

(200)
i H797g

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Water Resources Division

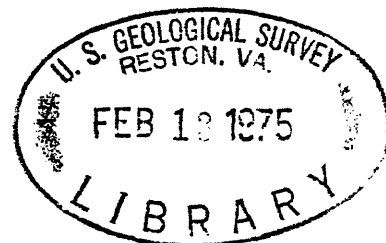
GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY OF THE WATER-BEARING DEPOSITS

NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

By

William R. Hotchkiss ✓

73-119



Prepared in cooperation with the
California Department of Water Resources

OPEN-FILE REPORT

6438-03

Menlo Park, California
May 12, 1972

256412

CONTENTS

	Page
Abstract-----	1
Introduction-----	2
Location and general features-----	2
Purpose and scope-----	2
Previous studies-----	3
Well-numbering system-----	4
Acknowledgment-----	4
Method of study and nature of the data-----	6
Selected references-----	15

ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
Figure 1. Index map-----	IV
2. Diagram of well-numbering system-----	5
3. Electric and lithologic logs-----	7
4. Generalized geologic cross sections-----	8
5. Map showing structure and extent of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation-----	10
6. Map showing thickness of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation-----	12

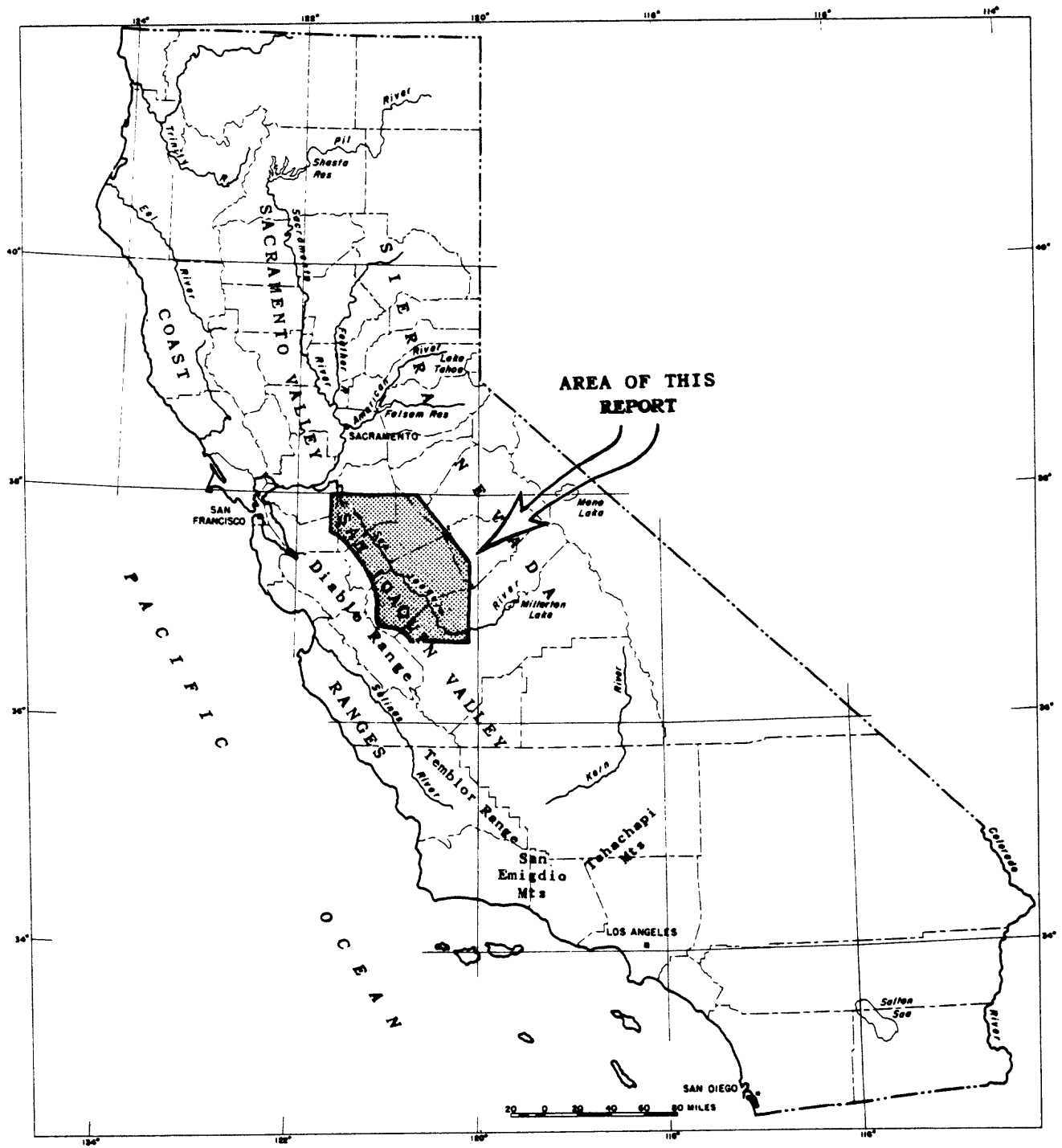


FIGURE 1.--Index map.

GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY OF THE WATER-BEARING DEPOSITS
NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

By Willaim R. Hotchkiss

ABSTRACT

The study area includes about 5,000 square miles of the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley, a broad structural trough drained by the San Joaquin River. Fresh ground water is mostly in unconsolidated deposits derived from the Coast Ranges on the west and the Sierra Nevada on the east. The interfingering of Coast Range and Sierran alluvium, together with the variability and lenticularity of each, causes variation in the hydrologic properties both vertically and horizontally in San Joaquin Valley deposits. A persistent confining stratum, the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation, can be correlated through most of the study area. Informally, the deposits above the clay are termed the upper unit; the clay is termed the confining clay stratum; and the deposits from the bottom of the clay to the base of fresh water, where known, are termed the lower unit. The upper unit is composed of beds, lenses, and tongues of gravel, sand, and clay ranging in thickness from about 100 feet in the north to 500 feet at the south end of the study area. A distinctive "white clay," at or near the base of the upper unit, can be traced across the center of the valley. The confining clay stratum is the greenish to bluish gray lacustrine Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation; it ranges from 0 to 130 feet in thickness. No attempt to delineate the top and bottom of the Tulare Formation was made because of the thickness and similarity of deposits overlying and underlying the Corcoran. The lower unit is lithologically similar to the upper unit and ranges in thickness, where the base of fresh water has been mapped, from 90 to more than 1,400 feet.

INTRODUCTION

Location and General Features

The Central Valley of California consists of the San Joaquin and the Sacramento Valleys. The San Joaquin Valley (fig. 1), forming the southern two-thirds of the Central Valley, is a broad structural trough. It is bordered on the east by the Sierra Nevada, and on the west by the Diablo and the Temblor Ranges, which are parts of the Coast Ranges. The valley extends 250 miles southeasterly from the confluence of the San Joaquin and the Sacramento Rivers to the Tehachapi and the San Emigdio Mountains. The width of the valley ranges from 25 miles near the Kern River to 55 miles near the Kings River and averages about 35 miles. The study area, the northern half of the San Joaquin Valley, includes about 5,000 square miles.

The warm climate, rich soil, and extensive irrigation make the San Joaquin Valley the largest single agricultural area in the State and one of the most productive agricultural areas in the country. Water from wells makes up the sole irrigation-water supply for about half the irrigated land within the valley, and is a supplemental supply for another quarter of the irrigated area. Ground water is less important as a source of agricultural water in the northern half of the valley. Madera County utilizes ground water for more than half its agricultural demand, but west of the San Joaquin River, water delivered via canals is twice the quantity pumped from wells.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this investigation is to map impermeable lacustrine clay deposits in the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley and to describe the fresh-water aquifers briefly. The scope of the investigation includes delineation of major confining beds and associated fresh-water aquifers in the subsurface in sufficient detail to define and describe their thickness, lithology, and stratigraphic relations.

The investigation was made by the U.S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the California Department of Water Resources, as a part of a ground-water studies program in the San Joaquin Valley. The report was prepared under the general supervision of R. Stanley Lord and his successor, Lee R. Peterson, district chiefs in charge of water-resources investigations in California, and under the immediate supervision of Willard W. Dean, chief of the Sacramento subdistrict office.

Previous Studies

The search for oil spurred early systematic geologic investigations by Watts (1894) and Anderson (1912) in the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley. Since that time, most geologic work has been concerned with consolidated oil-bearing rocks of Cretaceous and Tertiary age. Consequently, many publications on the geology of numerous oilfields are available, most of which have been prepared by the California Division of Mines and Geology or the California Division of Oil and Gas. Unconsolidated deposits of late Tertiary and Quaternary age, the subject of this report, overlie the oil-bearing rocks.

