

25 FRINDSBURY ROAD

STROOD

ROCHESTER

KENT ME2 4TA

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

July 2008

COMPASS



ARCHAEOLOGY

25 FRINDSBURY ROAD

STROOD

ROCHESTER

KENT ME2 4TA

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SITE CODE: FRI 08

SITE CENTRE NGR: 573817 169651

NE corner: 573818 169676

SE corner: 573837 169641

SW corner: 573818 169625

NW corner: 573794 169657

PLANNING REFERENCE: MC2004/1491

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July 2008

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief took place on the site of 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, near Rochester, Kent ME2 4TA between 28th March and 9th May 2008. The site is located to the north of Frindsbury Road, at the junction with Goddington Road at NGR 573817 169651.

The watching brief was carried out as part of the planning process prior to the redevelopment of the site for residential units. The site lies within an area of known archaeological importance and had the potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the Roman and later periods. It was also possible that previously unrecorded finds and features relating to the historic ribbon development alongside the main Frindsbury Road and within the suburbs of Rochester may have survived in the redevelopment area.

All exposed deposits and strata were archaeologically recorded, but no archaeological finds or deposits were encountered. It was evident that previous developments on the site had truncated the site and formed manmade terraces into the natural slope down to Frindsbury Road to the south.

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1. Introduction

An archaeological watching brief took place on the site of No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, near Rochester, Kent ME2 4TA between 28th March and 9th May 2008. The site is centred at NGR 573817 169651.

The watching brief was carried out as part of the planning process prior to the redevelopment of the site to form 25 residential flats (planning reference MC2004/1491). The archaeological watching brief was commissioned by Hilife Construction Co. Ltd.

The site is located to the north of Frindsbury Road, at the junction with Goddington Road at NGR 573817 169651 (*c.f.* Figs 1 and 2).

