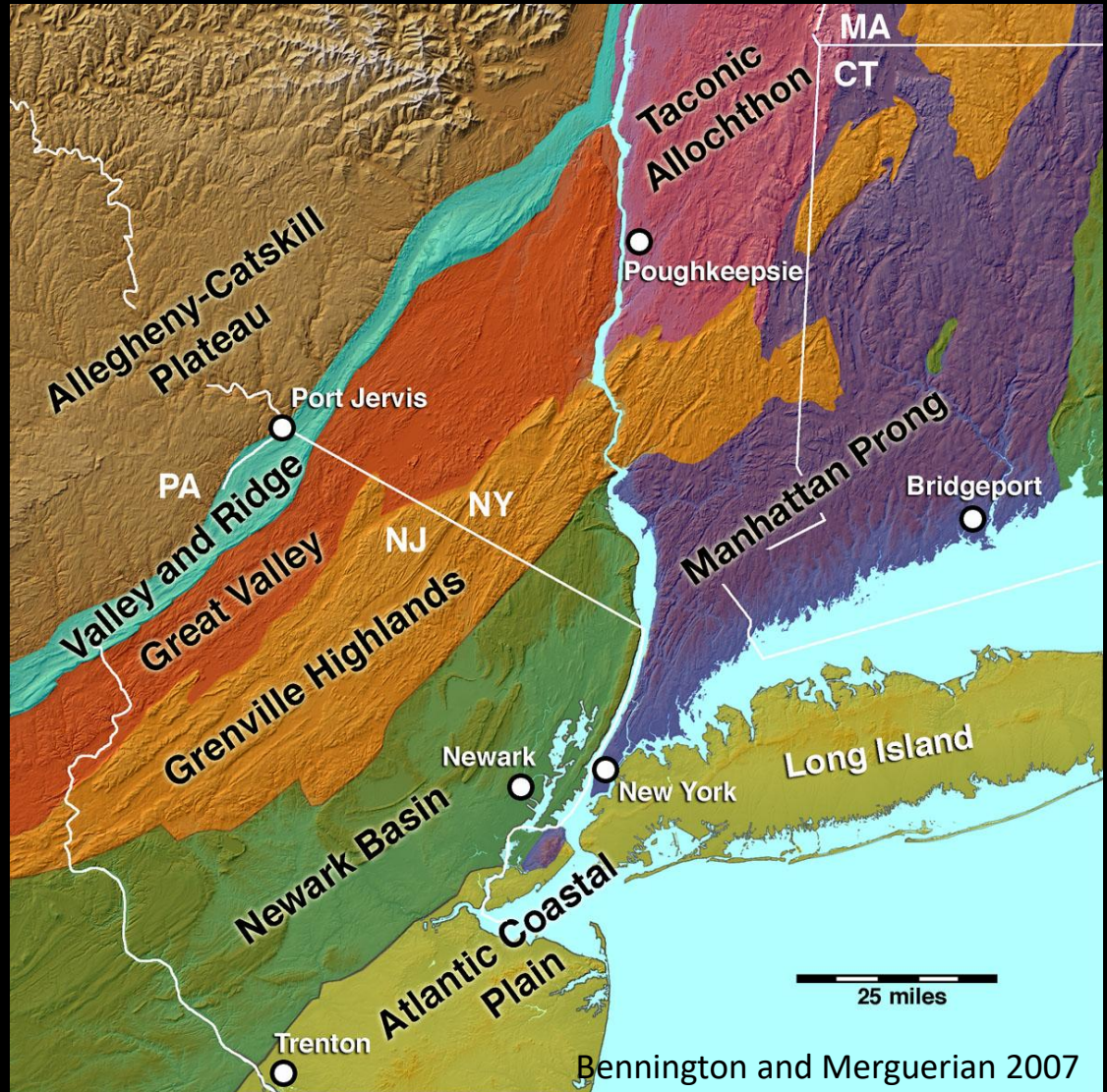


# Geological Solutions for Providing a Scientific Basis for Differing Site Condition Claims (DSC)

**Charles Merguerian**  
**Mickey Merguerian\***  
**Dukelabs**  
**Stone Ridge, NY**

**DUKE**

**Stonybrook 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Metro NY Conference**  
**09 April 2022**





# TBM Tunnel

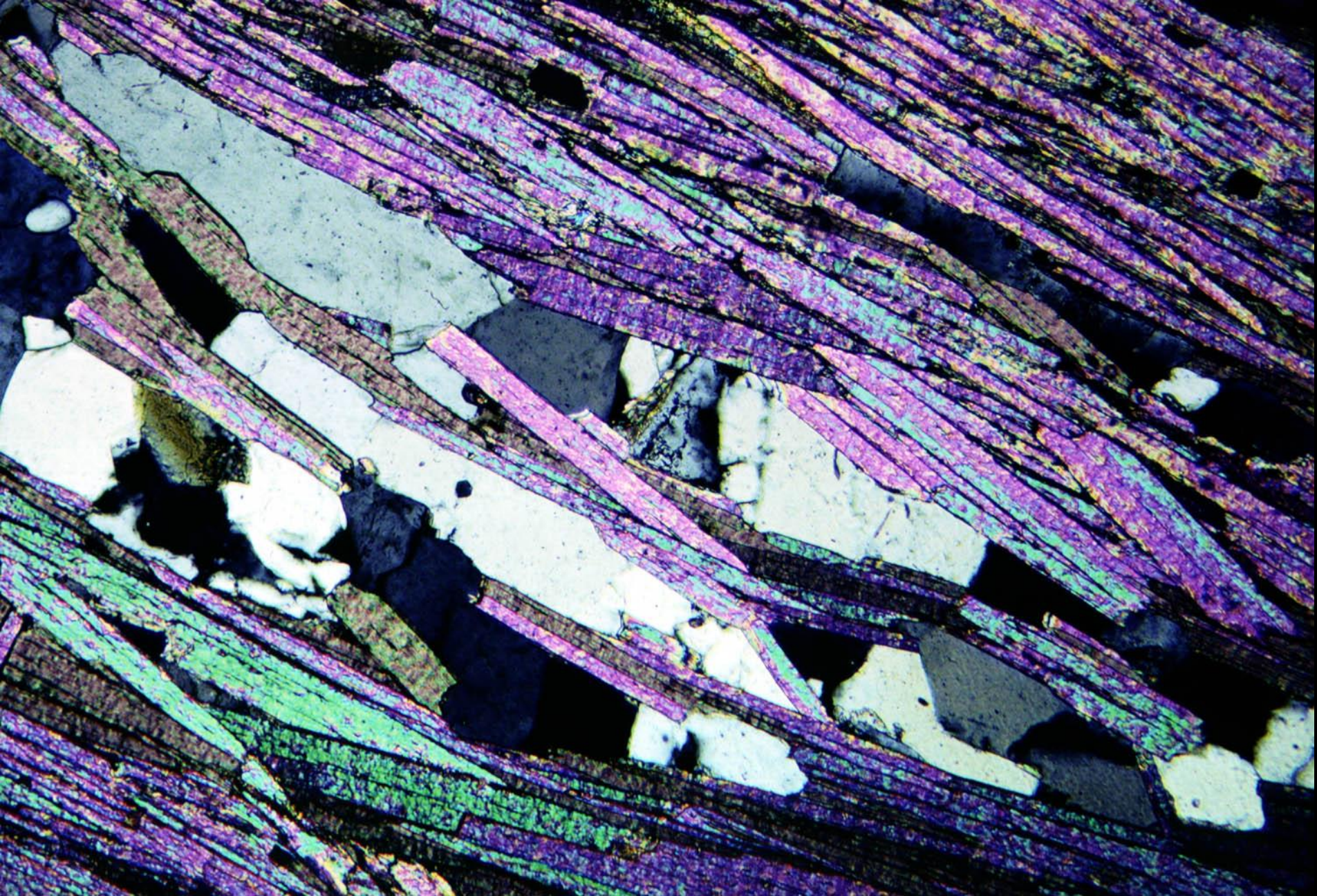






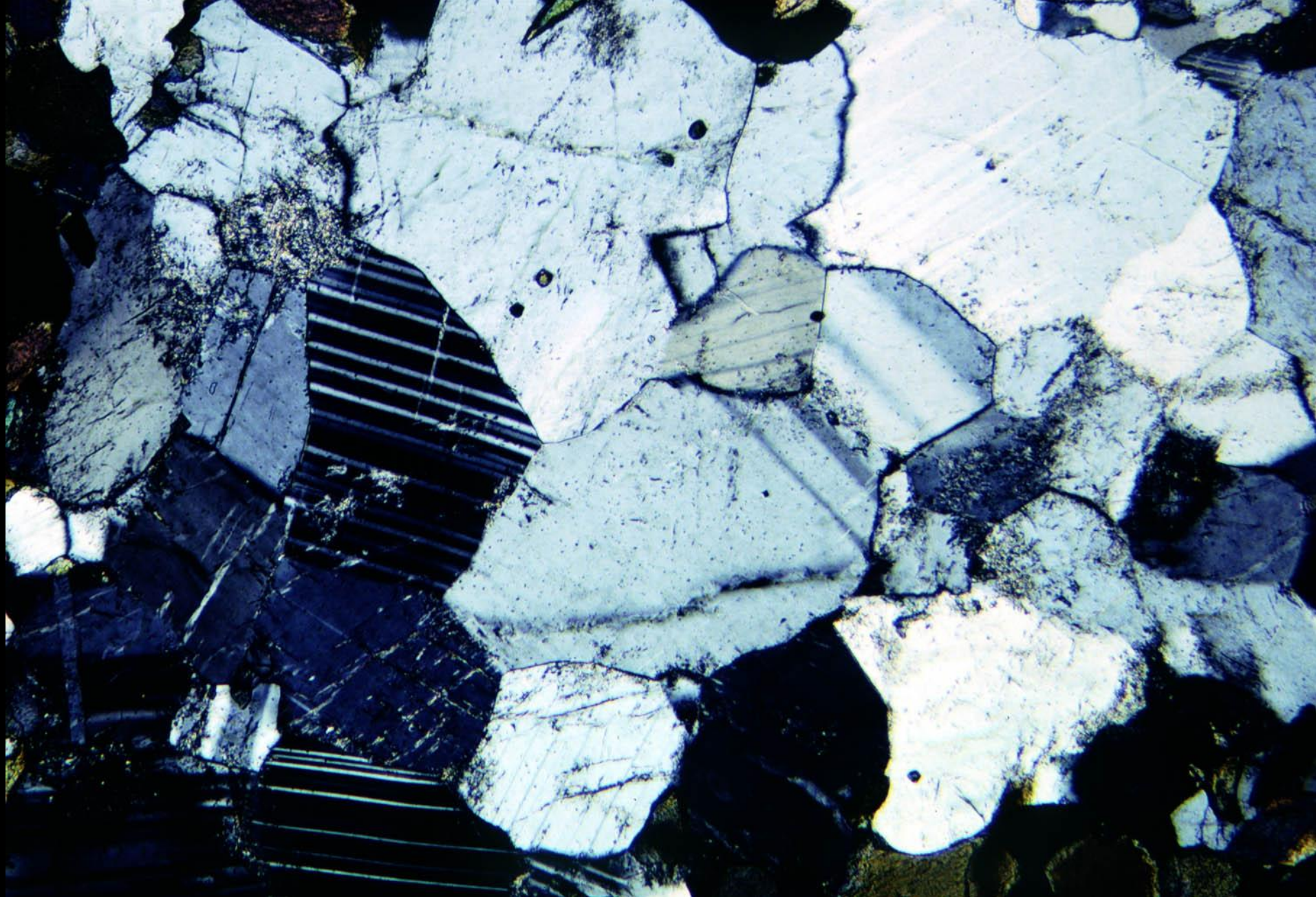
**Foliated Textures Anticipated in Well-Layered Hartland Formation**





