

Hofstaðir 2003

Framvinduskýrsla/Interim Report



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**The cover photograph on is of Rúnar Leifsson
excavating grave [1715], skeleton SK022.**

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1. Introduction

Aims & Methods

The 2003 season at Hofstaðir was the ninth consecutive season of archaeological excavation at the site. Work on the skáli area concluded the previous year, and so work was only carried out in the chapel and cemetery site, the fifth season of excavation of the area. The 2002 season had seen much reduced work, with only the chapel itself being excavated, no graves. This season the entire



*Figure 1. Overview of the site,
facing north-west*

cemetery excavation area from 2001 was reopened, and extended 2 m. to the north and east, to try and find the limit of burials in those directions.

The methodology of excavation this year followed that of previous seasons, i.e. single context excavation and recording. All units were given unique context numbers and the usual *pro forma* sheets employed. As after every season, the site has been protected by the laying down of terramatting and re-turfing.

Contributors and Acknowledgements

As always, the work at Hofstaðir would not be possible without the involvement of a large number of people, both professionals and students, who provide their expertise and labour as part of an international team. Continuing its dual role as research excavation and field school, the excavations were greatly aided by the co-operation of Colleen Batey, University of Glasgow, who organised the intake of European students and Tom McGovern at Hunter College who organised student involvement through CUNY. A total of five students worked on the excavations at Hofstaðir, Rúnar Leifsson (Iceland), Sarah Thomas (Norway), Kate Krivogorskaya (USA), Carrin Halfman (USA) and Aaron Kendall (USA). In addition Matthew Brown from the

REU program from Brooklyn Collage, CUNY, joined the excavation for a fortnight. The excavation was supervised by Hildur Gestsdóttir (FSÍ) with the assistance of Mjöll Snæsdóttir (FSÍ) and Jane Hamill (FSÍ). Sigríður Þorgeirsdóttir (FSÍ) assisted with the post-excavation. The project was funded by a grant (Öndvegisstyrkur) from the Icelandic Research Council (Rannís). As before, the landowners of Hofstaðir, Ásmundur Jónsson and Guðmundur Jónsson, were generous in their support of the project.

2. Results

The aims of the 2003 season were threefold. Firstly to excavate layers around the chapel (structure Z2) which could not be removed during the 2002 season, as only a small area around the chapel structure itself was opened and its excavation completed. Secondly, to try and find the limits of the burials to the north and the east, and thirdly to continue the excavations of the burials themselves. The excavation area from 2001 was reopened, and extended 1.9 m to the north and 2.7 m to the east, making the total excavated area 12.4 x 18.9 m.

The post-medieval farm

The extension of the excavation area revealed a large pit [1709] in the north-western corner of the excavation area. It was 1.7 m in diameter, 0.9 m deep at its centre with gently sloping sides and a flat base. This pit had three distinct fills, at its base a 0.1 m thick layer of charcoal [1721], with little contamination of other material, including some large



Figure 2. Charcoal pit [1709], facing north

charred branches. This was sealed by a 0.2 m thick layer of mixed silt and turf debris [1720] which in turn was sealed by a 0.3 m thick layer of midden material [1708], including ash, turf debris, large stones and a quantity of animal bone. This pit was sealed by a 0.1 m thick layer of turf debris [1704] = [1503] = [1584], which in turn

