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MARGINAL NOTES

LOCATION AND ACCESS

The map area covers approximately 276 km² comprising Cascaden, Dowling and Trill Townships. The eastern extremity of the map area is located about 23 km west of Sudbury. Mapping was done at a scale of 1:15 840 (1 inch to 1/4 mile), with more detailed examinations in areas of extensive bedrock exposure.

Major and secondary roads, logging roads, power lines, the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks, lakes, rivers and trails, provide access to all parts of the map area.

MINERAL EXPLORATION

Information on exploration activity was obtained from the Resident Geologist's Files, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Sudbury, or from the Source Mineral Deposit Records Files, Ontario Geological Survey, Toronto.

Mineral exploration in the map area, during the latter part of the last century, led to the discovery of two major showings, the Sulfana and Trillabelle Properties, in Trill Township, along with a show known as the nickel-copper-bearing Sublayer zone. Early work on both properties consisted of trenching and the sinking of exploratory shafts within the main gossan zones. Both properties are presently held by Inco Limited.

Most of the recorded base-metal exploration in the map area was done in the 1950s and 1960s, by Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited and Inco Limited. Both companies have undertaken extensive geological and geophysical surveys, and diamond drilling in all three townships. Falconbridge completed more than 16 500 m (total length) of drilling from 1951 to 1972 (last year uncompleted), whereas Inco completed more than 29 000 m from 1950 to 1973. However, since the 1920s, other companies and individuals submitted results from diamond drilling assays, sampling and geophysical and/or geological surveys from the Sudbury Inruptive Complex and the Onaping Formation (Table 1).

During the 1981 field season, diamond drilling by Inco was in progress in Trill Township (concession V, lot 2).

Other maps by Collins (1938), Cook (1946), Thomson (1956), Card (1969, 1978), Buwaiser (1977), and Card and Lumbers (1977).

GENERAL GEOLOGY

Published geological maps of the map-area consist mostly of compilation maps by Collins (1938), Cook (1946), Thomson (1956), Card (1969, 1978), Buwaiser (1977), and Card and Lumbers (1977).

The oldest rocks (basement rocks) are Early Precambrian in age and comprise the Leveak Gneiss Complex, the Birch Lake Batholith and the Carter 'Granite'. The Leveak Gneiss consists of moderately to highly deformed and metamorphosed para- and ortho-gneisses with magmatic affinities (commonly garnet and/or pyroxene bearing), containing leucosome fractions composed of coarse-grained material to iron-doleritic material. In addition, there is the presence of what is related to gneissic, leucocratic quartz diorite to quartzite (containing xenoliths of the former), and an amphibole as metamorphosed supracrustal remnants (metabasites in origin) and/or mafic intrusive bodies (amphibolized gabbro).

The Birch Lake Batholith is a leucocratic, massive to weakly foliated, medium to coarse-grained, microcline porphyroblastic body, ranging in composition from monzonite to syenite. It contains xenoliths of amphibole and gneissic to magmatic material, possibly from the Leveak Gneiss. The Carter 'Granite' resembles, and appears to be genetically related to, the Birch Lake Batholith, but is notably less porphyroblastic and more equigranular, lacks a syenitic phase, and averages granodiorite in composition. The basement rocks have been crosscut by pegmatitic, aplitic and felsic dykes, which were, in turn, intruded by equigranular to oligoclase porphyritic diabase.

The Early Precambrian rocks are crosscut by Sudbury-type breccias (pseudotachylite breccias) from which dykes issue, with no preferred orientation and often exceeding 30 m in exposed surface width. The breccias are prominent in proximity to the Sudbury Inruptive Complex and to well-defined lineaments in the basement rocks. The breccias consist of aphanitic to fine-grained glassy-looking matrix which may in part be crushed rock derived from the matrix of local and foreign fragments. In places, the matrix appears to have flowed around fragments, and the presence of breccia dykes with a granular, coarser-grained matrix suggests reworked material of primary gneissic material. The fragments show evidence of not only brittle fracturing and rotation, but are plasticallly deformed.

