

Geology and Mineralogy of the Second Avenue Subway, NYC, NY



*Charles Merguerian
Duke Geological Lab
Stone Ridge, NY
14 October 2015*

Google earth



EARLY MEDIAL ORDOVICIAN

(Early Chazyan)

PALEOGEOGRAPHY

by Marshall Kay

Drawn by Erwin Raisz

Palinspastic base - Sinusoidal projection

0 500 1000
Miles

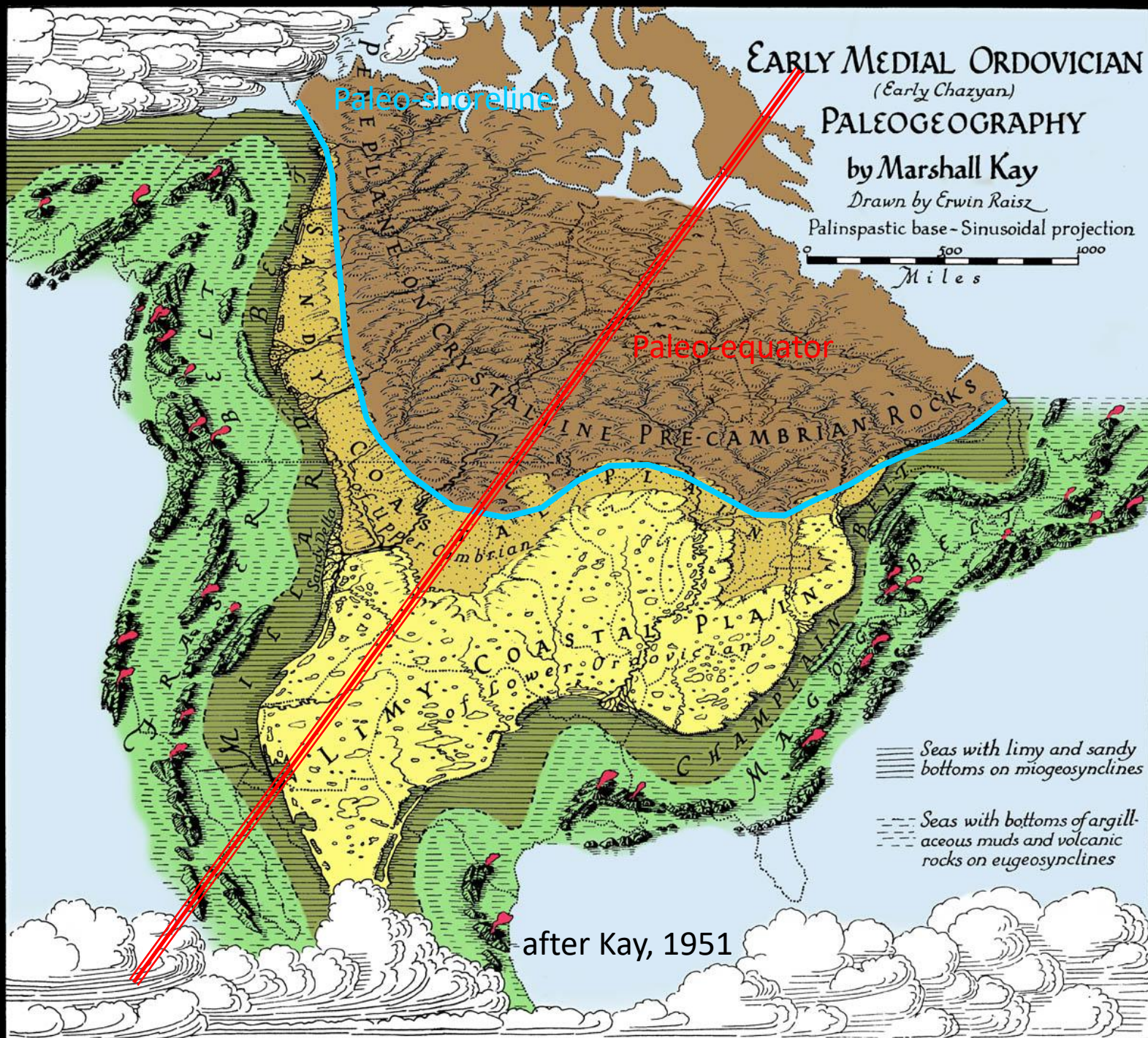
Paleo-shoreline

Paleo-equator

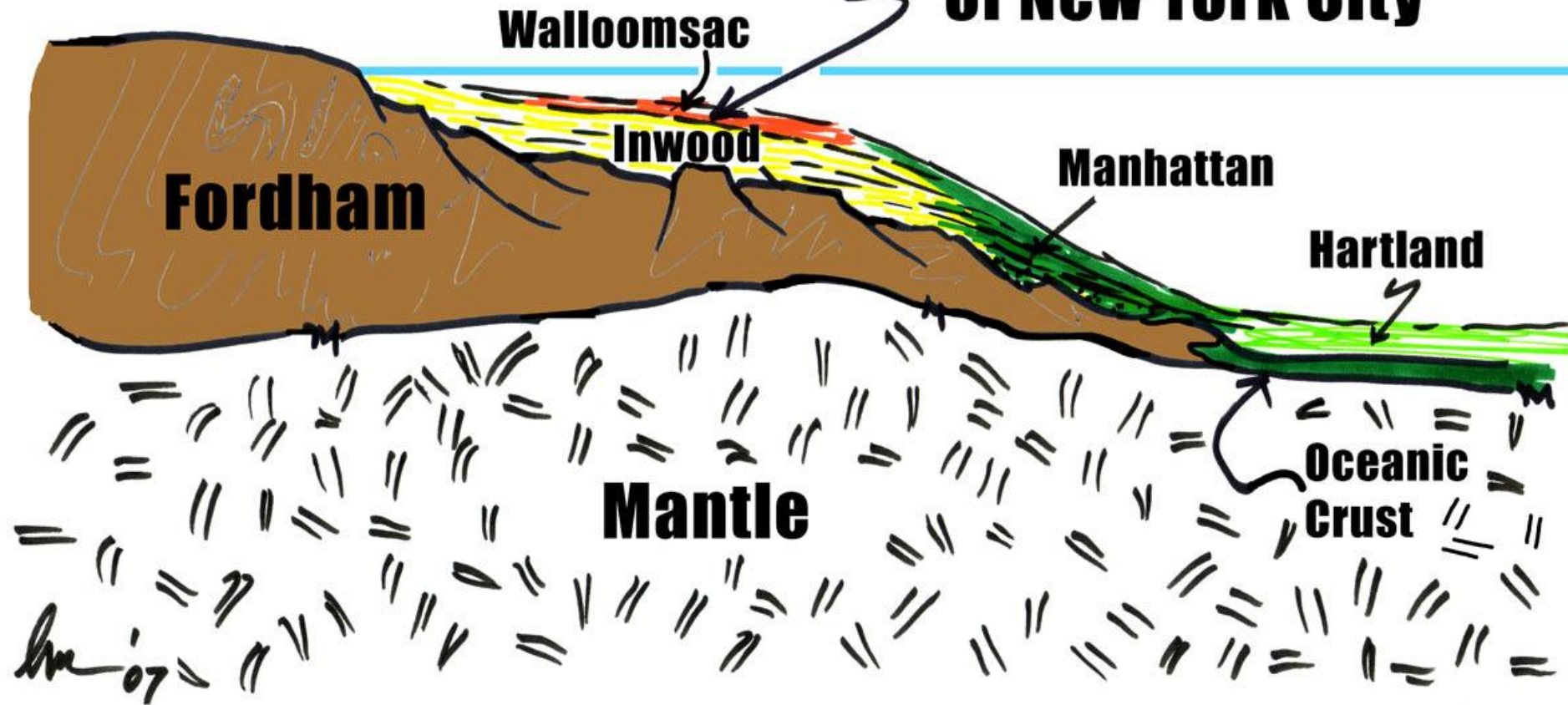
Seas with limy and sandy
bottoms on miogeosynclines

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

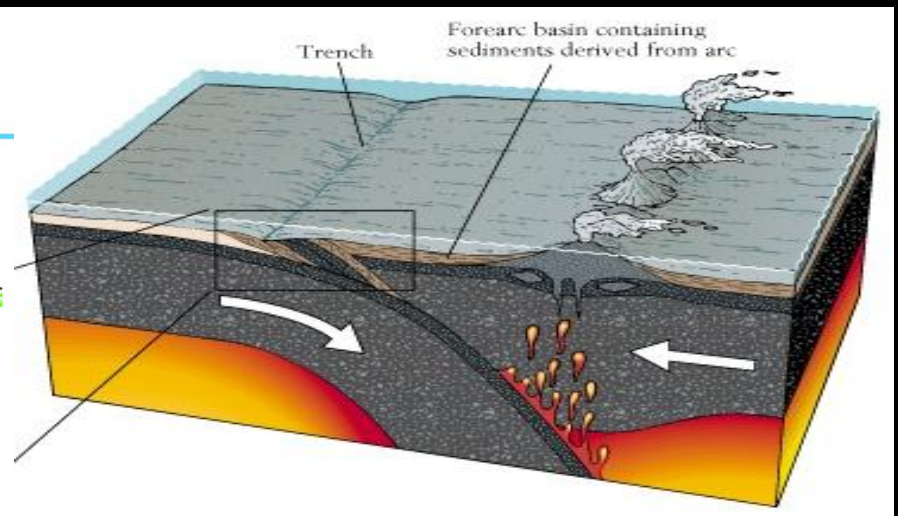
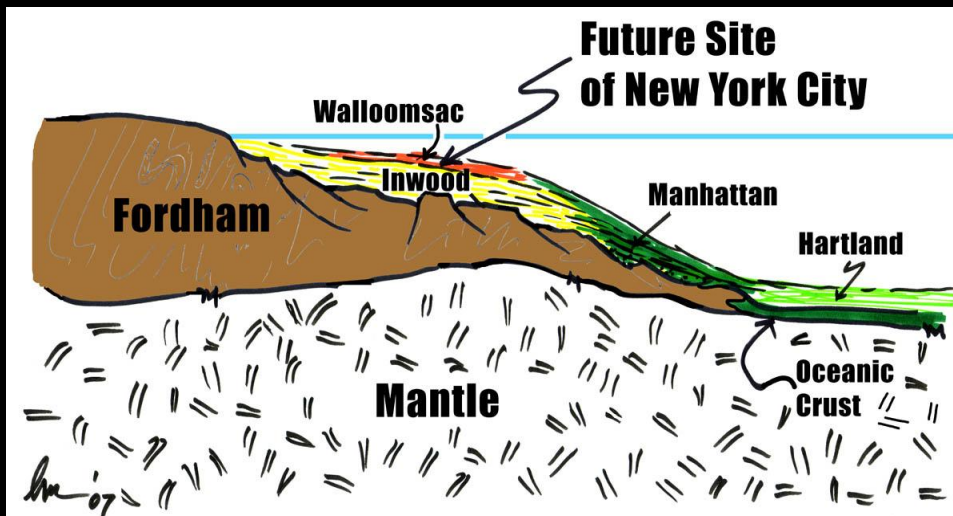
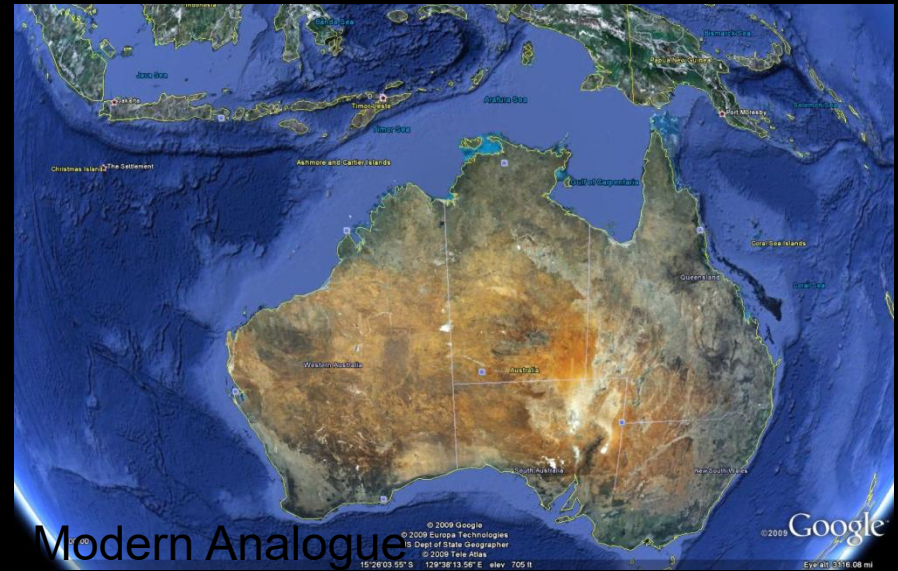
after Kay, 1951

