

# Report № 1845

# An Archaeological Evaluation at Little Plumstead Hospital, Norwich

NHER 51524 PGL









Steve Hickling

July 2008

**BAU 1845** 

© NAU Archaeology

www.nps.co.uk

NAU ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT CHECKLIST					
Project overseen by	David Whitmore				
Draft completed	Steve Hickling	20/05/2008			
Graphics completed	Michael Feather	20/05/2008			
Edit completed	Richard Hoggett	24/06/2008			
Signed off	Andy Hutcheson	27/06/2008			

## **NAU** Archaeology

Scandic House 85 Mountergate Norwich NR1 1PY

# Contents

	Sum	mary		1				
1.0	Intro	roduction1						
2.0	Geol	ogy and	d Topography	1				
3.0	Arch	aeologi	cal and Historical Background	3				
	3.1	Early F	Prehistoric	3				
	3.2	Iron Ag	ge and Roman	3				
	3.3	Anglo-	Saxon	3				
	3.4	Mediev	val	3				
	3.5	Post-m	nedieval	3				
	3.6	Previo	us archaeological work	4				
		3.6.1	Evaluation 2003	4				
		3.6.2	Watching brief 2004	4				
	3.7	Cartog	raphic evidence	4				
4.0	Meth	odolog	y	4				
5.0	Resu	ılts		6				
	5.1	Trench	າ 1	6				
	5.2	Trench	າ 2	6				
	5.3	Trench	າ 3	6				
	5.4	Trench	n 4	6				
	5.5	Trench	າ 5	9				
	5.6	Trench	າ 6	9				
	5.7	Trench	ı 7	9				
	5.8	Trench	າ 8	9				
	5.9	Trench	າ 9	9				
	5.10	Trench	າ 10	10				
	5.11	Trench	າ 11	10				
	5.12	Trench	າ 12	10				
	5.13	Trench	າ 13	11				
	5.14	Trench	າ 14	11				
	5.15	Trench	າ 15	11				
	5.16	Trench	າ 16	12				
	5.17	Trench	າ 17	12				
	5.18	Trench	າ 18	12				
	5.19	Trench	າ 19	13				

6.0	The	Finds
	6.1	Pottery
	6.2	Small Finds
	6.3	Flint
	6.4	Stone
7.0	Cond	clusions
	Ackr	nowledgements
	Bibli	ography15
	Appe	endix 1a: Context Summary16
	Appe	endix 1b: OASIS feature summary table
	Appe	endix 2a: Finds by Context
	Appe	endix 2b: NHER Finds Summary Table
	Appe	endix 3: Pottery
	Appe	endix 4: Small Finds
	Appe	endix 6: Flint
Figu	roc	
Figu		Site Location
Figu		The site, showing trenches, features and excavations
Figu		Plan of trenches
1 1941		rian or dononed
Plate	es	
Plate	e 1	Ditch [92], facing south
Plate	e 2	Ditch [102], facing west
Plate	e 3	Ditch [125], facing north
Plate	e 4	Trench 15 showing ditch [153], facing north

Location: Little Plumstead Hospital

District: Broadland
Grid Ref.: TG 306 108

HER No.: 51524

Dates of Fieldwork: 6–13 May 2008

## Summary

Nineteen trenches were excavated across the area of a proposed new school at Little Plumstead Hospital. Sparse evidence for prehistoric activity and medieval enclosures was discovered, together with post-medieval features associated with Plumstead Hall and the construction of the hospital buildings. It is thought unlikely that any further significant archaeological remains lie within the development area.

### 1.0 Introduction

The site was an area of proposed redevelopment within the western grounds of Little Plumstead Hospital, Norfolk (Fig. 1). Twenty-one trenches were intended to be excavated, covering 1,026m² and providing a 5% sample of the 20,500m² proposed development area not currently occupied by buildings. Three trenches were abandoned due to the presence of woodland and were replaced with a single trench adjacent to the woodland.

Cofton Ltd, the prospective site developers, commissioned and funded this evaluation and report.

This archaeological programme was undertaken to fulfil a planning condition set by Broadland District Council (Ref. 2008/01/99). The work was conducted in accordance with a Project Design and Method Statement prepared by NAU Archaeology (Ref. BAU1845/DW) and the standard brief for archaeological evaluations issued by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, following the guidelines set out in *Planning and Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning* (Department of the Environment 1990). The results will enable decisions to be made by the Local Planning Authority regarding the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

The site archive is currently held by NAU Archaeology and on completion of the project will be deposited with Norfolk Museums and Archaeology Service, following the relevant policy on archiving standards.

