

*Abstract*

(Alvastra Pile Dwelling. The 1909–1930 Excavations.) The Alvastra pile dwelling is located in a spring-fed mire close to Mount Omberg in south-west Östergötland. Structurally it consists primarily of horizontal logs, vertical piles, longish stone constructions and hearths. The various types of artefacts are those occurring in the early Middle Neolithic Funnel Beaker culture and Pitted Ware culture. The ecofacts represent domestic and wild animals, as well as cultivated and wild plants.

The pile dwelling was discovered in 1908 and excavated by the Museum of National Antiquities on behalf of the Royal Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities. The excavations were directed by Otto Frödin and took place in the years 1909–1917, 1919, and 1928–1930. The subsequent analysis of the finds did not lead to the planned publication of the results.

The present book follows largely the same arrangement as Otto Frödin had planned: accounts of the discovery, the course of the excavation, the workforce, and the analysis are followed by descriptions and analyses of stratigraphy, timber and stone structures, the finds, and a chapter about the general interpretations that were made of the pile dwelling and its cultural context. The author hopes that the book will serve as a guide to the documentation and as a reference work for Neolithic research in southern Scandinavia.