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## Introduction

Following is sum wary report of exploration work in the Lac dea lies area during 1903.

Durlag the latter part of June, W. Baker and O. More made a reconnaissance prospecting trip and found widespread low-grade copper-nickel mineralization in ultra basic rocks south of Lac der Ines. The indications were sufficiently encouraging to warrant additional time being spent ia the urea and subsequently a block of 175 contiguous claims were staked, with considerable detailed prospecting, geological mapping, and geophysical work on about 38 of the 山.

There has been no previous geological work done in the immediate area and a considerable part of the prospectors' time was spent in merely attempting to establish the boundaries of the favourable ultrabasic intrusive wis. It is also of interest that no evidence has been found of any previous prospecting activity. The urea of favourable geology apparently was overlooked by prospectors and geologists because it lies on 8 height of land and there are no canoe routes through it.

## Property \& Location

The property consists of 175 contiguous claims numbered as follows:

> IB 107094 to 107868 inclusive
> '18 107872 to 107907 inclusive
TB 108122 to 108126 inclusive
TB 108155 to 108184 inclusive
TB 108521 to 108564 inclusive
TB 108707 to 108733 inclusive
TB 109361 to 109378 inclusive

They are located sixty miles north of Fort William. The only mens of accese is by airplane which ordinarily land on Camp Lake which is about one mile in length and is located near the centre of the property.

A new all-weather rotd, called the Spruce River Road, takes off from Highway l'f boout three miles east of the city linits of Port Arthur ana passes 11 to 12 miles east of the property. An access road to the property would be fairly exsy to construct as the intervening ground is mostly well dreined and gently rolling.

Diamond drilline equipaent can be most economically flown in from bdmoncu Lake winch is on the Spiuce River Road. This lake is 45 to 50 miles from Port hrthur by truck and is 22 air miles to the camp, thus it is within distance for the minimum filght rate.

## Physical Peatures

The surface of the gabbro complex body lying south of lac des Iles forms a plateau which rises steeply about 200 feet above Lac des Iles and slopes gently to the west, south and east. The surface in the vicinity of the mineralized zones is mostly gently rolling with a shallow cover of overburden consisting mostly of large boulders. There is little urface water emept for the few bcattered ponds. Ine topography is such that the whole area could be completely drained by one or two ditches.

## General Geolosy

There is no record of previous geological work in the immediate area. A compilation of the existing information on the surrounding areas is shown on

Ontario Department of Mines Preliminary Geological Map No. P.187, Lac des Iles Sheet. However, this map is blank in the area in which the claim group is locnted. Aeromagnetic Survey Map No. 20990 shows anomious readinge over the ultrabasic intrusive body and work on the ground indicates that this map represents the broad geological picture with a fair degree of accuracy.

## Table of Formations:

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Diabter
Fine grained basic dikes
Quartz-Peldepar porphyry dikes
Granite
Gabbroic-gneiss
Gabbro complex
Peridotite
Granite-gneiss
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Granite-Gneiss:
The body of ultrabasic rock referred to as the gabbro complex is in contact with granite-gneiss on the west. This gneiss generaily ia a medumgralned 21 ght to dark gray rock which commonly has a ribbed appearance due to differential erosion. Most of the banding is from a fraction of an inch to a few inches thick and is due mainly to the differences in the ratios of light to dark minerals. Very little work bas been done in this area, but the gatisg appears to be about one mile in width and to grade into massive gray granite to the west. The age relationstip of the granite-gneigs with the gabbro is unknown. Peridotite:

A body of peridotite from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles in diameter is belfoved to lie under the main part or Lac des Iles. This rock can only be observed at scattered locations due to the lake and a thin diabase sill capping which covers most of the higher ground. It is a rusty weathering fine to modium-grained rock and is considerably serpentinixed. The magnetite content is high and therefore the aeromagnetic anomaly probably delineates its boundaries. Minor fractures are
very common and some of the outcrops are highly sheared. Bulphides are very fine and sparee but assay results show low nickel values of about 0.1 to $0.2 \%$. Gabbro Complex:

A body of mafic rock of various phases consisting of gabbro, norite, anorthosite and pyroxenite extends in a south-southwest direction from the man body of Lac des Iles peridotite. This ultrebesic body appears to be about six miles in length and its southern boundery is about four miles south of Lac des Iles. It appears to bave a maximum width of a little mora than two miles. In addition to variations in mineral composition it varies from fine grained to very coarbe grained pegmatitic phases. Its magnetic propertiea are also very erratic. Nuch of the rock carries no uppreciable magnetite, but in soma areas the magnetite content is over 50\%. All the occurrences of copper-aickel of any importance that have been found to date lie within this assemblage of ultrabasic rocks.

