

ORPINGTON HOSPITAL SITE

AREAS D1 & F

ORPINGTON

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

NOVEMBER 2004

OHS 04

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Orpington Hospital Site
Areas D1 and F,
Orpington, London Borough of Bromley

Archaeological Evaluation

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K659
	Name & Title	Signature	Date
Text Prepared by:	Tim Bradley		November 2004
Graphics Prepared by:	Adrian Nash		November 2004
Graphics Checked by:	Josephine Brown		November 2004
Project Manager Sign-off:	Jon Butler		November 2004

Revision No.	Date	Checked	Approved

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

**An Archaeological Evaluation of Orpington Hospital, Areas D1 & F
Orpington, London Borough Bromley**

Central National Grid References: TQ 4590 6482; TQ 4578 6475

Site Code: OHS 04

Written and researched by Timothy Bradley

Project Manager: Jon Butler

Commissioning Client: Barratt South London

Contractor:

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

Tel: 020 7732 3925

Fax: 020 7732 7896

E-mail: @pre-construct

Website: [.pre-construct](http://pre-construct)

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November 2004

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results and working methods of an archaeological field evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology on the site of the former Orpington Hospital, Areas D1 & F, Orpington, London Borough Bromley. The site central National Grid References are TQ 4590 6482 and TQ 4578 6475 respectively. The field evaluation was undertaken intermittently between March and March 2004. The commissioning client was Barratt South London.
- 1.2 Three trenches were excavated in Area D1, which revealed natural subsoil overlain by modern overburden. No cut features or anthropogenic material was recorded. Severe truncation by terracing in the modern period was also noted.
- 1.3 Seven trenches were excavated across Area F1, which revealed natural subsoil overlain by modern levelling layers in the eastern and northern areas of the site and by a probable garden soil towards the south west. An E-W orientated century field boundary was recorded in the easternmost trench and modern services and a concrete foundation base were also encountered.
- 1.4 Documentary research on a late Victorian mansion that was taken over by the hospital, revealed it to be Boundary House built by Alfred Brown, a local benefactor in 1897.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological site investigation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology between and March 2004. The site address is Orpington Hospital, Areas D1 & F, Orpington, London Borough Bromley (Fig.1). Area D1 (c.4400m²) is situated in the central part of the western side of the former Orpington Hospital grounds. The area is bounded by Tregony Road to the north, by residential housing to the west, by grassland and trees within the hospital grounds to the east and by the hospital access road (Cardinham Road) to the south. Area F (17140m²) is situated in the south western corner of Orpington Hospital grounds. The area is bounded by hospital buildings to the north and east, by Sevenoaks Road to the west and by residential buildings along Cloonmore Avenue to the south.
- 2.2 In accordance with PPG 16 and local policies, an archaeological evaluation was undertaken to assess the nature, extent and date of any surviving archaeological remains, and the potential impact to them by the proposed development.
- 2.3 The commissioning client was Barratt South London. The field evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology under the supervision of Timothy Bradley and the Project Management of Jon Butler.
- 2.4 Three archaeological Desk Based Assessments were prepared by Jim Leary & Jon Butler, Pre-Construct Archaeology, prior to the fieldwork.
- 2.5 The completed archive comprising written, drawn and photographic records will be deposited with the Museum of London's Archaeological Archive Research Centre under the site code: OHS 04.
- 2.6 Part of the brief drawn up by Mark Stevenson, English Heritage GLAAS, was to research the history of the large late Victorian house that was shown on the historic maps as occupying Area F. The results of this research are presented as Appendix 2.

