



Geotechnical Consultants Australia

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Avik Kalloghlian

# **Geotechnical Investigation Report**

Proposed Development at:

15 Ocean Road

Palm Beach NSW 2108

G23285-1-Rev A

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

## Report Distribution


Geotechnical Investigation Report

Address: 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108

GCA Report No.: G23285-1-Rev A

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

This geotechnical engineering report presents the results of a geotechnical investigation undertaken by Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd (GCA) for a proposed development at No. 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108 (the site). The investigation was commissioned by Avik Kalloghlian (the client) and was carried out on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

The purpose of the investigation was to assess the subsurface conditions over the site at the selected boreholes and testing locations (where accessible and feasible) and provide necessary recommendations from a geotechnical perspective for the proposed development.

The findings presented in this report are based on our subsurface investigation, laboratory testing results and our experience with subsurface conditions in the area. This report presents our assessment of the geotechnical conditions, and has been prepared to provide preliminary geotechnical advice and recommendations to assist in the preparation of designs and construction of the ground structures for the proposed development.

For your review, **Appendix A** contains a document prepared by GCA entitled "Important Information About Your Geotechnical Report", which summarises the general limitations, responsibilities and use of geotechnical engineering reports.

### 1.2 Proposed Development

Information provided by the client indicates the proposed development comprises demolition of the existing infrastructures onsite, followed by construction of a new three (3) storey residential dwelling, overlying a lower ground level. The lower ground floor level is hereafter referred to as the "basement" level.

The Finished Floor Levels (FFL)s for the proposed development are set to be at Reduced Levels (RL)s of:

- Basement (lower ground) floor level: RL5.17m Australian Height Datum (AHD).
- Upper ground floor level: RL8.57m AHD.

Maximum excavation depths varying from approximately 0.5m to 6.0m are expected to be required for construction of the proposed development, with cut and fill in certain areas of the site. Locally deeper excavations for the proposed lift shaft, building footings and service trenches are also anticipated as part of the planned development.

It should be noted that excavation depths are expected to vary across the site and are inferred off the FFLs shown on the architectural drawings and existing levels on the site survey plan, referenced in Section 1.3 below.

### 1.3 Provided Information

The following relevant information was provided to GCA prior to the geotechnical investigation and during preparation of this report:

- Architectural drawing prepared by BJB Architects Pty Ltd, titled "15 Ocean Road, Palm Beach, NSW 2108", and referenced job No. 2022-053.
- Site survey plan prepared by Total Surveying Solutions, titled "Plan Showing Detail & Levels Over Lot 2 In DP412086", referenced job No. 230118, sheet 1 of 1, and dated 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

## 1.4 Geotechnical Assessment Objectives

The objective of the geotechnical investigation was to assess the site surface and subsurface conditions at the selected boreholes and testing locations within the site (where accessible and feasible), and to provide professional geotechnical advice and recommendations on the following based on requirements provided to GCA by the client:

- General assessment of any potential geotechnical issues that may affect any surrounding infrastructures, buildings, council assets, etc., along with the proposed development.
- Excavation conditions and recommendations on excavation methods in soils and rocks to restrict any ground vibrations.
- Recommendations on suitable shoring (retention) systems for the site.
- Design parameters based on ground conditions within the site for retaining walls, cantilever shoring walls and propped shoring.
- Recommendations on suitable foundation types and design for the site.
- End bearing capacities and shaft adhesion for shallow and deep foundations based on ground conditions within the site.
- Groundwater levels which may be determined during the geotechnical investigation.
- Recommendations on groundwater maintenance and limiting.
- Preliminary site lot classification in accordance with Australian Standards (AS) 2870-2011.
- Preliminary Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) assessment in accordance with the Acid Sulphate Soils Assessment Guidelines (ASSMAC) guidelines and in general with the National Acid Sulphate Soils Guidance Manual.
- Preliminary slope risk assessment in accordance with guidelines published by the Australian Geomechanics Society (AGS) "Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management – AGS 2007c".
- General geotechnical advice on site preparation, filling and subgrade preparation.

## 1.5 Scope of Works

Fieldwork for the geotechnical investigation was undertaken by an experienced geotechnical engineer/engineering geologist, following in general the guidelines outlined in AS 1726-2017. The scope of works included:

- Submit and review Before You Dig Australia (BYDA) plans and any other plans provided by the client on existing buried services within the site.
- Service locating carried out using electromagnetic detection equipment to ensure the area is free of any underground services at the selected boreholes and testing locations.
- Review of site plans and drawings to determine appropriate testing locations (where accessible and feasible), and identify any relevant features of the site.
- Machine drilling of three (3) boreholes at selected locations within the site (where accessible and feasible) by a specialised trailer mounted drilling rig, using solid flight augers equipped with a 'Tungsten Carbide' (TC) bit, and identified as boreholes BH1 to BH3 inclusive. The drilling rig is owned and operated by a specialist subcontractor.
  - The boreholes were drilled to varying practical TC bit refusal depths of approximately 3.5m to 4.2m below the existing ground level within the site (bgl).
  - Concrete coring was undertaken at borehole location BH2 prior to drilling.
- Hand augering of one (1) borehole at selected location within the rear portion of the site (where accessible and feasible) using hand operated equipment to a practical refusal depth of approximately 1.5m bgl. The borehole is identified as BH4.
- Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) testing immediately adjacent to boreholes BH1 and BH4, using hand operated equipment to varying practical refusal depths of approximately 2.53m to 4.2m bgl. The DCP tests are identified as DCP1 and DCP2.

- The approximate locations of the boreholes and DCP tests are shown on **Figure 1, Appendix B** of this report.
- Collection of soil samples (~0.5kg per sample) during drilling for the following laboratory testing required:
  - Preliminary ASS field screening on twenty-six (26) selected samples collected from the boreholes by a National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) accredited laboratory (ALS Environmental).
  - Laboratory testing by a NATA accredited laboratory (ALS Environmental) for Chromium Suite on three (3) selected soil samples from the boreholes.
- Reinstatement of the boreholes with available soil displaced during drilling/augering.
- Preparation of this geotechnical engineering report.

## 1.6 Constraints

The discussions and recommendations provided in this report have been based on the results obtained at the selected boreholes and testing locations within the site. It is recommended that further geotechnical inspections be carried out during construction to confirm the subsurface conditions across the site and foundation bearing capacities have been achieved.

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Overall Site Description

The overall site description and its surrounding are presented in Table 1 below.

**Table 1. Overall Site Description and Site Surroundings**

Information	Details
<b>Overall Site Location</b>	The site is located within a residential area along Ocean Road thoroughfare.
<b>Site Address</b>	15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108
<b>Approximate Site Area<sup>1</sup></b>	911.9m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Local Government Authority</b>	Northern Beaches Council
<b>Site Description</b>	At the time of the investigation, a residential dwelling was present within the site, accompanied by associated concrete pavements and a number of retaining walls. The remaining site area was mainly covered in grass, vegetation and some mature trees scattered throughout.
<b>Approximate Distances to Nearest Watercourses (i.e. rivers, lakes, creeks, etc.)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Palm Beach – 110m east of the site.</li> </ul>
<b>Site Surroundings</b>	<p>The site is located within an area of residential use and is bounded by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential property at No. 14 Ocean Road to the north.</li> <li>• Ocean Road thoroughfare to the east.</li> <li>• Residential property at No. 16 Ocean Road to the south.</li> <li>• Residential property at No. 10 Sunrise Road to the west.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Site area is approximate and obtained from the site survey plan referenced in Section 1.3.

## 2.2 Topography

The local and site topography generally falls towards the east to south-east. Levels within the site vary from approximately RL4.7m to RL15.1m AHD.

Based on these estimated levels and preliminary assessment of the site area, an overall moderate to extreme slope of approximately 5° to 35° (varying throughout) is anticipated throughout.

It should be noted that the site topography, levels and slopes are approximate and based off the site survey plan referenced in Section 1.3, observations made during the geotechnical investigation, and reference to NSW Six Maps (<https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>) and Mecone Mosaic (<https://meconemosaic.au/>).

The actual topography in areas inaccessible during the site investigation, including areas under the existing infrastructures, along with the site and local topography and levels are expected to vary from those outlined in this report.

## 2.3 Regional Geology

Information obtained on the local regional subsurface conditions, referenced from the Department of Mineral Resources, Sydney 1:100,000 Geological Series Sheet 9130 Edition 1, dated 1983, by the Geological Survey of New South Wales, indicates majority of the site is located within a geological region generally underlain by Triassic Aged Sandstone (Rnn) of the Narrabeen Group. The Triassic Aged Sandstone (Rnn) typically consists of "interbedded laminite, shale and quartz, to lithic-quartz sandstone. Minor red claystone north."

We note that the western portion of the site is situated around a geological boundary/region normally underlain by Triassic Aged Hawkesbury Sandstone (Rh), which generally comprises "medium to coarse grained quartz sandstone, very minor sandstone and laminite lenses".

Furthermore, reference made to MinView by the State of New South Wales through Regional NSW 2021 specifies the site is positioned within geological regions underlain by Sand (QH\_bh) and Sandstone (Tngb).

A review of the regional maps by the NSW Government Environment and Heritage shows the site is set within the Tuggerah (tg), Watagan (wn) and Gymea (gy) landscape groups.

The Tuggerah (tg) landscape group is normally recognised by gently undulating to rolling coastal dune fields. Local reliefs are generally less than 20m and slopes typically 1% to 10% in gradient, but occasionally up to 35%. Soils of the Tuggerah group typically have an extreme wind erosion hazard, are non-cohesive with high permeability and very low fertility, with localised flooding and permanent high water tables. Soils of the Tuggerah group are generally neutral (pH 7.0) to strongly (pH 4.5) acidic.

The Watagan (wn) landscape group is typically recognised by rolling to very steep hills on fine-grained Narrabeen Group sediments. Local reliefs range from 60m to 120m and slopes typically greater than 25% in gradient. Soils of the Bundeena group typically have mass movement hazard, steep slopes, severe soil erosion hazard and occasional rock outcrops. Soils of the Watagan landscape group range from slightly acidic (pH 6.0) to extremely acidic (pH 3.5).

The Gymea (gy) landscape group is typically recognised by undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury sandstone. Local reliefs are generally 20m to 80m and slopes typically 10% to 25% in gradient, with noticeable rock outcrops of classically less than 25%. Soils of the Gymea group typically have localised steep slopes, high soil erosion hazard, rock outcrops, shallow highly permeable soils and very low soil fertility. Soils of the Gymea group are largely slightly (pH 6.5) to strongly (pH 4.0) acidic.

The Tuggerah (tg), Watagan and Gymea (gy) landscape group reports are attached in **Appendix H**.

### 3. SUBSURFACE CONDITIONS AND ASSESSMENT RESULTS

#### 3.1 Stratigraphy

A summary of the surface and subsurface conditions from across the site during this geotechnical investigation are summarised in Table 2 below and are interpreted from the assessment results. It should be noted that Table 2 presents a summary of the overall site conditions and reference should be made to the detailed engineering borehole logs presented in **Appendix D**, in conjunction with the geotechnical explanatory notes detailed in **Appendix C**. Rock description has been based on Pells P.J.N, Mostyn G. & Walker B.F. Foundations on Sandstone and Shale in the Sydney Region, Australian Geomechanics Journal, December 1998, and also in accordance with AS 1726-2017.

It should be noted that estimated rock strengths and soil consistency/strength assessed by observation during auger drilling penetration resistance and DCP testing, respectively, are approximate and variances should be expected throughout the site. It is worth noting that auger penetration within various bedrock formations vary from each drilling rig and estimated rock strength variances across the site are expected.

Due to the variable ground conditions throughout the site, it is recommended that confirmation of the subsurface materials be carried out during construction. It should also be noted that ground conditions within the site are expected to differ from those encountered and inferred in this report, since no geotechnical or geological exploration program, no matter how comprehensive, can reveal and identify all subsurface conditions underlying the site.

Based on the geotechnical investigation at the selected boreholes and testing locations, along with our experience and observations made within the site and local region, it is inferred that bedrock of variable composition, strength and weathering is underlying majority of the site area at varying depths of approximately 2.6m to 4.1m bgl (expected to vary throughout).

In addition, variable composition and consistency/strength natural soils are also likely to be present throughout the site, predominately at locations and depths not assessed during the geotechnical investigation.

It should be noted that DCP testing and higher blow counts encountered may be affected by factors such as gravels, ironstone bands, well consolidated soils and highly cemented sands, and other deleterious materials which may be present within the underlying soils, along with tree rootlets extending throughout the soils from trees and vegetation within the vicinity. These results should be read in conjunction with the boreholes and geotechnical confirmation made during construction by inspection as site conditions may vary. DCP testing results are attached in **Appendix E**.

**Table 2. Summary of Subsurface Conditions**

Borehole ID				BH1/DCP1	BH2	BH3	BH4/DCP2
Unit	Unit Type	Description	Estimated Consistency/ Strength	Depth/Thickness of Unit (m bgl)			
<b>Approximate RL at Borehole Location (m AHD)</b>				RL5.1	RL5	RL4.9	RL9
Concrete Pavement				–	0.0 – 0.1	–	–
1	Fill	Silty CLAY, Clayey SILT and Clayey SAND, gravel inclusions.	N/A	0.0 – 0.5	0.1 – 0.5	0.0 – 0.7	0.0 – 0.6
2	Natural Soils	Clayey SAND, fine to medium grained, medium plasticity clay, gravel inclusions.	Loose to medium dense	0.5 – 1.1	0.5 – 1.0	0.7 – 1.3	–
		SAND, fine to medium grained, gravel inclusions.		1.1 – 4.1	1.0 – 4.1	1.3 – 3.4	
		Silty CLAY, medium to high plasticity, with fine grained sand, gravel inclusions	Firm to stiff, becoming hard with depth	–	–	–	0.6 – 2.53
3	Bedrock <sup>1</sup>	SANDSTONE, fine grained, some clay seams, with silt, highly weathered.	VL	4.1 – 4.2	4.1 – 4.2	3.4 – 3.5	<i>Inferred</i> 2.6 <sup>3</sup>
			<i>Inferred</i> L (or better) <sup>2</sup>	4.2	4.2	3.5	–

<sup>1</sup>The composition, class, depth and estimated strength of the underlying bedrock material should be confirmed prior to construction by further borehole drilling and rock strength testing, or during construction by inspection.

<sup>2</sup>Higher estimated strength and/or class bedrock (i.e. low estimated strength, or better) is anticipated to be present at the approximate depths indicated in Table 2. This is based on observations made during auger penetration resistance at the time of drilling.

<sup>3</sup>Bedrock inferred to be present at or shortly below the practical DCP testing refusal depth. Subject to confirmation by a geotechnical engineer.

**Notes:**

- N/A = Not Applicable, VL = Very Low estimated strength, L = Low estimated strength.
- Clay seams, defects and fractured/extremely weathered zones are expected to be present throughout the underlying bedrock, predominately at depths and locations unobserved during the geotechnical investigation.
- Estimated rock strengths are based on observations made during auger penetration resistance at the time of drilling and expected to vary across the site, due to the limited investigation carried out.
- Ground conditions are expected to vary across the site and should be confirmed by a geotechnical engineer, predominately in areas unobserved during the geotechnical investigation.



### 3.2 Groundwater

No groundwater was encountered or observed during or shortly after drilling (<15 minutes) of the boreholes to a maximum depth of about 4.2m bgl (BH1 and BH2).

It is noted that the boreholes were backfilled following completion of fieldwork which precluded longer term monitoring of groundwater levels. Although no groundwater was encountered or observed during the investigation, its presence should not be precluded within the site and during construction.

Thus, based on the above observations and data available at the time of reporting, groundwater which may be present within the site is expected to be through voids within the underlying fill material and pore spaces between particles of unconsolidated natural soils, or through networks of fractures and solution openings in consolidated bedrock underlying the site.

It should also be noted that groundwater levels have the potential to elevate during daily or seasonal influences such as tidal fluctuations, heavy rainfall, damaged services, flooding, etc., and moisture content within soils may be influenced by events within the site and adjoining properties.

Groundwater monitoring should be carried out during construction to assess any groundwater inflows within the site as no provision was made for longer term groundwater monitoring. Where groundwater conditions vary from those outlined in this report, GCA should be contacted for further advice.



## 4. PRELIMINARY LANDSLIDE RISK ASSESSMENT

### 4.1 General

The overall stability of the site including slope angles, depth of soils and overall strength, movements of groundwater and surface runoff, drainage and potential slides planes within the interfaces of rocks and soils were assessed by GCA as part of the geotechnical investigation. The overall assessment was carried out in accordance with guidelines published by the AGS "Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management – AGS 2007c".

Due to the sloping nature of this site, a geotechnical investigation and assessment in accordance with guidelines published by the AGS was carried out in order to demonstrate that the proposed development is justified in terms of geotechnical stability. Therefore, the following sections are a preliminary assessment based on the AGS guidelines for the stability of the site prior and following construction.

It should be noted that this preliminary landslide risk assessment is limited to the proposed development area and areas accessible during the time of our site investigation, including information available at the time of reporting.

### 4.2 Site Assessment

The overall site area and topography generally slopes towards the east to south-east, as discussed in Section 2.2 of this report. Table 3 summarises results of the overall stability within the site.

**Table 3. Summary of Overall Site Stability**

Observations	Identification	Comments
Site Topography	N/A	The overall site area varies throughout and slopes generally towards the east to south-east, as discussed in Section 2.2 and shown in <b>Appendix B</b> of this report.  Reference should be made to this section and site plan for a general description of the site area.
Overall Site Description	N/A	The site area was generally covered in healthy mature trees, vegetation, and grass. Associated concrete pavements, retaining walls and the existing dwelling covered majority of the remaining site area.
Groundwater	No	No groundwater was encountered or observed during or shortly after drilling (<15 minutes) of the boreholes to a maximum depth of about 4.2m bgl (BH1 and BH2), as discussed in Section 3.2.  It is expected that groundwater which may be encountered within the site will be in the form of seepage through the voids within the underlying soils and defects in the underlying bedrock.  Based on the regional and site topography, we expect groundwater flows (including surface water) to flow easterly (varying throughout).
Surface Water	No	No surface water or ponding or seepage were observed within the site. No seepage was also visible through any retaining walls onsite.  Soils were predominately moist and are inferred to comprise mainly fill material and natural soils, underlain by

			bedrock at varying depths throughout the site area (as discussed in Section 3).
Outcrops		No	No outcrops were observed within the site or adjoining properties.
Loose Boulders or Rock Mass'		No	No loose boulders were observed across the site, within the proposed development and adjoining properties.
Bedrock Deterioration		N/A	N/A
Structural Distress	Existing Dwelling and Infrastructures	N/A	No sign of structural distress or movement were observed to the existing dwelling and infrastructures within the site.  Any cracks observed within the concrete pavements are inferred to be associated with concrete shrinkage and loading over time.
	Retaining Walls		No sign of structural distress or movement were observed to any retaining walls throughout the site.
Adjoining Properties		N/A	Infrastructures adjoining the site were observed to be in a generally good condition and trees within the vicinity were observed to have no sign of deformation.
Ground Movement		No	No signs of cracks in the ground, slumping, or other signs of landslip observed within the site. No ground deformation was observed within the site (where accessible and feasible).
Tilting or Bending Trees		No	No trees showed any signs of tilting or bending at the time of the investigation within the site and investigation area. Typically, tilting, bending or curved trees can indicate rotation due to soil creep or movement (where accessible and feasible).
Soil Creep or Shallow Failure		No	No sign of soil creep or shallow failure was observed within the fill material or natural soils present within the site, and throughout the site and adjoining properties (where accessible and feasible).

It should be noted that trees, vegetation and grass present within the site are considered to contribute to the stability of the site. Retaining walls in their current state are also considered to contribute to the stability and retention of the soils behind the retaining walls.

Based on the subsurface conditions encountered within the site during the geotechnical investigation, it is anticipated that fill material and natural soils will underlie majority of the proposed development area, overlying bedrock at varying depths throughout, as discussed in Section 3 above.

### 4.3 Pre-Development (Assessed Risk to Property)

Based on the geotechnical investigation, site topography and existing ground conditions within the site, assessment on the potential effects which may be associated with the hazards on the adjoining properties, along with the buildings, lands and occupiers within the adjoining properties, and existing dwelling/proposed development have been considered as part of the risk levels to the property pre-development, and is summarised in Table 4 below.

**Table 4. Pre-Development – Assessed Risk To Property**

Potential Hazard	Qualitative Measures of Likelihood (AGS)	Qualitative Measures of Consequences to Property (AGS)	Qualitative Risk Analysis – Level of Risk to Property (AGS)
Soil Creep <sup>1</sup>	C – Possible ( $10^{-3}$ )	3 – Medium (20%)	Moderate
Shallow Failure <sup>1</sup>	C – Possible ( $10^{-3}$ )	3 – Medium (20%)	Moderate

<sup>1</sup>Within the fill material and natural soils present within the site.

Based on the assessed conditions within the site, the overall slope instability assessed risk to the property under the existing conditions prior to construction of the currently proposed development is assessed to be “moderate”.

According to AGS 2007c, the “moderate risk level” may be tolerated in certain circumstances, however, requires investigation, planning and implementation of treatment options which will be required to reduce the risk to “low level risk”.

It should be noted that the AGS guidelines recommend tolerable loss of life for the person most at risk for exiting slope/existing development to be  $1 \times 10^{-4}$ /annum.

### 4.4 Mitigation and Control Measures

To ensure the stability of the site and to reduce the risk (to “low” risk) of any instability for the proposed development within the site, the following recommendations should be considered along with recommendations presented in this report (not limited to):

- The design and construction of earthworks, foundations, retaining structures, excavation stabilisation and drainage measure for the proposed development should adhere to good engineering practice for hillside construction as set out in Appendix G of AGS 2007c Vol. 42 guidelines, attached as **Appendix I** in this report.
- Any cause of instability of the ground profile within the site and neighbouring properties should be addressed prior to any excavation or construction work, and proposed stabilisation actions should be implemented. In this case, GCA should be contacted on further geotechnical advice for any stabilisations actions which may be required.
- Excavation, pile installation and any rock ripping and hammering (or the like) are expected to cause vibrations within the underlying bedrock. Monitoring of any existing dwelling/retaining walls, soils and bedrock underlying the site should be carried out and inspected by a geotechnical engineer during construction.
  - Any observable movement within the underlying soils and/or existing dwelling/retaining walls should cease work immediately, and GCA be contacted for further advice.
- Any excavation should be monitored by a suitably qualified geotechnical engineer, which should monitor ground movement and vibrations, as well as any retaining walls or infrastructures within and adjoining the site. This includes any batter slopes which may be adopted during construction which will require ongoing inspections and approvals by a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist. General advice on excavation stability is provided in Section 6.8 of this report.