# 2.0 Geology and Topography

The site is located to the north of the Witton Run, a tributary to the River Yare and is situated on an area of glacial sands and gravels that overlie Norwich brickearth and crag. The site lies at approximately 20m OD (Hutcheson 2008).

Trenches 3, 11, 12, 13 and 18 were in a shallow dry valley. Trenches 5, 6, 7, 8, 14 and 19 were on a flat plateau, while the rest were on the valley sides (Figs 2 and 3). A considerable amount of subsoil, thought to be colluvium, was found beneath the topsoil of the trenches in the dry valley.

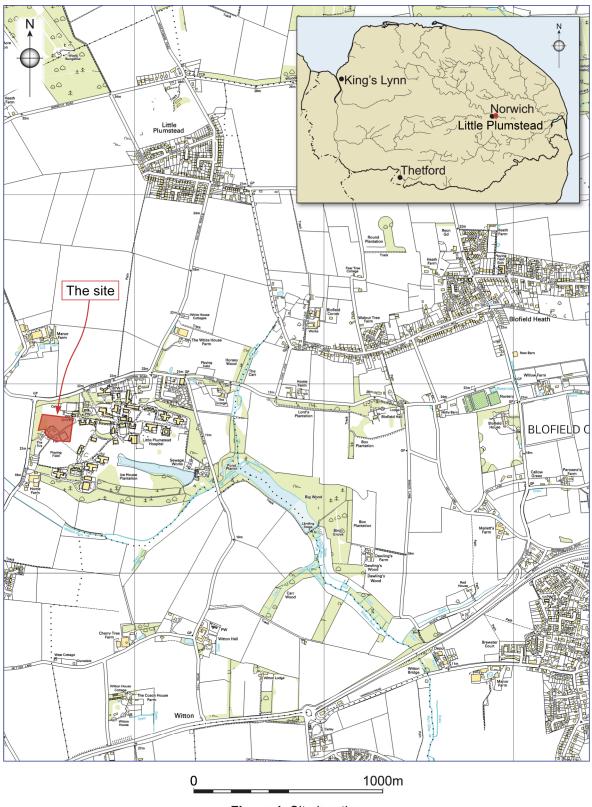


Figure 1 Site location

Local Authority No.100019340

This figure is based upon the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office - © Crown Copyright. 'Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.' Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Norwich (05/01/05). Reference copy - no further copies to be made.

We would draw your attention to the fact that the Copyright Designs and Patents Act will continue to apply to the Ordnance Survey map which will be subject to Crown copyright protection. The Ordnance Survey map is supplied for the sole purpose of assisting you to understand the information overlaid on it. Should you wish to use the information in any other way, for example by making multiple copies or issuing copies to the public, then please contact Ordnance Survey and they will advise you as to whether or not you will require a licence.' Ordnance Survey (01/01/05) Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988.

## 3.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

The background information provided in the section has been taken from the archaeological desk-based which preceded this work (Hutcheson 2008). Information from the Norfolk Historic Environment Record is referenced by its NHER number.

### 3.1 Early Prehistoric

Mesolithic flint tools and waste flakes (NHER 8485) were found 1.4km north-east of the present development area, probably representing the activity of huntergatherers. Evidence for more settled occupation and agriculture in the Neolithic and Bronze Ages has been found in the form of settlement remains in the eastern hospital site (see section 3.6, below; NHER 37644). In addition, a Neolithic polished flint axehead has been found 300m north of the present development area (NHER 34906) and a Neolithic flint knife and scraper found 500m north-west of the site (NHER 8493). To the south of the development area there is aerial photographic evidence for possible Neolithic/Bronze Age monumental structures, including two possible henges (NHER 45167 and 45130), a possible mortuary enclosure (NHER 45127) and two possible Bronze Age round barrows (NHER 12827 and 45129).

## 3.2 Iron Age and Roman

A Roman coin has been found 200m north of the present development (NHER 34906). Another Roman coin and some pottery sherds (NHER 36598) have been found 600m south of the site. Aerial photography has revealed a number of possible late prehistoric or Roman enclosures 1km south of the proposed development (NHER 49553) and 500m to its north-west (NHER 45122, 45124 and 45119).

#### 3.3 Anglo-Saxon

Situated adjacent to the north-eastern boundary of the present development area is the parish church of SS Protase and Gervase (NHER 8491). The base of its round tower may be Anglo-Saxon. A copper-alloy-coated weight dating to the 10th–12th centuries was found 500m north-east of the site (NHER 34908).

