

UR1975_16

Stability of E.G. Clarke's land, Cooe.

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Mr Clarke has subdivided an area of land along Bridport Road [DQ060552] of approximately 0.5 ha. He intends to build a single storey house, with sewerage and storm water connections, and an area of approximately 130 m². He requested advice on the stability of the land.

The block is situated near the edge of a plateau just to the north of the Marist College. In a survey of the stability of the Burnie area in 1963, the entire block was placed within a zone of land not recommended for development. Most of the block is located on relatively flat land behind a steep slope which ascends to approximately 100 m above sea level. Unweathered basalt which is probably *in situ*, occurs in areas of land near the northern boundary of the block. Precambrian quartzite and slate crop out at intervals further down the slope. During the 1963 survey, several small slips of recent activity were mapped on the slope in front of the land. One slip extends towards the top of the slope with the heel probably just extending onto the northern part of the block. A possible old slip occurs near the north-western boundary of the block.

DISCUSSION OF STABILITY

The boundary of the zone not recommended for development in the 1963 survey passes just to the south of the block. The recent examination confirms that it would be unwise to develop most of the block because of its proximity to the steep slope on which slips have occurred in the past. In the south-eastern corner of the block there is an area of fairly flat land approximately 45 m wide. A house sited as near as practicable to this corner of the land should undergo relatively small risk of being affected by landslips. If a house is to be built in this area, it should be ensured that no drainage is allowed to flow down the steep slope in front of it.

[13 February 1975]

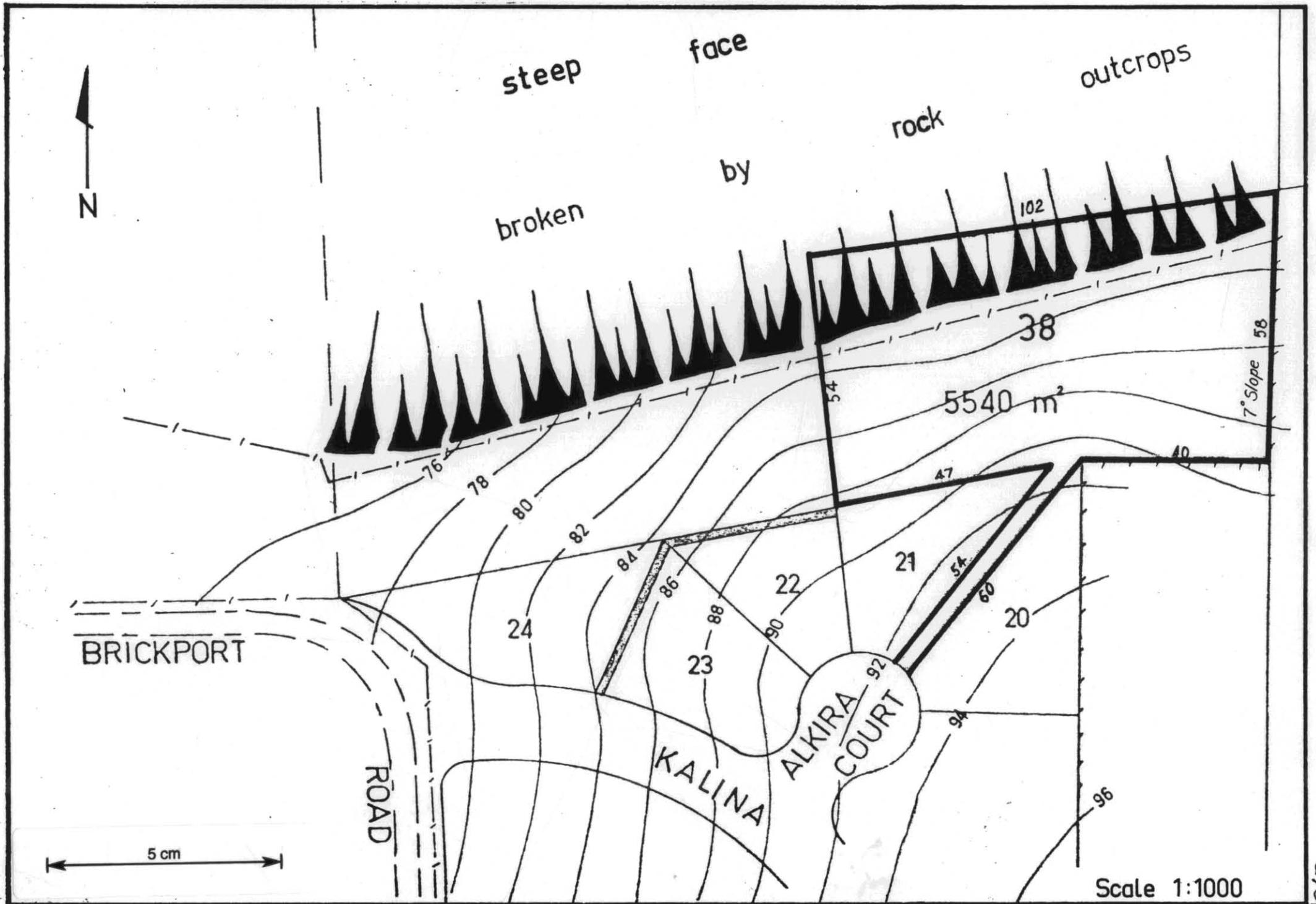


Figure 1