BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES, GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

RECORD

Record 1982/22

Abner Range 1:100 000 compilation sheets,
McArthur Basin, Northern Territory

by

M.J. Jackson

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Abner Range Compilation Sheets

The following geological maps reproduced at 1:100 000 scale, are preliminary field compilations covering the Abner Range region of the southern McArthur Basin. They are based on detailed mapping of the region done between 1977 and 1981 by members of the BMR McArthur Project, supplemented by unpublished company mapping in the Emu Fault Zone (CEC., 1966, 1978). Colour air photographs at a nominal scale of 1:25 000, flown in 1976 for the Commonwealth of Australia, were used for photo-interpretation and locality control. The results were compiled on 1:25 000 scale blow-ups of 1:100 000 scale base maps supplied by National Mapping, Canberra, using drainage patterns as the major control for position location. Copies of these photo-scale compilation sheets are available through the Government Printer*. Additional compilation and drafting of the 1:100 000 scale map covering the Abner Range area is in progress.

Petrographic and other laboratory studies are in progress, and may lead to some changes being made to these maps. Any such changes will be incorporated into the 1:25 000 scale transparencies held by the Australian Government Printer, and in the 1:100 000 scale Preliminary edition map.

The legend accompanying the map follows the previously published stratigraphy of the basin (e.g. Plumb & Brown, 1973), with minor amendments. A new group - 'Nathan Group' - has been introduced between the Roper and McArthur Groups; the Masterton Formation has been split up into several new formations including the 'Masterton

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* Address: Copy Service, Australian Government Printer (Production). GPO Box 84, Canberra ACT 2600.

Sandstone' and 'Gold Creek Volcanics' and has been moved up from the Tawallah Group into the McArthur Group; the Billengarah Formation, Smythe Sandstone and Stott Formation are no longer recognized; and a lower subdivision of the Lynott Formation ('Lagoon Member') has been introduced. Publication and formal stratigraphic definition of these changes is planned but until then these modifications should be considered informal.

Notification of any errors or omissions in these maps, and supply of any information to improve the Preliminary edition map would be greatly appreciated, and should be communicated to the Director, BMR, P.O. Box 378, Canberra City, ACT 2601.

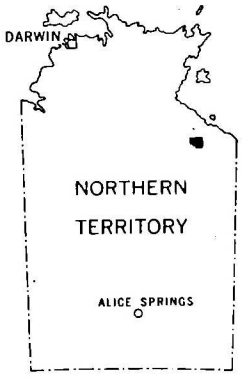
References

PLUMB, K.A. & BROWN, M.C., 1973 - Revised correlations and stratigraphic nomenclature in the Proterozoic carbonate complex of the McArthur Group, Northern Territory. Bureau of Mineral Resources, Bulletin 139 (pp 103-115).

CEC 1966 - McArthur River Series Geological Maps. Carpentaria Exploration Company (unpublished).

CEC 1978 - McArthur Northern Territory MR 581 Geology, sheets 1 & 2. Carpentaria Exploration Company (unpublished).

MAP LOCALITY



INDEX TO ADJOINING SHEETS

SCARLET HILL 5665	ARNOLD RIVER 5765	TANUMBIRINI 5865	BAUHINIA DOWNS 5965	BATTEN 6065	BORROLOOLA 6165
WARRAMBAN 5664	AMUNGEE MUNGEE 5764	OCTOBER 5864	OT DOWNS 5964	MALLAPUNYAH 6064	CLYDE 6164
BEETALOO 5663	MUNDAH 5763	BULOO-NUNGROO 5863	BLOODWOOD CREEK 5963	KILGOUR 6063	LANCEWOOD 6163
ELLIOTT 5662	UCHARONIDGE 5762	SHANDON DOWNS 5862	MONGALA 5962	CRESWELL DOWNS 6062	PUZZLE 6163

Geological boundary
Anticline, showing trend of plunge of axis
Syncline, showing trend of plunge of axis
Overturned syncline
Fault
Normal fault, tick on downthrow side, indicates direction of dip
60
U
D
Fault (U,D indicate relative movement; up, down)

Where location of boundaries, folds and faults is approximate, line is broken; where inferred, queried; where concealed, boundaries and folds are dotted, faults are shown by short dashes

Shear zone
30 Plunge symbol on trend-line
Strike and dip of strata, dip not measured
4 Strike and dip of strata
Strike and dip of strata, facing not known
Vertical strata
Horizontal strata
65 Strike and dip of overturned strata
Strike and dip of strata dip less than 5°
Strike and dip of strata dip 5°-15°
Strike and dip of strata dip 15°-45°
Strike and dip of strata dip greater than 45°
Horizontal strata
Trend-line
Trend-line showing dip
Trend-line showing dip of 5°-15°
Joint pattern
Lineament

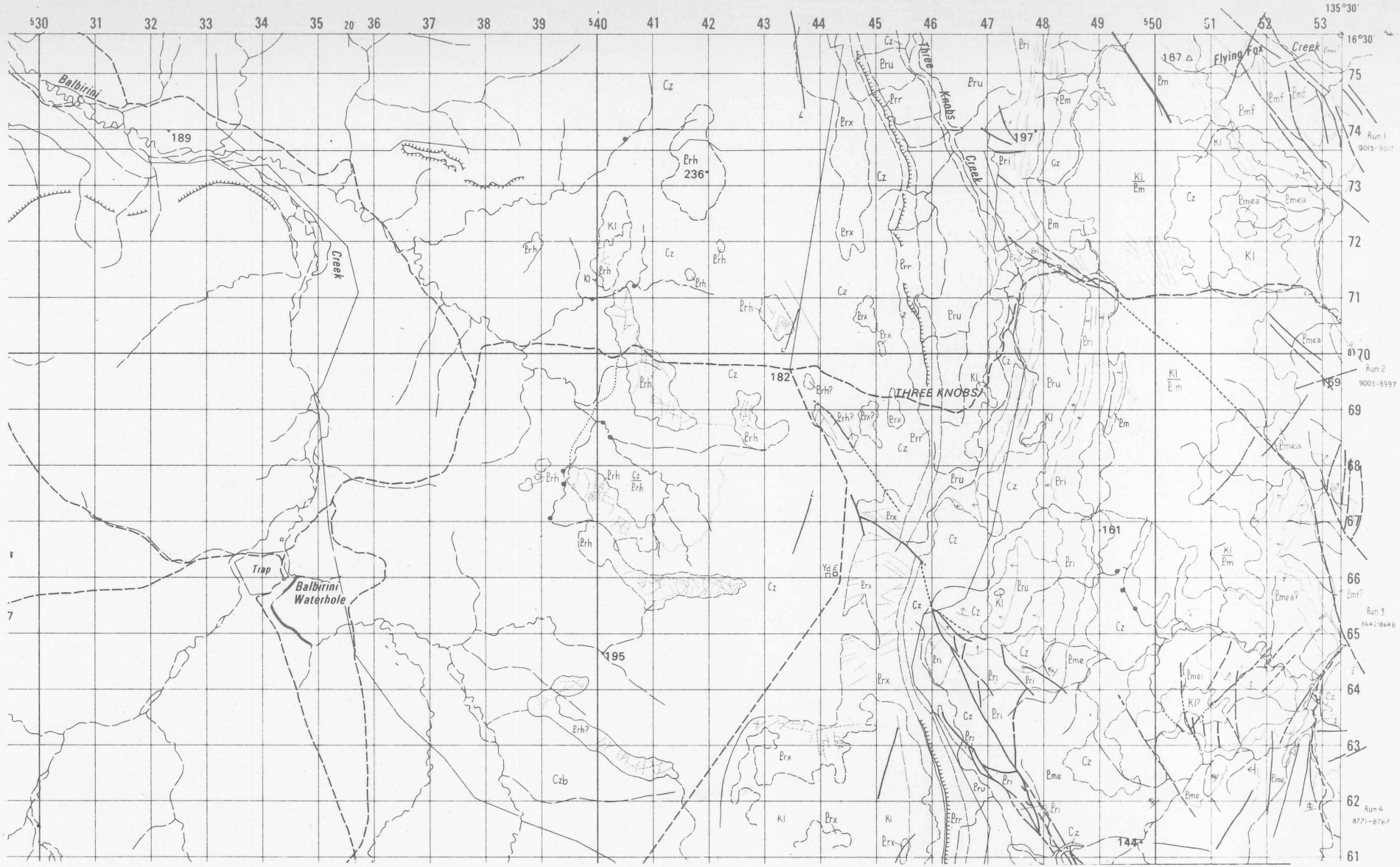
} airphoto interpreted

Type section
Measured section
BMR DDH Diamond-drillhole
• Fe Minor mineral occurrence ; Ba-barite, Cu-copper, Fe-iron, Pb-lead
Prospect or mine with little production
Cu Mine, minor
Costean

Wind pump
E Earth tank or dam
Highway
Minor road
Vehicle track
KIANA Homestead
Building
Yd Yard
Fence
BM 90 Bench Mark
195 Elevation in metres