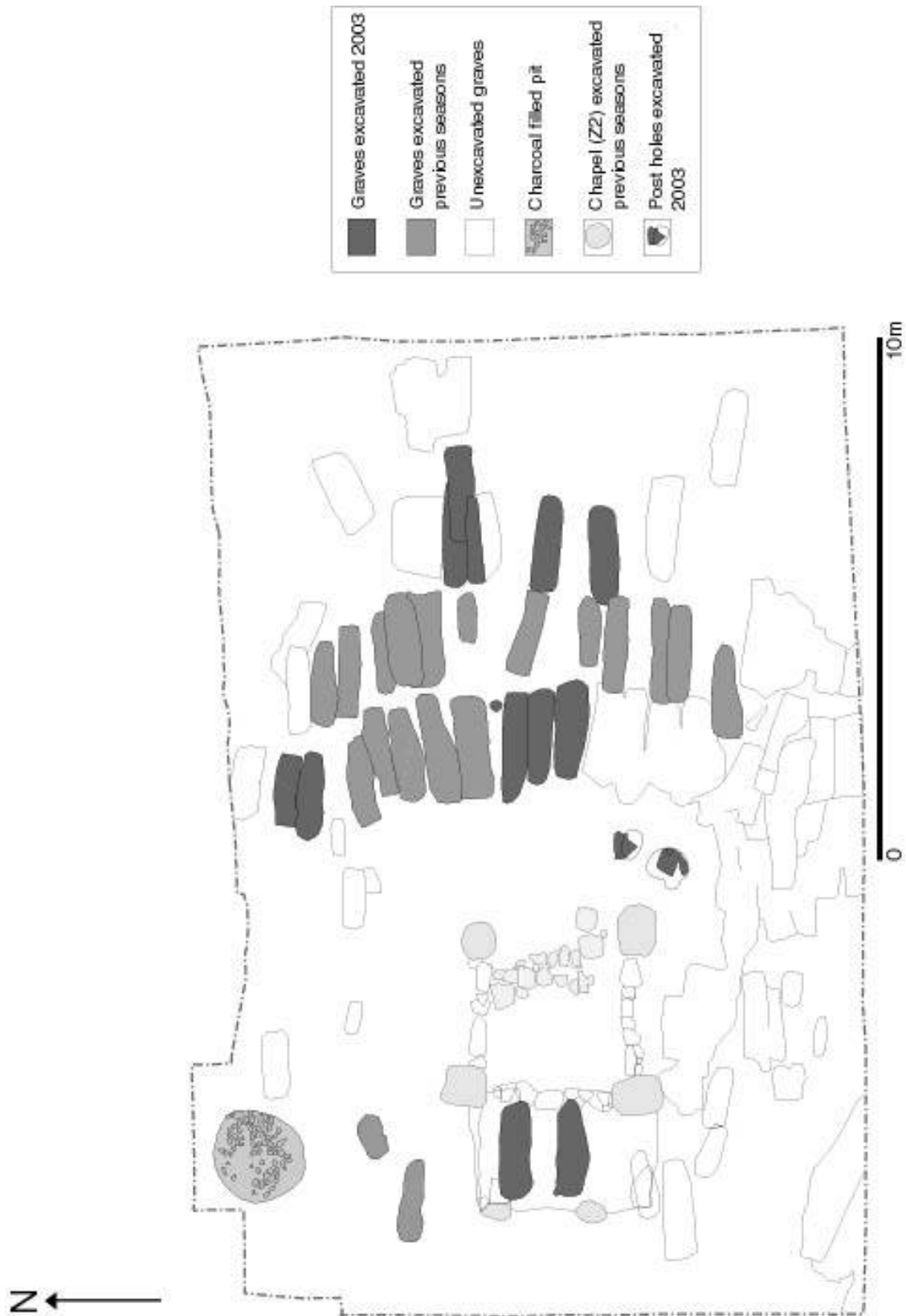


Figure 3. Overview of excavated features

was sealed by the topsoil. The pit and its fills have been given the group number [1724]. Pit [1709] is cut through a layer of [1725] aeolian soil, up to 0.1 m thick, which seals the graves surrounding the chapel, and so clearly the pit belongs to a phase post-dating the use of the chapel. It is most likely associated with the post-medieval farm mound, and the smithy that is recorded as having stood in the same location as the chapel:

“**SP-214:008**...Lengi hefur verið talið á Hofstöðum að bænhusið hafi verið þar sem smiðjan stóð, á NA-horni bæjarhólsins...”

“**[SP-214:008]**...It has long been the belief that the chapel at Hofstaðir was where the smithy stood, on the NE corner of the farm mound....”

Orri Vésteinsson, 1996; 75. HG translated.

The chapel

Layer [1725] was found to cover the entire area north-west, west and south of the chapel structure (Z2) and had clearly built up against it. It sealed most of the graves around the chapel, apart from two excavated in 2000, [1589] and [1609], which post-date the main period of use of the cemetery, and have been given the group number [1749]. Layer [1725] also sealed a 0.05 m thick layer of sheet midden [1730], consisting of silt, ash and sand, and including charcoal and burnt animal bone, in the north-western corner of the site, indicating that there was activity on the site of the farm mound contemporary with the period of use of the cemetery. As already stated, the excavation of the chapel was completed in the 2002 season at Hofstaðir. Two further post holes were excavated however east of the south-eastern corner of the chapel. One, [1743] was partially sealed by layer [1725], so they possibly represent the remains of an earlier structure on the site. Post hole [1743] was 1.5 m in diameter where it was widest, 0.4 m deep and filled



Figure 4. Post whole [1743].

with silt and turf debris [1742]. At its base was a stone slab, 0.4 x 0.5 m. The second post hole, [1745] lay 0.2 m north-east of the first one. It was slightly more irregular in shape, 0.6 m in diameter at its widest and 0.2 m deep. It was filled with silt and turf debris, [1744] and had a stone slab 0.4 x 0.5 sitting inside the cut, on its northern edge. This was sealed by [1638] a debris layer belonging to the earliest structure on the site (Z1), so at this time its relationship with the surrounding features is uncertain. There appear to be, however, a few cut features in the area which are yet to be excavated. This will be done during the 2004 season at Hofstaðir, which should clarify whether these post holes belong to the earliest structure at the site. Two further layers were excavated from the area of the chapel (Z2). These were [1740] ≠ [1741] turf debris layers, the same as, or part of the same depositional process as [1682] = [1624], which has been interpreted as a foundation layer set down to even the ground prior to the construction of the chapel. Two samples (HST02-270 and HST02-279) of birch (*betula sp.*) branches with bark from the 2002 season excavation of context [1682] were sent to the Scottish Universities Research and Reactor Centre for radiocarbon dating. The results of these gave a date of 1035±35BP (980-1024AD, 68.2% probability) for HST02-270 and 1015±45BP (970-1040AD, 68.2% probability) for HST02-279.

Two graves were excavated within the porch of the chapel, [1703] 1.87 x 0.61 m, 0.5 m deep, containing skeleton SK018 and [1717] 1.84 x 0.6 m, 0.48 m deep, containing SK019. They were filled with [1702] and [1716] respectively, in both instances upcast containing silt mixed with prehistoric tephra. Both contained stains of wooden coffins within the soil. These



Figure 5. Grave fill [1716], coffin "stain"

graves seem to post-date the construction of the nave of the chapel, but pre-date the porch, indicating that it might be a later addition to ensure that these two individuals were buried within the body of the church. These graves have been given the group number [1750], which is likely to also include an unexcavated grave which lies directly to the north of grave cut [1716].

The cemetery

Most of the work during the 2003 season at Hofstaðir involved the excavation of the cemetery. The majority of the graves excavated so far lie to the east of the chapel. The extension of the excavation area to the north and the east, the limit of the part of the cemetery containing graves appears to have been attained, although the boundary wall identified with the geophysical survey carried out in 1999 (Horsley, 1999) has only been exposed in trench Zii.

Three rows of graves running north-south lie east of the chapel, with the row closest to the chapel being the densest. All the burials in each row have been grouped together, as they are probably mainly contemporary with each other as in most instances they respect each other with little intercutting. All the grave cuts have vertical to slightly undercut edges, with a flat base and are cut through the natural. They are all sealed by a layer of turf debris, up to 0.15 m thick, [1707] = [1630] = [1511]. It is possible that this represents material deliberately laid down to level the cemetery after it went out of use. Layer [1707] is sealed by a layer of aeolean soil, [1705] = [1604]. In the northern part of the cemetery this is sealed by a layer of turf debris, [1706], which in turn is sealed by the V-1477 tephra.

