Residential Subdivision Billy's Lookout - Stage 21A Site Classification

Fishermans Drive, Teralba

NEW15P-0070C-AC 5 March 2019



**GEOTECHNICAL I LABORATORY I EARTHWORKS I QUARRY I CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING** 

5 March 2019

McCloy Development Management Pty Ltd Suite 2, Ground Floor, 317 Hunter Street NEWCASTLE NSW 2300

## Attention: Harry Thomson

Dear Sir,

# RE: PROPOSED SUBDIVISION – BILLY'S LOOKOUT – STAGE 21A FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA SITE CLASSIFICATION (PROPOSED SUBDIVISION OF LOT 2131)

Please find enclosed our geotechnical report for Stage 21A of the 'Billy's Lookout' residential subdivision, located at Fishermans Drive, Teralba.

The report provides site classification with respect to reactive soils, in accordance with the requirements of AS2870-2011 '*Residential Slabs and Footings*', for Stage 21A (Lots 1 to 4 within the proposed subdivision of Lot 2131).

If you have any questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Kelly or the undersigned.

For and on behalf of Qualtest Laboratory (NSW) Pty Ltd

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Jason Lee Principal Geotechnical Engineer

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# 1.0 Introduction

Qualtest Laboratory NSW Pty Ltd (Qualtest) is pleased to present this site classification report on behalf of McCloy Development Management Pty Ltd (McCloy), for Stage 21A of the 'Billy's Lookout' residential subdivision, located at Fishermans Drive, Teralba.

Based on the brief and drawing provided by the client, Stage 21A is understood to comprise of four residential allotments (Lots 1 to 4 within the proposed subdivision of Lot 2131).

The scope of work for the geotechnical investigation included providing site classification with respect to reactive soils, in accordance with the requirements of AS2870-2011 'Residential Slabs and Footings', for Stage 21A following completion of site regrade works.

This report presents the results of the field work investigations and laboratory testing, and provides recommendations for the scope outlined above.

# 2.0 Desktop Study

The scope of work has included a review of the following reports completed by Qualtest:

- Site Classification report, 'Proposed Subdivision, Billy's Lookout Stage 21A, Fishermans Drive, Teralba, (Report Reference: NEW15P-0070C-AA, dated 17 August 2018);
- Level 1 Site Re-grade Assessment Report, 'Proposed Subdivision, Billy's Lookout Stage 21 & 22, Fishermans Drive, Teralba, (Qualtest Report Reference: NEW18P-0220-AA, dated 18 February 2019); and,
- Site Classification report, 'Proposed Subdivision, Billy's Lookout Stage 21, Fishermans Drive, Teralba, (Report Reference: NEW15P-0070C-AB, dated 27 February 2019).

This report includes a summary of selected results from the previous reports where applicable.

# 3.0 Field Work

Field work investigations were initially carried out during previous investigation for Stage 21A on 27 July 2018. Regrading including stripping of topsoil and unsuitable material and filling was carried out following that investigation, as described in Section 4.1. Field work investigations were carried out on Stage 21A lots on 4 and 28 February 2019. Relevant investigations include:

- Excavation of four test pits (TP2101 to TP2104) using an 8 tonne backhoe with a 0.45m wide toothed bucket, to depths of between 0.60m and 1.00m;
- Excavation of two test pits on adjacent lots (TP21B05 and TP21B06) using a 2.7 tonne excavator with a 0.45m wide toothed bucket, to depths of 1.20m;
- Excavation of four hand augered boreholes (BH21B05A to BH21B06A, and BH21B15 to BH21B16) to depths of between 0.30m to 1.00m;
- Undisturbed samples (U50 tubes) were taken for subsequent laboratory testing; and,
- Test pits were backfilled with the excavation spoil and compacted using the excavator bucket and tracks. Boreholes were backfilled with the hand auger.

Investigations were carried out by an experienced Geotechnical Engineer from Qualtest who located the test pits and boreholes, carried out the testing and sampling, produced field logs of the test pits and boreholes, and made observations of the site surface conditions.

Approximate test pit and borehole locations are shown on the attached Figure AC1. Engineering logs of the test pits are presented in Appendix A.

# 4.0 Site Description

# 4.1 Site Regrade Works

Site re-grading works were conducted between 26 October 2018 and 5 November 2018. The re-grading works consisted of the cutting and filling of proposed residential lots within both Stage 21 and Stage 22 of the subdivision. Residential lots within Stage 21A where filling was performed included Lots 1 to 4. These lots are within and area which was described as Lot 838 within Stage 21 at the time of the regrade works.

Prior to filling, re-grade areas were stripped of all topsoil and unsuitable material to expose suitable natural foundation profile. Re-grade works then consisted of filling with approved site fill to finish design levels.

Filling was performed using site material won from excavations cut from around the site.

The approximate depth of fill placed ranged in the order of 0.1m to about 1.0m. The fill was compacted in maximum lifts of 0.3m thickness. Any unsuitable or deleterious material within the fill was removed by hand or mechanical means prior to final compaction of the material.

As the geotechnical testing authority engaged for the project, Qualtest state that the regrading works performed within Stage 21A of the development (i.e. the filling of Lots 1 to 4) was carried out to Level 1 criteria as defined in Clause 8.2 – Section 8, of AS3798-2007, "Guidelines on Earthworks for Commercial and Residential Developments".

Refer to Qualtest Level 1 Site Re-grade Assessment Report (Ref. NEW18P-0220-AA, dated 18 February 2019) for further details including the approximate limit of filling works for this stage of the project.

The recommendations of this report are based on the understanding that any existing lot re-grade works are limited to the controlled earthworks supervised by Qualtest, placement of the fill material observed to depths of 0.4m or less within test pits, and placement of low reactivity topsoil material such that total depth of topsoil and uncontrolled fill does not exceed 0.4m. Qualtest should be informed without delay if additional earthworks are known to have been carried out.

It is understood that underground services have been installed within an easement near the rear (south-western side) of the lots. This is outside the area of site regrading supervised by Qualtest i.e. Qualtest have not supervised backfilling of service trenches. It is expected that footings for any settlement sensitive developments will be founded outside of or below all zones of influence resulting from the service trenches.

At the time of the field investigations on 5 February 2019, fill stockpiles were present on a number of lots. During a subsequent site visits on 22 and 28 February 2019, the stockpiles were confirmed to mostly have been removed, with some small mounds and temporary mulch stockpiles present.

# 4.2 Surface Conditions

The site comprises proposed Stage 21A of the Billy's Lookout subdivision, located off Fishermans Drive, Teralba, as shown on Figure AC1 attached.

It is located in a region of gently to moderately undulating topography, on the mid to upper slopes of a broad hill formation.

The site is bounded to the south by a narrow strip of bushland and the Main Northern Railway, and to the north by Fishermans Drive and adjoining stages of the subdivision development.

