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## **An Archaeological Evaluation at Land off High Street, Ingham, Lincolnshire.**

NGR SK 9478 8348

prepared by

***John Samuels Archaeological Consultants***

on behalf of

Mr Philip Wright  
22 The Green  
Ingham  
Lincolnshire  
LN1 2XU

JSAC 256/97/02

October 1997

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Land off High Street, Ingham, Lincolnshire**

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*Summary*

*Phillip Wright proposes to develop an area of land to the north of High Street, Ingham, Lincolnshire for residential housing. Although no planning application has been submitted, the opinion of the County Archaeological Officer (CAO), acting on behalf of West Lindsey District Council, was sought and a brief for field evaluation prepared.*

*John Roberts Architects Ltd, acting on Mr Wright's behalf, commissioned John Samuels Archaeological Consultants to prepare a detailed specification for undertaking the requested evaluation and agree a methodology with the CAO (JSAC 256/97/01) The specification was agreed and the evaluation undertaken, monitored by the CAO, in August 1997.*

*This report details the results of that evaluation. No finds or features of archaeological significance were identified during the evaluation and no further archaeological work should be required in association with this development.*



## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Mr Philip Wright proposes to develop an area of land off High Street, Ingham, Lincolnshire, centred on NGR SK 9478 8348. (*See Figure 1*). The proposed development consists of residential housing with associated access and drainage works.

1.2 In advance of his application for planning permission, Mr Wright consulted the Lincolnshire County Council Archaeological Officer (CAO) to determine any requirements for archaeological assessment or evaluation. The CAO recommended that an evaluation excavation be undertaken and produced a brief for the work. John Roberts Architects Ltd, acting on Mr Wright's behalf, commissioned *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* to prepare a specification (JSAC 256/97/01) and to undertake the work.

1.3 The specification was based on a plan supplied by the developer. However, the available land was less than that indicated on the plan and adjustments had to be made to the proposed trench layout. An area of 56m<sup>2</sup> was excavated as four trenches, that is 5.6% of the 0.10 ha available.

### 1.4 Geology & Topography

The proposed development site lies on fairly level ground at approximately 34m above Ordnance Datum (OD). The underlying soils are glacial till over clay.

### 1.5 Archaeological and Historical Background.

Little pre-medieval activity has been identified from Ingham village itself, although evidence of Romano-British occupation has been found in the parish and a major Iron Age settlement is known 6.5km to the north-east at Owmbly. The earliest documentary record of Ingham, Domesday Book, records seven manors, one of which combined two pre-conquest manors. Local stories mention a 'Danish cemetery' beneath the village green but no evidence is known to support this. The present polyfocal layout of the village probably reflects the multiple manors recorded in Domesday.

1.6 The evaluation and report conform to the requirements of *Planning Policy and Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE 1990) (PPG16). It has been designed in accordance with the requirements of the Assistant Archaeological Officer (see Appendix A) current best archaeological practice and appropriate national standards and guidelines including :

*Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991);

*Model Briefs and Specifications for Archaeological Assessments and Field Evaluations* (Association of County Archaeologists, 1993);

*Code of Conduct* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1993);

*Draft Archaeological Manual* ( Lincolnshire County Council, 1996);

*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* ( Institute of Field Archaeologist, 1994);

*Archaeological Site Manual* (Museum of London Archaeology Service, 1994).

#### Acknowledgements

JSAC would like to thank Mr and Mrs Phillip Wright for their interest and use of a cottage throughout the evaluation; and Jim Bonnor, Assistant County Archaeological Officer, for monitoring the work.



## **2.0 Results**

2.0.1 The natural deposit seen in each of the four trenches comprised a compact mottled red, blue and yellow clay with some iron staining in Trench 3 (003). This was overlain by a subsoil (002) of dark yellowy grey brown slightly sandy clay. The depth of this layer varied considerably across the site, from non-existent in the south-eastern part of Trench 4 to 0.46m in Trench 1. The topsoil (001) was generally 0.30m deep and comprised a dark brown-black clay loam. Both the topsoil and subsoil contained occasional pieces of brick and charcoal. The topsoil contained occasional root crops (potatoes and beetroot), the remainder of unharvested parts of the allotments.

### **2.1 Trench 1**

2.1.1 Trench 1 was located parallel to the northern boundary of the proposed development site. It measured 10m x 1.2m and contained no features.