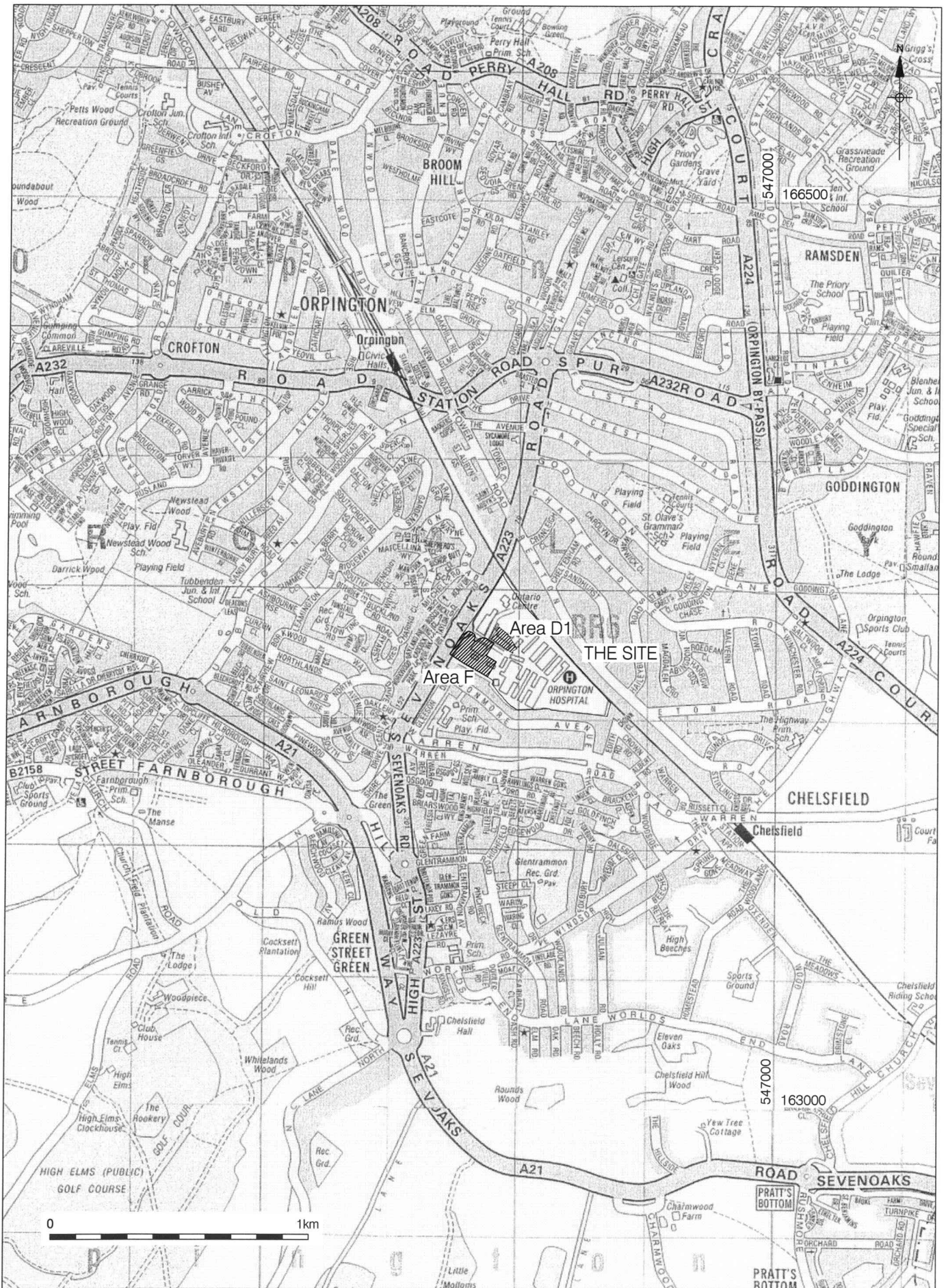
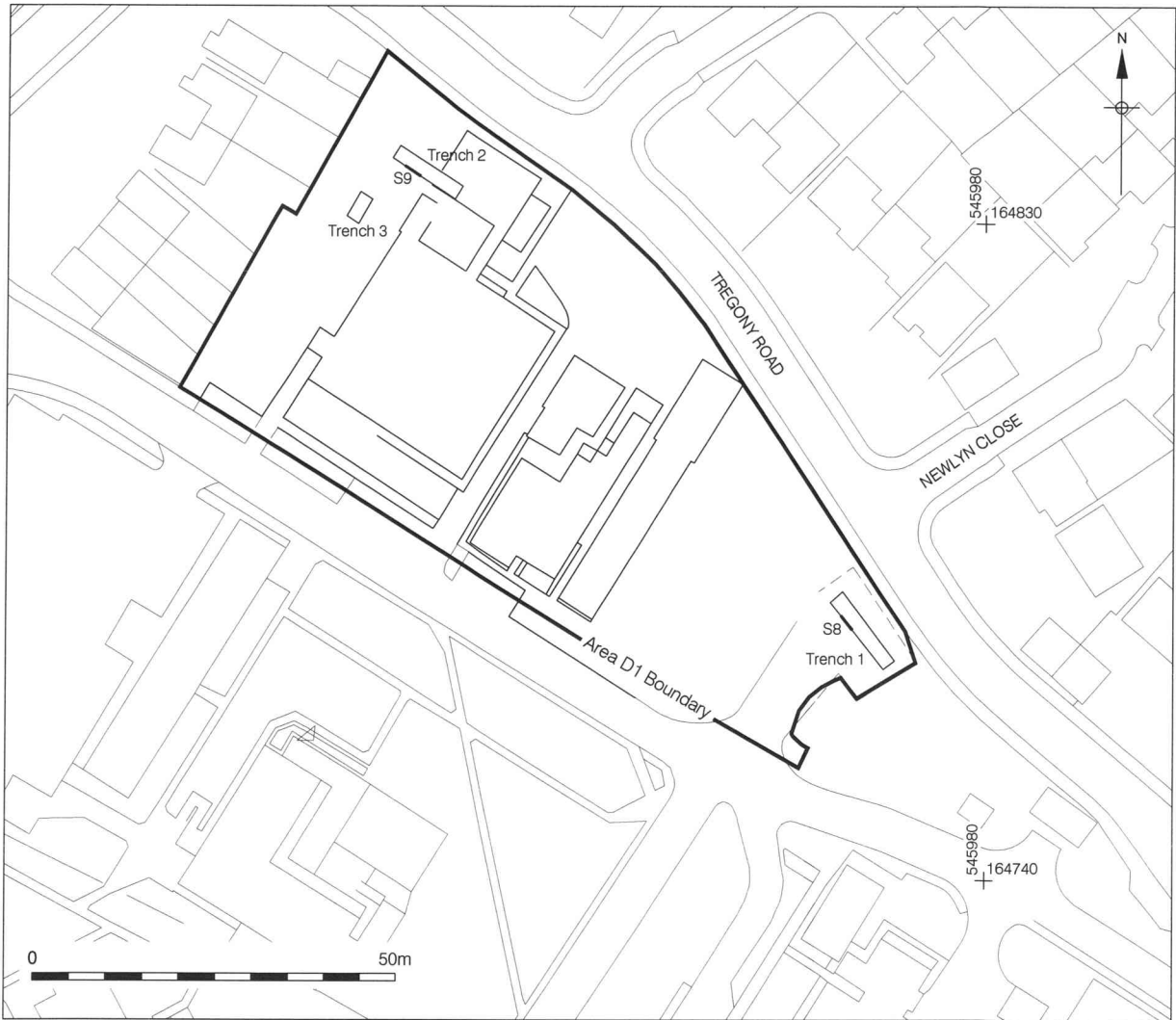


Figure 1
 Site Location
 1:20,000



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Figure 2
Area D1 Trench Location
1:1000



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Figure 3
Area F Trench Location
1:1250

3 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 PLANNING BACKGROUND

3.1.1 The proposed development of the site, consisting of the construction of residential houses and associated access roads, is subject to the Council's Archaeology Policy:

Archaeology

POLICY BE12

- (i) within Areas of Archaeological Significance , as defined on the proposals Map...a written statement of the likely impact is submitted in the form of an archaeological statement (which can be desk based); where necessary information cannot be obtained by other means, an archaeological field evaluation should be carried out prior to determination;**
- (ii) at sites of potential archaeological importance..., where the permanent preservation in situ is not justified, provision shall be made for an appropriate level of investigation and recording to be undertaken by a recognised archaeological organisation before any development commences.**

Reason

6.37 Ancient monuments and archaeological remains constitute the principal surviving evidence of the Borough's past. However they are vulnerable to modern development and changes in land use and are easily lost or damaged. The council considers that preservation of archaeological sites and ancient monuments is a legitimate objective against which the demands of development must be balanced and fully assessed. The destruction of such remains should be avoided and should never take place without prior archaeological excavation and record.

3.1.3 The Bromley UDP mirrors advice contained in the Department of Environment document 'Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16)'. This document identifies the need for early consultation in the planning process to determine the impact of the construction schemes upon buried archaeological strata. Once the results of the Desktop Assessment are known, and where follow-up trial work is known to be necessary or otherwise, an informed decision on the necessity or otherwise for further archaeological strategies may be taken. These strategies may be preservation *in situ*, excavation, or watching brief.

3.1.4 Planning permission has been granted for the development of the site, but a condition has been placed that provision is made for a series of appropriate archaeological works as outlined above. The archaeological field evaluation followed three Desk Top Assessments of the sites. ¹

3.2 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:

3.2.1 The general Research Aims, as defined in the Method Statement,² were as follows:

- Is there any evidence of prehistoric occupation on the site?
- Is there any evidence of *in situ* preparation of flints on the site?
- Is there any evidence of Roman occupation on the site?
- Is there any evidence of Saxon occupation on the site?
- Is there any evidence of medieval occupation on the site?

3.2.2 More specifically the following research aims will be considered in each area:

Area D1

- Has the terracing removed all potential archaeological deposits?

