

APPENDIX D

FIELD LOG OF OUTCROP DESCRIPTIONS

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1.0 GENERAL DISCUSSION

Field Trip Report No. 4
March 11-15, 1974 March 18-21, 1974

Participants:

March 11-15, 1974

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March 18-21, 1974

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The purpose of the field trip was to physically inspect the Pittsburgh coal outcrop in the Latrobe Syncline for that area of the syncline that drains into the Youghiogheny drainage basin. A line drawn from Marguerite (Klondike) to Whiteley marks the northern limit of the outcrop inventory.

To facilitate descriptions of the areas covered, the areas are numbered on the U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle Sheets, Volume II sheets 1 and 2.

In general it was observed when an area had been stripped and the land use was pasture or planted fields no trace of the outcrop was found. The outcrop was followed by tracing subsidence in the tree line above the pastures and fields. Subsidence in the tree line was often the only way to follow the outcrop.

Subsidence holes in the vicinity of houses are generally used as garbage dumps.

When pools are mentioned in an area, free water was present. The term pooling area was used to describe areas where cat tails were present but no free water was present at the time of observation.

2.0 Area Descriptions

Area 1. (South of Alverton - Mount Pleasant 7.5 min. topographic quadrangle)

A deep mine fire is present. Smoke was emanating from cracks, and fissures in the area. A fresh subsidence hole approximately 2'-2.5' in diameter and approximately 15'-20' deep appears in this area. No smoke issues from it. It was assumed that this hole acts as a downdraft for the fire. It is a definite safety hazard and should be filled in.

Area 2.

Stripped area. Spoil forms parallel mound with highwall. Water will pond along highwall. Includes one possible closed drift (slope?) with an area approximately 80'x60' where water ponds toward highwall. Area needs regrading, some clearing and grubbing.

Area 3.

Outcrop area below Area 1 was stripped to property line, good regrading, no reclamation work needed.

Area 4.

Subsidence in narrow band along hillside in the blackberry bushes. Holes average 6 feet in diameter and from 2' to 4' feet deep. The spacing is close enough to capture most of the runoff upgradient.

Area 5.

Field area, no evidence of subsidence or stripping. The dot indicates a pond where water slowly seeps into the field through the spoil. This water contains iron and sulfate pollution, possibly from seeping through the spoil.

Area 6.

In tree line above highwall there is much subsidence.

Area 7.

Stripped area, contains many pooling areas draining into the coal seam. This is a large area and will be difficult to reclaim. Clearing and grubbing are necessary, there is no positive drainage for the entire valley.

Area 8.

Solid waste disposal area in old strip mine area.

Area 9.

Solid waste disposal area continued. The dozer operator said he often cut into old mine openings when he needed earth to cover layers of garbage.

Area 10.

Subsidence present throughout the trees.

Area 11.

Exposure in a new strip mine, definite pooling area, old mine openings partially collapsed are exposed.

Area 12. (Adjacent to Area 2.)

Subsidence and slumping present in tree line. An 80'x40' pooling area toward highwall (possible collapsed drift), over 20 4' to 10' deep subsidence holes located above highwall, there was evidently some attempt to ditch run-off around the subsidence and out of the area but it wasn't successful.

Area 13.

Surface mine spoil area. No attempt to regrade evident, many pools, ponding areas. The entire valley has no positive drainage - this large area needs clearing, grubbing and regrading.

Area 14.

Subsidence present among trees.

Area 15.

Abandoned, broken coke ovens, no visible outcrop nor subsidence, coke ashes, bony present on site.

Area 16.

Deep mine refuse pile, no entries or subsidence visible.

Area 17.

Subsidence present in trees behind school bus depot.

Area 18.

Good regrading, open fields, no subsidence nor outcrop visible.

Area 19.

Five subsidence holes present in valley floor. Conversation with land owner indicated that one of the holes into the mine was passible for approximately 300'.

Area 20.

Redstone stripping, Pittsburgh outcrop invisible.

Area 21.

Well reclaimed, no work necessary.

Area 22.

No visible outcrop nor subsidence.

