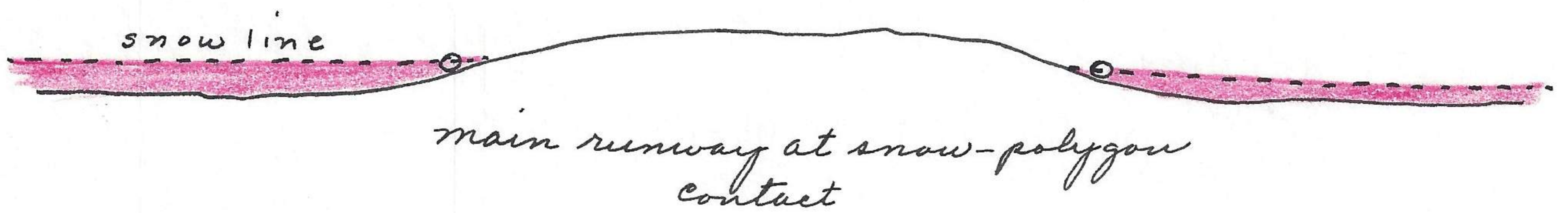


Arctic Research Laboratory, Point Barrow, Alaska

June 17, 1952

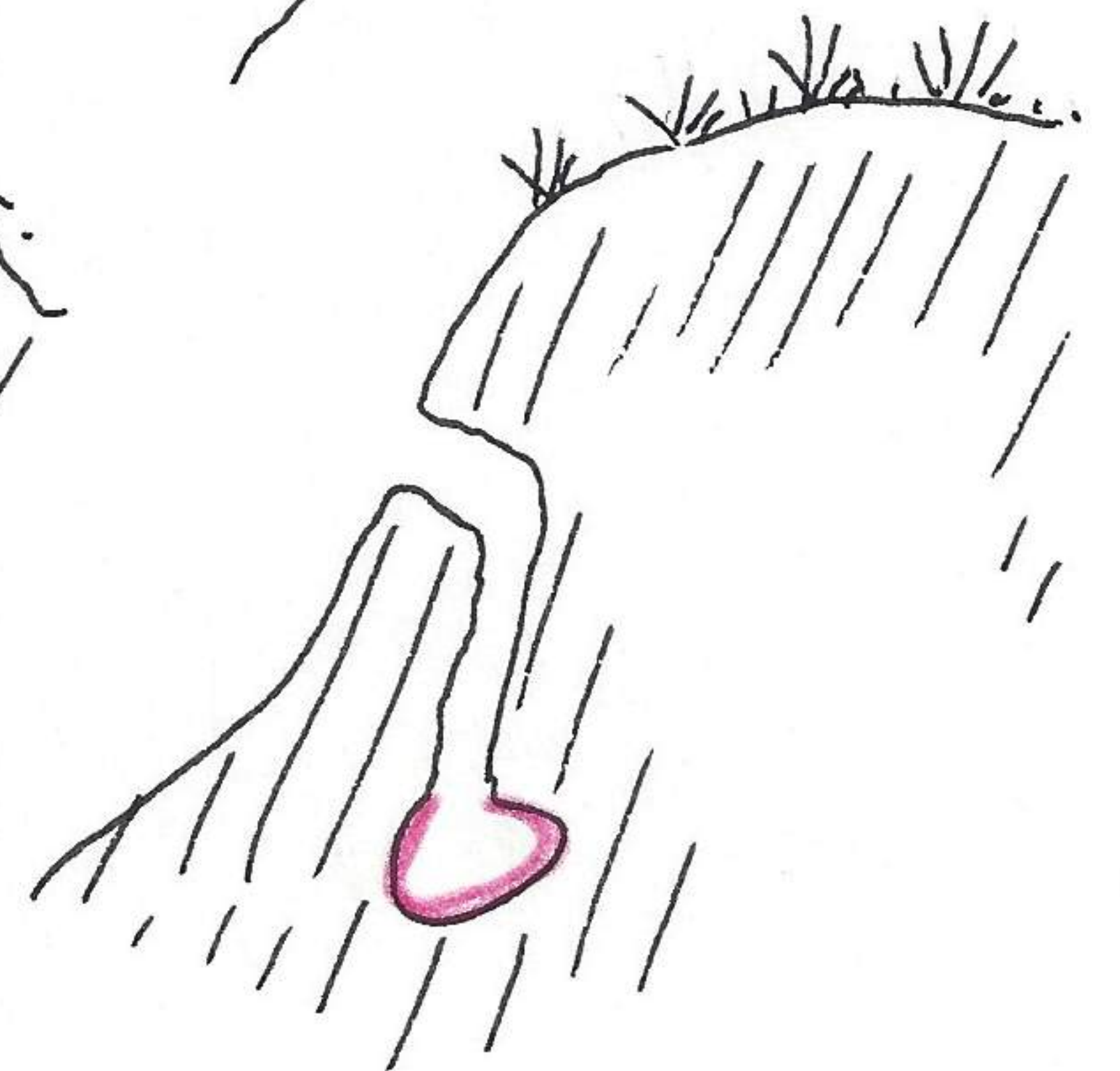
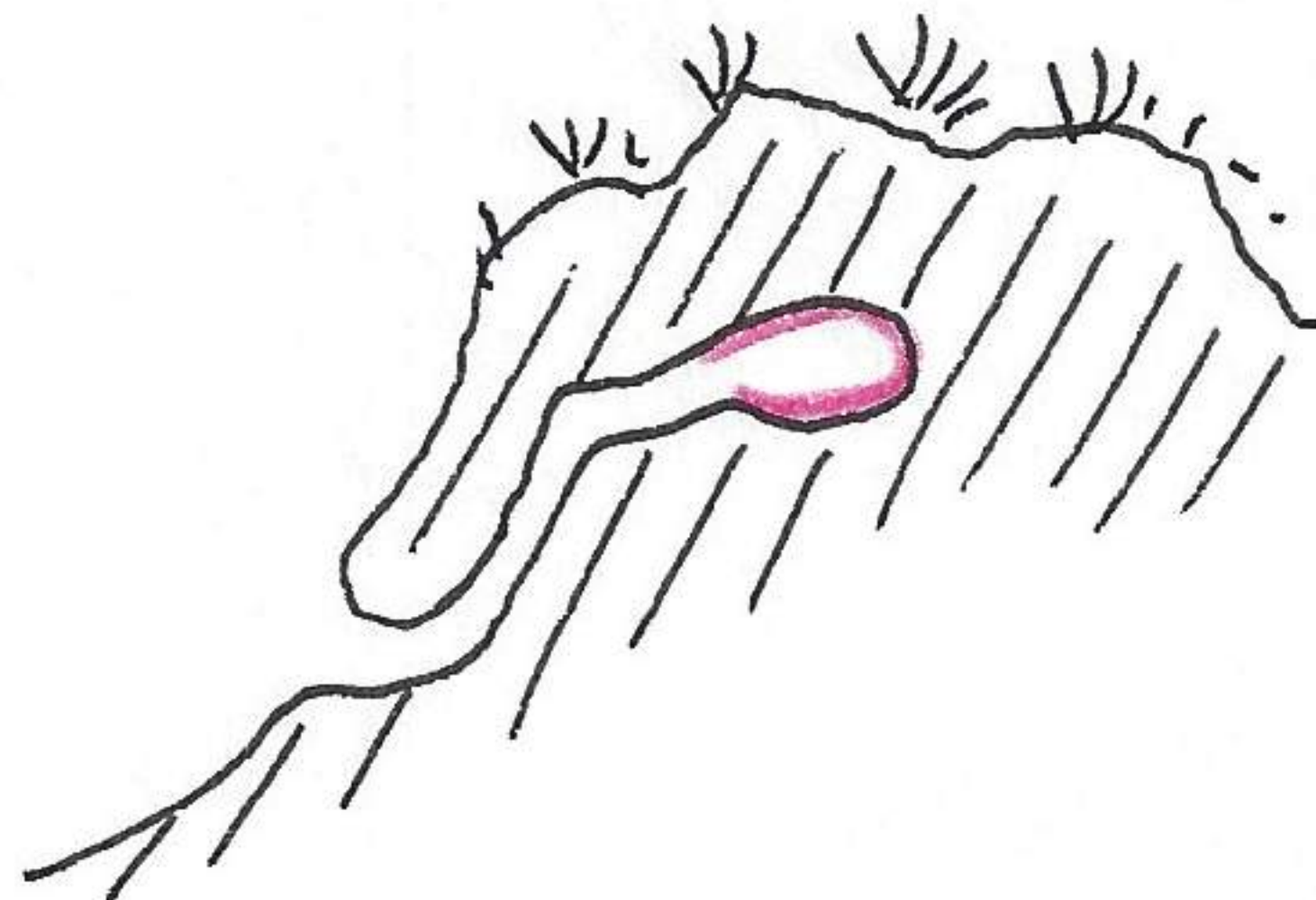
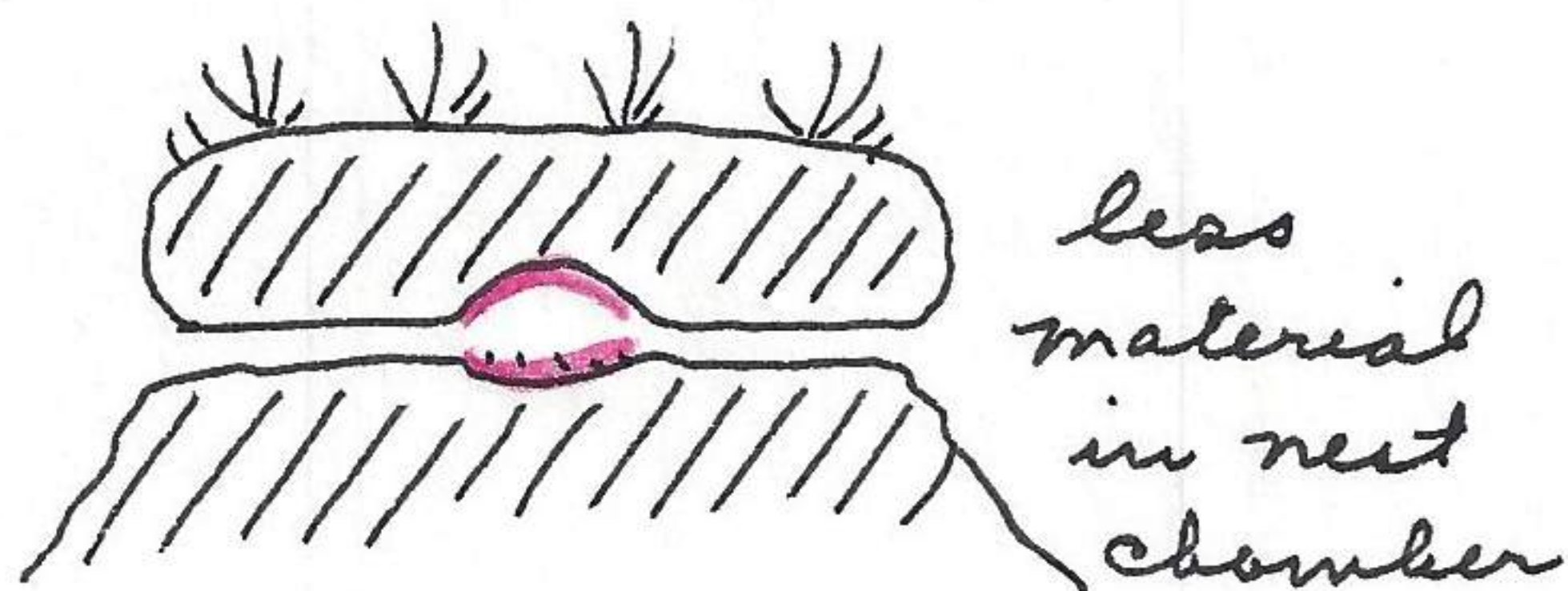
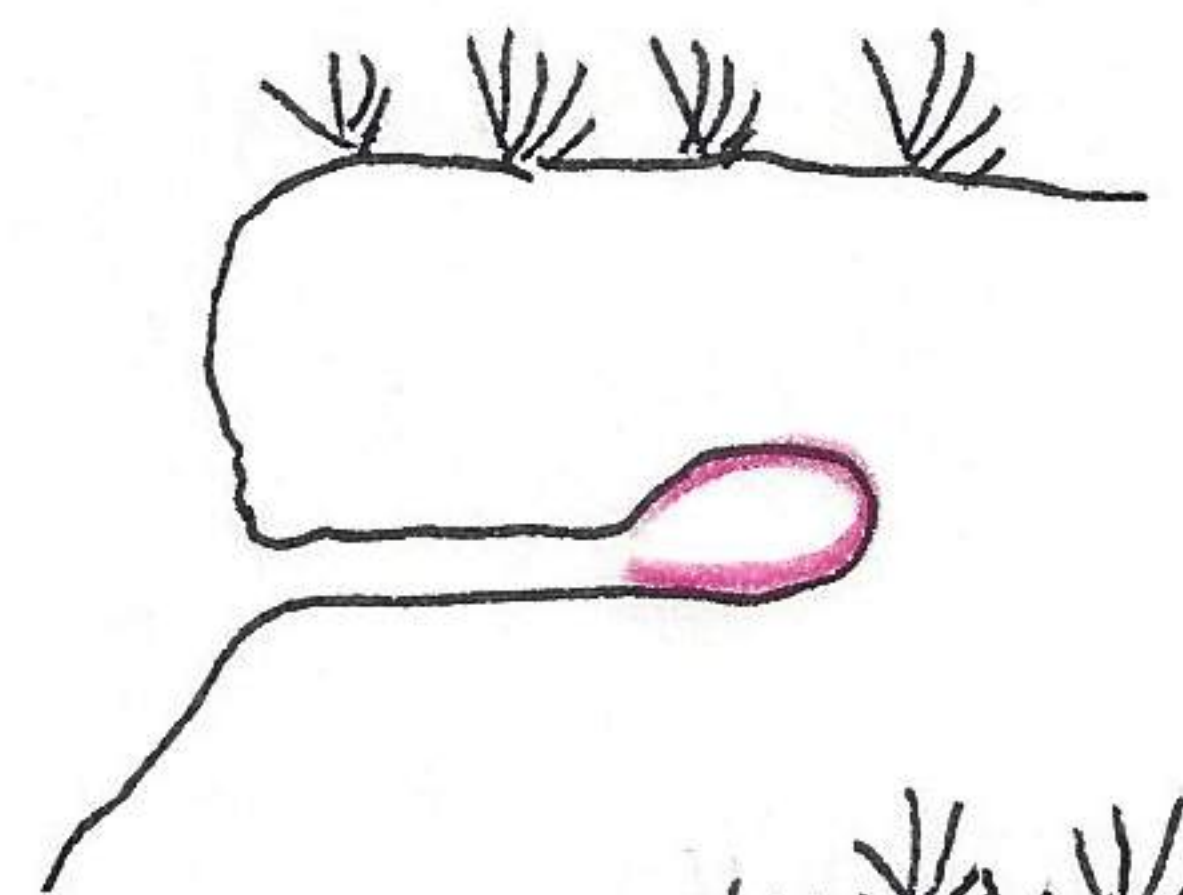
