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The composition and internal structure of drumlins: complexity versus commonality

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Abstract:

Investigation of drumlins is significant to both glaciology and palaeoglaciology but the sheer diversity of their composition and internal structure is often cited as a major obstacle towards a satisfactory explanation of their formation. Hypotheses that receive support in one location are all too easily falsified by data from drumlins elsewhere; but most observations are gleaned from rather small sample sizes, which may not be representative and, in extreme cases, may not offer a valid hypothesis test. This paper addresses this problem and presents the first systematic survey of the vast literature on the composition and internal structure of drumlins. The overall aim is to provide a concise summary of observations and identify any emergent patterns or trends (commonality versus complexity) that hypotheses of drumlin formation should be able to explain. Results confirm that investigations are often limited by availability of suitable sediment exposures (40% of studies report data from <5 drumlins and 44% do not specify sample size), although borehole data and geophysical techniques can alleviate this problem. It is clear that the constituents of drumlins are incredibly diverse in terms of their composition (e.g. a range of lithologies, clast shapes, sizes and fabrics); structure (e.g. sediments that are stratified, homogeneous, surface conformable, unconformable); and evidence of deformation (e.g. ranging from widespread, to partial, to absent). Despite this diversity, our review leads us to suggest that drumlin composition can be simplified to five basic types: (i), mainly bedrock,

31 (ii), part bedrock/part till; (iii), mainly till; (iv), part till/part sorted sediments; and (v),
32 mainly sorted sediments. This is a potentially significant step, in that it reduces the
33 oft-cited complexity of drumlin composition and provides a more realistic goal for
34 theories or numerical models of drumlin formation to target. These different types can
35 occur within the same drumlin field, which leaves us with two possible implications
36 for drumlin formation. (1) Different types of drumlin are formed by different
37 processes, despite being morphologically similar (equifinality?) – investigation of
38 drumlin composition may, therefore, reveal diagnostic processes/explanations for
39 these different types of drumlin and we argue that bedrock ‘drumlins’ are a good
40 example. (2) A single process occurs across large parts of the ice-bed interface to
41 create drumlinised terrain in a variety of sediments – investigation of drumlin
42 composition may, in this case, simply reflect pre-existing sediments but, importantly,
43 the way in which the drumlin-forming mechanism modifies/is modified by them. We
44 argue that the latter, simpler, explanation applies to the other four types of drumlin
45 and conclude that the diversity in drumlin composition is not an obstacle to a single
46 unifying theory.

47

48

49 **1. Introduction**

50 Drumlins are ubiquitous on former ice sheet beds and are probably the most
51 extensively studied bedform produced beneath glaciers (e.g. Menzies, 1979a; 1984;
52 Clark et al., 2009). The ‘text-book’ description of a drumlin typically describes them
53 as streamlined oval-shaped hills with a long axis parallel to the orientation of ice flow
54 and with an up-ice (stoss) face that is generally steeper than the down-ice (lee) face
55 (cf. Menzies, 1979a; although see Spagnolo et al., 2010; in press). Analysis of a large
56 sample of drumlins from Britain (>30,000) reveals that they are typically between
57 250-1000 m long, 120-300 m wide and between 1.7-4.1 times as long as they are wide
58 (Clark et al. 2009).

59 Scientifically, investigation of drumlins is important for at least two main reasons.
60 First, their alignment with former ice flow direction makes them an important (if not
61 essential) ingredient in glacial geomorphological inversion models employed to
62 reconstruct the dynamic behaviour of palaeo-ice sheets through time (e.g. Boulton and

63 Clark, 1990; Kleman and Borgström, 1996; Kleman et al., 1997; Greenwood and
64 Clark, 2009a, b). For example, it has also been suggested that their shape and, in
65 particular, their elongation ratio (length divided by width), is related to former ice
66 velocities (Chorley, 1959; Hart, 1999; Stokes and Clark, 2002; Hess and Briner,
67 2009).

68 Second, drumlin formation results from subglacial processes that are difficult to
69 investigate beneath modern-day ice sheets. Their form and composition, therefore,
70 preserve important information regarding how ice flow interacts with its substrate and
71 knowledge of such processes is crucial to understanding the dynamics of present-day
72 ice sheets. Subglacial processes beneath present-day ice sheets are rather poorly
73 constrained, but we do know that they produce bedforms (including drumlins), which
74 has recently been confirmed by geophysical investigations of their existence and
75 ‘growth’ beneath the Antarctic ice sheet (King et al., 2007, 2009; Smith et al., 2007).
76 However, detailed investigation of drumlins beneath contemporary ice sheets,
77 especially regarding their composition and internal structure, still represents a major
78 logistical challenge. Thus, drumlins on deglaciated glacier forelands and palaeo-ice
79 sheet beds can provide information crucial to our understanding of subglacial
80 processes beneath ice sheets. This, in turn provides improved constraints for the
81 development of physically-based numerical models of drumlin formation (e.g.
82 Hindmarsh, 1998; Fowler, 2000) and ice flow dynamics. As Baranowski (1979: p.
83 435) notes: “... until the mechanism responsible for drumlin formation is fully
84 understood, some of the key glaciological problems related to the glacier bed will
85 remain obscure”. In this respect, drumlins represent an important link between
86 glaciology and palaeo-glaciology.

87 Despite the importance of drumlins to both glaciology and palaeoglaciology, their
88 origin is enigmatic and controversial, with many competing (and sometimes radically
89 different) ideas put forward to explain their formation (e.g. Fairchild, 1929; Smalley
90 and Unwin, 1968; Smalley, 1981; Shaw, 1983; Boulton, 1987; Hindmarsh, 1998;
91 Fowler, 2000). It has been pointed out that the lack of consensus regarding their
92 formation is largely due to the large variability of both drumlin form and their internal
93 composition (see excellent overviews in Menzies, 1979a; Patterson and Hooke, 1995;
94 Benn and Evans, 1998). Observations that are used to support one hypothesis in one
95 location are often not found in other locations. Moreover, both their morphometry and

96 their composition have been used to develop theories of drumlin formation, with
97 different workers often placing a greater emphasis on which they consider to be most
98 important or diagnostic with regard to the drumlin-forming mechanism. For example,
99 Boyce and Eyles (1991: p. 787) suggest that the lack of consensus regarding drumlin
100 formation is “due fundamentally to a lack of detailed studies of the subsurface
101 geology of drumlin fields”; whereas in another study, Fisher and Spooner (1994, p.
102 294) suggest that “drumlin form rather than internal sedimentology” be used to
103 support their proposed mechanism of formation.

104 If there is a universal explanation for drumlin formation, which might be a reasonable
105 goal given the unimodal distribution of their size and shape (cf. Clark et al., 2009;
106 Spagnolo et al., 2010), the more robust hypotheses of their formation will be those
107 that are able to withstand falsification by large datasets/observations of both their
108 form and their composition. Recent advances in the spatial resolution of remote
109 sensing products, particularly digital elevation models, have enabled rigorous analysis
110 of large datasets of drumlin morphometry (e.g. 44,500 in Spagnolo et al., 2010;
111 >37,000 in Clark et al., 2009; and >6,500 in Hess and Briner, 2009). Unfortunately,
112 techniques that enable analysis of large sample sizes of their composition and internal
113 structure are very rare, and investigations are traditionally based on localised field
114 observations of a small number of sediment exposures (discussed in section 2). As
115 Clapperton (1989) notes, the “lack of data on internal structures precludes tightly
116 constrained testing of hypotheses of drumlin formation” (p. 397). Indeed, given the
117 diverse range of drumlin constituents, we are often left wondering which sets of
118 observations are more common and which are more unusual or obscure. A systematic
119 study of a large sample survey would go some way in addressing these issues and we
120 note that there are numerous reports of drumlin composition and structure in the
121 literature (we estimate >200 papers) that date back to the 19th century (e.g. Upham,
122 1892).

123

124 1.1.Aims and scope

125 The overall aim of this paper is to systematically compile observations of drumlin
126 composition and internal structure into a large sample in order to distil any patterns or
127 trends that may provide new insights regarding drumlin genesis and act as a stimulus

128 for further research. Given the often bewildering level of complexity surrounding
129 drumlin constituents, we intentionally refrain from an in-depth discussion of the
130 myriad of impressive sedimentological features that are reported (though that would
131 also be a worthwhile effort) and focus instead on summarising various aspects of
132 drumlin composition with the aim of evaluating whether any commonality exists that
133 theories of drumlin formation should be able to explain. In doing so, we hope to
134 reduce the oft-cited complexity that so often surrounds this subject and provide a
135 comprehensive yet accessible review. In this sense, although the paper is reviewing
136 sedimentological features, it is not written for sedimentologists but, rather, those who
137 are unfamiliar with this body of literature and who are interested in solving the crucial
138 puzzle of how drumlins form, and want to know what sediments and structures are
139 found in drumlins that ought to be addressed by a successful theory.

140 We note that Menzies (1979a) also addresses the question of internal composition in
141 his influential review on drumlins and we build on and update that work, benefiting
142 from more recent studies and with a sole focus on drumlin composition and internal
143 structure (whereas Menzies covered a number of other aspects such as location,
144 morphometry, patterning, etc.). Our paper is not intended to be an exhaustive review
145 of this vast body of work, although the reference list is deliberately extensive for
146 those who wish to dig deeper; and nor is it intended to provide a critique of
147 observations of internal structures or hypotheses regarding drumlin formation. Indeed,
148 in striving for an objective synthesis of observations, we purposely refrain from
149 subjectively ‘updating’ or ‘re-analysing’ older observations within modern paradigms.
150 As such, some descriptions need to be viewed through a temporal context (for
151 example, with respect to various approaches to terms used to describe till and its
152 stratigraphy: Menzies et al., 2006).

153 The structure is built around a series of fundamental questions which we regard as key
154 questions to help inform or inspire formational theories for drumlins and which can be
155 more fully answered by drawing on observations from numerous studies rather than
156 specific case studies:

- 157 - What are drumlins composed of; are there different types of drumlin; and
158 are some more common than others?

- 159 - How variable are the sediments inside drumlins; both within the same
160 drumlin field and between drumlin fields?
- 161 - Where are drumlin sediments derived from and how do the sediments
162 inside drumlins compare to those in inter-drumlin areas?
- 163 - What clast sizes, shapes, fabrics and deformation features are found within
164 drumlins?

165 Section 2 provides a brief summary of the various techniques to investigate drumlin
166 composition and sections 3 to 9 answer the above questions with reference to various
167 aspects of drumlin composition such as the main constituents of drumlins (section 3),
168 specific veneers and carapaces that have been reported (4), specific stoss and lee
169 features (5), and features associated with subglacial deformation (6). Variability of
170 drumlin composition is described in section 7, followed by a review of sediment
171 provenance (8) and clast shapes, sizes and fabrics (9). As noted, the aim is to provide
172 objective and concise summaries and identify any commonality that may exist across
173 a broad range of studies. The paper culminates in a more subjective discussion
174 (section 10) of two further questions, which are arguably the most important:

- 175 - How representative are observations of drumlin composition and internal
176 structure?
- 177 - What does the variability of drumlin internal structure tell us about
178 drumlin formation?

179

180

181 **2. Techniques to Investigate and Sample Drumlin Sediments**

182 2.1. Direct field observation of sediment exposures

183 By far the most common technique is that of direct field observation and sedimentary
184 logging/analysis of sediments exposed in a drumlin. The majority of studies that use
185 direct field observations report detailed logs of sediment exposures and often note
186 clast shape, sizes and patterns in macro-fabric analyses (e.g. Dardis, 1985;
187 Clapperton, 1989; Hart, 1995a; Meehan et al., 1997). Additional data have also been
188 obtained using sediment geochemical analyses (e.g. Newman et al., 1990; Aario and
189 Peuraniemi, 1992; Stea and De Piper, 1999) and, more recently, micromorphological

190 analyses of sediment thin sections (e.g. Menzies and Maltman, 1992; Menzies et al.,
191 1997; Yi and Cui, 2001; Menzies and Brand, 2007).

192 Bespoke trenches or excavations have been created for some studies (e.g. Nenonen,
193 1994), and are especially well-suited to small bedforms (e.g. Fuller and Murray,
194 2002), but drumlins are usually large and trenches and excavations can be expensive,
195 difficult to dig, and may introduce problems of disturbance. Thus, most studies rely
196 on providential natural exposures “wherever these were available” (Hill, 1971: p. 19).
197 A potential disadvantage therefore, is that investigators are often restricted to a small
198 ‘window’ into the drumlin interior and sometimes just a few metres of exposed
199 sediments in a drumlin that might be 10s metres high. Moreover, it means that
200 investigators have little or no control over a sampling scheme, i.e. in terms of which
201 parts of the drumlin the sediments are exposed. Vertically, they may, for example, be
202 restricted to sampling the basal sediments or surficial sediments. Longitudinally, they
203 might be restricted to only the stoss or lee side of the drumlin and, laterally, they
204 could be analyzing one flank of the drumlin but not the other. In some cases, however,
205 it has been possible to investigate entire cross-sections through drumlins, usually as a
206 result of aggregate extraction (e.g. Shaw, 1983; Hanvey, 1987; Sharpe, 1987; Menzies
207 and Brand, 2007); road-building (e.g. Hill, 1971) or extensive lake/coastal erosion
208 (e.g. Hanvey, 1989; Newman and Mickelson, 1994; Hart, 1995a; Menzies et al.,
209 1997; Stea and Pe-Piper, 1999; Kerr and Eyles, 2007). A classic example of this latter
210 case are the extensive drumlin exposures on the southern shore of Lake Ontario,
211 which have attracted the attention of several workers (e.g. Slater, 1929; Menzies et
212 al., 1997), including Fairchild (1907), who swam out into the lake to observe them
213 from a distance.

214 Some studies systematically examine sediments at both the stoss and the lee of a
215 drumlin (e.g. Yi and Cui, 2001; Fuller and Murray, 2002) but we note that continuous
216 longitudinal sections (e.g. McCabe and Dardis, 1994) are relatively rare, compared to
217 transverse cross-sections. The key advantage of any continuous cross section, of
218 course, is that it is possible to observe the overall 2D architecture of drumlin
219 sediments and how they relate to each other and, crucially, to the overall drumlin
220 shape. However, the ideal condition of having one entire cross section running
221 parallel to the drumlin and one entire cross section running perpendicular, see Figure
222 1, is impossible to attain in nature.

223 A further fundamental sampling issue, noted by Goldstein (1989: p. 241), is that
224 “even where detailed structural, stratigraphic, and sedimentological studies have been
225 carried out, [...] they are usually based on observations at only one or a few
226 exposures”. Indeed, our review of the literature indicates that around 40% of papers
227 report data from a small (<5) sample of drumlins from drumlin fields of hundreds
228 (and sometimes thousands) of landforms, see Figure 2. Moreover, of the remaining
229 studies, 44% do not specify the number of drumlins that were investigated. A
230 potential drawback of the traditional field observation of drumlin internal structure,
231 therefore, is that sampling is usually only possible from a limited number of drumlins
232 within a much larger drumlin field. Whether a small sample of observations is
233 representative of the whole drumlin field is often difficult to ascertain but we note the
234 value of those studies that report larger than average sample sizes, e.g. 33 (Hart,
235 1997); >50 (Goldstein, 1989); 55 (Dardis et al., 1984); 76 (Hill, 1971) and 90 (Dardis,
236 1985).

237 In summary, direct field observation is by far the most common technique employed
238 to investigate drumlin composition and internal structure. It has to be acknowledged,
239 however, that this approach can suffer from inherent sampling problems, which most
240 workers recognize as a major limitation. As Habbe (1992, p. 69) notes, “the relation
241 between drumlin sediments and drumlin form have been a matter of discussion for
242 more than 80 years due to the rareness of good exposures in drumlins”.

243

244 2.2. Systematic borehole and surface sampling

245 In addition to field observation of sediment exposures, some studies have utilised
246 borehole and/or shallow surface sampling techniques, which can greatly increase the
247 spatial extent of observations and, crucially, introduce a more systematic sampling
248 strategy (e.g. Goldstein, 1989; Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Ellwanger, 1992; Habbe,
249 1992; Wysota, 1994; Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997; Rattas & Kalm, 2001; Jørgensen
250 and Piotrowski, 2003; Rattas and Piotrowski, 2003; Raukas and Tavast, 1994). Boyce
251 and Eyles (1991), for example, utilised almost 7,000 borehole logs which enabled
252 them to detect a down-ice changes in the stratigraphy of drumlins along a 70 km flow-
253 line in the Peterborough drumlin field, Ontario (Canada), further augmented by
254 geophysical data and morphometric analysis of almost 1,000 drumlins. Likewise,

255 Goldstein (1989) sampled surficial sediments (< few metres) from over 125 localities
256 within the Wadena drumlin field, west-central Minnesota, in addition to around 20
257 pre-existing boreholes logs that extended to greater depths (up to 150 m). The texture,
258 lithology, and mineralogy were systematically investigated in order to identify trends
259 in drumlin internal structure.

260 As suggested by these examples, borehole and surface sampling allows spatial trends
261 in drumlin composition and internal structure to be identified, which can be a distinct
262 advantage. However, it is important to acknowledge that borehole results often rely on
263 the assumption that the internal structure of a drumlin is homogenous enough to be
264 described by one or two boreholes that may be randomly placed within the body of a
265 drumlin. Indeed, a limited number of 1-dimensional boreholes are likely to be of less
266 use than a limited number of sediment exposures, which do at least offer a 2-
267 dimensional perspective.

268

269 2.3. Indirect (geophysical) investigation

270 Recent work has recognised the potential of using geophysical techniques (e.g.
271 ground penetrating radar (GPR), seismic and electrical resistivity surveys) to
272 investigate the internal structure of drumlins, circumventing the need for finding
273 suitable sediment exposures (e.g. Kulesa et al., 2007; Hiemstra et al., 2008). Such
274 techniques have the advantage of being able to provide 3-dimensional visualisations
275 of drumlin content (e.g. Figure 1). It should be recognised, however, that
276 interpretation of geophysical data can be difficult (e.g. differentiation between various
277 till units: Kulesa et al. 2007), especially in the absence of exposed sediments to help
278 constrain observations, and that this kind of investigation requires expensive
279 equipment compared to more traditional field methods.

280 Significantly, geophysical techniques have also enabled investigators to detect
281 bedforms beneath existing ice masses, at depths of almost 2 km below the ice surface
282 (King et al., 2007; 2009; Smith et al., 2007; Smith and Murray, 2009). The major
283 advantage of these studies is that ice dynamics are well-constrained, allowing
284 investigators to link bedform characteristics to specific glaciological conditions (e.g.
285 ice velocity, thickness and stress regime). Crucially, the surveys can also be repeated,
286 so that temporal changes in bedform evolution (e.g. sediment erosion and deposition)

287 can be identified. Repetition of seismic reflection lines on Rutford Ice Stream, West
288 Antarctica, in 1991, 1997 and 2004, for example, revealed localised erosion rates of
289 $\sim 1 \text{ m a}^{-1}$, followed by the growth of a mound of sediment downstream (10 m high and
290 100 m wide) interpreted as a drumlin (Smith et al., 2007), but more recently
291 recognised as a more elongate mega-scale glacial lineation (King et al., 2009). It is, of
292 course, very difficult to sample sub-ice stream sediments directly, but the seismic data
293 are of sufficient resolution to indicate that the mound of sediment is composed of one
294 unit, interpreted by the authors to be an actively deforming sediment, emplaced on top
295 of a harder, non-deforming substrate.

296

297

298 **3. Types of Drumlin Composition and Internal Structure**

299 This section provides a review of the observations of drumlin composition and
300 internal structure in the literature but it is important to begin by simply outlining the
301 different aspects that might potentially be most relevant to theories of drumlin
302 formation, illustrated in Figure 3. Note that most studies simply refer to drumlin
303 ‘internal structure’ but we make a distinction between drumlin ‘composition’, which
304 only refers to the constituents, and drumlin ‘structure’, which only to the spatial
305 arrangement of the constituents and their relationship to each other.

