

JEBEL KHALID

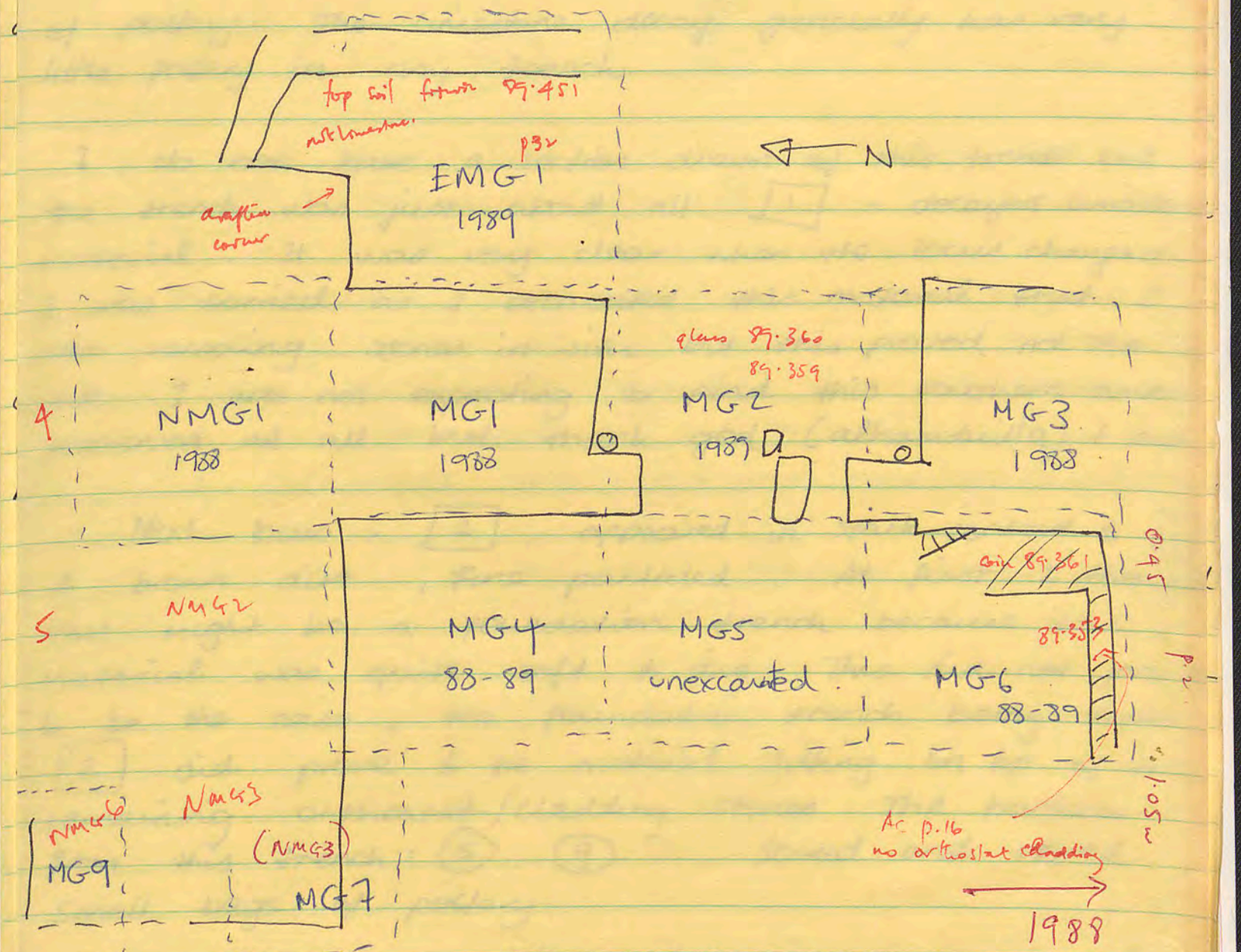
MAIN GATE 1989  
TRENCHES EXCAVATED

ANNA CURROW

JACK TURNER

MG 6  
MG 2  
EMG 1

MG 4  
MG 7  
MG 9



Plan of Main Gate Excavation  
AND TRENCH PLACEMENT

MG6 - first trench I excavated this year.

I took up where Michael Gabin left off last year. The first locus excavated was [1] - decayed limestone material - white, dry and coarse. When first turned over this material has a slight yellow colour but soon dries out to white. This indicates there must be a certain amount of moisture in

