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Interpretation, Design & Display

Former Cookridge Hospital

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. Y018/11

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Former Cookridge Hospital
Leeds
West Yorkshire

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. Y018/11

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at the Former Cookridge Hospital, Leeds. Thirteen trenches were excavated and recorded. Other than modern building foundations, drains and other services no archaeological remains were encountered, and no finds were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between 18 and 19 July 2011, on land at the former Cookridge Hospital, Leeds. The work was commissioned by Prospect Archaeology Ltd on behalf of Chartford Arthington Ltd to evaluate the archaeological potential of the proposed development area prior to the construction houses, access roads and associated services. The CFA code and number for the project is COOH/2020.

All work was undertaken in accordance with a brief (Appendix 3) issued by Rebecca Remmer of the West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service (WYAAS).

1.2 Site Location and Description

The site is located on a steep south-facing slope at about 145m above the ordnance datum (AOD), on the site of a former hospital in Cookridge, Leeds (Fig. 1, NGR: SE 2540 3880). The general area is heavily wooded though surrounded by modern suburban development. The hospital buildings are arranged on a series of terraces down the hillside.

1.3 Historical and Archaeological Background

A desk-based assessment of the site was undertaken by Prospect Archaeology. The following summarises the cultural heritage resource in the immediate area, after that document (Rosenberg 2010).

Prehistoric sites are known from the woodland in the area of Cookridge Hospital, including stone hut-circles and associated rubble banks at Iveson and Clayton Woods.

A Roman fort was located at Adel and was the closest settlement of that date to the site, though Roman coins have been recorded from the area and a beehive quern was found in Ireland Wood in 1968.

There is a scheduled monument in Ireland Wood believed to be medieval, though there is no clear dating evidence. The scheduled area extends into the northern part of the hospital grounds. It is likely that the area of the site was woodland at the time of the Domesday survey and Kirkstall Abbey acquired land at Cookridge, possibly including the area of the site in the 12th century.

The manor of Cookridge eventually became part of the estates of the Duke of Buckingham and Normanby. The site appears to have been woodland throughout the 18th century.

John Metcalfe Smith, constructed the original Cookridge Convalescent Hospital in 1868, it was designed by Richard Norman Shaw, a well known and popular architect at the time. This along with a number of others within the grounds of the former hospital is a listed building. The buildings continued in use as a hospital with various buildings being added through the later 20th century.

1.4 Previous Archaeological work

A desk-based assessment (DBA) and walkover survey was undertaken on the site by Prospect Archaeology (Rosenberg 2010). Well preserved and scheduled prehistoric and medieval earthworks are located in the immediate vicinity of the site. There have been a few stray finds made that suggest Roman period activity in the area, but no *in situ* remains have been found. Medieval earthworks in 'Ireland Wood' are likely to extend into the north of the Hospital Grounds

An earlier phase of evaluation in the southern area of the site recorded no archaeological features and no finds (Lightfoot 2011). There has been no other intrusive archaeological investigation in the remaining area.

1.5 Objectives

The general objectives of the evaluation were to establish the presence or absence of archaeological remains; assess their character, and; produce a report to enable judgements to be made on the significance of those remains and any mitigation that may be necessary.

The research objectives were to interpret any archaeological remains according to their significance in contributing to the further understanding of whichever period they may relate to, and in the context of research frameworks for the period, area or region.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 Evaluation

All machining was undertaken using a toothless ditching bucket under constant archaeological supervision. In the absence of archaeological remains the trenches were excavated to the top of natural geological deposits.

The trenches were located in order to sample the areas affected by the development, these were namely the footprints of proposed buildings. The level of trenching was as follows:

| Trench | Dimensions | Area |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 20 x 1.8m | 36m ² |
| 2 | 15 x 1.8m | 27m ² |
| 3 | 25 x 1.8m | 45m ² |
| 4 | 20 x 1.8m | 36m ² |
| 5 | 30 x 1.8m | 54m ² |
| 6 | 20 x 1.8m | 36m ² |
| 7 | 7 x 1.8m | 12.6m ² |
| 8 | 40 x 1.8m | 72m ² |
| 9 | 23 x 1.8m | 41.4m ² |
| 10 | 5 x 1.8m | 9m ² |
| 11 | 15 x 1.8m | 27m ² |
| 12 | 12 x 1.8m | 21.6m ² |
| 13 | 14 x 1.8m | 25.2m ² |

Due to on-site constraints, the locations dimensions and orientations of the trenches were not as originally anticipated; though an effort was made to make them as close to the original locations as was intended. The actual trench locations are shown on Figure 1.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography and by completing standard CFA recording forms.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

Trench positions were surveyed using industry standard electronic surveying equipment and trenches were backfilled on completion of the fieldwork.

