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Region de l'Ouest

237-7

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VOLUME XI  
GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION

MILE 725 TO MILE 936  
MACKENZIE HIGHWAY  
TIEDA RIVER BRIDGE - MILE 763.4

000014

PUBLIC WORKS CANADA

WESTERN REGION

REPORT ON

GEOTECHNICAL INVESTIGATION

MILE 725 TO MILE 936

MACKENZIE HIGHWAY

VOLUME XI

FOUNDATION INVESTIGATION

TIEDA RIVER CROSSING

MILE 763.4

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Quality Control Engineer  
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## I INTRODUCTION

The subsoil investigation at the Tieda River was undertaken as part of the overall geotechnical investigation on the Mackenzie Highway between Ft. Good Hope (Mile 725), and the junction with the Dempster Highway (Mile 936), in the winter of 1973-74. This crossing site was one of five major stream crossings which were investigated in detail during the course of the field work. General terrain analysis and borrow evaluation along the Highway has been submitted earlier in Volumes I to VIII of a report entitled Geotechnical Investigation - Mile 725 to Mile 936, Mackenzie Highway. This report on the Tieda River crossing comprises Volume XI of that overall report.

All field and laboratory work associated with this investigation was carried out by the Special Services Section, Design and Construction Branch, Western Region, Public Works Canada.

## II SITE CONDITIONS

The proposed bridge site is located approximately 5 miles downstream of where the River exits from Yeltea Lake, and is at approximately Mile 763.4 of the proposed Mackenzie Highway. The geographic location of the crossing is shown on the 1" = 90 miles key plan, Drawing No. A-1, Appendix A. Drawing No. A-2, Appendix A, outlines the upstream drainage

area of the Tieda River, and Drawing No. A-3 is a detailed 1" = 1000' mosaic of the proposed crossing site.

The Tieda River drains an area of roughly 320 sq. miles to the Highway in the southern portion of the Anderson Plain - a vast, broadly rolling till plain. The Yeltea Lake - Tieda River depression is developed into the Plain and into underlying shale and siltstone of the Hare Indian Formation. Glacial drift on the uplands adjacent to the Tieda River catchment area is relatively thin (<50'), however within the depression the drift cover is thicker and probably exceeds 200'.

At the proposed crossing site, the Tieda River has eroded a trench approximately 2500' wide and 100' deep into ground moraine. The River exhibits a marked meander pattern and straight stretches are very short and infrequent. Valley walls are actively eroding and there are old slide scars evident downstream of the crossing, however the proposed crossing site is stable. The highway crosses the river in a bend and the north bank of the channel, which is on the outside of the bend, is steep, about 6 to 10' high and is very gradually eroding. The river valley is a V-shaped trench with little or no valley 'floor' and continuous slopes to the river. Valley slopes are glacial till with

some overlying slopewash deposits. No cut sections are proposed in the valley walls and gradients reach a maximum of 6.5% on the south approach to the crossing. Fill heights adjacent to the proposed bridge will be approximately 30-35'. Permafrost is continuous throughout the area.

The stream channel at the crossing is roughly 60-70' in width, and 50 year return flows have been estimated by others (3, 4)\* at roughly 2700 cfs. with maximum water levels near elevation 467 (approximately 7' above stream bed). Flows to this level would extend approximately 60' south of the present channel bank, but would be confined on the north by the steep, comparatively high bank. Discharge in the river is controlled by the relatively large Yeltea Lake which is one mile wide and eighteen miles long.

No bridge design details are available at present, although a 270' structure has been recommended by the hydrological consultants (3,4). Excerpts from the hydrological reports are included in Appendix C.

An aerial photographic interpretation of the surficial geology of the general area of the Tieda River crossing is shown on Drawing No. A-3, and the terrain legend describing

\* Numbers in parenthesis refer to the List of References presented at the end of this report. .... 4

the symbols used is presented as Drawing No. A-3a. The immediate area of the crossing is shown in profile on Drawing No. A-4.

### III EVALUATION OF SUBSOIL CONDITIONS

#### A. Field and Laboratory Analysis

A total of 18 test holes were drilled in the immediate vicinity of the crossing site. Hole locations are shown on Drawing No. A-3, Appendix A, and borehole logs are included in Appendix B. All holes were drilled by means of a Mayhew 1000 drill rig using compressed air as the drilling fluid. Disturbed samples were obtained at frequent intervals in all holes for water content determinations, ice descriptions and material identification. All samples were returned to Edmonton for analysis in the Departmental Laboratory.

#### B. Subsoil Profile

The boreholes and the inferred stratigraphic sections are shown on Drawing No. A-4 in Appendix A. This subsoil profile presents a generalized grouping of the soil types encountered and individual borehole logs should be consulted for detail.

Glacial till underlies the crossing site at shallow depths - less than 10'. Overlying the till are alluvial meander plain deposits consisting primarily of stratified sands and gravels but with some clay-silts. These deposits contain little visible ice and are normally moist on thawing with moisture contents less than 10%.

The till surface conforms approximately to the ground surface contours in the immediate area of bridge site. In composition the till is a low to medium plastic, sandy, silty, clay with pebbles, and occasional cobbles or boulders. Permafrost is present throughout with the possible exception of a thaw zone below the present river channel. There is little visible ice in the till, and, upon thawing the material is described as 'damp' or 'moist' with moisture contents varying between 10-15% and generally slightly below the plastic limit. The majority of test holes were terminated at a depth of 30', however two holes, #2 and #15, were extended to a depth of 60' into the till. No appreciable change in composition or moisture (ice) content was evident with depth. The till is a very stiff, dense deposit in the thawed state.

Permafrost was very difficult to detect at this site as visible ice in the till was very low or non-existent, and equipment for measuring ground temperatures was not available. Initially, several holes near the crossing indicated the absence of

permafrost adjacent to the channel (night drilling), and these were subsequently redrilled with very close inspection of cuttings to confirm the presence of ice particles and permafrost. Four holes within the present channel - holes #9, #10, #11 and #12 - encountered frozen ground and visible ice to depths of 6'-9', below which the glacial till contained no visible ice and was reported as unfrozen. Unfortunately these holes were not redrilled to confirm the presence or absence of permafrost. A sketch of the possible thaw zone below the river has been prepared and is included as Drawing No. A-5, Appendix A. The possible thaw zone shown is considered to be the maximum limits of thaw below the channel, and it is the writer's opinion that the actual thaw zone, if in fact there is a thaw zone below the channel, is much smaller. There was no evidence of water in the channel, or in the granular subsoil below the channel, at the time of drilling, and ice was definitely encountered at least 6-7' below the channel. This suggests the channel annually freezes, and as the stream flow is relatively small during the summer, there is a good probability that there is no permanent thaw zone below the channel.

IV      FOUNDATION SUPPORT OF BRIDGE STRUCTURE

A.      Abutment and Pier Foundations

The permanently frozen glacial till provides the obvious

bearing stratum for the foundation elements, and it is recommended that steel piles frozen into the till be utilized for support of piers and abutments.

Design details for the proposed structure are not available, however an overall bridge length of 270' has been suggested by the hydrology consultants (3, 4). Foundation elements should be located as far back from the present river channel as possible in order to provide ample clearance from the possible thaw zone directly below the river channel. It is recommended the structure consist of a long center span with a minimum length of roughly 160', with shorter end spans as required. Piers should be placed at approximately station 2061+60 and station 2063+20, or roughly 35-40' on either side of the present channel limits. With the exception of some warming of the permafrost soils during pile freeze-back, in the area of the piles, and possibly some surface degradation of permafrost during construction, it is not considered that any significant change in the permafrost conditions will occur as a result of a bridge at this site. Piles installed no closer than 35' to the present channel should not be affected by the possible thaw zone below the channel as there is no reason to expect any significant change in the indicated thaw zone with time.

It is recommended the foundation elements consist of either steel H-piles (BP 12 @ 53 lbs./sq. ft.), or closed-end steel pipe piles (10" diameter @ 40 lbs./ft.). The piles should be placed in pre-bored holes, the void space backfilled with a sand slurry, and allowed to freeze into place. If H-piles are employed the piles should be driven approximately 10 feet below the depth of pre-boring to provide some immediate load-carrying capacity. Pipe piles should be driven to practical refusal or 5-6' below the pre-boring depth. Load transfer will initially be by end-bearing and friction on the lower part of the pile in the frozen till, and, following freeze-back, by tangential adfreezing along the pile surface.

Tangential adfreezing is dependent upon temperature of the permafrost soils and composition of the backfill material. There is no detailed temperature data with depth for the Tieda River area, however the National Research Council working in conjunction with D.P.W., has installed thermistors at the Eagle River in the Yukon which is at approximately the same latitude as the Tieda River. Available readings from the Eagle River are included in Appendix C and it is considered that temperature data obtained at the North abutment (cable #1) can be applied to the Tieda River (cable #2 at the South abutment is in a thaw zone of a former channel of the Eagle River). This data shows a consistent temperature near 28°F with depth.

