

Roydon Hall, nr Tonbridge, Kent KRHT 07

Stuart Holden

Roydon Hall, Roydon Hall Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, Kent TN12 5NH TQ 6665 5170

An archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken during the excavation of 3 geotechnical test pits on 6th December 2007.

Test Pit 1

Located adjacent to the southern side of the Clock Tower, where the tower and the 'side room' converge. The foundations to the Clock Tower were exposed 520mm beneath the level of the threshold to the side room, consisting of stone rubble and mortar protruding 300mm from the external face of the wall and 380mm thick. The foundation for the side room consisted of 600mm of brick footing without additional support. Excavation was made through 700mm of loose mid-brown sandy clay with occasional flecks of cbm and chalk/mortar above a moderately stiff blue-grey silty clay natural that was augered to a depth of 4m below ground level.

Test Pit 2

Located adjacent to the buttress supporting the western corner of the main building. The foundations for the buttress were located 280mm beneath the asphalt, protruding 600mm from the buttress and measuring at least 520mm thick. Excavation was made through loose mid-brown sandy clay with occasional flecks of cbm and chalk/mortar. The remains of an additional foundation were revealed that consisted of a stepped foundation built in brick and stone running north-west-south-east (parallel with the main building) and present from a level of 430mm beneath the asphalt. At the deepest point of excavation, 800mm it appeared that the two foundations converged as the ground became in penetrable within the scope of the geotechnical exercise.

Test Pit 3

Adjacent to the western extension to the main building, in an area artificially built up to create a paved terraced walkway round the building. 800mm of yellow sand and gravel with frequent inclusions of ragstone fragments <400mm diameter and brick was excavated and contained modern debris (including a 'Coke' can and an electric iron). A hand auger was employed that progressed to 1680mm below the slabs before encountering an obstruction- possibly a foundation.



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Project details

Project name	Roydon Hall, nr Tonbridge, Kent
Short description of the project	An archaeological Watching Brief was undertaken during the excavation of 3 geotechnical test pits. The foundations to the Clock Tower and the Southern extension were revealed together with a wall foundation from an earlier structure.
Project dates	Start: 06-12-2007 End: 06-12-2007
Previous/future work	Yes / Yes
Type of project	Recording project
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT TONBRIDGE AND MALLING EAST PECKHAM Roydon Hall, nr Tonbridge, Kent
Postcode	TN12 5NH
Site coordinates	TQ 6665 5170

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd
Project brief originator	CgMs Consultants Ltd
Project design originator	Duncan Hawkins
Project manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Stuart Holden

Project archives

Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography', 'Text'
Paper Media available	'Correspondence', 'Plan', 'Section', 'Unpublished Text'

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