

17, St Peters Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire:

Results of an archaeological watching brief:

NGR 402200, 201640

Corinium Roman Town Scheduled Monument Ref 1003426

Prepared by:
Vince Simmonds

Oasis id 337100

Document No: ACW1051/4/0

Date: December 2018



AC archaeology

17 ST PETER'S ROAD, CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE: RESULTS OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NGR: 402200 201640

Corinium Roman Town Scheduled Monument (LEN no. 1003426)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out the results of archaeological monitoring during groundworks associated with the construction of a new extension to the rear of No.17 St. Peter's Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1RE (see Fig.1). Planning consent has been granted by Cotswold District Council (17/02681/FUL) for the new extension. The rear of the property lies within the Corinium Roman Town Scheduled Monument (Monument Number 1003426), and Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) has been granted by Historic England (Ref S00184266) in order to allow groundworks to commence. The Historic England SMC letter is included in Appendix 1.

1.2 The monitoring was undertaken by AC archaeology Ltd in November 2018 and was commissioned by the site owner, in compliance with condition (b) of the Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC), which required the submission and approval of a written scheme of investigations for a programme of archaeological work to be undertaken, comprising archaeological observation and recording during groundworks (see Clark 2018 for approved written scheme of investigation).

1.3 Condition (b) of the SMC states:

No ground works shall take place until the applicant has confirmed in writing the commissioning of a programme of archaeological work during the development in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State advised by Historic England.

1.4 Condition (d) of the SMC states:

Foundation trench will be no deeper than 2m. Any requirement to go deeper will need a redesign of the foundations to be agreed with Historic England to ensure no significant archaeology is harmed.

1.5 Due to constraints associated with a neighbouring property, it was subsequently necessary to redesign the foundations, and to use a shallower ground-beam supported by ten 100mm 'heli piles' (see Fig.1 for details). The full details of the foundation redesign are given in Clark (2018). The redesigned foundations consist of ground-brems excavated to a maximum depth of 1.05m, together with piles that extend to a depth of at

least 5m. In accordance with Condition (d) of the SMC, Historic England were consulted regarding the revised foundation design. Due to the concerns they raised regarding the revised proposals, a detailed assessment of the impact of piling was prepared at the request of Historic England (Clark 2018). This document provided the framework for Historic England to approve the revised foundation design, as well as outlining the methodology for undertaking the archaeological monitoring.

- 1.6 The development itself included the demolition of an existing rear and side late 20th century extension to the building and to be replaced with a new two-storey extension. The new extension uses some existing building foundations. The design drawings produced by O'Brien and Price (included in Appendix 1 of this report) indicate that foundation trench will not go beyond a depth of 1.05m below the existing ground level (drawing numbers C7407/02 rev.1, C7407/04 and C7407/05).
- 1.7 The underlying geology comprises greenish-grey silicate mudstone with limestone, interbedded of the Forest Marble Formation laid down during the Jurassic period.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site lies within the St Peter's Road Conservation Area, as designated in the Cotswold District Local Plan 2001- 2011 (adopted April 2006).
- 2.2 The site also lies within the Corinium Roman Town Scheduled Monument (SM No. GC361, National Heritage List for England No. 1003426). Corinium (Cirencester) occupied a key position at the junction of the Fosse Way and Ermine Street. When military occupation ended it was laid out as the civitas capital and by the 2nd century AD was the second largest town in Britain. Further development during the 4th century may mark an increase in status to capital of the province of Britannia Prima (Wales and the West Country), one of four provinces created during the 4th century. The Corinium Roman Town Scheduled Monument comprises twelve distinct areas within the Roman town which have produced Roman remains and are potentially open to archaeological examination. Apart from the city banks, no remains are visible above ground. Only the rear gardens of the properties on St Peters Road are part of the Scheduled Monument, the ground on which the houses stand is excluded.
- 2.3 There have been previous archaeological watching briefs at 17 St Peter's Road (Gloucestershire Historic Environment Records - GHERs 9885 and 10738). Record GHER 9885 consisted of a watching brief undertaken in 1991, associated with a new garage on the front of the property. This revealed the upper levels of the Roman rampart at a depth of c.0.35m below the predevelopment ground surface. Footings for the associated drive and path to the north and west of the house revealed no deposits predating the construction of the house, as they did not exceed 0.30m in depth. An earlier watching brief carried out in the back garden of 17 St Peter's Road in 1989 again produced no

archaeological deposits (GHER 10738). This is likely to be because the groundworks did not go deep enough to encounter archaeological deposits.

- 2.4** An archaeological evaluation, in the form of a single trial pit, supplemented with hand augering to a depth of 2m, was undertaken as part of an earlier SMC (Case No. S00176511) and to support the planning application for the new extension (Carter 2017). The results of this work demonstrated that there was a substantial depth of post-medieval and relatively modern material under the ground surface. Although no in-situ Romano-British deposits were identified as part of the investigation, the presence of re-deposited material of this date highlights the fact that in-situ remains may be present near the site, and likely within the bounds of the property itself. The results of these investigations suggest that these probably lie at a substantial depth below the existing ground surface (i.e. below 2m).

3. APPROACH TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

- 3.1** The full details regarding the approach to the watching brief are outlined in Clark (2018).

- 3.2** The principal aims of the recording and archaeological monitoring were:

- To monitor, under constant archaeological supervision, the excavation of foundation and drainage trenches;
- To ensure that no damage occurs to the monument outside the consented works area;
- To provide an archive and interpretive report on the results of the monitoring.

- 3.3** The archaeological monitoring project was managed by Kevin Trott, Senior Project Manager at AC archaeology Ltd. Site monitoring was undertaken by Vince Simmons, a suitably experienced staff member of AC archaeology.

4. RESULTS

Site clearance and foundation trench

- 4.1** The initial excavations involved the removal of the existing foundation of the former conservatory and required the use of an impact hammer to break-out the concrete slabs. The top of the made-ground, below the concrete, was 107.68m OD. The foundations for the extension were excavated using a toothed bucket, 600mm wide. The overall trench dimensions measured c.800mm wide and c.800mm depth (or 106.88m OD). The sequence of the stratigraphy encountered is detailed below in Table 1.
- 4.2** No deposits of medieval or earlier date were observed during the groundworks. Plates 1 and 2 show details of the excavated foundation trenches.

4.3 The remnants of a garden retaining wall, S113, in the SE corner of the foundation trench was partially exposed when the concrete foundation of the former conservatory was removed (see Plate 3). The wall is aligned NW/SE, constructed of sub-angular, tabular Jurassic limestone, cobble and boulder sized, random rubble/dry-stone style. It appears that the retaining wall supports the higher garden elevation of No.17 from the lower garden of the property 15 St Peter's Road, to the immediate NE (see Plate 4). Although the wall could be seen to continue SE, no extension to the NW could be seen.

Context	Thickness (mm)	Description	Interpretation
106	50	Yellow SAND	Made Ground: derived from various construction phases. SW section of foundations.
107	150	grey-brown SILT/CLAY	
108	100	deep purple-red ASH and CLINKER	
109	100	light yellow grey-brown CLAY	
110	100	deep purple-red with black ASH and CLINKER with charcoal and coal	
111	300	pale yellow-grey silty SAND with some gravel and ash, flecks of charcoal, nails and brick fragments	Modern/post-medieval.
112	800	black-brown ashy SILT with clinker, gravel and building demolition debris	Made Ground: derived from various construction phases. NE section of foundation, site of former conservatory. Modern/post-medieval.

Table 1: The stratigraphy as revealed by the excavation of a foundation trench for building extension

Insertion of piles

4.4 A second stage of site work was monitored and involved the insertion of piles (see Plate 5).

4.5 Six piles were observed driven to a maximum depth of 5m below the base of foundation trench. As was anticipated, no arisings (the material that gets drilled out of the ground during conventional piling) was produced and no below ground obstructions were encountered. Following consultations with Historic England (dated 27 November 2018) it was agreed that no further monitoring of the piling was required.