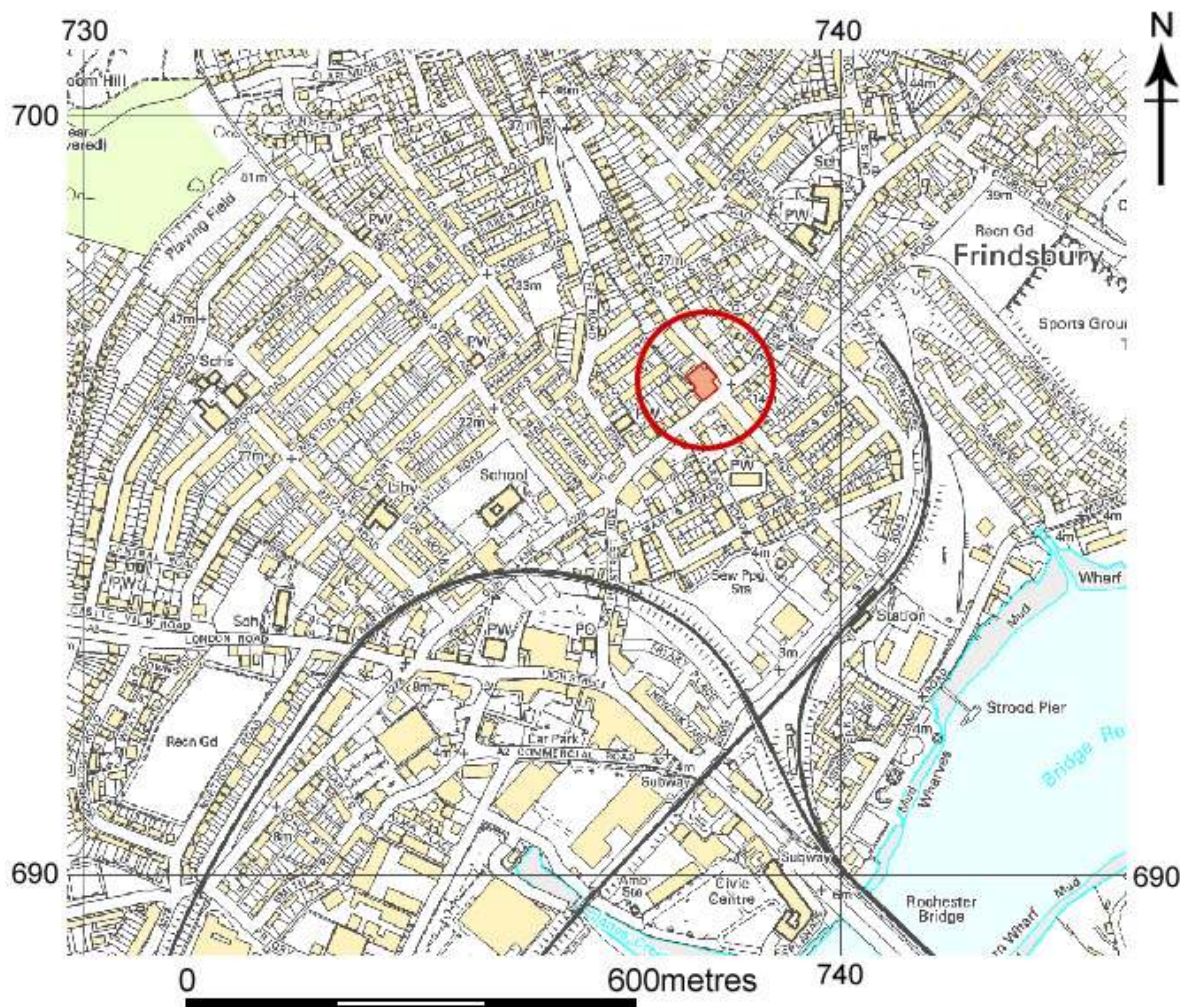


Figure 1: Site location in relation to the current Ordnance Survey map. Showing the site in relation to the development of the suburbs north west of Rochester and the River Medway.

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2 . Acknowledgements

Compass Archaeology is grateful to Hilife Construction Co. Ltd. for commissioning the archaeological watching brief and to the following individuals:

Craig Stamper, Hilife Construction Co. Ltd.

Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer, Heritage Conservation Group, Kent County Council.

3 The planning background

Medway Council granted full planning consent on 8th September 2005 for the demolition of existing buildings and construction of a part 2, 3 and 4 storey block comprising of 25 one and two bedroom flats with parking (planning reference number MC2004/1491).

Planning consent was granted with a condition (Condition 6) referring to archaeological matters as follows:

No development shall take place until the developer has secured the implementation of watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that the excavation is observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a written programme and specification, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Authority.

The requirements for an archaeological watching brief were set out in a specification prepared by Compass Archaeology in February 2008¹. The specification was approved in writing by Simon Mason, Principal Archaeological Officer, Heritage Conservation Group, Kent County Council on 5th March 2008.

¹ King, G. 4th February 2008 'Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Kent' *Compass Archaeology in house document*.

