

Flood Risk Assessment  
For Redevelopment of  
38 Frognal Lane, NW3 6PP

Job No: 14604

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Revision 2

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#### Document Control

Revision	Date	Status
1	15 September 20	Draft
2	2 October 20	SDA Surface Water Drainage Strategy added

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This site-specific Flood Risk Assessment has been prepared in support of a Planning Application for the redevelopment of 38 Frognal Lane NW3 6PP. Strictly, as a residential unit within Flood Zone 1, a Flood Risk Assessment is not required for planning of this site, but has been adopted as a convenient document for pulling together the relevant data for the Basement Impact Assessment.

This site specific flood risk assessment, FRA, has been prepared in accordance with:

- i. National Planning Policy Framework, NPPF, 2019
- ii. Planning Practice Guidance for Flood Risk and Coastal Change, FR&CC, as a live web base document originating in March 2014.
- iii. Guidance on Flood Risk Assessments: Climate Change Allowances, CCA, February 2016.

Cognisance is taken of:

- i. LB Camden Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, SFRA, which was issued May 2014, Ref 1. The SFRA is a planning tool in directing developments away from vulnerable flood risk areas.
- ii. Camden Geological, Hydrogeological and Hydrological Study, CGHHS, 2009.
- iii. LB Camden Flood Risk Management Strategy, FRMS, 2013.

### 1.1 Scope and Contents

The following support documents are appended to this FRA:

Appendix 1: EA Flood Maps for planning

## 2. LOCATION AND SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Location.

OS Grid Reference: 526004 185465  
Flood Zone 1

The site is on the slopes falling from the high ground of Hampstead Heath towards the southwest. The site is a parallelogram with the road frontage along Frognal Lane being 27m by some 30m deep, front to rear.

The orientation is with Frognal Lane to the north.

### 2.2 Topography and Levels

The site is on the slope down from Hampstead village to the Finchley Road. The natural gradient is generally from northeast to southwest. The topographical survey shows that the gradient to this part of Frognal Lane is 1 in 10. This gradient is also repeated on Langland Gardens to the south west of the site.

The site is located on one of the steeper sections of Frognal Lane, opposite the junction to Chesterford Gardens with the ground rising to the east. The adjacent house to the east on Frognal Lane is No 40 which is some 3m higher. The adjacent house to the west is No 12 Langland Gardens; which is some 2m lower. See site location plan.

The site is level and it is clear that the ground has been terraced with retaining walls to the back of the pavement and to the front sections of the eastern and western boundaries. The natural fall of the ground means that the level difference is less pronounced towards the rear, where the differences are accommodated within banking and steeper slopes to the perimeter flower beds rather than formal retaining walls.

The forecourt off Frogmal Lane is at +90.9m OD with the rear garden at +90.5m OD. The passageways to the east and west of the house are +91.3m OD and +90.6m OD respectively, with the maximum height of the eastern and western retaining walls at their northern front ends being 2m and 1m high respectively.

#### Adjacent Buildings

No 40 Frogmal Lane is 19m to the east of No 38 and its lower ground floor is at +92m OD.

No 12 Langland Gardens is 2.5m to the west of No 38. The upper ground floor is at +88.8m OD and the lower ground floor, with access from Langland Gardens, is at +86.2m OD.

Next to No 12 Langland Gardens is Lindfield House, the back garden of which extends across the whole of the rear boundary to No 38. There are outhouses within 2m of this southern boundary, but with the slope of the ground these are estimated to be at +89m OD.

### **2.3 Existing Site and Building**

38 Frogmal Lane is a detached two storey house with pitched roof that has a single storey attached garage to the east. To the rear is a single storey extension that wraps around onto its western side. The house has a gravel forecourt and paved patio and path to the rear squaring off the edge of the rear lawn and garden.

The gravel forecourt does not have any formal drainage. The surface slopes down to the western pavement crossover and whilst the gravel provides storage, surface water will tend to discharge at the pavement crossover or percolate through the western retaining wall into the garden of No 12 Langland Gardens.

