

**LAND TO THE REAR OF 65 KINGSWOOD LANE,
WARLINGHAM, CR6 9AB.
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

April 2008

C O M P A S S



ARCHAEOLOGY

LAND TO THE REAR OF 65 KINGSWOOD LANE,
WARLINGHAM, CR6 9AB.

LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SITE CODE: KLV 08

SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 35369 59777

PLANNING REFERENCES: 07/04721/P

ENGLISH HERITAGE REF: LAG/8/608

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April 2008

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Abstract

Archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, took place on 1st April 2008. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to a proposed residential development of the site for the erection of a detached bungalow at the rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, with integral garage and a detached garage for the existing house.

The site lies within an area of known archaeological importance. A Romano-British settlement, enclosed by a small semi-circular earthwork' was partially excavated by R.I. Little during 1955 and 959 to the north of the site on the northern boundary of Kings Wood. Excavations in 1959 discovered Roman burial-urns and a small 1st century cemetery beyond the gateway to the settlement and alongside a short stretch of metalled road. A complex of ancient roads and track ways connect this site and others along the clay capped chalk ridges linking the site to ancient trade routes

Kings Wood was closely linked with an area of land now occupied by Atwood Primary School further north along the Limpsfield Road. In 1960 during building operations, a Romano-British settlement was discovered and part of the site was re-excavated in 1989 by G.L. King and further significant evidence discovered, indicating Iron Age and Roman occupation and this settlement was again linked to the Kings Wood community by ancient roads and track ways.

Two evaluation trenches were excavated each measuring approximately 8m x 1.5m. The first trench was excavated running northeast-southwest within the footprint of the proposed new build, the second and southernmost trench lay at right angles to the first and was located over the hammer-head of the access driveway. No archaeological remains were found: there was a straightforward sequence of deposits across the site, with a rich humic garden soil (c 0.3m) overlying the slightly weathered sterile surface of the natural clay with flints.

During the course of the evaluation the site was metal detected and a selection of small finds were recovered including: a base metal copy of a one-third guinea (the original coin of which was introduced in 1774, although it may be that this particular example incorrectly copied an earlier design possibly of coin types of the reign of William and Mary/William III (1689-1702)); a gilded brass Masonic fob of recent design; a bullet from a 303 rifle and a fragment of shrapnel from a drive belt. These finds are not of any especial archaeological significance; the shrapnel and bullet are not surprising considering the proximity of Biggin Hill airport; the Masonic fob is probably of very recent date; and although the replica coin is of some numismatic interest it probably represents just a lost chance find and may be of relatively recent date; its provenance here is not of any obvious archaeological significance.

Given the lack of any significant findings it is suggested that no further archaeological measures should be undertaken in relation to the proposed developments.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1** This report presents a summary of archaeological evaluation of land to the rear of 'Thurne', 65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham CR6 9AB, London Borough of Croydon (Fig 1: National Grid Reference (centre of new build) TQ 35369 59777). Compass Archaeology carried out the evaluation fieldwork on the 1st April 2008. The site is proposed for redevelopment and planning permission (07/04721/P) has been granted for the erection of a detached bungalow with integral garage in the rear garden of no.65 Kingswood Lane and for a detached garage for the existing house.
- 1.2** It was considered that the site had potential for archaeological remains, particularly those of prehistoric and Roman date for which there are a number of local references. In later periods the area appears to have lain with open arable land, and certainly appears as such on 19th century maps.
- 1.3** English Heritage advised that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken as a condition of planning consent, prior to development. It was recommended that this should consist of two trial trenches, measuring 8m by 1.5m, to be located within the proposed development footprint and across the hammerhead of the proposed driveway.

2. Acknowledgements

Compass Archaeology is grateful to Mr Michael Isidorou for commissioning the archaeological evaluation and to the following individuals.

Mark Stevenson (English Heritage Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service) who monitored the project on behalf of the London Borough of Croydon.

Richard Thorpe of DTA Services Ltd. for his assistance in making arrangements for the evaluation and during the course of the fieldwork.

