

Slope stability at Rosevears

S. Elmer

The Town and Country Planning Commission has requested an examination of the stability of the subdivision at Rosevears.

The entire area is underlain by Tertiary sediments. The slope is undulating with an average slope angle of 10°, but which is steeper than 20° locally. Slips are known to occur in Tertiary sediments that have slopes within this range. The sediments have a very high content of clay which is characteristically very sensitive and known to be responsible for slips in the Tamar Valley region. There is one recent slip in the area (approximately 50 x 70 feet in size) and clay is slowly being extruded out near the shore, just outside of the subdivision. From the appearance of the ground, it is likely that there is at least one old slide in the vicinity of the house occupied by Mrs Eastoe. On the basis of these observations, building cannot be recommended.

The clays are not well exposed, and further investigation could be undertaken by digging several trial pits with a back-hoe. This operation should only be carried out under geological supervision as it could induce new sliding if the pits are not carefully sited.

REFERENCE

MATTHEWS, W.L. 1968. Stability of block of land-Rosevears. *Tech.Rep.Dep. Mines Tasm.* 12:115-116.

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