

Slope stability at Orana Place, Riverside.

P.C. Stevenson

At the request of the Municipality of Beaconsfield the area of Orana Place was examined on 20 June 1972, in company with the Council's Engineer, Mr K. Hudson.

Referring to the Launceston Geological atlas, Sheet 39 (Longman et al, 1964), it appears that the area consists of Tertiary sediments overlying Jurassic dolerite, outcrops of which are seen at the Eccleston Road end of Orana Place and have been mapped about half way along Fort Street.

The Tertiary sediments vary from soft coarse sands to hard cemented ironstone up to 8 inches thick and to soft plastic grey clays. The whole series is somewhat masked by a cover of soil wash containing boulders and stones.

There are few signs of instability in the area, but in the position marked on the accompanying sketch (fig. 1) there is evidence of a past slope failure and grey clay appears to be present.

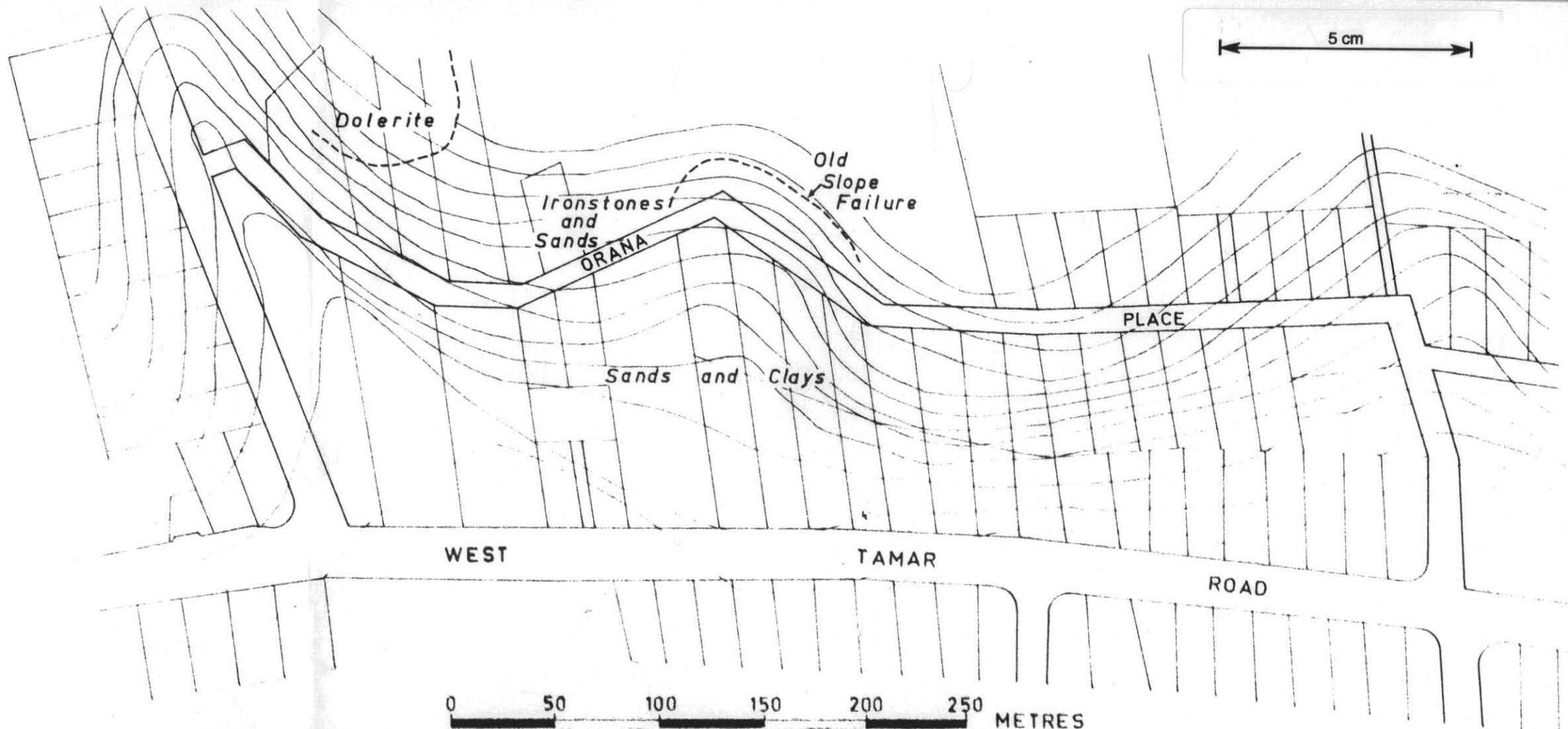
Ironstones and sands are present just to the south of the road bend and these more stable rocks appear to have limited the failure.

It is suggested therefore, that the road reconstruction should, as far as possible, aim at as little reshaping of the present slopes as possible with no further steepening. At the road bend the same applies, with the advantages that, as failure has probably already taken place, stability has increased by slope flattening and that if any low banks are required they can be sited to take advantage of the ironstone beds.

REFERENCE

LONGMAN, M.J.; MATTHEWS, W.L.; ROWE, S.M. 1964. Geological atlas 1 mile series. Zone 7 Sheet 39 (8315S). Launceston. *Department of Mines, Tasmania.*

[26 July 1972]



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July 1972

SKETCH MAP OF ORANA PLACE RIVERSIDE

2/2