

Why is the Olger Dyke reconstructed here?

The Olger Dyke at Olgervej

The Olger Dyke was listed as a protected structure in 1932. Its protection zone is marked by two granite slabs which are visible in the meadows to the south. The listing stopped here at Olgervej (former Bjerndrupvej). Shortly after the reunification in 1920, this street was constructed across the Olger Dyke.

The local population has wanted to reconstruct a small part of the Olger Dyke for a long time. This is the ideal place for a reconstruction. The part of the Olger Dyke which is covered by the modern road is not listed. The road has preserved the Olger Dyke exceptionally well. The excavation which took place here in 2020 was not a disappointment.

The section of the structure excavated here was relatively simple: a ditch and two rows of palisades with preserved wooden posts. There were no traces of the earthen bank. Dendrochronological analyses show that the palisade closest to the ditch was the oldest and erected or maintained during the spring 42 AD.

We have chosen to reconstruct 15 m of the Olger Dyke as it looked in the spring 42 AD. The original ditch was cleaned up and new oak posts were placed in the old palisade trench. The fill from the ditch was reused for the earthen bank. The Olger Dyke stood exactly here. We are certain of its height because we found a complete post in the ditch. Apart from the exact height of the post/palisade, it also shows that the post was not pointed.

The reconstruction of the Olger Dyke marks the 100-year anniversary of the reunification.

Captions:

Drone photo of the excavation of the Olger Dyke at Olgervej in 2020. Photo: MSJ.

Youngest palisade.

Oldest palisade.

Ditch.

Location of the earthen bank.

Excavation and packing of the posts for further analyses. Photo: MSJ.

The complete post from the ditch. Photo: MSJ.

The old street to the left and the area of excavation. Photo: MSJ.

Cut through the ditch and the two palisade trenches. Photo: MSJ.

The lower part of the posts was preserved in situ. Photo: MSJ.

