

A RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY OF NEWFOUNDLAND CLAY DEPOSITS

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Introduction

Project 4-8* was initiated in the spring of 1974 (Vanderveer and Harvey, 1975). A preliminary report on the project was released on an open file basis in August, 1975 (Vanderveer, 1975). Further field evaluation and re-sampling of potential commercial sites was carried out during the 1975 field season.

Field Investigations, 1975

Forty samples were collected from 8 of the 11 sites (Figure 1) selected for investigation (Vanderveer, 1975). Of the three other sites, the Monroe site proved to be a glacial till, a second (Jeffrey's) was not reached because of weather conditions and a third (Roddickton) remains to be sampled. The eight sites that were visited are Wild Cove, Hughes Brook, Lower Cove, Little Port, Kippens, Journois Brook, Springdale, and Allan's Island.

An additional 7 samples were collected from deposits (Figure 1) not previously reported. These are from Riverside, Soper's Hill, Youngs Cove, Barachois Brook, and Pinus River on the Lower Churchill River, Labrador. Another sample from the Bellburns area was submitted by Eric Hussey. Clays have recently been reported from Reuben Point, Tors Cove and Peter's River. These latter three deposits have not been confirmed.

Future Plans

At the present time particle size analysis, mineralogical tests and some ceramic firing tests are planned. Particle size analysis and quantitative X-ray diffraction studies are to be carried out on samples collected during 1975. Ceramic firing tests will be conducted on a selective basis.

Upon completion of these tests it is planned to delineate areas that will support a ceramic industry and specify the potential use of the clays, be it hand molded pottery, or other ceramic uses.

The final report will be compiled upon the completion of present testing and should be ready for publication in mid-1976.

*Project 4-8, Canada Newfoundland Mineral Exploration and Evaluation Program.

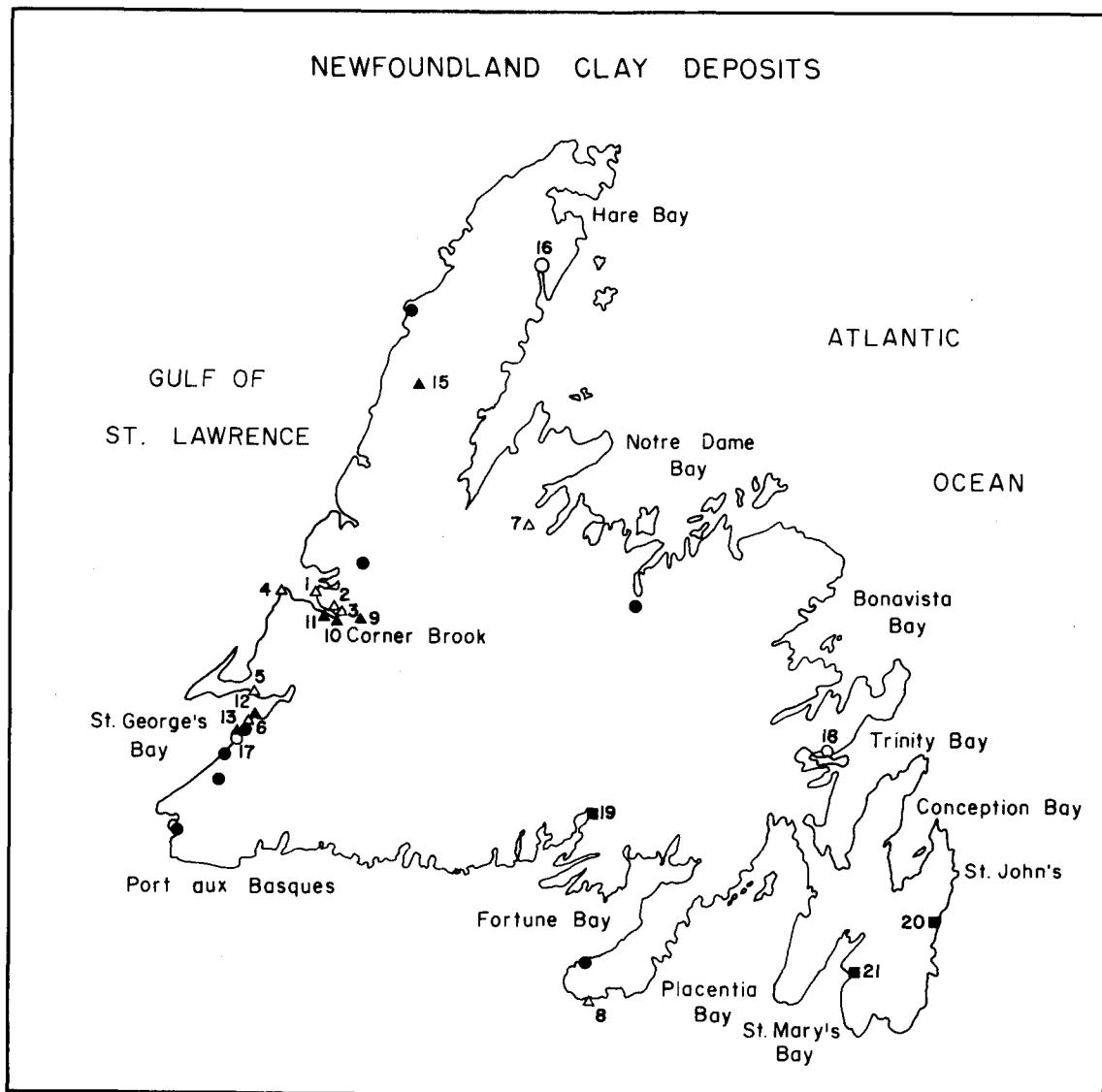


FIGURE 1

Legend

△ Re-Sampled

1. Lower Cove
2. Hughes Brook
3. Wild Cove
4. Little Port
5. Kippens
6. Journois Brook
7. Springdale
8. Allan's Island

▲ Not Previously Sampled

9. Soper's Hill
10. Riverside
11. Cooks Brook
12. Youngs Cove
13. Barachois Brook
14. Pinus River¹
15. Bellburns

○ Not Re-Sampled

16. Roddickton

17. Jeffrey's

18. Monroe²

● Deleted from 1975 Investigation³■ Reports of Clay not Sampled⁴

19. Reuben Point

20. Tors Cove

21. Peter's River

¹Pinus River, Labrador (Not Plotted)²Monroe site is a glacial till - of no value for ceramics³see Preliminary Report on a Reconnaissance Survey of Newfoundland Clay Deposits (Vanderveer, 1975)⁴Recent verbal reports of clay deposits but not yet confirmed

References

Vanderveer, D.G.

1975: Preliminary report on a reconnaissance survey of Newfoundland clay deposits; Nfld. Dept. of Mines and Energy, Min. Dev. Div., Open File Nfld. 789.

Vanderveer, D.G. and Harvey R.

1975: A reconnaissance survey of clay deposits on the Island of Newfoundland; in Report of Activities, 1974; Nfld. Dept. of Mines and Energy, Min. Dev. Div., Rept. 75-1, pp. 116-119.