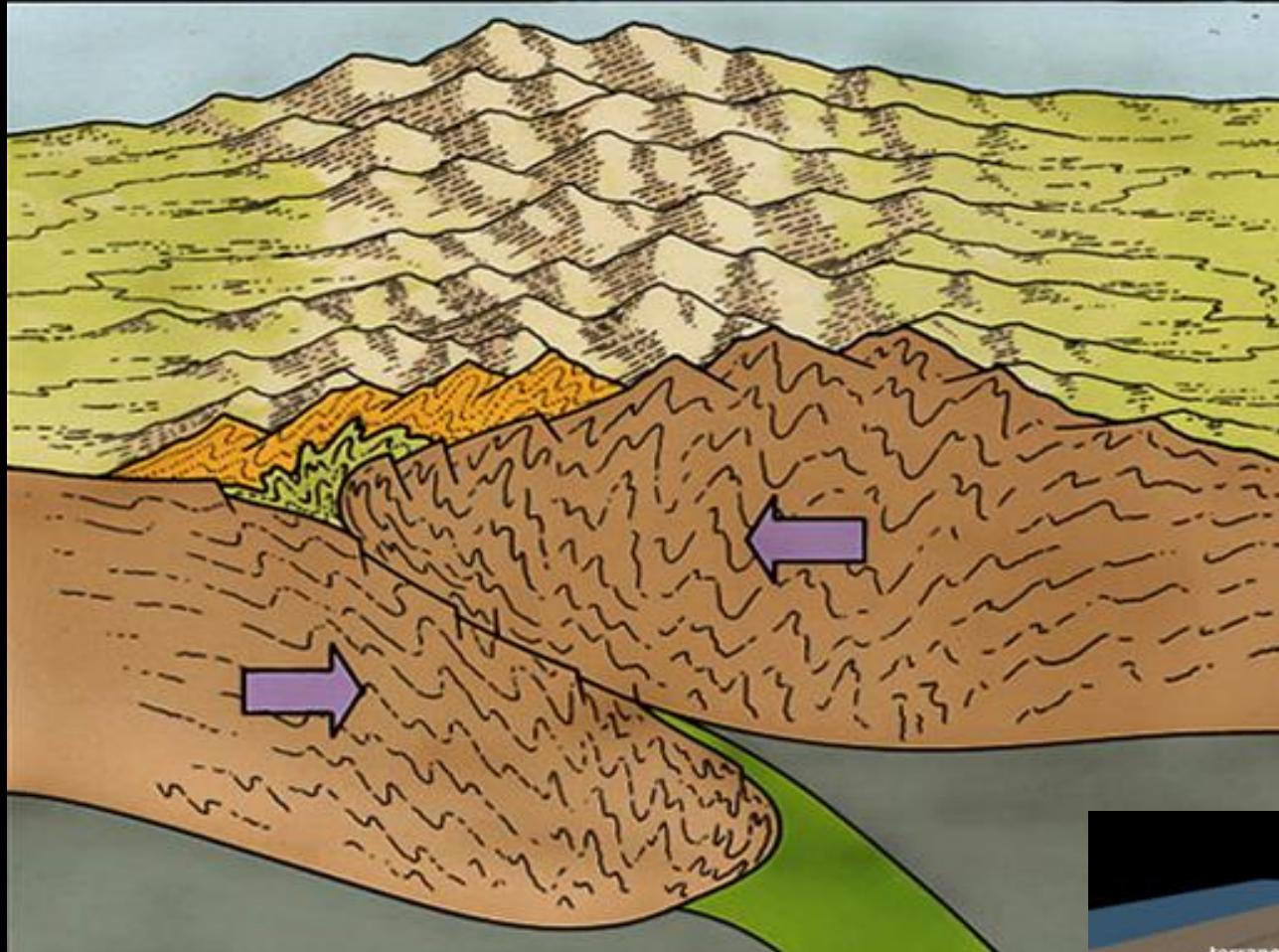


Future Site of New York City

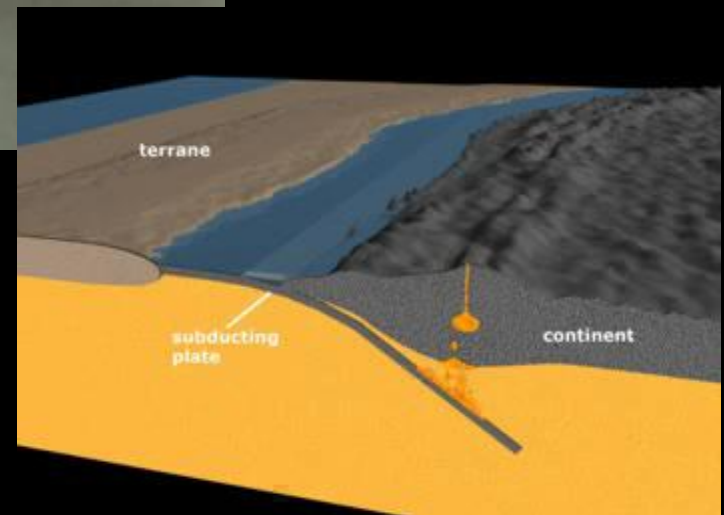


~ 450 Ma Taconian Arc – Passive Margin Collision

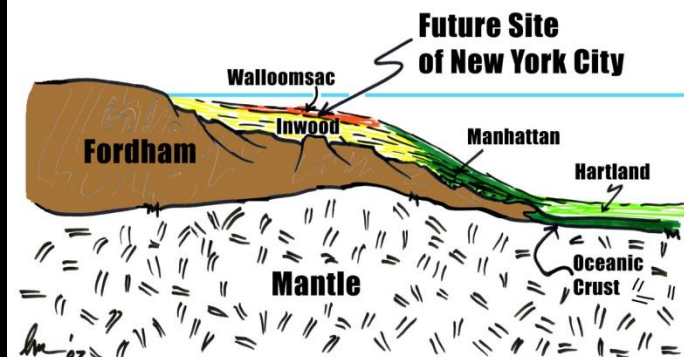
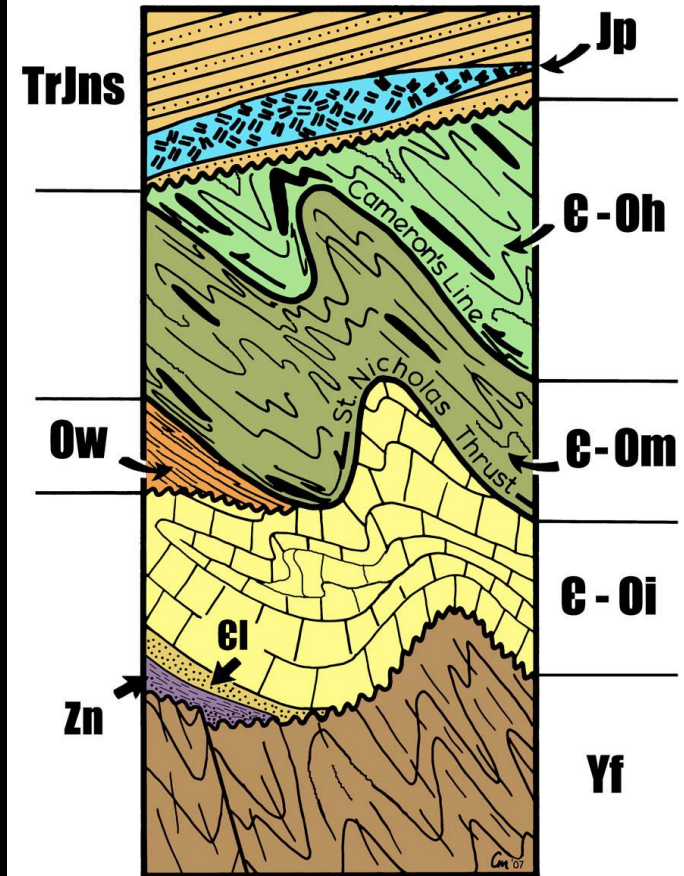
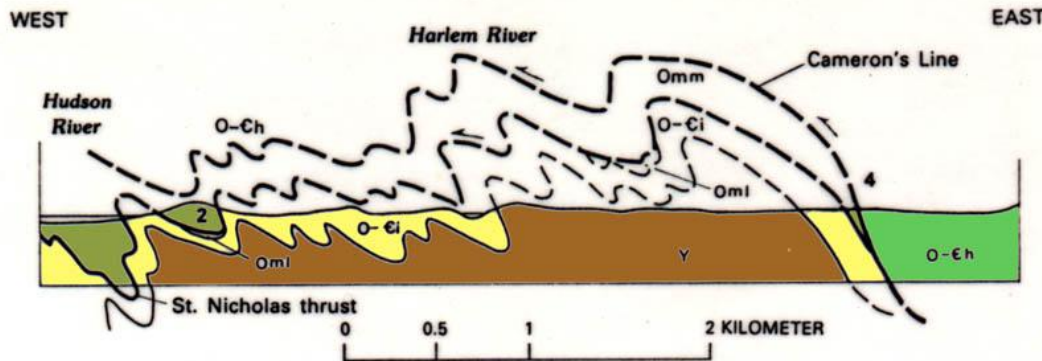
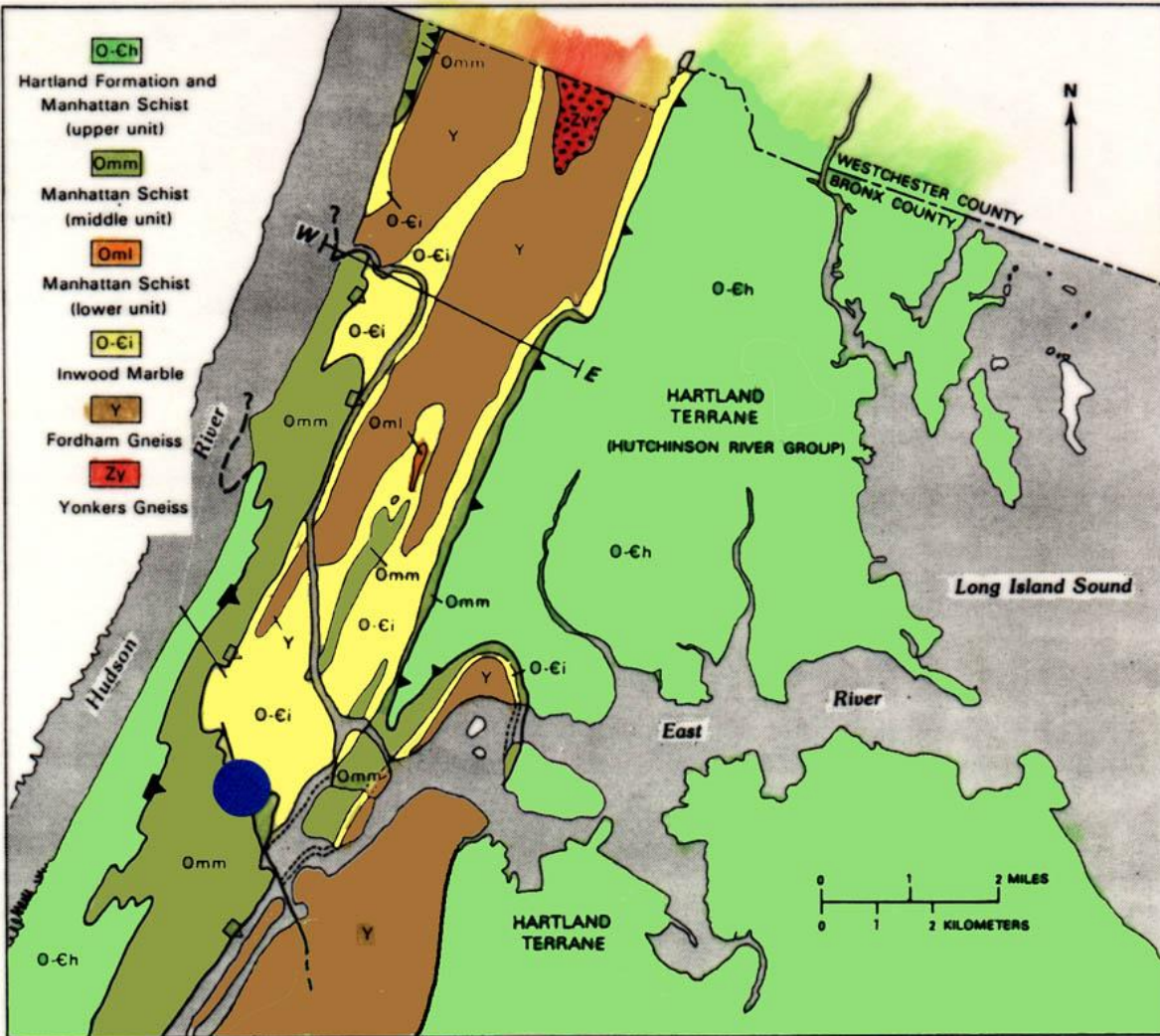


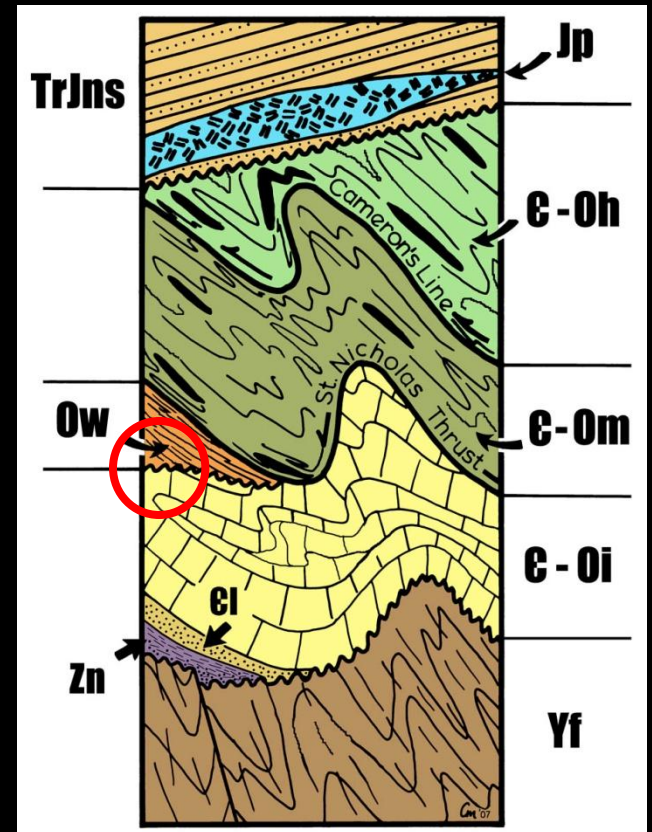


450 Ma to 250 Ma
Protracted Plate Collisions
Produce the Appalachians

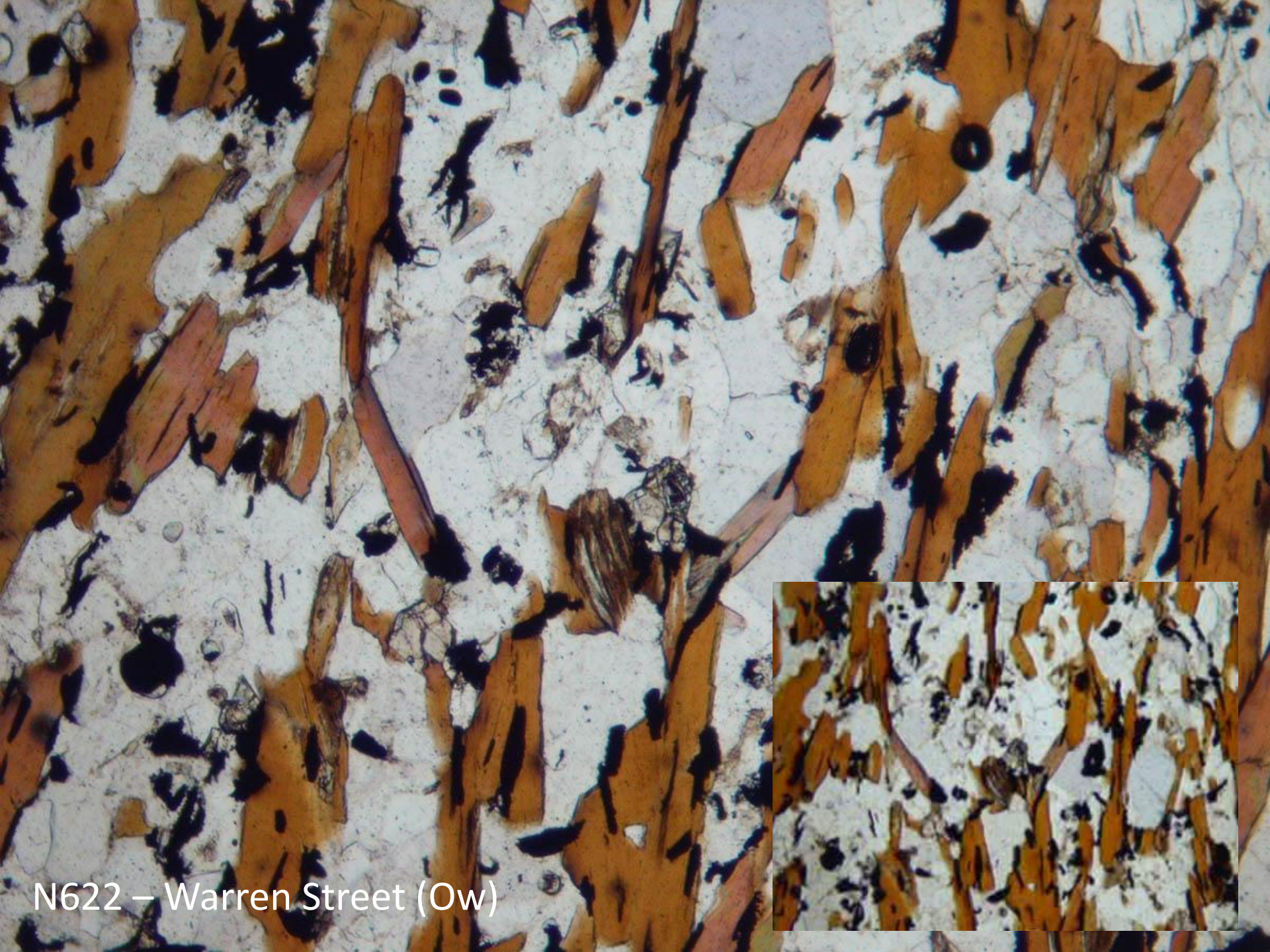


New York City

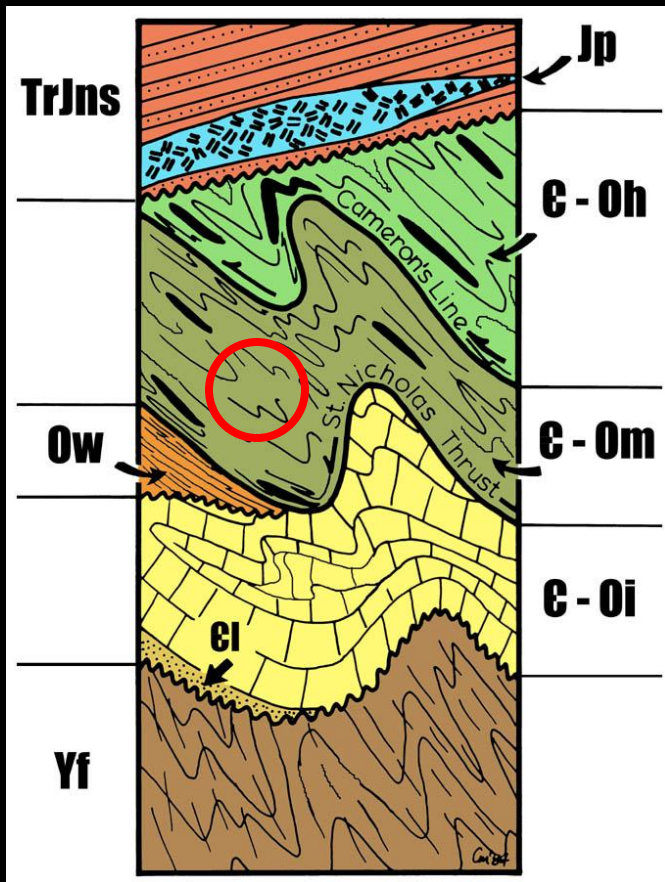




**Walloomsac "Balmville"
Contact, Grand
Concourse, Bronx, NY**



N622 – Warren Street (Ow)

