RIGHT OF LIGHT CONSULTING
Chartered Surveyors

Daylight and Sunlight Report

(Neighbouring Properties)

10 October 2025

95 Halsway
Hayes
UB3 3JU

Regulated by RICS

Right of Light Consulting

Burley House
15-17 High Street
Rayleigh
Essex SS6 7EW

Tel: 0800 197 4836

www.right-of-light.co.uk

CONTENTS

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 Right of Light Consulting has been commissioned by Mr Charnjit Singh to undertake a daylight and sunlight assessment of the proposed development at 95 Halsway, Hayes UB3 3JU.

1.1.2 The assessment is based on the various numerical tests laid down in the Building Research Establishment (BRE) guide 'Site Layout Planning for Daylight and Sunlight: a guide to good practice, 3rd Edition' by P J Littlefair 2022.

1.1.3 The aim of the assessment is to consider the impact of the development on the light receivable by the neighbouring residential property at 10 Halsend.

1.1.4 The images in Appendix 1 identify the windows we have assessed. Appendix 2 gives the numerical results of the various daylight and sunlight tests. Overshadowing to gardens and open spaces data and contour drawings are provided in Appendix 3.

1.1.5 All neighbouring windows pass the relevant BRE diffuse daylight and direct sunlight tests. All neighbouring amenity areas also pass the BRE overshadowing to gardens and open spaces test.

1.1.6 In summary, the numerical results in this assessment demonstrate that the proposed development will have a low impact on the light receivable by its neighbouring properties. In our opinion, the proposed development sufficiently safeguards the daylight and sunlight amenity of the neighbouring properties.

2 INFORMATION SOURCES

2.1 Drawings

2.1.1 This report is based on the following drawings:

Sparrow Design & Build

102	Existing elevations	Rev A
103	Existing floor and roof plans	Rev A
101	Location plan	Rev A
104	Proposed ground floor plans	Rev A
105	Proposed first floor plan	Rev A
106	Proposed elevations	Rev A
107	Proposed roof plan	Rev A
108	Proposed site plan	Rev A

2.2 Daylight Distribution Room Layout Information

2.2.1 The daylight distribution test has been applied based on the following room layout information:

Online Local Authority planning records

10 Halsend:

PL03	Proposed ground and first floor plan	Rev RV00

3 METHODOLOGY OF THE ASSESSMENT

3.1 Local Planning Policy

3.1.1 We understand that the Local Authority takes the conventional approach of considering daylight and sunlight amenity with reference to the various numerical tests laid down in the Building Research Establishment (BRE) guide 'Site Layout Planning for Daylight and Sunlight: a guide to good practice, by P J Littlefair. This report is based on the 3rd edition of the BRE guide which was published on 8 June 2022.

3.1.2 The standards set out in the BRE guide are intended to be used flexibly. The BRE guide states:

3.1.3 "The guide is intended for building designers and their clients, consultants and planning officials. The advice given here is not mandatory and the guide should not be seen as an instrument of planning policy; its aim is to help rather than constrain the designer. Although it gives numerical guidelines, these should be interpreted flexibly, since natural lighting is only one of many factors in site layout design."

3.1.4 In reference to applying different numerical target values in different locations, the BRE guide states:

3.1.5 "These values are purely advisory and different targets may be used based on the special requirements of the proposed development or its location."

3.2 National Planning Policy Framework

3.2.1 The BRE numerical guidelines should be considered in the context of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which stipulates that local planning authorities should take a flexible approach to daylight and sunlight to ensure the efficient use of land. The NPPF states:

3.2.2 "Local planning authorities should refuse applications which they consider fail to make efficient use of land, taking into account the policies in this Framework. In this context, when considering applications for housing, authorities should take a flexible approach in applying policies or guidance relating to daylight and sunlight, where

they would otherwise inhibit making efficient use of a site (as long as the resulting scheme would provide acceptable living standards)."

3.3 National Planning Practice Guidance

3.3.1 The BRE numerical guidelines should also be considered in the context of the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). The NPPG states that developments should maintain acceptable living standards. It goes on to explain that what this means in practice is that appropriate levels of sunlight and daylight, will depend to some extent on the context for the development. This is consistent with the BRE guide which as noted in paragraphs 3.1.4 to 3.1.5 above, states that site location is a relevant factor when setting sunlight and daylight targets.

3.4 Daylight to Windows

3.4.1 Diffuse daylight is the light received from the sun which has been diffused through the sky. Even on a cloudy day, when the sun is not visible, a room will continue to be lit with light from the sky. This is diffuse daylight.

3.4.2 Diffuse daylight calculations should be undertaken to all rooms within domestic properties, where daylight is required, including living rooms, kitchens and bedrooms. The BRE guide states that windows to bathrooms, toilets, storerooms, circulation areas and garages need not be analysed. These room types are non-habitable and do not have a requirement for daylight.

3.4.3 The BRE guide states that the tests may also be applied to non-domestic buildings where there is a reasonable expectation of daylight. The BRE guide explains that this would normally include schools, hospitals, hotels and hostels, small workshops and some offices. The BRE guide is not explicit in terms of which types of offices it regards as having a requirement for daylight. However, it is widely accepted amongst consultants and local authorities, that for planning purposes, offices (which are commercial in nature) do not have a requirement for daylight. The point is touched on in the 'Daylighting and Sunlighting' guidance note published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), which gives guidance to surveyors on how to produce their reports:

3.4.4 “The report should establish the limits of the assessment. For example, existing commercial premises are rarely assessed for loss of amenity.”

3.4.5 The BRE guide contains two tests which measure diffuse daylight:

Test 1 Vertical Sky Component

3.4.6 The Vertical Sky Component is a measure of available skylight at a given point on a vertical plane. Diffuse daylight may be adversely affected if after a development the Vertical Sky Component is both less than 27% and less than 0.8 times its former value.