### **2.2 Trench 2**

2.2.1 Trench 2 was positioned adjacent to the western boundary of the site. It measured 12m x 1.2m and was seen to contain two field drains, one aligned northwest - southeast [009] and a second aligned east-west [008]. The subsoil which measured 0.28m thick in the northern part of the trench, narrowed and disappeared approximately 4m from the southern end of the trench.

### **2.3 Trench 3**

2.3.1 Trench 3 lay roughly parallel to Trench 2, towards the eastern edge of the proposed development site. Three features were identified one of which was a field drain [004] and another which was explained as the overflow from a septic tank [007] (pers.com. P Wright). The third feature [006] was a roughly bowl shaped pit or ditch terminus, cut into the subsoil. It contained (005), a dark yellowy-grey/brown slightly sandy clay similar to the subsoil but containing a greater quantity of charcoal. No finds were retrieved but a relatively modern date seems likely.

### **2.4 Trench 4**

2.4.1 Trench 4 was positioned adjacent to the cottage and garage yard which formed the southern boundary of the proposed development site. A field drain was identified at the eastern end of this trench [010] and a small, recent animal burial, approximately 1.00m further west. No other features were identified.

### **3.0 Discussion and Conclusions**

- 3.1 The evaluation identified no features of archaeological interest within the available area of the proposed development site. It is recommended that no further work be required in that area.
- 3.2 The lack of features relating even to the backyard activities of a medieval property lessens the potential for remains of such a building to be found in the area fronting onto the High Street. However, that area has not yet been investigated and it is recommended that a watching brief be carried out during ground works associated with the development in that area only.



#### **4.0 Figures and Photographs**

Figure 1 : Location of the proposed development site

Figure 2 : Trench location plan

Figure 3 : Trench sections

Photograph 1 : Trench 1 Looking South

Photograph 2 : Trench 2 Looking West

Photograph 3 : Trench 3 Looking East

Photograph 4 : Trench 4 Looking South



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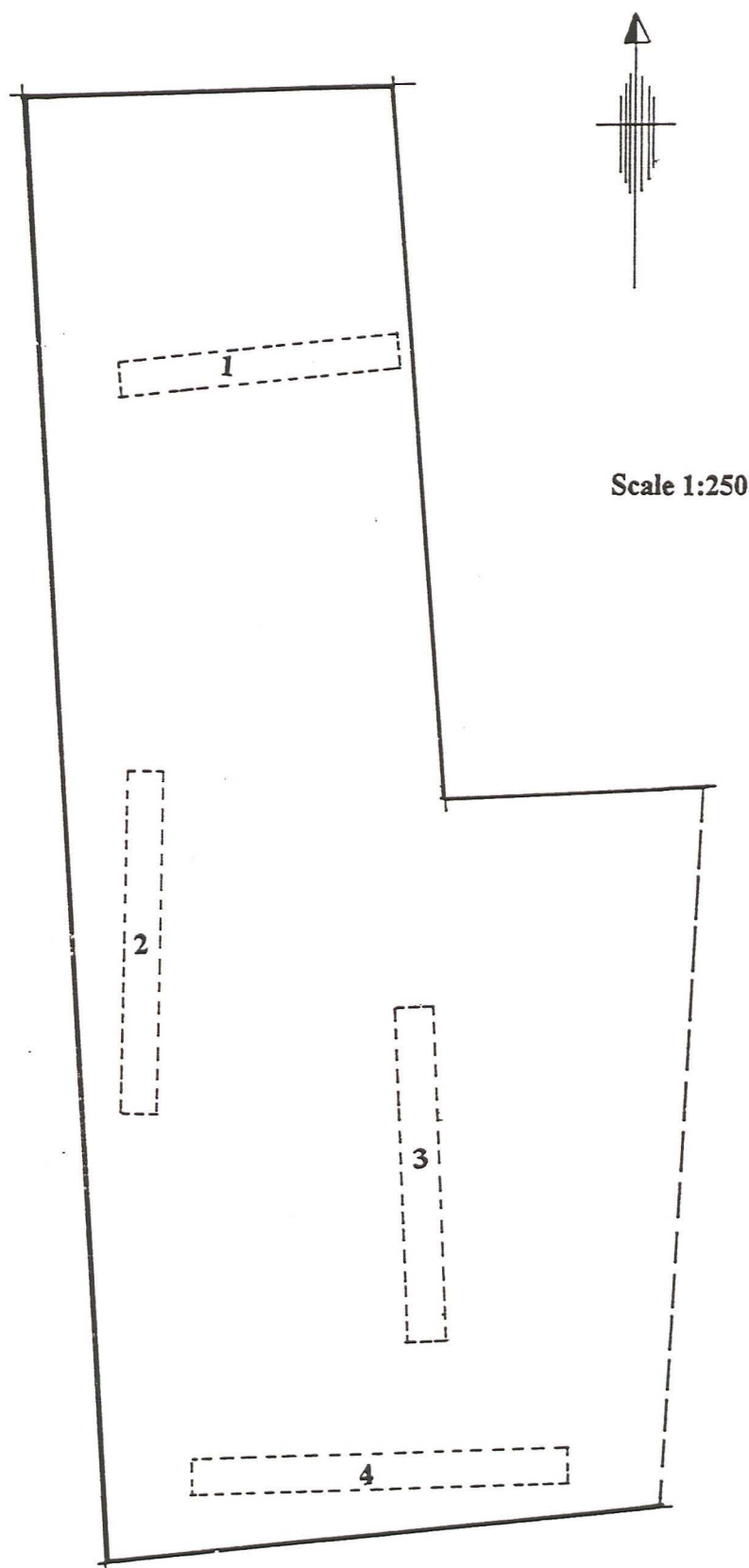
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following scales: 1: 1250, 1: 2500 & 1: 10000

