

# Ingiríðarstaðir 2012. An Interim Statement



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Cover image – Southern grave [668] and grave mound at Ingiríðarstaðir 2012, partially excavated, facing south.

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# **Ingiríðarstaðir 2012. An Interim Statement**

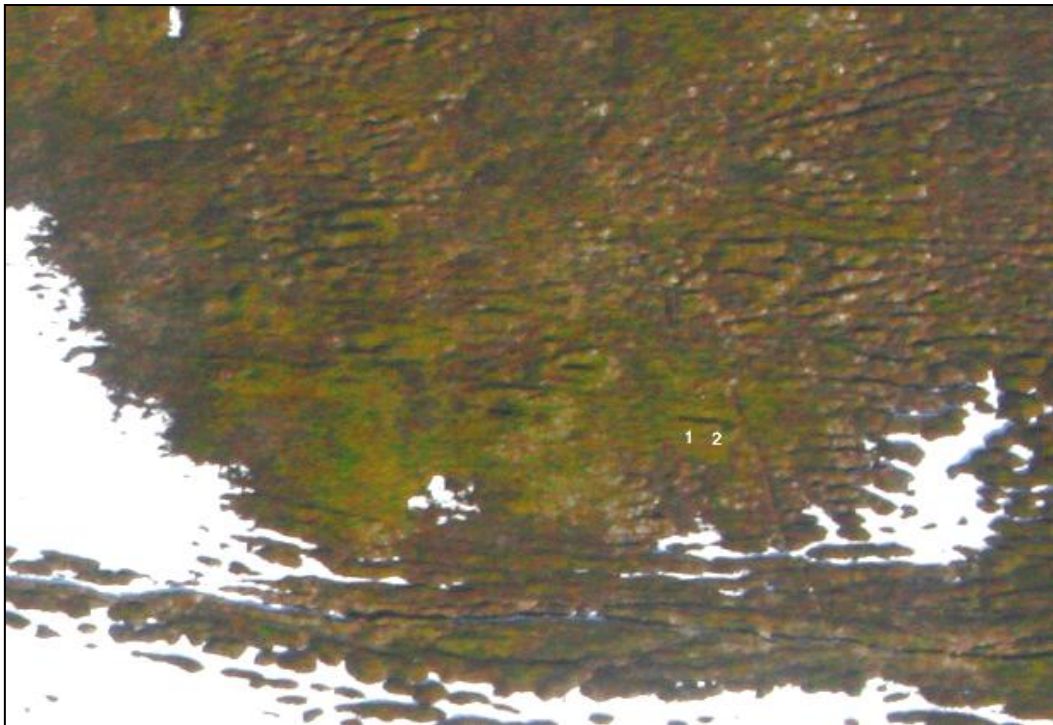
## **Introduction**

Between the 24th of July and the 3rd of August 2012 archaeologists from Fornleifastofnun Íslands carried out further excavations within the pre-Christian grave field at Ingiríðarstaðir in Þegjandadalur. This work was done on behalf of Hið Þingeyska Fornleifafélag. The excavation was carried out by Howell Magnus Roberts, Lilja Björk Pálsdóttir, Thomas Birch, Dawn Mooney and Anna Hellgren. We are grateful for the kind help and assistance of Baldur Danielsson and Unnsteinn Ingason. We also give our thanks to Landsvirkjun for their assistance with accommodation, and to Bryndís Ívarsdóttir for food.

Our thanks are extended to all the landowners of Þegjandadalur for their continuing help and tolerance: Kjartan Smári Stefánsson, Aðalgeir Karlsson, Björgvin Viðarsson, Hallgrímur Óli Guðmundsson, Agnar Kristjánsson, and Kristján H Sigtryggsson.

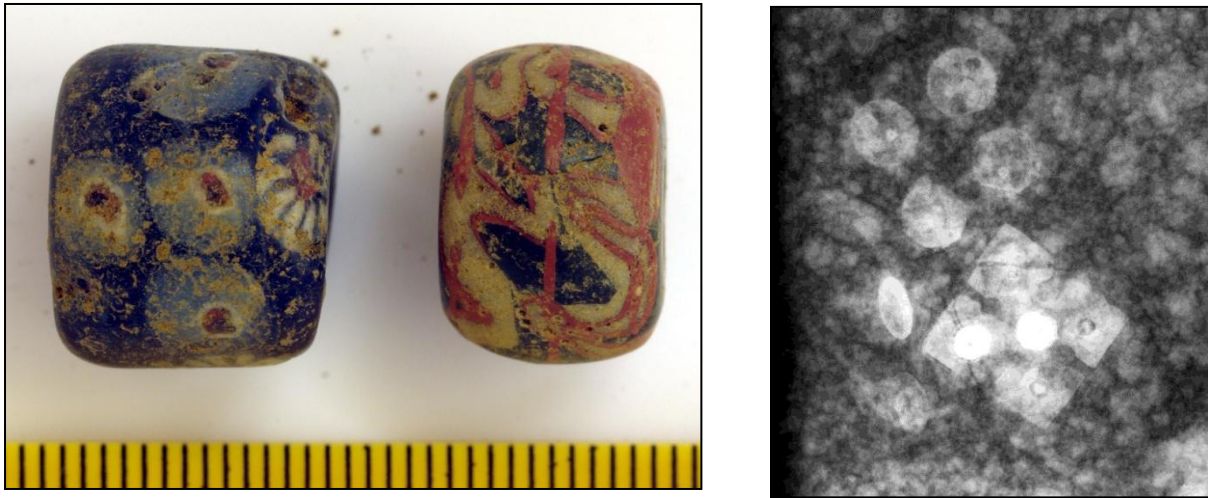
## Background

In 2008 a number of unusual features were noted to the west of the homefield at Ingiríðastaðir, and excavation revealed a horse grave and a human grave including several artefacts. This confirmed our suspicions that we had discovered a large pre-Christian grave field. Detailed modelling of the ground surface, and careful examination of aerial photographs suggested perhaps as many as 15 possible burials. If this is correct, Ingiríðarstaðir will be one of the largest known pre-Christian grave fields in Iceland.



*Figure 2 – Aerial photograph by Árni Einarsson. “1” and “2” mark graves excavated in 2008. Further similar features are visible to the left.*

In 2009 a further pair of graves were excavated – these proved to be a human burial and double horse burial. Although disturbed in antiquity, these graves were still rich in artefacts. The human grave produced 4 pieces of hacksilver, 2 ornate glass beads, and several delicately patterned buckles and strap ends of bronze. The double horse burial produced an exceptional artefact – a remarkably preserved horse harness and bridle bit, decorated with bronze studs and ornamented fittings.



