

REPORT ON POSSIBILITIES OF UNDERGROUND WATER
AT MT. LESLIE

The Mt. Leslie property is situated on the eastern bank of the South Esk about four miles south of Launceston.

The surface is rather hilly, particularly on the slopes to the river. The more plateau-like tract is very undulating.

The property in the vicinity of the house is occupied wholly by diabase. To the east of the property the country is occupied by the sands, gravels, clays, etc. of the Launceston Tertiary basin.

It is desired by Mr. Grubb that a bore-hole be sunk adjacent to an underground concrete tank which he has recently had built. Diabase outcrops at numerous places around the house and from his experience in the excavation for the tank and elsewhere Mr. Grubb states that the rock is partly weathered and soft to that depth with hard boulders of unweathered diabase.

The only possibility of obtaining supplies of underground water from diabase is from joint planes in the weathered or unweathered rock, particularly the major joint planes. The direction, dip, nature, etc. of these joint planes cannot be seen in surface outcrops at the site nor can they be foretold at depth.

The possibility of encountering water-bearing joint planes in a bore-hole exists, but on the whole the chance of obtaining water is relatively small. However, the chance exists and providing the owner is prepared to take the risk of getting water or not, there is no reason why a bore-hole should not be put down.

In the absence of information as to the jointing, the bore-hole might just as well be sunk vertically as any other way. It is not recommended that a greater depth than 100 feet be drilled if a supply is not obtained before that depth.

The quantity of water cannot be foretold, but can only be revealed by the bore hole. The quality of water from diabase should be generally good, but the actual quality can only be determined by testing it after the bore hole has been sunk.

Signed (P.B. Nye)
GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST.

Launceston,
31/7/29