

SIDNEY - KENNEBEC COUNTY

SOILS REPORT

1-95-6(14)

DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE

58-14

Please Reply to:

Soils Laboratory  
Bl Lord Hall  
U of Maine  
Orono, Maine

March 28, 1958

Mr. Vaughan M. Daggett  
Chief Engineer  
State Highway Commission  
Augusta, Maine

Re: Augusta Interstate - Drummond Road Structure

Dear Mr. Daggett:

We are enclosing six (6) copies of the report entitled "Subsurface Investigation for Drummond Road Structure, Interstate Highway Project in Sidney, Maine," dated March 1958.

Very truly yours,

Frederick M. Boyce, Jr.  
Soils Laboratory

FMB:ac

Encl.

**SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION FOR  
DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE  
INTERSTATE HIGHWAY PROJECT IN  
SIDNEY, MAINE**

**State Highway Commission  
Soils Division**

**March 1958**

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SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION FOR  
DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE  
INTERSTATE HIGHWAY PROJECT IN  
SIDNEY, MAINE

INTRODUCTION

The subsurface investigation at the site of the proposed Drummond Road Structure for the Interstate Highway has been completed by means of seven (7) core borings and three (3) rod soundings. These borings were made during the last week of February, 1958. The location of these borings, together with the resulting soils profile is shown on Sheet No. 1. Transverse sections under each Abutment and Pier are shown on Sheet No. 2. The boring detail sheets for these seven (7) borings are shown on Sheets 5-8 inclusive.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The ledge surface was found within five (5) feet at the surface of Abutment No. 1, and dips gradually to twenty-five (25) feet below the surface under Abutment No. 2. The overburden is divided into three (3) soils. The top and thickest layer is a weathered silty clay. Due to weathering (or drying out) the material is stiff and appears brownish gray in color. A layer of brown silty sand and gray stony silty sand complete the soils with the brown silty sand layer becoming thicker in the same direction as the ledge dips.

Because the weathered clay will consolidate slightly under additional loading, and also because of the proximity to a good ledge surface, it is recommended that the bridge structure be supported directly on ledge or at

the deeper location by end bearing piles.

### DETAILED CONDITIONS

#### Western Approach.

The proposed fill section on the approach ramp at the western end of the Drummond Structure begins rising from the existing ground at Station 5 + 25 and rises to the top of Abutment No. 1 at Station 8 + 34.21. A maximum fill of seventeen (17) feet along centerline is proposed. Borings 6 and 7 at the site of the proposed embankment found the ledge surface five to six (5-6) feet below the ground surface with the overburden a firm brown silt. The silt is dry and should adequately support the proposed embankment. No shear or settlement difficulties are expected from the underlying soils. Due to the large height of fill, good compaction on the fill is a necessity to avoid the bump between the flexible fill and the rigid bridge abutment.

#### Abutment No. 1

Borings 6 and 7 (Detailed Sheet No. 8) and the transverse profile sheet No. 2 show the underlying soil conditions at Abutment No. 1. Since ledge is shallow at this point, it is believed the abutment can be supported directly on the ledge surface. If the structure is not placed directly on ledge surface, it is believed steel piles can be driven through the compacted fill to the ledge surface. Since frictional resistance will be high in driving piles through the fill, any reduction in height of the approach fill before the piles are placed would insure the ability to drive piles to the ledge surface. Jetting may be an assistance in driving the piles through the fill.

Piers 1 and 2.

Borings 1 and 2 (Detailed Sheets 5 and 6) were made at alternate ends of Piers 1 and 2. Since the ledge surface was found seven and one half ( $7\frac{1}{2}$ ) and nine (9) feet below the surface, rod soundings were made at the remaining alternate ends to show the transverse profile of the ledge surface, as shown on Sheet 2. Since a footing should be placed five (5) feet below the existing ground surface in order to avoid frost action, and also since the footings are usually three (3) feet thick, this would place the bottom of the footing at, or near the ledge surface. It is recommended that these two piers be supported directly on bedrock. Excavation in these sections should encounter a weathered silt with the bottom two (2) feet granular. Since the ground water table follows the ledge surface in this section, and the silt is fairly impermeable, water seepage will cause minor difficulties, easily overcome by a standard water pump.

Pier No. 3.

Boring No. 3 (Detail Sheet No. 5) and a rod sounding were made at opposite ends of this pier location. The ledge surface, as noted on Sheet No. 2, was encountered almost fifteen (15) feet below the ground surface. The top eleven (11) feet of this overburden is a stiff weathered clay, which under a spread footing pressure of two tons per square foot (2.0 tons/sq. ft.), would consolidate almost two (2) inches. It is therefore recommended that this structure be supported by end bearing (steel or concrete) piles. Because of the normal fluctuation of the ground water table, wooden piles are not recommended.

Abutment No. 2.