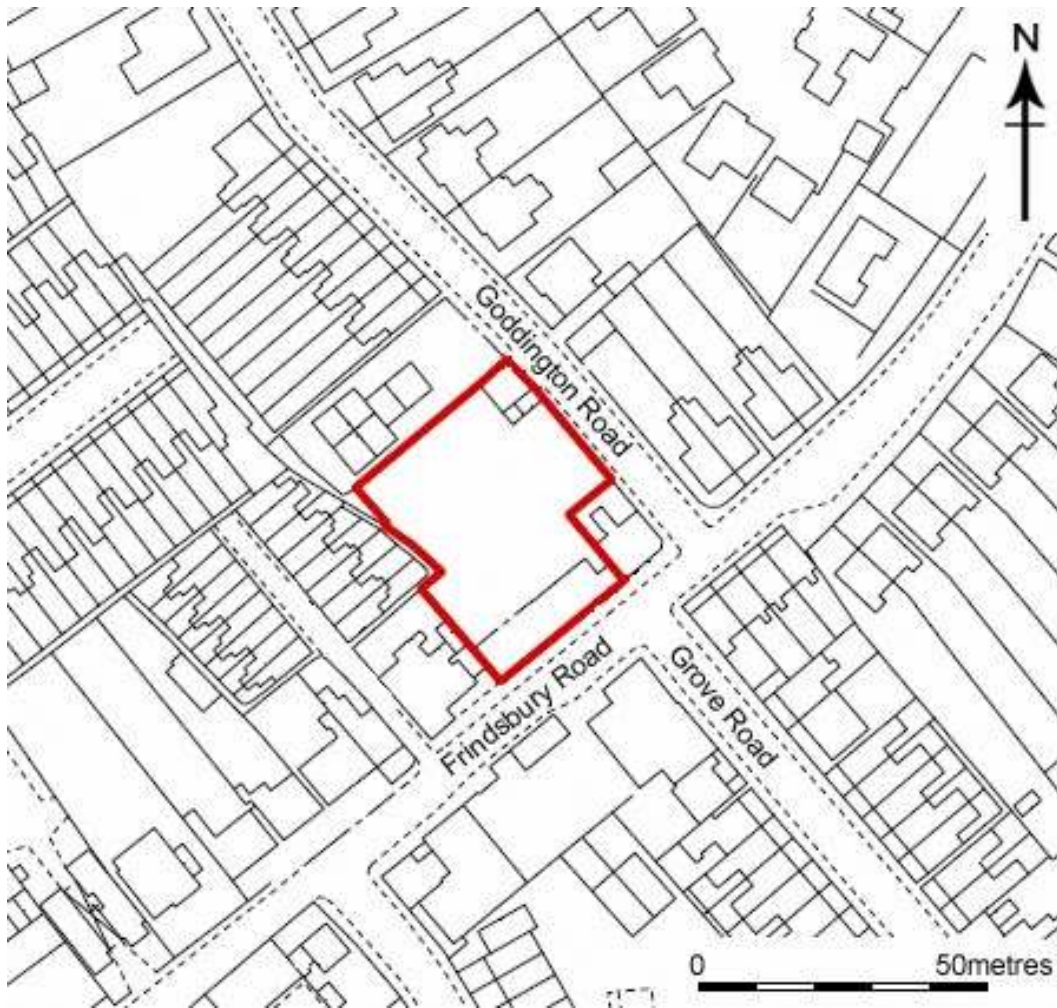


Figure 2 Site location plan, detail of the setting of the redevelopment area, in relation to the Ordnance Survey.

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4. The archaeological background

4.1 Location, geology and topography

The site lies on natural sands and gravel terraces above the River Medway on steeply sloping land that falls away towards the River Medway, which is located approximately 500m to the south east of the site. The site is of an irregular shape, but broadly forms a rectangle with the long axis running northwest-southeast following the line of Goddington Road. The northern perimeter of the site measures 34.5m, the east 26m and then cuts in around No. 25^A Frindsbury Road for a further 15m, the southern boundary is 27.4m and the western perimeter 42m. This makes a total site area of approximately 1368 square metres. The northern edge of the site is bounded by the residential development of Epps Close, the east by Goddington Road and the existing electricity sub station and corner property of No. 25^A Frindsbury Road, the south is bounded by Frindsbury Road and the west by properties fronting onto Florence Street.

The extent of the area's slope towards the river can be seen by the relative levels along Goddington Road. This has a level of +13.61m OD in the centre of the road at the junction with Frindsbury Road and climbs steadily to +16.79m OD at the northeastern corner of the site, a climb of 3.18m from the front to the rear of the site over 41m along Goddington Road. Internally the site appears to have been terraced at some time in the past with the rear of the site being generally level at *c* +17m OD and stepping down to *c* +14.5m OD in the centre of the site which in turn steps down a third time to a general level of *c* +12.5m OD at the Frindsbury Road frontage.

4.2 Archaeological potential

The archaeological potential is based on the proximity of archaeological remains presently recorded in the Kent Historic Environment Record (HER) see Appendix III.

Prehistoric

Finds of prehistoric artefacts (particularly of Palaeolithic date) have been made in the Rochester and Strood area.

Roman

The Kent HER has four entries within a 500m radius search of the site centre, see Appendix III.

The Roman road of Watling Street runs up Strood Hill as the A2 (in some places on a constructed causeway) and local roads such as Frindsbury Road are also of some antiquity. The enigmatic results of local archaeological investigations combined with the present road and field patterns have led some historians to suggest that there may once have been a Roman agricultural settlement centred near Frindsbury.

The Victoria County History of Kent Vol. 3 1932 - Romano-British Kent p169-70 (Kent Archaeological Society) has the following entries for Strood:

An extensive Roman cemetery with grave goods and over 600 coins was uncovered in Church Field between Strood and Temple Farm in 1838-9. In 1853 a second cemetery was found on the north-east side of the London Road in Cage Lane. Roman burials were often found in the upper part of Strood; two burials, with a Samian cup and other pottery, were found behind Strood Union. About 640m east of the 'Coach and Horses' Inn, on Watling Street were found fragments of a large grey urn, a beaker of black ware, and a narrow-necked vase of soft pink pottery, all of which were probably of local manufacture (SMR Mon UID 416124)

During the reconstruction of Watling Street, near the top of Strood Hill, a strap-handled Samian dish, and coins of Licinius, Crispus and Constantine II, were found, but not together. Opposite Wickham Farm and close to the road, three kinds of Roman urns, together with a large iron nail, bones of fish and domestic animals and oyster shells, were found in a grave or cist. In Strood Intra, a Roman road, 1.52m below present level was found about 30 years ago in digging a cellar at No. 97 High Street, opposite the 'Angel' Inn; it was again met with in rebuilding Nos. 107 and 109 a little higher up on the south side. The Roman causeway which carried Wading Street across Strood

Marsh yielded coins dating phases of the causeway to the second quarter of the 3rd century. What appeared to be a landing place or wharf connected with the river was cut through in 1897 in the road between the western end of Rochester Bridge and Aveling and Porter's Engineering Works.

A piece of paved Roman road was found with several skeletons in excavations made for the Thames and Medway Canal at Strood about 1819 (SMR Mon UID 416135).

Many Roman discoveries have been made from Strood and this is partly due to the fact that Charles Roach Smith, one of the founders of the study of Romano-British archaeology, lived at Temple Place, Strood. But even so their number and character can only be explained in relation to the Roman settlement of Rochester.