## **3. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

### **3.1. Proposed Redevelopment**

The existing house is to be demolished and rebuilt as a two storey detached house with a basement. The basement will extend the width of the building in the east west direction but will be wider in the north south direction. It will be in two parts;

- i. The front section, beneath the forecourt, will be 5m deep with a swimming pool.
- ii. The rear section, beneath the main house will be 3m deep with a gym, home cinema and other leisure activities

There will be no habitable rooms in the basement; these will all be accommodated in the ground and 1<sup>st</sup> floors of the new house.

There will be lightwells to both the pool and the rear of the basement beyond the house.

### **3.2. Vulnerability Classification**

As a residential development, the development is classified as "More Vulnerable".

Given that the site is in Flood Zone 1, More Vulnerable use is appropriate.

## **4. FLOOD HAZARDS AND ASSESSMENTS**

### **4.1 Historical Records and Zoning**

SFRA Fig 3 iv shows that Frognal and Chesterford Gardens flooded in 2002 and possibly Langland Gardens in 1975, [the colouring of the road on the map being different to the key]. There is no record of any flooding on Frognal Lane. The area is classified as being within Critical Drainage Area 3\_010.

Floods in Camden [2003] records that Frognal Gardens flooded in 2002

FRMS, Section 6.4 for West Hampstead states:

'The history of flooding in this area is significant with a number of areas in South and West Hampstead affected in both 1975 and 2002. However after the 2002 floods, Thames Water invested in significant new flood risk infrastructure as part of the West Hampstead Flood Relief Scheme. The project involved larger diameter sewers and a holding tank both of which have substantially reduced flood risk in the area.'

The Surface Water Management Plan, 2013, Fig 3.1 shows that LFRZ 3015, Frognal is located to the east of the site

### **4.2 Sources of Flooding**

#### **4.2.1 Fluvial**

As EA Flood Map in Appendix 1, the site is in Flood Zone 1 with no risk of fluvial flooding

#### **4.2.2 Surface Water**

As EA Flood Map in Appendix 1, surface water run off from the north has caused localised surface water flooding to the southern end of Chesterford Gardens. Frognal Lane has a gradient of 1 in 10 at its junction with Chesterford Gardens and once the surface water has flowed around the corner, Frognal Lane will act as an open channel discharging the water down the hill. There will be no ponding of surface water on Frognal Lane.

#### **4.2.3 Reservoirs and Man made Water Features**

As EA Flood Map in Appendix 1, there are no reservoirs in the vicinity and Hampstead Ponds are too remote.

#### **4.2.4 Hydrogeology & Groundwater**

The site is founded on the Claygate Member overlying London Clay which outcrops further to the south on Lindfield Gardens. As shown on CGHH Fig 8, Aquifer Designation Map, the Claygate Member is a Secondary A Aquifer.

Water will tend to collect at the base of Claygate Member perching above the impervious London Clay, causing surface seepages where the underlying London Clay reaches ground surface. Given the anticipated moderately low permeability of this silty sandy clay, the Claygate Member is expected to contain water all year round.

#### **4.2.5 Sewers**

There are no records of sewer flooding in West Hampstead, separate from the surface water events in 4.2.2.

#### **4.2.6 Water Management**

As reported in LB Camden Flood Risk Management, Thames Water have undertaken flood alleviation schemes in West Hampstead since the 2002 floods

### **4.3 Pathways and Mechanisms**

The two pathways are surface water flows from Chesterford Gardens and groundwater flows to the base of the Claygate Member.

With the gradient on Frogmal Lane, the discharge from Chesterford Gardens will flow down the hill to the west; there will not be any ponding.

Any groundwater flows will be at the spring line at +82m OD, immediately above the London Clay outcrop and some 100m from the site.

### **4.4 Drainage Arrangements**

Currently, both the foul and surface water discharge to adopted sewers.

## **5. CLIMATE CHANGE**

Global sea levels will continue to rise and peak rainfall intensity and river flows will increase over the next century.

As discussed in Climate Change Assessment, Table 1, allowances for a More Vulnerable site in Flood Zone 1 in the Thames Basin will have increases in rainfall of 40%.

## **6. FLOOD MITIGATION**

As reported in FRMS, flood mitigation measures have been installed in West Hampstead since the 2002 flooding and no problems were reported with the 2012 floods in the Borough.

