



THE KON-TIKI MUSEUM
THOR HEYERDAHL'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION

KON-TIKI FIELD REPORT SERIES **VOLUME 5/2003**
TEST EXCAVATION OF MARAE ScH-2-62-3 AND MARAE ScH-2-65-2
Te Ana, Maeva, Huahine, Society Islands, French Polynesia, August 2002

by **Reidar Solsvik**

TEST EXCAVATION OF MARAE ScH-2- 62-3 AND MARAE ScH-2-65-2

Te Ana, Maeva, Huahine, Society Islands,
French Polynesia, in August 2002

KTM FIELD AND ARCHIVE REPORT SERIES VOL. 5

THOR HEYERDAHL'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION
THE KON-TIKI MUSEUM 2003

Reidar Solsvik

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The Kon-Tiki Museum, Bygdøynesveien 36, 0286 Oslo, Norway.

Web: www.kon-tiki.no, E-mail: kon-tiki@kon-tiki.no.

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CHAPTER 1

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

1.1 Introduction

The investigations reported below are the first part of a larger planned project to study the origin of the *marae* in the Society Islands (Wallin 1993; Wallin & Solsvik 2002, 2003), based on the survey-work in the Maeva area, Huahine, done by Dr. Y. Sinoto and his associates (Sinoto 1996; Sinoto, Komori, & Rogers-Jourdane 1981; Sinoto & Komori 1988).

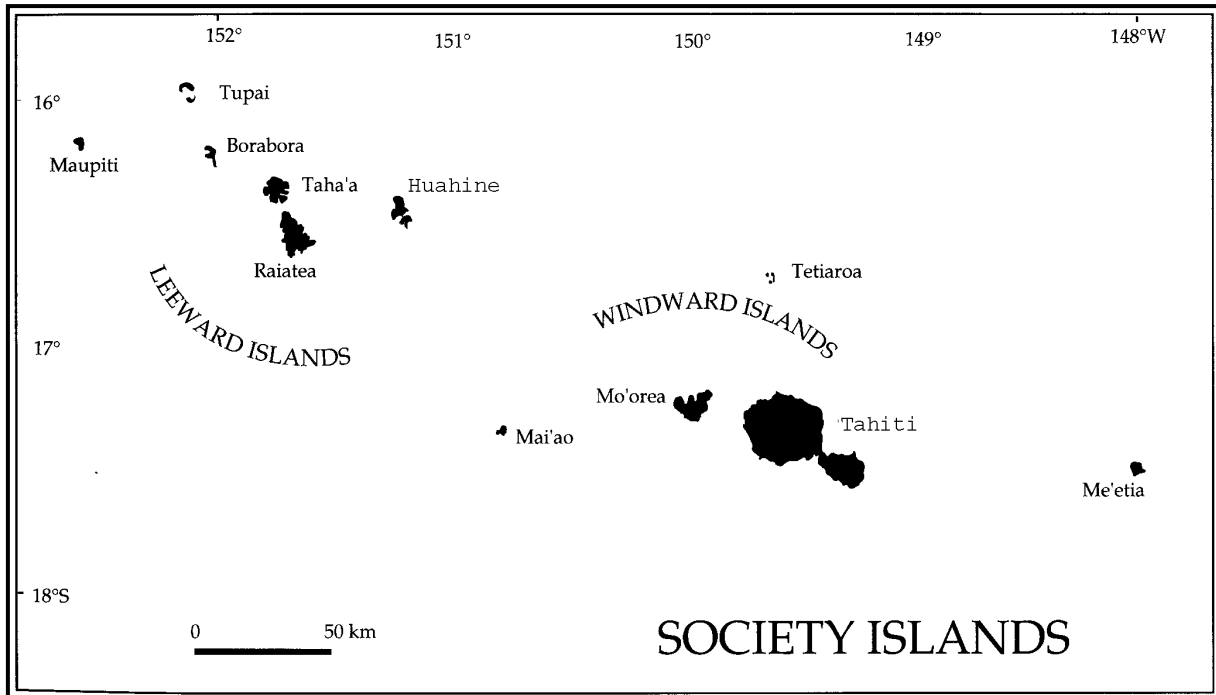


Fig. 1: Map of the Society Islands, locating the island of Huahine.

The structures in this area were surveyed in the beginnings of the 1980thies and given a unique number, i.e. ScH-2-62-3: as Sc = Society Islands; H = Huahine; 2 = the Northeast quadrant of the island; 62 = a group of structures; 3 = an individual structure or feature.

Te Ana as used in this report does not denote the whole of the land-area located near Maeva village, but rather the complex of house-platforms and *marae* defined by Sinoto (1996).

1.2 Initiary

Arrived on Huahine on Monday 5. August and started work the next day.

Tuesday 6. August	Cleared excavation areas in Te Ana.
7. to 14. August	Excavated two 1x1 m trenches at ScH2-62-3.
15. to 21. August	Excavated one 1x2 m trench at ScH2-65-2.
22. August	Back filled the trenches.
23. August	Left for Papaete.

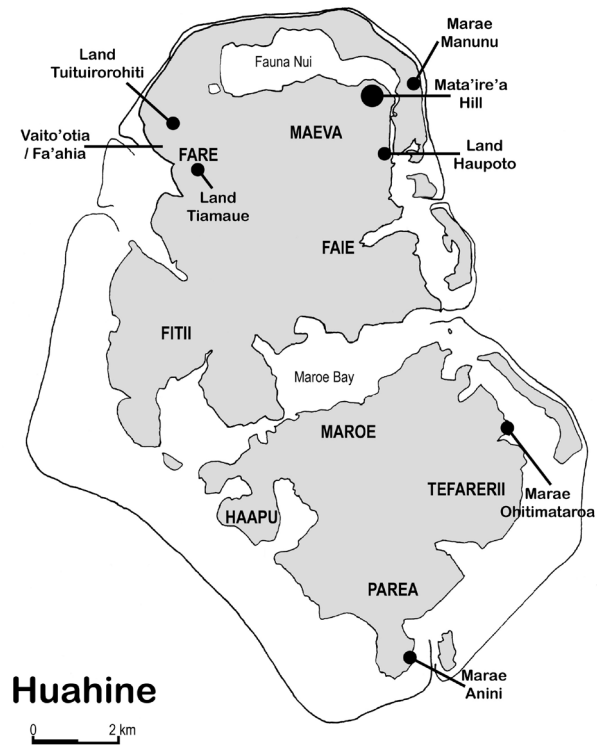


Fig. 2: Map of Huahine locating the area of Maeva.

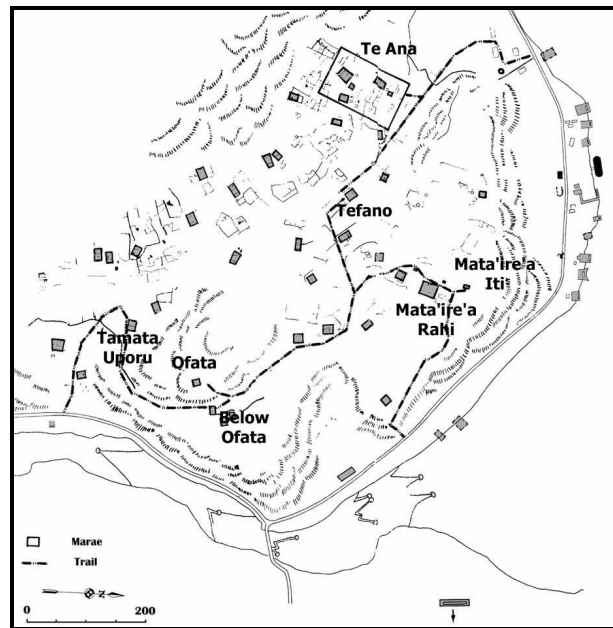


Fig. 3: Map showing the Mata'ire'a Hill and recorded sites.

1.3 Methodology

Units, from 1x1 m and up to 1x2 m, were placed perpendicular to the platforms or *ahu* of the *marae*, in order to expose the base of the stones making up the platform or *ahu* of the structure. The trenches were excavated in 10 cm spits, with drawing of plans at each level.

Small excavation units on the outside of the *marae* structures, or cutting through the *ahu* without removing the standing slabs, have been the preferred approach in order to keep the disturbance of the structures to a minimum (Cf. Martinsson-Wallin, Wallin, & Solsvik 1998), and to avoid having to tear down and reconstruct already restored monuments.