Unconsolidated deposits of late Tertiary and Quaternary age have been mapped on the south and west sides of the valley at several places where they truncate the underlying oil-bearing rocks. These deposits were named the Tulare Formation in the Coalinga district by Anderson (1905), and in the Diablo Range by Anderson and Pack (1915). The Tulare Formation was mapped in the foothills of the Techachapi and the San Emigdio Mountains at the south end of the valley by Pack (1920), and by Hoots (1930). Detailed studies of the Tulare Formation have been made by Woodring and others (1932 and 1940) in the Elk and Kettleman Hills. Fresh-water-bearing deposits of late Tertiary and Quaternary age that occur in the vicinity of the Kern River were named the Kern River Beds by Anderson (1905) and were termed the Kern River Series by Diepenbrock (1933). Other important detailed geologic descriptions of surface and subsurface lacustrine and alluvial deposits of Pliocene and Quaternary age include papers by Barbat and Galloway (1934), Frink and Kues (1954), and Klausing and Lohman (1964). Geomorphic studies of alluvial fans in western Fresno County have been made by Bull (1964a and 1964b).

Several ground-water reconnaissance reports, prepared by Federal and State agencies, are available for the San Joaquin Valley. The earliest valley-wide reconnaissance reports, prepared by Mendenhall (1908) and Mendenhall and others (1916) were made when ground-water development was in its infancy. The reports outlined the state of ground-water development, ground-water use, and quality of the water. Later, Harding (1927) made a study of water conditions in the southern part of the valley and outlined areas of insufficient supply.

Davis and others (1959) made a study of ground-water conditions and storage capacity in the San Joaquin Valley. Their report outlined the principal geologic and hydrologic features that control the movement of ground water. They estimated the valley has a storage capacity of 93 million acre-feet available for cyclic storage of water in the interval between 10 and 200 feet in depth below land surface. Later, Davis and others (1964, p. 119) concluded that most of the 93 million acre-feet of ground-water storage capacity is usable, but that more basic information on rates of infiltration, geologic controls, and ground-water movement is needed before firm estimates of usable storage capacity can be made. Geologic and hydrologic reports of adjacent areas within the valley have been made by Davis and Poland (1957), Davis and others (1964), Page and others (1969), Croft (1969), Miller and others (1969), Mitten and others (1970), Bull and Miller (1971), and Hotchkiss and Balding (1971). California Department of Water Resources and U.S. Geological Survey personnel have made numerous investigations of geology and hydrology in the San Joaquin Valley.

Well-Numbering System

In California, the U.S. Geological Survey, the California Department of Water Resources, and other agencies, use a well-numbering system based on rectangular subdivision of public lands. Well 11S/10E-22F1 M (fig. 2), is assigned to a well 6.5 miles south of the city of Los Banos. The part of the number preceding the slash denotes township (T. 11 S.); the number between the slash and the hyphen denotes range (R. 10 E.); the number between the hyphen and the letter denotes the section (sec. 22); the letter following the section number denotes the quarter-quarter section ($SE\frac{1}{4}$, $NW\frac{1}{4}$), generally a 40-acre subdivision; the number following the quarter-quarter section denotes the serial number of the well within that subdivision and identifies the well in time rather than location. The northern part of the San Joaquin Valley lies wholly within the southern quadrant of the Mount Diablo base line and meridian denoted by the final M.

Acknowledgment

The collection of data and successful completion of the investigation for this report were made possible by the cooperation of public agencies, private companies, and individuals. Well logs were furnished by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Water Resources, ground-water consultants, well drillers, and private-land companies. Copies of electric logs were obtained from commercial blueprint firms or, with the permission of well owners, were made available by Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp., Zublin Well Logging Corp., and the California Division of Oil and Gas.

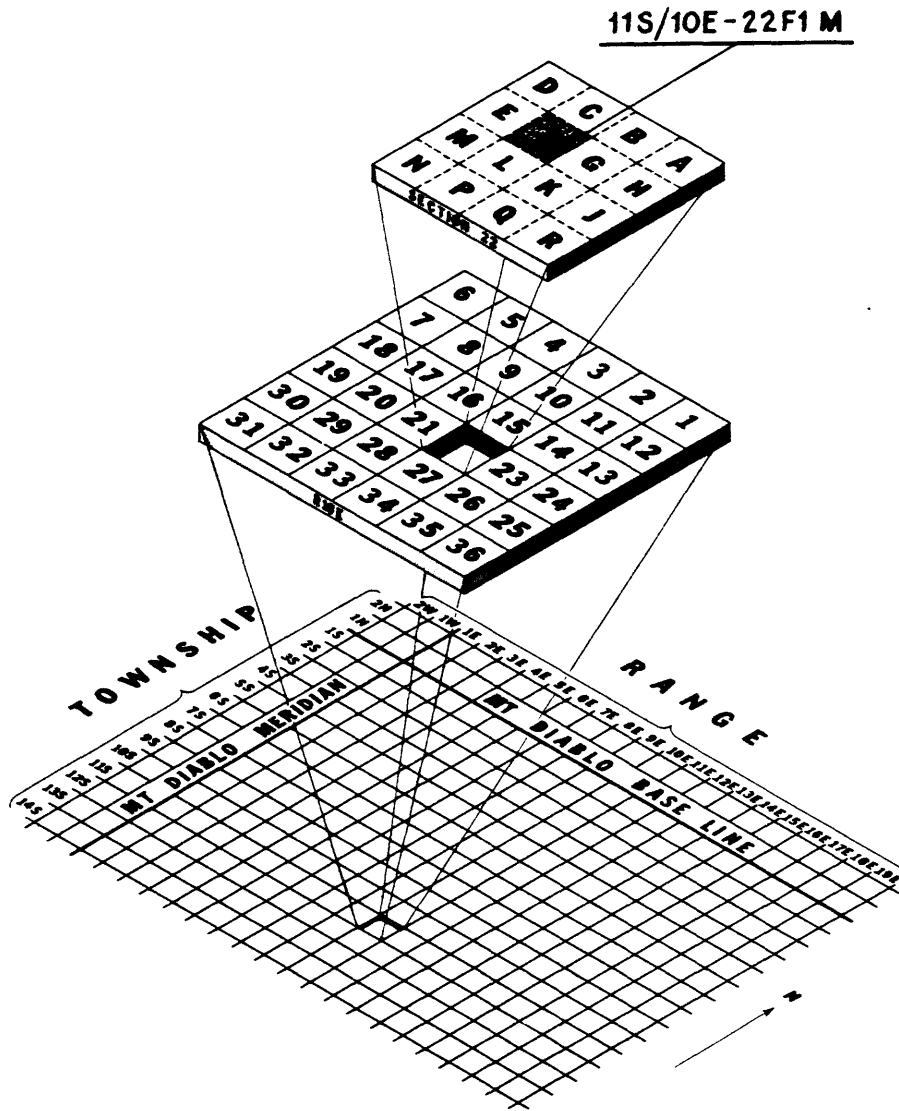


FIGURE 2.--Well-numbering system.

METHOD OF STUDY AND NATURE OF THE DATA

Field and office work for this report was begun in 1968 and completed in November 1971. Because other agencies and the U.S. Geological Survey have collected a vast quantity of well logs and other data, most of the information in this report was assembled from existing files.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the California Department of Water Resources have cored, and made detailed lithologic logs of about 36 holes in the fresh-water-bearing deposits in the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley. Most of the core holes were electric logged. Figure 3 shows electric logs and lithology of two selected holes. In addition, the Geological Survey has copies of about 250 electric logs of water wells and logs of auger and reverse-rotary holes on file.

The techniques used for this study are similar to those used in general geologic mapping: beds are separated into informal units, and lateral and vertical changes in lithology and texture are described. Mappable units were identified in drillers' logs and logs of core holes, correlated with electric logs of the same or adjacent wells and then correlated with units in more distant wells. The stratigraphic relations of the deposits are illustrated in the generalized geologic sections (fig. 4). The areal extent of units including structure and thickness are depicted on figures 5 and 6. Electric logs and lithologic logs obtained from drillers were correlated with the few available logs from core holes and used to construct the areal maps and geologic sections.

Unconsolidated continental deposits compose the fresh-water-bearing sediments in the study area. These deposits have been referred to, wholly or in part, as younger alluvium, older alluvium, Turlock Lake Formation of Davis and Hall (1959), China Hat Gravel of Arkley (1962), North Merced Gravel of Arkley (1962), Laguna Formation, and Tulare Formation. Whatever name is locally applied to them, they consist largely of lenticular beds of sand, silt, and clay. In addition to differing widely in extent and thickness, the beds grade both laterally and vertically into one another. Only one persistent, confining stratum, the Pleistocene Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation, can be correlated through most of the northern San Joaquin Valley. Within the areal extent of this confining unit, an informal three unit subdivision of the fresh-water-bearing continental deposits can be made as follows: An upper unit extending from land surface to the top of the confining clay bed; the confining clay stratum; and a lower unit extending from the base of the confining clay down to the base of the fresh water.

