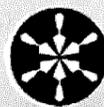


Quick Reference Test Pit Digging Guide

Step	Where to work	What to do
1	Booklet	Fill out all boxes on the front cover of your Digging an Archaeological Test Pit Excavation Record booklet.
2	On marked test pit site	Measure out your 1 m square test pit with tape, string and nails.
3	Around test pit	Measure and draw a location sketch plan to record test pit location.
4	Near test pit	Lay out your plastic sheeting at least 2 m away from test pit.
5	Booklet	Fill in details on top right-hand side of the first Context Record Sheet page in your Digging an Archaeological Test Pit Excavation Record
6	Booklet	Complete recording steps 1–4 on the Context Record Sheet , including drawing a plan of the surface of the pit in the gridded square at 1:10 scale.
7	Beside test pit	Line an empty finds tray with newspaper.
8	Beside test pit	Label a plastic resealable finds bag in permanent marker pen with the site-name, test pit number and context number, and place it in the finds tray.
9	In test pit	(Before first context ONLY) Remove turf (if present) with spade, in squares as neatly as possible.
10	In test pit & on spoil heap	Use mattock to loosen soil in test pit, and the shovel to put it into bucket. Keep the bottom of the test pit as level as possible and the sides straight. Try not to get soil on the grass.
11	On spoil heap	Sieve every bucketful of soil (holding the sieve over the plastic sheeting). Pick out of the sieve anything you see that looks man-made (these are your finds) and tip the residue onto the spoil heap on top of the plastic sheeting.
12	Beside test pit	Clean any finds and place them in the finds tray to dry (only put them in the finds bag when they are dry).
13	In test pit	Continue until you have removed 10 cm from the whole surface of the test pit.
14	In test pit	Use your trowel and hand shovel to remove all loose soil from the exposed surface and leave it level.
15	Booklet	Fill in the rest of the Context Record Sheet by filling in boxes steps 5–7.
16	Booklet	Begin your next context by starting a new Context Record Sheet , i.e. by returning to step 5.
Repeat steps 5–16 (omitting step 9) for context 2 and all subsequent contexts until you have finished your test pit, then go on to step 17.		
17	Booklet	Fill in the details on the top left hand side of the FINAL Context Record Sheet page in your Digging an Archaeological Test Pit Excavation Record complete all 7 recording steps.
18	Booklet	Fill in all parts of the final Section Drawing Sheets .
19	In test pit	Back-fill your test pit and replace turf AS NEATLY AS POSSIBLE .
20	In test pit	Tidy site, collect up and clean your equipment and return with everything to the excavation base.

Digging an Archaeological Test Pit Excavation Record

Date of excavation: 23rd June 2015 Site code/settlement name: SEDRIS
 Test-pit number: TPS3 Test-pit address: WAYSIDE COACH
 Test-pit team names:
 1. Alan Mills 3. Linda Parrott
 2. Judith Mills 4. Jane Harrison
 James Wilkinson Alex Wilkinson Andrew Wilkinson
 Lucy Stephenson Jack Stephenson



