

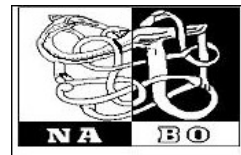
Hrísheimar 2004

Interim Report



Edited by Ragnar Edvardsson

With Contributions by Thomas McGovern and Colleen Batey



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1. Introduction

Aims and methods

The excavations at *Hrísheimar* have now been in progress for four years. The focus of the work for the first two years was more on surveying and test trenching for assessment than large scale excavation. In 2003 and 2004 the work increased with the opening of two large excavation areas.

In 2003 there were two main excavation areas; one was approximately 60 m west of the farm mound; the other was just by the farm mound on its eastern side. The areas were individually sub-divided and each was given an area code. The area west of the farm mound was given codes A, B and C while the other area contained codes H and L. A large trench was cut in an easterly direction from area L and was given the code Q.

The 2003 season identified an iron ore processing and iron-producing site in areas A–C. The number of furnaces, 19 small and 2 large, indicate that iron was being produced on a large scale and probably over a long period of time. In area H a sunken feature building was partially excavated and in area L well stratified midden deposits were excavated. (Edvardsson, R. et al., 2003)

In 2004, work in areas H and L continued. The main aim of the season was to fully excavate the sunken feature building in area H and continue exposing and excavating the midden deposits. Other objectives were to obtain a better understanding of the relationship of the thick midden deposits sampled in 2003 in area L with the tephra layers observed in the lower end of the long Q trench, especially the Landnám sequence and the early-mid 10th c. *Veðivötn* grey-green tephra. Also to understand the relationships between the midden deposits overlying (and underlying) the multiple turf structures and wall lines that had appeared in the 2003 L-trench.

The methodology for the excavation at *Hrísheimar* followed the methodology already established at the *Hofstaðir* site, i.e. single context excavation and recording. The site was divided into 5 * 5 planning areas and each archaeological unit was recorded and given a unique context number.

The excavation at *Hrísheimar* was a part of the now well-established *Hofstaðir* field school. The total number of students on the *Hrísheimar* site was six. The students came from Brooklyn College, Hunter College and The Graduate Center, which are all institutions within the City University of New York.

The *Hrísheimar* field school and excavation were led by Ragnar Edvardsson (Graduate Center, CUNY), as well as being led by such other academics as Thomas H. McGovern (Hunter College, CUNY) who was in charge of the midden excavation, Colleen Batey (FSÍ/Glasgow University) and Ian Simpson (Stirling University).

2. Excavation results

Ragnar Edvardsson

The focus of the 2004 season was the area east of the presumed farm mound, which had previously been given the area codes H and L. In area H a sunken feature building had been identified and partially excavated. In area L a large, well-stratified midden had been exposed and also remains of turf walls. Due to the nature and complexity of the area it was decided to enlarge the excavation trenches in all directions in the hope of exposing the entire midden and the extension of the turf walls.

2.1 Area H.

Area H was to the southeast of the presumed farm mound and in 2001 a test pit had been excavated in the area. The pit revealed a well-stratified midden that was on top of a sunken feature building. The excavation of the sunken feature building was begun in 2003 and it was clear that it had been constructed by the excavation of a shallow pit and turf walls erected on the edges of the pit. This structure was approximately 4 * 3 m.

The floor of the structure had been removed in 2003 and what remained was to identify and excavate the remaining features under the floor deposits (Edvardsson et al., 2003). Once the area had been cleaned it became clear that there remained a fair number of negative features that cut into the virgin soil under the structure.

In the northeastern part of the structure a semi-circular pit, measuring 1,0* 0,80 m, was recorded [205, 208]. This feature is probably the remains of small barrel pit. However, no remains of wood were recorded only a few small stones in the bottom of it.



a

Pic. 1. The subterranean structure under excavation.

Immediately south of the barrel pit a fireplace had been constructed. This fireplace was

small, 0,50 * 0,50 m [250, 249]. The fireplace was built close to the eastern wall and during its construction a shallow pit had been dug into the subsoil and a large flat stone was placed in it. Smaller stones were then put around the larger stone and all stones showed evidence of burning. Within and around the fireplace a deposit was recorded that consisted of wood- and peat- ash mixed with burned bones and bits of charcoal.

Another pit was recorded about a meter south of the fireplace [203]. This pit was oval in shape and measured approximately 0,90 * 0,40 m and had been dug by the eastern wall. The deposit within the pit was very fine with no remains of burning. On top of the

pit a large flat stone had been placed extending in an easterly direction. This pit is probably a small drain by the entrance of the building. The flat stone and drain are the only remains of the entrance into the sunken feature building.

Along the eastern and western walls a number of postholes were recorded. The postholes on the western side were all approximately 20 cm from the edge of the wall. The postholes on the eastern side were only 5-10 cm from the edge of the wall. All postholes were circular, with a flat base and similar in size from 10-20 cm in diameter. The postholes were from 3-



20 cm deep and it was noted that most of the postholes on the eastern side were very shallow. The excavation revealed 16 postholes which once contained structural posts [251]. These posts supported the timber frame of the building.

In the southern end of building three postholes were recorded that were lined in an east/west direction dividing the building in two parts [252]. The northern part was larger and was cut deeper into the subsoil than the southern part. The southern part was also narrower and formed an apex extending to the south.

Discussion

In area H two occupational phases were recorded. The earliest phase consisted of the building of the sunken feature building. During its construction a trench was dug 50 cm into the subsoil, 13 posts were erected along the eastern and western sides and 3 on the northern and southern ends. These posts held up the timber frame of the structure. A small fireplace was built in the northeastern area of the building. The entrance into the building was probably in the southeastern end of the wall where a large flat stone with a drain under it was recorded. No clear turf walls were recorded during the excavation but the presence of turf collapse within the structure itself suggest that the building had turf walls and a turf roof that was pushed into the building at the end of the first phase. The final occupational phase of area H occurred as a result of the occupants of the Hrísheimar farm digging a hole in the abandoned ruins for rubbish.

An internal division between the southern and northern parts of the structure was clearly visible. This division was marked by a row of posts extending from east to west and that the northern end had been dug deeper into the subsoil than the southern end of the structure. Furthermore, floor deposits were thick and even in the north but did not

extend into the south. The southern end of the structure showed much less activity which may suggest that this end was used as storage space while the other was workspace.

It is difficult to assess the function of this sunken feature building but the archaeological evidence suggests that the building was primarily a workshop. No evidence for benches or any other features were recorded that could identify the structure as living quarters. The center of activity within the structure was probably just west of the fireplace where a pit had been recorded in 2003 (Edvardsson, et al., 2003).

Area L and Q

Thomas H. McGovern, Ragnar Edvardsson

The 2003 season demonstrated that the erosion of archaeological deposits at Hrísheimar (very evident to the south and west of the apparent farm mound) did not extend to the north and east of the site. Here a grass-covered “island” proved to hold a substantial archaeological deposit, capped in most places by 50-80 cm of stratified natural silt and organic soil horizons. These natural deposits appeared to represent post-occupational accumulation of wind deposited andisol that was periodically stabilized by turf development, recovered by silt, and then again temporarily re-stabilized by grass cover. As a result, the modern surface contour provides little guide to the archaeological remains below, which were only discovered by test pits dug in 2003. The 3 * 5 m area L excavation unit opened in 2003 revealed not only extensive middens rich in organic remains (including bird egg shell, birch bark, and large quantities of fish, mammal, and bird bones) but also turf wall lines suggesting the presence of at least two or three additional structures. The long Q trench dug to extend profiles to the E allowed observation of in situ tephra, but these could not be unambiguously tied to the archaeological deposits in the 2003 season.