3.4.7 The BRE guide states that the total amount of skylight can be calculated by finding the Vertical Sky Component at the centre of each main window. However, the guide states that if there would be a significant loss of light to the main window but the room also has one or more smaller windows, an overall Vertical Sky Component may be derived by weighting each Vertical Sky Component element in accordance with the proportion of the total glazing area represented by its window.

Test 2 Daylight Distribution

3.4.8 The distribution of daylight within a room can be calculated by plotting the ‘no sky line’. The no sky line is a line which separates areas of the working plane that do and do not have a direct view of the sky. Daylight may be adversely affected if, after the development, the area of the working plane in a room which can receive direct skylight is reduced to less than 0.8 times its former value.

3.4.9 The BRE guide states that both the total amount of skylight (Vertical Sky Component) and its distribution within the building (Daylight Distribution) are important. The BRE guide states that the daylight distribution calculation can only be carried out where room layouts are known. It states that using estimated room layouts is likely to give inaccurate results and is not recommended. Therefore, we don’t endorse the practice of applying the test based on assumed room layouts. However, we can provide additional daylight distribution data upon request by the local authority, if neighbouring room layout information is confirmed.

3.5 Sunlight availability to Windows

3.5.1 The BRE sunlight tests should be applied to all main living rooms and conservatories which have a window which faces within 90 degrees of due south. The BRE guide states that kitchens and bedrooms are less important, although care should be taken not to block too much sunlight. It also states that normally loss of sunlight need not be analysed to kitchens and bedrooms, except for bedrooms which also comprise a living space. The tests should also be applied to non-domestic buildings where there is a particular requirement for sunlight.

3.5.2 The test is intended to be applied to main windows which face within 90 degrees of due south. However, the BRE guide explains that if the main window faces within 90 degrees of due north, but a secondary window faces within 90 degrees of due south, sunlight to the secondary window should be checked. For completeness, we have tested all windows which face within 90 degrees of due south. The BRE guide states that sunlight availability may be adversely affected if the centre of the window:

- receives less than 25% of annual probable sunlight hours, or less than 5% of annual probable sunlight hours between 21 September and 21 March and
- receives less than 0.8 times its former sunlight hours during either period and
- has a reduction in sunlight received over the whole year greater than 4% of annual probable sunlight hours.

3.6 Overshadowing to Gardens and Open Spaces

3.6.1 The availability of sunlight should be checked for all open spaces where sunlight is required. This would normally include:

- Gardens, usually the main back garden of a house
- Parks and playing fields
- Children's playgrounds
- Outdoor swimming pools and paddling pools
- Sitting out areas, such as those between non-domestic buildings and in public squares
- Focal points for views such as a group of monuments or fountains.

3.6.2 One way to consider overshadowing is by preparing shadow plots. However, the BRE guide states that it must be borne in mind that nearly all structures will create areas of new shadow, and some degree of transient overshadowing is to be expected. Therefore, shadow plots are of limited use as interpretation of the plots is subjective. Shadow plots have not been undertaken as part of this assessment.

3.6.3 The BRE guide also contains an objective overshadowing test which has been adopted for the purpose of this assessment. The guide recommends that at least 50% of the area of each amenity space listed above should receive at least two hours of sunlight on 21 March. If as a result of new development an existing garden or amenity area does not meet the above, and the area which can receive two hours of sunlight on 21 March is less than 0.8 times its former value, then the loss of light is likely to be noticeable.

4 RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT

4.1 Windows & Amenity Areas Considered

4.1.1 The aim of the assessment is to assess the impact of the development on the light receivable by the neighbouring residential property at 10 Halsend.

4.1.2 The images in Appendix 1 identify the windows we have assessed. Appendix 2 lists the detailed numerical daylight and sunlight test results. Overshadowing to gardens and open spaces data and contour drawings are provided in Appendix 3.

4.2 Daylight to Windows

Vertical Sky Component

4.2.1 All windows at 10 Halsend pass the Vertical Sky Component test.

Daylight Distribution

4.2.2 We have undertaken the Daylight Distribution test where room layouts are known. All rooms pass the daylight distribution test.

4.3 Sunlight to Windows

4.3.1 All windows that face within 90 degrees of due south have been tested for direct sunlight. All windows pass both the total annual sunlight hours test and the winter sunlight hours test. The proposed development therefore satisfies the BRE direct sunlight to windows requirements.

4.4 Overshadowing to Gardens and Open Spaces

4.4.1 All gardens and open spaces tested meet the BRE recommendations.

4.5 Conclusion

4.5.1 In summary, the numerical results in this assessment demonstrate that the proposed development will have a low impact on the light receivable by its neighbouring properties. In our opinion, the proposed development sufficiently safeguards the daylight and sunlight amenity of the neighbouring properties.

5 CLARIFICATIONS

5.1 General

5.1.1 The report provided is solely for the use of the client and no liability to anyone else is accepted.

5.1.2 The assessment is limited to assessing daylight, sunlight and overshadowing to neighbouring windows, gardens and open spaces as set out in section 2.2, 3.2 and 3.3 of the BRE Guide.

5.1.3 The assessment is based on the information listed in section 2 of this report. The assessment has been undertaken without access to the proposed development site or neighbouring properties.

5.1.4 This assessment does not calculate the effects of trees and hedges on daylight, sunlight and overshadowing to gardens. The BRE guide states that it is usual to ignore the effect of existing trees.