306 First, one might be interested in the composition of the sediments in a drumlin and
307 whether they are unsorted (e.g. till), sorted (e.g. glaciofluvial) or simply composed of
308 bedrock (or a combination). It might also be interesting to examine whether their
309 content is distinct from the adjacent non-drumlinised terrain, although this is more
310 difficult, in practice, because flatter inter-drumlin areas are even more likely to be
311 devoid of exposures. Second, it would be important to note whether the sediments are
312 homogenous, stratified or show structures that are conformable with the drumlin
313 surface, hinting at possible depositional or erosional processes. Third, it might be
314 interesting to consider the presence of deformation structures. These could be limited,
315 partial or widespread and might reveal the nature of any glaciotectonic deformation
316 before, during or after drumlin formation. The diagrams in Figure 3 are three simple
317 end members of each aspect and it is known that more complex combinations exist.
318 Additionally, there are several other aspects of drumlin composition structure that are

319 potentially important and have attracted the attention of numerous workers. These
320 include clast fabric analysis, veneers of superficial deposits, and specific stoss and
321 lee-features (etc.), but the aspects shown in Figure 3 are, arguably, the most
322 fundamental characteristics that formational theories would need to address.

323 Ideally, it would be possible to systematically review the literature and quantify the
324 number of drumlins with a specific composition, structure, and style of deformation.
325 In practice, however, we find that this is simply not possible, partly because of the
326 problems associated with the nature of the observations themselves (e.g. availability
327 of suitable sediment exposures, see section 2) but also partly because different papers
328 tend to focus on particular aspects of drumlin composition or internal structure.
329 Indeed, we find that most papers primarily report on the composition of the drumlin
330 and it is for this reason that this component dominates our review and categorisation
331 in this section, although we note observations of internal structures where they are
332 reported.

333 In his seminal review of the location and formation of drumlins, Menzies (1979a)
334 stated that “the internal composition of a drumlin varies from stratified sand to
335 unstratified till to solid bedrock, with every possible permutation between” (p. 319).
336 This mantra is often repeated in papers (e.g. Dardis et al., 1984) and textbooks (e.g.
337 Benn and Evans, 1998) and has often been seen as a major obstacle to a unifying
338 theory of drumlin formation. A recent paper by Kerr and Eyles (2007, p. 8), for
339 example, states that “uncertainty [in drumlin formation] arises largely because of the
340 sedimentological and stratigraphic variability of their cores”. Whilst it is undoubtedly
341 true that drumlin composition is incredibly varied, our review of the literature
342 suggests that the wide variety of observations can, in fact, be distilled into a limited
343 number of basic types that are reported, which we categorise as:

- 344 1. Mainly bedrock
- 345 2. Part bedrock/part till
- 346 3. Mainly till
- 347 4. Part till/part sorted sediments
- 348 5. Mainly sorted sediments

349 These categories might be viewed as conjectural but we find that it is a relatively
350 straightforward task to group all previously-reported observations of drumlin
351 composition into one of these five basic types. We acknowledge the intrinsic
352 limitation of any classification and the likelihood of a continuum of drumlin
353 compositions, but we believe that the identification of these categories is a necessary
354 move to simplify the complexity that has so often inhibited progress towards a
355 satisfactory explanation of drumlin formation. This is a potentially significant step
356 because recent advances have been made in the numerical modelling of drumlin
357 formation (e.g. Hindmarsh, 1998, Fowler 2000) which, so far, have preferentially
358 focused on validation against drumlin morphology. As Hiemstra et al. (2008, p. 46)
359 note, “such theoretical studies have yet to provide a solution for the sedimentological
360 and structural-architectural variability in drumlins as recorded in the field”. If it can
361 be demonstrated that the composition and internal structure of drumlins can be
362 simplified to a few simple types, then it appears a far more attainable goal for
363 numerical modelling to seek validation against these types, rather than numerous site
364 specific observations.

365 Moreover, we note that a number of studies have already recognised some of these
366 categories (e.g. Wysota, 1994). For example, ‘till drumlins’, ‘glaciofluvial drumlins’
367 and ‘bedrock-cored drumlins’ were distinguished within the same drumlin field in
368 northern Latvia by Danilans (1973) and Straume (1979), both cited in Zelčs and
369 Dreimanis (1997); and correspond to our ‘mainly till’, ‘mainly sorted sediments’, and
370 ‘part bedrock/part till’ drumlins, respectively. Likewise, Raukas and Tavast (1994)
371 describe a variety of drumlins on the Fennoscandian Shield, including “whaleback
372 bedrock forms [...], rock-cored drumlins, drumlins with cores of stratified deposits
373 and/or older till, and drumlins which consist of entirely homogeneous till” (p. 374). It
374 is important to state that these categories refer to the main constituents of the drumlin
375 and do not include the thin carapaces or veneers that are often reported in conjunction
376 with the bulk contents and which typically make up <10% of the drumlin at its highest
377 point (e.g. Hart, 1995a; Menzies and Brand, 2007). Likewise, they do not incorporate
378 specific stoss (e.g. Hart, 1995a) or lee sediments (Dardis et al., 1984; Ellwanger, 1992)
379 which appear to require an obstacle (i.e. the drumlin) to form prior to their
380 emplacement, such as stratified lee-side sediments (Dardis et al., 1984). Note that we
381 do not include reports of ice-cored drumlins because they are transient features that

382 will degrade into more permanent glacial topography such as hummocky moraine
383 (e.g. Schomacker et al., 2006). The following sections provide a concise and objective
384 summary of the characteristics of each of these drumlin types.

385

386 3.1. Mainly bedrock

387 There are several papers that report the occurrence of what are variously termed
388 ‘bedrock drumlins’, ‘rock drumlins’ or ‘tadpole rocks’ (e.g. Fairchild, 1907; Linton,
389 1964; Glückert, 1973; Dionne, 1987; Raukas and Tavast, 1994; Evans, 1996; Heroy
390 and Anderson, 2005; Kerr and Eyles, 2007). These are often described as streamlined
391 landforms composed entirely of bedrock. It has been pointed out that they can be
392 formed in a variety of rock types from Precambrian shield rocks to younger
393 sedimentary rocks (Dionne, 1987), although research on submarine glacial landforms
394 on continental shelves characteristically reports ‘bedrock’ drumlins on harder,
395 crystalline bedrock of the inner shelf areas (e.g. Heroy and Anderson, 2005; Graham
396 et al., 2009).

397 Drumlins composed entirely of bedrock appear to be very similar to other types of
398 intermediate-scale (1-10 km) streamlined erosional features (e.g. roche moutonnée,
399 whalebacks, etc.), which are often grouped together in text-book classifications of
400 glacial erosion landforms (e.g. Sugden and John, 1986; Benn and Evans, 1998).
401 Indeed, various names are often used interchangeably with the term ‘rock drumlin’
402 (cf. Bennett and Glasser, 1996), particularly the term ‘whaleback’; although Evans
403 (1996) points out that a whaleback is typically symmetrical in longitudinal cross
404 section, whereas rock drumlins are asymmetrical, with a steeper stoss slope and gently
405 tapering lee slope. The absence of a plucked lee face distinguishes these features from
406 roche moutonnée (Evans, 1996). It is for this reason that some workers have suggested
407 that it would be helpful to differentiate between drumlins composed of entirely
408 consolidated bedrock and those composed of unconsolidated sediments (e.g.
409 Fairchild, 1907; Dionne, 1984; 1987). Dionne (1987), for example, recommends the
410 term ‘tadpole rock’ be used. This would appear to be a valid point and we also argue
411 that ‘rock drumlins’ should be distinguished from other drumlins and that the use of
412 the word ‘drumlin’ to describe such bedrock features might be inappropriate and
413 misleading (see discussion section 10.2.1.1).

414

415 3.2. Part bedrock/part till

416 Several studies report drumlins that are composed of a combination of bedrock and
417 till (Crosby, 1934; Hill, 1971; Gluckert, 1973; Dionne, 1987; Moller, 1987; Boyce
418 and Eyles, 1991; Nenonen, 1994; Fisher and Spooner, 1994; Raukas and Tavast,
419 1994; Hart, 1997; Meehan et al., 1997; Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997; Yi and Cui, 2001;
420 Fuller and Murray, 2002). The proportion of bedrock and till in such a drumlin is, of
421 course, variable, although Dionne (1987) suggested that the till should account for at
422 least 25% of the entire drumlin volume to distinguish it from more bedrock dominated
423 forms (e.g. described in section 3.1).

424 Some part bedrock/part till drumlins possess a core of consolidated rock, surrounded
425 and entirely covered by unconsolidated sediments that include one or more units of
426 till and/or glaciofluvial sediments (Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Nenonen, 1994; Fisher
427 and Spooner, 1994; Meehan et al., 1997; Yi and Cui, 2001), hence the often used
428 terms of 'rock-cored' drumlins. This core can be positioned at the stoss (Gluckert,
429 1973; Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Tavast, 2001), middle (Tavast, 2001) or lee (Tavast,
430 2001) of the drumlin, although it appears that most of the reported rock-core drumlins
431 have the bedrock towards stoss end (e.g. Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Yi and Cui, 2001;
432 Fuller and Murray, 2002). We also note that the relative position of the core has also
433 been shown to vary within a single drumlin field (Raukas and Tavast, 1994; Fisher
434 and Spooner, 1994). Figure 4 (a) shows an example of bedrock-cored drumlins in the
435 northern part of the Peterborough drumlin field, Ontario, Canada.

436 The sediments found in association with a bedrock 'core' are diverse. At the simplest
437 level, a rock cored drumlin may be surrounded by a single unit of till, such as the one
438 that Meehan et al. (1997) describe in NE Ireland that attains a maximum thickness of
439 5.4 m. They also report that the weathered sandstone bedrock has been sheared up
440 into the overlying till. In contrast, Fuller and Murray (2002) report evidence of two till
441 units in association with a rock cored drumlin in Iceland and Fisher and Spooner
442 (1994) report an homogenous till in association with gravel and sand veneers
443 (particularly in the lee-side) and stratified glaciofluvial sediments in the Bow Valley,
444 Alberta. It is also clear that part bedrock/part till drumlins are often found in the same
445 swarm as those that do not, apparently, have a component of bedrock (cf. Hill, 1971;

446 Newman and Mickelson, 1994). In other cases, part bedrock/part till drumlins appear
447 to be the dominate type. Möller (1987: p. 116), for example, reported that “a field
448 check of 96 streamlined ridges revealed one or more visible rock cores at 81% of the
449 sites visited” in the Åsnen area of Sweden. Likewise, Crosby (1934) estimated that at
450 least 25% of drumlins in the Boston Basin, Massachusetts, have rock cores.

451 It should be acknowledged that in some cases it might not be possible to ascertain the
452 full extent of the bedrock ‘core’ and, depending on the extent of the exposure, it may
453 even be possible to misinterpret large boulders (especially crystalline) as bedrock. We
454 also note that, in their review, Patterson and Hooke (1995) pointed out that in some
455 drumlinised areas, small bedrock protuberances are present in drumlin fields that are
456 not associated with drumlins (e.g. citing Fairchild, 1907; Aronow, 1959; Gluckert,
457 1973; Gillberg, 1976).

458 Finally, the term ‘crag and tail’ is often used interchangeably with part bedrock/part
459 till drumlins but this term is usually used (cf. Dionne, 1987) to describe landforms
460 where the bedrock occupies the entire stoss portion of the landform and is exposed at
461 the surface, with unconsolidated material forming an obvious tail in its shadow. In
462 contrast, where the exposed bedrock occurs in the lee of the landform, the term ‘pre-
463 crag’ has been used (cf. Haaviston-Hyvärinen, 1997).

464

465 3.3. Mainly till

466 A third type of drumlin commonly reported in the literature are those composed
467 mainly of till (e.g. Lincoln, 1892; Fairchild, 1907; Sharp, 1953; Wright, 1957;
468 Aronow, 1959; Wright, 1962; Harris, 1967; Hill, 1971; Gravenor, 1974; De Jong et
469 al., 1982; Dardis, 1987; Piotrowski, 1987; Dardis and McCabe, 1987; Clapperton,
470 1989; Goldstein, 1989; Stea and Brown, 1989; Newman et al., 1990; Habbe, 1992;
471 Aario and Peuraniemi, 1992; Nenonen, 1994; Newman and Mickelson, 1994; Raukas
472 and Tavast, 1994; Wysota, 1994; Hart, 1995a; Hart, 1997; Menzies et al., 1997; Stea
473 and Pe-Piper, 1999; Nenonen, 2001; Rattas and Piotrowski, 2003). In some cases, the
474 whole drumlin appears to consist of a homogenous unit or single till (e.g. Wright,
475 1962), which may, essentially, be structureless (e.g. Habbe, 1992). In other cases,
476 there are clearly conformable layers of stratified structures with well-developed
477 fissility and shear planes (Nenonen, 1994, see Figure 5. In yet other cases, the single

478 unit may show evidence of widespread deformation. Menzies et al. (1997) report this
479 sub-type in the New York State drumlin field, along the shore of Lake Ontario. Here,
480 drumlins appear to be composed of a *mélange* of deformed sediment that shows
481 various features characteristic of both brittle and ductile deformation throughout the
482 drumlin and to thicknesses of up to 50 m. In other cases, the entire unit has been
483 described as a ‘lodgement till’ (e.g. Wysota, 1994; although note more recent work
484 questioning the use of this term, e.g. Menzies et al., 2006).

485 Two or more till units are also commonly reported (e.g. Hill, 1971; Stea and Brown,
486 1989; Newman et al., 1990; Aario and Peuraniemi, 1992; Wysota, 1994; Zelčs and
487 Dreimanis, 1997; Stea and Pe-Piper, 1999). In North Down and Co Antrim, Northern
488 Ireland, Hill (1971) found that the vast majority of drumlins in his study area were
489 composed of till but that many drumlins contained more than one unit that were
490 distinguishable on the basis of a combination of colour, texture, etc. Some contained
491 just one ‘lower’ till unit, with the upper till unit only forming a thin carapace; whereas
492 others contained only the ‘upper’ till unit or were composed of a core of the lower till
493 unit surrounded by the upper till unit, see Figure 6. Hill (1971) also noted that, where
494 the lower unit was overlain by an upper till unit, the upper till unit tended to be
495 thinnest on the main crest of the drumlin and thicker along the flanks. Some drumlins
496 were also formed of three till units (Figure 6). Similar observations were also reported
497 by Rattas and Piotrowski (2003) who identified some drumlins with only a ‘young’
498 till resting directly on bedrock; some with a thin ‘old’ till and thick young till; and
499 some with an old till, a core of outwash, and the young till.

500 It is important to note that Hill’s (1971) systematic study of the Irish drumlin swarm
501 also revealed a small number of drumlins with a core of bedrock (section 3.2.) and
502 some with sands and gravels (section 3.4), emphasising the variability in drumlin
503 internal structure within a single field.

504 Studies that report ‘older’ till cores, often suggest that different subglacial processes
505 account for their deposition at different times (e.g. Newman et al., 1990; Aario and
506 Peuraniemi, 1992; Wysota, 1994; Stea and De Piper, 1999). Aario and Peuraniemi
507 (1992), for example, describe a densely-packed underlying till covered by a less dense
508 till unit and suggest that the former was deposited by lodgement and melt-out and that
509 the latter results from melt-out and flow processes during deglaciation. Zelčs and
510 Dreimanis (1997) also described drumlins with a core of densely compressed massive

511 till, which differs from the surface till and which they suggested is an older till.
512 Likewise, Wysota (1994) reported different types of drumlins, one of which was
513 characterised by drumlins composed entirely of till, overlying an older till core.
514 Interestingly, Newman et al. (1990) investigated weathering profiles in two tills in
515 Boston, Massachusetts, and suggested that the lower till unit was subjected to a long
516 period of subaerial exposure and probably pre-dates the last glaciation.

517 It has also been noted that the layering of different till units may not necessarily
518 conform to the drumlin surface, with some workers describing a 'layer-cake'
519 stratigraphy (e.g. Stea and Brown, 1989). Stea and Brown (1989) described a layer-
520 cake of till units in drumlins in southern and central Nova Scotia, which they
521 interpreted as erosional remnants. Similarly, in drumlins in upper New York State, a
522 tripartite sequence of two till units, separated by glaciolacustrine sands, were
523 attributed to an erosional origin by Kerr and Eyles (2007). In other cases, however,
524 their arrangement is clearly conformable (Fairchild, 1907; Fairchild, 1929; Newman
525 and Mickelson, 1994; Stea and Pe-Piper, 1999). The till units have also been reported
526 to be separated by thin units of glaciofluvial sediments, which may represent
527 subglacially or proglacially derived sediments (e.g. Wysota, 1994; Raukas and Tavast,
528 1994; Hart, 1997; Kerr and Eyles, 2007). Wysota (1994) noted a category of drumlin
529 characterised by an 'older' till core, overlain by glaciofluvial deposits and then
530 lodgement till. In some cases, the lower units show evidence of being
531 glaciotectonically deformed upwards and into the units above (Wysota, 1994). In
532 other cases, the contact is sharp and there is little evidence of material from the lower
533 unit becoming incorporated into the overlying unit (Stea and Pe-Piper, 1999).
534 Similarly, Stea and Pe-Piper (1999: p. 311) described a "knife-sharp" contact between
535 two tills exposed in a drumlin near Halifax, Nova Scotia.

536 The degree to which till units (or any sedimentary units for that matter) are
537 conformable with the drumlin surface seems to be a key issue (Fig. 3b). Where they
538 are shown to conform to the drumlin surface, investigators have often suggested that
539 they were incrementally deposited over time (Fairchild, 1929; Newman and
540 Mickelson, 1994) and it is fair to presume that such sedimentary build up is linked to
541 drumlin formation. In contrast, till units that are clearly not conformable to the surface
542 of the drumlin, are often used to suggest an erosional origin for the drumlin shape.

543

544 3.4. Part till/part sorted sediments

545 Another type of drumlin commonly reported in the literature are those which have
546 been shown to be composed of large amounts of both till and sorted sediments (e.g.
547 stratified glaciofluvial sediments), an example of which is illustrated in Figure 7 (e.g.
548 Hill, 1971; Whittecar and Mickelson, 1977; Whittecar and Mickelson, 1979; Aario,
549 1977; De Jong et al., 1982; Dardis and McCabe, 1983; Dardis et al., 1984; Dardis,
550 1985; Sharpe, 1985; Dardis, 1987; Krüger, 1987; Sharpe, 1987; Dardis and McCabe,
551 1987; Clapperton, 1989; Goldstein, 1989; Hanvey, 1989; McCabe, 1989; Boyce and
552 Eyles, 1991; Ellwanger, 1992; Habbe, 1992; Hanvey, 1992; Menzies and Maltman,
553 1992; Goldstein, 1994; Nenonen, 1994; Wysota, 1994; Dardis and Hanvey, 1994;
554 Fisher and Spooner, 1994; McCabe and Dardis, 1994; Newman and Mickeson, 1994;
555 Raukas and Tavast, 1994; Hart, 1995a; Hart, 1997; Knight and McCabe, 1997; Zelčs
556 and Dreimanis, 1997; Menzies et al., 1997; Raunholme et al., 2003; Jørgensen and
557 Piotrowski, 2003; Rattas and Piotrowski, 2003; Kerr and Eyles, 2007; Heimstra et al.,
558 2008). The location of the sorted sediments may vary from a centrally-positioned core
559 or 'pod' (e.g. Rattas and Piotrowski, 2003) to an underlying unit (e.g. Clapperton,
560 1989; Habbe, 1992; Jørgensen and Piotrowski, 2003), which in some cases is
561 eroded/deformed upwards into the till (e.g. Wysota, 1994) and which in other cases is
562 not (Habbe, 1992; Menzies and Maltman, 1992; Jørgensen and Piotrowski, 2003) An
563 In yet other cases, as noted above, sorted sediments may occur in between two till
564 units (e.g. Habbe, 1992; Wysota, 1994; Kerr and Eyles, 2007) and sometimes inter-
565 bedded with till or vice versa (e.g. Whittecar and Mickelson, 1979; Goldstein, 1994).
566 It is also the case that a till units can be capped by a layer of sorted sediments (e.g.
567 Hart, 1995a; Haaviston-Hyvärinen, 1997; Fisher and Spooner, 1994), although in
568 most of these cases, the sorted sediments are then assumed to be formed during
569 deglaciation and after drumlin formation (see section 4.2). A key issue with this
570 sequence would be to determine whether the sorted sediments were conformable or
571 unconformable with the drumlin surface, with the latter unlikely to formed during
572 deglaciation.

