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Pleistocene Geology, North and South of Portsmouth, NH

Chapman, Donald H.

Bradley, Edward

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48th Annual Meeting of the New England Intercollegiate Geological Conference

Pleistocene Geology, North and South of Portsmouth, N.H.

TIME: 8:15 A. M. Sunday, October 14, 1956

LEADERS: Donald H. Chapman and Edward Bradley

Assembly Point: Parking lot, west side of road, just south of Seybolt's Garage at intersection of route 1 and route 1 Bypass, Portsmouth. (Same as assembly point for Saturday trips A and B)

Sunday's Pleistocene trip will be more informal than the Saturday trip. No fixed route log has been made and the STOPS listed below are given in their probable order only. More details will be available at the assembly point.

STOP 1 - McDonough's Gravel pit - old Wooster pit of literature, on Dover quadrangle, 43-10-30N, and 70-48-50W, or about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Gould Corner in Eliot. Till, sands, clays and contorted beds are present in this location.

STOP 2 - Region near Frost's Hill and Raitt Hill, on Dover quadrangle, 43-09 to 10N, and 70-47 to 48W, where drumlin-like hills appear to have been terraced. A pit stop on the west side of Raitt Hill may be used for discussion purposes.

STOP 3 - Sand and gravel pit, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile northeast of Scituate, on Chase Pond Road, York quadrangle, 43-10-20N, and 70-39-40W. Cuts in old pit show interesting soil development and magnificent hard (iron) pan at point formerly occupied by typical Maine bog.

STOP 4 - Drowned "forest" at Odiorne's Point, on York quadrangle. Take route 1A south from Portsmouth, go east from Foyes Corner 2.2 miles and park on left of road, just beyond fence of military reservation. At $\frac{3}{4}$ to full low tides, tree stumps and fallen trees of drowned "forest" may be seen in sands and gravels of the first embayment south of Odiorne's Point.

STOP 5 - Great Boars Head, on route 1A on the Exeter quadrangle, located at 42-55-10N and 70-47-40W. Here a large drumlin is exposed to marine erosion.

Optional Departure Routes from Great Boars Head

A. Going south -1) From Boars Head go north on route 1A about

.4 miles then turn left and proceed about 2.2 miles to junction with route 1. Turn left and go south about 3.5 miles to route 107. Turn right on route 107 and go about 1.5 miles west to where 107 makes a right angle turn to the north; here, go straight ahead at the turn (not on 107), and proceed for .5 miles west and then .3 miles south to woods road leading off to the right in a southwesterly direction. About 60 yards west of the road at this point is a large cut (pit) in a crevasse filling or esker. Return to route 1, or continue south into Massachusetts on your own course, and good luck!

2) From Boars Head follow route 1A south to Salisbury Beach, East Salisbury and Newburyport. Before taking this route by sure you still have ten cents left for the toll bridge over Hampton Inlet.

B. Going North For those going northeast in Maine, two worthwhile stops are located not far south of Portland. One is in a large pit on Pleasant Hill about 2 miles northeast of the village of Scarborough, Me. and the other is the Cash Corner pit, about 1.5 miles south of Portland on route 1, the pit being about .6 miles southeast of Cash Corner. Till was seen overlying stratified sand and gravel in both pits in November, 1955.