The 2004 excavation strategy called for an expansion of the area L unit in all directions, and establishing a direct physical connection with the area Q trench and the area H sunken featured building to the southeast. The area Q trench was thus widened from 1 to 2 m in width, and the L unit was expanded 3 m to the south and 3 m to the west. All the excavated units in area L were either midden or aeolian deposits. The basic aim of the excavation in area L was to remove each individual midden deposit.

Once the excavation trench had been extended, a windblown deposit [31] became visible. This windblown deposit is probably the first deposition of eroded material from the surrounding area after the abandonment of the farm. This deposit extended over the entire trench and had been recorded in 2003. The composition of the deposit was mainly sand but with turf, bones and midden material mixed within. Just under this deposit in the northern part of the trench, a small individual dump of midden was recorded [32]. This deposit was about 2* 2 m in size and 2-20 cm deep. In the northern part of the trench a small midden deposit was recorded under [31] which probably is the same as [32].

In 2003 a midden deposit [35] was recorded on the eastern side of the 2003 trench (Edvardsson, R. 2003). Under it another midden deposit was recorded [36] and it extended into the western section of the 2003 trench. After the enlargement of the trench to the west the deposit became more visible and it extended to the west and was sloping downhill towards the east.



After the removal of [36] a few midden deposits were recorded [39], [32], [80] and [79]. The excavation unit [39] filled a depression, about 3 * 2 m in size. It was mainly composed of midden material, bones, burned bones, charcoal, etc., but it was also mixed with turf and earth. The depression was similar in size and shape as the depression recorded in area H, which may indicate that another sunken feature building is under the midden material.

A turf wall had been recorded in 2003 which was aligned in a north/south direction. East of this wall a number of deposits had been recorded in 2003 and the excavation was continued in this area. Various individual midden deposits were recorded [44], [46], [47], [60] and [75]. All were similar in composition, with excellent preservation. In the northern part of the trench a similar pattern was recorded as seen elsewhere in the area L trench, individual dumps of midden material [79], [87], [90], [91], [95], [83], [82], [84], [89].

Discussion

The focus of the 2004 season in area L was the continuing removal of midden material. The preservation in the midden deposits far exceeded all expectation and large amounts of bones and artifacts (see below) were recovered. It was noted during the excavation that during the final phase of occupation rubbish had been thrown down slope towards the east, indicating that the main farm building is west of the excavation areas. This strengthens the idea that the large mound towards the west is a farm mound.

A depression has become visible in area L and on the southern side of it there seems to be a large pit emerging which has been cut into the subsoil. It is difficult to assess anything about this feature as there are still substantial deposits of midden unexcavated. However, the feature seems to be similar in size to the sunken feature building in area H and is aligned in the same north/south direction. It is likely that another sunken feature building will emerge once the midden has been removed.

3. The finds

Colleen Batey

A total of 202 Finds Units were recorded from this season (6 were subsequently removed from the list as non-artefactual pieces). This total assemblage can be subdivided by material as follows: 26 finds of Industrial Debris, 106 finds of iron, 3 finds of copper alloy, 41 finds of stone, 12 finds bone/antler/whalebone and 8 finds of glass and amber. Of these totals, unfortunately, 41 iron finds are indeterminate without x-ray and 23 of the stone finds are simple imported pebbles (manuports) lacking any evidence of utilization at all.

3.1 INDUSTRIAL DEBRIS

Table 1

Context	Find number
Unstratified	63, 82, 151
31	3, 32, 40, 47, 76, 102, 103
36	53
39	70
44	33
45	65
46	52
47	56
60	61, 162
78	139
79	166
82	132
87	153, 163, 165, 175
88	171

There was a significant amount of metalworking debris, 26 Finds Units in total, although as most of the debris was apparently located in the midden dumps in this season, substantially more finds will be recovered from the samples taken. It is presumed that this is evidence for the reworking of iron items for the repair of tools, etc., on a domestic scale. This evidence should be viewed as complementary to that of the iron finds at the site.

3.2 IRON

Table 2

Nails

Context	Find number
31	6,10,11,13,19,45,86,88,89,98,100,101, 202
36	55
39	83,148
44	29
45	64,195
46	35,179
47	51
77	71
78	138,147
79	123
83	133
85	155
88	164
92	176

The relatively large iron assemblage includes several different categories of artefact types, including 30 nails (see Table 2); tools such as Find 8 from Context 31 which may be the head of a pair of tweezers, Find 72 from Context 39 which appears to be a chisel, a surface find no. 68 which is provisionally identified as a perforated scissor blade and several knife blades and parts of tangs and handles (e.g. surface find 38, Find 44 from Context 36 and Find 174 from Context 88; a part of a strike a light, Find 21 from Context 44 and a number of vessel fragments, such as Find 129 from Context 79 and a section of handle with remaining rivets, Find 158 from Context 45. A small number of other identifiable pieces of iron have also been recovered, including a spike or crampon (Find 15 from Context 31), an iron bar (Find 22 from Context 35), various hooks and loops including Find 66 from Context 60 and Find 178 from Context 87. In some cases these finds can be closely paralleled from other sites, such as the strike a light from graves at Hrífunesi and Hrauntungurústum (Eldjárn and Friðriksson 2000, 405) and the vessel handle (termed a suspension fitting cf. York, Ottaway 1992, 650). A number of crampons have also been discovered previously at Icelandic sites such as Skeljastodir and Hrossatungur (Eldjárn and Friðriksson 2000, 410)

Amongst the overall iron assemblage there is a notable concentration of approximately 40 items from Context 31. In addition there are several finds which were recovered from the surface of the site, the result of eroded occupation or midden dumps (such as 2 knife blades Finds 30 and 69 and the curious piece which may be part of a pair of scissors (Find 68). The relatively large collection of nails (with an additional 3 roves (Finds 62,75,77) , are mostly made up of shank fragments and bent and distorted upper shanks and heads, and this would suggest that these have been extracted from pre-existing woodwork, most probably with the aim of recycling. This is supported perhaps in the case of Find 133 from Context 83 which appears to be heat-distorted.

In general it is clear from this iron assemblage, particularly when combined with the evidence of the Industrial Debris and several whetstones at the site (see below) that iron-working is taking place adjacent to this site. The recovery of 26 debris finds is not particularly sufficient to indicate that the working site has been identified in this season, although there will be several additional finds recovered from the samples taken within the midden. The wide-scale



Pic. 4. Iron knife.

scattering of these elements of the assemblage and the unexpected inclusion of so many pieces discarded within the middens is curious, and does not seem to suggest that iron was in short supply at this site; the probable reworking of scrap metal, seen in the nails, plate, roves, etc., is expected, but its being discarded within the rubbish areas is not.

3.3 COPPER ALLOY

There are just 3 items of copper alloy in the assemblage from 2004, in stark contrast to the amount of iron. Two of the finds are surface pieces (Finds 1 and 5) which may have been mounts although this is perhaps hard to see, and Find 119 (from Context 79) which might have bound a handle together, being a curving band of metal with perforated ends for securing.

3.4 STONE

The stone assemblage is dominated by 23 finds of waterworn pebbles which have probably been introduced to the site, but apparently not utilized (manuports). In addition, 2 perforated pebbles (Find 149 from Context 79 and Find 193 from Context 249) were identified on site as probable loom weights. These are more likely in fact to be water worn basaltic pieces which have natural perforations which may conceivably have been utilized in the first case, but in the second the fact that the perforation has a clear step within it discounts this function. This is a common identification in sites from the Mývatn area, but in most cases, the complete perforations are too close to one edge to have been practical for suspension of such a heavy stone.

