

**Geotechnical  
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**Materials Testing**

**Building Science**

**Archaeological Services**

**paterson**group

**Geotechnical Investigation**

Proposed Multi-Storey Building  
440-444 Bronson Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario

Prepared For

TC United Group

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## 1.0 Introduction

Paterson Group (Paterson) was commissioned by TC United to conduct a geotechnical investigation for the proposed multi-storey building development to be located at 440-444 Bronson Avenue, in the City of Ottawa, Ontario (refer to Figure 1 - Key Plan in Appendix 2).

The objectives of the investigation were to:

- ☐ Determine the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions by means of boreholes.
- ☐ Provide geotechnical recommendations for the design of the proposed development including construction considerations which may affect the design.

The following report has been prepared specifically and solely for the aforementioned project which is described herein. This report contains our findings and includes geotechnical recommendations pertaining to the design and construction of the subject development as understood at the time of writing this report.

## 2.0 Proposed Project

Based on preliminary design details, it is understood that the proposed development consists of a six storey mixed-use building with one basement level. At grade access lane off of Bronson Avenue and landscaped areas are also anticipated.

## **3.0 Method of Investigation**

### **3.1 Field Investigation**

#### **Field Program**

The field program for the investigation was conducted on June 28, 2017. The investigation consisted of drilling five (5) boreholes extending to a maximum depth of 6.3 m below existing ground surface. The test hole locations were selected in a manner to provide general coverage of the proposed development. The test hole locations are shown on Drawing PG4303-1-Test Hole Location Plan included in Appendix 2.

The test holes were advanced with a truck-mounted drill rig operated by a two-person crew. All fieldwork was conducted under the full-time supervision of Paterson personnel under the direction of a senior engineer from the geotechnical division. The drilling procedure consisted of augering to the required depth at the selected location, sampling and testing the overburden.

#### **Sampling and In Situ Testing**

Soil samples were recovered using a 50 mm diameter split-spoon sampler or from the auger flights. The split spoon and auger samples were classified on site and placed in sealed plastic bags. All soil samples were transported to our laboratory. The depths at which the split spoon samples were recovered from the boreholes are shown as SS on the Soil Profile and Test Data sheets in Appendix 1.

In conjunction with the recovery of the split spoon samples, the Standard Penetration Test (SPT) was conducted. The SPT results are recorded as “N” values on the Soil Profile and Test Data sheets. The “N” value is the number of blows required to drive the split spoon sampler 300 mm into the soil after a 150 mm initial penetration using a 63.5 kg hammer falling from a height of 760 mm.

The recovery value and a Rock Quality Designation (RQD) value were calculated for each drilled section of bedrock and are presented on the borehole logs. The recovery value is the length of the bedrock sample recovered over the length of the drilled section. The RQD value is the total length of intact rock pieces longer than 100 mm over the length of the core run. The values indicate the bedrock quality.

Subsurface conditions observed in the test holes were recorded in detail in the field. Reference should be made to the Soil Profile and Test Data sheets presented in Appendix 1 for specific details of the soil profile encountered at the test hole locations.

## **Groundwater**

Monitoring wells and flexible standpipes were installed in the boreholes to permit monitoring of the groundwater levels subsequent to the completion of the sampling program.

### **3.2 Field Survey**

The borehole locations were laid out in the field and surveyed by Paterson. The ground surface elevations at the borehole locations were referenced to a temporary benchmark (TBM), consisting of the top of spindle of the fire hydrant located north of the subject site. A geodetic elevation of 70.51 m was provided for the TBM. The location and ground surface elevations at the borehole locations are presented on Drawing PG4303-1 - Test Hole Location Plan in Appendix 2.

### **3.3 Laboratory Testing**

Soil samples were recovered from the subject site and visually examined in our laboratory to review the results of the field logging. Soil samples will be stored for a period of one month after this report is completed, unless otherwise directed.

## **4.0 Observations**

### **4.1 Surface Conditions**

The subject site is currently occupied by two low-rise commercial buildings and an associated asphalt surfaced parking lot. It is anticipated that the two existing buildings will be demolished as part of the subject development.

The subject site is relatively flat and at-grade with the surrounding properties and roadways. Surface drainage is provided by a catch basin located near the centre of the parking lot. The site is bordered by an access lane followed by a residential dwelling to the north, Bronson Avenue to the east, a commercial property to the south, and a fence line followed by residential dwellings to the west.

### **4.2 Subsurface Profile**

Generally, the subsurface profile encountered at the test hole locations consists of an asphalt pavement structure overlying a fill layer consisting of loose to compact silty sand which extends to a depth of approximately 1.2 to 1.8 m, followed by grey limestone bedrock with shale seams. Generally, the bedrock quality is fair to good within the upper 0.5 to 1 m and excellent quality at depth based on the RQD values. Reference should be made to the Soil Profile and Test Data sheets in Appendix 1 for specific details of the soil profiles encountered at each test hole location.

Based on geological mapping, the local bedrock consists of limestone, dolostone, shale, arkose and sandstone of the Ottawa Formation. The overburden thickness is expected to range from approximately 1 to 2 m.

### **4.3 Groundwater**

The groundwater level (GWL) readings were recorded at the borehole locations on July 4, 2017 and are presented in Table 1 below and in the Soil Profile and Test Data sheets. It is important to note that groundwater level readings could be influenced by surface water infiltrating the backfilled borehole due to the significant rain events, which can lead to significantly higher than normal groundwater level readings. To provide confirmation of groundwater levels, the long-term groundwater level can also be estimated based on moisture levels and colouring of the recovered soil samples. Based on these observations at the borehole locations, the long-term groundwater level is expected to be located below the bedrock surface at a depth of about 3 to 4 m below ground surface. It should be noted that groundwater levels are subject to seasonal fluctuations and therefore groundwater levels could differ at the time of construction.

| <b>Table 1 - Summary of Groundwater Level Readings</b>  |                            |                              |                  |                       |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Borehole Number</b>  | <b>Ground Elevation, m</b> | <b>Groundwater Levels, m</b> |                  | <b>Recording Date</b> |
|   |                            | <b>Depth</b>                 | <b>Elevation</b> |                       |
| BH 1  | 98.85                      | 1.33                         | 97.52            | July 4, 2017          |
| BH 3  | 98.71                      | 1.31                         | 97.40            | July 4, 2017          |
| <b>Note:</b> The test hole locations were located in the field and surveyed by Paterson Group. The elevations are referenced to an assumed datum. |                            |                              |                  |                       |

## **5.0 Discussion**

### **5.1 Geotechnical Assessment**

From a geotechnical perspective, the subject site is adequate for the proposed development. The proposed building is expected to be founded on conventional footings placed on clean, surface sounded bedrock. Bedrock removal is anticipated to be required to complete the proposed basement level.

The above and other considerations are further discussed in the following sections.

### **5.2 Site Preparation**

#### **Stripping Depth**

Due to the relatively shallow bedrock depth at the subject site and the anticipated founding level for the proposed building, all existing overburden material will be excavated from within the proposed building footprint. Bedrock removal will be required for the construction of the basement level.

