

Garvies Point Museum
Geology of Subsurface
Megaconstruction Projects,
New York City, NY

Charles Merguerian



17 April 2010



**Let's Go Back
In Time From
Today to the
Cambrian!**



**Club Med
Conditions**

Paleo-shoreline

EARLY MEDIAL ORDOVICIAN

(Early Chazyan)

PALEOGEOGRAPHY

by Marshall Kay

Drawn by Erwin Raisz

Palinspastic base - Sinusoidal projection

0 500 1000
Miles

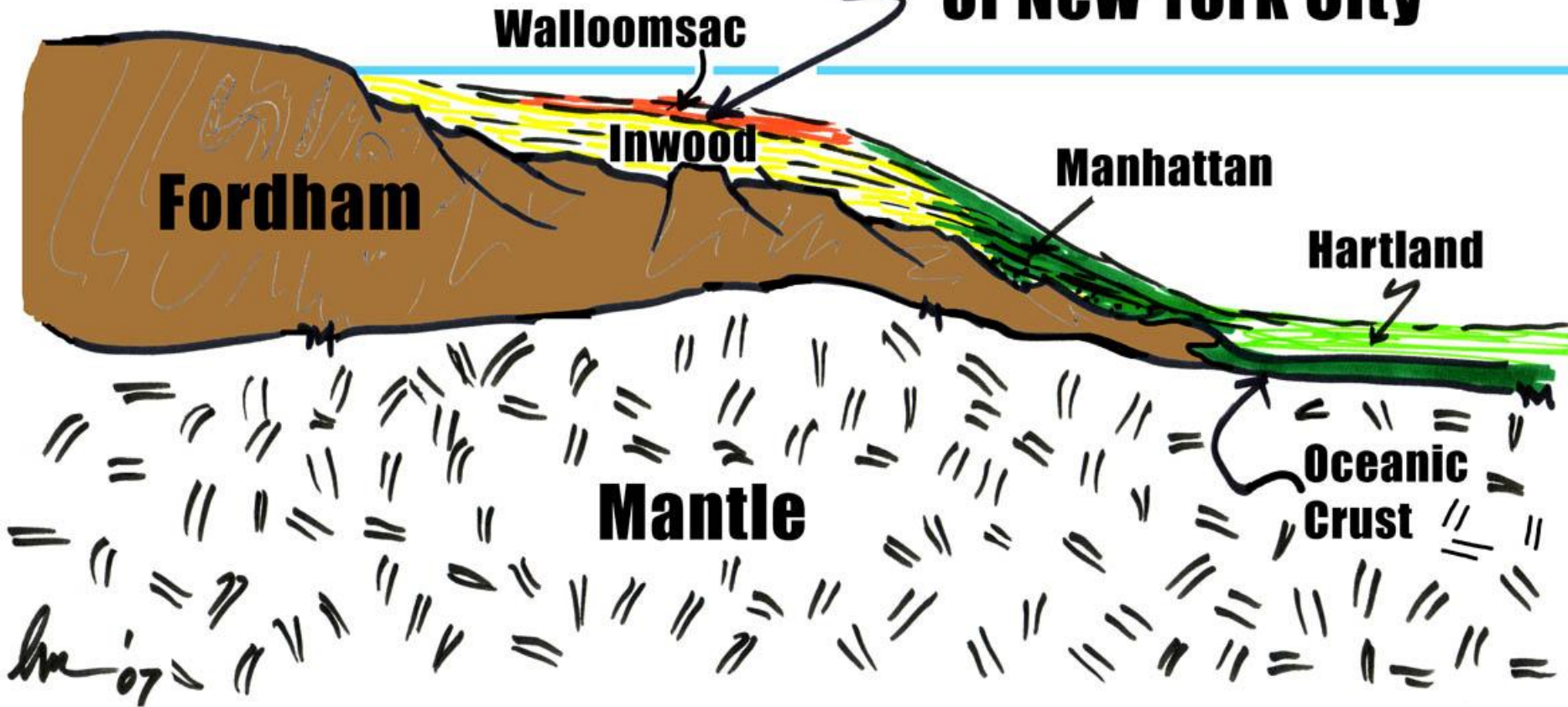
Paleo-equator

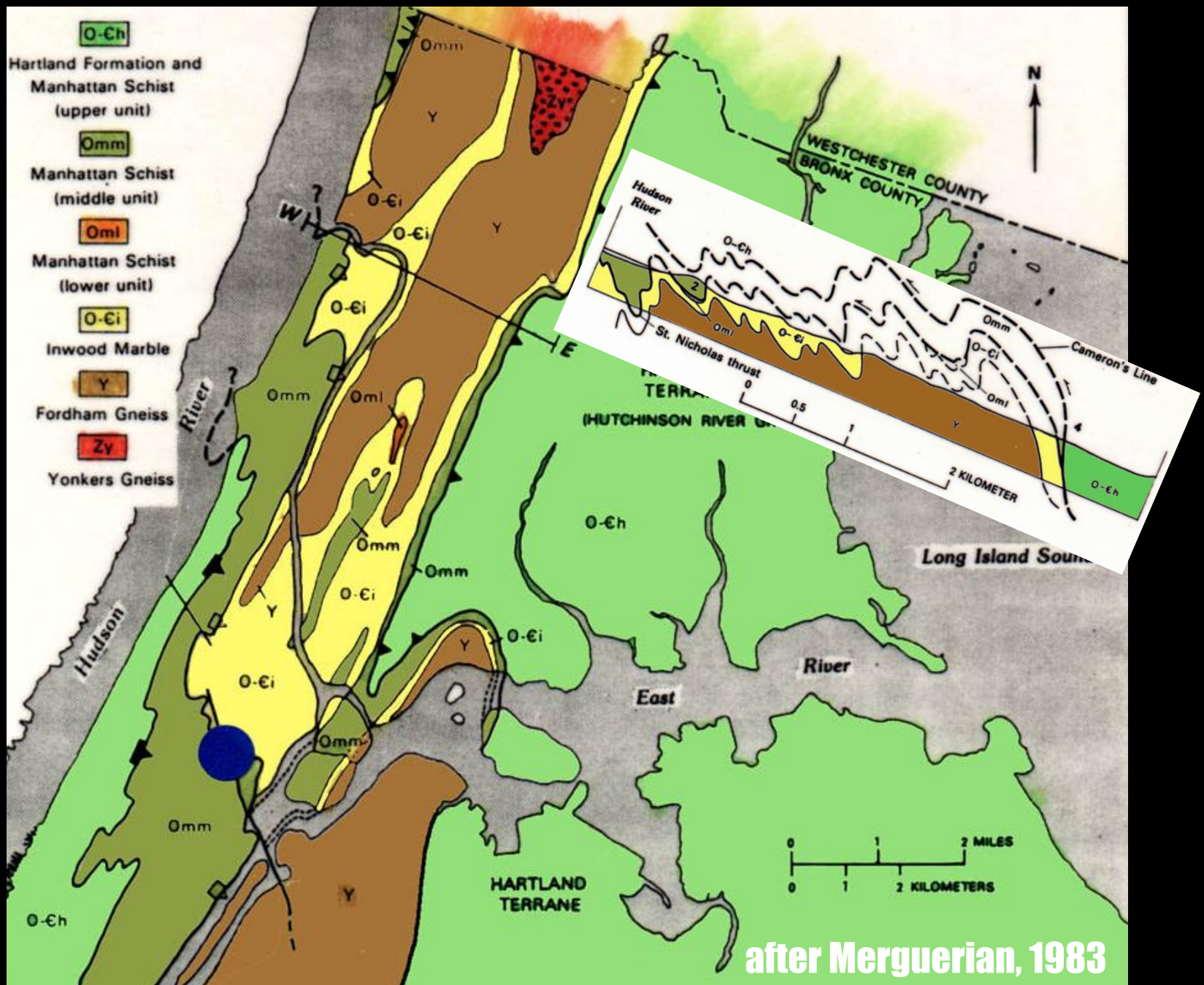
Seas with limy and sandy
bottoms on miogeosynclines

Seas with bottoms of argill-
aceous muds and volcanic
rocks on eugeosynclines

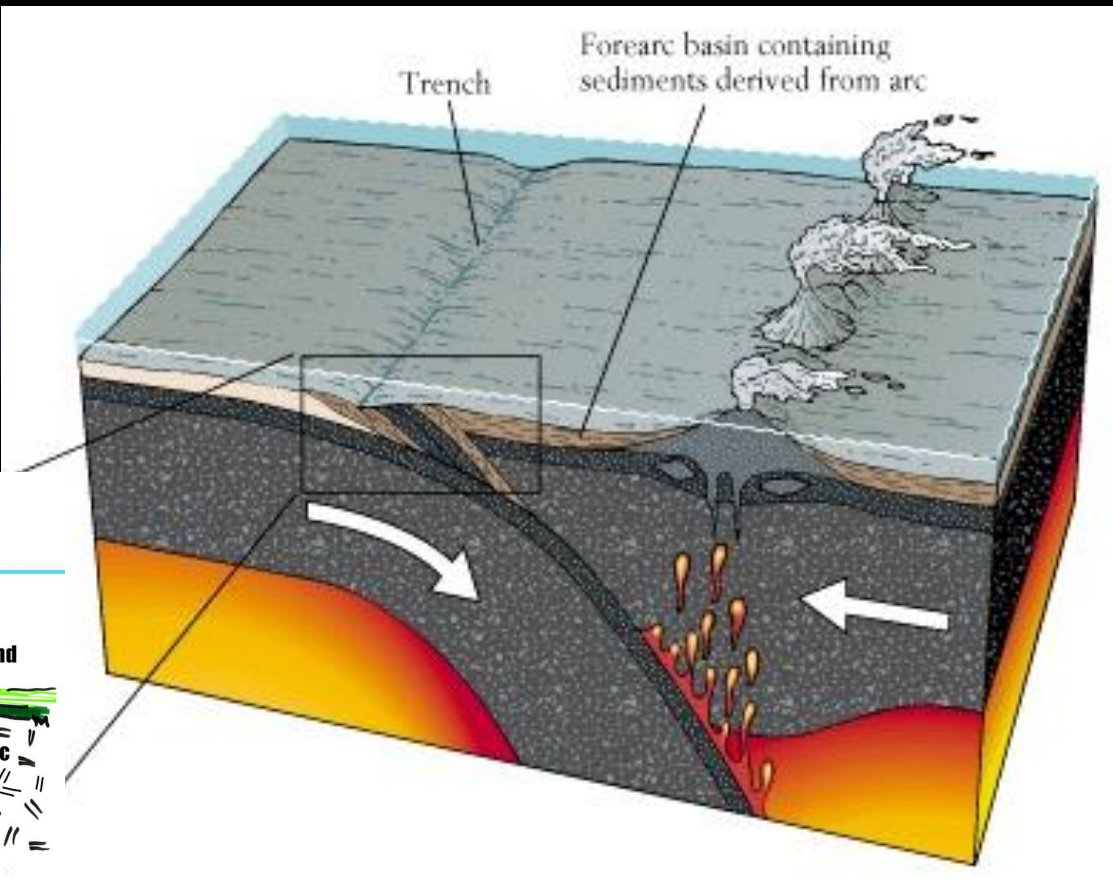
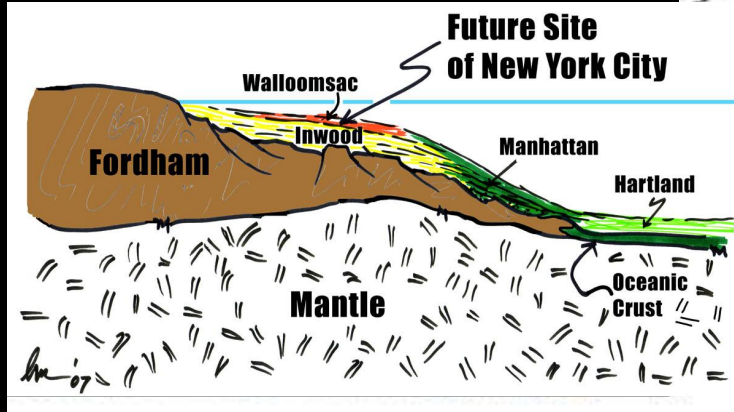
after Kay, 1951