*Figure 3 – Finds from 2009. Ornate beads (left) and x-ray of horse harness fitting (right)*

In 2010, three features we imagined to be further graves were investigated but these turned out to be something much more enigmatic than we had expected. Instead of typical burials, we discovered 3 large pits cut through an L-shaped turf wall. The turf wall contained elements of the settlement period tephra layer and was built upon a ground surface covered by the tephra. Two of the pits, at each end of the wall, proved to be empty of any artefacts but their shape and size suggest that they held large wooden posts – much larger than usually seen in icelandic buildings of this time. The central pit, cut through the wall, contained a very surprising find. At the base of pit was a collection of animal bone not unlike food remains, but on top of these bones were a cat jaw and a small human skull, beneath a pile of large stones. The human skull showed signs of injury by a blunt weapon at or about the time of death. Just west of the turf wall, right at its base, and below construction debris we also discovered the burial of a very young child.

In 2011 two further pairs of human/horse burial were excavated, along with a substantial post setting some 25m north of the northernmost burial and a further section of the turf structure examined previously.

The northern pair of human/horse graves had been disturbed in antiquity, and only a little bone survived. This included a human long bone, many horse teeth and some fragments of a horse skull. Beneath the horse skull we discovered the remains of an iron bridle/bit – much less ornate than that from 2009, but still a rare and precious find.

The human grave proved to be largely empty, and surprisingly shallow, but is very unusual in shape. At each corner there was a small post setting, joined to the corners of the grave, and aligned diagonally to the grave itself. These post settings included stone packing, and the voids between some of the stones suggest posts leaning at an angle. These features might represent some temporary structure over the grave, and similar features were also seen at Ingiríðarstaðir in 2009, and at Litlu Núpar 2007-2010. A row of stones around the northwestern corner of the horse grave also indicated some remnant of a structure, perhaps the base of a grave mound.

The southern pair of human/horse graves appeared as a more substantial surface feature – and excavation revealed the remains of a mound of turf and stone above/around the horse grave. Both these graves had also been disturbed in antiquity, but substantial amounts of bone survived in each. We recovered the majority of a horse skeleton, together with a probable iron buckle, and the human grave contained the larger and better preserved long bones, and two simple beads. At each corner of the human grave, but outside it, were large stone packed post holes. Four of these were circa 50cm deep and fully filled with small stones up to 10cm in size. A fifth, much shallower post hole was found between the two corner posts to the south of the human grave.

In addition to the two pairs of burials, we also investigated further the turf structure seen in 2010. Trenches (11-E1, 11-E3) targeting the walls of this structure confirm at least three sides of some kind of square enclosure measuring circa 20m x 25m, but with no evidence of significant internal features or layers. A trench excavated in the middle of this enclosed area

(11-E2) revealed no traces of any activity. The purpose of this structure within the grave field remains mysterious.

A further trench located some 25m north of the grave field examined another possible feature – a shallow dip in the ground on a high point beyond the grave field. This proved to be a further large post setting, very similar to those seen cutting through the turf wall in 2010, and lining up with them. This post must have been substantial, perhaps 25-30cm across, sunken into the ground about 50cm deep, and supported by additional side posts. The purpose of these posts remains unclear, but it seems most likely that they were some metres high and served somehow to mark out an area of importance. It is possible that something was suspended from these posts, perhaps a banner or flag – but this must remain as only speculation.

## Aims and Objectives

Excavation and measured survey from 2008 to 2011 had identified an extensive pre-Christian burial field, together with an enigmatic turf structure, seemingly at the south eastern limit of the field. This work has highlighted a number of unusual features, not least the frequent presence of substantial post holes associated with the human graves. Our aims in 2012 were simply to continue this work, as part of our ongoing plan to complete open area excavation of the grave field. This work is expected to require several more years of field work at the current pace. The work is informed by and contributes to a growing corpus of recently excavated pre-Christian graves in the local region of Þingeyjarsýsla, North Eastern Iceland.

This regional group includes pre-Christian burials excavated by the author, by Adolf Friðriksson and by others at Litlu-Núpar, Lyngbrekka, Saltvík and elsewhere. It is our belief that appropriately applied modern excavation techniques are yielding new and qualitatively different evidence for the Icelandic pre-Christian burial rite.