Gabbroic-Gne1ss:
The only location where this rock type has been located is nam the southeast and of Centre Lake. It consists of a typical gabbro which has been intruded by narrow acid dizes in a lit-par-lit fashion. It is uncertain whather this is a distinctive rock type or if it is a part of fault zone with the marrow acid dikes intruded along the planem of shearing. Granite:

On the east side the gabbro complex is in contact with body of masive medium grained biotite granite vaich is pinkish-red to red-brom in colour. This granite has only been examined near the gabbro contact and here it is distinctly porphyritic in texture. It is unknown whether the main body of the granite also has the porphyritic character.

Three outcrops were found where the granite-gabbro contact is well exposed and it is definitely established that the granite is intrusive into the gabbro. On two outcrops it was possible to deternine the dip of the contact and these were $70^{\circ}$ and $60^{\circ}$ respectively to the east towards the granite body.

Guartz-Feldspar Porphyry Lines:
Acid dikes from a few inches to a few feet in width are sparsely scattered throughout the gabbro body. They are medium grained and gray to pink in colour with well developed quartz and feldspar phenocryats. They are probably related to the orenite wass to the east.

## Fine-Grained Basic Dikes:

Widely scattered throughout the gabbro complex are numerous fine-grained basic dikes. These dikes ure all suall, belag from about one inch to a maximum of couple of feet in width. They are very irregular in outline and pinch and swell rapidly.

A thin section examination of a specimen of this rock showed it to be essentially a wixture of plagioclase and pyroxene in the ratio or 70:30.

Wherever they have been observed these dikes are post sulphides. Diababe:

Most of the northern portion of the claim group is covered by a capping rock consisting of a Keweenaman diabase aill. This is aprt of tho diabase which overlies much of the area surrounding Lake Nipigon to the east. On the 1alands and shore of Lac des Iles hnis siil is apparently only a fev feet thick and mout of the surface depresions are windows through the diabme to the underlying formations.

The Keveenawan diubabe as exposed in this area is medium to coarsegrained rock, weatherine to a pale brownich colour but generally exhibiting a
characteristic fresh appearance. The lower portions of the flow became finegraiued near the contact with the underlying rocks. The rock comnonly has a good ophitic texture, but in places it is non-ophitic and resembles a gabbro.

Small bodies of diabase also occur within the gabbro complex south of Lac des lies. These have near horizontal contacts with underlying gabbro and some shearing is exhibited at these contacts.

## Detailed Mapping

A base line 15,000 feet in length and bearing N. $25^{\circ}$ E. was run from the north shore of Iwo Island Lake to the south nhore of Lac des Iles. Picket lines were turned off at 400-foot intervale and in the areas of the min shovings intermediate lines at 200-foot intervals were entablished. The cross lines were extended so as to cover a strip 4,500 feet in width. This area covers all, or the major part of 38 claims, amounting to about $20 \%$ of the total area of the rroperty.

Mapping was carried out on a cale of 200 feet to the inch by traversing along the lines and between the pickets of adjacent lines by pace and compass. So far as possible all outcrops were sketched and features of interest recorded. A large part of the erea is covered with overburden, but much of this cover appears to be very light and when more time is available much more rock could be uncovered.

In order to map the various phases of the gabbro complex a dotailed study will be necessary and there was not sufficient time to attempt this. However, it is subgested that this detailed work is well warranted for next season.

There are nuwerous lineaments recognizable on the aerial photographs and the more prominent of these have been plotted on a base map on a scale of one inch to 400 feet. A transparent overlay showing these lineaments has been prepared for the detailed geological mapof the known mineralized zones.

Two of the be lineanents appar to be regional structures. A ravine which atrihes northeast and passes through Narrow Lake in the southeast comer of the property extends for a number of miles and apparently represents a major fault. Another very strong structure causes the stoep and straight line of the south shore of Lac des ILes:

Within the limited area that has been mapped in detail sowe of these linemments are recogitzable as topographic depressions and sheariag on the lower edges of outerops leads support to the view that they are caused by faults. Other persistent linearis ure not secogaizable on the ground, and they may be simple or dike-filled fractures.

I believe that it is significata that there is a pronounced concentration of these photo linears in the areas where the most inportant mineralized zones have been fuad. Of even more significance is the fact that there are other nearby overburdened areas where the air photos show a similar concentration of lineaments, A comparison of the $\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{e}}$ photo-linears with the known geology indicate that the known mineralized zonef are nearly all aituated close to the junction of two or more of the lineduents.