INDEX TO COMPILATION SHEETS

	Cz		Unconsolidated sand, silt, clay, cobbles. Alluvial, colluvial and aeolian deposits	CAINOZOIC
		Czb	Black soil; earthy grey-black clay-rich soil	
		Czl	Laterite and deflated lateritic soil with ironstone pisoliths	
	Kl		Friable yellow sandstone, siltstone; massive well-sorted fine-grained quartz sandstone and conglomerate; ferruginized sandstone; white leached siltstone	EARLY CRETACEOUS — MESOZOIC
TOP SPRINGS LIMESTONE	€lt		Pale grey micritic limestone, karstic-weathering. Commonly vuggy also oncolitic, pisolitic textures. Surface commonly potholed. Rare large domal stromatolites	EARLY CAMBRIAN — PALAEOZOIC
BUKALARA SANDSTONE	€lb		Fine to very coarse grained friable quartz sandstone. Thin to very thick bedded, low angle cross-stratified. Trace fossils	
ROPER GROUP	Ꝑr		Undivided Roper Group	PROTEROZOIC
BESSIE CREEK SANDSTONE		Ꝑre	Jointed, medium-grained quartz sandstone	
CORCORAN FORMATION		Ꝑro	Flaggy brown siltstone, medium-grained quartz sandstone, ferruginous sandstone	
ABNER SANDSTONE		Ꝑra	Undivided Abner Sandstone	
Hodgson Sandstone Member		Ꝑrh	Strongly jointed, medium-grained quartz sandstone	
Jalboi Member		Ꝑrj	Purple ferruginous sandstone; minor shale (section only)	
Arnold Sandstone Member		Ꝑrx	Strongly jointed, medium grained quartz sandstone	
CRAWFORD FORMATION		Ꝑrr	Thick bedded glauconitic sandstone, feldspathic sandstone, flaggy micaeous siltstone	
MAINORU FORMATION		Ꝑru	Flaggy purple and green micaeous siltstone; fine grained glauconitic sandstone, faldspathic sandstone, shale	
Kilgour Sandstone Member		Ꝑrg	Fine to medium grained quartz sandstone, siltstone	
LIMMEN SANDSTONE		Ꝑri	Fine to medium grained quartz sandstone, flaggy micaeous sandstone and siltstone	
NATHAN GROUP	Ꝑn		Undivided Nathan Group	
DUNGAMINNIE FORMATION		Ꝑng	Upper: Laminated sandy dolarenites and dololutites. Stratiform and leaning conical stromatolites. Erosion contacts, channels, slumped intervals, intraclasts, oolites, ripples. Lower: Thin bedded fine sandstone and siltstone with rare conglomeratic lenses	
BALBIRINI DOLOMITE		Ꝑnz	Thick sequence of dolarenites and dololutites with prominent stromatolitic marker beds. Evaporite pseudomorphs common in lower part (after gypsum and halite). Siderite botryoidal quartz nodules. Dolarenites commonly cross-stratified and intraclastic. Conical, large-columnar, stratiform, and domal stomatolites present. Thin sandstone interbeds	
McARTHUR GROUP	Ꝑm		Undivided McArthur Group	
BATTEN SUBGROUP				
AMOS FORMATION		Ꝑmm	Upper: Massive karstic-weathering dark grey to yellow grey, pseudobrecciated, stylolitic, recrystallised dolostone, oncolitic and pisolitic textures common. Lower: Red siltstone, fine sandstone, sandy dolarenite and dololutite with pink K-rich beds.	
LOOKING GLASS FORMATION		Ꝑmo	Dolostone and interbedded sandstone, everywhere intensely chertified. Stromatolites and intraclasts rarely visible	
STRETTON SANDSTONE		Ꝑmr	Fine to medium grained quartz sandstone. Laminated, flaggy and fissile. Small ripples, streaming lineation, tool marks common. Rare channels, ferruginous concretions, claystone clasts	
YALCO FORMATION		Ꝑmj	Thinly interbedded stromatolitic dololutite and intraclastic dolarenite with abundant chert nodules and laminae. Small domal stroms, desiccation cracks, polygons, tepees, gypsum pseudomorphs and lenticular sandstone beds characterise lower part. Unit is commonly extensively silicified	
Donnegan Member		Ꝑmnd	Purple-brown dolomitic siltstone to fine-grained sandstone. Thin bedded, commonly ripple laminated, small botryoidal quartz nodules (after sulphate evaporites)	
LYNOTT FORMATION		Ꝑmn	Dolomitic siltstone and fine sandstone interbedded with resistant stromatolitic dololutites. Plane bedding, ripple lamination and lenticular bedding characterise siltstones. Stromatolites include stratiform, domal and rare conical forms. Rare interbeds of coarse dolomitic sandstone. Pseudomorphs after trona?, sulphate evaporites, halite	
Lagoon Member		Ꝑmnl	Laminated to thin bedded dolomitic and heamatitic siltstone. Ripples, slump fold and lenses of breccia	
REWARD DOLOMITE		Ꝑmx	Wide range of rock types and textures including dololutite, dolarenite, dolorudite and sandstone. Laminated, thin bedded, massive bedded, cross-bedded, brecciated and slumped. Rapid facies changes characteristic. Various types of stromatolites, pseudomorphs after sulphate evaporites, oncolites, oolites, channels, small silica spheroids	
BARNEY CREEK FORMATION		Ꝑmq	Laminated to thin bedded dolomitic, bituminous and pyritic shales with tuffaceous beds. Very poorly outcropping. Mineralized (Zn, Pb, Ag, Cu) at McArthur River Mine. (Several members recognized in mine area)	
Coxco Dolomite Member		Ꝑmc	Grey crystalline dololutite (cf. Ꝑmei but thin bedded) with thin pink K-rich beds and radiating gypsum crystal pseudomorphs. Rare small conical stromatolites	
TEENA DOLOMITE		Ꝑmp	Thin sequence of cherty stromatolitic dololutite (cf. Ꝑmea) with dolomitic shales, oolitic and intraclastic dolarenites and dolomitic sandstone. Ripples, rare halite casts	
UMBOLOOCA SUBGROUP				
EMMERUGGA DOLOMITE	Ꝑme		Undivided Emmerugga Dolomite	
Mitchell Yard Member		Ꝑmei	Massive dark-grey karstic-weathering crystalline dololutite, lacking obvious internal sedimentary structures, stromatolites and chert. Sparry dolomite vughs common; pseudobrecciated textures visible	
Mara Member		Ꝑmea	Upper: dolomitic siltstone with interbeds of stromatolitic dololutite, intraclast dolarenite and flake breccias. Columnar, domal and conical stromatolites often forming bioherm series. Chertification common. rare sandstone beds. Halite casts, locally thick ex-evaporitic sections. Lower: Shoaling cycles of dark grey stromatolitic dololutite and dolomitic siltstone with quartz nodules after evaporites	
Myrtle Shale Member		Ꝑmf	Thin bedded to laminated red-brown dolomitic siltstone, mudstone, very fine grained sandstone and dololutite, numerous halite casts and moulds, nodules after sulphate evaporites, rare oolitic interbeds. A thin solution collapse breccia is common near the top. Generally poorly outcropping. Rarely micaeous	
Leila Sandstone Member		Ꝑmi	Either white silicified medium-grained dolomitic sandstone with small scale cross-stratification, or grey to black-weathering, very coarse grained trough cross-stratified poorly-sorted dolomitic sandstone. Thin interbeds of tan, stromatolitic sandy dolostones. Halite casts and moulds, dolomite-lined vughs	
TOOGANINNIE FORMATION		Ꝑmt	Thick sequence of dolomitic siltstone and shale with resistant interbeds of yellow stromatolitic dololutite and sandy dolarenite. Domal, stratiform and conical stromatolites dominant. Intraclasts and oolites common in dolarenites; siltstone levels commonly dedolomitized. Evaporite pseudomorphs of halite, and gypsum very common; desiccation cracks, tepees	
TATOOLA SANDSTONE		Ꝑmd	Upper: medium to coarse grained vuggy dolomitic sandstone: medium to thick bedded with trough cross-stratification and intraclasts. Halite casts, baryte vughs and channels common, rare tuffaceous beds. Lower: flaggy, thin-bedded, fine-grained, white quartz sandstone with small scale planar cross-stratification, pinch and swell, tool marks and ripples, channels	
AMELIA DOLOMITE		Ꝑma	Red and grey chertified stromatolitic dololutite interbedded with intraclastic and rippled dolarenites or shales. Stratiform, domal, columnar and conical stromatolites; oolitic, oncolitic and sandy intervals common especially in upper part. Localized development of sideritic and magnesitic marbles (replacing sulphate evaporites)	
MALLAPUNYAH FORMATION		Ꝑml	Mainly red and purple dolomitic siltstone and shale with thin interbeds of cross-bedded dolomitic sandstone. Dolomite- and baryte-lined vughs common in lower part, large botryoidal quartz nodules (cauliflower cherts) common in upper part. Stromatolitic dololutite interbeds at top. Ripples, desiccation cracks, halite casts and moulds common.	
MASTERTON SANDSTONE		Ꝑms	Pale red, brown, purple, pink and white fine to medium grained well-sorted quartz arenite. Variably silicified. Thin to very thick bedded but internally cross-stratified (planar and trough). Ripples and shale clasts common, rare pebbly interbeds. Upper most beds distinctly ferruginous with desiccation cracks, halite casts and moulds, and gypsum pseudomorphs. Chertified stromatolite at top of unit	
TAWALLAH GROUP	Ꝑt		Undivided Tawallah Group	
GOLD CREEK VOLCANICS		Ꝑtg	Red-pink intermediate igneous rocks comprising lenticular extrusives (ie. pyroclastic trachyte, agglomerate, tuff, lava) and irregularly-shaped intrusives of altered microsyenite	
WOLLOGORANG FORMATION		Ꝑto	Mainly dark grey to black-weathering dolomitic siltstone-silty dolostone. Red shales with evaporite casts and stromatolitic dolostone present near base; ferruginous and dolomitic cross-bedded sandstones and dololutites with evaporite casts common near top. Ovoid nodules, thin breccias and regular lamination characteristic. Pyritic and bituminous	
SETTLEMENT CREEK VOLCANICS		Ꝑte	Reddish-brown to dark grey spheroidally-weathering basic to intermediate, fine to medium-grained igneous rocks. Extrusive and intrusive varieties including flow-banded basalt, dolerite, quartz dolerite. Commonly altered (especially potash metasomatised). Contains intercalated hornfelsed sediments. Thin laminated siltstone at top and bottom	
SLY CREEK SANDSTONE		Ꝑtl	Pale grey, pink, brown and white well sorted quartz arenite. Mainly fine to medium grained, but some conglomeratic interbeds. Distinctly thick bedded and commonly strongly surface-silicified. Small to large scale planar cross-bedded, commonly rippled. Shale clast impressions, rare glauconite	
McDERMOTT FORMATION		Ꝑtd	Red-purple coarsely recrystallised wavey-bedded dolostone and thin bedded dolomitic fine grained sandstone. Poorly outcropping. Rare pseudomorphs after evaporites	
PETERS CREEK VOLCANICS		Ꝑtp	Amygdaloidal basalt (section only)	



ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

OT DOWNS	
	2

Geology 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
M.A.Brown, Canberra College of Advanced Education;
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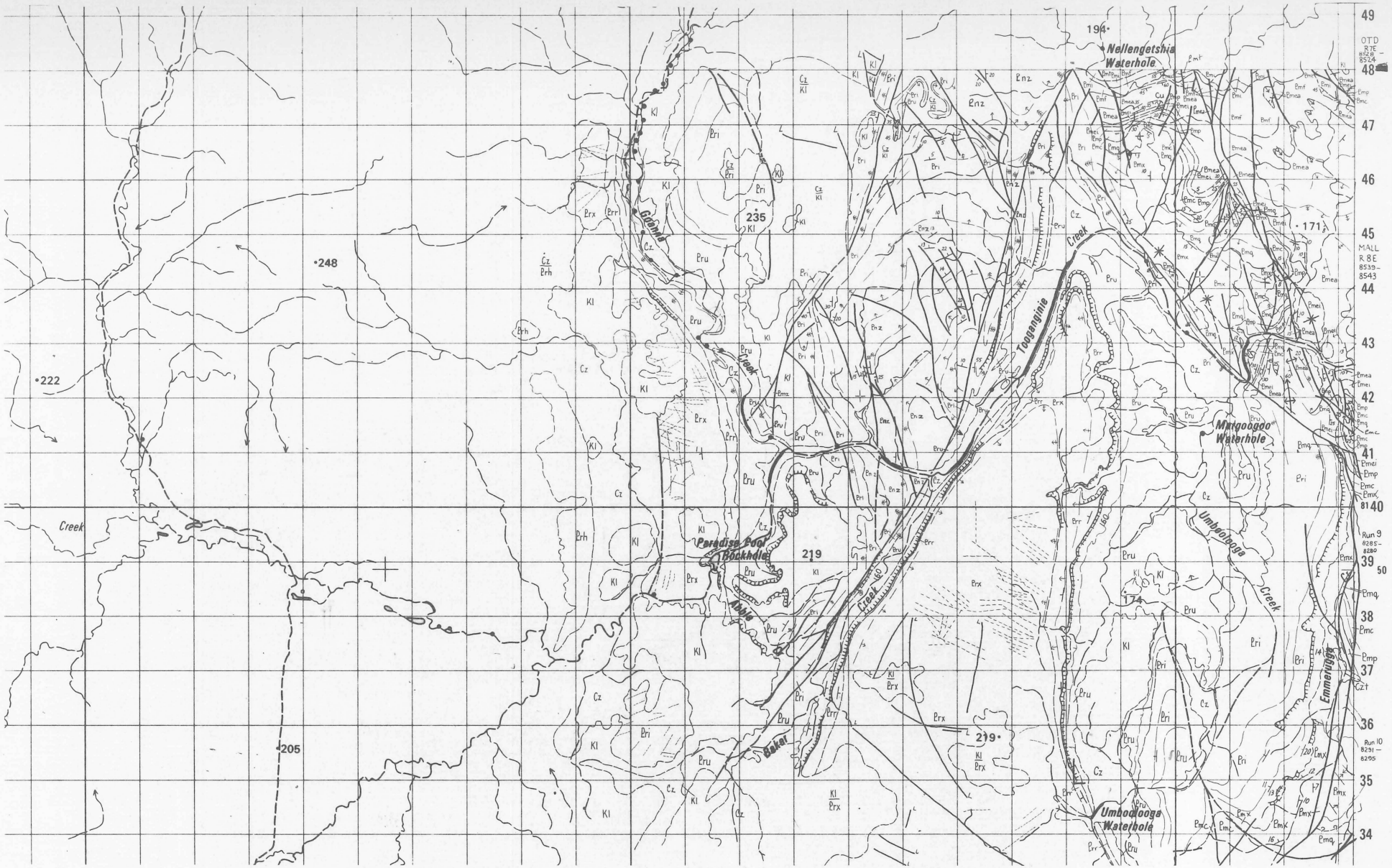

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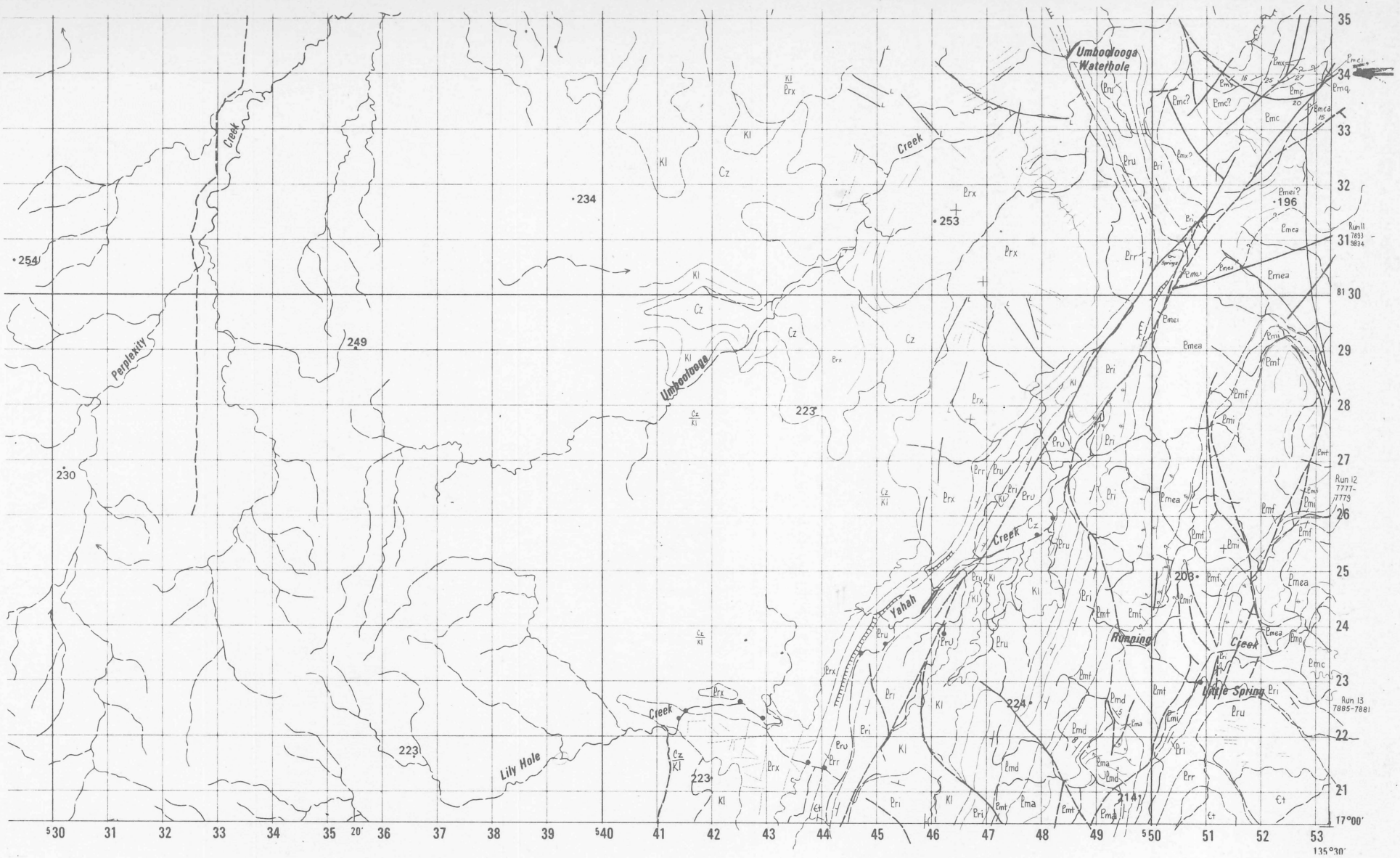

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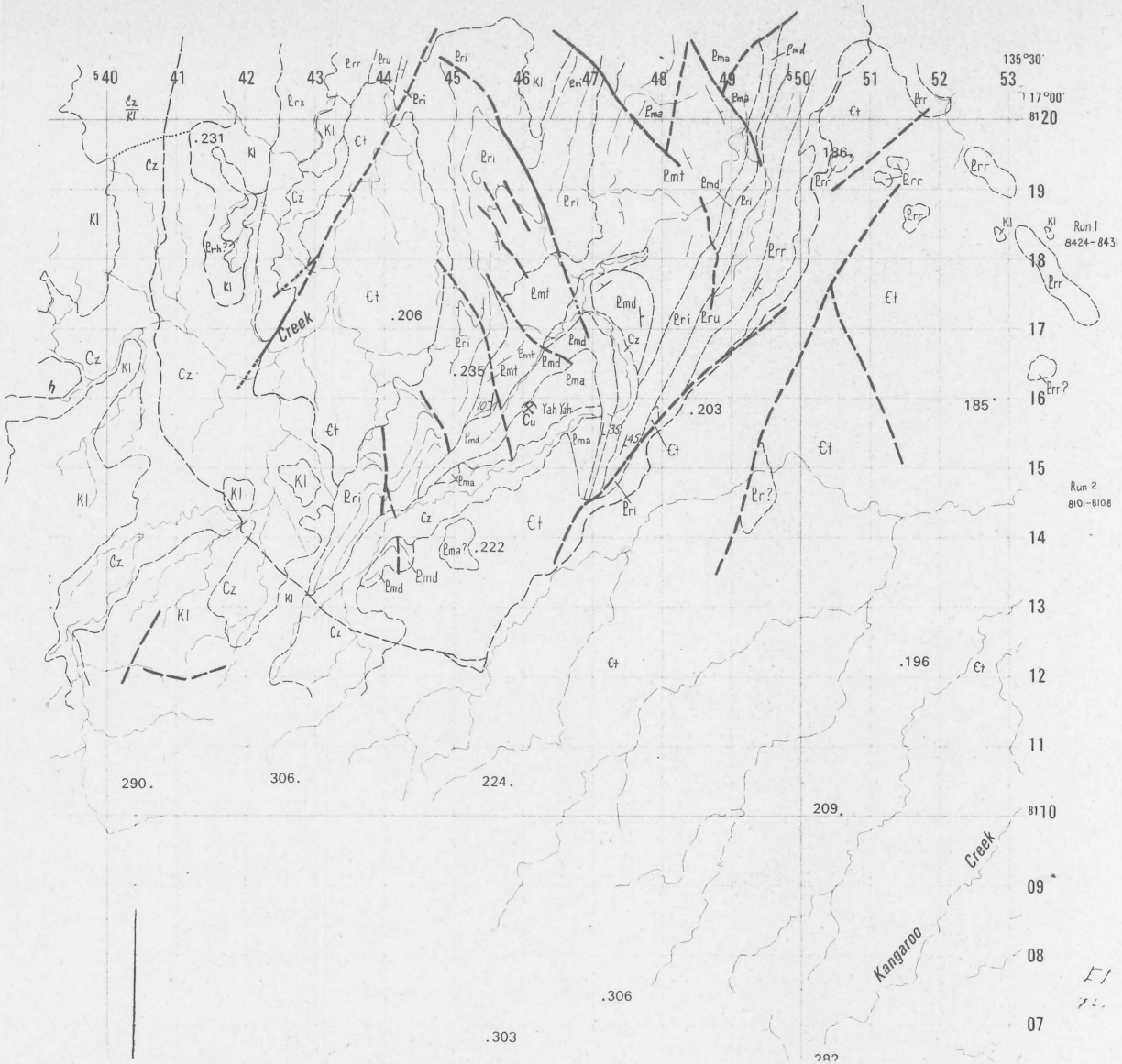

BLOODWOOD CR.

