

Report on the landslip risk at the Land Australia proposed subdivision, East Devonport.

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This area was examined on 20 April 1972 after a request from Lester, Franks & Co., Surveyors of Devonport, on 12 April 1972.

The area shown on Lester, Franks plan 1632, of 12 March 1972, forms part of a plateau of weathered basalt (Devonport, Sheet No. 29 of the 1 inch Geological Atlas). The basalt overlies Tertiary sands and clays but these are not seen in the area.

The basalt is deeply weathered to the red basalt soil near the surface and to yellow gritty plastic clay at depth. Depths to the gradation into yellow clay vary from 5-8 m in flat areas down to about one metre on slopes. Where artificial cuts have been made, as in the approaches to the Victoria Bridge, the yellow clays representing deeply weathered basalt can be seen in road banks.

The slope running from Blocks 70-74 down to the East Devonport to Launceston road to the south-west of the subdivision has failed on several occasions in the last year, and before failure was at an angle of 19-22°.

This slip failure may be expected to continue and will cut back into the slope supporting Blocks 70-74 which themselves lie at angles from 15-17°.

The development of these blocks cannot therefore be recommended and the preservation of this slope by the planting of trees would be a useful preventative measure. Storm water flow should not be allowed to enter this slope and drainage pipes in the vicinity should be of such a construction that slight movement will not cause leakage of water into the slope.

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