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7<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Robert,

**Re: Newsagency building , Market St. MERIMBULA for Spungrow Pty. Ltd.**

As discussed recently, I recall that the above building was built over a concrete box culvert about six metres wide. The culvert was in a former creek bed which serves to drain a significant area to the West of the premises, and discharges into Merimbula Lake.

The ground either side of the drain was very soft and would have a very low bearing capacity, incapable of supporting the proposed two storey building to be erected on the site.

I engaged a boring rig to drill test holes on the site, and in each case, we encountered hard red mudstone at a depth of approximately 15 metres.

Steel piles were driven around the perimeter of the building, and either side of the culvert at approx 3 or 4 metre centres. The piles were driven to refusal.

My design called for 200mm Universal Bearing Piles, but the contractor engaged to drive the piles, (McIntosh from Cobargo) obtained 250mm Piles at a significant discount, so these were used instead being stronger as well as cheaper.

A suspended slab (on the ground) was poured incorporating concrete beams etc supported by the piles, and the building erected on the slab.

I hope the above is of assistance to you.

Kind regards,

John Moffatt