

PART 3 - 1966 SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

Introductory Statement

During the field season of 1966, the examination of peat moss occurrences continued in Guysborough County and extended into Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester and Cumberland Counties. This work was carried out by the Nova Scotia Department of Mines under a research agreement through A.R.D.A. to determine the location, size and quality of peat moss occurrences in the designated pilot area of northern Nova Scotia.

The overall purpose of this report is to describe and record the results obtained during the 1966 survey with respect to peat moss occurrences and areas covered.

Location

All field work involved in this third phase was carried out along (1) the eastern shore area of Guysborough County from Canso to Ecum Secum, (2) in the Mount William area of Pictou County, and (3) in the Diligent River area of Cumberland County (see Map #14). Most of the areas of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester and Cumberland Counties were assessed on a reconnaissance basis. Detailed work was carried out where applicable.

Transportation

The project area of Guysborough County, as surveyed in 1966, is serviced by two of the four major types of transportation: water and highway.

The survey area borders the Chedabucto Bay and the eastern shore of Nova Scotia, containing many small bays and inlets which make up the Atlantic coast of Guysborough County. Such a shoreline gives access to coastal and deep sea shipping. Docking facilities are available at Canso, New Harbour, Isaac's Harbour, Port Bickerton and other fishing communities along this shoreline.

Guysborough County is also serviced by three paved highways. Highway #16 is hard-surfaced from Canso to Monastery in Antigonish County; Highway #7 is paved from Antigonish through Sheet Harbour and thence to Dartmouth, Halifax County.

An unnumbered, paved highway also extends from Goshen, Guysborough County, through Country Harbour, Goldboro and Larry's River to Highway #16, approximately 10 miles south from Canso.

The nearest Canadian National Railway is the main line from Truro to Sydney, passing through Antigonish and Monastery in Antigonish County.

The Mount William area surveyed in Pictou County is readily accessible by a gravel road which runs north from Highway #4, two miles west of New Glasgow. The nearest Canadian National Railways station is located at Stellarton with additional facilities at New Glasgow.

The Diligent River area surveyed in Cumberland County is serviced by Route 9, a hard surfaced highway running from Parrsboro to Advocate, Cumberland County.

Topography

Guysborough County

The local topography of Guysborough County is basically flat with occasional sharp ridges. In some areas a considerable amount of glacial debris occurs. In many areas in the vicinity of the bogs, outcrop or rubble outcrop consists of granite, slate or quartzite, and may comprise up to 60% of the area. In many instances, this bedrock is overlain by a shallow, rocky soil.

Many small streams and rivers occur throughout this part of the project area. In some instances, these streams and rivers act as possible drainage systems for swamps and peat bogs. Many small and large lakes also occur in this area and may act as a disadvantage to the drainage of some bogs.

Pictou County

The survey area in Pictou County is located within the Carboniferous uplands in the eastern part of the county. The area has drumlin-like hills which appear to be composed wholly of glacial material. River and stream action appears to have been the chief agent in shaping this topography. The bedrock structure in the area has been, in part, affected by folding and this, in conjunction with glacial scouring, helped in determining the drainage patterns.

Cumberland County

The Diligent River area of Cumberland County occupies the nearly level to undulating outwashed plains, river and delta-like terraces. The relationship of the existing till to bedrock is such as to suggest a glacial-residual soil. This soil is light textured, being developed over shaly, gravelly and stony parent material which in turn,

was derived from grey shales of the Lower Carboniferous. In some cases Carboniferous sandstone material may predominate. It is also possible that some of the soil parent material may have originated with the igneous rocks of the Pre-Carboniferous.

In the Diligent River-Port Greville area, surface boulders or float are more numerous and poorly drained areas are more frequent than in other sections with this type of soil profile.

Acknowledgements

Administration of the project, as in 1964 and 1965, was through the Geological Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Mines. The members of the field crew who ably discharged their duties as assistants were as follows: Ernest W. Rafuse, senior assistant; Alexander Hamilton, Robert Fraser, and E. W. Farrell as junior assistants.

The Department of Mines wishes to express appreciation to the laboratory staff of the Department of Chemistry, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, for co-operation and prompt reporting of peat moss analyses.

Maps Prepared

Nineteen plans and cross-sections of the 1966 survey have been prepared, all of which, including a key map, constitute a part of this report.

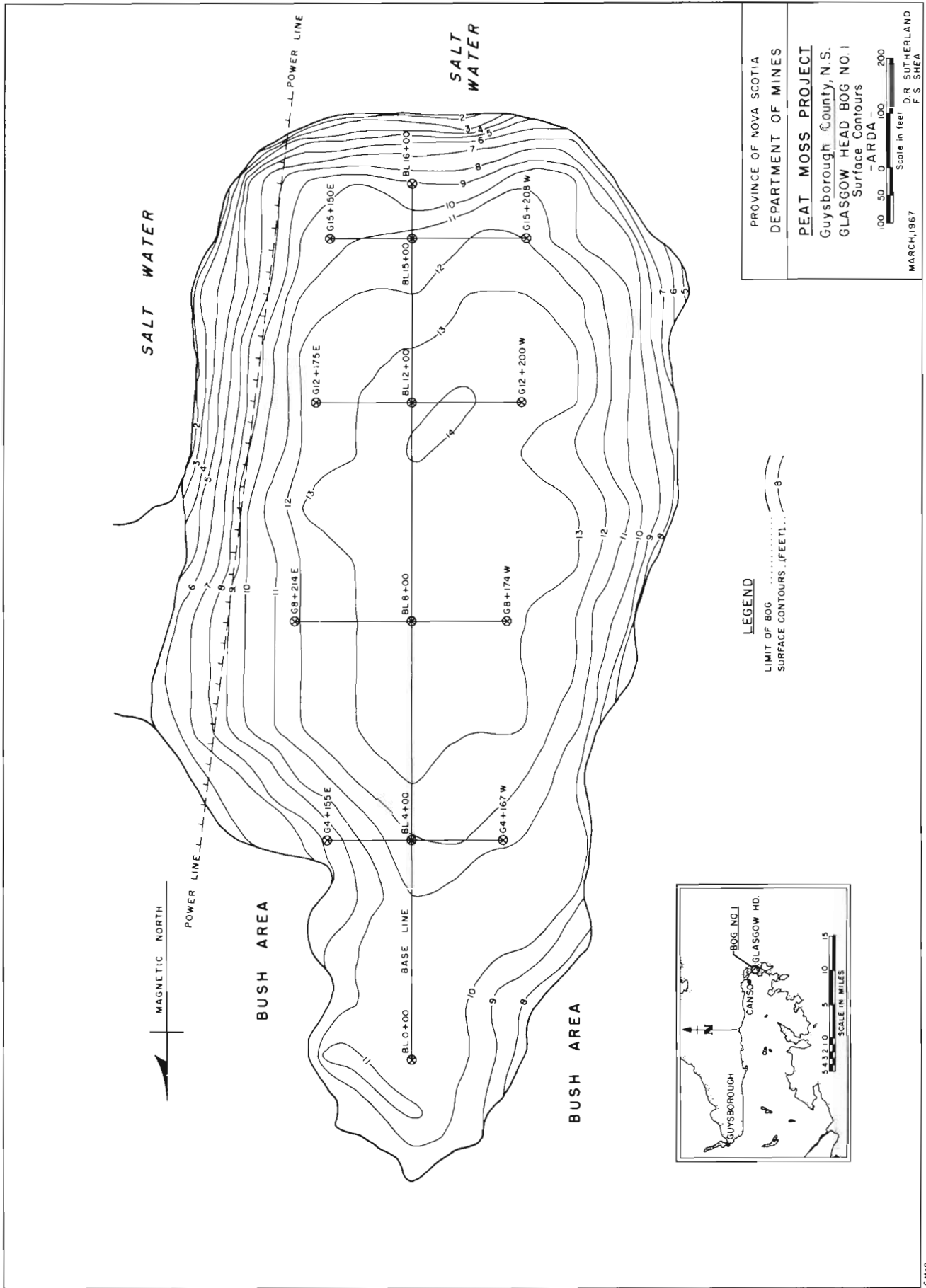
Each bog and cross-section prepared is shown individually, but two or more bogs may be shown on one map. The information includes subsurface contours, sampling, survey stations, and the limits of each bog.

