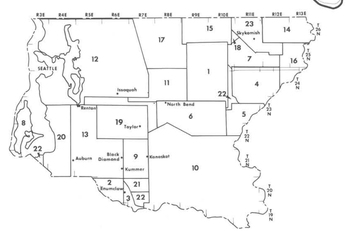
GEOLOGIC MAP OF KING COUNTY WASHINGTON

COMPILED BY
VAUGHN E. LIVINGSTON JR.
1970

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 12 MILES

INDEX MAP OF KING COUNTY
Showing Sources of Geologic Data



Sources of data used in compiling geologic map of King County.
(Numbers correspond to those shown on index map. Complete references are given in bibliography.)

1. Bethel, 1951
2. Crandell, 1963
3. Crandell and Waldron, 1956
4. Ellis, 1939
5. Foster, 1960
6. Fuller, 1925
7. Galster, 1956
8. Gosling, Molenaar, and others, 1965
9. Gower and Wanek, 1963
10. Hammond, 1963
11. Kremer, 1959
12. Liesch, Price, and Walters, 1963
13. Mullineaux, 1965, a, b, c
14. Otes, 1956
15. Plummer, 1964
16. Pratt, 1958
17. Richardson, Bingham, and Madison, 1968
18. Stockwell, 1961
19. Vine, 1962a
20. Waldron, 1961 and 1962
21. Warren and others, 1945
22. Washington Div. of Mines and Geol. files
23. Yeats, 1958

EXPLANATION

MAP SYMBOLS

Contact
Known, approximate and inferred or undifferentiated.

Scratch boundary
Contact uncertain or edge of mapped area.

Fault
Character not designated; dashed where approximate.

Thrust fault
Serrations on upper plate.

CENOZOIC

QUATERNARY

RECENT

Alluvium (Qa)
Mostly unconsolidated silt, sand, and gravel valley fill with some clay. Includes artificial fill and peat locally.

Landslide deposits (Qls)
Deformed deposits and debris of mass flowage and block slides.

Osceola Mudflow (Qm)
Unsorted till-like mixture of granule – to – cobble – sized rock fragments in clay, silt, and sand matrix.

Peat (Qp)
Chiefly decomposed vegetal matter. Some bogs contain thin clay, diatomite, and pumice beds.

Vashon till (Qt)
Hard, blue-gray to gray concrete-like mixture of clay, silt, sand, and gravel.

Vashon outwash (Qo)
Advance and recessional outwash, stratified drift and associated deposits. Made up primarily of silt, sand, and gravel with some clay.

Glacial and alluvium deposits undifferentiated (Qu)
Unconsolidated alluvial silt, sand, and gravel; stratified outwash gravel, sand, silt, and clay; till composed of unsorted clay, sand, cobbles, and boulders.

Pre-Vashon deposits undifferentiated (Q)
Till, outwash, and associated interglacial deposits; sorted and unsorted gravel, sand, silt, and clay.

PLEISTOCENE

MIOCENE

Miocene continental sedimentary rocks (M)
Clayey sands and quartzose sands with some conglomerate in the Green River area. Includes volcanic ash beds and woody lignite, in the southeastern part of the county the deposits are conglomerate sandstone with an associated andesite flow.

Snoqualmie Granodiorite (Tg)
Principal rock type is granodiorite but locally includes granite and quartz diorite.

OLIGOCENE

Oligocene sedimentary rocks (R)
Well cemented dark gray marine siltstone and light gray mudstone with some graywacke sandstone and conglomerate beds.

Tertiary volcanic rocks (Tv)
Mostly andesite breccia, and andesite flows. Basalt, rhyolite, and tuffs also present.

Tertiary intrusives (Ti)
Includes dikes, plugs, stocks, and sills of rhyolite, lamprophyre, andesite, andesite porphyry, and granitoid rocks.

TERTIARY

EOCENE

Renton Formation (Tr)
Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, quartzose sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, and shale. Macerated wood fragments are abundant. Contains many coal beds in the Renton-Newcastle area.

Tukwila Formation (Tt)
Andesitic volcanic sandstone, tuffaceous siltstone, tuff breccia, volcanic conglomerate, and locally interbedded lava flows.

