

FEATURES INDEX

- ✓ 601 Gull.
 - ① Partial topsoil scatter
 - ② Chipples: loose
 - ③ Brown soil: root & animal derived, filling stake holes, burrows etc., ~~#4~~ s. of 622 & below 622.
- ✓ 602 Bank: at W. end of CIVb, w. of 603
- ✓ 603 N-S ditch
- ✓ 604 Flat tract E. of 603
- ✓ 605 PH? Circular ?hole, brown soil infill; bounded by burnt
lst. frags. (in 604)
- ✓ 606 Semicircle of stones, 50cm E. of 605. (in 604)
- ✓ 607 Semi-circle of burnt small stones in 604
- ✓ 608 Circle of burnt stones in situ (in 603)
- ✓ 609 Ditto, smaller (in 603)
- 610 Small burnt patch at E. side of CIVb, immediately
behind ?Bank 611 (in 604)
- ✓ 611 Bank? N-S axis, E. end CIVb (in 604)
- ✓ 612 ?Ditch, S.W. corner CIVa (includes area to 699)
- ✓ 613 Line of burnt stones in 604

11
9-7-72 → 11-7-72

Excavation continued in the following areas:

- i) F. 603 : ditch.
- ii) F. 604 : flat tract, including sundry other features therein.

1. F. 603 DITCH

The 'continuous' ditch was seen to exhibit the same characteristics as it had in 1971. Width: 2.70m, except at N-section, where its intersection with the gull 601 and considerable root + badger disturbance seem to indicate a width in excess of 3m.

Infill: 603 ① (topsoil) had already been removed from the entire length. 603 ② is a mixture of washed chipples (average diam. 2cm) and washed-in black topsoil. This obtains for the whole length of the ditch with the exception of the northern 2.50m, where the chipples suddenly stop & the topsoil wash bonds a mass of loose stones, $\frac{1}{4}$ of which are burnt pink & grey.

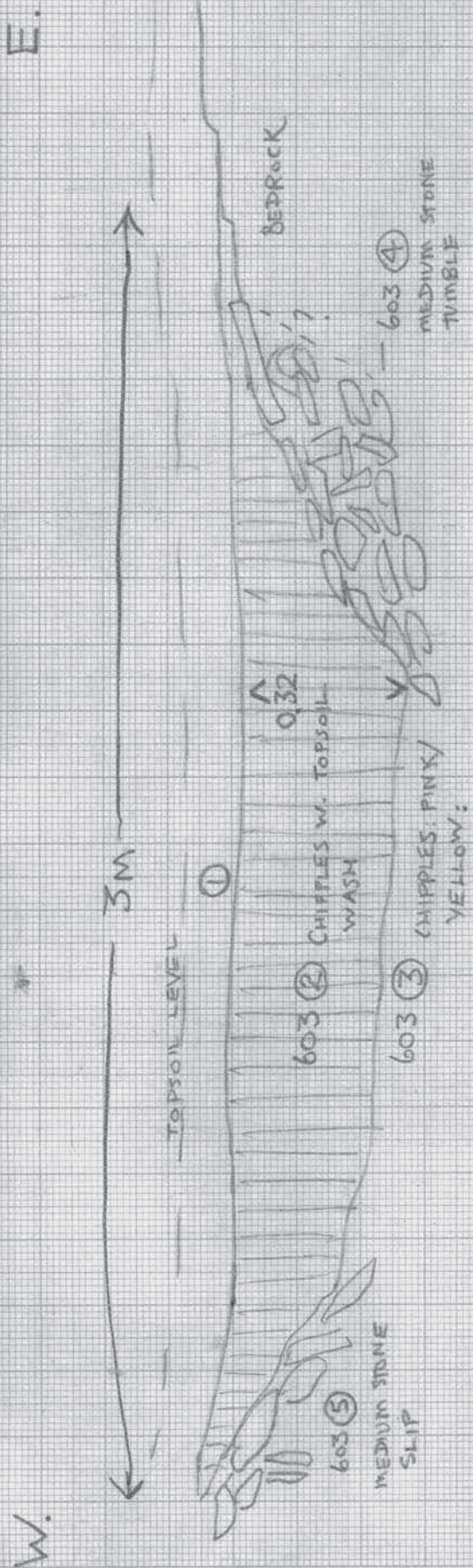
There are two distinct stony infills within 603 ③:
603 ④ is a mass of medium-sized stones (c. 15cm. average length) plus very black soil, in an apparent top-mass between 4 and 6m N. of the S. bank. The other stony mass is located 7m N. of the S. bank, & comprises larger stones - 20cm. long & longer. These seem to suggest a causeway beneath.

