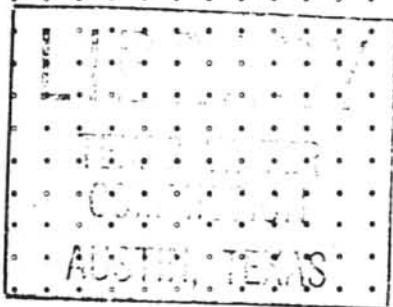


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GROUND-WATER GEOLOGY IN THE VICINITY OF DOVE AND CROTON CREEKS,
STONEWALL, KENT, DICKENS AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS
With Special Reference to Salt-Water Seepage

By

L. G. McMillion, Geologist

ABSTRACT

An area of about 345 square miles in Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties, Texas contributes substantial quantities of salt to the Brazos River by ground-water seepage. Large flats occupied by white crustal deposits of salt and gypsum are present in the Croton Creek area in Kent County and the Dove Creek area in King and Stonewall Counties. This report summarizes ground-water studies of these areas and is concerned with the geologic source of salt water and the hydrologic conditions under which the water occurs.

Rocks of Permian age crop out in this region and dip westward at a rate of about 25 feet per mile. The Childress dolomite (Lloyd, 1952) member of the Grayburg formation at the base of the Whitehorse group is the most prominent marker bed exposed in the area. Below its base lies clay of the Dog Creek formation of the El Reno group and above it is predominantly fine-grained sand of several formations comprising the remainder of the Whitehorse group. A thick section containing salt beds, correlated with the Seven Rivers formation (Whitehorse group), occurs at relatively shallow depths in the western part of the area.

In the Croton Creek area, unconfined ground water percolates through some of these salt beds and issues at the surface of salt flats and stream beds as widespread salt-water seepage. Land conservation practices which cause increased recharge to the water table increase the rate of salt solution by circulating ground water and, proportionately, the quantity of salt water discharged. Recently, irrigation by ground water has begun in the Croton Creek area, and local interest in such irrigation is strong. Intensive irrigation development here would probably lower the water table and thereby reduce the amount of salt water discharged into the Croton Creek drainage system.

Salt water occurs under artesian pressure in the Dove Creek area. The main conduit of the artesian system is inferred to be the permeable Childress dolomite which is hydraulically connected with the overlying, unconfined ground-water body. This connection results in artesian discharge in the flats, which lie at lower elevations than the elevation of the water table.

The salt water, moving up dip in the Childress member through solution channels, encounters a transition zone near the outcrop where anhydrite has altered to gypsum by hydration. Expansion resulting from hydration has sealed off permeability in this zone, thus forcing the water to seek an outlet through subjacent fractured and jointed clay and shale, through which it percolates to the land surface in Dove Creek flat.

This study indicates a large potential salt-water seepage under complex hydraulic conditions involving both confined and unconfined ground-water reservoirs. The scope of the investigation is insufficient to recommend corrective measures for ridding the Brazos River watershed of all or part of the salt water discharged from ground water sources in this area and more detailed studies are suggested.

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose and Scope of the Investigation

The Brazos River watershed of Texas had one of the severest droughts of record during the period 1950-1956, and the mineral content of the runoff in part of the drainage system increased noticeably. A progressive increase in the mineral content of the runoff was measured in the water impounded in Possum Kingdom reservoir which was completed and put into operation in March of 1941. The increase in chloride content was from about 300 parts per million in 1942 to about 800 parts per million in 1956. Officials of the Brazos River Authority had long associated the objectionably high content of sodium chloride (NaCl) and calcium sulphate (CaSO_4) in normal and low flows of the headwater streams with the mineral character of the geologic terrane across which the streams flow. A reconnaissance study (Blank, 1955) showed that salt flats in northwest Stonewall and northeast Kent Counties contributed large quantities of brine to drainage ways. Ground-water discharged in these flats was reported to be the major source of natural minerals present in the water in Possum Kingdom reservoir, the nearest impounding development downstream from this area.

The Texas Board of Water Engineers made a study of the geology and its relation to the occurrence of ground water and salt-water discharge in the vicinity of the salt flats during the period from January through April 1957. The purpose of the study was to determine geologic conditions that control ground-water movement and to relate these conditions to the problem of solution of salt beds by circulating ground water and to the subsequent movement of the resulting brine to points of discharge in the Croton Creek and Dove Creek drainage systems. Investigations were made at Dove Creek flat in northwest Stonewall County, and at Short Croton flat and Hot Springs flat in northeast Kent County. Subsurface data were obtained in adjacent areas in King and Dickens Counties for use in regional correlation of Permian salt deposits.

This report summarizes the results of field investigations in an area of about 345 square miles in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens and King Counties (figure 1). The area is about 100 miles northwest of Abilene, Texas, and is about 140 miles upstream from Possum Kingdom reservoir. The writer obtained records of 85 water wells, 14 deep oil tests, and 145 shallow exploration holes (tables 3 through 6 and figure 2). The investigation and report were authorized by the Board of Water Engineers, and technical supervision was by R. T. Littleton, Chief of Ground Water Investigations. Concurrently with this investigation but as part of a separate study, the United States Geological Survey constructed weirs and a gaging station in the Dove Creek area, and established a sampling program to determine the nature and quantities of minerals present in the waters of Dove Creek and its tributaries in the vicinity of Dove Creek flat.

Previous Salt-Water Investigations

A study of the sources of salt water entering the upper parts of the Brazos River system was made by H. R. Blank of Texas A & M Research Foundation (1955). This study was a geohydrologic reconnaissance during which water samples were obtained to determine the localities of the principal sources of salt-water seepage in the drainage system above Possum Kingdom reservoir. Many of the stream channels in the region were dry when the study was made, but samples were obtained from standing bodies of water, low flow of streams, and whenever a stream was not flowing, underflow samples were obtained by digging pits in sand bars and channel fill of stream beds.

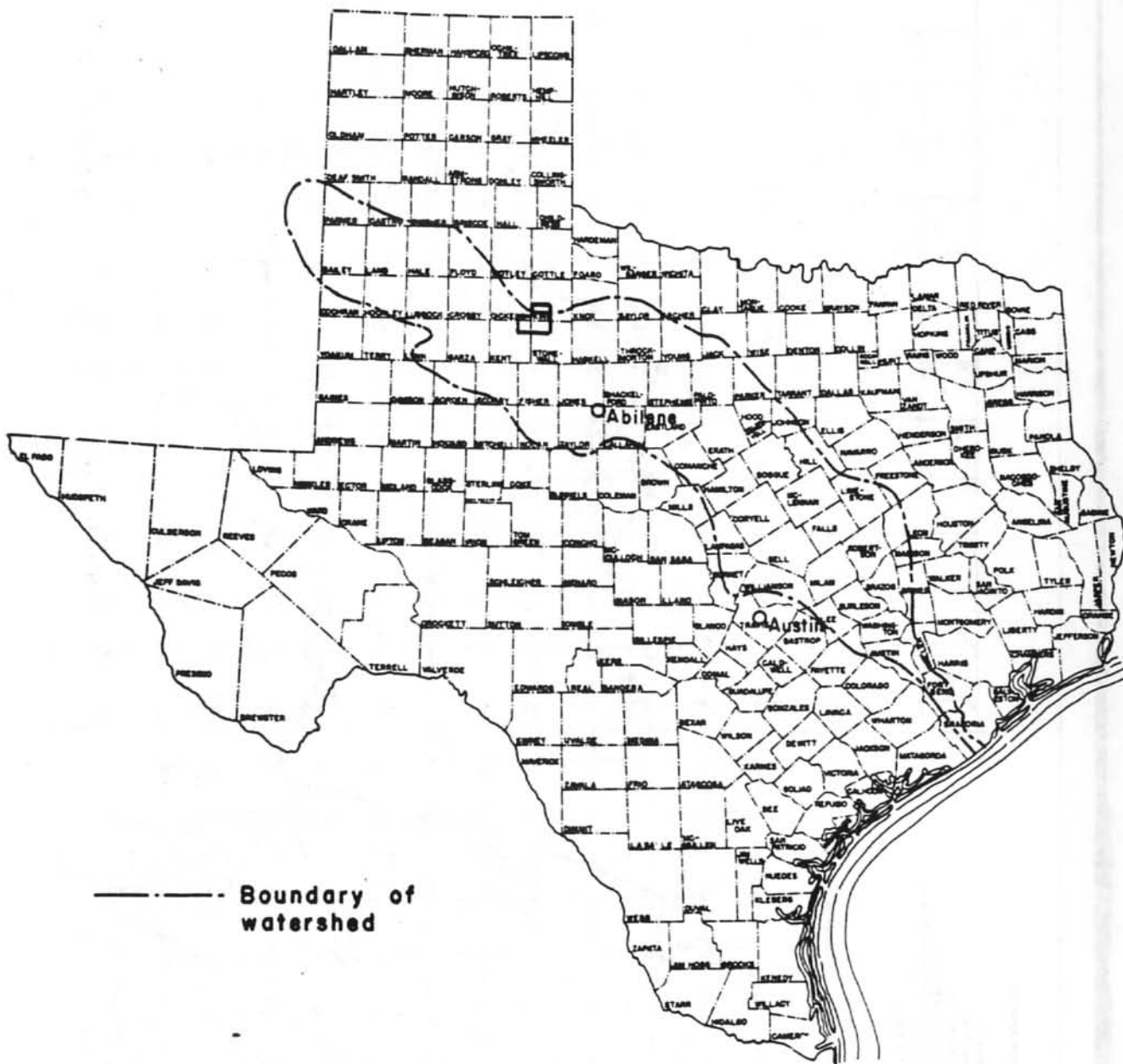


FIGURE I - INDEX MAP OF TEXAS SHOWING BRAZOS RIVER WATERSHED & OUTLINING AREA COVERED BY THIS REPORT

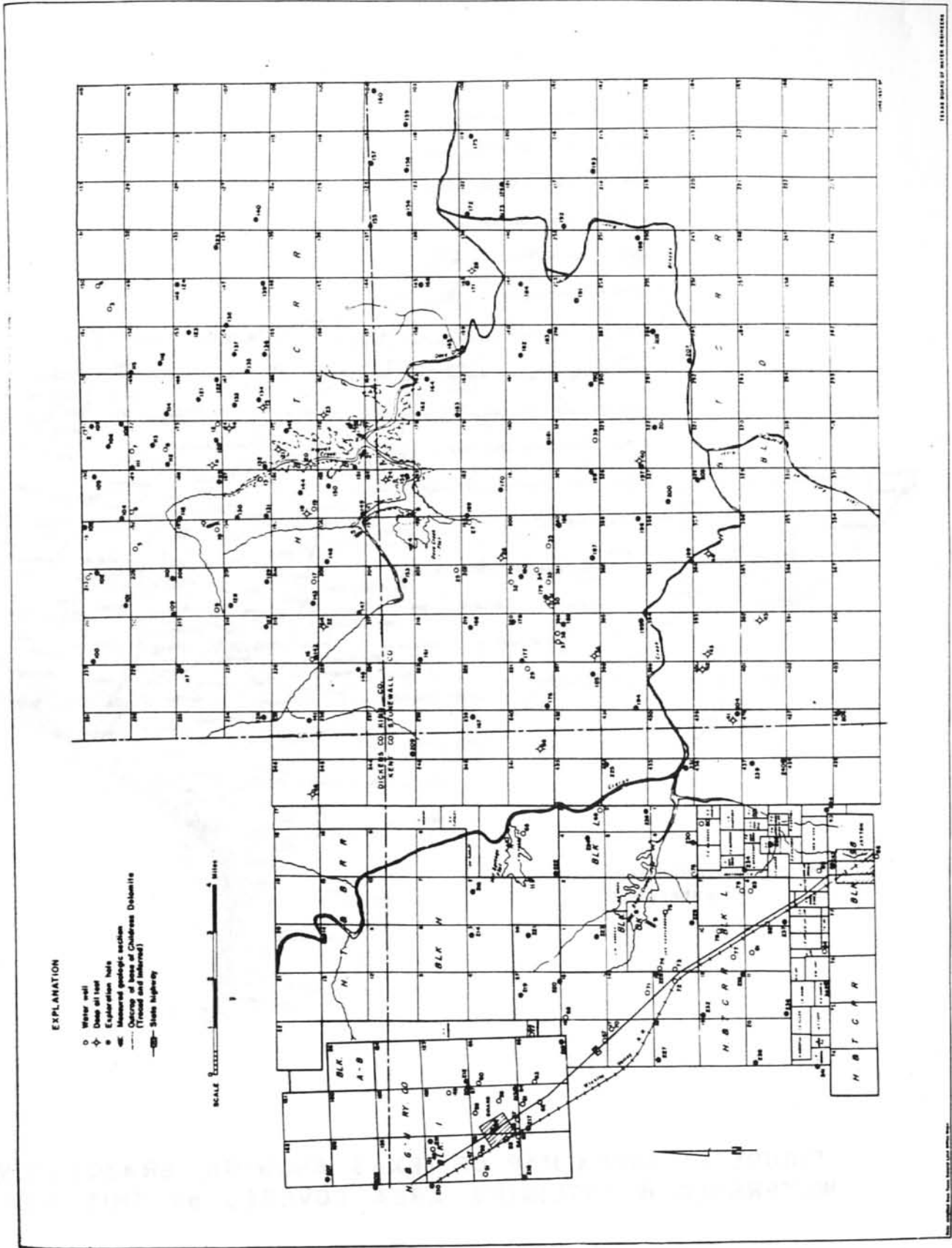


FIGURE 2 - LAND MAP OF PARTS OF STONEWALL, KENT, DICKENS, AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS SHOWING LOCATIONS OF WATER WELLS, DEEP OIL TESTS, EXPLORATION HOLES, MEASURED GEOLOGIC SECTIONS, AND OUTCROP OF BASE OF THE CHILDRESS DOLOMITE.

