

Allen Archaeology Limited

SPECIFICATION FOR A PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING: 40 BARTON ROAD, MARKET BOSWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE

Application:	26/00516/HOU
Client:	SmartLEC Ltd
National Grid References:	SK 4058 0346
Date:	1st September 2026
AAL Site Code:	MBBR 26
Accession Number:	X.A98.2026

1.0 Summary

This document is the specification for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks on land at 40 Barton Road, Market Bosworth, Leicestershire, required as prior to planning consent for erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, first floor extension to create an additional storey and the erection of a double garage.

The fieldwork, recording and reporting will be carried out in a manner consistent with current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists ‘*Standard for archaeological monitoring and recording*’ (CIfA 2023a), ‘*Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording*’ (CIfA 2023b), ‘*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*’ (Historic England 2015), ‘*Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire and Rutland*’ (LCC 1997) and the generic ‘*Brief for Archaeological Attendance for Investigation and Recording*’ (LCC 2014).

2.0 Site Location and Description

Market Bosworth is located in the Hinkley and Bosworth District, approximately 18.5km west of central Leicester and 24.5km north-northeast of central Coventry. The proposed development area is located to the north of the centre of Market Bosworth, immediately east of Barton Road. The site is centred on NGR SK 4058 0346 approximately 124-126m aOD.

The bedrock geology comprises Gunthorpe Member Mudstone, with overlying superficial glaciofluvial deposits recorded. (<https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex>).

3.0 Planning Background

A planning application has been submitted for a ‘*Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, first floor extension to create an additional storey and the erection of a double garage*’ (26/00516/HOU).

The Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) advising the Hinkley and Bosworth District Planning Authority have recommended that planning permission should be granted subject to the following pre-determination conditions:

No demolition/development shall take place/commence until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include the statement of significance and research objectives, and;

- *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works*
- *The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI*

Reason: *To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation and recording*

The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) must be prepared by an archaeological contractor acceptable to the Planning Authority. To demonstrate that the implementation of this written scheme of investigation has been secured the applicant must provide a signed contract or similar legal agreement between themselves and their approved archaeological contractor.

The Historic and Natural Environment Team, as advisors to the planning authority, will monitor the archaeological work, to ensure that the necessary programme of archaeological work is undertaken to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

The approach adopted is consistent with the recommendations of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), with the chapter of relevance being 'Chapter 20: Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2026).

4.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

A Bronze Age palstave was found in 1905 during renovations at Bosworth Hall, approximately 275m to the southeast of the site (Leicester and Rutland Historic Environment Record MLE6355).

An Iron Age/Roman spear (MLE7943) and a gold coin of Augustus (MLE29336) were also found at Bosworth Hall in 1890.

Immediately to the east of the site is the location of a Roman villa (MLE2924), which was first excavated in the 1960's after school children uncovered a geometric mosaic pavement in the garden of 48 Barton Road. Roman finds from various phases of archaeological fieldwork include pottery, building materials, coins, wall plaster and querns. The full extent of the Roman remain is not known, but the site and the area around it are designated as a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1006476).

Market Bosworth, 'Bosworde', is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 (Morgan and Thorne 1986), in the hundred of Guthlaxton and the county of Leicestershire, under the ownership of Count of Meulan and Hugh of Grandmesnil.

The site is located approximately 100m to the north of the medieval core of Market Bosworth (MLE2935), with test pitting in July 2017 appearing to show activity along Park Street, south of the Church and north of the Market Place. The medieval market was likely on the site on the current Market Place (MLE2934). Medieval ridge and furrow (MLE25060) has been recorded to the west of the site on the western side of Barton Road.

Market Bosworth Hall (MLE12225), to the southeast of the site, was probably built by Sir Beaumont Dixie in 1682, with alterations between 1837 and 1850, and in the 1880's. Between 1935 and 1988 it was used

as a hospital.

A gravel pit marked on the 1903 OS map (MLE24643) is located immediately to the north of the site.

5.0 Methodology

One experienced field archaeologist will be present during all groundworks for the scheme. They will act strictly in accordance with the contents of this document and will adhere to national and local guidelines regarding agreed best practice for archaeological monitoring and recording projects.

The scheme of archaeological works will involve continuous monitoring of all ground disturbances, with the ability to stop machine stripping and fully record archaeological features. If archaeological remains are revealed, then machine stripping will cease and hand excavation will be required where such deposits can be accessed safely.

All groundworks should be carried out using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, except for where removal of concrete or tarmac surfaces or obstructions necessitates the use of a hydraulic breaker or toothed bucket, at the discretion of the supervising archaeologist.

A full written record of the archaeological deposits will be made on standard Allen Archaeology Limited context recording sheets. Sections to be excavated will be marked with string and nails and allocated an individual drawing number. A comprehensive record of all drawings will be maintained, and the location of every section drawing plotted onto the site master plan and correctly referenced. All excavated sections will then be drawn at an appropriate scale (1:10, 1:20 or 1:50), with Ordnance Datum heights being displayed on each drawing.

