



SEISMICITY MAP OF THE STATE OF MAINE

By

C. W. Stover, L. M. Barnhard, B. G. Reagor, and S. T. Algermissen

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INTRODUCTION

The earthquake data shown on this map and listed in table 1 are a list of earthquakes that were originally used in preparing the Seismic Risk Studies in the United States (Algermissen, 1969) which have been recompiled and updated through 1977. These data have been reexamined which resulted in some revisions and additions to the original compilation. Some epicenters were relocated and some magnitudes were updated. Intensity values were updated from new and additional data that previously had none assigned. Intensity values were updated from new and additional data that were not available at the time of the original compilation. Some epicenters were relocated on the basis of new information. The data shown in table 1 are estimates of the most accurate epicenter, magnitude, and intensity of each earthquake, on the basis of historical and current information. Some of the earthquakes are listed but are incomplete in many instances, especially for ones that occurred before seismic instruments were in universal use. Only earthquakes located within the borders of the state of Maine are listed. This map supersedes Miscellaneous Field Studies Map MF-1284.

The data in table 1 were used to compile the seismicity map. The latitude and longitude were rounded to the nearest tenth of a degree and sorted so that all identical locations were grouped together and counted. A triangle represents the epicenter plotted to a tenth of a degree. The number of earthquakes at the location is indicated by the number to the right of the triangle. A Roman numeral to the left of a triangle is the maximum Modified Mercalli intensity intensity value indicates that no intensities have been assigned to earthquakes at that location. A year shown below a triangle is the latest year for which the maximum intensity was recorded.

EXPLANATION OF THE TABLES

The data are listed chronologically in table 1 in the following categories: date, origin time, N. latitude, W. longitude, depth, hypocenter quality and referenced data sources, magnitude, and intensity (Modified Mercalli) and intensity source references. Table 1 has some basic limitations in terms of the size (latitude and longitude) of the earthquakes listed. Prior to 1965 all recorded felt earthquakes are listed, after 1965 only felt earthquakes or those with magnitudes above the 2.5-3.0 range are listed; the lower magnitude levels apply mostly to the eastern United States. If no magnitude was computed and the earthquake was felt it was included in the earthquake list. The low magnitude events located in recent years with dense seismograph networks have not been included.

Listed below is an explanation of the symbols and codes used in the tables:

- Leaders (...) indicate information not available.
- Latitude and longitude are listed to a hundredth of a degree if they have been published with that degree of accuracy, or greater; however, most historical events have been published only to the nearest degree or tenth of a degree and are therefore listed at this accuracy in table 1. An asterisk (\*) to the right of the longitude indicates that the latitude and longitude were not given in the source reference but were computed by the compilers of the data file. An (x) to the right of the longitude indicates that the event is an explosion, a suspected earthquake, or a noninstrumental epicenter. The letter code in the HYPOCENTER, QUAL column is defined below:
  - Determination of instrumental hypocenters are estimated to be accurate within the ranges of latitude and longitude listed below; each range is letter coded as indicated:
 

A	0.0°-0.1°
B	0.1°-0.2°
C	0.2°-0.5°
D	0.5°-1.0°
E	1.0° or larger
  - Determination of noninstrumental epicenters from felt data are estimated to be accurate within the ranges of latitude and longitude listed below; each range is letter coded as indicated:
 

F	0.0°-0.5°
G	0.5°-1.0°
H	1.0° or larger
- The reference identification numbers in the HYPOCENTER, REF and INTENSITY, REF columns indicate the sources of the hypocenter and intensity. They are listed in numerical order in table 1. The magnitudes listed under "USGS" are mb values (Gutenberg and Richter, 1956) published in the Preliminary Determination of Epicenters (PDE) of the United States Geological Survey and predecessor organizations. Associated with the magnitude values listed under "OTHER" are the source code and type. Type is defined by 1-M (Richter, 1958), 2-mbg (Nuttli, 1973), 3-m (Gutenberg and Richter, 1956), and 5-mbg (Gutenberg and Richter, 1956). The source codes are listed below:
 

SIM	St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo.
OTT	Earth Physics Branch, Seismological Service of Canada, Ottawa.
WES	Weston Observatory, Weston, Ma.
- An asterisk (\*) in the INTENSITY, MM column indicates that the intensity was assigned by the compiler on the basis of the available data at the time the catalog was compiled.

REFERENCES

- Algermissen, S. T., 1969, Seismic risk studies in the United States: Fourth World Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Santiago, Chile, January 13-18, 1969, Proceedings, v. 1, p.14-27.
- Bath, M., 1966, Earthquake energy and magnitude, in: Physics and chemistry of the Earth: Oxford and New York, Pergamon Press, p. 115-165.
- Gutenberg, B., and Richter, C. F., 1956, Magnitude and energy of earthquakes: *Annali di Geofisica*, v. 9, no. 1, p. 1-15.
- Nuttli, O. W., 1973, Seismic wave attenuation and magnitude relations for eastern North America: *Journal of Geophysical Research*, v. 78, no. 5, p. 476-481.
- Richter, C. F., 1958, *Elementary Seismology*: San Francisco, Calif., W. H. Freeman and Co., Inc., 768 p.
- Wood, H. O., and Neumann, F., 1931, Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale of 1931: *Seismological Society of America Bulletin*, v. 21, no. 4, p. 277-283.