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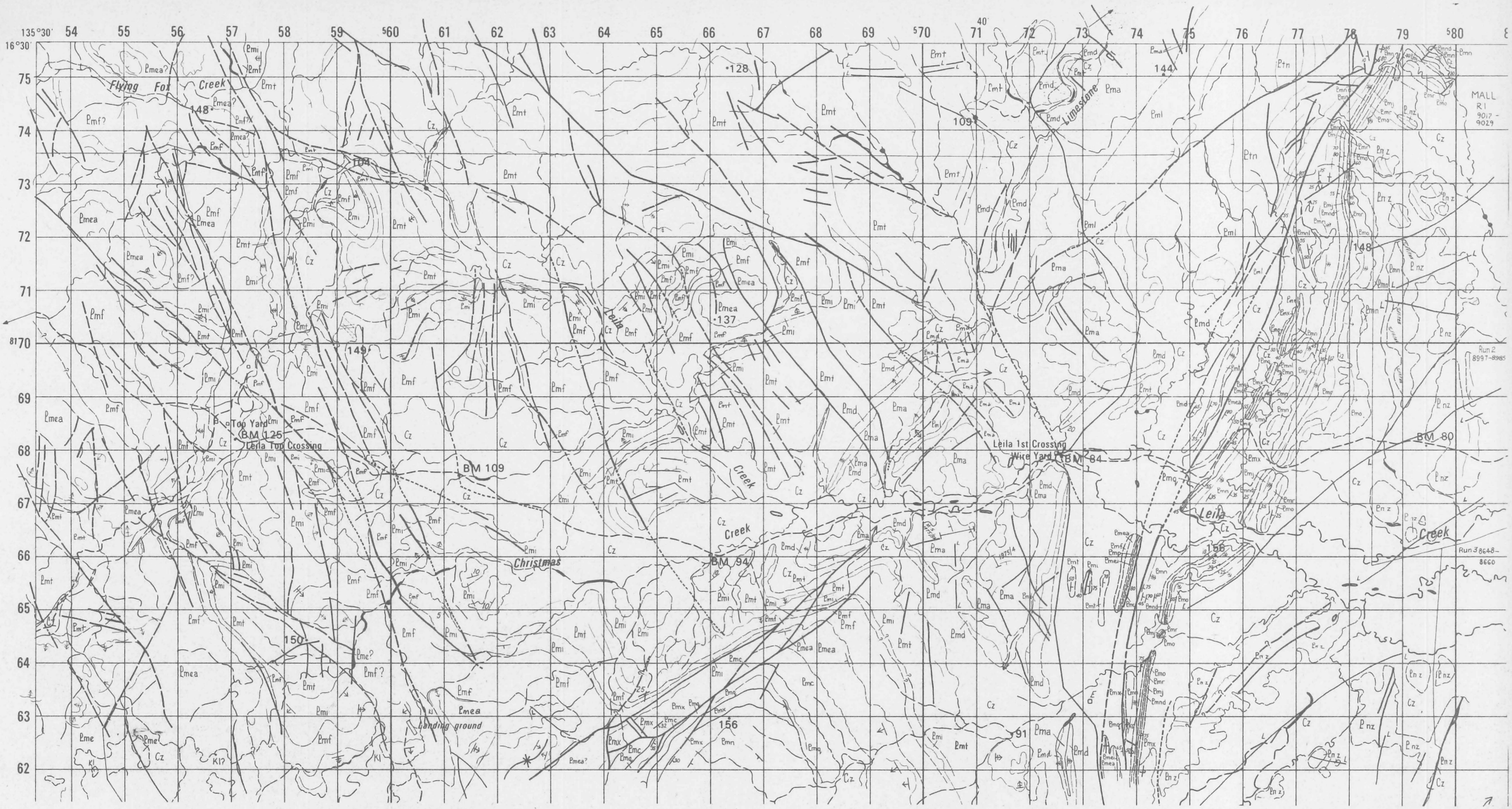
ABNER RANGE REGION



MALLAPUNYAH

1	

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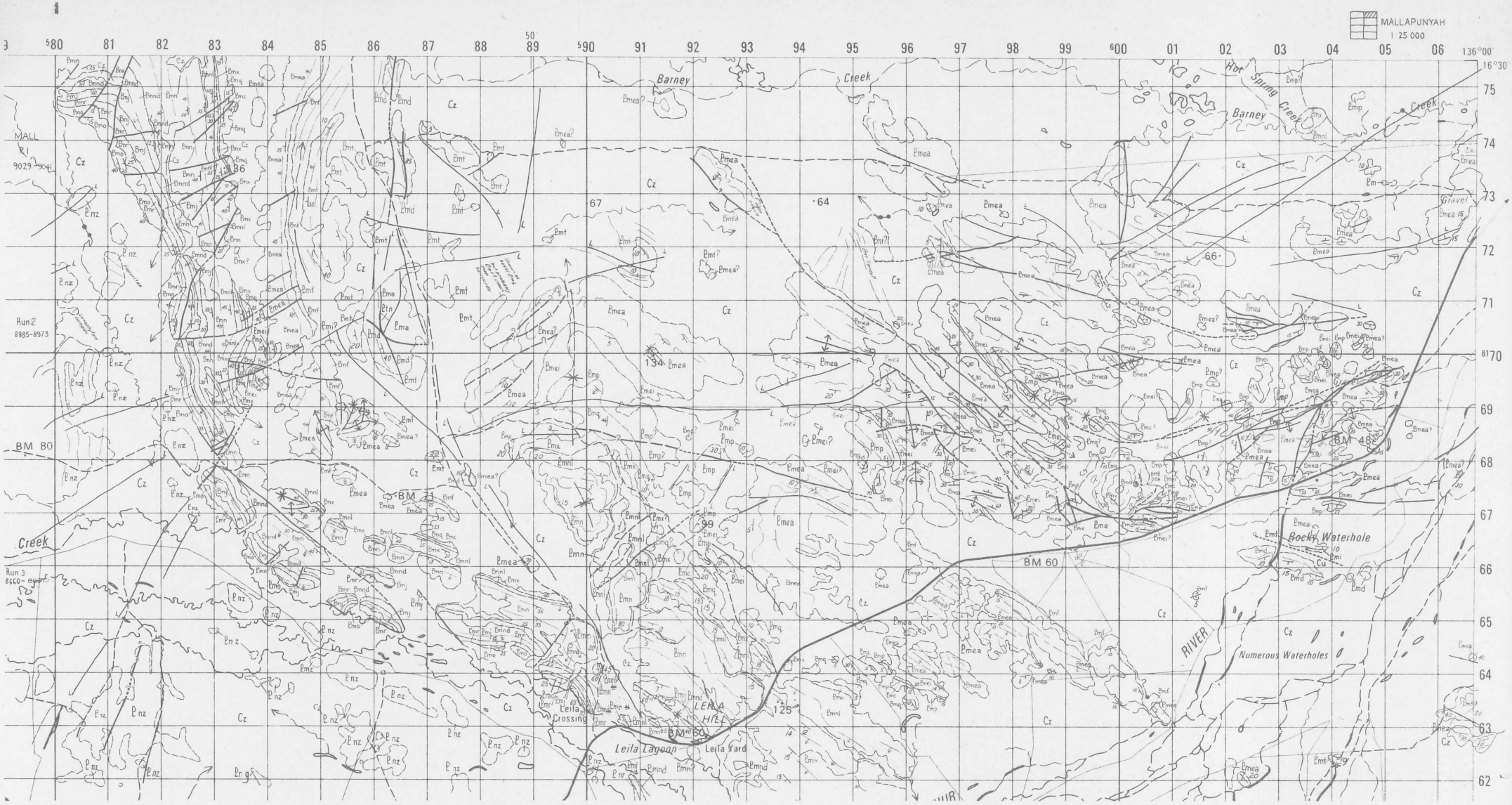