#### **Bedrock Removal**

Based on the bedrock encountered in the area, it is expected that line-drilling in conjunction with hoe-ramming or controlled blasting will be required to remove the bedrock. In areas of weathered bedrock and where only a small quantity of bedrock is to be removed, bedrock removal may be possible by hoe-ramming.

Prior to considering blasting operations, the effects on the existing services, building and other structures should be addressed. A pre-blast or construction survey located in proximity of the blasting operations should be conducted prior to commencing construction. The extent of the survey should be determined by the blasting consultant and sufficient to respond to any inquiries/claims related to the blasting operations.

As a general guideline, peak particle velocity (measured at the structures) should not exceed 25 mm/s during the blasting program to reduce the risks of damage to the existing structures.

The blasting operations should be planned and conducted under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer who is an experienced blasting consultant.

Excavation side slopes in sound bedrock could be completed with nearly vertical side walls. Where bedrock is of lower quality, the excavation face should be free of any loose rock. An area specific review should be completed by the geotechnical consultant at the time of construction to determine if rock bolting or other remedial measures are required to provide a safe excavation face for areas where low quality bedrock is encountered.

### **Vibration Considerations**

Construction operations could cause vibrations, and possibly sources of nuisance to the community. Therefore, means to reduce the vibration levels and much as possible should be incorporated in the construction operations to maintain a cooperative environment with the residents.

The following construction equipment could cause vibrations: piling equipment, hoe ram, compactor, dozer, crane, truck traffic, etc. The construction of the shoring system with soldier piles, should it be utilized, would require these pieces of equipment. Vibrations, caused by blasting or construction operations could cause detrimental vibrations on the adjoining buildings and structures. Therefore, it is recommended that all vibrations be limited.

Two parameters determine the recommended vibration limit, the maximum peak particle velocity and the frequency. For low frequency vibrations, the maximum allowable peak particle velocity is less than that for high frequency vibrations. As a guideline, the peak particle velocity should be less than 15 mm/s between frequencies of 4 to 12 Hz, and 50 mm/s above a frequency of 40 Hz (interpolate between 12 and 40 Hz). These guidelines are for current construction standards. These guidelines are above perceptible human level and, in some cases, could be very disturbing to some people. Therefore, a pre-construction survey is recommended to minimize the risks of claims or following the construction of the proposed building.

### **Fill Placement**

Fill used for grading beneath the building areas should consist, unless otherwise specified, of clean imported granular fill, such as Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications (OPSS) Granular A or Granular B Type II. This material should be tested and approved prior to delivery to the site. The fill should be placed in lifts no greater than 300 mm thick and compacted using suitable compaction equipment for the lift thickness. Fill placed beneath the proposed building areas should be compacted to at least 98% of its standard Proctor maximum dry density (SPMDD).

Non-specified existing fill along with site-excavated soil can be used as general landscaping fill and beneath parking areas where settlement of the ground surface is of minor concern. In landscaped areas, these materials should be spread in thin lifts and at least compacted by the tracks of the spreading equipment to minimize voids. If these materials are to be used to build up the subgrade level for areas to be paved, they should be compacted in thin lifts to a minimum density of 95% of their respective SPMDD. Non-specified existing fill and site-excavated soils are not suitable for use as backfill against foundation walls unless a composite drainage blanket connected to a perimeter drainage system is provided.

## **5.3 Foundation Design**

### **Bearing Resistance Values**

Footings placed on a clean, surface-sounded limestone bedrock surface can be designed using a factored bearing resistance value at ultimate limit states (ULS) of **2,000 kPa**, incorporating a geotechnical resistance factor of 0.5.

A clean, surface-sounded bedrock bearing surface should be free of loose materials, and have no near-surface seams, voids, fissures or open joints which can be detected from surface sounding with a rock hammer.

### **Lateral Support**

The bearing medium under footing-supported structures is required to be provided with adequate lateral support with respect to excavations and different foundation levels. Adequate lateral support is provided to a sound bedrock bearing medium when a plane extending down and out from the bottom edge of the footing at a minimum of 1H:6V (or flatter) passes only through sound bedrock or a material of the same or higher capacity as the bedrock, such as concrete. A weathered bedrock bearing medium will require a lateral support zone of 1H:1V (or flatter).

### **Settlement**

Footings bearing on an acceptable bedrock bearing surface and designed for the bearing resistance values provided herein will be subjected to negligible potential post-construction total and differential settlements.

## 5.4 Design for Earthquakes

Shear wave velocity testing was completed for the subject site to accurately determine the applicable seismic site classification for the proposed building from Table 4.1.8.4.A of the Ontario Building Code 2012. The shear wave velocity testing was completed by Paterson personnel. Two seismic shear wave velocity profiles from the testing are presented in Appendix 2.

### Field Program

The shear wave testing location is presented in Drawing PG4303-1 - Test Hole Location Plan in Appendix 2. Paterson field personnel placed 18 horizontal geophones in a straight line in an approximately northwest-southeast orientation. The 4.5 Hz horizontal geophones were mounted to the surface by means of two 75 mm ground spikes attached to the geophone land case. The geophones were spaced at 1 m intervals and connected by a geophone spread cable to a Geode 24 Channel seismograph.

The seismograph was also connected to a computer laptop and a hammer trigger switch attached to a 12 pound dead blow hammer. The hammer trigger switch sends a start signal to the seismograph. The hammer is used to strike an I-Beam seated into the ground surface, which creates a polarized shear wave. The hammer shots are repeated between 5 to 10 times at each shot location to improve signal to noise ratio. The shot locations are also completed in forward and reverse directions (i.e. striking both sides of the I-Beam seated parallel to the geophone array). The shot locations are located 3, 4.5 and 17 m away from the first geophone and 3 and 5 m from the last geophone.

### Data Processing and Interpretation

Interpretation for the shear wave velocity results were completed by Paterson personnel. Shear wave velocity measurement was made using reflection/refraction methods. The interpretation is performed by recovering arrival times from direct and refracted waves. The interpretation is repeated at each shot location to provide an average shear wave velocity,  $V_{s_{30}}$ , of the upper 30 m profile, immediately below the building's foundation. The layer intercept times, velocities from different layers and critical distances are interpreted from the shear wave records to compute the bedrock depth at each location. The bedrock velocity was interpreted using the main refractor wave velocity, which is considered a conservative estimate of the bedrock velocity due to the increasing quality of the bedrock with depth. It should be noted that as bedrock quality increases, the bedrock shear wave velocity also increases.

Given the depth of the bedrock encountered in the test holes at the site, it is anticipated that the proposed building will be founded directly on the bedrock. Based on our testing results, the bedrock shear wave velocity is **2,333 m/s**.