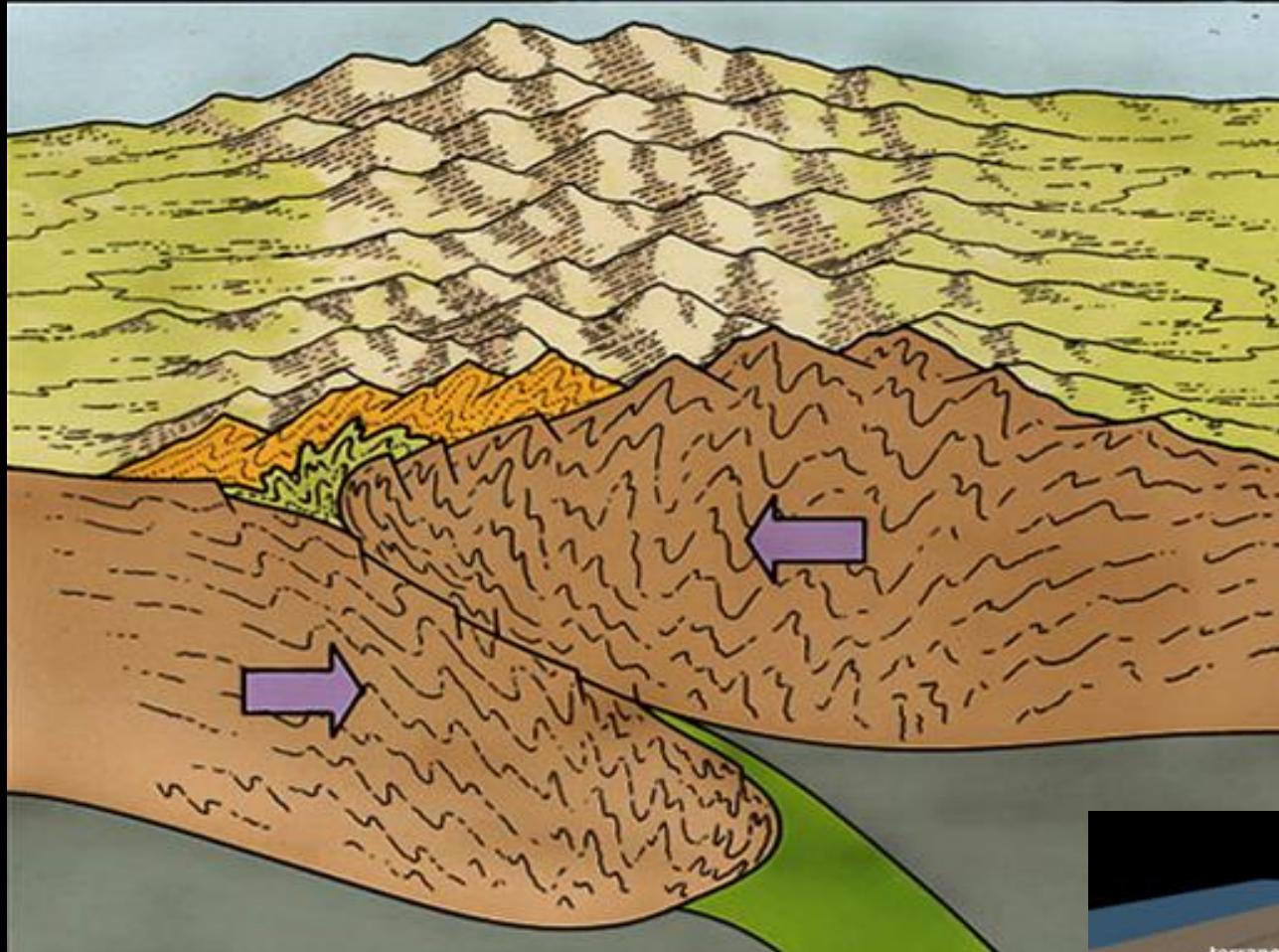
Future Site of New York City



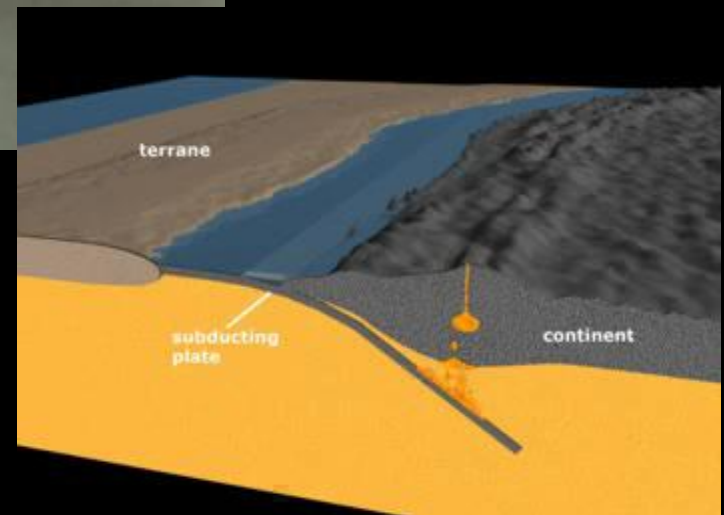


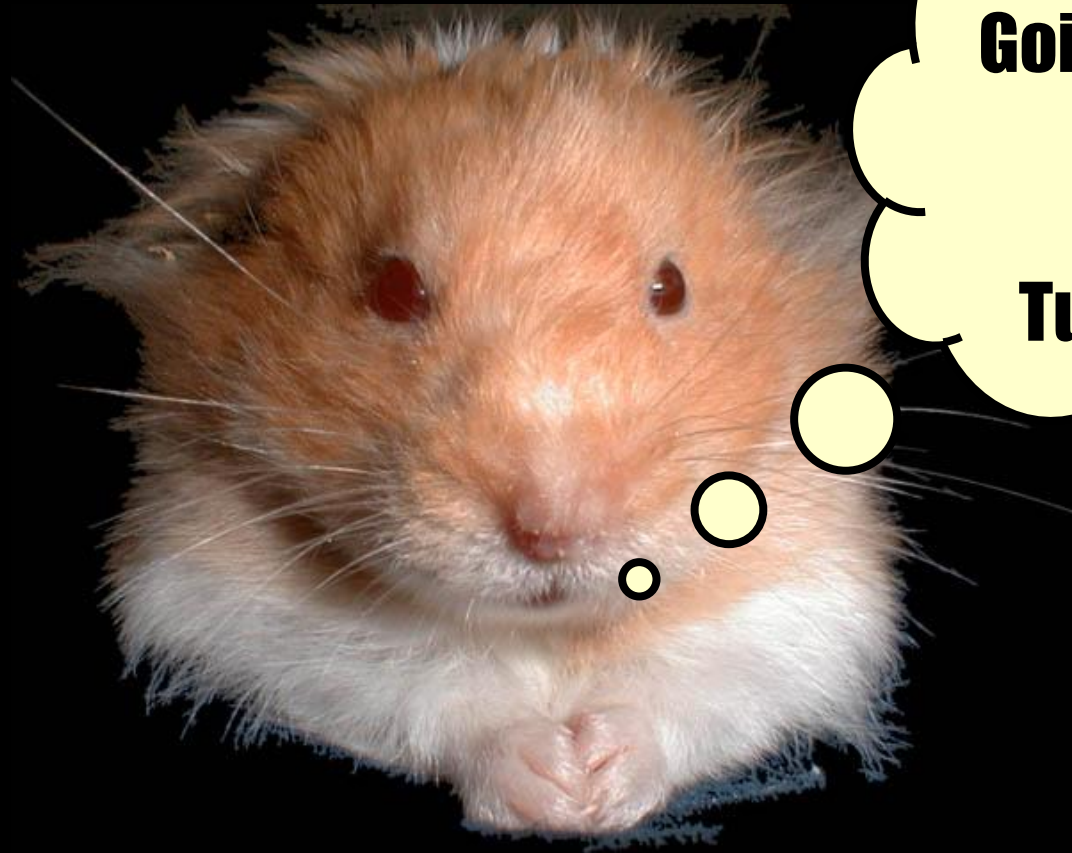
~ 450 Ma Taconic Arc – Passive Margin Collision





**450 Ma to 250 Ma
Protracted Plate Collisions
Form the Appalachians**



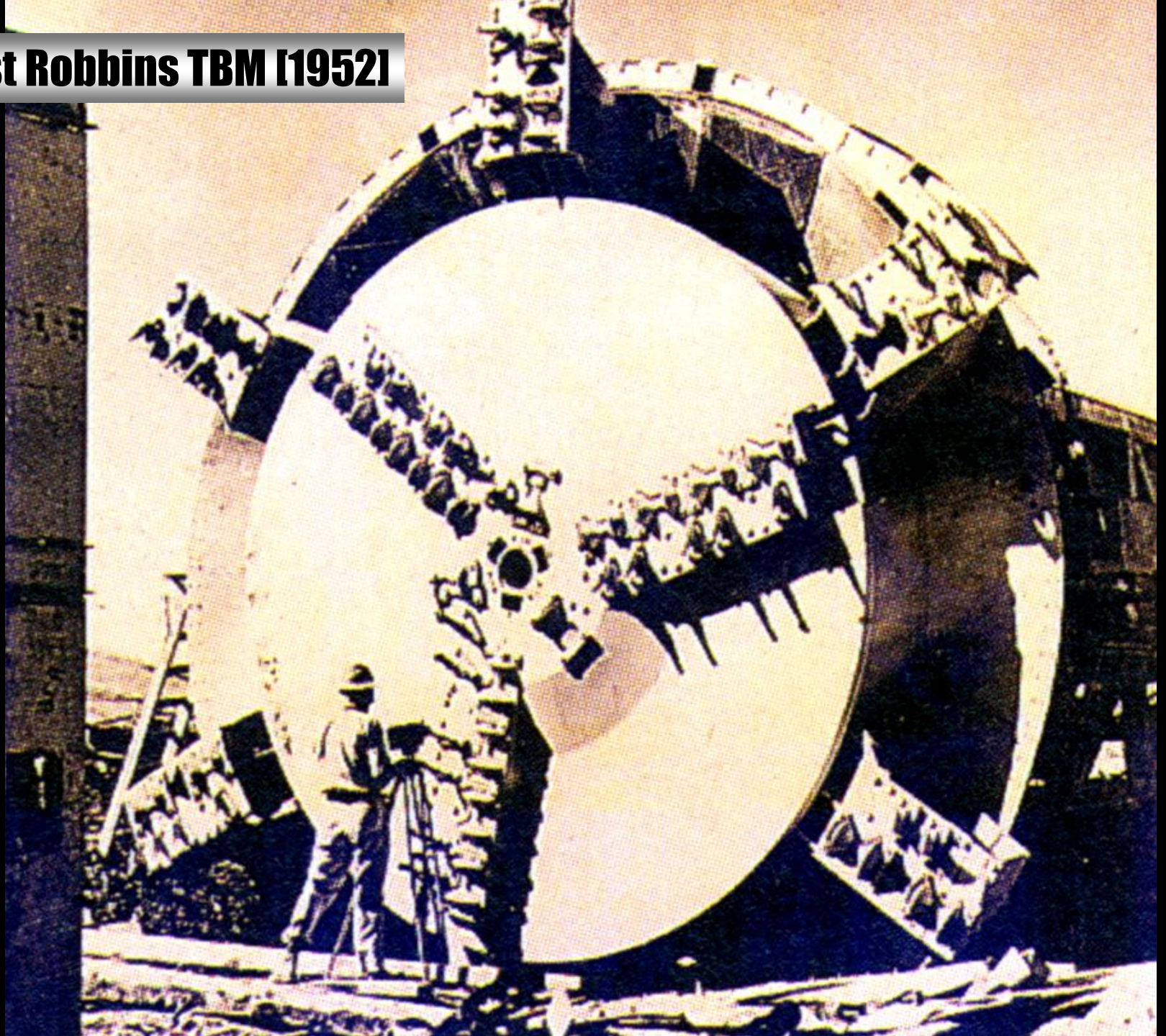


**Finally, He's
Going to Talk
About
TBM
Tunneling**

TBM Tunnelling



First Robbins TBM (1952)





