

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

*The Manor, South Street, Normanton on Trent, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG23 6RQ
Telephone 01636 821727 Fax 01636 822080*



An Archaeological Excavation on

Land at King Street, Market Rasen, Lincs

NGR TF 1063 8921

prepared by

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

on behalf of

Tony Pettifer Associates

Bracken House
Vicarage Lane
North Muskham
Newark
Nottinghamshire

Planning Application No. 98/0069

An Archaeological Excavation on
Land at King Street, Market Rasen, Lincs

NGR TF 1063 8921

CONTENTS

Summary	3
1.0 Introduction	4
1.1 <i>Site Location and Description</i>	4
1.2 <i>Planning and Project Background</i>	4
1.3 <i>Archaeological and Historic Background</i>	4
1.4 <i>Evaluation Aims</i>	4
2.0 Methodology	6
2.1 Excavation	6
3.0 Results	7
3.1 <i>Excavation</i>	7
Summary of Context Record	8
4.0 Discussion and Conclusion	9
5.0 Figures	10
6.0 Photographs	11
Appendix A : County Archaeologist Project Brief	12
Appendix B : Specification for Archaeological Evaluation Excavation	

Summary

Outline planning permission has been applied for to develop land at 8 King Street, Market Rasen, Lincs. In order to assist the Local Planning Authority to determine the application, an archaeological evaluation has been requested. John Samuels Archaeological Consultants were commissioned to undertake the archaeological evaluation excavations. The Assistant County Archaeological Officer supplied a project brief for this work which took the form of an excavation comprising about 9 sq m.

This report details the findings of that evaluations and show that modern ground clearance has removed any archaeological remains which may have existed. It is concluded that no archaeological remains are present on the site and no further archaeological work is required.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Site Location and Description

1.1.1 The site is situated within the garden of Glengarriff House, 8 King Street, Market Rasen, 50m to north west of the market place, at NGR TF 1063 8921. The area of proposed development comprises approximately 108 sq.m. and most recently has been used as a garden. (See figure 1)

1.2 Planning and Project Background

1.2.1 Following an application in January 1998 for outline planning permission, the local planning authority requested that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken.

1.2.2 A project brief was supplied by the Archaeological Section of Lincolnshire County Council which can be found in Appendix A.

1.2.3 A specification for undertaking the work was submitted to the Assistant County Archaeological Officer and approved by him. (See Appendix B)

1.3 Archaeological and Historic Background

1.3.1 No finds of prehistoric date have been recorded in the town of Market Rasen itself.

1.3.2 Although a thriving pottery industry is known to have existed to the south of the town during the Roman period, no specific area has been identified. Neither has any settlement associated with the pottery industry been identified.

1.3.3 Little is known of the Saxon and Medieval occupation of Market Rasen, but it is presumed that any early settlement will have been around the church, market place and river.

1.3.4 The Enclosure Award of 1780 shows buildings on the site, however nothing is known of the nature of any archaeological deposits which may survive.

1.4 Evaluation Aims

1.4.1 The aims of the evaluation are to establish the survival of any archaeological remains within the area of proposed development in order to assist the Local Planning Authority to determine the application.

1.5 *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* were commissioned to undertake the archaeological evaluation excavations. The excavations were carried out during January 1998.

- 1.6 The project was directed by J Forbes Marsden BA. Cert.Arch. AIFA. Alex Russell supervised the running of the site with assistance from Iain Charles and Richard Pullen. This report was written by J Forbes Marsden BA. Cert.Arch. AIFA. in consultation with John Samuels, BA, PhD, FSA, MIFA.
- 1.7 The evaluation excavation corresponds to the guidelines set out in *Planning Policy Guidance : Archaeology and Planning* (DoE) (PPG16). It has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national standards and guidelines including:
- Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage. 1991);
- Code of Conduct* (Institute of Field Archaeologists. 1995);
- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations* (Institute of Field Archaeologists. 1995).
- Archaeological Handbook* (Lincolnshire County Council.1998).
- 1.8 The project was discussed with the Assistant County Archaeological Officer who also visited the site during the course of excavation. His comments and assistance are acknowledged.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Excavation

- 2.1.1 It was proposed that a total of about 9 sq m should be excavated in the form of a single excavation. (see Figure 2).
- 2.1.2 The objective of the trench location was to establish the nature, extent, depth and condition of any below ground archaeological remains which might exist.
- 2.1.3 Topsoil and overburden was removed by hand. The spoil generated during the evaluation was mounded around the edges of the area with topsoil being kept separate from the other excavated material. The excavation ceased at undisturbed natural deposits.
- 2.1.4 The level of the exposed area was reduced in spits and cleaned by hand to determine the nature, profile and, where possible, the date and function of archaeological features.
- 2.1.5 The exposed areas were recorded at appropriate scales by measured drawings and photographed and the deposits encountered described on single context recording sheets. Two sections were also be recorded by measured drawing at a scale of 1:20. The recording system is based on the Museum of London's *'Archaeological Site Manual'* (1994). Spot heights and those of individual features were recorded relative to Ordnance Datum.
- 2.1.6 All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, *'First Aid for Finds'* (1981). All finds were bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered.
- 2.1.7 No material was considered suitable for environmental analysis.
- 2.1.8 No human remains were encountered.
- 2.1.9 The material excavated from the trench was used to backfill it following the completion of work.
- 2.1.10 The Assistant County Archaeological Officer was given notice of when the work commenced and visited the site prior to back filling.