The Whitewater Group of Middle Precambrian age is entirely located within the Sudbury Basin and comprises the Inruptive Complex, the Onaping Formation, Onwatin and Chelmsford Formations.

Mur (1981) distinguished four phases of mainly pyroclastic breccias in the Onaping Formation. These are the Basal, Grey, Green and Black Members. The volcanic classification is also applicable for certain purposes with Mur's North Range mapping, since there is continuity of the major phases across the present map-area. Thus, the Onaping Formation is subdivided into:

a) A discontinuous Basal Member (lowermost phase) which consists of coarse breccias with variations in fragment-matrix proportion across, and along strike. The fragments are mostly granitic in origin, although quartz (bedded), gabbro and rhyolite (flow banded) are also present. The matrix is in part composed of fine-grained pulverized breccia material from the larger fragments, and in part of granular, fine-grained (lacustrine) amphibole-rich material of igneous appearance representing either granophyre from the Inruptive Complex or gabbroic material derived from the pulverized portion of the matrix.

b) A discontinuous Grey Member occurs within the lower portions of the Formation. Outcrop distributions, particularly in Dowling Township, form lobe-like projections extending into the Basin. Based on the fragment-matrix composition, there are at least two varieties of this phase. The first consists of massive, igneous-textured (fine-grained, siliceous) gneiss containing mostly whitish quartzite (?) fragments (1 cm to more than 40 cm in diameter). The second variety, equivalent in part to Mur's Green Member, is classified as a lapilli tuff, with minor coarse breccias, containing irregularly shaped aphanitic volcanic glass (?) fragments, shales, coarse bombs, accretionary lapilli and a mixture of accidental fragments ranging from quartzite to volcanic or subvolcanic rock of felsic and mafic compositions.

c) A Green Member and d) a Black Member. They are interlayered and consist of crystal and lapilli tuffs, lapillolites and coarse breccias, containing simple and complex (multi-generational) volcanic glass fragments, vesicular pumice shards, coarse bombs, and accretionary lapilli and a mixture of accidental fragments. The matrix is locally highly hydrous along its contact with the Onaping Formation.

The Sudbury Inruptive Complex of Middle Precambrian age was emplaced between the basement rocks and the Onaping Formation. It is divided into a discontinuous Sublayer Zone breccia locally containing Ni-Cu mineralization, and texturally and mineralogically distinct north and south zones. The granophyre is locally hydrous along its contact with the Onaping Formation.

The leucocratic and gabbroic-noritic breccias are the most common Sublayer Zone breccias, and field evidence suggests a younger age for the latter. The leucocratic breccia contains partially remobilized basement rock fragments set in a heterogeneous, leucocratic, igneous-textured matrix, whereas the gabbroic-noritic sublayer contains inclusions ranging from ultramafic to dioritic in composition, including anorthosite, set in an equigranular gabbroic matrix. The sublayer offshoot breccia (Ministic Lake Offshoot) in Cascaden Township, is a dyke-like body of similar composition to the gabbroic-noritic breccia.

Late Precambrian dykes trending rusty weathering olivine diabase crossed the map-area.

STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY

The gneissic and migmatitic rocks of the Leveak Gneiss Complex feature recumbent and upright rock folds, and an upper amphibolite to granulite grade of metamorphism as indicated by the garnet-pyroxene mineralogy. The gneissic strikes northeast to southeast, and dips subhorizontally to vertically.

The contacts between the Inruptive and the Gneiss Complex, and the Inruptive with the Onaping Formation, are generally considered to dip inward towards the Sudbury Basin. The Onaping Formation possesses a gross interval layering, but primary depositional attitudes cannot be accurately determined because of a lack of local bedding structures.

Bedding attitudes in the sediments of the Chelmsford Formation have been compressed to form open folds whose axes approximately follow two major lineaments, namely the map-area, north-trending Fecuna Lake Fault, in Dowling Township, and the north-south-trending Cameron Creek Fault, in Trill Township. Considerable offset has occurred on both faults, particularly along the latter, where the observed lateral displacement exceeds 3 km.