Holing Through North Tunnel, Hudson Tubes, French Line Dock (1904)



Jarva MK 15-52b



Sorenberg, Switzerland - Herrenknecht TBM

TBM Cutter Head Torque Dynamics

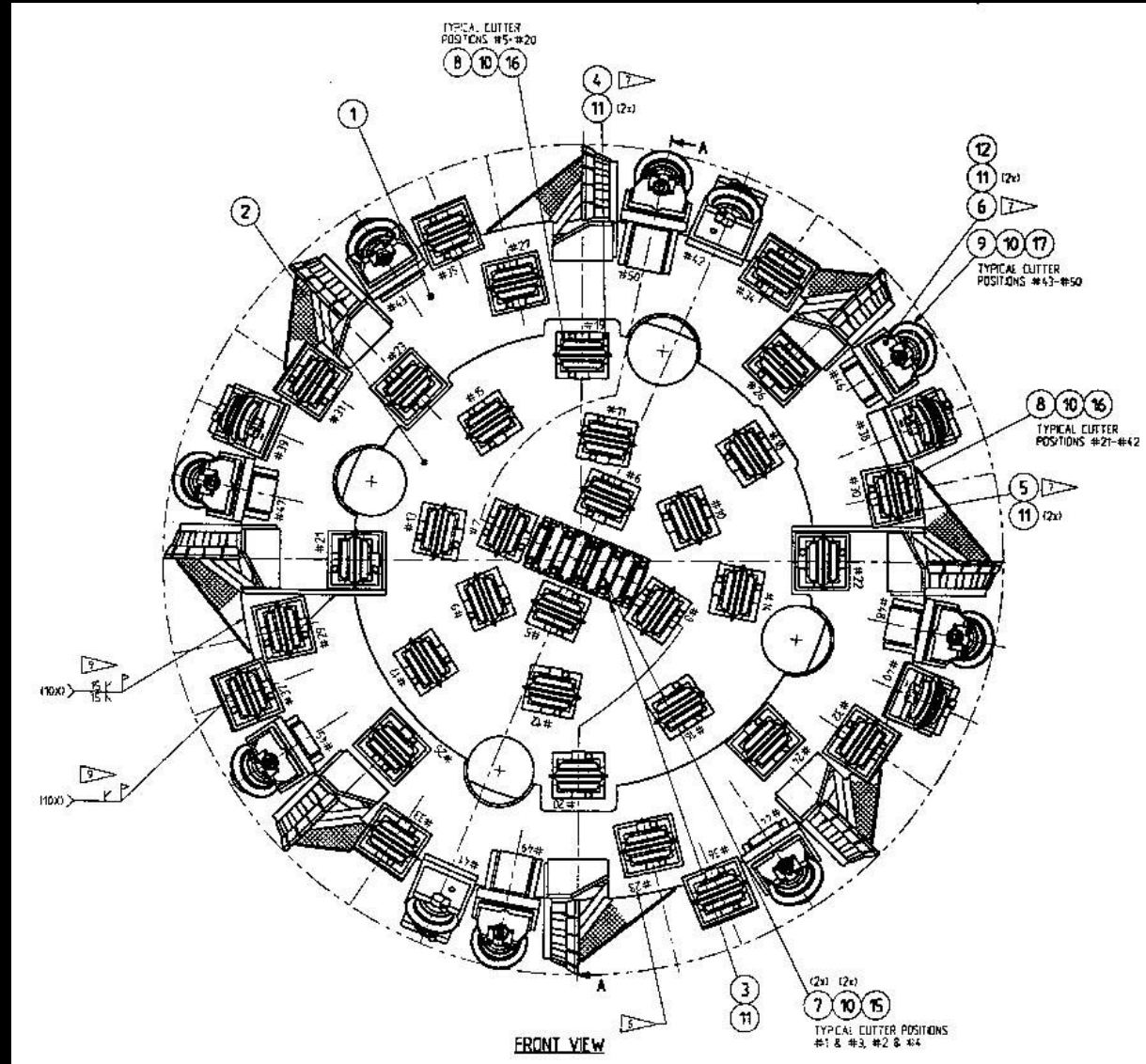
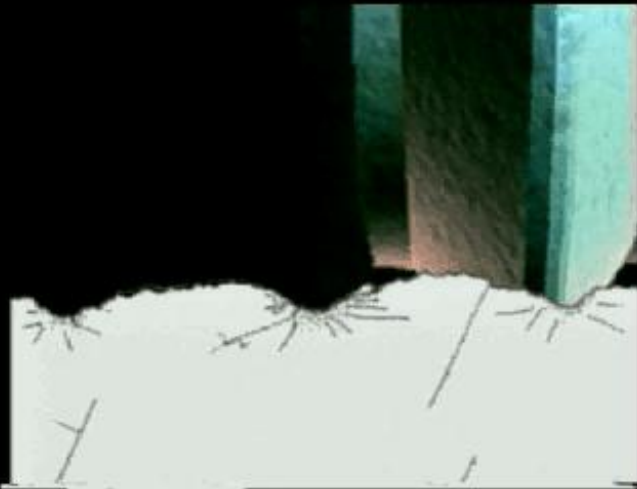


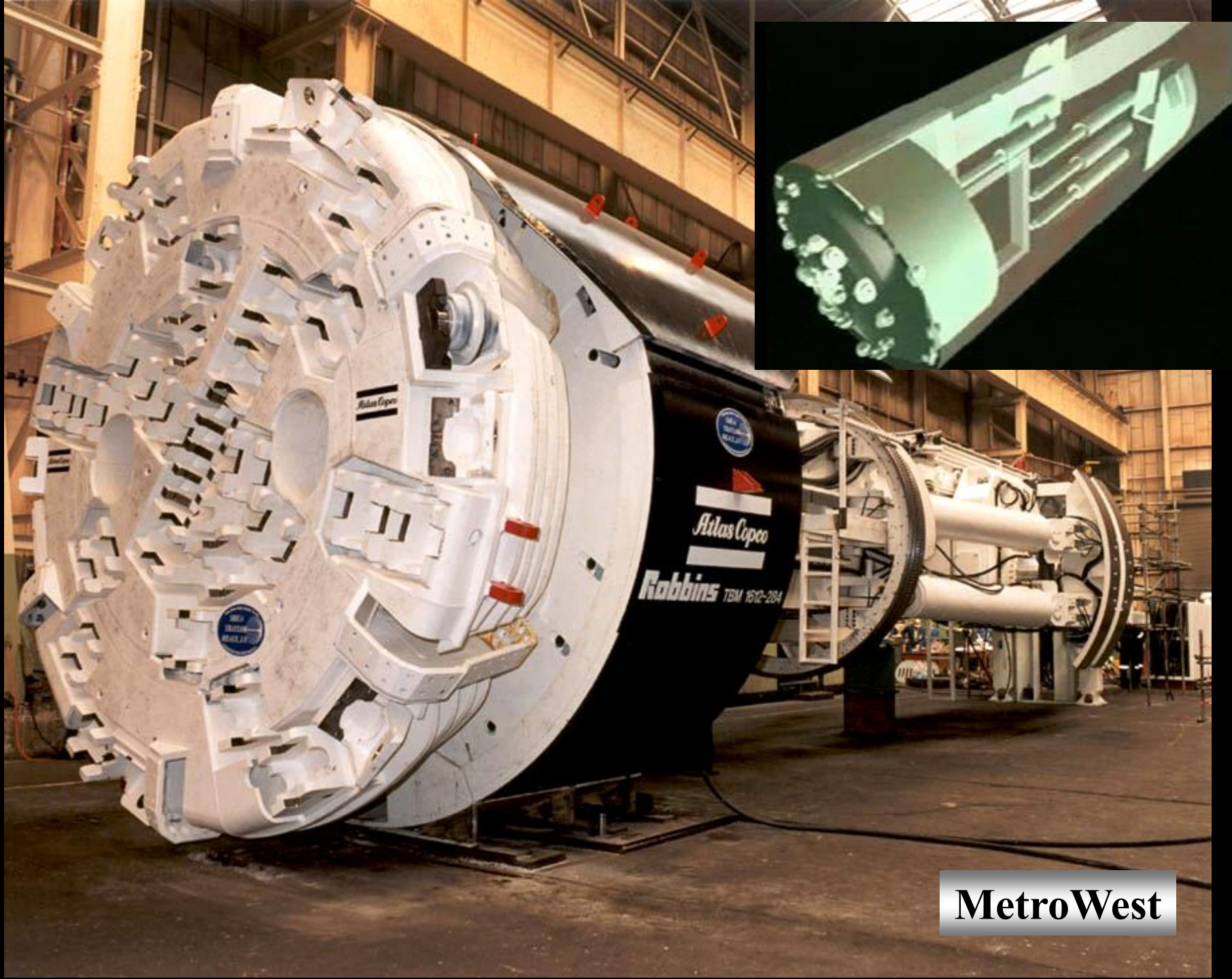
Robbins 235-282 HP Hard Rock Main Beam TBM