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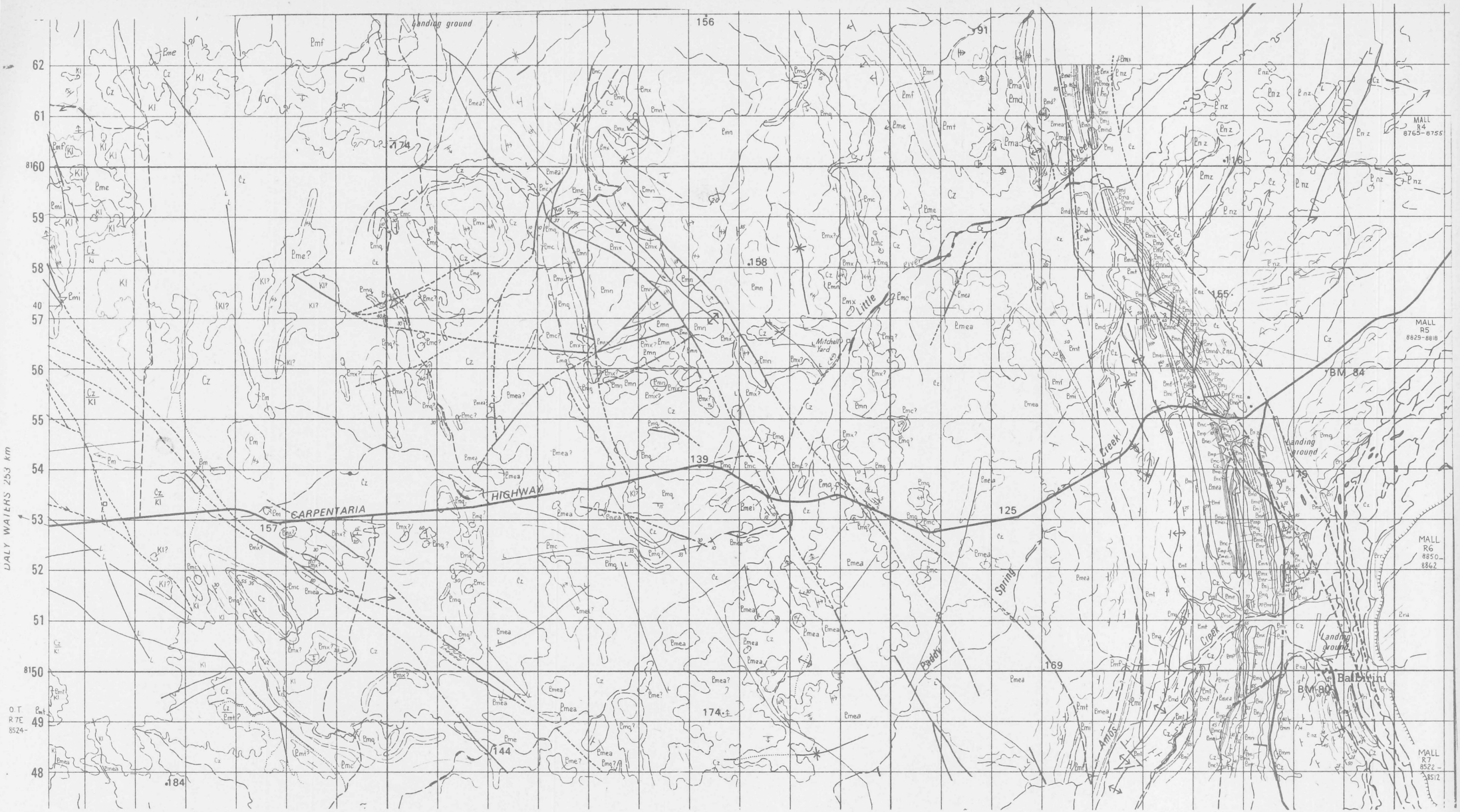

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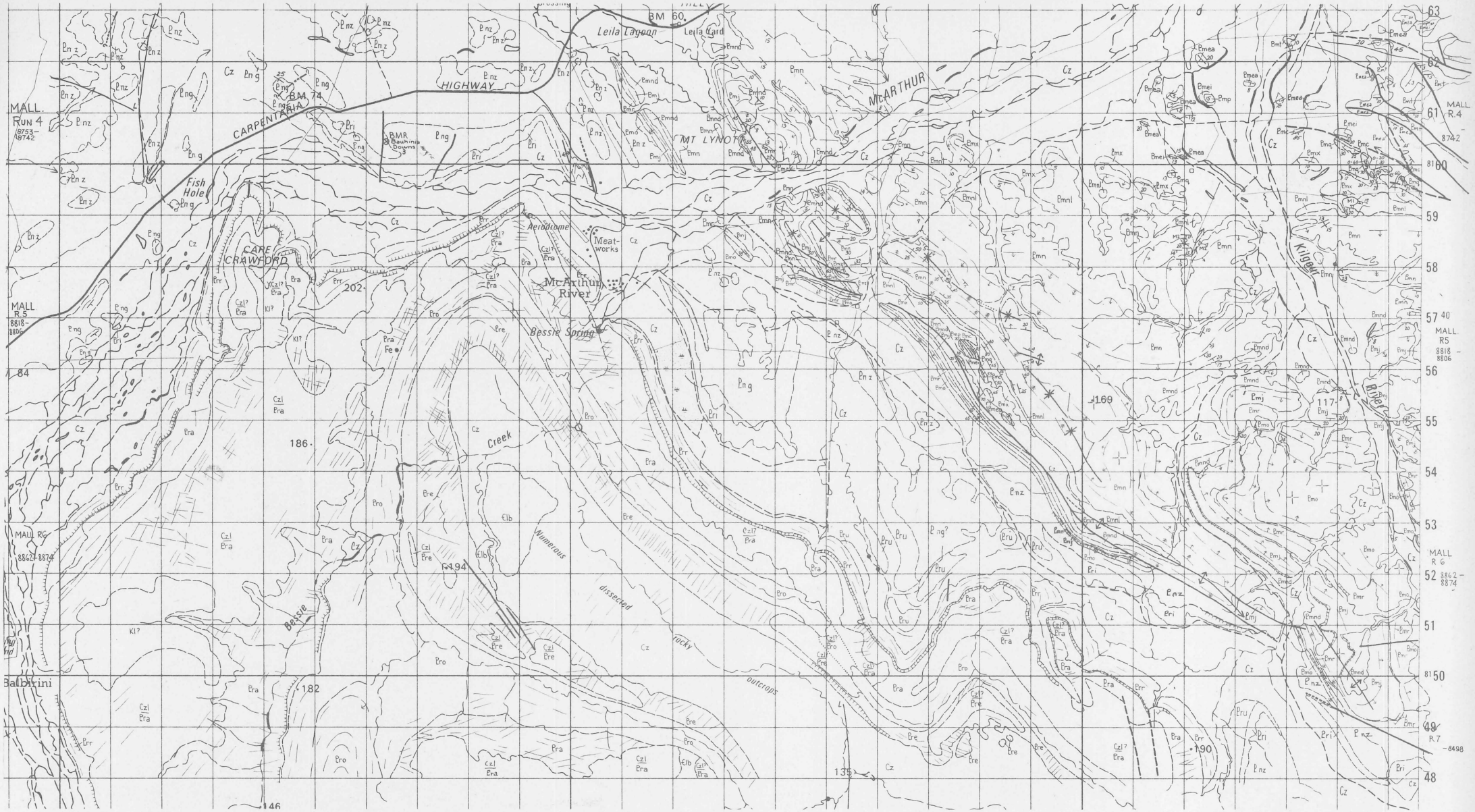

MALLAPUNYAH

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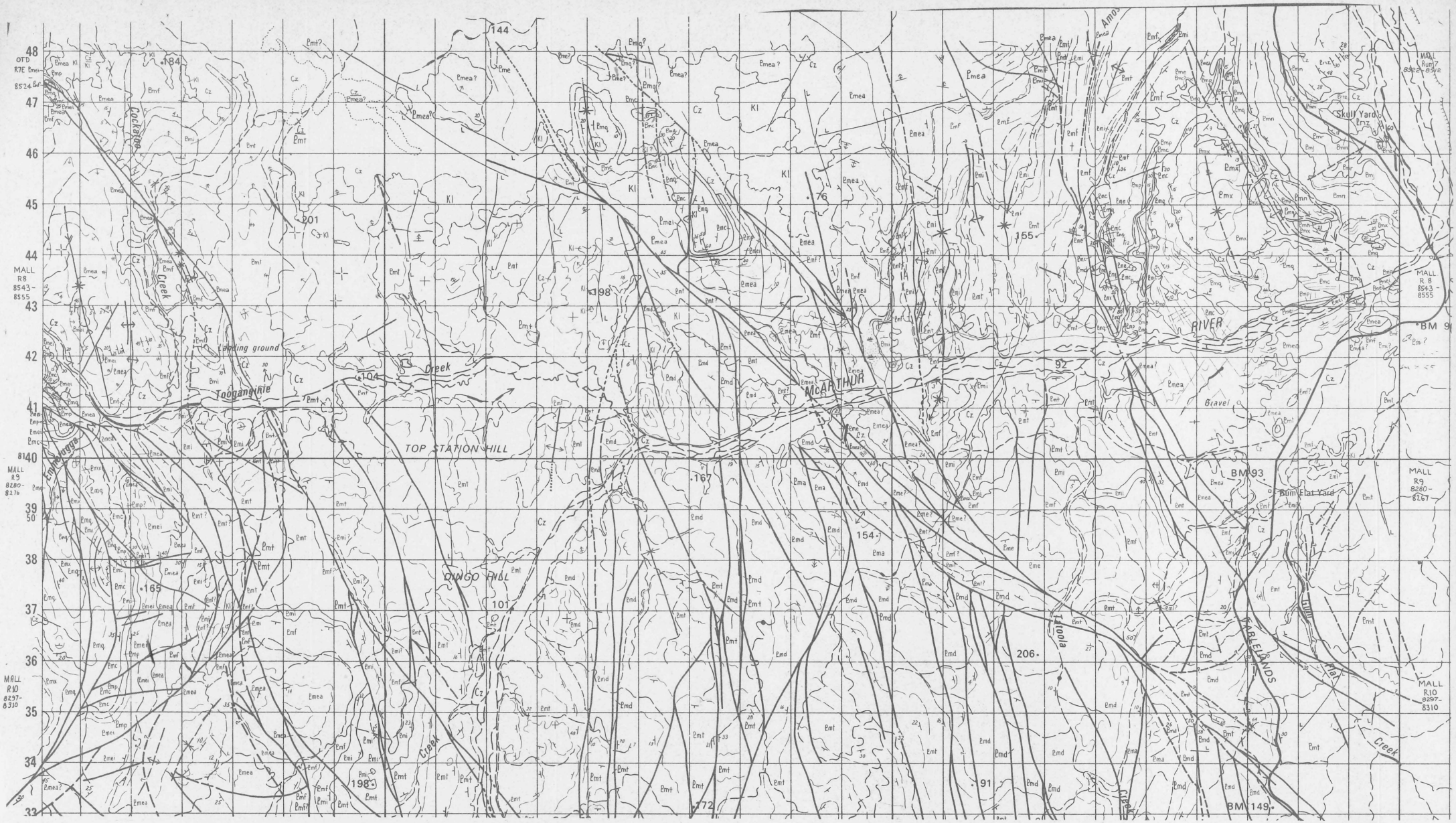

MALLAPUNYAH

5	

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1978 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, C.J.Simpson, BMR
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Compiled: 1978-1979 P.J.Jorritsma, BMR
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Scale 1:100 000