The  $V_{s30}$  was calculated using the standard equation for average shear wave velocity calculation from the Ontario Building Code (OBC) 2012, as presented below.

$$V_{s30} = \frac{Depth_{OfInterest}(m)}{\left( \frac{Depth_{Layer1}(m)}{Vs_{Layer1}(m/s)} + \frac{Depth_{Layer2}(m)}{Vs_{Layer2}(m/s)} \right)}$$

$$V_{s30} = \frac{30m}{\left( \frac{30m}{2,333m/s} \right)}$$

$$V_{s30} = 2,333m/s$$

Based on the results of the seismic testing, the average shear wave velocity,  $V_{s30}$ , for the proposed building is 2,333 m/s provided the footings are placed directly on the bedrock surface. Therefore, a **Site Class A** is applicable for the proposed building, as per Table 4.1.8.4.A of the OBC 2012. The soils underlying the subject site are not susceptible to liquefaction.

## 5.5 Basement Slab

All overburden soil will be removed for the proposed building and the basement floor slab will be founded on a bedrock medium. OPSS Granular A or Granular B Type II, with a maximum particle size of 50 mm, are recommended for backfilling below the floor slab. It is recommended that the upper 200 mm of sub-slab fill consists of a 19 mm clear crushed stone.

An underfloor drainage system, consisting of lines of perforated drainage pipe subdrains connected to a positive outlet, may be required in the clear crushed stone backfill under the basement floor. Pipe spacing requirements should be determined at the time of excavation to review groundwater infiltration volumes.

## 5.6 Basement Wall

It is expected that a portion of the basement walls are to be poured against a composite drainage blanket, which will be placed against the exposed bedrock face. A nominal coefficient of at-rest earth pressure of 0.05 is recommended in conjunction with a dry unit weight of  $23.5 \text{ kN/m}^3$  (effective unit weight of  $13.7 \text{ kN/m}^3$ ). A seismic earth pressure component will not be applicable for the foundation wall, which is to be poured against the bedrock face. It is expected that the seismic earth pressure will be transferred to the underground floor slab, which should be designed to accommodate these pressures. A hydrostatic pressure should be added for the portion below the groundwater level.

Undrained conditions are anticipated (i.e. below the groundwater level). Therefore, the applicable effective unit weight of the retained soil should be  $13.7 \text{ kN/m}^3$ , where applicable. A hydrostatic pressure should be added to the total static earth pressure when calculating the effective unit weight.

Two distinct conditions, static and seismic, should be reviewed for design calculations. The parameters for design calculations for the two conditions are presented below.

### Static Conditions

The static horizontal earth pressure ( $p_o$ ) could be calculated with a triangular earth pressure distribution equal to  $K_o \cdot \gamma \cdot H$  where:

- $K_o$  = at-rest earth pressure coefficient of the applicable retained soil, 0.5
- $\gamma$  = unit weight of fill of the applicable retained soil ( $\text{kN/m}^3$ )
- $H$  = height of the wall (m)

An additional pressure with a magnitude equal to  $K_o \cdot q$  and acting on the entire height of the wall should be added to the above diagram for any surcharge loading,  $q$  (kPa), that may be placed at ground surface adjacent to the wall. The surcharge pressure will only be applicable for static analyses and should not be used in conjunction with the seismic loading case.

Actual earth pressures could be higher than the “at-rest” case if care is not exercised during the compaction of the backfill materials to maintain a minimum separation of 0.3 m from the walls with the compaction equipment.

## Seismic Conditions

The total seismic force ( $P_{AE}$ ) includes both the earth force component ( $P_o$ ) and the seismic component ( $\Delta P_{AE}$ ).

The seismic earth force ( $\Delta P_{AE}$ ) could be calculated using  $\Delta P_{AE} = 0.375 \cdot a_c \cdot \gamma \cdot H^2 / g$ , where:

$$a_c = (1.45 - a_{max}/g) a_{max}$$

$\gamma$  = unit weight of fill of the applicable retained soil (kN/m<sup>3</sup>)

$H$  = height of the wall (m)

$g$  = gravity, 9.81 m/s<sup>2</sup>

The peak ground acceleration, ( $a_{max}$ ), for the Ottawa area is 0.32g according to OBC 2012. The vertical seismic coefficient is assumed to be zero.

The earth force component ( $P_o$ ) under seismic conditions could be calculated using  $P_o = 0.5 K_o \gamma H^2$ , where  $K_o = 0.5$  for the soil conditions presented above.

The total earth force ( $P_{AE}$ ) is considered to act at a height,  $h$  (m), from the base of the wall, where:

$$h = \{P_o \cdot (H/3) + \Delta P_{AE} \cdot (0.6 \cdot H)\} / P_{AE}$$

The earth forces calculated are unfactored. For the ULS case, the earth loads should be factored as live loads, as per OBC 2012.

## 5.7 Pavement Structure

For design purposes, the pavement structures presented in the following tables are recommended for the design of car only parking areas and access lanes.

| <b>Table 2 - Recommended Flexible Pavement Structure - Car Only Parking Areas</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Thickness<br/>(mm)</b>   | <b>Material Description</b>   |
| 50  | <b>Wear Course</b> - HL-3 or Superpave 12.5 Asphaltic Concrete  |
| 150   | <b>BASE</b> - OPSS Granular A Crushed Stone   |
| 300   | <b>SUBBASE</b> - OPSS Granular B Type II  |
|   | <b>SUBGRADE</b> - Either fill, in situ soil or OPSS Granular B Type I or II material placed over in situ soil or fill |

| <b>Table 3 - Recommended Flexible Pavement Structure - Access Lanes</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Thickness<br/>(mm)</b>   | <b>Material Description</b>   |
| 40  | <b>Wear Course</b> - HL-3 or Superpave 12.5 Asphaltic Concrete  |
| 50  | <b>Binder Course</b> - HL-8 or Superpave 19.0 Asphaltic Concrete  |
| 150   | <b>BASE</b> - OPSS Granular A Crushed Stone   |
| 450   | <b>SUBBASE</b> - OPSS Granular B Type II  |
|   | <b>SUBGRADE</b> - Either fill, in situ soil or OPSS Granular B Type I or II material placed over in situ soil or fill |

Minimum Performance Graded (PG) 58-34 asphalt cement should be used for this project.

If soft spots develop in the subgrade during compaction or due to construction traffic, the affected areas should be excavated and replaced with OPSS Granular B Type II material. Weak subgrade conditions may be experienced over service trench fill materials. This may require the use of a geotextile, such as Terratrack 200 or equivalent, thicker subbase or other measures that can be recommended at the time of construction as part of the field observation program.

The pavement granular base and subbase should be placed in maximum 300 mm thick lifts and compacted to a minimum of 100% of the material's SPMDD using suitable vibratory equipment.

## **6.0 Design and Construction Precautions**

### **6.1 Foundation Drainage and Backfill**

#### **Foundation Drainage**

It is recommended that a perimeter foundation drainage system be provided for the proposed structures. Where insufficient room is available for exterior backfill, it is suggested that this system could be as follows:

- ☐ Bedrock vertical surface (hoe ram any irregularities and prepare bedrock surface. Shotcrete areas to fill in cavities and smooth out angular features at the bedrock surface);
- ☐ Composite drainage layer.

