

Then the heroes caught the wind and sped onward. Swiftly they passed the **meadow of Thrinacia**, where the kine of **Helios** fed.

They passed in day-time, and when night came, were cleaving a great gulf, rejoicing, until dawn threw light upon their course.

From Circe's palace, a west wind took the Argo to the mainland, then past the island of Anthemoessa, past Scylla and the whirlpool of Charybdis, to the meadow of Thrinacia.

Figure 97: Circe's palace to Thrinacia.



177 Ionian Gulf

178 Ceraunian Sea

179 Drepane

(4.982-1011) Fronting the **Ionian Gulf** there lies an **island** in the **Ceraunian Sea**, rich in soil, with a **harbor on both sides**. **Demeter** once dwelt there, and taught the **Titans** to reap ears of corn. It is called

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Drepane¹⁰, the nurse of the **Phaeacians**, and thus Phaeacians are by birth the blood of **Ouranos**.

180 Thrinacian Sea

To them came Argo. Borne by the breezes from the **Thrinacian Sea**. **Alcinous** and his people welcomed them, and the city made merry, as if rejoicing over their own sons.

Drepane (Sickle Island) bordered the Ionian Gulf to the south and the Ceraunian Sea to the north. It had harbors on both sides of the island. Argus beached on the western harbor, while the opposing Colchian fleet arrived at the eastern harbor.

Figure 98: Thrinacia to Drepane Island.



But soon they raised the battle-cry. Near them appeared a boundless host of Colchians, who had passed through the mouth of **Pontos** and between the **Cyanean rocks** in search of the chieftains.

They desired to carry off Medea apart from the rest, or else threatened war. But Alcinous checked them, for he longed to allay the strife without clash of battle.

(4.1012-1028) The maiden implored **Arete**, the bride of Alcinous: "O queen, deliver me not to the Colchians to be borne to my father. Not willingly did I haste from my home with men of an alien race. My

¹⁰ Drepane < drepanon 'sickle' (Greek)

Argonauts in Finland

maiden's girdle remains as in the halls of my father, unstained, untouched. Pity me, lady, and turn thy lord to mercy. And may the immortals grant thee a perfect life, joy, and children, and the glory of a city unravaged!"

(4.1029-1052) Thus did she implore Arete, shedding tears, and thus each chieftain in turn: "Fear the Fury that avenges suppliants and the retribution of heaven, if I fall into Aeëtes' hands and am slain. When ye longed to seize the fleece, ye would have met all the Colchians to face thee and Aeëtes himself; but now ye have forgotten your courage."

(4.1053-1072) The host were wearied and Night came on. Within the palace, Alcinous and his wife Arete devised plans about the maiden:

(4.1073-1095) "Save the maid from the Colchians and show grace to the Minyae. Argo is near our isle but Aeëtes dwells not near, nor do we know of Aeëtes one whit. We hear but his name, but this suffering maiden hath broken my heart.

O king, give her not up to the Colchians to be borne back to her father's home. She was distraught when she gave him drugs to charm the oxen; and next, to cure one ill by another, she fled from her sire's wrath.

Jason, as I hear, is bound to her by mighty oaths that he will make her his wedded wife within his halls. Wherefore, make not of thy will, Aeson's son to be forsworn; nor let the father work with angry heart some intolerable mischief on his child.

For fathers are all too jealous against their children. Of late, not far away, **Echetus** in wanton cruelty thrust spikes of bronze in his daughter's eyes; and she wastes away, grinding grains of bronze in a dungeon's gloom."

(4.1096-1109) "Arete, with arms I could drive forth the Colchians, showing grace to the heroes for the maiden's sake. But I fear to set at nought the judgment of Zeus. Nor is it well to take no thought of Aeëtes, for none is more lordly than Aeëtes. If he willed, he might bring war upon Hellas, though he dwells afar.

Therefore, if she be yet a maid, I decree that they carry her back to her father; but if she shares a husband's bed, I will not separate her from

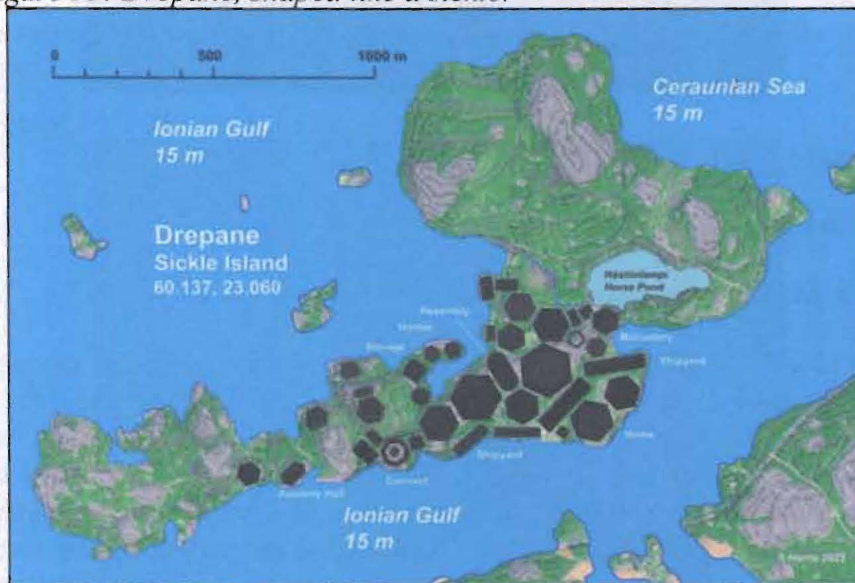
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her lord; nor, if she bears a child beneath her breast, will I give it up to an enemy."