Test Pit Location Map

Site code: **SBDF15**

Test Pit number: **TP53**

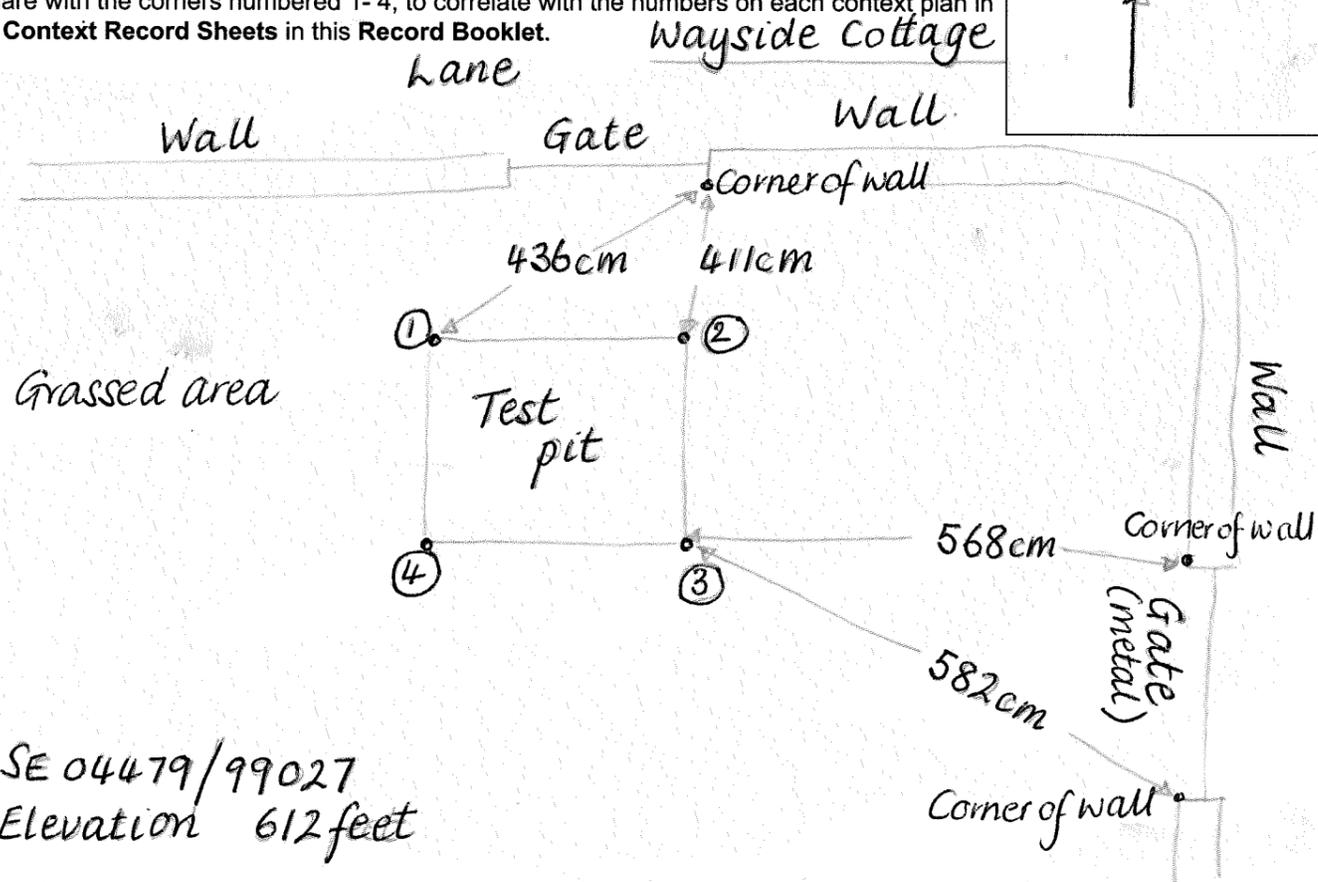
Site measured by: **Judith Mills and Linda Parrott**

Map drawn by: **Jane Harrison**

Test pit location recording checklist	
Task	Tick when completed
Measure and draw map of area around your test pit with North marked.	✓
Add written description of test-pit location	✓

1. Make a measured, labelled plan of the unexcavated surface the test pit, showing where it is in relation to features such as houses, boundaries, roads, walls etc which are marked on your Ordnance Survey map. Include lines showing the exact distances from your test pit to permanently identifiable points nearby such as buildings or field corners. Show your test pit as a square with the corners numbered 1-4, to correlate with the numbers on each context plan in the **Context Record Sheets** in this **Record Booklet**.

2. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your map:



