

JB

SWR.
12/24



LINDSEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Barrowby CE Primary School, Lincs

(Phase 2, Ks2 Classroom)

NGR: SK 8780 3645

8789 3652

Site Code: BPSE 02

LCNCC Museum Accn. No.: 2002.202

Planning Application No.: S01/0744/06

S06 / 0744 / 01

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report prepared for
Hyder Business Services Ltd
on behalf of
Lincolnshire County Council

by
G. Tann

LAS Report No. 588
May 2002

25 WEST PARADE · LINCOLN · LN1 1NW

TELEPHONE 01522 544554 · FACSIMILE 01522 522211 · EMAIL las@lasarchaeology.fsnet.co.uk

F.N.FIELD B.A. (Hons), MIFA

Conservation
Services

15 MAY 2002

Highways & Planning
Directorate

Event 113362

Source 118074

118075

Mon 1182403

35493

Contents

List of Figures	
List of Plates	
Summary	1
Introduction	1
Archaeological Background	1
The Watching Brief	2
Conclusion	2
Acknowledgements	3
References	3
Archive Summary	3
Appendix 1: Context Summary	
The Figures	
The Plates	

List of Figures and Plates

Figures

- Fig. 1** Location of Barrowby (C based on the 1990 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map Sheet 130. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).
- Fig. 2** Location of Barrowby CE School (based on a plan supplied by the client. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).
- Fig. 3** Position of the new extension (based on a plan supplied by the client).
- Fig. 4** Foundation plan of the new extension, showing position of archaeological features (based on a plan supplied by the client).

Plates

- Pl. 1** Site of the new extension, prior to topsoil removal (looking north down the slope beyond the school buildings).
- Pl. 2** Foundation trenches for the new extension (looking SE).
- Pl. 3** Western foundation trench, with the modern concrete backfill **22** in the NW corner (left foreground). Looking south.
- Pl. 4** Northern wall foundation trench, with the concrete backfill **22** visible at the northern end of the western return trench (looking NE).
- Pl. 5** Central wall foundation trench, with the grey/brown fill of ditch **26** in the foreground, and undisturbed natural orange clay and ironstone deposits visible in the rear part of the trench. Looking south.
- Pl. 6** NE corner of the foundation trenches for the new extension. The dark grey silt (lower right) represents buried topsoil and the final fill of ditch **26**, prior to levelling of the site with building debris in the twentieth century. Looking NE.

Barrowby CE Primary School, Lincs
Archaeological Watching Brief
(Phase 2, Ks2 Classroom)

NGR: SK 8780 3645

Site Code: BPSE 02

LCNCC Museum Accn. No.: 2002.202

Planning Application No.: S01/0744/06

878 9 3652

506/0744/01

Summary

Groundworks for a classroom extension at the NW corner of the school buildings revealed part of a ditch, but did not produce dateable material.

Introduction

Lindsey Archaeological Services (LAS) was commissioned by Hyder Business Services (on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council) in April 2002 to conduct a watching brief during the mechanical excavation of footings for a school extension at Barrowby Primary School (Figs. 1-3). A condition of Lincolnshire County Council's full planning permission required an archaeological watching brief, for which a project design prepared by LAS in February 2002 was approved.

Monitoring visits by G. Tann took place on April 24th and 26th 2002.

The Development Site

The site is located on the southern side of the school buildings, SW of the village centre, and NE of the parish church and churchyard. The works consisted of a single Key Stage 2 classroom extension (c. 85m²) to the NW corner of an existing late-twentieth century school extension (Figs. 3 and 4; Pls. 1 and 2).

Archaeological Background

The settlement at Barrowby was in existence in 1086 when the Domesday Survey was produced. At the end of the Anglo-Saxon period, the village was the centre of an estate held by Robert Malet, with a church and a mill. The existing All Saints' Church contains Saxon carved stones, but the fabric is mostly of thirteenth century construction. The full extent and arrangement of Saxon and medieval settlement in Barrowby is not known, and the school site is in a prime site to produce further information. Roman and medieval remains have been reported from the village centre. During a previous archaeological watching brief in September 2001 (at the southern end of the school buildings), no finds were recovered, although features thought to represent pits and a ditch were identified (Tann 2002). These were interpreted as of post-medieval or later date.

