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URANIUM AND THORIUM DEPOSITS OF ONTARIO

NORTHWEST SHEET

KENORA (PATRICIA PORTION) DISTRICT

Scale 1:1 013 760 or 1 inch to 16 Miles

NTS References: 43 C,D,E,F,K,L,M,N; 53 A,B
ODM Geological Compilation Map: 2201

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LEGEND

QUATERNARY GLACIAL AND RECENT Sand, gravel, clay Silt, peat, etc.	CLASTIC METASEDIMENTARY SANDSTONE, SHALE, SLATE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
MESOZOIC LOWER CRETACEOUS SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METAVOLCANIC* METACONGLOMERATE, METASANDSTONE, METASHALE, etc.
PALEOZOIC† MISSISSIPPIAN LOWER MISSISSIPPIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	AND SOUTHERN PROVINCES
DEVONIAN UPPER DEVONIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	LATE PRECAMBRIAN SCANDIACAN AND VOLCANIC SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
MIDDLE DEVONIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	MIDDLE PRECAMBRIAN AMBIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LOWER DEVONIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	HURONIAN GRENVILLE GROUP SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
UPPER SILURIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	FLUID LINE, PEGGON LAKE AND SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
MIDDLE SILURIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	EARLY PRECAMBRIAN EARLY PRECAMBRIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LOWER SILURIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	MAKINSAW GRANULITE COMPLEX SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
OBOLVIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	EARLY AND LATE TRAMATIC SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
MIDDLE OBOLVIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METASANDSTONE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LOWER OBOLVIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METAGNEISS* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
CAMBRIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LOWER AND MIDDLE CAMBRIAN SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
PRECAMBRIAN MIDDLE TO LATE PRECAMBRIAN CARBONATITIC-ALCALINE COMPLEXES*	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LATE MAFIC IGNEOUS ROCKS* DIOBASE, GABBRO, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
LATE FELSIC IGNEOUS ROCKS* GRANITE, DIORITE, GABBRO, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
GRENVILLE PROVINCE MIDDLE TO LATE PRECAMBRIAN IGNEOUS ROCKS	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
METASANDSTONE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.
METAGNEISS* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.	METACONGLOMERATE* SANDSTONE, SHALE, CONGLOMERATE, etc.

* This legend is from Ontario Geological Survey Map 2392, by S. B. Lumbers, 1979.

SYMBOLS

Deposit Type	Reasonably Assured Reserves	Occurrences	More than 1 000 000 Tons	More than 1 000 000 Tons
RELATED TO IGNEOUS ROCKS				
Magnetic				
Carbonates, alkalic complexes, ferric, calc-alkaline extrusive rocks				
Magnetic-Metamorphic				
Pegmatite and granitic rocks				
Calc-silicate (skarn) rocks, pyrobreccia				
Veins				
Pitchblende vein (simple), pitchblende complex, uraninite-calc-cite-sphalerite-fluorite				
RELATED TO SEDIMENTARY				
Conglomerate				
Uranium Fe-oxide rich				
Thorium Fe-sulphide rich				
Argillite				
Semi-pelitic rocks, wacke				
Carbonaceous				
Light, anthracite, carbonaceous material in sedimentary rocks				
Grade is indicated for all of the above symbols in the following way:				
0.75 to 1.5 pounds U ₃ O ₈ per ton				
More than 1.5 pounds U ₃ O ₈ per ton				
• 22 Deposits not classified				

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The principal sources of Mineral Deposits information are the Mineral Resources Circulars for Uranium and Thorium Deposits of Northern and Southern Ontario (Ontario Geological Survey, 1968, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981). This map supplements Uranium and Thorium Deposits of Ontario, Ontario Division of Mines, Preliminary Map P-969, by J. A. Robertson, 1974.

Geological compilation by L. D. Ayres, S. B. Lumbers, V. G. Milne, and D. W. Robertson, Ontario Geological Survey, and the Geological Survey of Canada, unpublished data on file with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, interpretation of aeromagnetic maps, and other sources.

Assessment Files Research Office, Ontario Geological Survey, Toronto.

Resident Geologist's Files, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario.

Note: The Mines Group, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, would welcome comments, revisions, new data, and suggestions for the preparation of a later edition of this map. These should be sent to the Chief, Mineral Deposits Section, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Geological Survey, Queen's Park, Toronto.

CREDITS

Compilation by J. A. Robertson 1973-1974, 1980-1981.

Plotting and drafting by K. L. Gould 1981, and C. J. Defend 1981.