Digital photography, using a camera with a minimum 12MP APS-C sensor or larger, will form an integral part of the recording strategy. Photographs will incorporate scales and a directional arrow where appropriate. Photographs showing the working conditions at the site will also be taken. A full register of all photographs will be maintained.

If human burials or cremations are exposed during the groundworks, in the first instance the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) will be contacted to discuss an appropriate strategy for the management of the human remains. The landowner and/or developer and the coroner will also be informed immediately on discovery of human remains. It is anticipated however that wherever possible the human remains will be left in situ unless at direct threat from the proposed development. If the remains are at threat from the development, AAL will obtain a Ministry of Justice licence authorising the removal of the remains. These will be cleaned, photographed and recorded on standard AAL human skeletal remains recording sheets, prior to removal for cleaning at the offices of AAL and subsequent analysis by the named specialist.

Any artefacts found during the investigation that are deemed to be 'treasure' (as defined by the Treasure Act 2023) will be removed from site to a secure store and reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

All finds of all classes will be collected, other than obviously modern finds from topsoil and subsoil contexts. The spoil from the excavated areas will be examined for further artefact recovery. Finds collected during the fieldwork will be bagged and labelled with the appropriate deposit context number, while registered finds will be 3D located and bagged individually with the deposit context number and small find number. If necessary, the relevant specialist will visit the site during fieldwork to advise on the artefact collection and retention strategies. All finds will be processed (cleaned, marked and labelled as appropriate) at the offices of Allen Archaeology Limited. These will then be submitted for specialist

reporting to the following organisations/persons (depending on their availability):

Sarah Percival	Early prehistoric pottery
Joshua Hogue	Worked lithic materials
Alice Beasley	Later prehistoric and Romano-British pottery
Paul Blinkhorn	Post-Roman pottery and ceramic building material
Bryn Leadbetter	Animal bone
Dr Sam Tipper	Human bone
Yvonne Rose	Other artefacts
Bryn Leadbetter	Environmental analysis
York Archaeological Trust	Conservation

6.0 Environmental Works

Samples will be taken from deposits that have the potential to provide information on the preservation conditions and potential of analysis of all biological remains. If appropriate during the investigation, specialist advice will be sought from the environmental archaeologist, including a site visit to develop the sampling strategy. Processing and assessment of environmental remains will take place at Allen Archaeology's Lincoln office.

Bulk samples will be taken from a selection of stratified contexts that have produced secure good dating evidence, and sufficient in number to establish the range and quality of the environmental evidence. Where feasible, bulk samples will be taken as scatter samples, whereby tubs will be filled from different locations within the designated fill to avoid spatial preservation bias or missing biological remains invisible to the naked eye which can form discrete 'clusters' within the fill (English Heritage, 2011, 10).

Animal bone will be hand collected from all excavated features. These will be identified and assessed by the named specialist (Bryn Leadbetter), with any recommendations for future archaeological work on the site.

7.0 Post-Excavation and Reporting

On completion of site operations, the records produced during the fieldwork will be checked and ordered and a stratigraphic matrix of all archaeological features and deposits prepared. Upon completion of the works, a fully illustrated report text will then be prepared that will contain the following information:

- A non-technical summary of the results.
- A description of the archaeological setting of the site.
- Description of the topography and geology of the investigation area.
- Description of the methodologies used during the works and discussion of their effectiveness in the light of the results.
- A text describing the results of the fieldwork.
- Overall plan of the site showing excavated areas, accurately located to the national grid.
- Plans of the excavated areas showing the archaeological features exposed.
- Sections of the archaeological features.
- Interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape.
- Specialist reports on the finds from the site.
- Appropriate photographs of the site, and specific archaeological features or groups of features.

- A consideration of the significance of the remains found, in local, regional, national, and international terms, using recognised evaluation criteria, including a review of the East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework once artefact dating has been achieved and an understanding of the archaeological deposits has been achieved.
- A copy of the OASIS form will be included as an appendix.

The report is to be completed within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. If required, specialists will propose their own timescales during the post-fieldwork stage.

8.0 Public Benefit

Due to the health and safety constraints of an active construction site with plant operating and open excavations, as well as the limited timescale, it is not anticipated that there will be any opportunities for public engagement, such as site visits or open days during the works. The results of the Watching Brief will however be publicly available through the planning process in due course, and reports and information publicly disseminated through the HER and ADS grey literature.

9.0 Archive

The documentation and records generated by the investigation will be assembled in accordance with the national guidelines in *'Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation'* (AAF 2011) and local guidelines in *'The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections'* (LCC 2025). The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Museum Service, under the accession code X.A98.2026 and a deposition window of 12 months after site completion. The digital archive will be deposited with the ADS, in-line with LMS archiving requirements.