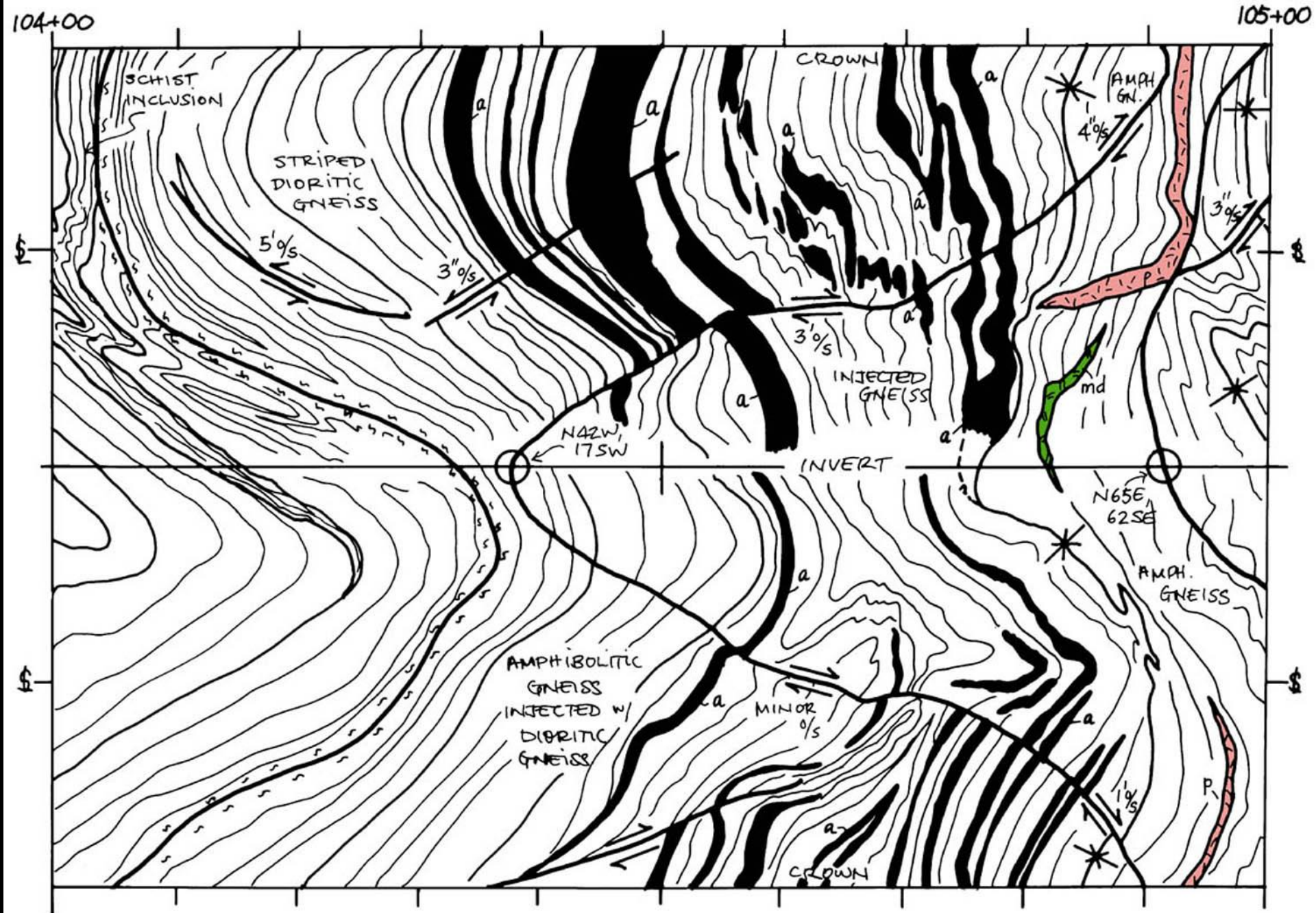
**Foliated Textures Anticipated**





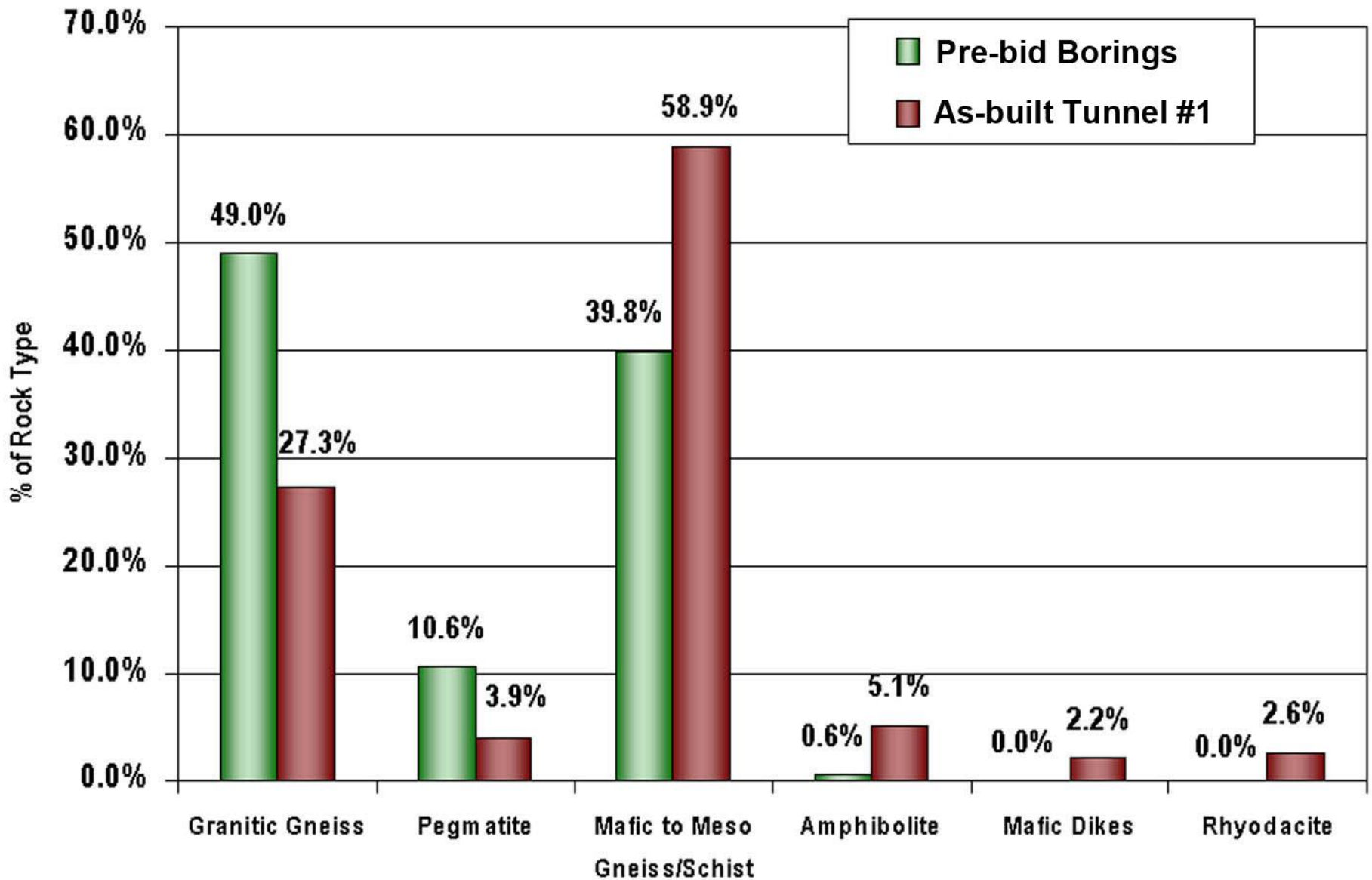
**Tough, Granoblastic Textures Encountered**