3. Describe where your test pit is, adding any notes which help explain this to someone who doesn't know your site:

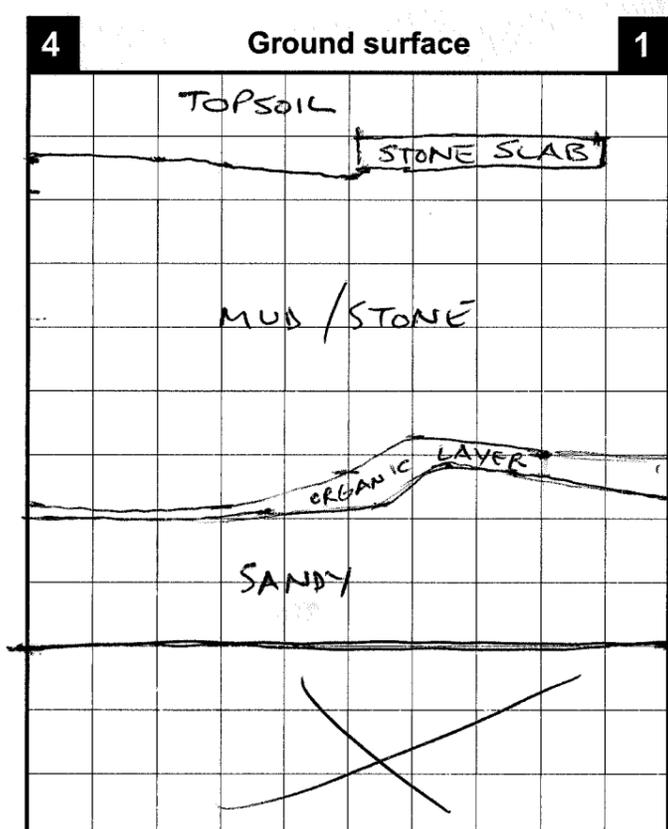
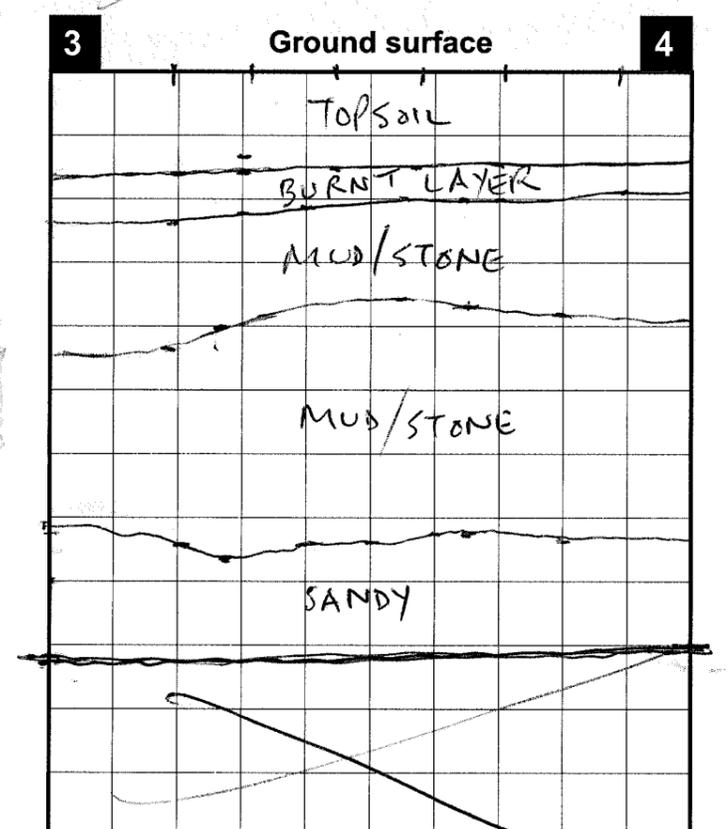
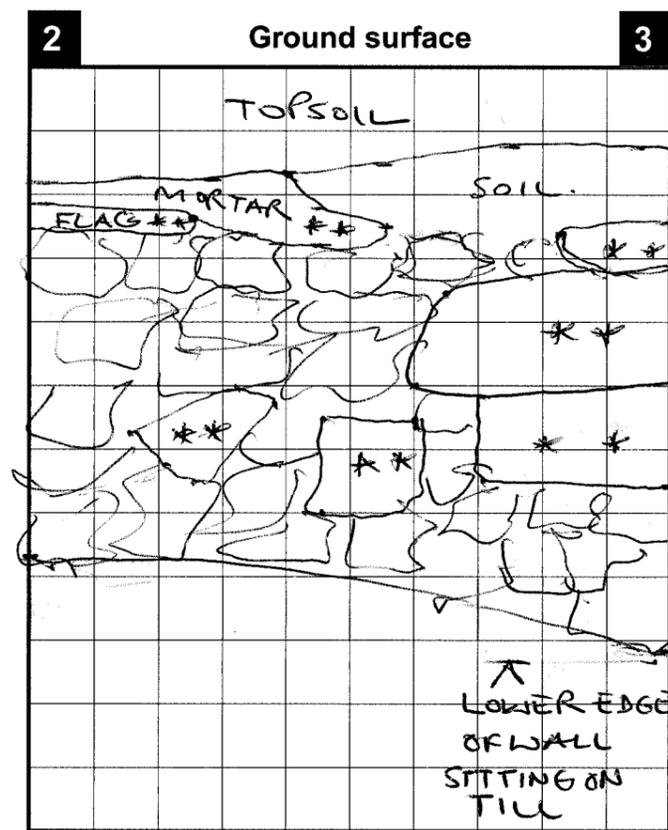
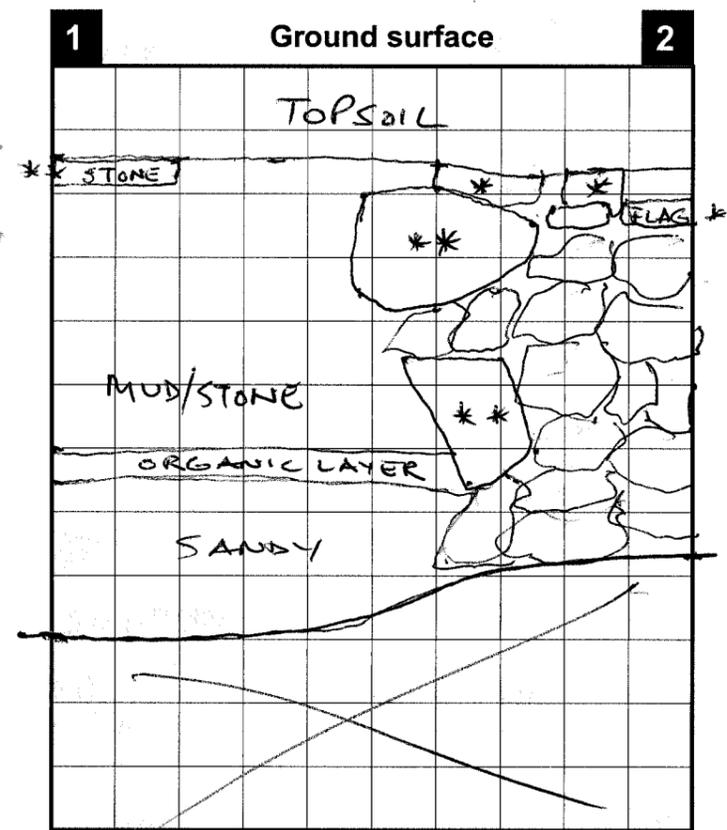
The test pit is in the triangular garden area opposite Wayside Cottage. The garden borders the main Grinton to Reeth road in Fremington.