10.0 Report Dissemination

The report will be completed within three months of the conclusion of the fieldwork, and digital copies will be sent to the client, to the Local Planning Authority, and to the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET). A summary account on the results of the investigation in the form of an OASIS form will be forwarded to the ADS in York following the completion of the works, and the report will be uploaded to OASIS.

The results of the project, even if negative, will be submitted for publication in appropriate academic journals. As a minimum a summary of findings will be submitted to the *'Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society'*.

11.0 Curatorial Monitoring

Curatorial responsibility for the archaeological works on the site rests with the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET). A minimum ten working days' notice will be given prior to the commencement of the project to enable them to make appropriate monitoring arrangements, unless agreed otherwise in writing with the Senior Planning Archaeologist.

12.0 Variations to the Proposed Scheme

Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written approval from the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET).

Should any further investigation be required beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

13.0 Health and Safety

All work will be carried out in a way that complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related regulations and codes of practice. Employees of Allen Archaeology Limited will perform their duties in accordance with company safety policy, with senior staff responsible for monitoring compliance with health and safety requirements and legislation.

The archaeological site supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that all on-site archaeological work is carried out in a safety-conscious, sensible and responsible manner with due regard for the relevant health and safety requirements and legislation. All staff involved in the scheme will be provided with a Risk Assessment document prior to commencement of site operations.

14.0 Insurances

Allen Archaeology Limited maintains Employers Liability Insurance to £10,000,000.00, Public Liability Insurance to £5,000,000.00 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to £2,000,000.00. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied upon request.

15.0 Copyright

Allen Archaeology Limited shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that an exclusive license is hereby provided to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project described in this document.

License is also given to the archaeological curator to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes. This license does not cover commercial use of the material by LCC or a third party.

In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with Allen Archaeology. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by Allen Archaeology to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by Allen Archaeology that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.

The author of any specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes for further publication.

16.0 Bibliography

AAF, 2011, *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and*

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ClfA, 2023a, *Standard for archaeological monitoring and recording*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Reading