Borings 4 and 5 (Detail Sheets 6 and 7) were made at opposite ends of the proposed location of Abutment No. 2. As can be seen from the transverse

profile (Sheet 2), the ledge surface was found twenty-seven (27) feet below the ground surface. The overburden consists of a seventeen (17) foot layer of medium to stiff consistent gray weathered silty clay. Underlying this silty clay is a ten (10) foot deposit of granular soil, the top six (6) feet are in a loose density. Since a nineteen (19) foot fill is proposed behind this abutment, and this will necessitate driving any piles through the embankment, some difficulty may be met in driving the piles to the ledge surface. It is believed, however, that piles can be driven through the silty clay in which case they should be continued through the loose brown sand. Jetting may be required. Since the frictional resistance in driving will be high, it is recommended that steel piles be used. Spread footings placed five (5) feet below the ground line with a unit pressure of 3.0 tons per square foot would cause settlement of over two (2) inches.

#### Eastern Approach Fill

The eastern approach fill begins at Station 15 + 75 and continues to the Abutment No. 2 at Station 10 + 79.05 where a maximum fill of nineteen (19) feet is proposed. The underlying soils are medium to stiff weathered silty clays and should adequately support the proposed fills with three (3) inches of settlement expected during the construction season. Good compaction in the fill is a necessity.

#### SUMMARY

Since the ledge surface was found between five (5) and nine (9) feet below the surface at Abutment No. 1, and Piers 1 and 2, it is recommended that these three (3) structures be supported directly on the firm durable ledge. At Pier No. 3 and Abutment No. 4, the ledge dips more than fifteen (15) feet below the surface. The overburden is a weathered clay which would

consolidate two (2) inches under a spread footing pressure of two (2) tons per square foot. End bearing piles are recommended for these two (2) structures. Because of the normal fluctuation of the ground water table, wooden piles are not recommended.

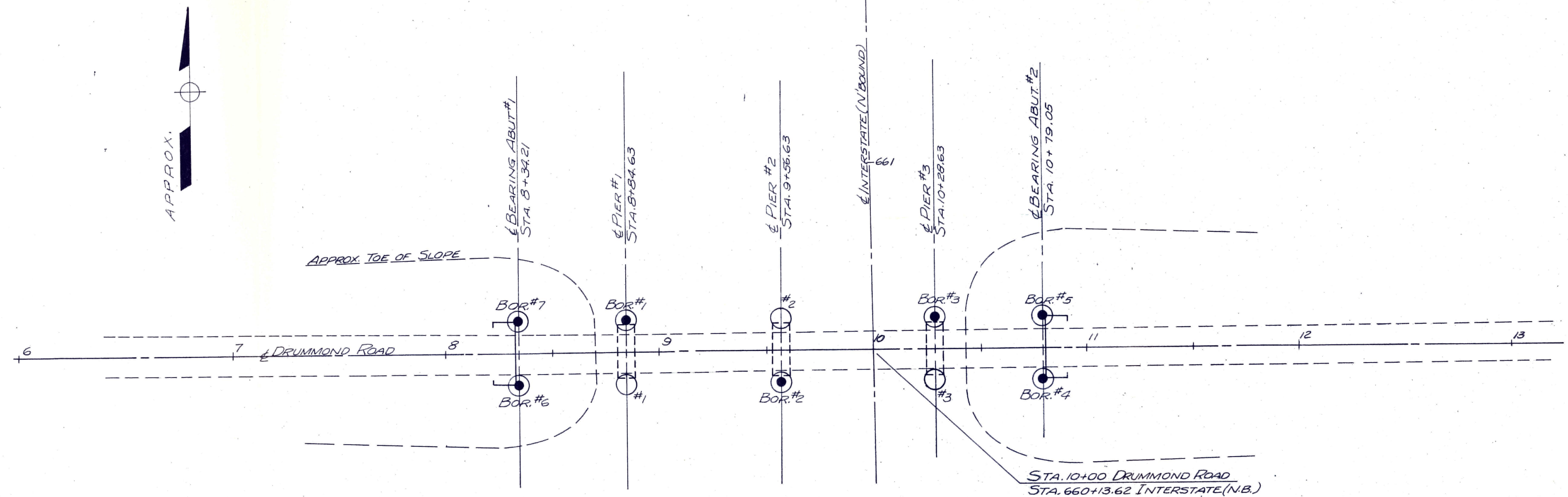
The existing soils should adequately support the proposed fills. Approximately three (3) inches of settlement during the construction season is expected on the eastern fill. Good compaction in the fills is a necessity.

