

**CAMPION HOUSE
THORNBURY ROAD
ISLEWORTH**

NGR: TQ14850 76940 (Centred)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE

January 2011

Report No. 721

Quality Assurance

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Site name: Campion House, Thornbury Road, Isleworth
Site code: CHO10
Planning Reference: (01119/M/P6(4))
Grid reference: TQ14850 76940
Site activity: Strip map and sample
Date of fieldwork: 16/10/10-20/01/11
Site area: 0.46Ha
Project manager: Roy King
Archive location: LAARC
Accession code: TNU10

SUMMARY

Between October 2010 and January 2011 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological strip, map and record survey on land at Campion House, Thornbury Road, Isleworth (NGR: TQ14850 76940, centred). The work was commissioned by Linden Homes

Planning permission has been granted for residential re-development of the site at Campion House, Planning ref: (01119/M/P6(4)). Condition 7 of the planning permission required the implementation of a programme of archaeological works, which was undertaken as a strip, map and sample exercise.

The archaeological programme of works revealed an extremely low level of archaeological activity within the study area. Only one archaeological feature was identified, a probable drainage ditch of relatively recent origin. The absence of other archaeological features within the study area does not preclude the possibility of such finds from the wider vicinity.

GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Archaeology

For the purpose of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

CBM

Ceramic Building Material

Natural

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

NGR

National Grid Reference.

OD

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

OS

Ordnance Survey

Post-medieval

The period from c. AD 1500 onwards.

Prehistoric

In Britain this term is generally used for any of the traditionally defined periods such as Palaeolithic (480,000-12,000 BC), Mesolithic (12,000-4000 BC), Neolithic (c4000-2800), Bronze Age (2800-600 BC) and Iron Age (600 BC – AD 43)

Roman

The period between AD 43 and AD 410.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between October 2010 and January 2011 Foundations Archaeology undertook a programme of archaeological strip, map and record survey on land at Campion House, Thornbury Road, Isleworth (NGR: TQ14850 76940, centred). The work was commissioned by Linden Homes
- 1.2 Planning permission has been granted to redevelop the site for residential purposes (planning refs 01119/M/P6(4). Condition 7 of the planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological works.
- 1.3 Foundations Archaeology is certified to BS/EN/ISO 9001: 2008 for quality assurance in the provision of archaeological services. The company is a Registered Organisation with the Institute of Field Archaeologists and subscribes to that organisations Code of Conduct. All relevant IFA Codes of Practice will be adhered to throughout the course of the project.
- 1.4 This report constitutes the results of the archaeological works. The project was undertaken in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Excavations issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (rev. 2008) and GLAAS Archaeological Guidance Papers 2 (Written Schemes of Investigations), 3 (Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London), 4 (Reports) and 5 (Evaluations) issued by English Heritage.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site lies to the west of Thornbury Road and is bordered to the north by residential properties facing onto Thornbury Avenue and to the south by residential properties around Kilberry Close and Oakley Close. The western boundary abuts The Indian Gymkhana Club, which includes an all-weather sports pitch, playing fields and 'club house'. The proposed development site is approximately rectangular in shape with approximate maximum dimensions of 200m by 170m in plan and covers an area of 3.26ha. The topography of the site is flat and it was previously occupied by a series of single, two, three and four storey buildings, the majority of which have now been demolished.
- 2.2 The site consists of a former Jesuit Priest training college. The larger three and four storey buildings are known to contain basements, the bases of which are approximately 3-4m below existing ground level. The remainder of the site is primarily composed of landscaped gardens and paths in the vicinity of the existing buildings and open field. The site boundaries comprise brick walls to the north and south and mature conifer hedges to the west. The eastern boundary, which abuts Thornbury Road from which the site is accessed, comprises a mixture of low masonry walls. The site is located within the Spring Grove Conservation Area.