3.0 Results

3.1 *Excavation* 3m x 3m. See figures 3.4.5.6.7.8.9 & 10

- 3.1.1 The upper levels of the whole of the area of excavation comprised a layer of dark grey / brown silt clay landscape soil. These over lay [102], a layer of modern demolition rubble which extended to the base of the excavation. This layer contained a fragment of abraded Roman pottery; Medieval and 19th century pottery and animal bones. It is considered that the layer represented redeposited material. Similar material to [102] was also found at lower levels of the excavation [117 & 118], but without pottery or bones.
- 3.1.2 At a depth of 0.30m below the modern ground surface, within [102] a possible remnant of a cobbled path was exposed [104], cut by the excavation for a modern gas pipe.
- 3.1.3 A square post hole with vertical sides [109] was exposed at a depth of 0.90m, cut through layer [107]. The fill of the post hole (110) was similar to the material that comprised [107]. It is believed that this post hole may have been for a horticultural structure of recent origin.
- 3.1.4 A circular post hole [105], cut through layer [107], was exposed at a depth of 1.00m, the fill of which was similar to the material that comprised layer [107]. In the eastern side of the trench an area of heat altered red clay and ash was present on the surface of the natural (114). It is thought unlikely that this was connected with an industrial process, and was more probably the remains a bonfire. The natural (114) sloped down to the east on to which a random spread of limestone rubble had been dumped to level the area.

Summary of Context Record

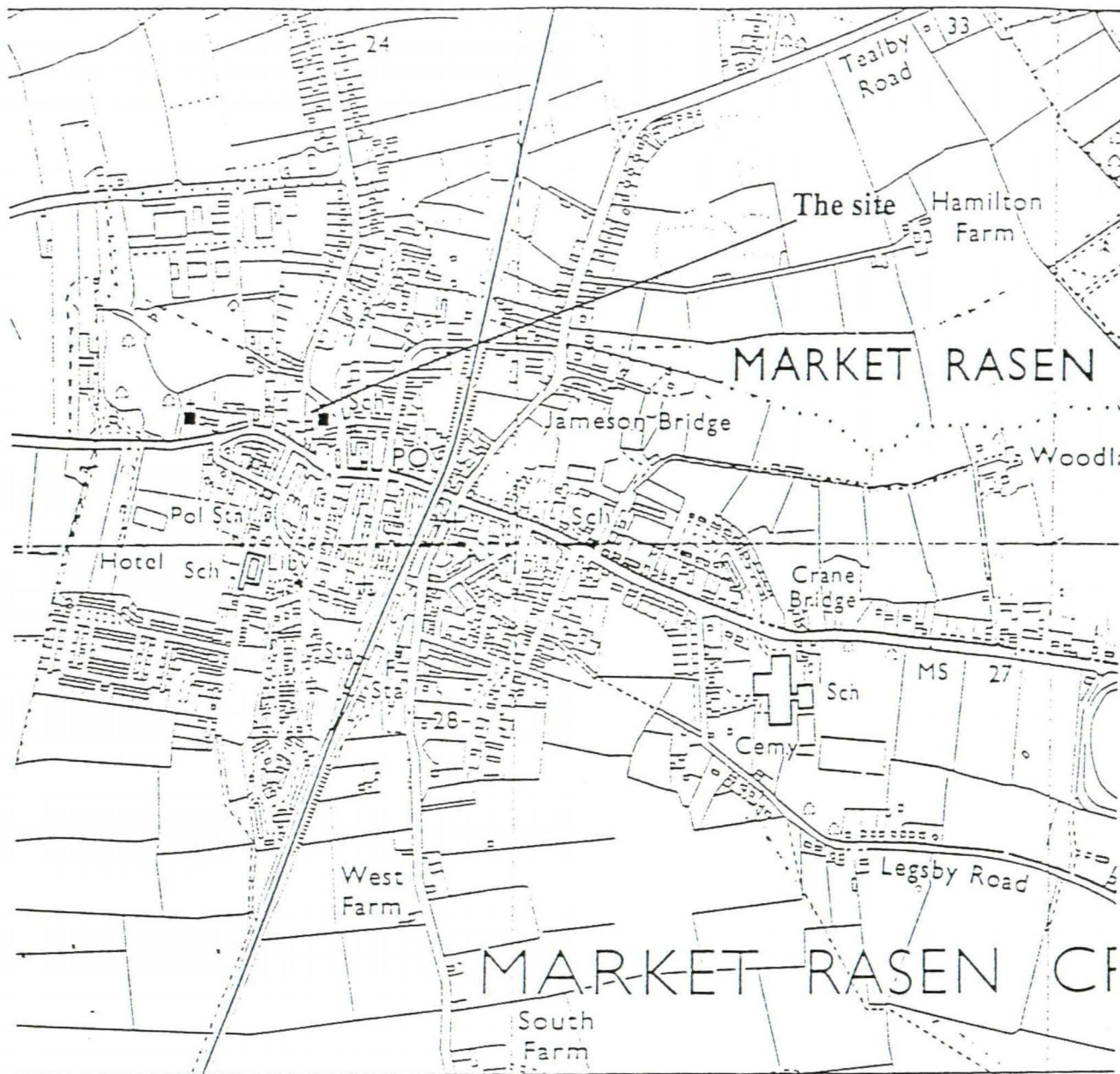
Context	Description	Pot	Bone	Comment	Other	Soil Sample
101	Layer of top soil			Dark Grey Brown Silt Clay		
102	Demolition Layer	/	/	Contained building rubble		
103	Layer of firm Sand and Gravel			Possible make up layer		
104	Cobbled Path			Small fragment of a path surface, truncated by modern gas pipe.		
105	Cut			Post hole, perfectly circular, with vertical sides.		
106	Fill of [105]			Sterile mid grey brown clay silt .		
107	Layer	/	/	Firm light grey/ brown clay.		
108	Upper fill of [112]	/	/	Firm Mid dark grey green brown clay fill containing fragments of animal bone & Med.pot		
109	Cut			Post hole, square in shape, with vertical sides.		
110	Fill of [109]			Dark grey brown clay silt	Charcoal flecks	
111	Layer			Burnt material, ash & red burnt clay. No evidence of purpose.		
112	Cut			N-S Linear feature, possible ditch.		
113	Limestone rubble levelling layer			Dumped material, to level depression in the natural surface.		
114	Natural			Light yellow brown sand silt		
115	Land Drain			Teacotta fired clay land drain of "U" section		
116	Structure ?			Flat Sandstone surface visible only in section.		
117	Demolition Layer (as 102)			Contained building rubble		
118	Demolition Layer (as 102)			Contained building rubble		

