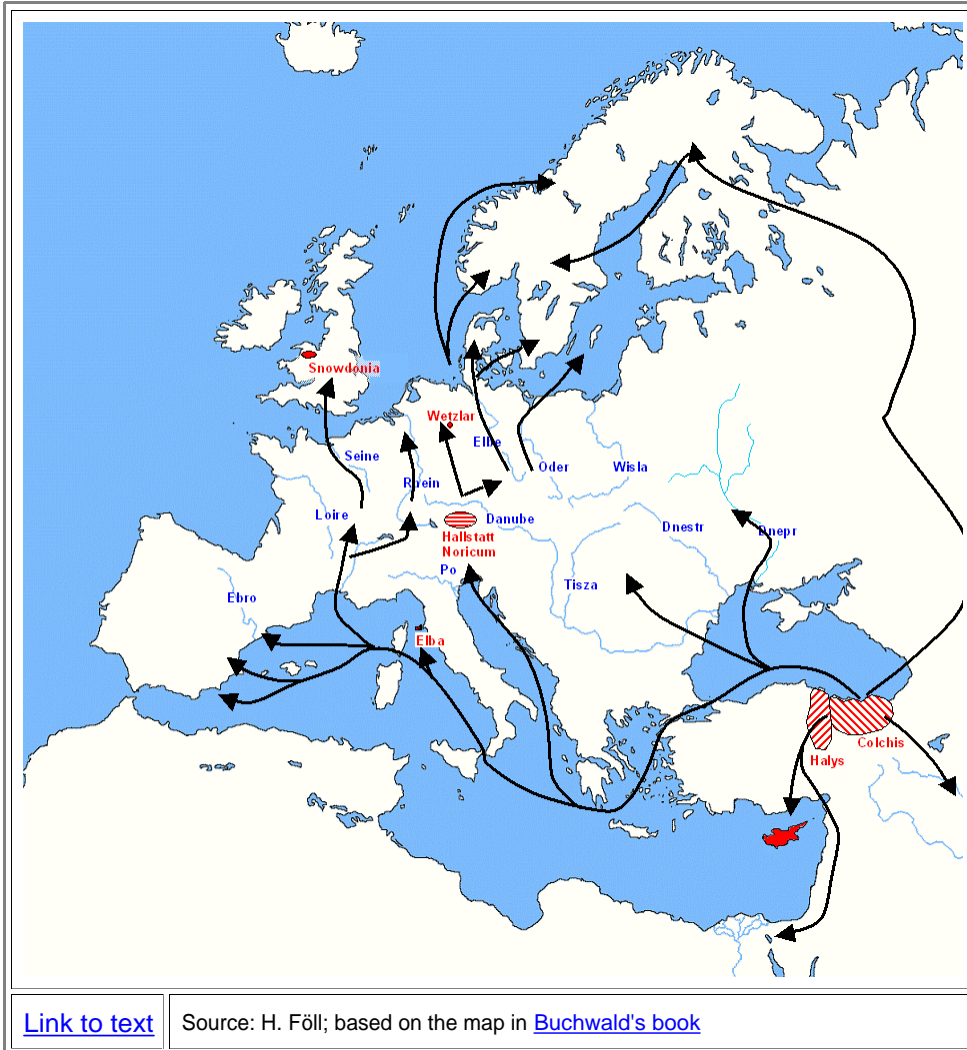


## Large Pictures

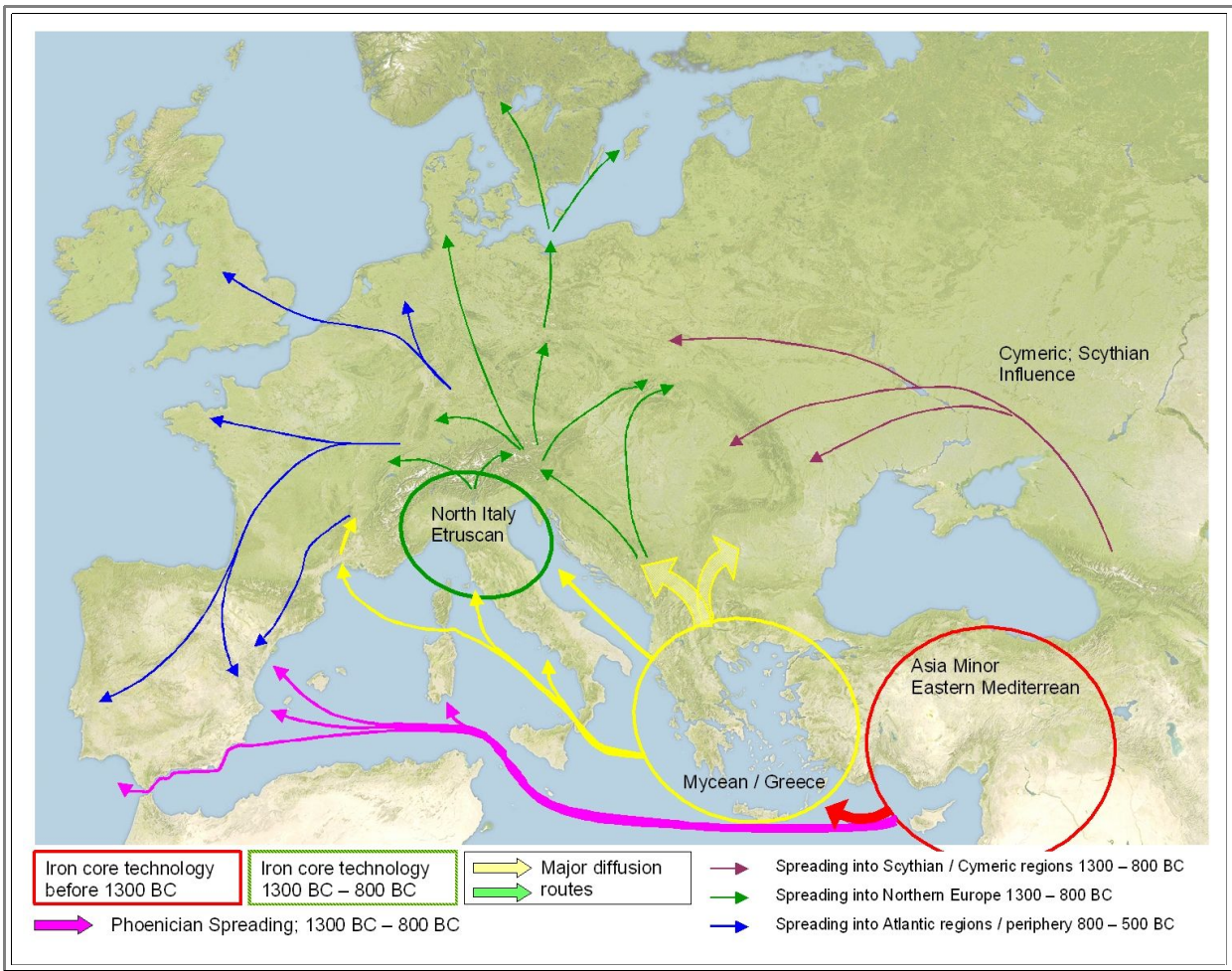
This map illustrates how iron technology has spread from somewhere in Anatolia to the rest of Europe. It is based on some data - but just as much on believe.

Illustration



Some places and regions discussed in [the text](#) are included. If we assume a date of 1200 BC for the start of iron technology in "Colchis" as shown in the map (or possibly Cyprus as stipulated by some), we have iron in Greece around 1000 BC. In 700 BC it appears in Etruscan Italy and another 100 years later in most of the rest of Europe.

