



Heckfield Place
A Masterclass in Structural Engineering

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Heckfield Place combines a sense of heritage with a level of luxury that offers visitors an exceptional hotel and wellbeing experience, immersed in comfort, elegance and seclusion.

This Grade-II listed Georgian building has been sympathetically restored using innovative structural engineering solutions provided by Clegg.

A unique guest experience is uninterrupted by highly functional and purposeful building design. Behind-the-scenes construction and creative engineering techniques have created a range of facilities from spacious suites and a Michelin green star restaurant to an underground cinema, a unique wellbeing space and adaptable event areas, supported by a range of ground-breaking energy solutions.

This uninterrupted luxury has been made possible by structural engineering that respects the structure and sensitivities of the Georgian building while responding to challenges created by Victorian-era alterations and multiple changes of use over time.



Conception to Creation and Evolution

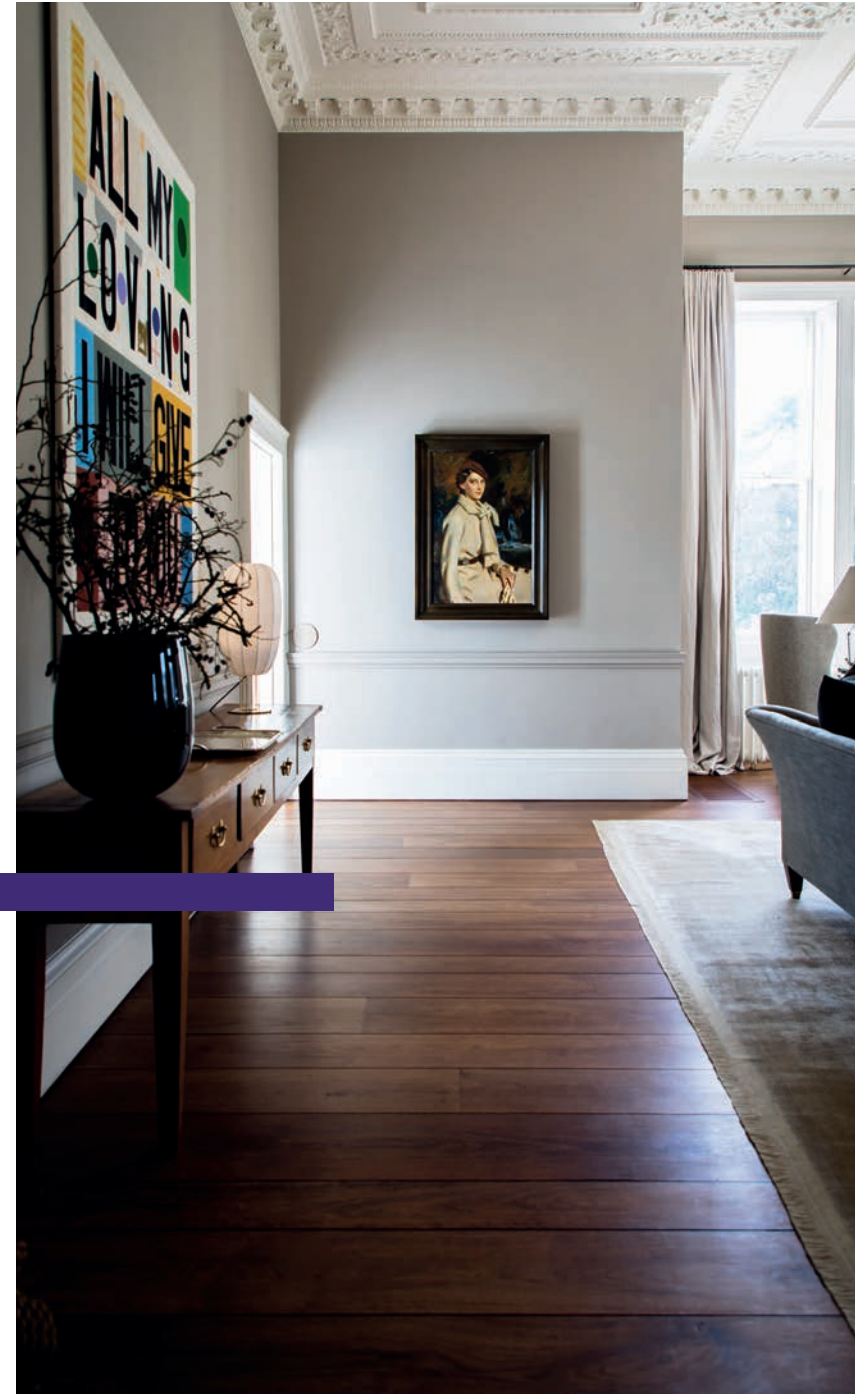
Clegg has provided structural engineering consultancy for Heckfield Place from the point of project conception. Throughout the project lifespan, we have collaborated closely with our client to provide engineering solutions that bring their vision for a world-leading hotel to life.

As an integral part of the Heckfield Place project team, we have provided creative solutions to technically complex and challenging construction requirements. Our approach has merged contemporary methods with both traditional and sustainably advanced techniques, transforming indoor and outdoor spaces and enhancing the original character of buildings and the estate.

Working to the highest construction and design standards, Clegg has partnered seamlessly with a multi-skilled project and design team, as well as executive and planning architects, interior designers, mechanical and electrical design consultants and more.

