Archaeological investigations at Sveigakot 2004

Orri Vésteinsson ed.

With contributions from Colleen E. Batey, Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir and Przemysław Urbańczyk

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Fig. on front page: Dragon head of a broken bone pin found in 2004.

Contents

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Introduction

The 2004 season was the sixth consecutive summer of excavations at Sveigakot. The excavation area was extended and a new area of 170 m^2 opened up to join areas S, N and P in the northern part of the site with areas T, M and MT in the south, creating for the first time a single excavation area, which totals 645 m^2 in size. Of this some 360 m^2 were under excavation in 2004. It is estimated that only some 90 m^2 containing possible archaeological deposits remain unopened.

At the northern end of the site the excavation and recording of some minor deposits and features from the earliest phase of the *skáli* (S4) was completed. This building had been erected alongside the remains of an earlier building (S7), following the same alignment. This building was excavated down to its earliest phase, the floor of which was observed but not excavated in 2004. The last phase of activity in S7 is represented by a row of iron working pits in the eastern end of what must have been either a roofless ruin or an insubstantial structure erected in the ruined end of the earlier one. Large quantities of charcoal and smithying slag were recovered from these pits. Predating them is a substantial trench cutting into the structure from the NE at an oblique angle to the building. The NE-end of this trench had been examined in 2003, and is associated with a row of irregular pits extending further northeastwards. While clearly man-made the function of these pits/trenches remains enigmatic. The original building is elongated, 11x4,4 m on the inside with a 9 m long stone pavement along the central axis. It is currently interpreted as a byre. This building and the trench predate the V~950 tephra while the smithy phase post-dates it.

In 2003 a stone pavement SW of the *skáli* (S4) had been exposed in area N. The pavement was shown to predate the *skáli* and is therefore presumed to be contemporary with the byre (S7) although a stratigraphical relationship cannot be demonstrated and it may therefore rather be contemporary with the dilapidation phase of S7. Work continued towards the lower (western) end of this pavement in 2004, demonstrating that it extends further west, outside the current limit of excavation.

In 2003 excavation had begun in area P where an earlier test pit had suggested there was a building, revealing a cut at its northeast corner. In 2004 this area was extended to 100 m^2 revealing a complex sequence of deposits and structural remains. Towards the east and south remains of the midden M were found inside this area. The midden deposits, the bulk of which lay still further south, had been excavated in 1999-2001 but thin lenses still remained at the top of the ridge running north-south between S and T. A series of midden layers was excavated, capping the remains of at least two sunken featured buildings. P1 is the building glimpsed in 2003. This was excavated down to the floor layer and turned out to be 5x4 m on the inside with a doorway on the northern end of the eastern wall. In the final phase of use a large circular pit was dug through its floor, assumed to have held a barrel or vat. A continuous floor layer extended from the inside of this sunken building, through the doorway and outside it to the NE where it was associated with two hearths. These remains, called P2, are thought to represent a building or activity area. East of P1 there is an elongated depression, called P3 – too small to be considered a building. This has not been fully excavated. Still further east a regular cut was observed, some 4x3 m in size. This is thought to represent yet another sunken featured building, called MP, but this remains to be investigated.

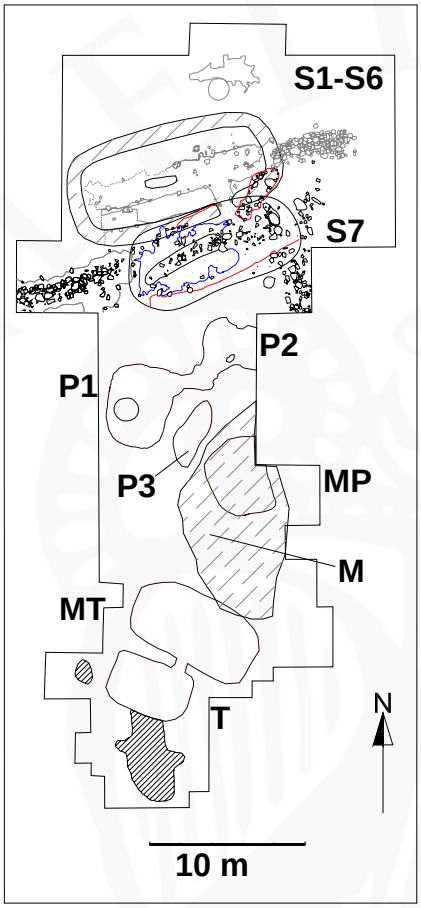

Fig. 1. Overview of the Sveigakot excavation in 2004 showing main features and

In MT excavation in 2003 had revealed the remains of a large sunken featured building (House II) immediately north of the smaller pit house T (House I). This building MT was some 7,3 x 3,2 m in size and had a hearth in the middle of the floor. This building had been built on top of an earlier, smaller and much more sunken building, with dimensions of 4,4 x 2,3 m, which was connected to T by a corridor. This earlier building may have been standing when the V~950 tephra was deposited.

Although the excavation proceeded much as planned it was hampered by inclement weather, which – unusually for Iceland – took the form of incessant drought and frequent high winds. This meant that the site dried out, layers became more difficult to separate, and as a result more cleaning than under normal conditions was necessitated. For this reason it was decided to cover up the floor layers in S7 and P1 and leave them for next season when it is hoped that precipitation will be back to normal.

The excavation started on July 19th and continued for 5 weeks until August 20th. As before the project was managed by Orri Vésteinsson, who also supervised the excavation in areas S and N, assisted by undergraduate students Óskar Sveinbjarnarson for the whole season and Kristjana Eyjolfsson for a 1 week period. Archaeologist Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir supervised the excavation in areas P and MP assisted by undergraduate students Benedicte Furulund and Hrönn Konráðsdóttir for most of the time and Florian Preiss and Lilja Björk Pálsdóttir for a 1 week period. The excavation of areas T and MT was supervised by professor Przemysław Urbańczyk (Polish Academy of Sciences), assisted by graduate students Magdalena Natuniewicz-Sekuła and Robert Żukowski. Geologist Magnús Á. Sigurgeirsson visited the site and confirmed identifications of tephras.

Data entry, the digitisation of drawings and the bulk of the post excavation work for areas S, N and P was carried out by Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir. Dr. Colleen E. Batey was the project finds manager.

The project was supported by grants from Rannís and the NSF. This support is gratefully acknowledged as well as the loan by the Mývatn Research Station of a total station.

Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir & Orri Vésteinsson

The northern end: Areas S, N, P and MP

Area S

S4: earlier phase of the *skáli*. The floor deposit [context 561] of the earlier phase of the *skáli* (S4) had been fully excavated and sampled in 2003. Underneath this floor deposit a number of postholes, stakeholes, pits and hearths had been exposed[1], but the excavation and recording of these remains had not been fully completed and was continued in 2004.

A number of postholes, stakeholes, hearths and deposits was excavated. Most of these were in the west end of the longhouse, under floor deposit [561]. Some remains were west of the surviving edge of the floor, between it and the erosion edge which has truncated the structure. Around 40 postholes, stakeholes and shallow holes/depressions were excavated. The fills of the postholes were recovered for flotation (wet sieving). The volume of stakeholes fills was afterwards considered too small to undergo the wet sieving process (which is why many numbers have been discarded in the sample list, see Appendix 3).

Overview of archaeological remains under floor deposit [561] (The contexts are in brackets and both fill / cut, numbers are represented):

Stakeholes in east end: [1216/1217, 1218/1219].

Stakeholes in west end: [1220/1221, 1222/1223, 1232/1233, 1234/1235, 1236/1237, 1238/1239; 1242/1243, 1244/1245, 1246/1247, 1248/1249, 1250/1251, 1267/1268, 1269/1270, 1271/1272].

Stakeholes, south of the more recent hearth cut [796]: [1275/1274, 1275/1276, 1277/1278, 1279/1280, 1281/1282, 1283/1284, 1285/1286].

3 stakeholes were excavated by the south bench, between the wooden division in floor deposit [561] and division cut [1525]: [1226/1227, 1228/1229, 1230/1231].

[1] Orri Vésteinsson (editor). *Archaeological investigation at Sveigakot 2003* (FS242-00214). Fornleifastofnun Íslands, Reykjavík, 2004.

Posthole at west end: [1252/1253].

Posthole with 7 stakeholes at the bottom: [1237/1238].

Posthole west of doorway [1375/1376] is ca 0,40 in diameter.

Under mottled deposit [1322] there are two postholes [1323/1324] and [1325/1326], both ca. 0,20 cm in diameter.

Excavated remains outside the boundaries of floor deposit [561]:

Posthole on northern bench, opposite posthole [1376] has context number [1339/1340] is ca. 0,30 cm in diameter.

A numbers of deposits on the northern bench: [1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1328]. These deposits were all fairly identical: very organic; wet and clayish, the colour was grey, light brown and redish. They could be remains of hay or other materials that were laid on the bench?

Excavated remains between the western edge of floor deposit [561] and the truncation by erosion:

Posthole [1289/1290,] and stakeholes [1255/1256, 1257/1258, 1259/1260, 1261/1262, 1263/1264, 1265/1266].

A number of holes [1292/1293, 1297/1298, 1299/1300, 1301/1302, 1303/1304, 1305/1306], all shallow (1-5 cm) and different in shape and size, look more like depression than real cuts.

An ash deposit [1287] was excavated west of the hearth [1288/1291] but was not directly associated with it. The soil around the hearth was much lighter in colour (pale brown) than the soil elsewhere. Such colour changes were probably caused by heat from the hearth. In the section created by the truncation on the western side of the structure a charcoal pit [1294/1296] was recorded. The pit was oval in shape, ca. 0,4 x 0,4 m and 7 cm deep. A very thin deposit was on top of the fill, very similar to the lower part of floor deposit [561]. The fill was made of charcoal, some of the pieces quite large. The fill was all sampled for flotation/wet sieving (sample no. 41). Approximately 1/4 of the pit had eroded away.

Other remains excavated this year in S4 are: A shallow, 2 cm deep, hole/depression [1312/1313] on the south bench and a wood filled stakehole [1319/1320]in the south-wall, right on the edge between the bench and the wall.

Stakeholes outnumbered the postholes by a large majority. Postholes were considered (as in 2003) ca. 15-30 cm in diameter while stakeholes fall within the

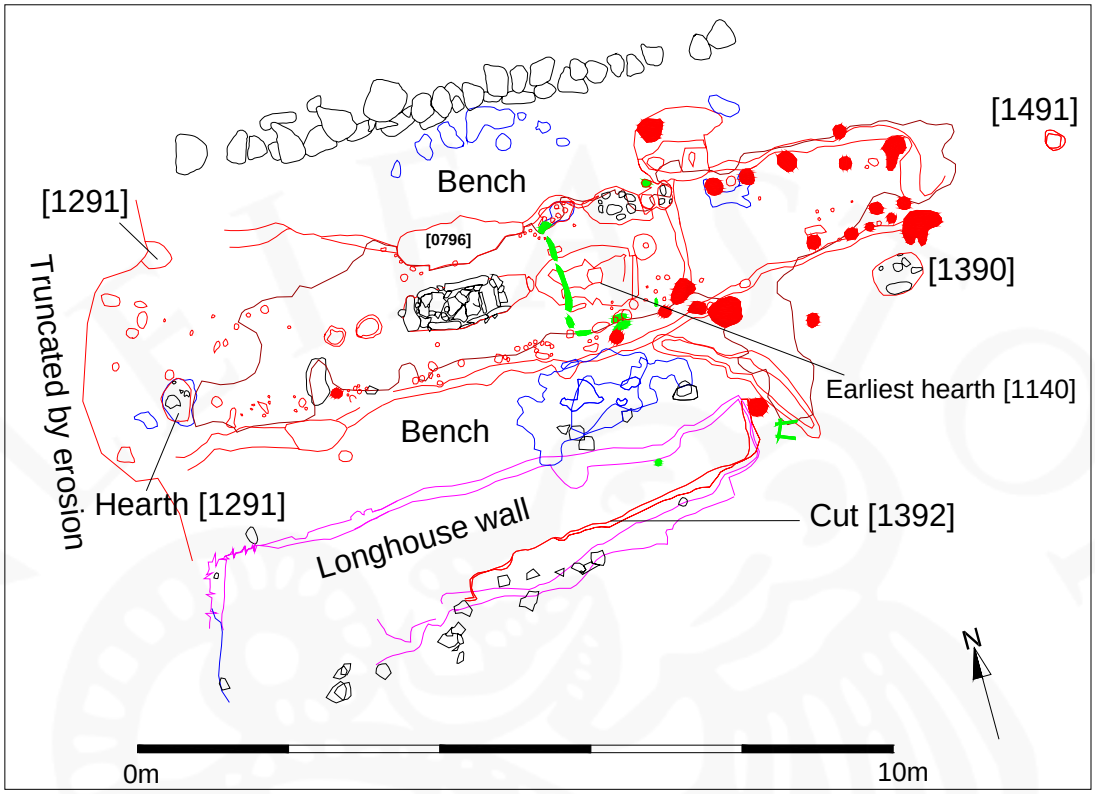

Fig. 2. Features excavated in S4 in 2004. Postholes are in red, deposits in blue, while the bright green represents wooden remains recorded in 2003.

range of ca. 5-15. The holes are very different in shape: circular, triangular and oval. As the year before majority of the stakeholes was found to be directly under the floor deposit [561]. Some of the holes are situated along the edges of the benches, many seem to be random, but some seem to indicate structures or fittings. The holes/depressions west of floor deposit [561] are also very random but could indicate structures at the west end of the longhouse. The two large postholes, [1340] and [1376], are very interesting. Posthole [1376] is west of the doorway, on the south side of the longhouse. Posthole [1340] is on the north bench. The postholes are situated opposite each other in line with the division cut [1525], which was under floor deposit [561]. Posthole [1376] was under the floor deposit [561] and posthole [1340] was under hearth [1202/1207], which was under floor deposit [561]. This indicates that those posts were removed before the formation of floor [561], which in turn suggests that this floor represents not the earliest phase of occupation of S4, but a later one following the more or less complete removal of earlier deposits. Another posthole [1338] which indicates structural elements inside the longhouse is at the north edge of northern bench. It is irregularly oval and at the bottom there are 7 circular cuts.

Because of weather conditions in 2004 (dry and very windy) it was not possible to do a final cleaning inside S4 to ascertain that all deposits have been recorded. If anything is still left it is however minimal. The western end of the *skáli* is more disturbed than the eastern end, not only by post-abandonment erosion but also by the later *skáli* S1 that was built on top of the earlier one S4. There are much fewer postholes in the western half of the building although it is possible that charcoal pit [1296] and hearth [1291] (see Fig. 2) are old postholes that were reused after the posts had been removed.

The western end of shallow ditch [1206] was recorded. This southeastern part of this ditch had been recorded in 2003, starting in the doorway of S4, lying in an arch westwards under the corner of the bench [1015] and therefore predating it. Its function is unclear.

On the bench along the south wall three organic deposits [1478, 1487, 1489] were removed (similar to the organic deposits on the northern bench [1308-1311, 1314-1317]), the earliest one [1489] sealing the V~950 [1101] tephra *in situ*. The tephra lay also *in situ* under the turf wall on the south side S4 [1126] and there it covered deposits of brown silt and turf debris, [1494, 1468] respectively, which in turn sealed the V-871±2 tephra. Under [1489] – the lowermost deposit on the bench – there were a further two deposits [1497, 1500], which while not directly associated with the V~950 seem to be earlier than it, [1497] probably being a continuation of [1468].

It seems then that both the bench and the south wall of S4 were built on existing deposits (i.e. [1101, 1468, 1494, 1497 and 1500]), which belong to an earlier phase, probably associated with structure S7 (see below). When the wall [1126] was built (or possibly afterwards) a cut [1392] was made along its outside, cutting both [1101] and [1468]. This seems to have ben done to clear material away from the base of the wall and thereby 'lift' it by a few inches. This cut follows the earlier (presumed) cut for S7, the south wall of S4 obviously respecting the earlier structure.

S6: In 2003 a number of deposits and features had been excavated on the east side of the *skáli* S4. Among the earliest of these was the hearth [1197] and a patch of reddened earth [1205], underneath widespread organic layer [1187]. In 2004 two further features, belonging to the same phase, were excavated in this area: Another reddened patch [1390] and an ash filled pit [1490/1491].

S7: Following the removal of the southeastern corner of S4 in 2003 (i.e. [1015/1077/1171]) a couple of layers immediately south of the wall had been removed: [1144] which was a 12 cm thick layer of turf and underneath that an accumulation of sand [1155], interpreted as aeolian deposition. Underneath this a number of deposits were observed which seemed to be filling a depression which extended south beyond the 2003 limits of excavation. In 2004 this area was opened for excavation, revealing under the topsoil [0001], a widespread mix of turf debris and aeolian deposits [1100] (also recorded in N in 2003; same as [686] recorded in 2001). This deposit fills a depression which extends from the southeastern corner of S4 to the western end of N, more than 15 m, but has a distinct southern border some 3-4 m south of the southern edge of S4, describing a more or less straight line. South of this border there was only natural under the topsoil, which means that there is no stratigraphic association between the archaeological deposits in areas S and N on the one hand and P on the other.

Under [1100] two widespread layers, which had been partially recorded and excavated in 2003, were removed: [1143] continuing eastwards from N and [1144] continuing south and westwards from the front of the doorway of S4. There was only a 10 cm gap between the layers but there can be no doubt that they represent the same deposit, along with three discreet lumps of turf debris [1363], [1364] and [1372] – which predates [1363] – all abutting the south wall of S4 [1015/1126]. ([1364]was recorded as a separate deposit but should probably be regarded as a part of [1143]). In places these turf deposits were quite thick, 10-12 cm, but in others very thin. From this and its stratigraphical position it can be suggested that all this turf belongs to building and/or demolition phases of S4 (and possibly S1). Below all this turf debris the sandy layer [1155] continued, infilling the same depression south of S4. Towards the eastern border of N (y 895) this layer was becoming quite thin and inside N it had not been recorded separately in 2003, presumably removed along with [1143]. [1155] is predominantly sand, mixed with lenses of silt, but very little anthropogenic material although it is not quite sterile and included a single bone fragment, an iron hook and a piece of slag (find nos. 90, 91 and 92), the objects possibly intrusive. This layer represents a (possibly protracted) period of aeolian deposition on this part of the site, predating the building of S4. It was not clearly distinguishable from [1177] which

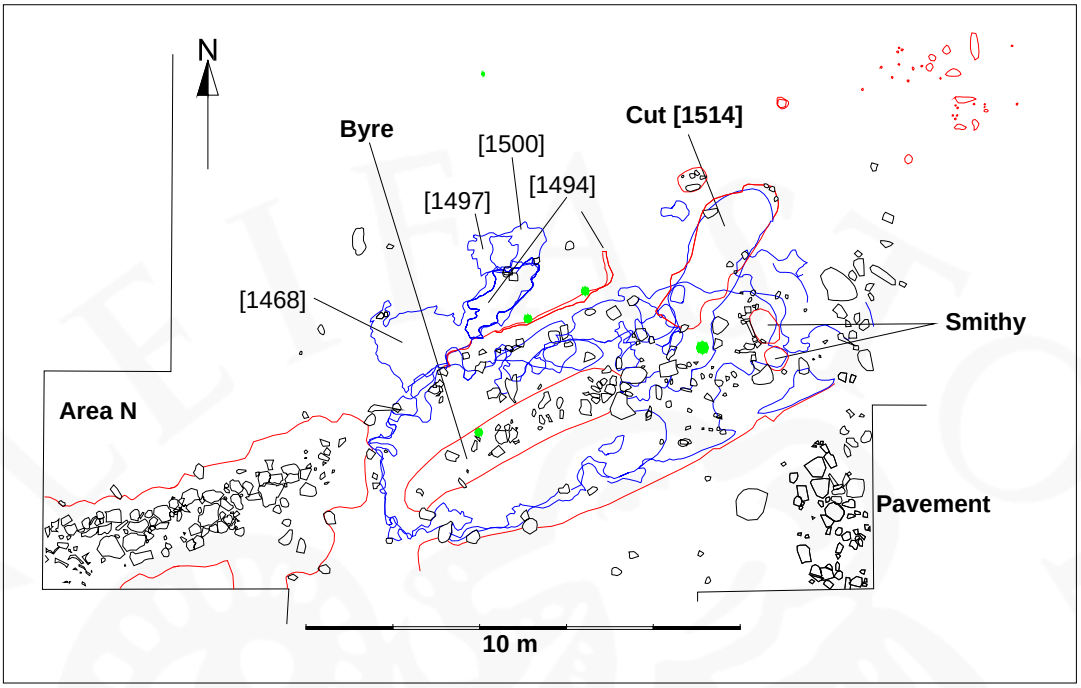

Fig. 3. Principal features in areas S7 and N. Green dots represent micromorphology sample locations.

was interpreted in 2003 as a deliberate fill of an existing depression, a foundation for the wall [1015/1126] of S4. Re-examination in 2004 suggests that this is rather to be interpreted as a more turfy part of [1155], representing the collapse of the last phase of the previous building – S7 – as the turf is mixed with lenses of sand identical to that which makes up most of [1155]. It is noteworthy that the sand in [1155] is quite coarse, suggesting that the erosion from which it came was close by.

Under [1155] there was another widespread layer [1419] which was pale pink orange and very organic, similar to layers observed in immediate post-abandonment phases of other buildings on

Fig. 4. Looking westwards along S7. The pavement in the central aisle is coming to light and the cut for the building on the south side is clearly visible on the left.