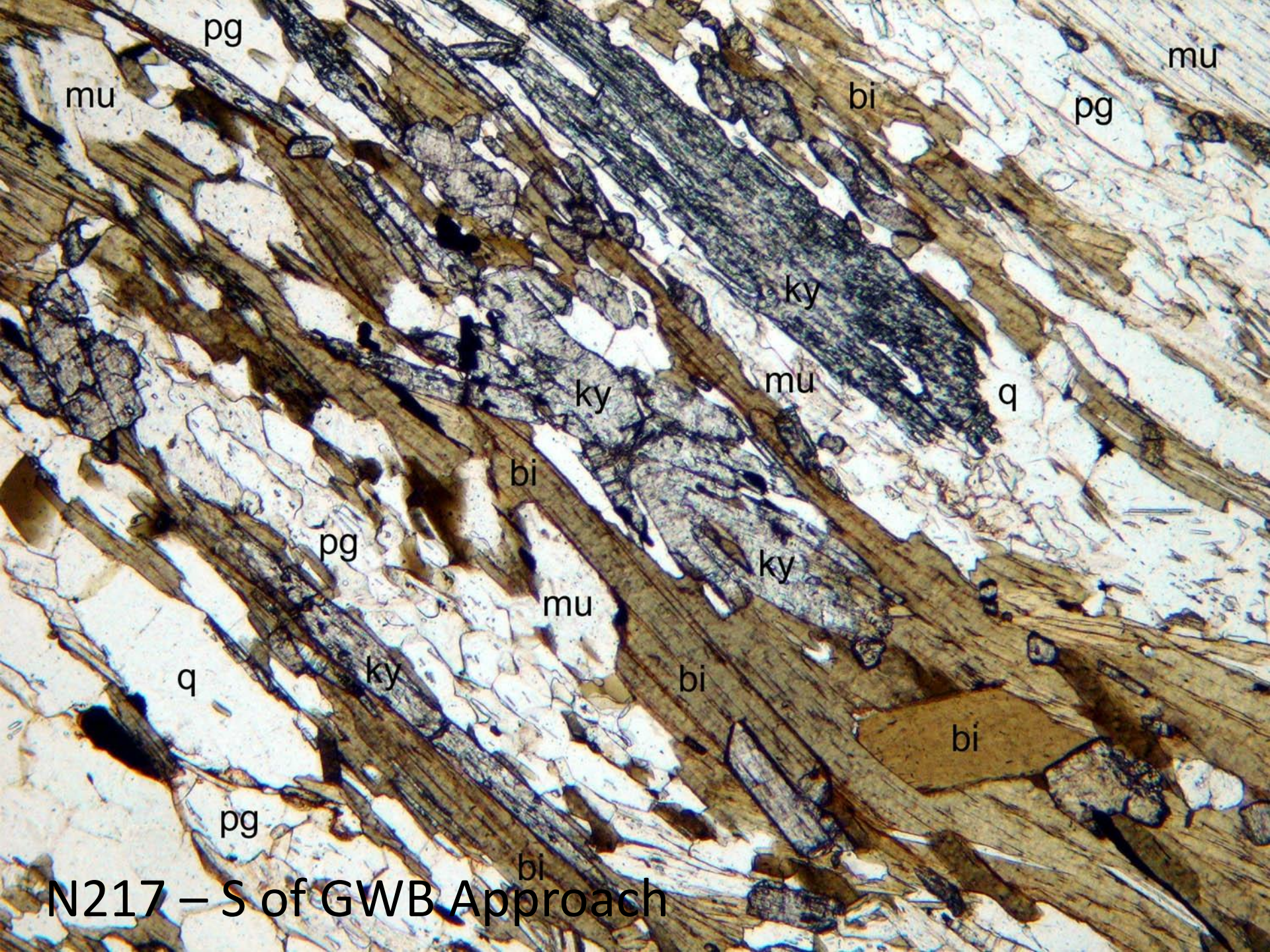


Manhattan Schist

F₃ Folds of S₂

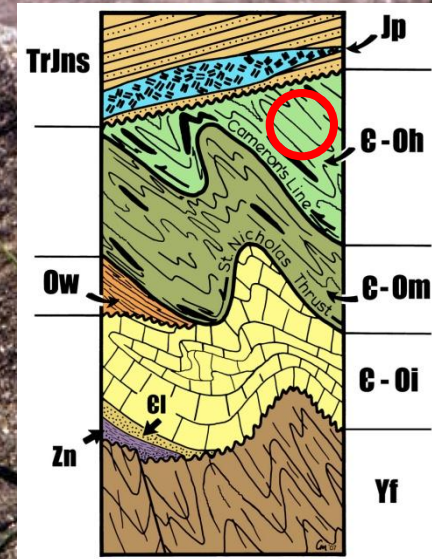
Central Park, NYC

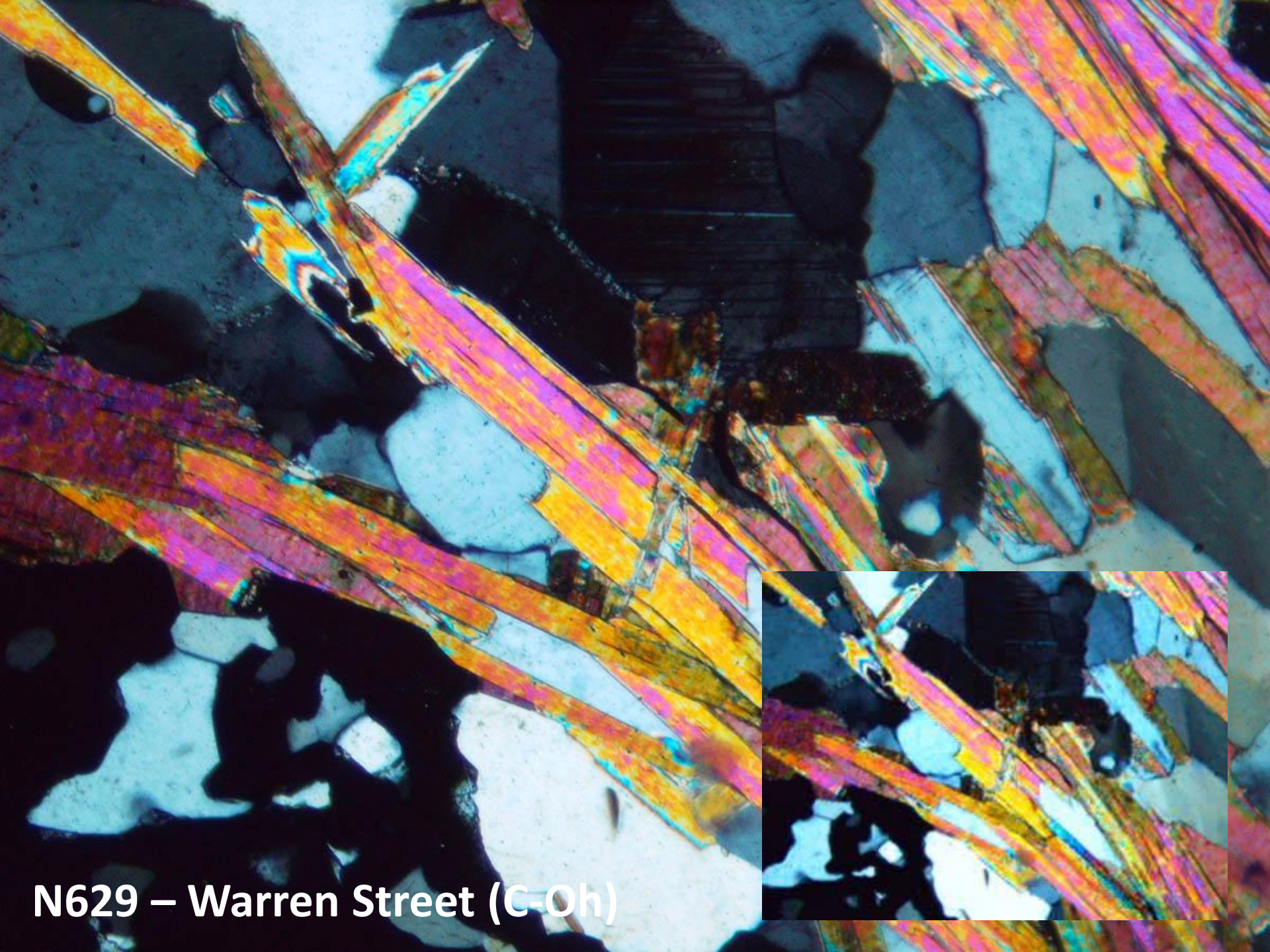




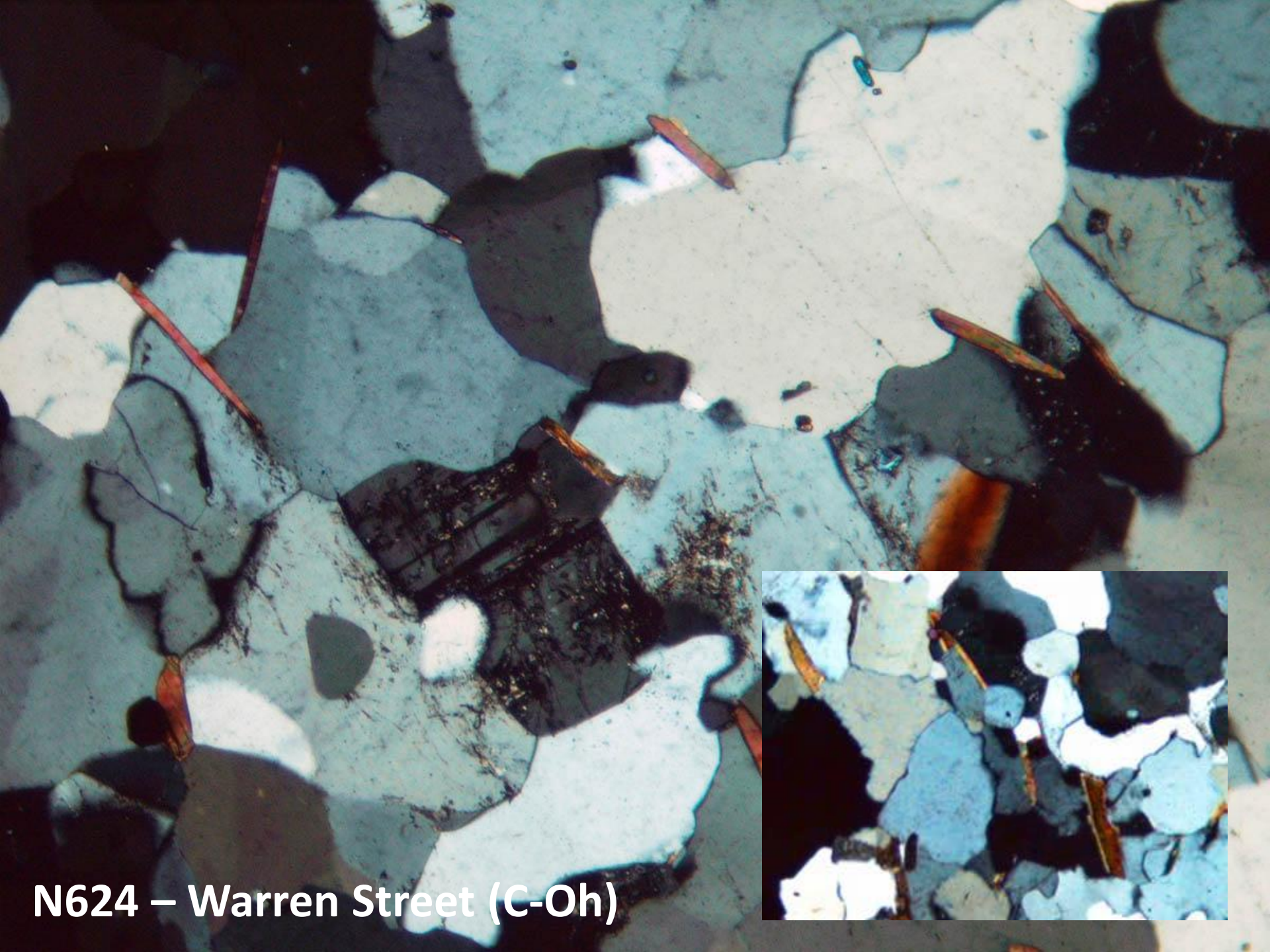
N217 – S of GWB Approach

Hartland Schist, Riverside Park



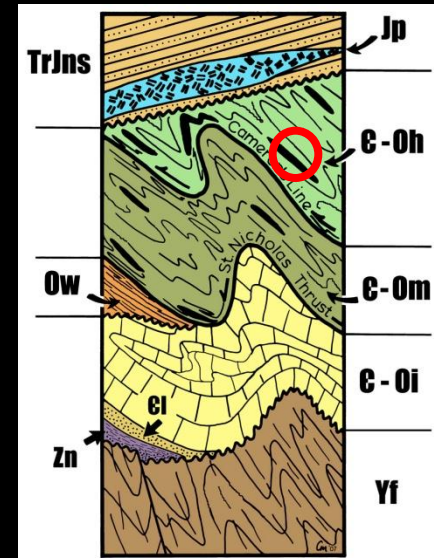


N629 – Warren Street (C-Oh)



N624 – Warren Street (C-Oh)

New Hartford, CT



New Hartford, CT

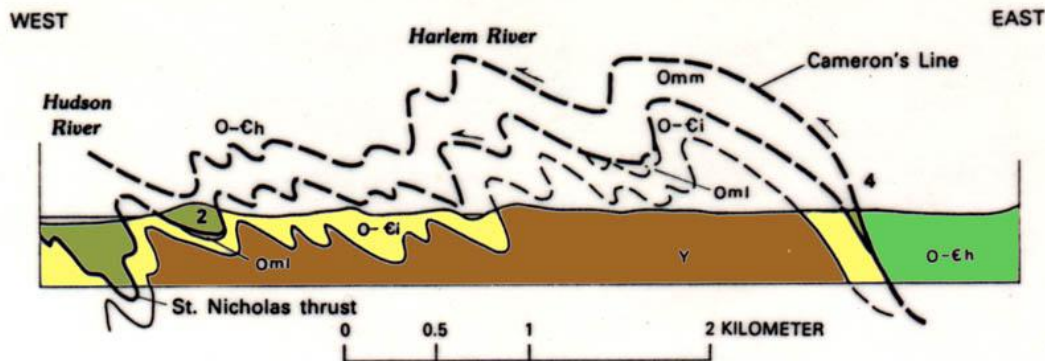
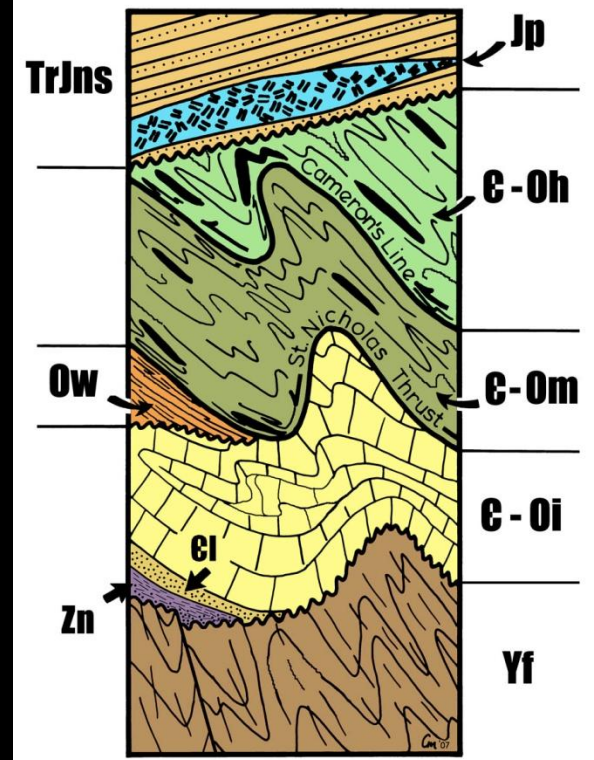
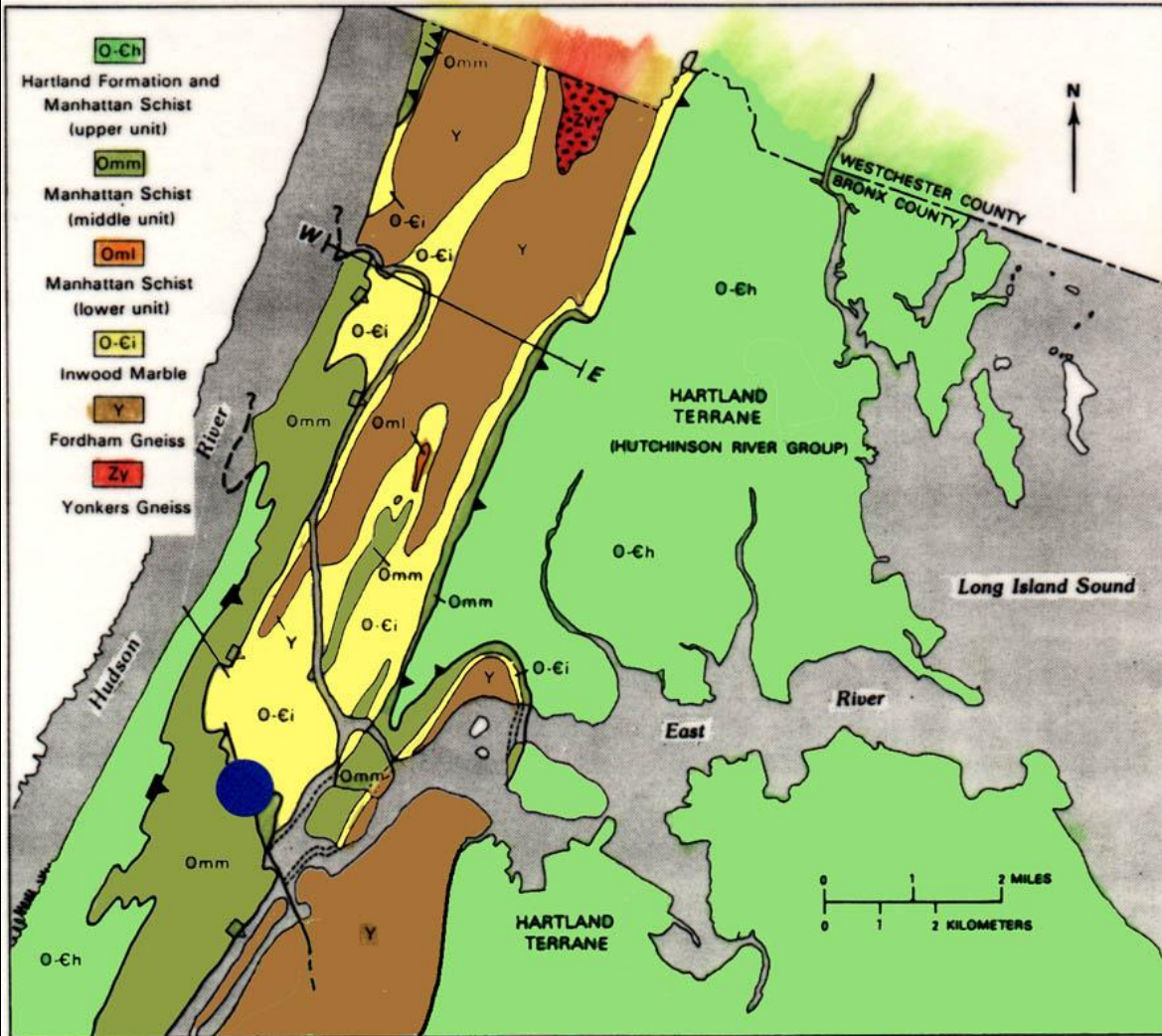


West Granville, MA



Hartland Coticule

New York City



NYC TBM Projects

Second Avenue Subway



1929 – NYC BOT Proposes
Second Avenue Subway

1931 – Plans Postponed for
Depression Era

\$86M → \$249M → \$500M

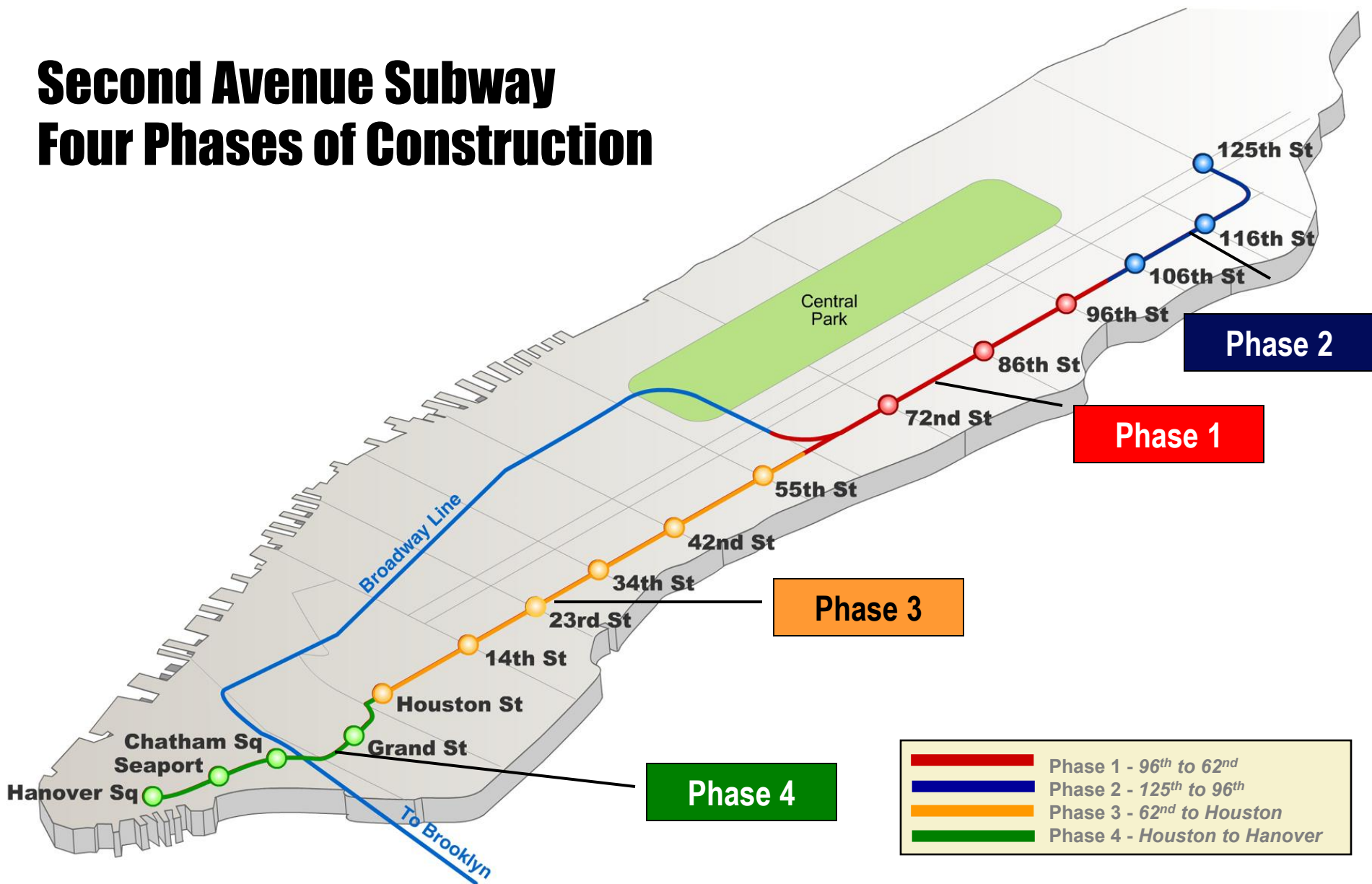
By 1948 – Abandonment

June 2010 – TBM Starts S Tube

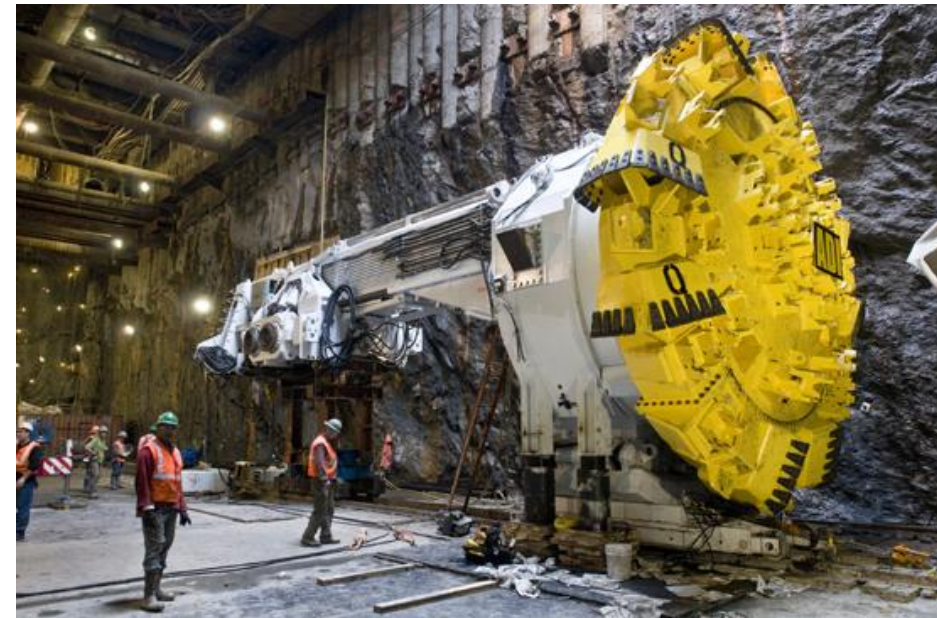
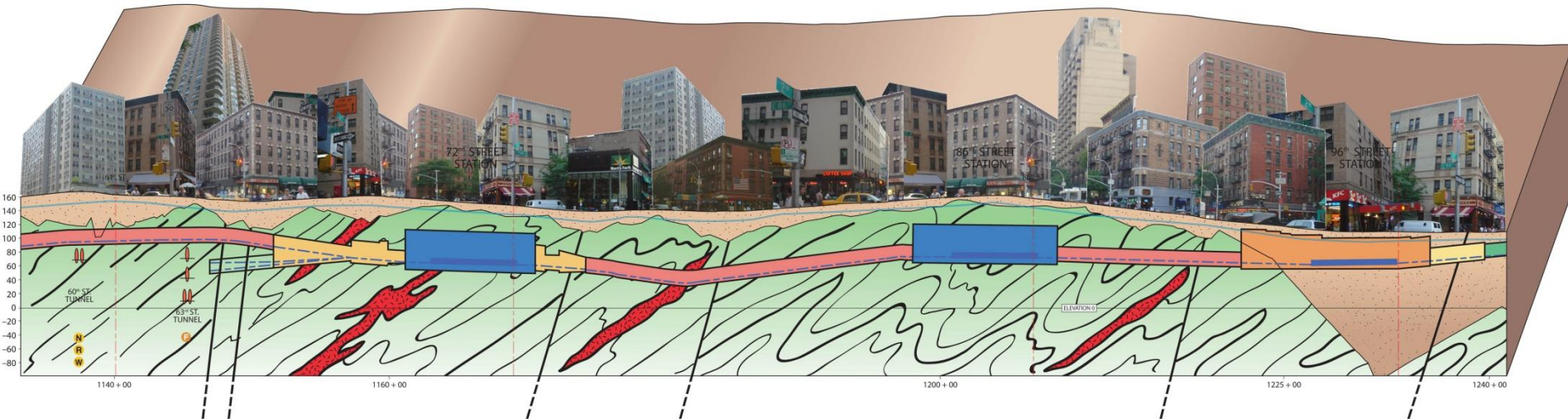
2013 – Station Complexes