The Watching Brief

Trenches around the extension were excavated with a 0.6m wide bucket, to depths of between 1.1m and 1.85m deep. Limited hand cleaning of the trench faces took place, but no detailed recording was conducted.

The thin turf layer covered a thick layer of redeposited clay **20**, with brick rubble and concrete inclusions. This material had been spread over the site during adjacent building works, probably when the adjoining hall and classrooms had been built in the late twentieth century. A small hole **21** had been excavated to a depth of about 1.3m beside the NE corner of the new extension, and this contained large pieces of concrete rubble **22** (Pls. 3 and 4).

The redeposited material had mostly been spread over the former topsoil layer **23**, which survived as a 0.15m thick layer of dark brown or black clay loam, containing brick and clinker fragments. Beneath it was a grey/brown clay layer **24**, which merged from dark to paler grey towards its base. This layer was shallowest along the eastern side of the new extension, with its base 0.85m below the turf. Its depth increased towards the NW, where (above **27**) it was 1.35m below the turf. The layer was about 0.3m thick, and may have been a subsoil or a merged early topsoil/subsoil. Below the grey clay **24** was undisturbed yellow clay natural **25**, becoming darker with depth and containing ironstone fragments (Pl. 5).

In the NE corner of the new extension, the western edge of a ditch **26** was seen. Its fill was a grey silty clay **27**, overlain by redeposited rubble and clay **20**, indicating that it had been levelled when the adjacent classroom was built (Pl. 6). In the NE corner, the ditch followed a NW-SE alignment, but it was also found to turn in a north-south alignment within the central foundation trench. The width of the ditch was not revealed, but it would seem to have been about 2m, and at least 0.5m deep. As no NW corner was found within the foundation trenches, it was impossible to determine whether this was a simple ditch corner, or part of a ditch system extending further to the north. If projected 55m to the south, this feature could conceivably equate with the ditch **12** found during the September 1991 watching brief. The report on that intervention suggested that the ditch had formed an eastern limit to the churchyard, prior to construction of the Victorian church school. As no graves were present to its west, this interpretation now seems unlikely, and the ditch probably forms part of a medieval or later land subdivision.

Conclusion

This end of the school building is sited at the edge of an abrupt slope, which appears to be natural and unterraced. The feature seen in the foundation trenches is probably a ditch, defining land which coincides with the natural topography. Although the extent of the twentieth century school buildings coincides with this ditch, and finds of clinker suggest that it was open during the late post-medieval period, this division could be of much older origin. The school occupies a hilltop site with extensive views to the north, and this would have been a favoured location during prehistory and the Roman

period. The siting of the church on the adjacent land confirms the prominence of this position when the village was settled during the Saxon period. The absence of finds from the two recent archaeological watching briefs may be the result of the very limited scale of the modern disturbance, and more extensive work on adjacent land might produce very different results.

Acknowledgements

Site plans and access to the site were arranged through Hyder Business Services, and Newman and Moore Ltd. LAS would also like to thank the Headteacher and staff, and Lincolnshire County Council Built Environment Team, for their assistance during this watching brief.

Jane Frost prepared the illustrations and produced the report.

Geoff Tann
Lindsey Archaeological Services
13th May 2002

References

Tann, G. 2002 *Barrowby CE Primary School, Lincs.: Archaeological Watching Brief*. LAS Report No. 555, January 2002.