- Any vertical cut or fill exceeding 0.5m in depth within soils should be retained by an appropriately designed retaining wall.
- All retaining walls should be designed using appropriate geotechnical design parameters for the subject site and ground conditions provided in Section 6.8.3.
- Any excavation should be commenced from higher levels and should be carried out in stages progressing towards the lower levels within the site. Excavations (including any batter slopes) are to be monitored and approved by a geotechnical engineer familiar with the site conditions.
- Backfilling should be placed and compacted to engineering standards in accordance with AS 3798-2007 and AS 1289, with reference to Section 6.10 and Section 6.11 of this report. This includes all batters, pavements, driveways, etc.
  - Reference should be made to these sections for preparation of pavements within the site. Further advice should also be sought from GCA prior and during construction.
- Backfilling behind any walls should also be carried out in accordance with AS 3798-2007 and AS 1289. This should include appropriate materials, compaction criteria and testing, site preparation and fill construction, methods of testing and inspections, and constant testing. Appropriate backfill drainage should also be provided.
- Appropriate drainage methods should be incorporated to ensure all surface and subsurface water flows are diverted away from the slopes, adjoining properties and proposed development, into a stormwater drainage system or appropriate discharge. This includes appropriate drainage behind any excavations and all retaining walls, and if required, beneath slabs. This should be carefully assessed, designed and detailed by the project stormwater engineer. Groundwater monitoring of seepage should also be implemented during any excavation stage to confirm the capacity of the drainage system and groundwater entering the excavation area.
  - All stormwater and drainage within the site should be in accordance with the approved stormwater engineering drawing.
- The foundation system for the proposed development should comprise combination of shallow foundations and piles sufficiently founded/embedded into consistent and competent bedrock underlying the site, as discussed in Section 6.9 of this report. Piles are necessary in order to increase resistance against sliding.
- Foundation systems for the proposed development, building structures, retaining walls and any water tanks, etc., should be sufficiently founded/embedded into the underlying bedrock, and where necessary designed for lateral earth pressures induced by soil movement along the interface between soils and the underlying bedrock.
- Foundations should be inspected and approved by a suitably qualified geotechnical engineer, with all structural elements also inspected and approved by the project structural engineer.
- All retaining walls and footings to be designed by a qualified structural engineer in accordance with recommendations in this report, and any future geotechnical investigation report which may be necessary for the site.
- Maintenance and inspection of permanent retaining walls should be carried out regularly.
- Inspection of surface and subsurface movement following any removal of trees or vegetation within the site.
- Plantation of trees and vegetation following construction of any proposed development in the future. Specific advice should be sought on plantation of trees near structures from AS 2870-2011.
- Construction activities should be carefully observed by a geotechnical engineer, where further assessment and necessary mitigation and control measures may be provided.
- Care should be taken for all construction activities within the site, with constant supervision by the project site manager, geotechnical engineer and structural engineer. Any observable movement within the underlying soils and/or retaining walls should cease work immediately, and GCA be contacted for further advice.

- Vibration levels during excavation and construction should be maintained to appropriate levels within the site, predominately where existing retaining walls or sensitive structures exist. Further general advice is provided in Section 6.6.

Implementation of the measures recommended in this report (not limited to these measures) should constitute as "Hold Points".

#### 4.5 Quantitative Risk Assessment (Risk to Life)

The annual probability of loss of life (death) of an individual post-development has been calculated using the following formula:

$$R_{(LOL)} = P_{(H)} \times P_{(S:H)} \times P_{(T:S)} \times v_{(D:T)}$$

Where:

**R** (LOL) is the risk (annual probability of loss of life (death) of an individual).

**P** (H) is the annual probability of the landslide.

**P** (S:H) is the probability of spatial impact of the landslide impacting a building (location) taking into account the travel distance and travel direction given the event.

**P** (T:S) is the temporal spatial probability (e.g. of the building or location being occupied by the individual) given the spatial impact and allowing for the possibility of evacuation given there is warning of the landslide occurrence.

**V** (D:T) is the vulnerability of the individual (probability of loss of life of the individual given the impact).

It should be noted that the AGS guidelines recommend tolerable loss of life for the person most at risk for a new development to be  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ /annum.

##### Annual Probability of Landslide

No evidence of movement was observed on the site during the time of the investigation.

**P** (H) = 0.0001/annum

##### Probability of Spatial Impact

Construction of the proposed development is anticipated to be located towards the middle of the site. Review of the proposed developments architectural drawings and from onsite investigations, we anticipate an area of approximately 530m<sup>2</sup> to be at risk of soil creep or shallow failure, which is roughly 58% of the total site area.

**P** (S:H) = 0.58

##### Possibility of the Location Being Occupied During Failure

The average household is taken to be occupied by 7 people. It is estimated/assumed that 5 people are in the house for 18 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is estimated/assumed that 2 people are in the house 12 hours a day, 5 days a week.

$$\left(\frac{5}{7} \times \frac{18}{24} \times \frac{7}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{2}{7} \times \frac{12}{24} \times \frac{5}{7}\right) = 0.68$$

**P** (T:S) = 0.68

### Probability of Loss of Life on Impact of Failure

Based on the volume of land sliding and its likely velocity when it impacts the house, it is estimated that the vulnerability of a person to being killed in the house when a landslide hits is 0.1.

$$V(D:T) = 0.1$$

### Risk Estimation

$$R(LOL) = 0.0001 \times 0.58 \times 0.68 \times 0.1$$

$$= 0.00000273$$

$$R(LOL) = 3.94 \times 10^{-6}/\text{annum.}$$

Therefore, in accordance with AGS (2007c) this level of risk is considered to be "ACCEPTABLE".

### 4.6 Post-Development (Assessed Risk to Property)

Based on the existing site levels and topography, maximum excavation depths varying from approximately 0.5m to 6.0m are expected to be required for construction of the proposed development, with cut and fill in certain areas of the site. Locally deeper excavations for the proposed lift shaft, building footings and service trenches are also anticipated as part of the planned development.

Therefore, appropriate measures against the potential for any instability should be incorporated into the design and construction of the proposed development, predominately into the design and construction of the building foundations and any retaining walls, as discussed and outlined in this report.

On the condition that the recommendations and design parameters presented in this report are taken into consideration during the design and construction of the proposed development, as well as post construction, the following assessed risks relating to the stability of the property upon completion of any infrastructures, building foundations and retaining walls are presented in Table 5 below.

**Table 5. Post-Development – Assessed Risk To Property**

Potential Hazard	Qualitative Measures of Likelihood (AGS)	Qualitative Measures of Consequences to Property (AGS)	Qualitative Risk Analysis – Level of Risk to Property (AGS)
Soil Creep <sup>1</sup>	D – Unlikely (10 <sup>-4</sup> )	4 – Minor (5%)	Low
Shallow Failure <sup>1</sup>	D – Unlikely (10 <sup>-4</sup> )	4 – Minor (5%)	Low

<sup>1</sup>Within the fill material and natural soils present within the site.

Based on the assessed conditions within the site, the overall slope instability assessed risk to the property following construction of the currently proposed development is assessed to be "low".

Therefore, providing the recommendations outlined in Section 4.4 and Section 6 are implemented for the design and construction of the proposed development, the above risk is considered acceptable for the proposed development within the site.

Geotechnical inspections are to be undertaken during construction of the proposed development foundation system in order to confirm ground conditions and allowable bearing capacities have been achieved. Appropriate certifications should also be provided during staged inspections by the project structural engineer and geotechnical engineer.



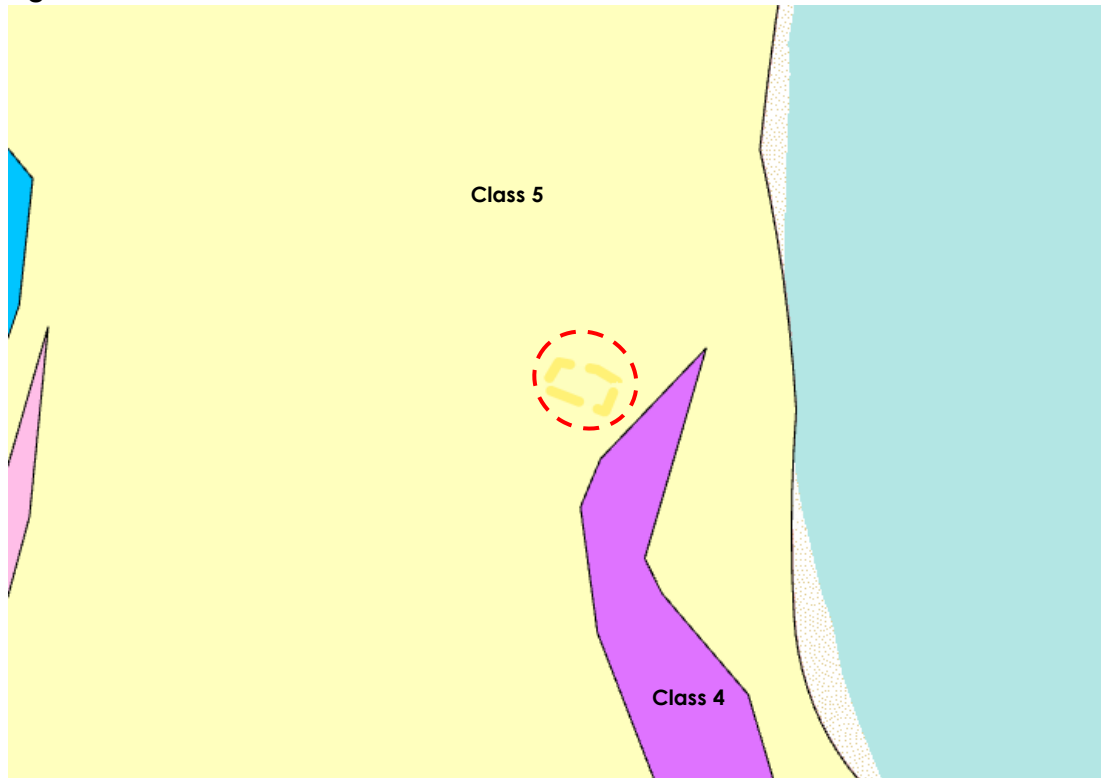
## 5. PRELIMINARY ACID SULPHATE SOILS

### 5.1 General

Reference made to the NSW Planning Portal indicates the site is situated within an area of known/potential ASS occurrences identified as a Class 5 region and in close proximity to a Class 4 area, shown in Figure 1 below (red)

It is noted that the NSW Planning Portal classifies ASS into five (5) different classes based on the likelihood of the ASS being present in particular areas and at certain depths. Where ASS are not typically found in Class 5 areas, they are likely to be found beyond 2m below the natural ground surface in Class 4 regions.

**Figure 1. ASS Site Location**



### 5.2 ASS Field Screening Assessment

ASS field screening was carried out on twenty-six (26) selected soil samples collected from boreholes BH1 to BH4 inclusive (~0.5kg per sample) during the site investigation by a NATA accredited laboratory (ALS Environmental), in order to investigate the absence/presence of Actual Acid Sulphate Soils (AASS) and Potential Acid Sulphate Soils (PASS) in accordance with the ASSMAC guidelines and in general with the National Acid Sulphate Soils Guidance Manual.

Where  $pH_f$  refers to the pH field of soil and distilled  $H_2O$  and  $pH_{fox}$  refers to pH field oxidised of soil and peroxide. In order to determine the absence/presence of AASS and PASS, the following procedures are typically carried out:

- AASS: Soil sample is added to distilled water  $H_2O$ , at an approximate 1:5 ratio (water:soil) and tested for a pH value. pH values for both  $pH_f$  and  $pH_{fox}$  lower than 4 units generally indicate AASS present within the site.
- PASS: Soil sample is added to a concentrated solution of hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ), at an approximate 1:5 ratio (solution:soil) and tested for a pH value. pH values lower than 5 units for  $pH_f$  and lower than 3 units for  $pH_{fox}$  generally indicate PASS present within the site.

Table 6 below summarises results of the laboratory testing for determination of the pH for the above-mentioned tests as carried out by ALS Environmental on the recovered samples from the boreholes, with laboratory testing results certificates presented in **Appendix F**.

**Table 6. Acid Sulphate Soils Field Screening Laboratory Testing Results (NATA)**

Borehole ID	Approximate Depth (m bgl)	pH Level Measured		Reaction Rate
		pH <sub>f</sub>	pH <sub>fox</sub>	
BH1	0.4 – 0.5	8.2	4.0	3
BH1	0.9 – 1.0	7.9	5.1	2
BH1	1.4 – 1.5	7.7	5.0	2
BH1	1.9 – 2.0	7.7	5.0	2
BH1	2.4 – 2.5	8.0	7.8	4
BH1	2.9 – 3.0	8.1	7.8	4
BH1	3.4 – 3.5	8.1	7.3	4
BH1	3.9 – 4.0	8.0	5.7	2
BH1	4.1 – 4.2	7.9	5.7	2
BH2	0.4 – 0.5	7.6	4.0	2
BH2	1.4 – 1.5	7.5	4.6	2
BH2	1.9 – 2.0	7.5	4.7	2
BH2	2.4 – 2.5	7.6	4.9	2
BH2	2.9 – 3.0	7.7	5.1	2
BH2	3.4 – 3.5	7.7	5.8	2
BH2	3.9 – 4.0	7.6	6.4	2
BH2	4.1 – 4.2	7.6	6.8	4
BH3	0.4 – 0.5	7.8	6.6	2
BH3	0.9 – 1.0	8.0	5.9	2
BH3	1.4 – 1.5	7.9	5.8	2
BH3	1.9 – 2.0	7.9	5.5	2
BH3	2.4 – 2.5	7.8	5.5	2
BH3	2.9 – 3.0	7.8	5.4	2
BH3	3.3 – 3.4	7.5	5.3	2
BH4	0.9 – 1.0	7.5	5.0	2
BH4	1.4 – 1.5	7.5	4.6	2

\*pH<sub>fox</sub> Reaction Rate: 1 = Slight, 2 = Moderate, 3 = Strong, 4 = Extreme.

### 5.3 Chromium Suite Assessment

Following the preliminary ASS field screening, laboratory testing of Chromium Suite was carried out on three (3) selected soil samples by a NATA accredited laboratory (ALS Environmental) from the boreholes, with laboratory testing results certificates also presented in **Appendix F**.

Based on this information, subsurface conditions at the selected testing locations and reference made to the National Acid Sulphate Soils Guidance Manual, results of the laboratory testing are presented in Table 7 below.

**Table 7. Chromium Suite Laboratory Testing Results (NATA)**

Borehole ID	Depth (m bgl)	TAA (moles H+/t)	S <sub>CR</sub> (% S)	Net Acidity (Excluding ANC)		Lime Rate (Excluding ANC) (kg CaCO <sub>3</sub> /t)
				% S	moles H+/t	
Guideline Limits <sup>1</sup>		18	0.03	0.03	18	-
BH2	0.4 – 0.5	<0.02	<0.005	<0.02	<10	<1
BH3	2.4 – 2.5	<0.02	<0.005	<0.02	<10	<1
BH4	1.4 – 1.5	<0.02	<0.005	0.02	15	1

<sup>1</sup>Guideline limits by ASSMAC and National Acid Sulphate Soils Guidance Manual assuming less than 1,000 tonnes of disturbance for clayey/sandy soil material. If less than 1,000 tonnes of disturbance is required, GCA should be contacted immediately.



#### **5.4 Preliminary ASS Assessment**

Based on ASS field screening and Chromium Suite results outlined in Section 5.2 and Section 5.3 above, it is considered the site is not affected by ASS.

#### **5.5 Monitoring of Excavation and Construction Works**

Although the site is not considered to be affected by ASS, it is recommended that all excavations and construction activities are to be monitored to ensure that any ASS are not encountered during construction. Signs that may indicate the presence of ASS may include (not limited to):

- Lowering of the soil pH by at least one unit.
- Soils change colour into a greyish and/or greenish tone.
- Oxidised ASS will often contain yellow and orange mottling.
- Noticeable sulphur smelling gases such as sulphur dioxide or hydrogen sulphide into the atmosphere.
- Effervescence.
- Higher groundwater levels intercepted during excavations.

Should any of the above indicators be present during construction or other obvious signs of potential ASS, excavation work on the site is to stop and GCA should be contacted to determine what actions are required to be taken before work may commence.

It should be noted that ground conditions and the actual extent of any ASS which may be present within the site are expected to differ from those encountered and inferred in this report, since no geotechnical or geological exploration program, no matter how comprehensive, can reveal and identify all subsurface conditions and the actual extent of any ASS underlying and present within the site.

## **6. GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **6.1 Dilapidation Survey**

It is recommended that prior to demolition, excavation and construction, a detailed dilapidation survey be carried out on all adjacent buildings, structures, council assets, road reserves and infrastructures that fall within the “zone of influence” of the proposed excavation and vicinity of the proposed development. A dilapidation survey will record the condition of existing defects prior to any works being carried out within the site. Preparation of a dilapidation report should constitute as a “Hold Point”.

### **6.2 General Geotechnical Issues**

The following aspects have been considered main geotechnical issues for the proposed development:

- Preliminary site lot classification.
- Excavation conditions.
- Groundwater management.
- Stability of excavation and retention of adjoining properties and infrastructures.
- Foundations.

Based on results of our assessment, a summary of the geotechnical aspects above and recommendation for construction and designs are presented below.

### **6.3 Preliminary Site Lot Classification**

Based on the geotechnical investigation and observations made at the selected testing locations within the site, fill and natural soils are expected to be underlain by bedrock at varying depths throughout the site.

The governing site lot classification in accordance with AS 2870-2011 has been identified as “Class P” (Problematic Site) for the overall site, due to:

- The presence of existing infrastructures and trees within and adjoining the site, causing abnormal and changing moisture conditions.
- The presence of deep fill material considered as “uncontrolled fill”.

Based on the boreholes and DCP tests carried out within the site, AS 2870-2011 indicates the site may be classified as a “Class H1” site for design and construction of the proposed basement foundation system, founded below any soft/loose soils, topsoil, slope wash, fill or other deleterious material, being entirely on bedrock underlying the proposed development area (subject to confirmation).

The above classification is solely based on assessment of the subsurface conditions at the selected borehole and testing locations/depths within the site and current architectural drawings, and confirmation should be carried out as outlined in this report. It should be noted that the classification given above is appropriate for the undeveloped lot at the time of this report and as such, AS 2870 recommends that the classification of a site should be reconsidered if the depth of subsequent cutting exceeds 0.5m or depth of subsequent filling exceeds 0.4m.

Foundation design and construction should be carried out as outlined in Section 6.9 below, with reference made to AS 2870-2011. Geotechnical inspections and confirmation of the actual depth of underlying fill material, natural soils and bedrock should be made during construction by inspection.

GCA should be contacted where ground conditions vary from those outlined in this report at the borehole and testing locations. Where the building foundations are not proposed to be constructed on bedrock underlying the site, GCA should also be contacted immediately and the building foundations be designed and constructed as a “Class P” site.

Footing designs should take into consideration the effect of recent removal and planting of trees, along with any future tree removal within the vicinity of the proposed development on soil moisture conditions.

Sufficient time should be given for soil moisture to re-equilibrate following any removal or planting of trees within the proposed development area, or specific engineering assessment and design will be required on the foundation design.

Although trees and vegetation are considered to contribute to the stability of the site, we recommend that planting of trees around the development area (i.e. in close proximity to the proposed building foundations) be limited as they can also affect moisture changes within the soil and cause significant displacement/damage within the building foundations by extensive tree root system movement.

It is recommended that reference is made to the recommendations provided by CSIRO "Guide to Home Owners on Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance", attached as **Appendix G**.

#### **6.4 Inspection Pits and Underpinning**

Consideration should be given to inspection pits carried out for the existing adjacent buildings and infrastructures, particularly where they fall within the "zone of influence" (obtained by drawing a line 45° above horizontal from the base of the proposed excavations) of the proposed development. This should be carried out prior to any demolition, excavation or construction activities, and will provide an assessment of the existing foundations of the adjacent buildings.

The assessment of the adjacent building footings should include assessment of the underlying soils, which will determine the need for additional support, such as underpinning, prior to installation of shoring piles, or any demolition, excavation and construction activities.

#### **6.5 Excavation**

Maximum excavation depths varying from approximately 0.5m to 6.0m are expected to be required for construction of the proposed development, with cut and fill in certain areas of the site. Locally deeper excavations for the proposed lift shaft, building footings and service trenches are also anticipated as part of the planned development.

Based on this information and existing ground conditions as encountered during the geotechnical investigation, it is anticipated that excavation will extend through fill material, natural soils and possibly bedrock throughout majority of the proposed development area, as discussed in Section 3 above.

The possibility for encountering higher estimated strength (i.e. medium estimated strength, or better) and/or class bedrock should not be precluded during excavation, predominately where deeper excavations are required across the site, and in areas and at depths not assessed during the geotechnical investigation, due to the limited investigation carried out within the site.

Estimated bedrock strength variances and higher strength rock bands are expected across the site area. Therefore, consultation should be made with subcontractors to discuss the feasibility and capability of machinery for the proposed development for the existing site conditions.

### 6.5.1 Excavation Assessment

Excavation through softer soils and extremely low to low estimated strength bedrock should be feasible using conventional earth moving excavators, typically medium to large hydraulic excavators. Smaller sized excavators may encounter difficulty in high strength bands of soils and rocks which may be encountered. Where high strengths bands are encountered, rock breaking or ripping should be allowed for. Removal of the existing pavements and associated infrastructures within the site are also expected to require larger excavators and rock breaking and ripping.

Excavation of medium to higher estimated strength bedrock which may be encountered during construction (where deeper excavations are required) would necessitate higher capacity excavators, bulldozers or similar, for effective removal of the rock. This excavation will require the use of heavy ripping and rock breaking equipment or vibratory rock breaking equipment. Furthermore, excavation for the proposed lift shaft, building footings and service trenches may require the use of heavy ripping and rock breaking equipment or vibratory rock breaking equipment, with the possibility of rock saw cutting.

Should rock hammering be used for the excavation in the underlying bedrock, excavation should be carried out away from the adjoining structures, with vibrations transmitted being monitored to maintain vibrations within acceptable limits. Rock saw cutting should be carried out (where required), around the perimeter of excavations, prior to any rock breaking commencing.

Demolition, excavation and construction activities (or the like) will generate both vibration and noise, predominately whilst being carried out within the underlying bedrock. Therefore, vibration control measures should be considered as part of the construction process. All excavation works should be undertaken in accordance with the NSW WorkCover code of practice for excavation work.

### 6.6 Vibration Monitoring and Controls

Particular care will be required to ensure that adjacent buildings and infrastructures (i.e. road reserves, buildings, etc.), are not damaged during demolition, excavation and construction activities (or the like) due to excessive vibrations. Therefore, appropriate excavation and construction methods should be adopted which will limit ground vibrations to limits not exceeding the following maximum Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) for adjacent structures, as outlined in AS 2187.2-2006:

- Sensitive and/or historical structures – 2mm/sec.
- Residential and/or low rise structures – 5mm/sec.
- Unreinforced and/or brick structures – 10mm/sec.
- Reinforced and/or steel structures – 25mm/sec.
- Commercial and/or industrial buildings – 25mm/sec.

In order to reduce resonant frequencies, rock hammers should be used in short bursts and oriented away from the site boundaries and adjoining structures, and into the proposed excavation area.

Vibrations transmitted by the use of rock hammers are unacceptable and not recommended. To minimise vibration transmission to any adjoining infrastructures, and to ensure vibration limits remain within acceptable limits, rock saw cutting using a conventional excavator with a mounted rock saw (or similar) should be carried out as part of excavation prior to any rock breaking commencing.

Although rock hammering is unacceptable and not recommended, if necessary during excavation, it is recommended that hammering be carried out horizontally along pre-cut rock boulders or blocks provided by rock saw cutting, and should remain within limits acceptable. This should be monitored at all times during excavation.

The effectiveness of all the above-mentioned approaches must be confirmed by the results of vibration monitoring. The limits of 5mm/sec and 10mm/sec are expected to be achievable if rock breaker equipment or other excavations are restricted to the values indicated in Table 8 below.

**Table 8. Rock Breaking Equipment Recommendations**

Distance From Adjoining Structures (m)	Maximum PPV 5mm/sec		Maximum PPV 10mm/sec <sup>1</sup>	
	Equipment	Operating Limit (Maximum Capacity %)	Equipment	Operating Limit (Maximum Capacity %)
1.5 to 2.5	Jack Hammer Only (hand operated)	100	300kg Rock Hammer	50
2.5 to 5.0	300kg Rock Hammer	50	300kg Rock Hammer	100
			600kg Rock Hammer	50
5.0 to 10.0	300kg Rock Hammer	100	600kg Rock Hammer	100
	600kg Rock Hammer	50	900kg Rock Hammer	50

<sup>1</sup>Vibration monitoring is recommended for the use of a maximum PPV of 10mm/sec.

Consideration should be given to a vibration monitoring plan to monitor construction activities and their effects on adjoining infrastructures, mainly where excavations are expected to be conducted within the underlying bedrock of higher estimated strength and fall within the “zone of influence” of adjoining infrastructures.

A vibration monitoring plan may be carried out attended or unattended. An unattended vibration monitoring must be fitted with alarms in the form of strobe lights, sirens or live alerts sent to the vibration monitoring supervisor, which are activated when the vibration limit is exceeded. If adopted/considered, consultation should be made with appropriate subcontractors/consultants for the installation of vibration monitoring instruments.

