

**JEFFERSON PROPERTY, PHASE III:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**Heritage Research Permit A2006NS59**



**March 2007**

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Submitted to:  
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**JEFFERSON PROPERTY, PHASE III:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**Heritage Research Permit A2006NS59  
Category C**

**Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited**

**Principal Investigator:** April D. MacIntyre  
**Report Compiled by:** April D. MacIntyre & Stephen A. Davis

*Cover:* Visible remains of the Jefferson Property house in 2006, looking southeast.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

In August 2006, Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited was contracted by Halifax Regional Municipality to conduct a phase III archaeological resource impact assessment of the proposed Fall River Recreational Facility and Fire Station at the Jefferson Property on Fall River Road. The purpose of the assessment was to fully document and more clearly define the archaeological features identified and recorded in December 2004 and to determine the function of a feature identified near the southeast corner of the Jefferson house. These features are to be capped with fill prior to construction and artificially delineated through landscaping. The paddock wall identified in 2004 will be dismantled.

The assessment was conducted under Category C Heritage Research Permit A2006NS59 issued by the Nova Scotia Heritage Division. This report conforms to the standards required by the Heritage Division under the Special Places program.

## **2.0 DEVELOPMENT AREA**

The development area encompasses approximately four hectares on the west side of Lake Thomas on Fall River Road (Figure 2.0-1). A detailed historical background study of this area was conducted by Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited in 2004 under Heritage Research Permit A2004NS82.

Two previous archaeological assessments were conducted on the property by Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited. The remains of a house, barn, well, paddock, and field clearings were recorded and testing was conducted around the perimeter of the house and well under Heritage Research Permit A2004NS90. During that time, an unidentified feature believed to be a midden or privy was also discovered to the southeast of the house. Artifacts recovered during testing indicated that the site dates to the mid to late nineteenth century. The site was the home of Fall River's first black family who were occupying the land by 1853. The land was occupied by Selena Jefferson until her death in 1964.

## **3.0 STUDY AREA**

The study area includes the entire development zone, although testing was conducted only on the feature to the southeast of the house, the well, and the east side of the paddock wall near its north end where a surface midden was identified. The footing and cellar of the house was cleaned of brush and delineated. Along with the barn, well, and the paddock wall, the house was photographed in its entirety.

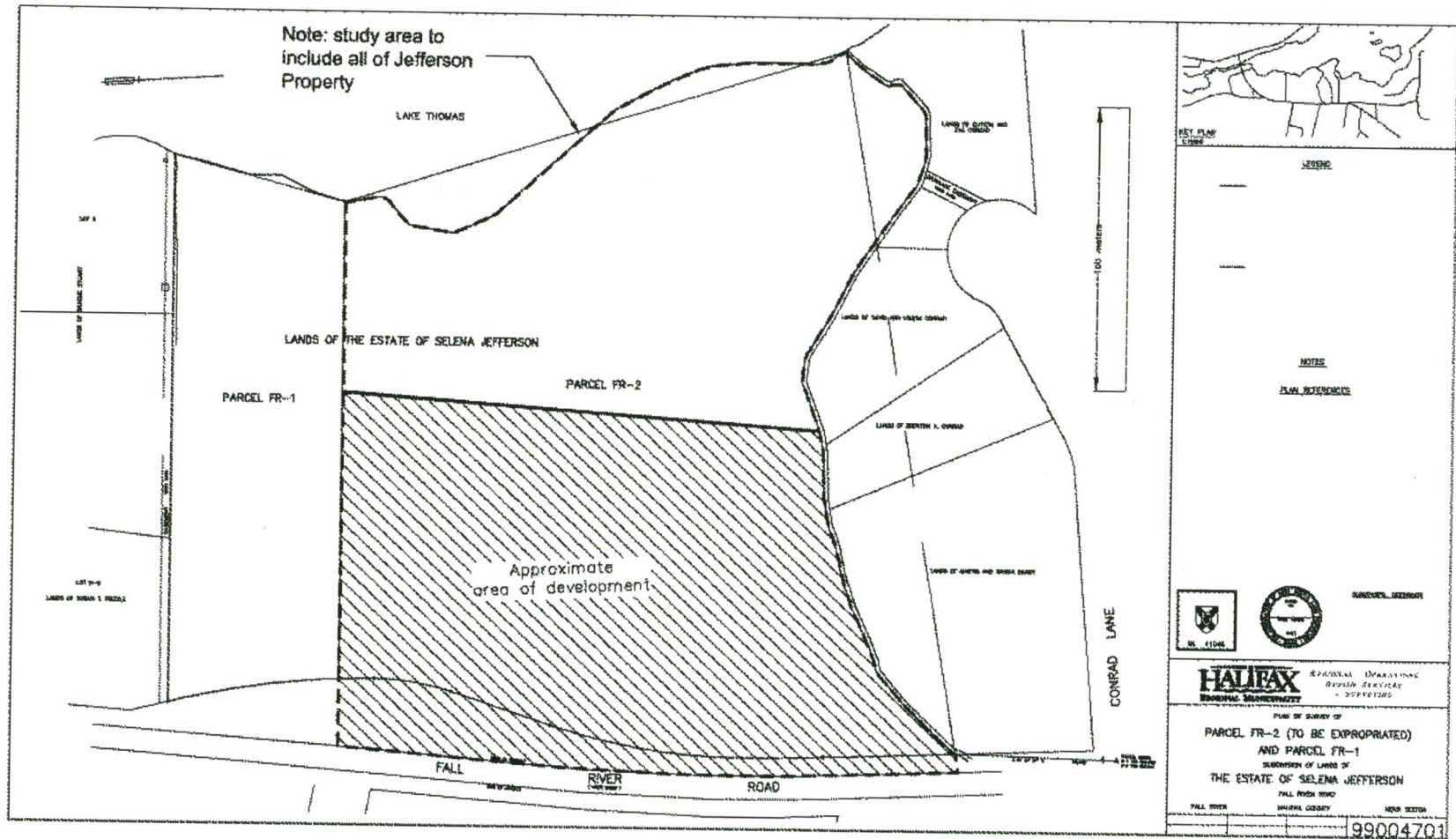


Figure 2.0-1: Map of the development area, courtesy Halifax Regional Municipality (2004).

