A

TORNADO PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

F=1

1. DATE AND TIME: Sat January 30 1954 23:40 AST

2. LOCATION OR PATH (attach map): White Point Beach N.S.

3. PATH LENGTH: ☐ NOT KNOWN ☐ <1mi; ☐ 1-4mi; ☐ 5-10mi; ☐ 11-50mi; ☐ LENGTH IF>50

4. PATH WIDTH: 300 ft 5. TORNADO PART OF SQUALL LINE? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

6. ANY UNUSUAL COLORATION? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

7. ANY UNUSUAL SOUND? ☐ YES; ☐ NO; ☐ UNKNOWN

8. IF ANSWER TO 6 OR 7 YES, ELABORATE;

9. LIST ANY ASSOCIATED PHENOMENA (Such as hail, vivid lightning heavy rain, no rain, etc.): Heavy hail, lightning

10. TOTAL DAMAGE ESTIMATE $ 4

11. TOTAL DEATHS 0

12. TOTAL INJURED 0

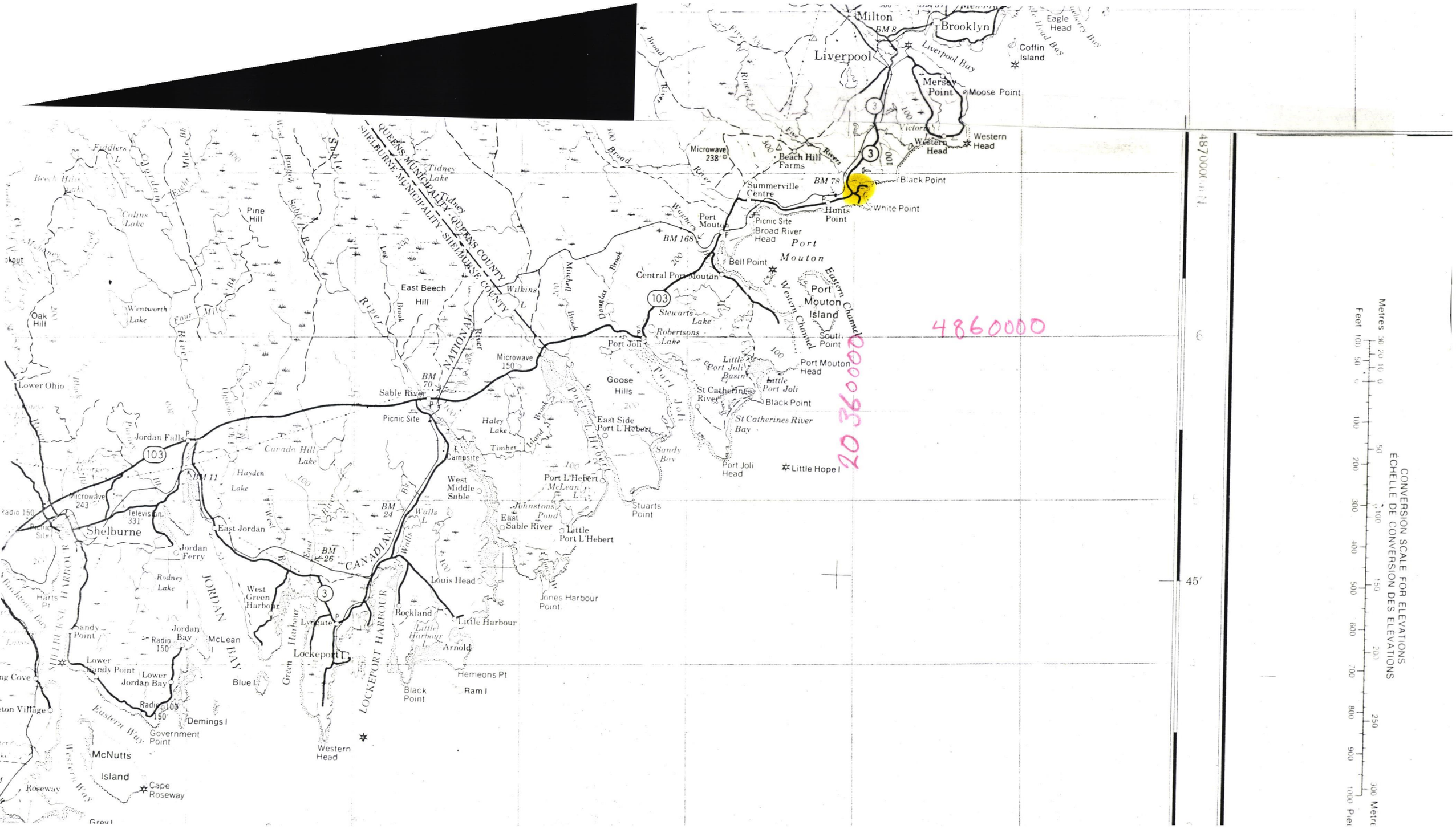
13. TOTAL HOMELESS 0

14. LIST ALL REFERENCES

Hornstein, R.A. "The White Point Beach, N.S. Tornado of January 1954" Weather, Vol 9 1954 pp 247-248

15. SUMMARIZE REMARKS PERTAINING TO (a) FUNNEL; (b) INTERESTING OR CAPRICIOUS EVENTS.

- Barn completely demolished, which contained 4 tons of hay. Its wreckage was strewn over a distance of approximately ½ mile, and large beams were driven into the earth to a depth of more than one foot
- the roar of the wind awoke a caretaker who noticed two rafters split as the storm passed over his cabin.


Milton
BM 8
Brooklyn
Eagle Head
Liverpool
Coffin Island
Liverpool Bay
Mersey Point
Moose Point
Western Head
Black Point
White Point
Hanks Point
Summerville Centre
Beach Hill Farms
Microwave 238
Port Mouton
Picnic Site
Broad River Head
Bell Point
Central Port Mouton
Port Mouton Island
Eastern Channel
Western Channel
South Point
Port Mouton Head
Little Port Joli Basin
Little Port Joli
St Catherines River
Black Point
St Catherines River Bay
Port Joli Head
Little Hope I
Port Joli
Robertsons Lake
Stewarts Lake
Goose Hills
East Side Port L'Hebert
Sandy Bay
Port L'Hebert
McLean L
Stuarts Point
Johnstons Pond
East Sable River
Little Port L'Hebert
Jones Harbour Point
Louis Head
Rockland
Little Harbour
