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104 G/11 Hel Claims

104/G/11
REPORT ON THE
HEL CLAIMS, BRITISH COLUMBIA
FROM THE PROGRAM OF 1979
OF THE AQUITAINE-DOME JOINT VENTURE
MAP SHEET 104G/11

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MAP SHEET 104G/11

BY: H.P. SALAT
J.D. NOAKES

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I INTRODUCTION

During the course of an exploratory survey in the summer of 1978 over several basins consisting of Cretaceous Sustut Group rock, several radiometric anomalies were detected on the south flank of Mount Helveker. Investigations showed that the sources of radioactivity were located in conglomeratic and sandy beds lying some ten to twenty metres under a cap of Tertiary (Sloko Group) volcanic rocks, mainly andesite and dacite.

Shortly after, a crew was sent over the area and worked toward staking a block of 7 claims, which encompasses 132 units; the area covers 3300 ha and includes most of the sedimentary clastic unit outcropping around and near Mount Helveker. The claims are located about 22 km south of Telegraph Creek and 230 km southwest of Watson Lake.

A crew, whose members are listed below, was sent to examine the claims early in July of 1979.

Personnel in the field:

Party Chief - Doug Noakes - July 8-20
Junior Geologist - Mike Corey - July 8-20
Junior Geologist - Mike Mann - July 8-31
Senior Prospector - Bill Heshka - July 10-25
Assistant - Gary Dearing - July 8-21
Assistant - Keith Wade - July 8-31
Supervision - H. Salat - in field between July 23-29

In summary, the surveys carried out during that period of time consisted of systematic airborne radiometric coverage of the claims to check for other anomalous areas, radiometric prospecting of outcrop on Mount Helveker and reconnaissance stream geochemical samples. A grid was surveyed over the area of the occurrences. Soil sampling and radon emanometry surveys were located on a grid surveyed over the area of the occurrences. In addition, several zones of high radioactivity were exposed and sampled for assay. A description of each survey and the results obtained are presented in the following chapters.

II CLAIM LOCATION, ACCESS AND PHYSIOGRAPHY

The HEL Claims are located on Mount Helveker (topographic map 1:50,000 scale NTS 104 G/11), and cover an area 4 km wide by 8 km long in an east-west direction, between the Stikine River to the west and Yehiniko Creek to the east. Air photo coverage is provided by the B.C. compilation numbers: B.C. 5199 - 81/82 and 100/101. The centre of the claim would be approximately 34 km in a southwest direction from Telegraph Creek as the crow flies.

From the end of the driveable road to Terrace, one can still carry on another 15 km along a four-wheel drive road down to the river crossing, where there used to be an old settlement known as Glenora; from there, one has to use a boat to go across the Stikine River and get a ride to the Glenora Ranch, 2 km away. From there or from Telegraph, the only access to the property is by pack-horse train or by helicopter.

Mount Helveker is part of the Coast Mountains, but physiographically is more akin to the Tertiary Plateau of the Stikine than to the Westward Coast Plutonic complex with its jagged, frost-wedged, glacier covered peaks.

The property itself encompasses mainly alpine tundra on the slope of Mount Helveker and extends over sparse fir forest on lower slopes. Fauna is relatively poor, with mountain goats, bears and marmots the only mammals seen while conducting exploration; many birds of prey (eagles, falcons, etc...) nest in the area.

List of claims: Claim 1 16 units Record number 614
Claim 2 20 units Record number 615
Claim 3 20 units Record number 616
Claim 4 20 units Record number 617

Claim 5 20 units Record number 618

Claim 6 20 units Record number 619

Claim 7 16 units Record number 620

(See figure 2)

III GEOLOGY

1. Introduction

The general geological picture of the area is derived from GSC Paper 71-44 by J.G. Souther and its accompanying geological map GSC 11-1971 of Telegraph Creek quadrangle (NTS 104 G). On a basement of Triassic and Jurassic undifferentiated volcanic and sedimentary rocks folded during Mid-Jurassic time, basins were formed and filled in by huge amounts of clastic rock, known as part of the Sustut Group (Cretaceous age); minor open folding took place after this clastic wedge was deposited in probable relation to Laramide granitic intrusions. Then the area became overlain by a blanket of Tertiary volcanics (the Sloko Group) consisting of pyroclastics and flows.

In this area, part of the Stikine Arch, the Sustut Group has been stripped away by erosion and only local remnants have been preserved, such as on Mount Helveker dissected from the main basin of the Spatzizi Plateau to the east.

2. Stratigraphy

For the most part the formations dealt with and detailed in the following paragraph belong to the Sustut Group, as they host the uranium mineralization discovered on the property. Several sections of the outcropping Sustut sediment have been studied and are reported in Appendix I; many others were made as an attempt to map in some detail the ground under claims.

In the course of this work, the underlying and overlying units or groups were observed with no great emphasis, as they serve as basement or cap to the formation of interest.

a) The Underlying Unit

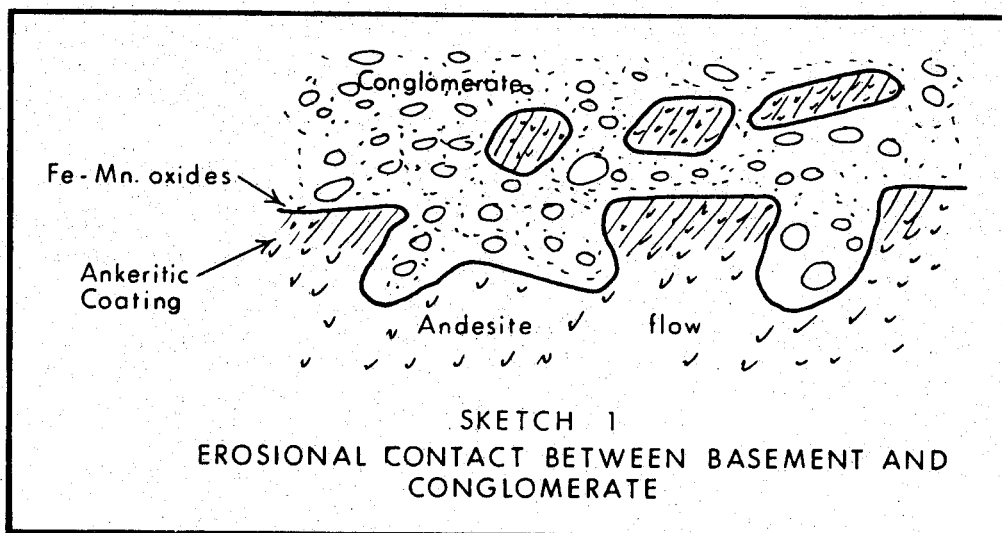
The base of the Sustut group has mainly been observed on the southern flank of Mount Helveker where the slope dies off into flat alpine meadows and swamps. There, toward the Stikine River, a tributary of Helveker Creek starts to cut into the bedrock and discloses mainly poorly bedded maroon pyroclastics containing large fragments (up to 1 cm in diameter) in some beds, others being sand size. Beds strike N 80° E and plunge 12° N.

Below these beds, in a small gorge, we found a maroon volcanic conglomerate with fragments of maroon basalt, and andesite up to 4 to 10 cm in diameter and a few rare granite boulders.

These beds can be related to unit 13 of GSC Map 11-1971 Lower Jurassic but a stratigraphic section is difficult to make on this side of the mountain; indeed, from the creek south, the side of the next ridge is gentle, grass covered with few outcrops. Outside the claims, this ridge drops off very abruptly into a big cliff down toward Helveker Creek. As one walks up the grassy slope, he can discover well re-crystallized dacitic, pyroclastics with big basaltic fragments up to 1 cm in diameter in a chlorite, epidote matrix, topped by increasingly finer pinkish tuffs, with biotite and feldspar and on top of the ridge, an assemblage of maroon tuffaceous siltstone and greenish white chloritized spotted tuffs.

On two other occasions, this underlying unit, the basement, was observed in contact with the mineralization-hosting entity. On the north side of Mt. Helveker (re: B.C. Geological Section, Appendix 1), a normal contact is seen between the clastic sediments of that formation and the basement volcanics; there, the contact is very irregular in the sense that erosion and weathering has taken place at the top of the volcanic flows. The surface is pervasively coated by ankerite or iron manganese

oxides and broken up; some fragments of this volcanic flow surface are immersed in the overlying conglomerate, only a few centimetres above it. These features suggest a strong erosional diastem but no indication of time lag can be drawn except that deposition of the above conglomerate took place under high energy conditions, after a period of emersion and oxidation.



At this particular place, the underlying unit consists of massive andesite flows on top of a red-brown rhyo-dacitic unit. Although the GSC map indicates these outcrops belong to Unit 9 (Upper Triassic), it is irrelevant to our purpose to try to differentiate it from the above described Unit 13, both being lumped together as basement unit for the sake of simplicity and lack of more observations.

The next place where the basement is reported, is located to the northwest of Mt. Helveker where the gently sloping alpine plateau is deeply cut by small creeks and drops off toward Arrival Creek. There, we have a fault contact on the eastern limb of the anticline and the overlying clastic sediments are resting right against a maroon tuffaceous siltstone with inter-layers and lenses of black chert conglomeration containing basalt fragments; all the elements are very granular and the quantity of chert and volcanic fragments is such that the beds can better

be described as a pyroclastic, the matrix being tuffaceous. The angular black chert pieces and the lack of granitic clasts clearly differentiate this unit from the above and make it resemble the rocks described as Unit 13 in the southern part of the property.

b) The Capping Unit or Sloko Group

Seemingly in conformable contact with the mineralization-hosting sediments, a thick pile of volcanic rock of Upper Cretaceous to Tertiary age caps these sediments and forms a resistant unit which makes up the high, steep cliffs of Mount Helveker.

A short volcanic stratigraphy of the lower part is given in geological section SS (Appendix I); the base is underlined by a greenish or dark-brown to yellowish pyroclastic tuffs, somewhat coarse and very chloritic. Then a dacitic flow with flattened pumice fragments overlap the pyroclastic and is followed by a white laminated rhyolitic welded tuff. This white tuff and the greenish pyroclastic are very indicative of the base of the Sloko Group and can be recognized at a fair distance all around the Mount Helveker.

Then above, begins a whole series of jointed dacite, red visicular dacite and columnar, hornblende white feldspar trachyte which is succeeded by a thick pile of trachytic andesite. These flows are eroded into steep cliffs and create a good impervious cover to the underlying sediments; they outcrop only in western central part of the claims forming the bulk of Mount Helveker as well as the east-west trending ridge, an extension of Mount Helveker toward the Stikine River.

c) The Mineralization-hosting Sediments - The Sustut Group

Between the two preceding units rests a 500-metre thick accumulation of mainly conglomeratic material as measured along one

creek on the northwest side of Mount Helveker. This sequence of sediment can be sub-divided into two distinct formations, first on the basis of morphology and secondly according to color and composition.

The Basal formation displays its most outstanding outcrops along the northeastern and northwestern faces of Mount Helveker, down from the gently sloping plateau or steps between the high volcanic crest of Mount Helveker and lower forested approaches. The main characteristics of the formation are the overall maroon to wine color along with the sheer size of the pink granitic boulders encountered in the conglomeratic members. Some of the boulders have been measured to be over 50 centimetres across and very well rounded.

The conglomeratic horizons make more than 75% of the whole formation and is very poor in matrix content. The matrix itself is identical to the bigger elements and consists of medium to coarse sand size fragments, fairly well rounded; rarely fine-grained matrix has been reported.

From the bottom to top, there seems to be an increase in percentage of boulders and also in size of the cobbles and boulders; however the maximum sizes are found in the middle conglomeratic units. Granule to pebble size components are varied in composition; they include chert, volcanic rocks, quartz, chloritic schist and grey siltstone; however all cobble to boulder-size elements are mostly of a pink, coarse grained granite type along with a few red-brown dacite to andesite.

The conglomeratic units of the lower cycles are fairly thick (15 to 25 metres), structureless and show a violet-grey hue to light maroon color; they are fining upward into greenish greywacke, with a very rapid transition. These greywacke are

planar-bedded with ripple marks at the base then nicely trough-cross bedded at the top beneath the upper cycle. Several current measurements point toward an eastward direction (around N 60° E).

Up section, the maroon or wine color becomes more prominent due to greater amount of red to pink dacite and granitic particles in matrix compare to more chloritic andesite and siltstone further down. Also the percentage of sandstone to siltstone increases noticeably in the terminal phase of the cycle as well as sandy lenses or channels into the conglomeratic units; these units themselves appear better graded bedded and cross-bedded on a large scale, representing small divergent channels. Contacts between cycles show many loading features.

Near the top of that formation, a very distinctive unit crops out above the last conglomerate-sandstone cycle and contrasts markedly with the maroon prevailing color of this mega-sequence. Indeed, this bed between 3 to 5 metres thick appears as a very light greenish white color and has a generally fine grained matrix. From place to place variations are encountered and go from a limy tuffaceous siltstone to a real tuff containing flattened chloritic fragments, probably pumices completely replaced by chlorite. In some localities, this tuff contains coarse grains of quartz, and volcanic glass (0.5 to 1 mm) and a few flakes of biotite, elsewhere it is a very fine almost cherty looking silt. It also contains in a few places, large flat voids.

This unit can be used as a marker, indicative of the top of the basal formation as it appears to be the last resistant member and outcrops in several localities around the eastern plateau. Above it the transition zone to the upper formation is highly recessive and consists of 20 metres of wine colored greywacke grading from a coarse grained sand-size at bottom to a very fine grained one at the top with a silt size matrix.

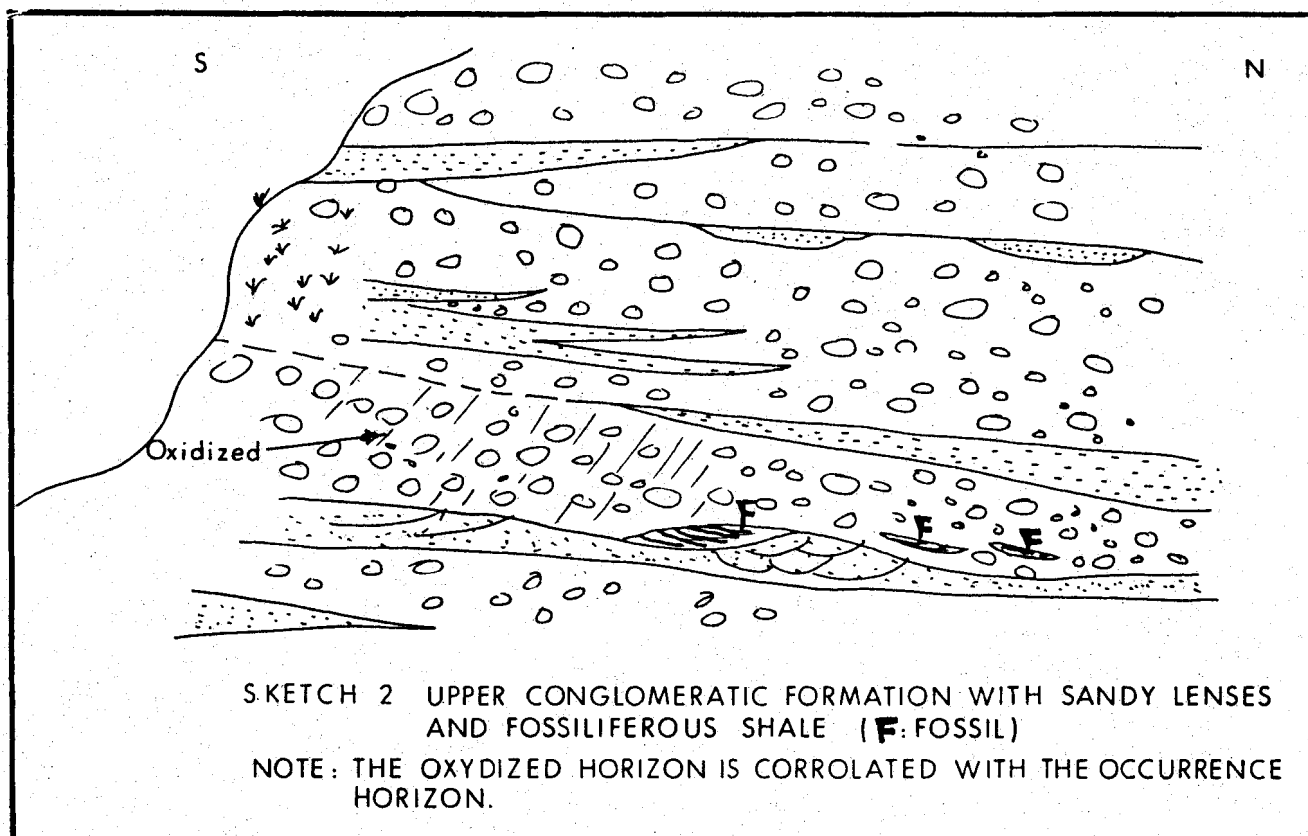
This greywacke contains an equal amount of rounded quartz grains and angular feldspar with some chloritic and lithic fragments, as seen along the creek on the northwest side of Mount Helveker (see: B.C. section in Appendix I)

The Upper Conglomeratic formation can be distinguished by its beige to tan weathering. It outcrops all around Mount Helveker under the capping of volcanic flows which protect it from erosion. Indeed this formation and the top part of the preceding one above the greenish white tuff marker is very weather recessive and the base is seen in a few topographic steps along the gently sloping plateau.