573 Goldstein (1994) described drumlins in the Puget Sound field (Washington) as
574 characterised by a fluvio-lacustrine core, related to meltwater or proglacial lake
575 activities, overlain by a till layer up to 10 m thick. Similarly, Hart (1995a) reported
576 drumlins in NW Wales that appear to have more resistant cores of glaciofluvial

577 sediment, surrounded by till. Interestingly, some of the cores also show evidence of
578 deformation structures, whereas others did not and she also noted that the till unit
579 comprised only a thin carapace of deforming till and/or a stacked sequence at the ice
580 proximal (stoss) end of the drumlins (see section 5). A gradational/smudged contact
581 between cores of outwash and a surrounding till matrix were also reported by Rattas
582 and Piotrowski (2003).

583 Similar observations were also presented by Boyce and Eyles (1991) who found
584 varying degrees of deformation of stratified sands and gravels that were truncated by
585 a mantle of till (Figure 4). This till mantle was characterised by a massive or crudely
586 bedded till facies between 1 and 10 m thick but which thickened in inter-drumlin
587 areas. The contact between the basal part of the till mantle is strongly erosive and
588 marked by glaciotectionic deformation structures, such as drag folds. The basal part of
589 the till mantle also contain abundant rafts and lenses of underlying sediments, which
590 become progressively more attenuated upward in the section. Indeed, observations of
591 an upwardly intensifying pattern of deformation is reported in several other studies,
592 especially where drumlins are associated with or overlie pre-existing glaciofluvial
593 sands and gravels (e.g. Ellwanger, 1992: Figure 7). Ellwanger (1992) noted that
594 erosion of the underlying sediments appears to have taken place preferentially on the
595 stoss slope of the drumlins he studied, with re-deposition of down-dipping material in
596 the lee side.

597 It is also worth noting that several authors (e.g. Hanvey, 1989) have drawn attention
598 to stratified sediments preferentially occurring towards the lee-side of drumlins and,
599 where this has been reported (e.g. Dardis et al., 1984), it is often suggested that the
600 sediments were laid down in a lee-side cavity that required the presence of an obstacle
601 (e.g. the drumlin). As such, they appear to be a specific type of lee-side features,
602 rather than forming the bulk of the drumlin (see section 5). Conversely, Kupsch
603 (1955) described one drumlin in Saskatchewan, Canada, as being characterized by a
604 stoss of stratified sand and gravel and a probable tail of till.

605

606 3.5. Mainly sorted sediments

607 It has been known for a long time that some drumlins are simply composed entirely of
608 sorted sediments (or possibly with only a very thin veneer of till) and lack any

609 substantial evidence for widespread deformation (De Jong et al., 1982; Shaw, 1983;
610 Shaw and Kvill, 1984; Sharpe, 1987; McCabe, 1989; Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997;
611 Menzies and Brand, 2007). An example of this type of drumlin is schematically
612 illustrated in Figure 8. Menzies and Brand (2007) observed undeformed proglacial
613 and deltaic sediments in an extensive exposure of a drumlin at Port Byron, New York
614 State. They suggested that calcium carbonate precipitation cemented the stratified
615 sediments, which acted as an obstacle around which a thin veneer of till was
616 subsequently emplaced. Significantly, there appears to be only limited erosion at the
617 contact between the till and the underlying stratified sediments, which they interpret
618 as indicative of basal decoupling with shearing within the thin till veneer not
619 transferred to the underlying sediments. In other cases (e.g. Shaw, 1983), the presence
620 of undisturbed stratified/sorted sediments has been used to argue that drumlins might
621 represent infillings into subglacial cavities, produced during subglacial floods.

622

623

624 **4. Drumlin Veneers/Carapaces**

625 Numerous papers in the literature report the existence of a thin ‘veneer’ (also termed
626 ‘carapace’ or ‘mantle’) of sediments surrounding the main drumlin constituents (e.g.
627 Wiśniewski, 1965; Finch and Walsh, 1973; Garnes, 1976, all cited in Karczewski,
628 1987; Whittecar and Mickelson, 1979; Karczewski, 1987; Rouk and Raukas, 1989;
629 Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Wysota, 1994; Hart, 1995a; Knight and McCabe, 1997; Stea
630 and Pe-Piper, 1999; Menzies and Brand, 2007), including ice-cored drumlins
631 (Schomacker et al., 2006). In many (but by no means all) of these studies, the authors
632 point out that the sedimentary processes that produced the veneer are probably not
633 related to the drumlin-forming process. The perception of a unit as a veneer arises
634 from finding a thin unit conformable to the drumlin shape but distinct from the
635 underlying contents on the basis of sediment properties (e.g. grain size) or structures
636 (e.g. a conformable veneer atop horizontally bedded units). It is for this reason that we
637 describe these features in a separate section, although we acknowledge that the
638 distinction in some cases might be more arbitrary. This means that there is no precise
639 distinction between, for instance, a rock-cored drumlin and a bedrock drumlin with
640 veneer, although, as noted earlier, Dionne (1987) recommends that a bedrock cored

641 drumlin (our part bedrock/part till type) should be composed of at least 25%
642 unconsolidated material. The risk is that authors might have used different terms for
643 the same drumlins. Nevertheless, there appear to be two main types of veneer reported
644 in the literature: a thin veneer of primarily glaciofluvial sediments (e.g. Hart, 1995a)
645 or a thin veneer of till (e.g. Menzies and Brand, 2007).

646

647 4.1. Veneer of till

648 Several papers report drumlins mantled by a thin veneer of till (e.g. Karczewski,
649 1987; De Jong et al., 1982; Knight and McCabe, 1997), see Figure 9. This veneer is
650 often interpreted as an ablation/melt-out till that has been draped over the landscape
651 (e.g. over both drumlins and non-drumlinised terrain) during deglaciation (e.g.
652 Whittecar and Mickelson, 1979; Dardis et al., 1984; Karczewski, 1987; Aario and
653 Peuraniemi, 1992). For example, Whittecar and Mickelson (1979: p. 357) describe a
654 “retreat till” 1-3 m thick, which truncates all internal structures. In other cases, the till
655 veneer may be thicker and not necessarily the product of deglaciation but might
656 simply have been emplaced by a different ice flow phase, following drumlin
657 formation (e.g. De Jong et al., 1982; Knight and McCabe, 1997). In yet other cases,
658 the veneer is simply emplaced over more resistant sediments, such as the one
659 described by Menzies and Brand (2007) at Port Byron, New York State (USA)
660 (Figure 8). As noted above, they interpreted limited erosion at the contact between the
661 till veneer and the main drumlin constituents, other than a minor drag fold, and invoke
662 thin-skinned deformation of this layer, as revealed by thin section microstructures. A
663 similar conclusion was reached by Habbe (1992), who noted minimal glaciotectionic
664 disturbance of underlying units beneath a thin skin of till over drumlins in the
665 southern German Alpine foreland. Likewise, Boyce and Eyles (1991) noted a veneer
666 of till mantling drumlins cored with stratified proglacial outwash in the Peterborough
667 drumlin field, north of Lake Ontario. Unlike the thin-skinned deformation reported by
668 Menzies and Brand (2007), Boyce and Eyles (1991) found numerous glaciotectionic
669 deformation structures at the lower contact of the till mantle and the incorporation of
670 abundant rafts and lenses of the underlying proglacial sediments. Similar evidence for
671 glaciotectionic deformation of glaciofluvial sediments underneath a thin (0.5 - 3 m)
672 veneer of till were also described by Wysota (1994) and Whittecar and Mickelson

673 (1979). Thin till veneers have also been noted overlying lee-side stratified deposits
674 (Dardis et al., 1984).

675

676 4.2. Veneer of glaciofluvial sediments

677 The other main type of veneer commonly reported in the literature is made up of
678 primarily glaciofluvial sediments, which most investigators attribute to deposition
679 during withdrawal of the ice margin across the drumlin (e.g. Hart, 1995a). Hart
680 (1995a), for example, noted a stratified bed consisting of a lower laminated sand, silt
681 and clay deposit (0.5 m thick) on the proximal side of a drumlin at Lleiniog, North
682 Wales, see Figure 10, which she suggested may have been deposited in small lakes
683 during glaciomarine incursion. Stratified sandy units (< few metres) have also been
684 reported to cap the main drumlin/pre-crag sediments south-western Finland and are
685 thought to have been deposited during the final deglaciation phase (Haavisto-
686 Hyvärinen, 1997).

687 It has also been noted that whilst it is typical for such veneers to cover the entire
688 drumlin, some are restricted to certain parts of the drumlin. Fisher and Spooner
689 (1994), for example, reported stratified gravel veneers on the lee side of drumlins in
690 Alberta, Canada. Indeed, some sedimentary packages have commonly been reported
691 at the stoss or lee of a drumlin and these are described in the next section.

692

693

694 **5. Drumlin Stoss and Lee Features**

695 Specific features at the stoss and lee side of drumlins are also reported in the
696 literature. They are generally described as stoss side features dipping up-ice (e.g. Hart,
697 1995a) and lee side features dipping down-ice (e.g. Hanvey, 1987; Ellwanger, 1992;
698 Dardis et al., 1984). Most workers (e.g. Dardis et al., 1984) argue that the formation
699 of such features appear to require an obstacle (i.e. the drumlin) and that they may not
700 necessarily be related to the primary drumlin-forming mechanism.

701

702 5.1. Stoss side features dipping up-ice

703 Several workers have noted up-ice dipping features on the stoss side of drumlins (e.g.
704 Hanvey, 1992), sometimes apparent as thrust structures (e.g. Hart, 1995a; Hart, 1997)
705 and sometimes characterised by two or more till units accreted one on top of the other.
706 Hart (1995a) noted prominent fold and thrust features in two drumlins in north Wales
707 that preferentially developed on the stoss side of the drumlin (Figure 10) and McCabe
708 and Dardis (1994) also described brecciated bedrock that had been sheared over the
709 proximal end of one drumlin at Kanrawer, western Ireland.

710

711 5.2. Lee side features dipping down-ice

712 Lee-side depositional features which have attracted the most attention in the literature
713 are lee-side stratified sediments. The occurrence of undeformed stratified sediments in
714 drumlins has long been recognised (section 3.5) and a large body of work has drawn
715 attention to their presence, specifically at the lee-side of drumlins (e.g. Dardis and
716 McCabe, 1983; Dardis et al., 1984; Dardis, 1987; Dardis and McCabe, 1987; Hanvey,
717 1989, 1992; Dardis and Hanvey, 1994; Fisher and Spooner, 1994).

718 Investigating a relatively large sample of drumlins (55 in total) compared to most
719 studies, Dardis et al. (1984) describe several lee-side stratified sequences, see
720 example in Figure 11. These deposits occur as a wedge shaped unit which thickens
721 down-ice (before thinning towards the lee end) and are composed predominantly of
722 steeply dipping (15-30°) cross-bedded gravels (80%), sands and silts (20%) of
723 varying thickness but with a tendency to increase down-slope. They noted that the
724 stratified sequences tend to be associated with drumlins that lack the distinctive steep
725 stoss- and tapering lee-ends. They also reported that the majority (90%) of stratified
726 sediments infill embayments excavated in the lee-side of barchanoid drumlin forms
727 and that the remainder are superimposed on drumlins with a more whaleback form.
728 Interestingly, Dardis et al., (1984) note the presence of a thin till veneer (cf. section
729 4.1) draped on top of the stratified sequences and which appears to be related to the
730 till in the main body of the drumlin that is often interbedded with the stratified
731 sequences. They also point out that not all drumlins in the study area are associated
732 with lee-side cavity fills.

733 In addition to lee-side stratified sediments, Ellwanger (1992) reports down-dipping
734 layers of till that are parallel to the surface of an exposed drumlin in the Bodanrück
735 drumlin field, southern Germany, see Figure 9c.

736

737

738 **6. Deformation Features**

739 One aspect of drumlin composition that has attracted much attention is the extent to
740 which the sediments show evidence of having undergone high levels of strain as a
741 result of glaciotectonic/syn depositional deformation (Hart, 1997). Indeed, this issue
742 has proved quite contentious in the literature (e.g. Evans et al., 2006). It is not the aim
743 of this paper to evaluate the arguments for and against these various interpretations of
744 deformation (pervasive versus non-pervasive versus absent), but it is clear from our
745 review that they certainly do exist; and with almost every possible permutation in
746 between. For example, there are numerous reports of drumlin sediments showing high
747 levels of strain, as evidenced by diverse descriptions of deformation features, such as
748 faults, folds, fissures and joints that may result from either ductile or brittle
749 deformation (Kupsch, 1955; McGown et al., 1974, cited by Menzies, 1979a;
750 Whittecar and Mickelson, 1979; Sharpe, 1985; Stea and Brown, 1989; Boyce and
751 Eyles, 1991; Hart, 1997). Examples of such deformation features can be seen in
752 Figures' 7, 9 and 10.

753 Deformation features might occur extensively and throughout the entire thickness of
754 the drumlin sediments (e.g. Menzies et al., 1997) or they may be more restricted to a
755 'thin skin' just a few centimetres thick at the drumlin surface (e.g. Menzies and
756 Brand, 2007). Bringing together field data from 33 drumlins from various locations,
757 Hart (1997) recognised the many different styles of deformation associated with
758 drumlins and their cores and suggested that there is a continuum from stoss-side
759 deformation, compressive core deformation, through to subglacial folds and finally to
760 extensional deformation. It should be noted at this point that, where deformation
761 features are found throughout the whole depth of the drumlin, it does not necessarily
762 imply that deformation occurred throughout the entire depth at the same time, because
763 is also possible that the deformation structures developed incrementally over a long

764 time period and resulted from several episodes of deformation at different depths
765 (Evans et al., 2006).

766 It is also clear that deformation structures do not always extend from the drumlin
767 surface downwards, but are also observed to extend from the drumlin base upwards.
768 Observations of an underlying unit being deformed upwards and entrained into an
769 overlying unit are commonly reported (cf. Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Wysota, 1994) and
770 investigators have also reported large rafts of underlying sediment that have been
771 deformed upwards en masse (e.g. Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Zelčs and Dreimanis,
772 1997), including bedrock (McCabe and Dardis, 1994; Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997). As
773 noted above, however, there are also reports of underlying material not being
774 entrained into overlying units (Habbe, 1992; Menzies and Brand, 2007; Fuller and
775 Murray, 2002) and, in some cases, the sediments within the drumlin show no evidence
776 of any deformation features anywhere. These drumlins are commonly, although not
777 exclusively, associated with well-sorted sediments e.g. 'stratified' drumlin sediments
778 described in section 3.5 (e.g. Shaw and Freschauf, 1973; Whittecar and Mickelson,
779 1979; Shaw, 1983). As noted above, however, there are also drumlins with stratified
780 sediments that do show evidence of deformation and/or which may simply be
781 truncated (Habbe, 1992; Menzies and Maltman, 1992; Jørgensen and Piotrowski,
782 2003).

783 In summary, deformation features are found in all of the main types of drumlins
784 summarised in this paper (section 3), apart from purely bedrock features, and some
785 drumlins clearly show very little evidence of ever having been deformed. Where
786 present, deformation features range from minimal and localised to widespread and
787 throughout the entire drumlin thickness.

788

789

790 **7. Variability of Drumlin Composition and Internal Structure**

791 It is very clear from a review of the literature that drumlin composition and internal
792 structure vary significantly and even within a single drumlin field (cf. Hill, 1971;
793 Danilans, 1973 cited in Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997; Straume, 1979, cited in Zelčs and
794 Dreimanis, 1997; De Jong et al., 1982; Dardis, 1985; Boyce and Eyles, 1991; Wysota,
795 1994; Raukas and Tavast, 1994; Knight and McCabe, 1997; Rattas and Piotrowski,

796 2003). Indeed, Raukas and Tavast (1994) identify four of the five main types of
797 drumlin described in this paper in a sample of several thousand drumlins in Estonia
798 and northern Latvia. Likewise, Miller (1972) described drumlins in the New York
799 field as variously containing gravel, till, finely bedded sand, fine-grained lake
800 deposits, interbedded till and fine sand, and bedrock. To illustrate this point, Figure 12
801 shows the location of drumlins with different internal structures in North Down and
802 South Antrim (Ireland) from Hill (1971). He detected four main types and, whilst
803 most drumlins contained either a single unit of till or two units, he also found a few
804 drumlins with rock cores and others composed mainly of stratified and sorted sands
805 and gravels. Such variations are commonly reported but few studies have attempted to
806 quantify the relative proportion of different drumlin constituents within a drumlin
807 field. One of the few is by Hart (1995b), who investigated recent drumlins in the
808 foreland of Vestari-Hagafellsjokull glacier, central Iceland and found that 15%
809 constitute rock drumlins, 8% were till drumlins, 46% were rock-cored drumlins with a
810 till veneer and that others appear to be more analogous to crag-and-tails.

811 In some cases, investigators (e.g. Flint, 1971; Dardis, 1985) have noted how some of
812 the main types of drumlin composition reported in this paper (section 3), may actually
813 represent a continuum of forms from bedrock drumlins to part bedrock/part till,
814 through to drumlins of mainly till, although this sequence is rarely reported down a
815 drumlin field. On the other hand, Boyce and Eyles' (1991) investigation of drumlins
816 in the Peterborough drumlin field, Ontario, revealed systematic changes in their
817 internal structure along an ice flow-line (Figure 4). Up-ice, they found elongate
818 drumlins constructed of massive crudely bedded clast-rich till facies that rest directly
819 on bedrock and are widely space apart, often forming in the lee of limestone scarps
820 (cf. section 3.2). Further down-ice, drumlins appear to be less streamlined and more
821 closely spaced and are composed of a core of proglacial outwash erosively truncated
822 by a mantle of till (cf. section 3.4). Boyce and Eyles (1991) interpreted this down-ice
823 trend as simply reflecting the function of time available for subglacial deformation,
824 during ice advance, i.e. the duration of deforming bed conditions was greatest up-ice
825 and this is where pre-existing sediments were completely eroded.

826

827

828 **8. Provenance of Drumlin Sediments**

829 An interesting question with respect to the composition of drumlins is: where are the
830 sediments derived from? A large number of studies note that the material that
831 constitutes the drumlin is derived locally (e.g. Shaler, 1893; Martin, 1903; Gravenor,
832 1953; Flint, 1957; Harrison, 1957; Embleton and King, 1968; Dreimanis and
833 Vaigners, 1971, all cited by Menzies, 1979a; Miller, 1972; Gravenor, 1974;
834 Clapperton, 1989; Hanvey, 1989; Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997), which might imply
835 minimal sediment transport distances. Indeed, Goldstein (1989) performed extensive
836 and comprehensive sampling of the lithology of drumlins in the Wadena drumlin
837 field, Minnesota, and found a dominant contribution from locally derived material
838 that was transported no more than a few kilometres. However, Goldstein (1989) also
839 noted that the occurrence of locally-derived material tended to diminish upwards,
840 where assemblages of far-travelled erratics were more common. The mixing zone
841 between the local and far-travelled material ranged from <10% of the drumlin
842 thickness to almost its entire height. The same pattern was found by Stea and Brown
843 (1989), who found far-travelled material (up to 100 km) tended to be more common
844 in the surficial till layers. Similarly, Lincoln (1892) mentioned the presence of ‘good-
845 sized travelled stones’ thickly covering the upper portions of some drumlins in the
846 Finger Lake region of New York State.

