

G4-F-247M

BRIDGE No. 44

TREMBLAY ROAD

OTTAWA QUEENSWAY

*BA 1864*

H. Q. GOLDER & ASSOCIATES LTD.

CONSULTING CIVIL ENGINEERS

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REPORT

TO

DE LEUW, CATHER & COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED

ON

SITE INVESTIGATION

PROPOSED BRIDGE NO. 44 AT TREMBLAY ROAD

OTTAWA QUEENSWAY

OTTAWA

ONTARIO

*64-F-247M*

Distribution:

- 10 copies - De Leuw, Cather & Company of Canada Limited,  
Ottawa, Ontario
- 2 copies - H. Q. Golder & Associates Ltd.,  
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## ABSTRACT

The results of a site investigation for Queensway Bridge No. 44 at Tremblay Road in Ottawa are reported.

It was found that the site was covered by fill from 3 feet in thickness to 8 feet where the proposed location encroached on an existing embankment. Beneath the fill is a dense till containing sand, silt and clay with some gravel. The till in the area of the proposed structure is 3 to 4.3 feet thick and is underlain by shale bedrock. Approximately the upper foot of the shale is weathered and broken, below that it is sound.

In the borehole to check on the soil under the proposed approach embankments a thin layer of silt and peat was encountered. This may be fill or the original surface deposit. The material encountered is not considered to be critical for embankment stability.

It is recommended that the bridge structure be founded directly on the unweathered shale or on steel piles driven to refusal in the shale.

Groundwater levels were measured in the boreholes and indicate some dewatering will be necessary in order to place footings directly on the shale.

INTRODUCTION

H. Q. Golder & Associates Ltd. were retained by De Leuw, Cather and Company of Canada Ltd., Consulting Engineers, to carry out a soil investigation at the site of the proposed Bridge No. 44 at Tremblay Road on the Queensway in Ottawa, Ontario. The purpose of this investigation was to determine the subsoil conditions at the site and to provide information relating to the foundation design.

PROCEDURE

The field work for this investigation was carried out during the period May 5 to May 8, 1964, using a mobile power auger and diamond drilling equipment. A total of five boreholes was put down at the site, four under the proposed abutments and piers and one about 125 feet south of the structure. Bedrock was proven in the four holes under the structure by diamond drilling approximately 10 feet into the rock. The fifth borehole was put down to check the soil under the embankment and to ensure that rock was at approximately the same elevation as in the other boreholes. Standpipes or piezometers were installed in the first four boreholes to allow the taking of water level readings.

A detailed log for each borehole is given on the Records of Boreholes following the text of this report. The

location of the borings and a section of the inferred soil stratigraphy across the site are given on Figure 1.

The samples obtained during the investigation were brought to our laboratory for examination and testing. Natural water contents, Atterberg limits and grain size analyses were carried out on six selected samples. The results of the water content and Atterberg limit tests are given on the Records of Boreholes and the results of the grain size analyses are given on Figures 2 and 3.

The elevations for the ground surface at the boreholes were supplied by De Leuw, Cather and Company of Canada Limited and are referred to Geodetic datum.

#### SITE AND SOIL CONDITIONS

The bridge site is on the proposed ramp from Alta Vista to the Queensway in the southeast quadrant of the proposed reconstruction of the Alta Vista interchange. The area is generally flat with evidence of groundwater near the surface. The bridge site is near the edge of an existing ramp leading to the Queensway and boreholes 2 and 4 are on the side slopes of the embankment for the ramp.

The boreholes showed that the site is generally underlain by fill varying from 3 to 8 feet in depth, below the fill is a brown sandy silty clay till varying in thickness from 3 to 4.5 feet under the structure and 9 feet thick at borehole 5, 125 feet south of the structure. Grey shale bedrock is present beneath the till.

The fill is variable but is largely silty or sandy till like soil with inclusions of sand and organic debris and in places crushed stone near the surface. It exists in a loose to dense state. A thin layer of silt and peat in borehole 5 may be fill or the original ground surface.

The till is a mixture of sand silt and clay with some gravel and is in a dense condition. The elevation of its top surface varies little in the boreholes put down and in the boreholes under the structure its thickness is quite uniform varying from 3.0 to 4.3 feet.

The bedrock is a grey shale with nearly horizontal bedding planes. Approximately the upper foot is weathered and broken up, below that the shale is sound with a few well healed joints. Boreholes 1 to 4 under the proposed structure indicate the surface of the shale to be nearly horizontal at approximately elevation 187 in the area of the structure. The shale surface is about 6 feet lower at borehole 5.

### GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

Standpipes were installed in boreholes 1, 2 and 3 and a piezometer in borehole 4 to measure the water levels. Measurements taken within a few days of the installation indicate the groundwater level to be between 1.8 and 8.8 feet below the surface or from 2 to 7.5 feet above the top of the shale. It is therefore probable that water will be encountered in any excavation for foundations.