DESCRIPTION OF PEAT BOGS

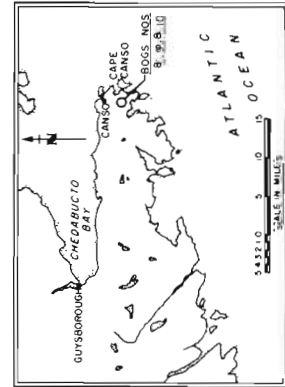
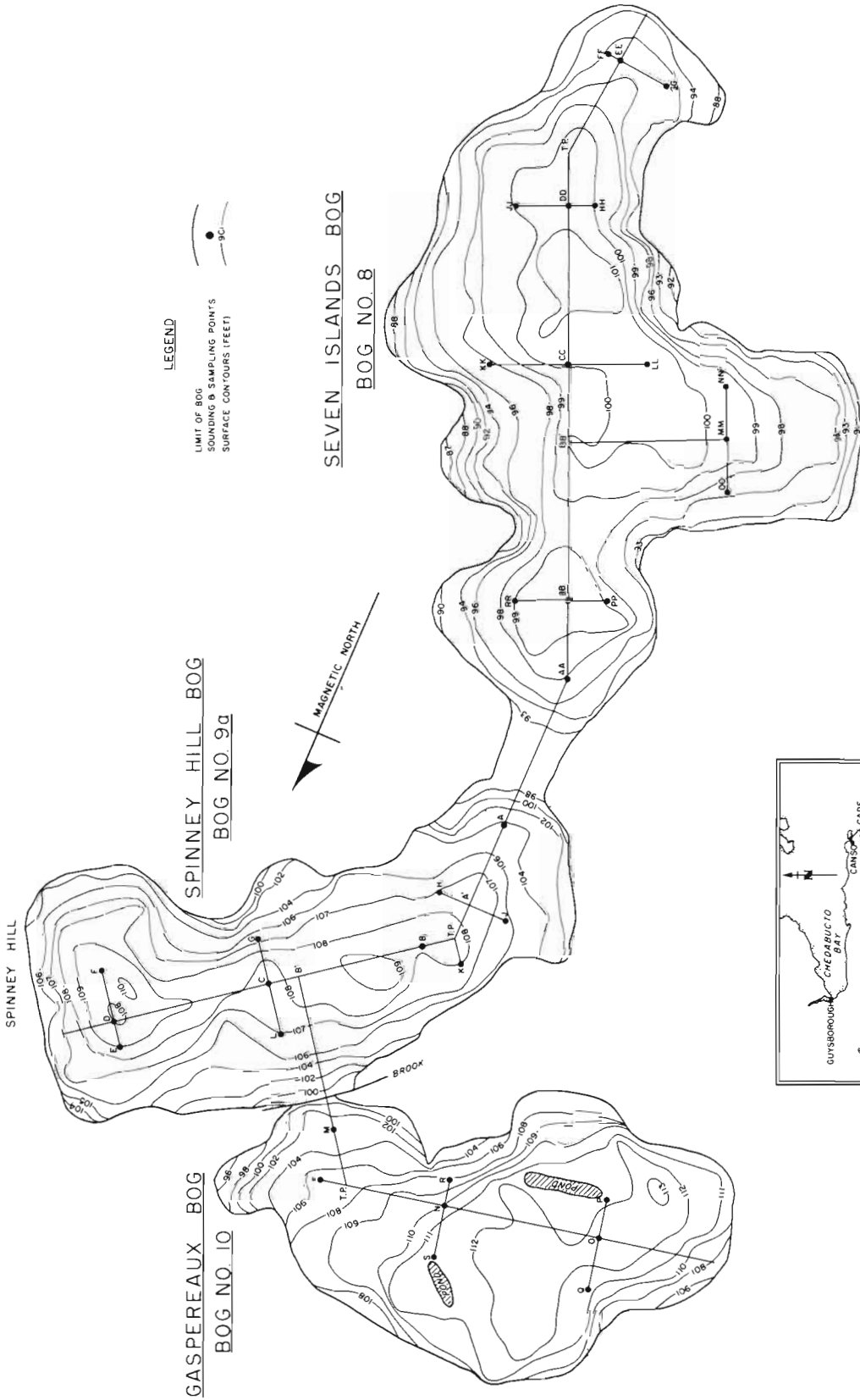
Extent of Survey - 1966

The 1966 peat moss survey began in early May in the vicinity of Half Island Cove, Guysborough County. Bog #28 was established for detailed examination and was assessed in detail. In the Canso-Half Island Cove area, a profile study was made on each bog previously assessed during 1965. A description of this work and the results will be treated further in this section.

Surface contouring was also completed in the Canso area and covered Bogs 1, 8, 9a and 10 (see Maps #15 and #16). These bogs were originally assessed in 1965.



MAP No. 15



PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
 DEPARTMENT OF MINES
PEAT MOSS PROJECT
 Conso, Guys. Co., N.S.
 BOGS NOS. 8, 9, & 10
 Surface Contours
 C.A.R.D.A.
 200 100 0 100 200 300 400
 MAY, 1967
 DR. SUTHERLAND
 F. S. SHEA

Upon completion of the examination of the Canso area, the survey was extended to the New Harbour-Goldboro-New Chester areas on the eastern shore. Bog #156, on which an examination began in 1965, in this area, was completed and other new areas examined.

A reconnaissance examination of Antigonish County followed the Guysborough County survey. In Antigonish County, no peat bogs of sufficient size and quality were found to be of commercial significance; however, some may be suitable for cranberry production.

In Pictou County, one peat moss occurrence at Mount William, near New Glasgow, was examined and sampled. This was the only commercially important bog found in this county.

A reconnaissance survey of Colchester County showed no peat moss occurrences of commercial significance and thus the survey was moved to Cumberland County. In this county, one bog at Diligent River was assessed by preliminary sampling and other areas covered on a reconnaissance basis. More preliminary surveys will be needed in this county before it has been completely assessed.

The areas assessed in the five northern counties of mainland Nova Scotia on a reconnaissance basis were done so and established on the following observations:

- (1) Inaccessibility - in some areas the bogs are extremely difficult to reach and must be classified as inaccessible from the commercial point of view;
- (2) Lack of Size - all bogs examined, but not assessed in detail, with the exception of a small number, were too small to warrant a complete survey;
- (3) Quality - in some areas, the bogs as examined were found to be either highly humified, very shallow or unusable swamps.

Guysborough County

Queensport Bog #28

Location and Size

This bog is located on the west side of the main highway to Whitehead, approximately one-quarter of a mile from the junction at Highway #16, near Queensport (see Map #14). This bog has an area of 18.9 acres. Of this area, 7.6 acres have a depth of less than five feet; 6.3 acres have a depth of between five and 10 feet; 3.1 acres have a depth of between 10 and 15 feet; and 2.3 acres have a depth of more than 15 feet. The depths and acreages are shown on Maps 17 and 18.

Accessibility

This bog is easily accessible along a gully leading west from the Whitehead road, a distance of approximately 100 yards.

Volume

Excluding the acreage of peat moss less than five feet in depth and allowing two feet shrinkage in depth after drainage, there is available 6.3 acres with an average depth of eight feet containing 81,312 cubic yards of peat moss yielding 4,066 tons (shipping weight); 3.1 acres with an average depth of 12 feet containing 60,016 cubic yards of peat moss yielding 3,008 tons; and 2.3 acres with an average depth of 16 feet containing 59,370 cubic yards of peat moss yielding 2,968 tons. The total for this bog is 10,034 tons. (In determining the tonnage, the shipping weight of one cubic yard of peat moss was taken as 100 pounds. This standard will be applied to all peat moss occurrences treated in this report.)

Description and Vegetation

The surface of this bog is irregular with hollow and high points over most of its area. In the northwest corner of the bog, the elevation is quite low and on the east it exhibits a maximum rise in elevation where it forms over outcrop.

A liberal covering of Cotton Grass (*Eriophorum*) and *Carex* (many varieties) occurs on this bog. Other vegetation present is comprised of Pitcher Plant (*Sarraceniaceae purpurea*), Blueberry (*Vaccinium*), Cranberry (*Vaccinium oxycoccus*), Sedges, *Hypnum* mosses and Foxberry.

Drainage

Two possible drainage points may be developed or employed on this bog. The first is in a southerly direction from the west end of the bog (see Map #17) to a gully which has an east-west trend parallel to the bog. The second drainage possibility is in a westerly direction to Dobson Lake.

Analytical

Table 16 shows analyses of all samples taken from this bog. These results indicate a uniformity of peat moss throughout. The quality of this occurrence is considered typical of the bogs in the area.

Country Harbour Bog #270

Location and Size

Bog #270 is located on the west side of Country Harbour and approximately 4.5 miles from the harbour, at a point opposite Country Harbour Mines. This occurrence has an area of 64.4 acres (see Map #19).

Accessibility

This bog is readily accessible along a power line which runs from Forest Hill to Port Bickerton in Guysborough County. The part of Bog #270 as shown and examined represents only a small portion of the total area. The power line bisects that part of the bog surveyed.

Volume

Because there was no detailed subsurface contouring program carried out on this bog, no calculated tonnage figures of peat moss in place are available. However, an estimated tonnage, based on results obtained from bogs of similar size and depth previously surveyed, would place this bog at 30,000 tons.