3. Background

3.1 Location and topography

The site is located on high, but generally level ground, at about 170m OD, approximately 400m to the west of Limpsfield Road (A269) which is believed to follow the route of a prehistoric track way¹. The modern parish of Sanderstead is believed to have developed along the line of this track way, which is thought to have run to the Sussex Iron Field, and which may now be beneath the existing Limpsfield Road. The British Geological Survey (Solid and Drift) indicates that the site overlies the natural clay with flints, which is a tertiary relic deposit capping the North Downs in certain areas of the Borough.

The proposed development covers a more or less rectangular plot of land with sides of about 110m by 20m at the widest point. The plot lies to the rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, a semi-detached bungalow (Fig 1). At time of evaluation the site was open, the garage to the west of the house having been demolished, no groundworks had taken place on the site and the evaluation area was the lawn of the back garden of no. 65.

¹ There is still some dispute as to whether this track way exists or not Farley 1967 makes some mention of it,

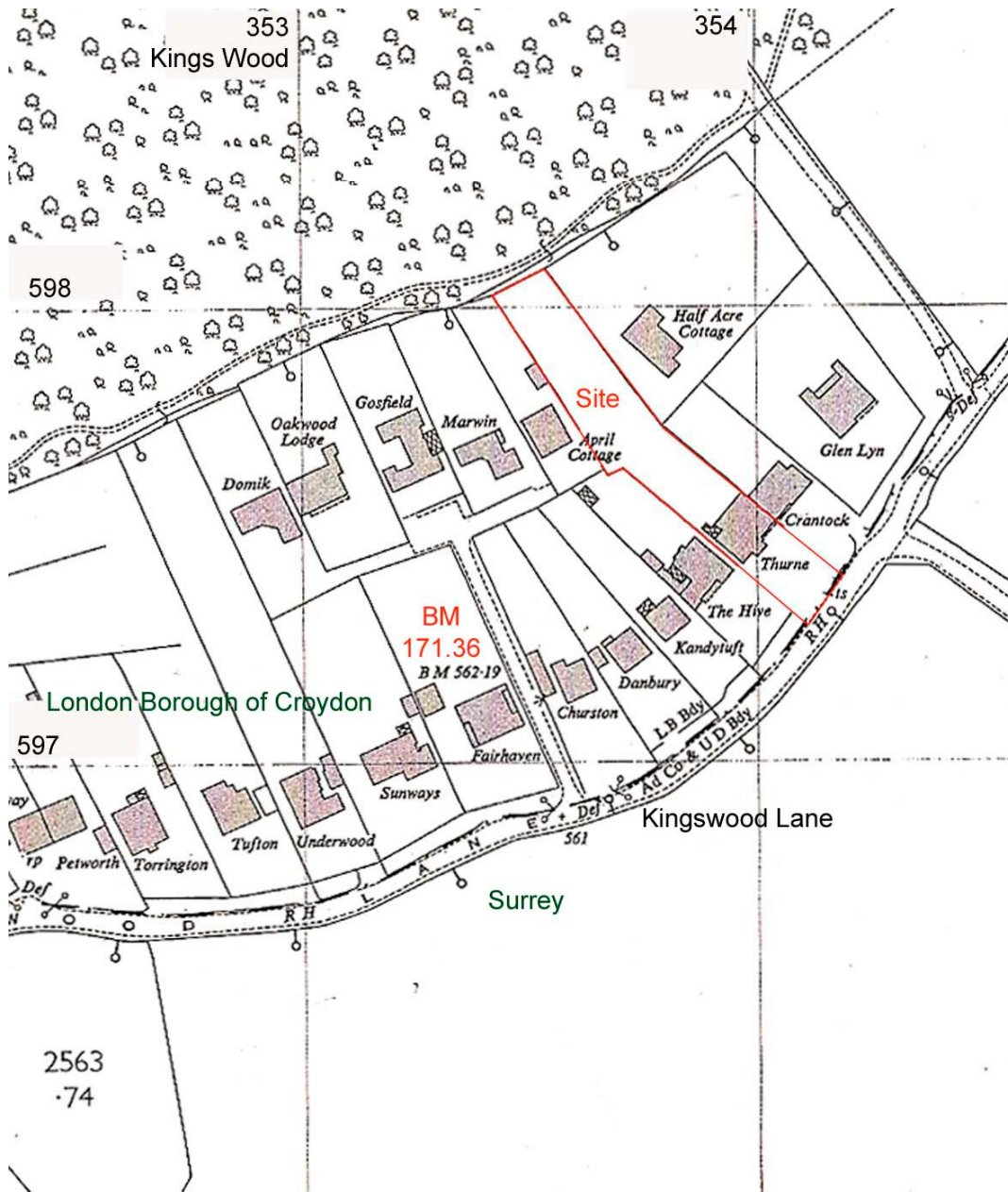


Fig 1 Site location (shown in red) in relation to the 1965 1:1250 Ordnance Survey map. Each map square represents 1km x 1km.

