

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION:
PRIORY HOSPITAL
ROEHAMPTON
LONDON BOROUGH OF WANDSWORTH**

NGR: TQ 2148 7501

on behalf of Priory Healthcare



Martin Cuthbert BA

June 2008

ASC: 1070/RPH/2

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Site Data

<i>ASC project code:</i>	RPH	<i>ASC project no:</i>	1070
<i>OASIS ref:</i>		<i>Event/Accession no:</i>	
<i>County:</i>	Greater London		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Roehampton		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Putney		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	TQ 2148 7501		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	1.6m x 24m		
<i>Present use:</i>	Building and gardens		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Demolition of existing building and construction of new hospital unit		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	2003/1786 W		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	London Borough of Wandsworth		
<i>Date of fieldwork:</i>	10 th June 2008		
<i>Client:</i>	Priory Health Care Priory House Randalls Way Leatherhead Surrey KT22 7TP		
<i>Contact name:</i>	Phil Bytheway		

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	Martin Cuthbert BA	<i>Date:</i>	27 th May 2008
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Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

In June 2008 an evaluation was carried out at the Priory Hospital, Roehampton in the London Borough of Wandsworth, prior to the construction of a new hospital unit. The hospital is located in an area of considerable archaeological and historical importance and this has been recognised by the designation of much of the area as an Archaeological Priority Area.

No archaeological features were observed within the trench, and the only discoveries were a modern pit and ditch.

1. Introduction

1.1 In June 2008 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out an evaluation at Priory Hospital, Roehampton, London Borough of Wandsworth. The project was commissioned by Priory Healthcare, and was carried out according to a project design prepared by ASC, Fell 2008, and approved by the Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS), archaeological advisors to the London Borough of Wandsworth. The relevant planning application reference is 2003/1786 W.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This evaluation was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), as a condition of planning permission for the development of the site.

1.3 *Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd*

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd (ASC) is an independent archaeological practice providing a full range of archaeological services including consultancy, field evaluation, mitigation and post-excavation studies, historic building recording and analysis. ASC is recognised as a *Registered Archaeological Organisation* by the Institute of Field Archaeologists, in recognition of its high standards and working practices.

1.4 *Management*

The assessment was managed by Karin Semmelmann BA MA AIFA and was carried out under the overall direction of Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

1.5 *The Site*

1.5.1 *Location & Description*

The site is in Roehampton, in the London borough of Wandsworth (Fig. 1). It comprises a subrectangular plot, c.0.5ha, on the west side of Priory Lane and is centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TQ 2158 7501 (Fig. 2.)

The site forms the southeast corner of the Priory Hospital and comprises a modern building named Galsworthy Lodge, lawn and a car parking area. Access was from the east, off Priory Lane.

1.5.2 *Geology & Topography*

The natural soils of the area comprise the Wickham 3 Association, namely seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soil (Soil Survey 1983, 711g). The underlying geology comprises Taplow Gravel (BGS, sheet 270). The site is flat and lies at an elevation of c.17m OD.

1.5.3 *Proposed Development*

The proposal is for the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a new hospital unit (Fig. 3).