2.2 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation (RO) with the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA). All work was conducted in accordance with relevant IfA Standards and Guidance documents (IfA 1996, 2001), English Heritage guidance (EH 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008a, 2008b and 2008c), and CFA's standard methodology.

2.3 Monitoring

The trial trenching was monitored by WYAAS who were informed in advance of the works taking place.

2.4 Archiving

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, finds, plans and reports, will be deposited with Leeds museum according to an agreed timescale, will be ordered according to current guidelines and to nationally recognised standards (UKIC 1990, 2001, MGC 1994, SMA 1995, Ferguson and Murray 1997 and Brown 2007).

3. RESULTS

No archaeological remains and no finds were recovered from any of the trenches; though drains and cables were noted. See plates 1- 13 for photographs for each excavated trench. A context summary forms Appendix 2. Summaries of the results for each trench are in the tables below.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was within the area of a demolished building. Loose, re-deposited topsoil, mixed with construction debris such as bricks, plastic coated wire and modern pottery was present. Beneath this was the natural geological layer, disturbed in places by drains, associated with the demolished building.

| Trench 1 | | |
|--|---------------|--|
| Orientation: West - East | | |
| Dimensions: Length 20m, Depth 0.65m (max) | | |
| Context : | Context Type: | Description: |
| 100 | Natural | Orange, frequent degraded sandstone |
| 101 | Layer | Mix of topsoil and construction debris |
| Trench 1 contained no archaeological remains, Plate 1(Photograph numbers 37 & 38) | | |

Trench 2

No topsoil was present in Trench 2, though there were three distinct layers of building rubble, and one of re-deposited natural visible before the natural geological layer was reached.

| Trench 2 | | |
|--|---------------|---|
| Orientation: Northwest - southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 15m, Depth 1.2m (max) | | |
| Context : | Context Type: | Description: |
| 201 | Layer | Mixed rubble / compacted clay |
| 202 | Layer | Mixed black soil / rubble |
| 203 | Natural | Yellow clay frequent degraded sandstone |
| 204 | Layer | Loose yellow sand – re-deposited natural |
| 205 | Layer | Mixed sand / rubble including bricks and gravel |
| Trench 2 contained no archaeological remains Plate 2 (Photograph Numbers 61-62) | | |

Trench 3

This trench was located in the southwest corner of the site. Topsoil was present to a depth of 0.4m and two modern land drains were visible running east-west cutting the natural deposits.

| Trench 3 | | |
|---|---------------|--|
| Orientation: Northwest - Southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 25m Depth 0.5m (max) | | |
| Context s: | Context Type: | Description: |
| 300 | Layer | Dark grey topsoil |
| 301 | Natural | Grey clay degraded sandstone, natural geological |
| Trench 3 contained no archaeological remains and no finds were recovered, the trench contained two modern drains. Plate 3 (Photograph Numbers:57-58) | | |

Trench 4

Excavation of this trench was almost immediately onto the natural geology, through a layer of building rubble. Two modern land drains and possible rubble foundations were cut into the natural.

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Trench 4 | | |
| Orientation Northeast – Southwest | | |
| Dimensions Length 20m Depth 0.5m | | |
| Contexts | Context type | Description |
| 400 | Layer | Mixed rubble /gravel |
| 401 | Natural | Yellowish brown, degraded sandstone |
| Trench 4 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 4 (Photograph Numbers: 59-60) | | |

Trench 5

This trench was located in the southwest corner of the site. Topsoil was present to a depth of 0.55m, and a modern land drain was noted running east-west in the southern end of the trench.

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Trench 5 | | |
| Orientation: Northeast - Southwest | | |
| Dimensions Length 30m Depth 0.75m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 500 | Layer | Dark grey topsoil |
| 501 | Natural | Yellow / orange, degraded sandstone |
| Trench 5 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 5 (Photograph Numbers 55-56) | | |

Trench 6

No topsoil was present in this trench. A layer of mixed modern construction debris overlaid the natural geological layer which was cut by four modern features probably removed services.