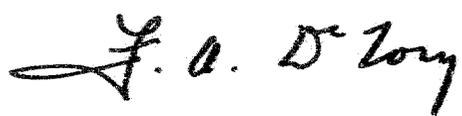
### DISCUSSION

Because of the proximity of the shale bedrock at the location of the bridge it is recommended that the pier footings be founded directly on the shale bedrock. If the upper weathered portion of the shale is removed and clean sound shale exposed a bearing load of 10 tons/sq.ft. may be used. It may be more economical to support the abutments on piles to bedrock rather than on footings on the rock. In this case if 10 inch steel H piles are used and driven to practical refusal in the shale a load of 70 tons per pile may be used.

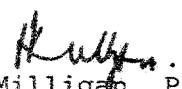
Excavation to sound shale and proper construction of the foundation will require the removal of groundwater during the process. This can probably best be accomplished by surrounding the footing area with a small ditch in the weathered shale leading

to a sump in one corner from which the water can be pumped.

The till and overlying fill is suitable for supporting the approach embankments for the structure, however, a small amount of settlement under the weight of the additional fill is to be anticipated. To minimize differential settlement at the bridge structure, which will be on an unyielding foundation, it is recommended that the fill and any loose top portion of the till be removed for a distance from the structure equal to the height of the fill and that the slope of the excavation on the end opposite to the structure be not steeper than 3 horizontal to 1 vertical. The excavation should then be filled with good quality fill, equivalent to Department of Highways, Ontario Class B granular base course material, compacted in 6 inch layers to 95 percent standard (Proctor) compaction density.



F. A. DeLory, P.Eng.



V. Milligan, P.Eng.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The abbreviations commonly employed on each "Record of Borehole," on the figures and in the text of the report, are as follows:

### I. SAMPLE TYPES

<i>AS</i>	auger sample
<i>CS</i>	chunk sample
<i>DO</i>	drive open
<i>DS</i>	Denison type sample
<i>FS</i>	foil sample
<i>RC</i>	rock core
<i>ST</i>	slotted tube
<i>TO</i>	thin-walled, open
<i>TP</i>	thin-walled, piston
<i>WS</i>	wash sample

### II. PENETRATION RESISTANCES

**Dynamic Penetration Resistance:** The number of blows by a 140-pound hammer dropped 30 inches required to drive a 2-inch diameter, 60 degree cone one foot, where the cone is attached to 'A' size drill rods and casing is not used.

**Standard Penetration Resistance, *N*:** The number of blows by a 140-pound hammer dropped 30 inches required to drive a 2-inch drive open sampler one foot.

<i>WH</i>	sampler advanced by static weight—weight, hammer
<i>PH</i>	sampler advanced by pressure—pressure, hydraulic
<i>PM</i>	sampler advanced by pressure—pressure, manual

### III. SOIL DESCRIPTION

#### (a) *Cohesionless Soils*

<i>Relative Density</i>	<i>N, blows/ft.</i>
Very loose	0 to 4
Loose	4 to 10
Compact	10 to 30
Dense	30 to 50
Very dense	over 50

#### (b) *Cohesive Soils*

<i>Consistency</i>	<i>c<sub>u</sub>, lb./sq. ft.</i>
Very soft	Less than 250
Soft	250 to 500
Firm	500 to 1,000
Stiff	1,000 to 2,000
Very stiff	2,000 to 4,000
Hard	over 4,000

### IV. SOIL TESTS

<i>C</i>	consolidation test
<i>H</i>	hydrometer analysis
<i>M</i>	sieve analysis
<i>MH</i>	combined analysis, sieve and hydrometer <sup>1</sup>
<i>Q</i>	undrained triaxial <sup>2</sup>
<i>R</i>	consolidated undrained triaxial <sup>2</sup>
<i>S</i>	drained triaxial
<i>U</i>	unconfined compression
<i>V</i>	field vane test

#### NOTES:

<sup>1</sup>Combined analyses when 5 to 95 per cent of the material passes the No. 200 sieve.

<sup>2</sup>Undrained triaxial tests in which pore pressures are measured are shown as  $\bar{Q}$  or  $\bar{R}$ .

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

### I. GENERAL

$\pi$	= 3.1416
$e$	= base of natural logarithms 2.7183
$\log_e a$ or $\ln a$	natural logarithm of $a$
$\log_{10} a$ or $\log a$	logarithm of $a$ to base 10
$t$	time
$g$	acceleration due to gravity
$V$	volume
$W$	weight
$M$	moment
$F$	factor of safety

### II. STRESS AND STRAIN

$u$	pore pressure
$\sigma$	normal stress
$\sigma'$	normal effective stress ( $\bar{\sigma}$ is also used)
$\tau$	shear stress
$\epsilon$	linear strain
$\epsilon_{xy}$	shear strain
$\nu$	Poisson's ratio ( $\mu$ is also used)
$E$	modulus of linear deformation (Young's modulus)
$G$	modulus of shear deformation
$K$	modulus of compressibility
$\eta$	coefficient of viscosity