Test data obtained by the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory from pile load tests in Alaska, indicate a sustained adfreeze strength for a silt-water slurry backfill and steel of more than 25 psi. at 28°F. In addition, adfreeze strengths for a saturated, well-graded sand slurry, vibrated in place, are at least 50% higher. Therefore, if a design adfreeze strength of 10 psi. is assumed, the factor of safety will be at least 3 for a sand slurry backfill. Twelve inch steel H-piles would therefore develop a load carrying capacity of 12" x 12" x 10 psi. x 4 = 5760 lbs. per lineal foot of pile, and 10" diameter pipe piles would develop ~~10~~ x 10" x 12" x 10 psi. = 3870 lbs. per foot.

In order to accommodate a 12" H-pile, an 18" diameter borehole is required, and to accommodate a 10" diameter pipe pile, at least a 14" diameter hole would be required to ensure pile alignment and adequate placement of slurry backfill. Thus the void space, and the slurry requirement, for a pipe pile would be significantly less than for an H-pile. This is important as the slurry introduces heat into the ground and should be kept to a minimum.

It is recommended the backfill consist of a well-graded sand with 100% passing the #4 sieve, and less than 15% passing the #200 sieve. Sufficient water should be added to completely saturate the sand but excess water should be avoided. A concrete mixer will serve to mix the slurry and the temperature of the

slurry should be as cold as possible to avoid introducing any unnecessary heat into the ground. It is estimated the water content of a well-saturated, well-graded sand will be in the order of 25% and the volumetric latent heat will be in the order of 3000 BTU/cu. ft. For an 18" diameter H-pile hole, the latent heat per foot of pile will be approximately 5500 BTU/foot. In comparison the volumetric latent heat for a 14" diameter pipe pile hole would be approximately 2000 BTU/foot. Based upon CRREL test data, a single H-pile installed in an 18" diameter hole with a slurry as outlined above, would require probably 9-10 days to completely freeze-back at a permafrost temperature of 28°F, whereas a 10" pipe pile in a 14" diameter hole would completely freeze-back in probably 3-4 days. Thus there are obvious advantages to using pipe piling.

Freeze-back time for a group of piles would be greater as more heat is introduced into the subsoil, and therefore the minimum number of piles possible should be used - i.e., the design should utilize heavily loaded, widely spaced piles, as opposed to closely spaced, lightly loaded members. Pile groupings increase the overall temperature of the permafrost within the area of the piles and if spacings are small, the temperature will be raised to the point that freeze-back will cease until the permafrost is made colder - i.e., until winter, if construction is in summer. For 12" H-piles in 18" diameter holes, the pile spacing should be not less than approximately 8' to

obtain full freeze-back without having to wait a winter season; for 10" pipe piles in 14" diameter holes a pile spacing of not less than approximately 5 feet would be required.

Following are recommended pile lengths and depths of pre-boring for 10" pipe and 12" steel H-piles, assuming a design load in the order of 100 kips per pile. The pipe piles are preferred.

| <u>Pile</u>       | <u>Effective length<br/>below pier or<br/>abutment</u> | <u>Depth of<br/>Pre-boring</u> | <u>Hole<br/>Size</u> |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 10" pipe @40#/ft. | 35'  | 30'                            | 14-15"               |
| BPL2@53#/ft.      | 30'  | 20'                            | 18"                  |

Piles should be driven with a fairly high energy hammer below the depth of pre-boring as penetration is expected to be difficult in the dense frozen till - an energy in the order of 20,000 ft. lbs. per blow is recommended. Detailed driving records should be maintained.

B. Bridge Approach Fills

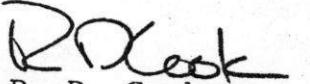
Fill heights immediately adjacent to the abutments will be in the order of 20 to 35' and the permafrost table will likely rise into these embankments, hence stability of the approach fills will not be a problem. Backfill adjacent to the abutments should be well compacted shale borrow which is readily available approximately 3 miles to the south - see Section 10 of Volume I of Report on Geotechnical Investigation, Mile 725 - 936, Mackenzie Highway. Field compaction control is recommended on all backfill associated with piers and abutments.

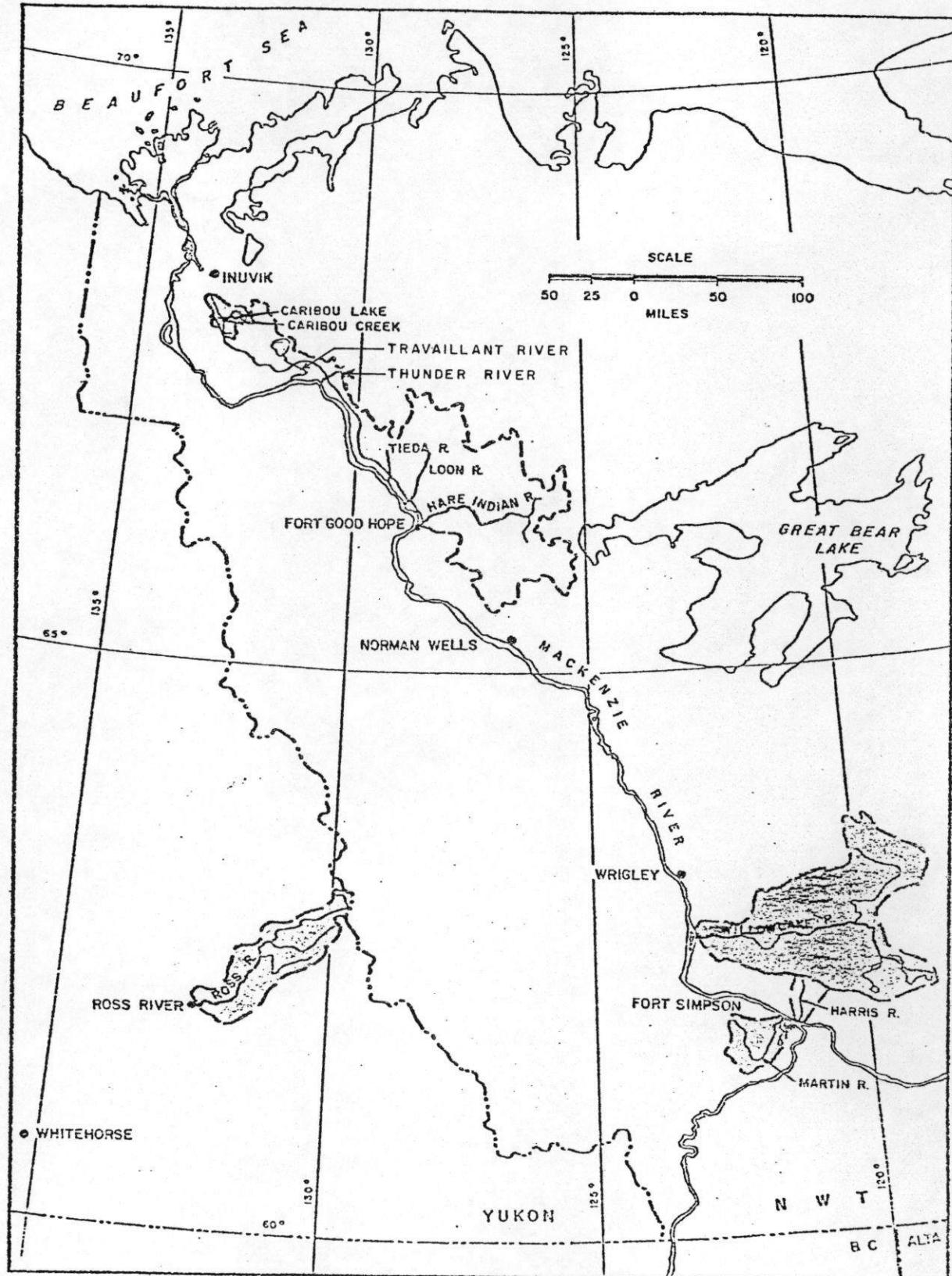
The nearest source of granular material suitable for concrete aggregate is located near Mile 785, roughly 25 miles distant, with an alternate source near Ft. Good Hope (Mile 725), roughly 40 miles distant (see Section 28 - Surfacing Materials - Volume I of Geotechnical Report). Thus bridge construction should be delayed until road access to either source is completed.

C. Bank Stability

The north bank of the present channel is presently subject to erosion during high water stages. The bank is primarily glacial till but with some overlying slope-wash and/or alluvial

deposits, and the material is permanently frozen. The bank is not unstable but will probably undergo some lateral erosion and hence river training works and/or bank protection should be included in the bridge design.

