

6_6_1_Excavation_of_the_experimental_burnt_house (see Johnston et al., in prep.)

The principal feature regularly found in excavations of Trypillia houses that was replicated in the experiment was the mass of burnt daub (the '*ploshchadka*'), together with large quantities of vitrified daub. The ground floor hearth was much better preserved than the upper floor hearth, which fell in pieces. Two patterns of daub impressions were replicated: a consistent line of fall and a more chaotic set of multiple orientations. The specific form of the collapse of two-storey walls, with the upper wall falling below the lower wall in a 'sandwich' effect, provides a sound criterion for the existence of two-storey houses.