On the day of the field investigations, the site had been cleared, and partially topsoiled.

The majority of the site was judged to be moderately drained by way of surface runoff following the altered topography towards the east and south, with infiltration and ponded water from recent wet weather causing the near surface soils to become wet and boggy in places.

Trafficability was judged to be good by way of 4WD vehicle along the existing access track at the rear of the lots. Trafficability was limited within some wet areas.

Selected photographs of the site taken on the day of the site investigations are shown below.



**Photograph 1:** Facing northeast from western corner of site (Lot 1).

**Photograph 2:** Facing southeast from western corner of site (Lot 1).



**Photograph 3:** Facing south from northern corner of site (Lot 1).



**Photograph 4:** Facing northwest from southeast of site.

# 4.3 Subsurface Conditions

Reference to the 1:100,000 Newcastle Coalfield Regional Geology Sheet indicates the site to be underlain by the Clifton Subgroup of the Narrabeen Group, and the Moon Island Beach Subgroup of the Newcastle Coal Measures, which are characterised by Conglomerate, Sandstone, Siltstone, Claystone, Tuff and Coal rock types.

Table 1 presents a summary of the typical soil types encountered on site during the field investigations, divided into representative geotechnical units.

Table 2 contains a summary of the distribution of the above geotechnical units at the test pit locations.

Unit	Soil Type	Description
1A	FILL – TOPSOIL & MULCH	Mulch – generally up to about 50mm depth, overlying; Clayey SAND - fine to medium/coarse grained, dark grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, root affected, with some sticks/mulch.
	a molerr	Sandy CLAY – low plasticity, dark grey-brown, fine to medium grained sand, with gravel in places, with some sticks and mulch.
		Sandy CLAY – medium plasticity, grey and orange-brown to brown, fine to coarse grained sand, with gravel in places. Sandy CLAY / Clayey SAND in places.
1B	FILL – CONTROLLED	Gravelly CLAY / Gravelly Sandy CLAY – medium to high plasticity, pale grey to grey with some orange-brown / red-brown, fine to medium grained rounded to sub-angular gravel, with some fine to coarse grained sand.
		Fill encountered in TP2104 during previous investigation was not controlled but has been stripped and replaced in areas of controlled filling.
2	TOPSOIL	Silty SAND - fine to medium grained, grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, root affected.
3	SLOPEWASH / COLLUVIUM	Clayey SAND - fine to medium grained, pale grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, with some roots.
4	RESIDUAL SOIL	Sandy CLAY / Clayey SAND – low to medium plasticity, grey and pale orange-brown, fine to coarse grained (mostly fine to medium grained) sand. Sandy CLAY, CLAY – medium to high plasticity, pale grey and pale orange-brown, fine to medium/coarse grained sand.
5	EXTREMELY WEATHERED (XW) ROCK	Extremely Weathered Sandstone with soil properties; breaks down into Clayey SAND – fine to coarse grained (mostly fine to medium grained), orange-brown and grey, fines of low plasticity. Extremely Weathered Sandstone with soil properties; breaks down into Sandy GRAVEL – fine to medium grained angular to sub- angular, red-brown to orange-brown, fine to coarse grained sand.
6	HIGHLY WEATHERED (HW) ROCK	SANDSTONE, Silty SANDSTONE - fine to medium grained, grey and orange-brown / red-brown, estimated low to medium strength.

## TABLE 1 – SUMMARY OF GEOTECHNICAL UNITS AND SOIL TYPES

## TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF GEOTECHNICAL UNITS ENCOUNTERED AT TEST PIT LOCATIONS

test pit no.	UNIT 1A Fill - Topsoil & Mulch	UNIT 1B Fill – Controlled	UNIT 2 Topsoil	Unit 3 Slopewash / Colluvium	Unit 4 Residual Soil	Unit 5 XW Rock	Unit 6 HW Rock						
	Depth (m)												
			Curren	t Investigation									
TP21B05	0.00 - 0.70#	-	-	-	0.70 - 1.10	_	1.10 - 1.20*						
TP21B06	0.00 - 0.35	0.35 - 1.10	-	-	-	1.10 - 1.20*	-						
BH21B05A	0.00 – 0.25	-	-	-	0.25 – 0.30	-	-						
BH21B06A	0.00 – 0.10	0.10 – 0.30	-	-	-	-	-						
BH21B15	0.00 – 0.25	0.25 – 0.75	-	-	0.75 – 1.00	_	-						
BH21B16	0.00 – 0.30	-	-	-	0.30 – 0.80	-	-						
Notes:	* = Practical ref	usal of 2.7 tonne excc	avator on Highly V	Veathered Rock;									
	$\wedge$ = Very slow pr	rogress (almost practio	cal refusal) of 2.7	tonne excavator or	Extremely Weathe	red to Highly Weath	nered Rock;						
		th greater than 0.40m less than or equal to		-									

Earthworks have been carried out on the site following the previous geotechnical investigation at Stage 21A (refer Section 4.1). Therefore, soil profiles have generally changed from those shown at TP2101 to TP2104, i.e. stripping followed by placement of up to about 0.8m of controlled fill plus topsoil.

TEST PIT NO.	UNIT 1A	UNIT 1B	UNIT 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6								
	Fill - Topsoil & Mulch	Fill – Controlled	Topsoil	Slopewash / Colluvium	Residual Soil	XW Rock	HW Rock								
		Depth (m)													
	Previous Investigation (NEW15P-0070C-AA, dated 17/08/2018)														
TP2101	0.00 - 0.05	-	0.05 - 0.30	_	0.30 - 0.75	-	0.75 - 0.95**								
TP2102	0.00 - 0.05	-	0.05 - 0.35	-	0.35 - 0.55	-	0.55 - 0.60**								
TP2103	-	-	0.00 - 0.15	0.15 - 0.45	0.45 - 0.65	0.65 - 0.75	0.75 - 0.80**								
TP2104	0.00 - 0.20	0.20 - 0.80	-	-	0.80 - 0.90	0.90 - 0.95	0.95 - 1.00**								
Notes:	** = Practical refus	al of 8 tonne back	noe on Highly Wec	athered Rock.											
Earthworks have been carried out on the site following the previous geotechnical investigation at Stage 21A (re Therefore, soil profiles have generally changed from those shown at TP2101 to TP2104, i.e. stripping followed by p about 0.8m of controlled fill plus topsoil.															

No groundwater was encountered in the test pits during the limited time that they remained open on the day of the field investigation.

It should be noted that groundwater conditions can vary due to rainfall and other influences including regional groundwater flow, temperature, permeability, recharge areas, surface condition, and subsoil drainage.

# 5.0 Laboratory Testing

Samples collected during the field investigations were returned to our NATA accredited Warabrook Laboratory for testing which comprised of (14 no.) Shrink / Swell tests.

Results of the laboratory testing are included in Appendix B, with a summary of the Shrink/Swell and Atterberg Limits tests presented in Tables 3 and 4.

