# GEOTECHNICAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PITTWATER FORM NO. 1 – To be submitted with Development Application

Davelenment Application for						
Development Application for Name of Applicant						
Address of site 31 Marine Parade, Avalon Beach						
The follo <b>geotech</b>	wing checklist co	overs the minimum requirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk <b>Declaration made by</b> or engineering geologist or coastal engineer (where applicable) as part of a geotechnical report				
l,	Ben White (Insert Name)	on behalf of White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd (Trading or Company Name)				
organisa	as defined by	9/6/21 certify that I am a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or coastal the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and I am authorised by the above issue this document and to certify that the organisation/company has a current professional indemnity on.				
l: Please n	nark appropriat	e box				
$\boxtimes$		the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below in accordance with the Australia Geomechanics slide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for 9				
	accordance wit	technically verify that the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below has been prepared in the Australian Geomechanics Society's Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009				
	Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 have examined the site and the proposed development in detail and have carried out a risk assessment in accordance with Section 6.0 of the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009. I confirm that the results of the risk assessment for the proposed development are in compliance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and further detailed geotechnical reporting is not required for the subject site.					
	Application on	I the site and the proposed development/alteration in detail and I am of the opinion that the Development ly involves Minor Development/Alteration that does not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk and hence my Report is in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009				
	Hazard and do the Geotechnic	I the site and the proposed development/alteration is separate from and is not affected by a Geotechnical es not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk Assessment and hence my Report is in accordance with all Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 requirements.				
$\boxtimes$	have provided	the coastal process and coastal forces analysis for inclusion in the Geotechnical Report				
Geotech	nical Report De					
	Report Title: Ge Report Date: 9/	eotechnical Report 31 Marine Parade, Avalon Beach 6/21				
	Author: BEN W	/HITE				
	Author's Compa	any/Organisation: WHITE GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD				
Docume		elate to or are relied upon in report preparation:				
	Australian (	Geomechanics Society Landslide Risk Management March 2007.				
		echnical Group company archives.				
Developi Risk Ma Manager	ment Application nagement aspec nent" level for the	ove Geotechnical Report, prepared for the abovementioned site is to be submitted in support of a for this site and will be relied on by Pittwater Council as the basis for ensuring that the Geotechnical cts of the proposed development have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Risk e life of the structure, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated and justified in the Report and tical measures have been identified to remove foreseeable risk.				
		Bulut				
		Signature				

Chartered Professional Status MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL

Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

Membership No.

Ben White

# GEOTECHNICAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR PITTWATER FORM NO. 1(a) - Checklist of Requirements for Geotechnical Risk Management Report for Development Application

Development Application for						
Name of Applicant						
Addres	s of site	31 Marine Parade, Ava	on Beach			
Report. T		company the Geotechnical Re	b be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk M eport and its certification (Form No. 1).	lanagement Geotechnical		
		Report 31 Marine Parade,	Avalon Beach			
		, and the second				
Report I	Date: 9/6/21					
Author:	BEN WHITE					
Author'	's Company/Organ	isation: WHITE GEOTECHNI	CAL GROUP PTY LTD			
Please m	nark appropriate bo	×				
$\boxtimes$	Comprehensive site	mapping conducted 26/5/21 (date)				
	Mapping details pres	` ,	th geomorphic mapping to a minimum scale	of 1:200 (as appropriate)		
$\boxtimes$	Subsurface investiga		9			
	□ No	Justification				
		Date conducted 26/5/21				
		developed and reported as an in	nferred subsurface type-section			
	Geotechnical hazard					
	⊠ Above ⊠ On the					
	□ Below					
	☐ Beside					
$\boxtimes$		ls described and reported				
$\boxtimes$		•	Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for F	Pittwater - 2009		
	⊠ Conse	quence analysis				
	⊠ Freque	ency analysis				
$\boxtimes$	Risk calculation					
$\boxtimes$			ce with the Geotechnical Risk Managemen	•		
			ance with the Geotechnical Risk Manageme	•		
	Assessed risks have Management Policy		Risk Management" criteria as defined in the	e Geotechnical Risk		
			eve the "Acceptable Risk Management" crite	eria provided that the		
_	specified conditions	-	To the Acceptable How management one	ma promada mar mo		
$\boxtimes$	Design Life Adopted	:				
		ears				
	☐ Other					
$\boxtimes$	Contachnical Condit	specify	cas as described in the Gostochnical Rick	Management Policy for		
	Pittwater - 2009 have		ses as described in the Geotechnical Risk I	vialiagement Folicy for		
$\boxtimes$		-	nd practical have been identified and include	ed in the report.		
	Risk assessment wit	hin Bushfire Asset Protection Zo	one.			
that the g Managen	eotechnical risk mar nent" level for the life	nagement aspects of the propo e of the structure, taken as at	ical Report, to which this checklist applie sal have been adequately addressed to a least 100 years unless otherwise stated hified to remove foreseeable risk.	achieve an "Acceptable Risk		
Bellet						
		Signature				
		Name	Ben White			
		Chartered Professional Status	MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL			
		Membership No.	222757			

Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 1.