## **7. SUDS**

A drainage strategy has been prepared by Simon Dent Associates. SUDS techniques will be adopted to mitigate the impact of the development on flooding in the area.

Rainwater downpipes shall be provided with water butts to assist in reusing rainwater for irrigation and gardening.

Infiltration rates of the Claygate members are too low to allow the use of soakaways. All storm water discharges from the site will be intercepted by attenuation geocells with the final flow control chamber restricting run off from the site to 2.0 lit/sec; this flow control being the lowest practicable non mechanical flow control device available and replicating as near to existing greenfield run off rates as possible.

## **8. OFF SITE IMPACTS**

The drainage regime will be maintained as present. There are no significant changes to the footprint and impervious area of the above ground building. There will be an increase in the impervious area with the swimming pool beneath the forecourt, but this will be less than 20m<sup>2</sup> and will be compensated with the surface water storage provision.

The site is too small to have any impact on the flood risk of the surrounding area.

## **9. FLOOD LEVEL FOR ASSESSMENT**

There is no fluvial flooding event. There could be significant surface water flows on Frognal Lane if Chesterford Gardens floods, but with the gradient, this will be shallow fast flowing and there will be no ponding or flooding.

With flow down Frognal Lane, there could be eddies and backflow at No 38's pavement crossover at +90.8m OD; this could lead to minor flows onto the site. Consequently a flood level of +90.85m OD has been adopted.

## **10. RESIDUAL RISKS**

### **10.1 Freeboard Allowance**

Whilst the recommended freeboard for fluvial flooding is 0.3m, this is over onerous for a localised surface water event on an adjacent road. Given the arrangement of the forecourt with the entrance in the middle of the front elevation, a freeboard of 0.15m is considered adequate giving a free board level of +91.0m.

The freeboard level of +91.0m should be provided:

- As a mound to the forecourt to the east of the pavement crossover
- As a threshold to the western pathway to the side of the house
- At the kerb to the basement lightwells.

### **10.2 Habitable Rooms and Bedrooms**

There are no habitable rooms or bedrooms in the basement.

### **10.3 Safe Egress and Flood Plans**

Given the uncertainties of future flood risks, safe egress is fundamental.

Thames Water mitigation measures have improved the local surface water drainage, and there have been no problems since 2002. The construction of pedestrian access steps and gate to the east of Chesterford Gardens would allow safe egress in severe surface water events.

### **10.4 Flood Resistant and Flood Resilient Construction**

The swimming pool will be flood resilient construction and sensibly the remainder of the basement construction should be similar.

## **11. CONCLUSION**

The reconstruction of the house with a basement will not impact on the flood risk of the area.

SUDS will reduce the impact of the surface water discharge into the adopted sewer.

The forecourt level should include a mound to a level of +91.0 OD to take cognisance of any backflow onto the site from surface water flowing down Frognal Lane.

Appendix 1: EA Flood Maps



# Flood map for planning

Your reference  
**38 Frognal Ln**

Location (easting/northing)  
**526004/185465**

Created  
**2 Sep 2020 14:30**

**Your selected location is in flood zone 1, an area with a low probability of flooding.**

## This means:

- you don't need to do a flood risk assessment if your development is smaller than 1 hectare and not affected by other sources of flooding
- you may need to do a flood risk assessment if your development is larger than 1 hectare or affected by other sources of flooding or in an area with critical drainage problems

## Notes

The flood map for planning shows river and sea flooding data only. It doesn't include other sources of flooding. It is for use in development planning and flood risk assessments.

This information relates to the selected location and is not specific to any property within it. The map is updated regularly and is correct at the time of printing.

The Open Government Licence sets out the terms and conditions for using government data.  
<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>



## Flood map for planning

Your reference

**38 Frogнал Ln**

Location (easting/northing)









**526004/185465**

Scale

**1:2500**

Created

**2 Sep 2020 14:30**

-  Selected point
-  Flood zone 3
-  Flood zone 3: areas benefitting from flood defences
-  Flood zone 2
-  Flood zone 1
-  Flood defence
-  Main river
-  Flood storage area

0 20 40 60m





Surface Water Flooding





Extent of Reservoir Flooding

Appendix 2:        Surface Water Drainage Strategy on SDA Drawing 1611-100



