

REPLY TO : **Morrish Structural Engineers**

Your ref

Our ref NFP/NFP/H357/01

Date 17 October 2022

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Rob Stockman  
Siva Kennels,  
The Green,  
Monk Soham,  
Woodbridge  
Suffolk IP13 7EZ

Dear John,

Re: **Structural Appraisal of Existing Clay Lump Walls, Siva Kennels, Monk Soham,**

I am writing to confirm my structural appraisal of the condition of the existing clay lump walls in the outbuilding at the above noted property.

Address: **Siva Kennels, The Green, Monk Soham  
Suffolk IP17 3JD**  
Date of inspection visit: **24th August 2022**  
Weather: **Overcast, Dry, with minimal wind**

**Reason for inspection and structural appraisal:**

Morrish Structural Engineers were appointed to provide a structural appraisal of the overall condition of the clay lump walls in the outbuilding at the above, following concerns raised during recent renovation and conversion works.

**Inspection details:**

A visit was made to the property on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2022, a visual inspection of the clay lump walls was carried out from the ground, as well as trial holes at the base of the walls.

The homeowner was present at the time of the inspection.

*From concept to completion*



*Managing Director* J C Parker BEng(Hons)  
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\*The inspection was limited a visual nature only, with no intrusive or destructive opening up works carried out.

**Property description:**

The property is a grade II listed period property.

MONK SOHAM THE GREEN

TM 26 NW

2/150 Siva Kennels

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- II

Former farmhouse. C16. Timber framed and roughcast-rendered, pantiled roof. 3-cell form. 2 storeys and attic. 3 windows, mid C20 casements without glazing bars. Lobby entrance: gabled timber porch with half-glazed door in 2 leaves; within the porch is an older plank door. Internal stack with rendered shaft. Lean-to on left gable end. Interior Partially exposed studding with reverse-curved braces. Floor structure largely concealed. Newel stair. Roof in attic (to right of stack) has clasped purlins and 2-way wind braces. The stack may be a later insertion.

Listing NGR: TM2062566821

**Inspection findings:**

- (i) Trials holes were excavated adjacent to all 3 clay lump walls.
- (ii) All clay lump walls are built of a 13" (330mm approximate) brick plinth.
- (iii) No concrete foundations were found beneath any of the brickwork plinths.
- (iv) Founding level beneath the brick plinth ranged from 150mm to 225mm below external ground level.
- (v) The founding material beneath the brick plinth is not considered to be suitable founding material.
- (vi) The existing concrete ground bearing slab is poor condition, a modern ground bearing slab with insulated finishes is required. The installation of the new slab will undermine the existing clay lump walls.
- (vii) The clay lump walls are in poor condition and will require a significant remedial repair during the conversion.
- (viii) The lack of suitable foundation means the clay lump walls are not capable of supporting a new attic floor space.
- (ix) In summary, the existing clay lump walls will need to be underpinned in a controlled sequence.

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- (x) The proportion of retained clay lump wall against the magnitude of costs and time involved in underpinning the clay lump wall is considered to be disproportionate to that associated to the construction of a new fit for purpose replacement wall.

Finally, if you have any queries or concerns regards the contents of this letter report do of course please contact us.

Yours sincerely  
MORRISH AND PARTNERS



NATHAN F. PARKER  
BSc (Hons) MSc  
**Director**