Section Drawings

Site code: **SBDF 15**

Test Pit number: **TP53**

* MORTAR ** MEASURED





FINAL Context Record Sheet

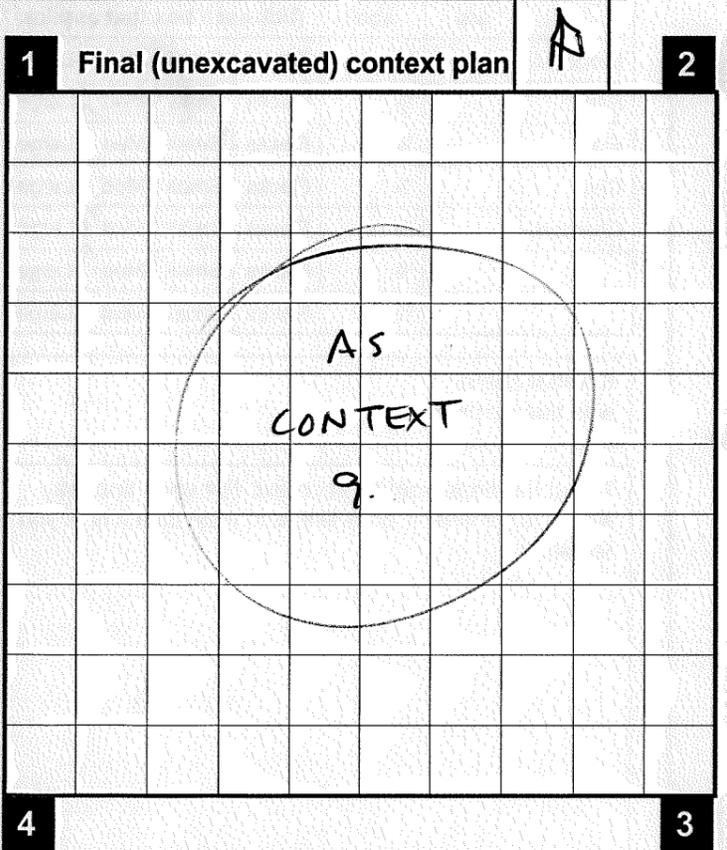
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **10**

Context recorded by: **MIKE KEENAN**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 90 2 77 3 92 4 90

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

AS CONTEXT 9

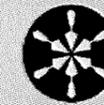
Final Context Recording task checklist

Task (complete all these before starting to backfill)	Tick when completed
Photograph surface of bottom of test pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of bottom of test pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Complete section drawings for all 4 sides of your test pit	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure all finds are clean and in clearly labelled bags	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all sections on this Final Context Recording Sheet	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Did you excavate your test pit to natural? If not, explain why you stopped digging.
YES

7. Use this space for your conclusions about how well your test-pit excavation went, what you think it revealed, any technical problems you encountered which may have affected the results, and any other thoughts that might be useful when writing up your test-pit excavation:

Dig went well. There was a slag stone across the NW corner of the pit at 10cm depth. This was removed and used to support the edge (W) of the pit - see photos. It would seem this was a remnant of a robbed out part, or perhaps sitting on top of a subterranean wall overlying NW - see photos. The wall was sitting on the natural sandy, stony soil (lower wash) at 90 cm.