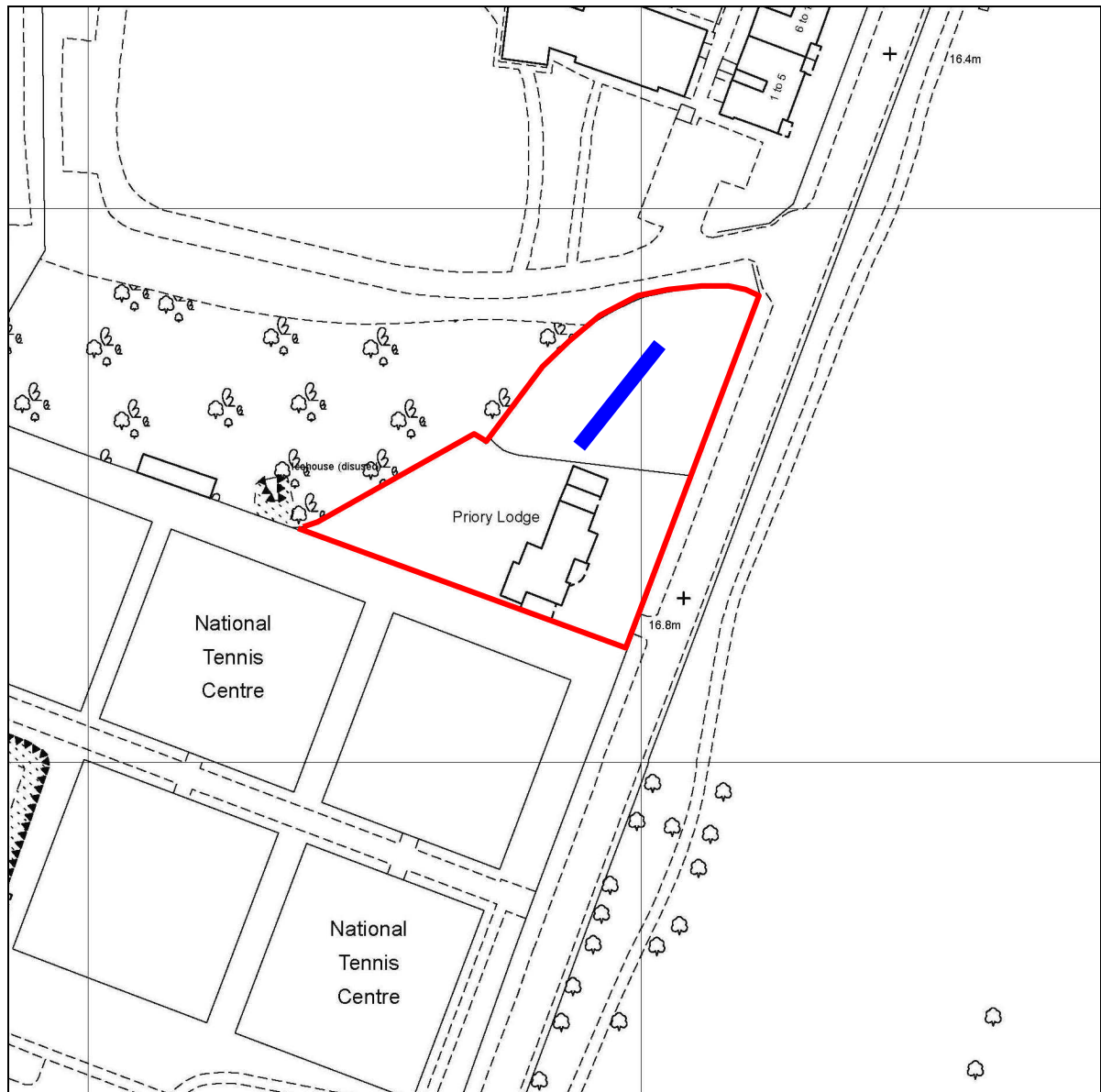


Figure 2: Site plan with trench location shown in blue (Scale 1:1,250)

