

0014

A Report on the Archaeological Watching Brief at Broadgate, Sutton St.  
Edmunds.

Planning Application No. H19/0424/98

By  
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Accession number: SSE00 Broadgate, Sutton St. Edmunds 2000 121  
Report number SAS00/4

For:  
South Holland District Council  
Housing & Planning Services Department  
Council Offices  
Priory Road  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire, PE11 2XE

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SOUTH HOLLAND DC  
HOUSING & PLANNING

05 JUN 2000

#19/  
Ref: 0716/00

*cond compl. appl*

February, 2000

Livingston County Council  
Audited by Gordon  
16 JUN 00  
ack 23/6/00

Site details.

Location: Broadgate, Sutton St. Edmunds

Parish: Sutton St. Edmunds

OS Grid Ref: ~~TF369148~~ TF3695 1424

Planning Authority: South Holland District Council  
Priory Road  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 2XE

Planning Application Number: H19/0424/98

Nature of development: Private residential building

The Client: Steve Morris  
Redmay Farm  
Broadgate  
Sutton St. Edmund.

Archaeological Staff: Paul Westron BSc (Hons)

Project dates: 10th and 11th of January 2000 (foundations)  
10th of April 2000 (pond)

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## **1. Introduction**

A planning application was made by Mr S Morris for the construction of a house at Broadgate, Sutton St. Edmunds. Outline Planning Permission was granted by South Holland District Council, subject to a condition requiring the implementation of an archaeological watching brief during all stages of development involving ground disturbance.

## **2. Background**

Aerial photography in and around Sutton St. Edmunds has provided evidence in the form of crop marks, for loose and irregular enclosures, ditches and channels of probable Romano British date (Phillips 1970:303-4). The aerial photography also shows a possible ditch that appears to pass directly through the southeastern end of the proposed site. This ditch continues towards the northeast until it reaches Willow Dyke (see Maps 7 & 9, Phillips 1970:303-4). Excavation has also revealed hut sites and quantities of pot sherds approximately 1 mile east of the proposed site (*ibid*).

## **3. Topography**

The area is low lying, but well drained. The site has drains on two sides. The site is almost flat with a series of low ridges to the west and east. These are the remains of extinct water courses or roddons.

## **4. Methodology**

The foundations were dug by a 360° digger with a 1 metre wide toothed bucket. Spades and shovels were then used to remove the uneven cut, left at the base of the trench. The foundations were dug down to a depth of approximately 60 centimetres below the ground surface (Fig. 3, profiles 1-4). All spoil was inspected for archaeological material, during excavation and on the spoil heap. All spoil heaps were also metal detected. The work was carried out on two consecutive days when the weather was bright but frosty.

The pond was also dug by a 360° digger with a two metre wide toothless bucket. The spoil was inspected whilst heaped at the side prior to landscaping. It was not possible to draw any profiles for the pond as the sides are sloping, preventing accurate two dimensional recording. The weather was bright but windy.

## **5. Results**

The foundations only affected three contexts. Context (001) which is the topsoil, made up of a silty clay. Context (002) is an alluvial clay deposit, and Context (003) which is a peaty clay. The only features can be seen in profile 1 (Fig. 3) and profile 4 (Fig. 3). In profile 1 (003), part of the roddon that runs from north to south across the site can be seen. As could be expected, this feature was picked up in a similar position in several of the other foundation trenches, confirming its route across the site. The feature in profile 4 is a modern land drain. This was also observed in a number of the other foundation trenches running from east to west across the site.

The foundations for the barn revealed the same contexts as those observed in the house foundation trenches.

The pond revealed two additional contexts (004) and (005) at a lower level than the foundations, both of the contexts were silty clays.

There was another field drain running north to south, parallel to the one observed in the foundation trench.

Context Number	Description	Munsell Colour
(001)	Topsoil	2.5YR 2/3
(002)	Silty clay	5YR 3/1
(003)	Peaty clay	2.5YR 3/3
(004)	Light coloured silty clay	7.5YR 8/2
(005)	Blue Grey silty clay	IGley 7/N

## **6. Finds**

There was no archaeological material retrieved from the site.

## **7. Conclusion**

There were no archaeological features observed during any of the ground disturbance.

