



Compiled on U.S. Geological Survey
Topographic map. Aerial photographs
used to map northern one-fourth.



GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE SAWYER QUADRANGLE, NORTH DAKOTA

Geology mapped by Richard W. Lence, J. H. Smith
and Fred S. Jensen, 1947

U. S. Geological Survey

OPEN FILE REPORT

This map is preliminary and has
not been edited or revised for
conformity with Geological Survey
standards or nomenclature.

Qal

Alluvium

Sand, silt, and clay constituting the floor of the Souris River valley and larger
tributaries. In places also includes colluvium. Not differentiated in glacial
channels and other places where present in small amounts.

Ql

Landslide deposits

Hummocky area of slumped till

Qco, Qc

Outwash channel deposits

Deposits in channels incised by glacial meltwater. (Qco) consists of gravel,
sand, and silt, in general ranging in thickness from 2 to 15 feet. (Qc) consists
chiefly of silt and clay ranging in thickness from a few feet to less than a
foot; in places includes thin deposits of Recent alluvium deposited by small
intermittent streams incised in the floors of the channels and also of slope wash.
(Qco) and (Qc) intergrade.

Qt

Outwash terrace deposits

Remnants of glacial outwash fill left as terraces along valley walls of Souris
River. Deposit in sec. 2, T. 155 N., R. 82 W., is more than 35 feet thick and
consists chiefly of medium to poorly sorted sand and gravel commonly as much
as 3 inches in diameter; minor beds of silt and a few boulders as much as 6 feet
long. Deposit between Sawyer and Logan is in most places 5 to 10 feet thick
and consists chiefly of poorly sorted coarse gravel and abundant boulders on
the surface.

Qdc

Diversion channel deposits

Outwash deposited on floors of high level diversion channels incised by glacial
meltwater flowing down the Souris River. Consists chiefly of poorly sorted
sand and gravel, commonly as much as 4 inches in diameter; local accumulations
of boulders. Deposits commonly range in thickness from 10 feet to less than
2 feet. Some outwash terrace deposits (Qt) in secs. 20 and 21, T. 155 N., R.
82 W., are lithologically gradational with these deposits and are therefore
included with this geologic unit.

Qk

Kames

Mostly small mounds and ridges consisting chiefly of poorly sorted sand and
gravel. A conspicuous conical hill about 100 feet high in sec. 1, T. 153 N.,
R. 80 W., consisting chiefly of sand, gravel, and boulders as much as 4 feet
across, is interpreted to be a kame.

Qgm

Ground moraine

Chiefly a compact highly impervious stony clay-rich till. Generally 50 to 100
feet thick. Locally mantled, especially near glacial channels, by sand and
silt deposited by glacial meltwater. Also includes small deposits of alluvium
and colluvium deposited in numerous kettles and other undrained depressions.
Surface in most places poorly drained.

Qm

Moraine on Coteau du Missouri

Hummocky area consisting of a stony clay-rich till similar in composition to
the ground moraine. Unintegrated to poorly integrated surface drainage.

Qkt

Exposed kame terrace (?) deposits

Discontinuous ice contact deposits of sand and fine-grained gravel generally
from 5 to 15 feet thick along valley walls of Souris River. Deposits overlie
till and in turn are buried in most places by younger till but partly exposed
by Recent erosion.

Tfu

Fort Union formation
Tongue River member

Continental beds of poorly to moderately consolidated sandstone, sand, silt-
stone, shaly clay, and lignite. Weathered exposures are gray to tan. Solid
pattern shows individual exposure or area of closely spaced outcrops.

Tc

Cannonball formation

Chiefly thin bedded marine fossiliferous brown sand and sandy shale. Solid
pattern shows individual exposure or area of closely spaced outcrops.

Contact, sharply defined

Contact, approximate

Contact, gradational or indefinite

Terrace scarp

Spring

Lignite coal mine, inactive under-
ground mine

Lignite coal mine, active strip pit

Gravel pit

Farm buildings

School house

Church

Paved U. S. highway

Road, secondary

Approximate location of test hole drilled
by the U. S. Geological Survey. Top
figure gives surface altitude. Bottom
figure is interpreted depth to bedrock.
In some holes bedrock may be considerably
closer to the surface than indicated.

BM 1619'

Bench mark and altitude, approximate
location

Intermittent stream

Marsh

County boundary

Section boundary

U. S. Geological Survey
Reports, Open file series, no.

