

June 16, 1976

Subject: Earthquake - May 16, 1976

On May 16, 1976 at 1:37 a.m. an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.3 (Richter) occurred near Southern Vancouver Island. Its epicenter is believed to have been directly under Pender Island, with its focus occurring at a relatively shallow depth of between 5 and 10 miles. This earthquake has been recorded (through movement of water level caused by seismic waves) on a number of Observation well hydrographs from water level recorders situated near the northern tip of the Saanich Peninsula, near Duncan, Chemainus and Mayne Island (nearest the epicenter) (re. attached maps of Saanich Peninsula and Southern Vancouver Island and Mainland).

Attached are hydrographs that show this anomaly quite strikingly. Other recorders that were expected to be affected due to proximity to the earthquake, but showed little or no reaction are as follows: WR-4, WR-13A, F.V.T.H. #3, F.V.T.H. #5 (Abbotsford), 72-3, 72-5 (Gabriola Island), 72-1, 72-2 (Saanich Peninsula), WR-104-71, WR-111-73 (Mayne Island) and 74-7 (Alert Bay).

Wells 72-1, 72-2 (Saanich Peninsula), and WR-104-71 and WR-111-73 (Mayne Island) may have recorded the tremor slightly but the fluctuation here is almost impossible to distinguish between seasonal movement at that time.

Precipitation was practically nil in the following locations during the period May 12 - May 16, 1976.

Duncan	- .08
Chemainus	- .05
Mayne Island	- -
Victoria Airport	- 0.13

It can be therefore assumed that there was a negligible contribution from precipitation to water level fluctuations recorded at this time.

An attempt to try and explain the recording of this anomaly on the recorders mentioned has also been included:

WR-109-73 (Rainsford Well - Mayne Island)

The rapid decline of water level recorded prior to the earthquake was thought to be directly attributed to the earthquake, but has now been attributed to instrument malfunction.

Mr. Hodge - Please continue with this interesting study
J.F. 5/27/76

It was disappointing in that this recorder is closest to the epicenter and the decline of water level prior to the earthquake was hopefully related directly to the earthquake.

Unfortunately the last 30 hours of records prior to the earthquake are lost due to the float hanging up in the casing or the graduated tape slipping on the recorder pulley. It must be pointed out also, that this well WR-109-73 has an unusually elevated stickup of 10.4' and was in a flowing state (water level above ground) when this earthquake occurred.

A rapid decline in water level just before an earthquake is common in earthquakes of greater magnitude (usually 6 or greater on the Richter).

From the "Drifting Continents" by Alan H. Anderson Jr. we find in Hawaii the sides of Mount Kilawea were found to heave and sink just before volcanic eruptions. The Japanese, whose country is often rocked by strong earthquakes, found that just before their biggest quake of the decade, in Nagata in 1964, the ground rose very quickly. Later it began to subside and just before the onset of the tremors it sank quickly.

Duncan and Chemainus Wells

There are 3 recorders in Duncan and one in Chemainus which have recorded the earthquake through a simple water level fluctuation, returning to their normal trends almost immediately. These wells are relatively shallow, are monitoring sand and gravel aquifers and were not expected to register anything spectacular, rather than the recording of the tremor itself.

72-3 (Airport Well- North Saanich)

The recording of the earthquake on this hydrograph is very interesting in that it is the only recorder showing what appears to be recharge after the earthquake occurred. This recharge continues over an 8-hour period ~~than~~ the water level continues to follow its seasonal downward trend. This may indicate a rock fracture opening or closing at some place in its depth.

WR-119-75 (Pemberton Holmes Well - North Saanich)

The recorder here has shown a distinct water level fluctuation caused by the earthquake. The hydrograph then returned almost immediately to its normal seasonal trend. No anomaly has been noticed other than the water level movement itself.

Remarks:

Although the recording of the earthquake on water level recorders was not as spectacular as hoped for (without being to spectacular!) it is interesting to note that it has, at least been recorded. It is also interesting to note, that although some recorders are located very close to the epicenter of the earthquake they were unaffected, and some, although being further from the epicenter were affected quite dramatically (e.g. Beacon Avenue well, 72-3).

The recorders on Mayne Island (4) were expected to show effects of the earthquake most notably of all, as all are monitoring relatively deep bedrock aquifers, and all are geographically closer to the epicenter than others more directly influenced.

This however, did not happen, and the recordings all showed minute fluctuations, hardly distinguishable from seasonal groundwater movement or no recording whatsoever.

