

The landslip situation at Aerodrome Hill, St Helens

P.C. Stevenson

This area, which has been the subject of previous reports (Mortimore, 1970; Jennings, 1973) was examined by the writer on 8 March 1973. The purpose of this visit was to examine the present condition of the earth movements and to verify the boundaries of the area to be proclaimed a landslip area under section 431A of the Local Government Act, 1962.

The landslips are still evident, although because of the dry summer little actual movement appears to be taking place. There is no doubt however that with increased rainfall during winter movement will be renewed.

The most obvious movements are situated as follows:

- (1) Below the access track downslope from blocks 4, 5 and 6. Ground cracks and downslope movement of earth slices are in evidence. Trees are falling on to the beach.
- (2) The seaward ends of blocks 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and associated parts of the access track. A slip scar crosses all these blocks and has caused a 1-1.5 m drop in the road. The land below the track is also involved and disrupted ground reaches down to the shore.
- (3) The shore cliffs below blocks 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 are collapsing. Very large (8 m³) blocks of soft conglomerate have recently fallen on to the beach and are currently being destroyed by wave action. Many trees have fallen.
- (4) Small falls of sand and underlying clay continue to occur in the road cuttings above the sealed road on the uphill side of blocks 1 to 10.

The area previously proposed as a landslip area by the Department of Mines (letter to Council of the Municipality of Portland, 6 February 1973) is intended to include all areas that may be involved in landslip movements in the foreseeable future.

REFERENCES

- MORTIMORE, I.R. 1970. *Landslips below Treloggens Track, Lower Aerodrome Hill, St Helens*. (Unpublished Report to Portland Council).
- JENNINGS, I.B. 1973. Landslip on northern slopes of Aerodrome Hill, St Helens. *Tech.Rep.Dep.Mines Tasm.* 15:87-90.

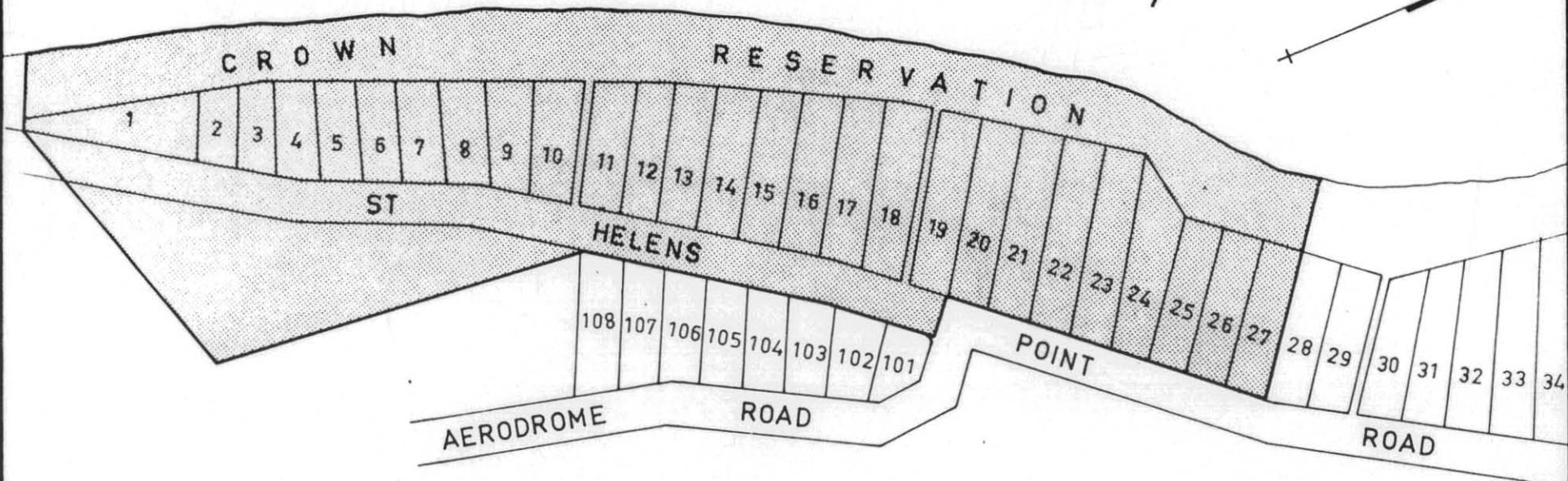
[20 March 1973]

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LANDSLIP AREA AERODROME HILL ST HELENS

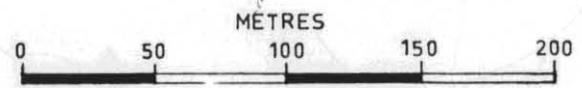
G E O R G E S

B A Y



 Proclaimed landslip area.

GEOLOGIST : P.C.STEVENSON MARCH 1973



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