A profile is a cross sectional view. It is an outline showing the cut away shape. A topographic profile shows the hills and valleys as ups and downs.

To construct a profile, you will need a pencil and the blank edge of a piece of paper.

A. By looking at a map, how can you tell where the profile will be the steepest?

B. What is a profile?

You will be making a profile of the map on page 2 from point X to point Y.

1. Lay the blank edge of the paper along X—Y as shown in this diagram. Do it now!
2. Mark the edge of the paper in each place it crosses a contour line. Also mark points X and Y.
3. Label each of the points on the edge of the paper according to the elevation of the contour line it represents.

(If the marks are very closely spaced, you may prefer to mark only the index contours as shown here.)

4. Below the map is a profile form. Label the index contour lines on this diagram.
5. Line up your edge with points X and Y along the bottom of profile as shown to the left.
6. Project each contour mark on the strip, to the contour line above. Then make a dot at the proper elevation. (See the diagram.)

Be sure each dot is directly above the appropriate mark on the paper strip.

7. Connect the dots to make a smooth profile curve.
8. Label the appropriate geographic features shown on the map. In this case, they include Long Hill, High Sink and Bach's Bay.

Now your profile is done!

(Continue to page 2.)
Map Key:

Elevations in Feet above Mean Sea Level

Buildings

Swamp

Light Duty Roads

Intermittent Stream

C. What is the contour interval on this map?

D. What does this symbol mean?

Draw your topographic profile here.

In the box below, sketch a profile of line A–B from the map on the left.