  
R. D. Cook  
Quality Control Engineer  
Special Services  
Western Region



Dwg. No. A-1

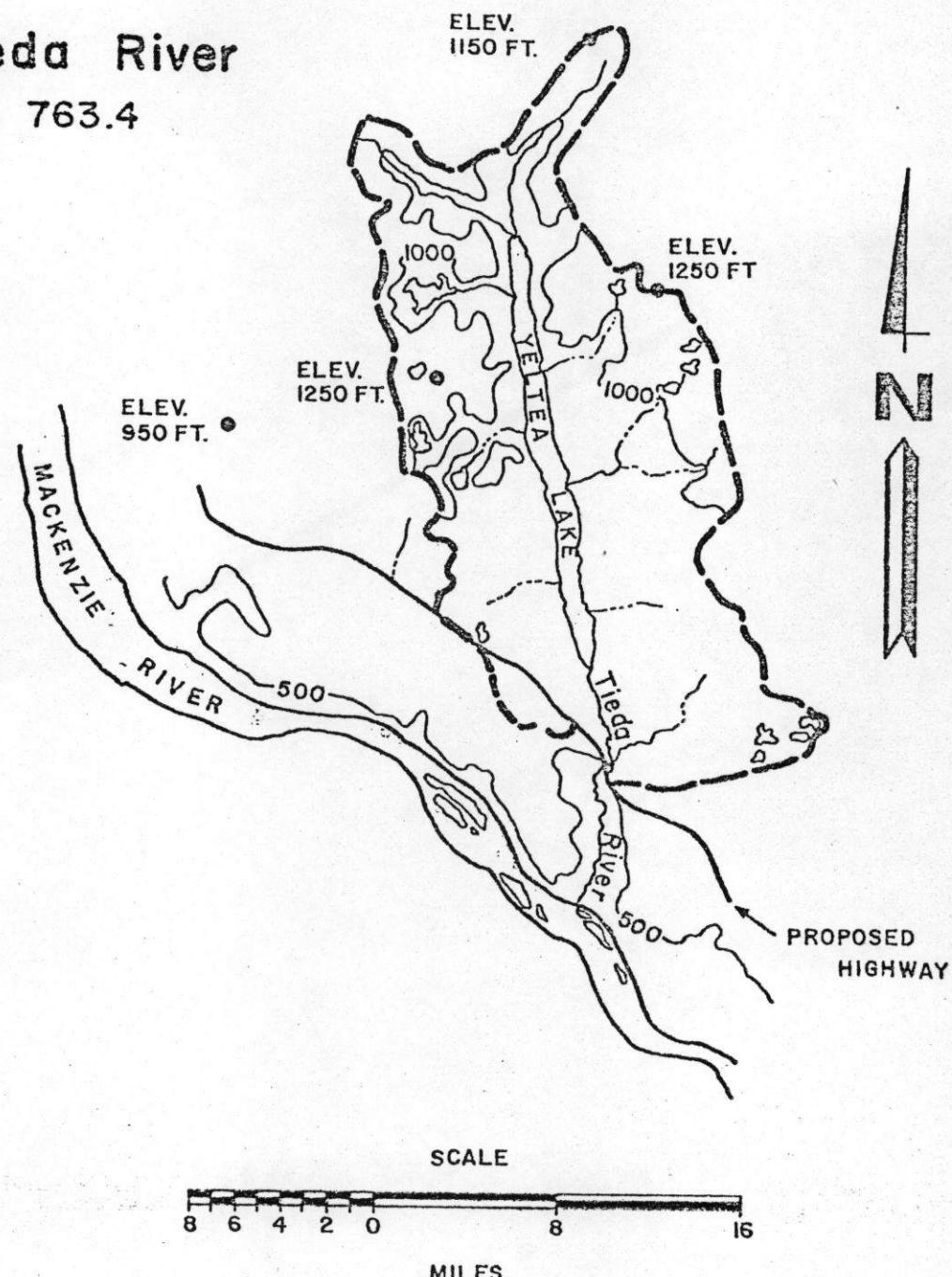
#### KEY PLAN

MACKENZIE RIVER, N.W.T.

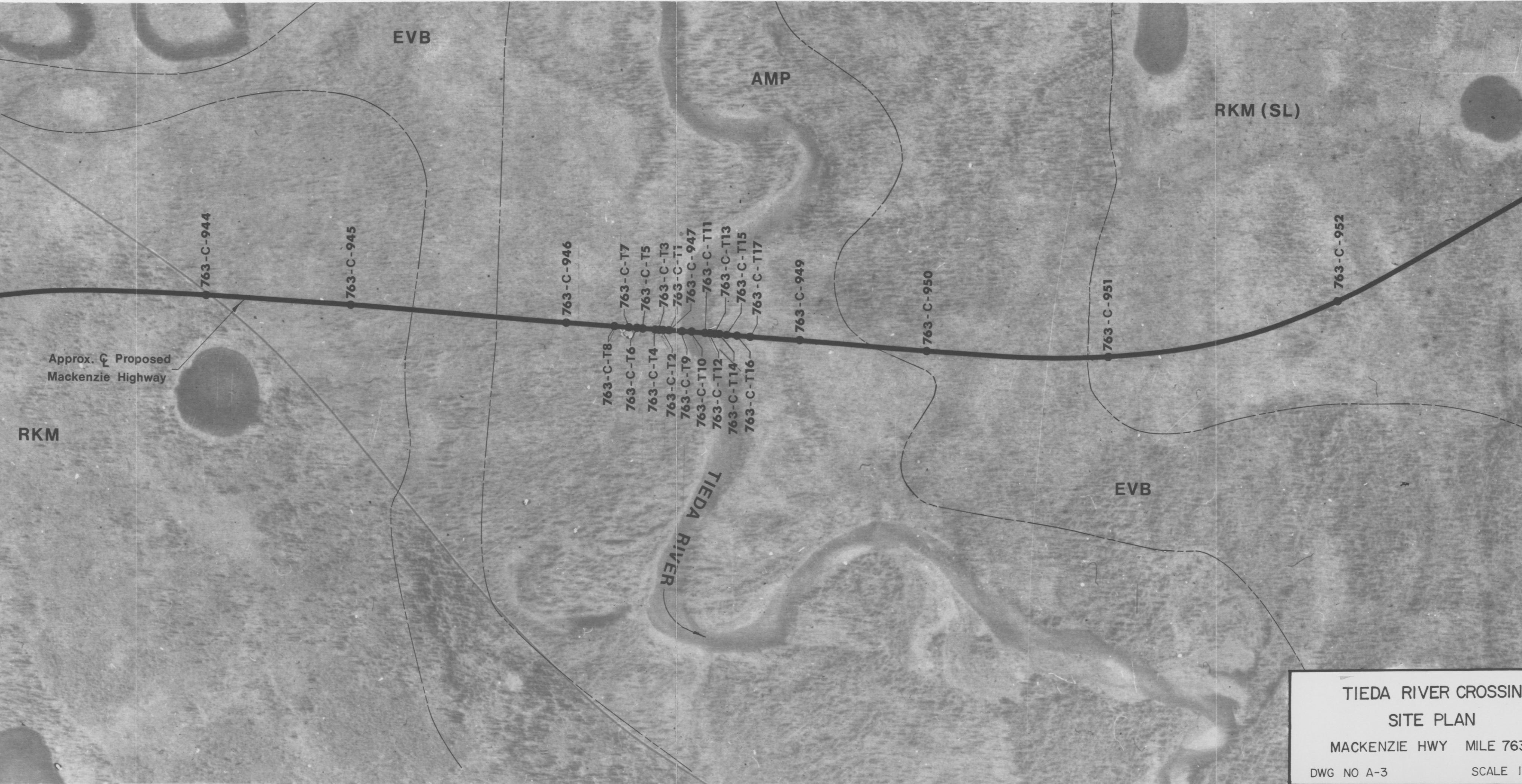
1" = 90 MILES

# Tieda River

Mile 763.4



— Drainage Area to Proposed Highway Crossing 319 sq. miles



## TERRAIN TYPING LEGEND

| <u>Symbol</u> | <u>Terrain Types</u>  |
|---------------|---|
| AMP           | Alluvial meander plain: ice-rich stratified clay, silt, and fine sand over thin, discontinuous layer of sand and/or gravel over till or glaciolacustrine silt and clay      |
| FFP           | Fossil flood plain: ice-rich silty topstratum over sand and/or gravel below the inactive floodplain of relatively high-energy streams                                       |
| HT            | High terraces: silt-covered stratified fluvial and/or outwash sand and gravel along the sides of present river valleys and abandoned meltwater channels                     |
| RKM           | Ridge-and-knoll moraine: largely rolling ground moraine with and without drumlinoid forms; low to medium plastic till with shallow peat and ponded sediments in depressions |

