

Summarised
E. Straker

STUMBLETT FURNACE

C.F. TEBBUTT
1973

WEALD IRON RESEARCH GROUP

Winter 1973/4 scheme for revising information on water-powered sites included by E. Straker in Wealden Iron (1931).

The following points are designed to produce a rapid survey of these sites, many of which have not been visited in recent years. You will be aware that Straker's site-comments were unsystematic, and, beyond this, modern developments such as tree clearance or planting, bulldozing, or building, have made major changes.

Please ensure an adequate National Grid Reference.

1. Name of site. State if that used by Straker is in any way misleading.

STOMLETT, STUBLETT, STUMBLETT FURNACE ..
Went Haul by MARES FIELD

2. National Grid Reference (2 letters, 6 figures).

T.Q 3995.3065.

not in Wealden Iron
but see SNQ. Vol 6. p. 217. 18

3. Access. State problems of terrain or land-use. (If the name of owner and tenant is easily available, this could be useful.)

Field in which is found in alongside public road.

4. Features on the ground.

Main Dam Length c. 73 yards.

Height (estimate from both upstream and downstream sides if possible.)

Upstream 10 feet

Down - 11 -

Condition (i.e. gaps, erosion etc; are there any good cross-sections in bulldozed gaps? If so, do these show the construction materials used at different stages?)

Breached by stream on S. side; ~~at~~ large gap where
road has been removed at N. end. At extreme
N. end, where weir probably was, is a further breach.
Good sections can be seen on S. side of stream and
on N. side of central breach. Soil of layers looks
homogeneous + no signs of additions or repairs. No clay seen
in any construction, only a little on the top at S. end

Pen-ponds - is there any evidence for dams upstream from the main supply pond?

None seen

Mine pits - are there any close by?

The area below the dam

Clear indications of buildings, wheel-pits, sluices, etc.

There is a bank, c. 50 yards long, running W. from about centre of bay, + at right angles. A hollow, with scattered large round stones, occurs immediately below bay just S. of stream. which might be furnace or wheel pit site.

(See sketch plan at end)

Surface irregularities

5. Slags and cinders. (Keep samples.)

- Blast furnace slags (glassy). How much?

What is the general colour range? (In particular are there significant quantities light in colour?)

A small amount in small sizes on surface of bay, S. of stream. Much more in large pieces in stream c. 60-70 yards below bay. Samples taken. Colour dark - porous

- Forge cinders (generally rusty, bubbly, but varying widely in form.)
How much?

None

Are there many large cakes ("Furnace bottoms") over, say, 18"x 18"?

No

- Ore - any scatter?

None seen

- Purple shelly limestone - any?

None seen

Other surface finds (pottery, clay pipes, timbers, etc.) Note these

No

6. Are there any buildings, industrial, domestic or agricultural, apparently dating from the likely period of the site? Note briefly.

No

7. Has the site been re-used (e.g. corn or fulling mill)?

No

8. Do you know of any published or unpublished excavation which may have taken place? Note details, in particular of the excavator and location of finds in the case of unpublished work.

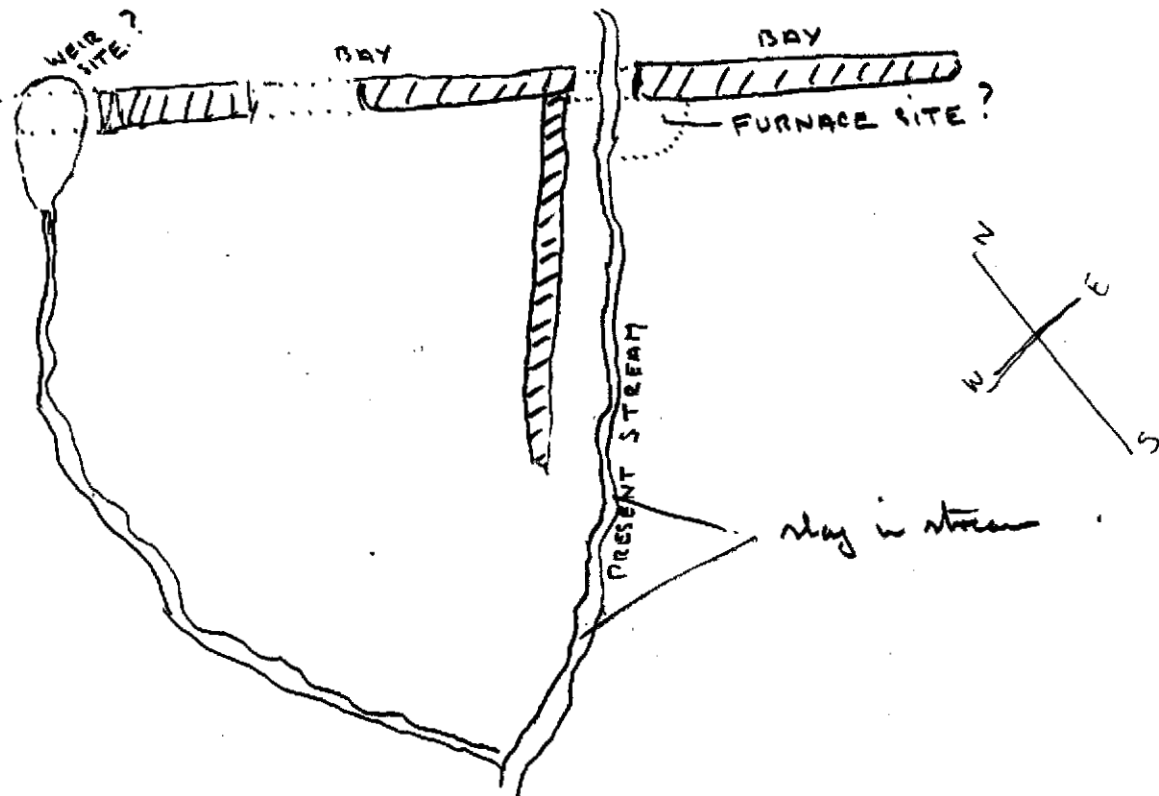
9. Is the site apparently threatened in any way?