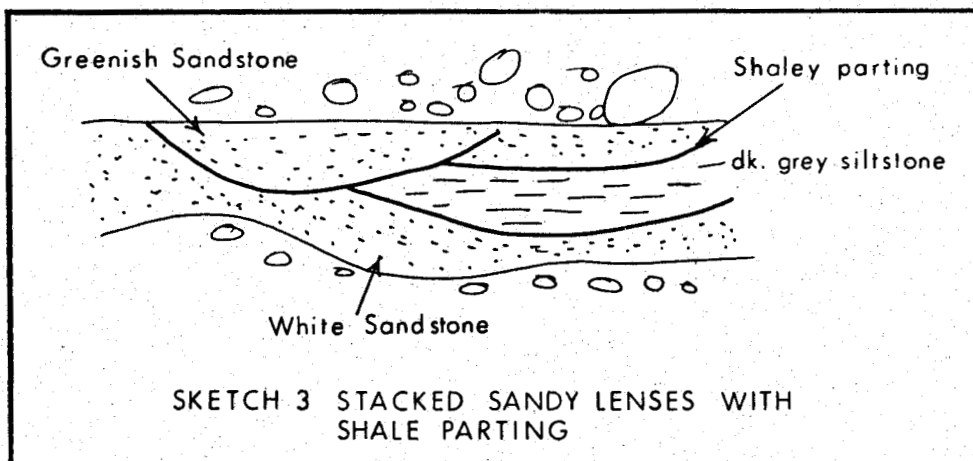
The unit contains 90% conglomerate, the remaining being sandstone; but contrary to the underlying formation, there is no fining upward cycles at least at the scale of the outcrops. Here sandstones are restricted to lenses, some extending several tens of metres, most having a crescent shape or channel. Also the boulder size components are missing but the amount of pebbles and cobbles represent generally up to 80% of the rock. The majority of the pebbles are volcanic origin, schist or chert or quartzite; on the other hand, the cobble-size fraction is 75% granitic. Here a white feldspar rich porphyry type prevails over the pink, medium grained granitic cobbles observed previously. The matrix is visually medium to coarse grained angular sandstone of identical composition to pebbles. Variation in the conglomeratic fraction (above 4 mm) does not follow any distinctive pattern either upward or laterally.

Numerous lensy intervals of sandstone streak across the conglomerate but in volume they do not count for more than 10% (see Sketch 2). They are discontinuous, often have a channel-shape. These interlayers are eventually composed of the same material as the conglomerate matrix, including much feldspar.

and quartz grains. However a few sedimentological features are apparent in some units, especially near the top of each one: such as trough-cross-bedding, planar-cross-bedding, graded bedding, load and rip-up features. From them many current directions were deduced with an average measurement around N 50° E. These sandstones are medium to coarse size (.200 to .710 mm) and poorly sorted.



The sandy horizons tend locally to evolve into very fine grained (.08 - .125 mm) sandstone with silty matrix and on rare occasions into a dark grey siltstone or grey to greenish sandstone contrasting with the overall light beige to tan hue. In a few places, clay partings separate stacked sandy lenses as shown in Sketch 3.



Also, at least on two occasions, in grey or greenish-grey sandy siltstone, pieces of organic material were found, especially on the one near the south end of the NW-SE trending rock face (see Sketch 2) where recognizable well printed fossils of leaves and plant stem can be easily collected. One should also mention the lignitic material associated to mineralization right around the corner; this would suggest that the organic material could be concentrated in the same horizon or at least during the same depositional episode.

d) Dykes

Many cross-cutting dykes are observed throughout the property intersecting the sediments. Their more resistive nature make them stand out and create small spurs and promontories. Their composition varies from dark grey very fine grained andesite to dark greenish grey porphyritic trachyte and relates to the volcanic flows of the Sloko Group, capping the Sustut sediments.

The dykes strike fairly constantly from N 50° E to N 110° E and are generally more or less vertical. Locally they can flatten to 50° and have also been reported to be somewhat conformable to the sedimentary layers in a sill-like manner. These dykes belong to two dyke-swarm systems related to volcanic-cones of the capping Sloko Group and are compositionally associated with two volcanic episodes or regimes.

Right against most of these dykes a strong reddening of the sediments took place along with hardening of the matrix. This reddening should be differentiated from the independent oxidation of beds seen near the mineralization, some of that oxidation being somewhat separated from the dyke.

3. Structure

Over most of the claims and all around Mount Helveker the beds are lying in a near horizontal position dipping between 5° and 15° to the north or northwest. Although many steeper measurements were recorded, they all are related to increased dips associated to sides of channel-shaped features.

For the capping volcanic units many higher dips were found but here again it is hard to recognize the irregularities of volcanic flows. Despite some slight visible warping of beds, the general attitude is for the whole sedimentary sequence to gently dip toward the northwest.

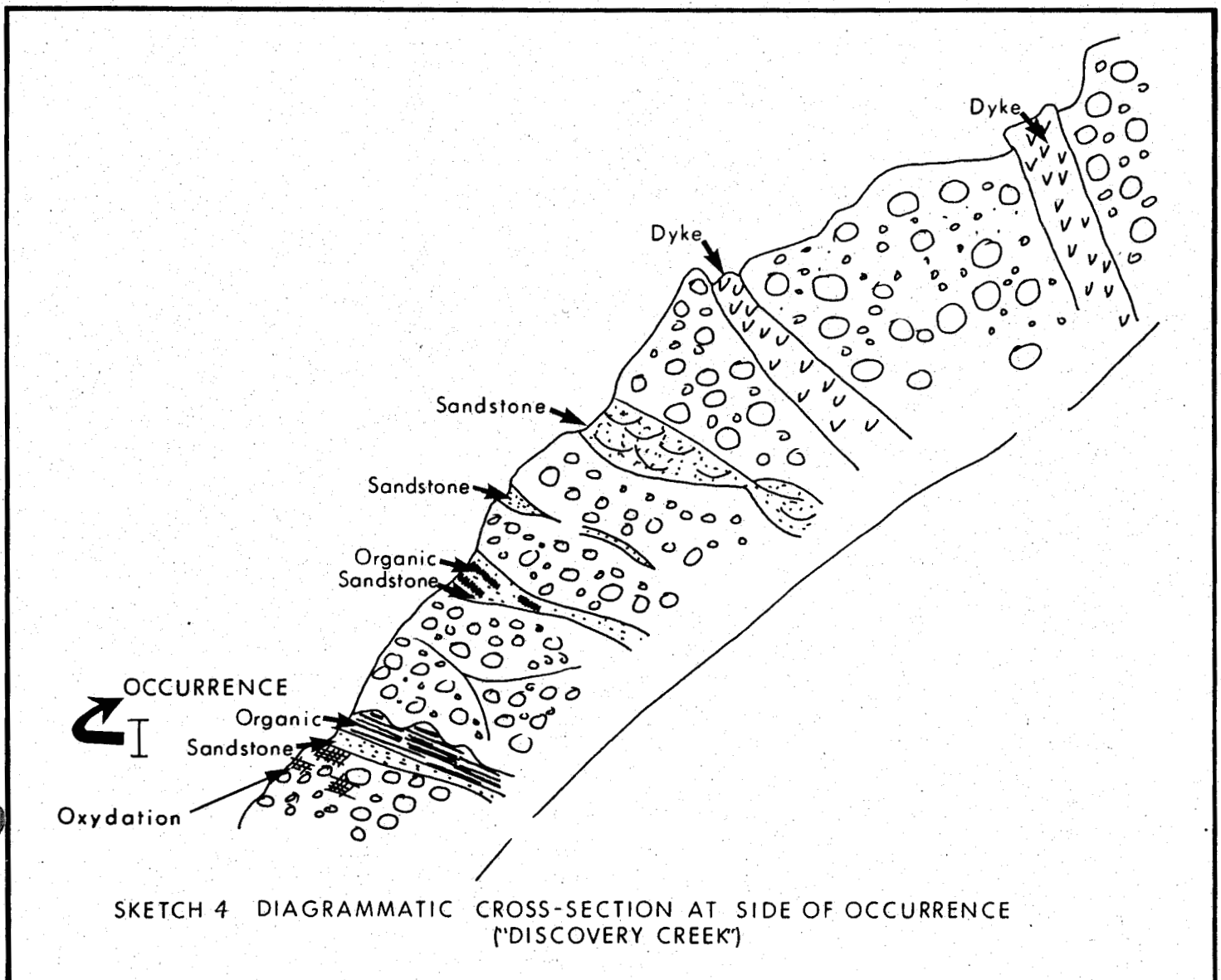
However, on the northeast corner of the property where Mount Helveker plunges in the forested slopes and weedy swamp towards Arrival Creek, several creeks run parallel and one of them, the farthest to the southeast, incised deeply into the plateau creating a large bowl at its head. There, the beds striking $N 30^{\circ} E$ and $10^{\circ} W$ at the head of the creeks, regularly start to bend towards the northeast into an open anticline which axis is $N 120^{\circ} E$ (NW-SE direction); on its eastern limb, beds are dipping 75° to 80° to the northeast.

Along the side of the last parallel creek to the north, the anticline butts again a NW-SE trending reverse fault bringing the tuffaceous siltstone and angular fragmented pyroclastic of Unit 13 against the massive featureless layers of maroon conglomerate and the greenish-white limy tuff marker above some wine colored siltstone. This fault is a high angle feature dipping at 75° NE and is remarkably visible on the air-photo.

4. Mineralization

Uranium oxide occurrence is found on the south flank of Mount Helveker and is confined to the Upper Conglomeratic formation of the Sustut Group. Along the "Discovery Creek" where horizons have been displaced by about 20 m, (the west side is down dropped), one conglomeratic layer shows a few oxidized sandy zones (1 m x .50 m) and locally fragments of organic material (lignite) which give up some radioactivity. (See sketch 4).

At the base of this layer, a thin interlayer, 13 to 15 cm thick is strongly oxidized and includes, resting over the conglomerate, a 3 cm reddened arkosic sandstone and a 10 cm lignitic bed. The top of this layer shows loading feature from above and indicates probable pinching out of the lignite laterally.



SKETCH 4 DIAGRAMMATIC CROSS-SECTION AT SIDE OF OCCURRENCE ("DISCOVERY CREEK")

Underneath, the conglomerate is somewhat reddened and reveals an increase in matrix content, as well as better sorting of the pebbles (3 to 5 cm in diameter).

On the west side of "Discovery Creek", along the grassy slope, some high radioactive zones had been stripped down to bedrock; these hand scrapes showed the presence of organic material in sandy matrix to which uranium is associated probably in the form of pitchblende. Two of these small trenches were sampled and also the readings on the spectrometer were very high (above 15,000 c/s on SRAT-SPP2 and 45,000 on URTEC), assays do not return expected value (see below).

Trench at 0 + 70W - 0 + 25N = .041% U_3O_8

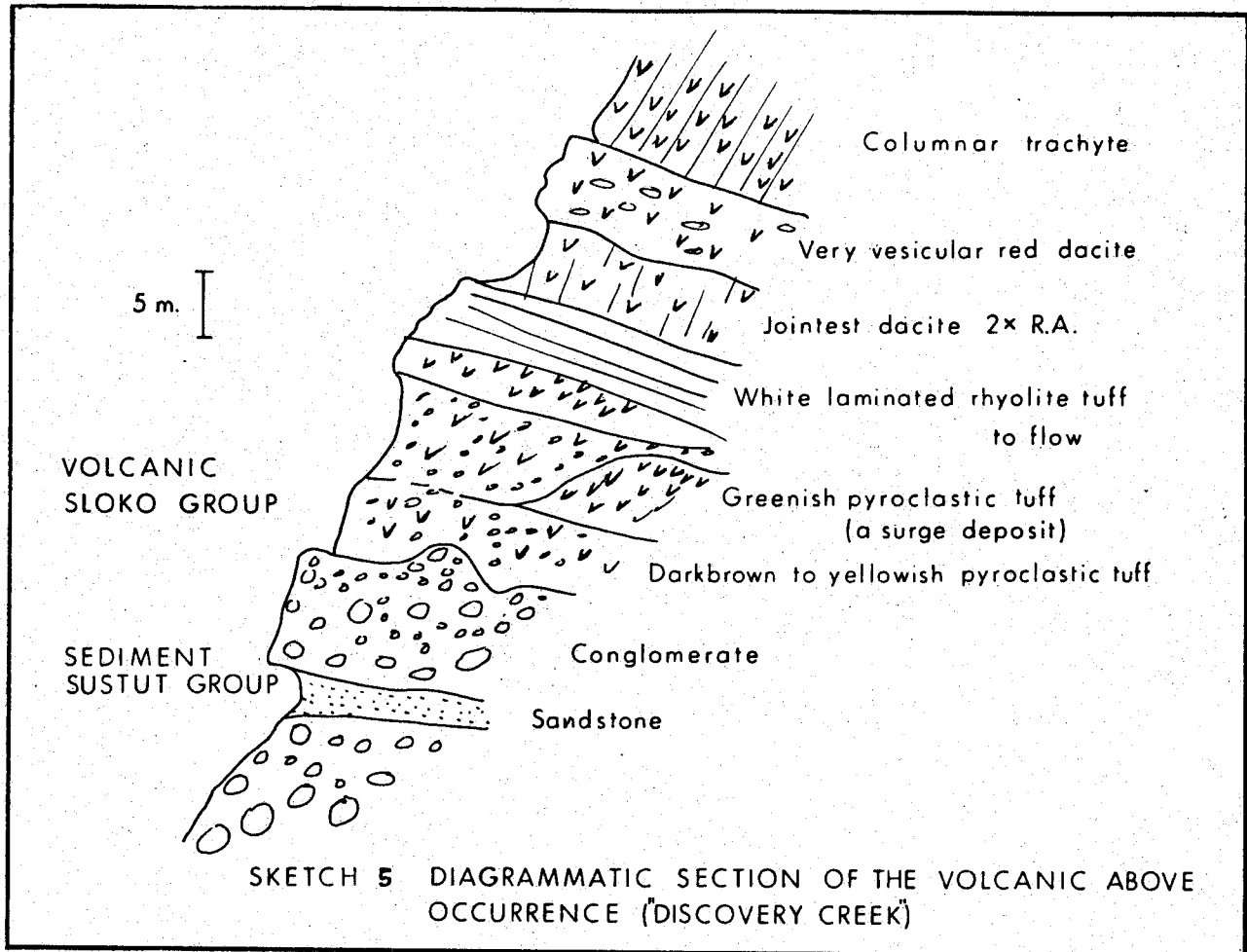
Trench at 0 + 75W - 0 + 30N = .468% U_3O_8

Further study on mineralogy should be undertaken to precise nature of the mineralization and to reveal any disequilibrium.

The anomalous zones seem to be well aligned and along with the above geological observations we can be fairly confident that the organic matter and correlatively uranium concentration is contained within the same horizon which may correspond to a lower energy deposition and a period of quiescence.

Sedimentological implication of the observed geology, suggest that after a time of alluvial fan sedimentation which characterize the Lower Basal formation and a tuffaceous episode, the basin was invaded by a braided river system. At one time, the braided stream moved away to laterally give place to some levies occupied by vegetation or vegetated islands. From what can be seen, this stage did not last very long and rapidly gave way to another flood deposition.

The source of the uranium remains highly speculative at this time; however a suggestion can be made based on the above stratigraphy. In the overlying volcanic sequence (see Sketch 5), which contact is



only 25 to 30 m away, brownish dacitic flow, about 5 m thick, shows a radioactivity constantly at twice the background. Water percolation through this flow, as well as others too, could leach some uranium and solutions would flow through the very porous conglomerate layers. As soon as an impervious layer along with some reducing agent, the uranium (uranyl ion) would be trapped readily. It will remain to be seen whether or not such traps really exist and have some extension and make a reservoir of economic size.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

At the outcome of the surveys and field observations, the problem of uranium concentration can be circumscribed to one horizon associated to lignitic sandy bed seemingly at a little distance away from the overlying volcanic rocks. Indeed, all radioactive occurrences and the mineralized zones (see geological map) are stratigraphically no more than 30 m away; however, the discontinuous nature of channels, levies and point-bar deposition make it difficult to correlate from one point to the other and allocate without doubt, the uranium concentration to only one horizon.

Sedimentological considerations do not indicate any variations laterally and depositional regime has been constant in space and time with the exception of a short vegetated vertical accretion interval which has acted as a favorable environment for trapping available uranium ions. The whole matter now rests with the solution of that problem: whether or not, out of the reach of direct observation, we can expect an increase in the size and extent of the sedimentary trap.

Recommendations for the future work would tend to solve this primary question; that if the trap itself, i.e. the organic-rich horizon, does not reach any size or thickness, although the uranium concentration process is proven, than it would be futile to persevere, at least within the perimeter of the present claims. Talus slope should be stripped of vegetation and talus debris and the selected portions of mineralized horizon exposed. A series of trenches should be dug along the mineralized trend, if possible, using mechanical means to ensure proper removal of surficial deposits.

IV AIRBORNE RADIOMETRIC SURVEY

1. Introduction

Aquitaine Company of Canada performed a systematic helicopter-borne gamma-ray spectrometer survey over a major portion of the Hel claims in July of 1979. It had been decided that this method of exploration was suitable in the circumstances and should be attempted. Mineralization was exposed on outcrop of flat-lying sediments in an area where rock was well exposed on steep slopes.

2. Description of Survey and Equipment

The survey was flown over the area shown in figure 4 in two patterns as necessitated by topography. On relatively flat ground parallel lines were flown at a spacing of 100 meters at an altitude of 30 meters and a ground speed of 60 kilometers per hour. In steep areas contours were flown with a vertical spacing of approximately 30 meters. The distance from the spectrometer to the nearest ground averaged about 30 meters but the resulting horizontal spacing of these flight lines varied from 25 meters on steep slopes to nearly 200 meters on the flattest slopes where this method was utilized.

The following equipment was used in the survey: Exploranium GR410 spectrometer, Exploranium GRC-100, 2 channel recorder and Exploranium GPX-112, 112 cubic inch NaI thalium activated crystal. Total count and uranium values were recorded. All survey equipment was mounted in a Bell 47 AJ2 helicopter and powered by a battery pack. The instrument was operated during the survey by one man while the navigator manually plotted the flight path.

3. Results

A 2 channel recording of uranium and total count values and flight path plot were recovered from the survey. Values of speed and height above terrain of detector were assumed to be constant. The data produced was analyzed manually and anomalies and a numerical and written description are listed in Table 1. These anomalies have been plotted on the flight lines on figure 4.

None of the anomalies were judged to be significant but all deserved checking during geologic mapping, stream sediment sampling and prospecting. From such investigations which covered all areas producing anomalies, no scintillometer anomalies were noted.

4. Conclusions and Recommendations

No significant anomalies were detected by the airborne spectrometer survey. Ground examinations of a number of minor anomalies failed to reveal significant scintillometer results, thus it must be concluded that these interpreted anomalies were due to such factors, ranked in decreasing order of significance, as variations in amount of outcrop, instrument height above ground and helicopter speed.

