

KW Gem & Mineral Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1965 – 2015

## “Collecting in the Good Ol’ Days”

### Some Original Club Founders:

Peter Russell  
Don Salter  
Wally Edwards  
Geoff Downing  
Floyd Cesar  
Fred Bender  
Rod Davidson  
Mielke Family  
Rocky Rochejochelin  
John Reimer & Family



Presentation by early club member  
Jim Reimer, May 01, 2015

## In the Good Ol' Days . . .

- Gasoline was 44 cents per gallon!
- Amethyst was 20 cents per pound!
- My dad was Field Trip Chairman of the KWGMC!



John Reimer reviews  
trip logistics – ca. 1968

Photo courtesy  
Dr. Rod Davidson  
Family

# Indispensable Reference

Published in 1964

## Our Collecting Team

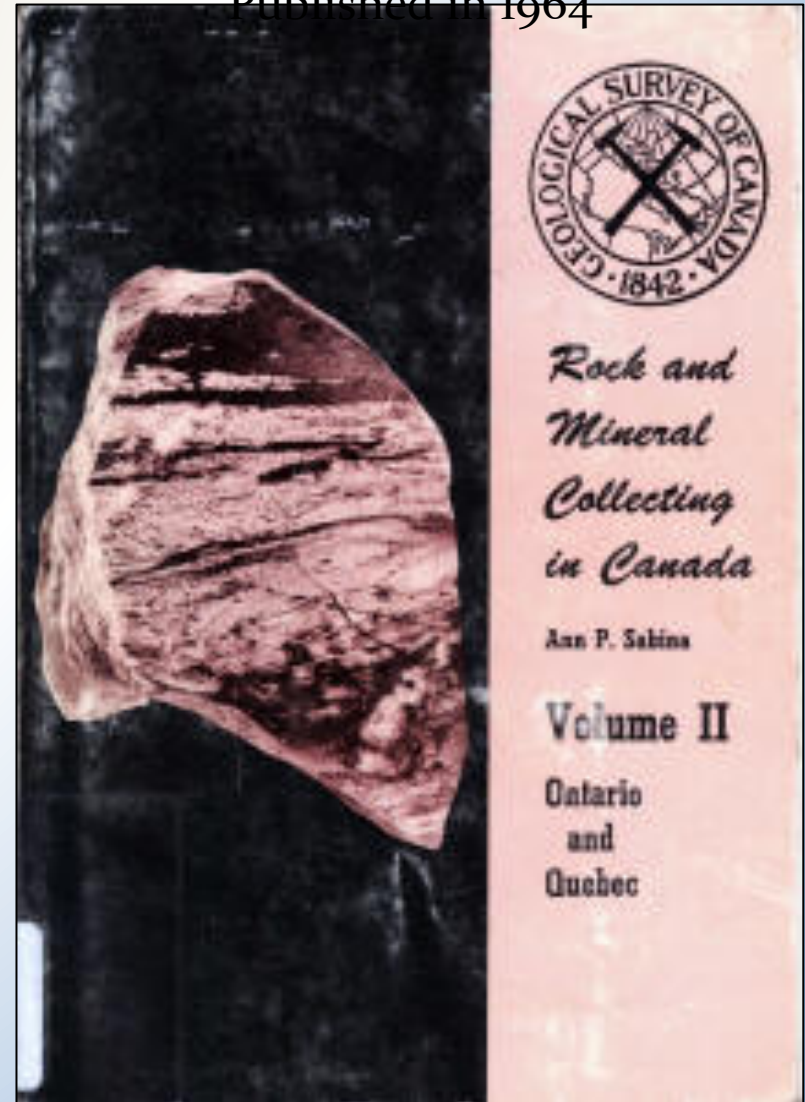
Jim Reimer (myself)

John Reimer (my dad)

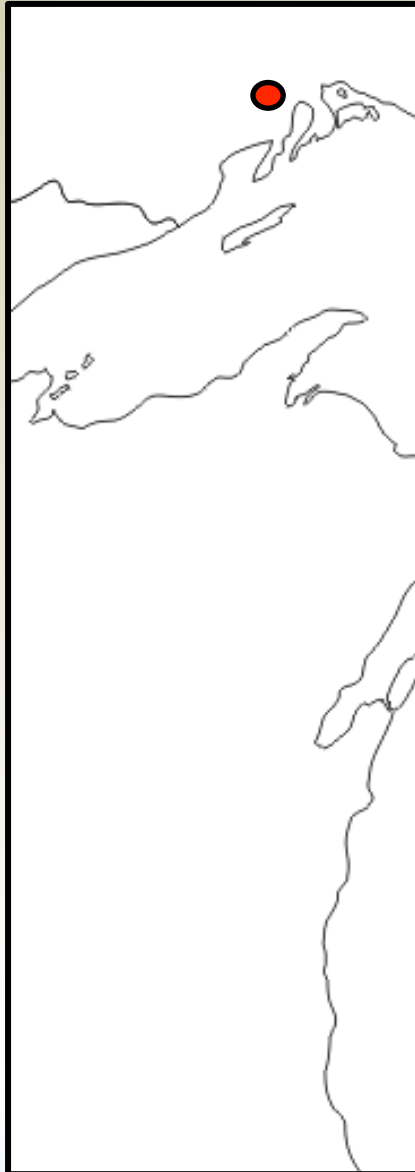
Annelies Reimer (my mom)