## **GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION:**

New House and Garage at 31 Marine Parade, Avalon Beach

# 1. Proposed Development

- **1.1** Demolish the existing house and construct a new house by excavating to a maximum depth of ~2.0m.
- 1.2 Construct a new garage on the uphill side of the property by excavating to a maximum depth of ~1.0m.
- **1.3** Minor landscaping works on the downhill side of the property.
- 1.4 Details of the proposed development are shown on 7 drawings prepared by Rama Architects, drawings numbered DA-000, DA-001, DA-100, DA-101, DA-300, DA-301, DA-400 dated 24/5/21.

#### 2. Site Description

- **2.1** The site was inspected on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021, and previously on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020.
- 2.2 This waterfront residential property is near level with the road and encompasses the crest and gentle to steeply graded slope that falls to the waterfront. The ground surface is near level from the road frontage to the downhill side of the house before the slope falls from the downhill side of the house at an angle of ~8° and increases in grade markedly before dropping away at near vertical angles at the coastal bluff.
- 2.3 At the road frontage, a concrete driveway runs to a brick garage beside the house (Photos 1 & 2). Between the road frontage and the house is a near level lawn. The single storey brick, rendered brick and fibro house will be demolished as part of the proposed works. A gentle to moderately graded lawn and garden area extends off



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 2.

the downhill side of the house (Photo 7). A stable brick retaining wall up to ~2.0m high along the W common boundary supports a cut on the W neighbouring property (Photo 8). The steep coastal bluff that falls to the waterfront is densely vegetated (Photos 9 & 10). A cliff face consisting of various sedimentary layers including laminate, shale and sandstone marks the beachfront. The cliff face shows some evidence of recent rock falls but these are limited in extent by the structure of the rock and are considered part of the normal ongoing weathering process.

#### 3. Geology

The Sydney 1:100 000 Geological sheet indicates the site is underlain by the Newport Formation of the Narrabeen Group. This is described as interbedded laminite, shale, and quartz to lithic quartz sandstone.

## 4. Subsurface Investigation

One Auger Hole (AH) was put down to identify the soil materials. Eleven Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) tests were put down to determine the relative density of the overlying soil and the depth to weathered rock. The locations of the tests are shown on the site plan attached. It should be noted that a level of caution should be applied when interpreting DCP test results. The test will not pass through hard buried objects so in some instances it can be difficult to determine whether refusal has occurred on an obstruction in the profile or on the natural rock surface. This is not expected to be an issue for this site. But due to the possibility that the actual ground conditions vary from our interpretation there should be allowances in the excavation and foundation budget to account for this. We refer to the appended "Important Information about Your Report" to further clarify. The results are as follows:

#### **GROUND TEST RESULTS ON THE NEXT PAGE**



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 3.

## **AUGER HOLE 1** (~RL22.4) – AH1 (Photo 11)

Depth (m)	Material Encountered
0 to 0.4	FILL, sandy soil and clay, dark brown and orange brown, fine to medium
	grained, damp.
0.4 to 0.6	SANDY SOIL, dark brown/grey, fine to medium grained, damp.
0.6 to 0.8	CLAY, light brown/orange, firm, moist.

End of hole @ 0.8m in firm clay. No watertable encountered.

DCP TEST RESULTS – Dynamic Cone Penetrometer								
Equipment: 9kg ha	Equipment: 9kg hammer, 510mm drop, conical tip. Standard: AS1289.6.3.2 - 1997							
Depth (m) Blows/0.3m	DCP 1 (~RL24.1)	DCP 2 (~RL25.1)	<b>DCP 3</b> (~RL24.0)	DCP 4 (~RL23.1)	DCP 5 (~RL22.4)	DCP 6 (~RL21.9)		
0.0 to 0.3	3	4	11	2F	3	3		
0.3 to 0.6	7	9	16	3	5	5		
0.6 to 0.9	15	10	20	7	5	11		
0.9 to 1.2	18	22	25	15	13	24		
1.2 to 1.5	38	30	10	38	40	30		
1.5 to 1.8	#	#	#	#	#	#		
	End of Test @ 1.5m	End of Test @ 1.3m	Refusal @ 1.3m	End of Test @ 1.5m	End of Test @ 1.5m	End of Test @ 1.4m		

