

## Underground water prospects near Westbury.

W.L. Matthews

Mr K.J. Pitt requested information on the underground water prospects on his property 'The Pines', which is situated about 6 km north of Westbury.

The property is flat-lying with a slight rise to the north. It is underlain by clay with some gravel areas in the northern part. Basalt probably underlies the clay areas at shallow depth as it occurs around the western margin of the property on the slopes down to the Meander River to the west and north and occasional boulders can be seen in bulldozed water holes on the western part of the property. Basalt was struck in test bores about 3 km to the south and about 5 km to the east.

As basalt probably underlies the property, there is a good chance that water would be obtained in a bore as basalt is a reliable source of water. Two wells on the property have encountered reasonably good supplies and the two test bores drilled in the district obtained quantities suitable for small-scale irrigation use. The quality of the water obtained in the wells and in the test bores has been good and could be used for most purposes, including irrigation. As the property is relatively flat, there is not very much advantage in drilling in one area in preference to another as the depths of the bores needed would be similar (except perhaps in the northern part of the property). In selecting a site, the most convenient area should be selected *i.e.* with respect to power supplies and area of use.

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