

WIND AND MOUNTAIN CLIMATOLOGY IN SEVERE ENVIRONMENTS:
DAILY TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY
REGIMES FOR LOWER HIDDEN VALLEY
(TR 6), ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
FEB-MAY 1974

D. E. GLIDDEN

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2018



GINA MEYERS PROVIDING SLOPE WIND DIRECTION DATA, WHICH RESULTED IN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW ALPINE WIND DIRECTION INFLUENCED SUBALPINE FLOW. SUBALPINE SURFACE WIND DIRECTION IS OFTEN DIFFERENT FROM THE PREVAILING OR ALPINE DIRECTION (NOTE FLAGGED TREES NOT FAR FROM ROCK CABIN).

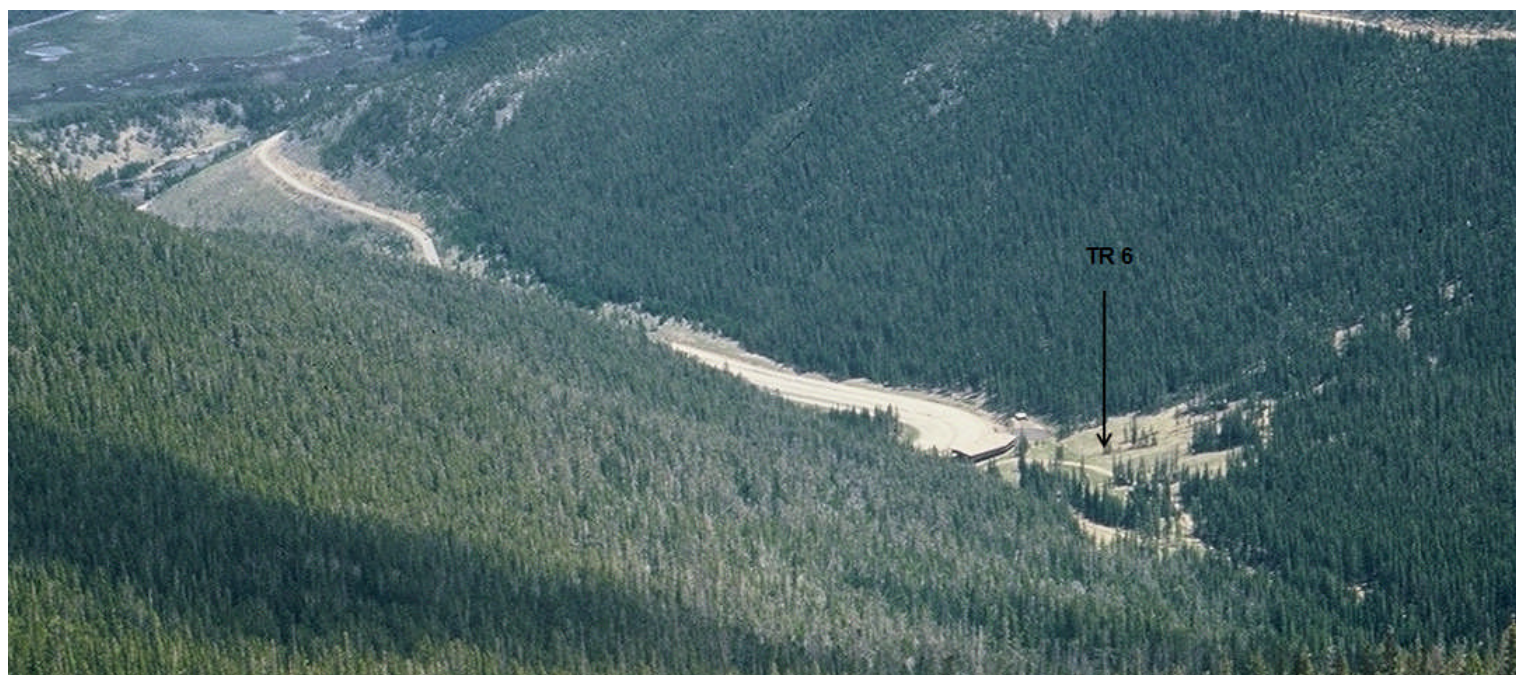