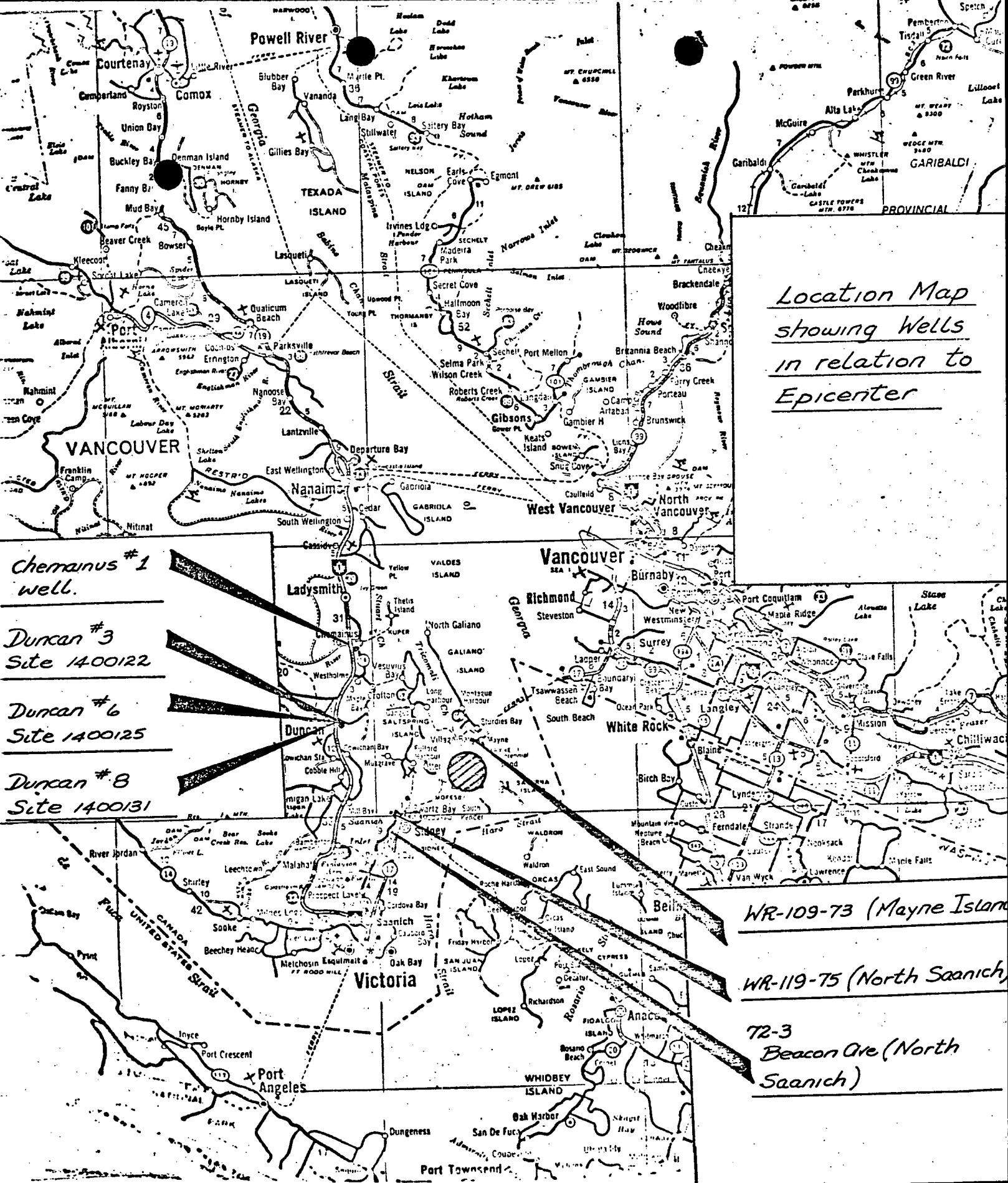
Examination of the hydrographs shows there may be a direct relationship between size and pattern of fluctuation and instrument locations, in respect to major bedrock fracture zones. Two observation wells (WR-119-75 and 72-3) are both located directly on, or very close to reported bedrock fracture zones. The Beacon Avenue well is almost directly located on a fracture zone which is laterally extensive and extends in a northwesterly direction towards Pender Island.

The Pemberton Holmes well is located near many minor fracture zones in North Saanich. These minor fractures appear to be scattered and situated between two major zones which extend northwest towards Pender Island. No noticeable recordings were seen on the Bowerbank well (72-2) or on the Whitebirch well (72-1) in North Saanich. This may possibly be attributed to their being situated a significant distance from these major faults.

Mr. G. Rogers (Seismologist) of Victoria has stressed interest in our observation well network and we should continue to work in conjunction with him should another earthquake occur.

Mr. Gary Rogers
Victoria Geophysical Observatory
5071 West Saanich Road
Victoria, B.C. Phone: 388-3208

W. S. Hodge
W. S. Hodge
Engineering Asst.



Location Map
showing Wells
in relation to
Epicenter

Chemanus #1
well.