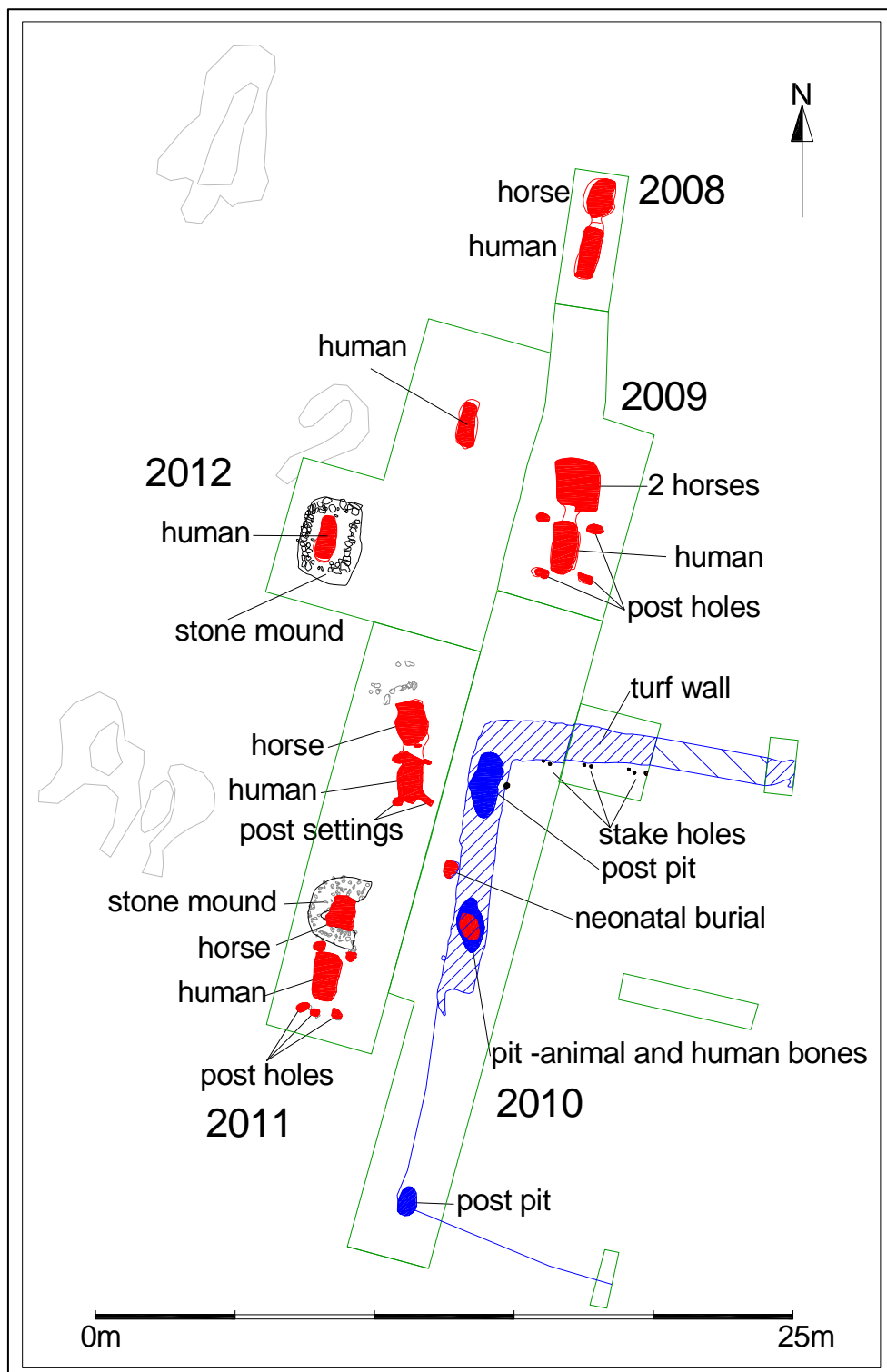


## Method and Strategy

The standard excavation methodology used by Fornleifastofnun Íslands is based upon the single context planning technique developed by the Dept. of Urban Archaeology of the Museum of London - and has been further developed and modified for Icelandic conditions by Fornleifastofnun Íslands. At Ingríðarstaðir, an emphasis has been placed on excavating sufficiently large areas to include any likely subsidiary features associated with the burials. This forms part of a strategy to excavate large contiguous area, and eventually to excavate the graveyard in its totality. Visible outlying features have also been addressed.

Each archaeological deposit or feature was planned at a scale of 1:20, and descriptions of each deposit or feature were maintained by means of a unique contextual numbering system and pro-forma recording sheets. This record was augmented with conventional and digital photography as appropriate. Artefacts were recovered by contextual unit and 3D location. Additionally all bone recovered from the excavation area was also individually numbered, and planned at a scale of 1:20. It is hoped that this approach will build towards a new corpus of data that allows more detailed study of grave disturbance, and the taphonomic factors affecting bone survival.

# Results



*Figure 4 - Plan overview, all years.*

## **Summary**

An area of 69m<sup>2</sup> was excavated due north of the area examined in 2011. This revealed the remains of two further burials

To the northeast, a simple human grave was excavated - cut [670]. This feature had partial preservation of human bones, chiefly teeth and long bones. The grave had been disturbed or re-opened prior to the fall of the H1300 and V1477 tephra horizons. The grave measured up to 1.7m in length and 0.7m in width. As well as the bones, a few iron objects were recovered, likely nails and/or other simple iron fittings. The fragmentary traces of a possible turf mound were noted immediately to the north east of the grave.

To the southwest a human grave [668] with a distinct stone/turf structure (665-666) was examined. As above, preservation of human bone was limited, being fragments of skull, teeth, and long bones. This grave had also been re-opened/disturbed prior to 1300.

The grave cut measured up to 1.6m x 0.7m, and the sub-rectangular turf and stone structure up to 3.1m x 2.2m. Again very few finds were recovered, chiefly non-descript iron objects, but also a single possible decorative stud of copper alloy.

## **Description**

Excavation commenced with removal of turf and topsoil in the northeastern part of the excavation area, targeting a visible depression. This revealed a distinct dip and surrounding bank of soil, sealed by a coarse dark grey tephra (thought to be V-1477). Within the central depression a finer grey blue tephra (thought to be H1300) was also noted.

Excavation continued with the removal of turf and topsoil due south of feature [670] - this revealed no further features of archaeological interest. The excavation area was then extended to the west, encompassing another visible surface feature, also found to predate the 1477 and 1300 tephra horizons.

Removal of the tephra horizons and further deposits of windblown silt rapidly revealed the remains of 2 disturbed graves.