Area F

- Are there similar colluvial deposits in this area as were found to the north during the 1999 evaluation?
- Is there any evidence of garden or other features associated with the building to the north of the area which later became part of the hospital complex?
- Is there any evidence of the dene hole or other quarrying activity which was postulated to occupy the north eastern part of the area?

¹ Leary 2004, Leary & Butler 2004a, Leary & Butler 2004b

² Butler 2004

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Three archaeological Desk Based Assessments were prepared by Jim Leary and Jon Butler, Pre-Construct Archaeology, prior to the fieldwork. A brief summary of the archaeological and historical periods represented, as identified in those assessments, is listed below:

4.2 PREHISTORIC

Assemblages of struck flint have been recovered from the vicinity of the site, suggesting that the area was used from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age. An archaeological field evaluation of land to the north of the site within the grounds of Orpington Hospital³ also produced a quantity of struck and burnt flint from a layer of colluvium, dating from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age.

4.3 ROMAN

Several important Roman sites have been excavated in the Bromley area, however closer to the site evidence for activity in the Roman period is slight, with only a coin and a pit being recorded within a kilometre of the site.

4.4 SAXON / MEDIEVAL

Little in the way of evidence from the Saxon and medieval period has been recorded from the area, and is restricted to three coins: a medieval coin (probably 10th century) and a penny of Aethelred (AD 991-997) have been recovered from gardens to the north, and an Offa penny was found to the south west. The previous evaluation at Orpington Hospital also recorded a fragmentary assemblage of 10th and 11th century pottery.

4.5 POST-MEDIEVAL

By 1863 a roughly rectangular enclosure containing three buildings (the southern building being located in the northwest corner of the site) had been constructed. This property expanded rapidly and the Ordnance Survey map of 1909 suggests that that it had developed into a country house and associated walled garden by this time. The country house underwent a number of renovations and additions throughout the early 20th century with considerable gardens extending throughout Area F. Although the gardens were later removed the house remained intact, becoming incorporated into

³ Butler 2001

the hospital buildings. Only recently has the building been demolished. A denehole of unknown date (although likely to be late post-medieval) was also recorded in the north eastern part of Area F.

5 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 GEOLOGY

5.1.1 The 1:50,000 scale British Geological Survey (sheet 271) indicates the area to be underlain by Upper Chalk with Taplow Gravels shown on the western site boundary.

5.1.2 Eight trial holes have previously been excavated within Area F.⁴ These recorded sand with flint gravel and weathered chalk gravel at the lowest level, at depths of between 3m and 3.2m. This was overlain by angular flint gravel in a silty sandy clay matrix to a depth of 2.9m and 3.4m, although in three of the trial holes (TP3, 5B and 6) silty clay was recorded. This was subsequently overlain by orange brown silty clay, recorded at a depth of 1m to 1.7m, and probably representing colluvium. Made ground was recorded next at between 0.4m and 1.2m deep and this was overlain by topsoil.

5.1.3 Excavations to the north of this area in 1999 by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd recorded the natural geology as sub-angular gravel and large flint nodules within a matrix of mid orange brown silty clay and was recorded at a level of 64.11m OD.⁵

5.2 TOPOGRAPHY

5.2.1 Orpington Hospital is located on a hill with a significant slope from the east down to Sevenoaks Road to the west (90.88m OD down to 64.50m OD). Area D1 is located on the side of this hill. During the construction of the hospital buildings in this area the slope was subject to terracing to create level platforms for the hospital structures. Area F is located at the base of this hill.

⁴ Southern Testing 2003

⁵ Butler 2001

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 Area D1

6.1.1 Three trenches were excavated in Area D1 (Fig.2). Trenches 1 & 2 measured approximately 15m x 2.0m. Trench 3, excavated towards the south of the trench, revealed truncation in excess of 3m deep and as such was not fully excavated. It measured approximately 4m x 2m. The location of Trench 2 was also moved further to the south due to the inaccessibility of the centre of Area D1.

6.2 Area F

6.2.1 Seven trenches were excavated (Fig.3), five of which measured approximately 2m x 20m. Trenches 6 and 7, excavated in the south west corner of the site, had to be considerably reduced in size due to the constraints caused by both live services and two trees with preservation orders placed on them. These two trenches measured 8m x 2m and 11m x 2m respectively. Trench 8 was abandoned due to the same restrictions.

6.2.2 Trenches were reduced using a 360 degree mechanical excavator with a 2m toothless ditching bucket under archaeological supervision. The trenches were reduced to the uppermost natural horizon, with a deeper sondage being cut through the natural strata at one end of each trench.

6.2.3 Following machine clearance, all faces of the trench that required examination were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. All investigation of archaeological levels was by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and section.

6.2.4 Recording on site was undertaken using the single context recording system. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and full or representative sections at a scale of 1:10. Contexts were numbered sequentially and recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets. A photographic record of all trenches was also prepared, including both black and white prints and colour transparencies.

6.2.5 A temporary bench mark was transferred from a survey point located on the western curb of the roundabout at the entrance to the site Area F, which had a value of 67.06m OD.

7 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

7.1 Area D1 (Fig.4)

Natural

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered in Trench 1, situated towards the eastern up-slope area of the site, was a firm mid brown sandy silty clay with frequent medium sub-angular flints [24]. This deposit sloped gently from east (where it was recorded at 75.74m OD) to west (where it was recorded at 74.60m OD). It was interpreted as natural subsoil and no features were recorded cutting into it, although it had been severely truncated at the western end of the trench.
- 7.1.2 Towards the south of Area D1 the natural differed slightly. Here it was formed of a firm mid brown sandy silty clay with occasional angular flints [26], and was recorded at a highest level of 68.54m OD. No cultural material was recovered from this layer, and it had a higher clay content than the colluvial deposits recorded in other areas of the hospital grounds during this and previous evaluations. As such this stratum was interpreted as a natural subsoil. Again, no features were recorded cutting into it, and it had been severely truncated at its western end.

Modern Terracing

- 7.1.3 The natural horizon [24] identified in Trench 1 was directly overlain by a loose mid to dark greyish brown mixed silty clay and brick rubble [23], presumably associated with the levelling of the slope of the hill during the construction of the hospital buildings. It was recorded at a highest level of 76.51m OD. The fact that this modern material immediately overlies the natural horizon suggested that the area had been stripped and levelled at the time of the hospital construction, a process which is likely to have impacted on the archaeological resource (if present). More severe impact was recorded towards the west of the trench where a step had been cut through the natural subsoil in order to terrace the slope of the hill. During the evaluation this step was excavated to a maximum of 1.58m below ground level (74.28m OD), although it continued below this depth. This severe landscaping is likely to have removed all archaeological potential from this area of the site.
- 7.1.4 Trench 2 revealed further evidence of terracing further down the hill. Mixed silty clay and brick rubble [25] directly overlies the natural subsoil, suggesting that the area had previously been stripped and levelled. A further terrace was recorded truncating the

subsoil towards the west of the trench which was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.25m below ground level (67.97m OD) in Trench 2. Trench 3 was excavated to the south of Trench 2 which revealed that the lowest terrace in Area D1 was cut to a depth of 2.70m below ground level.

