

TDH/1

30th May, 1955

MEMORANDUMFOUNDATIONS FOR PROPOSED NURSES HOME  
LAUNCESTON

It is proposed to build a six storied nurses home (later to be increased to eleven stories) behind the present Infectious Diseases Hospital in Mulgrave St., Launceston.

This building would have as its foundation, the lake deposits of the Launceston Tertiary Basin and I would not expect solid rock to be encountered in at least the first hundred feet. These Tertiary beds under the city and suburbs of Launceston consist mainly of clays but here and there are encountered sand beds. These are often quite small in thickness and extent and are liable to occur anywhere in the clay beds. It is, therefore, not possible to predict their location.

The greatest danger to building foundation comes with the association of clay and sand beds. Water tends to seep through the permeable sand and lubricate the junctions of the clay beds. This danger is particularly accentuated on steep hillsides, as may be seen in the cracks in many walls and houses farther up the Sandhill. But even in comparatively flat ground it is still very real.

(Sgd.) T.D. Hughes

GEOLOGIST

The Director,  
Department of Mines,  
HOBART.