Description and Vegetation

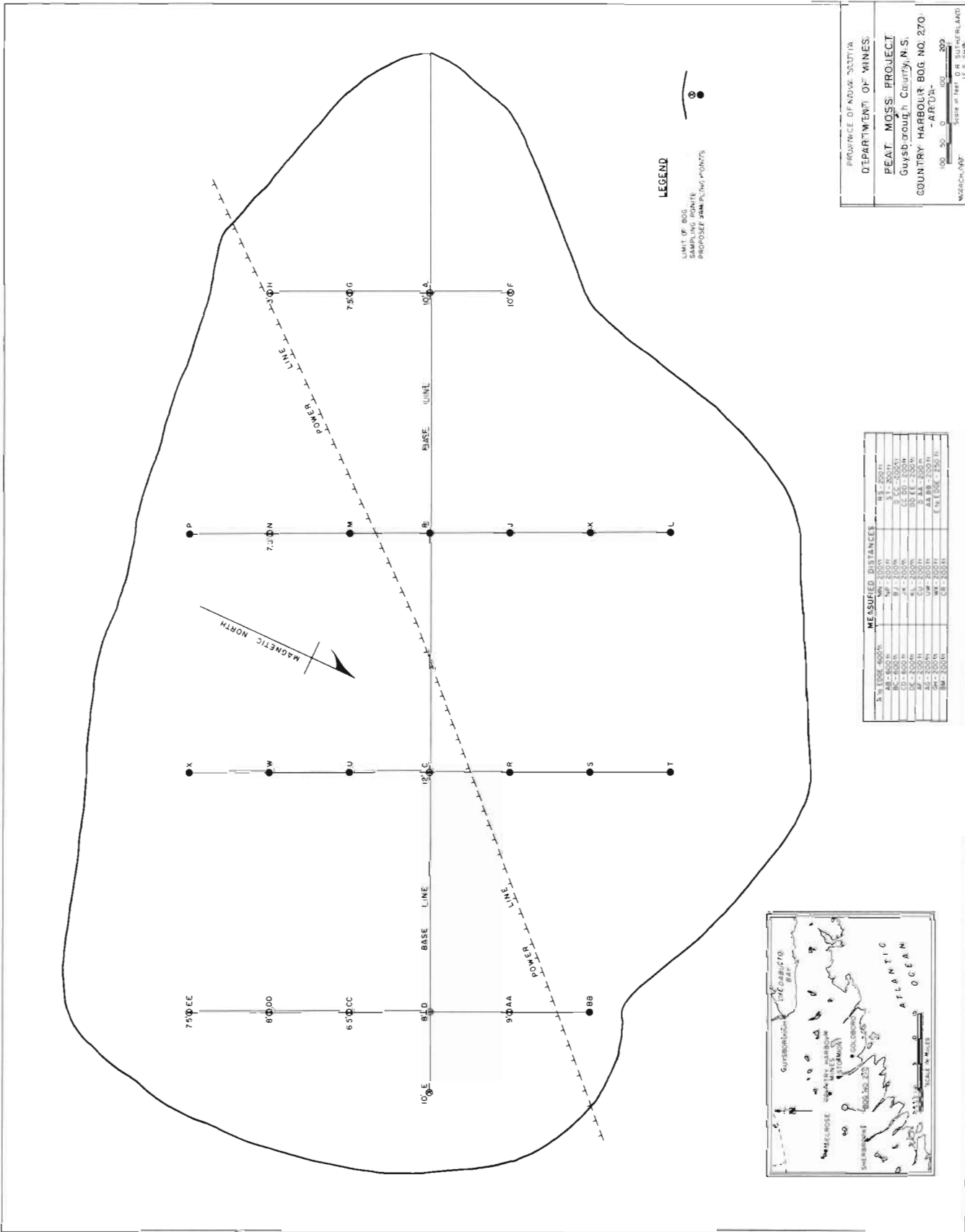
This occurrence is a domed sphagnum peat bog of the type common to the area. The surface is smooth and regular with no obvious mounds or hollows. Vegetation found on this bog included Sedges, Carex, Blueberry, Cranberry, Pitcher Plant and Labrador Tea.

Drainage

Drainage of this occurrence may be found and developed on the east or west boundary of the bog. The easterly drainage pattern affords the possibility of using a small brook which runs south from a small swamp near the bog. The westerly drainage pattern would employ a small gully which occurs near the bog.

Analytical

Analyses of all samples taken from this bog are listed in Table 17. A general resume would indicate that this bog contains a good quality peat moss, but has no great depth.



MAP No. 19

New Chester Bog #496

Location and Size

This peat bog occurrence is located on the west side of a secondary (dirt) road which connects Ecum Secum, Halifax County to New Chester, Guysborough County (see Map #14). The bog is situated on this road approximately two miles north from Highway #7. The area of the bog is approximately 13.5 acres (see Map #20).

Volume

No detailed subsurface sounding program was carried out on this bog to permit a calculated tonnage. However, an estimate of the tonnage available would be in the range of 17,000 tons.

Description and Vegetation

The bog surface is generally uniform and free from any appreciable mounds or hollows. Towards station BL:C and D, there are a number of small, wet areas; however, these are not extensive and do not affect the total volume of this bog to any degree.

Generally, the surface consists of Sphagnum moss, Cotton Grass, Carex (many varieties), Pitcher Plant, Blueberry, Cranberry, Sedges and Hypnum mosses.

Drainage

Drainage patterns appear to be adequate to the north, east and west, although no level shots were established in these areas due to the heavy woods.

Analytical

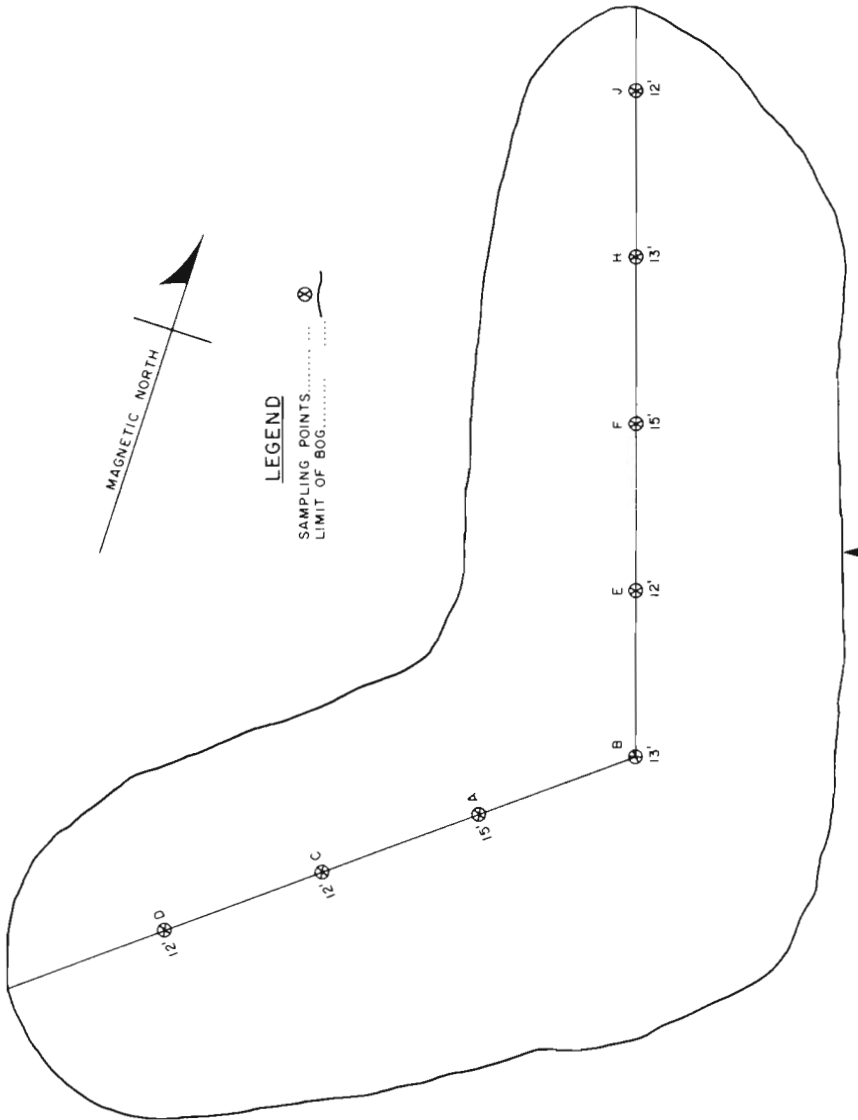
Table 18 shows the complete analyses from holes bored on this bog. The peat moss available over an appreciable depth appears to be of excellent quality with very little evidence of decomposition.