John Wittnebel (friend)

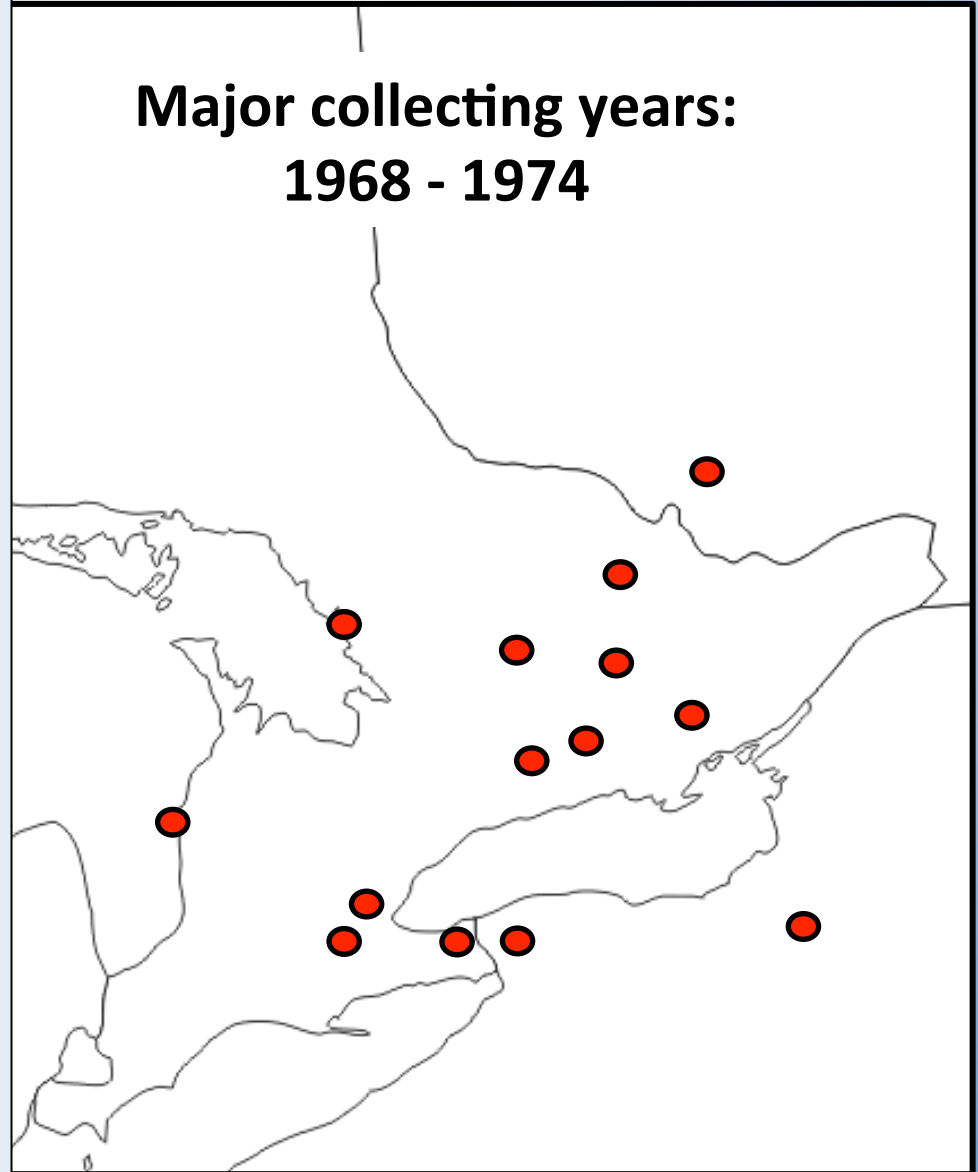
Bill Reimer (cousin)



# Some of our Favorite Collecting Sites



- Loon Lake
- Otter Lake
- Depot Harbour
- Tory Hill
- Bancroft
- Lake Clear
- Verona
- Madoc
- Marmora
- Goderich
- Dundas
- Paris
- Thorold
- Lockport
- Herkimer



# Calcite Dripstone



**Spencer Creek, near  
Webster's Falls,  
Ontario**

***The Story:***

*My first field  
collected specimen.*

*We were lost on our  
way to the Dundas  
(Lafarge) quarry.*

April 1966

ROCK BLAST

Newsletter of K-W Gem and Mineral Club -  
Mailing Address - P.O. Box 841, Kitchener  
President - Floyd Caesar - 7453350

Vol. 2 No. 3

Secretaries: Wallace Edwards - 744-9487  
Fred Bender - 745-4007

Regular Meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August.