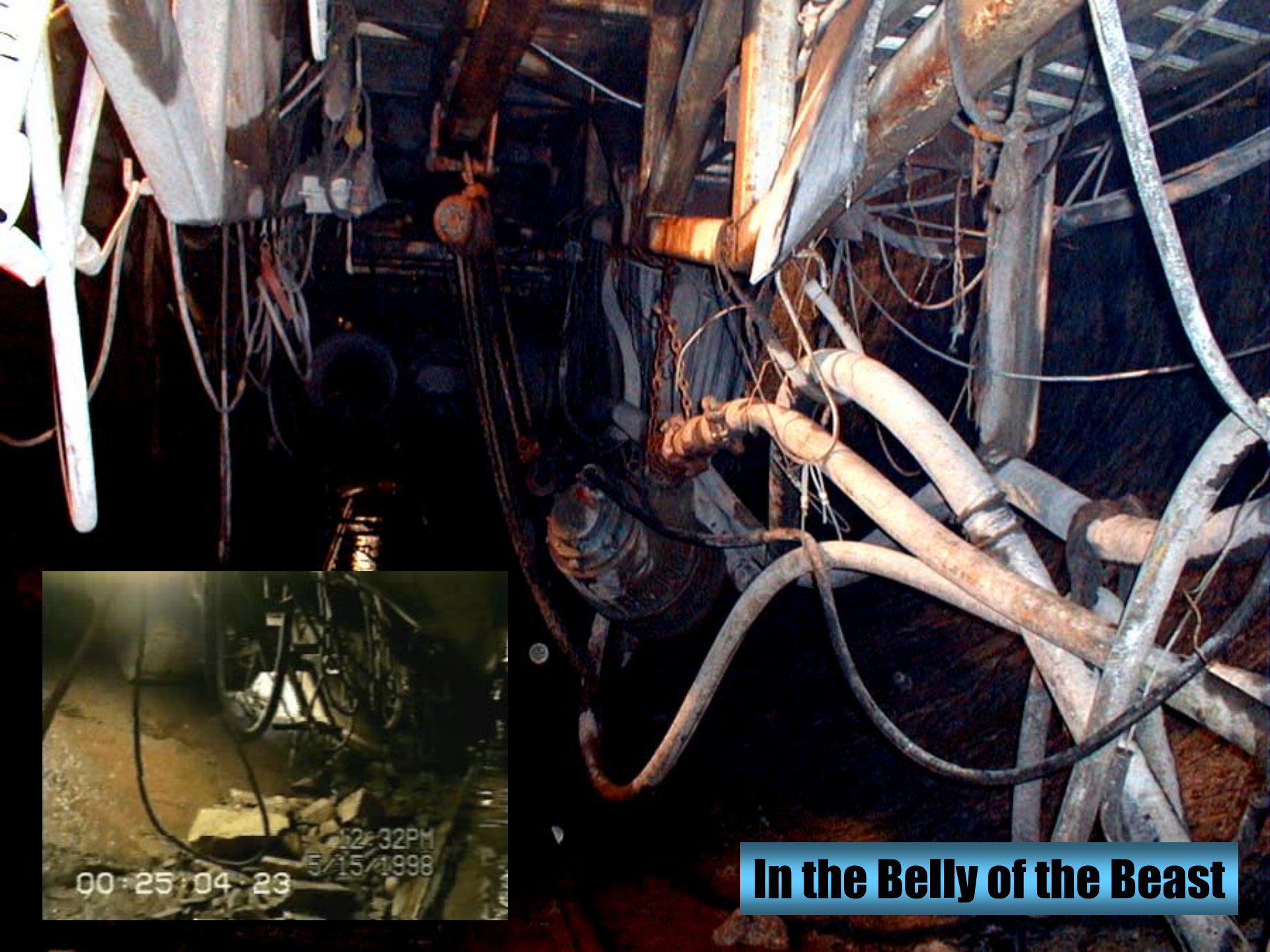
Chesterfield, England - 1996

TBM Chip Production





MetroWest




00:25:04.23 12:32PM 5/15/1998

In the Belly of the Beast



TBM-Bored Tunnel

The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) cutterhead. It shows various cutting tools, including scrapers and scrapers, mounted on a complex metal structure. The lighting is somewhat dim, highlighting the metallic surfaces and the intricate design of the machine.

What Are the Geological Controls on Effective Hard Rock TBM Tunneling in Crystalline Terrains?

Excessive Fines
Blocky Ground
Unstable Headings and Sidewalls
Low Penetration Rates

Excessive Fines



Blocky Ground



Desirable Kerf Pattern in Hard Rocks



Collapsed Crown and Sidewalls

The image shows the interior of a tunnel where the crown and sidewalls have collapsed. The structure is supported by a complex network of wooden beams and metal struts. The ground is dark and uneven, and the overall scene is one of structural failure.

Short Stand-up Times

Station 153+30

Rainy Conditions



Station 140+60

Short Stand-up Times

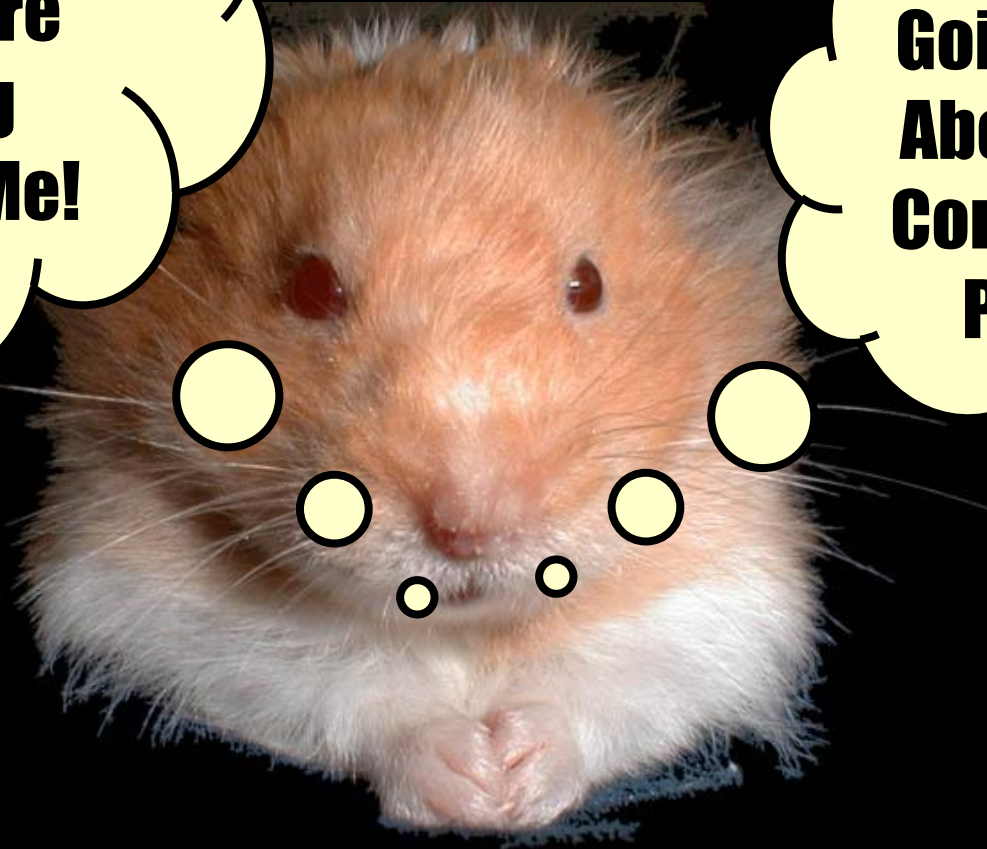


Unforeseen Tunneling Problems



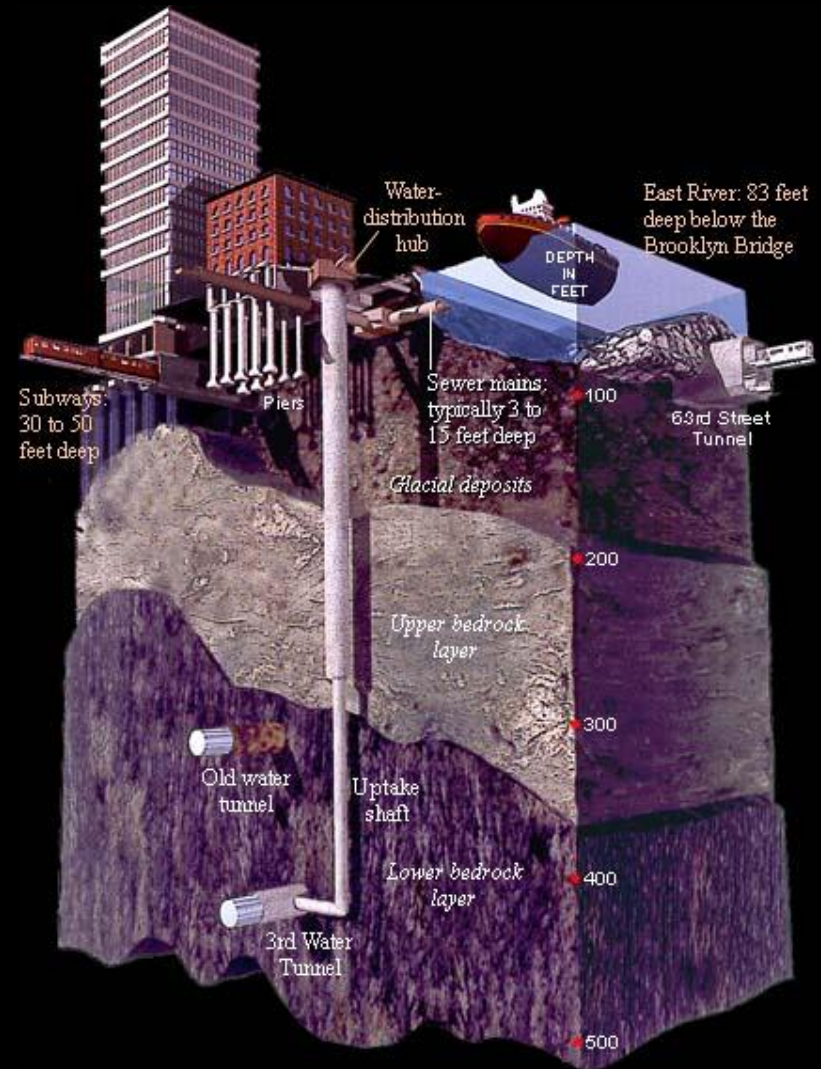
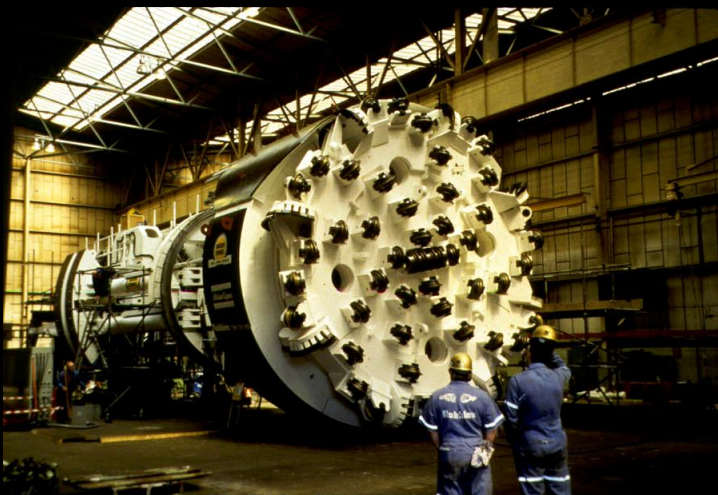
**Remember
Doc, You're
Nothing
Without Me!**

**Finally, He's
Going to Talk
About Mega-
Construction
Projects**



Mega-Construction Projects

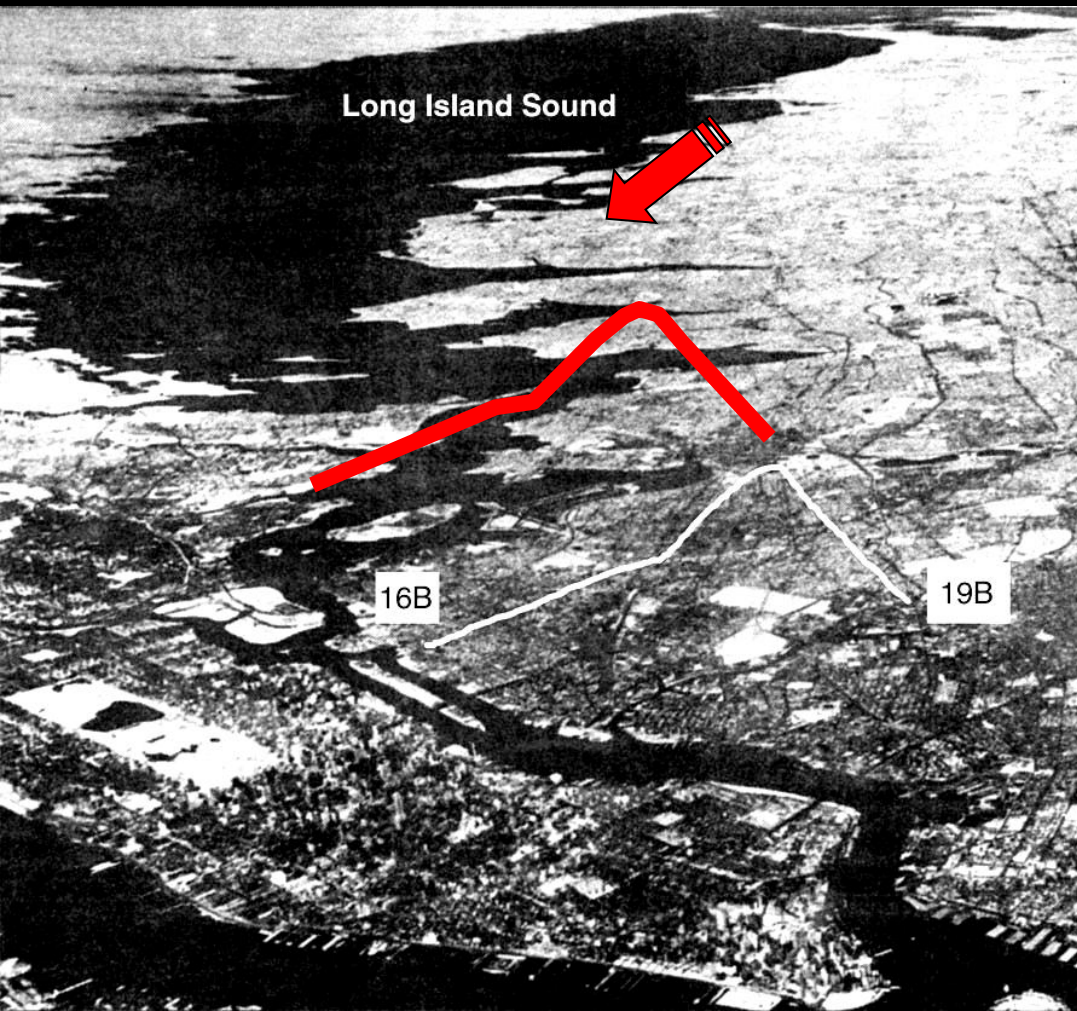
- Queens Water Tunnel
- Con Edison Steam Tunnel
- Manhattan Water Tunnel
- East Side Access Project
- Second Avenue Subway
- IRT #7 Line Extension
- LI Cross Sound Link Tunnel