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3.2 Archaeology and history

Although the site is relatively small it had not been previously developed, and was thus considered to have reasonable potential for archaeological remains.

3.2.1 Prehistoric and Roman

The site is located within an area of documented prehistoric and Roman activity. To the north of the site a Romano-British settlement on the northern boundary of Kings Wood, was partially excavated by R.I. Little during 1955 and 1959. The site lay on the edge of a small valley in the wood and was enclosed by a small semi-circular earthwork. Excavations in 1959 discovered Roman burial-urns and a small 1st century cemetery beyond the gateway to the settlement and alongside a short stretch of metalled road. In all five internments were excavated and thoroughly examined and it was found that all five burials were of babies and young children, representing the only children's cemetery of this period hitherto found in Surrey. A complex of ancient roads and track ways connect this site and others along the clay capped chalk ridges linking the site to ancient trade routes. Both to the east and to the west of the farmstead run established Iron Age track ways and the Kings Wood site was directly connected to both.

Over forty Dene Holes were also found in Kings Wood, all of them silted up through the course of centuries. Excavation of one of the holes revealed a shaft sunk into the clay with flint to a depth of at least 10 feet 6 inches. Such shafts when sunk in clay with flints areas are commonly regarded as marling pits i.e. shafts or pits sunk to obtain chalk to spread on the fields.

Kings Wood was closely linked with an area of land now occupied by Atwood Primary School on the Limpsfield Road. In 1960 during building operations, a Romano-British settlement was discovered and part of the site was re-excavated in 1989 by G.L. King and further significant evidence discovered, indicating Iron Age and Roman occupation and this settlement was linked to the Kings Wood community by ancient roads and track ways².

3.2.2 Saxon to post medieval

There are few references to the site area in the later periods and a thorough map regression study was undertaken. This study shows that historically the site formed open land on the southern side of Kings Wood and north of the historic Kingswood Lane; a road of some antiquity that also forms the county boundary in this area. The Sanderstead Tithe Map dated c 1843 shows the site within an area of open field (*Plot No. 46*), with boundaries very similar to later 19th century 25" OS maps. The accompanying schedule gives this the name *High hilly field*, indicating that the site was in arable cultivation – in fact it forms the western part of a larger field of this name, but with two different tenants. The woodland to the north is at this time called *Sanderstead Wood*.

The site is also shown located in open field, as above, on the OS 25-inch 1st & 2nd Edition maps, 1867-8 & 1897 (Surrey Sheets XX.7 & XX.11).

The OS 25-inch Edition of 1912 again shows the site similar to above, as open agricultural land.

The OS 25-inch Revision of 1933/34 shows the former field broken into individual plots, many of which – including the existing site – are already developed.

² c.f. Farley 1967; Parkinson 1968; Rudling 1974 and Batchelor 1990.

The OS 25-inch Revision of 1943 shows the site area with a few more houses built but still generally within plots already demarcated in 1933/34.

There appears to have been little change in site use up to the present day.

4. Aims and objectives of the evaluation

4.1 Archaeology and planning

The site is proposed for redevelopment and planning permission (5/2495/P) has been granted with conditions for erection of a detached bungalow at the rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, with integral garage and a detached garage for the existing house (Fig 2).

The planning permissions that have been granted by the London Borough of Croydon included an archaeological condition in accordance with Council policies, which stated:

No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme for investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only take place in accordance with the detailed scheme pursuant to this condition. The archaeological works shall be carried out by a suitably qualified investigating body acceptable to the Local Planning Authority.

