Report of the Skagafjörður Archaeological Settlement Survey 2007:

Coring at Marbaeli

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Marbaeli cores

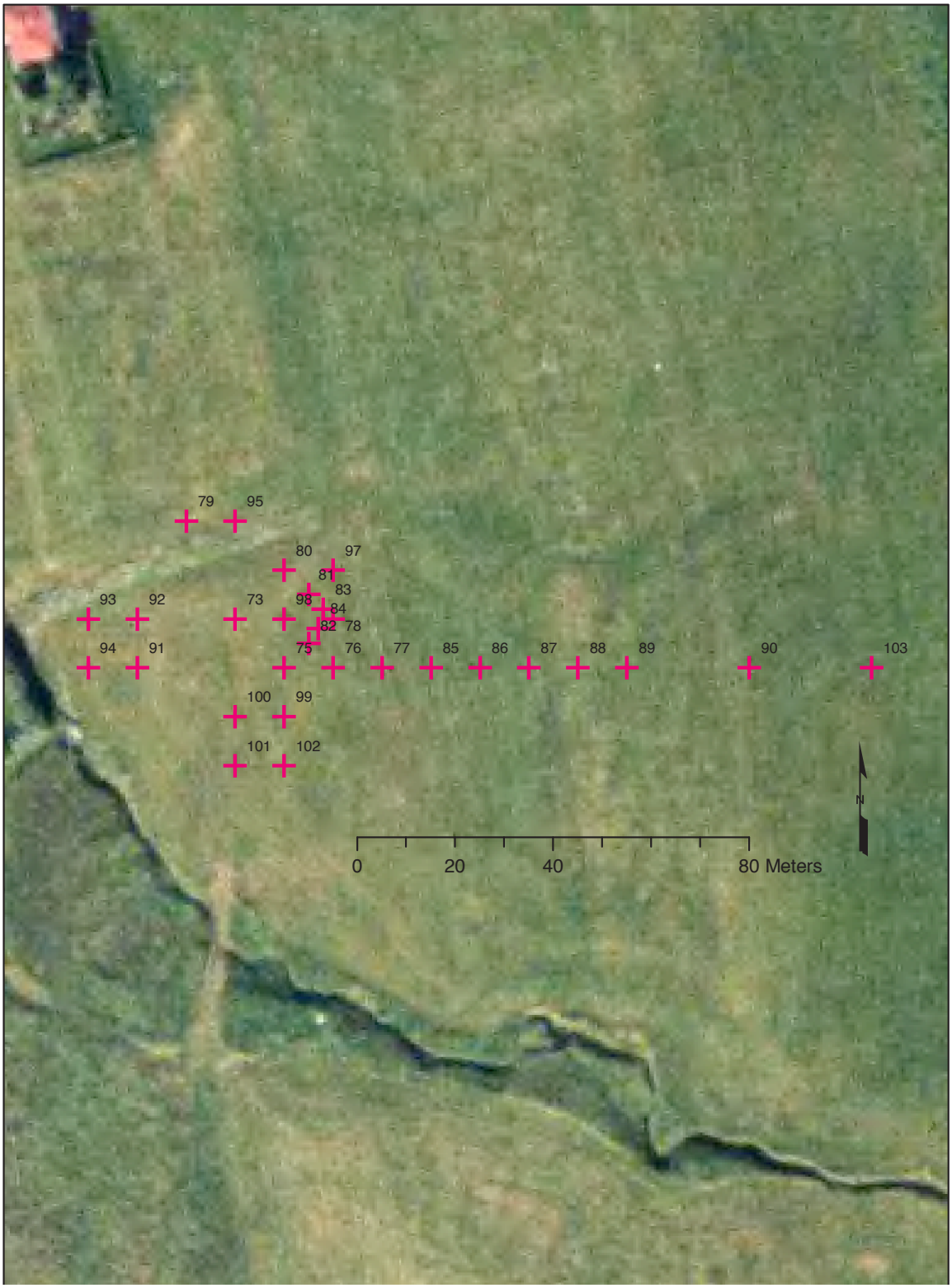
With the Help of Halti Pálsson, Árni Sigurðsson showed us the area around the farm mound. He described that first in about 1965 the turf farm house had been bulldozed and spread out to the east. Then, much later in about 1990 the farmhouse midden (ash mound) had been leveled by a bulldozer and spread out to the west. To the south of the turf farm house was a turf sheep house.