## DCP RESULTS CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 4.

Depth (m) Blows/0.3m	DCP 7 (~RL22.5)	DCP 8 (~RL21.1)	<b>DCP 9</b> (~RL19.8)	<b>DCP 10</b> (~RL18.6)	<b>DCP 11</b> (~RL18.4)
0.0 to 0.3	6	8	2	10	10
0.3 to 0.6	13	14	#	9	5
0.6 to 0.9	13	#		#	#
0.9 to 1.2	27				
1.2 to 1.5	25				
1.5 to 1.8	#				
	Refusal on rock @ 1.4m	Refusal on rock @ 0.6m	Refusal on rock @ 0.2m	Refusal on rock @ 0.6m	Refusal on rock @ 0.4m

#refusal/end of test. F=DCP fell after being struck showing little resistance through all or part of the interval.

#### **DCP Notes:**

DCP1 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown sandy soil on moist tip.

DCP2 – End of test @ 1.3m, DCP still very slowly going down, orange clay on damp tip.

DCP3 – Refusal on rock @ 1.3m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, red orange shale fragments on moist tip.

DCP4 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown sandy soil on muddy tip.

DCP5 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, orange red shale fragments on damp tip.

DCP6 – End of test @ 1.4m, DCP still very slowly going down, white impact dust on dry tip.

DCP7 – Refusal on rock @ 1.4m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, red and white rock fragments on dry tip.

DCP8 – Refusal on rock @ 0.6m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, clean dry tip, red and white rock fragments on cone.

DCP9 – Refusal on rock @ 0.2m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, red and white rock fragments on dry tip.

DCP10 – Refusal on rock @ 0.6m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, red and white rock fragments on dry tip.

DCP11 – Refusal on rock @ 0.4m, DCP bouncing off rock surface, red and white rock fragments on dry tip, red sandy clay on collar.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 5.

5. Geological Observations/Interpretation

The slope materials are colluvial at the near surface and residual at depth. In the test

locations, the ground materials consist of fill and sandy soil over clays. Filling has been placed

on the downhill side of the house. On the uphill side of the house the clays merge into the

weathered zone of the underlying rocks at depths of between 1.3 to 1.5m below the current

surface. The rock underlying the property is conservatively estimated to be Very Low to

Medium Strength Rock. See Type Section attached for a diagrammatical representation of the

expected ground materials.

6. Groundwater

Normal ground water seepage is expected to move over the buried surface of the rock and

through the cracks in the rock.

Due to the slope and elevation of the block, the water table in the location is expected to be

many metres below the base of the proposed works.

7. Surface Water

No evidence of surface flows were observed on the property during the inspection. It is

expected that normal sheet wash will move onto the site from above the property during

heavy down pours.

8. Geotechnical Hazards and Risk Analysis

No geotechnical hazards were observed below or beside the property. The gentle to steep

slope that falls across the property and continues above is a potential hazard (Hazard One).

The vibrations produced during the proposed excavation impacting on the neighbouring

properties is a potential hazard (Hazard Two). The proposed excavations are a potential

hazard until retaining walls are in place (Hazard Three). The additional surcharge loads from

the proposed house & garage structures are a potential hazard to the existing brick retaining

wall along the W common boundary (Photo 8) (Hazard Four). Note: The coastal engineering



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 6.

report attached (by Horton Coastal Engineering) specifies an erosion/weathering rate of 5 to 12mm/year for the sea cliff near the downhill boundary of the property. This is an acceptably low risk and will have no impact on the proposed development.

# **Geotechnical Hazards and Risk Analysis - Risk Analysis Summary**

HAZARDS	Hazard One	Hazard Two	
TYPE	The gentle to steep slope that falls across the property and continues above failing and impacting on the property.	The vibrations produced during the proposed excavation impacting on the neighbouring properties.	
LIKELIHOOD	'Unlikely' (10 <sup>-4</sup> )	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (12%)	'Medium' (15%)	
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Low' (2 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> )	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	
RISK TO LIFE	8.3 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> /annum	5.3 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> /annum	
COMMENTS	This level of risk is 'ACCEPTABLE'.	This level of risk to property is  'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move risk to  'ACCEPTABLE' levels the  recommendations in Section 12 are  to be followed.	

## **RISK ANALYSIS CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE**



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 7.

