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

DOVER	opment Applicati	Name of Applicant			
Addre	ss of site	46A Irrubel Road, Newport			
The following checklist covers the minimum requirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk <b>Declaration made by</b> geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or coastal engineer (where applicable) as part of a geotechnical report					
I,	Ben White (Insert Name)	on behalf of White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd (Trading or Company Name)			
coastal organisa		certify that I am a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist ed by the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and I am authorised by the abovissue this document and to certify that the organisation/company has a current professional indemnion.			
l: <b>Please</b> l	mark appropriate	e box			
		the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below in accordance with the Australia Geomechanicslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy f			
	am willing to technically verify that the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Geomechanics Society's Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the 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 fo Pittwater - 2009 and further detailed geotechnical reporting is not required for the subject site.				
	Application onl	the site and the proposed development/alteration in detail and I am of the opinion that the Development involves Minor Development/Alteration that does not require a Geotechnical Report or Right hence my Report is in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 200			
	have examined Hazard and doe the Geotechnica	the site and the proposed development/alteration is separate from and is not affected by a Geotechnic es not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk Assessment and hence my Report is in accordance wi al Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 requirements. the coastal process and coastal forces analysis for inclusion in the Geotechnical Report			
Geotecl	hnical Report De	tails:			
	•	otechnical Report 46A Irrubel Road, Newport			
	Report Date: 11	/2/19			
	Author: BEN W	'HITE			
	Author's Compa	ny/Organisation: WHITE GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD			
Docum	entation which re	elate to or are relied upon in report preparation:			
	Australian G	Geomechanics Society Landslide Risk Management March 2007.			
	White Geot	echnical Group company archives.			
Develop Risk Ma Manage	ment Application anagement aspectment" level for the	ove Geotechnical Report, prepared for the abovementioned site is to be submitted in support of for this site and will be relied on by Pittwater Council as the basis for ensuring that the Geotechnic its of the proposed development have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Rise life of the structure, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated and justified in the Report are ical measures have been identified to remove foreseeable risk.			
		Bellet			

Chartered Professional Status MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL

Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

Ben White

222757

Signature

Membership No.

Name

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

Develo	pment Application for	Development Application
Pevelo	Pinolit Application IOI	Name of Applicant
Addres	ss of site 46A Irrubel	Road, Newport
Report. 7	This checklist is to accompany the Ge	quirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk Management Geotechnical otechnical Report and its certification (Form No. 1).
	nical Report Details:	
	Title: Geotechnical Report 46A Irru	bel Road, Newport
	Date: 11/2/19	
	BEN WHITE	
Author	's Company/Organisation: WHITE	GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD
Please n	nark appropriate box	
$\boxtimes$	Comprehensive site mapping conducte	ed <u>5/2/19</u> (date)
$\boxtimes$	Mapping details presented on contoure Subsurface investigation required	ed site plan with geomorphic mapping to a minimum scale of 1:200 (as appropriate)
	☐ No Justification	
		6/2/19
	'	ported as an inferred subsurface type-section
	Geotechnical hazards identified	
	☐ Above the site ☒ On the site	
	<ul><li>☐ Below the site</li><li>☐ Beside the site</li></ul>	
	Geotechnical hazards described and re	pported
		ance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
		ance with the Geotechnical Nisk Management Folicy for Fittwater - 2005
$\boxtimes$	Risk calculation	
		ed in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
		cted in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009
		o "Acceptable Risk Management" criteria as defined in the Geotechnical Risk
$\boxtimes$	,	sign can achieve the "Acceptable Risk Management" criteria provided that the
$\boxtimes$	Design Life Adopted:	
	☐ Other	
		ecify
	Pittwater - 2009 have been specified	to all four phases as described in the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for
$\boxtimes$	•	reasonable and practical have been identified and included in the report.
	Risk assessment within Bushfire Asset	·
that the g Manager	geotechnical risk management aspects ment" level for the life of the structure	he Geotechnical Report, to which this checklist applies, as the basis for ensuring s of the proposal have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Risk, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated, and justified in the Report ave been identified to remove foreseeable risk.
		Felet
	Signature	<del>December</del>
	Name	Ben White
	Chartered Profes	ssional Status MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL
	Membership No.	222757

White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

Company



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# **GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION:**

Proposed Pool at 46A Irrubel Road, Newport

# 1. Proposed Development

- 1.1 Install a pool on the downhill side of the house by excavating to a maximum depth of ~1.3m in to the slope.
- 1.2 Demolish the existing retaining wall on the uphill side of the house and construct a new retaining wall by excavating to a maximum depth of ~1.5m into the slope.
- Details of the proposed development are shown on 7 drawings prepared by Serenescapes, project number 18495, Revision B, drawing number L-01 to 07 dated 09/01/19.

