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PRELIMINARY GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT: 542 Pittwater Road, North Manly

1.0	LANDSLIP RISK CLASS (Highlight indicates Landslip Risk Class of property)
	A - Geotechnical Report not normally required
	B - Geotechnical Engineer (Under Council Guidelines) to decide if Geotechnical Report is required
	C - Geotechnical Report is required
	D - Geotechnical Engineer (Under Council Guidelines) to decide if Geotechnical Report is required
	E - Geotechnical Report required

2.0 Proposed Development

- **2.1** Add a minor extension to the N side of the ground floor of the house.
- **2.2** Other minor internal and external alterations and additions.
- **2.3** No significant excavations or fills are shown on the plans.
- 2.4 Details of the proposed development are shown on 23 drawings prepared by Daina Jamieson, drawings numbered 01 to 05, DA01 to DA10 and MD01 to MD08, Revision B, dated 9/3/24.

3.0 Site Location

- **3.1** The site was inspected on the 24th April, 2024.
- 3.2 This residential property is on the high side of the road and has a SW aspect. It is located on the gentle to moderately graded lower reaches of a hillslope. Medium Strength Hawkesbury Sandstone bedrock outcrops at the downhill side of the house and in the foundation space of the house. Where sandstone is not exposed, it is expected to underlie the surface at relatively shallow depths. The natural surface of



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the block has been altered with cuts and fills for lawn and paved areas across the

property. The proposed development will not alter the surface further.

3.3 The site shows no indications of historical movement in the natural surface

that could have occurred since the property was developed. We are aware of no

history of instability on the property.

4.0 Site Description

A Medium Strength Sandstone rock face ~2.8m high outcrops at the road frontage. The NW

end of the rock face displays a minor undercut but appears to be currently stable. Low timber

and sandstone flagging walls line a fill batter for a lawn area above the rock face. The natural

slope above the rock face and fill batter rises at gentle angles across the property. The part

two storey house is supported on brick walls, sandstone block walls, concrete block walls and

brick piers. The supporting walls show no significant signs of movement and the supporting

piers stand vertical. A stable rendered masonry retaining wall up to ~2.2m high supports a cut

for a level lawn area and concrete parking area on the uphill side of the house. A concrete

driveway accessed from Hope Avenue runs to the parking area. The area surrounding the

house is mostly lawn or garden covered with some paved areas. No signs of movement

related to slope instability were observed on the grounds. The adjoining neighbouring

properties were observed to be in good order as seen from the street and subject property.

5.0 Recommendations

The proposed development and site conditions were considered and applied to the current

council requirements. See the required inspection below that is to be carried out during

construction and is a requirement for the final geotechnical certification. Apart from this

inspection, it is not expected additional geotechnical input will be required provided good

design and building practices are followed.



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6.0 Inspection

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 owners or the regulating authorities if the following inspection has not been carried out during the construction process.

 All footings are to be inspected and approved by the geotechnical consultant while the excavation equipment and contractors are still onsite and before steel reinforcing is placed or concrete is poured.

White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd.

Dion Sheldon
BEng(Civil)(Hons),

Geotechnical Engineer.

Reviewed By:

Ben White M.Sc. Geol.,

AIG., RPGeo Geotechnical & Engineering.

No. 10306

Engineering Geologist.





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Information about your Preliminary Assessment

This Preliminary Assessment relies on visual observations of the surface features observed during the site inspection. Where reference is made to subsurface features (e.g. the depth to rock) these are interpretations based on the surface features present and previous experience in the area. No ground testing was conducted as part of this assessment and it is possible subsurface conditions will vary from those interpreted in the assessment.

In some cases, we will recommend no further geotechnical assessment is necessary despite the presence of existing fill or a rock face on the property that exceed the heights that would normally trigger a full geotechnical report, according to the Preliminary Assessment Flow Chart. Where this is the case, if it is an existing fill, it is either supported by a retaining wall that we consider stable, or is battered at a stable angle and situated in a suitable position on the slope. If it is a rock face that exceeds the flow chart limit height, the face has been deemed to be competent rock that is considered stable. These judgements are backed by the inspection of over 5000 properties on Geotechnical related matters.

The proposed excavation heights referred to in section 2.0 of this assessment are estimated by review of the plans we have been given for the job. Although we make every reasonable effort to provide accurate information excavation heights should be checked by the owner or person lodging the DA. If the excavation heights referred to in in section 2.0 of this assessment are incorrect we are to be informed immediately and before this assessment is lodged with the DA.