A geotechnical engineer should be contacted immediately if vibrations during construction or in adjacent structures exceed the values outlined above and work should immediately cease. Rock excavation methodology should also consider acceptable noise limits as per the “Interim Construction Noise Guideline” (NSW EPA). It is recommended a dilapidation report be carried out prior to any excavation or construction, as discussed in Section 6.1. This should be considered a “Hold Point”.

## 6.7 Groundwater Management

Based on the geotechnical investigation at the selected boreholes and testing locations within the site, groundwater which may be encountered during construction is expected to be at varying depths across the site and possibly above the proposed basement (lower ground) FFL (subject to confirmation).

It should be noted that no provision was made for longer term groundwater monitoring within the site, and the presence of groundwater should not be precluded during construction and in the long term design life of the proposed building. It should also be noted that these groundwater levels have the potential to elevate during daily or seasonal influences such as tidal fluctuations, heavy rainfall, damaged services, flooding, etc.

Thus, we expect any groundwater inflow into the excavation to be through voids within the underlying soils and defects (such as bedding planes, joints, etc.) in the underlying weathered bedrock. Seepage may also occur within the excavation areas through the fill material, and at the fill/natural soils and natural soils/bedrock interfaces, predominately following heavy rain.

The rate of flow which may enter the excavation may initially be rapid, but is expected to decrease over time as the voids in the natural soils and defects in the underlying bedrock are drained, and local water ingress decreases. As noted, groundwater levels are subject to fluctuations on a daily and seasonal basis, and the potential for groundwater to enter the excavation as moderate to rapid seepage should be considered as part of the long term design life of the building. The amount of seepage into the excavation will also depend on the shoring system being adopted.

Therefore, based on our assumptions on groundwater conditions within the site, consideration should be given to precautionary drainage measures including (not limited to):

- A conventional sump and pump system which may be used both during construction and for permanent groundwater control below the basement level floor slab.
- Drainage installed around the perimeter of the basement level behind all retaining walls, and below the slab (if possible with the proposed retention system). This drainage should be connected to a sump and pump out system and discharged into the stormwater system (which may require council approval).
- Collection trenches or pipes and stormwater pits may be installed in conjunction with the above method, and connected to the building stormwater system.

Where a suitable drainage system has not been implemented or provided for the proposed development to collect and remove any groundwater, consideration may also be given to waterproofing of the basement level walls and slabs, with allowance given for nominal hydrostatic uplift.

It is recommended that test pits are carried out by a suitable excavator within the site following demolition of the existing infrastructures and prior to construction, in order to confirm and monitor groundwater levels and inflow rates which may be intercepted during construction within the excavation areas. This assessment should also be carried through to ensure a suitable drainage and retention system has been implemented for the proposed development, as discussed in Section 6.8 below, and to provide confirmation of the hydrogeological characteristics prior to construction.

Groundwater monitoring of seepage should also be implemented during the excavation stage to confirm the capacity of the drainage system and groundwater entering the excavation area. This should be monitored by the project geotechnical engineer, in conjunction with the project stormwater engineer.

Should the proposed development change and excavation depths exceed those inferred in this report, GCA should be made aware.



## 6.8 Excavation Stability

Maximum excavation depths are expected to vary from approximately 0.5m to 6.0m for construction of the proposed development, with cut and fill in certain areas of the site. Locally deeper excavations for the proposed lift shaft, building footings and service trenches are also anticipated as part of the planned development.

Based on the ground conditions within the site, the total depth of excavation and the extent of the basement walls to the site boundaries and adjoining infrastructures, it is critical from geotechnical perspective to maintain the stability of the adjacent structures and infrastructures during demolition, excavation and construction.

### 6.8.1 Batter Slopes

Temporary or permanent batters may be considered for certain areas of the proposed development where sufficient space exists between the proposed basement floor level walls and adjoining infrastructures. It should be noted that due to the nature of fill material, natural soils and weathered bedrock underlying the site, and the potential for elevated groundwater levels within the excavation area, unsupported vertical cuts of the soils carry the potential for slump failure.

Temporary or permanent batter slopes should only be considered where sufficient space exists between the proposed development and adjoining infrastructures, and where the adjacent infrastructures are located outside the "zone of influence" (obtained by drawing a line 45° above horizontal from the base of the proposed excavations). Batter slopes should also only be considered where excavation depths do not exceed those outlined in the mitigation and control measures (Section 6.4).

Table 9 provides maximum recommended slopes for permanent and temporary batters.

**Table 9. Recommended Maximum Batter Slopes**

Unit		Maximum Batter Slope (H:V) <sup>1</sup>	
		Permanent	Temporary
Fill (Unit 1)		4:1	2:1
Natural Soils (Unit 2)	Sandy Composition	4:1	2:1
	Clayey Composition	3:1	1.5:1 to 1:1
Bedrock (Unit 3)	VL	2:1	1:1 to 0.75:1
	L or better	1:1	0.5:1

<sup>1</sup>Subject to inspection and confirmation by a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist. Remedial options may be required (i.e. soil nailing, rock bolting, shotcreting, etc.). Assumes the presence of sandstone bedrock underlying the entire site area.

Notes:

- VL = Very Low estimated strength, L = Low estimated strength.

All batter slopes within the site should remain stable providing all surcharge and construction loads are kept out of the "zone of influence" (obtained by drawing a line 45° above horizontal from the base of the proposed excavations) plus an additional 1.0m. A geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist should inspect the batter slopes within the site.

It should be noted that steeper batter slopes may be considered for higher strength (i.e. low to medium estimated strength, or better) and intact bedrock underlying the site, subject to confirmation by a geotechnical engineer during construction by inspection, and by additional borehole drilling and rock strength testing. Consideration should be given to shotcreting and soil nailing where steeper batter slopes are to be used.

Temporary surface protection against erosion should be provided by covering the batter slopes with plastic sheets extending at least 1.5m behind the crest of the cut face or up to the common site

boundaries. The sheets should be positioned and fastened to prevent any water infiltration onto or into the batter slopes. Other applicable methods may be adopted for temporary surface protection, and all surface protection should be placed following inspection of the temporary batters by a geotechnical engineer.

An appropriately designed retaining wall by a suitably qualified structural engineer should be implemented and constructed around the proposed basement floor level perimeter walls following any temporary or permanent batter slopes within the site. All retaining walls should be sufficiently constructed on appropriate bedrock material underlying the site, and should take into consideration the lateral earth pressures induced by soil movement along the interface between soils and the underlying bedrock.

### **6.8.2 Excavation Retention Support Systems**

Where there is insufficient space between the proposed development and adjoining infrastructures, or where adjacent infrastructures are located within the "zone of influence" (as outlined in Section 6.8.1 above), consideration should be given to a suitable retention system such as a cast in-situ contiguous pile wall solution, with piles sufficiently embedded into consistent and competent strength bedrock underlying the site (based on the presence of sandy soils).

Due to the presence of sandy soils, Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) piles will most likely be required and consultation should be made with specialist piling contractors.

As noted, all piles should be sufficiently embedded into consistent and competent strength bedrock underlying the site and should be inspected and approved by a suitably qualified geotechnical engineer. Piles should not be founded into any soft or weak bands/layers (i.e. clay seams and/or extremely weathered/fractured zones) underlying the site. Furthermore, the retention system should be carefully selected by the project structural engineer, with all structural elements also inspected and approved by a suitably qualified structural engineer.

It should be noted that groundwater inflow may pass through shoring pile gaps during excavation, predominately through permeable sandy soils. This may be controlled by shotcreting or localised grouting in weak areas of the retention system, predominately where groundwater seepage and loose/soft soils are visible. Shoring design should take into consideration both short term (during construction) and permanent conditions, along with surcharge loading and footing loads from adjacent infrastructures.

The design of retaining walls will depend on the method of constructed being adopted. Common methods include (not limited to):

- Top-down construction.
- Bottom-up construction.
- Staged excavation and installation of props and/or partial berms.

In cases where anchoring is impractical, other temporary support for the adopted shoring system should be considered. This may include the staged excavation and installation of temporary berms or props in front of the retaining walls.

If considered, the shoring wall can be designed using the recommended design parameters provided in Section 6.8.3. Bulk excavation and foundations (including pile installations) should be supervised, monitored and inspected by a geotechnical engineer, with all structural elements of the development by a structural engineer. Inspections should be considered as "Hold Points" to the project.



### 6.8.3 Design Parameters (Earth Pressures)

Excavation pressures acting on the support will depend on a number of factors including external forces from surcharge loading, the stiffness of the support, varying groundwater levels within the site, and the construction sequence of the proposed development. Therefore, the following parameters may be used for the design of temporary and permanent retaining walls at the subject site:

- A triangular earth pressure distribution may be adopted for derivation of active pressures where a simple support system (i.e. cantilevered wall or propped/anchored wall with only one row of props/anchors are required) is adopted. Cantilevered walls are typically less than 2.5m in height, and should ensure deflections remain within tolerable limits.
  - Flexible retaining structures (i.e. cantilevered walls or walls with only one row of anchors), should be based on active lateral earth pressure. "At rest" earth pressure coefficient should be considered to limit the horizontal deformation of the retaining structure. Lateral active (or at rest) and passive earth pressures for cantilever walls or walls with only one row of anchors may be determined as follows:

**Lateral active or "at rest" earth pressure:**

$$P_a = K \gamma H - 2c\sqrt{K}$$

**Passive earth pressure:**

$$P_p = K_p \gamma H + 2c\sqrt{K_p}$$

- Where lateral deflection exceeds tolerable limits, or where two or more rows of anchors are required, the retention/shoring system should be designed as a braced structure. This more complex support system should utilise advanced numerical analysis tools such as WALLAP or PLAXIS which can ensure deflections in the walls remain within tolerable limits and to model the sequence of anchor installation and excavation. For braced retaining walls, a uniform lateral earth pressure should be adopted as follows:

**Active earth pressure:**

$$P_a = 0.65 K \gamma H$$

Where:

- $P_a$  = Active (or at rest) Earth Pressure (kN/m<sup>2</sup>)
- $P_p$  = Passive Earth Pressure (kN/m<sup>2</sup>)
- $\gamma$  = Bulk density (kN/m<sup>3</sup>)
- $K$  = Coefficient of Earth Pressure ( $K_a$  or  $K_o$ )
- $K_p$  = Coefficient of Passive Earth Pressure
- $H$  = Retained height (m)
- $c$  = Effective Cohesion (kN/m<sup>2</sup>)

- Support systems and retaining structures should be designed to withstand hydrostatic pressures, lateral earth pressures and earthquake pressures (if applicable). The applied surcharge loads in their "zone of influence" should also be considered as part of the design, where the "zone of influence" may be obtained by drawing a line 45° above horizontal from the base of the proposed excavations.

Support system designed using the earth pressure approach may be based on the parameters given in Table 10 below for soils and rock horizons underlying the site. Table 10 also provides preliminary coefficients of lateral earth pressure for the soils and rock horizons encountered in the site. These are based on fully drained conditions and that the ground behind the retention walls is horizontal.

**Table 10. Preliminary Geotechnical Design Parameters**

Material	Fill (Unit 1)	Natural Soils (Unit 2)		Bedrock <sup>3, 5</sup> (Unit 3)	
		SAND/ Clayey SAND	Silty CLAY	VL	L or better <sup>6</sup>
Unit Weight (kN/m <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>4</sup>	16	17	18	21	22
Effective Cohesion c' (kPa)	0	0	3	25	50
Angle of Friction $\phi'$ (°)	24	28	26	28	32
Modulus of Elasticity E <sub>sh</sub> (MPa)	3	8 (loose) 15 (medium dense, or better)	10 (firm) 15 (stiff, or better)	70	150
Earth Pressure Coefficient At Rest K <sub>o</sub> <sup>1</sup>	0.59	0.53	0.56	0.53	0.47
Earth Pressure Coefficient Active K <sub>a</sub> <sup>2</sup>	0.42	0.36	0.39	0.36	0.31
Earth Pressure Coefficient Passive K <sub>p</sub> <sup>2</sup>	2.37	2.77	2.56	2.77	3.25
Poisson Ratio $\nu$	0.4	0.3	0.35	0.3	0.3

<sup>1</sup>Earth pressure coefficient at rest (K<sub>o</sub>) can be calculated using Jacky's equation.

<sup>2</sup>Earth pressure coefficient of active (K<sub>a</sub>) and passive (K<sub>p</sub>) can be calculated using Rankine's or Coulomb's equation.

<sup>3</sup>The values for rock assume no defects of adverse dipping is present in the bedrock and sandstone bedrock underlies the site. All excavation rock faces should be inspected on a regular basis by an experienced engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer.

<sup>4</sup>Above groundwater levels.

<sup>5</sup>Subject to confirmation by a geotechnical engineer by additional borehole drilling and rock strength testing, or during construction by inspection.

<sup>6</sup>Conforming to at least Class IV Sandstone (or better).

**Notes:**

- VL = Very Low estimated strength, L = Low estimated strength.
- VL and L bedrock should conform to at least Class V and Class IV Sandstone, respectively, in accordance with Pells P.J.N, Mostyn G. & Walker B.F.
- Inferred estimated bedrock strength is based on observations made during auger penetration resistance at the time of drilling and confirmation should be made by a geotechnical engineer.

## 6.9 Foundations

Following excavation depths to the FFLs of the proposed development and based on the boreholes carried out within the site, we expect varying ground conditions comprising predominately Unit 2 (natural

soils) and Unit 3 (bedrock) of variable estimated strength and weathering to be exposed at bulk excavation level (depending on the actual amount of excavation required). Fill material (Unit 1) may also be present in certain areas across the site.

Variable composition and consistency/strength natural soils and fill material are likely to result in total and differential settlement under working load, and not adequately support shallow foundations for the proposed development within the site. Removal of the fill material within the proposed development area should be carried out prior to construction of the proposed building foundation system.

It is noted that ground conditions within the site is expected to differ from those encountered and inferred in this report, since no geotechnical or geological exploration program, no matter how comprehensive, can reveal and identify all subsurface conditions underlying the site. It is therefore recommended that confirmation of the underlying ground conditions be confirmed by a geotechnical engineer during construction by inspection.

### **6.9.1 Geotechnical Assessment**

Based on the proposed development and assessment of the subsurface conditions, a suitable foundation system comprising combination of shallow foundations typically comprising pad and/or strip footings, and a piled foundation system are likely to be adopted for the proposed development, and should be constructed and sufficiently embedded into consistent and competent strength bedrock underlying the site.

All piles should be sufficiently embedded into consistent and competent strength bedrock in areas where bedrock is not exposed at bulk excavation level and should fully support the building/infrastructures. Shallow foundations should only be considered in areas where bedrock is expected to be exposed at or shortly below bulk excavation level and should include local slab thickening to support internal walls and columns for shallow foundations, with consideration given to settlement reducing piles. Foundations should not be founded on any soft/weak bands (i.e. clay seams and/or extremely weathered/fractured zones) underlying the site.

Installation of piles and foundation construction should be complemented by inspections carried out by a geotechnical engineer during construction, to confirm ground conditions are consistent throughout and allowable bearing capacities have been achieved. The actual depth and embedment of the piles should be assessed by the project structural engineer, with all structural elements of the proposed development also inspected and approved by a suitably qualified structural engineer. Consultation should be made with specialist subcontractors to discuss the feasibility of piles for the existing ground conditions.

Given the potential for variable ground conditions and soil reactivity across the site, it is recommended that all foundations are constructed on consistent and competent bedrock throughout, in order to provide uniform support and reduce the potential for differential settlements. This could be attained by strip or pad footings where the suitable bearing capacity is achieved or exposed at bulk excavation level, and pile foundations elsewhere. Reference should be made to the estimated levels of the subsurface conditions outlined in this report, and compared to the final bulk excavation levels across the site.

Installation of piles may be required where the axial and working loads transmitted through the building walls and columns exceed the bearing pressure of the bedrock exposed at the proposed developments FFLs. These should be socketed into consistent and appropriate bedrock underlying the site. For cases where resistance against lateral loading induced by earthquakes or winds, and to achieve higher bearing capacities, piles may also be required. Piles sufficiently socketed into higher strength bedrock may achieve greater allowable bearing capacities, subject to confirmation by a geotechnical engineer during construction.

Where higher estimated strength bedrock is present within the site, or where ground conditions vary from those encountered during the geotechnical investigation, GCA should be contacted for further advice.

Table 11 provides preliminary recommended geotechnical design parameters.

**Table 11. Preliminary Recommended Geotechnical Design Parameters**

Unit Type/Material		Maximum Allowable (Serviceability) Values (kPa)		
		End Bearing Pressure <sup>1</sup>	Shaft Adhesion (Compression)	Shaft Adhesion (Tension)
<b>Fill (Unit 1)</b>		N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Natural Soils (Unit 2)</b>		N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Bedrock (Unit 3)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>VL</b>	800	60	30
	<b>L or better<sup>3</sup></b>	1,500	150	75

<sup>1</sup>Minimum embedment of 0.4m for shallow foundations and 0.5m for deep foundations. Assumes the presence of sandstone bedrock underlying the entire site area.

<sup>2</sup>The composition, class, depth and estimated strength of the underlying bedrock material should be confirmed either prior to construction by further borehole drilling and rock strength testing, or during construction by inspection from a geotechnical engineer.

<sup>3</sup>Conforming to at least Class IV Sandstone (or better).

**Notes:**

- VL = Very Low estimated strength, L = Low estimated strength.
- VL and L bedrock should conform to at least Class V and Class IV Sandstone, respectively, in accordance with Pells P.J.N, Mostyn G. & Walker B.F.
- Higher allowable bearing capacities may be attained for higher estimated strength rock assessed and confirmed by a geotechnical engineer.
- All shaft adhesion parameters are based on adequately clean and rough sockets of category "R2", or better.
- N/A = Not Applicable. Not recommended for the proposed development.
- It is recommended that geotechnical inspections on the foundations are completed by a geotechnical engineer to determine the material and confirm the required bearing capacity has been achieved.

Footings designed using ultimate values and limit state design will need to consider serviceability which usually governs designs in these cases. For pile designs, a basic geotechnical reduction factor ( $\Phi_{gb}$ ) should be calculated by the structural engineer from AS 2159-2009, taking into consideration the design, installation method and associated risk rating. Furthermore, the design structural engineer should check both 'piston' pull-out and 'cone' pull-out mechanics in accordance with AS 4678-2002.

### 6.9.1 Geotechnical Comments

Bearing capacity and settlement behaviour varies according to foundation depth, shape and dimensions, including method of installation for piles. Consultation should be made with specialist subcontractors to discuss the feasibility of piles for the existing site conditions. It should be noted that higher bearing capacities may be justified for the proposed foundations subject to confirmation by inspection during construction, and by additional borehole drilling and rock strength testing.

Specific geotechnical advice should be obtained for footing designs and end bearing capacities, and design of the foundation system (shallow and pile foundations) should be carried out in accordance with AS 2870-2011 and AS 2159-2009.

Foundations located within the "zone of influence" of any services or sensitive structures should be supported by a piled foundation. The depths of the piles should extend below the "zone of influence" and should ignore any shaft adhesion. Appropriate measures should be taken to ensure that any services or sensitive structures located within the "zone of influence" of the proposed development are not damaged during and following construction.

It is recommended that suitable drainage and the use of impermeable surfaces be implemented as a precaution as part of the design and construction of the proposed development in order to divert surface water away from the building, and help eliminate or minimise surface water infiltration to minimise moisture within the soils. Although trees and vegetation are considered to contribute to the stability of the site, we recommend that planting of trees around the development area (i.e. in close proximity to the proposed building foundations) be limited as they can also affect moisture changes within the soil and cause significant displacement/damage within the building foundations by extensive tree root system movement.

The design and construction of the foundations should take into consideration the potential of flooding. All foundation excavations should be free of any loose debris and wet soils, and if groundwater seepage or runoff is encountered dewatering should be carried out prior to pouring concrete in the foundations. Due to the possibility of groundwater being encountered and possible groundwater seepage during installation of bored piles within the site, as well as the nature of collapsing sandy soils, it is recommended that consideration be given to other piling methods such as CFA piles.

Shaft adhesion may be applied to socketed piles adopted for foundations provided the socketed shaft lengths conform to appropriate classes of bedrock (subject to confirmation) in accordance with Pells et. al, and shaft sidewall cleanliness and roughness are to acceptable levels. Shaft adhesion should be ignored or reduced within socket lengths that are smeared or fail to satisfy cleanliness requirements (i.e. at least 80%). It is recommended that where piles penetrate expansive soils present within the site, which are susceptible to shrink and swell due to daily and seasonal moisture, shaft adhesion be ignored due to the potential of shrinkage cracking. Pile inspections should be complemented by downhole CCTV camera.

We recommend that geotechnical inspections of foundations be completed by an experienced geotechnical engineer to determine that the designed socket materials have been reached and the required bearing capacity has been achieved. The geotechnical engineer should also determine any variations between the boreholes carried out and inspected locations. Inspections should be carried out in dewatered foundations for a more accurate examination, and inspections should be carried out under satisfactory WHS requirements. Geotechnical inspections for verification capacities of the foundations should constitute as a "Hold Point".

### **6.10 Filling**

Where filling is required, the following recommended compaction targets should be considered:

- Place horizontal loose layers not more than 150mm thickness over the prepared subgrade.
- Compact to a minimum dry density ratio not less than 98% of the maximum dry density for the building platforms.
- The moisture content during compaction should be maintained at  $\pm 2\%$  of the Optimal Moisture Content (OMC).
- The upper 150mm of the subgrade should be compacted to a dry density ratio not less than 100% of the maximum dry density.

Any soils which are imported onto the site for the purpose of filling and compaction of the excavated areas should be free of deleterious materials and contamination. The imported soils should also include appropriate validation documentation in accordance with current regulatory authority requirements. The design and construction of earthworks should be carried out in accordance with AS 3798-2007 and AS 1289. Inspections of the prepared subgrade should be carried out by a geotechnical engineer, and should include proof rolling as a minimum. These inspections should be established as "Hold Points".

### **6.11 Subgrade Preparation**

The following are general recommendations on subgrade preparation for earthworks, slab on ground constructions and pavements:

- Remove existing fill and topsoil, including all materials which are unsuitable from the site.
- Excavate natural soils and rock.
  - Excavated natural material may be considered for engineered fill, and rock may be used for subgrade material underlying pavements, providing appropriate geotechnical inspections and laboratory testing of the material is undertaken to confirm its suitability.
- Any natural soils (predominately clayey soils) exposed at the bulk excavation level should be treated and have a moisture condition of 2% OMC. This should be followed by proof rolling and compaction of the upper 150mm layer.
  - Any soft or loose areas should be removed and replaced with engineered or approved fill material.
- Any rock exposed at the bulk excavation level should be clear of any deleterious materials (and free of loose or softened materials). As a guideline, remove an additional 150mm from the bulk excavation level.
- Ensure the foundations and excavated areas are free of water prior to concrete pouring.
- Areas which show visible heaving under compaction or proof rolling should be excavated at least 300mm and replaced with engineered or approved fill and compacted to a minimum dry density ratio not less than 98% of the maximum dry density.

## **7. ADDITIONAL GEOTECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Furthermore, following completion of the geotechnical investigation and report, GCA recommends the following additional work to be carried out:

- Dilapidation survey report on adjacent properties and infrastructures.
- Monitoring and supervision of excavations within the site, including appropriate inspections and certifications on all batter slopes adopted throughout (where feasible).
- The composition, class, depth and estimated strength of the underlying bedrock material should be confirmed prior to construction by further borehole drilling and rock strength testing, or during construction by inspection, predominately in areas and at depths not assessed during the geotechnical investigation.
- Geotechnical inspections of exposed materials at bulk excavation level.
- Geotechnical inspections of shoring wall piles installations.
- Geotechnical inspections of foundations (shallow and pile foundations) to confirm the preliminary bearing capacities have been achieved.
- Monitoring of any groundwater inflows into the excavation areas within the site.
- Provision for longer term groundwater monitoring within the site.
- Classification of all excavated material transported from the site.
- A meeting to be carried out to discuss any geotechnical issues and inspection requirements.
- Final architectural and structural design drawings are provided to GCA for further assessment.