1" = 10' Mapping Program 1997-1999

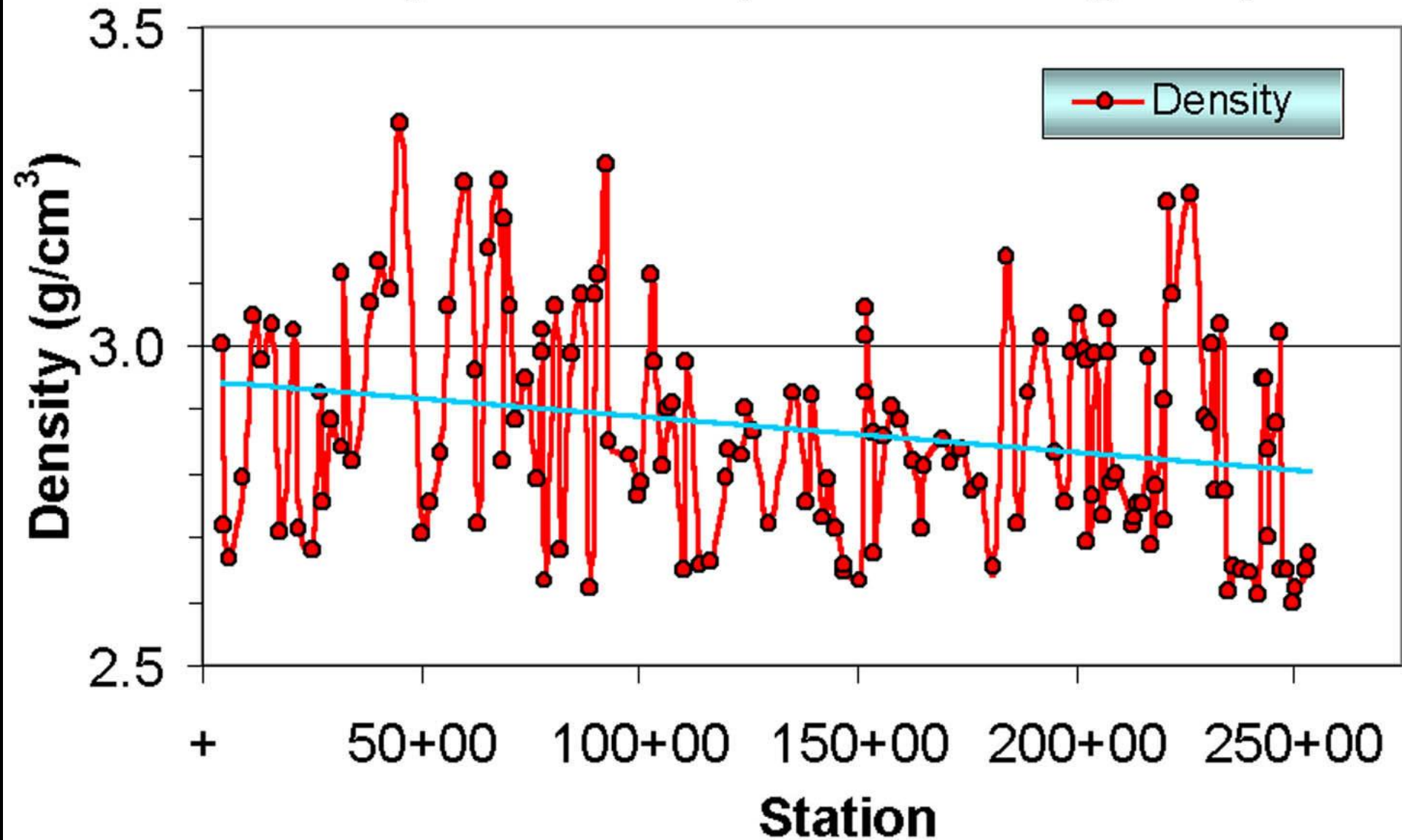




**Incorrect Pre-Bid Lithotype Anticipation from Tunnel-Horizon Borings**



## Density Tunnel #1 (Mean = 2.87 g/cm<sup>3</sup>)



**Density Analysis >> Anticipation (~2.5-2.6)**

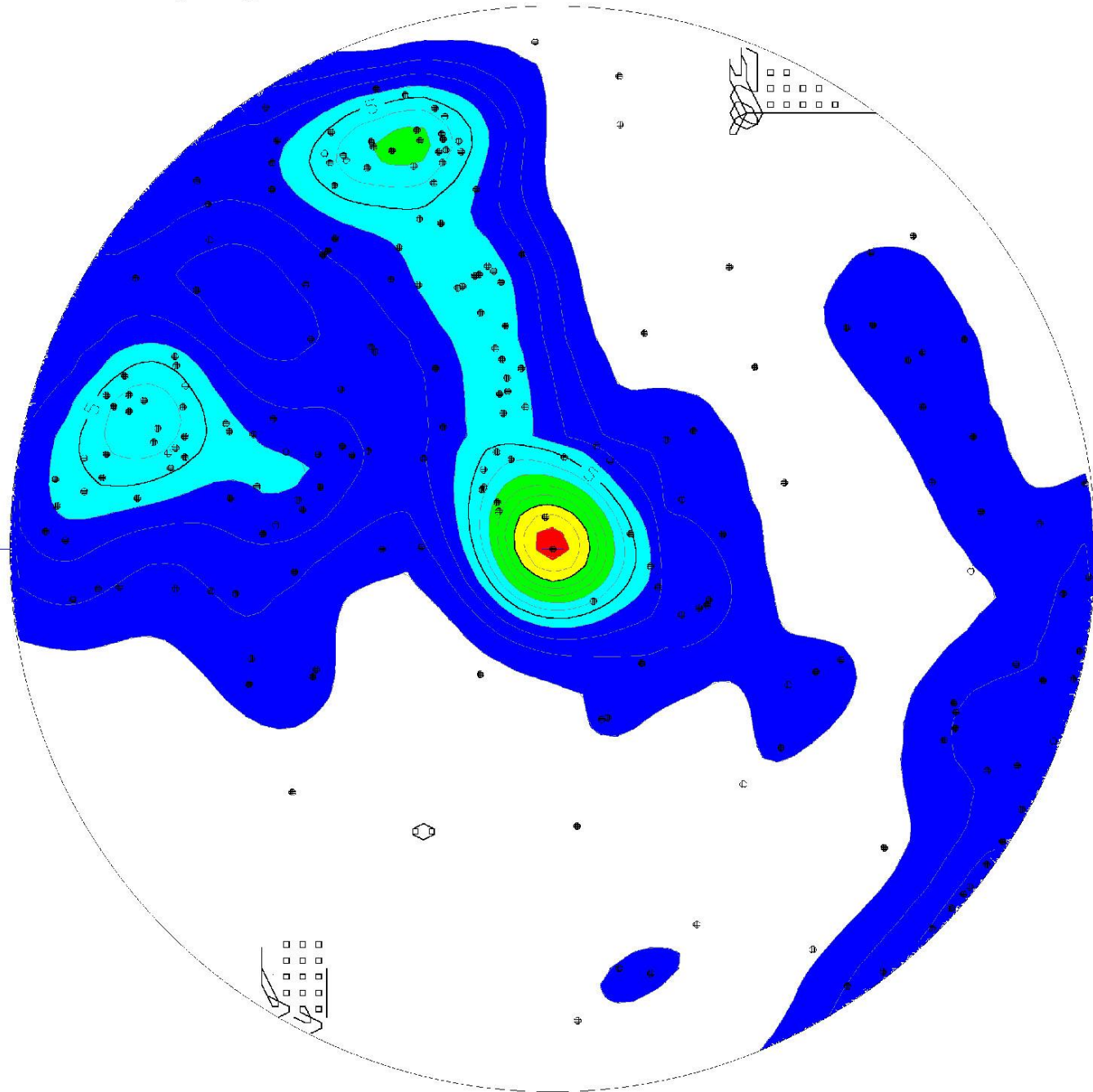


**Pre-bid Data =**  
**NE-trending**  
**Steep SE Dip**  
**of Foliation**  
**Very Favorable**  
**Tunnel Drive**  
**Orientation!!**

**Instead:**  
**11% ~ 0°**  
**27% <30°**  
**38% Gentle Dips**  
**Very Unfavorable**  
**TBM Tunnel Drive**  
**Orientation!!**