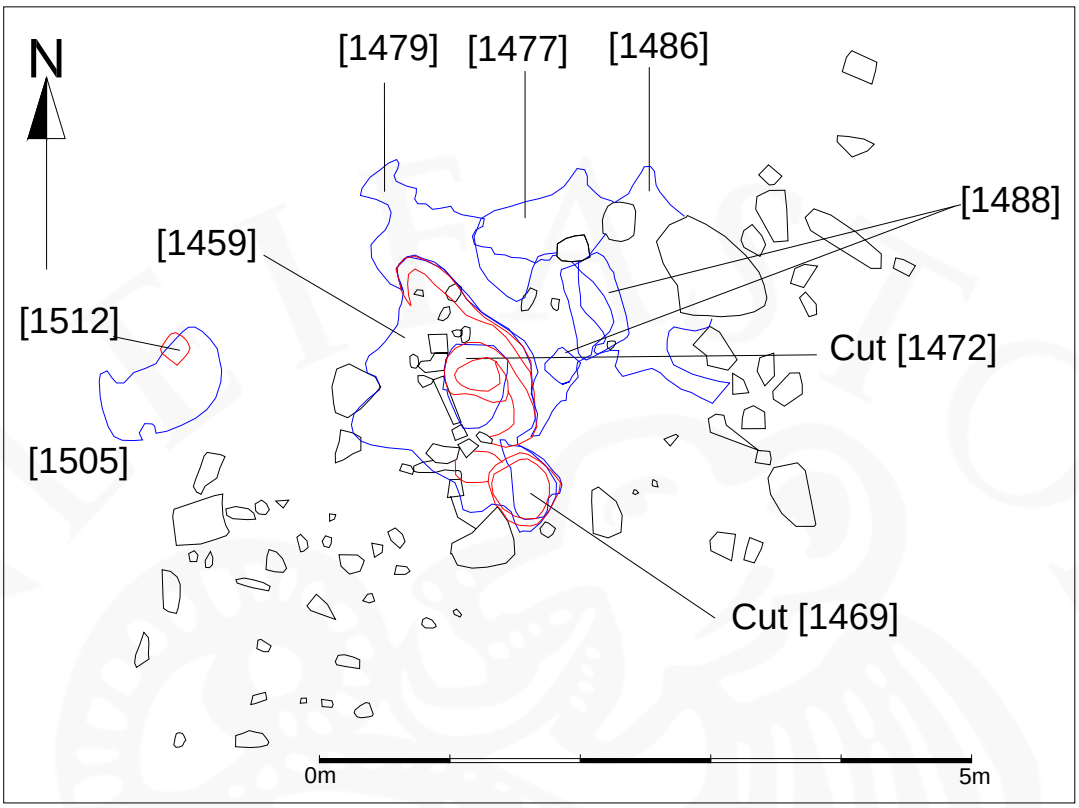

Fig. 5. Principal layers and features associated with the smithy phase of S7

the site (e.g. [1187] (which is stratigraphically earlier) in S6, [960] in S4, [556] in S1). [1419] was mostly rather thin, inside 1 cm, except along the central aisle of S7 where it filled a slight depression – up to 5 cm thick –, covering a row of stones along the centre of the building.

At this stage in the excavation a black sooty floor layer could be glimpsed through [1419] and another thin deposit below it [1439]. Two micromorphology samples were taken: one (sample 102) in the western end of S7 and the other (sample no. 116) in the eastern end. In the former, [1155] was on top of [1419] which was 1 cm thick and rested directly on a black and fatty floor layer, less than 4 mm thick. This in turn rested on a 5 cm thick layer made up of laminated bands of sand and organic material with one distinct lens of pale organic material in the middle. Below this was a 4 cm thick deposit of upcast, reddish brown silt mixed with black tephra, resting on natural. In the more easterly sample the archaeological sequence above natural was thicker and no natural was seen. Here [1419] was on top of a 2 cm thick layer of grey ash which in turn capped an 8 cm thick mixed layer composed of brown silt, organic lenses, charcoal and ash. Below this was a deposit of grey ash. These

Fig. 6. Smithy pits, looking east. The boulder in the background represents the eastern limit of both the smithy and the byre S7.

mini-sections give an idea of the deposits associated with the use of S7 but in 2004 only those deposits post-dating it were excavated. These fall in three groups:

There was a number of small patches of turf and/or charcoal ([1431], [1436], [1438], [1451], [1492], [1493] and [1502]), mostly in the centre part of the building, under [1419]. [1431], [1436], [1438] lay on top of [1439] which was a very thin sandy layer spread over two thirds of the building, i.e. all but the eastern end. [1439] was also capped by the V~950 tephra [1101] and lay directly on top of the black floor layer observed above. [1439] was not excavated in 2004.

The second group was in the very eastern end of the building. Here a small smithy was excavated which post-dates the V~950 tephra. These remains consisted only of a row of small pits (cuts [1469] and [1472]), their fills ([1461] and [1470] respectively) – which were more or less entirely made of charcoal and iron slag, as well as a substantial piece of whale bone from the base of [1469] – and charcoal rich surface layers: [1459] which capped the fills of the pits; [1477] which seems to be associated with the use of the pits and [1479] which predates them. [1479] lay directly on top of the V~950 tephra and also capped a layer of upcast [1486] which in turn capped a layer of charcoal [1488] in a very shallow depression. Around the two pit cuts faint traces of negative features could be discerned, suggesting that they are only the last two in a series of pits associated with ironworking in this area. These charcoal and iron slag deposits are contained within an area of ca. 4x3 m but no structural remains are directly associated with this phase of use. A large boulder marks the eastern end of the smithy as well as the earlier building S7 but the only archaeological feature that might belong to the smithy is a post hole [1512] some 2 m west of the pits which cuts the V~950 tephra. If this post hole belongs to the smithy then it will have been more like 5x3 m in size. The post hole is however capped by a

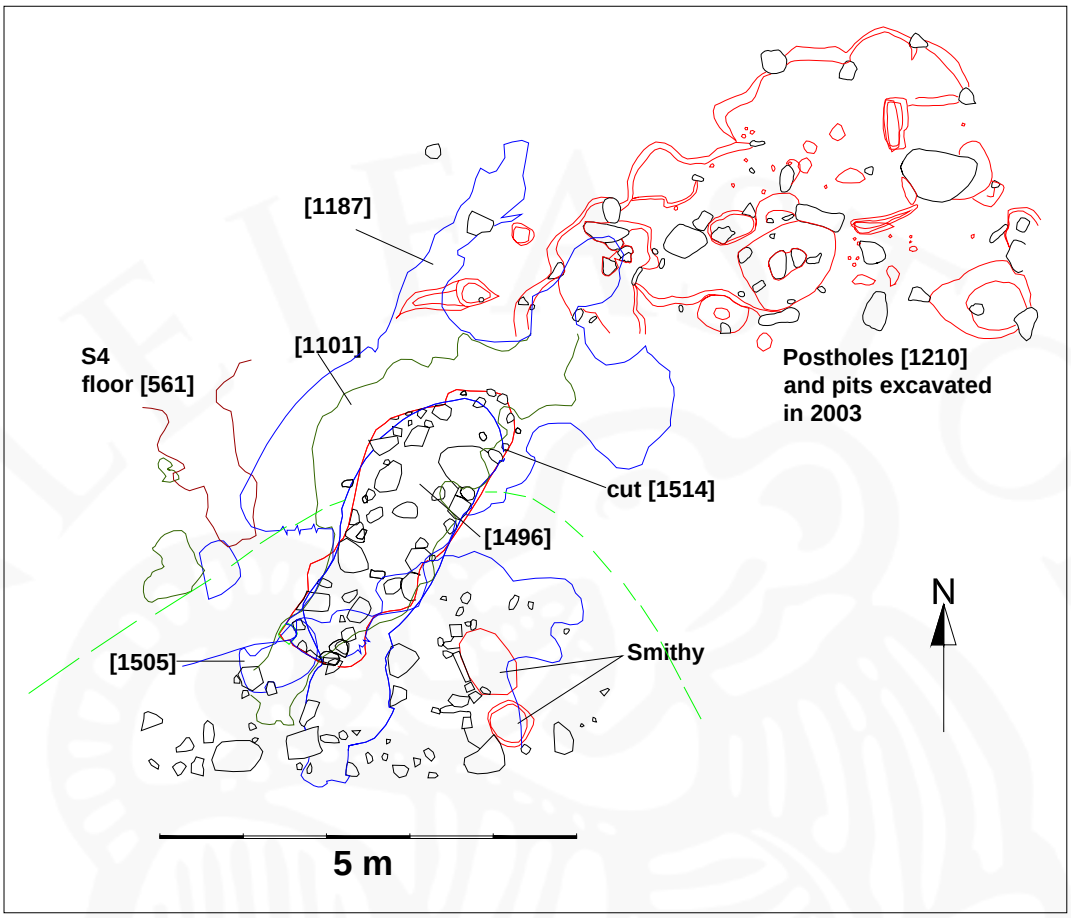

Fig. 7. Th trench dug into the suggested byre S7 (possible outlines shown with a broken green line). Also shown are negative features from the same phase excavated in 2003.

small surface layer [1505] which in turn is capped by [1496], the post ~950 fill of a large trench [1514] which cuts into S7. The trench was dug before ~950, but soon after the tephra fell it was deliberately filled in with [1496]. This however did not happen until after the earliest smithy layers ([1488], [1486] and [1479]) had been formed, suggesting that having a great big trench cutting obliquely into the working area was not considered disadvantageous, at least not in its earliest period of use, and that the post hole might have belonged to this earliest phase, although it cannot have been in use as long as the smithy was. One post hole does not a house make and the fact that the trench was more or less open at least in the earliest period of use of the smithy suggests that there cannot have been a substantial superstructure over it. Rather the smithy is to be considered as an open-air activity area, presumably built in the ruins of S7 and receiving some shelter from the remains of its walls – including the large boulder already mentioned, the only element of those walls still surviving.

Fig. 8. The trench [1514] looking south. Part of S7 on the left and S4 on the right.

The trench [1514] already mentioned represents the third group and also the earliest phase of activity excavated in this part of the site in 2004. Its northeastern end had been examined in 2003 along with a number of smaller and more shallow trenches and pits along the same alignment further northeast under S6. This largest trench is 4x1 m in size, aligned NE-SW. It is cut into sterile to a depth of 50 cm in the middle and the deepest of three fairly distinct sections. The middle section is 1,6 m long, but on either side of it there are shallower sections, 20 cm in the SW end and 30 cm in the NE. Where it had been possible to dig the sides to the desired depth on account of stones in the natural they seem originally to have been almost vertical but had become more sloping through erosion before the accumulation of [1187], the organic deposit that lines the base and sides of the trench. The base in the middle section is fairly flat but more irregular and concave in the end sections. A large number of stones protrudes from the sides and base of the trench making what seems to have been quite a regular design look quite irregular. The earliest deposit to form in this trench is [1187], a pink-orange organic layer, similar to [1419] and many others frequently found on top of floor layers in Sveigakot. This layer was capped by the V~950 tephra [1101] which in turn was overlaid by [1496], the infilling layer already mentioned.

In 2004 the excavation stopped short of the actual building S7 itself, although enough of its general features had appeared for a short description to be made. A clear cut for the building, 10-20 cm deep, had emerged along the full length of the southern side; the eastern side is marked by a large boulder already referred to whereas the northern side coincides with the southern limit of the southern wall of S4

and has been obscured by the later cut [1392]. Under V~950, which was undisturbed under parts of the southern wall of S4, two deposits ([1494] and [1468]) were excavated which probably belong to the abandonment phase of S7. The lower one, [1468], is sealed by [1419] and closely resembles [1187], the pink organic layer that filled the great trench [1514]. The layers associated with S7 and its abandonment phase stop at the brake of slope on the western side of the site, coinciding with the 2003 eastern limit of excavation in N. The building was c. 11 m long and 4,4 m wide. Along its central aisle there is a depression filled with unevenly laid stones, seemingly capped by a thin black floor layer. This central depression is some 9 m long and is missing from the eastern end where the later smithy has obscured the original arrangement. It is however clear that the depression has not extended the full length of the building, suggesting some different use in the eastern end. That this end does belong to the building is suggested by the cut on the southern side which does extend the full length. The building may have had concave walls, the curve on the associated layers in the western end may suggest this. It also slopes gently from east to west. It probably had a door on the western gable, possibly not in the middle of the gable but on its southern side, and another door on the eastern end of the southern side where a pavement extends southwards from the side of the building. It is however quite conceivable that this pavement predates the cut for S7 and as mentioned in the Introduction the stratigraphical relationship between S7 and the pavement in N is far from clear.

Based primarily on the – albeit irregularly laid – central pavement, as well as the sloping of the floor, this building is currently interpreted as a byre. There is however at present no evidence of stalls or anything that can be interpreted as animal dung evident in the building. Further excavation will hopefully make this clear.

Area N

In 2003 a series of midden and turf debris deposits had been excavated in an elongated depression running down the slope, immediately southwest of S4. One of these [1146] was under the wall of S4 showing that the lower part of this sequence as well as the pavement which underlay these deposits predated S4.

In 2004 work continued in this area for only a week and limited progress was made. Three small lumps of turf [1476] on the north side of the pavement were

removed. These were considered identical to the turf wall [1015/1126] and overlay a widespread pinkish organic layer [1482], which in turn was on top of the V~950 tephra. The tephra however seems to post-date the pavement itself, but its relationship to other deposits recorded in 2004 could not be seen. Under [1482] there was a midden dump [1504] above the south-western end of the pavement. Below that was an organic layer [1520] in the same place, and still further down a layer of sand [1507] in-between and around (but not underneath) the stones in the pavement. From both [1504] and [1507] an unusually (for Sveigakot) large number of finds was retrieved, mostly animal bones and wood remains but also some artefacts, including an iron knife (find no. 196). The removal of these layers showed that the pavement dips quite dramatically in the south-western corner of the excavation area and extends beyond it at a depth of more than 40 cm, necessitating an extension of this area in 2005.

Area P

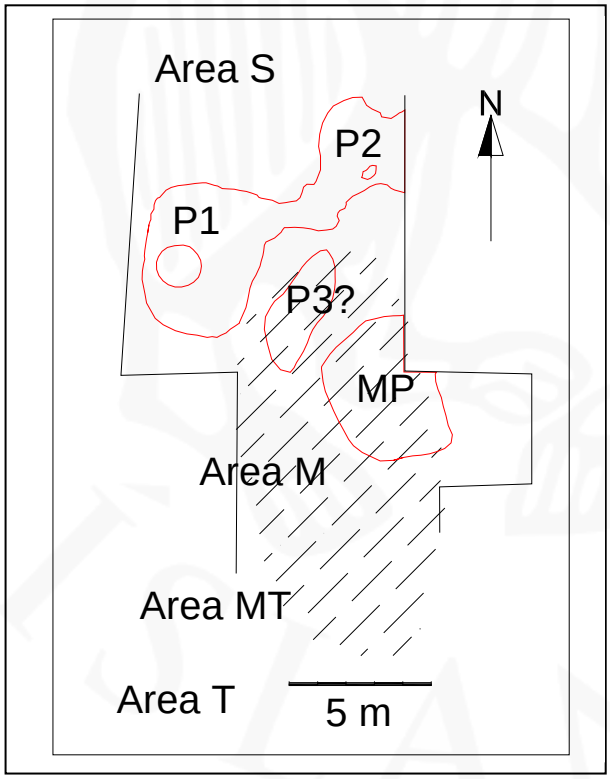

Fig 9. Areas P and MP in connection with other excavation areas in Sveigakot.

In 2003 a new area P had been opened. The investigation only started in the last days of the season and only the corner of a sunken featured building had been exposed (now called P1), at the time thought to be the northwestern corner. The relationship between this feature and the previously examined midden in area M, suggested that P belonged to earlier phases of occupation in Sveigakot.

In 2004 area P turned out to be full of surprises. In the end not only one building was exposed but possibly four, called P1, P2, P3 and MP. After deturfing and cleaning an area of 10x10 m south of the extended area S, it became apparent that between the

archaeological deposits associated with S7 in the north and P1 and P2 in the south there was a continuous ridge of sterile soil just below the topsoil, thus dispelling any hopes that a stratigraphical relationship might exist between the two. On the south-eastern side of P remnants of the great sheet midden M extended into the area. In 2003 three such deposits had been excavated ([1208], [1214] and [1215]) in the south easternmost part of the area. In 2004 yet another and more extensive midden deposit [1351] was excavated in area P. The midden [1351] is above P2 but did not connect to the main midden deposits excavated earlier in area M. There are still midden deposits remaining beyond the eastern limit of excavation in P and M and it is hoped that an examination of these will help to clear up the stratigraphic relationship between M and P.

Midden [1351] was very rich in terms of finds 16 in total (finds nos. 38-47 and 50-55), including a carved and decorated animal head (find no. 43, illustrated on front page), probably the head of a pin; 3 spindle whorls (find nos. 41, 44 and 46, two of steatite) and a bone comb fragment (find no. 54) (see Batey below and find list appendix). Deposits [1386, 1410 and 1427] are all midden layers under [1351]. In [1427] a gaming piece of bone was found (find no. 102). Midden layer [1410] was also very rich in terms of finds with ten in total (finds nos. 79-81, 85, 88, 96-100). After the removal of the top-soil [0001] and excavation of midden deposit [1370] – which was further north and not connected to the midden deposits already mentioned – and mottled sandy deposits [1391, 1396] divisions became clear in area P which were subsequently called P1, P2 and P3.

P1 and P3: Under [1370] there was a widespread sandy and charcoal rich deposit [1396] that included unworked animal bones (see finds 76-78). Next in the sequence was a dark brown sandy deposit [1413] which stretched along the east side of P1. This deposit included slag and unworked animal bones (see finds 94-95). Under this sandy deposit context [1426] was excavated. This was a 20 cm thick midden-like deposit in a depression, called P3 after excavation. The deposit was laminated with ash and organic material. A few fire-cracked stones were in a heap at the bottom of the deposit which also included unworked animal bones (see finds nos. 106-107). Midden deposit [1426] was quite similar to the next one in the sequence, [1430]. Midden layer [1430] was partly inside the P3 depression but it also extended westwards (south of P1). The V~950 tephra was *in situ* under [1426] and [1430]. It covered the depression/cut P3 and also capped the turf debris [1463] from P1 and lay

up against MP. The tephra was up to 2 cm in thickness but on average less than 1 cm. The turf debris deposit [1463] was bright red/orange all over, mottled and in a few places turf stripes were discernible. On the north side of P1 a turf deposit [1455] was exposed after the removal of the topsoil [1455]. This eroded deposit probably represents collapse from the roof or wall, but turf stripes were still visible. Both turf deposits [1463] and [1455] are above the fill of P1, [1480].

Fig. 10. Pit house P1, looking Southeast. Note the barrel pit in the foreground and the black floor layer stretching eastwards through the corridor to P2 beyond.

The main fill of P1, deposit [1480], was laminated and mottled, very midden like. The uppermost part of the deposit was mixed with windblown sand, charcoal chunks and turf-ish and organic patches. The deposit included burnt bones < 2%, charcoal < 4%, fire cracked stones < 2% and unburnt bones < 5%. The greatest thickness of the fill was 30 cm. It did not produce many finds but intriguingly a large dump of animal bones (find no 151) and a slag heap (find no. 152) were contained within it. Deposit [1480] covers all the deposits within the sunken featured building P1. On the east side of the building there was a layer of turf collapse, [1508]. In the middle a clean sand deposit [1506] turned out to be the fill in barrel-pit cut. No traces of wood were found in the barrel pit nor in the sand deposit. Therefore the barrel had probably been removed, spreading the sand around the floor. The barrel-pit is almost 1,6 m in diameter, suggesting that the removal of the barrel must have required considerable effort. The edges between the sand deposit and the turf collapse were diffused.

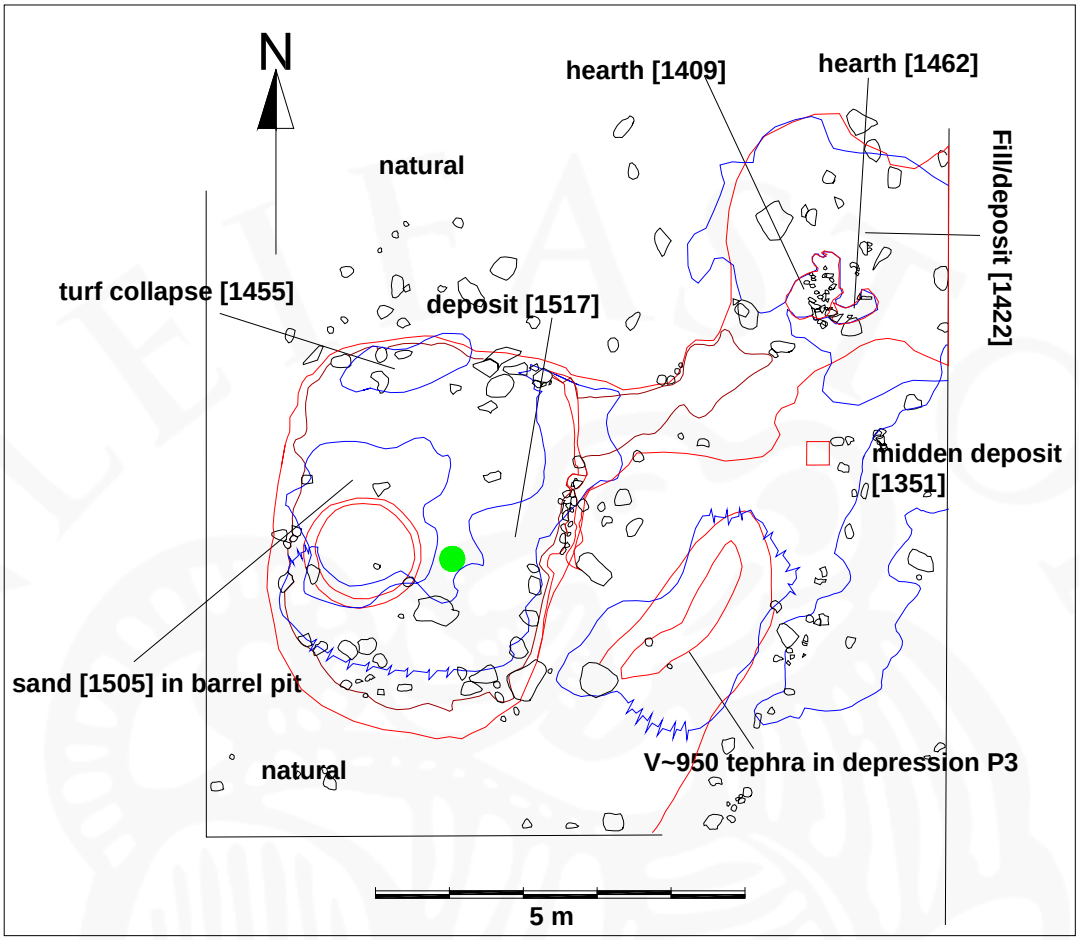

Fig. 11. Red lines represent cuts (the square cut is a test trench from 1999). Blue lines are deposits and black lines are stones. Brown outlines the floor [1521]. The green dot represent location of micromorphology sample no. 141.

