

## EXAMINATION OF BLOODY CLOTHING

The examination of clothing to determine the possible cause of a bloodstain pattern is one of the most difficult and time consuming aspects of bloodstain pattern analysis. Photographs of clothing are of value in illustrating the type of clothing and some general stain patterns but are often of limited value in making a comprehensive evaluation of the bloodstain pattern. It is, therefore, strongly recommended that all significant bloodstain patterns found on clothing be transferred meticulously to a scaled diagram and that the nature of each portion of the stain pattern be described in detail. This will accomplish a number of things. First, an overall stain pattern that is not easily viewed on dark or multicolored objects can be easily visualized. Second, the transferring of each stain to a diagram forces a detailed observation of the nature of the stain. Third, several different mechanisms can produce similar stain patterns and a detailed examination is necessary to determine which of the possible mechanisms is most consistent with having produced the pattern in question. Fourth, the diagrams may be used at a later date for comparison to experimental or case stain samples, particularly if the item of clothing itself is no longer available to the analyst for direct comparison. Fifth, the diagrams are very useful and effective in presenting findings in court.

### Testimony

It should always be kept in mind that notes and sketches may be examined by the opposing counsel. This possibility should act as an incentive to take meticulous and precise notes and sketches. One should always be willing and prepared to furnish a copy of all written records to the court. This is a good reflection on the quality of the work and the confidence you have in your conclusions. The jury will be more convinced by the testimony if they see that everything possible has been done to document the work.

When presenting clothing diagrams in court it will be necessary to include a brief description of the nature of the staining patterns on the diagrams. One should then be prepared to describe in detail the meaning of all relevant stain patterns with respect to the interpretation.

Several examples of diagrams are attached to illustrate the forms in which diagrams may be used in court. The amount of information on each diagram will vary with the nature of the case and the personal preference of the bloodspatter analyst.