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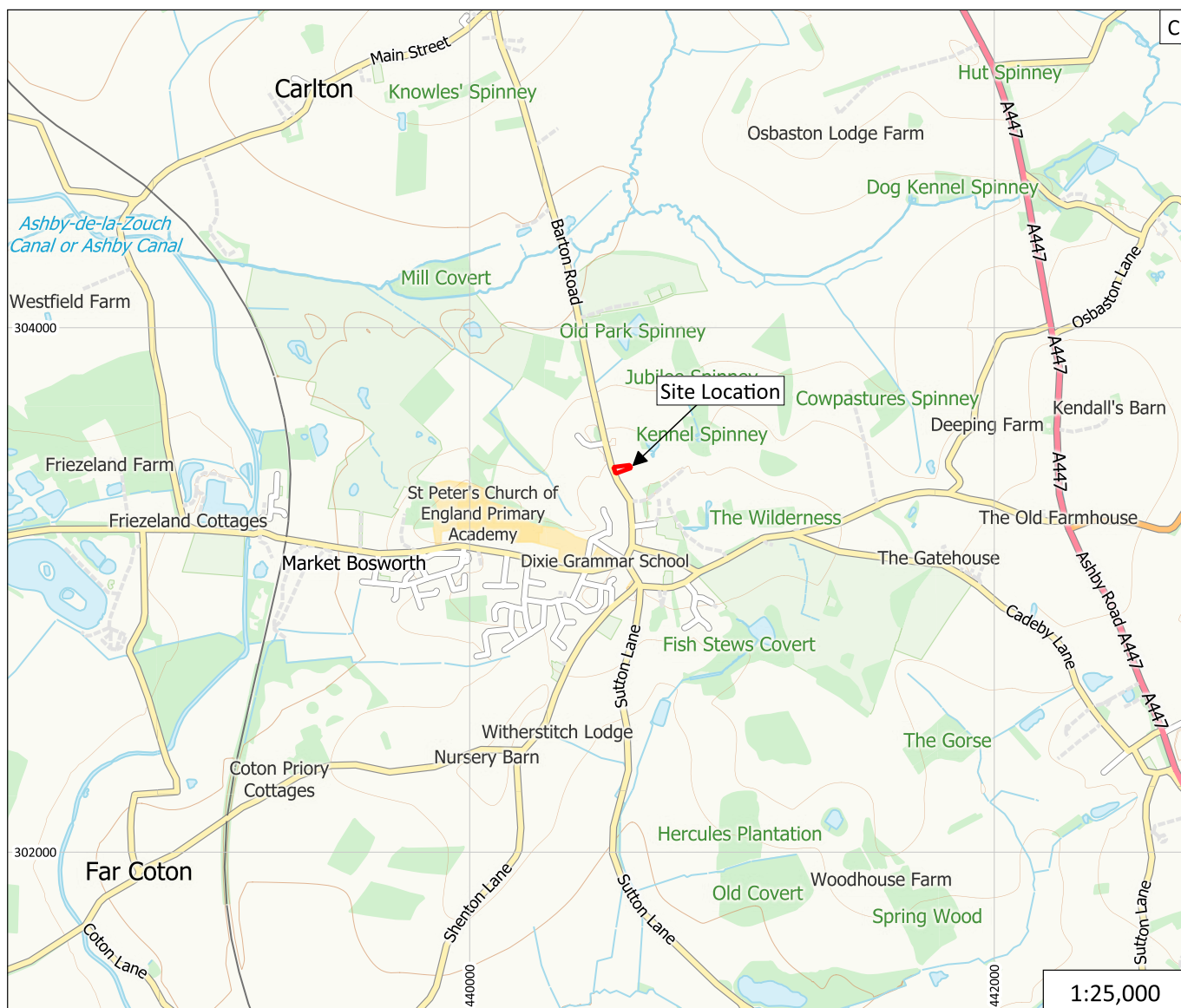
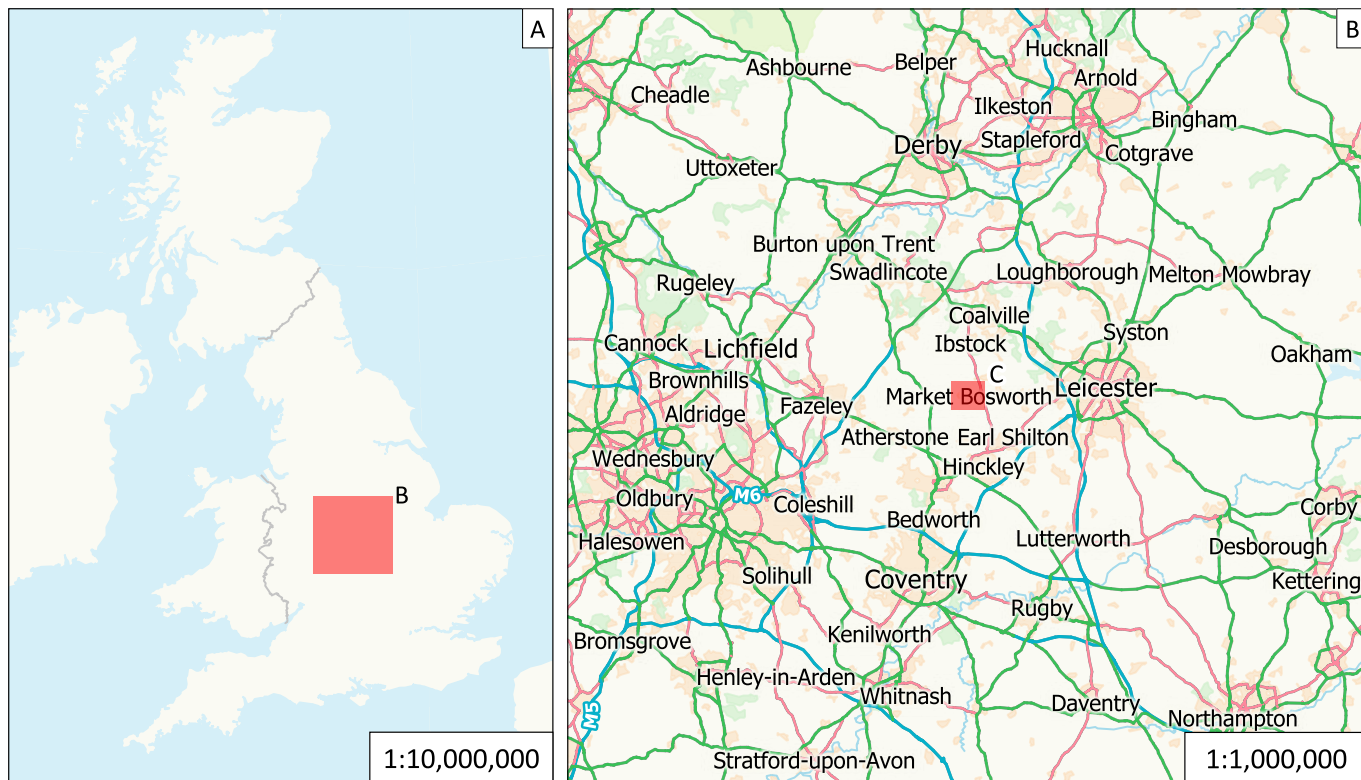