For the purpose of this study, a specific conductance of 3,000 micromhos per centimeter (about 2,000 milligrams per liter dissolved solids) was selected as a measure of the base of fresh ground water (Page, 1971, p. 1).

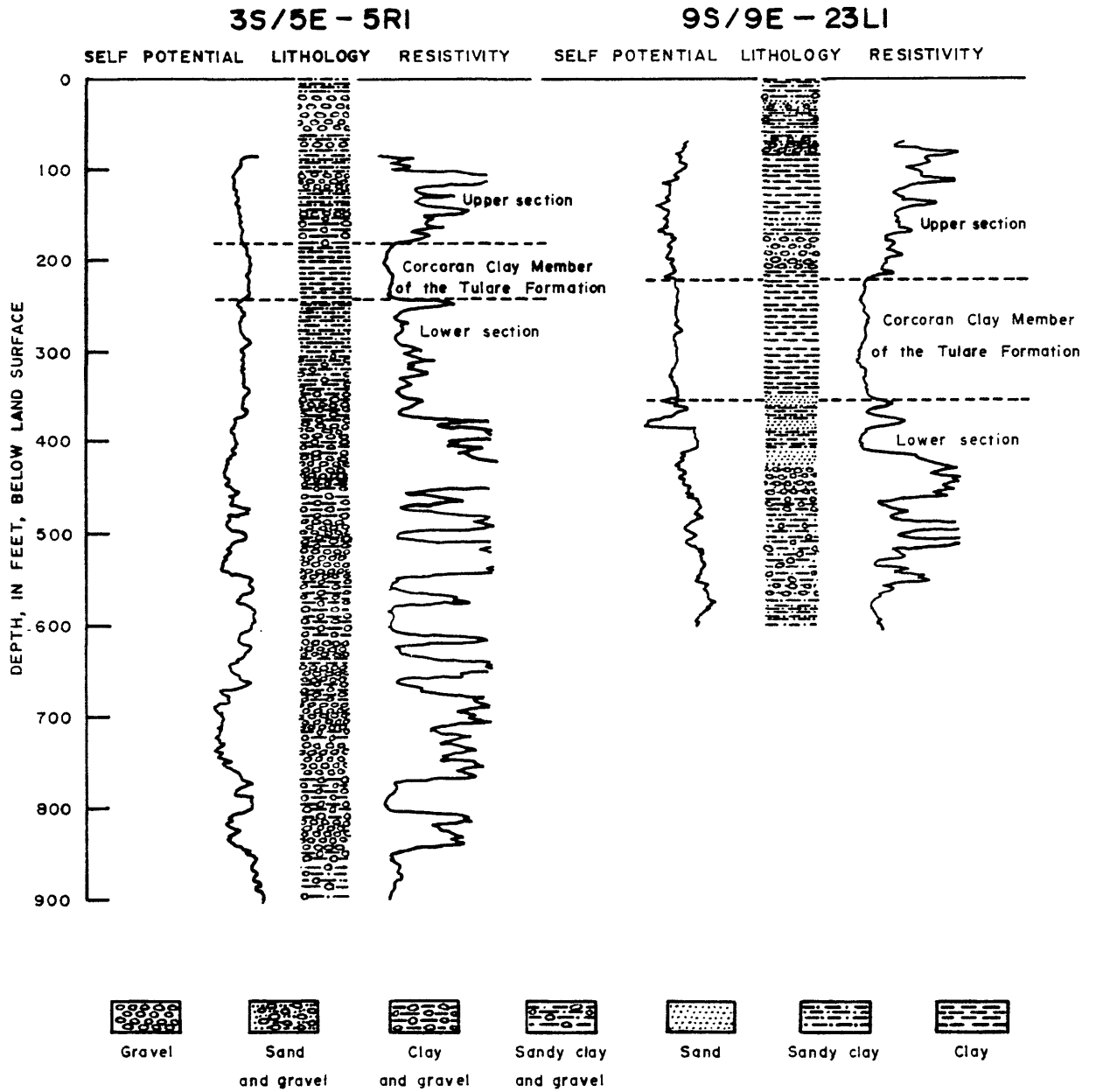


FIGURE 3.--Electric and lithologic logs.

GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY, NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

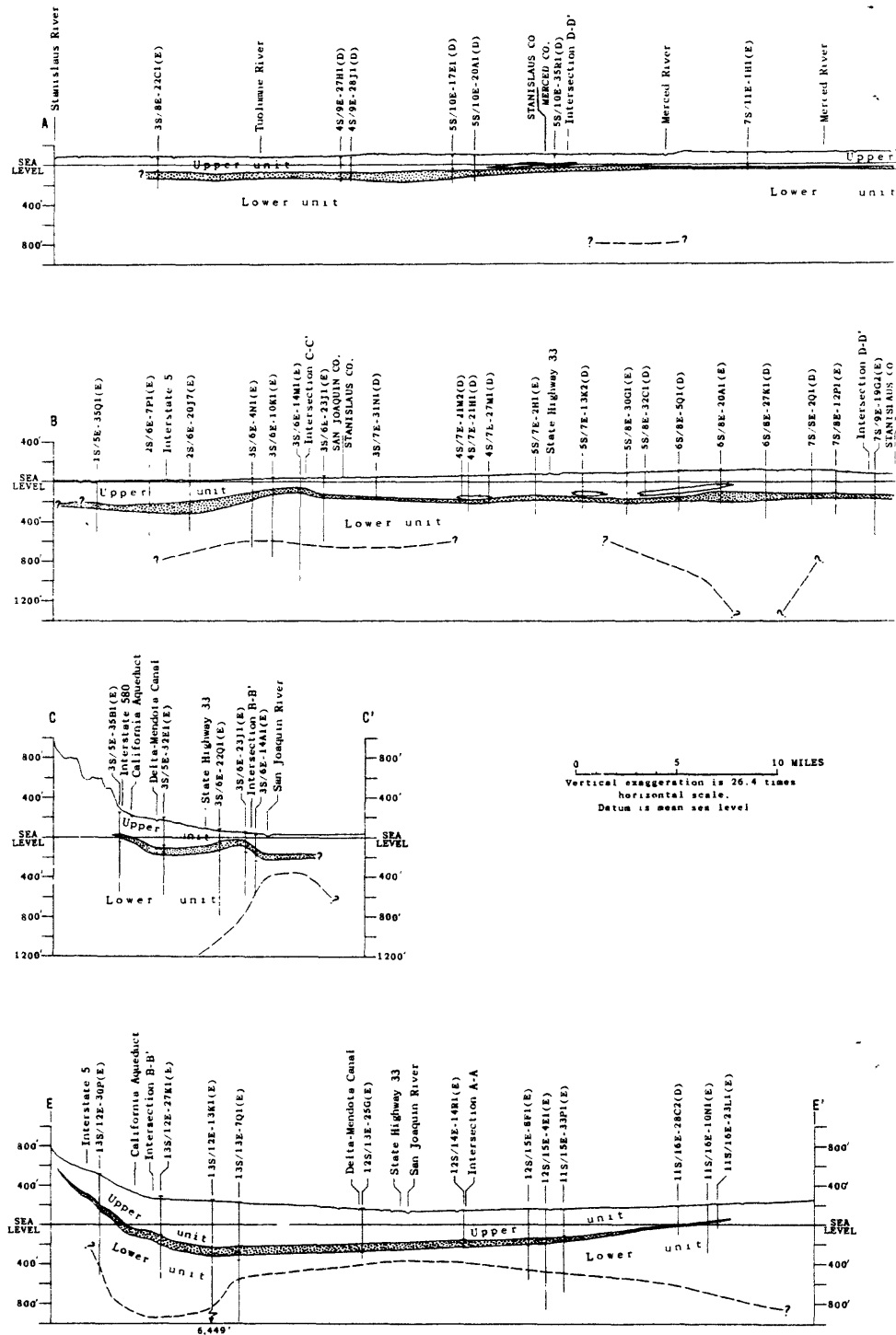
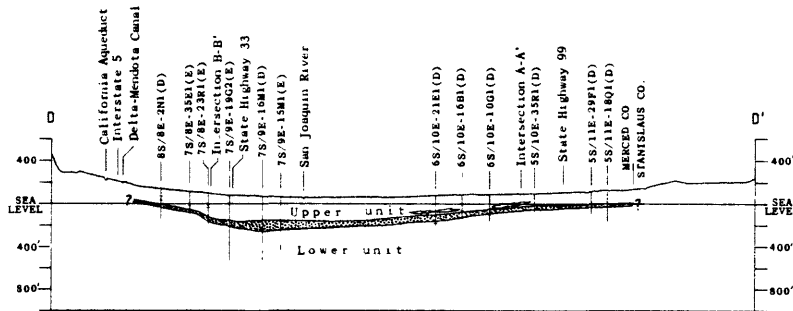
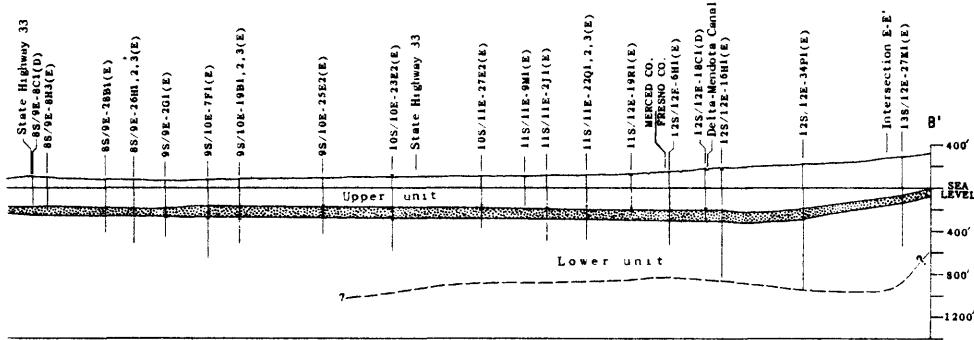
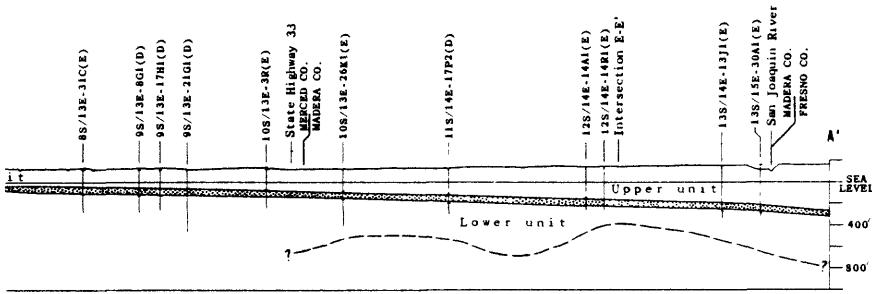