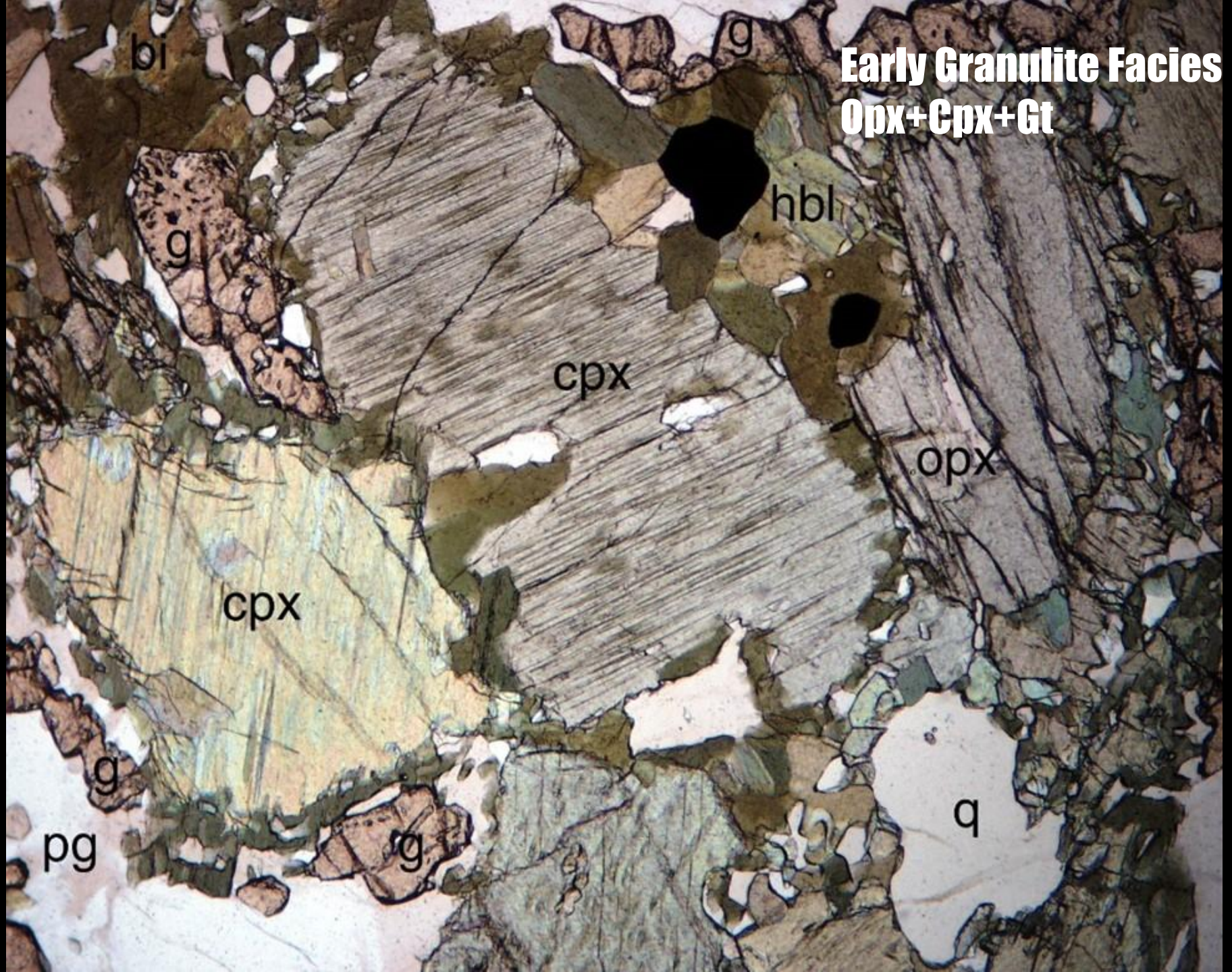
Gneissic Layering/Foliation

N



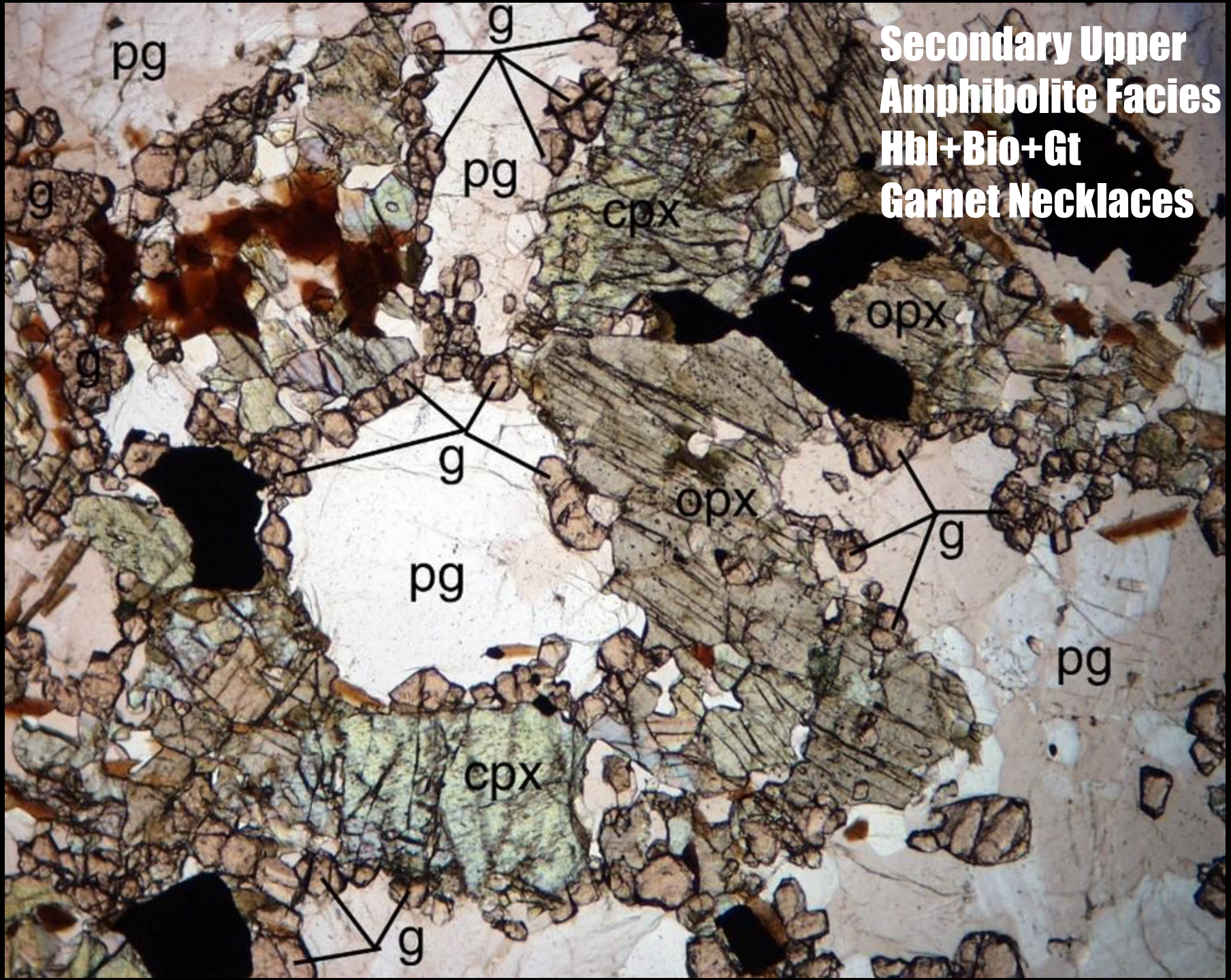


**Early Granulite Facies**  
**Opx+Cpx+Gt**

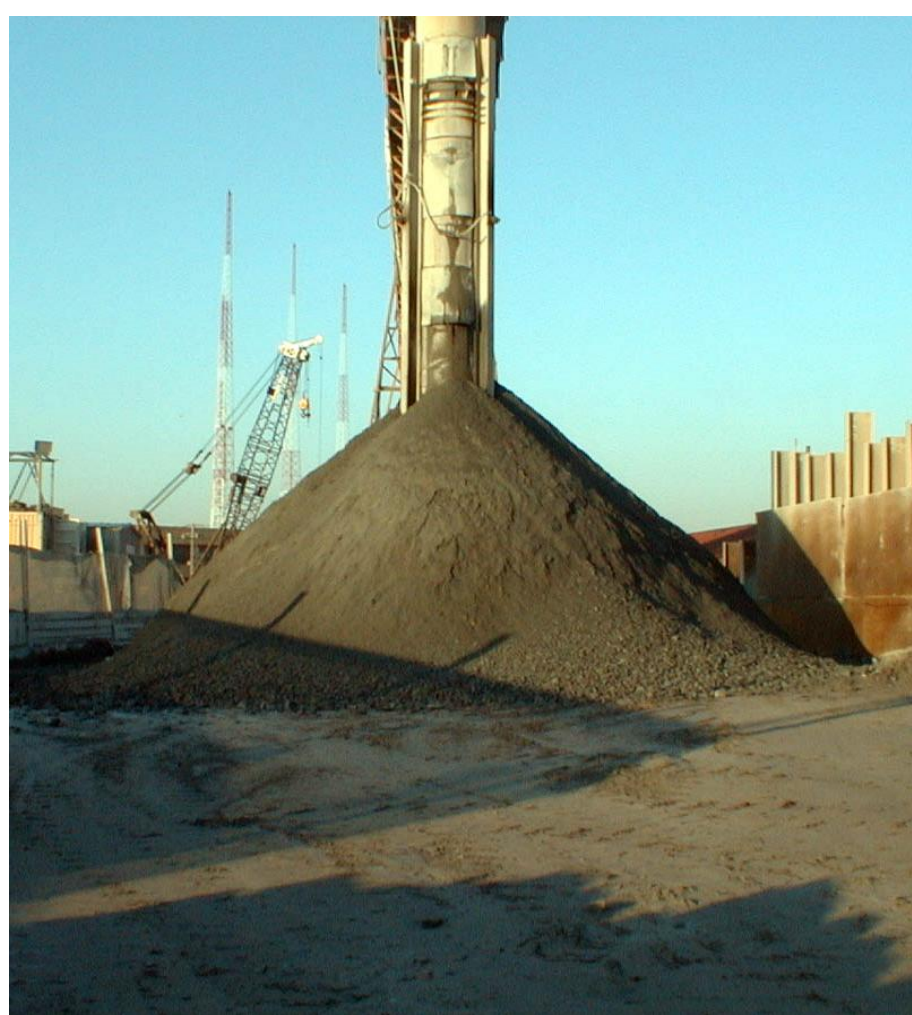




**Secondary Upper  
Amphibolite Facies  
Hbl+Bio+Gt  
Garnet Necklaces**







**~11% of Tunnel up to 50% Garnet  
in 32 Zones (Ore Deposit!!!)  
Abrasive, Tough Granoblastic Rock Mass =  
Low Penetration Rate of <6'/hour vs.  
9'/hour Anticipated and Excessive Fines**



