

## **GEOSCIENCE DOCUMENTS AND DATABASES AT THE PUBLICATIONS AND INFORMATION SECTION, GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, NEWFOUNDLAND**

C. Patey and J. Gillespie  
Publications and Information Section

### **COLLECTIONS**

There are two collections of geoscience documents at the Publications and Information Section:

- The Geofiles are a collection of documents pertaining to the geoscience of Newfoundland and Labrador and the immediate offshore region and include over 11 000 mineral-assessment reports, published reports and maps, open-file reports and maps, university theses, unpublished reports and maps including speeches and sketch maps.
- The Technical Library is a collection of documents referring to areas other than this province and includes bound publications and maps by the Geological Survey of Canada and by other provincial, federal and international geological surveys, and current and back issues for journals and technical books.

Both collections grow continuously; since November 1994, over 400 new documents have been added to each collection (see Patey and Gillespie (1995b) for more details on these document collections).

The microfiche project continued during this past year, with a concerted effort to identify documents in the Geofiles for which there were good quality microfiche so that the paper could be stored offsite. This is being done to create space for the anticipated influx of documents on Voisey's Bay and other exploration areas and to prepare for an anticipated move to an even smaller onsite space for the growing Geofiles.

### **DATABASES**

The documents in the Geofiles and Technical Library collections are described in several databases:

- The GEOSCAN-NFLD database contains records (or descriptions) for about 90 percent of the documents in the Geofiles collection.

- The GEOLIB database contains short bibliographic records for about 45 percent of the documents in the Technical Library collection as well as short records for the latest documents added to the Geofiles collection.

The national GEOSCAN database was moved from the MINISIS to STAR software in February 1994; as a result we have been learning to work with this new software, creating new print formats, new coding sheets, new batch entry macros and reviewing and up-grading information fields. For example, the new software will permit upper and lower case letters but many of these changes need to be made manually.

In January 1996, a download from the national GEOSCAN database was used to update the in-house GEOSCAN-NFLD database, which now has 19 330 records referring to the geoscience of Newfoundland and Labrador and the immediate offshore region.

Work continues with the bibliographic and geographic indexing of the following document types - new Geological Survey publications and open-files, publications from other sources, books, periodicals, university theses, and full indexing of new mineral-assessment reports as they are all added to the Geofiles collection.

During this past year, a review was begun for the upgrading of the existing GEOSCAN records for the non-assessment, unpublished reports and maps in the Geofiles. However, completing the review and upgrading of existing records and indexing the backlog of approximately 1000 documents in the Geofiles, may be delayed due to the anticipated influx of documents on Voisey's Bay and other exploration areas.

Two other databases at the Publications and Information Section are:

- The DRILL database contains short records for drillholes from non-confidential Geofiles.
- The MINLAND database contains short records for Mineral Lands property.

For more details on all four databases refer to Patey and Gillespie (1995b). Reprints of this article and a free pamphlet describing the databases are available from the Publications and Information Section, Geological Survey.

## ACCESS

As stated in earlier Report of Activities and Current Research reports, a demonstration of the databases is available upon request. To search either database, a client can call or visit the Publications and Information Section. A search will be performed for the client, or during an in-house visit, the client may do the searching. This is possible because within each database, many of the information fields are inverted into one large index so a novice can search for information in any of these fast-access information fields by typing the first few letters of a word.

As documents are added to the Geofiles and Technical Library collections, acquisitions lists are produced and are available upon request. Various indexes for some of the documents in the Geofiles have been produced from GEOSCAN and sold in the past. Our most recent index is "NTS Index, Author Index and List of Tables of Contents for Report of Activities 1973 to 1979 and Current Research 1980 to 1995" compiled by J. Gillespie and C. Patey (1995a).

## Contacts

For further information on collections and databases at the Publications and Information Section, Geological Survey contact either:

Catherine Patey:

Telephone (709) 729-6441, Fax 729-3493, email [mcp@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca](mailto:mcp@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca)

Janet Gillespie:

Telephone (709) 729-6342, Fax 729-3493, email [jmg@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca](mailto:jmg@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca)

To purchase copies of non-confidential Geofiles contact:

Norman Mercer:

Telephone (709) 729-6193, Fax 729-3493, email [nlm@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca](mailto:nlm@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca)

## REFERENCES

Gillespie, J. and Patey, C. (compilers)

1995a: NTS Index, Author Index and List of Tables of Contents for Report of Activities 1973 to 1979 and Current Research 1980 to 1995. Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Open File NFLD/2533 Version 1.0, 174 pages.

Patey, C. and Gillespie, J.

1995b: Geofile and technical library collections and databases at the Geological Survey, Newfoundland. *In* Current Research. Newfoundland Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey, Report 95-1, pages 327-331.