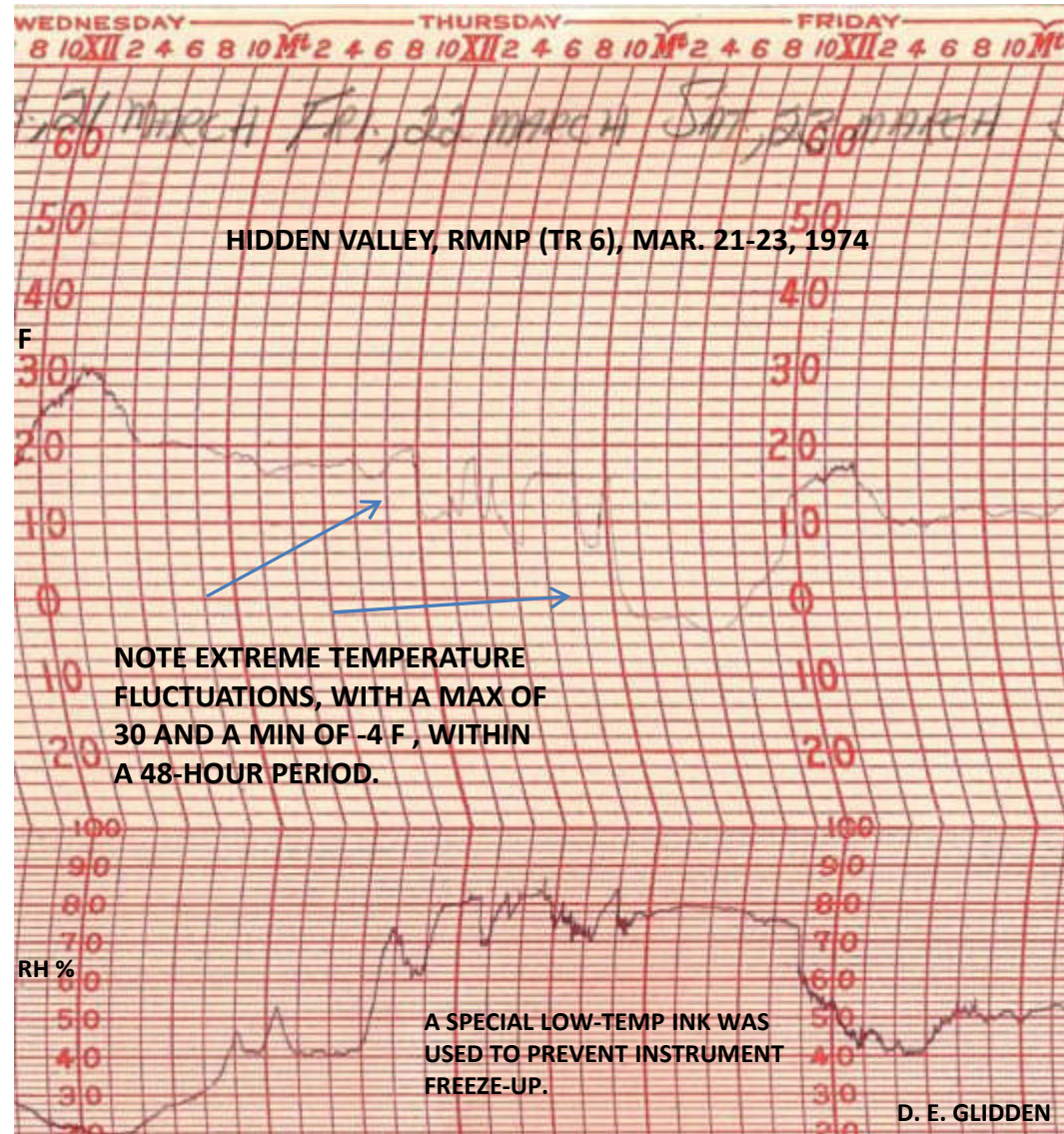
INTRODUCTION

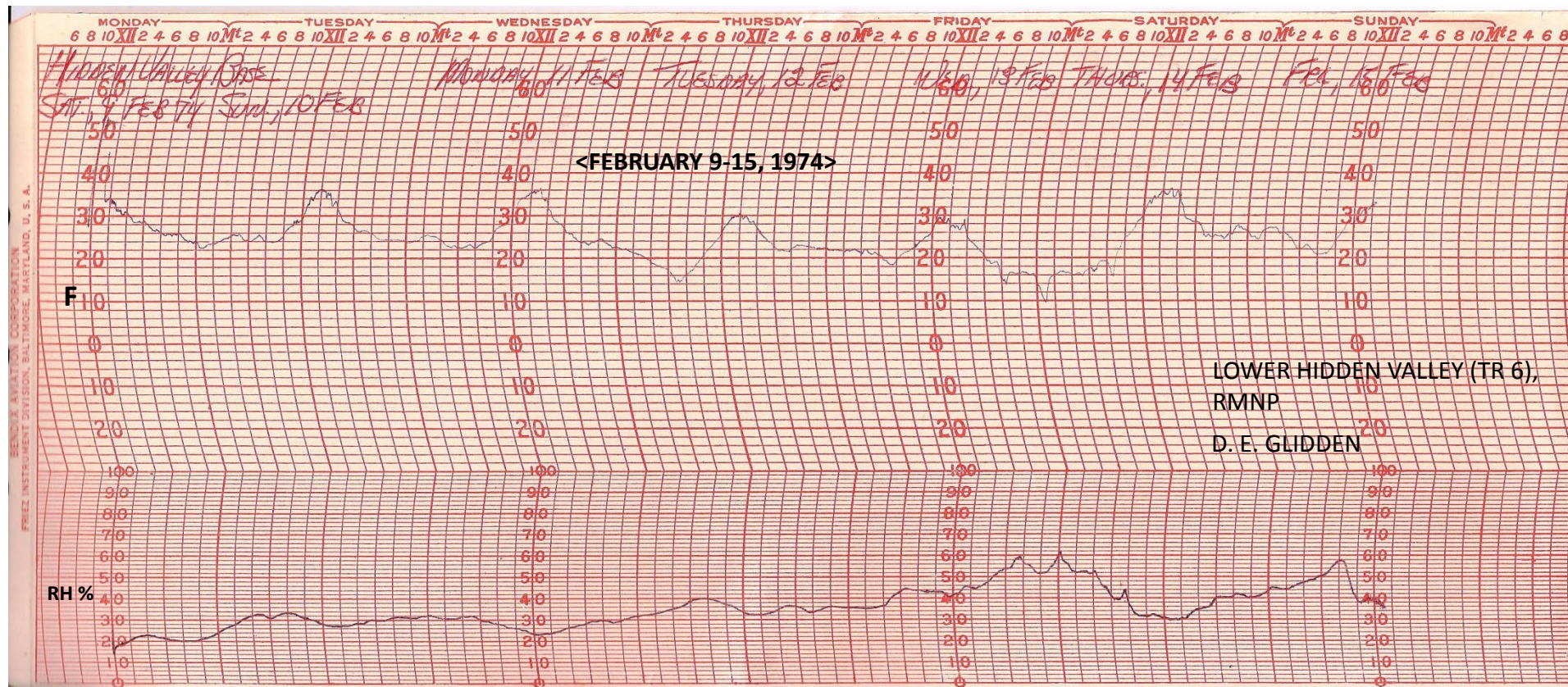
DURING 1973-74 EXTENSIVE WIND RESEARCH WAS CONDUCTED IN ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, COLORADO, AND PARTICULARLY CENTERED NEAR HIDDEN VALLEY (2913 M) AND TRAIL RIDGE ROAD (3600 M). SUPPLEMENTAL METEOROLOGICAL DATA WAS ALSO COLLECTED, INCLUDING DAILY TEMPERATURE, HUMIDITY, AND PRESSURE REGIMES. SOME REMARKABLE TEMPERATURE AND RH FLUCTUATIONS ARE CHARACTERISTIC OF THIS SITE, OFTEN JUST BELOW THE CLOUD BASE IN GUSTY WINDS. (SEE MARCH 21-23, 1974)

DIGITAL COPIES OF THE ORIGINAL ANALOG SCREEN TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY GRAPHS FOR LOWER HIDDEN VALLEY (TR 6) ARE APPENDED BELOW. THEY PROVIDE A UNIQUE SOURCE OF CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA (AND ITS HOURLY VARIABILITY) FOR RMNP, AND MAY BE USEFUL FOR COMPARISON WITH FUTURE STUDIES AND ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH. SEE ALSO: *DAILY TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY REGIMES FOR SUMMER, 1980 AT THE ALPINE VISITORS' CENTER (TR 10), ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK*

(PAGE DOWN FOR WEEKLY GRAPHS)







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Sunday, 17 Feb.