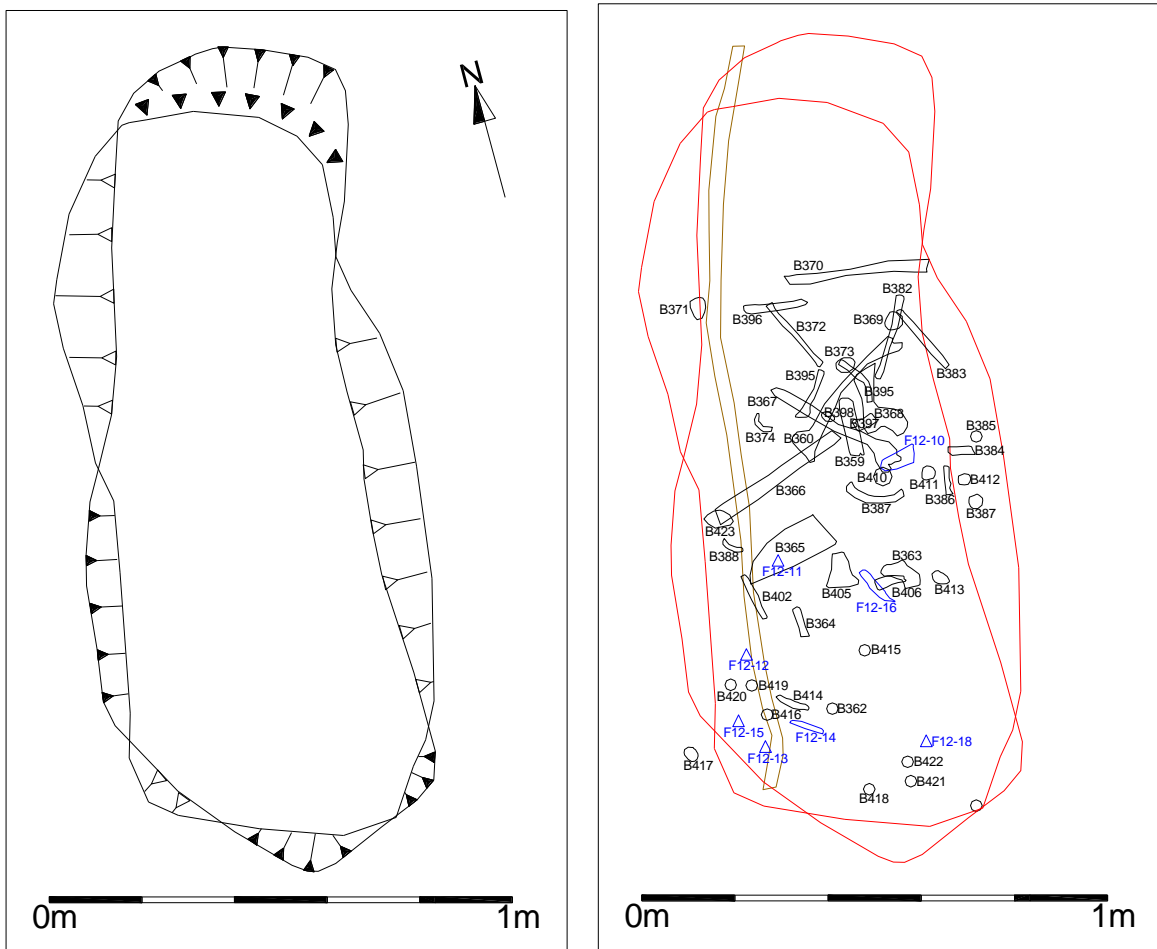


*Figure 5 - Grave [670] following removal of topsoil*



*Figure 6 - Grave [668] comes to light*

## Grave [670]



*Figure 7 - Grave [670] - with finds and bone distribution(right).*

Grave [670] had a (maximum) depth of 0.55m, length 1.78m, and width 0.74m. It was steep sided, and slightly undercut to the southwest and to the east. A shallow lip extended a short distance from the northern end of the feature. A truncation event (cut 657) was also noted, being at its deepest at the very northern and very southern ends of the feature. It is observed that bone preservation is worse at either end of the grave, and that such bone as remains at the centre of the feature is nonetheless disarticulated, below and between the truncation.

A series of 19 separate deposits of upcast, windblown silt and mixed turf were recorded (see Appendix 1 - Group 650) overlying and/or filling the grave. A group of 10 iron artefacts were recovered from grave fills (663) and (664) - see Appendix 2 and Figure 7. Furthermore,

possible traces of a wooden plank or pole were noted along the western limit of the grave in the form of soil discolouration and occasional traces of organic material.

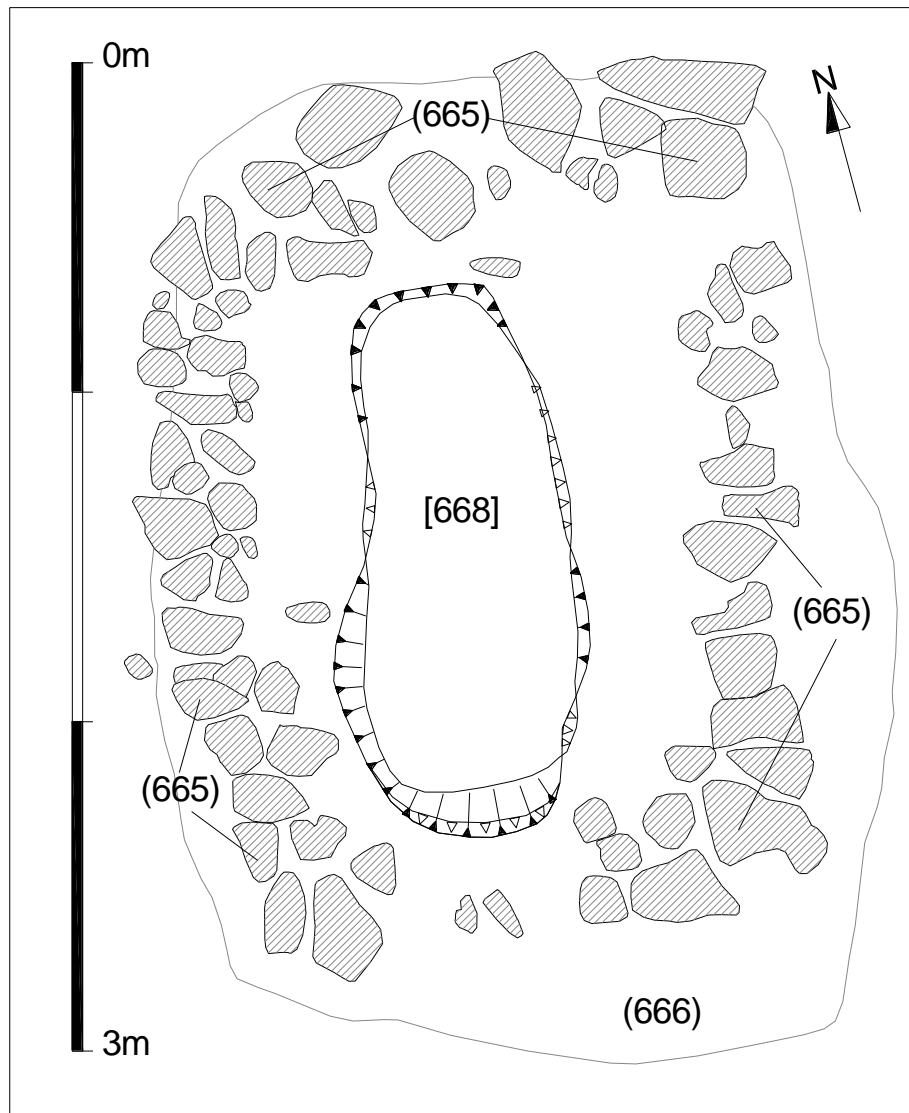
A total of 56 bone finds are recorded as associated with Grave [670] (see Appendix 3 and Figure 7) the great majority of them being from contexts (661) and (663). Bone preservation is moderate to poor, and all elements are disarticulated.

