harold wellman

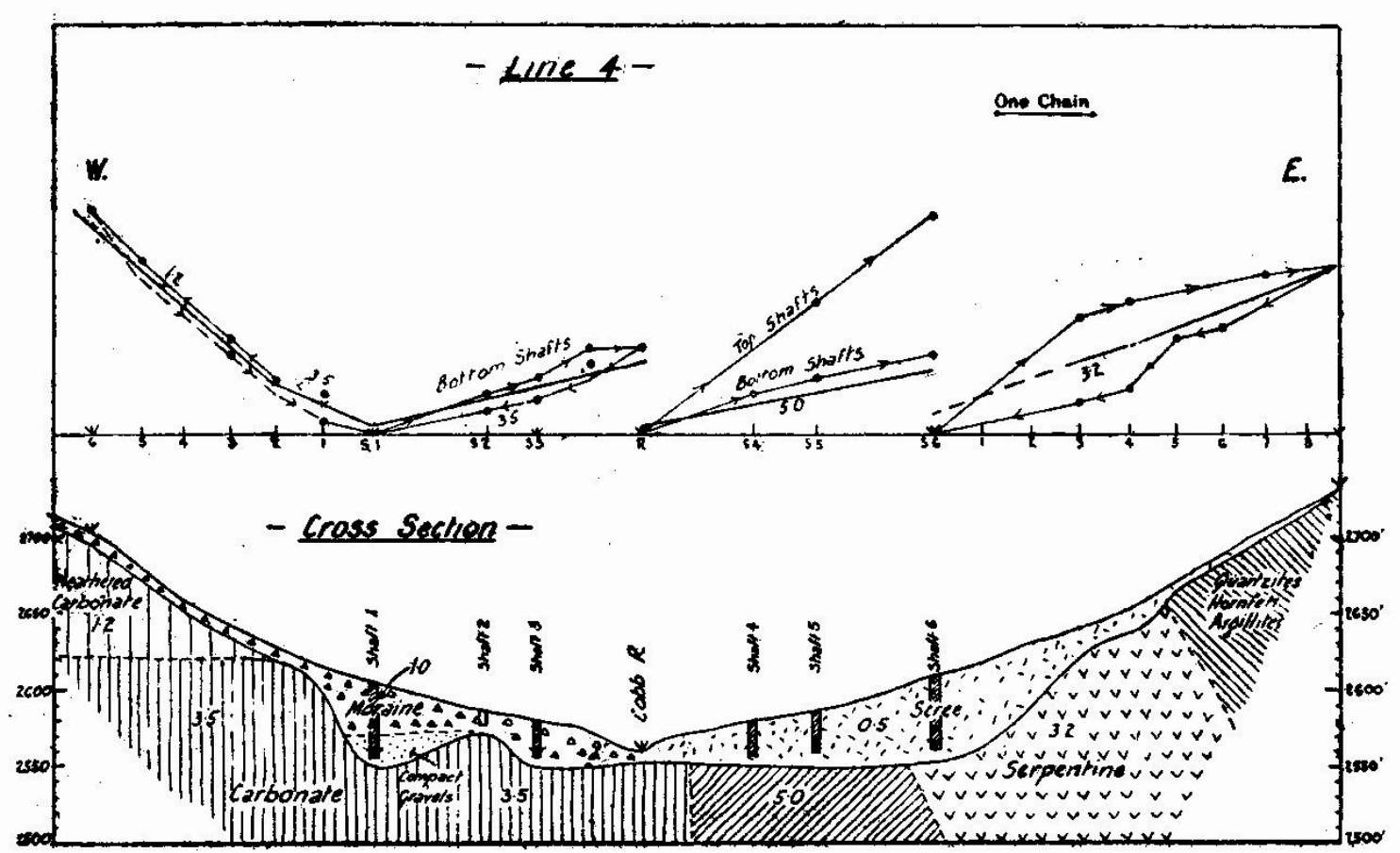
A
MAN
WHO
MOVED
NEW
ZEALAND

simon nathan

Harold Wellman, surveyor