- 2.3 The site is being re-developed for residential purposes under Planning Permission (01119/M/P6(4)). Condition 7 of the planning permission requires the implementation of a programme of archaeological works.
- 2.4 Discussion with Robert Whytehead of GLAAS indicated that a suitable sample of the study area should be subject to a programme of strip, map and sample excavation. Previous development of the site has been highlighted within the desk-based assessment (Foundations 2010) and it is known that several of the now-demolished structures contained deep cellars which would have destroyed any archaeological deposits. The area of the strip, map and sample was therefore restricted to the areas of former garden where there has been no previous development.
- 2.5 An archaeological assessment (Foundations 2010) has highlighted that the site is of moderate-high archaeological potential for the recovery of Prehistoric finds and of low potential for remains from the Roman through to the Post-medieval period.
- 2.6 The site appears to have been agricultural land throughout the Medieval and early Post-medieval periods. It remained undeveloped until the mid-19th century, when the Davis Estate was laid out and Campion House was constructed. A number of additional structures were subsequently constructed within the site from late 19th century extensions through to the late 20th century college buildings.
- 2.7 The main archaeological potential of the site was for the presence of Bronze Age finds and features, although there was also a general potential for earlier Palaeolithic finds within the gravels. It should be noted, however, that the existing development within the site may have caused an impact on any archaeological deposits that may have been present. There are, though, substantial areas of the site that did not see any significant previous development and which would be impacted upon by the proposed development. Preservation of archaeological finds and features in these areas was, therefore, considered possible and a programme of archaeological strip map and sample was undertaken focussed upon areas of new build.
- 2.8 The main archaeological potential of the site was therefore for the presence of Prehistoric activity. This did not prejudice the evaluation against features and finds relating to other periods.

3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological strip, map and sample were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains; as well as to make recommendations for management of the resource, including further archaeological works if necessary.

3.2 These aims were achieved through pursuit of the following specific objectives:

i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

ii) to attempt to characterise the nature and preservation of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning and extent of features present on the site;

iii) to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence which would attempt to determine the complexity of the horizontal and vertical stratigraphy present, and to recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.

iv) to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.

v) to identify whether Bronze Age activity extends into the site.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Two areas comprising a total of approximately 0.46ha were excavated (Figure 2). The strip, map and sample works involved the removal of topsoil and overburden onto natural ground or archaeology, whichever was encountered first. This was done using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket working under constant archaeological supervision.

4.2 All archaeological deposits and features were subjected to appropriate levels of investigation. Where excavation was required for the satisfactory assessment of archaeological deposits, a minimum 20% sample of all linear features was excavated at appropriate intervals and all intersections, overlaps and terminals investigated. A minimum 50% sample of all non-linear features was excavated.

4.3 All excavation and recording work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI (Foundations 2010) and the Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual.

5 RESULTS

5.1 **Area 1** (94m x up to 65m) was stripped to natural ground, which comprised a light to mid beige brown friable brickearth, interspersed with medium course gravels. The natural substrate was overlain in the south-west corner by a friable mid brown clay silt subsoil (1002), up to 0.27m thick. This was in turn overlain by a dark brown friable clay silt topsoil (1001), up to 0.56m thick, and containing modern pottery, glass and brick.

- 5.2 A number of shallow irregular disturbed patches were observed in this area, all containing modern brick and china ware, and probably related to planting activity. These features were not recorded. A linear feature [1003] aligned north-west to south-east was also observed. This linear was approximately 2.5m wide, and up to 0.18m deep. It had gently sloping sides and a wide regular base. It was filled with (1004), a soft light grey clay silt, with occasional patches of gravel. Artefactual evidence from this feature comprised china ware, glass, and CBM, all of relatively modern date, probably late 19th or early 20th century.
- 5.3 **Area 2** (20m x 15m) was also stripped to natural ground, which, as above consisted of a light to mid beige brown friable brickearth interspersed with medium course gravels. The natural substrate was overlain by (2001), a modern overburden comprised of a dark brown topsoil, mixed with clay silt and rubble, up to 0.27m thick. A series of shallow irregular intrusions were identified, all containing modern china and brick, and probably related to planting activity, these features were identical in nature to those identified in area 1. No archaeological features were present within this area.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 Only one archaeological feature was identified, a north-west south east aligned linear [1003], of modern origin. The nature of the fill suggests that this feature is related to drainage.
- 6.2 The general spread of disturbed patches across the site is probably a product of root disturbance and planting activity.
- 6.3 The archaeological programme of works revealed an extremely low level of archaeological activity within the study area. Only one feature was identified, a probable drainage ditch of relatively recent origin. However, the absence of archaeological features within the study area does not preclude the possibility of their presence within the wider area.
- 6.4 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with the Museum of London under accession code TNU10. A short note will be submitted for publication in the relevant local archaeological journal and an OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Foundations 2010: *Campion House, Thornbury Road, London Borough of Hounslow, Archaeological Assessment.*