HAZARDS	Hazard Three	Hazard Four	
ТҮРЕ	The excavations (up to a maximum depth of 2.7m) collapsing onto the work site before retaining structures are in place.	The additional surcharge loads from the house structure transferring onto the existing brick retaining wall causing damage and instability  (Photo 8).	
LIKELIHOOD	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (15%)	'Medium' (35%)	
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	
RISK TO LIFE	8.3 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> /annum	5.6 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> /annum	
COMMENTS	UNACCEPTABLE' level of risk to life and property. To move risk to 'ACCEPTABLE' levels, the recommendations in <b>Section 13 and</b> <b>14</b> are to be followed.	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move the risk to 'ACCEPTABLE' levels the recommendations in <b>Section 15</b> are to be followed.	

(See Aust. Geomech. Jnl. Mar 2007 Vol. 42 No 1, for full explanation of terms)

## 9. Suitability of the Proposed Development for the Site

The proposed development is suitable for the site. No geotechnical hazards will be created by the completion of the proposed development provided it is carried out in accordance with the requirements of this report and good engineering and building practice.

#### 10. Stormwater

The fall is to the waterfront. All stormwater from the proposed development is to be piped to the waterfront through any tanks that may be required by the regulating authorities.

#### 11. Excavations

An excavation to a maximum depth of ~1.0m will be required to construct the proposed garage. The excavation is expected to be through shallow fill and sandy soil over firm to stiff clays, with Very Low to Medium Strength Rock expected near the base of the excavation.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 8.

An excavation to a maximum depth of ~2.0m will be required to construct the proposed

house. The excavation is expected to be through sandy soil over firm to stiff clays, with Very

Low to Medium Strength Rock expected at shallow depths.

Excavations through fill, soil and rock up to Low Strength can be carried out with an excavator

and bucket. Excavations through Medium Strength Rock will require grinding or rock sawing

and breaking.

12. Vibrations

Possible vibrations generated during excavations through sandy soil, clay, and rock up to Low

Strength will be below the threshold limit for building damage. Medium Strength Rock is

expected to be encountered during the excavations for the proposed house.

Excavations through Medium Strength Rock should be carried out to minimise the potential

to cause vibration damage to the neighbouring houses to the E and W. Accounting for back

wall drainage, the E common boundary will be as close as ~2.0m and the W common

boundary will be as close as 0.5m from the proposed excavation. The E neighbouring

proposed construction will come as close to ~4.0m and the W neighbouring house will come

as close as ~1.1m to the proposed excavation.

Dilapidation reporting carried out on the W neighbouring property is recommended prior to

the excavation works commencing.

Close controls by the contractor over rock excavation are recommended so excessive

vibrations are not generated.

Excavation methods are to be used that limit peak particle velocity to 5mm/sec at the

property boundaries. Vibration monitoring will be required to verify this is achieved. The

Vibration monitoring equipment must include a light/alarm so the operator knows if vibration

limits have been exceeded. It also must log and record vibrations throughout the excavation

works.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 9.

In rock up to Low Strength we expect a machine up to 20 tonnes with a bucket only will be capable to remove the material. Vibrations from this type of equipment are expected to be below the threshold limit outlined.

In Medium Strength Rock or better techniques to minimise vibration transmission will be required. These include:

- Rock sawing the excavation perimeter to at least 1.0m deep prior to any rock breaking
  with hammers, keeping the saw cuts below the rock to be broken throughout the
  excavation process.
- Limiting rock hammer size.
- Rock hammering in short bursts so vibrations do not amplify.
- Rock breaking with the hammer angled away from the nearby sensitive structures.
- Creating additional saw breaks in the rock where vibration limits are exceeded.

#### 13. Excavation Support Requirements

An excavation to a maximum depth of ~1.0m will be required to construct the garage. The cut tapers down to a maximum depth of ~0.5m along the W side of the excavation. Allowing for backwall-drainage, the excavation will come as close as ~0.6m to the W common boundary.

Another excavation to a maximum depth of ~2.0m will be required to construct the proposed house assuming a ramp batter is left for the proposed boundary steps. The cut tapers down to a maximum depth of ~1.1m along the W side of the excavation. Allowing for backwall-drainage, the excavation for the house will come close to flush with both the W & E common boundaries, as close as ~2.0m to the E neighbouring proposed construction, and as close as ~0.5m to the W neighbouring house.

The base of the W common boundary wall and W neighbouring house are cut into the slope and have already been lowered past the base of the proposed excavation so only the E boundary will fall within the zone of influence of the excavations. In this instance, the zone of influence is the area above a theoretical 45° line through clay and Very Low Strength Rock



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 10.

towards the surrounding structures and boundaries. This line reduces to 30° through the fill

and soil.