## 8. LIMITATIONS

Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd (GCA) has based its geotechnical assessment on available information obtained prior and during the site inspection/investigation. The geotechnical assessment and recommendations provided in this report, along with the surface, subsurface and geotechnical conditions are limited to the inspection and test areas during the site inspection/investigation, and then only to the depths investigated at the time the work was carried out. Subsurface conditions can change abruptly, and may occur after GCA's field testing has been completed.

It is recommended that if for any reason, the site surface, subsurface and geotechnical conditions (including groundwater conditions) encountered during the site inspection/investigation vary substantially during construction, and from GCA's recommendations and conclusions, GCA should be contacted immediately for further testing and advice. This may be carried out as necessary, and a review of recommendations and conclusions may be provided at additional fees. GCA's advice and accuracy may be limited by undetected variations in ground conditions between sampling locations.

GCA does not accept any liability for any varying site conditions which have not been observed, and were out of the inspection or test areas, or accessible during the time of the investigation. This report and any associated information and documentations have been prepared solely for **Avik Kalloghlian**, and any misinterpretations or reliances by third parties of this report shall be at their own risk. Any legal or other liabilities resulting from the use of this report by other parties can not be religated to GCA.

This report should be read in full, including all conclusions and recommendations. Consultation should be made to GCA for any misunderstandings or misinterpretations of this report.

For and behalf of

**Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd (GCA)**

**Reviewed by:**



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NSW Fair Trading PER No.: PRE0000174  
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# **APPENDIX A**

## Important Information About Your Geotechnical Report

This geotechnical report has been prepared based on the scopes outlined in the project proposal. The works carried out by Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd (GCA), have limitations during the site investigation, and may be affected by a number of factors. Please read the geotechnical investigation report in conjunction with this "Important Information About Your Geotechnical Report".

### **Geotechnical Services Are Performed for Specific Projects, Clients and Purposes.**

Due to the fact that each geotechnical investigation is unique and varies from sites, each geotechnical report is unique, and is prepared solely for the client. A geotechnical report may satisfy the needs of a structural engineer, where it will not for a civil engineer or construction contractor. No one except the client should rely on the geotechnical report without first conferring with the specific geotechnical consultant who prepared the report. The report is prepared for the contemplated project or original purpose of the investigation. No one should apply this report to any other or similar project.

### **Reading The Full Report.**

Do not read selected elements of the report or tables/figures only. Serious problems have occurred because those relying on the specially prepared geotechnical investigation report did not read it all in full context.

### **The Geotechnical Report is Based on a Unique Set of Project And Specific Factors.**

When preparing a geotechnical report, the geotechnical engineering consultant considers a number of unique factors for the specific project. These typically include:

- Clients objectives, goals and risk management preferences;
- The general proposed development or nature of the structure involved (size, location, etc.); and
- Future planned or existing site improvements (parking lots, roads, underground services, etc.);

Care should be taken into identifying the reason of the geotechnical report, where you should not rely on a geotechnical engineering report that was:

- Not prepared for your project;
- Not prepared for the specific site;
- Not prepared for you;
- Does not take into consideration any important changes made to the project; or
- Was carried out prior to any new infrastructure on your subject site.

Typical changes that can affect the reliability of an existing geotechnical investigation report include those that affect:

- The function of the proposed structure, where it may change from one basement level to two basement levels, or from a light structure to a heavily loaded structure;
- Location, size, elevation or configuration of the proposed development;
- Changes in the structural design occur; or
- The owner of the proposed development/project has changed.

The geotechnical engineer of the project should always be notified of any changes – even minor – and be asked to evaluate if this has any impact. GCA does not accept responsibility or liability for problems that occur because its report did not consider developments which it was not informed of.

### **Subsurface Conditions Can Change**

This report is based on conditions that existed at the time of the investigation, at the locations of the subsurface tests (i.e. boreholes) carried out during the site investigation. Subsurface conditions can be affected and modified by a number of factors including, but not limited to, the passage of time, man-made influences such as construction on or adjacent to the site, by natural forces such as floods, groundwater fluctuations or earthquakes. GCA should be contacted prior to submitting its report to determine if any further testing may be required. A minor amount of additional testing may prevent any major problems.

### **Geotechnical Findings Are Professional Opinions**

Results of subsurface conditions are limited only to the points where the subsurface tests were carried out, or where samples were collected. The field and laboratory data is analysed and reviewed by a geotechnical engineer, who then applies their professional experience and recommendations about the site's subsurface conditions. Despite investigation, the actual subsurface conditions may differ – in some cases significantly – from the results presented in the geotechnical investigation report, since no subsurface exploration program, no matter how comprehensive, can reveal all subsurface anomalies and details.

Therefore, the recommendations in this report can only be used as preliminary. Retaining GCA as your geotechnical consultants on your project to provide construction observations is the most effective method of managing the risks associated with unanticipated subsurface conditions.

### **Geotechnical Report's Recommendations Are Not Final**

Because geotechnical engineers provide recommendations based on experience and judgement, you should not overrely on the recommendations provided – they are not final. Only by observing the actual subsurface conditions revealed during construction may a geotechnical engineer finalise their recommendations. GCA does not assume responsibility or liability for the report's recommendations if no additional observations or testing is carried out.

### **Geotechnical Report's Are Subject to Misinterpretations**

The project geotechnical engineer should consult with appropriate members of the design team following submission of the report. You should review your design teams plans and drawings, in conjunction with the geotechnical report to ensure they have all be incorporated. Due to many issues arising from misinterpretation of geotechnical reports between design teams and building contractors, GCA should participate in pre-construction meetings, and provide adequate construction observations.

### **Engineering Borehole Logs And Data Should Not be Redrawn**

Geotechnical engineers prepare final borehole and testing logs, figure, etc. based on results and interpretation of field logs and laboratory data following the site investigation. The logs, figure, etc. provided in the geotechnical report should never be redrawn or altered for inclusion in any other documents from this report, included architectural or other design drawings.

### **Providing The Full Geotechnical Report For Guidance**

The project design teams, subcontractors and building contractors should have a copy of the full geotechnical investigation report to help prevent any costly issues. This should be prefaced with a clearly written letter of transmittal. The letter should clearly advise the aforementioned that the report was prepared for proposed development/project requirements, and the report accuracy is limited. The letter should also encourage them to confer with GCA, and/or carry out further testing as may be required. Providing the report to your project team will help share the financial responsibilities stemming from any unanticipated issues or conditions in the site.

### **Understanding Limitation Provisions**

As some clients, contractors and design professionals do not recognise geotechnical engineering is much broader and less exact than other engineering disciplines, this creates unrealistic expectations that lead to claims, disputes and other disappointments. As part of the geotechnical report, (in most cases) a 'limitations' explanatory provision is included, outlining the geotechnical engineers' limitations for your project – with the geotechnical engineers responsibilities to help other reduce their own. This should be read closely as part of your report.

### **Other Limitations**

GCA will not be liable to revise or update the report to take into account any events or circumstances (seen or unforeseen), or any fact occurring or becoming apparent after the date of the report. This report is the subject of copyright and shall not be reproduced either totally or in part without the express permission of GCA. The report should not be used if there have been changes to the project, without first consulting with GCA to assess if the report's recommendations are still valid. GCA does not accept any responsibility for problems that occur due to project changes which have not been consulted.

# **APPENDIX B**

Legend:  Approximate Borehole/DCP Testing Location

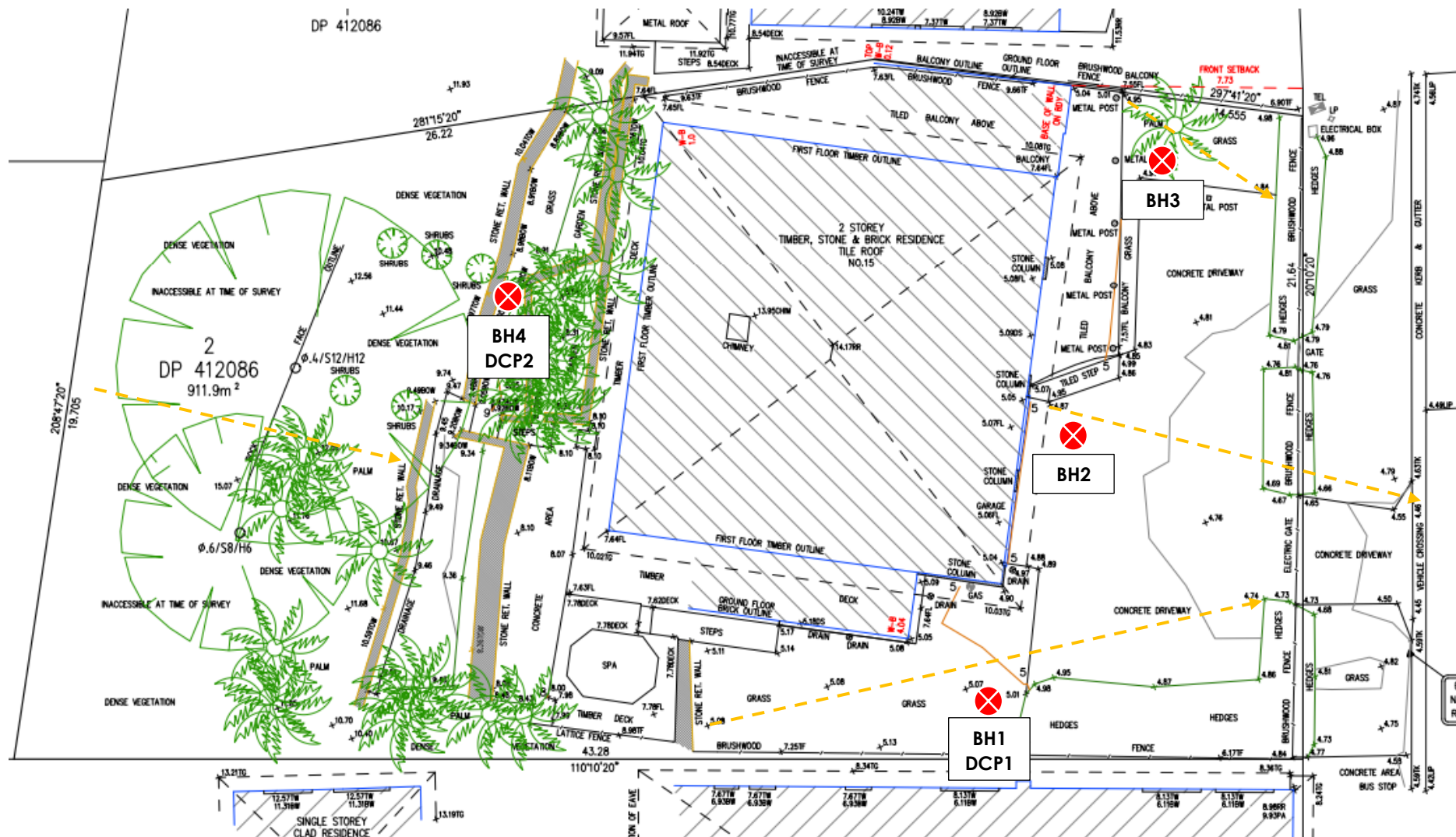


	Figure 1 Site Plan	Geotechnical Investigation	Drawn: NW/GN	
	Job No.: G23285-1-Rev A	Avik Kalloghlian	Date: 02/04/2024	
		15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108	Scale: NTS	

Image source: Site survey plan prepared by Total Surveying Solutions, titled "Plan Showing Detail & Levels Over Lot 2 In DP412086", referenced job No. 230118, sheet 1 of 1, and dated 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

# **APPENDIX C**



## Explanation of Notes, Abbreviations and Terms Used on Borehole and Test Pit Reports

### DRILLING/EXCAVATION METHOD

Method	Description
AS	Auger Screwing
BH	Backhoe
CT	Cable Tool Rig
EE	Existing Excavation/Cutting
EX	Excavator
HA	Hand Auger
HQ	Diamond Core – 63mm
JET	Jetting
NMLC	Diamond Core – 52mm
NQ	Diamond Core – 47mm
PT	Push Tube
RAB	Rotary Air Blast
RB	Rotary Blade
RT	Rotary Tricone Bit
TC	Auger TC Bit
V	Auger V Bit
WB	Washbore
DT	Diatube
CC	Concrete Coring

### PENETRATION/EXCAVATION RESISTANCE

These assessments are subjective and dependant on many factors including the equipment weight, power, condition of the drilling tools or excavation, and the experience of the operator.

- L **Low Resistance.** Rapid penetration possible with little effort from the equipment used.
- M **Medium Resistance.** Excavation possible at an acceptable rate with moderate effort required from the equipment used.
- H **High Resistance.** Further penetration is possible at a slow rate and required significant effort from the equipment.
- R **Refusal or Practical Refusal.** No further progress possible within the risk of damage or excessive wear to the equipment used.

### WATER



**Groundwater not observed:** The observation of groundwater, whether present or not, was not possible due to drilling water, surface seepage or cave in of the borehole/test pit.

**Groundwater not encountered:** No free-flowing (springs or seepage) was intercepted, although the soil may be moist due to capillary water. Water may be observed in low permeable soils if the test pits/boreholes had been left open for at least 12-24 hours.

### MOISTURE CONDITION (AS 1726-2017)

- Dry - Cohesive soils are friable or powdery  
Cohesionless soil grains are free-running
- Moist - Soil feels cool, darkened in colour  
Cohesive soils can be moulded  
Cohesionless soil grains tend to adhere
- Wet - Cohesive soils usually weakened  
Free water forms on hands when handling

For cohesive soils the following codes may also be used:

- MC>PL Moisture Content greater than the Plastic Limit.  
MC~PL Moisture Content near the Plastic Limit.  
MC<PL Moisture Content less than the Plastic Limit.

### SAMPLING AND TESTING

Sample	Description
B	Bulk Disturbed Sample
DS	Disturbed Sample
Jar	Jar Sample
SPT*	Standard Penetration Test
U50	Undisturbed Sample – 50mm
U75	Undisturbed Sample – 75mm

\*SPT (4, 7, 11 N=18). 4, 7, 11 = Blows per 150mm. N= Blows per 300mm penetration following 150mm sealing.  
SPT (30/80mm). Where practical refusal occurs, the blows and penetration for that interval is recorded.

### ROCK QUALITY

The fracture spacing is shown where applicable and the Rock Quality Designation (RQD) or Total Core Recovery (TCR) is given where:

$$\text{TCR (\%)} = \frac{\text{length of core recovered}}{\text{length of core run}}$$

$$\text{RQD (\%)} = \frac{\text{sum of axial lengths of core > 100mm long}}{\text{length of core run}}$$

### ROCK STRENGTH TEST RESULTS

- Diametral Point Load Index test
- Axial Point Load Index test

### SOIL ORIGINS

It is often difficult to accurately determine the origin of a soil. Soils can generally be classified as:

- **Residual soils:** derived from in-situ weathering of the underlying rock (see "rock material weathering" below).
- **Transported soils:** formed somewhere else and transported by nature to the site.
- **Filling:** moved/placed by man.

Transported soils may be further subdivided into:

- **Alluvium/alluvial:** river deposits.
- **Lacustrine:** lake deposits.
- **Aeolian:** wind deposits.
- **Littoral:** beach deposits.
- **Estuarine:** tidal river deposits.
- **Talus:** scree or coarse colluvium.
- **Slopewash or colluvium/colluvial:** transported downslope by gravity assisted by water. Often includes angular rock fragments and boulders.

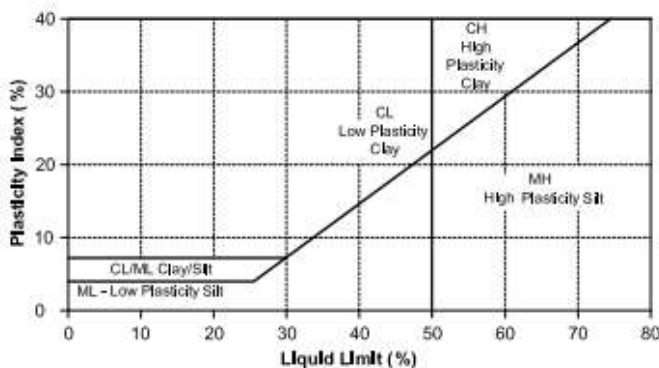
## Method and Terms for Soil and Rock Descriptions Used on Borehole and Test Pit Reports

Soil and Rock is classified and described in reports of boreholes and test pits using the preferred method given in AS 1726-2017, Appendix A. The material properties are assessed in the field by visual/tactile methods. The appropriate symbols in the Unified Soil Classification are selected on the result of visual examination, field tests and available laboratory tests, such as, sieve analysis, liquid limit and plasticity index.

### COHESIONLESS SOILS PARTICLE SIZE DESCRIPTIVE TERMS

Name	Subdivision	Size
Boulders		>200mm
Cobbles		63mm to 200mm
Gravel	coarse	20mm to 63mm
	medium	6mm to 20mm
	fine	2.36mm to 6mm
Sand	coarse	600µm to 2.36mm
	medium	200µm to 600µm
	fine	75µm to 200µm

### PLASTICITY PROPERTIES



### COHESIVE SOILS – CONSISTENCY (AS 1726-2017)

Strength	Symbol	Undrained Shear Strength, $C_u$ (kPa)
Very Soft	VS	< 12
Soft	S	12 to 25
Firm	F	25 to 50
Stiff	St	50 to 100
Very Stiff	VSt	100 to 200
Hard	H	> 200
Friable	Fr	Easily crumbled or broken into small pieces by hand

### PLASTICITY

Description of Plasticity	LL (%)
Low	<35
Medium	35 to 50
High	>50

### COHESIONLESS SOILS - RELATIVE DENSITY

Term	Symbol	Density Index	N Value (blows/0.3 m)
Very Loose	VL	0 to 15	0 to 4
Loose	L	15 to 35	4 to 10
Medium Dense	MD	35 to 65	10 to 30
Dense	D	65 to 85	30 to 50
Very Dense	VD	>85	>50

### UNIFIED SOIL CLASSIFICATION

USC Symbol	Description
GW	Well graded gravel
GP	Poorly graded gravel
GM	Silty gravel
GC	Clayey gravel
SW	Well graded sand
SP	Poorly graded sand
SM	Silty sand
SC	Clayey sand
ML	Silt of low plasticity
CL	Clay of low plasticity
OL	Organic soil of low plasticity
MH	Silt of high plasticity
CH	Clay of high plasticity
OH	Organic soil of high plasticity
PT	Peaty Soil

### ROCK MATERIAL WEATHERING

Symbol	Term	Definition
RS	Residual Soil	Soil definition on extremely weathered rock; the mass structure and substance are no longer evident; there is a large change in volume but the soil has not been significantly transported
EW	Extremely Weathered	Rock is weathered to such an extent that it has 'soil' properties, i.e. It either disintegrates or can be remoulded in water
HW	Highly Weathered	The rock substance is affected by weathering to the extent that limonite staining or bleaching affects the whole rock substance and other signs of chemical or physical decomposition are evident. Porosity and strength is usually decreased compared to the fresh rock. The colour and strength of the fresh rock is no longer recognisable.
DW	Distinctly Weathered (as per AS 1726)	
MW	Moderately Weathered	The whole of the rock substance is discoloured, usually by iron staining or bleaching, to the extent that the colour of the fresh rock is no longer recognisable
SW	Slightly Weathered	Rock is slightly discoloured but shows little or no change of strength from fresh rock
FR	Fresh	Rock shows no sign of decomposition or staining

### ROCK STRENGTH (AS 1726-2017 and ISRM)

Term	Symbol	Point Load Index $IS_{(50)}$ (MPa)
Extremely Low	EL	<0.03
Very Low	VL	0.03 to 0.1
Low	L	0.1 to 0.3
Medium	M	0.3 to 1
High	H	1 to 3
Very High	VH	3 to 10
Extremely High	EH	>10

## ABBREVIATIONS FOR DEFECT TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS

Term	Defect Spacing	Bedding
Extremely closely spaced	<6mm	Thinly Laminated
	6mm to 20mm	Laminated
Very closely spaced	20mm to 60mm	Very Thin
Closely spaced	0.06m to 0.2m	Thin
Moderately widely spaced	0.2m to 0.6m	Medium
Widely spaced	0.6m to 2m	Thick
Very widely spaced	>2m	Very Thick

Type	Definition
B	Bedding
J	Joint
HJ	Horizontal to Sub-Horizontal Joint
VJ	Vertical to Sub-Vertical Joint
F	Fault
Cle	Cleavage
SZ	Shear Zone
SM	Shear Seam
FZ	Fractured Zone
CZ	Crushed Zone
CS	Crushed Seam
MB	Mechanical Break
HB	Handling Break

Planarity	Roughness
P – Planar	C – Clean
Ir – Irregular	Cl – Clay
St – Stepped	VR – Very Rough
U – Undulating	R – Rough
	S – Smooth
	Sl – Slickensides
	Po – Polished
	Fe – Iron

Coating or Infill	Description
Clean (C)	No visible coating or infilling
Stain	No visible coating or infilling but surfaces are discoloured by mineral staining
Veneer	A visible coating or infilling of soil or mineral substance but usually unable to be measured (<1mm). If discontinuous over the plane, patchy veneer
Coating	A visible coating or infilling of soil or mineral substance, >1mm thick. Describe composition and thickness
Iron (Fe)	Iron Staining or Infill.

