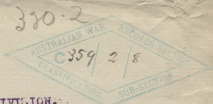




*Lineal*  
**1<sup>st</sup> A.I. Bde.**

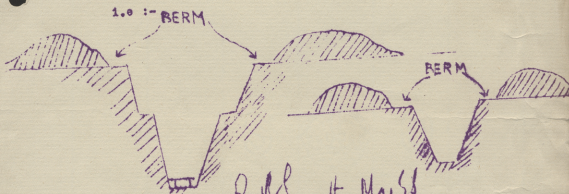
**FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION.**



Headquarters.  
Decr, 26th 1916.

1st Aust Inf Bde.  
2nd Aust Inf Bde.  
3rd Aust Inf Bde.  
C.A.E. 1st Aust Divn.

In continuation of this office 100/III of Dec, 23rd in reference to trenches with sloped sides, I am to add that further advantage will be gained if a Berm is kept by throwing the excavated earth clear of the edge of the cut.



*R. B. Smythe May '16*  
for

Lieut-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.

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HEADQUARTERS, 1ST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION	
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FIRST AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

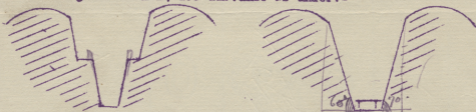
Headquarters,  
Decr. 23rd 1916.

✓ 1st Aus. Inf. Bde.  
2nd do.  
3rd do.  
C.R.E. 1st Aus. Div.  
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The practicability of changing our vertical design of narrow trench to one with more sloping sides has been suggested and the Divisional Commander wishes this design tried and reported upon as soon as possible please.

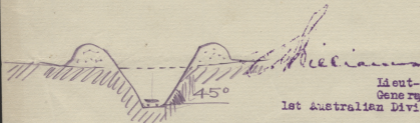
In the case of 1st Bde., it could probably be conveniently applied to a communication trench from GREASE Trench, and 3rd Bde. might apply it to the connection of the right and left portion of their front.

The design might, in the case of a deep trench, be varied with advantage to provide for two short instead of one long lift when cleaning the trench, for instance as under.-



If this system is found successful, it will be applied to all new work, which can then, as material and labour become available, be revetted.

Trenches with considerably sloped sides have been tried with success in 1st British Division.



Lieut.-Colonel.  
General Staff.  
1st Australian Division.