Location	Depth (m)	Material Description	I <sub>ss</sub> (%)								
TP21B05	0.80 – 0.95	(CI) Sandy CLAY	2.8								
TP21B06	0.45 – 0.60	FILL: (CH) Gravelly CLAY	1.8								
	Previous Investigation (NEW15P-0070C-AA, dated 17/08/2018)										
TP2101	0.40 - 0.65	(CH) CLAY	3.7								

## TABLE 3 – SUMMARY OF SHRINK / SWELL TESTING RESULTS

## TABLE 4 – SUMMARY OF ATTERBERG LIMITS TESTING RESULTS

Location	Depth (m)	Material Description	Liquid Limit (%)	Plastic Limit (%)	Plasticity Index (%)	Linear Shrinkage (%)							
Pro	Previous Geotechnical Investigation (Ref. NEW15P-0070C-AA, dated 17/08/2018)												
TP2103	0.50 – 0.60	(CI) Sandy CLAY	44	17	27	10.5							

# 6.0 Site Classification to AS2870-2011

Based on the results of the field work and laboratory testing, residential lots located within Stage 21A of the Billy's Lookout subdivision located at Fishermans Drive, Teralba, as shown on Figure AC1, are classified in their current condition in accordance with AS2870-2011 '*Residential Slabs and Footings*', as shown in Table 4.

## TABLE 4 - SITE CLASSIFICATION TO AS2870-2011

Stage	Lot Numbers	Site Classification		
21A	1 to 4	H1		

A characteristic free surface movement in the range of 40mm to 60mm is estimated for lots classified as **Class 'H1'**.

The effects of changes to the soil profile by additional cutting and filling and the effects of past and future trees should be considered in selection of the design value for differential movement.

If site re-grading works involving cutting or filling are performed after the date of this assessment the classification may change and further advice should be sought. Final site classification will be dependent on the type of fill and level of supervision carried out. Re-classification of lots should be confirmed by the geotechnical authority at the time of construction following any site re-grade works.

Footings for the proposed development should be designed and constructed in accordance with the requirements of AS2870-2011.

The classification presented above assumes that:

- All footings are founded in controlled fill (if applicable) or in the residual clayey soils or rock below all non-controlled fill, topsoil material and root zones, and fill under slab panels meets the requirements of AS2870-2011, in particular, the root zone must be removed prior to the placement of fill materials beneath slabs;
- The performance expectations set out in Appendix B of AS2870-2011 are acceptable, and that site foundation maintenance is undertaken to avoid extremes of wetting and drying;
- Footings are to be founded outside of or below all zones of influence resulting from existing or future service trenches. This includes the backfilled trenches for services installed within easements at the rear of lots as shown in Figure AC1;
- The constructional and architectural requirements for reactive clay sites set out in AS2870-2011 are followed;
- Adherence to the detailing requirement outlined in Section 5 of AS2870-2011 'Residential Slabs and Footings' is essential, in particular Section 5.6, 'Additional requirements for Classes M, H1, H2 and E sites' including architectural restrictions, plumbing and drainage requirements; and,
- Site maintenance complies with the provisions of CSIRO Sheet BTF 18, "Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide", a copy of which is attached in Appendix C.

All structural elements on all lots regardless of their site classification should be supported on footings founded beneath all uncontrolled fill, layers of inadequate bearing capacity, soft/loose, or other potentially deleterious material.

If any areas of uncontrolled fill of depths greater than 0.4m are encountered during construction, footings should be designed in accordance with engineering principles for Class 'P' sites.

# 7.0 Limitations

The findings presented in the report and used as the basis for recommendations presented herein were obtained using normal, industry accepted geotechnical design practices and standards. To our knowledge, they represent a reasonable interpretation of the general conditions of the site.

The extent of testing associated with this assessment is limited to discrete test locations. It should be noted that subsurface conditions between and away from the test locations may be different to those observed during the field work and used as the basis of the recommendations contained in this report.

If subsurface conditions encountered during construction differ from those given in this report, further advice should be sought without delay.

Data and opinions contained within the report may not be used in other contexts or for any other purposes without prior review and agreement by Qualtest. If this report is reproduced, it must be in full.

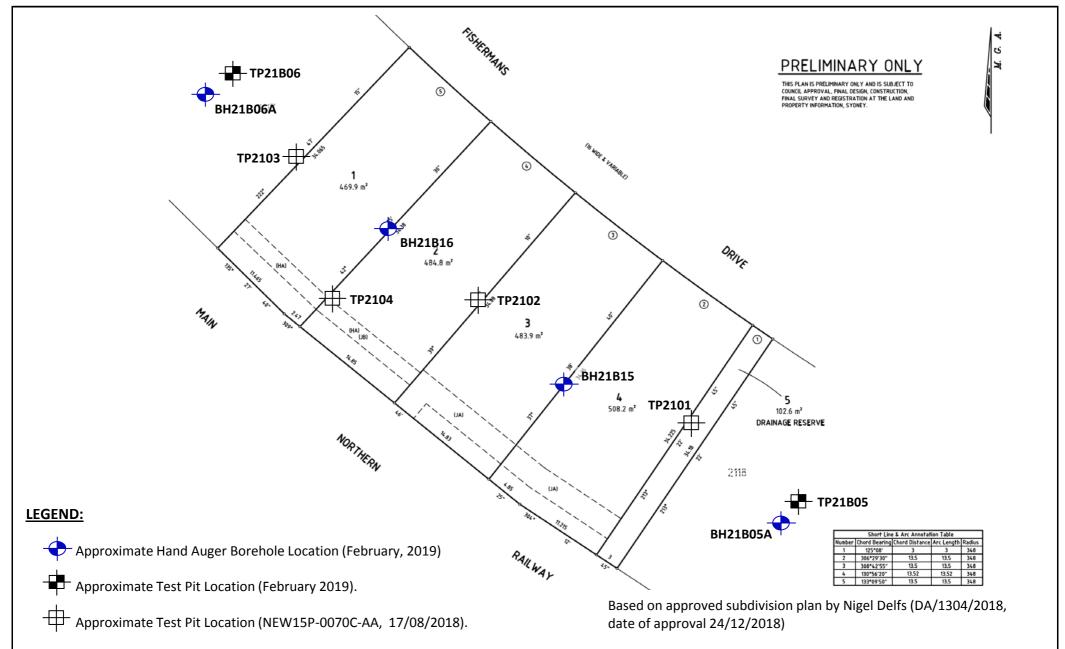
If you have any further questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon Kelly or the undersigned.

For and on behalf of Qualtest Laboratory (NSW) Pty Ltd.