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of this Superplan: SK9483

Scale 1: 1250

Figure 1 : Location of the proposed development site





**Trench Location Plan  
Land off High Street  
Ingham  
Gainsborough  
Lincs**

Figure 2 : Trench location plan

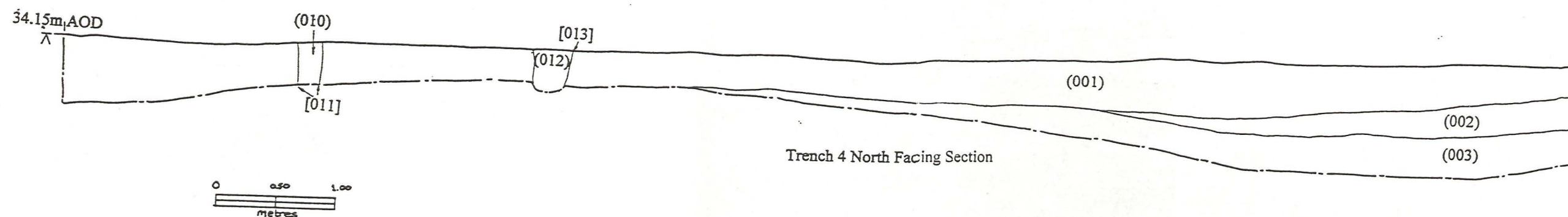
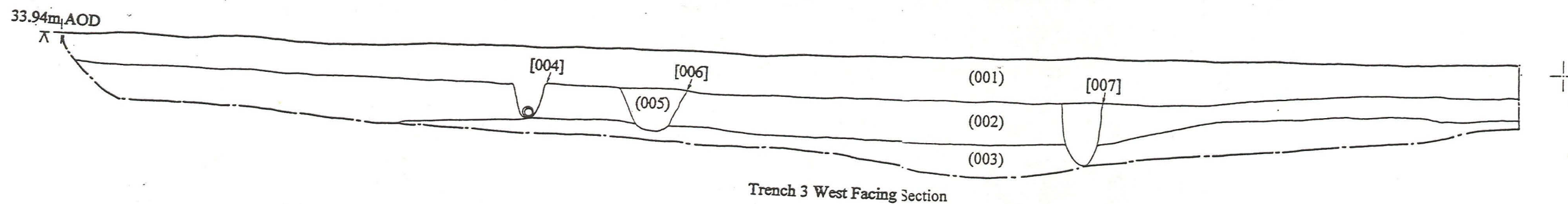
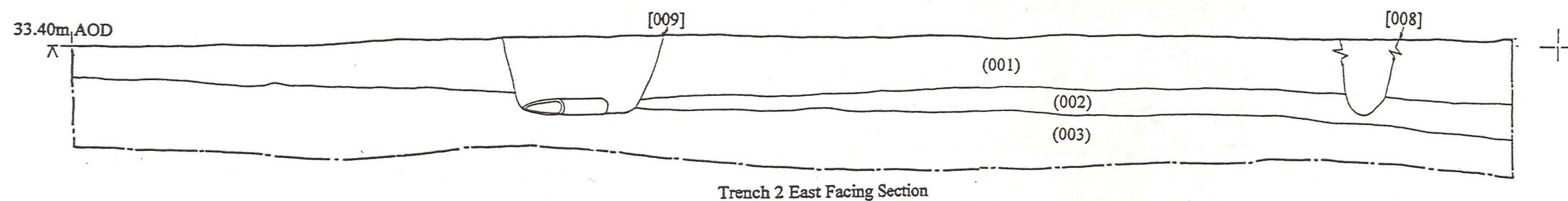
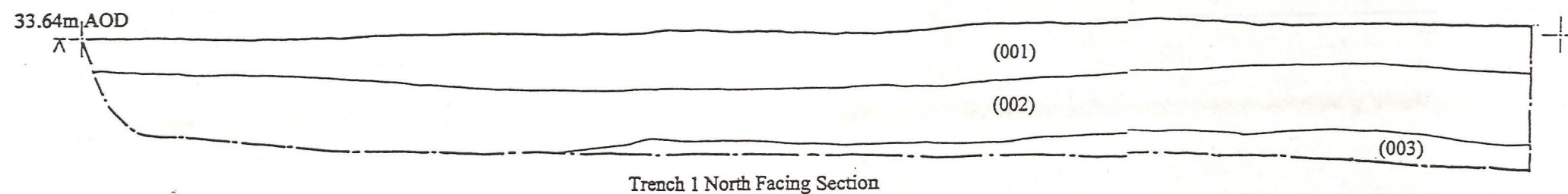


