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SURFICIAL AND GLACIAL MAPPING,

BURIN PENINSULA

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A reconnaissance mapping program of the Burin Peninsula, map sheets IL/13, IL/14, IM/3 and IM/4, which included air photo interpretation (scale 1:50,000); transfer to base map (scale 1:50,000), and three weeks field work is now in the stage of compilation. A final report describing the surficial deposits, glacial flow indicators and aggregate potential of the area, can be expected in mid-1975.

In general terms, the landforms of the area studied consist of thin deposits of basally emplaced till, till hummocks, drumlinoid and fluted till deposits, extensive organic deposits, glacio-fluvial outwash deposits and rock outcrops, often eroded and streamlined parallel to ice flow.

Regional ice flow features indicated the Burin Peninsula supported its own ice cap (Grant, 1974; Prest et al., 1968) during the waning stages of the Wisconsin glacial period. Striations measured during field mapping (Fig. I) generally indicate early ice flow onto the Burin in a south to southeast direction from across Fortune Bay followed by radial coastward flow off the Burin Peninsula. Directional striations in the Allan's Island to Point Crewe area indicate that the local ice centre in this area shifted southeastward and probably lay near Lamaline prior to final ice disintegration.

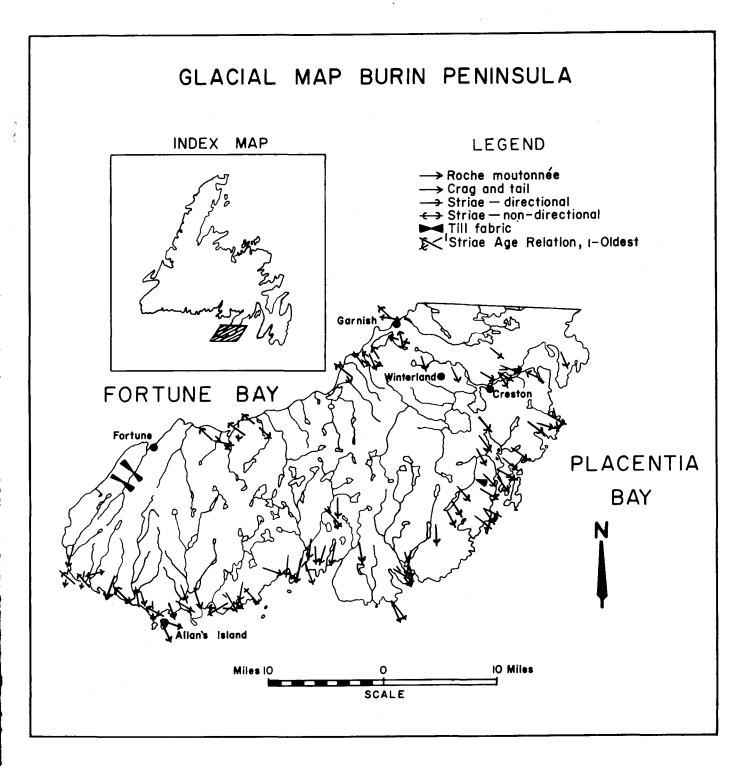


Fig. 1

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The northwest flow affecting the southwestern tip of the Burin Peninsula will have a bearing on future geochemical prospecting in that area.

Glacio-fluvial deposits are abundant only along coastal areas between Fortune and Garnish, and in the Winterland-Creston areas. The remaining land area is devoid of any substantial deposits of gravel or sands. This is particularly the case along route 14 between Salt Pond and Fortune where the domestic and construction needs have in the past relied heavily on the coastal beach aggregate resources. Resource management will become increasingly important in Burin Peninsula area to insure that exploitation of the limited aggregate resource is to the maximum benefit of the region.

References

Grant, D.R.

1974: Prospecting in Newfoundland and the Theory of Multiple Shrinking Ice Caps; in Geol. Surv. Canada Paper 74-1, Part B.

Prest, V.K., Grant, D.R. and Rampton, V.N.

1968: Glacial Map of Canada; Geol Surv. Canada Map 1253A, scale 1:5,000,000.