Puget Group (Tp)
Arkosic and feldspathic micaceous sandstone, siltstone, claystone, shale, and conglomerate. Contains the coal seams of King County.

Tiger Mountain Formation (Ttm)
Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, carbonaceous siltstone, claystone, and coal.

Eocene sedimentary rocks (E)
Nonmarine sandstone with interbedded basalt, shale, sandstone, and conglomerate.

Raging River Formation (Tr)
Epiclastic volcanic sandstone and siltstone, locally conglomeratic. Contains marine fossils locally.

Bedrock undifferentiated. (U)

PALEOCENE

Swauk Formation (Ts)
Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, pebble to cobble conglomerate, and shale.

MESOZOIC

Mesozoic-early Cenozoic sedimentary rocks (MTs)
Graywacke, argillite, and siltstone with some slate and phyllite; includes graywacke breccia and ribbon chert.

Mesozoic-early Cenozoic volcanic rocks (MTs)
Includes andesite and basalt flows with some interbedded sandstone and chert beds.

Pre-Tertiary metamorphic rocks (pT)
Graywacke, argillite, phyllite, and chert.

Mount Stuart Granodiorite (Mg)
Mainly granodiorite but ranges from alaskite to gabbro.

Pre-Jurassic phyllite (pJp)
Phyllite; includes small areas of schist.

Pre-Jurassic schist (pJs)
Schist and amphibolite; includes small areas of phyllite and gneiss.

Pre-Jurassic gneiss (pJg)
Gneiss; includes small areas of schist and amphibolite.

PALEOZOIC

Paleozoic rocks (P)
Quartzite, greenstone, argillite, ribbon chert, hornfels, phyllite, and marble.

NONMETALLIC MINERAL DEPOSITS IN WESTERN KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Newcastle - Grand Ridge Coal Field