Saxon, Medieval and Post-medieval

There were no entries on the Kent Historic Environment Record area search relating to the Saxon period. There were however, three entries confirming activity in the medieval period. Two of these entries relate to the former St. Mary's Hospital (also referred to as Newark Hospital) and the third refers to a probable medieval barn.

There are seven post-medieval entries within the HER search area. These almost entirely refer to industrial activity related to Strood's location on the Medway river and proximity to the coast. The site lies in an area of ribbon development alongside the main Frindsbury Road and within the suburbs of Rochester. This more precise development of the site area can be traced through a historic map regression which is illustrated below.

Historic map regression



Figure 3 OS Landmark 1 1871-1890 map showing the late 19th century development of the Frindsbury Road area. Reproduced from the Kent Landscape Information Systems (2008)

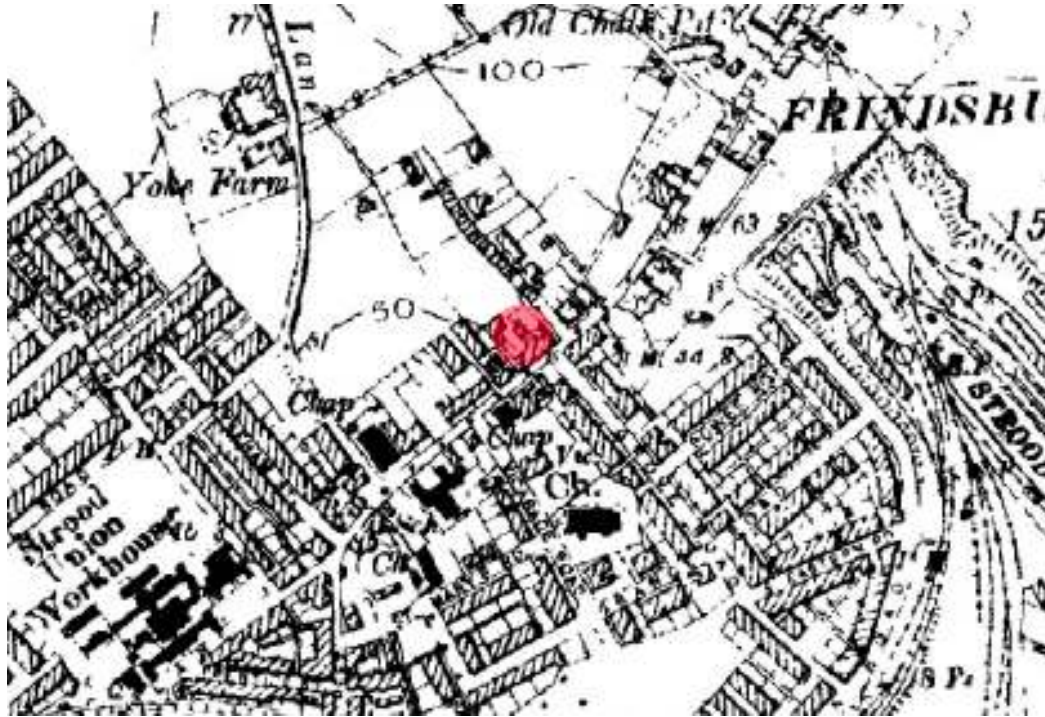


Figure 4 The OS Landmark 1 1897-1900 showing the continued development of the Stood area around the turn of the century. Buildings are shown across the southern street frontage, and centrally and to the rear of the site.



Figure 5 The OS Landmark 1 1907-1927 showing the early 20th century development of the area with housing along the extent of Goddington Road and large most probably industrial units occupying the site.