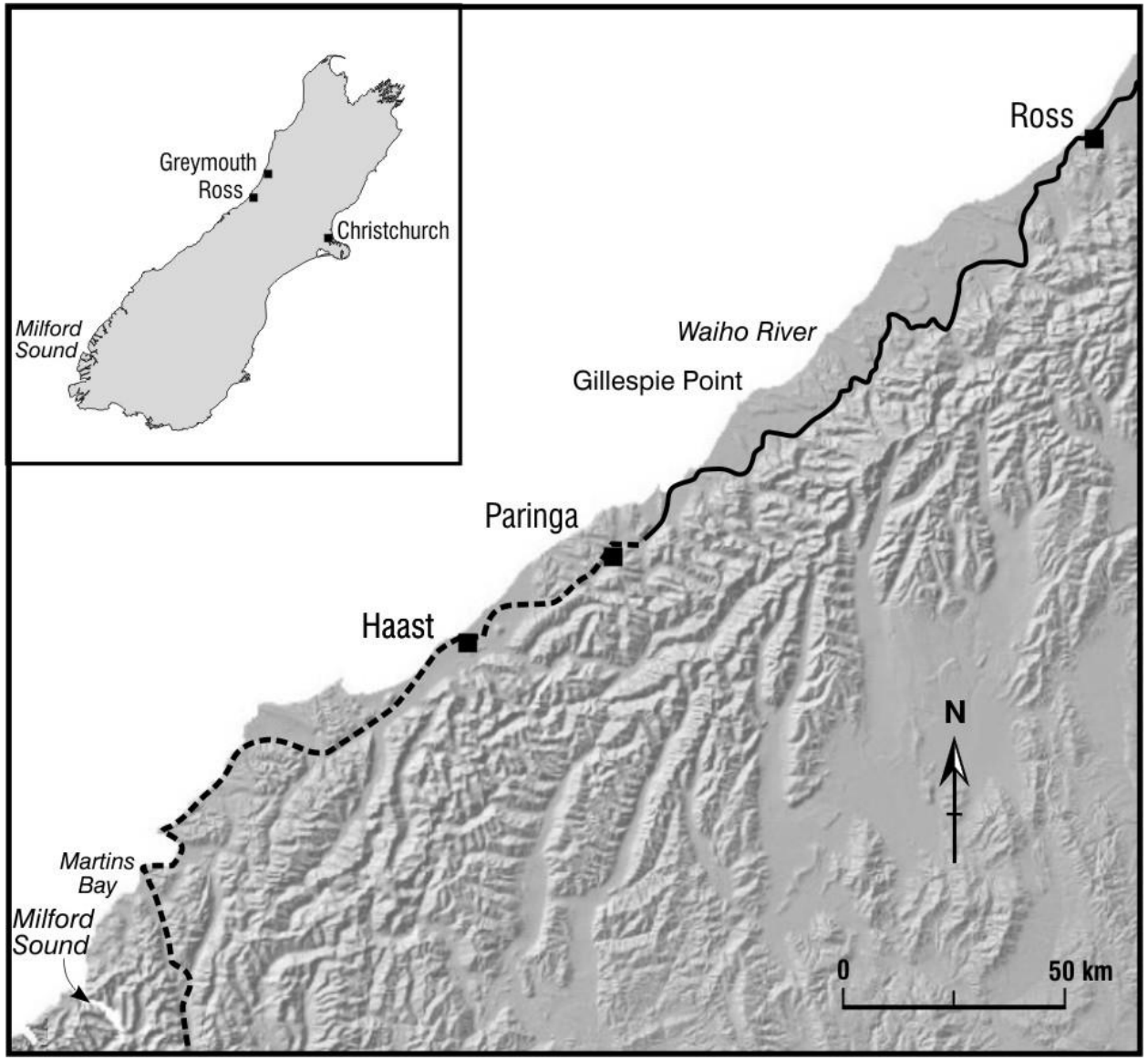
Explosion as part of DSIR seismic exploration for gold in central Otago

