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

Develo	pment Application	n forName of Applicant		
Address of site 57 Mona Vale Road, Mona Vale				
		ers the minimum requirements to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk <b>Declaration made by</b> engineering geologist or coastal engineer (where applicable) as part of a geotechnical report		
l,	Ben White (Insert Name)	on behalf of White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd (Trading or Company Name)		
organisa	engineer as defined	certify that I am a geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist or by the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 and I am authorised by the above sue this document and to certify that the organisation/company has a current professional indemnity		
: Please r	nark appropriate k	рох		
$\boxtimes$		e detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below in accordance with the Australia Geomechanics de Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for		
$\boxtimes$	am willing to technically verify that the detailed Geotechnical Report referenced below has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Geomechanics Society's Landslide Risk Management Guidelines (AGS 2007) and the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009			
	have examined the site and the proposed development in detail and have carried out a risk assessment in accordance with Section 6.0 of the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009. I confirm that the results of the risk assessment for the proposed development are in compliance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for			
	have examined the Application only Assessment and I	and further detailed geotechnical reporting is not required for the subject site.  The site and the proposed development/alteration in detail and I am of the opinion that the Development involves Minor Development/Alteration that does not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk hence my Report is in accordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2005		
	Hazard and does	e site and the proposed development/alteration is separate from and is not affected by a Geotechnica not require a Geotechnical Report or Risk Assessment and hence my Report is in accordance with Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009 requirements.		
		e coastal process and coastal forces analysis for inclusion in the Geotechnical Report		
Geotech	nical Report Deta	ils:		
		echnical Report 57 Mona Vale Road, Mona Vale		
	Author: BEN WH	ITE		
	Author's Company	//Organisation: WHITE GEOTECHNICAL GROUP PTY LTD		
Docume	entation which rela	ate to or are relied upon in report preparation:		
	Australian Ge	comechanics Society Landslide Risk Management March 2007.		
-	White Geoted	chnical Group company archives.		
Develop	ment Application fo	e Geotechnical Report, prepared for the abovementioned site is to be submitted in support of a or this site and will be relied on by Pittwater Council as the basis for ensuring that the Geotechnical of the proposed development have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acceptable Risk		

Management" level for the life of the structure, taken as at least 100 years unless otherwise stated and justified in the Report and that reasonable and practical measures have been identified to remove foreseeable risk.

Signature	Elet
Name	Ben White
Chartered Professional Statu	us MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL
Membership No.	222757
Company	White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd

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

Development Application for						
Name of Applicant						
Addres	s of site	57 Mona Vale Road,	Mona Vale			
Report. T		company the Geotechnical	s to be addressed in a Geotechnical Risk Management Geo Report and its certification (Form No. 1).	technical		
		Report 57 Mona Vale Roa	ad. Mona Vale			
			,			
Report I	Date: 28/6/21					
Author:	BEN WHITE					
Author'	's Company/Organi	isation: WHITE GEOTECH	NICAL GROUP PTY LTD			
Please m	nark appropriate bo	×				
$\boxtimes$	Comprehensive site	mapping conducted 23/6/21 (date)	_			
$\boxtimes$	Mapping details pres Subsurface investiga ☐ No	sented on contoured site plan	with geomorphic mapping to a minimum scale of 1:200 (as appr	ropriate)		
		Date conducted 23/6/21				
			n inferred subsurface type-section			
	Geotechnical hazard					
	⊠ On the					
	☐ Below					
	☐ Beside	the site				
		ls described and reported				
$\boxtimes$	_		ne Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwater - 2009			
		quence analysis				
	Risk calculation	ency analysis				
		property conducted in accord	dance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittwa	ter - 2009		
$\boxtimes$			ordance with the Geotechnical Risk Management Policy for Pittw			
$\boxtimes$			ole Risk Management" criteria as defined in the Geotechnical Ris			
	Management Policy					
	Opinion has been prospecified conditions		hieve the "Acceptable Risk Management" criteria provided that	ihe		
$\boxtimes$	Design Life Adopted					
	⊠ 100 ye					
	☐ Other					
$\boxtimes$			phases as described in the Geotechnical Risk Management Polic	cy for		
	Pittwater - 2009 have	•	and practical bays been identified and included in the report			
		hin Bushfire Asset Protection	and practical have been identified and included in the report.			
	Trior doocooment wit	THE BUSINES ASSET TOLOGUETT	2010.			
that the g	eotechnical risk man nent" level for the life	nagement aspects of the proper of the structure, taken as tical measures have been in	hnical Report, to which this checklist applies, as the basis for posal have been adequately addressed to achieve an "Acce at least 100 years unless otherwise stated, and justified in dentified to remove foreseeable risk.	ptable Risk		
Signature						
		Name	Ben White			
		Chartered Professional Stat	tus MScGEOLAusIMM CP GEOL			
		Membership No.	222757			