Archive Summary

correspondence

developer's site plans

annotated plan

photographs: colour prints LAS film nos. 02/36/24, 25 and 02/37/00-16 (including those used in this report)

THE FIGURES

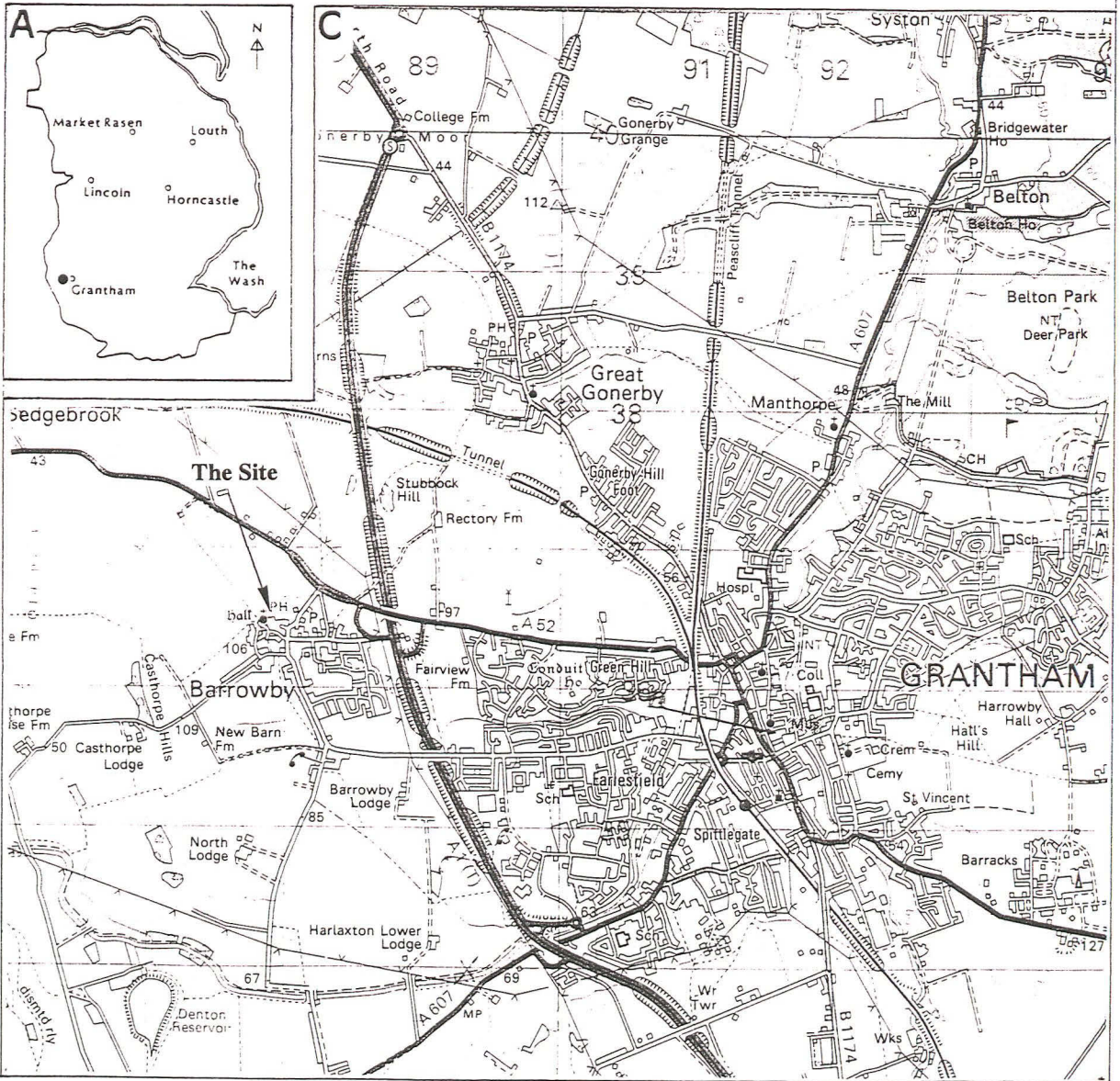
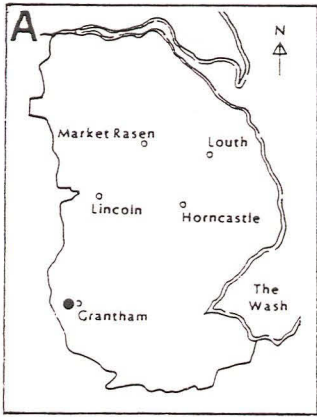
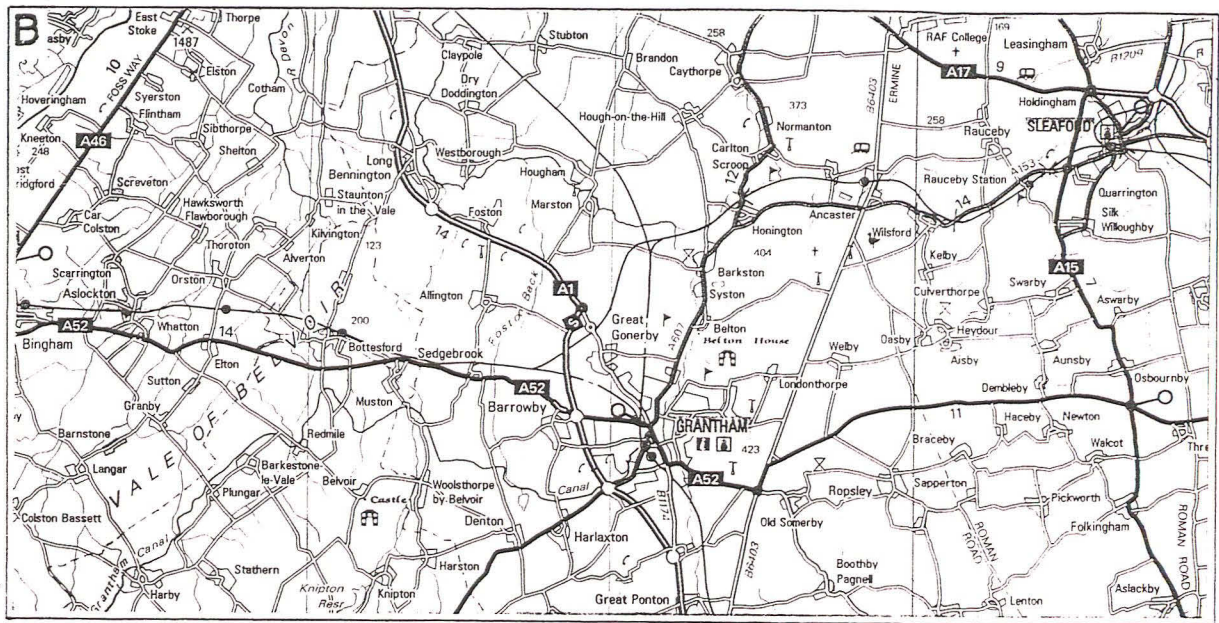