Jason Lee Principal Geotechnical Engineer

# **FIGURES:**

Figure AC1 – Site Plan and Approximate Test Locations



	Client:	MCCLOY DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	Drawing No:	FIGURE AC1
Jualtast	Project:	BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A	Project No:	NEW17P-0070C
uuuuusi	Location:	FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA	Scale:	N.T.S.
LABORATORY (NSW) PTY LTD	Title:	SITE PLAN AND APPROXIMATE TEST LOCATIONS	Date:	27/02/2019

# **APPENDIX A:**

**Engineering Logs of Test Pits** 



# **ENGINEERING LOG - HAND AUGER**

McCLOY GROUP

**PROJECT:** BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

HAND AUGER NO: BH21B05A

PAGE: JOB NO: LOGGED BY:

DATE:

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28/2/19

BB

_													
		YPE: Ole diam		ND AUG		R     SURFACE RL:       00 mm     DATUM:							
	Drill	ing and San					Material description and profile information				Field	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plastici characteristics,colour,minor componer		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
	pe				***		0.05m FILL: MULCH						FILL - TOPSOIL
НА	Not Encountered			-		CL	FILL-TOPSOIL: Sandy CLAY - low plastici grey-brown (mostly fine to medium grained fine to medium grained sub-angular to sub gravel, with some sticks.	I), trace -rounded	-				
						CI	0.30m Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pale orar to orange-brown, fine to medium grained s	nge-brown and. /					RESIDUAL SOIL
				_			Hole Terminated at 0.30 m						
				0.5_									
				-									
				_									
				1.0									
				_									
				_									
				-									
				1. <u>5</u>									
				-									
				_									
				-									
	END:			Notes, Sa				<u>Consiste</u>		I		CS (kPa)	
<u>Wat</u>	Wat (Dat	er Level e and time sh	nown)	U <sub>50</sub> CBR E	Bulk s Envirc (Glass	ample f nmenta s jar, se	ter tube sample or CBR testing il sample aled and chilled on site)	S S F F St S	/ery Soft Soft Firm Stiff		50 10	5 - 50 ) - 100 )0 - 200	M Moist W Wet W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit
	Wat	er Inflow er Outflow		ASS	(Plasti	c bag, a	Soil Sample air expelled, chilled)	н н	/ery Stiff lard			10 - 400 100	W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit
<u>Stra</u>	 tra	anges radational or ansitional stra efinitive or dis	ita	B Field Test PID DCP(x-y)	i <u>s</u> Photoi Dynar	nic pen	on detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown)	Fb F Density	Friable V L MD	Lo D M		oose n Dense	,
	st	rata change		HP	Hand	Penetro	meter test (UCS kPa)		D VD		ense ery De	ense	Density Index 65 - 85% Density Index 85 - 100%



# **ENGINEERING LOG - HAND AUGER**

CLIENT: McCLOY GROUP PROJECT: BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

# HAND AUGER NO: BH21B06A

PAGE: JOB NO: LOGGED BY:

DATE:

1 OF 1 NEW15P-0070C

28/2/19

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		DRILL TYPE: HAND AUGER BOREHOLE DIAMETER: 100 mm						SURI DATI	FACE RL: JM:					
		Drill	ng and San	npling				Material description and profile information				Field	d Test	
	MEIHOU	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticit characteristics,colour,minor componer		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
:	НА	Not Encountered			-		CL CH	FILL-TOPSOIL: Sandy CLAY - low plasticit grey-brown, fine to coarse grained sand, tr grained angular gravel, with some sticks an FILL: Gravelly CLAY - medium to high plas grey with some orange-brown and brown, medium grained rounded to sub-angular g some fine to coarse grained (mostly fine to grained) sand.	ace fine nd mulch. sticity, pale fine to ravel, with	-				FILL - TOPSOIL
QTLIB 1.1.GLB Log NON-CORED BOREHOLE - TEST PIT NEW15P-0070C STAGE 21A LOGS.GPJ < <drawingfile>&gt; 01/03/2019 09:28 10.0.000 Datget Lab and in Situ Tool</drawingfile>					- 0. <u>5</u> - - - 1. <u>0</u> - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -			Hole Terminated at 0.30 m						
TLIB 1.1.GLB Log NON-CORED BOREHOLE - T		Wati (Dati Wati Wati t <b>a Cha</b> tra Gi De	er Level e and time sl er Inflow er Outflow <b>inges</b> radational or insitional stra finitive or dis ata change	nown) Ita	I Notes, Sa U <sub>50</sub> CBR E ASS B Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass Acid S (Plasti Bulk S S Photoi Dynan	Diame ample f onmenta s jar, se Gulfate S c bag, a c bag, a c bag, a conisationis ation	ts ter tube sample for CBR testing al sample aled and chilled on site) Soil Sample air expelled, chilled) on detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown) ometer test (UCS kPa)	S S F F St S VSt V H F	 ncy /ery Soft Soft Stiff /ery Stiff lard Friable V L ME D VD	Ve Lc D M	<2 25 50 10 20 >4 ery Lo pose	5 - 50 0 - 100 10 - 200 10 - 400 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	D Dry M Moist W Wet W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit Density Index <15% Density Index 15 - 35%



# **ENGINEERING LOG - HAND AUGER**

CLIENT:McCLOY GROUPPROJECT:BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21ALOCATION:FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

HAND AUGER NO: BH21B15

PAGE: JOB NO: LOGGED BY:

DATE:

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		iype: Ole diame		ID AUG	ER 100 m	m	SURI	FACE RL: JM:					
	Dril	ling and Sam	pling				Material description and profile information				Field	l Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticit characteristics,colour,minor componer		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
							FILL: MULCH		м				FILL - TOPSOIL
				-		CL	FILL-TOPSOIL: Gravelly Sandy CLAY - low dark grey-brown, fine to coarse grained sa medium grained angular gravel.	w plasticity, nd, fine to	M < Wp				FILL - CONTROLLED
A	Encountered			- 0.5		СН	FILL: Sandy CLAY - medium to high plastic orange-brown, fine to medium grained san some fine to medium grained angular to su gravel.	d, with	M < Wp	Vet			
ΗA	Not Er			-		CL	FILL: Sandy CLAY - low to medium plastic grey-brown, fine to coarse grained sand, tr medium grained sub-angular gravel.		M M M	VSt			
o and In Situ Tool						CI	CLAY - medium plasticity, pale orange-bro some red-brown, with some fine to mediun sand.		M > W <sub>P</sub>	St			RESIDUAL SOIL
Wa Wa	Wa (Da	ter Level te and time sho ter Inflow	own)		50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass	Diame ample f nmenta jar, se	Hole Terminated at 1.00 m <b>§</b> ref tube sample or CBR testing I sample lade and chilled on site) joil Sample	S S F F St S VSt V	/ery Soft Soft Firm Stiff /ery Stiff		<2 25 50 10 20	- 50 - 100 0 - 200 0 - 400	D Dry M Moist W Wet W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit
QT LIB 1.1.GLB Log NC	r <u>ata Ch</u> G tr D	ter Outflow anges iradational or ansitional strata efinitive or dist trata change	a	B Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	Bulk S <u>s</u> Photoi Dynan	ample onisatio	ir expelled, chilled) n detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)		Hard Friable L ME D VD	D D	>4 ery Lo bose edium ense ery De	ose I Dense	Density Index <15% Density Index 15 - 35% Density Index 35 - 65% Density Index 65 - 85% Density Index 65 - 100%