Company White Geotechnical Group Pty Ltd



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#### **GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION:**

New Pool and Landscaping at 57 Mona Vale Road, Mona Vale

#### 1. Proposed Development

- **1.1** Construct a new pool and pool area on the uphill side of the property by excavating to a maximum depth of ~2.4m into the slope.
- 1.2 Re-landscape the downhill side of the property by filling to a maximum height of  $\sim$ 1.5m.
- 1.3 Details of the proposed development are shown on 7 drawings prepared by Jamie King Landscape Architect, Project number 21097, drawings numbered Sht-101 to Sht-106 and Sht-201, Issue B, dated 20/6/21.

#### 2. Site Description

- **2.1** The site was inspected on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2021.
- 2.2 This residential property is currently under construction as part of a separate application. The property is on the high side of the road and has a SE aspect. It is located on the gentle to moderately graded upper middle reaches of a hillslope. The natural slope rises across the property at an average angle of ~10°. The land surface above the property continues at increasing angles before easing to the crest of the slope. The slope below the property continues at gradually easing angles.
- 2.3 The cut for Mona Vale Road is lawn-covered and battered to stable angles (Photo 1). Between the cut batter and the house is a gently sloping garden area (Photo 2). The house is currently under construction as part of a separate application (Photo 3). Currently, an unsupported excavation has been made in the slope to a maximum depth of ~1.2m to create a level platform for the house (Photo 4). The excavation is proposed to be extended as part of the proposed works for the pool area. We recommend the cut batter be temporarily supported until the retaining wall



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is constructed or until the proposed excavation works commence, whichever occurs first.

#### 3. Geology

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

#### 4. Subsurface Investigation

The ground materials exposed in an as-dug excavation for the house, on the uphill side of the property, were recorded (EXC1). Four Dynamic Cone Penetrometer (DCP) tests were put down to determine the relative density of the overlying soil and the depth to weathered rock. The locations of the tests are shown on the site plan attached. It should be noted that a level of caution should be applied when interpreting DCP test results. The test will not pass through hard buried objects so in some instances it can be difficult to determine whether refusal has occurred on an obstruction in the profile or on the natural rock surface. This is not expected to be an issue for the testing on this site. However, excavation and foundation budgets should always allow for the possibility that the interpreted ground conditions in this report vary from those encountered during excavations. See the appended "Important information about your report" for a more comprehensive explanation. The results are as follows:

#### **EXCAVATION 1** (~RL41.6) – EXC1 (Photo 5)

Depth (m)	Material Observed
0.0 to 0.2	CLAYEY SOIL, dark brown, dense, damp, fine to medium grained with
	fine trace organic matter.
0.2 to 0.5	CLAY, brown, firm, damp, fine grained.
0.5 to 1.1	<b>EXTREMELY LOW TO LOW STRENGTH SHALE</b> , grey and mottled orange
	and maroon, damp, fine grained.

Base of excavation @ 1.1m in Low Strength Shale.



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DCP TEST RESULTS – Dynamic Cone Penetrometer					
Equipment: 9kg hammer, 510mm drop, conical tip. Standard: AS1289.6.3.2 - 199					
Depth(m) Blows/0.3m	<b>DCP 1</b> (~RL38.6)	<b>DCP 2</b> (~RL37.9)	<b>DCP 3</b> (~RL41.6)	<b>DCP 4</b> (~RL41.6)	
0.0 to 0.3	F	2	8	5	
0.3 to 0.6	5	6	5	10	
0.6 to 0.9	9	13	30	6	
0.9 to 1.2	15	30	#	30	
1.2 to 1.5	30	#		#	
1.5 to 1.8	#				
	End of Test @ 1.5m	End of Test @ 1.2m	End of Test @ 0.9m	End of Test @ 1.2m	

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

#### DCP Notes:

DCP1 – End of test @ 1.5m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown and orange shale on wet muddy tip.

DCP2 – End of test @ 1.2m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown, orange, and maroon shale on wet muddy tip.

