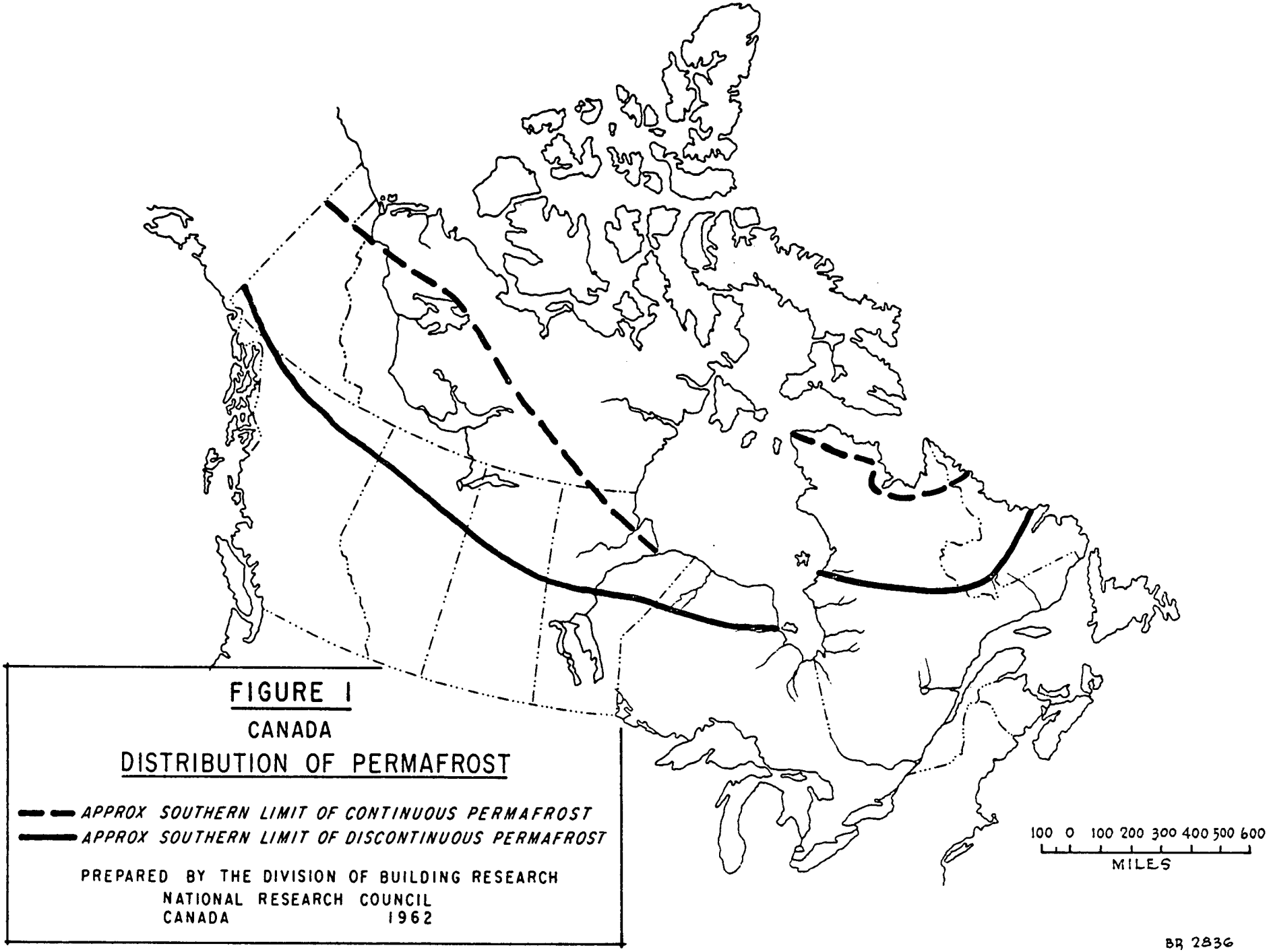


FIGURE I

CANADA

DISTRIBUTION OF PERMAFROST

APPROX SOUTHERN LIMIT OF CONTINUOUS PERMAFROST

APPROX SOUTHERN LIMIT OF DISCONTINUOUS PERMAFROST

PREPARED BY THE DIVISION OF BUILDING RESEARCH
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
CANADA 1962

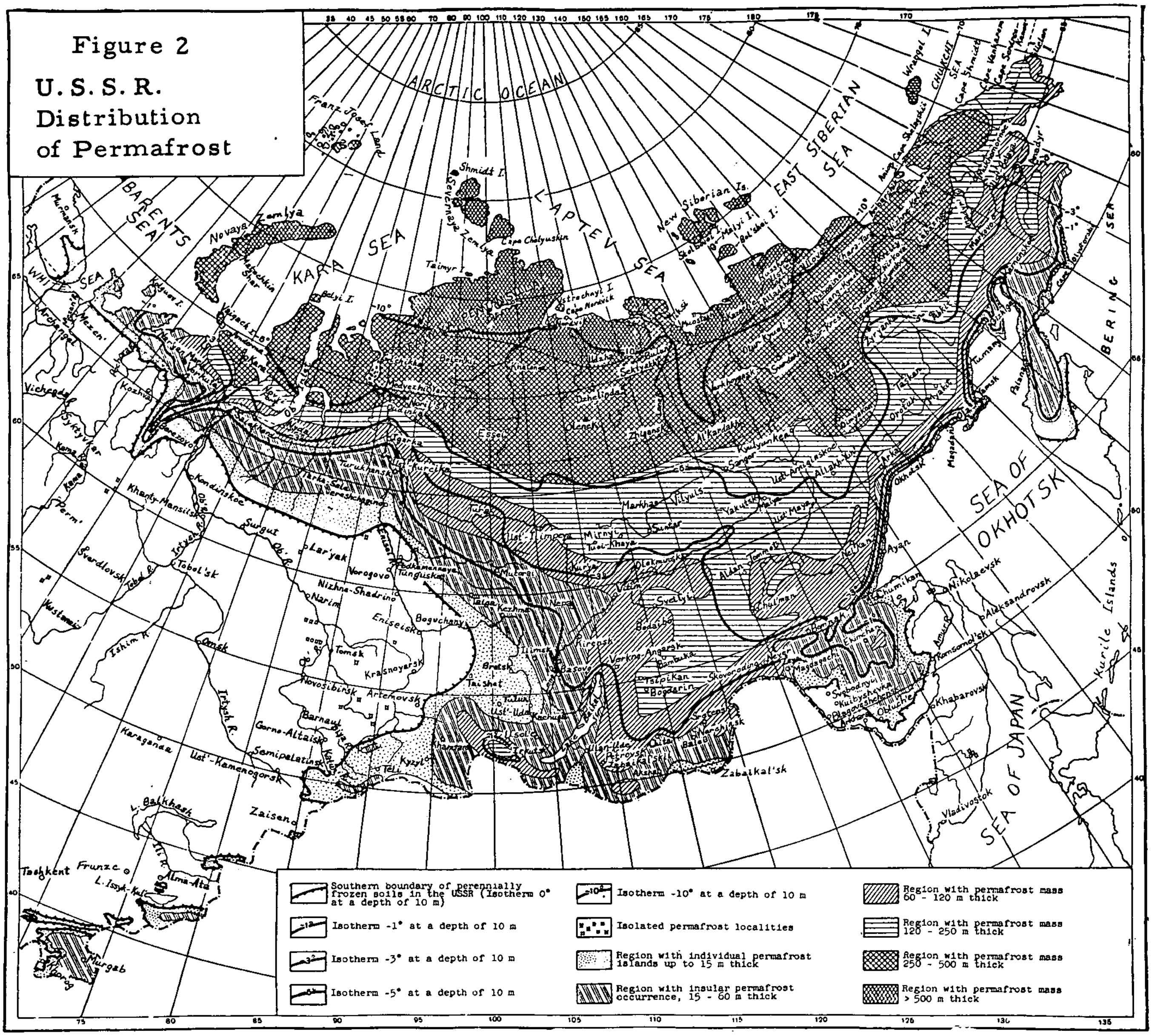
MAP OF PERMAFROST DISTRIBUTION IN CANADA

Explanatory Note

Lines on the map indicate the approximate southern limits of continuous and discontinuous permafrost in Canada. The distribution of permafrost varies from continuous in the north to discontinuous in the south. In the continuous zone, permafrost occurs everywhere under the ground surface and is generally hundreds of feet thick. Southward the continuous zone gives way gradually to the discontinuous zone where permafrost exists in combination with some areas of unfrozen material. The discontinuous zone is one of broad transition between continuous permafrost and ground having no permafrost. In this zone permafrost may vary from a widespread distribution with isolated patches of unfrozen ground to predominantly thawed material containing islands of ground that remain frozen. In the southern area of this discontinuous zone permafrost occurs as scattered patches and is only a few feet thick.

