

Ground-Water Favorability Areas



Areas underlain by thick deposits of coarse-grained stratified glacial drift have excellent ground-water potential. Suitable for exploration to locate wells that should yield sufficient quantities of water to meet municipal and industrial requirements. Deposits are thinner and wells would be less productive along the margins of these areas.



Areas underlain by thin deposits of coarse-grained stratified glacial drift and stream gravel have low to moderate ground-water potential. Suitable for exploration to locate shallow wells and infiltration galleries that should yield sufficient quantities of water for domestic, commercial, and light industrial use.



Areas underlain by fine-grained stratified glacial drift and swamp deposits have low ground-water potential. These deposits generally will yield sufficient water for domestic wells only. In places, thin lenses of gravel with higher yields may underlie these deposits, but these lenses may not have adequate storage or recharge to produce high yields on a sustained basis.



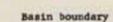
Areas underlain by deposits of unstratified glacial drift (called till or "hardpan") and bedrock ("ledge") have low ground-water potential. In general, wells in either till or bedrock will yield only enough water for domestic or light commercial use. Till and bedrock underlie the stratified glacial drift of the map units listed above.

○ Water wells in stratified glacial drift

● Water wells in glacial till and bedrock



⊕ Test borings



--- Basin boundary



INDEX MAP OF VERMONT

SCALE OF MILES

0 10 20 30 40 50

GROUND WATER FAVORABILITY MAP  
OF THE  
MISSISQUOI RIVER BASIN, VERMONT

SCALE OF MILES

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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BY  
ARTHUR L. HODGES, JR.  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
ASSISTED BY  
DAVID BUTTERFIELD  
VT. DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES

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Introduction

The area of this report includes that part of northwestern Vermont drained by the Missisquoi River and several small tributaries to Lake Champlain. It also includes North Hero Island, Isle La Motte, and the Town of Alburg. This study is part of a cooperative program between the United States Geological Survey and the State of Vermont Department of Water Resources to provide a statewide reconnaissance of ground-water availability. Information presented in this report is based on a limited amount of data; it is intended as a guide for local exploration, and not as a statement that conditions are uniform everywhere within a ground-water favorability area. Further studies are recommended for detailed appraisals of ground-water quantities available within this area.

The areas of greatest ground-water potential are Isle La Motte, Swanton, Highgate Springs, Sheldon to East Fletcher, North Enosburg, East Berkshire to Montgomery Center and Newport Center. Excellent areas for potential ground-water development also occur along the main stem of the Missisquoi River from East Berkshire to the Canadian border, and from Troy to Lowell. Other less promising areas are scattered throughout the basin. Silt and clay deposits predominate in the Missisquoi River valley from North Enosburg to Lake Champlain and may mask possible underlying water-bearing gravel.

WATER WELLS AND TEST BORINGS

WATER WELLS

| Number | Owner                        | Location      | Total <sup>1/</sup><br>Depth<br>(in ft) | Depth <sup>1/</sup><br>to<br>Bedrock<br>(in ft) | Yield <sup>1/2/</sup><br>1/(in gallons<br>per minute) |
|--------|------------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|
| 1.     | Brothers of the Sacred Heart | Isle La Motte | 224                                     | 152   | Rock 20   |
| 2.     | Carl Hunter                  | Alburg        | 275                                     | 9   | Rock 20   |
| 3.     | Herman Pelkey                | Highgate      | 60                                      | NR  | Gravel 40   |
| 4.     | Russell Haugland             | Highgate      | 180                                     | 1   | Rock 6  |
| 5.     | Lloyd Brow                   | Swanton       | 102                                     | NR  | Sand 20   |
| 6.     | Sears Farm                   | Swanton       | 100                                     | NR  | Gravel 20   |
| 7.     | Wesley Longe                 | Sheldon       | 167                                     | 65  | Rock 25   |
| 8.     | Neil McGinn                  | Fairfield     | 235                                     | 99  | Rock 30   |
| 9.     | Village of Bakersfield       | Bakersfield   | 400                                     | 1   | Rock 8  |
| 10.    | Village of Enosburg Falls    | Berkshire     | 63                                      | NR  | Gravel 600  |
| 11.    | United Farmers Creamery      | Berkshire     | 25                                      | NR  | Gravel 100  |
| 12.    | Lowell School                | Lowell        | 217                                     | 95  | Rock 30   |
| 13.    | Village of Newport Center    | Newport Town  | 31                                      | NR  | Gravel 60   |

NR Not Reached  
1/ Reported by owner or driller  
2/ May be limited by capacity of pump

