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## MARGINAL NOTES

## **INTRODUCTION AND ACCESS**

Access to Chabanel Township is fair. The Algoma Central Railway spur line to Wawa roughly follows the northern boundary of Esquega Township and then swings southwest across Chabanel Township. A private mine-access road leading north from Highway 17 at the east end of Wawa Lake, 6.4 km west of Wawa, provides access to the west side of Esquega Township and the east side of Chabanel Township. This road terminates before reaching the northern boundary of Chabanel Township. A four-wheel-drive road leads north from the sinter plant of the Algoma Ore division of the Algoma Steel Corporation Limited to the abandoned power site at Steephill Falls on the Magpie River; in the center of Chabanel Township. Helicopter is the most efficient means of access to that portion of Chabanel Township which lies northwest

Outcrop in the central and eastern portions of the township is abundant and the lack of forest cover in this area permits greater geological interpretation than is normally permitted in the shield area of Ontario. The township has been extensively prospected for iron, and production of iron from the Helen iron range has been continuous since the 1930s.

## MINERAL EXPLORATION

Chabanel Township contains the George W. Macleod Mine of the Algoma Steel Corporation Limited, currently in production, as well as two abandoned open pit iron mines. The abandoned open pit iron mines occur in the Lucy and Eleanor iron ranges.

ronto). North of Wawa Lake, and just south of the Chabanel Township boundary, the former Mammoth Metals Limited tested a quartz vein containing galena, sphalerite and arsenopyrite. Silver values of up to 60 ounces per ton have been reported from this quartz vein. Three gold showings in intermediate to felsic metavolcanics are reported to occur northwest of the McLeod Mine, however, information concerning work on these showings is sketchy. Phelps Dodge Corporation of Canada Limited diamond drilled several airborne geophysically indicated conductors in the northwestern corner of the township. These conductors contain barren sulphide mineralization. Exploration for minerals in Chabanel Township has been dominated by the search for economic deposits of iron.

## **GENERAL GEOLOGY**

Intermediate to felsic metavolcanics lie stratigraphically below the Helen, Eleanor, Lucy and Mildred iron ranges. These felsic metavolcanics strike northeast and dip subvertical to vertical. They consist of coarse massive breccias to fine-grained laminated tuffs. Chloritoid occurs in those felsic metavolcanics stratigraphically below the Helen and Lucy iron ranges. Northwest of the Magpie River an extensive exposure of felsic metavolcanics is present. These rocks strike southeast and dip east to subvertical, they consist of coarse pyroclastics to fine-grained

In the southeastern corner of Chabanel Township north-facing, northeast-striking, vertically to subvertically dipping massive and pillowed mafic metavolcanics are present. A minor unit of northeast-striking sheared, pillowed, mafic metavolcanics is also present south of the Magpie River and occurs in association with intermediate to felsic metavolcanics and metasediments.

Additional northeast-striking and north-facing pillowed and massive intermediate to mafic metavolcanics occur stratigraphically above the Lucy iron range. Massive and pillowed intermediate to mafic metavolcanics are extensively developed, striking northwest from Mildred Lake to the northern border of Chabanel Township. These mafic metavolcanics dip east and face west. The author considers the northwest-striking mafic metavolcanics north of Mildred Lake to represent the same volcanic cycle as the mafic metavolcanics lying stratigraphically above the Lucy iron range. Faulting however complicates correlation of the

The mafic to felsic metavolcanics stratigraphically below the Lucy, Eleanor and Helen iron ranges are considered by the author to represent the oldest or first cycle of volcanism in the Wawa area. The mafic metavolcanics lying stratigraphically above the Lucy iron range and those lying between Mildred Lake and the northern boundary of Chabanel Township are part of the middle or second cycle of volcanism. The coarse fragmental felsic metavolcanics lying beneath the Helen iron range are considered by the author to have been deposited proximal to the centre of first cycle volcanism, and the coarse fragmental felsic rocks north of the Magpie River are considered to have been deposited proximal to the middle cycle event. Upper cycle volcanism is not represented in Chabanel Township, but rather is associated with the Jubilee stock and is found in McMurray Township which adjoins Chabanel Township to the south (Sage 1979).

