

Base from U.S. Geological Survey  
Newton East, 1971

SCALE 1:24000

Geology mapped 1985 - 1991

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

**QUATERNARY GEOLOGY AND GEOLOGIC MATERIAL RESOURCES OF  
NEWTON EAST QUADRANGLE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

BY  
**RON W. WITTE and DON H. MONTEVERDE**  
2006

The data presented here are provisional pending external peer review. Changes may be made prior to publication as a New Jersey Geological Survey Geologic Report.

**INTRODUCTION**

Industrial, commercial, and residential expansion in New Jersey has promoted the increased use of surficial geologic data for 1) land-use planning, 2) identification, management and protection of ground-water resources, 3) locating and developing sources of geologic aggregate, and 4) delineation of geologic hazards. Surficial deposits in Newton East quadrangle are lithologically diverse, cover much of the bedrock surface, and are found in many types of landscape settings. They include glacial drift of late Wisconsinian age, and alluvium, swamp and bog deposits, hillslope deposits, and wind-blown sediment laid down in postglacial time. Collectively, these deposits may be as much as 250 feet (87 m) thick and they form the parent material on which soils form. They are defined by their lithic characteristics, stratigraphic position, and location on the landscape, and further delineated by genetic and morphologic criteria. Geologic history, detailed observations on surficial materials, and list of references are found in the accompanying booklet.

**DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS**

Map units denote unconsolidated deposits more than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick. Color designations are based on Munsell Soil Color Charts (1975), and were determined from naturally moist samples.

**Postglacial Deposits**

**af**  
Artificial fill (Holocene) – Rock waste, solid waste, soil, gravel, sand, silt, and manufactured materials put in place by man. As much as 25 feet (8m) thick. Not shown beneath roads, and railroads where it is less than 10 feet (3m) thick. Primarily used to raise the land surface, construct earthen dams and sanitary landfills, and form a solid base for roads and railroads.

**Qal**  
Alluvium (Holocene) – Stratified, moderately- to poorly-sorted sand, gravel, silt, and minor clay and organic material deposited by Wallkill, Paulins Kill, and Pequest Rivers and their tributaries. As much as 25 feet (8m) thick. Includes planar- to cross-bedded gravel and sand, and cross-bedded and rippled sand in channel deposits, and massive and parallel-laminated fine sand, and silt in flood-plain deposits.

**Qaf**  
Alluvial-fan deposits (Holocene and late Wisconsinian) – Stratified, moderately to poorly sorted sand, gravel, and silt in fan-shaped deposits. As much as 35 feet (11 m) thick. Includes massive to planar-bedded sand and gravel and minor cross-bedded channel-fill sand. Beds dip as much as 30° toward the trunk valley. Stratified sediment is locally interlayered with poorly sorted, sandy-silty to sandy gravel. Most fans dissected by modern streams.

**Qst**  
Stream-terrace deposits (Holocene and late Wisconsinian) – Stratified, well- to moderately-sorted, massive to laminated, and minor cross-bedded fine sand, and silt in terraces flanking present and late postglacial stream courses. As much as 20 feet (6 m) thick.

**Qs**  
Swamp and Bog deposits (Holocene and late Wisconsinian) – Dark brown to black, partially decomposed remains of mosses, sedges, trees and other plants, and muck underlain by laminated organic-rich silt and clay, and in places marl. Accumulated in kettles, shallow postglacial lakes, poorly-drained areas in uplands, hollows in ground and eroded moraine, and in abandoned channels on flood plains. As much as 25 feet (8m) thick. Locally interbedded with alluvium and thin colluvium.

**Qom**  
Colluvium and alluvium undifferentiated (Holocene and late Wisconsinian) – Stratified, thinly bedded, moderately to poorly sorted sand, silt, and minor gravel in thin sheets laid down on the floors of small upland tributaries and the lower parts of adjacent slopes. Interlayered with and overlying silty to silty-sandy diamicton (interpreted as a mass-flow deposit). Locally shaly. As much as 15 feet (5 m) thick.

