

Workshop on Computer-Based Systems for Spatial Data in the Geological Sciences

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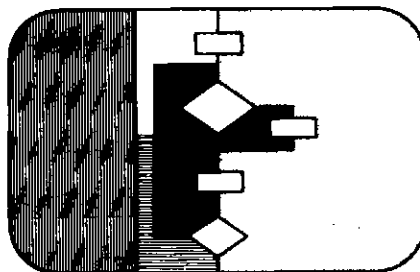
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Coakley, Winter and Zeman (CCIW) described and interpreted sediment cores from the Point Pelee shoal area of western Lake Erie. Surface desiccation of till from the bottom of the cores indicates a period of subaerial exposure. The till is overlain by clay-rich sediment deposited in a lagoonal environment. This sediment grades upward into laminated sands and pebbly sands reflecting present-day high energy conditions.

The remainder of the conference was composed mainly of papers on the physical, chemical and biological aspects of limnology. Readers interested in further details may refer to the Conference Abstracts. Although in previous years a Conference Proceedings Volume has been published, this has been superseded by the *Journal of Great Lakes Research*, published by the International Association for Great Lakes Research. It is expected that many of the papers presented at the annual Great Lakes Conference will now be submitted to this new journal. Next year's conference will be held at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, May 4-7.

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Workshop on Computer-Based Systems for Spatial Data in the Geological Sciences

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A two day computer workshop concerned with computer-based systems in the geological sciences was held at the University of Waterloo on May 13 and 14 immediately preceding the 28th Annual Meeting of the Geological Association of Canada. The workshop was arranged under the auspices of the Canadian Geoscience Council through an *ad hoc* organizing committee chaired by Dr. W. W. Hutchison. Since workshops of this nature had not been held previously in Canada, the aim was to disseminate information of the status and direction of development of computer-based filing systems in Earth Science fields in Canada. To this end the workshop was a definite success in drawing together representation from federal and provincial governments, industry and Universities from across the country. About 80 registrants attended.

A total of 13 oral presentations dealt with such diverse topics as: 1) managing data with a computer; 2) quality of input data; 3) an exploration-oriented file system (RT system); 4) general mineral deposit files for practical, academic and other applications (MINDEP system); 5) computer files in coal geology (DEEPCOAL, SASCODRIL, etc.); 6) an Earth Resources Data System for Canada; 7) digitizing oil well data; 8) machine-plotted lithological sample

logs; 9) cartography and data base management; 10) computer graphics, a geological example; 11) interactive on-line mapping; 12) norm and correspondence analysis; 13) on-line access to documentation files.

Demonstrations formed an important part of the workshop, most of which illustrated various topics dealt with in the oral presentations. Of 13 specific demonstrations, two were by Industry representatives, three by University groups and the remainder from various provincial and federal government organizations.

Success of the workshop was due in large part to the cooperation of several members of the computing centre of the University of Waterloo, in particular Professor Jim Linders and Mr. Ken Hunt.

The general enthusiasm of participants was such that another workshop with a more specific theme is being considered to precede the 1976 GAC Annual Meeting in Edmonton.

MS received July 7, 1975.