The first and middle cycles of volcanism are separated by the Michipicoten iron formation from which the bulk of the iron ore has been extracted from the Wawa area. The iron formations lie stratigraphically above the felsic metavolcanics of the lower cycle, and stratigraphically below the mafic metavolcanics of the middle cycle. From the stratigraphic bottom to the stratigraphic top, the iron formation consists of siderite, pyrite, chert, and graphite. The respective facies of iron formation vary considerably in degree of development between the ranges.

Major accumulations of metasediments are present in the Arliss Lake area, north and east of the Magpie River, and north of the Lucy iron range. A minor metasedimentary unit occurs south of the Magpie River. The metasediments stratigraphically above the Lucy iron range occur above the mafic to intermediate metavolcanics of the middle cycle, and in the area north of the Magpie River the metasediments interdigitate with various felsic fragmental rocks of the middle cycle. The metasediments are considered by the author to be laterally equivalent to the felsic metavolcanics and largely derived by erosion of the middle cycle felsic metavolcanics. Medium-grained trondhjemite clasts appear in some conglomerate horizons (Doré type) indicating that a minor component of the metasediments has been derived from a granitic terrain marginal to the Precambrian supracrustal basin.

In the Arliss Lake area small irregular bodies of quartz-feldspar porpriyry are most extensively developed in proximity to the metasediment-

metavolcanic contact. Mafic to ultramafic intrusions are present in Lena Lake, at the north end of Mildred Lake, and on the west side of Bauldry Lake. These small bodies appear to have been emplaced within fault zones or at points of intersection of fault zones.

Stratigraphically below the Helen, Eleanor, and Lucy iron ranges mafic sill and dike-like intrusions intrude lower cycle felsic metavolcanics. These intrusions reach a maximum development below the Helen iron range where the mafic intrusions exceed 300 m in thickness. Minor mafic intrusions that consist largely of chlorite and rhombs of orange carbonate are abundant throughout the area.

The felsic metavolcanics and mafic intrusions located northwest of the Helen Mine and south of the Magpie River are interpreted to be equivalent to lower cycle metavolcanics that are thrust up and over the Helen iron range. The largest body of mafic intrusive rock within the lower cycle metavolcanics thrust over the Helen iron range, is centered on Legarde Lake. On the basis of this proposed overthrusting the Mildred iron range, which lies within this overthrust sequence, is considered to have once been the western extension of the Helen iron range. The supracrustal rocks have been metamorphosed to the greenschist

facies rank of regional metamorphism. Carbonate alteration is pervasive and may decrease in intensity towards the northwestern corner of the township. Carbonate alteration imparts light brown, brown, grey, and grey-brown colors to the mafic metavolcanics which are usually green. Silicification of pillowed rocks in the area south of Arliss Lake has given some pillowed mafic metavolcanics a light grey to white color. Chloritoid is well developed in the rocks below the Helen iron range, and a zone 1650 m by 350 m has been outlined. A chloritoid zone also

exists below the Lucy iron range. This zone is on the order of 30 to 40 m in maximum width and is not continous along the length of the range. Two small but poorly outlined areas of chloritoid alteration are found in the northwestern corner of the township. Neither iron formation nor sulphide mineralization is known to be associated with these zones. STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY

The structural geology of Chabanel Township is complex. The stratigraphy north of the Magpie River and west of Mildred Lake strikes southeast, faces west, and dips from 30 to 70° east. The rocks in this area have been overturned and consist exclusively of middle cycle metavol-

The rocks above and below the Helen, Eleanor, and Lucy iron ranges, strike northeast, face north, and are vertical to subvertical in dip. This northeast-striking stratigraphy consists of both lower and middle cycle