# Subaqueous Bridge Shafts







# Passaic Fm Sandstone

**Water, Blocks and Aquatic Life = Hydrologic Connectivity with River**



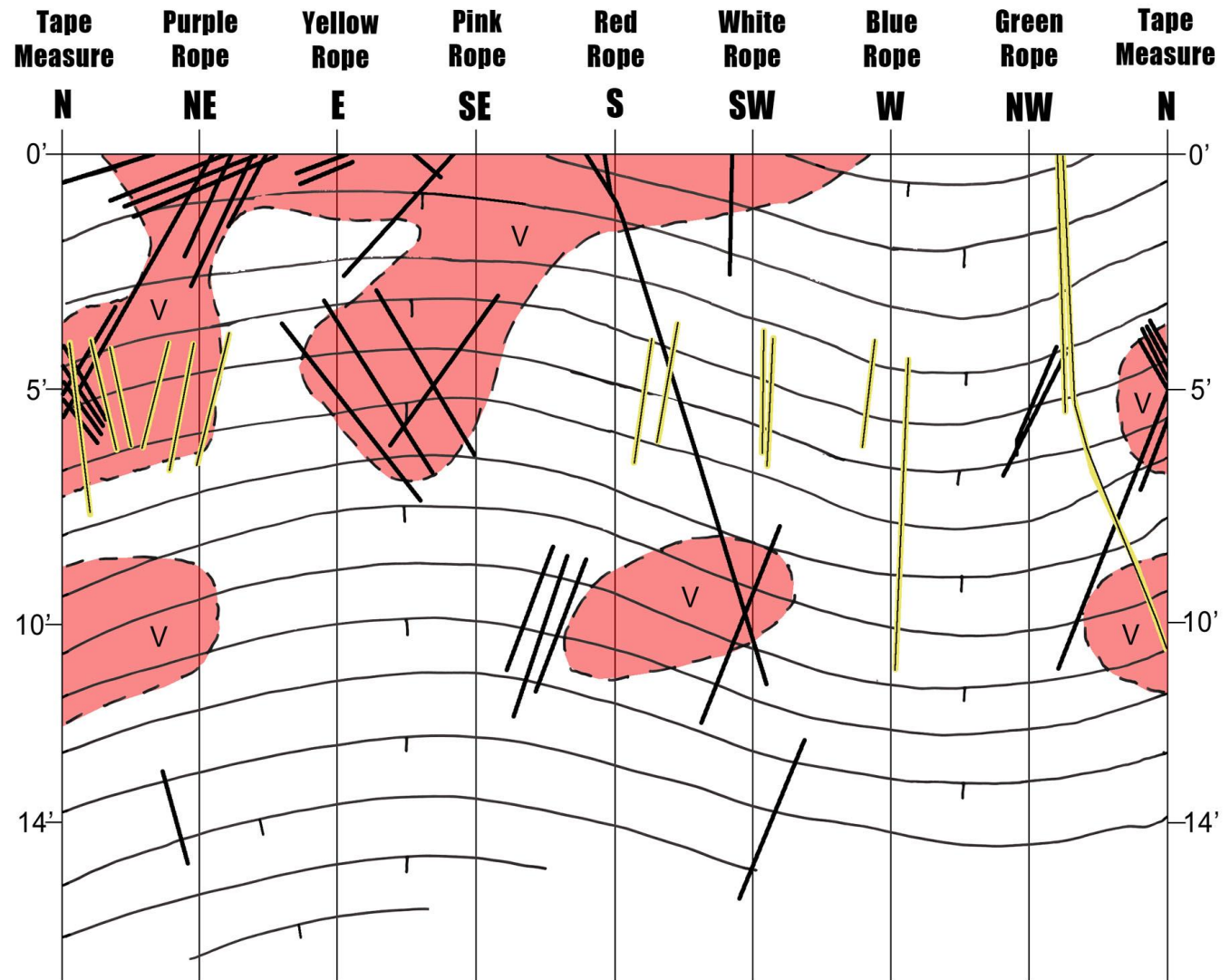
# Video Mapping System









# CIRCUMFERENTIAL MAP - SHAFT 23 ROCK SOCKET PASSAIC RIVER BRIDGE

## 2-D Map From Videos



### EXPLANATION

- 
 Bedding Planes
- 
 Fractures
- 
 Fractures with Calcite
- 
 Voids Outlined by  
Intersecting Fractures

Geology Mapped By C. Merguerian  
From 22 July 2013 Video Calibrated  
with Tape Measure and Oriented Rope