4.0 Discussion and Conclusion

- 4.1 The objectives of the evaluation excavation were to establish the nature, extent, depth and condition of any below ground archaeological remains within the area that may be effected by the proposed area of development.
- 4.2 The excavation of the trench resulted in the exposure of a series of levelling layers containing modern building rubble and various sherds of pottery.
- 4.3 It had been expected that the excavation might reveal remains of the medieval buildings extending back for the King Street frontage. However, the disturbance caused during modern levelling of the area have removed any traces of earlier archaeological horizons which may have existed.
- 4.4 Excavation was terminated at 1.45 m, below ground level at the natural surface. The foundations of the proposed building are to be constructed to a depth of 1.00m from existing ground level. In the absence of any archaeological remains it is not considered further archaeological work should be undertaken in connection with the proposed building works.
- 4.5 The evaluation excavations have achieved their objectives. No archaeological remains were located within the area excavation.
- 4.6 A copy of this report will be deposited in the County SMR and the site archive with the City and County Museum, Lincoln.

5.0 Figures

- Figure 1 Location of Site
- Figure 2 Location of Trench
- Figure 3 Trench Plan at 0.30m, below ground level.
- Figure 4 Trench Plan at 0.90m, below ground level
- Figure 5 Trench Plan at 1.00m, below ground level
- Figure 6 Trench Plan at 1.20m, below ground level
- Figure 7 South Facing Section
- Figure 8 West Facing Section
- Figure 9 Section through post hole (105)
- Figure 10 Section through post hole (109)



Note : Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office, Crown Copyright Reserved. Licence No. AL 52216A0001