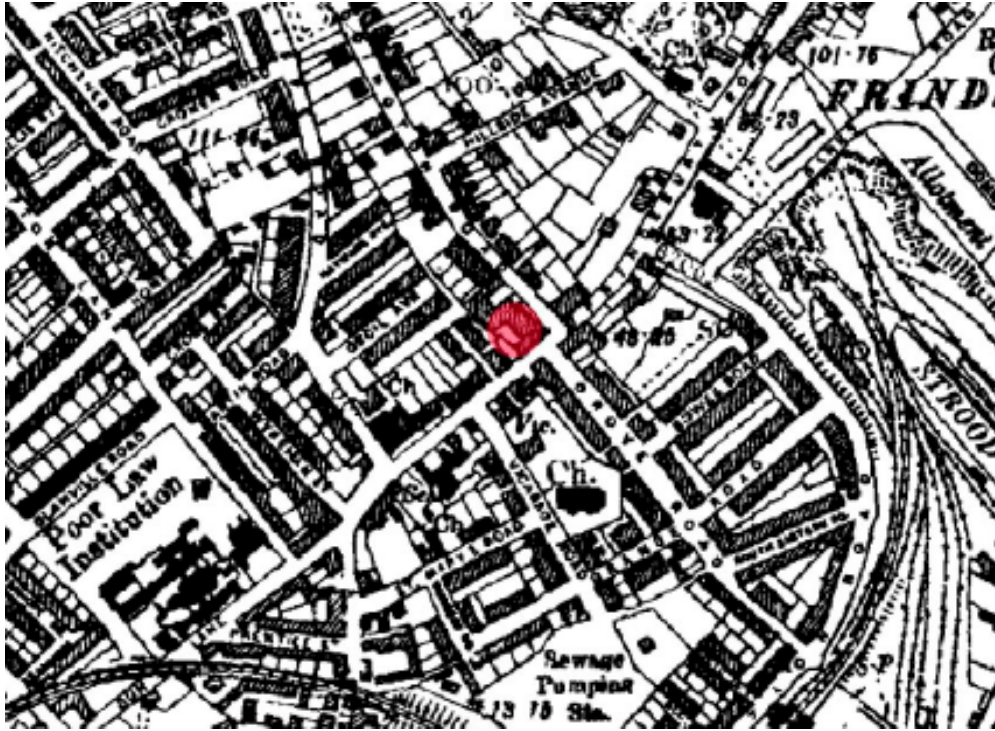


Figure 6 The OS Landmark 1 1929-1952 showing the general site area. The site itself is generally unchanged from the earlier map and the large factory buildings that occupy the site.

5. Objectives

The objectives of the archaeological watching brief were to contribute to the heritage knowledge of the area through the recording of any archaeological remains exposed as a result of excavations in connection with the groundworks. Particular attention was made to the character, height below ground level, condition, date and significance of the deposits.

6. The archaeological programme

6.1 Standards

The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (in particular, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*²). Works also conformed to the standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*³). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full Member of the Institute.

² English Heritage 1998

³ IFA 1999

6.2 Fieldwork

6.2.1 Attendance

All fieldwork followed the project design as set out in the previously approved *Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief*⁴. An archaeologist was on site supervising all groundworks necessary for the redevelopment. The County Archaeologist was advised of the on-site start date. Both the client and the County Archaeologist were kept informed of the progression of works, and nature of deposits encountered during the course of the archaeological watching brief.

6.2.2 Methodology

Groundworks consisted of machine excavated areas, and initially this was limited to small definable trenches for the piling layout in the southwestern quadrant of the site (see below for dimensions etc.). In the later stages of the development, once the simple sequence of made ground over natural was established, ground reduction proceeded over the wider site area.

Once the trenches were excavated, representative sketch sections were drawn and the areas photographed. Individual deposits were described on the drawings and on the trench record sheets used, but did not produce any significant finds and were therefore not recorded separately by context.

6.3 Post-excavation work

The site archive is currently held by Compass Archaeology. The field records included site location plans, representative sketch sections, photographs and trench record sheets. No finds were recovered. The site records will be prepared and deposited in a suitable museum or similar repository as agreed with the County Archaeological Officer and the Local Planning Authority, and as part of the ongoing programme of archive deposition.

⁴ King, G. 4th February 2008 'Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Kent' *Compass Archaeology in house document*.



Figure 7 General view looking north up the hill from the site entrance on Frindsbury Road. The steep incline of Goddington Road can be seen and the terracing of the site is clearly visible.

7. The archaeological watching brief

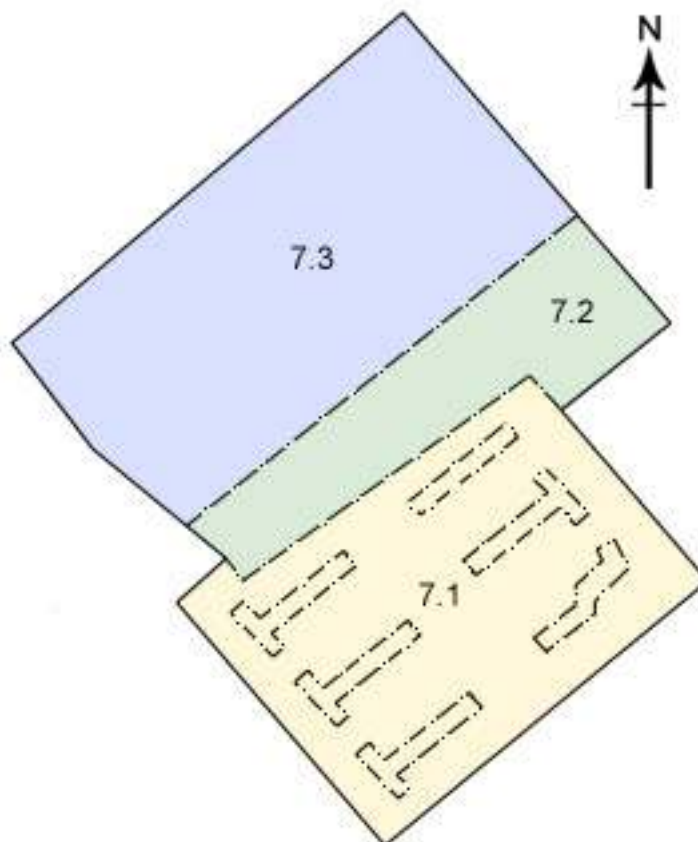


Figure 8 Plan of the groundworks monitored areas as discussed and illustrated in the sections below

