

CORE-STORAGE PROGRAM, 1998

A. Harris and S. Cochrane
Mineral Lands Division
Mines Branch

INTRODUCTION

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. Currently, these facilities house just under a million metres of core samples collected from mineral exploration projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. This report summarizes activities during 1998, and presents an overview of the operations of the core-storage program.

1998 FIELD ACTIVITIES

During 1998, field activities included organizing and cataloging core samples delivered during the winter months and collection and cataloging of additional core samples. During the past year, an additional 15 069 m of core samples were added to the core libraries as shown in Table 1. The core-sample collection in storage is now about 939 417 m.

Table 1. New core sample acquisitions for 1998

Company	Property	Length (m)
Buchans River Ltd.	Buchans East	2648
Exploration Sulliden Inc.	Red Cliff Pond/ Long Pond	2071
Resources Dianor Inc.	Sister Pond	795
Pennecon Ltd.	Ronan Deposit	127
Mascot Gold Mines Ltd.	Cape Ray	7678
Consolidated Magna Ventures	Tasisuak Lake	1750

All core samples in the Department core libraries are available for inspection, 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 any of the core libraries (Figure 1), 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 because 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 the 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 which 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, which 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 the 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 which contain or share rock-cutting equipment, a core splitter and a stereomicroscope with another core library.

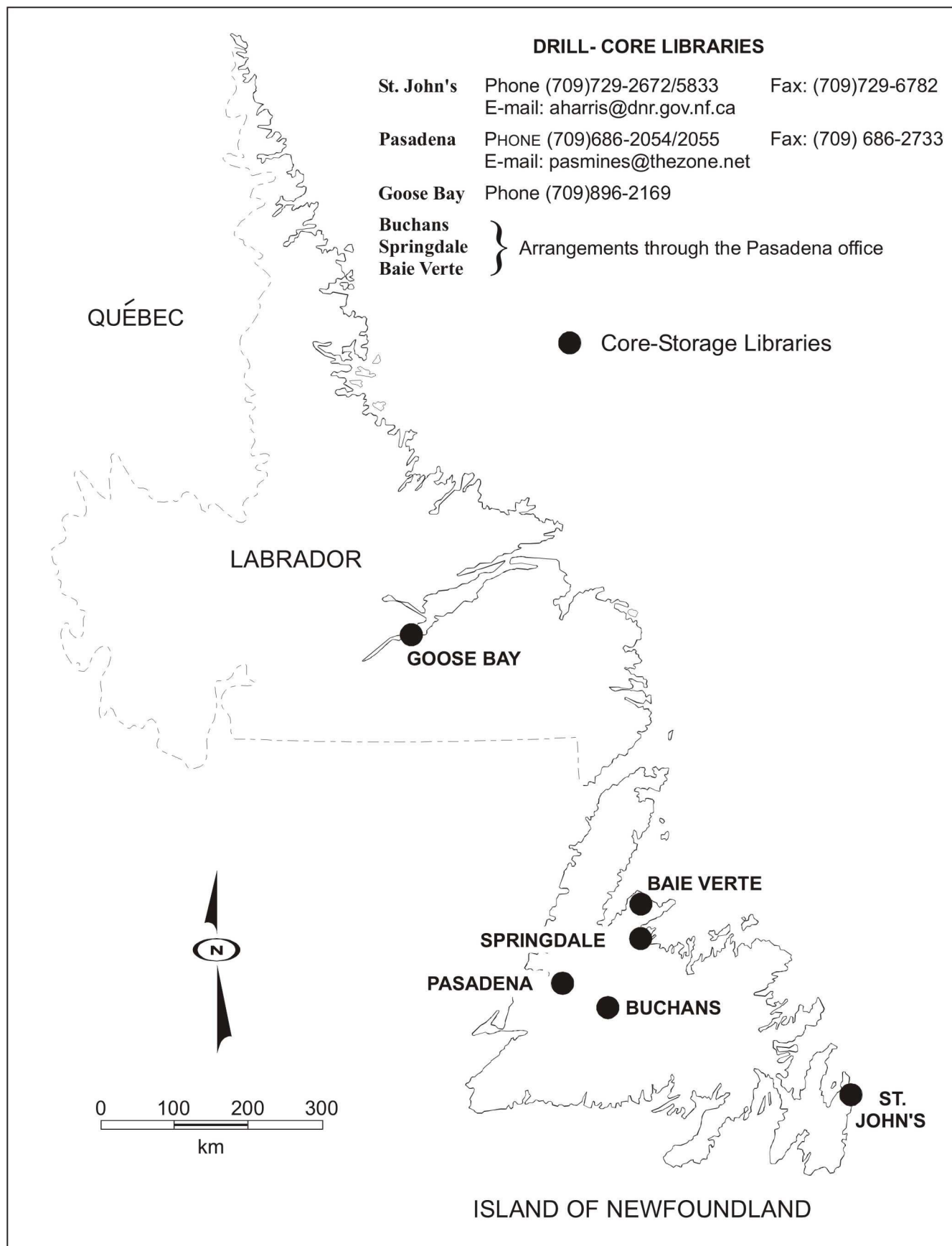


Figure 1. Core libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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 1) 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.

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 were used.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Anyone requiring further information on the core-storage program or wishing to visit any 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
A1C 5T7
PHONE: (709) 729-5833 FAX: (709) 729-6782
E-mail: aharris@dnr.gov.nf.ca

Core-Storage Geologist (Pasadena) (Stewart Cochrane)
Department of Mines and Energy
Dr. A.K. Snelgrove Core Library
Pasadena, Newfoundland
A0L 1K0
PHONE: (709) 686-2054, 2055 FAX: (709) 686-2733
E-mail: pasmines@thezone.net

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: _____