Fig. 1 Location of Barrowby (C based on the 1990 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Landranger map Sheet 130. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 10002165).

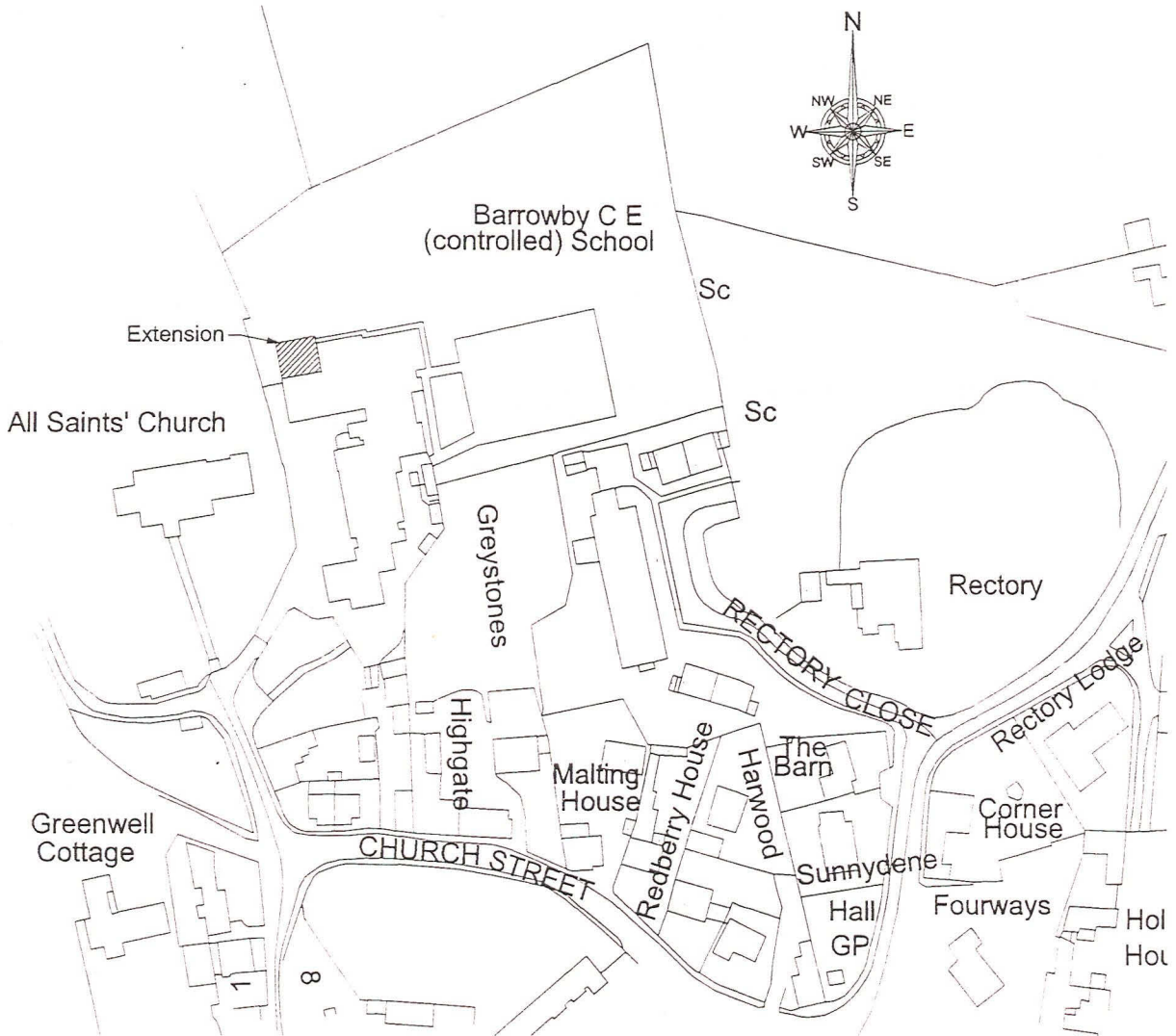


Fig. 2 Location of Barrowby CE School (based on a plan supplied by the client. © Crown Copyright, reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. LAS Licence No. AL 100002165).