847 Other studies have reported the presence of substantial components of far-travelled
848 material (Jørgensen and Piotrowski, 2003), especially in comparison to other
849 subglacial bedforms and moraines (e.g. Nenonen, 2001). Aario and Peuraniemi (1992)
850 studied dispersal trains from a variety of landforms in Finland (end moraines,
851 Rogen/ribbed moraines, drumlins, flutings, etc.) and used measurements of grain size,
852 clast roundness and pebble lithology to infer the distant derivation of material in the
853 drumlins, compared to the other landforms, although local material was also present.
854 Haavisto-Hyvärinen (1997) also noted far travelled erratics from over 100 km in ‘pre-
855 crag’ landforms in southwestern Finland. He makes an important point, however, by
856 acknowledging that far-travelled material could have been transported in several ice
857 flow episodes over a relatively long-time scale, rather than implying high sediment
858 transport distances during landform genesis. Further support for the idea that drumlin
859 sediments can be transported from different source areas is found in Stea and Pe-Piper
860 (1999), who used whole rock geochemistry to locate the source of igneous erratic

861 material in two drumlins on the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia. Their provenance
862 analysis suggests that the drumlins they investigated are palimpsest features
863 composed of material that was delivered to them by two ice flow phases with different
864 source areas (cf. Stea and Brown, 1989), see Figure 13.

865 In common with the variable characteristics of the internal structure of drumlins, the
866 characteristics of the material underneath drumlins have also been shown to vary and,
867 again, even within the same drumlin field (Ellwanger, 1992). Ellwanger (1992), for
868 example, reported drumlins from the Rhine area, Germany, that rest on both bedrock
869 and on top of stratified sands and gravels. Boyce and Eyles (1991) also reported
870 drumlins that rest directly on bedrock and note that they seemed to be more widely
871 spaced apart than those that formed on unconsolidated sediments. In Patterson and
872 Hooke's (1995) review, it is reported that drumlin substrate is highly variable and the
873 conclusion is drawn that drumlin development is not obviously linked to the lithology
874 of the substrate (cf. Greenwood and Clark, 2010), although some workers have drawn
875 attention to variations in drumlin form (Phillips et al., 2010). In contrast, there are
876 some regional investigations that report drumlin formation preferentially down-ice
877 from easily erodible, fine-grained, sedimentary bedrock (Bouchard, 1989; Coudé,
878 1989; Aylsworth and Shilts, 1989).

879 It is also interesting to examine whether sediments from within drumlins are
880 substantially different from the sediments in the inter-drumlins areas. However,
881 studies that compare drumlin and inter-drumlins sediments are relatively rare,
882 presumably because it is far more difficult to find exposures in the low-relief areas
883 between drumlins. Of the few studies that do compare the two, Clapperton (1989)
884 noted that 'deformed' till in inter-drumlin areas was generally thinner (1-2 m)
885 compared to that in drumlins (up to 6 m). In contrast, Hill (1971) noted that, where a
886 lower unit was overlain by an upper till unit, the upper till unit tended to be thinnest
887 on the main crest of the drumlin and thicker along the flanks. Similarly, Boyce and
888 Eyles (1991) described a till (1-10 m thick) mantling drumlins with a core of
889 proglacial outwash being thicker in inter-drumlin areas. Fuller and Murray (2001)
890 found waterlain clay deposits in the uppermost till units of drumlins in front of an
891 Icelandic surge-type glacier which were absent from the equivalent till layers in the
892 non-drumlinised terrain. They suggested that this indicates the presence of ponded
893 water (and ice bed decoupling) over the drumlins but not over the non-drumlin areas,

894 where they infer greater ice-bed coupling. Zelčs and Dreimanis (1997) also noted a
895 difference between sedimentary structures in drumlins in Latvia, compared to the non-
896 drumlinised terrain. The glacial sediments in the drumlins range from 10-40 m thick
897 and they note that drumlins tend to have “more stratified beds, including till units of
898 the last glaciation, [compared to] the inter-drumlin depressions” (Zelčs and
899 Dreimanis, 1997: p. 75).

900 There are also studies, however, that report no obvious differences between the
901 sediment composition of drumlins and inter-drumlin areas (e.g. Kerr and Eyles,
902 2007). Lincoln (1892), for example, described the drumlinised area near Geneva, in
903 New York State, as a continuous sheet of till, of which the drumlins are merely a
904 surface irregularity. Similarly, Rattas and Kalm (2001) describe till in an Estonian
905 drumlin field as relatively uniform, without distinguishing between drumlin and inter-
906 drumlin sediments. Menzies (1979b) also noted that till found within drumlins is
907 similar in most aspects to the till in non-drumlinised areas in the Glasgow area of the
908 UK.

909 Whilst it is sometimes the case that workers cite special sedimentary conditions
910 within drumlins that may cause them to form in a particular location (e.g. a core of
911 bedrock; more resistant or well-drained material: Hart, 1995a), Patterson and Hooke
912 (1995) make the important point that in many cases, similar cores may exist in a
913 drumlin field that did not lead to drumlin formation, e.g. topographic perturbations
914 that did not lead to drumlin formation (cf. Fairchild, 1907; Aronow, 1959; Gluckert,
915 1973 and Gillberg, 1976, all cited in Patterson and Hooke, 1995).

916 Finally, with notable exceptions such as Aario and Peuraniemi (1992), very few
917 studies have compared the internal sediments and structures of drumlins to other
918 subglacial landforms that might be nearby such as eskers, flutes, moraines, etc.
919 Significantly, one study by Sharpe (1987) did attempt such comparisons and
920 concluded that landform internal structure was remarkably consistent, the implication
921 being that they can only be differentiated by their different morphology.

922

923

924 **9. Clast Sizes, Shape and Fabrics of Drumlin Sediments**

925 9.1. Clast sizes and shapes in drumlins

926 Reflecting their varied composition (section 3), it is no surprise that clast sizes found
927 in drumlins vary enormously and this has been noted in previous reviews (e.g.
928 Menzies, 1979a). The grain size of sediment has been shown to range from fine clays
929 (Wysota, 1994), through sands, and up to coarser material such as gravel, cobbles and
930 large boulders (Hanvey, 1992), in addition to those with bedrock cores described
931 earlier. Moreover, it has also been found that variable clast sizes often occur within
932 individual drumlins (e.g. Gravenor, 1974; Hanvey, 1989, 1992; Fisher and Spooner,
933 1994). For example, Gravenor (1974) analyzed 150 drumlins in Nova Scotia and
934 reported a 1-4% of clay, 26-47% of silt, 34-50% of sand and 20-33% of
935 pebble/boulders. Likewise, Piotrowski (1987) and Piotrowski and Smalley (1987)
936 studied drumlins in the Woodstock drumlin field (Ontario) and found variable
937 percentages of clay (15-27%), silt (44-55%) and sand (18-41%) and Fisher and
938 Spooner (1994: p. 291) reported a range of clast sizes from “granules to small
939 boulders” inside drumlins in Alberta, Canada.

940 Hanvey (1992) reports variable boulder concentrations within drumlin tills in western
941 Ireland and identified three main types of boulder concentration, which range in clast
942 size and arrangement within the drumlin. The first type consists of a ‘single clast’
943 boulder lag embedded within a compact till and with a distinctive concentric
944 arrangement which closely corresponds to drumlin morphology, see Figure 14. These
945 are interpreted to be of glacial origin, perhaps laid down during lodgement
946 processes. In contrast, the other two types of boulder concentration are denser, with an
947 off-lapping arrangement that dip towards the lee end of the drumlin at an angle of 10-
948 20 degrees. They also appear to be associated with massive or planar laminated coarse
949 sand, and Hanvey (1992) interpreted their origin to be related to an aquatic influence
950 and debris flow deposits. She argued that such a diverse clast size within and between
951 these drumlins implies that quite different processes acted to shape the final drumlin
952 form.

953 Menzies (1979a) also noted that a number of studies have found drumlin cores that
954 contain clast sizes that are different from the rest of the drumlin (e.g. Upham, 1892;
955 Fairchild, 1907, Wright, 1912; Fairchild, 1929; Slater, 1929; Hill, 1968, 1971). Slater
956 (1929), for example, found a core of cohesive clay-rich till surrounded by a till unit
957 with a lower clay content.

958 It follows that clast shapes in drumlins are also highly variable, although sub-angular
959 and faceted clasts are commonly reported as being dominant (e.g. Clapperton, 1989).
960 Nevertheless, rounded and angular clasts are also reported from within the same
961 drumlin field and even the same drumlins. Fisher and Spooner (1994), for example,
962 report a range of clast shapes (angular to rounded) from drumlins in Alberta, Canada,
963 and also noted that around 10% were striated.

964

965 9.2. Clast fabrics in drumlins

966 A large body of work has reported that clast fabrics in drumlin sediments are
967 generally orientated approximately parallel with the long axis of the landform (e.g.
968 Hoppe, 1951; Wright, 1957; Wright, 1962; Gravenor and Meneley, 1958, cited by
969 Menzies, 1979a; Evenson, 1971, cited by Menzies, 1979a; Hill, 1971 (Figure 6),
970 Minell, 1973, cited by Menzies, 1979a; Shaw and Freschauf, 1973; Walker, 1973,
971 cited by Menzies, 1979a; Gluckert, 1973; Gravenor, 1974; Menzies, 1976, cited by
972 Menzies, 1979a; Karczewski, 1987; Piotrowski & Smalley, 1987; Aario and
973 Peuraniemi, 1992; Goldstein, 1989, 1994; Wysota, 1994; Nenonen, 1994 (Figure 5);
974 2001; Jørgensen and Piotrowski, 2003; Menzies and Brand, 2007). It has also been
975 reported that the plunge of the long axis of clasts (typically $<20^\circ$) is preferentially
976 orientated in an up-ice direction (Wright, 1957; 1962; Jørgensen and Piotrowski,
977 2003; Schomacker et al. (2006)). Interestingly, whilst Schomacker et al. (2006) found
978 this pattern in the till mantling an ice-cored drumlin ($0-14^\circ$), they report that the
979 plunge direction of clasts in the inter-drumlin areas was generally down-glacier
980 (principal vector 4°).

981 In those studies where vertical profiles have been taken, it has also been pointed out
982 that the fabrics in the surficial layers of the drumlin are stronger than those at greater
983 depths (e.g. Gravenor and Meneley, 1958; De Jong et al., 1982; Goldstein, 1989;
984 Wysota, 1994; Menzies and Brand, 2007), although not always (e.g. Clapperton,
985 1989). Menzies and Brand (2007), for example, found strong clast macro-fabrics that
986 matched the long axis trend of drumlin in a thin till veneer and suggested that it
987 probably reflects high shear stress in thin skin deformation around the more resistant
988 drumlin core (cf. Hart 1994; 1997; Iverson et al., 1998; Hooyer and Iverson, 2000).
989 Likewise, Goldstein (1989) reported clast macro-fabrics from the Wadena drumlin
990 field in Minnesota and found that fabrics towards the surface of the drumlin were

991 stronger than those found at depth. He also reported fabrics in lateral positions that
992 seem to indicate ice flow towards the drumlin axis. Similarly, Savage (1968),
993 obtained sixteen fabrics from a drumlin in Syracuse, New York, which showed
994 divergence around the stoss end, convergence around the lee end, and nearly parallel
995 patterns along the lateral flanks, see Figure 15. The conclusions drawn from these
996 studies is that the drumlins may have formed through an accretionary mechanism and
997 that ice flow around the growing drumlin varied as the form was built up and hence,
998 the final form of the drumlin does not resemble earlier phases of formation. Other
999 studies have also reported fabrics from the flanks of the drumlins pointing towards the
1000 central crest (Clapperton, 1989; Aario and Peuraniemi, 1992) and Rouk and Raukas
1001 (1989) reported that drumlins in Estonia are characterized by clast fabrics on the
1002 flanks that rise up-slope towards the lee end. They interpreted this as evidence of till
1003 movement according to the dominant stress gradient.

1004 Other studies (e.g. Andrews and King, 1968), however, have found only very weak
1005 fabrics in drumlins and some have argued that this may reflect the pervasive
1006 deformation of underlying till (e.g. Hart, 1995a.). Andrews and King (1968) found an
1007 increase in divergence between the drumlin trend and the mean orientation of fabrics
1008 from the base upwards and pointed out that none of the fabric orientations were closer
1009 than $\pm 20^\circ$ to the drumlin trend. They suggested that this increasing divergence
1010 resulted from ice flow becoming increasingly deflected as the drumlin size increased.
1011 A similar explanation for divergent fabrics in drumlin flanks was noted by Wysota
1012 (1994). Furthermore, some studies have found fabrics in the opposite direction to the
1013 drumlin trend (e.g. Fisher and Spooner, 1994) and have suggested that they may
1014 reflect palaeo-water currents, rather than shear strain within the sediment. Other
1015 workers have found that fabric strengths differ greatly between drumlins within the
1016 same field (e.g. Zelčs and Dreimanis, 1997). Krüger and Thomsen (1984) analysed
1017 four drumlins in Iceland and found that fabric direction is more diverse on drumlins
1018 than in the inter-drumlins areas.

1019 In addition to systematic studies of fabrics at different depths, some studies have
1020 examined fabrics longitudinally. Yi and Cui (2001) measured micro-fabrics of
1021 sediment obtained from the stoss and lee of a drumlin with a bedrock core, as well as
1022 in the immediate lee of the bedrock core. They measured both the particle (0.25-5
1023 mm) and void fabric and found a strong fabric in the stoss- and lee-side of the drumlin

1024 but a much weaker fabric in the immediate lee of the bedrock core. They suggested
1025 this might reflect incipient separation of the ice and bed (cavitation), which protected
1026 the sediments in the immediate 'shadow' of the bedrock core from the high normal
1027 and shear stresses experienced elsewhere in the drumlin.

1028 Finally, it has also been recognised that clast fabrics in drumlins may actually reflect
1029 earlier ice flow phases (e.g. Stea and Brown, 1989; Haavisto-Hyvärinen, 1997).
1030 Haavisto-Hyvärinen (1997), for example, reported fabrics from various depths and
1031 found that those in the upper till unit were aligned with most recent ice flow direction
1032 but that those in the lower unit were more likely to be related to an older ice flow
1033 direction. Similarly, Stea and Pe-Piper (1999) reported fabric orientations in a lower
1034 till unit that matched the long axis of the drumlin but that those in an upper till unit
1035 did not. They attributed this to two different flow directions, each of which may have
1036 helped shaped the drumlin into its final form (Figure 13).

1037 In summary, although clusters of studies appear to suggest discernible trends, our
1038 review indicates that there are no universal trends across a broad range of studies,
1039 other than most fabrics being approximately parallel to the drumlin long axis,
1040 especially in surficial units. Indeed, there is some debate in the literature over the
1041 more fundamental issue of whether subglacial till deformation leads to a weak (e.g.
1042 Dowdeswell and Sharp, 1986; Hart, 1994; 1997) or a strong clast fabric (Hooyer and
1043 Iverson, 2000; Benn, 1995) or whether it can lead to either, depending on the
1044 thickness of the deforming layer (Hart, 1994). Perhaps nowhere is this complexity
1045 better highlighted than in the literature on drumlin internal structure and, perhaps,
1046 clast fabrics themselves need to be questioned in terms of their validity and reliability.

1047

1048

1049 **10. Discussion:**

1050 10.1. How representative are observations of drumlin composition and internal
1051 structure?

1052 Our review of the literature suggests to us that most drumlins can be categorised into
1053 five basic types:

- 1054 • mainly bedrock

- 1055 • part bedrock/part till,
- 1056 • mainly till,
- 1057 • part till/part sorted sediments,
- 1058 • mainly sorted sediments

1059 Simplified versions of these are shown in Figure 16. Clearly, ‘real’ drumlins are often
1060 far more complex than those shown in Figure 16 but they do encapsulate the five
1061 main types of drumlin and will hopefully act as a useful observational framework for
1062 theorists to visualise and attempt to explain. Moreover, there may be some hybrid
1063 cases that are more rare (or yet to be reported) but we find it a relatively
1064 straightforward task to categorise the overwhelming majority of observations of
1065 drumlin composition (if not all) in to one of these groups and this is shown in Table 1.

1066 A crucial question that a drumlin theorist might ask is: which of these drumlin types
1067 are common and which are rarer; or are they found in equal numbers? According to
1068 Table 1, the most common type of drumlin reported in the literature (emphasis on
1069 ‘reported’) are those that are composed mainly of till (68 papers), which has been
1070 suggested in other papers (e.g. Menzies, 1979b, p. 374). The next most commonly
1071 reported are those composed of part till and part sorted sediments (47 papers) and part
1072 till and part bedrock (29 papers). A total of 16 papers report drumlins composed of
1073 mainly sorted sediments and 7 report bedrock drumlins. Note that Table 1 only
1074 includes papers that specifically refer to ‘bedrock drumlins’. These landforms are,
1075 obviously, far more prevalent than shown in Table 1 but they often referred to by
1076 another name (see section 3.1) and often excluded from papers that specifically
1077 address the issue of drumlin internal structure (see also section 10.2.1.1, below).

1078 Whilst it might be tempting to draw conclusions from Table 1, there are several
1079 important issues which suggest that this dataset is unlikely to provide a valid answer
1080 to the question regarding the commonality of different types. This is because Table 1
1081 simply reflects ‘reported’ drumlins, rather than a systematic sampling programme.
1082 Indeed, there are four key issues, which suggest that we are still some way from
1083 obtaining a representative dataset of drumlin composition and internal structure.

1084 The first issue is the geographic distribution of drumlin observations, which are
1085 clearly not evenly distributed across the entire population of drumlins to available to

1086 study. Figure 17 simply plots the location of each of the studies in Table 1 in relation
1087 to the limits of the last major mid-latitude ice sheets and the Precambrian ‘shield’
1088 areas of predominantly crystalline bedrock. It clearly reveals that observations of
1089 drumlin composition are, generally, tightly clustered towards centres of population
1090 and away from parts of the ice sheet bed underlain by crystalline bedrock. It is
1091 apparent that several regions (e.g. southern Ontario, Northern Ireland), have attracted
1092 the interest of several workers, such that some drumlin fields are ‘over-sampled’,
1093 compared to others. Indeed, observations reported in the literature may even be taken
1094 from the same drumlins, resulting in some drumlins (and therefore drumlin-types)
1095 being duplicated in different papers. Furthermore, the clustering of observations in
1096 specific regions is likely to result in the over-sampling of certain types of drumlins at
1097 the expense of others. The dearth of observations from shield areas, for example, is
1098 likely to result in a general under-reporting of bedrock and part bedrock/part till
1099 drumlins and an over-reporting of drumlins composed of mainly till. Likewise, many
1100 observations are clustered towards the margins of palaeo-ice sheets, which is where
1101 glacio-fluvial sediments are more likely to accumulate for subsequent overriding and
1102 incorporation into drumlin sediments.

1103 The second issue relates to the sample size within each study. As noted in section 2,
1104 observations of drumlin composition and internal structure are generally taken from
1105 very low sample sizes within drumlin fields and in almost half of the papers the
1106 sample size is not mentioned (see Fig. 2). Related to this, some observations are based
1107 on limited exposures of sediments inside a drumlin and these may have been
1108 erroneously extrapolated to the entire drumlin (and sometimes the entire drumlin
1109 field).