Two other categories of stone objects are, however, of considerably more significance. There are 6 whetstones, all with the possible exception of Find 57 from Context 36 are imported stone types, such as schist (Finds 4 and 74) and probable purple phyllite (Find 142). These are important as imports from Scandinavia and probably of Viking Age date. Three further stone finds, are of steatite which is another contemporary Scandinavian import: Find 59 (Context 60) and Find 199 (Context 91) are both wall sherds from

hemispherical vessels and Find 121 from Context 79 is roughly half of a spindle whorl which has an exceptionally large perforation.

3.5 BONE/ANTLER/WHALEBONE

The relatively small bone assemblage comprises 5 finds which are probably parts of pins, most commonly shank sections (e.g. Find 128 from Context 79 and Find 188 from Context 87) However, Find 170 from Context 92 which is a very small, carefully worked section may be a decorative pin head (although comparable examples are hard to find). However, Find 200 from Context 91 is clearly a very finely-worked decorated pin head in the form of a dragon



Pic. 6. A die made of whalebone.

seen in profile. This lovely piece has a recently recovered Icelandic parallel Keldudalur (Sigurðardóttir 2004, 67-68) and also from the British Isles (Hamilton, J.R.C. 1956, 124-5 fig 58). It is of Viking-Age date. The remaining bone find, 35 from Context 46 is a simple section of long bone which has been cut to form a bead.

Items which are probably antler rather than bone, although this would need to be confirmed, include a small number of comb fragments. Find 154 from Context 88 is a narrow comb bar with traces of an iron rivet, and the find also includes an additional piece which is not part of a comb, but is well-worked and had a central small iron rivet. Teethplate fragments came from Contexts 84 (Find 156) and 92 (Find 167) and indicate composite single-sided combs. Find 169 additionally, from Context 88 appears to be a fragment of comb bar with lightly incised decoration. These are most probably of the Viking or Later Viking date range.

The final piece in this section is a complete whalebone die of elongated form. It has a very close parallel at the nearby grave site of Baldursheimur which produced one of the finest gaming sects to have been found in Iceland to date (Eldjárn and Friðriksson 2000, 416-7). This is a most interesting discovery and will certainly repay further detailed study.

3.6 GLASS AND AMBER

The final category of material from the site includes 5 finds of blue glass beads (Finds 39 (Context 36), 54 (47), 60 (US), 67 (60) and 159 (79)). All the beads have slightly different forms, including Find 39 which is part of a segmented bead, and 60 which has a rilled face. Such differences do not preclude their original presence on a single necklace, as there are many examples from Viking pagan graves of necklaces with different bead types (e.g. Kornsa illustrated in Eldjárn and Friðriksson 2000, 125). The additional 2

pieces of amber beads could also have been part of this set (Finds 118 and 192). All are from different contexts, with only 2 being from a single Context 79 (118 and 159).

3.7 Discussion

In conclusion, this assemblage includes a wide variety of material types and object types. It is dominated by the mixed iron assemblage which might indicate the reworking of iron in the vicinity of the site examined in 2004 (combined with the evidence of the Industrial Debris and tools). The presence of Scandinavian whetstones, steatite vessel sherds, comb fragments and decorated bone pin in addition to the variety of beads represented (particularly the segmented fragment), all combine to confirm a date commencing within the Viking Age for the activity at this site. The fact that so many pieces were recovered from the middens and eroded horizons, however, should be borne in mind, as the fragmentary nature of these materials indicates a long life for many of the items originally imported from Scandinavia.

4. The midden

Thomas H. McGovern

The Hrísheimar archaeofauna is considerably large (24 boxes of bones recovered in 2004, 15 boxes recovered in 2003, 4 boxes recovered in 2001) and will require years to bring to completion, but a few observations can be made now.

4. 1. Domestic Mammals

Table 2 presents a very preliminary count and relative percentage of domestic mammals

Table 2		Hrísheimar Preliminary H & L (2001-03)	
<i>Scientific Names</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>NISP Count</i>	<i>% Identified Mammals</i>
Bos taurus dom.	cattle	274	17.00
Equus caballus	horse	4	0.25
Canis familiaris	dog		present, canine tooth marks
Sus scrofa	pig	341	21.15
Capra hircus	goat	22	1.36
Ovis aries	sheep	140	8.68
Ovis or Capra sp.	caprine	831	51.55
All Caprines		993	61.60
	total	<hr/> 1612	

In both two major contexts at Hrísheimar (003 in the fill of sunken feature structure M and 45 in unit L), the same overall patterns hold – substantial amounts of cattle bone and what is still the largest percentage of pig bones from any site in Iceland. The overall domestic mammal profile (substantial amounts of pig and goat as well as cattle and sheep) is consistent with the 10th c tephra and radiocarbon dating evidence. There is at present no sign whatsoever of the transition to a sheep/wool economy as indicated by the

12th-13th c. deposits at Sveigakot and Steinbogi, and the initial impression is that animal management strategies were aimed mainly at food production.

4.2 Pig diet and genetics

The Hrísheimar pig population is now subject to a series of analyses aimed at reconstructing herding patterns, diet and genetics. The carbon and nitrogen isotope studies carried out (by Dr. Gordon Cook, Scottish University Reactors Center) on the Hrísheimar pig bones indicate that they (like the other Mývatnssveit pigs sampled) were entirely within the terrestrial food web, producing isotopic profiles similar to the cattle and horse sampled. Human and dog carbon and nitrogen values



Pic. 7. The midden in area L under excavation.

from the same area by contrast indicate significant consumption of marine products. Work by Dr. Ingrid Mainland (University of Bradford) on the teeth of the Mývatnssveit pigs focuses upon both enamel hypoplasia (growth arrest lines) and surface wear to investigate patterns of pig keeping. Sty-maintained pigs tend to have a single growth arrest line (associated with weaning), while free-ranging pigs tend to have dual growth arrests lines (associated with weaning and the first winter). A cooperative project with the new Archaeological Biomolecules Laboratory at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia (Mike Campana) will attempt to extract ancient remnant DNA from the Myvatnssviet pigs for comparison with ancient DNA from pigs from the Faroes, N Norway, W Scotland, and pre-Viking Ireland. The intent is to use pig DNA (where contamination is less an issue and where the modern genetics are nearly as well mapped as with humans) to trace the movement of domestic stock across the N Atlantic (was Iceland provisioned with Scottish or Irish pigs?).