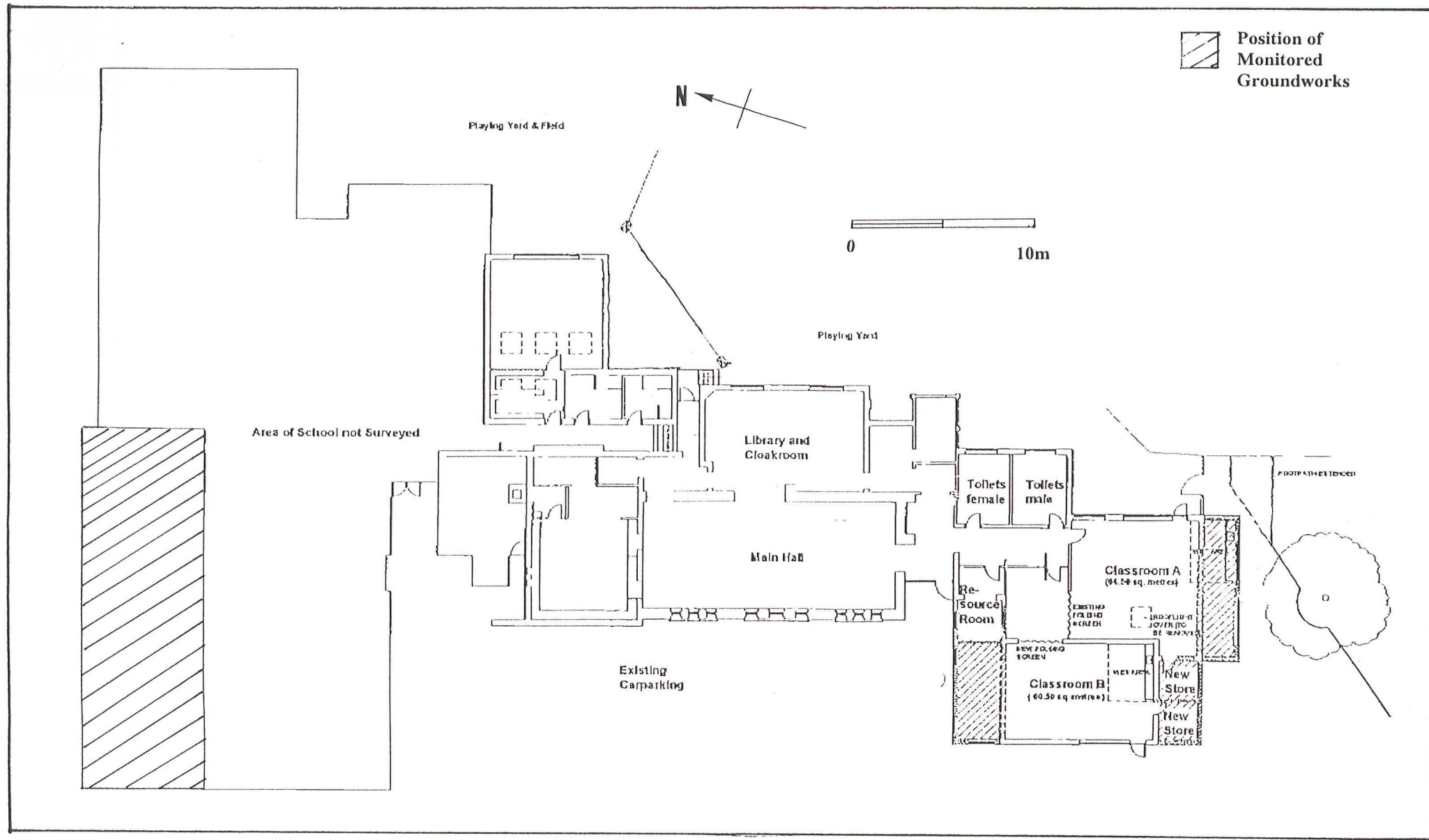


Fig. 3 Position of the new extension (based on a plan supplied by the client).