The Onwatin Formation is present in only a few small outcrops and consists of finely laminated slate. The Chelmsford Formation consists of a repetitive sequence of thin to thickly bedded, turbidite sequences containing abundant primary sedimentary structures and secondary carbonate-rich concretions.

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Late Precambrian dykes trending rusty weathering olivine diabase crossed the map-area.

REFERENCES

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Dressler B.O. 1981. Precambrian Geology of Leveak Township. Sudbury District. Ontario Geological Survey. Preliminary Map P-2527. Geological Series. Scale 1:15 840 or 1 inch to 1/4 mile. Geology 1979 and 1980.
Mur T.L. 1981. Geology of the Capreol Area. District of Sudbury. Ontario Geological Survey. Open File Report 5344. 1981. 1:50 000.
Thomson J.S. E. 1956. Sudbury Basin Area. Map 1956-1. Ontario Department of Mines. Scale 1 inch to 1 mile.

LIST OF PROPERTIES

- 1 Aird, J.B.
2 Airnorth Mines Limited
3 Arcadia Nickel Mines
4 Callinan Fin Flon Mines (1939) Limited (includes Trans Northern Nickel and Copper Mines Limited)
5 Eastview Mines (1957) Limited (includes Mining Corporation of Canada Limited)
6 Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines Limited
7 New Fortune Mines Limited
8 Nickel Rim Mines Limited (Martin, H.E.)
9 Noranda Mines Limited (includes Cyderman, J.R.)
10 Rosen, A.E.
* Only these properties are present in Trill Township.

TABLE 1. Summary of Assessment Work

Table with columns: NAME, PROPERTY NO. ON MAP, PROPERTY NO. LAST YEAR WORKED, TOWNSHIP, TYPE OF WORK, ROCK UNIT, REFERENCE. Lists assessment work for various properties like Aird, J.B., Airnorth Mines Ltd., etc.

ABBREVIATIONS

Table with columns: Symbol, Name. Lists symbols for various geological features like Carb, Chl, Ep, Gln, etc.

SYMBOLS

Table with columns: Symbol, Name. Lists symbols for geological features like Glacial striae, Lineation with plunge, etc.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Base maps derived from the Forest Reserve Inventory maps, Lands and Waters Group, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, with additional information from Laflair.