Second Avenue Subway

Four Phases of Construction



Phase 1 [96th to 59th] - Threading The Needle



April 2010 Insertion

Second Avenue Subway



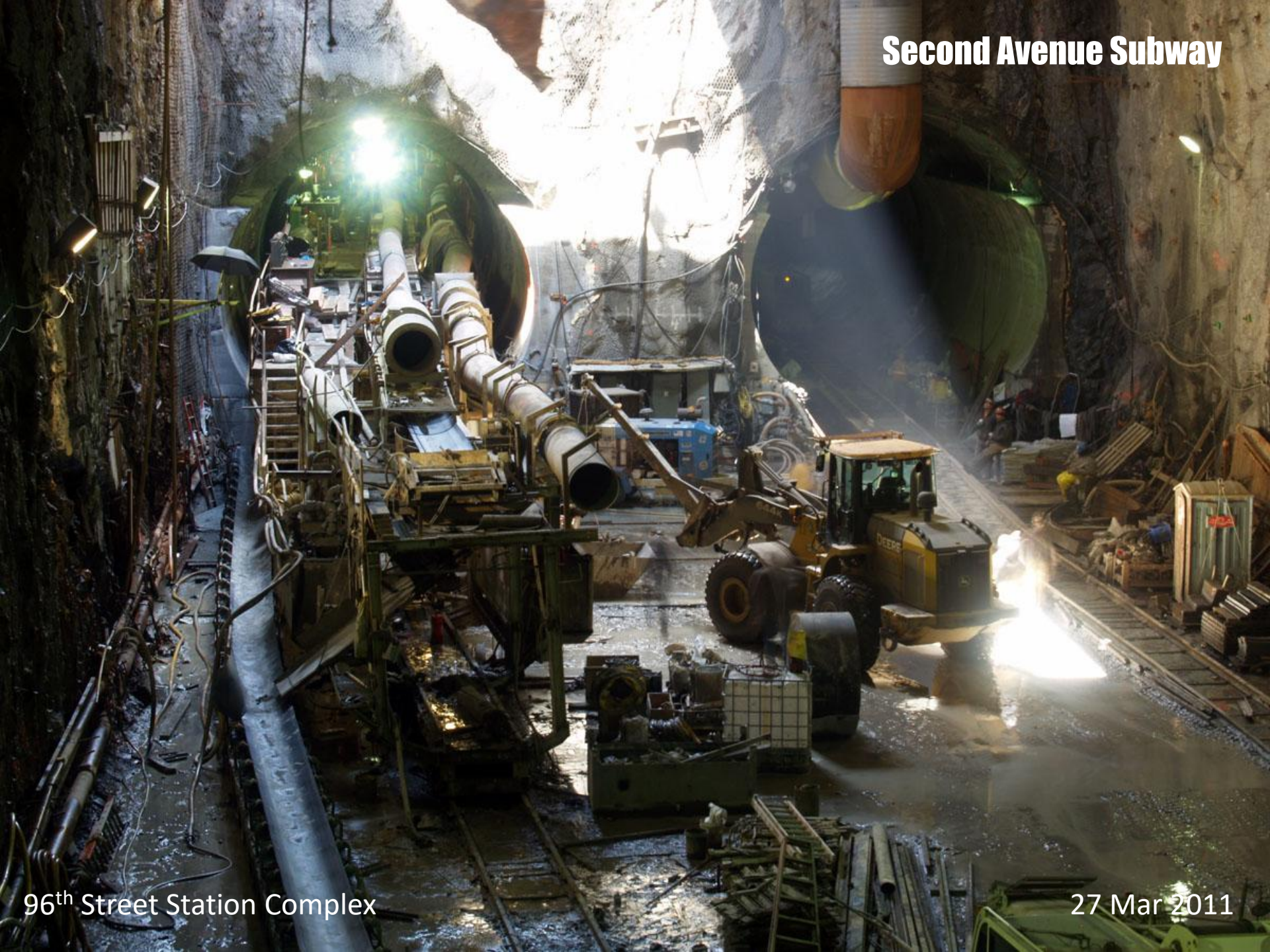
96th Street Station Complex

27 Mar 2011

Second Avenue Subway

96th Street Station Complex

27 Mar 2011



Second Avenue Subway

96th Street Station Complex

27 Mar 2011



Second Avenue Subway



South Tunnel - Sta. 1172+30 Bulkhead ~ 72St

27 Mar 2011

Second Avenue Subway



South Tube - 26th Street

27 Mar 2011

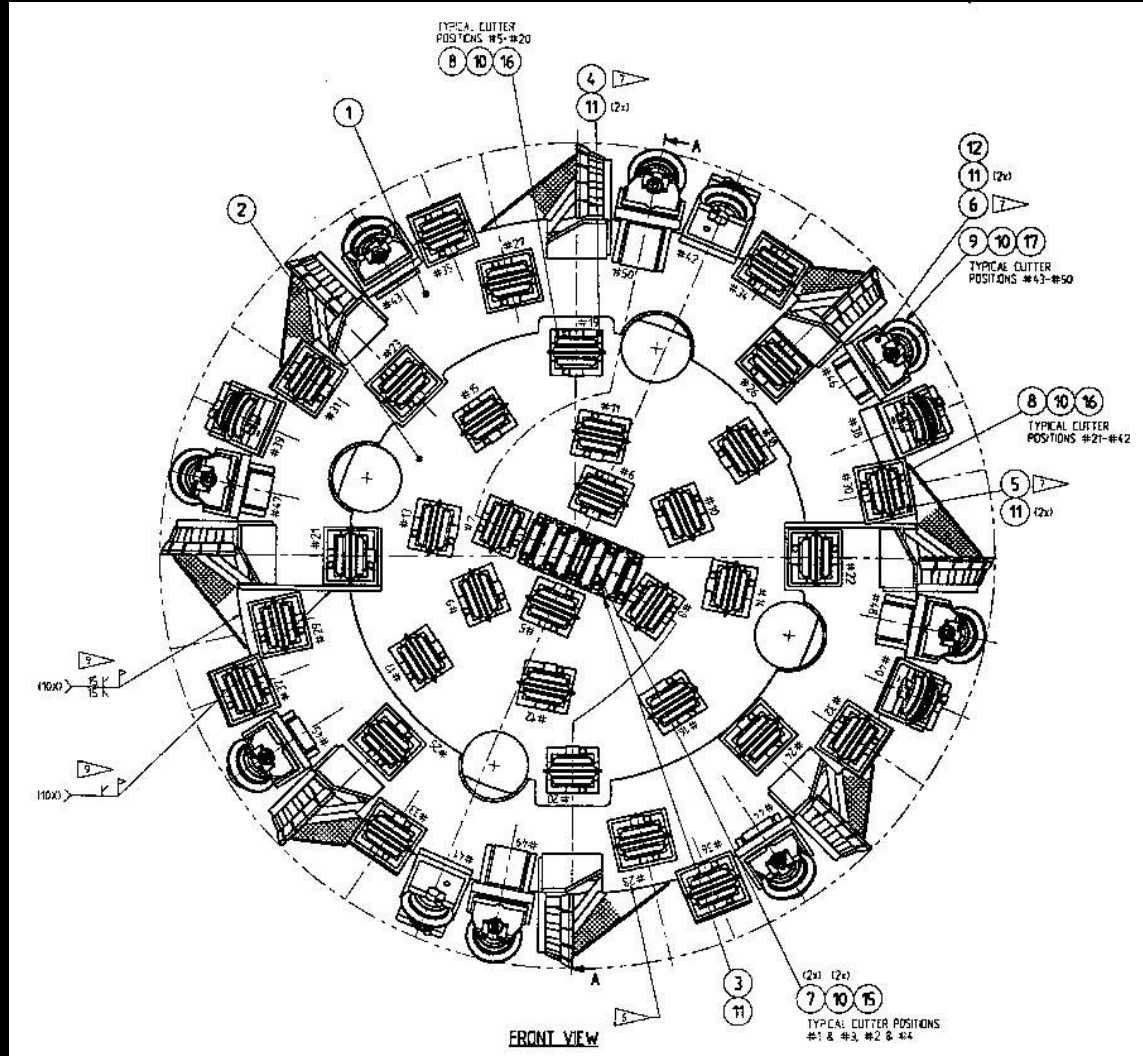
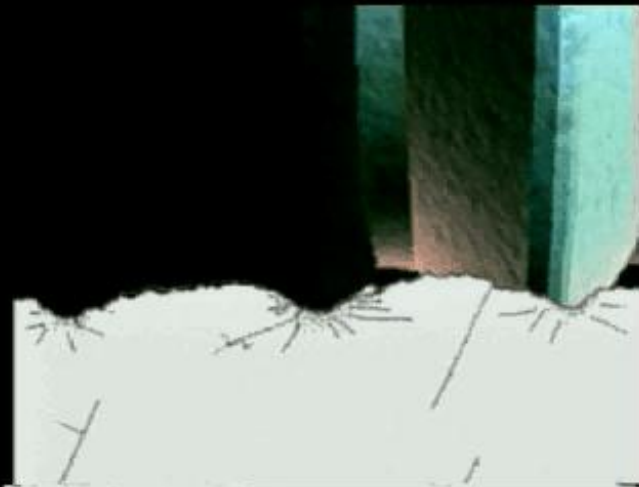
Second Avenue Subway



South Tube — Sta. 1172+80

27 Mar 2011

Dukelabs TBM Research



New Research on TBM Cutter Head Torque Dynamics

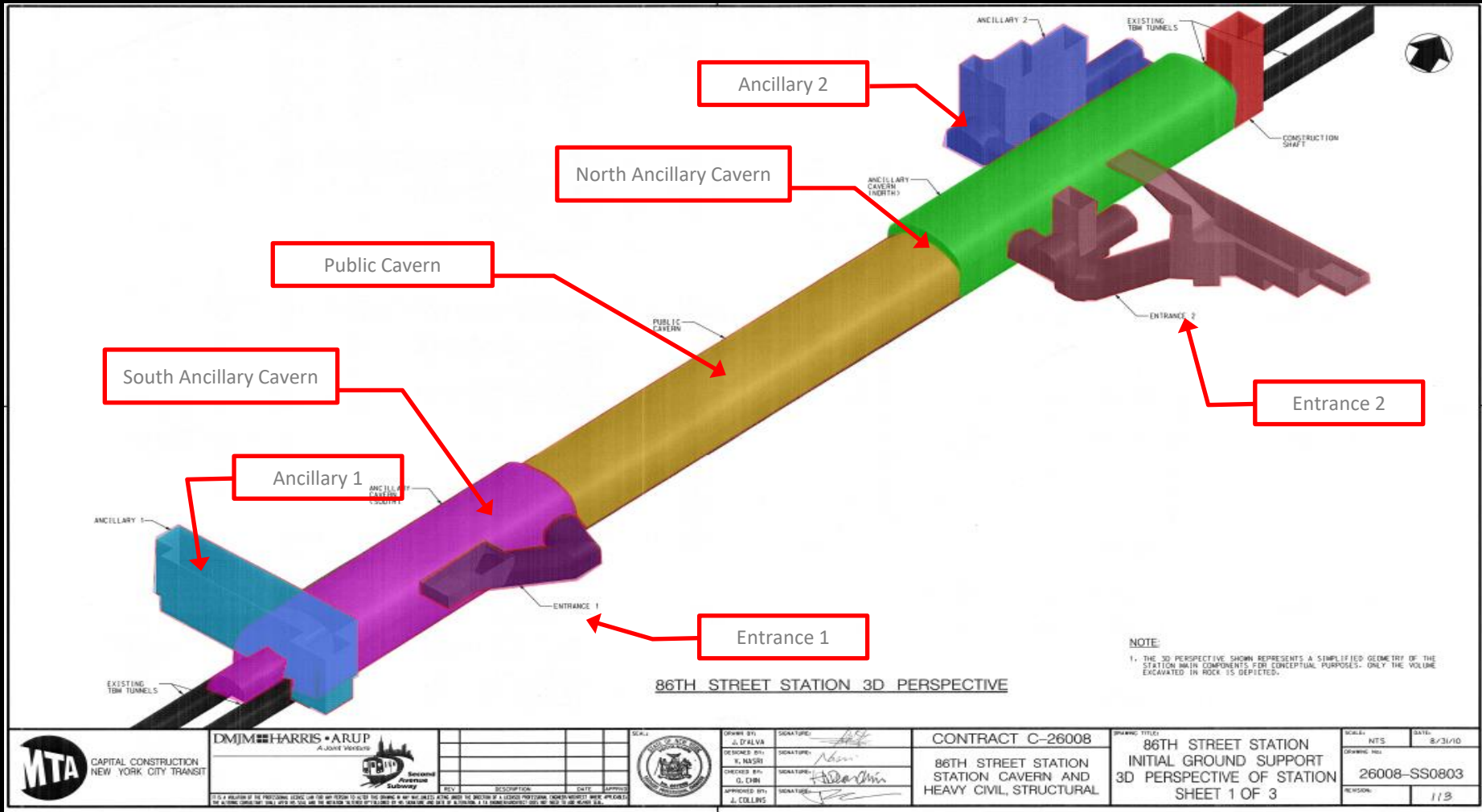




**Six-Month
Training Period
Beset by
Aimless, Unfocused,
Lackluster
Performance**



86th Street Station Cavern Excavation

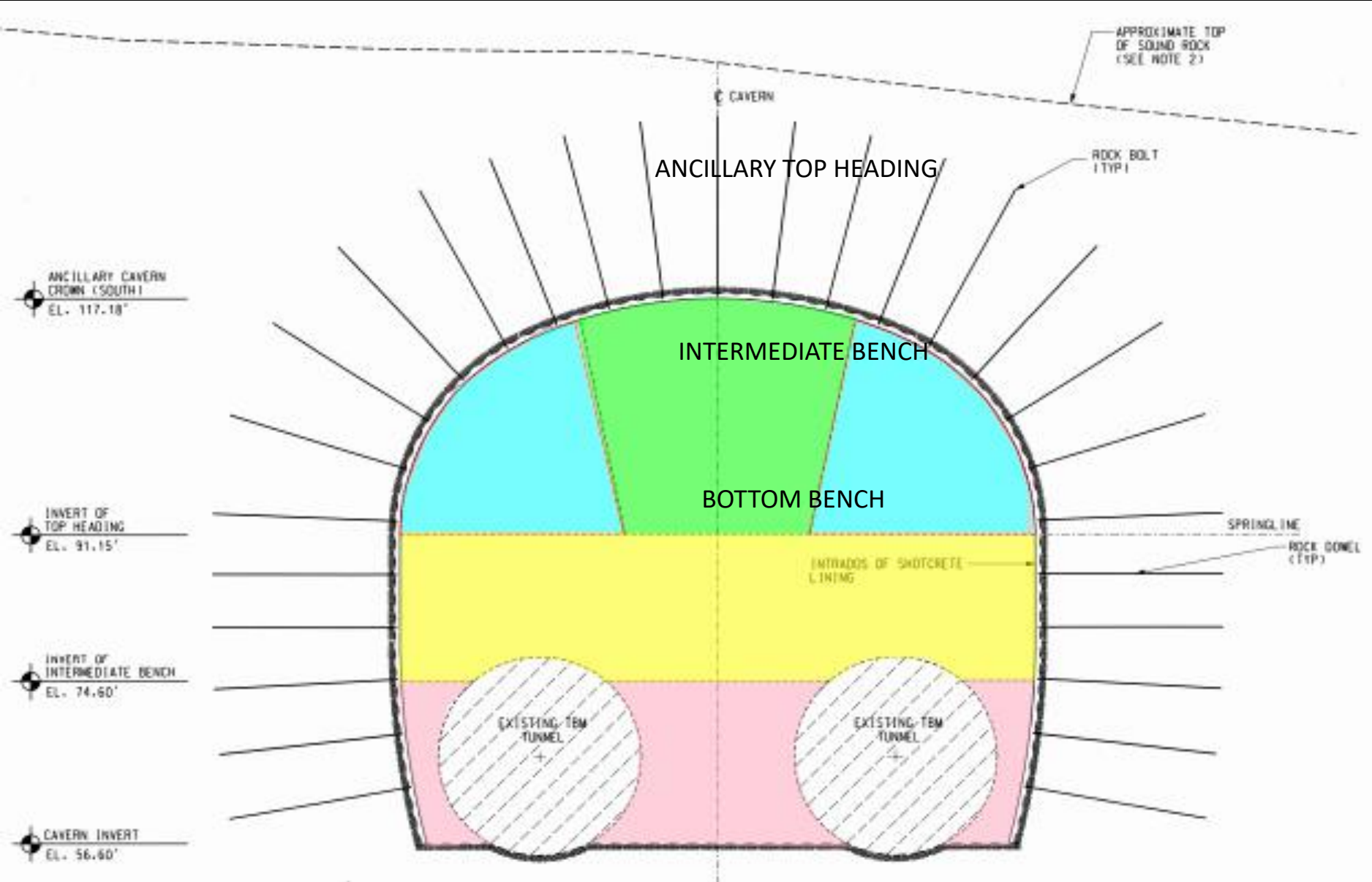


Stations 1198+00 to 1209+00 = ~1,100'