Mon., 18 FEB

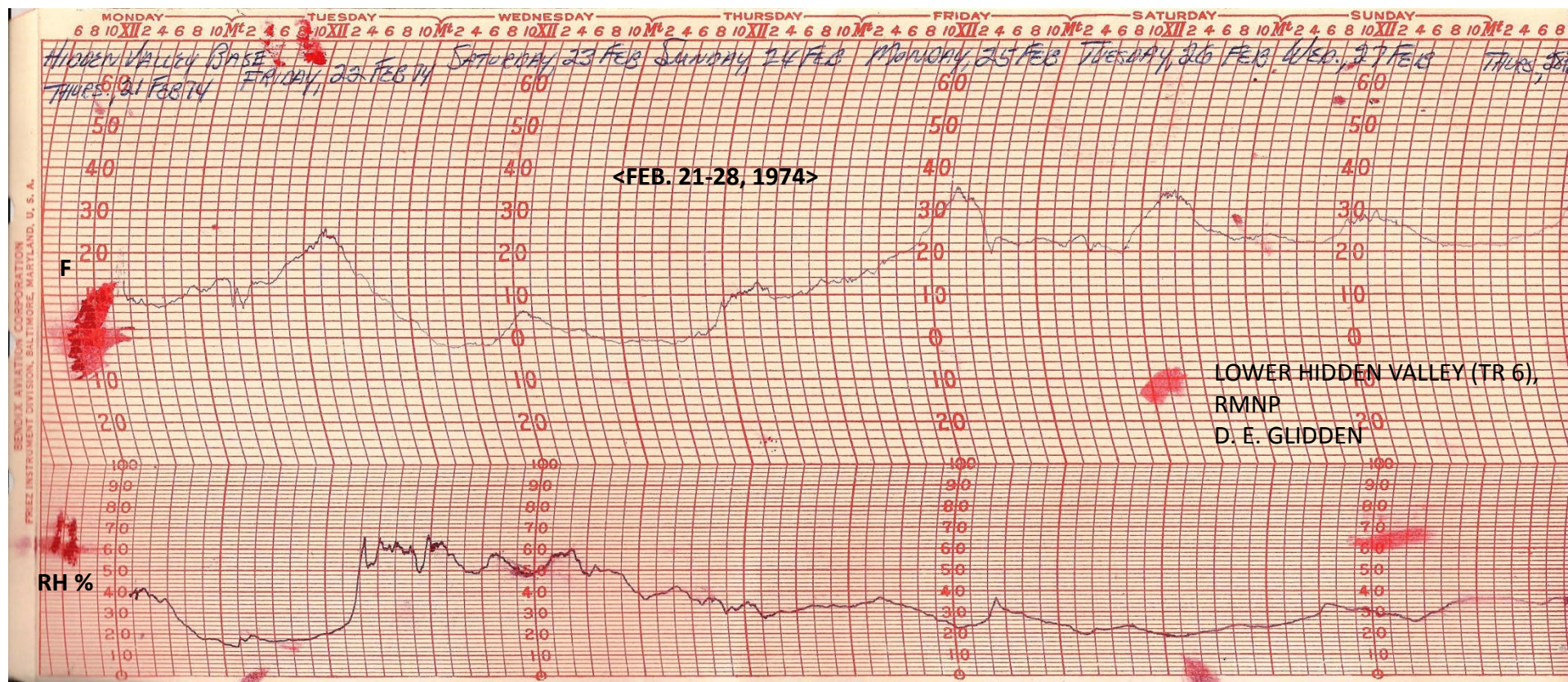
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