Figure 1 : Site Location

GLENGARRIFF HOUSE MARKET RASEN

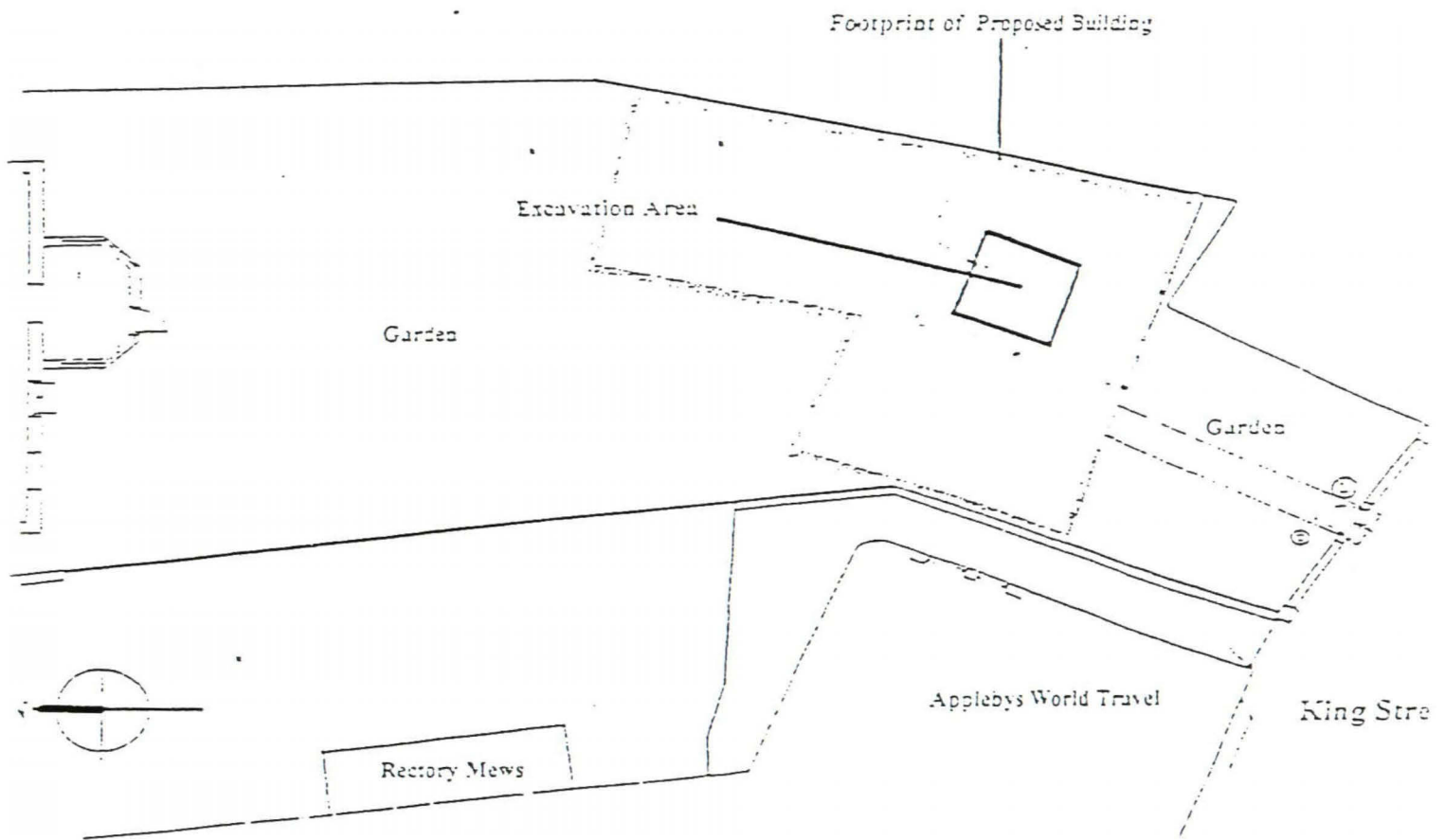


Figure 2 :