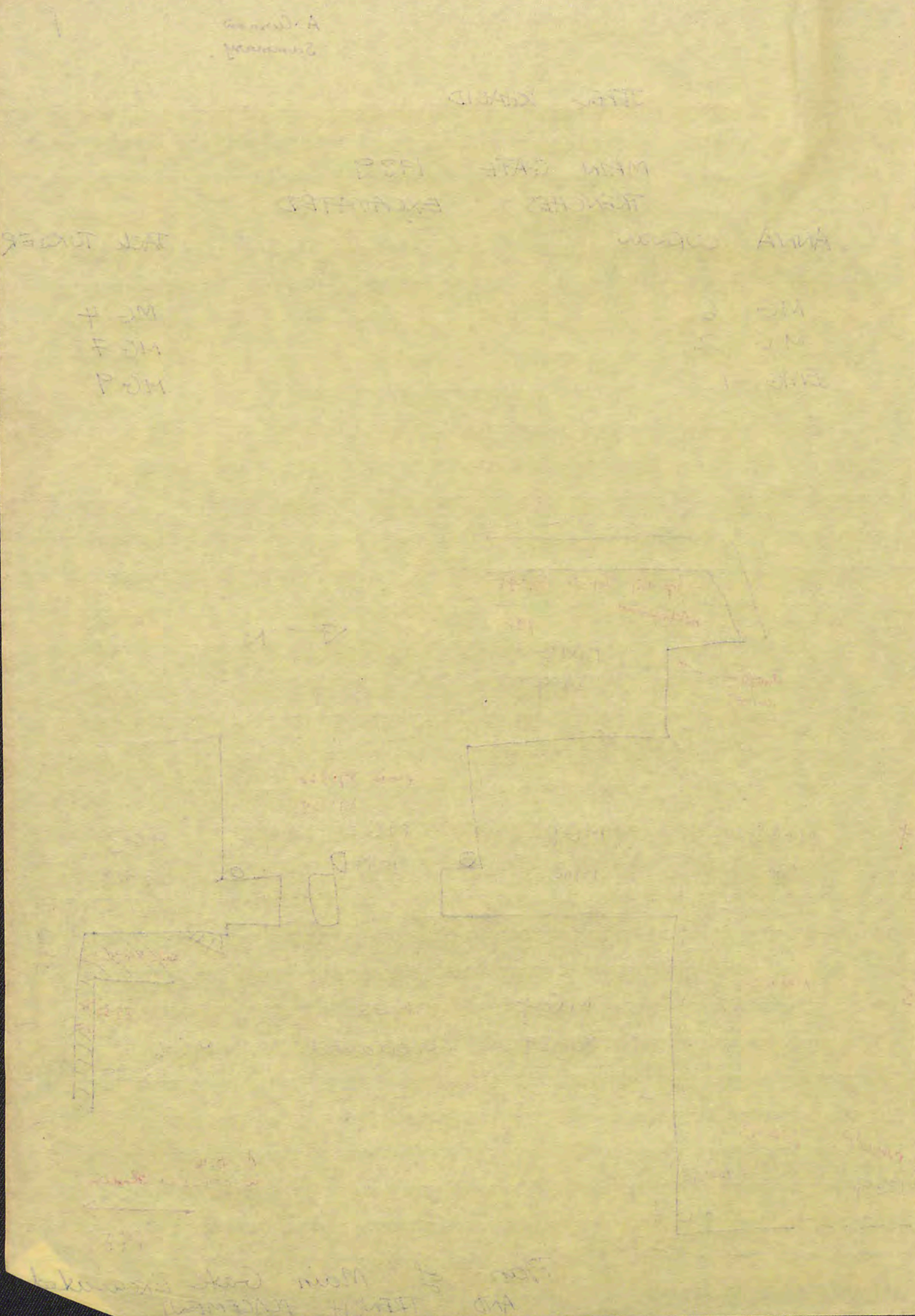
[1]. The baskets from this locus are as follows:

- (1), (2), (3), (4), (14), (15), (17), (19), (20), (22)

- All have been sorted and stored. Very small bags of pottery. The limestone decay generally has very little pottery in any trench.

I do not have a section drawn of this trench but the trench was just about all [1] - decayed limestone material. It was very clear when the locus changed. I was worried as I excavated this material that I was removing stones in situ but this proved not the case. I was not expecting to find this southern tower preserved at all but thank god (alhamdulillah) I did.

Next locus, [2], appeared in stark contrast to [1]. A brown dirt, fine particled. At first I thought this might be a foundation trench because the material was quite soft to dig. This did not prove to be the case, the foundation trench being lower. [2] did prove to be material sitting on top of the remaining orthostat/cladding stones. The baskets from this trench: (5), (9). Sorted and stored small bags of pottery.



Therefore, [1], went down further in the rest of MG-6 as [2] was a dirt sitting on top of the cladding stones. Why should it only be there? Was this a "floor" or "street" surface? No - because there is tumble in the rest of the trench. I'm not sure, here, why the dirt is only on top of the cladding stones, not in the whole trench.

Anyway [1] went down further in the rest of the trench until a darker soil appeared, [11] then a softer dirt with bone, pottery and charcoal in it appeared, [12].  
 baskets from [11] : (23), (24)  
 [12] : (26)

A very hard level comes just above bedrock [13] baskets : (27), (28)

The bedrock does not run all the way up to the cladding walls of this south gate and tower. There are foundation trenches cut into the bedrock for each wall to sit in.

I excavated the east-west running foundation trench as [15] : (31), (32) and the north-south running trench as [16].  
 (33)

(34), (35), (36), (37), (38), (39), (40), (41), (42), (43), (44), (45), (46), (47), (48), (49), (50), (51), (52), (53), (54), (55), (56), (57), (58), (59), (60), (61), (62), (63), (64), (65), (66), (67), (68), (69), (70), (71), (72), (73), (74), (75), (76), (77), (78), (79), (80), (81), (82), (83), (84), (85), (86), (87), (88), (89), (90), (91), (92), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100)

I worked for a few days in Jack's trenches, MG9, ~~and~~ MG7 and MG4 but will let Jack describe those trenches.

MG2 was my next trench.

topsoil, 13 baskets: (6), (7), (10), (61), (62) all sorted and stored.

The purpose of excavating this trench was to delineate the edge of the north gate extension and hopefully to find the hellenistic road surface. We did all of this and more - wonderful trench!

Reading my notebook - I saw in the baulk of MG2 - topsoil 13, then a line small stones 5, then 6 a reddy brown dirt then 7 hard white limestone. I have no pottery from 6.

7 - I believe to be a later street possibly. Hardly any pottery, but it was very hard and looked a little like it had been placed on purpose. It most certainly was covering stones that had been worked, chipped at & changed to form a smoother surface possibly for a road.

Under 7 is 10, soft, tiny pits of battered pottery - street material 10: (16), (18), (21), (25), (63\*), (69), (70).