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Record 1982/22

16/E53/8

MALLAPUNYAH

	6

ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

Geology · 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
M.A.Brown, Canberra College of Advanced Education;
D.E.Large, Technical University of Braunschweig, W.Germany
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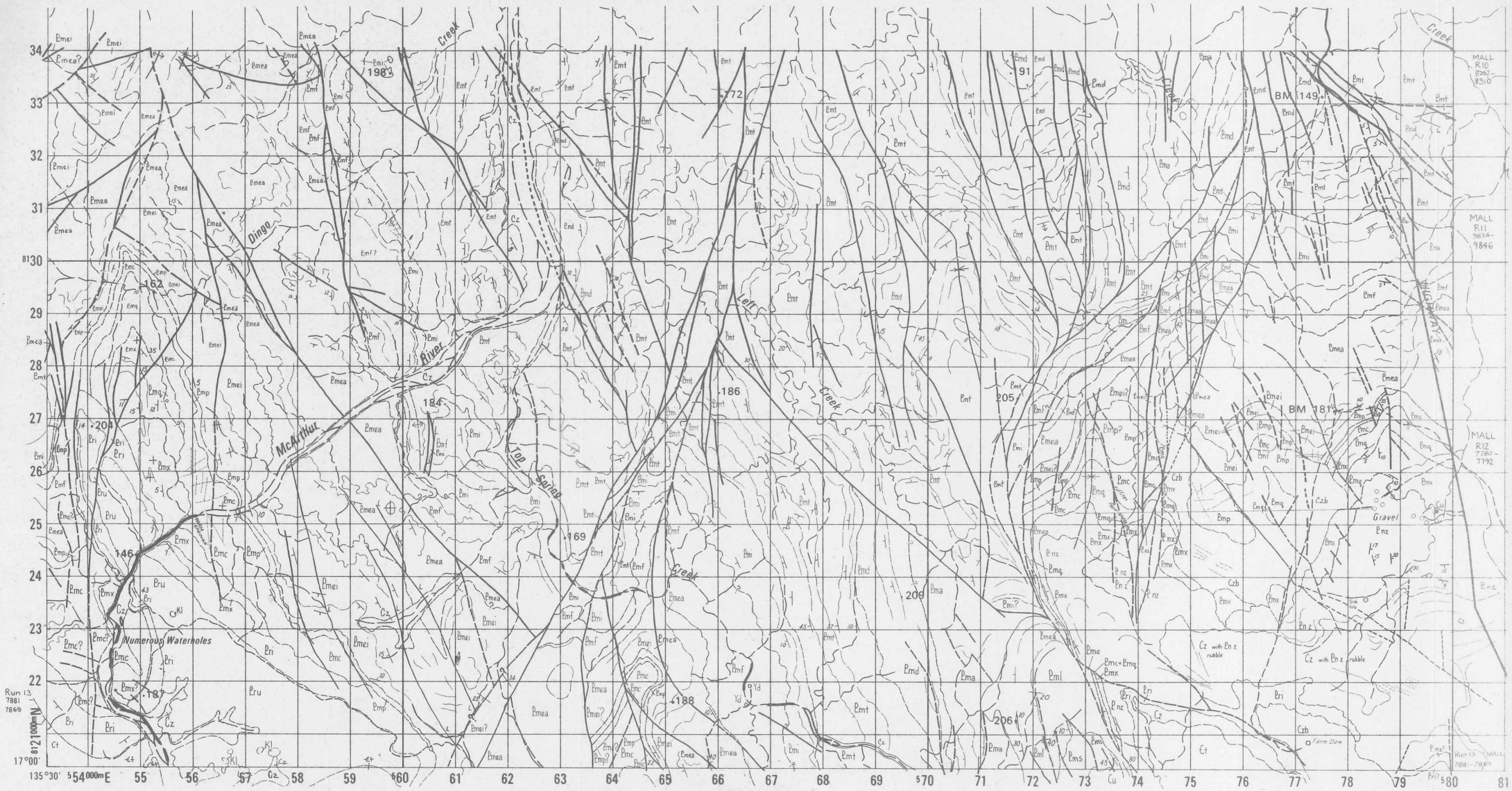

ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

MALLAPUNYAH

7	

Geology : 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
M.A.Brown, Canberra College of Advanced Education;
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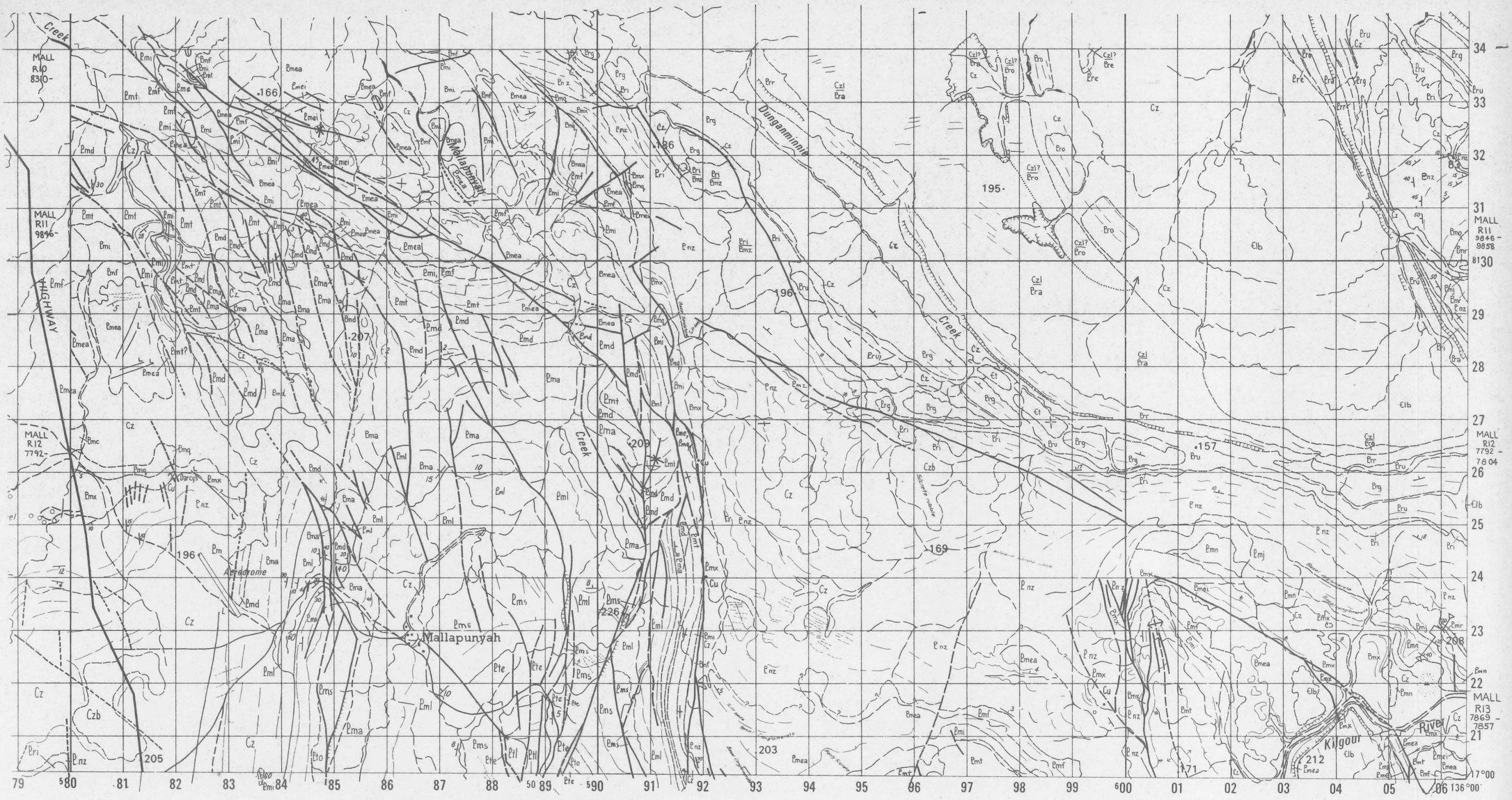

MALLAPUNYAH

	8

ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

Geology: 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
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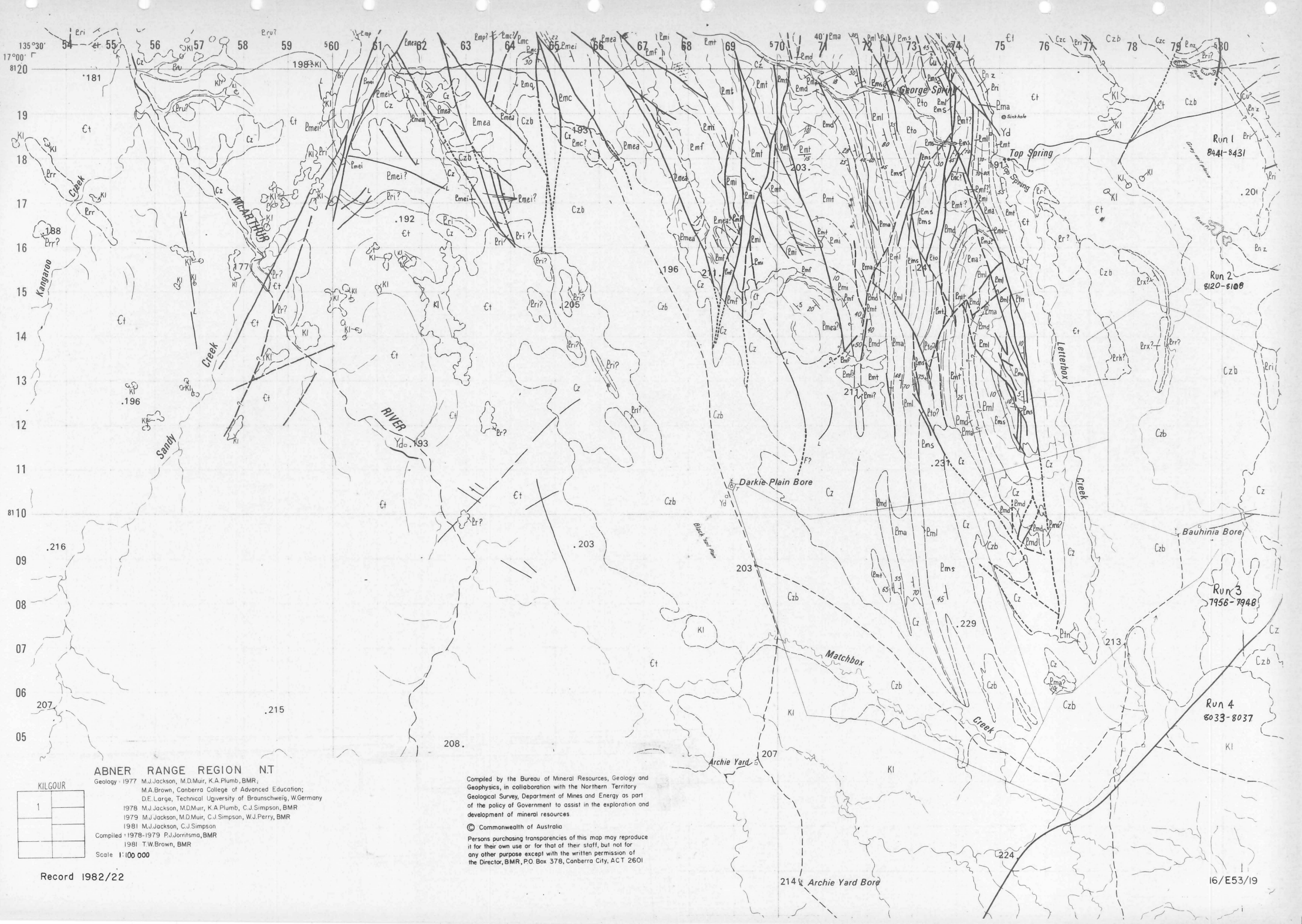