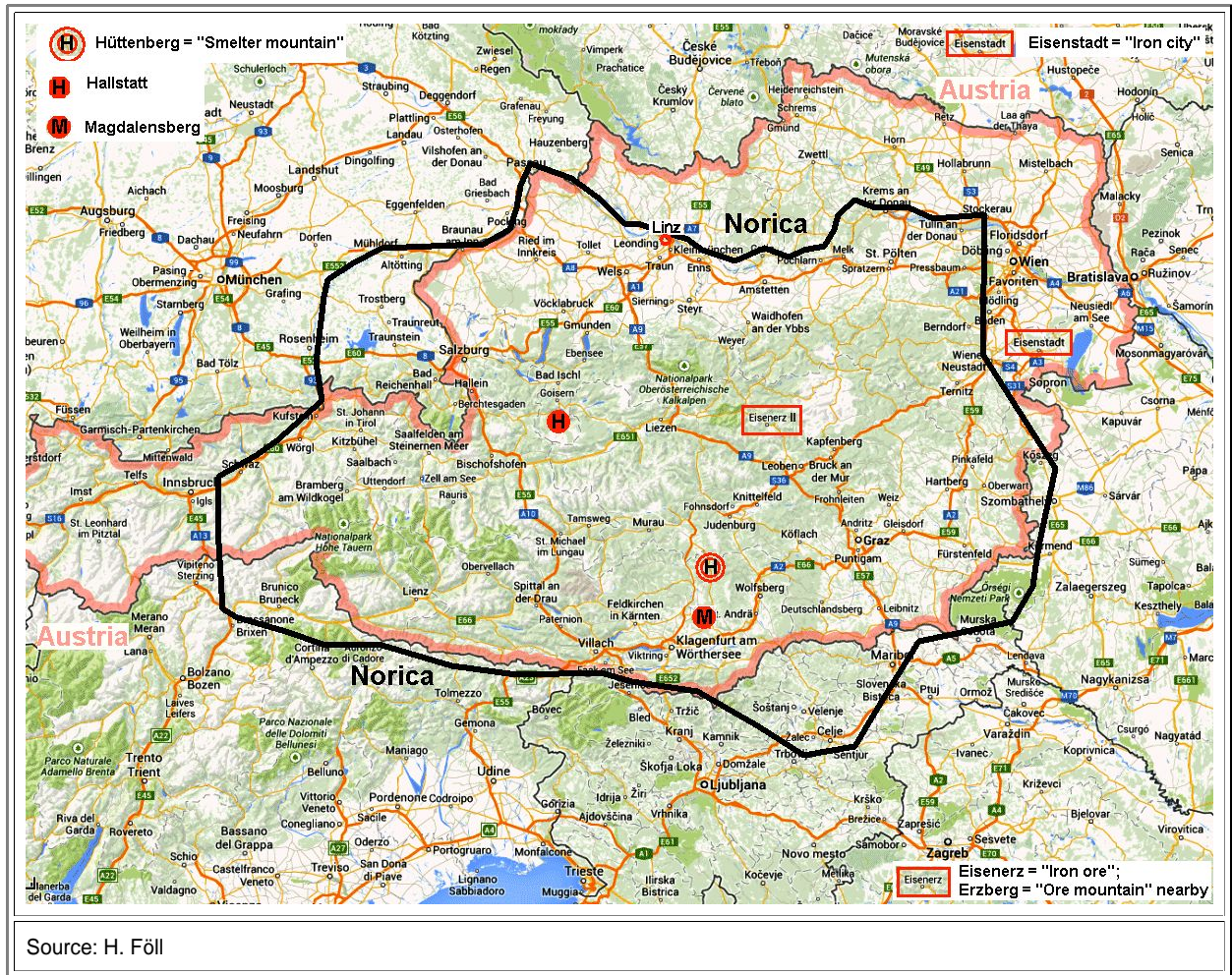
This map is based on the book that went with the "[Special Exhibition](#) dedicated to the Celts of the First Millennium BC", in Stuttgart, Germany, 2012 /13. If you think all of this is a bit imprecise, consider what it would take to get a precise map with dates and so on. What appears to be of some significance is 800 BC, an era appearing in almost all the dates given. That seems to be the time when some larger and longer-lasting cultures came into being.



