

URBAN GEOLOGY OF THE BAYNTON SHEET

The aim of the Urban Geology series is to provide information for those concerned with aspects of raw material and water supply, road, urban, industrial or transport development...

Land-use in the Baynton area is predominantly pastoral for Karra and Mount Wilkie stations with a minor segment of the occupation process being a salt extraction process to the northeast.

The geology of the Dunster 1:250 000 sheet was mapped previously by Kiewit, Howard, Ryan and Beck of the Geological Survey of Western Australia and the results published in 1964.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Physiographically, the Baynton area is dominated by the broad, flat alluvial plain of the Matland and Yarragoe Rivers and their tributaries. These form part of the extensive coastal plain developed on the fine sand map.

STRATIGRAPHY

An Archaean granite is assumed to form an irregular basement above which are Archaean volcanic rocks and metasediments. In the south-west, the granite surface is seen to be unconformably overlain by Proterozoic fans and associated clastic sediments.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Granite and granite-gneiss is assumed to underlie a large proportion of the mapped area. Small, heavily weathered outcrops are seen in the beds of many watercourses, especially in an arc from Clapp Well through Lavin Well and to the northeast.

SCHISTOSE AND SOME AMPHIBOLITES

Schistose and some massive amphibolites have been mapped north and south of Mount Regal. The northern occurrence is close to the local fault zone, the southern is a locally developed zone of the Sholl Zone.

CHERT AND CLASTIC SEDIMENTS

Chert and clastic sediments crop out on distinct ridges north of Mount Regal. The sediments include very minor metacarbonates and are much thicker than the chert basins. However, the chert appears to predominate because they are resistant to weathering and form sharp ridges of bare white, grey, brown, and black rock.

THE BASIC AND INTERMEDIATE VOLCANICS

The basic and intermediate volcanics include a wide range of andesitic or metabasaltic volcanic rocks, pyroclastics and other minor sedimentary rocks. They form high, rolling hills between Mount Regal and Mount Pool.

SEVERAL OF THE IGGRESS AREAS HAVE UNDERGONE PARALLEL AND ARE NOW REPRESENTED BY GRANULITE AMPHIBOLITES, SOME GRANULITE MASSIVE, SCHISTOSE OR LENTICLED.

Several of the igneous areas have undergone parallel and are now represented by granulite amphibolites, some granulite massive, schistose or lenticled. Random radiating and parallel arrangements of amphibole are seen. Minor but important amphibolites, schistose gneiss, occur throughout the sequence.

PROTEROZOIC

A white quartz dyke crops out conspicuously on two islands at White Ridge in Pool Zenn, the westernmost salt evaporator pond. The dyke is vertical, up to 20 m wide and flanked by thick, quartz veins.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

Building stone is available between Mount Regal and Mount Pool (see also Karra and Mount Regal sheets). Clay used in the construction of levees for the salt evaporation system was obtained from shallow pits in the floor position of the salt sand unit, west and southeast of White Ridge.

GRAVEL AND SAND

Gravel and sand used in local building projects has been intermittently obtained from alluvium in the Matland River. Slightly clayey material is collected between Gernik Pool and Soave Well.

METALS

The mafic to ultramafic rocks of the Mount Regal Massif area have been prospecting for nickel-copper mineralization. No occurrences of economic importance have been found.

ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY

Waste disposal is probably infeasible in many areas north of the Highway where the clay and fine alluvium of the Matland is high. Disposal is likely to be very poor in these areas, with consequent extension of leach liquors.

SALT

The northeastern section of the area includes part of a salt water evaporation project which extends northwards on the Dunster and Nickel Bay sheet areas. Total annual production exceeds 1 000 000 tonnes of salt.

WATER

The annual rainfall in the area averages about 300 mm. It is unreliable and cyclonic, mainly falling between the beginning of December and the end of April. Creeks and rivers flow briefly after heavy rain.

INDEX TO ADJOINING SHEETS

Table with columns for sheet numbers and names: EAGLEHAWK ISLAND, BAYNTON, KARATHIA, MOUNT WILKIE, BAYNTON, KARATHIA, VIRCHOW, MOONLE, PINDERI HILLS.

South of the North West Coastal Highway the ability of the ground-water ranges from 1 000 mg/l to 7 000 mg/l total dissolved solids along the main river-course, elsewhere the salinity is generally less than 1 000 mg/l.

ENGINEERING GEOLOGY

The engineering properties of rocks which include such features as strength, suitability for foundations, stability on slopes and in excavations, and suitability as construction materials depend on geological features such as mode of origin, composition, susceptibility to processes of change such as metamorphism, weathering and erosion, and their present mode of occurrence.

ARCHAEOLOGY

A variable group of rocks with a wide range of engineering properties. The granitic rocks of Archaean age are strong and stable when fresh, but near the surface are generally weakened and less stable due to weathering of either the rock substance or along joints.

PROTEROZOIC

The Proterozoic igneous rocks are generally more uniform and less deformed than the Archaean rocks and present fewer engineering problems. They are generally competent and unless extensively jointed or weathered are expected to have satisfactory engineering properties.

CANONIC

The Canonic includes a wide variety of superficial units with complex field relationships and differing engineering properties. For example, the behaviour of a unit is modified by such factors as the properties of an underlying unit, level and salinity of the local groundwater and the pH of the unit.