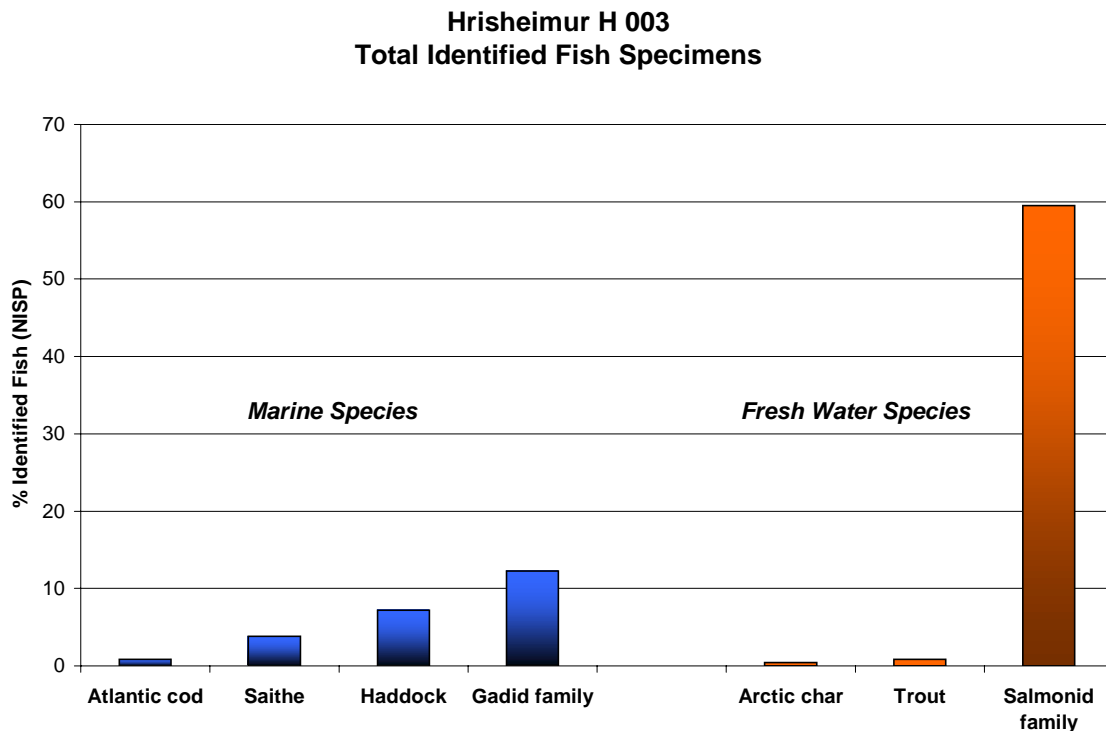
4.3 Bird Egg Shells

Large amounts of bird egg shell have been recovered from Hrísheimar (as at Hofstaðir). Scanning electron micrography (Jane Sidell, University College London) indicates that while the bulk of this material comes from duck eggs, some ptarmigan egg and some sea bird (alcid) eggs were also present. As in the other Mývatn sites, ptarmigan (*Lagopus mutus*) bones are by far the most common bird bones present: waterfowl were apparently not regularly killed, though their eggs appear to have been collected in large numbers in the 10th c. at Hrísheimar. By the time of the 18th c. Jarðabók account, the

inland farms near Hrísheimar were no longer listed as having egg collection as a farm resource. Social or environmental changes seem to have altered access to this resource at some time since the 10th c.

4.4 Fish and the Marine Connection

Analysis of fish bones is ongoing, but it is already clear that substantial amounts of both freshwater fish (charr *Salvelinus alpinus* and trout *Salmo trutta*) and marine fish imported at least 60 km inland from the coast are present. The marine fish are represented by partial skeletons lacking heads and upper vertebrae presumably left at the processing site. The excellent bone preservation and very large samples will allow much more detailed investigation of both marine and freshwater fish use in the near future.



4.5 Discussion

While the Hrísheimar excavations thus far have been extremely productive, it will be critical to significantly expand the 2004 unit L area to allow a proper open area investigation of the complex of midden deposits and multiple phases of turf buildings revealed by the 2004 investigations. As the unit expands to the north and east, it should encounter less truncation by the 18th c. erosion, and it should be easier to resolve the phasing of the later portions of the occupation. It will also be important to further expand investigations in the eastern edge of the site to trace the cultural horizon between the Landnám tephra sequence and the ca. 950 Veidivötn tephra. Despite its evident erosion damage, Hrísheimar has the potential to produce results directly comparable to the nearby Hofstaðir and Sveigakot excavations.

5. Conclusions

The excavations at Hrísheimar has revealed an unexpected amount of archaeological material, bones, artifacts and structures. Prior to the 2003 season it was expected that little remained of archaeology and that most of cultural remains had been destroyed by erosion. The excavations in 2003 and 2004 have, on the contrary, shown that the Hrísheimar site is producing large amounts of important and interesting archaeological data. A picture of the Hrísheimar farm is slowly emerging and it is showing a somewhat different occupational pattern than on a typical medieval Icelandic farm.



Pic. 8. The sunken feature building at the end of excavation.

In 2003 a large iron production site was uncovered suggesting that the Hrísheimar farm was heavily involved in the production of iron. There is some evidence also suggesting that iron production was the main part of the Hrísheimar economy, e.g. the number of furnaces and the quantity of Industrial Debris in both the areas excavated in 2003 and 2004. The presence of iron working on the site is also giving up clues about the environment at the site during its occupation. It is quite likely that the area was dense with birch wood and that the extensive iron working was the main factor in the deforestation of the site which eventually caused increased erosion and ultimately abandonment.

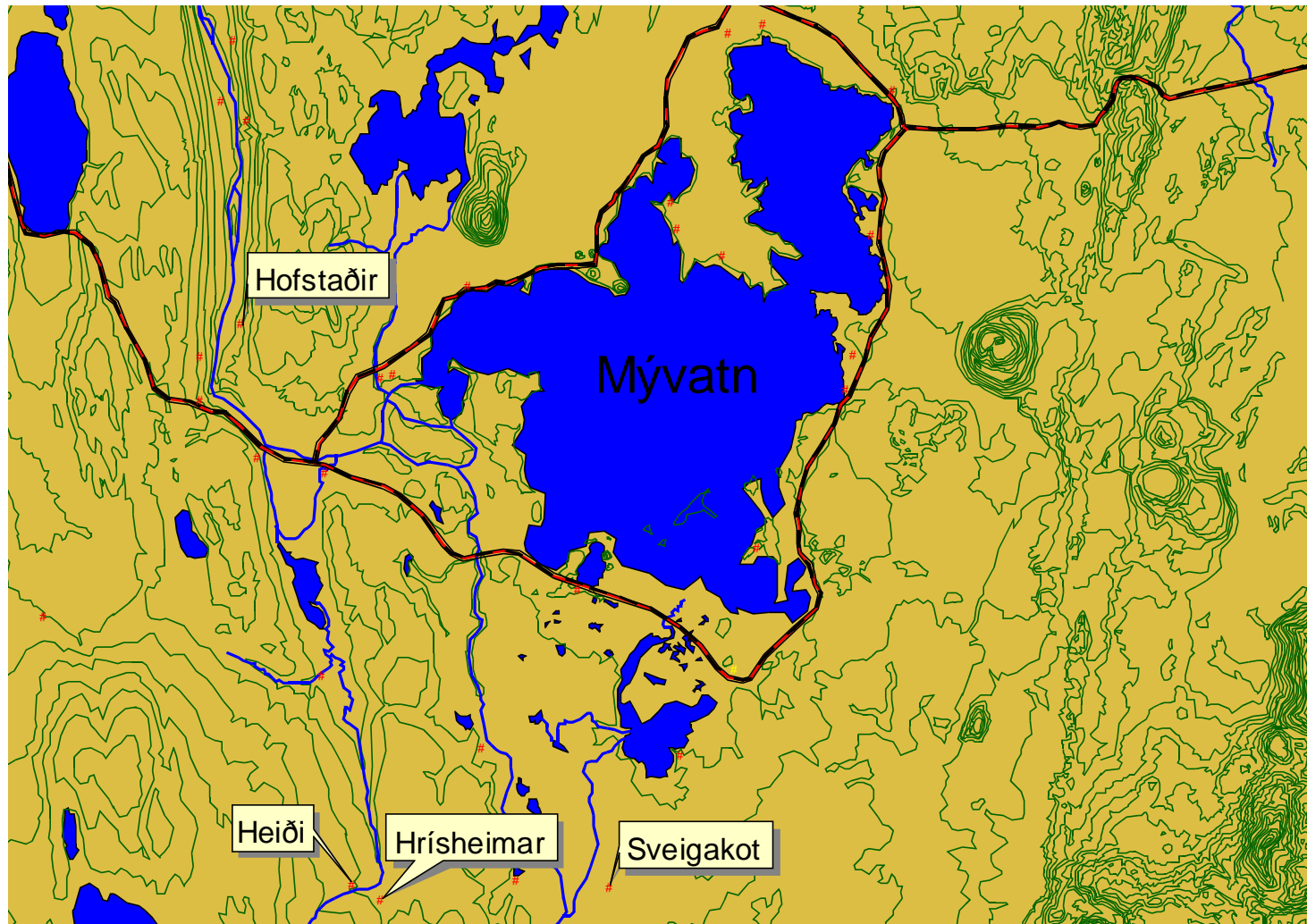
Deeply stratified midden deposits have now been excavated for two seasons in the area east of the presumed farm mound. The preservation in the midden is excellent for both bone and artifacts. Large amounts of bones have been retrieved, both terrestrial and marine species, which will take years to analyze. However, the primary examination shows an unexpected high percentage of pig bones, much higher than on any other excavated Icelandic farm from the same period. It is too early to speculate on the significance of these findings but the high portion of pigbones could suggest that the farm was a high status farm, at least well above average.