FIGURE 4.--Generalized



EXPLANATION



Logged well

Ticks indicate position of top and bottom of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation in that well; wells are projected onto generalized geologic section

(E)

Log symbol

D indicates driller's log.
E indicates an electric log



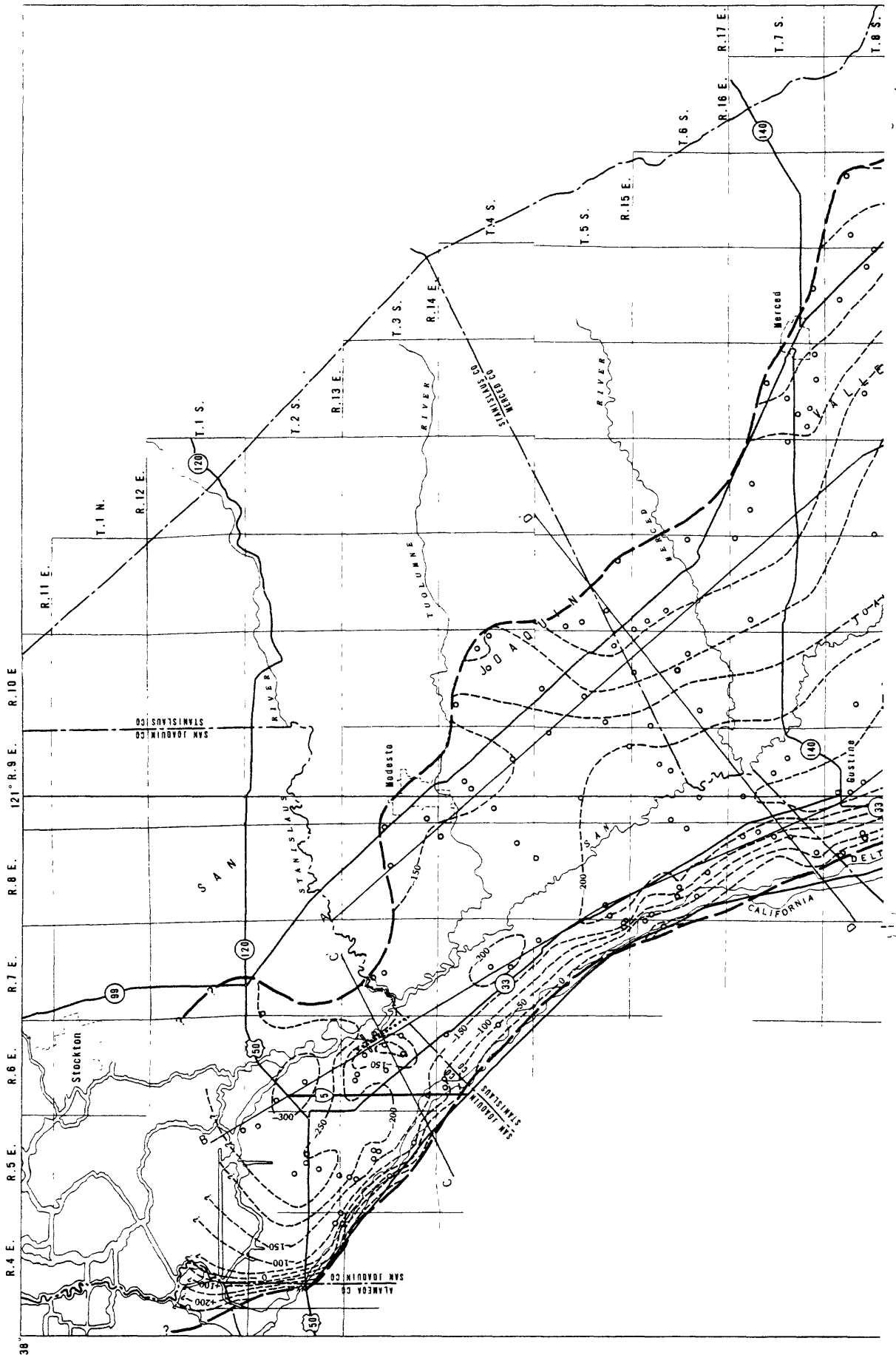
Top and bottom of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation is mapped on generalized geologic section; clay is located by generalized best fit contouring of geologic data, queried where data is inconclusive



Base of fresh water

geologic cross sections.

GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY, NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY



