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Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiple methods
Aerial photographs taken 1945. Field check 1945
Polyconic projection, 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,
north zone
Contour interval 20 feet
1:78,000 (black and white) 1977



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 HARD SURFACE ALL WEATHER ROADS DRY WEATHER ROADS
 Heavy duty Improved dirt
 Medium duty Unimproved dirt
 Loose surface, graded or narrow hard surface
 U.S. Route State Route

WHARTON, PA.
 SE. 4. EMPORIUM 3. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16.
 N4130-W780000.5
 1948

Landslides and related features interpreted
from aerial-photographs:
1:78,000 (black and white) 1977
Photointerpretation and field check 1978-1979
This map has not been edited or reviewed
for conformity with Geological Survey
standards and nomenclature.

LANDSLIDES AND RELATED FEATURES

OF THE WHARTON, PA QUADRANGLE

by
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1981

U.S. Geological Survey
OPEN FILE MAP 81-238 (E-16)

NOTE
 Information shown is intended as a
general guide to ground conditions as of
the date of field check. Additional
landslides and rockfalls should be anticipated
in all map units. The map unit depicts
the dominant condition in the area delineated
and variations in slope stability may occur
at any point in the unit. This map is suitable
for general planning purposes and as a
supplement to more detailed studies for site
selection. The map cannot be used as a
substitute for detailed geologic and engineering
investigations to establish design and
construction criteria of specific sites.
Some symbols may not appear on this map
because the description is applicable to a
series of maps.

ACTIVE OR RECENTLY ACTIVE LANDSLIDE
 Complex landslide composed of earthflow, debris
slide, earth and rock slump. Identified from
historical records, and from scars, debris and
other field evidence. Ground extremely unstable;
sliding accelerated by excavation, loading and
changes in drainage conditions. May include
areas with several active slides too small to
be shown separately. Questioned where doubtful.
May be shown with symbol (A) where difficult to discern.

OLD LANDSLIDE
 Area of extensive hummocky ground caused by
earthflow and earth and rock slump. Lacks
clear evidence of active sliding. Relatively
stable in natural, undisturbed state,
generally not affected by small structures properly
sited in areas away from the edge of the toe;
can be reactivated by extensive, rapid excavation,
loading, and changes in ground water and
surface water conditions. Area of old landslide
probably includes recent ones not identified
from field evidence or otherwise documented.
Upslope boundary of landslide generally defined
by modified scarp, but downslope (toe) may be
gradational and not well defined. Questioned
where doubtful.

COLLUVIAL SLOPE
 Valley wall along major streams with slope as
steep as 40° (85%); stony, clayey silt soil up
to 50 ft. (15 m) thick; commonly buttressed by
a terrace or bench at the toe of the slope; very
susceptible to sliding by cutting of toe area,
removal of terrace or bench, and overloading;
slide commonly activated without apparent cause.

**AREAS SUSCEPTIBLE TO DEBRIS FLOWS AND DEBRIS
AVALANCHES**
 Primarily shallow, narrow ravines and chutes with
accumulation of stony colluvium generally 10 ft.
(3 m) or less in thickness; susceptible to rapid
movement during intense rainfall. Most ravines
and chutes designated show evidence of former
debris flows and avalanches. Symbol (A) designates
historical debris flow or debris avalanche.

AREAS SUSCEPTIBLE TO ROCKFALL
 Steep, locally vertical, natural and man-made
slopes and cliffs, 15 ft. (4.5 m) or more high;
formed dominantly of sandstone, limestone, sandy
shale, mudstone and claystone. Interbedded mud-
stone, claystone and shale weather rapidly leaving
sandstone and limestone rock faces unsupported.

SOIL AND ROCK SUSCEPTIBLE TO LANDSLIDING
 Soil and rock similar to that involved in land-
slides elsewhere in map area; primarily areas
underlain by claystone, mudstone and shale
associated with other rock types. Rock weathers
rapidly on exposure forming clayey soil highly
susceptible to sliding. Includes coves (U-shaped,
shallow valleys) containing thick layers of clayey
soil that are very susceptible to sliding where
excavation breaks continuity of slope and where
overloaded by artificial fill.

AREAS LEAST PRONE TO LANDSLIDES
 Map areas in which no patterns or symbols are shown;
primarily valley floors, ridge tops and broad
benches; modification by excavation and fill may
lead to local landslides.
Includes slopes where landslides are sparse.

The first five digits of the open file number designate the
specific 1:250,000 scale map sheet of which this quadrangle
is a part. The last two digits designate the position of the
quadrangle in a subdivision of the 1:250,000 scale map based
on rows and tiers shown in the diagram to the right. The
location of this quadrangle is shown by the black square.

- MAN-MADE FEATURES**
 Strip mines (combination of letter symbols
indicates complex formed of more than one
type of strip mine)
- sh bench with high wall
 - sf furrowed with high wall
 - sd multiple furrows and multiple benches
 - ss hilltop removed
 - srq reclaimed by grading
 - sru reclaimed by secondary use
 - sh/r regraded in part, high wall remains
- Coal refuse banks**
 r identified on aerial photographs;
not classified in field check
- rb not burnt nor on fire
 - rbb burnt
 - rbd burning
 - rbs sludge
- Quarries**
 q quarry site
 qub spoil bank, quarry waste
- Gravel pits**
 g site of gravel pit
- Slides in man-made features**
 af earth flow in fill
- a/s earth flow in strip castings
 - a/r earth flow in coal refuse