2. F. 604

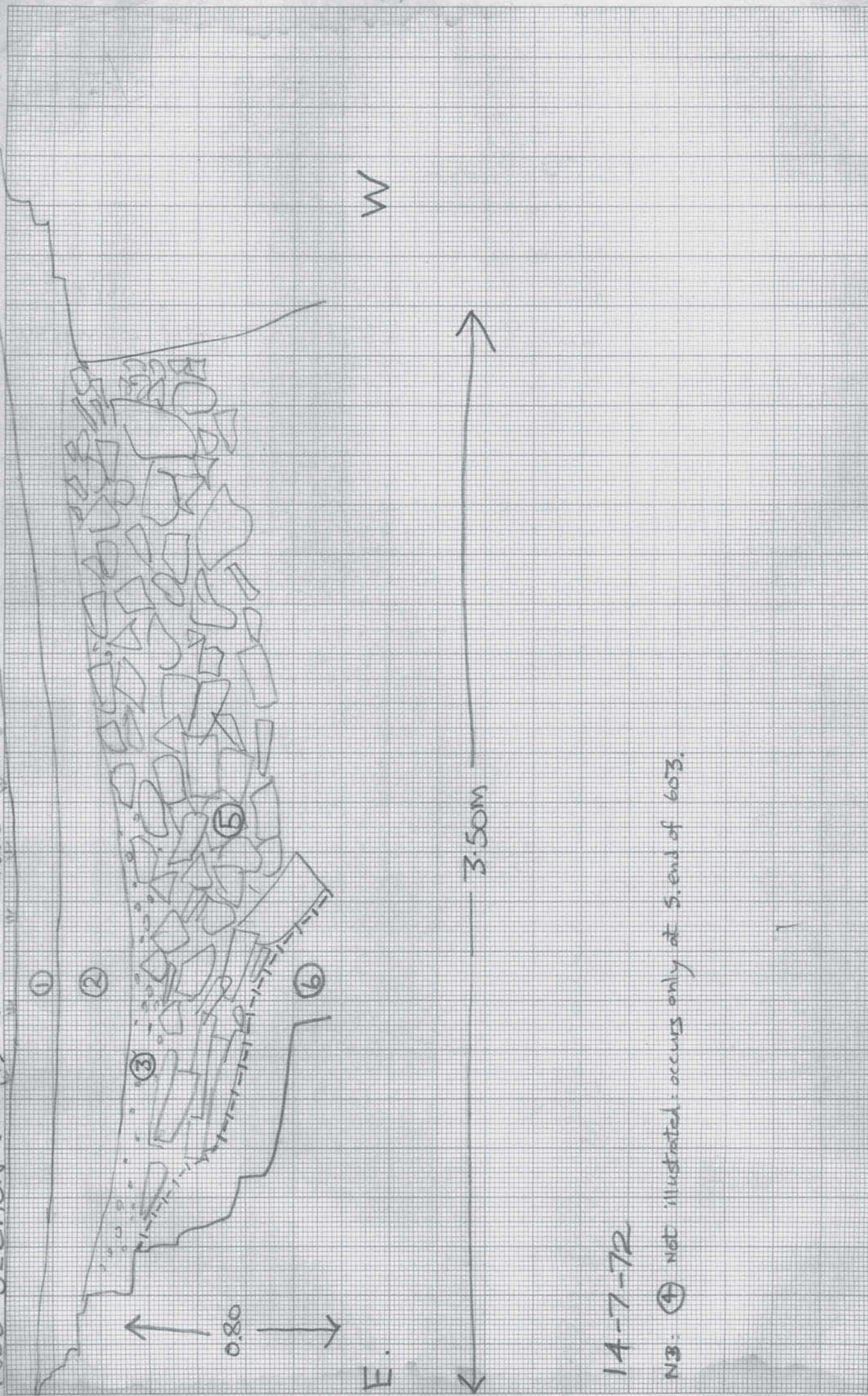
Excavation continued over the whole area of 604. The features encountered were, from N. to S:

622 : an apparently laid feature, comparable to the "stony platform" in the B series trenches. It is a level platform of small stones: most are c. 3-4 cm. long or smaller, although there is a proportion which measure c. 10cm. The top of 622 lies 20cm below g.l., & its thickness is 20cm. It extends from

SKETCH SECTION: F-603, 4m. N. of S. BAULK. SHOWING PROFILE AT -7-72.