Soon after, on July 23, 2007 we began a coring program in the area pointed out to assess how complete the bulldozing was. We used a 1m gouge auger. Core locations were recorded with a sub-meter real-time GPS. In general we placed cores on a 10m grid. 29 Cores were taken. Of those, 11 had the 1000 layer, 6 had H1, 3 had 1300/1766 (could not differentiate in most cases) and 3 one had the LNL. Several of the cores bottomed out in an iron pan (9).

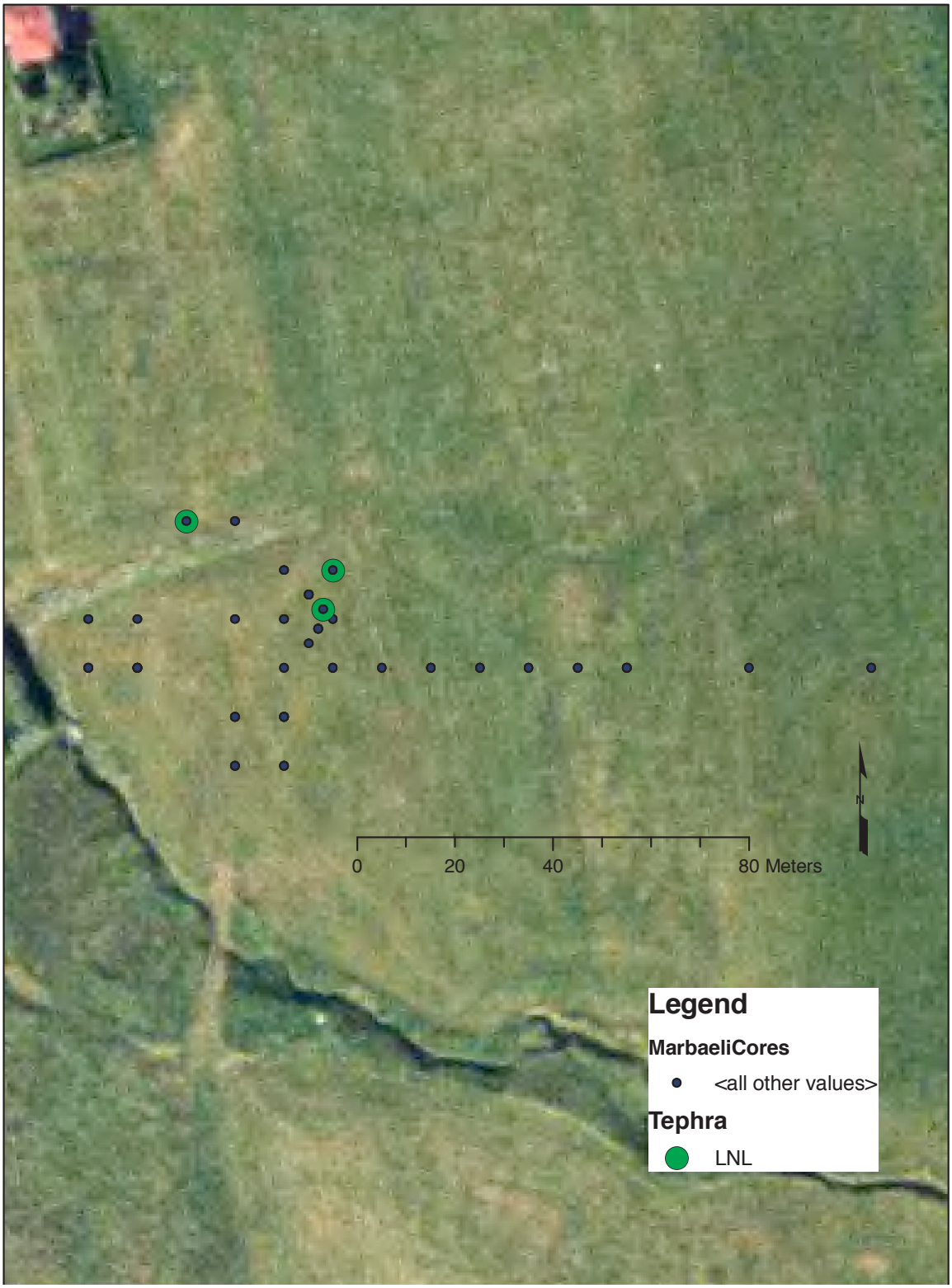
Our hopes were confirmed: much of the bottom of the ash midden was completely intact. The bulldozing had not completely leveled the ash mound feature. Unfortunately, our coring does suggest that a substantial portion of the farmhouse mound was substantially disturbed. However, there may be still preserved deposits .as many of the cores did not reach sterile soil.