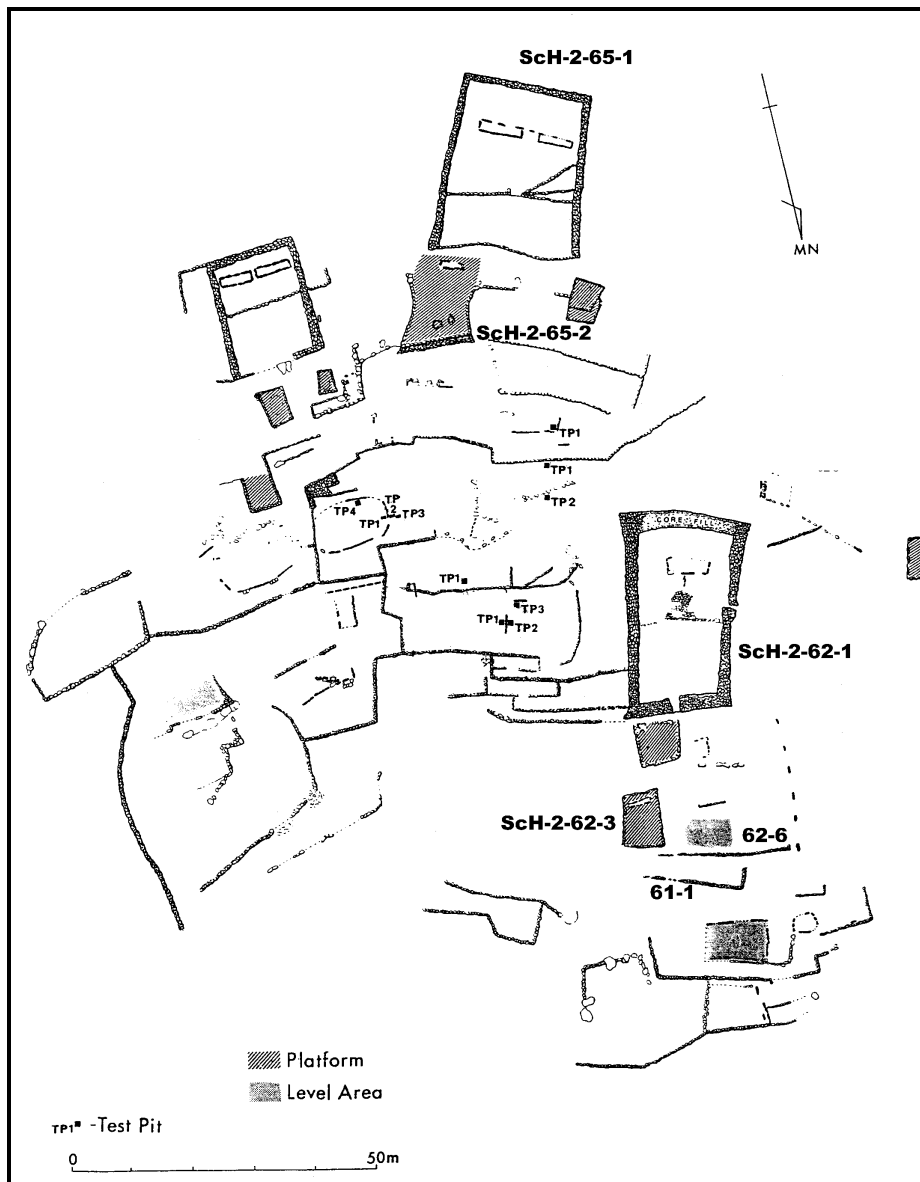


Fig. 4: Map of the land division Te Ana, locating marae ScH-2-62-3 and marae ScH-2-65-2.

CHAPTER 2

MARAE ScH-2-62-3

2.1 Marae ScH-2-62-3

The *marae* is a small platform built on slanting ground in three to eight layers of basalt stones. Oriented almost N-S with the *ahu* at the S, upper end of the platform. The platform is about 8 m long and 6 m wide, and the *ahu* is about 4,5 m long, 0,8-1m wide and 0,6 m high. The entire structure is built of basalt stones. The *ahu* is build of upright stone slabs, 5 in the front line and 4 in its rear line, and one at each short side. On the E long side of the platform was an additional semicircular feature observed, which also included a 35 cm high pointed upright.

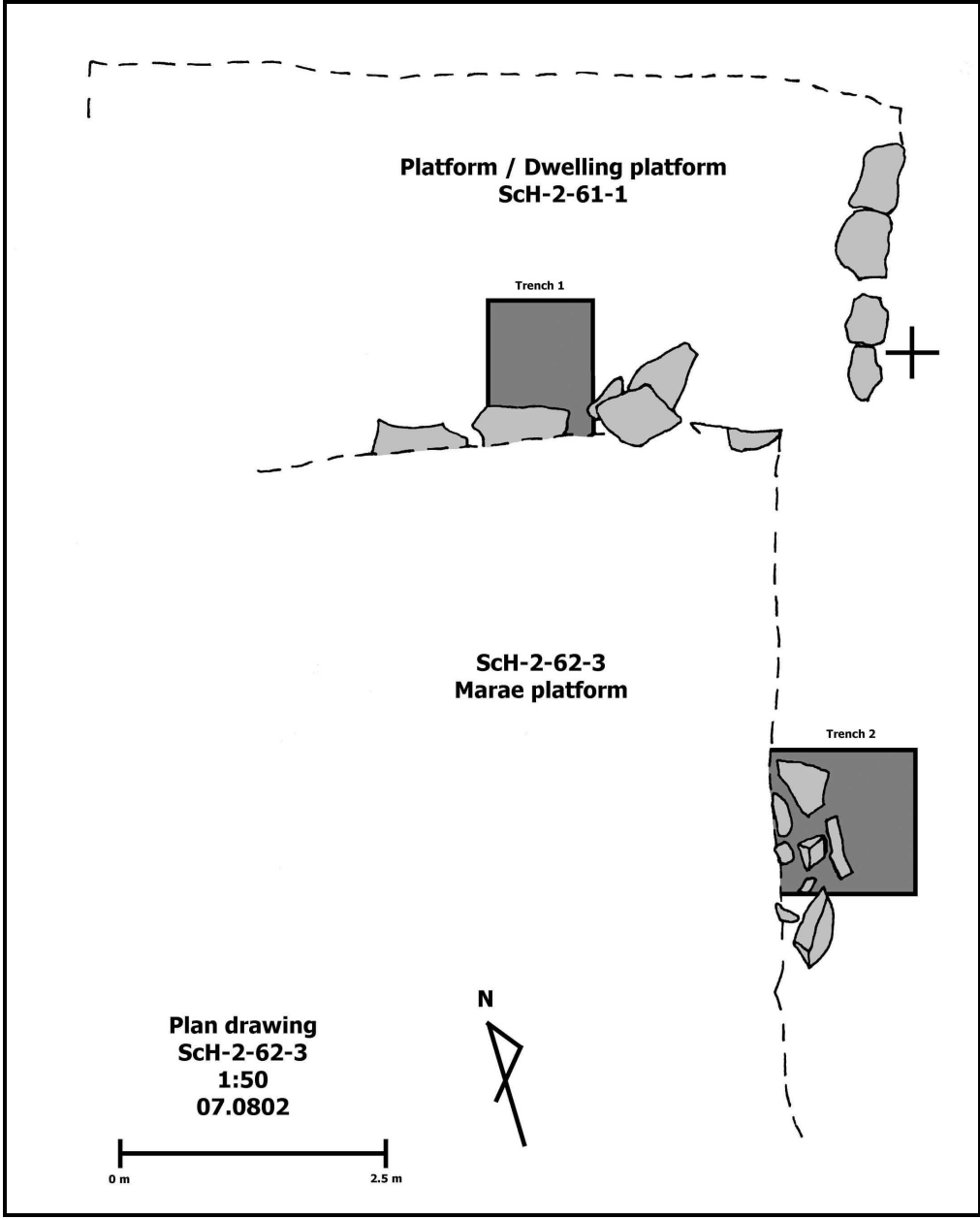


Fig. 5: Plan drawing of marae ScH-2-62-3, locating trenches 1 and 2.

It was found that the *marae* was built directly on topsoil, and on top of habitational debris (ScH-2-61-1), and is probably a very late feature of the site.

2.2 Trench 1

One, 1 by 1 m unit was excavated at the N end of the platform, where the E end of a house platform, ScH-2-62-6, is built at the side of the *marae* platform. A retaining platform, or a habitation platform, ScH-2-61-1, is located just to the N or the *marae* platform.



Fig. 6: S end-wall of marae ScH-2-62-3, before excavation of trench 1.

The trench revealed that the *marae* was built on top of the soil without foundation stones buried in the ground, and most probably on top of the habitational debris, with high density of shells and charcoal, found in the top layer of the trench, and related to ScH-2-61-1. Large rocks were found in the ground, but is either natural or used to build up a flat area on the slope prior to *marae* construction.

Three layers were uncovered during excavations, and probably reflects the levelling of the area under the structure. No artefacts were uncovered during excavation.

Layer 1:

A dark brown to black sandy soil, with a high density of carbon and *tuai* shells. Encountered in this layer was packs of small stones, about the size of a small fist.

Layer 2:

A light brown to reddish brown fine sandy soil with inclusions of lumps of a grey clay. Many small stones (about 3x3 cm) of a yellowish colour were found, and they were easily broken. Contained no carbon or shells. The soil gradually got more clayish with depth.