(71), (72), (73), (74). One bag is lost = (63).

Therefore, MG1 on top of the bedding stones. Why should it only be there? Now this a "floor" or "street" surface. No. because there is trouble in the rest of the trench. In some, there is only on top of the bedding stones, not in the whole trench.

until a darker soil appeared, 11. then a softer dirt with bone, pottery and charcoal in it appeared, 12. baskets from 11: (12), (13), (14), (15).

A very hard level comes just above bedrock 13. (16), (17), (18).

The bedrock does not run all the way up to the bedding walls of this south gate and lower. There are foundations trenches cut out of the bedrock for each wall to sit in. I excavated the east-west running foundations trench on 12: (19), (20), (21). and the north-south running trench on 11: (22).

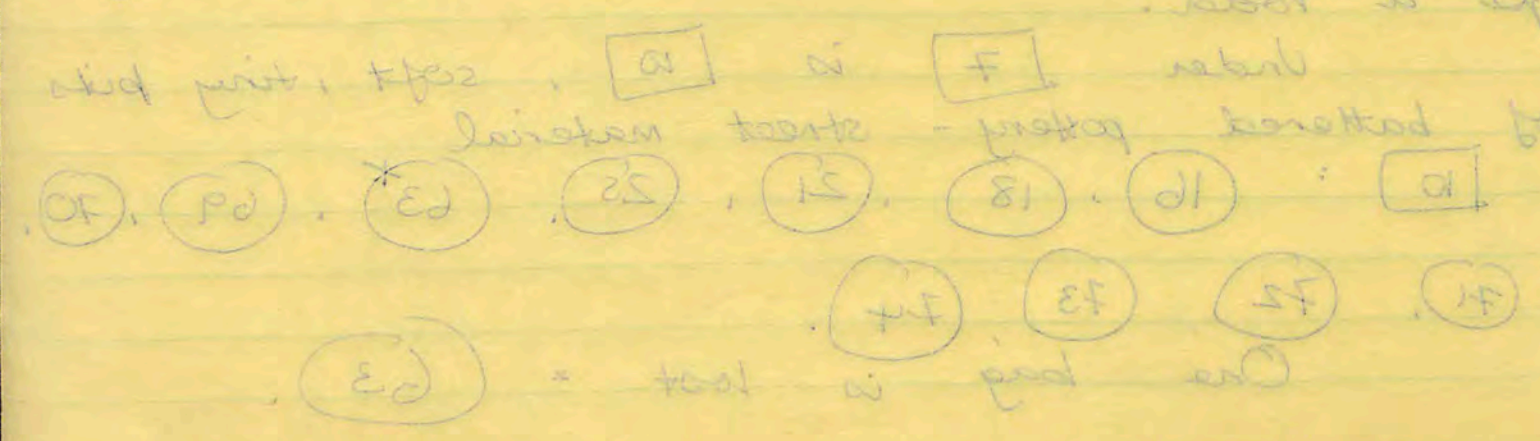
I worked for a few days in Jack's trenches  
M&P, and M&P but will let  
Jack describe those trenches.

M&P was my last trench  
trench. I did all of this and more -  
and hopefully find the telluritic road  
delimits the edge of the north gate extension  
The purpose of excavating this trench was to  
see what was under the road.

at the base of the wall. I saw in the bulk of  
the trench a few small stones  
then a redly brown dirt then  
hard white limestone. I have no  
pottery from this trench!

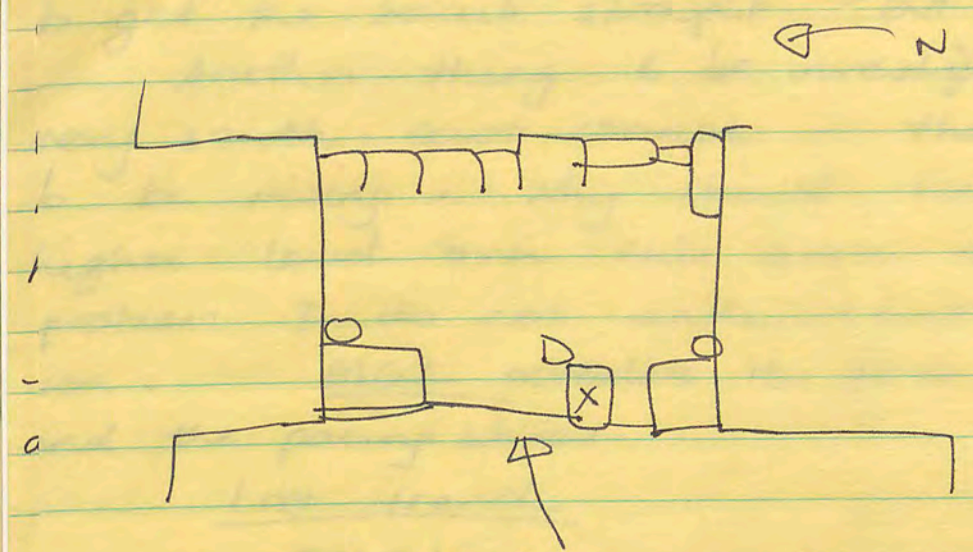
I believe to be a later street  
possibly a pottery but it was very  
hard and looked a little like it had been  
placed on purpose. It most certainly was covering  
stones that had been worked, clipped at  
changed to form a smoother surface  
for a road.

Under the pottery street material  
of patterned pottery - street material  
is soft, thin bits  
under the pottery street material



Below [10] paving stones from the road/gateway  
appeared.

The paving stones ~~are~~ have proved to be just in  
the gateway.