Every drafting effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented on this map. However, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources does not assume any liability for errors that may occur. Users may wish to verify critical information; sources include both the references listed here and information on file at the Resident or Regional Geologist's Office and the Mining Recorder's Office nearest the map-area.

Issued 1982

Information from this publication may be quoted if credit is given. It is recommended that reference to this map be made in the following form:

Robertson, J. A.
1982: Uranium and Thorium Deposits of Ontario, Northwest Sheet, Kenora (Patricia Portion) District. Ontario Geological Survey, Map P-2425, Mineral Deposits Series, 1:1 013 760 or 1 inch to 16 miles, Compilation 1973-1974, 1980-1981.

OCCURRENCE LIST FOR THE NORTHWEST SHEET

- 1. Bear Head Lake
- East Showing
- Camp Showing
- Bear Creek Showing
- Father Showing
- Mother Showing
- Crap Showing
- Zones, A, B, C, D, E, F, H, I, K, M, and
- 2. Honey Lake
- Zones A, B, and C
- 3. Shryburt Lake



MARGINAL NOTES

INTRODUCTION

This map is one of four sheets (P-2424, P-2425, P-2426, P-2427) revising map P-969 (P-2372) published in 1975 and shows the distribution and classification of Ontario's uranium and thorium deposits. The geological base is the 1:1 013 760 or 1 inch to 16 mile Geological Map of Ontario. No radioactive deposits have been reported from the Northeast Sheet. An inset map of Bancroft, at a scale of 1:250 440 or 1 inch to 4 miles has been provided. In general the format of the first edition has been retained with the following major changes: 1) the symbols denoting the deposits have been made smaller thus obscuring the geological base; 2) grade of occurrences has not been shown for those deposit types characterized by extremely variable mineralization; and 3) listings of the deposits present have been added to each sheet using well known or popular names for deposits thus allowing the map-user to undertake further research. Since the preparation of the first edition the exploration activity of the 1970s and the work of the Ontario Geological Survey in resource assessment, mineral inventory (Gordon et al., 1981; Robertson in preparation) and mapping projects has permitted the assembly of new or previously unpublished information.

The classification used (see below and legend) is based on that of Robertson (1968) and is similar to that used in Canadian and International publications. (Lang 1965, 1968; Lang et al. 1962; Little 1974; O.E.C.D. 1979) particularly for aggregating data collected by a wide variety of individuals or agencies. More detailed genetic classifications have been given by Barnes and Ruzicka (1972) modified by Ruzicka (1975), McMullan (1977, 1978), Smirnov (1977) and in the manuals of publications of the N.U.R.E. program of the U.S. Department of Energy (Bendix 1978). The Canadian deposits have also been discussed by Robertson and Lattanzi (1974), and the Ontario Deposits (Gordon et al., 1981; Robertson 1978, 1981).

Classification of Deposits

Ontario's radioactive element deposits fall into two broad groups: those associated igneous and metamorphic rocks and processes, and those which form an integral part of or were subsequently deposited in sedimentary rocks. The former may be 1) disseminated magmatic deposits in granites, syenites, or carbonates; or the metamorphic deposits (veinlets) associated with the latter; 2) the metamorphic-magmatic deposits comprising all pegmatites, granitoids, and apophyses related to igneous or metamorphic rocks; and 3) disseminated igneous or metamorphic processes; and 3) veins, previously considered the end stage of magmatic or metamorphic processes but which may in some cases be the result of supergenic circulation of ground water. Several of these types may occur together, as in the Bancroft camp (related to the same assemblage as type 1) (Garnier 1956; Hewitt 1967; Robertson 1978; Mason and Gordon 1981), or in the Theano Point - Montreal River area where they are related to differing geochemical settings; the Early Precambrian (Archean) granitic rocks (pegmatite) and the contact zones of Late Precambrian diabase dikes (veinlets) (Nuffield 1976; Robertson 1978). In recent years many European geologists and those working on the Athabasca deposits in Saskatchewan and the East Algonquin River area of Northern Ontario (Smith 1974 and papers in Duran 1976; IAEA 1980; Kimberley 1979; Hore and Sibald 1979) have proposed that many pitchblende-bearing veins are actually supergenic deposits deposited in suitable traps and typically being conformable representing land surface and providing a plumbing system at the time of emplacement.