#### 4.0 METHODOLOGY

The third phase of the archaeological assessment commenced on 31 July 2006. The crew began by clearing brush from the walls of the house foundation in order to delineate the feature (Plate 1). A buffer of approximately 0.5 metre wide around the perimeter of the feature was cleared as well as the interior. This allowed for the relocation of the test units which were excavated in December 2004 as the wooden stakes were left in place for future investigation. Once the house foundation was cleared and delineated, efforts were focussed on clearing the area to the southeast of the house so that the original test unit (N70 W40) which revealed an archaeological feature here could be relocated. A representative sample of artifacts was collected from the surface during ground clearance.

One metre square test units were laid out over the feature to the southeast of the house, running along the same base line as the 2004 test units in order to maintain consistency in designating the test units. Each unit was designated by its northwest corner coordinates. A total of twelve square metres were excavated in this feature (Figure 4.0-1, Plate 2). The units were excavated stratigraphically by trowel. Each stratum was assigned a lot number according to its soil characteristics and, thus, its associated event. Lot 1 was comprised of black ash and decayed organic matter as well as cultural materials related to domestic dumping of ash and household refuse. Lot 2 was comprised of a medium brown sandy loam with fine roots and cultural materials related to a domestic dumping episode. Lot 3 was assigned to the natural orange/brown sandy till (Plate 3). Artifacts were found only at the interface between the sod or leaf mould and lot 3. A profile of the west wall of the units along the W40 line as well as a plan of each of the units was drawn to scale and photographed (Figure 4.0-2). The units were backfilled following excavation and recording.

Six one metre square units were excavated to the natural till around the exterior perimeter of the well (Figure 4.0-3). The interior of the well could not be excavated due to inward collapse of the feature. Removal of the collapsed stones inside the well was not possible by hand and would have severely compromised the structural integrity of the feature. However, the surface litter and soil was removed inside the well to reveal the stone collapse (Plate 4). Lot 1 consisted of medium brown gravelly loam associated with natural, post abandonment accumulation. Artifacts were collected from this lot. Lot 2 consisted of the orange/brown natural till. A plan of the units and the exposed portion of the well was drawn and photographed and the feature backfilled around the perimeter.

A surface midden on the east side of the paddock wall was tested in four one metre square units running parallel to the wall one metre east of it (Plate 5). The units were excavated to the depth of natural till and several artifacts collected. Lot 1 consisted of decayed leaf mould and pine needles and dark brown to black organic loam associated with natural post abandonment accumulation. Lot 2 was comprised of very fine medium brown sand with ferrous chemistry resulting from rusting tin cans, charcoal smears and fine roots. Lot 2 was associated with a domestic dumping event dating to the turn of twentieth century or later.

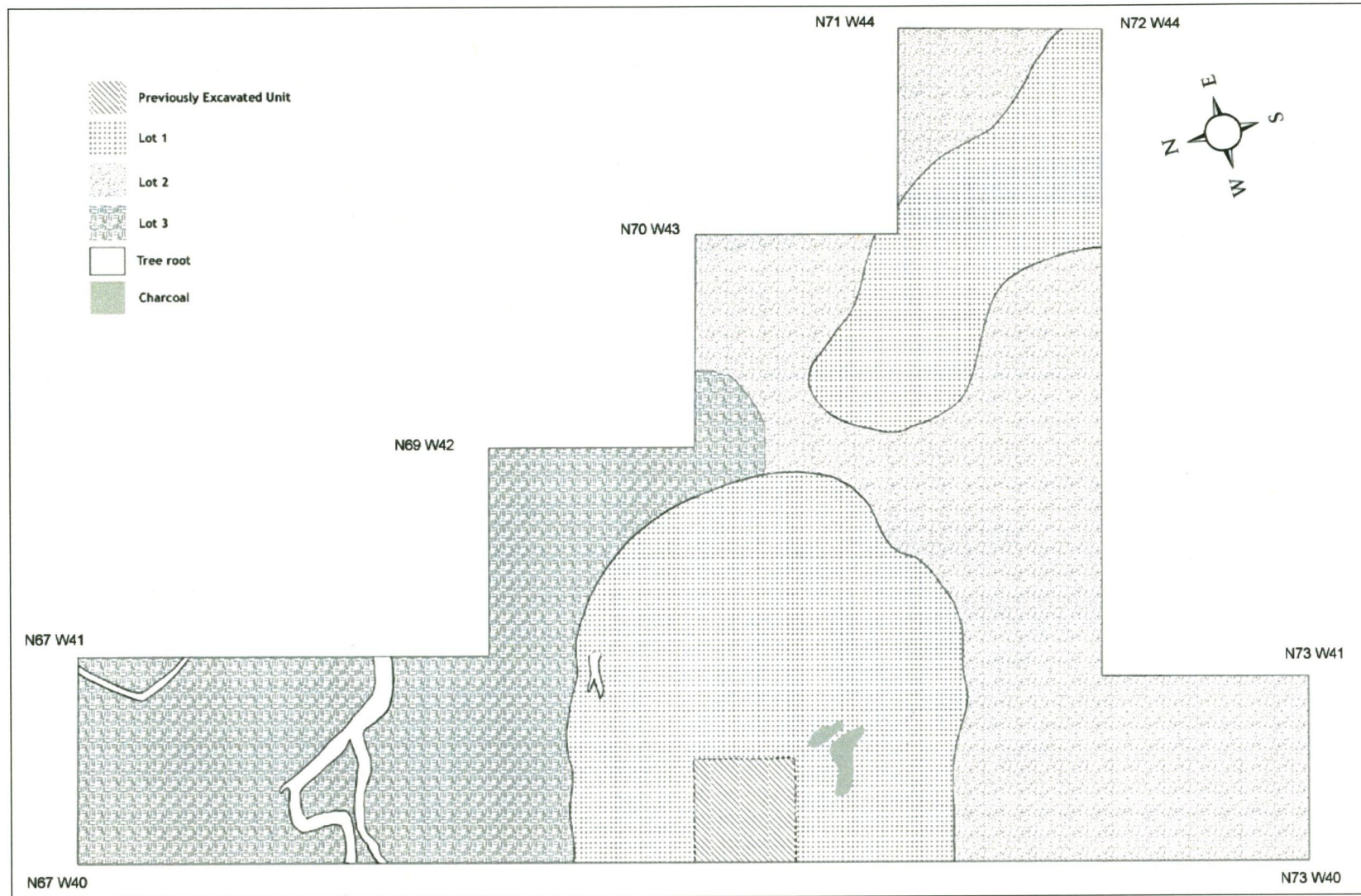


Figure 4.0-1: Plan of excavation units southeast of house. Scale 1:10.