Where the E common boundary falls within the zone of influence of the excavation, the cut

faces will require shoring so the cut face is not left unsupported. One suitable form of shoring

is to install a soldier post wall whereby the holes for the soldier posts are drilled and the posts

installed before any excavation commences. The gaps between the posts are excavated out

one at a time before the supporting whalers are installed to form the wall. The support is to

be designed by the structural engineer. The temporary support is to remain in place until the

retaining walls are built. See site plan attached for extent of minimum required shoring.

As there is an existing brick retaining wall along the W common boundary supporting the cut

for the neighbouring property, the excavation along the W common boundary will not require

any temporary shoring and will stand unsupported provided care is taken during the

excavation so as to not damage the existing wall.

The remaining cut batters through fill, soil, clay and Very Low to Medium Strength Rock will

stand at near-vertical angles for short periods of time until the retaining walls are installed,

provided the cut batters are kept from becoming saturated. During the excavation process,

the geotechnical consultant is to inspect the cut face in 1.5m intervals as it is lowered to

ensure ground materials are as expected and that additional support is not required.

Upon completion of the excavation, it is recommended all unsupported cut faces for the

house excavation be supported with retaining walls to prevent any potential future

movement of joint blocks in the cut face that can occur over time, when unfavourable jointing

is obscured behind the excavation face. Additionally, retaining walls will help control seepage

and to prevent minor erosion and sediment movement. Excavation spoil may be used for

landscaping on site.

Upslope runoff is to be diverted from the cut faces by sandbag mounds or other diversion

works. All unsupported cut batters are to be covered to prevent access of water in wet



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 11.

weather and loss of moisture in dry weather. The materials and labour to construct the retaining walls are to be organised so on completion of the excavations they can be constructed as soon as possible. The excavations are to be carried out during a dry period. No excavations are to commence if heavy or prolonged rainfall is forecast.

All excavation spoil is to be removed from site following the current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) waste classification guidelines.

#### 14. Retaining Walls

For cantilever or singly propped retaining walls it is suggested the design be based on a triangular distribution of lateral pressures using the parameters shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Likely Earth Pressures for Retaining Walls

	Earth Pressure Coefficients					
Unit	Unit weight (kN/m³)	'Active' Ka	'At Rest' K₀	Passive		
Fill and Soil	20	0.40	0.55	N/A		
Residual Clays	20	0.35	0.45	N/A		
Rock up to Low Strength Rock	22	0.25	0.38	K <sub>p</sub> = 2.5		
Medium Strength Rock	24	0.00	0.01	2.0MPa "Ultimate"		

For rock classes refer to Pells et al "Design Loadings for Foundations on Shale and Sandstone in the Sydney Region". Australian Geomechanics Journal 1978.

It is to be noted that the earth pressures in Table 1 assume a level surface above the wall, do not account for any surcharge loads and assume retaining walls are fully drained. It should be noted that passive pressure is an ultimate value and should have an appropriate safety factor applied. No passive resistance should be assumed for the top 0.4m to account for any



J3054A.

9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 12.

disturbance from the excavation. Rock strength and relevant earth pressure coefficients are

to be confirmed on site by the geotechnical consultant.

All retaining walls are to have sufficient back-wall drainage and be backfilled immediately

behind the structure with free draining material (such as gravel). This material is to be

wrapped in a non-woven Geotextile fabric (i.e., Bidim A34 or similar), to prevent the drainage

from becoming clogged with silt and clay. If no back-wall drainage is installed in retaining walls

the full hydrostatic pressures are to be accounted for in the retaining structure design.

15. Foundations

The proposed driveway can be supported off the natural surface after any organic matter has

been stripped. A maximum allowable bearing pressure of 100kPa can be assumed for soil of

the natural surface. Where the driveway is cut into the slope, the driveway can be supported

off the exposed clay or Very Low Strength Rock or better. A maximum allowable bearing

pressure of 200kPa can be assumed for footings on clay and 600kPa for footings on Very Low

Strength Rock or better. Where the foundation material across the driveway structure

changes, expansion joints are to be installed to separate the different foundation materials

and to accommodate minor differential movement.

The proposed garage can be supported on a raft slab on the underlying Very Low Strength

Rock or better. This ground material is expected to be exposed across the base of the

excavation on the uphill side. On the downhill side where the Very Low Strength Rock or

better drops away with the slope, piers taken to the rock will be required to maintain a

uniform bearing pressure across the structure.

A concrete slab and shallow piers supported directly off Very Low to Medium Strength Rock

are suitable footings for the proposed house construction. This ground material is expected

to be exposed across the downhill side of the excavation. Where the bedrock falls below the

base of the excavation, the construction can be supported off shallow piers taken to the Very

Low Strength Rock or better where necessary.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 13.