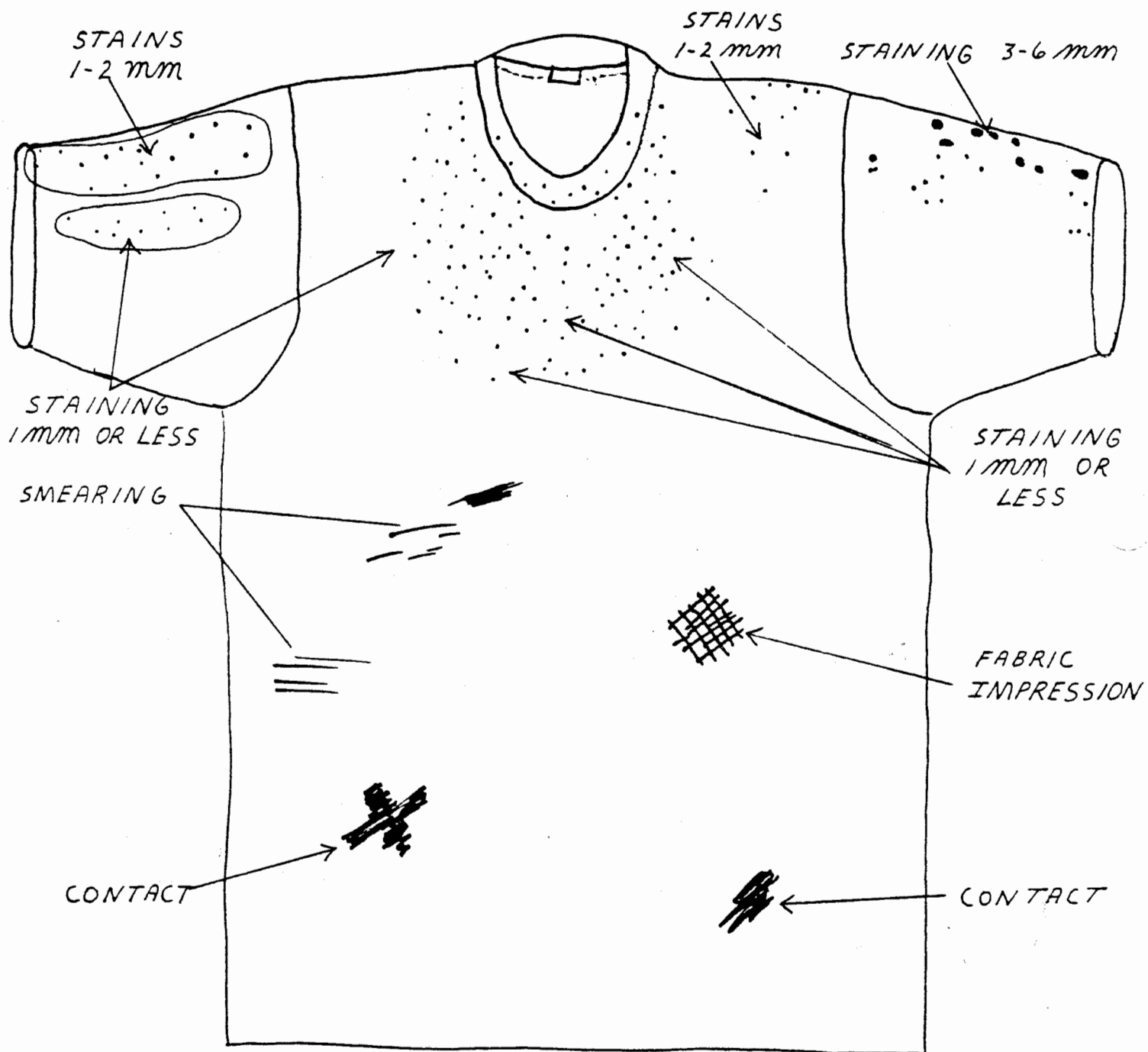
## EXAMINATION OF BLOODY CLOTHING

### Procedure

- 1) Examine each of the articles and describe the staining patterns in general terms.
- 2) Prepare a scaled diagram of each article. Place each bloodstain on this diagram, indicating size, direction and physical appearance of the stain.
- 3) Attempt to form some preliminary opinions as to how the stains were made.
- 4) Design confirmatory tests to determine the validity of your preliminary conclusions.
- 5) Perform the confirmatory tests. Use "clean" clothing similar to the items in the case.
- 6) As a team evaluate your test clothing and compare it to the submitted case evidence. Form a conclusion as to how the stains were produced on the submitted items and write a report.

