

CORE-STORAGE PROGRAM, 1996

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The Department of Mines and Energy presently operates six core-storage libraries located at St. John's, Springdale, Buchans, Baie Verte, Pasadena and Goose Bay (Figure 1). As of November 1996, these facilities housed a combined collection of approximately 919 000 m of core samples from mineral exploration projects in Newfoundland and Labrador.

This report summarizes activities during 1996 and presents an overview of the operations of the core-storage program.

1996 FIELD ACTIVITIES

During 1996, core collection continued in insular Newfoundland and in Labrador and a total of 10 708 m of core samples were acquired from ten drill projects. The total core-sample collection in storage now stands at approximately 919 000 m.

Table 1 lists new core-sample acquisitions.

All core samples in Department core libraries are available for inspection by interested parties and a catalogue of all core samples is available free of charge from the Department of Mines and Energy.

USING THE CORE LIBRARIES

Any person who wishes to visit either of the core libraries for the purpose of examining core samples should provide advance notice to the person in charge of the particular core library. The Pasadena core library is staffed on a full-time basis by one employee and is open to the public during regular government office hours. Advance notice of one day is required in order to properly accommodate visitors to the Pasadena core library. Visitors to the St. John's core library should also provide advance notice of one day and advance notice of one week is required to properly accommodate visitors to the Goose Bay core library since it is not staffed on a full time basis. Visits to the Springdale, Buchans and Baie Verte core libraries require a minimum notice of two days.

The indexing system in all three core libraries is based on the National Topographic System (NTS). Core samples from each drillhole are assigned a unique master number based on the 1:50 000-scale topographic sheet on which the drillhole collar is located. A manual index card file forms the basis of this system in conjunction with a 1:50 000-scale drillhole location map file that shows the location of all drillholes from which core samples have been catalogued.

Each core library also contains a file of all available data, i.e., drillhole logs, cross sections, and assay results for all core samples stored. The company drillhole number and the assessment file in which the drilling was reported are referenced on the index card. The manual index card file and the map index are supplemented by a computerized drillhole index that contains all of the information on the previous two indexes. The computer drillhole index file functions as a permanent master file from which catalogues of all of our drill-core holdings are updated yearly and printed for distribution at the department's annual Review of Activities each November. The file is resident on microcomputers in the department's St. John's office and in the Pasadena core library where it is available for production of customized indexes.

All six core libraries have core examination areas that contain or share rock cutting equipment, a core splitter, a stereomicroscope, a resistivity meter, an ultraviolet light and a McPhar TV-1 scintillometer.

The taking of samples is generally permitted where doing so does not destroy any lithological sequence or leave gaps in the drillhole record. The smallest size sample that is useful is taken and the minimum amount of core that must be left in each core box is a one quarter size split of the original core. The user must complete a 'Request To Sample Form' (Appendix I) before sampling is permitted. All core samples, pulps, powders, thin sections, and any other materials generated from the core samples must be returned (along with a copy of the results of any work done on the samples) to the core library within one year from the date the samples were taken. The user shall be responsible for costs incurred in returning samples to the core library.

