



Godolphin and Latymer School
Iffley Road, London W8

Archaeological Evaluation





**GODOLPHIN AND LATYMER SCHOOL
IFFLEY ROAD, LONDON W8**

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared for

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**Museum of London Site Code
GOP07**

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Summary

Gardiner and Theobald LLP commissioned Wessex Archaeology in London to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the Godolphin and Latymer School, Iffley Road, London W8, in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (hereafter the site), at National Grid Reference NGR: 522970, 178860.

The evaluation was undertaken as a condition of planning consent for the development of the site from disused land immediately to the north of St. Johns Church, to a new music block with landscaping.

A single trench was opened to evaluate the archaeological potential. Previous geotechnical work had shown up to two metres of modern made ground lying on top of Kempton Park Gravels (Geotechnical & Environmental Associates, 2006), and the archaeological evaluation trench supported this. The trench dimensions were reduced slightly from 5 x 10m to 4 x 8m to avoid tree canopies along the northern edge of the site. At a depth of 0.7m the trench was stepped in by 1m to prevent side collapse, the horizon with the natural gravels was found at approximately 1.47m below ground surface.

No archaeological features or deposits were observed during the evaluation.

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Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology in London was commissioned by Gardiner and Theobald LLP. Wessex Archaeology in London would like to thank the onsite staff of Godolphin & Latymer School for their assistance.

Andy Baines undertook the fieldwork and compiled this report, with illustrations by Will Foster. Lawrence Pontin managed the project for Wessex Archaeology.

GODOLPHIN AND LATYMER SCHOOL IFFLEY ROAD, LONDON W6

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Gardiner and Theobald LLP commissioned Wessex Archaeology in London to undertake an archaeological evaluation at the Godolphin and Latymer School, Iffley Road, London W8, in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (hereafter the site), at National Grid Reference NGR: 522970, 178860.

1.1.2 This report refers to the evaluation undertaken prior to construction on the Site. The evaluation was undertaken from 15th to 16th January 2007.

1.1.3 The work was undertaken as a condition of planning consent.

1.2 Site Description

1.2.1 The Site is located immediately north of St. Johns Church and immediately south of existing buildings of the present Godolphin and Latymer School. It is bounded on the west side by Cambridge Grove.

1.2.2 The site comprises a rectangular area of disused open land covering an area of 0.7 hectares. The ground level of the Site has been raised by means of made-ground deposits, presumably for the construction of the original Godolphin School in 1861. The underlying geology is Kempton Park Gravels (Geotechnical & Environmental Associates 2006).

1.3 Archaeological Background

1.3.1 A desk-based assessment of the Site was carried out in support of the original planning application. Below is a summary of its conclusions.

1.3.2 The Site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area as defined within the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Unitary Development plan (adopted 2003). Archaeological remains have been found to the south of the site consisting of the remains of an Iron Age dated earthwork which may enclose contemporary settlement evidence (Oxford Archaeology, 2005).

1.3.3 Other evidence exists to the south for Bronze Age settlement and a potential Roman Road as postulated by Margary running along modern day King Street (Oxford Archaeology, 2005).

2 EVALUATION AIMS

2.1 The aim of this project was to determine, as far as reasonably possible, the presence/absence, extent, date, character and depth of any surviving archaeological remains located during the excavation of the evaluation trench.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Methodological Standards

- 3.1.1 All work was undertaken in compliance with the standards outlined in the Institute of Field Archaeologist's Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (1994, revised 2001).
- 3.1.2 The potential depth of the trench made it necessary to step the sides of the trench to avoid collapse of the sections. This was carried out at a depth of 0.7m due to the unstable nature of the upper deposits.

3.2 Health and Safety

- 3.2.1 All work was carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and the Management of Health and Safety Regulations (1992), and all other relevant Health and Safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice in force.
- 3.2.2 A risk assessment was prepared by Wessex Archaeology prior to the commencement of fieldwork (WA 2007).