# **APPENDIX D**

**CLIENT** Avik Kalloghlian **PROJECT NAME** Geotechnical Investigation

**PROJECT NUMBER** G23285-1 **PROJECT LOCATION** 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108

**DATE STARTED** 15/8/23 **COMPLETED** 15/8/23 **R.L. SURFACE** 5.1 **DATUM** m AHD

**DRILLING CONTRACTOR** A P Smith **SLOPE** 90° **BEARING** ---

**EQUIPMENT** Trailer Mounted Drilling Rig **HOLE LOCATION** Refer To Site Plan (Figure 1) For Test Locations

**HOLE SIZE** 100mm Diameter **LOGGED BY** GN **CHECKED BY** JN

**NOTES** RL To The Top Of The Borehole & Depths Of The Subsurface Conditions Are Approximate

Method	Water	RL (m)	Depth (m)	Graphic Log	Classification Symbol	Material Description	Samples Tests Remarks	Additional Observations
ADT	Not Encountered During Drilling	5.0				Clayey SILT, brown to dark brown, medium plasticity clay, with fine to coarse gravel, moist.		FILL
			0.5				DS	
		4.5			SW-SC	Clayey SAND, fine grained, brown, grey, medium plasticity clay, some fine gravel, moist, estimated loose.		NATURAL SOILS
			1.0				DS	
		4.0			SW	SAND, fine to medium grained, brown to brownish orange, some fine gravel, moist, estimated loose.		
			1.5				DS	
		3.5						
			2.0				DS	
		3.0						
			2.5			becoming estimated loose to medium dense from 2.3m bgl.	DS	
		2.5						
			3.0			becoming estimated medium dense from 2.8m bgl.	DS	
		2.0						
			3.5				DS	
		1.5						
			4.0				DS	
		1.0				SANDSTONE, fine to medium grained, brownish orange, some clay seams, with silt, highly weathered, very low estimated strength, moist. inferred low estimated strength (or better) from 4.2m bgl. Borehole BH1 terminated at 4.2m	DS	BEDROCK
			4.5					TC bit refusal at 4.2m bgl.
		0.5						
			5.0					

**CLIENT** Avik Kalloghlian **PROJECT NAME** Geotechnical Investigation  
**PROJECT NUMBER** G23285-1 **PROJECT LOCATION** 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108

**DATE STARTED** 15/8/23 **COMPLETED** 15/8/23 **R.L. SURFACE** 5 **DATUM** m AHD  
**DRILLING CONTRACTOR** A P Smith **SLOPE** 90° **BEARING** ---  
**EQUIPMENT** Trailer Mounted Drilling Rig **HOLE LOCATION** Refer To Site Plan (Figure 1) For Test Locations  
**HOLE SIZE** 100mm Diameter **LOGGED BY** GN **CHECKED BY** JN

**NOTES** RL To The Top Of The Borehole & Depths Of The Subsurface Conditions Are Approximate

Method	Water	RL (m)	Depth (m)	Graphic Log	Classification Symbol	Material Description	Samples Tests Remarks	Additional Observations
ADT	CC	Not Encountered During Drilling	4.5	0.5		CONCRETE PAVEMENT 100mm.		PAVEMENT
						Clayey SAND, fine to medium grained, brown to dark brown, medium plasticity clay, some fine gravel, moist.		FILL
							DS	
			4.0	1.0	SW-SC	Clayey SAND, fine to medium grained, grey to dark grey, medium plasticity clay, some fine gravel, moist.		NATURAL SOILS
							DS	
					SW	SAND, fine to medium grained, brown to brownish orange, some fine gravel, moist.		
			3.5	1.5			DS	
			3.0	2.0			DS	
			2.5	2.5			DS	
			2.0	3.0			DS	
			1.5	3.5			DS	
			1.0	4.0			DS	
						SANDSTONE, fine to medium grained, brown to orangish brown, some clay seams, with silt, highly weathered, very low estimated strength, moist.	DS	BEDROCK
						inferred low estimated strength (or better) from 4.2m bgl. Borehole BH2 terminated at 4.2m		TC bit refusal at 4.2m bgl.
			0.5	4.5				
			0.0	5.0				

**CLIENT** Avik Kalloghlian

**PROJECT NAME** Geotechnical Investigation

**PROJECT NUMBER** G23285-1

**PROJECT LOCATION** 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108

DATE STARTED 15/8/23

**COMPLETED** 15/8/23

**R.L. SURFACE 4.9**

**DATUM**      m AHD

**DRILLING CONTRACTOR** A P Smith

**SLOPE** 90°

BEARING ---

**EQUIPMENT** Trailer Mounted Drilling Rig

**HOLE LOCATION** Refer To Site Plan (Figure 1) For Test Locations

**HOLE SIZE** 100mm Diameter

LOGGED BY GN

CHECKED BY JN

**NOTES** RL To The Top Of The Borehole & Depths Of The Subsurface Conditions Are Approximate


Method	Water	RL (m)	Depth (m)	Graphic Log	Classification Symbol	Material Description	Samples Tests Remarks	Additional Observations
ADT	Not Encountered During Drilling					Clayey SAND, fine grained, brown to dark brown, medium plasticity clay, some fine gravel, moist.		FILL
		4.5	0.5				DS	
		4.0	1.0	SW-SC	Clayey SAND, fine grained, grey to dark grey, medium plasticity clay, with silt, some fine gravel, moist.		DS	NATURAL SOILS
		3.5	1.5	SW	SAND, fine to medium grained, grey to dark grey, brown, with medium plasticity clay, some fine gravel, moist.		DS	
		3.0	2.0	SW	SAND, fine to medium grained, brown to brownish orange, trace of clay, some fine gravel, moist.		DS	
		2.5	2.5				DS	
		2.0	3.0				DS	
		1.5					DS	
			3.5		SANDSTONE, fine grained, grey to greyish white, with silt, highly to moderately weathered, very low estimated strength, moist. inferred low estimated strength (or better) from 3.5m bgl. Borehole BH3 terminated at 3.5m			BEDROCK TC bit refusal at 3.5m bgl.
			1.0	4.0				
	0.5	4.5						
	0.0	5.0						



**CLIENT** Avik Kalloghlian **PROJECT NAME** Geotechnical Investigation  
**PROJECT NUMBER** G23285-1 **PROJECT LOCATION** 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108

**DATE STARTED** 15/8/23 **COMPLETED** 15/8/23 **R.L. SURFACE** 9 **DATUM** m AHD  
**DRILLING CONTRACTOR** Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd **SLOPE** 90° **BEARING** ---  
**EQUIPMENT** Hand Operated Equipment **HOLE LOCATION** Refer To Site Plan (Figure 1) For Test Locations  
**HOLE SIZE** 100mm Diameter **LOGGED BY** GN **CHECKED BY** JN

**NOTES** RL To The Top Of The Borehole & Depths Of The Subsurface Conditions Are Approximate

Method	Water	RL (m)	Depth (m)	Graphic Log	Classification Symbol	Material Description	Samples Tests Remarks	Additional Observations
HA	Not Encountered During Augering	8.5	0.5			Silty CLAY, medium plasticity, brown to dark brown, grey, with fine grained sand, some fine gravel, with ripped sandstone, grass rootlets, moist.	DS	FILL
		8.0	1.0		CI-CH	Silty CLAY, medium to high plasticity, brown to pale brown, with fine grained sand, with fine gravel, moist, estimated firm.	DS	NATURAL SOILS
						becoming estimated firm to stiff from 1.0m bgl.		
		7.5	1.5		CI-CH	Silty CLAY, medium to high plasticity, brown to pale brown, with fine gravel, moist, estimated stiff.	DS	
						Borehole BH4 terminated at 1.5m		Practical hand auger refusal at 1.5m bgl.
		7.0	2.0					
		6.5	2.5					
		6.0	3.0					
		5.5	3.5					
		5.0	4.0					
		4.5	4.5					
		4.0	5.0					

# **APPENDIX E**

DYNAMIC CONE PENETOMETER RESULTS									
Client:		Avik Kalloghlian				Test Date:		15/08/2023	
Address:		15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108				Job No.:		G23285-1-Rev A	
Depths (mm bgl)	DCP No.				Depths (mm bgl)	DCP No.			
	1	2							
0-100	0	2			0-100				
100-200	2	2			100-200				
200-300	1	2			200-300				
300-400	1	2			300-400				
400-500	3	3			400-500				
500-600	2	3			500-600				
600-700	3	3			600-700				
700-800	2	2			700-800				
800-900	4	2			800-900				
900-1000	4	2			900-1000				
1000-1100	4	3			1000-1100				
1100-1200	3	3			1100-1200				
1200-1300	3	8			1200-1300				
1300-1400	3	5			1300-1400				
1400-1500	2	4			1400-1500				
1500-1600	3	5			1500-1600				
1600-1700	3	5			1600-1700				
1700-1800	2	5			1700-1800				
1800-1900	2	4			1800-1900				
1900-2000	2	6			1900-2000				
2000-2100	2	8			2000-2100				
2100-2200	2	10			2100-2200				
2200-2300	2	15			2200-2300				
2300-2400	4	23			2300-2400				
2400-2500	3	26			2400-2500				
2500-2600	3	20/30mm			2500-2600				
2600-2700	3	Bouncing			2600-2700				
2700-2800	3				2700-2800				
2800-2900	5				2800-2900				
2900-3000	6				2900-3000				
3000-3100	7				3000-3100				
3100-3200	8				3100-3200				
3200-3300	8				3200-3300				
3300-3400	8				3300-3400				
3400-3500	6				3400-3500				
3500-3600	5				3500-3600				
3600-3700	4				3600-3700				
3700-3800	5				3700-3800				
3800-3900	6				3800-3900				
3900-4000	5				3900-4000				
<div><div>GCA</div><div>Geotechnical Consultants Australia</div></div>									
Tested:		GN/AS		©Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd				Sheet: 1 of 2	

DYNAMIC CONE PENETOMETER RESULTS									
Client:		Avik Kalloghlian				Test Date:		15/08/2023	
Address:		15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108				Job No.:		G23285-1-Rev A	
Depths (mm bgl)	DCP No.				Depths (mm bgl)	DCP No.			
	1								
4000-4100	4				4000-4100				
4100-4200	16				4100-4200				
4200-4300	Bouncing				4200-4300				
4300-4400					4300-4400				
4400-4500					4400-4500				
4500-4600					4500-4600				
4600-4700					4600-4700				
4700-4800					4700-4800				
4800-4900					4800-4900				
4900-5000					4900-5000				
5000-5100					5000-5100				
5100-5200					5100-5200				
5200-5300					5200-5300				
5300-5400					5300-5400				
5400-5500					5400-5500				
5500-5600					5500-5600				
5600-5700					5600-5700				
5700-5800					5700-5800				
5800-5900					5800-5900				
5900-6000					5900-6000				
6000-6100					6000-6100				
6100-6200					6100-6200				
6200-6300					6200-6300				
6300-6400					6300-6400				
6400-6500					6400-6500				
6500-6600					6500-6600				
6600-6700					6600-6700				
6700-6800					6700-6800				
6800-6900					6800-6900				
6900-7000					6900-7000				
7000-7100					7000-7100				
7100-7200					7100-7200				
7200-7300					7200-7300				
7300-7400					7300-7400				
7400-7500					7400-7500				
7500-7600					7500-7600				
7600-7700					7600-7700				
7700-7800					7700-7800				
7800-7900					7800-7900				
7900-8000					7900-8000				



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Tested:	GN/AS	©Geotechnical Consultants Australia Pty Ltd	Sheet:	2 of 2
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# **APPENDIX F**



## CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

Work Order	: <b>EB2325471</b>	Page	: 1 of 8
Client	: <b>GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD</b>	Laboratory	: Environmental Division Brisbane
Contact	: JOE NADER	Contact	: Customer Services EB
Address	: 2 HAROLD STREET PARRAMATTA NSW 2150	Address	: 2 Byth Street Stafford QLD Australia 4053
Telephone	: ----	Telephone	: +61-7-3243 7222
Project	: G23285-1 Geotechnical Investigation	Date Samples Received	: 18-Aug-2023 10:57
Order number	: ----	Date Analysis Commenced	: 25-Aug-2023
C-O-C number	: ----	Issue Date	: 28-Aug-2023 09:08
Sampler	: GEORGE N		
Site	: 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108		
Quote number	: EN/333		
No. of samples received	: 28		
No. of samples analysed	: 26		

This report supersedes any previous report(s) with this reference. Results apply to the sample(s) as submitted, unless the sampling was conducted by ALS. This document shall not be reproduced, except in full.

This Certificate of Analysis contains the following information:

- General Comments
- Analytical Results

**Additional information pertinent to this report will be found in the following separate attachments: Quality Control Report, QA/QC Compliance Assessment to assist with Quality Review and Sample Receipt Notification.**

### Signatories

This document has been electronically signed by the authorized signatories below. Electronic signing is carried out in compliance with procedures specified in 21 CFR Part 11.

<i>Signatories</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Accreditation Category</i>
Layla Hafner	Acid Sulphate Soils - Chemist	Brisbane Acid Sulphate Soils, Stafford, QLD



## General Comments

The analytical procedures used by ALS have been developed from established internationally recognised procedures such as those published by the USEPA, APHA, AS and NEPM. In house developed procedures are fully validated and are often at the client request.

Where moisture determination has been performed, results are reported on a dry weight basis.

Where a reported less than (<) result is higher than the LOR, this may be due to primary sample extract/digestate dilution and/or insufficient sample for analysis.

Where the LOR of a reported result differs from standard LOR, this may be due to high moisture content, insufficient sample (reduced weight employed) or matrix interference.

When sampling time information is not provided by the client, sampling dates are shown without a time component. In these instances, the time component has been assumed by the laboratory for processing purposes.

Where a result is required to meet compliance limits the associated uncertainty must be considered. Refer to the ALS Contract for details.

Key : CAS Number = CAS registry number from database maintained by Chemical Abstracts Services. The Chemical Abstracts Service is a division of the American Chemical Society.

LOR = Limit of reporting

^ = This result is computed from individual analyte detections at or above the level of reporting

~ = Indicates an estimated value.

- ASS: EA037 (Rapid Field and F(ox) screening): pH F(ox) Reaction Rate: 1 - Slight; 2 - Moderate; 3 - Strong; 4 - Extreme
- EA037 ASS Field Screening: NATA accreditation does not cover performance of this service.





Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)				Sample ID	BH1 0.4m - 0.5m	BH1 0.9m - 1.0m	BH1 1.4m - 1.5m	BH1 1.9m - 2.0m	BH1 2.4m - 2.5m
Sampling date / time				15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-001	EB2325471-002	EB2325471-003	EB2325471-004	EB2325471-005	
				Result	Result	Result	Result	Result	
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis									
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	8.2	7.9	7.7	7.7	8.0	
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	4.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	7.8	
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	3	2	2	2	4	



Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)				Sample ID	BH1 2.9m - 3.0m	BH1 3.4m - 3.5m	BH1 3.9m - 4.0m	BH1 4.1m - 4.2m	BH2 0.4m - 0.5m
Sampling date / time					15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-006	EB2325471-007	EB2325471-008	EB2325471-009	EB2325471-010	
				Result	Result	Result	Result	Result	
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis									
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.6	
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.8	7.3	5.7	5.7	4.0	
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	4	4	2	2	2	



Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)				Sample ID	BH2 1.4m - 1.5m	BH2 1.9m - 2.0m	BH2 2.4m - 2.5m	BH2 2.9m - 3.0m	BH2 3.4m - 3.5m
Sampling date / time					15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-011	EB2325471-012	EB2325471-013	EB2325471-014	EB2325471-015	
				Result	Result	Result	Result	Result	
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis									
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.7	
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	4.6	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.8	
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	2	2	2	2	2	



Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)				Sample ID	BH2 3.9m - 4.0m	BH2 4.1m - 4.2m	BH3 0.4m - 0.5m	BH3 0.9m - 1.0m	BH3 1.4m - 1.5m
Sampling date / time					15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-016	EB2325471-017	EB2325471-018	EB2325471-019	EB2325471-020	
				Result	Result	Result	Result	Result	
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis									
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.6	7.6	7.8	8.0	7.9	
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	6.4	6.8	6.6	5.9	5.8	
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	2	4	2	2	2	



Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)				Sample ID	BH3 1.9m - 2.0m	BH3 2.4m - 2.5m	BH3 2.9m - 3.0m	BH3 3.3m - 3.4m	BH4 0.9m - 1.0m
Sampling date / time				15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-021	EB2325471-022	EB2325471-023	EB2325471-024	EB2325471-025	
				Result	Result	Result	Result	Result	
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis									
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.5	
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.0	
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	2	2	2	2	2	



Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL (Matrix: SOIL)			Sample ID	BH4 1.4m - 1.5m	----	----	----	----
				Sampling date / time	15-Aug-2023 00:00	----	----	----
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2325471-026  Result	-----	-----	-----	-----
					----	----	----	----
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis								
pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.5	----	----	----	----
pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	4.6	----	----	----	----
Reaction Rate	----	1	-	2	----	----	----	----



## QUALITY CONTROL REPORT

Work Order	: <b>EB2325471</b>	Page	: 1 of 3
Client	: <b>GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD</b>	Laboratory	: Environmental Division Brisbane
Contact	: JOE NADER	Contact	: Customer Services EB
Address	: 2 HAROLD STREET PARRAMATTA NSW 2150	Address	: 2 Byth Street Stafford QLD Australia 4053
Telephone	: ----	Telephone	: +61-7-3243 7222
Project	: G23285-1 Geotechnical Investigation	Date Samples Received	: 18-Aug-2023
Order number	: ----	Date Analysis Commenced	: 25-Aug-2023
C-O-C number	: ----	Issue Date	: 28-Aug-2023
Sampler	: GEORGE N		
Site	: 15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108		
Quote number	: EN/333		
No. of samples received	: 28		
No. of samples analysed	: 26		

This report supersedes any previous report(s) with this reference. Results apply to the sample(s) as submitted, unless the sampling was conducted by ALS. This document shall not be reproduced, except in full.

This Quality Control Report contains the following information:

- Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report; Relative Percentage Difference (RPD) and Acceptance Limits
- Method Blank (MB) and Laboratory Control Spike (LCS) Report; Recovery and Acceptance Limits
- Matrix Spike (MS) Report; Recovery and Acceptance Limits

### Signatories

This document has been electronically signed by the authorized signatories below. Electronic signing is carried out in compliance with procedures specified in 21 CFR Part 11.

Signatories	Position	Accreditation Category
Layla Hafner	Acid Sulphate Soils - Chemist	Brisbane Acid Sulphate Soils, Stafford, QLD





## General Comments

The analytical procedures used by ALS have been developed from established internationally recognised procedures such as those published by the USEPA, APHA, AS and NEPM. In house developed procedures are fully validated and are often at the client request.

Where moisture determination has been performed, results are reported on a dry weight basis.

Where a reported less than (<) result is higher than the LOR, this may be due to primary sample extract/digestate dilution and/or insufficient sample for analysis. Where the LOR of a reported result differs from standard LOR, this may be due to high moisture content, insufficient sample (reduced weight employed) or matrix interference.

Key :  
 Anonymous = Refers to samples which are not specifically part of this work order but formed part of the QC process lot  
 CAS Number = CAS registry number from database maintained by Chemical Abstracts Services. The Chemical Abstracts Service is a division of the American Chemical Society.  
 LOR = Limit of reporting  
 RPD = Relative Percentage Difference  
 # = Indicates failed QC

## Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report

The quality control term Laboratory Duplicate refers to a randomly selected intralaboratory split. Laboratory duplicates provide information regarding method precision and sample heterogeneity. The permitted ranges for the Relative Percent Deviation (RPD) of Laboratory Duplicates are specified in ALS Method QWI-EN/38 and are dependent on the magnitude of results in comparison to the level of reporting: Result < 10 times LOR: No Limit; Result between 10 and 20 times LOR: 0% - 50%; Result > 20 times LOR: 0% - 20%.

Sub-Matrix: **SOIL**

Sub-Matrix: <b>SOIL</b>				Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report					
Laboratory sample ID	Sample ID	Method: Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	Original Result	Duplicate Result	RPD (%)	Acceptable RPD (%)
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis (QC Lot: 5249345)									
EB2325445-001	Anonymous	EA037: pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	6.4	6.4	0.0	0% - 20%
		EA037: pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	2.1	2.0	0.0	0% - 20%
EB2325471-008	BH1 3.9m - 4.0m	EA037: pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	8.0	8.0	0.0	0% - 20%
		EA037: pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	5.7	5.7	0.0	0% - 20%
EA037: Ass Field Screening Analysis (QC Lot: 5249346)									
EB2325471-018	BH3 0.4m - 0.5m	EA037: pH (F)	----	0.1	pH Unit	7.8	8.0	2.0	0% - 20%
		EA037: pH (Fox)	----	0.1	pH Unit	6.6	6.6	0.0	0% - 20%



---

### ***Method Blank (MB) and Laboratory Control Sample (LCS) Report***

The quality control term Method / Laboratory Blank refers to an analyte free matrix to which all reagents are added in the same volumes or proportions as used in standard sample preparation. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor potential laboratory contamination. The quality control term Laboratory Control Sample (LCS) refers to a certified reference material, or a known interference free matrix spiked with target analytes. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor method precision and accuracy independent of sample matrix. Dynamic Recovery Limits are based on statistical evaluation of processed LCS.

- **No Method Blank (MB) or Laboratory Control Spike (LCS) Results are required to be reported.**

### ***Matrix Spike (MS) Report***

The quality control term Matrix Spike (MS) refers to an intralaboratory split sample spiked with a representative set of target analytes. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor potential matrix effects on analyte recoveries. Static Recovery Limits as per laboratory Data Quality Objectives (DQOs). Ideal recovery ranges stated may be waived in the event of sample matrix interference.

- **No Matrix Spike (MS) or Matrix Spike Duplicate (MSD) Results are required to be reported.**
-



## CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

**Work Order** : **EB2326915**  
**Client** : **GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD**  
**Contact** : **JOE NADER**  
**Address** : **2 HAROLD STREET**  
**PARRAMATTA NSW 2150**  
**Telephone** : **----**  
**Project** : **G23285-1 Geotechnical Investigation**  
**Order number** : **----**  
**C-O-C number** : **----**  
**Sampler** : **GEORGE N**  
**Site** : **15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108**  
**Quote number** : **EN/333**  
**No. of samples received** : **3**  
**No. of samples analysed** : **3**

**Page** : 1 of 3  
**Laboratory** : Environmental Division Brisbane  
**Contact** : Customer Services EB  
**Address** : 2 Byth Street Stafford QLD Australia 4053  
**Telephone** : +61-7-3243 7222  
**Date Samples Received** : 28-Aug-2023 12:17  
**Date Analysis Commenced** : 05-Sep-2023  
**Issue Date** : 05-Sep-2023 15:58



Accreditation No. 825  
Accredited for compliance with  
ISO/IEC 17025 - Testing

This report supersedes any previous report(s) with this reference. Results apply to the sample(s) as submitted, unless the sampling was conducted by ALS. This document shall not be reproduced, except in full.

This Certificate of Analysis contains the following information:

- General Comments
- Analytical Results

**Additional information pertinent to this report will be found in the following separate attachments: Quality Control Report, QA/QC Compliance Assessment to assist with Quality Review and Sample Receipt Notification.**

### Signatories

This document has been electronically signed by the authorized signatories below. Electronic signing is carried out in compliance with procedures specified in 21 CFR Part 11.

Signatories	Position	Accreditation Category
Layla Hafner	Acid Sulphate Soils - Chemist	Brisbane Acid Sulphate Soils, Stafford, QLD



## General Comments

The analytical procedures used by ALS have been developed from established internationally recognised procedures such as those published by the USEPA, APHA, AS and NEPM. In house developed procedures are fully validated and are often at the client request.

Where moisture determination has been performed, results are reported on a dry weight basis.

Where a reported less than (<) result is higher than the LOR, this may be due to primary sample extract/digestate dilution and/or insufficient sample for analysis.

Where the LOR of a reported result differs from standard LOR, this may be due to high moisture content, insufficient sample (reduced weight employed) or matrix interference.

When sampling time information is not provided by the client, sampling dates are shown without a time component. In these instances, the time component has been assumed by the laboratory for processing purposes.

Where a result is required to meet compliance limits the associated uncertainty must be considered. Refer to the ALS Contract for details.

Key : CAS Number = CAS registry number from database maintained by Chemical Abstracts Services. The Chemical Abstracts Service is a division of the American Chemical Society.  
LOR = Limit of reporting  
^ = This result is computed from individual analyte detections at or above the level of reporting  
ø = ALS is not NATA accredited for these tests.  
~ = Indicates an estimated value.

- ASS: EA033 (CRS Suite): Analysis is performed as per the Acid Sulfate Soils Laboratory Methods Guidelines (2004) and the updated National Acid Sulfate Soils Guidance: National acid sulfate soils identification and laboratory methods manual, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, Canberra, ACT (2018)
- ASS: EA033 (CRS Suite): Retained Acidity not required because pH KCl greater than or equal to 4.5
- ASS: EA033 (CRS Suite): Laboratory determinations of ANC needs to be corroborated by effectiveness of the measured ANC in relation to incubation ANC. Unless corroborated, the results of ANC testing should be discounted when determining Net Acidity for comparison with action criteria, or for the determination of the acidity hazard and required liming amounts.
- ASS: EA033 (CRS Suite): Liming rate is calculated and reported on a dry weight basis assuming use of fine agricultural lime (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) and using a safety factor of 1.5 to allow for non-homogeneous mixing and poor reactivity of lime. For conversion of Liming Rate from 'kg/t dry weight' to 'kg/m<sup>3</sup> in-situ soil', multiply 'reported results' x 'wet bulk density of soil in t/m<sup>3</sup>'.