While anomalies present in exposed bedrock in the survey area probably would have been noted by this instrument package, it is probable that anomalies whose surface expression is muted by even a thin overburden cover would not be detected by this instrument due to its limited capabilities. Thus, it is concluded that bedrock in the area surveyed was examined sufficiently and no anomalies were detected. It is noted that a survey utilizing a larger detector coupled to a multi-channel recorder in a more powerful helicopter would be of value.

V. PROSPECTING AND STREAM SEDIMENT SAMPLING

1. Description and Location of Survey

A uranium occurrence was discovered by Aquitaine Company in 1978 and the area of the occurrence was staked. The field program of 1979 was designed to examine the type of occurrence and to prospect and stream sediment sample the Hel claims to determine if mineralization was present elsewhere on the claims.

Field personnel were assigned traverses over the claims to systematically examine the area by prospecting utilizing scintillometer and stream sediment sampling surveys. Stream sediment samples were collected at 25 and 50 meter intervals depending on terrain, exposure and the availability of sediment.

2. Results

The results of prospecting and the resultant geologic mapping are illustrated on figure 3. No significant scintillometer anomalies were detected outside the immediate area of the initial discovery, while several were found within it. Scintillometer measurements were variable due to the variability of lithologies encountered.

Stream sediment samples were taken from most drainages on Mt. Helveker. Survey results, as analyzed fluorimetrically by Loring Laboratories of Calgary, have been plotted as shown on figure 5. The background uranium concentration was determined to include all levels up to 2 ppm U_3O_8 . Most of the anomalies illustrated are located on drainages downslope from the occurrences. Anomalous values increase downstream over several hundred meters from 2 ppm U_3O_8 to nearly 20 ppm.

Several other isolated anomalies are indicated in other drainages where information is scanty.

3. Conclusions and Recommendations

Major anomalies indicated from stream sediment surveys are present downstream from located occurrences. The nature of these anomalies should be further investigated to determine if they are simply the result of displaced erosional uranium-rich material from the known occurrence or if they are due to uranium occurrences in horizons below that in which occurrences are known. Trenching and soil surveys are warranted in the anomalous area.

Areas where isolated anomalies have been found should be subjected to resampling and detailed scintillometer surveys. It is felt though, that organic-rich sediments have produced these anomalies.

In light of the major anomalies illustrated, an extended survey is warranted to complete coverage of the Hel claims including secondary drainages on presumed extensions of the horizon in which occurrences have been found.

VI WORK PERFORMED ON THE URANIUM OCCURRENCES

1. Soil Sampling

a) Location and Description

A soil sampling survey in conjunction with a radon survey was performed in an attempt to detect uranium concentrations in soil that were not detected by scintillometry.

A grid was surveyed over a uranium occurrence, as located in figure 3. The survey was performed by augering samples from the C horizon at a depth of approximately 40 cm. Sample stations were located at 5 and 10 meter intervals on lines 25 meters apart as shown in figure 6. Samples were analyzed fluorimetrically by Loring and Chemex Laboratories of Calgary.

b) Results

Results of the survey are presented on figure 6. The background uranium level has been determined to include all levels up to 1 ppm U_3O_8 . Anomalies are scattered and are occasionally single isolated values, but most are in well defined groups. Trends are not clearly defined laterally across more than 3 or 4 lines (75 to 100 meters).

c) Conclusions and Recommendations

Soil sampling on a grid over an area on the Hel claims shows a number of well defined anomalies. A known uranium occurrence at 25 meters north, 100 meters west, is represented by an anomaly of moderate value thus it can be expected that most anomalies do represent other occurrences. Anomalies are scattered and are present primarily over the southern portion of the sample area. This may indicate that uranium occurrences

are irregularly distributed throughout a certain zone. Some anomalies appear to taper to the south (downslope) showing the movement of mineralized soil or uranium in groundwater.

Anomalies occur where no significant scintillometer anomalies have been detected. Since uranium occurrences buried under 30 to 50 cm of soil were detected as only subtle anomalies it is thought that most anomalies must represent uranium occurrences. Good correlation was observed between soil and radon survey results thus confirming the value and reliability of each survey under the given conditions.

It is recommended that anomalous areas be trenched and sampled by deep augering to determine if all anomalies detected represent uranium occurrences. Further sampling is warranted to cover lateral extensions and zones underlying the anomalous horizon.

2. Radon Emanometry Survey

a) Location and Description

Alphameters were used to measure soil radon concentrations. It was hoped that this method could detect uranium concentrations lying beneath a thin soil and colluvium cover. Sampling sites were located on the same grid used during the soil sampling survey. This grid was located over a number of small known uranium occurrences. Approximately 130 sites were sampled on 5 lines as shown in figure 7.

b) Equipment and Modes of Operation

Alphameters, made by Alpha Nuclear Company and designed for soil gas radon measurements, consist of a tube approximately 5 cm in diameter and 35 cm in length containing a silicon

diffused junction alpha detector and the necessary electronics to measure and record pulse counts and elapsed time. The survey was carried out by planting these meters in holes about 30 cm deep. Care was taken to minimize the disturbance of soils of sampling sites while augering holes, so that soil gas radon concentrations would rapidly reach equilibrium. Experimentation revealed that a 24 hour counting period was sufficient to allow duplication of results. Anomalous observations were re-checked with a different meter. Of the total of 40 meters available, between 2 and 6 of the meters were not functional at any one time.

c) Results

Results of the radon survey are shown on figure 7. Background values were determined to be those which did not exceed 100 counts per hour. Several significant anomalies are therefore displayed on the contoured map of results and the largest values exceed 200 counts per hour. Most anomalies are well defined by small groups of anomalous values and are not simply isolated values.

Continuity of anomalies along lines is poor but apparent lateral continuity between lines (horizontally) is good. Mineralization found at 25 meters north, 100 meters west appears to be represented by an anomaly of moderate value. Significant observations are noted when company radon survey results with those of the soil survey. The same major anomalous trends are represented on both plots but appear to be displaced downslope in the radon survey. Some anomalies located on each survey are not indicated by the other but in general, correlation appears to be good.

d) Conclusions and Recommendations

Significant anomalies are indicated by the radon survey and the major trends can be correlated with those of soil surveys.

A uranium occurrence was found near one anomaly thus it may be assumed that other anomalies indicate other uranium occurrences. Lateral continuity between anomalies is uncertain. Radon anomalies may be located downslope from soil anomalies as a result of groundwater flow.

It is recommended on the basis of the results presented that soil cover be removed where anomalies are indicated to determine if uranium occurrences are present. It is also recommended that radon surveys in conjunction with soil surveys be extended to cover areas as conditions warrant, to the east, west and south of the present grid.

VII CONCLUSIONS

Investigations in 1979 by the Aquitaine-Dome Joint venture have demonstrated that significant uranium occurrences are present on the Hel claims. Occurrences are probably limited to one finer-grained horizon in the generally conglomeratic Sustut Group rocks, as evidenced by detailed geological and geochemical surveys. It was verified that uranium concentrations are associated with carbonaceous inclusions and sulphide concentrations in arkosic sandstones, conglomerates and siltstones adjacent to lignitic beds. Overlying units of volcanic origin are thought to be sources for the uranium concentrations which approach 0.5% U_3O_8 .

Soil geochemical, scintillometer and radon surveys conducted on a grid surveyed about the initial discovery show many anomalies implying the presence of many occurrences or uranium concentrations. Stream sediment surveys disclosed that covered units underlying the mineralized horizon may be anomalous and thus are a target for further exploration. An insufficient number of these occurrences, however, have been exposed by trenching to allow full examination of their stratigraphic location. As well, the extent of favourable lithologies, both laterally and underlying the horizon where mineralization was found, is unknown due to the presence of surficial cover. The vegetation, soil and colluvium cover is generally less than 1.5 meter thick facilitating trenching to bedrock.

Favourable host lithologies were noted, but not evaluated, at two localities on the claims. A wedge of fine-grained sediments, possibly fault-bounded, lies about a kilometer west of the discovery site, while anticlinal repetition of the horizon hosting the uranium occurrences is present on the northeastern flank of Mount Helveker. An airborne gamma-ray spectrometer survey over the western portion of the claims failed to produce significant results. It was concluded that this survey was adequate over the rocky cap of Mt. Helveker but lacked sufficient sensitivity and control to be effective over the remainder of the area. As well, stream sediment geochemical surveys revealed no significant anomalies save those which show increasing values downstream from the uranium occurrences noted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for further work on the Hel Claims are based on the preceding conclusions which outline a uranium prospect having important showings and latitude for the presence of a significant deposit.

Foremost, the precise nature of occurrences and the stratigraphy and distribution of host and favourable lithologies must be determined in the immediate vicinity of the discovery site. This will be accomplished by extensive trenching of the site including all significant anomalies indicated by radon, scintillometer and geochemical surveys. This will allow the formation of conclusions regarding the potential of the mineralized horizon to contain large uranium concentrations and thus the favourability of other target areas.

Examination should include evaluation of those units covered by overburden which underlie the horizon known to be mineralized. Investigative techniques should include soil geochemistry, radon and trenching to expose stratigraphy and anomalies on an enlarged grid. Surveys can then if warranted be extended to lateral extensions of favourable horizons.

Several other targets outside the immediate area of the showings have been noted. These areas should be subjected to detailed geological, geochemical survey and sophisticated airborne gamma-ray spectrometer.

TABLE 1

SPECTROMETER ANOMALIES HEL CLAIMS, B.C.

LINE	ANOMALY LOCATION WITH RESPECT TO FIDUCIAL	VISUAL DESCRIPTION	ANOMALY VALUE PEAK U./BACKGROUND VALUE / U VALUE
LINE 1	4.8	U+TC; several spikes	U=30/15
	18.0	U+T.C.; increased background	U=25/17
	23.5	several sharp T.C. & U spikes	U=22/15
	28.0	several sharp U spikes	U=25/15
	30.0	U+T.C. narrow peaks	U=23/15
	35.2	U+T.C. spikes	U=22.16
LINE 2	1.8	U spike	U=24/10
	6.7	U+T.C. spikes	U=22/10
LINE 3	1.3	Single U spike higher T.C. background	U=23/15
	16.2	U spike sharp higher T.C. background value	U=30/18
	17.3	U spike sharp higher T.C. background value	U=35/15
	22-23	several U spikes T.C. background higher	U=23/15
	26.5	several U spikes	U=25/15
	32	U+T.C. wide peaks	U=30/18
	33.3	U+T.C. wide peaks	U=32/22
	34+	U+T.C. wide peaks	U=30/18
	37	U spikes, T.C. stable	U=23/15
	41.8-43	U spikes, T.C. sl. higher	U=32/17
	50.2	U+T.C. spikes	U=30/18
	52.5	single U+T.C. spikes	U=30/15
	53.2	single U+T.C. spikes	U=30/13
	54.3	single U+T.C. spikes	U=23/18
	56	single U+T.C. spikes	U=30/19
	59.5	several U+T.C. spikes	U=22/17
61	U+T.C. spikes	U=25/15	
63.6	single U spikes	U=23/15	
65.3	U spike	U=20/18	
67	small U spike	U=23/15	
68.2	small U spike	U=23/18	
69.3	sharp U spike	U=20/5	
77.5	sharp U spike	U=30/18	
LINE 4	2-	U+T.C. spikes	
	2.9	U spike small	
	6.4	U spike small	
	6.7	U spike small	
	10.0	U spike small	
	14-	U spikes small	
	18.3	U spike sharp, small	
26.2	U spike sharp, small		