Renton Coal Field

Cedar Mountain Coal Field

Tiger Mountain Coal Field

Niblock Coal Field

Taylor Coal Field

Green River Coal Fields

Konasket

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES

EXPLANATION

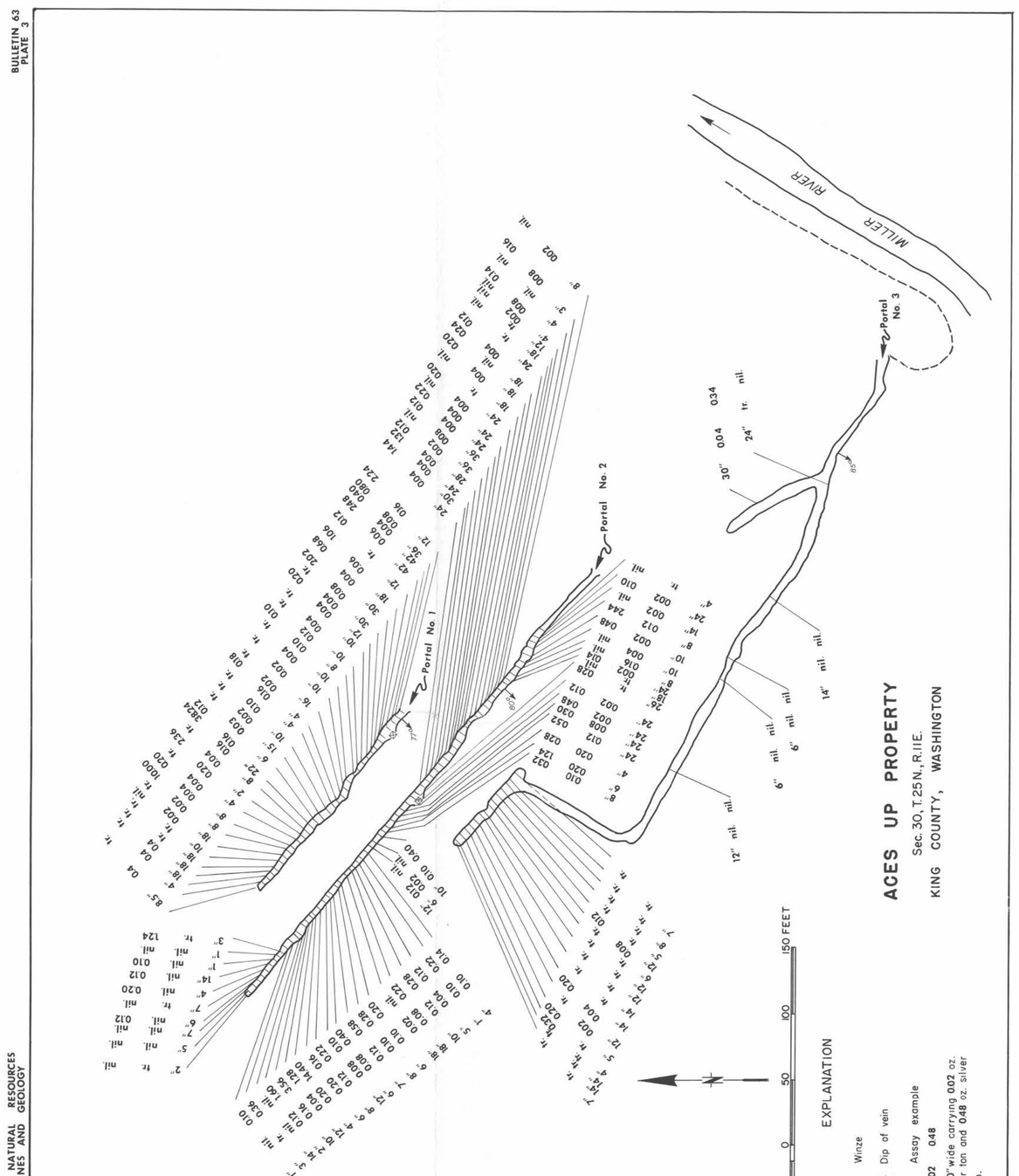
- Mined out coal seams
- Fault
- Coal seam showing dip
- 23 Peat bog
- ■ Producing peat bog in 1969
  - 1 Acme American Peat Moss
  - 2 Arbor Lake Garden Supply
  - 3 Arbor Lake Humus Co.
  - 4 Bow Lake Humus Co.
  - 5 Carlson Peat and Wood
  - 6 Puget Peat Producers
  - 7 Tri Lakes Humus
- ▲w2 Clay deposit and sample No.
- ⊙2 Clay pit producing in 1969
  - 1 Palmer
  - 2 Elk
  - 3 Blum
  - 4 Harris
  - 5 Section 31
  - 6 Newcastle
  - 7 Renton
  - 8 Lone Star
- ● Sand and gravel pits
- ⊙3 Sand & gravel pit producing in 1969
  - 1 Alberg & Associates Inc.
  - 2 Black River Quarry Inc.
  - 3 Cadman Gravel Co.
  - 4 Churchill Sand & Gravel
  - 5 Cottage Lake Gravel Co., Inc.
  - 6 Kirkland Sand & Gravel Inc.
  - 7 Lakeside Gravel Co., Inc.
  - 8 Miles Sand & Gravel Co.
  - 9 Reid Sand & Gravel, Inc.
  - 10 Rock & Sand, Inc.
  - 11 Stergion Concrete Products
  - 12 Stoneway Concrete, Inc.
  - 13 Tougaw & Olson, Inc.
  - 14 Western Sand & Gravel Co.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

ACES UP PROPERTY

Sec. 30, T. 25 N., R. 11 E.