## Analytical Results

Sub-Matrix: SOIL  
 (Matrix: SOIL)

Sample ID

				BH2 0.4m - 0.5m	BH3 2.4m - 2.5m	BH4 1.4m - 1.5m	----	----
Sampling date / time				15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	15-Aug-2023 00:00	----	----
Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	EB2326915-001	EB2326915-002	EB2326915-003	-----	-----
				Result	Result	Result	----	----
<b>EA033-A: Actual Acidity</b>								
pH KCl (23A)	----	0.1	pH Unit	<b>6.2</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>	----	----
Titrateable Actual Acidity (23F)	----	2	mole H+ / t	<b>3</b>	<2	<b>15</b>	----	----
sulfidic - Titrateable Actual Acidity (s-23F)	----	0.02	% pyrite S	<0.02	<0.02	<b>0.02</b>	----	----
<b>EA033-B: Potential Acidity</b>								
Chromium Reducible Sulfur (22B)	----	0.005	% S	<0.005	<0.005	<0.005	----	----
acidity - Chromium Reducible Sulfur (a-22B)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	<10	<10	----	----
<b>EA033-C: Acid Neutralising Capacity</b>								
Acid Neutralising Capacity (19A2)	----	0.01	% CaCO3	----	<b>0.29</b>	----	----	----
acidity - Acid Neutralising Capacity (a-19A2)	----	10	mole H+ / t	----	<b>58</b>	----	----	----
sulfidic - Acid Neutralising Capacity (s-19A2)	----	0.01	% pyrite S	----	<b>0.09</b>	----	----	----
<b>EA033-E: Acid Base Accounting</b>								
ANC Fineness Factor	----	0.5	-	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	----	----
Net Acidity (sulfur units)	----	0.02	% S	<0.02	<0.02	<b>0.02</b>	----	----
Net Acidity (acidity units)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	<10	<b>15</b>	----	----
Liming Rate	----	1	kg CaCO3/t	<1	<1	<b>1</b>	----	----
Net Acidity excluding ANC (sulfur units)	----	0.02	% S	<0.02	<0.02	<b>0.02</b>	----	----
Net Acidity excluding ANC (acidity units)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	<10	<b>15</b>	----	----
Liming Rate excluding ANC	----	1	kg CaCO3/t	<1	<1	<b>1</b>	----	----



## QUALITY CONTROL REPORT

Work Order	: <b>EB2326915</b>	Page	: 1 of 3
Client	: <b>GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD</b>	Laboratory	: Environmental Division Brisbane
Contact	: <b>JOE NADER</b>	Contact	: Customer Services EB
Address	: <b>2 HAROLD STREET PARRAMATTA NSW 2150</b>	Address	: <b>2 Byth Street Stafford QLD Australia 4053</b>
Telephone	: ----	Telephone	: +61-7-3243 7222
Project	: <b>G23285-1 Geotechnical Investigation</b>	Date Samples Received	: 28-Aug-2023
Order number	: ----	Date Analysis Commenced	: 05-Sep-2023
C-O-C number	: ----	Issue Date	: 05-Sep-2023
Sampler	: <b>GEORGE N</b>		
Site	: <b>15 Ocean Road Palm Beach NSW 2108</b>		
Quote number	: <b>EN/333</b>		
No. of samples received	: <b>3</b>		
No. of samples analysed	: <b>3</b>		



Accreditation No. 825  
Accredited for compliance with  
ISO/IEC 17025 - Testing

This report supersedes any previous report(s) with this reference. Results apply to the sample(s) as submitted, unless the sampling was conducted by ALS. This document shall not be reproduced, except in full.

This Quality Control Report contains the following information:

- Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report; Relative Percentage Difference (RPD) and Acceptance Limits
- Method Blank (MB) and Laboratory Control Spike (LCS) Report; Recovery and Acceptance Limits
- Matrix Spike (MS) Report; Recovery and Acceptance Limits

### Signatories

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Signatories	Position	Accreditation Category
Layla Hafner	Acid Sulphate Soils - Chemist	Brisbane Acid Sulphate Soils, Stafford, QLD



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Key :  
 Anonymous = Refers to samples which are not specifically part of this work order but formed part of the QC process lot  
 CAS Number = CAS registry number from database maintained by Chemical Abstracts Services. The Chemical Abstracts Service is a division of the American Chemical Society.  
 LOR = Limit of reporting  
 RPD = Relative Percentage Difference  
 # = Indicates failed QC

## Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report

The quality control term Laboratory Duplicate refers to a randomly selected intralaboratory split. Laboratory duplicates provide information regarding method precision and sample heterogeneity. The permitted ranges for the Relative Percent Deviation (RPD) of Laboratory Duplicates are specified in ALS Method QWI-EN/38 and are dependent on the magnitude of results in comparison to the level of reporting: Result < 10 times LOR: No Limit; Result between 10 and 20 times LOR: 0% - 50%; Result > 20 times LOR: 0% - 20%.

Sub-Matrix: **SOIL**

Sub-Matrix: <b>SOIL</b>				Laboratory Duplicate (DUP) Report					
Laboratory sample ID	Sample ID	Method: Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	Original Result	Duplicate Result	RPD (%)	Acceptable RPD (%)
EA033-A: Actual Acidity (QC Lot: 5274590)									
EB2326713-013	Anonymous	EA033: sulfidic - Titratable Actual Acidity (s-23F)	----	0.02	% pyrite S	0.10	0.09	0.0	No Limit
		EA033: Titratable Actual Acidity (23F)	----	2	mole H+ / t	63	58	8.2	0% - 20%
		EA033: pH KCl (23A)	----	0.1	pH Unit	4.4	4.4	0.0	0% - 20%
ES2328813-001	Anonymous	EA033: sulfidic - Titratable Actual Acidity (s-23F)	----	0.02	% pyrite S	<0.02	<0.02	0.0	No Limit
		EA033: Titratable Actual Acidity (23F)	----	2	mole H+ / t	<2	<2	0.0	No Limit
		EA033: pH KCl (23A)	----	0.1	pH Unit	6.8	6.9	1.6	0% - 20%
EA033-B: Potential Acidity (QC Lot: 5274590)									
EB2326713-013	Anonymous	EA033: Chromium Reducible Sulfur (22B)	----	0.005	% S	<0.005	<0.005	0.0	No Limit
		EA033: acidity - Chromium Reducible Sulfur (a-22B)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	<10	0.0	No Limit
ES2328813-001	Anonymous	EA033: Chromium Reducible Sulfur (22B)	----	0.005	% S	0.022	0.020	7.8	No Limit
		EA033: acidity - Chromium Reducible Sulfur (a-22B)	----	10	mole H+ / t	14	12	7.8	No Limit
EA033-C: Acid Neutralising Capacity (QC Lot: 5274590)									
ES2328813-001	Anonymous	EA033: Acid Neutralising Capacity (19A2)	----	0.01	% CaCO3	0.80	0.92	15.0	0% - 20%
		EA033: sulfidic - Acid Neutralising Capacity (s-19A2)	----	0.01	% pyrite S	0.26	0.30	15.0	0% - 20%
		EA033: acidity - Acid Neutralising Capacity (a-19A2)	----	10	mole H+ / t	159	185	15.0	0% - 50%



## Method Blank (MB) and Laboratory Control Sample (LCS) Report

The quality control term Method / Laboratory Blank refers to an analyte free matrix to which all reagents are added in the same volumes or proportions as used in standard sample preparation. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor potential laboratory contamination. The quality control term Laboratory Control Sample (LCS) refers to a certified reference material, or a known interference free matrix spiked with target analytes. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor method precision and accuracy independent of sample matrix. Dynamic Recovery Limits are based on statistical evaluation of processed LCS.

Sub-Matrix: **SOIL**

Sub-Matrix: SOIL				Method Blank (MB) Report	Laboratory Control Spike (LCS) Report			
					Spike Concentration	Spike Recovery (%) LCS	Acceptable Limits (%) Low      High	
Method: Compound	CAS Number	LOR	Unit	Result				
EA033-A: Actual Acidity (QCLot: 5274590)								
EA033: pH KCl (23A)	----	----	pH Unit	----	4.4 pH Unit	97.6	91.0	107
EA033: Titratable Actual Acidity (23F)	----	2	mole H+ / t	<2	16 mole H+ / t	94.1	70.0	124
EA033: sulfidic - Titratable Actual Acidity (s-23F)	----	0.02	% pyrite S	<0.02	----	----	----	----
EA033-B: Potential Acidity (QCLot: 5274590)								
EA033: Chromium Reducible Sulfur (22B)	----	0.005	% S	<0.005	0.246 % S	102	77.0	121
EA033: acidity - Chromium Reducible Sulfur (a-22B)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	----	----	----	----
EA033-C: Acid Neutralising Capacity (QCLot: 5274590)								
EA033: Acid Neutralising Capacity (19A2)	----	0.01	% CaCO3	<0.01	10 % CaCO3	108	91.0	112
EA033: acidity - Acid Neutralising Capacity (a-19A2)	----	10	mole H+ / t	<10	----	----	----	----
EA033: sulfidic - Acid Neutralising Capacity (s-19A2)	----	0.01	% pyrite S	<0.01	----	----	----	----

## Matrix Spike (MS) Report

The quality control term Matrix Spike (MS) refers to an intralaboratory split sample spiked with a representative set of target analytes. The purpose of this QC parameter is to monitor potential matrix effects on analyte recoveries. Static Recovery Limits as per laboratory Data Quality Objectives (DQOs). Ideal recovery ranges stated may be waived in the event of sample matrix interference.

- **No Matrix Spike (MS) or Matrix Spike Duplicate (MSD) Results are required to be reported.**



# **APPENDIX G**

# Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide



CSIRO

BTF 18  
replaces  
Information  
Sheet 10/91

Buildings can and often do move. This movement can be up, down, lateral or rotational. The fundamental cause of movement in buildings can usually be related to one or more problems in the foundation soil. It is important for the homeowner to identify the soil type in order to ascertain the measures that should be put in place in order to ensure that problems in the foundation soil can be prevented, thus protecting against building movement.

This Building Technology File is designed to identify causes of soil-related building movement, and to suggest methods of prevention of resultant cracking in buildings.

## Soil Types

The types of soils usually present under the topsoil in land zoned for residential buildings can be split into two approximate groups – granular and clay. Quite often, foundation soil is a mixture of both types. The general problems associated with soils having granular content are usually caused by erosion. Clay soils are subject to saturation and swell/shrink problems.

Classifications for a given area can generally be obtained by application to the local authority, but these are sometimes unreliable and if there is doubt, a geotechnical report should be commissioned. As most buildings suffering movement problems are founded on clay soils, there is an emphasis on classification of soils according to the amount of swell and shrinkage they experience with variations of water content. The table below is Table 2.1 from AS 2870, the Residential Slab and Footing Code.

## Causes of Movement

### Settlement due to construction

There are two types of settlement that occur as a result of construction:

- Immediate settlement occurs when a building is first placed on its foundation soil, as a result of compaction of the soil under the weight of the structure. The cohesive quality of clay soil mitigates against this, but granular (particularly sandy) soil is susceptible.
- Consolidation settlement is a feature of clay soil and may take place because of the expulsion of moisture from the soil or because of the soil's lack of resistance to local compressive or shear stresses. This will usually take place during the first few months after construction, but has been known to take many years in exceptional cases.

These problems are the province of the builder and should be taken into consideration as part of the preparation of the site for construction. Building Technology File 19 (BTF 19) deals with these problems.

### Erosion

All soils are prone to erosion, but sandy soil is particularly susceptible to being washed away. Even clay with a sand component of say 10% or more can suffer from erosion.

### Saturation

This is particularly a problem in clay soils. Saturation creates a bog-like suspension of the soil that causes it to lose virtually all of its bearing capacity. To a lesser degree, sand is affected by saturation because saturated sand may undergo a reduction in volume – particularly imported sand fill for bedding and blinding layers. However, this usually occurs as immediate settlement and should normally be the province of the builder.

### Seasonal swelling and shrinkage of soil

All clays react to the presence of water by slowly absorbing it, making the soil increase in volume (see table below). The degree of increase varies considerably between different clays, as does the degree of decrease during the subsequent drying out caused by fair weather periods. Because of the low absorption and expulsion rate, this phenomenon will not usually be noticeable unless there are prolonged rainy or dry periods, usually of weeks or months, depending on the land and soil characteristics.

The swelling of soil creates an upward force on the footings of the building, and shrinkage creates subsidence that takes away the support needed by the footing to retain equilibrium.

### Shear failure

This phenomenon occurs when the foundation soil does not have sufficient strength to support the weight of the footing. There are two major post-construction causes:

- Significant load increase.
- Reduction of lateral support of the soil under the footing due to erosion or excavation.
- In clay soil, shear failure can be caused by saturation of the soil adjacent to or under the footing.

## GENERAL DEFINITIONS OF SITE CLASSES

Class	Foundation
A	Most sand and rock sites with little or no ground movement from moisture changes
S	Slightly reactive clay sites with only slight ground movement from moisture changes
M	Moderately reactive clay or silt sites, which can experience moderate ground movement from moisture changes
H	Highly reactive clay sites, which can experience high ground movement from moisture changes
E	Extremely reactive sites, which can experience extreme ground movement from moisture changes
A to P	Filled sites
P	Sites which include soft soils, such as soft clay or silt or loose sands; landslip; mine subsidence; collapsing soils; soils subject to erosion; reactive sites subject to abnormal moisture conditions or sites which cannot be classified otherwise

### Tree root growth

Trees and shrubs that are allowed to grow in the vicinity of footings can cause foundation soil movement in two ways:

- Roots that grow under footings may increase in cross-sectional size, exerting upward pressure on footings.
- Roots in the vicinity of footings will absorb much of the moisture in the foundation soil, causing shrinkage or subsidence.

### Unevenness of Movement

The types of ground movement described above usually occur unevenly throughout the building's foundation soil. Settlement due to construction tends to be uneven because of:

- Differing compaction of foundation soil prior to construction.
- Differing moisture content of foundation soil prior to construction.

Movement due to non-construction causes is usually more uneven still. Erosion can undermine a footing that traverses the flow or can create the conditions for shear failure by eroding soil adjacent to a footing that runs in the same direction as the flow.

Saturation of clay foundation soil may occur where subfloor walls create a dam that makes water pond. It can also occur wherever there is a source of water near footings in clay soil. This leads to a severe reduction in the strength of the soil which may create local shear failure.

Seasonal swelling and shrinkage of clay soil affects the perimeter of the building first, then gradually spreads to the interior. The swelling process will usually begin at the uphill extreme of the building, or on the weather side where the land is flat. Swelling gradually reaches the interior soil as absorption continues. Shrinkage usually begins where the sun's heat is greatest.

### Effects of Uneven Soil Movement on Structures

#### Erosion and saturation

Erosion removes the support from under footings, tending to create subsidence of the part of the structure under which it occurs. Brickwork walls will resist the stress created by this removal of support by bridging the gap or cantilevering until the bricks or the mortar bedding fail. Older masonry has little resistance. Evidence of failure varies according to circumstances and symptoms may include:

- Step cracking in the mortar beds in the body of the wall or above/below openings such as doors or windows.
- Vertical cracking in the bricks (usually but not necessarily in line with the vertical beds or perpend).

Isolated piers affected by erosion or saturation of foundations will eventually lose contact with the bearers they support and may tilt or fall over. The floors that have lost this support will become bouncy, sometimes rattling ornaments etc.

#### Seasonal swelling/shrinkage in clay

Swelling foundation soil due to rainy periods first lifts the most exposed extremities of the footing system, then the remainder of the perimeter footings while gradually permeating inside the building footprint to lift internal footings. This swelling first tends to create a dish effect, because the external footings are pushed higher than the internal ones.

The first noticeable symptom may be that the floor appears slightly dished. This is often accompanied by some doors binding on the floor or the door head, together with some cracking of cornice mitres. In buildings with timber flooring supported by bearers and joists, the floor can be bouncy. Externally there may be visible dishing of the hip or ridge lines.

As the moisture absorption process completes its journey to the innermost areas of the building, the internal footings will rise. If the spread of moisture is roughly even, it may be that the symptoms will temporarily disappear, but it is more likely that swelling will be uneven, creating a difference rather than a disappearance in symptoms. In buildings with timber flooring supported by bearers and joists, the isolated piers will rise more easily than the strip footings or piers under walls, creating noticeable doming of flooring.

Trees can cause shrinkage and damage



As the weather pattern changes and the soil begins to dry out, the external footings will be first affected, beginning with the locations where the sun's effect is strongest. This has the effect of lowering the external footings. The doming is accentuated and cracking reduces or disappears where it occurred because of dishing, but other cracks open up. The roof lines may become convex.

Doming and dishing are also affected by weather in other ways. In areas where warm, wet summers and cooler dry winters prevail, water migration tends to be toward the interior and doming will be accentuated, whereas where summers are dry and winters are cold and wet, migration tends to be toward the exterior and the underlying propensity is toward dishing.

#### Movement caused by tree roots

In general, growing roots will exert an upward pressure on footings, whereas soil subject to drying because of tree or shrub roots will tend to remove support from under footings by inducing shrinkage.

#### Complications caused by the structure itself

Most forces that the soil causes to be exerted on structures are vertical – i.e. either up or down. However, because these forces are seldom spread evenly around the footings, and because the building resists uneven movement because of its rigidity, forces are exerted from one part of the building to another. The net result of all these forces is usually rotational. This resultant force often complicates the diagnosis because the visible symptoms do not simply reflect the original cause. A common symptom is binding of doors on the vertical member of the frame.

#### Effects on full masonry structures

Brickwork will resist cracking where it can. It will attempt to span areas that lose support because of subsided foundations or raised points. It is therefore usual to see cracking at weak points, such as openings for windows or doors.

In the event of construction settlement, cracking will usually remain unchanged after the process of settlement has ceased.

With local shear or erosion, cracking will usually continue to develop until the original cause has been remedied, or until the subsidence has completely neutralised the affected portion of footing and the structure has stabilised on other footings that remain effective.

In the case of swell/shrink effects, the brickwork will in some cases return to its original position after completion of a cycle, however it is more likely that the rotational effect will not be exactly reversed, and it is also usual that brickwork will settle in its new position and will resist the forces trying to return it to its original position. This means that in a case where swelling takes place after construction and cracking occurs, the cracking is likely to at least partly remain after the shrink segment of the cycle is complete. Thus, each time the cycle is repeated, the likelihood is that the cracking will become wider until the sections of brickwork become virtually independent.

With repeated cycles, once the cracking is established, if there is no other complication, it is normal for the incidence of cracking to stabilise, as the building has the articulation it needs to cope with the problem. This is by no means always the case, however, and monitoring of cracks in walls and floors should always be treated seriously.

Upheaval caused by growth of tree roots under footings is not a simple vertical shear stress. There is a tendency for the root to also exert lateral forces that attempt to separate sections of brickwork after initial cracking has occurred.

The normal structural arrangement is that the inner leaf of brickwork in the external walls and at least some of the internal walls (depending on the roof type) comprise the load-bearing structure on which any upper floors, ceilings and the roof are supported. In these cases, it is internally visible cracking that should be the main focus of attention, however there are a few examples of dwellings whose external leaf of masonry plays some supporting role, so this should be checked if there is any doubt. In any case, externally visible cracking is important as a guide to stresses on the structure generally, and it should also be remembered that the external walls must be capable of supporting themselves.

Effects on framed structures

Timber or steel framed buildings are less likely to exhibit cracking due to swell/shrink than masonry buildings because of their flexibility. Also, the doming/dishing effects tend to be lower because of the lighter weight of walls. The main risks to framed buildings are encountered because of the isolated pier footings used under walls. Where erosion or saturation cause a footing to fall away, this can double the span which a wall must bridge. This additional stress can create cracking in wall linings, particularly where there is a weak point in the structure caused by a door or window opening. It is, however, unlikely that framed structures will be so stressed as to suffer serious damage without first exhibiting some or all of the above symptoms for a considerable period. The same warning period should apply in the case of upheaval. It should be noted, however, that where framed buildings are supported by strip footings there is only one leaf of brickwork and therefore the externally visible walls are the supporting structure for the building. In this case, the subfloor masonry walls can be expected to behave as full brickwork walls.

Effects on brick veneer structures

Because the load-bearing structure of a brick veneer building is the frame that makes up the interior leaf of the external walls plus perhaps the internal walls, depending on the type of roof, the building can be expected to behave as a framed structure, except that the external masonry will behave in a similar way to the external leaf of a full masonry structure.

Water Service and Drainage

Where a water service pipe, a sewer or stormwater drainage pipe is in the vicinity of a building, a water leak can cause erosion, swelling or saturation of susceptible soil. Even a minuscule leak can be enough to saturate a clay foundation. A leaking tap near a building can have the same effect. In addition, trenches containing pipes can become watercourses even though backfilled, particularly where broken rubble is used as fill. Water that runs along these trenches can be responsible for serious erosion, interstrata seepage into subfloor areas and saturation.

Pipe leakage and trench water flows also encourage tree and shrub roots to the source of water, complicating and exacerbating the problem.

Poor roof plumbing can result in large volumes of rainwater being concentrated in a small area of soil:

- Incorrect falls in roof guttering may result in overflows, as may gutters blocked with leaves etc.

- Corroded guttering or downpipes can spill water to ground.
- Downpipes not positively connected to a proper stormwater collection system will direct a concentration of water to soil that is directly adjacent to footings, sometimes causing large-scale problems such as erosion, saturation and migration of water under the building.

Seriousness of Cracking

In general, most cracking found in masonry walls is a cosmetic nuisance only and can be kept in repair or even ignored. The table below is a reproduction of Table C1 of AS 2870.

AS 2870 also publishes figures relating to cracking in concrete floors, however because wall cracking will usually reach the critical point significantly earlier than cracking in slabs, this table is not reproduced here.

Prevention/Cure

Plumbing

Where building movement is caused by water service, roof plumbing, sewer or stormwater failure, the remedy is to repair the problem. It is prudent, however, to consider also rerouting pipes away from the building where possible, and relocating taps to positions where any leakage will not direct water to the building vicinity. Even where gully traps are present, there is sometimes sufficient spill to create erosion or saturation, particularly in modern installations using smaller diameter PVC fixtures. Indeed, some gully traps are not situated directly under the taps that are installed to charge them, with the result that water from the tap may enter the backfilled trench that houses the sewer piping. If the trench has been poorly backfilled, the water will either pond or flow along the bottom of the trench. As these trenches usually run alongside the footings and can be at a similar depth, it is not hard to see how any water that is thus directed into a trench can easily affect the foundation's ability to support footings or even gain entry to the subfloor area.

Ground drainage

In all soils there is the capacity for water to travel on the surface and below it. Surface water flows can be established by inspection during and after heavy or prolonged rain. If necessary, a grated drain system connected to the stormwater collection system is usually an easy solution.

It is, however, sometimes necessary when attempting to prevent water migration that testing be carried out to establish watertable height and subsoil water flows. This subject is referred to in BTF 19 and may properly be regarded as an area for an expert consultant.

Protection of the building perimeter

It is essential to remember that the soil that affects footings extends well beyond the actual building line. Watering of garden plants, shrubs and trees causes some of the most serious water problems.

For this reason, particularly where problems exist or are likely to occur, it is recommended that an apron of paving be installed around as much of the building perimeter as necessary. This paving

CLASSIFICATION OF DAMAGE WITH REFERENCE TO WALLS		
Description of typical damage and required repair	Approximate crack width limit (see Note 3)	Damage category
Hairline cracks	<0.1 mm	0
Fine cracks which do not need repair	<1 mm	1
Cracks noticeable but easily filled. Doors and windows stick slightly	<5 mm	2
Cracks can be repaired and possibly a small amount of wall will need to be replaced. Doors and windows stick. Service pipes can fracture. Weathertightness often impaired	5–15 mm (or a number of cracks 3 mm or more in one group)	3
Extensive repair work involving breaking-out and replacing sections of walls, especially over doors and windows. Window and door frames distort. Walls lean or bulge noticeably, some loss of bearing in beams. Service pipes disrupted	15–25 mm but also depend on number of cracks	4





- Water that is transmitted into masonry, metal or timber building elements causes damage and/or decay to those elements.
- High subfloor humidity and moisture content create an ideal environment for various pests, including termites and spiders.
- Where high moisture levels are transmitted to the flooring and walls, an increase in the dust mite count can ensue within the living areas. Dust mites, as well as dampness in general, can be a health hazard to inhabitants, particularly those who are abnormally susceptible to respiratory ailments.

### The garden

The ideal vegetation layout is to have lawn or plants that require only light watering immediately adjacent to the drainage or paving edge, then more demanding plants, shrubs and trees spread out in that order.

Overwatering due to misuse of automatic watering systems is a common cause of saturation and water migration under footings. If it is necessary to use these systems, it is important to remove garden beds to a completely safe distance from buildings.