NEXT MEETING - Wed. May 3rd at 8:00 P.M. in room 370 Biology Building University of Waterloo.  
Floyd Caesar, our distinguished president has more and even better slides on MICRO - MOUNTS to show. To view perfect crystals, in colour, magnified a hundred times is always a fascinating sight. Unlimited patience and knowledge was needed to bring this first in living colour to the screen.

After the Slides---

Buy and Swap -

BRING YOUR MONEY

Bring some specimens -

ANOTHER CHANCE TO ADD TO YOUR COLLECTION - DON'T MISS THIS.

Our April meeting proved to be one of the most educational. Thanks to Howard Bell for his talk on cutting and polishing stones. Many of us now have a much better idea how to start or improve in this interesting hobby.

FIELD TRIPS - This is what we have been waiting for

1. SUNDAY MAY 7th - Walker's Quarry in St. Catharines

Cars leaving the P.U.C. Bldg. on King St. E., Kitchener at 8:30 A.M.

Bring your lunch, your hammer, chisel and collecting basket. There will be extra cars for those requiring a ride. Collecting - fluorite, selenite, gypsum etc. Also lovely pink crystals of dolomite.

2. Saturday May 20th, - collecting in Madoc area.

Cars leaving Friday night and Saturday morning. Meet at the rock cut on highway # 7 just west of Madoc. This is about a four hour drive from Kitchener. Most members going will stay overnight at one of the motels around Madoc, as it is too far to go and return in one day. Anyone who needs a ride please let us know at May meeting or by phone. There are a fantastic number of minerals to collect as this is prime collecting country.

# Arsenopyrite



**Ackerman Mine,  
near Madoc,  
Ontario**

***The Story:  
Digging in the  
poison ivy.***

# Calcite

**Banks of the Grand River,  
near Paris, Ontario**



# Galena, Celestite & Marcasite



**Lafarge Quarry,  
near Dundas,  
Ontario**

***The Story:***  
*Galena was my  
Dad's favorite  
mineral.*

# Celestite



Lafarge Quarry,  
near Dundas,  
Ontario

# Fluorite



# Sphalerite & Dolomite



**Lockport Quarry,  
near Buffalo,  
New York**

# Saddle Dolomite

Walker Bros. Quarry,  
near Thorold, Ontario



*The Story:  
Sometimes it pays to  
be creative!*

# Quartz, var. Amethyst



**Thunder Bay Mine,  
near Loon Lake,  
Ontario**

***The Story:***

*Gemmy crystals for  
20 cents per pound.*

*And always pack  
your rocks in your  
suitcase!*

# “Uralite”

Amphibole pseudomorph (Actinolite?)  
after **Pyroxene**



Near **Verona,**  
**Ontario**

***The Story:***

*Joint field trip  
with the  
Kingston Club*

*We also found a  
small aquamarine!*



# Garnet, var. Andradite with Epidote

**Marmoraton Mine,  
near Marmora,  
Ontario**

***The Story:***

*Jim's favorite collecting.*

*Magnetite "flowers" on  
some specimens.*

# Marcasite on Calcite

Marmoraton Mine,  
near Marmora, Ontario



## DISTRICT OF PARRY SOUND

### Parry Island

The garnet deposit of Garnet Abrasives Corporation Limited is described as follows by Eardley-Wilmot (1927, p. 15-17):

Wide alternate bands of hornblende gneiss and mica schists, both containing garnets and striking east and west, occur on the north side of Parry Island near Depot Harbour.

The garnets in these bands are a pale red, and average about pea size. They occur in zones, but there are several rich bands, 6 to 10 feet wide, of large garnets 1 to 2 inches across.