7.2 Area F (Fig.5)

Natural

- 7.2.1 The earliest deposit encountered was a friable mid-light brown silty sandy clay [13] recorded in a machine excavated sondage through the eastern end of Trench 1. It had a highest level of 68.77m OD and a maximum excavated thickness of 0.60m. The same deposit was recorded in a sondage cut through the western end of Trench 2, where it had a highest level of 67.05m OD and was recorded as [16].
- 7.2.2 This layer had a diffuse boundary with the overlying deposit, which was recorded as [12] in Trench 1 and [15] in Trench 2, and could only be differentiated by its slightly more silty matrix. It had a maximum thickness of 2m and a highest level of 69.72m OD. No cultural material was recovered from this layer which, together with its thickness, suggested that it was a natural subsoil rather than a colluvial deposit. No features were recorded cutting this horizon. It represented the same deposit as [26], recorded in Trench 2 in Area D1 (para. 7.1.2).
- 7.2.3 Further to the south and west in Trenches 3 – 7 the natural subsoil differed slightly. Here it was identified as a firm mid reddish brown sandy silty clay with frequent medium sub-angular flints. It was recorded at a highest level of 76.13m OD in Trench 4 towards the eastern up-slope area of the site and a lowest level of 65.90m OD at the base of the slope in Trench 7. It had a maximum excavated thickness of 1.50m recorded in a sondage cut through Trench 4, although this did not represent the full extent of the deposit. This stratum represented the same deposit as [24], recorded in Trench 1 in Area D1 (para. 7.1.1).

Colluvium

- 7.2.4 Sealing the natural subsoil in Trench 3 was a mid reddish brown sandy clayey silt [2] with a highest level of 73.82m OD and a maximum thickness of 0.20m. This layer was interpreted as a colluvial deposit. No cultural material was recovered and no features were recorded cutting into it.

7.2.5 This layer extended into Trench 5 to the west, where it was recorded as [5] and had a maximum thickness of 0.30m towards the east of the trench, thickening to 1.05m at the down-slope western end. Again, no anthropogenic material was recovered from the colluvial stratum. The absence of colluvial formations further down the slope in Trenches 6 and 7, where one might expect the most substantial deposits to have accumulated, suggests that this area of the site had been subject to stripping and levelling in the modern period.

& Century Activity

7.2.6 Truncating natural subsoil [10] in Trench 4 was a SE-NW orientated probable ditch [9] which had vertical sides and a flat base with a maximum depth of 0.22m. It was filled with a loose mid brownish grey clayey silt [8] with moderate ceramic building material (CBM) fragments and flecks which had a highest level of 76.13m OD. This feature may represent a field boundary, possibly associated with the gardens of the 120th century country house. A deposit of friable dark brown sandy silty clay [21] was recorded in Trench 7 which was interpreted as a possible garden soil, and this layer may also have been associated with the gardens of the house. It had a maximum thickness of 0.33m and a highest level of 66.49m OD.

7.2.7 Modern service runs were also recorded in Trenches 3, 4 and 6, and a large concrete base was recorded in Trench 7. This is likely to be associated with the previous hospital complex. Trenches 1 and 2 were sealed with hardcore, whilst Trenches 3 – 7 were sealed by topsoil.

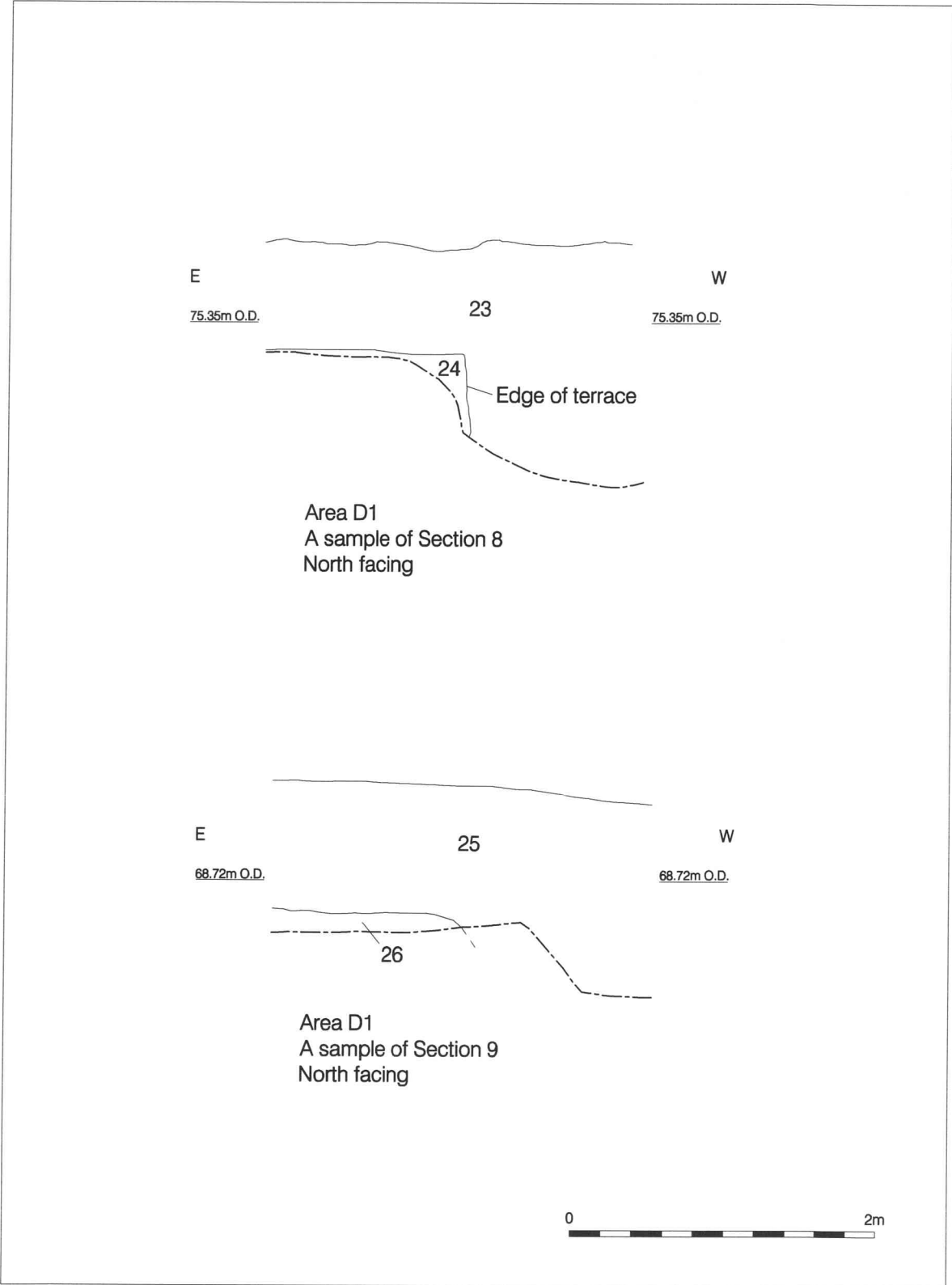
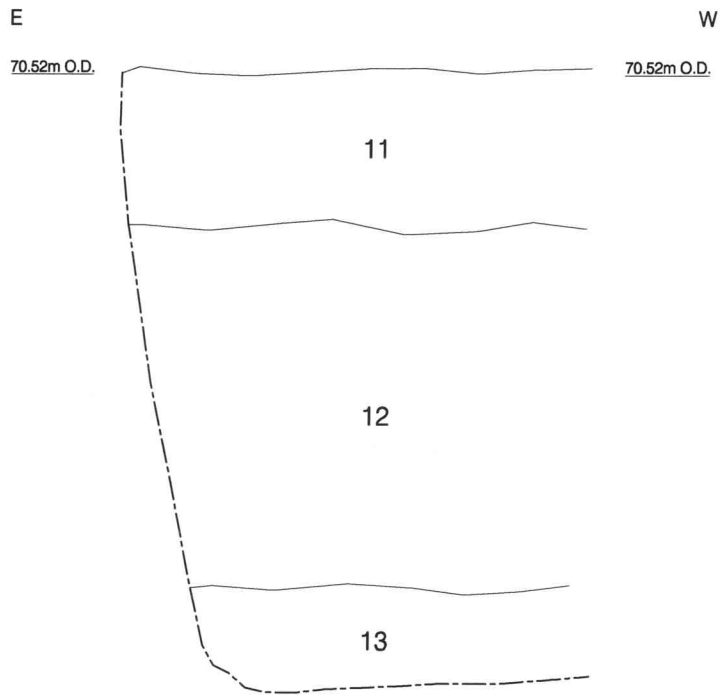
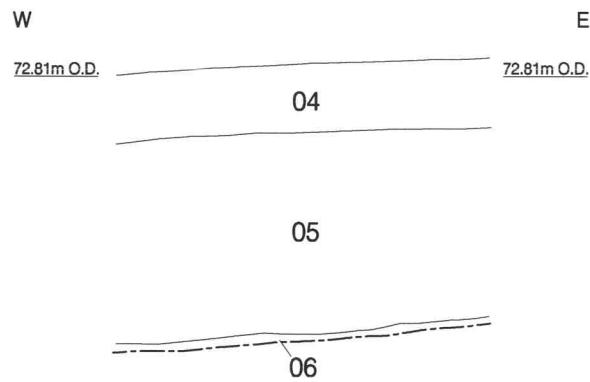