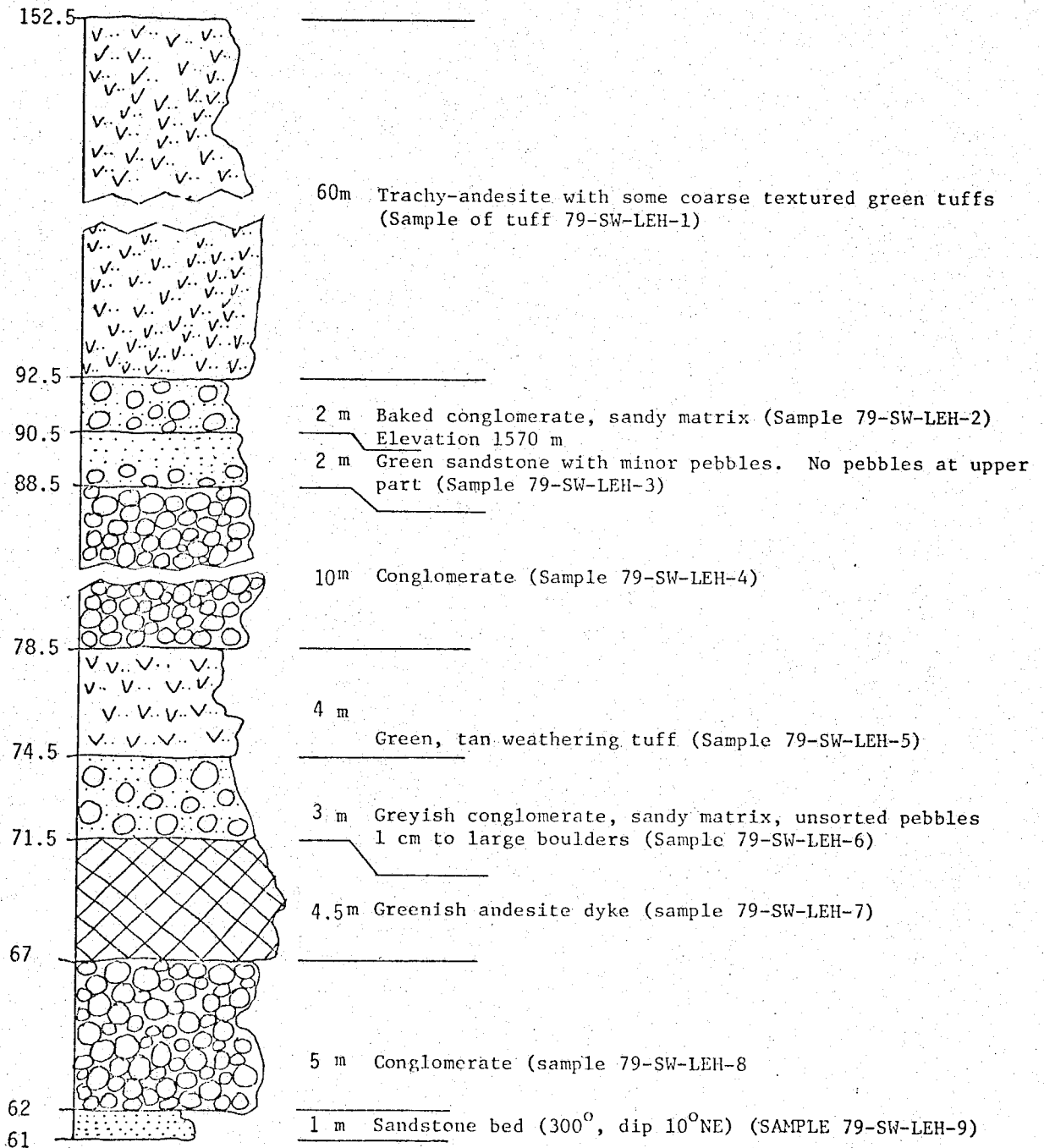
APPENDIX I

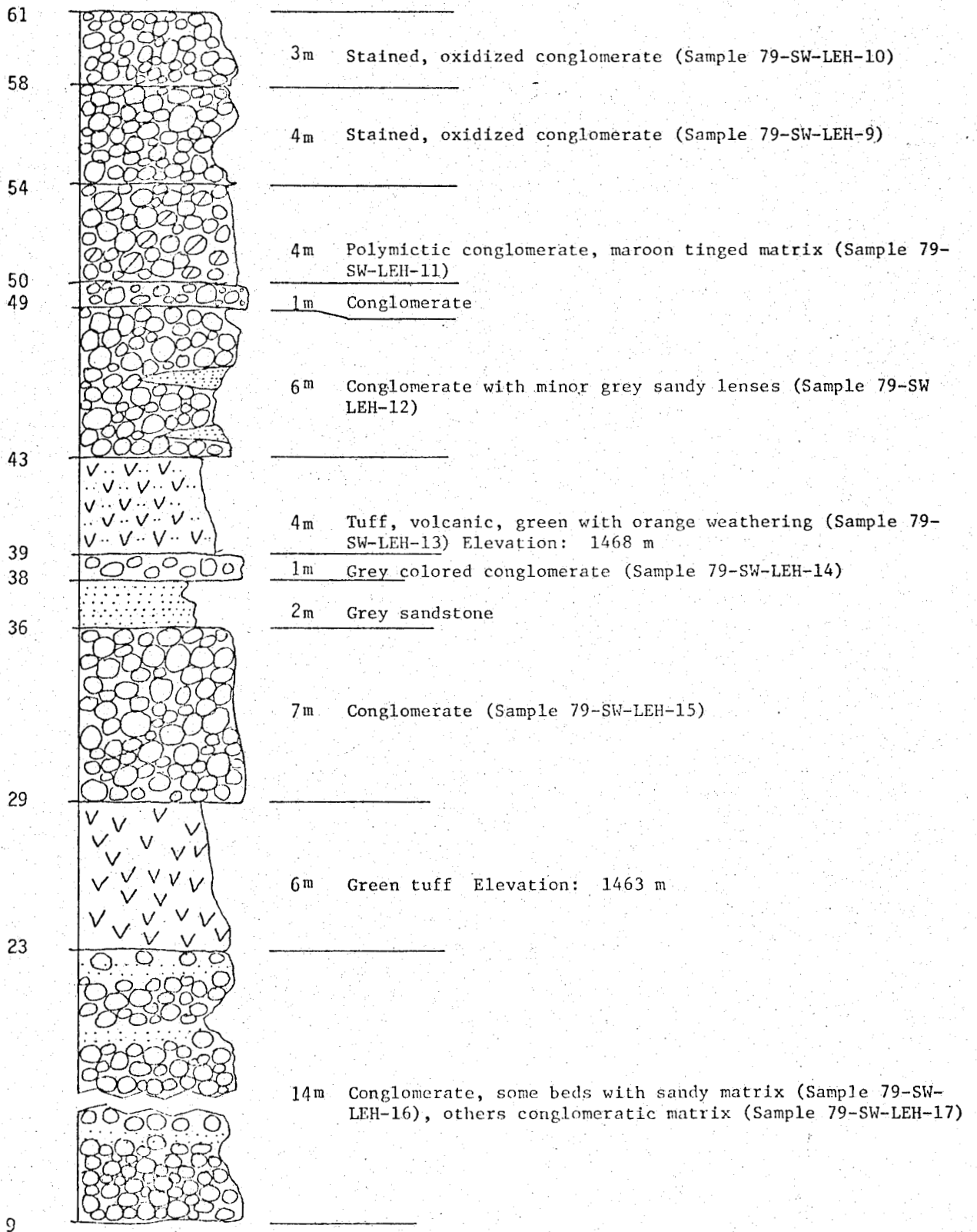
Measured Geological Sections

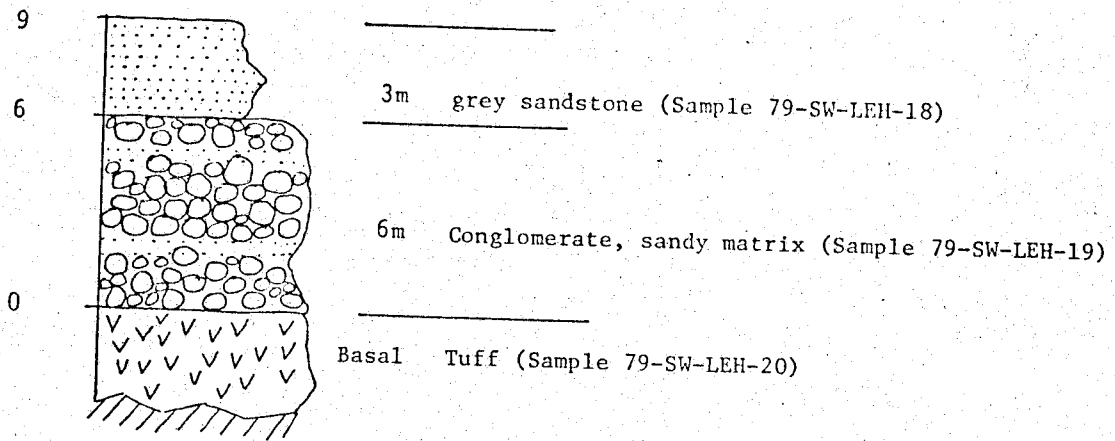
Stratigraphic Measured Section

SW - Section on southern face of Mt. Helveker,
on Southwest Creek toward western edge of claims
(Mike Mann)