No

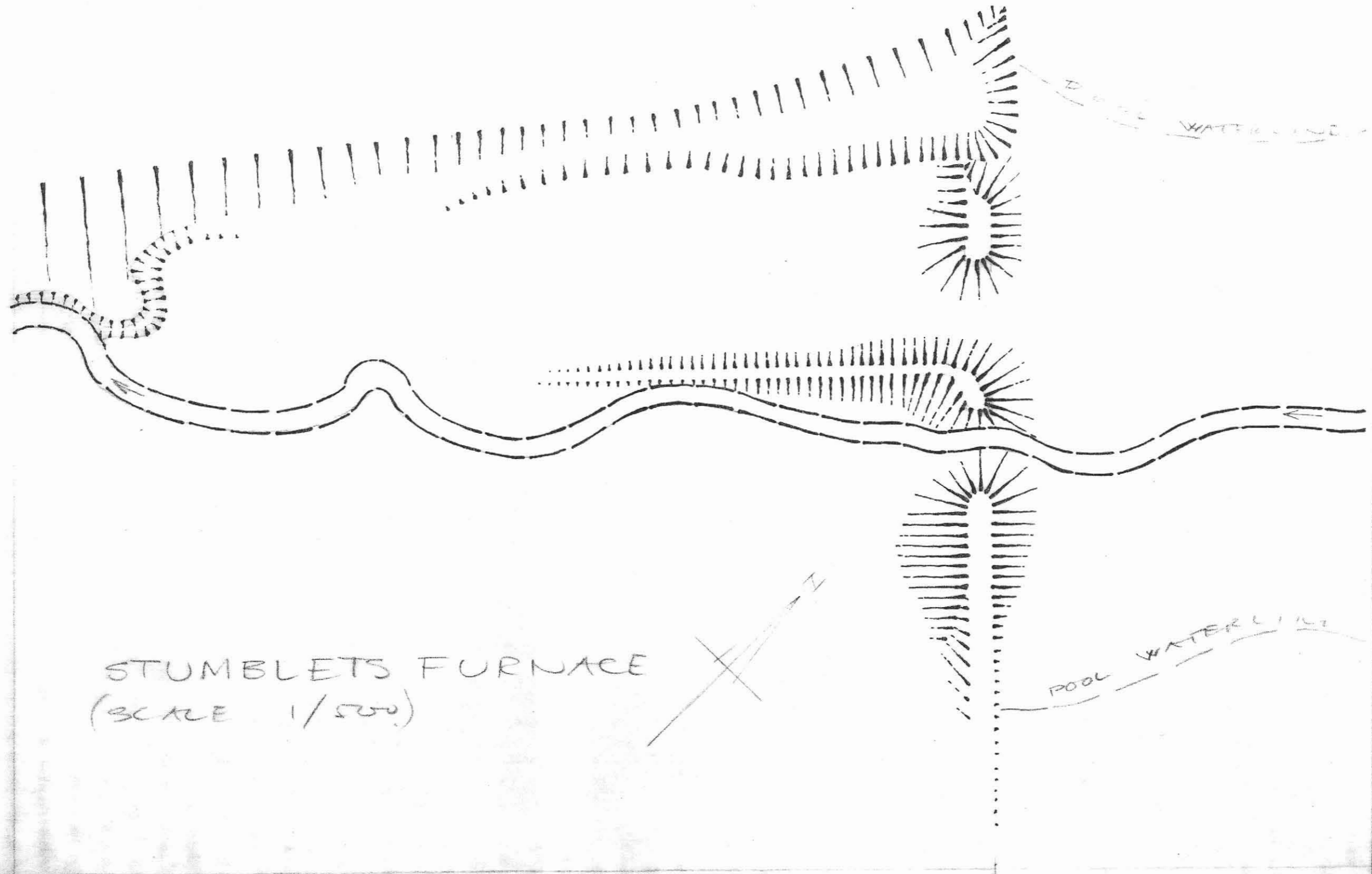
10. Do you know of any documentation missed by Straker? State details and whereabouts, if known.