Duncan #3
Site 1400122

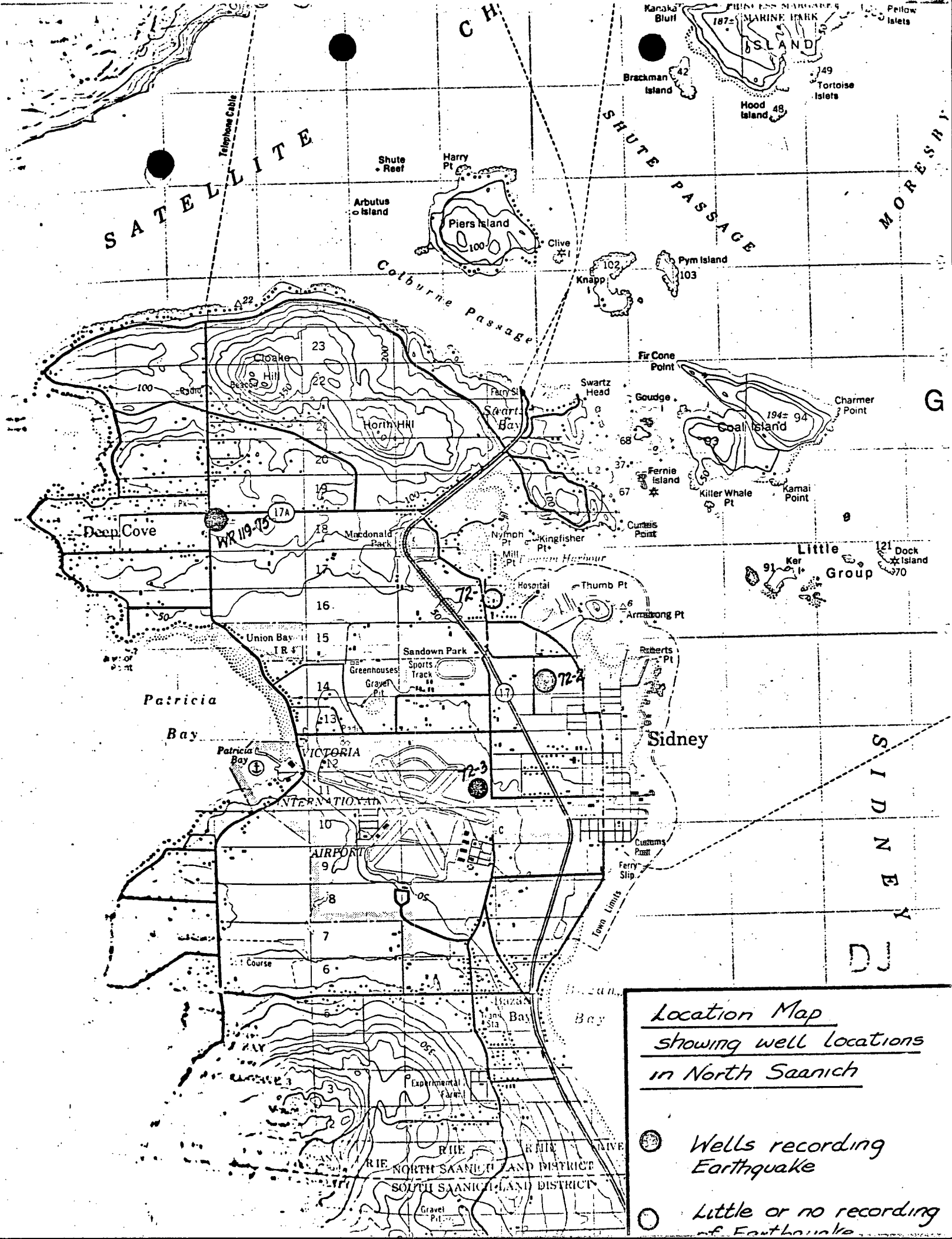
Duncan #6
Site 1400125

Duncan #8
Site 1400131

WR-109-73 (Mayne Island)

WR-119-75 (North Saanich)

72-3
Beacon Ore (North
Saanich)

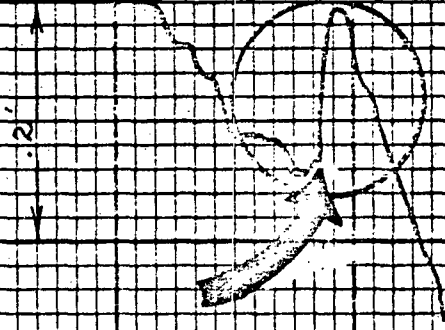


Location Map
showing well locations
in North Saanich

- Wells recording Earthquake
- Little or no recording of Earthquake

Well # 72-3 (Airport Well
North Saanich)

8 hrs



Static water level 6.69'

Bottom 16" casing 45'

CLAY

45

GRANODIORITE

XXXX 108 (8 gpm)

XXX 150 (11 gpm)

XXX 155

XXX 158

SILL

XXXX 195

CALCITE: Filled

XXX 225

FRACTURES: Small but numerous

XXX 250 (12.5 gpm)