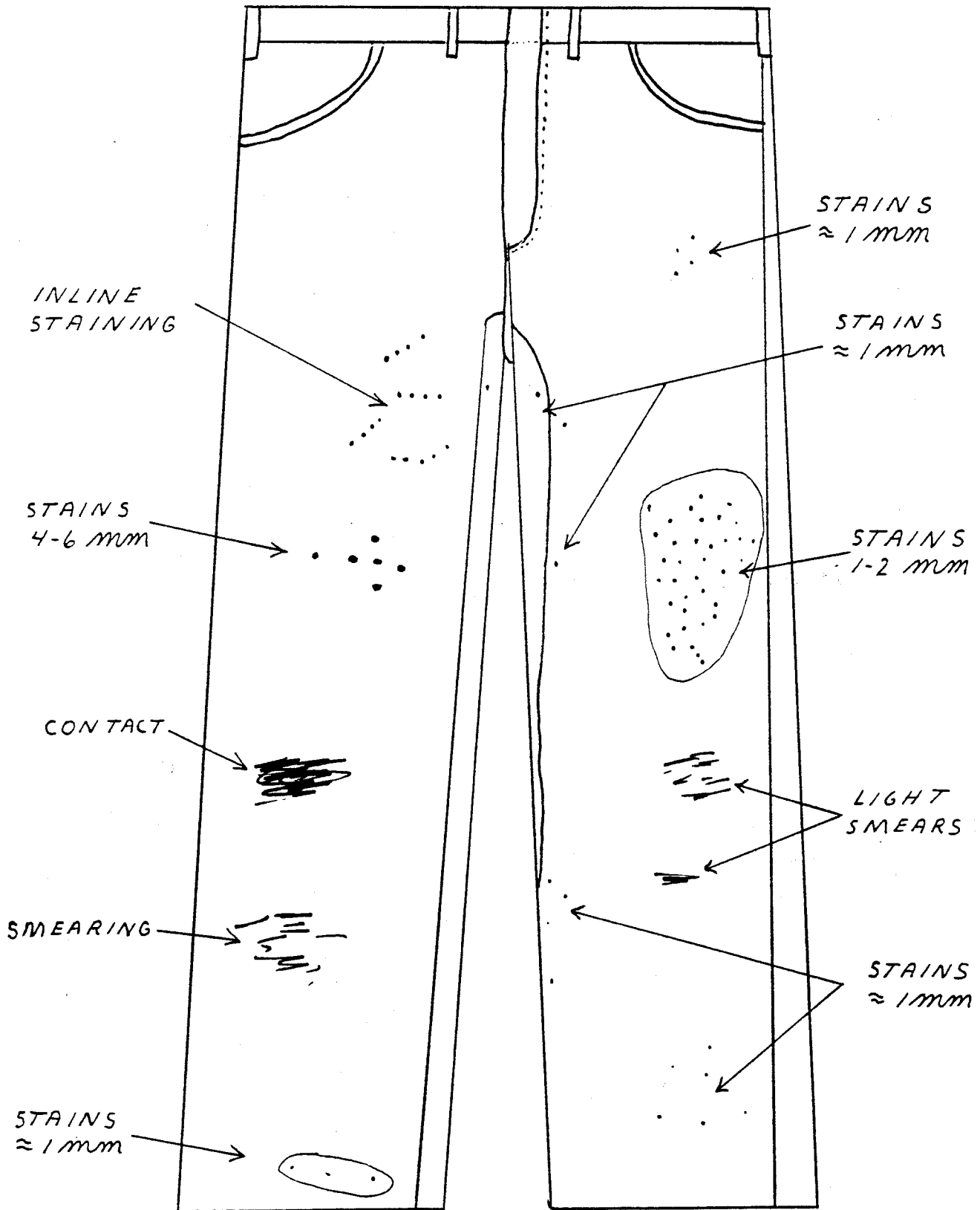
# SKETCHING

# SHIRT - JOHN SMITH

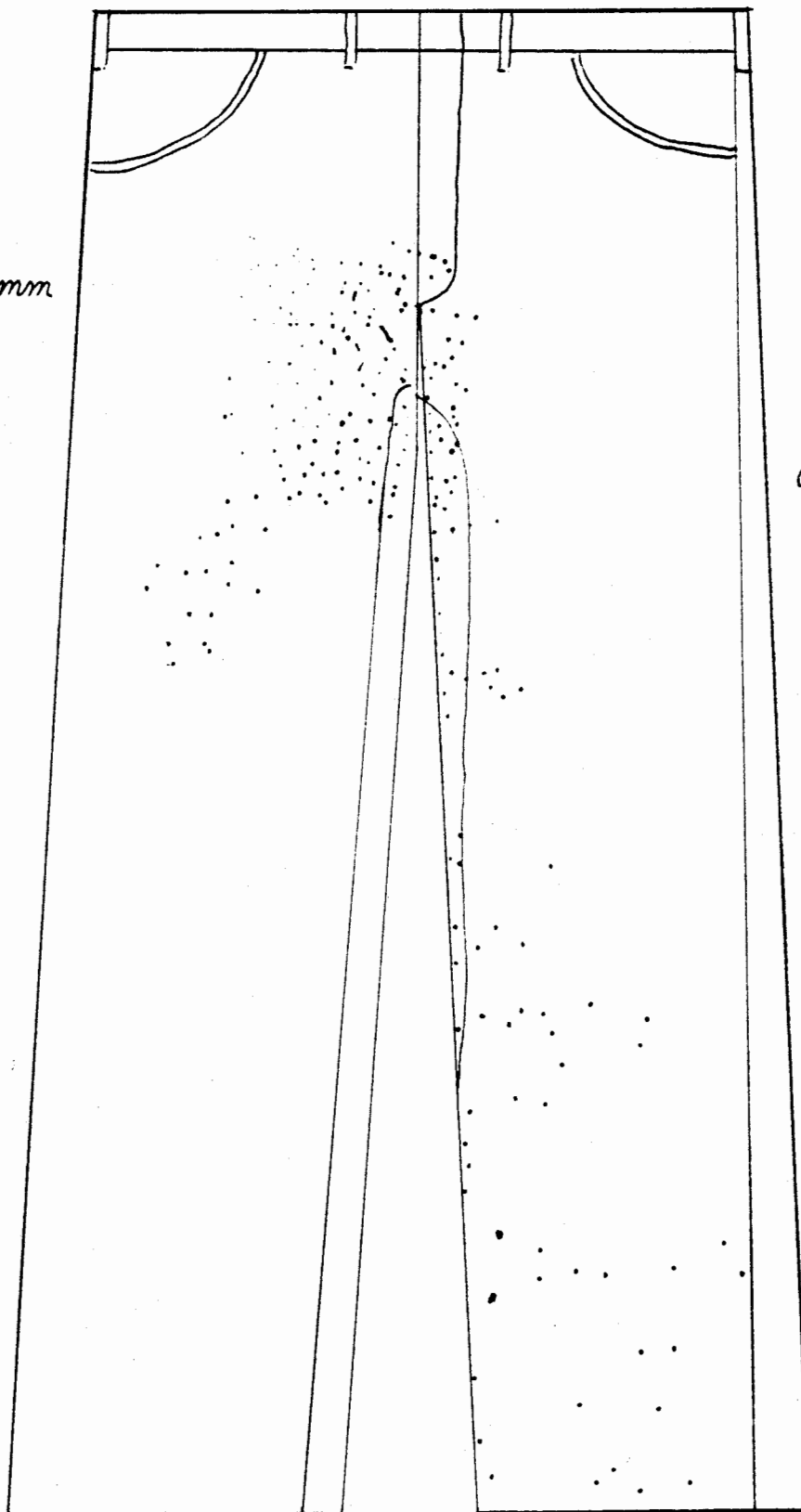


