

Method Statement: Groundworks – Park Farm

Project Element: Groundworks

Location: Park Farm, Henfield

Prepared for: Listed Building Consent Application

Prepared by: The Martin Sewell Building Company

1. Introduction

This methodology statement outlines the proposed works for the lifting of external paving, installation of a French drain, and laying of a sub-base in preparation for the reinstatement of paving at a later date. The work will be carried out with due consideration to conservation requirements, ensuring minimal disruption to the existing historic fabric.

2. Scope of Works

- Carefully lift and store existing paving for later reinstatement.
- Excavate for the introduction of a French drain to improve drainage.
- Install geotextile membrane and sub-base to support the paving reinstatement.

3. Methodology

3.1 Lifting of Existing Paving

- Identify and document the existing paving layout with photographs prior to removal.
- Carefully lift the paving stones using hand tools to avoid damage.
- Clean and store paving in a secure and dry location for later reinstatement.
- Record and mark individual stones to ensure accurate reinstallation where possible.

3.2 Excavation and French Drain Installation

- Excavate a trench 350mm in width and 450mm in depth, ensuring minimal disturbance to surrounding structures.
- Line the trench with a geotextile membrane to provide separation and filtration.
- Install a perforated drainage pipe at the base of the trench with a suitable fall to allow efficient water movement.
- Surround the pipe with free-draining gravel to prevent clogging and enhance water dispersion.
- Fold the geotextile membrane over the gravel to contain the drainage system.
- Backfill the trench with appropriate materials, compacting in layers to maintain stability.

3.3 Laying of Sub-Base

- Prepare the sub-base by levelling and compacting the ground.
- Lay a further geotextile membrane over the prepared ground to enhance stability.
- Introduce and compact 20mm Aquaflo aggregate sub-base in 50mm layers, ensuring proper compaction with a mechanical plate compactor.
- Ensure the final level is even and suitable for later paving reinstatement.

4. Protection Measures

- All materials removed from site will be stored securely and protected from weathering.
- Any unforeseen issues affecting historic elements will be reported immediately for further assessment.

5. Compliance & Approvals

- Any variations to the methodology will be agreed upon in advance with the relevant authorities.

6. Reinstatement of Paving

- Once the sub-base has settled, paving will be reinstated as per original layout.
- Stones will be re-laid using an appropriate bedding material and jointing method in line with conservation best practice.

7. Conclusion

This methodology ensures that the works will be conducted in a manner that respects the historic integrity of the site while improving drainage and stability. The process will be carefully documented and supervised to facilitate seamless reinstatement of the paving at a later stage.