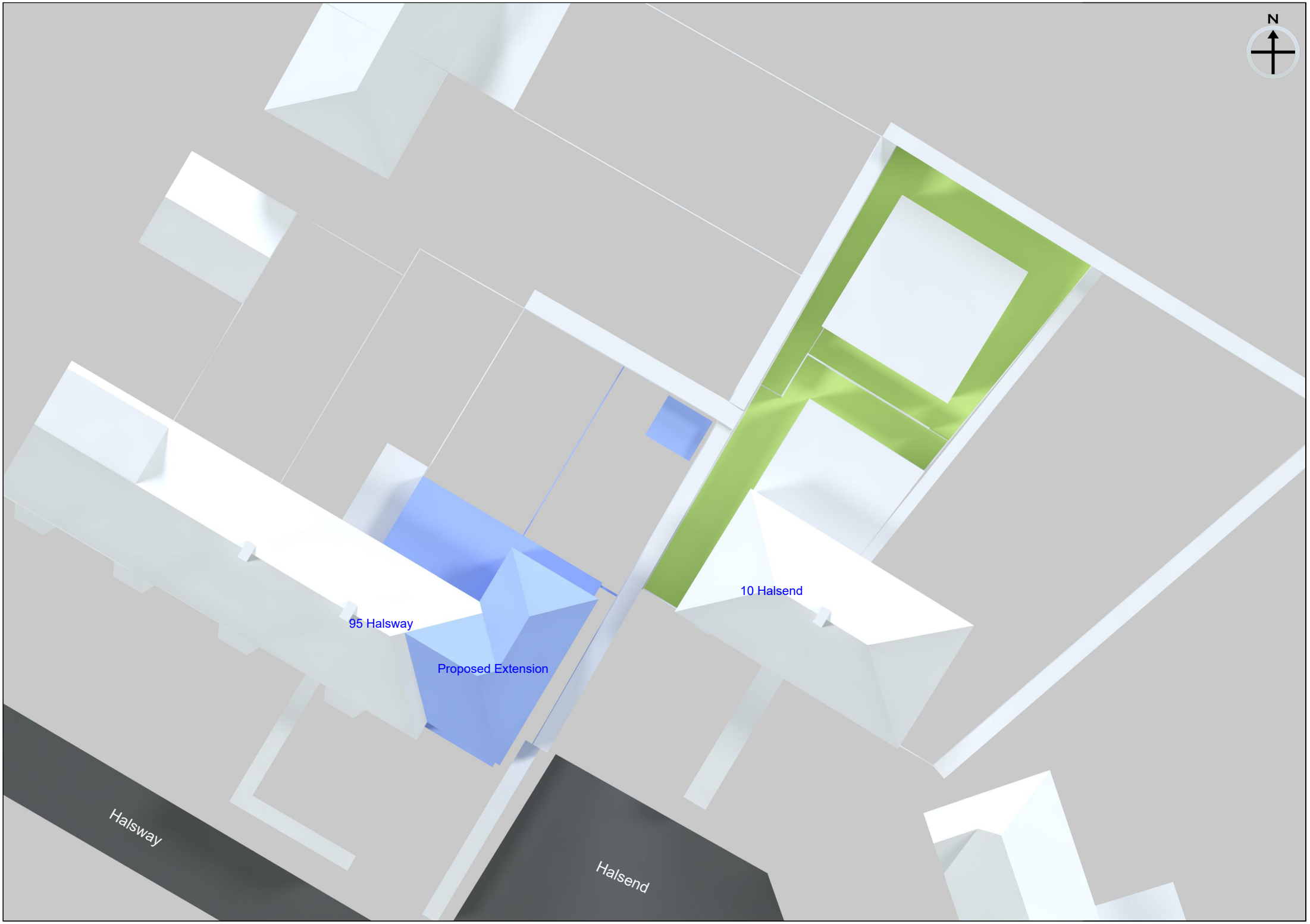
5.1.5 We have undertaken the assessment following the guidelines of the RICS publication “Surveying Safely”. Where limited access or information is available, assumptions will have been made which may affect the conclusions reached in this report. For example, where neighbouring room uses are not known, we will either make a reasonable assumption regarding the use based on external observations, or take the prudent approach of assuming the room is of domestic purposes.

5.1.6 This report is based upon and subject to the scope of work set out in Right of Light Consulting’s quotation and standard terms and conditions.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