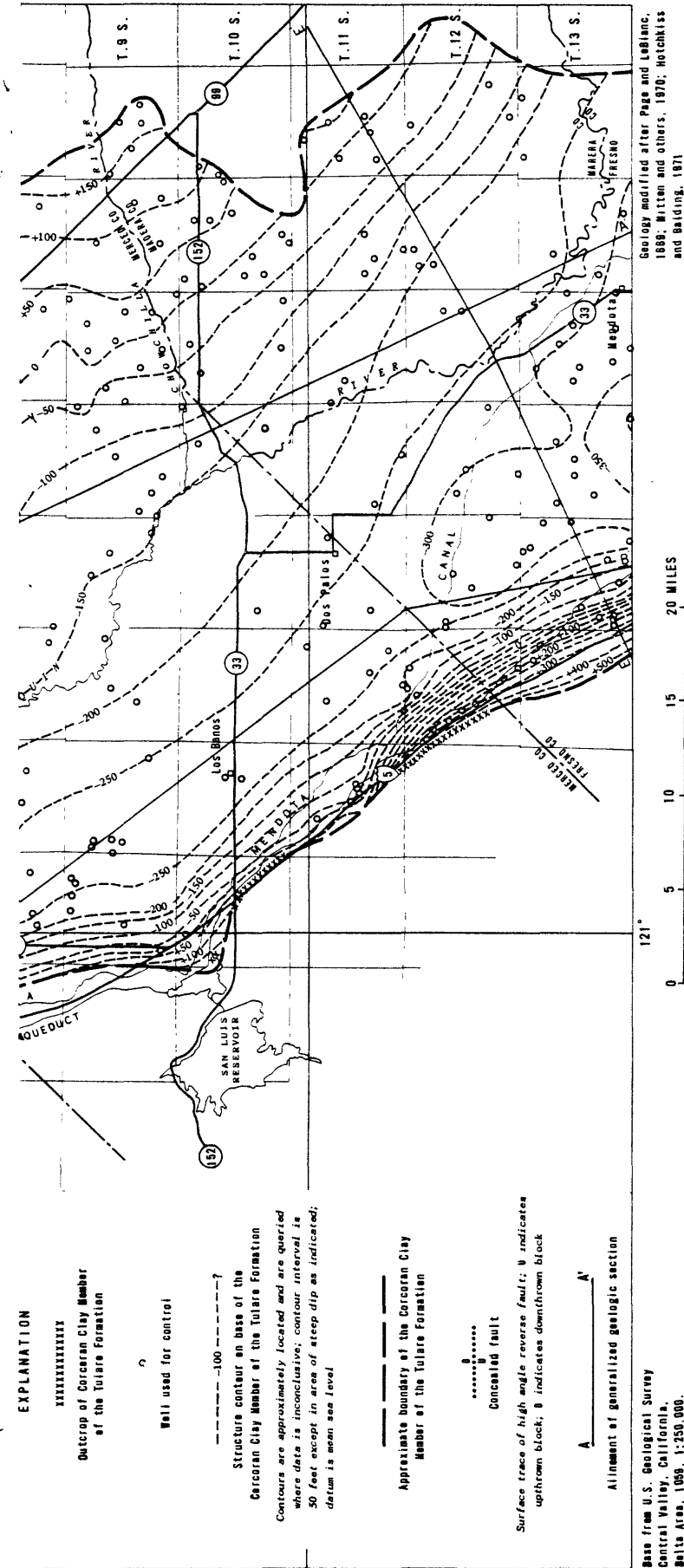
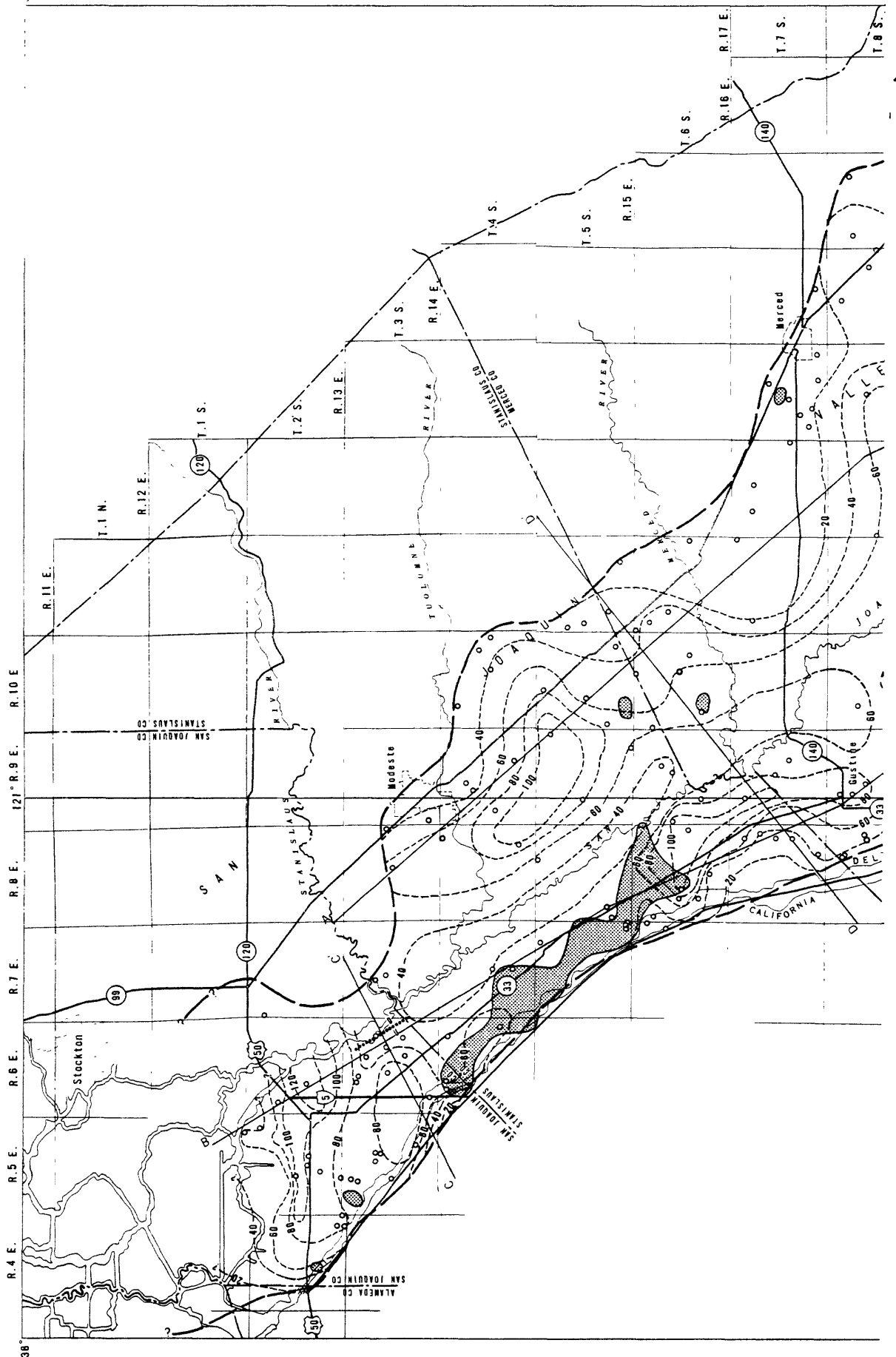


FIGURE 5.--Structure and extent of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation.

GENERALIZED SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY, NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY



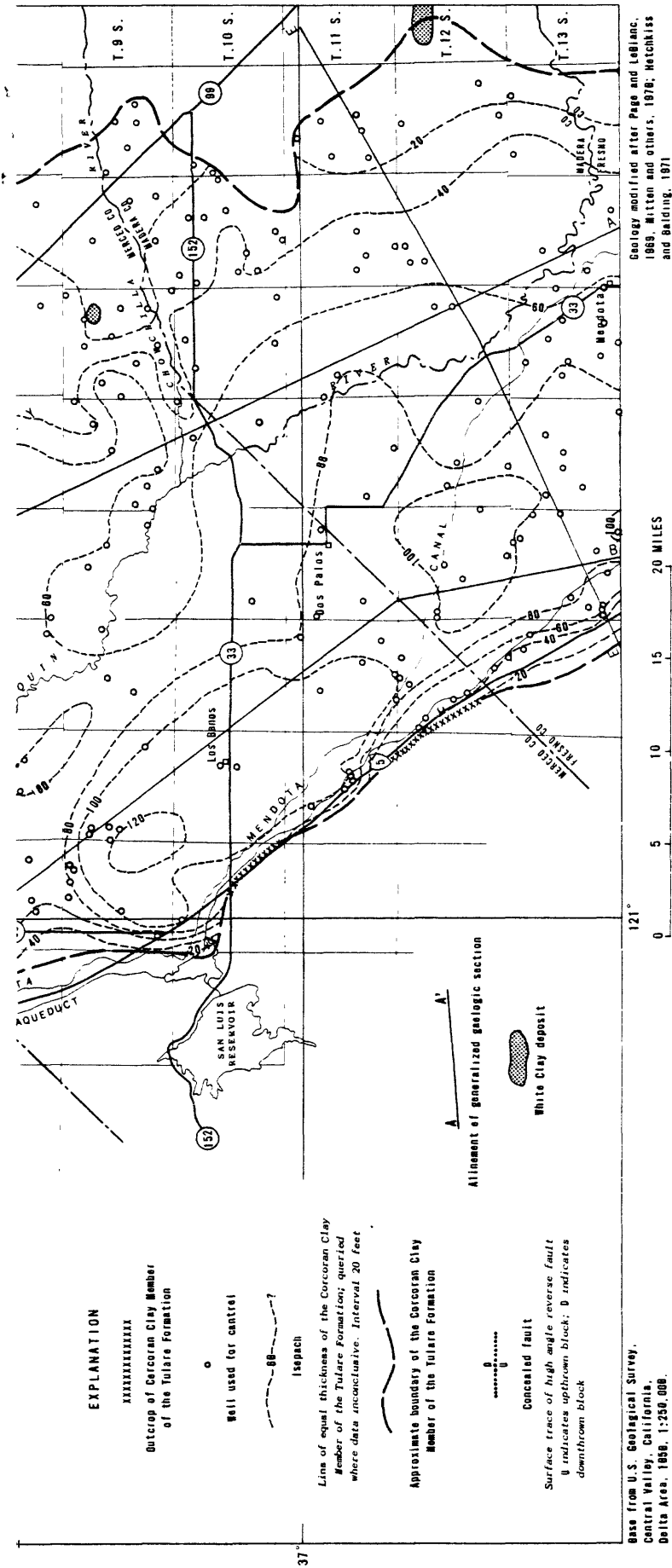


FIGURE 6.--Thickness of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation.