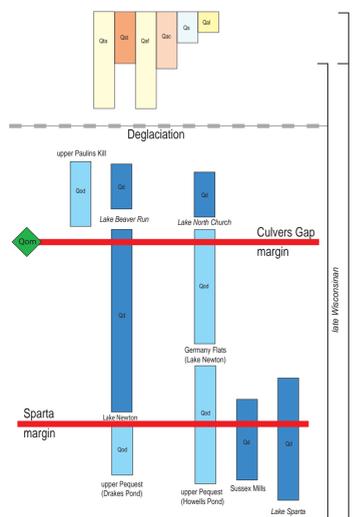
**Glacial Deposits**

**Deposits of Glacial Meltwater Streams**

**Qdl** **Qod**  
Glacial-lake delta deposits (late Wisconsinian) – Stratified, sand, gravel, and silt deposited by meltwater streams in proglacial lakes at and beyond the stagnant glacier margin. Includes massive to horizontally-bedded and imbricated coarse gravel and sand, and planar to tabular and trough cross-bedded fine gravel and sand in bars, and channel-fill deposits with minor cross-bedded sand in channel-fill deposits glacialofluvial topset beds that are as much as 25 feet (8m) thick. Overlies and grades into foreset beds that dip 20° to 35° basinward and consist of well- to moderately-sorted, rhythmically-bedded, ripple cross-laminated to graded fine sand and silt with minor clay drapes. Qod similar to Qd except deposit laid down in a very narrow lake basin. Fluvial topset beds may have been extensively aggraded and deposit may have once filled the valley from wall to wall. Thickness may be as much as 100 feet (30m). In places deposits are extensively collapsed indicating their deposition over and against stagnant ice. Numbered units in the Lake Sparta basin define successively younger ice-contact deltas that delineate local ice-retreat positions (see text for a detailed description of the lake's history).

**Qlg**  
Lacustrine-fan deposits (late Wisconsinian) – Stratified, sand, gravel, and silt deposited by meltwater streams in proglacial lakes at and beyond the stagnant glacier margin. Consists of foreset beds that dip 20° to 35° basinward and consist of well- to moderately-sorted, rhythmically-bedded cobble-pebble and pebble gravel and sand. These beds grade downward and outward into ripple cross-laminated and parallel-laminated, sand, silt and pebble gravel that dip less than 20°. Lower foreset beds grade into gently inclined prodelta bottomset beds of rhythmically-bedded, ripple cross-laminated to graded fine sand and silt with minor clay drapes. Thickness may be as much as 100 feet (30m). Interpreted to have been deposited by meltwater at the mouth of a glacial meltwater tunnel. In places deposits are extensively collapsed indicating their deposition over and against stagnant ice. Differentiated from deltas by their lack of topset beds.

**Correlation of Glacial Meltwater Deposits, Glacial Lakes, and Postglacial deposits**



**Environmental Characteristics of Geologic Materials**

**Surficial Deposits**

**Qal**, **Qac** - *Alluvium, Colluvium-Alluvium undifferentiated* - Permeable but too thin to store large quantities of water; drainage is generally poor because of high water table, and accumulation of fines and organic material on flood plains. Easy to excavate. Unsuitable for foundations and septic systems. Very limited use for fill because of high water table. Areas susceptible to frequent flooding.

**Qst** - *Stream-terrace deposits* - Permeable but generally too thin to store large quantities of water; drainage is good. Easy to excavate. Suitable for foundations; generally unsuitable for septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Limited use for aggregate and fill. Areas susceptible to infrequent flooding.

**Qaf** - *Alluvial-fan deposits* - Permeable but too thin to store large quantities of water; drainage may be poor because of seasonally high or perched water table. Easy to excavate. Generally unsuitable for foundations and septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Limited use for coarse aggregate and fill. May be susceptible to infrequent flooding.

**Qs** - *Swamp deposits* - Low permeability and very poor drainage; generally underlain by lake-bottom deposits. Easy to excavate, but generally requires artificial drainage at and near the land surface. Not suitable for foundations or septic systems. Peat is mined for use as humus.

**Qom** - *Meltwater-terrace deposits* - Highly permeable but too thin to store large quantities of water. Drainage is good and material is easy to excavate except for bouldery lags. Suitable for foundations but generally not for septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Limited use as aggregate and fill.

**Qd**, **Qod** - *Ice-marginal deltas and fluvio-deltas* - Highly permeable, may store large volumes of water. Drainage is good and material is easy to excavate. Suitable for foundations but generally not for septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Mined extensively for aggregate, road base and road covering.