Pictou County

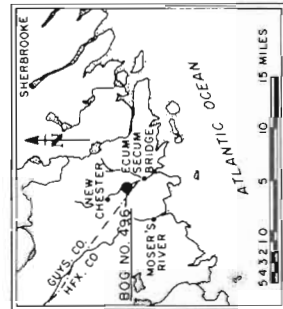
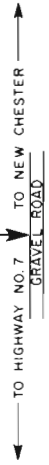
Mount William Bog #1

Location and Size

This peat moss occurrence is located on the east of the Mount William road, approximately one mile north of Highway #4 and its inter-



DISTANCE APPROX 200'

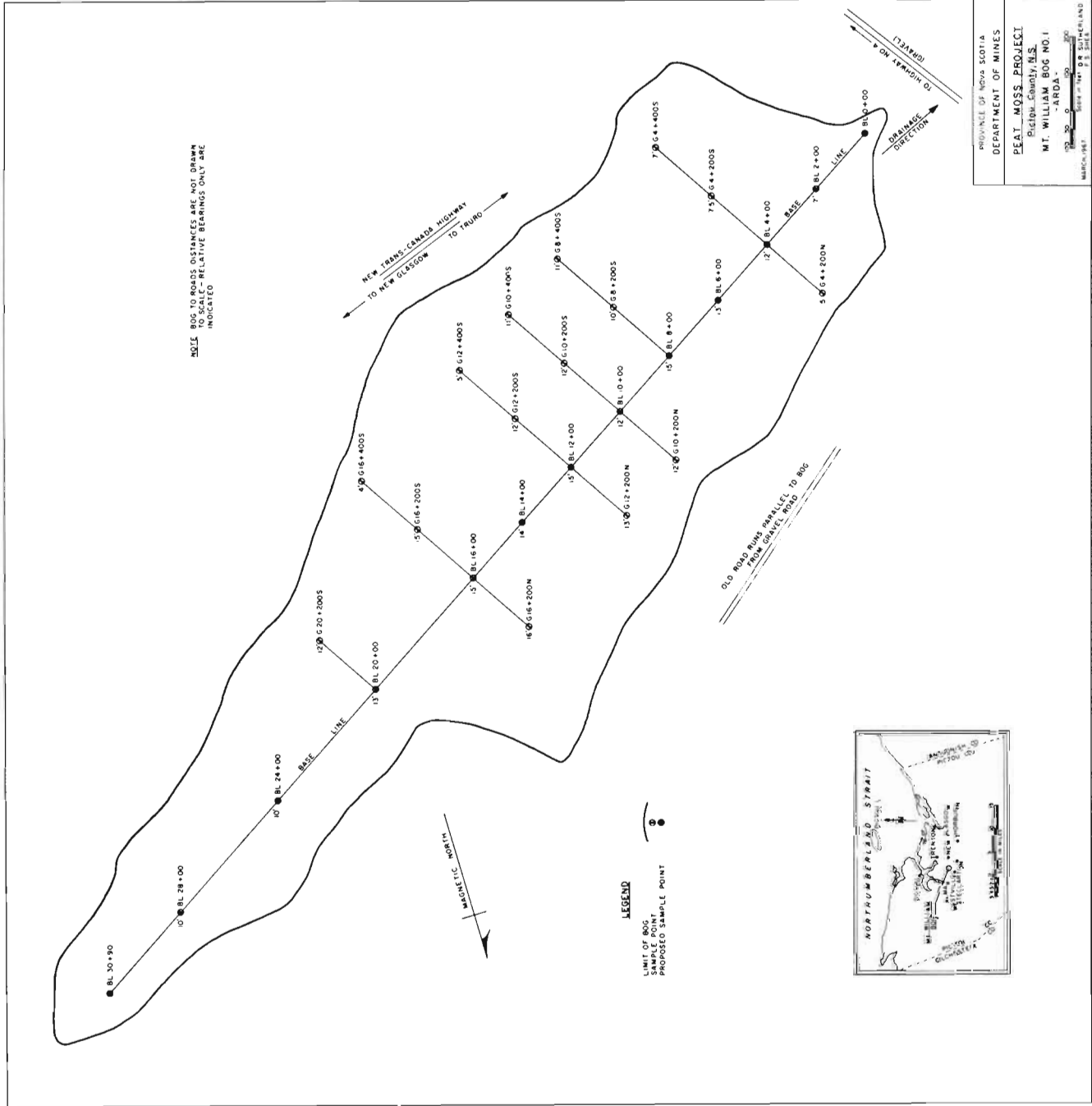


MEASURED DISTANCES	
D to EDGE -	200 ft
DC -	200 ft
CA -	200 ft
AB -	200 ft
BE -	200 ft
EF -	200 ft
FM -	200 ft
HJ -	200 ft
J to EDGE -	100 ft
Z ABE -	110°

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
NEW CHESTER BOG NO. 496
-ARDA-

100 50 0 100 200
Scale in feet D.R. SUTHERLAND
F. S. SHEA
FEB, 1967



MAP No. 21

1111

section with Foster Avenue, Stellarton, Pictou County (see Map #14). This bog has an area of 38.41 acres (see Map #21).

Accessibility

This bog is readily accessible from an old access road which runs parallel to and on the north of this occurrence. This road connects with Mount William road and then to Trans Canada Highway #4 (see Map #21).

Volume

Although there were no detailed sounding programs carried out on this bog, the detailed sample program permits a reasonable tonnage figure to be calculated. An estimated tonnage figure based on this sampling and calculations from previous bogs of similar size and depth would be in the range of 28,000 tons.

Description and Vegetation

This bog exhibits a uniform surface over its entire area. It is somewhat different from other bogs assessed because of a predominant coverage of Labrador Tea over its surface. Also, in some sections of this occurrence, heavy growths of spruce are in evidence. Beneath the Labrador Tea covering, the surface moss is generally Sphagnum with some Sedges. Other vegetation includes Hypnum mosses, Carex and Pitcher Plant.

Drainage

The only available drainage pattern for this bog is in a westerly direction, along a line parallel to the base line and to a culvert under the Mount William road (see Map #21). From examination, this is considered to be a well established drainage pattern as the bog surface is generally dry and firm.

Analytical

Table 19 shows the results of the analyses from sampling of this bog. Although the results would suggest a reasonably good quality peat moss, almost all samples exhibited a high rate of decomposition.

Cumberland County

Diligent River Bog #1

This peat moss occurrence was examined at the request of local residents in the Diligent River area. The bog is in a new state of growth with no established quality for the sample taken. This bog exhibits none of the characteristics of an acid dome peat bog and, therefore, in accordance with the factors used in grading the moss available, the quality would have to be listed as being unsuitable.

The results of the samples taken from this occurrence are shown in Table 20. The bog has an area of 31 acres (see Map #22).

PROFILE DESCRIPTIONS

Glasgow Head Bog #1

The profile diagram of this bog was taken along Gridline 12, east and west (see Map #23). This survey shows that a drainage pattern is possible for only a part of the depth due to the proximity to tide-water near the east boundary of the bog. Refer to Part 2, Map #10, of this report for the plan of this bog.

Spinney Hill Bog #9a

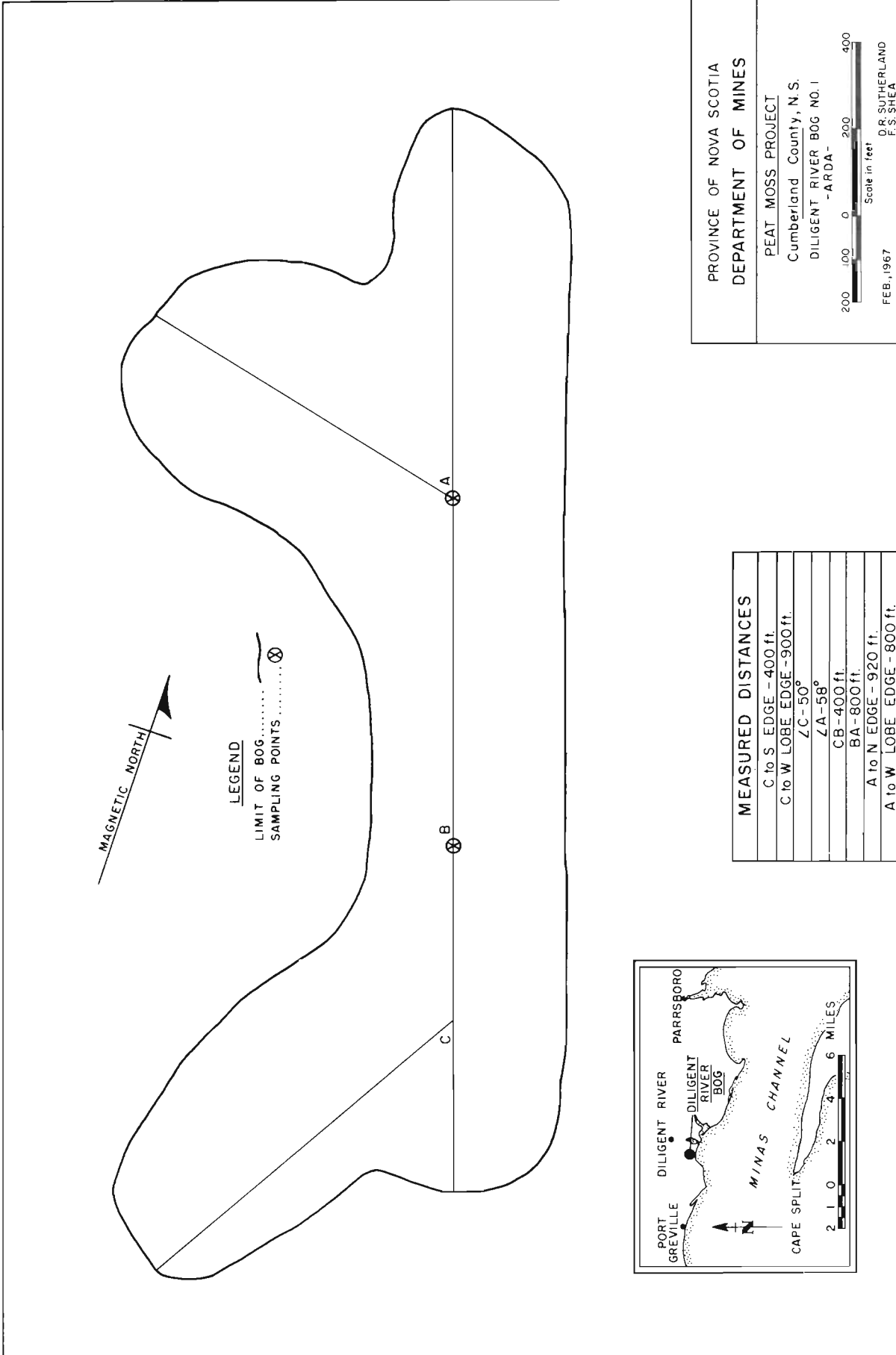
The profile diagram of this bog was taken along Gridline 18, north and south (see Map #24). This profile shows that the bog is uniform with the drainage pattern being to the north, east or west. Refer to Part 2, Map #11, of this report for the plan of this bog.