1110 A third issue is that observations reported in the literature may be biased by particular
1111 paradigms at particular times. The composition and internal structure of drumlins is
1112 often linked to particular ideas/theories about how the drumlins form and, although
1113 unlikely, it may be that some investigators are less likely to publish observations that
1114 might conflict with previously published evidence. Table 1 is organised
1115 chronologically to show whether certain types of drumlin were reported at certain
1116 times over the last hundred years or so, revealing any temporal trends that might be
1117 related to technological or conceptual advances in understanding. It would appear that
1118 there are no obvious time periods when certain drumlins were more commonly

1119 reported than others, although it is clear that the literature on drumlins saw a period of
1120 huge growth in the 1950s, which appears to have accelerated in the latter half of the
1121 20th century. Pre 1950, there are far fewer papers and these tend to be dominated by
1122 mainly till and part till/part bedrock types, possibly reflecting early ideas about
1123 deposition and accretion of drumlins around bedrock obstacles or till cores (e.g.
1124 Fairchild, 1907). Post 1950, there is a greater tendency to report drumlins with some
1125 component of sorted sediments and this may be linked to ideas about drumlin
1126 formation and the role of subglacial meltwater (e.g. Shaw and Freschauf, 1973; Shaw,
1127 1983) and the large clutch of papers on lee-side stratified sequences from Ireland (e.g.
1128 Dardis and McCabe, 1983; Dardis et al., 1984; etc). Interestingly, there are very few
1129 papers that report part till/part sorted sediments between 1950 and 1975, but this
1130 increases substantially in between 1976-2000. This may be linked to ideas of drumlin
1131 formation in a deforming subglacial layer (e.g. Boulton, 1987) because many of the
1132 papers in this category also invoke erosion and deformation of pre-existing sorted
1133 sediments by ice as well as meltwater activity.

1134 A fourth issue is that there may also be cases where drumlins with less
1135 sedimentologically interesting constituents (e.g. a fairly homogeneous single unit of
1136 till with few structures) might be reported less frequently than drumlins with more
1137 interesting constituents (e.g. several till units and/or sorted deposits with impressively
1138 formed contacts and/or deformation structures). Indeed, there may be a tendency for
1139 more interesting but more exceptional drumlins to attract greater attention in the
1140 literature. It might be more difficult, for example, to publish a paper reporting an
1141 apparently straightforward case of a drumlin consisting simply of a single
1142 homogenous till - there is not too much interesting detail to report. It might also be
1143 possible that commonly reported types of drumlins become so common that scientists
1144 become less interested in publishing papers about them, although this would not
1145 appear to be the case because drumlins with 'mainly till' are by far the most
1146 commonly reported drumlin.

1147 We also note that there are several citations that appear in more than one column in
1148 Table 1, which provides clear evidence that drumlin composition is highly variable
1149 and that different types of sediments and structures are found even within the same
1150 drumlin field (cf. section 7). On occasions, we also note that some authors will cite a
1151 paper to provide evidence of one type of drumlin, but that other authors may take the

1152 same paper to draw a different conclusion about the contents of the drumlin. This
1153 further complicates Table 1, where we are sometimes reliant on ‘cited in’ references.

1154 In summary, the drumlin literature has thus far been excellent at ascertaining the
1155 range of internal structures, but because of various potential biases and small sample
1156 sizes, we are left with only a limited understanding of what is usual for drumlins and
1157 what are the more exotic and tangential situations. We would argue that the
1158 identification of the five basic types is an important first step for theorists to tackle but
1159 whilst Table 1 might offer some useful clues as to the commonality of each type, a set
1160 of “statistically valid observations” (cf. Clark et al., 2009) of drumlin composition is
1161 not yet available.

1162

1163 10.2. What does the variability of drumlin internal structure tell us about drumlin
1164 formation?

1165 One of the most intriguing aspects of drumlin formation is the way in which ice flow
1166 creates a pattern of upstanding mounds (drumlins); especially where their distribution
1167 is clearly not related to any pre-existing or underlying topography. This is the essence
1168 of the ‘drumlin problem’ and one which has prompted numerous attempts to solve it.
1169 Although it is not the intention of this paper to review specific hypotheses of drumlin
1170 formation (see section 1.1), it is important to discuss how the observations of drumlin
1171 internal structure might be linked to an explanation of their formation, at least
1172 conceptually. One starting point is to ask whether the five different types of drumlins
1173 identified in this paper are formed by different mechanisms, or whether they are
1174 formed by a single process that acts across broad areas to create drumlinised terrain.
1175 We term these two possible scenarios ‘site-specific’ and ‘process specific’ drumlin
1176 formation and discuss their implications below.

1177

1178 10.2.1 Site-specific drumlin formation

1179 It is possible that the different types of drumlin (Figure 16) are formed by quite
1180 processes. Because they are often arranged next to each other, the implication is that
1181 different processes act at specific sites on the ice sheet bed and that these processes do
1182 not occur in the inter-drumlin terrain that exists between them. Here, we call this ‘*site*
1183 specific drumlin formation’ Essentially, this scenario suggests that processes occur at

1184 a specific site on the ice sheet bed to create an individual drumlin. If this were the
1185 case, investigations of drumlins and non-drumlin sediments would be critical in
1186 providing information that could lead to a satisfactory explanation of the different
1187 types of site-specific drumlins. Indeed, there are three ways in which one might
1188 compare drumlins with non-drumlinised terrain and some of these have been
1189 attempted in previous studies:

- 1190 (i) A comparison between the sediments and structures in different drumlins
1191 from within the same drumlin field and comparison to other drumlin fields
- 1192 (ii) A ‘lateral’ comparison between individual drumlins and intervening non-
1193 drumlinised terrain within the same field (and potentially including
1194 comparisons between the drumlin field terrain and adjacent non-
1195 drumlinised terrain outside the drumlin field)
- 1196 (iii) A ‘vertical’ comparison between drumlins and the substrate underneath (at
1197 depths greater than simple the break of slope at the base of the drumlin)

1198 These comparisons might reveal different sediments and structures in drumlins
1199 compared to immediately adjacent non-drumlinised terrain (e.g. different lithologies,
1200 clast sizes, and/or degrees of sorting or deformation) and the observations presented
1201 in this paper can shed some light on such comparisons. For example, with respect to
1202 point (i), it is very clear (see section 7) that the sediments and structures found within
1203 drumlins can be highly variable, even within the same drumlin field, e.g. some might
1204 be composed of bedrock, some one till unit, some several till units, some
1205 sorted/stratified material, etc (see Figure 12).

1206 With respect to point (ii), it is perhaps surprising that so few studies have attempted
1207 lateral comparisons between drumlins and inter-drumlin areas, but this is almost
1208 certainly due to the lack of suitable sediment exposures in the flatter, non-drumlinised
1209 terrain. However, of the few studies that have made this comparison, the results are
1210 inconclusive, some studies suggest there are differences and some studies suggest
1211 there are no differences.

1212 With respect to point (iii), even fewer studies systematically investigate the nature of
1213 the boundary between the drumlin landform and the deeper underlying substrate,
1214 although there are some exceptions (e.g. Clapperton, 1989; Goldstein, 1989; Rattas
1215 and Piotrowski, 2003). Rattas and Piotrowski (2003), for example, noted that drumlin

1216 size appeared to be related to the permeability of underlying bedrock. A potential
1217 geological control on drumlin formation in Ireland was also investigated by
1218 Greenwood and Clark (2010). They suggest that underlying geology can modulate
1219 local drumlin form (cf. Phillips et al., 2010) but that it does not exert a more
1220 fundamental control on drumlin genesis. Indeed, it is clear from this review that
1221 drumlins occur over a wide range of substrates and incorporate such substrates into
1222 the drumlin form to varying degrees. In their review of the available data in the
1223 literature, Patterson and Hooke (1995) found unconsolidated sediments make up 34%
1224 of the substrates beneath drumlins, of which 18% were till and 16% were stratified
1225 deposits. The remaining 66% were rock. Their conclusion, like that of Greenwood
1226 and Clark (2010) is that drumlin development is not obviously linked to substrate.

1227 Clearly, there is potential for future work to address the variability of drumlins
1228 sediments with respect to points (i) to (iii), above. Such investigations would be well
1229 suited to the use of geophysical and borehole investigations, which can cover larger
1230 areas and greater depths (cf. section 2.2 and 2.3). It would also be helpful for
1231 investigators to state: (a) approximately how many drumlins exist in the drumlin field;
1232 (b), the location and number of drumlins that are investigated; and (c), the precise
1233 location of the observations with respect to the entire drumlin surface. It might also be
1234 useful to describe all three aspects of drumlin composition and internal structure
1235 wherever possible, i.e. the composition, structure, and nature of deformation for each
1236 sampled landform. A further issue that is not often addressed but which may be very
1237 important is the temporal aspect of drumlin formation. It is still unclear how quickly
1238 and drumlin field may form, although it does appear that sediment can be eroded and
1239 deposited over very short (decadal) time-scales (e.g. years: Smith et al., 2007). Given
1240 that we know that some drumlin fields are composed of several populations of
1241 drumlins formed by different episodes of ice flow (Figure 13), it is likely that
1242 different sediments and structures are linked to different ice flow events and it might
1243 even be expected that neighbouring drumlins of different age would have different
1244 constituents. Thus, it would helpful for investigators to highlight any inferred
1245 chronology of drumlin formation within their studied drumlin field.

1246

1247 *10.2.1.1. Bedrock drumlins as a 'site-specific' type*

1248 With the above discussion in mind, it is clear that bedrock drumlins (section 3.1) are
1249 likely to be site-specific in that some form of bedrock obstacle is required in a specific
1250 location from which a drumlin can be sculpted. Drumlin research has often leaned on
1251 form analogy and so it is clear to see why these features are labelled drumlins but it
1252 has been argued that such features should be seen as distinct from the other types of
1253 drumlin (e.g. Dionne, 1987). This is because the processes that streamline (and pluck)
1254 pre-existing bedrock outcrops into a variety of forms, including those that exhibit the
1255 classic drumlin shape, are relatively well known (cf. Benn and Evans, 1998). They
1256 result from glacial abrasion and meltwater erosion which smoothes and polishes
1257 bedrock protrusions and which also superimposes a variety of small-scale erosional
1258 landforms such as striae and friction cracks, etc. (cf. Linton, 1963; Bennett and
1259 Glasser, 1996; Benn and Evans, 1998). This is in contrast to the apparently
1260 counterintuitive way in which a glacier creates a pattern of upstanding mounds
1261 (drumlins) from unconsolidated sediments; especially where their distribution is
1262 clearly not related to any pre-existing or underlying topography.

1263 Given that bedrock drumlins appear to be formed by subglacial processes that are
1264 relatively well described and which probably differ from processes that form the other
1265 main types of drumlins described in this paper, we suggest that it could safely be
1266 treated as a separate type of site-specific drumlin. Moreover, it might even be helpful
1267 to abandon the term ‘rock drumlin’ (cf. Dione, 1987) in favour of the previously
1268 employed term ‘whaleback’ (cf. Evans, 1996), with the prefix asymmetric for those
1269 features that are shaped with clear stoss and lee slope asymmetry. Following Dione
1270 (1987), the term ‘crag-and-tail’ should be restricted to landforms where the bedrock
1271 protuberance is clearly exposed at the stoss end of the landform and the
1272 unconsolidated material lies in its shadow (Figure 16e); and where the exposed
1273 bedrock occurs at the lee end (Figure 16f), the term ‘pre-crag’ be used (cf. Haaviston-
1274 Hyvärinen, 1997).

1275 Site-specific drumlin formation, therefore, leaves room for different processes to
1276 produce different types of drumlin, even when they may appear very similar in terms
1277 of their morphology. This would imply that drumlins are a product of equifinality, i.e.
1278 different processes lead to different types of drumlins but which have similar
1279 morphology. Under these circumstances, however, we might want to call the different
1280 types of drumlin different names, as is suggested here for entirely bedrock forms,

1281 despite their similar morphology. Moreover, it might be that detailed morphological
1282 analysis of different types of site-specific drumlin may reveal subtle differences. We
1283 do not yet know, for example, whether the shape of bedrock drumlins is almost
1284 identical to drumlins composed of unconsolidated sediments, because it is unusual for
1285 studies of drumlin morphometry to include bedrock features (e.g. Clark et al., 2009).

1286

1287 10.2.2. Process-specific drumlin formation

1288 The alternative to site-specific drumlin formation is that a single process acts to create
1289 drumlinised terrain. We use the term ‘*process-specific*’ to describe the development of
1290 drumlins that may result from a single process that occurs across a large area and
1291 leads to the development of the drumlinised ‘surface’. A useful analogy here would be
1292 dunes formed by aeolian processes or ripples forming by fluvial processes: a process
1293 occurs over a large area and individual bedforms are not related to specific conditions
1294 at the site where they form and may even migrate. Under these circumstances,
1295 comparisons of drumlin and intervening non-drumlin sediments would not necessarily
1296 reveal any special processes occurring in drumlins, compared to non-drumlinised
1297 terrain; other than those that are inherited from pre-existing conditions, i.e. parts of
1298 the original pre-drumlinised surface were characterised by different sediments and
1299 structures. If this were the case, investigations of drumlin composition would not
1300 necessarily provide any critical information that could explain drumlin formation.
1301 Any observed differences between drumlins and the intervening non-drumlinised
1302 terrain may simply reflect pre-existing differences in pre-drumlinised terrain and may
1303 be largely unrelated to the processes that created the drumlin surface.

1304 Whilst we suggest above that bedrock drumlins are site-specific, it is more difficult to
1305 ascertain whether the other four basic types are formed by different processes. There
1306 are some hints in the literature that certain site-specific processes may act to preserve
1307 or deform sediments to create individual drumlins, but there is no clear evidence to
1308 assume that they are formed by completely different mechanisms, especially as many
1309 are observed within the same drumlin field and may even be seen as a continuum in
1310 some settings (e.g. Boyce and Eyles, 1991). To the contrary, the unimodal distribution
1311 of drumlin shape parameters (cf. Clark et al., 2009) would appear to suggest that these
1312 landforms have much in common, despite their varied constituents. Indeed, if each of

1313 these types of drumlin are site specific landforms and if their internal sediments and
1314 structures are related to those processes; the great variability of drumlin internal
1315 structure within drumlin fields would imply that different subglacial processes occur
1316 at specific locations beneath the ice sheet and that neighbouring drumlins that might
1317 be just a few hundred metres apart are formed by quite different processes. This
1318 would seem to be introducing additional complexity where it is not required.

1319 Putting aside bedrock drumlins, therefore, we consider it highly unlikely that the four
1320 remaining types of drumlins are formed by entirely different processes and suggest
1321 that they are formed by a single process that occurs across the ice sheet bed to create
1322 drumlinised terrain. Of course, this is not a new idea and previous authors have
1323 suggested spatially extensive processes that might create drumlins, such as
1324 catastrophic meltwater floods (e.g. Shaw, 1983; Shaw and Kvill, 1984) or an
1325 instability between the base of the ice and underlying sediments (e.g. Hindmarsh,
1326 1998; Fowler, 2000). Similar processes act in aeolian and fluvial environments to
1327 create familiar patterned surfaces in a variety of sediment grain sizes (e.g. dunes,
1328 ripples, etc), yet it would be odd to question whether dunes with different grain sizes
1329 are formed by a fundamentally different mechanism. Indeed, such processes are not
1330 greatly sensitive to different sediments and structures (although this may still be
1331 important in more extreme situations) and, depending on the balance between erosion,
1332 transport and deposition, could erode and/or deform the landscape to leave drumlins
1333 with a range of constituents and structures. As Aronow suggested in 1959: “when the
1334 conditions within the ice are present for making drumlins and related features they are
1335 formed, seemingly, regardless of the materials available” (p. 202).

1336 A key implication of the process-specific drumlin formation, which we favour for all
1337 but bedrock drumlins, is that the sediments and structures inside drumlins may not
1338 necessarily be related to the drumlin forming mechanism and simply reflect pre-
1339 existing sediments that have been subjected to the drumlin-forming mechanism (and
1340 to varying degrees).. This point has been made by previous authors (e.g. Menzies,
1341 1979a; Smalley, 1981; Kerr and Eyles, 2007). Knight and McCabe (1997), for
1342 example, suggest that up to 95% of the sediment sequence in one drumlin they studied
1343 in NW Ireland probably pre-dates drumlin formation. An important issue with studies
1344 of drumlin internal structure is that some may uncritically assume that the sediments
1345 inside a drumlin are related to the drumlin forming mechanism. An attempt is then

1346 made to reconstruct the environment in which those sediments originated. The logical
1347 outcome of this line of thinking is that the large variability in drumlin internal
1348 structure leads to several different drumlin forming environments and radically
1349 different hypotheses regarding drumlin formation. Shaw (1983: p. 473) for example,
1350 states that “if the environment and processes of deposition for this stratified material
1351 [in the drumlin] can be determined then we might make some progress on the
1352 question of drumlin genesis”. This may be true, but it is also possible that the
1353 environment and processes of deposition pre-date drumlin formation. If it is possible
1354 that some of the sediments and structures are inherited from previous sedimentary
1355 environments and not related to the drumlin forming mechanism, then the variability
1356 of drumlin internal sediments and structures need not be seen as a major obstacle to a
1357 universal drumlin forming theory that acts on various substrates.

1358

1359

1360 **11. Conclusions**

1361 The sheer diversity of drumlin internal composition and structure has often been seen
1362 as a major obstacle to a unifying theory of drumlin formation. Given the range of
1363 complexity reported (and interpreted formational hypotheses and hints) one might
1364 mischievously suggest that each drumlin formed by its own unique process. The key
1365 issue is to know which observations represent valid data with which to test hypotheses
1366 of drumlin formation. It would be dangerous to take sedimentary observations that
1367 record processes that occurred prior to or after drumlin formation (and just happen to
1368 be inside a drumlin or associated with it) and then use those to either construct or test
1369 hypotheses of drumlin formation. Our reading of the literature is that, to an extent,
1370 this issue has introduced some unwarranted complexity. Observations used
1371 inappropriately might overemphasise the exotic and the complex, such that we lose
1372 sight of the more fundamental issues and/or fail to recognise the commonality that
1373 may exist. With this in mind, we suggest that there are, essentially, five basic types
1374 that are commonly reported:

1375 1. Mainly bedrock

1376 2. Part bedrock/part till

1377 3. Mainly till

1378 4. Part till/part sorted sediments

1379 5. Mainly sorted sediments

1380 The most commonly reported drumlin ‘type’ (i.e. those that are cited most often in the
1381 literature, but irrespective of sample sizes) appear to be those composed of mainly till,
1382 followed by those composed of part till/part sorted sediments, part till/part bedrock,
1383 and, finally, mainly sorted sediments. However, ‘reports’ of drumlin internal structure
1384 are unlikely to be representative of the entire population of drumlins because they are
1385 not evenly distributed on former ice sheet beds; they are typically based on very low
1386 sample sizes; and they may be shaped/biased by particular paradigms or ideas.

1387 In addition to the five main types of drumlin reported in the literature, distinct drumlin
1388 veneers/carapaces are often reported to be composed of either till or glaciofluvial
1389 sediments but most authors suggest that these thinner units draped over the drumlin
1390 surface are not related to the drumlin-forming mechanism and most likely reflect
1391 deposition during deglaciation. Specific stoss and lee features are also found in
1392 association with the five main types of drumlin, e.g. stoss-side features dipping up-
1393 ice, lee side features dipping down-ice (including lee-side stratified sediments) but,
1394 again, most authors suggest that such features require an obstacle (i.e. the drumlin) to
1395 form and that they may not necessarily be related to the drumlin-forming mechanism.
1396 Features associated with glaciotectonic deformation have attracted much attention in
1397 the drumlin literature and are found in all types of drumlins, excluding those formed
1398 of bedrock. Deformation features range from small and localised to several tens of
1399 metres and throughout the entire drumlin thickness, but some drumlin sediments show
1400 no evidence of ever having been deformed. Likewise, there are no obvious trends in
1401 the shape and size of clasts. The whole range of sediment clast sizes (clay to boulder)
1402 and shapes (angular to rounded) have been found inside drumlins and, whilst
1403 macrofabric analyses are commonly performed on clasts and usually show a
1404 preference for long-axes to be aligned with the drumlin orientation, there are no
1405 common trends across a broad range of studies, i.e. comparing vertical or horizontal
1406 profiles.

