



## CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION REPORT

**Project:** Courtyard by Marriott – 321 Commercial St. Portland, ME

**Client:** J.B. Brown & Sons, Inc.

**Client's Rep.:** Vin Veroneau

**SWCE Project No.:** 08-0494.2

**Date:** 3-25-13

**Weather:** Clear, 50s

**Work in Progress:** Gorham Sand & Gravel (GSG) excavating for perimeter building footings and preparing foundation subgrades.

**Work Performed by SWCE Rep.:** Observation of exposed foundation subgrade conditions.

**General Observations, Discussions, Etc:** As requested by Opechee Construction (project general contractor), we made a site visit to observe exposed foundation subgrade conditions for the proposed building. Upon arrival, we met with Dave Trottier (Opechee superintendent) and Mark Johnson (GSG foreman). We observed that GSG had excavated to foundation subgrade (bottom of footing elevation, plus 6-inches for crushed stone layer) for perimeter building foundations at K-3 and K-3.3. Exposed subgrades consisted of a nest of wood debris. We recommended overexcavation to remove the wood debris. GSG excavated approximately 1.5 to 2 feet of wood debris to exposed granular fill. The rammed aggregate piers were observed at the base of the overexcavated area. GSG was to backfill and compact the overexcavated area according to the Geo-Pier Design documents.

While on-site, we completed a telecon with Opechee and Design/Build Geotechnical (D/B Geotech) regarding the protocol for remove of wood debris and the thickness of gravel below the slab. D/B Geotech confirmed that nested wood debris should be removed and replaced with compacted gravel as was performed at K-3 and K-3.3. D/B Geotech also provided clarification that the thickness of gravel below the slab used in design of the rammed aggregate piers providing slab support was at least 2 feet as recommended in the project geotechnical report.

The subgrade preparation generally appeared consistent with recommendations provided by Geopier Foundation Company and D/B Geotech.

**On Site:** 12:00 – 12:45

**Attachments:** Photos

**Sheet:** 1 of 1

**SWC Rep.:** T. Boyce

**Rev. by:** EMW

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GRAY, ME OFFICE

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The SWCE field representative is on-site at the request of our client to provide construction materials testing and to observe and document construction activities. The contractor has sole responsibility for schedule, site safety, methods, completeness and quality of the work.