Auckland Weekly News, January 1934

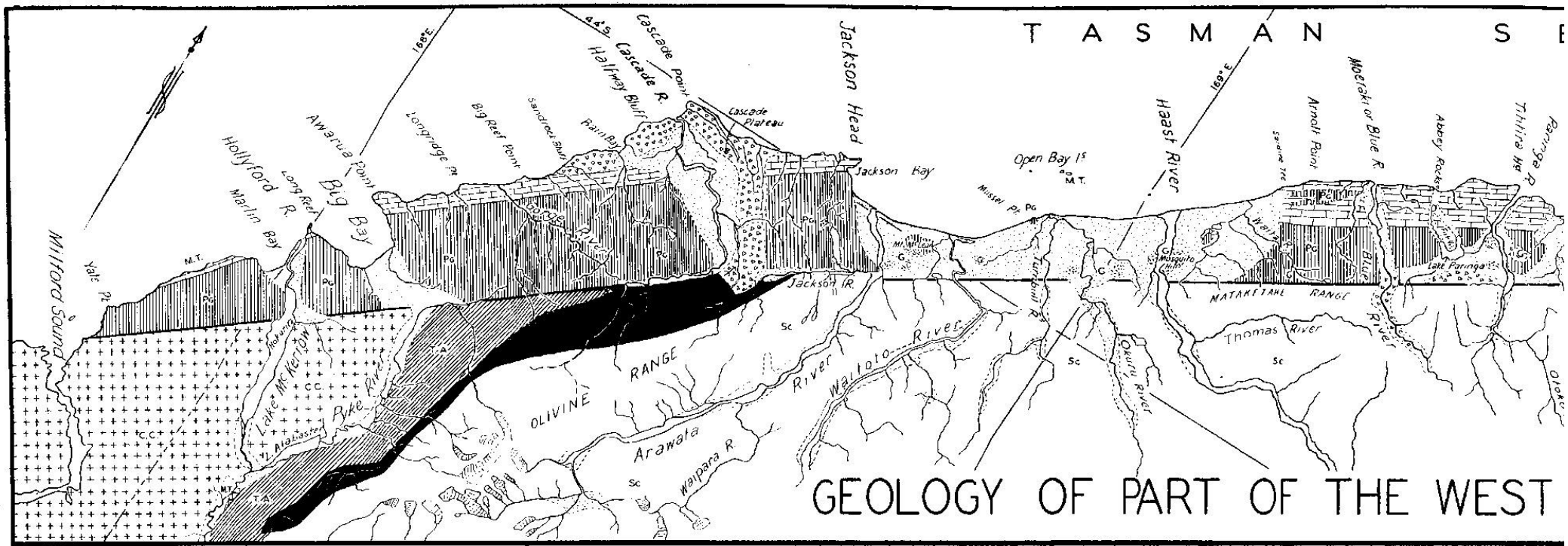


Geophysical investigations at the Cobb dam site

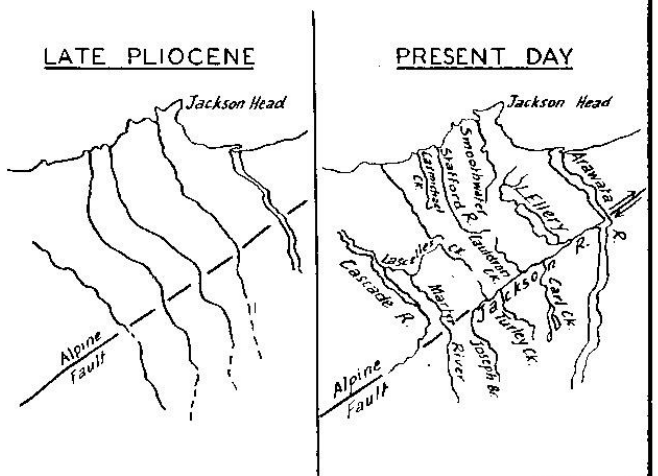
Joan Wellman and life in the field



