

## Dave Trail Antarctic Field Notebooks: Series 2, Summer Season 1965

This second and final series of Dave Trail's Antarctic field notebooks were written during the Summer Season of 1965.

The official record of the trip based on Dave's notebooks and those of his accompanying geological colleagues, Ian McLeod, Peter Cook & Graham Wallis can be downloaded from the Geoscience Australia website (direct link to [BMR Record 1966/009](#) - download button in box on right hand side). Robert Lachal assisted Dave and is referred to as Bob in the notebooks.

The BMR Record provides background information on the trip as well as a list of key personnel and their roles in the expedition. To assist with spelling, the list of personnel is reproduced below:

In mid-1964 the Antarctic Division of the Department of External Affairs learnt that it could charter a second ship for three months. An intensive field operation was planned, using several geologists and surveyors, with helicopter transport. The ship's prime function was to relieve Mawson and Davis, but 5 weeks were to be available for the field work. The region selected for the operation was eastern Enderby Land, Kemp Land, and MacRobertson Land, i.e. the sector between longitude 54°E and about the longitude of Mawson (63°E). Four geologists were seconded from the Bureau of Mineral Resources for the expedition: I.R. McLeod, D.S. Trail (each of whom had wintered at Mawson), P.J. Cook, and G.R. Wallis (on loan from the New South Wales Geological Survey).

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors have pleasure in acknowledging the assistance given by many expedition members; these members are too many to name individually, but we would like to single out: R. Lachal, of the 1965 party, for his assistance in the field in the early stages of the work, P. Martin, leader of the 1964 Mawson party, who helped collect samples for age measurement, and N. Trott, leader of the 1964 Davis party, for his interest and enthusiasm in collecting water samples from the lakes of the Vestfold Hills; the helicopter pilots, Captains J. Arthurson, G. Treatt, and B. Saw, and Beaver pilot Captain J. Whiting; the members of the survey team, S. Kirby, R. Maruff, M. Corrie, and J. Farley; the leader of the expedition, Dr. P.G. Law, who had responsibility for the overall programme of the expedition and the safety of the men; his lieutenant, E. Macklin, for his assistance in many ways; and finally Captain H. Chr. Petersen and the officers and crew of the "Nella Dan", especially the Chief Officer, B. Heckmann, for their never-failing courtesy and co-operation, and particularly for their help in the oceanographic work.

The Officer-in-Charge of the Antarctic Mapping Branch of the Department of National Development, D.A.T. Gale, and his staff readily supplied maps and other cartographic information. Dr. K.A.W. Crook, of the Australian National University, kindly made sedimentological equipment available and offered valuable advice related to study of the sea-bottom sediment samples.

A lovely narrative of the expedition which gives an overview of where Dave went is included in the Record starting on page 5.

Maps showing the region are also included and are a handy source to consult for spellings of place names.

A number of photographs are included in the Record such as this one showing a location near the Stillwell Hills, named after Frank Stillwell.



Fig. 6. Polygonal pattern of cracks in rock detritus, forming polygons about 5 metres across. Ives Tongue, off the Stillwell Hills; February 1965.

In some instances, the results of rock sample analysis are included in the Report.

Thanks again for your amazing efforts with unlocking the valuable information contained within Dave's notebooks. It is greatly appreciated!

Best wishes,  
Jane

(Geoscience Australia Library)