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Geology of the York-Cape Neddick, Maine area.

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TRIP--E

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48th Annual Meeting of the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference

Cape Neddick Area--Maine

TIME: 8:30 a.m. Sunday, October 14, 1956

LEADER: John C. Haff (in absentia), T. R. Meyers and N. M. Sage

ASSEMBLY POINT: Parking lot in front of Stardust Inn, Route 1, Maine. Proceed from Portsmouth traffic circle north on Maine Turnpike across the Piscataqua River (toll 10 cents) 3.1 miles, go right on Route 1 for .6 miles to Stardust Inn, or cross toll-free bridge from Portsmouth to Kittery, Maine--proceed about 2.7 miles on Route 1 from Portsmouth end of bridge to Stardust Inn.

Trip will proceed north on Route 1 for 8.4 miles, turn right on Route 1A, go southeast .9 miles and turn left on Shore Road, proceed north for 3.0 miles and turn right just beyond St. Peters Episcopal Church, and after .3 miles turn left and park for STOP 1. Walk shoreward to Bald Head Cliff; here Kittery fm. quartzites form a high, overhanging sea cliff. Few intrusions cut the Kittery at this point and numerous primary features and metamorphic features may be seen. The sea is reducing the cliff slowly, and numerous sea crevices and erosion features may be studied.

Return south along the shore road and drive for 3.1 miles to the south shore of Cape Neddick River. Park at the Cape Neddick Lobster Pound for STOP 2. Walk across the road and along the south shore of the river going east. The Kittery fm. lies as a thin band along the river, cut by numerous granite dikes, and at the end of the point, 300 yards from the road, is the north edge of a medium sized pluton, probably part of the Mt. Agamenticus complex. Riebeckite is the most abundant ferromagnesian constituent of this rather coarse textured, granular rock.

Proceed south, joining route 1A and in York Beach, .9 miles from Stop 2, turn left, and after .3 miles turn right and immediately sharp left on Broadway, from here proceed east on Cape Neddick about 1.1 miles and turn left, going .1 miles to parking place for STOP 3. This stop is on the massive Cape Neddick Gabbro, which is a small stock-like body making the core of Cape Neddick and Nubble Island, which supports the lighthouse. The group will walk back to the south road for about .2 miles and then walk down on the shore. At this point multiple and complex dikes cut the Kittery fm. By walking westward more of the complex dikes may be seen, and by walking eastward the contact effects of the Gabbro on the Kittery fm. may be examined.

Further stops will be made to suit the wishes of visiting geologists but the first 3 stops will take all Sunday morning. Further suggested stops include Long Beach, the Gravel bar and multiple dikes at Godfreys Cove (south of York Harbor), the double tombolo and multiple dikes at Seapoint, and multiple dikes in the Rye fm. on the south shore of Gerrish Island.

Trip E should be of particular interest to geologists who wish to examine contact effects of dikes and small plutons and to those interested in the shore line development.