The coring was preformed to place a test pit in the edge of the ash midden in order to obtain start dates for the farmmound. The coring was also done to delaminate the area of main Viking Age farmmound. The test pit was placed

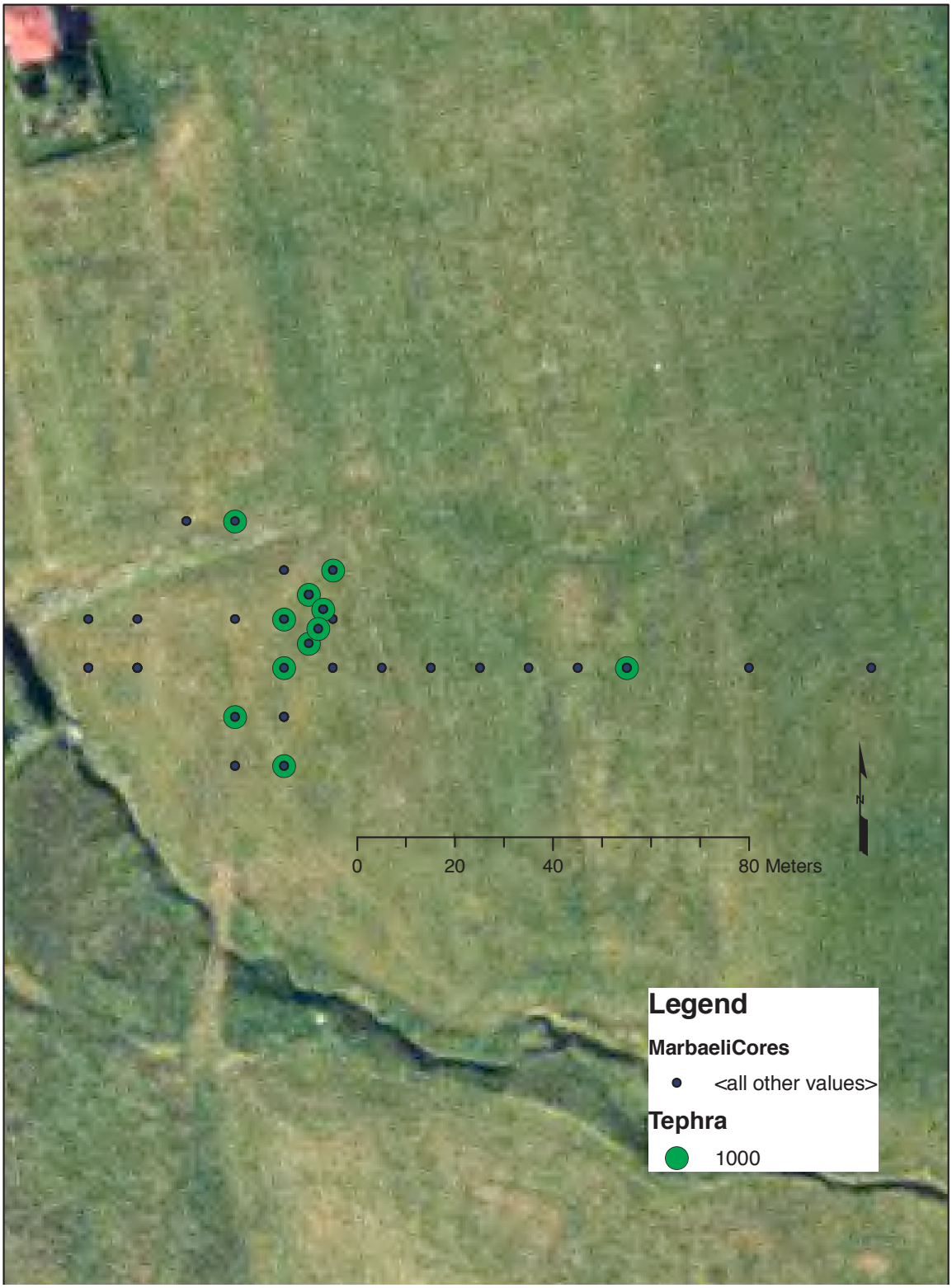
Core location



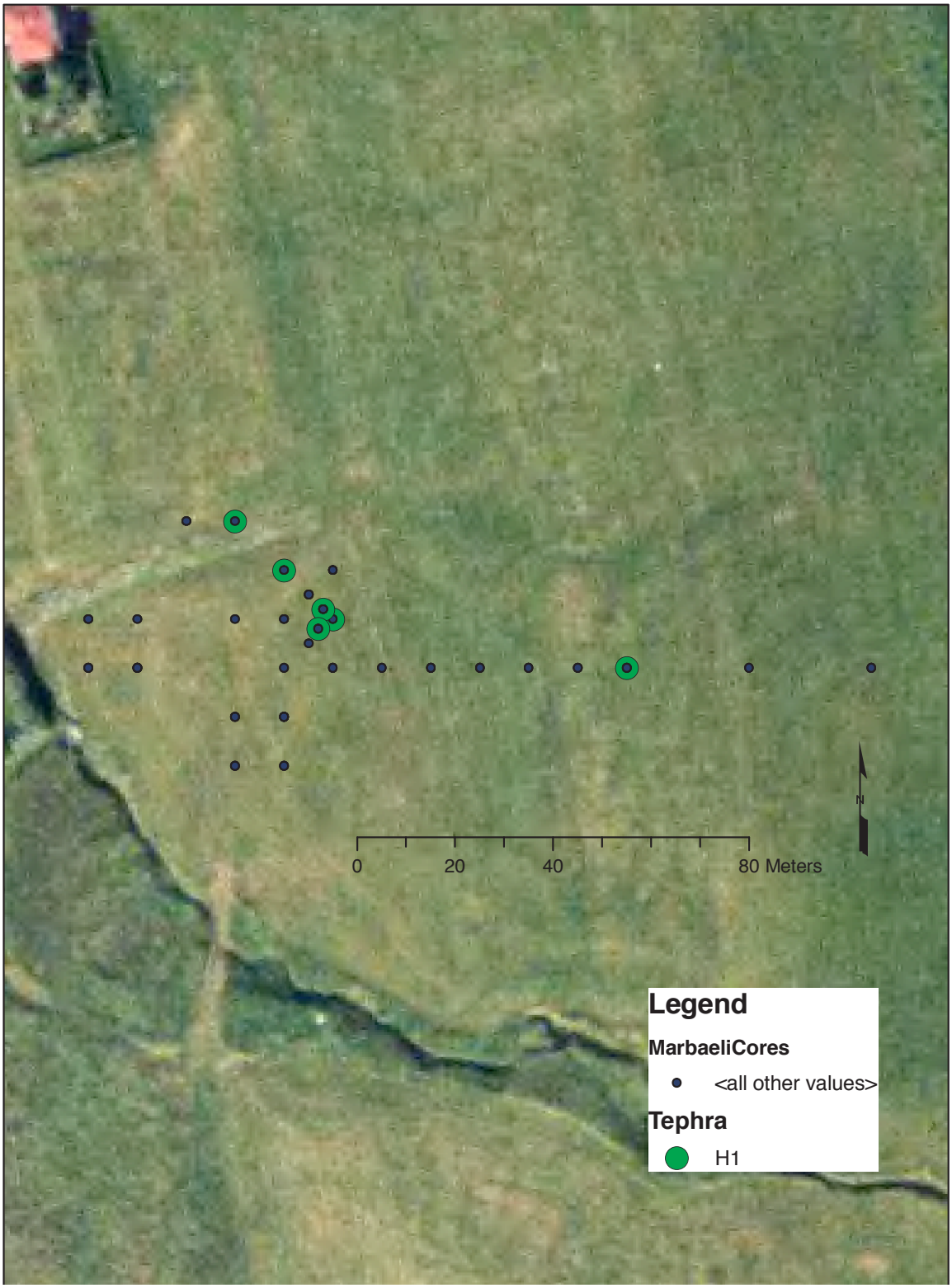
Cores by number



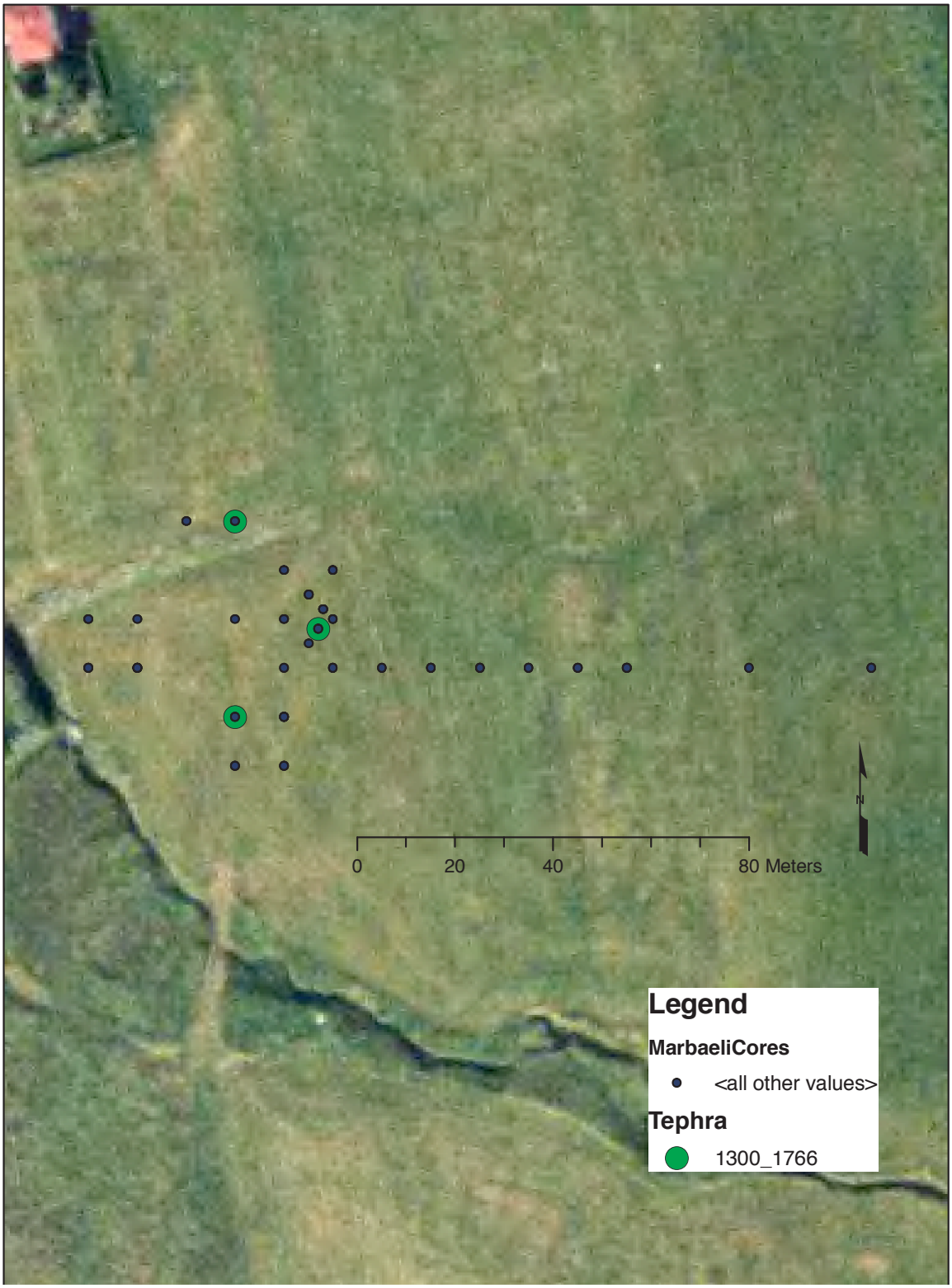
Cores with in situ LNL tephra



Cores with in situ 1000 Tephra layers



Cores with in situ H1 tephra layer



Location of cores with in situ 1300 and or 1766 tephra layers.