# JEANS - JOHN SMITH

## FRONT VIEW



# JEANS TEST 5

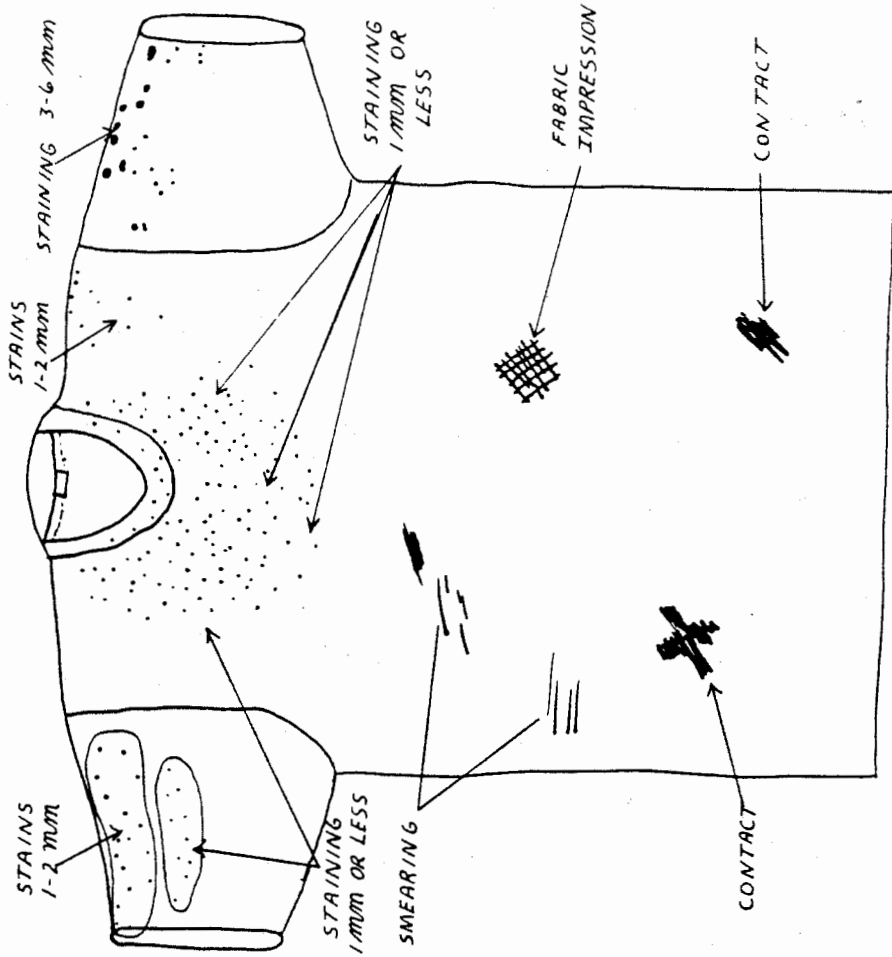


STAINS 1-3 mm  