Area 23.

No visible outcrop nor subsidence.

Area 24.

Stripped area, contains pools of water and possible pooling areas. Regrading required.

Area 25.

Subsidence holes, average 4' to 6' deep along area with several 10' deep. Ground in open field below subsidence contains signs of the outcrop. Possible caved drift opening behind barn near road.

Area 26.

Subsidence holes along entire area, average 4' to 6' deep with several 10' deep above highwall. Surface mine with no regrading, many pools and pooling areas. The outcrop is exposed approximately 200 yards from the road. Evidently one man is digging coal for home use. Large area to be regraded after logging, clearing and grubbing.

Area 27.

Surface mined area with good reclamation with one small pooling area which could be fixed with a few passes by a dozer.

Area 28.

Subsidence throughout area - two possible caved drifts (dots on map).

Area 29.

Area partially stripped. Some subsidence near road covered over. Possible pooling areas, one possible caved drift, several fresh subsidence holes, piled bony.

Area 30.

Outcrop traced by subsidence holes completely around hill, some holes used for garbage pits.

Area 31.

Area was stripped for Redstone Seam, subsidence noted near coke ovens, and large, new cave-in near coke ovens 10' x 20' and approximately 12' deep.

Area 31A.

Conversation with John Love indicated that a second discharge was present in the M05 area. A 2'x3' rectangular submerged concrete opening was found approximately 500' downstream of M05. Flow was estimated at 1/3 the volume of M05.

Area 32.

Outcrop has been stripped, subsidence 4' to 6' deep behind highwall, ponding and possible ponding areas present. Near the road north of J. Love's house the Pittsburgh seam was exposed, probably one man digging coal for home use.

Area 33.

Minor subsidence above outcrop to road, road has been patched several times (possible subsidence), subsidence noted in blackberry bushes and brambles north of road.

Area 34.

Recent stripping (for house coal) one man operation, a large ponding area.

Area 35.

Subsidence above highwall, average 4' to 6' deep, possible ponding areas.

Area 36.

Mine dump, abandoned coke ovens, bony, coke ashes; area needs regraded, revegetated.

Area 37.

Minor subsidence above strip, and large subsidence hole, no positive drainage in area, ponding is possible.

Area 38.

Outcrop traced by following subsidence holes in trees, average 4' to 6' deep, with some 10' deep very closely spaced.

Area 39.

Chrysler plant and U.S. 119 - area stripped and regraded well. No trace of outcrop.

Area 40.

Subsidence present throughout trees with possible ponding.

Area 41.

Large pond on suspected stripped area - pond is on shale bedrock - this could also have been a borrow area for U.S. 119.

Area 42.

Surface mine with subsidence above it in trees, pools and possible pooling areas present. Area needs regrading.

Area 43.

Outcrop traced by following subsidence holes in trees. Holes 4' to 6' deep closely spaced.

Area 44.

Unreclaimed surface mine, needs regrading, Pittsburgh coal exposed 13± with deep mine opening in middle 5'. Pools and possible pooling areas present.

Area 45.

Subsidence present among trees, several large pits 20'x60±' one very large pit, which appears on topographic map.

Area 46.

A concrete air shaft (?) is the center of a large subsidence hole, pooling area, approximately 150' from power line.

Area 47.

Three mine openings in area, they are all partially caved but open.

Area 48.

East of pond - 8x8 shaft present, open source of (M06).

Area 49.

Plowed field, outcrop not visible, one fresh subsidence hole in field the farmer fills them when they open, he said.

Area 50.

Slight subsidence visible in fields, no trace of outcrop. Three ponds are present, at least one of them is seeping into outcrop.

Area 51.

Subsidence in tree line, area stripped beginning at property line with subsidence above highwall 6-8' deep. Small subsidence visible at power line. Area stripped with two or three possible caved drift openings. There is also a small pond above and large pond below outcrop and possible pooling areas on stripped area.

Area 52.

Area was stripped, no regrading at all, many possible pooling areas, bony pile, subsidence in tree line above strip. There is no positive drainage in valley.