The excavation of the sunken feature building in area H was concluded in 2004. All cultural deposits and negative features were excavated, revealing a structure 4 * 3 m in size. The archaeological evidence could not conclusively determined the function of the structure but the absence of benches and other furniture associated with a structure used as living quarters, suggests that the building was a workshop of some kind, possibly where cloth was manufactured based on the two loom weights found in the southern end of the structure. It is, however, too early to determine anything certain about the function of this structure as all data recovered from this area has not been analyzed. Samples taken from the floor in 2003 may well help in solving the problem of function for this building.

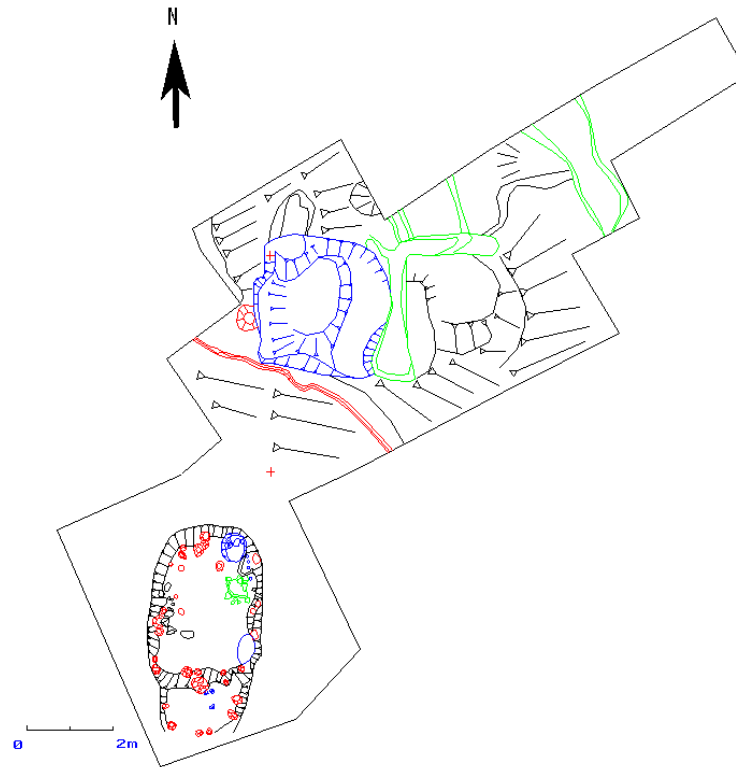
It is possible that another sunken feature building is emerging under the midden deposits in area L. A pit dug into the subsoil, similar in size and shape as the structure in H, was recorded in 2004. It is too early to remark on the nature of this pit and it will become clearer as the excavation progresses in the area.

It seems clear the archaeological remains in the area east of the presumed farm mound are much more extensive than previously thought. The archaeology has been preserved in the area underneath a thick layer of eroded material, which probably originated from the hills west of the farm mound. The focus of the next stage of excavation must be in this area, extending the L and Q trenches towards the north and exposing all midden deposits. Once the midden deposits have been removed any structures or other archaeological features will be examined.

