

We are committed to providing [accessible customer service](#).

If you need accessible formats or communications supports, please [contact us](#).

Nous tenons à améliorer [l'accessibilité des services à la clientèle](#).

Si vous avez besoin de formats accessibles ou d'aide à la communication, veuillez [nous contacter](#).

Grassroots prospecting of the Mosquito Nest project
Years 2019 and 2020

Author: Norbert Reichert

Work performed mainly by Norbert Reichert of Ilderton, 411895 owner of the claims

Helpers as available, time on site listed in diary:

David Arthur Lochhead of Ottawa, 3530 Downpatrick Rd (licensed prospector)

Richie Picard of Cambridge, 77 redwood Avenue.

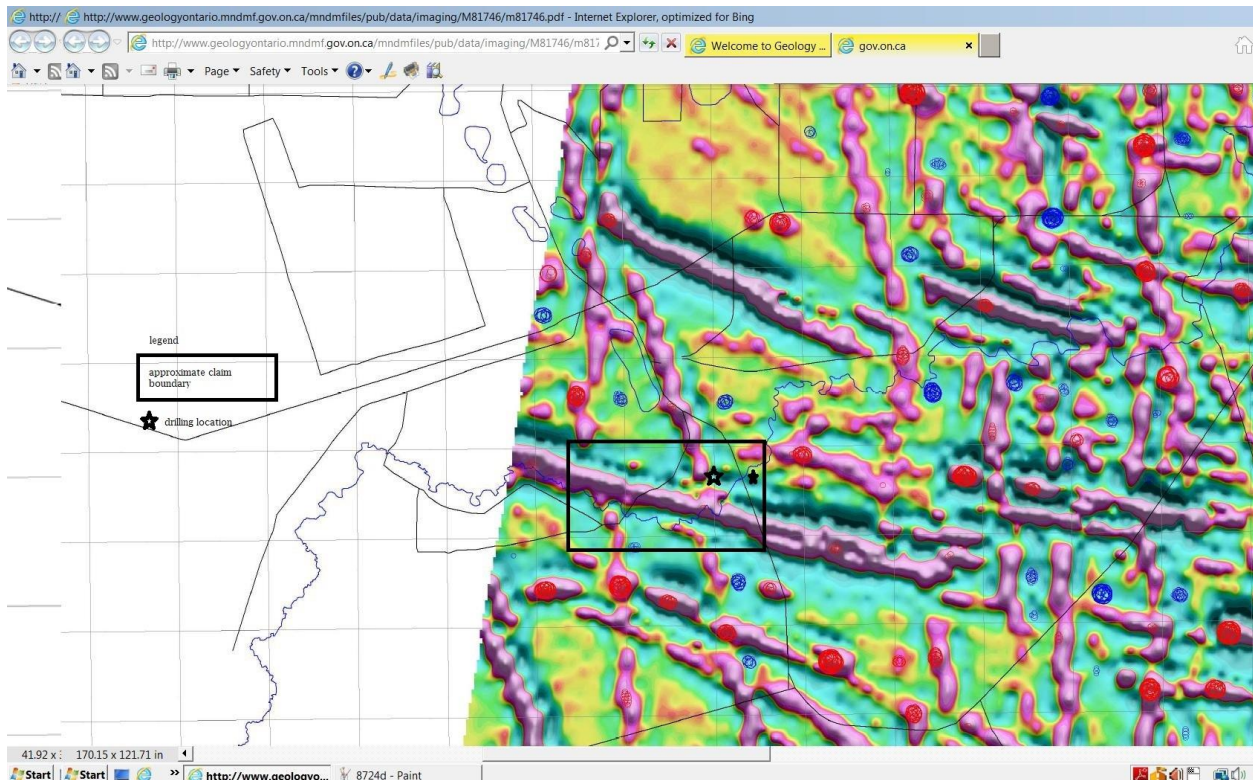
Norbert Reichert (senior) also of Ilderton

Property located on border of Wilhelmina and Geary townships, (42A13) northwest of Timmins, Ontario, accessible from Kamiskotia Lake by taking Red Pine road for 36km. Claim numbers are 544470, 544471 and 544472

Purpose of exploration;

The purpose the exploration was to locate the magnetic anomalies noted on previous aerial magnetic surveys by other exploration companies, taken from the government website [geologyontario.mndmf.gov.on.ca/mndmfiles/pub/data/imaging/M81746.pdf](http://www.geologyontario.mndmf.gov.on.ca/mndmfiles/pub/data/imaging/M81746.pdf)