# **ENGINEERING LOG - HAND AUGER**

McCLOY GROUP

PROJECT: BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

CLIENT:

HAND AUGER NO: BH21B16

PAGE: JOB NO: LOGGED BY:

DATE:

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		YPE: OLE DIAM		ND AUG :	100 m	m	DAT	FACE RL: UM:					
	Drill	ing and Sam	pling			I	Material description and profile information		-	1	Fiel	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plastici characteristics,colour,minor componer		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and addition observations
							0.05m FILL: MULCH		м				FILL - TOPSOIL
	Ţ			-		CL	FILL-TOPSOIL: Sandy CLAY - low plastici grey, fine to medium grained sand.	 ty, dark	M < Wp				
НА	Not Encountered			- 0. <u>5</u>			CLAY - medium to high plasticity, pale grewith some pale orange-brown, trace fine g sand.	y to white rained	a ≪ M	н	-	-	RESIDUAL SOIL
				-		СН	With some fine to medium grained sand, c grey-brown, trace fine to medium grained a sub-angular gravel.		M > Wp	VSt	-		
				- 1. <u>0</u>			Hole Terminated at 0.80 m						
				-									
				- 1. <u>5</u>									
				-									
				-									
	Wat (Dat	er Level te and time sh er Inflow er Outflow anges	iown)	Notes, Sa U₅ CBR E ASS B	50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass Acid S (Plasti	Diame ample f nmenta jar, se sulfate S	<b>s</b> ter tube sample or CBR testing I sample aled and chilled on site) ioil Sample iri expelled, chilled)	S S F F St S VSt V H H	Jency Very Soft Soft Firm Stiff Very Stiff Hard Friable		<2 25 50 10 20	<b>CS (kPa</b> 25 5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 400	Moisture Condition           D         Dry           M         Moist           W         Wet           W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit           W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit
	Gi tra De	radational or ansitional stra efinitive or dis rata change	ta	Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	<u>ts</u> Photoi Dynar	ionisatio	n detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)	<u>Density</u>	V L ME D VD	La D M D	ery Lo bose lediun ense ery D	n Dense	Density Index <15% Density Index 15 - 35% Density Index 35 - 65% Density Index 65 - 85% Density Index 85 - 100%



# **ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT** McCLOY GROUP

**PROJECT:** BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

CLIENT:

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

LOGGED BY:

**TP21B05** 

1 OF 1

NEW15P-0070C

BB

	MENT TYPE PIT LENGTH		2.7 TC 2.0 m		EXCA DTH:	VATOR 0.5 m	SURFACE RL: DATUM:					
D	rilling and Sam	pling				Material description and profile inform	ation			Fiel	d Test	
METHOD WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, p characteristics,colour,minor con	plasticity/particle ponents	MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
E       Not Encountered	0.80m U50 0.95m		- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		SC CL Cl	0.70m         0.70m         FILL-TOPSOIL: Sandy CLAY - low p grey-brown (mostly fine to medium grained sub-angular gravel, with some sticks.         0.70m         Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pa to orange-brown, fine to medium gratict y parts or ange-brown, fine to medium gratict y parts or ange-brown, estimated low to 1.20m         1.10m         Sitty SANDSTONE - fine to medium and orange-brown, estimated low to the the treminated at 1.20 m Practical Refusal	w plasticity, with 	-		нР НР НР НР НР НР	350 360 330	FILL - TOPSOIL RESIDUAL SOIL
(□ ▶W W Strata C	D: /ater Level Date and time shu /ater Inflow /ater Outflow Zhanges Gradational or transitional strat Definitive or dist strata change	own) / a		50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass Acid S (Plasti Bulk S S Photoi Dynan	Diame ample f nmenta jar, se ulfate S c bag, a ample onisationic pene	IS ter tube sample or CBR testing il sample aled and chilled on site) Soil Sample air expelled, chilled) on detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)	S S F I St S VSt F H I	PICY Very Soft Soft Firm Stiff Very Stiff Hard Friable V L MD D	Vi Lo	22 25 50 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	CS (kPa 25 5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 400 00 - sose n Dense	D     Dry       M     Moist       W     Wet       Wp     Plastic Limit       WL     Liquid Limit       Density Index <15%



## **ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT** McCLOY GROUP

PROJECT: BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

CLIENT:

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

LOGGED BY:

**TP21B06** 

1 OF 1

NEW15P-0070C

BΒ

		MENT TYPI		2.7 TC 2.0 m		EXCA I <b>DTH</b> :		SURFACE RL: DATUM:					
	Dril	lling and San	npling				Material description and profile information				Fiel	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticity characteristics,colour,minor component	y/particle ts	MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additiona observations
Е	Not Encountered	0.45m U50 0.60m				CL CH CI GP	FILL-TOPSOIL: Sandy CLAY - low plasticity grey-brown, fine to coarse grained sand, tra grained angular gravel, with some sticks an         0.35m         FILL: Gravelly CLAY - medium to high plass grey with some orange-brown and brown, f medium grained rounded to sub-angular gr some fine to coarse grained (mostly fine to grained) sand.         0.65m         FILL: Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pale brown, fine to medium grained sand.         0.65m         FILL: Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pale brown, fine to medium grained sand.         1.0m         Extremely Weathered Sandstone with soil p breaks down into Sandy GRAVEL - fine to i grained angular to sub-angular, red-brown orange-brown and pale grey to grey, fine to grained sand.         Hole Terminated at 1.20 m Practical Refusal	ticity, pale ine to avel, with medium	-	8	HP HP HP	>600 >600 >600 >600	FILL - TOPSOIL
	 (Da Wa ■      	ter Level te and time sh ter Inflow ter Outflow anges iradational or ansitional stra efinitive or dis trata change	ta	Notes, Sa U <sub>50</sub> CBR E ASS B Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass Acid S (Plasti Bulk S S Photoi Dynan	Diame ample f nmenta jar, se culfate S c bag, a ample onisationic pendo	S ter tube sample or CBR testing il sample aled and chilled on site) oiol Sample air expelled, chilled) on detector reading (ppm) etrometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)	S S F F St S VSt V H F	very Soft Soft Stiff Hard Friable V L D	Vi La	2!501020<	CS (kPa 25 5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 400 Doose n Dense	D Dry M Moist W Wet W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit Density Index <15% Density Index 15 - 35%



# ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT CLIENT: McCLOY GROUP

PROJECT: BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

LOGGED BY:

