

Andrew J R Hill – Strange Strange & Gardner

Experienced expert witness having provided testimony to the Court for over 17 years.
Chartered Civil Engineer and Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers 1995
Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering Newcastle University 1985

2003-Date	Civil Engineer, Strange, Strange and Gardner (Consulting Forensic Engineers). Partner since 2003
1996-2003	Project Manager and Engineer, Cunningham Lindsey (loss adjusters/ engineers). Now known as Sedgwick.
1990-1996	Project Manager/Engineer, Acer Consultants Limited (consultants). Now Arcadis
1989-1990	Project Engineer, Candac-Thiess Pty Limited (Australia) (contractors)
1985-1989	Assistant Engineer, Edmund Nuttall Limited (now Bam Nuttall/ Royal BAM, contractors)

The writer has over 35 years' experience in the building and civil engineering industries on a wide variety of works including design/ assessment, new build and renovations to buildings, road works, surface and land drainage, tunnelling and bridge works, both on site and in the design office, including expert witness work, document preparation and pre-contract and post-contract negotiation.

- Extensive experience in the preparation and submission of unbiased, independent expert witness reports based on the building and civil engineering industries, also in accident, product liability, commercial and domestic cases including fitness for purpose. Criminal and child law cases. Whilst at SS&G I have prepared some 1800 reports across a wide variety of accidents and disputes.
- Investigation of accidents involving:
 - ◇ Accidents on construction sites including those caused by poor working practice (including defective or inadequate scaffolding) leading to falls;
 - ◇ Consideration of safe access to workplaces (eg whether a ladder was a suitable access);
 - ◇ Defective and uneven stairs; uneven floors leading to a trip hazard; loose carpet; consideration of practicability and utility of possible improvements;
 - ◇ Ladder (inc step and fixed ladders) defects and alleged misuse of ladders;
 - ◇ Drainage cases; investigation of layout and adequacy of existing drainage facilities at domestic and commercial premises. Application of Sewers for Adoption and of relevant Water Acts. Recommendations for remedial works;
 - ◇ Investigation of slips, trips and falls; unduly slippery surfaces, poor cleaning practice, inappropriately specified flooring; use of the Slip Resistance Tester;

- ◇ Consideration of highway defects including the time period over which they may have arisen; consideration of Sections 41 and 58 of the 1980 Highways Act. Highway drainage assessment and design
 - ◇ Investigation of damp, rot and associated building defects;
 - ◇ Use of cranes and site lifting practice
 - ◇ Contractual disputes (including product liability cases) and cases regarding contract costings.
 - ◇ Defective play equipment and unsafe recreation areas including at leisure centres; Application of British, US and German Standards and guidance;
 - ◇ Reporting on trapping type injuries such as where a gate closes, or at a door where nip guards may be used;
 - ◇ Assessment of doors where a closer is said to have led to the door closing forcefully;
 - ◇ Unsafe glazing in roofs, windows and doors; application of British Standards and Building Regulations; practicability of improvements;
 - ◇ Cases where poor digging practice has led to electrical cables being punctured; application of HSG47;
 - ◇ Experience of large disputes where need for extensive repairs was being challenged;
 - ◇ Detailed knowledge of Work at Height and Construction (Design and Management) Regulations as they have evolved over the years.
 - ◇ Extensive experience of application of Occupier's Liability Act.
- Rough split of workload: Claimant, about 40-50%; Defendant, about 30-40%; Joint basis (for two or more parties) – 20%.
 - Fully familiar with requirements of Civil, Criminal and Family Procedure Rules.
 - Previous experience includes time as a Project Manager responsible for all aspects of individuals' insurance claims. The causes of damage included landslip, storm, fire, flood, subsidence, sewer failure and other structural movements such as lateral displacement. .
 - Project Manager responsible for the design of highways and housing projects. Extensive experience in infrastructure, statutory procedures, design, relevant legislation, planning approvals, liaison with affected parties, environmental issues, archaeological issues, working on contaminated sites and associated areas. Assessment and refinement of alternative designs bearing in mind economic, environmental and engineering assessments.

The culmination of this work involves the presentation of professional testimony in Court in both Civil and Criminal cases. I have attended Court and given evidence across the UK throughout my career at SS&G.

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