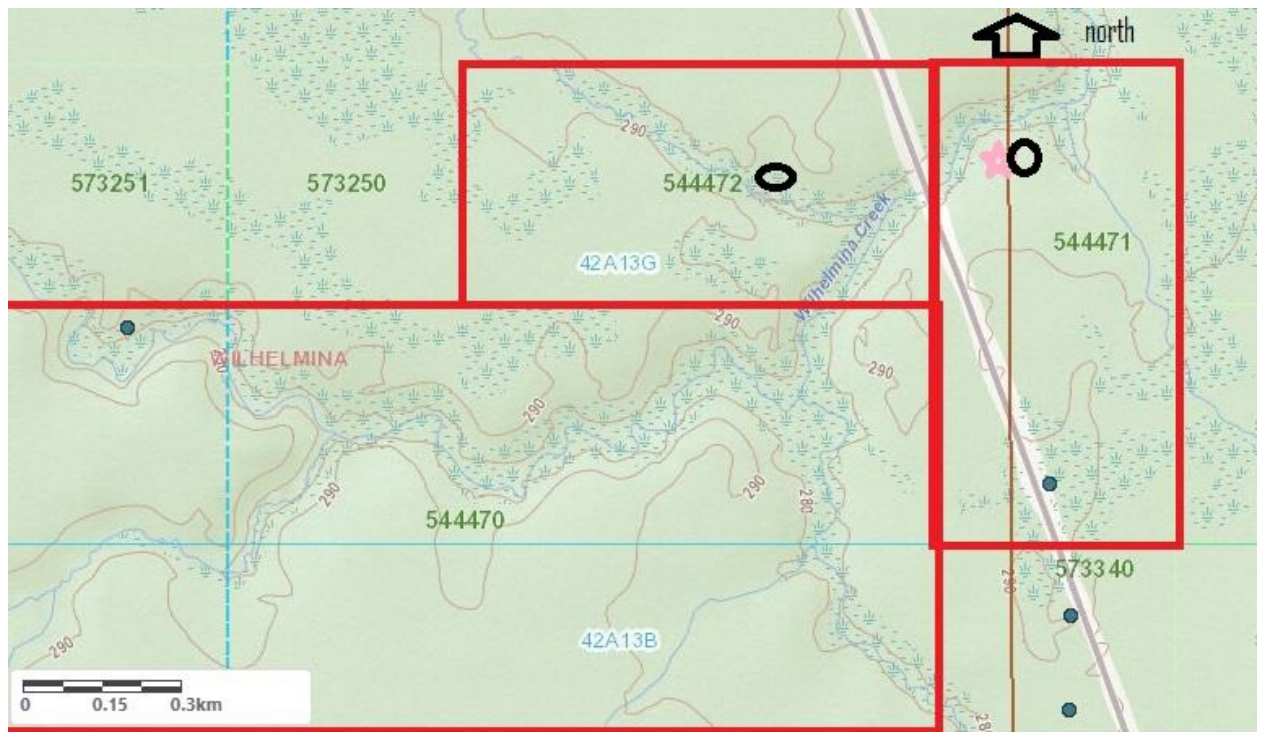
A picture of the map is below





Working. Loading mlas map data... X





- ★ approximate location of fossilized coral found
- area where drilling took place

DAILY LOGS

2019 April 26, left Ilderton to head to Timmins. Arrived early on the morning of the 27th to meet up with David Arthur Lochhead of Ottawa, 3530 Downpatrick Rd. 613-410-2635. Since then we had a falling out and I do not have his prospector license number. I arrived to Kamiskotia Lake area firs. Red Pine lake road is inaccessible, has not been plowed and road is full of thick snowy ice. I managed to drive in about 20km before my truck got stuck in the snow. Cancelled expedition and returned home

No samples were taken.

2019 May 6, left Ilderton with my dad, a licensed prospector. Truck at 333319km, logged and tracked as truck is mainly used for accessing claims. We met with David Lochhead about 8km from the claim where the road splits, his 2wd full-size van would not pass over the deep snow of the untraveled road. The three of us went to the claim in my truck. Red Pine roads is treacherous, but my customised truck with oversized snow tires got us to claim. Off the road, in the forest there is about 2.5 feet of hard ice/snow crystals, each step sunk into it to above the knee. With great effort we walked down about 880 feet to the creek. Water level was about 6 feet higher than experienced over the last 6 years, and the riverbanks we wanted to pan and sample were flooded. Water was moving too fast, area was deemed unsafe to be working near moving water.

