

6. WRIGGLITE.A. DISTRIBUTION AND SIZE:

In the vicinity of the Shepherd and Murphy Mine, wrigglite replaces Gordon Limestone for up to 70 m from its base. Wrigglite crops out close to the mine, and it is covered by basalt to the west and overlain by unreplaced Gordon Limestone in the north-western part of the area. The areal distribution can be estimated from the extent of the magnetic anomaly in Fig.5.

Contacts with calc-silicate rock are somewhat gradational; alternate layers of calc-silicate and wrigglite from 1 cm up to 3 m wide can occur near the base. Contacts with limestone are exposed in a few drill holes. They are fairly sharp; massive wrigglite gives way to massive limestone over only a metre or so; in this interval a few veinlets of wrigglite occur in the limestone. The limestone directly above the wrigglite has a tendency to be bleached and is probably recrystallized. The contact zone gives clues to the mode of formation of wrigglite; this will be dealt with below.

Only relatively minor quantities of wrigglite have been found outside the area of Fig.3.

The indicated and inferred tonnages of wrigglite based on drilling are given in Section 17.

B. TEXTURE:

Wrigglite has a distinctive rhythmically finely layered contorted texture. The textures are illustrated in Fig.7. and Appendix 3. Grain size of the common constituents varies from about 3mm down to micron sizes, and the average grain size is such that the constituents cannot be easily discerned with the naked eye or even with a hand lens. On freshly broken surfaces, especially if they are wet, the fine layered texture is nearly invisible and the rock superficially resembles basalt.

The fine layers cannot be traced for many centimetres before they either close back on themselves or are cut off by other layers. The layered sequences seem to be "unconformable" with one another. The overall impression in an outcrop is of a rather chaotic finely banded contorted structure. Some of the shapes are pipe-like with individual layers concentric but contorted; some layered sequences can be seen to have a central