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9. Potential sand deposit at 'Rossview', Frankford Road.

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This deposit was visited on 16 June 1972. It lies 0.8 km south-east of the Holwell turnoff on the southern side of the Frankford road, [DQ235805].

The exposure was made when digging a water hole and consists of 0.3 m of surface soil, 0.9 m of fat sand and 0.9 m of clean coarse-grained sand containing carbonaceous streaks. A strong flow of water comes from the bottom layer.

The excavation is situated on a medium slope of 1 in 4, above the main road, approximately 50 m to the south, where sandstone is exposed in the bank. A further 50 m north swamp vegetation indicates relatively moist conditions during wetter periods.

The area has been mapped by Gulline (1973) as Liffey Sandstone correlate, a sequence of sandstone, mudstone and coal 15 m in thickness. It is presumed, therefore, that the exposed sand is a weathered upper layer of this formation and that at depth (unknown) hard sandstone would be encountered.

A sizing analysis carried out by the Department of Mines laboratories in Launceston indicates that this material is a moderately sorted sand. The mean value is in the medium sand range and 10% of the material is below the grain size limit for use in structural concrete (see A77 of the Standards Association of Australia). Wet screening at 100  $\mu$ m would be necessary to upgrade this material for this purpose. The sand may find a ready market in the building trade and the fat sand may be similarly marketed. The sample analysed was collected by Mr Rossiter and may not be truly representative of the bottom layer.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The area should be prospected by a hand boring plant or back-hoe to determine:

- (1) The continuity of the sand along the contour.
- (2) Variation in depth of overburden along and upslope.
- (3) Depth of weathering.
- (4) Variation in quality.

A systematic placing of test holes or pits is necessary to facilitate an economic appraisal of the area.

Before any extraction takes place it is most essential that quantities and qualities be determined and the material be evaluated in terms of suitability, treatment necessary (screening and, or, washing), cost of working and market value.

REFERENCE

GULLINE, A.B.; BRAVO, A.P.; NAQVI, I.H. 1973. Geological atlas 1 mile series. Zone 7 Sheet 38 (8215S). Frankford. *Department of Mines, Tasmania.*