XXX 460

FRACTURES: Small but numerous

XXX 465

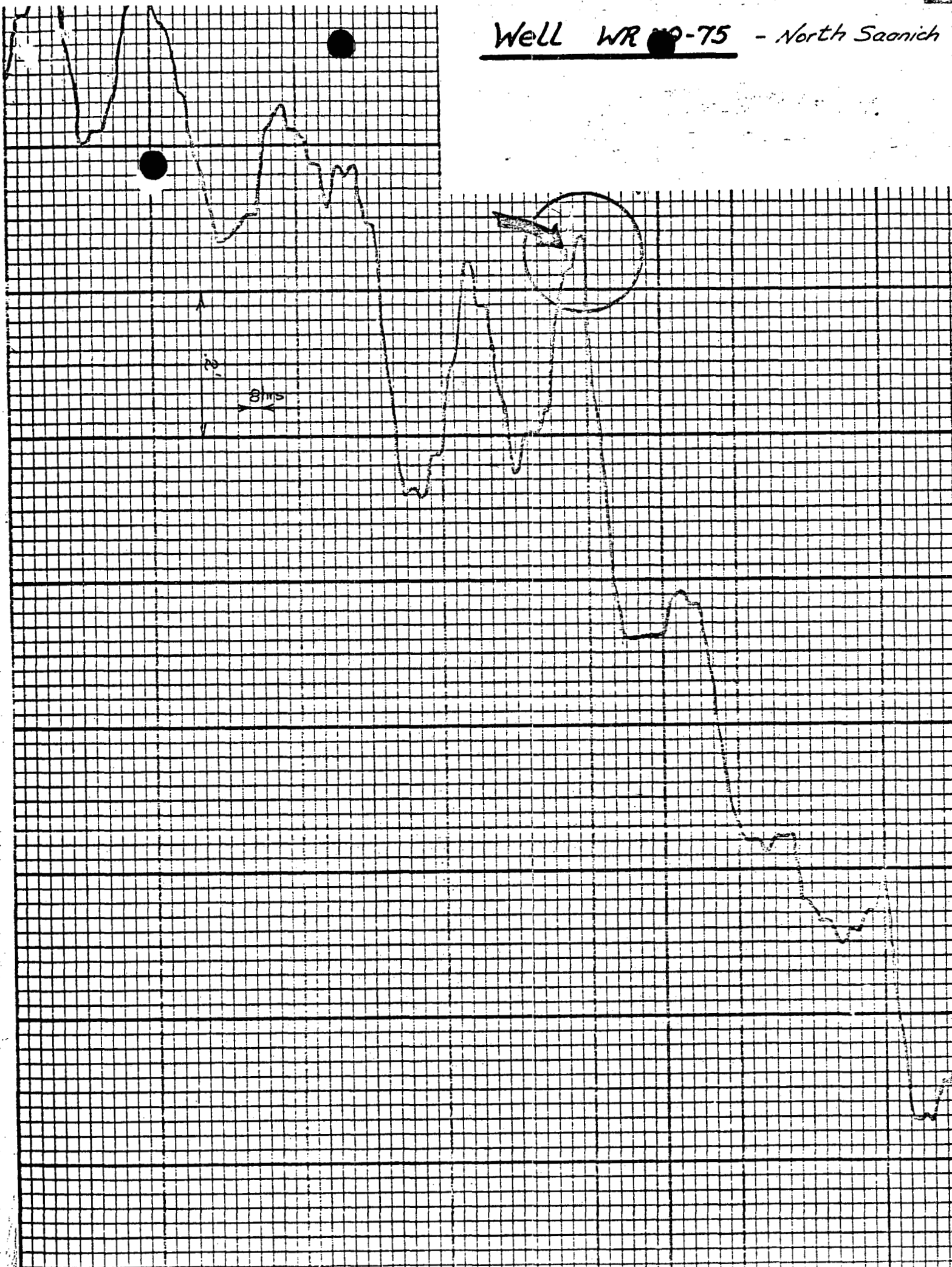
(15 gpm).

Total Depth 505'

Notes:

XXXX = Fractures
XX = Sill
(10 gpm) = Total water blown while drilling

Well WR 19-75 - North Saanich



LEGAL LOCATION SEC 18 RIW WELL LOCATION MAP COORDINATES _____
 LAND DISTRICT NORTH SPANISH
 LICENCE NO. _____ DATE LICENCE _____ AMOUNT _____ N.T.S. GRID SHEET _____

OWNER'S NAME NEWBERTON HOLMES ADDRESS WAIN'S X R01
 DRILLER'S NAME TJ - K ADDRESS _____ DATE OF COMPLETION 6/7/68
 DEPTH 255 ELEVATION OF 152.16' ESTIMATED SURVEYED CASING DIAM. 6" LENGTH _____ TYPE S.U. 0.5'
 METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION DRILLED SCREEN SIZE _____ LENGTH _____ TYPE _____
 LOCATION OF SCREEN _____ DEVELOPED DESCRIBE _____
 PERFORATED CASING LENGTH _____ LOCATION OF PERFORATIONS _____
 GRAVEL PACK LENGTH _____ DIAM. _____ SIZE GRAVEL, ETC. _____
 DISTANCE TO WATER FROM _____ ESTIMATED MEASURED WATER LEVEL ELEVATION _____ ARTESIAN PRESSURE _____ P.S.I. DATE _____
 WATER USE FLOWING @ GROUND LEVEL

PRODUCTION TEST SUMMARY
 DATE _____
 TEST BY _____
 BAIL TEST DURATION OF TEST _____
 PUMP TEST RATE _____
 WATER LEVEL AT COMPLETION OF TEST _____
 DRAWDOWN _____ AVAILABLE DRAWDOWN _____
 SPECIFIC CAPACITY _____ US gpd/ft² STORAGE COEFF _____
 PERMEABILITY _____
 TRANSMISSIVITY DRAWDOWN RECOVERY _____
 REMARKS _____

CHEMISTRY
 TEST BY _____ DATE _____

TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS _____ mg/l TEMPERATURE _____ °C pH _____ CONDUCTANCE _____ μmhos/cm AT 25°C
 IRON (Fe) _____ mg/l SILICA (SiO₂) _____ mg/l TOTAL HARDNESS (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l
 TOTAL ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l PHEN. ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l MANGANESE (Mn) _____ mg/l