5. FINDS

5.1 No artefacts were recovered during the works.

6. COMMENT

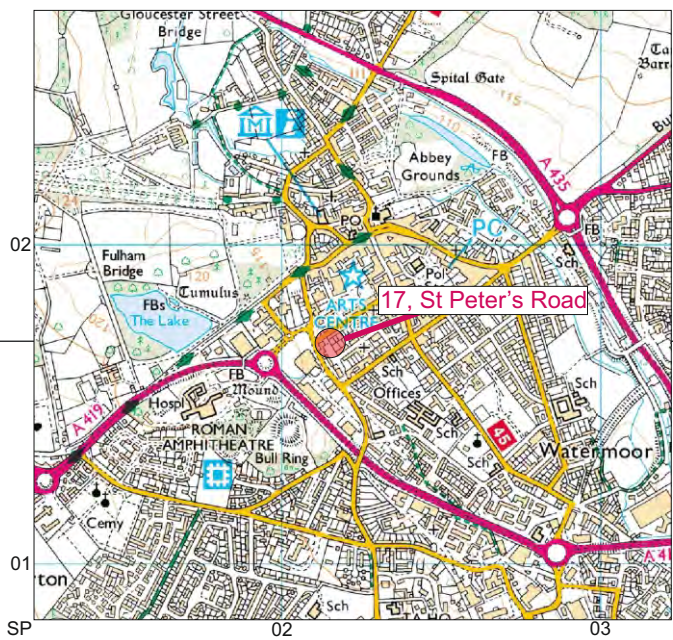
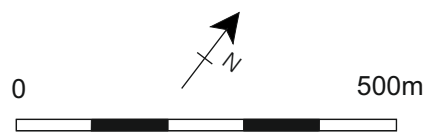
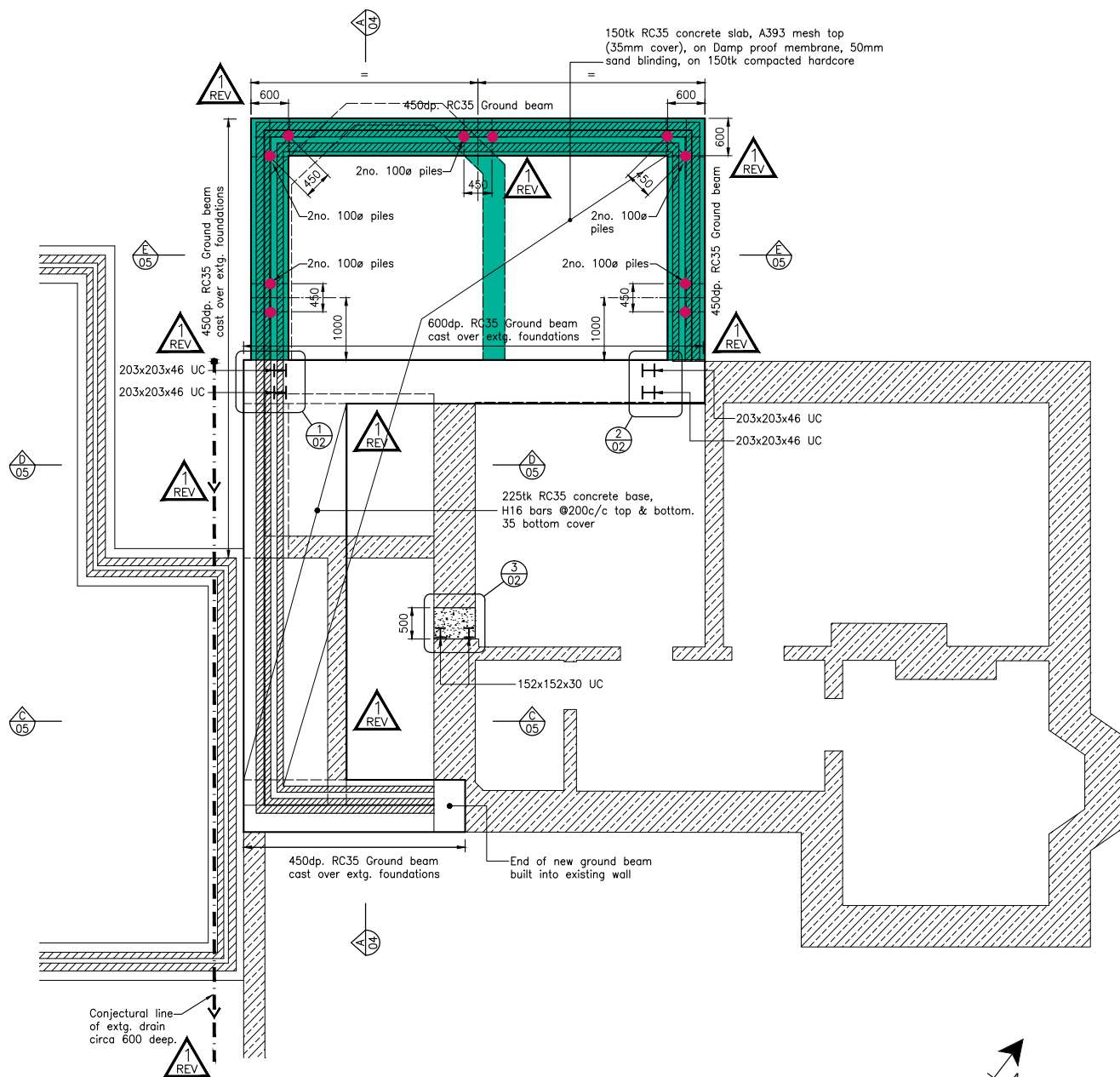
- 6.1** The excavation of the foundation trenches was limited to a depth of c.800mm and revealed only extensive made ground deposits of post-medieval date and no clean natural stratum was encountered. Furthermore, the observations of the piling operations did not produce any arising no additional archaeological information was obtained.
- 6.2** No significant archaeological cut features or deposits were observed. No artefacts were recovered.
- 6.3** It is noted that the rear garden of No.17 is at a higher elevation than the property immediately to the NE (15 St Peter's Road), the two gardens separated by a retaining wall, S113, partially exposed during the foundation excavation. It is possible that the higher elevation has resulted from the levelling of excavated materials from previous construction phases. It was noted that the No.17 has an extensive basement

7. REFERENCES & GUIDELINES

Carter, D. 2017. 17 St. Peter's Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation. AC archaeology Ltd. Report No. ACW1051/2/0

Clark, R. 2018. 17 St. Peter's Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire: *Archaeological impact assessment for proposed pile foundations and written scheme of investigation for a watching brief*. AC archaeology Ltd Document No: ACW1051/4/2

ClfA, 2001, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*. (and subsequent revisions). Institute for Archaeologists



- Key**
- Heli Pile
 - Area of archaeological monitoring



PROJECT
 17 St Peter's Road, Cirencester

TITLE
 Fig. 1 Site location and foundation plan including Heli-Pile locations



Plate 1: Overview of excavated foundation trench, viewed from S



Plate 2: Excavated foundation trench, view from SW. S113 at top of photograph



Plate3: Remnants of garden retaining wall, S113



Plate 4: Variation in garden levels



Plate 5: Driving 'Heli' piles into base of foundation trench

APPENDIX 1: SMC and design drawings



Historic England

SOUTH WEST OFFICE

Mr Peter Cox
AC Archaeology
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade
Hindon
Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Direct Dial: 0117 975 1300

Our ref: S00184266

5 February 2018

Dear Mr Cox

**Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended); Section 2
control of works
Application for Scheduled Monument Consent**

**CORINIUM ROMAN TOWN, CIRENCESTER
Scheduled Monument No: SM GC 361, HA 1003426
Our ref: S00184266
Application on behalf of Mr B Harris**

1. I am directed by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport to advise you of the decision regarding your application for Scheduled Monument Consent received 2 January 2018 in respect of proposed works at the above scheduled monument concerning the demolition of an existing extension and the construction of a new extension. The works were detailed in the following documentation submitted by you:

17 St Peters Road Cirencester: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation:
Corinium Roman Town. AC Archaeology Doc No: ACW105/2/0, December 2017

2. In accordance with paragraph 3(2) of Schedule 1 to the 1979 Act, the Secretary of State is obliged to afford you, and any other person to whom it appears to the Secretary of State expedient to afford it, an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed for that purpose. This opportunity was offered to you by Historic England and you have declined it.

3. The Secretary of State is also required by the Act to consult with the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (Historic England) before deciding whether or not to grant Scheduled Monument Consent. Historic England considers the effect of the proposed works upon the monument to be works potentially detrimental to the monument, but for which reasonable safeguards have been specified in the



29 QUEEN SQUARE BRISTOL BS1 4ND

Telephone 0117 975 1308
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). All information held by the organisation will be accessible in response to an information request, unless one of the exemptions in the FOIA or EIR applies.

Historic England will use the information provided by you to evaluate your application for Scheduled Monument Consent. Information contained in this application and any information obtained from other sources will be retained in all cases in hard copy form and/or on computer for administration purposes and future consideration where applicable.