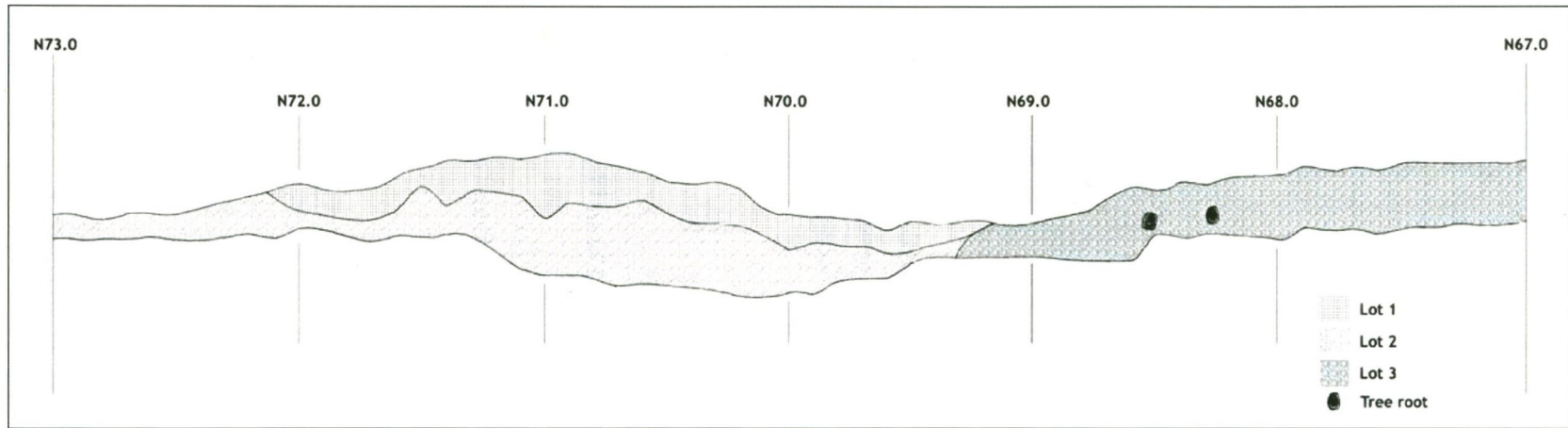
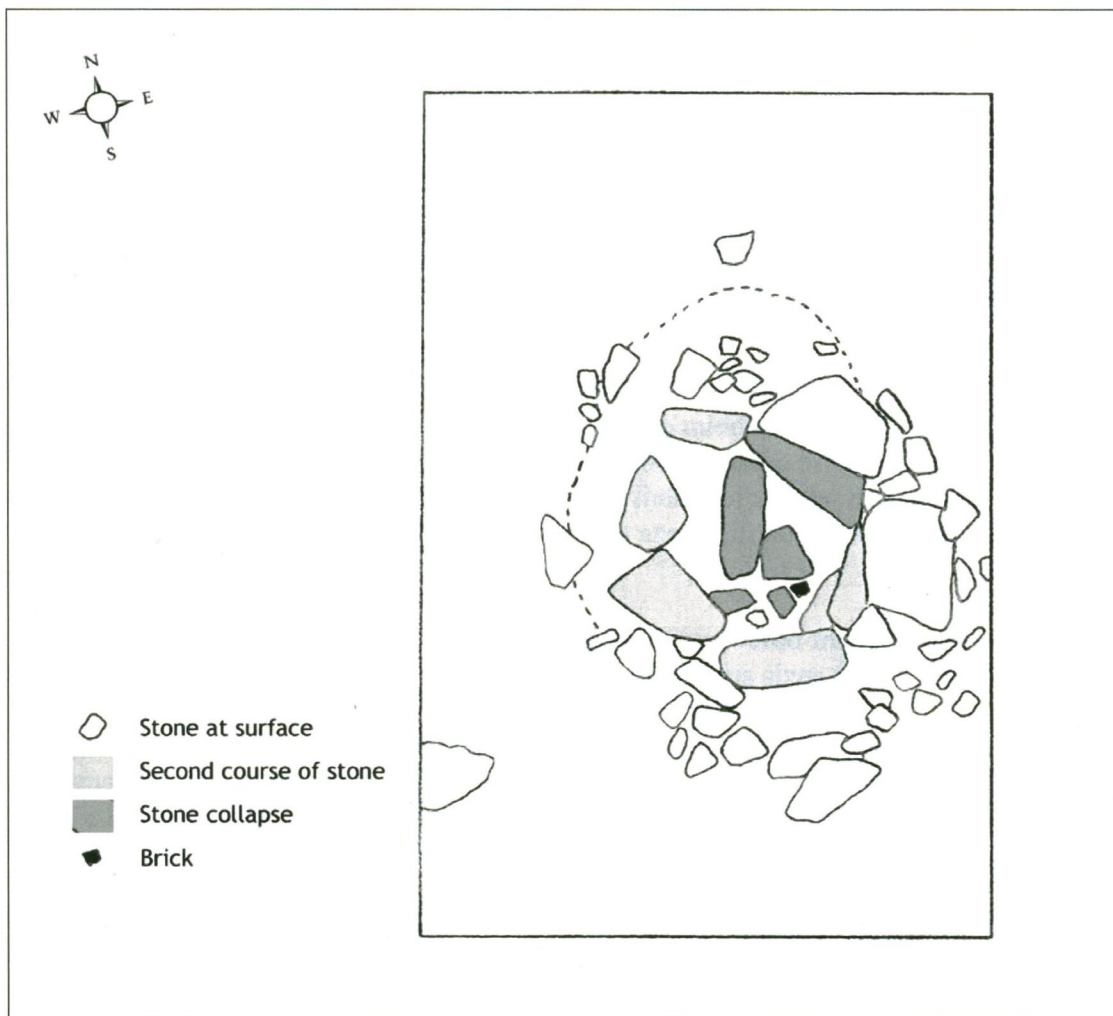


Figure 4.0-2: Profile of west wall along the W40 line. Scale 1:10.