### Existing trees

Where a tree is causing a problem of soil drying or there is the existence or threat of upheaval of footings, if the offending roots are subsidiary and their removal will not significantly damage the tree, they should be severed and a concrete or metal barrier placed vertically in the soil to prevent future root growth in the direction of the building. If it is not possible to remove the relevant roots without damage to the tree, an application to remove the tree should be made to the local authority. A prudent plan is to transplant likely offenders before they become a problem.

### Information on trees, plants and shrubs

State departments overseeing agriculture can give information regarding root patterns, volume of water needed and safe distance from buildings of most species. Botanic gardens are also sources of information. For information on plant roots and drains, see Building Technology File 17.

### Excavation

Excavation around footings must be properly engineered. Soil supporting footings can only be safely excavated at an angle that allows the soil under the footing to remain stable. This angle is called the angle of repose (or friction) and varies significantly between soil types and conditions. Removal of soil within the angle of repose will cause subsidence.

### Remediation

Where erosion has occurred that has washed away soil adjacent to footings, soil of the same classification should be introduced and compacted to the same density. Where footings have been undermined, augmentation or other specialist work may be required. Remediation of footings and foundations is generally the realm of a specialist consultant.

Where isolated footings rise and fall because of swell/shrink effect, the homeowner may be tempted to alleviate floor bounce by filling the gap that has appeared between the bearer and the pier with blocking. The danger here is that when the next swell segment of the cycle occurs, the extra blocking will push the floor up into an accentuated dome and may also cause local shear failure in the soil. If it is necessary to use blocking, it should be by a pair of fine wedges and monitoring should be carried out fortnightly.

**This BTF was prepared by John Lewer FAIB, MIAMA, Partner, Construction Diagnosis.**

should extend outwards a minimum of 900 mm (more in highly reactive soil) and should have a minimum fall away from the building of 1:60. The finished paving should be no less than 100 mm below brick vent bases.

It is prudent to relocate drainage pipes away from this paving, if possible, to avoid complications from future leakage. If this is not practical, earthenware pipes should be replaced by PVC and backfilling should be of the same soil type as the surrounding soil and compacted to the same density.

Except in areas where freezing of water is an issue, it is wise to remove taps in the building area and relocate them well away from the building – preferably not uphill from it (see BTF 19).

It may be desirable to install a grated drain at the outside edge of the paving on the uphill side of the building. If subsoil drainage is needed this can be installed under the surface drain.

### Condensation

In buildings with a subfloor void such as where bearers and joists support flooring, insufficient ventilation creates ideal conditions for condensation, particularly where there is little clearance between the floor and the ground. Condensation adds to the moisture already present in the subfloor and significantly slows the process of drying out. Installation of an adequate subfloor ventilation system, either natural or mechanical, is desirable.

**Warning:** Although this Building Technology File deals with cracking in buildings, it should be said that subfloor moisture can result in the development of other problems, notably:

The information in this and other issues in the series was derived from various sources and was believed to be correct when published.

The information is advisory. It is provided in good faith and not claimed to be an exhaustive treatment of the relevant subject.

Further professional advice needs to be obtained before taking any action based on the information provided.

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# **APPENDIX H**





**Landscape**—gently undulating to rolling coastal dunefields. Local relief to 20 m, slope gradients generally 1–10%, but occasionally up to 35%. North–south oriented dunes with convex narrow crests, moderately inclined slopes and broad gently inclined concave swales. Extensively cleared open-forest and eucalypt/apple woodland.

**Soils**—deep (>200 cm) Podzols (Uc2.31, Uc2.32, Uc2.34) on dunes and Podzols/Humus Podzol intergrades (Uc2.23, Uc2.21, Uc2.3, Uc4.33) on swales.

**Limitations**—extreme wind erosion hazard, non-cohesive, highly permeable soil, very low soil fertility, localised flooding and permanently high watertables.

## LOCATION

The largest example is the extensive dune system of the Botany Lowlands. This includes the local government areas of Botany, Randwick and South Sydney. Other examples are found along the coast at Palm Beach, Narrabeen, Collaroy, Rose Bay, Bondi, Coogee, Kyeemagh, Brighton-le-Sands, Monterey, Ramsgate and Dolls Point.

## LANDSCAPE

### Geology

Quaternary (Holocene and Pleistocene) wind-blown, fine to medium grained, well sorted marine quartz sand. Shell fragments are absent, and the sand appears to be finer than sands found on foredunes and on beaches.

## Topography

Gently undulating plains and rolling undulating rises of broad, level to very gently inclined, swales and dunes. Elevation is usually <20 m, although the northern part of the Botany Lowlands dunefield rises to elevations of up to 40 m. Local relief is <20 m. Dune sideslopes are gently to moderately inclined. Isolated steep rises with slopes up to 35% occur. Steep slopes are usually associated with undercutting of the toe of dunes or where wind-blown sand has been deposited at the base of obstacles such as outcrops of Hawkesbury Sandstone.

Coastal hind-dunes run sub-parallel to the coast. With increasing distance from the coast, the dunes assume a north-south trend. Most rainfall infiltrates directly into the soil. Run off, when it occurs, collects in a series of depressions, lagoons and swamps.

## Vegetation

Almost completely cleared dry sclerophyll eucalypt and apple woodland. Small patches remain, notably in Scarborough Park at Ramsgate. The original native vegetation probably formed dry sclerophyll tall open-woodland or forest. Dominant tree species are smooth-barked apple *Angophora costata*, Sydney peppermint *Eucalyptus piperita*, and old man banksia *Banksia aemula*. The shrubby sclerophyllous understorey contains many species including bracken *Pteridium esculentum*, Christmas bush *Ceratopetalum gummiferum*, woody pear *Xylomelum pyrifforme*, and prickly moses *Acacia ulicifolia*.

## Land use

Although mostly urban residential land development, much of Botany, Mascot, Zetland and Chifley have been developed for heavy industry. Recreational land use also occupies large areas. Examples are Centennial Park, Eastlakes golf course, Bonnie Doon golf course, Randwick racecourse, Rose Bay golf course. Few areas of vacant land remain.

## Existing Erosion

No appreciable erosion occurs where slopes are low and a vigorous ground cover is maintained. Isolated blowouts caused by wind erosion occur in exposed areas where cover has been removed.

## SOILS

### Dominant Soil Materials

**tg1—Loose speckled grey-brown loamy sand.** This is grey-brown speckled sand to loamy sand with apedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon).

This material consists of a mixture of small dark organic fragments and clean, well sorted, quartz sand grains. Colour ranges from brownish-grey (10YR 4/1) to brownish-black (10YR 2/3) or black (10YR 2/1) with increasing organic matter. It is characteristically water repellent. The pH is slightly acid (pH 6.0) to neutral (pH 7.0). Roots are abundant and charcoal fragments are often present. Stones are absent.

**tg2—Bleached loose sand.** This is bleached sand with apedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It occurs as an A2 horizon.

The surface condition is loose and the material is non-cohesive when dry and weakly coherent when moist. Dry colours are commonly bleached and moist colour ranges from light grey (7.5YR 8/1) and greyish-yellow (2.5Y 7/2) to dull yellow-orange (10YR 7/4). The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to neutral (pH 7.0). Charcoal and stones are absent and roots are rare.



**tg3— Grey-brown mottled sand.** This is mottled sand or loamy sand with apedal single-grained structure and loose sandy fabric. It occurs as subsoil in areas of poor drainage.

It is weakly coherent when moist and non-cohesive when either dry or saturated. Colours range from brownish-grey (10YR 6/1) to greyish-brown (7.5YR 4/2). Faint grey mottles become increasingly common with depth. This material is seasonally waterlogged. The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to neutral (pH 7.0). Charcoal and stones are absent and roots are rare.

**tg4— Black soft sandy organic pan.** This is a black, soft, organic stained sand to loamy sand with apedal massive structure and sandy or, less commonly, earthy fabric. It often occurs as subsoil pan (B horizon) associated with **tg5**.

This material consists of quartz sand grains coated and weakly cemented with black organic compounds. Colour is commonly black (10YR 1.7/1) or brownish-black (10YR 3/1). The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to neutral (pH 7.0). This material requires up to a moderate force to disrupt and is often hardsetting on exposure. Stones, charcoal and roots are absent.

**tg5— Brown soft sandy iron pan.** This is brown soft iron stained sand to loamy sand with apedal massive structure and sandy or less commonly earthy, fabric. It generally occurs as subsoil (B horizon) and is commonly known as coffee rock.

This material consists of quartz sand grains coated and weakly cemented with yellow and red sesquioxides. Colour varies from bright yellowish- brown (10YR 7/6) to brown (10YR 4/6). Dark brown and orange mottles are common. This material requires a moderate force to disrupt and is often hardsetting on exposure. The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to neutral (pH 7.0). Roots are rare, and stones and charcoal are absent.

**tg6— Yellow massive sand.** This is yellow-orange sand to clayey sand with apedal single-grained or apedal massive structure and sandy or earthy fabric. It usually occurs as deep subsoil (B horizon).

This material consists of clay-coated quartz sand grains that are compacted, but not cemented. Colour varies from light yellow (2.5Y 7/4) to dull yellow-orange (10YR 7/3). The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to neutral (pH 7.0). Stones, charcoal and roots are absent.

#### **Associated Soil Materials**

Poorly drained swales have dark brown or black, organic rich topsoil materials that resemble **wa1**.

#### **Occurrence and Relationships**

**Dunes.** Usually 30 cm of loose, speckled, grey-brown loamy sand (**tg1**) overlies >100 cm of bleached loose sand (**tg2**). **tg2** has a piped and convoluted boundary with intermixed black soft sandy organic pan (**tg4**) and brown soft sandy iron pan (**tg5**) materials. These can be up to 50 cm deep. More than 200 cm of yellow massive sand (**tg6**) occurs as deep subsoil. Boundaries are sharp to clear. Total soil depth exceeds 300 cm [Podzols (Uc2.31, Uc2.32, Uc2.34)].

**Swales.** Up to 25 cm of **tg1** overlies >30 cm of **tg2**. **tg3** occurs below **tg2** usually at the level of the capillary fringe of the watertable. **tg4** underlies **tg3** and is normally closely associated with the watertable. Occasionally **tg5** is present between **tg4** and **tg6**. **tg6** occurs below **tg4** and may be several metres thick. Boundaries are sharp except for the boundary between **tg2** and **tg3**, which is gradual. Total soil depth exceeds 200 cm [Podzols and Humus Podzol intergrades (Uc2.23, Uc2.21 and Uc2.3)].

## LIMITATIONS TO DEVELOPMENT

### Urban Capability

Low to moderate capability for urban development.

### Rural Capability

Not relevant.

### Landscape Limitations

Wind erosion hazard

Waterlogging (localised)

Steep slopes (localised)

Flood hazard (localised)

Non-cohesive soils

### Soil Limitations

**tg1** Low available water capacity  
High organic matter (localised)  
Low fertility

**tg2** Low available water capacity  
Very low fertility  
Strongly acid

**tg3** Low available water capacity  
Very low fertility  
Salinity (localised)  
Hardsetting

**tg4** Low available water capacity  
Hardsetting  
Very low fertility  
Strongly acid  
Very high aluminium toxicity

**tg5** Low available water capacity  
Hardsetting  
Very low fertility  
Very strongly acid  
Salinity (localised)  
High aluminium toxicity

**tg6** Low available water capacity  
Very low fertility  
Strongly acid

### Fertility

The general fertility is low to very low. All soil materials have low available water capacity, low CEC and very low nutrient status. Soils are strongly acid and **tg4** and **tg5** have a high aluminium toxicity.

## Erodibility

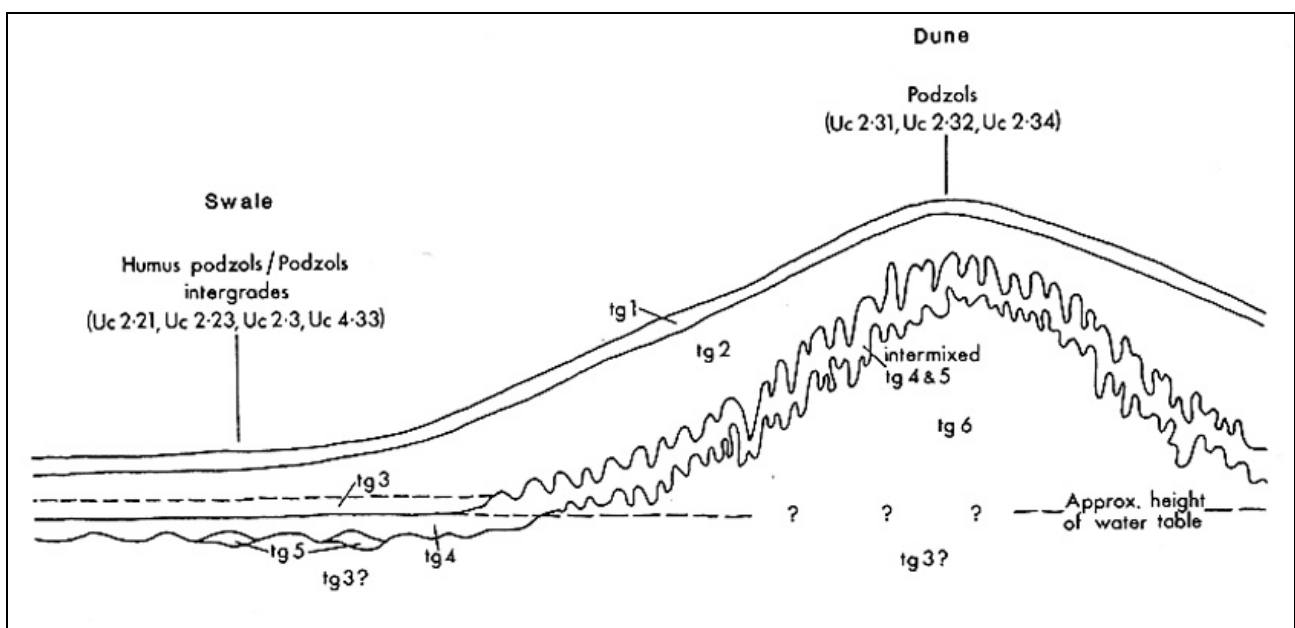
The soil materials **tg1–tg3**, and **tg6** have low erodibility as they consist of highly permeable, coarse sand grains. However, their lack of cohesion makes them very susceptible to erosion from concentrated flows. Soft pan materials **tg4** and **tg5** are weakly cemented by iron oxide or aluminium organic compounds and have a very low erodibility.

## Erosion Hazard

The erosion hazard for non-concentrated flows ranges from low to moderate. Calculated soil loss for the first twelve months of urban development ranges up to 14 t/ha for topsoil and 35 t/ha for exposed subsoil. The erosion hazard for concentrated flows and wind is very high to extreme.

## Surface Movement Potential

The sandy soil materials are stable.



*Schematic cross-section of Tuggerah soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.*



Source: Soil and Land Resources of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment interactive DVD

**Landscape**—rolling to very steep hills on fine-grained Narrabeen Group sediments. Local relief 60–120 m, slopes >25%. Narrow, convex crests and ridges, steep colluvial sideslopes, occasional sandstone boulders and benches. Tall eucalypt open-forest with closed-forest (rainforest) in sheltered positions.

**Soils**—shallow to deep (30–200 cm) *Lithosols/Siliceous Sands* (Uc1.24) and *Yellow Podzolic Soils* (Dy3.21, Dy3.41, Dy4.11) on sandstones; moderately deep (100–200 cm) *Brown Podzolic Soils* (Db1.11), *Red Podzolic Soils* (Dr2.21) and *Gleyed Podzolic Soils* (Dg2.21) on shales.

**Limitations**—mass movement hazard, steep slopes, severe soil erosion hazard, occasional rock outcrop.

## LOCATION

Occurs north of Collaroy, on steep sideslopes of the Erina Hills. It is associated with coastal headlands and bluffs along the Hawkesbury River and its lower tributaries. Also occurs along deep valleys in Bouddi National Park and along the escarpment west of Umina.

## LANDSCAPE

### Geology

Narrabeen Group of sediments. Mostly interbedded laminite and shale with quartz to lithic quartz sandstone. Minor red claystones occur north of the Hawkesbury River. Clay pellet sandstone occurs south of the Hawkesbury River (Herbert, 1983).

## Topography

Rolling to very steep low hills. Local relief is 60–120 m. Slope gradients are steeper than 25%. Crests and ridges are convex and narrow. Hillslopes are steep with talus slopes containing sandstone boulders. Occasional sandstone benches and colluvial benches are present. Slopes with gradients >70% often have cliffs and scarps >10 m high

## Vegetation

Mostly uncleared, tall eucalypt open-forest (wet sclerophyll) and closed-forest (rainforest). Much of the native vegetation on the Northern Beaches peninsula has been cleared.

Tall eucalypt open-forests occur on drier and more exposed slopes and crests. Tree species include spotted gum *Eucalyptus maculata*, grey ironbark *E. paniculata*, Sydney blue gum *E. saligna*, turpentine *Syncarpia glomulifera*, bangalay *E. botryoides*, rough-barked apple *Angophora floribunda* and forest oak *Allocasuarina torulosa*.

Rainforest occurs on sheltered slopes. Characteristic tree species include lilly pilly *Acmena smithii*, cheese tree *Glochidion ferdinandi*, coachwood *Ceratopetalum apetalum* and cabbage tree *Livistona australis*.

## Land use

Most land has been gazetted as national park or nature reserve. Examples include Brisbane Water, Ku-ring-gai Chase and Bouddi National Parks and Muogamarra Nature Reserve. Some locations such as Taylors Point and Bayview are urban residential.

## Existing Erosion

Minor gully erosion occurs along unpaved roads. Moderate sheet erosion occurs on the steep hillslopes. Landslip and rockfall have occurred on steep slopes with wet, unstable and disturbed soils. This has resulted in serious damage to roads and buildings at Newport.

## SOILS

### Dominant Soil Materials

**wn1—Loose, stony, brownish-black sandy loam.** This is stony, brownish-black, loamy sand to loam-fine-sandy with loose apedal single-grained structure and sandy porous fabric. It usually occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon). Texture is commonly a fine sandy loam. Surface condition is generally loose but may also be friable when sufficient organic matter is present. Colour is usually brownish-black (10YR 2/2) or black (10YR 1.7/1). The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Strongly weathered, subrounded, small sandstone fragments, charcoal fragments and roots are common.

**wn2—Hardsetting, brown sandy clay loam.** This is a brown loam to fine sandy clay loam which is hardsetting when dry. It has apedal massive structure and slowly porous, earthy fabric. It usually occurs as an A2 horizon. Colour varies considerably and ranges from brownish-black (10YR 2/2) to yellowish-brown (10YR 5/6). The pH ranges from moderately acid (pH 5.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Sandstone fragments may be common, and often occur as a stone line in the base of this material. Charcoal fragments and roots are often present.

**wn3—Strongly pedal, yellowish-brown fine sandy clay.** This is yellowish-brown sandy clay to medium clay, with moderately or strongly pedal structure and porous, rough-faced, ped fabric. This material occurs as subsoil on sandstone bedrock (B horizon). Fine sand is commonly present throughout this material. Peds are sub-angular blocky and range in size between 20–50 mm. Colour is commonly yellowish-brown (10YR 5/8) or orange yellowish-brown (7.5YR 6/8). Brown,

red, yellow or grey mottles are common. The pH ranges from extremely acid (pH 3.5) to moderately acid (pH 5.0). Some sandstone rock fragments and roots are present, but charcoal fragments are absent.

**wn4—Strongly pedal clay.** This is light to medium clay with strongly pedal structure and dense, smooth-faced ped fabric. It generally occurs as subsoil on shale or siltstone bedrock (B horizon). Peds are crumb, polyhedral or sub-angular blocky in shape. They range in size from 2–10 mm and are smooth-faced and dense. Colour varies considerably depending on site drainage characteristics. Colours range from dark brown (10YR 3/4) and dark reddish-brown (2.5 YR 3/4) in freely drained areas to light grey (10YR 7/2) in poorly drained areas. Red, yellow or grey mottles also are present in poorly drained areas and/or at depth. The pH is usually strongly acid (pH 5.5). Siltstone and shale fragments are rare, as are roots. Charcoal fragments are absent.

#### **Associated Soil Materials**

Litter and decomposing organic debris. This can be identified readily as decomposing plant remains. The litter layer is particularly well developed to depths of up to 30 cm in forested areas.

#### **Occurrence and Relationships**

**Sandstone crests.** Up to 15 cm of hardsetting, brown sandy clay loam (**wn2**) overlies up to 50 cm of strongly pedal, yellowish-brown sandy clay (**wn3**). Total soil depth is 50–100 cm. Boundaries between soil materials are clear [Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy 3.21)].

**Siltstone and shale crests.** Up to 10 cm of **wn2** overlies up to 100 cm of highly pedal, brown clay (**wn4**). Total soil depth is 100–150 cm and the boundary between the soil materials is sharp [Brown Podzolic Soil (Db 1.11)].

**Very steep sideslopes.** Where slope gradients generally exceed 40%, up to 20 cm of **wn1** overlies either bedrock (Siliceous Sands and Lithosols (Uc1.24)) or up to 50 cm of **wn3** [Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy 4.11)].

**Moderately steep sideslopes with sandstone bedrock.** Up to 30 cm of **wn1** overlies 10–30 cm of **wn2** and up to 100 cm of **wn3**. Boundaries between soil materials are sharp. Total soil depth is 30–120 cm (Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy 3.41)). Occasionally **wn1** is absent and **wn2** overlies **wn3** (Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy3.21)).

**Moderately steep sideslopes with siltstone or mudstone (shale) bedrock.** Up to 15 cm of **wn1** overlies 20–30 cm of **wn2** and >60 cm of **wn4**. Total soil depth is >100 cm. Boundaries between soil materials are usually clear to sharp. Red and Brown Podzolic Soils (Dr2.11, Db1.11) occur on well-drained slopes with Gleyed Podzolic Soils (Dg2.21) on poorer drained footslopes.

**Drainage lines.** Generally, 100 cm of stony dark brown sandy loam (**wn1**) overlies bedrock [Siliceous sands (Uc1.22)].

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## **LIMITATIONS TO DEVELOPMENT**

### **Urban Capability**

Generally not capable of urban development.

### **Rural Capability**

Generally not capable of regular cultivation or being grazed.

## **Landscape Limitations**

Mass movement hazard  
Rockfall hazard  
Steep slopes  
Extreme erosion hazard  
Shallow depth (localised)  
Surface movement potential (localised)

## **Soil Limitations**

- wn1** Stoniness  
Low available water capacity  
Low fertility  
Very strongly acid  
High aluminium toxicity
- wn2** Stoniness (localised)  
Hardsetting surface  
Low fertility  
High aluminium toxicity  
Very strongly acid
- wn3** Low wet strength  
Low permeability  
Low fertility  
Strongly acid  
Very high aluminium toxicity
- wn4** Low wet strength  
Low permeability  
Low fertility  
Strongly acid  
Very high aluminium toxicity

## **Fertility**

The general fertility is low to moderate. The soil materials are strongly acid and have low or moderate available water capacities, very low nutrient status, with low nitrogen and very low phosphorus levels and low to moderate CEC. The subsoils may have low permeability and pronounced aluminium toxicity.

## **Erodibility**

The wn1 soil material has low erodibility, consisting dominantly of highly permeable coarse sand grains. The other soil materials have moderate erodibility as they are well graded with porous and coherent fabric. Where **wn4** is dispersible it is highly erodible; otherwise it has low erodibility.