Layer 3:

Light brown to reddish brown, fine sandy, or clayish, soil . Contains no charcoal or shell. A lot of small yellowish, brittle stones were found in the layer.

2.3 Trench 2

One unit, 1.3 by 1 m, was placed perpendicular to and outside of the E side of the *marae* platform, exposing a small feature of three stone slabs and one upright. The unit exposed the base of the stones in the side of the *marae* platform, as well as the base of the stones making up the small feature attached to the *marae*. As seen in trench 1, the *marae* platform is build on top of existing soil, although at the side of the structure soil had build up a little.



Fig. 7: Marae Sch-2-62-3, trench 2 before excavation.



Fig. 8: Feature along marae wall, trench 2, ScH-2-62-3.

The feature seems to have been built in relation to the *marae* platform, and thus should post-date it, but there is no conclusive stratigraphical relations to prove this, only the general form and location of the feature. Not more than one layer could be defined, although the soil gradually changed with depth. No artefacts were found.

Layer 1:

A brown sandy soil, with lots of carbon and packs of small stones (fist size), no shells and no artefacts. Contained a lot of charcoal, some evidently from fired roots. Gradually blends into a grey clayish and yellowish-brown sandy soils.

CHAPTER 3

MARAE ScH-2-65-2

3.1 Marae ScH-2-65-2

The *marae* has a terraced court with the *ahu* on the up-slope end. The *ahu* consists today of four upright basalt slabs and is about 0,5 m high. The central and NW part of the *ahu* is today destroyed by large coconut trees. Each short side is marked by one basalt block each about 80 cm long and 0,5 m high. The SE rear side of the *ahu* have three standing slabs slanting forward. The rest is almost completely destroyed or covered by the palm trees. The terraced pavement in front of the *ahu* is more solid about 3-4 m out from the *ahu*. SE of the *ahu* natural outcrops could be observed. Further excavations are going to be undertaken next field season in order to determine the relationship between ScH-2-65-2 and ScH-2-65-1, as well as to examine if the slope have been cut to level the area before the *marae* was build.



Fig. 9: Ahu of marae ScH-2-65-2 before excavation.

3.2 Trench 1

One trench, 1x2 m, was placed perpendicular to the *ahu* on its E end, and cut through the *ahu* in front of it. The contents of the trench was divided up into two areas, inside-the-*ahu* and outside-the-*ahu*. The top layer consisted of a very fine soil, almost dust, which must have been deposited after activities ceased at the site. The layer could not be separated, visually, from the layer underneath, but it contained no charcoal.

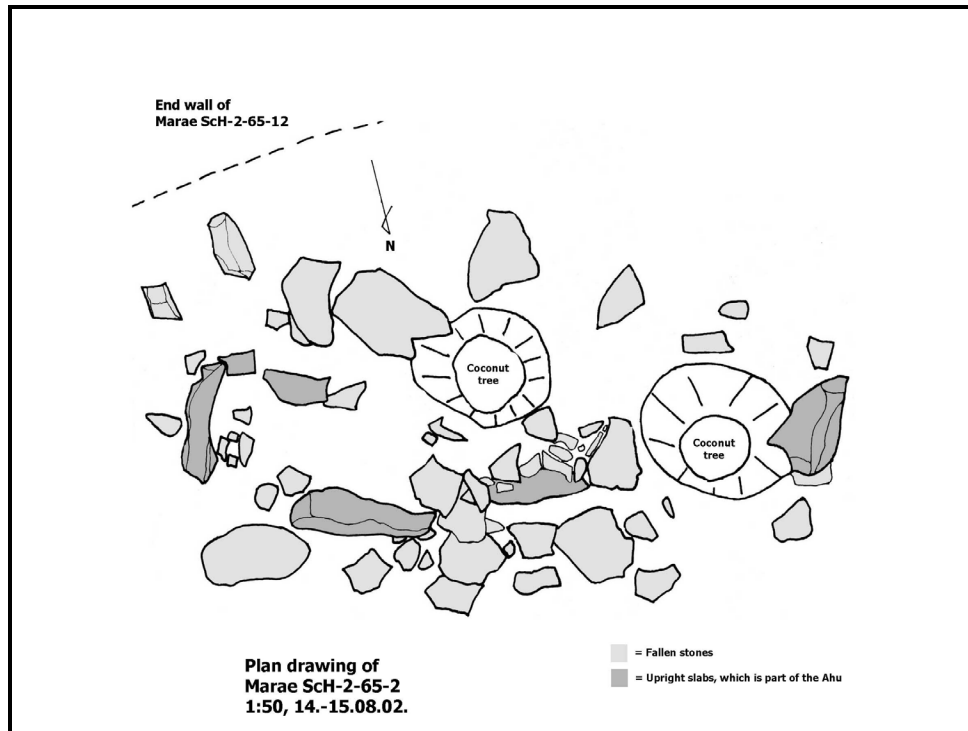


Fig. 10: Plan drawing of marae Sch-2-65-2. For location of trench, compare this plan with plan from the trenches.

Layer 1:

A brown to dark brown sandy soil with humus. Little charcoal at the top, but more further down.

Layer 2:

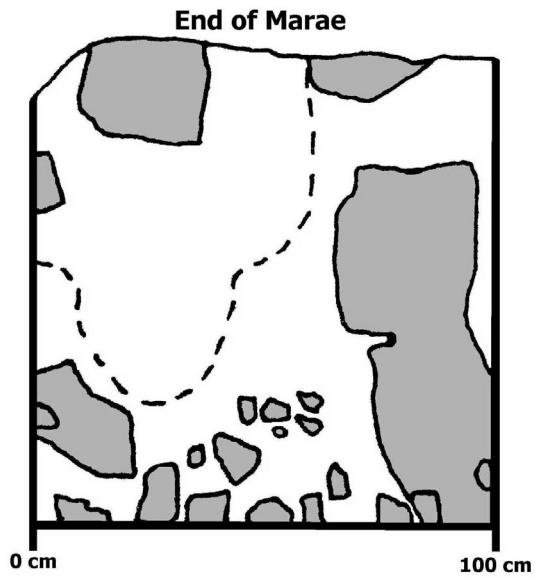
A light brown to yellowish brown clay, very hard packed. Contained no humus or charcoal.



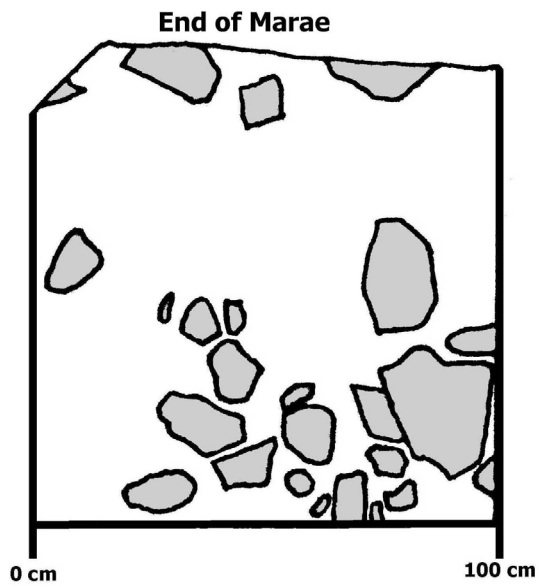
Fig. 11: Marae Sch-2-62-3, trench 1, bottom of spit 1, 0-10 cm.



Fig. 12: Marae Sch-2-62-3, trench 1, bottom of spit 2, 10-20 cm.



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 2, 10-20 cm,
1:20, 09.08.02.**



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 1, 0 - 10 cm,
1:20 cm, 08.08.02.**



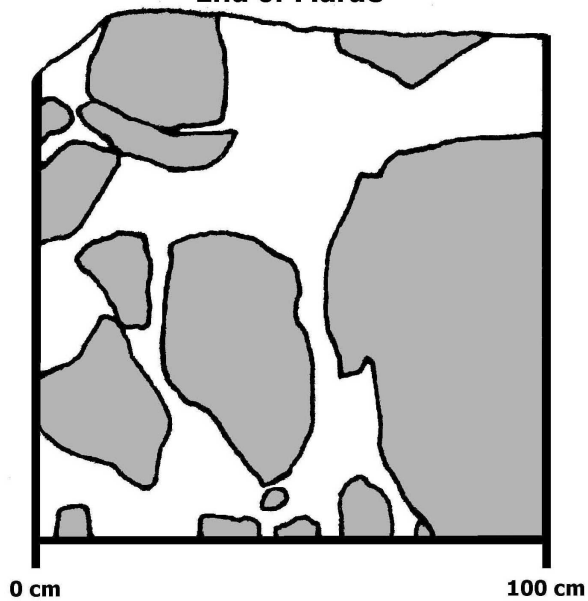


Fig. 13: Marae ScH-2-62-3, trench 1, bottom of spit 3, 20-30 cm.