1407 Drumlin theories are now being developed into models and, given the oft-cited
1408 complexity of drumlin composition, it is important for model-builders to know which
1409 aspects of drumlin phenomena actually need explaining (it would be impossible to

1410 attempt to explain every clast or sedimentological occurrence); and for those with
1411 working models, which aspects can be used as a test or falsification. It is hoped that
1412 the main types of drumlin identified in this paper provide a more realistic target for
1413 theorists to address. A key question, however, is whether each of the different types of
1414 drumlin identified in this paper are formed by a different process that are specific to
1415 conditions at a point on the ice sheet bed (termed here ‘site-specific formation) or
1416 whether a single process can account for the formation of more than one drumlin type
1417 (termed here ‘process-specific’). We conclude that bedrock drumlins are site-specific
1418 and, because they are formed by processes that are relatively well known (glacial
1419 abrasion and meltwater erosion), it might be helpful to cease to use the term drumlin
1420 to describe these features (cf. Dione, 1987).

1421 The other four types might be produced by different subglacial processes and several
1422 different models might be required: drumlins would therefore represent an equifinal
1423 bedform, and with more knowledge we might be justified in developing process-
1424 specific drumlin names for the different types. However, we argue that they are more
1425 likely to be closely related because they often occur in close proximity within the
1426 same drumlin field and occasionally as a continuum (cf. Boyce and Eyles, 1991). We
1427 favour the alternative explanation that there is, essentially, a single drumlin-forming
1428 mechanism that acts in a wide range of sedimentary environments to create
1429 drumlinised terrain. The major implication of this view is that the composition and
1430 internal structure of drumlins largely reflects pre-existing sediments and sedimentary
1431 conditions that become drumlinised and are, therefore, unlikely to be diagnostic of the
1432 drumlin-forming mechanism. Rather, observations of the composition and internal
1433 structure will reveal the way in which the mechanism itself, is influenced by pre-
1434 existing sedimentary conditions.

1435

1436

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1444

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1929 Burtnieks drumlin field, northern Vidzeme, Latvia. *Sedimentary Geology*, 111,
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1931
1932

1933 **Table Captions:**

1934

1935 **Table 1:** Reported evidence for each of the five main types of drumlin composition identified in this paper (see Section 3 and Figure 16). Papers
 1936 that report each type of drumlin (listed in column headings) are presented in chronological order and split into different time periods (pre 1900;
 1937 1900-1925; 1926-1950; 1951-1975; 1975-2000; post 2000). Note that different papers report different sample sizes; some papers report more
 1938 than one type of drumlin; and different papers may include data on the same drumlin(s). See section 10.1 for discussion of issues regarding
 1939 representativeness.

1940

Bedrock	Part Bedrock/Part Till	Mainly Till	Part Till/Part Sorted	Sorted
Fairchild (1907)	Chamberlin (1883) ¹	Upham (1892) ¹	Kupsch (1955)	Upham (1894) ³
Linton (1963)	Tarr (1894) ¹	Lincoln (1892)	Chapman & Putman (1966) ⁵	Alden (1905) ³
Glückert (1973)	Högbom (1905) ¹	Crosby (1892) ²	Hill (1971)	Gravenor (1953) ³
Dionne (1987)	Hollingworth (1931) ¹	Fairchild (1907)	Miller (1972)	Lemke (1958) ³
Raukas & Tavast (1994)	Crosby (1934)	Wright (1912) ¹	Shaw & Freschauf (1973)	Hoppe (1963) ³
	Ebers (1937) ¹			
Evans (1996)	Armstrong (1949) ¹	Goldthwait (1924) ¹	Whittecar & Mickelson (1977)	Johansson (1972) ³
Kerr & Eyles (2007)	Deane (1950) ¹	Fairchild (1929) ¹	Whittecar & Mickelson (1979)	Bayrock (1972) ³
	Aronow (1959)	Wilson (1938) ¹	Aario (1977)	Muller (1974) ³
	Aartolahti (1966) ¹	Sproule (1939) ¹		
	Savage (1968) ¹	Charlesworth (1939) ¹	De Jong et al. (1982)	Gillberg (1976) ³
	Repo & Tynni (1971) ¹	Bergquist (1942) ⁵	Dardis (1984)	De Jong et al. (1982)
	Hill (1971)	Bergquist (1943) ⁵	Dardis & McCabe (1983)	Shaw (1983)
	Minell (1973) ¹	Putnam & Chapman (1943) ¹	Dardis et al. (1984)	Shaw & Kvill (1984)
	Gluckert (1973)	Goldthwait (1948) ¹	Sharpe (1985)	Sharpe (1987)
	Gillberg (1976) ⁵	Gravenor (1953) ¹	Dardis (1985)	McCabe (1989)

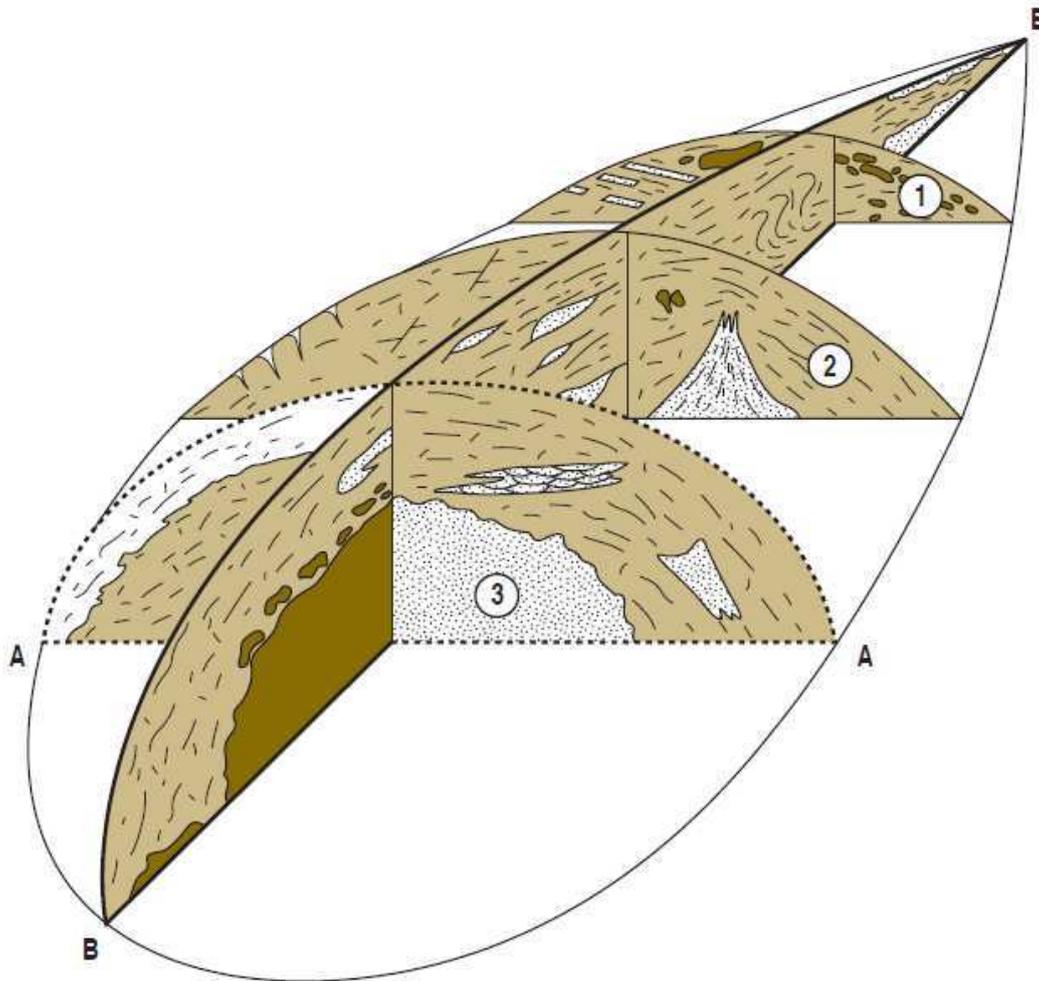
	Dionne (1987)	Dean (1953) ⁵	Dardis (1987)	Zelčs & Dreimanis (1997)
	Riley (1987)	Sharp (1953)	Dardis & McCabe (1987)	Menzies & Brand (2007)
	Gluckert (1987)	Wright (1957)	Hanvey (1987)	
	Boyce & Eyles (1991)	Hoppe (1959) ¹	Sharpe (1987)	
	Raukas & Tavast (1994)	Aronow (1959)	Krüger (1987)	
	Nenonen (1994)	Virkkala (1960) ⁴	Hanvey (1989)	
	Newman & Mickelson (1994)	Wright (1962)	Goldstein (1989)	
	Fisher & Spooner (1994)	Muller (1963) ¹	McCabe (1989)	
	Hart (1997)	MacNeill (1965) ¹	Clapperton (1989)	
	Meehan et al. (1997)	Chapman & Putnam (1966) ⁵	Boyce & Eyles (1991)	
	Zelčs & Dreimanis (1997)	Harris (1967)	Habbe (1992)	
	Haaviston-Hyvärinen (1997)	Hill (1968) ¹	Menzies & Maltman (1992)	
	Yi & Cui (2001)	Karrow (1968) ²	Hanvey (1992)	
	Tavast (2001)	Lasca (1970) ¹	Ellwanger (1992)	
	Fuller & Murray (2002)	Lundqvist (1970) ¹	Wysota (1994)	
		Hill (1971)	McCabe & Dardis (1994)	
		Minell (1973) ¹	Newman & Mickelson (1994)	
		Gravenor (1974)	Fisher & Spooner (1994)	
		Hill (1973) ⁵	Dardis & Hanvey (1994)	
		Jauhiainen (1975) ⁵	Raukas & Tavast (1994)	
		Menzies (1976) ¹	Nenonen (1994)	
		Minell (1979)	Goldstein (1994)	
		Heikkinen & Tikkanen (1979) ⁵	Hart (1995a)	
		De Jong et al. (1982)	Hart (1997)	
		Karrow (1981)	Zelčs & Dreimanis (1997)	
		Jones (1982)	Menzies et al. (1997)	
		Riley (1987)	Knight & McCabe (1997)	
		Piotrowski (1987)	Rattas & Kalm (2001)	
		Rabassa (1987) ⁵	Raunholme et al. (2003)	
		Dardis (1987)	Rattas & Piotrowski (2003)	
		Dardis & McCabe (1987)	Jørgensen & Piotrowski (2003)	
		Piotrowski & Smalley (1987)	Kerr & Eyles (2007)	
		Piotrowski (1988)	Hiemstra et al. (2008)	
		Stea & Brown (1989)		

		Goldstein (1989)		
		Clapperton (1989)		
		Coudé (1989) ⁵		
		Newman et al. (1990)		
		Habbe (1992)		
		Aario & Peuraniemi (1992)		
		Newman & Mickelson (1994)		
		Raukas & Tavast (1994)		
		Wysota (1994)		
		Hart (1995b)		
		Hart (1997)		
		Zelčs & Dreimanis (1997)		
		Haavisto-Hyvärinen (1997)		
		Menzies et al. (1997)		
		Stea & Pe-Piper (1999)		
		Jorgensen (2001)		
		Nenonen (2001)		
		Williams & Thomas (2001)		
		Rattas & Piotrowski (2003)		

1941 Citation sources: ¹Menzies (1979a); ²Karrow (1981); ³Shaw (1983); ⁴Karczewski (1987); ⁵Patterson & Hooke (1995)

1942

1943 **Figures:**

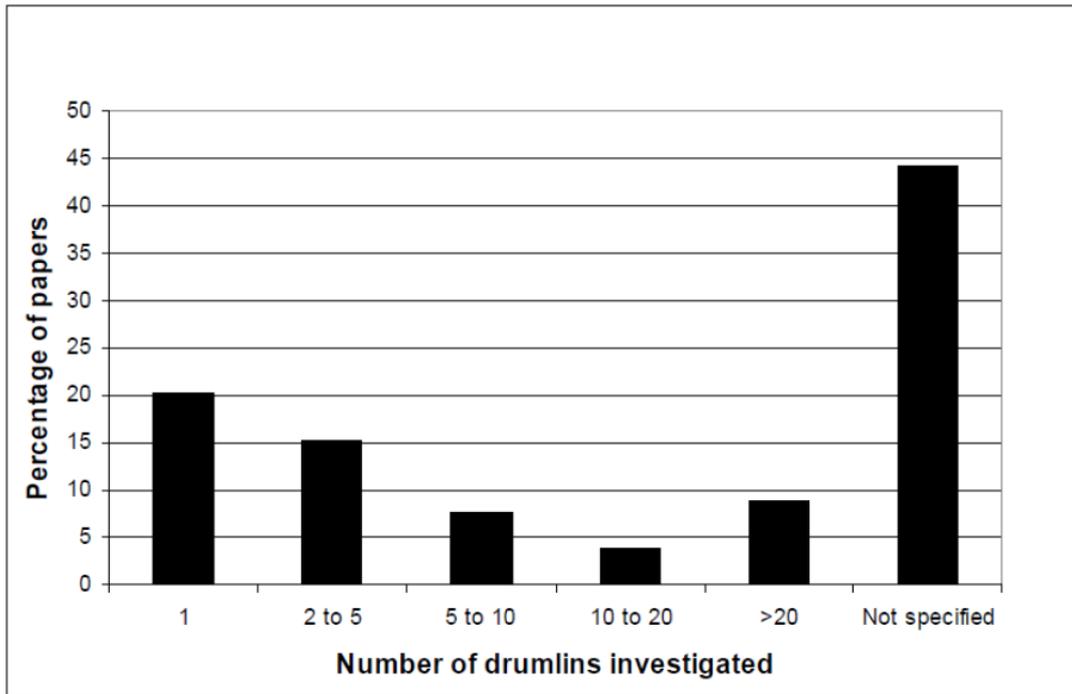


1944

1945

1946 **Figure 1:** Cartoon of drumlin internal structure emphasising the potentially complex
1947 nature of their internal structure and how observations taken from limited natural
1948 exposures (e.g. areas labelled 1, 2 and 3) may not necessarily be representative of the
1949 internal properties of the entire drumlin. The ideal situation of having both a
1950 continuous transverse (A-A) and longitudinal section (B-B) is virtually impossible to
1951 observe using field traditional methods but is possible using geophysical techniques.
1952 This cartoon is used to simply illustrate the point about the internal variability of some
1953 drumlin sediments and is redrawn from the front cover of the 'Drumlin Symposium'
1954 book (Menzies and Rose, 1987).

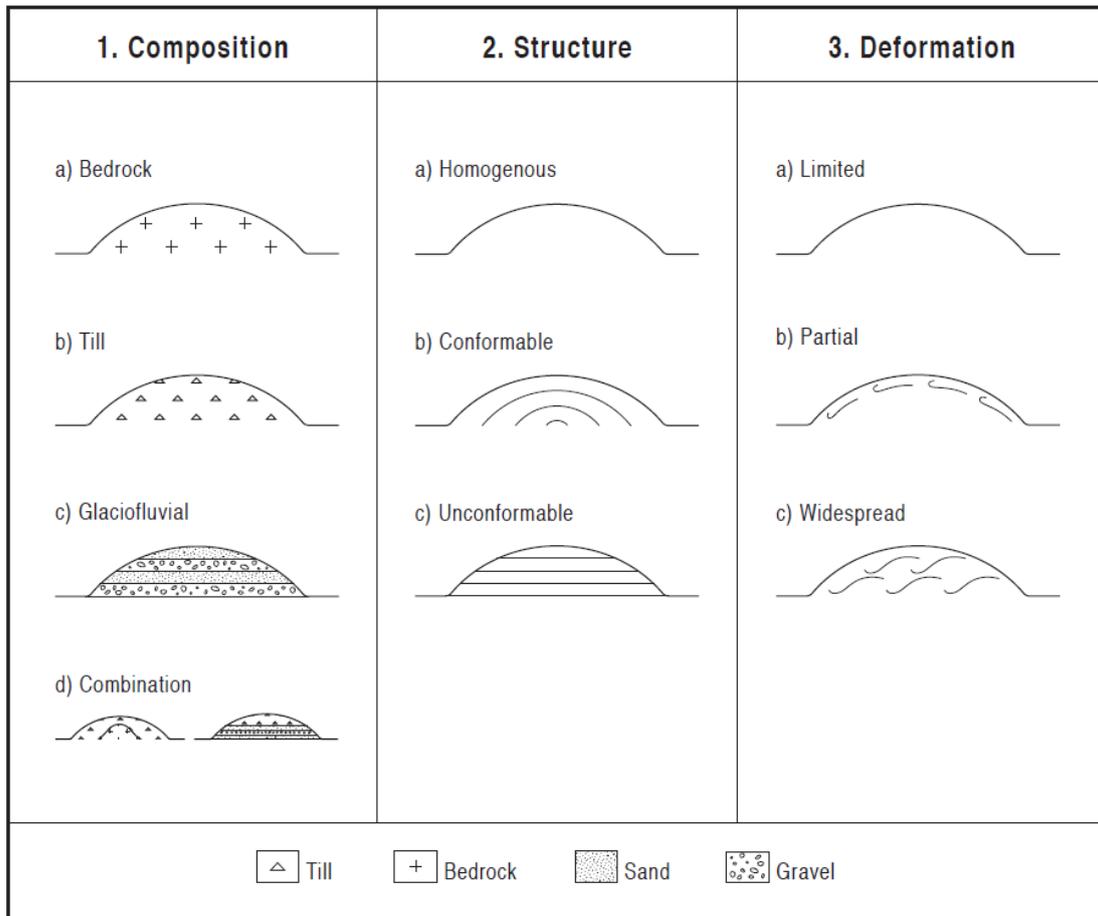
1955



1956

1957 **Figure 2:** Samples sizes of drumlin composition and internal structure from 79 papers
 1958 in the literature that we were able to consult and which specifically mention drumlin
 1959 composition. Note that the majority of papers do not specify exactly how many
 1960 drumlins were investigated and that for those papers which do state this explicitly, the
 1961 dominant sample size is 1 drumlin (21%). Less than 10% of papers report from
 1962 sample sizes greater than 20 drumlins.

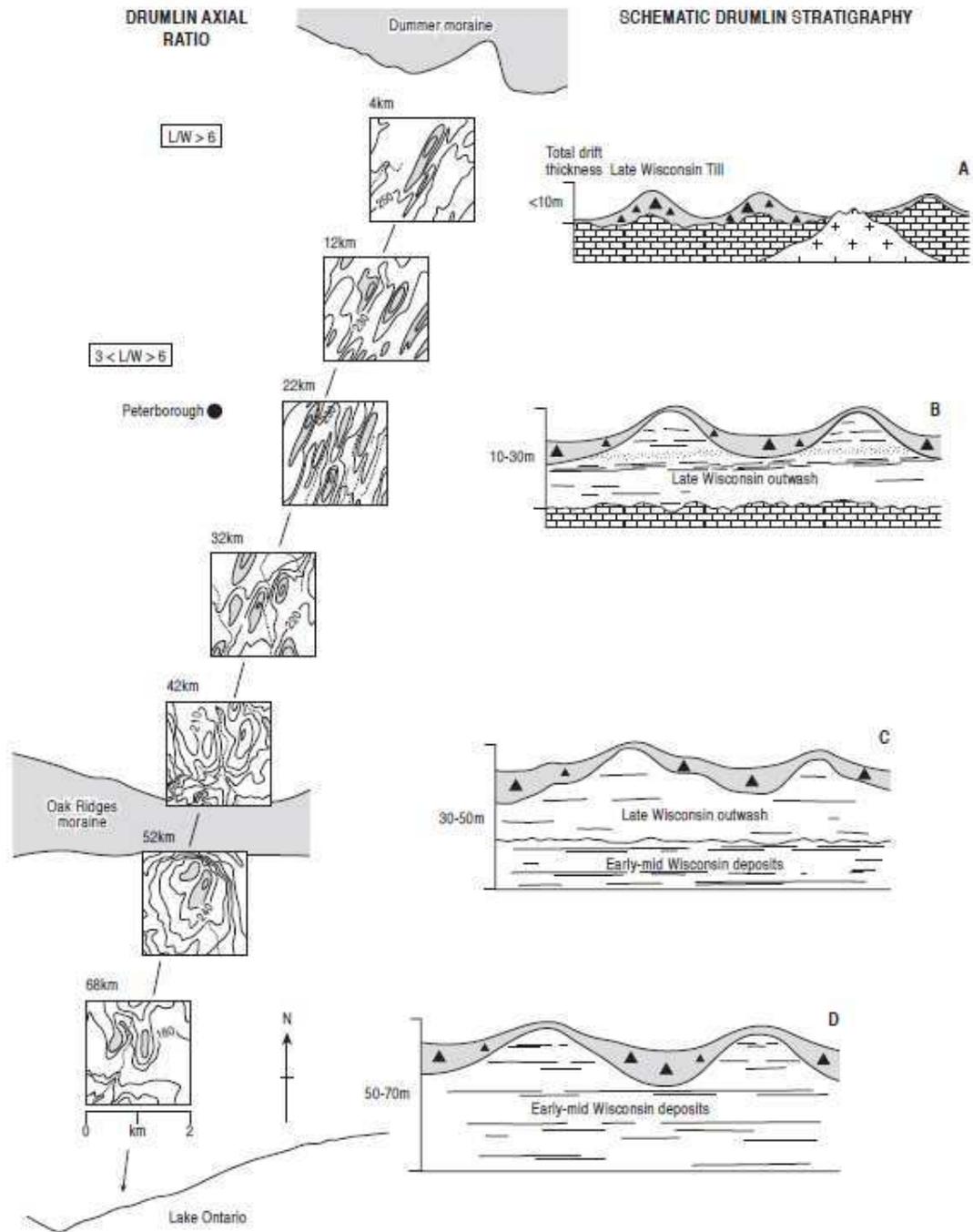
1963



1964

1965 **Figure 3:** Three aspects of drumlin composition and structure that are of interest
 1966 include their: (1) composition (i.e. bedrock, till, glaciofluvial, or a combination); (2)
 1967 structure (homogenous, conformable, unconformable); and (3) deformation (limited,
 1968 partial/non-pervasive, widespread/pervasive).