ANIONS			CATIONS		
	mg/l	epm		mg/l	epm
CARBONATE (CO ₃)			CALCIUM (Ca)		
BICARBONATE (AS CO ₃)			MAGNESIUM (Mg)		
SULPHATE (SO ₄)			SODIUM (Na)		
CHLORIDE (Cl)			POTASSIUM (K)		
NITRATE (NO ₂ + NO ₃)					
* TRN (NO ₃)					
PHOSPHORUS (P)					
TOTAL			TOTAL		

* TKN - TOTAL KJELDAHL NITROGEN

CHEMISTRY FIELD TESTS
 TEST BY _____ DATE _____ EQUIPMENT USED _____

CONTENTS OF FOLDER
 DRILL LOG PUMP TEST DATA CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
 SIEVE ANALYSIS GEOPHYSICAL LOGS REPORT

OTHER _____

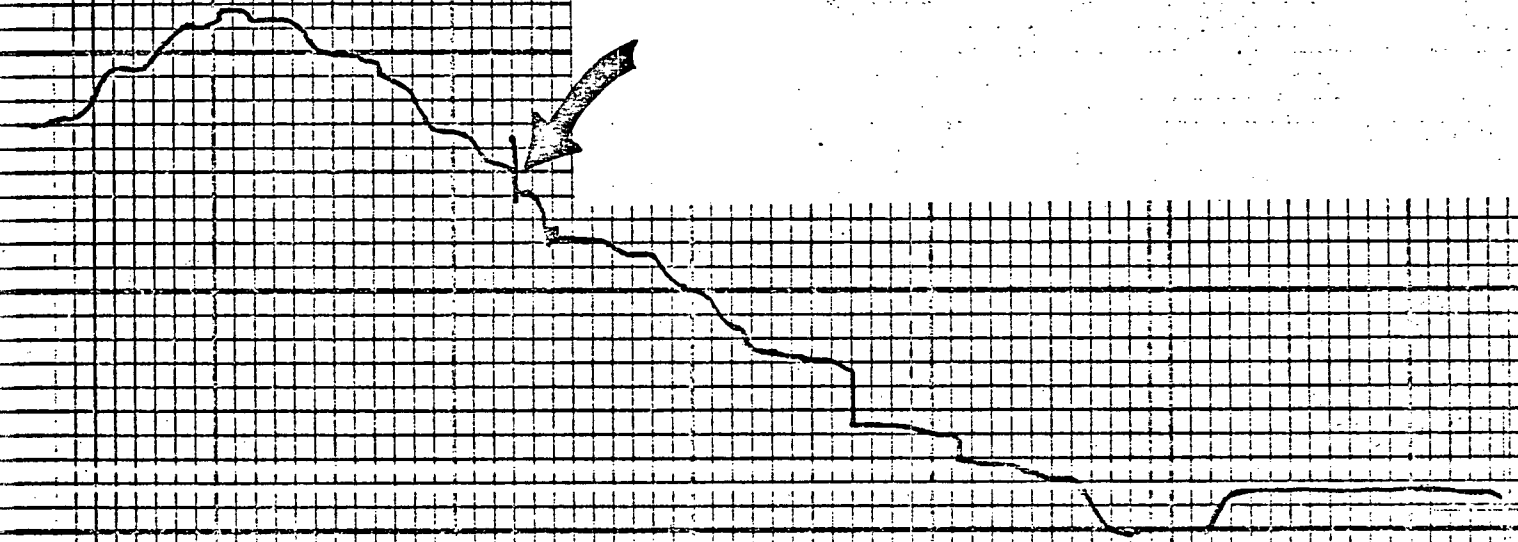
SOURCES OF INFORMATION SITE I.D. "14000 59" OBS. WELL WR-119-75
SRD REF. No. 247290 110070

LITHOLOGY		
FROM	TO	DESCRIPTION
0	16	OVERBURDEN
16	235	GENODIORITE
235	255	QUARTZ GRANITE
		FRACTURED ZONE
		V.B.
2 nd		WELL IN BUSH
		TEST - HAFER BROS
		100 U.S. GALLON TEST
		JANUARY 1968 1200 gpm
		4.5 hours, drawdown 2
		RECOVERED IN 25 MIN
		SAFE YIELD 30 gpm

REMARKS MAY/75
PUT 10 gallons of H₂
down each well, origin
status were checked
and 1.5 gpm flow

Duncan Well #6 (Rq. 7 Sec. 15)

Site 1400125



Obs

WATER INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH, DEPT. OF LANDS, FORESTS, AND WATER RESOURCES, VICTORIA, B.C.

WELL LOCATION _____ WELL LOCATION MAP COORDINATES R. 7, SEC. 15 # 15
 LAND DISTRICT _____
 LICENSE NO. _____ DATE LICENCE _____ AMOUNT _____ N.T.S. GRID SHEET _____

OWNER'S NAME GROUNDWATER SECTION ADDRESS VICTORIA
 DRILLER'S NAME DRILLWELL ENTERPRISE ADDRESS COWICHAN STATION DATE OF COMPLETION SEPT. 23/76
 ELEVATION OF 36 ESTIMATED SURVEYED CASING DIAM. 6" LENGTH _____ TYPE _____
 METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION CABLE TOOL SCREEN SIZE _____ LENGTH _____ TYPE _____
 TYPE OF SCREEN _____ DEVELOPED DESCRIBE _____
 CASING LENGTH _____ LOCATION OF PERFORATIONS _____
 PACK LENGTH _____ DIAM. _____ SIZE GRAVEL, ETC. _____
 WATER ESTIMATED WATER LEVEL MEASURED ELEVATION _____ ARTESIAN PRESSURE _____ P.S.I. DATE _____