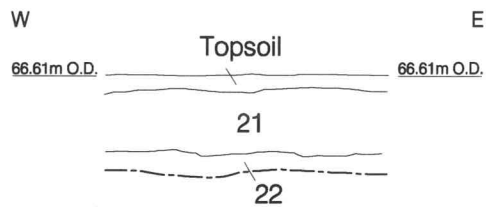
Figure 4: Area D1
Sections 8 and 9
1:40



Area F
A sample of Section 1
North facing



Area F
A sample of Section 5
South facing



Area F
A sample of Section 6
South facing



Figure 5: Area F
Sections 1,5 and 6
1:40

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Area D1

8.1.1 The Area D1 evaluation trenches revealed an absence of archaeological finds or features of any period. Evidence of extensive landscaping of the hillside in the form of terracing had effectively removed any potential for archaeological deposits on this area of the hospital grounds.

8.2 Area F

8.2.1 The archaeological evaluation revealed an absence of finds or features of any period pre-dating the century. The lack of colluvium in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6 & 7 suggested that these areas may have been subject to ground stripping in the modern period. Localised and possibly widespread landscaping is likely to have occurred during the development of the gardens associated with the country house and its later expansion into a hospital complex.

8.2.2 Colluvium was, however, encountered in Trenches 3 and 5 which was up to 1.05m thick. Despite this, no prehistoric struck flint or later cultural material was recovered from the colluvial stratum, which would indicate an absence of occupation or activity either in the area of the site or further up the slope before the modern period.

8.2.3 A single linear feature was recorded in the east of the area in Trench 4 which may have been associated with the gardens of the century country house. A further possible garden soil was recorded at the bottom of the hill in Trench 6 may also have been associated, although no dating evidence was recovered from this deposit.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Butler, J. & Leary, J. 2004b *Archaeological Desktop Assessment of Area G2, Orpington Hospital, Orpington, London Borough of Bromley* PCA unpublished report

Leary, J. 2004 *Archaeological Desktop Assessment of Area F, Orpington Hospital, Orpington, London Borough of Bromley* PCA unpublished report

Southern Testing, 2003 Preliminary Site Assessment

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1 The author and Pre-Construct Archaeology would like to thank David Chatfield of Barratt South London for commissioning the fieldwork and Barratt South London for generously funding the archaeological work. Thanks also to Brendan of Landmark for helping to facilitate the on-site work and for provision of plant, and to Sloane Demolition for their cooperation during the work in area D1. The author would like to thank Jon Butler for his project management and editing.

- 10.2 Finally, thanks to Stuart Holden for his work on site, Adrian Nash for illustrations, and Dan Waterfall for his assistance on site and surveying.

APPENDIX 1

CONTEXT INDEX

CONTEXT	PLAN	SECTION	AREA	TRENCH	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	LEVEL (m OD)
1		3	F	3	Layer	mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil	74.61
2		3	F	3	Layer	mid brown sandy clayey silt colluvium	73.82
3	Tr. 3	3	F	3	Layer	mid brown sandy silty clay ang. Flints natural	74.31
4		5	F	5	Layer	mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil	72.81
5	Tr.5	5	F	5	Layer	mid brown sandy clayey silt colluvium	71.66
6	Tr.5	5	F	5	Layer	mid brown sandy silty clay ang. Flints natural	72.88
7		4	F	4	Layer	mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil	76.48
8	Tr.4		F	4	Fill	mid brownish grey fill of [9]	76.13
9	Tr.4	4	F	4	Cut	linear E-W orientated ditch	76.13
10	Tr.4	4	F	4	Layer	mid brown sandy silty clay ang. Flints natural	76.13
11	Tr.1	2	F	2	Layer	Dark greyish brown rubble hardcore	70.52
12	Tr.1	1	F	1	Layer	Firm mid-light brown sandy silty clay natural	69.72
13	Tr.2	2	F	2	Layer	Friable silty sandy clay natural	68.77
14		2	F	2	Layer	Dark greyish brown rubble hardcore	70.31
15	Tr.2	2	F	2	Layer	Firm mid-light brown sandy silty clay natural	69.59
16		1	F	1	Layer	Friable silty sandy clay natural	67.05
17		7	F	7	Layer	mid-dark greyish brown sandy silt topsoil	66.75
18	Tr.7	7	F	7	Layer	Silty sand and CBM demolition material	66.26
19	Tr.7		F	7	Masonry	Concrete slab	66.47
20	Tr.7		F	7	Layer	mid brown sandy silty clay ang. Flints natural	65.90
21		6	F	6	Layer	Dark brown sandy silty clay garden soil	66.49
22	Tr.6	6	F	6	Layer	mid brown sandy silty clay ang. Flints natural	66.21