**Figure 4.0-3: Plan of the excavation of the well. Scale 1:10.**

Finally, all features recorded during the 2004 assessment were photographed in detail.

## 5.0 RESOURCE INVENTORY

A total of 979 artifacts were collected, mended and catalogued during this phase of investigation. Due to mending of several artifacts and collective cataloguing, a total of 302 objects were entered into the final catalogue. Thirty six metal and organic artifacts have been treated by a certified archaeological conservator and are now stable. These include clothing buckles, buttons, nails, cutlery, sewing scissors, pliers, an axe head, and other items (Plates 6 – 8).

Most of the items date to the late nineteenth or turn of the twentieth century and are highly fragmented (Plate 9). Many artifacts from the midden to the south of the house have been burned. Some relationship can be seen between the artifacts in this midden and the midden inside the paddock wall. Several sherds of similar orange transfer-printed whiteware plates and green transfer printed plates appear in both contexts and may be part of the same vessels.

Thirty-nine fragments of terra cotta flower pots were recovered from two square metres in the paddock midden and represent flower pots of various sizes (Plate 10).

A large assemblage of tin cans, numbering in the hundreds, was discovered in both middens. Several were of the key-wind opened variety in which the lid is peeled back using a key which the tin winds around (as in modern-day sardine cans). This type of can dates back as early as 1866 and was common for packing meats as well as fish.<sup>1</sup>

A ½ lb. check stamped with the name “G. A. Cook & Co. Halifax, NS” was recovered from the midden behind the house and can be attributed to local grocer George A. Cook who operated a store at 62 Gottingen Street near Cornwallis Street (Plate 11). Cook was in business as early as 1889 and continued into the twentieth century.<sup>2</sup> The presence of this check indicates that while Fall River was still a rural settlement at the turn of the twentieth century, residents there had access to urban markets in the city and therefore played a role in urban commerce.

## 6.0 EVALUATION OF RESEARCH

The study of African American yards is a recent phenomenon in North American, Caribbean, and continental African archaeology.<sup>3</sup> In historic diaspora<sup>4</sup> contexts, the yard is seen as an extension of the house – the two comprising a private space in which day to day activities are carried out and the “nucleus within which the culture expresses itself, is

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<sup>1</sup> Rock, 2000:278.

<sup>2</sup> McAlpine, 1890:84; 1901:181.

<sup>3</sup> Gundaker, 1998; Heath and Bennett, 2000; MacLeod-Leslie, 2001.

<sup>4</sup> The term *diaspora* refers to the dispersal of the ethnic population of African peoples and their descendants throughout the world and the maintenance and transformation of African culture as a result.

perpetuated, changed and reintegrated".<sup>5</sup> African diaspora landscape archaeology in the West Indies and America has shown a continuity of cultural practices first noted during the slave era and still present in twentieth century communities. This continuity includes the use of yards for subsistence activities including the cultivation of fruit trees, vegetable plots, herbs, ornamental plants, and medicinal and cosmetic plants close to the house. Livestock rearing, socializing, and recreation were also carried out near the house. These activities were important elements in self-sustainability.<sup>6</sup> Physical proximity between the living and dead was also important in order to maintain and foster a relationship with the ancestors.<sup>7</sup>

The historic landscape of the Jefferson Property suggests that these may have been important elements to the local African Nova Scotia community as well. The location of the paddock and orchard and the preponderance of flower pots, which may have been used for horticulture in addition to decorative plant cultivation, are indications of a self-sustaining household which likely contributed to community subsistence as well. The proximity of the church and the cemetery to the north suggests that spirituality played an important role in daily life.

## 7.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Subsurface testing showed that the feature to the southeast of the house is associated with a midden resulting dumping of ash and domestic refuse in the late nineteenth to early twentieth century. It appears that a pit may have been dug for the purpose of this dumping episode. The deposit was fairly shallow at less than 0.60 metres below surface. This, along with the age of the artifacts, suggests this was a short term dumping episode. A sheet refuse scatter (a thin layer of ash and debris) was also discovered on the southeast side of the midden which is associated with the same dumping episode. This area will be capped with fill and, therefore, no additional mitigation is recommended for this area.

Subsurface excavation of the well was limited to cleaning around the top of the feature so as to define its limits. Safety concerns and interior collapse prevented excavation inside the well. Again, because this area will be capped, no additional mitigation is recommended.

Finally, testing in one area along the length of the paddock wall where surface refuse was visible showed that this dumping episode was concurrent with that in the midden behind the house. Additional surface refuse could be seen in several areas along the east and west sides of the paddock wall. Because controlled excavation was conducted in this area, no additional excavation is recommended at this time. However, it is recommended that the proposed demolition of the paddock wall as well as grubbing and grading in this area be monitored by a qualified archaeologist.

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<sup>5</sup> Heath and Bennett, 2000:43.

<sup>6</sup> Heath and Bennett, 2000: 40-43.

<sup>7</sup> Gundaker, 1998:15-17.

The archaeological features were mapped by Terrain Group in 2005 and copies of the survey are on file at the Nova Scotia Museum and Halifax Regional Municipality Transportation and Public Works department. In addition, copies of the proposed development plans by Sperry & Partners Architects are on file at HRM. Both the Terrain Group survey and Sperry & Partners Architects development plans are appended to this report in digital format. Comparison of the maps will show the relationship between the proposed development and the archaeological features.