SOME LESS  
THAN 1 mm

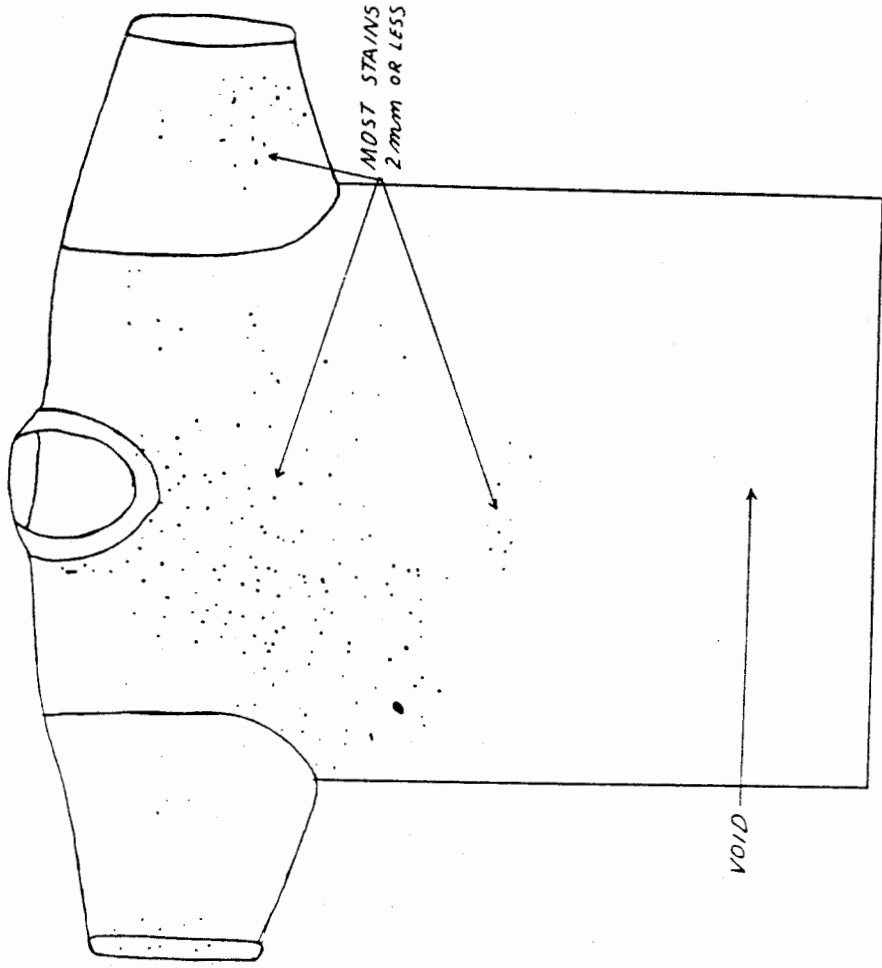
STAINS THROUGH  
CROTCH TO REAR

MOST STAINS  
1-2 mm

