

Locus Card

DOR 2004

L 04G0-015 *Area* G *Sq:* AJ- /33- *Loc. type:* removing phytoliths layers
High at Low at *written by:* AVS created 20/07/2004
Open 20/07/2004 12.55 e 12.32 s *checked by:* updated: 30/07/2004
Close 26/07/2004 12.30 n 12.24 s **Floor** 12.36 n 12.25 sw
Length 1.30 width: 1.00 volume: Floor type (old)
Removed: Drawn? Yes

c

Integrity:

p

unit: -- *phase:* 9/10?? *stage:* vii *stratum:* *PoM:*
summary:

Opened: to see what below the phytoliths layers and to see the continuation of the stone pavement which discovered in L04G-013

Limits (N) W9211

(S) baulk

(E) L04G-013

(W) baulk

Closed: We have reached F04G-013 also in this locus.

Matrix: mixed layers of white phytoliths and gray/brown sediments. there was a higher area of the phytoliths just between this locus and L04G-013, and it seems like harder material (mudbrick material?) comes from this area. this was proved in similar situation between loci L04G-013 and L04G-016.

Relations: Equivalent to L04G-013 and L04G-016, all are sealed by F04G-004.

when we started to remove the highest phytoliths layer we found out, what we have already thought, that there are more than one layer. We found an accumulation of about 25 cm of phytoliths layers and between brown and gray soil layers. the upper two phytoliths layers were the most thickend and the rest of them (4-5?) are very thin (a few mm). we didn't find too many shards beside in one corner. in the NW corner of the locus, very near wall W9211, we found a concentration of shards and even a complete bowl upside down (see pictures). next to this bowl there was a large base fragment of a jar. The bowl was right below the upper phytoliths layer, and mixed with the second one. If the phytoliths layers are indeed a roof colupse, then we need to figure out what are the sediment layers between them and how this bowl get to there. we took a block to micromorphology analysis to WIS.

At the bottom of these loci we have reached F04G-013. this floor is built of medium-large flat stones with one very large and one rounded which may be a culumn base (actually below L04G-016).

F04G-013 does not cover the entire area of the phytoliths layers, about 70 cm short to the north and to the south. In the NE corner of L04G-013 we found very unusual flint stone (board flint) about 10x40 cm going north from the border line of the pavement (see sketch).

In the section we could see that the phytoliths layers are higher next to the walls and in the middle of the locus they are sunkened. In the begining we thought that this is the way they made the floors (like a pannel) but these layers were not floors. the most reasonable explanation for this phenomena is that the material below it sunk down and next to the wall it was harder. This is true especially when we are dealing with organic materials. Another thing that one needs to remember is that the phytoliths themself are representing only 5% of the volume of the original material. One of the soprises were that at least one phytoliths layer goes below the stone pavement F04G-013. We could see it when we removed two stones for check. This complicates the understanding even more. Its certainly rouled out the possibility of roof colupse with organic material on top of it (This may be the case with the top barley phytoliths, see L04G-004). unless one asume that there were at least 6 roofs coloupses and that in between people used to cover the area with soil or stones. (one should consider the question

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whether the phytoliths can penetrate below stones when they are going through degregation). So, we have left with the barn for animals option. which means that there were large amount of different kinds of grasses thrown to the animals on a daily basis and remains are mixed with their dung. May be once a year (or a few years) they raised the surface with soil covering the dirt (in spring time?), or even stones pavement. With this explanation there is no good explanation for the fallen bricks and the complete bowl found below the upper most layer. But we can argue that the last layer represent different event (roof colopse together with walls?) . Another thing which one needs to consider is the very impresive concentration of beads that were found in this area, both above and below the phytoliths layers. about 50 beads made of blue stones (3-5 mm) that were founf above the phytoliths and more than 25 very small metallic beads below it. How this is going with the explanation of anaimanls? may be we should consider a living surface of people covered with wild grass, even for sleeping.

Importance: Sealed high value locus

Images	L 04G0-015	Related loci:	Features
d04G0-0047	is_below	04G0-004	
	sealed_by	04G0-004	