384131

ST LEONARDS

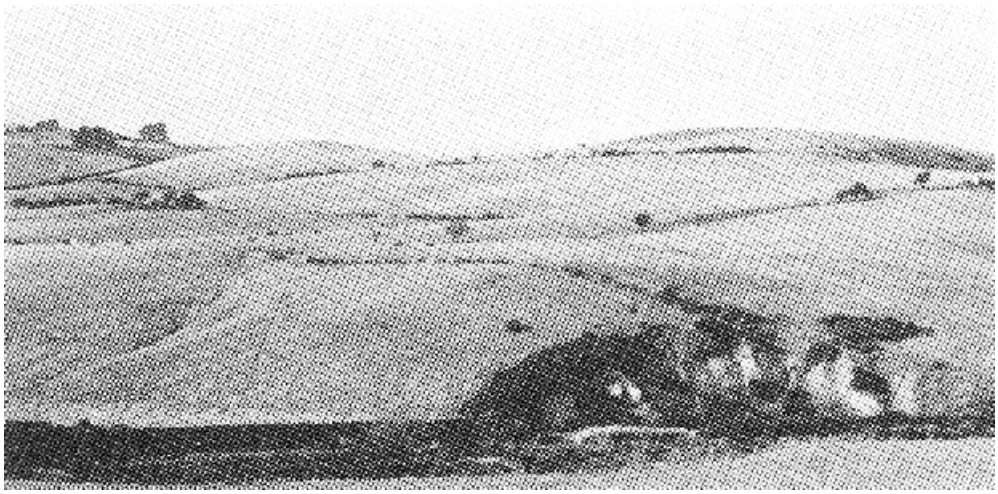
Areas of low hills have resulted from deep dissection of Tertiary clays and gravels by Roses Rivulet and the North Esk River. Stretching from the head-waters of the Tamar River southwards to Evandale, this system includes the majority of the City of Launceston and its southern suburbs. The deeply dissected low hills and steep lower scarps associated with Roses Rivulet in the Relbia-Evandale area are typical of this system.

Soils include duplex, gradational and uniform clays. The soils on the benches and in the drainage lines are slightly deeper than those on the scarps. Red mottlings were apparent towards the base of the soil profiles on the upper bench and lower scarp components. Laterite, quartz, dolerite and basalt boulders or waterworn pebbles were evident throughout the soil profiles and on the soil surface of some of the components (especially the upper components). In the drainage lines the black clay soil is similar to that found on the present floodplains of the South Esk River Land System (393121).

White gum and black peppermint form the forest canopy on the duplex gradational soils. The vegetation in the drainage lines is a woodland dominated by paperbark and blackwood.

Apart from the city area, most of the system carries improved pastures or has been cultivated for cropping. The cultivation of steep slopes, has resulted in excessive erosion in many places. On the steeper scarps, severe sheet erosion is common, and landslips are frequent during wet periods. Plantings of radiata pines have been made in many areas in an attempt to reduce the landslip problem. Severe streambank erosion is evident along the many creeks, rivulets and rivers which drain this area.

Areas around Relbia have been previously described by Loveday and Dimmock (1952).



Topography of the St Leonards Land System with a land slip on the edge of Roses Rivulet.

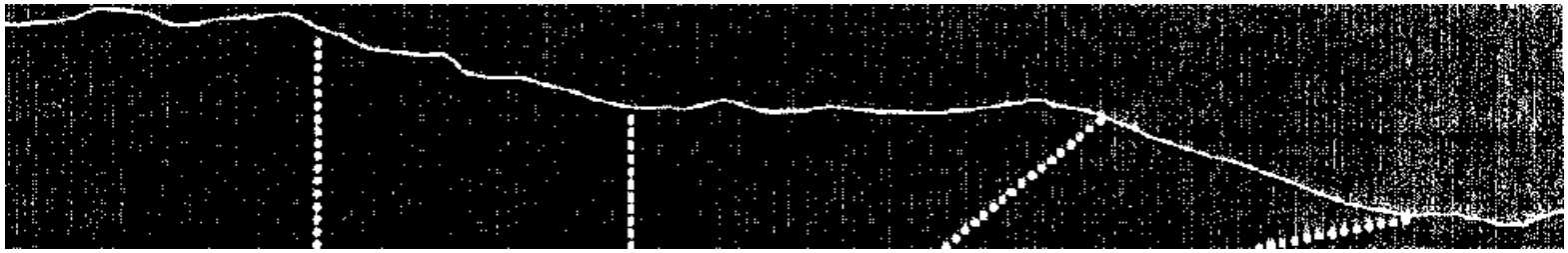
Slumping on the mid slopes.

Tasmanian Department of Agriculture

LAND SYSTEM

384131

St Leonards



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION %	20	20	30	20	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 625-750 mm				
GEOLOGY	Tertiary clays and gravels				
TOPOGRAPHY					
Land form		Low hills, deeply dissected			
Position	Upper bench	Upper scarp	Lower bench	Lower scarp	Drainage
Average Sideslope °	2	7	3	8	2
NATIVE VEGETATION					
Structure		Open-forest			Woodland
Association	White gum, black pepper-ment, silver wattle, bull-oak	White gum, silver wattle	White gum, swamp gum, silver wattle	Black peppermint, white gum, silver wattle, prickly box, bitter leaf	Paperbark, blackwood, rushes
SOIL	Gravelly, mottled strong brown (7.5 YR 5/8) light grey (10 YR 7/1) duplex soil	Mottled olive brown (2.5 Y 4/4) red (10 R 4/8) duplex soil	Dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/4) gradational soil	Mottled yellowish brown (10 YR 5/4) light grey (10 YR 6/1) gradational soil	Black (5 YR2.5/1) clay soil, uniform texture
Surface Texture	Gravelly loam	Sandy loam	Sandy clay loam	Clay loam	Light clay
Permeability		Moderate			Low
Avaraga Depth m	18	16	>2.0	1.6	>2.0
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, cropping				
HAZARDS	Moderate sheet erosion	Severe sheet erosion and landslips	Moderate sheet erosion	Severe sheet erosion and landslips	Severe streambank erosion