Search for mica in South Westland, 1941



DRAINAGE DEVELOPMENT JACKSON RIVER DISTRICT



SCALE—TEN MILES TO AN INCH

FIG. 2

LOCALITY MAP

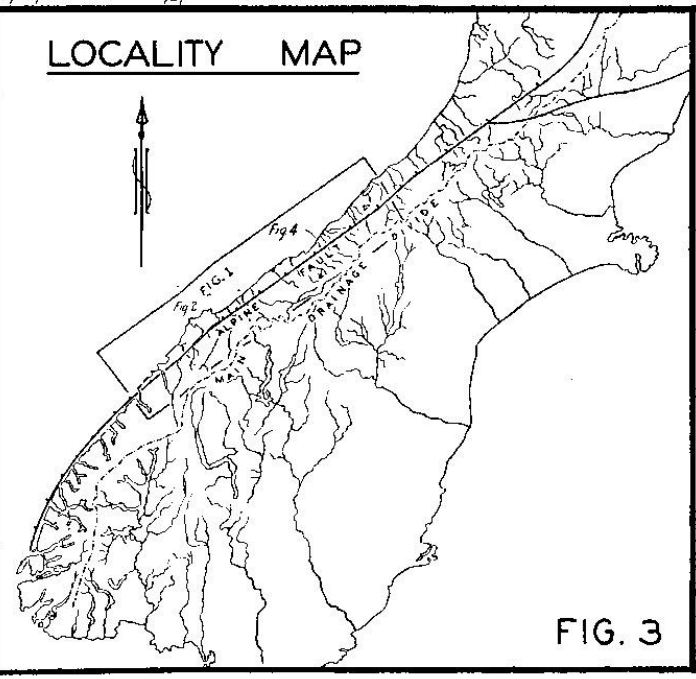
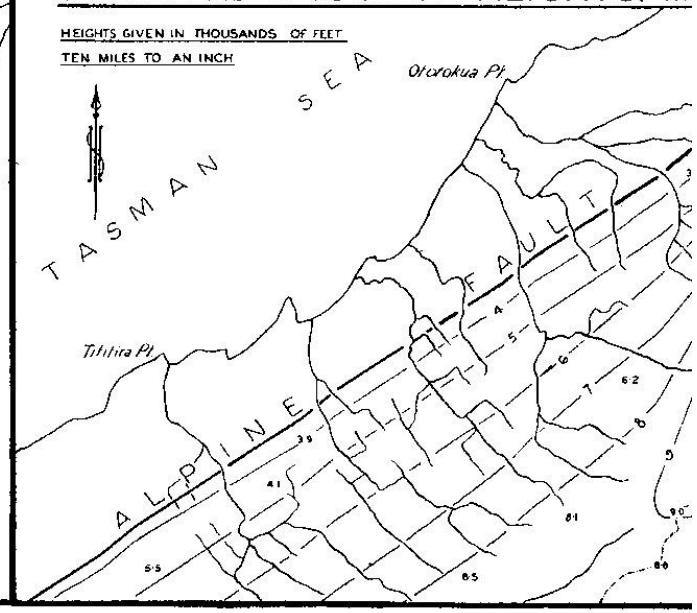