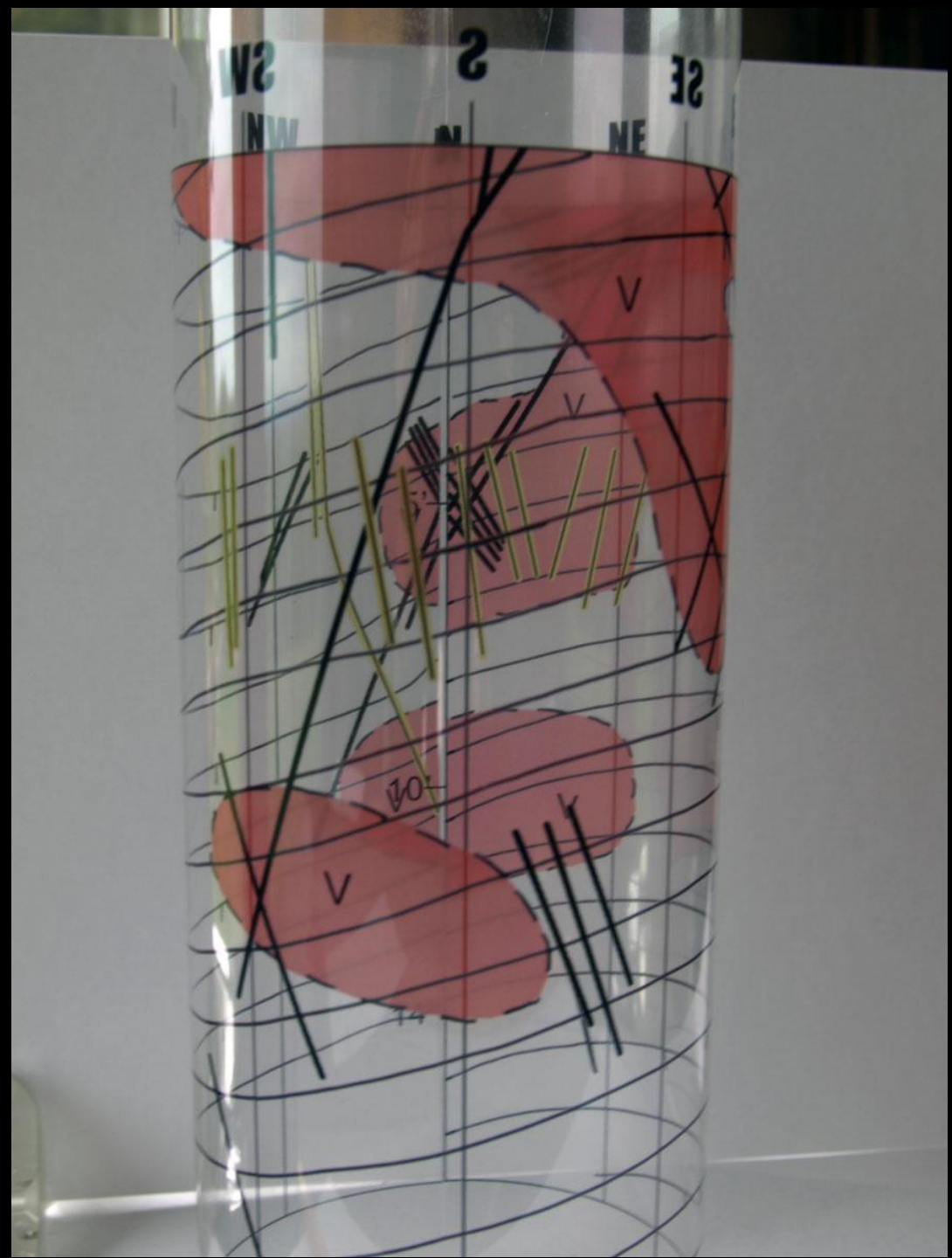


# Shaft 23 – Curled 3-D Map on Acetate Detected Three Intersecting Fault Systems

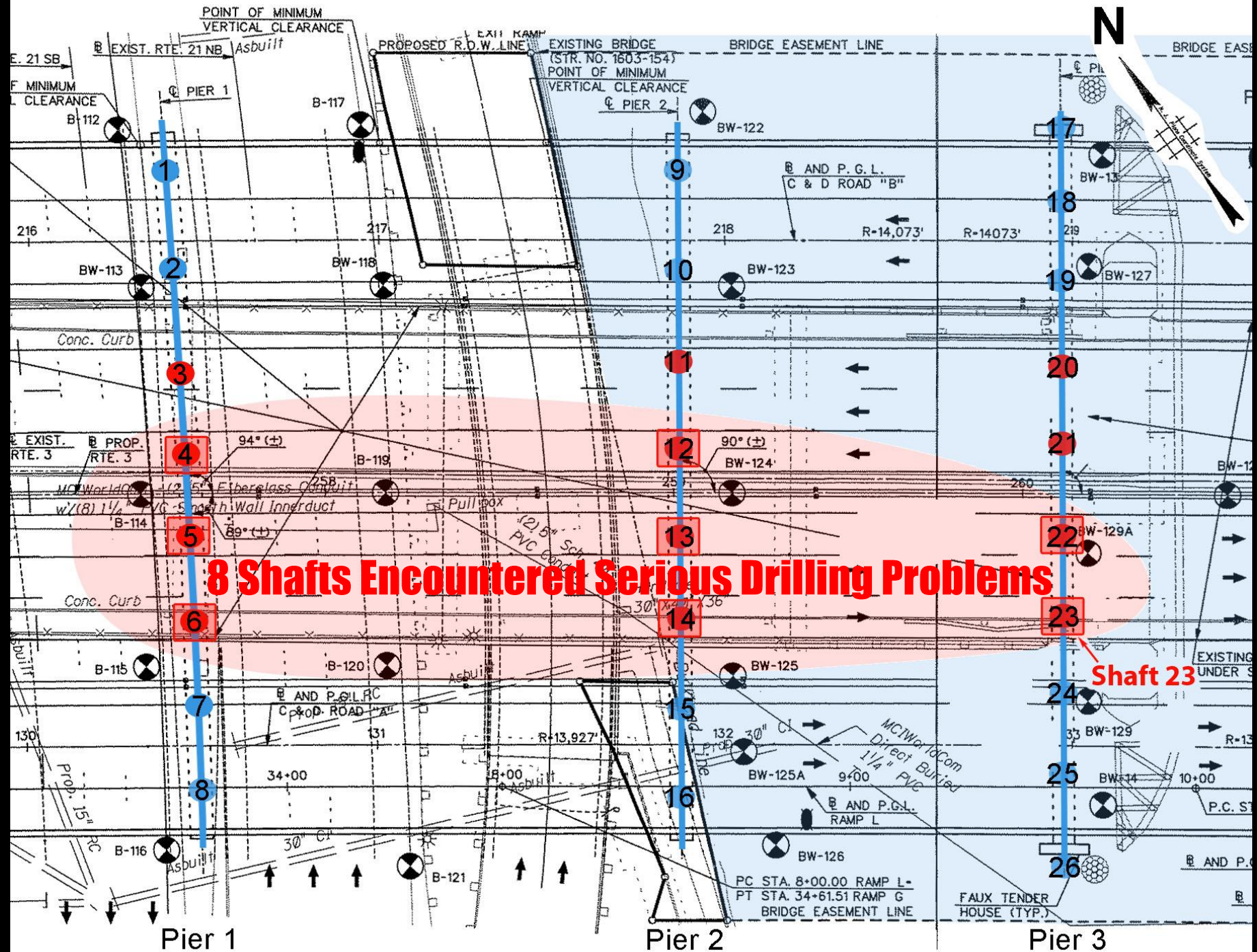
1)  $N35^{\circ}E, 75^{\circ}NW$

2)  $N25^{\circ}E, 80^{\circ}SE - 80^{\circ}NW$   
Conjugate Set

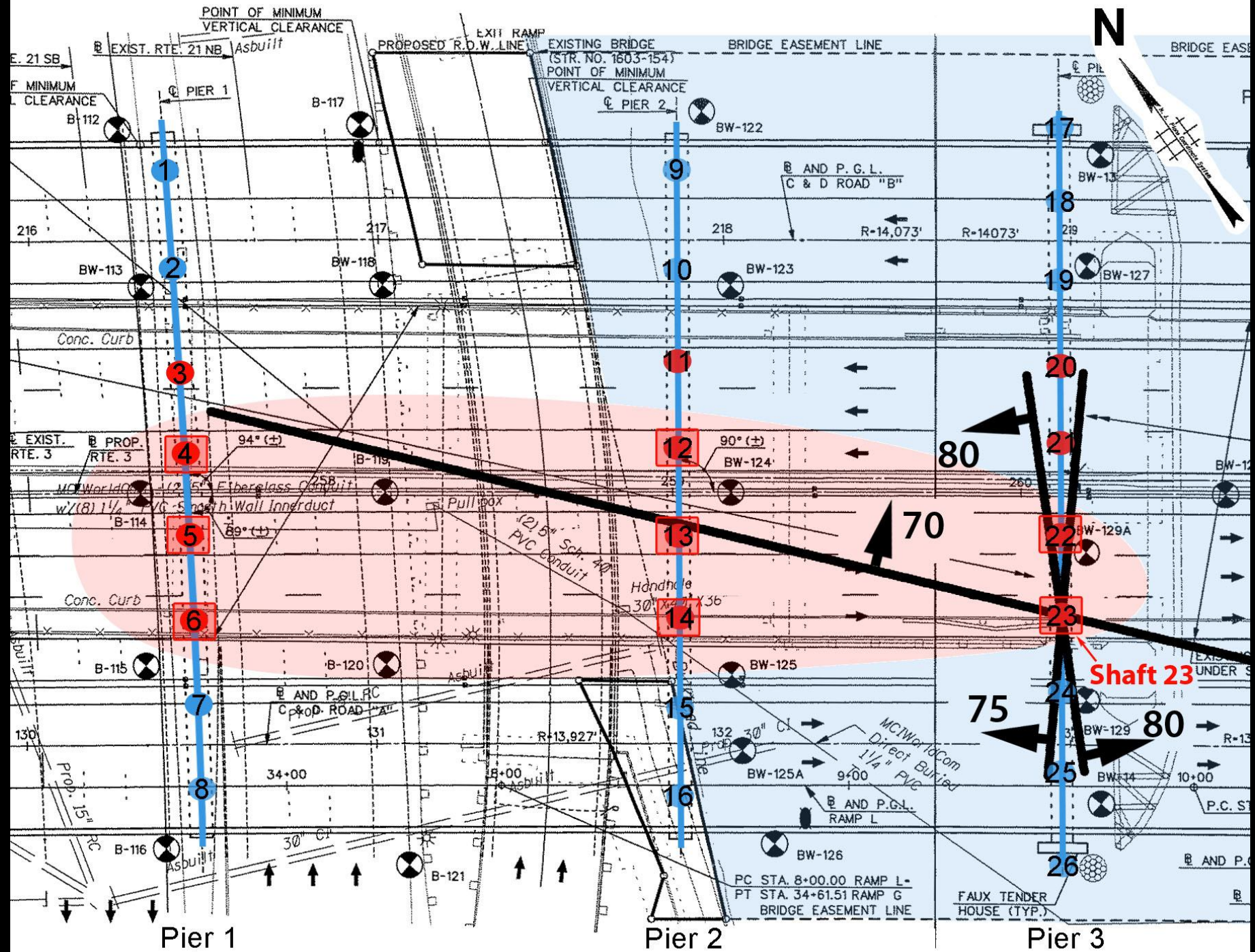
3)  $N40^{\circ}W, 70^{\circ}NE$













# Terrestrial Caissons

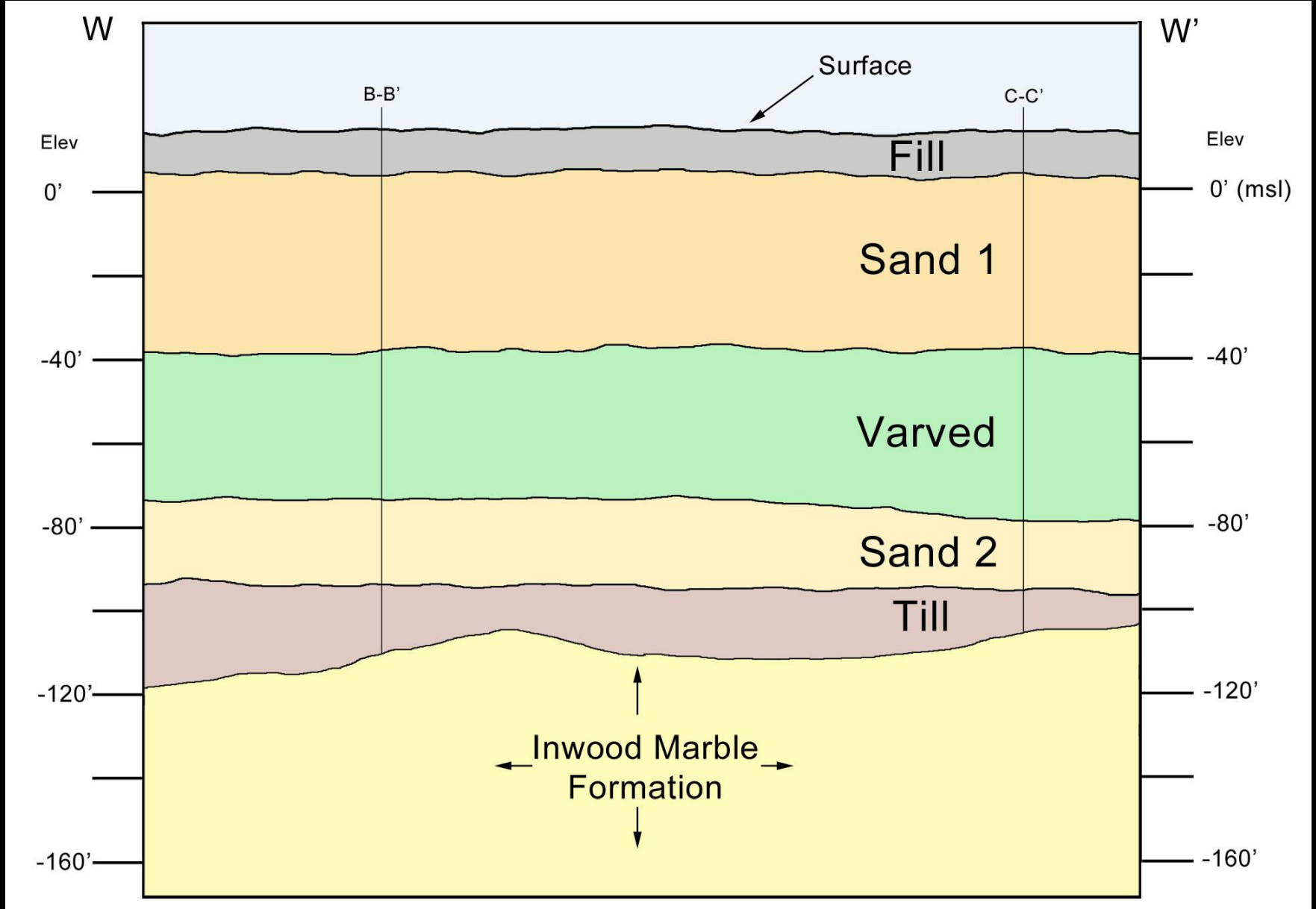
## As-Built Contractor Experience -

- "heavy water, sand, and rock"
- "excessive water from casing"
- "thick (heavy) sediment inflows up to 25 feet"
- "seams and rock ledges"
- "large rocks and dirty discharge"
- "socket making water"
- "communication between open drill sites"
- "flooding of the jobsite"
- "spoils on the ground"
- "equipment damage including broken shoes, rig tilting, hammer clogging and unanticipated hammer firing"



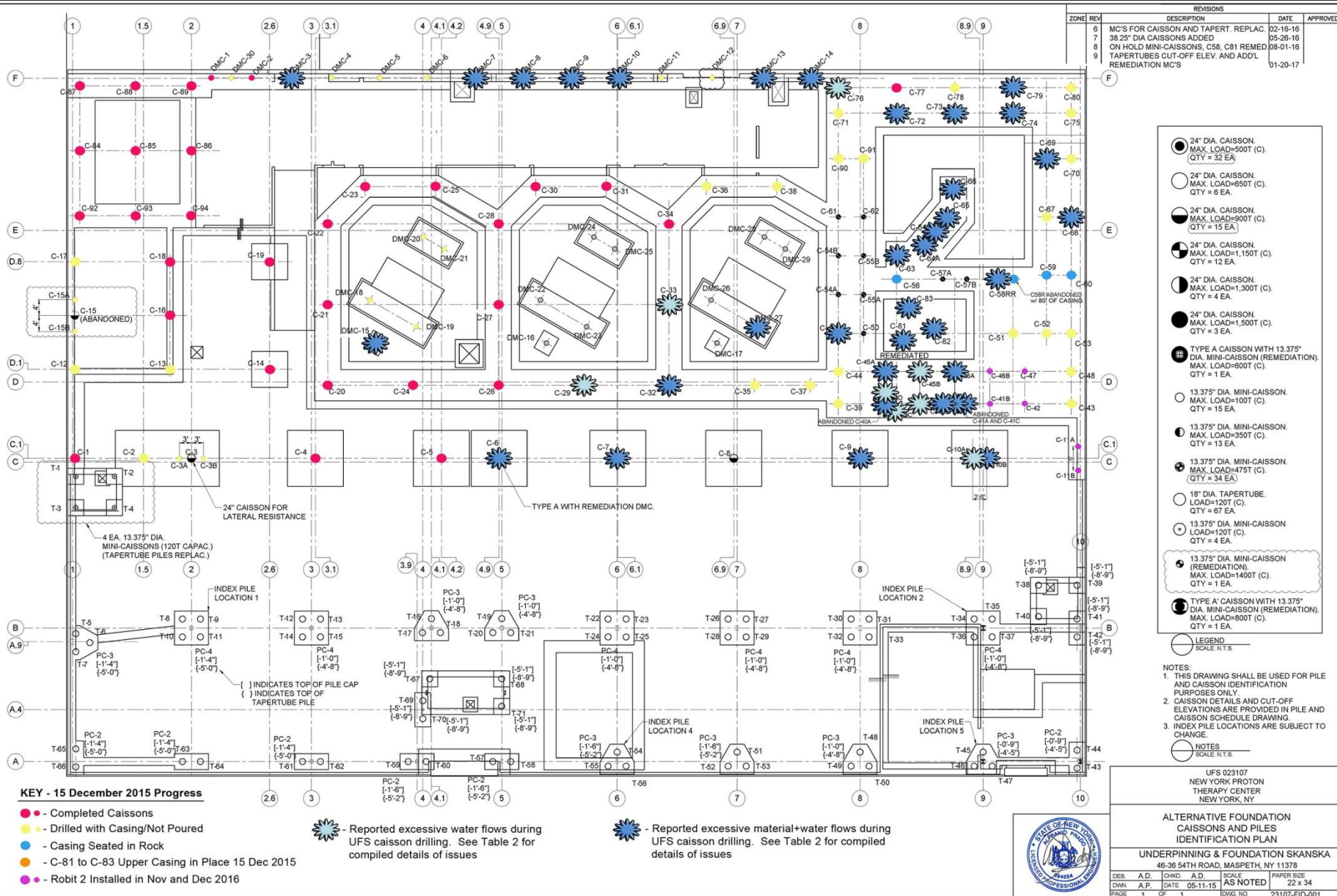


**Expectation: Roughly 100' of unconsolidated overburden covering **competent** marble bedrock – the **softest and easiest to drill** rock type in NYC!**