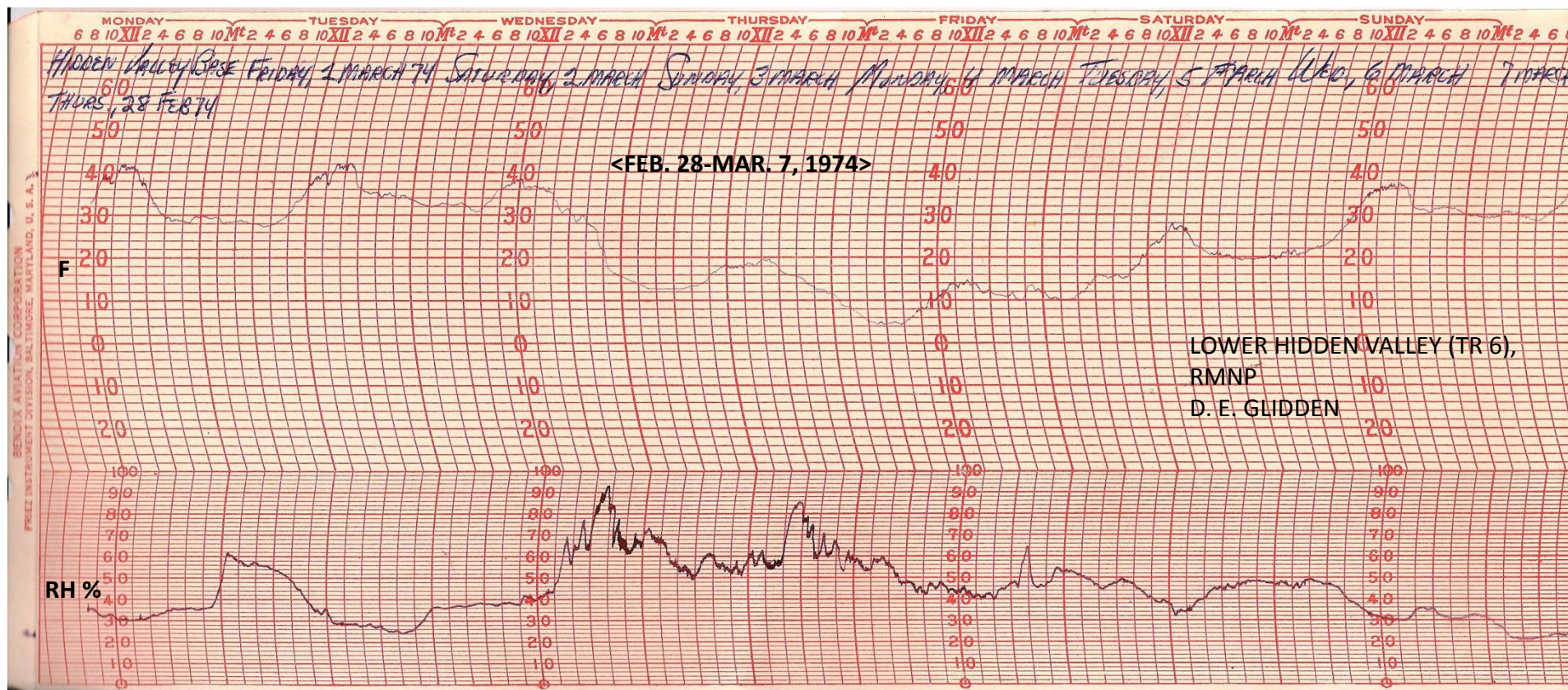
Wed, 20 Feb.