WINDOW & GARDEN KEY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Proposed Extension
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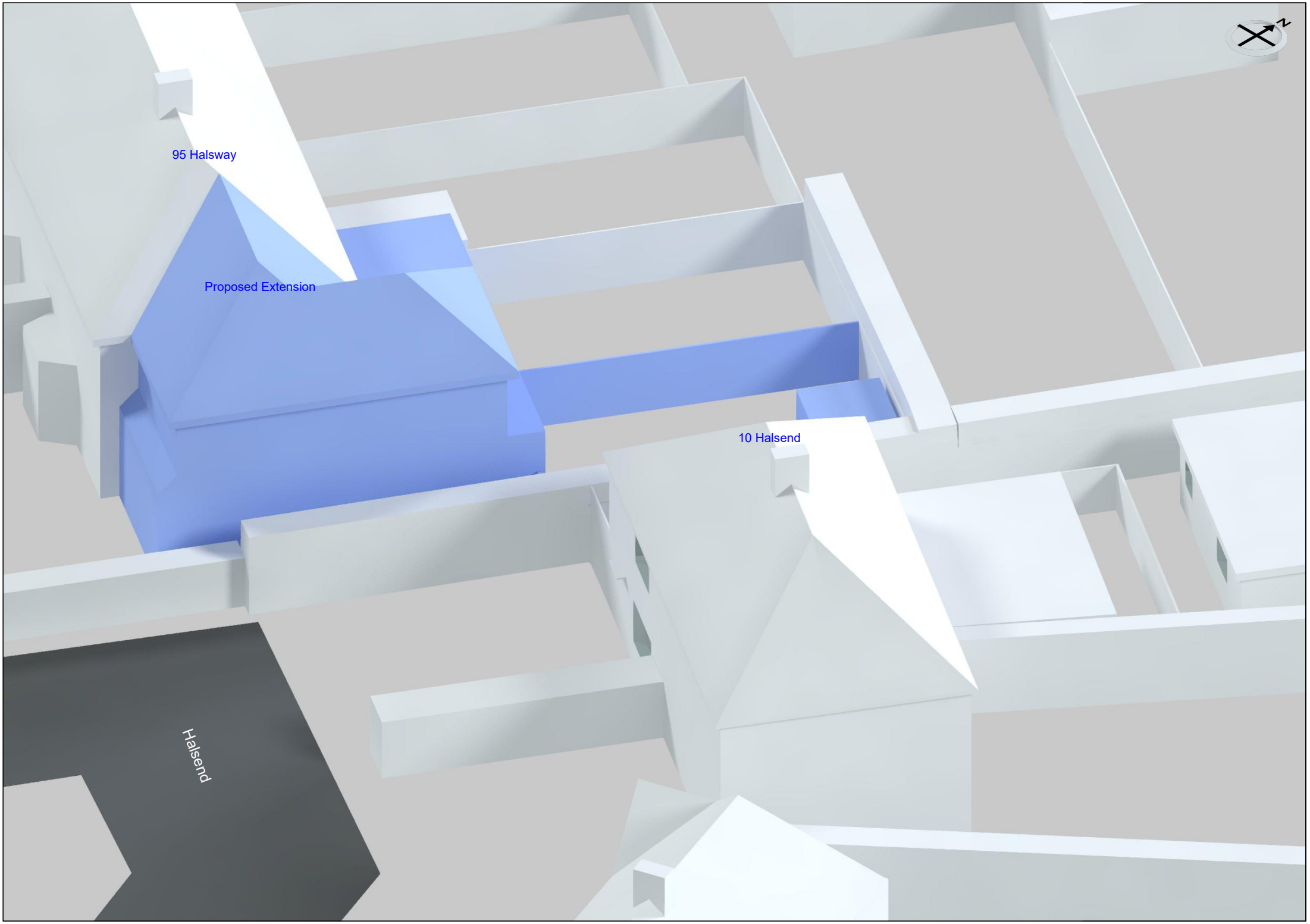
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