3.3 Fieldwork

- 3.3.1 The evaluation was carried out by means of the excavation of one trench measuring 8 x 4m in plan (6 x 2m at the base). This was dug by means of a mechanical excavator using a toothless (ditching) bucket under the constant supervision of an archaeologist.
- 3.3.2 The location of the trench was scanned using a cable avoidance tool (CAT). The trench was positioned so as to assess building and landscaping impact.
- 3.3.3 The trench was machine excavated until horizons with the Kempton Park Gravels were reached at depth of 1.47m beneath present ground surface.
- 3.3.4 Representative sections of the excavation area were drawn at a scale of 1:10 and the position of which was recorded on a plan of the Site drawn at a scale of 1:50. Written records were taken using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system and a photographic record of the works was maintained.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1 The excavated trench showed modern made up ground to a depth of 1.47m below ground surface where the horizon with the Kempton Park Gravels was observed.
- 4.2 The presence of 19th Century material and artefacts support the documentary evidence, which indicates that the made up ground was a part of the construction of the original Godolphin School in 1861. Three distinct layers of material were observed and recorded; all were of the same period (19th Century). The depositional nature of the stratigraphy suggests that the material was dumped on the site in an attempt to raise the ground level.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 In conclusion, the evaluation has demonstrated that little if anything, of archaeological significance would be impacted upon by the construction of the development. A layer of made up ground was recorded to an apparently consistent depth of 1.5m below the surface. No archaeological remains or finds were recovered from the site.

6 ARCHIVE

- 6.1 The completed project archive will be prepared in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Appendix 3 of Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage 1991) and in accordance with the guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (UKIC 1990). The archive from the project will be deposited with the Museum of London under MOL Site Code GOP07:

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

English Heritage 1991 *Management of Archaeological Projects*

Geotechnical & Environmental Associates 2006 *The Godolphin & Latymer School: Desk Study and Ground Investigation Report*

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001 *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

Oxford Archaeology 2005 *The Church of St John the Evangelist, the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham: Archaeological and Listed Buildings Assessment*

Wessex Archaeology 2006 *Godolphin and Latymer School, Iffley Road W6- Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Ref. 64770.01*

Wessex Archaeology 2007 *Godolphin and Latymer School, Iffley Road W6- Risk Assessment for Archaeological Evaluation Ref. 64770.02*

UKIC 1990 *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* .

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARY SHEET

Trench 1

DIMENSIONS: 1.60MX 3.60M MAX. DEPTH: 3.10M		Interpretation & Process of deposition	Depth (m)
Context	Description		
1001	Dark Blackish Brown Silty Clay. Lose and poorly sorted. Quite a large organic component and regular fine root disturbance. 19 th Century material observed.	Made Ground	0 - 1.05m
1002	Dark Blackish Brown Silty Clay. Moderately compact, includes frequent lenses of redeposited natural. 19 th Century material observed.	Made Ground	1.05 - 1.22m
1003	Dark Blackish Brown Clayish Silt. Well mixed. Compact but moist and soft. Fewer inclusions than layers above. Horizon onto the natural is sharp. 19 th Century material observed.	Made Ground	1.22 - 1.5m
1004	Mid Reddish Brown Silty Clay matrix binding frequent flint gravels 40% Angular/Sub Angular <60mm	Natural gravels	1.5m+