Context Record Sheet

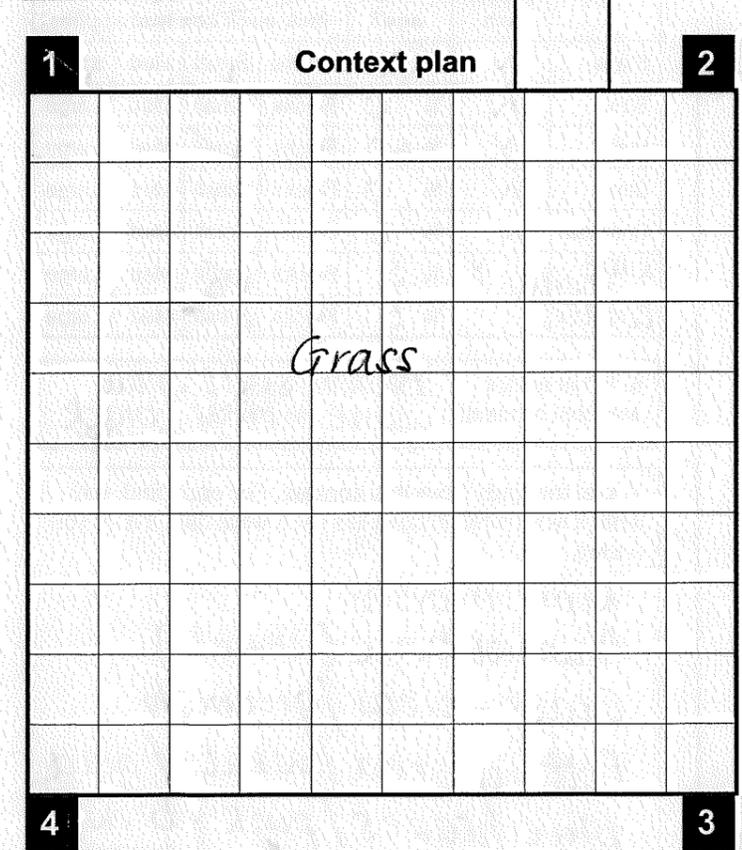
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **1**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 0 cm 2 0 cm 3 0 cm 4 0 cm

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

Grass in garden

Recording task checklist	
Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
			Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Stone	Y	% 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sand	N	% 0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soil	Y	% 98	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clay	N	% 0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charcoal	N	% 0	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Roots)	%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	%	%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. What colour was this context?: **Brown soil**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

*Glass - brown, clear
 Bone - animal - bits (fair amount)
 Pottery - blue and white glazed white glazed
 Metal - nails, metal (lots) plate, ring
 Slag
 lime mortar
 Burnt shale
 Coal 1 piece Plastic*

Context Record Sheet

Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **2**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 10cm 2 14cm 3 10cm 4 10cm

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:

Context plan

4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:
There is a large stone slab in the NW corner of the test pit.

Recording task checklist

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
			Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Stone	Y	% 30		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sand	N	% 0				
Soil	Y	% 60		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Clay	N	% 0				
Charcoal	N	% 0				
lime mortar	Y	% 5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
cinder		% 5		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

6. What colour was this context?: **Brown soils, pale lime mortar, black cinder**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

**lime mortar
Animal bone (chunk)
Glass - clear/greenish
Pottery - red/white/gold, blue glazes/pink + brown glazed.
Shell - scallop
Coal.**

Context Record Sheet

Site code: [] Test Pit number: [] Context number: []

Context recorded by: []

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 2 3 4

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:

Context plan

4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

Recording task checklist

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	%
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
			Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Stone		%				
Sand		%				
Soil		%				
Clay		%				
Charcoal		%				
		%				
		%				

6. What colour was this context?:

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

Context Record Sheet

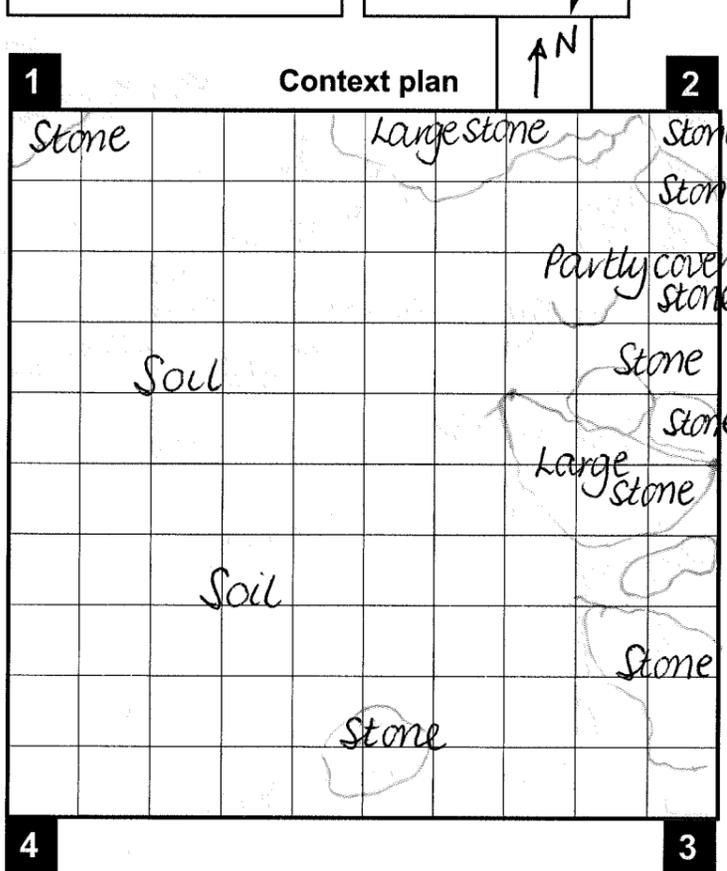
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **4**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **30cm** 2 **25cm** 3 **30cm** 4 **29cm**
(stone in way)

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:
Large stones have appeared at base and in sides. To north side, east and west side of pit. The large stone slab in the previous context has been removed.