A  $^{\sim}2.0\text{m}$  high brick retaining wall along the W common boundary supports a cut on the W

neighbouring property (Photo 8). The W edge of the house is to be supported on piers

embedded into to Very Low Strength Rock or better and taken to below the base of the

retaining wall. Provided the footings are taken to and embedded into this ground material at

the required depths no surcharge loads from the proposed structure will be transferred onto

the existing retaining wall.

A maximum allowable bearing pressure of 600kPa can be assumed for footings on Very Low

to Medium Strength Rock.

As the bearing capacity of clay and weathered rock reduces when it is wet, we recommend

the footings be dug, inspected and poured in quick succession (ideally the same day if

possible). If the footings get wet, they will have to be drained and the soft layer of clay or

weathered rock on the footing surface will have to be removed before concrete is poured.

If a rapid turnaround from footing excavation to the concrete pour is not possible a sealing

layer of concrete may be added to the footing surface after it has been cleaned.

Naturally occurring vertical cracks (known as joints) commonly occur in sandstone. These are

generally filled with soil and are the natural seepage paths through the rock. They can extend

to depths of several metres and are usually relatively narrow but can range between 0.1 to

0.8m wide. If a footing falls over a joint in the rock, the construction process is simplified if,

with the approval of the structural engineer, the joint can be spanned or, alternatively, the

footing can be repositioned so it does not fall over the joint.

**NOTE**: If the contractor is unsure of the footing material required it is more cost effective to

get the geotechnical professional on site at the start of the footing excavation to advise on

footing depth and material. This mostly prevents unnecessary over excavation in clay like

shaly rock but can be valuable in all types of geology.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

Page 14.

16. Geotechnical Review

The structural plans are to be checked and certified by the geotechnical engineer as being in

accordance with the geotechnical recommendations. On completion a Form 2B will be issued.

This form is required for the Construction Certificate to proceed.

17. Inspections

The client and builder are to familiarise themselves with the following required inspections

as well as council geotechnical policy. We cannot provide geotechnical certification for the

Occupation Certificate if the following inspections have not been carried out during the

construction process.

• During the excavation process, the geotechnical consultant is to inspect the cut face

in 1.5m intervals as it is lowered to ensure ground materials are as expected, that

additional support is not required, and that there are no wedges or other defects

present in the rock that may require additional support.

All footings are to be inspected and approved by the geotechnical consultant while

the excavation equipment is still onsite and before steel reinforcing is placed or

concrete is poured.

White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd.

Ben White M.Sc. Geol., AuslMM., CP GEOL.

FULL

No. 222757

Engineering Geologist.



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 15.



Photo 1



Photo 2



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 16.



Photo 3



Photo 4



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 17.



Photo 5



Photo 6



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 18.



Photo 7



Photo 8



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 19.



Photo 9



Photo 10



J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 20.



Photo 11: AH1 – Downhole is from top to bottom.