No samples were taken.

2019 May 17, truck at 335161km. Warm weather has been in the forecast, I attempted to meet up with David to get some drilling / prospecting done. Checked all area webcams, forests appear mostly free of snow. WE drove to claim, but water levels were still too high. David attempted to sample bottom of creek but water carried him a bit. This was the year of the Ottawa flood, and waterways in area were flowing too fast and are too high to safely explore. Expedition cancelled for safety.

No samples were taken.

May 27, truck at 337169km. We (David and I) have been watching webcams from surrounding areas for water levels. We have watched 511on.ca and Departure Lake camera for water level info. From the camera footage of a bridge we deemed water levels to be acceptable. We arrived at site. Waterlevel at claim is still dangerously high and flowing fast. Aborted expedition.

No samples were taken.

June 5 2019, truck at 339321km. Left for Timmins with Norbert Sr. We hauled the new Shaw drill into the claim. In an area with lots of boulders in the creek I attempted to drill several holes to find bedrock, but only found clay. The unit only has 12 feet of drill pipes, I was hoping it would be enough. I drilled another 5 holes nearby hoping to hit an outcrop, but none were found. Returned with 341231km after only 1 day on claim.

Notes: This area 17U 446074 E 5409846 I find very interesting, the bottom of the creek is mostly clay, but in spots there is gravel, and some smaller, rough boulders not worn smooth. They are

deposited there after the clay layer already settled. Three of these small boulders I core-drilled, but boulders were solid and nothing in the composition hinted at quartz or precious metals. This creek also contains a few transparent or milky opaque stones, as well as black sand, and bits of quartz fragments. I don't see where in the area the quartz could have come from, there is nothing but clay on the sides of the creek all the way to the lake 1.34km away. Patches of gravel appear, some seemingly from just below the surface, probably from past flooding and landslides in the area.

No samples were removed from site.

2020

Sunday sept 27, 2020. Left Ilderton, met up with my partner Richie Picard of Cambridge, then travelled to Timmins in his motorhome, trailing an ATV and the drilling equipment.

Sept 28, 2020 Spent 8 hours Monday and 8 hours Tuesday drilling the overburden for a core sample at 17 U 446074 E 5409846 . (446134.70E5409846.21N) This is the same area I attempted to hit bedrock the previous year, but this year we brought a longer drill capable of reaching 30 feet down. We chose six spots near this location (because there are boulders in the creek nearby), leading us to believe that overburden would be not as deep as in other spots. Note, a few years previous I have used an excavator to try to get to bedrock at just over 140 meters east-south-east of this spot but overburden proved too deep for the excavator with a digging depth of 22 feet. I have spent considerable time examining past area and drill records at both the geologist's office in South Porcupine as well as MLAS, I am aware that drill records show an overburden 22 to 75 meters, but I maintain that boulders present have to come from somewhere nearby.

To reach bedrock I brought a two-horsepower Shaw Backpack Drill, capable of taking a 42 mm core sample. It comes with 2-foot long drill pipe sections, a 2-stroke gas engine and a battery powered water pipe. Manufacturer claims it is able to drill down to about 30 feet.

Pic below shows same drill with smaller core drill.



The drill uses a "J-hook" type quick-connect to quickly assemble or disassemble drill pipes. It also uses three O-rings between sections to seal in the supplied water needed for drilling. As the seals are away from the locking tabs of the connector and the drill shaft assembly bends during drilling and adding drill pipe, a downfall of the design is that sand and clay pack into the connectors and makes drill pipe disassembly difficult to impossible. This design flaw became apparent after drilling the first hole at 446134.90E 5409862.61 N, the drill quickly drilled down to 30 feet in about 30 minutes. We did not hit bedrock, most of the removed material was a sandy-clay mix encountered throughout the claim.

