

Changes in Stratigraphic Nomenclature by the U.S. Geological Survey, 1977

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRATIGRAPHY

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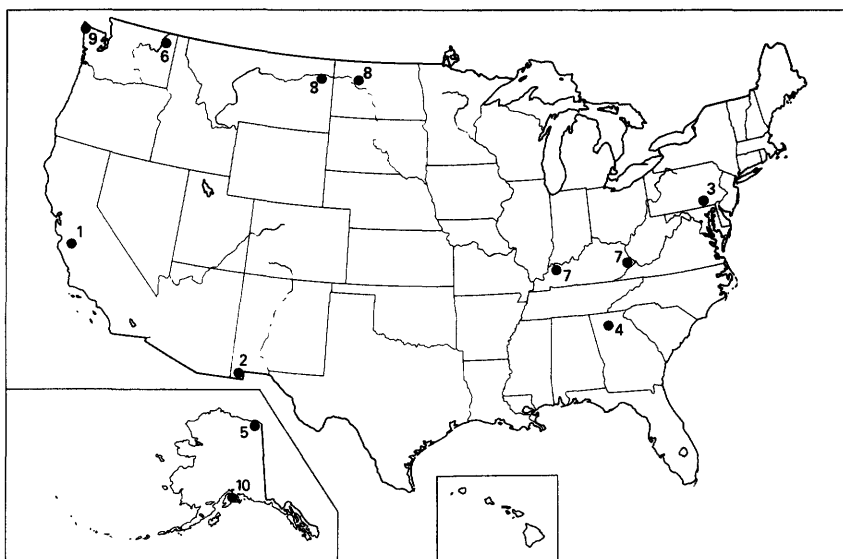
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CHANGES IN STRATIGRAPHIC NOMENCLATURE BY THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, 1977

By Norman F. Sohl and Wilna B. Wright

INTRODUCTION

In 1971 an interim scheme for subdivision of Precambrian time was approved by the Chief Geologist for use in reports of the Geological Survey (Cohee and Wright, 1972, p. A1-A3). In the absence of an international consensus on terminology, the four subdivisions were designated as follows:

Precambrian Z - base of Cambrian to 800 m.y.
Precambrian Y - 800 m.y. to 1,600 m.y.
Precambrian X - 1,600 m.y. to 2,500 m.y.
Precambrian W - older than 2,500 m.y.

Since 1971 the Subcommittee on Precambrian Stratigraphy of the International Geological Sciences has come closer to a consensus on at least the gross subdivision of the Precambrian. James (1978) has presented the recommendations of the 1977 meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, where the subcommittee voted to accept, as a first step, a two-fold division of the Precambrian into Archean (Archaean) and Proterozoic Eons with the boundary defined as 2,500 m.y. This corresponds to the boundary of Precambrian W and X of the Survey's present scale. The Chief Geologist has approved usage of the terms Archean and Proterozoic. Pending international agreement on subdivision of the Archean, rocks of Archean age will be classified simply Archean and the old designation of Precambrian W is abandoned. Pending international agreement on subdivision of the Proterozoic, the subdivisions X, Y, and Z of the Survey's present Precambrian scale are continued as its subdivisions (see Major Stratigraphic and Time Divisions chart below).

The previously used rock stratigraphic and time designations for the Precambrian given in the accompanying listing of nomenclatural changes were used by the authors in reports submitted to the Geologic Names Committee before the new scheme was adopted.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO STRATIGRAPHY

MAJOR STRATIGRAPHIC AND TIME DIVISIONS

[Compiled by Geologic Names Committee, U.S. Geological Survey]

Terms designating time are in parentheses. Informal time terms ("early," "middle," and "late") may be used where there is no formal subdivision into Early, Middle, and Late for an eon, era, period, subperiod, or epoch. Informal rock terms ("lower," "middle," and "upper") may be used where there is no formal subdivision into Lower, Middle, and Upper for an eon, erathem, system, subsystem, or series.

Estimates for ages of stratigraphic and time boundaries are under continuous study and are subject to refinement and controversy. Two scales are given for comparison. If neither Geological Society of London nor Berggren reference is used, author should cite the published source that is followed. A useful time scale for North American mammalian ages is given by Evernden and others (1964, p. 145-198).

Subdivisions in use by the U.S. Geological Survey					Age estimates commonly used for boundaries (in million years before present)	
Eon (Eon)	Erathem (Era)	System (Period)	Subsystem (Subperiod)	Series (Epoch)	Geological Society of London (1964, p. 260-262)	Berggren (1972, p. 195-215)
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	Quaternary		Holocene (Holocene)		
				Pleistocene (Pleistocene)		1.8
		Neogene		Pliocene (Pliocene)		5.0
				Miocene (Miocene)		22.5
				Oligocene (Oligocene)		37.5
		Tertiary		Eocene (Eocene)		53.5
				Paleocene (Paleocene)	65	65
		Cretaceous ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Lower (Early)	136	
	Mesozoic	Jurassic		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	190-195	
		Triassic		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	225	
	Paleozoic	Permian ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	280	
		Pennsylvanian ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	2320	
		Mississippian ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Lower (Early)	345	
		Devonian		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	395	
	Proterozoic	Silurian ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	430-440	
		Ordovician ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
	Archean			Lower (Early)	500	
		Cambrian ¹		Upper (Late)		
				Middle (Middle)		
				Lower (Early)	570	
		Precambrian Z ³				800
		Precambrian Y ³				1,600
		Precambrian X ³				2,300

¹Includes provincial series accepted for use in U.S. Geological Survey reports.

