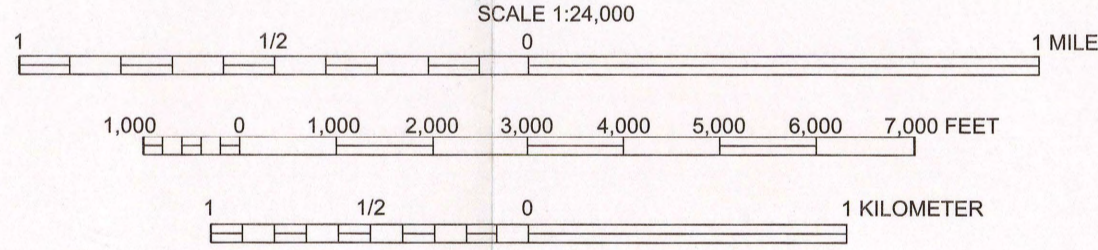


Base from U.S. Geological Survey Bay View, MD-PA, 1:24,000, 1997, 20-foot contours; Conowingo Dam, MD-PA, 1:24,000, 1992, 20-foot contours; Kirkwood, 1:24,000, 1993, 20-foot contours; Oxford, 1:24,000, 1992, 10-foot contours; Rising Sun, MD-PA, 1:24,000, 1992, 20-foot contours; Wakefield, 1:24,000, 1976, 20-foot contours  
National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929



#### INTRODUCTION

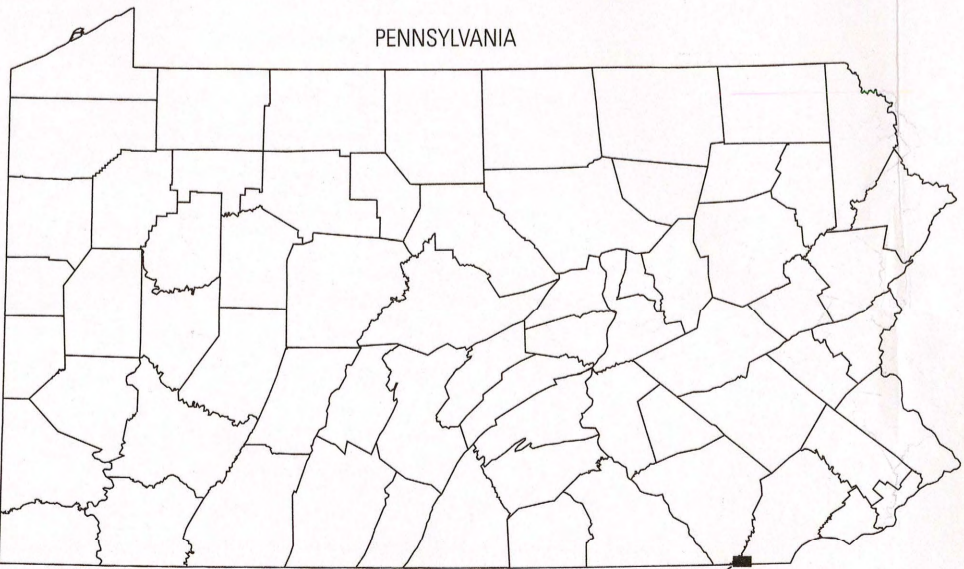
Since 1984, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been mapping the altitude and configuration of the potentiometric surface in Chester County as part of an ongoing cooperative program to measure and describe the water resources of the county. Areas where the potentiometric surface has been mapped are shown on figure 1. These maps can be used to determine the general direction of ground-water flow and contaminant movement and are frequently referenced by municipalities and developers to evaluate ground-water conditions for water supply and resource-protection requirements (Wood, 1988).

The map shows the potentiometric surface for an area along the western boundary of Chester County that includes parts of East Nottingham and West Nottingham Townships. The study area is mostly underlain by metamorphic rocks of the Peters Creek Schist and Wissahickon Formation (Sloto, 1984). Ground water is obtained from these bedrock formations by wells that intercept fractures.

The altitude and configuration of the potentiometric surface was contoured from water levels measured in available wells and from the altitude of perennial streams. Topography was used as a guide for contouring so that the altitude of the potentiometric surface was inferred everywhere to be lower than the land surface. The potentiometric surface shown on this map is an approximation. The altitude of the actual potentiometric surface may vary, especially in areas where wells are completed in a semiconfined zone or have long open intervals that reflect the composite hydraulic head of multiple water-yielding fractures. A composite head may differ from the potentiometric-surface altitude, particularly beneath hills and valleys where vertical hydraulic gradients are significant.

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#### EXPLANATION

STUDY AREA BOUNDARY

POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE CONTOUR—Shows altitude of the potentiometric surface as defined by measured water levels, altitudes of streams, springs, and topography. Dashed where approximately located. Intermittent streams are discharge areas during periods of high ground-water levels. Contour interval is 20 feet. Altitude in feet above National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929.