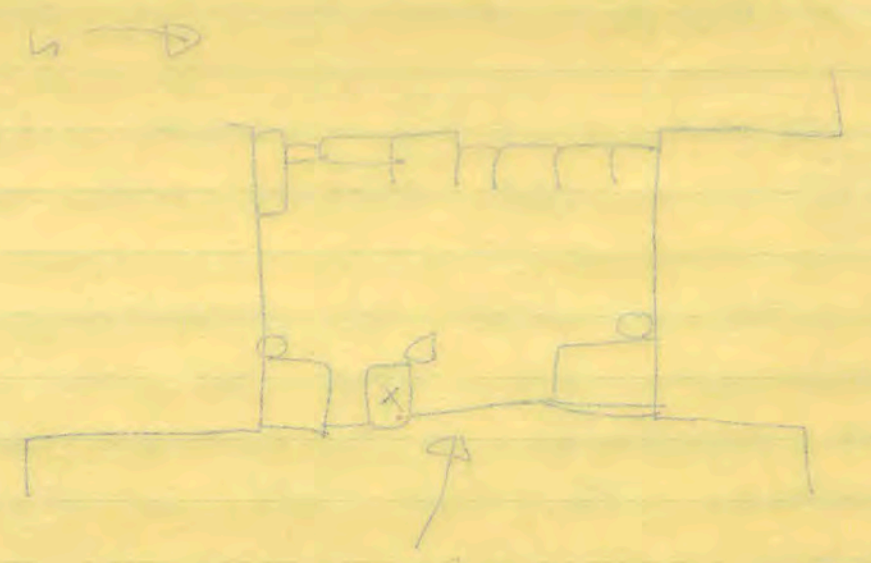


paving stones appear to stop here but  
I believe this should be excavated and checked  
next year.

The gateway appears to be a double gateway.  
There is an extension from each projection of the  
tower only in the west of the gateway. At each  
of these projections are worn holes, possibly for  
post holes. There is another stone that is very  
worn - X on plan above, that suggests the  
gateway was double - as does another possible post  
hole to the north-east of that stone. All of  
these features are accurately drawn on gate plan.

The paving stones stop just before the tower  
projections - A road surface there becomes  
visible - hard material with lots of small bits of  
pottery and stone. It remains unexcavated.  
I could not trace this road surface exactly. This

below [10] paving stones from the road/gateway appeared. The paving stones are found to be just in the gateway.



I believe this should be excavated and checked next year.

The gateway appears to be a double gateway. There is an extension from each projection of the tower only in the west of the gateway. At each of these projections are worn holes, possibly for post holes. There is another stone that is very worn - X on plan above, that suggests the gateway was double - as does another possible post here to the north-east of that stone. All of these features are accurately drawn on gate plan. The paving stones stop just before the tower projection. A road surface there becomes visible - found marked with lots of small bits of pottery and ware. It remains unexcavated. I could not find this road surface exactly.

is another matter to be investigated next year. Also - the section - a very important section, the east section, is undrawn - I was unfinished in this trench and there are huge stones to be moved to get the bank straight - but it needs to be drawn.

Another thing to be investigated is in the very south-east corner - the dirt [10] appears to be rising - Why should there be dirt at a higher level over this area of the gate - another problem I do not understand but needs investigation. MG2 revealed the faces of the two gate extensions and the paving stones.

Last trench

EMG-1

topsoil [14] : (29), (30),  
limestone decay [17] : (34), (35), (36), (37)

EMG1 to start with revealed the very important turn of the north tower extension. The cladding/orthostat stones were only on the north-south running wall while the east-west wall appears to be solid built without orthostat cladding stones.

Elevations of both walls drawn by Anderson Hunt.

EMG1 contained very unexpected stratigraphy. In the north-east corner of the trench appeared a small rubble wall in the east bank running north-south. I believe this to be an Islamic wall as two Islamic sherds were found above white [19] limestone layer that this wall appears to be sitting on.

Below [17] is found dirt [18] - but not in whole trench, just in north-east.

[18] : (39), (40), (41)

A rubble wall appeared which explained the differences in the trench. The wall runs north-south and has small stones with red clay clinging to it. I only excavated a little to the east of this wall - firstly b/c not much room and secondly different material was encountered to the west of the wall.

East of the wall, [20] - small stones bits of limestone and dirt (42)

West of the wall, [21], dirt, very soft. Lots of black patches amongst this soft brown dirt that changed colour very quickly in the sun.

- (43) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53)
- (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (64) (65) (67)

When one looks in the south section of EMG1 (drawn by A. Hunt) one can see many different patches of soil, different colours, in different areas. Unfortunately when I was digging this it all trowelled out and I was not able to distinguish these different areas. The different days on which the locus was dug should be some help in distinguishing the material.

I stopped digging east of the rubble wall when I reached a hard red layer.

I stopped digging west of the rubble wall when I reached a definite floor. I believe [21] with all its beautiful stratigraphy could have been a dump - there was so much pottery. This wall and "floor" and their purpose all needs further investigation.

is another matter to be investigated next year. Also the section - a very important section, the east section, is unknown - I was unable to get this trench and there are large stones to be moved to get the bank straight - but it needs to be done. Another thing to be investigated in the very south-east corner - the dirt appears to be rising - why should there be dirt of a higher level over this area of the gate - another problem I do not understand but needs investigation. MGS revealed the face of the gate extending and the young stones.

- (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

EMG1 to start with revealed the very important turn of the north tower extension. The cladding of the rubble wall were only on the north-south running wall while the east-west wall appears to be solid built without external cladding stones. Stratigraphy of both walls drawn by Anderson that EMG1 contained very unexpected stratigraphy. In the north-east corner of the trench appeared a rubble wall in the east bank running north-south. I believe this to be an Islamic wall as two Islamic sherds were found above white [P] limestone layer that this wall appears to be sitting on.