# 2. Site Description

- **2.1** The site was inspected on the 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2019.
- 2.2 This battle-axe-shaped residential property is on the high side of the road and has a W aspect. It is positioned on the gentle to steeply graded lower reaches of a hillslope. From the uphill boundary to the downhill side of the house the slope falls at an average angle of ~9° and continues at near level angles from the downhill side of the house, before dropping away at maximum angles of ~20° towards the downhill boundary. The slope above the property continues at similar angles. The slope below the property drops to an intermittent watercourse.
- 2.3 At the road frontage, a concrete driveway runs to a carport attached to the S side of the house (Photos 1 & 2). An excavation has been made along the uphill boundary to level an area for the driveway and house (Photo 3). The cut is supported by a stable sandstone block retaining wall reaching a maximum height of ~1.0m a



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which becomes a treated timber retaining wall reaching a maximum height of ~1.1m along the uphill side of the house (Photo 4). Both walls will be replaced as part of the proposed works. The part two-storey brick and timber clad house is supported on brick walls and brick piers (Photo 5). Settlement cracking was observed in the supporting walls of the downhill side of the house and one of the supporting brick piers was observed to be tilting (Photos 6, 7 & 8). Steel bracing has been placed for additional support to the cross beams. The brick walls will be remediated and the brick pier replaced as part of the proposed works. Ground tests indicate a fill up to a maximum depth of ~1.5m has been placed on the downhill side of the house for a level lawn area (Photo 9). The fill has been battered at safe angles. An old treated timber retaining wall on the downhill side of the property will be replaced as part of the proposed works (Photo 10). The slope below the wall falls at steep angles to intermittent watercourse along the lower boundary that flows from NE to SW. The watercourse was dry at the time of the inspection and the banks of the creek appear stable (Photo 11). No significant signs of movement were observed on the property. No geotechnical hazards that could impact on the subject property were observed on the neighbouring properties as seen from the subject property and the road.

# 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 Hand Auger Hole (AH) was put down to identify the soil materials. Six 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. 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



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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 the testing on this site and the results are as follows:

**AUGER HOLE 1** (~RL32.0) – AH1 (Photo 12)

Depth (m)	Material Encountered
0.0 to 0.3	<b>FILL,</b> disturbed sandy soil, brown, loose, rock fragments, fine to medium grained, organic matter, dry.
0.3 to 0.6	<b>FILL,</b> disturbed sandy soil, brown, loose, rock fragments, fine to medium grained, dry.
0.6 to 1.0	<b>SILTY CLAY</b> , brown to reddish brown, firm, fine to medium grained, rock fragments, dry.
1.0 to 1.3	SANDY CLAY, brown, firm, fine to medium grained, dry.
1.3 to 1.6	<b>CLAY</b> , yellowish brown, very stiff, mottled red, fine grained, dry.

End of hole @ 1.6m in stiff clay. No watertable encountered.

## SEE DCP TEST RESULTS OVER THE PAGE



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DCP TEST RESULTS – Dynamic Cone Penetrometer  Equipment: 9kg hammer, 510mm drop, conical tip.  Standard: AS1289.6.3.2- 1997						
						Depth(m) Blows/0.3m
0.0 to 0.3	15	5	5	7	4	25
0.3 to 0.6	8	10	15	6	8	10
0.6 to 0.9	8	12	6	8	19	13
0.9 to 1.2	21	5	5	11	28	18
1.2 to 1.5	6	5	17	9	45	28
1.5 to 1.8	9	9	24	12	#	#
1.8 to 2.1	12	14	36	10		
2.1 to 2.4	21	30	#	7		
2.4 to 2.7	30	#		19		
2.7 to 3.0	#			29		
3.0 to 3.3				#		
	End of Test @ 2.7m	End of Test @ 2.4m	End of Test @ 2.1m	End of Test @ 3.0m	End of Test @ 1.5m	End of Test @ 1.5m

#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 @ 2.7m, DCP still very slowly going down, red clay on damp tip.