FIG. 3

DRAINAGE & SUMMIT HEIGHTS. M

HEIGHTS GIVEN IN THOUSANDS OF FEET
TEN MILES TO AN INCH



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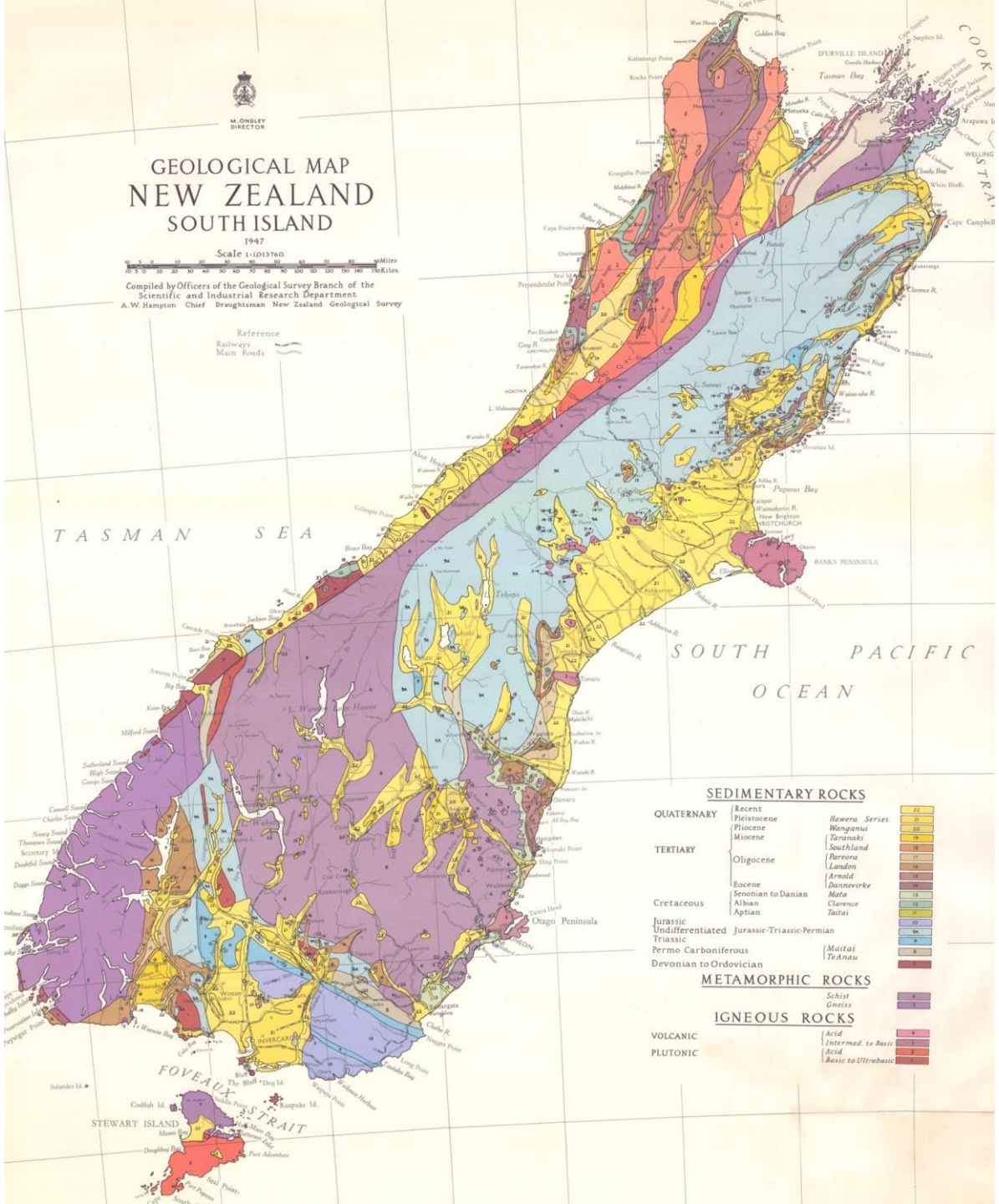


Geological map of the South Island, 1948. The first map to show the Alpine Fault (although not labelled)