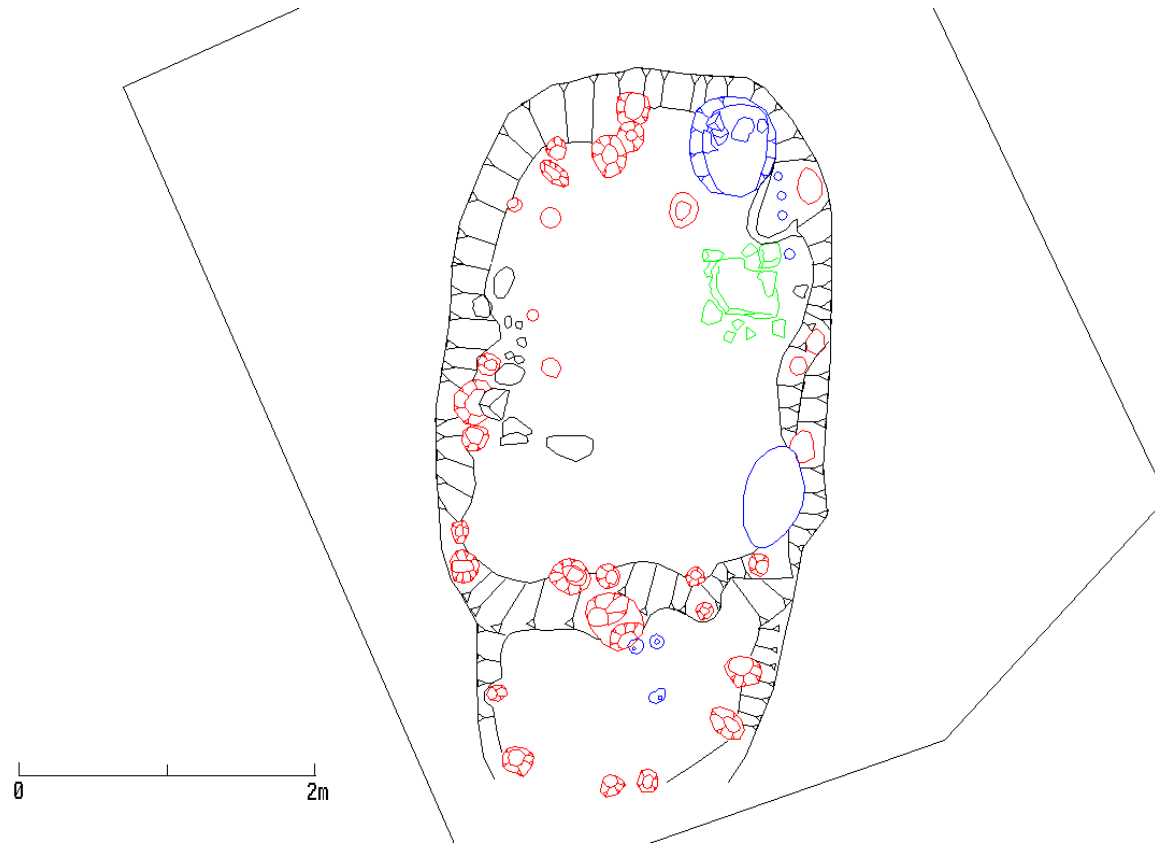
6. Drawings and Maps



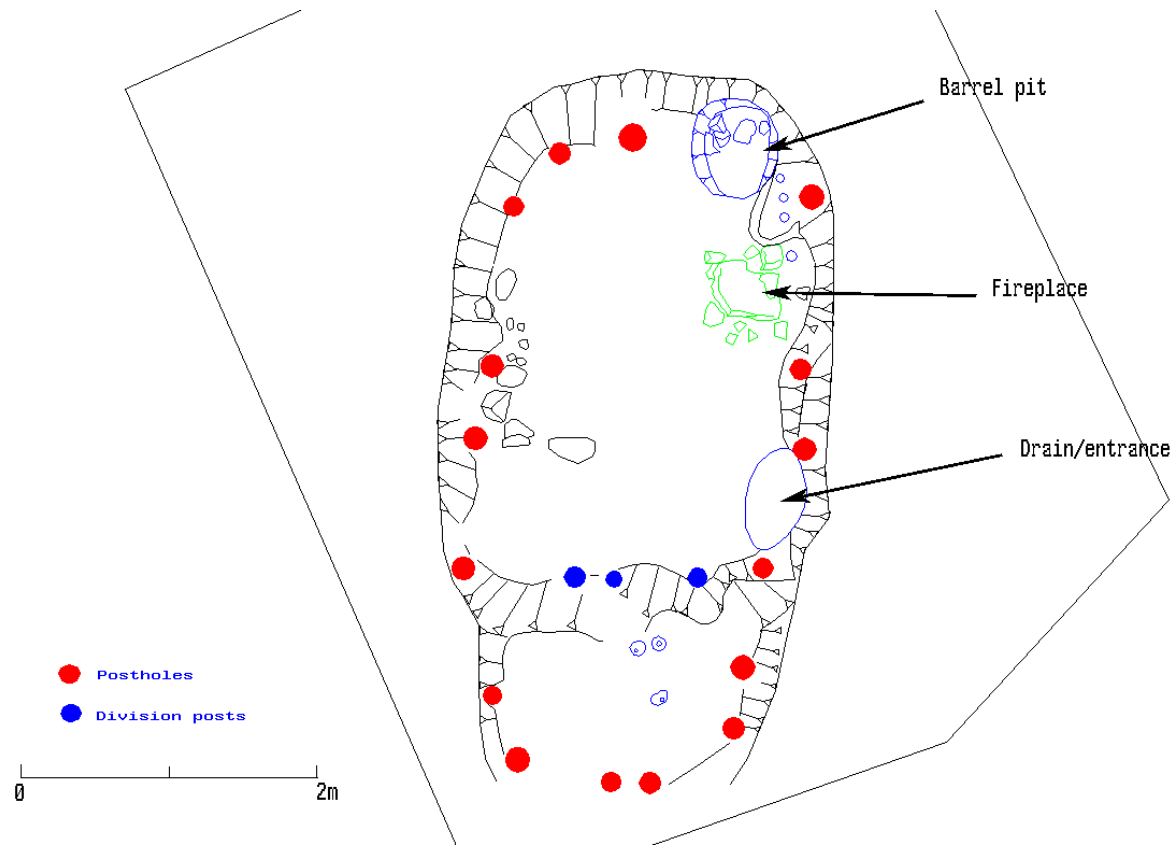
Map 1. Location map.



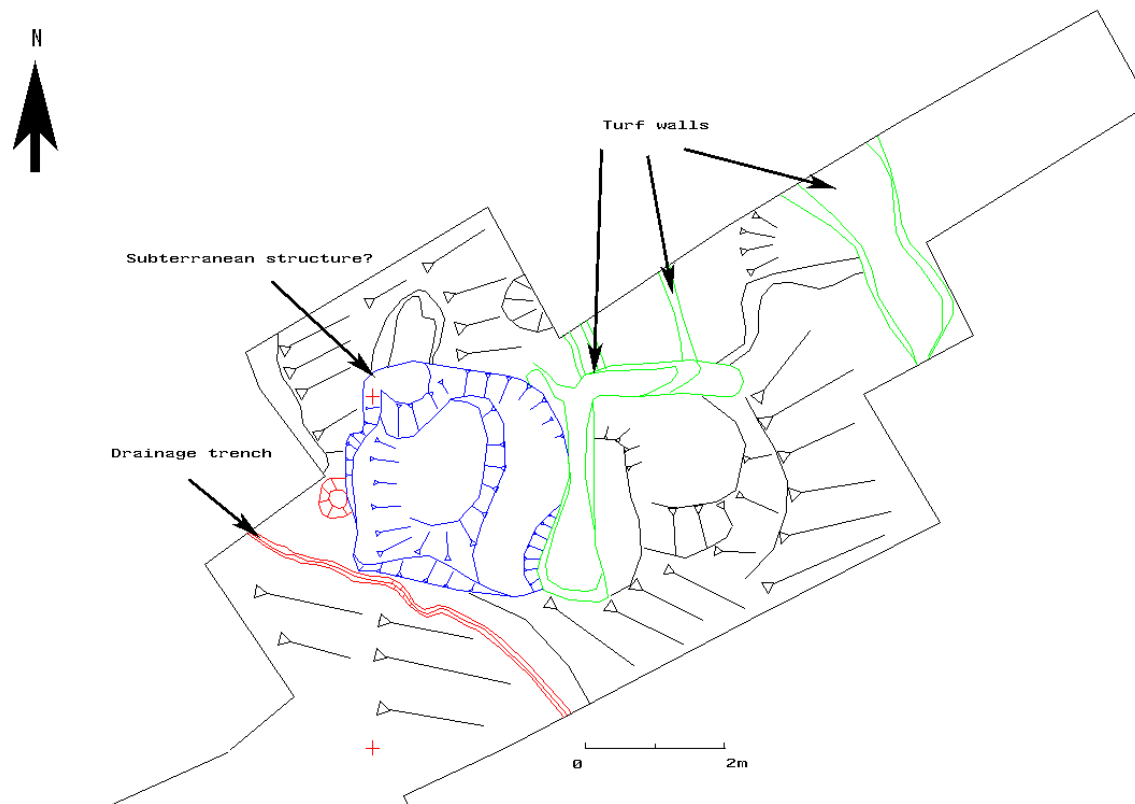
Drawing 1. Plan of the excavated areas at the end of the 2004 season.



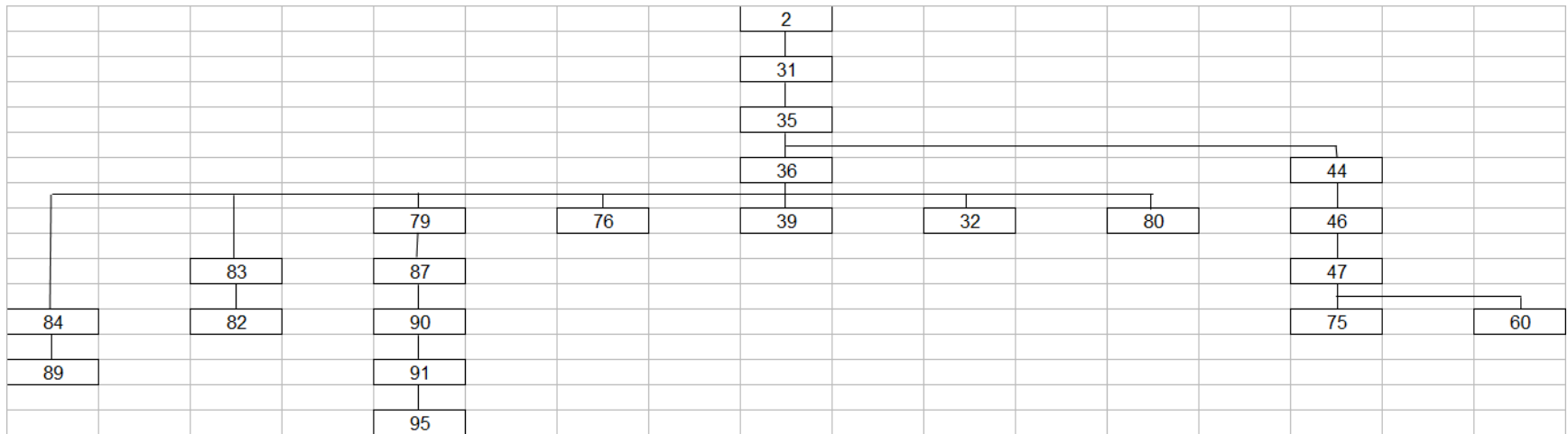
Drawing 2. Area H. The sunken feature building at the end of excavation.