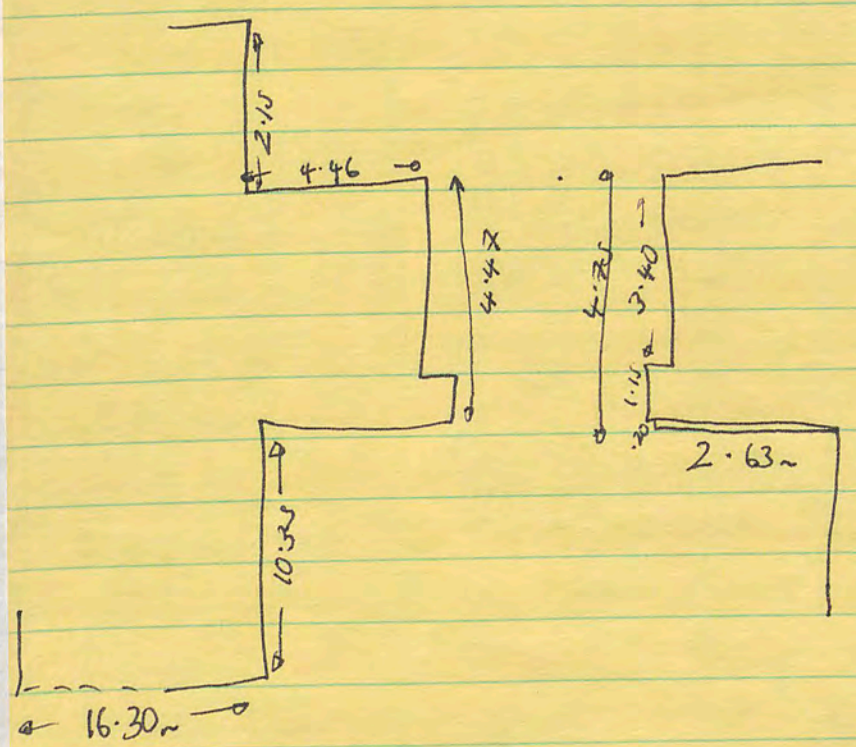
- (18) (19) (20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25) (26) (27) (28) (29) (30) (31) (32) (33) (34) (35) (36) (37) (38) (39) (40) (41) (42) (43) (44) (45) (46) (47) (48) (49) (50) (51) (52) (53) (54) (55) (56) (57) (58) (59) (60) (61) (62) (63) (64) (65) (66) (67) (68) (69) (70) (71) (72) (73) (74) (75) (76) (77) (78) (79) (80) (81) (82) (83) (84) (85) (86) (87) (88) (89) (90) (91) (92) (93) (94) (95) (96) (97) (98) (99) (100)

EMGI cont.

A beautiful Hellenistic arrowhead was wedged in to the between two stones in the wall of the north gate extension that runs east-west suggesting that this was once a level, "street level". Its elevation is on pg. 46 - 2.506 m  
 the top of the rubble wall = 2.174 m  
 paving stones = 2.968 m

I had thought that perhaps the dump and rubble wall were there to bring the land up to the level of the paving stones - bedrock being much lower in other trenches. This could have been its purpose.

Finally some dimensions

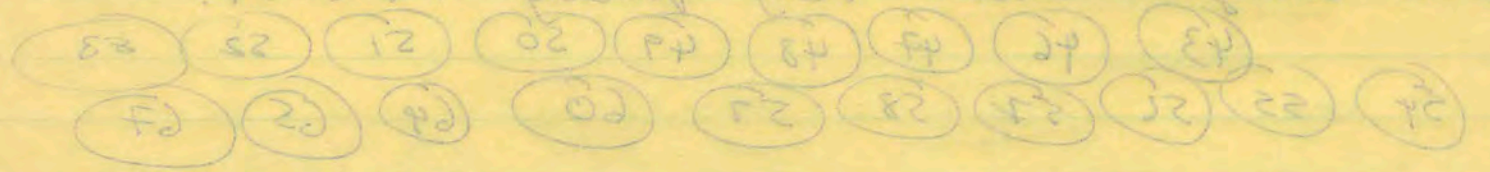


Anna Curran

A rubble wall appeared which explained the differences in the trench. The wall was north-south and had small stones with red clay clinging to it. I only excavated a little to the east of this wall - finally not much more and accordingly different material was encountered to the west of the wall.

East of the wall - small stones bits of mortar and dirt [50] [51]

West of the wall [52] but very soft lot of black pebbles amongst this soft brown dirt that changed color very quickly in the sun.



When one looks in the south section of EMGI (shown by A. Hunt) one can see many different pockets of soil, different colors, in different areas. Unfortunately when I was digging this it all tumbled out and I was not able to distinguish these different areas. The different steps on which the base was dug should be some help in distinguishing the material. I stopped digging east of the rubble wall when I reached a hard rocky layer. I stopped digging west of the rubble wall when I reached a definite floor. I believe [51] with all its beautiful stratigraphy could have been a dump - there was no main pottery. The wall was floor and their purpose all ready further west.