As a result of Blank's report, the Ambursen Engineering Corporation of New York core-drilled Dove Creek flat in 1955 as a part of the foundation study for a proposed dam to impound and evaporate salt water (Mason and Johnston, 1955). The core drilling indicated that gypsiferous shale and clay underlay Dove Creek flat and was saturated with salt water under low artesian head. The report suggested that salt water seeps of Dove Creek flat may have their source in artesian flow through joint fissures in shale.

Acknowledgements

Helpful counsel was obtained from geologists D. C. Van Siclen, Houston, Texas and G. C. Frazer, III, Abilene, Texas and Jack Brown, R. T. Payton and Otis Richards, Continental Oil Company, Abilene, Texas. R. W. Sundstrom, E. A. Mulder, A. G. Winslow and Burdge Irelan of the United States Geological Survey contributed helpful suggestions and discussions concerning the investigation. Ranchers of the areas, especially Messrs. G. W. Springer, W. A. Springer, Sr., W. A. Springer, Jr., and E. M. Jones, cooperated and assisted the writer in field activities on their ranches.

DRAINAGE AND TOPOGRAPHY

The Brazos River watershed extends from the High Plains in eastern New Mexico across Texas to the Gulf of Mexico (figure 1). The drainage areas of the Brazos in Texas is about 44,130 square miles; the watershed has an overall length of 1,210 river miles and a maximum width of 120 miles.

The Brazos watershed spans three physiographic provinces of the United States: the Great Plains, Central Lowlands and Coastal Plain. The part of the watershed concerned in this study lies in the Osage Plains section of the Central Lowlands physiographic province. The report area is drained principally by the Salt Fork of the Brazos River and two main tributaries, Dove and Croton Creeks.

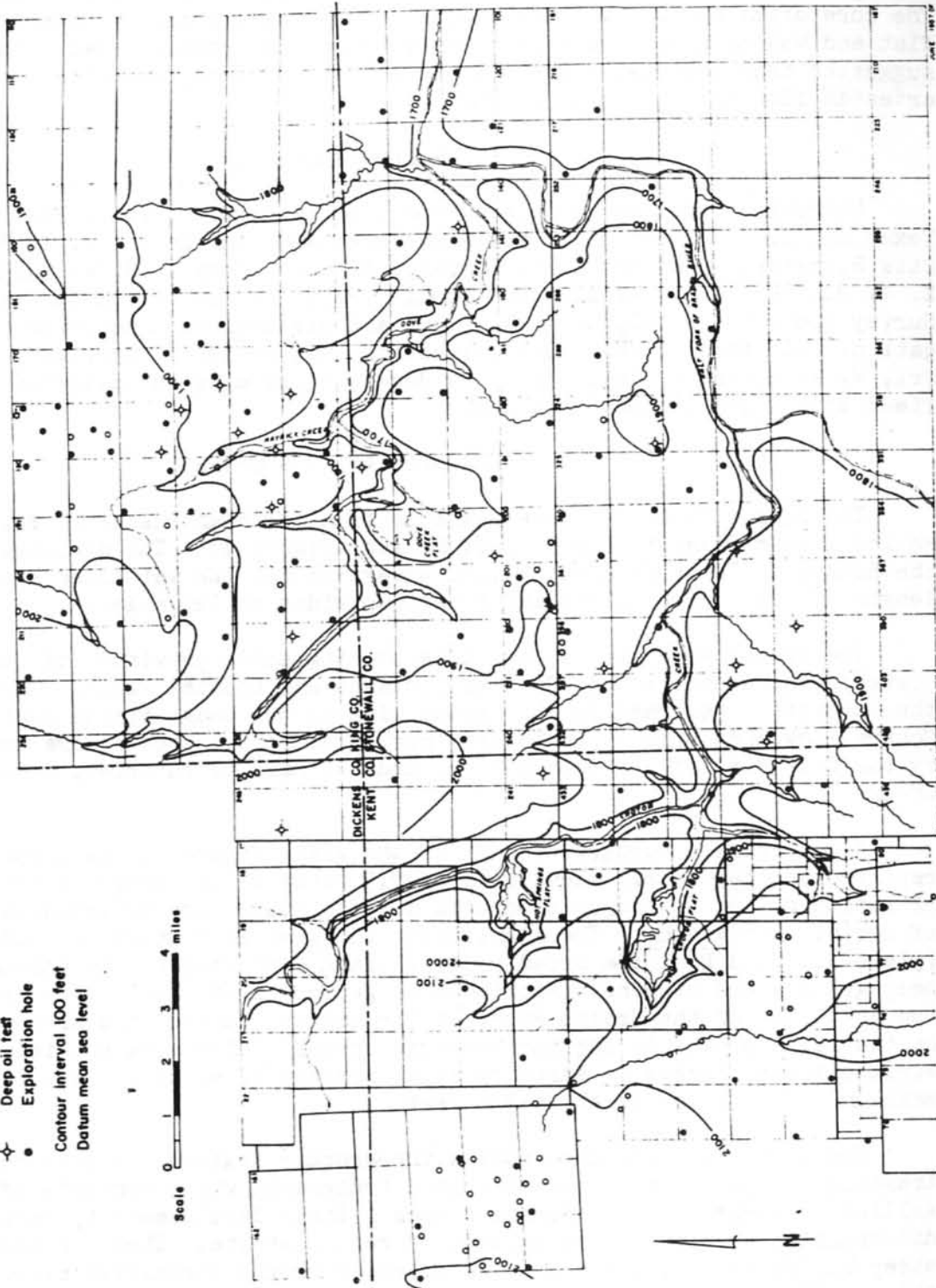
A generalized topographic map of the area (figure 3) was prepared using reported and barometric elevations of 219 water wells, deep oil tests and exploration holes, in conjunction with a field inspection of the area and study of aerial photographs. The significant topographic features include salt flats (plate 1, A and B) and a broad rolling plain dissected at its northeast edge by deep gullies and canyons. Altitudes range from 1,665 feet above sea level along the Salt Fork of the Brazos River at the eastern edge of the area to 2,180 feet on the level plains in the northwestern corner of the area studied. The land surface slopes generally eastward at an average of about 20 feet per mile. The maximum local relief is about 330 feet.

The salt flats are distinctive topographic features in this region contrasting sharply to the characteristic topography which consists of canyons, gullies, escarpments, bluffs and slopes. Their development is largely due to differential erosion in the section of redbed strata. They are bounded by steep bluffs and underlain by stratified or poorly stratified clay, silt, sand, and locally gypsum which are saturated with salt-water and are resistant to erosion. Clay, silt, and sand are carried into the flats by flood runoff and accumulate around the edges. However, this debris is largely removed by further runoff and partly by wind transportation. Much of the area of the flats is free of debris and thin crustal deposits of salt and gypsum form between periods of heavy runoff.

EXPLANATION

- Water well
- Deep oil test
- ✦ Exploration hole
- Exploration hole
- Contour interval 100 feet
- Datum mean sea level

Scale 0 1 2 3 4 miles



3678

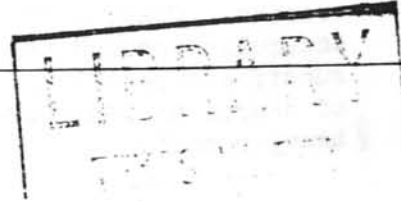
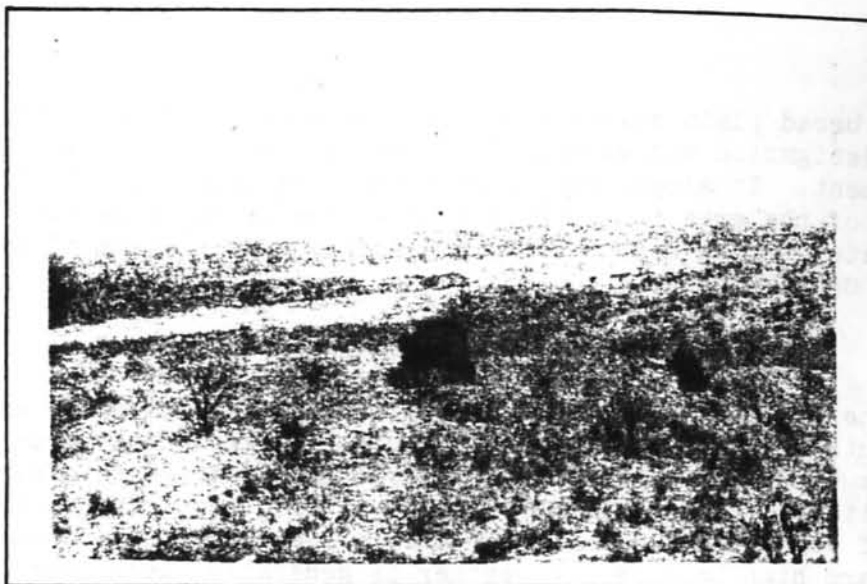
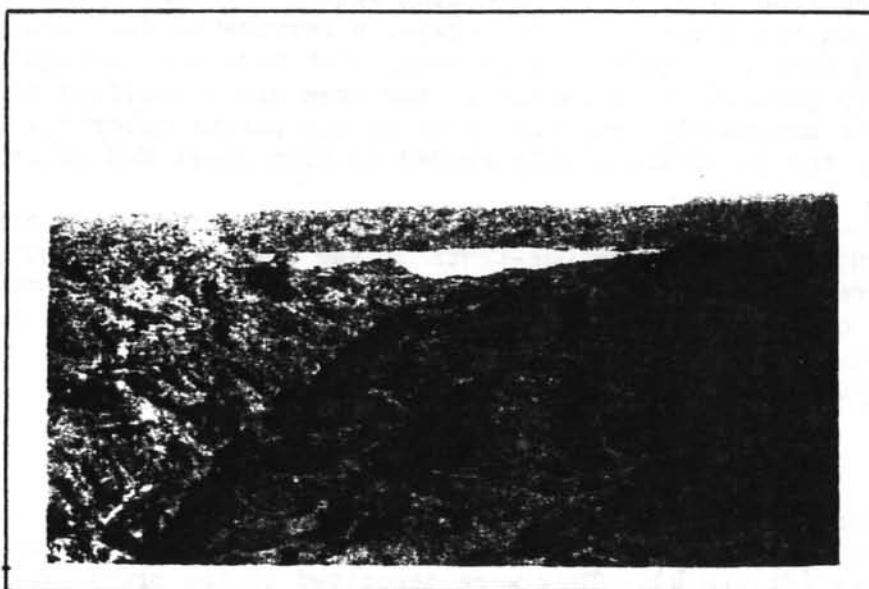


FIGURE 3 - RECONNAISSANCE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP OF PARTS OF STONE WALL, KENT, DICKENS, AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS



A. View of Dove Creek flat looking north



B. View of Short Croton flat looking northeast

A broad plain covers about 30 square miles of the western part of the area of investigation and extends 20 miles farther west to the base of the High Plains escarpment. It slopes gently southeastward from 2,180 feet in the northwest corner of the area to 2,008 feet above sea level at Jayton. The plain is terminated on the northeast by steep slopes and "boxhead" canyons which slope toward Croton Creek.

CLIMATE AND SOILS

The climate of the area is semi-arid with an average annual precipitation of about 22 inches. The annual rainfall ranges widely from year to year, and records show consecutive years of less than average rainfall. The lightest precipitation usually is during the winter. Local thunderstorms are the usual form of precipitation and occur mostly during spring and summer. Evaporation rates are high because the weather is generally clear, humidity is low, and wind velocities are generally high.

The soils are mainly residual with texture and color similar to the underlying parent rocks. The outcrop of the Childress dolomite is the dividing line between clayey soils to the east and fine sandy soils to the west. Irregularly shaped dunes of wind-blown sand, called "shinnery sand", are scattered over the area.

The fine sandy soils extending west of the Childress outcrop are described by the United States Soil Conservation Service as deep medium-textured; ranging from fine sand to silt loam, with moderate to high permeability. At least 75 percent of the soils in the area are classified as sandy loam and silt. They are dominantly red, the color of the parent material. Unless held by plant growth, the soils are easily eroded by both sheet and gully runoff.

Where the topography is suited to cultivation, land conservation practices are applied. Less than one-tenth of the area of this study is cultivated. The principal crops grown are cotton, winter wheat, oats and maize. The other nine-tenths of the land is rough and deeply dissected by erosion. It is only sparsely covered by such plants as mesquite, juniper, cacti and short grasses, and is used to pasture cattle.

GEOLOGY

Stratified rocks of Permian age crop out in the area of study and consist of beds of red sand, silt and clay, with prominent horizons of gypsum and dolomite (figure 4). They were deposited in the province of the Permian sea referred to as the Eastern Shelf area, also called the Eastern Platform of the Midland basin. Triassic and Cretaceous rocks crop out west of the Permian rocks but are not related to the problem of salt seepage and therefore are not described in this report. Irregular deposits of windblown sand and thinly scattered gravel of Quaternary age occur in the area.