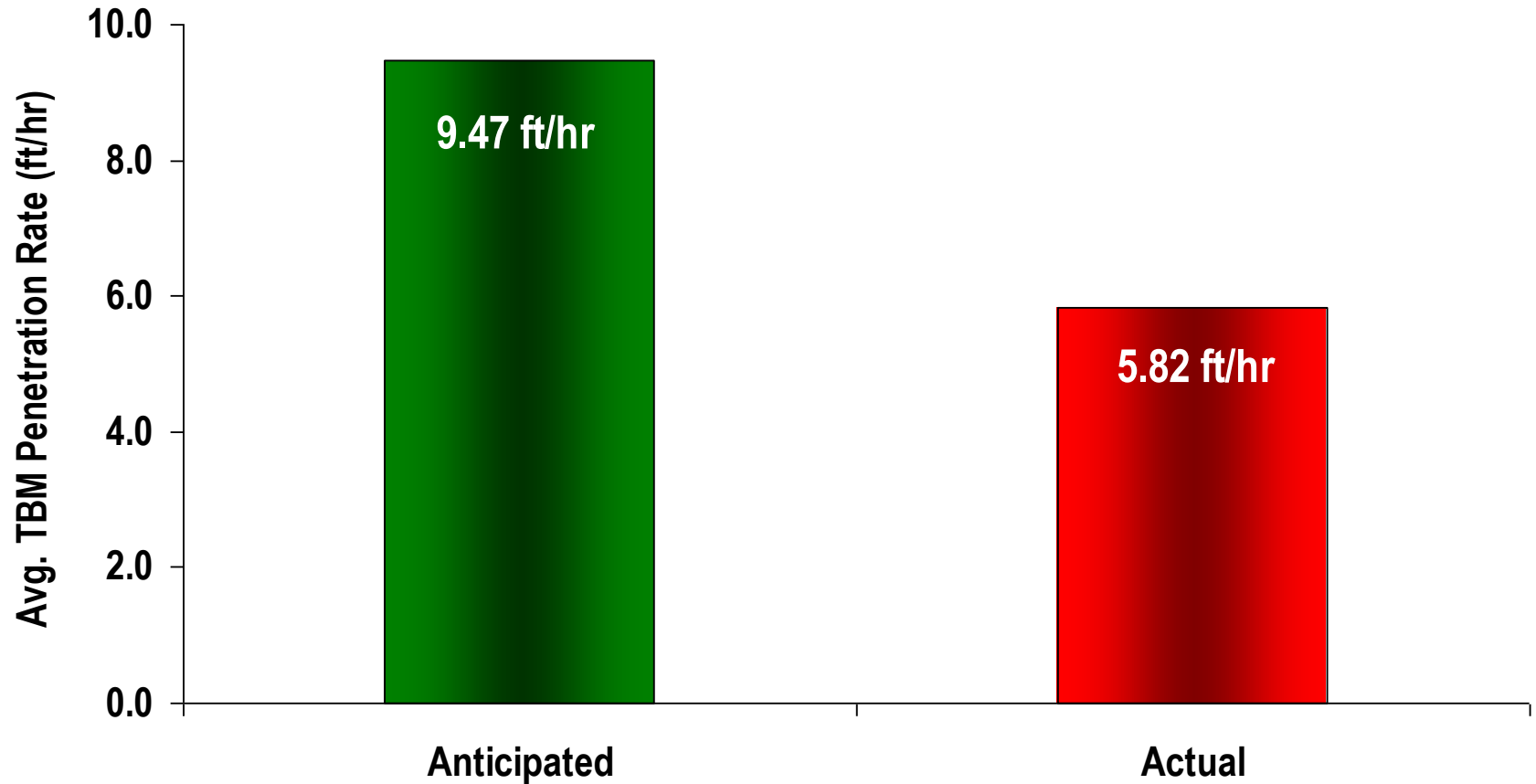
Construction of the Queens Tunnel

NYC Water Tunnel #3

Oct 1996 – Oct 1999



Anticipated vs. Actual Penetration Rates



Can Geologic Studies Help Predict TBM Penetration Destiny?