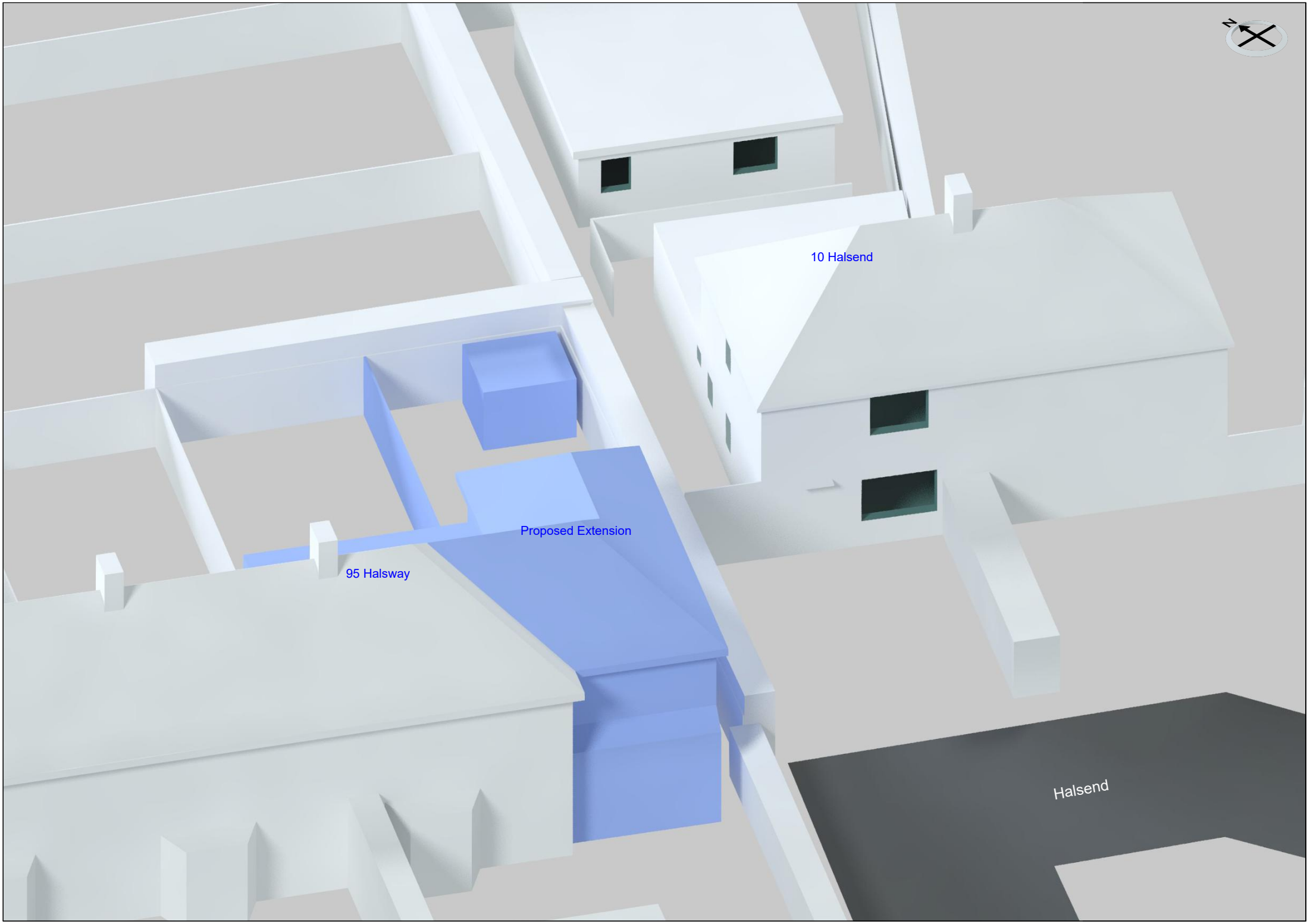
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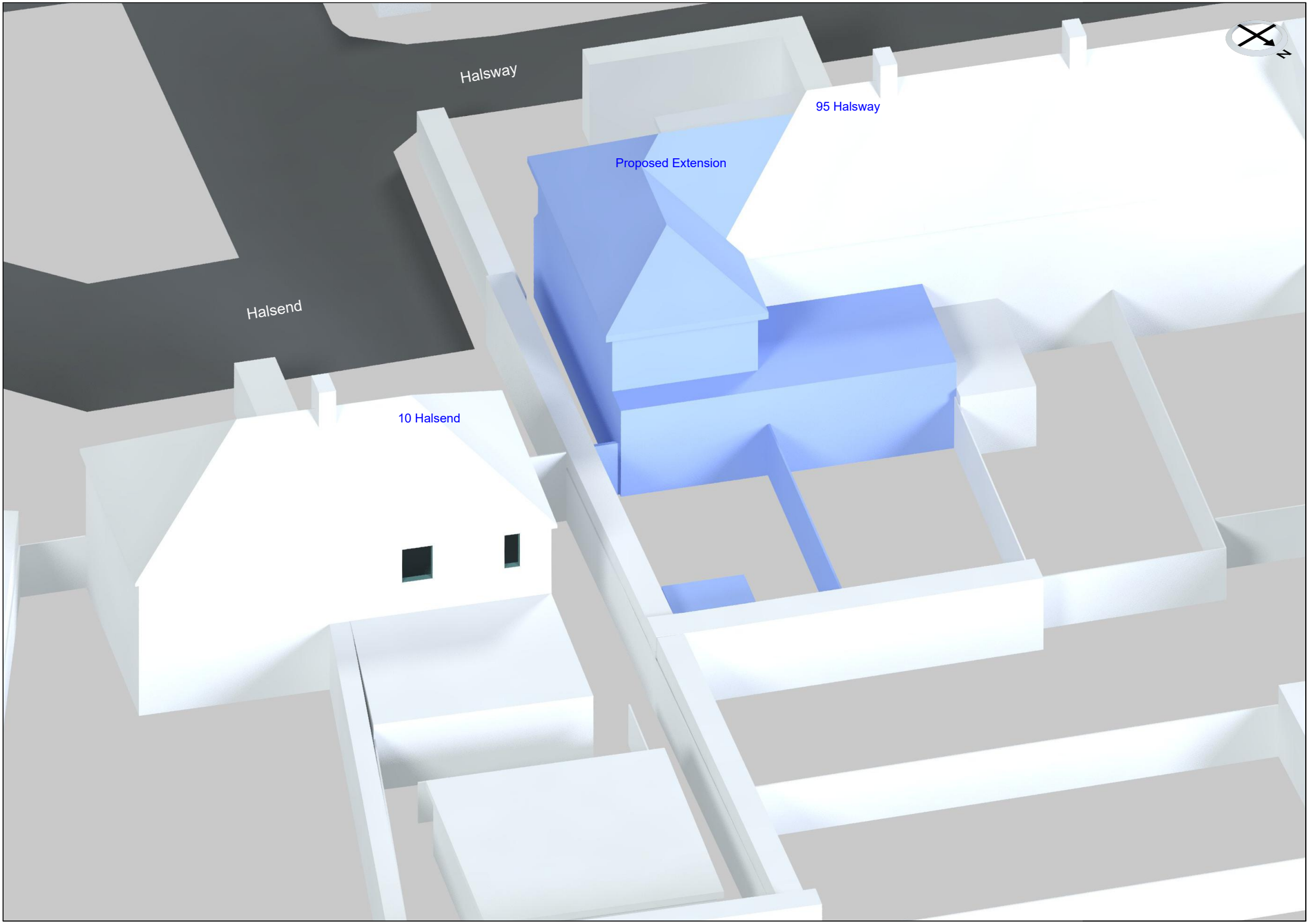
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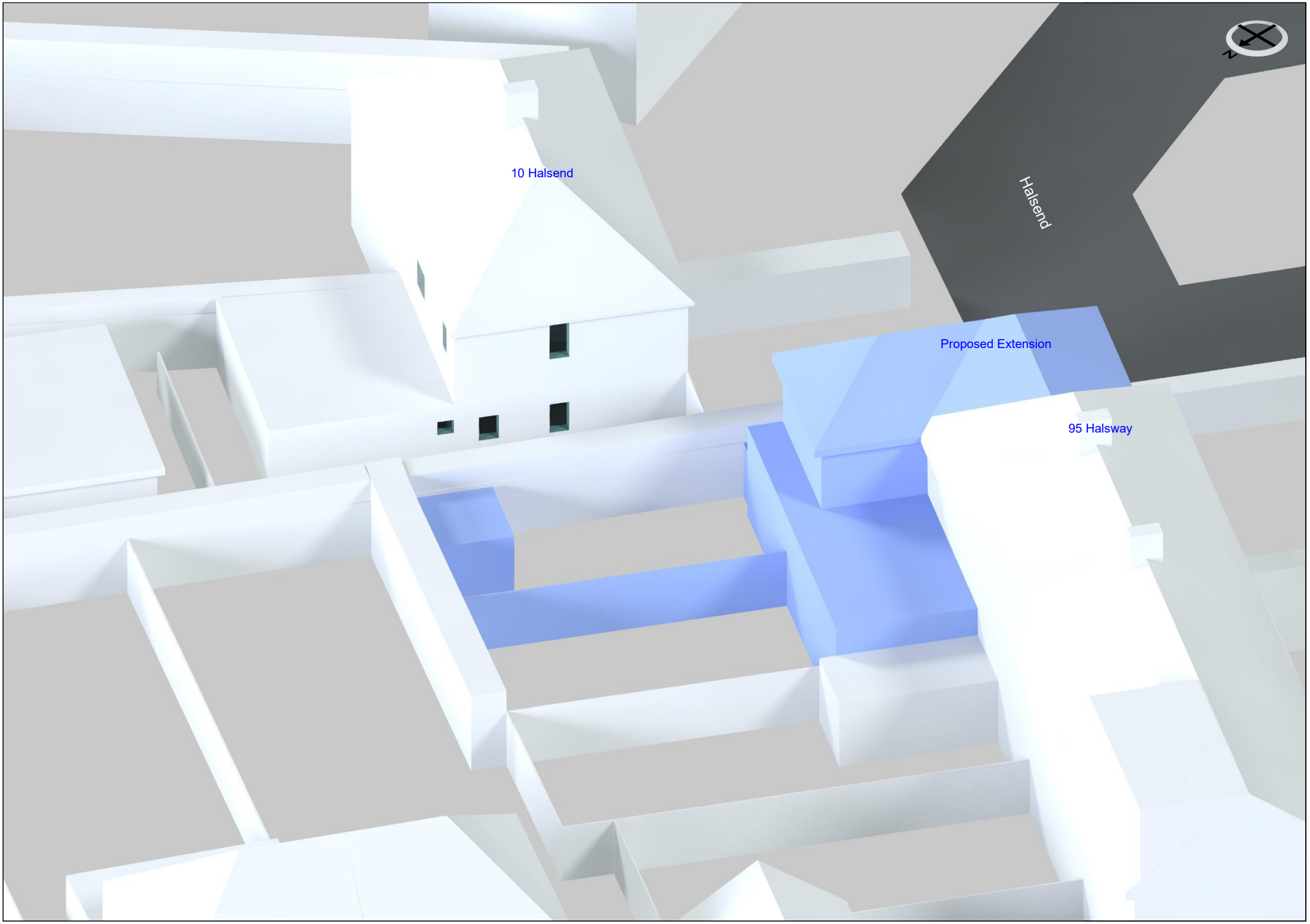