(4.1110-1120) At once sleep laid him to rest. She stored in her heart the word of wisdom, rose from her couch, and went through the palace. Quietly she summoned her herald to urge Aeson's son to wed the maiden, and not to implore Alcinous; for he will decree to the Colchians that if she is still a maiden, he will deliver her up to be borne to her father's house, but that if she shares a husband's bed, he will not sever her from wedded love.

Drepane hosted many large buildings throughout the island. Builders tended to fill in open areas with a structure. The rest of the island hosted similar structures wherever thick woods are present. Some areas were logged, plowed, and replanted with non-native trees in orderly rows that make reconstruction impossible. Faint elevation lines at 5 m intervals indicate hills. A harbor facing the island likely contains similar houses in the woods. A five-sided building housed a boarding school for men. A seven-sided building played a similar role for women. The northern half has not been examined. Source: Maanmittauslaitos.

Figure 99: Drepane, shaped like a sickle.



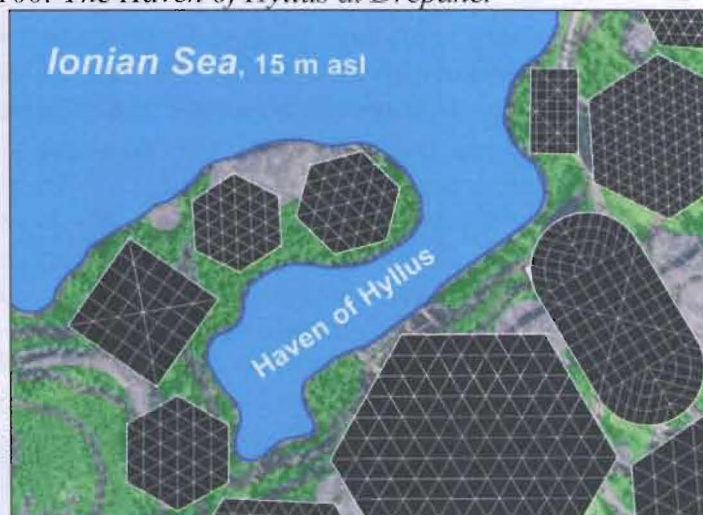
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181 Hyllus Haven

(4.1121-1127) He found the heroes in full armor in the **Haven of Hyllus**, near the city, and spoke the whole message. Each hero's heart rejoiced, for his word was welcome.

A village surrounded the harbor at Haven of Hyllus that faced the Ionian Sea. Buildings included hexagonal homes, an oval meeting hall, a square storeroom, and a rectangular shipyard.

Figure 100: The Haven of Hyllus at Drepane.



Aigaio River- in Norway

76 Aegialus River

182 Meliteian Mount

(4.1128-1169) They mingled a bowl to the blessed ones, led sheep to the altar, and prepared a bridal couch in the sacred cave [stone building] where once dwelt **Macris**. They spread a mighty couch and laid on the glittering fleece of gold, so that the marriage might be honored and the theme of song. Nymphs gathered flowers of varied hue and bore them thither. Some were called **daughters of the river Aigaio**; others dwelt round the crests of the **Meliteian mount**; and others were woodland nymphs from the plains. Hera had sent them to

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honor Jason. That cave is still called the sacred cave of Medea, where they spread fine linen and brought these two together.

Daughters of Aigaïos (Figure 93) would be descendants of Phaeacians who migrated from Norway to Finland (Figure 92).

Meliteian Mount on Melite Island (Figure 92).

The heroes wielded spears lest a host of foes should burst upon them for unawares. Their heads were wreathed with leafy sprays, while Orpheus' harp sang the marriage song at the entrance to the bridal chamber.

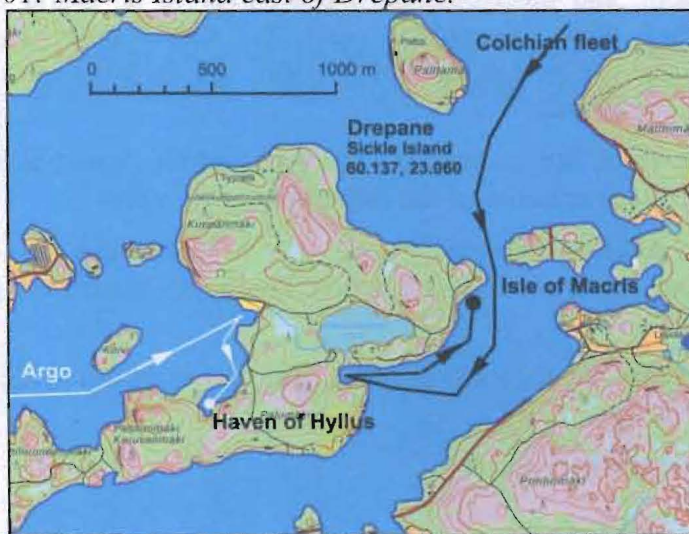
Aeson's son wanted to complete his marriage in his father's hall, and such was the mind of Medea, but necessity led them to wed at this time.

183 Macris Isle

(4.1170-1227) A dawn the Colchians were astir at the bounds of the **isle of Macris**. Straight to them went **Alcinous** to declare his purpose concerning the maiden. In his hand he held a golden staff of justice, whereby the people had righteous judgments meted out to them.

The Colchian fleet beached near the Isle of Macris on the east side of Drepane, while the Argo beached at the Haven of Hyllus on the west side.

Figure 101: Macris Island east of Drepane.



Argonauts in Finland

With him in their harness of war went the chiefs of the Phaeacians.

From the towers came forth women to gaze upon the heroes; the country folk came to meet them when they heard the news, for Hera had sent forth a true report. One led the chosen ram of his flock, another a heifer that had never toiled; and others jars of wine for mixing.