Arnold
Hemeons Pt
Ram I
Black Point
Western Head
Lockeport
Lyrgate
Green Harbour
West Green Harbour
Blue I
Lower Jordan Bay
Lower Sandy Point
Sandy Point
Jordan Bay
McLean I
Radio 150
Demings I
Government Point
McNutts Island
Cape Roseway
Roseway
Grey I
Eastern Way
Western Way
LOCKEPORT HARBOUR
JORDAN BAY
SOUTHWEST HARBOUR
Harts Pt
Rodney Lake
Jordan Ferry
Shelburne
Television 331
Microwave 243
East Jordan
BM 11
BM 24
BM 26
CANADIAN
Walls L
Hayden Lake
Canada Hill Lake
Jordan Falls
Picnic Site
Campsite
Sable River
BM 70
Microwave 150
Haley Lake
Timber Island
Port Joli Harbour
Lower Ohio
Oak Hill
Wentworth Lake
Four Mile River
East Beech Hill
Pine Hill
Colins Lake
Fiddlers L
Beech Hill Lake
Tidney Lake
Log Brook
Mitchell Brook
Douglas Brook
Wilkins L
Wagners Brook
Broad River
Broad L
Mill Br
West Branch Sable R
Sable R
NATIONAL MAP
QUEENS MUNICIPALITY - QUEENS COUNTY
SHELBURNE MUNICIPALITY - SHELBURNE COUNTY
BM 168
BM 78
Microwave 150
Radio 150
Radio 100
103
3
100
200
300
400
4860000
4870000 m N
45'
CONVERSION SCALE FOR ELEVATIONS
ÉCHELLE DE CONVERSION DES ÉLÉVATIONS
Metres
Feet
300 Metres
1000 Pieds

1954 WEATHER VOL 9 pp 247-248



ıe continued throughout July.
rose to normal values while in
ıormal. On the nights of 6th
32°F in south-west Scotland,
ıe for more than 25 years the
80°F in July. Except in east
›w normal. In many parts of
and at a few 80 hours. The
ess of 28 hours at Leuchars
ed only in parts of the Isle of
much of England and Wales.
omewhere in the British Isles.
ls above 40 mm in 24 hours,
ainfall was below normal over
and the Channel Islands. It
ı England it was twice normal.
was the poorest July for many

ırts of the world. During the
and snow down to levels of
y, and western Austria, and
ia, Yugoslavia and Hungary.
l fell in 24 hours, the Danube
passes were blocked by snow,
. On 19th there were floods
Cape Town had 5 in. of rain
floods for 50 years developed
Teheran, and flooding along
ırs. In contrast excessively
th weeks from northern and
ot weather.