While a decent machine when drilling into rock, it has proved difficult to work in the heavy overburden made up of clay. I suspect some of the clay in the area is hydraulic clay, meaning as drill is progressing and water is pumped into drill hole at times drilling has to stop to allow water to flush out enough clay to allow the motor to resume proper engine speed. The fine clay mixture also flows into the connection between the pipes, often making disassembly quite difficult. Because of this, removal of the drill pipes is two-man work, one to hold the pipe from falling into the ground while other twists and pries to get pipes apart. While 30 feet of drill pipe is still liftable by one man, 30 feet of drill pipe stuck together and unwilling to twist apart was unforeseen, and required setting up a rigging method involving an ATV with a winch. Most of day one was spent trying to retrieve the drill rod and separate the pieces.

September 29, 2020 , (day 2) we began the day attempting a sample from the bedrock at UT17 0446134 5409862 N, in close vicinity of previous day's drilling. After several attempts and hitting nothing but clay we tried again at 0446134E 5409835N closer to the river, hoping that if the soil is moist then perhaps the clay would be easier to work with as if it is indeed hydraulic clay then it would be swollen already. The drill pipes got lodged together in the fine clay, and no effort on our part was able to separate the drill pipes into manageable length, requiring sometimes 18 feet of drill pipes to be removed as one, and disassemble on the ground after. Another problem frustrating drilling effort was that the 60 P.S.I. 2 Gallon-per-minute water supply was insufficient to push all the drillings out of the bore hole, every two feet when the pipes extension were installed, the pressure in the ground pushed clay into the drill pipe, eventually jamming it up, requiring the removal of the entire drill string, cleaning, disassembling and cleaning all connections before reinstallation and drilling again.

At the end of day two we had to call it quits, even with the ATV and winch aiding removal procedure, holding of drill pipe and jammed bits were too much in the rain.

October 13, 2020 I left for Timmins, 348409km and returned home the same day with 348722km after the truck lost power while heading up towards Timmins. Diagnosis showed a clogged fuel filter. Replaced, and truck ran well again.

Friday, October 16, I again headed up. Left Ilderton at 348722km on odometer. Solo operation. Arrived at claim in cool but sunny weather.

October 17, 2020. At 17U0446522 5409935, entered claim across the highway from last drilling effort. Metal detecting and panning the valley revealed some interesting fossils such as a fossilised finger coral and a bunch of small shells in a rock, as well as a petrified honeycomb structure still unidentified. See below in samples.

Some of the rocks in on part of the creek bed I broke open with a sledge hammer, they showed pyrite and traces of quartz. Hoping for shallow overburden, I proceeded to setup for drilling. At 18 foot depth the drill string suddenly stopped rotating. I tried lifting but the bit was seized in whatever it hit. At the end of the 9 hour day the drill string was still in the bore hole. (note, I gave up trying to lift it out of the ground and left the drill string stuck in the ground and left the claim, leaving behind my drill string)

October 18 2020. spent 6 hours retrieving the drill bit. It took all the leverage and lifting I could manage with my ATV (rear wheels in the air and winch cable attached to drill string, cantilevering off the front wheels) and a pipe wrench used to twist and pry at same time. The recovery was semi-successful, I bent 4 pieces of drill pipe in the process (see attached receipt of 395.50 on October 29th) the pieces were also stuck together, requiring me to drag through the forest an 8 and a 12 foot section of pipes behind the ATV.

While cleaning up I noticed quarts chunks embedded into the flutes of the drill. I contemplated trying to drill it again, but after adding up the remaining bits that were not damaged I did not have enough to reach the same depth I reached before.

To avoid any further drill-string jams, especially in a place inaccessible with the ATV, I devised a proper lift mechanism, pipe holder and other tools for next trip. I also devised a check-valve into the drill head to keep clay and water from backwashing into the drill string again. I suspect that clay is swelling clay and once all 60psi of water is shut off while drill string sections are added the pressure puts more clay into the drill string than the water pump can push out. I also purchased a Honda WH15 high pressure waterpump to increase water supply to drill.

Only samples removed were fossil samples, see below

November 4, 2020. Left London with truck at 351021km. Snowy weather past Sudbury delayed Richie and my arrival until early on morning of the 5th. We proceeded to go back to the bore hole that grabbed the drill bit. Due to the snow covering the ground and the lousy GPS coverage (11 foot accuracy displayed that I guessed was more) we drilled 3 holes 30 feet deep within 15 feet of where bore hole was, the drill bit brought up fine gravel stuck in the clay in the drill bit flutes. No sign of 8hrs

November 6th Drilled hole at 17U 0446532 5409934, did not hit bottom. Fine pyrite pieces were stuck in the flutes of the drill head.