Types: 21 Feb

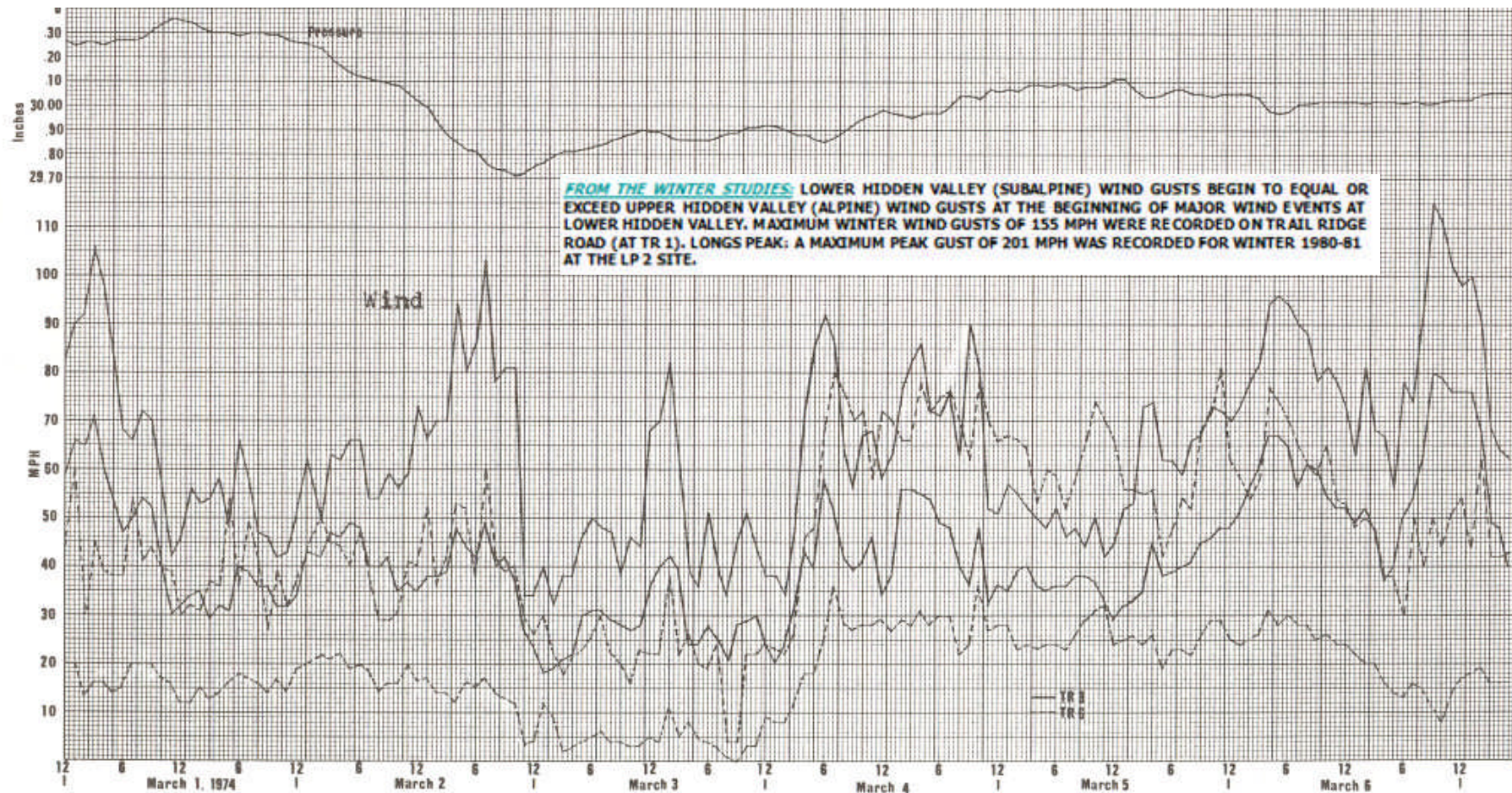
<FEB. 15-21, 1974>

LOWER HIDDEN VALLEY (TR 6),
RMNP
D. E. GLIDDEN





THE COMPLICATED RELATIONSHIP OF SURFACE PRESSURE TRENDS TO WIND MAXIMA AND AVERAGES IN A ROCKY MOUNTAIN ALPINE AND SUBALPINE ENVIRONMENT



HOURLY PEAK GUSTS AND AVERAGE WIND SPEEDS DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH 1974 FOR UPPER (TR 3) AND LOWER (TR 6) HIDDEN VALLEY, ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK. FOR WIND, THE SOLID LINES REPRESENT DATA AT TR 3 AND THE DASHED LINES AT TR 6. NOT ALL WIND MAXIMA WERE ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNIFICANT PRESSURE FALLS OR RISES. ON MARCH 2, NOTE THAT WIND MAXIMA OCCURRED JUST PRIOR TO PRESSURE MINIMA, SIMILAR TO THE MWO FEB. 3-4, 1972 MAXIMA OF 166 MPH. HOWEVER, ON MARCH 6TH THE RMNP WIND MAXIMA OF 115 MPH OCCURRED WITH LITTLE PRESSURE CHANGE.

TR 3 IS AT 3536 METERS; TR 6 IS AT 2913 METERS
PRESSURE RECORDED AT TR 6

AFTER D. E. GLIDDEN,
WINTER WIND STUDIES IN ROCKY MOUNTAIN
NATIONAL PARK, 1982

RH %