N ←

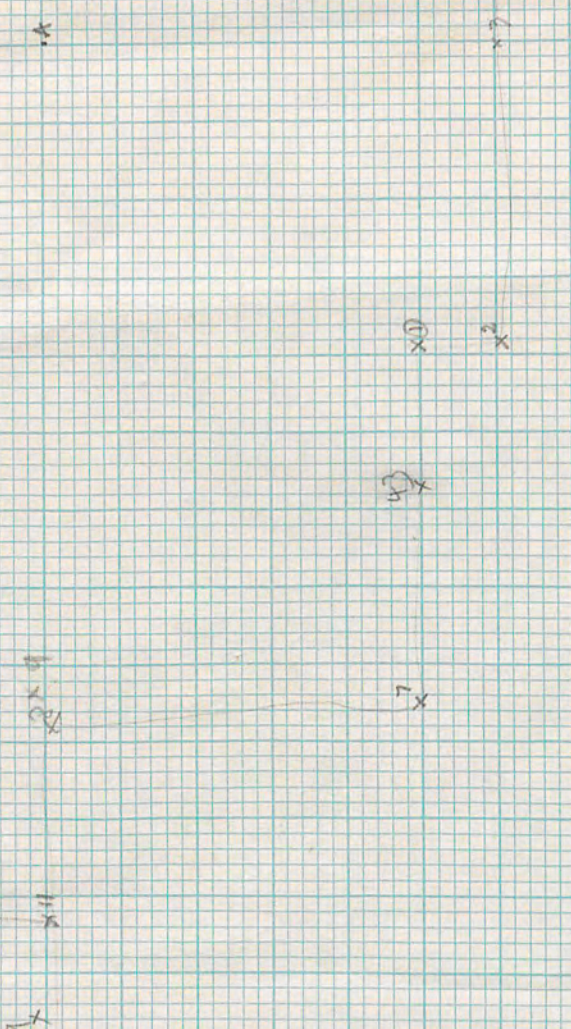
MAIN GATE

STAIRS A & B 9 meters apart

12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28  
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 32

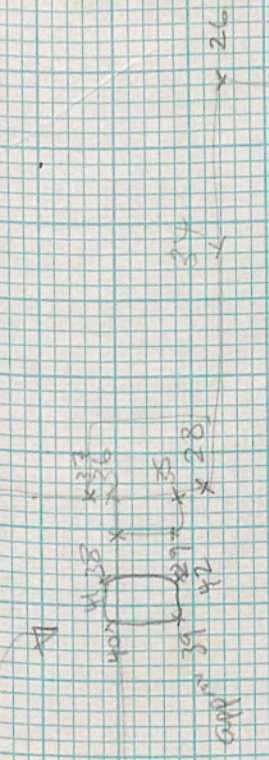
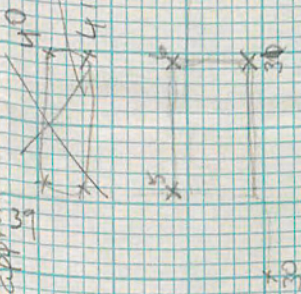


THIS NEEDS TO BE RETAINED AS A CHECK TO THE FINISHED OUTLINE PLAN DROWN AT 1:50.



