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Western Michigan University
Michigan Geological Survey
Attn: Daniel Litynski
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5456

Project Title:

Michigan Geological Samples and Data Preservation Project 2013

Prepared by Principal Investigator:

William B. Harrison III
Michigan Geological Survey
Department of Geosciences
Western Michigan University
1903 W. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5241
FAX: (269) 387-5513
PHONE: (269) 387-8633
harrison@wmich.edu

Submitted to:

Betty Adrian, USGS Program Officer
U.S. Geological Survey
Box 25046, Mail Stop 975
Denver, CO 80225
By email at: badrian@usgs.gov.
Copied to: Margaret Eastman at mrussell@usgs.gov

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Abstract
The Michigan Geological Survey (MGS), part of Western Michigan University (WMU), completed a project to (1) inventory and preserve two recently acquired core collections and create relative metadata for those collections, and to (2) scan a collection of historic hand-written or typed scout tickets and to create a spreadsheet listing these data along with newly created metadata.

The two core collections are unique and represent both shallow and deeper subsurface materials. The deeper core collection of 5,000 boxes was acquired through oil and gas exploration and represents about 15,000 feet of core from 234 wells, most of which are from carbonate rocks from major reef trends. These cores were in deteriorated cardboard boxes that had been damaged from water and salt content. Only core and box numbers were written on the boxes. We reboxed about 60% of the collection. By comparing the actual core to all known well records, we were able to determine the footages represented. Those footages are much more useful to current users than core and box numbers.

The shallower cores, acquired from another state agency, are from shallow bore holes drilled during road and bridge construction. We have reboxed all those cores and properly labeled them with footages.

The historical hand-written or typed scout tickets were scanned at a resolution of 150dpi to produce print-quality images.

Spreadsheets with inventories for the cores and scout tickets were completed in appropriate format and submitted to the National Catalog in appropriate format from http://ndc.sciencebase.gov/.

We achieved the overall project goals of (1) preserving and archiving Michigan geologic samples and data, and (2) increasing data availability by placing larger datasets on Michigan Geological Survey web pages and by making them accessible to a larger group of stakeholders by placing them in the National Digital Catalog.

Work accomplished and data accessibility and uploads

Through this work, we have determined accurate core footages for 234 wells, for which only the core and box numbers were known. Because core footages are not a field on the current format from the National Catalog at http://ndc.sciencebase.gov/, we could not upload that specific data. However, that data is accessible on our Web site: http://wsh060.westhills.wmich.edu/MGRRE/data/CoreInventory.shtml." We also uploaded an inventory of the shallower set of cores which represent 94 drill holes.

We proposed to scan and inventory 6,000 scout tickets. We actually scanned and uploaded data for 7,376 scout tickets.

Thank you

We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this national geological data archive. We strongly believe that we must preserve the data records of our geological resources. We never know what data we preserve today will prove to be invaluable tomorrow. We thank you for your help in funding this work at the Michigan Geological Survey.