Historic England

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application for an appropriate level of archaeological supervision and recording.

I can confirm that the Secretary of State is agreeable for the works to proceed providing the conditions set out below are adhered to, and that accordingly Scheduled Monument Consent is hereby granted under section 2 of the 1979 Act for the works described in paragraph 1 above, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The works to which this consent relates shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, who will be advised by Historic England. At least 4 weeks' notice (or such shorter period as may be mutually agreed) in writing of the commencement of work shall be given to Mel Barge, Inspector of Ancient Monuments, 29 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4ND, Tel: 0117 9751300, melanie.barge@HistoricEngland.org.uk in order that an Historic England representative can inspect and advise on the works and their effect in compliance with this consent.
- (b) No ground works shall take place until the applicant has confirmed in writing the commissioning of a programme of archaeological work during the development in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State advised by Historic England.
- (c) All those involved in the implementation of the works granted by this consent must be informed by the owner that the land is designated as a scheduled monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended); the extent of the scheduled monument as set out in both the scheduled monument description and map; and that the implications of this designation include the requirement to obtain Scheduled Monument Consent for any works to a scheduled monument from the Secretary of State prior to them being undertaken.
- (d) Foundation trench will be no deeper than 2m. Any requirement to go deeper will need a redesign of the foundations to be agreed with Historic England to ensure no significant archaeology is harmed.
- (e) If significant archaeological remains are uncovered then the archaeologist on site will halt works. Time will be given to allow the remains to be cleaned and recorded to assess their significance. Historic England and the Local Authority Archaeological Advisor will be consulted and if the remains are deemed to be significant they will be preserved in-situ.
- (f) A report on the archaeological recording shall be sent to the County Historic Environment Record and to Historic England within 3 months of the completion



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of the works (or such other period as may be mutually agreed).

- (g) The contractor shall complete and submit an entry on OASIS (On-line Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations - <http://oasis.ac.uk/england/>) prior to project completion, and shall deposit any digital project report with the Archaeology Data Service, via the OASIS form, upon completion.

4. By virtue of section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within the period of five years beginning with the date on which this consent was granted (being the date of this letter), this consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless a shorter time period is set by a specific condition above).

5. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bye law, order or regulation other than section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

6. Your attention is drawn to the provisions of section 55 of the 1979 Act under which any person who is aggrieved by the decision given in this letter may challenge its validity by an application made to the High Court within six weeks from the date when the decision is given. The grounds upon which an application may be made to the Court are (1) that the decision is not within the powers of the Act (that is, the Secretary of State has exceeded the relevant powers) or (2) that any of the relevant requirements have not been complied with and the applicant's interests have been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply. The "relevant requirements" are defined in section 55 of the 1979 Act: they are the requirements of that Act and the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1971 and the requirements of any regulations or rules made under those Acts.