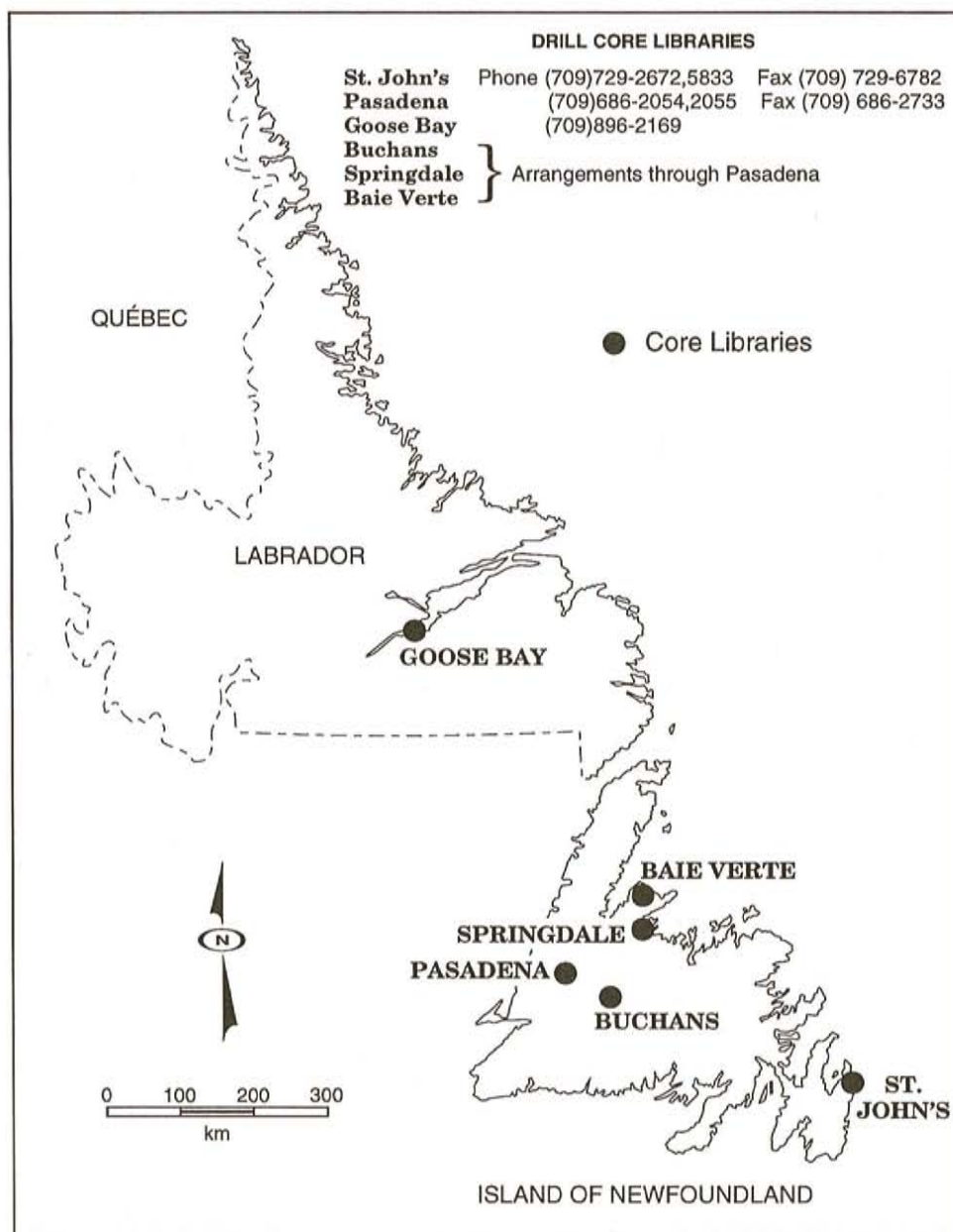


Figure 1. Core libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Table 1. New core-sample acquisitions for 1996

Company	Property	Length(m)
Celtic Minerals	Wing Pond	1185
Nfld. Resources and Mining	Lower Cove	1432
Corner Brook Pulp & Paper	Hughes Brook Area	400
BHP Minerals	Little Gull Pond	1482
Grubstake Management	Robert's Arm	586
Nfld. Mining and Exploration	Buchans East	2273
Rex Resources Canada	Micmac Lake	541
Conneticut Development	Krissy Trend	751
Tapestry/Portman	Anakatalik Brook	1295
Goldnev/Starcare	Niatak Island	763

There are no fees charged for the services provided by the core-storage program, however, patrons making extensive use of the trim saws to sample drill core are required to supply their own blades or replace the blades that are used.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Anyone requiring further information on the core-storage program or wishing to visit either of the core libraries should contact the people listed below.

Project Geologist - Core-Storage Unit (Alvin Harris)
Department of Mines and Energy
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 4J6
PHONE: (709) 729-5833 FAX: (709) 729-6782

Core-Storage Geologist (Pasadena) (Stewart Cochrane)
Department of Mines and Energy
Dr. A.K. Snelgrove Core Library
Pasadena, Newfoundland
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PHONE: (709) 686-2054, 2055 FAX: (709) 686-2733

APPENDIX 1
CORE-STORAGE UNIT
Request to Sample Core

USER NAME: _____

COMPANY/AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NATURE OF PROJECT: _____

WORK TO BE CONDUCTED
ON SAMPLES: _____

DRILLHOLE NOS: _____

SAMPLE INTERVALS: _____

SIZE AND SHAPE OF SAMPLES: _____

REQUEST DENIED/GRANTED (REASON): _____

DATE: _____ CORE-STORAGE GEOLOGIST: _____

NOTE: All core samples and/or pulps, powders and thin sections, etc., generated from core samples must be returned to the core library at the end of a previously specified period. A copy of all assays and other analytical work conducted on the samples is also required at the end of this period.

RETURN DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____