CONTEXT	PLAN	SECTION	AREA	TRENCH	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	LEVEL (m OD)
23		8	D1	1	Layer	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay & rubble terracing deposit	76.51
24		8	D1	1	Layer	Firm mid brown sandy silty clay natural	75.74
25		9	D1	2	Layer	Mid-dark greyish brown silty clay & rubble terracing deposit	69.37
26		9	D1	2	Layer	Firm mid brown sandy silty clay natural	68.54

APPENDIX 2

DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH BY JON BUTLER

Introduction

As part of the recommendation of continued archaeological interest on Area F, Orpington Hospital, by Mark Stevenson of English Heritage GLAAS⁶, the following recommendation was made:

'Further research to establish a greater understanding of the origins of the buildings that were eventually to form a focus of the Ministry of Pensions Hospital.'

This recommendation was covered in paragraph 3.5 of the archaeological method statement and more particularly as Research Aim:

'What information regarding the complex of buildings to the north of the area which became a large country villa type building with formal gardens can be learnt from documentary research?'

The documentary research consisted of a visit to Bromley Local Studies Library and communication with Bromley Museum, Dr. Adrian Thomas and use of the Census returns held at the National Archives at Kew.

Map evidence

As shown in the Desk Top Assessment for Area F, Orpington Hospital⁸, the first detailed map of the area, the Tithe Map of 1841, depicted the site as being within open fields. By the first Ordnance Survey Map of 1863 (Fig.6) a range of three buildings, two large 'L' shaped buildings with a smaller rectangular structure, appeared to form a roughly rectangular compound, the most southerly part of which encroaches into the northern-western part of Area F. By the Ordnance Survey Map of 1896 (Fig.7) modifications had been made to the eastern 'L' shaped building range with the addition of a northern wing and outbuildings to the south-east. A new square building is depicted to the south. By the time of the Ordnance Survey Map of 1909 (Fig.8) the square building has taken on its final form as large country villa type building with apparently formal laid out gardens to the south. This building continued in the form depicted in the 1909 map in the succeeding Ordnance Survey maps of 1926, 1933 and 1963 which showed the expansion of the hospital buildings around it.

The Boundary Estate and Farm

The complex of buildings shown on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1863 was known as Boundary Farm and was part of the Boundary Estate. As the farm buildings do not appear on the Tithe Map of 1841 they must have been built some time in the period 1841-1863. By 1881 the Census records a John Colgate, a retired miller aged 82, residing in Boundary Farm with his sister Mary, niece Elizabeth Talmage and a female cook/servant. John Colgate is listed as living at Boundary Farm for the first time in 1876 in Strong's Directory of Bromley. Boundary Farm stables was occupied in 1881 by the farm bailiff William Gillham, aged 44, and his wife Mary and father-in-law, William Trevellian.

Alfred Brown and The Boundary

⁶ Stevenson, M., (16th March 2004), English Heritage letter to Bromley Council Head of Planning.

⁷ Butler, J., (March 2004), Method Statement for an Archaeological Evaluation at Orpington Hospital Site Areas D1, F & G2, Orpington, London Borough of Bromley, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd unpublished document.

⁸ Leary, J., (March 2004), Archaeological Desktop Assessment of Area F, Orpington Hospital, The Boundary Estate, Orpington, London Borough of Bromley, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd unpublished report.

By 1891 an Orpington land sale map records the Boundary Estate as belonging to an A. Brown esquire. He must have acquired the estate some time in the late 1880s. In 1881 he was recorded as Alfred Brown, a widower aged 51, who was born in Theberton, Suffolk and whose occupation was a woollen merchant. In 1881 he resided nearby in Pine Ridge in Orpington together with son Robert and four servants. Alfred Brown resided at Pine Ridge from 1879 to 1896⁹, the year of the Ordnance Survey Map which showed a square building that was to become Boundary House. From 1897 he is listed as living at The Boundary which suggests that the house which he built was completed in 1897.

Alfred Brown was a great local benefactor who donated generously to Chislehurst Road and Wellington Road Schools and paid for the Village Hall in Orpington, and also contributed to the Orpington Churchyard fund, the lychgate of which was dedicated to the memory of his wife Elizabeth¹⁰. He was recorded in the local directories as living at the Boundary (house) from 1897 to 1914¹¹ although this may not have been his only residence, as he was staying in central London during the 1901 Census. Alfred Brown died on the February 1915 and his heirs sold the Boundary Estate to the Canadian Government for the establishment of a military hospital.

The Ontario Military Hospital

Dr. Pyne, Minister of Education in the Ontario Government, supervised the building of the new hospital. Work began in October 1915 and was completed by February 1916. It was originally known as the Ontario Military Hospital, but changed its name to no.16 Canadian General Hospital in October 1917¹². It was originally intended as a temporary reception for wounded soldiers of the Great War, but by 1917 additional wards were needed and the buildings were extended with the opening of a new wing in July 1917¹³. Between February 1916 and May 1919 30,294 wounded and sick soldiers were admitted to the hospital¹⁴.

It is known that the officer in charge of the hospital Colonel McPherson and his wife resided at the Boundary House during his tenure and that Mrs McPherson held garden parties in the grounds for the wounded soldiers¹⁵.

Orpington Hospital

The Canadian Hospital was sold to His Majesty's Office of Works in November 1919 for use as a hospital under the Ministry of Pensions for £80,000¹⁶. The Hospital greatly grew in size in the 1930s, whilst retaining many of the original buildings. Many of these huts survived until demolition in 1999. Boundary House was retained for hospital use and for many years was used as accommodation for medical staff at the hospital. It was finally used for hospital administration as part of the Finance Department before being demolished in the century.

