

# Surface Geology

## Menoken SW Quadrangle, North Dakota

**Karen J. R. Mitchell**

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### UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

#### QUATERNARY SYSTEM

##### RECENT

##### OAHE FORMATION

###### **Qal** Alluvium

Moderately sorted lenses of sand, silt, clay, and occasionally gravel. Typically grayish brown to dark brown, moderately to obscurely bedded, and often contains aquatic shells and plant fragments. These Recent deposits are up to 50 feet thick in the Missouri River floodplain and up to 15 feet thick along creeks in the area.

###### **Qp** Pond Sediment

Typically laminated, dark brown to black, silt and clay found in topographically low areas. These deposits are generally less than 10 feet thick in this area.

###### **Qw** Windblown Sediment

Moderately to well sorted, grayish brown to tan, sand and silt. These sediments are present in this area as a mantle, slightly modifying the underlying topography. These deposits are generally less than 10 feet thick in this area.

###### **Qws** Windblown Sediment

Moderately to well sorted, grayish brown to tan, sand and silt. These sediments are present in this area as a mantle, slightly modifying the underlying topography. These deposits are generally less than 10 feet thick in this area. Overlying the Soo Aquifer.

#### PLEISTOCENE

##### COLEHARBOR GROUP

###### **Qat** Alluvial Terrace Deposits

Typically consist of gravel and medium- to coarse-grained sand. The gravel consists primarily of pebble- to cobble-sized igneous rock and locally derived rock fragments and is commonly iron stained and occasionally iron cemented. Overall, the unit is poorly sorted but it generally contains well-sorted sand lenses. These quartz sand lenses typically contain thin layers of lignite and clinker fragments. The sand and gravel lenses commonly range in thickness from 10 to 20 feet and are typically overlain by three to 10 feet of windblown silt. Alluvial deposits are generally found on terraces 20 to 50 feet above the Missouri River, between elevations of 1,640 to 1,700 feet. Terrace deposits are easily identified in aerial photographs and on the ground by flat surface topography and the presence of steep cliffs or hillslopes on the river side of the deposit.

###### **Qg** Glacial Till

A poorly sorted mixture of pebbly, gray to brown sand, silt, and clay. Till once mantled the entire area, but erosion has generally confined it to the uplands in this area. The uplands are generally well vegetated and till exposures are limited.

#### TERTIARY SYSTEM

##### PALEOCENE

###### **Tc** CANNONBALL FORMATION

Consists of alternating beds of marine sandstone and mudstone. The sandstone is grayish green to yellowish brown, medium to fine grained, generally poorly cemented and burrowed, containing the trace fossil ophiomorpha. The poorly cemented sandstone is commonly capped by a two- to three-foot-thick, well cemented, lenticular sandstone. The mudstone is light to dark gray to black, blocky claystone and commonly is banded with lenses of white to yellowish brown silt and very fine sand. The mudstone forms smooth, rounded slopes. The maximum thickness of the Cannonball Formation in this area is approximately 300 feet.

###### **Tl** LUDLOW FORMATION

Nonmarine, yellowish brown to grayish brown alternating beds of sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, and swelling claystone.