Lincolnvile Bog #9b

The profile diagram of this bog was taken along Gridline 8, east and west (see Map #25). The profile shows this bog to be quite uniform both on surface and in the subsurface contours. Refer to Part 1, Map #8, of this report for the plan of this bog.

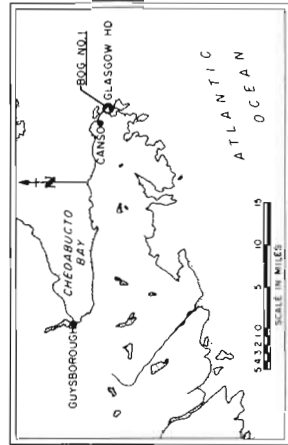
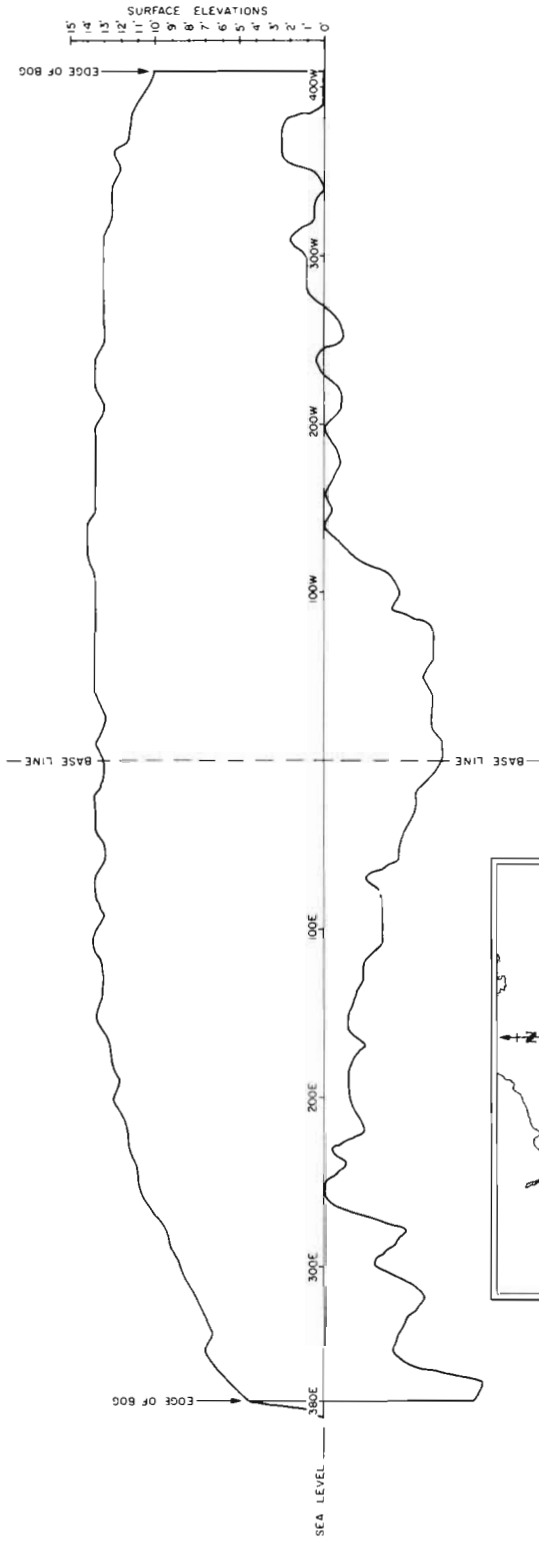
Gaspereau Bog #10

The profile of this bog was taken along a north-south line through the Turning Point, located on base line T.N.O. (see Map #26). Refer to Part 2, Map #11, of this report for the plan of this bog. The drainage pattern of this bog is to the south and west.