Harold Wellman and George Grindley enjoying a warm spring on the Alpine Fault near Lake Haupiri

Group at 1949 Science Congress in Christchurch where Harold Wellman unveiled his idea on 480-km shift on the Alpine Fault

By 1950 aerial photographs were becoming available across much of New Zealand. Wellman realised that the Alpine Fault (and many other faults cut) the landscape, and were much younger than previously thought

He systematically scanned aerial photographs, ans produced the first maps showing what he termed “Active Faults”

Example of table listing young fault traces that Wellman had identified from aerial photographs

SOUTH BRANCH WAIRAU FAULT (from W. to E.)

(1)	(2)	(3)		(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
S28	122	Wairau	S.	Fault junction	59	41319	R	830914	5·5	72	nd		S	nd			Terraces
S28	123	Wairau	S.	Kiernans Ck.	59	41310	R	897937	C	71	c90		S	c15	C	150	c20 ft. terrace
S28	124	Wairau	S.	Centre Valley	59	41307	R	922945	C	71	nd		S	nd	C	170	c5 ft. terrace
S28	125	Wairau	S.	½m. N. Centre Valley	59	41306	R	930948	C	71	c90			c0	C	310	Ridges
S28	126	Wairau	S.	Marchburn R., W. bk.	59	41306	R	937951	C	71	c90			c0	C	160	5 ft. terrace
S28	127	Wairau	S.	½m. E. Marchburn R.	59	41304	R	943953	C	73	c70	S		c0	C	130	Ridges
S28	128	Wairau	S.	Black Valley Stm.	59	41302	R	962958	C	72	c80	N		c0	C	280	W. side valley
S28	129	Wairau	S.	½m. E. Black Valley	59	41301	R	971961	C	75	nd		S	nd	C	180	Ridge
S28	130	Wairau	S.	1m. E. Black Valley	59	41299	R	974962	C	75	nd			c0	C	300	Ridge
S28	131	Wairau	S.	Lansdowne–Bankhouse	4		R		10	70	nd						
S28	132	Wairau	S.	2m. E. Black Valley	59	41297	R	997969	C	76	nd		S?		C	120	Stream
S28	133	Wairau	S.	Waihopai R., E. bank	59	40470	R	041977	C	75	nd		S	c5	C	30	c50 ft. terrace
S28	134	Wairau	S.	Waihopai R., E. bank	59	40470	R	047979	C	76	nd		S	c5	C	70	c20 ft. terrace
S28	135	Wairau	S.	Waihopai R., E. bank	59	40467	R	058981	C	75	nd			0	C	250	c30 ft. terrace
S28	136	Wiarau	S.	Near Renwicktown	59	40460	R	114991		83	nd		S	5		nd	Old terrace
S21	137	Wairau	S.?	2m. N. Blenheim	59	40441	L	215031	2·0	71	nd			nd		nd	Old terrace
S22	138	Wairau	S.?	2m. N.E. Blenheim	59	40438	L	250044	2·1	63	nd			nd		nd	Old terrace

