

Request Title: Nissen huts - St Margaret's hospital 1963-1965

FOI Reference: PSC-37219-V3K7

Date of Disclosure: 07/02/2022

Date Range: 1963-1965

FOI Request:

Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust is in receipt of a mesothelioma litigation claim relating to St Margaret's Hospital, Epping. This is an historical alleged claim dating to the period 10.01.63 – 31.12.65.

At that time, I understand that St Margaret's was part of Princess Alexandra Hospital but long since ceased to be so and reverted to the care of NHS Property Services. I am enquiring whether you are in possession of any of the following information;

- *Any information relating to Nissen huts which were on the St Margaret's Hospital site at that time?*
- *Any information relating to maintenance/repair of such huts around that period*
- *Any information relating to asbestos contamination and/or removal of such huts*

Our Response:

Under section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we confirm that we do not hold the requested information as you have requested it. Under regulation 9, duty to advise and assist, we advise that these buildings were sold off before NHS Property Services was formed in 2013 and, therefore, we do not have any information for them.

We understand that Bellway homes bought part of the site in 2005 and it is thought this included the Nissen Huts – although we cannot confirm any direct connection. The site was redeveloped by 2008, so again before NHSPS formed.

Information is on the Epping Forest District Council Planning Portal 'The Plain' road about planning changes to this site –

<http://plan1.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/GeneralSearch.aspx>

Historical articles including photos and newspaper articles refer to Nissen huts at that site:

- <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/Epping/>
- <https://www.diomedia.com/stock-photo-aerial-view-of-st-margarets-hospital-epping-essex-designed-by-lewis-vulliamy-the-site-began-life-in-1837-8-as-the-epping-union-workhouse-the-original-workhouse-was-the-cross-shaped-building-image8452646.html>



Property Services