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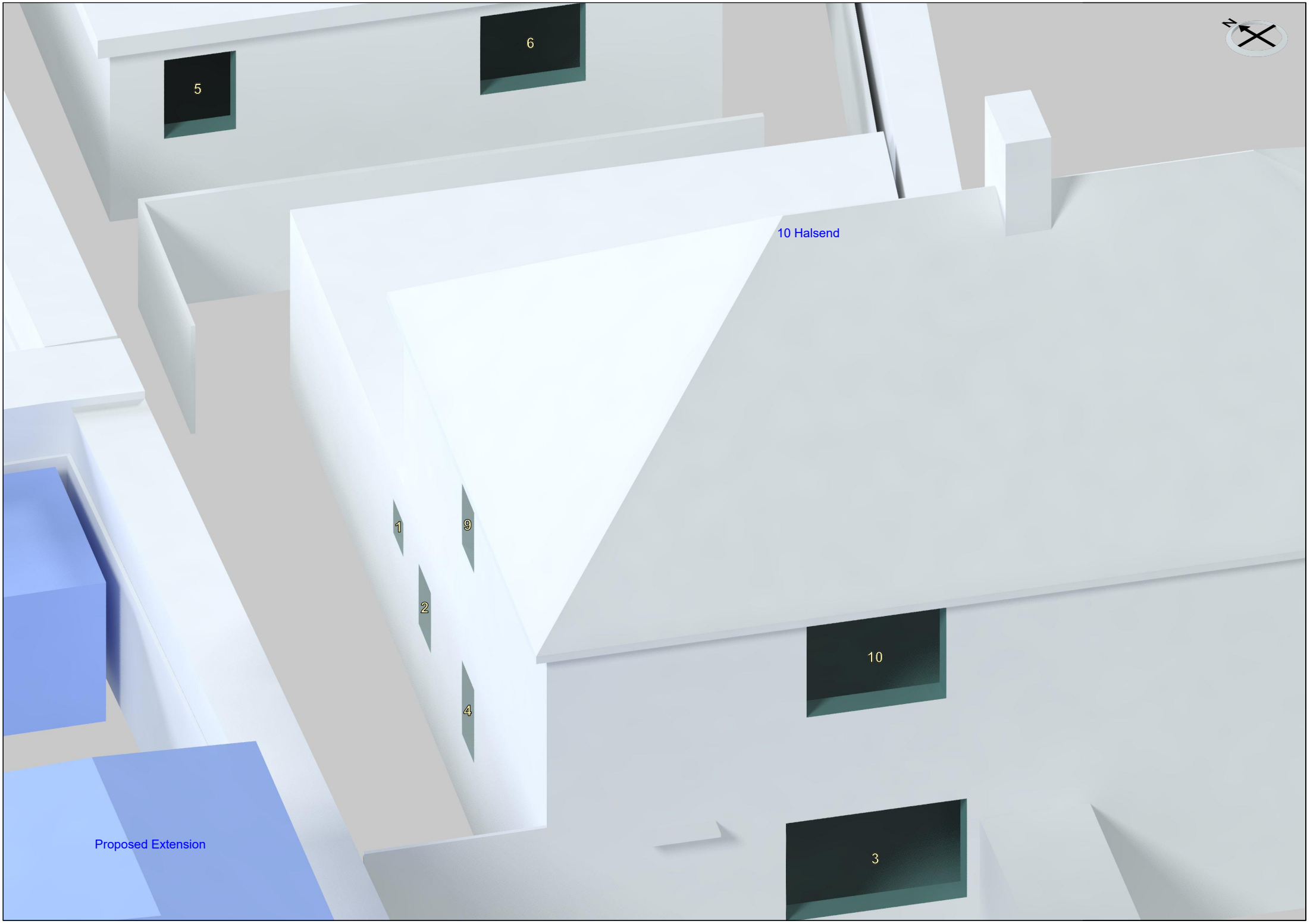
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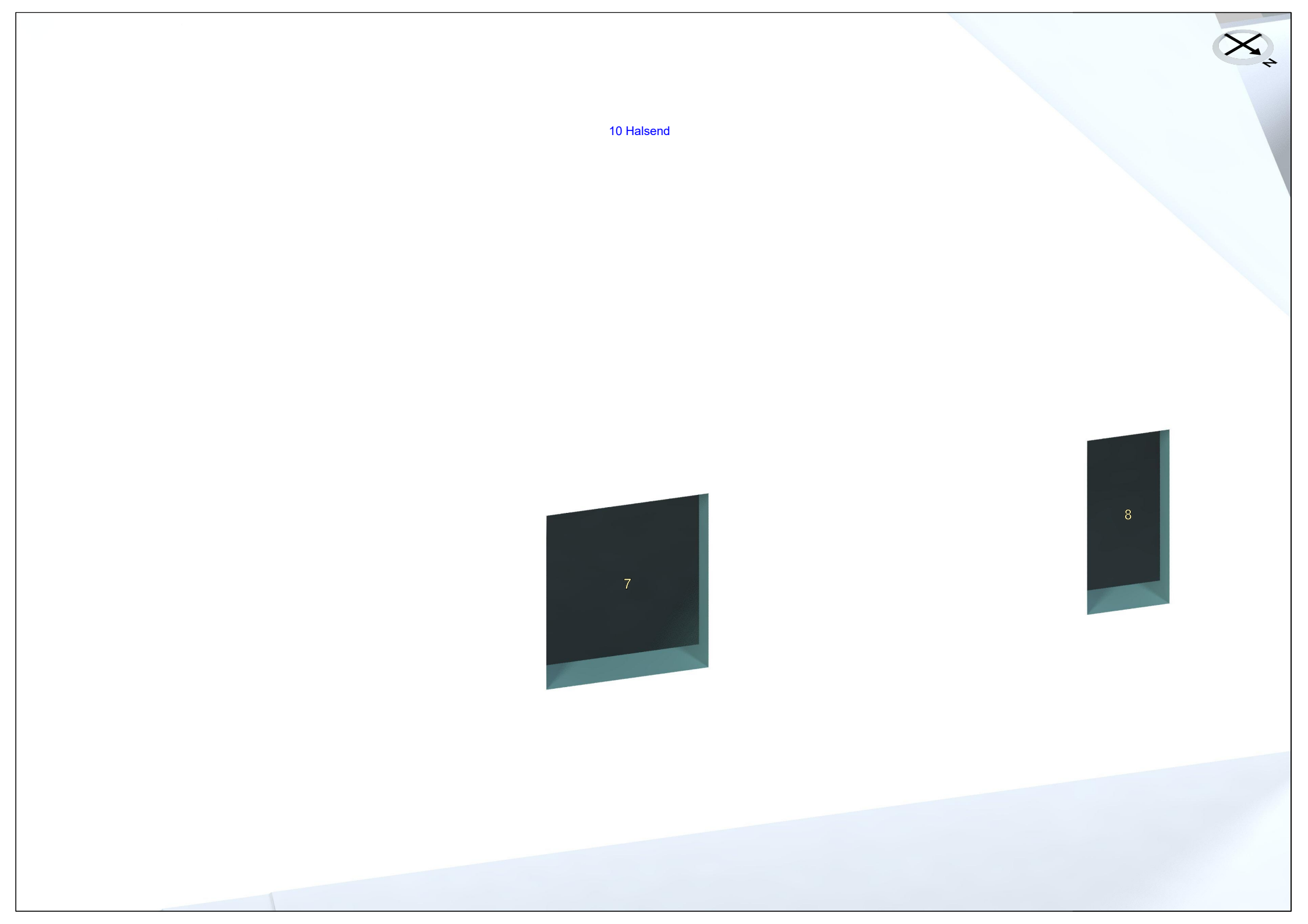