Elevation at top of section 1633 metres



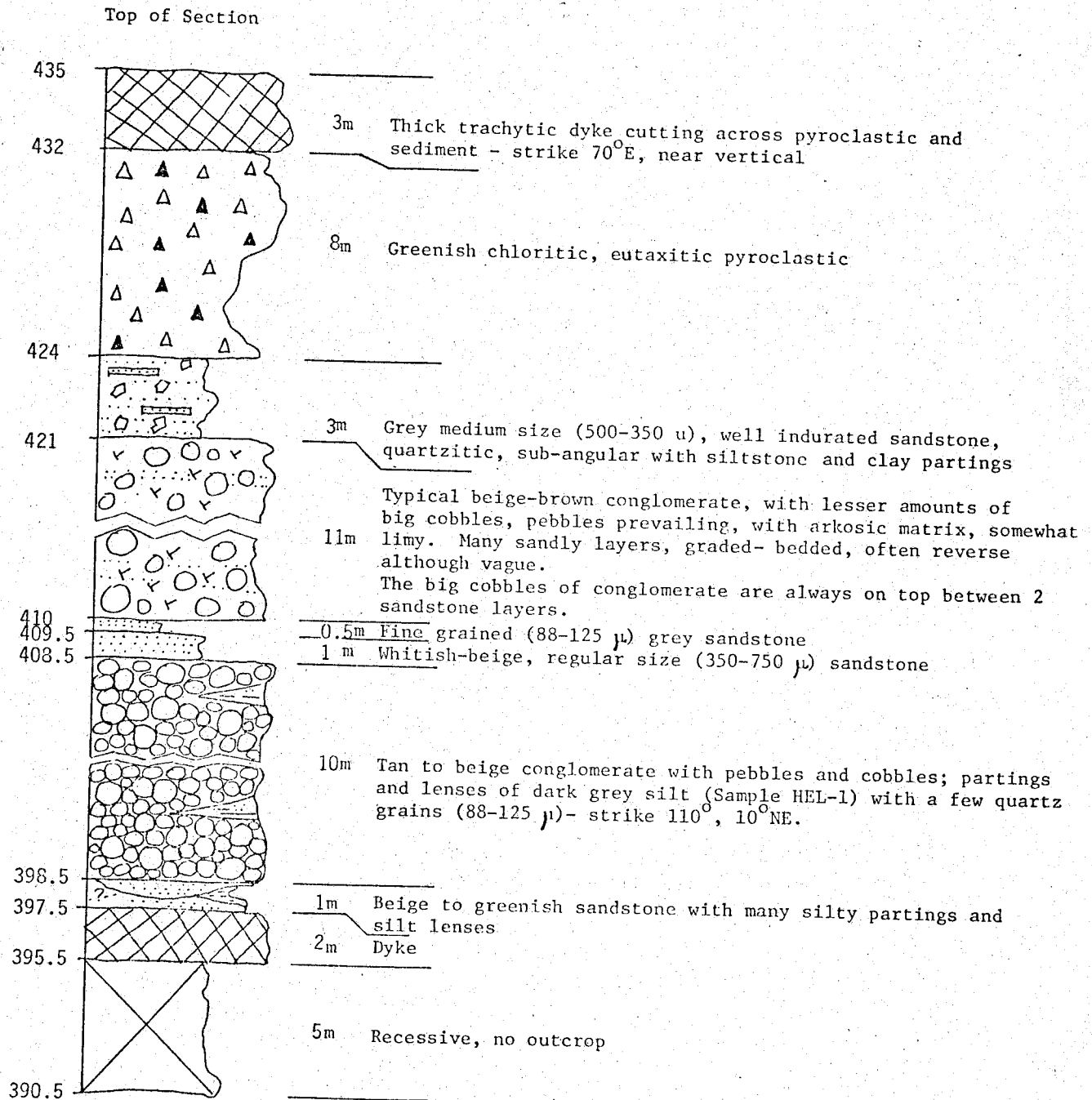


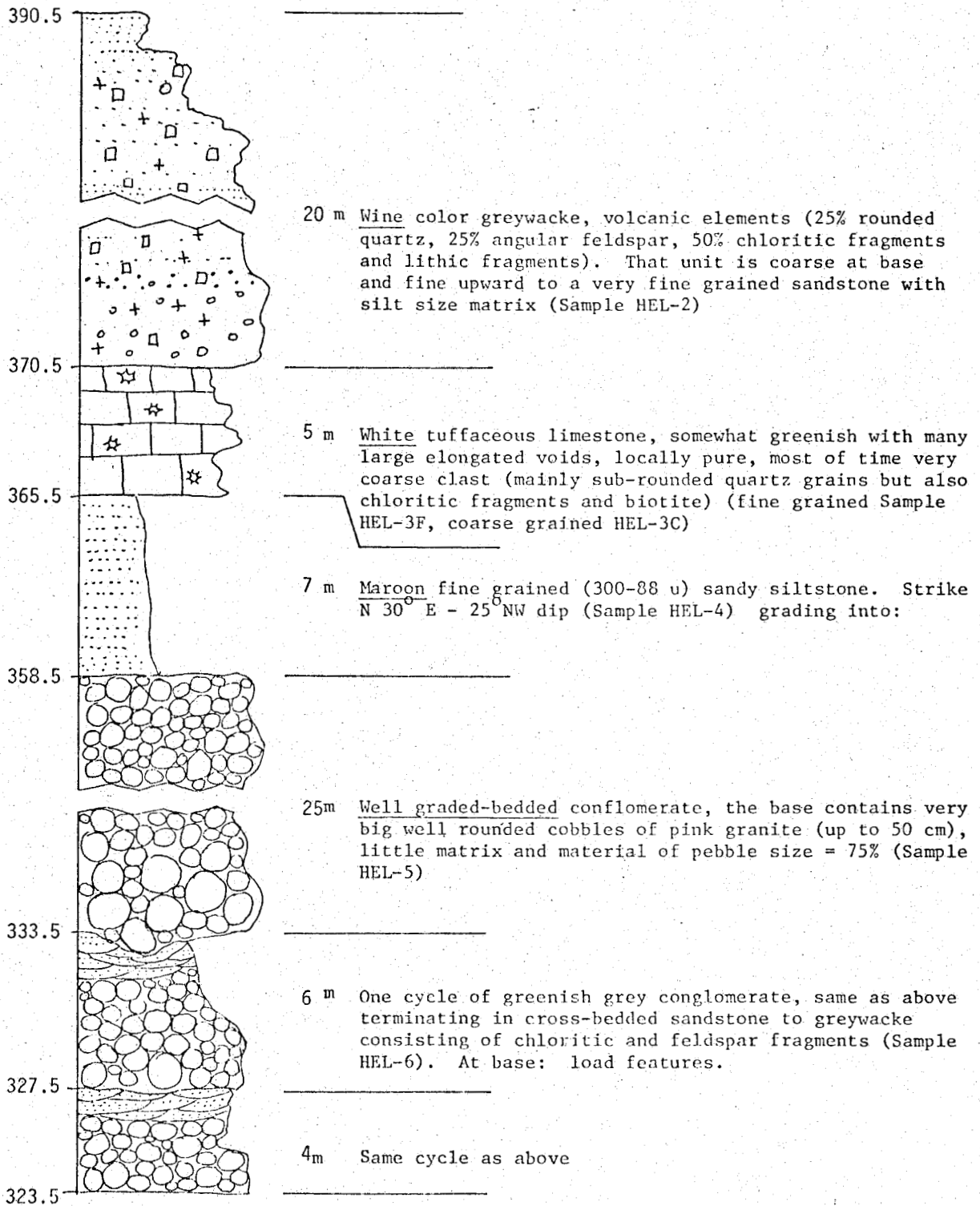


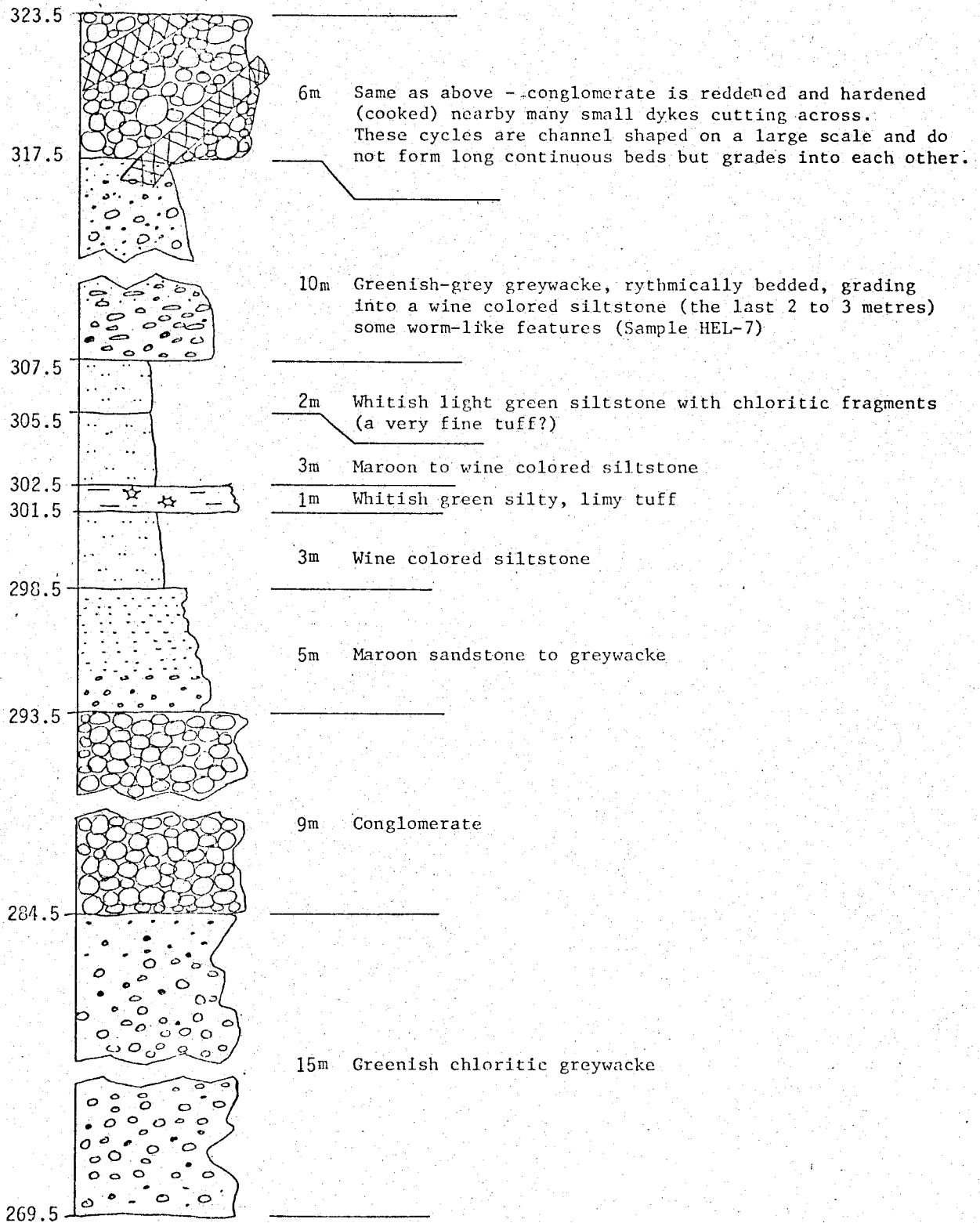
Elevation at base of section = 1420 m

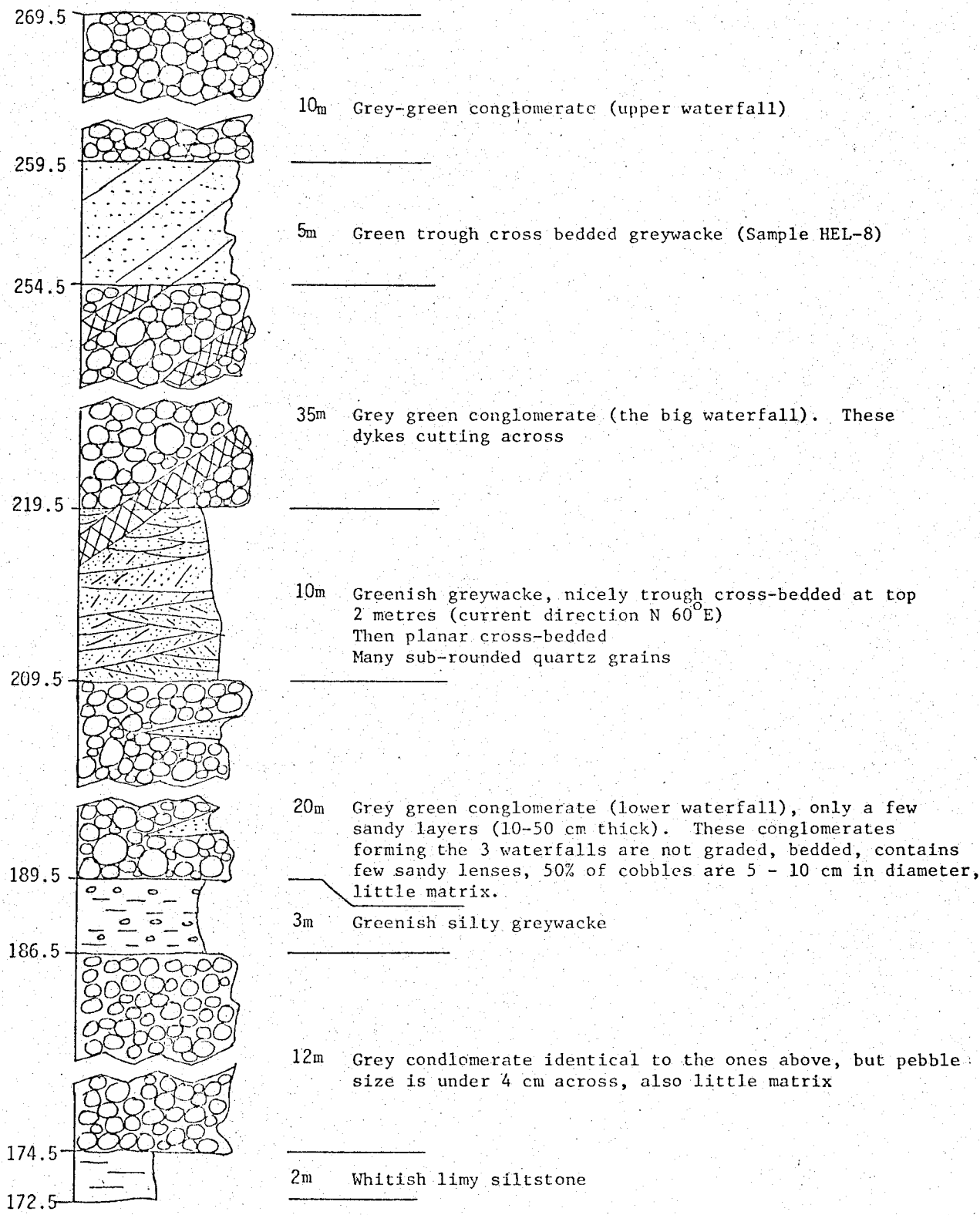
Stratigraphic Measured Section

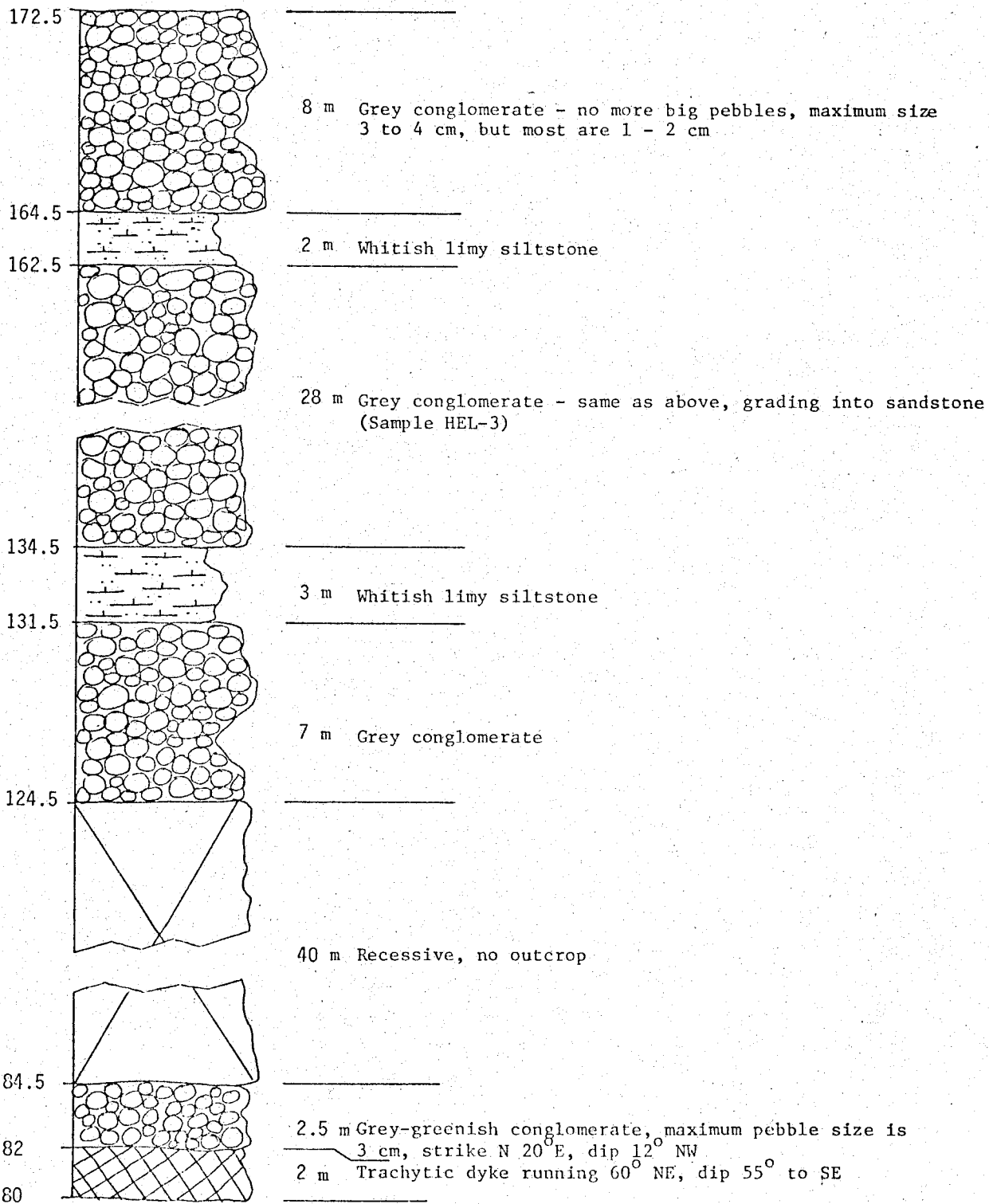
B.C. - Section along "Big Creek" on the northwest face of Mt. Helveker
 - Thicknesses are approximate (H. Salat)



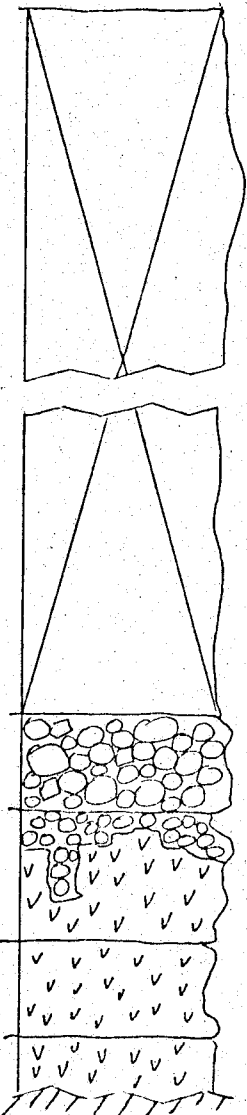








80



70 m Recessive

10

7

3

0

3 m Tan conglomerate, with chert pieces, volcanic fragments, quartz etc, large andesite block from below, coated with ankerite. Very irregular contact.

4 m Andesitic flow

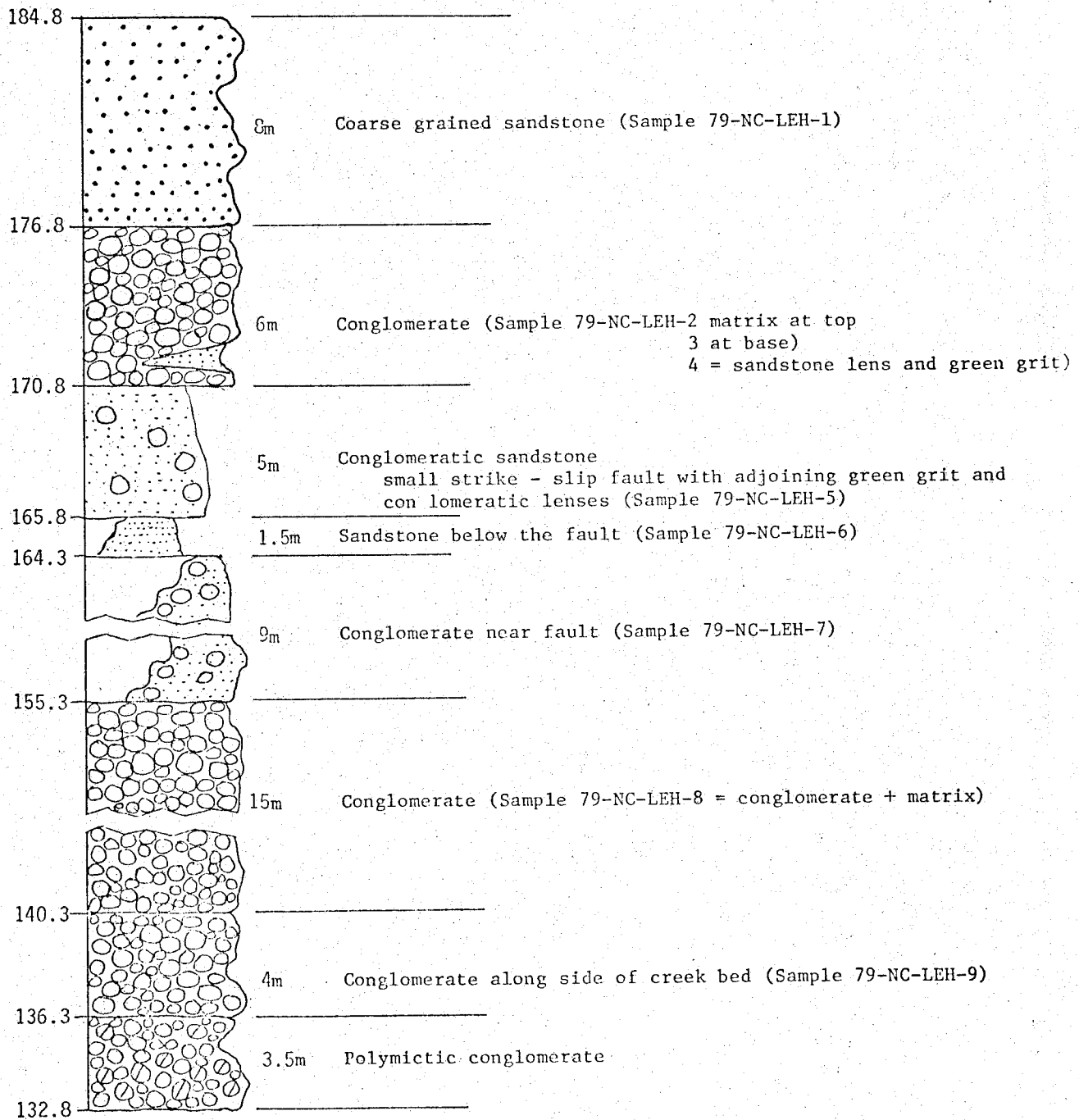
3 m Rhyodacite flow, red brown

Base of section

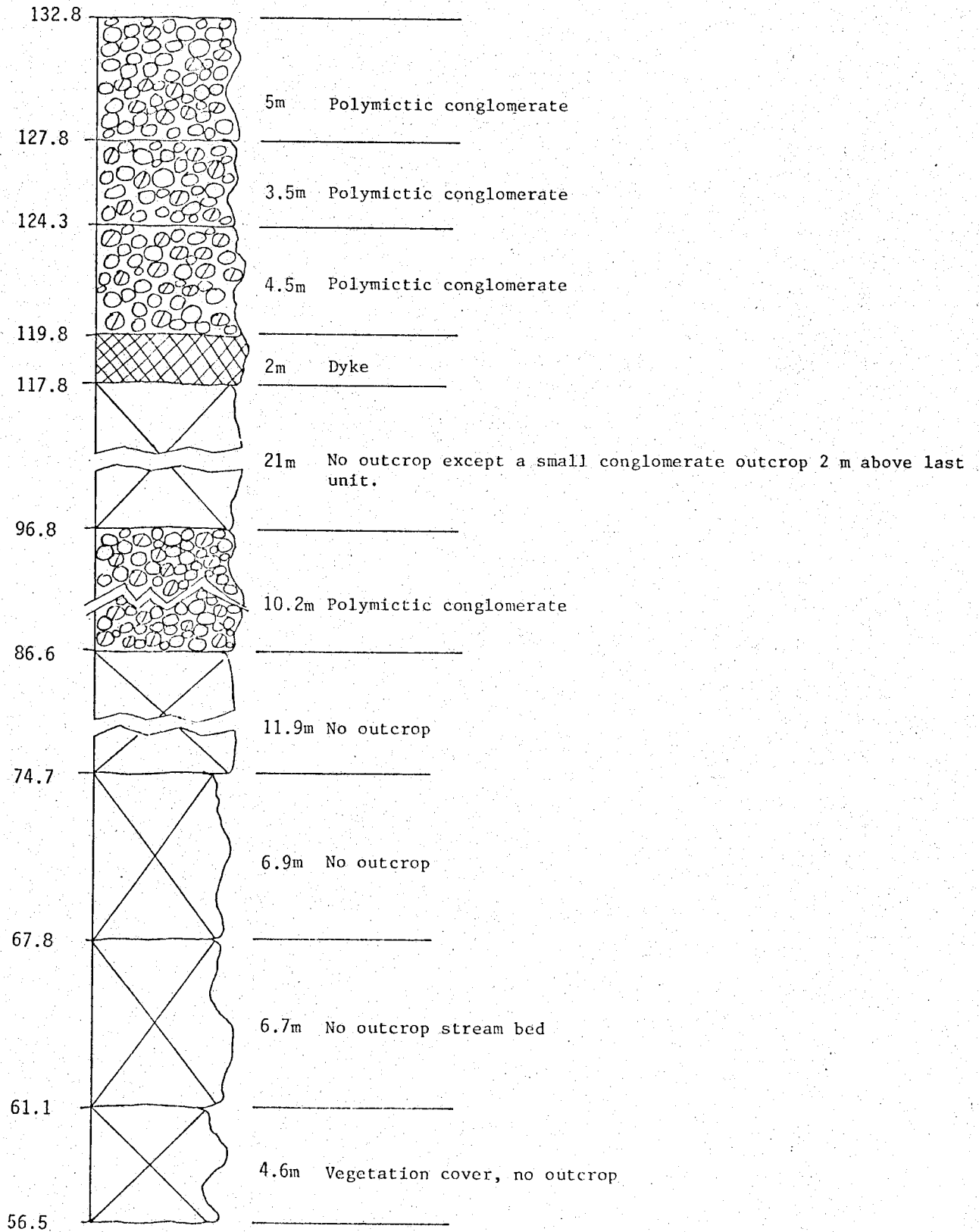
Stratigraphic Measured Section

NC - Section on the NE side of Mt. Helveker (Mike Mann)