PRODUCTION TEST SUMMARY
 DATE _____
 TEST BY _____
 BAIL TEST DURATION OF TEST _____
 PUMP TEST RATE _____ G.P.M.
 WATER LEVEL AT COMPLETION OF TEST _____
 DRAWDOWN _____ AVAILABLE DRAWDOWN _____
 SPECIFIC CAPACITY _____ gpm/ft. dd
 PERMEABILITY _____ USgpd/ft² STORAGE COEFF. _____
 TRANSMISSIVITY DRAWDOWN _____ USgpd/ft
 RECOVERY _____ USgpd/ft.
 REMARKS _____

TESTED BY _____ DATE _____

DISSOLVED SOLIDS _____ mg/l TEMPERATURE _____ °C pH _____ CONDUCTANCE _____ μ mhos/cm AT 25°C
 Fe) _____ mg/l SILICA (SiO₂) _____ mg/l TOTAL HARDNESS (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l
 ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l PHEN. ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l MANGANESE (Mn) _____ mg/l

ANIONS	mg/l	epm	% epm	CATIONS	mg/l	epm	% epm
BICARBONATE (CO ₃)				CALCIUM (Ca)			
BICARBONATE (AS CO ₃)				MAGNESIUM (Mg)			
SULFATE (SO ₄)				SODIUM (Na)			
CHLORIDE (Cl)				POTASSIUM (K)			
NITRATE (NO ₃)							
NITRITE (NO ₂)							
PHOSPHORUS (P)							
TOTAL				TOTAL			

TOTAL KjELDAHL NITROGEN _____

TESTS BY _____ DATE _____ EQUIPMENT USED _____

CONTENTS OF FOLDER
 DRILL LOG PUMP TEST DATA CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
 SIEVE ANALYSIS GEOPHYSICAL LOGS REPORT

REFERENCES OF INFORMATION FINAL REPORT - COWICHAN RIVER AQUIFERS, FILES: 0239013
: 0254128-2-A

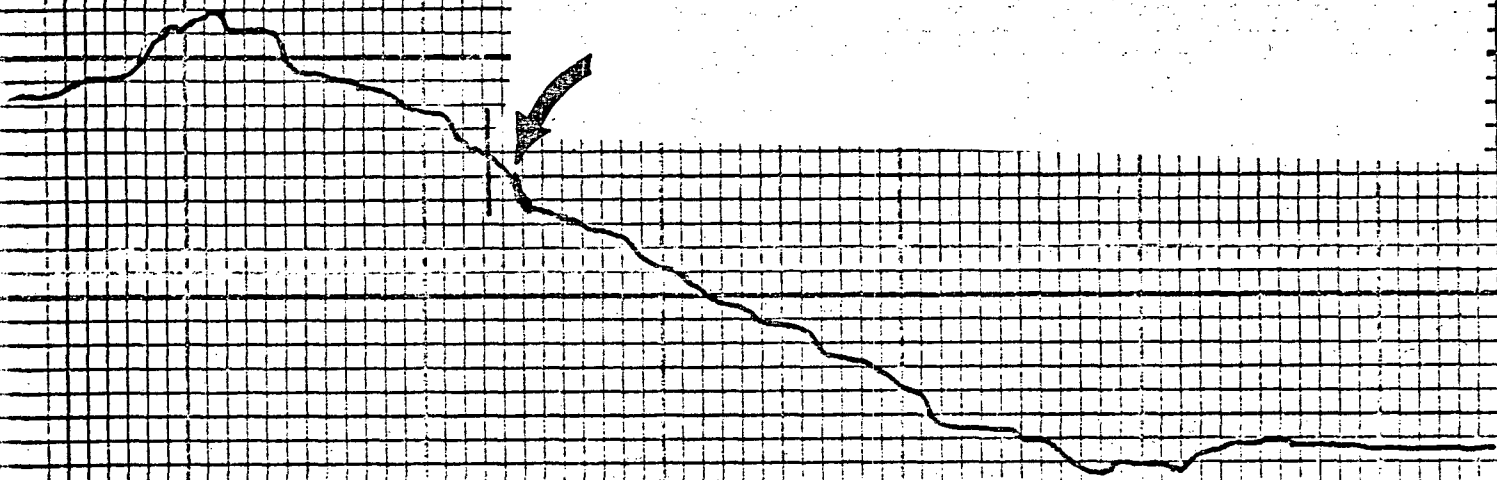
H 6 LITHOLOGY 1400125

FROM	TO	DESCRIPTION
0	9	SAND & GRAVEL
9	21	LOOSE SAND AND GRAVEL
21	23	RUSTY BROWN LAYER OF GRAVEL
23	36	LOOSE SAND AND GRAVEL, BROWN AT TIMES.