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



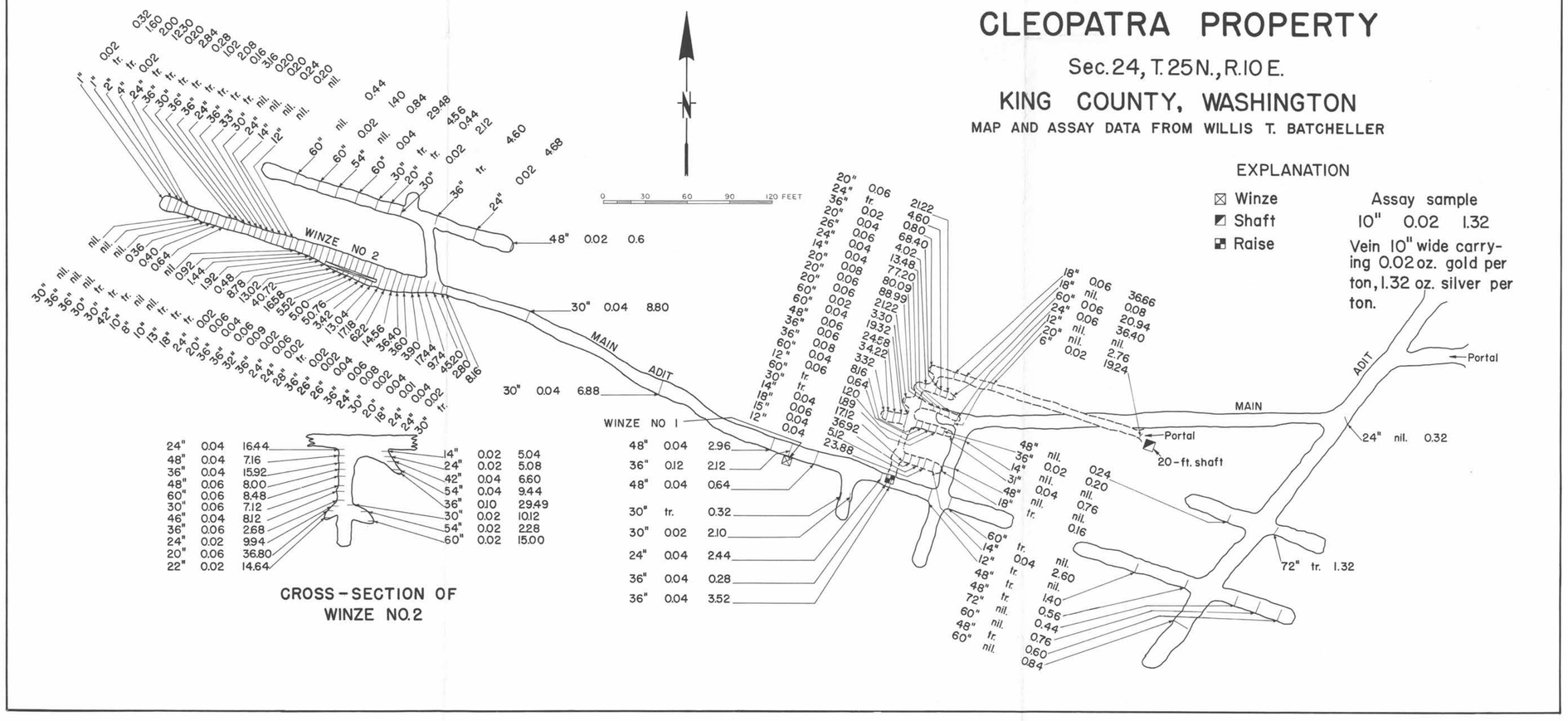
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

CLEOPATRA PROPERTY

Sec. 24, T. 25 N., R. 10 E.

KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MAP AND ASSAY DATA FROM WILLIS T. BATCHELLER



CROSS-SECTION OF WINZE NO. 2

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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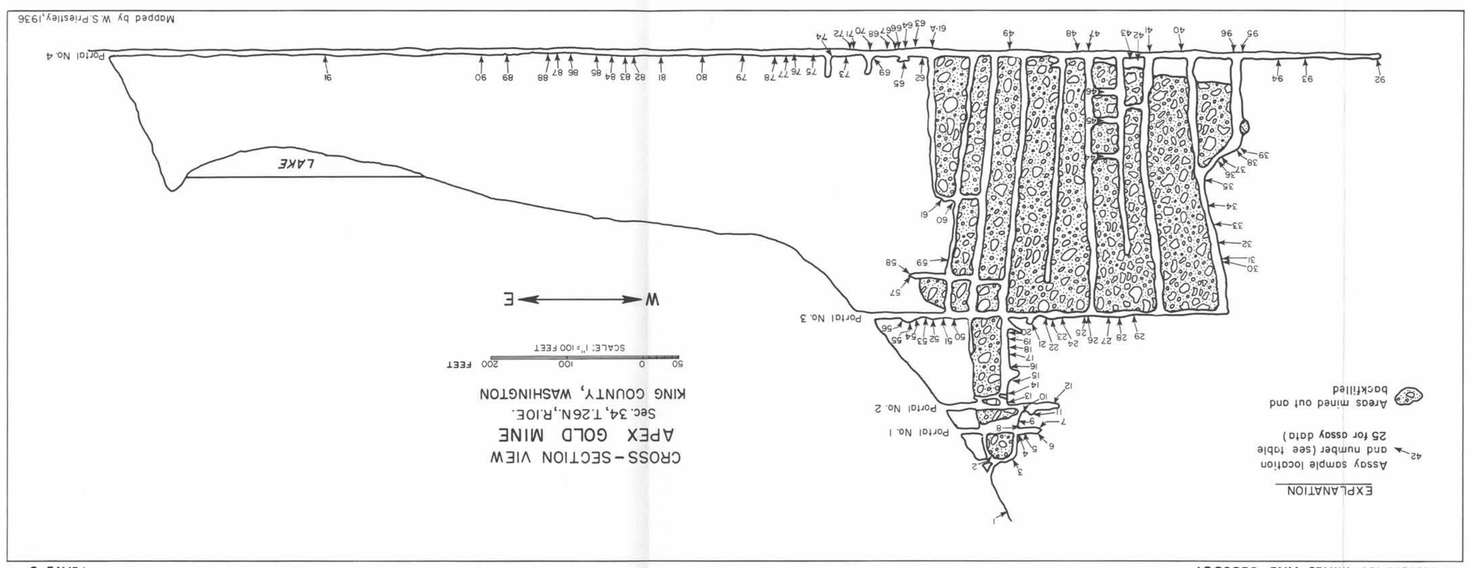
CROSS-SECTION VIEW
APEX GOLD MINE
Sec. 34, T. 26 N., R. 10 E.
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Mapped by W. S. Priestley, 1936

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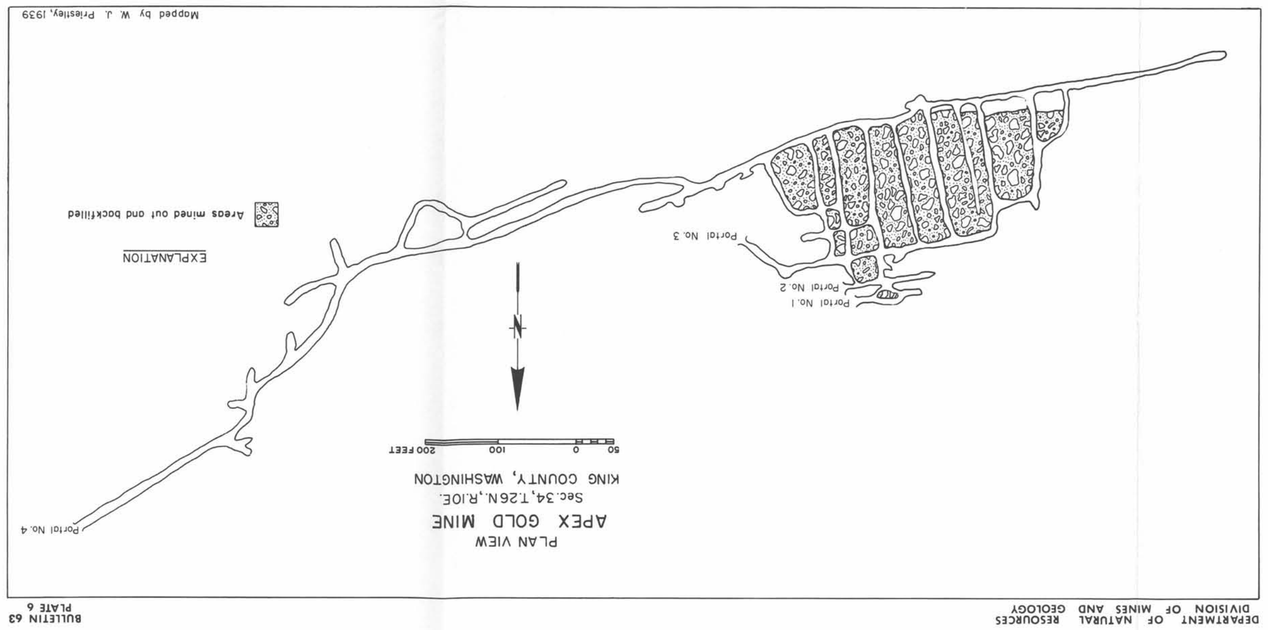
PLAN VIEW
APEX GOLD MINE
Sec. 34, T. 26 N., R. 10 E.
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Mapped by W. J. Priestley, 1939

TABLE 3.—Generalized description of engineering properties of geologic map units shown on Plate 1

[Modified from Waldron and others, 1962.]