English Heritage recommended that as part of this process an archaeological evaluation of the site should take place prior to the commencement of development. The written scheme for investigation for the evaluation was prepared by Compass Archaeology on the 19th March 2008 and approved by Mark Stevenson of English Heritage on 28th March 2008.

4.2 The archaeological brief

The accepted brief for archaeological evaluation is to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed redevelopment (English Heritage, *Model Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation*). This will provide a basis on which decisions can be taken as to the need for any further archaeological action (*eg*, preservation *in situ* or further archaeological investigation), or for no further action.

The general methodology is set out in DOE Planning Policy Guidance 'Archaeology and Planning' No.16, November 1990 (PPG16).

4.3 Archaeological research questions

The evaluation presented an opportunity to address the following research questions, as defined in the preliminary Written Scheme of Investigation (*Compass Archaeology, 19th March 2008*):

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric activity, overlying or cut into the natural clay? How does this relate to other finds made in the area, which include Palaeolithic to Iron Age material?
- Is there any evidence for Roman activity, and can the nature of this be defined (*eg*, settlement or agriculture)?
- Is there any evidence for Saxon or medieval activity, and does this give an insight into the development of the settlement?
- What evidence is there for post-medieval activity/development? Can the nature of land use be defined, and can later features be related to map evidence?
- Is there any evidence for the prehistoric or Roman metalwork?

5. Evaluation methodology

5.1 The *Written Scheme of Investigation* was produced and agreed prior to the fieldwork. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (including *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, 1998*) and those of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations*).

5.2 The evaluation comprised two trial trenches located within the area of the proposed development. The first trench was excavated running northeast-southwest within the footprint of the proposed new build, the second trench lay at right angles to the first and was located over the hammer-head of the access driveway (*c.f.* Figure 2). Each trench measured approximately 8m x 1.5m in plan.

The trenches were opened using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator, with a toothless bucket, and working under close archaeological supervision. Recent deposits and undifferentiated soil horizons were removed to a general depth of about 0.4m. Thereafter all the exposed surfaces and sections were investigated by hand, metal-detected, recorded and photographed by the on-site archaeologists.



Fig 2 Location of the evaluation trenches in relation to the proposed redevelopment footprint (Planning Ref:07/04721/P). The OS grid square shown in the centre of the figure measures 50m x 50m.



Fig 3 General site view from the rear of the site looking back, southeast, towards 65 Kingswood Lane. Trench 1 is in the foreground, within the new build footprint, and Trench 2 beyond crosses the hammerhead of the proposed new driveway.

5.3 The deposits exposed in the evaluation were primarily recorded on scaled plans, supplemented by photography.

Levels taken during the evaluation were derived from an OSBM on the western face of the garage wall of ‘Churston’, 57 Kingswood Lane, value +171.36m OD. A TBM was established on a concrete fence base just to the west of the evaluation area, value 170.44m (see Fig 3).

The evaluation trench positions were located onto the existing site plan by taped measurement. These were in turn related as a ‘best fit’ to the Ordnance Survey grid derived from the 1:1250 plan. The OS coordinates to nearest metre for the local evaluation trench grid (Fig 3) are as follows:

- Trench 1 - centre point NGR TQ 35365 59774
- Trench 2 - centre point NGR TQ 35374 59769

The records from the evaluation have been allocated the site code: KLV 08 by the Museum of London Archaeological Archive. An ordered and indexed site archive will be compiled in line with the MoL *Guidelines* and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archive.

6. The archaeological evaluation

6.1 Summary of the findings

The two evaluation trenches were dug from a more or less level surface, at or just below 170m OD. In the absence of any significant remains machine excavation was generally to the top of the clean natural clay with flints deposit, removing the overlying garden soil horizons and also the weathered and possibly disturbed surface of the natural.

The revealed sequence was quite straightforward and more or less uniform across the site. There was little variation in the thickness of the respective deposits and in the clarity of interfaces.

The trenches both revealed rich humic topsoil (garden lawn) deposit, directly overlying the weathered surface of the natural clay with flints. The trenches were generally of a depth of just

under 0.4m. Trench 1 had a general surface level of 170.17mOD to 170.33mOD and the base of the trench was at an average level of 169.89mOD. Trench 2 had a general surface level of 170.42mOD to 170.49m OD and the base of the trench was at an average level of 170m.09mOD. There were no *in situ* archaeological finds or features and only a small selection of relatively recent unstratified surface metalwork finds were recovered from the general area.