DCP3 – End of test @ 0.9m, DCP still very slowly going down, orange clay on wet tip.

DCP4 – End of test @ 1.2m, DCP still very slowly going down, brown clay on wet tip.

#### 5. Geological Observations/Interpretation

The slope materials are colluvial at the near surface and residual at depth. In the test locations, the ground materials consist of a thin clayey soil over firm to stiff clays. The clays merge into the underlying weathered rock at depths of between 0.6 to 1.5m below the current surface. The weathered zone was observed to consist of Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale within the exposed excavation face (Photo 5). See Type Section attached for a diagrammatical representation of the expected ground materials.



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6. Groundwater

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

through the cracks.

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

below the base of the proposed excavation.

7. Surface Water

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

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

heavy down pours.

8. Geotechnical Hazards and Risk Analysis

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

moderately graded slope that rises across the property and continues above is a potential

hazard (Hazard One). The proposed excavations are a potential hazard until retaining walls

are in place (Hazard Two). The proposed fill is a potential hazard (Hazard Three). The as dug

excavation is a potential hazard until retaining walls are in place (Hazard Four).

RISK ANALYSIS SUMMARY ON THE NEXT PAGE



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

HAZARDS Hazard One		Hazard Two	
ТҮРЕ	The gentle to moderate slope that rises across the site and continues above failing and impacting on the proposed works.	The excavations (up to a depth of ~2.4m) collapsing onto the work si	
LIKELIHOOD	'Unlikely' (10 <sup>-4</sup> )	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (12%)	'Medium' (25%)	
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Low' (2 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> )	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	
RISK TO LIFE	5.5 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> /annum	5.5 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> /annum 3.8 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> /annum	
COMMENTS	This level of risk is 'ACCEPTABLE'.	This level of risk to life and property is 'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move risk to 'ACCEPTABLE' levels, the recommendations in <b>Section 13</b> are to be followed.	

HAZARDS	Hazard Three	Hazard Four	
	The proposed fill failing and	The as-dug excavation for the house	
ТУРЕ	impacting on the subject property	collapsing onto the work site before	
11172	before the retaining walls are in	retaining walls are in place	
	place.	(Photo 4).	
LIKELIHOOD	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	'Possible' (10 <sup>-3</sup> )	
CONSEQUENCES TO PROPERTY	'Medium' (15%)	'Minor' (10%)	
RISK TO PROPERTY	'Moderate' (2 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> )	'Moderate' (5 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> )	
RISK TO LIFE	6.6 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> /annum	8.3 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> /annum	
	This level of risk to life and property is	This level of risk to property is	
	'UNACCEPTABLE'. To move risk to	'TOLERABLE'. To move risk to	
COMMENTS	'ACCEPTABLE' levels the	'ACCEPTABLE' levels, the	
	recommendations in <b>Section 14</b> are	recommendations in <b>Section 2.3</b> are	
	to be followed.	to be followed.	

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



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

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

#### 10. Stormwater

The fall is to Mona Vale Road. Roof water from the development is to be piped to the street drainage system through any tanks that may be required by the regulating authorities.

#### 11. Excavations

A stepped excavation will be required to construct the proposed pool and pool area. The step for the pool area is to be a maximum depth of ~1.9m and the step for the pool is to be a maximum depth of ~1.7m with a minimum distance of ~1.2m between the steps. At its deepest point, the combined excavation depths will be ~2.4m from the current ground surface. The excavations are expected to be taken through a thin clayey soil over firm to stiff clays with Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale expected at depths of between 0.6 to 1.2m.

Excavations through soil, clay, and Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale can be carried out with an excavator and bucket.

#### 12. Vibrations

Possible vibrations generated during excavations through soil, clay, and Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale will be below the threshold limit for building damage.

#### 13. Excavation Support Requirements

#### **Bulk Excavation for Proposed Pool Area**

The excavation will reach a maximum depth of ~1.9m and, allowing for back-wall drainage, will be set back ~0.3m from the upper boundary, ~0.5m from the E boundary, and ~0.9m from the W common boundary. No structures on any property will be within the zone of influence of the excavation. However, the upper, E, and W common boundaries will fall within the zone



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of influence of the excavation. As such, the cut will require temporary support to maintain

the integrity of the W neighbouring property and public reserve above and to the E of the

subject property until permanent retaining walls are in place.

The upper and E common boundary fences are to be braced before the excavation

commences.