Women bore fine linen, the fruit of much toil, and gifts of gold such as are brought to brides. They marveled at the shapely forms and beauty of the heroes, and among them the son of **Oeagrus**, beating the ground to the time of his lyre and song. The nymphs sang the bridal-chant and circled in dance.

As soon as Alcinous decreed his judgement, and completion of the marriage had been proclaimed, he took care that it should thus be fixed.

When the Colchians learnt that they were beseeching in vain, and he bade them either observe his judgements or hold their ships away from his harbors and land, then they began to dread the threats of their own king and besought Alcinous to receive them as comrades!!!!

184 Abantes

There in the island they dwelt a long time with the Phaeacians. In the course of years, the **Bacchiadae**, a race sprung from **Ephyra**, settled among them, and the Colchians passed over to an island opposite. Thence they were destined to reach the **Ceraunian** hills of the **Abantes**, and the **Nestaeans** and **Oricum**. But all this happened after long ages had passed.

The altars which Medea built on the spot sacred to Apollo still receive yearly sacrifices in honor of the Fates and the Nymphs.

When the **Minyae** departed, many gifts of friendship did Alcinous bestow, and Arete gave Medea twelve Phaeacian handmaids from the palace.

On the seventh day they left Drepane. Yet they must toil in the furthest bounds of **Libya**.

185 Ambracian Gulf

186 Curete Land

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187 Pelops Land

(4.1228-1250) They left behind the **Ambracian Gulf**. Now spread the **land of the Curetes**. Next **narrow islands** with the **Echinades**, and the **land of Pelops**.

The Argonauts sailed north from Drepane to the Ambracian Gulf, then turned east to pass the land of the Curetes, Narrow Island, and the land of Pelops.

Figure 102: Drepane Island to land of Pelops.



188 Libyan Sea

189 Syrtis Gulf

Then the north wind swept them towards the **Libyan Sea**, nine nights and days, until they came within **Syrtis**, from which there is no return once forced into that gulf, for on every hand are shoals and masses of seaweed.

Argonauts in Finland

A north wind blew the Argo to the Libyan Sea, over shoals that bordered the Gulf of Syrtis at Libya.

Figure 103: Land of Pelops to Gulf of Syrtis at Libya.



The flood-tide thrust them onto the shore, until little of the keel was left in the water. They leapt from the ship, and sorrow seized them. Vast land stretched like a mist into the distance, no spot for water, no path, no steading of herdsman, but a dead calm.

(4.1251-1258) "What land is this? How desolate the limitless land!"

(4.1259-1276) **Ancaeus** the helmsman spoke: "We are undone, there is no escape. Even though a breeze should blow from the land, on every side are shoals. Masses of water, line upon line, run over the sand. Our ship might have shattered far from shore, but the tide bore her onto the land. Now the tide rushes back to sea, and only foam rolls round us, upon which no ship can sail. Wherefore, I deem that our return is cut off."

(4.1277-1317) All who had knowledge of ships agreed. Along the endless strand the chieftains wandered. Evening came and they embraced each other, said farewell, that each might fall on the sand and die.

They chose a resting-place, wrapped their heads in their cloaks and lay down all that night and day, awaiting a piteous death.

The maidens huddled together beside the daughter of Aeëtes. Through the night they wailed their lament, and as they pined in despair, the nymph warders of **Libya** had pity on them.

99 Libya

At noon, when the fierce rays of the sun were scorching **Libya**, they stood near Aeson's son and lightly drew the cloak from his head. The hero cast down his eyes and looked aside, in reverence for the goddesses, as they gently addressed him:

(4.1318-1329) "Ill-starred one, why art thou so smitten with despair? We are goddesses of the land, Libya's warders and daughters. Up then, and rouse thy comrades, so ye may return to the land of **Achaea**."

(4.1330-1332) Thus they spoke and vanished. Jason gazed around and cried:

(4.1333-1336) "Be gracious, noble goddesses of the desert. I will gather my comrades if haply we can find some token of our escape, for the counsel of many is better."

(4.1337-1346) He leapt to his feet and shouted to his comrades. Hard by the ship he made them sit down and told them everything:

(4.1347-1362) "Listen, friends. As I lay in grief, three goddesses girded with goat skins from the neck downwards round the back and waist, stood over my head; they drew back my cloak, and bade me to rise up and rouse you, and pay to our mother a bounteous recompense for all her travail when she bore us so long in her womb, when **Amphitrite** shall have loosened **Poseidon's** swift-wheeled car. But I cannot understand this divine message. They said they were heroines, Libya's warders and daughters, and all the toils that we endured by land and sea, all these they knew full well. Then I saw them no more, a mist came between and hid them from my sight."

(4.1363-1369) Then was wrought for the **Minyae** the strangest of portents. From the sea leapt forth a monstrous horse with golden mane; from his limbs he shook off spray and started on his course, with feet like the wind. At once **Peleus** rejoiced:

(4.1370-1379) "I deem that **Poseidon's** ear has been loosed by the hands of his dear wife [Libya], and I divine that **our mother** is none else than our ship herself; for surely she bares us in her womb and groans unceasingly. We will lift her and bear her within this country, where yon swift-footed steed has sped. His hoof-prints, I ween, will point us to some bay above the sea."

Argonauts in Finland

190 Portage from sea to lake

(4.1380-1392) The counsel pleased all. The sons of kings raised on their shoulders the ship and all that they brought, and bare her twelve days and nights.