**Qlf** - *Lacustrine-fan deposits* - Permeable, may store large volumes of water; typically lie beneath lake-bottom deposits. Drainage is fair to good and material is easy to excavate. Suitable for foundations but generally not for septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Mined for aggregate, road base, and road covering.

**Qlb** - *Lake-bottom deposits* - Very low permeability; typically lie beneath swamp deposits. Drainage is very poor and material is easy to excavate. Not suitable for foundations or septic systems. Maintains moderately- to deeply-cut slopes, although susceptible to slope failure due to liquefaction. Used to make impermeable liners and covers in landfills, and has been used to make bricks.

**Qtk**, **Qtg** - *Till* - Generally low permeability. Drainage is poor to fair and material is moderately to highly difficult to excavate. Suitable for foundations; suitability for septic systems is highly variable. Maintains moderate- to deeply-cut slopes. Used for fill, and fines may be screened for use as impermeable cover or liner material.

**Qom** - *Ogdensburg-Culvers Gap moraine* - Low to moderate permeability. Drainage is poor to fair and material is easy to excavate except where bouldery. Suitable for foundations; suitability for septic systems is highly variable. Maintains shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Minor use for fill.

**Qk** - *Kame deposits* - Highly permeable, generally too small to store large volumes of water. Drainage is good and material is easy to excavate, although it may contain unsorted, compact to bouldery till. Suitable for foundations, but generally not suited for septic systems. Maintain shallow- to moderately-cut slopes. Minor use as aggregate and fill.

**Bedrock**  
(distribution shown on Plate 2)

**Sandstone, shale, slate** - Low to moderate permeability related to joints, fractures, and faults. Aquifer potential is poor to fair for domestic ground-water needs with supplies very limited for commercial and industrial use. Generally, underlies areas of intermediate elevation. Minor use for road base and fill. In places, slate has been previously quarried for roofing material.

**Dolomite** - Moderate to high permeability related to dissolution along joints and fractures and differential weathering of the different types of dolomite beds. Aquifer potential is good to excellent for domestic supplies, and locally good to excellent for commercial, municipal and industrial needs. Unit is susceptible to sinkhole formation. Under lies valleys, low ridges and hills. Minor use for agricultural lime.

**Limestone** - Moderate to high permeability related to dissolution along joints and fractures. Aquifer potential is good to excellent for domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial water supply needs. Unit is susceptible to sinkhole formation. Under lies valleys, low ridges and hills. Minor use for agricultural lime.

**Marble** - Low to moderate permeability related to secondary fractures and dissolution. Aquifer potential is fair to good for domestic needs and locally sufficient for commercial, municipal and industrial use. Forms topographic highs equal to the hills of the dolomite. Material used for road base, ornamental stone, and reagent grade chemicals.

**Gneiss, granite** - Low to moderate permeability related to joints, fractures, and faults. Aquifer potential is fair to good for domestic needs, but typically poor for commercial, municipal and industrial use. Typically forms the highest hills and ridges. Minor use for fill and road base.

