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Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods

Aerial photographs taken 1955. Field check 1958

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,

south zone

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

zone 17, shown in blue

LANDSLIDES AND RELATED FEATURES

OF THE BESSEMER, PA. QUADRANGLE

by

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1978
U. S. Geological Survey
OPEN FILE MAP 78-1057 (H-13)

Photointerpretation and field check 1976

This map has not been edited or reviewed

for conformity with Geological Survey

standards and nomenclature.

ACTIVE OR RECENTLY ACTIVE LANDSLIDE

Complex landslide composed of earthflow, debris slide, earth and rock slump. Identified from historical records, and from scars, debris and other field evidence. Ground extremely unstable; sliding accelerated by excavation, loading and changes in drainage conditions. May include areas with several active slides too small to be shown separately. Questioned where doubtful.

LANDSLIDE

Area of extensive hummocky ground caused by earthflow and earth and rock slump. Lacks clear evidence of active sliding. Relatively stable in natural, undisturbed state, generally not affected by small structures properly sited in areas away from the edge of the toe; can be reactivated by extensive, rapid excavation, loading, and changes in ground water and surface water conditions. Area of old landslide probably includes recent ones not identified from field evidence or otherwise documented. Upslope boundary of landslide generally defined by modified scarp, but downslope (toe) may be gradational and not well defined. Questioned where doubtful.

COLLUVIAL SLOPE

Valley wall along major streams with slope as steep as 40° (85%); stony, clayey silt soil up to 50 ft. (15 m) thick; commonly buttressed by a terrace or bench at the toe of the slope; very susceptible to sliding by cutting of toe area, removal of terrace or bench, and overloading; landslide commonly activated without apparent cause.

AREAS SUSCEPTIBLE TO DEBRIS FLOWS AND DEBRIS AVALANCHES

Primarily shallow, narrow ravines and chutes with accumulation of stony colluvium generally 10 ft. (3 m) or less in thickness; susceptible to rapid movement during intense rainfall. Most ravines designated show evidence of former debris flows and avalanches. Symbol - - designates historical debris flow or debris avalanche.

AREAS SUSCEPTIBLE TO ROCKFALL

Steep, locally vertical, natural and man-made slopes and cliffs, 15 ft. (4.5 m) or higher. Formed dominantly of sandstone, limestone, sandy shale, mudstone and claystone. Interbedded mudstone, claystone and shale weather rapidly leaving sandstone and limestone rock faces unsupported.

COVE UNDERLAIN BY CLAY LAYER

Rounded or U-shaped valley with steep concave slope of valley floor (coves) and valley heads underlain by clayey soils forming a coherent layer generally 8 ft. (2.5 m) or less in thickness. Zone of water common at the base of the clay layer is under 2 to 8 ft. (0.6 - 2.5 m) artesian head. Clay soil is underlain by claystone and shale. Clay slab moves as a coherent mass up to 1 ft. (0.3 m) per year; very susceptible to more rapid sliding when overloaded by fill or structure and by excavations that break the continuity of slope. Recent soil slips (earth flows) as much as 40,000 square feet (3,700 square meters) in size are common.

SOIL AND ROCK SUSCEPTIBLE TO LANDSLIDES

Soil and rock similar to that involved in landslides elsewhere in map area; primarily areas underlain by claystone, mudstone and shale associated with other rock types. Rock weathers rapidly on exposure forming clayey soil highly susceptible to sliding.

AREAS LEAST PRONE TO LANDSLIDES

Map areas in which no patterns or symbols are shown; primarily valley floors, ridge tops and broad benches; modification by excavation and fill may lead to local landslides.

The first five digits of the open file number designate the specific 1:250,000 scale map sheet of which this quadrangle is a part. The last two digits designate the position of the quadrangle in a subdivision of the 1:250,000 scale map based on rows and tiers shown in the diagram to the right. The location of this quadrangle is shown by the black square.

NOTE
Information shown is intended as a general guide to ground conditions as of the date of field check. Additional landslides and rockfalls should be anticipated in all map units. The map unit depicts the dominant condition in the area delineated and variations in slope stability may occur at any point in the unit. This map is suitable for general planning purposes and as a supplement to more detailed studies for site selection. The map cannot be used as a substitute for detailed geologic and engineering investigations to establish design and construction criteria of specific sites. Some symbols may not appear on this map because the description is applicable to a series of maps.

MAN-MADE FEATURES

Strip mines (combination of letter symbols indicates complex formed of more than one type of strip mine)

sh bench with high wall

sf furrowed with high wall

sd multiple furrows and multiple benches

srg reclaimed by grading

sru reclaimed by secondary use

sh/r regraded in part, high wall remains

Coal refuse banks

r identified on aerial photographs; not classified in field check

rb not burnt nor on fire

rb/b burnt

rbd burning

rbs sludge

Quarries

q quarry site

qub spoil bank, quarry waste

Gravel pits

g site of gravel pit

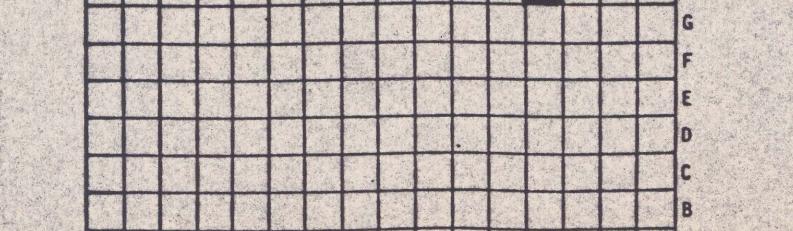
Slides in man-made features

a/f earth flow in fill

a/s earth flow in strip castings

a/r earth flow in coal refuse

CANTON 1° x 2° MAP SHEET



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