In conclusion this development has had very little impact on any possible underlying archaeology.

## **8. Archive**

The documentation, photographs and other records and materials generated by this watching brief will be sorted and distributed to the City and County Museum, Lincoln, for long term storage and curation.

## 9. References

Page A, B, 1984 Archaeology in Lincolnshire and South Humberside, 1983; Lincolnshire History and archaeology; Vol. 19; pp. 99-100

Phillip 1970 The Fenland in Roman Times; The Royal Geographical Society; London.

Appendix. A - Illustrations





Fig. 1 Site Location

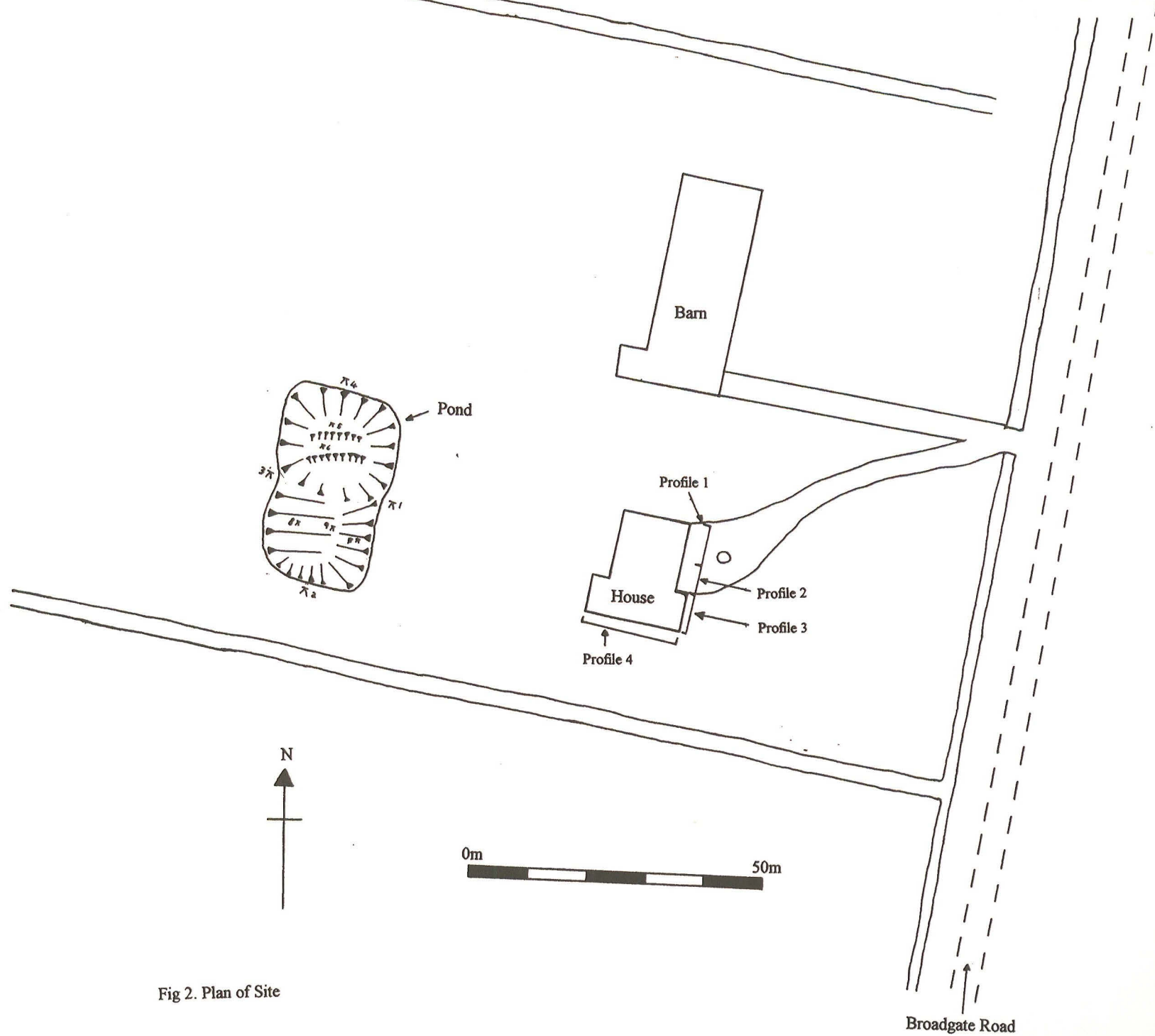
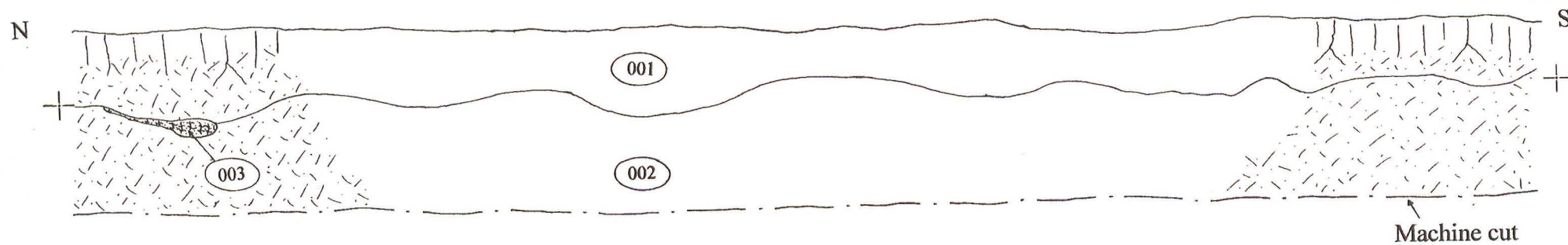
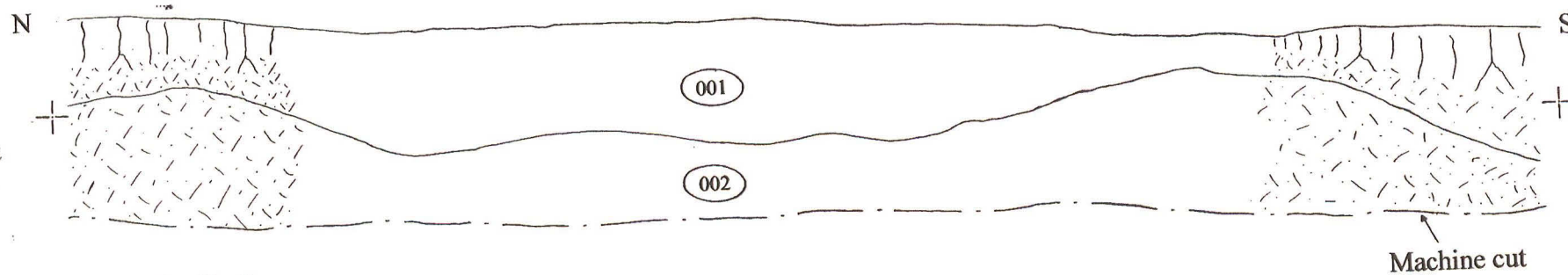