Depot Harbour

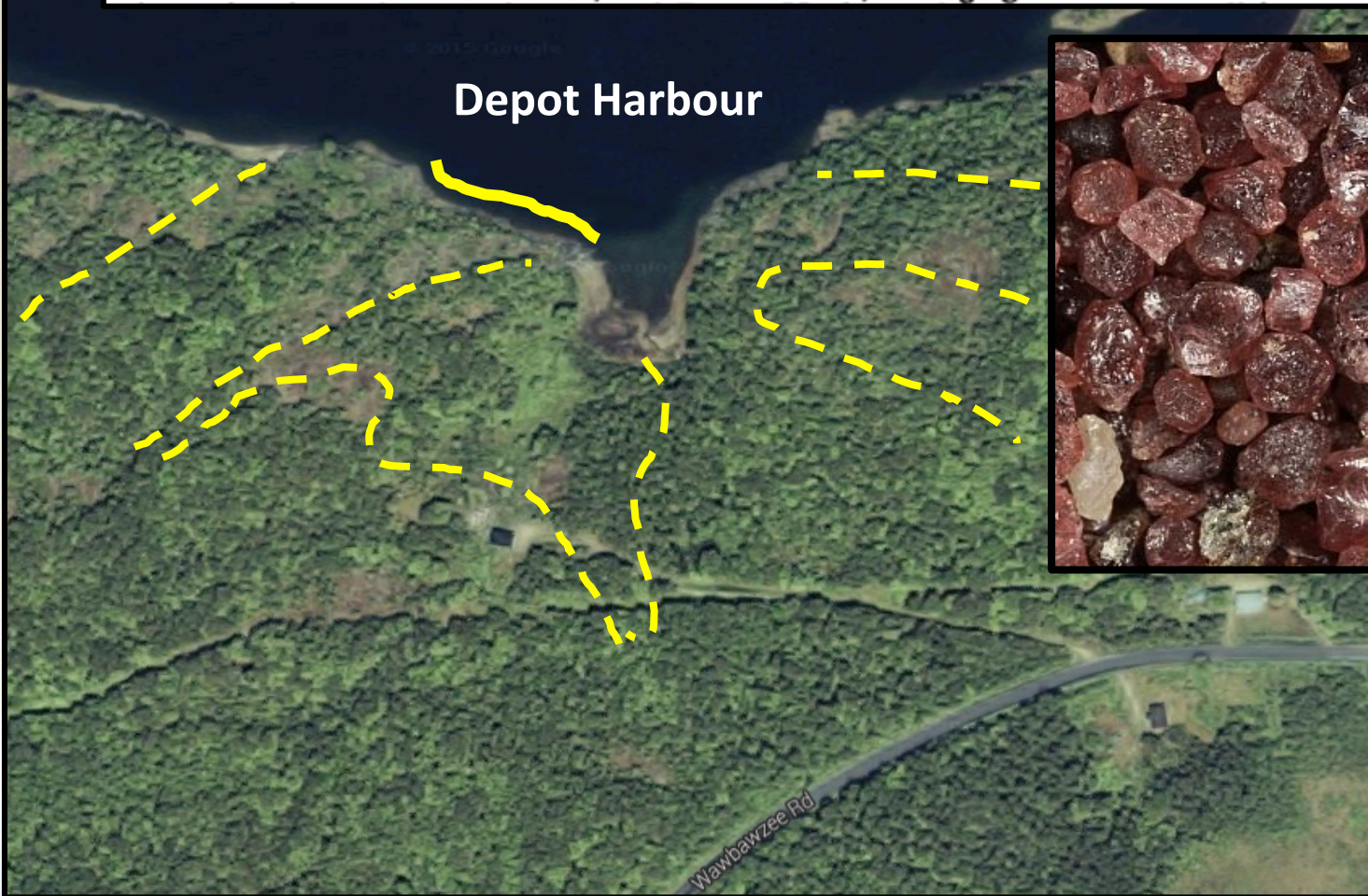


Image Source:  
Sandatlas.com

# Halite