### III. SOIL PROPERTIES

#### (a) Unit weight

$\gamma$	unit weight of soil (bulk density)
$\gamma_s$	unit weight of solid particles
$\gamma_w$	unit weight of water
$\gamma_d$	unit dry weight of soil (dry density)
$\gamma'$	unit weight of submerged soil
$G_s$	specific gravity of solid particles $G_s = \gamma_s / \gamma_w$
$e$	void ratio
$n$	porosity
$w$	water content
$S_r$	degree of saturation

#### (b) Consistency

$w_L$	liquid limit
$w_P$	plastic limit
$I_P$	plasticity index
$w_S$	shrinkage limit
$I_L$	liquidity index = $(w - w_P) / I_P$
$I_C$	consistency index = $(w_L - w) / I_P$
$e_{max}$	void ratio in loosest state
$e_{min}$	void ratio in densest state
$D_r$	relative density = $(e_{max} - e) / (e_{max} - e_{min})$

#### (c) Permeability

$h$	hydraulic head or potential
$q$	rate of discharge
$v$	velocity of flow
$i$	hydraulic gradient
$k$	coefficient of permeability
$j$	seepage force per unit volume

#### (d) Consolidation (one-dimensional)

$m_v$	coefficient of volume change = $-\Delta e / (1+e)\Delta \sigma'$
$C_c$	compression index = $-\Delta e / \Delta \log_{10} \sigma'$
$c_s$	coefficient of consolidation
$T_v$	time factor = $c_v t / d^2$ ( $d$ , drainage path)
$U$	degree of consolidation

#### (e) Shear strength

$\tau_f$	shear strength	
$c'$	effective cohesion	} in terms of effective stress $\tau_f = c' + \sigma' \tan \phi'$
$\phi'$	effective angle of shearing resistance, or friction	
$c_u$	apparent cohesion*	
$\phi_u$	apparent angle of shearing resistance, or friction	} in terms of total stress $\tau_f = c_u + \sigma \tan \phi_u$
$\mu$	coefficient of friction	
$S_t$	sensitivity	

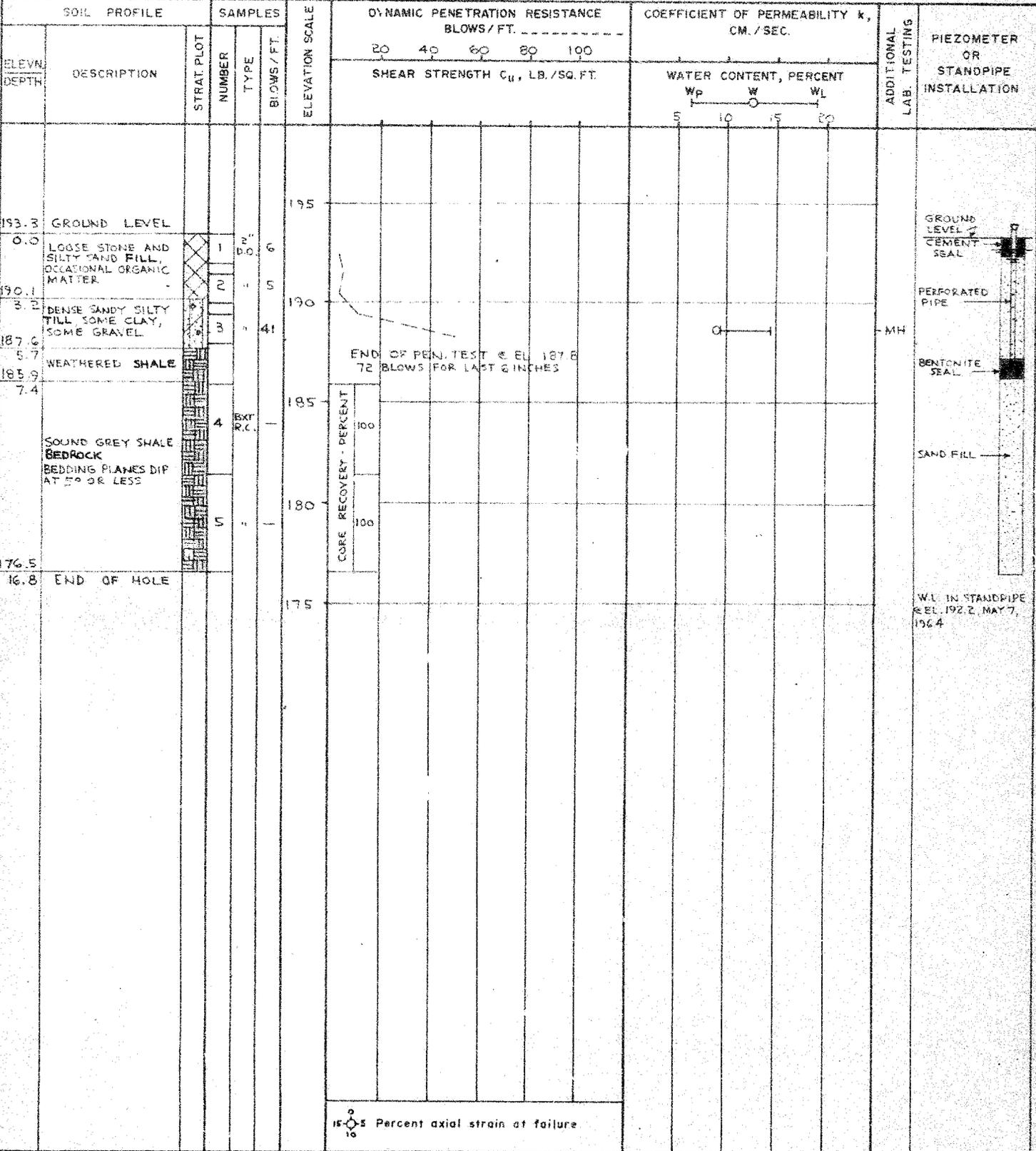
\*For the case of a saturated cohesive soil,  $\phi_u = 0$  and the undrained shear strength  $\tau_f = c_u$  is taken as half the undrained compressive strength.