Figure 3 : Trench sections



Appendix A :  
Context Summary

### Context Summary

Context	Trench	Description	Finds	Comments
001	all	dark brown/black clay loam		topsoil
002	all	dark yellowy grey-brown slightly sandy clay	brick, charcoal	subsoil, increases in depth to north. Not seen in south-western end of Trench 1
003	all	mottled blue/red/yellow clay		natural clay
004	3	E-W aligned field drain		
005	3	dark yellowy grey-brown slightly sandy clay	charcoal	fill of 006
006	3	bowl-shaped feature cut form below topsoil		pit or ditch terminus
007	3	e-w aligned field drain		
008	2	NW-SE aligned field drain		
009	2	E-W aligned field drain		same as 004?
010	4	dark brown/black clay loam with common brick/tile & rubble		fill of 011
011	4	linear cut		field drain





Trench 1 Looking South



Trench 2 Looking West



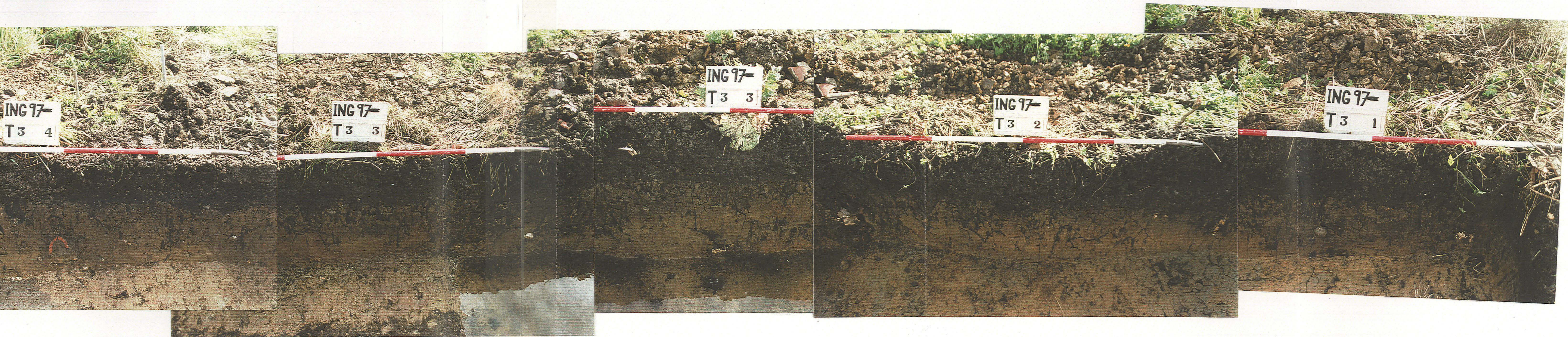


Trench 1 Looking South



Trench 2 Looking West





Trench 3 Looking East



Trench 4 Looking South





Trench 3 Looking East



Trench 4 Looking South