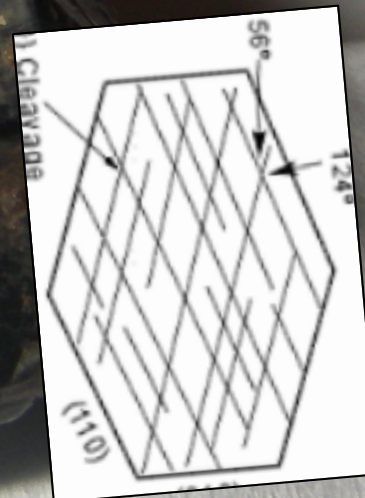
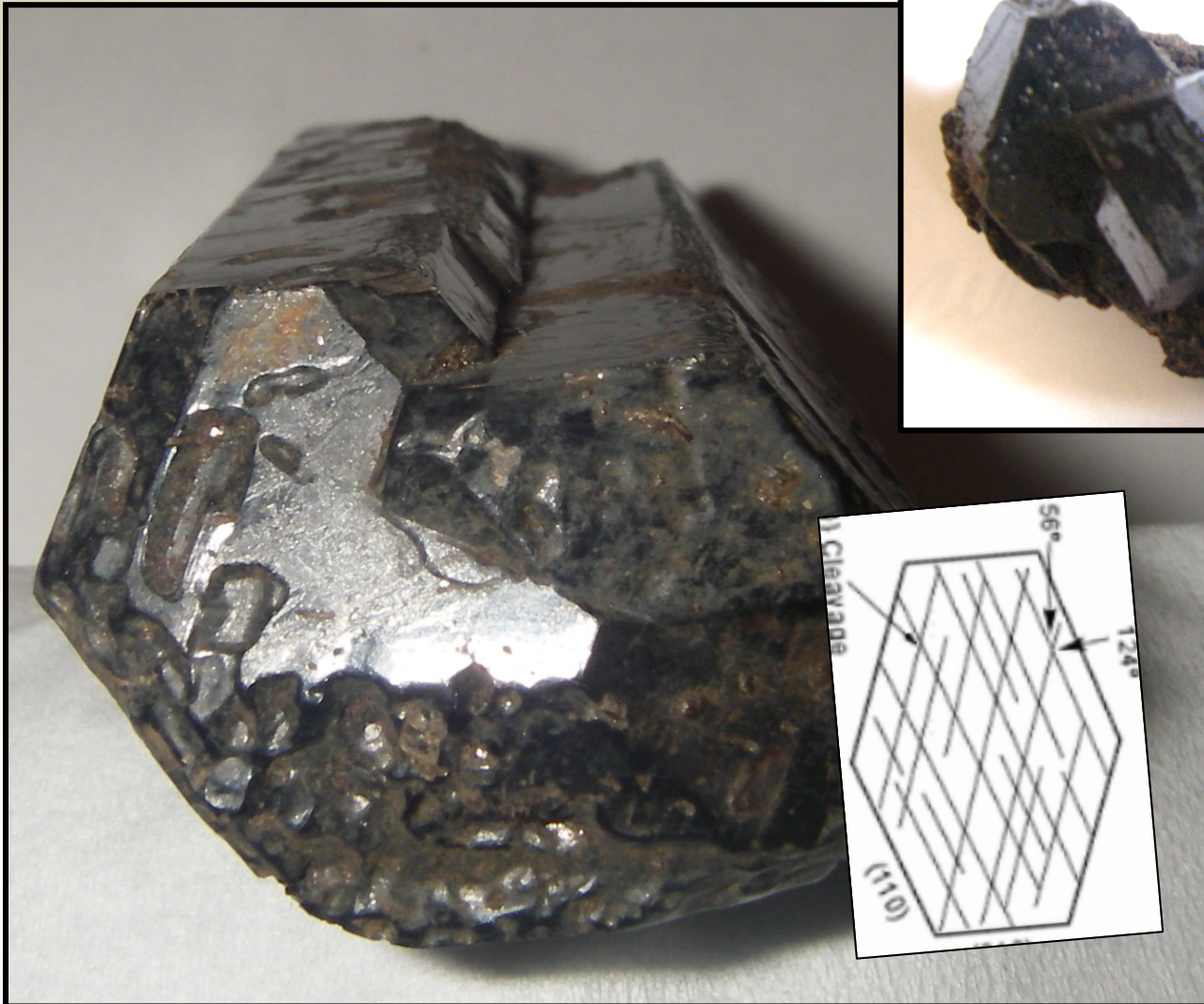
**Domtar Salt Mine,  
near Goderich,  
Ontario**