7.1 Monitoring in the south of the site

7.1.1 Trench 1 (see figures 8 and 11 for location)

Trench 1 was located in the southwest corner of the site as part of the excavations to grub out around the new pile foundations. The trench was 'T' shaped, measuring approximately 7m (southwest to northeast) in length by 3.5m wide in the southwest end, and 2m wide in the northeastern end. The trench sections revealed simple sequences of a demolition rubble and made ground of a fairly recent origin to a depth of 0.8m. Below this was firm mid orange coarse natural sands. No archaeological finds or features were observed. Trenches in this area were dug from a general site surface level of *c* 12.7m OD.



Figure 9 View of trench 1 in the southwestern quadrant of the site, looking southwest

7.1.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located to the northwest of trench 1, had a similar shape and was on the same southwest-northeast alignment. This trench measured 7.3m in length, by 3.2m at the widest part and 1.8m in the narrowest section. Once again the upper deposit comprised demolition rubble and surface made ground of recent origin. However the thickness of this made ground was considerably less, extending just 0.45m below the existing ground level. Beneath this was mid brown grey sandy clay with frequent chalk flecks and CBM fragments. This deposit was 0.25m thick, and was interpreted to be a possible soil horizon, or more likely, made ground. Natural deposits of orange sand with chalk fragments were observed at the base of trench.



Figure 10 The section of trench 2, showing the made ground deposits over natural sands

7.1.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located on the same alignment as trenches 1 and 2, was of a similar shape and revealed a very similar sequence of deposits (made ground truncating the natural). It was located just south of the site centre, and was approximately the same distance from trench 2, as trench 2 was from trench 1. The trench measured 7.5m in length, by 3m at the wider end, and 2m at the narrow end. The upper 0.75m of deposits was composed of demolition rubble and made ground. This immediately overlaid 0.4m of exposed natural orange sands. Once again, no archaeological finds or features were revealed.



Figure 11 View of trenches 1-3 looking southeast, trench 3 being in the foreground and 1 being the furthest away near the southern site boundary

7.1.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the southeast corner of the site and was irregular in plan. It measured approximately 12m in length on a similar southwest-northeast alignment as for trenches 1-3. The widest part of the trench was 4.5m, although the majority of the trench was narrower than this. Demolition rubble and recent made ground was observed to a depth of 1m at the limit of excavation. No archaeological finds or features or natural deposits were observed.



Figure 12 Trench 4: Left - looking north. Right – the section

7.1.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located northwest of trench 4, and was on the approximate same alignment. It was 'T' shaped in plan, with the wide part (3m) at the northeast end and the narrow part (1.7m) at the southeast end. The trench was approximately 7.8m in length. As with the other trenches the upper 0.45m of deposits was comprised of recent made ground. Below this truncated orange sands natural was observed for a thickness of 0.45m before the limit of excavation.



Figure 13 Trench 5, looking northeast

7.1.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located just south of the centre of the site, in line with, but further northeast than trench 3. It was on the same southwest-northeast alignment as trenches 5 and 4. It measured 8m in length, and was 2m in width along the entire trench (i.e. not 'T' shaped like the others). The trench was excavated to an approximate depth of 1.9m, of which the upper 1.4m comprised made ground, with the lower 0.5m being the exposed orange sands natural. No archaeological finds or features were observed.



Figure 14 View looking north over trenches 4,5 and 6 (numbered right to left in the photograph)

7.2 Groundworks in the central part of the site

During the later stages of the watching brief groundworks were monitored across the approximate east-west centreline of the site. Owing to the site's slope towards the south and need for a level surface for the redevelopment, a large bank across the middle of the site was cut back over to the north over the course of the watching brief, creating a terraced formation on a number of levels. The earlier position of this bank can be seen in figure 14 above, and its later position can be seen in figure 16 below.

Trenching to grub out around the new piles was monitored in the eastern half of the site, along the site's approximate centreline eastwards up to the site's boundary wall. This revealed only a thin made ground deposit below the present ground surface. This overlaid orange natural sand, which was encountered at a relatively shallow depth. No archaeological finds or features were observed in this area. Views of the excavated area and sections can be seen below in figure 15.