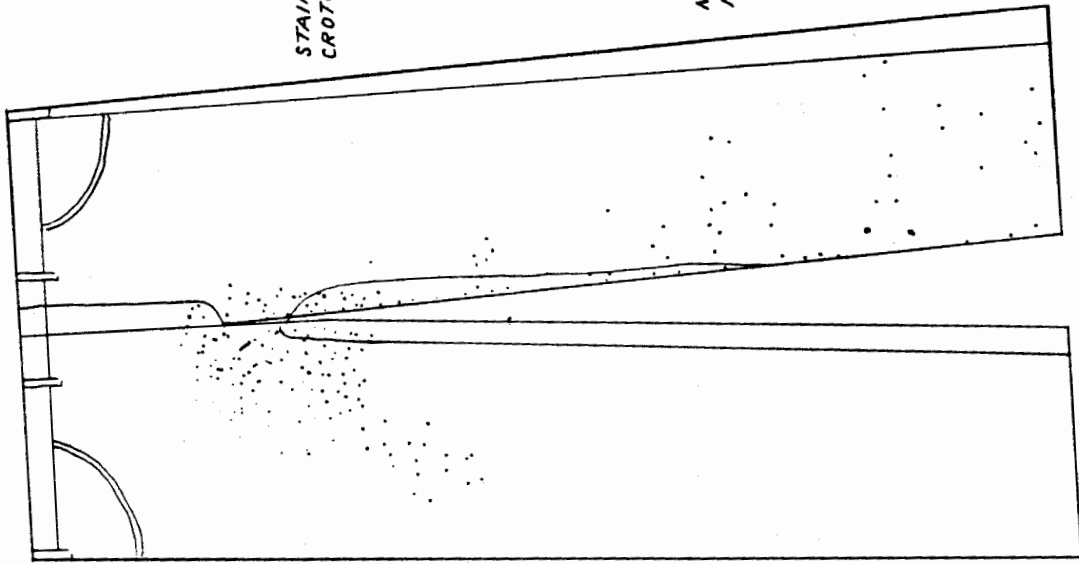
SHIRT - JOHN SMITH



SHIRT - TEST 5



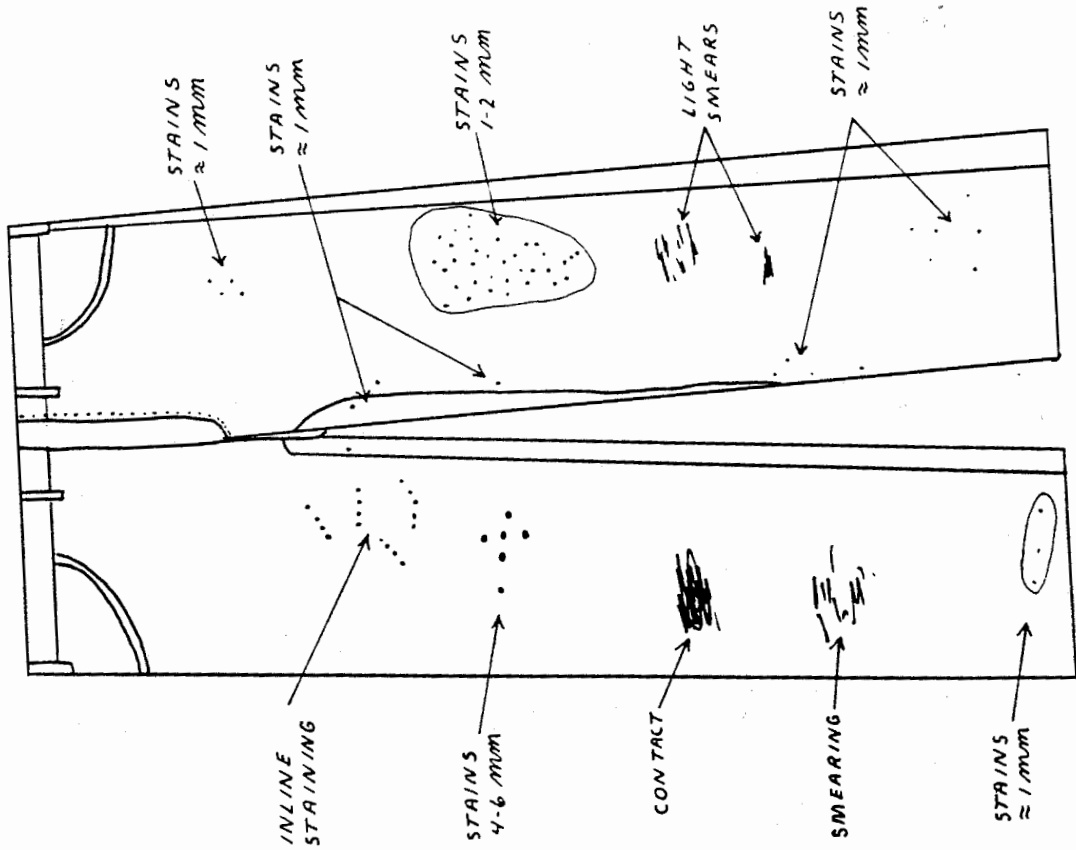