Recording task checklist	
Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone	Y	% 50	Flecks	Small	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Med	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large
Sand	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil	Y	% 50	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal		% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **Paler brown**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).
*A few pieces of cream glazed earthen ware.
Piece of glass.
Pieces of coal/cinder
Grey crazed tile or pot*

We appear to be digging through rubble bedding of a path

Context Record Sheet

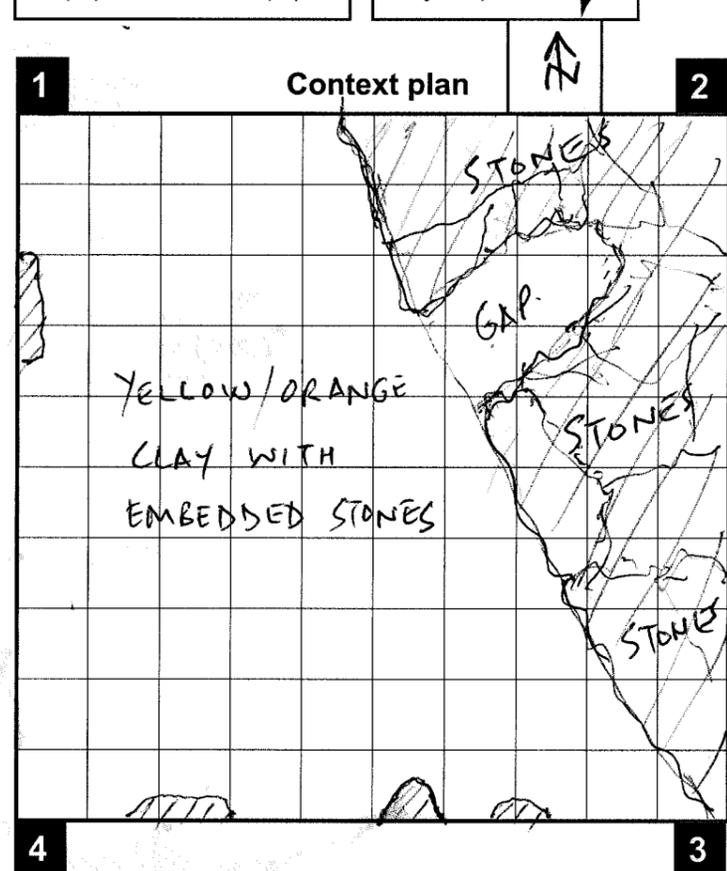
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **9**

Context recorded by: **MIKE KEENAN**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **80** 2 **77** 3 **82** 4 **81**

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

POSSIBLE WALL/REVENMENT

Recording task checklist	
Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Sand		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **4-5**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

NONE

Context Record Sheet

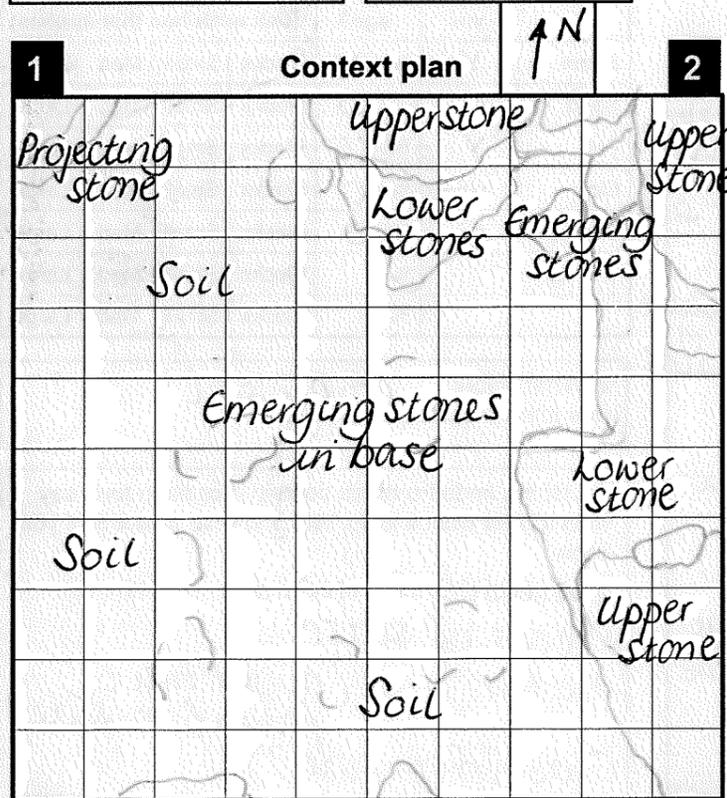
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **8**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **70cm** 2 **70cm** 3 **70cm** 4 **70cm**

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

The larger stones remain around the sides of the test pit. Smaller stones are emerging from the floor of the pit which is still soil.