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------------|
| Trench 6 | | |
| Orientation: Northwest - Southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 20m Depth 0.5m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 600 | Natural | Orange brown firm sand |
| 601 | Layer | Mixed rubble/ brown sand |
| Trench 6 contained no archaeological remains, only modern features | | |
| Plate 6 (Photograph numbers 53-54) | | |

Trench 7

Trench 7 was cut short to the south by the presence of a large concrete foundation. Modern construction debris was present at the north of the trench, underlying a thin layer of topsoil.

| Trench 7 | | |
|--|--------------|--|
| Orientation: North - South | | |
| Dimensions: Length 7m Depth 0.55m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 700 | Natural | Yellow, natural geological layer |
| 701 | Topsoil | Dark grayish brown sand |
| 702 | Layer | Greenish brown sand, concrete & tarmac |
| Trench 7 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 7 (Photograph Numbers 51-52) | | |

Trench 8

Trench 8 was located in the north of the site, no topsoil was present, only a thick layer of building rubble which included a distinct gravel layer possibly the foundation for a road, which overlay the natural geological layer.

| Trench 8 | | |
|--|--------------|--|
| Orientation: Northwest - Southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 40m Depth 0.9m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 800 | Natural | Yellow, degraded sandstone |
| 801 | Layer | Mixed rubble including modern bricks & grey gravel |
| Trench 8 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 8 (Photograph Numbers: 49-50) | | |

Trench 9

Trench 9 was located from within the footprint of a modern demolished building to the road outside, and consisted of building rubble overlaying the natural geological layer. Building foundations (gravel for hard standing) and concrete blocks (kerbstones) were observed cutting the natural.

| Trench 9 | | |
|--|--------------|---|
| Orientation: Northwest - Southwest | | |
| Dimensions: Length 23m Depth 0.5m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 900 | Natural | Yellowish orange, degraded sandstone |
| 901 | Layer | Mixed rubble including gravel, wire & plaster fragments, coal fragments and concrete blocks |
| Trench 9 contained no archaeological remains, only evidence of modern building foundations | | |
| Plate 9 (Photograph Numbers: 47-48) | | |

Trench 10

Trench 10 was located in the northeast of the site and was shortened due to the presence of an active gas main. It consisted of topsoil overlaying natural geology.

| Trench 10 | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Orientation: Northwest – Southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 5m Depth 0.65m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 1000 | Topsoil | Dark brownish grey loose sand |
| 1001 | Natural | Light grey to south, orange to north, degraded sandstone |
| Trench 10 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 10 (Photograph Numbers: 39-40) | | |

Trench 11

Trench 11 was located on the edge of woodland in the north-eastern part of the site. It consisted of topsoil overlaying the natural geological layer. No subsoil was present.

| Trench 10 | | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Orientation Northeast - Southwest | | |
| Dimensions: Length 15m Depth 0.5m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 1100 | Natural | Orange light to north, dark to south, degraded sandstone |
| 1101 | Topsoil | Dark brownish grey loose sand |
| Trench 11 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 11 (Photograph Numbers: 43-44) | | |

Trench 12

Trench 12 was located to the north of Trench 11 bordering woodland and the scheduled area. Within it a thin layer of topsoil was observed overlaying construction debris, including concrete blocks and gravel for hard standing cut into the natural geological layer.

| Trench 12 | | |
|---|--------------|---|
| Orientation: Northwest – Southeast | | |
| Dimensions: Length 12m Depth 0.2m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 1200 | Natural | Yellowish orange, degraded sandstone |
| 1201 | Topsoil | Dark brownish grey loose sand |
| 1202 | Layer | Building rubble including gravel, bricks and concrete |
| Trench 12 contained no archaeological remains, only construction debris | | |
| Plate 12 (Photograph Numbers: 45-46) | | |

Trench 13

Trench 13 contained a thin layer of topsoil mixed with building rubble; excavation almost immediately came on the natural geological layer. To the north of the trench, a thicker topsoil could be seen indicating that topsoil stripping had previously taken place in this area.

| Trench 13 | | |
|---|--------------|---|
| Orientation: West - East | | |
| Dimensions: Length 14m Depth 0.2m | | |
| Contexts | Context Type | Description |
| 1300 | Natural | Orange, degraded sandstone |
| 1301 | Topsoil | Mixed dark brownish grey loose sand with brick fragments & gravel |
| Trench 13 contained no archaeological remains | | |
| Plate 13 (Photograph Numbers: 41-42) | | |

4. CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological remains were encountered during the course of the trenching and no finds were recovered from any of the trenches. Much of the site has been terraced to provide level surfaces for the construction of the hospital buildings. Prior to the terracing, the site would have been on a fairly steep slope. While pre-modern activity on the site is not inconceivable, it is likely that over the course of time, colluvial soil movement and erosion, the terracing itself and the construction of the hospital buildings would have removed any evidence if present.