The lower cycle metavolcanics thrust over the Helen iron range likely have been folded, however, facing directions which would define the fold are lacking. The large horse-shoe shaped, open to the west, mafic intrusion centered on Legarde Lake crudely outlines this proposed fold. This body is not considered a phacolithic intrusion but, rather, the western extension of the mafic sill-like intrusion lying below the Helen iron range; This extension has been thrust up and over the Helen iron range. Its present shape is considered to have resulted from this foldingthrusting process. Separating the lower cycle rocks thrust up over the Helen iron range is the Talbot Lake fault. This fault is represented by lithologic offset, strongly developed schistosity, carbonate alteration, and a topographic linear. Schistosities and primary bedding in the felsic metavolcanic rocks due west of the Helen Mine indicate an abrupt change in strike from northeast to north. The lithologic and structural trends suggest that movement along the Talbot Lake fault was of the northside going eastward. The movement and drag along this fault, indicated by lithologic and structural trends, likely resulted in the tectonic thickening of the Helen iron formation at the site of the McLeod Mine. Minor structural features such as folds and stretched volcanic clasts suggest that the iron formation and associated metavolcanics plunge at approximately 60° east. The western limit of the Talbot Lake fault extends beyond the western boundary of the map, and the eastern end is cut off by the Walbank Lake fault.

In the area of the Magpie River, northwest of the Helen Mine, the northern limits of the lower cycle volcanic and intrusive rocks are likely indicated by a series of closely spaced faults which separates northeaststriking lower cycle metavolcanics from generally southeast-trending middle cycle metavolcanics. The rocks display penetrative schistosity between ridges of more massive-appearing rock. The main fault likely lies along the bed of the Magpie River and is referred to as the Magpie River fault. The eastern limit of this fault zone may be the Mildred Lake

As a consequence of this interpretation the author considers the Eleanor

iron range to be the eastern extension of the Helen. The Eleanor iron range is an isolated block separated by two branches of the Mildred Lake fault. One branch of the fault (west branch) strikes north and merges with an inferred fault lying beneath Wawa Lake. This branch is indicated by a lithologic offset and a strong topographic linear. The eastern branch of the fault swings southeast from the north end of Lena Lake and merges with the Bauldry Lake fault which eventually joins with the Wawa Lake fault. This eastern branch of the Mildred Lake fault is indicated by abrupt lithologic changes and in diamond drilling by Algoma Ore Properties. This fault is occupied by a southeast-

trending diabase dike.

The Mildred Lake fault is clearly indicated by abrupt lithologic change, abrupt change in structure, and a prominent topographic linear. The bulk of the movement along this fault was taken up along its east branch and the author considers the Lucy iron range to be the eastern extension of the Eleanor iron range which has been faulted northward. The Mildred Lake fault is a left-lateral fault with a displacement on the order of 4.2

The Mildred Lake fault appears to have displaced the Magpie River fault northward and the author tentatively considers the eastern extension of the Magpie River fault to continue east from the northeast corner of Mildred Lake. This interpretation is based on topographic linears and intense shearing observed in outcrop. The eastern extension of this fault may consist of two branches northeast of the Lucy iron range. The author suspects that the north-facing metasediments in this area may represent a repeated section due to strike-slip movement which laterally thrust part of the section over and above another portion of the unit giving an unusually thick north-facing facing section of metasediments. The eastern extension of the Magpie River fault is terminated by the eft-lateral Bauldry Lake fault, which lies on or just east of the eastern boundary of Chabanel Township. The Bauldry Lake fault displaces the continuation of the Magpie River fault north to the area of Goetz Lake, and beyond the map-area. The Bauldry Lake fault is represented by

a lithologic offset of approximately 0.9 km and by a linear topographic The structural interpretation presented means that the Mildred, Helen. Johnson, Eleanor, and Lucy iron ranges, along with the Ruth (Esquega Township) and Josephine (Corbiere Township) iron ranges, are strati-

graphic as well as time equivalent and represent a fundamental break

in volcanism between the lower and middle cycles.

**PHANEROZOIC** CENOZOIC Chabanel Township is centered at approximately 48°03' N Latitude and LATE PRECAMBRIAN A gold showing at Magpie Junction has been recently examined by Canabec Explorations Limited (Assessment Files Research Office, To-(abandoned Soulier McMURRAY TP. Lake Ontario Geological Survey, Toronto, Geoscience Data Centre, Mineral De-In road cuts along Highway 10 numerous narrow radioactive carbonate Mapping indicates that the largely strike-slip Talbot Lake and Magpie LIST OF PROPERTIES AND NOTES FOR LEGEND TABLE 1: TABULATED DATA FOR RADIOACTIVE CARBONATE DIKES ALONG HIGHWAY 101 River faults are older faults cut by the younger northwest-trending