The upper unit consists of beds, lenses, and tongues of clay, sand, and gravel. Sedimentary material of the Diablo Range derived from the Franciscan Formation and from Cretaceous and Tertiary sedimentary rocks forms most of the material deposited west of the San Joaquin River. Arkosic Sierran deposits form most of the sedimentary material deposited east of the river. The complexity of interfingering of material from these two source areas in deposits along the valley axis is compounded by variability and lenticularity of each. Clay strata in excess of 60 feet in thickness, correlated by using drillers' logs, are locally traceable over several miles only to be truncated or undergo facies change between adjacent wells.

The upper unit ranges in thickness from zero where it is exposed along the western valley margin to 150 to 200 feet where it pinches out or is truncated in the subsurface on the east side of the valley (figs. 4 and 6). Except for the extreme northern end of the valley where the upper unit thickens near Tracy, the general trend is for the upper unit to progressively thicken southeastward from about 100 feet at the northern end of the area in T. 3 S. to more than 800 feet at the Tulare Lake bed about 48 miles southeast of the study area (Croft, 1969). The thickness of the upper unit at the southern end of the study area is about 500 feet.

A distinctive deposit of "white clay" (fig. 6) in the upper unit can be traced sporadically westward from a probable source near Friant on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley. In its most extensive deposit, on the west side of the valley in Tps. 4-6 S., the "white clay" ranges in thickness from 30 to 60 feet (Hotchkiss and Balding, 1971). The "white clay" is probably weathered Friant ash that Janda (1966, p. 131) correlated with a volcanic ash immediately overlying the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation in the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley. The volcanic deposit exposed near Friant contained sanidine crystals which were dated by G. B. Dalrymple at $600,000 \pm 20,000$ years, using the potassium-argon method. The same date is assumed to mark the earliest deposition of the upper unit.

A stratum of well-sorted diatomaceous greenish to bluish gray lacustrine clay, underlies the upper unit in the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley. Often referred to as the "blue clay" in drillers' logs, the clay stratum is contiguous with and referred to in this report as the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation named by Frink and Kues (1954). The Corcoran was mapped by Miller and others (1969) in the southwestern part of the study area, by Hotchkiss and Balding (1971) in the western part of the study area, and Hotchkiss and Dutcher (1971) in the southeastern part of the area. Various authors have recognized or correlated the Corcoran Clay Member in the northeastern part of the study area, but have included it in formations other than the Tulare Formation. Davis and Hall assigned the lacustrine blue clay to their Riverbank Formation (1959) even though they correlated it with the Corcoran. Arkley (1962), working with geomorphology and soils, also recognized the Corcoran but assigned the clay to the Turlock Lake Formation of Davis and Hall (1959). The Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation is easily recognized from its characteristic resistivity curve on electric logs (fig. 3).

Structure contours on the base of the Corcoran (fig. 5) show the clay is warped broadly in an asymmetric syncline that may terminate to the north in a basin under the delta of the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers. To the south the syncline plunges toward the Tulare Lake bed south of the present study area (Croft, 1969). The structure of the clay generally represents the structure of the fresh-water-bearing deposits of the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley. The Corcoran crops out sporadically on the west margin of the valley where it has been arched up adjacent to the Coast Ranges. Beneath the eastern part of the valley, it pinches out or terminates abruptly in the subsurface. The thickness of the clay (fig. 6) ranges from 0 to 130 feet in the northern part of the San Joaquin Valley.

The lower unit underlies the confining clay stratum and is similar to the upper unit in texture and composition. It extends downward from the base of the Corcoran to the base of fresh water mapped by Page (1971, fig. 4). Data were insufficient to separate the Diablan and Sierran deposits, but they are assumed to be lenticular and interfingering similar to those of the upper unit. Immediately prior to deposition of the Corcoran, the river probably was east of its present position (Hotchkiss and Balding, 1971) and the interfingering of Diablan and Sierran deposits probably extended farther east during pre-Corcoran deposition. Where data are available on the base of fresh water, the thickness of the lower unit ranges from 90 to greater than 1,400 feet.

SELECTED REFERENCES

- Anderson, F. M., 1905, A stratigraphic study in the Mount Diablo Range of California: California Acad. Sci. Proc., 3d ser., v. 2, p. 155-248.
- Anderson, Robert, 1912, Preliminary report on the geology and possible oil resources of the south end of the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 471, p. 106-136.
- Anderson, Robert, and Pack, R. W., 1915, Geology and oil resources of the west border of the San Joaquin Valley north of Coalinga, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 603, 220 p.
- Arkley, R. J., 1962, The geology, geomorphology, and soils of the San Joaquin Valley in the vicinity of the Merced River, California, *in* Geologic guide to the Merced Canyon and Yosemite Valley, California: Calif. Div. of Mines and Geology, Bull. 182, p. 25-31.
- Barbat, W. F., and Galloway, John, 1934, San Joaquin Clay, California: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Bull., v. 18, no. 4, p. 476-499.
- Bateman, P. C., and Wahrhaftig, Clyde, 1966, Geology of the Sierra Nevada, *in* Geology of northern California: California Div. Mines Bull. 190, chap. 4, p. 107-172.
- Bull, W. B., 1964a, Geomorphology of segmented alluvial fans in western Fresno County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 352-E, p. 89-129.
- _____, 1964b, Alluvial fans and near-surface subsidence in western Fresno County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 437-A, 71 p.

- Bull, W. B., and Miller, R. E., 1971, Land subsidence due to ground-water withdrawal in the Los Banos-Kettleman City area, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 164 p.
- California Department of Water Resources, 1967, San Joaquin County ground water investigation: Bull. 146, 196 p.
- California Division of Oil and Gas, 1960, California oil and gas fields, maps and data sheets, Part 1-- San Joaquin-Sacramento Valleys and northern coastal regions: 493 p.
- _____, 1964, Exploratory wells drilled outside of oil and gas fields in California to December 31, 1963: 320 p.
- Croft, M. G., 1968, Geology and radiocarbon ages of late Pleistocene lacustrine clay deposits, southern part of San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 600-B, p. B151-B156.
- _____, 1969, Subsurface geology of the late Tertiary and Quaternary water-bearing deposits of the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 63 p.
- Croft, M. G., and Gordon, G. V., 1964, Geology, hydrology, and quality of water in the Hanford-Visalia area, San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 170 p.
- Dale, R. H., French, J. J., and Gordon, G. V., 1966, Ground-water geology and hydrology of the Kern River alluvial-fan area, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 92 p.
- Davis, G. H., and Green, J. H., 1962, Structural control of interior drainage, southern San Joaquin Valley, California, Art. 146, *in* Short papers in geology and hydrology: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 450-D, p. 89-91.
- Davis, G. H., Green, J. H., Olmsted, F. H., and Brown, D. W., 1959, Ground-water conditions and storage capacity in the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 1469, 287 p.
- Davis, G. H., Lofgren, B. E., and Mack, Seymour, 1964, Use of ground-water reservoirs for storage of surface water in the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 1618, 125 p.
- Davis, G. H., and Poland, J. F., 1957, Ground-water conditions in the Mendota-Huron area, Fresno and Kings Counties, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 1360-G, p. 409-488.
- Diepenbrock, Alex, 1933, Mount Poso oil field, *in* Summary of operations, California oil fields: California Dept. Nat. Resources, Div. Oil and Gas, v. 19, no. 2, p. 4-35.
- Frink, J. W., and Kues, H. A., 1954, Corcoran Clay, a Pleistocene lacustrine deposit in San Joaquin Valley, California: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Bull., v. 38, no. 11, p. 2357-2371.
- Gordon, G. V., and Croft, M. G., 1964, Data for wells and streams in the Hanford-Visalia area, San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 432 p.
- Hall, Charles, 1965, Pleistocene deformation in the vicinity of Mile 18 pumping plant: Internat. Assoc. for Quaternary Research Guidebook for Field Conf. I, Northern Great Basin and California, p. 142-145.
- Hackel, Otto, 1966, Summary of the geology of the Great Valley, *in* Geology of northern California: California Div. Mines Bull. 190, chap. 5, p. 217-238.