Foundations 2010: *Land at Campion House, Thornbury Road, Isleworth, : Archaeological Strip Map and Sample. Written Scheme of Investigation.*

IFA 1994 (revised 2001) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*. Institute of Field Archaeologists.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Nick Ashfield and Richard Weaver Linden Homes, Robert Whytehead of GLAAS and the on-site groundworkers for their help and co-operation.

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OASIS ID: foundati1-92215

Project details

Project name	Campion House, Isleworth
Short description of the project	Strip, map and sample excavation at former Jesuit training college of Campion House, prior to residential redevelopment. The archaeological works revealed a single modern drain and demonstrated that the site had been previously been stripped of brickearth.
Project dates	Start: 16-10-2010 End: 20-01-2011
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	CHO10 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	TNU10 - Museum accession ID
Any associated project reference codes	01119M/P6(4) - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Conservation Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	DRAIN Modern
Significant Finds	N/A None
Investigation type	'Open-area excavation'
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HOUNSLOW HOUNSLOW Campion House, Thornbury Road, Isleworth
Postcode	TW7 4NN
Study area	0.46 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 14850 76940 51.4792480653 -0.345944828442 51 28 45 N 000 20 45 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 20.83m Max: 23.89m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Foundations Archaeology
Project brief originator	Contractor (design and execute)
Project design originator	Foundations Archaeology
Project director/manager	Roy King
Project supervisor	Andrew Hood
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Linden Homes Chiltern

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	LAARC
Digital Archive ID	TNU10
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	LAARC
Paper Archive ID	TNU10
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Report','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