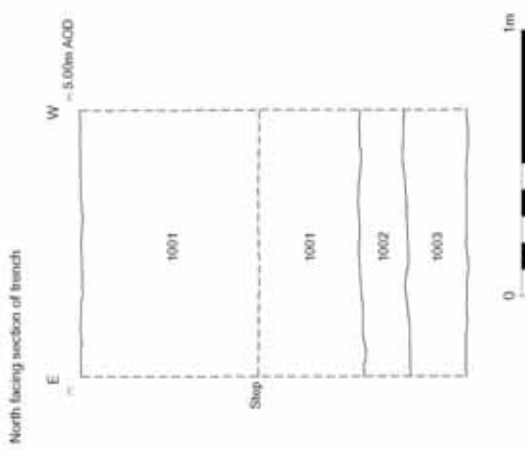
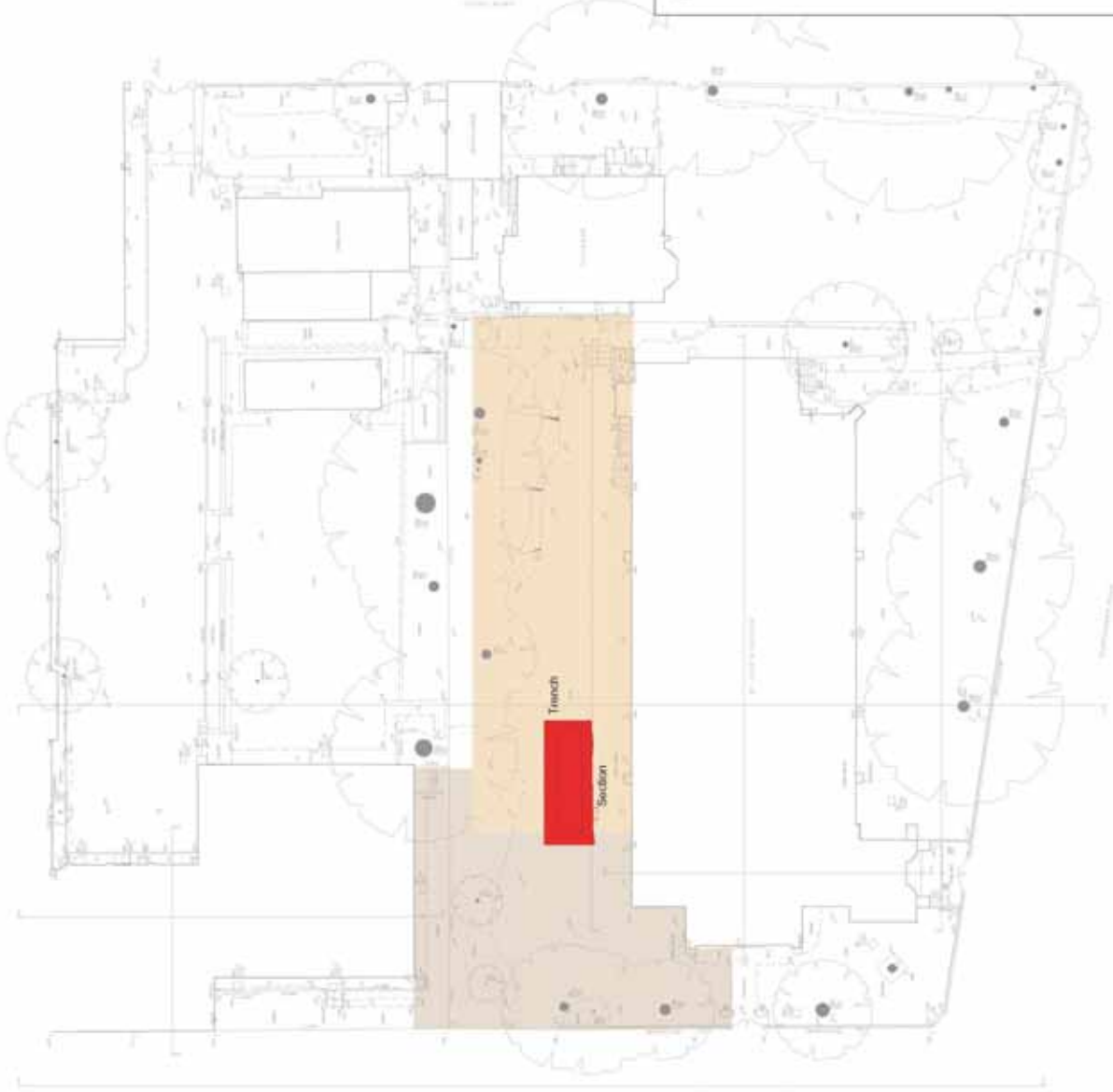


- New building
- Landscaping and access
- Trench location

MOLIF GORV7

Base map supplied by client
This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology
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Revision Number:	0
Illustrator:	KJB/WAF
Date:	07/02/07
Scale:	1:400
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\64770\Drawing Office\Report Figures\ym64770\64770_Extal.dwg



Site drawing and trench location

Figure 1



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