Group [1746] is the line of graves directly east of the chapel. Ten graves in this group have been excavated. Five of these were excavated in previous seasons ([1627], [1532], [1633], [1645] and [1661]), and five during the 2003 season. The northern most of these was grave cut [1727]. Its maximum length was 1.37 m and width 0.5 m. Its eastern half was only 0.25 m deep, however, a 0.67 m long section at the western end had been cut much deeper, down to 0.5 m, and within that was the burial of a near complete disturbed skeleton (SK026). The bones had been carefully placed within a wooden box, of which a soil stain only remained. These bones either came from a disturbed grave on the site, or were moved to Hofstaðir from a different

location. It is of interest that the initial cut for this burial is almost the size of a cut for a supine burial. The western end of the cut is in line with the other graves in group [1746], so it is possible that this was done to keep the line of the graves even. The grave fill consisted of silt mixed with prehistoric tephra, [1726]. Cut [1727] slightly truncated the grave immediately to the south [1734]. This was 1.7 x 0.52 m and 0.52 m deep. Slight coffin stains were visible at the western end of the grave. The grave contained SK027 and was filled with [1733], silt mixed with prehistoric tephra. On the southern end of the excavated graves in group [1746] three graves were excavated during the 2003 season, [1699] (SK021), [1719] (SK024) and [1738] (SK029) filled with respectively [1698], [1718] and [1737], in all instances silt mixed with prehistoric tephra. These cuts were on average 1.98 x 0.5 m and 0.48 m deep. All had been disturbed at some point, so that all that remained of the skeletons buried there were the bones below the knee. The recuts could not be clearly seen, except in grave [1738], where the eastern edge of the recut was clear. The recuts of all the graves have been given the group number [1729], with the fill [1728], silt with disturbed prehistoric tephra,

although it is not certain whether this represents one single cut or three separate recuts of each grave. What appears to be the skeletal material removed from these three graves (SK030) has been buried in a pit [1753] cut through the western end of graves [1699] and [1719], filled with silt mixed with prehistoric



Figure 6. Skeleton SK027.

tephra [1752]. The outlines of this pit were never clearly seen, and so it was excavated following the skeletal material contained within it. Just north of this was a small hole [1711], 0.2 m in diameter, 0.05 m deep, filled with silt mixed with prehistoric tephra [1710], which contained human skeletal remains which were included with SK030. At least eleven unexcavated graves, one to the north and the rest to the south of the excavated ones, belong to group [1746].

Group [1747] consists of the line of graves immediately east of group [1746]. This includes thirteen excavated grave cuts, all of which ([1647], [1638], [1640], [1649], [1657], [1653], [1569], [1567], [1576], [1602], [1628], [1650] and [1607]) were excavated in previous seasons at Hofstaðir. At least eight unexcavated graves belong to group [1747], two to the north and six to the south of the excavated ones.

Group [1748] consists of the line of graves immediately to the east of group [1747] and includes five excavated grave cuts, all excavated during the 2003 season at Hofstaðir. Furthest to the north of group [1748] are three intercutting graves. Earliest of these is grave [1736], which lies slightly further east than other graves in this group. The cut is 1.65 x 0.45 m and 0.75 m deep and contains a fill of silt mixed with prehistoric tephra [1735]. Coffin stains could clearly be seen. The skeleton (SK028) was very poorly preserved. Cutting into the western end of grave [1736] was grave cut [1715]. This was 2 x 0.5 m and 0.7 m deep. It contained [1714], a silt mixed with prehistoric tephra. The grave contained skeleton SK022. There was no evidence of there having been a coffin. Cutting the southern edge of grave [1715] was grave cut [1723]. It was 1.67 x 0.38 m, 0.59 m deep and filled with [1722], silt mixed with prehistoric tephra. It contained skeleton SK025, but there was no evidence of a coffin. To the south of these three graves are the two further graves in group [1748], [1701] (2.05 x 0.45m, 0.72 m deep) and [1713] (1.93 x 0.54, 0.76 m deep). They were filled with [1700] and [1712] respectively, both consisting of silt with disturbed prehistoric tephra. Grave [1701] contained skeleton SK020, and although there were no coffin stains visible, a total of 142 nails recovered from it, indicating that the individual had been buried in a coffin, probably constructed from re-used wood. At least five unexcavated graves belong to group [1749]. Three of these lie to the north of the excavated graves, one to the south, and one lies immediately south of grave cut [1723].



Figure 7. Disturbed skeleton SK026.

Of the twelve graves excavated in 2003, seven had been buried in a coffin. Of the eight undisturbed burials, all had been buried in a supine position with the arms resting on the pelvis, and the head facing forwards or slightly tilted to one side. All had fine black ash deposited on the thoracic area. All tests of this ash in the past have proved inconclusive. One burial was a single disarticulated skeleton (SK026) buried in a small wooden box. Three burials had been disturbed, and so the only bones left *in situ* within the grave were the bones from below the knee (SK021, SK024 and SK029). However, disarticulated bones belonging to at least three individuals were found within a small pit, and it is clear that these are the bones removed from those graves.

There are probably around sixty-three unexcavated graves that have been exposed within the excavation area, including the ones mentioned already in the discussion. In addition there is the fourth line of graves in the eastern part of the cemetery, to the east of group [1748]. This includes four probable grave cuts. There are also five possible grave cuts to the north of the chapel, three of which may be juvenile burials. The rest of the graves lie to the south and south-west of the chapel. At this stage it is difficult to see any clear organisation in this part of the cemetery, comparable to what is seen in the eastern part. However several of the burials here appear to be juveniles.

3. Finds

Colleen Batey

Thirty-six artefacts were recovered from the excavations in 2003 in the cemetery at Hofstaðir. Of these eight were from the turf and topsoil and a further find was unstratified, the remains of the assemblage was recovered from just fourteen contexts, including five which are grave fills.

The Grave Fills

In numerical order of context, context [1698] produced a single find of industrial debris <032>; it is presumed that this was incorporated into the fill from the surrounding land as the grave was filled in. Context [1700] produced 142 ship's rivets and fragments <005> and it is assumed that this represents the use of ship's planks for

the coffin boards. Context [1702] yielded a single corroded iron rivet plate <001> which is slightly bent but lacking the associated nail. Context [1717] had a sliver of iron which is not likely to be a nail, and may in fact have been a shroud pin <003> in addition to two surviving pieces of the wooden coffin <002> and <004> and from context [1718], <038> is approximately half of a badly corroded copper alloy disc which may be a coin or a button, but which is in urgent need of conservation. The fill of the recut of graves [1699], [1719] and [1738], [1728] contained a copper button <013> Apart from the metal items which are clearly part of the coffins, it is perhaps not unexpected that in a cemetery there are few items which were deposited with the bodies themselves.