Report Prepared By L. M. Bayne

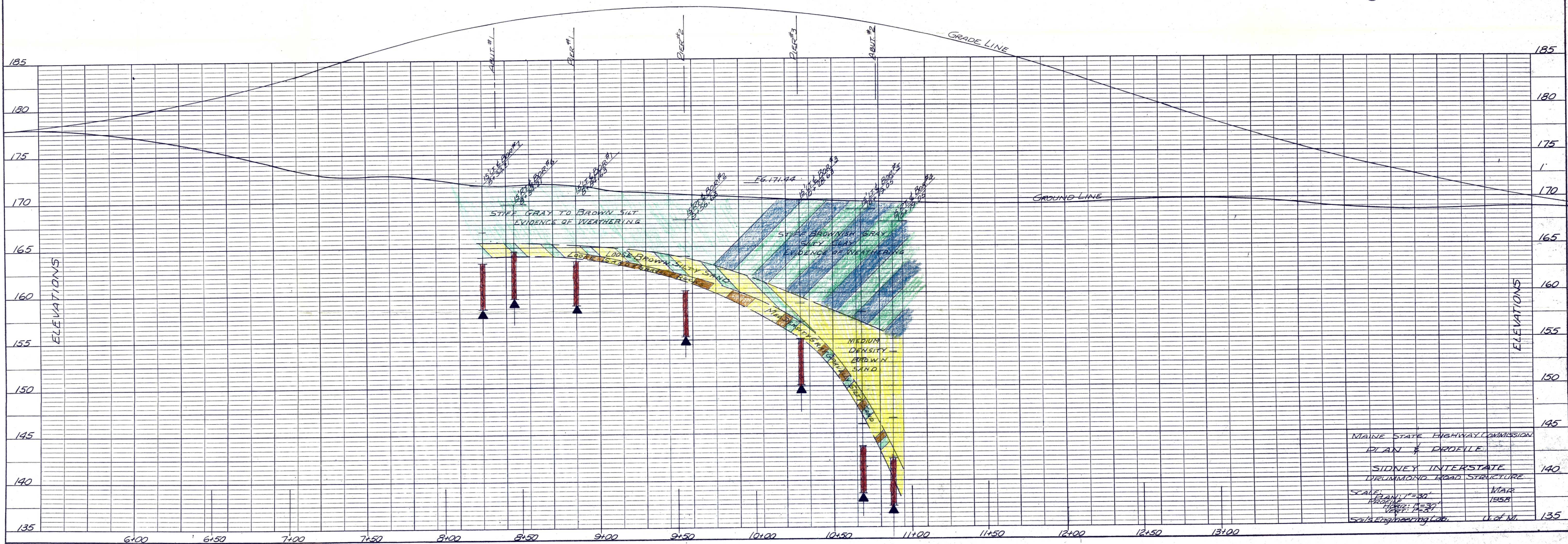
Report Approved By William R. Gorrill  
William R. Gorrill  
Soils Engineer



PLAN	STANDARD	DATE
	BY	
	NOTED	
	NO.	