Yours sincerely

Melanie Barge

Inspector of Ancient Monuments

E-mail: melanie.barge@HistoricEngland.org.uk

For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

cc Alessandra Perrone, HARPO Historic England

Charles Parry - Senior Archaeological Officer, Gloucestershire County Council,

Charles.parry@gloucestershire.gov.uk



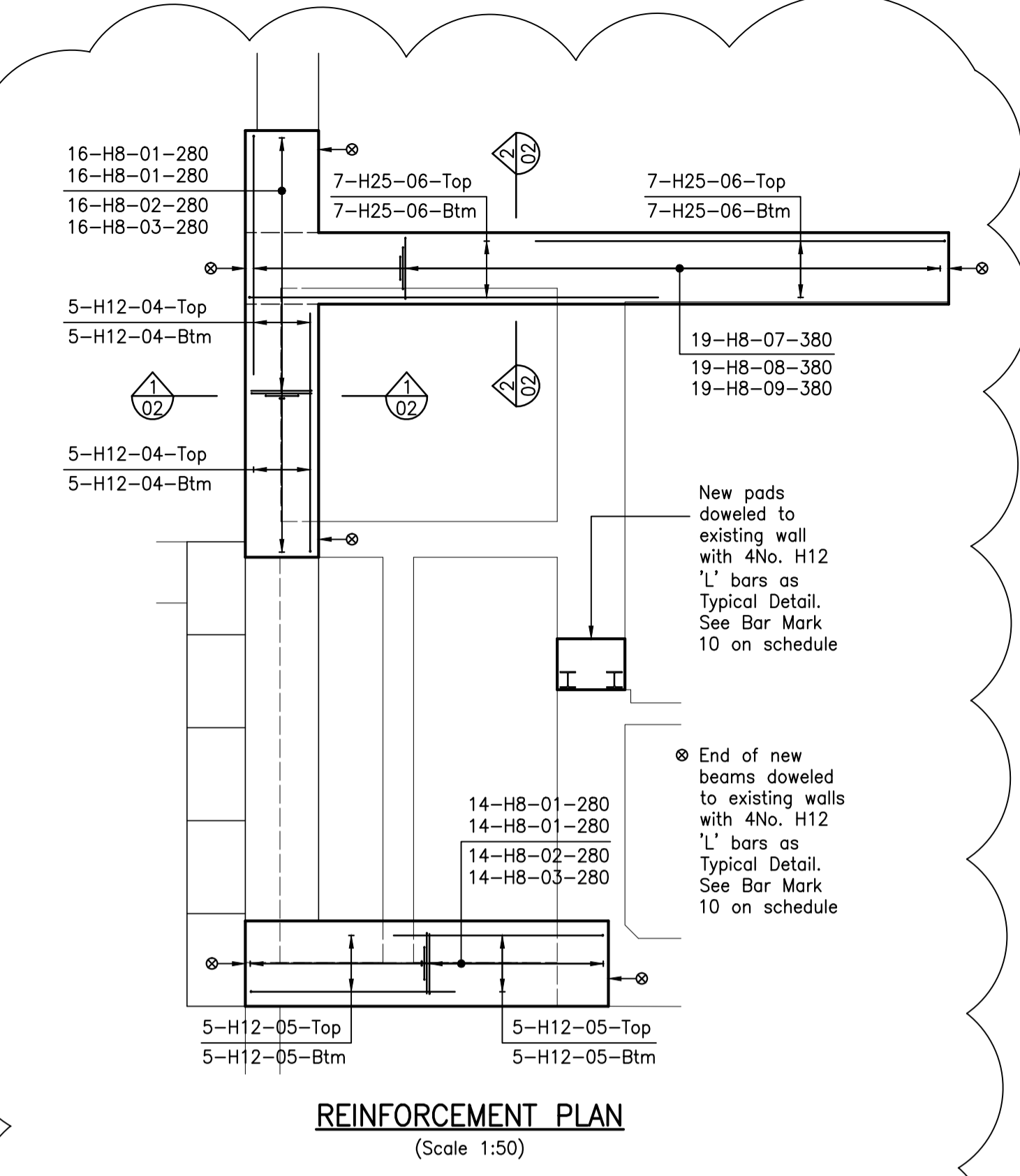