1969



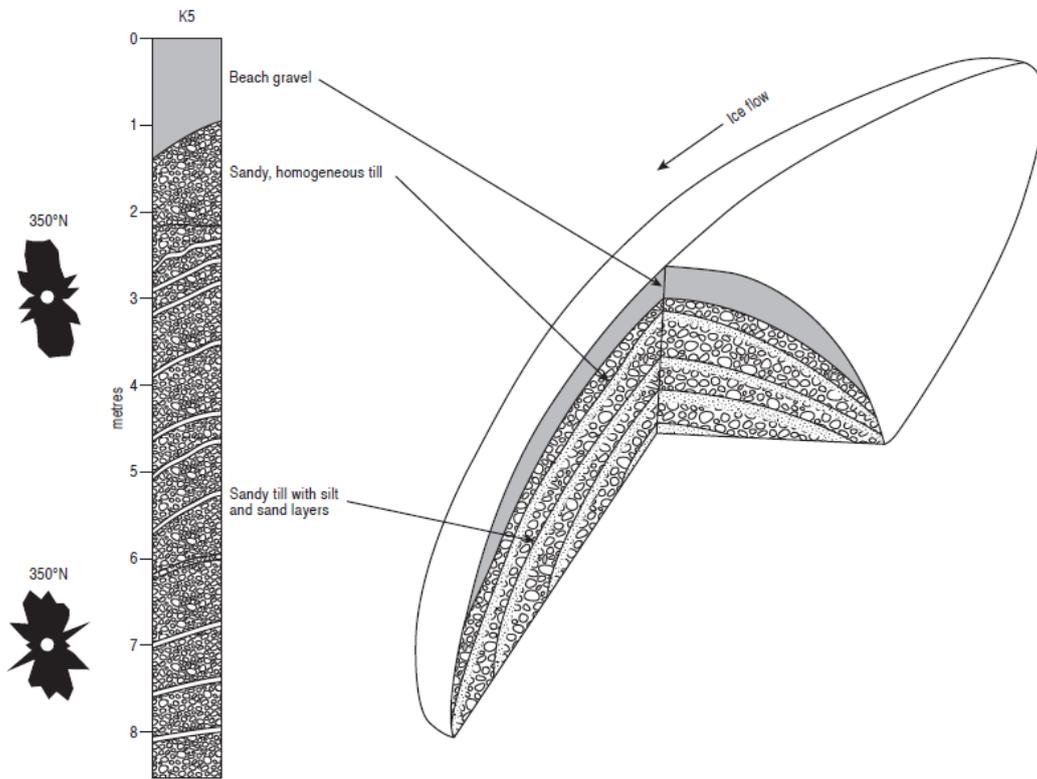
1970

1971 **Figure 4:** Variability in drumlin stratigraphy and external morphometry along a 70
 1972 km flow-line of the Peterborough drumlin field (redrawn from Boyce and Eyles,
 1973 1991). In the north, drumlins are composed of part bedrock and part till but, in the
 1974 south, they are composed of overridden proglacial and glaciolacustrine sediments
 1975 overlain erosively by deformation till.

1976

1977

KAITURI DRUMLIN

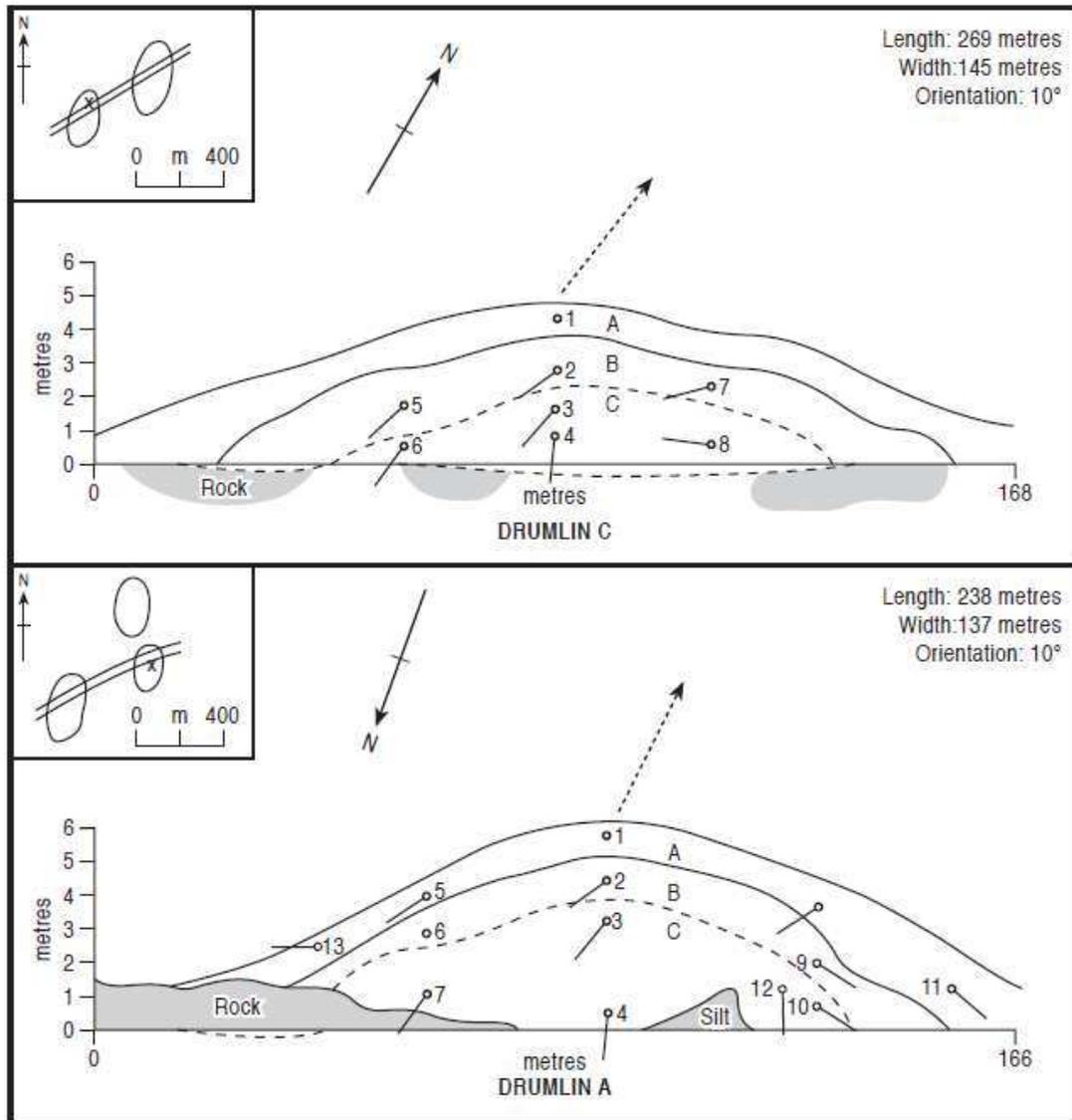


1978

1979

1980 **Figure 5:** The stratigraphy of the Kaituri drumlin, central Finland, and an outline of
1981 its internal structure (redrawn from Nenonen, 1994). The drumlin is composed of
1982 mainly of a homogenous sandy till, but with stratified beds of silt and sand layers that
1983 conform with the drumlin surface (cf. Figure 3). Till macrofabrics from upper and
1984 lower units give a mean orientation of 350 °, which is parallel to the long axis of the
1985 drumlin (345°).

1986

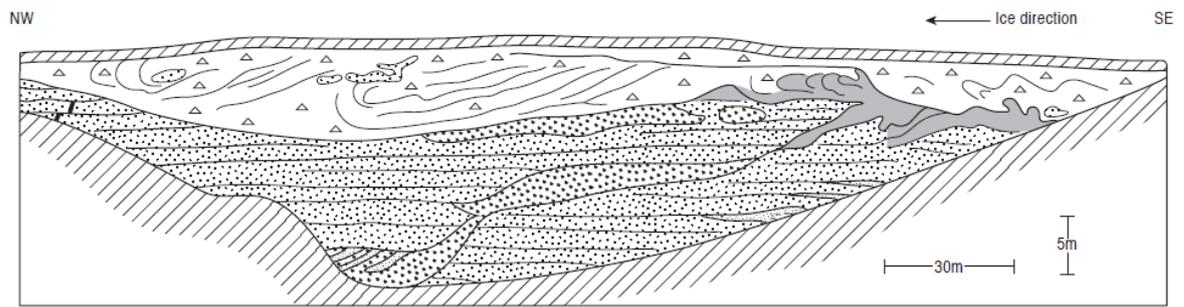


1987

1988 **Figure 6:** Internal composition and mean orientations of till fabrics in two drumlins
 1989 from the Ards Peninsula, Northern Ireland (redrawn from Hill, 1971). The drumlins
 1990 illustrated are composed of three units of till but those elsewhere are composed of
 1991 only one or two units and some have cores of rock or are composed mainly of sand.
 1992 Note the variations in till fabrics at different depths and within the different units
 1993 (dashed arrow = ice flow direction).

1994

HIRSCHBRUNNEN DRUMLIN



Gravels Minor clastic dyke Till Coarse gravels with sand Deformed gravels

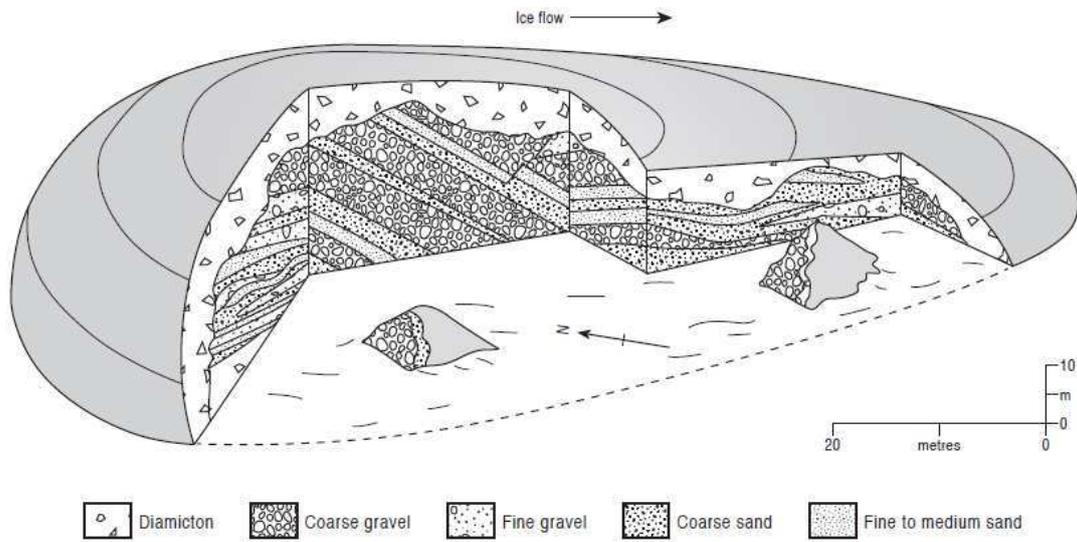
1995

1996 **Figure 7:** Schematic longitudinal section of the Hirschbrunnen drumlin (South
1997 German Alpine Foreland), which is composed of stratified sediments that have been
1998 deformed into an overlying till unit (redrawn from Ellwanger, 1992).

1999

2000

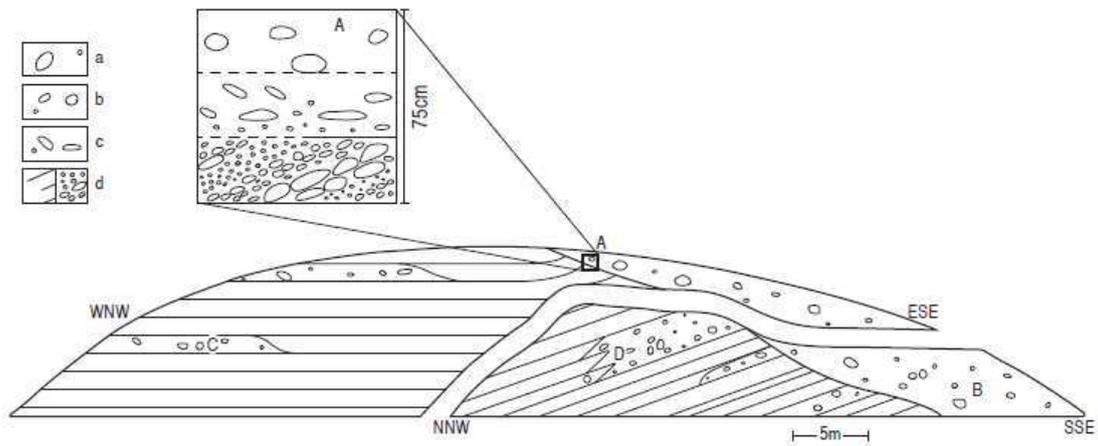
PORT BYRON DRUMLIN



2001

2002 **Figure 8:** Cross section of the Port Byron drumlin, New York State, USA (redrawn
2003 from Menzies and Brand, 2007). This drumlin is composed of mainly stratified
2004 sediments overlain by a thin veneer of till which exhibits syndepositional deformation
2005 features.

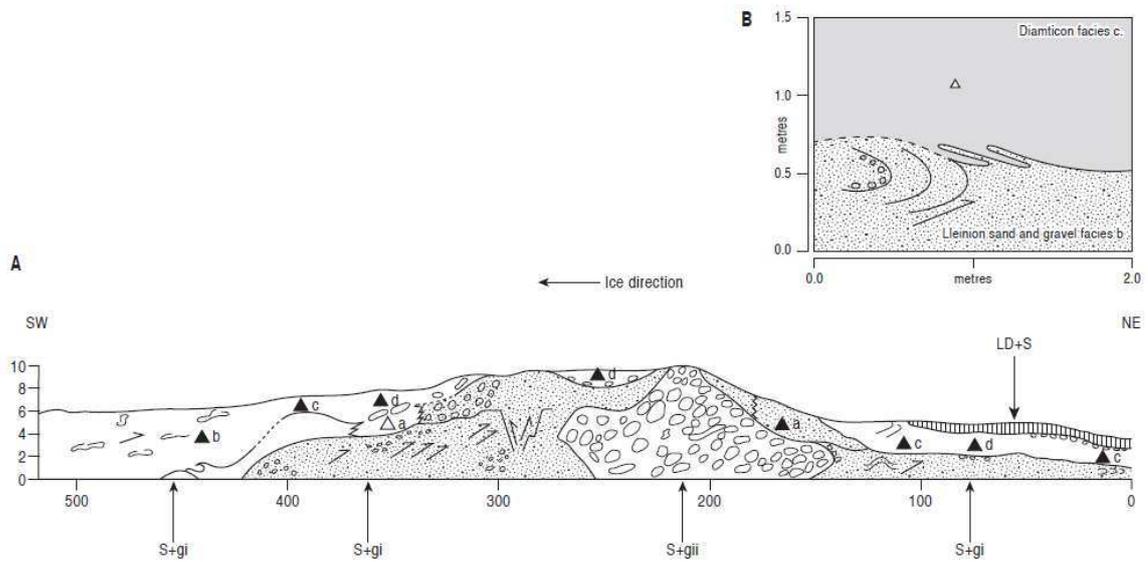
2006



2007

2008 **Figure 9:** Internal structure of the Mehetsweiler drumlin, western Allgäu, southern
 2009 Germany, which consists mainly of stratified sediments, overlain by a mantle of till
 2010 (redrawn from de Jong et al., 1982) (a = subglacial till; b = flow till; c = contact zone
 2011 between 'a' and 'd' (see inset); (d) = ice marginal meltwater deposits).
 2012

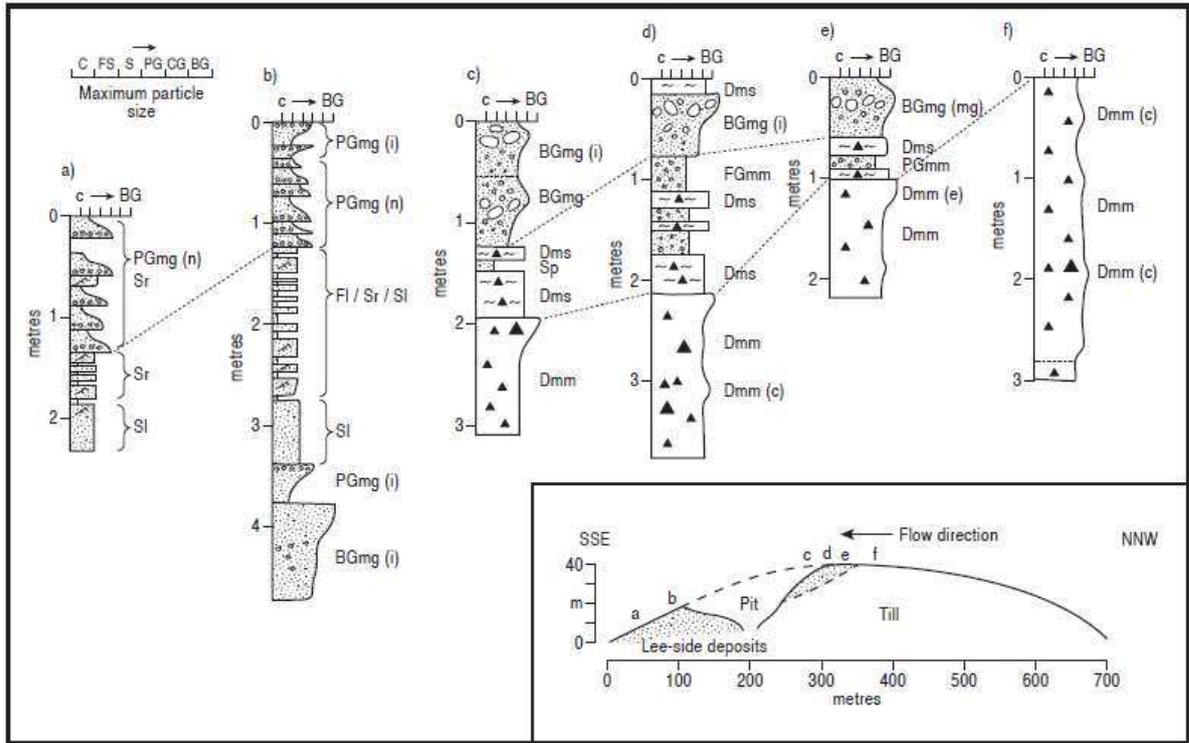
2013



2014

2015 **Figure 10:** Coastal section of a drumlin at Lleiniog, North Wales showing a deglacial
2016 veneer comprising a stratified bed consisting of a laminated sand, silt and clay deposit
2017 (0.5 m thick) on the proximal side of a drumlin (redrawn from Hart, 1995a). Hart also
2018 noted prominent fold and thrust features that preferentially developed on the stoss side
2019 of the drumlin (inset). LD+S = Llandona Diamicton and Sands; Lleiniog Diamicton:
2020 a = very coarse gravel facies; b = more chaotic sand-rich facies; c = red homogeneous
2021 facies; d = homogeneous facies with gravel lag. Lleiniog Sand and Gravel: S+gi =
2022 grey-brown member/facies 'i'; S+gii = red-brown member/facies 'ii'.

