

UR1974-80

Stability of land at Tollymore Road, Table Cape.

W.L. Matthews

Mr G.L. Radford owns 5.5 ha of land situated between Tollymore Road and Bass Strait [CQ902667] about 6 km NNW of Wynyard. He proposes to subdivide his land into three blocks, his house being on the middle block.

Most of the land slopes steeply towards the sea, with a narrow strip of relatively flat land along Tollymore Road. The land is underlain by deeply weathered Tertiary basalt and by soil and talus derived from it.

It is unknown whether there are any sedimentary layers interbedded with the basalt at this locality.

The land is subject to landslips as is much of the country along the North West Coast where steep slopes are underlain by basalt. Old landslips can be seen on the steep slopes of this locality and the surrounding countryside.

The area of flat land is sufficiently large to enable one house to be built on each of the proposed new blocks with reasonable safety from the effects of landslip. They should be built as far as possible (at least 30 m) from the top of the steeper seaward slope. Care should be taken with the disposal of water from the houses: if excessive amounts of water are allowed to find their way downhill this could aid in promoting further instability.

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