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New Sources of Western Zhou History:
Recent Discoveries of Inscribed Bronze Vessels
西周新史料: 近來發現的有銘銅器

In the 1970s, the great discoveries of Western Zhou bronze vessels were concentrated primarily in the Wei River valley of Shaanxi province, a pattern of distribution that gave rise to certain theories about a geographically reduced Zhou state. Since then, and especially in the 1990s, inscribed bronze vessels of the Western Zhou period have been found throughout northern China, with particularly important discoveries identified with the state of Yan 燕 near Beijing, Ying 應 at Pingdingshan (Henan), Jin 晉 at Houma (Shanxi), and Guo 虢 at Sanmenxia (Henan). This article introduces these discoveries, translating the more important inscriptions. It also reviews recent discoveries in Shaanxi, especially several bronzes bearing fully-dated inscriptions that have come to light in the course of the Xia-Shang-Zhou Chronology Project.

七十年代的有關西周銅器的重大發現多半集中於陝西省渭水流域。因此有學者建議，西周王室的勢力範圍可能僅限於此地理區域。而此後，特別是在九十年代，帶銘文的西周銅器在華北各省都有發現，諸如北京市房山琉璃河的燕國銅器、河南省平頂山市的應國銅器、山西省侯馬天馬曲村的晉國銅器、河南省三門峽的虢國銅器等等。本文將介紹這些發現，並將翻譯其中較為重要的銘文。本文還將回顧陝西省近年來的重要發現，尤其是因夏商周斷代工程計畫而受人矚目的幾件帶有完備年代記載的銅器。