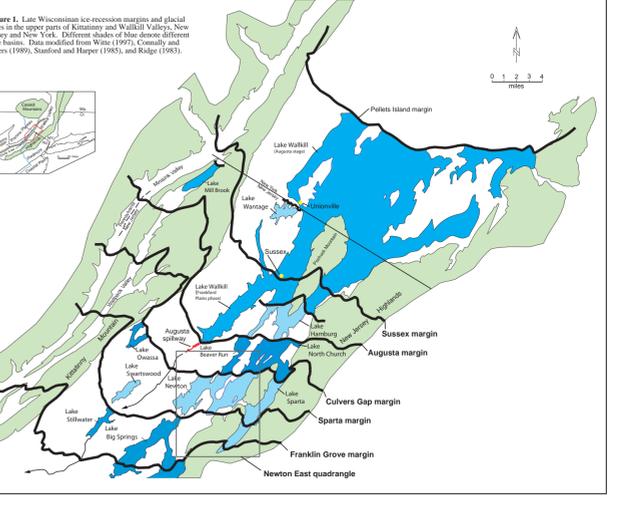
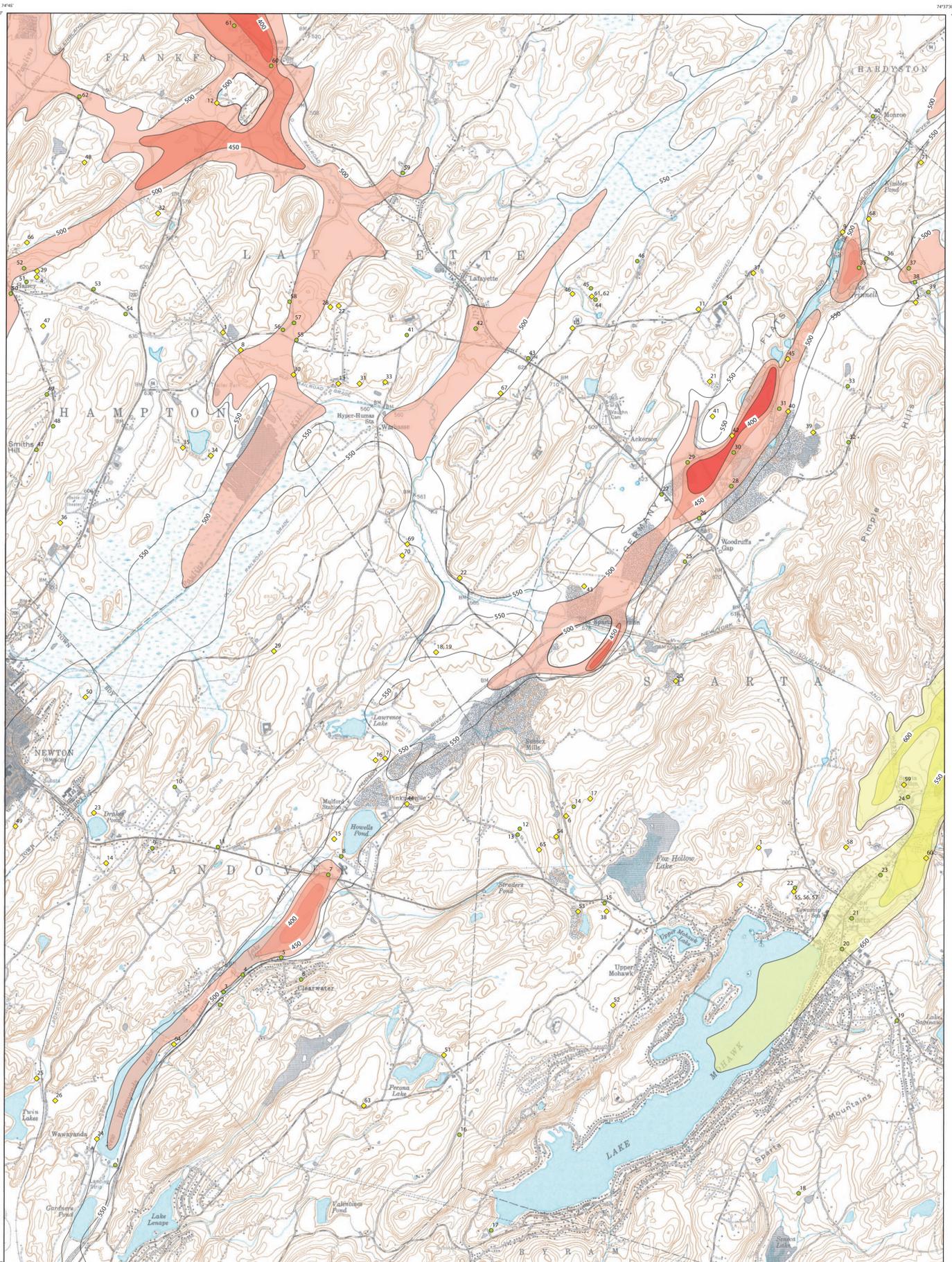


Figure 1. Late Wisconsinian ice-recession margins and glacial lakes in the upper parts of Kittatinny and Wallkill Valleys, New Jersey and New York. Different shades of blue denote different lake basins. Data modified from Witte (1997), Connally and others (1989), Stanford and Harper (1985), and Ridge (1983).