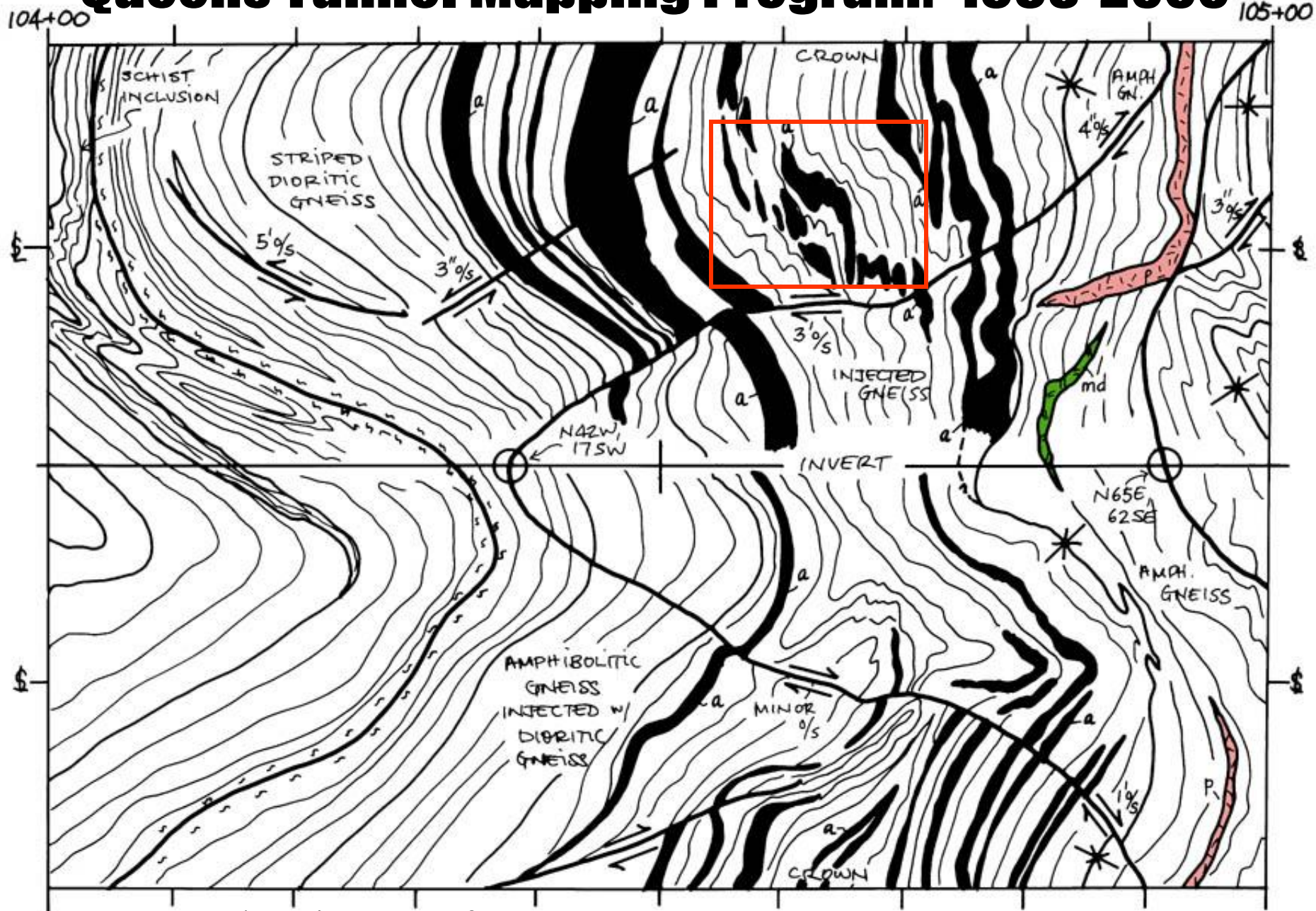


Merguerian's Field Office



**Professional,
Seasoned,
Dukelabs
Office Help**

Queens Tunnel Mapping Program: 1998-2000



- Scale 1 in. = 10 ft

3302

315

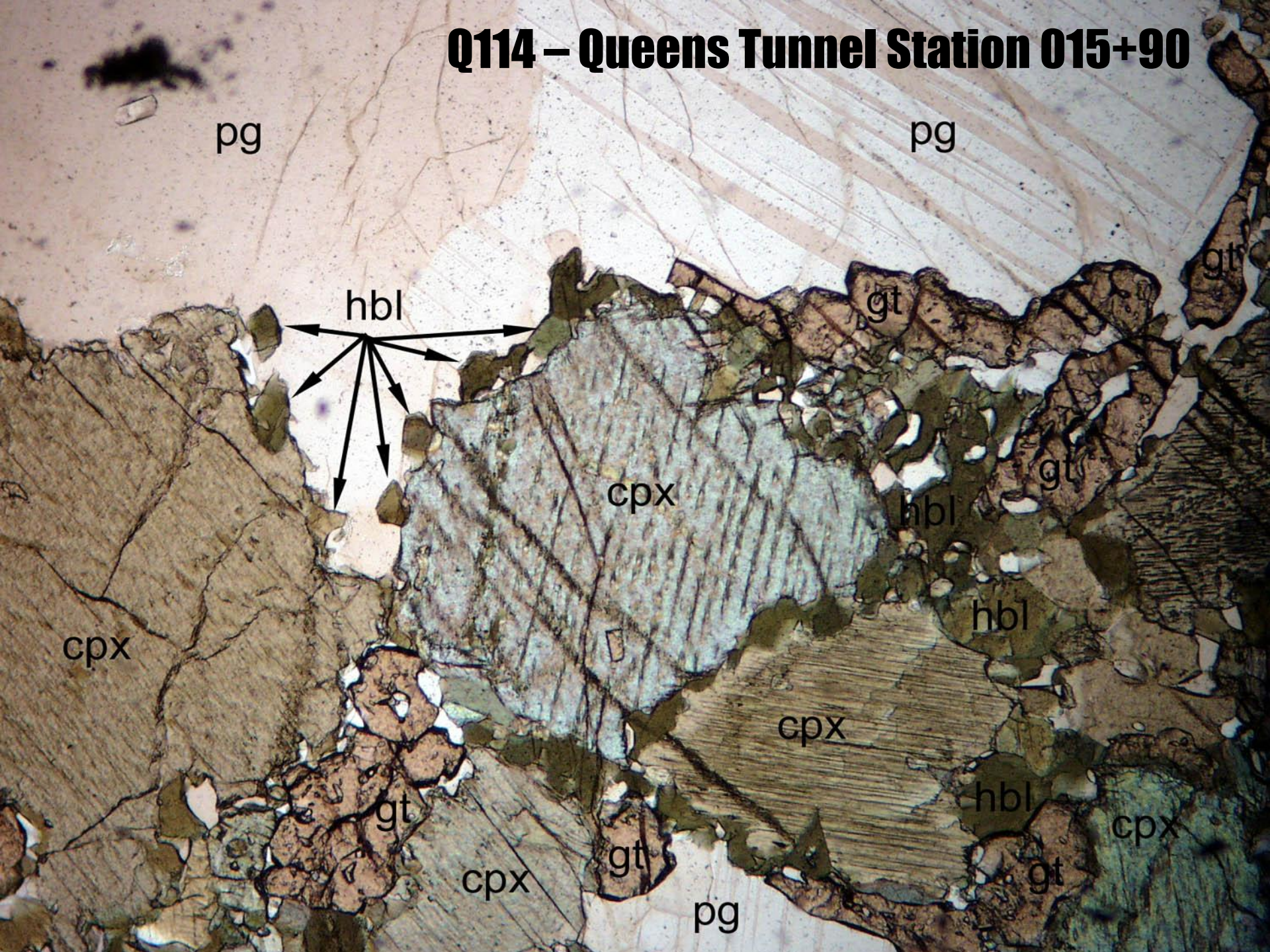
104-55

104-60

104-65

104-70

Q114 – Queens Tunnel Station 015+90





**Con Edison
Utility Tunnel**

Dukelabs © 2003

Con Edison Steam Tunnel TBM

**Robbins HP 215-257 Hard Rock Machine
Capable of 5' stroke**



10 Oct 2002



Southern Heading



Shallow NW Dip

TBM Starter Tunnel



CT3, Stage2 Manhattan Water Tunnel

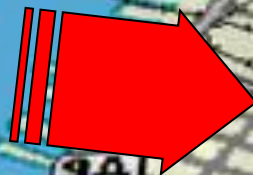


Shaft 26B



10 Oct 2002

Shaft 26B





South Heading – Manhattan Tunnel

Bottom of Shaft 26B

580' Deep

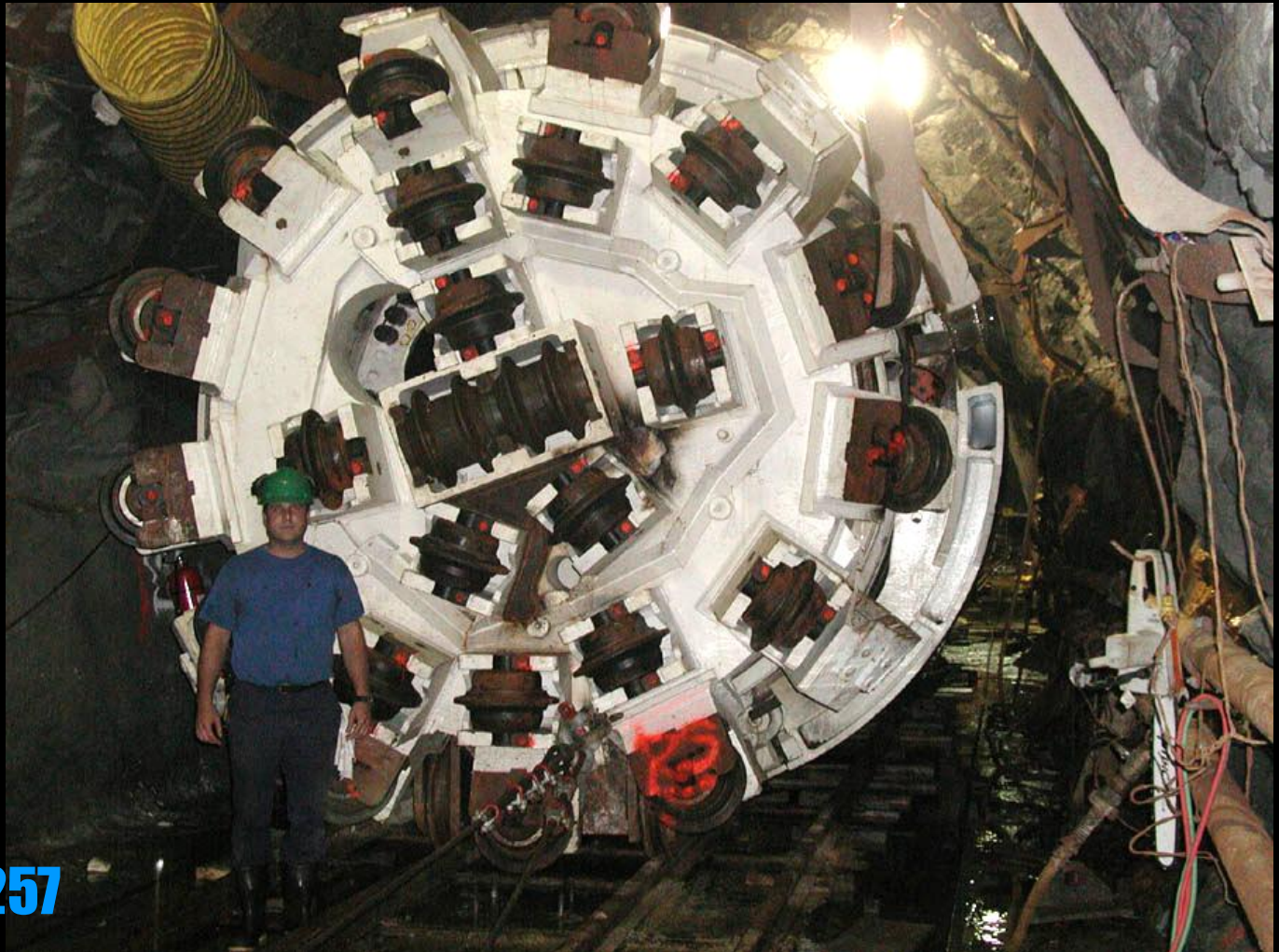
Manhattan Tunnel





Manhattan Tunnel TBM

**Rebuilt Robbins HP 215-257 hard rock machine
(used first on Con Ed Utility Tunnel on 1st Avenue)**

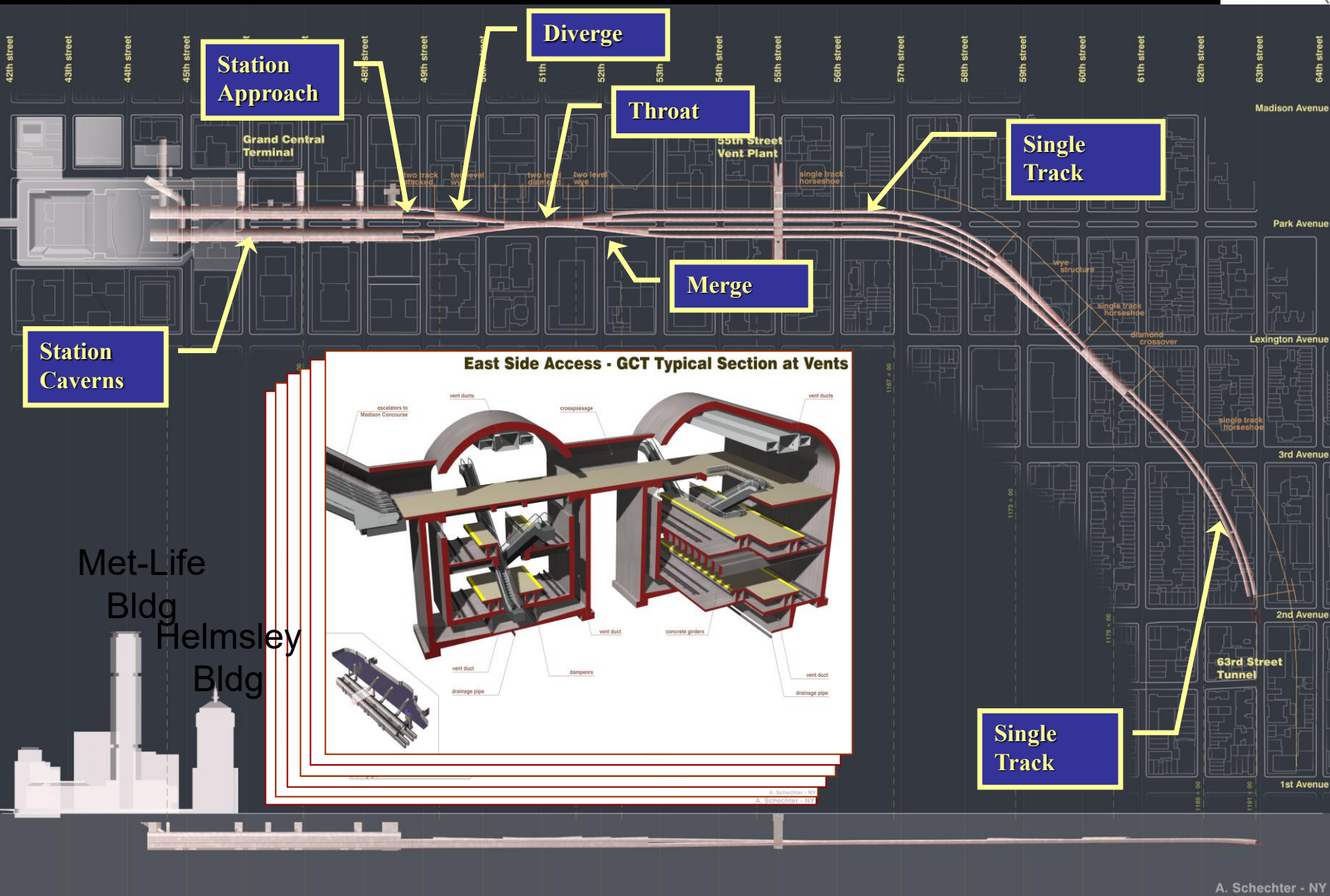


Robbins HP 215-257



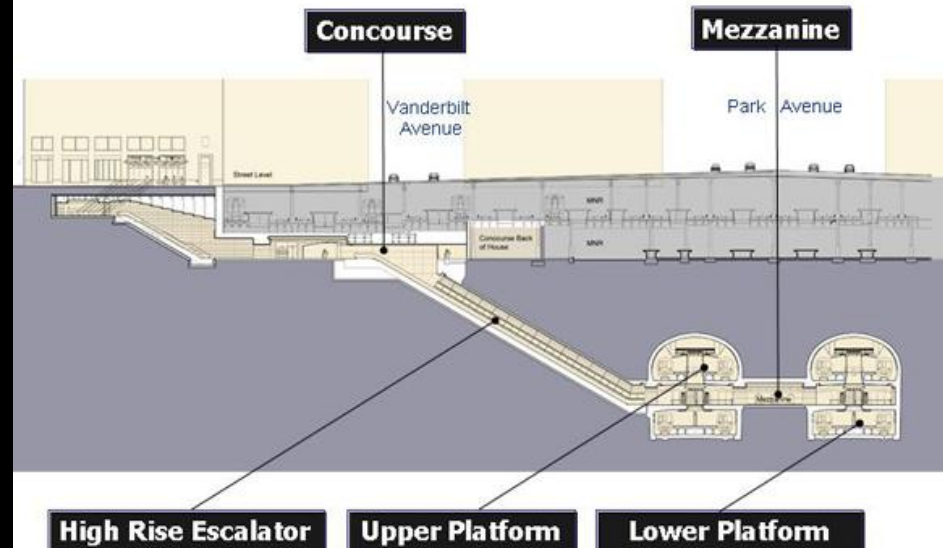
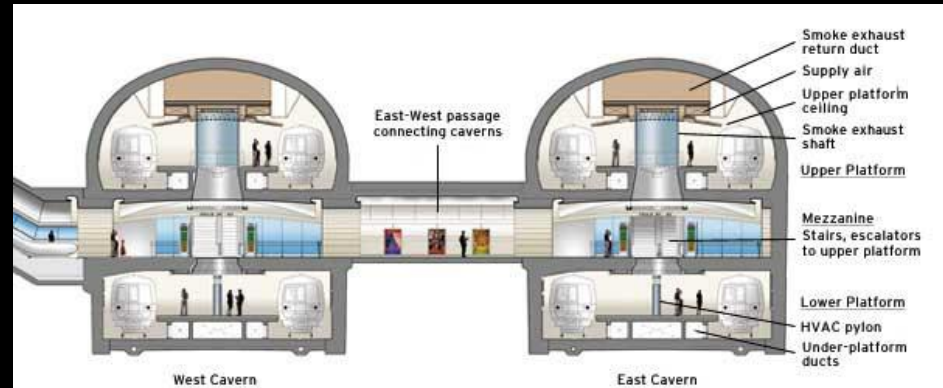
East Side Access LIRR/MTA





Construction Will Take Place **Under** Existing GCT

Using Two TBMs!!