Fig. 14: Marae ScH-2-62-3, trench 1, bottom of spit 4, 30-40 cm.

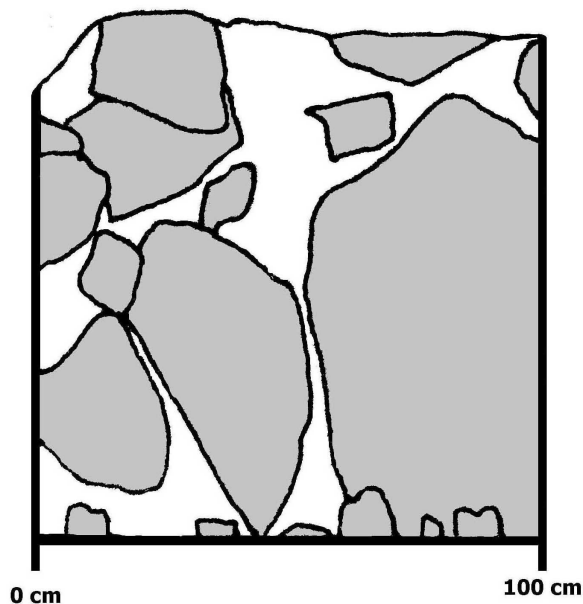
End of Marae



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 3, 20-30 cm,
1:20, 09.08.02.**



End of Marae



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 4, 30-40 cm,
1:20 12.08.02.**





Fig. 15: Marae Sch-2-62-3, trench 1, bottom of spit 5, 40-50 cm.

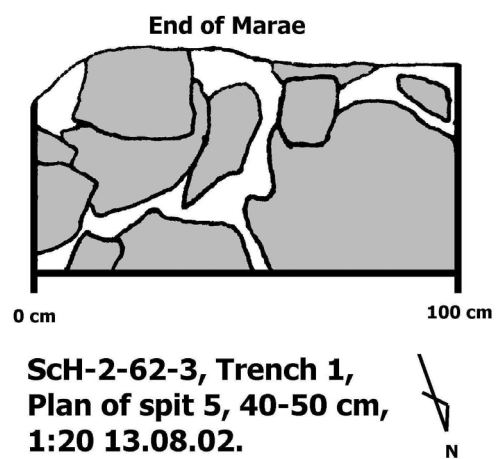
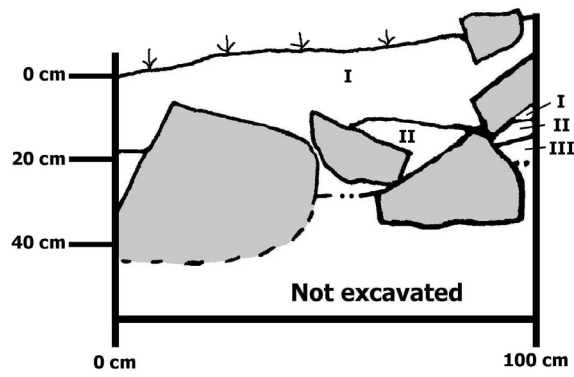
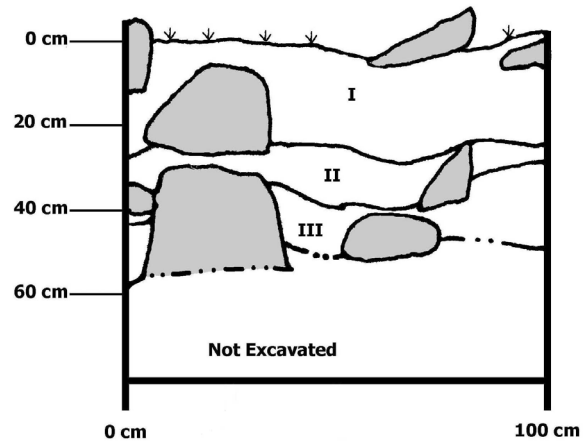




Fig. 16: Marae ScH-2-62-3 trench 1, E-W profile.



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
N-S face, E side,
1:20, 22.08.02.**



**SCH-2-62-3, Trench 1,
E-W face, at wall,
1:20, 22.08.02.**



Fig. 17: Marae SCH-2-62-3, trench 2, before excavation.

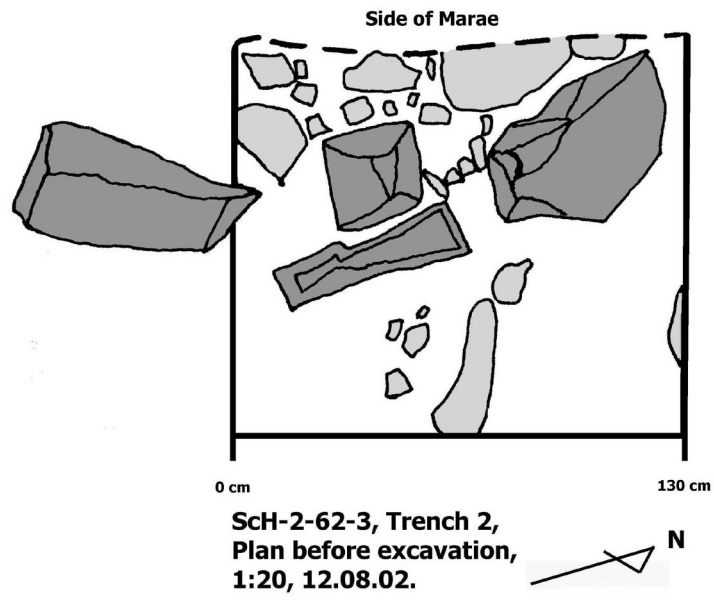
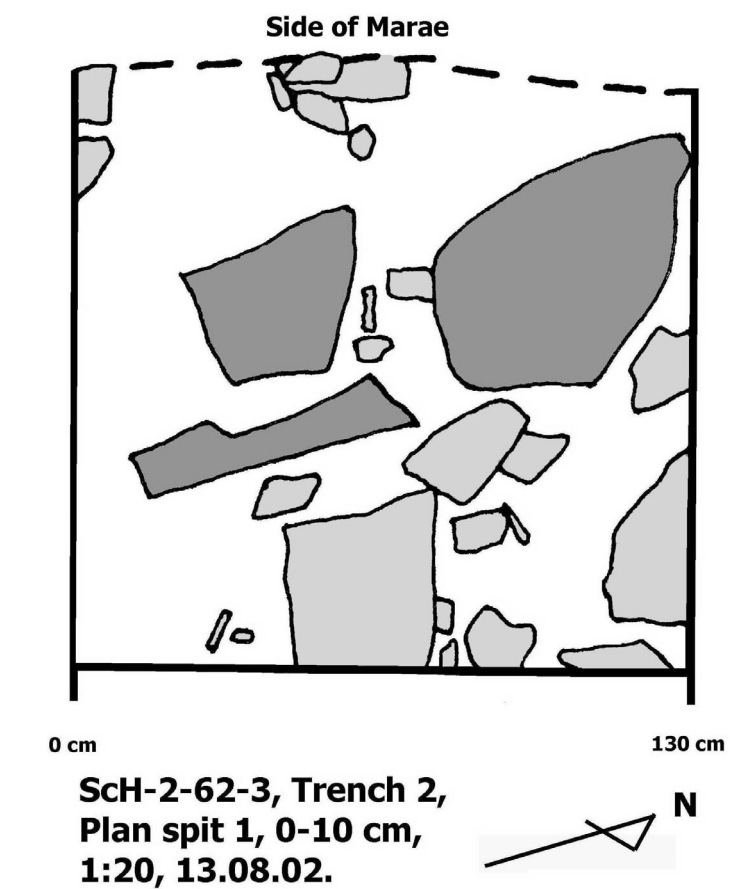


Fig. 18: Marae SCH-2-62-3, trench 2, bottom of spit 1, 0-10 cm.



Fig. 19: Marae Sch-2-62-3, trench 2, bottom of spit 2, 10-20 cm.