It is recommended that the composite drainage system (such as Delta Drain 6000 or equivalent) extend down to the footing level. It is recommended that 150 mm diameter sleeves at 3 m centres be cast in the footing or at the foundation wall/footing interface to allow the infiltration of water to flow to the interior perimeter drainage pipe. The perimeter drainage pipe and underfloor drainage system should direct water to the sump pit(s) within the lower basement area.

#### **Underfloor Drainage**

It is anticipated that underfloor drainage will be required to control water infiltration. For preliminary design purposes, we recommend that 100 or 150 mm perforated pipes be placed at 6 m centres. The spacing of the underfloor drainage system should be confirmed at the time of completing the excavation when water infiltration can be better assessed.

#### **Foundation Backfill**

Backfill against the exterior sides of the foundation walls should consist of free-draining, non-frost susceptible granular materials. The greater part of the site excavated materials will be frost susceptible and, as such, are not recommended for re-use as backfill against the foundation walls, unless used in conjunction with a drainage geocomposite such as Delta Drain 6000, connected to the perimeter foundation drainage system. Imported granular materials, such as clean sand or OPSS Granular B Type I granular material, should otherwise be used for this purpose.

## **6.2 Protection of Footings Against Frost Action**

Perimeter footings of heated structures are required to be insulated against the deleterious effects of frost action. A minimum of 1.5 m of soil cover (or equivalent) should be provided in this regard.

A minimum of 2.1 m thick soil cover (or equivalent) should be provided for other exterior unheated footings.

## **6.3 Excavation Side Slopes**

The side slopes of excavations in the soil and fill overburden materials should be either cut back at acceptable slopes or should be retained by shoring systems from the start of the excavation until the structure is backfilled. It is anticipated that sufficient room will be available for the greater part of the excavation to be undertaken by open-cut methods (i.e. unsupported excavations).

The excavation side slopes above the groundwater level extending to a maximum depth of 3 m should be cut back at 1H:1V or flatter. The flatter slope is required for excavation below groundwater level. The subsurface soil is considered to be mainly a Type 2 and 3 soil according to the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Construction Projects.

Excavated soil should not be stockpiled directly at the top of excavations and heavy equipment should maintain safe working distance from the excavation sides.

Slopes in excess of 3 m in height should be periodically inspected by the geotechnical consultant in order to detect if the slopes are exhibiting signs of distress.

It is recommended that a trench box be used at all times to protect personnel working in trenches with steep or vertical sides. It is expected that services will be installed by "cut and cover" methods and excavations will not be left open for extended periods of time.

## Temporary Shoring

The design and approval of the shoring system will be the responsibility of the shoring contractor and the shoring designer who is a licensed professional engineer and is hired by the shoring contractor. It is the responsibility of the shoring contractor to ensure that the temporary shoring is in compliance with safety requirements, designed to avoid any damage to adjacent structures and include dewatering control measures. In the event that subsurface conditions differ from the approved design during the actual installation, it is the responsibility of the shoring contractor to commission the required experts to re-assess the design and implement the required changes. Furthermore, the design of the temporary shoring system should take into consideration a full hydrostatic condition which can occur during significant precipitation events.

The temporary shoring system could consist of a soldier pile and lagging system. Any additional loading due to street traffic, construction equipment, adjacent structures and facilities, etc., should be included to the earth pressures described below. These systems could be cantilevered, anchored or braced. Generally, the shoring systems should be provided with tie-back rock anchors to ensure the stability. The shoring system is recommended to be adequately supported to resist toe failure, if required, by means of rock bolts or extending the piles into the bedrock through pre-augered holes if a soldier pile and lagging system is the preferred method.

The earth pressures acting on the shoring system may be calculated with the following parameters.

| <b>Table 4 - Soil Parameters</b>                      |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Parameters</b>                                     | <b>Values</b> |
| Active Earth Pressure Coefficient ( $K_a$ )           | 0.33          |
| Passive Earth Pressure Coefficient ( $K_p$ )          | 3             |
| At-Rest Earth Pressure Coefficient ( $K_o$ )          | 0.5           |
| Dry Unit Weight ( $\gamma$ ), kN/m <sup>3</sup>       | 23.5          |
| Effective Unit Weight ( $\gamma$ ), kN/m <sup>3</sup> | 13.7          |

The active earth pressure should be calculated where wall movements are permissible while the at-rest pressure should be calculated if no movement is permissible. The dry unit weight should be calculated above the groundwater level while the effective unit weight should be calculated below the groundwater level.

The hydrostatic groundwater pressure should be included to the earth pressure distribution wherever the effective unit weight are calculated for earth pressures. If the groundwater level is lowered, the dry unit weight for the soil/bedrock should be calculated full weight, with no hydrostatic groundwater pressure component.

For design purposes, the minimum factor of safety of 1.5 should be calculated.

## **6.4 Pipe Bedding and Backfill**

A minimum of 300 mm of OPSS Granular A should be placed for bedding for sewer or water pipes when placed on bedrock subgrade. The bedding should extend to the spring line of the pipe. Cover material, from the spring line to a minimum of 300 mm above the pipe obvert should consist of OPSS Granular A (concrete or PSM PVC pipes) or sand (concrete pipe). The bedding and cover materials should be placed in maximum 225 mm thick lifts compacted to a minimum of 95% SPMDD.

Where hard surface areas are considered above the trench backfill, the trench backfill material within the frost zone (about 1.8 m below finished grade) should match the soils exposed at the trench walls to reduce potential differential frost heaving. The trench backfill should be placed in maximum 300 mm thick loose lifts and compacted to a minimum of 95% SPMDD.

## **6.5 Groundwater Control**

### **Groundwater Control for Building Construction**

The contractor should be prepared to direct water away from all bearing surfaces and subgrades, regardless of the source, to prevent disturbance to the founding medium.

Infiltration levels are anticipated to be low through the excavation face. The groundwater infiltration will be controllable with open sumps and pumps.

A temporary Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) permit to take water (PTTW) may be required for this project if more than 400,000 L/day of ground and/or surface water is to be pumped during the construction phase. A minimum 4 to 5 months should be allowed for completion of the PTTW application package and issuance of the permit by the MECP.

For typical ground or surface water volumes being pumped during the construction phase, typically between 50,000 to 400,000 L/day, it is required to register on the Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR). A minimum of two to four weeks should be allotted for completion of the EASR registration and the Water Taking and Discharge Plan to be prepared by a Qualified Person as stipulated under O.Reg. 63/16. If a project qualifies for a PTTW based upon anticipated conditions, an EASR will not be allowed as a temporary dewatering measure while awaiting the MECP review of the PTTW application.

### **Long-Term Groundwater Control**

Our recommendations for the proposed building's long-term groundwater control are presented in Subsection 6.1. Any groundwater encountered along the building's perimeter or sub-slab drainage system will be directed to the proposed building's cistern/sump pit or gravity drain to the storm sewer. It is expected that groundwater flow will be low (i.e. less than 25,000 L/day) with peak periods noted after rain events. A more accurate estimate can be provided at the time of construction, once groundwater infiltration levels are observed within the excavation. It is anticipated that the groundwater flow will be controllable using conventional open sumps.