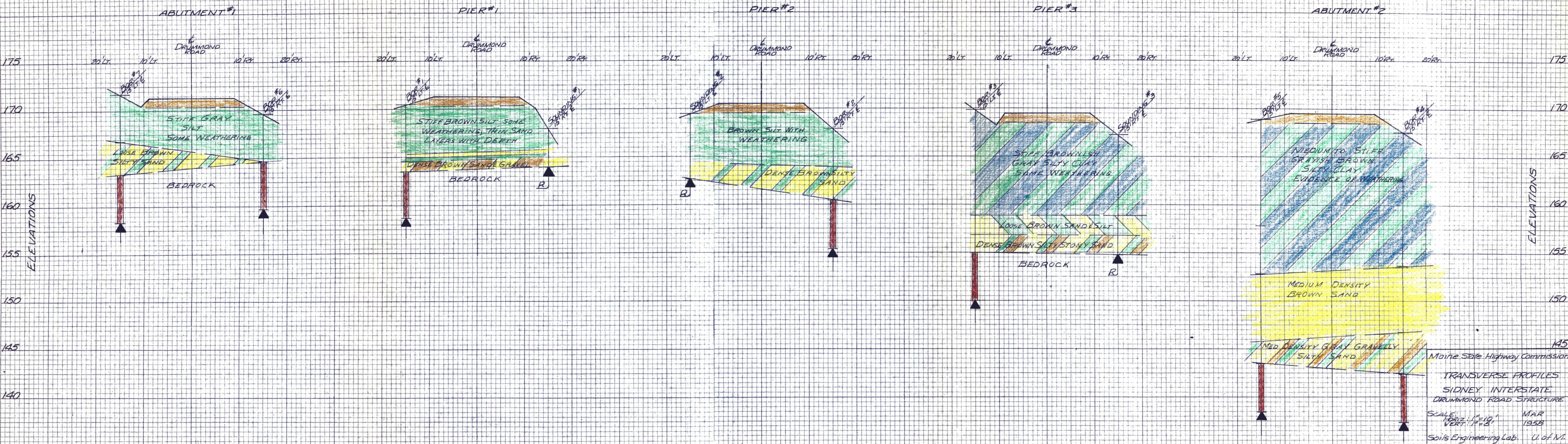


WASH BORING ●  
SOUNDING ○



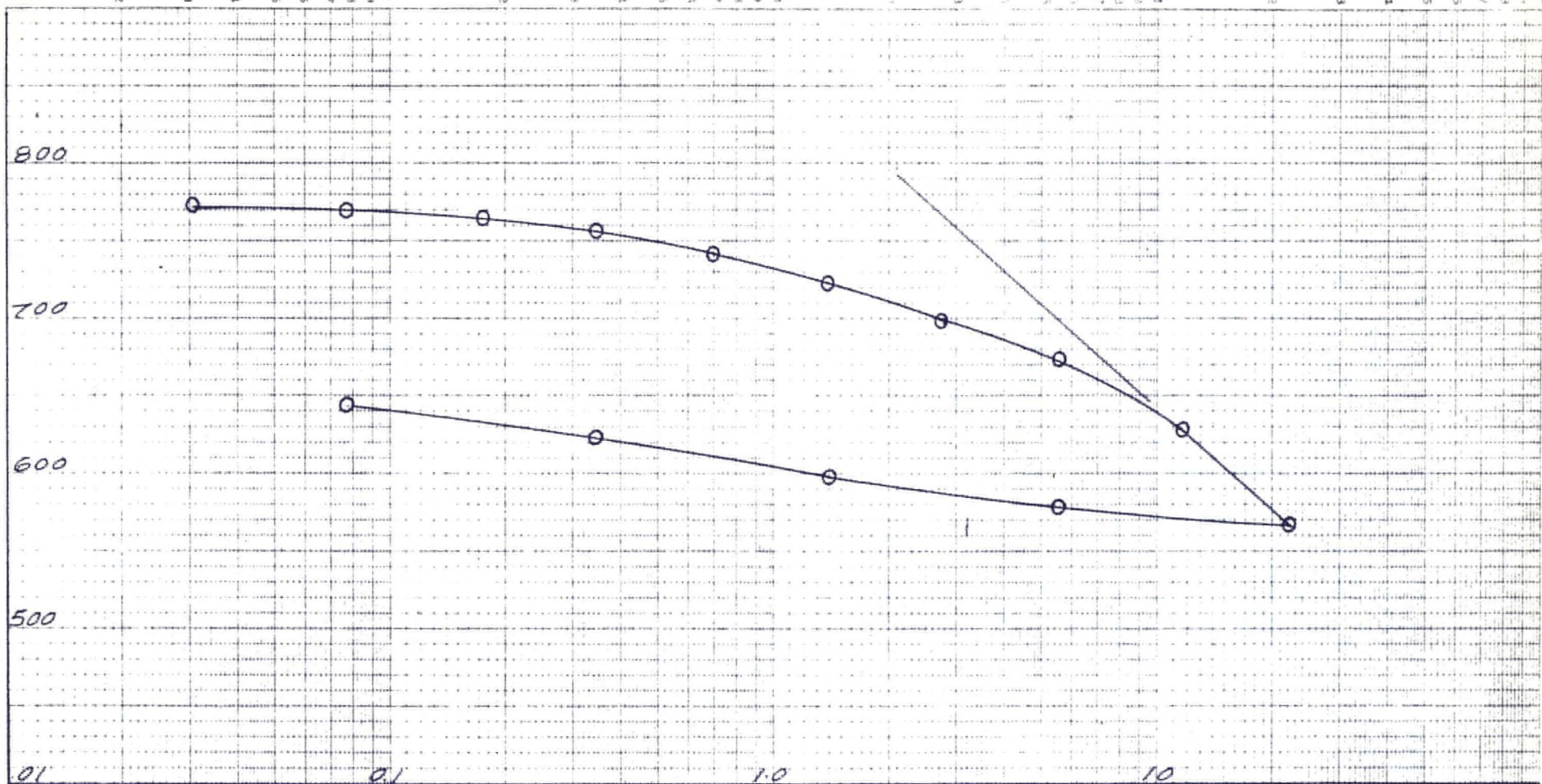
MAINE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION  
PLAN & PROFILE  
SIDNEY INTERSTATE  
DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE  
SCALE: PLAN: 1"=30' VERT: 1"=5' DATE: 1958  
SOUTH ENGINEERING CO. 11 of 11







VOID RATIO (e)



PRESSURE (TONS/SQ. FT.)