Fig 2. Plan of Site

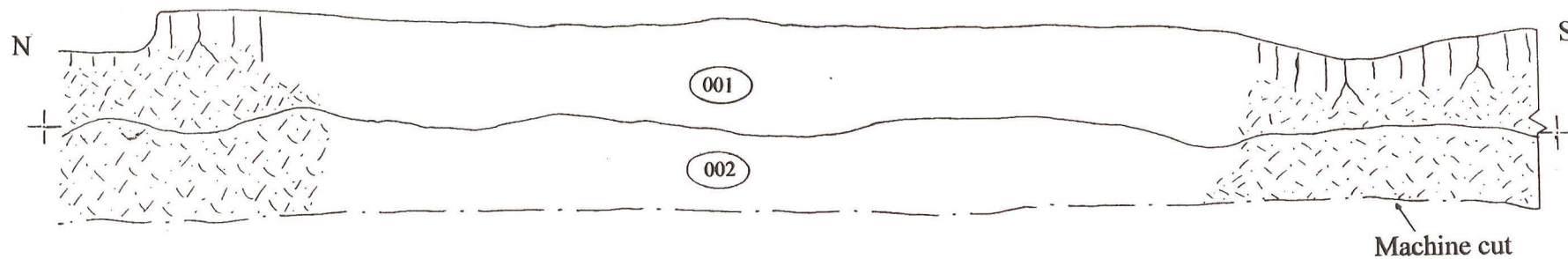
Profile 1



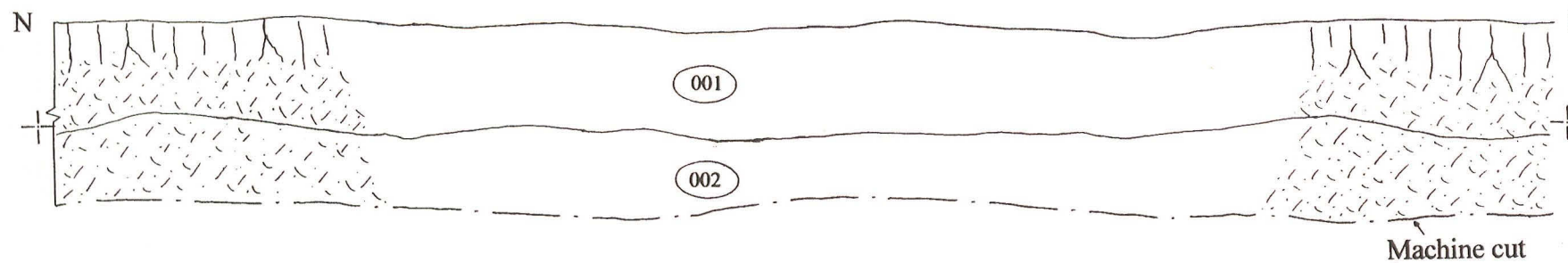
Profile 2



Profile 3



Profile 3 (continued)

