

### **6\_3\_1\_Construction\_burning\_(Stuart\_Johnston)**

The idea that strictly controlled burning was widely used as a construction technique in Trypillia settlements has been advocated by, *inter alia*, Korvin-Piotrovskiy et al. (2012). The first Durham experiment showed that there were limited advantages to the controlled burning of a house floor at an early stage of construction. In the second experiment, the results showed that if Trypillia builders wanted to construct a platform ('altar') on the ground floor of a house, controlled burning would have produced the 'cracked clay' effect ('crazy paving') found in excavations before the walls of the house were erected. However, this procedure could not have worked if the aim was to build a platform on the upper floor, since the dangers of setting fire to the house were too great.