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone	Y	% 25	Flecks	Small	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Med	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large
Sand		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil	Y	% 75	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **Pale brown**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

~~Glass x2~~
~~Nail (wire - fall in from site?)~~
1 v. small piece of pot
2x small lime mortar
1x small chunk lime mortar.

Context Record Sheet

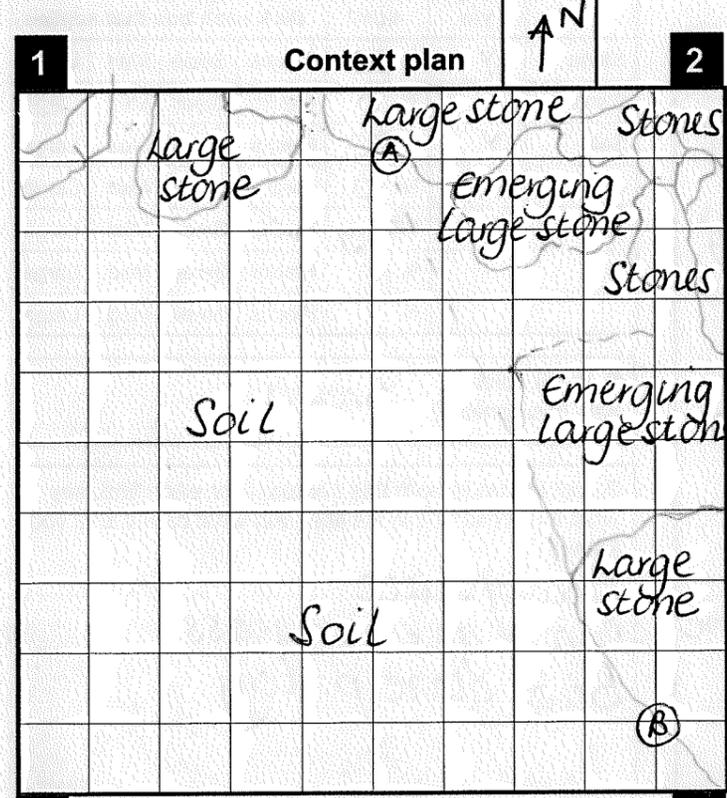
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **5**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **40cm** 2 **25cm** 3 **40cm** 4 **40cm**.
(stone)

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:

Large stones at NW, N, NE, SE sides are still in pit. More are emerging near corner @. We appear to be digging through rubble bedding of a path. Still soil in most of test pit.

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled inds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone	Y	% 30	Flecks	Small	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Med	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large
Sand	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil	Y	% 70	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
(Slate piece)		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **Brown**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).

A wall is starting to appear from approximately @ to @ on the plan as digging progresses through context. Rubble possibly from the wall core is appearing
Greenglass / white glass pieces
Coal
White glazed pottery.
Slate
Coal
lime mortar

Context Record Sheet

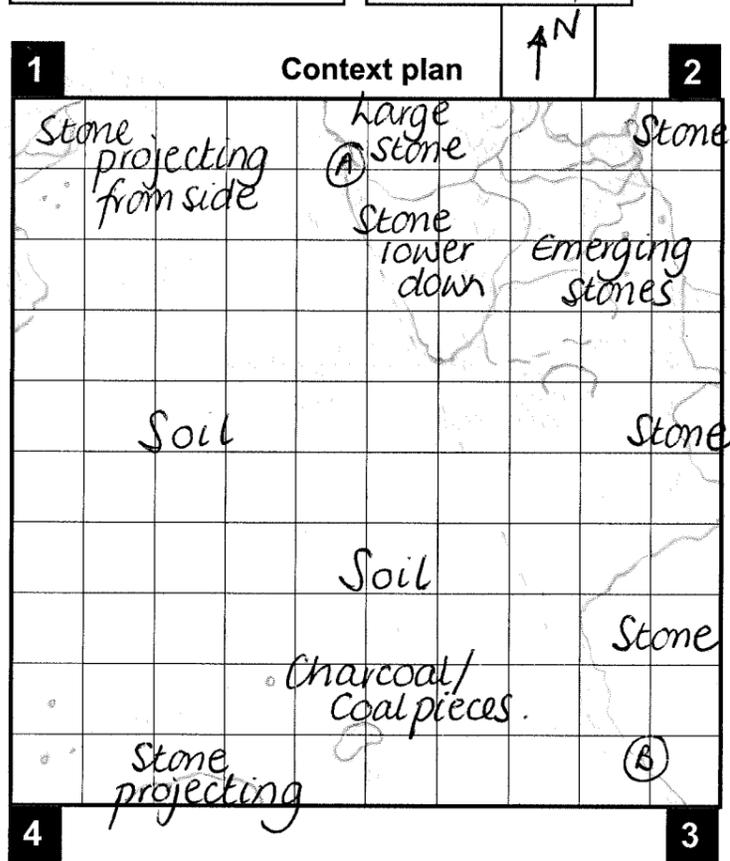
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **6**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **49cm** 2 **53cm** 3 **50cm** 4 **50cm**
(bypassing stone)