### 3.4 Medieval

Much of the church of SS Protase and Gervase (NHER 8491) is Norman. A medieval coin, coin weight and seal matrix have been found 400m north of the site (NHER 34907). A range of medieval finds have been recovered 700m south of the site, including a coin, a buckle and pottery sherds (NHER 36598). In addition, a series of medieval ditches and quarry pits were found during the 2003 evaluation (see section 3.6, below).

#### 3.5 Post-medieval

The Grange (NHER 13313), located 800m to the east of the development area, is a 16th-century building, extended in the 17th century and then extensively 'Gothicised' in the 1830s. Manor Farm (NHER 13172), located 500m north of the development area, is of early 19th-century date and has a large brick barn and an

octagonal engine shed. The present Little Plumstead Hall (NHER 8492), currently part of the hospital, was built in 1889 and became a hospital in 1929. To the southwest of the Hall is the Old Lodge (NHER 46086), an octagonal lodge of early 19th-century date. The development area is located within the parkland of the Hall.

## 3.6 Previous archaeological work

#### 3.6.1 Evaluation 2003

A large evaluation of the eastern part of the hospital site produced two areas of archaeological interest. The southern area, situated between the hospital buildings and the lake, produced a large amount of evidence for domestic activity dating to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age. The northern area produced ditches dating to the 11th–14th centuries as well as medieval quarry pits (Trimble 2003).

### 3.6.2 Watching brief 2004

The southern area identified in the 2003 evaluation was subject to archaeological monitoring during topsoil stripping and other groundworks. No further archaeological features or finds were recovered (Hobbs 2004).

## 3.7 Cartographic evidence

Faden's map of 1797 is the earliest known map of the area. This shows the church with a parsonage to the south. The grange (NHER 13313) is labelled Plumstead Hall. The 1801 enclosure map shows a similar situation, but in more detail. Field boundaries are shown. The 1838 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map shows the park at its full extent, with the hall, the lake and tree planting shown.

# 4.0 Methodology

The objective of this evaluation was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence or absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area.

Machine excavation was carried out with a 14-tonne hydraulic 360° excavator using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision.

Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal-detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds, other than those which were obviously modern, were retained for inspection.

All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using NAU Archaeology pro forma. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

The temporary benchmarks used during the course of this work were based on the client's floating grid and are therefore not heights above sea level.

No environmental samples were taken.

Site conditions were good, with the work taking place in fine weather.

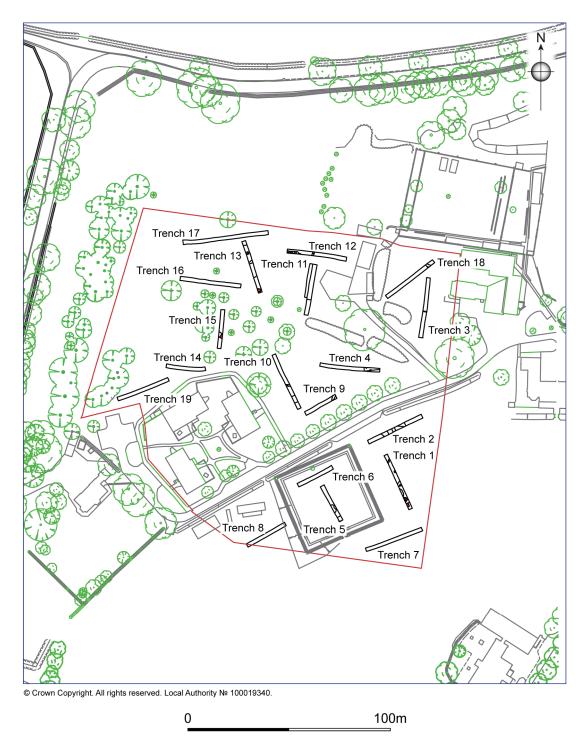


Figure 2 The site, showing locations of trenches, features and excavations

#### 5.0 Results

The results of the evaluation are outlined below. Layers and modern features have each been given a context number, shown in round brackets (). Archaeological features have been given a cut number, shown in square brackets [], and their fills are shown in round brackets ().

Three of the trenches at the western edge of the site were found to be under woodland. The client did not want the tree roots disturbed so, after onsite consultation with Ken Hamilton of Norfolk Landscape Archaeology, these trenches were abandoned and replaced with Trench 19, located as close as possible to the trees.