4x 7 approx

approx 6x

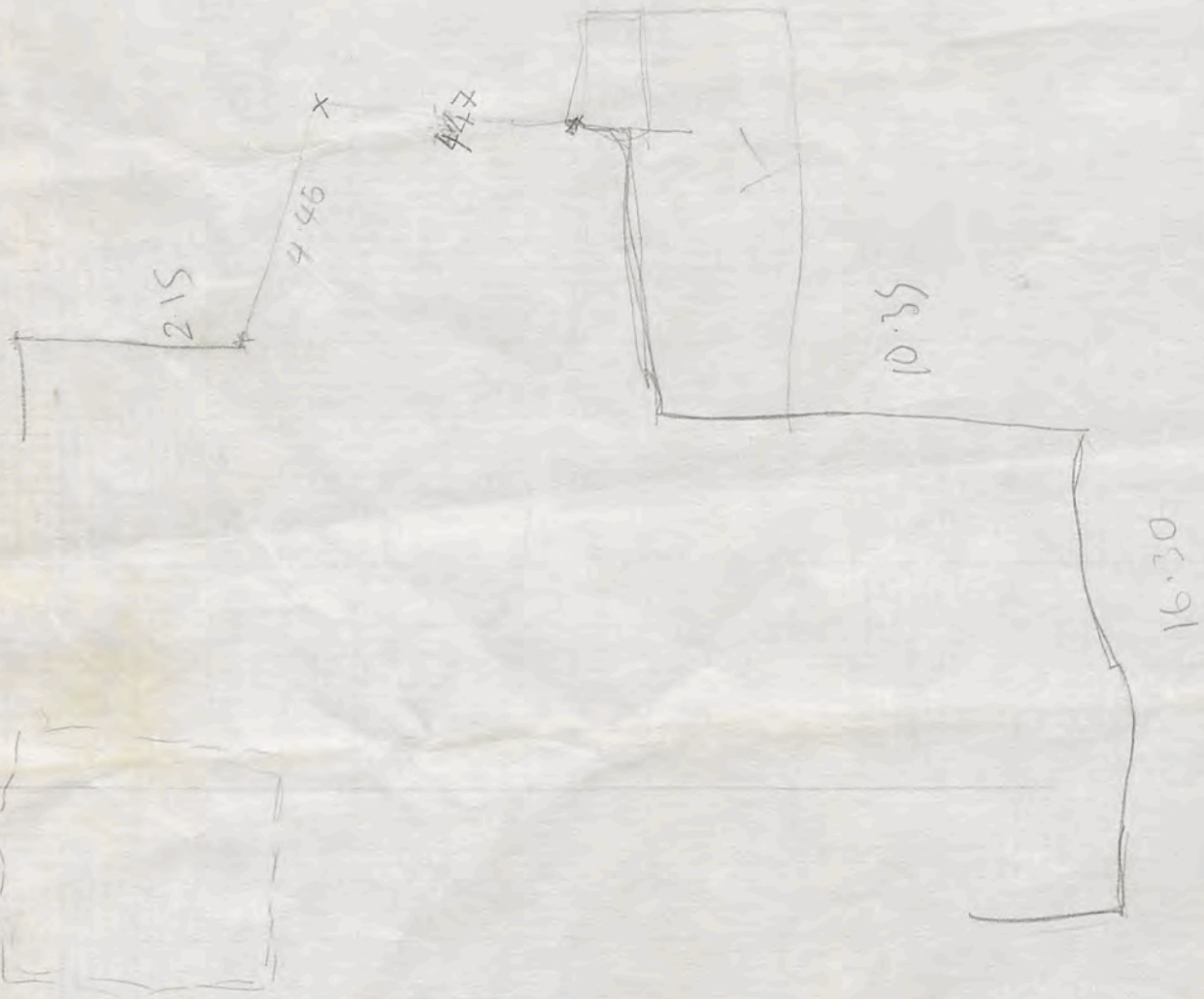


1	A	10.34	B	10.39	
2	A	10.37	B	10.45	
3	A	10.36	B	10.41	
4	A	10.39	B	10.55	
5	A	10.44	B	10.30	
6	A	10.27	B	10.89	
7	A	10.70	B	10.66	
8	A	10.03	B	10.32	
9	A	10.88	B	10.28	
10	A	10.25	B	10.50	
11	A	10.48	B	10.60	
12	A	10.52	B	10.04	
13	A	10.75	B	10.90	
14	A	10.76	B	10.97	
15	A	10.85	B	10.62	
16	A	10.81	B	12.48	
17	A	10.86	B	12.08	
18	A	10.94	B	11.71	
19	A	10.10	B	11.20	
20	A	10.41	B	10.21	
21	A	10.61	B	10.74	
22	A	10.58	B	10.16	

23	A	10.00	B	13.74	
24	A	10.06	B	14.34	
25	A	10.85	B	13.51	
26	A	10.83	B	13.03	
27	A	10.83	B	13.03	
28	A	10.83	B	13.03	
29	A	10.83	B	13.03	
30	A	10.83	B	13.03	
31	A	10.83	B	13.03	
32	A	10.83	B	13.03	
33	A	10.83	B	13.03	
34	A	10.83	B	13.03	
35	A	10.83	B	13.03	
36	A	10.83	B	13.03	
37	A	10.83	B	13.03	
38	A	10.83	B	13.03	
39	A	10.83	B	13.03	
40	A	10.83	B	13.03	
41	A	10.83	B	13.03	
42	A	10.83	B	13.03	
43	A	10.83	B	13.03	
44	A	10.83	B	13.03	
45	A	10.83	B	13.03	

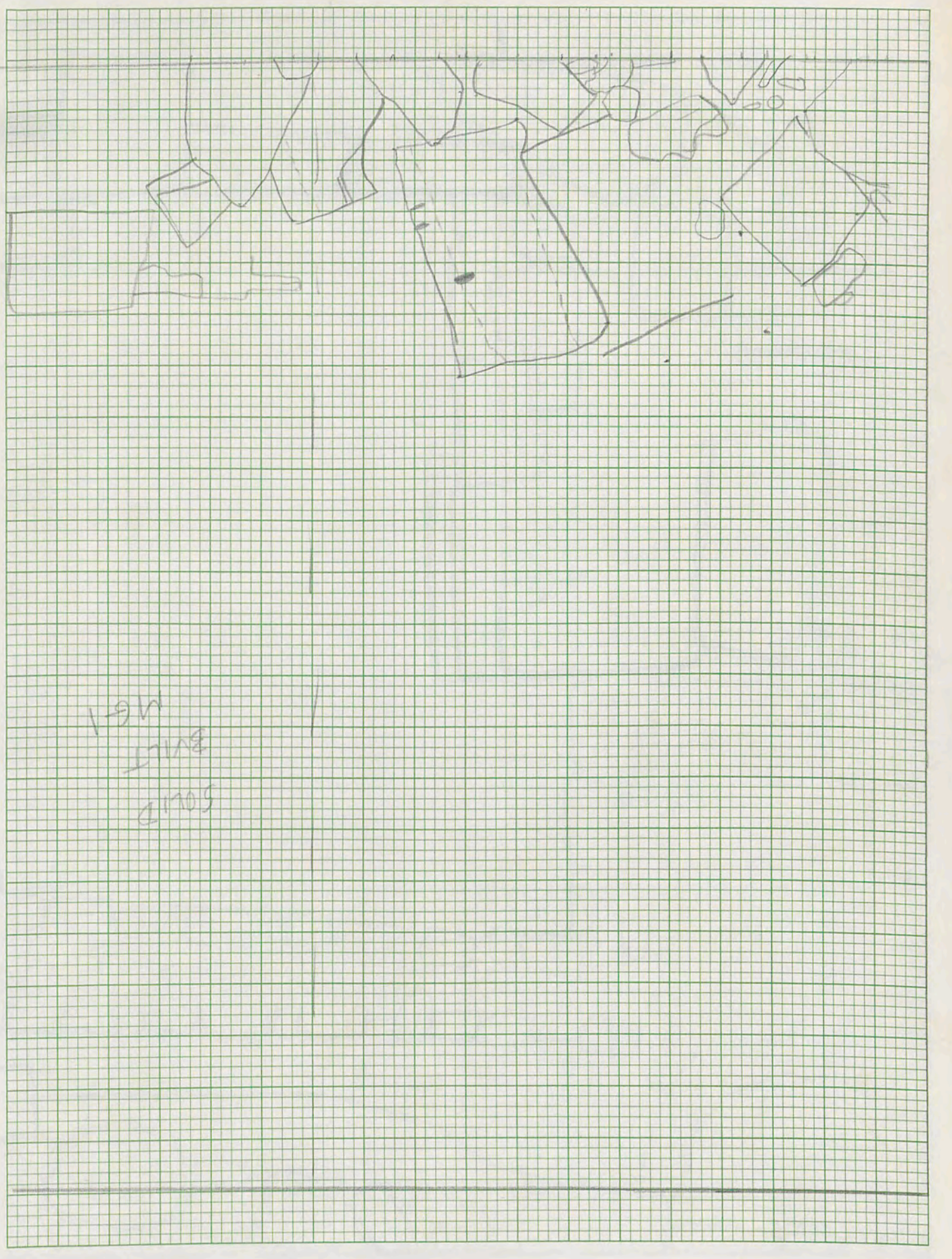
Note test conducted under current plan. Generally 1-2 m below level of ground - 20cm. After 1000 m test under current plan at level of ground - 20cm. Note test conducted under current plan. Generally 1-2 m below level of ground - 20cm. After 1000 m test under current plan at level of ground - 20cm.