Mixed in with the sand [1506] were also a turf patch [1515] and a white/grey organic deposit [1516] at the east side of the barrel pit. Deposit [1517] was under the turf collapse [1508] and directly above the floor deposit [1521]. [1517] was a dark brown sandy layer along the east and south sides of the building. This deposit contained a few finds: iron fragment, stone pebble and slag, and unworked animal bones (finds nos. 201-207). A micromorphology sample (no. 141) was taken through the floor [1521] which seems to be resting directly on sterile soil. P1 is 5,4 m long N-S and 4,2 m wide E-W. The floor layer [1521] has the same dimensions as it extends everywhere right up to the cut for the building.

It is clear that P1 had already fallen out of use when the V~950 tephra was deposited – the tephra is above turf collapse associated with the building which in turn is above the fill [1480] in P1. The fill is a laminated midden like deposit which indicates that after its abandonment and collapse the resulting depression was used as

an occasional midden dump from nearby buildings, although it is nowhere near as rich as e.g. the midden in T. The barrel pit is the dominating feature in this building suggesting that at least in its final phase it was used as a pantry. No hearth or fire place was found in the building although a pile of stones by the north wall may represent the remains of a hearth – possibly removed to make room for the barrel. A number of postholes were beginning to emerge at the end of the season but roof bearing posts seem also to have rested on post-pads, particularly along the eastern side. These features along with the floor itself will be examined in 2005.

Unusually for Icelandic pit houses P1 has a well defined doorway through which the floor layer [1521] continues, sloping upwards in a corridor that connects to P2. Only a small number of contexts were recorded above the floor in the corridor: Under the top-soil was a 7 cm deep pit full of charcoal [1440/1441] at the bottom of which the cut for P1 could be seen. Next down in the sequence there was a sandy deposit [1485] with patches of organic material, charcoal and burnt bones spreading over the corridor. Sandwiched between this and the floor [1521] was a mottled organic layer [1498].

Fig. 12. Hearths in P2, looking southeast.

P2. Unlike P1, P2 is not a sunken feature and as a result its features were much less well preserved. Most of the time in 2004 was spent trying to make sense of what was an unusually complicated tangle of eroded deposits, fills and cuts, but by the end of season a clear picture

had begun to emerge.

After the removal of midden deposit [1370] and sandy layer [1391] a hearth was exposed. At the top of this sequence there was a mottled layer of sandy silt [1394], but below that there was a concentrated mottled deposit of ash [1395], which was reminiscent of hearth fills,. This ash layer [1395] contained charcoal, burnt bones and ash, and was extensively sampled for flotation. Under this deposit two hearth cuts were exposed. Both were irregularly shaped. The northern one was mainly built of lava stones set on edge [hearth structure 1407] but there was also evidence that some stones had been robbed, indicated by depressions at the sides of the hearths. The northern hearth cut [1409] is ca. 0,7 m N-S and 0,6 m W-E. The other hearth [cut 1462] was partly sealed by a widespread midden deposit [1422], that included burnt bone and charcoal. This hearth had an ash deposit [1456] partly sealing the hearth stones. The cut is ca. 0,3 m N-S and 0,5 m W-E. It seems that this hearth was built in the same place as another, yet earlier hearth. At the bottom of the cut [1462] another hearth structure was observed, made of lava stones set on edge. Midden deposit [1422] is most likely the uppermost layer in the fill of building P2, approximately describing its size (c. 4x3 m), although the orientation is still obscure. The building may extend beyond the eastern limits of excavation in 2004.

Below [1422] were organic deposits [1454] and [1458], both above [1498] which in turn is above the floor in the corridor connecting P1 and P2. North of P2 an isolated organic deposit [1344] was recorded

Area MP

After the removal of the top-soil [0001] and the excavation of midden deposit [1351] in the southeastern part of P a depression was detected just north of the boundary between P and M (x 322) - by the south borders of area P, were P and area M meet. Inside this were aeolian deposit [1336] and sandy deposit [1393], which – once removed – suggested that a sunken feature was emerging that stretched south into area M which had been considered fully excavated when left in 2001. A test pit at the border between M and P showed a sequence of occupation layers reaching a depth of at least 30 cm, where a very compact layer, probably a floor was encountered. A simple blue glass bead (find no 58) and animal bones (find no 59) were found in this

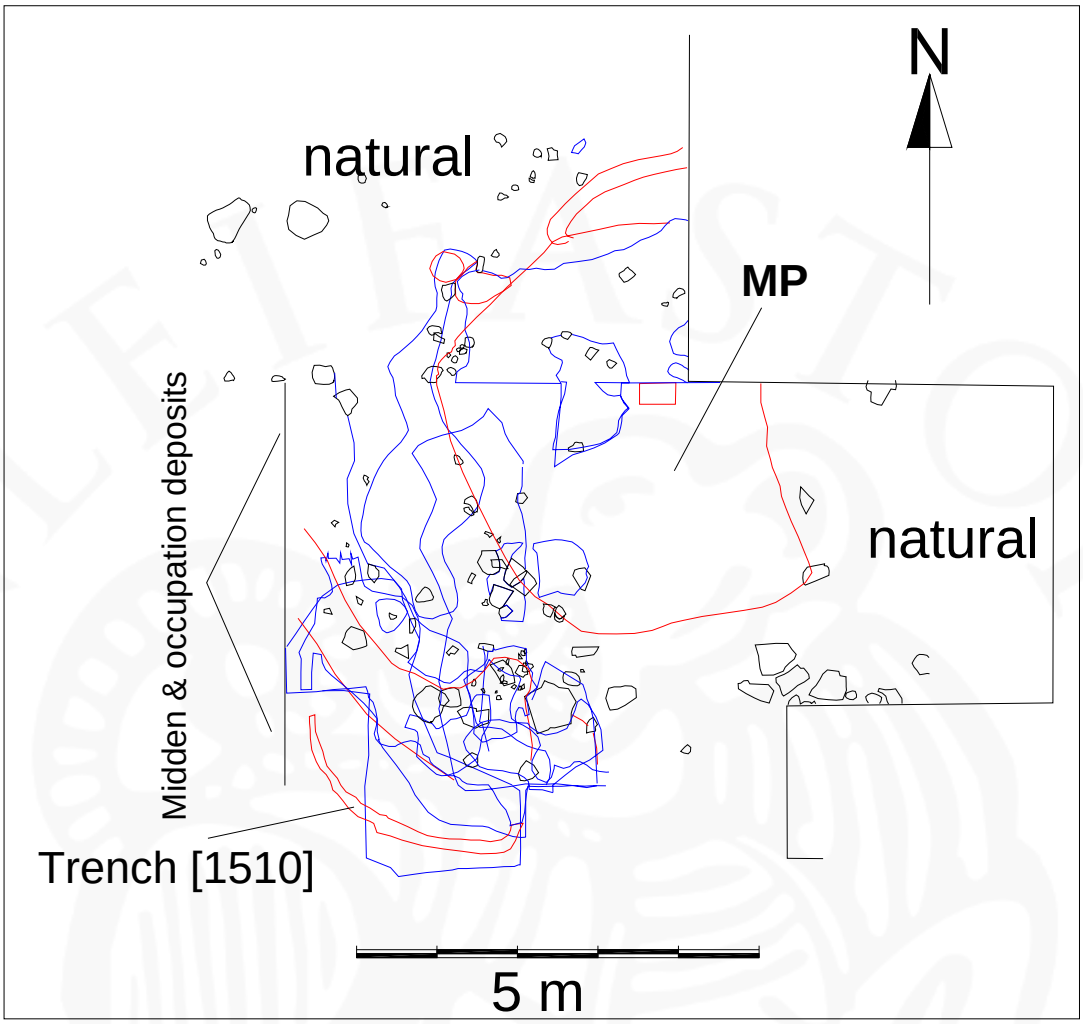

Fig. 13. Red lines represent cuts, blue deposits and black stones.

pit, This feature which straddles the border between M and P was given the name MP.

The former area M was extended westwards, adding 15 m^2 to the area that had been opened in 2001. The layers that sealed the cut for the sunken feature were mainly aeolian and midden like deposits [1460, 1481, 1495, 1499, 1501, 1503 and 1513] describing an irregular hump on the southwestern side of the feature. Of these the midden deposit [1481] was the thickest (10 cm) and included a nail, iron slag, a stone pebble and unworked animal bones (find nos 155-157). On the south and west this hump was bounded by a curving ditch [1509/1510], some 2,5 m long, 10-20 cm wide and with a greatest depth of 17 cm.

At the end of field season 2004 the cut for the sunken feature MP had been uncovered and awaits further excavation. First it will be necessary to extend the excavation area to the northeast because the cut for the house extends beyond the eastern limit of excavation. MP is without little doubt a building – a pit house –

judging from the floor-layer observed in the test pit and the dimensions (c. 4,5x4 m) which are consistent with other pit houses in Sveigakot

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Przemysław Urbańczyk

The southern end: area MT

Staff, equipment and recording routines

The fourth season of excavations at the southern part of the Sveigakot deserted farm concentrated on the remains of the **sunken house II** that was discovered a year earlier.

The research team consisted of these same three Polish archaeologists from the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology in Warsaw, Poland: Magdalena Natuniewicz-Sekuła, Przemysław Urbańczyk and Robert Żukowski.

We followed the recording system designed in the previous years that aimed at saving the drawing time and increasing accuracy of the stratigraphic documentation. Thus, every layer was recorded as a digital photograph overlaid with contour lines that indicate the third dimension. Production of such a documentation in the real time meant that one person (Robert) spent most of the field-time in the Land Rover, which housed a mobile graphic studio.

The recording routines had to be adapted to the new equipment that consisted of a total-station, mobile computer, digital camera and a photo-tower. This year the total-station borrowed from the Mývatn Research Station did not function perfectly, which caused substantial delays in surveying of the recorded surfaces. As in the previous year, the SONY-Poland company furnished us with their new product CyberShot DSC-F828 equipped with a high-resolution 8 Mega-pixels matrix. Its built-in wide lenses appeared much more handy than the heavy converter that we had to use the previous year.

This year our need for a photo-tower was fulfilled by purchasing a set of aluminium frames. Unfortunately, the construction designed by the producer turned too heavy and not high enough. Therefore, again we had to invent a unique construction aimed at work in specific conditions. What we managed to design was lower but heavier than the tower used in 2003, which meant that three-four persons were needed to operate it instead of two that were sufficient in the previous year!

However, the longer raising arm compensated for the lower height. We also improved the camera lifting mechanism by the application of small pulleys that made pulling the rope much easier.

Fig. 14. The photo-tower in operational position

However, the greatest surprise of the season was the type of the climatic conditions. Unlike the previous years we had to face many days with no rain but with very strong winds that brought clouds of fine-grained desert sand. Such a weather is very unfavourable for excavators because it makes it almost impossible to keep recorded surfaces clean. Faced with a lack of running water, we had to accept that freshly scraped plans tended to quickly dry out and were often covered with quickly growing layer of wind-blown sand. Such working conditions had an unavoidable effect on the quality of the documentation photographs and on the tempo of the excavation process, which somehow decreased.

Description of the stratigraphic sequence

The excavation of the 2004 season reached down to the original (?) household accumulation that filled the sub-rectangular sunken floor of the **house II** built as a rectangular ca. 4 x 2 metres. This deposit (not registered yet) is a very fine black hard-trampled layer that formed as a result of intensive habitation activities. It was darker and harder in the centre and lighter and softer towards the sides. A series of post-moulds surrounds the floor indicating evidence of the roof bearing construction. In the narrow corridor leading towards house I, a thin sandy layer 1473 had accumulated.

This "corridor" looks strange because instead of joining the two houses on the level of their original floors it climbed up from both rooms by ca 30-40 cm. Instead of an easy communication passage there were two rather steep surfaces that met in the middle between the two sunken houses. This situation may be explained in two ways:

- it was not a corridor but two ramps used to slide or roll up boulders met when the sunken floors where dug; or
- a boulder found exactly in the middle of the corridor determined this strange shape of the passage.

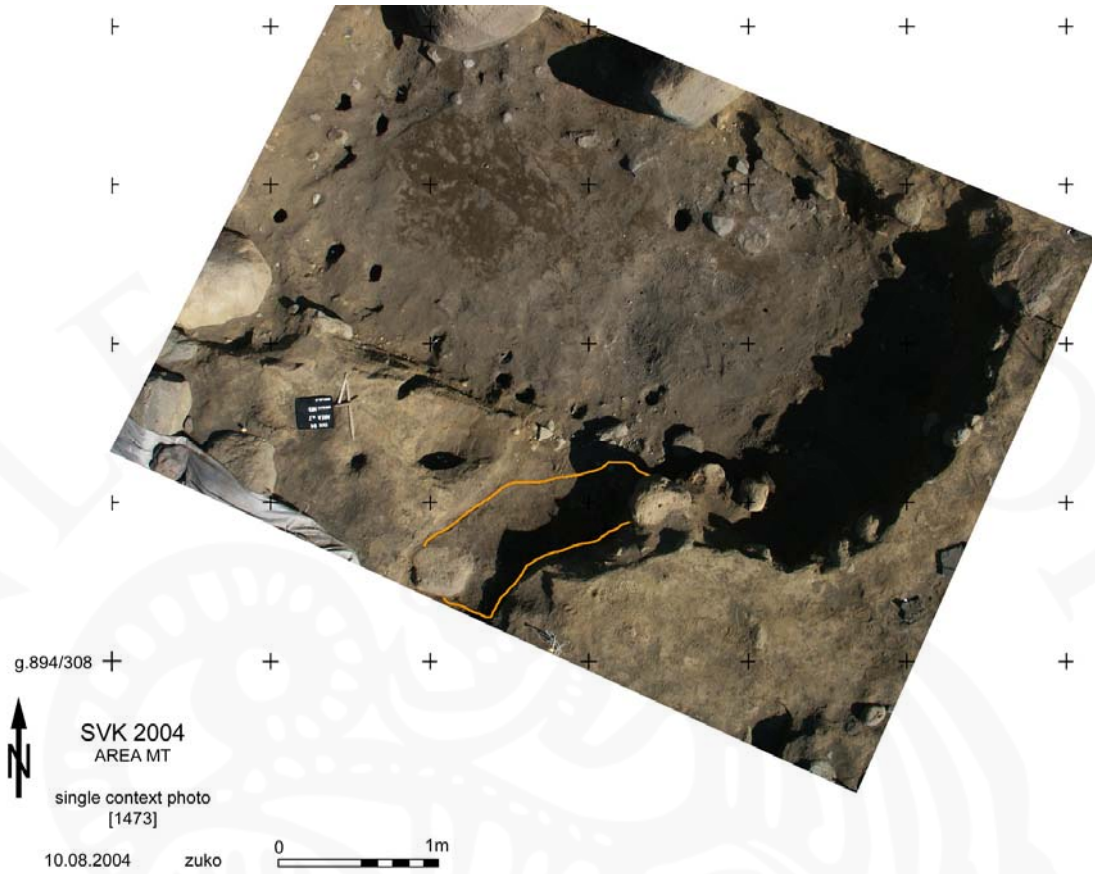

Fig. 15. Compact black floor accumulation with post-moulds along the walls and layer 1473 in the corridor. (The picture must be repeated in 2005 to avoid the sharp shadow contrast that makes the SE end of the house invisible)

This floor surface was partly covered by grey-brownish sand [1429] piled along the walls in the western part of the house and thinly spreading over the floor. This layer might indicate the presence of a narrow sitting bench that had been constructed along the walls. Such a hypothesis is supported by a decomposed plank lying in this layer along the NW wall. This plank marked an accumulation edge that was still visible after the mentioned floor had become covered by subsequent layers (cf. further photos). A similar layer [1437] was observed in the opposite, i.e. eastern, part of the house. Alternatively, these two layers might have formed in result of the erosion of the earthen walls of the house. However, in such a case it would be difficult to explain why this sand had not been swept and thrown out of the house.

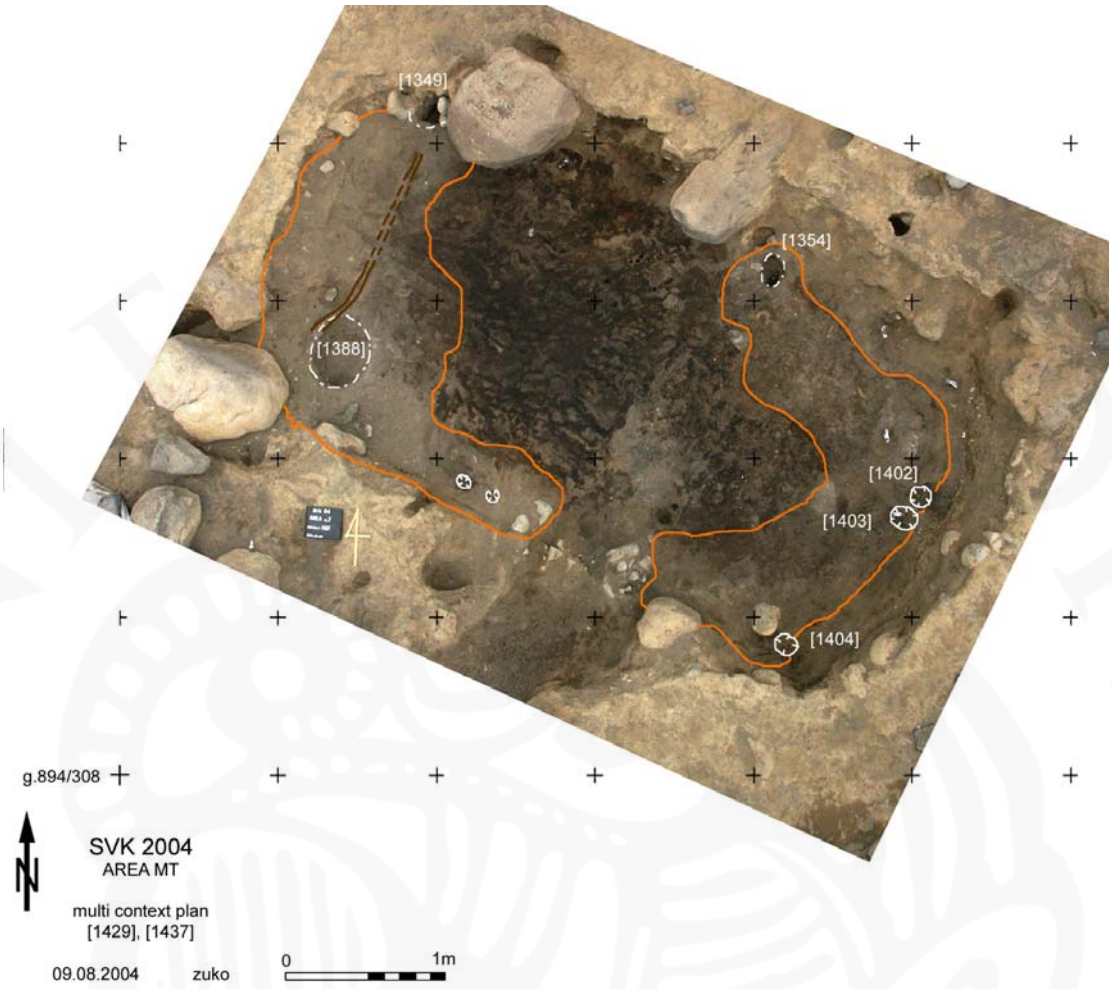

Fig. 16. Remains of two benches(?) 1437 and 1429 seen against the background of the original floor

During the next phase the use of the sunken house changed, indicated by layer 1425 that consisted of reddish-brown hard-trampled organic silt. During excavation it appeared that it was irregularly subdivided into several thinner sub-layers.[2] This accumulation covered most of the house depression except for two areas at both shorter walls where possible benches were placed. The "planked" bench 1429 was still in use.

In the lowest part of the house depression a heap of loosely piled stones had been placed [1424]. There is no obvious explanation for having such a "collection" of stones right by the entrance to the passage leading to the adjacent house I. Further

[2] Separation of these sub-units was not possible in the time available. In order to explain the subdivisions and the character of the accumulation a thin-section-sample was taken. Also, full-bucket flotation-samples were kept from each square meter.

excavations may show that there was some pit under the floor whose organic fill had sunken. Thus these stones might have been thrown into such an unwanted depression to level the floor.

