

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

1069 State Office Building
Portland 1, Oregon

MELROSE OIL SEEP
Douglas County

Location: The seep was reported to be near the confluence of the North Umpqua River and the South Umpqua River a short distance north of Melrose in approximately section 31, T 26S, R 6W, Douglas County.

Discussion: I learned of this oil seep from Grant Valentine, Division geologist for Shell Oil Company in Olympia, Washington. Grant said that he visited this seep in an attempt to get a sample. He used a row boat in order to get over the seepage which was a short way out in the river.

The seep was reported to be small. Gas bubbles rose from somewhere on the streambed to the surface and broke. The water current carried away the oily film that rose on the gas bubbles immediately so that Grant was unable to get a sample.

This seep is not more than a mile away from the Melrose oil test drilled by the Oil Developers, Inc. during 1954. Grant said that Humble Oil Company geologists kept close contact with the drilling on this well and that there were several fair showings of oil in the cores. These were reported in the well log by Les Childs.

Reported by: V.C. Newton
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