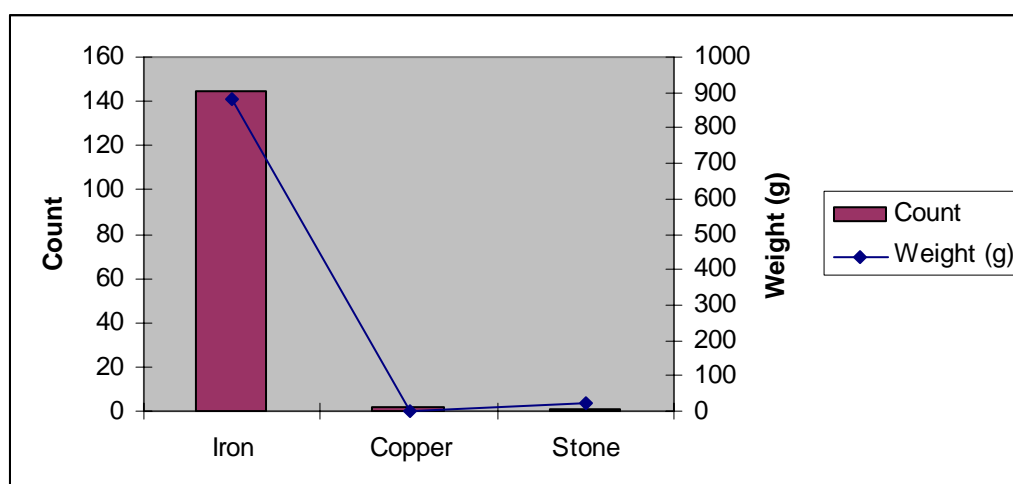


Figure 8. Finds by material type from graves

Blanket Deposits

Layer [0001], the turf and topsoil produced further material in 2003 due to the extension of the trench. All finds can be considered to be modern or relatively modern in date. Two sherds of vessel glass were noted, <035> a sherd of clear glass and <053> small section of bottle rim of green-blue tone. Three finds units of ceramic, some decorated sponge ware amongst them, comprised eight sherds <009>, <015> which comprises eleven sherds of ceramic including 19th century sponge wear and <036>, three sherds. These are further discussed in the section below. The central part of a little-used, square-sectioned whetstone <010> seems likely to be relatively modern in date. The remaining part of the assemblage is ironwork, including <011>, <003> nails and <034>, one nail, both probably horse-shoe nails and a single

fragment of indeterminate function, being a length with looped end <012> completes this group. The single unstratified find, <022> is a bent and corroded iron fragment which appears to have been a nail or perhaps a mount.

Layer 1704, a collapsed turf deposit included a single find of flint <014>. This was probably imported to the site for use as a strike-a-light and it has clear areas of striking. Context [1705], a layer of turf debris includes several finds of iron, <006> a flat nail which may in fact have been a horse-shoe nail, <020> a simple rectangular rove and <025> a broken nail with traces of an incomplete rove (also a piece of slag). Two pieces of copper alloy also from context [1705] include <018> a very corroded disc which may have been a brooch or a piece of horse ornament and <019> a small fragment of copper alloy sheeting is likewise difficult to assign a date. The end fragment of a very worn schist whetstone, <021> from context [1705], may have been an imported stone, but since it has seen considerable wear it is not easy to assign any date to its deposition.

Layer [1706], a deposit of turf debris contained one finds unit, <008> a piece of slag. Layer [1707], another layer of turf debris includes a single flat-sectioned nail <031> which resembles a horseshoe nail and a piece of industrial debris <052>. Layer [1708] a layer of mixed turf and bone and which formed one of the deposits of a large pit [1709], includes two nails in heavily corroded condition, <037> and <041> as well as industrial debris <042>.

Layer [1725] is a burnt layer which included industrial debris <056> and two very corroded indeterminate iron nails <055>.

Two deposits which are debris located east of the Chapel [1740] and to the north east of the chapel, layer [1741] included a single iron nail <060> from [1740] and two stone manuports from [1741], <062> and <063>.

The indeterminate nature of many of these finds makes it difficult to assign chronological divisions here on the basis of the artefacts. However, the few finds which relate the burial specifically have been localised and the remainder relate to blanket spread deposits beneath the turf and topsoil which was itself the single richest

context examined in 2003. The large pit in the corner of the trench included contexts [1708], [1720] and [1721] and although the finds assemblage is small from that feature, the highly corroded state of the nails suggest different burial conditions from elsewhere on the site, and conceivably may be associated with the nature of the fill of the pit.