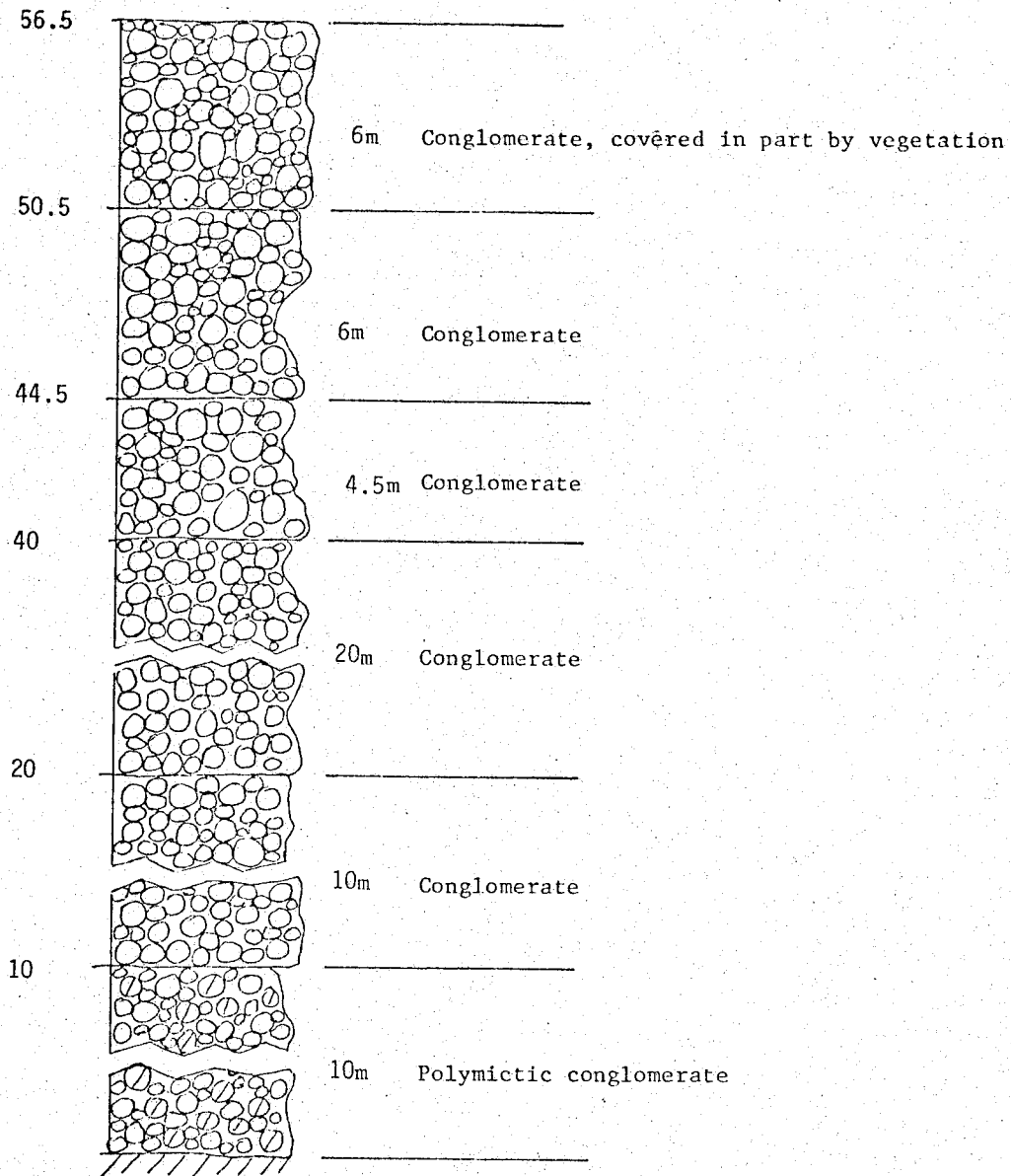
Top of Section - Elevation: 1435 m



NC - Section



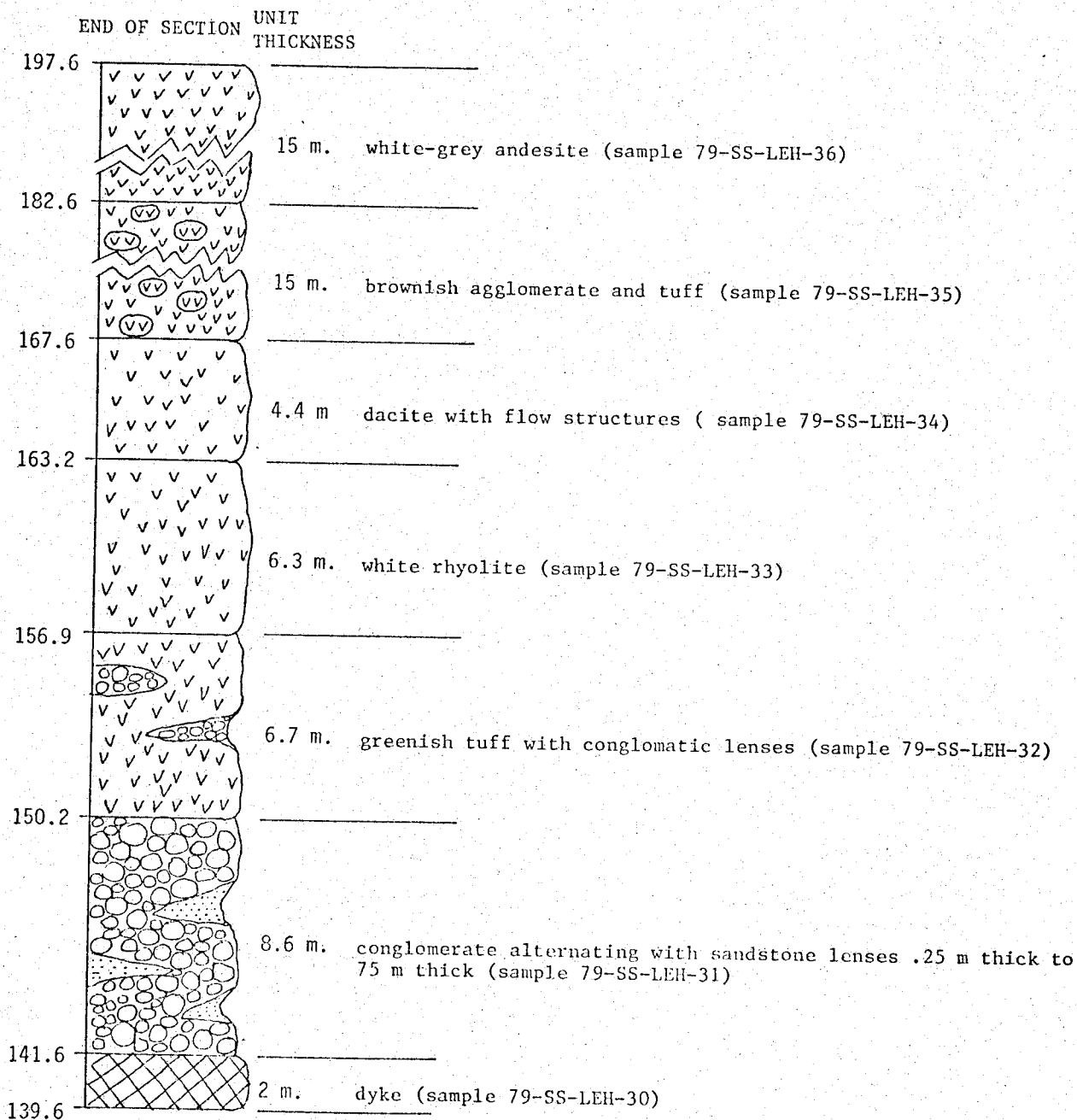
NC - Section

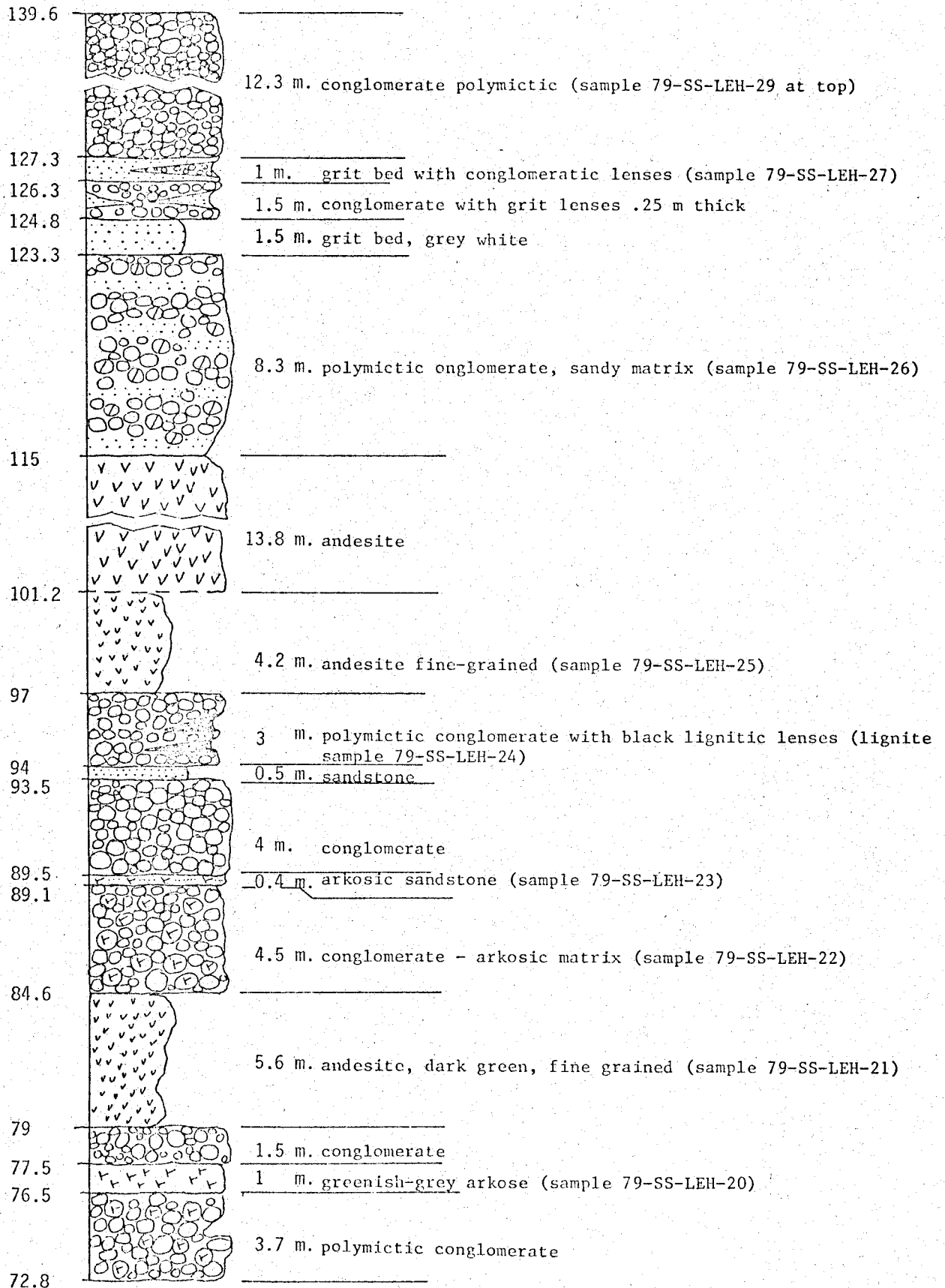


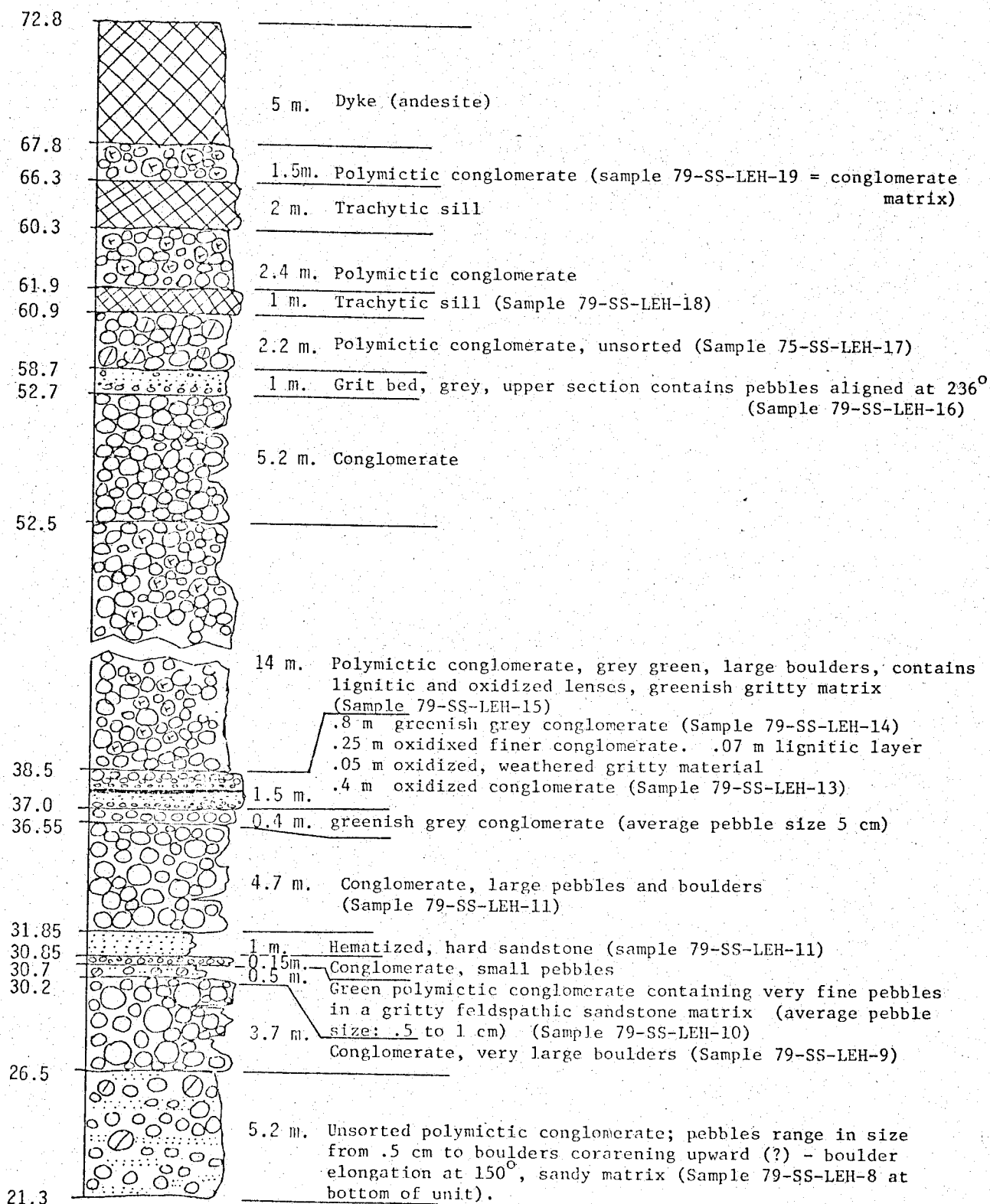
Base of section - 1260 m elevation

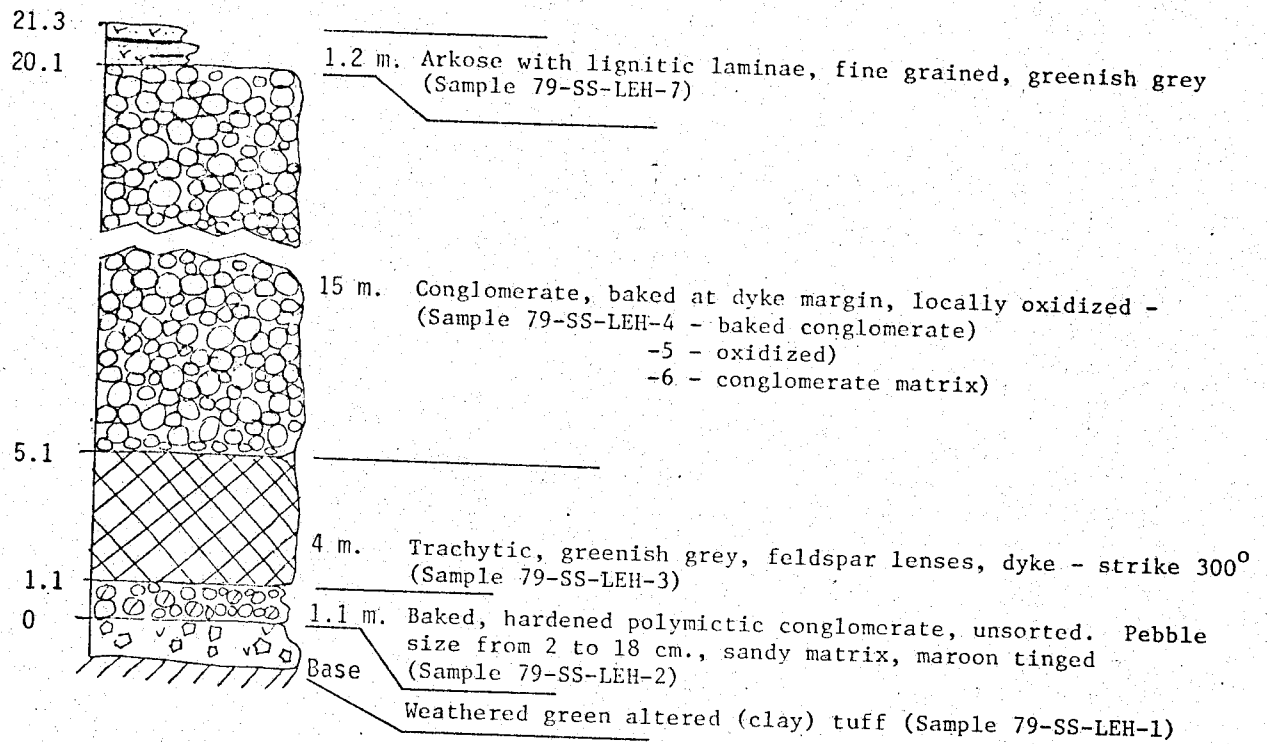
STRATIGRAPHIC MEASURED SECTION

SS - section on southern face of Mt. Helveker,
along the creek which has the main showing (Mike Mann)

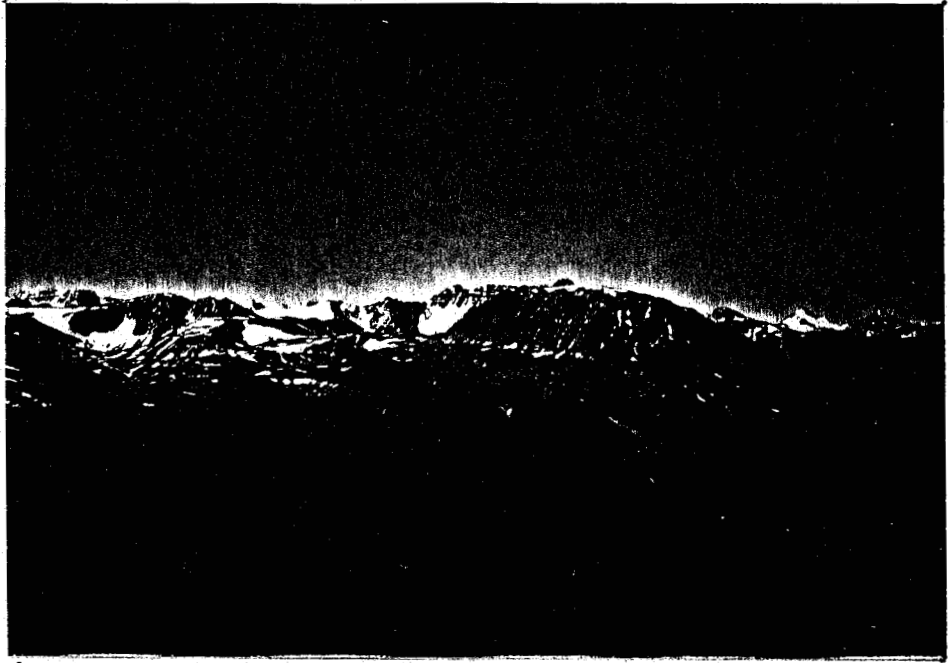




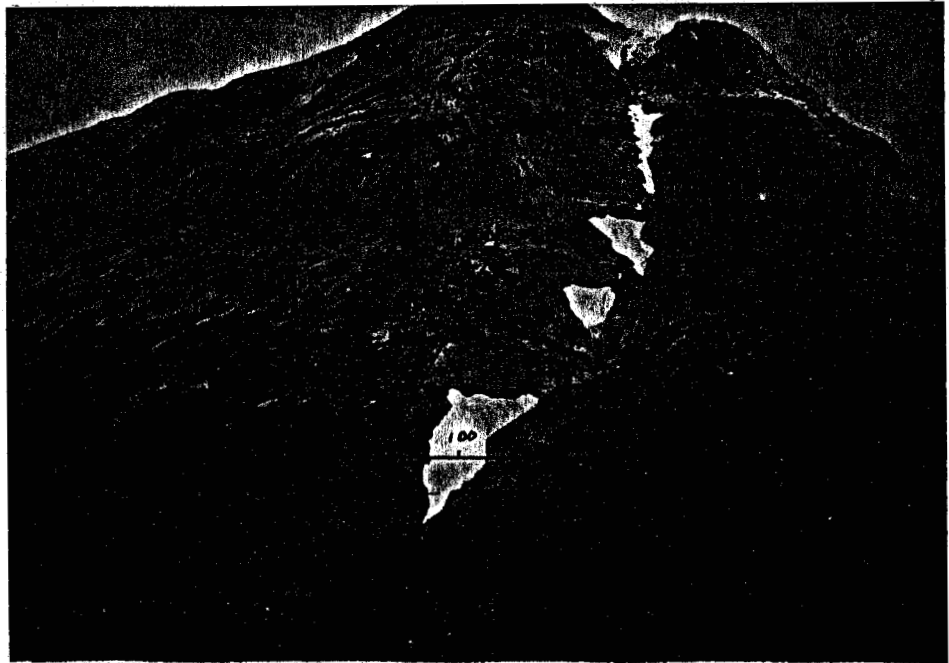




Elevation at base of section 1570 meters.



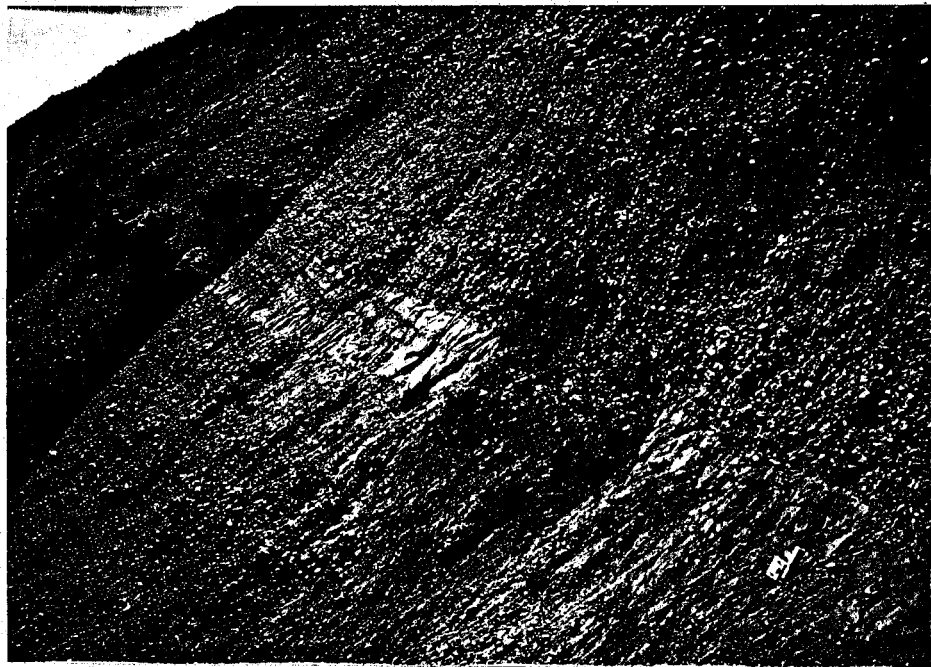
1. Mount Helveker from 10 km to the north



2. The south-east slopes of Mount Helveker, Hel Claims.
Grid location over outcrop area of showing noted.



3. View across a section of Sustut Group conglomerates and sandstones on north slope of Mount Helveker, looking eastward.