Possible traces of an eroded turf structure were noted to the east of grave [670].



*Figure 8 - Grave [670] - looking east.*

## Grave [668]

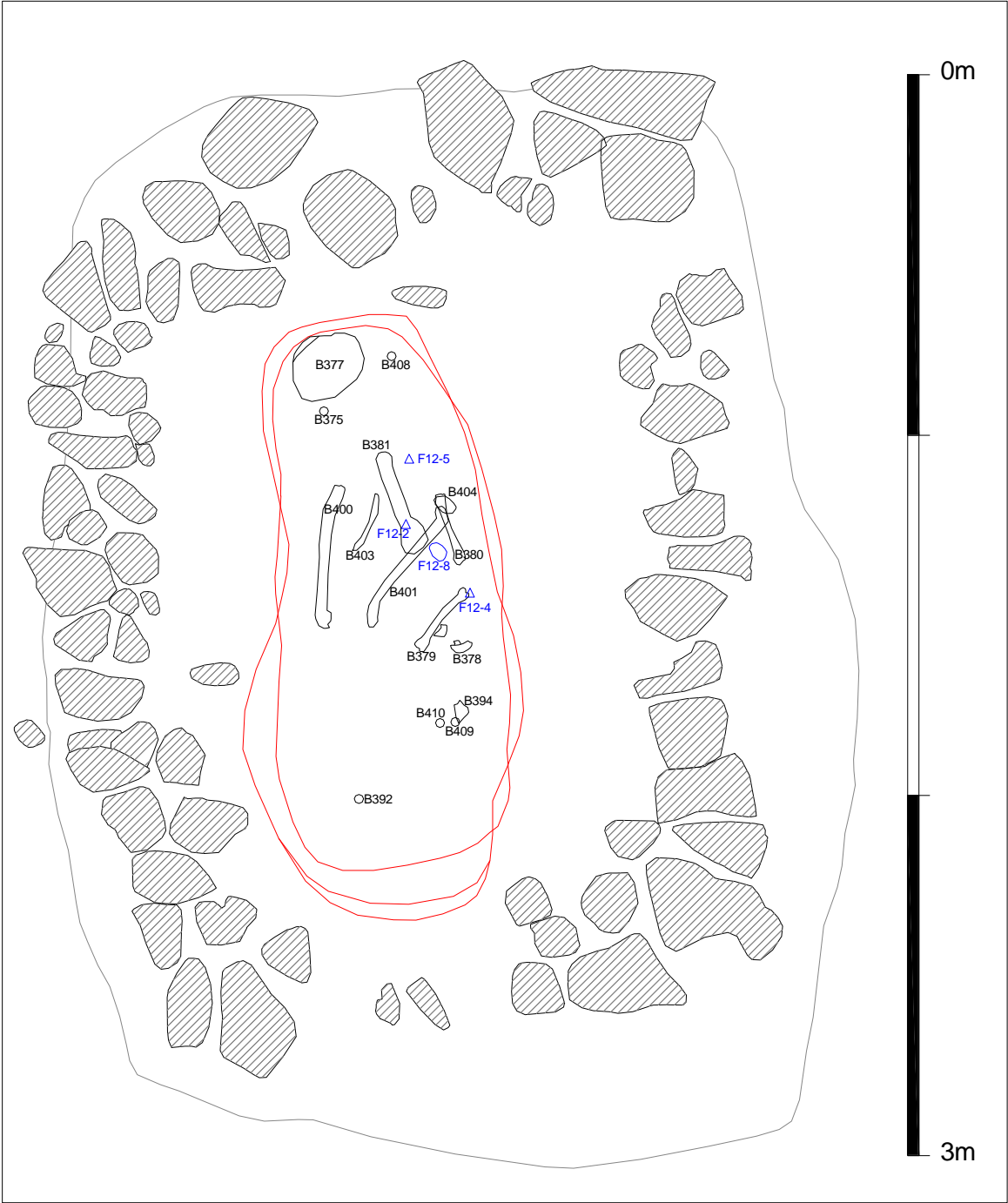


*Figure 9 - Grave [668] - with turf (666) and stone (665) structure.*

Grave [668] measured up to 1.68m in length, 0.77m in width and 0.57m in depth. It had steep to vertical sides, being slightly undercut at the east and west.

Turf platform (666) measured up to 2.99m in length, 2.26m in width and a maximum of 0.29m in thickness. Only 1-2 courses of disrupted turf containing the LNS sequence could be discerned. Stone setting (665) measured up to 2.67m in length and 2.03m in width, with individual stones measuring up to 0.50m in length. It is part of the same construction event as

the turf deposit (666) - they are built together. Four distinct layers of overburden or fills are associated with the grave and structure (See Appendix 1, Group 671). The grave cut appears to truncate the turf horizon, although this may be the result of later intrusions.



**Figure 10 - Grave [668] - with finds and bone distribution**

A group of nine artefacts were recovered from context (662) - the primary fill, being chiefly iron fragments and fragments of mineralised wood (see Appendix 2). An assemblage of 19



bones, teeth or bone fragments were recovered, including a cranium from context 662 (see Appendix 3).

## Discussion

This reports present only the interim results of an ongoing project.

Detailed analysis of the finds and osteological material continues. At the time of writing, funding has already been secured for continued research and excavation at Ingiríðarstaðir in 2013. Further discussion of these discoveries and their ultimate significance awaits the completion of excavation at the site, along with completed analyses of the complete artefactual assemblage, and the human and animal bone assemblages.

The pre-Christian grave field at Ingiríðarstaðir has so far 12 features including human or animal bone. These include the burials of 6 adults, one neonate, 5 horses (in 4 graves, associated with human burials) and a pit including both human and animal remains. It seems likely that at least 4 additional graves await investigation, along with an unknown number of secondary features.

Presented below are Appendices containing the registers of the 2012 excavation. These are presented in good faith at the current date, but we reserve the right to reconsider aspects of this record as the project progresses.