APPENDIX 2

DAYLIGHT AND SUNLIGHT RESULTS

Appendix 2 - Vertical Sky Component
95 Halsway, Hayes UB3 3JU

Reference	Room Use	Vertical Sky Component			
		Before	After	Loss	Ratio
10 Halsend					
Ground Floor					
Window 1	WC	29.8%	29.3%	0.5%	0.98
Window 2	Living/Kitchen	27.3%	26.6%	0.7%	0.97
Window 3	Living/Kitchen	34.0%	32.5%	1.5%	0.96
Window 4	Domestic	27.1%	26.0%	1.1%	0.96
Window 5	Kitchen	28.2%	27.8%	0.4%	0.99
Window 6	Bedroom	27.0%	27.0%	0.0%	1.0
First Floor					
Window 7	Bedroom	37.7%	37.7%	0.0%	1.0
Window 8	WC	37.7%	37.7%	0.0%	1.0
Window 9	Hallway & Staircase	35.6%	35.2%	0.4%	0.99
Window 10	Bedroom	35.9%	35.3%	0.6%	0.98

Appendix 2 - Daylight Distribution
95 Halsway, Hayes UB3 3JU

Reference	Room Use	Daylight Distribution			
		Before	After	Loss	Ratio
10 Halsend					
Ground Floor					
Window 1	WC	31%	31%	0%	1.0
Windows 2 & 3	Living/Kitchen	96%	96%	0%	1.0
Window 4	Domestic	96%	96%	0%	1.0
Window 5	Kitchen	80%	80%	0%	1.0
Window 6	Bedroom	85%	85%	0%	1.0
Window 9	Staircase	9%	9%	0%	1.0
First Floor					
Window 7	Bedroom	96%	96%	0%	1.0
Window 8	WC	94%	94%	0%	1.0
Window 9	Hallway	78%	78%	0%	1.0
Window 10	Bedroom	96%	96%	0%	1.0

