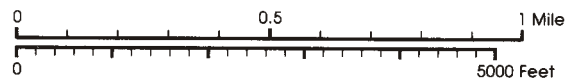


Perry Agate Locality (Loring Cove Locality; Perry Beach)

Town: Perry, Washington County

Base map: Robbinston 7.5' quadrangle

Contour interval: 20 feet



Type of deposit: Mineralized cavities in basalt.

Collecting status: Open for collecting, but now owned by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust as a public preserve. www.mcht.org. 207-454-5000 or 207-259-5043. Be aware that the beach is only accessible for 3-4 hours either side of low tide and is used by commercial fishermen. We ask that you walk to the beach, and please carry out all trash. Please keep group size small.

Minerals observed: analcime, apophyllite(?), calcite, copper(?), datolite, malachite(?), natrolite, prehnite, pumpellyite, quartz (agate, amethyst, bloodstone, chalcedony, etc.), saponite, stilbite.

Comments: The occurrence of agate, amethyst, and other minerals along this section of the Maine coast was reported by Jackson (1837). Specimens can be found on the gravel beach at Loring Cove, or in the neighboring sea cliffs. The outcrops on

the north side of the cove are basaltic lava flows of the Devonian Perry Formation (Abbott, 1986). Cavities lined with the minerals listed above are exposed by erosion of these amygdaloidal basalts. Considerable searching may be necessary to find agates on the beach, since they are not as abundant as formerly, and tend to be concealed by a non-descript brown exterior. Most of the minerals reported from Loring Cove probably can be found in other nearby outcrops and beaches, but permission to collect should be obtained from the owners.

Directions: Driving east on U.S. Route 1 into the town of Perry, pass the turn to Route 190, and continue east over the Little River. Take the next right onto Shore Road. Drive 3.4 miles and then turn right on Gin Cove Road. Continue .4 miles and you will see the Loring Cove parking area on your right just after a small stream on a sharp corner. Park in the Preserve parking area and please respect private abutting property.