Nearly all the trenches contained modern disturbance, and no pre-modern finds were recorded within the topsoil, or the spoil heaps on the site.

Despite the constraints to undertaking the trenching, it may be stated with a fair degree of confidence that the lack of archaeological remains recorded, represents an accurate evaluation of the archaeological potential of the site.

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APPENDIX 1: Photographic Register

| Photo Number | Description | Facing |
|---------------------|---|---------------|
| 1-36 | Working shots and views of Cookridge Hospital | Various |
| 37 | Trench 1 post ex | NW |
| 38 | Trench 1 post ex | SE |
| 39 | Trench 10 post ex | NW |
| 40 | Trench 10 post ex | SE |
| 41 | Trench 13 post ex | E |
| 42 | Trench 13 post ex | W |
| 43 | Trench 11 post ex | NE |
| 44 | Trench 11 post ex | SW |
| 45 | Trench 12 post ex | SE |
| 46 | Trench 12 post ex | NW |
| 47 | Trench 9 post ex | SE |
| 48 | Trench 9 post ex | NW |
| 49 | Trench 8 post ex | SE |
| 50 | Trench 8 post ex | NW |
| 51 | Trench 7 post ex | N |
| 52 | Trench 7 post ex | S |
| 53 | Trench 6 post ex | NW |
| 54 | Trench 6 post ex | SE |
| 55 | Trench 5 post ex | SE |
| 56 | Trench 5 post ex | NW |
| 57 | Trench 3 post ex | SE |
| 58 | Trench 3 post ex | NW |
| 59 | Trench 4 post ex | NE |
| 60 | Trench 4 post ex | SW |
| 61 | Trench 2 post ex | SE |
| 62 | Trench 2 post ex | NW |

APPENDIX 2: Context Register

| Context | Area | Description |
|---------|-----------|---|
| 100 | Trench 1 | Mid orange firm silty sand, natural |
| 101 | Trench 1 | Dark greyish brown loose sand, mixed topsoil & construction debris |
| 201 | Trench 2 | Top layer mixed rubble and yellow clay |
| 202 | Trench 2 | Mixed black silty clay and building rubble |
| 203 | Trench 2 | Yellow firm sandy clay, natural layer |
| 204 | Trench 2 | Mid yellowish brown loose silty sand, re-deposited natural |
| 205 | Trench 2 | Mid brown loose silty sand mixed with bricks and gravel |
| 300 | Trench 3 | Dark grey loose silty sand, humic in nature, topsoil |
| 301 | Trench 3 | Grey soft clay, natural layer |
| 400 | Trench 4 | Yellow hard rubble |
| 401 | Trench 4 | Yellowish Brown firm silt, degraded sandstone, natural layer |
| 500 | Trench 5 | Dark grey loose sand, topsoil |
| 501 | Trench 5 | Yellow / orange loose sand, natural layer |
| 600 | Trench 6 | Orange brown sandy loam, natural layer |
| 601 | Trench 6 | Mixed modern rubble and soil |
| 700 | Trench 7 | Yellow soft sandy loam, natural layer |
| 701 | Trench 7 | Dark grayish brown loose sand, topsoil |
| 702 | Trench 7 | Mid greenish brown firm sand, mixed with concrete and tarmac. |
| 800 | Trench 8 | Yellow soft sandy loam, natural layer |
| 801 | Trench 8 | Building rubble including bricks, gravel and yellow sandstone |
| 900 | Trench 9 | Mid yellowish orange compact sandy silt, degraded sandstone |
| 901 | Trench 9 | Building rubble including bricks, gravel, wire & plaster, concrete blocks |
| 1000 | Trench 10 | Dark brownish grey loose sand, humic in nature, topsoil |
| 1001 | Trench 10 | Light grey / mid orange firm sandy silt degraded sandstone, natural layer |
| 1100 | Trench 11 | Mid-dark orange firm silt, degraded sandstone, natural layer |
| 1101 | Trench 11 | Dark brownish grey loose sand humic in nature, topsoil |
| 1200 | Trench 12 | Mid yellowish orange firm sandy silt, degraded sandstone, natural |
| 1201 | Trench 12 | Dark brownish grey loose sand, humic in nature, topsoil |
| 1202 | Trench 12 | Construction debris including gravel, concrete and bricks |
| 1300 | Trench 13 | Mid orange loose sandy silt, degraded sandstone, natural layer |
| 1301 | Trench 13 | Dark brownish grey loose sand humic in nature, topsoil |