**TP2101** 1 OF 1

NEW15P-0070C

BB 27/7/18

		IENT TYPI T LENGTH		BACK 2.0 m		IDTH:		FACE RL: UM:					
	Drill	ing and Sam	npling				Material description and profile information				Fiel	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plastici characteristics,colour,minor componer	ty/particle hts	MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
				-		SM	TOPSOIL: Silty SAND - fine to medium gra grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, root affe 50mm of mulch.	ained, ected. Top	м				TOPSOIL
BH	Not Encountered	0.40m U50 0.65m		- 0. <u>5</u> -		СН	<u>0.30m</u> Sandy CLAY - medium to high plasticity, p and pale brown, fine to medium grained sa	 ale grey and.	M ~ Wp	VSt - H	HP HP HP	350 420 430 380	RESIDUAL SOIL
				-			0.75m SANDSTONE - fine to medium grained, re orange-brown and grey, estimated low to r strength.	d-brown to	D			300	HIGHLY WEATHERED
				1. <u>0</u> - - 1. <u>5</u> - - - -			Hole Terminated at 0.95 m Practical Refusal						
	- Wat (Dat - Wat I Wat ata Cha ata Cha tra	er Level e and time sh er Inflow er Outflow <b>anges</b> radational or ansitional stra efinitive or dis rata change	nown)	Notes, Sa U₅₀ CBR E ASS B Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	50mm Bulk s Enviro (Glass Acid S (Plast Bulk S S Photo Dynar	n Diame sample to ponmenta s jar, se Sulfate \$ ic bag, s Sample ionisationic pen	ter tube sample for CBR testing al sample valed and chilled on site) Soil Sample air expelled, chilled)	S S F F St S VSt V H H	Procy Very Soft Soft Stiff Very Stiff Hard Friable V L ME D	Vi La	22 25 50 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 400	D     Dry       M     Moist       W     Wet       W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit       W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit       Density Index <15%



# ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT CLIENT: McCLOY GROUP

PROJECT: BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

TP2102

1 OF 1

NEW15P-0070C

LOGGED BY: BB

27/7/18

		IPMENT F PIT LE		BAC 2.0 I	KHO n		OTH:	0.5 m DAT	FACE RL: JM:					
	I	Drilling a	nd Samplin	g				Material description and profile information				Field	d Test	
		NATER SAM	PLES R (n		GRAPHIC	DOL	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticit characteristics,colour,minor componer		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
Ta	- - - -	Not Encountered					SM	TOPSOIL: Silty SAND - fine to medium gra grey-brown to grey-brown, fines of low plas affected. Top 50mm of mulch.		м				TOPSOIL
		0.40	50	0	5		CI	CLAY - medium to high plasticity, pale brow some fine to medium grained sand.		D	VSt	HP	230 260	RESIDUAL SOIL
QT LIB 1.1.GLB Log NON-CORED BOREHOLE - TEST PIT NEW15P-0070C STAGE 21A LOGS.GPJ < <drawingfile>&gt; 01/03/2019 09:28 10.0.000 Dagel Lab and in Siu Tool</drawingfile>	EGEI	ND:		1 1		es ano		Silty SANDSTONE - fine to medium graine grey-brown with some orange-brown, estin medium strength. Hole Terminated at 0.60 m Practical Refusal					CS (kPa	ROCK
		Water Lev (Date and Water Infl Water Ou <b>Changes</b> Gradati transitio	time shown ow tflow onal or nal strata re or distict	U <sub>50</sub> CBR E ASS B <u>Field T</u> PID DCP(x- HP	Bi Ei (C Ai (F Bi <b>ssts</b> Pi () D	ulk sar nvironi Glass ji cid Su Plastic ulk Sai hotoioi ynamie	mple fo menta ar, sea lfate S bag, a mple nisatio c pene	er tube sample or CBR testing sample led and chilled on site) oil Sample ir expelled, chilled) n detector reading (ppm) trometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)	S S F I St S VSt V	Very Soft Soft Firm Stiff Hard Friable V L ME D VD	Vi La D	50 10 20 >4 ery Lo pose	5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 100	D     Dry       M     Moist       W     Wet       Wp     Plastic Limit       W_L     Liquid Limit       Density Index <15%



# ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT CLIENT: McCLOY GROUP

**PROJECT:** BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

LOGGED BY:

**TP2103** 1 OF 1

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NEW15P-0070C BB

27/7/18

		MENT TYPE: IT LENGTH:		BACK 2.0 m		IDTH:	0.5 m DATU	FACE RL: JM:					
	Dril	ling and Samp	oling				Material description and profile information				Field	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticit characteristics,colour,minor componen		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additional observations
				_		SM	TOPSOIL: Silty SAND - fine to medium gra grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, root affer	ined, dark cted.					TOPSOIL
BH	Encountered			-		sc	0.15m Clayey SAND - fine to medium grained, pa grey-brown, fines of low plasticity, with som		M				SLOPE WASH
	Not	0.50m U50 0.60m		0.5		 CI	0.45m Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pale brow grey, fine to medium grained sand. 0.65m	 vn and	M > W	VSt	HP	220 230	RESIDUAL SOIL
				_		 sc	Extremely Weathered Sandstone with soil breaks down into Clayey SAND - fine to me 0.75m grained, orange-brown and pale grey, fines	edium	М	VD			EXTREMELY WEATHERED ROCK
					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		medium plasticity 	J	D				HIGHLY WEATHERED
				- 1. <u>0</u> - - 1. <u>5</u> - -			strength. Hole Terminated at 0.80 m Practical Refusal						
	Wai (Da Wai Wai <b>I</b> Wai <b>I</b> G	ter Level te and time sho ter Inflow ter Outflow <u>anges</u> radational or	wn)	Notes, Sar U <sub>50</sub> CBR E ASS B Field Test	50mm Bulk s Envirc (Glass Acid S (Plasti Bulk S	Diame ample f onmenta s jar, se Sulfate S ic bag, a Sample	er tube sample or CBR testing sample iled and chilled on site) oil Sample ir expelled, chilled)	S S F F St S VSt V H F	/ery Soft Soft Firm Stiff /ery Stiff Hard Friable V	V	25 25 50 10 20 >4 ery Lc	5 - 50 0 - 100 00 - 200 00 - 400 400	D Dry M Moist W Wet W <sub>p</sub> Plastic Limit W <sub>L</sub> Liquid Limit Density Index <15%
	D	ansitional strata efinitive or disti trata change		PID DCP(x-y) HP	Dynar	nic pen	n detector reading (ppm) trometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)		L ME D VD	D M	oose ledium ense ery De	n Dense ense	Density Index 15 - 35% Density Index 35 - 65% Density Index 65 - 85% Density Index 85 - 100%



#### **ENGINEERING LOG - TEST PIT** CLIENT: McCLOY GROUP

**PROJECT:** BILLYS LOOKOUT - STAGE 21A

LOCATION: FISHERMANS DRIVE, TERALBA

TEST PIT NO:

PAGE:

