Soil Environment Services Ltd

# SITE INVESTIGATION SURVEY

Thorne Hiley Limited

24-28 Warner Street, Camden





Institute of Professional Soil Scientists

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**Client:** 

Thorne Hiley Limited 10 Furnival Street London EC4A 1 YH

# SITE INVESTIGATION SURVEY

# 24-28 Warner Street, Camden

A report prepared on behalf of *Soil Environment Services* by:

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INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS

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**Soil Environment Services** 

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# CONTENTS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

SCO	PE OF WORKS	4
SITE	SETTING	
2.1	Surface conditions	5
2.2	BGS mapped geology and drift	5
2.3	Drainage and hydrogeology	5
SITI	E INVESTIGATION SURVEY	
3.1	Completed works	6
3.2	Soil descriptions and borehole logs	6
3.3	In-situ testing	6
3.4	Groundwater	6
LAF	BORATORY TESTING	7
SUN	IMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	
5.1	General ground conditions	8
5.1	Groundwater	8

DRAWING 1	Site plan and borehole locations
DRAWING 2	<b>River Fleet location</b>
APPENDIX A	Engineers borehole log/s

# 1. SCOPE OF WORKS

Soil Environment Services Ltd was instructed by Thorne Hiley Limited to conduct a factual ground investigation at:

24-28 Warner Street Camden London EC1R 5EX

# (Drawing SS/1)

The planned works include soil survey to provide a factual assessment of soil and ground water conditions for the required ground-works and/or building construction. The site investigation was in general accordance with BS5930 and BS1377.

The site investigation was carried out on the 27-28<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

The planned scope of works as per detailed and specified within the agreed quotation comprised:

4 x boreholes to a maximum depth of 6.00 metres below ground level (m bgl)Groundwater assessment1 x factual report to BS5930

Variation to the above scope of works may be needed and beneficial given the ground conditions encountered during the site investigation. This will be detailed in Section 3.1 – Completed Works.

The accuracy of the geotechnical report is restricted to the initial scope of works and then the completed works. Also, variation in soil strength and composition may subsequently be encountered across the site during site works operations and/or ground preparation.

# 2. SITE SETTING

The site assessed for this investigation currently comprises 266 sq m. area of land located on the southern side of Warner Street, Camden (Drawing 1). The site is surrounded by commercial properties and offices.

#### 2.1 Surface conditions

At the time of survey the site area was within the buildings of Latchfords Timber Merchants office and warehouse. The ground surface was concrete and the site was in general level. However the surrounding land had an approximate 1.5 m drop from north to south.

#### 2.2 BGS mapped Geology and drift

The site is located on Alluvium: mainly sand, silt and clay from Flandrian, Holocene era, bordering London Clay Formation from the Thames Group; consisting of clay, silty in part, lower part sandy in east from Eocene, Palaeogene era. Surrounded by Hackney Gravel- post diversionary River Terrace Deposits; gravel, sandy and clayey in part from Anglian to Devensian, Pleistocene era. (BGS Map 256: 1:50000).

#### 2.3 Drainage and hydrogeology

Flow to groundwater will be restricted by the concrete and clay soils.

Surface water flow may find a possible route via surface water drains and runoff to the south east towards the River Thames 1310 m south of the site.

The culverted River Fleet runs from west to east and is located approximately 4 m south of the site (Drawing 2). The land then rises to the 15 m contour south of the site.

The site is located on what would have been the north bank of the River Fleet with land rising to the north and falling to the south. The original ground below the site has an approximate 1.5 m fall from north to south over the site length.

#### **3.** GEOTECHNICAL SOIL SURVEY

#### 3.1 Completed works

#### Site works

BHs, were located as in Drawing 1.

3 x boreholes to a maximum depth of 6.00 metres below ground level (m bgl)

2 x boreholes to a maximum depth of 1.50 metres below ground level (m bgl)

#### Laboratory analysis and reporting

1 x factual report to BS5930

#### **3.2** General soil descriptions (full borehole log/s in Appendix A)

**BH1** terminated at 1.5 m over possible metal infill from the historical bomb damaged building. This borehole was re-located but terminated again on metal infill material.

Soils in general consisted of over 3 m of sandy gravel made ground over a dark grey organic silty clay layer of up to 1 m over grey firm silty clay.

BH2 had a stratum of soft organic silt from 4 to 4.75 m bgl. This is likely to be part of the bank or edge of the former River Fleet.

## 3.3 In-situ testing

Testing on-site included water depth assessment.

## 3.4 Groundwater

Groundwater was detected in BHs 2 and 4 on the south side of the site. In BH 2, slight water seepage was noted at 4.5 m bgl and in BH4 slight seepage at 5.5 m bgl. No water was detected in BH3 on the north side of the site.

The water levels noted are not likely to indicate a east to west hydraulic gradient as the drop in river height will be in west to east direction with corresponding hydraulic gradient. The water seepage is considered therefore to be from water which may entered the yard at the rear of the building and pased to depth or water from the various culverts (including the River Fleet) and channels at depth below the site and which has passed through fissures in the clay.