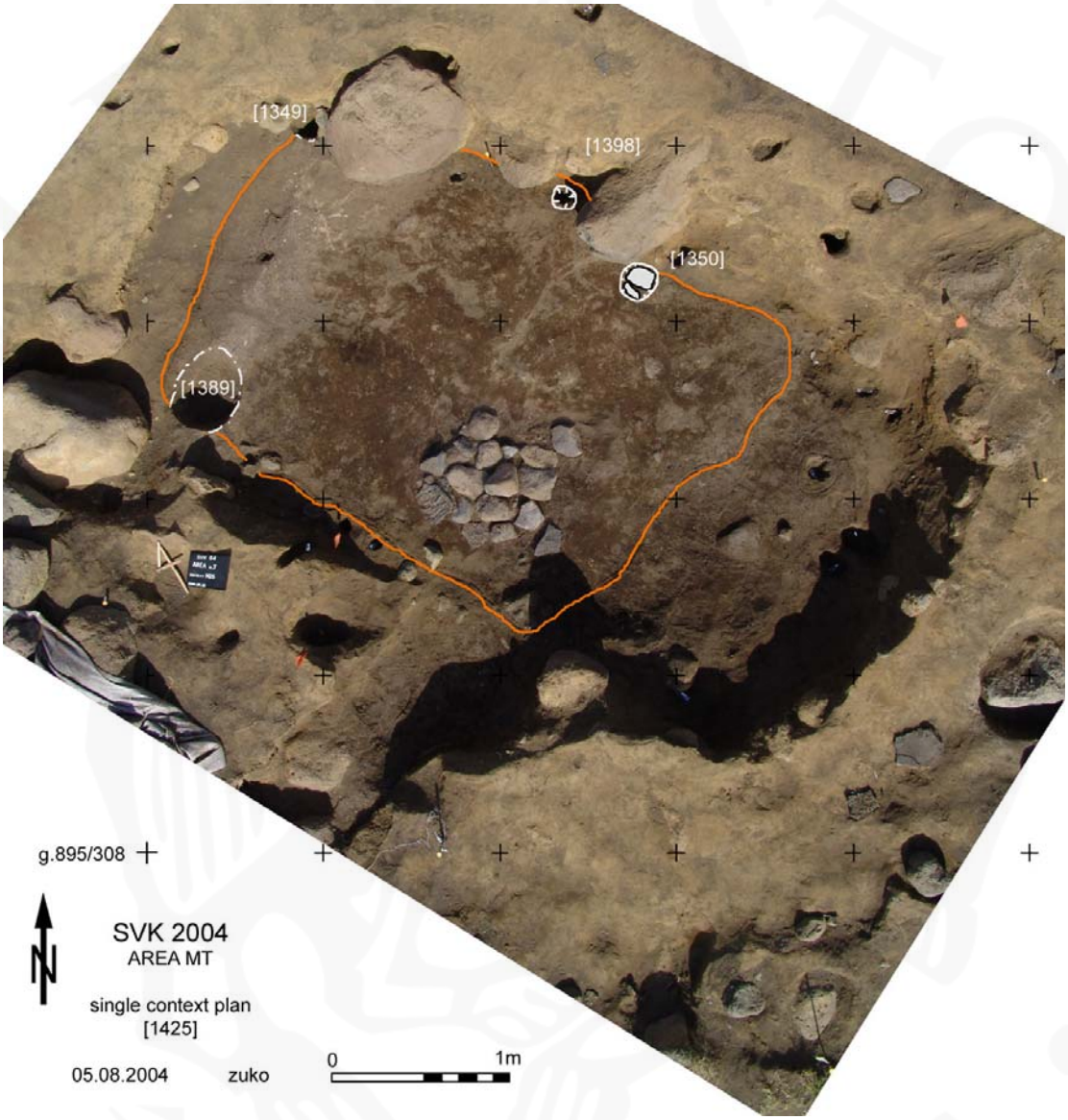

Fig. 17. The heap of stones [1424] piled on the reddish floor layer 1425

Subsequently, greyish-brown sand [1418**]** was spread around this heap of stones. This layer covered most of the floor – with the exception of the stripe running along the NW where the earthen bench 1429 was still visible. This sand also covered the lower part of the corridor leading to house I. The layer contained no bones but a few bits of charcoal. The most probable interpretation points towards some levelling action aimed at the renewal of the floor.

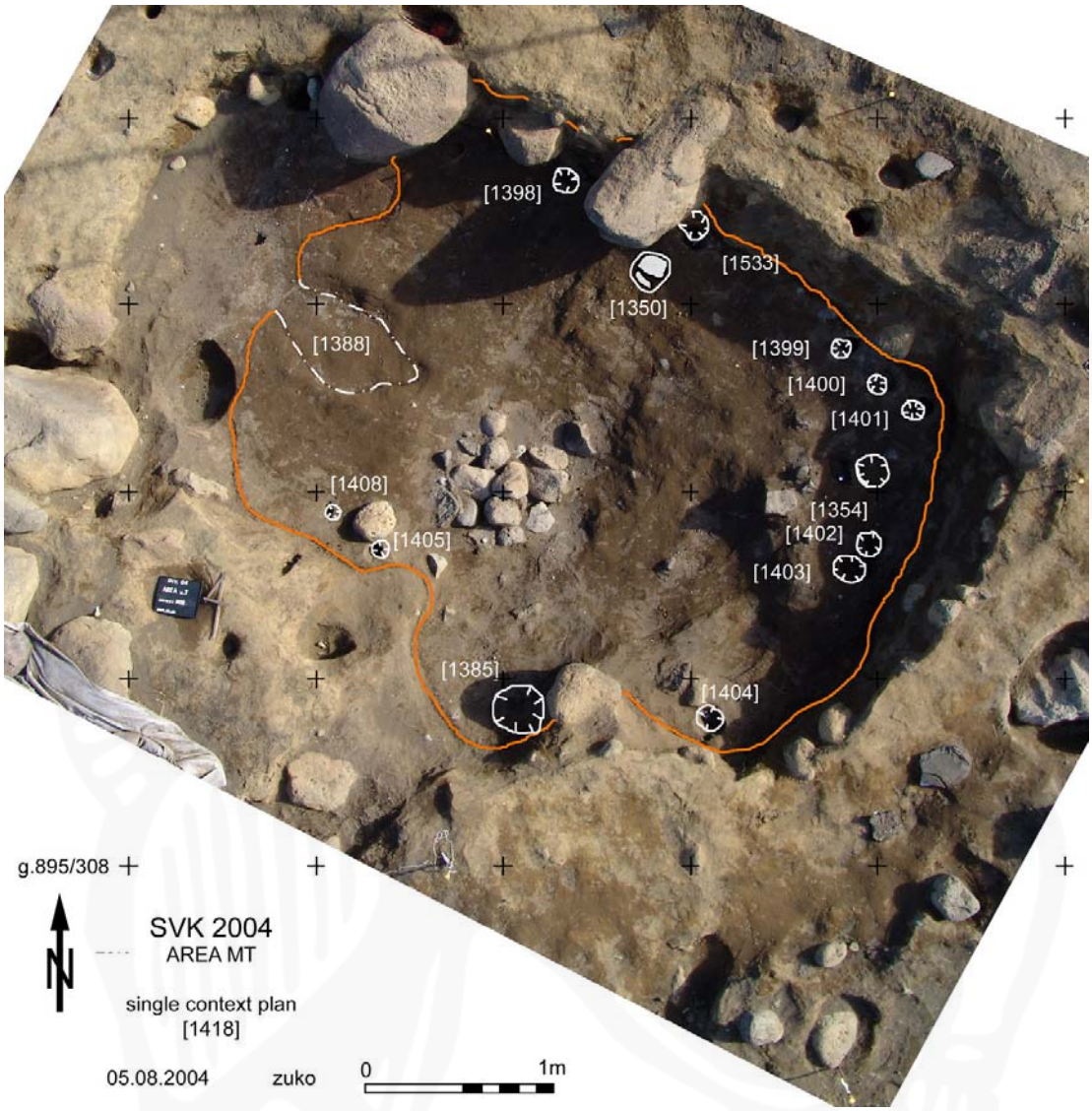

Fig. 18. Levelling layer 1418 with protruding stones 1424

At this stage a deep pit was dug around the three sides of the large boulder visible in the W corner of the house. Gravel that filled this pit and spread along the NW wall was recorded as layer 1406. Under it, at the stone's N point, there was a small layer of gravel mixed with ashes and charcoal [1412]. The only(?) reasonable explanation of this feature points towards an action aimed at ordering the closest surroundings of the sunken house. Likewise the case of a boulder which had been dug into the floor of the sunken house I (cf. the report after the season 2002), it looks as if a boulder that appeared too heavy to move aside had been lowered into the house wall by digging around and under it until it had reached the expected level.

On the renewed sunken floor surface 1418 mixed sandy soil with charcoal [1411] accumulated along the NE, NW and SW walls of the house. 12 post-moulds are visible along these three walls. Such a stratigraphy may be taken for an evidence of the presence of three earthen benches that were again placed along the walls while the post-moulds indicate that posts of the construction raised at the earlier stage were still standing. Alternatively, one may look for explanation of this layer in erosion of the earthen walls that produced this sandy accumulation.

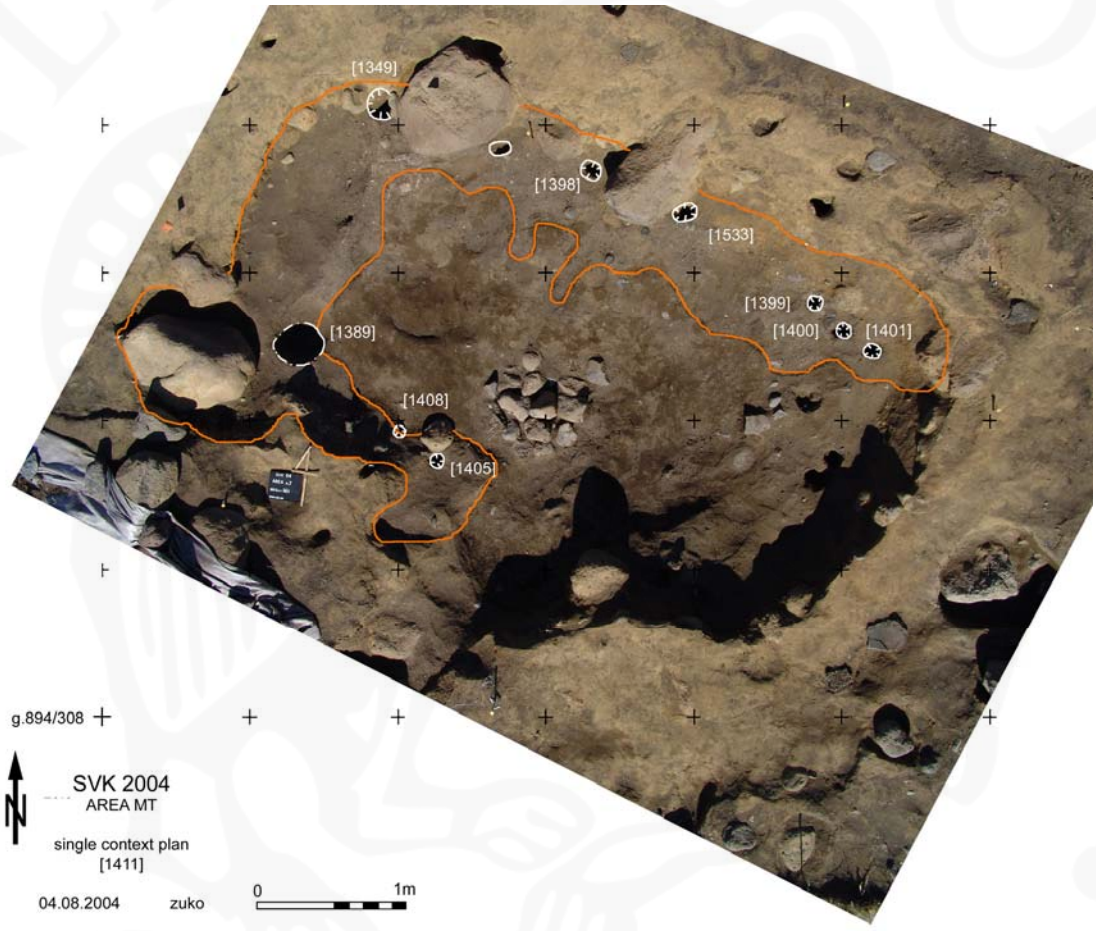

Fig. 19. Layer 1411 with the row of 7 post-moulds visible along the NE wall

Subsequently the turf roof collapsed and covered the floor depression with a very uneven and hard layer [1387] including large lumps of greenish-grey tephra. It was obvious that this layer had not resulted from any longer accumulation process because it sealed the 1424 stones leaving between them empty spaces. The layer was thick in the SE part and thinning out towards NW, which may indicate the direction of the house collapse. This roof-collapse finally ended the earlier phase of the sunken house.

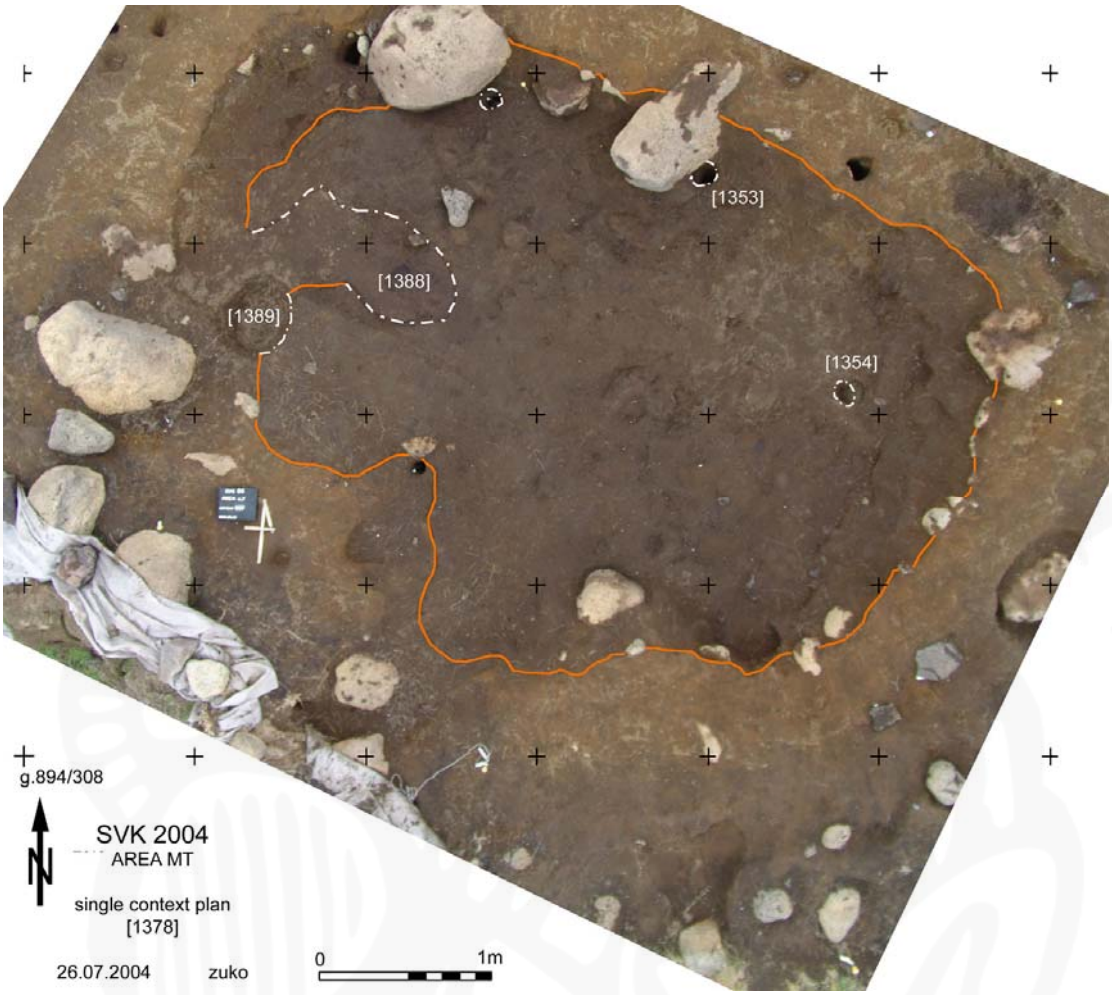

Fig. 20. Layer 1387 with 5 post-moulds

The ruin was left for some undefined period of time. This period is indicated by wind-blown sand that accumulated in “traps” between the turfs.

To prepare the site for the building of a new house the still visible shallow depression was covered with thick levelling layers. The first of these [1352] was thrown into the post-house depression from outside. It was soft and consisted of patches of various colours of sandy soil mixed with some pieces of greenish-grey tephra. There were pieces of charcoal and fragments of burned bones. Also few larger mammal bones were spotted, including some complete animal teeth. Because it was obvious that the layer had not accumulated *in situ*, I decided to limit sieving of the excavated soil to 20 buckets. Later only large bones were collected. A fragment of a whale-bone handle and a half of a spindle whorl made of red sandstone were found. The layer was thickest (up to 20 cm) in the SE part of the floor depression and thinning towards the opposite gable. It filled almost the whole area of the house

depression and a large pit (primarily filled with layers 1406 and 1412) dug around the boulder in the W corner and the narrow corridor leading to House I.

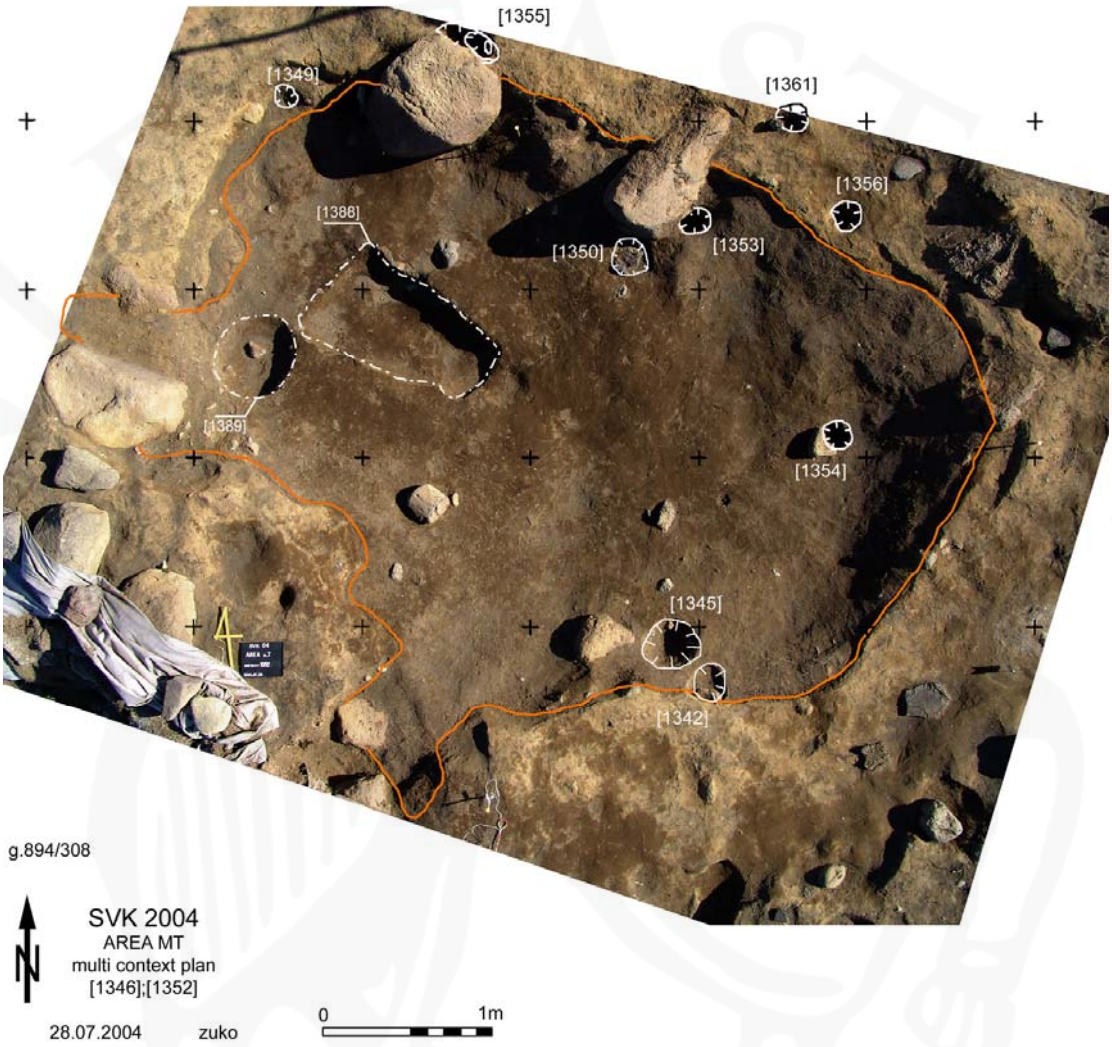

Fig. 21. Layer 1352 that filled the house II depression and the corridor leading to House I

The next thick layer [1343] consisted of greyish-brown sandy soil mixed with patches of orange sand. There were also bits of charcoal, few burnt bones and decomposed animal bones. In the SE part it was up to ca. 20 cm thick. I think that it was also a levelling layer thrown into the post-house depression from outside. Its form suggests that it was thrown from the SE where it covered all of the studied area and where it was thickest. The layer was firm at the surface and quite soft at the bottom. In the lowest part its surface was compact, which suggests intensive trampling.