DATE:

JOB NO:

LOGGED BY:

**TP2104** 1 OF 1

NEW15P-0070C

BB

27/7/18

				BACK				ACE RL:					
TE		T LENGTH		2.0 m	W	IDTH:	0.5 m DATU	M:				· 1	
	Drill	ing and Sam	pling			7	Material description and profile information				Field	d Test	
METHOD	WATER	SAMPLES	RL (m)	DEPTH (m)	GRAPHIC LOG	CLASSIFICATION SYMBOL	MATERIAL DESCRIPTION: Soil type, plasticity, characteristics,colour,minor components		MOISTURE CONDITION	CONSISTENCY DENSITY	Test Type	Result	Structure and additiona observations
				-		SC	FILL-TOPSOIL: Clayey SAND - fine to medii grained, dark grey-brown, fines of low to mer plasticity, with some sticks.		M - M				FILL - TOPSOIL
	tered			-			FILL: Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, brow grey-brown, fine to coarse grained sand, trac cobbles and sticks.				ΗP	130	FILL
ВН	Not Encountered			0. <u>5</u>		CI			1 > w <sub>P</sub>	F - St	HP	80	
				-					≥		ΗP	100	
				-		с – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – –	Sandy CLAY - medium plasticity, pale brown pale grey, fine to medium grained sand.			VSt	HP	200	
					/./.	sc	0.95m Extremely Weathered Sandstone with soil public breaks down into Clayey SAND - fine to med	dium	M	VD			
				1.0			1.00m grained, orange-brown and grey, fines of me	edium /					HIGHLY WEATHERED
				-			SANDSTONE - fine to medium grained, orange-brown and grey, estimated low to me strength. Hole Terminated at 1.00 m	edium					
				-			Practical Refusal						
				-									
				1. <u>5</u>									
				-									
150	GEND:			- Notes, Sa	miles			Consiste				CS (kPa	Moisture Condition
Wat				U <sub>50</sub>	50mm	Diame	ter tube sample	VS V	/ery Soft		<2	25	D Dry
<b>⊻</b>	(Dat	er Level e and time sh er Inflow	own)	CBR E ASS	Enviro (Glass	nmenta i jar, se	or CBR testing I sample aled and chilled on site) ioil Sample	F F St S	Soft ⁼irm Stiff /ery Stiff		50 10	5 - 50 ) - 100 )0 - 200 )0 - 400	P
Ster	Wat Ita Cha	er Outflow		в		c bag, a ample	air expelled, chilled)		Hard ⁼riable		>4	100	
<u>ərra</u>	Gi tra De	anges radational or ansitional strat efinitive or dist rata change	a	Field Test PID DCP(x-y) HP	<u>s</u> Photo Dynar	ionisatio nic pene	n detector reading (ppm) trometer test (test depth interval shown) meter test (UCS kPa)	<u>Density</u>	V L MD D	Lo M	ery Lo bose edium ense	oose n Dense	Density Index <15% Density Index 15 - 35% Density Index 35 - 65% Density Index 65 - 85%

# **APPENDIX B:**

**Results of Laboratory Testing** 



QUALTEST Laboratory (NSW) Pty Ltd (20708) 8 Ironbark Close Warabrook NSW 2304 T: 02 4968 4468 F: 02 4960 9775 E: admin@qualtest.com.au W: www.qualtest.com.au ABN: 98 153 268 896

Shrink Swell Index Rep	Ort Report No: SSI:NEW19W-0296S06
Client: McCloy Development Managem Suite 2, Ground Floor, 317 Hunte Newcastle NSW 2300	
Principal: Project No.: NEW15P-0070C Project Name: Billy's Lookout - Stage 21A	ACCREDITATION AC
Sample Details	
Sample ID: NEW19W-0296S06	Client Sample ID: -
Test Request No.: -	Sampling Method: AS1289.1.2.1 cl 6.5
Material: Sandy CLAY	Date Sampled: 5/02/2019
Source: On-Site	Date Submitted: 6/02/2019
Specification: No Specification	
Project Location:Teralba, NSWSample Location:TP21B05 - 0.80 to 0.95m	
Borehole Number: TP21B05 - 0.00 to 0.95im	
Borehole Depth (m): 0.80 to 0.95	
Swell Test AS	S 1289.7.1.1 Shrink Test AS 1289.7.1.1
Swell on Saturation (%): -1.1	Shrink on drying (%): 5.0
Moisture Content before (%): 26.2	Shrinkage Moisture Content (%): 26.6
Moisture Content after (%): 30.3	Est. inert material (%): 5.0
Est. Unc. Comp. Strength before (kPa): 320 Est. Unc. Comp. Strength after (kPa): 150	Crumbling during shrinkage: Nil Cracking during shrinkage: Minor
	Cracking during shrinkage: Minor
Shrink Swell	Shrinkage 🔶 Sw ell
10.0 <sub>1</sub>	
S S	
	(*************************************
Bhrink (%) Bhrink (%) Brink (%) Brin	
So So	
Щ — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц — Ц —	
» -5.0	
$\overline{\mathbf{O}}$ –	
-10.0	
0.0 5.0 10.0 15	5.0 20.0 25.0 30.0 35.0 40.0 45.0 50.0
	Moisture Content (%)
Shrink Swell Index - Iss (%): 2.8	



QUALTEST Laboratory (NSW) Pty Ltd (20708) 8 Ironbark Close Warabrook NSW 2304 T: 02 4968 4468 F: 02 4960 9775 E: admin@qualtest.com.au W: www.qualtest.com.au ABN: 98 153 268 896