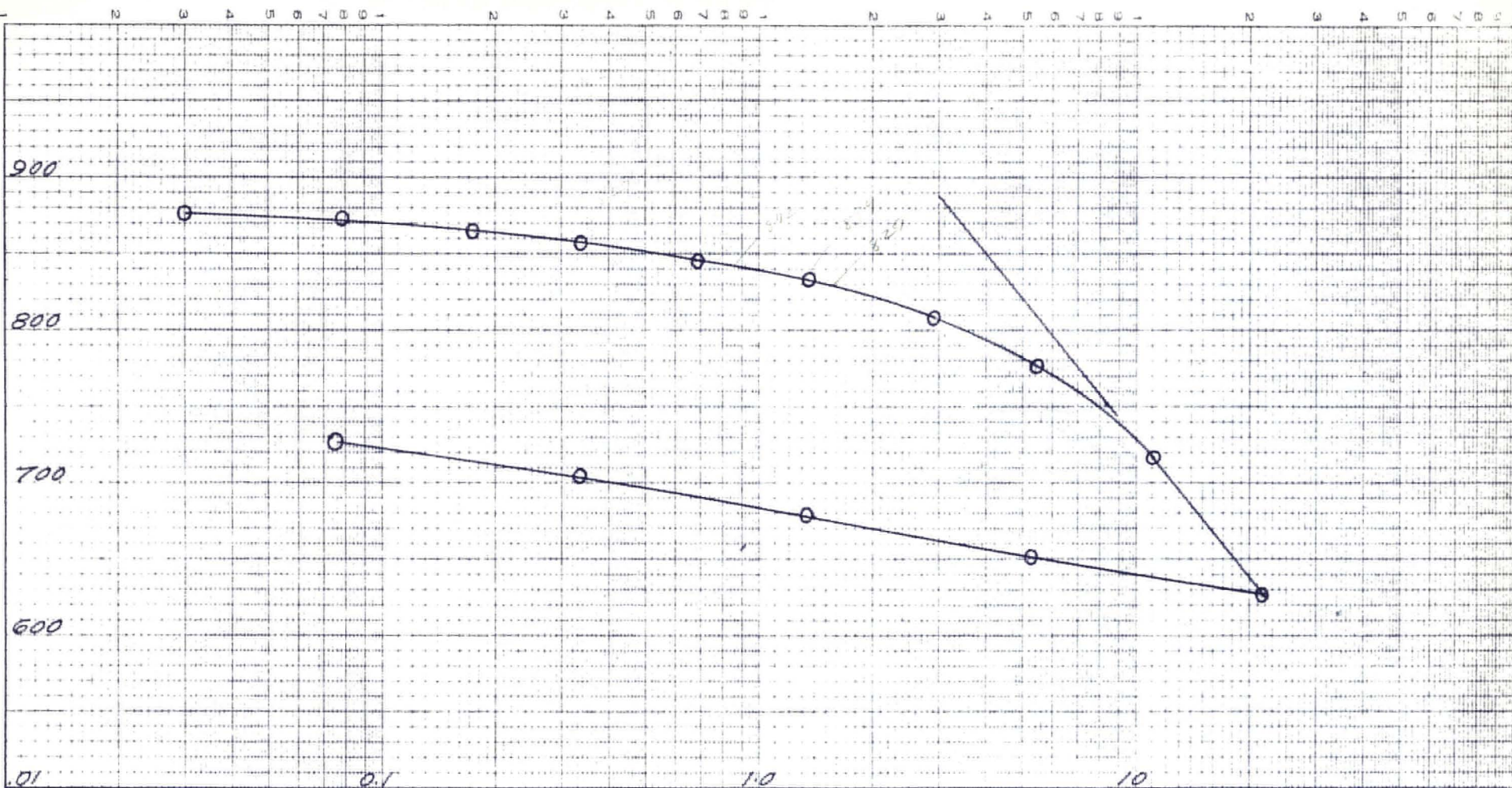
Elevation of Sample 155.96'  
 Thickness of Mineral Matter .4905"  
 Sample Drained Top & Bottom  
 Estimated Effective Pressures  
 a. Existing Overburden .73 Tons/sq. ft.  
 b. Preconsolidation Load  
 1. Apparent Limits 2.10 T/sf to 11.2 T/sf  
 2. Probable Value 4.65 Tons/sq. ft.

Maine State Highway Commission  
 PRESSURE-VOID RATIO DIAGRAM  
 SIDNEY INTERSTATE  
 DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE  
 BORING No. 4 SAMPLE 2U  
 Soils Engineering Lab U of M

Sheet No. 3



Void Ratio (e)



PRESSURE (Tons/sq. ft.)