F. 603 SECTION (SKETCH) SEE P. 16 FOR MEASURED SECTN.



14-7-72

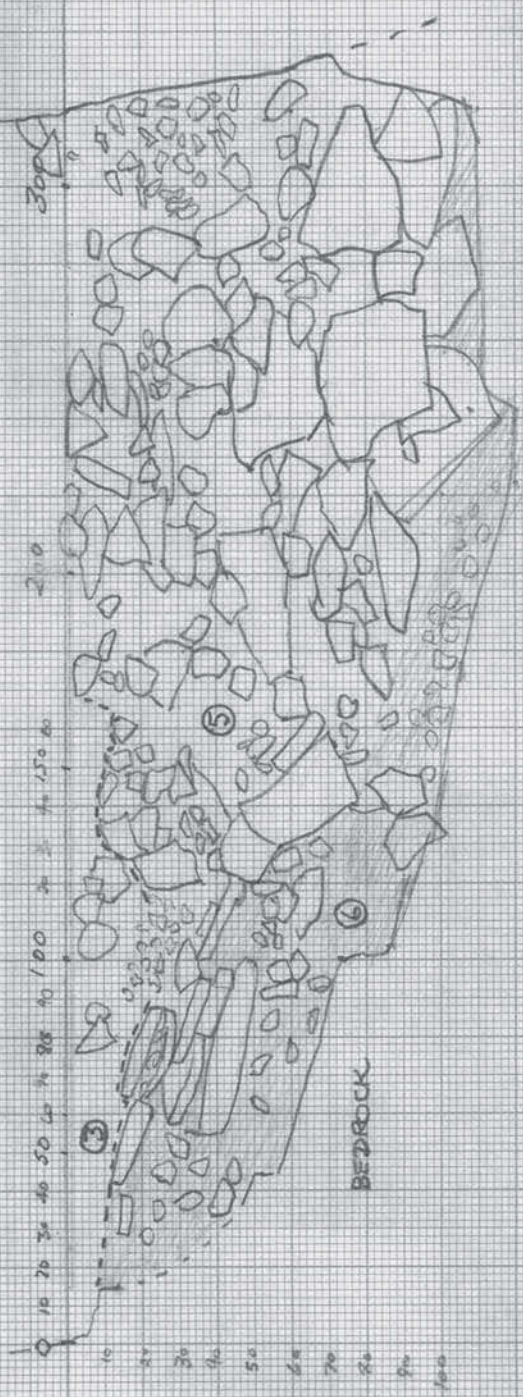
NB: ④ Not illustrated; occurs only at S. end of 603.

03 W-E SECTION ACROSS CENTRAL PART OF DITCH

18-7-72

U 11-73
A 1179

U 9-57
A 9-97



E.

W.

ASL: 192M ^{below} base of Peg A

Peg A: 0.4'

Datum Height ASL: 189M ^{below} ~~from~~ base of Peg A.

14-7-72

Excavation continued in the following areas:

F.617

The apparent causeway between 617 + 631 was shown not to exist: 631 is a slightly wider continuation of 617.

F.603

③ removed over whole length of ditch. ③ confirmed as grating into ⑤ below it: the difference is that ⑤ is composed of large slabs. Much of ⑤ removed, & cleaned at c. 1m b.g.l. to prevent contamination by percolating dust from ③ & ②. ⑤ was seen to overly ⑥ - a pink sticky dust bonding small stones c. 5cm diam. ⑥ might possibly be the primary silt of the ditch, but is probably a later lateral wash from the E. side.

A central control section was established & photographed & drawn (see p. 14-16). The sides of the N. end of 603 have still not been identified due to severe weathering around the gull 601.

F.622

Removal of baulk between CIVa & CIVb facilitated exposure of 622/601 junction - a very clear one, identifying 622 as having been laid over and possibly dug into 601. A gap of 601 chipples precludes any ^{attempted} establishment ~~ing~~ of the relationship between 622 & 629.