Shrink	Swel	l Inde	x Re	epori							
Client:	Suite 2,	Developmer Ground Floo tle NSW 23	or, 317 F						Accredited for complian The results of the tests, his document are trace Results provided relate This report shall not be	calibrations and/or r able to Australian/na only to the items tes	neasurements included tional standards. ted or sampled.
Principal: Project No.: Project Name	NEW15F : Billy's Lo		ge 21A					DITATION	Approved Signato (Senior Geotechn NATA Accredited Date of Issue: 20	iician) Laboratory Nur	
ample De	tails										
ample ID:		N19W-0296-	-S07			Client Sa	mple ID:	-			
est Request	No.: -					Sampling	Method:	AS1289.	1.2.1 cl 6.5		
laterial:	Gra	velly CLAY				Date Sam	pled:	5/02/201	9		
ource:	On-	Slte				Date Sub	mitted:	6/02/201	9		
pecification: roject Locati ample Locati orehole Num orehole Dep	on: Tera ion: TP2 iber: TP2	Specification alba, NSW 21B06 - 0.45 21B06 5 to 0.60									
well Test				AS 12	89.7.1.1	Shrink	Test			AS	1289.7.1
vell on Satu	ration (%):		-0.6	6		Shrink or	<mark>ո drying (</mark> %	<b>b):</b>	3.3		
oisture Cont	ent before	(%)	10 /								
			19.1	1		Shrinkag			<b>: (%):</b> 20.2		
loisture Cont	ent after (	%):	27.5	5		Est. inert	material (	%):	5.0		
loisture Cont st. Unc. Com	ent after ( p. Strengt	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00		Est. inert Crumblin	material ( g during s	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil		
loisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com	ent after ( p. Strengt p. Strengt	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00		Est. inert Crumblin	material (	%): hrinkage	5.0	ate	
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com	ent after ( p. Strengt p. Strengt	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s during sh	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil	rate	
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com	ent after ( p. Strengt p. Strengt	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil	rate	
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swo 10 ₿	ent after ( <sup>*</sup> ip. Strengt ip. Strengt ell	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s during sh	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil	rate	
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swo 10 ₿	ent after ( <sup>*</sup> ip. Strengt ip. Strengt ell	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s during sh	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil		
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swo 10 ₿	ent after (* pp. Strengt pp. Strengt	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s during sh	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil		
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swe 10 MsB (%) Ilaws - 0 0 Shrink (%) Swell (%) -5	ent after (* ip. Strengt ip. Strengt ell	%): h before (k	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	Shrinkage	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( g during s during sh	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil	ate	
oisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swo 10	ent after (* p. Strengt p. Strengt ell	%): h before (k h after (kPa	27.5 (Pa): > 60 a): 280	5	-	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( ig during s during sh Sw ell	%): hrinkage rinkage:	5.0 P: Nil Moder		50.0
loisture Cont st. Unc. Com st. Unc. Com hrink Swa 10 (%) Esh -5 0 -5	ent after (* ip. Strengt ip. Strengt ell	%): h before (k h after (kPa	27.8 ( <b>Pa):</b> > 60	5 00 )	20.0	Est. inert Crumblin Cracking	material ( ig during s during sh Sw ell 30.0	%): hrinkage	5.0 : Nil	rate	50.0



 QUALTEST Laboratory (NSW) Pty Ltd (20708)

 8 Ironbark Close Warabrook NSW 2304

 T:
 02 4968 4468

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 admin@qualtest.com.au

 W:
 www.qualtest.com.au

 ABN: 98 153 268 896

	Report No: SSI:NEW18W-2490S01
Shrink Swell Index Report	Issue No: 1
Client: McCloy Development Management Pty Ltd Suite 1 Level 3, 426 King Street Newcastle West NSW 2300	Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 - Testing The results of the tests, calibrations and/or measurements included in this document are traceable to Australian/national standards
Principal:	NATA D ( 1000 A
Project No.: NEW15P-0070C	Approved Signatory: Brent Cullen
Project Name: Billy's Lookout - Stage 21	ACCREDITATION (Senior Geotechnician) NATA Accredited Laboratory Number: 18686 Date of Issue: 8/08/2018
Sample Details	
Sample ID: NEW18W-2490S01	Client Sample ID:
Test Request No.: -	Sampling Method: AS1289.1.2.1 cl 6.5
Material: Clay	Date Sampled: 27/07/2018
Source: On-Site	Date Submitted: 1/08/2018
Specification: No Specification	
Project Location: Teralba, NSW	
Sample Location:         TP2101 - (0.4 - 0.65m)           Borehole Number:         TP2101	
Borehole Depth (m): 0.4 - 0.65	
Swell Test AS 1289.7.1.	
Swell on Saturation (%): 0.4	Shrink on drying (%): 6.4
Moisture Content before (%): 31.5	Shrinkage Moisture Content (%): 31.1
Moisture Content after (%): 36.7 Est. Unc. Comp. Strength before (kPa): >600	Est. inert material (%): 5% Crumbling during shrinkage: Nil
Est. Unc. Comp. Strength after (kPa): 280	Cracking during shrinkage: Minor
Shrink Swell	
Shirilik Swell Shrinka	ge 🔶 Swell
10.0 <sub>T</sub>	
8	
Shrink (%) Esh	
8)	
Swel	
(%)	
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-10.0 <del> </del> 0.0 5.0 10.0 15.0 20.0	25.0 30.0 35.0 40.0 45.0 50.0
	oisture Content (%)
Shrink Swell Index - Iss (%): 3.7	



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#### Report No: MAT:NEW18W-2490--S02 Issue No: 1 **Material Test Report** Accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 -McCloy Development Management Pty Ltd Suite 1 Level 3, 426 King Street Client: Testing The results of the tests, calibrations and/or measurements included in this document are traceable to Australian/national standards Newcastle West NSW 2300 ΝΑΤΑ Principal: B all Project No.: NEW15P-0070C Approved Signatory: Brent Cullen Project Name: Billy's Lookout - Stage 21 WORLD RECOGNISED (Senior Geotechnician) NATA Accredited Laboratory Number: 18686 Date of Issue: 9/08/2018

## **Sample Details**

Sample ID:	NEW18W-2490S02
Client Sample ID:	-
Sampling Method:	AS1289.1.2.1 cl 6.5
Date Sampled:	27/07/2018
Source:	On-Site
Material:	Clay
Specification:	No Specification
Project Location:	Teralba, NSW
TRN	-
Sample Location:	TP2103 - (0.5 - 0.6m)

Description	Method	Result	Limits
Sample History	AS 1289.1.1	Air-dried	
Preparation	AS 1289.1.1	Dry Sieved	
Linear Shrinkage (%)	AS 1289.3.4.1	10.5	
Mould Length (mm)		250	
Crumbling		No	
Curling		No	
Cracking		No	
Liquid Limit (%)	AS 1289.3.1.1	44	
Method		Four Point	
Plastic Limit (%)	AS 1289.3.2.1	17	
Plasticity Index (%)	AS 1289.3.3.1	27	

# **APPENDIX C:**

# **CSIRO** Sheet BTF 18

Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide

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



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 boglike 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	
А	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	
Н	Highly reactive clay sites, which can experience high ground movement from moisture changes	
Е	Extremely reactive sites, which can experience extreme ground movement from moisture changes	
A to P	Filled sites	
Р	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 perpends).

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.

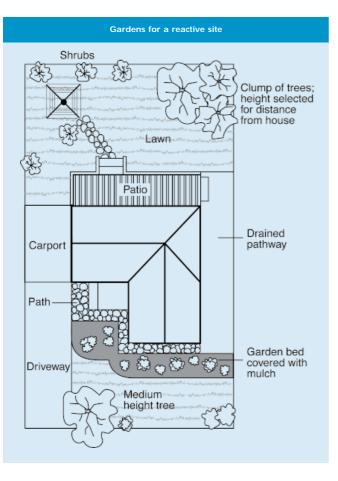
It is, however, sometimes necessary when attempting to prevent water migration that testing be carried out to establish watertable height and subsoil water flows. This subject is referred to in BTF 19 and may properly be regarded as an area for an expert consultant.

## 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	



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:

- 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.

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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