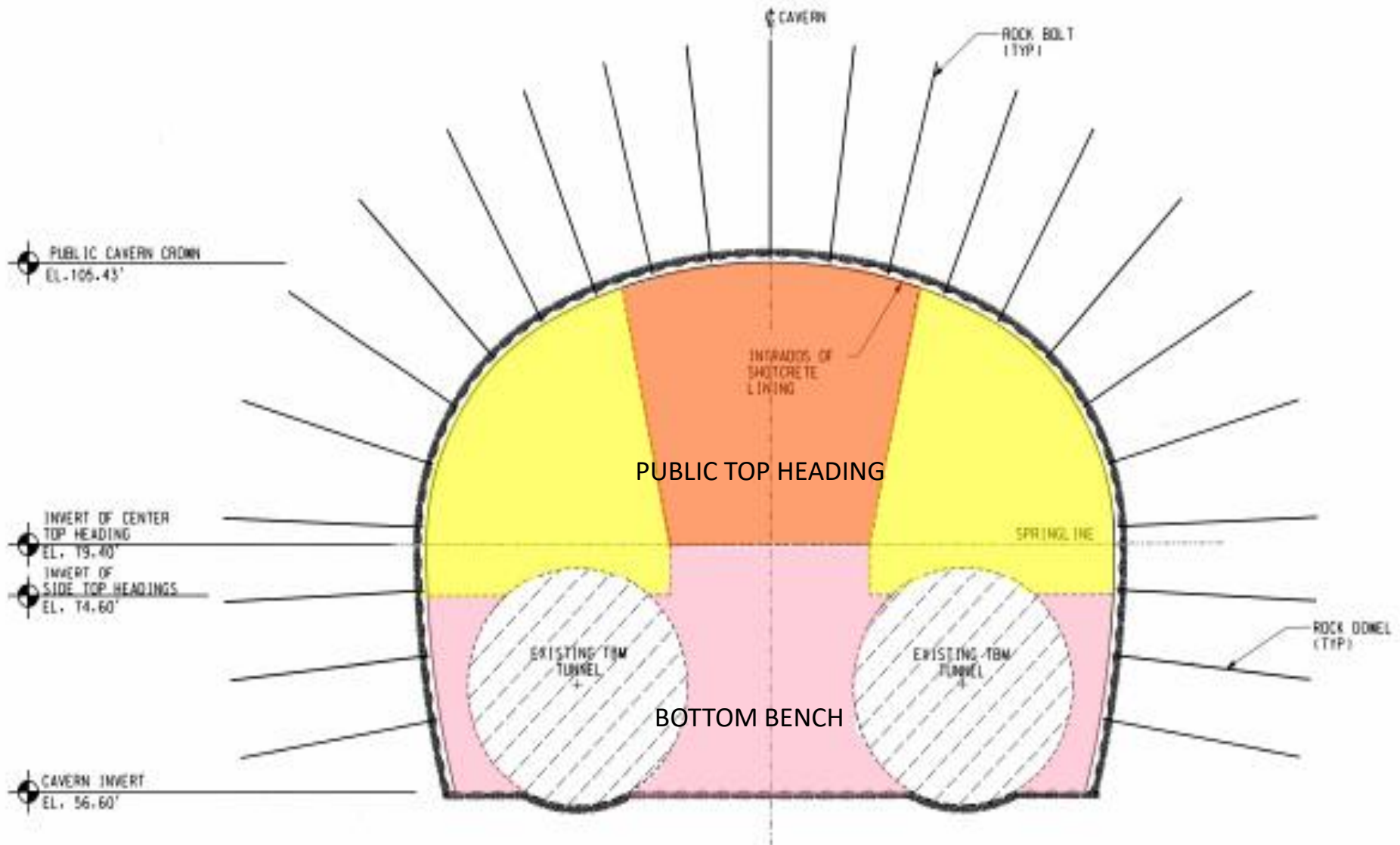
Excavation Methods



86th Street Station – Main Cavern Excavation



86th Street Station – Public Cavern Excavation



Second Avenue Subway



01/11/2013

Second Avenue Subway



North Cavern

Second Avenue Subway



01/23/2013

Finished North Ancillary and Public Cavern

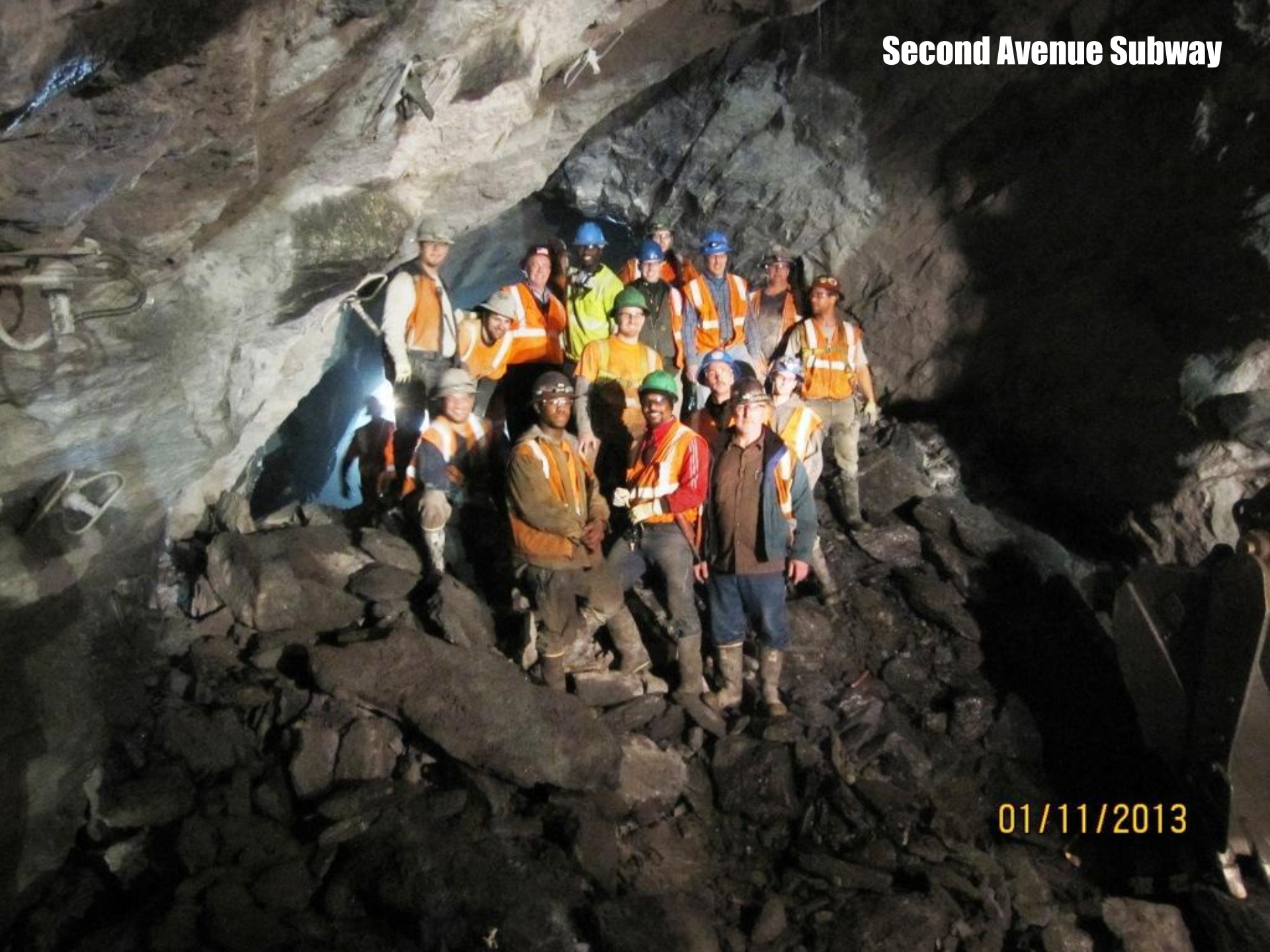
Second Avenue Subway



Unfinished Public Cavern

Sta 1203+95

Second Avenue Subway

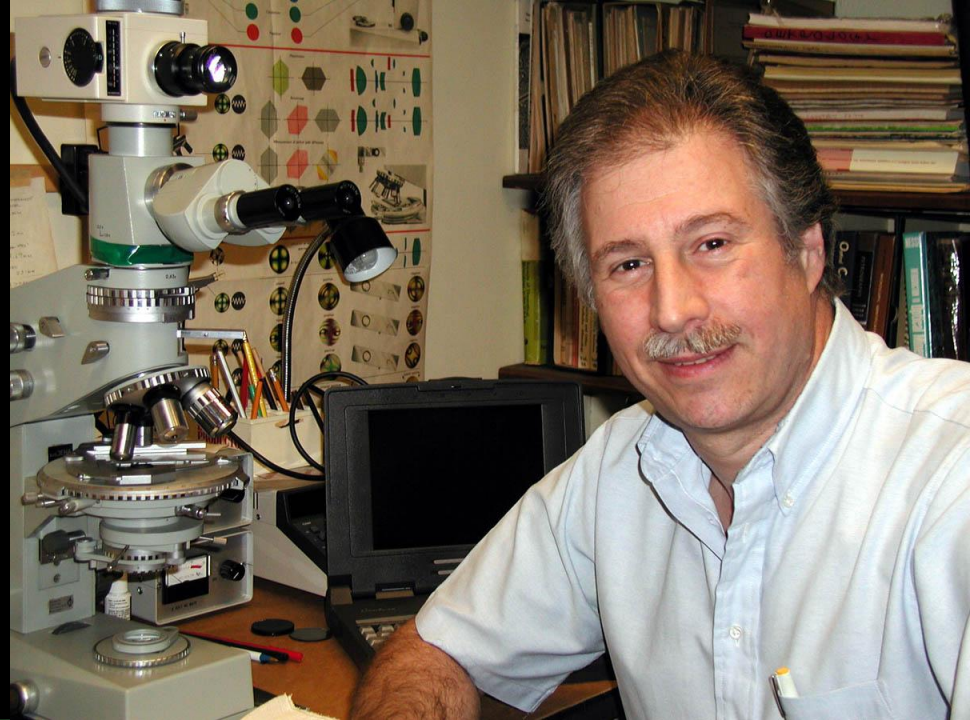


01/11/2013

Duke Geological Lab

Full Service Geotechnical Tunneling Analysis

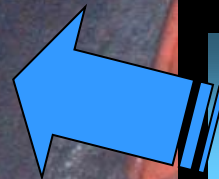
www.dukelabs.com



Genevieve



Mickey



Dukelabs Second Avenue
Subway Field Office
No Windows!

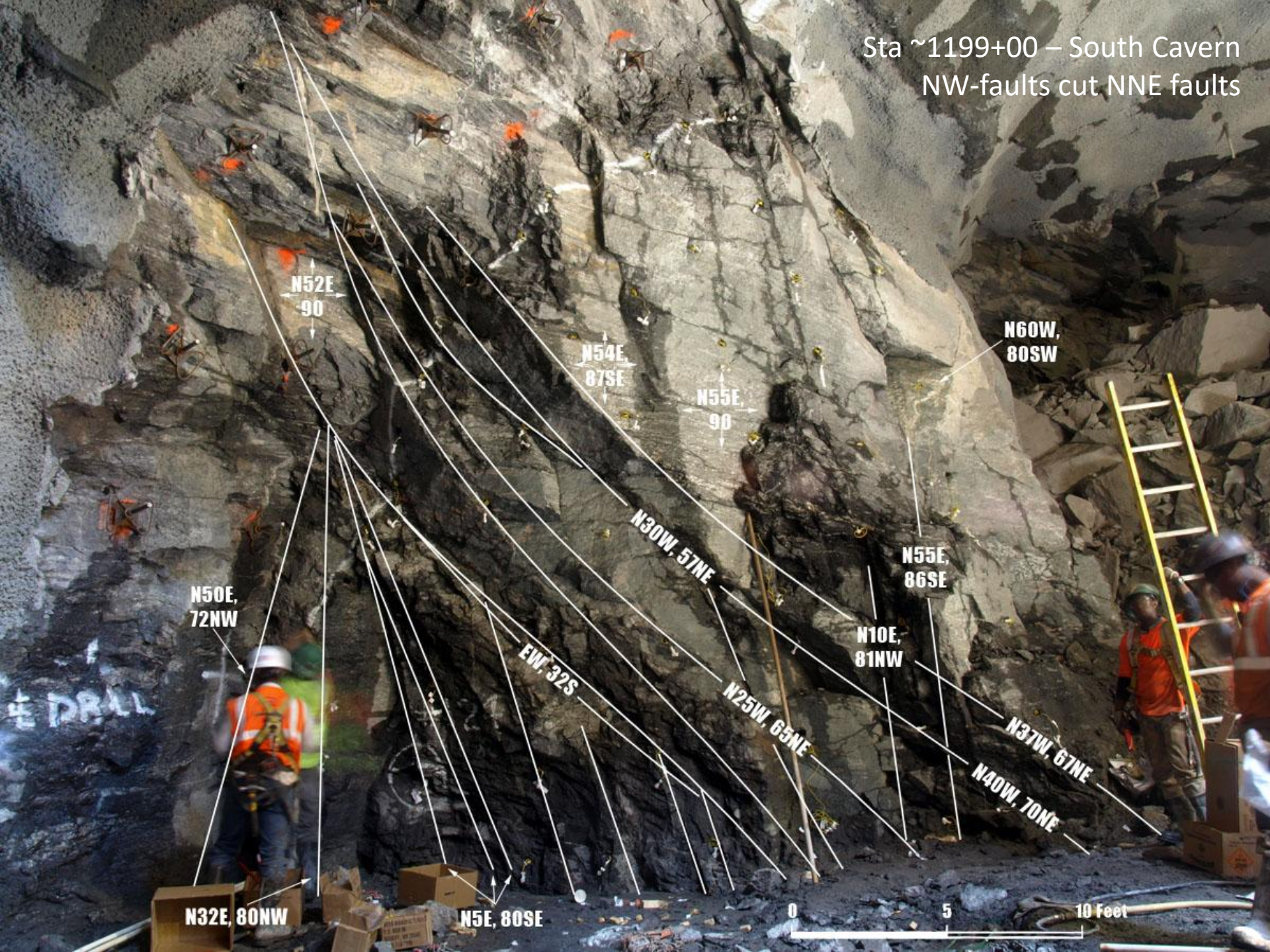
Second Avenue Subway



Sta ~1199+00 - South Cavern

0 5 10 Feet

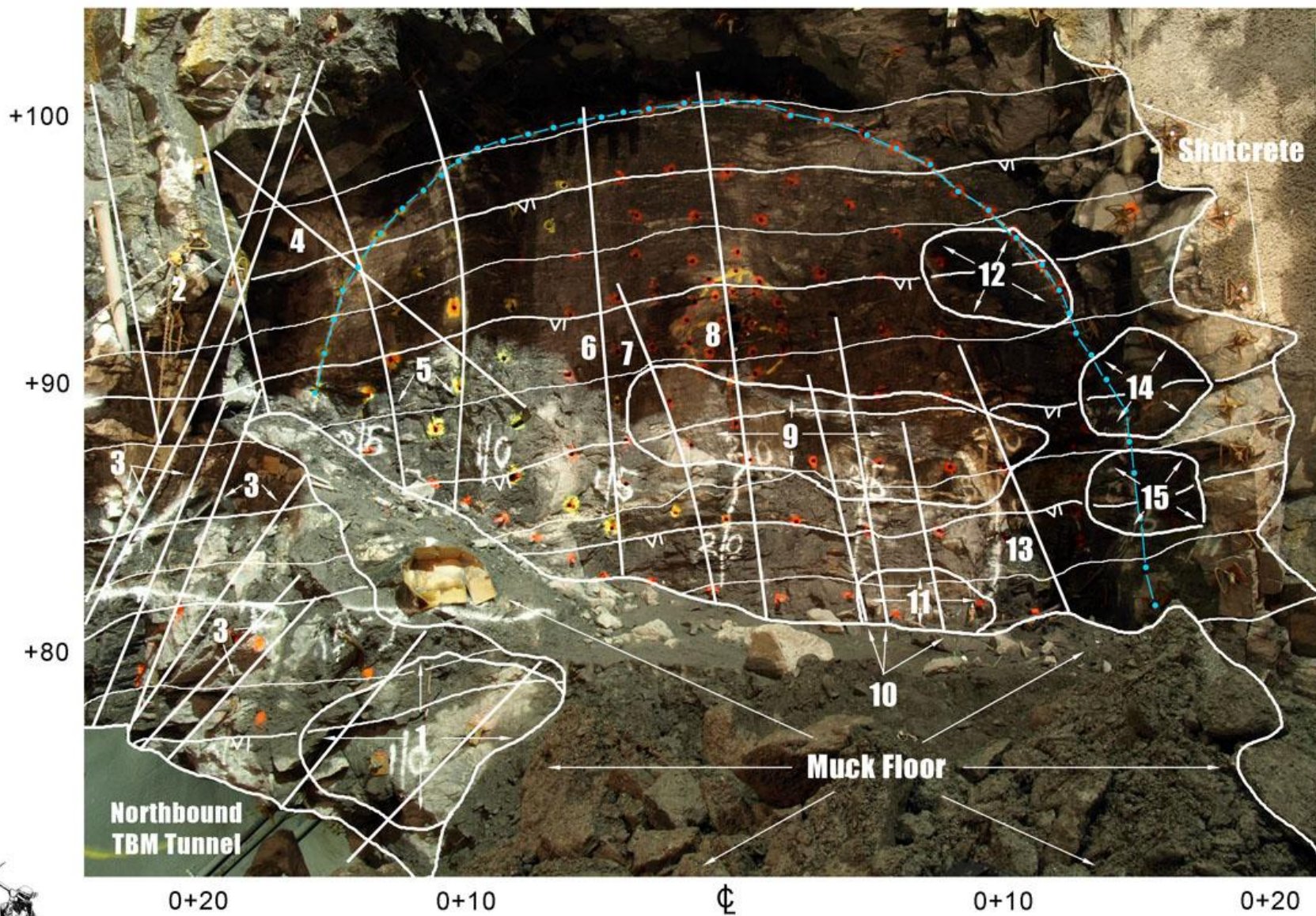
Sta ~1199+00 – South Cavern
NW-faults cut NNE faults



Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1198+75 – CIR Room



Duke Geological Lab
 Westbury, NY 11590
 (516) 280-7144
 www.dukelabs.com

← Stationing in Feet East and West of Second Avenue Centerline →

— = Perimeter Drill Holes of CIR room

Mapped 28 February 2013

Second Avenue Subway

CIR Room Floor
Elev. = +81.5'