Bibliography

Census returns 1881

Census returns 1901

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Kelly's Directories of Bromley, various years

⁹ Strong's Directories of Bromley, 1879-1896

¹⁰ Orpington & District Times obituary 19th February 1915

¹¹ Strong's Directory of Bromley 1897, 1902; Kelly's Directory of Bromley 1908-1914

¹² Young, J.P., 1919, The Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington, Kent, England, p7

¹³ Cox, D., 1983, The Book of Orpington, p83

¹⁴ Young, J.P., 1919, The Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington, Kent, England, p21

¹⁵ Young, J.P., 1919, The Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington, Kent, England, p17

¹⁶ Young, J.P., 1919, The Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington, Kent, England, p21

Orpington & District Times, February 1915

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Young, J.P., 1919, The Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington, Kent, England

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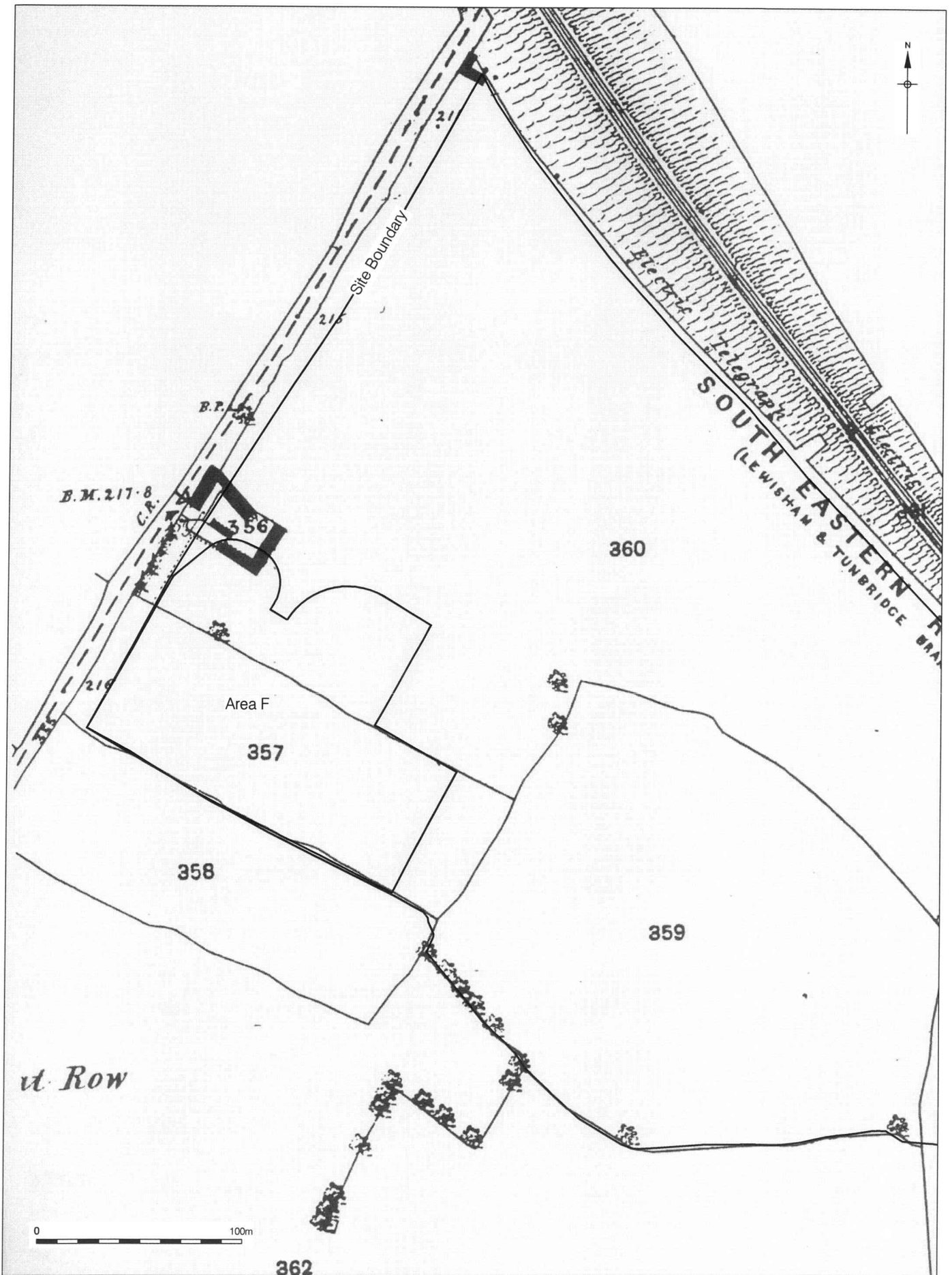


