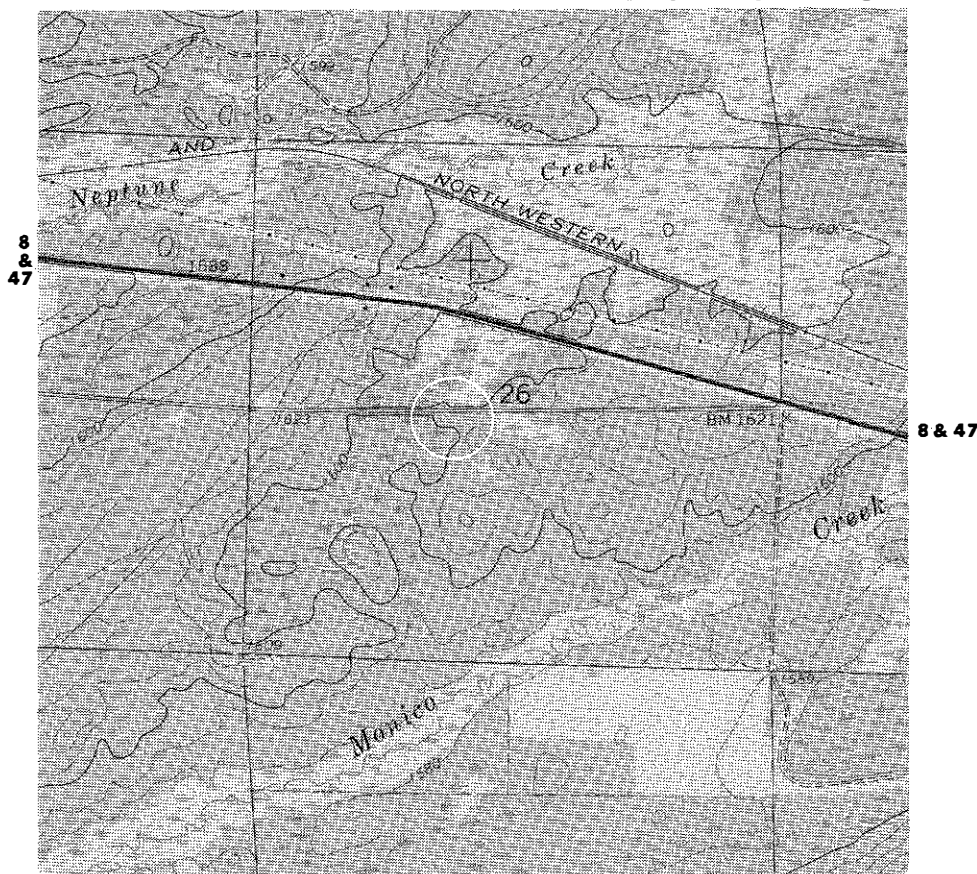


Title: Monico West - Section 26 Pyritic Tuff

Location: Old U.S. 8 west of Monico, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 26, T.36N., R.10E., Oneida County (Monico 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ -minute topographic quadrangle, 1965).



Author: M.G. Mudrey, Jr. (1978)

Description: The low outcrop on the north side of the road is a fine, light-gray, pyritic, indistinctly bedded lithic-crystal tuff which trends N. 60°-70° E. and dips vertically. The crystals consist of millimeter-sized, sericitized plagioclase. Most of the crystals are euhedral and embayed and corroded. Less altered lithic fragments contain minor amphibole. Actinolite, chlorite, and epidote are the dominant alteration minerals. Prehnite (?) and hematite are sparse.

The low ledge on the south side of the road consists of beds of gray, fine-grained, chloritic crystal tuff and bedded, light gray, aphanitic ash. The tuff is similar to the tuff on the north side, but matrix is more abundant, and the crystals sparser. Chlorite in the ash is berlin blue in thin section. This volcanoclastic unit varies considerably from fine tuffs and ashes to lapilli tuff. The unit is 3,000 to 4,000 feet thick and can be traced along strike at least three miles.

Discussion: Massive sulfide ore bodies consist mainly of sulfide-rich tuff, and grade distally into pyritic tuffs. These lithologies usually do not crop out because the sulfides weather readily. Therefore, the sulfide-rich outcrop here is unusual. It illustrates the general lithology and composition of the distal ends of a massive sulfide ore body. Some outcrops in the area contain more

sulfide than this one. A recent road cut in Sec. 21, T.36N., R.11E. contains abundant sulfidic and sericitic schists, and may represent the lateral equivalent of the mineralized zones at Little Sand Lake. The trend of bedding at this locality and at the Crandon deposit near Little Sand Lake in Forest County is slightly north of due west, and on projection this locality could be essentially the same stratigraphic horizon as that at Little Sand Lake. Intervening between the two, however, is the granite body at Jennings (exposed at Beck Tower Wayside). Wisconsin aeromagnetic data suggest a northwest-trending fault immediately west of the Little Sand Lake deposit, therefore, this particular exposure probably is not directly correlatable with Little Sand Lake, but does illustrate many of the rock types spatially associated with the host rocks for the massive sulfide deposit.