Here are some [oboli](#) or iron spits. Supposedly a kind of currency but one might have some doubts. A bit unwieldy for paying up, and not ideally shaped for making normal iron objects, e.g. knife blades. It is far easier to draw out a piece of iron by forging than to compact it again, as would be necessary here. Maybe oboli were used for [wire drawing](#)? Or for [making nails](#)?

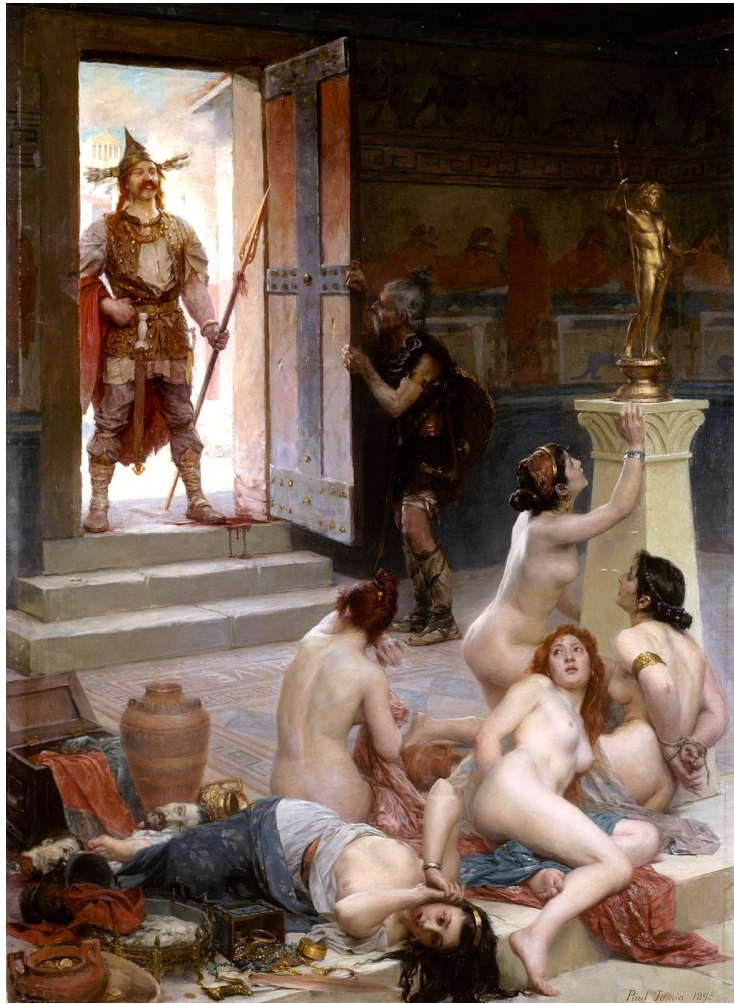


The **Noricum** of old superimposed on a modern map. Some important places are outlined. Note that the "Erzberg" on the map (indicated as Erzberg II) is a present-day town that should not be confused with "Erzberg I", not a town but the name of a mountain near Hüttenberg, and the place where the Roman activities were centered.



- Plenty of places in modern Austria have an "Eisen" (=iron), "Erz" (=ore) or "Hütte" (=cottage or smelter) in their names. Just look up a large scale map of Austria. Shown here is "Eisenstadt" (iron city) close to Vienna (=Wien).