Drilled hole at 0446546 5409942, about 30 feet higher elevation. At 15 feet down, I hit a crevice or other opening in the ground that swallowed up all the water from the pump. I pumped 2 gallons per minute for 45 minutes into the hole. We commenced drilling, but no further water came out of the hole. At 22 feet we encountered a much heavier clay, less sandy. We switched from loose material drill to core drill and removed 6 inches and panned it, it lacked any sort of rocks or gravel. We continued drilling into this heavy clay, every 2 feet removing the drill string to take a 6 inch sample. At 27 feet down the clay was yet even more thick and sticky to drill, we had to abandon the hole. I pounded the drill string into the thick clay mixture to take a sample, it was panned late 2021 while assembling gear for another expedition. Chunks of quarts and other small stones were brought up, and one small transparent pink stone that is pink quartz, about 1.2mm diameter. It was verified at Petrolia Jeweller.

8hrs x 2

Notes

This claim is like the show The Curse of Oak Island, every time we are ready to walk away, it throws us a bit, like this crevice. There has to be solid rock nearby for the water to go somewhere, I have never heard of a cavity in clay, it should have caved in over the years. To my understanding there would not be any crevices unless there was some earth movement and the bedrock heaved, which on MLAS was checked and does indeed show a fault line in the area running less than 200 meters from the borehole.

At about 294 meters elevation, just 15 meters from peak elevation of the area, it appears the area was once a warm climate and the bottom of a sea. My research lead me to the Royal Ontario Museum, they confirm it is indeed coral, about 420 million years old.

← fossils



Norbert Reichert
Thu 2020-10-22 10:59 PM
To: info@rom.on.ca



3 attachments (2 MB) | Download all | Save all to OneDrive

hi there, I found some fossils in northern ontario, it appears they are a coral. There is another sample taken from the exact same spot that shows a lot of muscle type shells encrusted in rock. Where can I take them for better identification?

Norbert

[Reply](#) | [Forward](#)

← Fwd: Re: fossil ID

Sent: March 29, 2021 4:22 PM
To: Norbert Reichert [REDACTED]
Cc: Natural History <naturalhistory@rom.on.ca>
Subject: Re: fossil ID

Hello Norbert,

Thank you for sending images of your finds and our apologies for the delayed reply. These are all coral fossils. The one in the first image is a *Favosites* or honeycomb coral, the one in the second image is a Rugose or horn coral, the one on the upper right of the third image is also a honeycomb coral. If you could let me know where exactly in Ontario you found these at, I will be able to let you know how old they are.

Best,
Maryam

--
Maryam [REDACTED]
Invertebrate Palaeontology
Department of Natural History
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park



Norbert Reichert
Mon 2021-03-29 4:50 PM
To: [REDACTED]



----- Forwarded message -----
From: Maryam Akrami <makrami@rom.on.ca>
Date: Mar 29, 2021 4:30 PM
Subject: Re: fossil ID
To: Norbert Reichert [REDACTED]
Cc:

There are no fossil bearing outcrops in that area, which means these were washed down from up north near the James Bay and are most likely from the Silurian Period (~420 million years old).

Best,
Maryam

--
Maryam Akrami
Invertebrate Palaeontology

← Fwd: Re: fossil ID

Department of Natural History
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, ON, Canada M5S 2C6
Phone: +1-416-596-8000 Ext. 5033
makrami@rom.on.ca | www.rom.on.ca | <https://burgess-shale.rom.on.ca>

From: Norbert Reichert [REDACTED]
Sent: March 29, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Maryam Akrami <makrami@rom.on.ca>
Subject: Re: fossil ID

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, thanks, they were found 50 km north west of Timmins, to the east of the clay forest

Norbert

Technical Standards for Reporting assessment work

Grassroots prospecting, Section xiii: map is on page 3 of this report. There is an attached map, a screenshot from the MLAS map viewer showing drill areas and fossil location.

Expenses and Work Credits

Expenses submitted for 2019 totals \$3202.82

Work claimed for 2019: none, while site was visited several times and over 10,000km worth of driving was done, I am not aware of any work that would classify as being eligible

Expenses submitted for 2020 totals 4512.04, no submission for grocery store brought meals

Work claimed for 2020: Richie and I, 4 days, 2 men, 8 hours

Me, solo, 2 days, 14 hours