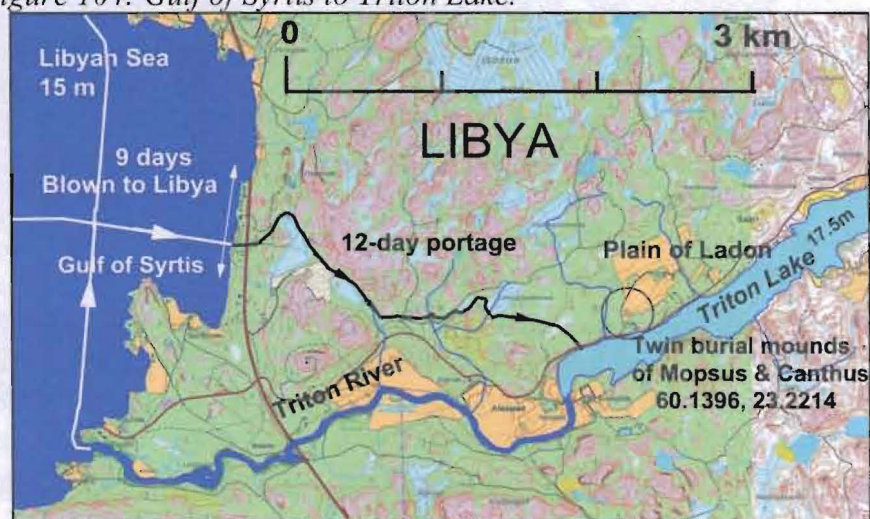
Who could tell the pain and grief which they endured? Surely, they were of the blood of the immortals, such a task did they take on, constrained by necessity.

191 Triton Lake

They bore her to the waters of the **Tritonian Lake** [Saarenjärvi]. They strode in and set her down from their stalwart shoulders.

To escape from shoals on the coast of Libya, the Argonauts made a 12-day portage to Triton Lake [Saarenjärvi, 'Island Lake']. The portage ended near a field with a spring. A narrow outlet [Kiskonjoki 'Kisko's River'] led to the Libyan Gulf. Twin burial mounds at the SW corner of the field are those of Mopsus and Canthus, who died on the same day (60.1396, 23.2214).

Figure 104: Gulf of Syrtis to Triton Lake.



192 Ladon Plain

(4.1393-1421) Then they searched for a spring; for a parching thirst lay upon them. Not in vain did they wander, but came to the sacred plain where Ladon, the serpent of the land, kept watch over the

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golden apples in the garden of Atlas. All around the nymphs, the **Hesperides**, were busy chanting their lovely song.

But stricken by **Heracles**, he lay fallen by the trunk of the apple-tree; only the tip of his tail still writhed. From his head down his spine he lay lifeless, and where arrows had left in his blood the bitter gall of the **Lernaean hydra**, flies withered and died over the festering wounds. And close at hand the Hesperides lamented shrilly. The heroes drew near, but the maidens at once became dust.

Orpheus marked the divine portent and addressed them in prayer: "O divine ones, appear to our eyes and show us some spring, some sacred flow gushing from the earth wherewith we may quench our thirst. And if ever again we return to the Achaean land, then to you will we bring countless gifts, libations, and banquets."

(4.1422-1431) They pitied their pain, and lo! they caused grass to spring from the earth; and above the grass rose tall shoots, and then flourishing saplings grew standing far above the earth. **Hesperes** became a poplar and **Eretheis** an elm, and **Aegle** a willow's trunk. From these trees their forms looked out, as clear as they were before. Aegle answered with gentle words:

(4.1432-1449) "Yesterday there came a most accursed man, who robbed our guardian serpent of life, plucked the golden apples and was gone. Bitter grief he left for us. A man most fell in wanton violence, most grim in form; his eyes flashed beneath his brow, a ruthless wretch. He was clad in a lion skin, untanned, and bore a bow of olive, wherewith he shot and killed this monster here. He came also on foot, parched with thirst. He rushed wildly through this spot, searching for water, but nowhere was he like to see it.

There is a rock near the **Tritonian Lake**. Of his own device, or by the prompting of some god, he smote it with his foot and water gushed out. Leaning his hands and chest upon the ground, he drank a huge draught from the rifted rock, until he had satisfied his mighty maw."

(4.1450-1457) Thus she spoke; and they ran to the spot where Aegle had pointed out the spring. The Minyae thronged about and with wet lips cried to one another:

(4.1458-1460) "Strange! Heracles, though far away, has saved his comrades from thirst. Would that we might find him as we pass through the mainland!"

Argonauts in Finland

(4.1461-1484) Search for Heracles.

193 Mopsus and Canthus Burial Mound

(4.1485-1501) The fates of death seized **Canthus** in Libya. On pasturing flocks did he light; while leading them off to his comrades, there followed a shepherd who slew him by the cast of a stone. He was no weakling, **Caphaurus**, but he escaped not the chieftains' avenging hands when they learned of the deed. The Minyae took up the corpse and buried it, and the sheep they took with them.

(4.1502-1536) On the same day fate seized **Mopsus** too. There lay in the sand a dread serpent; Mopsus stepped on the end of its spine, and it writhed round in pain and bit and tore the flesh between the shin and the muscles. Medea and her handmaids fled in terror, but **Canthus** bravely felt the bleeding wound, for no excessive pain harassed him. At once the poison began to rot his flesh within, and his hair decayed and fell from the skin. They dug a deep grave with mattocks of bronze, tore their hair, bewailing the dead man's piteous suffering. When he had received due burial rites, they marched thrice round the tomb in full armor, and heaped above him a mound of earth.

Twin burial mounds of Mopsus and Canthus were erected at the corner of an orchard where Hercules had come to pluck golden apples.

Figure 105: Mopsus and Canthus burial mounds.