DCP2 – End of test @ 2.4m, DCP still very slowly going down, muddy wet tip.

DCP3 – End of test @ 2.1m, DCP still very slowly going down, soil on dry tip.

DCP4 – End of test @ 3.0m, DCP still very slowly going down, red clay on dry tip.

DCP5 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, orange clay on dry tip.

DCP6 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, red/orange shale on dry tip.

# 5. Geological Interpretation

The slope materials are colluvial at the near surface and residual at depth. They consist of a fill and thin sandy topsoil over silty and sandy clays and clays with rock fragments throughout the profile. In the test locations the silty and sandy clays and clays merge into the weathered zone of the underlying shale at depths between ~0.6 to ~1.2m below the current surface,



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being deeper over DCP1, 2 and 4 due to the fill placed to level lawn area on the downhill side

of the house. It is interpreted from ground tests that the fill reaches a maximum depth of

~1.5m. The weathered zone is interpreted as Extremely Low Strength Shale. It is to be noted

that this material can appear as a mottled stiff clay when it is cut up by excavation equipment.

See Type Section attached for a diagrammatical representation of the expected ground

materials.

6. Groundwater

Ground water seepage is expected to move over the buried surface of the rock and through

the cracks. As a creek cuts the slope below the block, we expect groundwater seepage to be

higher across the block as slope seepage will move toward the creek.

Due to the slope and elevation of the block, the water table is expected to be many metres

below the base of the proposed excavation.

7. Surface Water

Apart from the creek channel below the block, 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 above, below, or beside the property. The proposed

pool excavation collapsing onto the worksite is a potential hazard (Hazard One). The

excavation for the proposed retaining wall along the uphill boundary is a potential hazard

(Hazard Two).



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

HAZARDS	Hazard One	Hazard Two	
ТҮРЕ	The proposed pool excavation collapsing onto the work site before the pool structure is in place.	The excavation for the proposed retaining wall along the uphill boundary failing and impacting the house before the new retaining wall is in place.	
LIKELIHOOD	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (20%)	'Medium' (20%)	
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	
RISK TO LIFE	7.4 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> /annum	1.3 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> /annum	
COMMENTS	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move risk to 'ACCEPTABLE' levels, the recommendations in <b>Section</b> 13 are to be followed.	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move risk to 'ACCEPTABLE' levels, the recommendations in <b>Section</b> 13 are to be followed.	

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

## SEE OVER THE PAGE FOR CONTINUED RISK ANALYSIS SUMMARY



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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

No significant stormwater runoff will be created by the proposed developments.

11. Excavations

An excavation to a maximum depth of ~1.3m is required to install the pool. It is expected to

be through a fill with rock fragments and building rubble throughout.

Another excavation to a maximum depth of ~1.5m is required to construct the proposed

retaining wall along the uphill boundary. It is expected to be through sandy soil over silty and

sandy clay and clay with Extremely Low Strength Shale expected towards the base of the

excavation.

It is envisaged the excavations can be carried out with a bucket and rock hammers will not be

required.

12. Vibrations

Any vibrations generated during the excavations through fill, soil, clay and Extremely Low

Strength Shale will be well below the threshold limit for infrastructure or building damage.

13. Excavation Support Requirements

**Pool Excavation** 

The excavation for the proposed pool will be as close as ~1.1m from the existing supporting

posts of the upper ground floor deck on the downhill side of the house. The excavation is

expected to be a maximum depth of ~1.3m in this location. Assuming the deck foundations

are to a minimum depth of 0.4m the proposed pool excavation will be outside the zone of



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influence of the pool foundation. In this instance the zone of influence is the area above a

theoretical 45° line extending from the base of the excavation towards the surrounding

structures and boundaries. No other structures or boundaries will lie within the zone of

influence of the excavation.

The cut faces for the pool are expected to stand for a short period until the pool shell is in

place provided they are prevented from becoming saturated. See "Excavation Advice

Applying to All Excavations" to follow. If the cut faces for the pool will be left for more than

a few days, without pool construction commencing, it is recommended that standard pool

shoring such as sheet iron be used to support the cut batters.

Excavation Uphill Side of House – New Retaining Wall

Two posts for the existing carport fall within the footprint of the proposed excavation. The

garage is to be adequately propped prior to the demolition of the existing retaining wall and

subsequent excavation so the posts can be removed and replaced as part of the works.

