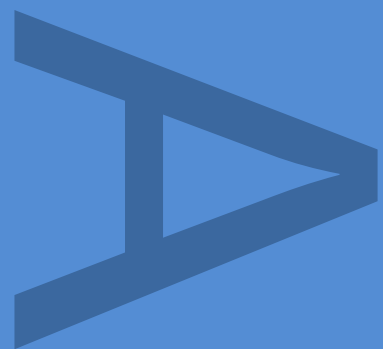


**DAY CARE NURSERY, CAPITAL
PARK, FULBOURN,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL
TRENCH EVALUATION**

JULY 2012



**PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY
R11269**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT DAY CARE NURSERY,
CAPITAL PARK, FULBOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

Site Code: CCRF 12

Central NGR: TL 5025 5642

Local Planning Authority: Cambridge County Council

Planning Reference: S/2215/11

Written and Researched by Alexander Pullen

Project Manager: Mark Hinman

Commissioning Client: XLB Projects LLP

Contractor:

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

7 Granta Terrace

Stapleford

Cambridgeshire

CB22 4PF

Tel: 01223 845522

Email: mhinman@pre-construct.com

Website: www.pre-construct.com

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited


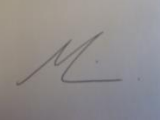
July 2012

© The material contained herein is and remains the sole property of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and is not for publication to third parties without prior consent. Whilst every effort has been made to provide detailed and accurate information, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies herein contained.

DAY CARE NURSERY, CAPITAL PARK, FULBOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCH EVALUATION

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd	
Project Number	K2847
Report Number	11269

	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Alexander Pullen		July 2012
Graphics Prepared by:	Josephine Brown		July 2012
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		July 2012
Project Manager Sign-off:	Mark Hinman		July 2012

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Unit 54
Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
London
SE4 2PD

CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	3
1 INTRODUCTION.....	4
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY.....	5
3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE.....	6
4 CONCLUSION.....	7
5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	8
6 REFERENCES	8
APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER	11
APPENDIX 2: PLATES	12
APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM	16
FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION	9
FIGURE 2 TRENCH LOCATION	10

ABSTRACT

This document details the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire. The work was commissioned by XLB Projects LLP to assess the archaeological implications of development of land at the site. The work was undertaken on the 18th July 2012 and comprised the excavation of 3 archaeological evaluation trenches totalling 95m. No archaeological finds or features were present in these trenches. The site was heavily truncated by a large c.1950s building within the grounds of the former mental hospital. The area occupied by the site has experienced considerable 19th/20th century landscaping.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document details the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire. The work was commissioned by XLB Projects LLP to assess the archaeological implications of development of land at the site.
- 1.2 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for archaeological trial trenching within the proposed development area was prepared by Mark Hinman (PCA) in response to a Design Brief prepared by Andy Thomas of the Historic Environment Team (HET) of Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 1.3 The site is located to the south of Fulbourn Old Drift, linking the historic villages of Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. The site is also located in the grounds of the former county lunatic asylum.
- 1.4 The site is located approximately 200m south of the nationally important Iron Age/Roman settlement at Caudle Corner Farm (SMN 95). Archaeological investigations undertaken in advance of development to the west have identified evidence for Bronze Age activity (HER ECB1241) and Iron Age/Roman activity (HER ECB1320).
- 1.5 The work was carried out on the 18th July 2012 and comprised the excavation and recording of three 1.6m wide archaeological evaluation trenches. Trenches as set out were 40m in length. Excavation of Trench 2 was abandoned after 15m because of the presence of numerous c.1950s footings and (potentially live) service runs.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 Three trenches were laid out following the trench location plan in the Written Scheme of Investigation produced by PCA. The site was CAT scanned prior to excavation.
- 2.2 The ground reduction was carried out under archaeological supervision using a JCB machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Topsoil and subsoil deposits were removed in spits down to the level of the clean natural where potential archaeological features could be observed and recorded.
- 2.3 OD heights and trench locations were recorded using a Leica 1200 GPS rover unit.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