#### 5.1 Trench 1

This trench was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, was 30m long, 1.85m wide and up to 0.7m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a mottled brownish-yellow sand. Cutting this were features [13], [14], [15] and [18], which were irregularly shaped and filled with a mid-orangey-brown silty sand and contained no artefacts. These features were thought to be of natural origin. A layer of subsoil (11) was found to be sealing these features. This was a mid-orangey-brown silty sand. No artefacts were recovered from this layer. Cut through (11) was feature [12], a large irregular ditch at least 0.7m deep and filled with soft brown sand. At the northern end of the trench there was a considerable deposit of modern dark brown and grey sands containing construction debris (16) and (17). The latest deposit was the topsoil (10), 0.38m-deep and mid-brown silty sand.

### 5.2 Trench 2

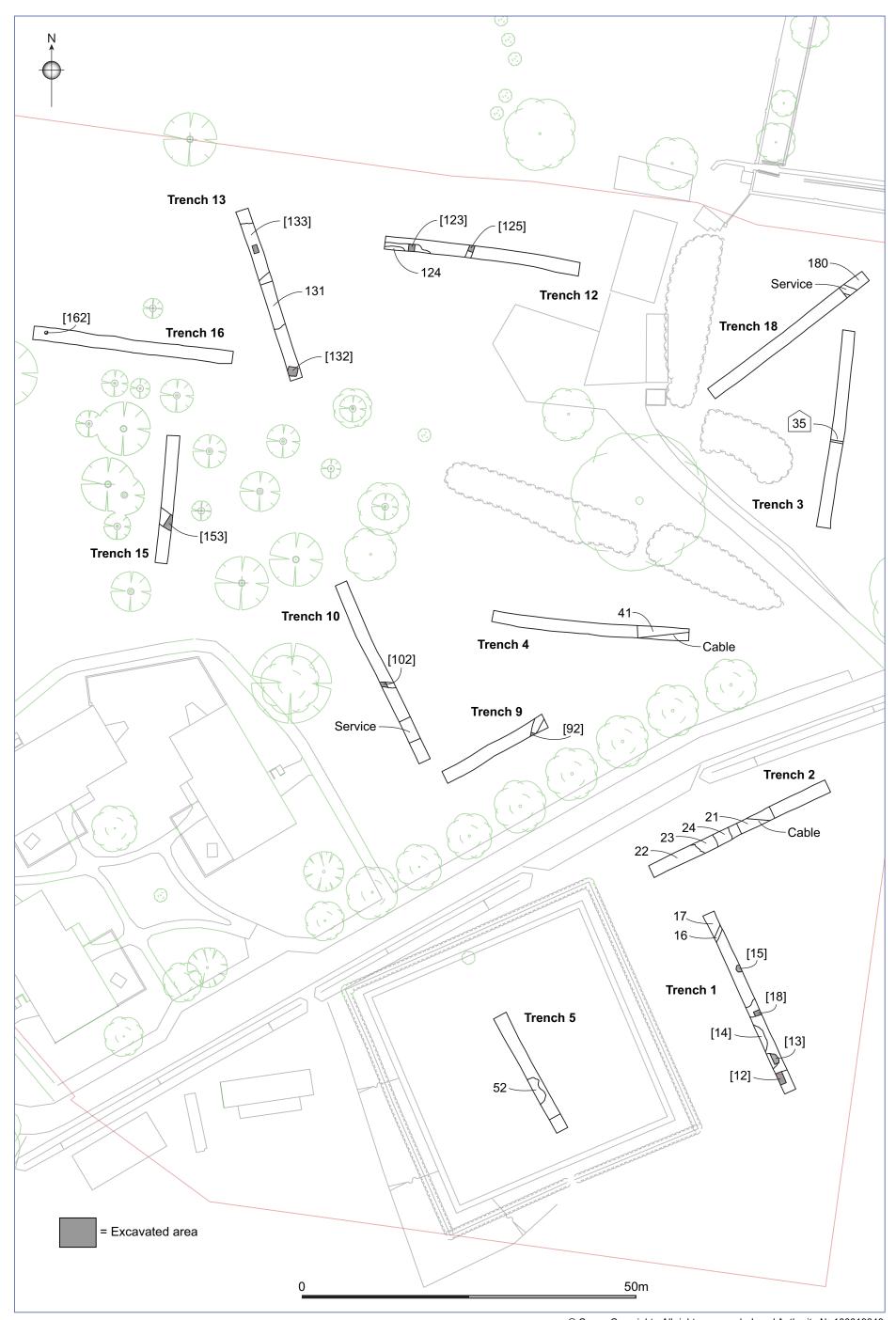
Trench 2 was aligned south-west to north-east, was 29.3m long, 1.95m wide and 1.6m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a mottled orange and brown sand and silt. The earliest deposit encountered was a mid-grey clayey sand subsoil (21). Above this lay a mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel and moderate demolition debris (22), a dark grey sand (23) and a mid-brownish-grey clayey sand with building debris (24). The topsoil (20) was a mid-brownish-grey silty sand. An electricity cable was encountered within (21) towards the north-eastern end of the trench.