JEANS TEST 5



STAINS 1-3 MM  
SOME LESS  
THAN 1 MM

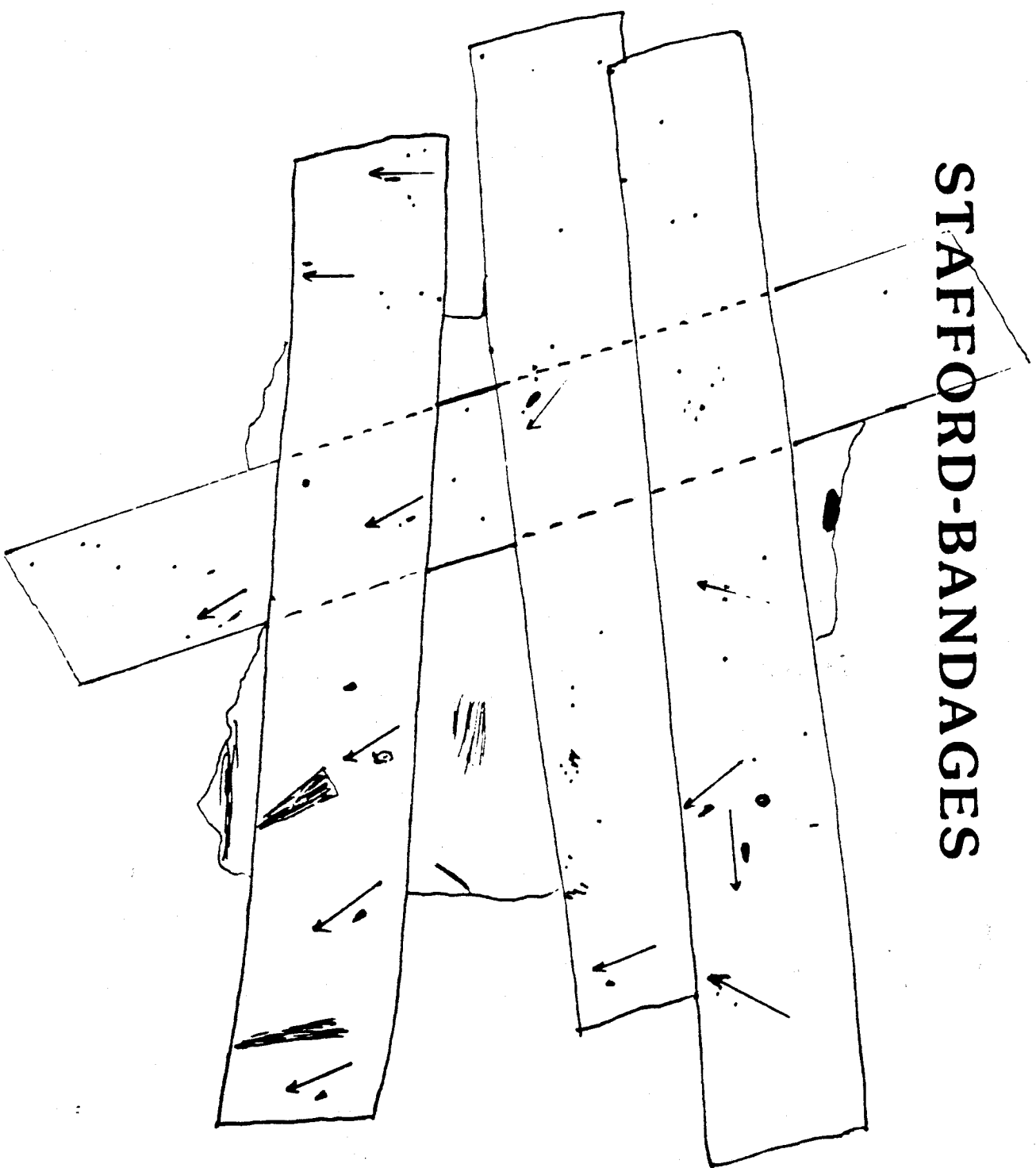
JEANS - JOHN SMITH