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WATER-LEVEL MEASUREMENT SITE—Symbol gives location of well. Number is altitude of water level in drilled or dug well in feet above National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929. Wells outside the study area are shown if they were used to contour the potentiometric surface.

465

ALTITUDE OF FLOWING SPRING

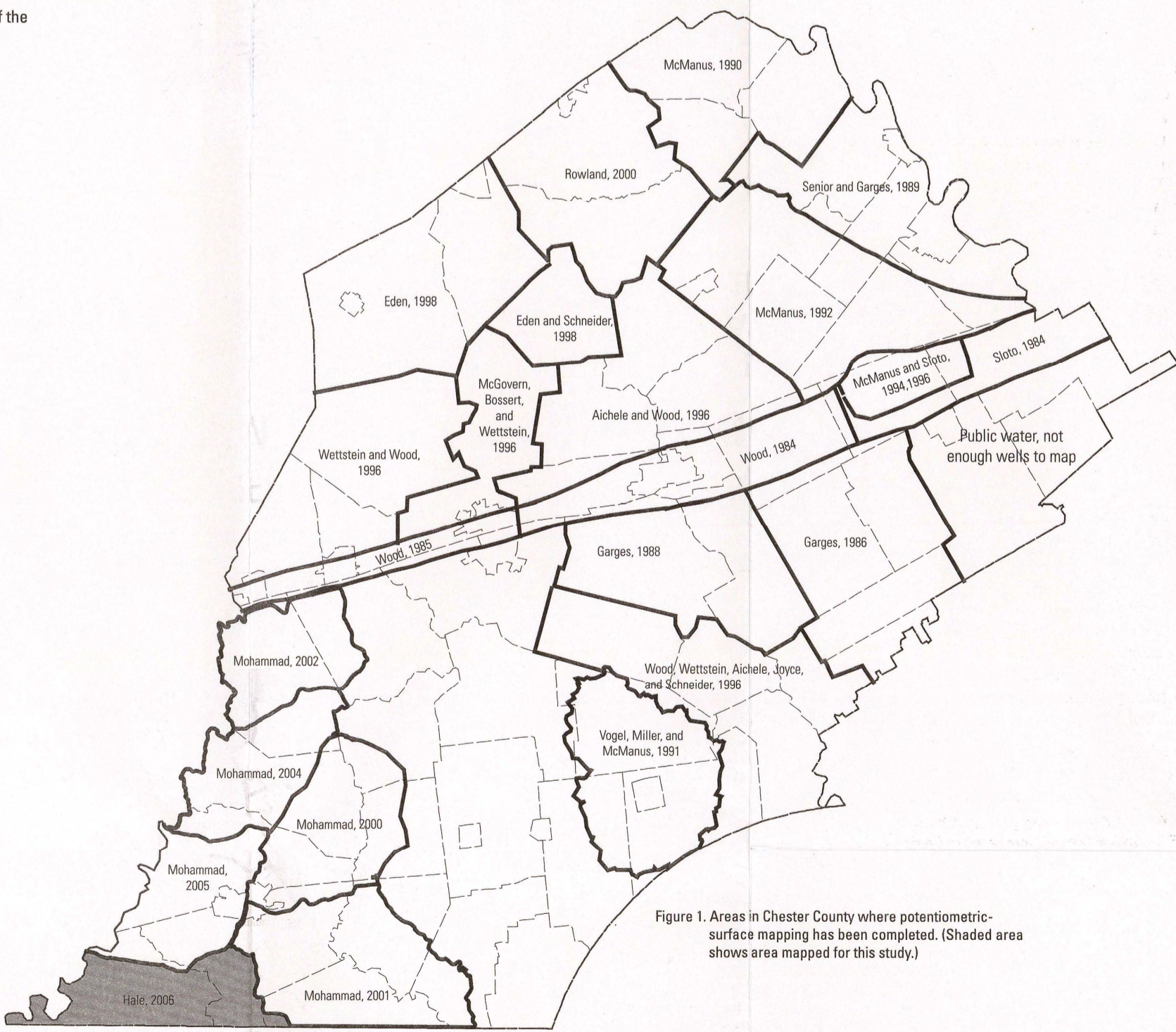


Figure 1. Areas in Chester County where potentiometric-surface mapping has been completed. (Shaded area shows area mapped for this study.)

#### REFERENCES FOR COMPLETED POTENTIOMETRIC MAPS CITED IN FIGURE 1.

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## ALTITUDE AND CONFIGURATION OF THE POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE IN EAST NOTTINGHAM AND WEST NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIPS, CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL THROUGH JUNE 2004

By  
LINDSAY B. HALE  
2006