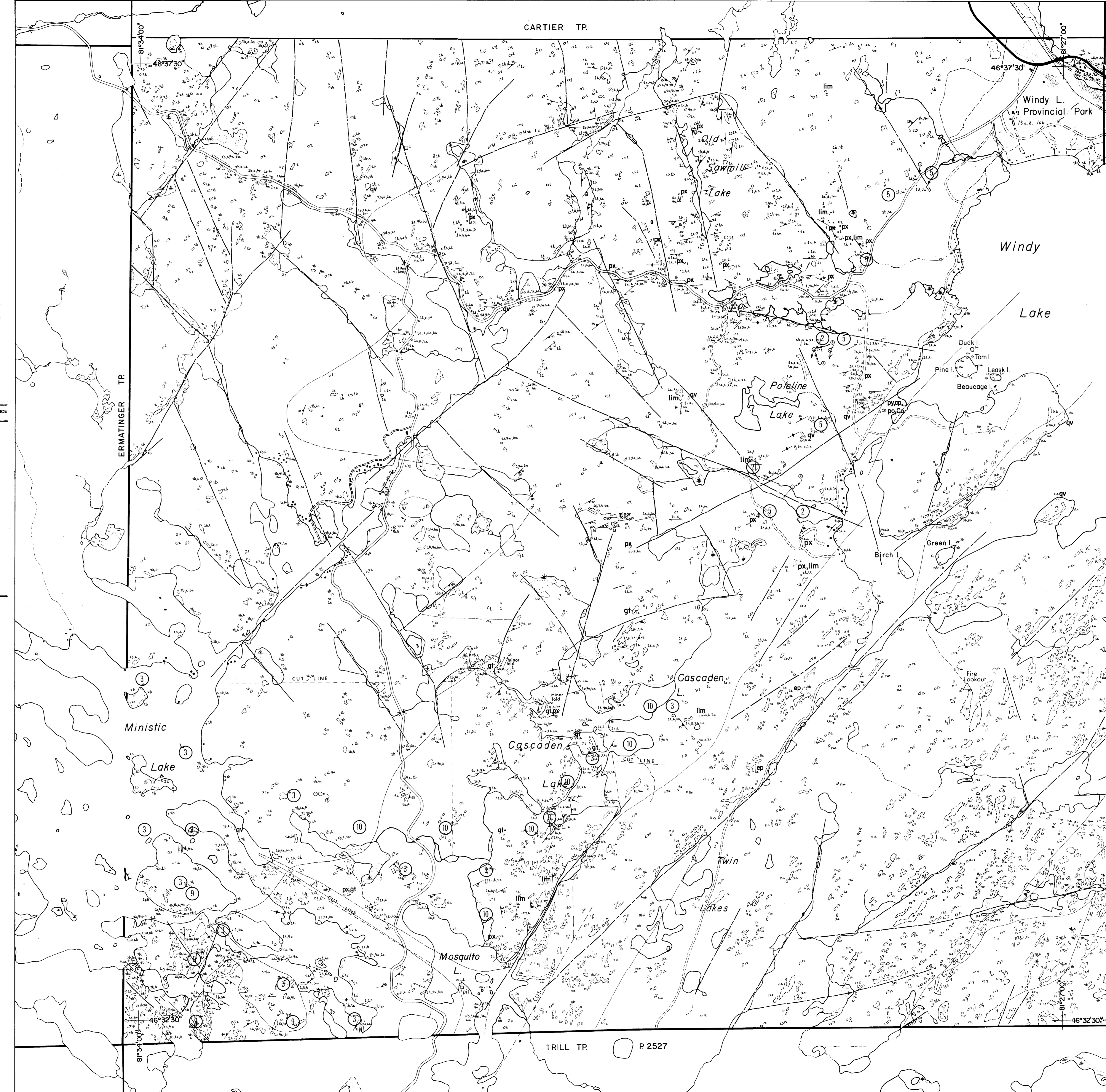
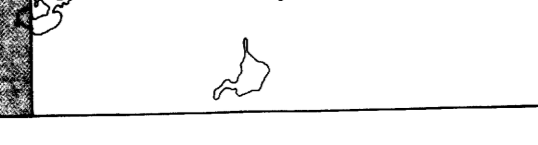
CREDITS

Geology by Jean Laflair, N. Maerz, B.O. Dressler and assistants, 1980, 1981.

NOTES

- a) This is a field legend for Cascaden, Dowling and Trill Townships, and may be changed as a result of subsequent laboratory investigations.
b) Not all lithological types are found on this map sheet.
c) Rocks in these units are subdivided lithologically and/or color does not imply age relationships among these formations.
d) Order implies lithologic age relationships among these formations.
e) The Sublayer Zone is locally poorly defined. It is composed of up to several ages and/or types of breccia with different fragment sizes, and/or different rock types. Its complexity cannot be fully indicated at this map scale.
f) Found as inclusions within rocks of units 1 and 2.
g) Lithologic subdivision not only applies to the Leveak Gneiss, but may also describe other gneisses in the map area.
h) Contains greater than 40% leucocratic mobilized or doming, -orthogneiss composition; the material may be derived from in situ melting, and/or injection from an external source.
i) Outcrops that have been examined have been coded appropriately. All others are shown from air photograph interpretation and are coded singly or in groups as 'unsubdivided'.
j) Where more than one rock type is listed (separated by a comma), the order is in decreasing predominance and (j) decreasing age as the appropriate date may be.

PROPERTY LOCATION MAP



LEGEND, MAP P.2525, GEOLOGICAL SERIES—PRELIMINARY MAP, PRECAMBRIAN GEOLOGY OF CASCADEN TOWNSHIP, SUDBURY DISTRICT. Includes a detailed legend with symbols for various geological units and features, a scale bar, and a location map.