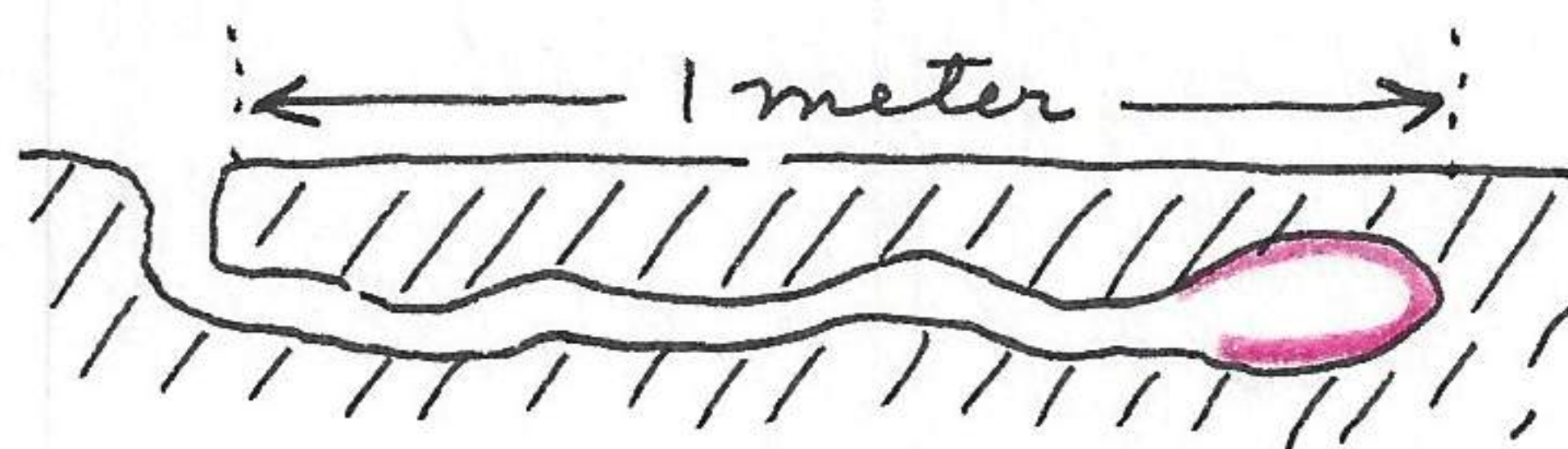
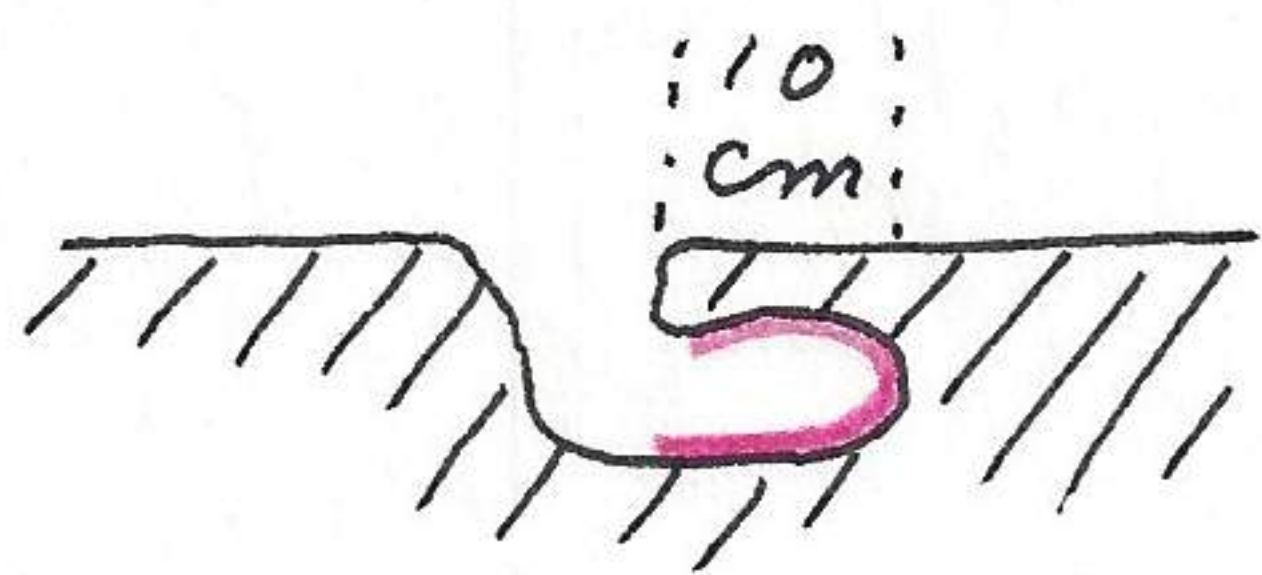
This evening set 35 traps west of Salt Water Lagoon on polygons about 1/10 mi inland from Arctic Ocean. This area is about 60% clear or exposed with remaining snow in low areas between the raised polygons. main runways around polygons now at edge of snow with an extensive series of runways under snow and on polygons. Evidence of considerable new dirt digging as if the lemmings were excavating nesting chambers or reestablishing old ones.



Examined several holes used as nests. They vary in size, length and placement but on the whole are about 220 mm in length, 8 cm below the surface of the ground and rest either on or in the permafrost surface. They are either on a flat surface or more usually in sides of elevated surfaces or mound thus:



Some representative placements are:



nearly all nests on permafrost and about 90 mm below surface depending on exposure. In digging nests one places 2 fingers in hole and lifts off the thin layer