- 3.1 Trench 1: The natural blocky chalk (13) was recorded in Trench 1 at 18.75m AOD. Overlying the chalk was a 0.35m thick layer of brown clay-silt (12). Layer (12) was overlain by a 0.60m thick layer of mixed grey brown silt soil and chalk rubble deposit which was overlain by 0.30m of modern topsoil. Ground level was recorded as 20m AOD. No archaeological finds or features were encountered in Trench 1. The grubbed out footings of the c.1950s building (demolished c. 2000) were observed in the southwest of Trench 1.
- 3.2 Trench 2: The natural chalk was encountered at 20.10m (i.e. 0.30m below current ground level). This trench was abandoned after the excavation of approximately 15m of the trench due to the presence of numerous potentially live service runs and brick and concrete structures belonging to the 1950s building (14). The southern half of the proposed evaluation trench was left unexcavated. Trench 2 represents an area of intense modern truncation overlain by 0.30m of modern topsoil (10). Ground level was recorded at 20.40m AOD.
- 3.3 Trench 3: The natural blocky chalk (13) was recorded in Trench 3 at 19.14m AOD. Overlying the chalk (13) was a 0.15m thick layer (16) of mid-brown clay-silt (15). This was overlain by 0.25m of modern topsoil (10). Ground level was recorded at 19.98m AOD. Recently grubbed out footings of the c.1950s building (14) occupied about half the width of the trench building and ran parallel to the line of the Trench 3. No archaeological finds or features were encountered in Trench 3.
- 3.4 In Trenches 1 and 3 the deposit sequence is the same. Overlying the natural chalk (13) are layers (12) and (16) which are thought to represent an old topsoil soil buried by 19th/20th made ground, i.e. layers (11) and (15). The footings and related services of the c. 1950s building (14) truncate this made ground.

4 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 On the eastern side of the site (occupied by Trench 1 and 3) the natural chalk is overlain by an old topsoil soil buried by 19th/20th century made ground. Footings and related services of the c. 1950s building truncate this made ground.
- 4.2 There is no evidence of made ground on the western side of the site (Trench 2). The site may have been levelled by removing soil and chalk from the western side of the site and depositing it on the eastern side.
- 4.3 Terracing activity may be associated with the landscaping of the grounds of the Victorian mental hospital or the flattening and preparation of the ground prior to the construction of the c.1950s building.
- 4.4 No archaeological finds or features were encountered during this evaluation.
- 4.5 The results of this evaluation indicate that any development at the site will have no or negligible archaeological impact.

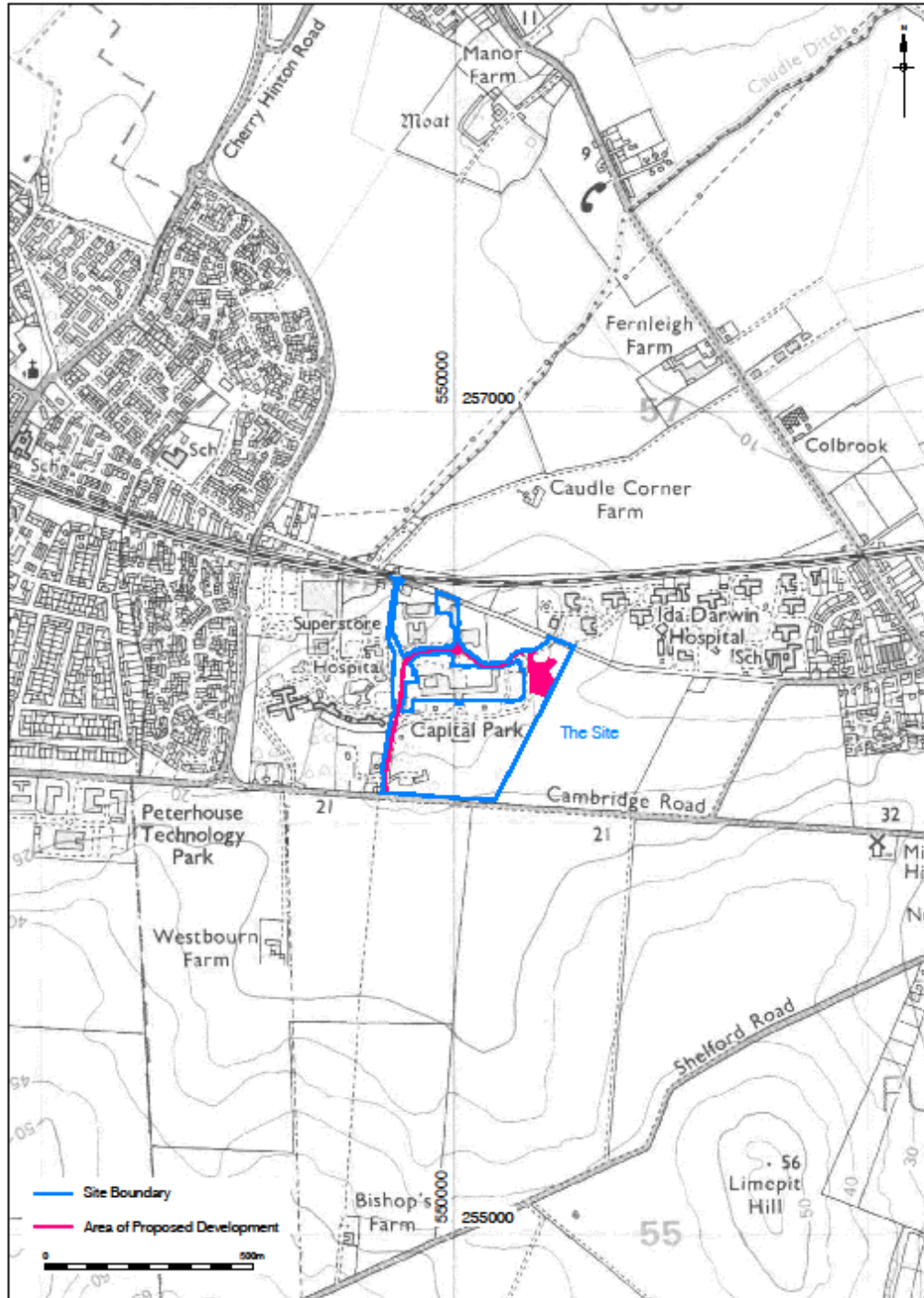
5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PCA would like to thank XLB Projects LLP. Thanks to Josephine Brown of the CAD Department for preparing the figures and to Andy Thomas of the Historic Environment Team (HET) of Cambridgeshire County Council who monitored the fieldwork.