Appendix 2 - Sunlight to Windows
95 Halsway, Hayes UB3 3JU

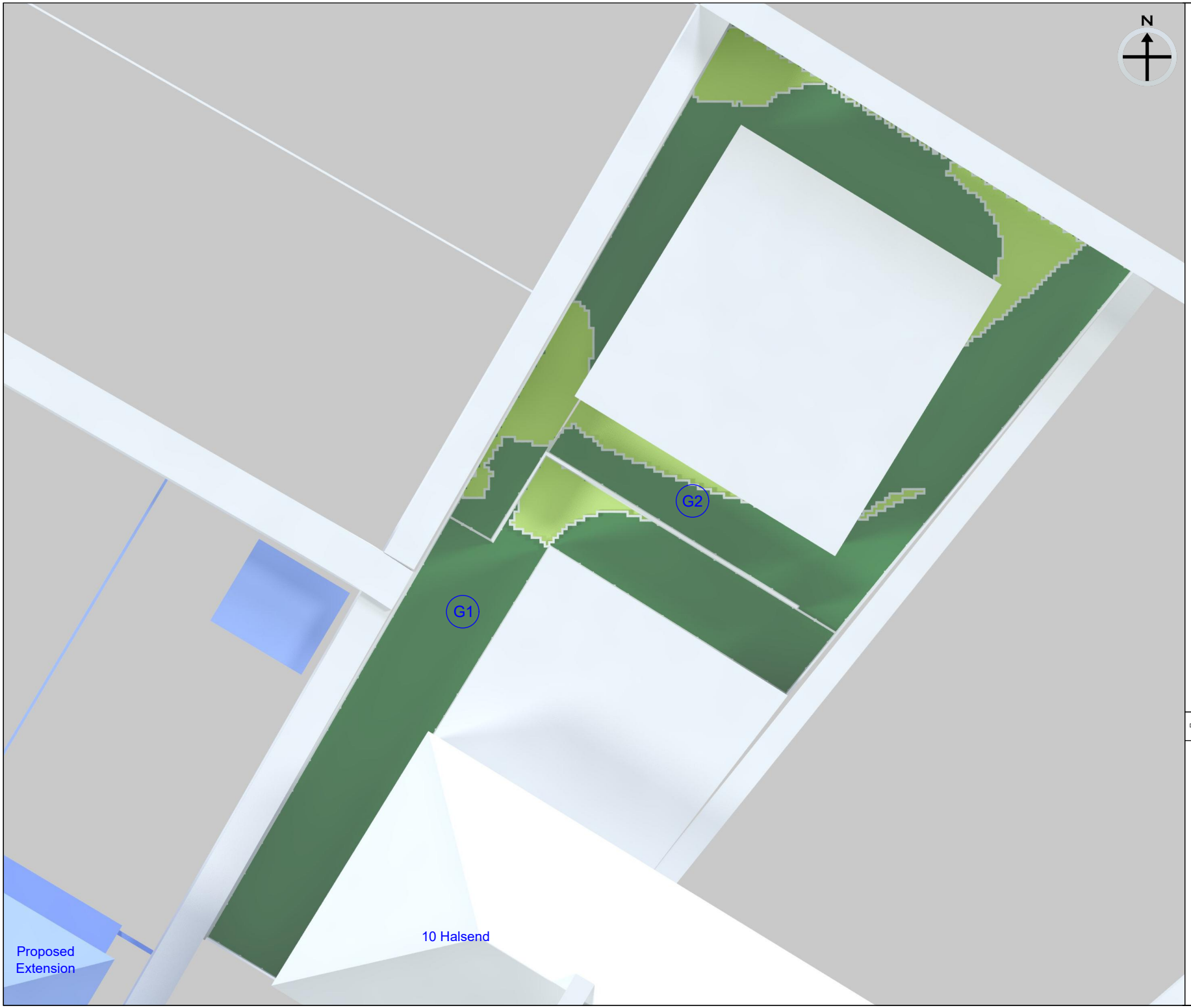
Reference	Room Use	Sunlight to Windows							
		Total Sunlight Hours				Winter Sunlight Hours			
		Before	After	Loss	Ratio	Before	After	Loss	Ratio
10 Halsend									
Ground Floor									
Window 3	Living/Kitchen	71%	66%	5%	0.93	25%	24%	1%	0.96
Window 5	Kitchen	59%	59%	0%	1.0	18%	18%	0%	1.0
Window 6	Bedroom	63%	63%	0%	1.0	17%	17%	0%	1.0
First Floor									
Window 10	Bedroom	72%	71%	1%	0.99	27%	26%	1%	0.96

APPENDIX 3

OVERSHADOWING TO GARDENS AND OPEN SPACES

Appendix 3 - Overshadowing to Gardens and Open Spaces
95 Halsway, Hayes UB3 3JU

Reference	Total Area	Area receiving at least two hours of sunlight on 21st March									
		Before			After			Loss			Ratio
10 Halsend											
Ground Floor											
Garden 1	38.29 m2	2.71	m2	7%	2.71	m2	7%	0.0	m2	0%	1.0
Garden 2	61.33 m2	14.29	m2	23%	14.29	m2	23%	0.0	m2	0%	1.0



Key

- Receives under two hours sunlight on 21st March before and after the development.
- Receives under two hours sunlight on 21st March before the development; but will receive at least two hours sunlight on 21st March after the development (light improved).
- Receives at least two hours sunlight on 21st March before the development; but will receive under two hours sunlight after the development (light loss).
- Receives at least two hours sunlight on 21st March before and after the development.
- G1 Neighbouring Gardens and Amenity Areas

Drawing Title: Appendix 3 - Overshadowing to Gardens and Open Spaces

RIGHT OF LIGHT CONSULTING
Chartered Surveyors

Right of Light Consulting
Burley House
15 - 17 High Street
Rayleigh
Essex
SS6 7EW
TEL 0800 197 4836
E-MAIL enquiries@right-of-light.co.uk
WEBSITE www.right-of-light.co.uk