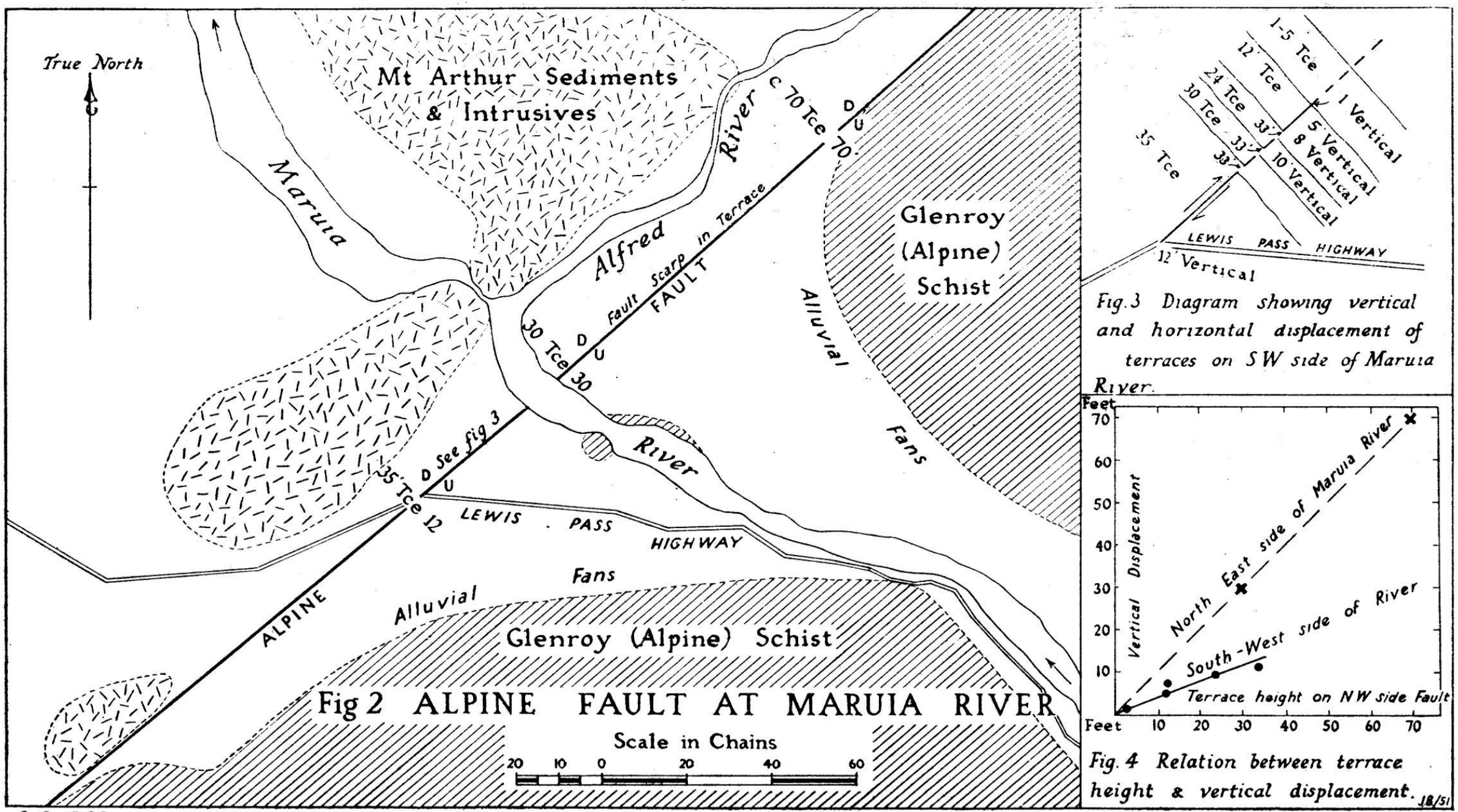


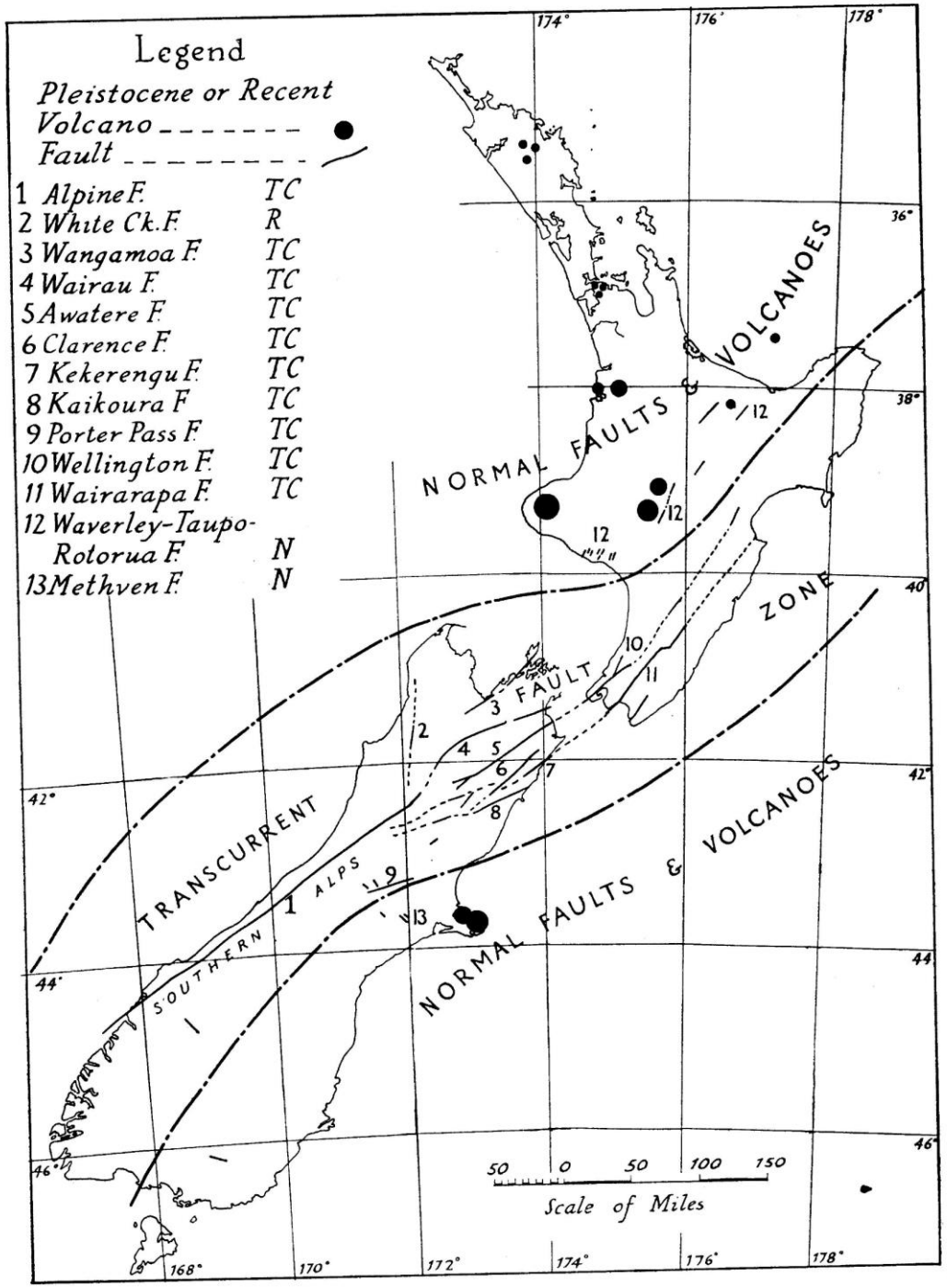
Fig 2 ALPINE FAULT AT MARUIA RIVER

Fig. 3 Diagram showing vertical and horizontal displacement of terraces on SW side of Maruia River.

Fig. 4 Relation between terrace height & vertical displacement. 18/51

Fig. 2.

G.S. 802



Belt of active faults through central New Zealand – state of knowledge in 1955, largely based on Wellman's research

In 1958 Harold moved to Victoria University. He always enjoyed the company of younger people, and supervised many graduate students

Harold Wellman's 80th birthday celebration at Victoria University

Harold Wellman was actively researching and writing until his death in 1999. His ashes were scattered in Hairy Mary Creek in south Westland near one of the best exposures of the Alpine Fault.

Harold was commemorated in the “Awesome Forces” exhibition in Te Papa, where his theodolite is on display

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