MAP No. 22

SECTION ALONG LINE G12 E&W

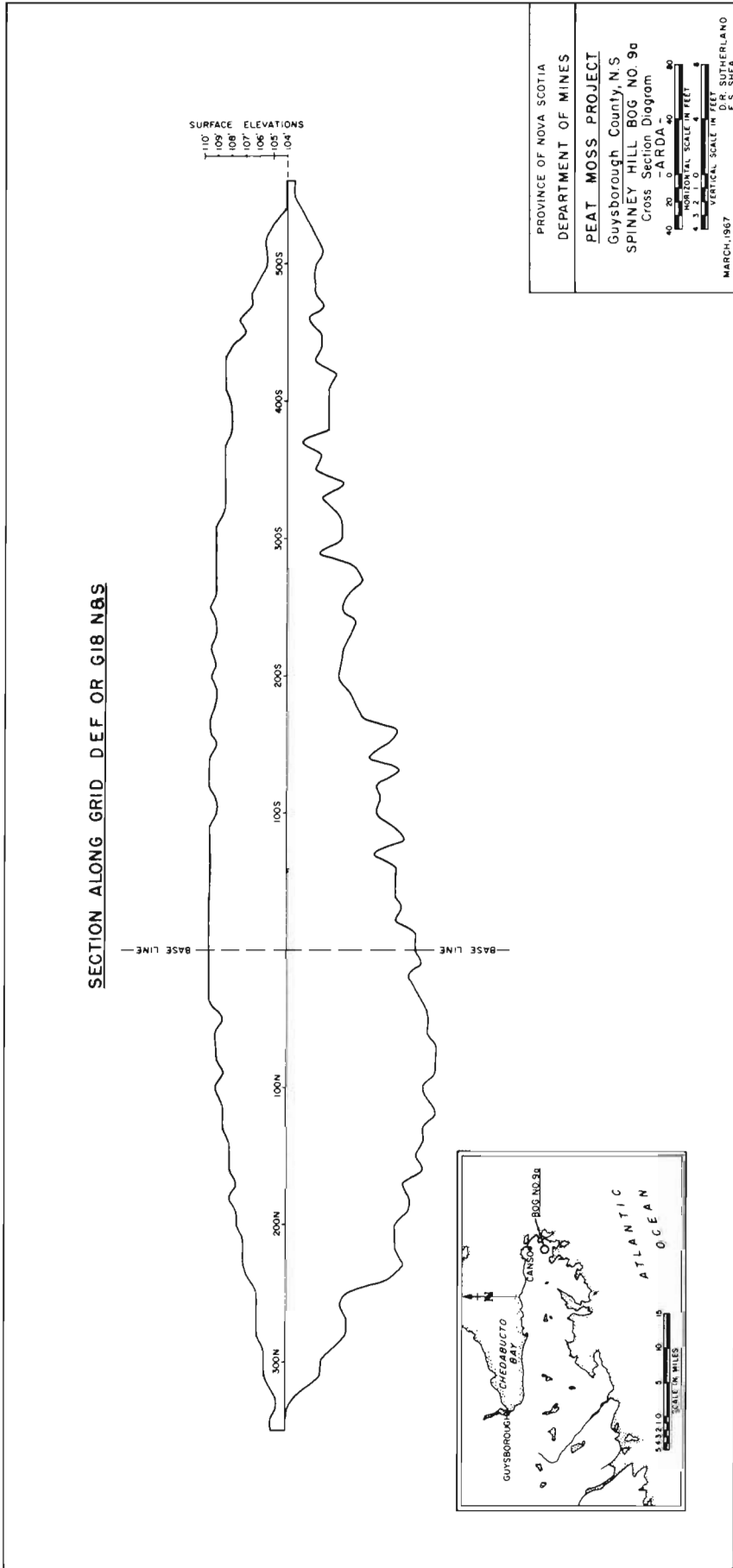


PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

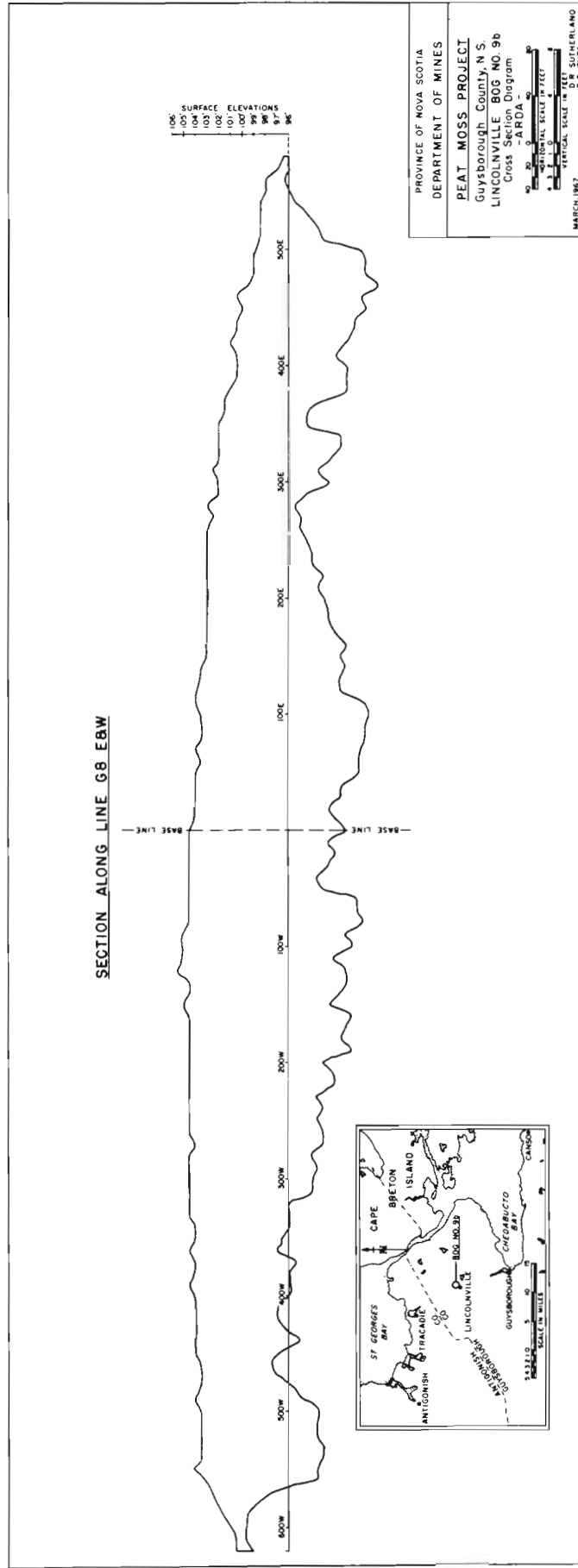
PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
GLASGOW HEAD BOG NO 1
Cross Section Diagram
-ARDA-

40 20 0 40 80
HORIZONTAL SCALE IN FEET
4 3 2 1 0
VERTICAL SCALE IN FEET
F S SHEA
MARCH, 1967

MAP No. 23

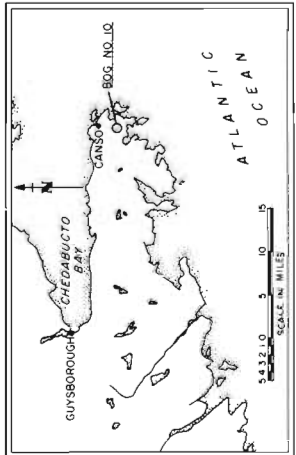
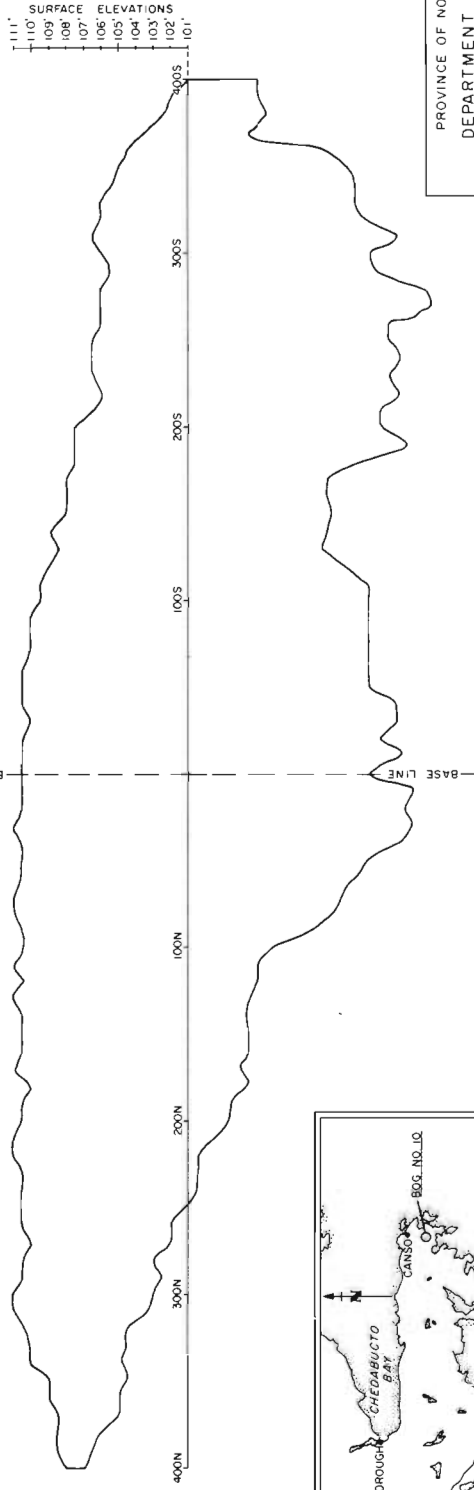


MAP NO. 24



MAP No. 25

SECTION ALONG LINE NORTH & SOUTH THROUGH TURNING POINT



PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
GASPEREAUX BOG NO. 10
Cross Section Diagram
— ARDA —

HORIZONTAL SCALE IN FEET
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 20 30

VERTICAL SCALE IN FEET
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

MARCH 1967
P. S. SUTHERLAND

MAP No. 26

Canso Bog #11

The profile diagram for this bog was taken along Gridline 1846, north and south (see Map #27). This map shows the shape of the subsurface material, as compared to the surface elevations. This diagram will also assist in determining a drainage pattern for the area examined. Refer to Part 1, Map #3, of this report for the plan of this bog.

Three Mile Lake Bog #14

The profile diagram for this bog was taken along Gridline 4, north and south (see Map #28). This profile illustrates that the original drainage plan to the north would be impractical and the alternate drainage pattern to the west would be more advisable. Refer to Part 1, Map #4, of this report for plan of this bog.

Lily Pond Bog #21

The profile diagram for this bog was taken along Gridline 1971, north and south (see Map #29). The profile shows this bog to be uniform on surface and irregular at its base. A ridge of bedrock was determined at depth near the centre of this bog. Refer to Part 1, Map #5, of this report for the plan of this occurrence.

Queensport Bog #28

This profile was taken along Gridline 4, north and south (see Map #30). A study of profiles established the drainage pattern to be in a westerly direction, then to the south. Refer to Part 3, Map #17, showing the plan of this bog.

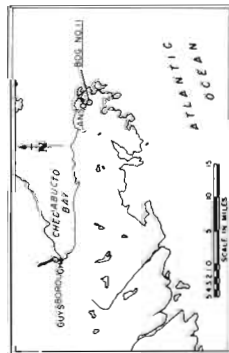
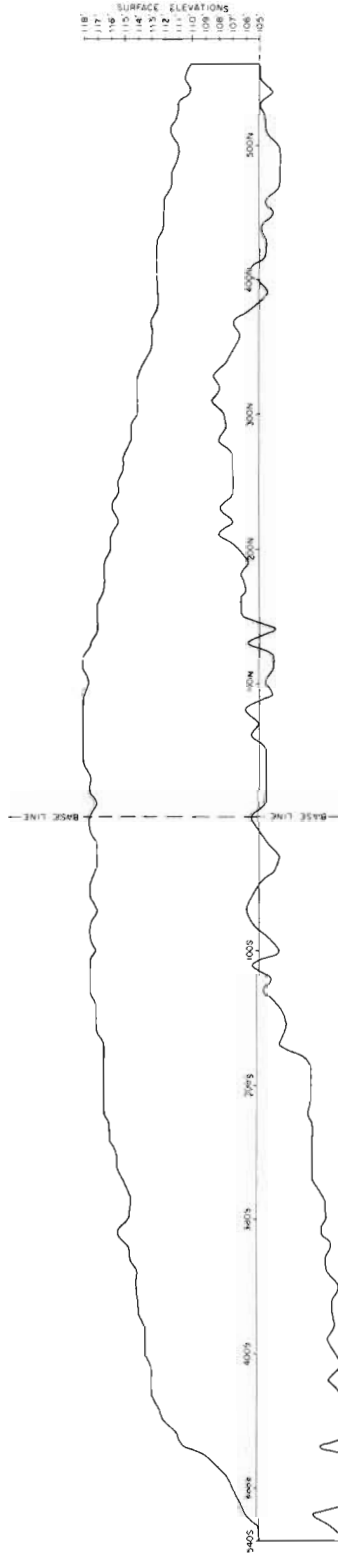
Reynolds Bog #33

This profile diagram was taken along Gridline 4, east and west (see Map #31). The diagram shows this bog to be quite uniform on the surface and somewhat irregular at its base. Refer to Part 1, Map #7, of this report for the plan of this bog and suggested drainage patterns.