Sta 1198+75 – CIR Room

Second Avenue Subway

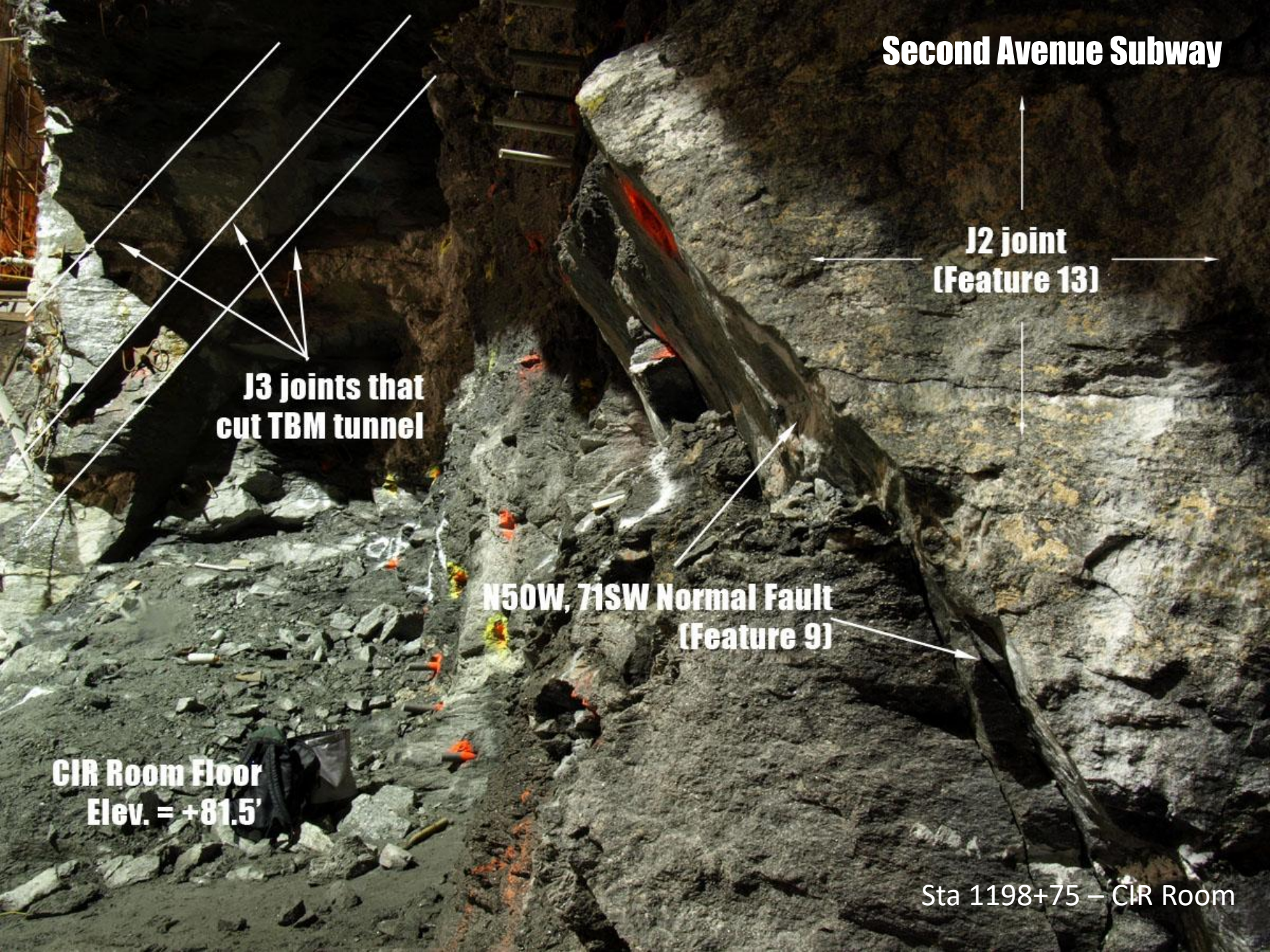
**J2 joint
[Feature 13]**

**J3 joints that
cut TBM tunnel**

**N50W, 71SW Normal Fault
[Feature 9]**

**CIR Room Floor
Elev. = +81.5'**

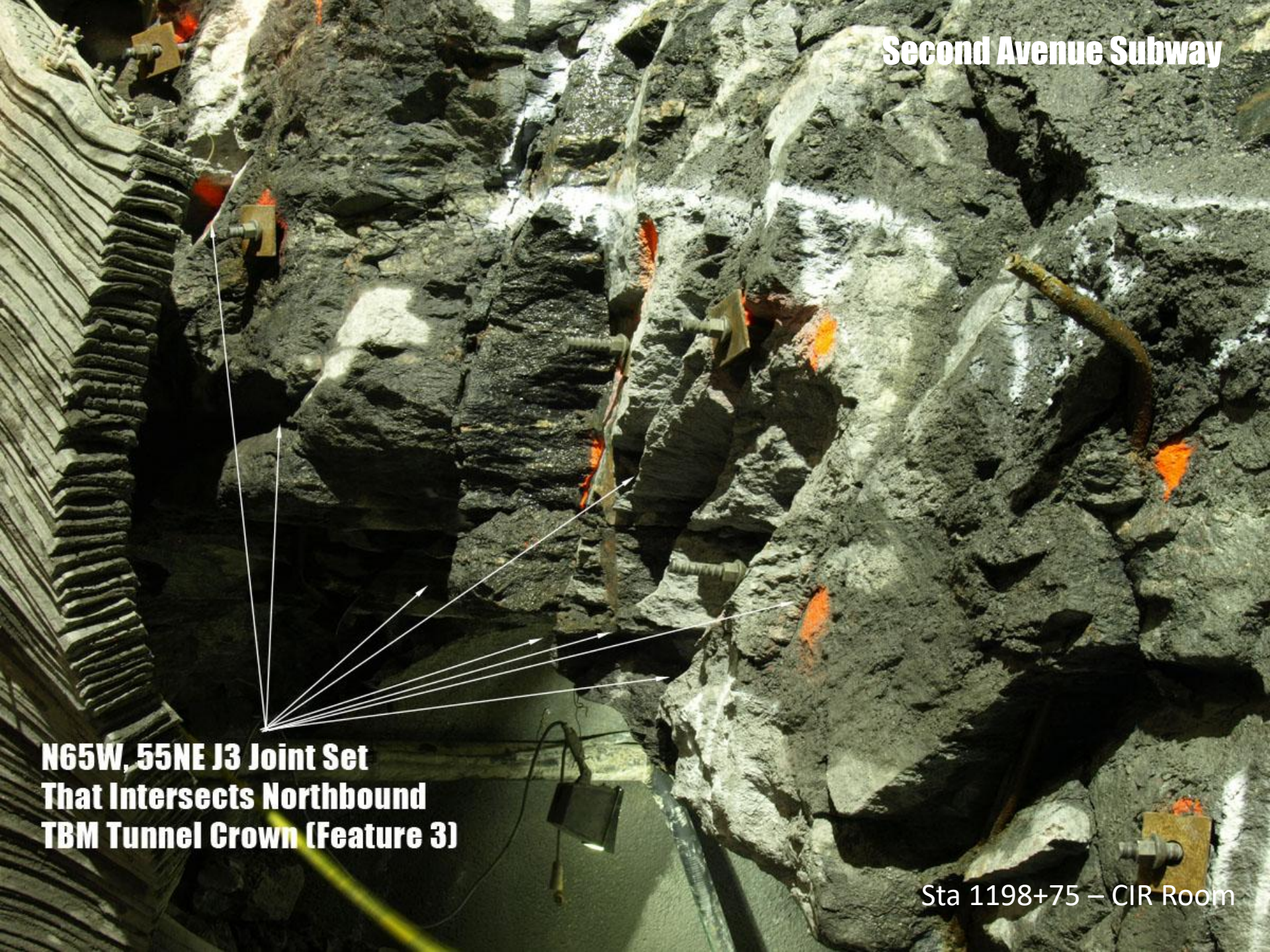
Sta 1198+75 – CIR Room



Second Avenue Subway

**N65W, 55NE J3 Joint Set
That Intersects Northbound
TBM Tunnel Crown (Feature 3)**

Sta 1198+75 – CIR Room



Second Avenue Subway



Sta ~1205+00 – North Cavern



Second Avenue Subway



Sta ~1205+00 – North Cavern

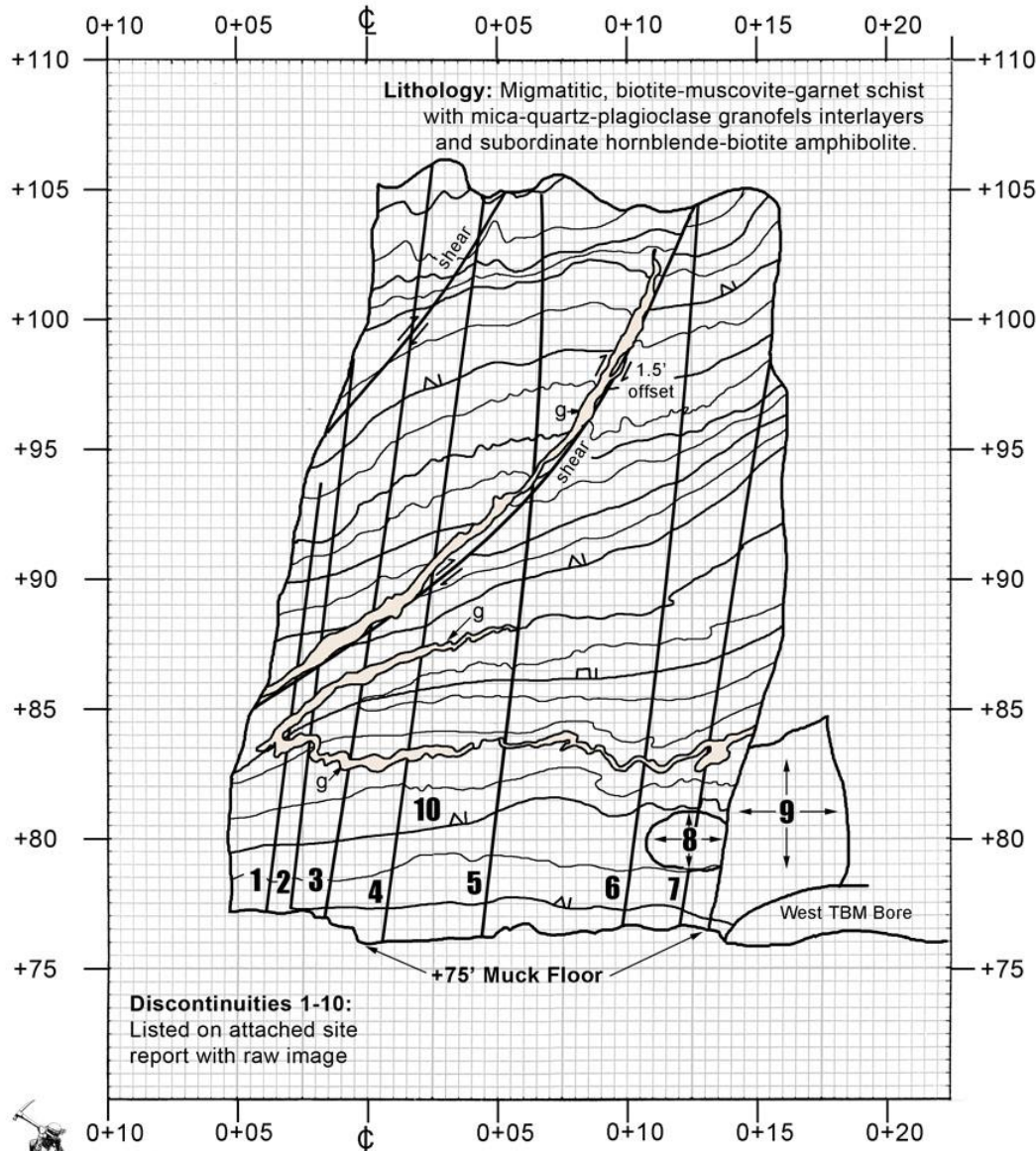
Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1204+90
North Cavern Center Slash

Second Avenue Subway - North Cavern Center Slash
Working Face at Sta. 1204+90; Elev. +75' to +108'

Second Avenue Subway



Duke Geological Lab
 Westbury, NY 11590
 (516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Mapped 19 December 2012

Sta 1204+90
North Cavern Center Slash

Second Avenue Subway



Sta ~1205+00 – North Cavern

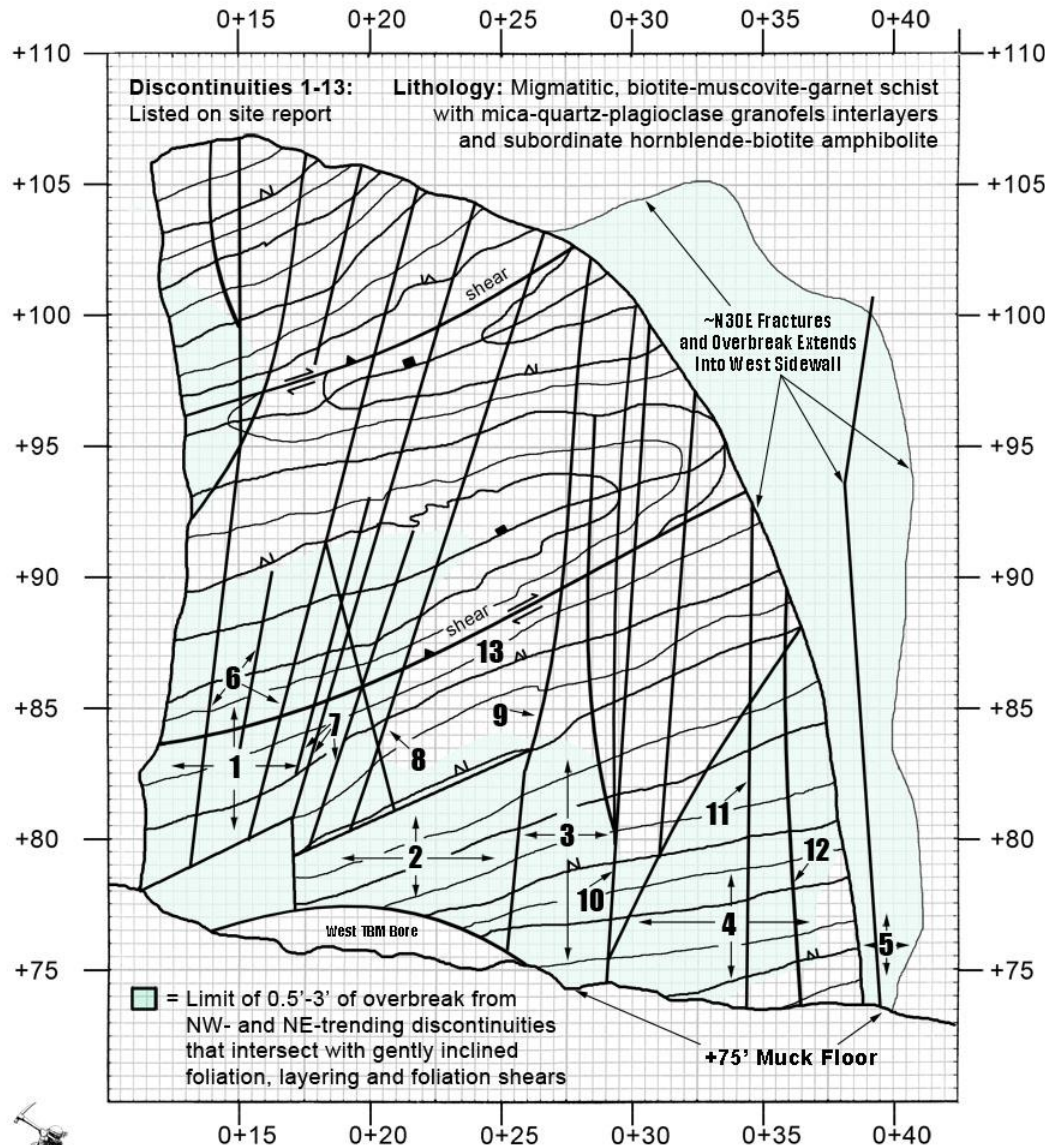
Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1205+10
North Cavern West Slash

Second Avenue Subway - North Cavern West Slash
Working Face at Sta. 1205+10; Elev. +75' to +105'

Second Avenue Subway



Duke Geological Lab
 Westbury, NY 11590
 (516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Stationing in Feet West of Second Avenue Centerline →

Mapped 19 December 2012

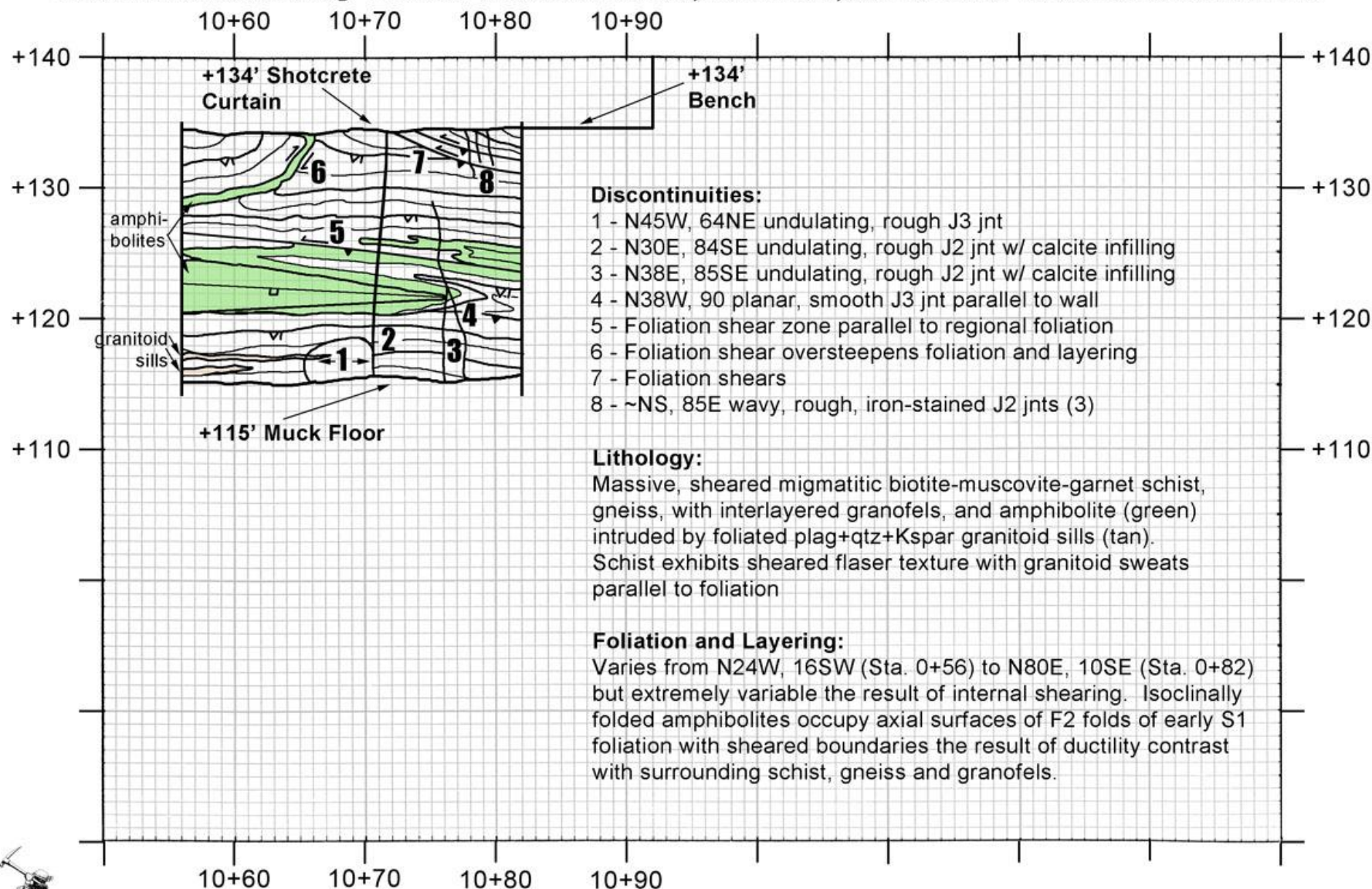
Sta 1205+10
North Cavern West Slash

Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1205+10 – North Cavern

Second Avenue Subway - Elevator Shaft 86th Street, North Wall, Sta. 10+56 to 10+82 East of Centerline



Duke Geological Lab
Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Stationing in Feet East of 86th Street Centerline →

Sta 1206+62 – Elevator Shaft

Mapped 21 January 2013

Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1206+62 – Elevator Shaft
North Face

Second Avenue Subway



"Rite in the R
ALL-WEATH
JOURNA
No. 390-4

Sta 1206+62 – Elevator Shaft

Second Avenue Subway

Second Avenue Subway
86th Street Station Complex
Ancillary #2

06 Nov 2012

Second Avenue Subway

Second Avenue Subway
86th Street Station Complex
Ancillary #2



Second Avenue Subway

R
E
L
I
E
F



Second Avenue Subway



Second Avenue Subway
86th Street Station Complex
Ancillary #2

Blast Mats Set

Second Avenue Subway



Second Avenue Subway
86th Street Station Complex
Ancillary #2

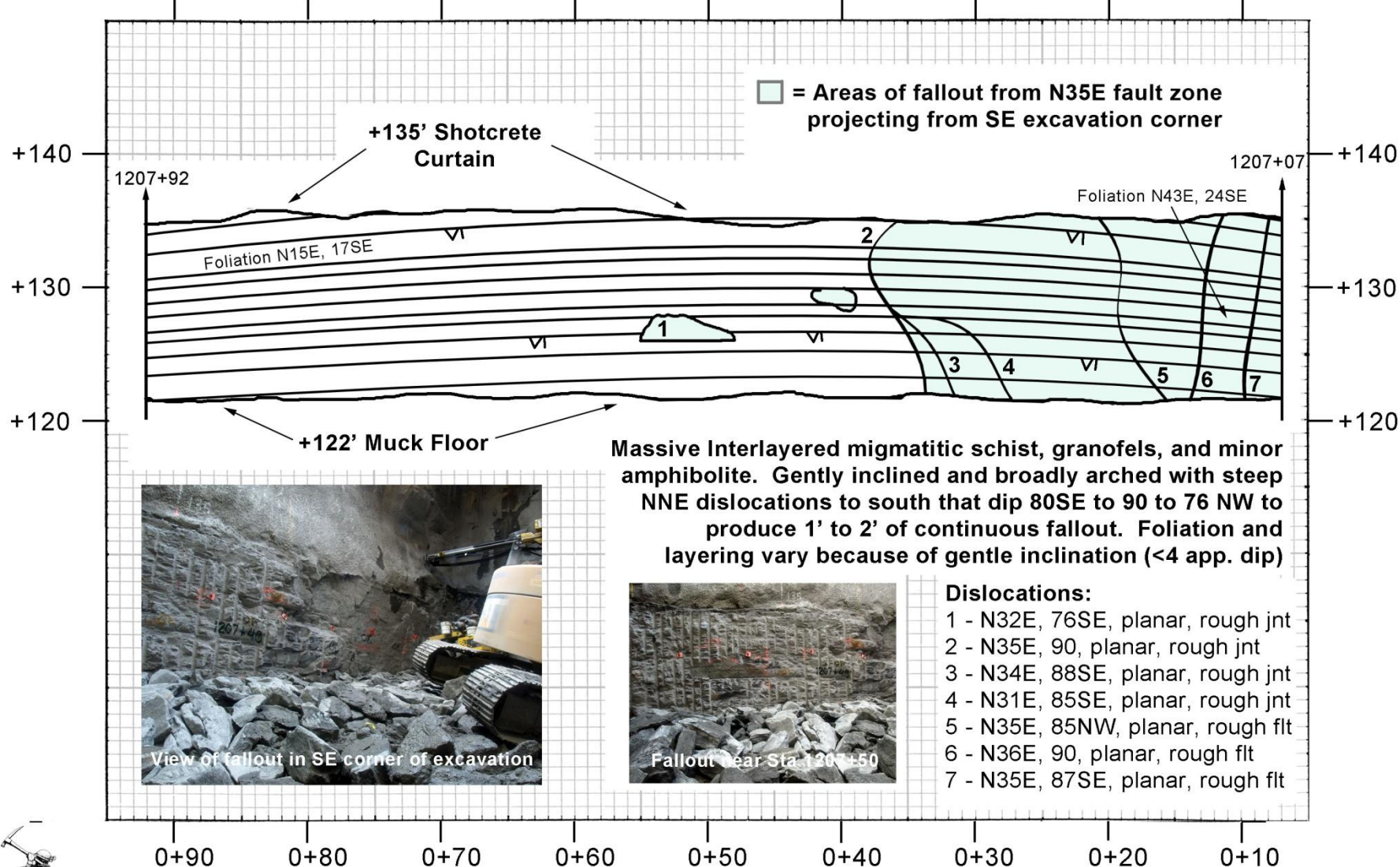
**Second Avenue Subway
86th Street Ancillary #2
Southward View of South Wall
Elevation +155' to +133'**