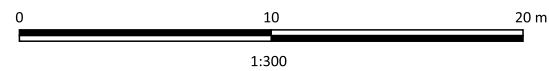
Figure 1: Site location outlined in red



40 Barton Road, Market
Bosworth
Site Code: MBBR 26

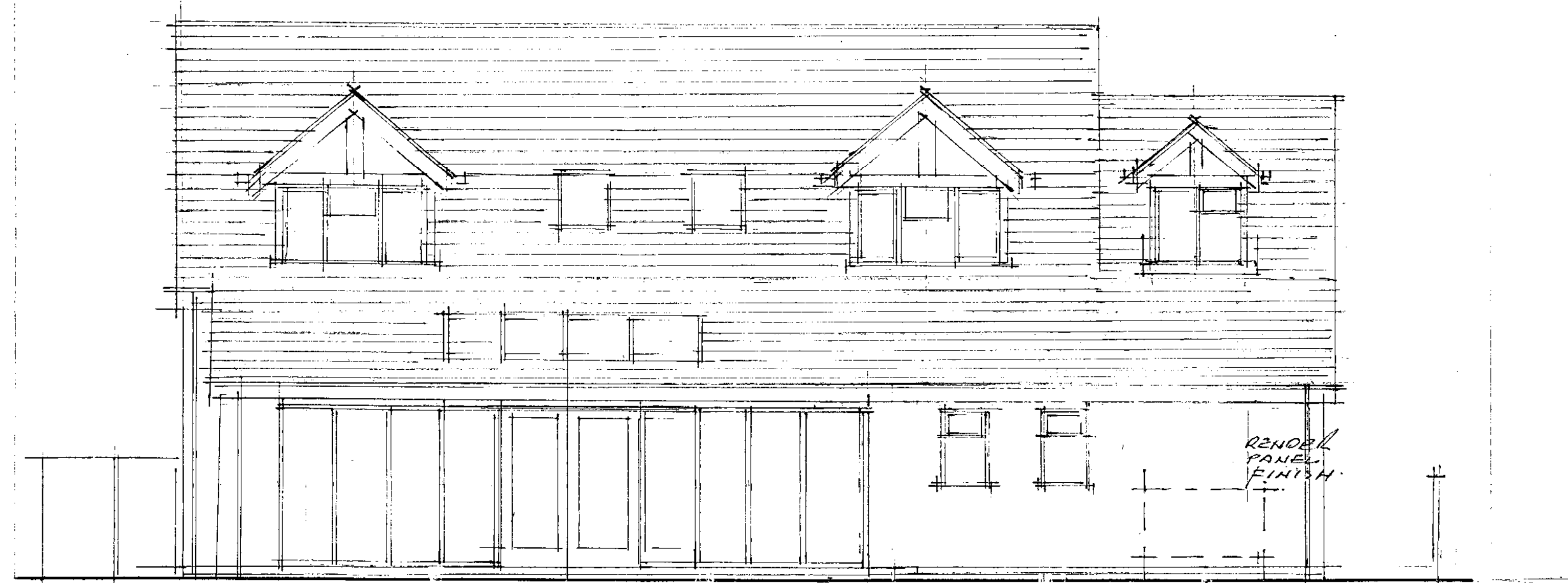
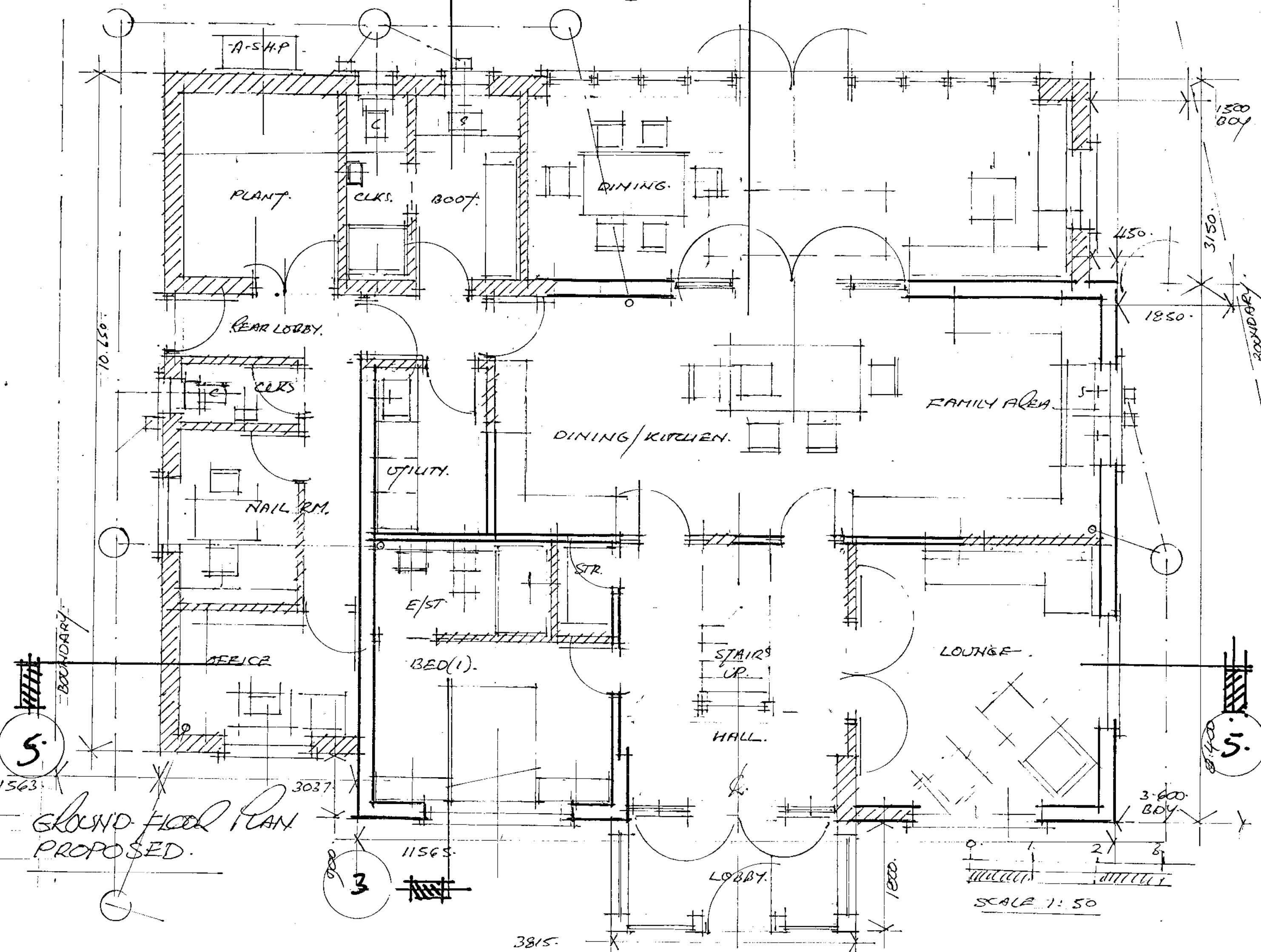
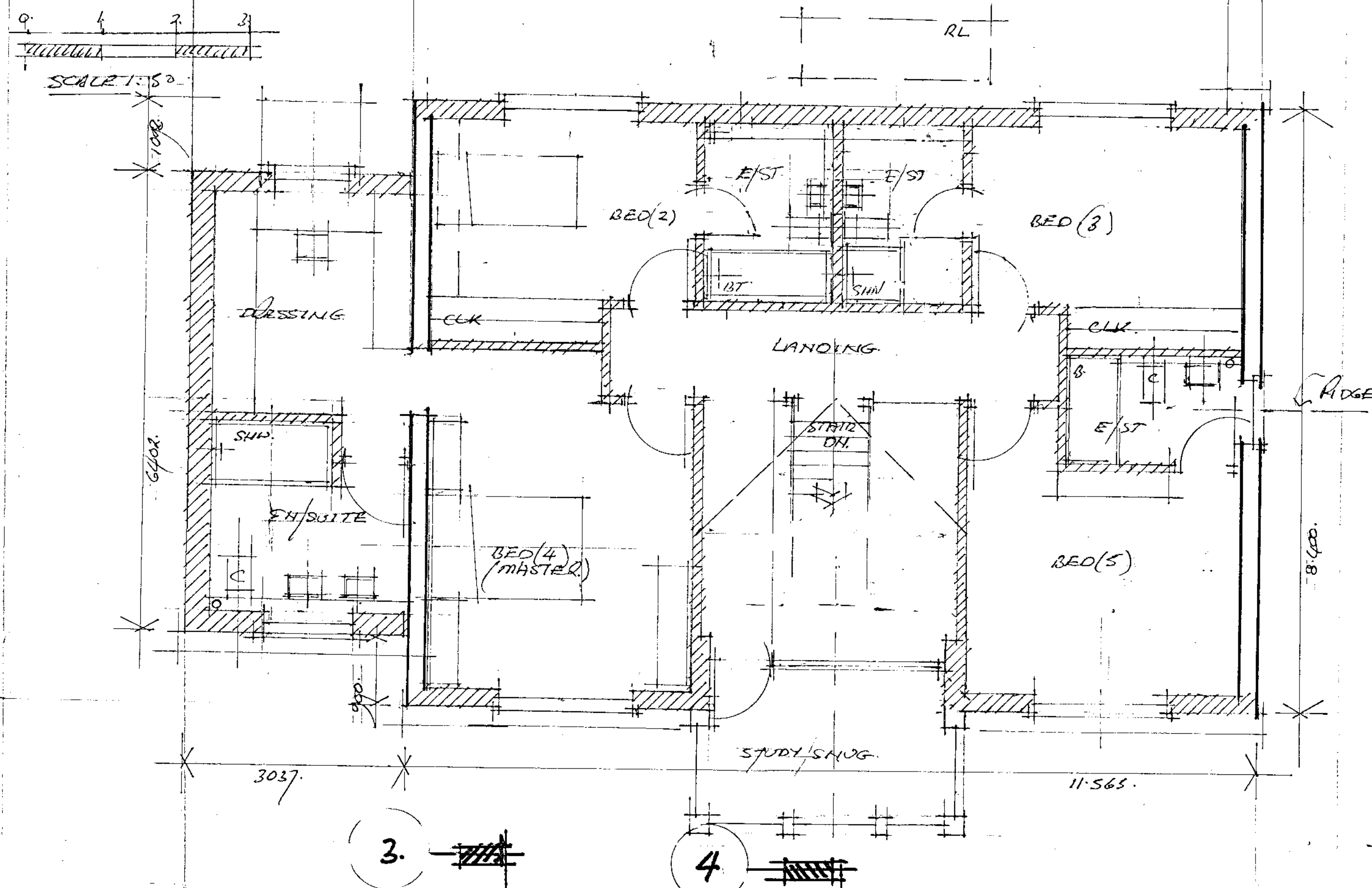