Elevation of Sample 162.26'

Thickness of Mineral Matter .4688"

Sample Drained Top & Bottom

Estimated Effective Pressures

a. Existing Overburden .41 Tons/sq. ft.

b. Preconsolidation Load

1. Apparent Limits 4.30 T/sf to 9.40 T/sf

2. Probable Value 3.50 Tons/sq. ft.

Maine State Highway Commission

PRESSURE-VOID RATIO DIAGRAM

SIDNEY INTERSTATE

DRUMMOND ROAD STRUCTURE

BORING No. 5

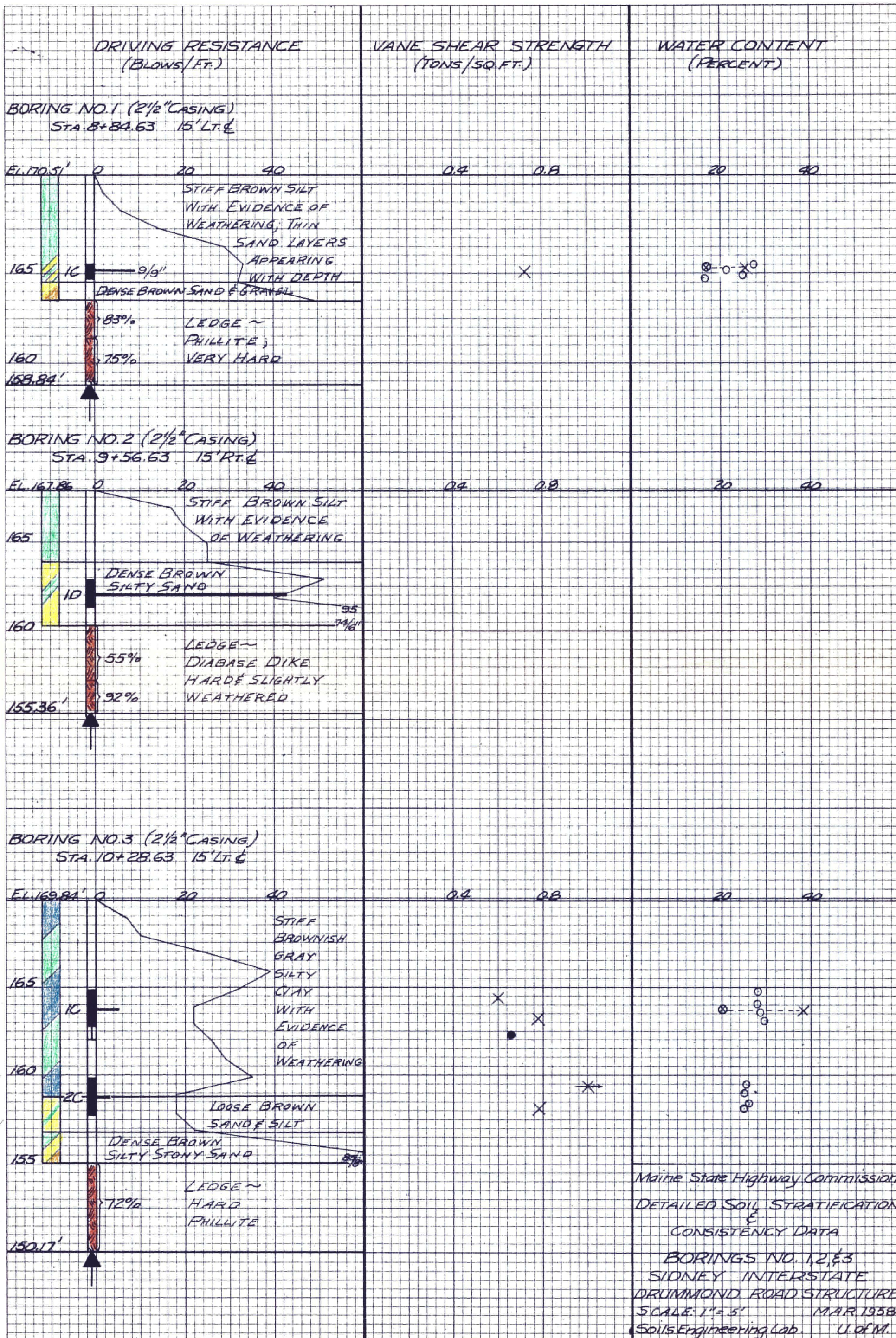
SAMPLE 10

Soils Engineering Lab.