Area 53.

Possible spring near old RR right of way, minimal subsidence.

Area 54.

Area stripped with no regrading attempted, many small pooling areas throughout and three large pooling areas. Subsidence present above highwall in tree line.

Area 55.

Subsidence in tree line 4' to 6' deep, not evident in fields, where stripping occurred. No attempt at regrading was made hence many pooling areas, subsidence in trees above highwall.

Area 56.

In this area the mine pool elevation is higher than the ground elevation. When subsidence occurs in this area the hole fills up with water. At the present time (3/12/74) four distinct ponds are present. The largest (approximately 200'x300') is monitored at M10. The other three are immediately upstream from this pool and have no outlets at present. They are growing larger and should merge with M10 when the mine pool level rises. One of the pools has appeared within the last three months.

Area 56A.

Entire area is a marsh, with some shallow depressions that may be the beginning of subsidence.

Area 57.

Minor subsidence noted above stripped area.

Area 58.

Stripped, good regrading with minor subsidence above highwall.

Area 59.

Unreclaimed strip area with subsidence above highwall, possible pooling areas.

Area 60.

Unreclaimed strip area with possible caved drift and pooling areas.

Area 61.

Stripped and reclaimed. Subsidence above highwall. Another seam was stripped above (Redstone?).

Area 62.

Much subsidence present, outcrop invisible because of stripping on the Redstone seam.

Area 63.

Much subsidence above stripped area, evidence of deep mine entries blocked by collapsed highwall. Subsidence present in tree line.

Area 64.

Plowed fields, there is no subsidence or outcrop visible.

Area 65.

Abandoned coke ovens, bony, coke ashes, etc. present.

Area 66.

Marshy area with no positive drainage and some subsidence pooling, with Redstone seam stripped with good regrading, except in one unreclaimed area behind houses.

Area 67. (NE corner of Mammoth 7.5 min. quadrangle)

Area where Pittsburgh rider seam was stripped. Two discharges noted. The bedrock is shale with very thin soil cover. The shale is cracked and open to a deep mine below. This area is close to houses these cracks present a safety hazard.

Area 68.

Open field with no evidence of subsidence, outcrop invisible.

Area 69.

Subsidence present in trees, highwall exposed in one area. A pool exists in this area with about 6" of freeboard before it would flow directly into a deep mine opening.

Area 70.

Area stripped with subsidence above highwall to Joseph Ludvik's property. He filled in subsidence that occurred on his property, he said.

Area 71. (SW corner of Latrobe 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

Area was stripped. Subsidence above highwall with 2'-4' deep pooling areas present.

Area 72.

Stripped area with subsidence above except where plowed fields cover outcrop and above.

Area 73.

Deep mine refuse piles, old coke ovens, coke ashes etc. This area was stripped and leveled. Water from homes, etc. drains into this refuse area and pools. This area should be regraded and a stream channel established.

Area 74.

Area stripped with very poor reclamation, possible pooling areas, much subsidence present in trees above highwall.

Area 75.

Subsidence noted in trees, possible stripped but plowed fields and pastures show no outcrop or evidence of stripping and subsidence.

Area 76.

Good regrading a minimum of subsidence visible.

Area 77.

Mine dump, old coke ovens, bony, coke ashes, etc., outcrop is invisible, minor subsidence noted on hillsides.

Area 78.

Two discharges located on north side of "island," outcrop was stripped, subsidence evident in trees. The fact that the discharges were on the north side of the island indicated that the rocks are dipping toward the northern syncline pool.

March 18-21, 1974

Area 79. (SW corner Mt. Pleasant 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

Good surface mine reclamation with minor subsidence above.

Area 80. (Connellsville 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

Two discharges found from "old Frick Mine" according to former owner of farm property, both discharges are seeps (1-3 gpm).

Area 81.

Subsidence noted in tree line, not in open fields; poor reclamation in scattered areas.

Area 82.

No reclamation of stripped areas, old coke ovens present, no positive drainage in the entire valley, many ponding areas noted.

Area 83.