# Samantekt - Kumlateigur á Ingiríðarstöðum á Þegjandadal 2008-2012

Adolf Friðriksson

Árið 2008 leiddi Howell M. Roberts leiðangur fornleifafræðinga til rannsókna á bæjarhúsum, kirkjuminjum og garðleifum á eyðibýlinu Ingiríðarstöðum á Þegjandadal í S-Þingeyjarsýslu. Bærinn stendur í vesturhlíð dalsins og þótt langt sé um liðið frá því byggð þar lagðist af sjást enn glögglega leifar bæjarins og mannvirkja þar í kring. Veitti Howell því athygli að utan við vallargirðinguna, sem umlykur minjarnar vottaði fyrir reglulegum holum eða gryfjum. Er þessi staður rúmum 100 m vestan við bæjarstaði Ingiríðarstaða. Þar er landið þakið lyngi og afar þýft. Holurnar minntu óneintanlega á kuml sem fundist hafa m.a. við Litlu-Núpa í Aðaldal, Lyngbrekku í Reykjadal og Saltvík í Reykjahverfi. Milli holanna og vallargarðs liggur gamla reiðleiðin út dalinn, og má enn sjá allmarga paldra hlið við hlið, sem mynda nokkuð beina línu frá norðri til suðurs. Við prufugróft kom í ljós að þar reyndist vera greftrunarstaður frá heiðni og hafa rannsóknir verið gerðar þar á hverju ári síðan.

Uppgrefti á kumlateignum er ekki lokið, en hér verða helstu niðurstöður raktar. Fylgt er reglu Kristjáns Eldjárns og kumlum gefin númer í þeirri röð sem þau finnast, „kuml 1“, kuml 2“, o.sv.fr. Grafir með hrossum eru taldar til haugfjár, nema þær verði ekki heimfærðar á mannsgröf. Vísað er í myndir í megintexta skýrslunnar.

Áður en uppgróftur hófst var svæðið mælt upp og kortlagt. Af sýnilegum ummerkjum á yfirborði að dæma virðist þar vera grafreitir, um 50-70 m á lengdina (N-S) og 30-40 m á breidd (A-V). Rannsóknin hófst á nyrðri enda svæðisins.

## *Kuml 1.*

Fyrsta kumlið er fannst var mannskuml, hrossgröf norðan þess en mjótt haft á milli. Yfir gröfunum lá 1477 gjóska óhreyfð, en báðar grafirnar hafa verið raskaðar einhverntíma milli greftrunar og löngu áður en gjóskan féll. Þrátt fyrir rask fundust beinaleifar manns, líklega karls, um 35 ára eða eldri er hann lést. Hrossið var 5-6 ára þegar það var fellt og lagt í gröf, en engin merki um slátrun þess var hægt að greina á beinum þess. Athyglisvert er að í gröfunum var enn dýrmætt haugfé að finna. Í mannsgröfinni fundust smámunir í litlum vöndli lítið blýmet og silfurþynna sem hugsanlega hafa verið í leðurpyngju við belti. Í hrossgröfinni voru enn leifar af skrauti af reiðtygjum, þ.e.a.s. beit, bronspynnum með upphleypu skrauti.

## *Kuml 2.*

Árið 2009 fundust 2 grafir 6 m sunnan við kuml 1. Var þar eitt mannskuml og hrossgröf með tveimur hrossum í. Yfir báðum gröfum lá gjóskulag frá 1300 óhreyft, en þeim hafði sýnilega verið raskað áður. Með hliðum mannsgrafarinnar lá röð af járnnöglum og er líklegt að hinn látni hafi verið lagður í kistu. Í gröfinni voru nokkur bein úr fullorðnum manni, en kyn og aldur bíður greiningar. Í kumlinu voru enn töluverðar haugfjárleifar: þrjú brot úr armböndum úr silfri, tvö brot úr silfurpeningum og eitt ógreinilegt silfurbrot, tvær stórar og skreyttar sörvistölur, skreytt beltissylgja úr koparblendingi, beltissproti með skrauti og áföstum slitrum úr leðri og ókennileg járnbrot.

Við hvert horn grafarinnar var um 40 sm djúp hola, og sýnir að fjórar stoðir hafi verið reistar við gröfina.

Austan megin í hrossgröfinni lá hestur en vestanmegin voru einungis leifar af framhluta hests. Líklega hefur þar upphaflega verið einnig lagður heill hestur í gröfina, en rask og slæm varðveisluskilyrði geta hafa spilt staðnum. Á milli hrossanna hafði verið lagt tré eða planki einhverskonar. Með hrossinu austan plankans voru heilleg beisli og reiðtygi skreytt með fjöldanum öllum af af litlum málmþynnum með upphleyptu skrauti (beit) úr bronsi sem fest hefur verið á reiðver hestanna.

Árið 2010 var uppgraftarsvæðið stækkað enn til suðurs. Rannsóknin leiddi í ljós mannvistarleifar sem erfitt er að skýra til fulls. Í stað þess að finna grafir með hefðbundnu lagi (þ.e. aflangar holur sem rúma líkamsleifar manns eða hests) komu í ljós þrjár stórir pyttir, sem grafnir höfðu verið í gegnum ævaforan torfvegg. Veggurinn var úr torfi sem geymdi leifar landnámslagsins og sat jafnframt á lagi frá sama tíma. Tveir pyttanna við hvorn enda voru tómir, en líklegt er að þeir hafi verið stoðarholur, að vísu fyrir óvenju stórar stoðir. Í miðholunni var óvæntur fundur. Í botni hennar var safn af dýrabeinum, sem minnti helst á úrgang, en ofan á þeim var kjálki úr ketti og lítil hauskúpa úr manni. Lágu mannhöfuðið og kattarkjálkinn á milli steinahrúgu og dýrabeinahrúgu. Athyglisvert er að sjá mátti að höfuðkúpan var vopnbitin, og hafði sá áverki væntanlega verið gefinn skömmu áður en maðurinn gaf upp öndina enda sárið í beininu ógróið. Vestan við vegginn, fast við aurmál hans, og undir lagi sem myndast hefur við húsagerðina, var lítil gröf með beinum ungabarns.

Ekki er fullvíst að öll þessi ummerki tilheyri kumlateignum. Þau kunna að vera yngri, og má vera að höfuðkúpan hafi komið úr kumli sem raskast hafi við mannvirkjagerðina. Ekki skal útilokað að svon hafi þetta átt að vera; á kumlateig hafi risið bygging og hún helguð með sérstöku móti eða holur og bein verið liður í hlutverki hennar á grafreitnum.

Árið 2011 var rannsakað svæði vestan við kynlegu byggingaleifarnar sem fundust 2010. Þar fundust enn kuml, 6m SV við suðurenda mannsgrafarinnar í kumli 2.