## PHASES AND FEATURES

### Topographic and drainage features

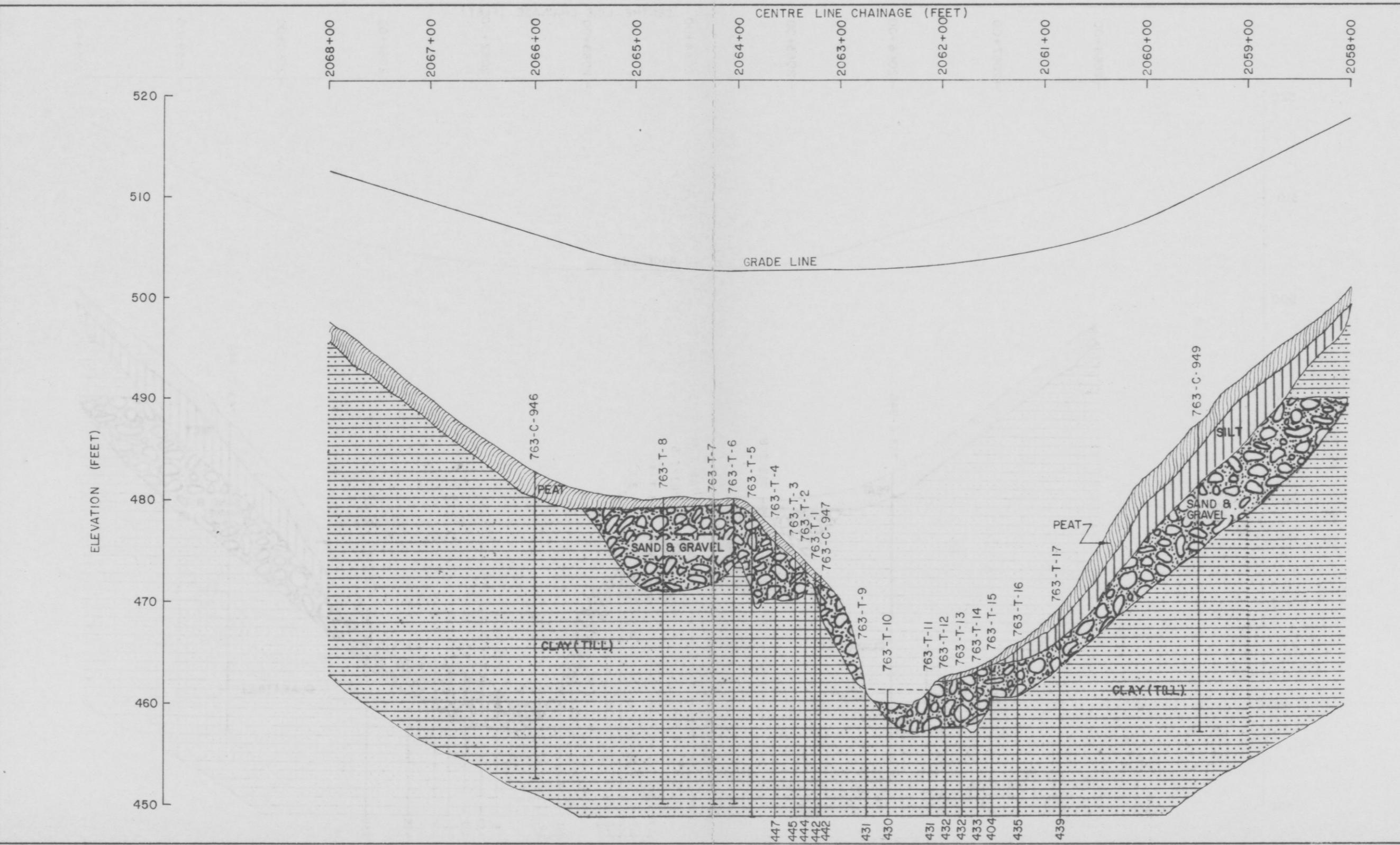
|     |   |
|-----|---|
| DR  | Drumlinoid forms, including fluting and glacial grooves with linear ridges        |
| EVB | Eroding valley sides and escarpment slopes; mixed clay to boulders and/or bedrock |

### Topstratum phases associated with main terrain types

|    |  |
|----|--|
| SL | Slopewash deposits and associated sheetwash drainage: top stratum of ice-rich, poorly sorted silty clay and silty sand layers with some gravel sizes and thin organic layers; generally less than 5 ft. thick but may reach 10 ft. locally |
|----|--|

## COMPLEXES

Complexes are shown as combinations of two terrain types, with or without phases that pertain to the parent type.



NOTE: I. STRATIGRAPHY BETWEEN BOREHOLES HAS BEEN ASSUMED.

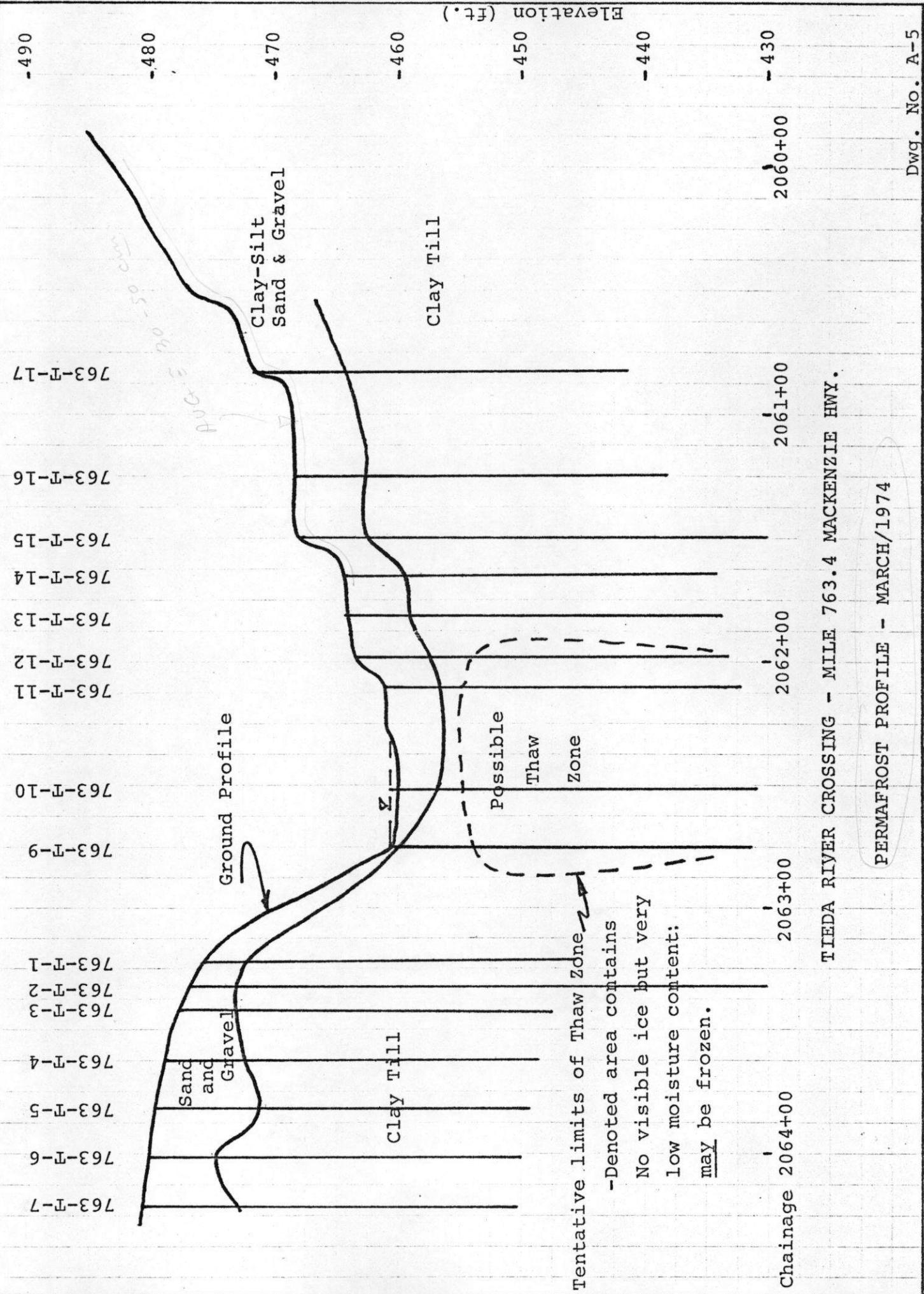
SCALE: VERT. 1"=10'  
HORIZ. 1"=100'

ELEVATION (FEET)

520  
510  
500  
490  
480  
470  
460  
450

PUBLIC WORKS CANADA  
WESTERN REGION

TIEDA RIVER CROSSING  
PROFILE & STRATIGRAPHY  
DWG NO A-4









**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

TIEADA RIVER

DRILL HOLE REPORT

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## TIEDEA RIVER

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

DRILL HOLE REPORT

SIE

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

| FIELD ENG.            |                   |         |              | DRILL HOLE REPORT |  |             |  | SITE:               |                                  |           |                 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------|-------------------|--|-------------|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| TECH. D. Pronych      |                   | RIG.    | AIRPHOTO NO. | CHAINAGE.         |  | VEGETATION. |  | ELEV.               |                                  | TEST HOLE |                 |
| DATE DRILLED: 19/3/74 | SURFACE DRAINAGE. | OFFSET. | TEST HOLE    | 4                 |  |             |  | GRAIN-SIZE ANALYSIS | RELATIVE THAWED MOISTURE CONTENT |           |                 |
|                       |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  | GRANULARITY         | SLATE                            | SAND      | TEST HOLE MILIE |
|                       |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  | CLAY                | CLAY                             | CLAY      | 763             |
| 4'                    |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 8'                    |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 12'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 16'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 20'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 24'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 28'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 32'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 36'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 40'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 44'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 48'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 52'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |
| 56'                   |                   |         |              |                   |  |             |  |                     |                                  |           |                 |

% RECOVERY

TYPE

SAMPLE

NUMBER

(FEET)

SOIL SYMBOL

UNIFIELD RESISTANCE

PENETRATION

TEST HOLE

DEPTH (FEET)

ICE DESCRIPTION

LIMITS OF GROUND

ICE CONTENT (%)

WATER CONTENT (%)

DRY DENSITY (lbs./ft.<sup>3</sup>)

DEPTH (FEET)

VEGETATION.

