

TASMANIA DEPARTMENT OF MINES
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**Examination of a proposed subdivision,
Orana Place, North Riverside**

by P. C. Stevenson

A proposed subdivision in Orana Place, North Riverside, was examined on 1 August. The blocks slope at angles from 14° near the top to about 25° lower down and this convex slope is the first cause of concern. On the soft clays that are apparent this profile commonly indicates a previous history of failure, or at least a continuing excessive soil creep.

Further the site is very ill drained and water is being continuously added by drainage from the road above. Where the road fill has collapsed across block 2 running water can be heard, but whether from a made drain or from a natural source is not clear.

The hill slopes above the blocks show many dolerite boulders, and their presence, while certainly deriving from the higher slopes above, could possibly indicate the presence of this rock at some depth below the surface.

No real evidence exists of actual deep seated failure on the block's, nevertheless the features given above do not encourage a belief in the continued stability of the site.

It would be fair to say that the stability appears marginal unless it can be shown from deep trial pits or other subsurface investigation that plastic clays are not present, and that the material is more free draining than appears on the surface.

[5 August 1975]

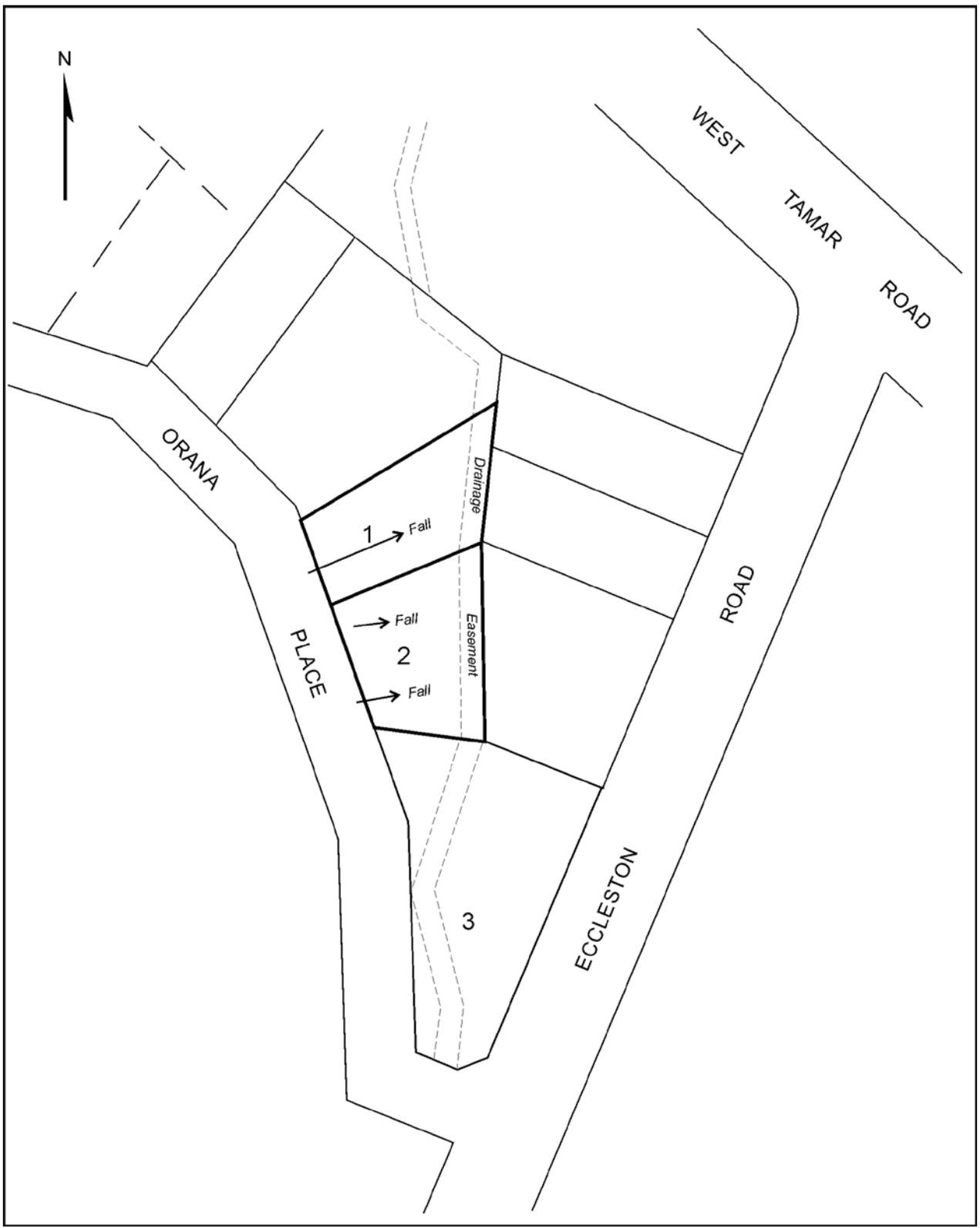


Figure 1