### **Impacts on Neighbouring Structures**

Based on our observations, a local groundwater lowering is not anticipated under short-term conditions due to construction of the proposed building. The neighbouring structures are expected to be founded within native glacial till and/or directly over a bedrock bearing surface. Issues are not expected with respect to groundwater lowering that would cause long term damage to adjacent structures surrounding the proposed building.

## **6.6 Winter Construction**

Precautions must be taken if winter construction is considered for this project.

Where excavations are completed in proximity of existing structures which may be adversely affected due to the freezing conditions (in particular, where a shoring system is constructed), the soil behind the shoring system will be subjected to freezing conditions and could result in heaving of the structure(s) placed within or above frozen soil. Provisions should be made in the contract document to protect the walls of the excavations from freezing, if applicable.

In the event of construction during below zero temperatures, the founding stratum should be protected from freezing temperatures by the installation of straw, propane heaters and tarpaulins or other suitable means. The base of the excavations should be insulated from sub-zero temperatures immediately upon exposure and until such time as heat is adequately supplied to the building and the footings are protected with sufficient soil cover to prevent freezing at founding level.

Trench excavations and pavement construction are difficult activities to complete during freezing conditions without introducing frost in the subgrade or in the excavation walls and bottoms. Precautions should be taken if such activities are to be carried out during freezing conditions. Additional information could be provided, if required.

## 7.0 Recommendations

A materials testing and observation services program is a requirement for the provided foundation design data to be applicable. The following aspects of the program should be performed by the geotechnical consultant:

- ☐ Observation of all bearing surfaces prior to the placement of concrete.
- ☐ Sampling and testing of the concrete and fill materials used.
- ☐ Periodic observation of the condition of unsupported excavation side slopes in excess of 3 m in height, if applicable.
- ☐ Observation of all subgrades prior to backfilling.
- ☐ Field density tests to determine the level of compaction achieved.
- ☐ Sampling and testing of the bituminous concrete including mix design reviews.

A report confirming that these works have been conducted in general accordance with our recommendations could be issued, upon request, following the completion of a satisfactory materials testing and observation program by the geotechnical consultant.

## 8.0 Statement of Limitations

The recommendations made in this report are in accordance with our present understanding of the project. We request permission to review the grading plan once available. Also, our recommendations should be reviewed when the drawings and specifications are complete.

The client should be aware that any information pertaining to soils and all test hole logs are furnished as a matter of general information only and test hole descriptions or logs are not to be interpreted as descriptive of conditions at locations other than those of the test holes.

A soils investigation is a limited sampling of a site. Should any conditions at the site be encountered which differ from those at the test locations, we request that we be notified immediately in order to permit reassessment of our recommendations.

The present report applies only to the project described in this document. Use of this report for purposes other than those described herein or by person(s) other than TC United Group or their agent(s) is not authorized without review by this firm for the applicability of our recommendations to the altered use of the report.

### Paterson Group Inc.



Nathan F. S. Christie, P.Eng.



David J. Gilbert, P.Eng.

### Report Distribution:

- ☐ TC United Group (3 copies)
- ☐ Paterson Group (1 copy)

# **APPENDIX 1**

**SOIL PROFILE AND TEST DATA SHEETS**

**SYMBOLS AND TERMS**

**DATUM** TBM - Top spindle of fire hydrant. Assumed elevation = 100.00m.

FILE NO. PG4303

REMARKS

HOLE NO. BH 1

**BORINGS BY** CME 55 Power Auger

**DATE** June 28, 2017

[illegible]

**DATUM** TBM - Top spindle of fire hydrant. Assumed elevation = 100.00m.

FILE NO. PG4303

REMARKS

HOLE NO. BH 2

**BORINGS BY CME 55 Power Auger**

**DATE** June 28, 2017

[illegible]

**DATUM** TBM - Top spindle of fire hydrant. Assumed elevation = 100.00m.

FILE NO. **PG4303**

REMARKS

HOLE NO. **BH 3**

**BORINGS BY CME 55 Power Auger**

**DATE** June 28, 2017

[illegible]

## SOIL PROFILE AND TEST DATA

**DATE** June 28, 2017

[illegible]

## SOIL PROFILE AND TEST DATA

**Geotechnical Investigation  
Prop. Multi-Storey Building - 440-444 Bronson Avenue  
Ottawa, Ontario**

FILE NO. PG4303

HOLE NO. **BH 5**

**DATE** June 28, 2017

[illegible]

# SYMBOLS AND TERMS

## SOIL DESCRIPTION

Behavioural properties, such as structure and strength, take precedence over particle gradation in describing soils. Terminology describing soil structure are as follows:

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| Desiccated       | - | having visible signs of weathering by oxidation of clay minerals, shrinkage cracks, etc.                                   |
| Fissured         | - | having cracks, and hence a blocky structure.   |
| Varved           | - | composed of regular alternating layers of silt and clay.   |
| Stratified       | - | composed of alternating layers of different soil types, e.g. silt and sand or silt and clay.                               |
| Well-Graded      | - | Having wide range in grain sizes and substantial amounts of all intermediate particle sizes (see Grain Size Distribution). |
| Uniformly-Graded | - | Predominantly of one grain size (see Grain Size Distribution).   |

The standard terminology to describe the strength of cohesionless soils is the relative density, usually inferred from the results of the Standard Penetration Test (SPT) 'N' value. The SPT N value is the number of blows of a 63.5 kg hammer, falling 760 mm, required to drive a 51 mm O.D. split spoon sampler 300 mm into the soil after an initial penetration of 150 mm.

| Relative Density | 'N' Value | Relative Density % |
|------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Very Loose       | <4        | <15                |
| Loose            | 4-10      | 15-35              |
| Compact          | 10-30     | 35-65              |
| Dense            | 30-50     | 65-85              |
| Very Dense       | >50       | >85                |

The standard terminology to describe the strength of cohesive soils is the consistency, which is based on the undisturbed undrained shear strength as measured by the in situ or laboratory vane tests, penetrometer tests, unconfined compression tests, or occasionally by Standard Penetration Tests.

| Consistency | Undrained Shear Strength (kPa) | 'N' Value |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Very Soft   | <12                            | <2        |
| Soft        | 12-25                          | 2-4       |
| Firm        | 25-50                          | 4-8       |
| Stiff       | 50-100                         | 8-15      |
| Very Stiff  | 100-200                        | 15-30     |
| Hard        | >200                           | >30       |

## **SYMBOLS AND TERMS (continued)**

### **SOIL DESCRIPTION (continued)**

Cohesive soils can also be classified according to their “sensitivity”. The sensitivity is the ratio between the undisturbed undrained shear strength and the remoulded undrained shear strength of the soil.

Terminology used for describing soil strata based upon texture, or the proportion of individual particle sizes present is provided on the Textural Soil Classification Chart at the end of this information package.