ELEV.

TEST HOLE

MILE

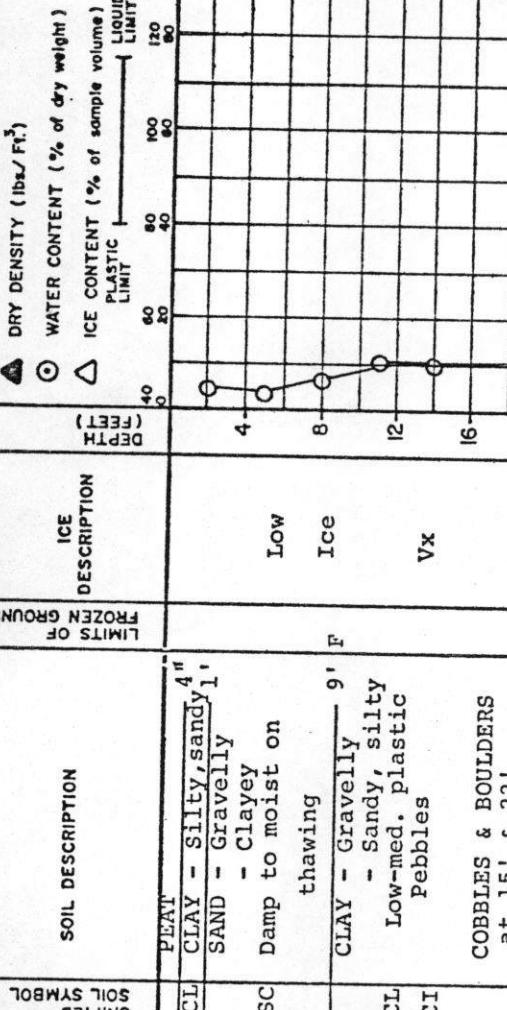
REMARKS

TEST HOLE

4

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**
**DRILL HOLE REPORT****SITE:**

| FIELD ENG. | DATE DRILLED. | AIRPHOTO NO. | TECH. D. Pronych | RIG. Mayhew #1 | SURFACE DRAINAGE. | VEGETATION. | OFFSET. | ELEV. | TEST HOLE           |                |                                  |         |
|------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------|---------|-------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------|
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 5                   | TEST HOLE MILE | 763                              | REMARKS |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | GRAIN-SIZE ANALYSIS | GRANULARITY    | RELATIVE THAWED MOISTURE CONTENT |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | CLAY                | SILT           | SAND                             |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | %                   | %              | %                                |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 100+                | 100            | 100                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 100                 | 100            | 100                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 80                  | 80             | 80                               |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 60                  | 60             | 60                               |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 40                  | 40             | 40                               |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 20                  | 20             | 20                               |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 120                 | 120            | 120                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 140                 | 140            | 140                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 160                 | 160            | 160                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 180                 | 180            | 180                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 200                 | 200            | 200                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 220                 | 220            | 220                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 240                 | 240            | 240                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 260                 | 260            | 260                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 280                 | 280            | 280                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 300                 | 300            | 300                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 320                 | 320            | 320                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 340                 | 340            | 340                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 360                 | 360            | 360                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 380                 | 380            | 380                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 400                 | 400            | 400                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 420                 | 420            | 420                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 440                 | 440            | 440                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 460                 | 460            | 460                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 480                 | 480            | 480                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 500                 | 500            | 500                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 520                 | 520            | 520                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 540                 | 540            | 540                              |         |
|            |               |              |                  |                |                   |             |         |       | 560                 | 560            | 560                              |         |





**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

DRILL HOLE REPORT

SITE:

| FIELD ENG.       | DATE DRILLED.    | 18/3/74   | AIRPHOTO NO.            | CHAINAGE.       | VEGETATION.         | OFFSET.                          | TEST HOLE | 7      |         |       |       |
|------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|-------|-------|
|                  |                  |   |                         |                 |                     |                                  |           |        |         |       |       |
| TECH.            | D. Pronych       | RIG. Mayhew #1  | SURFACE DRAINAGE.       | ELEV.           | GRAIN-SIZE ANALYSIS | RELATIVE THAWED MOISTURE CONTENT | MILE      | 763    |         |       |       |
| DEPTH)<br>(FEET) | SAMPLE<br>NUMBER | SOIL DESCRIPTION  | ICE<br>DESCRIPTION      | DEPTH<br>(FEET) | CLAY                | SILT                             | SAND      | GRAVEL | REMARKS |       |       |
| 4-               | Pt               | PEAT<br>SAND-Silty, clayey 1'   | LIMITS OF FROZEN GROUND | 40              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -32-    | 68 0  | Moist |
| 8-               | SC               | GRAVELLY  | ICE                     | 4               | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -12-    | 50 38 | Moist |
| 12-              |                  | CLAY - Gravelly<br>- Silty, sandy<br>- Med. plastic<br>CI Pebbles & Rock chips<br>flat - hard | Low                     | 8               | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -42-    | 45 13 | Wet   |
| 16-              |                  |   | Vx                      | 12              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -51-    | 43 6  | Moist |
| 20-              |                  |   |                         | 16              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -60-    | 34 6  | Damp  |
| 24-              |                  |   |                         | 20              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -56-    | 36 8  | Moist |
| 28-              |                  |   |                         | 24              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -63-    | 29 8  | Damp  |
| 32-              |                  |   |                         | 28              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | -75-    | 24 1  | Damp  |
| 36-              |                  |   |                         | 32              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 36      |       |       |
| 40-              |                  |   |                         | 36              | 40                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 40      |       |       |
| 44-              |                  |   |                         | 40              | 44                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 44      |       |       |
| 48-              |                  |   |                         | 44              | 48                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 48      |       |       |
| 52-              |                  |   |                         | 48              | 52                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 52      |       |       |
| 56-              |                  |   |                         | 52              | 56                  | 60                               | 80        | 100    | 56      |       |       |

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA  
MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

TIEDA RIVER

DRILL HOLE REPORT

SITES



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA  
MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**

TIEDA RIVER

## DRILL HOLE REPORT

## MACKENZIE HIGHWAY





**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA**  
**MACKENZIE HIGHWAY**
**DRILL HOLE REPORT**
**SITE:**

| FIELD ENG. | DATE DRILLED 20/3/74 |          |   | AIRPHOTO NO.    | CHAINAGE.    | VEGETATION.                          | OFFSET.                         | ELEV.                            | TEST HOLE    | 13                  |                                  |         |       |
|------------|----------------------|----------|---|-----------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-------|
|            | TECH.                | W. Baine | RIG. Mayhew #1                                  |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  |         |       |
|            |                      |          | SOIL DESCRIPTION                                | ICE DESCRIPTION | DEPTH (FEET) | DRY DENSITY (lbs./ft. <sup>3</sup> ) | WATER CONTENT (% of dry weight) | ICE CONTENT (% of sample volume) | LIQUID LIMIT | GRAIN-SIZE ANALYSIS | RELATIVE THAWED MOISTURE CONTENT | REMARKS |       |
|            |                      |          | LIMITS OF FROZEN GROUND                         | LIMITS OF ICE   | DEPTH (FEET) | 5'                                   | 5%                              | △ PLASTIC LIMIT                  | 5'           | SILT                | SAND                             | MILE    | 763   |
| 4-         | Pt                   | PEAT     | SAND - Silty, pebbles<br>N.P.<br>Rock chips     |                 | 4            | -                                    | -                               | -                                | -            | -                   | -                                | -22-    | 70 8  |
| 8-         | SM                   |          |   |                 | 8            | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -54-    | 45 1  |
| 12-        | CL                   | CLAY     | - Sandy, silty<br>- Pebbles<br>Low-med. plastic | F<br>Nil<br>Ice | 12           | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -59-    | 38 3  |
| 16-        | CI                   |          | - Till  | Vx              | 16           | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -58-    | 32 10 |
| 20-        |                      |          | Nbn   |                 | 20           | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -55-    | 28 17 |
| 24-        |                      |          |   |                 | 24           | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -55-    | 30 14 |
| 28-        |                      |          |   |                 | 28           | 4.5                                  | 10                              | 4.5                              | 10           | 100                 | 100+                             | -57-    | 37 6  |
|            |                      |          | Bottom of Hole - 29'                            |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | -55-    | 36 9  |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 32      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 36      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 40      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 44      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 48      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 52      |       |
|            |                      |          |   |                 |              |                                      |                                 |                                  |              |                     |                                  | 56      |       |











DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CANADA  
MACKENZIE HIGHWAY

DRILL HOLE REPORT

SITE:

SECTION D

FIELD ENG. N. BURGESS DATE DRILLED. 17/3/74 AIRPHOTO NO. A23334 - 226 CHAINAGE. 2056 + 00

RIG. 1 SURFACE DRAINAGE.