FRONT VIEW

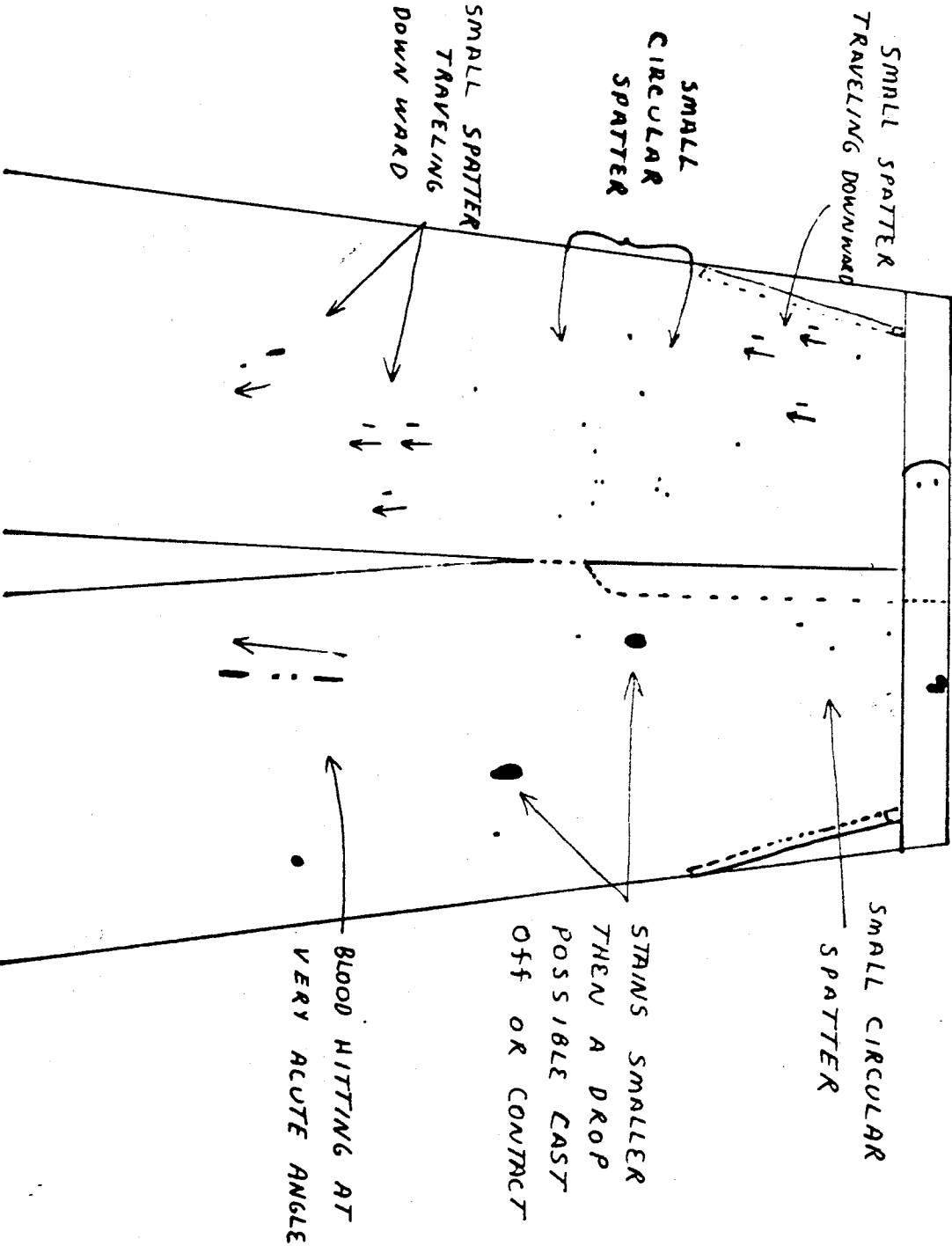




# STAFFORD-BANDAGES



# STAFFORD-JEANS



# VOGELPOHL-JEANS