#### 5.3 Trench 3

This trench was aligned north—south, was 29.65m long, 1.85m wide and *c*.1m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a mottled yellow and brownish-red sand. The earliest deposit encountered was a soft light brown silty clay subsoil up to 0.49m deep (31). The topsoil (30) was a soft mid-brown sandy silt up to 0.47m deep. At the southern end of the trench, above the topsoil, was a soft light brown mixed silty clay containing brick rubble (32). Cut through subsoil (31) was an east—west wall [35] only surviving to three courses. The sizes of the red bricks suggests a late 19th-century date.

#### 5.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was aligned east—west, was 30m long, 1.85m wide and up to 1.45m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a pale reddish-grey clayey sand with



© Crown Copyright • All rights reserved • Local Authority № 100019340

moderate flint gravel. No archaeological features were encountered. The earliest deposit was a mid-greyish brown clayey sand subsoil up to 1.3m deep (41). Above this was the topsoil (40), a mid-brown silty sand. An electricity cable was encountered at the eastern end of the trench.

#### 5.5 Trench 5

This trench was aligned south-south-east to north-north-west, was 19.55m long, 1.9m wide and up to 1.44m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a loose orange sand. The earliest deposits encountered were at the southern end of the trench filling a large hollow. This hollow was filled by several layers of mixed grey clay and orange sand (52) containing modern wood, masonry and metalwork. Above this was a 0.06m-deep surface of cinders (51). Above this was a topsoil of soft mid-brown sandy silt up to 0.38m deep (50).

#### 5.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was aligned west-south-west to east-north-east, was 19.1m long, 1.95m wide and 0.7m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was a yellowish-orange sand. The earliest deposit encountered was a mid-grey clayey sand subsoil 0.2m deep (63). Above this was a mottled pale grey and orange clayey sand 0.06m deep (62). Above this was a layer of cinders 0.07m deep (61), identical to that identified in Trench 5. The topsoil was a mid-greyish-brown silty sand (60).

#### 5.7 Trench 7

This trench was aligned west-south-west to east-north-east, was 30.25m long, 1.85m wide and 1.4m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was not encountered. The earliest deposit encountered was modern make-up consisting of clean natural sand, topsoil and dark grey organic-rich sand, containing fragments of timber, metal and building materials (71). Above this was the topsoil (70), a mid-brown clayey sand up to 0.5m deep, containing occasional flints, coal and brick fragments.

#### 5.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was aligned west-south-west to east-north-east, was 21.50m long, 1.85m wide and 0.45m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was a pale yellowy-brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel. No archaeological features were encountered. The only deposit encountered was the topsoil (80), a 0.45m-deep mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel and rare coal and brick fragments.

## 5.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was aligned west-south-west to east-north-east, was 19.75m long, 1.90m wide and 0.69m deep (Figs 2 and 3). It was intended to have been 30m long, but had to be shortened due to the presence of live services at its western end. The natural subsoil was a red-orange sand. One archaeological feature was encountered, a ditch [92] aligned north-north-east to south-south-west. This was 0.87m wide and 0.25m deep with a shallow U-shaped profile. Its fill was a midbrown sandy silt with occasional flint gravel (93). No artefacts were recovered. This feature was sealed by the subsoil (91), a soft mid-greyish-brown sandy clay

0.37m deep, which was in turn sealed by the topsoil (90), a 0.32m-deep midbrown silty sand.



Plate 1 Ditch [92], facing south
Scale bar = 1m

## 5.10 Trench 10

This trench was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, was 29.35m long, 1.9m wide and up to 1m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a soft orangey-brown sand. One archaeological feature was encountered, an east—west ditch [102]. This was 0.92m wide, 0.32m deep and had a V-shaped profile. Its fill was a mid-greyish-brown clayey sand with occasional flint gravel and contained no artefacts (103). This was sealed by topsoil (100), a mid-brown silty sand. Two services were encountered at the trench's southern end.