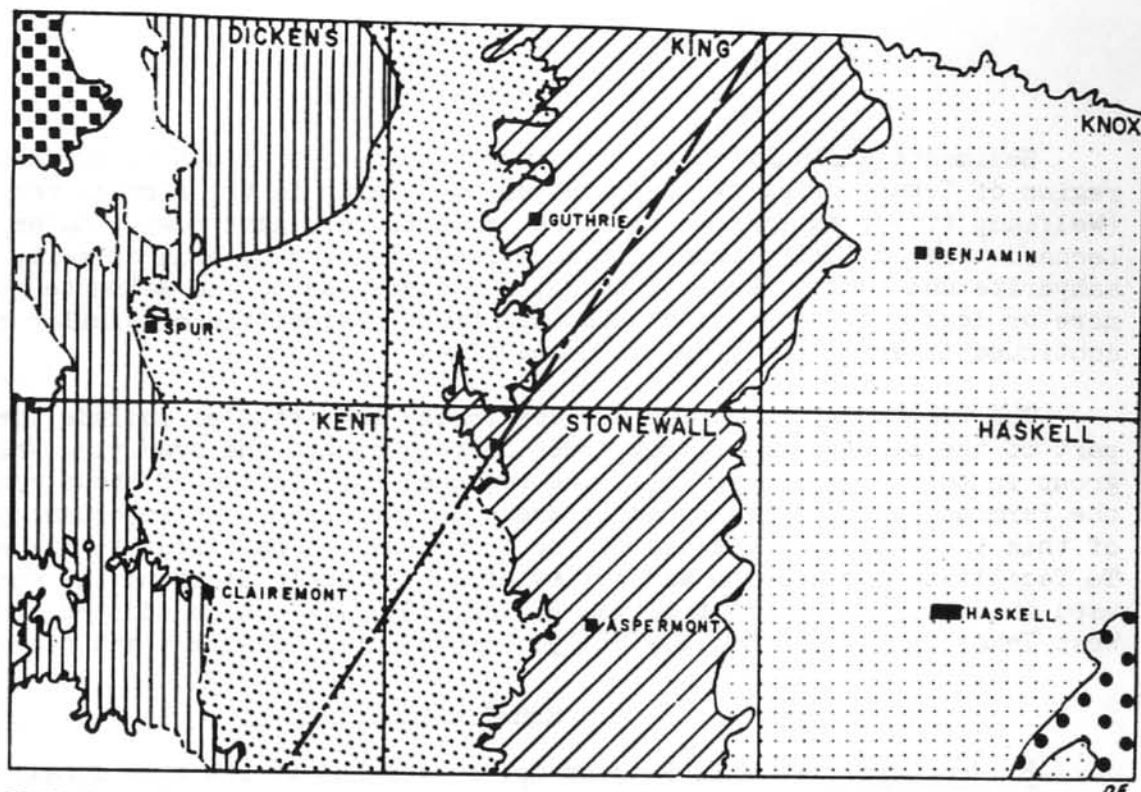










FIGURE 4 - OUTCROP MAP OF PART OF NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS
(COMPILED FROM AVAILABLE DATA)

SCALE: 1" = 15 MILES

EXPLANATION

CRETACEOUS		PERMIAN	
	Cretaceous Undivided		Ochoa Series Undivided
TRIASSIC		GUADALUPE SERIES	
	Dockum Group		Whitehorse Group
			El Reno Group
		LEONARD SERIES	
			Clear Fork Group
			Wichita Group
		Approximate east limit of salt water seepage	

Permian System

Sediments accumulated to a maximum thickness of about 6,500 feet in this region of Texas during the Permian period. Early in the Permian period (Wolfcamp time), extensive limestone deposits were laid down. Later, in Leonard time, dolomite beds were deposited followed by beds of salt, gypsum, anhydrite and shale. Beds of shale, sandstone, salt, and dolomite accumulated more or less continuously in Guadalupe time. Deposition of similar rocks continued intermittently during Ochoa time.

The Permian rocks at the surface in the area studied include the upper part of the El Reno group (Dog Creek formation) and the overlying Whitehorse group in the Guadalupe series. The regional correlation of these rocks to the Permian sections described in areas to the west is an important phase of this investigation because of the occurrence of salt beds in the section. To facilitate correlation and review of the geologic sections the nomenclature used in discussion is that of Van Siclen (1951), which he adopted from the West Texas Geological Society (Lloyd, 1952). (See figure 5 and table 1).

Guadalupe Series

El Reno group.-The El Reno group, as defined at its type locality in Oklahoma, includes beds from the top of the Hennessy shale to the basal sandstone of the Whitehorse group (Becker, 1930, pp. 37-56). According to Lloyd (1952), the term "Pease River group" is interchangeable with "El Reno group". In Stonewall County, Texas, the El Reno group includes beds from the base of the San Angelo sandstone to the base of the Childress member of the Grayburg formation.

The San Angelo sandstone consists of massive sandstone and conglomerate, the latter consisting of chert and quartz pebbles. Its maximum thickness at the outcrop is about 100 feet, but it thins westward and is not recognized in the subsurface of the western part of the area. A detailed sample log of exploration hole number 189 shows sand from 920 to 950 feet. This interval is correlated as the San Angelo by reference to its position above the Merkel dolomite of the Leonard series. The Merkel dolomite occurs in this log from 990 to 1,000 feet and is a reliable subsurface marker horizon in this region of Texas.

Overlying the San Angelo sandstone are the Flower Pot, Blaine and Dog Creek formations, in ascending order. These formation names are from the type section in Oklahoma and have not been used extensively in the area covered by this report, nor is this nomenclature used widely in Texas. The term Blaine is used by many geologists in Texas (Sellards, 1932, pp. 178-179) to include all three of the formations above the San Angelo, but this usage is excluded in this report because it includes more lithologic units than does the type section Blaine. Only about 100 feet of the upper part of the El Reno group crops out in this area. In general, the Flower Pot, Blaine and Dog Creek formations consist of beds of red and green clay and shale with a few persistent dolomite beds and some sandstone. Lenticular massive gypsum beds, generally less than 4 feet in thickness, occur in the Dog Creek formation.

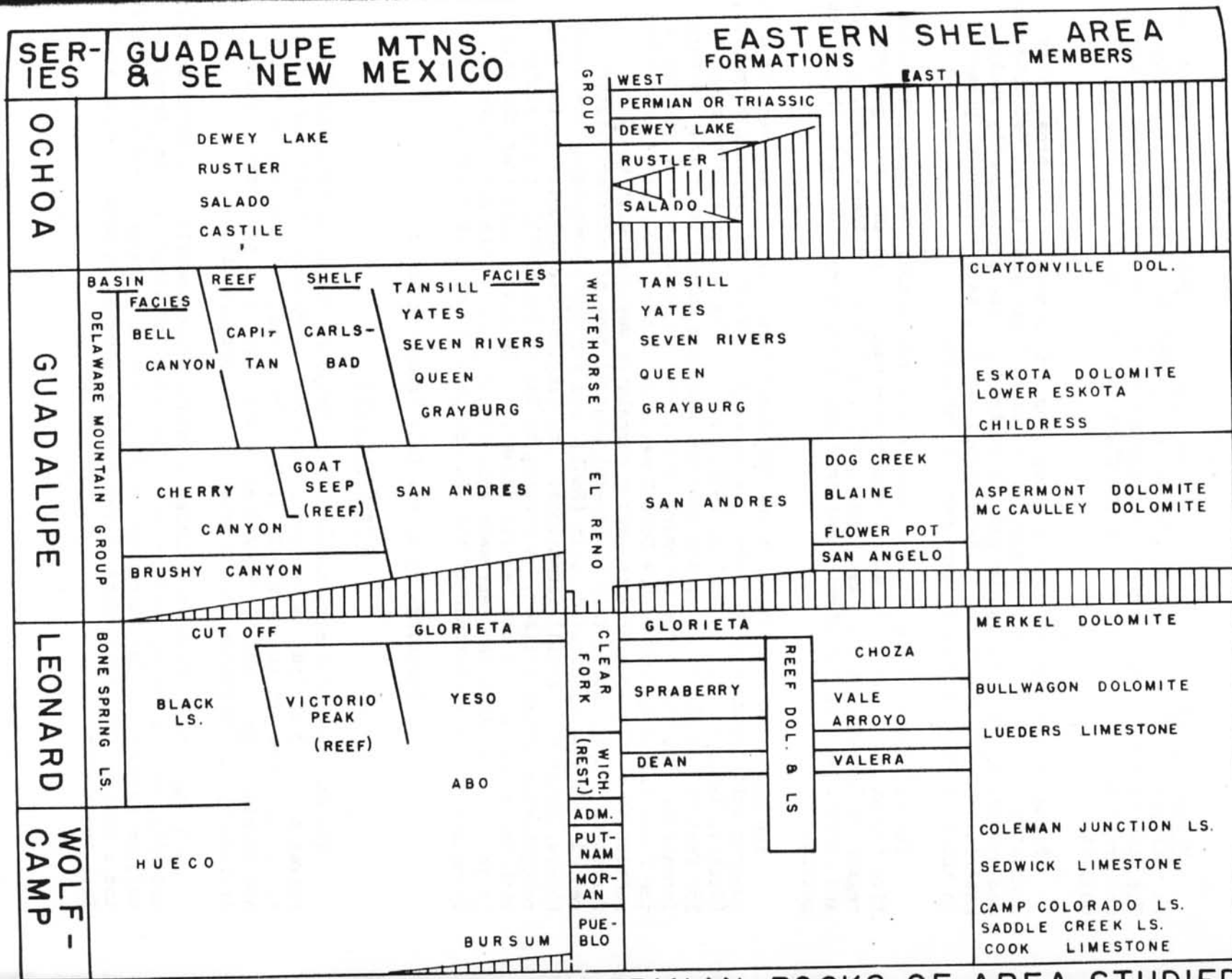


FIGURE 5 - CORRELATION OF PERMIAN ROCKS OF AREA STUDIED WITH STANDARD REFERENCE SECTIONS (After Van Siclen, 1951)

Whitehorse group.-Lloyd and Thompson (1929, pp. 945-956) first recognized in this part of Texas strata equivalent to the Whitehorse group of Oklahoma. The name is used in this report to include the beds between the base of the Childress dolomite and the top of the Claytonville (formerly Sweetwater) dolomite.

Formations of the Whitehorse group crop out in most of the area. They consist predominantly of fine-grained red sand, light gray to red dolomite beds, and several thick white gypsum beds in contrast to the predominantly shaly materials of the underlying El Reno group. A thick salt section is present in the subsurface of the western part of the area.

The Whitehorse group in West Texas and south-central New Mexico includes five formations (figure 5), all of which have been traced into this general region of Texas by Dickey (1940, pp. 37-51), and Page and Adams (1940, pp. 52-64), and correlated with the strata that crop out in the area studied in this investigation.

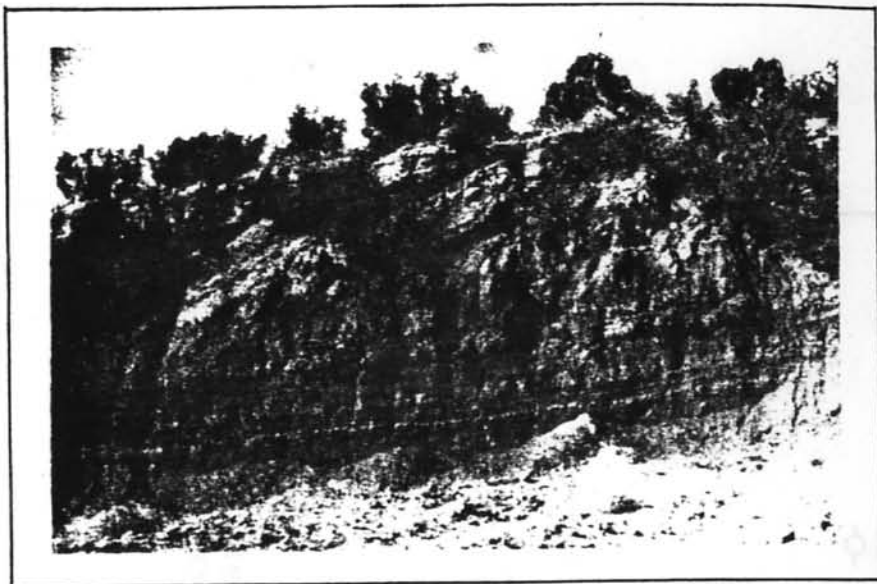
The gypsum and anhydrite of the Childress member changes westward from its outcrop into dolomite which forms the basal 30 feet of the Grayburg formation (Dickey, 1940, p. 46, Van Siclen, 1951, p. 30). The dolomite is overlain by 160 feet of red shale, salt, and some red sand and anhydrite of the Grayburg formation. The top of the Grayburg is believed to correlate with the top of the Lower Eskota gypsum of the Dove Creek area. About 140 feet of the redbed section above the Lower Eskota gypsum correlates westward with the Queen formation. Lying above this is several hundred feet of undifferentiated redbeds, consisting of sand, salt (NaCl), and anhydrite comprising the Seven Rivers, Yates and Tansill formations. The Claytonville dolomite is the only recognizable marker horizon. According to Van Siclen (1951) it correlates with the upper part of the Tansill formation. He also states that the salt in the above section may represent substantially all of the Seven Rivers formation in the subsurface of the western part of the area studied.

Stratigraphy of the Salt Producing Areas

Dove Creek Area

The Childress dolomite member of the Grayburg formation of Lloyd (1952) serves as the principal marker bed in the Dove Creek area in this investigation. It crops out in the bluffs of Dove Creek flat and the canyons of Dove and Hayrick Creeks, and is recognized in the logs of 96 exploration holes drilled by oil companies in the area of this investigation.

On the outcrop this rock member consists predominantly of gypsum, locally dolomite, and in the subsurface is predominantly of anhydrite (anhydrous calcium sulphate). The thickness in the outcrop area ranges from 9 to 13 feet and a similar thickness range is recorded or reported in logs of wells west of Dove Creek flat.



