

UR1974-37

Stability of a block of land at Rosevears, West Tamar.

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A building block [DQ999253] at Rosevears Drive, owned by A.T. & S.E. Beauchamp was examined on 12 March 1974 at the request of the Town and Country Planning Commission (Proposal plan Bd-641).

Three trial pits were dug.

Pit 1. South-eastern corner of the block; flat ground.

Depth (m)

0-0.6	Black topsoil and black fissured clay.
0.6-3.0	Brown clay
	Vane strengths: 12-22 kPa (peak), 5-10 kPa (residual)

Pit 2. Middle of the slope (16°), 26 m from northern boundary.

Depth (m)

0-0.6	Brown topsoil.
0.6-3.0	Brown clay, finely fissured, dessication cracks at 30 cm intervals.
	Strength higher than for Pit 1.

Pit 3. North-eastern corner of block, near foot of slope (15°).

Depth (m)

0-0.75	Brown topsoil.
0.75-3.5	Brown clay becoming grey mottled.
	Vane strengths: 26-16 kPa (peak), 8.5-6 kPa (residual)

These slopes are in high shrinkage clay, are quite steep for this material, and show slight and inconclusive signs of movement.

It would be unwise to build on the slopes, but the flat parts of the block can be used if foundations and drains are designed in the full knowledge of the landslip potential.

[14 May 1974]