VEGETATION.

OFFSET.

ELEV.

TEST HOLE

950

| TECH.<br>BAINS | BAINS | SOIL DESCRIPTION | ICE<br>DESCRIPTION | DEPTH<br>(FEET) | GRAIN-SIZE<br>ANALYSIS |      |        |      |      |        | RELATIVE<br>THAWED<br>MOISTURE<br>CONTENT | REMARKS |      |
|----------------|-------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------|--------|------|------|--------|---|---------|------|
|                |       |                  |                    |                 | CLAY                   | SAND | GRAVEL | CLAY | SAND | GRAVEL |   |         |      |
| 2-             |       | CLAY - SILTY     | ICE                | 2               |                        |      |        |      |      |        | -64                                       | -32     | SAT. |
| 4-             |       | - SANDY          | Vc - Vr            | 4               |                        |      |        |      |      |        | -60                                       | -37     | WET  |
| 6-             |       | - PEBBLES        |                    | 6               |                        |      |        |      |      |        | -6  | -36     | DAMP |
| 8-             |       | LOW PLASTIC      |                    | 8               |                        |      |        |      |      |        | -64                                       | -35     | 1    |
| 10-            |       | C1               |                    | 10              |                        |      |        |      |      |        | -64                                       | -33     | 2    |
| 12-            |       |                  |                    | 12              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         | DAMP |
| 14-            |       |                  |                    | 14              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 16-            |       |                  |                    | 16              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 18-            |       |                  |                    | 18              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 20-            |       |                  |                    | 20              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 22-            |       |                  |                    | 22              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 24-            |       |                  |                    | 24              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 26-            |       |                  |                    | 26              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |
| 28-            |       |                  |                    | 28              |                        |      |        |      |      |        |   |         |      |

DEMPSTER HIGHWAY, Y.T.  
EAGLE RIVER BRIDGE SITE

Initial Ground Temperatures at installation of thermistors-  
June 7, 1974.

| <u>DEPTH</u> | <u>TEMPERATURE °F</u>             |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|              | <u>SOUTH BANK<br/>STA 5091+80</u> | <u>NORTH BANK<br/>STA 5094+35</u> |
| 5            | 30.6                              | 26.0                              |
| 10           | 30.7                              | 22.9                              |
| 20           | 31.95                             | 24.4                              |
| 30           | 32.06                             | 27.0                              |
| 40           | 32.2                              | 28.2                              |
| 50           | 32.2                              | 28.5                              |
| 60           | 32.1                              | 28.6                              |
| 70           | 32.1                              | 28.8                              |
| 80           | 32.0                              | 28.7                              |
| 90           | 32.3                              | 29.0                              |
| 100          | 32.1                              | 29.1                              |

DEMPSTER HIGHWAY, Y.T.  
EAGLE RIVER BRIDGE SITE

Ground Temperatures - Sept. 29, 1974

Observer - G.H. Johnsto  
DBR/NRC

- (1) Thermistor Cable No. 1 - North Side - Sta. 5094 + 35  
(B.H. #74-BH-Da)

| <u>Point No.</u> | <u>Depth Ft.</u> | <u>Temperature</u> |           |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                  |                  | <u>°C</u>          | <u>°F</u> |
| 1                | 5                | -0.77              | 30.6      |
| 2                | 10               | -1.71              | 28.9      |
| 3                | 20               | -2.55              | 27.4      |
| 4                | 30               | -2.62              | 27.3      |
| 5                | 40               | -2.35              | 27.7      |
| 6                | 50               | -2.08              | 28.2      |
| 7                | 60               | -1.91              | 28.6      |
| 8                | 70               | -1.79              | 28.8      |
| 9                | 80               | -1.86              | 28.7      |
| 10               | 90               | -1.64              | 29.0      |
| 11               | 100              | -1.72              | 28.9      |

- (2) Thermistor Cable No. 2 - South Side - Sta. 5091 + 80  
(B.H. #74-1)

| <u>Point No.</u> | <u>Depth Ft.</u> | <u>Temperature</u> |           |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|                  |                  | <u>°C</u>          | <u>°F</u> |
| 1                | 5                | -0.14              | 31.7      |
| 2                | 10               | -0.44              | 31.2      |
| 3                | 20               | -0.10              | 31.8      |
| 4                | 30               | +0.06              | 32.1      |
| 5                | 40               | +0.12              | 32.2      |
| 6                | 50               | +0.15              | 32.2      |
| 7                | 60               | +0.02              | 32.0      |
| 8                | 70               | +0.04              | 32.1      |
| 9                | 80               | -0.10              | 31.8      |
| 10               | 90               | +0.15              | 32.2      |
| 11               | 100              | -0.10              | 31.8      |

DEMPSTER HIGHWAY, Y.T.  
EAGLE RIVER BRIDGE SITE

Ground Temperatures - March 21, 1975

Observers -  
J.C. Plunkett, DBR/N  
T. Thompson, AES/DOE

| Point<br>No. | Depth<br>Ft. | Cable #1 (North) |      | Cable #2 (South) |      |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|------|------------------|------|
|              |              | °C               | °F   | °C               | °F   |
| 1            | 5            | -5.53            | 22.0 | -0.34            | 31.4 |
| 2            | 10           | -3.78            | 25.2 | -0.37            | 31.3 |
| 3            | 20           | -2.15            | 28.1 | -0.19            | 31.7 |
| 4            | 30           | -2.03            | 28.3 | -0.05            | 31.9 |
| 5            | 40           | -2.11            | 28.2 | +0.04            | 32.1 |
| 6            | 50           | -2.06            | 28.3 | +0.09            | 32.2 |
| 7            | 60           | -1.95            | 28.5 | -0.16            | 31.7 |
| 8            | 70           | -1.80            | 28.8 | 0.0              | 32.0 |
| 9            | 80           | -1.84            | 28.7 | -0.23            | 31.6 |
| 10           | 90           | -1.64            | 29.0 | +0.10            | 32.2 |
| 11           | 100          | -                | *    | -                | *    |

Snow Cover - Range 27" - 39" 32" - 36"  
 - Avge. (~20 obser.) 32" 34"

Air Temperature - 0°C

\* Unable to obtain stable reading.

#### 4. Tieda River

Drainage area of this river is 319 square miles.

The flow rate calculated using the measured ice marks, 2,015 c.f.s. is much lower than the value of  $Q_{50}$ , 4,010 c.f.s. This is because the peak discharge is mainly controlled by the relatively large Yeltea Lake which is one mile wide and eighteen miles long. Sixty percent of the main channel passes through this lake. Therefore, a design discharge of 2,650 c.f.s. which is two thirds of  $Q_{50}$ , is recommended as a conservative design discharge value. The average velocity estimated for that discharge is 5.7 feet per second.

### III.4 TIEDA RIVER

#### 4.1 Bridge Setting

The bridge length is 270 feet based on the centreline groundline profile and the proposed grade line (Fig. 13). However, this length may be subject to revision due to certain foundation stability problems discussed below.

Although some of the features of this crossing are undesirable, it appears to be the best available location in the area. The highway crosses the river in a bend. Therefore, water velocity is greater along the north bank. This bank is steep, unstable, about 6 to 10 feet high, and it is gradually eroding.

Further studies of the slope stability are recommended, taking account of the combined effects of the approach embankment and of the scour action of the water.

Recommendations are contained herein under the Scour section, pertaining to the action of the water on the bank, and protection requirements after the bank has been stabilized.

The final length of the bridge structure would depend on the position and slope of the fill, since such length is more than adequate for Hydrological considerations.