A. Exposed on steep bluff of Hayrick Creek -
dashed line is base of Childress member



B. Clay of the same stratigraphic horizon
exposed at lower end of Dove Creek flat

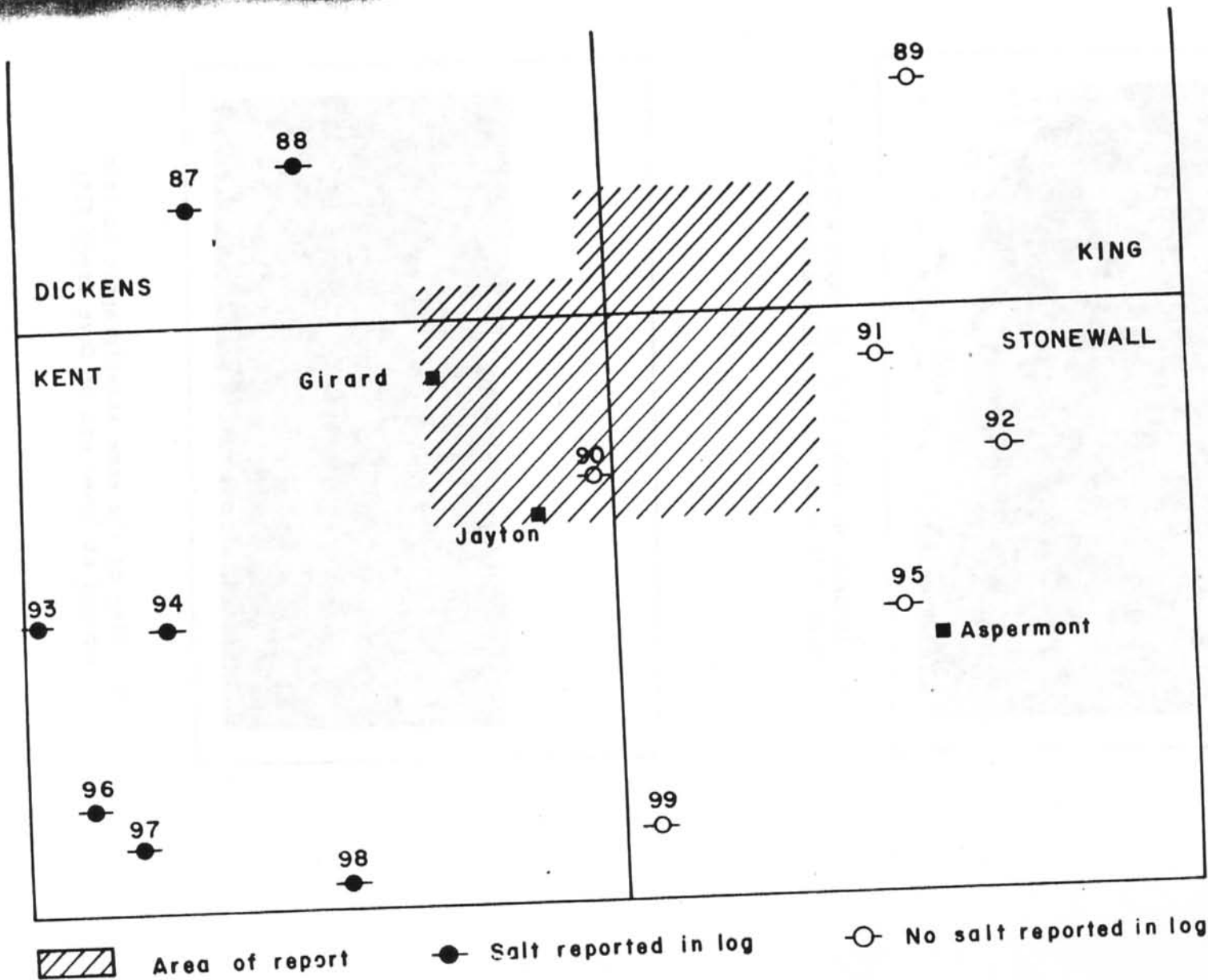
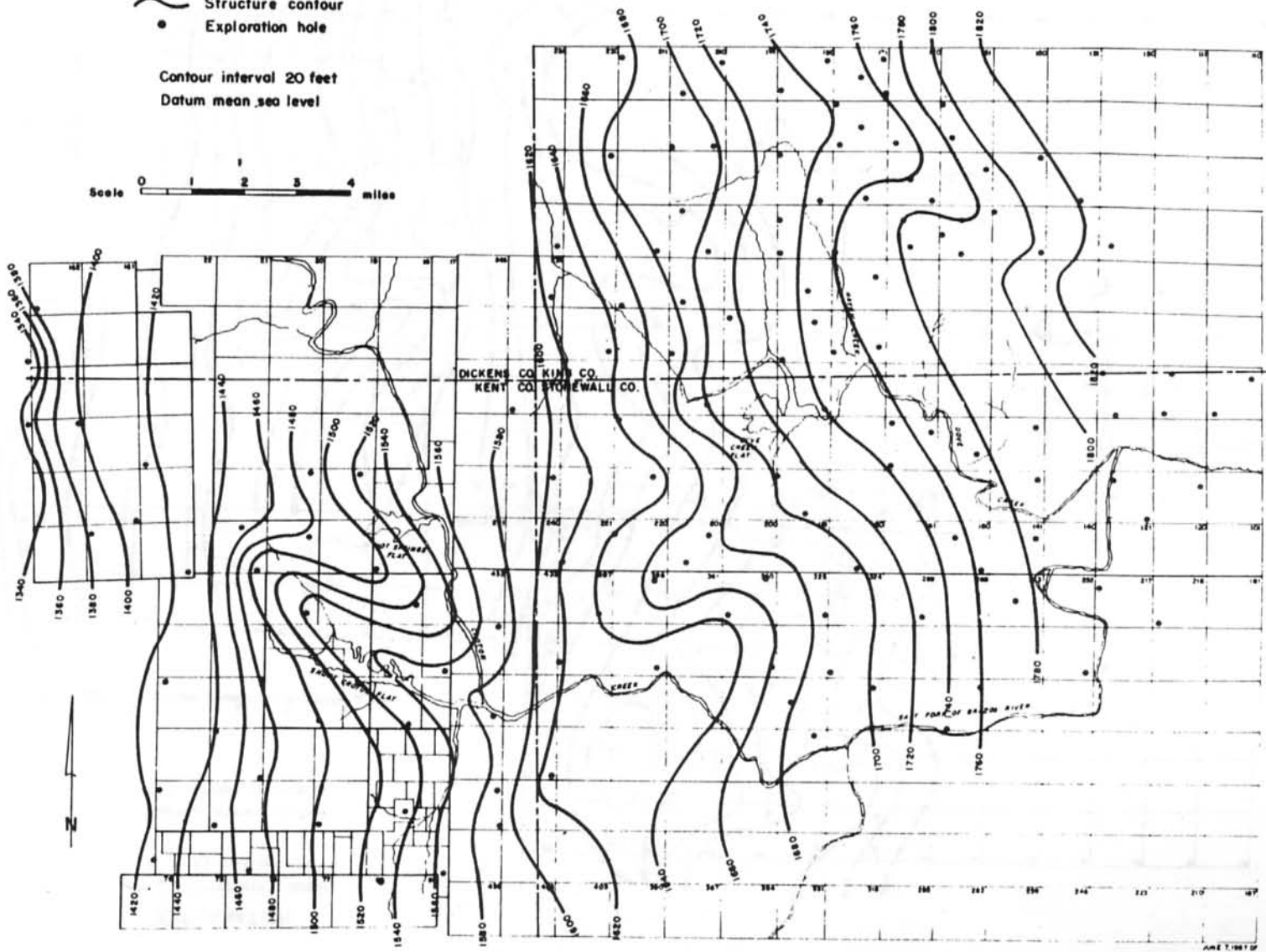


FIGURE 6 - MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF OIL TESTS DRILLED WITH CABLE-TOOL EQUIPMENT IN AND NEAR AREA STUDIED.

EXPLANATION

- Structure contour
- Exploration hole

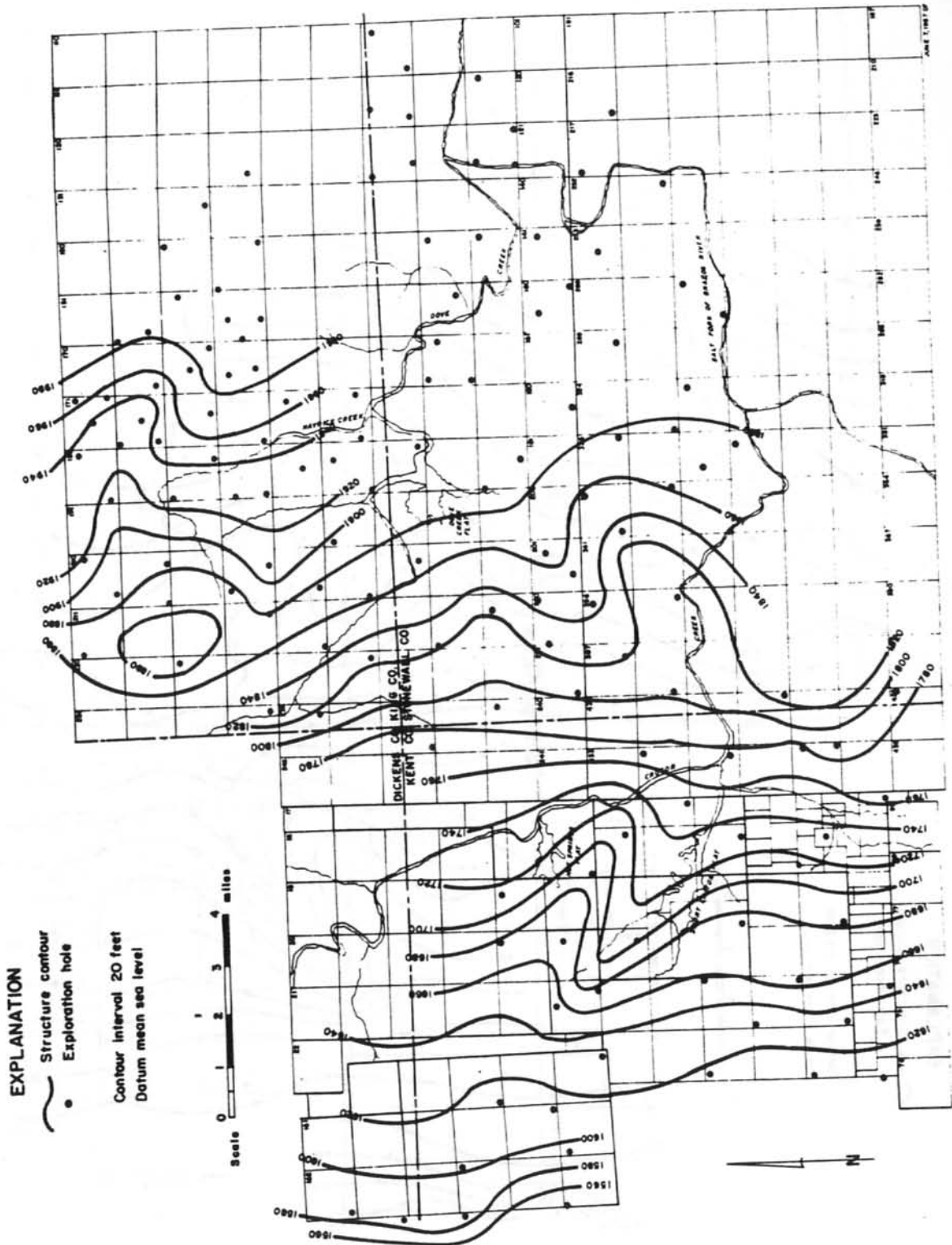
Contour interval 20 feet
Datum mean sea level



Base map compiled from Texas General Land Office Maps

TEXAS BOARD OF WATER ENGINEERS

FIGURE 7 - STRUCTURE MAP ON THE TOP OF THE CHILDRESS MEMBER IN PARTS OF STONEWALL, KENT, DICKENS, AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS



TEXAS BOARD OF WATER ENGINEERS

FIGURE 8 — STRUCTURE MAP ON THE TOP OF THE UPPER ESKOTA GYPSUM IN PARTS OF STONEWALL, KENT, DICKENS, AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS

Base map compiled from Texas General Land Office files.

GROUND WATER

Topography and the Water Table

The water table is the upper surface of an unconfined ground-water body and in this area its shape and slope conform in a general way to the topography. Because of the predominantly fine-grained character and generally low permeability of the sediments the water table follows closely the steep gradients of deeply eroded surfaces. It intersects the land surface in canyons and in salt flats. Near the head of Hayrick Canyon in southwest King County fresh water seeps occur. In the Croton Creek area salt water seepage is widespread.

A reconnaissance map showing the shape and slope of the water table (figure 9) was prepared from water level measurements in 56 wells at which elevation were established. All the wells in the vicinity of Dove Creek flat and south and west of Croton Creek flats were scheduled (table 6) and where possible water-levels in the wells were measured. Elevations were established on 55 wells and one exploration hole by barometric altimetry or from data provided by oil companies. United States Coast and Geodetic Survey bench marks in eastern Kent County and ground elevations of exploration holes and deep oil tests, established by oil companies in King and Stonewall Counties, were used as control points for altimetry.

Ground Water in Northeast Kent County

The ground water hydrology illustrated in figure 10, which is a generalized cross-section extending about three and one-half miles southwest from Short Croton salt flat, is typical of a large area in northeast Kent County. The surface configuration was plotted from elevations of wells and hand leveled geologic sections and the position of the water table was determined by water level measurements made in wells in the area. The distance between locations of wells plotted are not to scale nor are the distances between the wells and prominent canyons and escarpments. The topographic slope from the plain to the salt flats is about 150 feet per mile, whereas the hydraulic gradient is about 130 feet per mile.