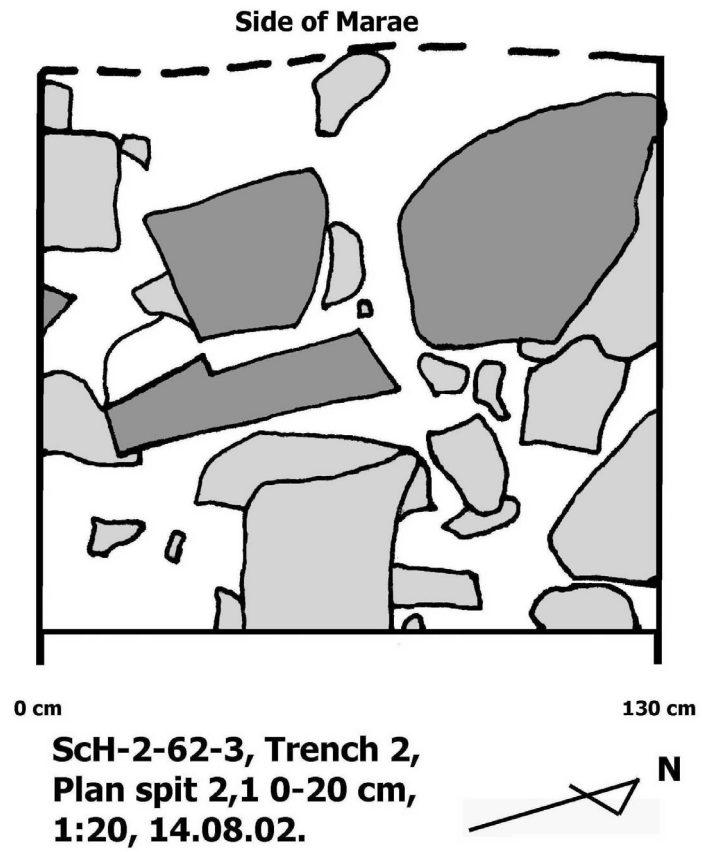


Fig. 20: Marae ScH-2-62-3, trench 2, bottom of spit 3, 20-30 cm.

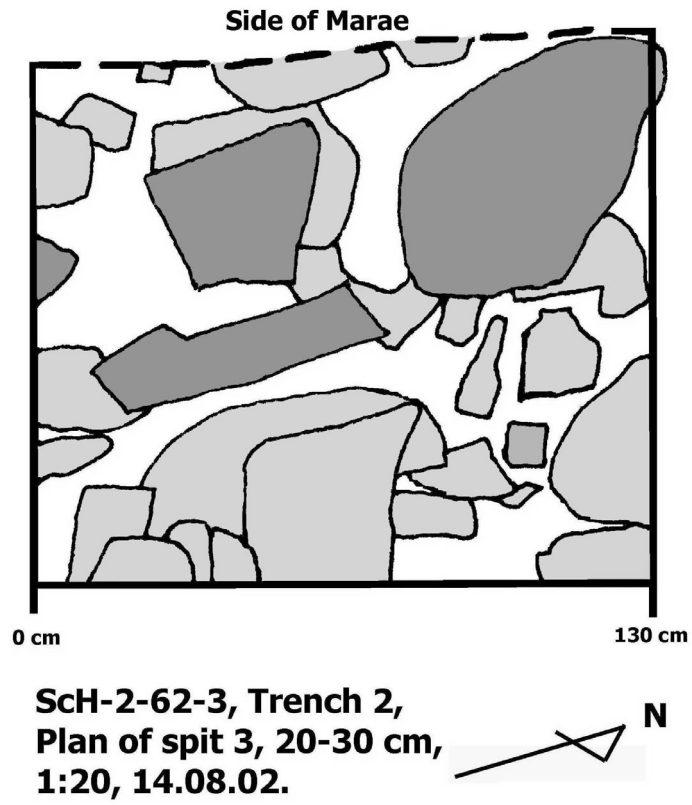
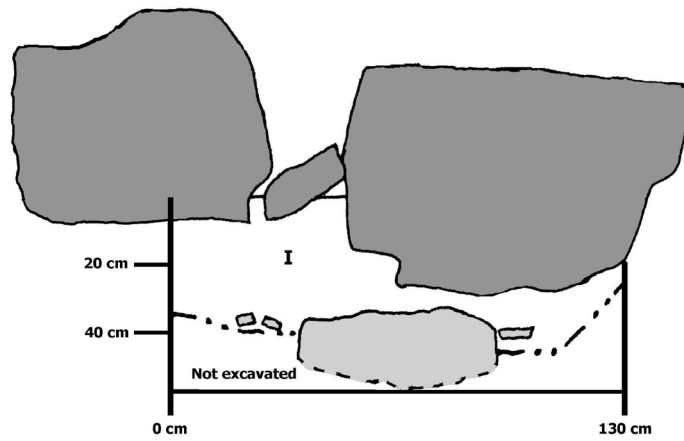
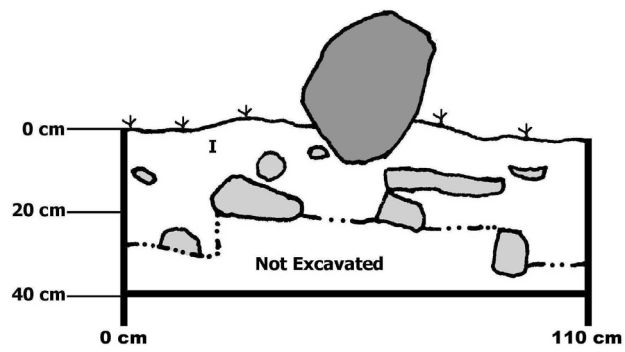


Fig. 21: Marae SCH-2-62-3, trench 2, picture of stone in the marae wall with a layer of soil beneath, and natural occurring stones below.



**ScH-2-62-3, Trench 2,
S-N face, at Marae side,
1:20, 22.08.02.**



**ScH-2-62-3, Trench 2
E-W face, upper end,
1:20, 22.08.02.**



Fig. 22: Ahu of marae SCH-2-65-2 before excavation. Taken from the NW.



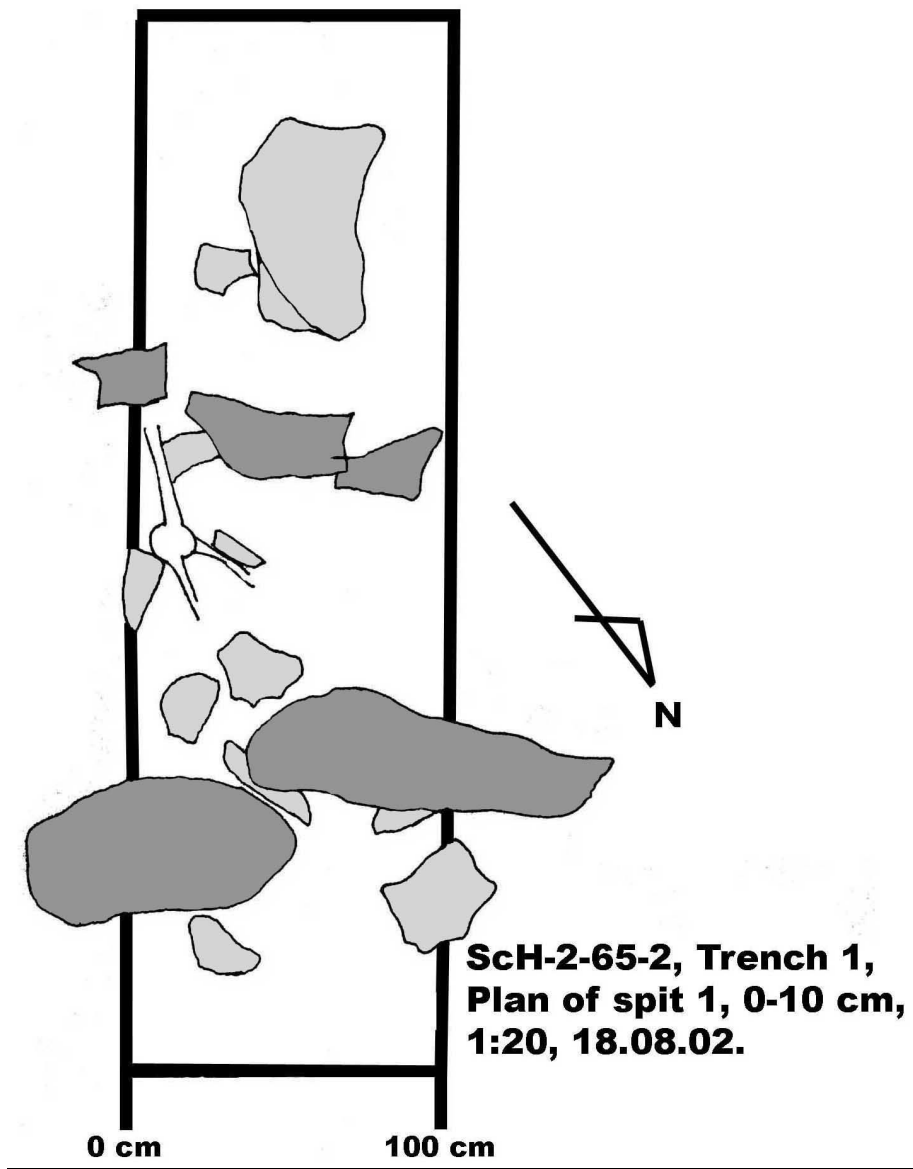
Fig. 23: Ahu of marae ScH-2-65-2 before excavation. Taken from the S / SE.