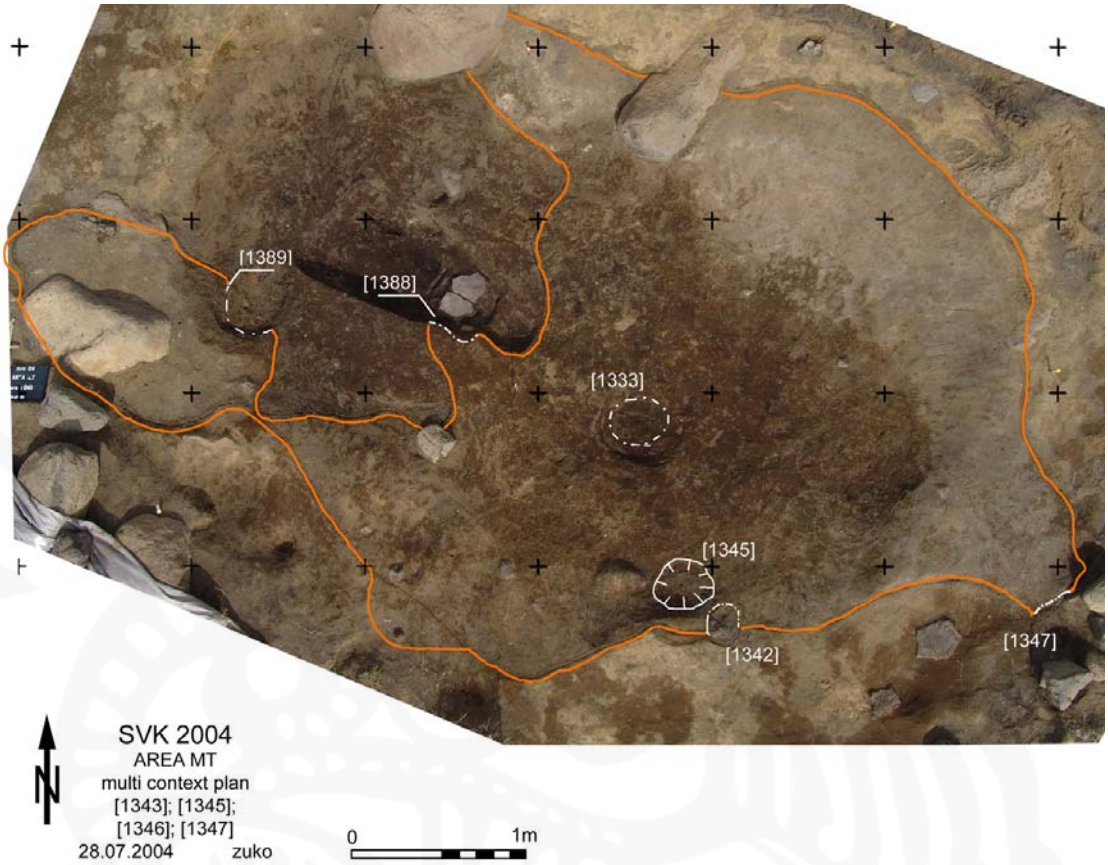

Fig. 22. Layer 1343 cut by the box-hearth 1334 in the centre

Much of the depression was still covered with sandy greyish-brown soil with some bits of charcoal and few burnt bones [1341]. It was possibly a sort of a final levelling aimed at preparing a living floor of a new house that had the same orientation (NW-SE) but was much larger than the previous building because the carefully levelled area around the original depression was added to the floor surface. A series of post-holes and post pedestals dug in and placed on the natural ground indicate the possible size of the new house.

This house had a strikingly different organization of the inner space, which is indicated by several features cut into the floor area:

- in the centre a trapezoid pit [1388] was dug that was used for some time as a hearth. When it was partly filled with ashes [unit 1348] a little square box-hearth [1334] was made of 4 vertical lava slabs and two flat stones forming its bottom. It is not clear whether the pit 1388 was still used for fire or it was being slowly filled with ashes and charcoal that were continuously removed from the box-hearth;

- a shallow (10-15 cm) pit [1377] of irregular shape was dug near the SE shorter gable of the house. It was filled with just two thin layers of ashes and charcoal that covered its flat bottom from which a tip of a boulder stuck up. It must have been a side hearth that was in use together(?) with the box-hearth 1334;
- near the opposite NW gable there was a rectangular pit [1417]. Its upper fill consisted of light brown sandy soil, in which several young mammal bones were found. Under it there was a layer of ashes with charcoal [1421]. When this was removed, it appeared that the pit functioned as a little hearth formed as a small box made of thin lava stones [1423] placed near a natural boulder;
- to the west of the trapezoid hearth a round pit [1346] was dug. It contained brown sandy soil with big lumps of charcoal, large pieces of iron slag and fragments of thin bronze sheets;
- ca. half a metre SE of the trapezoid hearth 1332 a round pit [1333] was dug into the floor. It was rather shallow with rounded bottom sloping towards its centre and filled with brown-black sand.

Taking all this into consideration one may guess that layer 1341 could have accumulated as a result of spreading around the soil removed from all these pits. Its extent shows the dimensions of the floor.

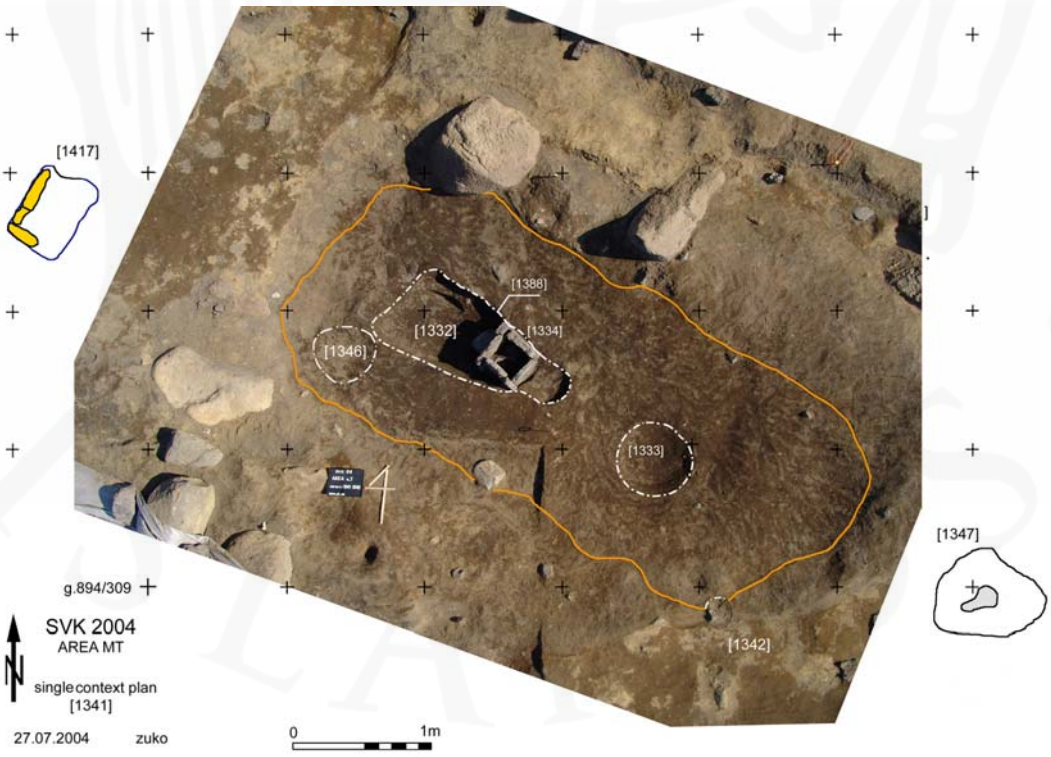

Fig. 23. Floor-levelling layer 1341 with dug-in features: box-hearth 1334 visible in pit 1388 with ashes 1332 and with pits 1346 and 1333. Two side hearths 1347 and 1417 visible outside the central floor area

Trapezoid pit 1388 was slowly(?) filled with ashes [1332], small stones (some were fire-cracked) and little pieces of lava that accumulated near the square hearth 1334 that was also filled with ashes [1335]. Pits 1388 and 1346 were also filled up to the floor level. Thin accumulation [1330] with charcoal and ashes covered a part of the floor area around the square hearth that was still in use. Several flat stones and pieces of lava were laid at the NW edge of the box-hearth to form a little pavement.

Fig. 24: Floor layer 1330

Next a larger pavement was laid there and reddish-brown organic silt [1327] accumulated on both sides of the stones.

Fig. 25. Pavement with layer 1327

This was covered with compact, black and very dark brown sandy silt [1321]. It covered the floor depression from the square hearth to the western edge of the house and filled spaces between the stones of the central pavement.

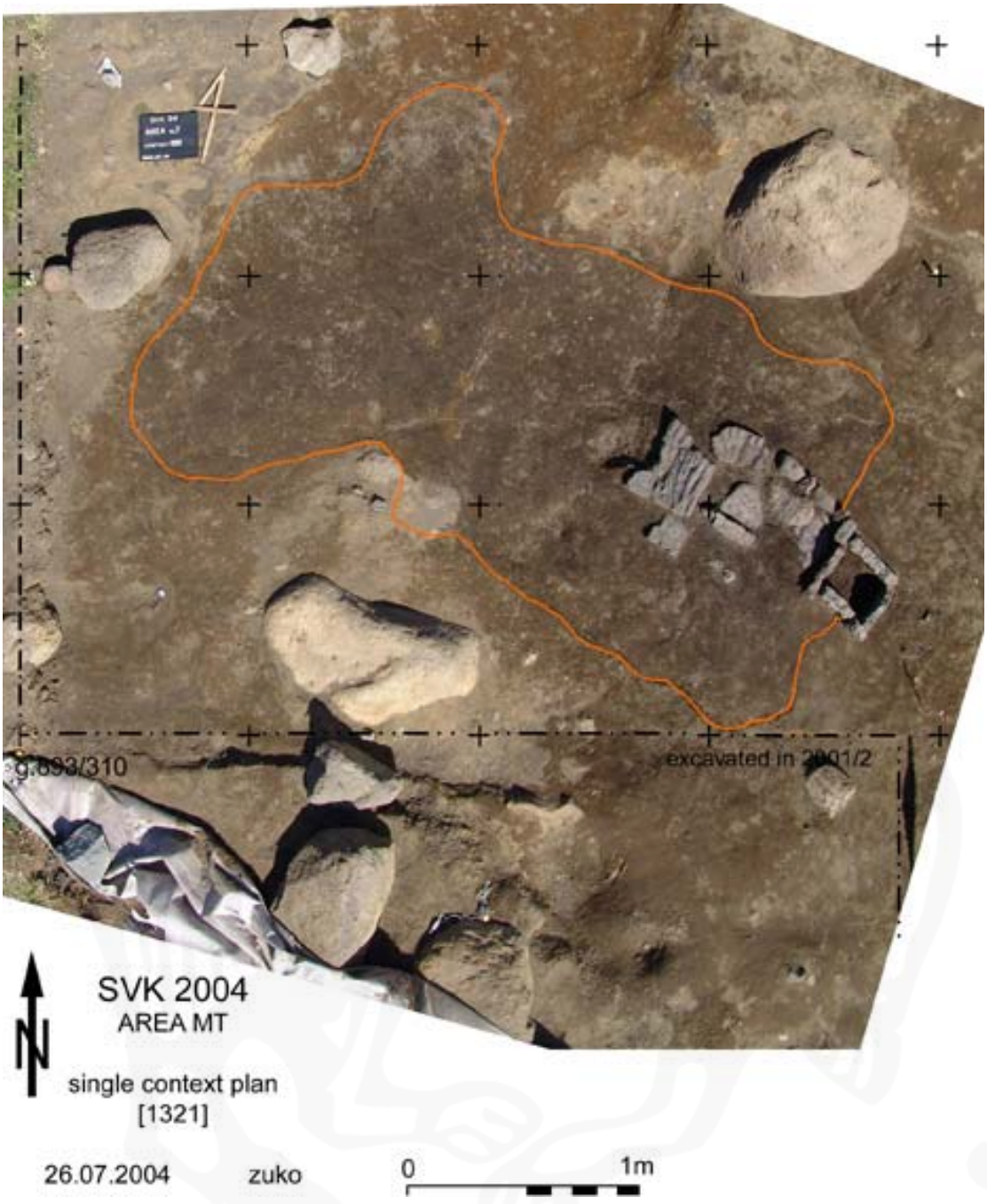

Fig. 26. Floor accumulation 1321

Greyish-brown soft sandy soil with orange patches and some gravel that contained bits of charcoal, single burned bones and rests of highly decomposed mammal bones [1318] covered the area between the pavement adjacent to the square hearth and the western edge of the house in result of some levelling action. The shape of this layer may indicate that the entrance to the building was located in the northern corner where two large post-holes mark a possible doorway.

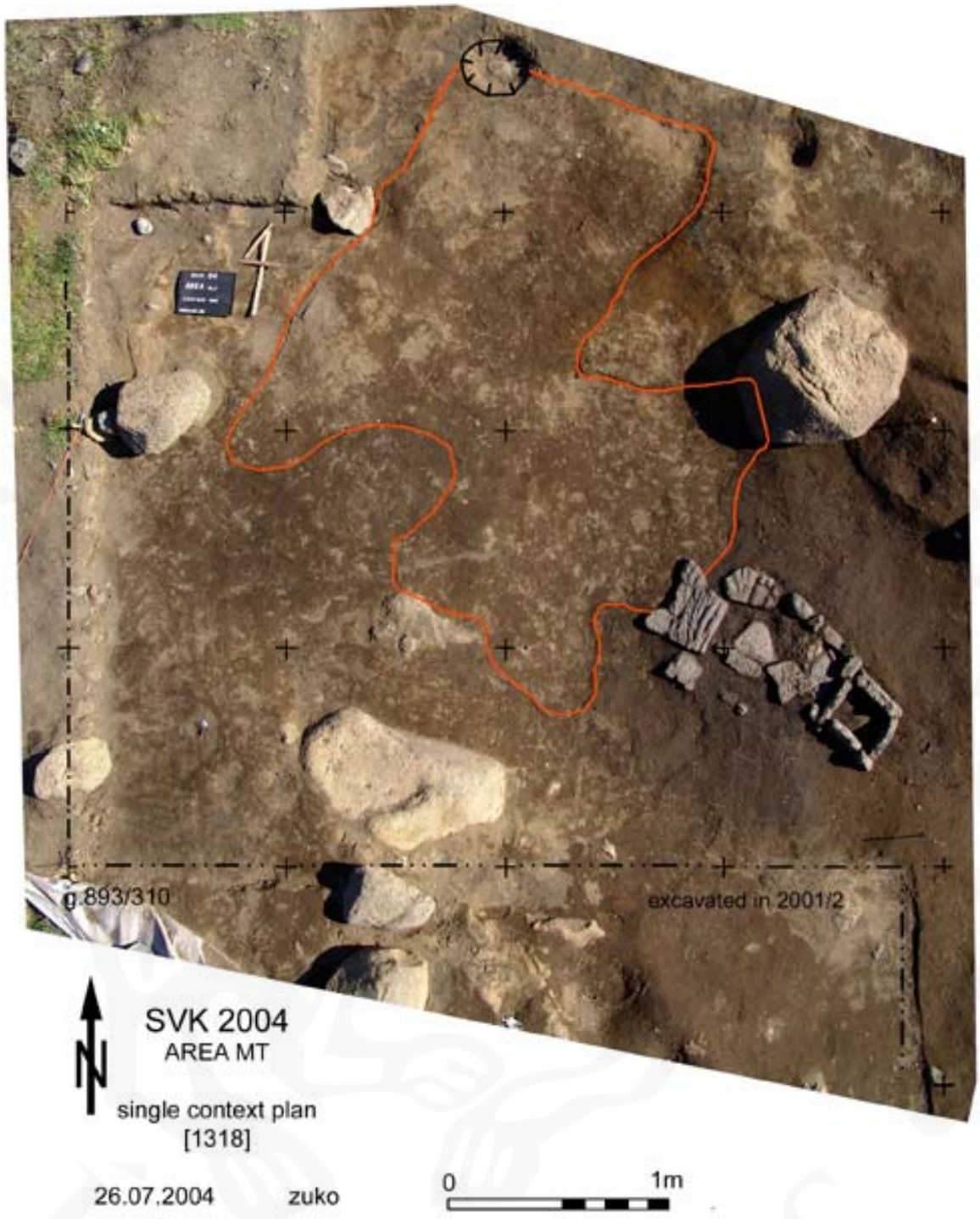

Fig. 27. Levelling(?) layer 1318 with possible entrance in the top centre.

Continued use of the house left reddish-brown organic silty sand [1307]. It was the next floor deposit that accumulated on both sides of the pavement and towards the NW part of the house depression.

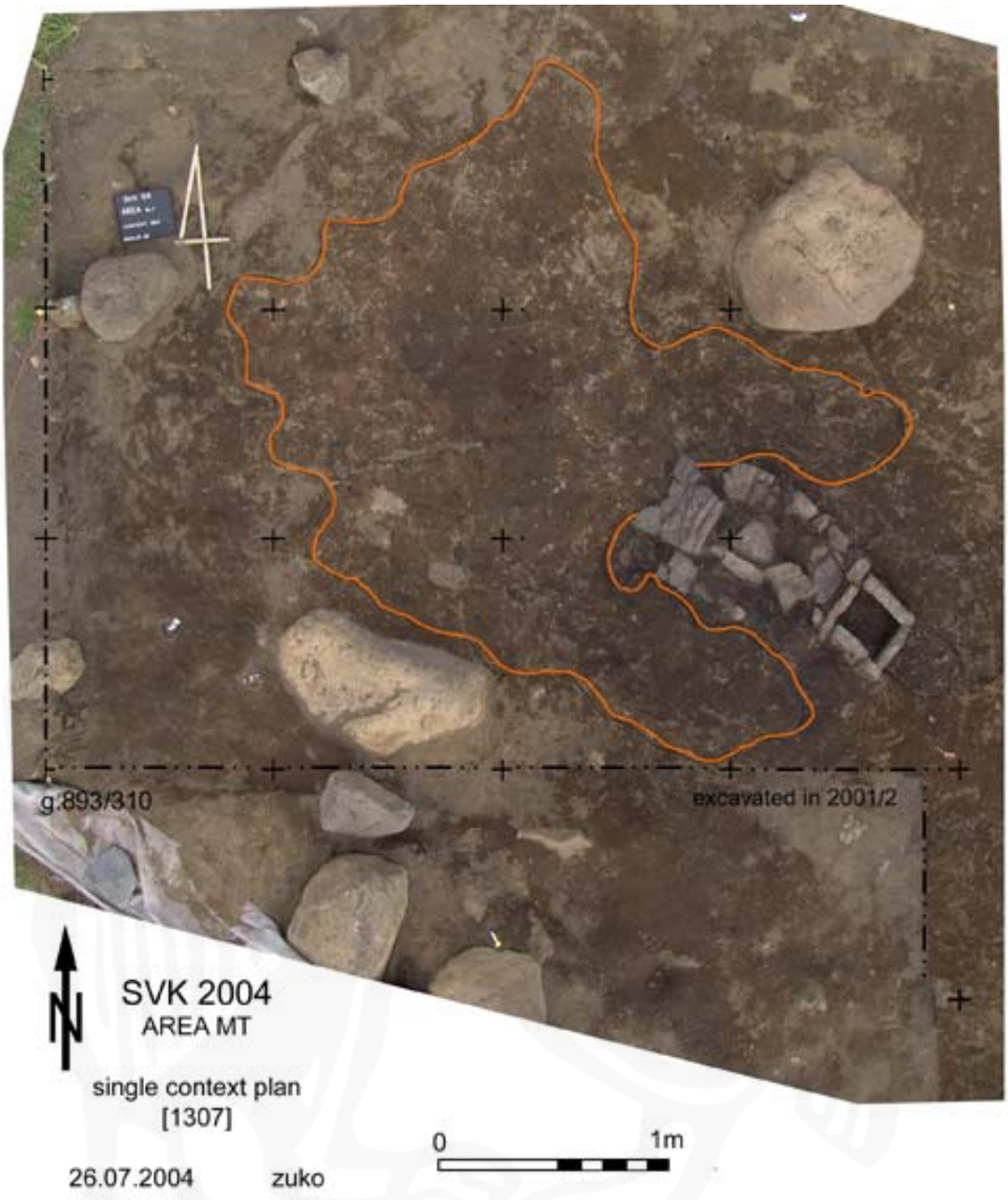

Fig. 28. Hearth with adjacent pavement and floor layer 1307

The next floor layer [1254] consisted of very dark brown sandy silt with charcoal and ashes that covered the lower part of the depression. It was probably the last floor surface trampled around the little square hearth that was still in use while the adjacent pavement “disappeared” under this accumulation that was very thin at the edges and up to 4 centimetres thick around the central hearth. It contained fragments of highly decomposed mammal bones in its eastern part and small fragments of burned bones near the hearth.