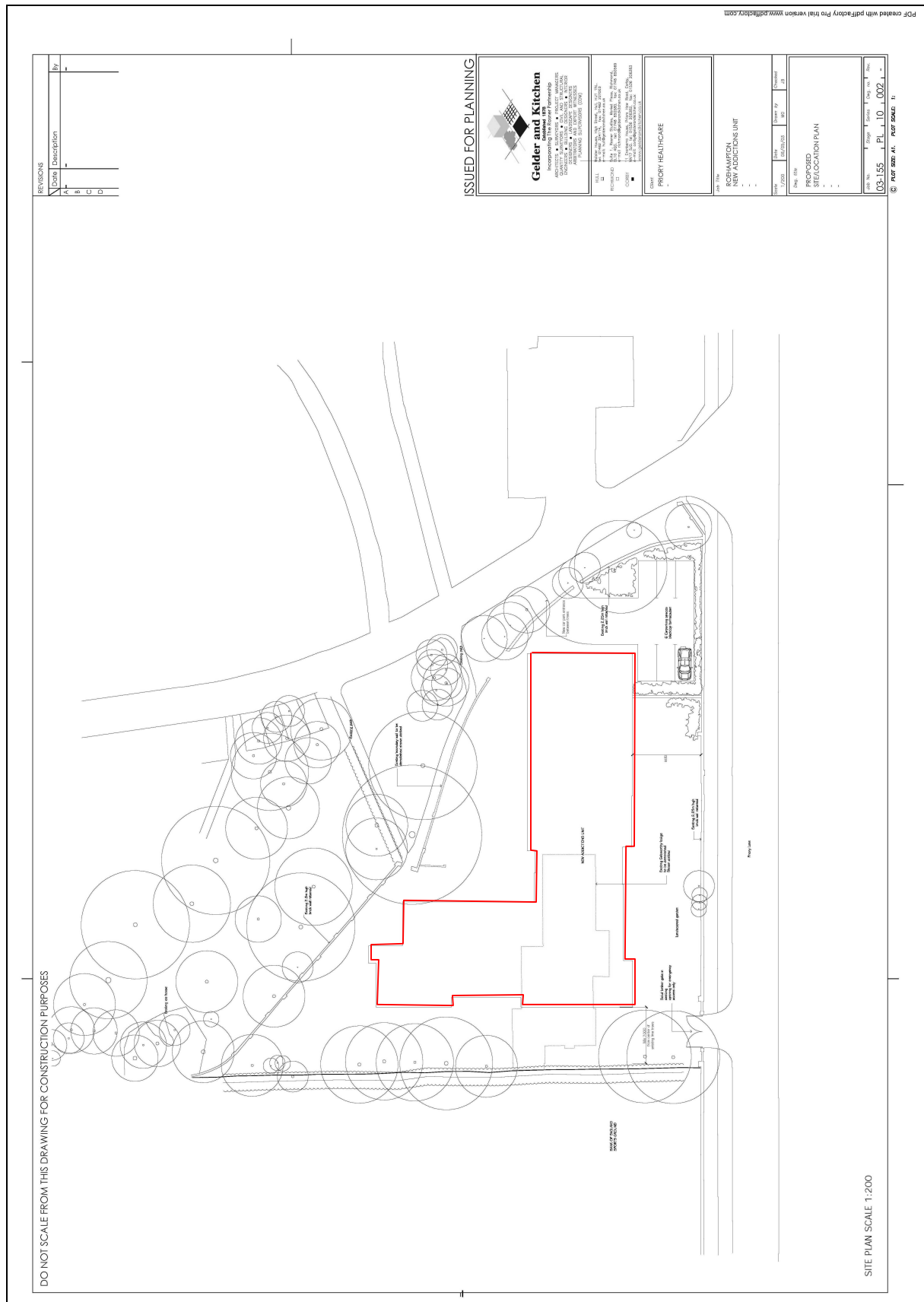


Figure 3: Proposed development (*not to scale*)
New build shown in red

2. Aims & Methods

2.1 Aims

As described in the project design (Section 3.1), the aims of the evaluation were:

- To gather sufficient information to generate a reliable predictive model of the extent, character, date, state of preservation and depth of burial of any archaeological remains (and associated paleo-environmental deposits) within the site.

2.2 Standards

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001) and *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000a), to current English Heritage guidelines (EH 1991), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 Methods

The work was carried out according to the project design (Section 3.3), which required:

- Excavation of a trial trench in the open area on the north side of the existing building
- Subject to site constraints, a single trench c.25m long will be excavated, targeting the area of new build. The trench location is shown in Fig. 2.