#### *Kuml 3.*

Í kumli 3 voru tvær grafir, með breiðu hafti á milli. Báðar grafirnar höfðu verið raskaðar. Á yfirborði var að sjá eins og 2 þústir með dæld í kolli. Þegar yfirborðslög voru fjarlægð kom í ljós að gjóskulagið 1477 lá óraskað yfir þústunum sem og slitur af 1300 gjóskulaginu. Þar undir komu í ljós mjög blönduð mold og sáust þar brúnir tveggja grafa. Báðar grafirnar eru aflangar, og snúa því sem næst frá NV til SA. Syðri gröfin er 1.40m löng, 0.65m breið og 0.61m djúp. Í fyllingunni var hrafl af mannabeinum og fáein járnprot. Við hvert grafarhorn voru stoðarholur og í þeim voru stoðarsteinar og holrými, væntanlega eftir viðinn. Virðist sem stoðirnar hafi verið látnar standa á ská yfir gröfina.

Nyrðri gröfin var 1.55m löng, 0.90m breið og 0.90m djúp. Í henni fundust fáein hrossbein, einkum tennur og leifar af höfuðkúpu úr hrossi. Þar voru heilleg kjaftamél úr járn, nokkrir járnaglar og brot. Röð af smærri steinum lágu í boga með norðvesturhorni hrossgrafarinnar. Gæti þar verið um að ræða botn eða brún haugs sem hefur verið yfir gröfinni, en blásið burtu síðar.

#### *Kuml 4.*

Um 3 m SSV við kuml 3 voru enn tvær grafir, báðar raskaðar í fornöld og öll ummerki á sama vegi og yfir kumli 3.

Syðri gröfin var 1.72m löng, 0.95m breið og 0.52m djúp. Í henni fundust fáein bein úr manni, 2 sörvistölur úr gleri, og fáein járnprot. Við horn grafarinnar voru allt að 35-40 sm breiðar og 50 sm djúpar stoðarholur, 2 norðan megin og 3 sunnan megin. Voru þær nær fylltar með smáum ávölum steinum.

Nyrðri gröfin var 1.14m löng, 90cm breið og 0.71m djúp. Í henni var mikið af hrossbeinum, nær heilt hross og fáein járnprot. Við vesturhlið þessarar grafar var bunga af mold og grjóti, sýnilega leifar af lágum haug sem hafði verið rofinn og líklega skemmst við uppblástur síðar.

Sumarið 2012 var rannsakað svæði vestan við kumlina sem áður höfðu verið rannsökuð og fundust leifar tveggja kumla til viðbótar, en eins og hin höfðu þau bæði orðið fyrir raski til forna. Sem fyrr voru rannsóknirnar unnar sem samstarfsverkefni Hins þingeyska fornleifafélags og Fornleifastofnunar Íslands.

#### *Kuml 5.*

Árið 2012 fannst enn eitt kuml um 6 m vestan við kumlið með stoðarholunum sem var rannsakað árið 2009 (kuml 3). Þar sneri gröfin í N-S, 1.7m löng og 0.7m breið, og hafði hún verið tekin í gegnum landnámssyrpuna. Yfir gröfinni og fyllingu hennar lá gjóskulagið frá 1300. Ljóst er að kumlið hefur verið rænt áður en það gjóskulag féll. Í gröfinni fundust leifar af beinagrind úr manni (tennur og útlímabein), nokkur járnbrott og viðarleifar. Mannabeinin hafa ekki verið greind enn, þ.e. kyn og aldur mannsins, að svo miklu leyti sem það verður hægt.

#### *Kuml 6.*

Um 4 m suðvestan við kuml 5 fannst önnur gröf 2012. Gröfin sneri í N-S, 1.6m löng og 0.7m breið, og hafði verið tekin í gegnum landnámssyrpuna. Á bökkum grafarinnar hafði verið reistur lágur garður eða veggur úr torfi og síðan lagt yfir með grjóti, um 3.1m löng og 2.2m breið hleðsla. eru þessi ummerki líklega leifar af haug sem gerður hefur verið yfir gröfinni. Ofan á hleðslunum og grafarfyllingu lá gjóskulagið frá 1300. Ljóst er að kumlið hefur verið rænt áður en það féll. Í gröfinni fundust leifar af beinagrind úr manni (höfuðkúpubein, tennur og útlímabein), nokkur járnbrott, koparbrott og viðarleifar. Ekki er búið að greina mannabeinin til kyns og aldurs, að svo miklu leyti sem það verður hægt.

#### *Niðurstöður.*

Árið 2012 fundust enn kuml á grafreitnum við Ingiríðarstaði á Þegjandadal. Nú hafa fundist þar 12 grafir og pyttir með beinum manna og/eða dýra. Fjórar grafanna (kuml 1-6) eru mjög líklega mannsgrafir og hefur fjórum þeirra (1-4) fylgt hrossgröf. Við þrjár grafanna er umbúnaður sem ekki var þekktur hér á landi fyrr en rannsóknir hófust á kumlum í S-Þingeyjarsýslu á síðustu árum: stoðir hafa verið reistar utan við grafirnar og líklega e.k. mannvirki reist ofan á þeim. Gerð þeirra eða tilgangur er óþekktur. Þá voru leifar af haugi ofan á einu kumli, en ekki varð vart við stoðarholur. Grafirnar sem fundust sumarið 2012 voru að mörgu áþekk þeim sem fyrr fundist norðar á teignum.

Enn eru ekki öll kurl komin til grafar. Vestan og norðan við þau kuml sem þegar hafa verið rannsökuð eru enn sjáanlegar nokkrar þústir með dældum og minna mjög á þá staði sem reyndust vera kuml. Áformað er að kanna þessi ummerki nánar og leitast við að ná fram

heildarsvip greftrunarstaðarins, lögun hans og fjölda grafa, ásamt leifum af haugfé og mannvirkum og einnig ummerkjum um rask og haugrof.