## 8.0 REFERENCES CITED

- Gundaker, Grey. 1998. *Keep Your Head to the Sky: Interpreting African American Home Ground*. University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville.
- Heath, Barbara J. and Amber Bennett. 2000. " 'The little Spots allow'd them': The Archaeological Study of African-American Yards." *Historical Archaeology* 34(2):38-55. The Society for Historical Archaeology, Pennsylvania.
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- Rock, James T. 2000. "Cans in the Countryside". In *Approaches to Material Culture Research for Historical Archaeologists*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Compiled by David R. Brauner. Pennsylvania, Society for Historical Archaeology.

**PLATES**



Plate 1: Jefferson House in 2006 after clearing of brush and grass, looking southeast.



Plate 2: Crew setting up 1-metre by 1-metre excavation units along the W40 line southeast of the house, looking south.



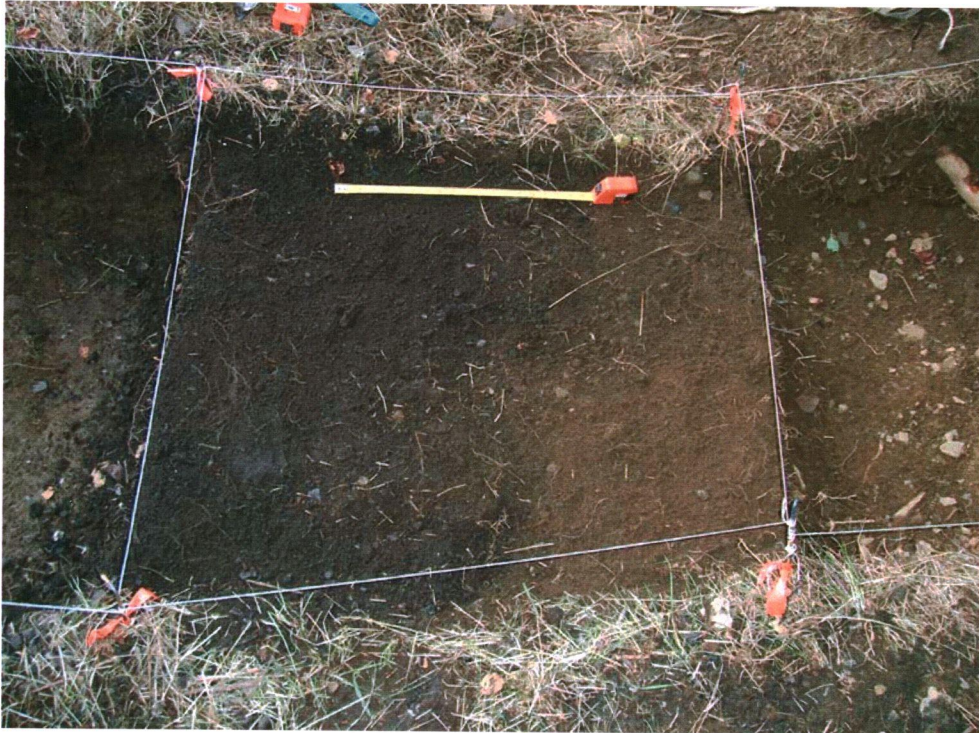


Plate 3: Unit N69 W40 showing the transition between lot 1 (black ash and organic midden deposit) and lot 3 (natural till), facing west.



Plate 4: Excavation of the top of the well in six 1-metre by 1-metre units, looking east.

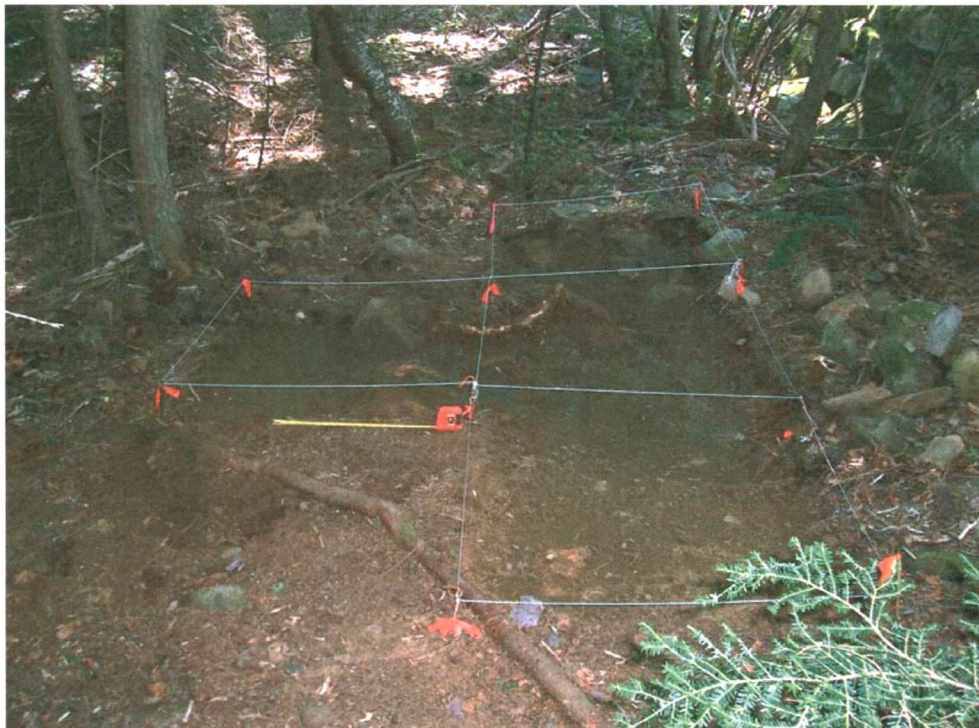


Plate 5: Excavation of four 1-metre by 1-metre units on the east side of the paddock wall, looking south.



Plate 6: Clothing-related metal artifacts after conservation treatment. Clockwise from upper left: a suspender clip, a decorative shoe buckle, a button, and a clip for overalls.



Plate 7: Sewing scissors recovered from the midden behind the paddock wall.



Plate 8: Conserved copper alloy spoon, recovered from the midden behind the paddock wall, and knife from the midden behind the house.