6 REFERENCES

Hinman, M. 2012. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire.*

FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION



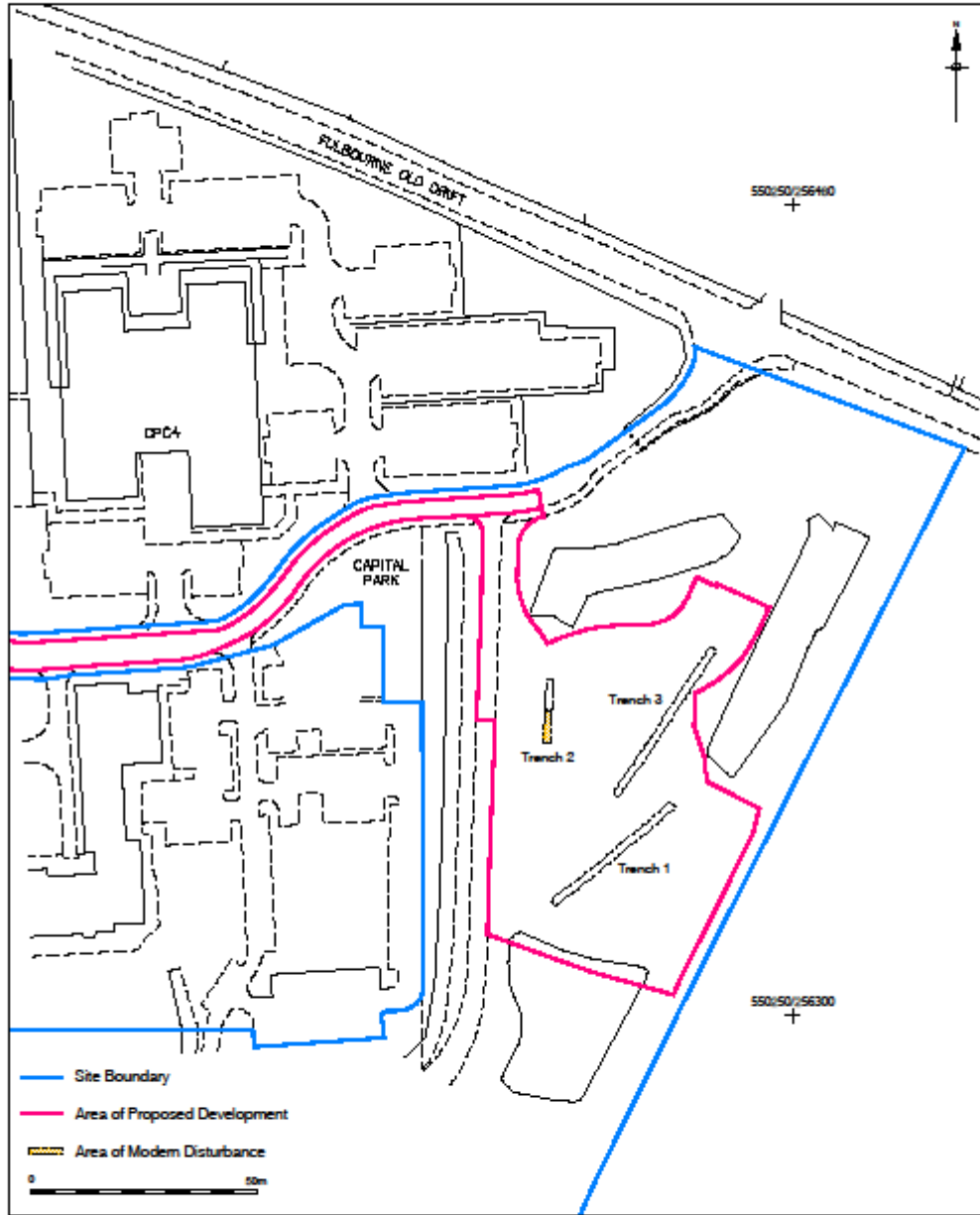
© Crown copyright 2007. All rights reserved. License number 36110309

© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2012

27/07/12 HB

Figure 1
Site Location
1:12,500 at A4

FIGURE 2 TRENCH LOCATION



© Crown copyright 2012. All rights reserved. License number PMP36110309
© Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd 2012
27/07/12 HB

Figure 2
Detailed Site Location
1:1,250 at A4

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context	Cut	Type	Trench	Comments
1	-	Trench	1	Trench 1
2	-	Trench	2	Trench 2
3	-	Trench	3	Trench 3
10	-	Layer	All	Topsoil
11	-	Layer	1	Made ground
12	-	Layer	1	Buried soil/sub-soil
13	-	Layer	All	Natural chalk
14		Group	All	Group number for 1950s truncations
15		Layer	3	Made ground
16		Layer	3	Buried soil/subsoil

APPENDIX 2: PLATES

PLATE 1: Former building occupying the site.



PLATE 2: Trench 1 under excavation – view northeast.



PLATE 3: View across site south to Trench 1.



PLATE 4: Trench 1 view northeast. Modern disturbance in foreground.



PLATE 5: Deposit sequence in Trench 1. Chalky layer is made ground (11).



PLATE 6: Trench 2. View north c. 1950s walls in foreground. Chalk natural (13) in the background.



PLATE 7: Trench 3 view northeast. Modern foundation trench running along east of Trench 3.



PLATE 8: Trench 3. Machining onto layer (16), buried under chalky made ground (15).



APPENDIX 3: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-131065

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire
Short description of the project	Archaeological trial trench evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire. The work was commissioned by XLB Projects LLP to assess the archaeological implications of development of land at the site. The work was undertaken on the 18th July 2012 and comprised the excavation of 3 archaeological evaluation trenches totalling 100m. No archaeological finds or features were present in these trenches. The site was heavily truncated by a large c.1950s building within the grounds of the former mental hospital. The area occupied by the site has experienced considerable 19th/20th century landscaping.
Project dates	Start: 18-07-2012 End: 18-07-2012
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CCRF 12 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Test Pits"
Development type	Not recorded
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	CAMBRIDGESHIRE SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE FULBOURN Capital Park, Fulbourn
Study area	200.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TL 5025 5642 52 0 52 11 06 N 000 11 52 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 18.75m Max: 20.40m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Cambridgeshire County Council
Project design originator	Mark Hinman
Project director/manager	Mark Hinman
Project supervisor	Alexander Pullen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
Digital Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeology Store

Paper Media "Context sheet","Section"
available

Project

bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Archaeological Evaluation at Day Care Nursery, Capital Park,
Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire

Author(s)/Editor(s) A G Pullen

Date 2012

Issuer or publisher Pre-Construct Archaeology

Place of issue or
publication Stapleford

Description A4 Grey Literature Report

Entered by Alexander Pullen (apullen@pre-construct.com)

Entered on 26 July 2012