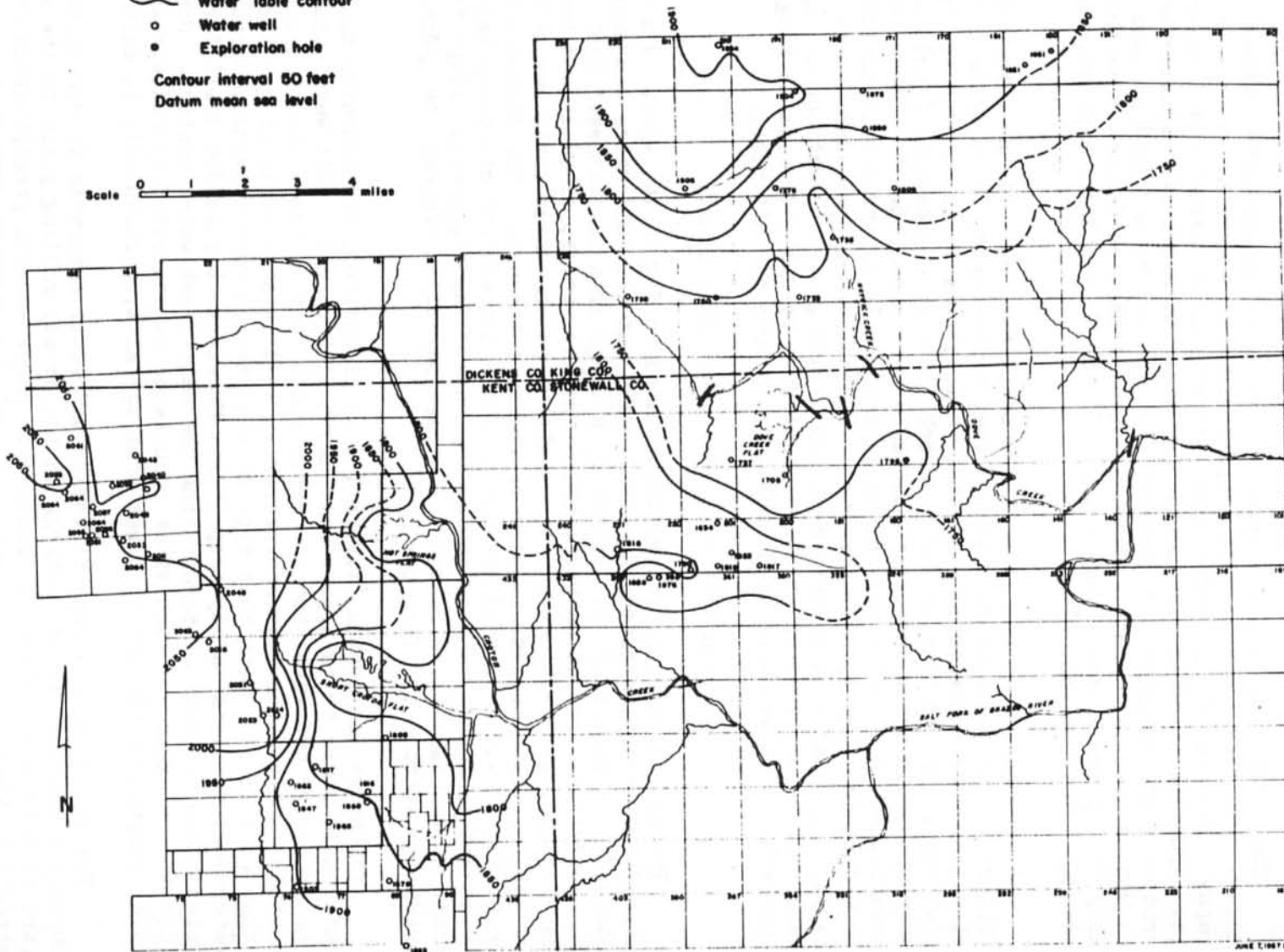
The hydraulic system (figure 10) is unconfined, and contains mineralized but usable water to an approximate depth of 250 feet. Salt water underlies the usable ground water but the depth and extent of the contact is not known exactly. Salt water was encountered in Well 74 at a depth of 253 feet. No other well records with this type of information were obtained, because local water-well drillers rarely keep logs. Moreover they seldom drill far below the water table for fear of penetrating the salt-fresh water contact. Some general idea of the extent of salt-water occurrence is indicated by widespread salt-water seepage in the Croton Creek drainage area, particularly at salt flats.

The source of recharge to the ground water reservoir is precipitation. Surface conditions favor recharge on the broad, rolling plain in the western part of this area, where the sandy soil cover accepts precipitation readily, especially when runoff is reduced by land conservation practices. Local residents report that in their experience the water table beneath the plain has risen, but this rise is not documented by periodic measurements.

EXPLANATION

- Water Table contour
 - Water well
 - Exploration hole
- Contour interval 50 feet
Datum mean sea level

Scale 0 1 2 3 4 miles



Base map compiled from Texas General Land Office maps

TEXAS BOARD OF WATER ENGINEERS

FIGURE 9 - RECONNAISSANCE MAP OF THE WATER TABLE IN PARTS OF STONEWALL, KENT, DICKENS, AND KING COUNTIES, TEXAS

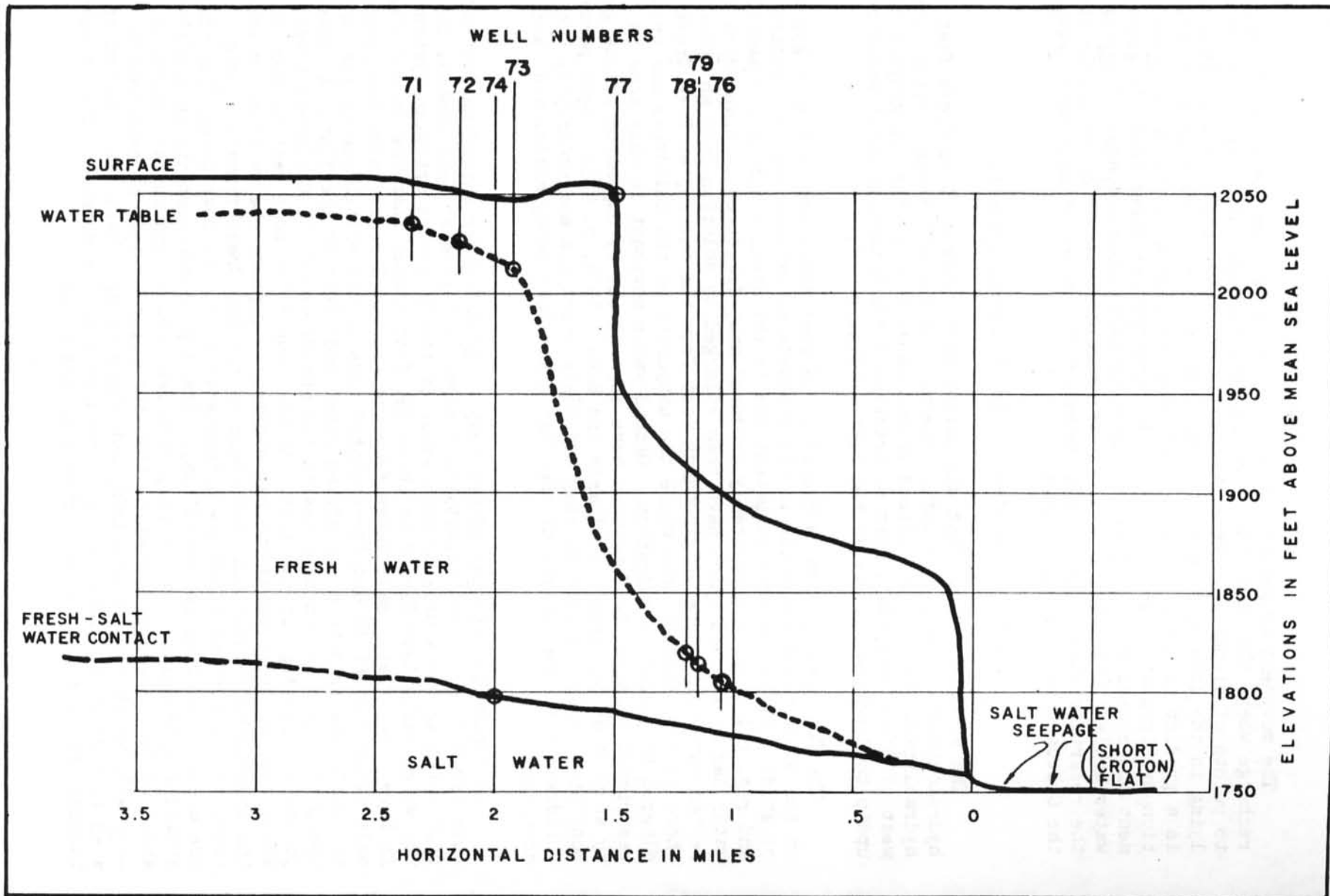


FIGURE 10-GENERALIZED CROSS-SECTION SHOWING THE GROUND WATER HYDROLOGY IN THE SHORT CROTON FLAT AREA, KENT COUNTY, TEXAS

The movement of ground water in the area is from the area of greatest recharge where the water table is highest, through the ground water reservoir to points of discharge. Enroute the ground water dissolves salt (halite) lying in the zone of saturated rocks. The writer infers that salt-water seepage is a product of the solution of salt beds belonging to the Seven Rivers formation by circulating ground water. As recharge increases there is greater movement and consequently a greater amount of salt water seepage. Lowering the water table in this area by ground-water withdrawals from the usable part of the reservoir should, therefore, decrease the amount of salt water seepage in the Croton Creek drainage system.

Artesian System of the Childress Dolomite

The artesian system that discharges salt water at Dove Creek flat is hydrologically complex. Solution channels in the Childress horizon, connected hydraulically with an unconfined ground water body up the topographic slope west of Dove Creek flat, form an artesian conduit through which water moves updip to discharge points in the flat (figure 11).

The Childress gypsum, a bed 10 to 13 feet thick consisting of gypsum on the outcrop and anhydrite in the subsurface, extends over the entire area of study. It is the most competent bed in the shallow subsurface section, and regional tilting undoubtedly produced many fractures through which ground water has moved, and which have been enlarged by solution into an interconnected cavernous system. Extending west from the outcrop at Dove Creek flat, there is a transition zone where the anhydrite of the Childress has been altered to gypsum by hydration. Ground water movement in this zone is restricted because the fractures have been closed by expansion of the gypsum by as much as 33 percent (Sellards and Baker, 1934, p. 623). Less permeable confining layers of jointed clay and shale overlying and underlying the Childress near the outcrop at the flat grade into sandy shales and sands down dip.

In figure 11, the unconfined body of ground water extending west of Dove Creek flat to the vicinity of Girard, in northeast Kent County, is postulated as the source of salt water of the Childress artesian system. The water table near Girard is about 390 feet higher than the land surface in Dove Creek flat. Salt water from the saturated rocks below the fresh-salt water contact in undifferentiated beds of the Whitehorse series enters the Childress from this unconfined water body west of the flat. It moves updip through solution cavities in the anhydrite of the Childress toward points of discharge in the flat. At the transition zone west of the flat where the Childress anhydrite has altered to gypsum, the water moves into the underlying jointed clay and shale of the Dog Creek formation, and comes to the surface under low hydrostatic head. At Dove Creek flat there are about 60 feet of saturated clay. Stand pipe measurements in the flat showed a hydrostatic head of only five feet above land surface which is about 60 feet lower in elevation than the reported head at exploration hole 153, which was not measured, but where water flowed over the top of a 43 foot derrick. This head loss results from the movement of salt water through the less permeable jointed clay and shale.

The scope of the present investigation did not indicate the westward extent of the hydraulic system discharging at Dove Creek flat.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study shows a large potential for salt-water seepage in this area of the Brazos River watershed. Salt-water seepage is evident at salt flats in the Dove Creek and Croton Creek drainage system. The geologic terrane contains beds of pure salt which are being dissolved by percolating ground water. The dip of the strata is opposite to the direction of the topographic slope and there has been little opportunity for ground-water flushing of permeable strata except locally up dip where these strata form confined hydraulic conduits. Such conduits are hydraulically connected to sources of salty ground water.

Owing to the occurrence of salt water under unconfined conditions, and resulting widespread seepage not only on salt flats but in the floors of the main canyons, the pollution potential is large in the Croton Creek watershed. Points of discharge are too numerous and too small to observe and measure. Moreover, much of the water evaporates or probably moves down stream as underflow. In the aggregate a substantial quantity of salt water is discharged from the ground-water reservoir. The salt-water that issues at the surface in the Dove Creek drainage system is largely channeled through a single geologic horizon and much of it discharges in the floor of Dove Creek flat. Runoff of the salt water is readily observed and can be measured.

Incomplete measurements of the salt water discharge at Dove Creek flat have been made, but no calculations of the quantity of salt have been released for inclusion in this report. There are at present no provisions for measuring the salt-water discharge from Croton Creek. No direct comparison can be made of the relative amounts of salt discharged in the two areas, but on the basis of the ground-water conditions determined in this investigation, it seems likely that the quantity discharged in the Croton Creek drainage system is in the same order of magnitude as the quantity discharged at Dove Creek flat.

Favorable recharge conditions in the western part of the area apparently have caused the water table to rise over a period of years. Such increased recharge favors greater ground-water movement and rock solution and widespread discharge. Large withdrawals from the usable part of the ground-water reservoir by wells would probably cause a decline in the water table and by so lowering the head of the reservoir cause a decrease in the surface seepage in the low areas of the Croton Creek drainage system. It is not known whether this process would affect the movement of salt water in the Childress dolomite nor can it be inferred from available data.

It can be concluded that the salt-water seepage in the area is the result of ground water recharge, movement and discharge involving both unconfined and confined reservoirs. The potential salt water seepage is substantial and may be expected to increase as recharge to the ground-water reservoir increases due either to land conservation practices or excessive precipitation during wet years or both.

