

Troy L. Péwé 1918–1999

Troy Péwé began his career in Alaska as a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in 1946. His scientific contributions centered on the loess, tundra, and permafrost conditions of Interior Alaska. As a result of his detailed mapping around Fairbanks, Péwé dispelled the idea that the silt deposits in Interior Alaska were lacustrine deposits, but rather comprise loess of glacial origin. His permafrost maps of the Fairbanks area are still regarded as the scientific standard. Péwé's geological studies in Interior Alaska also included documenting the impact of frozen ground on construction practices, groundwater discovery, and agriculture. From 1958 to 1965 Péwé was the chair of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Department of Geology.

Photo credit. French, 2000, Arctic. Antarctic. and Alpine Research. Vol. 32. No. 2.