Plate 9: Hand painted whiteware tea cup from the paddock midden.



Plate 10: A small terra cotta flower pot from the paddock midden.



Plate 11: 1/2 lb. check from George A. Cook's grocery store, recovered from the midden behind the house, showing both sides of the token.

**APPENDIX A:  
HERITAGE RESEARCH PERMIT**



Nova Scotia Museum  
Special Places Protection Act,  
R.S.N.S. 1989

Application for  
**Heritage  
Research Permit**  
(Archaeology)

Permit No. **A2006NS59**

(Original becomes Permit when approved  
by the Executive Director of the Nova  
Scotia Museum)

The undersigned April MacIntyre  
of c/o 6519 Oak Street, Halifax, NS B3L 1H6  
representing (institution) Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited

hereby applies for a permit under Section 8 of the Special Places Protection Act to carry out archaeological investigations during the period:

from 31 July 2006 to 31 December 2006

at Jefferson Property (Phase III)

general location Fall River Road

specific location(s) (cite Borden numbers and UTM designations where appropriate)

NAD83 UTM 20 T E451312 N4962495

and as described separately in accordance with the attached Project Description. Please refer to the appropriate Archaeological Heritage Research Permit Guidelines for the appropriate Project Description format.

I certify that I am familiar with the provisions of the Special Places Protection Act of Nova Scotia, and that I will abide by the terms and conditions listed in the Heritage Research Permit Guidelines for the category (check one).

- Category A - Archaeological Reconnaissance
- Category B - Archaeological Research
- Category C - Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment

Signature of applicant April MacIntyre Date 04 July 2006

Approved: [Signature] Date July 12/06  
Executive Director

**APPENDIX B:  
FIELD NOTES**



**July 31, 2006**

Crew: myself, Sarah Kingston, and Karen Kierstead.

Arrived on site at 9:04. Sunny and warm (22°C). Site is very grown over since our last field work here in 2004. Began clearing brush from walls of house clearing about a 0.50 m buffer on either side of walls in order to delineate the structure. Northwest corner is difficult to delineate as the west and north walls of the house addition are wood sills sitting on the ground.

Does not appear to be any disturbance to site since our last work. Wooden stakes used to mark units excavated in 2004 are not apparent although they may be obscured by overgrowth.

Midden area is also significantly overgrown and needs to be cleared before we can accurately relocate the unit excavated in 2004 (N70 W40).

By 2:30, much of the house was cleared and we moved on to clearing a path to the midden area and clearing the midden area itself. Very hot now (27°C) and very little wind. Mosquitoes and deer flies are bothersome.

Site visit at 3:15 from Ann Marie Duggan and Jeff Oakes.

Artifacts exposed on surface include beer bottle glass (inc. one complete stubby), rusted metal sheeting (unidentified), decorative pink glass (moulded), coarse stoneware (CST) crock sherds (collected), clear and green bottle glass, window glass, bricks, cast iron stove fragments (flue cover, leg, etc.), ceramics (20<sup>th</sup> century white refined earthenware, vitrified earthenware), tin and aluminum cans, concrete.

**August 1, 2006**

9:00. Sunny and warm (17°C). Finished clearing around the house yesterday afternoon. Today we will start clearing around the midden. Crew spent some time going over 2004 reports first thing this morning while I took notes. Discovered that there is a wasp nest in the northeast corner of the cellar under the foundation stones.

We will be working in a shaded area today beneath a large apple tree which should be more pleasant than yesterday. Expected high for the day is 27°C.

Located the unit marker for N70 W40 by 10:00. Continued clearing around it and took a break at 10:15 so I could plan the unit layout.

Took lunch at 12:00. Returned at 12:30 and started laying out units. Units were laid out by 1:30. Six 1 m by 1 m units:

N71 W40	N70 W40	N69 W40	N68 W40	N67 W40	N66 W40
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Upper lot in N68 W40 and N67 W40 is medium brown sandy loam with roots and small (up to 5 cm sized) stones (lot 2). Some cultural material including nails and ceramics. Soil in N70 W40, on the other hand, is loose crumbly black organic and ash (lot 1). Burned wood, charcoal, and calcined bone.

By the end of the day, N70 W40 was still in lot 1. In units N68 W40 and N67 W40, the midden deposit is not showing up.

N70 W40 – broken mortar in southeast quadrant of unit. Area that was previously dug is not readily apparent in the unit, although I did note a relative absence of artifacts in the 0.50 m by 0.50 m area at the northwest corner of the unit (wire nails only which were discarded back into the unit in 2004).

Started cleaning up our units and the remainder of the site at 3:40. Sun is less intense now. Expected showers tonight and tomorrow morning (6mm). Headed out at 4:00.

### **August 2, 2006**

Arrived on site at 9:00. Units are a little wet but not difficult to dig in. Rain we had overnight was not enough to make things muddy. Now overcast and foggy but warm (18°C). Expected high today is 30°C with humidex of 40°C. Lots of flies already.

Charcoal smear 31 cm (east-west) by 23 cm (north-south) in south end of unit. Rodent hole 26 cm long and 12 cm wide crossing southwest corner in lot 2. Sandy medium brown loam mottled with charcoal in lot 2. Nails (wire and cut), mortar and shale. Depth below surface to top of lot 2 (measured from northwest corner of unit) is 13 cm.

*\*All depth measurements are from northwest corner of unit, unless otherwise specified.*

Rodent hole extends into the walls and continues into N71 W40 and N70 W39.

Took lunch break at 12:00. Returned at 12:30. Much hotter now (27°C) and sunny. There is a slight breeze.

2:20 – Rodent hole in SW corner of N70 W40 is quite large (28 cm wide by 16 cm deep). Depth below surface of top of rodent hole at SW corner is 48 cm. Periwinkle shells, shredded plastic, chestnut shells, and seeds in rodent hole as well as a rat skull.

N67 W40, interface between lot 2 and lot 3: whetstone found at 21 cm below surface. Large root in NE corner.

N68 W40, lot 3: large roots throughout unit. Getting difficult for Sarah to dig. Only artifacts are a few pieces of ceramic and a few nails.