#### 4.2 Scour Computations

The mean size of riverbed material estimated is 60 m.m. The water depth and mean velocity at design discharge at the bridge crossing were computed to be 6.3 feet and 4.84 fps respectively (Table 1). Based on this water depth and material size, the non-eroding velocity of 9 fps suggested by Neill<sup>(8)</sup> is much greater than the mean velocity of 4.84 fps. A top width of 92 feet calculated using Lacey's equation<sup>(8)</sup> is less than the actual channel width of 94 feet. Thus, no general scour is expected.

The local scour depths around piers were found to be 6 feet, 8 feet and 10 feet corresponding to pier widths of 4 feet, 6 feet and 8 feet respectively (Appendix II). A maximum 5 inch mean stone would be enough to insure

protection of the piers against scour, and 12 inch mean size riprap is recommended. (Table 2).

#### 4.3 Ice Considerations

Numerous ice marks were found on the right bank of the river, on the outer part of the river bend. These marks were found at elevations ranging from 3 feet above the 1973 high water level just after the bend, down to 1 foot at the level of the centreline.

It is therefore indicated that ice pile-up along the river bank is significant and special provisions should be taken in order to insure that the ice can be carried through the structure. Ice pressure on piers can be reduced by using sloped face piers.

#### 1.4 TIEDA RIVER

Design discharge: 2,650 cfs

Elevation corresponding to design discharge: 466.5 feet

Natural channel width at bridge site corresponding to  
design discharge: 94 feet

Low water elevation: 461.3 feet

Riverbed material: small boulder,  $D_{50} = 60$  m.m.

Average water depth at design discharge: 6.3 feet

Cross-section area at bridge site corresponding to design  
discharge: 546.5 sq. ft.

Velocity at design discharge: 4.84 fps

Competent velocity suggested by Neill<sup>(7)</sup> for bed material  
movement under conditions of material size = 60 m.m. and  
water depth = 6.3 feet,

$$V_c = 9 \text{ fps}$$

which is greater than the average velocity of 4.84 fps

The water opening required for stable channel estimated by  
Lacey's equation is:

$$W = 1.8 \times (2,650)^{0.5} = 92.6 \text{ feet}$$

which is less than the natural channel width.

Thus, no general scour is expected.