A	B
46.487	714
46.710	461
47.490	646
48.520	608
49.603	594
50.680	585
51.680	594
52.620	487
53.637	467
54.36	
56.630	299
57.593	337
58.603	345
59.624	315
60.604	332
61	320



2.89/1.5  
4.25

MG-2



SOLID  
BUILT  
MG-1

A - Z

46 1610

5 X 5 TO THE CENTIMETER 18 X 24 CM.  
KEUFFEL & ESSER CO. MADE IN U.S.A.

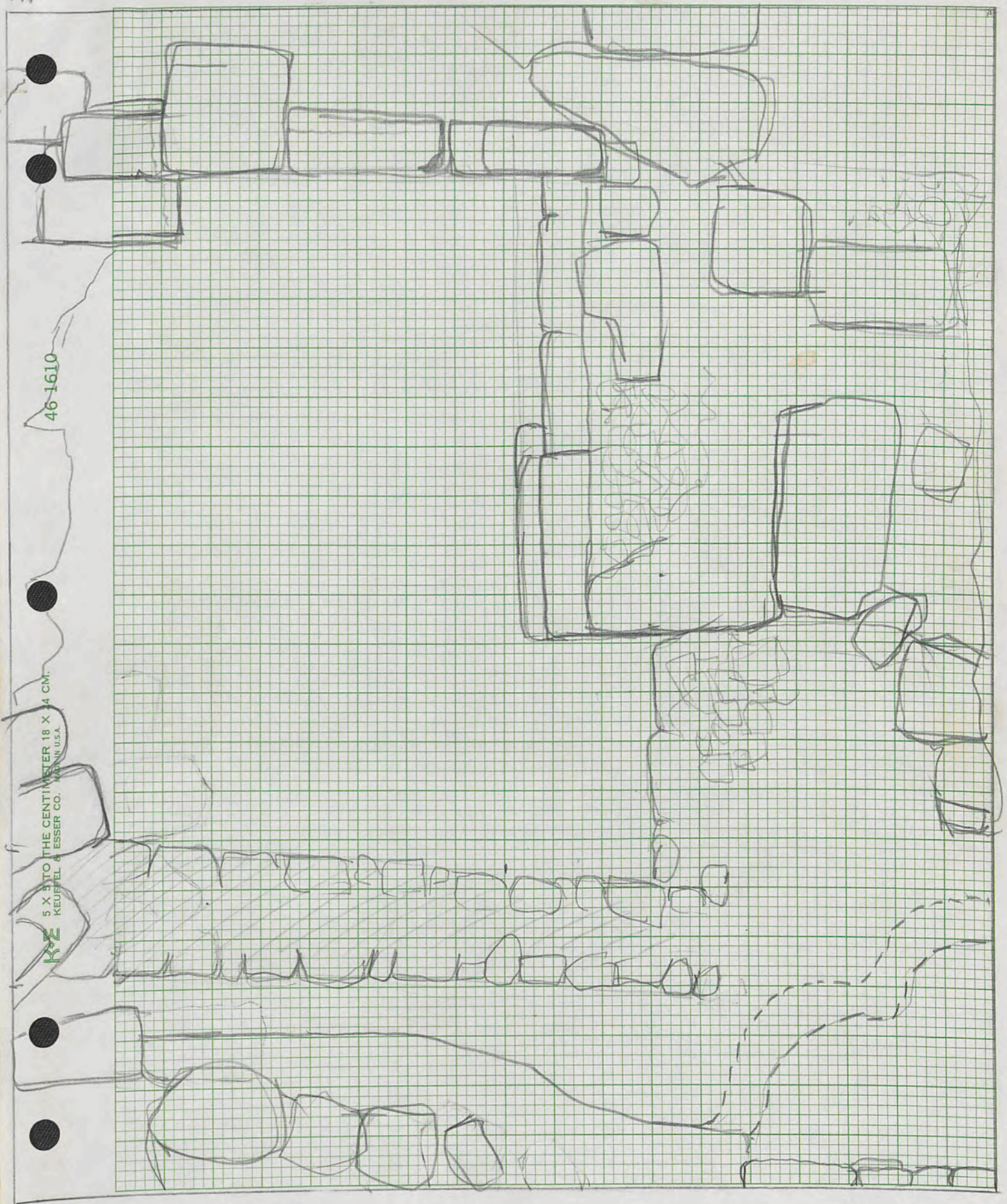


5/2

ENG 1 ?

SW

NW



46-1610

5 X 5 TO THE CENTIMETER 18 X 14 CM.  
KEUFFEL & ESSER CO. MANHATTAN, U.S.A.

SE

NE

4/2