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:
Remains of flagged path sitting on mortar above a drystone wall?? line (A)-(B) 19th pot found under flagstones.

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone	Y	% 20	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Sand	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil	Y	% 80	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal	Y	% Tiny	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **Brown**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).
**Piece of slate
Piece of greenish glass
Beige glaze pottery
lime mortar
Coal**

Context Record Sheet

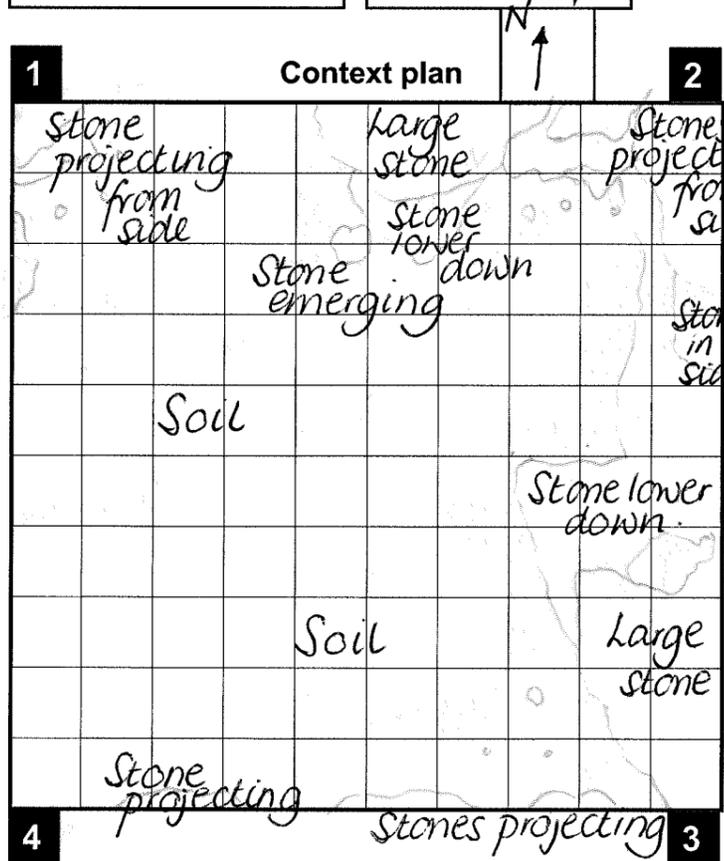
Site code: **SBDF15** Test Pit number: **TP53** Context number: **7**

Context recorded by: **Jane Harrison**

1. What depth is the surface of the top of this context at the four corners of your test pit (numbered in black boxes below)?
1 **60cm** 2 **60cm** 3 **60cm** 4 **60cm**

2. Make a measured, labelled plan of this context in the gridded square below (1 cm on paper = 10 cm in pit)

3. Draw an arrow here pointing in the direction of North on your plan:



4. Describe what you've drawn on the plan, adding any notes which help explain what you have shown on your plan:
The stones around the side of the pit remain. more stones have appeared through the soil in the E N and NE sections of the pit.

Task	Tick when completed
Photograph top of layer before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Draw plan of top of context before starting to dig it	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dig context, sieve spoil, keep and record finds (record percentage sieved)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 100 %
Clean finds and place in clearly labelled finds tray to dry with labeled bag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fill in all of this Context Record Sheet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Complete the boxes below to show what (apart from finds) was in this context (write non-listed inclusions into blank row if necessary):

	Present y/n	Percentage?	Particle size (tick each box that applies)			
Stone	Y	% 20	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Sand	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Soil	Y	% 80	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Clay	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
Charcoal	N	% 0	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large
		%	Flecks	Small	Med	Large

6. What colour was this context?: **Darker soil**

7. List the finds from this context. For each find, say what it is (or what it looks like) and what date it is (if you know).
**Indescent glass
Pieces of slate
Modern nail (might have fallen from side?)
Glass (from side?)**