



## 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:** 3-26-13  
**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 north of column line D, with work ongoing at the footing at line D/8. Excavation was being performed with a smooth edged bucket. Exposed subgrade soils consisted of fill (brown to dark brown sand with varying portions of silt, gravel, cobbles, brick, small wood pieces, concrete and other various debris). Some zones of the fill where GSG previously overexcavated obstructions and backfilled consisted of brown gravelly sand some silt. The fill was moist but no significant areas of saturated or ponding water were observed. The previously installed rammed aggregate piers were exposed at subgrade. After excavating to subgrade, we observed GSG compacting the exposed subgrade with several passes of a mid-size Mikasa vibratory plate compactor. After compacting the subgrade, we observed GSG place and compact approximately 6-inches of crushed stone over the compacted subgrade.

The subgrade preparation generally appeared consistent with recommendations provided by Geopier Foundation Company and Design/Build Geotechnical.

**On Site:** 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 a.m.  
**Attachments:** Photos  
**Sheet:** 1 of 1

**SWC Rep.:** E. Walker  
**Rev. by:** TJB