The cut will require staged sacrificial temporary support such as braced form ply or similar

support installed along the upper, E, and W sides as the excavation is progressed in spans not

less than 2.0m horizontally. The support is to be designed by the structural engineer. The

temporary support is to remain in place until the retaining walls are built. Alternatively, a

staged permanent retaining wall can be installed as above or in a 'hit-one-miss-two'

sequence. There are other shoring options that can be designed by the Structural Engineer in

consultation with the Geotechnical Consultant. See the attached site plan for the minimum

required extent of the shoring.

**Bulk Excavation for Proposed Pool** 

The excavation for the proposed pool will reach a maximum depth of ~1.7m and will be set

back sufficiently from any surrounding structures or boundaries.

The cut batters are expected to stand at near-vertical angles for a very short period of time

until the pool structure is installed provided they are kept from becoming saturated. If the cut

batters through soil, clay, and Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale remain unsupported for

more than a day, they are to be supported with typical pool shoring, such as sacrificial form

ply, until the pool structure is in place.

Unsupported cut batters through for the pool excavation through, clay, and Extremely Low to

Low Strength Shale are to be covered to prevent access of water in wet weather and loss of

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

fixtures so they can't blow off in a storm.



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**Advice Applying to Both Excavations** 

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

works. The materials and labour to construct the retaining walls/pool structure are to be

organised so on completion of the excavations they can be constructed as soon as possible.

The excavations are to be carried out during a dry period. No excavations are to commence if

heavy or prolonged rainfall is forecast.

All excavation spoil is to be removed from site following the current Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA) waste classification guidelines.

**14.** Fill

From the plans, it is apparent that filling to a maximum height of ~1.5 will be placed on the

downhill side of the property for a new lawn area. All fill brought onto site is to be certified

as 'clean fill' with a VENM certificate or similar documentation in accordance with EPA

guidelines.

No fill is to be laid until retaining walls are in place. Filling to this depth without appropriate

compaction will result in a significant settlement.

To avoid excessive settlement, the fill is to be placed in loose layers not exceeding 0.3m thick

before being compacted as follows:

The surface is to be prepared before fills are lain. Strip the existing topsoil and remove all

organic matter, stockpiling for later use as topsoil or remove from site.

Non-Cohesive Soils (sandy fills)

The proposed fill for landscaping is to be compacted over the prepared surface to a Minimum

Density Index (ID) of 65%.

**Cohesive Soils** (clayey fill & excavated bedrock)

The proposed fill for landscaping is to be compacted over the prepared surface to at least 95%

of Standard Maximum Dry Density.



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The geotechnical consultant is to inspect and test the fill as it is laid in not more than 1.0m rises to ensure the required density has been achieved.

Filling within 1.5m behind retaining walls should be compacted with light weight equipment such as a hand-operated plate compacter or similar so as to not damage the wall. Where hand-held equipment is used, the loose depth of placed fill should not exceed 150mm before compaction occurs. No pavements or structures are to be supported on fill.

#### 15. Retaining Structures

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

Table 1 – Likely Earth Pressures for Retaining Structures

	Earth Pressure Coefficients			
Unit	Unit weight (kN/m³)	'Active' K <sub>a</sub>	'At Rest' K₀	
Fill, Soil, and Residual Clays	20	0.40	0.55	
Extremely Low Strength Rock	22	0.25	0.35	
Rock Up to Low Strength Rock	24	0.25	0.35	

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

It is to be noted that the earth pressures in Table 1 assume a level surface above the structure, do not account for any surcharge loads, and assume retaining structures are fully drained. Rock strength and relevant earth pressure coefficients are to be confirmed on site by the geotechnical consultant.



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

immediately behind the structure with free-draining material (such as gravel). This material

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

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

retaining structures, the likely hydrostatic pressures are to be accounted for in the structural

design.

16. Foundations

The proposed pool is expected to be seated in the Extremely Low to Very Low Strength Shale.

Likewise, the proposed retaining walls supporting the pool area are expected to be seated on

the Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale exposed at the base of the excavation. This is a

suitable foundation material. A maximum allowable bearing pressure of 600kPa can be

assumed for footings on Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale. It should be noted that this

material is a soft rock and a rock auger will cut through it so the builders should not be looking

for refusal to end the footings.

Retaining wall footings for the landscaping on the downhill side of the property can be

supported on the firm to stiff clays of the natural profile. A maximum allowable bearing

pressure of 200kPa can be assumed for footings on firm to stiff clays.