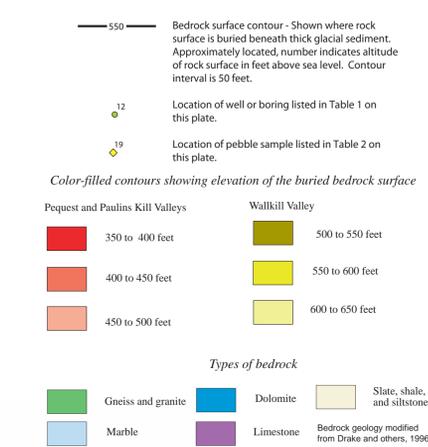
**Table 1.** Records of selected wells in the Newton East quadrangle, Sussex County, New Jersey. The listed wells were drilled for private and public water supply, and exploration. Well information on file with Bureau of Water Allocation, Division of Water Resources, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Well locations are based on tax maps and information provided by well drillers. Discharge listed as gallons per minute. The letters "S" and "I" indicate well location is generally within 200 feet or 500 feet respectively of actual location.

Well no.	NJDEP Permit no.	Location accuracy	Discharge in gpm	Depth in feet	Driller's Log
1	22-20605	s	20	0-30 30-55 55-62	Sand and gravel Fine sand Sand and gravel
2	22-14659	s	20+	0-6 6-64 64-65	Overburden Sand and clay Gravel and water
3	22-2142	s	15	0-60 60-86	Sand Sand and gravel
4	22-16534	f	20+	0-55	Sand and gravel
5	22-18747	f	20	0-105 105-129	Sand and gravel Lime rock
6	22-21430	s	1	0-35	Clay and gravel
7	22-3935	f	30	0-60 60-130 130-140	Gravel and sand Sand Gravel
8	22-10862	f	10+	0-55 55-73 73-80	Clay and boulders Clay and gravel Gravel
9	22-22922	f	15	0-60 60-124	Clay and gravel Slate
10	22-8466	f	115	0-20 20-110 110-137	Broken rock Limestone Slate
11	22-21085	f	3	0-23 23-50	Boulders, sand and gravel Slate
12	22-23250	s	15	0-30 30-50 90-225	Clay and gravel Granite Granite
13	22-8695	f	4	0-30 30-60 60-63 63-85	Overburden with boulders Sand and boulders Sand Fine sand and gravel
14	22-23345	f	25	0-2 2-100 100-125	Clay Sand and gravel Granite
15	22-22575	s	20	0-68 68-175	Overburden Granite
16	22-21158	f	12	0-66 66-90 90-100 100-197	Clay and boulders Sandstone Sandstone Granite
17	22-21183	f	16	0-32 32-50	Sand and gravel Granite
18	22-22829	f	12	0-50 50-175	Overburden with layers of clay, gravel, and water Granite
19	22-20086	f	3	0-60 60-100 100-197	Clay and gravel Clay, sand, and gravel Gray granite
20	22-22645	f	60	0-197 197-225	Clay and gravel Rotten rock
21	22-1905	f	135	0-60 60-78 78-134	Clay Clay and sand Blue granite with streaks of rotten rock
22	22-21720	s	23	0-66 66-90 90-125	Sand and gravel Granite Rock
23	22-19870	s	5	0-92	Sand
24	22-20783	f	50	0-17 17-25	Brown clay and fine sand Gray brown clay and fine gravel
25	22-22983	f	15	0-84 84-225	Brown clay and fine sand Light gray fine sand and silt
26	22-2739	s	70	0-80	Sand, gravel, and clay
27	22-19046	f	10	0-84 84-225	Clay and gravel Blue lime rock
28	22-5348	s	40	0-35 35-52 52-58 58-62 62-72	Clay Coarse gravel Gravel Gravel and sand Coarse gravel
29	observation well	None reported	None reported	0-50 50-85 85-120 122-140	Sand and gravel Fine sand Silt Sand / limestone
30	22-20370	s	200	0-20 20-110 110-132	Sand and gravel Fine sand and clay Sand and gravel
31	22-7557	s	307	0-10 10-36 36-108 108-142	Sand and boulders Sand and gravel Fine dirty sand and clay Sand and gravel
32	22-20121	s	3	0-32 32-300	Clay and gravel Granite
33	22-22825	s	30	0-3 3-88 88-125	Overburden Sand and gravel Sandstone Granite
34	22-20604	s	55	0-12 12-200 200-115	Sandy gravel Limestone Limestone
35	22-20951	s	20	0-150	Sand and gravel
36	22-18192	s	10	0-21	Overburden
37	22-22302	s	20	0-20 20-36 36-125	Sand and gravel Gravel Sand and gravel with some clay
38	22-22401	s	20	0-41 41-290	Sand and gravel Soft yellow limestone and clay
39	22-4001	f	15	0-80 80-130	Light yellowish brown overburden of granitic origin Light gray granitic gneiss
40	22-23147	s	10	0-80 80-150	Sand, clay, and gravel Lime rock
41	22-13612	s	3	0-4 4-40 40-63 63-425	Dirt Boulders, sand, and gravel Gravel Limestone
42	22-22619	f	75	0-123 123-150	Sand and gravel Lime rock
43	22-3942	s	15	0-25 25-50 50-75 75-86 86-120	Hardpan and boulders Hardpan, boulders, and gravel Fine sand Quick sand Shale
44	21-21986	s	None reported	0-52	Gray silt, sand, gravel, and shale fragments
45	22-21900	s	None reported	0-50	Gray silt, sand, gravel, and shale fragments
46	22-22025	s	90	0-20 20-85 85-360	Overburden Sand and gravel Blue shale
47	22-22891	s	12	0-32 32-185	Sand and gravel Shale
48	22-22204	s	6	0-42	Clay and boulders
49	22-3826	s	8	0-25 25-50 50-75	Hardpan and gravel Clay, sand, and gravel Gravel and rock fragments Shale

