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Mackie [ANTIQUITY 76: 293](#) Figure 3.

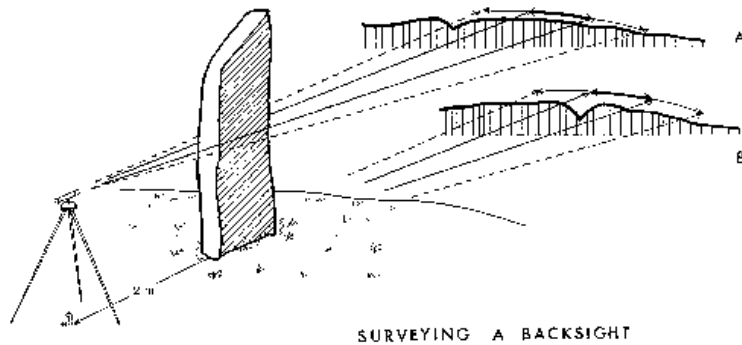


FIGURE 3. A graphic illustration of the method apparently followed by Ruggles and his teams in surveying potential horizon profiles from any standing stone with reasonably flat long sides. The theodolite stands about 2m behind the stone (where an ancient observer might be expected to have stood) and the minimum and maximum arcs of the horizon indicated by these sides is estimated by eye. The horizon profile is measured in and these arcs added, the minimum as a thick line, the maximum as thin extensions. The top profile shows an indicated horizon which is fairly featureless, the bottom profile one with a good notch, but in both cases the maximum precision of the alignment is assumed to be defined by the thick line; the deep notch is not accepted as an indicator of high level precision, even if it falls within the 'minimum arc' as shown (see also Figure 1).



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