2023

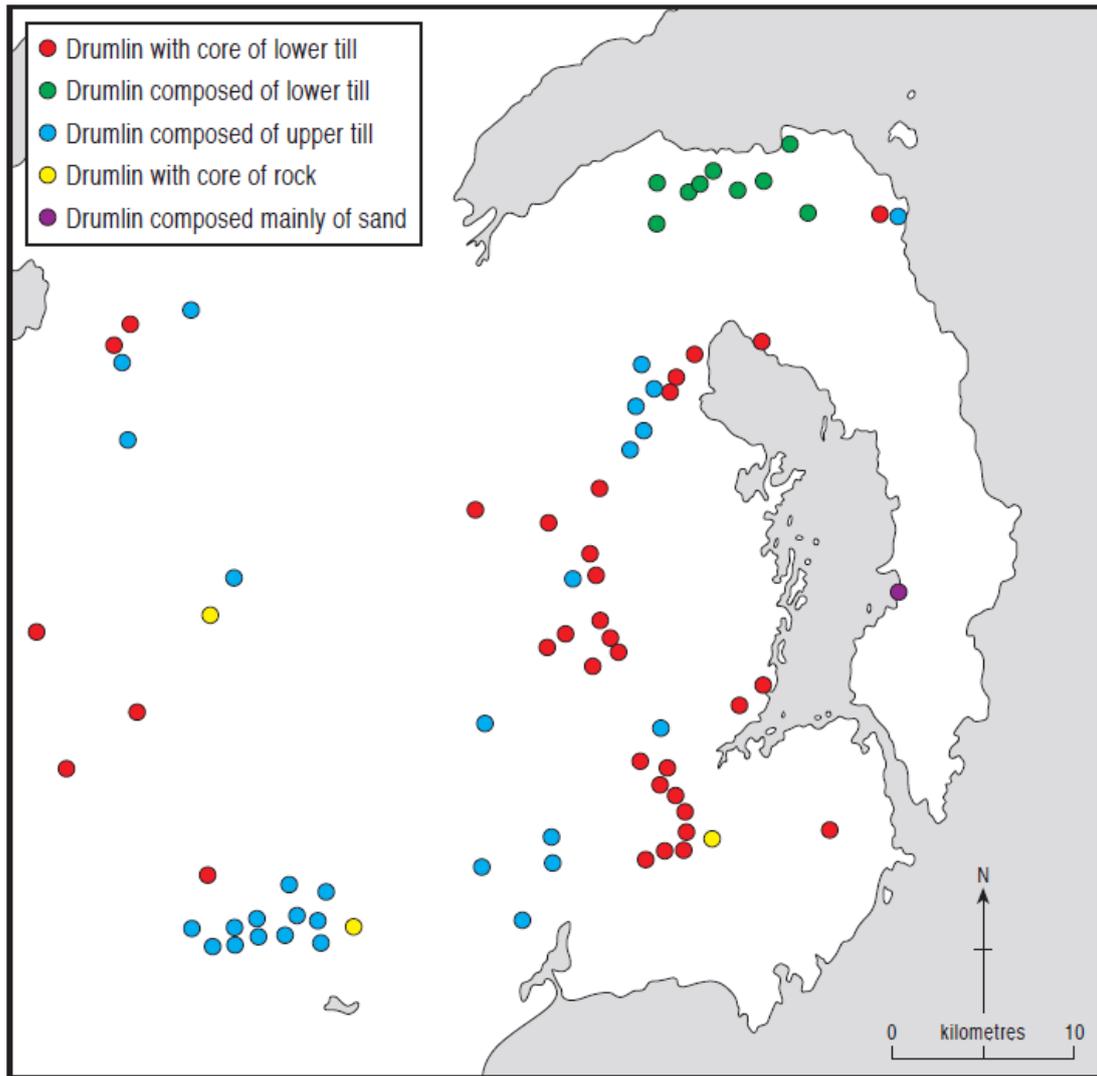


2024

2025 **Figure 11:** Proximal-distal lithofacies relationships in the Derrylard drumlin,
 2026 Northern Ireland, illustrating lee-side stratified sediments (redrawn from Dardis et al.,
 2027 1984).

2028

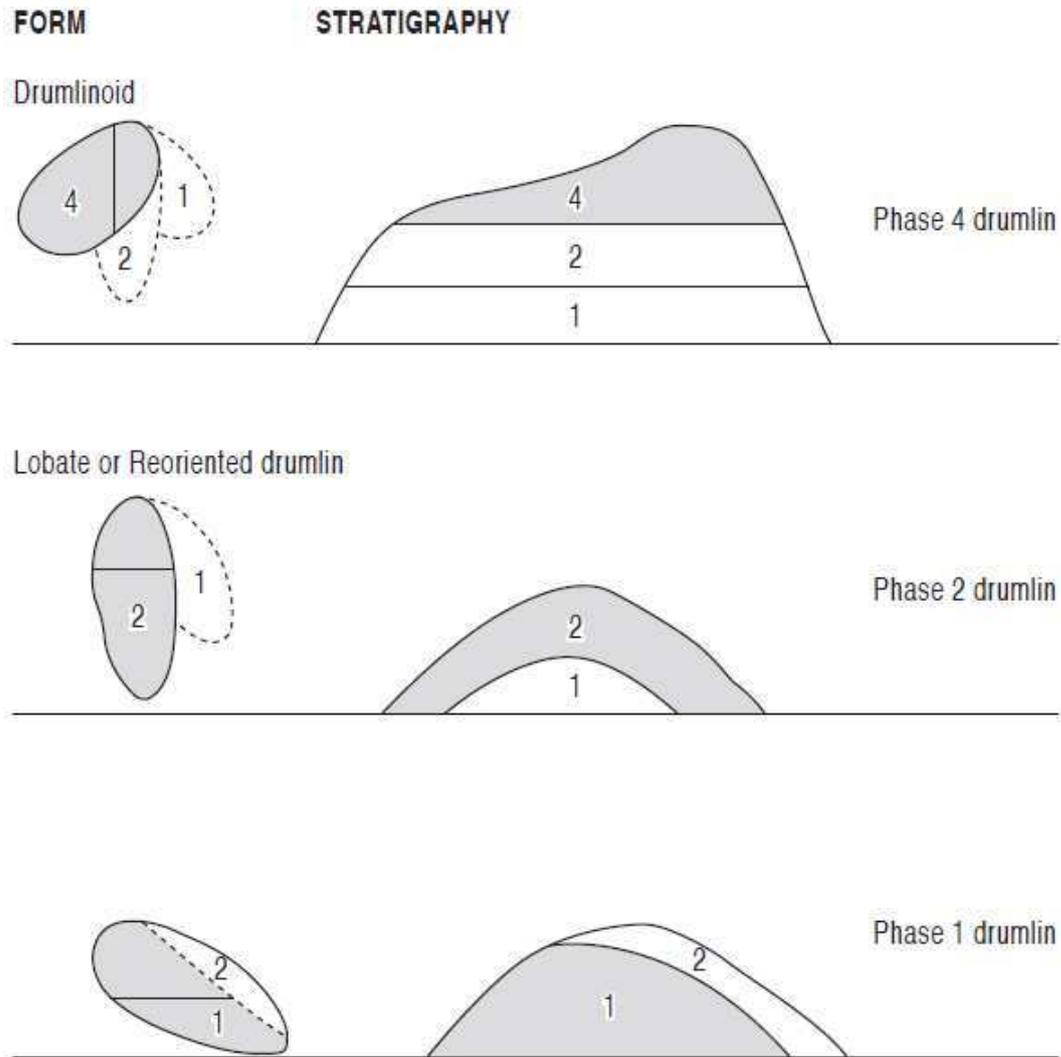
2029



2030

2031 **Figure 12:** Internal composition of drumlins in north Down and south Antrim,
 2032 Northern Ireland, redrawn from Hill (1971).

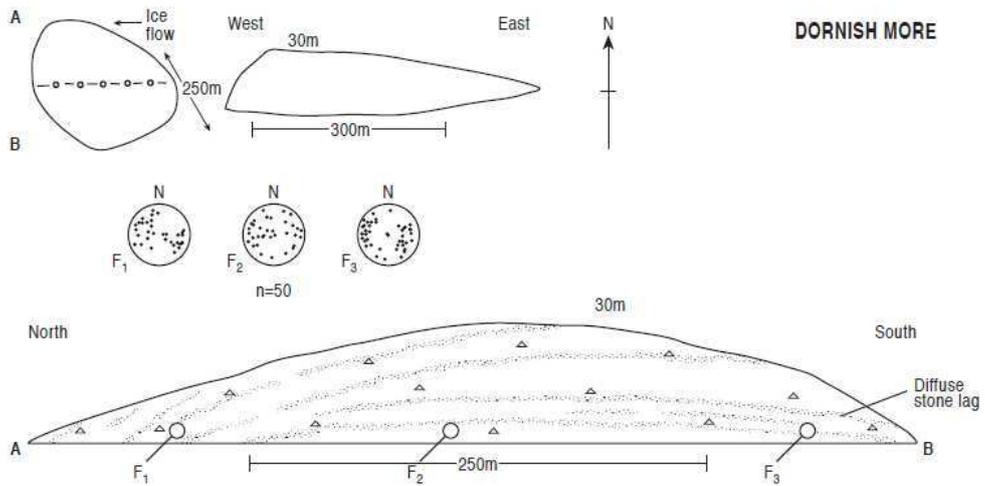
2033



2034

2035 **Figure 13:** The development of drumlins in Nova Scotia through different ice flow
 2036 phases (redrawn from Stea and Brown, 1989). Shaded areas under stratigraphy and
 2037 form are thought to represent till units formed at the same time as the drumlin shaping
 2038 process during specific ice flow phases. Unshaded areas under stratigraphy represent
 2039 erosional remnants of earlier units. This figure illustrates the importance of
 2040 appreciating the ice flow history of an area to understanding drumlin composition and
 2041 internal structure.

2042

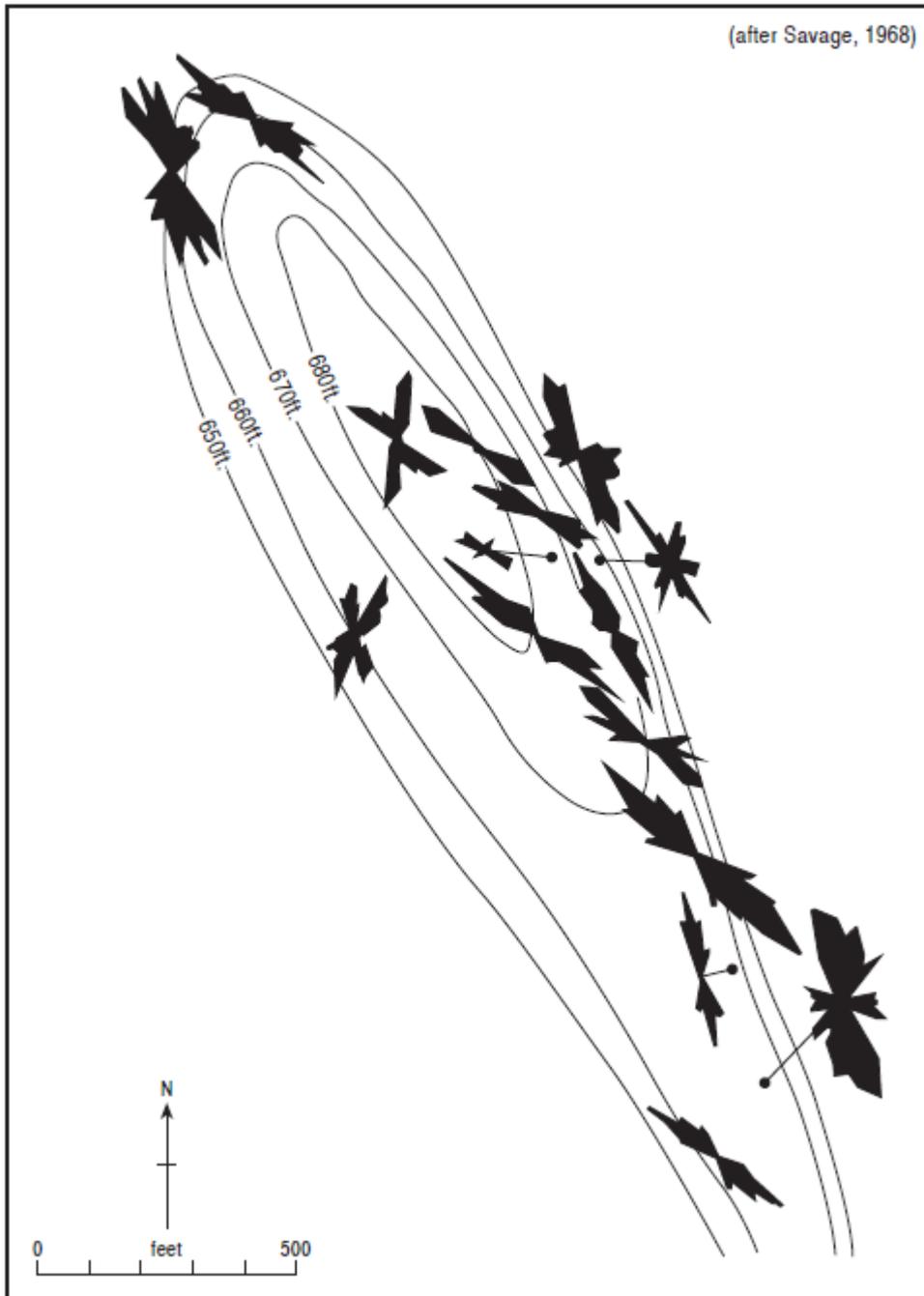


2043

2044 **Figure 14:** Morphology and stratigraphy of a drumlin in western Ireland showing
 2045 boulder concentrations with a distinctive concentric arrangement that closely
 2046 corresponds to drumlin morphology (redrawn from Hanvey, 1992).

2047

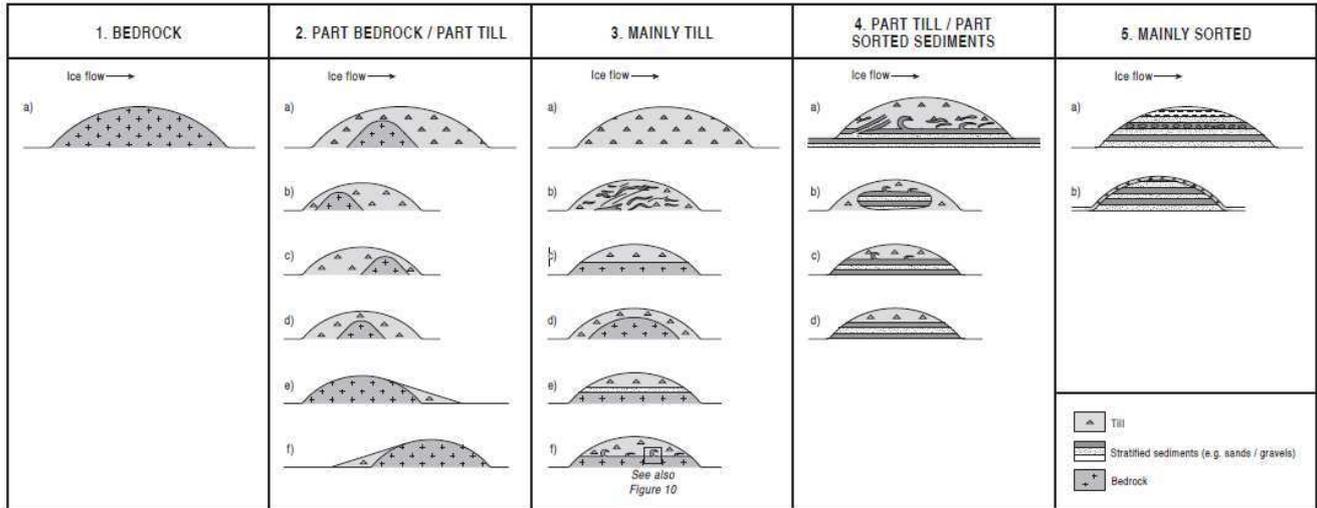
2048



2049

2050 **Figure 15:** Till fabrics from a drumlin in SE Syracuse, New York showing a general
 2051 alignment with drumlin orientation but with divergence around the stoss end and
 2052 convergence around the lee end (redrawn from Muller, 1974, data from Savage, 1968).

2053

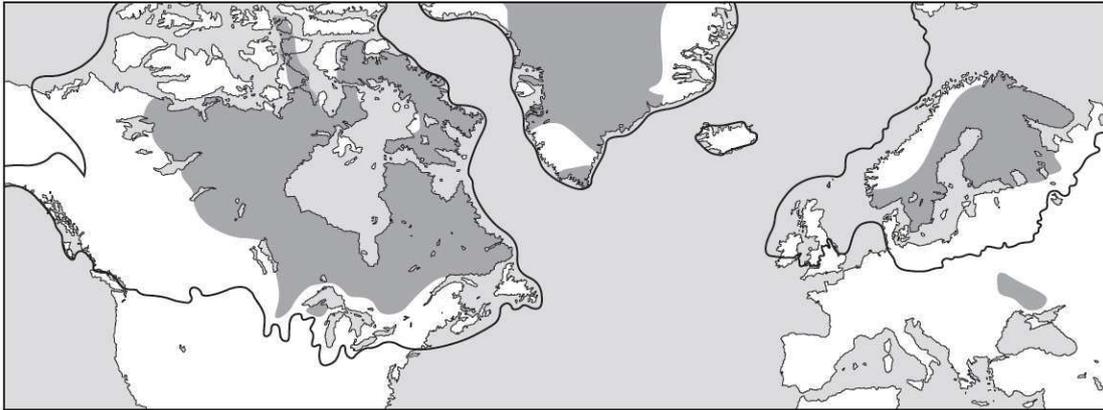


2054

2055 **Figure 16:** Schematic illustration of the five main types of drumlin reported in the
 2056 literature, including various sub-types. It is argued that most reports of drumlin
 2057 composition and internal structure can be classified according to each of these five
 2058 main types, which we suggest are a useful observational template for theorists of
 2059 drumlin formation to explain. See text for further discussion (section 10).

2060

2061



2062

2063 **Figure 17:** Location map of investigations of drumlin internal structure listed in Table
2064 1 and the approximate extent of former mid-latitude ice sheets (black line). Several
2065 papers represent reviews or syntheses of data from different areas (e.g. Linton, 1963)
2066 and not every location from these papers is mapped. The key point is the general
2067 absence of studies from shield areas (grey shading), despite the fact that they underlie
2068 large areas of former ice sheets. Ice extent taken from Ehlers and Gibbard (2007) and
2069 shield areas from USGS Geological Province Map
2070 <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/research/structure/crust/maps.php>).