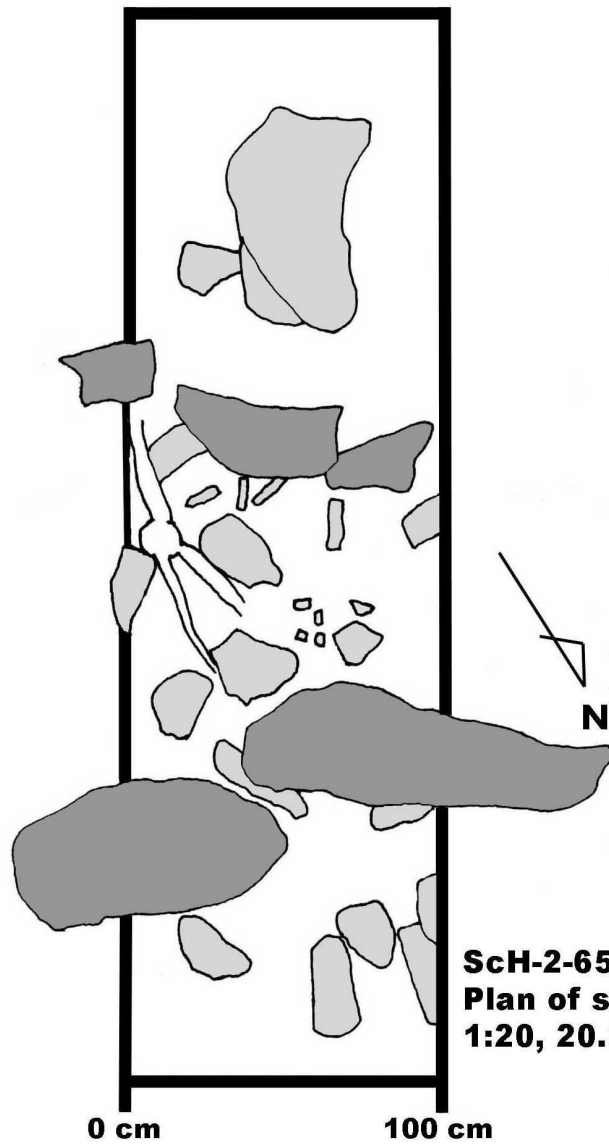


Fig. 24: Marae ScH-2-65-2, trench 1, bottom of spit 1, 0-10 cm.



Fig. 25: Marae ScH-2-65-2, trench 1, bottom of spit 2, 10-20 cm.





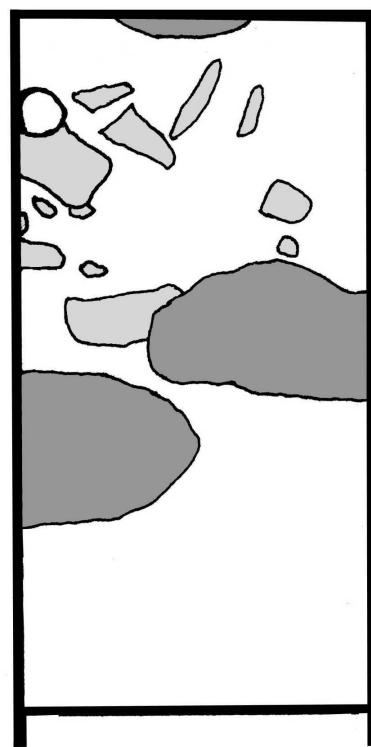
**ScH-2-65-2, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 2, 10-20 cm,
1:20, 20.08.02.**



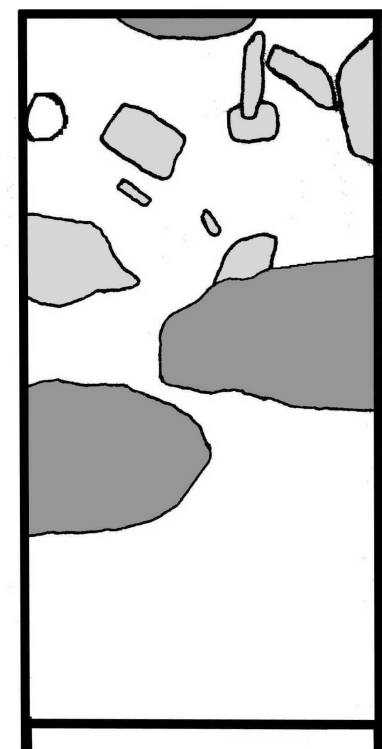
Fig. 26: Marae ScH-2-65-2, trench 1, bottom of spit 3, 20-30 cm.



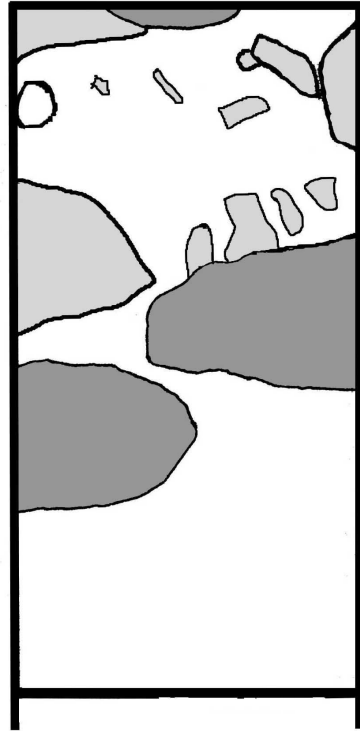
Fig. 27: Marae ScH-2-65-2, trench 1, bottom of spit 4, 30-40 cm.



**ScH-2-65-2, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 3, 20-30 cm,
1:20, 20.08.02.**

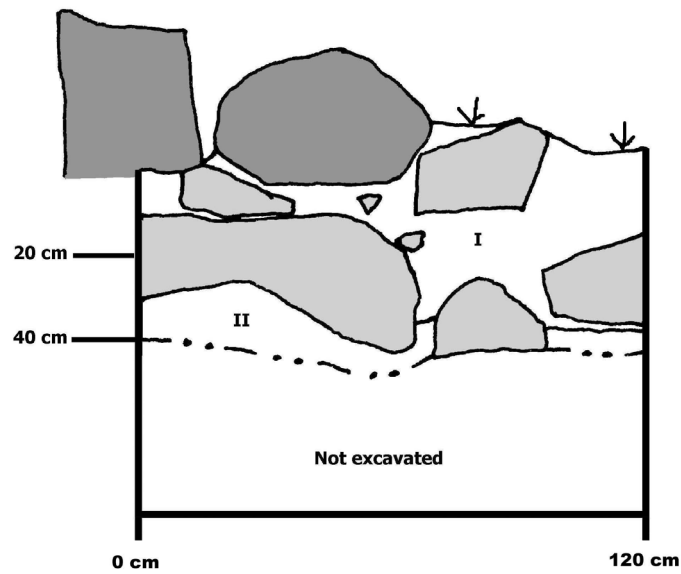


**ScH-2-65-2, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 4, 30-40 cm,
1:20, 21.08.02.**

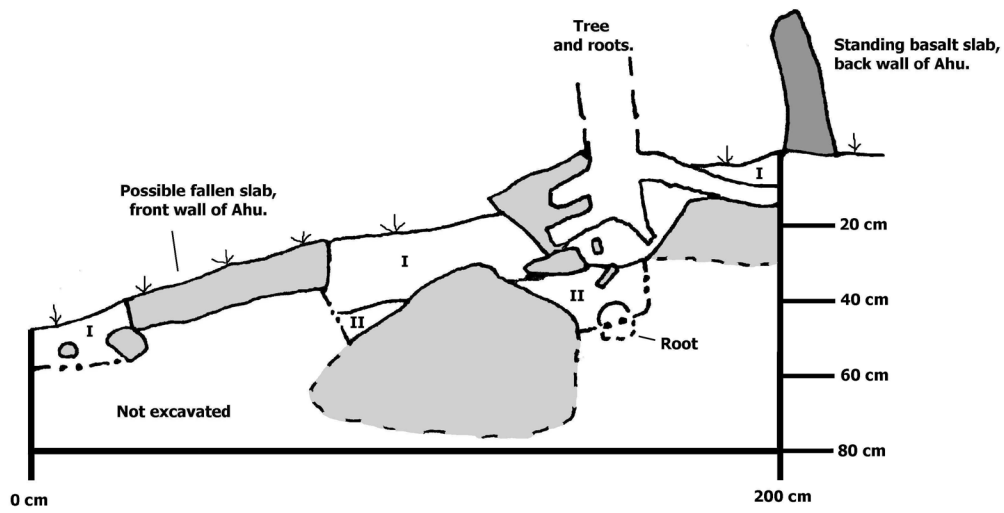


ScH-2-65-2, Trench 1,
Plan of spit 5, 40-50 cm,
1:20, 21.08.02.

0 cm 100 cm



ScH--2-65-2, Trench 1,
E-W face, S end,
1:20, 22.08.02.