Fig 4 Trench 1 looking northwest (scale 1m).



Fig 5 Detail of the simple stratigraphic profile in Trench 1 (scale 20cm).



Fig 6 Trench 1 metal detection of the spoil heap during the evaluation works.



Fig 7 Trench 2 looking east (Scale 1m).

6.2 Finds and metal detection

The trench and trench sections were metal detected in three stages: i) prior to excavation: ii) after removal of the topsoil: and finally after trench cleaning when the exposed surface of the natural was exposed, both trenches were completely sterile and no archaeological finds or features were exposed.

The following small finds were recovered from the topsoil deposits in the general area of the trenches.

1. A small copper alloy coin was recovered from driveway area close to Trench 2 and was initially identified on-site as being of early Roman date. However, off site analysis and cleaning has now revealed that this to be is a copy of a one-third guinea, which was only introduced in 1774, although it may be that this particular example incorrectly copied an earlier design possibly of coin types of the reign of William and Mary/William III (1689-1702). The coin is obviously a replica as it has a ferrous blank and a slip or wash of copper alloy, which has been struck (off-centre) with the copied coin design. As the coin is a copy it is very difficult to give it an exact date, but its size (17mm) conforms to 17th and 18th century one-third guineas and it was possibly manufactured at some time after this period.

Replica coins are rare and this coin is an interesting discovery. It should be noted that although the coin is a copy of a coin of the realm, this does not necessarily indicate that it was produced as a counterfeit or forgery, it is possible that it may be of quite recent date and may be a cheap replica of extinct coinage which can be legally purchased as collectors pieces in many places such as Museum shops for example.

2. A small gilded brass Masonic fob of recent design and identified by its design as belonging to a Master Mason (third degree as both the compasses are disclosed). This modern decorative fob was discovered from the footprint of the new building.
3. A bullet from a 303 rifle, recovered from the footprint of the new building.
4. A fragment of shrapnel from a drive belt.
5. A total of seven pence in current copper currency was also recovered from the general site area.

7. Assessment of the results of the evaluation

The archaeological evaluation has provided an opportunity to address the site-specific objectives that were defined within the preliminary *Written Scheme* (4.3 above). The responses to these are outlined below:

Is there any evidence for prehistoric activity, overlying or cut into the natural clay? How does this relate to other finds made in the area, which include Palaeolithic to Iron Age material?

There was no evidence for any prehistoric activity on the site, nor were any isolated artefacts recovered.

Is there any evidence for Roman activity, and can the nature of this be defined (eg, settlement or agriculture)? Is there any evidence for Saxon or medieval activity, and does this give an insight into the development of the settlement?

There was no evidence of any Roman, Saxon, medieval or post-medieval activity or land use. Cartographic evidence shows that in the mid 18th century the area lay within the open and presumably uncultivated arable land south of Sanderstead Wood later Kings Wood (*c.f.* 3.2.2 above).

Is there any evidence for the prehistoric or Roman metalwork?

There was no evidence of any prehistoric or Roman metalwork.

8. Conclusions and recommendations

The archaeological evaluation did not reveal any significant features or finds. The trenches exposed a straightforward sequence of deposits across the site, with fairly topsoil (c 0.4m) overlying natural clay with flints deposits.

The only artefactual evidence was represented by a few metal finds, from the topsoil and presumably associated with gardening activity from the 1930's onwards. These are only of value in confirming the date of these quite recent deposits and apart from the coin replica will not be retained.

There were no earlier finds or features, and although superficially weathered or disturbed the natural clay deposits were quite sterile.

In view of these findings it is suggested that no further archaeological measures should be undertaken in relation to the proposed developments.

9. References

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Parkinson, A.J. 'Sanderstead Iron Age and Romano-British Occupation' *Surrey Archaeological Collections* **65** (1968) 126.

Rudling, D R. 'Archaeological Finds from Atwood School, Sanderstead' *Proceedings of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society* **16** part 1 (1974) 35.