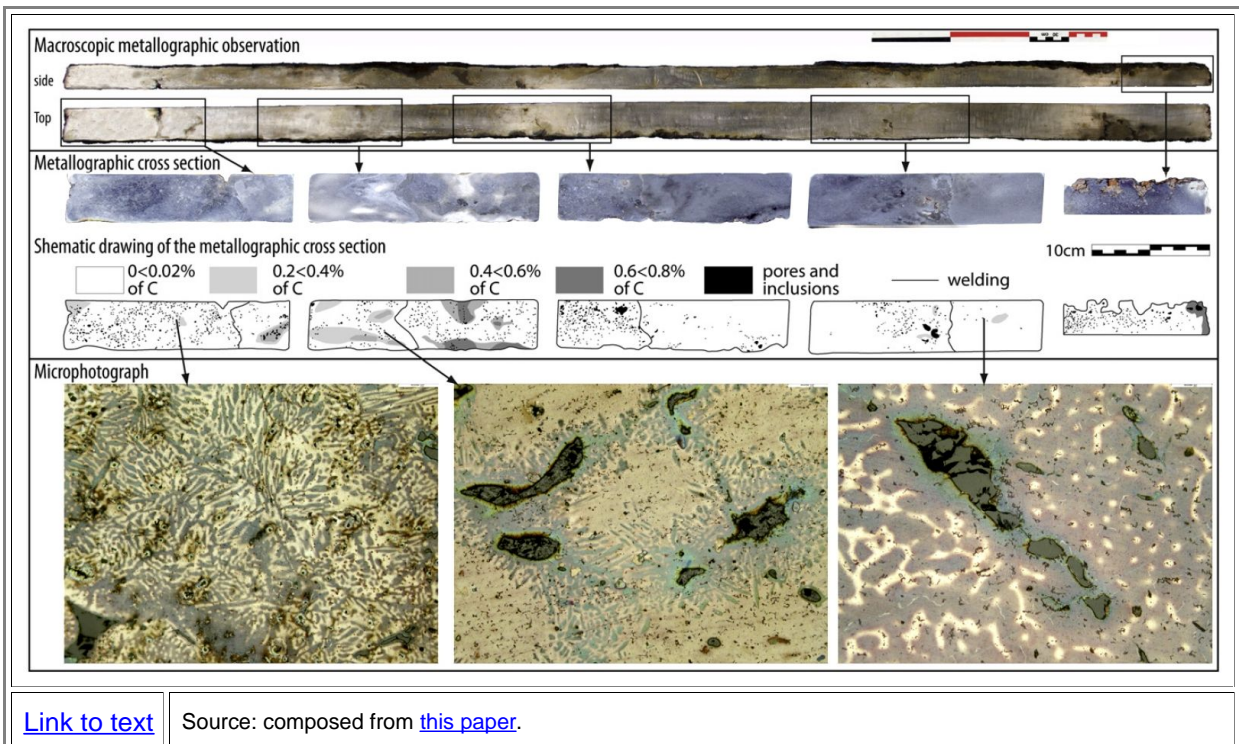
This is an interesting picture. It shows how the late 19th century French viewed the Celts, which they liked to believe were their predecessors. It has nothing to do with reality, though. It is rather mirroring the "Zeitgeist" of that epoch.



[Link to text](#)

Source: Picture from Paul Joseph Jamin, 1893; entitled "Brennus and his part of the loot". All over the Net

This composite picture is taken from [this paper](#). It shows the extreme heterogeneity of a Roman iron bar. Note the "ghost structure" in the micrograph on the right indicating phosphorous.



[Link to text](#)

Source: composed from [this paper](#).