## 4. LABORATORY TESTING

Samples have been retained with currently no laboratory testing commissioned.

# 5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This report and the survey have been undertaken with the intention of establishing the potential for adverse impact upon the existing below ground conditions. Consideration has been given to the Appendix E of the recent Arup's Report for the site and equally stages 1-4 of the BIA outlined in COG24 2011 in arriving at the conclusions reached in this report. From the findings, there is no reason to believe that the proposed scheme will affect the below ground geo-hydrological conditions.

## 5.1 General ground conditions

Soils consisted of over 3 m of sandy gravel made ground over a dark grey organic silty clay layer of up to 1 m over grey firm silty clay. BH2 had a stratum of soft organic silt from 4 to 4.75 m bgl. This is likely to be part of the bank or edge of the former River Fleet.

## 5.2 Groundwater

No significant groundwater was detected. The water in BH2 was likely to be that related to the River Fleet and as such will probably be the water passing down the hydraulic gradient in the former bank side or river edge sediments. The culverted river is likely to be approximately 4-6 m south of BH2 and possibly at a slightly (0.5 m) lower elevation.

BHs 3 and 4 did not exhibit significant water up-gradient of BH2.

The development would not be expected to have any significant effect on groundwater as:

- 1 very little water ingress was detected and
- 2 BHs up gradient of BH2 demonstrated no significant water which could be impacted by basement location.

The proposed scheme is likely to have no adverse impact on the current below ground geo-hydrological conditions.

In light of the proposed plans/developments and specifically the proposed basement level and following the completion of the below ground survey, the findings do not warrant (and we do not warrant the need for) any further investigations/works at this stage.

# **Drawing 1**

Site plan and borehole locations



# Drawing 2

**River Fleet location** 



# **APPENDIX A**

Engineers borehole log/s

Soil Er	Date							
Borehole/	Testpit Log	9	Excavation type and method:	27/07/11				
Client			Site	BH/Pit Ref.				
Thorne Hiley Limited			24-28 Warner Street			BH 1a and 1b		
Surface (m OD) 20 m			]					
Depth (m BGL)	Symbol		Description Installations			Notes		
1.0		MADE GROU inclusions MADE GROU with some flin light brown sa	ND Concrete with large flint IND Crushed brick, rock, ash t inclusionswith loose gravel and ind.		Terminated a metal grid.	t 1.80 m suspected large		
3.0								
4.0								
5.0								
6.0								
7.0								
8.0								
9.0								

Soil En	Date						
Borehole/ T	estpit Log		Excavation type and metho	27/07/11			
Client Thorne	Hiley Limited	I	Site 24-28 Warner Street			BH/Pit Ref. BH 2	
Surface (m OD) 20 m			]				
Depth (m BGL)	Symbol		Description	Installations	1	lotes	
1.0		MADE GROL inclusions MADE GROU with crushed I	JND Concrete with large flint JND Brown/grey, loose sandy g brick and rock.	ravel			
3.0		MADE GROL clay, with gra	JND brown, medium dense sar vel, brick and ash.	ndy			
4.0		MADE GROU clay with bric Dark grey, so	JND Very dark brown, firm, silt k vft, oragnic SILT	у			
5.0		Dark grey, so	oft to firm, silty CLAY		Slight water	seepage at 4.50 m	
6.0							
7.0							
8.0							
9.0							

Soil En	Date							
Borehole/ 1	27/07/11							
Client			Site			BH/Pit Ref.		
Thorne Hiley Limited			24-28 Warner Street			BH 3		
Surface (m OD) 20 m			]					
Depth (m BGL)	Symbol		Description Installations			Notes		
1.0		MADE GROUI inclusions MADE GROUI MADE GROU with crushed t	ND Concrete with large filmt ND orange, clayey sandy, gravel ND Brown/grey, loose sandy grave prick, rock, flint and glass.	el				
2.0		MADE GROUI gravel and ash	ND Black/brown, loose, sandy n.					
3.0		MADE GROUND Brown, soft, silty organic clay with brick						
4.0		Grey, firm to stiff, silty CLAY						
5.0								
6.0		Light brown/ grey mottled, firm to stiff, silty CLAY		,	No groundw	rater was detected		
7.0								
8.0								
9.0								

Soil Envir	Date					
Borehole/ Testp	oit Log	Excavation type and method: Borehole/Window Sampler			27/07/11	
Client		Site		BH/Pit Ref.		
Thorne Hiley	/ Limited	24-28 Warner Street			BH 4	
Surface (m OD) 20 m		]				
Depth (m BGL) Syn	nbol	Description	Installations	Notes		
1.0	MADE GROU inclusions MADE GROU with crushed t	ND Concrete with large flint ND Brown/grey, loose sandy gravel prick, rock and ash.				
5.0	Dark grey, firr Grey, firm, silt silty CLAY	n to stiff, silty CLAY y clay over brown mottled, firm		Slight water a	seepage at 5.50 m	
7.0 7.0 8.0 9.0						