**ScH--2-65-2, Trench 1,
N-S face, E side,
1:20, 22.08.02.**

CHAPTER 4

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CHAPTER 5

SAMPLE LIST

List of samples found during excavations in Te Ana, *marae* ScH-2-62-3 and ScH-2-65-2, August 2002

No.:	Land	Structure	Trench	Level:	Date:	Description
C - 14						
1	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	10-20 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C1
2	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	10-20 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C2
3	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	10-20 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C3
4	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	20-30 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C4
5	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	10-20 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, 10-20 cm
6	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	20-30 cm	09.08.2002	Carbon sample, 20-30 cm
7	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	30-40 cm	12.08.2002	Carbon sample, 30-40 cm
8	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	10-20 cm	08.08.2002	2 pieces of wood in general context
9	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	12.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C5
10	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	12.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C6, partly carbonized nuts / fruits
11	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	12.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C7
12	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C8
13	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C9
14	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C10
15	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C11
16	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C12
17	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C13
18	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C14
19	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C15
20	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	14.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C16
21	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	12.08.2002	Carbon sample, 0-10 cm
22	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	Carbon sample, 10-20 cm
23	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	20-30 cm	14.08.2002	Carbon sample, 20-30 cm
24	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	0-10 cm	19.08.2002	Carbon sample, indside ahu, 0-10 cm
25	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	10-20 cm	20.08.2002	Carbon sample, indside ahu, 10-20 cm

26	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	0-10 cm	19.08.2002	Carbon sample, inside ahu, 0-10 cm
27	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	10-20 cm	20.08.2002	Carbon sample, inside ahu, 10-20 cm
28	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	30-40 cm	21.08.2002	Carbon sample, inside ahu, 30-40 cm
29	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	?	21.08.2002	Carbon sample, marked C17
Shell						
30	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	0-10 cm	08.08.2002	General sample of shell (Tuai; Coral; Mo'a)
31	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	20-30 cm	08.08.2002	1 piece of mo'a
32	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	0-10 cm	12.08.2002	General sample of shell (Mo'a)
33	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	10-20 cm	13.08.2002	3 tiny shells from under flat stone, marked Shell A
	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	0-10 cm	19.08.2002	1 tiny shell from inside the ahu
Soil						
34	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	40-50 cm	12.08.2002	Sample of clay-inclusions in the soil
35	Te Ana	ScH-2-65-2	1	40-50 cm	21.08.2002	Sample of clay-inclusions in the soil
36	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	Layer I	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer
37	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	Layer II	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer
38	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	1	Layer III	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer
39	Te Ana	ScH2-62-3	2	Layer I	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer, 50 cm below level line
40	Te Ana	ScH-2-65-2	1	Layer I	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer, 60 cm below level line
41	Te Ana	Sc-H-2-65-2	1	Layer II	22.08.2002	Sample of the soil in the layer, 80 cm below level line
42	Te Ana	ScH2-65-2	1	Layer II	22.08.2002	Sample of the clay in the layer

CHAPTER 6

RADIOCARBON DATES

Dr. Paul Wallin

Report Date: 4/16/2003

The Kon-Tiki Museum

Material Received: 3/20/2003

Sample Data	Measured Radiocarbon Age	$^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ Ratio	Conventional Radiocarbon Age(*)
Beta - 177605 SAMPLE : SCH-2-62-3/1 ANALYSIS : Radiometric-Standard delivery MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT : (charred material): acid/alkali/acid 2 SIGMA CALIBRATION : Cal AD 1320 to 1340 (Cal BP 630 to 600) AND Cal AD 1390 to 1500 (Cal BP 560 to 450)	500 +/- 60 BP	-25.7 o/oo	480 +/- 60 BP
Beta - 177606 SAMPLE : SCH-2-65-2/1 ANALYSIS : AMS-Standard delivery MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT : (charred material): acid/alkali/acid 2 SIGMA CALIBRATION : Cal AD 1660 to 1950 (Cal BP 290 to 0)	170 +/- 40 BP	-27.1 o/oo	140 +/- 40 BP
Beta - 177607 SAMPLE : SSLE1-TP6S14 ANALYSIS : Radiometric-Standard delivery (with extended counting) MATERIAL/PRETREATMENT : (charred material): acid/alkali/acid 2 SIGMA CALIBRATION : Cal AD 1230 to 1420 (Cal BP 720 to 530)	690 +/- 90 BP	-26.6 o/oo	660 +/- 80 BP

CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: C13/C12=-25.7:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory number: **Beta-177605**

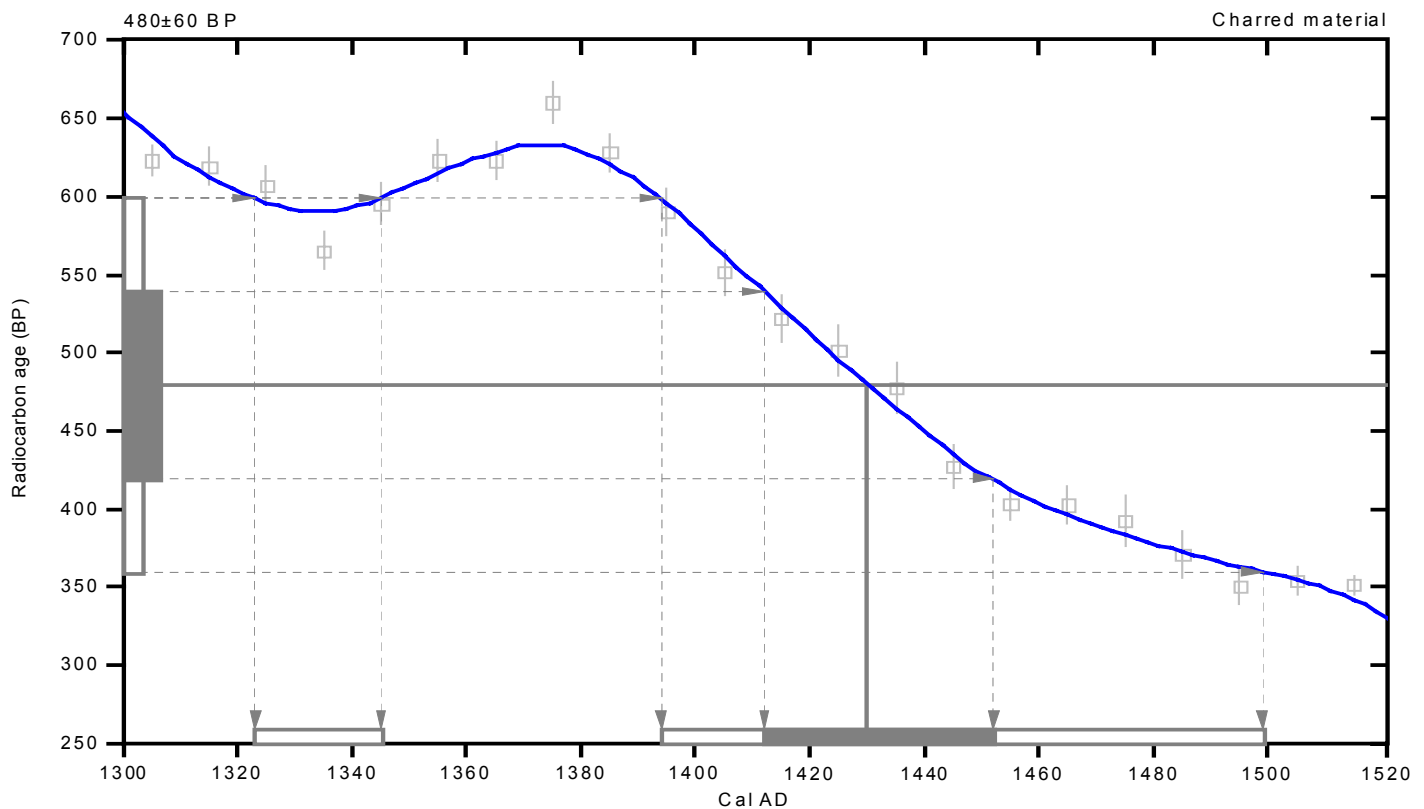
Conventional radiocarbon age: **480±60 BP**

**2 Sigma calibrated results: Cal AD 1320 to 1340 (Cal BP 630 to 600) and
(95% probability) Cal AD 1390 to 1500 (Cal BP 560 to 450)**

Intercept data

Intercept of radiocarbon age
with calibration curve: Cal AD 1430 (Cal BP 520)

1 Sigma calibrated result: Cal AD 1410 to 1450 (Cal BP 540 to 500)
(68% probability)



References:

Database used

Calibration Database

Editorial Comment

Stuiver, M., van der Plicht, H., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), pxii-xiii

INTCAL98 Radiocarbon Age Calibration

Stuiver, M., et. al., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), p1041-1083

Mathematics

A Simplified Approach to Calibrating C14 Dates

Talma, A. S., Vogel, J. C., 1993, Radiocarbon 35(2), p317-322

Beta Analytic Inc.