Started packing up at 3:45. Reached sterile (lot 3) in N70 W40. Depth below surface is 39 cm. It is clear that the feature does not extend into N68 W40. No artifacts coming out of N68 W40 or N67 W40. Soil is compacted gravelly medium brown sandy loam. Large roots from adjacent apple tree to the east. N67 W40 depth below surface is 28 cm. N68 W40 depth below surface is 23 cm.

### **August 4, 2006**

9:00 Overcast and cool (17°C). Good day for digging. Showers expected this afternoon. No field work yesterday due to rain in the morning. Ground is still fairly wet this morning. Opening units N69 W40 (Sarah) and N71 W40 (Karen). I will begin setting up an east-west trench along the N69 line as the edge of the feature can already be seen in N71 W40.

After close inspection of Karen's unit (N71 W40) just below the sod, it is clear that the midden is extending further south beyond her unit. Instead of opening the east-west trench, I will begin excavating N72 W40.

N69 W40 and N72 W40, lot 3 is medium brown sandy loam with gravel (same as in N67 and 68 W40). Lot 1 is black organic crumbly ash and loam (same as in N70 W40).

N72 W40 – reached sterile by 11:00 at 17 cm below surface.

Lunch at 12:00. Returned at 12:30. We've had a few light misty showers this morning but it has been very pleasant for digging. Still cool (about 17°C) °C.

I am opening up N71 W41 now. Just got sod off at 1:00 when heavy rain started. Packed up and headed out by 1:15.

### **August 8, 2006**

Severe thunder storms and heavy rain in morning. No field work today.

### **August 9, 2006**

8:50. Sunny and a little cool (15°C). Slight breeze. Put up three Special Places signs first thing in the morning – one on large apple tree just west of the Old Cobequid Road near the well, another on the birch tree inside the house foundation, and a third on the apple tree beside the midden. No site damage over the long weekend.

Sarah found vitrified earthenware cup sherd (rim) with green enamelled rim decoration in N69 W40, lot 2.

Karen found large belt buckle (iron) in lot 2 and two portions of a stainless steel (?) knife (blade and handle) in lot 2, N71 W40.

N71 W41, lot 1 – mica fragments and literally hundreds of nails, predominantly wire with less than 5% being cut. Red flakes (paint?) like those found during 2004 testing in N70 W40.

N69 W40 and N71 W40 finished by lunch. Took lunch at 12:00 and back by 12:30. Karen and Sarah laid out N70 W41 (Karen) and N70 W42 (Sarah).

N71 W40 depth below surface = 52 cm (at SW corner = 12 cm)  
N69 W40 depth below surface = 14 cm (at SW corner = 34 cm)  
N71 W41 depth below surface = 35 cm (at SW corner = 14 cm)

Midden material (lots 1 and 2) are concentrated mainly along the N70 line with some spill over into the edge of N69 and N71 line.

In N70 W42, Sarah has reached sterile at 8 cm below surface.

2:30 I am opening N71 W42. Sarah opening N71 W43 and found a copper coin or token just beneath the surface in lot 1. Will need to be conserved to distinguish what it is.

Started cleaning up at 3:45. Packed up gear and headed out at 4:00. Still mainly sunny with slight breeze and warm (26°C).

Layout of units excavated so far:

N72 W40	N71 W40	N70 W40	N69 W40	N68 W40	N67 W40
	N71 W41	N70 W41	N69 W41		
	N71 W42	N70 W42			
	N71 W43				

### August 10, 2006

8:55 Cool (16°C) and sunny but we are well shaded by the apple tree. Lots of mosquitoes this morning. This afternoon, it is expected to cloud over so it should be a good day for digging. Expecting a visit from S. Davis this morning, around 10:00.

I will take some time to catch up on recording the pits this morning. Finished recording up to this point at 9:35 and returned to excavating N71 W42. Karen still working in N70 W41 and Sarah in N71 W43 where she found a pipe bowl fragment in lot 1.

Sarah finished N71 W43 by lunch. Clear determination that this feature is not structural and is related to dumping. Continues further east about 1.5 m but further investigation is not warranted as all materials unearthed date the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Took lunch at 12:00. Back at 12:30. Still sunny with slight breeze.

N70 W41 depth below surface = 24 cm (NE corner = 13 cm)

N71 W43 depth below surface = 11 cm

N71 W42 depth below surface = 12 cm

N70 W42 depth below surface = 11 cm

N69 W41 depth below surface = 4 cm

Appears to be a dug out hole for dumping household ash stretching through units N69 W40, N70 W 40, N71 W40, N71 W42, N70 W41, and N69 W41. Ash appears to be scattered on the surface in other areas. Depression appears to extend further westward as well into units N69 W39, N70 W39, and N71 W39. It is apparent at this point, however, that this feature is not structural and is related to a dumping event. Artifacts collected to date are all late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Observations:

- Negligible amounts of ceramic and glass (including flat glass).
- Only two clay pipe fragments.
- No liquor bottle glass.
- Hundreds of nails, both wire and cut. Began collecting strategy early on of only recovering a sample of cut nails and making note of predominance of wire nails.
- Several metal clothing-related artifacts including various types of buckles.

Sarah and Karen finishing up N71 W41. After break, we will do some surface reconnaissance around the paddock wall. This wall is being dismantled before construction and may need to be monitored. Interested in determining if there is any midden material associated with the wall before it is disturbed. However, we will need to apply for an amendment to the permit to do this as the original permit did not include work in this area.

Profile of west wall of the W40 line at the midden beside the house needs to be done but will have to wait until tomorrow when the sun is in a better position.

Packed up and headed out by 4:00.

### **August 14, 2006**

9:00 Sunny and cool (14°C). Crew today is only myself and Sarah. Beginning morning by mapping profile of W40 line at midden beside the house. Finished by 10:30. Visit from Steve at that time. Ready to start backfilling after break.

Backfilled until 12:00 and took lunch. Back at 12:30 and continuing to backfill. Almost done.