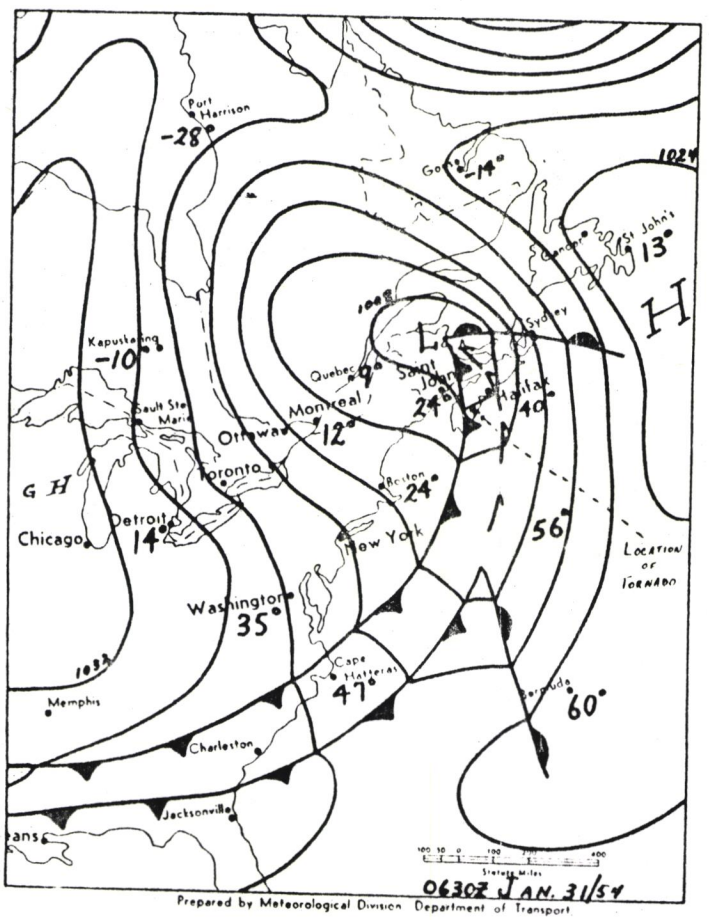
(hr)	RAINFALL (mm)*		
n Average		Diff. from Average	
Last 12 Months	Month	This Month	Last 12 Months
+ 18	59	− 4	− 74
−154	58	− 1	− 87
−154	104	+ 45	+ 9
− 55	87	+ 14	−154
−135	114	+ 19	+ 77
−189	91	+ 20	− 4
− 40	78	+ 12	− 1
−188	44	− 12	− 44
− 83	67	− 4	+116
− 66	73	− 4	+ 9
− 8	61	− 12	− 95

R.S.R.

THE WHITE POINT BEACH, NOVA SCOTIA, TORNADO OF JANUARY 1954

By R. A. Hornstein

In mid-winter, tornadoes tend to occur very infrequently, except in the most southern parts of the United States. In January there have been rare occurrences as far north as Kansas, Michigan and Indiana (Flora, 1953). Of 4,861 United States tornadoes classified as to hours of occurrence, the most favoured time of day is from 4 to 7 p.m.; only 3·5 per cent have occurred between 11 p.m. and midnight, and none of these was in the New England States, the region nearest to Nova Scotia (Flora, *ibid.*).



The synoptic situation at 0630 hrs on 31 January 1954

These statistical data indicate that the tornado which struck White Point Beach, about 5¼ miles south of Liverpool, N.S., at 11.40 p.m., AST, 30 January 1954, must be classed as a weather freak.