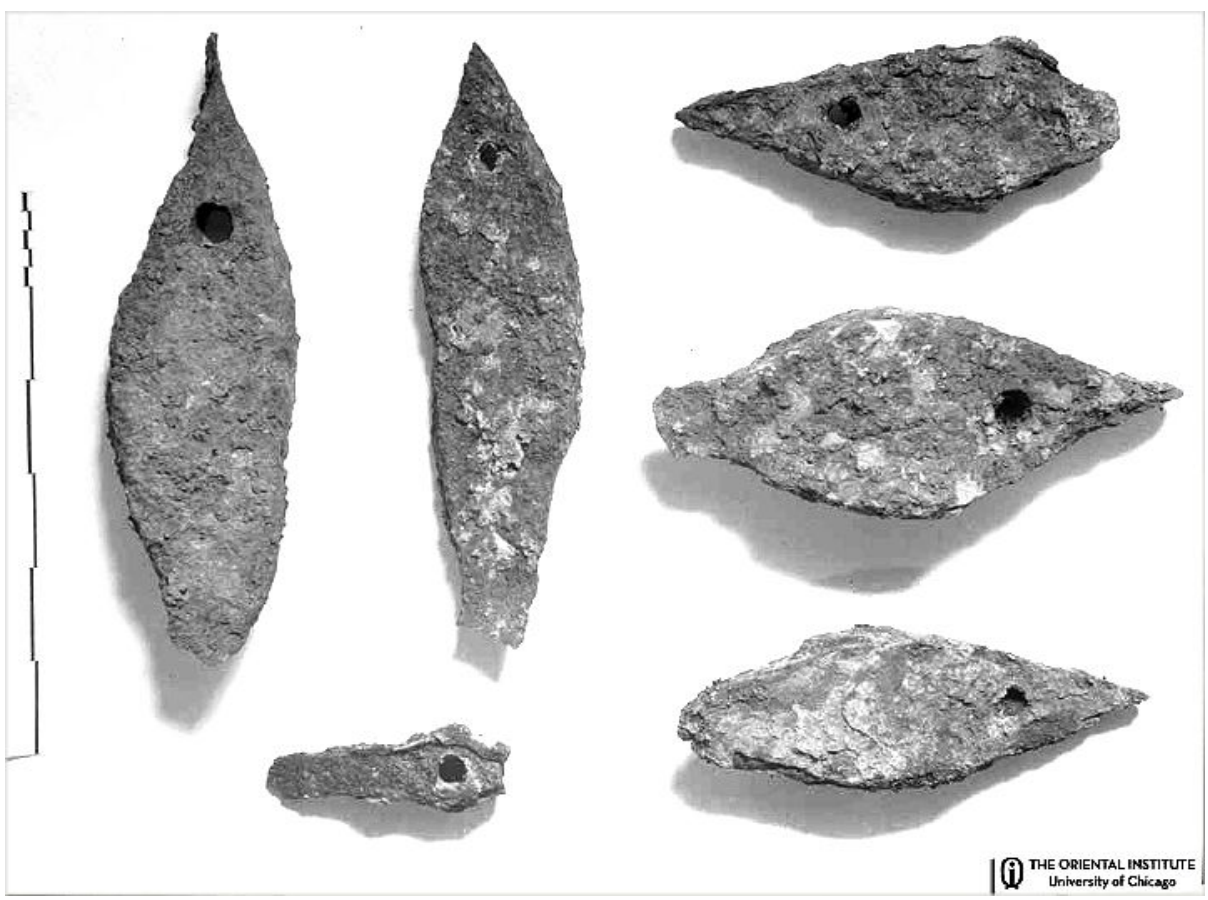
Here are well preserved [double pyramid iron bars](#) as displayed in the Mainfränkisches Museum, Würzburg, Germany. They belonged to a hoard of a well to do Celtic trader or smith of the "late [Hallstatt](#) culture", i.e. date to around 500 BC.



Here are some Celtic [double pyramid iron bars](#) as displayed in the National Museum, Budapest, Hungary. They have a more elongated shape than the "normal" ones with flatted ends, resembling an elongated axe. The museums calls then "iron ingots found in the Danube from Dunaújváros", whatever that signifies.