**Table 2.** Pebble composition of glacial sediment in Newton East quadrangle. Data based on 100 to 125 pebbles, one to three inches in diameter, collected at each sample site. List of abbreviations: Pc - gneiss and granite, Fm - marble, Cb - dolomite and limestone, Sh - shale and slate, Qc - quartzite and quartz-pebble conglomerate, Rs - red sandstone, and Ss - gray sandstone.

Sample	Surficial Material	Percent Pebbles						
		Pc	Fm	Cb	Sh	Qc	Rs	Ss
1	Abolition till	94	0	4	1	0	0	0
2	Abolition till	57	0	17	25	1	0	0
3	Till	0	0	0	95	1	0	3
4	Till	0	0	0	95	0	1	4
5	Abolition till	80	0	5	16	0	0	0
6	Fluvial gravel	73	0	8	16	0	0	3
7	Fluvial gravel	26	0	20	48	3	0	3
8	Fluvial gravel	0	0	43	51	4	1	0
9	Lacustrine gravel	8	1	62	24	4	1	1
10	Abolition till	1	0	5	87	6	0	1
11	Fluvial gravel	0	0	13	72	15	1	0
12	Fluvial gravel	1	0	1	85	10	0	4
13	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	3	93	4	0	0
14	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	60	35	0	0	1
15	Lacustrine gravel	29	0	25	42	1	1	1
16	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	45	51	2	0	2
17	Till	29	0	25	42	2	0	1
18	Fluvial gravel	0	0	43	51	4	1	0
19	Fluvial gravel	30	0	52	15	3	0	0
20	Till	75	0	11	9	1	0	4
21	Lacustrine gravel	11	0	71	15	1	1	0
22	Lacustrine gravel	37	0	8	50	4	0	1
23	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	37	61	2	0	1
24	Lacustrine gravel	29	0	55	16	0	0	2
25	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	5	90	2	0	3
26	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	4	89	4	0	3
27	Fluvial gravel	0	0	0	92	3	0	4
28	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	0	97	2	0	1
29	Till	1	0	4	86	5	1	3
30	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	60	35	0	0	1
31	Fluvial gravel	0	0	0	97	2	1	1
32	Fluvial gravel	0	0	3	79	9	0	8
33	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	22	75	3	0	0
34	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	7	90	1	1	1
35	Fluvial gravel	0	0	2	87	4	0	6
36	Fluvial gravel	0	0	1	97	2	0	0
37	Fluvial gravel	10	0	77	9	1	1	2
38	Lacustrine gravel	43	0	38	12	4	0	3
39	Fluvial gravel	20	0	65	10	0	2	4
40	Fluvial gravel	11	0	70	10	1	1	0
41	Fluvial gravel	16	0	75	4	1	0	3
42	Fluvial gravel	13	0	70	14	3	0	0
43	Fluvial gravel	19	0	60	13	4	0	2
44	Lacustrine gravel	11	0	65	16	3	2	3
45	Fluvial gravel	15	0	70	12	0	0	2
46	Fluvial gravel	0	0	61	31	0	7	5
47	Fluvial gravel	1	0	91	1	2	4	0
48	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	2	79	11	2	7
49	Fluvial gravel	0	0	0	96	1	0	0
50	Lacustrine gravel	0	0	90	10	0	0	0
51	Fluvial gravel	61	0	11	20	2	1	5
52	Till	65	0	17	17	0	0	0
53	Lacustrine gravel	61	1	22	8	6	1	0
54	Lacustrine gravel	79	0	3	14	4	0	0
55	Lacustrine gravel	82	2	11	4	0	0	0
56	Fluvial gravel	93	0	2	4	1	0	0
57	Lacustrine gravel	71	0	16	12	1	0	0
58	Fluvial gravel	85	0	2	14	0	0	1
59	Lacustrine gravel	27	0	50	13	1	0	3
60	Lacustrine gravel	43	3	46	5	3	0	1
61	Till	1	0	35	46	5	2	10
62	Till	0	0	61	34	3	0	2
63	Till	42	0	29	26	1	0	2
64	Fluvial gravel	14	0	61	24	2	0	0
65	Till	47	0	37	14	0	0	0
66	Fluvial gravel	0	0	71	93	4	0	3
67	Fluvial gravel	0	0	71	22	6	0	3
68	Lacustrine gravel	8	0	58	26	4	0	0
69	Fluvial gravel	34	0	20	34	5	2	0
70	Fluvial gravel	0	0	7	85	3	0	4
71	Lacustrine gravel	8	0	58	26	4	0	0

