

Comment on the Eastern Profile of A05

The southern part of the east profile of Trench A5 is dominated by a ditch, which cuts through all Holocene and Younger Dryas layers, and by the younger fillings probably of middle age or younger (Layers: 1-17; 22-23; 25-26). The northern part comprises several multi-layered floors alternating with filling and trash layers. Beneath layer 29, the sediments become more and more silty and dark. Like in the northern profile, the multi-layered dark-brown silt layer (33) probably separates the Holocene layers from the Younger Dryas silt sediments. Below the homogenous silt layer (36), several layers of charcoal, clay and cultural debris alternate down to the natural soil at - 442 cm.

The ditch structure is astonishingly similar to the round ditch structure of Trench A71/A83. The thin charcoal/ash layer (23) which was also observed in A71/83, covers the whole inner space of the ditch, here too. It is encountered at a similar height (between -250cm sloping slightly down above the ditch to -270 cm). If the ditch structure is round, it must have been cut through by the eastern profile at its most western part, so that in the profile, there is only one ditch visible. Given the measurements in the profile and the drawings of stone structures in A5/A15, the reconstructed diameter of this structure is about 3,60-4 m for the outer border. So it would be about 2 m smaller than the diameter of the ditch in A71/A83.

In contrast to A 71/A 83, no surrounding clay construction was recorded, but it might be that layer 17, a massive clay layer, is the decayed remain of such a structure. The upper filling layers of the ditch continue into the northern profile, where they are cut through by M1. Unfortunately, this grave is of very recent age, so it does not give any clue for the dating of the round-ditch-structure.

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For the Harris Matrix see the combined Harris Matrix of A20, A05, A15 East and A05 North in the file of A20