# RECORD OF BOREHOLE 1

LOCATION **See Figure 1**      BORING DATE **MAY 5-6, 1964**      DATUM **GEODETIC**

BOREHOLE TYPE **POWER AUGER & DIAMOND DRILLING**      BOREHOLE DIAMETER **4.5" & EXT CORE**

SAMPLER HAMMER WEIGHT **140 LB.**      DROP **30 INCHES**      PEN. TEST HAMMER WEIGHT **140 LB.**      DROP **30 INCHES**



VERTICAL SCALE  
1 INCH TO 5'-0"

GOLDER & ASSOCIATES

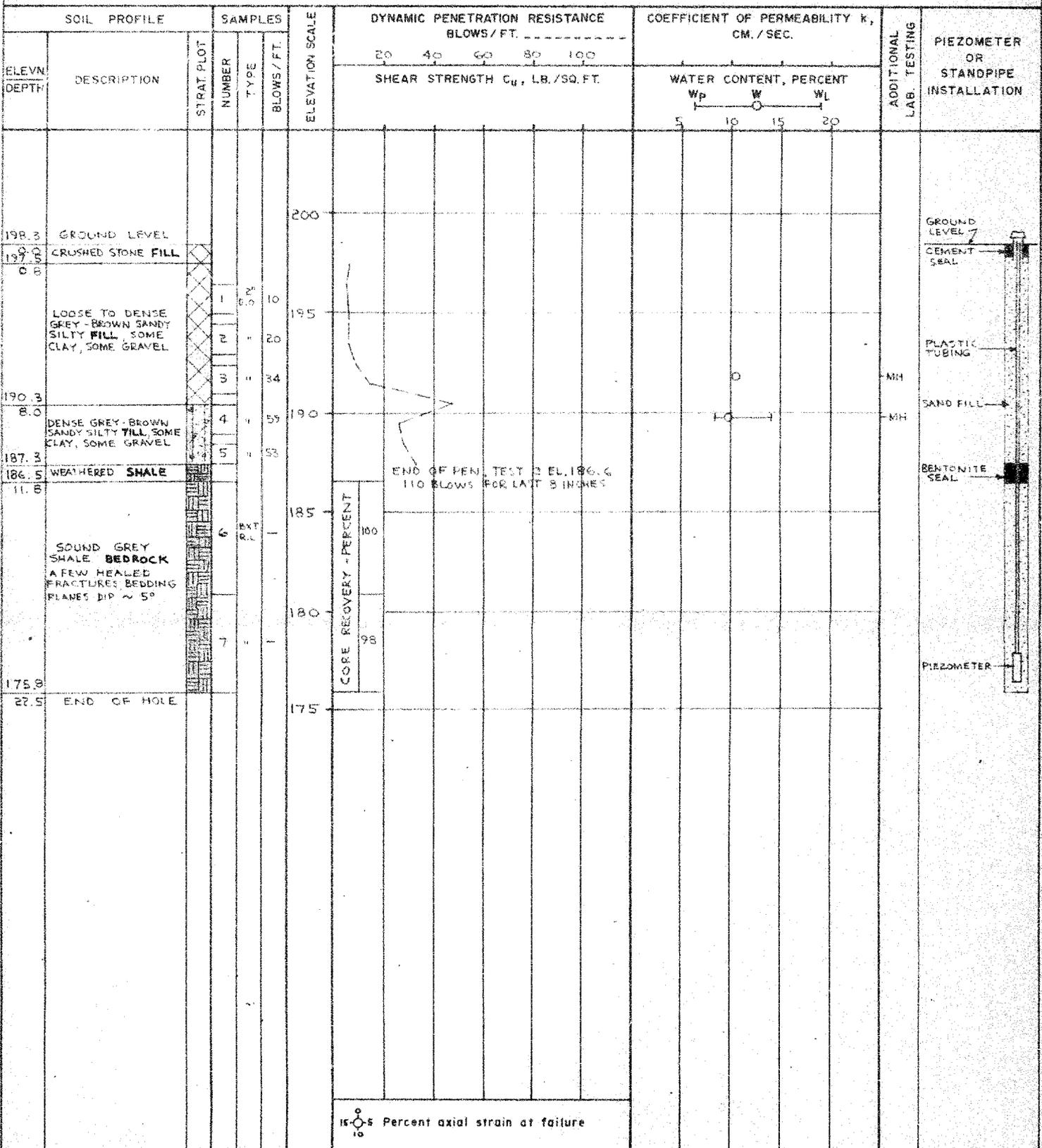
DRAWN JA  
CHECKED E. DEL





# RECORD OF BOREHOLE 4

LOCATION See Figure 1      BORING DATE MAY 5-6, 1964      DATUM GEODETIC  
 BOREHOLE TYPE POWER AUGER & DIAMOND DRILLING      BOREHOLE DIAMETER 4.5" & BXT CORE  
 SAMPLER HAMMER WEIGHT 140 LB. DROP 30 INCHES      PEN. TEST HAMMER WEIGHT 140 LB. DROP 30 INCHES



VERTICAL SCALE  
1 INCH TO 5'-0"

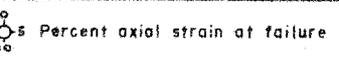
GOLDER & ASSOCIATES

DRAWN J.A.  
CHECKED F.D.F.L.

# RECORD OF BOREHOLE 5

LOCATION **See Figure 1**      BORING DATE **MAY 5-6, 1964**      DATUM **GEODETIC**  