James J. Bassett, Meteorological Division observer at Liverpool, visited the damaged area the following day and interviewed Mr. Ambrose Verge, whose barn was completely demolished at what appears to be the starting point of the ' twister's ' path. Although the barn had been only recently remodelled and contained four tons of hay, its wreckage was strewn over a distance of approximately one-half mile, and large beams were driven into the earth to a depth of more than a foot. The storm during this period of its history was travelling south-eastwards for a total path of about three-quarters of a mile; then it abruptly turned north-eastward, and struck a glancing blow at a boat-house, buckling its front and twisting the roof girders. Continuing along this track, it broke off four large trees just above the ground, moved two cabins slightly and tore a piece of roofing off a third. The entire damage appears to have been caused in little more than a minute and the width of the track was never more than 300 ft.

Heavy hail fell at the time of the storm, and about fifteen minutes later, lightning without precipitation was observed. As the nearby residents were asleep at the time no estimate of the wind speed is available, but it was stated that the roar of the wind awakened the caretaker of the White Point Beach property who noticed two rafters over his head split as the storm passed over his cabin. Large boulders, used to hold chimney covers in place, were picked up and hurled several feet.

After breaking off the trees and damaging the cabin the 'twister' continued on its north-eastward track across a body of water about 200 yards wide, and then evidently dissipated, as no damage was done to a wood on the far bank.

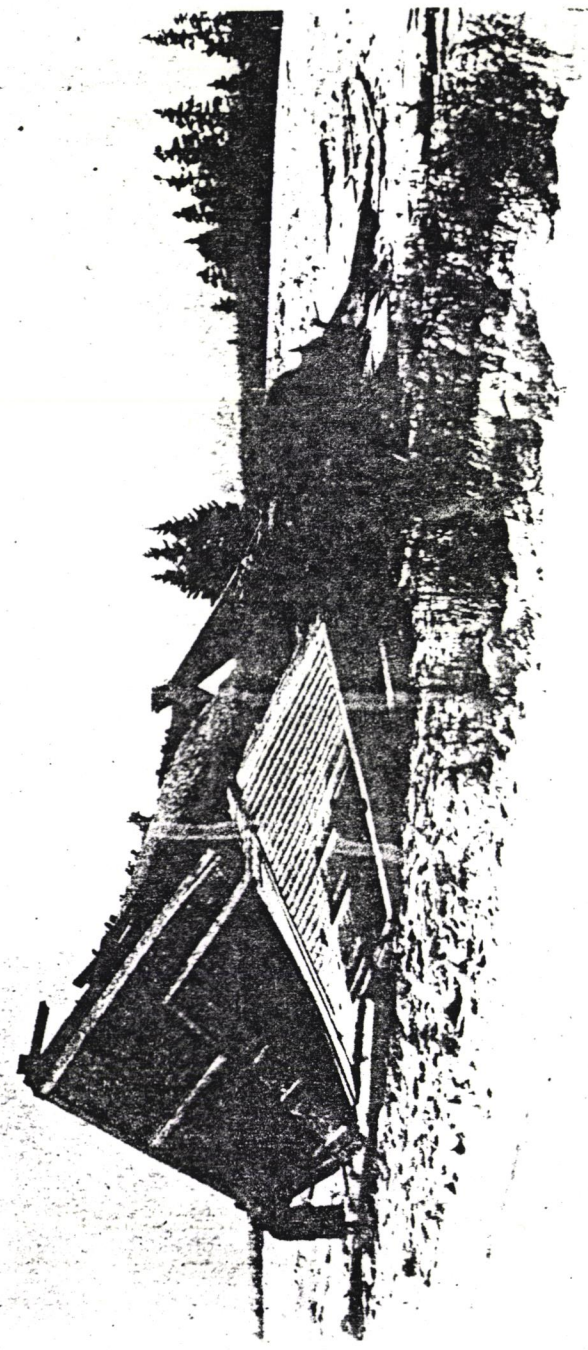
The synoptic situation at the time of the tornado shows a depression centred over New Brunswick moving eastward, with the arctic cold front advancing over the Nova Scotia mainland towards White Point Beach. It would appear that a nose of continental arctic air rode over the maritime arctic air mass and created a locally unstable condition which produced the slight tornadic whirl.

The microbarograph at the Liverpool weather observing station showed no evidence of the storm.

REFERENCES

FLORA, SNOWDEN 1953 *Tornadoes of the United States*, University of Oklahoma Press

BASSETT, JAMES J. 1954 Personal Communication



Barn at White Point Beach, Nova Scotia, demolished by a tornado on 30 January 1954 (*see article on page 247*)

Photo by T. H. Pottie