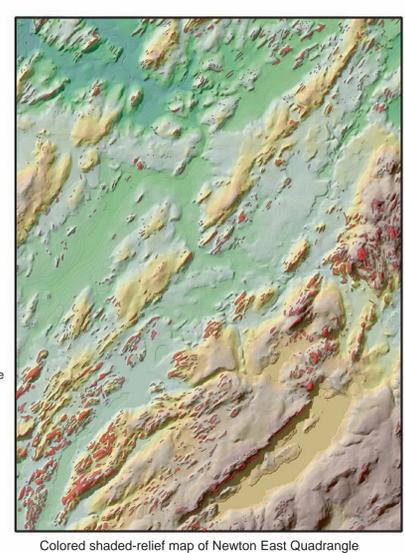
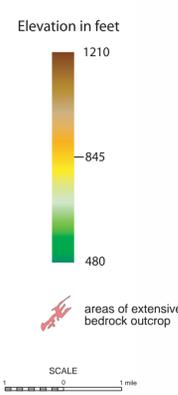
**Explanation of Map Symbols**



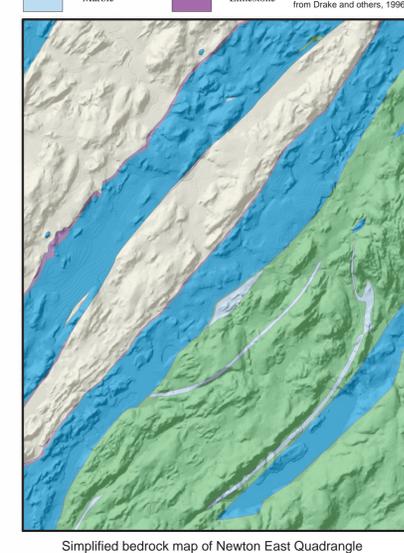
**ELEVATION OF THE BURIED-ROCK SURFACE BENEATH THICK GLACIAL SEDIMENT,  
LOCATION OF SELECTED WELLS AND BORINGS, AND PEBBLE SAMPLES  
IN NEWTON EAST QUADRANGLE, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

BY  
**RON W. WITTE and DON H. MONTEVERDE**

2006



Colored shaded-relief map of Newton East Quadrangle



Simplified bedrock map of Newton East Quadrangle

The data presented here are provisional pending external peer review. Changes may be made prior to publication as a New Jersey Geological Survey Geologic Report.