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KILGOUR

1	

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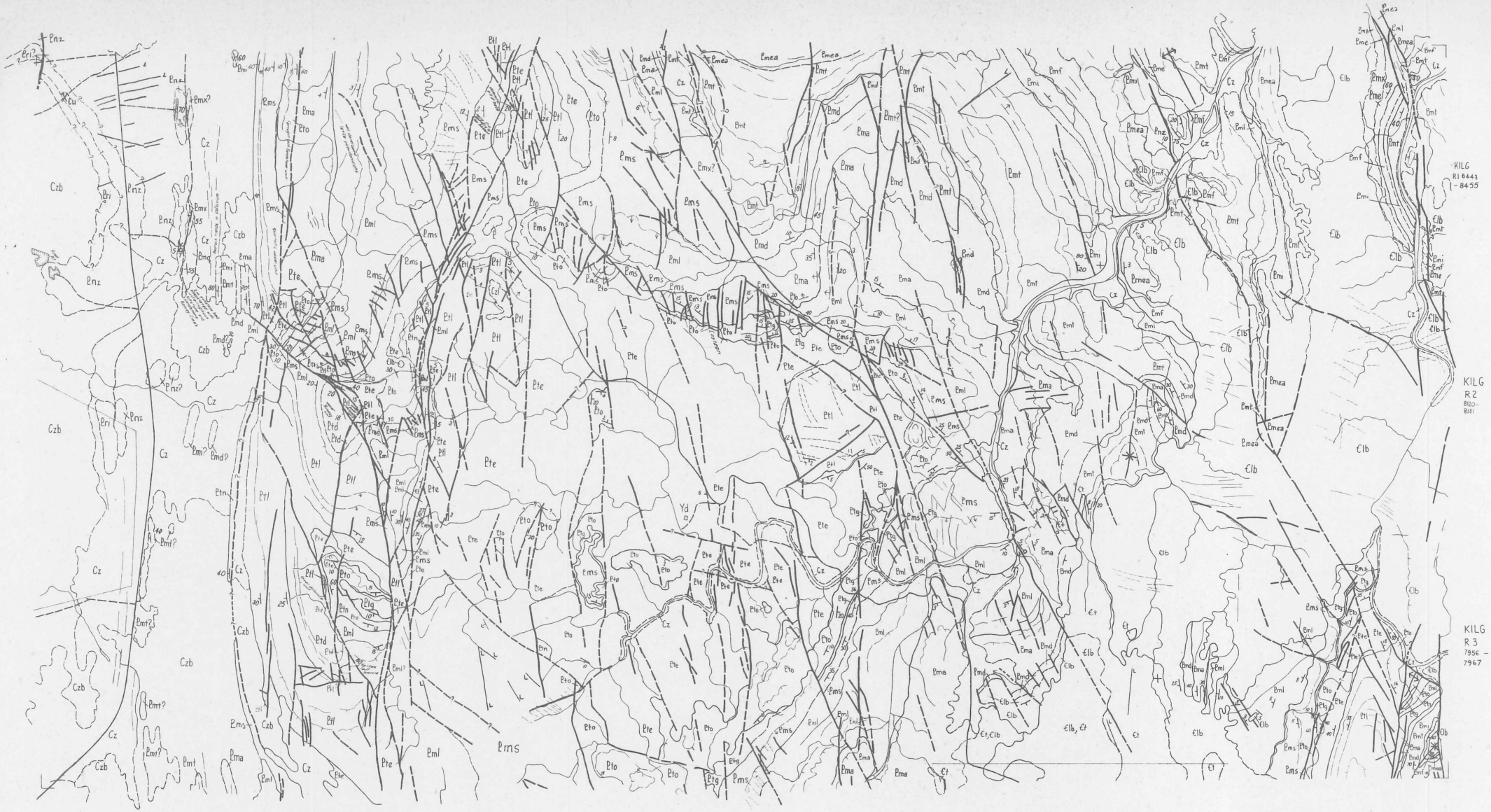
16/E53/19



ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

KILGOUR

	2

Geology : 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
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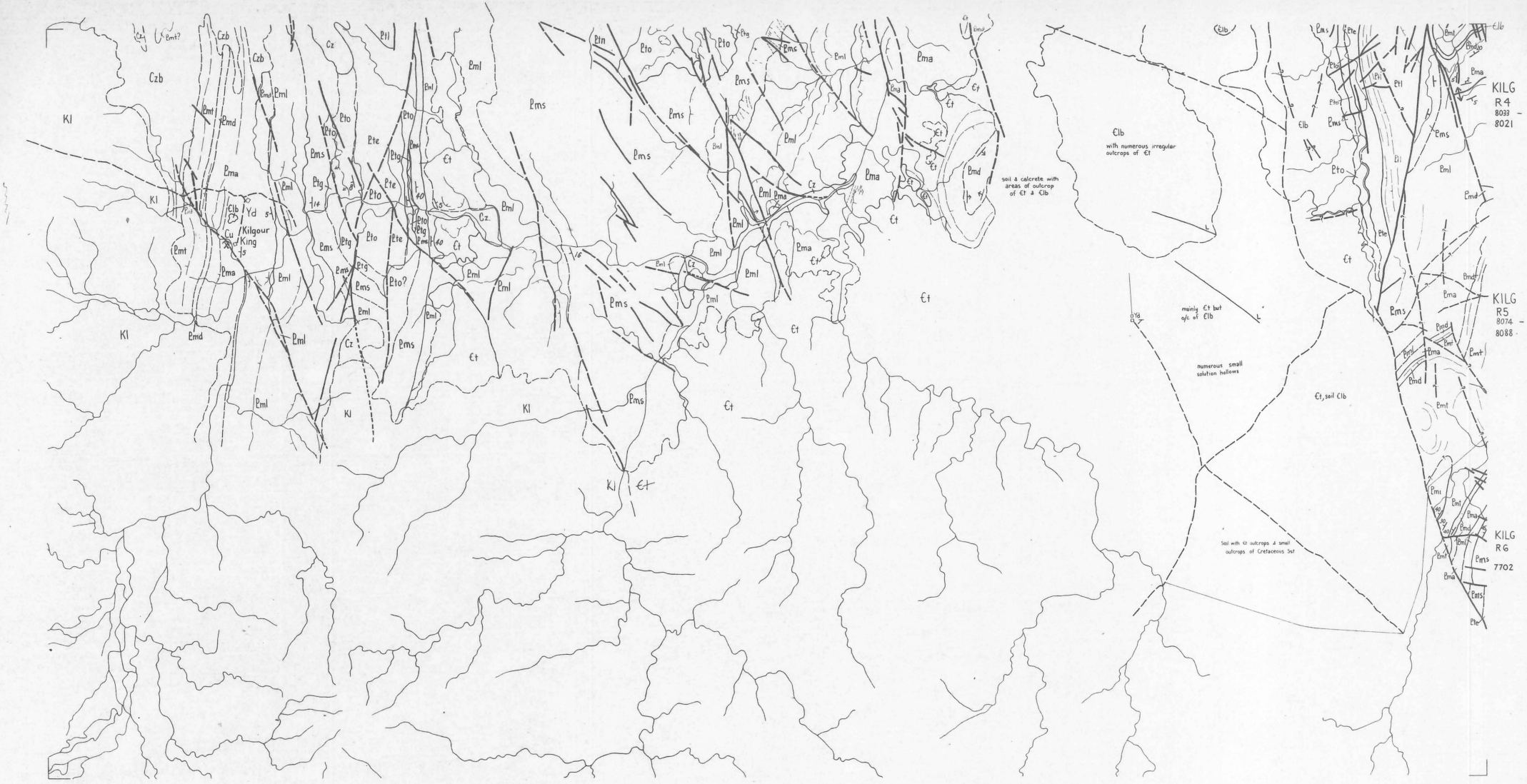