Plate 2



Sta 1207+07 – Ancillary #2

0+90 0+80 0+70 0+60 0+50 0+40 0+30 0+20 0+10



Massive Interlayered migmatitic schist, granofels, and minor amphibolite. Gently inclined and broadly arched with steep NNE dislocations to south that dip 80SE to 90 to 76 NW to produce 1' to 2' of continuous fallout. Foliation and layering vary because of gentle inclination (<4 app. dip)

Dislocations:

- 1 - N32E, 76SE, planar, rough jnt
- 2 - N35E, 90, planar, rough jnt
- 3 - N34E, 88SE, planar, rough jnt
- 4 - N31E, 85SE, planar, rough jnt
- 5 - N35E, 85NW, planar, rough flt
- 6 - N36E, 90, planar, rough flt
- 7 - N35E, 87SE, planar, rough flt

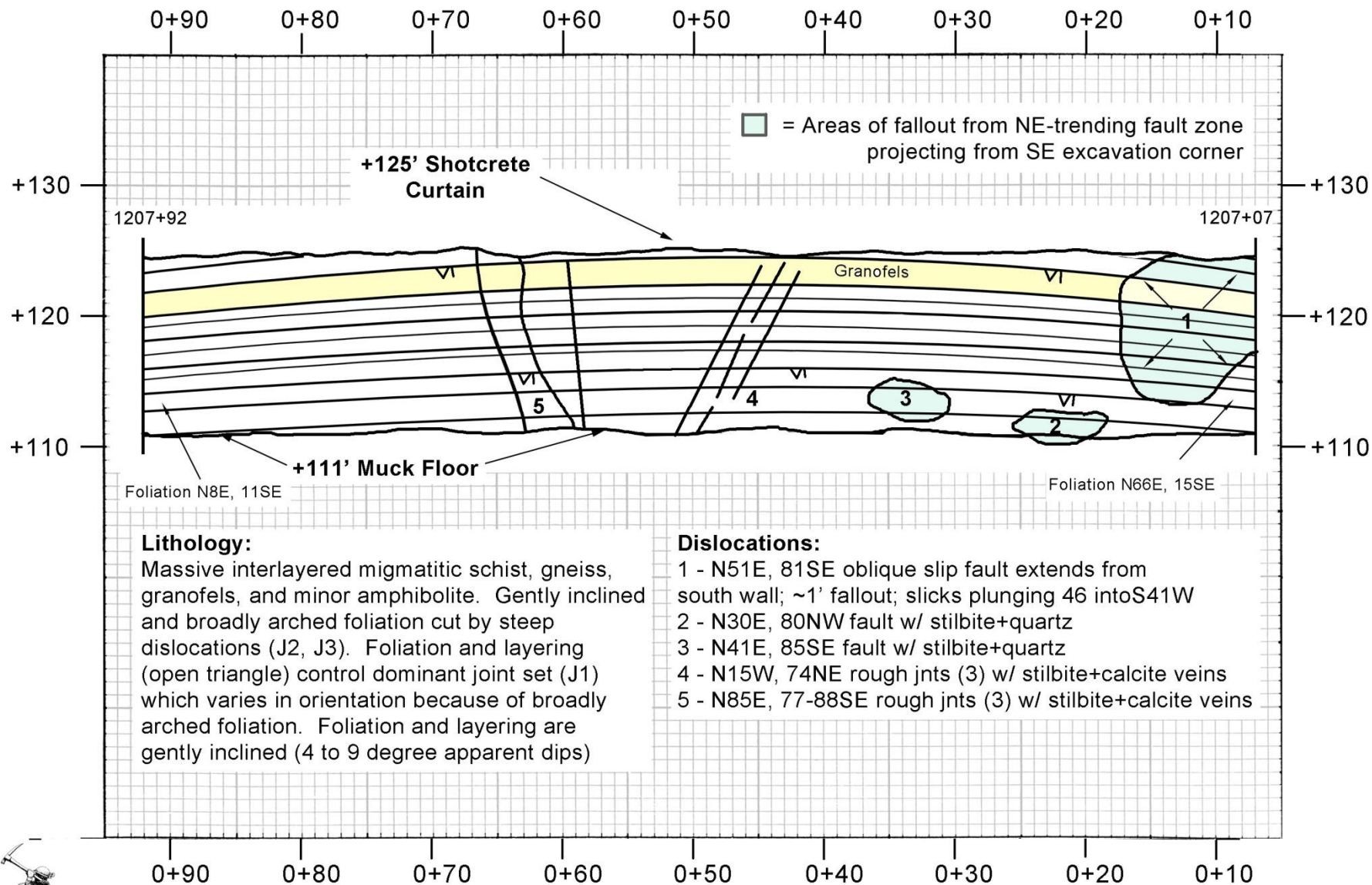


Duke Geological Lab
Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

← Stationing in Feet North Along East Wall
(Map Drawn Parallel to Sta 0+50 West of Second Avenue Centerline)

Mapped 21 November 2012

Second Avenue Subway - Ancillary #2 East Wall Sta. 1207+07 to 1207+92; Elev. +125' to +111'



Lithology:

Massive interlayered migmatitic schist, gneiss, granofels, and minor amphibolite. Gently inclined and broadly arched foliation cut by steep dislocations (J2, J3). Foliation and layering (open triangle) control dominant joint set (J1) which varies in orientation because of broadly arched foliation. Foliation and layering are gently inclined (4 to 9 degree apparent dips)

Dislocations:

- 1 - N51E, 81SE oblique slip fault extends from south wall; ~1' fallout; slicks plunging 46 into S41W
- 2 - N30E, 80NW fault w/ stilbite+quartz
- 3 - N41E, 85SE fault w/ stilbite+quartz
- 4 - N15W, 74NE rough jnts (3) w/ stilbite+calcite veins
- 5 - N85E, 77-88SE rough jnts (3) w/ stilbite+calcite veins

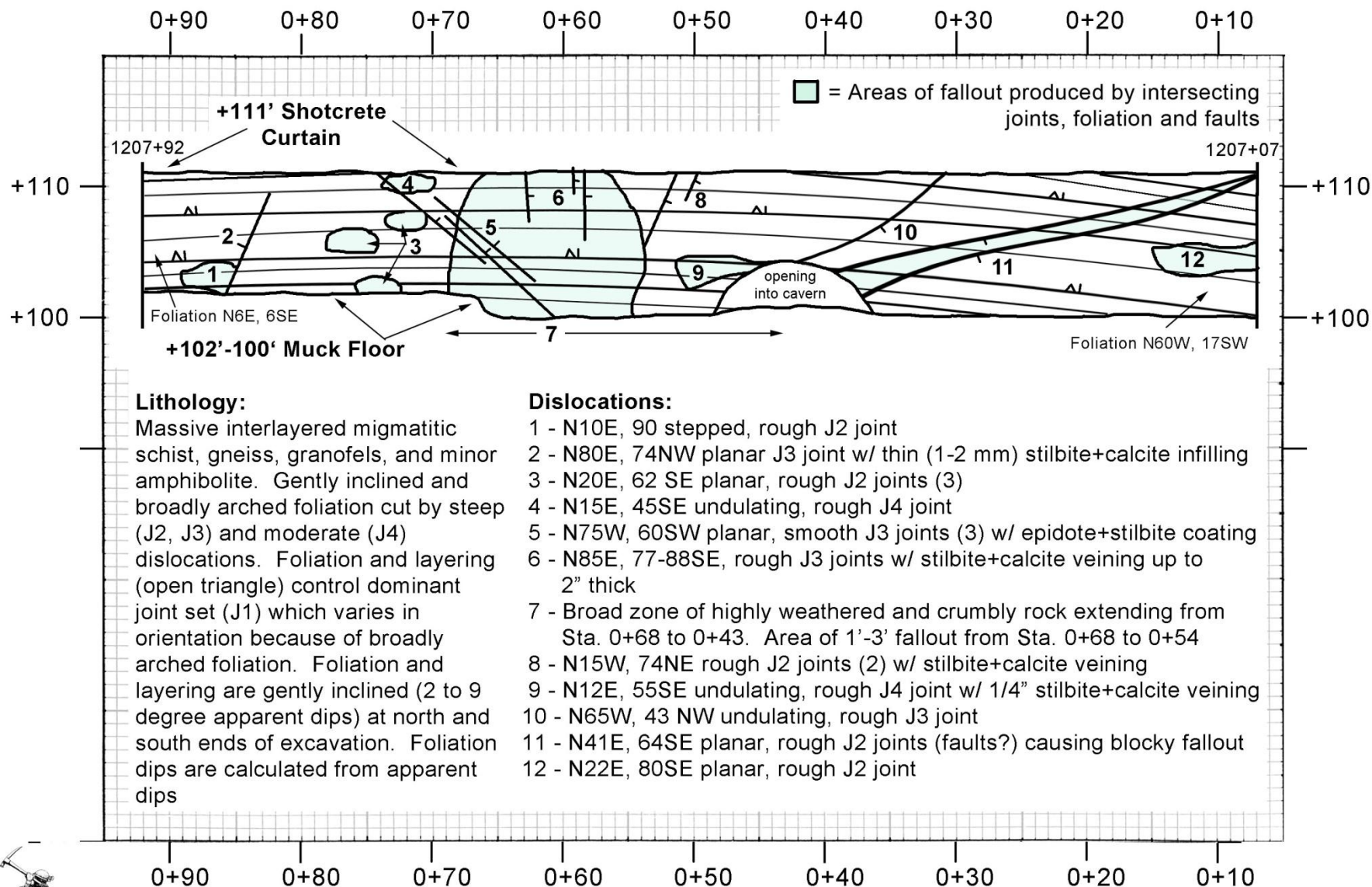


Duke Geological Lab
Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Stationing in Feet North Along East Wall
(Map Drawn Parallel to Sta 0+50 West of Second Avenue Centerline)

Mapped 15 January 2013

Second Avenue Subway - Ancillary #2 East Wall Sta. 1207+07 to 1207+92; Elev. +111' to +100'



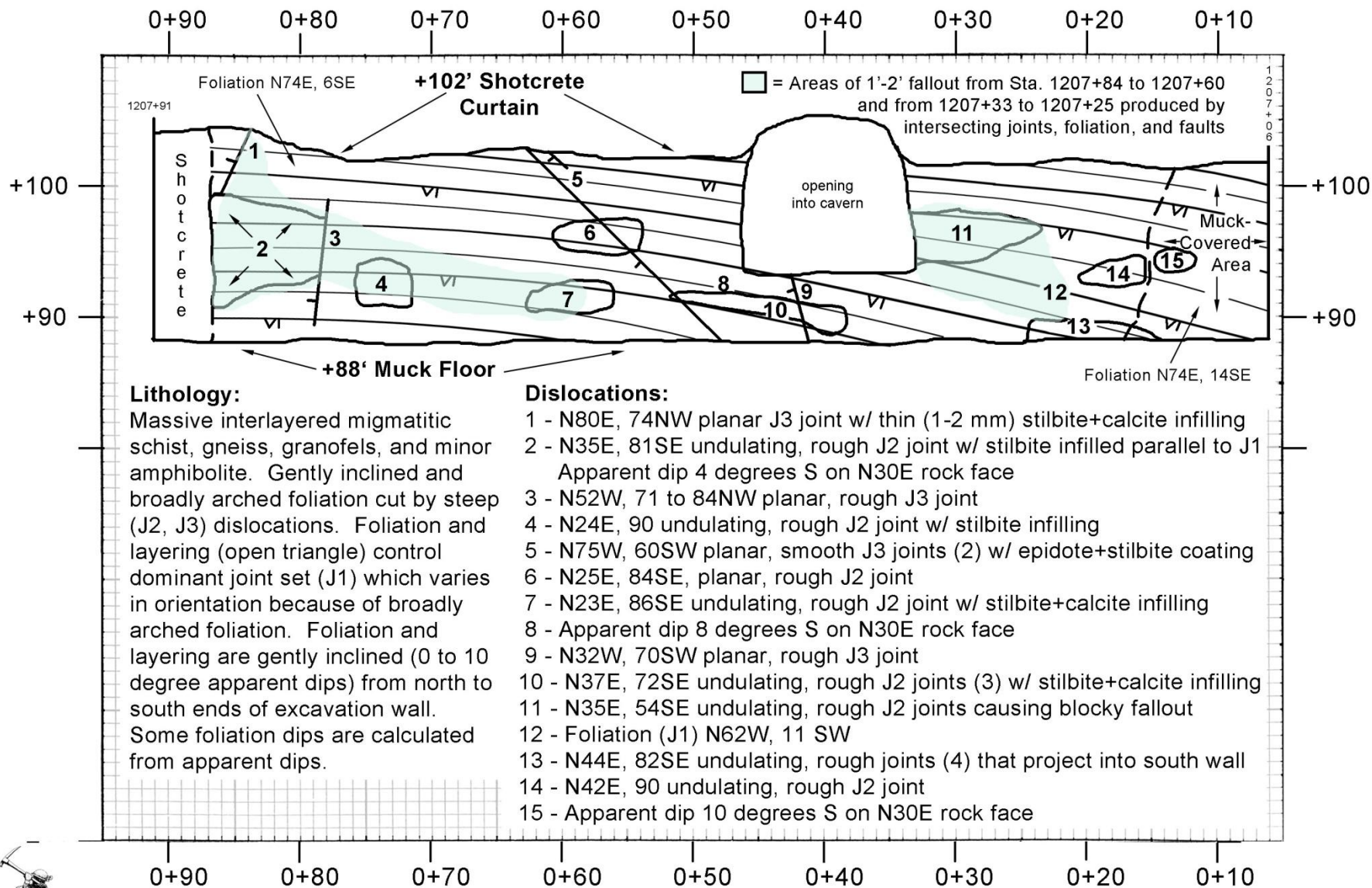
Stationing in Feet North Along East Wall
(Map Drawn Parallel to Sta 0+50 West of Second Avenue Centerline)

Mapped 06 February 2013



Duke Geological Lab
 Westbury, NY 11590
 (516) 280-7144
 www.dukelabs.com

Second Avenue Subway - Ancillary #2 East Wall Sta. 1207+06 to 1207+91; Elev. +102' to +88'



Lithology:

Massive interlayered migmatitic schist, gneiss, granofels, and minor amphibolite. Gently inclined and broadly arched foliation cut by steep (J2, J3) dislocations. Foliation and layering (open triangle) control dominant joint set (J1) which varies in orientation because of broadly arched foliation. Foliation and layering are gently inclined (0 to 10 degree apparent dips) from north to south ends of excavation wall. Some foliation dips are calculated from apparent dips.

Dislocations:

- 1 - N80E, 74NW planar J3 joint w/ thin (1-2 mm) stilbite+calcite infilling
- 2 - N35E, 81SE undulating, rough J2 joint w/ stilbite infilled parallel to J1 Apparent dip 4 degrees S on N30E rock face
- 3 - N52W, 71 to 84NW planar, rough J3 joint
- 4 - N24E, 90 undulating, rough J2 joint w/ stilbite infilling
- 5 - N75W, 60SW planar, smooth J3 joints (2) w/ epidote+stilbite coating
- 6 - N25E, 84SE, planar, rough J2 joint
- 7 - N23E, 86SE undulating, rough J2 joint w/ stilbite+calcite infilling
- 8 - Apparent dip 8 degrees S on N30E rock face
- 9 - N32W, 70SW planar, rough J3 joint
- 10 - N37E, 72SE undulating, rough J2 joints (3) w/ stilbite+calcite infilling
- 11 - N35E, 54SE undulating, rough J2 joints causing blocky fallout
- 12 - Foliation (J1) N62W, 11 SW
- 13 - N44E, 82SE undulating, rough joints (4) that project into south wall
- 14 - N42E, 90 undulating, rough J2 joint
- 15 - Apparent dip 10 degrees S on N30E rock face

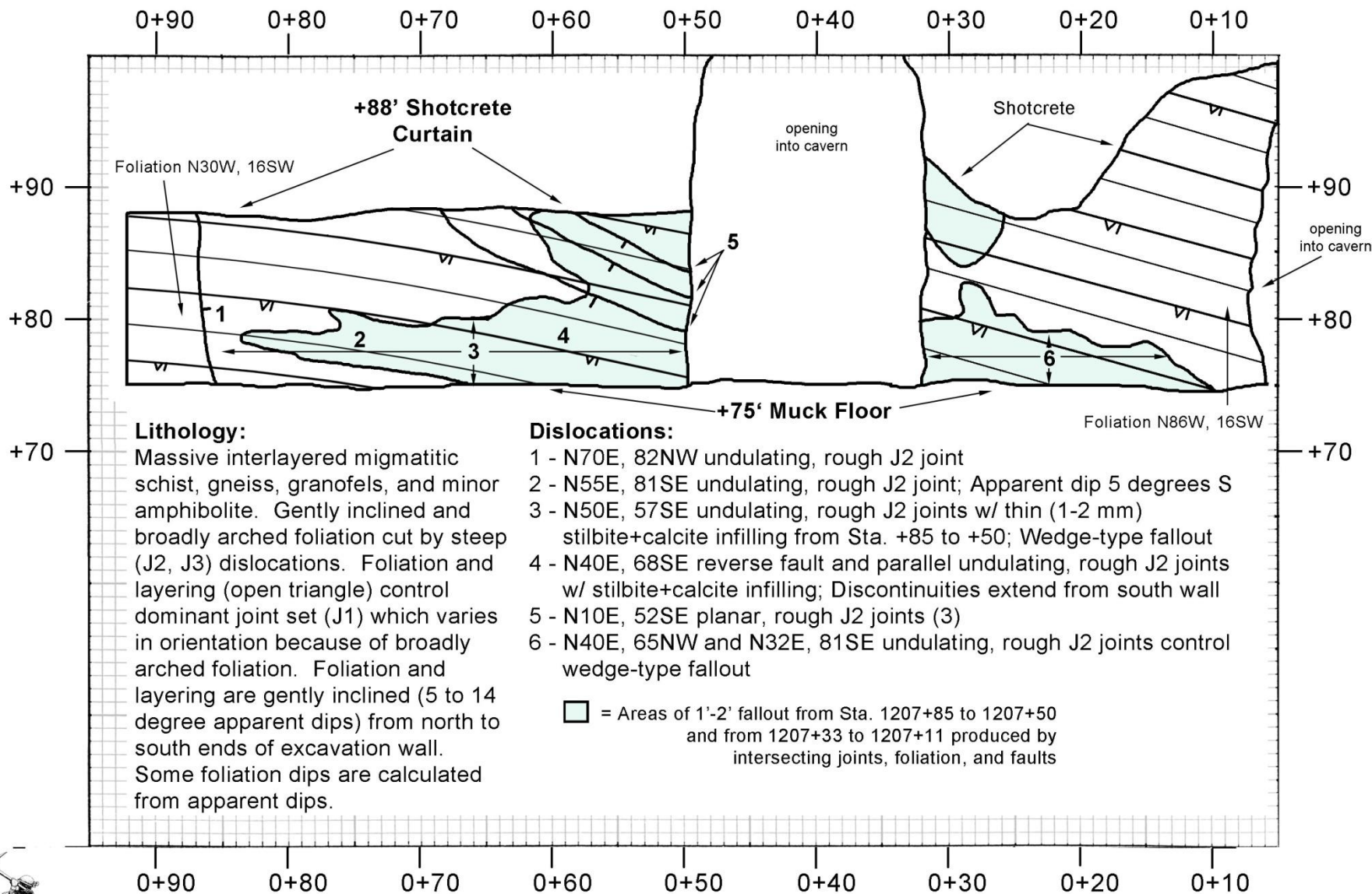


Duke Geological Lab
Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Stationing in Feet North Along East Wall
(Map Drawn Parallel to Sta 0+50 West of Second Avenue Centerline)