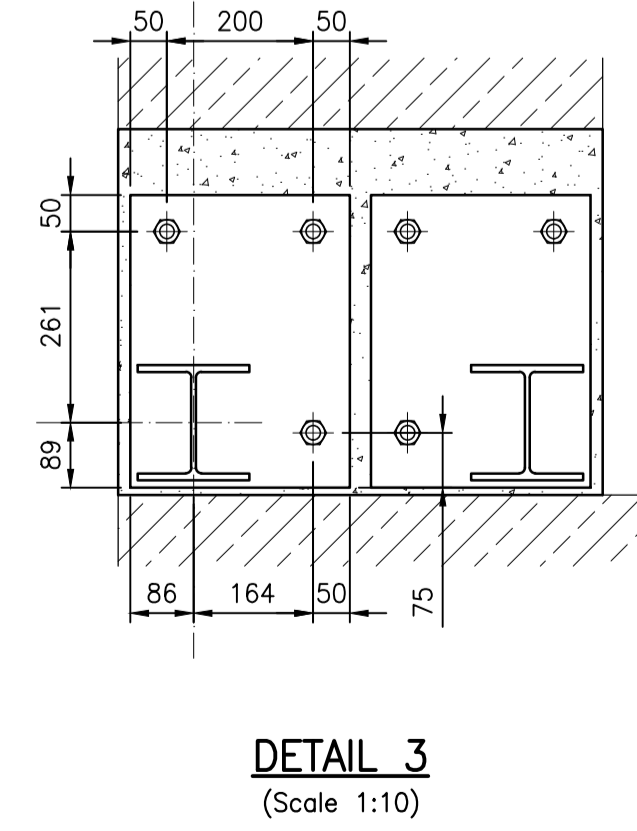
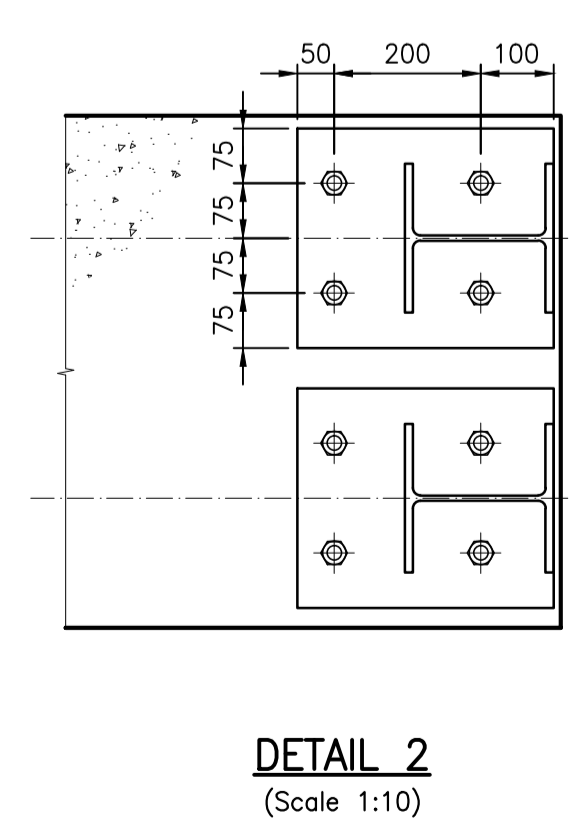
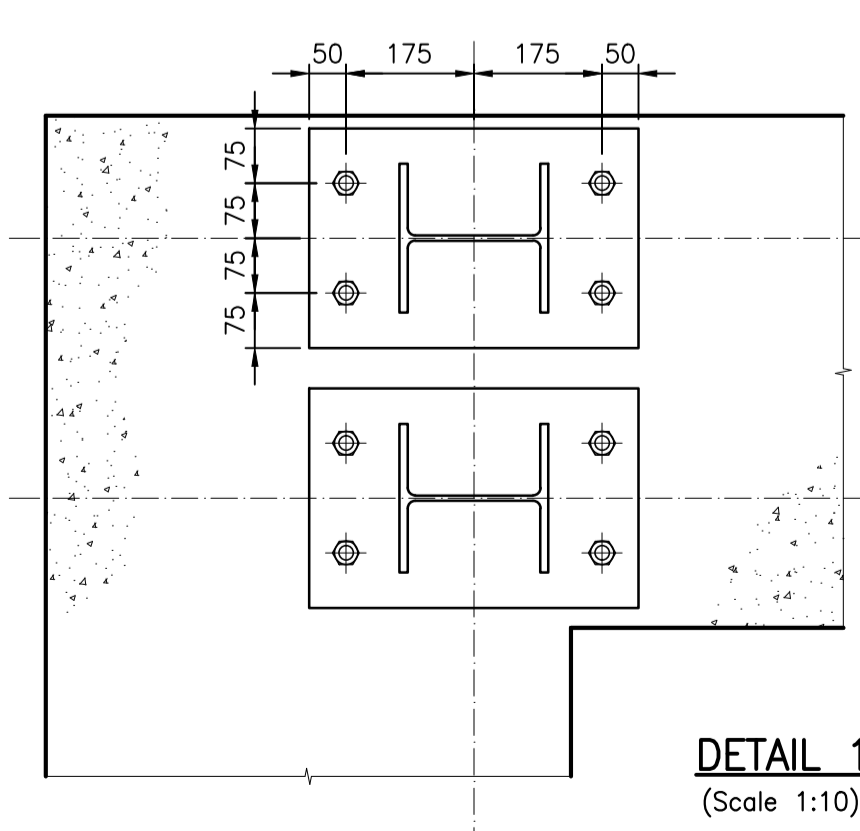
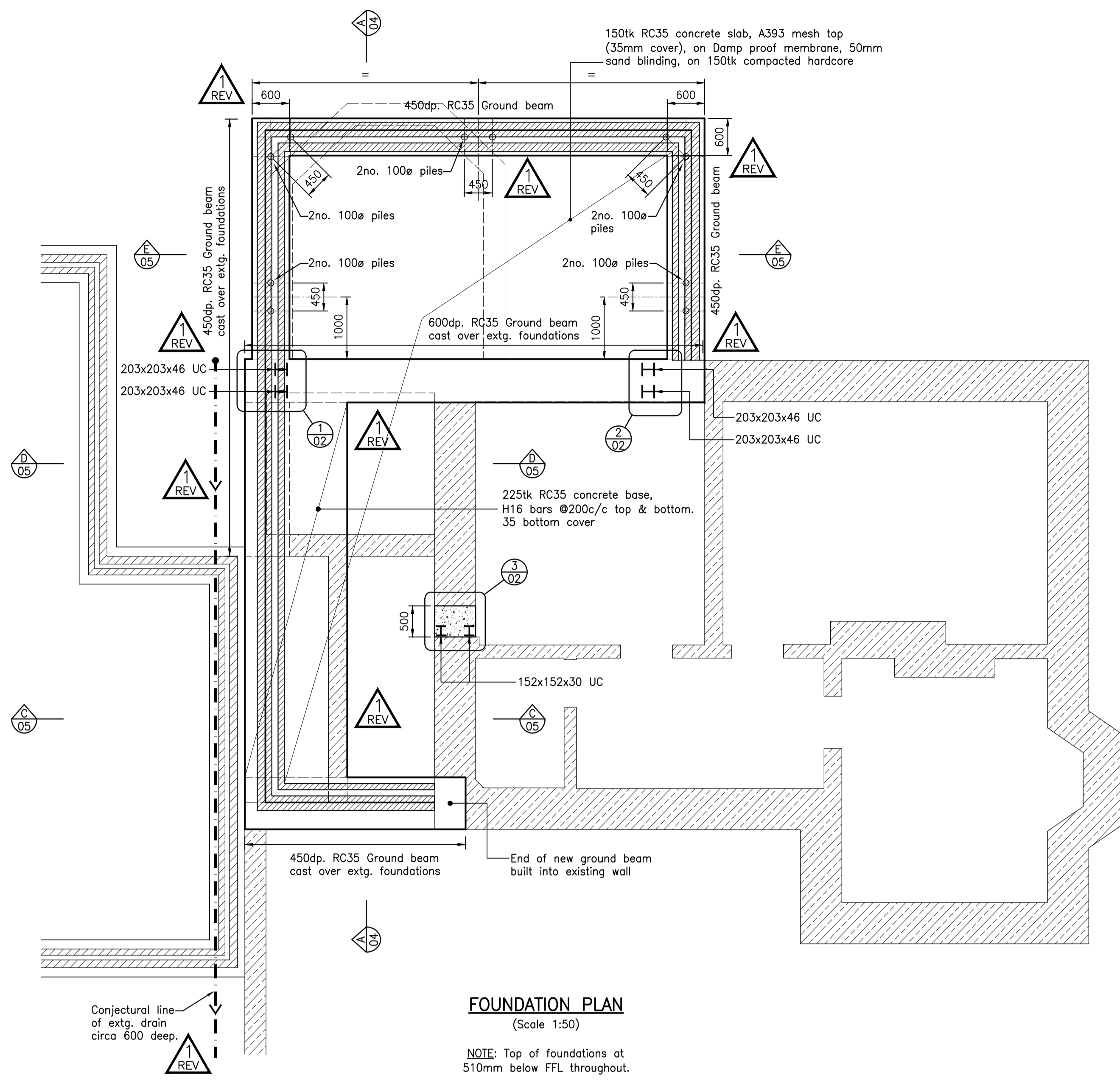
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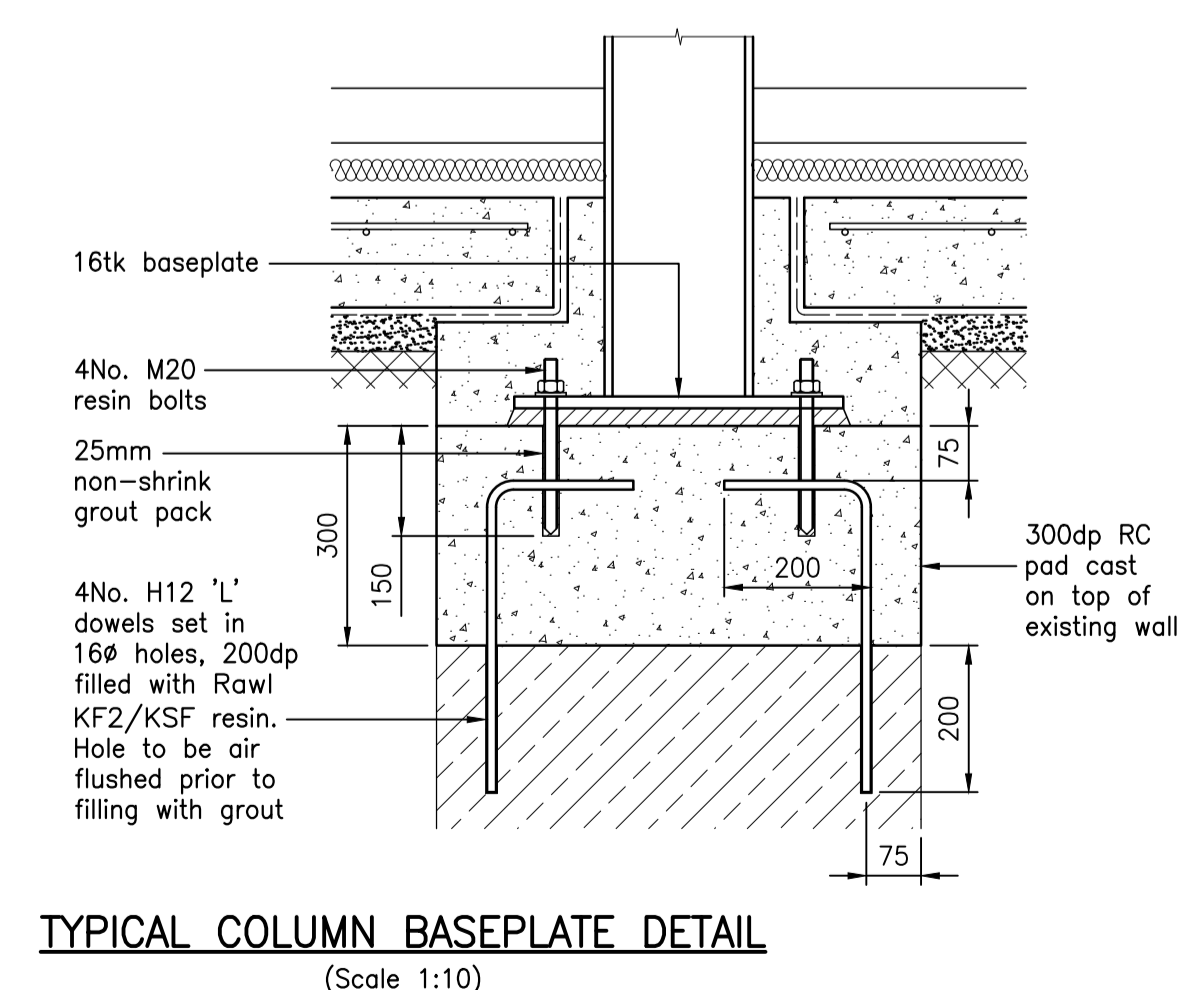
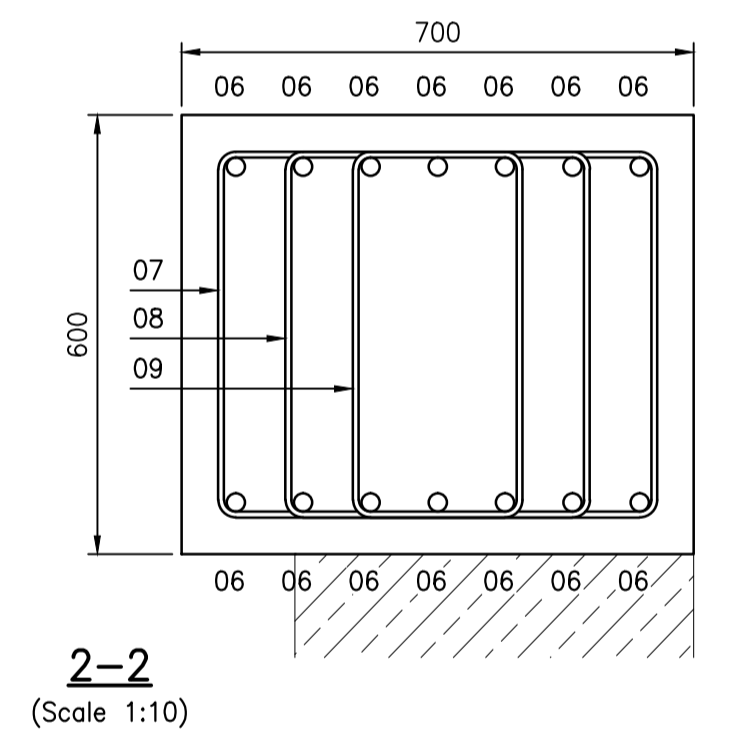
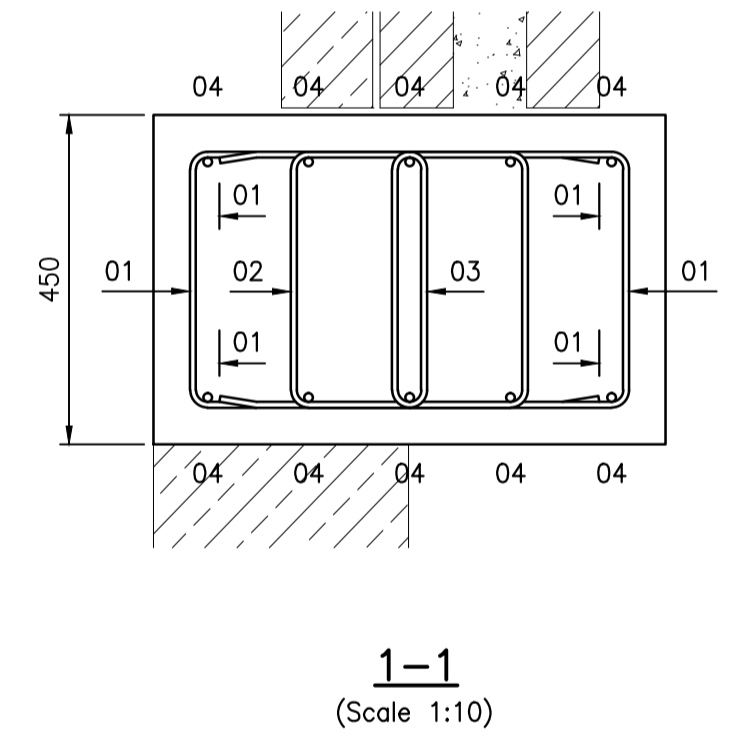