***The Story:***

*Unusual to find a  
natural crystal in  
massive bedded  
salt.*

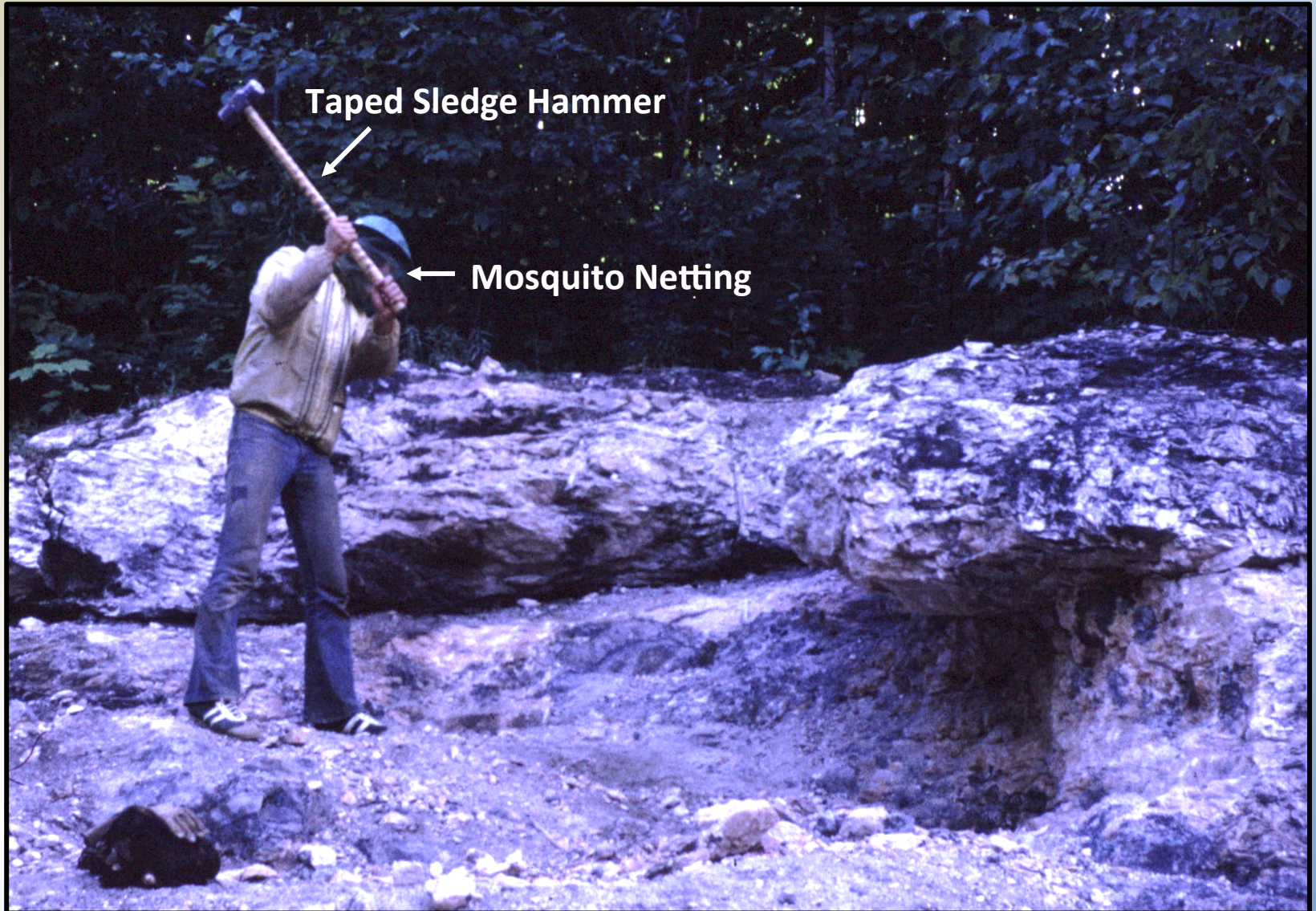
# Hornblende

Bear Hill Diggings,  