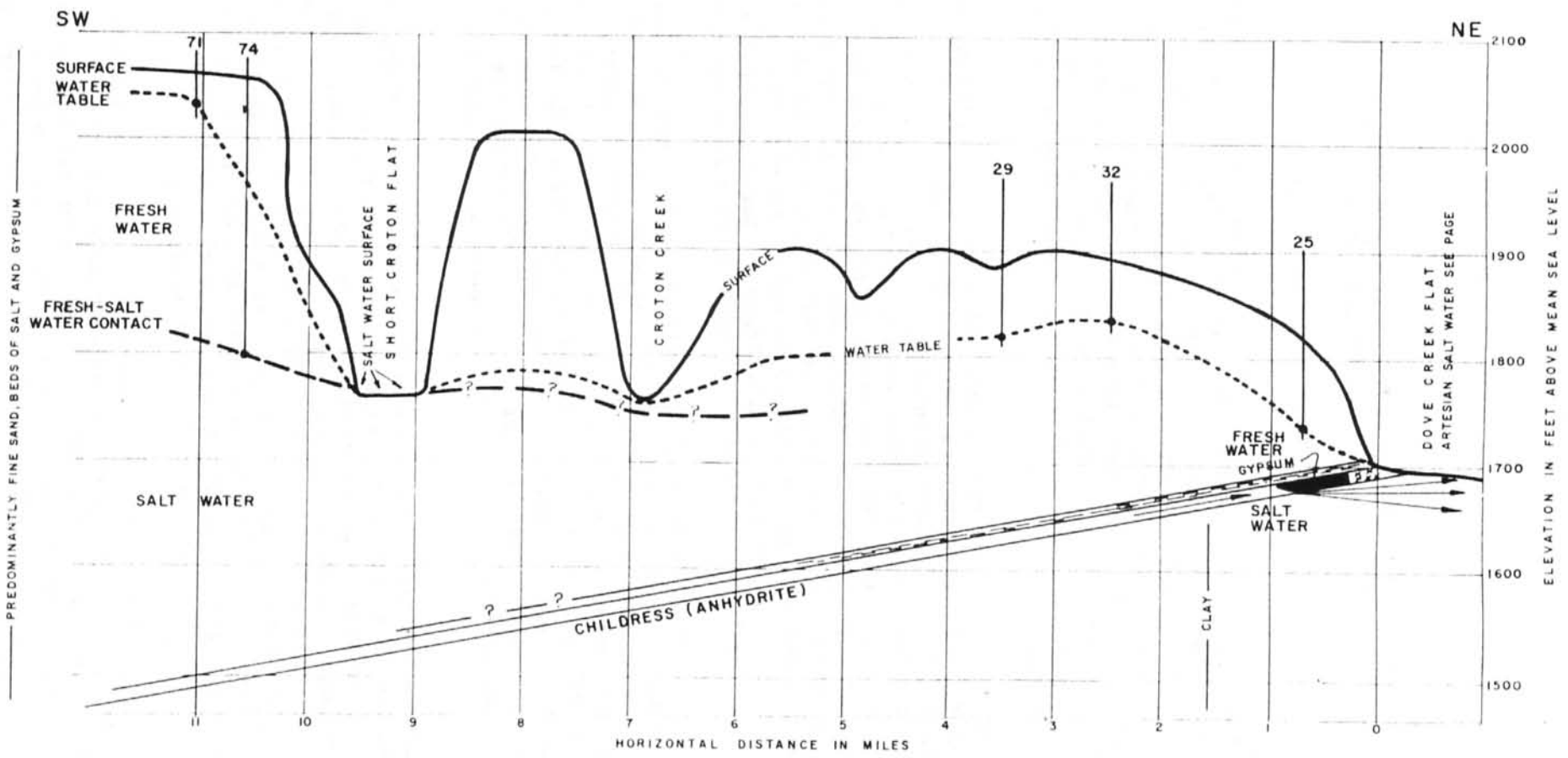


FIGURE II-GENERALIZED CROSS-SECTION SHOWING HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ARTESIAN SYSTEM IN THE CHILDRESS MEMBER, KENT AND STONEWALL COUNTIES, TEXAS

SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

The present investigation has given an indication of geologic conditions pertaining to the occurrence of ground water and salt water seepage. However, the scope of the investigation is insufficient to determine corrective measures for ridding the Brazos River watershed of all or part of the salt water discharged from ground-water sources in this area.

More detailed study is needed and should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following: (1) topographic mapping of the area including preparation of detailed topographic maps of the salt flats and immediate areas, (2) detailed geologic mapping, (3) a detailed well inventory, (4) leveling of all wells and test holes for the purpose of mapping the water table or the artesian pressure surface as applicable, (5) test drilling of the Childress dolomite immediately west of Dove Creek flat, (6) pumping tests on wells in the western part of the area to determine if the ground-water reservoir will supply irrigation demand, (7) the determination of the chemical quality of the ground water, including the chemical and physical characteristics of the fresh-salt water contact.

Concurrent with more detailed ground-water studies, an expanded program of stream gaging and sampling in the Croton Creek watershed should be established and maintained.

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SUBSURFACE DATA

Table 3 contains the elevations of the principal geologic marker horizons of this investigation. These elevations and also land surface elevations were obtained from 145 electric logs supplied by oil companies. These logs were made available to the writer but could not be released in full for publication.

Table 5 contains drillers' logs of three oil tests drilled with cable tools which record salt sections. These oil tests were drilled prior to 1935 but since that time rotary type equipment has been used to drill in this area. Beds of salt are rarely recorded in logs of rotary drilled holes because cuttings of the salt are dissolved so no holes drilled with this equipment are tabulated.

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Table 1.-Generalized table of stratified rocks in the Dove Creek and Croton Creek areas, Stonewall, Kent, King and Dickens Counties, Texas

System	Group	Formation	Member	Thick- ness (feet)	Physical Characteristics	Water-bearing Characteristics
Permian	Whitehorse	Tansill	Claytonville dol.	640±	A series of redbed strata which is predominantly sandy with fine-grained sand and loosely cemented sandstone. Contains persistent gypsum and dolomite horizons, and occasional lenticular beds of clay and shale. Beds of pure salt are present in the subsurface in western part of the area.	Saturated sandy zones that lie above saturated salt water zones contain water suitable for irrigation and stock uses. Persistent gypsum horizons serve as hydraulic conduits through which salt water moves under artesian pressure.
		Yates				
		Seven Rivers				
		Queen	Upper Eskota			
		Grayburg	Lower Eskota			
	(Pease River) El Reno	Dog Creek		650±	The upper 100 feet crops out at Dove Creek flat. Consists of red and green laminated clay and shale with thin veins of gypsum.	Contains salt water in jointed clay at Dove Creek flat.
		Blaine			Not determined	Contains little or no usable water.
		Flower Pot			Not determined	Contains little or no usable water.
		San Angelo			Outcrop consists of massive sandstone and conglomerate but is less sandy in down-dip part of the formation.	Contains water in outcrop area and several miles down-dip or west of the outcrop.

Table 2.-Geologic Sections in the Salt Producing Areas

Section 1. Measured on bluff north side of Dove Creek at gaging stations in northeast corner, Section 177, Block F, H & T C RR Survey, Stonewall County.

	Feet	Inches
Childress gypsum, massive, white, fractured and weathered	9	0
Clay, green, nodular	0	9
Clay, red, nodular and conchoidal fracture	26	6
Gypsum, gray, platy	0	2
Clay, red, nodular, silty	2	0
Gypsum, greenish-gray	0	1
Clay, red, nodular and conchoidally fractured	8	0
Gypsum, white, crumbles easily	0	3
Clay, red, nodular	8	0
Gypsum, green to gray, strongly laminated	5	0
Clay, red and green, exhibits nodular and conchoidal fractures	4	6
Clay, red, nodular, crumbly when dry	3	6
Clay, green to gray, nodules about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter	1	6
Clay, red, nodular, shaly	3	6
Floor of Dove Creek		
Total of section	72	9

Section 2. Measured on high bluff west of Hayrick Creek where road crosses creek in SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 176, Block F, H & T C RR Survey, King County.

Childress, gypsum, massive, white, many solution cavities filled with red silt and powdered gypsum	10	0
Clay, green, nodular, dense and hard	1	0
Clay, red, scattered green blotches	10	0
Clay, red gypsiferous	0	5
Clay, red, with green circular blotches about one inch in diameter	6	6
Clay, green, streaked red, nodular	0	8
Clay, banded, red and green, nodular	10	0
Gypsum, gray, interbedded with red clay	0	6
Clay, red, nodular, friable	5	0
Gypsum, white, crumbly, platy	0	2
Total of section	44	3

Table 2.-Geologic Sections in the Salt Producing Areas--Continued

Section 3. Measured on north side where Dove Creek flat joins Dove Creek, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 197, Block F, E & TC RR Survey, Stonewall County.

	Feet	Inches
Childress gypsum, white massive fractured by hydration and weathering	9	6
Clay, green, gypsiferous, dense and hard	1	6
Clay, red, contains green specks and green layers, dense and hard	5	0
Total of Section	16	0

Section 4. Measured on bluff, west side of Dove Creek flat, Section 197, Block F, H & TC RR Survey, Stonewall County.

Gypsum, white, massive, a few dolomitic lenses	4	0
Sand, red, fine, loose	20	0
Clay, red and green, laminated, horizontal bedding planes	5	0
Top of Childress gypsum		
Total of Section	29	0

Section 5. Measured on bluff, south side of Dove Creek, near center of Section 197, Block F, H & TC RR Survey, Stonewall County.

Lower Eskota gypsum, massive, white, some residual dolomitic layers	10	0
Sand, red, very fine, unconsolidated	42	0
Dolomite, gray, dense	0	6
Sand, red, very fine, unconsolidated	60	6
Gypsum, white, anhydritic and dolomitic	4	0
Sand, red, fine, unconsolidated	20	0
Clay, red and green, gypsiferous, hard	3	6
Top of Childress gypsum in creek bed		
Total of Section	140	6

Table 2.-Geologic Sections in the Salt Producing Areas--Continued

Section 6. Measured at head of Hayrick Creek canyon in SE corner, Section 193, Block F, H & TC RR Survey, King County

	Feet	Inches
Gypsum, white, massive (Top of Hayrick Mountain)	3	6
Sand, red, very fine, unconsolidated	22	0
Gypsum, massive, gray	0	4
Sand, red, very fine, loose	5	6
Gypsum, white, massive	3	0
Sand, red, fine loose	8	2
Gypsum, white to gray, platy	2	0
Sand, red, fine unconsolidated	55	0
Upper Eskota gypsum, massive, white, near base is 1'0" of red, silty dolomite	10	0
Sand, red, fine, silty	19	0
Dolomite, brownish, red, silty, breaks into thin sheets and flagstones when exposed at surface	1	2
Sand, red, fine silty	13	2
Lower Eskota gypsum, massive, white, many solution cavities	10	0
Total of Section	152	10

Section 7. Measured on bluff, north side of Short Croton Creek, about one mile east of extreme western end of Short Croton flat, Section 1, Block O K, H & TC RR Survey, Kent County

Sand, red, very fine-grained and silt, unconsolidated	15	6
Gypsum, white, massive	0	8
Sand, red, very fine and silt, loose	3	10
Gypsum, massive, white (probably same bed as 3'6" gypsum of section 6)	3	0
Sand, fine, loose, lower 4'0" saturated with salt water and thus more compact and harder	27	6
Bed of Short Croton Creek		
Total of Section	50	6

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Table 2.-Geologic Sections in the Salt Producing Areas--Continued

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Section 8. Measured on steep bluff at west end of Short Croton flat and directly south of fence (north line of James Castelberry Survey, Kent County).

	Feet	Inches
Sand, red, very fine, loose, surface covered with powdery gypsum crust	22	0
Sandstone, red with gray blotches, fine-grained highly gypsiferous	0	3
Sand, red, fine unconsolidated, white	3	6
Gypsum, white, massive and granular	3	4
Sand, red, very fine-grained, unconsolidated	108	6
Base of Short Croton flat		
Total of section	137	7

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Section 9. Measured on east side of steep canyon which is tributary to Short Croton flat from the south in James Castleberry Survey, Kent County.

Silt, red, scattered rounded chert-cobbles	33	0
Gypsum, white, pure massive	12	0
Sand, red, very fine-grained to silty, unconsolidated	36	6
Gypsum, white, massive, forms small ledge	1	2
Sand, red, very fine-grained, silty, loose, has high angle of repose	121	0
Gypsum, white, massive (is same bed as 3'4" gypsum of Section 8)	3	4
Total of Section	207	0

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Section 10. Bluff at north side of Hot Springs flat, one-fourth mile upstream from its mouth at Croton Creek in center of Chas. Hardwick Survey, Kent County.

Silt to fine sand, red, loose	20	6
Gypsum, white massive, (same bed as 3'0" gypsum of section 7 and perhaps is same as 3'6" of section 6)	3	0
Silt, red and green, gypsiferous	0	6
Gypsum, white, nodular	0	4
Sand, red, very fine-grained, silty, forms high angle of repose	22	6
Gypsum, gray, platy, wavy	0	5
Silt, red, salt crust on lower three feet	11	6
Silt, deposited by creek of Hot Springs flat saturated with salt water	3	6
Creek bed		
Total of Section	62	3

Table 2.-Geologic Sections in the Salt Producing Areas--Continued

Section 11. Measured on steep bluff at the southwest end of Hot Springs flat in SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 1, Block H, H & TC RR Survey, Kent County.

	Feet	Inches
Gypsum, white, massive (same as 3'4" gypsum of sections 8 and 9)	3	4
Sand, red with grayish-green spots, very fine, silty	107	0
Floor of Hot Springs flat		
Total of Section	110	4

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent and King Counties, Texas

Abbreviations: P, projected; NP, not present
Locations are given in feet and direction from
nearest section corner.