MAP UNIT	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL FEATURES	DRAINAGE	GROUND WATER	EASE OF EXCAVATION	FOUNDATION STABILITY	SLOPE STABILITY	SEISMIC STABILITY	REPORTED OR POSSIBLE USE
Alluvium Qa	Mostly unconsolidated silt, sand, and gravel. Valley fill with some clay. Includes artificial fill and peat locally.	Includes beach sand and artificial fill. Contains interbedded peat and muck locally.	Runoff variable but generally poor because of low slopes. Infiltration moderate to very slow. Subject to flooding along many rivers and creeks in western lowland part of county.	Water table near surface. Permeability variable.	Generally easy to excavate with hand or power equipment. Can generally be dredged.	Fair; may settle excessively and irregularly because of layers of compressible organic material.	Generally poor because of saturation. May stand in steep cuts for short periods where above water table.	Very poor. Maximum destruction during April 1949 earthquake occurred on alluvium and artificial fill.	Fill, topsoil for lawns and gardens, concrete and asphalt aggregate. Alluvium in Duwamish Valley contains glassy volcanic material, probably reactive in high-alkali concrete.
Landslide Qls	Deformed deposits and debris of mass flowage and block slides.	Includes intimately mixed material from various units, and discrete blocks of various units.	Runoff poor. Slide movement produces depressions that catch and hold water. Infiltration slow in slides of glacial material. Springs commonly associated with slides.	Water table generally close to surface. Permeability generally low.	Generally easy to excavate with hand or power equipment.	Mostly unsuitable. Correction measures needed.	Both natural and cut slopes generally unstable.	Very poor.	
Oceola mudflow Qm	Unsorted till-like mixture of granule-to-cobble-sized rock fragments in clay, silt, and sand matrix.	Unsorted till-like mixture of granule-to-cobble-sized rock fragments in clay, silt, and sand matrix.	Runoff poor because of flat topography and high clay content. Infiltration slow.	Usually saturated, but not a source of ground water because of low permeability. Organic debris and pyrite may affect quality of ground water.	Difficult to excavate with hand or light power equipment. Fairly compact, lacks bedding.	Generally good, no settling expected.	Stands in steep natural and cut slopes. Ravels and spalls with wetting and drying, and freezing and thawing.	Good.	Fill.
Peat Qp	Chiefly decomposed vegetal matter. Some bogs contain thin clay, diatomite, and pumice beds.	Highly mobile; low shear strength. Water content may be as much as 10 times dry weight. Generally is acidic. Includes inorganic clay and silt.	Runoff poor, material usually accumulates in closed depressions. Infiltration moderate when dry, but generally saturated. Seasonal flooding common.	Water table at or near surface. Permeability variable.	Generally easy to excavate with hand or power equipment. Can generally be dredged. May contain large logs.	Very poor; will settle excessively under load. Low bearing capacity.	Not generally found on natural slopes. Cut slopes variable. Peat in upper few feet of deposit will stand in steep cuts; lower peat may run freely when wet.	Very poor.	Source of organic material for top soil beneficiation.
Vashon outwash Qo	Advance and recessional outwash, stratified drift and associated deposits. Made up primarily of silt, sand, and gravel. Some clay is present.	Usually poorly sorted, ungraded, and uncemented. Where unit overlies impermeable material, springs near base cause erosion and sliding of sandy phases.	Runoff poor to fair on natural surfaces; poor where vegetation and soil have been removed. Infiltration moderate on slopes with natural soil and vegetation cover, but fast where these have been removed. Springs common near base.	Presence depends on topography and underlying material. Contains perched ground water in lower part in many areas. High permeability.	May be excavated with hand or light power equipment. May be poorly cemented locally.	Fair to excellent, but may be poor on slopes that approach the angle of repose. Little settling may occur locally.	Generally unstable on slopes steeper than 30° except where silt or clay binder is present. Slope failures usually extend to a depth of only a few feet. May stand in steep cuts for short periods.	Good.	Road metal, concrete and asphalt aggregate, drain field gravel, fill.