Figure 2: Plan of watching brief area with existing buildings

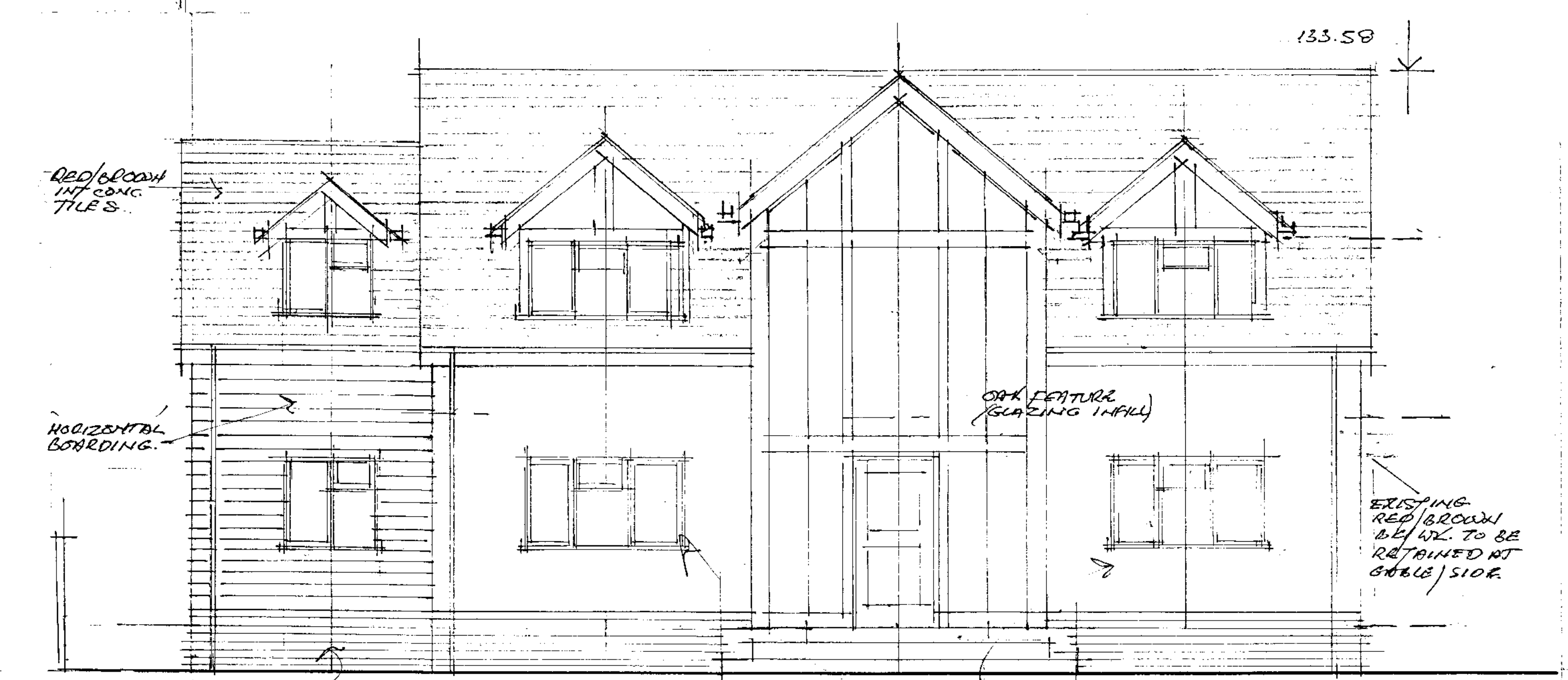
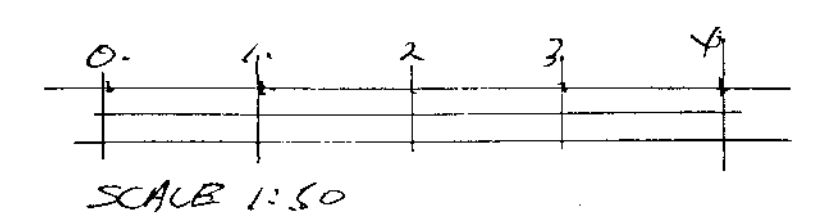