- Harding, S. T., 1927, Ground water resources of the southern San Joaquin Valley: California Div. Eng. and Irrig. and Water Rights Bull. 11, 146 p.
- Hilton, G. S., Klausing, R. L., and McClelland, E. J., 1960, Data for wells, springs, and streams in the Terra Bella-Lost Hills area, Kings, Kern, and Tulare Counties, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 535 p.
- Hilton, G. S., McClelland, E. J., Klausing, R. L., and Kunkel, Fred, 1963, Geology, hydrology, and quality of water in the Terra Bella-Lost Hills area, San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 158 p.
- Hoots, H. W., 1930, Geology and oil resources along the southern border of San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 812, p. 243-332.
- Hoots, H. W., Bear, T. L., and Kleinpell, W. D., 1954, Geological summary of the San Joaquin Valley, California: California Div. Mines Bull. 170 chap. 2, p. 113-131.
- Hotchkiss, W. R., and Balding, G. O., 1971, Geology, hydrology, and water quality of the Tracy-Dos Palos area, San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 151 p.
- Hotchkiss, W. R., and Dutcher, L. C. 1972, Proposed water-resources study for the Madera area, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 45 p.
- Inter-Agency Committee on Land Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley, 1958, Progress report on land-subsidence investigations in the San Joaquin Valley, California, through 1957: Sacramento, Calif., open-file rept., multilithed, 160 p.
- Janda, R. J., 1966, Pleistocene history and hydrology of the upper San Joaquin River, California: California Univ., unpub. Ph. D. thesis, 425 p.
- Klausing, R. L., and Lohman, K. E., 1964, Upper Pliocene marine strata on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley, California, Art. 124 *in* Short papers in geology and hydrology: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 475-D, p. 14-17.
- Lohman, K. E., 1938, Pliocene diatoms from the Kettleman Hills, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 189-C, p. 81-102.
- Mendenhall, W. C., 1908, Preliminary report on the ground waters of San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 222, 52 p.
- Mendenhall, W. C., Dole, R. B., and Stabler, Herman, 1916, Ground water in San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 398, 310 p.
- Miller, R. E., Green, J. H., and Davis, G. H., 1971, Geology of the compacting deposits in the Los Banos-Kettleman City subsidence area, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 497-E, 46 p.
- Mitten, H. T., LeBlanc, R. A., and Bertoldi, G. L., 1970, Geology, hydrology, and quality of water in the Madera area, San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 97 p.
- Pack, R. W., 1920, The Sunset-Midway oil field, California, Part 1 of Geology and oil resources: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 116, 179 p.

- Page, B. M., 1966, Geology of the Coast Ranges of California, *in* Geology of northern California: California Div. Mines Bull. 190, chap. 6, p. 255-276.
- Page, R. W., 1971, Base of fresh ground water (approximately 3,000 micromhos) in the San Joaquin Valley, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 21 p.
- Page, R. W., and LeBlanc, R. A., 1969, Geology, hydrology, and water quality in the Fresno area, California: U.S. Geol. Survey open-file rept., 193 p.
- Park, W. H., and Weddle, J. R., 1959, Correlation study of southern San Joaquin Valley, *in* Summary of operations, California oil fields: v. 45, no. 1, p. 33-34.
- Schlumberger Well Surveying Corporation, 1958, Introduction to Schlumberger well logging: Houston, Tex., Schlumberger Well Surveying Corp., Doc. no. 8, 176 p.
- _____, 1969, Log interpretation principles: New York, Schlumberger Limited, Doc., 110 p.
- Schoellhamer, J. E., and Kinney, D. M., 1953, Geology of a part of Tuley and Panoche Hills, Fresno County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Map OM-128.
- Smith, M. B., 1964, Map showing distribution and configuration of basement rocks in California (North half) (South half): U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Map OM-215.
- Taliaferro, N. L., 1943, Geologic history and structure of the central Coast Ranges of California: California Div. Mines Bull. 118, p. 119-163.
- Watts, W. L., 1894, The gas and petroleum yielding formations of the Central Valley of California: California State Mining Bur. Bull. 3, 100 p.
- Wood, P. R., and Dale, R. H., 1964, Geology and ground-water features of the Edison-Maricopa area, Kern County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 1656, 108 p.
- Wood, P. R., and Davis, G. H., 1959, Ground-water conditions in the Avenal-McKittrick area, Kings and Kern Counties, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Water-Supply Paper 1457, 141 p.
- Woodring, W. P., Roundy, P. V., and Farnsworth, H. R., 1932, Geology and oil resources of the Elk Hills, California, including Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 835, 82 p.
- Woodring, W. P., Stewart, Ralph, and Richards, R. W., 1940, Geology of the Kettleman Hills oil field, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 195, 170 p.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Water Resources Division
District Office
855 Oak Grove Avenue
Menlo Park, California 94025

January 22, 1973

BASIC DATA FOR THE CORCORAN CLAY MEMBER OF THE TULARE FORMATION
IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

CONTENTS

	Page
Purpose and scope-----	1
Table 1. Data on depth, altitude, and thickness of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation-----	3

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This compilation presents data collected in the San Joaquin Valley, in cooperation with the California Department of Water Resources, on the depth and thickness of the Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation. Its purpose is to supplement the specific appraisal study, "Generalized Subsurface Geology of the Water-Bearing Deposits, Northern San Joaquin Valley, California," by W. R. Hotchiss, 1972.

Table 1.-- Data on depth, altitude, and thickness of the
Corcoran Clay Member of the Tulare Formation

[Type of log: C core, D driller's, E electrical, and G geologists]