2.4 Constraints

The only constraints that were encountered were three large lumps of concrete that were removed with the machine (Plate 2). It was not necessary to relocate the trench.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

HER = Historic Environment Record number

- 3.1 The following section provides a summary of the readily available archaeological and historical background to the development site and its environs. The site lies within an area of archaeological and historical interest, and has the potential to reveal evidence of a range of periods.
- 3.2 Roehampton is an area of considerable archaeological and historical importance and this has been recognised by the designation of much of the area as an *Archaeological Priority Area*.
- 3.3 Little is known of the site and its environs during the prehistoric periods. A number of flint artefacts and sherds of Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery have been recorded in the area, suggesting the presence of settlement of this date. An archaeological evaluation immediately south of the site, at the Bank of England Sports Ground (Cowan 2004) produced two worked flints and a sherd of Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age pottery (HER 77983/78209). Further evidence, comprising postholes and pits containing Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery has also been recorded c.800m east of the site, from Roehampton Lane (HER 59436).
- 3.4 During the Roman period, the site was probably away from the main centres of population and communication, which were focused on the city of *Londinium*, c.12km to the northeast (OS 1979). The gravel terraces of the river Thames are known to have been occupied during the Roman period and evidence for settlement or activity in the area is supported by the finding of a Roman coin on Roehampton Close c.800m east of the site (HER 22043).
- 3.5 The medieval and later village of Roehampton developed c.1.5km southeast of the site and was centred on the junction of the present Roehampton High Street and Roehampton Lane. During the medieval period the area formed part of the parish of Putney and much of the area west of Priory Lane formed part of the deer park of Putney Park (Cherry & Pevsner 2002, 687).
- 3.6 The layout of the area in the first half of the nineteenth century is shown on the first edition one inch scale Ordnance Survey map. Priory Lane had been laid out and is shown on the map and the site is shown as part of a rectangular land parcel, on the west side of the lane.
- 3.7 The main buildings of Priory Hospital (HER 93803) are situated north of the site and were constructed in c.1800 as a stuccoed Gothic villa (Cherry & Pevsner 2002, 695). They were extended in the 1840s to a design by Romiau and Gough. The priory was one of a number of large, prestigious buildings in the area, which included Roehampton Great House and Digby Stuart House.
- 3.8 The first edition large scale Ordnance Survey map was published in 1894 and shows the site in detail. The principal buildings are illustrated and the site of Galsworthy Lodge is shown occupied by glasshouses. An icehouse is shown to the west. The present building on the site is Galsworthy Lodge. This is a modern brick built building and is not of architectural importance.

4 Results

4.1 General

- One trench was excavated within the footprint of the proposed building. This measured c.24m by 1.6m and was orientated northeast-southwest (Fig.2).

Detailed information regarding the trial trench and its contents appears in Appendix 1.

4.2 Trench 1 (Fig. 4: Plates 1-5)

The topsoil within the trench comprised soft dark brown silty sandy loam. The topsoil had been redeposited and contained fragments of brick, asbestos and other waste materials. The topsoil was c.500mm deep and overlay the subsoil, c 100mm-300mm deep, which comprised mid brown-orange silty sand (Plate 4).

A modern linear feature (Plate 5) ran across the southwestern end of the trench and a modern rubbish pit, containing chain link wire fencing, was discovered 10m from the northeastern end (Plate 2). Three concrete blocks were also discovered within the trench (Plate 2) and were removed with the machine. No other archaeological remains were observed in this trench.

- ### 4.3
- A visual inspection was made of the excavated spoil from the trench but no significant artefacts were observed.

