

**NEW STAFFROOM AT GREAT BRADFORDS JUNIOR SCHOOL
MARLBOROUGH ROAD, BRAINTREE
ESSEX**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

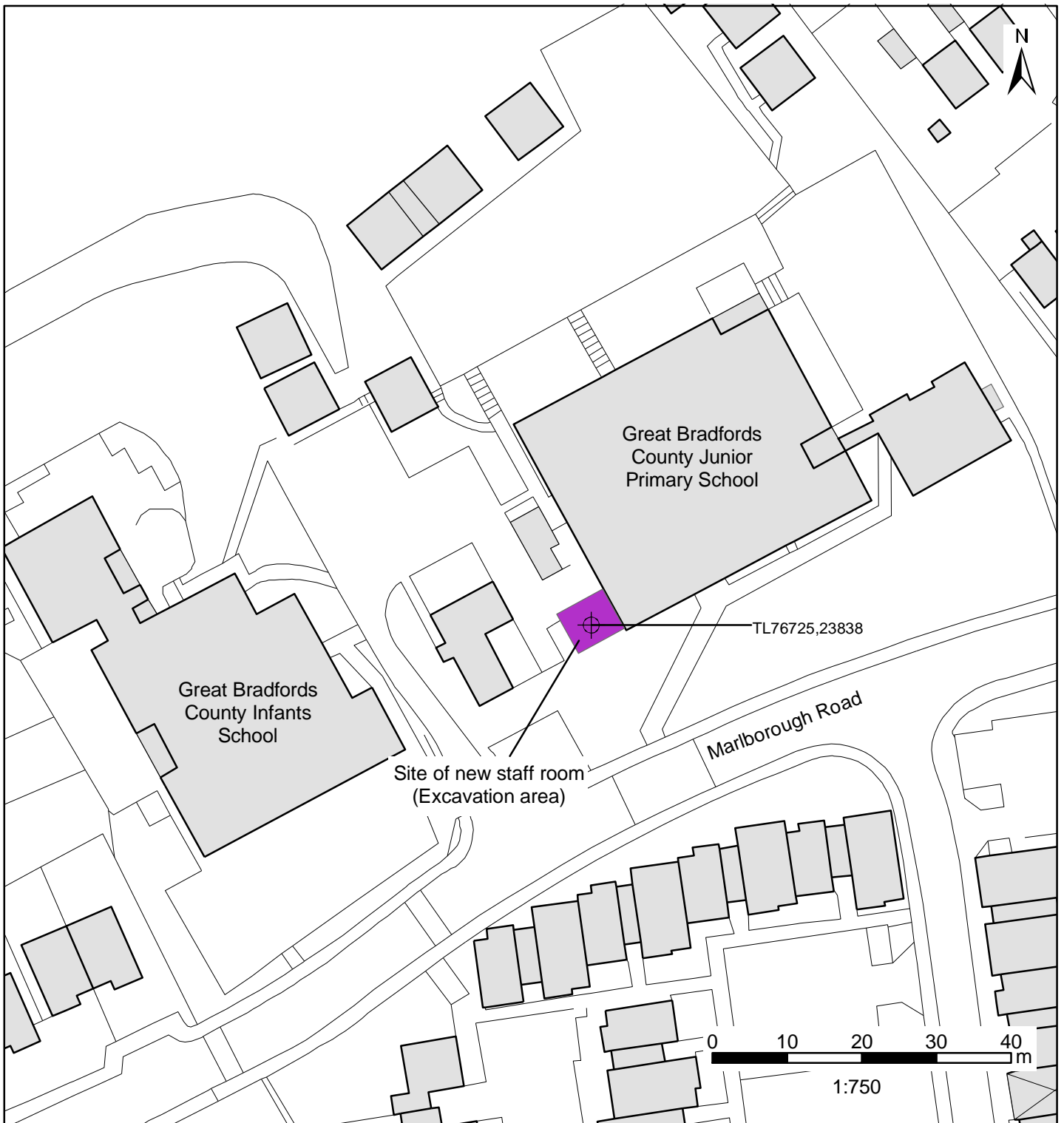


Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit

September 2007

EHER Summary Sheet: New Staffroom at Great Bradfords Junior School, Braintree
FAU Project No.: 1809

Site Name/Address: Great Bradfords Junior School, Marlborough Road, Braintree	
Parish: Braintree	District: Braintree
NGR: TL 7671 2385	Site Code: BRBS 07
Type of Work: Archaeological excavation	Site Director/Group: A. Letch, ECC FAU
Date of Work: 3rd July 2007	Size of Area Investigated: c.42m ²
Location of Finds/Curating Museum: Braintree Museum	Funding Source: Junior School
Further Work Anticipated? None	Related EHER Nos.: 6479, 6482, 6511 & 17286
Final Report: N/A	
Periods Represented: Late 20th-century (c.1970)	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p><i>A small area of the Junior School fronting Marlborough Road was excavated in advance of the construction of new staff facilities. The school sits on the southern side of the Brain river valley. Remains of a Roman villa estate are believed to occupy the general area.</i></p> <p><i>The excavation was in an area of disused open ground measuring 6 x 7m. Trees and shrubs were removed and the topsoil reduced by mechanical excavator to between 0.5 and 0.7m, onto the natural sandy subsoil. No archaeological deposits, features or finds were encountered. Several gas, electricity and phone cables, plus a rainwater pipe/gravel soakaway, were discovered cut into the natural sand towards the south and western sides of the trench. Tree root disturbance was apparent on the west side. No further excavation took place. Fragments of tar or asphalt were found embedded in the natural soil, suggesting the area was previously cleared to this level during construction of the school, c.1970, at a time when terracing of the valley slope was undertaken and adjacent tarmac car parking surfaces were being laid.</i></p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: N.A.	
Author of Summary: A. Letch (ECC FAU)	Date of Summary: 27th August 2007



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Fig.1. Location plan