## left-lateral Mildred and Bauldry Lake faults. The prominent northwest-

trending set of Proterozoic dikes found in the area commonly occupy fault or shear zones. **ECONOMIC GEOLOGY** The Sir James Mine of The Algoma Steel Corporation Limited, located

in the Eleanor iron range, has produced 7 790 632 tons of iron ore from pre-production reserves of 80 000 000 tons, while the Lucy Mine produced 1 107 773 tons of ore from unspecified reserves<sup>1</sup>. The Helen iron range has produced in excess of 60 000 000 tons of iron ore. Reserves of 93 000 000 tons were indicated in 1972. Prospecting for gold in the area of Magpie Junction and northeast of the Helen iron range has indicated anomalous gold values (Assessment

The lead-zinc-silver showing northeast of Wawa Lake is in a quartz vein cutting mafic intrusive rocks. While impressive assays can be obtained on grab samples the narrow width (25-to 30 cm) of the vein inhibits additional work (Assessment Files Research Office, Toronto).

dikes are present. These dikes are too small to be of economic interest. Assay data on the veins is given in Table I. The dikes are likely coeval to the emplacement of the Firesand River Carbonatite located 3.0 km.

south of the southeastern corner of the township (Sage 1979) RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PROSPECTOR The iron ranges have been extensively diamond drilled so as to preclude

the location of additional near-surface iron deposits. The rocks found in Chabanel Township are favourable for base-metal mineralization even though base-metal showings are not common. The shallow-dipping attitude of the rocks found in the central portion of Chabanel Township may make geophysical surveying in this area less effective than in an area of subvertically-dipping rocks. Minor iron-sulphide mineralization was commonly observed near the mafic metavolcanic-metasedimentary and mafic-felsic metavolcanic The gold showings located northwest of the Helen iron range have not

been examined since the 1930s and may warrant reinvestigation.

posit Files, Sir James Mine, Lucy Mine, Helen-McLeod Mines, District of Algoma, Chabanel Township.

1979: Wawa Area, District of Algoma; p.49-53 in Summary of Field Work, 1979, by the Ontario Geological Survey, Edited by V.G. Milne, O.L. White, R.B. Barlow, and C.R. Kustra, Ontario Geological Survey, Miscellaneous Paper

REFERENCE

2. Eleanor iron range (Sir James Mine) 3. Helen iron range (McLeod Mine) Johnson iron range. 5. Lucy iron range (Lucy Mine) 6. Magpie Junction showing 7. Mildred iron range.

# OCCURRENCES 1. Boliden showing

8. Miller showing 9. Williamson showing 10. Mammoth Metals Limited 11. Phelps Dodge Corporation of Canada Limited NOTE: Not all properties may appear on this map-

RA-2 RA-81 NA = not analyzed, CPM = counts per minute, WR = wall rock

a) This is a field legend and may be changed subsequent to laboratory investigations. The legend applies to Chabanel, Musquash, McMurray, Lastheels and Esquega Townships. Units listed may not all be present in each township. b) Greater than 50 percent silicate-oxide minerals. c) Greater than 50 percent carbonate. d) Colour index 20 to 40.

e) Colour index 10 to 25.

I) Greater than 5 percent quartz.

map-face due to lack of space.

m) Possibly contemporaneous with unit 7.

the second unit occur within the first unit.

f) Transitional porphyritic to non-porphyritic. g) Associated with mafic intrusive rocks. h) A chemical sedimentary bed which contains 33 percent or more of the common iron minerals by volume. This does not include commonly associated interbeds of chert or clastic sedimentary material. A sufficiently extensive mappable unit containing a significant proportion of ironstone interbeds

Where a rock-unit code is followed by a second code in brackets, xenoliths of

Many drillholes, pits, trenches, and all surveyed claims were not plotted on

may be designated as an iron formation Base-map derived from Forest Resources Inventory maps, Lands and Issued 1982 i) Doré type conglomerate Waters Group, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. j) Green mica may be present. Geology not tied to surveyed lines. k) May be intrusive in part.

Assessment Work Library, Ministry of Natural Resources, Toronto Sault Ste. Marie. Records, Algoma Ore Properties, Sault Ste. Marie. Records, Algoma Central Railroad, Sault Ste. Marie. Magnetic declination was 6° 17" in 1979.