13 Aug 2007





East Side Access – GCT Tunnels



East Side Access – GCT Tunnels



East Side Access – GCT Tunnels



East Side Access – GCT Tunnels

IRT #7 Line Extension

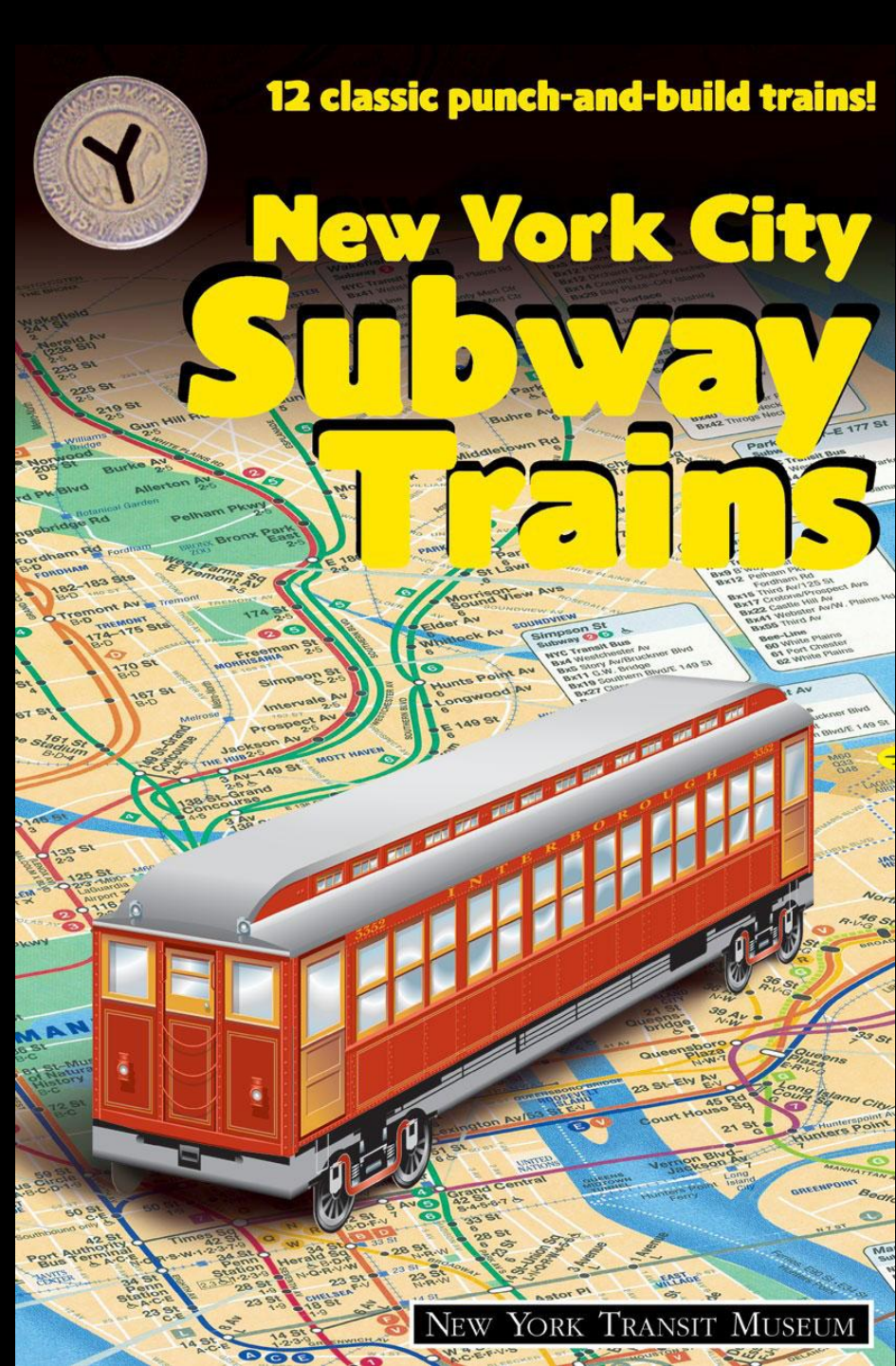


Second Avenue Subway



12 classic punch-and-build trains!

New York City Subway Trains



NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM

Second Avenue El

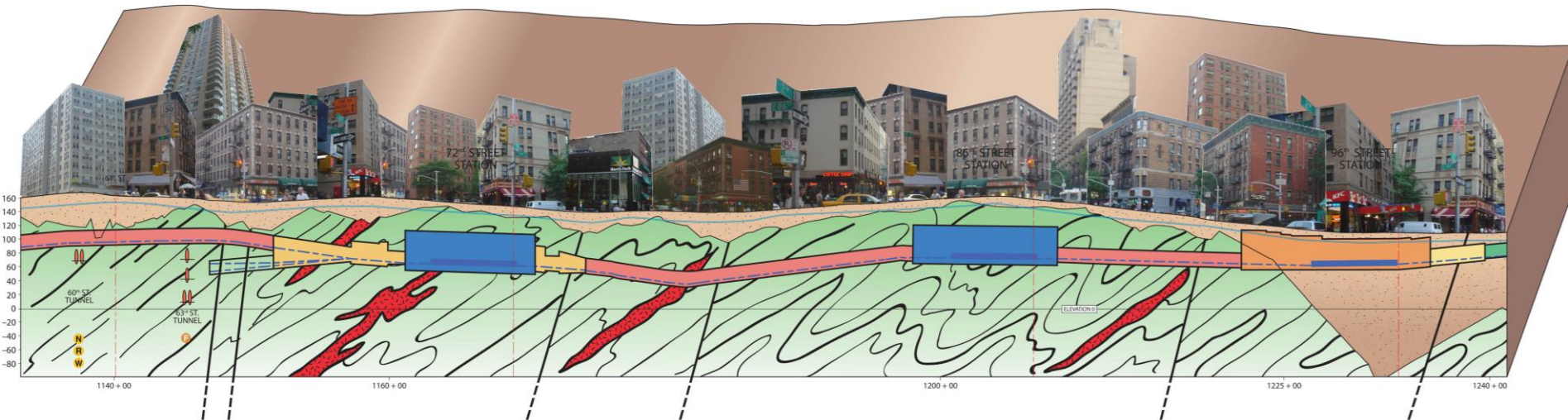


**1929 – NYC BOT Proposes
Second Avenue Subway**

**1931 – Plans Postponed
Depression Era**

\$86M → \$249M → \$500M

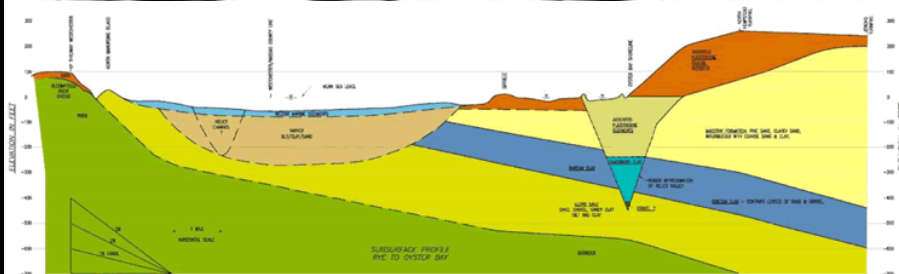
By 1948 – (Abandonment)