New Harbour Bog #156

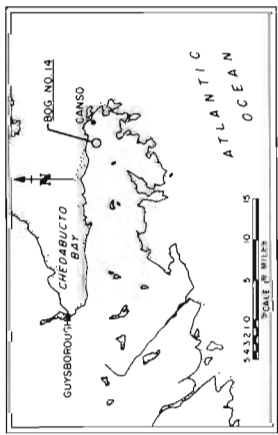
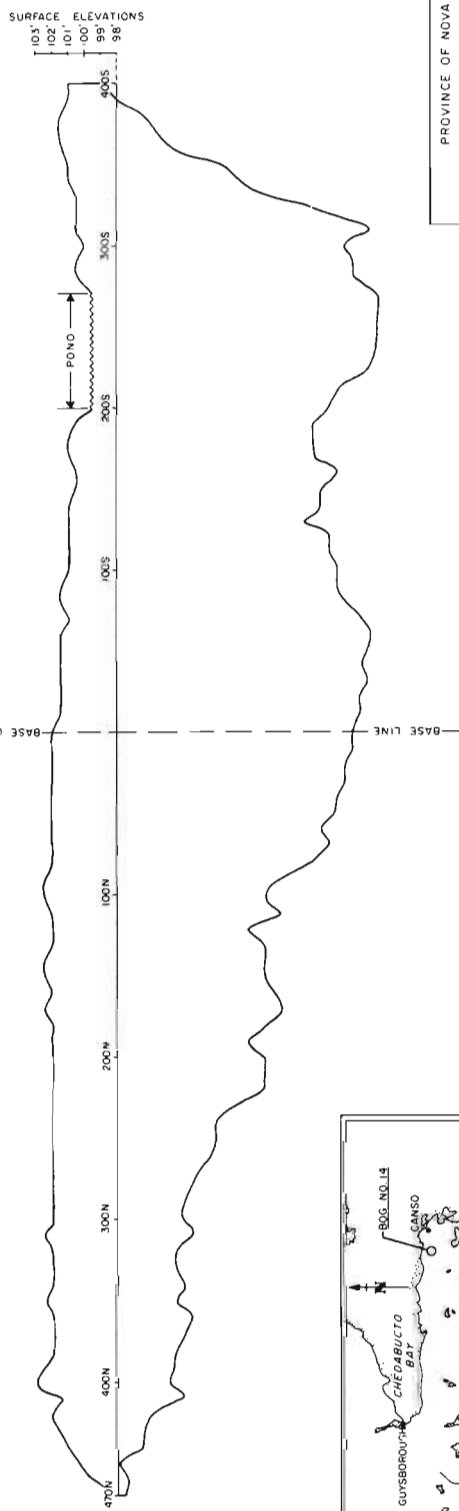
This profile was taken through Gridline 23, north and south (see Map #32). This diagram showed the bog to be uniform over most of its width on surface and at its base. Refer to Part 2, Map #12, of this report for the plan showing possible drainage patterns.

SECTION ALONG LINE G1846 N&S



PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES
PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
CANSO BOG NO.11
Cross Section Diagram
SARDA
VERTICAL SCALE IN FEET
1" = 20'
1" = 10'
1" = 5'
1" = 2.5'
1" = 1.25'
1" = 0.625'
1" = 0.3125'
1" = 0.15625'
1" = 0.078125'
1" = 0.0390625'
1" = 0.01953125'
1" = 0.009765625'
1" = 0.0048828125'
1" = 0.00244140625'
1" = 0.001220703125'
1" = 0.0006103515625'
1" = 0.00030517578125'
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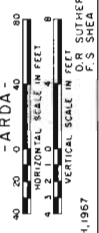
SECTION ALONG LINE G4_N8S



MOLE POND DOES NOT REACH THE BOTTOM OF THE BOG

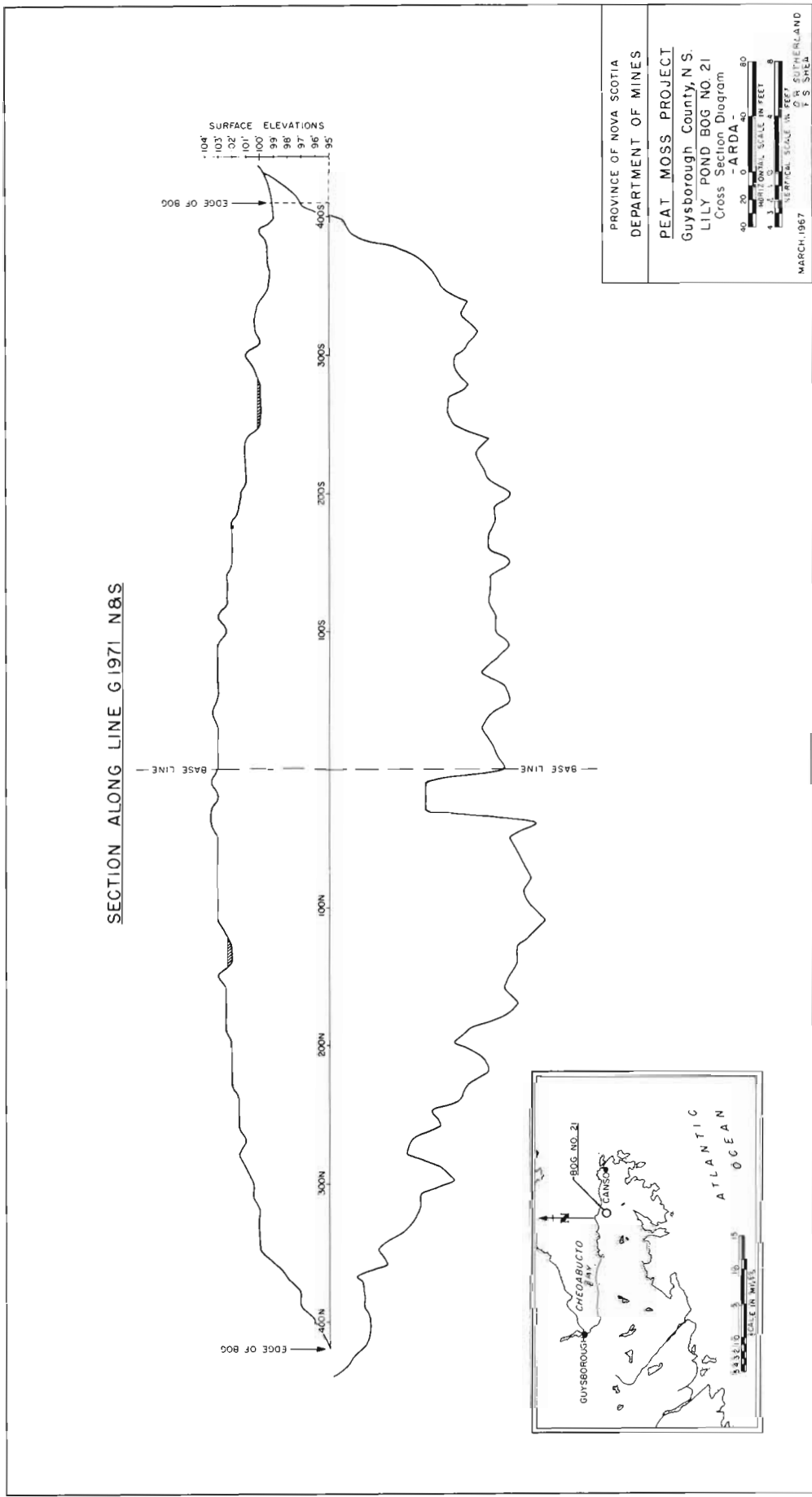
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
THREE MILE LAKE BOG NO. 14
Cross Section Diagram



MARCH, 1967
F. S. SUTHERLAND
P. S. SHEA

MAP NO. 28



PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
 DEPARTMENT OF MINES

PEAT MOSS PROJECT
 Guysborough County, N.S.
 LILY POND BOG NO. 21
 Cross Section Diagram