Vashon till Qt	Hard, blue-gray to gray concrete-like mixture of clay, silt, sand, and gravel.	Unsorted mixture of clay, sand, and gravel sized material. May contain local lenses of sand and gravel. In some areas till is thin and consists of loose silty sand and gravel, but elsewhere is thick and compact.	Runoff variable. Undrained and poorly drained depressions common. Runoff good on steep slopes. Infiltration very slow.	Height of water table depends on topography. Permeability very low except in contained lenses of sand and gravel.	Very difficult to excavate with hand or light power equipment. Dense, tough, and cohesive. Generally lacks bedding or extensive fracturing.	Excellent. No settling expected.	Stands in steep natural and cut slopes for long periods. May ravel and spall by wetting and drying, and freezing and thawing.	Good.	Fill.
Pre-Vashon deposits undifferentiated Q	Till, outwash, and associated interglacial deposits; sorted and unsorted gravel, sand, silt, and clay.	Much vertical and lateral variation of physical properties. Interbedding of materials having different size range and engineering properties to be expected.	Runoff variable. Infiltration slow. Springs and seeps common.	Generally contains water, much of which is under high hydrostatic head. Permeability low to high, depending on texture.	Variable, but generally difficult to excavate with hand or light power equipment. Compact and cohesive. Locally cemented. Till lacks bedding or fractures.	Fair to excellent, depending on local conditions of slope and ground water conditions.	Highly variable. Till, silt, and clay may stand in steep cuts. Gravels may stand in steep cuts for short periods. Abundant silt and clay, together with contained water under high hydrostatic head, results in low natural slopes. Shear strength of clay and silt obtained by laboratory tests may not be applicable in field because of fracturing. Subject to landsliding. Rebound reported in clay and silt.	Good.	Fill, common brick and other clay products. Some interbedded sands contain minerals, probably reactive with high-alkali cement.
Glacial and alluvial deposits undifferentiated Qu	Unconsolidated alluvial silt. Sand, and gravel; stratified outwash gravel, sand, silt, and clay; till composed of unsorted clay, sand, cobbles, and boulders.	Unconsolidated silt, clay, sand, and gravel; may contain some peat. Well stratified to unstratified. Wide variation in physical and engineering properties.	Runoff varies from poor to good, depending on surface topography, makeup of subsurface material, and vegetal cover. Infiltration highly variable.	Presence and quality of water depends on subsurface material and topography. Permeability variable depending on subsurface material.	Variable. Poorly compacted material may be excavated with hand or light power equipment. Compact cohesive material is tough and is generally hard to excavate with hand or light power equipment.	Variable—poor to good depending on the subsurface material. Settling may occur in some areas because of compressible layers. Slope and ground water may be factor, also.	Highly variable. May stand in cuts and steep natural slopes. Slopes steeper than 30° may cause trouble, and in some areas flatter slopes will be unstable.	Poor to good, depending on the underlying material.	Locally same as Qa, Qo, and Q.
ALL FORMATIONS BELOW ARE BEDROCK									
Miocene continental deposits M	Clayey sands and quartzose sands and some conglomerate, conglomerate sandstone, and andesite flows.	Friable clayey sandstone, poorly cemented.	Runoff excellent; infiltration slow.	Permeability low, probably contains very little water.	Heavy equipment needed. Ripper or power shovel usually adequate.	Excellent, but subject to limitations of slope.	Stands for long periods in steep cuts and slopes.	Good.	Source of kaolinite clay and glass sand.
Oligocene sedimentary rocks ϕ	Well-cemented dark-gray marine siltstone and light-gray mudstone and some graywacke sandstone and conglomerate beds.	Partly cemented, but may be weathered near surface. Contains some opal cement.	Runoff excellent; infiltration slow. Few springs.	Permeability low.	Blasting and heavy power equipment required for excavation.	Excellent, but subject to slope limitations. No settling expected.	Stands for long periods in steep natural banks and cuts. Dip of beds may affect slope stability.	Good.	Fill.
Renton Formation Tr	Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, quartzose sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, and shale. Contains coal beds.	Partly cemented, but contains uncemented beds.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, coal, common clay, foundry sand.