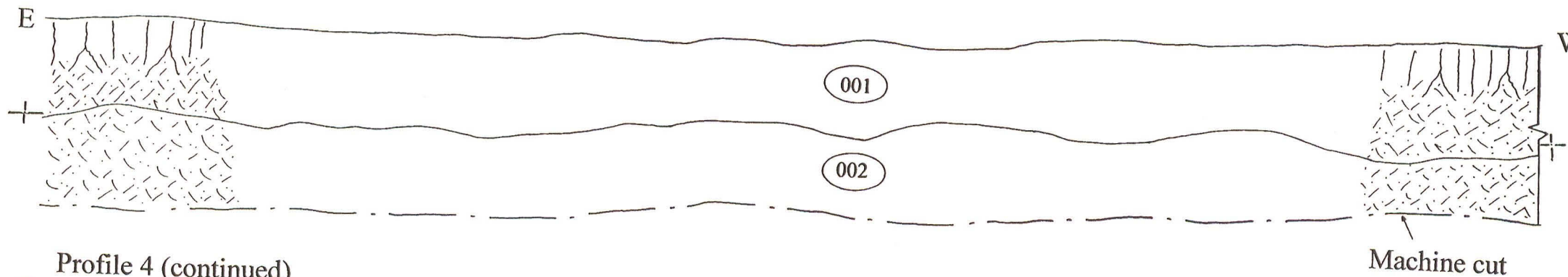


0m 1m

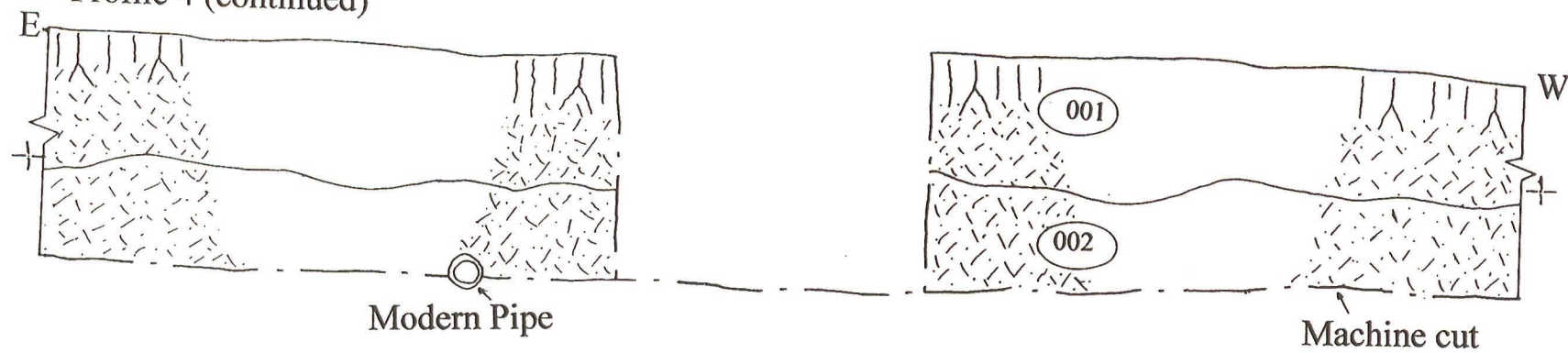
Fig. 3.1 Soil Profiles



Profile 4



Profile 4 (continued)



Profile 4 (continued)