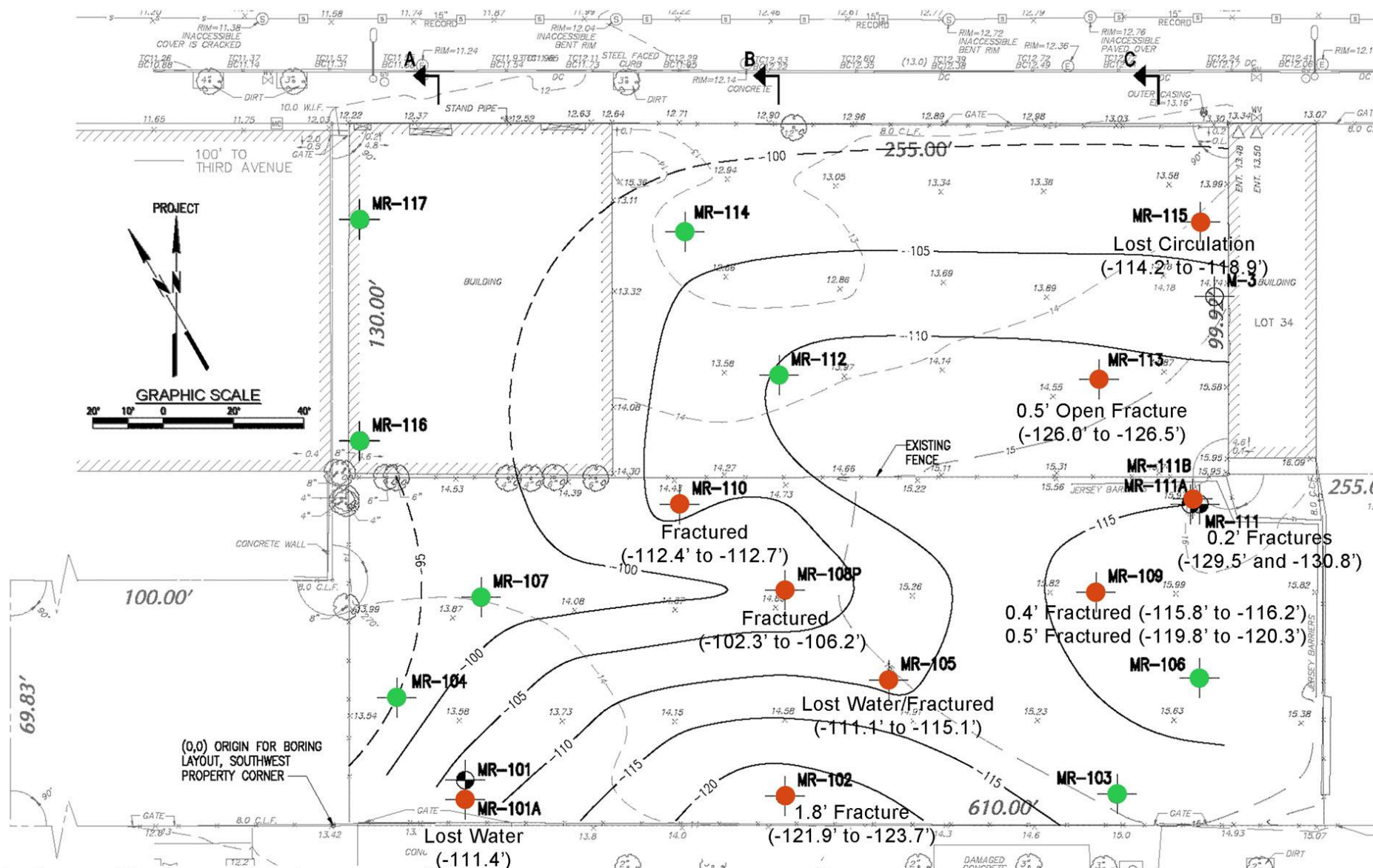




# 44 (29.7%) of 148 Caisson Drilling Issues – Same Means/Methods

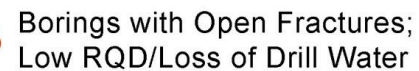
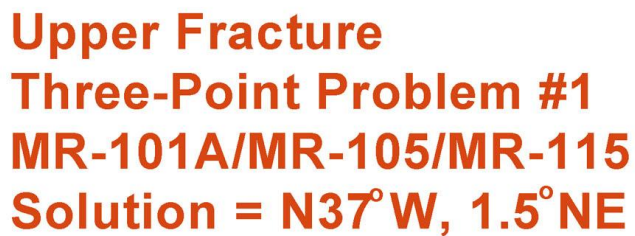




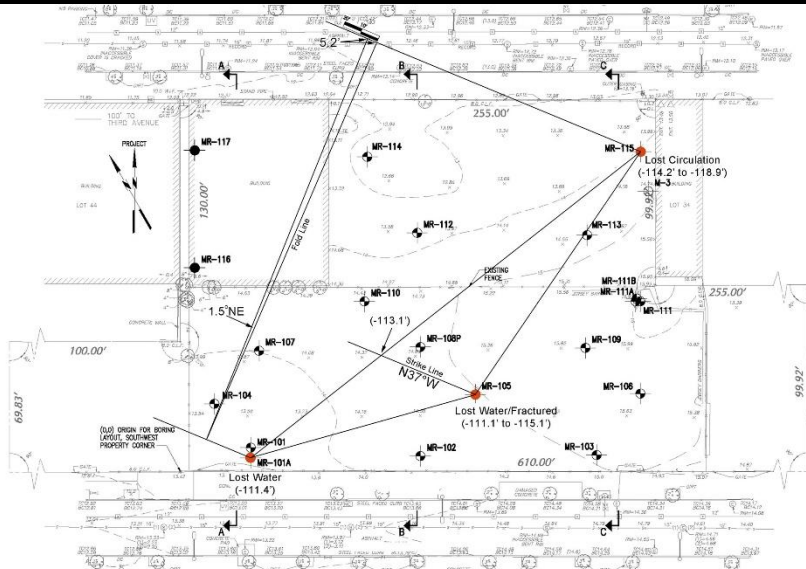


● Borings with Open Fractures;  
 Low RQD/Loss of Drill Water  
 ● Borings without Open Fractures  
 High REC and RQD