Drawing 3. Sunken feature building. Structural posts and division posts.



Drawing 4. Area L-Q. The midden excavation at the end of the 2004 season.



Drawing 4. Stratigraphic sequence for cultural layers in L-Q.

7. Appendices

Site Code	No	NoType	Area	Description	Date
HRH04	1	Deposit	L	Turfy surface. Same number as in 2003	22.7.2004
HRH04	2	Deposit	L	Windblown sandy deposit over the site.	22.7.2004
HRH04	31	Deposit	L	Sandy deposit with cultural material.	22.7.2004
HRH04	32	Deposit	L	Turfy medium brown dep. Midden deposit.	23.7.2004
HRH04	33	Deposit	L	Thin dense dep. Of calc. Bone.	23.7.2004
HRH04	34	Deposit	L	Gray brown silty soil.	23.7.2004
HRH04	35	Deposit	L	Lens of beige peat ash/charcoal	23.7.2004
HRH04	36	Deposit	L	Midden deposit in western part. Med. Dark brown turfey dep/w.grey green tephra.	27.7.2004
HRH04	39	Deposit	L	Turf collapse. Wall or roof.	28.7.2004
HRH04	39	Deposit	L	Turf collapse. Wall or roof.	29.7.2004
HRH04	44	Deposit	L	Charcoal layer/orange brown.	23.7.2004
HRH04	46	Deposit	L	Dark brown w/charcoal. Midden.	27.7.2004
HRH04	47	Deposit	L	Light grey midden deposit.	27.7.2004
HRH04	52	Deposit	L	Midden layer.	11.8.2004
HRH04	60	Deposit	L	Midden deposit inside structure in middle.	28.7.2004
HRH04	75	Deposit	L	Midden material outside the east structure.	28.7.2004
HRH04	76	Deposit	L	Midden material outside. N of structure.	28.7.2004
HRH04	77	Deposit	L	Midden material.	29.7.2004
HRH04	78	Deposit	L	Isolated midden deposit	3.8.2004
HRH04	79	Deposit	L	Midden deposit under [39]	4.8.2004
HRH04	80	Cut	L	Isolated cut in N end of excavation	5.8.2004
HRH04	81	Deposit	L	Turf collapse by 2003 excavation.	6.8.2004
HRH04	82	Deposit	L	Big bone midden	6.8.2004
HRH04	83	Deposit	H	Isolatede midden dump. Charcoal.	6.8.2004
HRH04	83	Deposit	L	Isolated midden dump with charcoal, etc.	6.8.2004
HRH04	84	Deposit	L	Midden dump with charcoal and ash.	6.8.2004
HRH04	85	Deposit	L	Chunked, mixed turf walling.	6.8.2004
HRH04	86	Deposit	L	Band of turf, possibly in situ wall.	9.8.2004
HRH04	87	Deposit	L	Midden deposit inside structure.	9.8.2004
HRH04	88	Deposit	L	Ashy midden deposit over 49.	9.8.2004
HRH04	89	Deposit	L	Posthole	9.8.2004
HRH04	90	Deposit	L	Midden deposit	9.8.2004
HRH04	91	Deposit	L	Midden deposit	10.8.2004
HRH04	92	Deposit	L	Midden deposit	10.8.2004
HRH04	93	Deposit	L	Midden layer.	11.8.2004
HRH04	94	Deposit	L	Midden layer.	11.8.2004
HRH04	95	Deposit	L	Midden layer.	11.8.2004
HRH04	200	Deposit	H	Charcoal layer and stones/ Fireplace?	2.8.2004
HRH04	200	Deposit	H	Charcoal/Stone/Fireplace?	2.8.2004
HRH04	201	Deposit	H	Brown upcast layer against the east wall.	2.8.2004
HRH04	201	Deposit	H	Light brown upcast layer in pit house.	2.8.2004
HRH04	202	Deposit	H	Brown upcast layer against the n gable. Light brown upcast w/peat in north end of house.	2.8.2004
HRH04	202	Deposit	H	Light brown upcast w/peat in north end of house.	2.8.2004
HRH04	203	Deposit	H	Fill in drain/east wall.	3.8.2004

HRH04	204	Cut	H	Cut For 203	3.8.2004
HRH04	205	Deposit	H	Fill in pit in north end. "Barrel pit"	3.8.2004
HRH04	206	Deposit	H	Fill in a posthole.	4.8.2004
HRH04	207	Cut	H	Cut for 206.	4.8.2004
HRH04	208	Cut	H	Cut for [205]. Barrel pit.	4.8.2004
HRH04	209	Cut	H	Posthole on eastern side.	4.8.2004
HRH04	210	Cut	H	Posthole on eastern side.	4.8.2004
HRH04	211	Cut	H	Posthole intercutting 213.	4.8.2004
HRH04	211	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	212	Deposit	H	Bottom part of fill in Barrel pit.	4.8.2004
HRH04	212	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	213	Cut	H	Posthole	4.8.2004
HRH04	213	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structure post.	6.8.2004
HRH04	214	Cut	H	Stakehole	4.8.2004
HRH04	214	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	215	Cut	H	Stakehole	4.8.2004
HRH04	215	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	216	Cut	H	Stakehole	4.8.2004
HRH04	216	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	217	Cut	H	Stakehole	4.8.2004
HRH04	217	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	218	Deposit	H	Possible posthole in southern end	4.8.2004
HRH04	218	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	219	Deposit	H	Possible posthole in southern end	4.8.2004
HRH04	219	Deposit	H	Posthole fill	6.8.2004
HRH04	220	Deposit	H	Possible posthole in southern end	4.8.2004
HRH04	220	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	6.8.2004
HRH04	221	Deposit	H	Postole fill. Structural post.	6.8.2004
HRH04	222	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	223	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	224	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	225	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	226	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	227	Deposit	H	Posthole fill in south end.	10.8.2004
HRH04	228	Deposit	H	Stakehole fill.	10.8.2004
HRH04	229	Deposit	H	Stakehole fill.	10.8.2004
HRH04	230	Deposit	H	Stakehole fill.	10.8.2004
HRH04	231	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structural on east side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	232	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structural on east side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	233	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structural on east side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	234	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structural on east side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	235	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Structural on east side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	236	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Divisional post on S. Side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	237	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Divisional post on S. Side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	238	Deposit	H	Posthole fill. Divisional post on S. Side.	10.8.2004
HRH04	240	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	241	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	242	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	243	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	244	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	245	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004

HRH04	246	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	247	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	248	Deposit	H	Stakehole.	10.8.2004
HRH04	249	Deposit	H	Fill of the hearth on the east side.	11.8.2004
HRH04	250	Cut	H	Cut for hearth nr 249.	11.8.2004

Table 1. Excavated units in areas L and H.