near Tory Hill, Ontario



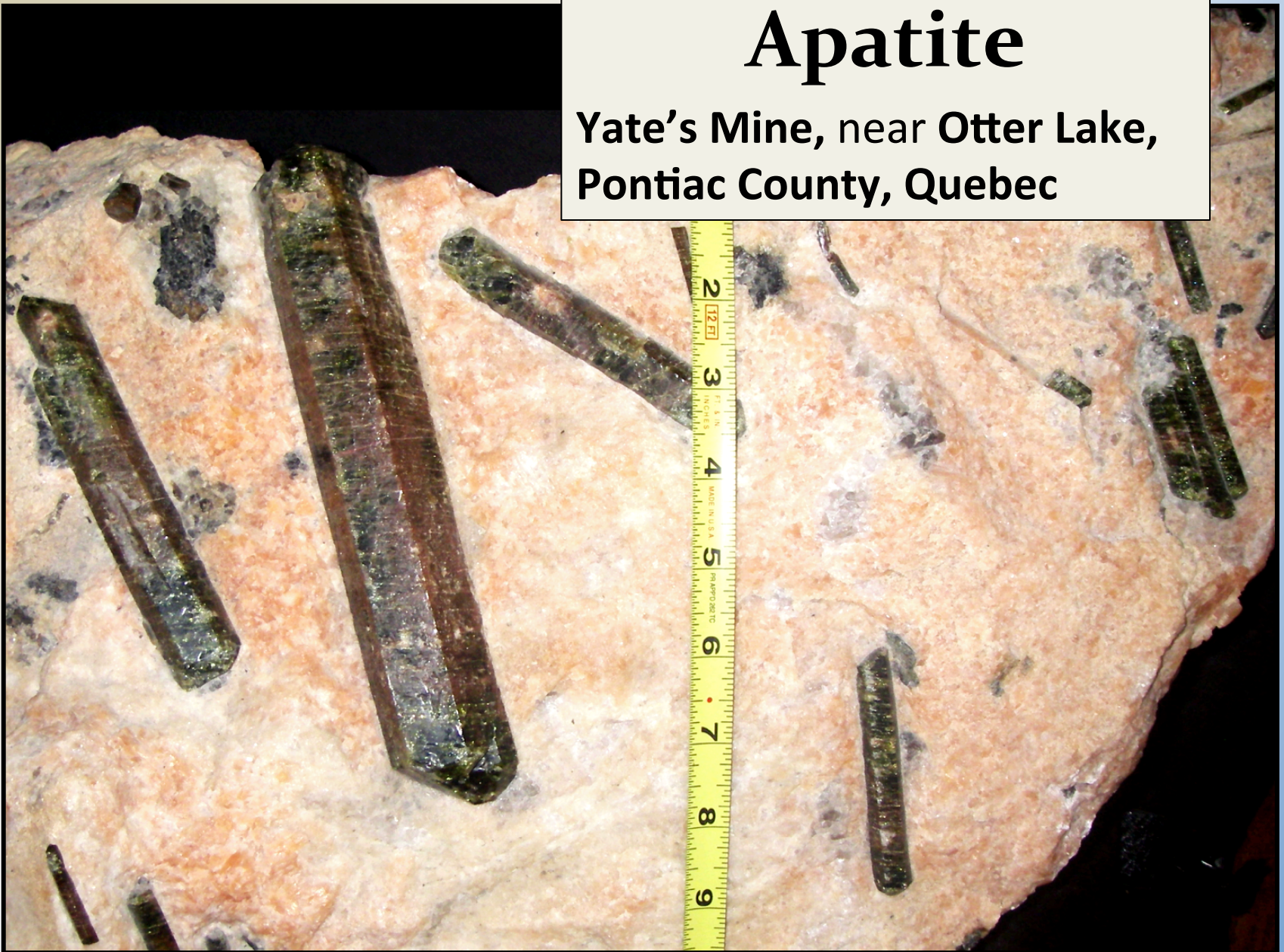
***The Story:***  
*An obsession  
with large  
crystals.*