MODIFIED MERCALLI INTENSITY OF 1931

- Not felt - or, except rarely under especially favorable circumstances. Under certain conditions, at and outside the boundary of the area in which a great shock is felt: sometimes birds, animals, reported uneasy or disturbed; sometimes dizziness or nausea experienced; sometimes trees, structures, liquids, bodies of water, may sway - or may swing, very slowly.
- Felt indoors by few, especially on upper floors, or by sensitive, or nervous persons. Also, as in grade I, but often more noticeably: sometimes hanging objects may swing, especially suspended; sometimes dizziness or nausea experienced; sometimes birds, animals, reported uneasy or disturbed; sometimes dizziness or nausea experienced.
- Felt indoors by several, motion usually rapid vibration. Sometimes not recognized to be an earthquake at first. Duration estimated in some cases. "Vibration like that due to passing of light, or lightly loaded trucks, or heavy trucks some distance away. Hanging objects may swing slightly. Movements may be appreciable on upper levels of tall structures, rickety standing motor cars slightly.
- Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few. Awakened few, especially light sleepers. Frightened no one, unless apprehensive from previous experience. Vibration like that due to passing of heavy or heavily loaded trucks. Sensation like heavy body striking building or falling of heavy objects inside. Rattling of dishes, rattling of glassware and crockery clink and clash. Creaking of walls, frame, especially in the upper range of this grade. Hanging objects swung, in numerous instances. Disturbed liquids in open vessels slightly. Rattling of standing motor cars slightly.
- Felt indoors by practically all, outdoors by many or most; outdoors direction estimated. Awakened all, or most. Frightened few - slight excitement, a few ran outdoors. Buildings trembled throughout. Broke dishes, glassware, to some extent. Cracked windows - in some cases, but not in all. Small bells rang - church bells, small or unstable objects, in many instances, with occasional fall. Hanging objects, doors, swung generally or considerably. Knocked pictures against walls, or swung them out of place. Opened, or closed, doors, shutters, abruptly. Stopped, started, or ran fast, or slow. Moved small objects, furnishings, the latter to slight extent. Spilled liquids in small amounts from well-filled open containers. Trees, bushes, shaken slightly.
- Felt by all, indoors and outdoors. Frightened many, excitement general, some alarm, many ran outdoors. Awakened all. Persons made to move unsteadily. Trees, bushes, shaken slightly to moderately. Liquid motion, in small amounts. Damage negligible in chapel, school, etc. Damage slight in poorly built buildings, fall of plaster in small amount. Cracked plaster somewhat, especially fine cracks chimneys in some instances. Broke dishes, glassware, in considerable quantity, also some windows. Fall of knick-knacks, books, pictures. Overturned furniture in many instances. Moved furnishings of moderately heavy kind.
- Frightened all - general alarm, all ran outdoors. Some, or many, found it difficult to stand. Noticed by persons driving motor cars. Trees and bushes shaken moderately to strongly. Waves on ponds, lakes, and running water. Water turbid from mud stirred up. Injuring to some extent of sand or gravel stream banks. Rang large church bells, etc. Suspended objects made to swing. Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction, slight to moderate in well-built ordinary buildings, considerable in poorly built structures. Damage to adobe houses, old walls (especially where laid up without mortar), spires, cracked chimneys to considerable extent, walls to some extent. Fall of plaster in considerable to large amount, also some stucco windows, furniture to some extent. Shook down loosened brickwork and tiles. Broke weak chimneys at the roof-line (sometimes damaging roof). Fall of cornices from towers and high buildings. Dislodged bricks and stones. Overturned heavy furniture, with damage from breaking. Damage considerable to concrete irrigation ditches.
- Fright general - alarm approaches panic. Disturbed persons driving motor cars. Trees shaken strongly - branches, trunks, broken off, especially palm trees. Ejected sand and mud in small amounts. Changes: temporary in flow of springs and wells; dry wells renewed flow; in temperature of spring and well waters. Damage slight in structures of ordinary built especially to withstand earthquakes. Considerable in ordinary substantial buildings, partial collapse of structures, tumbling down, wooden houses in some cases; threw out panel walls in frame structures, broke off decayed pilings. Fall of walls, broke solid stone walls. Seriously damaged standing structures. Destroyed large buildings by the wrecking of supporting piers, or pillars. Affected yielding wooden frames less. Bent railroad rails greatly, and thrust them endwise. Put pipe lines buried in earth completely out of service.
- Damage total - practically all works of construction damaged greatly or destroyed. Disturbances in ground great and varied, numerous shearing cracks. Landslides, falls of rock of significant character, slumping of river banks, etc., numerous and extensive. Wrenched loose, tore off, large rock masses. Fault slips in firm rock, with notable horizontal and vertical offset displacements. Water channels, surface and underground, disturbed and modified greatly. Dammed lakes, produced waterfalls, deflected rivers, etc. Waves seen on ground surfaces (actually seen, probably, in some cases). Distorted lines of sight and level. Three objects upward into the air.

Table 1.--Chronological listing of earthquakes for the State of Maine

DATE	ORIGIN TIME (UTC)	LAT. (N.)	LONG. (W.)	DEPTH (KM)	HYPOCENTER QUAL	MAGNITUDE	OTHER	INTENSITY
YEAR MONTH DAY	H M S							MM REF
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	V 76
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	II 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	III 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	IV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	V 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	VI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	VII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	VIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	IX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	X 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXV 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVI 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXVIII 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXXIX 126
1766 JAN 23	10 00	43.7	70.3	..	I 126	..	..	XXXXXXX 126