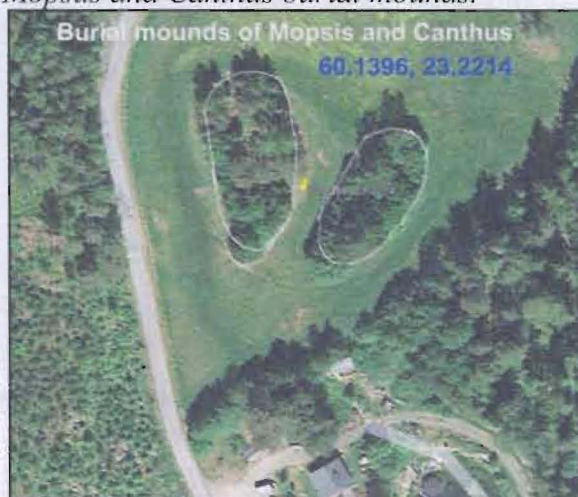


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(4.1537-1553) A south wind blew over the sea as they searched for a passage to exit the Tritonian lake. Orpheus bade them bring forth Apollo's massy tripod and offer it to the gods of the land as propitiation for their return. They set Apollo's gift on the shore. Before them stood **Triton** in the form of a youth. He lifted a clod from the earth and offered it as a stranger's gift:

(4.1554-1561) "Take it, friends. If ye are searching for a passage through this sea, I will declare it."

(4.1562-1563) **Euphemus** held out his hands towards the clod and addressed him:

(4.1564-1570) "If thou knowest aught of **Apis** and the sea of **Minos**, tell us. We have borne our ship over the mainland to this lake and know not a passage to the land of **Pelops**."

194 Triton River

(4.1571-1585) Triton stretched out his hand: "That is the outlet to the sea Your **passage out is narrow**. That sea stretches to the land of Pelops beyond Crete. Hold to the right when ye have entered the sea from the lake, and steer your course hugging the land as long as it trends north. When the coast bends, falling away in the other direction, then go straight forward from the projecting cape."

(4.1586-1596) They went aboard to use their oars.

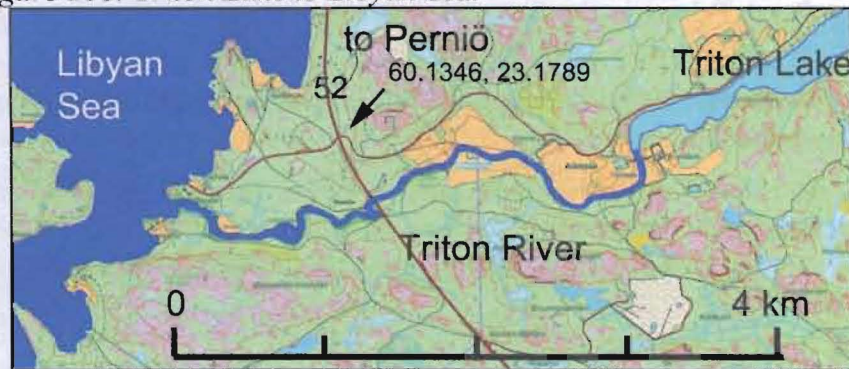
(4.1597-1600) A prayer.

(4.1601-1637) The Argo sped down the river (Kiskonjoki). At dawn with sails outspread they kept the barren coastline on their right. The next morn they saw the headland and the recess of the sea, bending inward beyond the jutting headland.

Argonauts in Finland

From the west end of Triton Lake (Saarenjärvi), the Argonauts paddled 4 km to the Libyan Sea on Triton River (Kiskonjoki). Most of the lake and sea is now farmland.

Figure 106: Triton Lake to Libyan Sea.



195 Carpathus

196 Crete

The west wind ceased and there came a south wind. When the sun sank the wind died, so they furled the sails, lowered the mast, and plied their oars all night, through the day, and again the next night. The rugged **Carpathus** far away welcomed them. Thence they were to cross to **Crete**, which rises in the sea above other islands.

Finnish Crete is where a woman from Mt. Ida nursed Zeus in a 'cave', a stone house. Zeus gave the island to Core, adopted daughter of his sister Demeter, with Talos to guard it.

Baltic Crete is northern Poland with a hundred cities (Vinci, 1995).

Minoan Crete is an island in the Aegean Sea.

Crete may derive from *Koreate* meaning 'Lovely maker'. Core was the sister of Cadmos and companion of Demeter. She was the first queen of Minoan Crete with the title Europa.

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The Argonauts rowed north through the Libyan Sea toward Carpathus headland, crossed west to Crete, then followed the coastline north. At Dicté's Harbor they were assaulted by Talos, an aged giant wearing bronze armor, the last of his kind, who had survived the catastrophe 700 years earlier.

Figure 107: Libyan Sea to Crete.



197 Dicté's Haven

(4.1638-1653) **Talos**, the man of bronze, broke off rocks from the cliff and stayed them from fastening hawsers to the shore at the roadstead of **Dicté's Haven**.

He was the last left among the sons of the gods. The son of **Cronos** [Zeus] gave him to Europa to be warder of Crete, and to stride round the island thrice a day with his feet of bronze.

Telephassa-Telphusa-Daphne was a priestess of the Oracle of Python in central Sweden at Vretsdorp, later called the Oracle of Delphi. She left the oracle to marry Agenor, son of Poseidon and Libya, and moved to Lumkamakia, near the Emude (Ems), in Astflyland (East Frisland). They had a son Wodin-Cadmus and a daughter Korea-Core.

Argonauts in Finland

In 2011 BC when Korea-Core was about seven, she accompanied Wodin and Telephassa to a war in Sweden. Wodin was the general and won the war, while Telephassa was the ambassador and brokered a peace before she died. Her cousin Teunis and his wife Demeter, sister of Zeus, adopted Core. For ten years the trio traveled throughout Sweden, Finland, Estonia and Poland, teaching women how to bake with wheat, a sensation. During this time, Core was gifted Crete by Zeus.