 BOREHOLE TYPE **POWER AUGER BORING**      BOREHOLE DIAMETER **4.5"**  
 SAMPLER HAMMER WEIGHT **140 LB. DROP 30 INCHES**      PEN. TEST HAMMER WEIGHT **140 LB. DROP 30 INCHES**

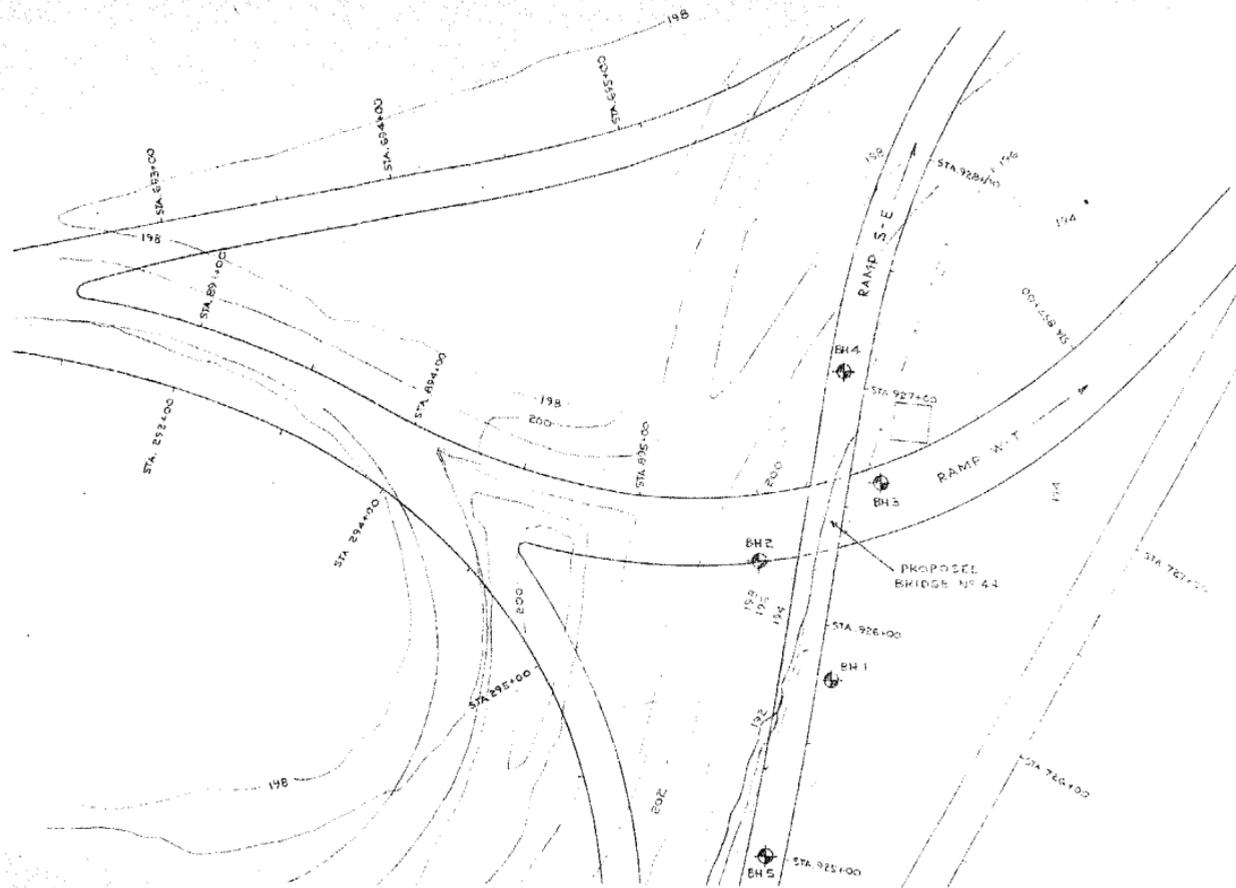
ELEVN. DEPTH	SOIL PROFILE DESCRIPTION	STRAT PLOT	SAMPLES		ELEVATION SCALE	DYNAMIC PENETRATION RESISTANCE BLOWS / FT.					COEFFICIENT OF PERMEABILITY k, CM. / SEC.				ADDITIONAL LAB. TESTING	PIEZOMETER OR STANDPIPE INSTALLATION
			NUMBER	TYPE		20	40	60	80	100	WATER CONTENT, PERCENT Wp      W      Wl					
194.7	GROUND LEVEL				195											
0.0	LOOSE BROWN FINE TO COARSE SAND FILL, TRACE SILT, GRAVEL, CHINDERS AND WOOD		1	2"	14											
191.7	SILT AND PEAT		2	"	10											
3.0			3	"	20											
3.5			4	"	16											
	DENSE TO VERY DENSE GREY SANDY SILTY TILL, SOME CLAY, SOME GRAVEL		5	"	40											
182.4	END OF HOLE REFUSAL TO AUGERS PROBABLY SHALE BEDROCK				180											



