LEGEND QUATERNARY ORGANIC DEPOSITS (MUSKEG): lichen-moss, sedge, and woody peat containing ice; up to 3 m thick; derived

grades to outwash (unit 4c)

from the accumulation and preservation of vegetation in a wet reducing environment; produces flat, wet terrain containing thermokarst depressions and ice-wedge polygons. Peat mantles most geological units. The different types of organic terrain and the main areas of peat cover are shown on the inset map

FLUVIAL DEPOSITS: cross-stratified sand and gravel deposited by flowing water Modern alluvium: cross-stratified sand and rounded gravel, deposited by modern streams; commonly less than

Older alluvium: chiefly cross-stratified sand and rounded gravel, locally containing plane-bedded silty sand with organic lenses; deposited by postglacial streams with flow regimes and base levels different from those of present; commonly about 3 m thick; occurs as bottom deposits in braided channels, terraces, and abandoned floodplains;

3 m thick; occurs as floodplains, point bars, river islands, and deltas

MARINE/GLACIOMARINE DEPOSITS: well sorted stratified sand to massive stony silt, deposited into Tyrrell Sea; forms an extensive featureless blanket several metres thick, commonly overlain by muskeg

Undifferentiated marine offlap deposits: littoral sands fining downwards to nearshore sandy silt, deep water silty clay, or stony pelite; forms a wedge more than 6 m thick near the coast of Hudson Bay and thins to a veneer overlying till and lacustrine deposits inland near the upper limit of postglacial marine submergence (130 to 180 m); sparsely fossiliferous; covered by muskeg

Sand and gravel beach ridge complexes: sand and rounded gravel with carbonate and granitic lithologies; 2 to 4 m thick; occurs as sets of massive, multiple beach ridges created during recessional phases of the Tyrrell Sea

Littoral and sublittoral sand: stratified sand with minor gravel; sparsely fossiliferous; occurs as a blanket up to 3 m thick; grades downwards into marine pelite

Stony marine (glaciomarine) pelite: soft, poorly sorted, commonly massive but locally plane-bedded, stony to gritty silt; grey; calcareous; 2 to 6 m thick; mainly a marine or glaciomarine sediment containing large amounts

be derived from frost churning of marine pelite with underlying till

and proglacial meltwater channels

GLACIOLACUSTRINE DEPOSITS: calcareous clayey silt with some sand, derived primarily from Hudsonian drift and deposited into glacial Lake Agassiz

Intertidal silt: uniform, grey, calcareous silt with fine sand; contains organic beds and ice-rafted boulders; about

Sandy deposits: well sorted stratified sand; nonfossiliferous; 1-2 m thick; generally a blanket deposit

Silty pelite: sticky, red-brown, calcareous silt-clay, with clay granules and dropstones; generally massive but locally rhythmically bedded with beds thinning upwards; in places intercalated with waterlaid till; 3 to 6 m thick; forms an extensive blanket grooved by drifting ice; mantled by muskeg

GLACIOFLUVIAL DEPOSITS: sorted, stratified sand with gravelly sand deposited by running water in contact

Outwash deposits: cross-stratified sand and rounded gravel; occurs primarily as bottom deposits in subglacial

Kame and esker sands: kames consist of sorted, poorly stratified sand with gravel, forming hummocks and ridges ranging from small disintegration features 5 to 8 m thick, to arcuate interlobate kame moraine 10 to 30 m thick, which marks the suture between the Keewatin and Hudsonian ice regimes. Eskers consist of stratified sand, with some gravel in areas north of Seal River, forming prominent broad-crested ridges, 10 to 20 m high. Surfaces of eskers and kame moraine inundated by the Tyrrell Sea have been washed and reworked by waves

Crevasse fillings: poorly stratified sand and gravel intercalated with till; 4 to 5 m thick; occurs as belts of ridges n reticulate pattern; network marks fracture patterns in a thinning Keewatin ice mass

TILL: chiefly unsorted debris deposited beneath or at the front of moving glaciers and beneath ice shelves; of variable lithology, texture, and thickness. Sandy and bouldery till were deposited by an ice mass flowing southeastwards from a centre in District of Keewatin, whereas silty till was deposited by ice flowing westwards from a centre over Hudson Bay Basin or Labrador-Ungava

Silty till: till with a calcareous clay-silt matrix; contains both carbonate and granitic clasts; locally includes shell fragments; hard to compact, jointed, ranging from olive grey to black; occurs as a blanket up to 30 m thick, consisting of 1 to 4 sheets, and as grounding line moraines; deposited in part as waterlaid till

granitic and metamorphic source rocks; 1 to 10 m thick; loose to moderately compact; in places partially Bouldery till: boulder-rich till with a sandy matrix; olive grey; moderately compact; 2 to 5 m thick; some deposits have openwork or bedding structures indicative of syngenetic water sorting; occurs mainly as belts of

Sandy till: chiefly poorly sorted or unsorted, sandy textured debris; olive grey; consisting of, and derived from,

FELSENMEER: frost-shattered rock composed of quartz monzonite, alaskite, and gneiss, occurring as stacked angular blocks 0.5 to 2 m across, with unweathered surfaces; occurs extensively as felsenmeer and as boulder patches in small wet depressions

ribbed moraine, but also occurs as a blanket deposit where large amounts of frost shattered rock have been