Ordnance Survey, 1868–1935 *Twenty-five inch series maps*

Weinreb B, & Hibbert C, 1983 *The London Encyclopaedia*

Appendix I. OASIS report form

OASIS ID: compassa1-40706

Project details

Project name	65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham, London Borough of Croydon
Short description of the project	<p>Compass Archaeology undertook an evaluation of land to the rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham, on 1st April 2008. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to a proposed residential development of this small single-plot site.</p> <p>The site lies within an area of known archaeological importance. To the north is Kings Wood a Romano-British settlement, enclosed by a small semi-circular earthwork, which was partially excavated by R.I. Little during 1955 and 1959. Excavations in 1959 discovered Roman burial-urns and a small 1st century cemetery alongside a short stretch of metalled road. A complex of ancient roads and track ways connect this site and others along the clay capped chalk ridges linking the site to ancient trade routes.</p> <p>Two evaluation trenches were excavated each measuring approximately 8m x 1.5m. The first trench was excavated running northeast-southwest within the footprint of the proposed new build, the second trench lay at right angles to the first and was located over the hammer-head of the access driveway. No archaeological remains were found. There was a straightforward sequence of deposits across the site, with a rich humic garden soil (c 0.3m deep) overlying the slightly weathered sterile surface of the natural clay with flints at c 170m AOD. During the course of the evaluation the site was metal detected and a selection of modern small finds were recovered including a base metal copy of a one-third guinea, the original which was introduced in 1774, (although it may be that this particular example incorrectly copied an earlier design possibly of coin types of the reign of William and Mary/William III (1689-1702)). Although the replica coin is of some numismatic interest it probably represents just a lost chance find and may be of relatively recent date; its provenance here is not of any obvious archaeological significance.</p> <p>No further archaeological work is proposed in relation to this application.</p>
Project dates	Start: 01-04-2008 End: 01-04-2008
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	KLW 08 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	07/04721/P - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Local Authority Designated Archaeological Area
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Significant Finds	COIN Uncertain
Methods & techniques	'Metal Detectors', 'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Small-scale (e.g. single house, etc.)
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON CROYDON SELSDON AND SANDERSTEAD 65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham CR6 9AB. LB of Croydon
Postcode	CR6 9AB
Study area	0.10 Hectares
Site coordinates	TQ 35369 59777 51.3204492771 -0.05715070520540 51 19 13 N 000 03 25 W Point
Height OD	Min: 169.89m Max: 170.05m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Compass Archaeology
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Compass Archaeology
Project supervisor	Gill King
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Name of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London archaeological archive
Physical Archive ID	KLW 08
Physical Contents	'Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London archive
Digital Archive ID	KLW 08
Digital Contents	'Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey'
Digital Media available	'Survey','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Archive ID	KLW 08
Paper Contents	'Metal','Stratigraphic','Survey'
Paper Media available	'Correspondence','Drawing','Map','Miscellaneous Material','Photograph','Plan','Report','Unpublished Text'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham CR6 9AB, London Borough of Croydon. An archaeological evaluation. .
Author(s)/Editor(s)	King, G.
Date	2008
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	Compass Archaeology
Description	Compass Archaeology in-house developer report. 22 x A4 pages and blue comb binding.
Entered by	Gill King (mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	16 April 2008

Appendix 2 London Archaeologist summary

Site address: Land to rear of 65 Kingswood Lane, Warlingham, CR6 9AB,
London Borough of Croydon.

Project type: Evaluation

Dates of fieldwork: 1st April 2008

Site code: KLW 08

Supervisor/Project Manager: Gillian King

NGR: TQ 35369 59777

Funding body: Mr M. Isidorou

Summary

Two trenches were opened within the redevelopment footprint and driveway.

There were no archaeological remains: the trenches exposed a simple soil profile some 0.4m deep that yielded occasional recent finds. During the course of the evaluation the site was metal detected and a base metal copy of a one-third guinea was recovered. The original coin of which was introduced in 1774, although it may be that this particular example incorrectly copied an earlier design possibly of coin types of the reign of William and Mary/William III (1689-1702). Although the replica coin is of some numismatic interest it probably represents just a lost chance find and may be of relatively recent date; its provenance here is not of any obvious archaeological significance.

There was no evidence for earlier activity, and subsoil overlay superficially weathered but sterile natural clay with flints.