

AB1274: Riverpark Gardens, Bromley BR2 0BQ

Review of Phase 1 Geotechnical Desk Study Report

By: Adrian Boult BEng (Hons) CEng MIStructE Senior Partner

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ABSTRUCT are in receipt of the Phase 1 Geotechnical Desk Study by Ground and Environmental Services Ltd (Report No. 11337 dated November 2014) for the above site.

Their report conclusions are as follows:

- It was understood that the proposed redevelopment of the site would comprise the demolition of the
 existing derelict building and garage block and construction of a block of flats including parking areas
 together with communal soft landscaped areas and private terraces.
- The site was part of a field until approximately c.1958, when the site was developed to its current layout.
- The site currently comprises a derelict office building with associated garage block. A hard standing car park is present in the northern part of the site.
- During the historical map search of the site and surrounding area, no sources of potentially significant contamination were identified.
- No potentially contaminative processes or materials were identified on site at the time of this report.
- The geology underlying the site is the Thanet Sand Formation which is designated a Secondary A Aquifer. The site is located within a groundwater Source Protection Zone II and Zone III.
- In the absence of any identifiable sources of potentially significant ground contamination, the risk to human health, water resources, plants, and buildings and services are considered to be low.
- Based on the findings of this Phase 1 Study it is concluded that intrusive investigations in respect of
 ground contamination are not required prior to demolition and site clearance. However confirmatory
 sampling should be carried out to confirm the absence of significant contamination.
- Should any potentially contaminative materials be identified in the enabling works prior to development, the works should be halted until a member of GES is able to attend site to take confirmatory soil samples to determine the presence of any contamination.
- Based on the available information and based on the principles and definitions outlined under section 57 of the Environmental Act 1995, the site would not be considered to be 'contaminated land' based on its proposed development for a residential end use which includes areas of soft landscaping and private gardens

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ABSTRUCT LLP have carried out a high level review of the GENVS report and their conclusions and we make the following observations and recommendations.

- 1. A Phase 2 Geotechnical Investigation is required to confirm the underlying ground conditions for the design of new footings, etc.
- 2. Confirmatory sampling should also be carried out to confirm the absence of significant contamination and we recommend this is carried out prior to demolition to avoid any delays when the new construction starts.
- 3. The underlying ground conditions are expected to be Thanet Sands with some possible alluvium bands/pockets.
- 4. For a new 2-3 storey residential building we anticipate the use of traditional mass concrete strip / pad footings bearing into the Thanet Sand. This is however subject to confirmation by the Phase 2 Geotechnical Investigation.
- 5. A trial pit is needed against the external wall of the existing block of flats immediately to the north of the site to establish the depth and projection of the footing to assist with party wall matters.
- 6. No special measures are required for RADON.
- 7. Although not observed during the Phase 1 walk over by GENVS, we recommend contamination testing to check for the presence of any historical total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in the ground in front of the garage area where there may have been oil spills (from car maintenance for example) which may have entered the ground below the external slab.
- 8. We recommend as part of the Phase 2 geotechnical investigations to carry out 5 No. window sample (WS) boreholes to approximately 5.0m depth. Locations as shown on the ABSRUCT sketch SK01.
- 9. Ground gas and water monitoring to be carried out in one of the WS.
- Contamination testing is to be carried out on 5 soil samples from the WS holes for a screening suite of contaminants. The analytical suite would include total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), mineral oils, metals, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), soil organic matter, water soluble sulphate and pH, asbestos and arsenic.
- 11. There is an existing sub-station enclosure at the eastern end of the garages. We understand this is to be removed and a new sub-station is to be provided on the opposite side of the road. The current location of the sub-station would then be turned into communal gardens.
- 12. We understand that it was not possible for GENVS to access to the sub-station (restricted to the Electricity Board) but we assume there is an existing concrete floor slab on to which the equipment sits.
- 13. Historically transformers used Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB's) as insulators but these were phased out in the 1960's due to environmental concerns. Although not highlighted in the GENVS report, it may be possible that there could be some localised contamination of PCB's on the sub-station slab, from possible spillages when PCB's were previously drained/removed from the equipment.
- 14. We recommend that a two-step approach is taken to check for the presence of PCB's within the substation slab.
 - a. Obtain access to the sub-station to carry out a visual check for staining on the sub-station slab.
 - b. Depending on the outcome of the above, if there is evidence of staining then carry out contamination sampling of a surface section of the slab. However, this can only practically be done once the sub-station has been de-commissioned.

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EDI Topographical survey notes and key (for further details refer to full EDI topographical survey drawings)

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WINDOW SAMPLE HOLE TO S. OM DEPTH .

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Revision

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Date

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SITE INVESTIGATION PLAN

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