

## **PRELIMINARY GEOTECHNICAL ASSESSMENT:** **4 Rounce Avenue, Forestville**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>1.0</b>                          | <b>LANDSLIP RISK CLASS</b> ( <i>Highlight indicates Landslip Risk Class of property</i> )                |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <i>A - Geotechnical Report not normally required</i>   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <i>B - Geotechnical Engineer (Under Council Guidelines) to decide if Geotechnical Report is required</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <i>C - Geotechnical Report is required</i>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <i>D - Geotechnical Engineer (Under Council Guidelines) to decide if Geotechnical Report is required</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <i>E - Geotechnical Report required</i>  |

### **2.0 Proposed Development**

- 2.1** Demolish the existing patio. Add a new lower ground floor addition with new patio to the downhill side of the existing house by excavating to a maximum depth of ~1.7m.
- 2.2** Extend the ground floor of the house over the footprint of the proposed lower ground floor addition.
- 2.3** Other minor internal and external alterations and additions.
- 2.4** No significant fills are shown on the plans.
- 2.5** Details of the proposed development are shown on 13 drawings prepared by Nikki Mote Architects, project number 2303, drawings numbered AR DA 0-00, AR DA 1-00 to AR DA 1-02, AR DA 2-001, AR DA 2-00, AR AD 3-001, AR DA 3-00, AR DA 4-00, AR DA 4-01 and AR DA 5-00 to AR DA 5-02, Revision B, dated 14/6/24.

### **3.0 Site Location**

- 3.1** The site was inspected on the 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2024.

**3.2** This residential property is on the low side of the road and has a NW aspect. The block runs longways to the W so the slope is a cross-fall. It is located on the gently graded upper reaches of a hillslope. Medium Strength Hawkesbury Sandstone bedrock outcrops at various locations across the property. Where sandstone is not exposed, it is expected to underlie the surface at relatively shallow depths. The natural surface of the block has been altered with fills and cuts for garden, lawn and deck areas across the property. The proposed lower ground floor addition will require an excavation to a maximum depth of ~1.7m.

**3.3** The site shows no indications of historical movement in the natural surface that could have occurred since the property was developed. We are aware of no history of instability on the property.

#### **4.0 Site Description**

The natural slope falls at gentle angles across the property. At the road frontage, a concrete driveway runs down the slope to a carport beside the house. Stable low sandstone flagging and brick retaining walls support fills for garden areas between the road frontage and the house and a cut for a deck on the uphill side of the house. A stable rendered masonry retaining wall up to ~1.5m high along the N common boundary supports fill on the N neighbouring property, and stable low sandstone flagging supports a fill on the S neighbouring property. The single storey house is supported on masonry walls and piers. The visible external supporting walls show no significant signs of movement. A gently sloping lawn extends off the downhill side of the house. Competent Medium Strength Hawkesbury Sandstone bedrock outcrops at various locations across the property. The area surrounding the house is mostly lawn or garden covered with some paved areas. No signs of movement related to slope instability were observed on the grounds. No cliffs or large rock faces were observed on the property or in the near vicinity. The adjoining neighbouring properties were observed to be in good order as seen from the street and subject property.

## 5.0 Recommendations

The proposed development and site conditions were considered and applied to the current council requirements. See the required inspection below that is to be carried out during construction and is a requirement for the final geotechnical certification. Apart from this inspection, it is not expected additional geotechnical input will be required provided good design and building practices are followed.

## 6.0 Inspection

The client and builder are to familiarise themselves with the following required inspection as well as council geotechnical policy. We cannot provide geotechnical certification for the owners or the regulating authorities if the following inspection has not been carried out during the construction process.

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

White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd.



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## Information about your Preliminary Assessment

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

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

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