Tukwila Formation Tt	Andesitic volcanic sandstone, tuffaceous siltstone, tuff breccia, volcanic conglomerate, and local lava flows.	Partly cemented. May be weathered at surface; contains volcanic tuff beds.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Tiger Mountain Formation Ttm	Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, carbonaceous siltstone, claystone, and coal.	Clay cemented, weathered at surface. Locally may be hydrothermally altered.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Raging River Formation Trr	Epiclastic volcanic sandstone and siltstone, locally conglomeratic.	Partly cemented; some beds are friable.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Puget Group Tp	Arkosic and feldspathic micaceous sandstone, siltstone, shale, and conglomerate.	Partly cemented; may be deeply weathered at surface.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, coal, glass sand, clay.
Eocene sedimentary rocks E	Nonmarine sandstone and interbedded basalt, shale, sandstone, and conglomerate.	Interbedded with volcanics. Mostly well cemented and hard.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap.
Swauk Formation Ts	Nonmarine arkosic sandstone, pebble to cobble conglomerate, and shale.	Well cemented, jointed. Altered in some places.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Mesozoic-early Cenozoic sedimentary rocks MTs	Graywacke, argillite, and siltstone and some slate and phyllite; includes graywacke breccia and ribbon chert.	Mostly well cemented, fairly highly jointed. Locally hydrothermally altered and soft.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Snoqualmie Granodiorite Tg	Granodiorite, granite, and quartz diorite.	Hard, firm rock. Altered locally. Jointing well developed.	Same as above.	Same as above. Ground water only in joints.	Same as above. Breaks along joints.	Excellent.	Stands for long periods in steep natural banks and cuts.	Good.	Fill, riprap, chicken grit, landscape stone, ballast, crushed rock.
Tertiary volcanic rocks Tv	Mostly andesite breccia, and andesite flows. Basalt, rhyolite, and tuffs also present.	Medium hard rock, locally soft. Commonly jointed. In places contains much altered tuff.	Same as above.	Low permeability.	Blasting and heavy power equipment required for excavation.	Excellent, but subject to slope limitations.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap, landscape stone.
Tertiary intrusives Ti	Dikes, plugs, stocks, and sills of rhyolite, lamprophyre, andesite, andesite porphyry, and granitoid rocks.	Mostly hard tough rock. Contains zones of alteration.	Same as above.	Same as above. Ground water only in joints.	Same as above. Breaks along joints.	Excellent.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap, ballast, crushed rock, aggregate, landscape stone.
Mesozoic-early Cenozoic volcanic rocks MTv	Andesite and basalt flows including some interbedded sandstone and chert beds.	Highly jointed, contains sedimentary rock interbeds.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap.
Pre-Tertiary metamorphics pT	Graywacke, argillite, phyllite, and chert.	Highly jointed. Compact, hard.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Mount Stuart Granodiorite Mg	Mainly granodiorite, but ranges from alaskite to gabbro.	Hard, firm rock, jointing well developed.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap, ballast, crushed rock, aggregate.
Pre-Jurassic phyllite pJp	Mainly phyllite, but includes small areas of schist.	Fairly soft, easily weathered and eroded.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above. Is most easily broken along rock cleavage planes.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Pre-Jurassic schist pJs	Schist and amphibolites; includes small areas of phyllite and gneiss.	Fairly soft. Banded and contorted.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill.
Pre-Jurassic gneiss pJg	Gneiss; includes small areas of schist and amphibolite.	Hard, dense, firm rock. Jointing sometimes well developed.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above. Breaks up along joint systems.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap.
Paleozoic rocks P	Quartz, greenstone, argillite, ribbon chert, hornfels, phyllite, and marble.	Composition highly variable.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above. Rock type controls ease of excavation.	Same as above.	Same as above.	Good.	Fill, riprap, cement, agricultural limestone.

TABLE 11– Summary of coal production in King County, Washington, by mine and year from 1888 through 1967

| COMPANY | MINE | NEAREST TOWN | 1888 | 1889 | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 | 1899 | 1900 | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 | 1911 | 1912 | 1913 | 1914 | 1915 | 1916 | 1917 | 1918 | 1919 | 1920 | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 | 1930 | 1931 | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 |
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