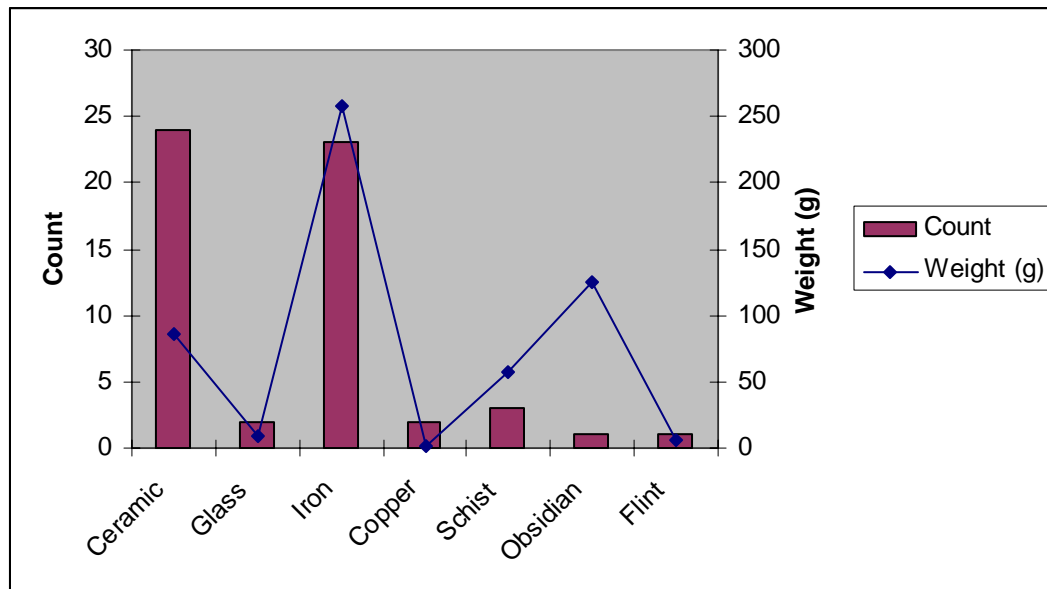


Figure 9. Finds by material type from blanket deposits

Pottery and Glass

Gavin Lucas

A small collection of pottery and glass fragments was recovered from Area Z and a rapid assessment performed. All the material is later 19th century in date (i.e. c. 1850-1900) and comparable to that recovered in previous seasons. All of the finds came from the turf and topsoil [001] and include a fragment of clear glass, probably from a lamp <035>, and the rim from a blown bottle in green glass <053>. The ceramics from this layer include a hand painted coffee cup <036>, as well as sherds from at least four spongeware bowls, <009> and <015>, two of which have repair rivets *in situ*.

4. Osteoarchaeology

A total of twelve individual skeletons were excavated during the 2003 season at Hofstaðir. Eight of these were articulated inhumations. Of the other four, one was a disturbed burial where the bones had been placed in a small wooden box and reburied (SK026). The other three were burials where all the bones above the knees (SK021, SK024 & SK029) had been removed from the graves, and reburied in a pit above the feet of SK021. The larger bones from this commingled pit (given the number SK030) have been matched up with the skeletons from which they were removed, but some commingled bones remain as SK030, as it is not possible to identify from which individual they came.

For the purpose of this preliminary report, a very basic analysis was carried out on the skeletal remains, their preservation graded, sex and age diagnosed, and measurements taken to estimate the living stature. No record was made of palaeopathological or other changes at this stage. A full analysis of the material will be carried out once the excavation has been completed.

Methodology

The preservation of each skeleton was graded, from 1-5 (see table 1), depending not only on the amount of material present, but also its viability for palaeopathological study.

Grade	Preservation
1	>90%
2	75-90%
3	50-75%
4	30-50%
5	<30%

Table 1. Preservation

The sexing of the skeleton was based, where preservation allowed, on sexually diagnostic characteristics of the cranium and pelvis (see for example Schwartz, 1995 and Buikstra & Ubelaker D, 1994), measurements of the width of several articular surfaces compared to standards presented by Bass (1995) and Brothwell (1981) and standards based on measurements of the talus and calcaneus devised by Steele (1976).

Age at death was determined using as many of the following methods as preservation of each skeleton allowed. The Suchey-Brooks system for age determination from the os pubis (Brooks & Suchey, 1990); the auricular surface ageing method devised by

Lovejoy *et al.* (1985); ectocranial suture closure (Meindl & Lovejoy, 1985) and the state of fusion of the secondary ossification centres (see for example Schwartz, 1995).

The calculations of the living stature of adult skeletons were based on measurements of complete long bones compared to standards devised by Trotter & Gleser (Trotter 1970), and in those cases where the long bones were fragmented, on standards developed by Steele & McKern (1969).

No juvenile skeletons were recovered during the 2003 season, so no methods for analysing subadult skeletons are discussed here.

Results

The results of the analysis are presented in appendix 4. Skeletons excavated in previous years are also included.

Preservation

The preservation of the material from Hofstaðir is in general very good, with 90% of the material with over 50% preservation (grade 3 or higher). See figure 10.

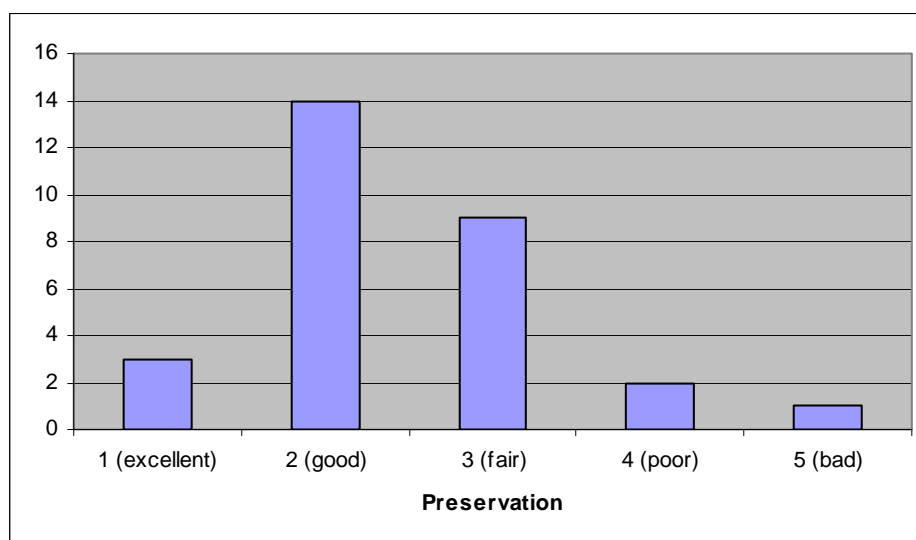


Figure 10. Preservation

Sex

Of the adult skeletons excavated so far in the Hofstaðir cemetery, there is a clear bias towards women, who represent 71% of the adult population, while the males are only

25%. This most likely represents an excavation bias. It appears at this stage that most of the women have been buried in the northern part of the cemetery, while the men are in the north, a known practise in medieval Iceland (see for example Matthías Þórðarson, 1943), so this bias is probably explained by the fact that the excavations of the cemetery to date have concentrated on the northern and eastern part of the cemetery (see figure 14). For further detail see appendix 4 and figure 11.