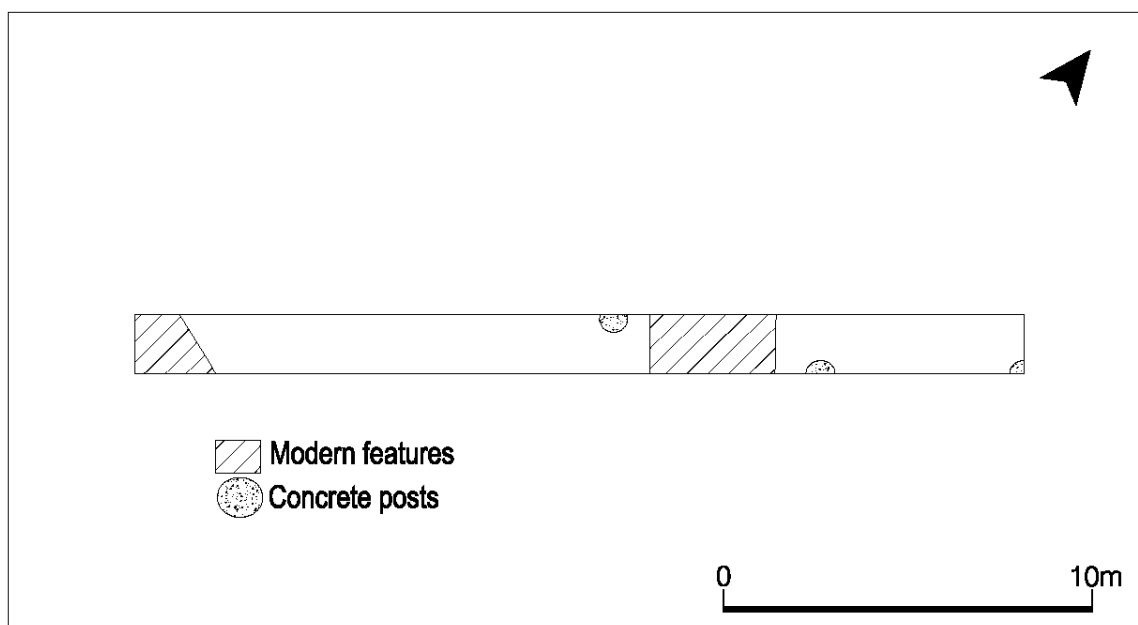


Figure 4: Trench plan (*Scale 1:200*)



Plate 1: Excavation of trench, looking East



Plate 2: Concrete block and modern rubbish pit encountered within trench



Plate 3: General trench shot, looking northeast.



Plate 4: Trench section, looking northwest



Plate 5: Modern Feature at southwest end of trench.



Plate 6: Backfilled trench, looking northeast

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 Significant archaeological features were not observed in the trenches, the only discovery being a modern linear feature and modern rubbish pit. While the existence of individual isolated archaeological features away from the trenches cannot be specifically excluded, it is unlikely that significant archaeological features were present on the site. It is unlikely that the proposed development will have a significant impact on archaeological remains.
- 5.2 The conditions for the evaluation were good and the work took place in dry and sunny weather conditions. Full co-operation was received from the contractors and a high degree of confidence is attached to the results of the evaluation.

6. Acknowledgements

The evaluation was commissioned by Priory Health Care. The writer is grateful to Phil Blytheway for his assistance. The project was monitored by Diane Walls of GLAAS on behalf of the local planning authority. Thanks are also due to Lynch Plant Hire.

The project was managed for ASC by Karin Semmelmann BA MA AIFA. Fieldwork was carried out by Jonathan Hunn BA PHD MIFA and Martin Cuthbert BA. The report was prepared by Martin Cuthbert and edited by Bob Zeepvat BA MIFA.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Project Design
2. Initial Report
3. Clients site plans
4. Site records
5. Site record drawings
6. List of photographs
7. B/W prints & negatives
8. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with the Museum of London.

8. References


Standards & Specifications

- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).
- Fell D 2008 *Priory Hospital, Priory Lane, Roehampton, London Borough of Wandsworth: Project Design for Archaeological Evaluation*. ASC document ref. 1070/RPH/1
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.

Secondary Sources

- BGS *British Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series, Solid & Drift Geology*.
- Cherry B & Pevsner N, 2002 *The Buildings of England. London 2: South*. Yale University Press
- Cowan C 2004 *Bank of England Sports Ground, Roehampton, SW15. An Archaeological Evaluation Report*. Museum of London Archaeology Service
- OS 1979 *Ordnance Survey Map of Roman Britain*. Ordnance Survey
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpenden).

Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

Trench 1					
		Max Dimensions (m)			
		Width	1.6m	Length	24m
		Depth	600-800mm		
		NGR Coordinates		TQ 2158 7501	
		Levels			
		Trench base northeast		15.50m OD	
		Trench top northeast		16.25m OD	
		Trench base southwest		15.65m OD	
		Trench top southwest		16.28m OD	
		Orientation:		northeast- southwest	
Reason for Trench:		General Evaluation			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Width (max: mm)	Thickness (max: mm)	Depth (BGL: mm)
Topsoil	Deposit	Re-deposited dark brown loam	N/a	N/a	500mm
Subsoil	Layer	Mid brown – orange silty sand	N/a	100mm-300mm	500mm

Appendix 2: List of Photographs

SITE NAME: Priory Hospital, Roehampton				SITE NO/CODE: 1070/RPH
Shot	B&W	Digital	Colour	Subject
1	✓	✓	✓	Trench Section, looking northwest 2x1m scale
2	✓	✓	✓	General trench shot, looking northeast 2x1m scale
3		✓		Excavation in progress, looking east
4		✓		Excavation in progress, looking east
5		✓		Excavation in progress, looking west
6		✓		Excavation in progress, looking west
7		✓		Concrete boulder within trench
8		✓		Concrete boulder within trench
9		✓		Concrete boulder within trench
10	✓	✓	✓	Modern feature in southwest end of trench 2x1m scale
11	✓	✓	✓	Modern feature in southwest end of trench 2x1m scale
12		✓		Backfilled trench, looking northeast

Appendix 3: ASC OASIS Form

PROJECT DETAILS			
Project Name:	Priory Hospital, Roehampton.		
Short Description:	<p><i>In June 2008 an evaluation was carried out at the Priory Hospital, Roehampton in the London Borough of Wandsworth, prior to the construction of a new hospital unit. The hospital is located in an area of considerable archaeological and historical importance and this has been recognised by the designation of much of the area as an Archaeological Priority Area.</i></p> <p><i>No archaeological features were observed within the trench, and the only discoveries were a modern pit and ditch.</i></p>		
Project Type: (indicate all that apply)	Evaluation Trenching		
Site status: (eg. none, SAM, Listed)	none	Previous work: (eg. SMR refs)	none
Current land use:	Modern building named Galsworthy Lodge, lawn and a car parking area	Future work: (yes / no / unknown)	no
Monument type:	N/a	Monument period:	N/a
Significant finds: (artefact type & period)	N/a		
PROJECT LOCATION			
County:	London borough of Wandsworth	OS reference: (8 figs min)	2148 7501
Site address: (with postcode if known)	Priory Hospital, Priory Lane, Roehampton, London, SW15		
Study area: (sq. m. or ha)	0.5 ha	Height OD: (metres)	17m
PROJECT CREATORS			
Organisation:	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd		
Project brief originator:	N/a	Project design originator:	David Fell, BA, MA, MIFA
Project Manager:	Karin Semmelmann	Director/Supervisor:	Bob Zeepvat
Sponsor / funding body:	N/a		
PROJECT DATE			
Start date:	10/06/08	End date:	10/06/08
PROJECT ARCHIVES			
	Location (Accession no.)	Content (eg. pottery, animal bone, files/sheets)	
Physical:	N/a	N/a	
Paper:	Museum of London	Report, Field notes, Photos	
Digital:	Museum of London	CD containing digital photos and report	
BIBLIOGRAPHY (Journal/monograph, published or forthcoming, or unpublished client report)			
Title:	Evaluation Report, Priory Hospital, Priory Lane, Roehampton		
Serial title & volume:	ASC Ltd Report ref. 1070/RPH		
Author(s):	Martin Cuthbert BA		
Page nos	16	Date:	30/06/08