Figure 15 Left: the northwest facing section. Right: The groundworks in the centre of the site, at the eastern boundary looking approximately east

Monitoring of ground leveling and reduction, which required the cutting back of the central large bank separating the terraces took place at a later stage in the watching brief. This bank provided the opportunity to examine a large, approximately south facing, section crossing the site. However this revealed only a significant depth of made ground over the natural sand, with no archaeological finds, features or deposits evident within the section.



Figure 16 The south facing section crossing the site, the bank separating the northern higher terrace from the lower level, is visible in the foreground. Recent made ground deposits can be seen directly overlying truncated natural sands.

7.3 Groundworks in the northern part of the site

The final phase of monitored groundworks occurred in the northern corner of the site, close to the site entrance on Goddington Road and to the highest modern ground surface (*c* 17.0m OD). This area once again only revealed fairly recent made ground deposits and former services over natural orange sands, and no archaeology was observed.



Figure 17 The groundworks in the northern corner of the site, looking north

8. Conclusions

No archaeological finds or features were encountered in the watching brief. It appears that the site area had been truncated by terracing of the naturally sloping and south-facing ground surface, relating to a previous development of the site.

9. Bibliography

Department of the Environment, 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance No. 16: Archaeology and Planning*

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1996 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Kent Landscape Information System (<http://extranet7.kent.gov.uk/klis/default.asp> - visited 2008)

King, G. 4th February 2008 '*Specification for an Archaeological Watching Brief at 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Kent*' Compass Archaeology in house document.

Ordnance Survey maps, various dates

The Victoria County History of Kent Vol. 31932 – Romano-British Kent p 169-70 (Kent Archaeological Society)

Appendix I Kent fieldwork notification form

Site Name: No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA	
Site Address: No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA	
Summary: An archaeological watching brief took place on the site of 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, near Rochester, Kent ME2 4TA between 28 th March and 9 th May 2008. The site is located to the north of Frindsbury Road, at the junction with Goddington Road at NGR 573817 169651. The watching brief was carried out as part of the planning process prior to the redevelopment of the site for residential units. The site lies within an area of known archaeological importance and had the potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the Roman and later periods. It was also possible that previously unrecorded finds and features relating to the historic ribbon development alongside the main Frindsbury Road and within the suburbs of Rochester may have survived in the redevelopment area. All exposed deposits and strata were archaeologically recorded, but no archaeological finds or deposits were encountered. It was evident that previous developments on the site had truncated the site and formed manmade terraces into the natural slope down to Frindsbury Road to the south.	
District/Unitary: Strood	Parish: Strood
Period(s): N/A - none recorded due to site truncation	
NGR (centre of site: 8 figures): 573817 169651	
Type of archaeological work: Watching Brief	
Date of Recording: 28 th March – 9 th May 2008	
Unit undertaking recording: Compass Archaeology Ltd.	
Geology: Sands	
Title and author of accompanying report: No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA. An Archaeological Watching Brief (Katie Johnson)	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) No archaeological finds or features were encountered in the watching brief. It appears that the site was truncated by terracing at the site, relating to previous development on the site.	
Location of archive/finds: Currently Compass Archaeology Ltd.	
Contact at Unit: Gill King	Date: 22 nd July 2008

Appendix II OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: compassa1-45856

Project details

Project name	No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA. An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief took place on the site of 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, near Rochester, Kent ME2 4TA between 28th March and 9th May 2008. The site is located to the north of Frindsbury Road, at the junction with Goddington Road at NGR 573817 169651. The watching brief was carried out as part of the planning process prior to the redevelopment of the site for residential units. The site lies within an area of known archaeological importance and had the potential to contain archaeological deposits dating from the Roman and later periods. It was also possible that previously unrecorded finds and features relating to the historic ribbon development alongside the main Frindsbury Road and within the suburbs of Rochester may have survived in the redevelopment area. All exposed deposits and strata were archaeologically recorded, but no archaeological finds or deposits were encountered. It was evident that previous developments on the site had truncated the site and formed manmade terraces into the natural slope down to Frindsbury Road to the south.
Project dates	Start: 28-03-2008 End: 09-05-2008
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	FRI 08 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 1 - Industrial
Monument type	NONE None
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'
Prompt	Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT MEDWAY FRINDSBURY EXTRA No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA. An Archaeological Watching Brief
Postcode	ME24TA
Study area	1368.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 73817 69651 51.3986817147 0.498990386494 51 23 55 N 000 29 56 E Point
Height OD	Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Gill King
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Hilife Construction Co. Ltd.

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Unknown at this stage
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Unknown at this stage
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Photograph','Report'

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	No. 25 Frindsbury Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent. ME2 4TA. An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Johnson, K.
Date	2008
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology Ltd.
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark Street, London SE1 1RQ
Description	Spiral bound grey literature report.
Entered by	Katie Johnson (mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	22 July 2008

Appendix III Kent HER Search Summary

The table below summarises a 500m radius search of the Kent Sites and Monument Record. This provides the National Grid Reference for the find, the Monarch UID number as found on the original SMR entry and also gives a brief description of the entry.