### **ROCK DESCRIPTION**

The structural description of the bedrock mass is based on the Rock Quality Designation (RQD).

The RQD classification is based on a modified core recovery percentage in which all pieces of sound core over 100 mm long are counted as recovery. The smaller pieces are considered to be a result of closely-spaced discontinuities (resulting from shearing, jointing, faulting, or weathering) in the rock mass and are not counted. RQD is ideally determined from NXL size core. However, it can be used on smaller core sizes, such as BX, if the bulk of the fractures caused by drilling stresses (called “mechanical breaks”) are easily distinguishable from the normal in situ fractures.

| <b>RQD %</b> | <b>ROCK QUALITY</b>  |
|--------------|--|
| 90-100       | Excellent, intact, very sound                                |
| 75-90        | Good, massive, moderately jointed or sound                   |
| 50-75        | Fair, blocky and seamy, fractured                            |
| 25-50        | Poor, shattered and very seamy or blocky, severely fractured |
| 0-25         | Very poor, crushed, very severely fractured                  |

### **SAMPLE TYPES**

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| SS | - | Split spoon sample (obtained in conjunction with the performing of the Standard Penetration Test (SPT))                         |
| TW | - | Thin wall tube or Shelby tube   |
| PS | - | Piston sample   |
| AU | - | Auger sample or bulk sample   |
| WS | - | Wash sample   |
| RC | - | Rock core sample (Core bit size AXT, BXL, etc.). Rock core samples are obtained with the use of standard diamond drilling bits. |

## SYMBOLS AND TERMS (continued)

### GRAIN SIZE DISTRIBUTION

|     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| MC% | - | Natural moisture content or water content of sample, %   |
| LL  | - | Liquid Limit, % (water content above which soil behaves as a liquid)   |
| PL  | - | Plastic limit, % (water content above which soil behaves plastically)  |
| PI  | - | Plasticity index, % (difference between LL and PL)   |
| Dxx | - | Grain size which xx% of the soil, by weight, is of finer grain sizes<br>These grain size descriptions are not used below 0.075 mm grain size |
| D10 | - | Grain size at which 10% of the soil is finer (effective grain size)  |
| D60 | - | Grain size at which 60% of the soil is finer   |
| Cc  | - | Concavity coefficient = $(D_{30})^2 / (D_{10} \times D_{60})$  |
| Cu  | - | Uniformity coefficient = $D_{60} / D_{10}$   |

Cc and Cu are used to assess the grading of sands and gravels:

Well-graded gravels have:  $1 < Cc < 3$  and  $Cu > 4$

Well-graded sands have:  $1 < Cc < 3$  and  $Cu > 6$

Sands and gravels not meeting the above requirements are poorly-graded or uniformly-graded.

Cc and Cu are not applicable for the description of soils with more than 10% silt and clay  
(more than 10% finer than 0.075 mm or the #200 sieve)

### CONSOLIDATION TEST

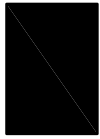
|            |   |  |
|------------|---|--|
| $p'_o$     | - | Present effective overburden pressure at sample depth          |
| $p'_c$     | - | Preconsolidation pressure of (maximum past pressure on) sample |
| Ccr        | - | Recompression index (in effect at pressures below $p'_c$ )     |
| Cc         | - | Compression index (in effect at pressures above $p'_c$ )       |
| OC Ratio   |   | Overconsolidation ratio = $p'_c / p'_o$                        |
| Void Ratio |   | Initial sample void ratio = volume of voids / volume of solids |
| Wo         | - | Initial water content (at start of consolidation test)         |

### PERMEABILITY TEST

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| k | - | Coefficient of permeability or hydraulic conductivity is a measure of the ability of water to flow through the sample. The value of k is measured at a specified unit weight for (remoulded) cohesionless soil samples, because its value will vary with the unit weight or density of the sample during the test. |
|---|---|--|