Well number	Type of log	Depth below land surface (feet)			Altitude above (+) or below (-) mean sea level (feet)			Thickness (feet)	Well number	Type of log	Depth below land surface (feet)			Altitude above (+) or below (-) mean sea level (feet)			Thickness (feet)
		Well	Top of clay	Base of clay	Land surface	Top of clay	Base of clay				Land surface	Top of clay	Base of clay				
														Well	Top of clay	Base of clay	
0025004E34L01M	DE	600	173	254	+154	-019	-100	081	0055007F36K01M	DE	640	229	298	+141	-088	-157	049
0025004E36P01M	DE	695	68	138	+180	-112	+042	070	0055007F36J02M	DE	608	239	285	+140	-099	-145	046
0025005E21F01M	DE	1148	203	308	+028	-175	-280	105	0055008F02R01M	D	222	168	181	+050	-118	-131	013
0025005E21C01M	DE	895	211	309	+047	-164	-262	098	0055008E03A01M	DE	150	142	200	+083	-089	-147	058
0025005E22P01M	DE	1136	190	278	+050	-140	-228	088	0055008F30G01M	DE	423	262	320	+095	-167	-225	058
0025005E28L01M	DE	490	244	338	+085	-179	-273	094	0055008F30L01M	D	500	251	295	+081	-150	-194	044
0025005E32W01M	DE	800	262	339	+080	-182	-259	077	0055009F01Q01M	D	262	130	250	+081	-069	-149	120
0025006E07P01M	DE	655	235	325	+016	-219	-309	090	0055009E27W01M	D	210	145	210	+066	-079	-144	055
0025006E20J05M	DE	515	222	350	+017	-204	-333	128	0055009E35K01M	D	252	210	250	+067	-143	-183	040
0025006E20J06M	DE	515	224	349	+017	-207	-332	125	0055009F35R01M	D	248	206	264	+065	-141	-199	058
0025006E20J07M	DE	512	229	358	+016	-213	-342	129	0055010E01F01M	D	244	159	193	+114	-063	-077	034
0025007E07N M	E	10600	198	232	+023	-175	-209	034	0055010E04A01M	D	240	167	240	+099	-068	-141	073
0025005E02E01M	DE	837	270	346	+107	-163	-239	076	0055010E15N01M	D	154	99	154	+094	-005	-060	055
0025005E05J01M	DE	649	260	338	+128	-132	-210	078	0055010E17A01M	D	232	165	184	+093	-072	-091	019
0025005E15R01M	DE	883	248	310	+135	-117	-175	062	0055010E17E01M	D	280	130	192	+087	-043	-105	062
0025007E05R01M	D	375	242	280	+030	-212	-250	038	0055010E20A01M	D	254	147	191	+088	-059	-103	044
0025005E15D01M	DE	690	249	324	+157	-092	-167	075	0055010E25N01M	DE	276	110	142	+103	-007	-039	032
0025005E15F01M	DE	755	255	330	+140	-115	-190	075	0055010E27R01M	D	250	165	204	+094	-069	-108	039
0025005E20A01M	DE	841	261	348	+234	-143	+066	077	0055010E31Q01M	D	234	163	236	+078	-085	-158	073
0025005E26P01M	DE	782	268	348	+242	-026	-106	080	0055010E32A01M	D	255	170	215	+086	-086	-129	045
0025005E35R01M	DE	804	238	298	+253	+015	-045	080	0055010E33F01M	D	240	160	210	+086	-074	-124	050
0025006E04N01M	DE	600	127	214	+053	-074	-141	087	0055010E34J01M	D	370	175	204	+094	-081	-110	029
0025006E05R01M	DE	775	138	248	+057	-081	-191	110	0055010E35R01M	D	174	150	174	+094	-054	-080	026
0025006E08N01M	D	688	258	329	+070	-188	-259	071	0055010E36N01M	D	175	75	130	+120	+045	-010	055
0025006E10R01M	DE	800	115	172	+045	-070	-127	057	0055010E37A01M	D	288	100	135	+115	+015	-020	035
0025006E14A01M	DE	611	210	267	+028	-182	-234	052	0055010E38P01M	D	272	108	140	+115	+009	-025	034
0025006E14A02M	DE	389	208	258	+030	-176	-228	052	0055010E39F01M	D	278	115	146	+120	+005	-026	031
0025006E16F01M	D	718	248	340	+072	-174	-268	094	0055010E41R01M	D	304	100	128	+115	+015	-013	028
0025006E16L01M	DE	811	167	258	+073	-094	-185	091	0055010E43K01M	D	167	105	160	+109	+008	-051	055
0025006E17N01M	DE	600	216	293	+073	-143	-220	077	0055010E45P01M	D	332	120	131	+138	+018	+007	011
0025006E22Q01M	DE	879	112	183	+083	-029	-100	071	0055010E46R01M	DE	702	182	208	+197	+015	-011	026
0025006E23J01M	DE	650	156	208	+060	-098	-148	052	0055010E47L01M	DE	646	220	247	+303	+083	+056	027
0025006E23F01M	DE	800	288	354	+205	-083	-151	088	0055010E48F01M	DE	657	208	244	+181	-027	-083	026
0025006E33Q01M	DE	545	198	275	+154	-044	-121	077	0055010E49P01M	DE	682	207	290	+155	-052	-135	083
0025007E09P01M	DE	276	181	230	+035	-146	-195	049	0055010E50A01M	E	345	231	343	+145	-086	-198	112
0025007E16K M	F	11000	182	228	+046	-136	-182	046	0055010E52R01M	DE	937	245	277	+142	-103	-130	027
0025008E13J01M	D	380	170	191	+078	-092	-113	021	0055010E54F M	F	1383	236	278	+088	-148	-208	040
0025008E22C01M	DE	310	125	191	+064	-061	-127	066	0055010E58F01M	DE	670	195	315	+076	-119	-239	120
0025008E24C01M	D	467	223	229	+073	-150	-156	086	0055010E59R01M	DE	235	217	284	+058	-159	-226	067
0025009E29R01M	D	260	175	200	+087	-088	-113	025	0055010E61R M	D	420	239	273	+061	-178	-212	034
0045006E04F01M	DE	623	234	282	+188	-068	-094	048	0065010E03C01M	D	303	124	170	+089	-035	-081	046
0045006E05G01M	E	715	274	344	+214	-060	-130	070	0065010E04N01M	D	227	134	168	+084	-050	-082	032
0045006E24P01M	DE	474	130	200	+153	+023	-047	070	0065010E05N01M	D	262	165	257	+075	-090	-182	092
0045006E25F01M	DE	442	128	197	+175	+047	-022	069	0065010E06R01M	D	230	126	230	+080	-046	-150	104
0045006E36C01M	DE	475	133	188	+216	+083	+028	055	0065010E07D01M	D	276	185	250	+071	-114	-179	065
0045008E01D01M	D	250	175	240	+071	-104	-169	065	0065010E07Q01M	D	272	140	265	+071	-069	-194	125
0045008E26R01M	D	230	130	230	+050	-080	-180	100	0065010E08H01M	D	242	128	242	+074	-054	-168	114
0045009E05P01M	D	195	158	190	+058	-100	-132	032	0065010E09M01M	D	266	119	235	+081	-038	-154	116
0045009E09K01M	D	240	172	204	+086	-086	-118	032	0065010E09Q02M	D	271	119	265	+084	-035	-181	146
0045009E16O01M	D	244	172	208	+094	-088	-124	036	0065010E10G01M	D	248	115	182	+085	-030	-097	067
0045009E19H01M	D	245	145	237	+073	-072	-164	092	0065010E11N01M	D	350	113	210	+090	-023	-120	097
0045009E19N02M	D	248	165	246	+065	-100	-181	081	0065010E12X01M	D	180	127	160	+097	-030	-063	033
0045009E27H01M	D	248	170	238	+077	-093	-161	068	0065010E15F01M	D	266	132	187	+085	-047	-102	055
0045009E28J01M	D	260	183	260	+075	-108	-185	077	0065010E15P01M	D	195	135	195	+085	-050	-110	060
0045010E08C01M	D	515	250	271	+112	-138	-159	021	0065010E15Q01M	D	130	122	226	+085	-037	-141	104
0045010E14H01M	D	505	178	214	+130	-048	-086	036	0065010E16R01M	D	270	142	270	+082	-060	-188	128
0045010E22B01M	D	504	200	240	+118	-092	-122	040	0065010E18J01M	D	250	148	250	+075	-073	-175	102
0045010E24R01M	D	372	208	246	+130	-078	-116	038	0065010E19C01M	D	190	115	190	+073	-042	-117	075
0055007E02M01M	DE	395	194	243	+085	-111	-158	047	0065010E20Q01M	D	280	152	280	+079	-073	-201	128
0055007E36J01M	DE	807	242	302	+140	-102	-162	060	0065010E21F01M	D	280	190	260	+080	-110	-180	070

Table 1.--Continued

Well number	Type of log	Depth below land surface (feet)			Altitude above (+) or below (-) mean sea level (feet)			Thickness (feet)	Well number	Type of log	Depth below land surface (feet)			Altitude above (+) or below (-) mean sea level (feet)			Thickness (feet)
		Well	Top of clay	Base of clay	Land surface	Top of clay	Base of clay				Well	Top of clay	Base of clay	Land surface	Top of clay	Base of clay	
0135012E30P	M	1030	307	370	+525	+218	+155	063	0135015E35F01M	F	230	425	475	+166	-259	-309	050
0135012E300	M	1380	310	383	+505	+194	+122	073	0135016E02C01M	DE	405	340	354	+195	-145	-159	014
0135012E33C01M	DF	1408	370	459	+345	-025	-114	089	0135016E05C02M	D	316	361	412	+180	-181	-232	051
0135012E33F01M	M	1229	360	435	+355	-004	-079	075	0145012E03P01M	DF	1146	460	475	+346	-100	-115	015
0135012E35001M	M	1147	495	600	+322	-173	-278	105	0145012E08H01M	DF	897	338	343	+449	+131	+174	005
0135013E07G01M	DE	1223	495	590	+228	-267	-362	095	0145012F11F01M	DE	1440	550	565	+350	-200	-215	015
0135013E10E01M	DE	1430	470	553	+211	-249	-342	083	0145012E27P01M	F	1710	535	545	+405	-130	-140	010
0135013E16N01M	DF	1625	500	591	+235	-215	-356	091	0145013E01N01M	DF	1475	593	673	+247	-326	-406	080
0135013E18R01M	DE	1377	493	576	+288	-205	-288	083	0145013E09P01M	DF	1153	742	753	+317	-425	-436	011
0135013E20Q01M	F	1544	488	572	+257	-236	-320	084	0145013F11D01M	GF	1500	620	701	+284	-331	-417	081
0135013E36N01M	D	1525	641	654	+251	-300	-405	015	0145013F11R01M	DF	1458	640	714	+279	-361	-435	074
0135014E05R	M	510	390	467	+167	-223	-300	077	0145013E13F01M	F	1486	663	736	+284	-379	-452	073
0135014E13J01M	M	500	368	425	+154	-212	-269	057	0145014E09Q01M	F	1249	624	648	+230	-394	-418	024
0135014E14W	M	540	391	454	+168	-223	-291	068	0145014E10Y02M	F	747	599	600	+221	-378	-379	001
0135014E15D01M	M	897	394	488	+168	-224	-300	074	0145014E12N02M	F	920	542	552	+188	-354	-344	010
0135014E17N01M	M	987	441	524	+195	-244	-333	087	0145014E03K01M	F	715	435	490	+162	-273	-328	055
0135014E20A	M	547	432	503	+188	-244	-315	071	0145015E11R	M	530	450	459	+140	-301	-350	049
0135014E28A	M	550	433	514	+189	-244	-325	081	0145015E16D01M	E	762	448	501	+158	-290	-343	053
0135014E28B	M	570	468	541	+211	-257	-330	073	0145015F18F01M	DF	850	465	528	+178	-287	-350	063
0135014E33R	M	570	469	538	+206	-263	-332	069	0145015F18H01M	F	970	470	524	+178	-292	-346	054
0135014E34A	M	550	430	490	+184	-244	-313	069	0145016E08N	M	530	466	486	+161	-305	-325	020
0135014E36A	M	520	430	490	+169	-261	-330	069	0145016E15R	M	560	468	493	+174	-294	-319	025
0135015E09H01M	M	691	345	394	+180	-185	-234	049	0145016E16A	M	530	455	480	+172	-283	-308	025
0135015E15G01M	D	384	369		+165	-204			0145016E16M	M	528	481	490	+166	-315	-333	018
0135015E30A	M	510	394	448	+157	-237	-291	054	0145016E24N	M	560	485	509	+174	-309	-333	024