#### 5.11 Trench 11

Trench 11 was aligned north to south, was 23.2m long, 1.85m wide and up to 1.09m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was a firm pinkish-orange sandy clay. No archaeological features were encountered. The earliest deposit encountered was a pale brown sandy clay subsoil (111) up to 0.85m deep. Above this, at the northern end of the trench, was a layer of tarmac 0.08m thick (112). Sealing this was the topsoil (110), a dark greyish-brown sandy silt 0.14m deep.

#### 5.12 Trench 12

This trench was aligned east to west, was 29.3m long, up to 2.05m wide and 1.3m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a firm yellowish-brown clayey sand. The earliest archaeological features were ditch [125] and possible palaeochannel [123]. Ditch [125] was aligned south-south-west to north-north-east, was 0.83m wide and 0.24m deep, with a shallow V-shaped profile. Its fill (126) was a midbrown silty clay with occasional flint gravel. No artefacts were recovered. Possible palaeochannel [123] was of unknown width or depth due to the confined nature of the trench; the one side investigated was vertical, indeed undercut in places. Its fill (124) was a pale grey sandy clay with rare inclusions of flint gravel. No artefacts



Plate 2 Ditch [102], facing west Scale bar = 1m

were recovered. Sealing these features was subsoil (122), a mid-brown clayey silt 0.37m deep. Above this was a dark greyish-brown silty sand topsoil 0.33m thick (121). A modern pit full of domestic rubbish cut through this layer at the western end of the trench. Sealing this and the topsoil was layer (120), a mixed dark brown silty sand with frequent modern rubbish 0.56m deep.

#### 5.13 Trench 13

Trench 13 was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east, was 26.5m long, 1.85m wide and between 0.45 and 1.15m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a brownish-yellow clayey sand. The earliest deposit encountered was a linear feature filled with firm mid-grey clayey sand 0.36m deep [133]. This may be associated with feature [123] found in Trench 12. At the southern end of the trench was a square pit [132] containing bone and 20th-century metalwork. Sealing these was subsoil layer (131), a mid-reddish-grey clayey sand up to 0.8m deep. Above this was the topsoil (130), a dark brownish-grey loose silty sand 0.3m deep.

#### 5.14 Trench 14

This trench was aligned north to south, was 19.7m long, 1.8m wide and 0.55m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was a mottled pale yellow clayey sand with occasional flint gravel. No archaeological features were present. The earliest deposit was subsoil (141), a 0.5m-deep pale to mid-brown clayey sand with occasional flint gravel and rare coal and brick fragments. Above this was the topsoil (140), a mid-brown silty sand only 0.05m deep.

#### 5.15 Trench 15

Trench 15 was aligned north to south, was 19.1m long, 1.85m wide, 0.37m deep at the southern end and 0.61m deep at the, lower, northern end (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a mottled yellow and red gravelly sand. One feature was present, ditch [153]. This was 2.2m wide and 0.15m deep with a flat base and



Plate 3 Ditch [125], facing north

Scale bar = 1m

shallowly sloping sides. Its fill (154) was a mid- to pale brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel, one fragment of grey Oolitic limestone and two fragments of late medieval pottery. The fill of the ditch was sealed by a subsoil layer (152), a mid- to pale brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel up to 0.29m deep at the northern end. Above this was the topsoil (151), a mid- to dark brown silty sand with occasional flints and rare coal and brick fragments.

## 5.16 Trench 16

This trench was aligned east to west, was 30m long, 1.9m wide and up to 0.51m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was a loose orange sand. One archaeological feature was present at the western end of the trench, post-hole [162]. This was 0.34m in diameter and 0.1m deep with a concave base. Its fill (163) was pale grey sand which contained no artefacts. This post-hole was sealed by subsoil layer (161), a mid-brown silty sand 0.24m deep. Above this was topsoil (160), a mid-greyish-brown silty sand 0.28m deep.

#### 5.17 Trench 17

Trench 17 was aligned east to west, was 42m long, 1.85m wide, 0.65m deep at the western end and 1.09m deep at the eastern end (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was orange sand. No archaeological features were present. The earliest deposit was the subsoil (171), a light brown silty sand, 0.28m deep at the western end of the trench and 0.84m deep at the eastern end.

#### 5.18 Trench 18

This trench was aligned north-east to south-west, was 29m long, 1.85m wide and 1.1m deep (Figs 2 and 3). The natural subsoil was mixed yellow and red sand with patches of flint gravel. No archaeological features were present. The earliest deposit was subsoil (181), a mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel, 0.6m



Plate 4 Trench 15 showing Ditch [153], facing north

deep. Above this was topsoil (180), a dark brown silty sand with occasional flint gravel and rare coal and brick fragments. At the north-eastern end of the trench was a service trench which remained uninvestigated.