4985 SW 74 Court, Miami, Florida 33155 USA • Tel: (305) 667 5167 • Fax: (305) 663 0964 • E-Mail: beta@radiocarbon.com

CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: C13/C12=-27.1:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory number: Beta-177606

Conventional radiocarbon age: 140±40 BP

**2 Sigma calibrated result: Cal AD 1660 to 1950 (Cal BP 290 to 0)
(95% probability)**

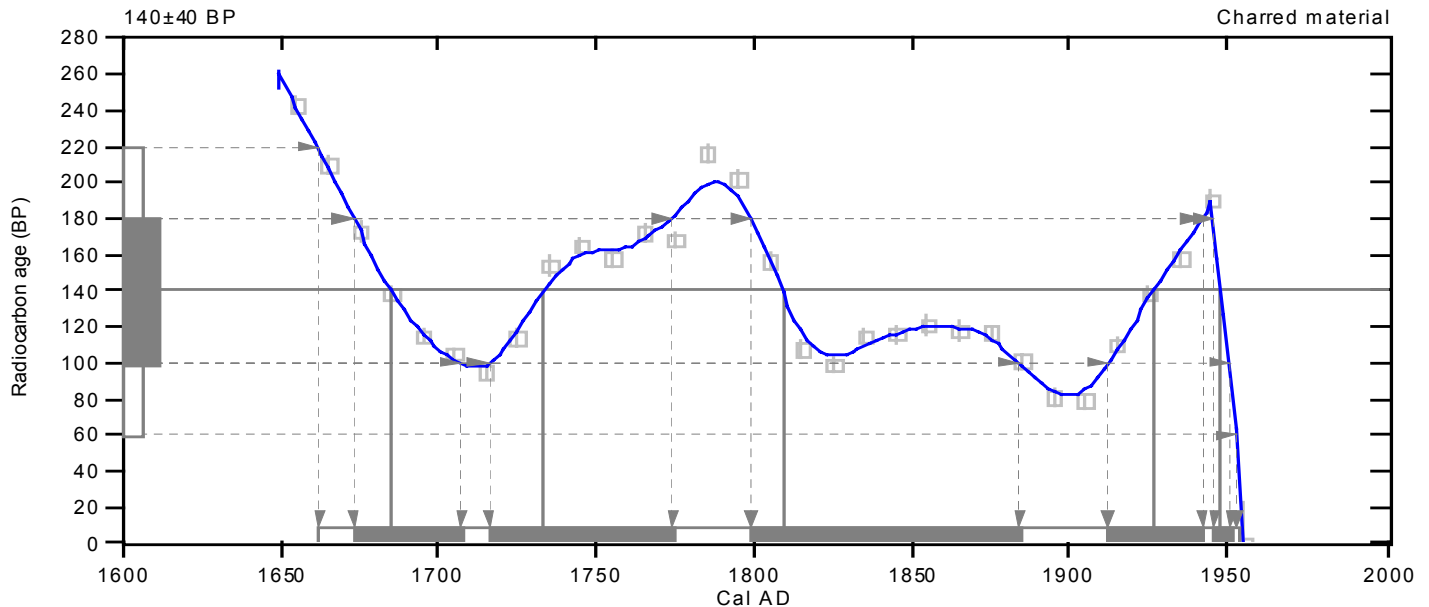
Intercept data

Intercepts of radiocarbon age
with calibration curve:

Cal AD 1680 (Cal BP 260) and
Cal AD 1730 (Cal BP 220) and
Cal AD 1810 (Cal BP 140) and
Cal AD 1930 (Cal BP 20) and
Cal AD 1950 (Cal BP 0)

1 Sigma calibrated results:
(68% probability)

Cal AD 1670 to 1710 (Cal BP 280 to 240) and
Cal AD 1720 to 1770 (Cal BP 230 to 180) and
Cal AD 1800 to 1880 (Cal BP 150 to 70) and
Cal AD 1910 to 1940 (Cal BP 40 to 10) and
Cal AD 1950 to 1950 (Cal BP 0 to 0)



References:

Database used

INTCAL98

Calibration Database

Editorial Comment

Stuiver, M., van der Plicht, H., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), pxii-xiii

INTCAL98 Radiocarbon Age Calibration

Stuiver, M., et. al., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), p1041-1083

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CALIBRATION OF RADIOCARBON AGE TO CALENDAR YEARS

(Variables: C13/C12=-26.6:lab. mult=1)

Laboratory number: Beta-177607

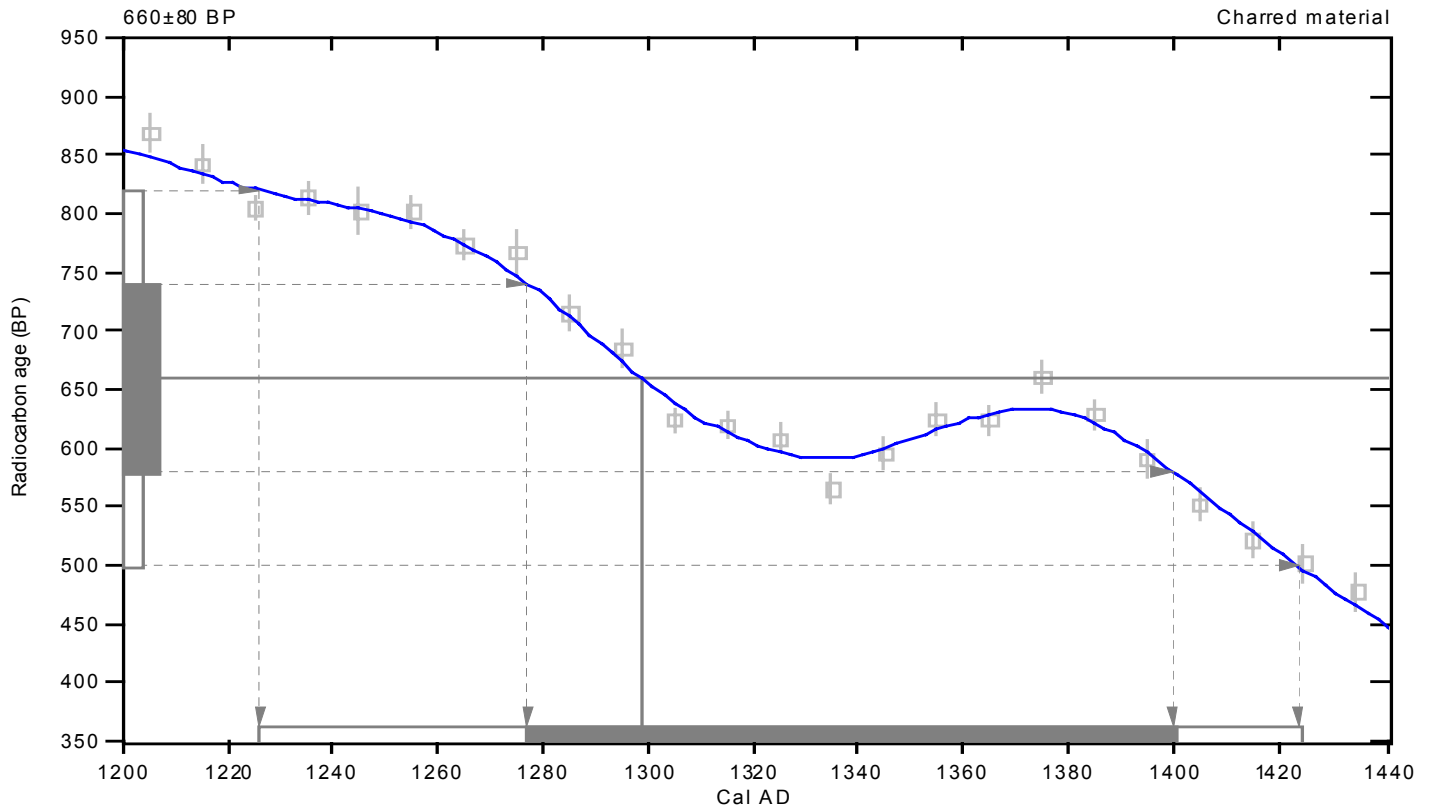
Conventional radiocarbon age: 660±80 BP

**2 Sigma calibrated result: Cal AD 1230 to 1420 (Cal BP 720 to 530)
(95% probability)**

Intercept data

Intercept of radiocarbon age
with calibration curve: Cal AD 1300 (Cal BP 650)

**1 Sigma calibrated result: Cal AD 1280 to 1400 (Cal BP 670 to 550)
(68% probability)**



References:

Database used

INTCAL98

Calibration Database

Editorial Comment

Stuiver, M., van der Plicht, H., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), pxii-xiii

INTCAL98 Radiocarbon Age Calibration

Stuiver, M., et. al., 1998, Radiocarbon 40(3), p1041-1083

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