

more or less rounded in shape, some of which are striated while the great majority are smooth and without glacial markings. In general character it is very similar to the till which underlies so much of the plains of northwestern Canada between the edge of the Archean nucleus and the Rocky mountains. Similar till was found to underlie the bottoms and sides of most of the valleys everywhere throughout the glaciated area in the Yukon district, having evidently been formed as a ground moraine beneath the great sheets of ice.

STRIATION

Striated rock surfaces were not very often seen, for where the rock is exposed it has usually become rough through weathering, but they were recognized in a few places on the interior plateau, and in every instance they indicated a direction of ice-movement motion from the coast toward the interior or essentially simply a wider extension of the glacial conditions which exist in the region at the present time. In this extension toward the interior the ice for the most part followed the great valleys which trench the surface of the country in a general north-and-south direction, and therefore the movement of the ice was generally northward.

Close to the coast the glaciers flowed seaward and filled the many deep valleys which descend from the mountains to the Pacific ocean. In the Skagway valley the White Pass railroad while constructing its line has cut a notch along a rocky hillside which has been beautifully smoothed and scored by such a glacier.

MORAINES

Lateral moraines occasionally form conspicuous features along the sides of the mountains, often running as long, narrow lines of boulders or transported material, swaying slightly up and down with the irregularities of the surface, and in places running into water-worn terraces where some small stream has thrown its load of gravel against the side of the glacier. A very well marked moraine of this character extends along the west side of the valley of Aishihik lake at about 1,500 feet above the water. It is a fairly regular ridge of boulders, along the crest of which, in some places, runs the horse trail from Fort Selkirk southward to Pyramid harbor. Above it the surface of the mountain consists of a fairly even, regular incline of decomposed rock, while below it is a till-covered slope, often broken into very lumpy, irregular hills. Lateral moraines were also traced down the side of a deep valley north-west of Aishihik lake as well as in some other places.

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