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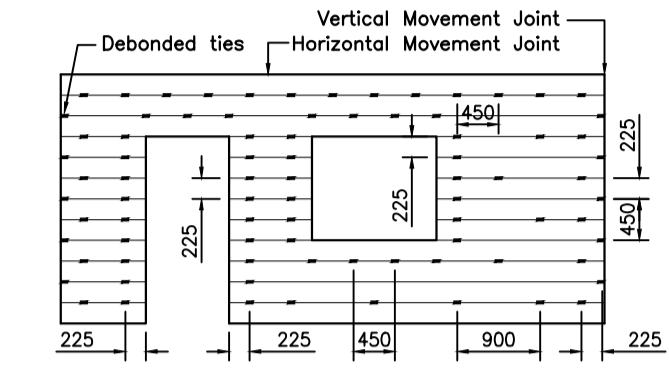
Historic England will use the information provided by you to evaluate your application for Scheduled Monument Consent. Information contained in this application and any information obtained from other sources will be retained in all cases in hard copy form and/or on computer for administration purposes and future consideration where applicable.



NOTE:
REINFORCEMENT ON HOLD
SUBJECT TO ENGINEERING CHANGE



- Concrete blocks to comply with BS 6073 Part 1. Bricks to comply with BS EN 771-1 with minimum declared manufacturers strength and max. water absorption, as noted on drawings with Category 1 confidence level.
- 140tk. solid blocks to have maximum unaided density of 1300-1450kg/m³.
- Wall ties to be stainless steel complying with BS EN 845-1 or DD 140 part 2. Wall ties to have minimum 50mm embedment in masonry leaf. Spacing to be:-
Horizontally - 900c/c (450c/c within 225mm above and below opening).
Vertically - 450c/c (220c/c within 200mm of vertical joint / opening).
- Resin type to be Rawl KF2/KSF unless noted otherwise. Do not change resin bolt resin type / manufacturer without written approval of Engineer.
- All anchors to be installed in accordance with BS 8539; 2012. Anchor type / specification must not be changed without the approval of Engineer.
- Lintels to have min. bearing of 100mm on full block unless otherwise agreed with Engineer.
- Blockwork below damp proof course to be 7.0N unless noted otherwise.
- Mortar above Damp proof course to be Class iii mortar to BS 5628 either:-
1:1.5 to 6, OPC cement : lime : sand,
or
1:4 to 5 masonry cement : sand unless noted otherwise.
- Mortar below damp proof course to be Class ii mortar to BS 5628 either:-
1:3:4 to 4, OPC cement : lime : sand,
or
1:2:4 to 3 masonry cement : sand, unless noted otherwise.
- All perpend and joints to be fully filled with mortar. Mortar not to be washed in.
- Follow good workmanship practice as set out in BS 5628 - Part 3.
- All workmanship to be in accordance with BS 8000-3 - 2001.



- NOTES**
- This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the Architects Drawings.
 - All dimensions are in millimetres unless noted otherwise.
 - Use only given dimensions. Refer to Architect's drawings for all other dimensions or if appropriate, dimensions taken on site.
 - This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all other project drawings.
 - All dimensions to be checked/taken on site by Contractors.
 - All proprietary products are to be installed in strict accordance with manufacturers written instructions.
 - All construction products with appropriate harmonized European standard including fabricated structural steelwork shall have CE markings in accordance with The Construction Products Regulation (CPR). Where requested the manufacturer shall provide the Declaration Of Performance (CPR).
 - Foundations are to be founded in ?????? ?????????? for which a safe bearing pressure of ?????kN/m² has been assumed.
 - The Engineer is to be notified immediately of any variation from the conditions shown on the drawings.
 - All soft spots including organic material in top assumed foundation strata, to be excavated.
 - The engineer is to be given 48 hours notice of the intention to cast foundations.
 - If it is essential that a joint be formed then the joint should be positioned at least 1.0 metre distance from any corner of the building.
 - Concrete Specifications:-
RC35 to BS 8500
Slump Class S2, Chloride Class 0.4, Max. aggregate size 20mm.
GEN 3 (Trench Fill) to BS 8500
Slump Class S3, Chloride Class 1.0, Max. aggregate size 20mm.
 - Contractor to be responsible for setting out of work on site.
 - Reinforcement to be hot rolled high yield grade B500 deformed bars to BS 4449 (designated H) UNO.
 - Reinforcement bars to be bent in accordance with BS 8666 UNO.
 - Nominal cover to reinforcement to be 50mm UNO.
 - Minimum lap of reinforcement bars to be 40xø.

Bar ø (mm)	Min. Lap (mm)
8	320
12	480
25	1000
 - Displace bars locally to avoid holes or obstructions less than 200mm in length or diameter.
 - Contractor to be responsible for the design and detail of all chair bars and reinforcement supports.

CDM RESIDUAL RISKS

There are no residual risks which a competent contractor should not be able to deal with