Demeter's husband Teunis, grandson of Poseidon, was a highly skilled navigator, who knew the sailing route to America. In 2000 BC, Teunis led a migration fleet to the Mediterranean Sea, where they established colonies at Minoan Crete and Tyre. Core soon married Tectamos [Zeus #2], ruler of Crete. She became known as Europa, and developed Crete into a naval, commercial, industrial, and trading power. Sources: Oera Linda Boek, Greek Mythology.

The heroes backed their ship away from the land in sore dismay. They would have been borne far from Crete, distressed by thirst and pain, had not Medea addressed them:

(4.1654-1658) "I deem that I can subdue that man, though his frame be of bronze and not immortal. Keep your ship here beyond the cast of his stones till he yields to me."

Dicté's Haven was a small, sheltered cove, overlooked by a promontory, from which Talos threw rocks at the Argo. No other cove lies along this stretch of Crete.

Figure 108: Dicté's Haven in Crete



(4.1659-1672) They drew the ship out of range and rested on their oars, waiting. Holding a fold of her purple robe over her cheeks, she mounted the deck. With songs she propitiated and invoked the Death-

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spirits. Kneeling in supplication, thrice she called them with songs, and thrice with prayers. Her glance bewitched the eyes of Talos, her teeth gnashed bitter wrath against him, and she sent forth baneful phantoms in the frenzy of her rage.

(4.1673-1693) Talos, as he was heaving a massive rock, grazed his ankle on a pointed crag, and ichor gushed forth like melted lead. He stood swaying to and fro, then fell with a mighty thud.

198 Salmone Height

That night the heroes lay in Crete. At dawn they built a shrine to Minoan Athena, drew water, and went aboard, so they might row past **Salmone Height**.

199 Cretan Sea

200 Sporades

(4.1694-1730) As they sped over the **Cretan Sea**, deep night came upon them. Jason cried to **Phoebus** to save them, and swiftly did he come down from heaven to the **Melantian rocks** in the sea. Upon one of the twin peaks, he raised aloft his golden bow, which flashed a dazzling gleam all round. There appeared a small island of the **Sporades**, against the tiny isle **Hippuris**, and there they cast anchor.

Dawn gave them light and they made for Apollo a glorious abode in a shady wood, and an altar. Medea's Phaeacian handmaids saw them pouring water for libations on the burning brands, and laughed, for they had seen oxen in plenty slain in the halls of Alcinous. The heroes delighted in the jest and taunted them. From that sport do women scoff at men in that island whenever they propitiate with sacrifices to Apollo, the warder of **Anaphe**.

(4.1731-1740) In fair weather, when they loosened the hawsers, **Euphemus** revealed a dream about the son of **Maia** [Hermes]. It seemed to him that the clod of earth held in his palm close to his breast was being suckled by streams of milk. From it grew a woman, and he lay with her in love's embrace. She comforted him:

(4.1741-1745) "Daughter of Triton am I, and nurse of thy children; Triton and Libya are my parents. Restore me to the daughters of Nereus to dwell in the sea near **Anaphe** and I shall return again to prepare a home for thy descendants."

Argonauts in Finland

(4.1746-1754) Jason pondered a prophecy of the Far-Darter [Apollo] and said: "My friend, glorious renown has fallen to thy lot. From this clod when thou hast cast it into the sea, the gods will make an island, where thy children's children shall dwell. Triton gave this to thee as a stranger's gift from the Libyan mainland."

201 Calliste Island

(4.1755-1764) Thus he spoke; and Euphemus cast the clod into the depths. Therefrom arose an island, **Calliste**, sacred nurse of the sons of Euphemus, who in former days dwelt in Sintian Lemnos, and from Lemnos were driven forth by Tyrrhenians and came to **Sparta** as suppliants; and when they left Sparta, Theras, the goodly son of Autesion, brought them to the island Calliste, and from himself he gave it the name of **Thera**. But this befell after the days of Euphemus.

Five geographic errors in sequence

(4.1765-1781) After long leagues, they stayed on the **beach of Aegina**¹¹, where youths of **Myrmidons** race with full-brimming jars, skirted the **Cecropian**¹² land and **Aulis**¹³ inside of **Euboea**¹⁴ and the **Opuntian** [Eastern] cities of the **Locrians**¹⁵ and gladly stepped forth upon the beach of **Pegasae**.

Missing Pages

Note: Book 4 lacks several pages at the end. The last paragraph was added by someone without direct knowledge of the voyage because each place was in Sweden, not in Finland. There is no description of the arrival welcome of the Argo, what happened to Medea and Jason, where did the heroes go, what happened to the Argo and Heracles.

¹¹ Aegina was an island of Estonia where Myrmidons lived.

¹² Cecrops was a king of Athens at Karlskrona, Sweden.

¹³ Aulis was a town in Sweden north of Stockholm.

¹⁴ Euboea was an island in Sweden north of Stockholm.

¹⁵ Opuntian Locria was a region NW of Athens in Greece.

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Appendix I: Index of topographic maps

Index of new topo maps

National Land Survey of Finland offers paper (pay) and electronic (free) topographic maps at a scale of 1:20,000, plus digitized photographs that match the topographic map. To map the route, I used electronic vector topo maps in .png format that were then converted to raster images with Photoshop. Cities derive from digitized black-and-white photographs at a scale of 1 px = 1 m, matched to topographic maps. For some reason, the latter is no longer available. Instead, they offer non-corrected photographs.