#### 5.19 Trench 19

Trench 19 was aligned west-southwest to east-north-east, was 27m long, 1.85m wide and 0.61–0.79m deep (Fig. 2). The natural subsoil was a mottled pale yellow clayey sand with occasional flint gravel. No archaeological features were present. The earliest deposit was a layer of subsoil (191), a mid-brown silty sand 0.34–0.53m deep. Above this was topsoil (190), a light greyish-brown silty sand 0.27m deep.

### 6.0 The Finds

The finds and environmental material from the site are presented in tabular form with basic quantitative information in Appendix 2. In addition to this summary, more detailed information on specific finds and environmental categories is included here. Supporting tables for these contributions are included in the appendices.

#### 6.1 Pottery

The site produced two fragments of the same medieval unglazed sherd, weighing 3g from ditch [153] (Trench 15). The pieces are conjoining and are 14th–15th century.

#### 6.2 Small Finds

Two small finds were recovered from the site: a copper-alloy ring from topsoil (130) in Trench 13 and a late 17th-century silver coin from topsoil (151) in Trench 15. The coin is badly worn and bent to represent a love token.

#### 6.3 Flint

Four struck flints were recovered during the evaluation (from contexts (122), (151), (180) and (191)). Four pieces of burnt flint, weighing a total of 91g, were also found in subsoil (131) in Trench 13); they have been discarded.

Two flakes, a blade-like flake and a scraper are present. The blade-like piece has a notch in its side, but this seems likely to be due to accidental damage, especially when the generally abraded/edge-damaged nature of the rest of the flint is taken

into account. The scraper is on a squat, quite thick flake and is slightly irregular in form. It is retouched around its slightly protruding distal end.

All of the flint came from the subsoil. It represents activity in the vicinity of the site during the prehistoric period. It is not closely datable, but its slightly irregular nature suggests that a later Neolithic, or later, date is most likely.

#### 6.4 Stone

A single piece of weathered and abraded un-worked Oolitic Limestone was recovered from (154), the fill of ditch [153], in Trench 15.

### 7.0 Conclusions

The earliest archaeological remains encountered in this evaluation were the eight fragments of worked or burnt flint. These were all residual within later topsoil and subsoil and suggest that there was prehistoric activity in the area. This activity may be linked to the Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age settlement activity found 500m to the south-east of the present site during the 2003 evaluation (Trimble 2003).

The earliest archaeological feature present was ditch [152], dated to the late medieval period. In alignment, if not in form, it was similar to other ditches found in Trenches 9, 10 and 12. These features may represent intakes or enclosures made to the heath in the medieval or early post-medieval periods. Faden's map of 1797 shows Mousehold Heath c.1 mile to the north of the site, but it is likely that the hearth had previously been much more extensive. These enclosures may have been centred around a settlement based in the area of the parish church of SS Protase and Gervase. The fragment of Oolitic Limestone found in ditch [152] may originate from a phase of building work on this church. The lack of artefacts recovered from these ditches and their limited geographic distribution (they only appear in trenches in the northern and central portions of the development area) suggest that their period of use was limited and fleeting.

The subsoil present in most of the trenches is of varying depths depending on their locations. It is deepest in the dry valley located in the area of Trenches 3, 11, 12, 13 and 18, and non-existent on the plateau examined by Trenches 5, 6, 7, 8, 14 and 19. This suggests that the subsoil is a colluvial layer and was laid down when the area was relatively open.

The next phase of activity appears to be 19th century. Wall [35] in Trench 3 was probably of late 19th-century date and appears to be similar to the parallel wall still standing to the north. It may be part of a formal or kitchen garden associated with Plumstead Hall.

The modern disturbance and make-up layers found in Trenches 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 may be the result of quarrying for sand during the construction of buildings associated with the hall or the hospital. They were subsequently backfilled with waste material and possibly dredgings from the park lake (represented by the dark organic sands found).

Recommendations for future work based upon this report will be made by Norfolk Landscape Archaeology.

## **Acknowledgements**

Thanks must be given to John Boothroyd and Michelle Kirk who assisted with the fieldwork. Becky Crawford processed the finds, while Lucy Talbot and Sarah Bates examined and reported on them. Michael Feather completed the illustrations and the report was edited by Richard Hoggett. The project was managed by David Whitmore. Thanks must also go to Cofton Ltd who funded the work and to Ken Hamilton of NLA who monitored the work. The trench locations were laid out by Jonathon Laird of Tower Surveys Ltd.