11. Other comments.

Rough sketch.



a large deep wide hollow occurs at the supposed
weir site which may be the result of a collapse of
the weir when the first weir in water. (now dry)

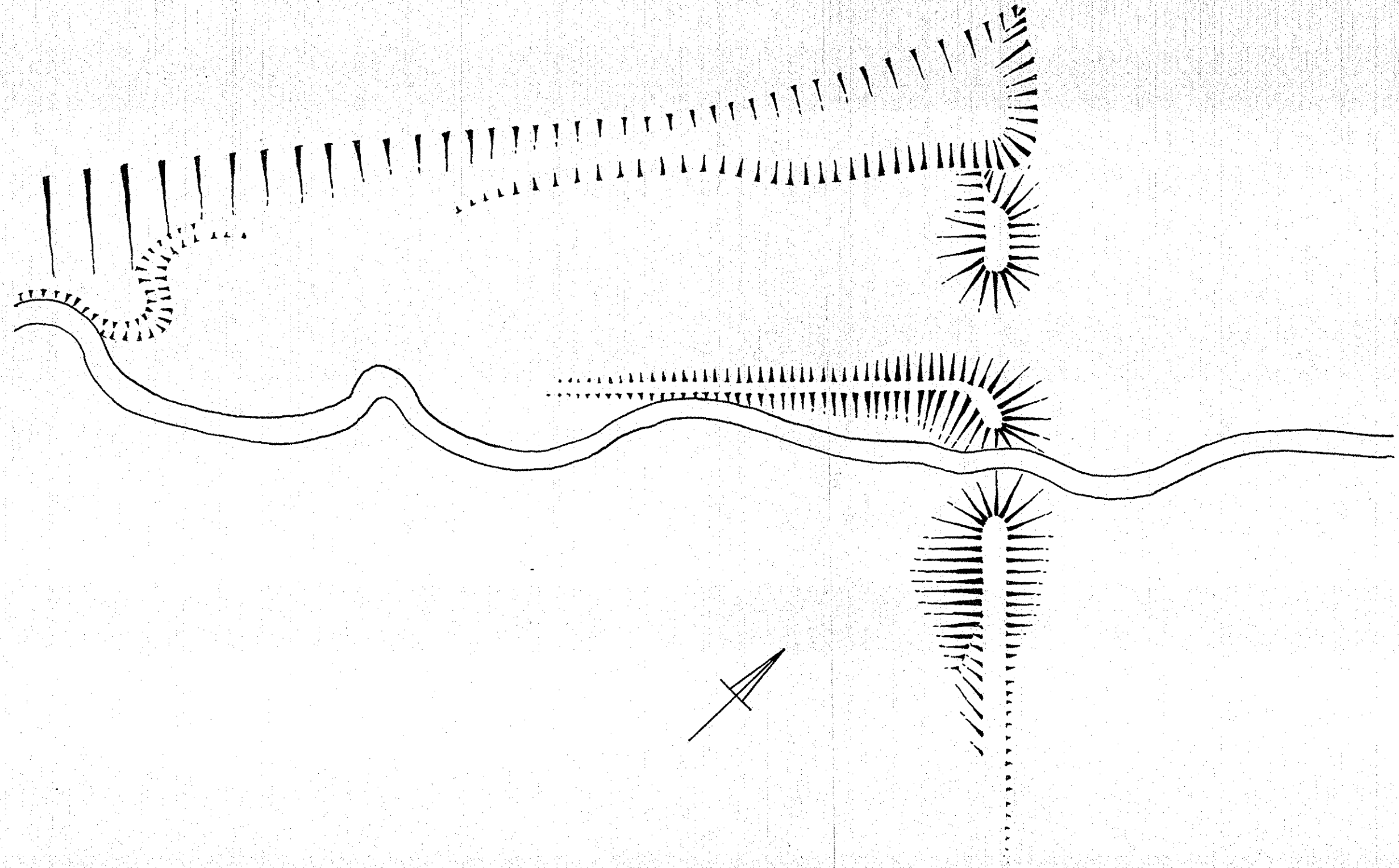


STUMBLETS FURNACE
(SCALE 1/500)



POOL WATER LINE

WATER LINE



STUMPLETT'S FURNACE 1/500

add arrows showing stream direction