Our collaborative approach has been essential to the smooth running of the development and our ability to adapt to support wider goals has helped maintain project momentum. Ensuring work is completed in the right way and in the right order has been crucial. Flexibility around sequencing of work, co-ordination of alterations and even changes to materials or approaches as regulations have changed have been core to the overall success of the project.

Our flexible, partnership and solution-focused approach has kept us at the very heart of this team and our in-depth project and site knowledge, gained over time, continues to add value as Heckfield Place evolves.



The Heckfield Place Experience

Heckfield Place merges Georgian splendour with modern-day comfort to create an unforgettable experience for guests.

At a practical level, this has meant preserving and protecting key features, such as a fine plaster decorative ceiling, as well as moving or strengthening floors and walls to transform space and bring fresh possibilities both inside and out. This, along with external excavation and the addition of exterior features to support the smooth running of the hotel, has produced multiple engineering challenges, resolved by Clegg.



Creating Character through Distinctive Rooms

Through previous alterations, many internal rooms had been subdivided. A key goal for Heckfield Place was to create larger rooms to support a comfortable guest experience. Initial investigations allowed us to understand the structure and how the building had evolved since its original construction. From here, we were able to determine how to move internal walls to create larger spaces, to ensure services could be installed discretely and to support the features of a world-class hotel, including the installation of lifts and lift shafts.

Luxurious bathrooms are a key part of the Heckfield Place guest experience and we determined where and how flooring needed to be strengthened to support the weight of heavy, traditional baths.

Extending Underground

The underground cinema is a highlight for many guests at Heckfield Place. To create this unique feature, we were tasked with excavating an area up to seven metres deep, directly adjacent to the main building. These deep excavations were technically challenging: we devised an approach that combined extensive concrete piling with propping and anchoring techniques. This allowed safe excavation that didn't impact the building structure.

The result is a stunning underground screening area and bar, built to an extremely high standard of construction and design. This innovative space also houses a wine cellar and back-of-house areas, discretely hidden from main view.

Restoration and Restaurants

Creating multiple different dining experiences within Heckfield Place required restoring key areas of the existing building, removing add-on structures that weren't fit for purpose, joining together previously disconnected buildings and constructing new features. Buildings, walled gardens and cottages throughout the estate have also been renovated to create further options for guests.

We provided structural engineering solutions that allowed this work to be carried out without damaging the integrity of existing buildings and in a bespoke style that is in-keeping with the original Georgian house. We also re-used and recycled materials wherever possible.





The Bothy at Heckfield Place is a contemporary wellbeing space with a seamless connection to the natural world that surrounds it. Our challenge was to create space for a tranquil experience in a building with a modern take on Victorian style, with very large glass walls.

A Hidden Gem

The entrance to the Bothy is through a walled garden and as guests approach, they see a single-storey building in a contemporary yet classical design. Inside, however, we have created a two-storey structure made possible with the combination of a piled excavated concrete basement and retaining walls and a steel frame. The result is a space that seems to expand as you enter.

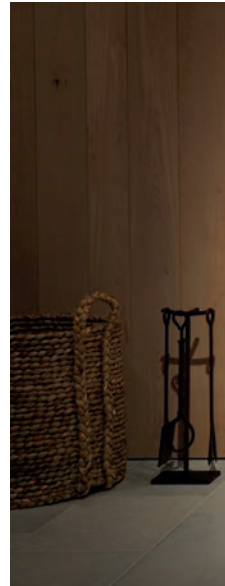
Natural, Recycled, Reused

The overall design for The Bothy is centred on the use of recycled, natural materials. Predominantly clad in stone repurposed from a city building, timber cladding and sustainable materials have been incorporated wherever possible. Natural materials are used throughout the interior and this philosophy has also extended to the areas outside The Bothy, with recycled stone used for paving.

Letting in the Light

A specific engineering challenge arose around the goal to have a light-filled space. We provided a structural approach that has allowed the use of huge plate glass windows, heated to stop condensation. These massive single panes of glass are carefully housed to ensure they can withstand external force such as strong winds.

The result? A light-filled, state-of-the-art wellbeing space that supports The Bothy's vision to allow guests to relax and reconnect with themselves and the natural world around them.





The smooth operation of a world-leading hotel requires energy. Our challenge was to support very practical requirements with solutions that embrace latest technologies and future-proof energy provision for the hotel and its facilities.

We were tasked with producing a functional building that includes power generation while also operating as a hub for incoming power sources.



Underground Utility

In our third large-scale excavation on site, we designed an underground basement that houses water treatment plant and storage tanks. Work was carefully planned and managed to protect a water tower and garden walls close to the excavation site. Energy generation equipment that supports fuel supply generated through gas, oil, biomass wood pellets or LPG is housed in purpose-built areas on the ground floor of this deceptively large building and concealed in the surrounding area.

Concealing Function

Our goal was to construct a building that fits seamlessly with the overall estate and doesn't stand out as an energy centre. The resulting construction matches the flow of buildings on site, with a timber-clad agricultural design that conceals essential elements, including flues and extractors, with false features, such as chimney stacks. The external appearance belies the intensely modern, industrial function of the building.

The end result is a combination of fuel and energy sources that supports energy needs with sustainable options that will evolve as technology advances. Importantly, hotel guests can pass the energy centre without realising it is the industrial heart of the hotel and facilities.

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Clegg provide structural and civil design solutions whatever the size or complexity of your building or infrastructure project. Our wide-ranging civil and structural engineering experience makes us the perfect consultancy partner for your engineering needs.

To find out more about our work at Heckfield Place or to discuss how our structural and civil engineering expertise can bring your construction plans to life, please get in touch.

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