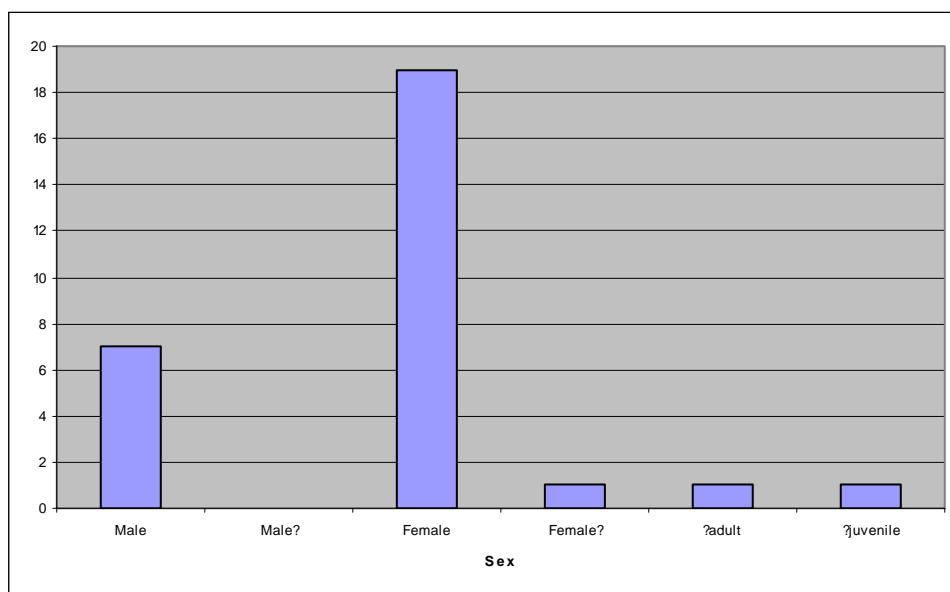


Figure 11. Sex

Age

Of the twenty-nine skeletons excavated so far, all but one are adults. This is again probably explained by an excavation bias, a large proportion of the unexcavated burials immediately to the north of the chapel appear to be juvenile graves. Locating the juvenile burials closest to the chapel is a known practise in medieval cemeteries in Iceland (see for example Matthías Þórðarson, 1943 and figure 14.). It is of interest that the average age for the skeletons excavated so far is much higher than expected in a population of this date. A total of 38% of the population is in the over 45 age group, as opposed to 21% in the Skeljastaðir population, a cemetery dated to c.1000-1104, situated in Þjórárdalur in south-eastern Iceland (Hildur Gestsdóttir, 1998). The age distribution is shown in figure 12 with the age distribution for the site at Skeljastaðir overlain. This is a factor that will have to be considered once the excavation of the cemetery is complete.

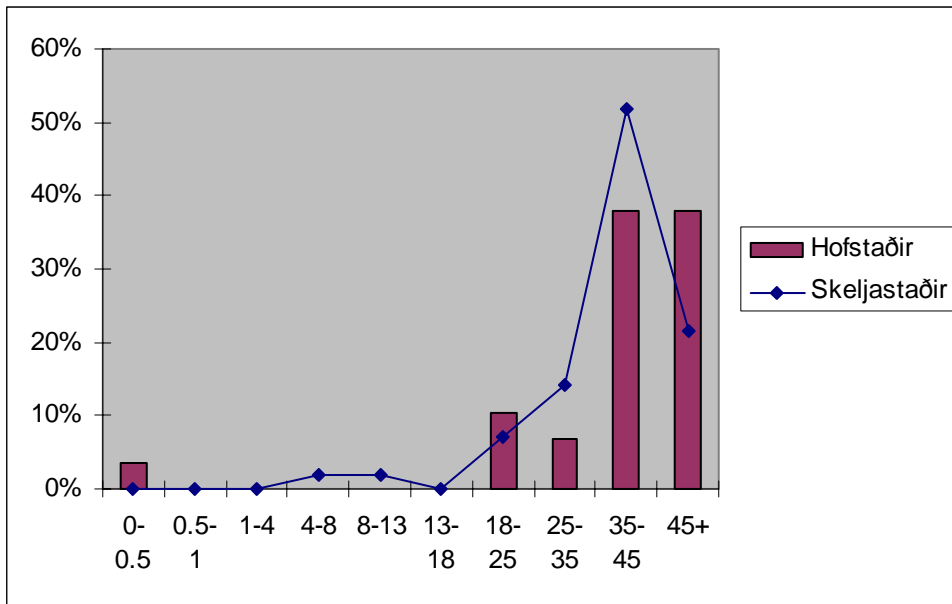


Figure 12. Age

Stature

The average living stature for males in the Hofstaðir population was 172 cm (ranging from 168 to 175 cm). The average stature for females was 161 cm (ranging from 156 to 167 cm). This is considerably below the average stature reported by Jón Steffensen (1974) for the period 1000 – 1500, which was 168.9 cm for men and 154.7 cm for women. See figure 13 for detail.

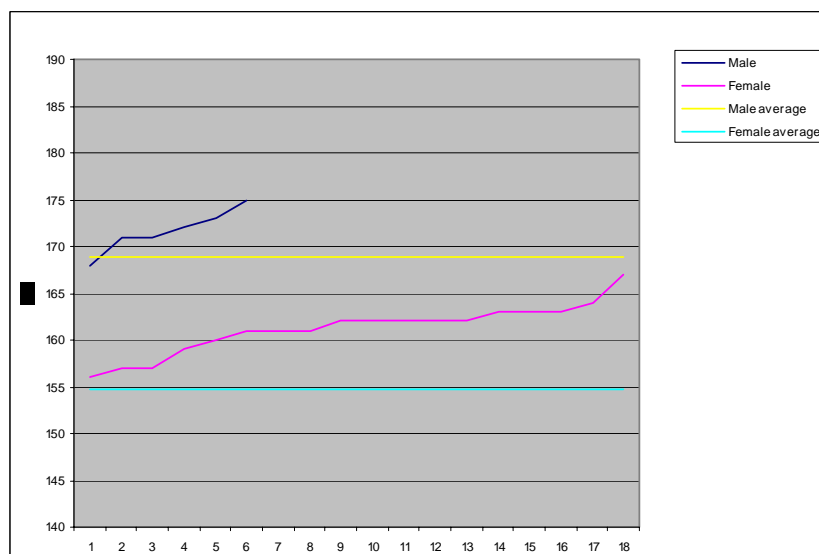


Figure 13. Stature



Figure 14. Grave groups and skeletons.

