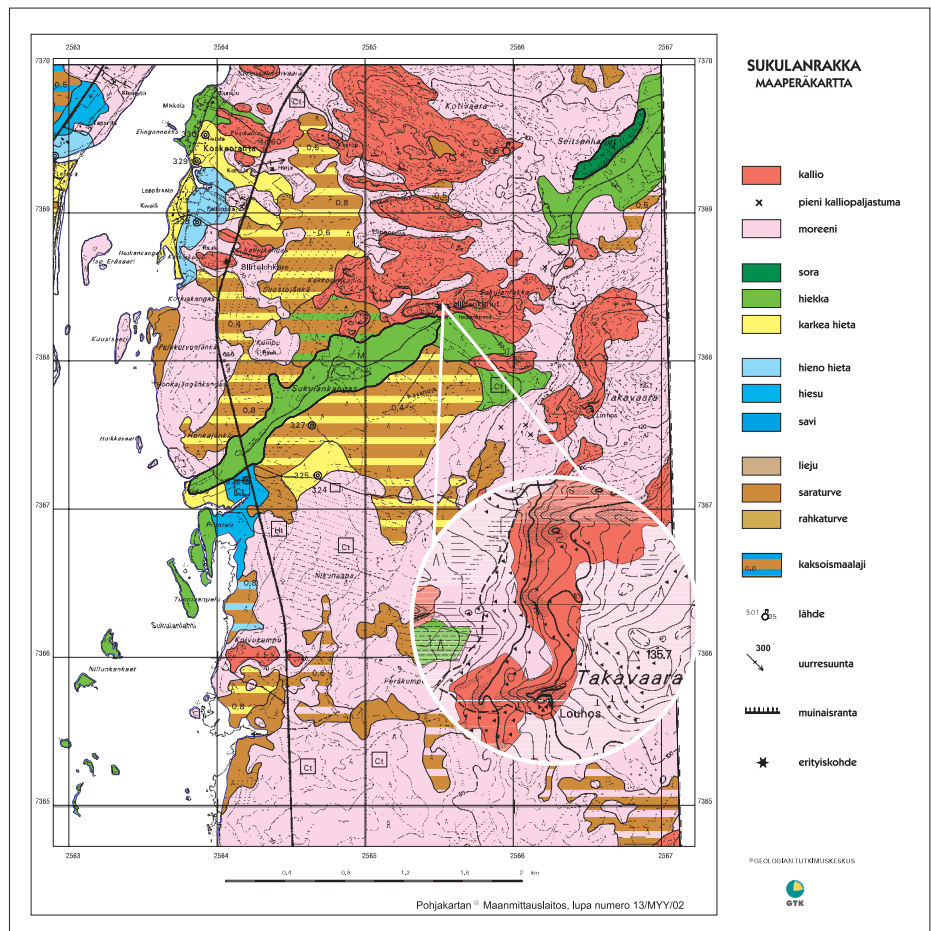


The kettle holes of Sukulanrakka

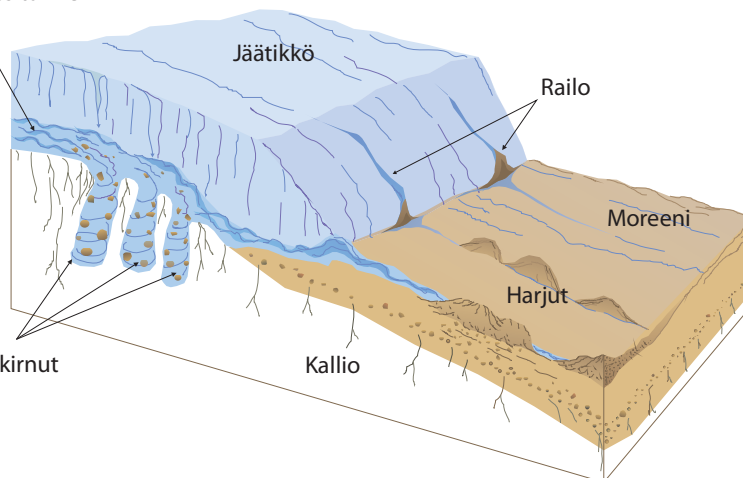
On the south side of the city of Rovaniemi, on the rocky slopes of Sukulanrakka in the village of Rautiosaari, are 14 kettle holes, three of which are very deep and amongst Finland's largest kettle holes. Of these, the largest is located at the base of the cliff. It is partly broken, measures 8m across and 15m deep. Two others are at the top of the cliff and are 10m and 9m deep.

The kettle holes were created about 10,000 years ago in the peripheral zone of the melting continental glacier, as a result of wearing by the powerful flows of melt water. Water flowing powerfully through melt water tunnels under the ice sheet crashed into the high rocky Sukulanrakka Ridge, which caused strong water eddies. Rocks and boulders carried in the flow spun around with the current, drilling round kettle holes into Sukulanrakka's exceptionally soft yet tough bedrock. Most of the rock material carried by the flow of melt water was deposited in a ridge parallel with the tunnel. Kettle holes are always connected with ridge sections deposited by glacial melt waters.

Sukulanrakka's bedrock consists of special types of stone, typically containing large cordierite crystals up to 30cm long. In many places they are discernable as protrusions above the surface of the rock. This cordierite is full of scala mica, so has no value as a gemstone.



Sulamisvesitunneli



Yksinkertaistettu malli hiidenkirnujen synnystä.



Sukulanrakka has 14 kettle holes, most of which are amongst Finland's largest.



Sukulanrakka's cordierite-anthophyllite rock. Cordierite is distinguishable as a clear protrusion from the rock's weathering front.