## Appendix 1 - Contexts

Context	Type	Group	Description	Date	ID
640	Deposit		Coarse dark grey tephra (1477)	24-07-2012	LBP
641	Deposit	650	Turfy upcast	25-07-2012	LBP
642	Deposit	650	Dark turf collapse	25-07-2012	HMR
643	Deposit	650	Mixed turf collapse filling cut	25-07-2012	DEM
644	Deposit	650	Turfy upcast	26-07-2012	LBP
645	Deposit	650	Turfy upcast	26-07-2012	LBP/HMR
646	Deposit	650	Gravelly silt upcast	26-07-2012	LBP
647	Deposit	650	Mottled upcast	27-07-2012	LBP
648	Deposit	650	Upcast	27-07-2012	LBP
649	Deposit	650	Grave fill	27-07-2012	LBP
650	Group		Group for northern grave.	27-07-2012	LBP
651	Deposit	650	Upcast	27-07-2012	LBP
652	Deposit	650	Upcast/collapse	27-07-2012	LBP
653	Deposit	650	Dark greyish brown grave fill	30-07-2012	DEM
654	Deposit	650	Mid brown gravelly silt grave fill	30-07-2012	LBP
655	Deposit	650	Upcast	30-07-2012	LBP
656	Deposit	671	Aeolian mix	30-07-2012	HMR/AH
657	Cut	650	Disturbance cut	30-07-2012	LBP
658	Deposit	650	Grave fill	30-07-2012	LBP
659	Deposit	671	Collapse/slumping in grave	30-07-2012	TB
660	Deposit	671	Orange brown gritty deposit over turf	30-07-2012	TB
661	Deposit	650	Grave fill	30-07-2012	LBP
662	Deposit	671	Upper grave fill	31-07-2012	AH
663	Deposit	650	Grave fill	31-07-2012	LBP
664	Deposit	650	Turfy grave fill	02-08-2012	LBP
665	Deposit	671	Stone construction around grave	02-08-2012	AH
666	Deposit	671	Turf construction associated with (665).	02-08-2012	TB
667	Deposit	671	Tephra horizon (LNS)	02-08-2012	AH
668	Cut	671	Grave cut (southern)	02-08-2012	TB
669	Deposit	650	Turfy upcast around grave [650]	02-08-2012	LBP
670	Cut	650	Grave cut (northern)	02-08-2012	LBP
671	Group		Group for southern grave	02-08-2012	HMR

## Appendix 2 - Finds

<b>Find number</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>ID</b>
12-001	662	Cu	Stud/button	1	31.7.2012	AH
12-002	662	Fe	Object	1	31.7.2012	TB
12-003	662	Fe	Pin?	1	31.7.2012	HMR
12-004	662	Fe	Object	1	31.7.2012	HMR
12-005	662	Wd	Object	1	1.8.2012	AH
12-006	662	Fe	Object	1	1.8.2012	TB
12-007	662	Wd	Fragment (mineralised)	1	1.8.2012	TB
12-008	662	Wd	Fragment (mineralised)	1	1.8.2012	HMR
12-009	662	Wd	Fragment (mineralised)	1	1.8.2012	TB
12-010	663	Fe	Object (with WD traces?)	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-011	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-012	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-013	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-014	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-015	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-016	663	Fe	Object	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-017	663	Fe	Object	1	1.8.2012	TB
12-018	663	Fe	Nail?	1	1.8.2012	LBP
12-019	664	Fe	Object	1	2.8.2012	LBP



## Appendix 3 - Bones

Bone No	Context	Description	Date	ID
350	640	Fragment	24.7.2012	HMR
351	654	Jaw fragment(?) and teeth	30.7.2012	LBP
352	654	Tooth	30.7.2012	LBP
353	654	2 teeth	30.7.2012	LBP
354	658	Fragment	30.7.2012	LBP
355	658	Fragment	30.7.2012	LBP
356	658	Tooth	30.7.2012	LBP
357	661	Tooth	30.7.2012	LBP
358	661	Tooth	30.7.2012	HMR
359	661	Fragment	30.7.2012	LBP
360	661	Fragment	30.7.2012	LBP
361	662	Tooth	31.7.2012	TB
362	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
363	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
364	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
365	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
366	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
367	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
368	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
369	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
370	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
371	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
372	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
373	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
374	661	Fragment	31.7.2012	LBP
375	662	2 teeth	31.7.2012	HMR
376	662	Tooth	31.7.2012	TB
377	662	Skull	31.7.2012	HMR
378	662	Jaw fragment and tooth	1.8.2012	TB
379	662	Long bone	1.8.2012	TB
380	662	Long bone	1.8.2012	TB
381	662	Long bone	1.8.2012	HMR
382	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
383	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
384	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
385	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
386	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
387	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
388	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
389	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
390	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP

Bone No	Context	Description	Date	ID
391	662	Tooth	1.8.2012	TB
392	662	Tooth	1.8.2012	TB
393	662	Tooth	1.8.2012	TB
394	662	Scapula?	1.8.2012	HMR
395	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
396	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
397	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
398	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
399	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
400	662	Femur	1.8.2012	TB
401	662	Femur	1.8.2012	TB
402	663	Rib?	1.8.2012	LBP
403	662	Fragment	1.8.2012	TB
404	662	Fragment	1.8.2012	TB
405	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
406	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
407	662	Fragment	1.8.2012	TB
408	662	Fragment	1.8.2012	TB
409	662	Tooth	1.8.2012	TB
410	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
411	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
412	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
413	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
414	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
415	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
416	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
417	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
418	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
419	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
420	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
421	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
422	663	Tooth	1.8.2012	LBP
423	663	Fragment	1.8.2012	LBP
424	663	3 teeth from sieving	1.8.2012	HMR

## Appendix 4 - Conservation remarks

### **Conservation remarks - Ingridarstaðir kuml, þegjandadalur**

#### Iron

The iron objects are in a relative good state of preservation and generally show no signs of active deteriorating corrosion. All iron objects should be put in airtight boxes with desiccating Rubi Silica gel to prevent future corrosion. The relative humidity in the drying box should be 10 % RH or lower. The relative humidity in the box should be checked regularly at the enclosed humidity indicator sticks and additionally by the change in color of the silica gel from dark Rubi red e.g. dry state to lighter red or orange. The silica gel should be changed if necessary. The objects should be brushed lightly and put in perforated find bags before being packed with silica gel. The packing with silica gel etc. will be coordinated and conducted by Guðrun Alda Gísladóttir during the fall 2012.

#### Copper alloys

The copper alloy objects are in a relatively good state of preservation and show no signs of active bronze corrosion. Please see above packing recommendations regarding packing of the copper alloy objects. Future mechanical cleaning of selected copper alloy objects could be made by a conservator, if found necessary in revealing further information or decoration. ING12-F012 a little decorative stud was mechanically cleaned with small hand tools and following packed.

#### X-ray analysis

Iron objects ING12-010 and 016 were taken out for X-ray analysis at Domus Medica.

Jannie Amsgaard Ebsen, Reykjavík, 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2012.