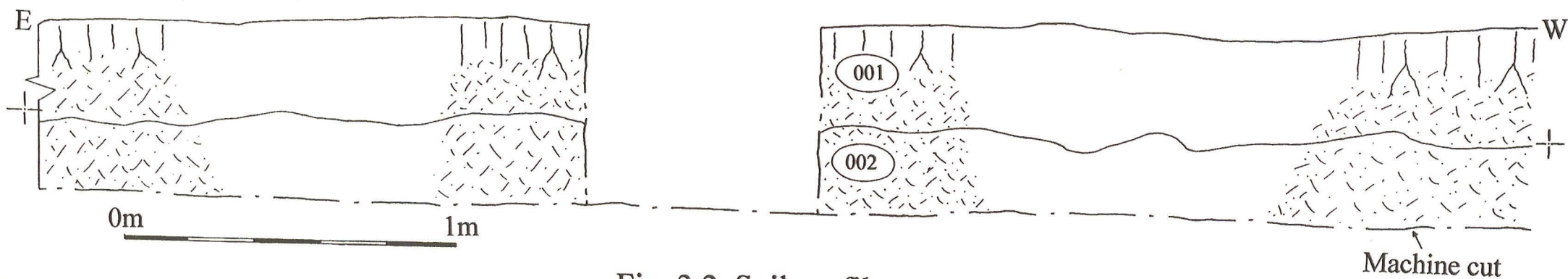


Fig. 3.2 Soil profiles



Appendix. B - Photographs

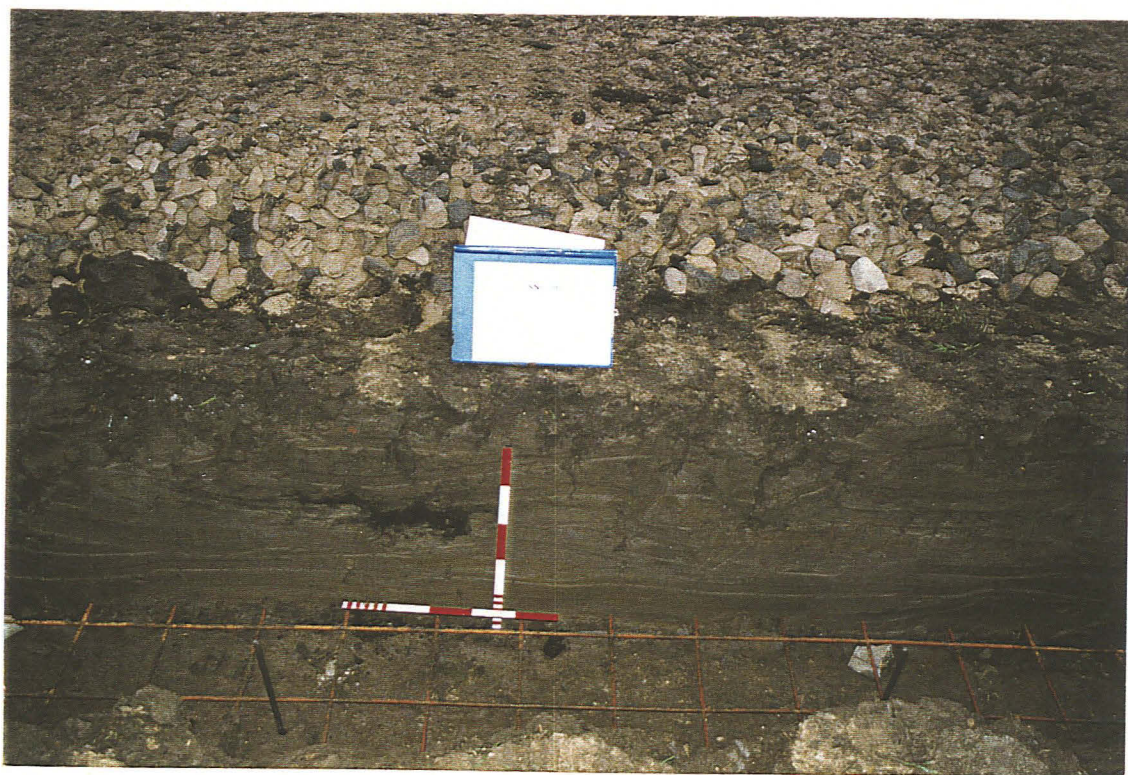