Index of old topo maps

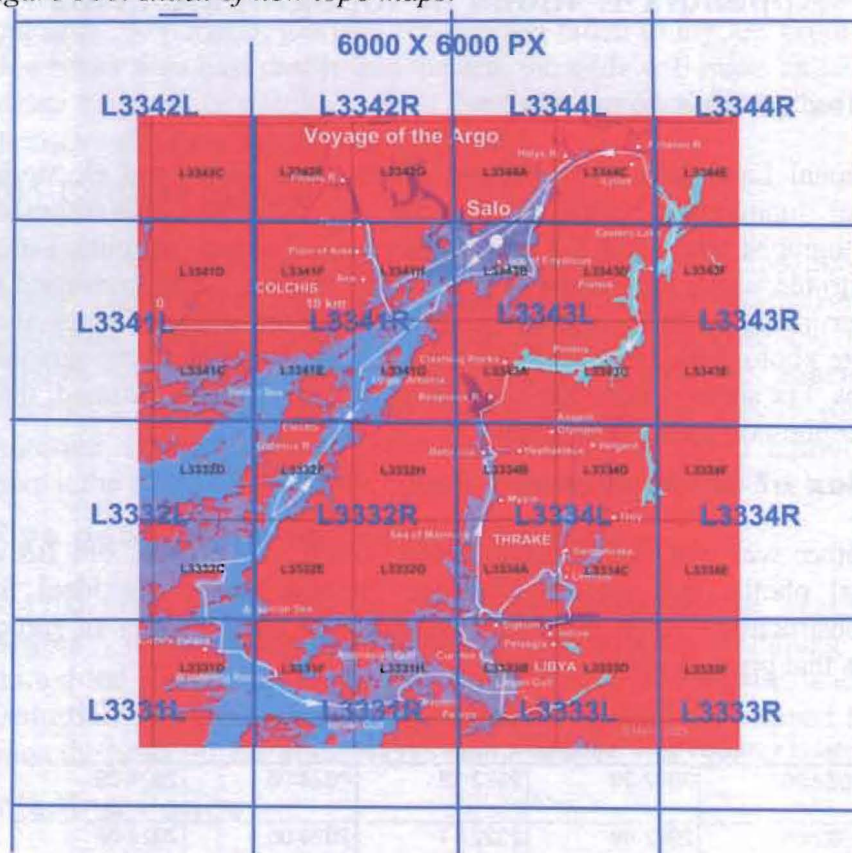
Another web site, kartta.paikkatietoikkuna.fi, offers free, old B&W aerial photos that seamlessly cover Finland. These are ideal for reconstructing ancient buildings by analyzing the geometry of spruce trees that grow in old post holes.

Figure 109: Index of old topo maps.

Index of 1:20000 Paper Topographic maps for Finland				
2022-06	2022-09	2022-12	2024-06	2024-09
2022-05	2022-08	2022-11	2024-05	2024-08
2022-04	2022-07	2022-10	2024-04	2024-07
2021-06	2021-09	2021-12	2023-03	2023-06
Kevola	Vaskio	Pertteli	Iso-Hiisi	Kiikala
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Pöytä	Halikko	Salo	Muurila	Laperla
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Argonauts in Finland

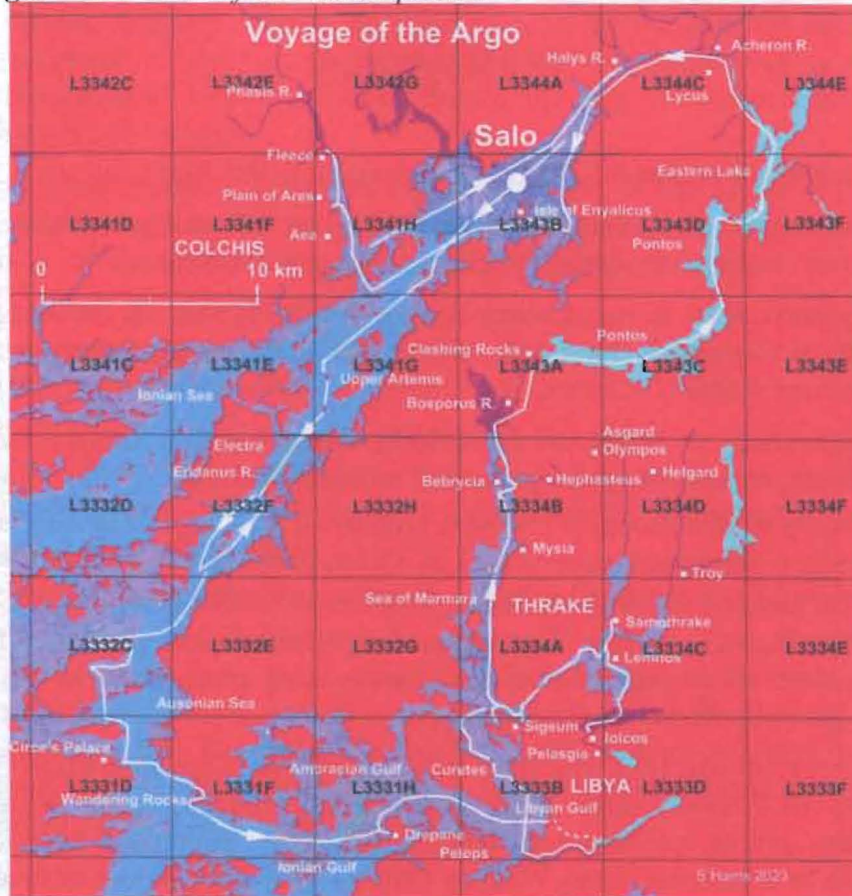
Figure 110: Index of new topo maps.



Figure

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Figure 111: Index of new aerial photos.



Argonauts in Finland

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Kartta.paikkatietoikkuna.fi publishes orthophotos stitched together seamlessly for all of Finland. You can choose the year of publication. Muurla, for example, had photos from 1948 and 1950.

Maanmittauslaitos, 'Land Survey Office of Finland', maanmittauslaitos.fi/en/maps-and-spatial-data has free maps and maps for purchase.