REMARKS _____

Duncan Well # 8 (Rq. 7 Sec. 15)

Site 1400131



8hrs

2'

R. 7, SEC. 15 #17

LEGAL LOCATION _____ WELL LOCATION MAP COORDINATES _____
 LAND DISTRICT _____
 LICENCE NO. _____ DATE LICENCE _____ AMOUNT _____ N.T.S. GRID SHEET _____

OWNER'S NAME GROUNDWATER SECTION ADDRESS VICTORIA
 DRILLER'S NAME DRILLWELL ENTERPRISE ADDRESS COWICHAN STATION DATE OF COMPLETION OCT. 9/75
 DEPTH 104 ELEVATION OF _____ ESTIMATED SURVEYED CASING DIAM. 6" LENGTH _____ TYPE _____
 METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION CABLE TOOL SCREEN SIZE _____ LENGTH _____ TYPE _____
 LOCATION OF SCREEN _____ DEVELOPED DESCRIBE _____
 PERFORATED CASING LENGTH _____ LOCATION OF PERFORATIONS _____
 GRAVEL PACK LENGTH _____ DIAM. _____ SIZE GRAVEL, ETC. _____
 DISTANCE TO WATER FROM _____ ESTIMATED WATER LEVEL MEASURED ELEVATION _____ ARTESIAN PRESSURE _____ P.S.I. DATE _____
 WATER USE _____

PRODUCTION TEST SUMMARY
 DATE _____
 TEST BY _____
 BAIL TEST DUR. _____ OF TEST _____
 PUMP TEST RATE _____
 WATER LEVEL AT COMPLETION OF TEST _____
 DRAWDOWN _____ AVAILABLE DRAWDOWN _____
 SPECIFIC CAPACITY _____
 PERMEABILITY _____ USgpd/ft² STORAGE COEF _____
 TRANSMISSIVITY DRAWDOWN RECOVERY _____
 REMARKS _____

LITHOLOGY 14001

FROM	TO	DESCRIPTION
0	3	SILT
3	12	SAND AND GRAVEL
12	16	GRAVEL
16	20	MEDIUM TO COARSE GRAVEL, SOME S
20	24	COARSE SAND AND GRAVEL
24	32	COARSE SAND AND VERY COARSE G
32	42	SILTY SAND AND GRAVELS WITH LENSES OF BRO
42	52	AND BLUE SILT
52	54	COARSE GRAVEL WITH SOME SAND
54	69	SILT AND FINE FINE TILL
69	70	COARSE GRAVEL SAND WITH BROWN (SILTY?) WATER
70	74	MED. COARSE SAND, STONES - TIGHT.
74	74	FINE-COARSE SAND WITH GRAVEL
74	90	BLUE SILTY CLAY WITH ?
90	104	FINE COARSE BLUE SAND LAYERS WITH

CHEMISTRY
 TEST BY _____ DATE _____

TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS _____ mg/l TEMPERATURE _____ °C pH _____ CONDUCTANCE _____ μ mhos/cm AT 25°C
 IRON (Fe) _____ mg/l SILICA (SiO₂) _____ mg/l TOTAL HARDNESS (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l
 TOTAL ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l PHEN. ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l MANGANESE (Mn) _____ mg/l

ANIONS			CATIONS		
mg/l	epm	% epm	mg/l	epm	% epm
CARBONATE (CO ₃)			CALCIUM (Ca)		
BICARBONATE (AS CO ₃)			MAGNESIUM (Mg)		
SULPHATE (SO ₄)			SODIUM (Na)		
CHLORIDE (Cl)			POTASSIUM (K)		
NITRATE (NO ₂ + NO ₃)					
* TKN (NO ₃)					
PHOSPHORUS (P)					
TOTAL			TOTAL		

* TKN: TOTAL KJELDAHL NITROGEN

CHEMISTRY FIELD TESTS
 TEST BY _____ DATE _____ EQUIPMENT USED _____

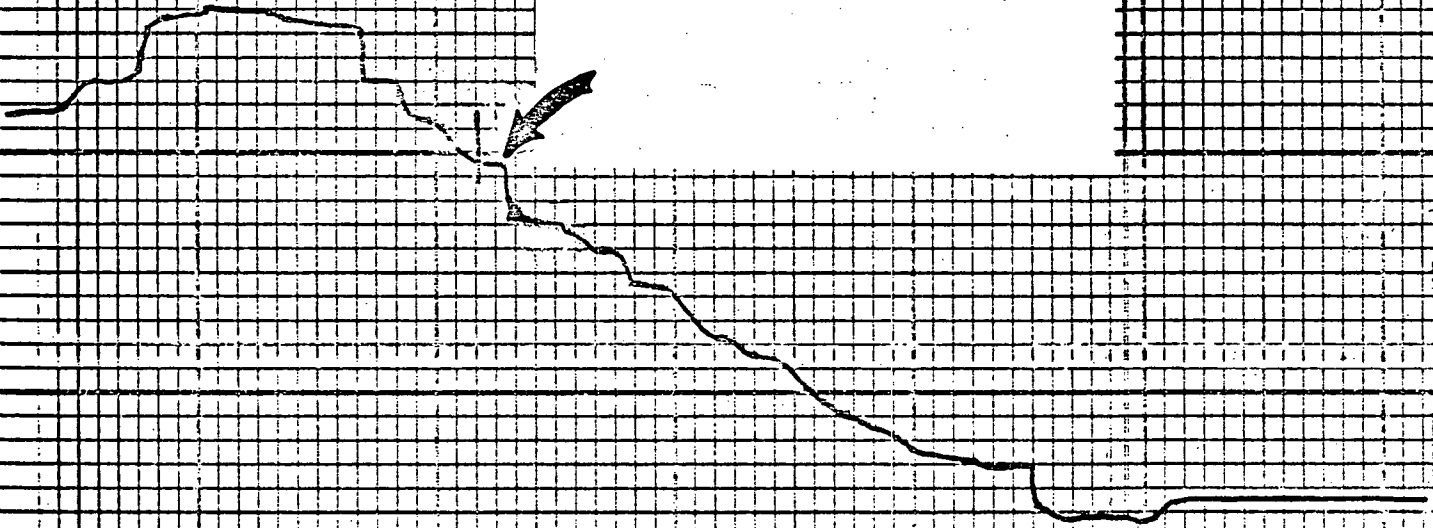
CONTENTS OF FOLDER
 DRILL LOG PUMP TEST DATA CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
 SIEVE ANALYSIS GEOPHYSICAL LOGS REPORT