Plate 1 - Profile 1



Plate 2 - Profile 2





Plate 3 - Profile 3



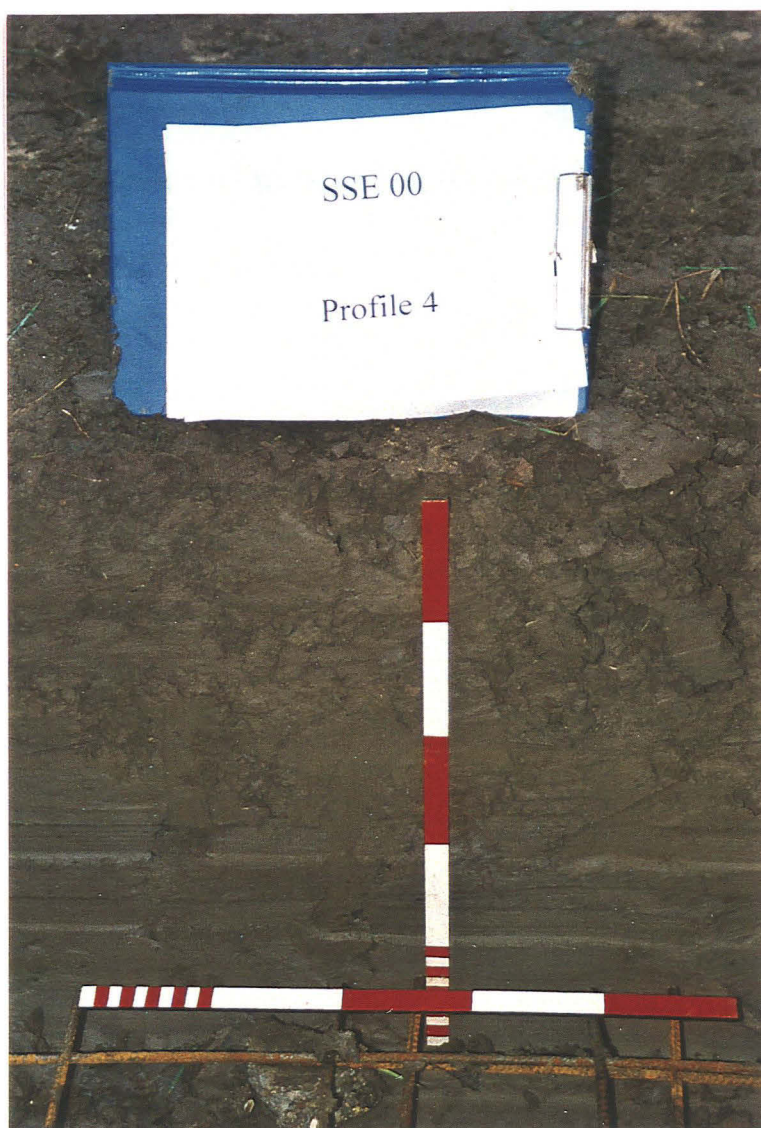


Plate 4 - Profile 4