PRE-QUATERNARY

BEDROCK: bare or vegetated igneous and metamorphic bedrock of Precambrian age, and sedimentary carbonate rocks of Paleozoic age

Carbonate rock: buff, finely crystalline, locally bioclastic, limestones and dolomite of Silurian and Ordovician age, occurring in sections along rivers and as platforms along the coast

Granitic and gneissic rock: small granitoid rock knobs with spalled and flaked surfaces, pitted to depths of 1 to 4 mm; unit includes prominent ridges of aphanitic greywacke with polished and striated surfaces, which outcrop

Small bedrock outcrop End moraine . . Ribbed moraine . Abandoned or underfit river channel (direction of flow known, unknown) Washed esker (direction of flow known, unknown) Buried valley . Iceberg furrow lineation Marine fossil locality . Geological boundary (defined, assumed) . .

Geology by L. A. Dredge and F. M. Nixon, 1978

Geological cartography by F. J. Heney, Geological Survey of Canada

Any revisions or additional geological information known to the user would be welcomed by the Geological Survey of Canada

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Elevations in feet above mean sea level

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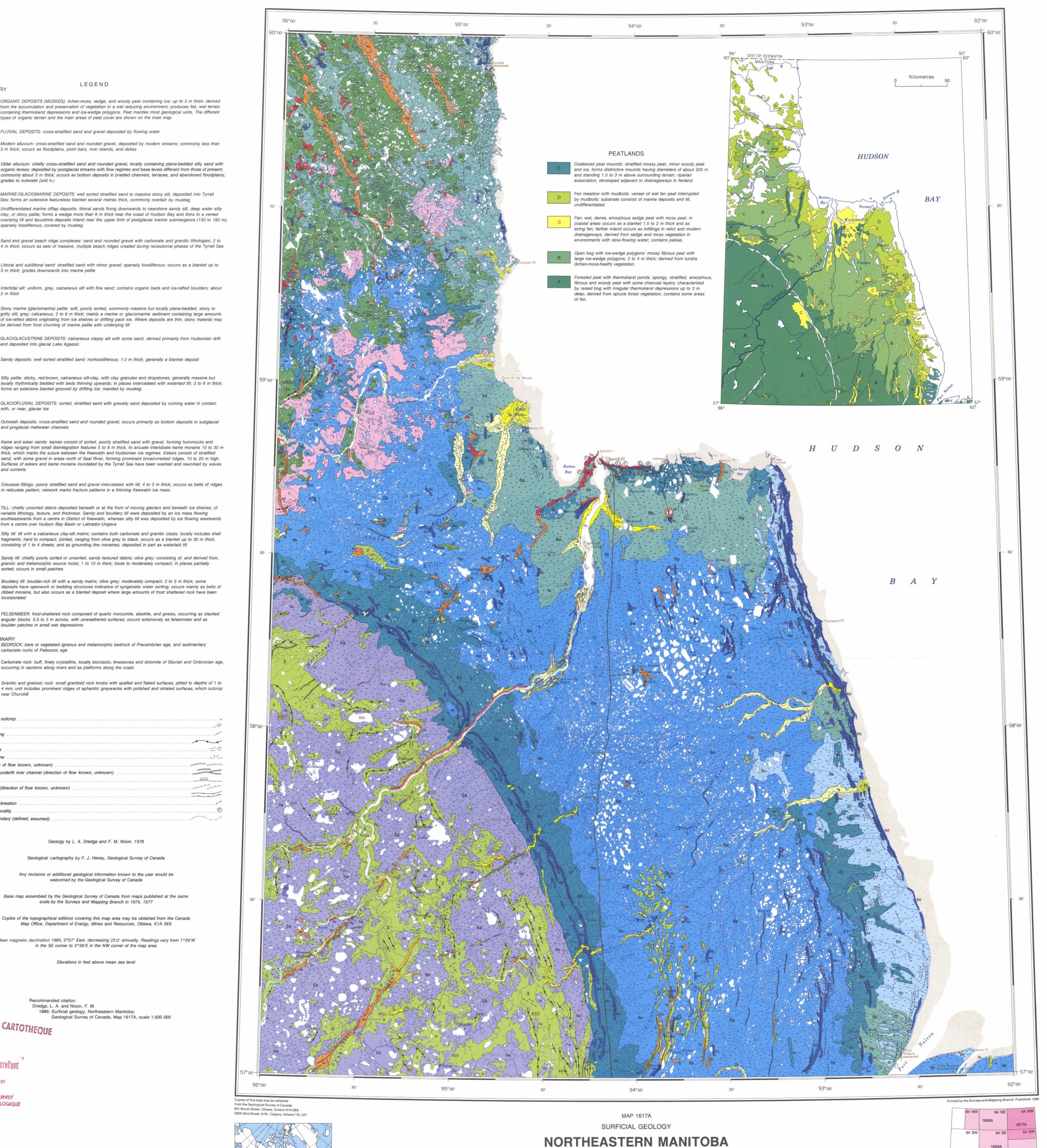
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