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APPENDIX 1 – Units

Unit	Type	Description	Material Keyword	Keyword
1698	Deposit	Grave fill SK021	Mixed Silts	Grave
1699	Cut	Grave cut SK021	Cut interface	Grave
1700	Deposit	Grave fill SK20	Mixed Silts	Grave
1701	Cut	Grave cut SK020	Cut interface	Grave
1702	Deposit	Grave fill SK018	Mixed Silts	Grave
1703	Cut	Grave cut SK018	Cut interface	Grave
1704	Deposit	Turf debris in the north-western part of the site	Turf	Disturbed/redeposited
1705	Deposit	Turf debris under the 1477 tephra.	Turf	Wind blown
1706	Deposit	Mottled turf debris in northern part of site.	Turf	Disturbed/redeposited
1707	Deposit	Turf debris in the eastern end of the cemetery.	Turf	Surface
1708	Deposit	Dark turf debris mixed with charcoal and rocks, fill of pit.	Charcoal	Disturbed/redeposited
1709	Cut	Pit in the north-western corner of the site.	Cut interface	Pit
1710	Deposit	Fill of small hole with human bone.	Mixed Silts	Disturbed/redeposited
1711	Cut	Small hole at the north-eastern corner of [1699].	Cut interface	Pit
1712	Deposit	Grave fill SK023	Mixed Silts	Grave
1713	Cut	Grave cut SK023	Cut interface	Grave
1714	Deposit	Grave fill SK022.	Mixed Silts	Grave
1715	Cut	Grave cut SK022	Cut interface	Grave
1716	Cut	Grave cut SK019	Cut interface	Grave
1717	Deposit	Grave fill SK019	Mixed Silts	Grave
1718	Deposit	Grave fill SK24	Mixed Silts	Grave
1719	Cut	Grave cut SK024.	Cut interface	Grave
1720	Deposit	Turf debris, fill of [1709].	Turf	Disturbed/redeposited
1721	Deposit	Ash layer at the base of pit [1709].	Charcoal	Lining
1722	Deposit	Grave fill SK025	Mixed Silts	Grave
1723	Cut	Grave cut SK25.	Cut interface	Grave
1724	Group	Group [1708], [1709], [1720], [1721].	N/A	Peat ash
1725	Deposit	Silt layer in north-west corner of site.	Mixed Silts	Wind blown
1726	Deposit	Grave fill SK026	Mixed Silts	Grave
1727	Cut	Grave fill SK026	Cut interface	Grave
1728	Deposit	Grave fill (disturbed)	Mixed Silts	Grave
1729	Cut	Grave cut (disturbed)	Cut interface	Grave
1730	Deposit	Sheet midden.	Peat ash	Peat ash
1731	Deposit	Disturbed tephra	Tephra	Tephra
1732	Deposit	Small deposit of mixed silts	Mixed Silts	Disturbed/redeposited
1733	Deposit	Grave fill SK027	Mixed Silts	Grave
1734	Cut	Grave cut SK027	Cut interface	Grave
1735	Deposit	Grave fill SK028	Mixed Silts	Grave
1736	Cut	Grave cut SK028	Cut interface	Grave
1737	Deposit	Grave fill SK029	Mixed Silts	Grave
1738	Cut	Grave cut SK029	Cut interface	Grave
1739	Deposit	Dark deposit under chapel.	Mixed Silts	Footing

Unit	Type	Description	Material Keyword	Keyword
1740	Deposit	Dark deposit east of chapel	Mixed Silts	Disturbed/redeposited
1741	Deposit	Debris north-east of chapel	Turf	Disturbed/redeposited
1742	Deposit	Fill of post hole [1743]	Mixed Silts	Post hole
1743	Cut	Post holes south-east of chapel, south of [1745]	Cut interface	Post hole
1744	Deposit	Fill of post hole [1745]	Mixed Silts	Post hole
1745	Cut	Post hole south-east of chapel, north of [1743]	Cut interface	Post hole
1746	Group	Line of graves directly east of the chapel	N/A	Grave
1747	Group	Line of graves 2nd east of chapel	N/A	Grave
1748	Group	Line of graves 3rd east of chapel	N/A	Grave
1749	Group	Later graves in north-west corner of site	N/A	Grave
1750	Group	Graves in porch of chapel	N/A	Grave
1751	Deposit	Stone foundations, west end of nave	Stones	Wall

APPENDIX 2 – Finds

Number	Unit	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count
001	1702	Nail	Iron	1.2	1
002	1717	Unknown	Unknown	--	2
003	1717	Nail	Iron	--	1
004	1717	Coffin	Wood	--	--
005	1700	Coffin nails	Iron	875.1	142
006	1705	Nails	Iron	3.5	1
007	1706	Animal	Bone	--	--
008	1706	Slag	Iron	3.2	3
009	0001	Vessel	Ceramics	20.7	9
010	0001	Whetstone	Schist	24.1	1
011	0001	Nails	Iron	17.1	3
012	0001	Nail	Iron	3.5	1
013	1718	Button	Copper	0.8	1
014	1704	Flake	Flint	6	1
015	0001	Vessel	Ceramic	46.5	12
016	1706	Animal	Bone	--	--
017	1706	Animal	Bone	--	--
018	1705	Unknown	Copper	0.4	1
019	1705	Unknown	Copper	0.4	1
020	1705	Plate	Iron	3.9	1
021	1705	Whetstone	Schist	2.1	1
022	u/s	Nail	Iron	4.9	1
023	0001	Animal	Bone	--	--
024	1704	Animal	Bone	--	--
025	1705	Nail + Slag	Iron	12.2	2
026	1705	Animal	Bone	--	--
027	1705	Animal	Bone	--	--
028	1705	Animal	Bone	--	--
029	1707	Animal	Bone	--	--
030	1707	Animal	Bone	--	--
031	1707	Nail ?	Iron	4	1
032	1698	Unknown	Stone ?	22.7	1
033	0001	Animal	Bone	--	--
034	0001	Nail	Iron	5.9	1
035	0001	Vessel	Glass	1.1	1
036	0001	Ceramic	Ceramics	19.2	3
037	1708	Nail	Iron	14.2	2
038	1718	Coin/Button?	Copper	1.1	1
039	1704	Animal	Bone	--	--
040	1708	Animal	Bone	--	--
041	1708	Nail	Iron	7.4	1
042	1708	Slag	Iron	134.9	1
043	1707	Animal	Bone	--	--
044	1720	Animal	Bone	--	--