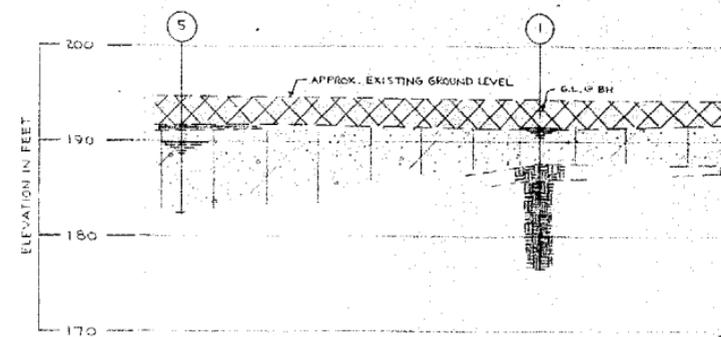
VERTICAL SCALE  
1 INCH TO 5'-0"

COLDER & ASSOCIATES

DRAWN L.A.  
CHECKED F.D.L.



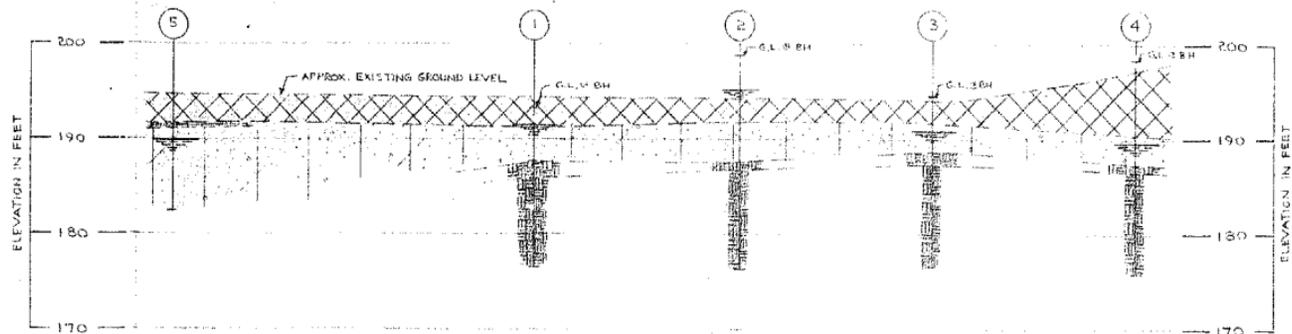
PLAN  
SCALE: 1" TO 40'-0"



SCHEMATIC SECTION ALONG CENTERLINE  
SCALE: HORIZ. VERT.

STRATIGRAPHY

-  LOOSE TO DENSE SANDY SILTY FILL, SOME CRUSHED STONE, GRAVEL, CINDERS AND WOOD.
-  COMPACT TO VERY DENSE SANDY SILTY TILL, SOME CLAY AND GRAVEL.
-  SILT AND PEAT
-  WEATHERED AND FRACTURED SHALE
-  SOUND GREY SHALE BEDROCK



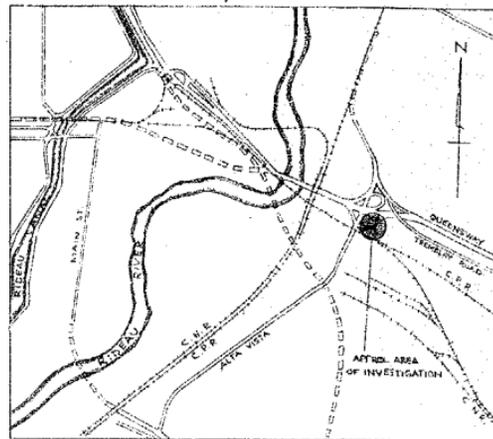
SCHMATIC SECTION ALONG CENTRELINE - PROPOSED RAMP S-E  
 SCALE: HORIZ. 1" TO 20'-0"  
 VERT. 1" TO 10'-0"