## SYMBOLS AND TERMS (continued)

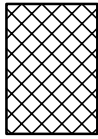
### STRATA PLOT



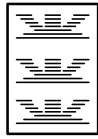
Topsoil



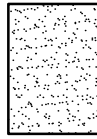
Asphalt



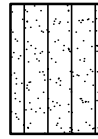
Fill



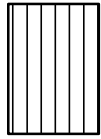
Peat



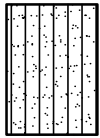
Sand



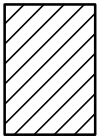
Silty Sand



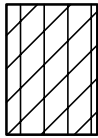
Silt



Sandy Silt



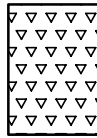
Clay



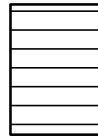
Silty Clay



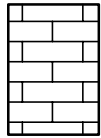
Clayey Silty Sand



Glacial Till



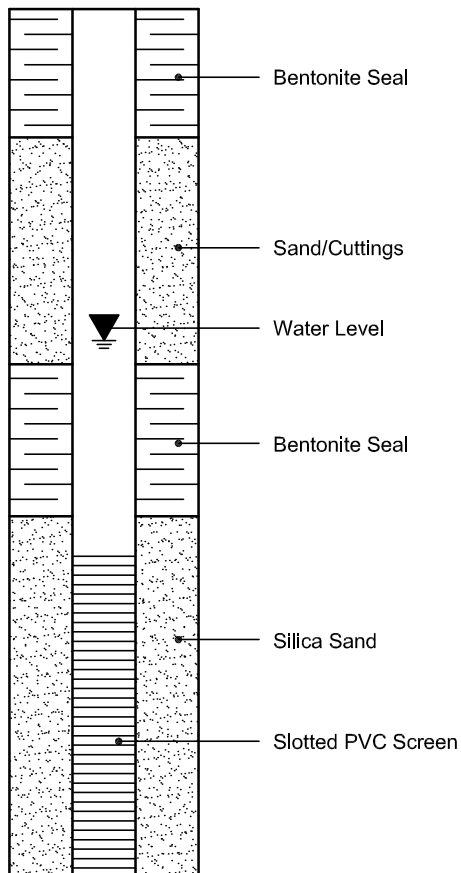
Shale



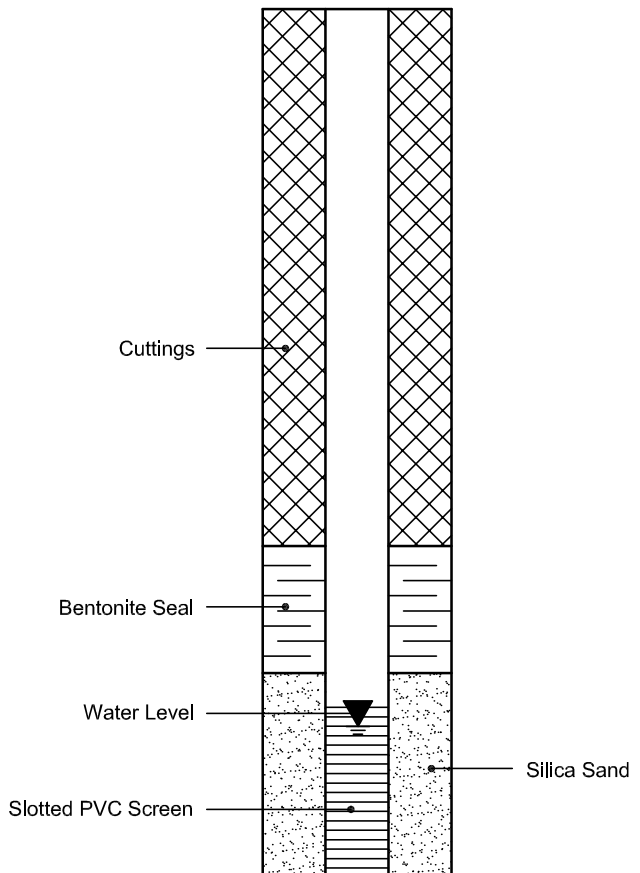
Bedrock

### MONITORING WELL AND PIEZOMETER CONSTRUCTION

#### MONITORING WELL CONSTRUCTION



#### PIEZOMETER CONSTRUCTION



# **APPENDIX 2**

**FIGURE 1 - KEY PLAN**

**FIGURES 2 AND 3 - SEISMIC SHEAR WAVE VELOCITY PROFILES**

**DRAWING PG4303-1 - TEST HOLE LOCATION PLAN**



**FIGURE 1**

**KEY PLAN**

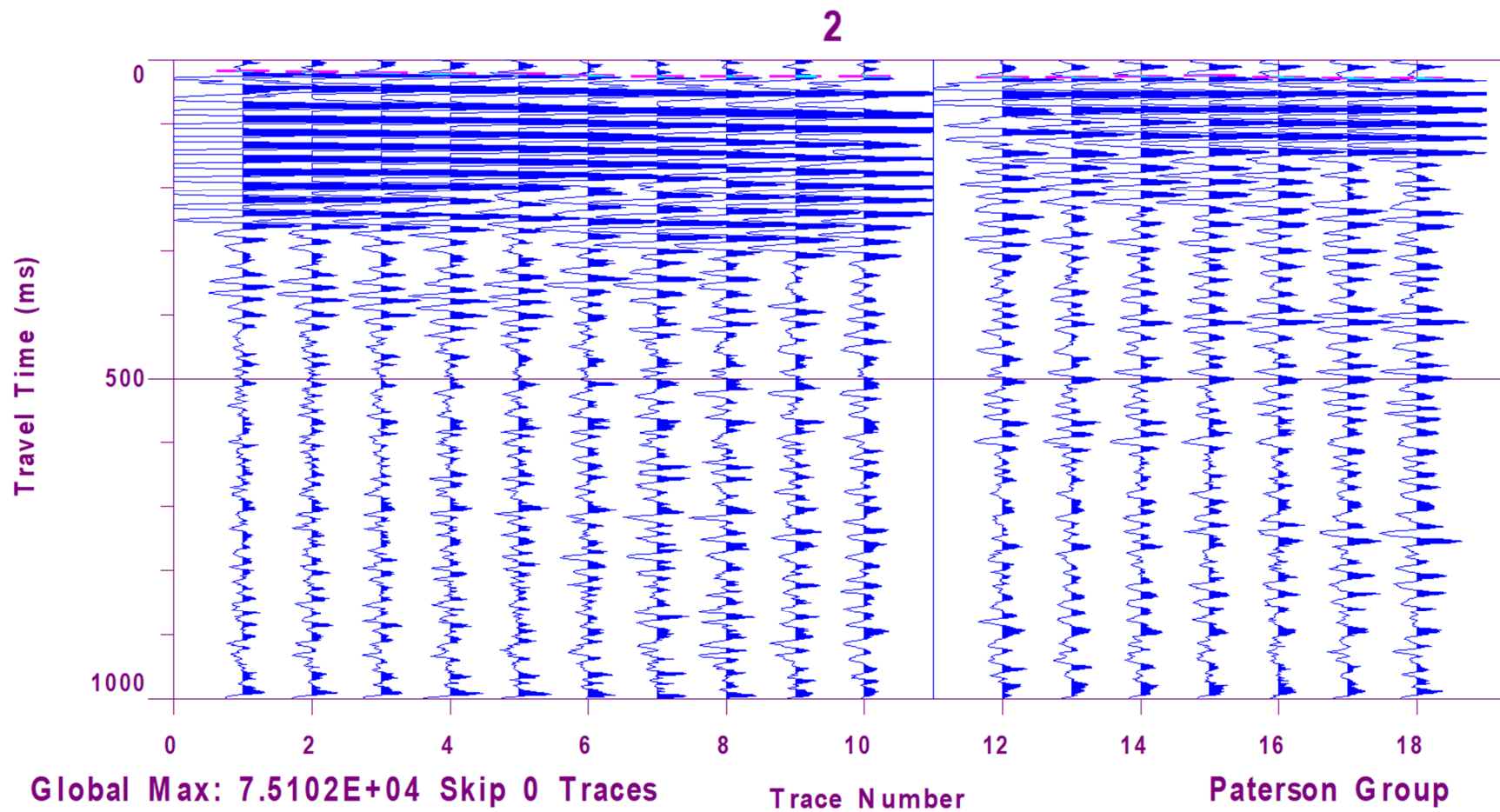