Number	Unit	Object type	Material	Weight (g)	Count
045	1707	Animal	Bone	--	--
046	1718	Animal	Bone	--	--
047	1730	Animal	Burnt bone	--	--
048	1732	Animal	Bone	--	--
049	1733	Animal	Bone	--	--
050	1725	Animal	Bone	--	--
051	1725	Animal	Bone	--	--
052	1707	Slag	Iron	21.6	1
053	0001	Vessel	Glass	2.3	1
054	1725	Animal	Bone	--	--
055	1725	Nail	Iron	9.8	2
056	1725	Slag	Iron	124.8	1
057	1725	Animal	Bone	--	--
058	1725	Animal	Bone	--	--
059	1740	Animal	Bone	--	--
060	1740	Nail	Iron	9.9	1
061	1741	Animal	Bone	--	--
062	1741	Cooking plate	Schist	17.8	Frag
063	--	--	--	--	--
064	1726	Animal	Bone	--	--
065	1698	Animal	Bone	--	--
066	1698	Nail	Iron	39	1
067	u/s	Fragment	Obsidian	16	1

APPENDIX 3 – Samples

Sample	No	Notes	Type	Method	Weight (g) / volume (l)	Count
001	1717	From under head (SK019).	Macro	Bulk	1003g	1 Bag
002	1717	From under pelvis (SK019).	Macro	Bulk	858g	1 Bag
003	1717	From chest area (SK019).	Macro	Bulk	656g	1 Bag
004	1700	From pelvis cavity (SK020).	Macro	Bulk	197g	1 Bag
005	1700	From thoracic cavity (SK020).	Macro	Bulk	274g	1 Bag
006	1700	Ash (SK020).	Macro	Bulk	1.5g	1 Bag
007	1702	Wood from coffin (SK018).	Macro	Bulk	1070g	1 Bag
008	1702	Ash (SK018).	Macro	Bulk	3.5g	1 Bag
010	1702	Pelvic cavity (SK018).	Macro	Bulk	241g	1 Bag
011	1721	Charcoal from [1721].	Macro	Bulk	20l	2 Buckets
012	1702	Wood from coffin. (SK018).	Macro	Bulk	18g	1 Bag
013	1718	Wood. (SK024).	Macro	Bulk	50g	1 Bag
014	1718	Wood. (SK024).	Macro	Bulk	55g	1 Bag
015	1712	Ash (SK023).	Macro	Bulk	1.5g	1 Bag
016	1712	Thoracic cavity (SK023).	Macro	Bulk	521g	1 Bag
017	1712	Pelvic cavity (SK023).	Macro	Bulk	560g	1 Bag
019	1714	Soil from chest cav. (SK022).	Macro	Bulk	601g	1 Bag
020	1714	Fatty soil under SK022).	Macro	Bulk	39g	1 Bag
021	1722	Thoracic cavity (SK025).	Macro	Bulk	748g	1 Bag
022	1722	Pelvic cavity (SK025).	Macro	Bulk	645g	1 Bag
024	1733	From under skull (SK027).	Macro	Bulk	616g	1 Bag
025	1733	From chest area (SK027).	Macro	Bulk	325g	1 Bag
026	1733	From pelvic area (SK027).	Macro	Bulk	735g	1 Bag
027	1733	From pelvic area (SK027). White soil	Macro	Bulk	15g	1 Bag
028	1735	From pelvic area (SK028).	Macro	Bulk	381g	1 Bag
029	1735	From thoracic cavity (SK028).	Macro	Bulk	333g	1 Bag
030	1742	Charcoal.	Macro	Bulk	77g	1 Bag
031	1742	Wood.	Macro	Bulk	19.5g	1 Bag
009	1702	Thoracic cavity (SK018)	Macro	Bulk	985g	1 Bag
018	1714	Pelvic cavity (SK022).	Macro	Bulk	549g	1 Bag
023	1733	From around skull (SK027).	Macro	Bulk	743g	1 Bag

APPENDIX 4 – Osteoarchaeological analysis

Skeleton number	Preservation	Sex	Age (years)	Stature (cm)	Year excavated
SK001	2 (good)	Female	45+	163±2	1999
SK002	2 (good)	Female	45+	160±1	2000
SK003	2 (good)	Female	45+	168±2	2000
SK004	2 (good)	Female	35-45	164±1	2000
SK005	1 (excellent)	Female	18-25	160±2	2000
SK006	5 (bad)	?juvenile	0-0.5	--	2000
SK007	3 (fair)	Female	35-45	157±1	2001
SK008	2 (good)	Male	35-45	173±2	2001
SK009	3 (fair)	Female	25-35	162±1	2001
SK010	2 (good)	Female	45+	162±3	2001
SK011	1 (excellent)	Female	35-45	164±1	2001
SK012	3 (fair)	Female	35-45	165±3	2001
SK013	2 (good)	Female	35-45	162±2	2001
SK014	2 (good)	Female	35-45	163±1	2001
SK015	2 (good)	Female	45+	158	2001
SK016	3 (fair)	Female	18-25	--	2001
SK017	2 (good)	Female	18-25	157±1	2001
SK018	3 (fair)	Male	45+	--	2003
SK019	4 (poor)	Female	45+	--	2003
SK020	2 (good)	Male	45+	172±2	2003
SK021	3 (fair)	Female?	35-45	162±3	2003
SK022	3 (fair)	Male	45+	169	2003
SK023	2 (good)	Female	45+	163±3	2003
SK024	3 (fair)	Male	35-45	175±1	2003
SK025	2 (good)	Male	35-45	173±1	2003
SK026	1 (excellent)	Female	25-35	163±3	2003
SK027	2 (good)	Female	45+	163±3	2003
SK028	4 (poor)	?adult	adult	--	2003
SK029	3 (fair)	Male	35-45	172±3	2003
SK030	Commingle	--	--	--	2003