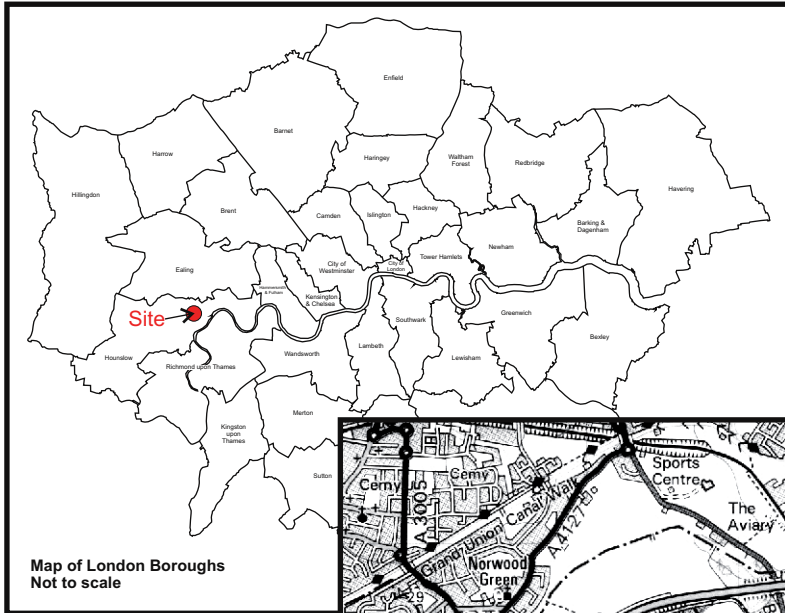
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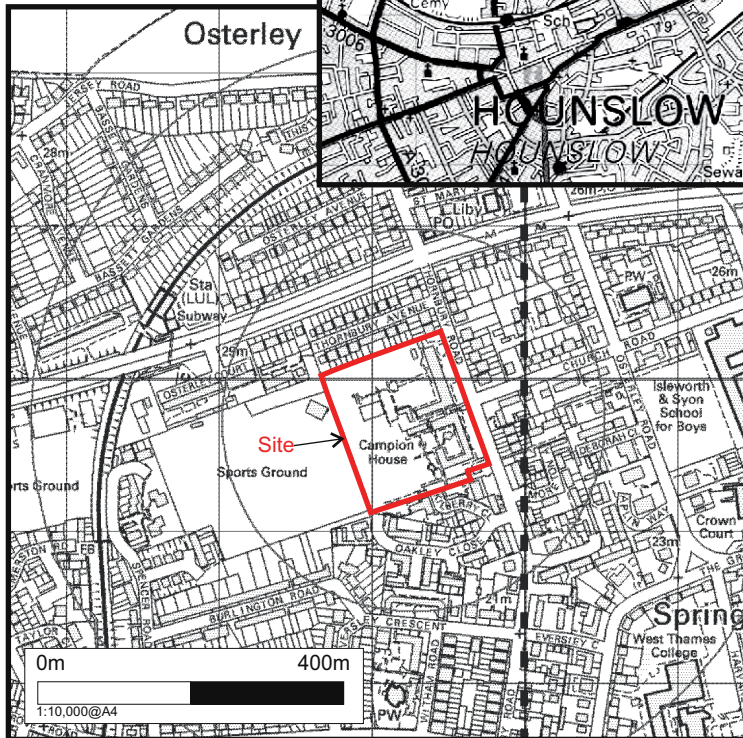
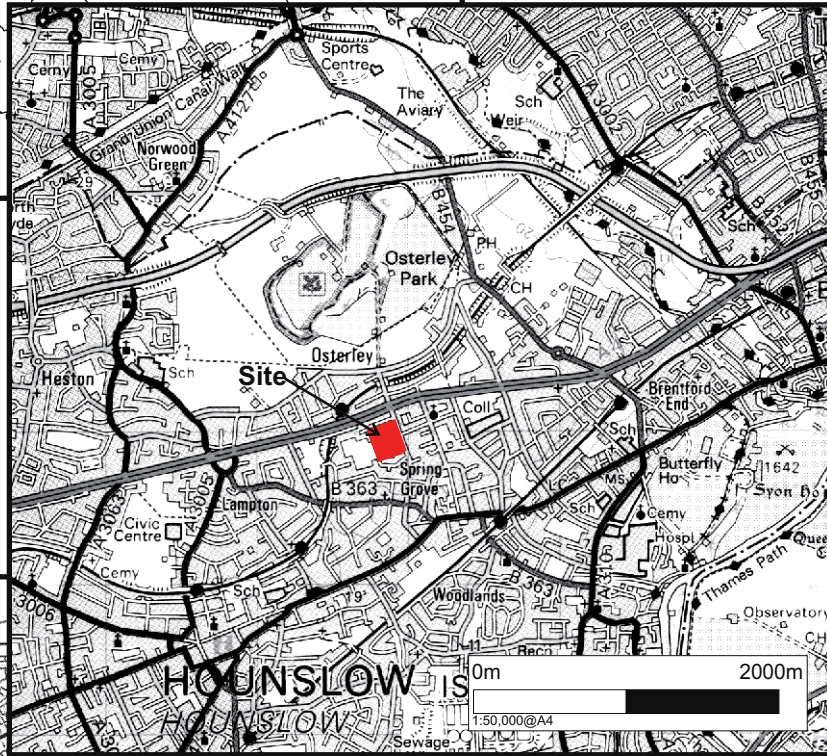
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Map of London Boroughs
Not to scale



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Accession Code:



FIGURE 1: Site Location



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 Reproduced under licence AL523064A
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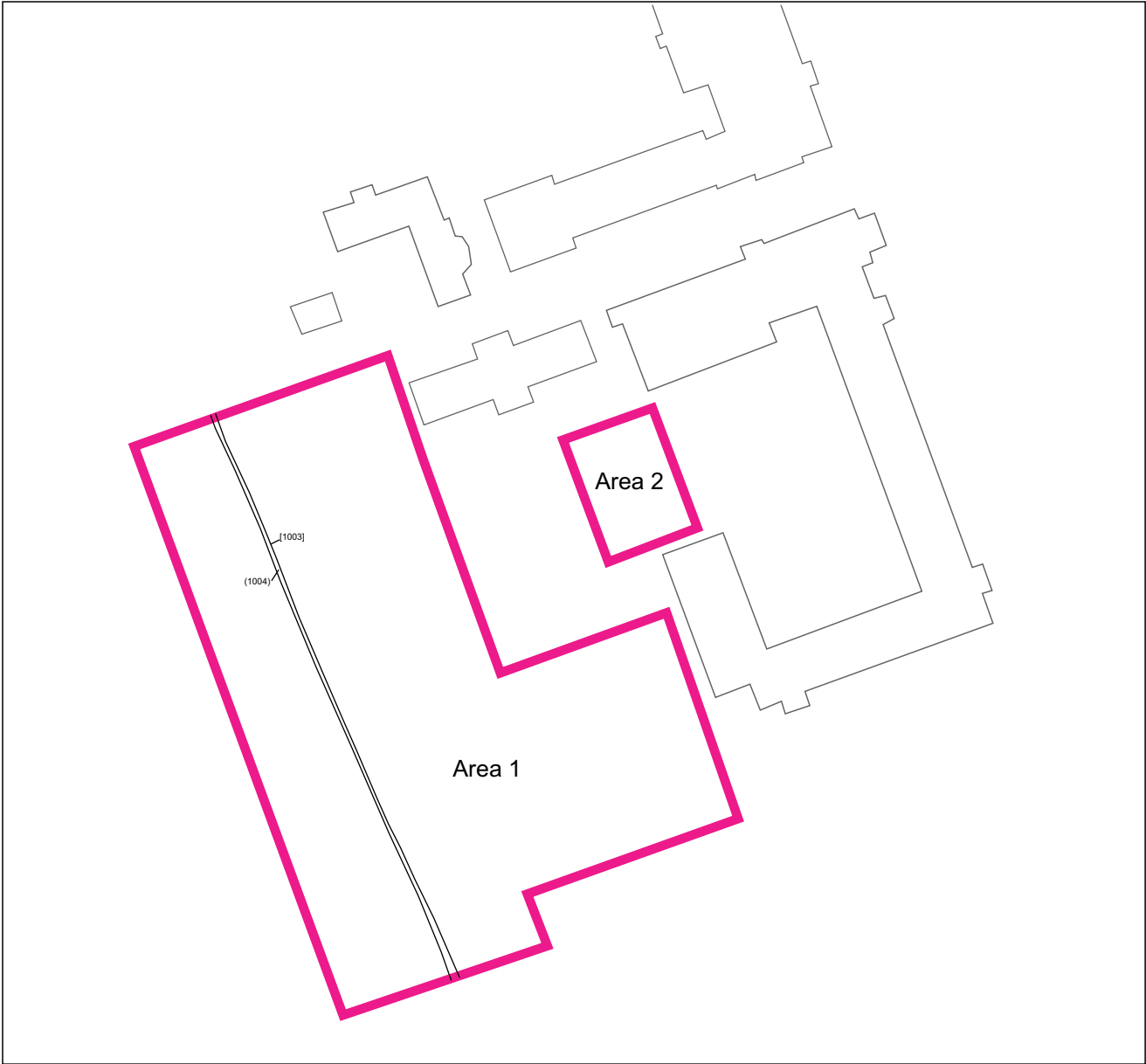
— STRIP, MAP AND SAMPLE AREAS
■ EXISTING BUILDINGS

N

0m 40m

1:1000@A3

FIGURE 2: Strip, Map and Sample Areas



Site Code: CHO10
Accession Code:



 STRIP MAP AND SAMPLE AREA

 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

0m 40m



FIGURE 3: Site Plan