ABNER RANGE REGION N.T

KILGOUR

	3

Geology · 1977 M.J.Jackson, M.D.Muir, K.A.Plumb, BMR;
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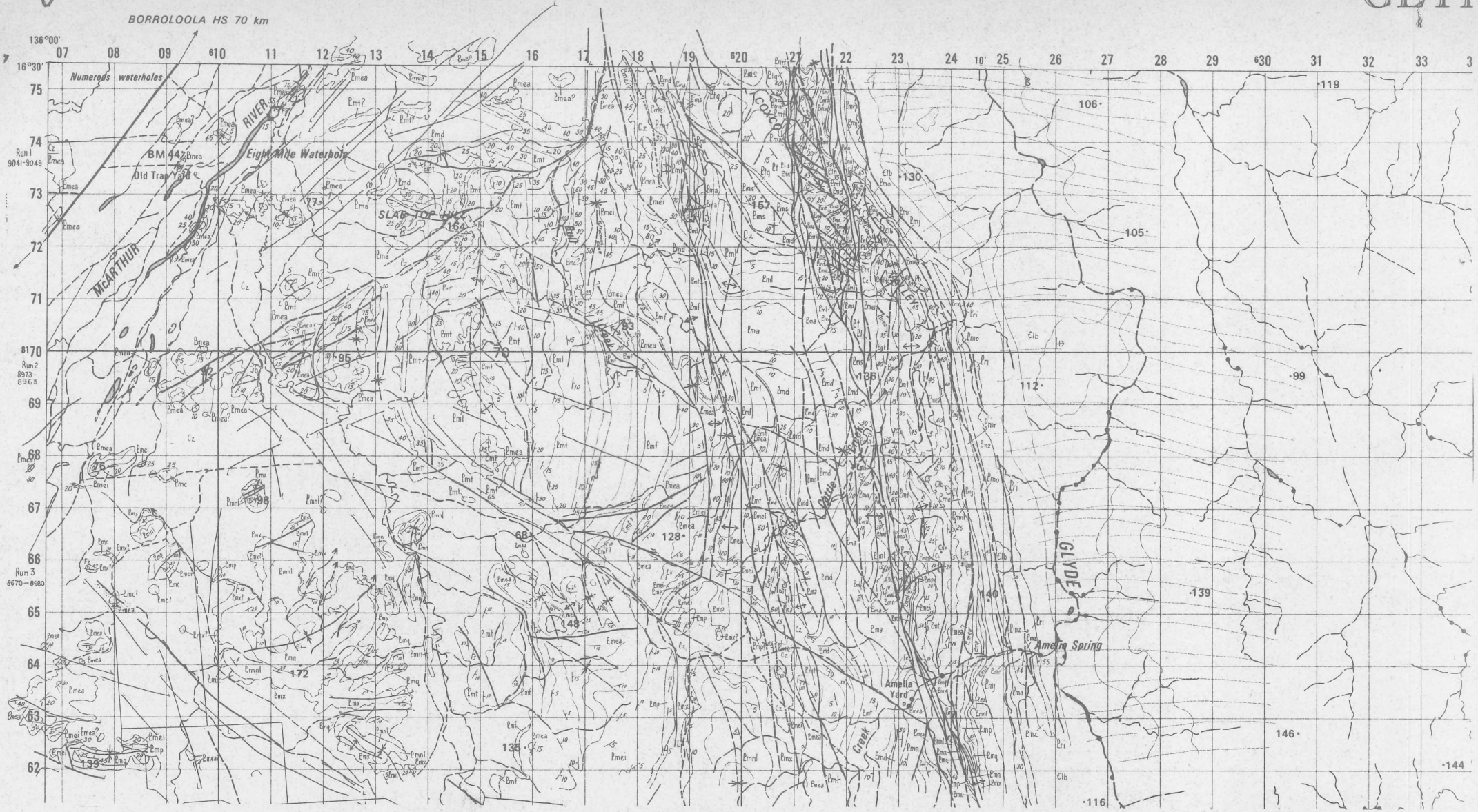

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GLYDE	
1	

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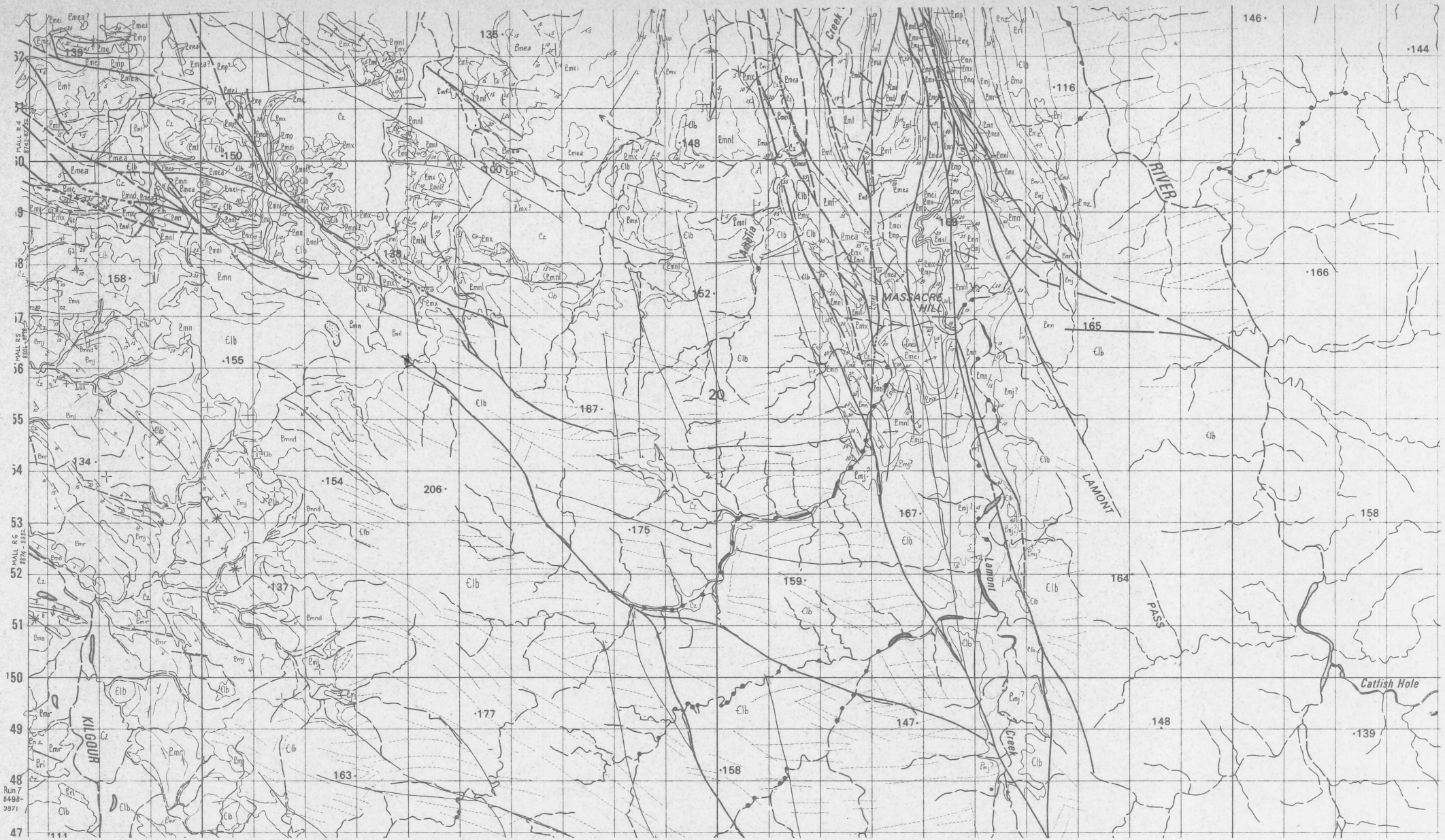

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GLYDE	
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GLYDE	
5	

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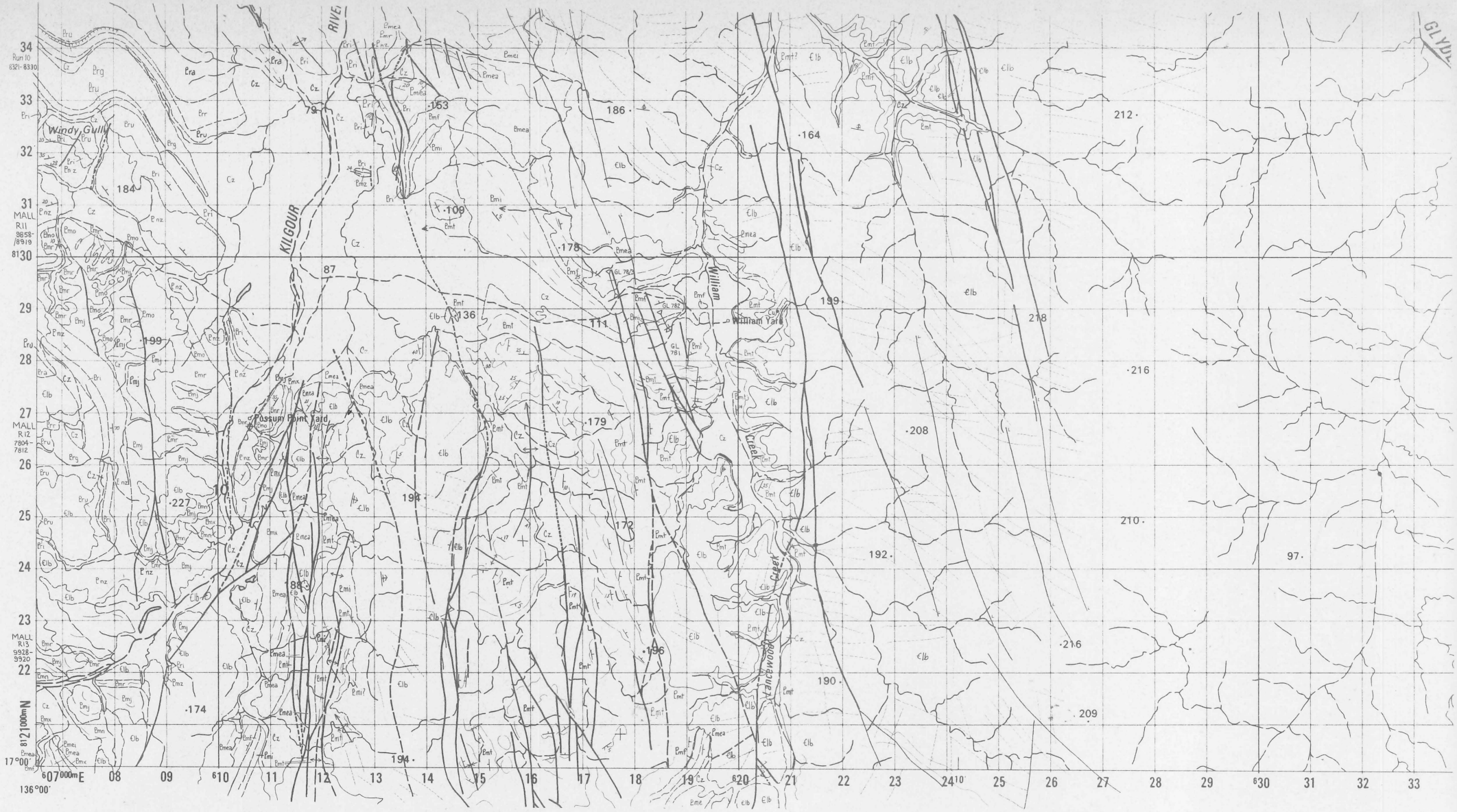

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GLYDE

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LANCEWOOD

1	

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LANCEWOOD

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