Plates 1-15



Plate 1: Trench 1 Looking West



Plate 2: Trench 2 Looking Northwest



Plate 3: Trench 3 Looking Northwest



Plate 4: Trench 4 Looking Southwest



Plate 5: Trench 5 Looking Northwest



Plate 6: Trench 6 Looking Northwest



Plate 7: Trench 7 Looking South



Plate 8: Trench 8 Looking Northwest



Plate 9: Trench 9 looking Southeast



Plate 10: Trench 10 Looking Northwest



Plate 11: Trench 11 Looking Northeast



Plate 12: Trench 12 Looking Southeast



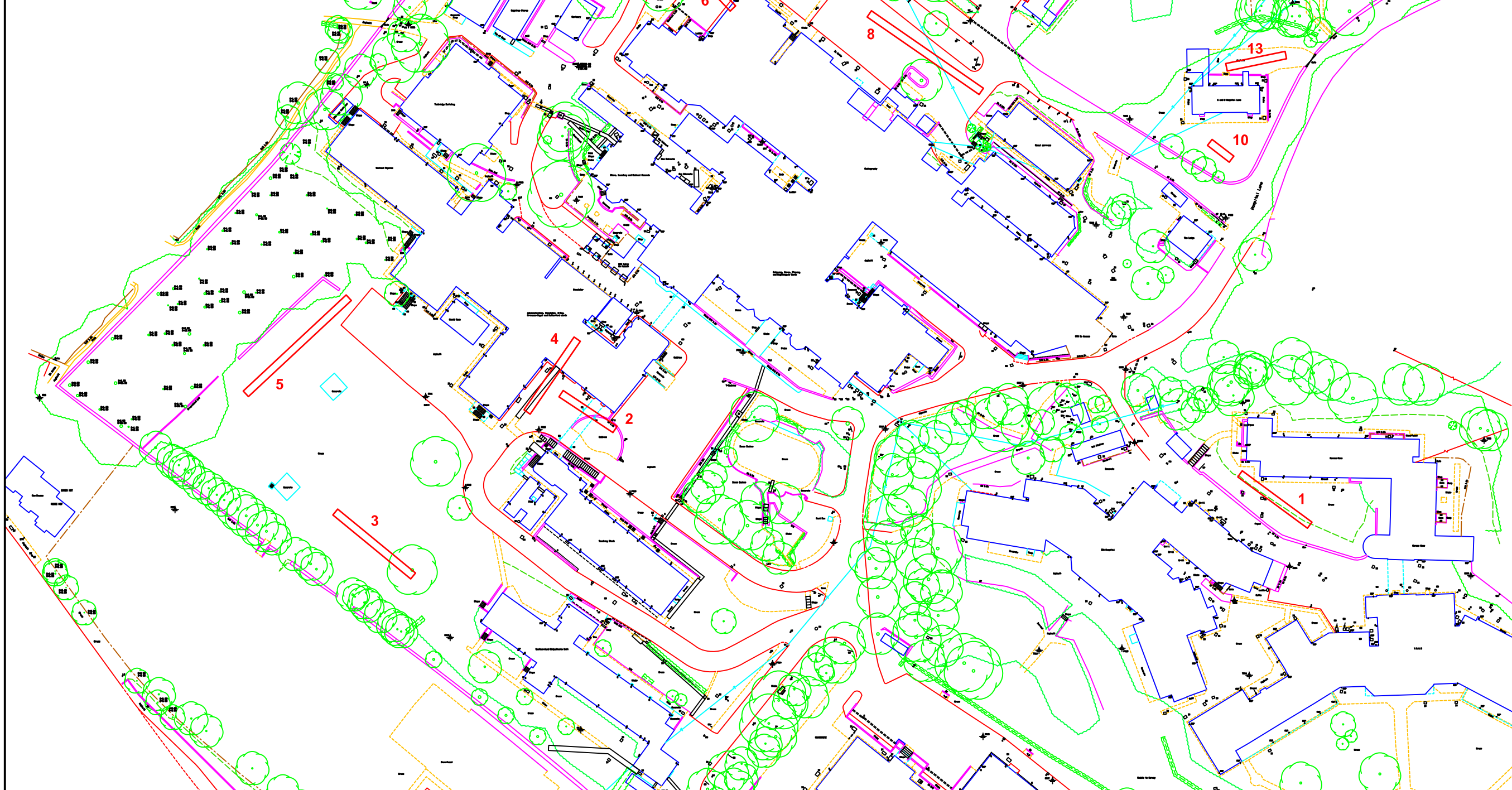
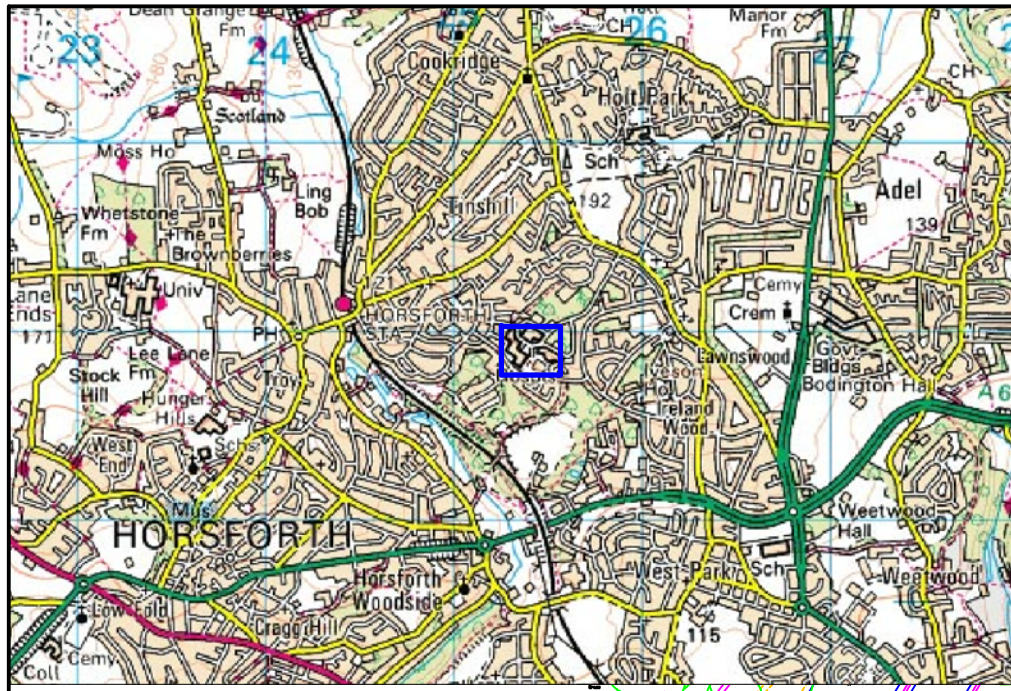
Plate 13: Trench 13 looking Northeast



Plate 14: View of the Site Looking Southeast



Plate 15: Working Shot, Excavation of Trench 4 Looking North



Key:
 Trenches

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Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

Title:
Trench Location Map

Project:
**Former Cookridge Hospital,
 Leeds**

Archaeological Evaluation

Client:
Chartfort Arthington

Scale at A3:
1:1000

Drawn by: LW Checked: LW Report No: Y018/11



*WEST YORKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY ADVISORY SERVICE SUMMARY SHEET
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK IN WEST YORKSHIRE*

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Site name/ Address: Former Cookridge Hospital, Leeds | |
| Township: Adel cum Eccup | District: Leeds |
| National Grid Reference: SE 254 390 | |
| Contractor: CFA Archaeology | |
| Date of Work: July 2011 | |
| Title of Report: Former Cookridge Hospital, Leeds, Archaeological Evaluation | |
| Date of Report: 25/02/2011 | |
| SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS: An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at the Former Cookridge Hospital, Leeds. Thirteen trenches were excavated and recorded. Other than modern building foundations, drains and other services no archaeological remains were encountered, and no finds were recovered. | |
| Author of summary: Martin Lightfoot | Date of summary: 28/07/2011 |