Remarks: Elevations given for tops of marker beds.

Explor- ation hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, King County			
100	35N 40W, SE Cor., Sec. 211	2075	1677p	1871
101	1525E 110N, SW Cor., Sec. 210	1990	1695	1885
102	670S, NE Cor., Sec. 210 Flowed salt water above 43 foot drilling rig from zone of Lower Eskota or Upper Eskota.	1956	1731	1931p
103	150W, NE Cor., Sec. 191 Base of fresh water elevation 1748.	1940	1740	1930p
104	120E 735N, SW Cor., Sec. 190	1997	1732	1917
105	300W 880S, NE Cor., Sec. 190	1941	1746	1936p
106	2250S 2775W, NE Cor., Sec. 171	1898	1773	np
107	225S 575W, NE Cor., Sec. 171	1882	1777	np
108	On E line and 95 N, SE Cor., Sec. 171	1961	1766	1956p
109	200E 100N, SW Cor., Sec. 209	2089	1684	1874
110	900W 190N, SE Cor., Sec. 209	2046	1696	1886
111	300E 50S, NW Cor., Sec. 172. Base of fresh water at elevation 1748.	1937	1752	1937p

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent,
and King Counties -- Continued

Explor- ation holes number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, King County			
127	270W 70N, SE Cor., Sec. 214	1916	1691	1881
128	1700E 710S, NW Cor., Sec. 207	1998	1683	1873
129	1150W 150N, SE Cor., Sec. 207	1942	1717	1912
130	170E 1980S, NW Cor., Sec. 187	1943	1735	1928p
131	175E 600N, SW Cor., Sec. 187	1911	1736	np
132	180E 250N, SW Cor., Sec. 174	1792	1762	np
133	1800E 1400S, NW Cor., Sec. 167	1854	1789	np
134	1050N 2300E, SW Cor., Sec. 167	1859	1779	np
135	2350N 100E, SW Cor., Sec. 154	1894	1774	np
136	2300E 240N, SW Cor., Sec. 154	1848	1778	np
137	1950S 2700E, NW Cor., Sec. 154	1872	1782	np
138	200E 300S, NW Cor., Sec. 147	1890	1795	np
139	300W 100N, SE Cor., Sec. 147	1823	1813p	np
140	1620E 1140N, SW Cor., Sec. 127	1868	1943	np
141	660S 350E, NW Cor., Sec. 235	1868	1634	1825

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent, and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land Surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. survey, King County			
112	885E 570N, SW Cor., Sec. 172	1979	1759	1944
113	2300S 2825W, NE Cor., Sec. 172	1951	1746	1936p
114	1000E 900N, SW Cor., Sec. 169	1963	1758	1948p
115	25E 25S, NW Cor., Sec. 152	1982	1797	1987p
116	1250E 1425W, SW Cor., Sec. 152	1955	1785	np
117	20N 300E, SW Cor., Sec. 188	2087	1687	1887
118	200S 50E, NW Cor., Sec. 188	1941	1731	1921p
119	550W 40N, SE Cor., Sec. 188	1921	1747	np
120	1300W 140N, SE Cor., Sec. 173	1956	1786	np
121	2650W 2650S, NE Cor., Sec. 168	1931	1766	np
122	500N 200W, SE Cor., Sec. 168	1856	1771	np
123	1600S 500W, NE Cor., Sec. 153	1926	1791	np
124	100S 100W, NE Cor., Sec. 148	1963	1818	np
125	200N 1650W, SE Cor., Sec. 133	1861	1821p	np
126	200S 120E, NW Cor., Sec. 234	1871	1636	1833

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration holes number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, King County			
142	50N 625E, SW Cor., Sec. 215	1860	1655	1850p
143	1060E 310N, SE Cor., Sec. 206	1886	1681	1876p
144	2050W 2030N, SE Cor., Sec. 186	1919	1744	np
145	450W 1800S, NE Cor., Sec. 175	1849	1774	np
146	110S 480E, NW Cor., Sec. 225	1950	1625	1825
147	100E 900N, SW Cor., Sec. 205	1847	1672	np
148	950E 1710S, NW Cor., Sec. 196	1873	1718p	np
149	325N 700E, SW Cor., Sec. 185	1741	1736p	np
150	2350W 1600S, NE Cor., Sec. 185	1847	1752	np
151	380E 920N, SE Cor., Sec. 176	1756	1741p	np
152	1750N 300W, SE Cor., Sec. 176	1797	1762	np
	Block-F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County			
153	1200W 980N, SE Cor., Sec. 204. Salt water from aquifer near base of Childress flowed above 43 foot drilling rig. 7-inch casing set to 173 feet.	1726	1701p	np

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent, and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County			
154	825N 350W, SE Cor., Sec. 184	1775	1740	np
155	175S 300E, NW Cor., Sec. 124	1744	np	np
156	1975E 50N, SW Cor., Sec. 124	1698	np	np
157	2400E 150S, NW Cor., Sec. 117	1757	np	np
158	1290E 160N, SW Cor., Sec. 117	1722	np	np
159	760E 740N, SW Cor., Sec. 104	1721	np	np
160	60W 200S, NE Cor., Sec. 104	1773	np	np
161	550E 100S, NW Cor., Sec. 218	1885	1640	1830
162	100S 300E, NW Cor., Sec. 163	1810	1755	np
163	100E 380N, SW Cor., Sec. 163. Base of fresh water at depth of 90 feet.	1826	1741	np
164	700S 180W, NE Cor., Sec. 163	1706	np	np
165	700W 1450N, SE Cor., Sec. 158	1710	np	np
166	220W 200S, NE Cor., Sec. 143	1808	1793	np
167	100W 200S, NE Cor., Sec. 239	1991	1606	1796
168	800W 400S, NE Cor., Sec. 219	1822	1632	1822p

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent, and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County			
169	On W line and 500S, NW Cor., Sec. 182	1775	1690	np
170	1720W 550N, SE Cor., Sec. 182	1866	1711	np
171	250S 100W, NE Cor., Sec. 142	1716	np	np
172	2000E 300S, NW Cor., Sec. 122	1677	np	np
173	2100E 150N, SW Cor., Sec. 122	1675	np	np
174	25W 0N, SE Cor., Sec. 122	1731	np	np
175	100W 400S, NE Cor., Sec. 119	1667	np	np
176	100E 350N, SW Cor., Sec. 221	1928	1623	1808
177	1450S 25E, NW Cor., Sec. 220	1952	1642	1832
178	75W 325S, NE Cor., Sec. 220	1863	1663	1848p
179	1300N 220E, SW Cor., Sec. 201	1903	1678	1868
180	1125S; 1675W, NE Cor., Sec. 201	1889	1674	1864p
181	1840W 300N, SE Cor., Sec. 180	1868	1698	np
182	2250E 1770S, NW Cor., Sec. 160	1780	1750	np
183	130W 200N, SE Cor., Sec. 160	1807	1772	np
184	190W 1280S, NE Cor., Sec. 141	1683	np	np

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent,
and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County			
185	220W 600N, SE Cor., Sec. 397. 7-inch casing set to 296 feet.	1855	1640p	1830p
186	130S 185W, NE Cor., Sec. 396	1885	1670	1855
187	60N 170E, SW Cor., Sec. 360	1840	1635	1825p
188	170S 260W, NE Cor., Sec. 360	1879	1669	1859p
189	54N 65W, SE Cor., Sec. 325	1878	1688	1878p
190	735W 680N, SE Cor., Sec. 289	1896	1731	np
191	2470W 2400N, SE Cor., Sec. 253	1798	1773	np
192	1080S 410E, NW Cor., Sec. 217	1692	np	np
193	ON 600E, SW Cor., Sec. 216	1747	np	np
194	35E 1100N, SE Cor., Sec. 398	1823	1618	1808p
195	250N 700W, SE Cor., Sec. 395	1737	1637	np
196	46N 30W, SE Cor., Sec. 359	1878	1673	1868p
197	100E 100N, SW Cor., Sec. 323	1900	1685	1875p
198	900N 700W, SE Cor., Sec. 251	1670	np	np
199	700E 600N, SE Cor., Sec. 358	1722	1647	np
200	1000E 2650S, NW Cor., Sec. 327	1868	1683	1873p

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent,
and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County			
201	880W 1200S, NE Cor., Sec. 322	1887	1707	np
202	On S line 1100E, SW Cor., Sec. 286	1713	np	np
203	650S 520W, NE Cor., Sec. 286	1805	1760	np
204	75W 200N, SE Cor., Sec. 429	1949	1636	1832
205	1000W 200S, NE Cor., Sec. 328	1836	1666	np
206	400S 250W, NE Cor., Sec. 426	1918	1593	1783
	Block 1, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Dickens County			
207	100S 45W, NE Cor., Sec. 162	2176	1386	1586
208	50N 100W, SE Cor., Sec. 158	2147	1327	1587
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
209	50S, 330W, NE Cor., Sec. 237	2052	1582p	1777
	Block 1, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
210	600W 50S, NE Cor., Sec. 120	2095	1355	1555
211	300N 30E, SW Cor., Sec. 121	2134	1404	1602
212	260S 35W, NE Cor., Sec. 123	2176	1421	1616

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block I, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
213	50W 50N, SE Cor., Sec. 87	2169	1409	1614
	Block H, HT & B RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
214	220N, 1000E, SW Cor., Sec. 3	2112	1490p	1680
215	500N, 1230E, SW Cor., Sec. 2	1951	1521	1716
	Block I, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
216	25E 100S, NW Cor., Sec. 83	2102	1347	1547
217	400S 50E, NW Cor., Sec. 84	2109	1389	1599
218	80N 120E, SE Cor., Sec. 85	2153	1428p	1633
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
219	480N 2635W, SE Cor., Sec. 57	2101	1451p	1646
220	50N 550W, SE Cor., Sec. 57	2153	1506	1680
221	1500S, 900W, NE Cor., Sec. 58	2059	1486	1676
	Block I, Chas. S. Hardwick Hrs. Survey, Kent County			
222	50E 100N, SW Cor.	1951	1491	1683
	Block OK, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
223	750N 950W, SE Cor., Sec. 1	2091	1541	1711

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent,
Dickens and King Counties -- Continued

Explor- ation holes number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
224	1775N 300W, SE Cor., Sec. 4	1883	1523	1718
	Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
225	180S 100W, NE Cor., Sec. 434	1882	1577	1772
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
226	100N 150W, SE Cor., Sec. 2	1871	1561	1746
227	20S 800E, NW Cor., Sec. 18	2119	1439	1619
228	50S 100W, NE Cor., Sec. 13	2062	1481	1657
	Block OK, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
229	200N 2800W, SE Cor., Jas. Castleberry Survey	2089	1499	1669
230	1425W 50N, SE Cor., Sec. 6	1920	1540	1727
	Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
231	1000N 800W, SE Cor., Sec. 251	1791	1581	1771
232	40S 45E, NW Cor., Sec. 12	2054	1429	1631
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
233	100W 100N, SE Cor., Sec. 12	2006	1481	1664
234	E. Barefoot Survey, Kent County on NW Cor. of Survey	2015	1515	1715
235	350S 100E, NW Cor., Sec. 20	2065	1430	1610

Table 3.-Records of exploration holes in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens and King Counties -- Continued

Exploration hole number	Location and Remarks	Elevation (datum is mean sea level)		
		Land surface	Childress	Upper Eskota
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
236	85E 45N, SW Cor., Sec. 11	2015	1450	1630
237	50E 400N, SW Cor., Sec. 8	2010	1503	1683
	H. H. Sandell Survey Kent County			
238	1000N 1050E, SW Cor., of Survey	1929	1539	1734
	Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
239	800S 200W, NE Cor., Sec. 437	1834	1585	1782
240	280W 100N, SE Cor., Sec. 437	1975	1595	1788
	Block L, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
241	2900S 100E, NE Cor., Sec. 26	2007	1422	1612
	P. A. Harris Survey, Kent County			
242	100W 65N SE Cor., of Survey	1974	1464	1644
	Block 98, H & TC RR Co. Survey Kent County			
243	75S 600W, NE Cor., Sec. 89	2013	1536p	1723
	Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County			
244	800W 600N, SW Cor., Sec. 438	1992	1575	1767

Table 4.-Location, date drilled and ground elevation of oil tests drilled with cable-tool equipment in and near area studied

Test hole number	Location	Company	Year drilled	Ground elevation (in feet above mean sea level)	Test hole number
*87	At Spur in Sec. 244, Block 1, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Dickens County	Swenson Land Co.	1913	2335	*98
*88	SE Cor. NW $\frac{1}{4}$, 300E 300S, Sec. 311, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Dickens County	Moutray Oil Co.	1927	2271	99
89	1320 N 1320 E, Sec. 120, Block A, John B. Rector Survey, King County	Midway Exploration Co.	1927	1706	
90	330N 330E, Sec. 429, Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Kent County	Phillips Petroleum Co.	1926	--	* Salt
91	300S 960W, Sec. 120, Block F, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County	Arkansas Fuel Oil Co.	1926	1732	
92	Center of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 105, Block D. H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County	Peer Oil Corp. of Texas	1927	1740	
*93	1320W 1320N, Sec. 57, Block 7, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Kent County	Douglas Oil Co.	1927	2398	
*94	200N 200W, Sec. 131, Block G, W & NW Survey, Kent County	The Texas Company	1926	--	
95	Center of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 153, Block D, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County	F. P. Zoch	1927	--	
*96	330S, 330W, Sec. 60, Block G, W & N RR Survey, Kent County	Atlantic Oil Prod. Co.	1930	2256	
*97	1980N 600W, Sec. 11, Block 4, H & GN RR Co. Survey, Kent County.	Marland Oil Co. of Texas			

Table 4.-Location, date drilled and ground elevation of oil tests drilled with cable-tool equipment in and near area studied--Continued

Test hole number	Location	Company	Year drilled	Ground elevation (in feet above mean sea level)
98	SW Cor. of Block K, Sec. 49, T. A. Thomson Survey, Kent County	Marland Oil Co. & Texon Oil Co.	1928	--
99	330S 330E, Sec. 371, Block 2, H & TC RR Co. Survey, Stonewall County	General Crude Oil Co.	1938	--

Salt reported in log.