F.611/612

① was finally cleared from the whole of 611, & the cleaning extended to 612 (ditch) on removal of baulk.

15-21 -7-72

Excavation continued in these areas:

- i) F.603 ditch
- ii) F.617 palisade trench,
- iii) F.611 bank
- iv) F.612 ditch
- v) F.634 area in N. half of (IV) a
- vi) F.635 " " S " " "

603 The ditch was excavated to its bedrock base along its entire length, with the exception of the central control baulk/section. Its depth increases to the N. - 2M deep at N. baulk. The N. baulk section shows a fallen infill from the W. side: not a level infill, although the central section is more level. The lowest level is one of pink sticky dust and small stones (⑥). It is immediately overlain by large slabs (⑤), and its nature is not clear. It would seem to be a primary silt, but its absence over other stretches of 603 argues against this: e.g. in the control section, ⑥ is absent from the W. section. This may be due to the fact that the rock-side overhangs here. However, it is also absent from other parts - e.g. adjacent to the S. baulk, & this points to an absence of "primary" silt. The pink ⑥ may, then, be a secondary wash into certain parts of the ditch, determined by whatever material lay adjacent to the lip.

The sides of the ditch follow the usual zig-zag line, taking advantage of joints. There are a number of small embayments at irregular intervals along both lips of 603. These are probably no more than fortuitous, but one at least gives a PH-like impression: F.646. The others

have approximately the same depth (40cm).

Along its northern bottom half, 603 had a "spine" of large slabs, the size of which indicates either a deliberate throwing-in, or the former existence of a wall close the ditch-lip: the slabs would presumably be the basal ones for the latter.

The W. side of 603 changes in character at its junction with 601: the W. side here has not been excavated, and a fm of pink silt and large slabs cascades down from lip at this point, indicating possibly a different type of source structure for the bank at this area.

F.617

The trench was completely cleared. Its depth (never more than 30cm) is slight, and its width & length are equally unimpressive, as is its pattering out N-wards. Any fence therein must have been curiously discontinuous & low.

F.604

② E. of 617 was reduced by a further 15cm, and bedrock appeared over much of the tract between 617 & 611. However, a number of features appeared: most of these were in the form of uptuned, jumbled-up angular stones, often with burnt ones associated (e.g. 643, 645). 647 was more substantial: a large area of disturbed stones, with a clear W. edge by obvious bedrock. This feature may be a N-ward extension of 611, or it may be root-caused.

F.644 ties in this area also: a joint-infill of burnt stones with a considerable quantity of bones & pot.

F.611/612

The relationship between the ditch & bank were further investigated. Neither side of 612 was found. The

22-23 -7-72

Excavation continued in these areas:

F.603

Overnight dampness revealed 3 PH's partly cut into the W. & E. sides of 603: 648, 649, 650. Projecting of their alignments revealed others: 655, 652, 657, 653, 654. For dimensions see pp. 28, 30, 32, 34, 36. A further ph. was then seen to be set in the control bank in the centre of 603: 659. This was seen to be the vertical extension of 609, the burnt patch that had appeared at a higher level associated with 608, another burnt patch. Two of the ph's were cut wholly into the rock: 655, 657.

By projecting a matching ph to 654, a total of 10 ph's is arrived at. The distances between the northern 4 are slightly longer than those between the southern 6, & 2 structures might be postulated. However, the apparent hearth between the two (608) does not support this. 608 appeared on the top of 603 (2): this was evidently ground level of the infilled ditch at the time of the hearth & (presumably) the ph's. The level of 608 was c. 40-50cm. above the base of the ph's - in particular the base of 659, which was cut fairly near to 608. This would tend to associate 608 with all the ph's. The implication is a 10 post structure taking advantage of the lee side of the Neolithic bank, & also taking advantage of the presumably known presence of 603: i.e. ph's economically cut only half-into the rock.

No ph's were encountered S. of 654, although at the other end of 603 there may be one below the chipples area N. of 648: 648 itself was overlain by chipples. (602 (3)).

Dating: 657 yielded a small lump of iron. 648 is overlain by chipples, & might thus be earlier than the CH71 "house circle" in the chipples area. (No)