## sconomic Qeology

Extendias over a leasth of about two miles in a south-southwest direction are a number of irregular mineralized zones carryins pyrrhotite, pentiandite and chalcopyrite. A thin section study of specinens frow two separate zones identifled them as being conposed of plagioclase feldspar and hypersthene, thus classifying them as norite. The gruin size of the noritic rock changes sharply in a short distance from fine-grained to a coarse-grained pegmatitic material and the relative mineral coustitunts also show abrupt changes, but as far as is known at this date the be chumes have no bearing on the abundance of the sulphide minerals. The sulphides occur as finely disseminated grains, as coarse localized clusters, or, wore rarely, as fracture fillings. Bxamination of thin sections
under microscopic low power indicates clots of sulphides consisting of bright yellow chalcopyrite and a pale yellow complex of two minerals. The chalcopyrite occurs as sharply defined crystals and areas and is possibly the last mineral to have crystallized. With a higher power the pale complex can be more readily resolved into its two components, a dominant creamy yellow mineral and pinkish creamy yellow one with a darkel complexion. The latter occurs in small blocky crystals that range down to 0.05 man . In dameter, and in larger fractured individuals up to 1 mun. long. Both minerals are medium in hardness. The paier mineral has cleava and is isotropic with crossed nicols. The chenical analysis of a tiny fraguent of tinis miueral showed $34 \%$ nickel and a high content of iron. These data identified the minerui as pentiandite. The darker mineral is isotropic and this feature, together with its pinkish colour and a suggestion of magnetism, indicates pyrrhotite. In the sections examined, the percentage ratio of chalcopyrite, pentlandite uni pyrrhotite is roughly 30:50:20. The ore minerals are moderately pocked with gingue. Although the pentlandite and pyrrhotite are closely mixed, they are not intimately 80 and the tendancy is to a biocky or bladed type of crystalilzation. The genetic sequence is suggested protem to be pyrrhotite, pentlandite and chalcopyrite.

The relationship of the sulphides to the gangue appears to be more or
less contemporaneous. No evidence was seen of secondary features such as shearinf; achistosity or lines of weakness where solutions may have penetrated, nor was there any evidence of replecement of other minerals. Most of the sulphides observed were localed between or in contact with grains of hypersthene, euggeating an affinity between them, although sone of the sulphide was entirely surrounded by feldspar.

A Zone:
This mineralized zone lies on Claim 107901, at the northwest side of Bhorty Lake. It has been opened up by two trenches 220 feet apart. It has a
strike of $5.65^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. One trench is 46 feet in length and appears to expose the full width of the zone. The sccond trench is 10 feet in length and the full width of the laineralization is not exposed.

The norite varies from fine to medium grained and the sulphides are eveniy distributed. B Zone:

This zone lies ubout 3,000 feet southwest of A Zone on Claims 107873-'/4-75 and 107907. Sulphide mineralization occurs on a number of outcrops over an area beveral hundred feet in diameter. The mineralization occurs both as evenly disseminated grains and in massive form, filling narrow fractures. The noritic gabbro in this area is well foliated and shows a fold swinging from notheast to northwest, as fadicated on the map. The dip of the follation is from $70^{\circ}$ to $45^{\circ}$ to the east.

Sulphide mineralization here is associated with a variable magnotite content up to 250 of the rock. This magnetic zone is well outlined on the magnetoweter survey map. Magnetite occurs as amall to medium sized grains in dissemin. ated fora, but generally exhibiting a banded appearance which may reflect a layering within the gabbroic norite complex.

C Zone:
This zone lies about 1,500 feet $5.25^{\circ} \%$. of the B Zone on Claims 207874 and 107856 . It has been opened up in a number of small pits and all sulphides - exposed are sparsely disseminated in medium-grained noritic gabbro. The visible zone is 500 feet in leasth and in excess of 100 feet in width, atriking almost east-west. It may continue bencath the diabase capping to the west, but trends into swasup and low ground in an easterly direction. The so-called $H$ zow may represent a northeast swing in strike of the C Zone.

## D Zone:

Ithis zone lies about 2,000 feet $8.25^{\circ} \mathrm{W}$. of the C zon on Claims 108175 and 208176. It also has been exposed in a number of pita over an area of 300 to 400 feet in dirension but, due to overburden, its full extent and ite attitude is unknown.

The rock is medium to fine-grained noritic gabbro and the sulphidet occur both in a finely disseminated form and as coarse blebs. This zone is fairly typical of much of the mineralisation south of Lac dea Iles, and maples from here vere used in much of the thin section and polished section microscopic examination. 182one:

This zone lies about 1,000 feet southwest of the B Zone on Claim 107874. It has been opened up in three pits ovar an area of 130 by 60 reet. The rock is mostly very coarbe-grained and varies in composition from a noritic gabbro to phases composed entirely of pyroxene.