For Purchase:

MapSite: paper maps

Vanhatkartat.fi: old printed maps

Free download:

MapSite: digital maps

Kartta.paikkatietoikkuna.fi: old ortho photos joined seamlessly.

Old printed maps

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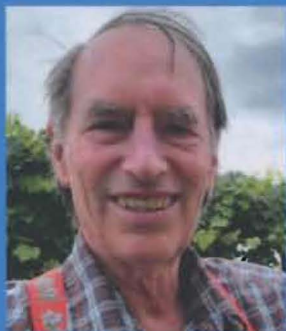
Pseudo-Orpheus (4th c. CE), *The Orphic Argonautica*, tr. Jason Colavito. Roughly follows the same route as Apollonius Rhodius. Its description of "Percote, the fruitful land which Aesepus washes with silver streams" helped to locate Percote, the only town with a stream along the Hellespont.

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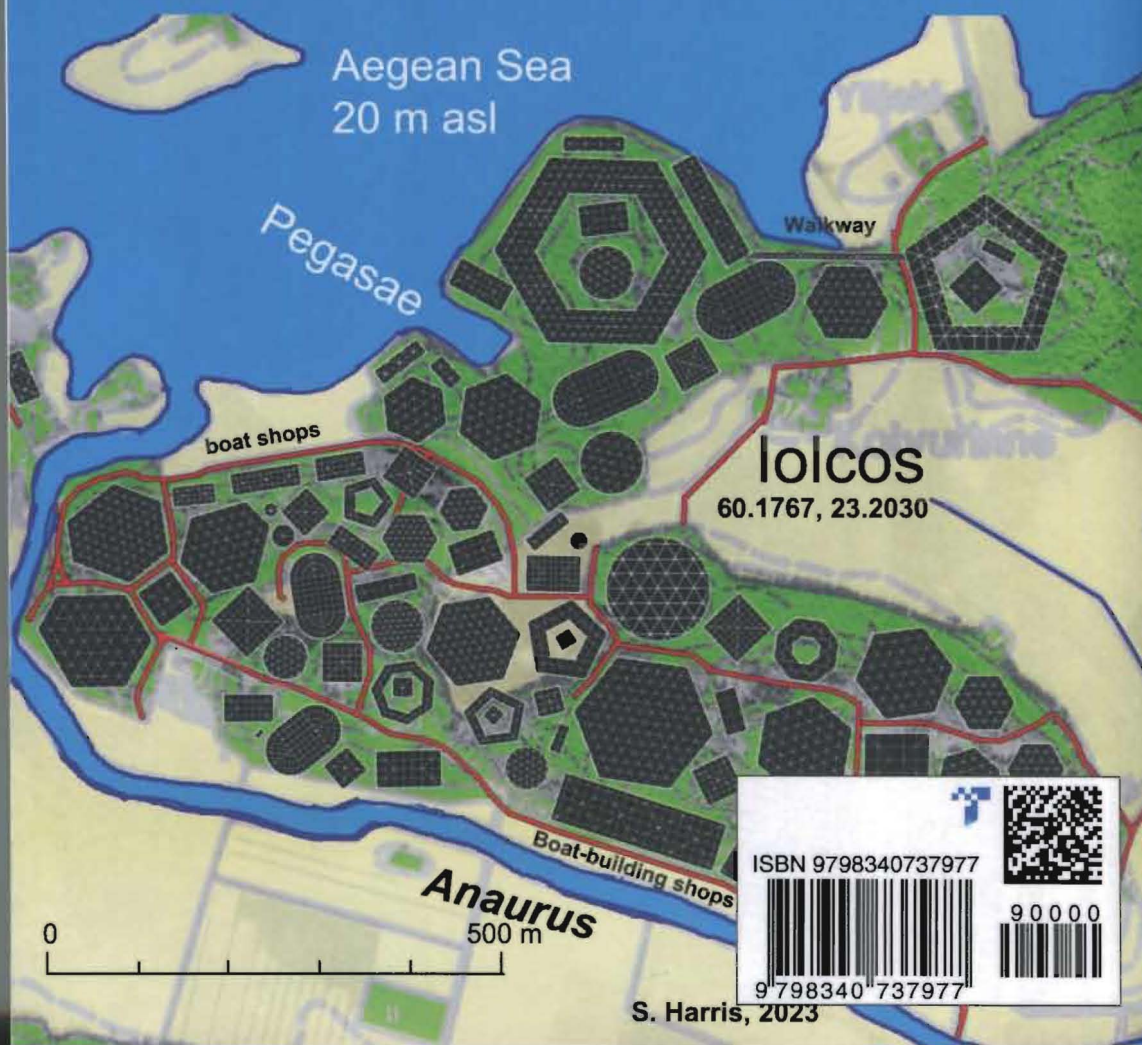
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Wilkens, Iman (1991); Where Troy once stood. Wilkens found names of rivers from the *Iliad* near London, brought there by emigrants from Troy after the war. He deduced that Vlissingen was built by and named after Ulysses, who also constructed a canal to Middelburg. He discovered that Homer was educated at Middelburg on Walcheren Island in Zeeland. Middelburg was a seven-sided, palisaded city built around the only hill, called Walhallagara.



Stuart Harris graduated from Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania, and Stanford University. He and John Cato discovered Troy in Finland by following directions from Felice Vinci. After learning how to recreate buildings from traces of post holes in aerial photographs, he found numerous cities near Troy, including Olympos and Cheiron's school at Mt. Pelion. This led to an attempt to trace Jason's voyage beginning at Mt. Pelion. To his surprise, the entire voyage circled around a small area close to Olympos, part of which is shown on the cover.

Iolcos where the Argo voyage began



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S. Harris, 2023