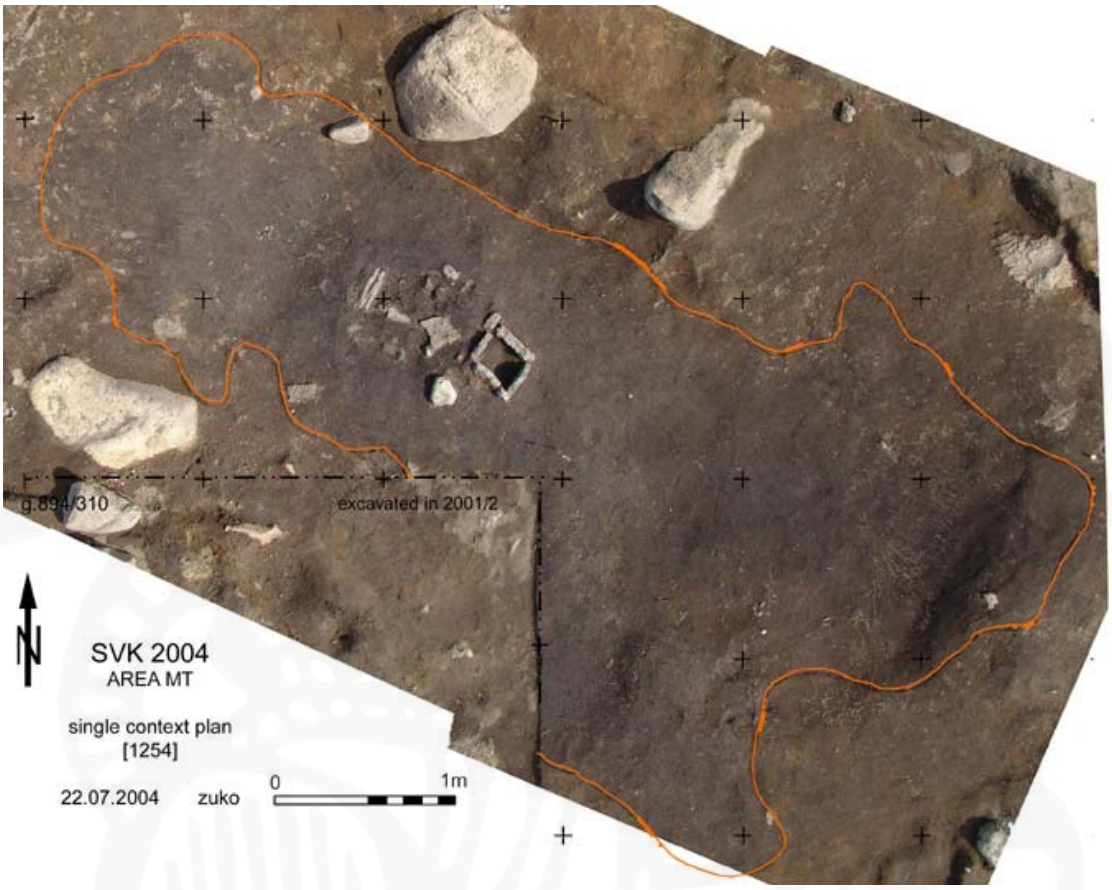

Fig. 29. Floor layer 1254

During the last phase of using house II site, a thin layer of orange-brown (in the centre of the house depression) and yellow-brown (at the edges) organic silt accumulated around the central hearth. Later the abandoned house was probably used to eventually throw inside household rubbish that mixed with naturally accumulating wind-blown sand. This context 1066 (recorded already in 2003 but left partly unexcavated to prevent erosion of the lower layers) consisted of dark brown sand and mixed sandy soil with some highly decomposed bones. Limits of this layer probably indicate the approximate size of the interior of the later house.

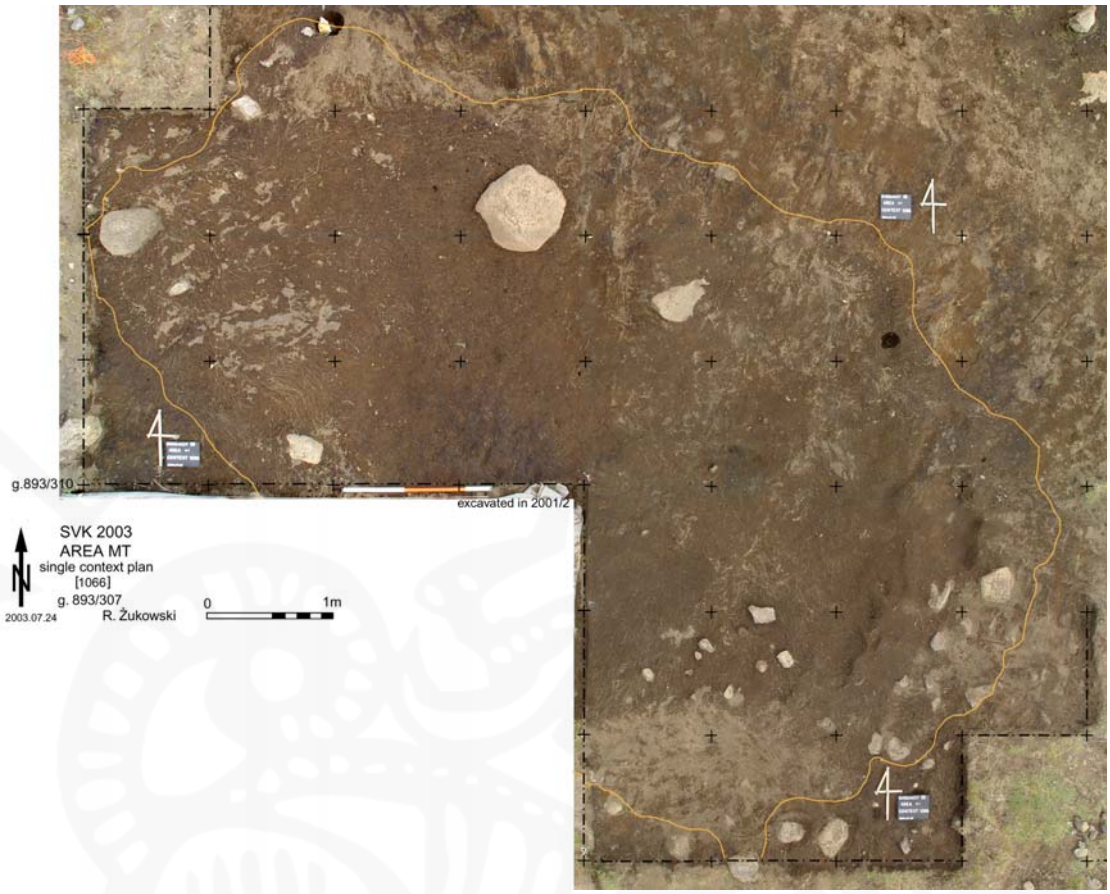

Fig. 30. Sandy context 1066 (cf. other version of this plan in the report for the season 2003)

The rest of the stratigraphic story of this part of the Sveigakot farm is described in the report written after the 2003 season.

Colleen Batey

Finds Summary

229 Finds Units were recorded in total. Of these, 101 were animal bones. Of the remaining 128 Finds Units, 37 finds of industrial debris or slag are spread through several contexts [000, 001, 1015, 1155, 1346, 1351, 1393, 1410, 1413, 1419, 1427, 1435, 1460, 1463, 1476, 1480, 1481, 1482, 1486, 1498, 1503, 1504, 1507, 1517, 1523] and other materials include iron (nails, knives, plate, hook and indeterminate), copper alloy, stone (whorls, whetstones, weights and beads), bone (including pin and comb fragments), glass (beads) and both wood and leather fragments.

Industrial debris

Context	Find no
000 Unstratified	49, 61, 225
001	8, 19, 27, 119, 142, 229
1015	65
1155	91
1346	29, 34, 69
1351	39
1410	85, 97, 99
1413	95
1419	110, 124
1427	103
1435	115, 125
1460	145
1463	135
1476	147
1480	173

1481	157
1482	159
1486	148
1503	180
1504	177
1507	211
1517	207
1523	220

The slightly marked concentration of material is from Context 1, which is topsoil. Those finds are from area MP and S7 which could suggest that there has been a conflation of the archaeological deposits here, resulting in upper layers depositing heavier material during phases of erosion. The bulk of these finds are smelting debris and indicate the presence nearby of a bloomery site. There is insufficient evidence from any single context or part of the site to suggest the precise location of this feature. It is notable that only 2 finds of industrial debris were located in the 2003 season and the increased recovery in 2004 may be a reflection of the examination of different phases of the site. In addition large quantities of iron slag were recovered from the smithying pits in S7, included with charcoal, hammer scale and other debris in sample nos. 124-127 (from contexts 1461, 1470, 1479 and 1488). Further scientific examination of this category of material is required to assist with the interpretation.

Iron

Within this material type, the largest group comprises 25 finds units of nails and parts of nails. These are predominantly nail heads and some shanks with a few rivets, and are scattered through several contexts. Layer 1351 includes a small collection of four finds units. It is possible that when the finds are plotted by their co-ordinates there may be obvious spatial concentrations of finds, but at this point in the post-excavation process such grouping is not evident. The presence of this type of find, in conjunction with the several indeterminate finds (an additional 12 finds units) could suggest the careful curation of the material which is being brought together for re-working for the

making of small tools. There are 6 finds units of knife blades and tangs which are scattered through as many contexts, although blade Find 81, nails Find 80, 88 and 98 as well as an indeterminate fragment Find 97, provide a small grouping in MP which may be significant (with an additional 2 finds of industrial debris) and suggest an area of working. Of the knives, the best preserved is Find 12 from Context 1321 which has a small blade which survives almost complete. This may have had a specific function, although its size may also indicate extensive use prior to disposal.

Copper alloy

The single Find 32 from Context 1346 is a simple fragment of sheet metal which may originally have been part of a vessel, which is now of indeterminate type.

Stone

Fig. 31. Spindle whorl. Find no. top left: 62, 158, 46. Bottom left: 44 and 41

This material type can be subdivided into finds which are probably of unworked stone, but which are clearly stones which have been introduced to the site, and those which are worked to some extent and originally formed identifiable object types. Of

the first group, there are 7 finds classed as pebbles or manuports; 4 finds of indeterminate stone types; 2 finds of flint or chert (Finds 47 and 52) and 2 finds of stones which have been fire-cracked through use for heating water (Finds 106 and 121). These are common types of finds and often characterise midden dumps, although in themselves they are not of intrinsic significance. 2 finds of jasper (Find 210 from Context 1507 and Find 218 from Context 1523) may have been imported to Iceland and are an ubiquitous find from recent settlement excavations. They were commonly used as strike-a-lights.

The second category within the stone material includes a number of spindle whorls, Finds 41, 44, 46 (all from Context 1351), Find 62 (1352) and Find 158 (1498). Of these, most are badly damaged and must have been discarded, and 2 show very off centre or irregular perforations (Finds 46 and 41). Such a flaw in the make-up of the artefact would have been disastrous and prohibited the effective use of the whorl. 2 pieces seem likely to have been made of local stones, Finds 44 and 62, and 2 are made from steatite (Find 46 from 1351 and 158 from 1498). The steatite was an imported resource (probably of the Viking Age) and it is possible that the whorls may have been reworked from broken vessel sherds. 3 finds fall into the category of stone weights, Finds 105, 109 and 16, although the latter 2 are very unlikely, with naturally forming perforations possibly being used. Simple weights of similar types could have been used for a variety of purposes, including fishing line weights, loom weights or door weights. The remaining finds in this second category include 2 whetstones fragments, Find 2 from Context 561 and Find 79 from Context 1410. In both cases these are made of imported schist and have seen extensive wear prior to disposal. The final object type is the stone bead. 2 finds, Find 9 from Context 1 and Find 22 from Context 1341 have been identified in this category. They are of very simple form and Find 9 is made of very soft stone, almost clay-like. Find 22 is a flatter form but probably also of local stone. They appear to be isolated finds and cannot be matched in their contexts by the glass beads mentioned below.

Bone

There are 7 finds of worked bone, including 3 bone pin fragments (Finds 5, 10 and 163). Unfortunately these are simply shaft fragments and little further can be said.

They are also spread across different contexts, and are not obviously related to each other. Head of pin (Find 43) from Context 1351 is very interesting (photograph on the front cover of this report). It is a carved animal head with carving on each side, dates to Viking age. A similar head was found in 2003 in Keldudalur in Skagafjörður, also in a Viking age context. A single fragment from a composite antler comb bar with traces of an iron rivet (Find 54 from Context 1351) suggests a Viking date for that context, although the very fragmentary condition certainly implies that it has been

Fig. 32. Bone pin Find no. 163

discarded at some remove from its original dating. 2 additional worked bone finds include Find 63 (Context 1352) a possible handle fragment but with no decoration and an indeterminate fragment which has minimal incised decoration (Find 189 from Context 1513).

Fig. 33. Beads. From left find no. 3, 58 and stone bead 22.

Glass

There are 2 small blue glass beads. Find 3 from Context 1066 and Find 58 which is Unstratified,

from a test pit in MP. Although both are of very simple form, they may be related to the single blue glass bead (Find 67) recovered in the 2003 season from the sheet midden (Context 2014). The type seems likely to be of Viking Age date.

Miscellaneous organic

A small group of wooden finds, Find 141 from Context 0001 and Finds 174 and 178 both from Context 1504 are most likely to be modern intrusions. The single leather find from Context 0001, Find 143 is also probably modern. The survival of these organic items is surprising in the desiccated environment of Sveigakot and are explicable only in terms of modern intrusions.

Summary

In summary therefore, although this assemblage is considerably larger than previously noted from the 2003 excavations (244 in 2004 as against 72 in 2003), the finds numbers are inflated by the considerable number of individual finds of Industrial Debris, which could indicate that the newly examined areas are located nearer to the working focus. The rest of the assemblage is dominated by the iron fragments, mostly nails and nail heads although the stone assemblage does include some imported materials such as steatite and schist which are more culturally diagnostic as Scandinavian, and originally of Viking Age date. The damaged condition of steatite whorls, whetstones and knife blades are all indicative of items which have been maximally exploited and which were perhaps difficult to replace. The presence of possible scrap iron could also indicate careful curation and reworking of iron at the site.

Discussion

In 2004, for the first time in six years of excavation at Sveigakot, structural remains predating the V~950 tephra were excavated. At least three buildings (S7, P1, P2) have now been uncovered which had not only been built before ~950 but had also been abandoned and had collapsed before the tephra fell. The same is undoubtedly true of MP, leaving the earlier and smaller phase of the pit house in MT as the prime candidate for the building that was in use at the time when the eruption took place.

In the case of S7 it is clear that a substantial period of time must have lapsed between the collapse of the byre and the deposition of the tephra. The same also applies to MP which – although archival work is needed to demonstrate this – underlies the part of the sheet midden M which was under the V~950 tephra. P1 and P2 may be the candidates for the dwellings which produced this lower part of the midden, replaced by the earlier phase of MT sometime before the eruption. At present the following hypothesis can be suggested for the order of events at Sveigakot (phases III-VII after Karen Milek's: 'Area S interim report' for 2002):

Phase I. Between 871±2 and ~950.

Sub-phase A:	Building of MP
	Building of S7
	Building of pavement N (?)
Sub-phase B:	Abandonment of MP and S7
	Building of P1 and P2
	Beginning of accumulation of lower midden M
	Ditches dug cutting into S7
Sub-phase C:	Abandonment of P1 and P2
	Building of earlier phase of MT and T
	Beginning of accumulation of upper midden M

Phase II. Between ~950 and the mid 11th century.

Sub-phase A:	Rebuilding of MT with larger dimensions, abandonment of T
	Continued accumulation of upper midden M

	Accumulation of midden in T
	Smithy built in ruined end of S7
Sub-phase B:	Abandonment of later phase of MT
	Accumulation of upper midden ceases
	Building and occupation of S4
	Use of activity area S6
Phase III. Mid 11th century	
	Abandonment and collapse of S4
Phase IV. Mid to late 11th century	
	Intermittent use of dilapidated S4
Phase V. Late 11th to 12th century	
	Building and occupation of S1, S3 and S5
Phase VI. Late 12th century	
	Abandonment and collapse of S1, S3 and S5
Phase VII: Late 12th century to present	
	Post abandonment accumulation and erosion

Further excavation at the site will hopefully clear up some of the uncertainties in this scheme and add new information. What is already clear is that at Sveigakot a unique collection of structures has been uncovered from the beginning of settlement in Iceland.

The most striking result is that the *skáli* – which has hitherto been considered a central element to all settlements in the Norse North Atlantic – was not built until after people had been staying at Sveigakot in very different types of buildings for a very long time, possibly as many as three generations. The building of the *skáli* may coincide with a downturn in the economic fortunes of the Sveigakot farmers as suggested by analysis of animal bones from the middens in M and T, and should therefore not necessarily be seen as some sort of final achievement of normality, but rather as a distinct brake in the cultural expression of the inhabitants – whether occasioned by a change of attitudes or a change in inhabitants.

The three generations of pit houses proposed here share general characteristics with many other pit houses excavated previously in Iceland. Apart from the fact that they are not associated with a *skáli*, there are however also several other significant

differences, like the connecting corridors between P1 and P2 on the one hand and T and MT on the other and the unusually solid evidence for habitation inside these buildings. It seems that these pit houses were the principal dwellings of the first inhabitants in Sveigakot, the optimistic people who built a byre for up towards 20 heads of cattle very shortly after their arrival.

It is interesting that towards the end of the pit-house phase, a remodelling of the then main habitation – the later phase of House II/MT – included a substantial enlargement of the building as well as the placing of the hearth in the middle of the floor. This could be seen as a gradual acceptance of a different architectural paradigm by the inhabitants of Sveigakot, the first step towards a full-fledged *skáli* represented by S4.

There are several possible scenarios that can be imagined to explain this:

- It is conceivable that this pattern is just an accident of preservation and that an earlier *skáli* did exist from the beginning of the settlement, e.g. on what must have been slightly higher ground immediately east of the present site. While this cannot be ruled out there is no positive evidence available to support it (and will never be) and it would not explain the unique elements in the Sveigakot pit houses.
- Sveigakot did not become an independent farm until the *skáli* S4 was built. Sveigakot would then have been some sort of out-station from a main farm (e.g. Grænavatn or Baldursheimur) manned by slaves and/or servants. The main argument for this sort of scenario is the apparent discrepancy between the size of the byre and the available dwelling place. It does of course remain to be seen if S7 really is a byre and if so whether it was all used to house cattle or whether part of it was maybe also used for habitation. If S7 is a byre for up to 20 heads of cattle then the accommodation for the human inhabitants seems surprisingly small. Therefore it might make sense that Sveigakot started out as a cattle-station, the products of which were primarily consumed elsewhere. Against this the animal bone and artefactual assemblages, as well as possibly the iron working evidence, all seem to suggest an ordinary working household with the same consumption patterns as other households known from the same region and same period – if anything more varied and rich than e.g. the assemblages from Hofstaðir. At Sveigakot there is good evidence for all the

household industries commonly found in North Atlantic households in this period, e.g. spinning and the making of bone pins. While there is certainly a much higher percentage of cattle bones in the lower midden (i.e. pre ~950) than in the later deposits (36% compared to 23%) this does not suggest a specialised cattle station, rather a normal household with an above average emphasis on cattle but nevertheless primarily with a sheep-based economy, sheep making up <54% of the bone assemblage, supplemented by smaller numbers of pig (8%) and goat (>2%).

- The third scenario would see Sveigakot as an independent economic unit from the outset, but one which was inhabited by planted people, individuals not necessarily of Norse ethnicity, who had been brought in by a settlement organiser – someone who had claimed land and needed people to fill it – by some means of coercion, e.g. deception, marketing tricks, indenture or slavery. If such people did not ascribe Norse cultural expressions they will have had no reason or inclination to adopt Norse architectural paradigms. From the point of view of the organiser – presumably of Norse ethnicity – this may even have been beneficial as it would have underlined the differences between him as patron/lord and them as clients/serfs/tenants. If the 36% of cattle bones represent the 20 heads of cattle postulated for the byre then the number of sheep would have been around 30, equalling 25 cow values (6 ewes with lambs equalled 1 standard cow in medieval and early modern Iceland). Comparison with livestock figures for Grænavatn (the next farm to the north of Sveigakot), where there were 8 heads of cattle and 111 caprines in 1703, and therefore 26,5 cow values – based on this very rough formula – suggests on the one hand that this is not a completely unrealistic scenario and on the other that a similar number of people could have been supported in 9th-10th century Sveigakot as in early 18th century Grænavatn, where 16 individuals in two households were counted in the 1703 census. It is difficult to find room for 16 individuals in the accommodation so far excavated in Sveigakot, so this either suggests that there were in fact fewer heads of cattle in the byre and/or that a much higher percentage of the production was paid by the household as rent or tribute than in the 18th century. There may be some truth to both possibilities, and even with half the number of cattle a smaller household of 4-

5 people would have been much more than sufficiently provided for and able to pay considerable rent or tribute.

In addition to the house typology of early Sveigakot the evidence for iron-working in the early period is a significant addition to our understanding of the site. In previous years very little evidence of iron working has come to light suggesting that this was a very marginal activity during phases III-VII. In phases I and IIA however there is now substantial evidence both for the smelting of iron (so far only suggested by small pieces of smelting slag) and smithying – in particular the pits in the ruined end of S7. The iron smelting evidence suggests that there must have been wetlands close by where bog-iron could be extracted. It remains to be seen if this iron working industry goes back to the beginnings of the settlement or if it represents a period of activity, the mid-10th century, possibly on the heels of a reduction in cattle numbers indicated by the abandonment of the byre, when iron working substituted other means of producing surplus to pay rent or tribute.

All this is speculative at this stage of the investigation. The speculations do suggest however that the archaeology of Sveigakot gives a unique insight into the settlement period in North Iceland.

Orri Vésteinsson

Samantekt

Sumarið 2004 var grafið í 5 vikur á Sveigakoti, frá 19. júlí til 20. ágúst. Þetta var sjötta sumarið sem grafið er á þessum stað, sem hefur reynst mun drýgri en upphaflega var ætlað og virðist seint ætla að linna nýjum uppgötvunum þar.

Rannsókninni var stjórnað af Orra Vésteinssyni, en auk hans stýrðu Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir fornleifafræðingur og Przemysław Urbańczyk prófessor við pólsku vísindaakademíuna uppgrefti hvert á sínu svæði. Eins og mörg fyrri ár gróf pólsk sveit undir stjórn Przemysław Urbańczyk á suðurenda bæjarstæðisins (T og MT), en auk hans unnu þar doktorsnemarnir Magdalena Natuniewicz-Sekuła og Robert Żukowski. Guðrún stjórnaði grefti í S4 og á miðhluta svæðisins (P og MP) og naut aðstoðar háskólanemanna Benedicte Furulund og Hrannar Konráðsdóttur allan tímann, og Lilju Bjarkar Pálsdóttur og Florian Preiss í eina viku. Orri stjórnaði verkum á nyrsta hluta svæðisins (N og S7) og naut aðstoðar háskólanemanna Óskars Sveinbjarnarsonar allan tímann og Kristjönu Eyjolfson í eina viku. Magnús Á. Sigurgeirsson kom í heimsókn og staðfesti greiningu gjóskulaga en hann hefur áður gert grein fyrir gjóskulögum á uppgraftarsvæðinu og í nágrenni þess.