#### CRETACEOUS SYSTEM

###### **Kh** HELL CREEK FORMATION

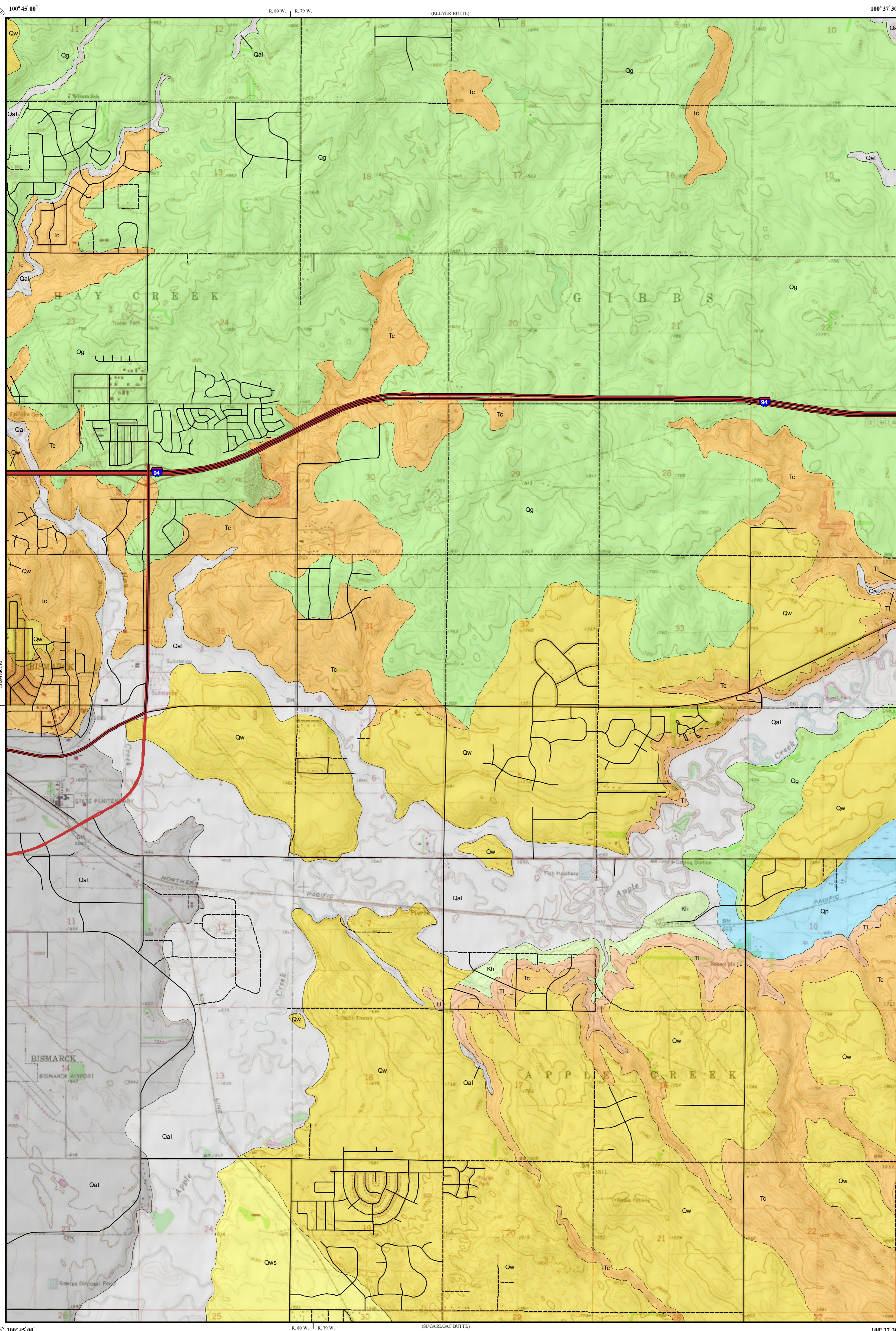
Nonmarine, gray to grayish brown colored beds of sandstone, siltstone, mudstone, and swelling claystone.

#### Geologic Symbols

- Known contact between two geologic units
- - - Approximate contact between two geologic units

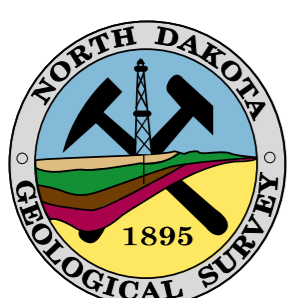
#### Other Features

- Interstate Highway
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road



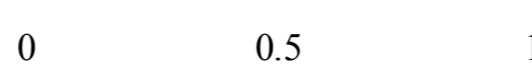
Note: Menoken SW 24k quadrangle was not edgematched to adjacent mapped 24k quadrangles: Sugarloaf Butte and Bismarck. It was edgematched with mapped 24k quadrangle Keever Butte.

This geologic map was funded in part by the USGS National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program. No. 1434-HQ-96-AG-01509.



Menoken SW Quadrangle, North Dakota

Scale 1:24,000



Miles

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection Standard Parallels 46° 45' 00" and 46° 52' 30"  
1927 North American Datum NGVD 1929  
USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Map Contour Interval 10 Feet  
Road Layer Rectified to 2003 NAIP Digital Orthophoto