Mine fire, probably the same as area 1. Mine openings partially filled or collapsed in strip mine, smoke emitting from joints in shale unit above coal.

Area 84.

Subsidence noted in tree line, no visible traces in open fields.

Area 85.

No evidence of subsidence in open fields, poor regrading in trees, with subsidence and possible pooling areas.

Area 86.

Large refuse piles on both sides of U.S. 119, stripping and road building activities are present.

Area 87.

Subsidence present in trees above houses, difficult to reclaim, houses are built approximately on outcrop.

Area 88.

Minor subsidence on uncleared land, several mine dumps, marshy land, one large pond present within this area.

Area 89. (SE corner Mt. Pleasant 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

Subsidence noted in trees, mine dumps present on flats, abandoned coke ovens; pools form on the flats during rain in the many possible pooling areas present.

Area 90.

Subsidence observed in trees above houses (Bridgeport), pooling areas present, large scale subsidence in trees and on the stripped areas; plowed fields show no disturbance.

Area 91.

Fields show no disturbances, minor subsidence in trees and in fields, a few possible pooling areas.

Area 92.

About to be strip mined.

Area 93.

Minor subsidence visible in trees.

Area 94.

Areas stripped and poorly reclaimed; possible pooling areas and minor subsidence present.

Area 95.

Subsidence observed in tree line, a slope opening where water enters the mine at approximately 20 gpm.

Area 96.

Large bony (red dog) piles and pools of water present. Water flowing into mine openings.

Area 97. (Mammoth 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

Recent stripping at present.

Area 98.

Subsidence noted in tree line, pooling areas present, unreclaimed strip mine with no regrading.

Area 99.

Area was stripped, no regrading. Two seams removed, top seam has openings, and pooling areas.

Area 100.

No subsidence in fields, but subsidence is present in tree line on the poorly regraded strip.

Area 101.

No subsidence noted in fields, but the top 4' to 5' of a highwall is exposed in one very small area approximately 30' long.

Area 102.

Subsidence observed among trees, poor to no regrading done and there are many possible pooling areas.

Area 103.

Poor regrading, possible pooling areas, subsidence noted.

Area 104.

Small area of highwall exposed near houses on Pa. 982, no exposure or subsidence in fields, one small area needs regrading in the tree line.

Area 105.

Good reclamation in park, some subsidence in trees.

Area 105A.

Needs regraded.

Area 106.

Abandoned coke ovens, scattered bony, coke ashes, etc. scattered minor subsidence holes in fields approximately 1'-2' deep.

Area 107.

Good regrading, some abandoned coke ovens near road. The lake bottom appears to be clay lined. Several seepage discharges were noted under the water close to the shore.

Area 108.

No visible signs of stripping or subsidence.

Area 109.

Surface mine with no regrading, coal is exposed in two areas in pits (dug for home use?); extensive pooling areas present.

Area 110.

Subsidence in tree line; holes in highwall; possible pooling areas; three openings exposed and one collapsed drift (dots on map).

Area 111.

Surface mine, good revegetation but regrading slopes toward the highwall, pond present. In trees there is much subsidence 4'-6' deep and near the road is one long subsidence hole which may soon affect the road.

Area 112.

All farmed fields, no evidence of subsidence or stripping.

Area 113.

Subsidence present in trees above outcrop.

Area 114.

Surface mined in 1973 by C.W. Brown Coal Co. Inc., Whitney, Pa.

Area 115.

Abandoned coke ovens with bony present in flat areas; the valley has no positive drainage, marshy.

Area 116.

No visual signs of subsidence or outcrop.

Area 117.

No subsidence, area stripped by C.W. Brown in 1963, good reclamation.

Area 118.

Old coke ovens, large bony piles, one deep mine opening and one airshaft (both in pits) tipple presently working (trucks haul in coal), the pond shown on map is no longer present.

Area 119. (SE corner Latrobe 7.5 min. Quadrangle)

No visual evidence of subsidence or outcrop.

Area 120.

Area stripped with good reclamation, one pool as shown by dot on map.

Area 121.

All open fields, no subsidence or outcrop visible.