Figure 6
OS Map, 1863
1:2500

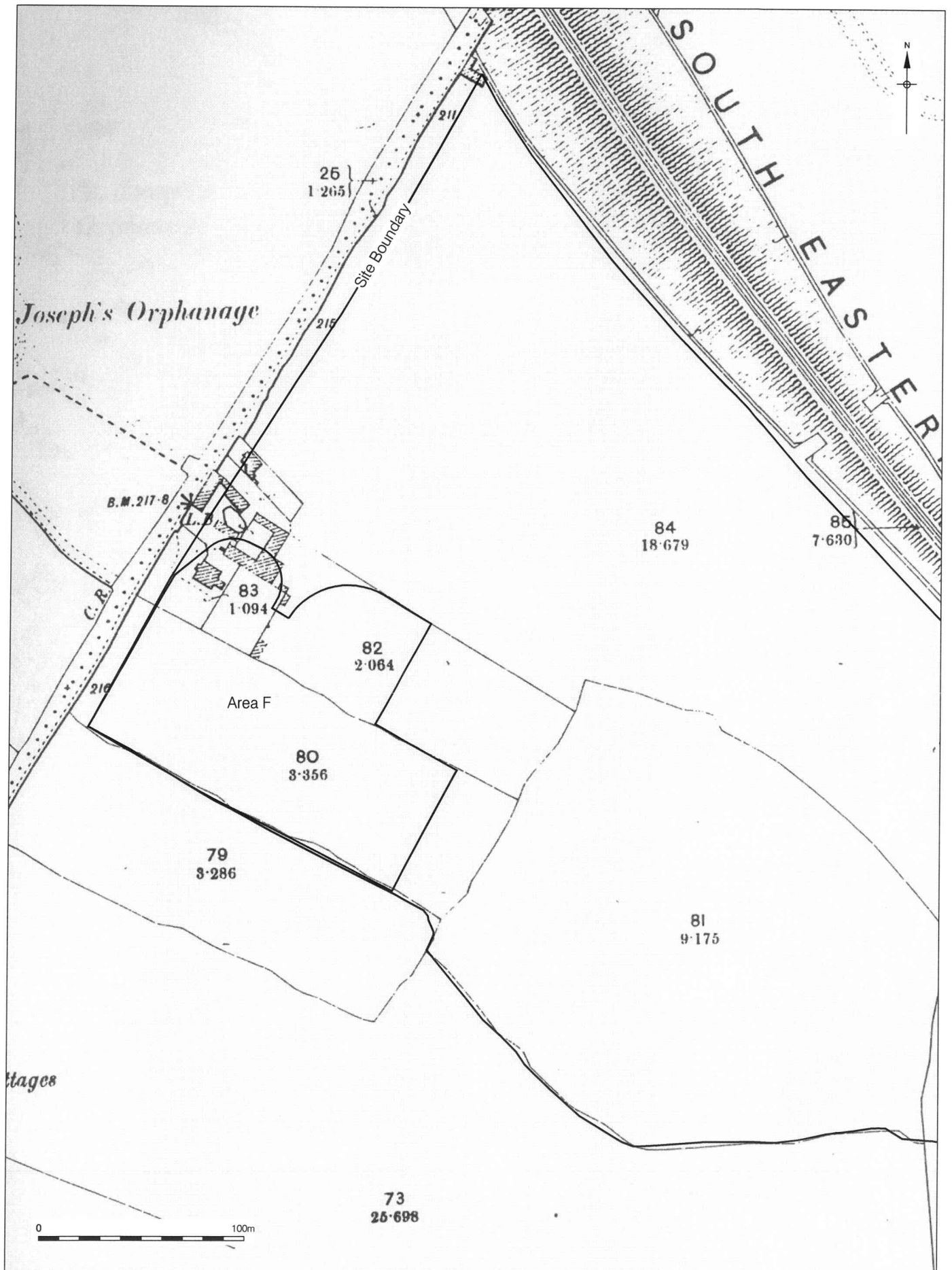


Figure 7
 OS Map, 1896
 1:2500

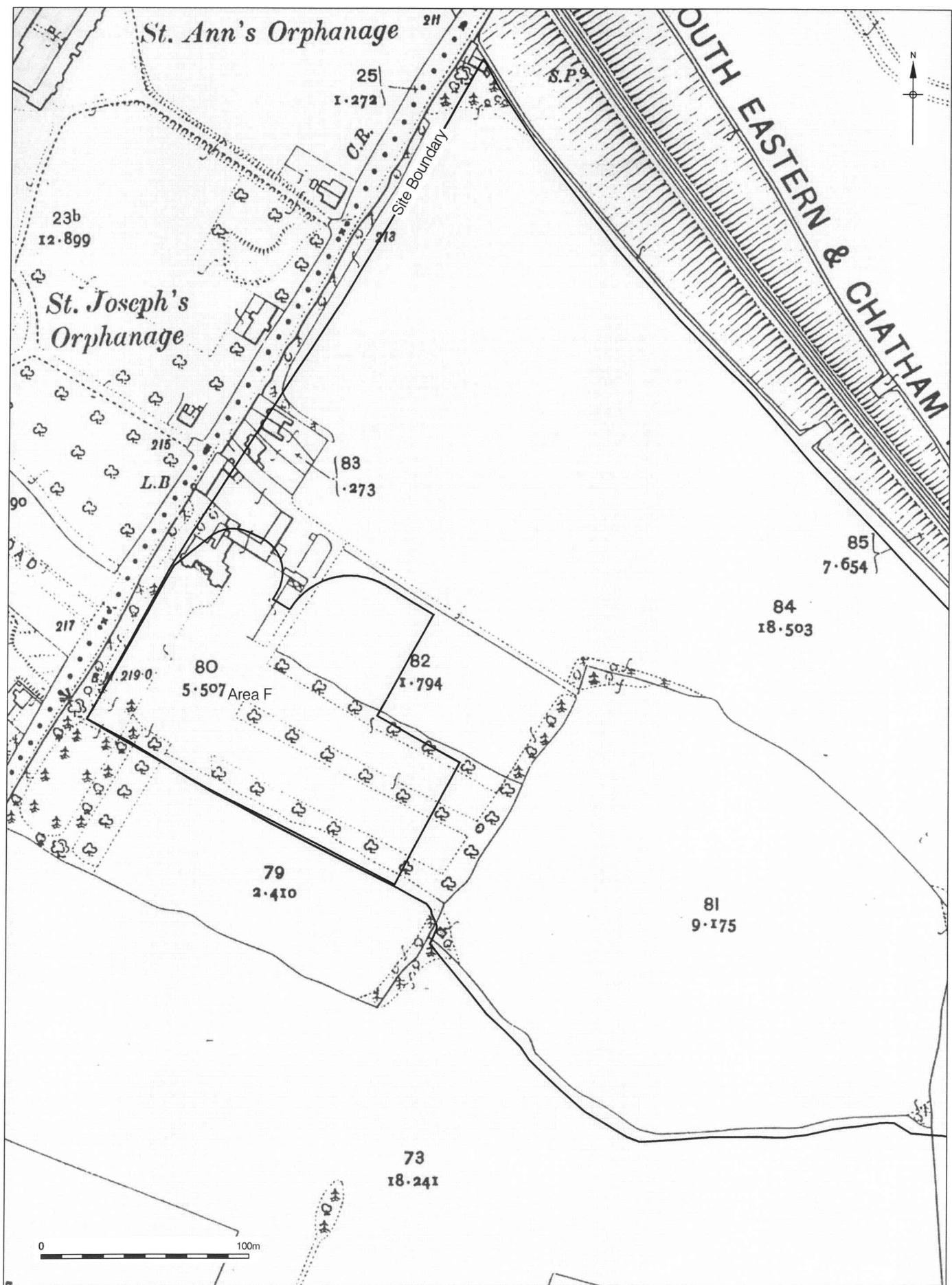


Figure 8
 OS Map, 1909
 1:2500

APPENDIX 3

OASIS FORM

Project details

Project name	Orpington Hospital
Short description of the project	Three trenches were excavated in Area D1 which revealed natural subsoil overlain by modern overburden. No cut features or anthropogenic material was recorded. Severe truncation by terracing in the modern period was also noted. Seven trenches were excavated across Area F1 which revealed natural subsoil overlain by modern levelling layers in the eastern and northern areas of the site and by a probable garden soil towards the south west. An E-W orientated 19th century field boundary was recorded in the eastern-most trench and modern services and a concrete foundation base were also encountered.
Project dates	Start: 26-03-2004 End: 31-03-2004
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Community Service 1 - Community Buildings
Monument type	DITCH Post Medieval
Monument type	CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS Modern

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON BROMLEY ORPINGTON Orpington Hospital
Postcode	BR 6
Study area	21540 Square metres
National grid reference	TQ 4590 6482 Point
Height OD	Min: 67.05m Max: 75.74m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
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Project brief originator	Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
Project design originator	Jon Butler
Project director/manager	Jon Butler
Project supervisor	Tim Bradley
Sponsor or funding body	Developer

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	LAARC
Physical Archive Exists?	Yes
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive Exists?	Yes
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Map','Matrices','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'
Paper Archive Exists?	Yes

Entered by	Tim Bradley (archive@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	9 November 2004