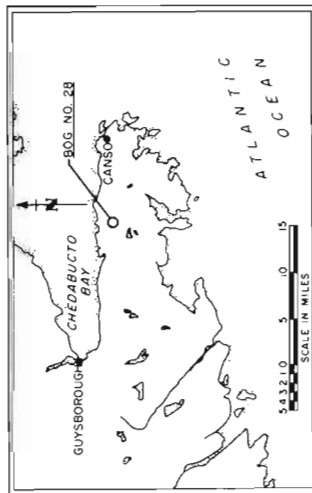
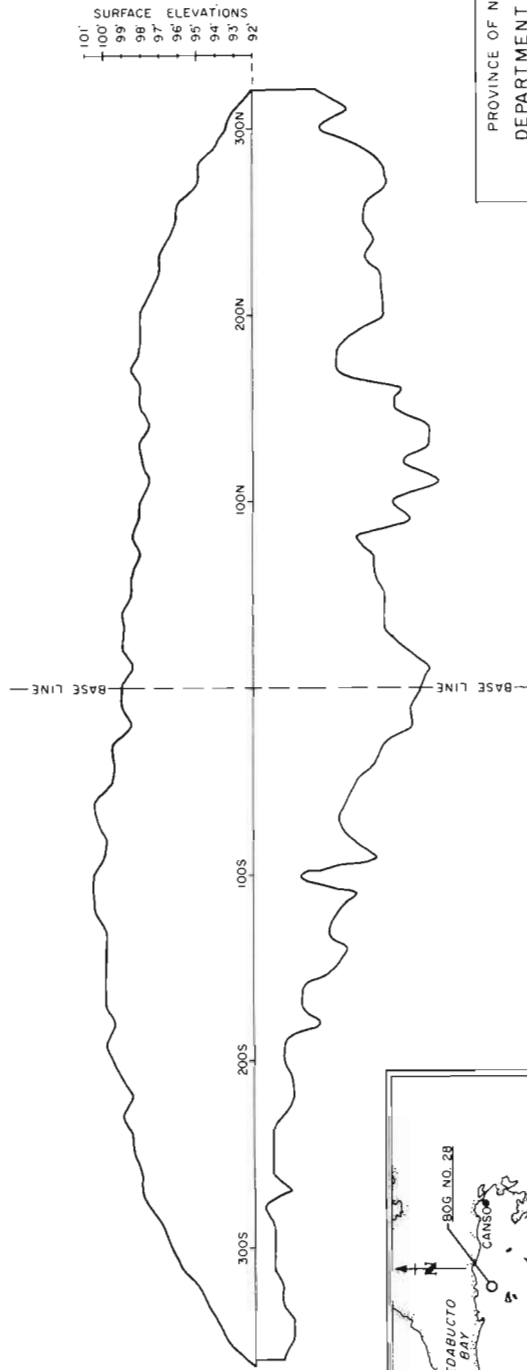
HORIZONTAL SCALE IN FEET
 1" = 40'

VERTICAL SCALE IN FEET
 1" = 10'

MARCH, 1967
 P. S. SHEA

MAP No. 29

SECTION ALONG LINE G4 N&S

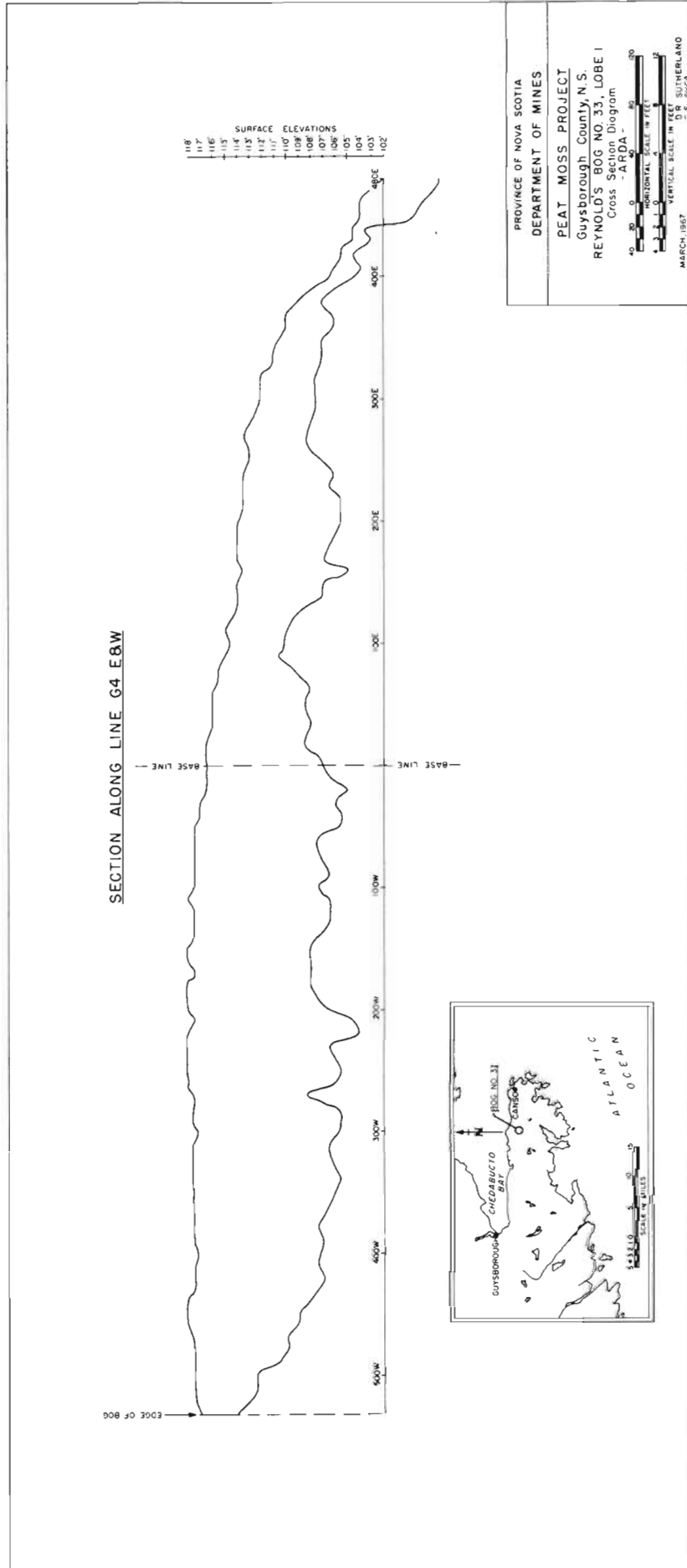


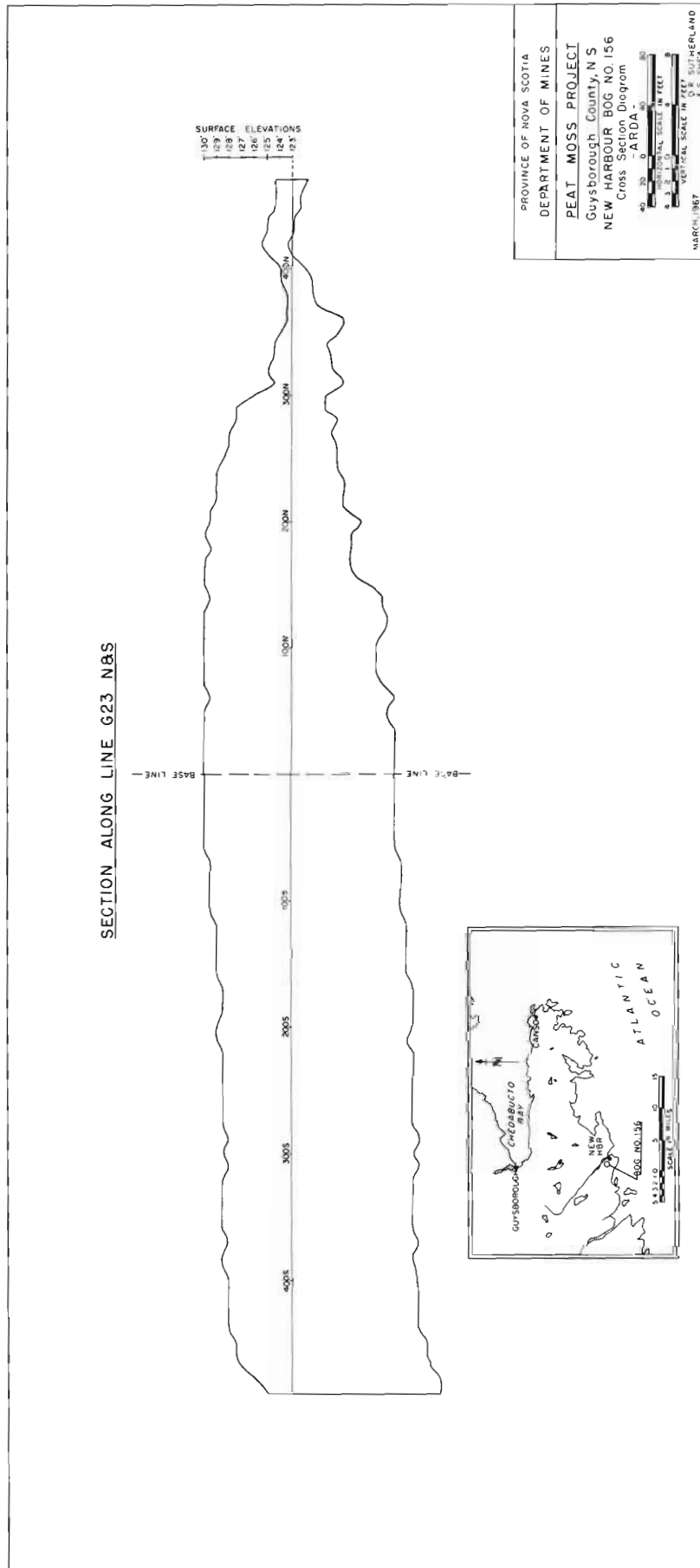
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES

PEAT MOSS PROJECT
Guysborough County, N.S.
QUEENSPORT BOG NO 28
Cross Section Diagram

40 80 0 40 80
HORIZONTAL SCALE IN FEET
4 3 2 1 0 4 3 2 1 0 4
VERTICAL SCALE IN FEET
- ARDA
MARCH, 1967
D R SUTHERLAND
F. S. SHEA

MAP No. 30





MAP No. 32