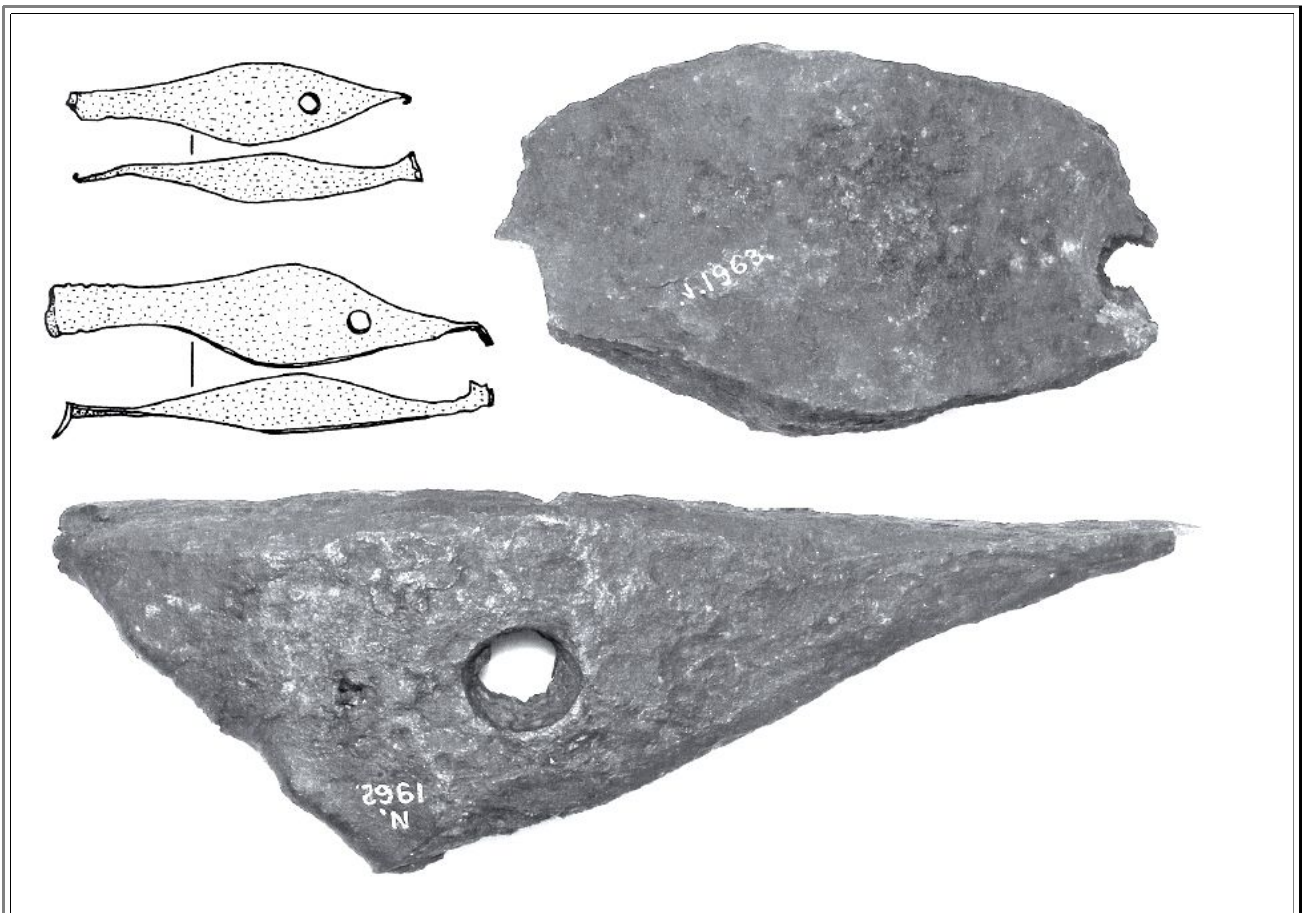


Below are some bi-pyramidal iron bars from the Khorsabad palace. (and one from Nimrud, the palace before Khorsabad)-