It is emphasized that the lines on the map must be considered as the approximate locations of broad transition zones many miles wide. Their locations may be changed on future maps subject to the obtaining of additional observations. Permafrost also exists at high altitudes in southern Labrador-Ungava and in the mountains of western Canada a great distance south of the limit of discontinuous permafrost shown on the map.

FIGURE 2



From: "Technical Considerations in Designing Foundations in Permafrost". State Committee of the Council of Ministers (U.S.S.R.) for Building Problems. State Publishing House of Literature on Building, Architecture and Building Materials, Moscow, 1960.

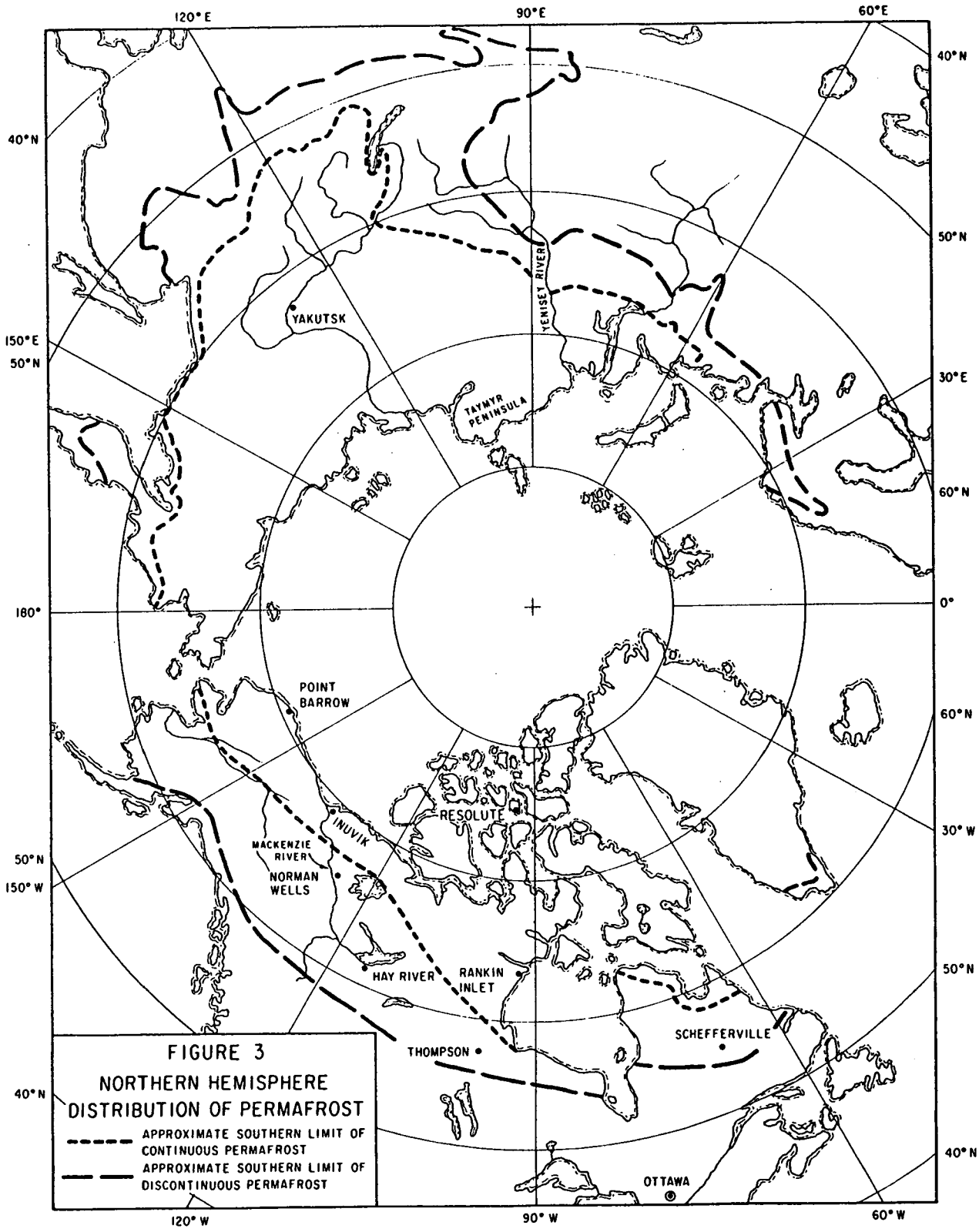


FIGURE 3
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE
DISTRIBUTION OF PERMAFROST

APPROXIMATE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF CONTINUOUS PERMAFROST

APPROXIMATE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF DISCONTINUOUS PERMAFROST