# **Bibliography**

Department of the Environment	1990	Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning. London: HMSO.
Hobbs, B.	2004	An archaeological watching brief at Little Plumstead, Norfolk. NAU Archaeology report 1028.
Hutcheson, N.	2008	An archaeological desk-based assessment of Little Plumstead Hospital, Norfolk. NAU Archaeology report 1791.
Trimble, G.	2003	An archaeological evaluation at Little Plumstead Hospital. NAU Archaeology report 887.

# **Appendix 1a: Context Summary**

Context	Category	Description	Period
10	Layer	Topsoil	
11	Layer	Subsoil	
12	Feature	Ditch	Modern
13	Feature	Natural	
14	Feature	Natural	
15	Feature	Pit	Modern
16	Layer	Make-up	Modern
17	Layer	Make-up	Modern
18	Feature	Natural	
20	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
21	Layer	Subsoil	
22	Layer	Make-up	Modern
23	Layer	Make-up	Modern
24	Layer	Make-up	Modern
30	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
31	Layer	Subsoil	
32	Layer	Dumping	Modern
35	Masonry	Wall	19th c.
40	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
41	Layer	Subsoil	
50	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
51	Surface	Cinder	Modern
52	Layer	Make-up	Modern
60	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
61	Surface	Cinder	Modern
62	Layer	Make-up	Modern
63	Layer	Make-up	Modern
70	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
71	Layer	Make-up	Modern
80	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
91	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
92	Layer	Subsoil	
93	Cut	Ditch	
94	Deposit	Fill of [93]	
100	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
102	Cut	Ditch	
103	Deposit	Fill of [102]	
110	Layer	Topsoil	Modern
111	Layer	Subsoil	Modern
112	Surface	Tarmac	Modern
120	Layer	Dumping	Modern
121	Layer	Topsoil	Modern

Context	Category	Description	Period		
122	Layer	Subsoil			
123	Cut	Palaeochannel			
124	Deposit	Fill of [123]			
125	Cut	Ditch			
126	Deposit	Fill of [125]			
130	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
131	Layer	Subsoil			
132	Feature	Pit	Modern		
133	Feature	Palaeochannel?			
140	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
141	Layer	Subsoil			
151	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
152	Layer	Subsoil	Medieval or later		
153	Cut	Ditch			
154	Deposit	Fill of [153]	Medieval		
160	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
161	Layer	Subsoil			
162	Cut	Posthole			
163	Deposit	Fill of [162]			
170	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
171	Layer	Subsoil			
180	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
181	Layer	Subsoil			
190	Layer	Topsoil	Modern		
191	Layer	Subsoil			

# Appendix 1b: OASIS feature summary table

Period	Feature type	Quantity
Unknown	Ditch	4
	Pit	2
	Post-hole	1
	Wall	1
Medieval (1066 to 1539AD)	Ditch	1

# Appendix 2a: Finds by Context

Context	Material	Quantity	Wt (g)	Period
122	Flint - worked	1	_	Prehistoric
130	Copper alloy	1	_	Undiagnostic
131	Flint - burnt	4	91	Prehistoric
151	Flint - worked	1	_	Prehistoric
151	Silver	1	_	Post-medieval
154	Pottery	2	3	Medieval
154	Stone	1	103	Undiagnostic
180	Flint - worked	1	_	Prehistoric
191	Flint - worked	1	_	Prehistoric

# **Appendix 2b: NHER Finds Summary Table**

Period	Material	Quantity
Prehistoric (500,000 BC to AD 42)	Worked flint	4
	Burnt flint	4
Medieval (1066–1539)	Pottery	2
Post-medieval (1540–1900)	Silver	1
	Copper	1

# **Appendix 3: Pottery**

Context	Ctxt sherd count	Ctxt sherd wt (g)	Fabric	Form	Qty	Wt (g)	Date
153	2	3					Medieval

# **Appendix 4: Small Finds**

SF	Ctxt	Qty	Material	Description	Date
1	130	1	Copper alloy	Ring; ?suspension	Undiagnostic
2	151	1	Silver	Coin/love token	Post-medieval

# **Appendix 6: Flint**

Context	Material	Quantity	Weight (g)	Period
122	Flint - flake	1	-	Prehistoric
131	Flint - burnt	4	91	Prehistoric
151	Flint - flake	1	_	Prehistoric
180	Flint - scraper	1	-	Prehistoric
191	Flint - flake	1	-	Prehistoric
Total		8	91	