STRATIGRAPHY

-  LOOSE TO DENSE SANDY SILTY FILL, SOME CRUSHED STONE, GRAVEL, CINDERS AND WOOD.
-  COMPACT TO VERY DENSE SANDY SILTY FILL, SOME CLAY AND GRAVEL.
-  SILT AND PEAT
-  WEATHERED AND FRACTURED SHALE
-  SOUND GREY SHALE BEDROCK

LEGEND

-  BOREHOLE IN PLAN
-  BOREHOLE IN ELEVATION
-  W.L. IN BOREHOLE, MAY 7, 1964



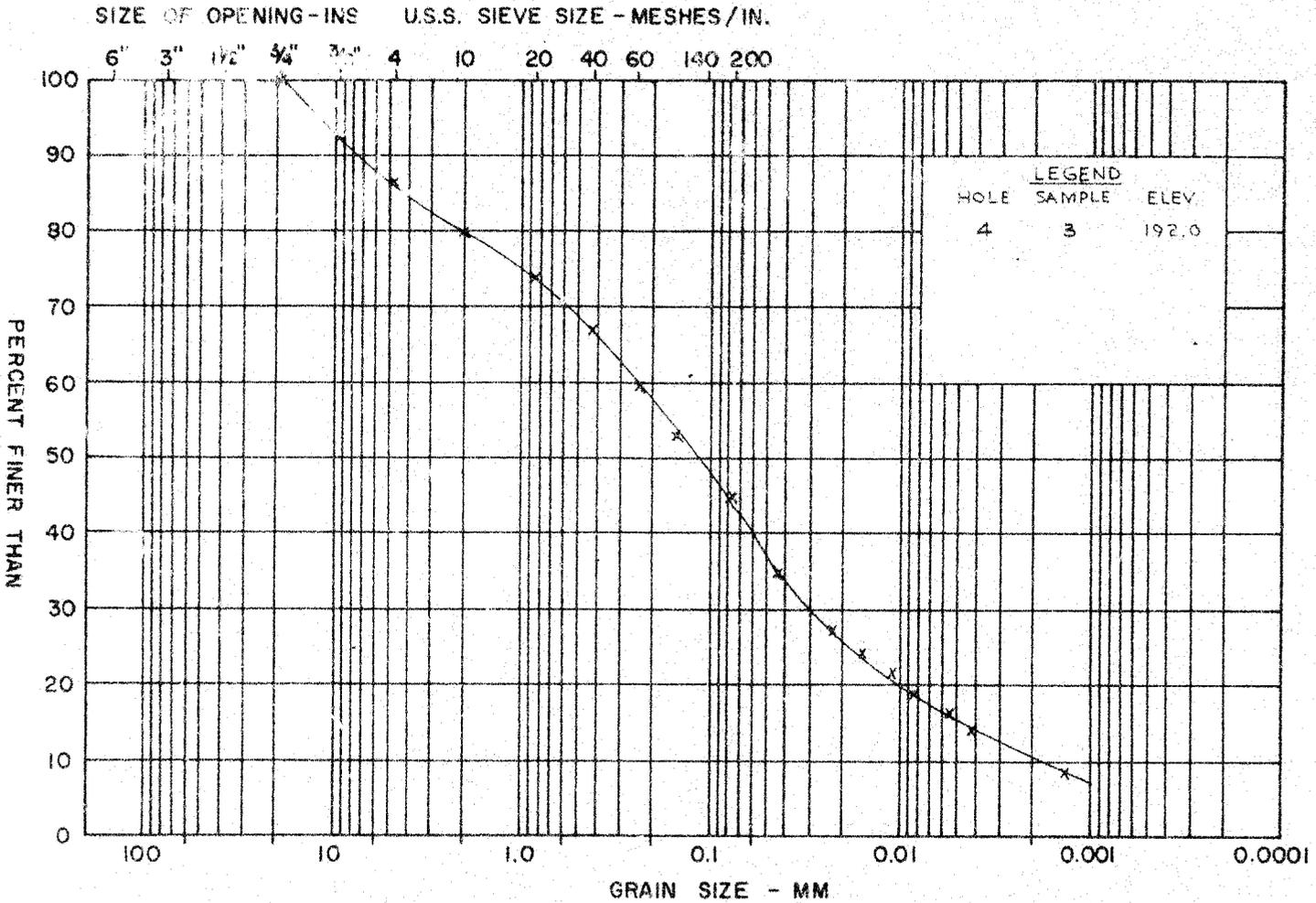
KEY PLAN  
 SCALE: 1" TO 2,200' (APPROX)

REFERENCE

PLAN SUPPLIED BY DE LEUW, CATHIER & COMPANY OF CANADA LIMITED, DATED MAY 25, 1964.

SPECIAL NOTE: DATA CONCERNING THE VARIOUS BOREHOLE STRATIGRAPHY SHOWN AT VARIOUS ELEVATIONS, E.P.R. 1, THE SOIL STRATIGRAPHY BETWEEN BOREHOLE 1 AND 2, AND BOREHOLE 3 AND 4, IS BASED ON DATA FROM THAT SOURCE.