OTHER _____

SOURCES OF INFORMATION FINAL REPORT - COWICHAN RIVER AQUIFERS, FILES: 0239013
0254128-2-A

REMARKS SOME GRAVEL LENS

Duncan Well #3 (Rq. 7 Sec. 15)
Site 1400122



8hrs

WATER INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH, DEPT. OF LANDS, FORESTS, AND WATER RESOURCES, VICTORIA, B.C.

LEGAL LOCATION _____

WELL LOCATION MAP COORDINATES R. 7, SEC. 15 # 12

LICENCE NO. _____

DATE LICENCE _____

LAND DISTRICT _____

AMOUNT _____

N.T.S. GRID SHEET _____

OWNER'S NAME GROUNDWATER SECTION ADDRESS VICTORIA

DRILLER'S NAME DRILLWELL ENTERPR. ADDRESS COWICHAN STATION DATE OF COMPLETION SEPT. 16/75

DEPTH 340 ELEVATION OF _____ ESTIMATED SURVEYED CASING DIAM. 6" LENGTH _____ TYPE _____

METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION CABLE TOOL SCREEN SIZE _____ LENGTH _____ TYPE _____

LOCATION OF SCREEN _____ DEVELOPED DESCRIBE _____

PERFORATED CASING LENGTH _____ LOCATION OF PERFORATIONS _____

GRAVEL PACK LENGTH _____ DIAM. _____ SIZE GRAVEL, ETC. _____

DISTANCE TO WATER FROM _____ ESTIMATED MEASURED WATER LEVEL ELEVATION _____ ARTESIAN PRESSURE _____ P.S.I. DATE _____

WATER USE _____

CHEMISTRY

TEST BY _____ DATE _____

TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS _____ mg/l TEMPERATURE _____ °C pH _____ CONDUCTANCE _____ μmhos/cm AT 25°C

IRON (Fe) _____ mg/l SILICA (SiO₂) _____ mg/l TOTAL HARDNESS (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l

TOTAL ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l PHEN. ALKALINITY (CaCO₃) _____ mg/l MANGANESE (Mn) _____ mg/l

ANIONS	mg/l	epm	% epm	CATIONS	mg/l	epm	% epm
CARBONATE (CO ₃)				CALCIUM (Ca)			
BICARBONATE (AS CO ₃)				MAGNESIUM (Mg)			
SULPHATE (SO ₄)				SODIUM (Na)			
CHLORIDE (Cl)				POTASSIUM (K)			
NITRATE (NO ₂ + NO ₃)							
* TKN (NO ₃)							
PHOSPHORUS (P)							
TOTAL				TOTAL			

* TKN - TOTAL KJELDAHL NITROGEN

CHEMISTRY FIELD TESTS

TEST BY _____ DATE _____ EQUIPMENT USED _____

CONTENTS OF FOLDER

- DRILL LOG
- SIEVE ANALYSIS
- PUMP TEST DATA
- GEOPHYSICAL LOGS
- CHEMICAL ANALYSIS
- REPORT

OTHER _____

SOURCES OF INFORMATION FINAL REPORT - COWICHAN RIVER AQUIFERS, FILES: 0239013
0254128-2-A

PRODUCTION TEST SUMMARY

DATE _____
 TEST BY _____
 BAIL TEST DURATION OF TEST _____
 PUMP TEST RATE _____
 WATER LEVEL AT COMPLETION OF TEST _____
 DRAWDOWN _____ AVAILABLE DRAWDOWN _____
 SPECIFIC CAPACITY _____
 PERMEABILITY _____ US gpd/ft² STORAGE COEF _____
 TRANSMISSIVITY DRAWDOWN _____
 RECOVERY _____
 REMARKS _____

3 LITHOLOGY 14001

FROM	TO	DESCRIPTION
0	8	SILTY SAND & GRAVEL
8	12	BROWN WASHED SAND & GRAVEL
12	18	SILTY BLUE SAND AND GRAVEL, WATER SHUT OFF
18	19	WATER BEARING GRAVEL AND SAND
19	22	SAND AND GRAVEL
22	22.5	RED-BROWN COLOR TO SAMPLE AND WATER
22.5	26	WASHED SAND AND GRAVEL
26	39	FINE SAND AND WASHED SAND & GRAVEL

REMARKS

chemainus #1 Well