preliminary

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

1 Design revised to be fully reinforced with 22.05.18 CG WCK 10no. piles in extension area. Posn of extg drain added.

REV. AMENDMENTS DATE DRAWN CHECKED

DO NOT SCALE THIS DRAWING



PROJECT **17 ST. PETERS ROAD CIRENCESTER**

DESCRIPTION **FOUNDATION PLAN & DETAILS**

SCALES **As Noted @ A1** DATE **Nov 2017**

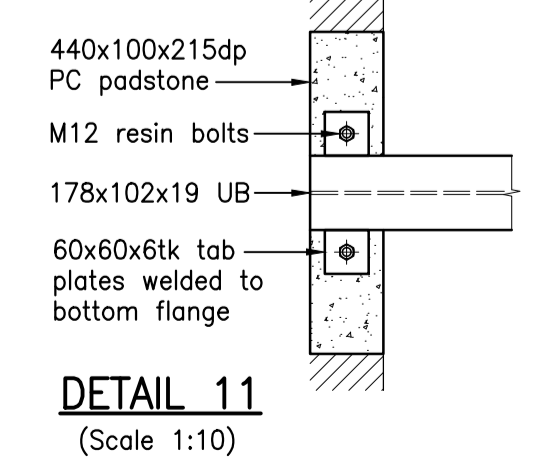
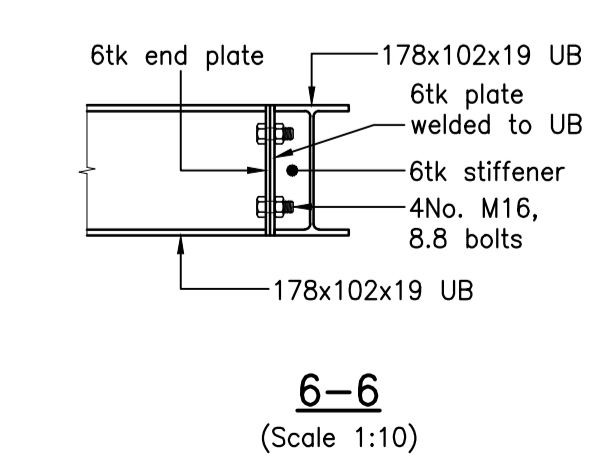
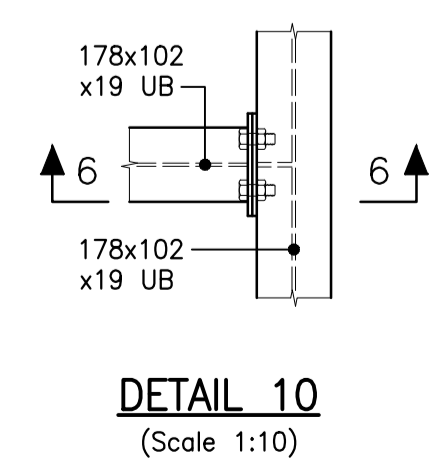
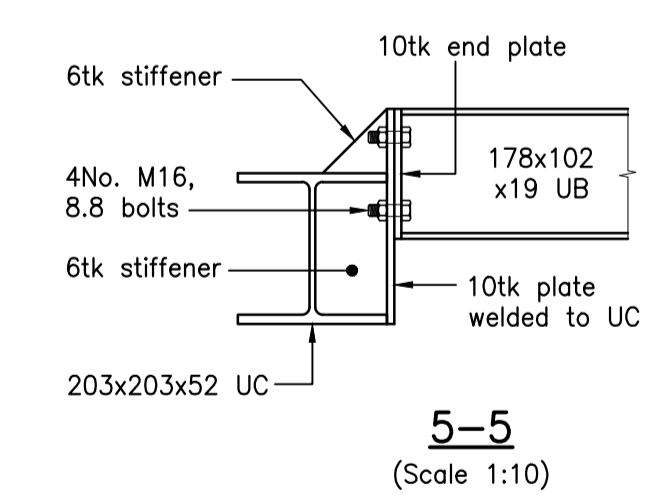
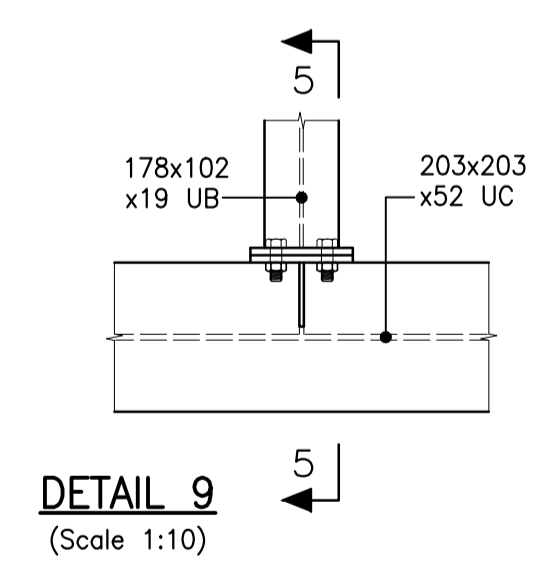
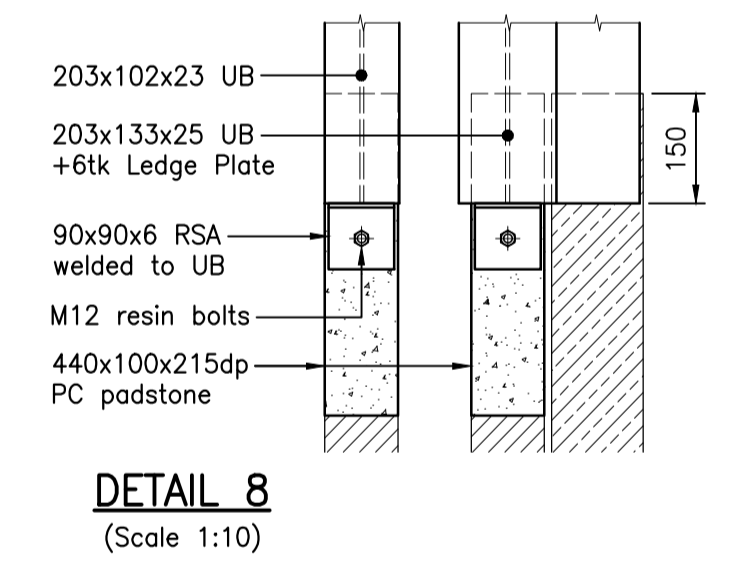
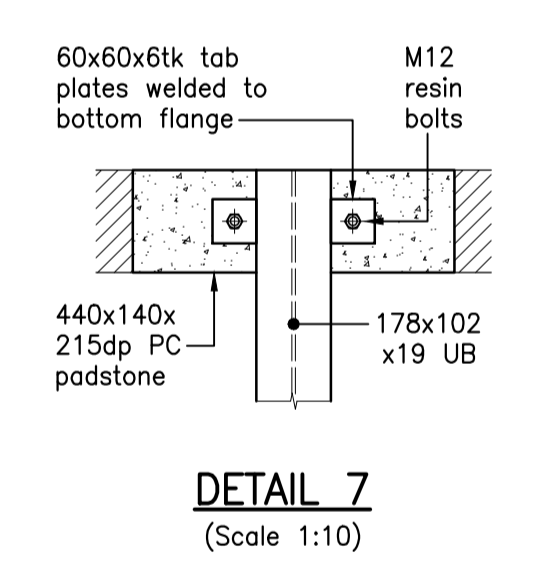
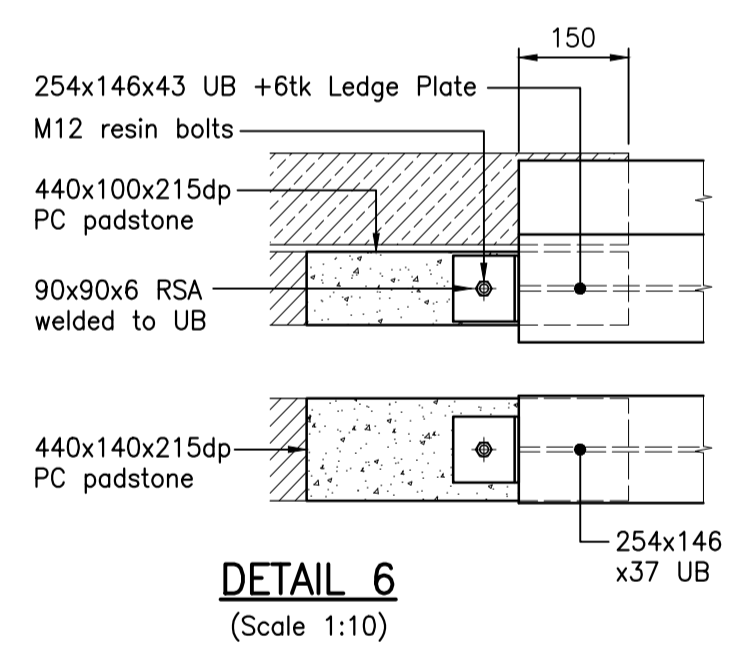
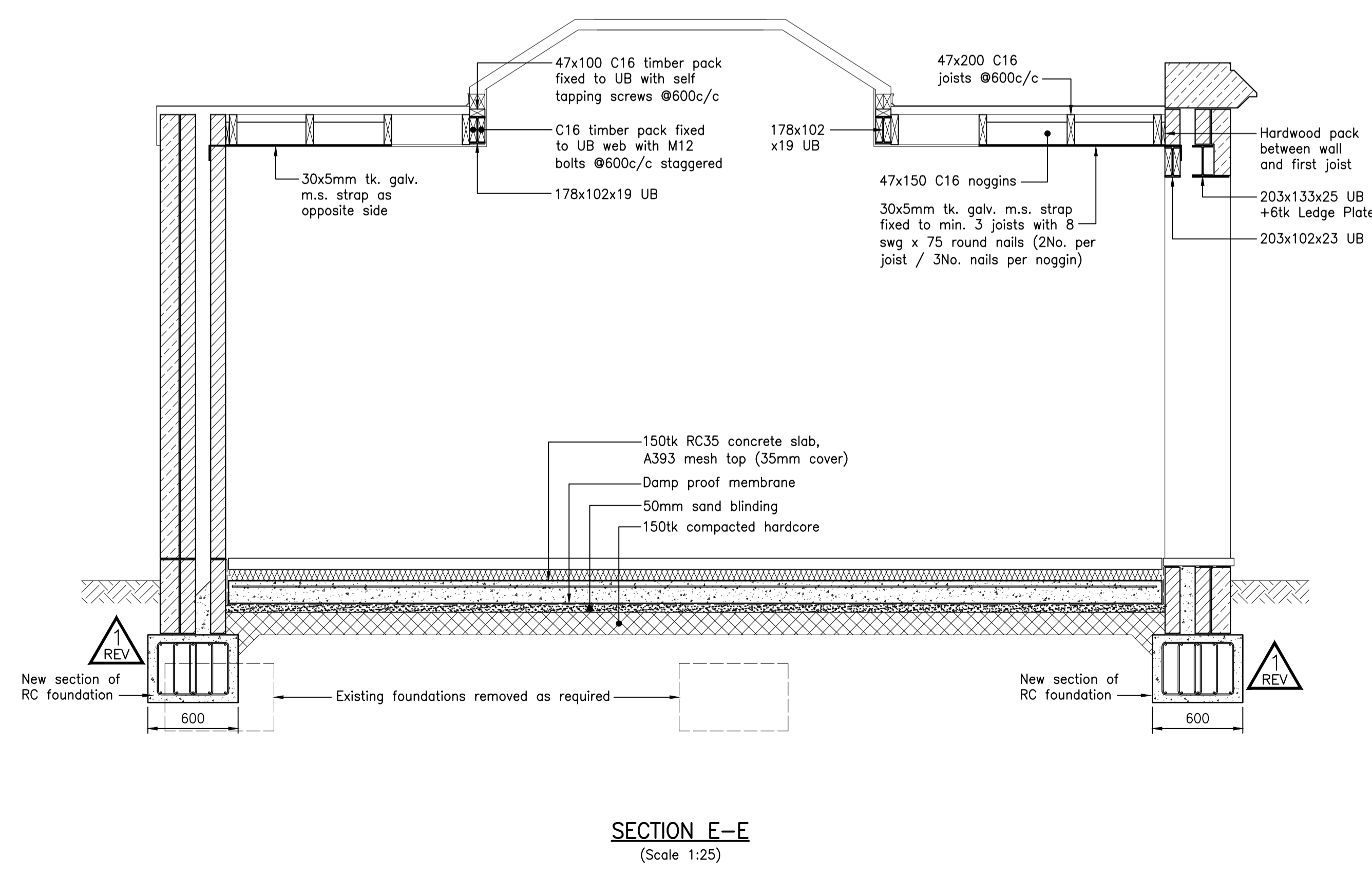
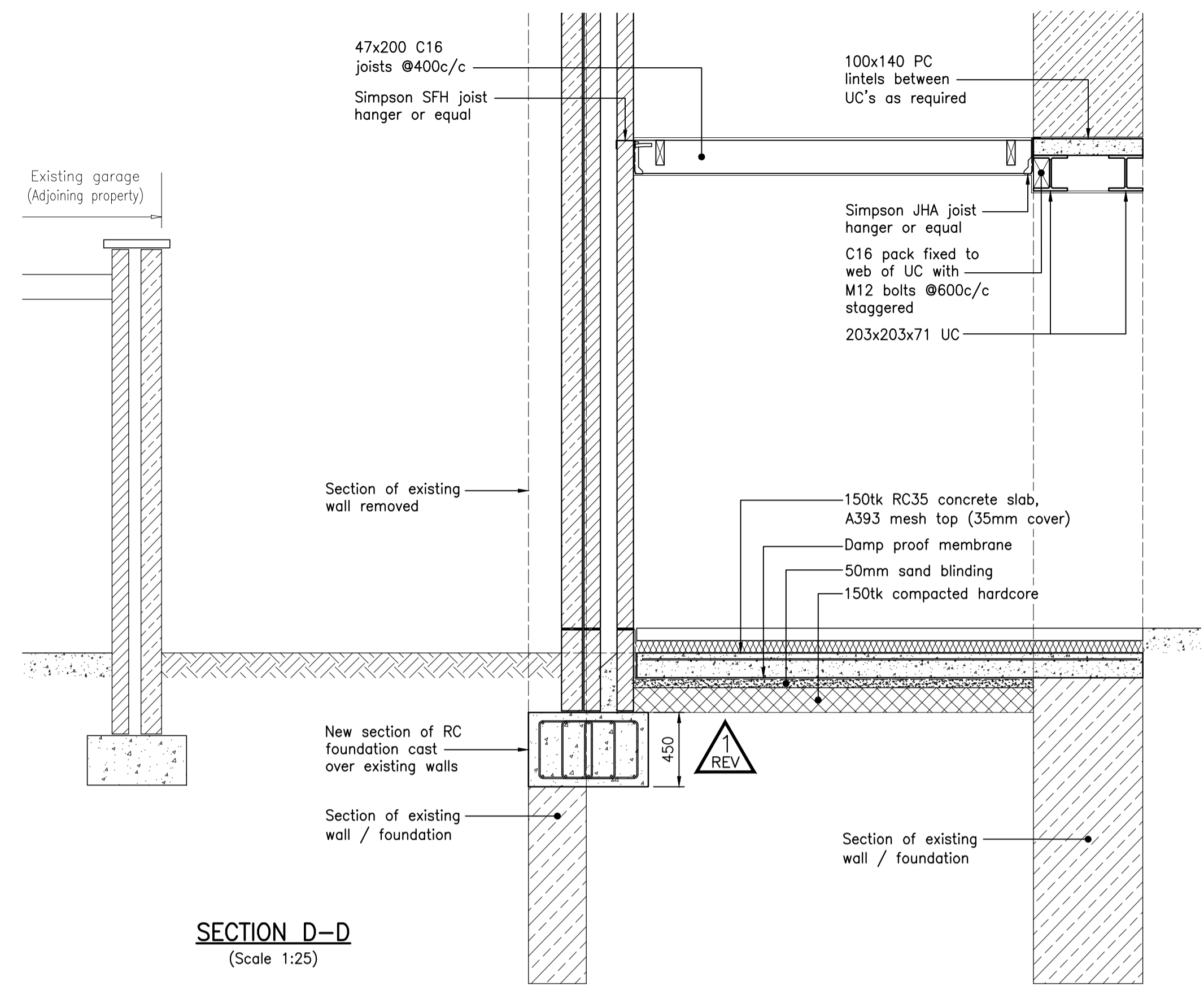
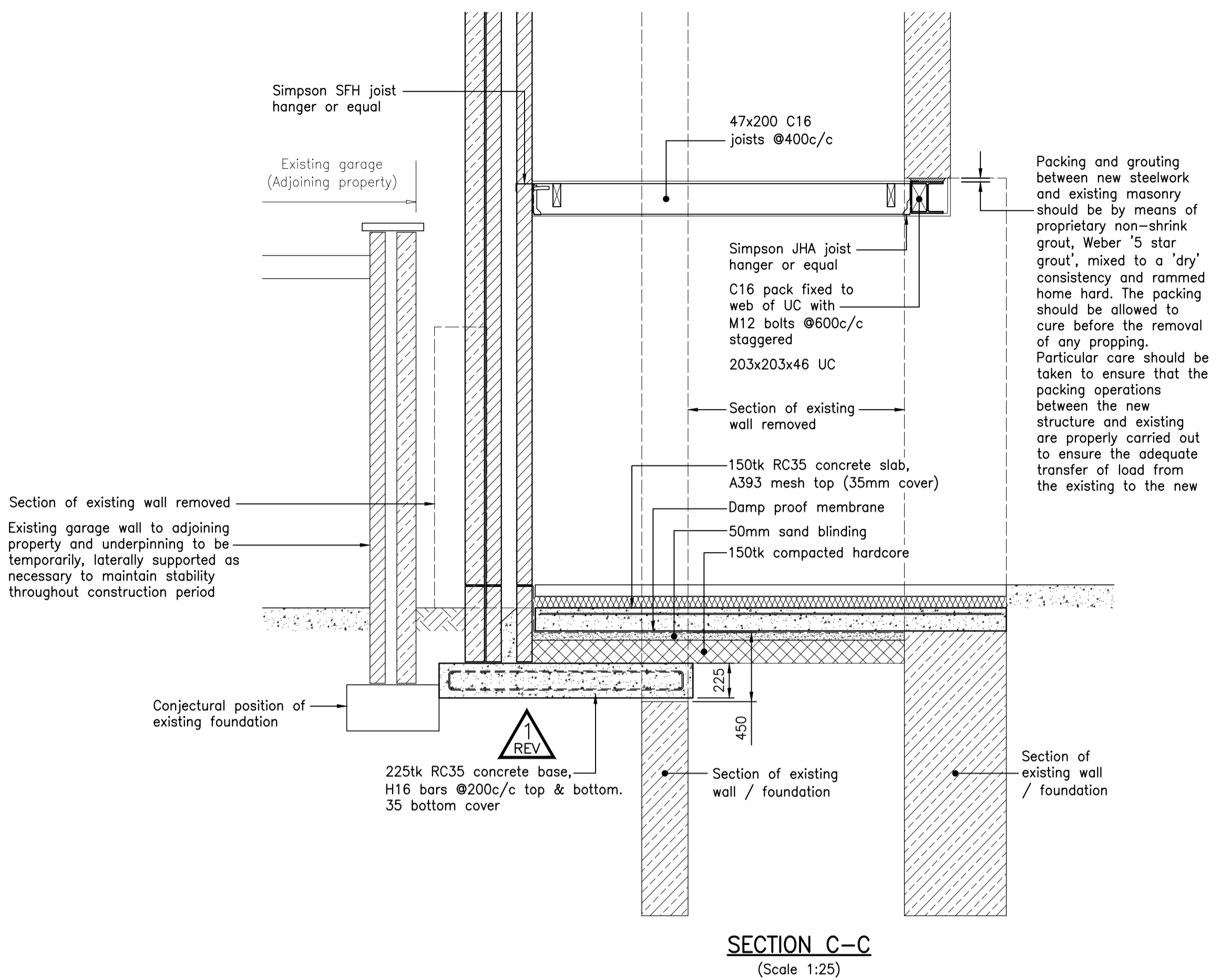
DRAWN **BH** CHECKED **WCK**

