

Comment on the Southern Profile A19

In Trench A 19, the amount of clay is unusually high and the clay layers are very massive. Most of them seem to be of (pre-)modern age. This holds definitely true for the layers 1-2; 22-27; 34, 58-60. Layers 56-57 are identical to the filling of the ditch construction well-visible in the eastern profile of A20 and are thus definitely of (pre-)modern age.

It is highly probable that the building construction with the eastern clay wall [3] and the multilayered filling [18-20] and the floor [51/52] and wall constructions [49, 52] belong to an early Holocene building, but without knowing the findings it cannot be excluded that they date to the Middle Age or to a more recent epoch.

The house is dug into earlier sediments and constructed by a massive clay floor mixed with a layer of pebbles and with massive clay walls, up to 70 cm high. Interestingly, the multilayered filling is only in the eastern part, whereas the western part is filled with dislocated clay. At the bottom, east of wall 49 there must have been a clay construction which hindered layers to be accumulated. Given the high amount of charcoal and burnt clay in that area, it might be suggested that this was a built hearth or oven.

In the lower part of the eastern section, the stratigraphic sequence is less clear. Especially the course of Layer 4 is difficult to explain, but its shape is proven in the photo [ID: 2662]. Possibly there was a massive clay wall [Layer 3] and a clay floor [Layer 5] in between which an organic obstacle caused an open space when it was decaying. Layer 4 filled this space and intruded even into the softer sediment below the floor [5]. When the wall [Layer 3] was decaying, its upper parts softened and deposited over Layer 4, by that causing an inversed stratigraphic order.

Layers 10 and 7 probably belong to the same decaying clay floor.

The stratigraphic position of the unexcavated bloc is not clear. Unfortunately it has not been taken away. The extension of the early phase of the building (layers 12-13, 50-52) is therefore difficult to discern.

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