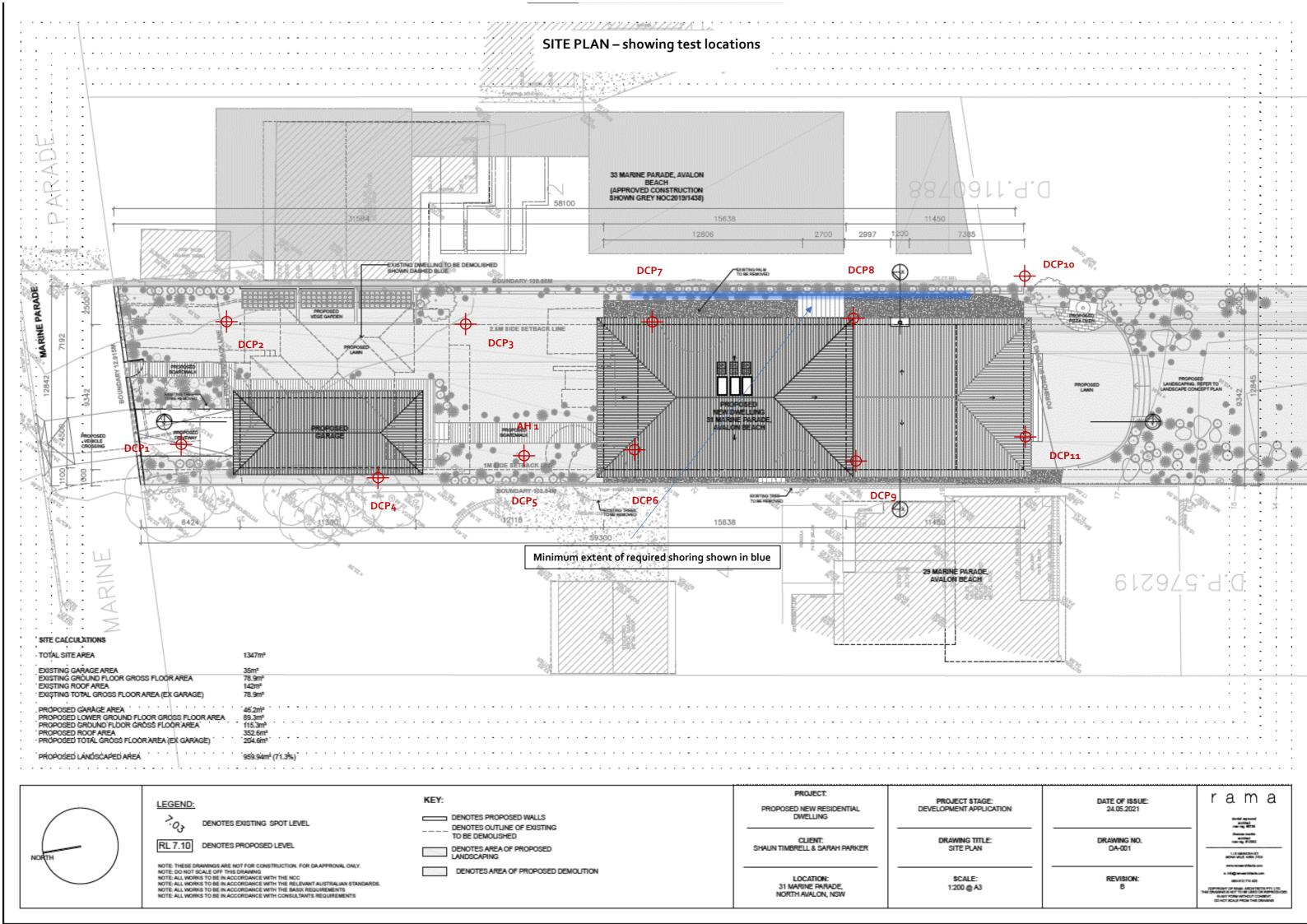
J3054A. 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. Page 21.

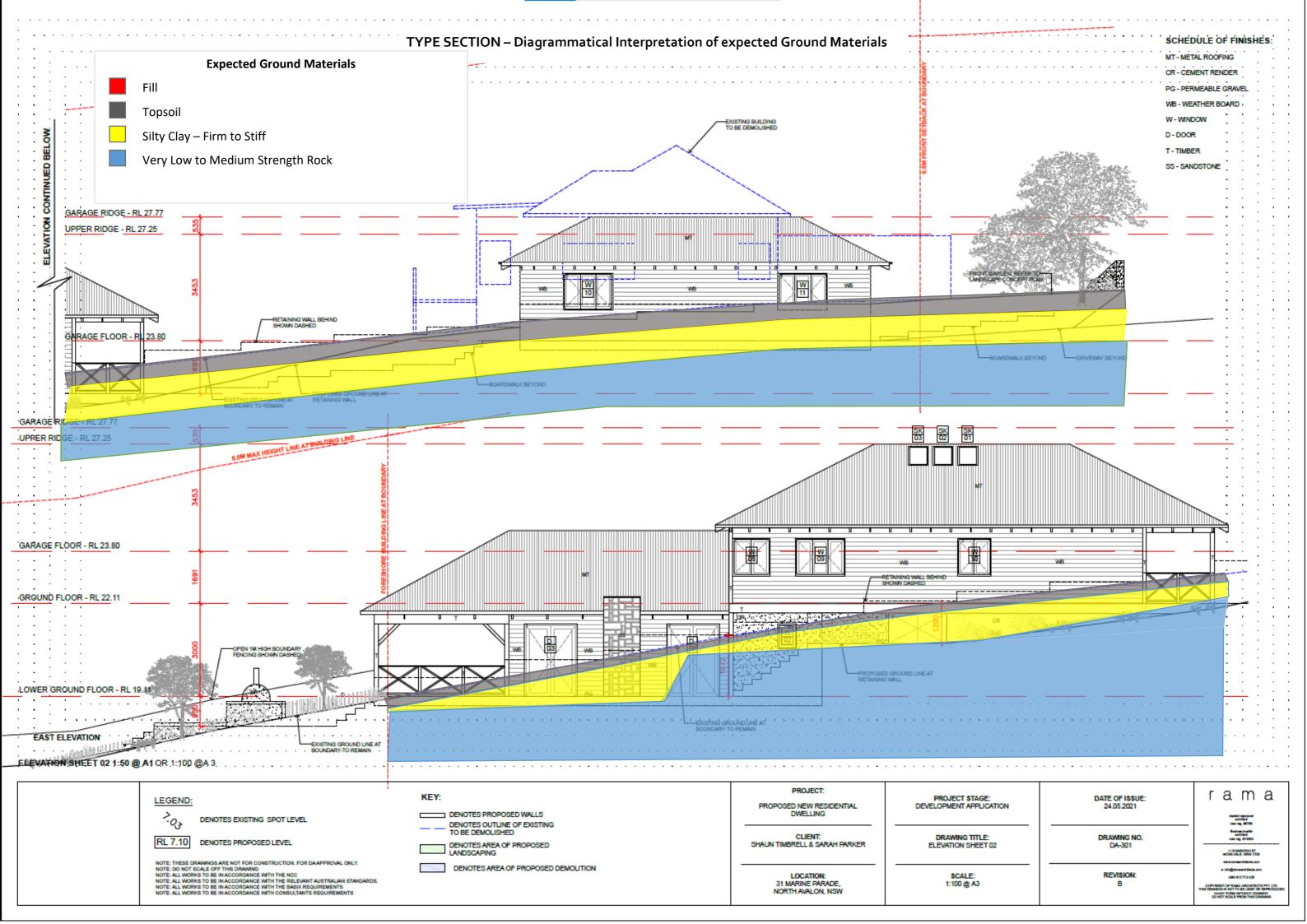
### Important Information about Your Report