Guðrún Alda Gísladóttir sá um úrvinnslu uppgraftargagna fyrir svæði S, N, P og MP. Dr. Colleen E. Batey hafði umsjón með greiningu gripa. Rannsóknin er hluti af verkefninu “Landnám og menningarlandslag” sem nýtur öndvegisstyrks frá Rannís. Náttúrurannsóknastöðin á Mývatni lánaði alstöð og eru þessum aðilum öllum færðar bestu þakkir.

Sumarið 2004 var uppgraftarsvæðið stækkað allmikið og aðalsvæðin tvö, S og T tengd saman. Nýja svæðið – sem byrjað hafði verið á undir lok verka sumarið 2003 – er kallað P (100m^2) en auk þess var svæði S stækkað um 55 m^2 til suðurs og einnig bætt við 15 m^2 skák á mótum M og P. Samtals er uppgraftarsvæðið því orðið 645 m^2 og var unnið á um 360 m^2 af þeim sumarið 2004. Áætlað er að ekki séu mikið meira en 100 m^2 óopnaðir þar sem fornleifa gæti verið að vænta.

Í S4, skálanum á norðurenda svæðisins sem að mestu hafði verið rannsakaður 2002 og 2003, var lokið við að skrá og grafa upp nokkurn fjölda af stoðarholum,

smágryfjum og eldstæðum sem voru undir gólfinu sem fjarlægt hafði verið 2003 og tilheyra elsta notkunarskeiði hússins. Skálinn hafði verið byggður meðfram og að hluta til ofan á rúst af eldri byggingu – S7 – og hafði sömu stefnu og hún. Grafið var í þessari eldri byggingu niður að gólfi hennar en gólfið sjálft bíður uppgraftar sumarið 2005. Áður en skálinn var byggður hafði verið sett smiðja í austurendann á rústinni á þessari byggingu og hefur hún sennilega verið undir beru lofti. Þar fannst röð af gryfjum sem voru fullar af viðarkoli, járngjalli og sindri. Áður en smiðjan var sett þarna hafði verið grafinn allmikill skurður á ská í gegnum norðurvegginn á S7 og inn á gólf. Norðausturhluti þessa skurðar og fleiri minni skurðir í sömu stefnu höfðu verið grafnir fram sumarið 2003 en hlutverk þeirra er enn óskýrt. Upphaflega byggingin S7 er um 11x4,4 m að innanmáli með um 9 m langri rás eftir miðju sem er full af steinum, eins og illa lagður flór. Þessi bygging er túlkuð sem fjós en sú túlkun gæti átt að breytast þegar rannsókn á henni heldur áfram. Byggingin og skurðurinn sem grafinn var inn í hana eru eldri en gjóskulagið V~950 en smiðjan er hinsvegar yngri en það.

Árið 2003 hafði verið grafin upp stétt sem liggur niður hallann suðvestan við skálann S4, á svæði N. Stéttin var greinilega eldri en skálinn og gæti því verið samtíða hinu meinta fjósi en ekkert stratigrafískt samhengi hefur þó enn komið í ljós milli stéttarinnar og fjóssins og er því ekki hægt að útiloka að hún hafi verið lögð eftir að það féll saman, enda virðist hafa liðið alllangur tími milli þess að fjósið hrundi og skálinn var byggður. Sumarið 2004 var haldið áfram að rannsaka lög sem liggja yfir stéttinni og kom í ljós að þar sem hún hafði virst enda í suðvesturhorni N steyptist hún niðurávið og heldur áfram útfyrir uppgraftarsvæðið, og verður sá endi rannsakaður sumarið 2005.

Sumarið 2004 hafði verið byrjað að rannsaka á svæði P þar sem prufuhola frá 2001 hafði bent til að væri niðurgrafin bygging, og kom þá í ljós hornið af henni. Sumarið 2004 var þetta svæði stækkað upp í 100 m2 og var þar grafið í gegnum flókið safn mannvistarlaga og byggingaleifa. Austast og syðst komu í ljós leifar af öskuhaugnum M, en stærsti hluti hans hafði verið sunnar og var grafinn upp á árunum 1999-2001. Undir öskuhaugslögum komu í ljós leifar af að minnsta kosti tveimur jarðhúsum. P1 er sama bygging og sést hafði í árið áður. Hún var grafin upp að mestu leyti en eftir á að fjarlægja gólflagið. Hún er 5x4 m að innanmáli og er tengd með göngum við aðra byggingu austan við sem ekki hefur verið niðurgrafin, að minnsta kosti ekki jafnmikið (P2). Allstórt sáfar var í gólfinu og hefur þessi bygging

verið búr, að minnsta kosti á seinni notkunarstigum. Gólfið í P1 heldur áfram í gegnum göngin í átt að P2 en sú bygging er ekki að fullu komin í ljós, og ekki fullljóst hvort hún hefur verið með þaki. Þar hafa þó verið að minnsta kosti 2 eldstæði á gólfi og hefur hún verið á að giska 4x3 m að innanmáli. Austan við P1 er aflöng gryfja eða dæld sem er of lítil til að vera hús en er þó greinilega manngerð. Enn austar, á mörkum P og M, kom í ljós regluleg dæld með harðtroðnu gólfi í botninum – sem sást í prufuholu. Þessi bygging, um 4x3 m að stærð, hefur ekki verið rannsökuð frekar.

Í MT, syðst á uppgraftarsvæðinu, hafði árinu áður verið byrjað að grafa ofan á stórt jarðhýsi (House II), þétt norðan við minna jarðhýsið T (House I) sem áður hafði verið fullgrafið. Þetta nýja hús var 7,3x3,2 m að innanmáli og var með langeld á miðju gólfi. Það hafði verið byggt ofan á eldra jarðhús, mun minna og meira niðurgrafið, 4,4 x 2,3 m að innanmáli, en það hús var tengt T með göngum. Þetta eldra hús virðist hafa verið uppistandandi þegar V~950 gjóskan féll.

Eins og fyrri ár komu ýmsir gripir í ljós, en það sem einkum vakti athygli var annarsvegar miklu meira af járngjalli, þar á meðal bræðslugjalli, en áður hefur fundist á Sveigakoti, og hinsvegar útskorið drekahöfuð úr beini, væntanlega brotið af prjóni (mynd á forsíðu).

Byggingarnar sem komu í ljós sumarið 2004 á Sveigakoti, þ.e. meint fjós S7, jarðhúsin P1 og MP, auk óljósari byggingar P2, eru allar eldri en gjóskulagið V~950, og eru því eldri en þær byggingar sem hingað til hafa verið rannsakaðar á Sveigakoti. Í þessari skýrslu eru líkur leiddar að því að MP sé elsta byggingin á bæjarstæðinu, þá fjósið S7, P1 og P2 hafi síðan tekið við af MP sem íveruhús, og T og MT síðan af þeim en það hafi verið byggingarnar sem stóðu þegar gjóskan féll ~950. Yngra og mun stærra byggingarstig MT sé síðan forveri skálans S4. Það sem helst vekur athygli við þessa þróun er hvað skálinn kemur seint til sögunnar: að minnsta kosti þrjár kynslóðir jarðhúsa voru gengnar þegar skálinn var loksins byggður, væntanlega á seinni hluta 10. aldar. Það er því mögulegt að allt upp undir þrjár kynslóðir hafi lifað og dáið á Sveigakoti áður en skálinn var byggður. Jarðhúsin eru um margt óvenjuleg, ekki síst pörin P1/P2 og T/MT – ámóta stór hús tengd með göngum. Ekkert mælir á móti því að þau hafi verið aðalíveruhús Sveigakotunga fyrstu áratugina sem þar var búið, en hafi svo verið þá kallar það á skýringar, því það væri þá fyrsta dæmið um bólstað á Íslandi – og raunar um allt hið norræna menningarsvæði á víkingaöld – þar sem ekki er skáli. Þrennskonar skýringar má hugsa sér:

- Að það hafi verið skáli samtíða þessum jarðhúsum, en hann hafi staðið á aðeins öðrum stað og leifar hans séu eyddar með öllu.
- Að Sveigakot sé ekki sjálfstætt býli heldur einhverskonar útstöð frá öðrum bæ. Hið afarstóra fjós (ef sú tilgáta reynist rétt) gæti bent til þess, sem og einfaldleiki jarðhúsanna sem híbýla. Á móti kemur að bæði gripirnir og dýrabeinasafnið benda ekki til annars en venjulegs búskapar. Búskapurinn var alls ekki sérhæfður: þó að mikil áhersla hafi verið á nautgriparækt þá var einnig búið þar með sauðfé, geitur og svín eins og á öðrum búum sem þekkt eru frá sama tíma. Þá bendir gripasafnið til venjulegs heimilislífs, t.d. hafa spunaáhöld og beinaprjónar fundist í stórum stíl og ef eitthvað er þá er það fjölbreytilegra og ríkulegra en önnur gripasöfn úr nágrenninu, t.d. frá Hofstöðum. Þessi skýring getur því ekki talist líkleg.
- Að Sveigakotungar hafi kosið að búa í jarðhúsum af því að það var sú gerð bygginga sem þeir þekktu frá heimahögum sínum. Þeir hafa samkvæmt því ekki verið norrænir menn, heldur frá einhverjum öðrum svæðum norður Evrópu þar sem jarðhús voru ríkjandi húsagerð en það á við um mjög stórt svæði á meginlandinu austan Saxelfar. Hvað gæti slíkt fólk að hafa verið að gera á þessum stað í lok 9. aldar? Sveigakot gæti verið skipulögð byggð, býli sem stofnað er til af landnámsmanni sem hefur fengið fólk til að setjast að í landnámi sínu. Aðferðirnar sem hann gæti hafa beitt til þess gætu verið ýmiskonar, frá auglýsingamennsku til þess að kaupa ánauðugt fólk á þrælamörkuðum. Þegar skálinn loksins var byggður þarf það því ekki að vera til marks um að Sveigakot hafi loksins náð því að verða “alvöru” býli, heldur alveg eins að heimilismenn hafi ákveðið að semja sig að ríkjandi siðum, eða jafnvel að búendaskipti hafi orðið.

Á þessu stig málsins er aðeins hægt að hafa uppi getgátur um þessi mál. Áframhaldandi rannsóknir munu vonandi varpa frekara ljósi á þau.

Appendices

Appendix 1. Register of excavated contexts

Context no	Area	Type	Brief description
1216	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1217	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1216] in S4
1218	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1219] in S4
1219	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1220	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1221] in S4
1221	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1222	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1223] in S4
1223	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1224	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1225] in S4
1225	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1226	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1227] in S4
1227	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1228	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1229] in S4
1229	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1230	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1231] in S4
1231	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1232	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1233] in S4
1233	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1234	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1235] in S4
1235	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1236	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1237] in S4
1237	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1238	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1239] in S4
1239	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1240	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1241] in S4
1241	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1242	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1243] in S4
1243	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1244	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1245] in S4
1245	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1246	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1247] in S4
1247	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1248	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1249] in S4
1249	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1250	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1251] in S4
1251	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1252	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1253] in S4
1253	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1254	MT	Deposit	Floor deposit, dark brown
1255	S	Fill	Fill in cut [1256] in S4
1256	S	Cut	Cut in S4
1257	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1258] in S4
1258	S	Cut	Posthole in S4

1259	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1260] in S4
1260	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1261	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1262] in S4
1262	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1263	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1264] in S4
1264	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1265	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1265] in S4
1266	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1267	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1268] in S4
1268	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1269	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1270] in S4
1270	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1271	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1272] in S4
1272	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1273	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1274] in S4
1274	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1275	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1276] in S4
1276	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1277	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1278] in S4
1278	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1279	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1280] in S4
1280	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1281	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1282] in S4
1282	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1283	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1284] in S4
1284	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1285	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1286] in S4
1286	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1287	S	Deposit	Thin deposit, mostly ash in S4
1288	S	Fill	Charcoal fill, hearth? in S4
1289	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1290] in S4
1290	S	Cut	Posthole in S4
1291	S	Cut	Cut for hearth? Fill [1288]
1292	S	Fill	Fill in stakehole [1293] in S4
1293	S	Cut	Stakehole in S4
1294	S	Fill	Small charcoal pit in S4
1295	MT	Fill	Fill in hearth
1296	S	Cut	Cut for charcoal pit [1294] in S4
1297	S	Fill	Fill in hole/depression [1298] in S4
1298	S	Cut	Hole/depression in S4
1299	S	Fill	Fill in hole/depression [1300] in S4
1300	S	Cut	Hole/depression in S4
1301	S	Fill	Fill in hole/depression [1302] in S4
1302	S	Cut	Hole/depression in S4
1303	S	Fill	Fill in hole/depression [1304] in S4
1304	S	Cut	Hole/depression in S4
1305	S	Fill	Fill in hole/depression [1306] in S4
1306	S	Cut	Hole/depression in S4
1307	MT	Deposit	
1308	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1309	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4

1310	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1311	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1312	S	Fill	Fill in shallow hole on southern bench in S4 [cut 1313]
1313	S	Cut	Cut for shallow hole in S4
1314	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1315	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1316	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1317	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1318	MT	Deposit	Levelling deposit
1319	S	Fill	Fill in small stakehole, including wood remains [cut 1320] in S4
1320	S	Cut	Cut for stakehole in S4
1321	MT	Deposit	Floor deposit, with ash and charcoal
1322	S	Deposit	Mottled deposit with charcoal in S4
1323	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1324] in S4
1324	S	Cut	Cut for posthole in S4
1325	S	Fill	Fill in posthole [1325] in S4
1326	S	Cut	Cut for posthole in S4
1327	MT	Deposit	Organic redish brown deposit
1328	S	Deposit	Organic deposit on northern bench in S4
1329	MT	Structure	Stone pavement of hearth
1330	MT	Deposit	Ash and charcoal deposit around the hearth
1331	S	Structure	Hearth structure [fill 1108/cut 1111] in S4
1332	MT	Fill	Pit around hearth
1333	MT	Deposit	Pit
1334	MT	Structure	Lavastone slabs in hearth
1335	MT	Fill	Primary fill of hearth
1336	P	Deposit	Aeolian deposit at the edge of midden area
1337	S	Fill	Fill in posthole, or small hearth? [1330], mostly charcoal. In S4
1338	S	Cut	Cut for posthole and stakeholes in S4
1339	S	Fill	Fill in hole [cut 1340] on northern bench in S4
1340	S	Cut	Cut on northern bench in S4
1341	MT	Deposit	Floor deposit
1342	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1343	MT	Deposit	Levelling deposit
1344	P	Deposit	Organic deposit
1345	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1346	MT	Fill	Fill of pit. Group 1389
1347	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1348	MT	Deposit	Ash and charcoal deposit under the hearth [1334]
1349	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1350	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1351	P	Deposit	Dark charcoal rich deposit. A part of midden (M)?
1352	MT	Deposit	Floor deposit
1353	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1354	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1355	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1356	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1357	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1358	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1359	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1360	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole

1361	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1362	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1363	S	Deposit	Turf debris deposit in S7. Lump south of S4
1364	S	Deposit	Turf debris deposit in S7. Part of [1143]
1365	MT	Structure	Stone pad
1366	MT	Structure	Stone pad
1367	MT	Structure	Stone pad
1368	MT	Structure	Stone pad
1369	MT	Structure	Stone pad
1370	P	Deposit	Deposit with patches of charcoal, ash and organic material
1371	MT	Fill	Fill of pit
1372	S	Deposit	Turf collapse on south wall in S4
1373	MT	Fill	Fill of pit
1374	MT	Fill	Fill of pit
1375	S	Fill	Fill of posthole [1376] in S4
1376	S	Cut	Cut for posthole west of doorway in S4
1377	MT	Cut	Cut of pit
1378	P	Fill	Fill of cut [1379]. Test pit from year 1999
1379	P	Cut	Cut for [1379]. Test pit from year 1999
1380	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1381	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1382	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1383	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1384	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1385	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1386	MP	Deposit	Part of midden
1387	MT	Deposit	Brown deposit with green tephra
1388	MT	Cut	Cut for the hearth
1389	MT	Cut	Cut of the pit with the iron and slag
1390	S	Deposit	Reddened patch from fire place in S6
1391	P	Deposit	Sandy deposit in P2
1392	S	Cut	Cut for the south wall of skáli in S4
1393	MP	Deposit	Sandy deposit including charcoal.
1394	P	Deposit	Mottled deposit with charcoal. In P2
1395	P	Fill	Hearth fill, see cut [1409]. In P2
1396	P	Deposit	Sandy and charcoal rich deposit above turf collapse. In P2
1397	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1398	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1399	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1400	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1401	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1402	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1403	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1404	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1405	MT	Fill	Fill of post moulds and holes
1406	MT	Fill	Light brown gravel
1407	P	Structure	Stone structure of hearth, see cut [1409]
1408	MT	Fill	Fill of the post mould
1409	P	Cut	Cut for hearth, see [1407] and [1395]. In P2
1410	MP	Deposit	Midden deposit? Including charcoal, bones etc.
1411	MT	Deposit	Sandy deposit, for levelling? with charcoal and burned bones

1412	MT	Deposit	Sandy deposit, for levelling? with charcoal and burned bones
1413	P	Deposit	Dark brown sandy deposit.
1414	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1415	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1416	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1417	MT	Fill	Fill of pit [cut 1421]. Group 1420
1418	MT	Deposit	Brown sandy levelling deposit
1419	S	Deposit	Pink-orange organic deposit - turf? in S7
1420	MT	Group	Group no for pit. Group 1420
1421	MT	Cut	Cut for pit [see fill 1417]
1422	P	Deposit	Midden like deposit with charcoal and burnt bones. In P2
1423	MT	Structure	Lavastone hearth structure. Group 1420
1424	MT	Structure	Stone structure
1425	MT	Deposit	Floor, organic deposit, red brown deposit
1426	P	Deposit	Midden dump between house P1 and MP (in depression P3?)
1427	MP	Deposit	Organic deposit, dark brown
1428	MP	Deposit	Tephra V~950
1429	MT	Deposit	Brown sand with charcoal
1430	P	Deposit	Midden dump south of house P1
1431	MT	Deposit	Organic deposit with charcoal in S7
1432	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1433	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1434	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1435	S	Deposit	Ashy turf in east en of S7
1436	S	Deposit	Turf remains in S7
1437	MT	Deposit	Brown sandy deposit. At east wall of S4
1438	S	Deposit	Deposit with charcoal in S7
1439	S	Deposit	Sandy deposit with organic mix in S7
1440	P	Fill	Charcoal [see 1440]
1441	P	Cut	Charcoal pit
1442	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1443	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1444	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1445	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1446	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1447	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1448	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1449	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1450	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1451	S	Deposit	Sandy deposit between stones in S7, above V~950 tephra
1452	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1453	MT	Fill	Fill of posthole
1454	P	Deposit	Organic deposit in P2
1455	P	Deposit	Turf remains at N-side in P1
1456	P	Deposit	Deposit on top of hearth stones in P2
1457	S	Group	Fire places, furnaces in east-end of S7. Group 1457
1458	P	Deposit	Organic deposit in P2
1459	S	Deposit	Fill of pit [1457] in S7
1460	MP	Deposit	Organic deposit, dark, sandy
1461	S	Deposit	Charcoal fill of southern pit S7. Group 1457
1462	P	Cut	Cut for hearth see fill/deposit [1422] in P2

1463	P	Deposit	Turf debris at edges of pithouse P1
1464	MT	Fill	Fill in posthole
1465	MT	Fill	Fill in posthole
1466	MT	Fill	Fill in posthole
1467	MT	Fill	Fill in posthole
1468	S	Deposit	Organic deposit in S4, possibly same as [1187] and [1497]
1469	S	Cut	Cut of south-furnace in S7. Group 1457
1470	S	Fill	Fill of north-furnace in S7. Group 1457
1471	P	Deposit	Ash deposit in P2
1472	S	Cut	Cut for north furnace in S7. Group 1457
1473	MT	Deposit	Brown deposit with charcoal
1474	P	Deposit	Ash deposit in P2
1475	P	Deposit	Small peat-ash and charcoal deposit
1476	N	Deposit	Organic deposit. Possibly remains of S-wall in S4 [1015=1126]
1477	S	Deposit	Mixed deposit in east end of S7
1478	S	Deposit	Turf debris on bench in S4
1479	S	Deposit	Deposit of charcoal in east end of S7
1480	P	Deposit	Dark brown deposit inside pit house P1
1481	MP	Deposit	Charcoal rich deposit
1482	N	Deposit	Pink-ish coloured deposit
1483	MT	Deposit	Floor of sunken house MT. Not excavated in 2004
1484	MT	Deposit	Fire place with ash deposit on top. Not excavated in 2004
1485	P	Deposit	Brown sandy deposit with charcoal and organic material.
1486	S	Deposit	Upcast deposit in east end of S7
1487	S	Deposit	Patch on south bench in S4
1488	S	Deposit	Charcoal in east end of S7
1489	S	Deposit	Turf mixed deposit in S4
1490	S	Deposit	Ash fill of pit [1491] in S6
1491	S	Cut	Cut for pit in S6
1492	S	Deposit	Mixed surface deposit S7
1493	S	Deposit	Mixed charcoal and turf deposit in S7
1494	S	Deposit	Thin brown deposit between [1101] and [1468] in S4
1495	MP	Deposit	Mid-brown deposit of sandy silt
1496	S	Deposit	Laminated organic deposit/ turf debris in S7
1497	S	Deposit	Tephra and turf mixed deposit in S4, possibly same as [1468]
1498	P	Deposit	Organic mottled deposit with ash and charcoal patches (from hearth fill?)
1499	MP	Deposit	Greenish tephra deposit
1500	S	Deposit	Brown deposit on south bench in S4. Possibly same as [1494]
1501	MP	Deposit	Dark brown sandy deposit.
1502	S	Deposit	Charcoal dump in S7
1503	MP	Deposit	Aeolian deposit with tephra patches
1504	N	Deposit	Midden debris?
1505	S	Deposit	Surface deposit in S7
1506	P	Deposit	Sand deposit in barrel pit in pithouse P1
1507	N	Deposit	Sand deposit above organic deposit
1508	P	Deposit	Turf collapse on east side of pithouse P1
1509	MP	Fill	Fill of trench [1510]
1510	MP	Cut	Cut for trench
1511	S	Fill	Fill of posthole [1512] in S7
1512	S	Cut	Posthole in S7, furnace phase