Figure 2 – Shear Wave Velocity Profile at Shot Location -17 m

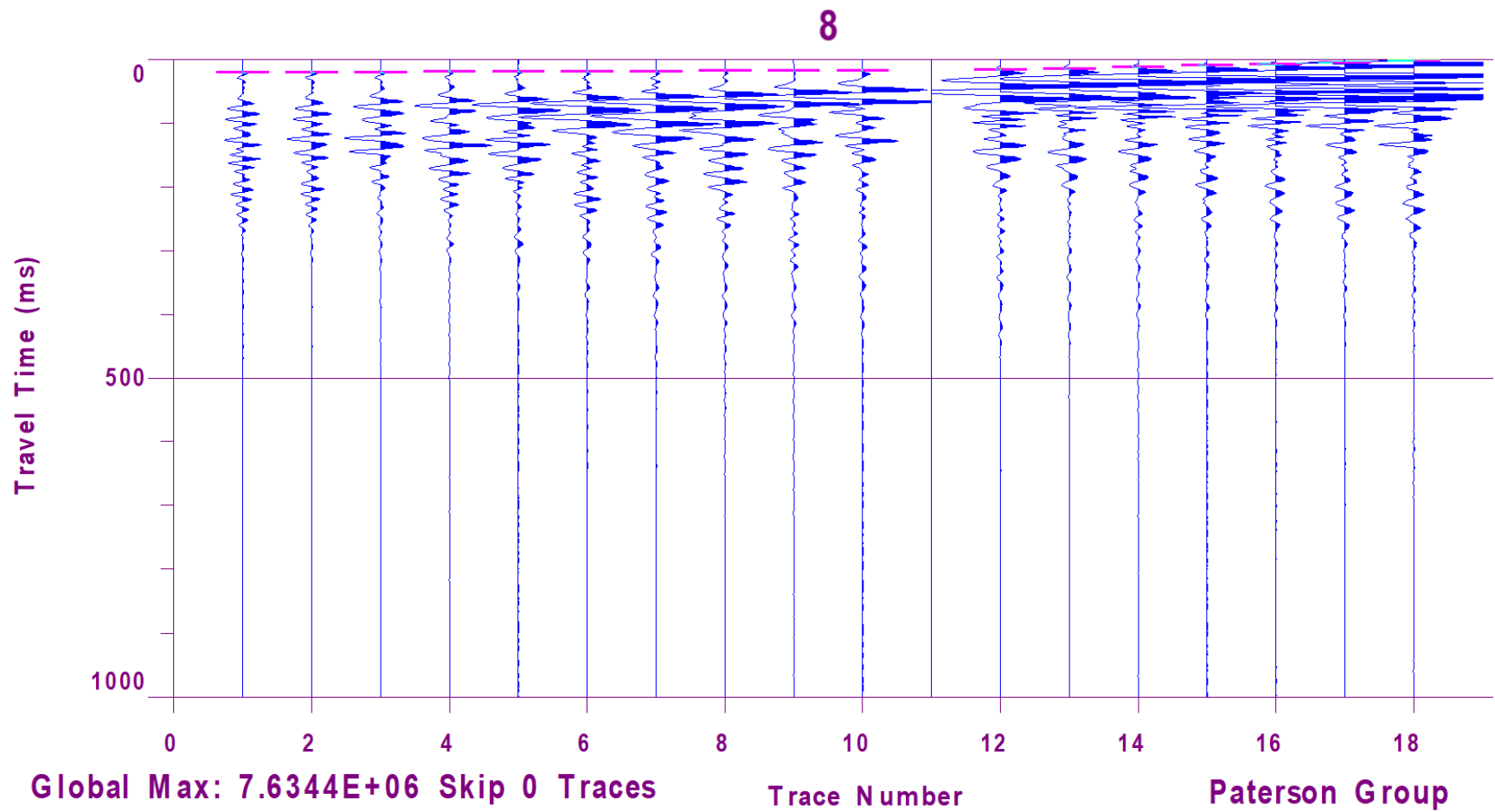
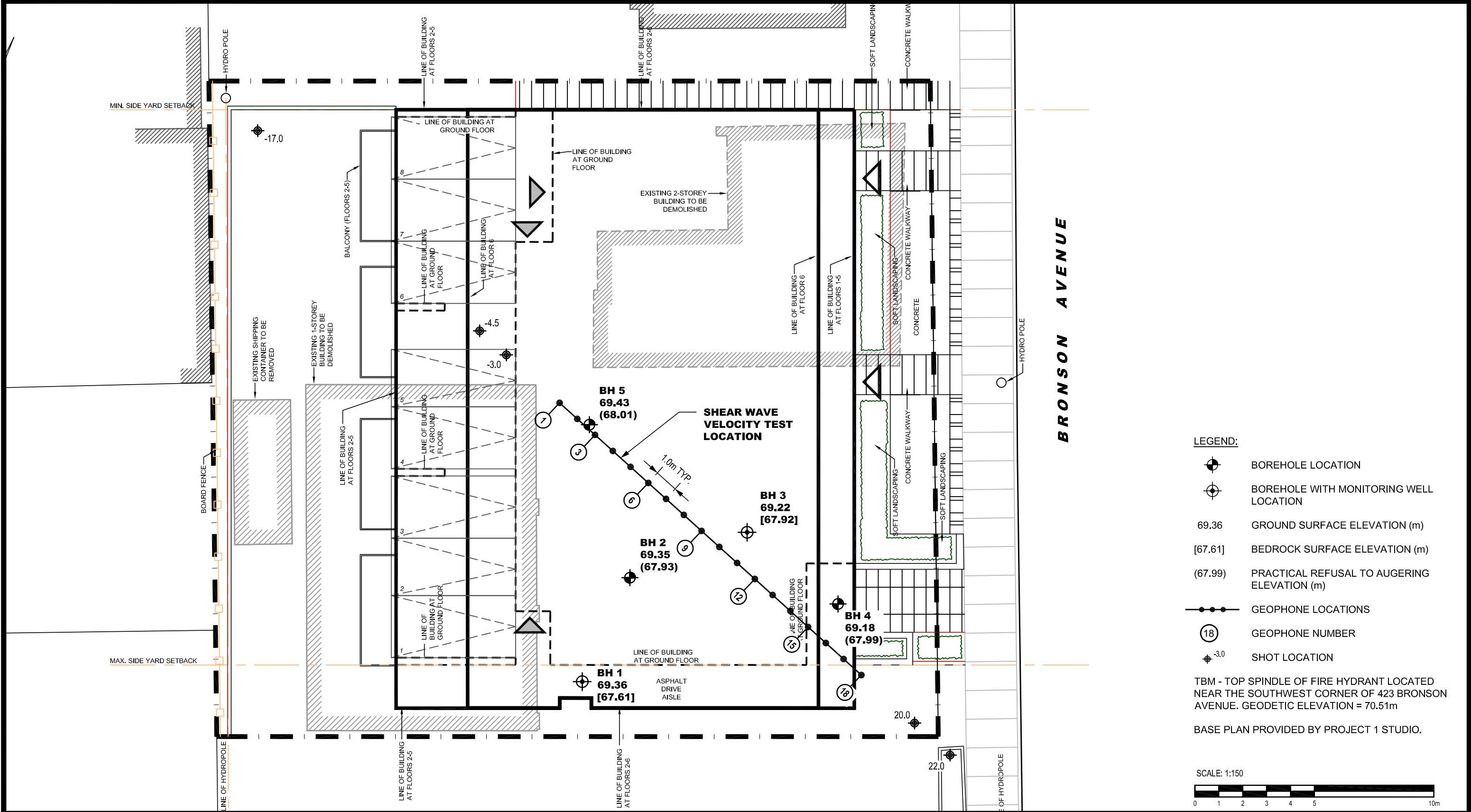


Figure 3 – Shear Wave Velocity Profile at Shot Location 3 m



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| 1   | SEISMIC SURVEY ADDED | 18/07/2018 | NC      |
| NO. | REVISIONS            | DATE       | INITIAL |

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| T.C UNITED   |         |
| GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION                           |         |
| PROP. MULTI-STOREY BUILDING - 440-444 BRONSON AVENUE |         |
| OTTAWA,  | ONTARIO |
| Title:   |         |
| TEST HOLE LOCATION PLAN                              |         |

|              |       |               |          |
|--------------|-------|---------------|----------|
| Scale:       | 1:150 | Date:         | 10/2017  |
| Drawn by:    | RCG   | Report No.:   | PG4303-1 |
| Checked by:  | SB    | Dwg. No.:     | PG4303-1 |
| Approved by: | DJG   | Revision No.: | 1        |

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