FindsNo	No	BoxNo	Object_Keyword	Material_Keyword	QuantCount	Date
1	0	0		Copper alloy	1	19.7.2004
2	31	0		Stone	1	19.7.2004
3	31	0	Slag	Iron	1	21.7.2004
4	2	0	Whetstone	Stone	1	21.7.2004
5	0	0		Copper alloy	1	21.7.2004
6	31	0		Iron	2	21.7.2004
7	0	0		Stone	1	22.7.2004
8	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
9	31	0	Ring	Iron	1	22.7.2004
10	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	22.7.2004
11	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	22.7.2004
12	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
13	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
14	31	0		Stone	1	22.7.2004
15	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
16	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
17	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
18	31	0		Iron	1	22.7.2004
19	31	0		Iron	2	22.7.2004
20	44	0	Dice	Bone	1	23.7.2004
21	44	0		Iron	1	23.7.2004
22	35	0		Iron	1	23.7.2004
23	44	0		Stone	1	23.7.2004
24	44	0		Stone	1	23.7.2004
25	31	0	Blade	Iron	1	23.7.2004
26	31	0		Iron	1	23.7.2004
27	44	0		Stone	1	23.7.2004
28	44	0		Stone	1	26.7.2004
29	44	0	Nail	Iron	1	26.7.2004
30	0	0	Blade	Iron	1	26.7.2004
31	36	0		Bone	1	26.7.2004
32	31	0	Slag	Iron	13	23.7.2004
33	44	0	Slag	Iron	1	26.7.2004
34	46	0	Bead	Bone	1	27.7.2004
35	46	0	Nail	Iron	1	27.7.2004
36	46	0		Bone	1	27.7.2004
37	31	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
38	0	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
39	36	0	Bead	Glass	1	27.7.2004
40	31	0	Slag	Iron	6	27.7.2004
41	36	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
42	46	0		Stone	1	27.7.2004
43	36	0		Stone	1	27.7.2004

44	36	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
45	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	27.7.2004
46	31	0		Stone	1	27.7.2004
47	31	0	Slag	Iron	11	27.7.2004
48	31	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
49	31	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
50	47	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
51	47	0	Nail	Iron	1	27.7.2004
52	46	0	Slag	Iron	3	27.7.2004
53	36	0	Slag	Iron	1	27.7.2004
54	47	0	Bead	Glass	1	27.7.2004
55	36	0		Iron	1	27.7.2004
56	47	0	Slag	Iron	1	27.7.2004
57	36	0		Stone	1	27.7.2004
58	36	0		Glass	1	27.7.2004
59	60	0	Vessel	Steatite	3	28.7.2004
60	0	0	Bead	Glass	1	28.7.2004
61	60	0	Slag	Iron	1	28.7.2004
62	60	0		Iron	1	28.7.2004
63	0	0	Slag	Iron	1	28.7.2004
64	45	0	Nail	Iron	1	29.7.2004
65	45	0	Slag	Iron	2	29.7.2004
66	60	0	Fish hook	Iron	1	29.7.2004
67	60	0	Bead	Glass	1	29.7.2004
68	0	0		Iron	1	29.7.2004
69	0	0		Iron	1	29.7.2004
70	39	0	Slag	Iron	3	29.7.2004
71	77	0		Iron	1	29.7.2004
72	39	0		Iron	1	29.7.2004
73	47	0	Nail	Iron	1	29.7.2004
74		0	Whetstone	Stone	1	30.7.2004
75	31	0	Fish hook	Iron	1	30.7.2004
76	31	0	Slag	Iron	1	2.8.2004
77	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	2.8.2004
78		0	Fish hook	Iron	1	2.8.2004
79	0	0	Fish hook	Iron	1	2.8.2004
80	31	0		Iron	1	2.8.2004
81		0		Flint	1	2.8.2004
82	0	0		Iron	1	2.8.2004
83	39	0	Nail	Iron	1	2.8.2004
84	39	0		Iron	1	2.8.2004
85	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
86	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
87	31	0	Knife	Iron	1	3.8.2004
88	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
89	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
90	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
91	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
92	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
93	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
94	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004

95	31	0		Stone	1	3.8.2004
96	203	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
97	31	0		Iron	1	3.8.2004
98	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
99	31	0			1	3.8.2004
100	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
101	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004
102	31	0	Slag	Iron	11	3.8.2004
103	31	0	Slag	Iron	14	3.8.2004
104	201	0	Knife	Iron	1	2.8.2004
105	201	0		Iron	1	2.8.2004
106	0	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
107	203	0		Stone	1	4.8.2004
108	45	0		Stone	1	4.8.2004
109	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
110	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
111	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
112	31	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
113	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
114	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
115	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
116	31	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
117	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
118	79	0	Bead	Amber	1	6.8.2004
119	79	0	Mount	Copper alloy	1	5.8.2004
120	45	0		Iron	1	5.8.2004
121	79	0	Spindle Whorl	Steatite	1	6.8.2004
122	79	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
123	79	0	Nail	Iron	1	6.8.2004
124	79	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
125	79	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
126	79	0		Stone	1	6.8.2004
127	82	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
128	79	0		Bone	1	6.8.2004
129	79	0	Vessel	Iron	1	6.8.2004
130	79	0		Stone	1	6.8.2004
131	82	0	Whetstone	Stone	1	6.8.2004
132	82	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
133	83	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
134	79	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
135	82	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
136	79	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
137	39	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
138	78	0	Nail	Iron	1	6.8.2004
139	78	0	Slag	Iron	1	6.8.2004
140	45	0		Iron	1	6.8.2004
141	45	0		Stone	1	4.8.2004
142	45	0	Whetstone	Stone	1	4.8.2004
143	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
144	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
145	31	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004

146	78	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
147	78	0	Nail	Iron	1	4.8.2004
148	39	0		Iron	1	4.8.2004
149	79	0	Loomweight	Stone	1	4.8.2004
150	87	0		Iron	1	9.8.2004
151	0	0	Slag	Iron	1	7.8.2004
152	84	0		Stone	1	9.8.2004
153	87	0	Slag	Iron	1	9.8.2004
154	88	0	Comb	Bone	7	9.8.2004
155	85	0	Nail	Iron	1	9.8.2004
156	84	0	Comb	Bone	1	9.8.2004
157	88	0		Iron	1	9.8.2004
158	89	0	Cauldron	Iron	1	9.8.2004
159	79	0	Bead	Glass	1	9.8.2004
160	85	0	Dress Pin	Bone	1	9.8.2004
161	84	0		Iron	1	9.8.2004
162	60	0	Slag	Iron	1	9.8.2004
163	87	0	Slag	Iron	1	9.8.2004
164	88	0	Nail	Iron	1	9.8.2004
165	87	0	Slag	Iron	1	9.8.2004
166	79	0	Slag	Iron	1	9.8.2004
167	92	0	Comb	Bone	1	10.8.2004
168	0	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
169	88	0	Comb	Bone	1	10.8.2004
170	92	0		Bone	1	10.8.2004
171	88	0	Slag	Iron	1	10.8.2004
172	88	0	Whetstone	Stone	1	10.8.2004
173	91	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
174	88	0	Knife	Iron	1	10.8.2004
175	87	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
176	92	0	Nail	Iron	1	10.8.2004
177	87	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
178	87	0	Staple	Iron	1	10.8.2004
179	46	0	Nail	Iron	1	10.8.2004
180	92	0		Bone	1	10.8.2004
181	88	0	Whetstone	Stone	1	10.8.2004
182	91	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
183	88	0		Stone	1	10.8.2004
184	88	0		Stone	1	10.8.2004
185	88	0		Iron	1	10.8.2004
186	87	0		Stone	1	10.8.2004
187	87	0		Iron	1	11.8.2004
188	87	0	Dress Pin	Bone	1	11.8.2004
189	91	0		Iron	1	11.8.2004
190	91	0		Iron	2	11.8.2004
191	87	0		Stone	1	11.8.2004
192	87	0	Bead	Amber	1	11.8.2004
193	249	0	Loomweight	Stone	1	11.8.2004
194	91	0		Bone	1	11.8.2004
195	45	0	Nail	Iron	1	11.8.2004
196	87	0		Stone	1	11.8.2004

197	94	0		Iron	2	11.8.2004
198	87	0		Steatite	1	11.8.2004
199	91	0	Vessel	Steatite	1	11.8.2004
200	91	0	Dress Pin	Bone	1	11.8.2004
201	49	0	Knife	Iron	1	11.8.2004
202	31	0	Nail	Iron	1	3.8.2004

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