TEST BORINGS (Vermont Department of Highways)

|     |  |           |           |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------|
| 14. | Grand Isle - North Hero - U.S. Route 2 over The Out      | Elevation | 95 ft     |
|     | 5 to 10 feet of sand & clay over bedrock                 |           |           |
| 15. | Alburg - U.S. Route 2 approximately 1.5 miles North of   | Elevation | 100 ft    |
|     | South Alburg   |           |           |
|     | Sand   |           | 0 - 5 ft  |
|     | Clay & silt  |           | 5 - 30    |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 16. | Alburg - Vt. Route 78 over Mud Creek                     | Elevation | 93 ft     |
|     | Muck   |           | 0 - 12 ft |
|     | Sand   |           | 12 - 16   |
|     | Bedrock  |           | 16        |
| 17. | Alburg - Swanton - Vt. Route 78 across Lake Champlain    | Elevation | 95 ft     |
|     | Water  |           | 0 - 12 ft |
|     | Silty clay   |           | 12 - 30   |
|     | Coarse sand  |           | 30 - 35   |
|     | Bedrock  |           | 35        |
| 18. | Highgate - Interstate 89 over Rock River                 | Elevation | 97 ft     |
|     | -South end of bridge                                     |           |           |
|     | Clay   |           | 0 - 75 ft |
|     | Sand, fine gravel  |           | 75 - 90   |
|     | Refusal  |           | 90        |
|     | -North end of bridge                                     | Elevation | 97 ft     |
|     | Clay   |           | 0 - 60 ft |
|     | Sand & gravel  |           | 60 - 70   |
|     | Refusal  |           | 70        |
| 19. | Swanton - Interstate 89 over Vt. Route 78                | Elevation | 155 ft    |
|     | Sand & silt  |           | 0 - 10 ft |
|     | Sand   |           | 10 - 35   |
|     | Sand & clay  |           | 35 - 45   |
|     | Clay   |           | 45 - 53   |
|     | Bedrock  |           | 53        |
| 20. | Swanton - Interstate 89 over Missisquoi River            | Elevation | 153 ft    |
|     | North end  |           |           |
|     | Fine sand  |           | 0 - 64 ft |
|     | Fine gravel  |           | 64 - 70   |
|     | Bedrock  |           | 70        |
| 21. | St. Albans - Vt. Route 36 over Interstate 89             | Elevation | 585 ft    |
|     | Sand, some gravel & silt                                 |           | 0 - 45 ft |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 22. | Sheldon - Vt. Route 105 over Missisquoi River at Sheldon | Elevation | 338 ft    |
|     | Junction   |           |           |
|     | East end of bridge                                       |           |           |
|     | Sandy soil   |           | 0 - 10 ft |
|     | Sand & fine gravel                                       |           | 10 - 18   |
|     | Compact blue clay  |           | 18 - 48   |
|     | Very fine silt-like sand                                 |           | 16 - 25   |
|     | Porous material (probably gravel)                        |           | 48 - 62   |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 23. | Berkshire - West Berkshire Road over Pike River          | Elevation | 530 ft    |
|     | Maximum 15 feet sand & gravel over till                  |           |           |
|     | and bedrock  |           |           |
| 24. | Enosburg - Vt. Route 108 over The Branch                 | Elevation | 413 ft    |
|     | Sand & fine gravel                                       |           | 0 - 5 ft  |
|     | Clay & fine sand   |           | 5 - 16    |
|     | Medium sand & clay                                       |           | 16 - 25   |
|     | Clay, some fine sand                                     |           | 25 - 38   |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 25. | Bakersfield - Vt. Route 108 over The Branch              | Elevation | 556 ft    |
|     | Coarse sand & gravel                                     |           | 0 - 22 ft |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 26. | Montgomery - Vt. Route 118 over Alder Brook              | Elevation | 434 ft    |
|     | Topsoil  |           | 0 - 3 ft  |
|     | Sand & gravel  |           | 3 - 39    |
|     | Not to refusal   |           |           |
| 27. | Troy - Vt. Route 105 over Missisquoi River at North Troy | Elevation | 456 ft    |
|     | East end of bridge                                       |           |           |
|     | Fill   |           | 0 - 4 ft  |
|     | Sand   |           | 4 - 17    |
|     | Bedrock  |           | 17 - 25   |
| 28. | Newport - Vt. Route 105 over Mud Creek                   | Elevation | 365 ft    |
|     | Maximum depth to bedrock                                 |           | 12 ft     |