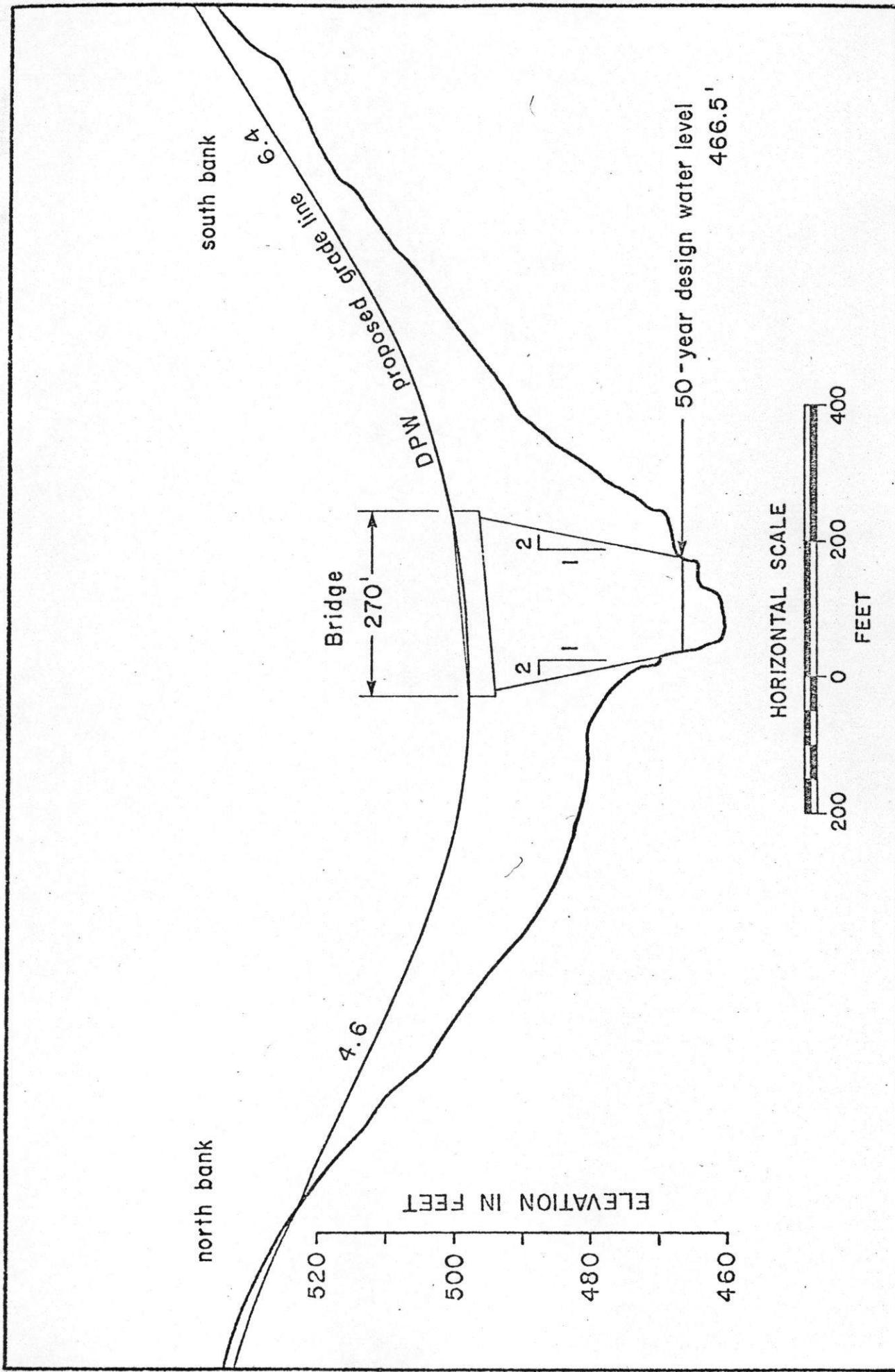


FIGURE I2 TIEDA RIVER BRIDGE  
Preliminary Profile

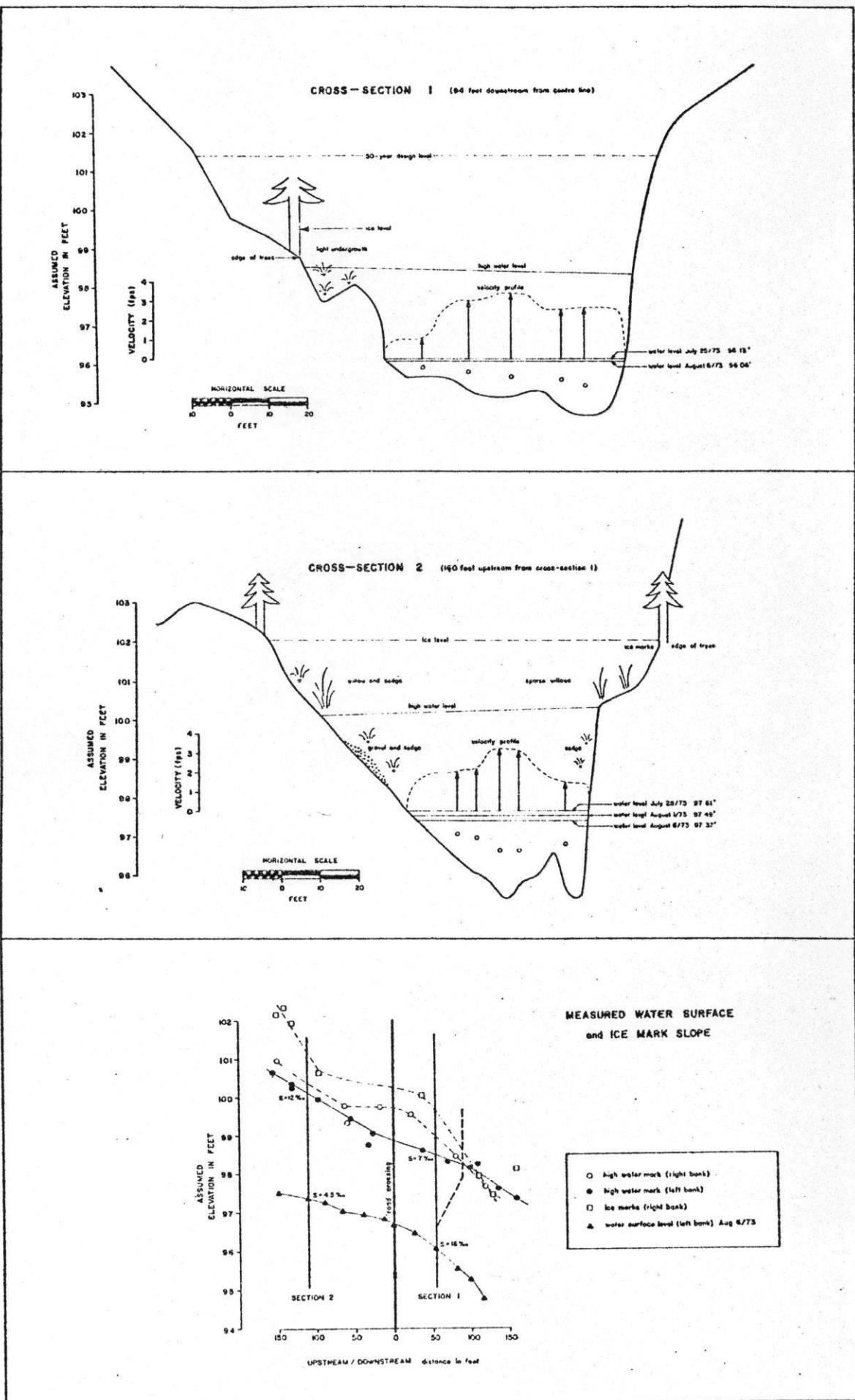


FIGURE 41 Tieda River Hydraulic Data

TIEDA RIVER BASIN  
TOTAL DRAINAGE AREA TO HWY 319 SQ MI

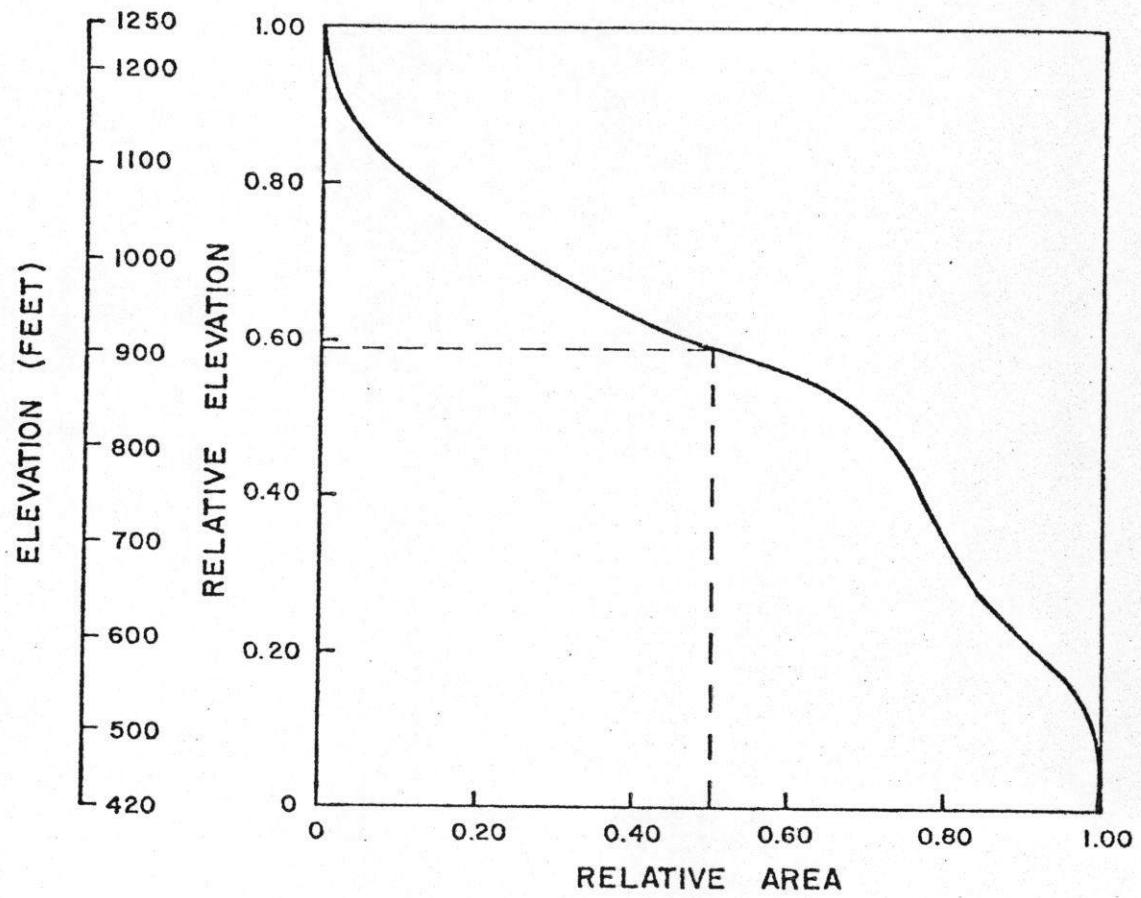


FIGURE 30

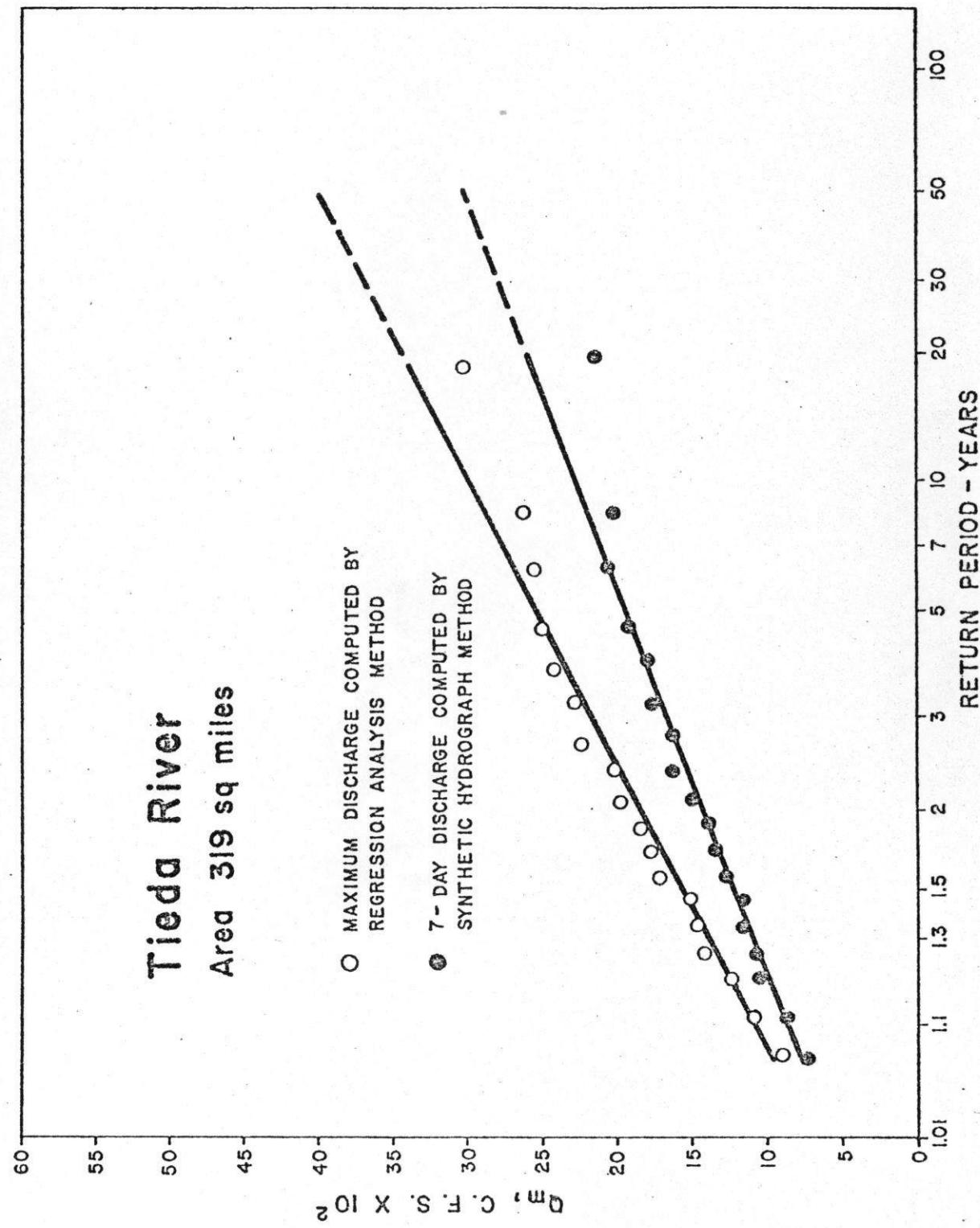


FIGURE 15 Peak and 7-day discharges of the Tieda River

Table E  
Local Scour Depth Around Piers  
at Tieda River Crossing

| Equation Used     | Scour Depth in Feet   |     |     |      |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----|-----|------|
|                   | Width of Pier in Feet | 4   | 6   | 8    |
| Blench            |                       | 3.8 | 4.9 | 5.8  |
| Shen              |                       | 5.8 | 7.8 | 8.8  |
| Larras            |                       | 5.6 | 7.6 | 9.5  |
| Depth Recommended |                       | 6.0 | 8.0 | 10.0 |