# Swinging away at the Yates Mine, Quebec, ca. 1972



# Apatite

Yate's Mine, near Otter Lake,  
Pontiac County, Quebec

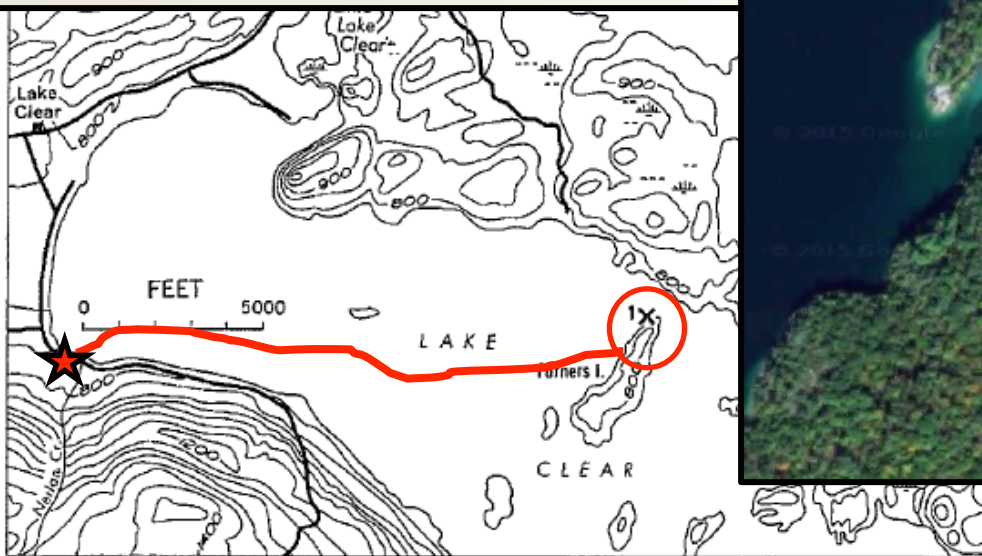


## Turner's Island (Island D), Lake Clear

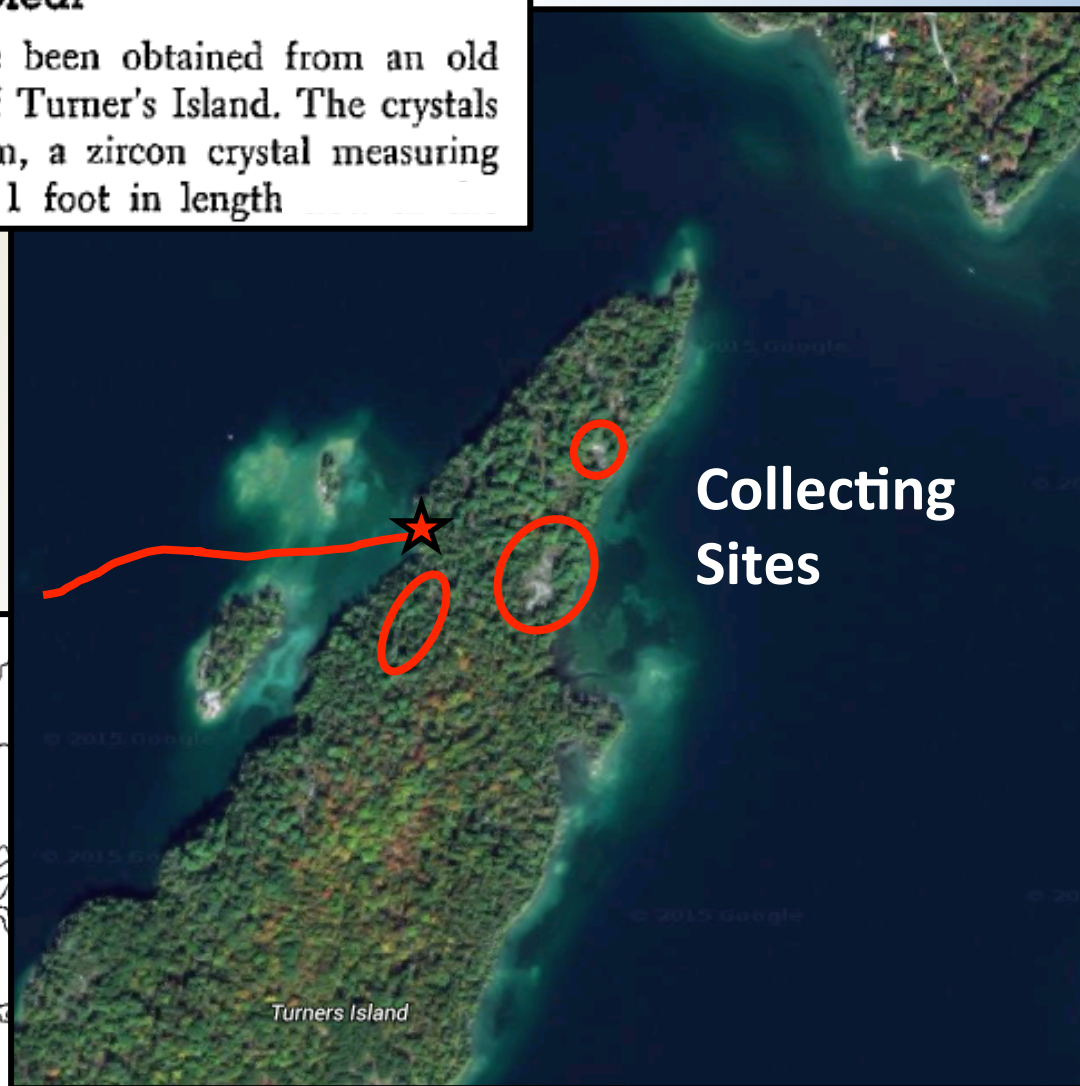
Some outstanding crystal specimens have been obtained from an old apatite deposit near the northern point of Turner's Island. The crystals found include a 700 pound apatite prism, a zircon crystal measuring 1 foot across, and a titanite crystal over 1 foot in length

Source: Sabina, 1964

*The Story: 3 miles of rowing in a small 2-person rubber dinghy.*



LAKE CLEAR AREA: 1. Turner's Island; 2. Meany mine; 3. Smart mine.



Collecting Sites

Source: Google Maps



# Apatite

Turner's Island,  
Renfrew County,  
Ontario

# Diopside

Pontiac County,  
Quebec



# Microcline

Highway #62 Road Cut,  
3 miles north of Bancroft,  
Ontario



***The Story:***  
*Even “tired”  
locales yield  
fabulous new  
specimens*

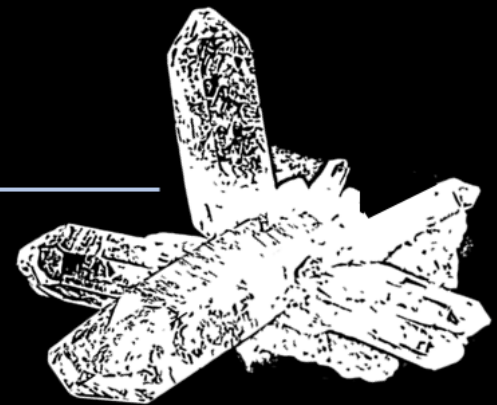
We are proud to support the  
Earth Sciences Museum at the University of Waterloo

- Reimer Family Collection
- Groundwater-Driven Mineralization
- Cambrian “Laboratory of Life” *in conjunction with ROM*

**Reimer Family**  
Gallery

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*Interactive Display of Fine Minerals & Fossils  
Earth Sciences Museum, University of Waterloo*





**"You know, I used to like this hobby. . . . But shoot!  
Seems like everybody's got a rock collection."**