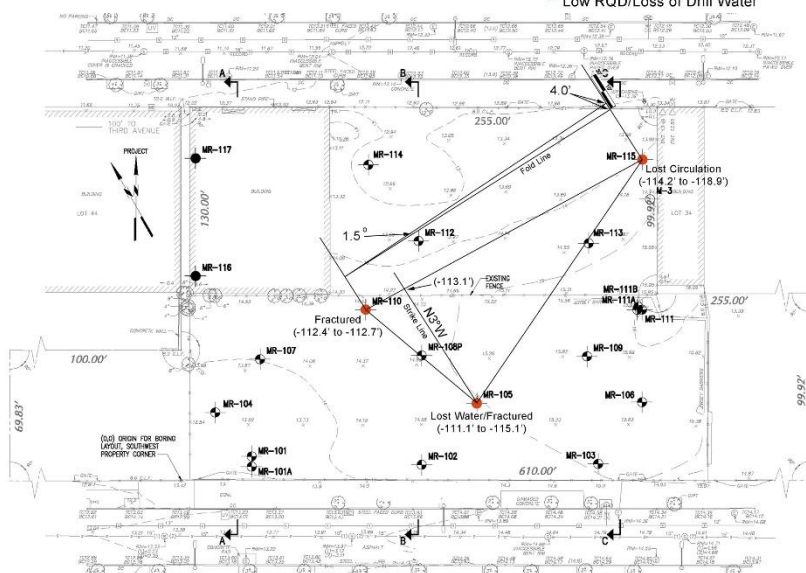




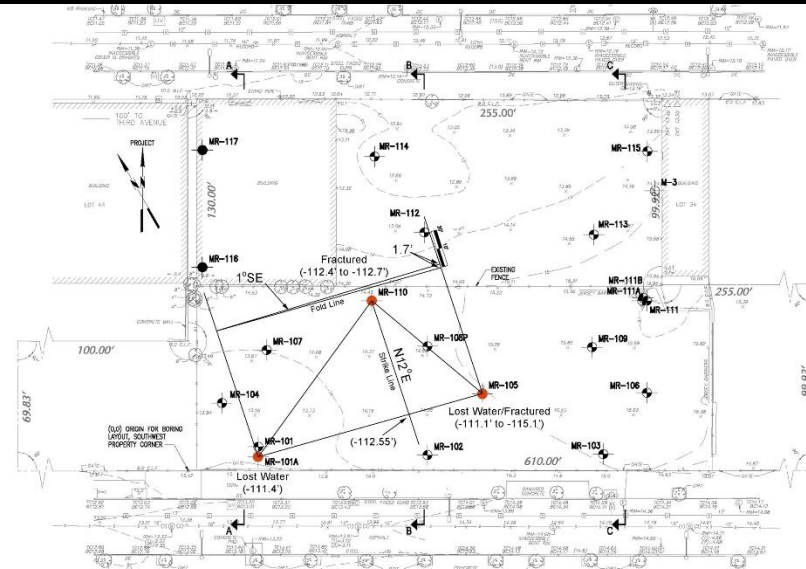




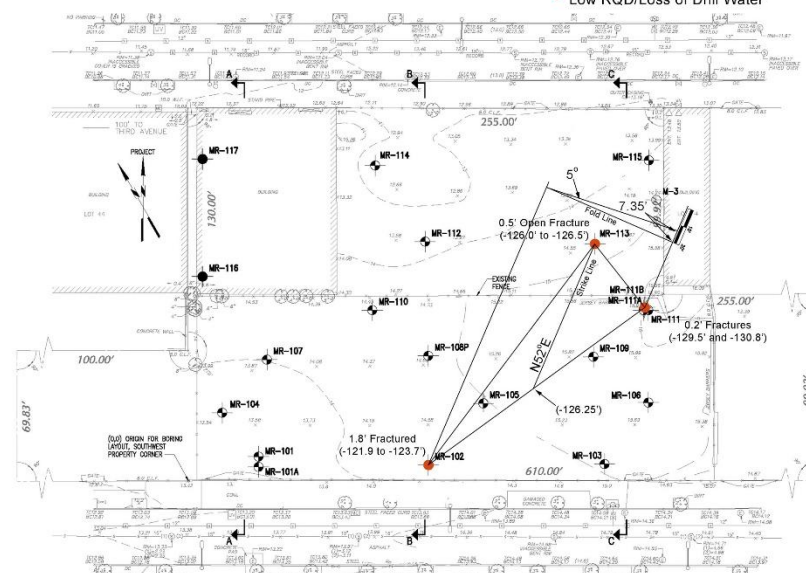
**Upper Fracture  
Three-Point Problem #1  
MR-101A/MR-105/MR-115  
Solution = N37°W, 1.5°NE**



**Upper Fracture  
Three-Point Problem #3  
MR-105/MR-110/MR-115  
Solution = N3°W, 1.5°NE**

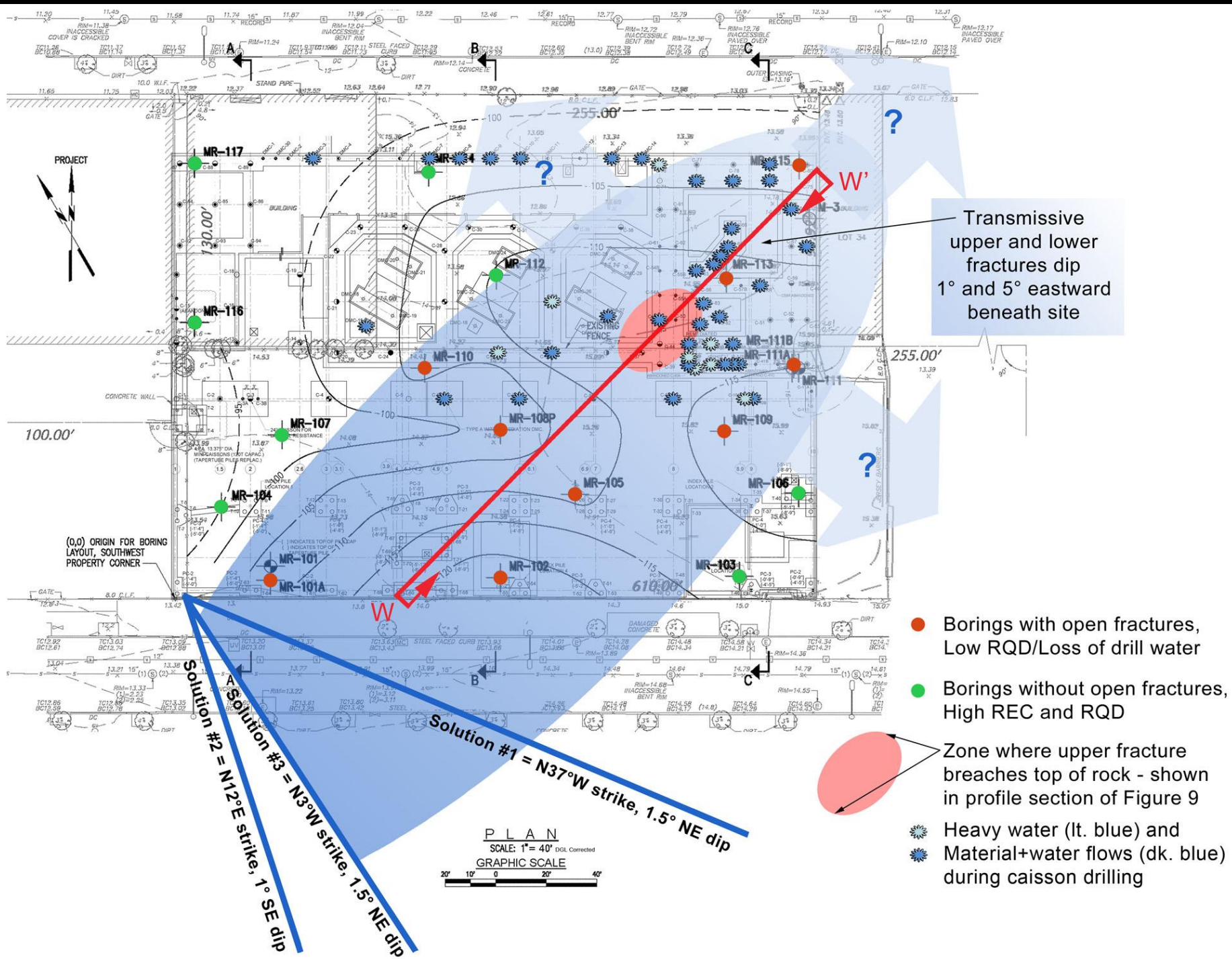


**Upper Fracture  
Three-Point Problem #2  
MR-101A/MR-105/MR-110  
Solution = N12°E, 1°SE**

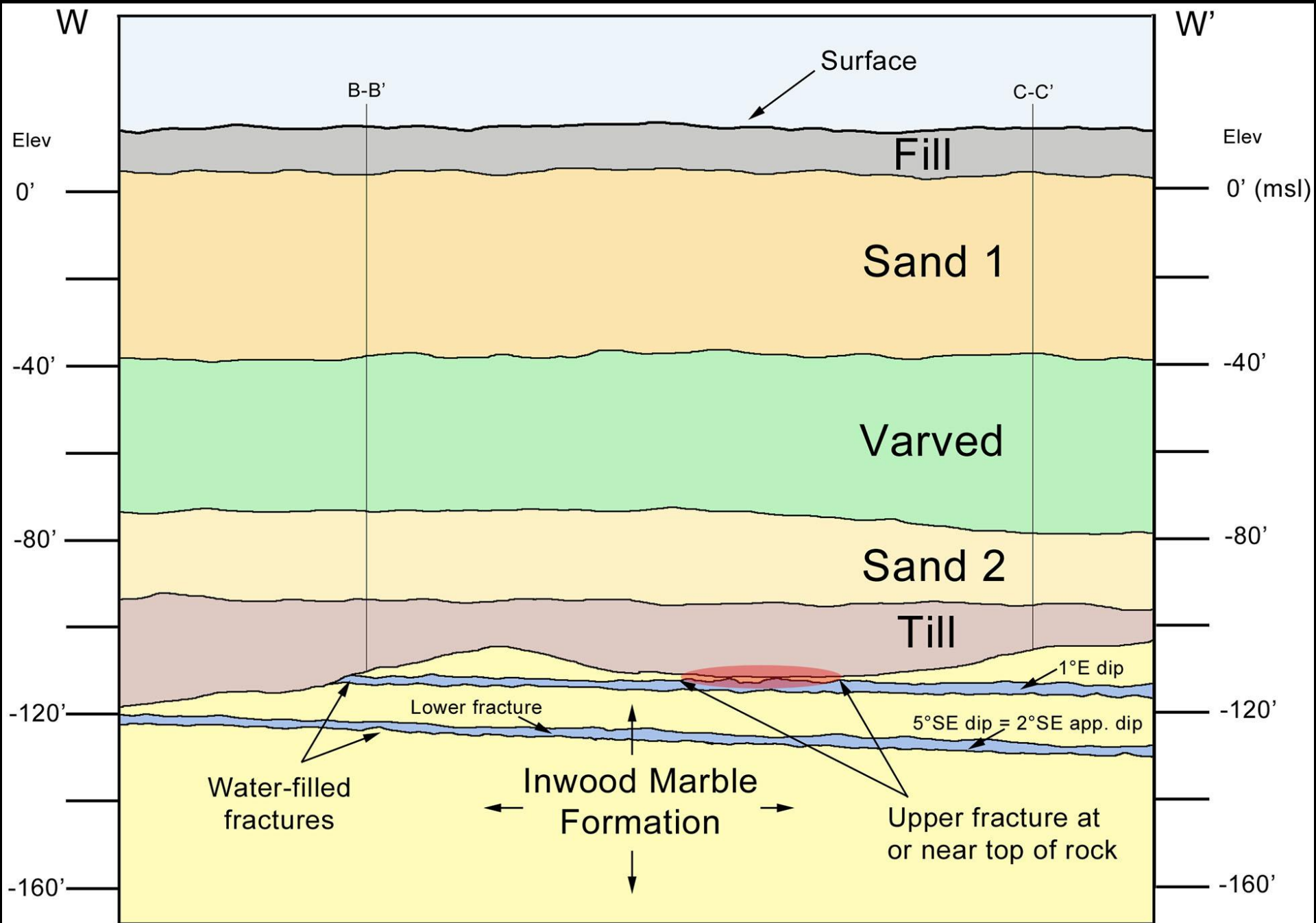


**Lower Fracture  
Three-Point Problem #4  
MR-102/MR-111B/MR-113  
Solution = N52°E, 5°SE**











**100' of Water Saturated Overburden +  
Unanticipated Fractured Bedrock That Breaches Top of Rock =  
Water, Water, Everywhere =  
Valid Differing Site Condition Claim**



**Contractors**



