

Examination of property at Boat Harbour Beach.

W.L. Matthews

Mr H.E. Watts made enquiries concerning the stability of a block of land with a shack at Boat Harbour Beach, that he is interested in purchasing. The block is situated in the eastern part of the settlement on the south side of the access road to the beach.

The area has been subject to widespread land movements in the past and this particular block has been affected by a landslip in recent times causing damage to the shack. Two arc shaped cracks in the ground can be seen behind the shack and the Wynyard Municipal Council Technical Officer states that this movement is part of a larger movement that occurred about three years ago when ten shacks and a part of the road were damaged.

The material underlying the block is basalt talus derived from the deep weathering of the Tertiary basalt that occurs on the steep slopes in the area. The slope of this block is about 10° and an excavation about 4 ft deep has been dug to build the shack and a further cutting about 4 ft high occurs in front of the block on the roadside.

Movement in this area is likely to continue in the future and there is therefore some risk involved in purchasing or spending money on the repair of this shack as new movements could make the building an unsafe place of residence.

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