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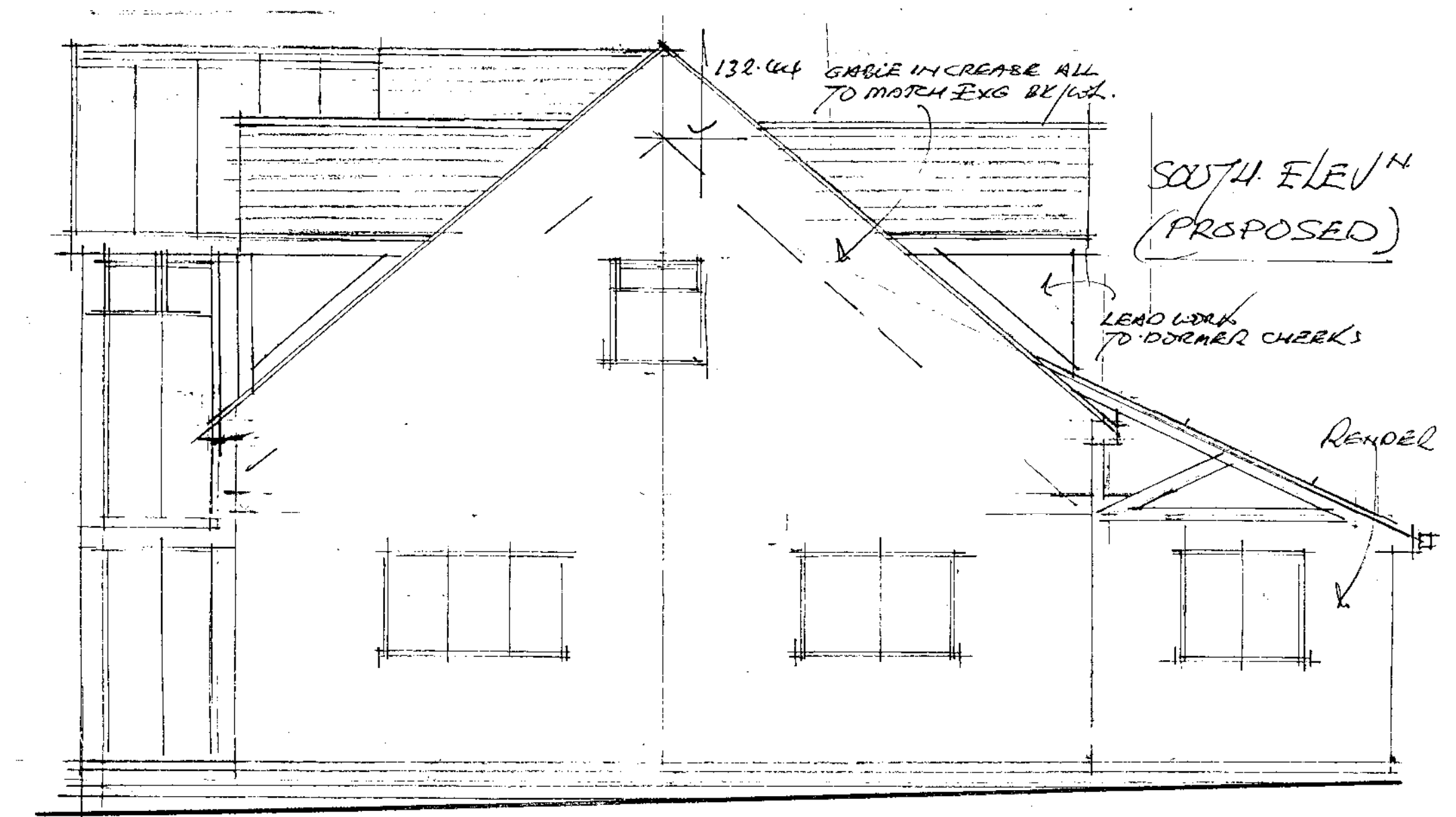
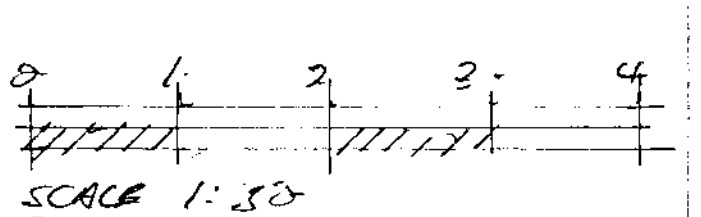
FIRST FLOOR PLAN PROPOSED.



EAST ELEVATION (PROPOSED)



WEST ELEVATION (PROPOSED)



SOUTH ELEVATION (PROPOSED)