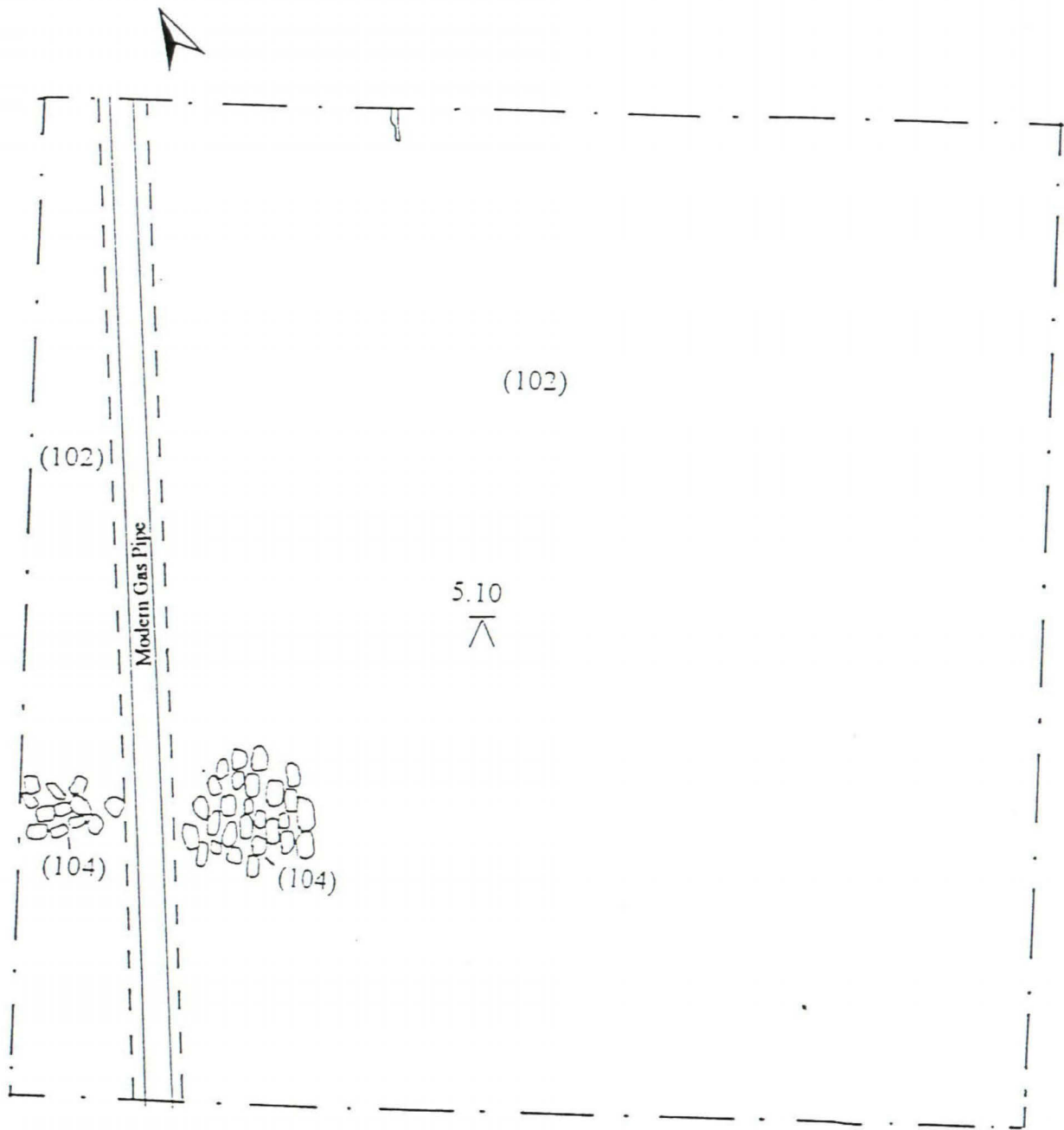


Fig 3

scale 1:20



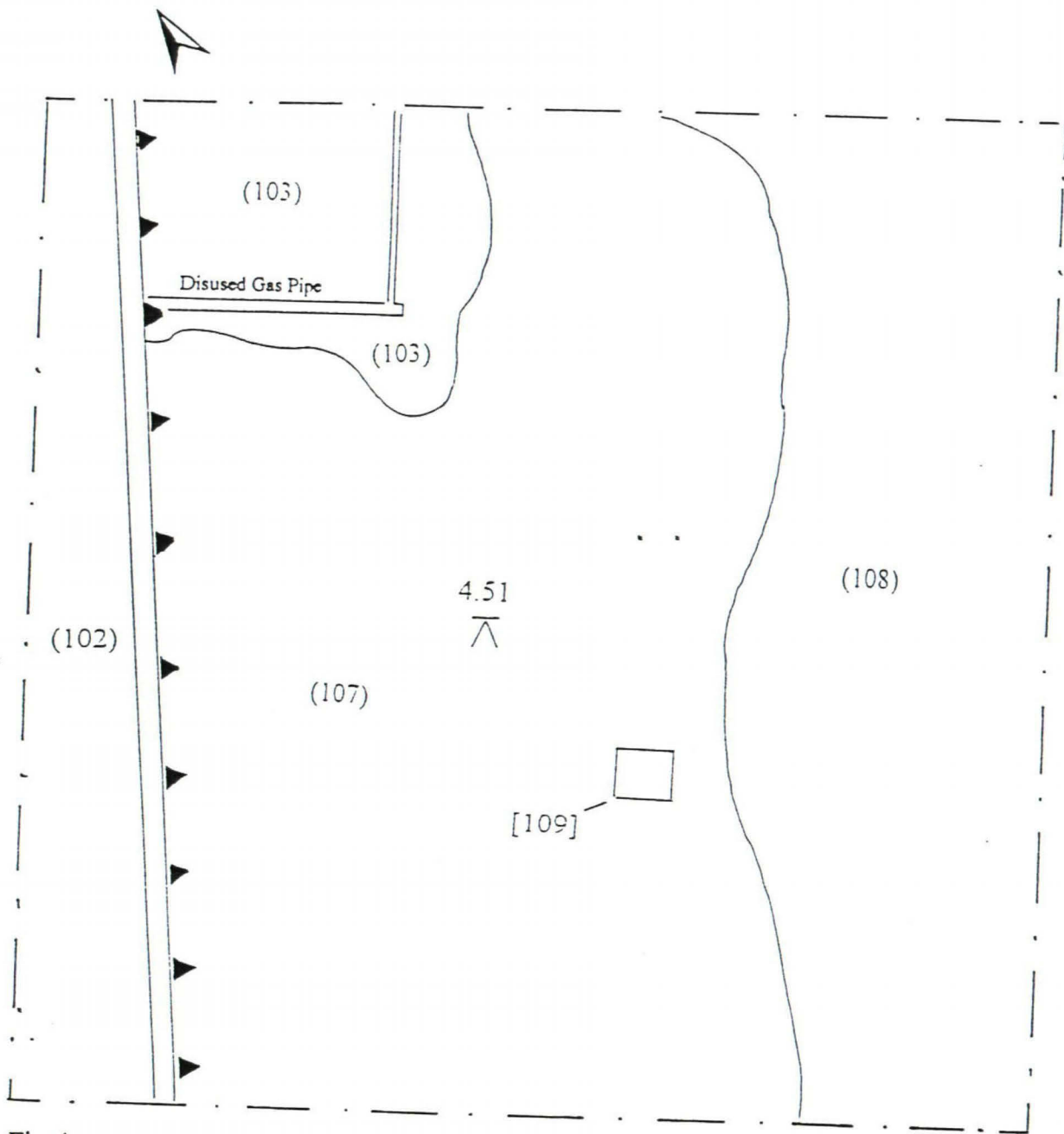


Fig 4

scale 1:20



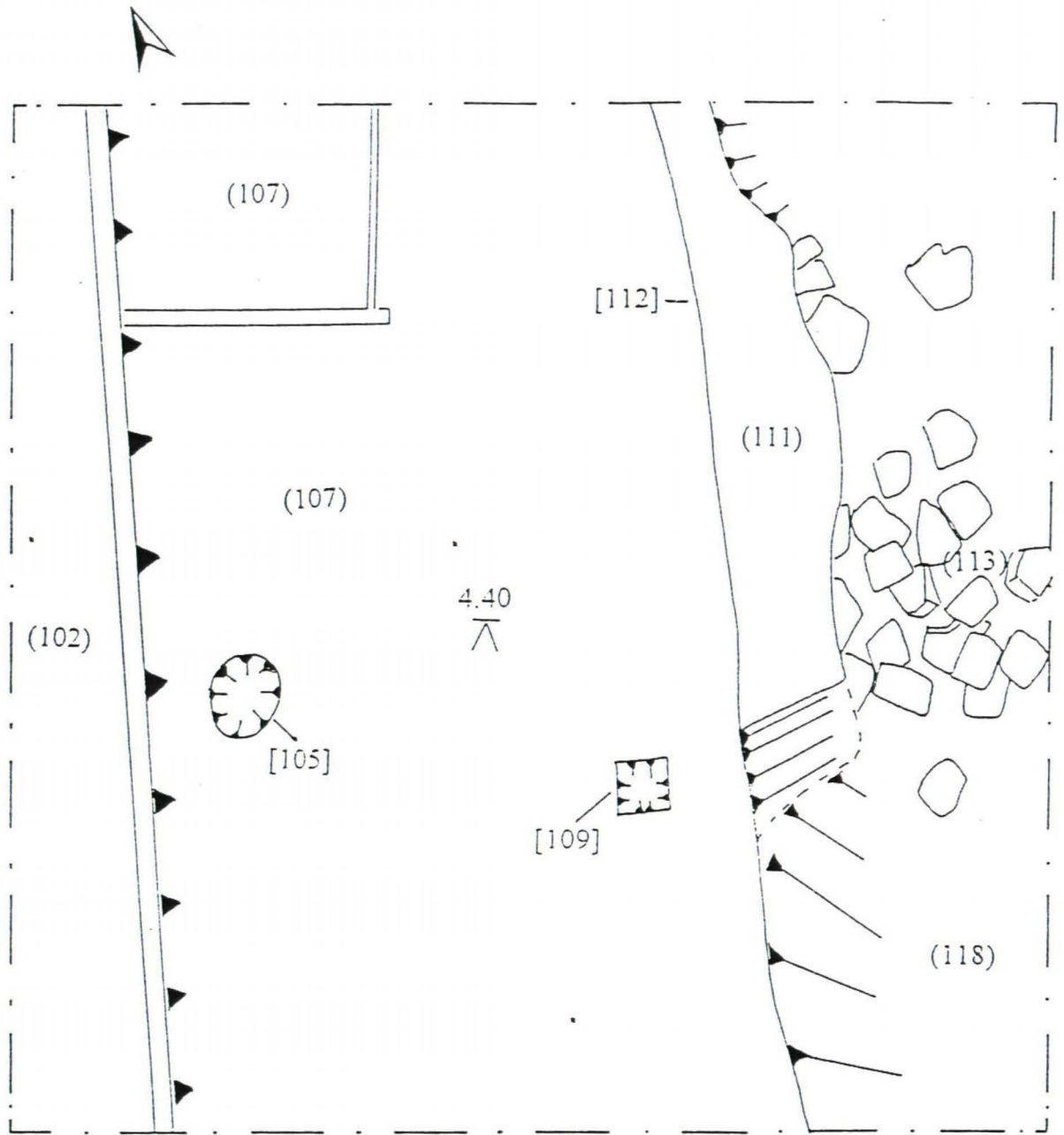


Fig 5

scale 1:20

0  1M