Metric Conversion Factor: 1 foot = 0.3048 m

Resources Deputy Minister

Hon. Alan W. Pope

## MAP P.2439 GEOLOGICAL SERIES — PRELIMINARY MAP PRECAMBRIAN GEOLOGY

**CHABANEL TOWNSHIP** 

ONTARIO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ALGOMA DISTRICT Scale 1:15 840 Wile 14 Metres 100 0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 Kilometre

NTS Reference: 42C/2 ODM-GSC Aeromagnetic Map: 2192G ODM Geological Compilation Map: 2220

11a Sovite<sup>c</sup> ©OMNR-OGS 1982 11b Silicocarbonatiteb 11c Rauhaugite (ferruginous dolomite) Parts of this publication may be quoted if credit is given and the material is properly referenced. INTRUSIVE CONTACT This map is published with the permission of E.G. Pye, Director, Ontario EARLY PRECAMBRIAN (ARCHEAN)

LOCATION MAP

or 1 inch to 25 miles

Area of bedrock

MA Magnetic activity

Mineral occurrence

from grain gradation;

Bedding, top (arrow)

from cross bedding;

Bedding top, (arrow)

indicated by flame

sandstone-siltstone;

inclined, vertical,

inclined, vertical,

inclined, vertical,

overturned

overturned

structures in

interbedded

overturned

Paleocurrent

direction as

Lineament, possibly

Data from diamond

a fault zone

NOTE: Not all symbols may ap-

Arsenopyrite

. Galena

Graphite

. Pyrite

.Pyrrhotite

Quartz vein

Sphalerite

. Siderite

pear on this map-sheet.

**SYMBOLS** 

m=mullion structure,

c=clast, p=pillow,

mf=intersection of

F=fold axis of minor

fold, se=stretched

direction indicated.

facing direction

Radioactivity;

Minor shear; inclined, vertical

Major shear; attitude uncertain, attitude

IF Iron formation

Banding; inclined, vertical

Kinkband; inclined, vertical with plunge

of movement

Minor fold: strike and dip of axial plane,

observed ,interpreted

bearing and plunge

Geological boundary,

METAL AND MINERAL

**ABBREVIATIONS** 

NOTE: Not all abbreviations may appear on this map-

**CREDITS** 

Geology by R.P. Sage, Z. Rebic, S. Abercrombie, K. Neale, D. MacMil-

of fold and direction

superscript refers to

number in table

s=slickensides,

two foliations.

b = biotite.

spherulites

Pillowed volcanics, dip and facing

Pillow elongation; inclined, vertical,

FELSIC INTRUSIVE ROCKS Quartz-feldspar porphyry Feldspar porphyry Quartz porphyry Diorite, quartz diorited Granodiorite, granitee Diorite, granodiorite n Trondhjemite, granodiorite, quartz feldspar Porphyritic granodiorite, granitic rocks Porphyritic (plagioclase) diorite, granodiorite INTRUSIVE CONTACT

**LEGEND**a

UNCONFORMITY

b Porphyritic (feldspar) diabase

Carbonatite-silicocarbonatiteb

2u Porphyritic (feldspar) lamprophyre

Diabase with minor biotite

Ferruginous carbonatite

Olivine lamprophyre

Biotite lamprophyre

CARBONATITE INTRUSIVE ROCKS

FIRESAND CARBONATITE

Glomeroporphyritic (feldspar) diabase

Unsubdivided

Organic soils, sandy till, glaciofluvial sand and

QUATERNARY

PLEISTOCENE AND RECENT

MAFIC INTRUSIVE ROCKS

MAFIC TO ULTRAMAFIC INTRUSIVE ROCKS Gabbro, diorite Anorthositic gabbro Anorthosite Diabase

Hornblende diorite Peridotite Pyroxenite Talc schist Mafic dikes Quartz diorite, trondhjemiteg Quartz gabbro Xenolithic gabbro Porphyritic gabbro, diorite 6p Carbonatized or carbonate-bearing mafic 6r Hornblendite