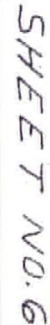
U of M

Sheet No. 4

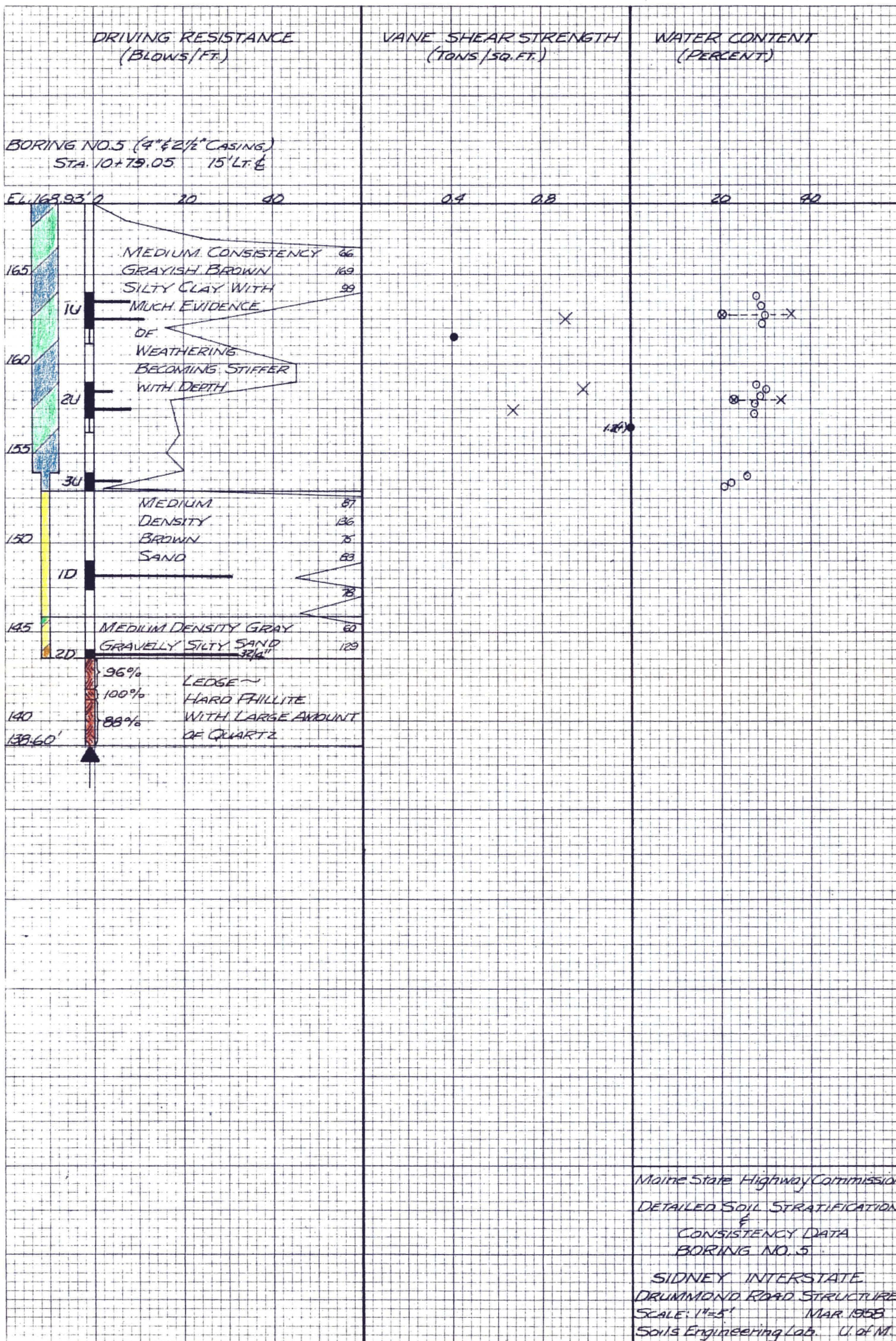




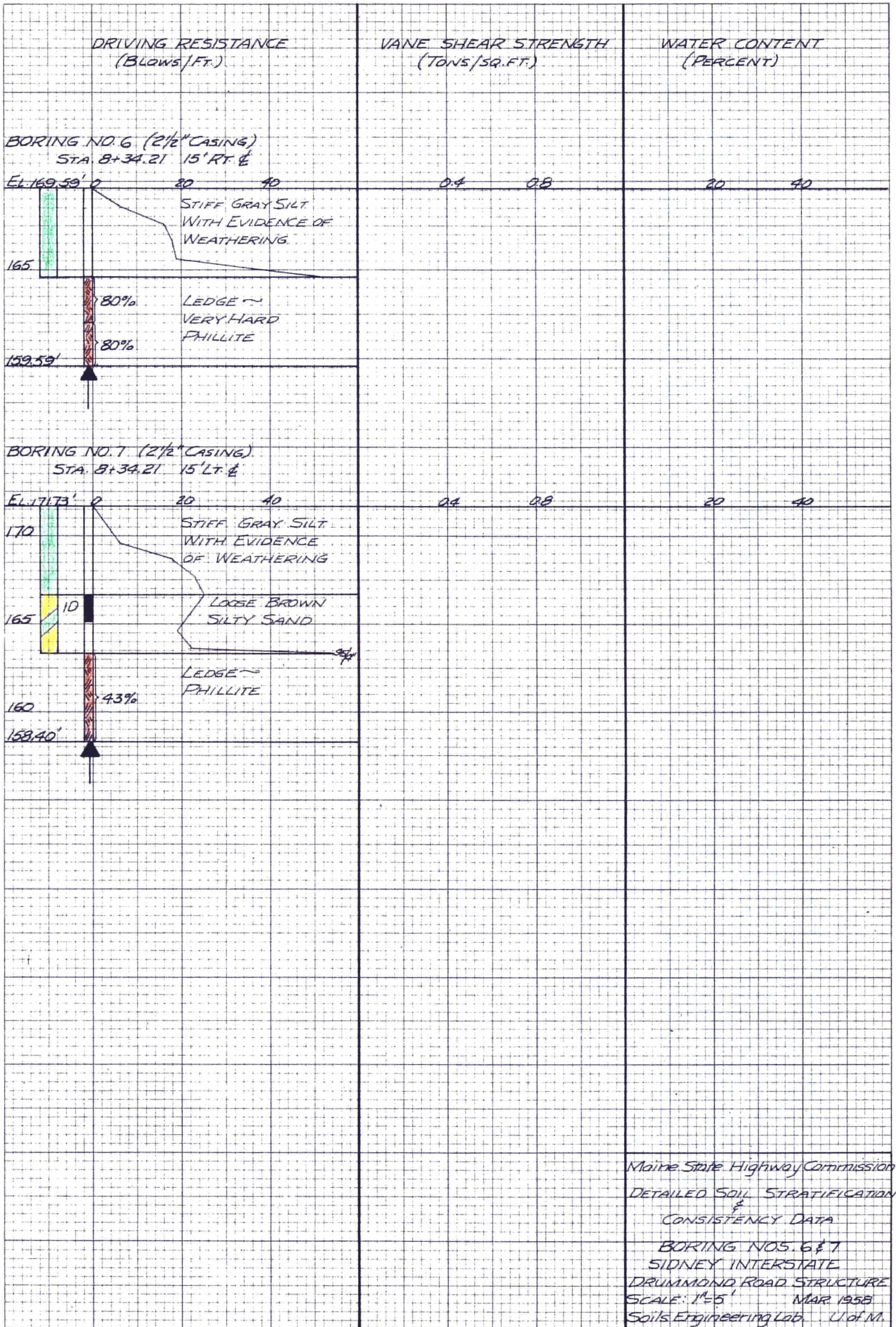














BORING NOTES	LOG SHEETS	DETAIL SHEETS
1. All samples and vanes are made ahead of casing.		
2. Scales and casing size as noted on drawings.		
3. Ground water table indicated thus:		
4. Number of blows of 275# hammer falling 18 inches required to drive extra heavy casing one foot thus:		
5. Location and designation of "dry" samples taken in S&H sampler #1290s indicated thus:		
6. Location and designation of "dry" samples taken in 2" O.D. 16 ga. seamless tubing indicated thus:		
7. Location and designation of "dry" samples taken in 3 1/2" O.D. 16 ga. seamless tubing indicated thus:		
8. Location and designation of wash samples indicated thus:		
9. Unsuccessful attempts to secure dry sample indicated thus, followed by type of sampler:		
10. Location of field vane test indicated thus:		
11. Number of blows of 275# hammer falling 15" required to drive spoon or tubing one foot indicated thus:		
12. Sampling spoon or seamless tubing driven by static weight of drill rods and 275# hammer indicated thus:		
13. 3 1/2" O.D. "dry" samples taken with piston sampler.		
14. Natural water contents, given as percent of dry weight are indicated thus: 31% 20		
15. Bottom of boring indicated thus:		
16. Refusal of drill rods or casing indicated thus:		
17. Percent recovery of rock core by diamond bit thus:		

SHEAR AND WATER CONTENT NOTES

Shear Notes:

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Field vane shear strengths indicated thus:  | ●          |
| 2. Laboratory vane shear strengths indicated thus:   | x          |
| 3. One half unconfined compressive strengths indicated thus:   | ○          |
| 4. Strengths beyond range of plot indicated at right edge of plot by numerical values and symbols thus:  | 1.62 ●     |
| 5. Field vane shear strengths in excess of capacity of equipment indicated thus:   | —●→        |
| 6. Laboratory vane shear strengths in excess of capacity of equipment (1.0 T/sf) indicated thus:   | —x→        |
| 7. Field vane shear strengths in excess of capacity of equipment and beyond range of plot indicated at right edge of plot thus:                | 1.50 (+) ● |
| 8. Laboratory vane shear strength in excess of capacity of equipment (1.0 T/sf) and beyond range of plot indicated at right edge of plot thus: | 1.00 (+) x |

Water Content Notes:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Natural water contents, given as percent of dry weight, are indicated thus: | ○         |
| 2. Plastic and liquid limits are indicated thus:                               | ⊗ — — — x |
| 3. Ignition losses are given as percent of dry weight.                         |           |