It should be noted that Geotechnical Reports are documents that build a picture of the subsurface conditions from the observation of surface features and testing carried out at specific points on the site. The spacing and location of the test points can be limited by the location of existing structures on the site or by budget and time constraints of the client. Additionally, the test themselves, although chosen for their suitability for the particular project, have their own limiting factors. The testing gives accurate information at the location of the test, within the confines of the test's capability. A geological interpretation or model is developed by joining these test points using all available data and drawing on previous experience of the geotechnical consultant. Even the most experienced practitioners cannot determine every possible feature or change that may lie below the earth. All of the subsurface features can only be known when they are revealed by excavation. As such, a Geotechnical report can be considered an interpretive document. It is based on factual data but also on opinion and judgement that comes with a level of uncertainty. This information is provided to help explain the nature and limitations of your report.

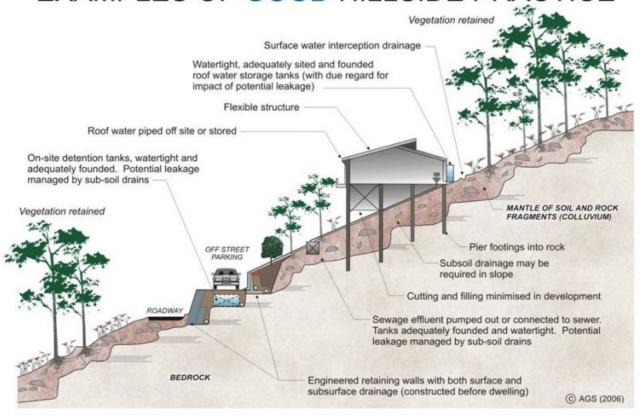
With this in mind, the following points are to be noted:

- If upon the commencement of the works the subsurface ground or ground water conditions prove different from those described in this report, it is advisable to contact White Geotechnical Group immediately, as problems relating to the ground works phase of construction are far easier and less costly to overcome if they are addressed early.
- If this report is used by other professionals during the design or construction process, any
  questions should be directed to White Geotechnical Group as only we understand the full
  methodology behind the report's conclusions.
- The report addresses issues relating to your specific design and site. If the proposed project design changes, aspects of the report may no longer apply. Contact White Geotechnical if this occurs.
- This report should not be applied to any other project other than that outlined in section 1.0.
- This report is to be read in full and should not have sections removed or included in other documents as this can result in misinterpretation of the data by others.
- It is common for the design and construction process to be adapted as it progresses (sometimes
  to suit the previous experience of the contractors involved). If alternative design and construction
  processes are required to those described in this report, contact White Geotechnical Group. We
  are familiar with a variety of techniques to reduce risk and can advise if your proposed methods
  are suitable for the site conditions.





# EXAMPLES OF GOOD HILLSIDE PRACTICE



# EXAMPLES OF POOR HILLSIDE PRACTICE