INTRUSIVE CONTACT METASEDIMENTS AND METAVOLCANICS CHEMICAL METASEDIMENTS

Unsubdivided Magnetite and/or hematite ironstoneh, chert Carbonate ironstoneh Sulphide ironstoneh Chert, sideritic, pyritic or graphitic 5a. 5d (1:1) Chert, graphite, argillite 5d, 5b, 5a m Chert, wacke, siltstone 5n Chert, cemented with iron oxides, weathered iron formation Magnetite ironstone, wacke Chert, hematite Iron oxide, chert, wacke Iron oxide, wacke 5s Chert breccia CLASTIC METASEDIMENTS

4 Unsubdivided 4a Volcanic-clast wacke Plagioclase-quartz-biotite schist Wacke, lithic wacke 4f Interlaminated siltstone, mudstone Conglomerate with granite clasts Volcanic-clast conglomerate Siltstone, sandstone, lithic sandstone Quartz arenite, arkose, lithic arkose

4n Lithic arkose

Thinly bedded wacke, siltstone 4q Carbonate, ferruginous limestone INTERMEDIATE TO FELSIC METAVOLCANICS Sericite schist Heterolithic breccia Monolithic lapilli-tuff Tuffaceous quartz-eye, feldspar clast, sericite Banded tuff with fiamme Massive flow Monolithic breccia (felsic matrix, mafic clasts) Porphyritic (feldspar) flow Feldspar crystal tuff, intermediate Porphyritic (quartz) flow Spherulitic flow m Flow-banded lava Autoclastic monolithic breccia Intermediate tuff

m Carbonate-rich metasedimenti

Heterolithic lapilli-tuff Quartz-eye crystal tuff Heterolithic quartz-eye crystal tuff, lapilli-tuff Heterolithic crystal tuff, breccia Laminated tuff Chlorite-sericite schist Feldspar crystal tuff, felsic Crystal (quartz-feldspar) tuff Heterolithic (cataclastic) breccia MAFIC TO INTERMEDIATE METAVOLCANICS

Massive flows Pillowed flows Chlorite schist Heterolithic breccia Monolithic breccia (mafic matrix, felsic clasts) Porphyritic (feldspar) flows Massive medium-grained flowsk Magnetite-bearing flows Tuffaceous chloritic schist Pillowed porphyritic (feldspar) flows Variolitic flows Amygdaloidal flows Feldspar (quartz) crystal tuff Heterolithic breccia, lapilli-size clasts Heterolithic breccia (mafic matrix, intermediate to felsic clasts)

Amphibolite Laminated tuff, lapilli-tuff Crystal (feldspar) tuff, crystal lithic tuff Talc-actinolite, actinolite rock Monolithic breccia (mafic matrix, mafic clasts) Laminated tuff Lapilli-tuff Porphyritic (amphibole) flows Tuff, chloritic schist with quartz UNCONFORMITY EARLY FELSIC PLUTONIC ROCKS GNEISSIC GRANITIC ROCKS

1b Pegmatite Diorite, quartz diorite Trondhiemite Trondhjemite, gneissic to massive Leucocratic trondhjemite Porphyritic biotite trondhjemite dikes MASSIVE GRANITIC ROCKS<sup>m</sup> n Aplite, pegmatite dikes Diorite, quartz diorite Trondhjemite Granodiorite, quartz monzonite Monzonite, quartz monzonite Porphyritic monzonite, quartz monzonite Granodiorite, trondhjemite, weakly foliated 1v Porphyritic granodiorite 1w Massive quartz monzonite

> Bx Breccia Carb Carbonatized

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Every possible effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented on this map; however, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources does not assume any liability for errors that may occur. Users may wish to verify critical information; sources include both the references listed here, and information on file at the Resident or Regional Geologist's office and the Mining Recorder's office nearest the

lan, 1980; R. Sage, D. England, and T. Calvert, 1981.

Information from this publication may be quoted if credit is given. It is recommended that reference be made in the following form: Sage, R.P., Rebic, Z., Abercrombie, S., Neale, K., MacMillan, D., England, D., and Calvert, T. 1982: Precambrian Geology of Chabanel Township, Algoma District; Ontario Geological Survey, Map P.2439, Geological Series — Preliminary Map, scale 1:15 840 or 1 inch to 1/4 mile. Geology