Finished backfilling at 1:40. Next task is to photograph and record the top of the well and start laying out units. The plan is for a 3 m (north-south) by 2 m (east-west) excavation plan, although 2 m may be wider than necessary. We will begin by excavating only the east half of the well. Not likely to be able to excavate down very far as the well has partially collapsed inward. We will try to tie the units into the 2004 grid but this may be problematic.

**August 15, 2006**

9:00 Cloudy and breezy (about 15°C). Set up units for well yesterday afternoon and designated them units 1, 2, 3, etc...6 – suboperation W (well):

1W	2W
3W	4W
5W	6W

Subop grid is aligned N352°

Expecting showers this morning. Putting backdirt to NW of units approximately 2 m away.

Finished unit 2W just before lunch. Sterile at 8 cm below surface. Raining heavily by 1:00. Packed up for the day and out by 1:30.

**August 16, 2006**

9:00 Foggy, 17°C. Rain yesterday afternoon has cleaned the two excavated units well. Both units (2W and 6W) are nearly down to sterile, except for a small portion at the NW corner of unit 6W and at the SW corner of unit 2W.

Lot 1 is medium brown gravelly loam. Removed sod from unit 4W. Red ants nest in the SE corner.

Tin can and tin lid (screw top jar) found inside well just beneath the surface (lot 1). Also wire nails (about 6 so far). Drink can and lid as well.

Gone for lunch at 12:00. East half of well is complete. Returned at 12:30. Moving to west half (units 1W, 3W, 5W). Sarah is removing a large ant hill in unit 3W (black ants).

Took break at 2:15. Very hot now, about 29°C although clouds to the north of us appear to be moving this way. Unit 1W is already at sterile on the outside of the well and Sarah moved into unit 3W about 45 minutes ago.

\*note – axe blade was from unit 5W. Bag is mislabelled unit 3W.

1965 nickel found on south side of unit 3W at 7 cm below surface.

Area of charcoal approximately 10 cm in diameter on east side of unit 3W on top of well.

Started packing up at 3:45.

### **August 17, 2006**

9:00 Sunny and warm (about 22°C). Lots of mosquitoes. Expected high today 26°C with high UV. We have no shade where we are working now.

Well is near completion with only some minor cleaning on the west side. Plan then is to draw the feature and backfill. Once this is complete, we will move to putting in 1 m squares near the paddock wall in the area of the surface midden.

Greatest depth of well is 98.5 cm to top of well. Backfilled well before lunch and headed down to paddock wall to determine the best place to test the midden. Cleared out an area approximately 3 m out from the paddock wall (east side) before lunch in preparation for unit layout.

Took lunch at 12:00. Back at 12:30. Set up 2 one metre square units 1 metre out from the wall, parallel to it. Temporarily designated the units 2P and 3P to allow for expansion of further 1 m square to the north and south. Sarah is digging unit 2P while I am in unit 3P.

Cleaned up several tin cans from the surface of the midden area and collected a sample of surface artifacts (mainly glass and ceramics).

Lot 1 is leaf mould and pine needles. High in humic acid. Rusted tin cans throughout making the soil very ferrous just beneath the surface. Depth of lot 1 in unit 2P = 6 cm, unit 3P = 11 cm. Glass, tin cans, refined white earthenware, flower pots, etc collected from lot 1.

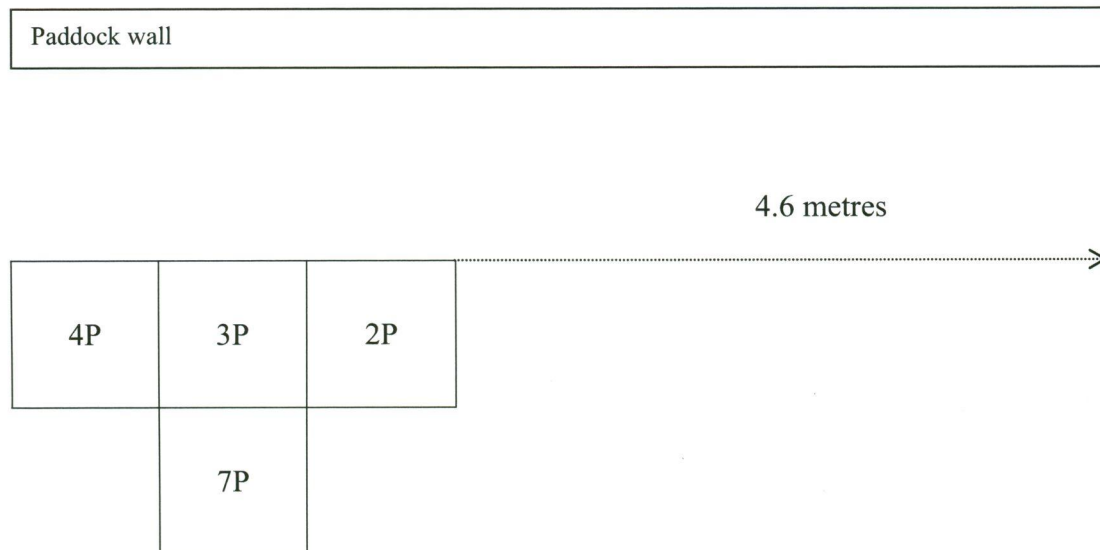
Lot 2 is a very fine sand with ferrous chemistry, some charcoal smears and fine roots.

### **August 18, 2006**

9:00 Sunny and warm (22°C) but we are shaded in the trees on the east side of the paddock wall. Lots of mosquitoes. Expected high today 27°C.

Sarah is opening a 1 x 1 to the south of those we dug yesterday. This will be unit 4P. will open unit 7P.





Bearing of grid is  $212^{\circ}$ . 4.6 metres from north end of paddock wall to NE corner of unit 2P.

Unit 2P depth below surface to sterile = 10 cm.

Unit 3P depth below surface to sterile = 17 cm.

Unit 4P depth below surface to top of lot 2 = 2 cm.

Unit 7P depth below surface to top of lot 2 = 3 cm.

Unit 4P depth below surface to sterile = 4.5 cm.

Unit 7P depth below surface to sterile = 4 cm.

Started backfilling at 1:25.