Coring Data

Core Number	ISNet East	ISNet North	Tephra Layer	Tephra Layer Depth	Layer	Layer Begin	Layer end
73	476670	568820			Disturbed	0	50
					Turf w/ wood	50	100
75	476680	568810	1000	98	Disturbed	0	90
					Aeolian Deposit	90	100
76	476690	568810	H3	85	Disturbed	0	72
			H4	85	Ash w/ Disturbed H1	72	85
					Aeolian Deposit	85	98
					Iron Pan	98	100
77	476700	568810	H3	75	Disturbed	0	75
			H4	75	Gray Clay	75	95
					Iron Pan	95	100
78	476690	568820	H1	50	Disturbed	0	75
			H3	90-95	Ash	75	80
			H4	90-95	Ash	80	88
					Clay	88	100
79	476660	568840	LNL	95	Disturbed	0	85
					Midden	85	95
					Clay	95	100
80	476680	568830	H1	70	Disturbed	0	55
					Midden	55	70
					Midden	70	100
81	476685	568825	1000	100	Disturbed	0	55
					Midden	55	65
					Ash	65	66
					Midden	66	100
82	476685	568815	1000	98	Disturbed	0	65
					Midden	65	100
83	476688	568822	H1	90	Disturbed	0	50
			1000	92	Midden	50	90
			LNL	95	Clay	90	100
			H3	98			
			H4	98			
84	476687	568818	1300_1766	88	Disturbed	0	50
			H1	95	Midden	50	88
			1000	98	Midden	88	95
					Midden	95	100
85	476710	568810			Disturbed	0	50
					Disturbed w/ H3	50	70
					Disturbed w/ Turf	70	85

					Iron Pan	85	90
					Glacial Till	90	100
86	476720	568810	H3	75	Disturbed	0	55
			H4	75	Disturbed w/ 1104	55	75
					Clay	75	80
					Iron Pan	80	85
					Glacial Till	85	100
87	476730	568810			Disturbed w/ 1104	0	50
					Natural Turf	50	80
					Iron Pan	80	90
					Glacial Till	90	100
88	476740	568810	H3	65	Disturbed	0	50
			H4	65	Charcoal	50	65
					Tan Clay	65	100
89	476750	568810	H1	60	Disturbed	0	60
			1000	70	Disturbed	60	70
					Disturbed	70	90
					Tan Clay w/ Iron Pan	90	95
					Glacial Till w/ Iron Pan	95	100
90	476775	568810			Disturbed w/ H3/H4	0	75
					Brown Clay w/ Organic Inclusions	75	98
					Iron Pan	98	100
91	476650	568810	H3	100	Disturbed	0	50
			H4	100	Midden/Ash	50	70
					Charcoal	70	71
					Midden/Ash	71	95
					Iron Pan	95	96
					Aeolian Deposit	96	100
92	476650	568820			Disturbed w/ 1104	0	80
					Floor	80	100
93	476640	568820			Disturbed	0	70
					Glacial Till	70	90
					River Sand	90	100
94	476640	568810			Disturbed	0	70
					Brown Clay	70	80
					Gray Clay	80	90
					River Sand	90	100
95	476670	568840	1300_1766	85	Disturbed w/ Ash	0	80
			H1	95	Ash	80	85

			1000	99	Ash	85	95
					Ash	95	100
97	476690	568830	1000	80	Disturbed	0	80
			LNL	88	Disturbed	80	88
			H3	89	Clay	88	95
			H4	89	Iron Pan	95	97
					Clay	97	100
98	476680	568820	1000	95	Disturbed	0	70
					Midden w/ Charcoal and Ash	70	95
					Midden	95	100
99	476680	568800			Disturbed	0	60
					Aeolian Deposit	60	70
					Midden	70	80
					Turf	80	90
					Clay	90	98
					Charcoal	98	100
100	476670	568800	1300_1766	95	Disturbed	0	75
			1000	98	Midden/Charcoal	75	90
					Charcoal	90	95
					Disturbed w/ H3/H4	95	100
101	476670	568790			Disturbed	0	80
					Midden	80	90
					Glacial Till	90	100
102	476680	568790	1000	95	Disturbed	0	85
					Midden	85	95
					Midden	95	100
103	476800	568810			Disturbed	0	35
					Disturbed	35	55
					Disturbed w/ H3/H4	55	78
					Charcoal w/ Iron	78	99
					Glacial Sand	99	100