Any retaining walls that are to be demolished as part of the proposed works are to be

dismantled from the top down. Any fill and soil behind the wall is to be lowered

simultaneously and battered at 1.0 Horizontal to 1.7 Vertical (30°) until the new retaining

walls are installed. Excavations through undisturbed clay and Extremely Low Strength Shale

or better will stand at vertical angles unsupported for the short period of time until retaining

walls are installed provided the cut batters are prevented from becoming saturated. See

"Excavation Advice Applying to All Excavations" to follow.

If cut batters will be left for more than a few days before the retaining wall construction begins

temporary support is to be installed for the ~16.5m where the excavation is close to flush

with the E common boundary. The support is to be approved/designed by the structural

engineer. All temporary support is to remain in place until the retaining wall is built.



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**Excavation Advice Applying to All Excavations** 

All cut batters are to be covered to prevent access of water in wet weather and loss of

moisture in dry weather. The covers are to be tied down with metal pegs or other suitable

fixtures so they can't blow off in a storm. Upslope runoff is to be diverted from the cut faces

by sandbag mounds or other diversion works. The materials and labour to construct the

retaining structure is 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 either removed from site, battered permanently at 1.0 Vertical to

2.0 Horizontal (26°) or be supported by engineered retaining walls.

14. Fill

From the plans, it is apparent that filling to maximum heights of ~0.5m will be placed to

landscape the downhill side of the house. No fills are to be laid until retaining walls are in

place. The surface is to be prepared before any fills are laid by removing any organic matter

and topsoil. Fills are to be laid in a loose thickness not exceeding 0.3m before being

moderately compacted. Tracking the machine over the loose fill in 1 to 2 passes should be

sufficient. Immediately behind the retaining structure (say to 1.5m), the fill is to be compacted

with light weight equipment such as a hand-held plate compactor so as not to damage the

retaining wall. Where light weight equipment is used, fills are to be laid in a loose thickness

not exceeding 0.2m before being compacted. No structures are to be supported on fill.

15. Retaining Structures

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.



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Table 1 – Likely Earth Pressures for Retaining Walls

	Earth Pressure Coefficients				
Unit	Unit weight (kN/m³)	'Active' K <sub>a</sub>	'At Rest' K₀		
Fill	20	0.45	0.55		
Sandy Soil and Residual Clays	20	0.35	0.45		
Extremely Low Strength Shale	22	0.25	0.35		

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. So in this instance slope surcharge loads will need to be accounted for in the design. 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 wall 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 likely hydrostatic pressures are to be accounted for in the retaining wall design.

#### 16. Foundations

The proposed pool is to be supported on piers taken to and embedded into the underlying Extremely Low Strength Shale below the base of the downhill retaining wall to prevent surcharge loads impacting on the wall. This ground material is expected at an average depth of ~2.4m below the current ground surface. It should be noted that this material is a soft rock



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and a rock auger will cut through it so the builders should not be looking for refusal to end

the footings.

As the area will become saturated during pool use it is recommended any paving around the

pool be supported on a piered concrete slab on the underlying firm to stiff clays expected at

a depth of ~1.5m below the current ground surface. This will reduce the risk of settlement

around the pool that can result from ongoing saturation of the fill. Similarly the plans show a

drain on the uphill side of the pool. As two existing deck posts are immediately above the pool

it is recommended the drain be a sufficient width and depth to prevent splashed water from

flowing onto the surface around the deck posts. A maximum allowable bearing pressure of

200kPa can be assumed for footings on firm to stiff clays and 600kPa for footings embedded

in Extremely Low Strength Shale.

As the bearing capacity of clay and shale 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 wet clay or shale 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.

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

get the geotechnical consultant 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.



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17. Inspections

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

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

Occupation Certificate if the following inspection has not been carried out during the

construction process.

• The excavation on the uphill side of the house is to be inspected towards the end of

the excavation process but while the machine is still on site to ensure the ground

materials are as expected and to confirm that temporary support is not required.

• 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.