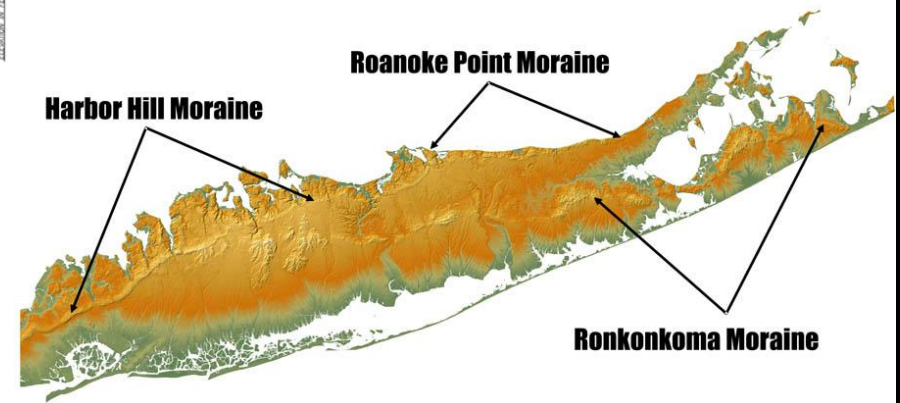
Second Avenue Subway



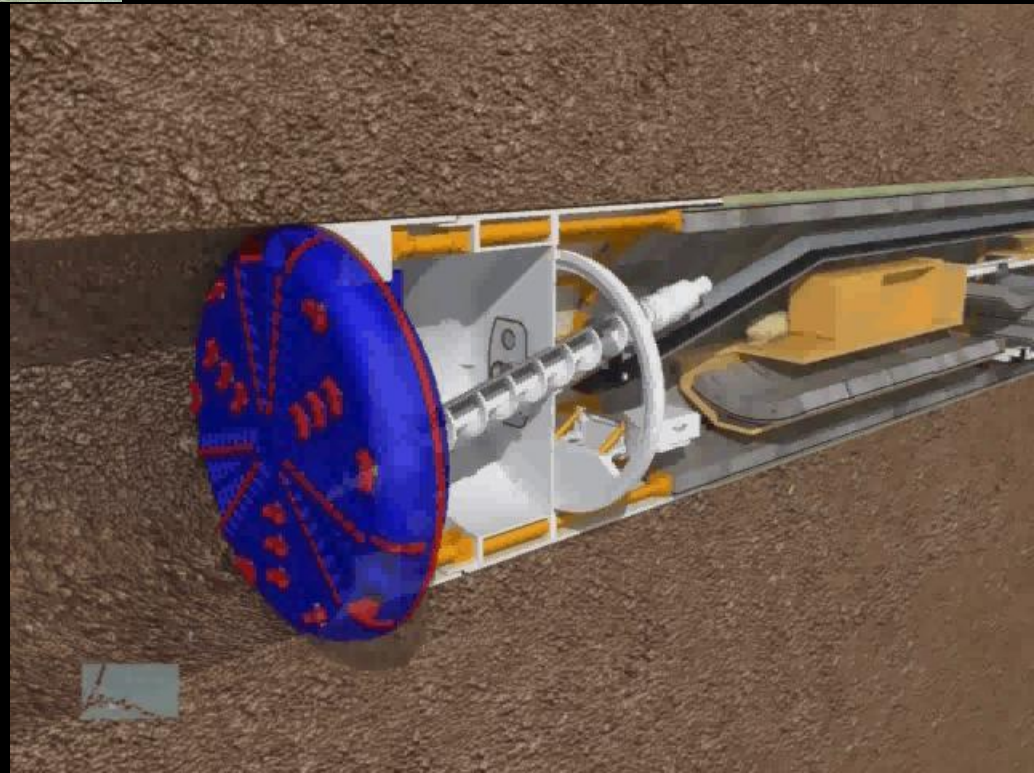
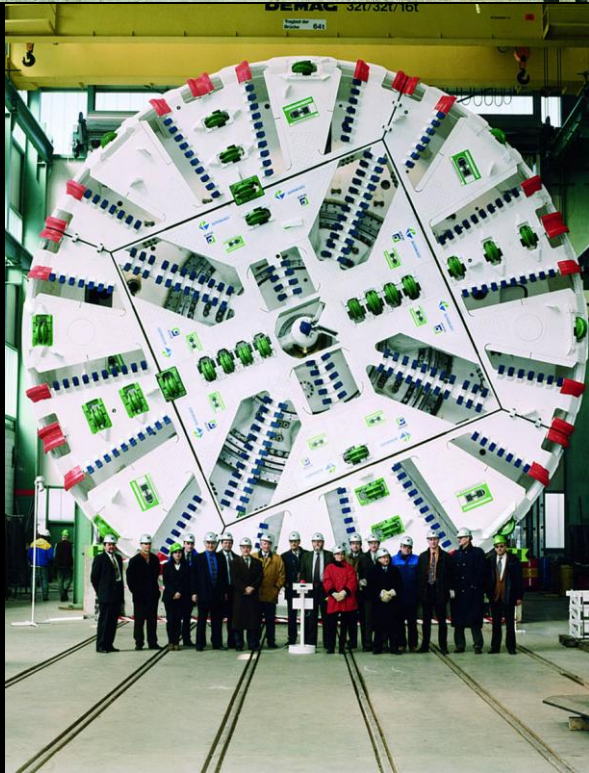
Cross Sound Link Project

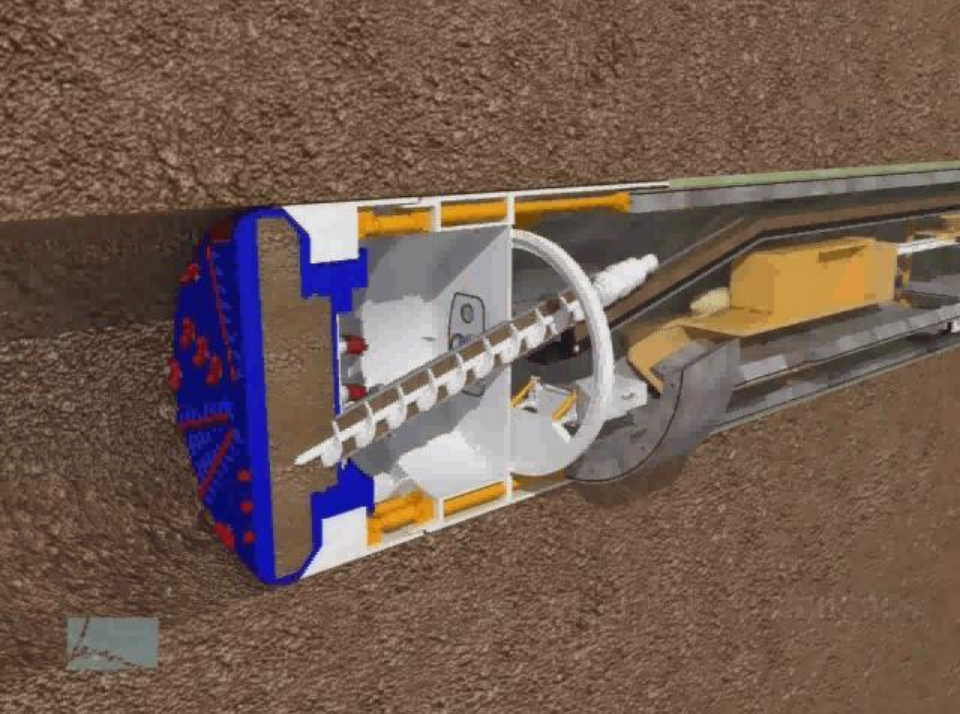
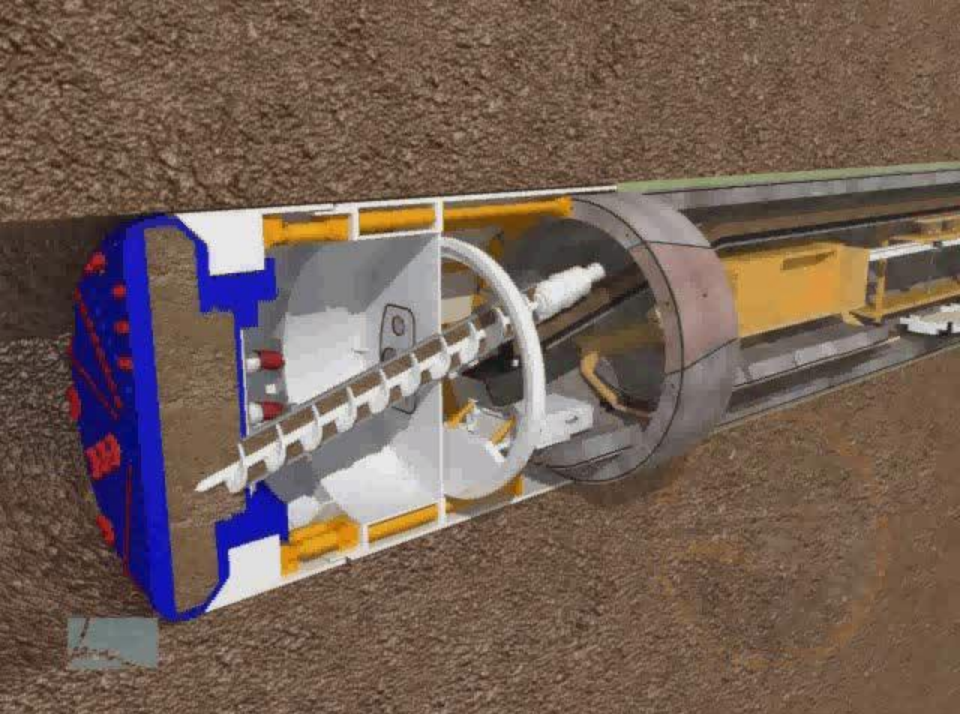
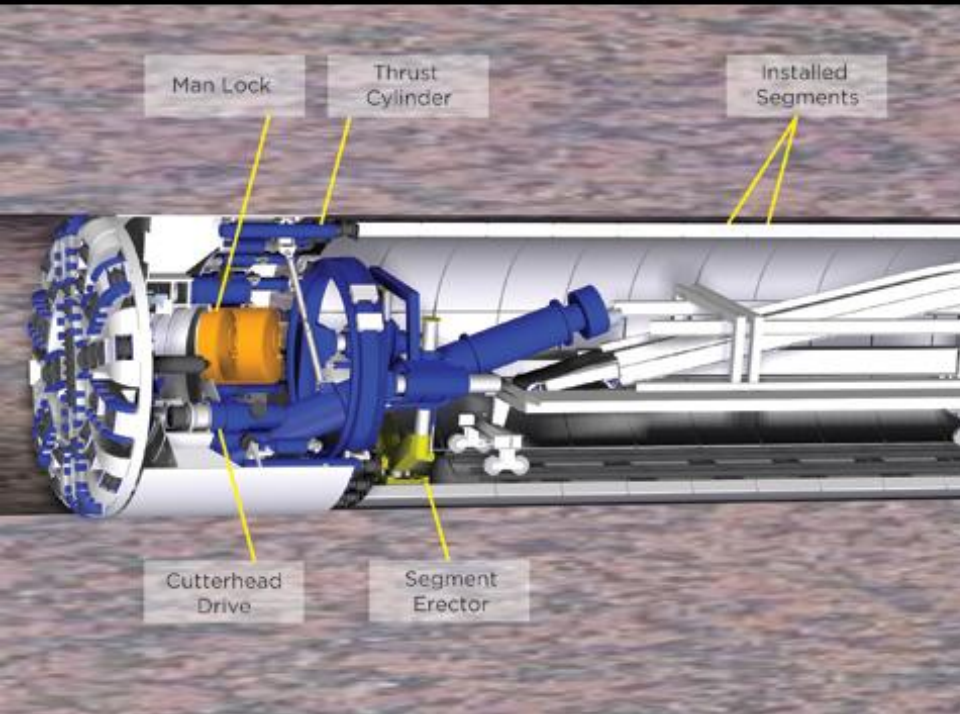
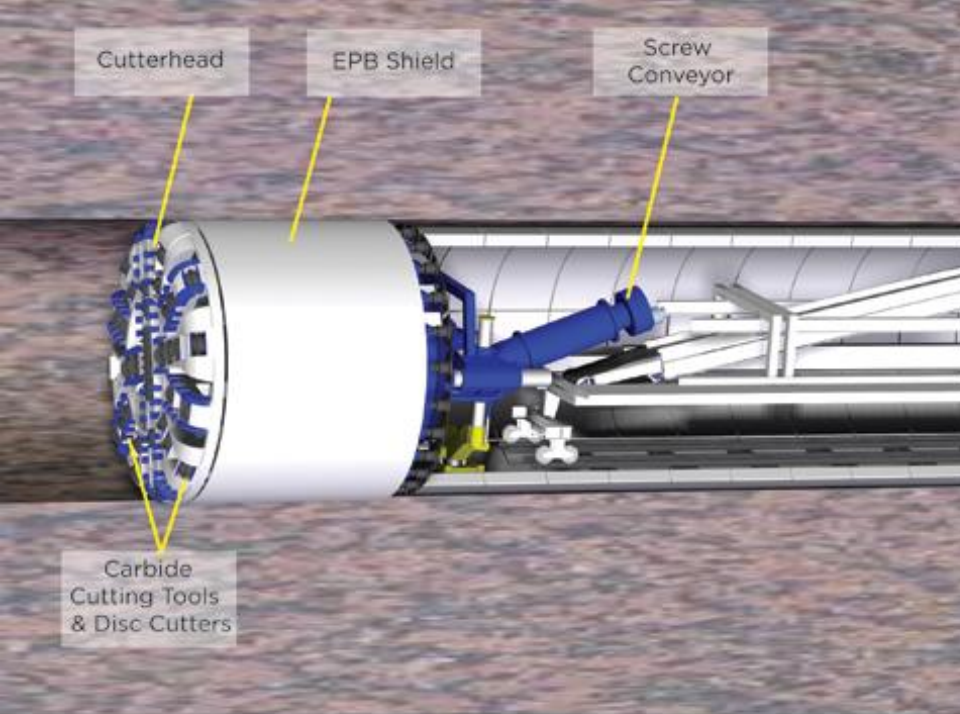


- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Magothy Formation: fine sand, clayey sand, interbedded with coarse sand & clay | Assorted Pleistocene glacial deposits | Recent marine sediments |
| Varved silt/clay/sand | Bedrock | Lloyd Sand: sand, gravel, sandy clay silt and clay |
| Assorted Pleistocene sediments | Raritan Clay | Gardiners Clay |



Soft Ground TBMs





OK, That's It! I've Heard Enough!



Download NYC Geology Publications @

www.hofstra.edu

www.dukelabs.com

**What's That
Noise?**