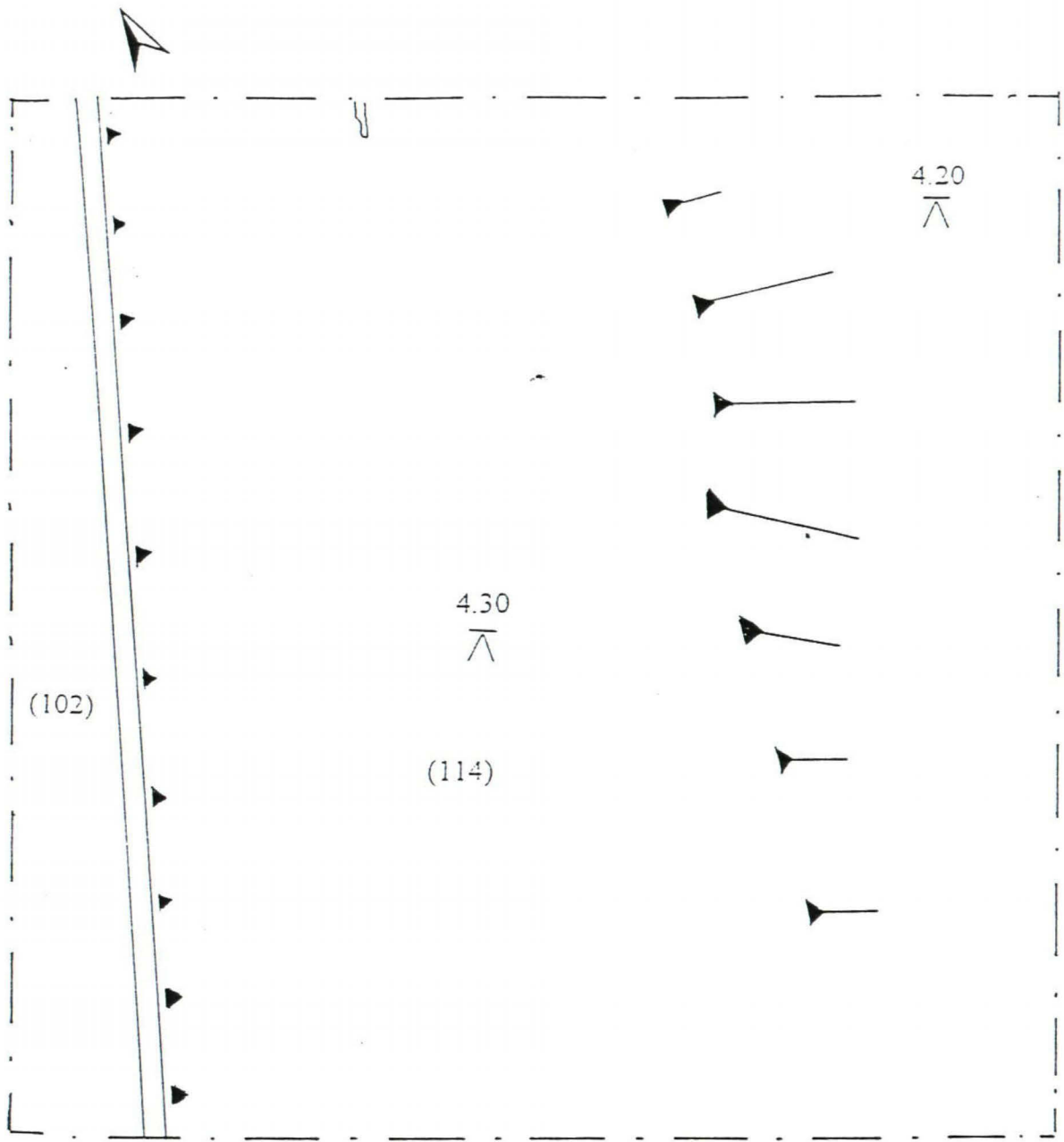


Fig 6

scale 1:20

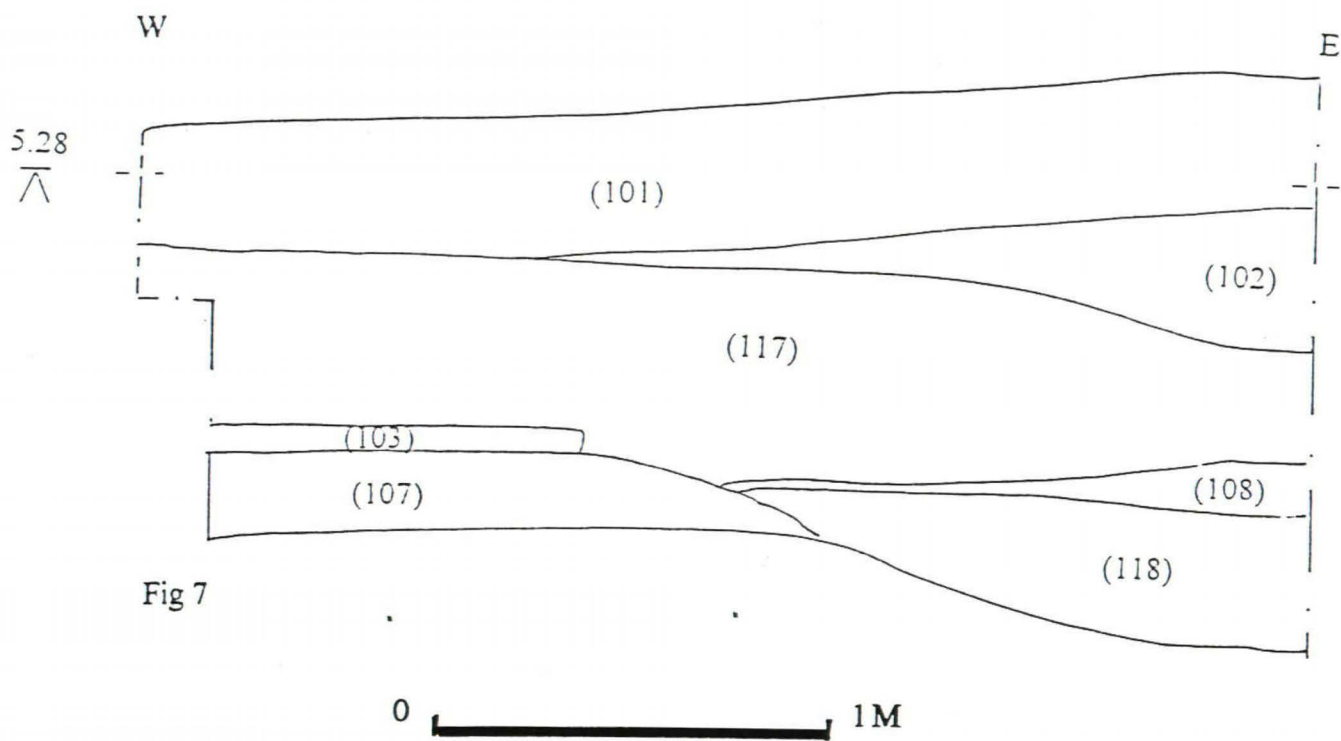


Fig 7

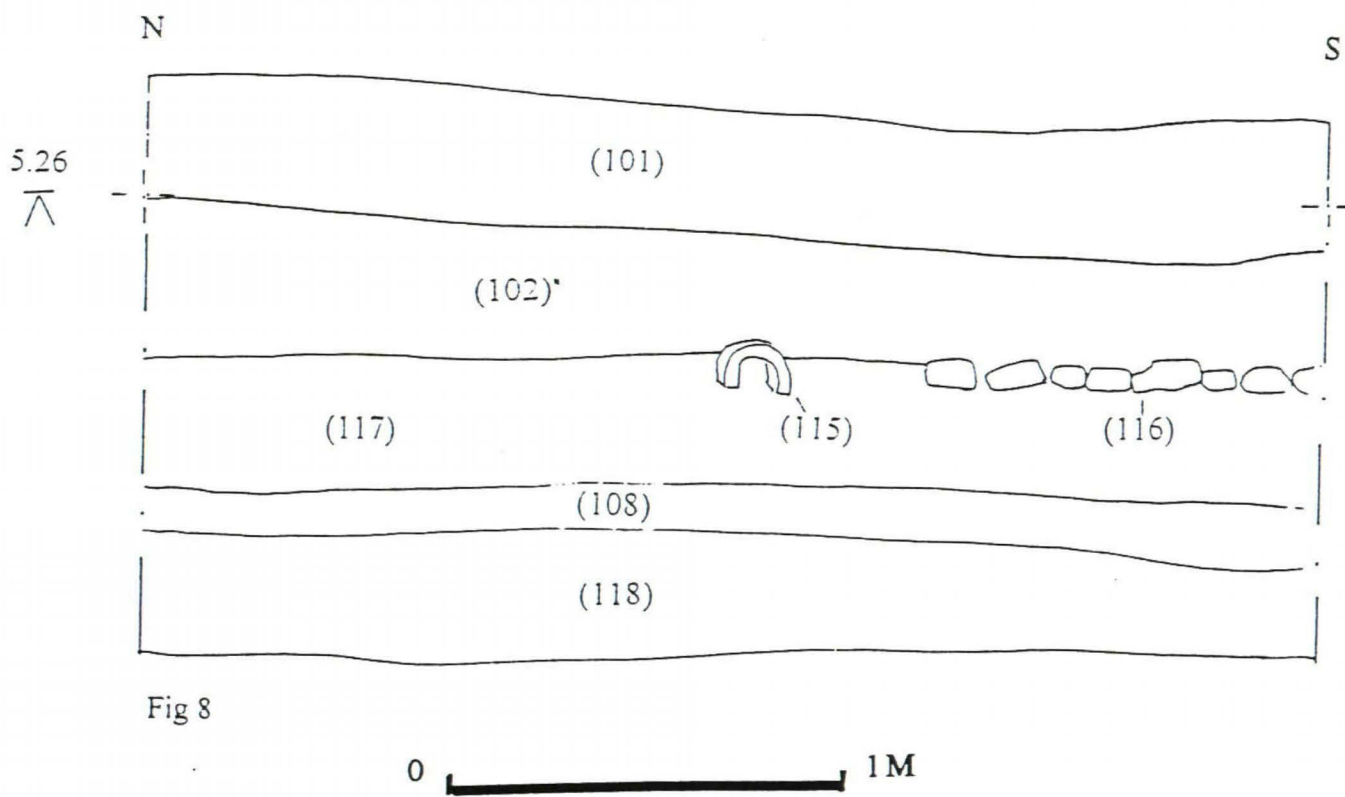


Fig 8

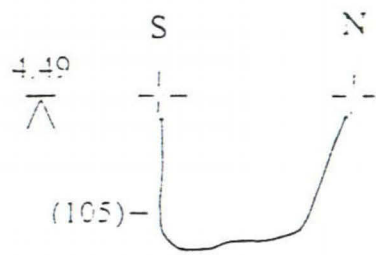


Fig 9
scale 1:10