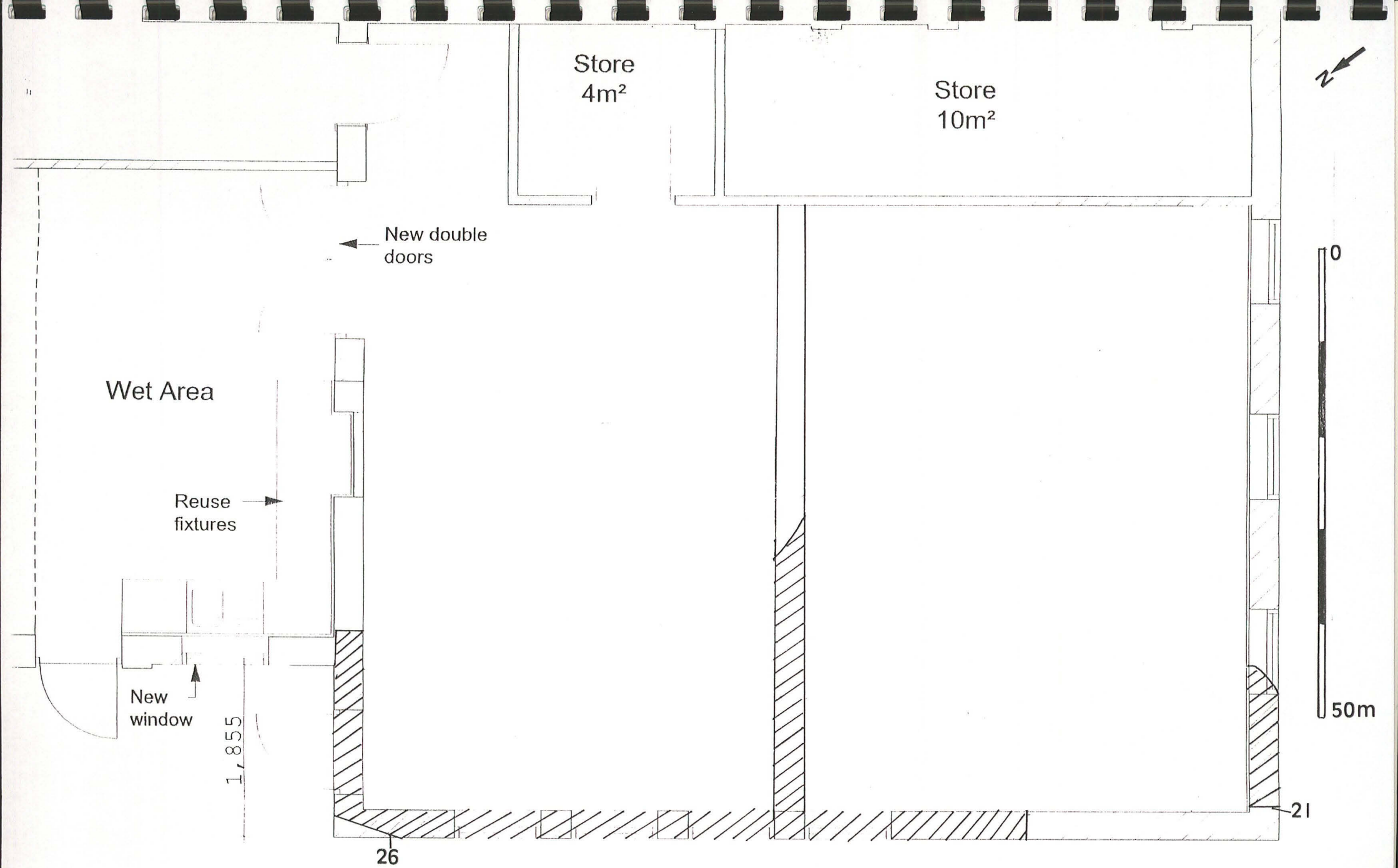


Fig. 4 Foundation plan of the new extension, showing position of archaeological features (based on a plan supplied by the client).

THE PLATES



Pl. 1 Site of the new extension, prior to topsoil removal (looking north down the slope beyond the school buildings).



Pl. 2 Foundation trenches for the new extension (looking SE).

Pl. 3 Western foundation trench, with the modern concrete backfill 22 in the NW corner (left foreground). Looking south.





Pl. 4 Northern wall foundation trench, with the concrete backfill 22 visible at the northern end of the western return trench (looking NE).



Pl. 5 Central wall foundation trench, with the grey/brown fill of ditch 26 in the foreground, and undisturbed natural orange clay and ironstone deposits visible in the rear part of the trench. Looking south.



Pl. 6 NE corner of the foundation trenches for the new extension. The dark grey silt (lower right) represents buried topsoil and the final fill of ditch 26, prior to levelling of the site with building debris in the twentieth century. Looking NE.