As the bearing capacity of clay and Extremely Low to Low Strength Shale reduces when it is

wet, we recommend the footings be dug, inspected, and poured in quick succession (ideally

the same day if possible). If the footings get wet, they will have to be drained and the soft

layer of wet clay or shale on the footing surface will have to be removed before concrete is

poured.

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

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

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

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



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

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

17. Geotechnical Review

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

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

issued. This form is required for the Construction Certificate to proceed.

18. Inspection

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

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

authorities or the owner if the following inspection has not been carried out during the

construction process.

• The geotechnical consultant is to inspect and test the fill in not more than 1.0m rises.

This is to ensure the required density has been achieved during compaction.

• 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.

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

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No. 222757

**Engineering Geologist** 



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Photo 1



Photo 2



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Photo 3



Photo 4



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Photo 5: EXC1 – Downhole is from top to bottom



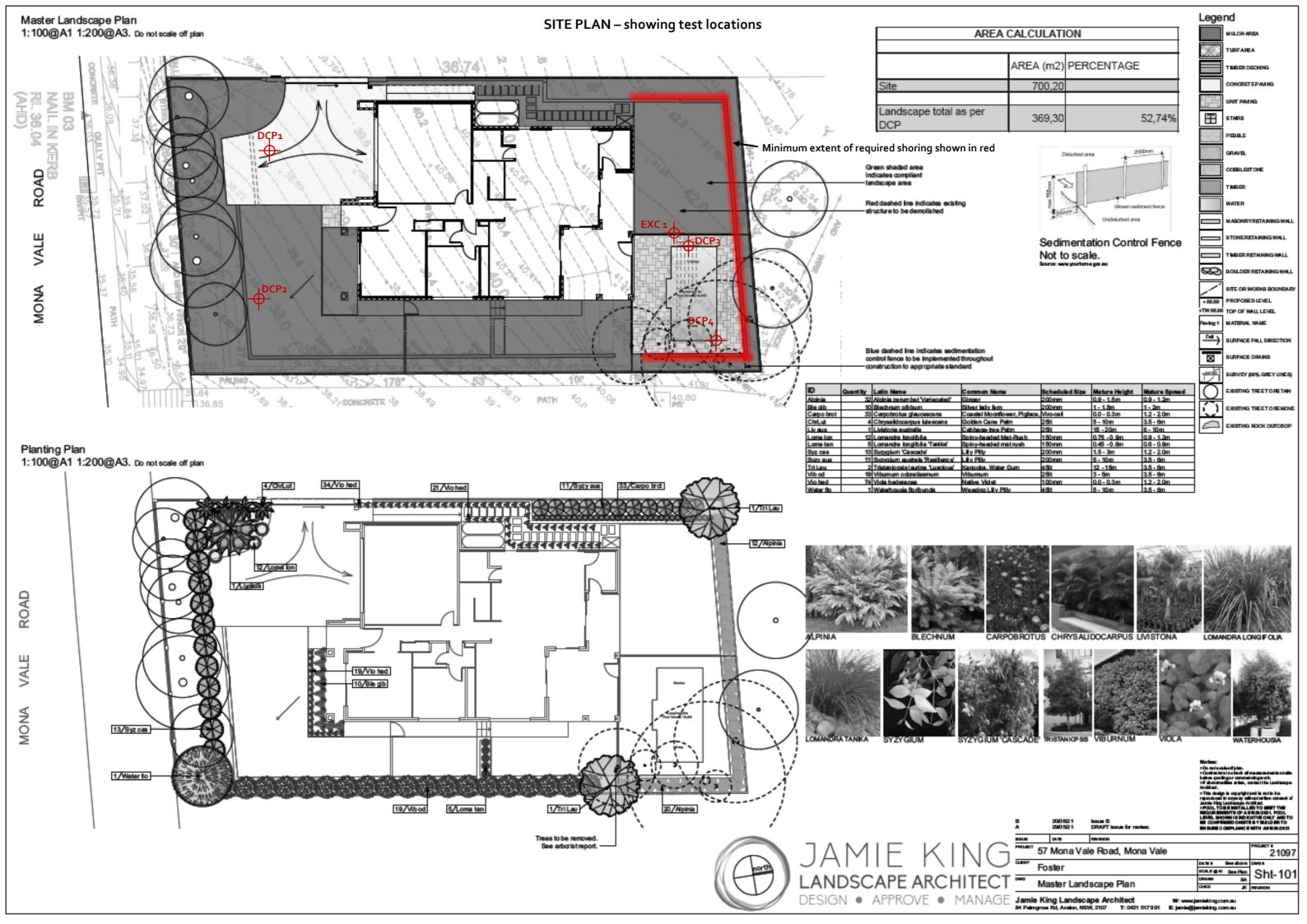
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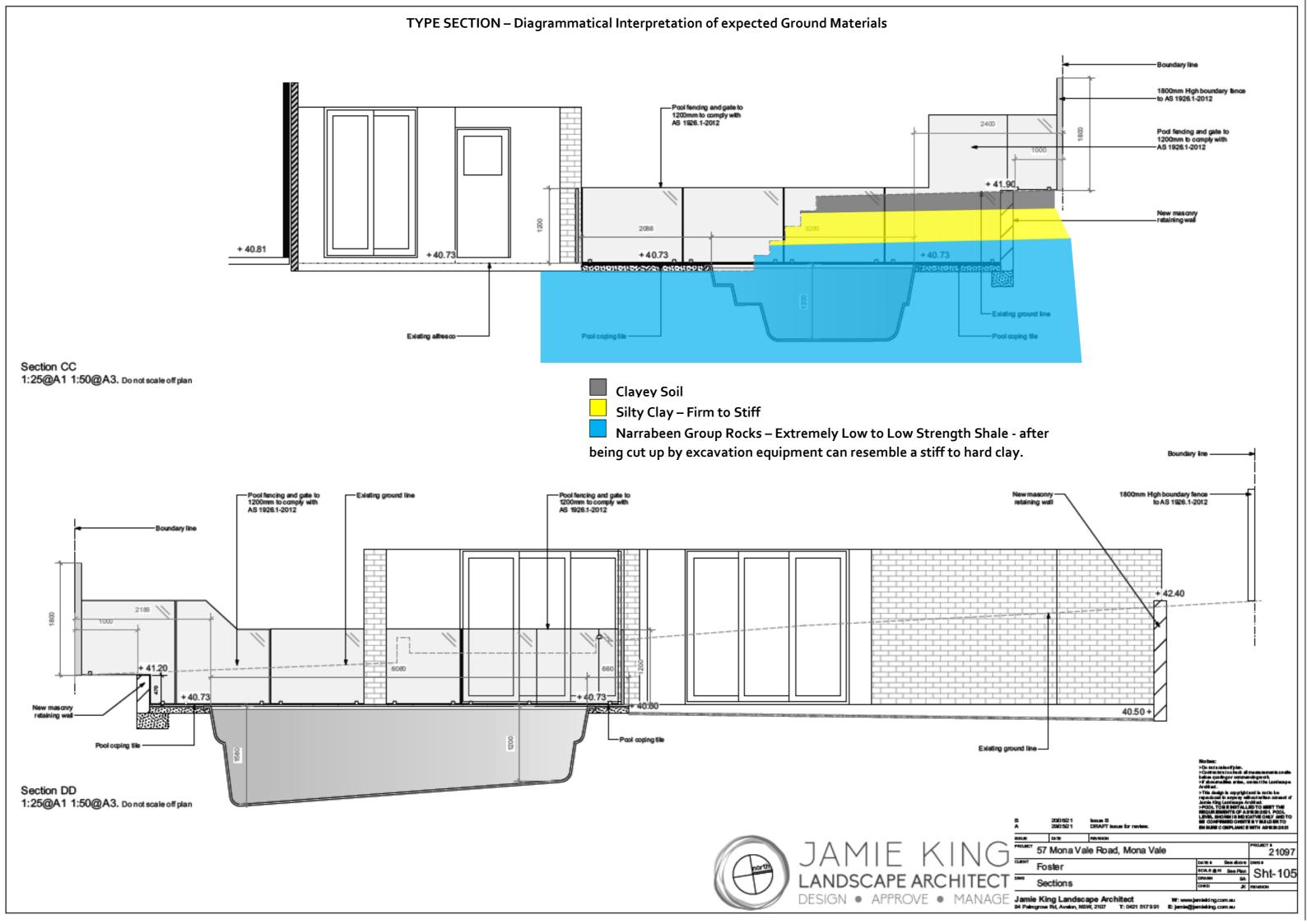
#### Important Information about Your Report

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

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

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





## EXAMPLES OF GOOD HILLSIDE PRACTICE



### EXAMPLES OF POOR HILLSIDE PRACTICE