The mineralised area is associated with a narrow northeast etriking draw, and there could concelvably be some structural control of the eulphide mineralization at this point.

F Zone:
This zone lies about 2,000 feet $8.25^{\circ} \mathrm{W}$. of the E zone, and near the west boundary of Claim 107874 . The rock type and mineralization is amilar to that of the E Zone, and tbere may in fact be some direct apacial relationship between the two.

O Zone:
This appears to be the largest zone, being at least 600 feet in diameter, and with the exception of localized areas, is also the lowest in suiphide content. It lies on Claim 208155 on the east side of Centre Lake and about 2,500 feet south of the D Zone. The rock is a 1 ine to medium-grained norite and the sulphides are evanly and sparsely disseminated. Both the appearance of hand specimons and two polished sections indicate the sulphides to be of syngenetic origin.

Lying about midway between the $B$ and $C$ Zones are three small outcrops over a length of about 50 feet that have been designatad as the $H$ Zone. Theee outcrops are on the edse of a swamp which extend to the east and the presence of sulphide-bearing float in the swamp indicates that the outcrops could be on the edge of zone of considerable size. It is poscible that these outcrops may be part of the C Zone, the exposed part of which lies about 600 feet away.

Geophysical \& Geochemical Burveys
Magretometer, electromagnetic and self-potential surveys and soil Bolapiling procedurer have all been carried out over the known mineralized zones and none of these techniques has given positive reaults. A brief summary of the results follows.

Magnetometer Survey:
The distribution of magnetite within the gabbro complex is erratic and It appears that the scattered heavy concentrations of magnetite makk the bodies of eparisely disseminated pyrrhotite. Indeed it appesrs at this date that the sulphide-bearing zones alviys have a low magnetic susceptibility and that where appreciable magnetite is present there is an absence of nickel and precious metaln, However, the sections that are high in magnetite often carry low but uniform copper values. A forty-foot long outcrop on the south side of Walter Lake carries about $0.3 \% \mathrm{Cu}$ in a rock that $1850 \%$ magnetite, but there 19 no nickel or precious metals. Two or three other widely separated outcrops also exhibit this aame mineral relationship.

Certain structural trends that are indicated by the magnetometer survey may eventually prove to be of use. There seems to be a rough correlation between the area of high wagnetic intensity surrounding Walter lake and the higher magnetic
area to the southwest of Centre Lake with the aerial magnetic information. However, there is no obvious correlation between disseminsted sulphide zones and the magnetic anomalies.

The survey instrument used is an ABEM model NZ4 torsion wire magnetometer reading total field intensities with a scale division of 10.5 gammas. Please note that to facilitate plotting, all calculated readinge have been divided by factor of 10.

## Blectromagnetic Survey:

This burvey was run with a Minioun horizontal coil two-phase instrument with a 200-foot connectint cuble.

It was recognized that the sulphide mineralization in the known showinge was too idsseminated to be a conductor. However, it was thought possible that there might be heavier concentrations in overburdened ground which might be detected, and therefore an E-M survey was carried out in the vicinity of some of the known mineralization. No true conductors were locaved due primarily to the magnefite content and to overburden conditions. Self-Potential:

The salf-potential method gave results that can but be described as indefinite. Certaialy it gave no results positive enough with which to locate a drill hole. It is believed that the type of overburden may have been a limiting factor. Over large parts of the aurvey area the surface is composed of a masa of large boulders with open interspaces, and the whole is covered with grass and brush. Ii. refore, at many stations the probes probably had poor contact. In view of the conditions it might be worth while to try a trial traverse with the gelf-potertial on the snow. Geochemical Survey:

Soil sumpling was carried out over the entire grid on 100 -foot centres with the exception of those areas where boulders precluded proper sampliug procedures.

Analyses were made for total heavy metal, copper and nickel content and the results are plotted in ppi.

No true anomalies of major significance are indicated and apart from the $C$ zone, there appears to be little correlation between the anomalies as outlined and the known sulphide zones. The large number of boulders mixed in the overburden, some of which are mineralized, may have contributed to the confused geochemical picture but in any event the results as plotted are not indicative of sulphide bodies other than those already known.

Soil samples were taken with a 3 -foot auger and after drying and sieving were analyzed by hot nitric acid extraction and colorimetric determinations employing variations of the Bloom procedure.

Sgd. "Bruce M. Arnott", P. Rag.

With revisions by:


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