

Comment on the southern Profile of A 95_116_121

The southern profile of the Trenches A95, A116, and A121 provides important evidence for the level of the natural soil in the north-western part of the site.

Here, it reaches nearly up to -4.00 m. Several unstructured fillings with brown, partly sandy silt suggest perhaps flooding events. Layer 30 reminds of an old river channel. On top of it are the Younger Dryas layers which comprise one clay floor with a shallow pit (maybe the preserved bottom of a posthole [27]?).

The Grave M3 in Trench A121 is most probably of Younger Dryas Age. It has been dug down from Layer 35. The other graves were all dug down from the early Holocene layers. Unfortunately, the latter are rather disturbed by several pits. Layer 25 and 12 are multilayered walking/living surfaces, but we could not record any clear building structure, except for two rather short pieces of clay floor [17 and 15] which might indicate buildings. Layer 39 possibly represents the remains of a stone wall, which once belonged to the occupational layers 25 or 12/15.

The border to the Younger Dryas layers is rather diffuse, especially in the western part, where Layers 26, 34, 40, and 41 might either date to the early Holocene or to the Younger Dryas. However, given the analogies from other trenches it might be suggested that it starts at about -4.00 m in the east (Trench A95) and then slopes stepwise upwards until -2.70 m (Trench A121).

Because all graves are of early Holocene Age, the massive clay layers between - 2 and -3 m in the west must also date to the early Holocene.

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