

## LOWER SILVERMINE RIVER ESTUARY - THE DYKES

In the early 1900's the river flowed into the sea. In summer the estuary silted up and this caused flooding over a wide area upstream. The land did not have the deep area, as we know it now, and the river used to flood from about where the present Paul Greyling School is to Hilton Rd in Clovelly. To try and stop the flooding, dykes were built in 1900 (ineffective) and again in 1924. Remains of these dykes can still be seen here. Plates from the Kakapo wreck at Noordhoek beach were used in the building of these dykes, and small pieces of metal can still be seen here. At the estuary, drums of concrete were used, as well as pieces of the Kakapo, to keep the river in one place when the bridges were built. These remaining dykes now have Historic value, being over 100 yrs old. *Information from Malcolm M Cobern's book - **Story of the Fish Hoek Valley** (1984).*



The two historic dykes



Remnants of the Kakapo



The dykes at the estuary