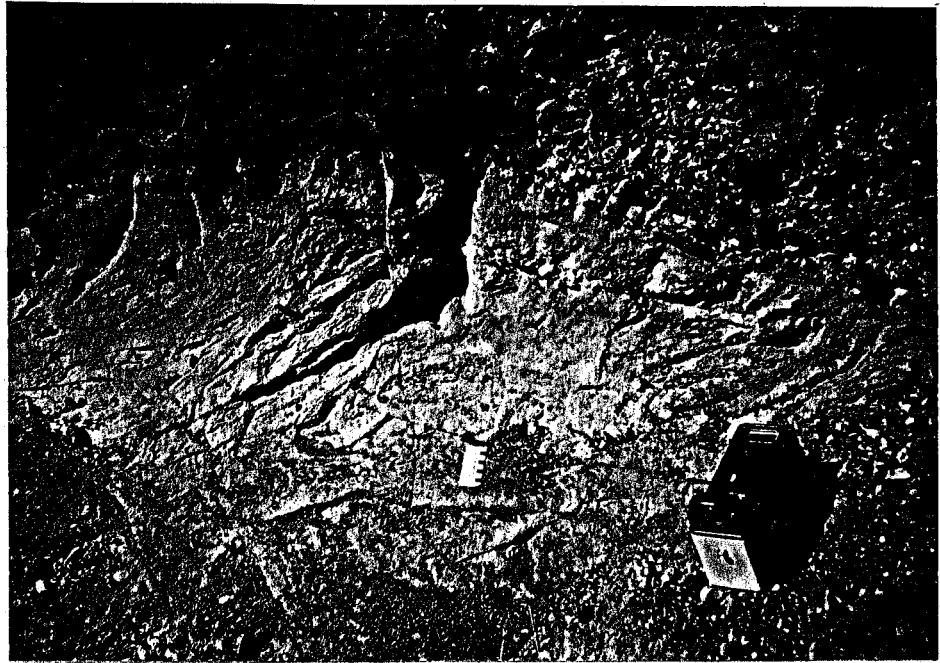
4. Sand lenses containing mineralization, near grid location 100 meters east, 100 meters north on the Hel claims, see photo # 2.



5. Close-up of same sequence shown in previous photo; note small oxidized, mineralized zones in sandstone near centre of photo.



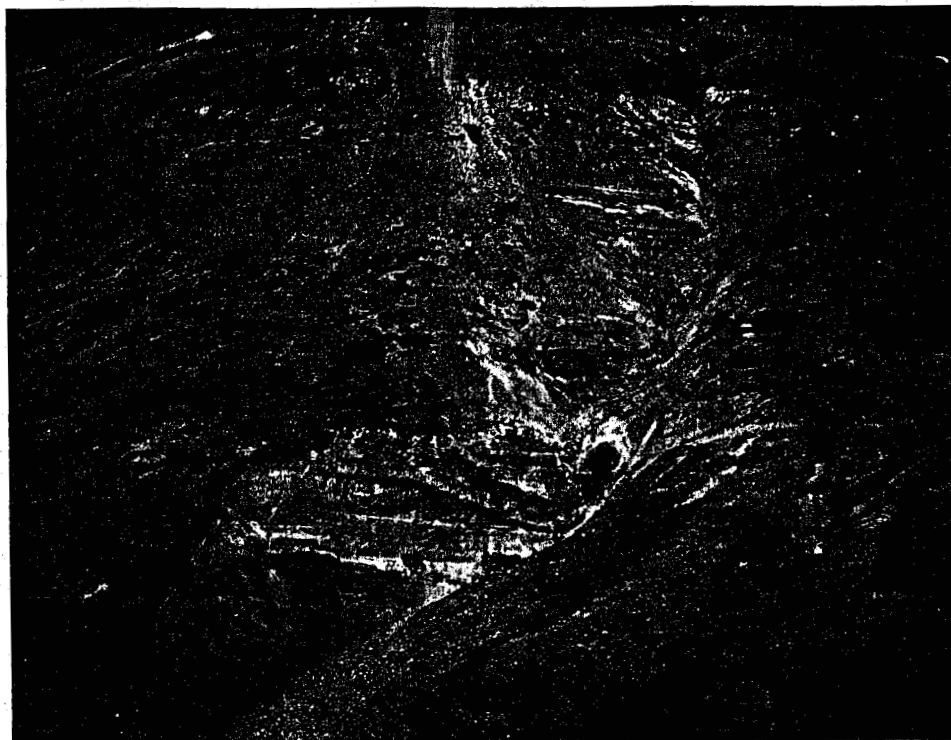
6. Sampling a radioactive zone in oxidized, carbonaceous conglomerate. Note thin coaly bed which contained anomalous uranium content immediately overlying conglomeratic bed.



7. Strongly oxidized and indurated zone in conglomerate and adjacent cross-bedded, fossiliferous sandstone lenses of the Sustut Group on the east flank of Mount Helveker.



8. Calcareous tuff overlying the sequence of maroon conglomerates near the top of the Sustut Group.



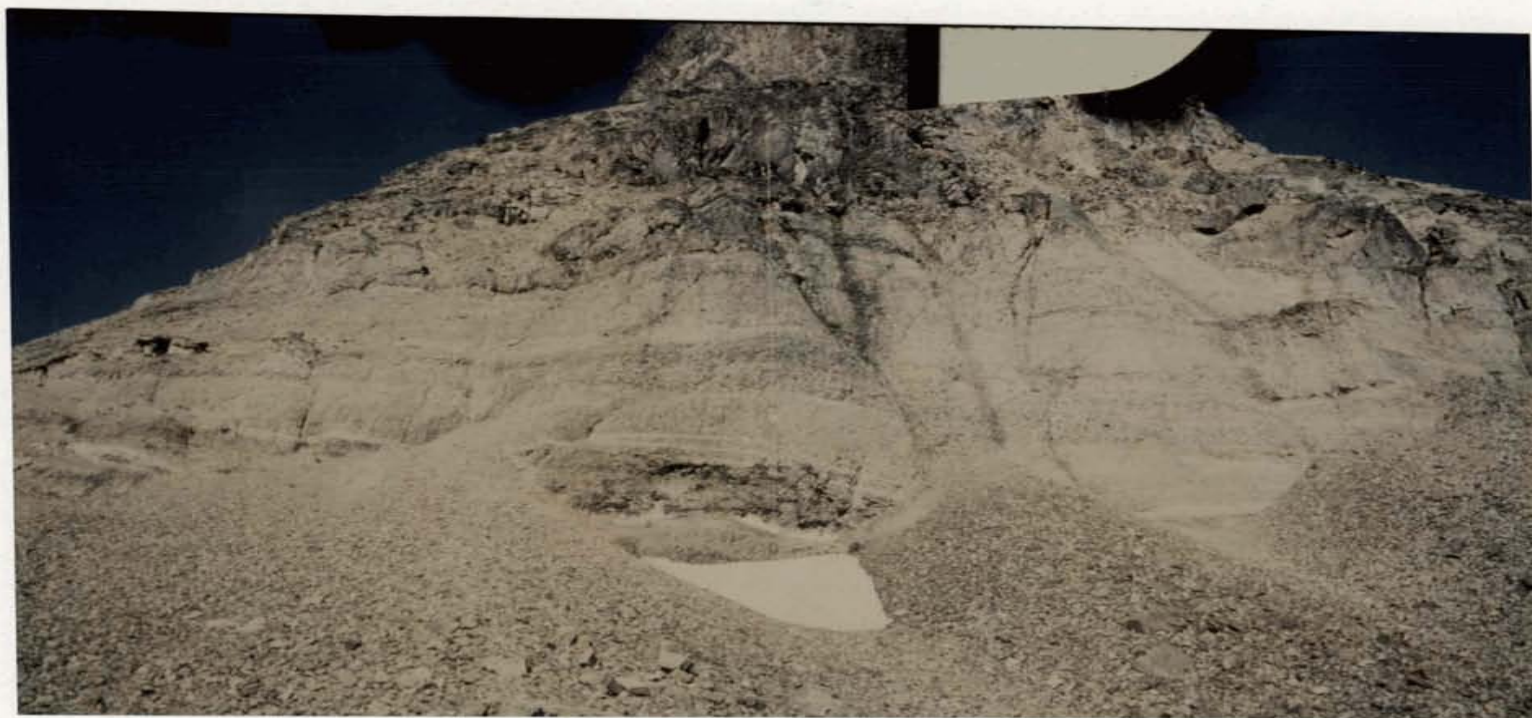
9. View of showing area on Mt. Helveker. Note channel containing mineralization near bottom of photo below dikes. See close-ups of same. About 400 meters of nearly flat lying section is shown.



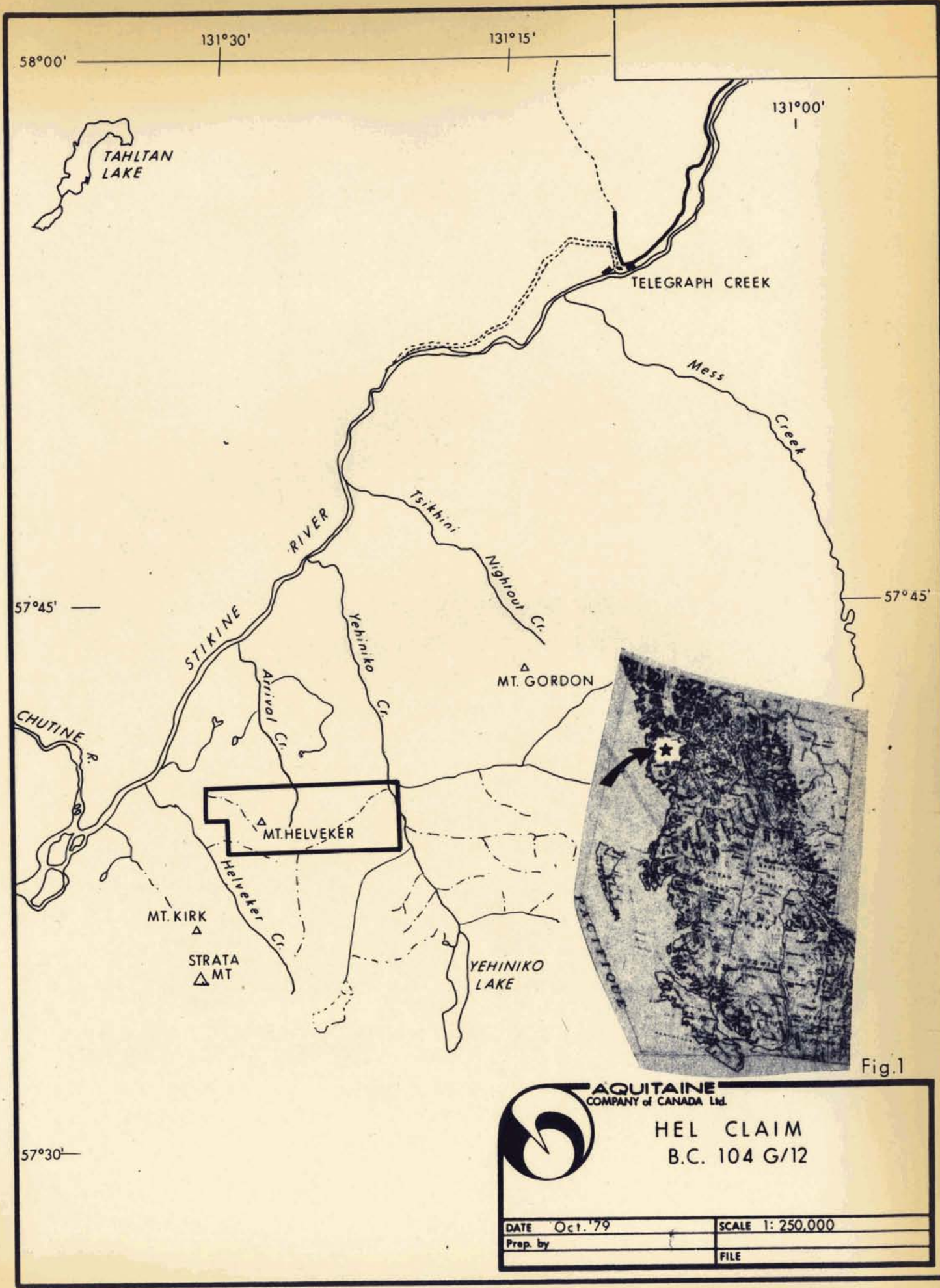
10. Looking east at northwest slope of Mt. Helveker and Sustut clastics capped by Sloko volcanics.



11. View of upper sequence of Sustut conglomerates well above mineralized horizon, looking at upper east slope of Mount Helveker.



11. View of upper sequence of Sustut conglomerates well above mineralized horizon, looking at upper east slope of Mount Helveker.



AQUITAINE
COMPANY of CANADA Ltd.

HEL CLAIM
B.C. 104 G/12

DATE	Oct. '79	SCALE	1: 250,000
Prep. by		FILE	

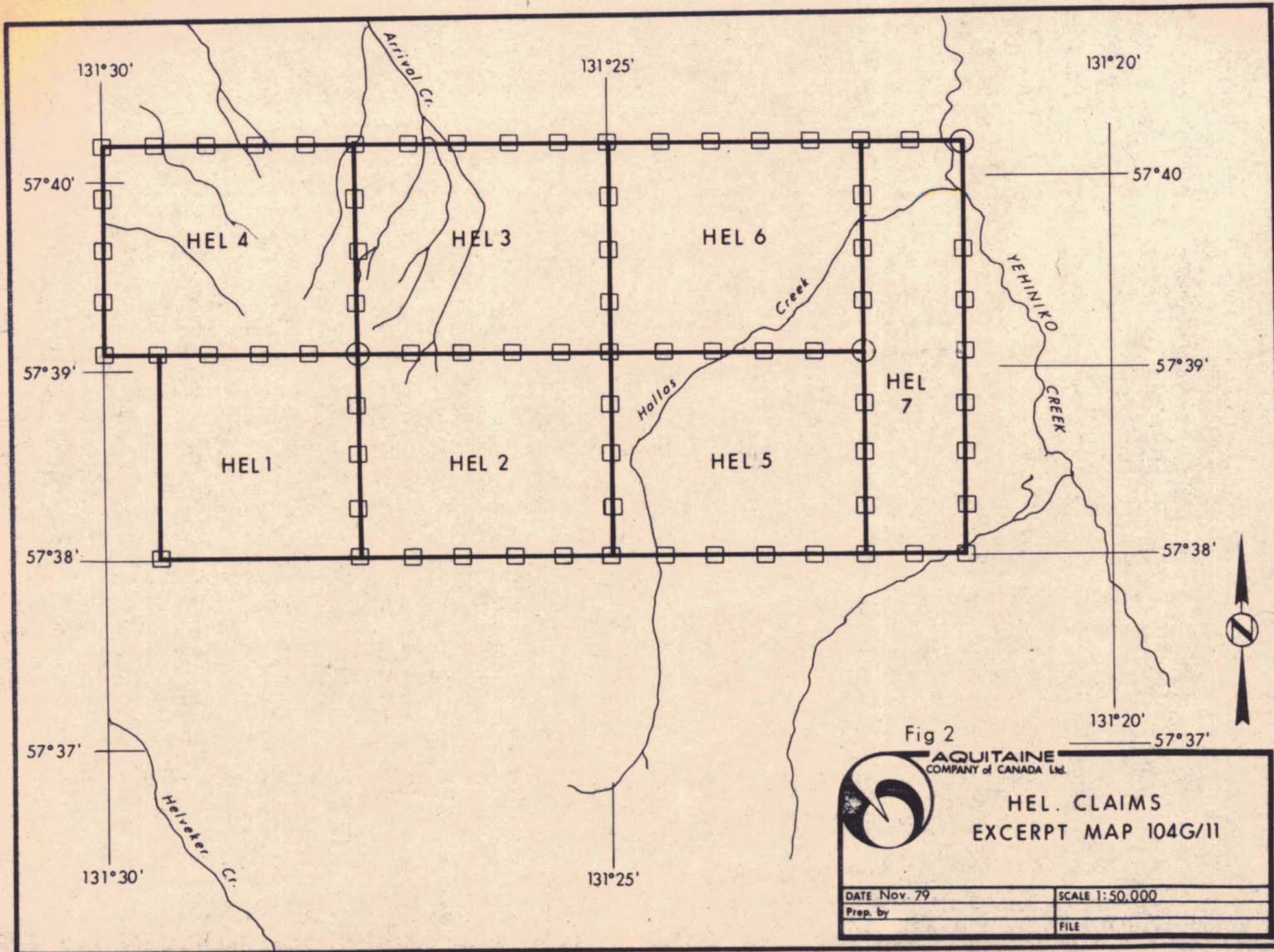


Fig 2



AQUITAINE
COMPANY of CANADA Ltd.