In many cases assessment or other data available may not be sufficient to permit diagnostic objective classification of a deposit. In particular, the distinction between igneous and metamorphic pegmatites and their subtypes is difficult. However, the only commercial radioactive pegmatite deposits in Ontario are those of the complex unzoned pegmatites of the Bancroft area, which are related to the Bancroft Syenite and to the lowermost sedimentary units of the Grenville Supergroup in an area of amphibolite facies metamorphic effects with deposition facilitated by favourable structures and composition of the host rocks. Other pegmatite types of the Bancroft area, the white pegmatites of the Kalar-Sharot Lake area, the red pegmatites of the Kenora Dryden area and the grey-white pegmatites of the English River Gneiss Belt (Banks et al. 1975; J.A. Robertson 1978) and the Bearhead Lake-Favourable Lake area (Ayres 1969) have also been explored but grades are too low and factors such as location and mineralogy plus additional U₃O₈ per ton.

In addition to the pegmatite deposits calc-silicate units carrying disseminated uraninite also occur within the Bancroft area. A number of these with grades of approximately 0.5 kg U₃O₈ per ton have been explored and are included in the map. The marble units and some pyroxenites may be amenable to crushing and separation thus creating a concentrate suitable for addition to a conventional acid leach mill (J.A. Robertson 1978). Of the magmatic type deposits, one, the Manitowish deposit in Lake Nipissing, was developed as a mid-basin uranium prospect; in recent years an illite-nephereline syenite contact zone within the Prairie Lake Alkaline Complex north of Marathon has also been prospected (J.A. Robertson 1978).

INTRODUCTION

The pitchblende occurrences at Montreal River (Nuffield 1955) are of historic interest because they include the first recorded uranium locality in Canada and provided one of the major steps to the discovery of the Elliot Lake deposits (Lang et al. 1962; J.A. Robertson 1968b). The most important sedimentary radioactive element deposits in Ontario are the Blind River-Elliott Lake-Agnew Lake deposits (J.A. Robertson 1968b, 1976, 1978) which comprise 10 percent of the Free World uranium resources, exploited at a cost of less than \$130 000 (US) per kg of uranium or less than \$175 000 (Can) per kg of uranium (O.E.C.D. 1979; E.M.R. 1979). These are Lower Huronian Early Proterozoic pyritic oligoclite conglomerates carrying in the matrix the minerals uraninite, brannerite, and monazite from which uranium, thorium, and strontium can be recovered. The distribution of the minerals shows marked correlation with pebbles size and other sedimentary features (Thies 1979). The uraninite and monazite are held to be detrital (J.A. Robertson 1968b; Roscoe 1969) but the "brannerite" may be the result of diagenetic or metamorphic mobilization of uranium from the uraninite and redistribution on finer-grained minerals (Thies 1979). The location of individual deposits is controlled by suitable Early Precambrian (Archean) source areas, ancient drainage channels and chertlines, and possibly by contemporaneous mafic volcanic piles (J.A. Robertson 1971, 1978, 1978; Roscoe 1969). Similar deposits occur throughout the world (Mason and Karlstrom 1979), and particularly in South Africa (Pretorius 1976), and Brazil (Gross 1968). Many geologists believe they formed prior to full development of an oxygen-rich atmosphere (S.D. Robertson et al. 1979). All such deposits of commercial interest in Ontario (i.e. a minimum out-lined tonnage of 1 million tons with a grade in excess of 0.5 kg U₃O₈ per ton over at least 2 m) are within arkose sequences in the Matreux Formation of the Elliot Lake Group and are within a few hundred metres stratigraphically of the Middle-Early Precambrian (Proterozoic-Archean) unconformity, and are down-drainage from anomalously radiogenic (thorane-rich) areas of Early Precambrian (Late Archean) quartz monzonite.

Scattered mineralization is found in the shoredward arkosic facies of the Mississippian Formation of the Hough Lake Group, but grade and continuity are poor and thorium content approximates uranium content. In the Upper Huronian red beds are present, and at one horizon in the Lower Huronian rocks are again present, although precise correlation with those of the Blind River-Elliott Lake-Agnew Lake area is not possible (Meyn 1973). Sporadic conglomerate deposits of the Blind River type are known. These also is uranium mineralization in igneous (argillite) sandstone and argillites (Thies 1960; J.A. Robertson 1968b, 1978; Meyn 1973; Meyn and Matthews 1980, p. 141-142). The role of carbonaceous material in Ontario deposits is apparently minor. Thucholite occurs locally in the Blind River deposits in a 200 m wide zone in the Blind River area (Thies 1960; J.A. Robertson 1968b, 1978; Meyn 1973; Meyn and Matthews 1980, p. 141-142). 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