Table 5.-Driller's logs of the upper part of oil tests in Kent and Dickens Counties, Texas

	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet)		Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet)
<u>Oil Test 88</u>					
Collar	0	8	Lime	10	540
Red sandrock	11	19	Red bed	35	575
Red rock	51	70	Red rock	45	620
Red sandrock	15	85	Salt	25	645
Red bed	10	95	Red bed	5	650
Red sand	8	103	Lime, hard	15	665
Red bed	17	120	Red sand	10	675
Red bed and gypsum streaks	15	135	Red rock	5	680
Red rock	10	145	Red sand	5	685
Sand rock, hard	5	150	Lime	30	715
Red rock	15	165	Red rock	15	730
Red rocks and gypsum streaks	10	175	Lime	10	740
Red rock	10	185	Salt	10	750
Gypsum rock and gravel	18	203	Red rock and shells	35	785
Salt water at 200 feet			Sandy shale	75	860
Red rock	17	220	Red rock	35	895
Lime	20	240	Lime	30	925
Red rock	13	253	Sandy shale	30	955
Red quick sand	11	264	Red rock	15	970
Gypsum rock, hard	16	280	Lime	10	980
Red bed	37	317	Sand	5	985
Lime shell	3	320	Not logged	7	992
Red bed	15	335	Sand	10	1,002
Red rock	5	340	Red Shale	63	1,065
Gypsum water	5	345	Red rock	32	1,097
Gypsum and gravel	15	360	Gray lime	17	1,114
Salt	75	435	Salt and gypsum rock	16	1,130
Red bed	30	465	Lime shells	20	1,150
Salt	10	475	Blue shale	15	1,165
Lime	15	490	Red rock	15	1,180
Salt	22	512	Not logged	5	1,195
Lime	13	525	Lime	5	1,200
Salt	5	530	Gray sand	5	1,205
			Red rock	6	1,211
			Salt	4	1,215
			Total depth		3,943
			(no salt recorded below 1,215 feet)		

Table 6.-Records of wells in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties, Texas

All wells are drilled unless otherwise noted in remarks column
 Method of Lift: E, electric; G, gasoline; W, windmill
 Use of water : D, domestic; N, not used; S, stock

Well No.	Owner	Driller	Date completed	Depth of well (ft.)	Diameter of well (in.)	Altitude of land surface (ft.)	Water level		Method of lift	Use of water	Remarks
							Below land surface datum (ft.)	Date of measurement			
1	W. A. Springer, Sr.	--	--	55	6	1946	51.7	Jan. 14, 1957	W	S	
2	W. A. Springer, Jr.	Dick Shirley	1944	80	6	1880	--	--	W	S	
3	do.	--	--	--	6	1891	39.8	Feb. 12, 1957	W	S	
4	do.	Clyde Spray	1951	--	6	1884	33.4	do.	W	S	Driller went through Childress (12') into salt-bearing clay. Fresh water sand overlies 3 feet of clay which lies on the Childress.
5	W. A. Springer, Sr.	--	--	105	7	1986	--	--	W	S	
6	W. A. Springer, Jr.	Obie Wright	1953	75	7	1963	59.1	Jan. 14, 1957	W	S	
7	do.	Mr. Russel	1939	75	7	1922	50.0	do.	W	S	Reported suitable for drinking.
8	do.	do.	--	135	7	1976	126.3	do.	W	S	do.
9	W. A. Springer, Sr.	--	Old	95	7	1987	81.9	do.	W	S	
10	W. A. Springer, Jr.	Obie Wright	1953	180	7	1950	172.0	do.	W	S	
11	Mary Martin	Continental Oil Co.	1950	7,100	--	1973	--	--	--	N	Oil Test.
12	W. A. Springer, Jr.	- Russel	1939	175	7	1958	149.0	Feb. 12, 1957	W	S	
13	do.	--	--	80	5	1801	66.4	do.	W	S	Top of casing is 33 feet (hand-leveled) above top of Childress.

Table 6.-Records of wells in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties--Continued

Well No.	Owner	Driller	Date completed	Depth of well (ft.)	Diameter of well (in.)	Altitude of land surface (ft.)	Water level		Method of lift	Use of water	Remarks
							Below land surface datum (ft.)	Date of measurement			
		Continental Oil Co.	1951	6,345	--	1949	--	--	--	N	Oil Test
14	Mary Martin	do.	1950	7,173	--	1831	--	--	--	N	do.
15	do.	Obie Wright	1950	150	7	1875	136.8	Feb. 13, 1957	W	S	
16	G. W. Springer	--	Old	113	12	1854	104.3	do.	W	S	
17	do.	DeSoto Oil Co.	1946	4,905	--	1880	--	--	--	N	do.
18	Mary Martin	- Russel	1939	135	7	1957	118.6	Jan. 14, 1957	W	S	
19	W. A. Springer, Jr.	Continental Oil Co.	1952	4,650	--	1710	--	--	--	N	do.
20	Mary Martin	do.	1952	4,877	--	1822	--	--	--	N	do.
21	do.	Byars Oil Co.	1954	5,511	--	1883	--	--	--	N	do.
22	G. W. Springer	Sid Katz	1953	6,435	--	1835	--	--	--	N	do.
23	G. C. Carothers	Continental Oil Co.	1952	4,872	--	1785	--	--	--	N	do.
24	W. A. Springer, Jr.	Obie Wright	1949	150	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	1876	138.6	Feb. 13, 1957	W	S	
25	G. W. Springer	Continental Oil Co.	1952	4,840	--	1874	--	--	--	N	do.
26	Carl Springer Estate	--	--	30	5	1734	26.4	Feb. 15, 1957	W	S	
27	G. W. Springer	Continental Oil Co.	1950	6,686	--	1675	--	--	--	N	do.
28	G. C. Carothers	Obie Wright	1950	--	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	1924	105.5	Feb. 19, 1957	W	S	"Guppy" water perched at 90 feet in same well.
29	G. W. Springer	Dick Shirley	--	112	6	1875	95.2	Feb. 13, 1957	W	S	Pumping rods pulled. 120 feet well and 30 feet lower elevation is old caved-in well reported depth 75 feet.
30	do.										
31	Carl Springer Estate	Continental Oil Co.	1951	6,948	--	1905	--	--	--	N	Oil Test.

Table 6.--Records of wells in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties--Continued

Well No.	Owner	Driller	Date completed	Depth of well (ft.)	Diameter of well (in.)	Altitude of land surface (ft.)	Water level		Method of lift	Use of water	Remarks
							Below land surface datum (ft.)	Date of measurement			
32	G. W. Springer	Continental Oil Co.	1949	--	7	1889	55.2	Feb. 13, 1957	--	N	Not developed for use as water well.
33	do.	Houston Ward	--	--	6	1858	40.5	do.	W	S	
34	do.	do.	1930	--	3½	1872	38.6	do.	W	S	
35	do.	Dick Shirley	1945	68	6	1874	57.2	do.	W	S	
36	T. H. Ward	Continental Oil Co.	1952	5,307	--	1872	--	--	--	N	Oil Test.
37	Ben Roach	Ben Roach	1952	30	48	1858	20.5	Feb. 14, 1957	W	S	Dug well.
38	do.	do.	1936	100	--	1876	70.2	Jan. 10, 1957	W	S	Gypsiferous dolomite at depth 90-100 feet; salty clay below 100 feet; not enough fresh water to make well.
39	Ned Ward	--	1923	175	5	--	--	do.	W	S	
40	T. H. Ward	Ashland Oil and Refining Co.	1955	6,948	--	1914	--	--	--	N	Oil test.
41	M. S. Sandell	Texas Pacific Coal and Oil Co.	1946	6,837	--	1913	--	--	--	N	Oil test.
42	J. D. Patterson, Jr.	U. S. Smelting and Refining Co.	1951	5,345	--	2115(?)	--	--	--	N	do.
43	do.	Shell Oil Co.	1940	6,760	--	1862	--	--	--	N	do.
44	M. L. Patterson	do.	1941	6,827	--	1839	--	--	--	N	do.
45	A. R. Daniels	DeSoto Oil Co.	1952	6,812	--	1871	--	--	--	N	do.
46	Doc Curleson	Norsworthy Oil Co.	1950	7,510	9-5/8	2017	--	--	--	N	do.
47	Charles Dunlap	--	1917	120	--	2138	105.2	Mar. 26, 1957	W	D,S	
48	W. P. Peak	--	Old	--	5	2112	50.9	do.	W	N	
49	Gewel Cooper	--	Old	150	--	2177	133.6	Apr. 3, 1957	W	S	

Table 6.-Records of wells in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties--Continued

Well No.	Owner	Driller	Date completed	Depth of well (ft.)	Diameter of well (in.)	Altitude of land surface (ft.)	Water level		Method of lift	Use of water	Remarks
							Below land surface datum (ft.)	Date of measurement			
50	Luther Bowen	Skelly Oil Co.	1951	343	6	2167	127.2	Apr. 3, 1957	--	N	Exploration hole.
51	Henry Stiles	--	1930	45	--	2092	38.3	do.	W	S	
52	do.	- Rogers	1941	65	--	2107	42.6	do.	--	D,S	
53	Ted Dardin	--	--	--	6	2107	43.1	Mar. 26, 1957	--	N	
54	W. B. Francis	--	--	80	8	2107	41.0	do.	--	N	
55	J. R. Carr	--	1947	82	8	2109	58.2	Apr. 3, 1957	W	S	Irrigates garden.
56	Girard Garage	--	--	90	--	2119	62.1	Mar. 26, 1957	W	S	
57	T. B. Page	T. B. Page	1947	--	--	2107	58.8	Apr. 3, 1957	W	S	
58	Lum Davidson	--	1925	120	--	2140	107.9	Mar. 26, 1957	W	S	
59	Red Cooper	--	1925	90	--	2119	71.0	do.	W	N	
60	Hamlin Standlind	--	--	75	6	2143	53.8	Apr. 3, 1957	W	S	
61	J. G. Page	--	Old	175	--	2132	98.6	do.	W	S	
62	Oocie Borrows	--	1951	120	6-5/8	2135	51.3	Mar. 26, 1957	W	S	
63	Hastings Estate	--	--	220	6	2159	148.5	Apr. 4, 1957	W	S	
64	Lamore Page	--	--	120	6	--	--	--	W	S	Obstruction at 111 feet.
65	C. C. York	--	--	40	6	--	27.4	Apr. 11, 1957	--	N	Ten feet from this hole is another well with a windmill.
66	Charles Branch	Ryan, Hays and Burke	1951	6,695	--	1947	--	--	--	N	Oil test.
67	Mrs. B. F. Spradling	B. F. Spradling	1909	53	48	2102	33.3	Apr. 4, 1957	W	S	Dug well.
68	C. C. York	--	Old	90	--	2098	60.4	do.	W	S	New well 25 feet west.
69	do.	--	--	--	36	--	5.4	do.	W	S	Dug well.

Table 6.-Records of wells in parts of Stonewall, Kent, Dickens, and King Counties--Continued

Well No.	Owner	Driller	Date completed	Depth of well (ft.)	Diameter of well (in.)	Altitude of land surface (ft.)	Water level		Method of lift	Use of water	Remarks
							Below land surface datum (ft.)	Date of measurement			
70	E. W. Clark	--	--	140	6	2105	86.7	Apr. 2, 1957	W	S	
71	C. C. York	--	--	42	48	2059	28.0	Apr. 11, 1957	--	N	Dug well.
72	W. L. Buckelew	--	--	45	36	2053	30.2	Apr. 2, 1957	W	S	do.
73	E. M. Jones	Black and Jay	1941	36	48	2044	30	Apr. 4, 1957	E	S	Dug 48-inch hole; curbed with 2"x4" wood, then put in 6" pipe and filled hole with gravel.
74	do.	do.	1940	202	--	2050	--	--	E	S	Drilled to 256 feet encountered salt water at about 253 feet which rose 30-40 feet in hole; plugged back to 202 feet.
75	do.	Merle Jay	1943	14	48	--	8.2	Mar. 25, 1957	W	S	Dug well.
76	do.	- Webb	--	110	--	1902	94.0	do.	W	D	
77	Marvin Fuller	Floyd Fuller	1947	170	5	2008	146.5	Apr. 5, 1957	W	S	
78	E. M. Jones	Shorty Leach	--	250	7	2053	236.5	Mar. 25, 1957	G	S	
79	do.	do.	1950	290	7	2088	272.0	do.	W	S	
80	E. E. York	--	--	--	6-5/8	--	--	--	W	D,S	
81	W. D. Hall	Floyd Wilhoit	1942	--	5	2009	162.0	Apr. 5, 1957	W	D,S	Can be used for drinking; well pumped 3 days prior to water level measurement.
82	E. E. York	--	--	--	6-5/8	2037	171.9	do.	W	S	
83	do.	--	--	265	6-5/8	2088	228.3	do.	W	S	
84	C. D. McCurry	--	--	120	6-5/8	1988	48.7	Apr. 4, 1957	W	S	
85	O. C. Lowrance	- Webb	--	180	5-5/8	2013	135.1	do.	W	S	
86	Walton Davis	--	1930	--	--	2013	120.4	Mar. 24, 1957	W	D	

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