Mapped 05 March 2013

Second Avenue Subway - Ancillary #2 East Wall Sta. 1207+05 to 1207+92; Elev. +88' to +75'



Duke Geological Lab
Westbury, NY 11590
(516) 280-7144
www.dukelabs.com

Stationing in Feet North Along East Wall
(Map Drawn Parallel to Sta 0+50 West of Second Avenue Centerline)

Mapped 22 April 2013



Sta 1207+50 – Ancillary #2 West Wall

Second Avenue Subway



Sta 1207+50 – Ancillary #2 West Wall



1075b_Calcite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



1075c_Calcite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



1104_Calcite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2689_ Stilbite+Calcite_ 86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2825_ Stilbite_ 86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2840_Epidote_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



12845_Epidote+Calcite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2851_Pyrite+Stilbite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2853_ Stilbite_ 86th St 2nd Ave Subway



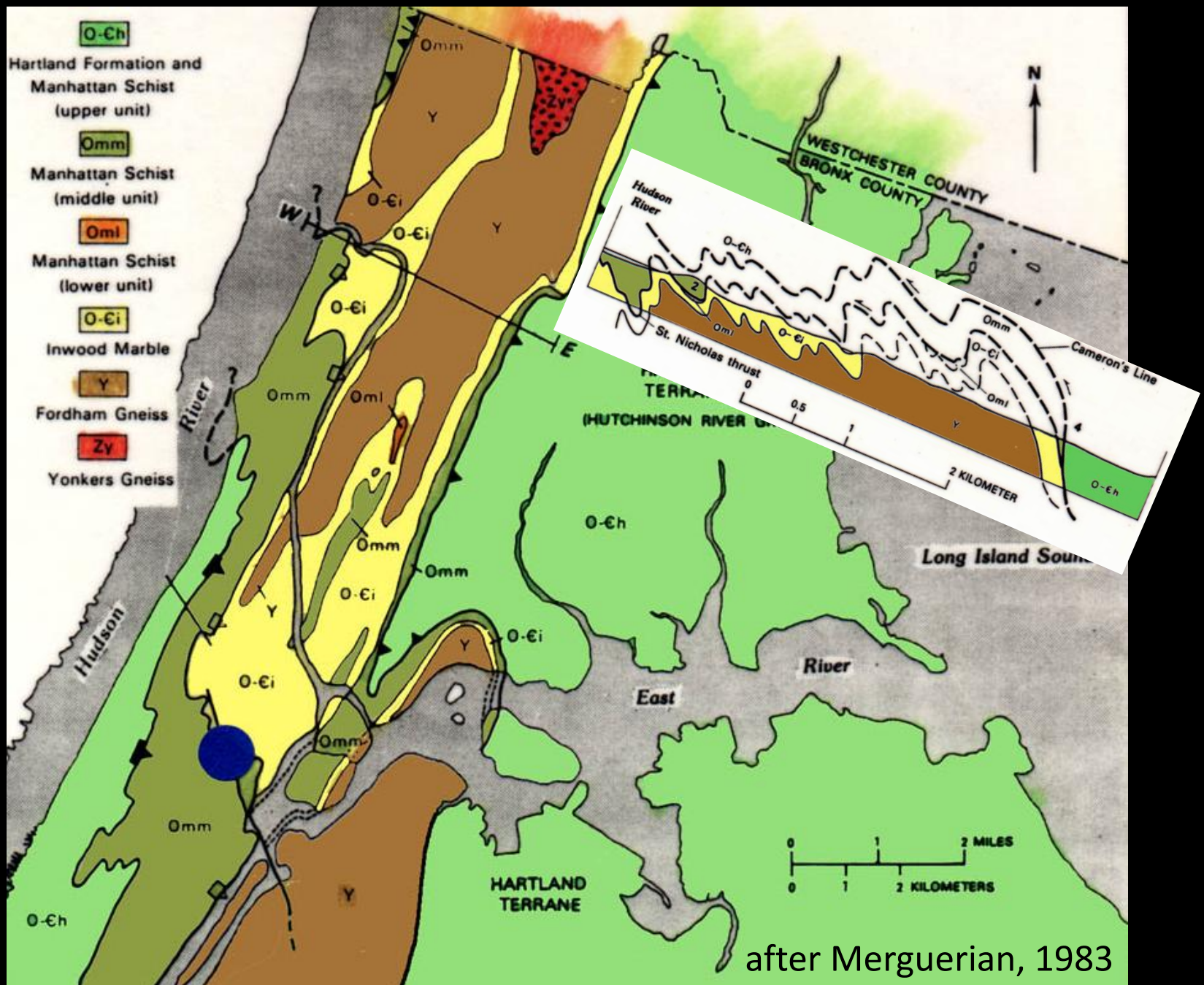
2857_ Stilbite_ 86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2852_Calcite+Stilbite_86th St 2nd Ave Subway



2863_ Stilbite+Calcite_ 86th St 2nd Ave Subway



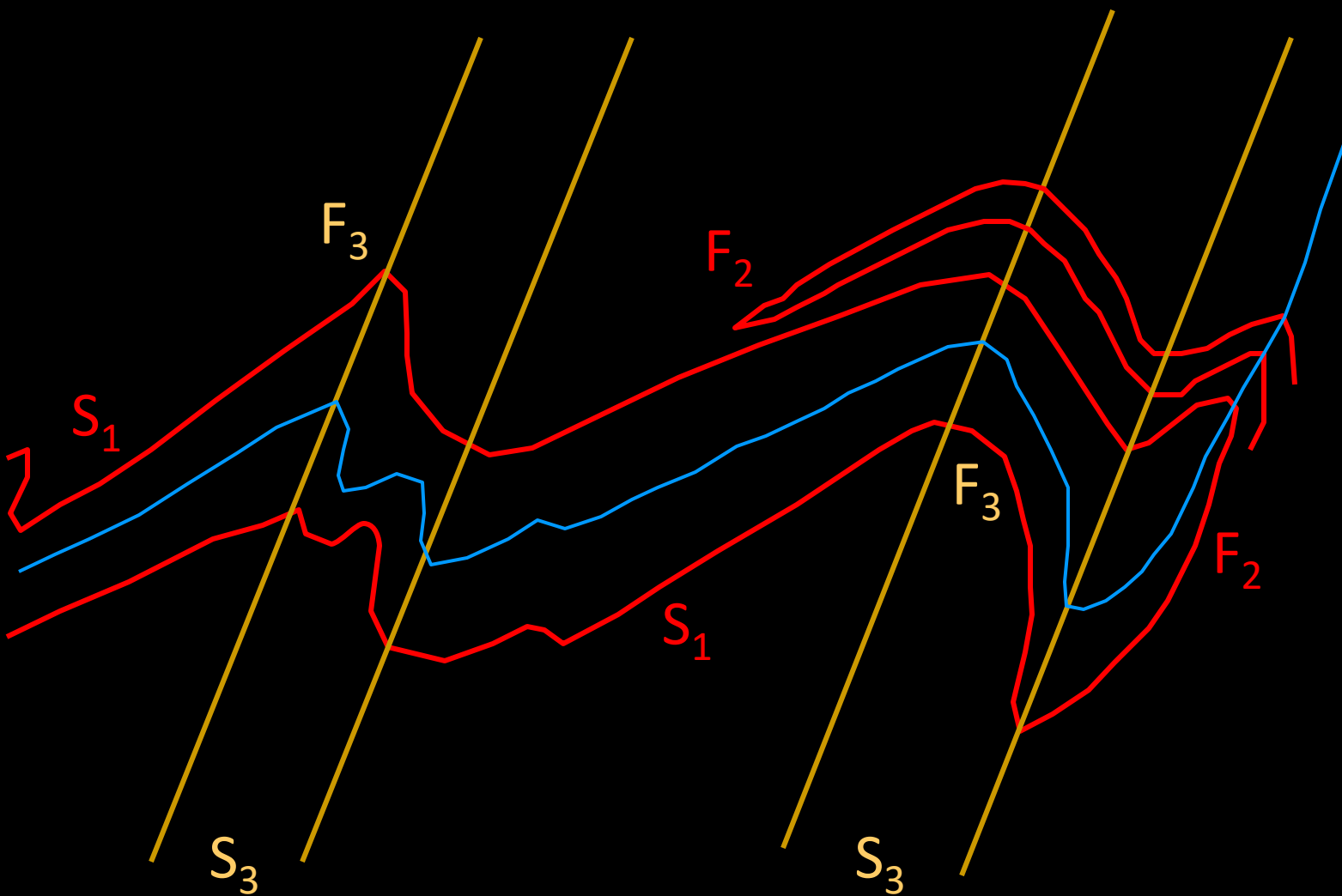


F₃

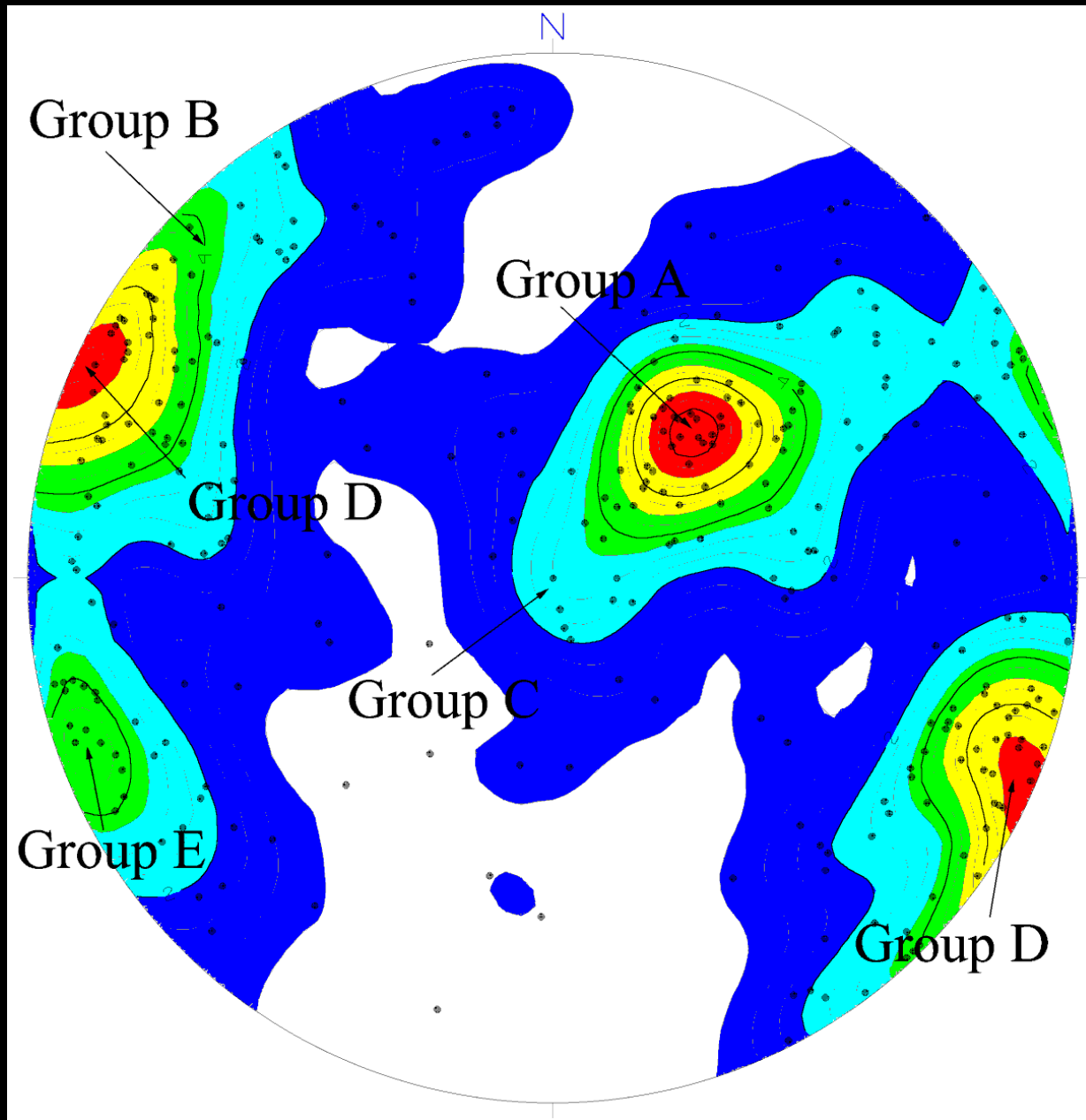
Polydeformed Bedrock – Central Park, NYC

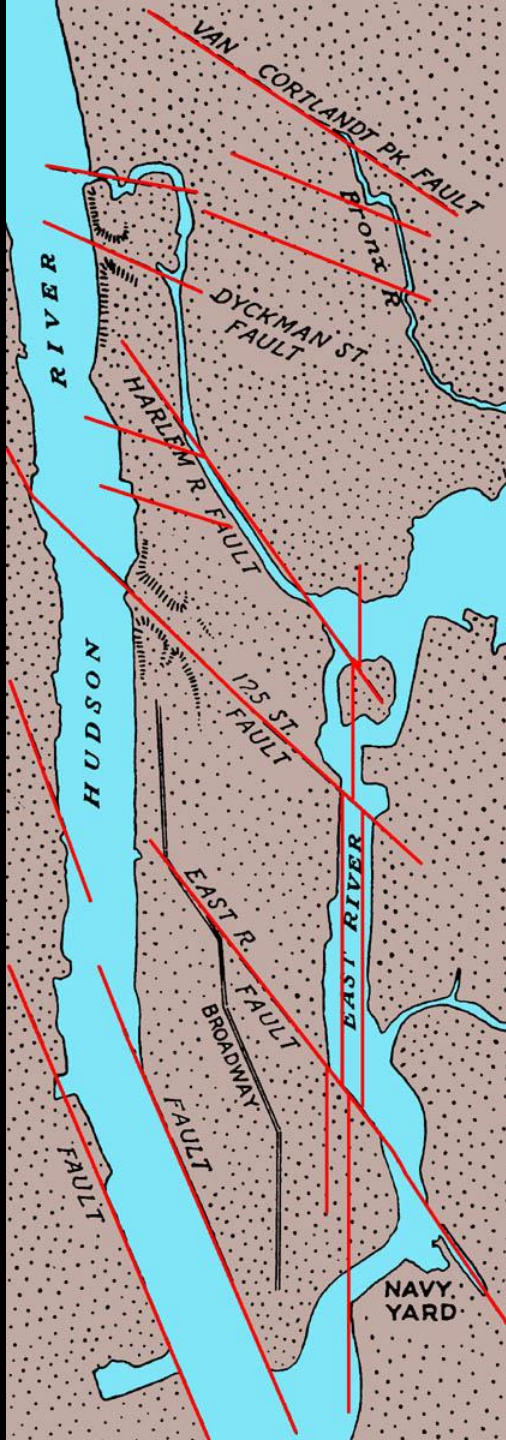


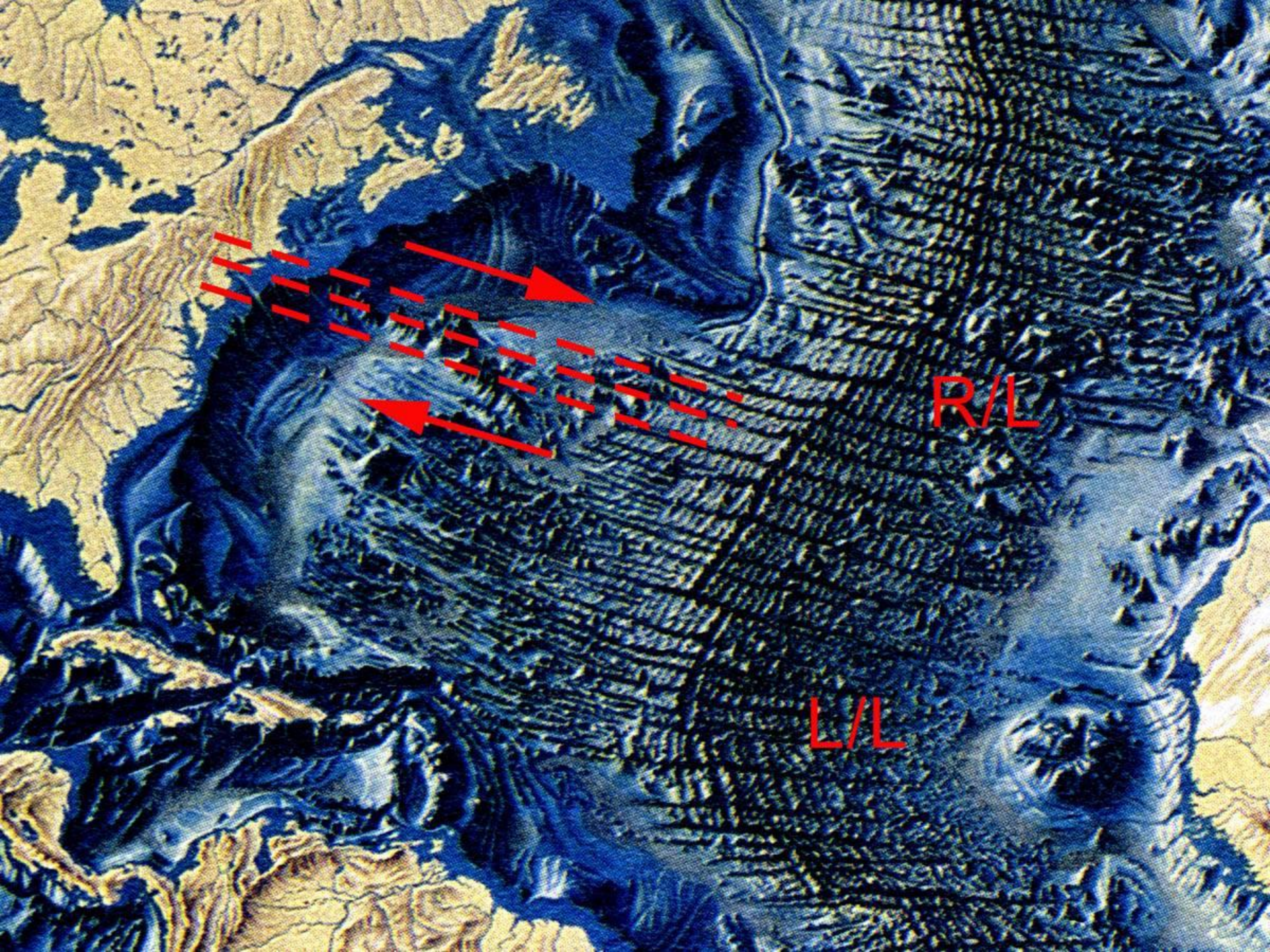
Polydeformed Bedrock – Central Park, NYC



NYC Faults and Joints







R/L

L/L



Biting?
There's **No**
Biting in the
Hamster
Industry!



Visit www.dukelabs.com for recent NYC geology articles