Selve

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

No. 222757

**Engineering Geologist** 



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Photo 1: Subject driveway is on the right



Photo 2



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Photo 3



Photo 4



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Photo 5



Photo 6



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Photo 7



Photo 8



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Photo 9



Photo 10



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Photo 11



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Photo 12 - End of the auger is at the bottom of the picture



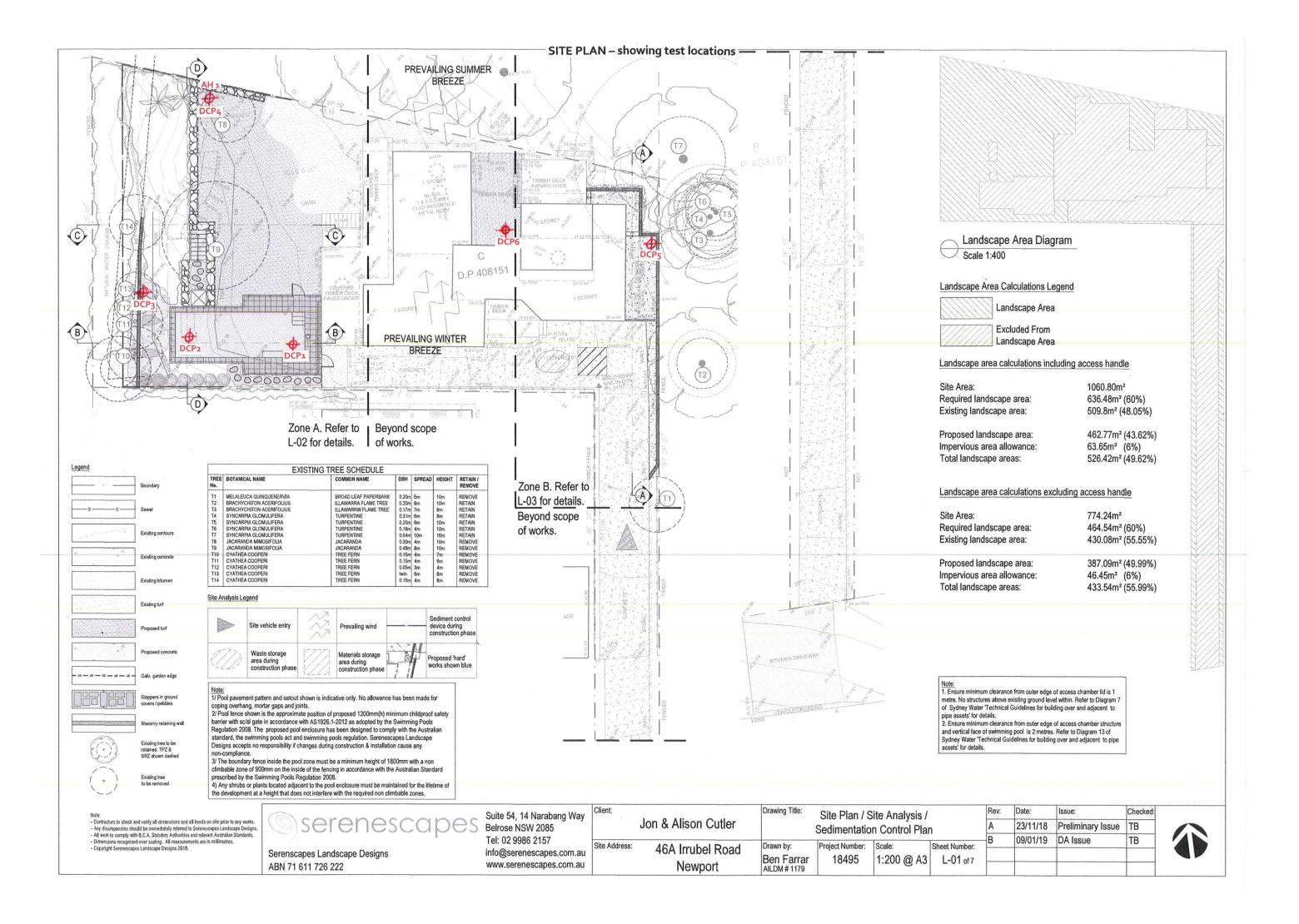
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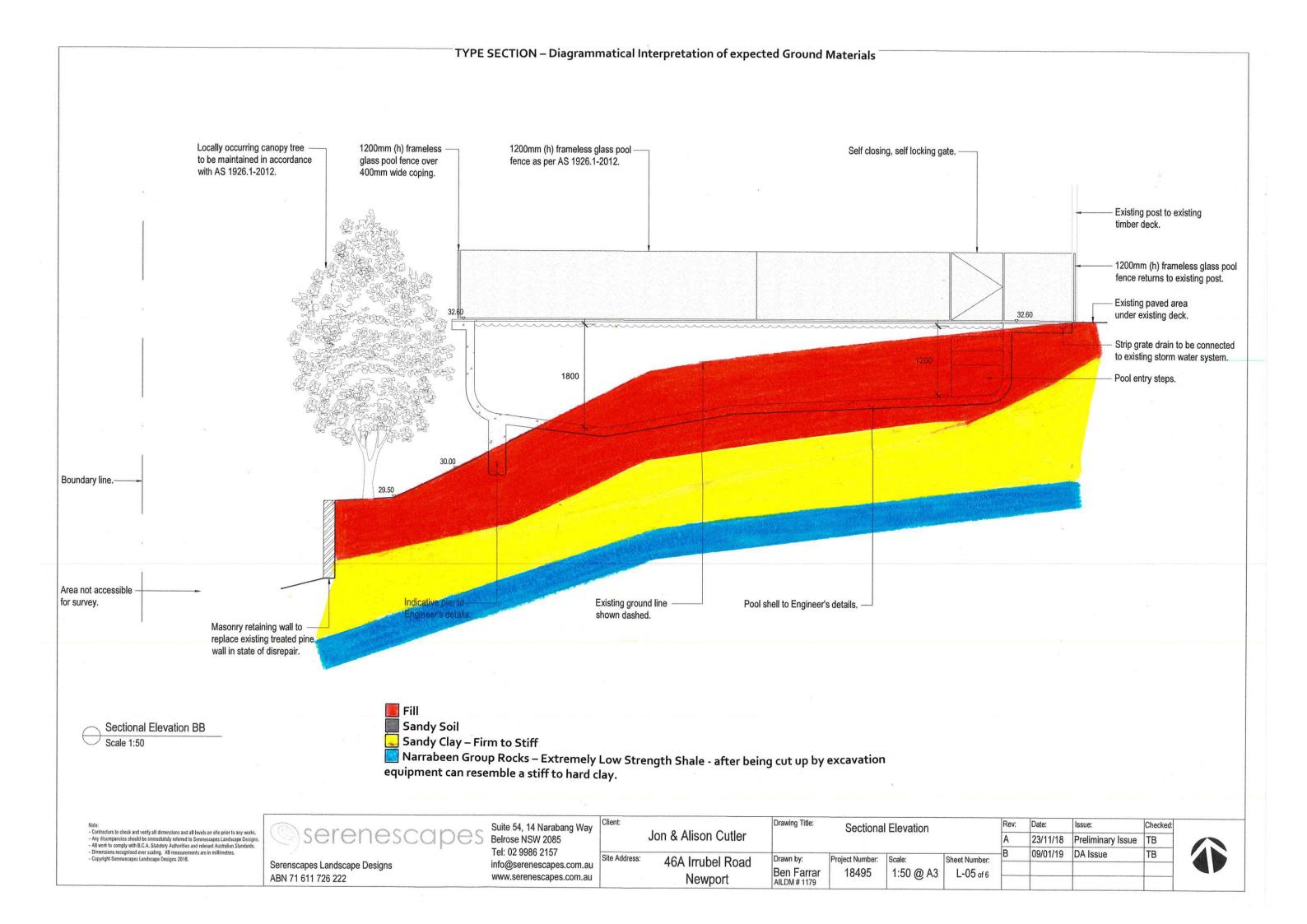
## Important Information about Your Report

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 tests 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 professional. 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.

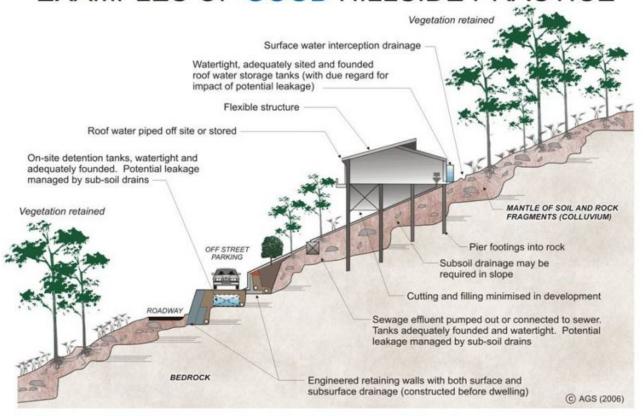
With this in mind, the following points are to be noted:

- 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