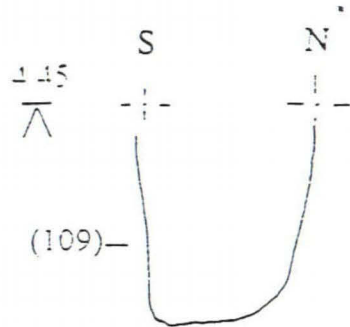


Fig 10
scale 1:10

6.0 Photographs

Plate 1 Trench at 0.30m looking south

Plate 2 Trench at 0.90m looking south

Plate 3 Trench at 1.00m looking south

Plate 4 Trench at 1.20m looking south



Plate 1 Trench at 0.30m looking south



Plate 2 Trench at 0.90m looking south



Plate 3 Trench at 1.00m looking south

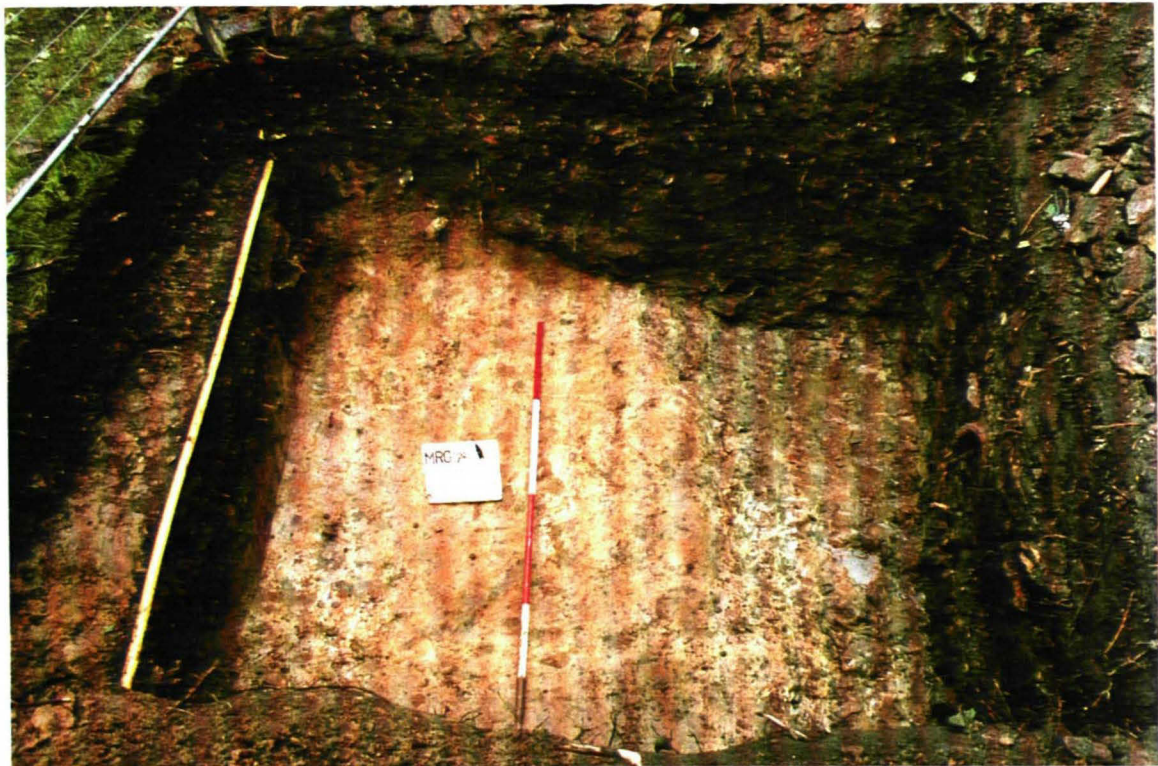


Plate 4 Trench at 1.20m looking south