

## Measuring

The purpose of recording a building is to provide a 'snapshot' of how a building looked at a moment in time. Creating a set of measured drawings provides a detailed record of a site that can be used for research by other people.

Drawing a measured plan can be a complicated process requiring a clear understanding of what is to be drawn, and what is to be left out. The most important skills for an archaeologist when creating a measured plan are observing and making informed decisions.

Equipment required for measuring activity: graph paper, pencils, erasers, hand tapes, pairs of compasses.

- Pace out the school playground and note down your measurements.
  - Use hand tapes to make a measured drawing of the school playground and plot the dimensions onto a sheet of graph paper at an appropriate scale.
  - Compare pace measurements with those taken by tape. How do they differ and why?
  - Accurately map the size of the playground
1. Find a central position in your school playground.
  2. Measure out a baseline between two positions, **a** and **b**, 20 metres apart.
  3. Decide on a scale you want to use for your plan, for example 1:100 (1cm = 1m)
  4. Draw and label line AB on graph paper to the correct scale.
  5. Use positions **a** and **b** to triangulate to other positions you want to record around the perimeter of the playground.
  6. To plot position **c** (and subsequent positions), measure from **a** to **c**, then from **b** to **c**.
  7. Using a pair of compasses draw an arc on your graph paper using the measurement **ac** with the point of the compass at A. Next, draw an arc using the measurement **bc** with the point of the compass at B.
  8. You should find that you have plotted position **c** where the arcs intersect. Label this point C.
  9. Continue this for other positions around the playground.
  10. When you have finished plotting, join up each of the points on your graph paper with a pencil and ruler. You should find that you have an accurate and scaled drawing of the playground.