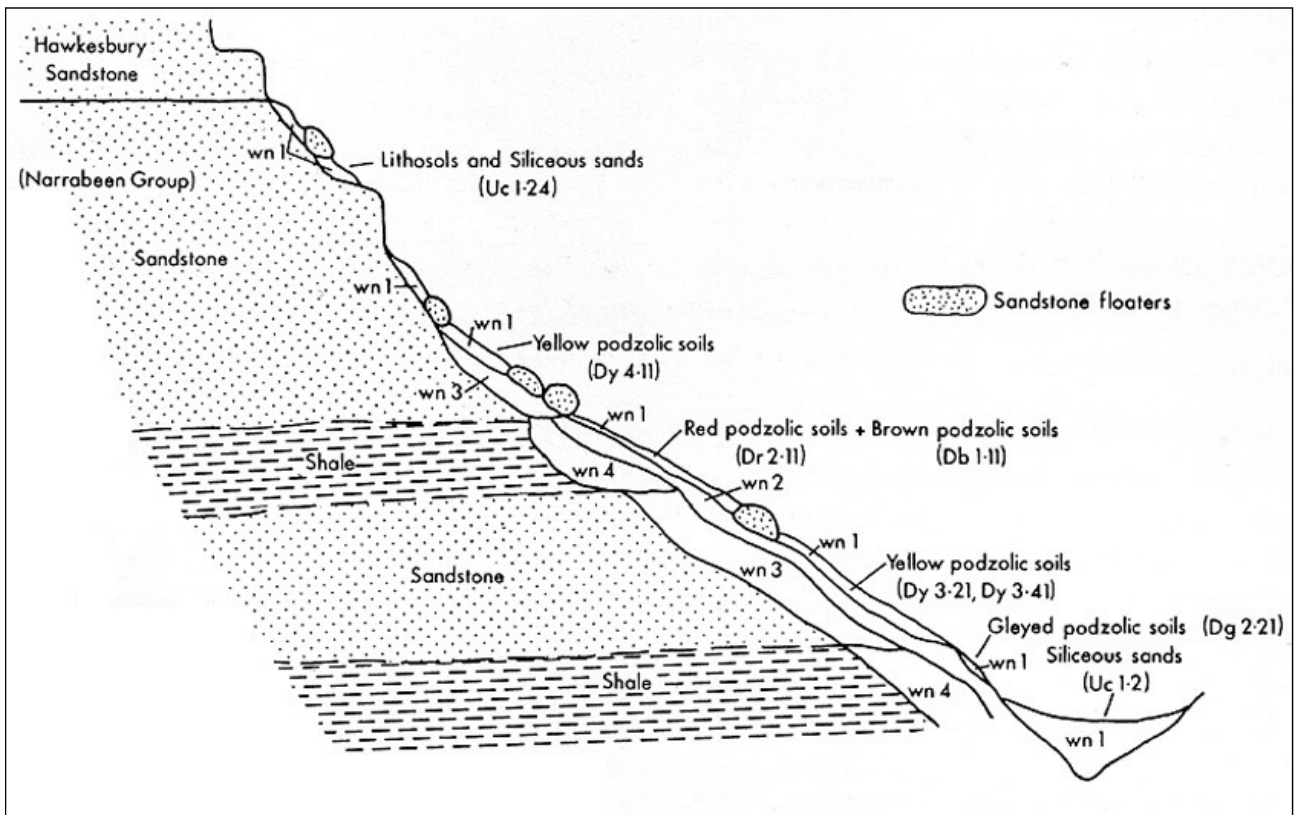
## **Erosion Hazard**

Despite the low to moderate erodibility of the soil materials steep slopes produce an erosion hazard for non-concentrated flows which is extreme. Calculated soil losses for the first twelve months of urban development range up to 372 t/ha for topsoil and 547 t/ha for subsoil. Soil erosion hazard for concentrated flows is also extreme.



## Surface Movement Potential

Soils are generally shallow and therefore slightly reactive. Where profiles contain >50 cm of **wn3** or **wn4** they are moderately reactive. Large variations in soil properties occur over short distances.



*Schematic cross-section of Watagan soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.*





Source: Soil and Land Resources of the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment *interactive DVD*

**Landscape**—undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone. Local relief 20–80 m, slopes 10–25%. Rock outcrop <25%. Broad convex crests, moderately inclined sideslopes with wide benches, localised rock outcrop on low broken scarps. Extensively cleared open-forest (dry sclerophyll forest) and eucalypt woodland.

**Soils**—shallow to moderately deep (30-100 cm) Yellow Earths (Gn2.24) and Earthy Sands (Uc5.11, Uc5.23) on crests and inside of benches; shallow (<20 cm) Siliceous Sands (Uc1.21) on leading edges of benches; localised Gleyed Podzolic Soils (Dg4.21) and Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy4.11, Dy5.11, Dy5.41) on shale lenses; shallow to moderately deep (<100 cm) Siliceous Sands (Uc1.21) and Leached Sands (Uc2.21) along drainage lines.

**Limitations**—localised steep slopes, high soil erosion hazard, rock outcrop, shallow highly permeable soil, very low soil fertility.

## LOCATION

Occurs extensively throughout the Hornsby Plateau and along the foreshores of Sydney Harbour and the Parramatta and Georges Rivers. Examples include areas of Northbridge, Forestville, Drummoyne, Balmain, Arcadia and Berrilee.

## LANDSCAPE

### Geology

Hawkesbury Sandstone, which is a medium to coarse-grained quartz sandstone with minor shale

and laminite lenses.

## Topography

Undulating to rolling low hills with local relief 20–80 m and slopes of 10–25%. Sideslopes with narrow to wide outcropping sandstone rock benches (10–100 m), often forming broken scarps of <5 m.

## Vegetation

The original dry sclerophyll woodland and open-forest have been extensively cleared. Low, dry sclerophyll open-woodland dominates ridges and upper slopes. Common species include red bloodwood *Eucalyptus gummifera*, yellow bloodwood *E. eximia*, scribbly gum *E. haemastoma*, brown stringybark *E. capitellata* and old man banksia *Banksia serrata*. On the more sheltered slopes, black ash *E. sieberi*, Sydney peppermint *E. piperita* and smooth-barked apple *Angophora costata* are common tree species. The dry sclerophyll understorey consists of shrubs from the families Epacridaceae, Myrtaceae, Fabaceae and Proteaceae.

## Land use

Land use is mostly urban residential. Developed suburbs include Forestville, Northbridge and Drummoyne. Steeper sections are used for recreational purposes and often remain covered with native vegetation. Grazing occurs at Berrilee and there are small hobby farms in the north-west.

## Existing Erosion

Severe sheet erosion occurs following bushfires, which destroy or damage stabilising vegetative cover. Minor gully erosion occurs along unpaved or poorly maintained roads and fire trails especially those frequented by four-wheel-drive vehicles and trail bikes.

## Associated Soil Landscapes

Small areas (<40 ha) of Hawkesbury (**ha**) and Lambert (**la**) soil landscapes have been included within the GyMEA soil landscape. In many respects these landscapes have qualities in common with the GyMEA soil landscape.

## SOILS

### Dominant Soil Materials

**gy1—Loose, coarse sandy loam.** This is loamy sand to sandy loam with loose, apedal single-grained structure and porous sandy fabric. It generally occurs as topsoil (A1 horizon).

The colour often becomes lighter with depth and ranges from brownish-black (10YR 2/2), when organic matter is present, to bleached dull yellow-orange (10YR 7/2). It is often water repellent under native vegetation. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Small sandstone and platy ironstone fragments, charcoal fragments and roots are common.

**gy2—Earthy, yellowish-brown clayey sand.** This is commonly yellowish-brown clayey sand with apedal massive structure and porous earthy fabric. It commonly occurs as subsoil over sandstone bedrock (B horizon). Where it is exposed at the surface it forms hardsetting topsoil.

Texture may increase gradually to a light sandy clay loam with depth. Colour is commonly yellowish-brown (10YR 6/8) and orange mottles are occasionally present with depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.5). Sandstone and ironstone fragments are common and are often concentrated in stone lines in the upper parts of this material. Charcoal fragments are common whilst roots are rare.

**gy3—Earthy to weakly pedal, yellowish-brown sandy clay loam.** This is commonly a yellowish-brown sandy clay loam to sandy clay with an apedal massive structure and an earthy porous fabric. It usually occurs as subsoil (B or C horizon) on coarse sandstone.

Texture is commonly sandy clay loam but may increase gradually with depth to sandy clay. Occasionally a weakly pedal structure of sub-angular blocky shaped peds are present. Peds are commonly rough-faced and porous and range in size from 5-20 mm. Colour is commonly yellowish brown (10YR 5/8, 6/6, 6/8; 2.5Y 5/6, 5/4). Orange mottles may occur with depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.5) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Strongly weathered sandstone fragments are common. Roots and charcoal fragments are rare.

**gy4—Moderately to strongly pedal, yellowish-brown clay.** This is commonly a yellowish-brown sandy clay or light clay with a moderately to strongly pedal structure and either a smooth or rough-faced ped fabric. This material occurs as subsoil on shale bedrock (B and C horizons).

Peds ranging in size from 5–50 mm, are either smooth or rough-faced and are polyhedral to sub-angular blocky. Colour is commonly yellow-brown (10YR 6/6) but can vary from dark reddish-brown (2.5YR 3/6) to light grey (7.5YR 8/1). Red, orange and grey mottles are occasionally present at depth. The pH ranges from strongly acid (pH 4.0) to slightly acid (pH 6.0). Shale and ironstone fragments are often present, but charcoal fragments are absent, and roots are rare.

#### **Associated Soil Materials**

**Litter and decomposing organic debris.** In areas of natural bushland, litter and organic debris occur on the soil surface. The litter layer can be developed to depths of up to 10 cm. Charcoal fragments are common. This material is often found in debris dams in association with white, loose quartz sand.

**White, loose quartz sand.** A surface wash of quartz sand grains. It occurs in depositional areas such as small debris dams and fans on breaks of slope. It is often mixed with the litter layer and is usually water repellent.

#### **Occurrence and Relationships**

**Crests.** Generally up to 30 cm of loose, quartz sandy loam (**gy1**) overlies bedrock (Siliceous Sands and Lithosols (Uc 1.21)) or <30 cm of earthy, yellowish-brown clayey sand (**gy2**) (Earthy Sands (Uc5.11)). Occasionally (**gy2**) overlies up to 30 cm of yellow earthy/weakly pedal sandy clay loam (**gy3**) (Yellow Earths (Gn2.24)). Boundaries between soil materials are gradual. Total soil depth is <50 cm.

Where severe erosion has occurred, **gy2** or **gy3** is often exposed as a hardsetting layer at the surface. Bedrock is exposed in some areas, particularly where bushfires are frequent.

**Sideslopes.** The soils on the sideslopes are discontinuous and rock outcrop may cover up to 25% of the ground surface. On the outside of benches and areas close to rock outcrop, up to 20 cm of **gy1** overlies bedrock (Siliceous Sands/Lithosols (Uc1.21)). On the inside of benches, up to 30 cm of **gy1** overlies 10–30 cm of **gy2**. Occasionally **gy2** overlies up to 30 cm of **gy3**. The boundaries between soil materials are gradual. Total soil depth is 30–70 cm (Yellow Earths (Gn2.24), Earthy Sands (Uc5.11)).

**Shale lenses.** Where shale lenses occur on the inside of benches, up to 30 cm of **gy1** overlies up to 100 cm of strongly pedal yellowish-brown clay (**gy4**). The boundary between soil materials is sharp to clear. Total soil depth is <100 cm (Gleyed Podzolic Soils (Dg 4.21), Yellow Podzolic Soils (Dy 5.41)).

**Drainage lines.** Up to 100 cm of **gy1** overlies bedrock (Siliceous Sands (Uc1.2) and Leached Sands (Uc 2.21)).

## **LIMITATIONS TO DEVELOPMENT**

### **Urban Capability**

Generally, low to moderate capability for urban development.

### **Rural Capability**

Land not capable of being grazed or cultivated.

### **Landscape Limitations**

Erosion hazard

Rock outcrop

Rockfall hazard (localised)

Steep slopes (localised)

Shallow soil

### **Soil Limitations**

**gy1**    High permeability  
         Low available water capacity  
         Stoniness  
         Low fertility

**gy2**    Low available water capacity  
         Stoniness  
         Very low fertility  
         Very strongly acid  
         Very high aluminium toxicity

**gy3**    Low available water capacity  
         Low wet strength (localised)  
         Low permeability (localised)  
         Stoniness (localised)  
         Very low fertility  
         Very strongly acid  
         High aluminium toxicity

**gy4**    Low wet strength  
         High erodibility  
         Low permeability  
         Low available water capacity  
         Stoniness (localised)  
         Very low fertility  
         Very strongly acid  
         Very high aluminium toxicity

### **Fertility**

Very poor. The soils of this unit are generally shallow, stony, moderately acid and highly permeable with low available water capacities. They also have a low to very low nutrient status with very low phosphorus and nitrogen levels and very low CEC.

## Erodibility

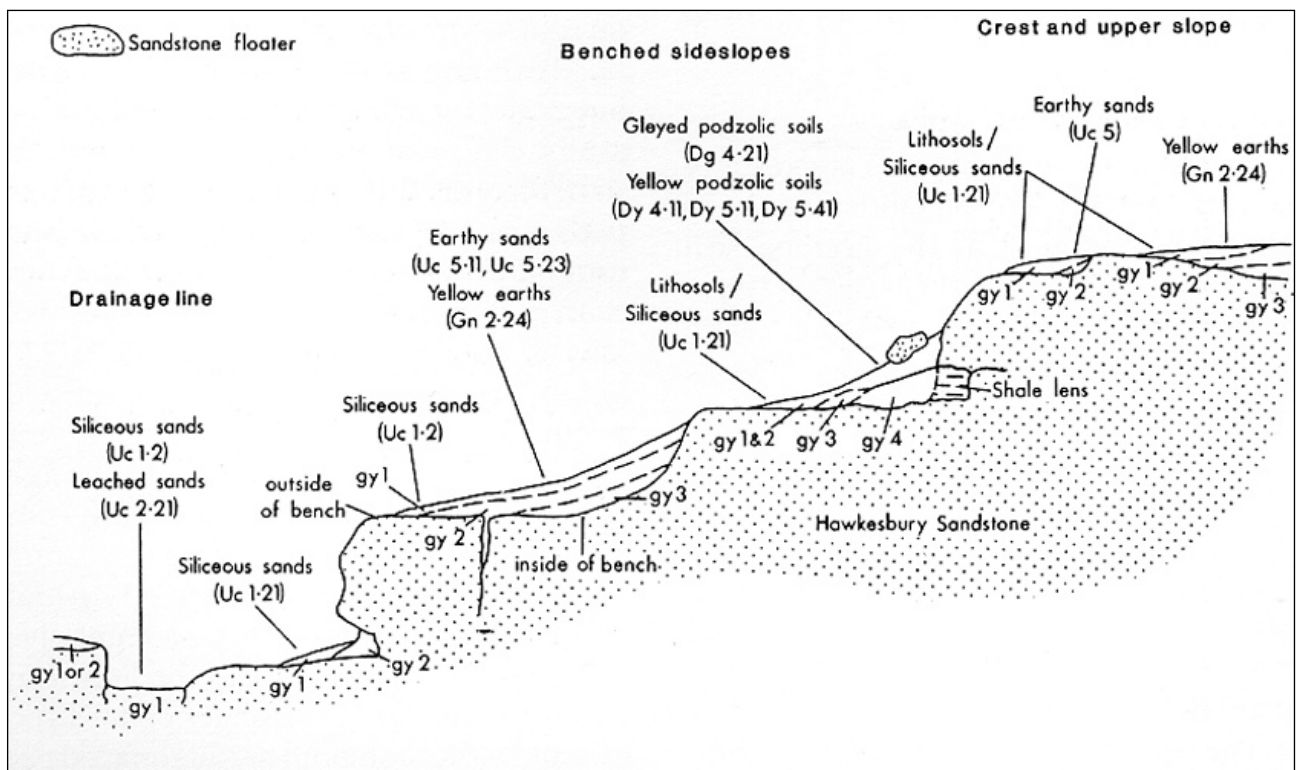
**gy1** and **gy2** are composed of coarse sand grains and have very low erodibilities as they are freely drained and are held together by high organic matter contents (**gy1**) and/or non-dispersive clays (**gy2**). However, (**gy3**) is moderately erodible as it has a weakly coherent earthy fabric with low organic matter content. **gy4** is highly erodible as it is very low in organic matter and consists dominantly of fine sands in a clay matrix.

## Erosion Hazard

The erosion hazard for non-concentrated flows is generally high to very high but can range from moderate to extreme. Calculated soil loss for the first twelve months of development range up to 19 t/ha for topsoil and 464 t/ha for subsoil. Soil erosion hazard for concentrated flows is high to extreme.

## Surface Movement Potential

The shallow sandy soils are stable to slightly reactive. In isolated instances where **gy4** is >100 cm thick soils may be moderately reactive.



*Schematic cross-section of GyMEA soil landscape illustrating the occurrence and relationship of the dominant soil materials.*

# **APPENDIX I**



# PRACTICE NOTE GUIDELINES FOR LANDSLIDE RISK MANAGEMENT 2007

## APPENDIX G - SOME GUIDELINES FOR HILLSIDE CONSTRUCTION

### GOOD ENGINEERING PRACTICE

### POOR ENGINEERING PRACTICE

#### ADVICE

GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Obtain advice from a qualified, experienced geotechnical practitioner at early stage of planning and before site works.	Prepare detailed plan and start site works before geotechnical advice.
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#### PLANNING

SITE PLANNING	Having obtained geotechnical advice, plan the development with the risk arising from the identified hazards and consequences in mind.	Plan development without regard for the Risk.
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#### DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

HOUSE DESIGN	Use flexible structures which incorporate properly designed brickwork, timber or steel frames, timber or panel cladding. Consider use of split levels. Use decks for recreational areas where appropriate.	Floor plans which require extensive cutting and filling. Movement intolerant structures.
SITE CLEARING	Retain natural vegetation wherever practicable.	Indiscriminately clear the site.
ACCESS & DRIVEWAYS	Satisfy requirements below for cuts, fills, retaining walls and drainage. Council specifications for grades may need to be modified. Driveways and parking areas may need to be fully supported on piers.	Excavate and fill for site access before geotechnical advice.
EARTHWORKS	Retain natural contours wherever possible.	Indiscriminatory bulk earthworks.
CUTS	Minimise depth. Support with engineered retaining walls or batter to appropriate slope. Provide drainage measures and erosion control.	Large scale cuts and benching. Unsupported cuts. Ignore drainage requirements
FILLS	Minimise height. Strip vegetation and topsoil and key into natural slopes prior to filling. Use clean fill materials and compact to engineering standards. Batter to appropriate slope or support with engineered retaining wall. Provide surface drainage and appropriate subsurface drainage.	Loose or poorly compacted fill, which if it fails, may flow a considerable distance including onto property below. Block natural drainage lines. Fill over existing vegetation and topsoil. Include stumps, trees, vegetation, topsoil, boulders, building rubble etc in fill.
ROCK OUTCROPS & BOULDERS	Remove or stabilise boulders which may have unacceptable risk. Support rock faces where necessary.	Disturb or undercut detached blocks or boulders.
RETAINING WALLS	Engineer design to resist applied soil and water forces. Found on rock where practicable. Provide subsurface drainage within wall backfill and surface drainage on slope above. Construct wall as soon as possible after cut/fill operation.	Construct a structurally inadequate wall such as sandstone flagging, brick or unreinforced blockwork. Lack of subsurface drains and weepholes.
FOOTINGS	Found within rock where practicable. Use rows of piers or strip footings oriented up and down slope. Design for lateral creep pressures if necessary. Backfill footing excavations to exclude ingress of surface water.	Found on topsoil, loose fill, detached boulders or undercut cliffs.
SWIMMING POOLS	Engineer designed. Support on piers to rock where practicable. Provide with under-drainage and gravity drain outlet where practicable. Design for high soil pressures which may develop on uphill side whilst there may be little or no lateral support on downhill side.	
DRAINAGE		
SURFACE	Provide at tops of cut and fill slopes. Discharge to street drainage or natural water courses. Provide general falls to prevent blockage by siltation and incorporate silt traps. Line to minimise infiltration and make flexible where possible. Special structures to dissipate energy at changes of slope and/or direction.	Discharge at top of fills and cuts. Allow water to pond on bench areas.
SUBSURFACE	Provide filter around subsurface drain. Provide drain behind retaining walls. Use flexible pipelines with access for maintenance. Prevent inflow of surface water.	Discharge roof runoff into absorption trenches.
SEPTIC & SULLAGE	Usually requires pump-out or mains sewer systems; absorption trenches may be possible in some areas if risk is acceptable. Storage tanks should be water-tight and adequately founded.	Discharge sullage directly onto and into slopes. Use absorption trenches without consideration of landslide risk.
EROSION CONTROL & LANDSCAPING	Control erosion as this may lead to instability. Revegetate cleared area.	Failure to observe earthworks and drainage recommendations when landscaping.

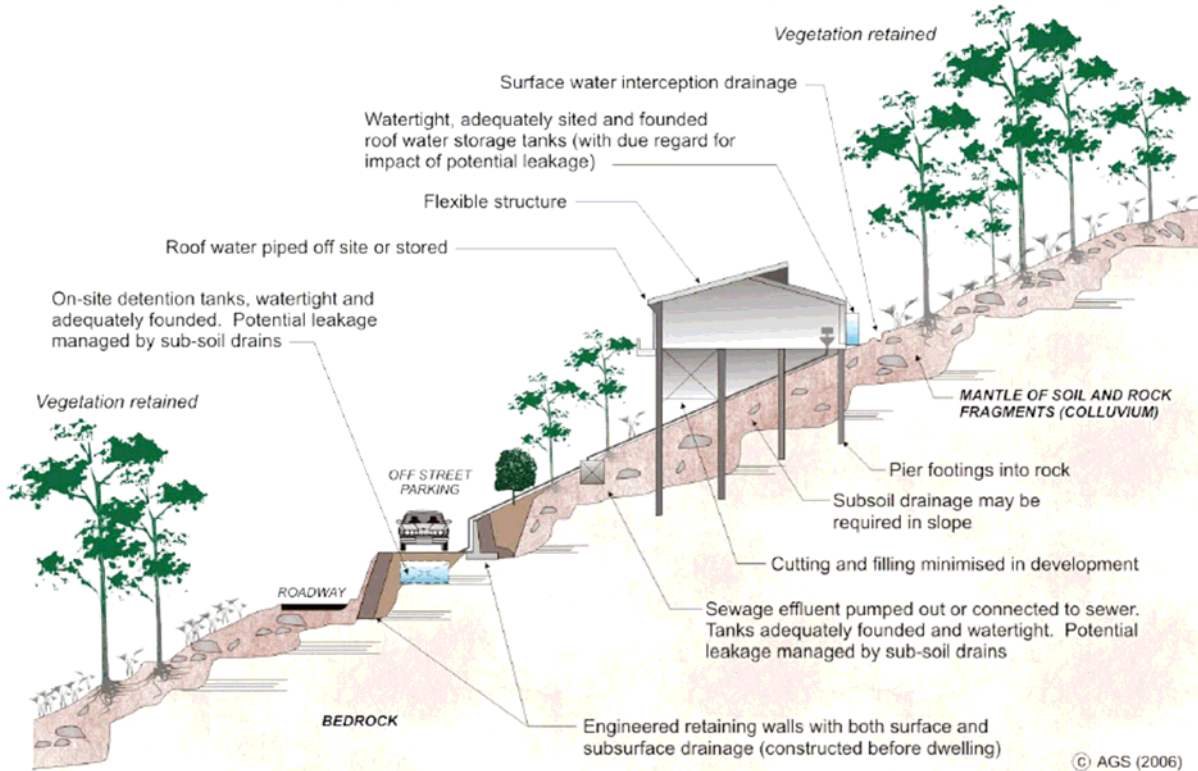
#### DRAWINGS AND SITE VISITS DURING CONSTRUCTION

DRAWINGS	Building Application drawings should be viewed by geotechnical consultant	
SITE VISITS	Site Visits by consultant may be appropriate during construction/	

#### INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE BY OWNER

OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY	Clean drainage systems; repair broken joints in drains and leaks in supply pipes. Where structural distress is evident see advice. If seepage observed, determine causes or seek advice on consequences.	
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## EXAMPLES OF **GOOD** HILLSIDE PRACTICE



## EXAMPLES OF **POOR** HILLSIDE PRACTICE

