

713141

SHAKESPEARE HILLS

Shakespeare Hills and the western fall of the Dip Range form a continuation of the Precambrian quartzites which also constitute Rocky Cape land system. Mt Donaldson and The Longback are two smaller bodies lying north of Corinna on the Pie-man River. The steep and rugged topography together with the characteristic heath vegetation make these ridges a prominent feature of the landscape.

Mostly shallow, stony or gravelly organic soils have formed on the siliceous bedrock; but deep sandy profiles were found on the very gentle footslopes

and pockets of brownish yellow gradational soils are derived from mudstone parent material.

The heath vegetation growing on the organic soils is dominated by manuka, button grass, *Melaleuca squarrosa*, with the sedge, *Lepidosperma concavum*, and stunted peppermint eucalypts also prominent. A sedgeland of button grass occupies the deep sandy sites and a forest of stringybark and peppermint proclaims the pockets of better quality soil.

Other than some grazing these areas principally serve as zones of nature conservation.

The erodible nature of the soils coupled with the steep slopes presents a high soil erosion hazard.

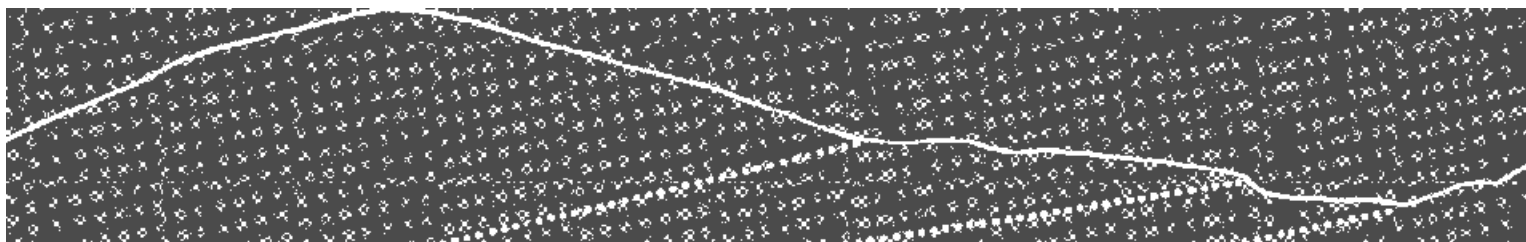


Deep sands on the very gentle slopes in the foreground give way to shallow organic soils on the rugged topography of the higher components.

LANDSYSTEM

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Shakespeare Hills



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	55	25	10	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 500-2 000 mm			
GEOLOGY	Precambrian quartzites, mudstone			
			Alluvium	Mudstone
TOPOGRAPHY	Steep ridges			
Land form				
Position	Peaks, steep slopes	Swales, gentler lower slopes	Very gentle footslopes	Forested areas
Average Sideslope °	20	8	3	10
NATIVE VEGETATION	Open heath		Closed sedgeland	Open forest
Structure				
Association	Button grass, manuka, <i>Melaleuca squamea</i> , Smithton peppermint, black peppermint	<i>Casuarina monilifera</i> , <i>Lepidosperma concavum</i> , manuka, peppermints, <i>Melaleuca squamea</i>	Button grass, <i>Melaleuca squamea</i> , peppermints, manuka, <i>Calorophus</i> sp	Stringybark, peppermints
SOIL	Stony black organic soils, scattered rock outcrop	Gravelly black organic soil, siliceous gravel pan	Grey (10 YR 5/1) sand soil, uniform texture	Brownish yellow (10 YR 6/8) gradational soil
Surface Texture	Peat	Gravelly peat	Sandy peat	Clay loam
Permeability		High		Moderate
Average Depth m	0.2	0.5	>1.8	0.6
PRESENT LAND USE	Nature conservation, grazing			
HAZARDS	High sheet and rill erosion			Moderate sheet erosion