M.I.T. GRAIN SIZE SCALE



GOLDER & ASSOCIATES

GRAIN SIZE DISTRIBUTION  
FILL

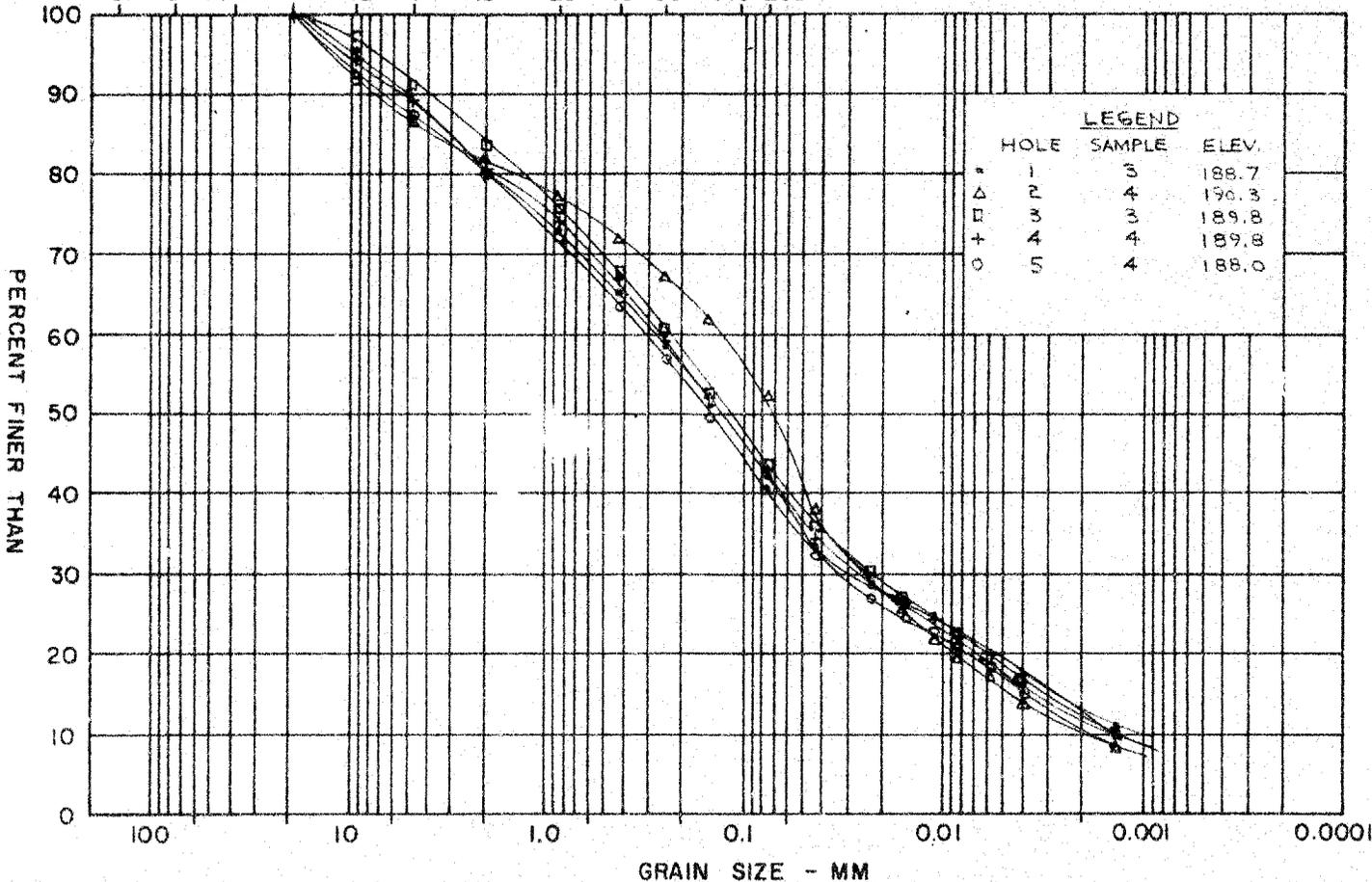
COBBLE SIZE	COARSE	MEDIUM	FINE	COARSE	MEDIUM	FINE	SILT SIZE		CLAY SIZE
	GRAVEL SIZE			SAND SIZE			FINE GRAINED		

FIGURE 2

M.I.T. GRAIN SIZE SCALE

SIZE OF OPENING - INS. U.S.S. SIEVE SIZE - MESHES / IN.

6" 3" 1 1/2" 3/4" 3/8" 4 10 20 40 60 140 200



GOLDER & ASSOCIATES

GRAIN SIZE DISTRIBUTION  
TILL

COBBLE SIZE	COARSE	MEDIUM	FINE	COARSE	MEDIUM	FINE	SILT SIZE	CLAY SIZE
	GRAVEL SIZE			SAND SIZE				

FIGURE 3