HEL. CLAIMS
EXCERPT MAP 104G/11

DATE Nov. 79

SCALE 1:50,000

Prep. by

FILE

57°40'

57°40'



131°30'

131°25'

- Anticline
- Strike & Dip (inclined, horizontal)
- Geological contact (observed assumed)
- Granite

- Vs Volcanic Sloko group
- Vsr Volcanic Sloko group-white rhyolite
- SUSTUT GROUP**
- CgV Upper Conglomeratic formation
- Org. Organic matter fossil in CgV
- CgL Lower Basal congl. Formation
- m. Whitish tuff marker
- CgUs Red Sandstone in lower Conglomerate

- TRIASSIC JURASSIC**
- Bv Basal volcanic
- Bp Basal pyroclastic
- Bt Basal tuff-siltstone

- X Occurrence
- dy Dyke
- Fault

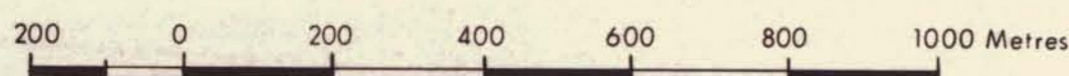


Fig. 3
 AQUITAINE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.
HEL. CLAIMS
PART OF 104G/11
GEOLOGICAL MAP
 Scale 1:10,000 DATE: Nov. '79

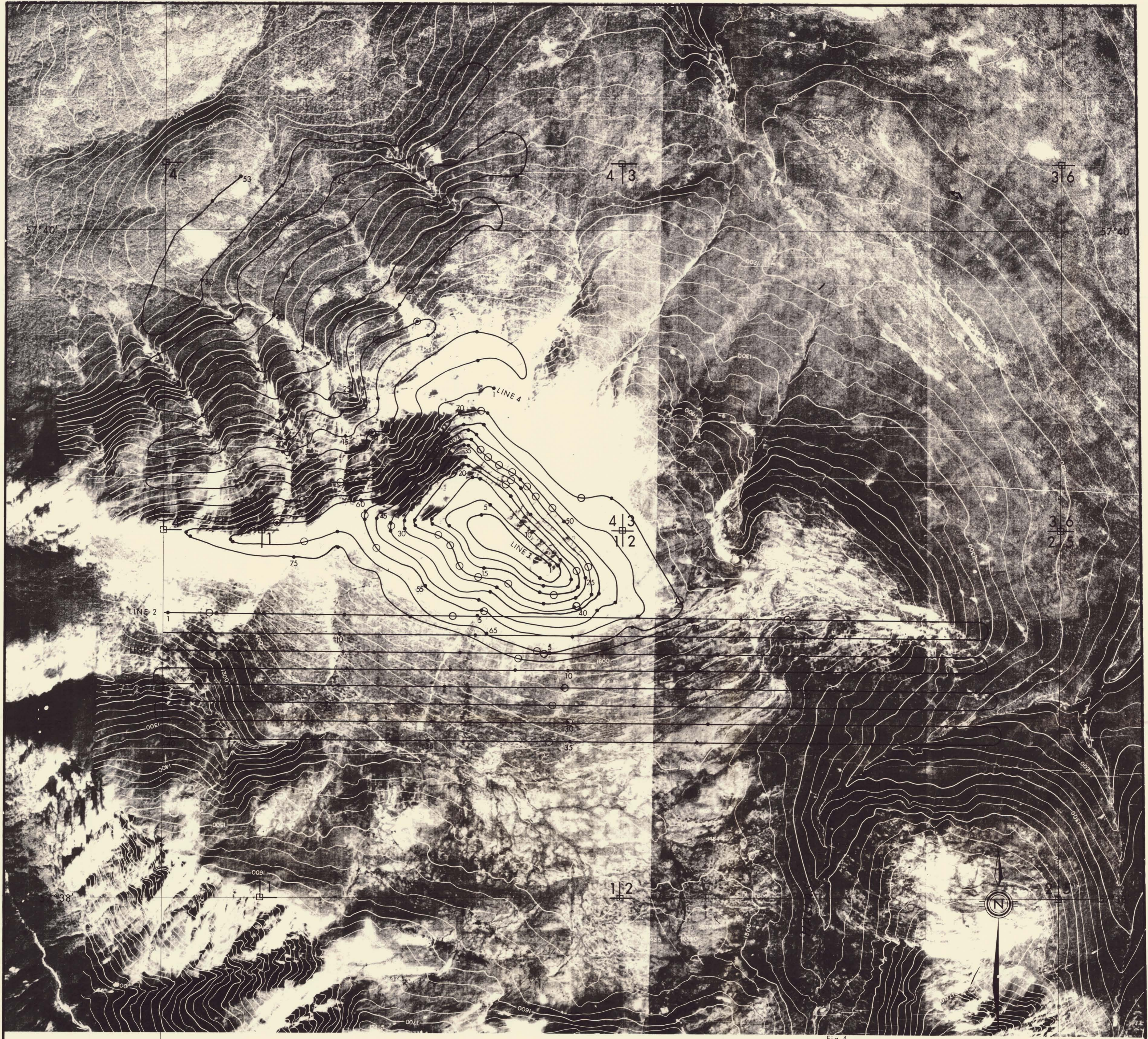


Fig. 4

131°30'

- LEGEND**
- FLIGHTLINE
 - FIDUCIAL POINT
 - ANOMALY

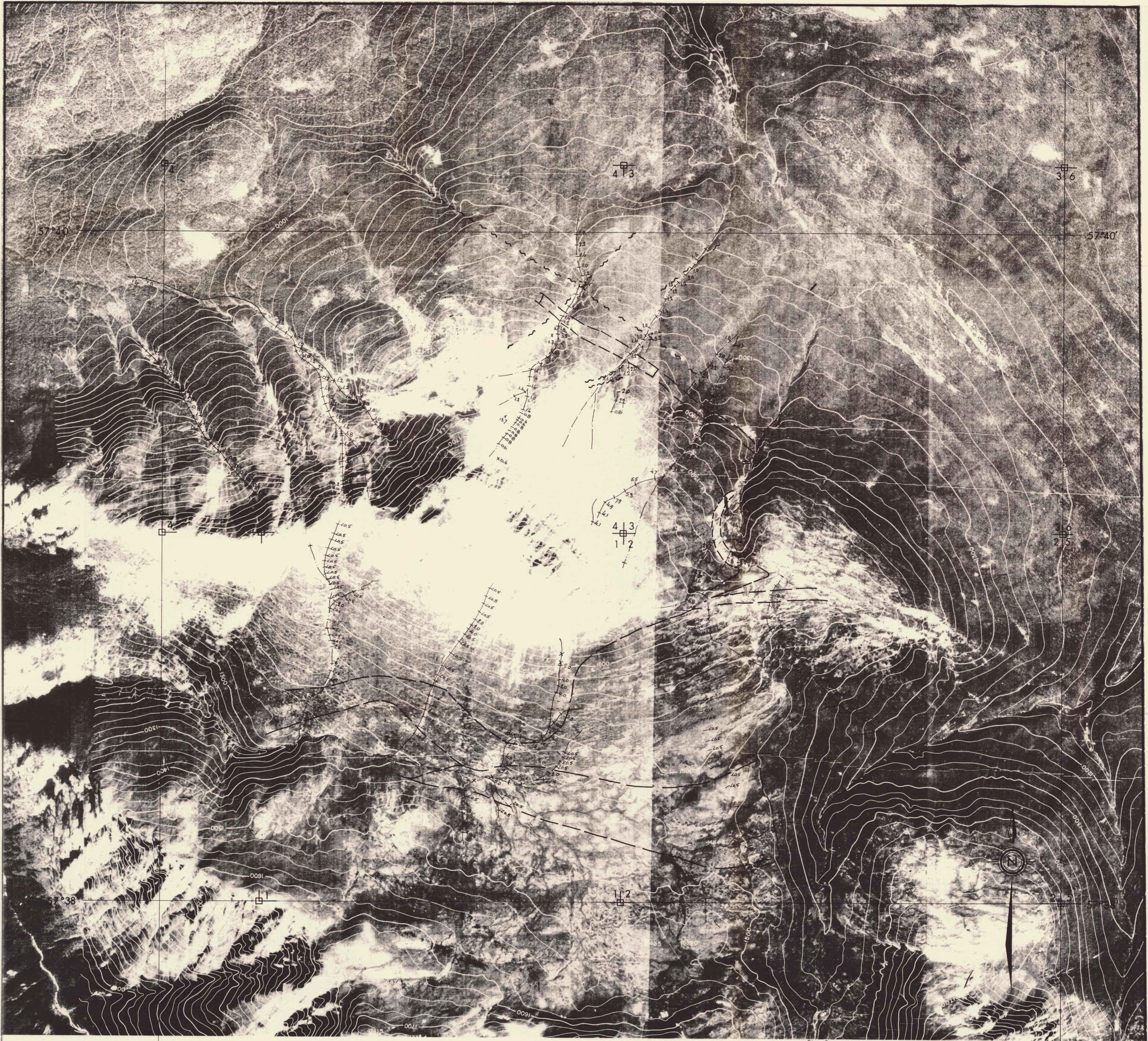


AQUITAINE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.

HEL. CLAIMS
PART OF 104 G/11
GAMMA - RAY SPECTROMETER SURVEY

Scale 1:10,000 DATE Nov. '79


131°25'



131° 30'

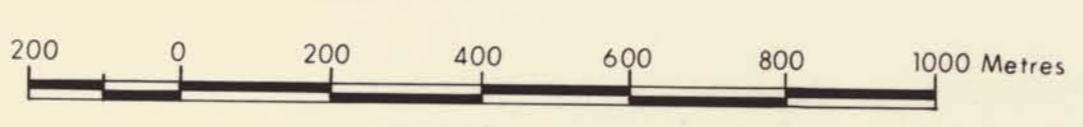
131° 25'

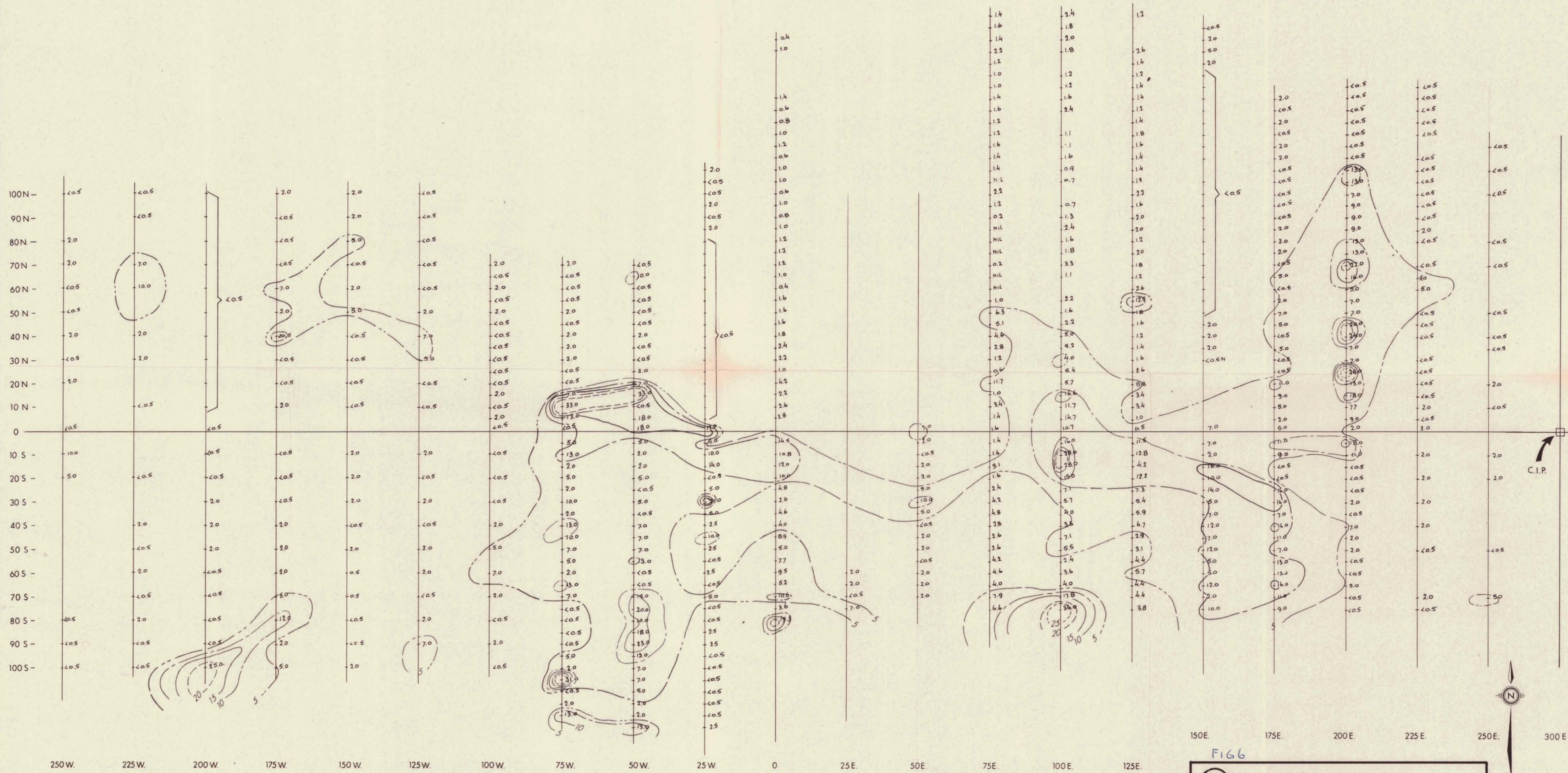
Fig. 5

 AQUITAINE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.

HEL. CLAIMS
 PART OF 104G/11
 STREAM SEDIMENT SAMPLES
 PPM U₃O₈

Scale 1:10,000 DATE: Nov. '79





CONTOUR LEGEND

- 5 ppm. ————
- 10 ppm. ————
- 15 ppm. ————
- 20 ppm. ————
- 25 ppm. ————

NOTE:

Background value appears to be less than 1ppm., but values below 5ppm. have been grouped with the background to ensure that only significant anomalies are shown by contouring

Claim Identification Post
Hel 1
Post 1 South
No 614

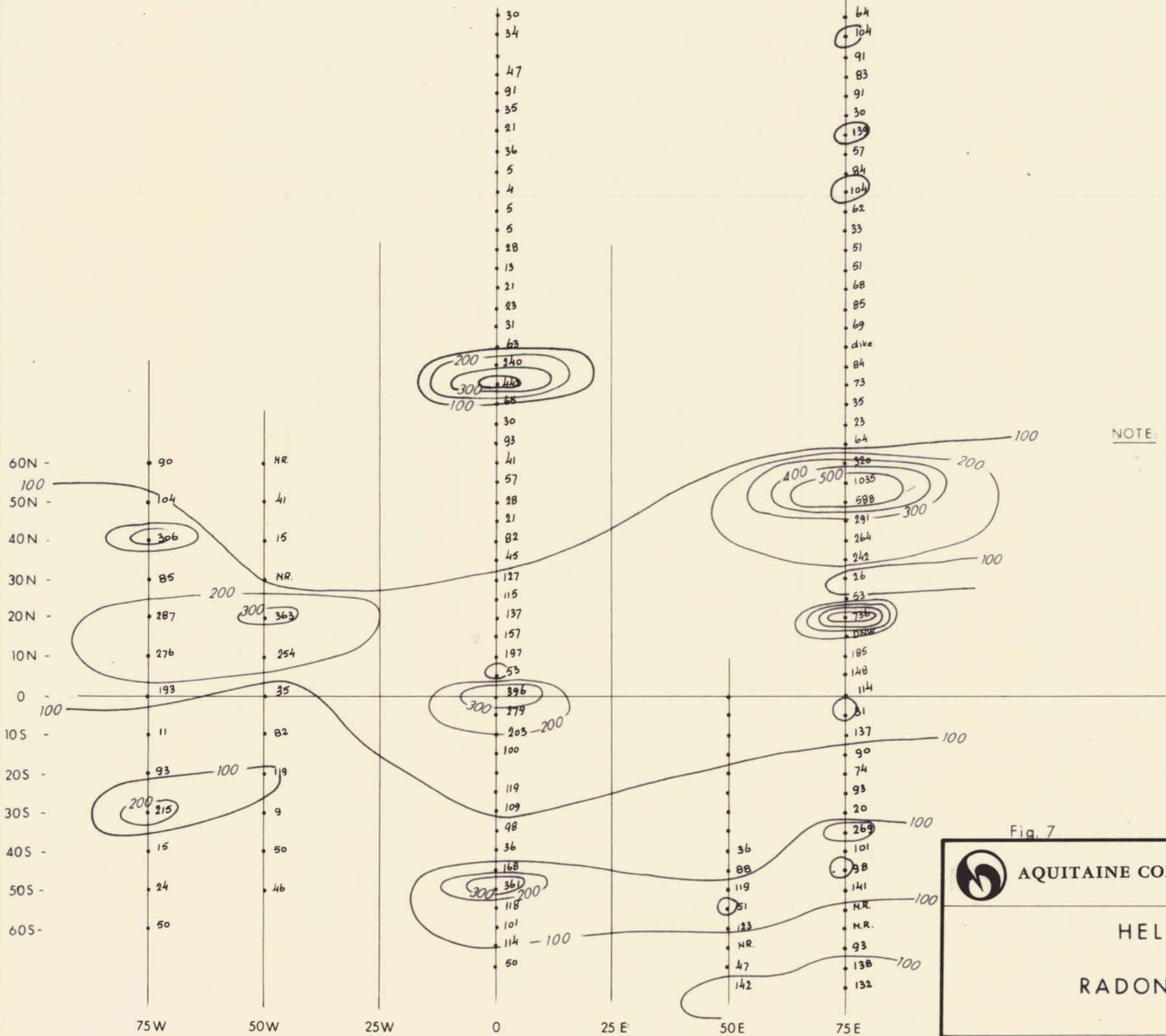
150E. 175E. 200E. 225E. 250E. 300E

FIG 6

AQUITAINE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.

**HEL CLAIMS
B.C.
URANIUM VALUES FROM A
GEOCHEMICAL SURVEY
(SOIL SAMPLING)**


Scale: 3cm = 25m Date: July 1979



NOTE: Values presented are counts per hour averaged over a 24 hour interval



Fig. 7



AQUITAINE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD.

**HEL CLAIMS
B.C.
RADON SURVEY**

Scale 3cm = 25m. Date: July 1979