ISSUED FOR :-
PRELIMINARY. BILLING. CONSTRUCTION.
COMMENT. CONTRACT. AS BUILT.

DRAWING NO. **C7407/02** rev **1**

NOTES

1. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with the Architects Drawings.
2. All dimensions are in millimetres unless noted otherwise.
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4. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all other project drawings.
5. All dimensions to be checked/taken on site by Contractors.
6. All proprietary products are to be installed in strict accordance with manufacturers written instructions.
7. All construction products with appropriate harmonized European standard including fabricated structural steelwork shall have CE markings in accordance with The Construction Products Regulation (CPR). Where requested the manufacturer shall provide the Declaration Of Performance (CPR).



CDM RESIDUAL RISKS
There are no residual risks which a competent contractor should not be able to deal with

preliminary
FOR PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

1. Secs. C-C, D-D & E-E revised to 22.05.18 CG WCK show RC foundations.

REV. AMENDMENTS DATE DRAWN CHECKED
DO NOT SCALE THIS DRAWING



O'BRIEN & PRICE CHELTENHAM LTD
13 IMPERIAL SQUARE
CHELTENHAM, GLOS, GL50 1QB
TEL: 01242 237227 FAX: 01242 234227
email: structures@obrien-price.co.uk
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND No 4642598

PROJECT **17 ST. PETERS ROAD CIRENCESTER**

DESCRIPTION **SECTIONS & DETAILS (SHEET 2/2)**

SCALES **As Noted @ A1** DATE **Nov 2017**
DRAWN **BH** CHECKED **WCK**

ISSUED FOR :-
PRELIMINARY. BILLING. CONSTRUCTION.
CONTRACT. AS BUILT.

DRAWING NO. **C7407/05** rev **1**

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