National Grid Reference	Monarch UID No.	Description
<i>Roman</i>		
TQ 7357 6945	416124	Romano-British burials found pre 1842 in a yard to the rear of the Strood Union Workhouse. One of the two burials contained a Samian cup with white spot decoration. A map from c.1842 is marked "two small vessels and human remains were discovered in digging for the foundations of a Building".
TQ 7359 6932	416127	Twelve Romano-British pits, found in 1899/1900 during the laying of foundations for Budden and Biggs Brewery at Strood. Location was some 150 feet north of the Roman road and the same distance east of the parish church. All were filled with rich dark earth, and yielded an abundant amount of Roman materials. Finds included pottery, coins, nails, two knives, two keys, a finger ring, a stud with ornamented head, fragments of glass vessels, part of a quern, some bone pins, portions of roof tiles and various animal remains.
TQ 7422 6952	416135	Possible trace of Roman road or 'pavements' found during excavations in 1819 for the Thames and Medway Canal at Frindsbury. Skeletal material and well preserved oak trees were also found in association with this. A reference to a "Roman High-way" formed of flints, embedded in chalk and leading to Frindsbury Church, is seen as a further reference to the same discovery.
TQ 73820 69100	936530	1994 excavation reveals two standing buildings with Roman floors visible. 1976 two probable Roman floor levels were located, relating to the 1st - 2nd century and the 3rd - 4th century, as well as medieval layers dating to between the 12th - 14th centuries. Findspot of Roman pottery indicating 1st to 2nd century and possible 3rd and 4th century occupation.
TQ 7370 6920	1030791	Remains of Roman floor surfaces were reported in cellars of three houses on Rochester High Street. One was last known to be visible in 1978.

<i>Medieval</i>		
TQ 73727 69248	416241	The 13th century plan of Newark Hospital was recovered during excavations in 1967. Also referred to as St. Mary's Hospital, the excavation located the walls of the hall and chapel of the hospice. Documentary evidence suggests that the excavation was limited and there is the potential for survival of other buildings. Burials probably occurred inside the precinct, human remains already discovered may be related to this (see 1030792). Romano-British domestic deposits were also discovered during excavation.
TQ 7378 6920	1030792	A large number of human skeletons were found in the 19th century, and their proximity to St. Mary's Hospital is thought to be indicative of the fact that they were from the medieval period.
TQ 740 699	1030880	A barn was demolished at this location in 1926. Its architectural elements are known from drawings and photographs. Its style suggests that it was medieval in date.
<i>Post-medieval</i>		
TQ 742 694	416316	Remains of a canal basin marking the end of the 7 mile long Thames and Medway Canal, started in 1800 and finished in 1874. The canal once ran through a tunnel at its upper end - in 1840 a single track railway line was made through the tunnel beside the canal and by 1849 most of the canal had been filled in and a double line track ran through the tunnel.
TQ 740 693	501870	Strood Junction station, replaced in 1973. Opened 1856 by the SER at the north end of Rochester bridge and where the line to Maidstone branched off.
TQ 7417 6926	1031602	Anti-vehicle obstacles (WWII tank traps). Eleven concrete pimples between the road and river bank at Bridge Reach.
TQ 735 694	1031800	Semi-spherical brick lined Icehouse discovered in 1974 during the construction of a school. The structure had a 'manhole cover' in its domed roof and now lies below the school service road. A second, similar cover was spotted nearby and now lies under the front lawn. It is possible that the pair may have served the North Aylesford Union Workhouse that previously occupied the site.
TQ 7432 6944	1032913	Cement works established in c.1850 by Lark Fletcher and Company at Strood Dock. It was operated by White and Company from the 1870s but closed in c.1880.

TQ 74250 69416		Site of Curel's barge yard adjacent to the Thames and Medway Canal entrance. Barge building yard operated by Curel's until the mid 1890s when taken over by George Gill.
TQ 74211 69382		Lemmon's Boat Yard, Canal Road, Strood. Boat yard making dobles, bawleys, and skiffs for the local fishing fleet. Operated on this site by Alexander Ring until 1864, and the by Edward Lemmon. There is one building on site fronting Canal Road which relates to the yard.
<i>Unknown</i>		
TQ 7380 6914	1030790	Part of a paved road was found in the 19th century by George Payne. It was interpreted at the time as part of the Roman Watling Street, although this identification is now uncertain (later suggested perhaps medieval). A layer of smooth flagstones and a number of timber piles were subsequently found on the approach to Rochester Bridge.
TQ 739 702	1032257	A four-chambered chalk hole, identified as a Dene Hole. During excavations in May 1990 by Rochester City Council five boreholes were sunk into the chamber, but no central cavity was found. Subsequently infilled.