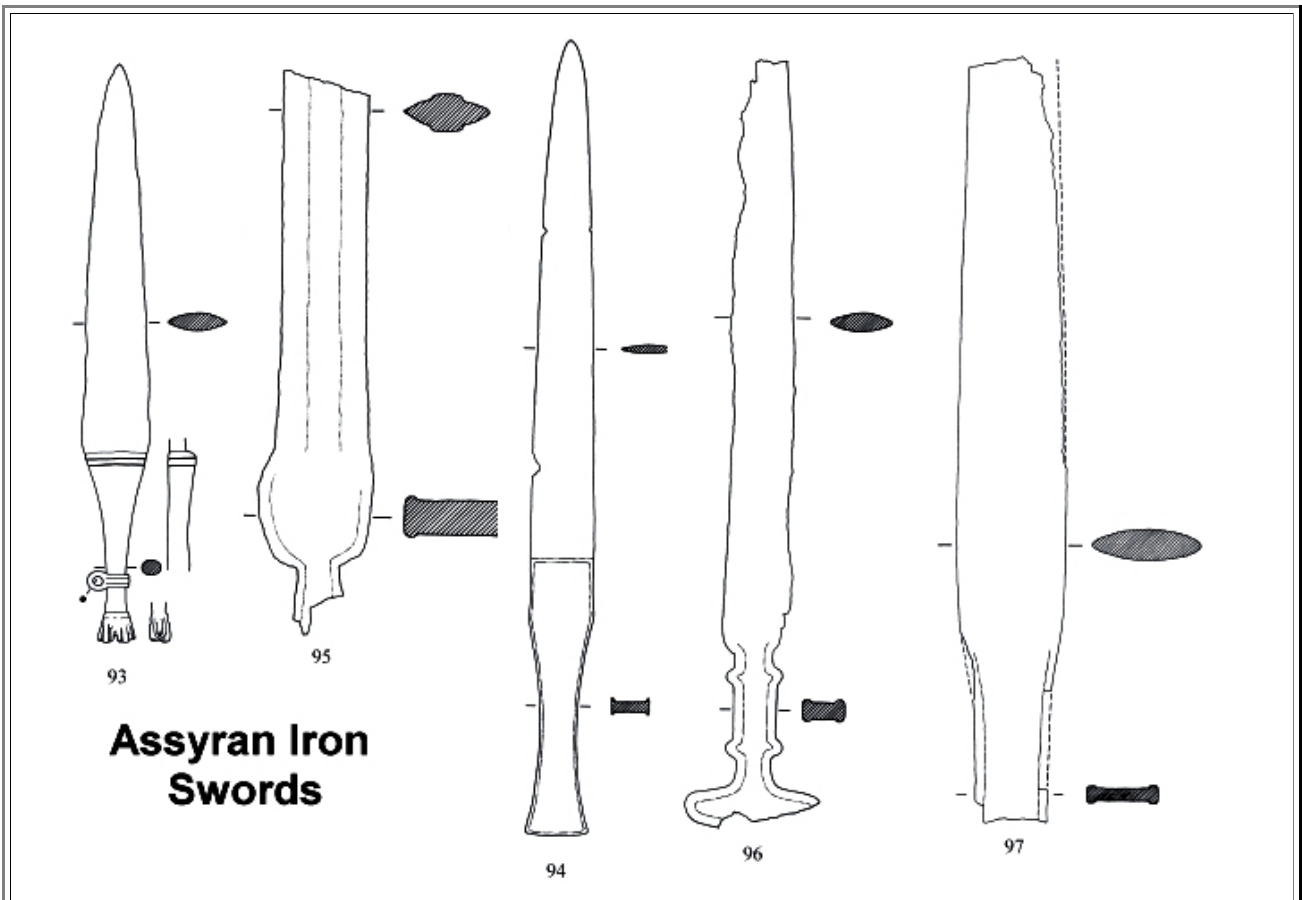


Sources:

Upper picture: Thomas Stöllner: Montan Archaeology and Research on Old Mining: Just a Contribution to Economic History? in "Der Anschnitt", Beiheft 21, Bochum 2009, pp. 149 - 178. The original picture supposedly comes from the Louvre.  
Lower picture: Oriental Institute, Chicago



Sources: John Curtis' book: "An Examination of Late Assyrian Metal Work with Special Reference to Nimrud" (Oxford press, 2013).



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[Link to text](#)