

## Comment on the Southern Profile A43

In the upper part of A 43 (-1.22-1.80m) are two thick clay remains: a massive floor [13] (22cm thick) in the western part and decaying remains [7-8; 10-11] in the eastern part. Two scenarios are possible: 1) both entities once belonged to the same construction or 2) Layers 5, 7-8, 10-11 belong to a later phase and were built on top of the early Holocene remains. As grave M2 is of Neolithic Age and cuts through Layer 13, this layer must be older than M2. The stratigraphic position of grave M5 is not really clear. If the destruction of the clay layers on top of it, result from the digging of the grave, then scenario 1 is correct.

In the lower eastern part a pit was dug through layer 27/28 for 40 cm from -2 to -2.40 m. Its east-west-extension is 1.60m but the eastern border was not uncovered. The pit is filled with a mixture of silty and sandy sediments with a lot of charcoal, bones and burnt clay fragments. No postholes, no multi-layered surfaces, or other constructional details were observed in the lower layers, so the function of this pit remains questionable. Layer 28 might be the remains of a fireplace, but it could also just be a patch of ash and charcoal resulting from a dumping activity. The high amount of clay lumps, animal bones, flints and charcoal underscores the suggestion of a dumping area.

Author: MB