1513	MP	Deposit	Deposit with V~950 tephra and charcoal
1514	S	Cut	Large elongated cut in S6-S7
1515	P	Deposit	Turf patch in barrel pit. In P1
1516	P	Deposit	Organic deposit in barrel pit at east side. In P1
1517	P	Deposit	Dark brown sand deposit along E-and S-edges in pithouse P1
1518	MP	Deposit	Light brown and pink
1519	MP	Deposit	Dark charcoal rich deposit
1520	N	Deposit	Organic deposit under midden
1521	P	Deposit	Floor deposit in pithouse P1 (not excavated in 2004)
1522	MP	Deposit	Small charcoal and gravel deposit
1523	MP	Deposit	Pink organic midden deposit
1524	S	Cut	Cut for sunken floor [561] in S4
1525	S	Cut	Cut for division in S4
1526	S	Cut	Cut under floor layer [561]
1527	S	Cut	Cut under floor layer [561]
1528	S	Cut	Cut under floor layer [561]
1529	S	Cut	Posthole cut under floorlayer [561]
1530	S	Cut	Stakehole at east end, S-side of S4
1531	S	Cut	Pit by S-bench in W-end of S4

Appendix 2. Small finds register

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
1	1066	Nail	Iron	5.5	1	gr. 310.43/896.94/z284.39
2	561	Whetstone	Schist	5.42	1	gr. 341.48/895.61/z 284.50
3	1066	Bead	Glass	2.41	1	gr. 311.28/893.44/z284.68
4	1066	Nail	Iron	1.04	1	gr. 312.23/893.70/z284.68
5	1288	Food waste	Bone	0	0	worked?
6	1288	Food waste	Bone	0	0	2 teeth + 3 other fragment
7	1254	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 340/896
8	1	Slag	Iron	7.41	1	gr. 900/327
9	1	Bead	Stone	0.78	1	Clay or stone? gr. 895/332
10	1318	Pin	Bone	0.10	1	gr.312/895
11	1318	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
12	1321	Knife	Iron	2.23	1	gr. 310.43/896.50/z284.12
13	1322	Food waste	Bone	0	0	3 bone fragment
14	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 892/322
15	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/327
16	0	Worked Stone	Stone	1.97	1	
17	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 892/327
18	1	Nail	Iron	5.47	2	gr, 895/332
19	1	Slag	Iron	7.42	2	gr. 895/332
20	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 895/332
21	1332	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 310/896
22	1341	Bead	Stone	2.27	1	gr. 310.58/897.47/z284.38
23	1341	Nail	Iron	2.30	0	gr. 312.15/895.71/z284.44
24	1342	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
25	1341	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 310/897
26	1345	Food waste	Bone	0	0	4 fragment of burned bones
27	1	Slag	Iron	3.52	1	gr. 895/332
28	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 895/332
29	1346	Slag	Iron	1140	5	The biggest is 1087 g.
30	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 892/322
31	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/322
32	1346	Fragment	Copper alloy	0.45	3	Metal sheet. gr.310.76/895.29/z284.33
33	1346	Knife	Composite	0	0	Wood and iron. gr. 310.82/895.41/z285.37
34	1346	Slag	Iron	45.98	9	Weight from 1.48-10.53. gr. 310.68/895.24/z284.35
35	1343	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 307/899
36	1343	Nail	Iron	1.66	1	Broken in two parts. gr. 309/897
37	1357	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 894/312
38	1351	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
39	1351	Slag	Iron	36.40	2	The larger chunk has tool marks.

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
40	1351	Nail	Iron	6.10	1	
41	1351	Spindle Whorl	Stone	2.80	1	
42	1351	Nail	Iron	2.14	2	
43	1351	Pin	Bone	0	1	Decorated animal head, pin head.
44	1351	Spindle Whorl	Stone	5.27	1	Sandstone.
45	1351	Pebble	Stone	1.35	1	
46	1351	Spindle Whorl	Steatite	15.67	1	Off center perforation.
47	1351	Flint	Stone	0.83	1	
48	1144	Food waste	Bone	0	0	1 burnt bone fragment. gr. 900/332
49	0	Slag	Iron	16.46	2	
50	1351	Plate	Iron	2.19	1	A plate fragment.
51	1351	Nail	Iron	1.22	1	
52	1351	Flint	Iron	1.40	1	
53	1351	Object	Iron	12.18	1	
54	1351	Comb	Composite	0.67	1	Fe and bone. Comb bar with rivet fragment.
55	1351	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
56	1143	Nail	Iron	1.51	1	
57	1371	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 308-309/900-901
58	0	Bead	Glass	0.49	1	gr. 901.40/321.99
59	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Test pit in MP. gr.901.50/321.95/z284.69
60	0	Slag	Iron	81.43	1	gr. 895/337
61	0	Nail	Iron	2.32	1	gr. 895/337
62	1352	Spindle Whorl	Stone	3.58	1	Bead? Very small and light fragment of sandstone or pumice?
63	1352	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 896.72/311.84/z284.36
64	1352	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 895/309
65	1015	Slag	Iron	63.57	1	gr. 895/337
66	1378	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
67	1370	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
68	1390	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 900/337
69	1346	Slag	Iron	132.92	57	gr. 310/895
70	1381	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 894/312
71	1394	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
72	1393	Nail	Iron	4.21	1	
73	1387	Rivet/Rove	Iron	0	1	Find missing. gr. 897.13/309.01/z284.33.
74	1395	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
75	1387	Nail	Iron	1.16	1	gr.896.79/308.69/z284.39
76	1396	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Whalebone. gr.898.20/327.12
77	1396	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Whalebone. gr.898.25/327.79
78	1396	Food waste	Bone	0	0	mandible + 2 fragm

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
79	1410	Whetstone	Schist	1.44	1	Norwegian import.
80	1410	Nail	Iron	1.79	1	
81	1410	Object	Iron	3.01	1	
82	1387	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
83	1406	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
84	1393	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
85	1410	Slag	Iron	29.98	1	Corroded iron lump.
86	1416	Object	Iron	2.95	1	gr. 894.38/313.01/z284.58
87	1417	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 311/893
88	1410	Nail	Iron	0.99	1	
89	1412	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
90	1155	Hook	Iron	10.19	1	Big hook, structural?
91	1155	Slag	Iron	7.57	3	
92	1155	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Burnt bone. gr. 334/895
93	1418	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 895/308
94	1413	Food waste	Bone	0	0	3 pieces
95	1413	Slag	Iron	5.51	1	
96	1410	Worked Stone	Stone	27.73	1	
97	1410	Slag	Iron	0.57	1	
98	1410	Object	Iron	0.87	1	
99	1410	Slag	Iron	11.34	2	
100	1410	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
101	1421	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 311/894
102	1427	Gaming Piece	Bone	6.14	1	gr. 327.06/901.10
103	1427	Slag	Iron	1.68	2	
104	1427	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
105	1419	Loomweight	Stone	0	0	gr. 899/337
106	1426		Stone	1486.10	8	Firecracked stones
107	1426	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Whalebone?
108	1419	Raw material	Stone	19.16	1	Split pebble with flat bottom.
109	1425	Loomweight	Stone	234.82	1	gr, 895.62/311.80/z284.25
110	1419	Slag	Iron	5.81	2	
111	1419	Food waste	Bone	0	0	2 fragm of burned bones
112	1425	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 309/896
113	1434	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 896.20/309.06
114	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Unstratified. gr. 902/317
115	1435	Slag	Iron	78.18	2	gr. 905/337
116	1428	Knife	Iron	1.72	1	
117	1422	Food waste	Bone	0	0	skull fragm and other bones (some burned)
118	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
119	1	Slag	Iron	19.52	1	
120	1	Charcoal	Wood	0	x	
121	1		Stone	17.13	1	Firecracked stone. Found with find no. 229.
122	1429	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 310/895
123	1429	Object	Iron	3.42	2	Two corroded iron objects. One pin (nail?) and lump. gr. 310/895
124	1419	Slag	Iron	4.65	1	
125	1435	Slag	Iron	27.24	9	
126	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Unstratified
127	1376		Bone	0	0	Whalebone
128	1336	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
129	1393	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Teeth
130	1456	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
131	1416	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Whalebone
132	1437	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 310/895
133	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Unstratified bones, burnt
134	1463	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
135	1463	Slag	Iron	7.30	2	
136	1471	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
137	1471	Worked Stone	Stone	5.51	1	
138	1460	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
139	1460	Nail	Iron	5.04	2	
140	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/322 - 902/322 - 897/317 - 902/317
141	1		Wood	0.16	1	gr. 897/322 - 902/322 - 897/317 - 902/317
142	1	Slag	Iron	36.18	0	gr. 897/322 - 902/322 - 897/317 - 902/317
143	1		Leather?	0.12	1	gr. 897/322 - 902/322 - 897/317 - 902/317
144	1474	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
145	1460	Slag	Iron	18.33	1	Lava stone. Discarded.
146	1473	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
147	1476	Slag	Iron	0.27	1	
148	1486	Slag	Iron	0	0	
149	1487	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 895/337
150	1487	Nail	Iron	5.12	1	gr. 895/337
151	1480	Food waste	Bone	0	0	3 x 4 L bags
152	1480	Slag	Iron	308.57	12	
153	1485	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/327
154	1481	Pebble	Stone	0.94	1	gr. 897/322
155	1481	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/322
156	1481	Nail	Iron	3.20	1	gr. 897/322
157	1481	Slag	Iron	4.35	3	gr. 897/322
158	1498	Spindle	Steatite	28.78	1	gr. 897/327

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
		Whorl				
159	1482	Slag	Iron	4.61	2	gr.890/332
160	1463	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
161	1480	Worked Stone	Stone	10.44	1	Red sandstone, manuport.
162	1480	Pebble	Stone	24.31	1	Manuport
163	1480	Pin	Bone	1.25	1	
164	1498	Object	Iron	7.35	1	Corroded iron lump. gr. 897/327
165	1501	Nail	Iron	3.20	1	Small nail 27 mm long, T-shaped head. gr. 897/322
166	1501		Wood	7.20	0	gr. 897/322
167	1501	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/322
168	1484	Charcoal	Wood	9.44	x	gr. 885/322
169	1498	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/327
170	1498	Slag	Iron	14.47	5	gr. 897/327
171	1498	Nail	Iron	1.12	1	Corroded small nail 27 mm long, gr. 897/327
172	1480	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
173	1480	Slag	Iron	0	0	
174	1504		Bone	8.94	0	
175	1504	Charcoal	Wood	1.36	2	
176	1504	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
177	1504	Slag	Iron	2.27	1	
178	1504		Wood	25.44	1	
179	1504	Pebble	Stone	4.72	1	Manuport
180	1503	Slag	Iron	0	0	Lava stones. Discarded
181	1503	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
182	1503	Nail	Iron	33.18	5	1 pin (19.54 g), 1 nail (3.10),3 roves (10.54 g)
183	1506	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
184	1509	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
185	1509		Stone	0.99	1	
186	1508	Food waste	Bone	0	0	7 pieces (whalebones, parts of mandibles, tooth..)
187	1506	Object	Iron	0.31	1	
188	1513	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
189	1	Worked	Bone	13.47	1	
190	1513	Object	Iron	0.31	1	
191	1482	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
192	1504	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
193	1504	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
194	1504	Nail	Iron	2.51	1	gr. 887/332
195	1504	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
196	1504	Knife	Iron	3.89	1	gr. 887/332
197	1504	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
198	1520	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332

Finds No	Context No	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count	Brief description
199	1519	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/317
200	1522	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/317
201	1517	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
202	1517	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Cut marks on the bone
203	1517	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
204	1521	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
205	1517	Pebble	Stone	3.78	1	Manuport
206	1517	Fragment	Iron	7.01	2	
207	1517	Slag	Iron	4.93	1	
208	1507	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
209	1507	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
210	1507	Pebble	Stone	0.51	1	Jaspis. gr. 887/332
211	1507	Slag	Iron	4.90	2	gr. 887/332
212	1507	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 887/332
213	1507	Object	Iron	9.82	1	gr. 887/332
214	1521	Object	Iron	1.09	1	
215	1521	Nail	Iron	4.38	1	
216	1521	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
217	1523	Object	Iron	0.73	1	
218	1523	Pebble	Stone	0.69	1	Jaspis
219	1523	Object	Iron	2.19	1	
220	1523	Slag	Iron	4.46	2	
221	1523	Rivet/Rove	Iron	2.88	1	
222	1523	Pebble	Stone	3.37	1	Manuport
223	1523	Knife	Iron	3.87	1	
224	1523	Food waste	Bone	0	0	
225	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Unstratified animal bones
225	1393	Slag	Iron	16.68	2	
226	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	gr. 897/322
227	1	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Area P
228	0	Food waste	Bone	0	0	Unstratified animal bones
229	1	Slag	Iron	4.62	2	

Appendix 3. Samples register

P	Area	Context	Grid	Count	Quant litres	Brief description
1	S	1217			0,5	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
2	S	1218			0,25	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
3	S	1220			0,25	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
4	S	1222			0.25	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
5	S	1232			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
6	S	1234			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
7	S	1224				Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
8	S	1226				Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
9	S	1228				Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
10	S	1229				Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
11	S	0				Unknown
12	S	1236			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
13	S	1238			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
14	S	1240			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
15	S	1242			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
16	S	1244			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
17	S	1246			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
18	S	1248			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
19	S	1250			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
20	S	1252			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
21	S	1273			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
22	S	1275			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
23	S	1277			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
24	S	1279			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
25	S	1281			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
26	S	1283			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
27	S	1285			0,15	Bulk. Stakehole fill. Discarded
28	S	1289			2,5	Bulk. Posthole fill
29	S	1288			10	Bulk. Fill of hearth
30	MT	1254	307-308/397-899		0,5	Bulk. Floor layer
31	MT	1254	309-310/899-900		6	Bulk. Floor layer
32	MT	1254	308-309/898-899		7	Bulk. Floor layer
33	MT	1254	308-309/897-898		9	Bulk. Floor layer
34	MT	1254	309-310/898-899		9	Bulk. Floor layer
35	MT	1254	309-310/897-898		9	Bulk. Floor layer
36	MT	1254	310-311/899-900		0,75	Bulk. Floor layer
37	MT	1254	310-311/897-898		9	Bulk. Floor layer
38	MT	1254	310-311/898-899		9	Bulk. Floor layer
39	MT	1254	310-311/896-897		9	Bulk. Floor layer
40	MT	1254	311-312/896-897		9	Bulk. Floor layer

41	S	1294			7	Bulk. Charcoal layer
42	MT	1254	311-312/895-896		9	Bulk. Floor layer
43	MT	1295	310/890		1,5	Bulk. Fill of hearth
44	MT	1254	310-311/895-896		9	Bulk. Floor layer
45	MT	1254	311-312/894-895		9	Bulk. Floor layer
46	MT	1254	312-313/894-895		11	Bulk. Floor layer
47	MT	1311	895-342/900-342		0,25	Organic deposit
48	MT	1307	310-311/894-895		11	Bulk. Floor layer
49	MT	1307	310-311/896-897		2	Bulk. Floor layer
50	MT	1307	309-310/895-896		10	Bulk. Floor layer
51	MT	1307	311-312/896-897		7,5	Bulk. Floor layer
52	MT	1307	311-312/895-896		10	Bulk. Floor layer
53	MT	1307	312-313/895-896		7,5	Bulk. Floor layer
54	MT	1307	311-312/894-895		10	Bulk. Floor layer
55	MT	1307	312-313/894-895		10	Bulk. Floor layer
56	S	1319			0,15	Wood remains in stakehole
57	S	1015		1		Wood, burned. Same as [1126]
58	MT	1321	396,15/337,05		3	Bulk. Floor layer
59	MT	1321	311-312/896-897		10	Bulk. Floor layer
60	MT	1321	312-313/894-895		10	Bulk. Floor layer
61	MT	1321	310-311/894-895		10	Bulk. Floor layer
62	MT	1321	311-312/894-895		10	Bulk. Floor layer
63	MT	1321	310-311/895-896		10	Bulk. Floor layer
64	MT	1321	312-313/894-895		9	Bulk. Floor layer
65	S	1323			4	Bulk. Posthole fill
66	S	1325			4	Bulk. Posthole fill
67	MT	1327	311-312/895-896		1,5	Organic deposit. Red brown
68	MT	1327	310-311/895-896		11	Organic deposit. Red brown
69	MT	1327	310-311/894-895		11	Organic deposit. Red brown
70	MT	1330	310-311/896-897		10	Ash layer around hearth
71	MT	1330	310-311/895-896		10	Ash layer around hearth
72	MT	1330	311-312/895-896		10	Ash layer around hearth

73	MT	1330	311-312/896-897		10	Ash layer around hearth
74	MT	1330			10	Bulk. From middle of pavement
75	MT	1333			10	Bulk. Fill of pit
76	MT	1335			10	Bulk. Fill of hearth
77	MT	1332			7,5	Bulk. Fill of pit. From E-side
78	MT	1332			10	Bulk. Fill of pit. From W-side
79	S	1337			3	Bulk. From posthole/small hearth
80	S	1	892/332	4		Stone for ID
81	S	1	892/327	1		Charcoal for ID
82	S	1	895/332	7		Charcoal for ID
83	MT	1348			8	Bulk. Fill in pit [1332]
84	S	1100	900/332			Wood for ID
85	S	1	895/332	1		Charcoal for ID
86	MT	1346	895/310	1		Charcoal for ID
87	MT	1348			11	Bulk. Fill in pit [1332]
88	P	1	897/322	1		Stone for ID
89	MT	1354			0,25	Wood from posthole
90	S	1363	895/337		0,25	Wood for ID
91	S	1100	895/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
92	S	1143	900/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
93	P	1351			0,25	Charcoal for ID
94	S	1364	895/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
95	MT	1373	308/900		4	Bulk. Charcoal and ash layer
96	S	1372	895/337		0,25	Wood for ID
97	S	1375			10	Bulk. Posthole fill
98	P	1370			0,25	Charcoal for ID
99	S	1015=1126			0,25	Burned wood for ID
100	S	1155	900/332		0,25	Wood for ID
101	P	1395			6	Bulk. Fill of hearth
102	S	multi	897/335,60	1		Micromorphology sample. Floor S7
103	P	1395			6	Bulk. Fill of hearth
104	S	1155			4	Charcoal for ID
105	S	1419			0,25	Chemical analysis.
106	MT	1425	310-311/896-897		10	Bulk. Floor layer
107	MT	1425	310-311/895-896		10	Bulk. Floor layer
108	MT	1425	311-312/897-898		10	Bulk. Floor layer
109	MT	1425	311-312/896-897		10	Bulk. Floor layer
110	MT	1425	309-310/896-897		10	Bulk. Floor layer
111	MT	1425	310-311/898-899		10	Bulk. Floor layer
112	MT	1425	309-310/897-898		10	Bulk. Floor layer
113	MT	1425		1		Micromorphology sample. Floor.
114	S	1419		1		Charcoal for ID
115	S	1431		1		Charcoal for ID
116	S	multi	902,15/337,35	1		Micromorphology sample

			Z284,74			
117	P	1428			0,15	Tephra sample
118	S	1419		1		Charcoal for ID
119	S	1435	900/337		0,25	Material for ID
120	S	1438	900/337		0,25	Charcoal for ID
121	MT	1429	310/394		0,25	Wood for ID
122	P	1440			0,25	Bulk. Charcoal pit
123	S	1419	900/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
124	S	1461			30	Bulk. Charcoal and slag
125	S	1470			10	Bulk. Charcoal and slag
126	S	1479			10	Bulk. Charcoal and slag
127	S	1488			10	Bulk. Charcoal and slag
128	MP	1481	897/322		0,15	Stone for ID
129	S	1500	495/337	1		Charcoal for ID
130	P	1498	897/327		10	Organic layer, floor?
131		1502			0,25	Charcoal deposit.
132	MP	1499	897/322		0,25	Tephra sample
133	S	1101			0,25	Tephra sample (V~950)
134	MP	1503	897/322		0,25	Stone for ID
			897,10/343,85			
135	S	LNS	Z284,87	1		Micromorphology sample
			899,45/338,85			
136	S	LNS	Z284,47	1		Micromorphology sample
			898,10/338,30			
137	S	LNS	Z284,88	1		Micromorphology sample
138	S	1512	900/337		4	Bulk. Posthole fill
139	S	1187	900/337		4	Bulk. Posthole fill
140	P	1516			1	Organic layer
			895,30/325,60			
141	P	1521	Z284,51	1		Micromorphology sample
142	S	1482	897/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
143	S	1504	897/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
144	S	1520	897/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
145	S	1507	897/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
146	S	1507	897/332		0,25	Charcoal for ID
147	MP	1523			0,25	Charcoal for ID
148	MP	1523			0,25	Wood for ID
149	MP	1523		1		Stone for ID