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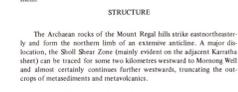
SYMBOLS

- Geological boundary, Archaean, Transitioned or inferred, Fault, Accretion, Inferred, Sholl Zone, Inferred, Folding, Strike and dip, Strike of vertical axis, Strike and dip of line, Strike of horizontal axis, Faultion, Strike and dip of foliation, Date of axial foliation, Date of axial foliation, Quarry pit, Abandoned workings, Mineral occurrence, Copper, 'Dry' (no live connection), Road (not on map), Nickel, Contour or spring, Watercourse, Pipeline, Watercourse on well or bankline, Highway, Road, Track, Roadside control minor, Beach mark, hydrographic, Horizontal, The representation on this map of a track does not necessarily imply right of way.

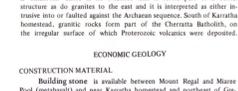
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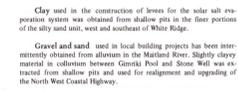
DIAGRAMMATIC RELATIONSHIPS OF QUATERNARY UNITS



DECLINATION DIAGRAM



DIAGRAMMATIC SECTION A-B



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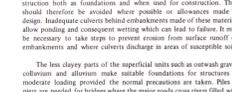
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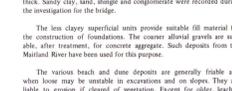
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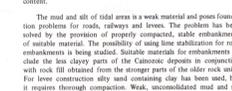
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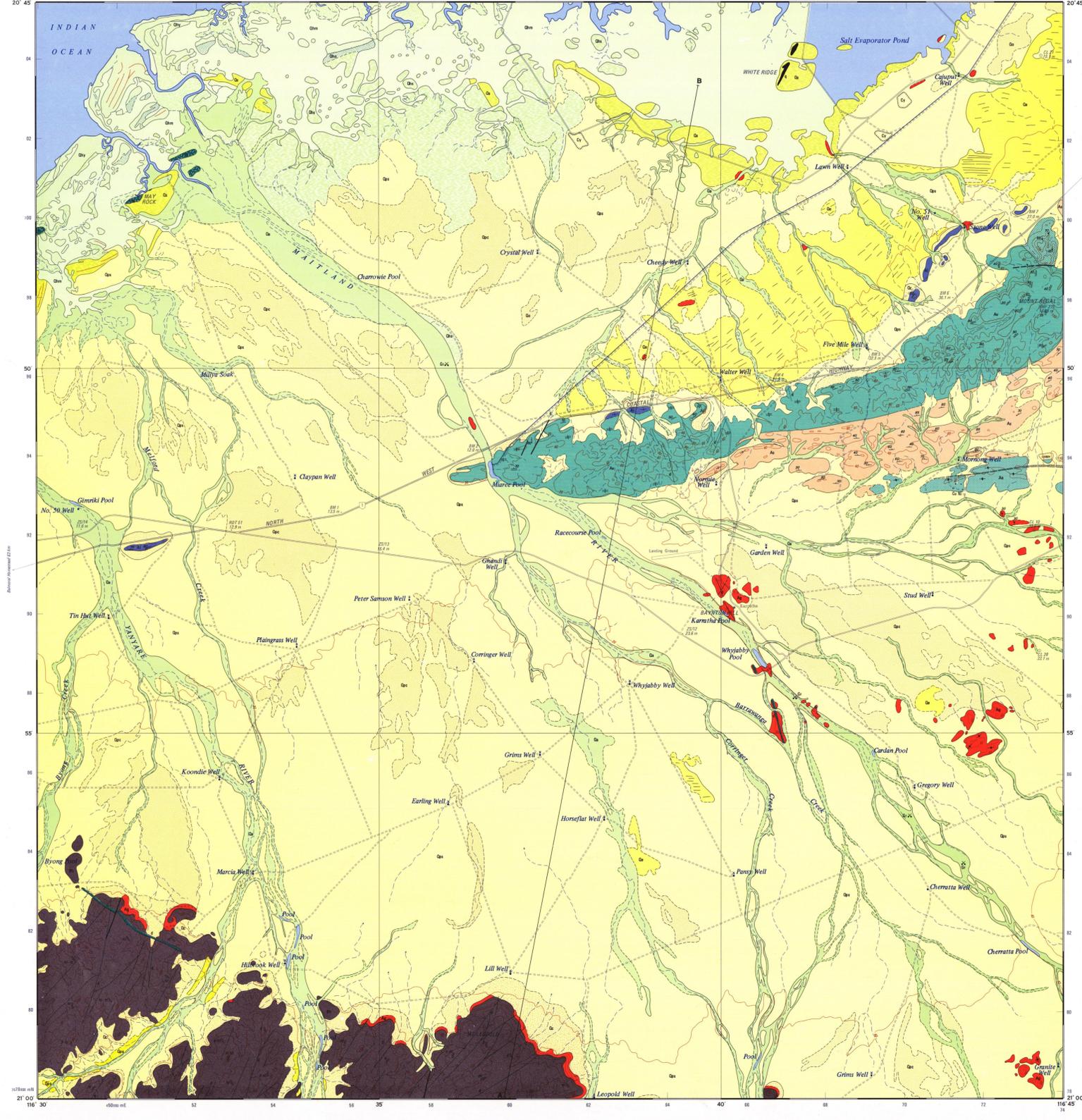
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