²Geological Society of London (1964, p. 222).

³Informal time division.

In the following listing, stratigraphic names adopted, revised, reinstated, or abandoned are listed alphabetically. The time-stratigraphic classification (system or series) of the rock-stratigraphic unit, the area involved, and the action taken, along with reference citation of the author(s), are given. The capitalization of terms follows official rock-stratigraphic and time usage.

LISTING OF NOMENCLATURAL CHANGES

Abrams Mica Schist (age changed)
Devonian
California

Irwin, W. P., 1977, Review of Paleozoic rocks of the Klamath Mountains, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 441-454.

Age changed from Devonian or older Paleozoic to: Devonian.

Altyn Formation (name and age changed)
(of Belt Supergroup)
Precambrian Y
northwestern Montana

Mudge, M. R., 1977, General geology of Glacier National Park and adjacent areas, Montana: Canadian Soc. Petroleum Geology Bull., v. 25, no. 4, p. 736-751.

Name changed from Altyn Limestone to: Altyn Formation Age changed from Precambrian to: Precambrian Y.

Ancha Formation (age changed)
upper Pliocene
New Mexico

Manley, Kim, 1976, K-Ar age determinations on Pliocene basalts from the Española basin, New Mexico: Isochron/West, no. 16, p. 29, 30.

Age changed from late Pliocene or Pleistocene to: late Pliocene (K/Ar 1.96 ± 0.06 m.y.).

Andrew Lake Formation (age changed)
upper Eocene
southwestern Alaska

Hein, J. R., and McLean, Hugh, 1977, Paleogene sedimentary and volcanogenic rocks from Adak Island, central Aleutian Islands, Alaska: Geol. Soc. America Abs. with Programs, v. 9, no. 4, p. 433.

Age changed from middle or late Eocene to: late Eocene.

Angoonian Stage (new name)
upper Oligocene
southeastern Alaska

Wolfe, J. A., 1977, Paleogene floras from the Gulf of Alaska region:
U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 997, 108 p.

Angoonian Stage adopted. Overlies unnamed stage; underlies Seldovian Stage.

Anón Formation (age changed)
Upper Cretaceous and Eocene
west-central Puerto Rico

Krushensky, R. D., and Curet, A. F., 1977, Unconformity between the Late Cretaceous and early Tertiary in western Puerto Rico--a concept rejected, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 91.

Age changed from middle to late Eocene to: Late Cretaceous and Eocene.

Antelope Mountain Quartzite (new name)
Ordovician(?)
northwestern California

Hotz, P. E., 1977, Geology of the Yreka quadrangle, Siskiyou County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1436, 72 p.

Antelope Mountain Quartzite adopted. Structurally overlies Duzel Phyllite and, elsewhere, Schulmeyer Gulch sequence; underlies Hornbrook Formation and younger rocks.

Antelope Mountain Quartzite (age changed)
Ordovician and (or) Silurian
northwestern California

Potter, A. W., Hotz, P. E., and Rohr, D. M., 1977, Stratigraphy and inferred tectonic framework of lower Paleozoic rocks in the eastern Klamath Mountains, northern California, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec. p. 421-440.

Age changed from Ordovician(?) to: Ordovician and (or) Silurian.

Appekunny Formation (name abandoned)
(of Ravalli Group)
(of Belt Supergroup)
Precambrian
northwestern Montana

Mudge, M. R., 1977, General geology of Glacier National Park and adjacent areas, Montana: Canadian Soc. Petroleum Geology Bull., v. 25, no. 4, p. 736-751.

Appekunny Formation abandoned; its rocks replaced by Greyson Formation (or Shale).

Ardmore Bentonite Bed (reassignment)
(of Cokedale Formation)
(of Two Medicine Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
southwestern and northwestern Montana

Rice, D. D., 1976, Stratigraphic sections from well logs and outcrops of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks, northern Great Plains, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-71, 3 sheets.

In Livingston area and Crazy Mountains Basin of southwestern Montana, reassigned to Cokedale Formation; west of Sweetgrass Arch of northwestern Montana, reassigned to Two Medicine Formation. Ardmore Bentonite Bed remains good usage elsewhere in Montana and in South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, and Colorado, assigned to other formations.

Ardmore Bentonite Bed (geographic extension and reassignment)
(of Pembina Member)
(of Pierre Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
North Dakota

Rice, D. D., 1977, Stratigraphic sections from well logs and outcrops of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks, northern Great Plains, North Dakota and South Dakota: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-72, 3 sheets.

Geographically extended into North Dakota and reassigned from Sharon Springs Member of Pierre Shale in South Dakota and Wyoming to: Pembina Member of Pierre Shale in that North Dakota location only. Ardmore Bentonite Bed remains good usage elsewhere in Sharon Springs Member of Pierre or in other formations in Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado.

Arkose Ridge Formation (age changed)
Cretaceous
Alaska

Csejtey, Béla, Jr., Nelson, W. H., Eberlein, G. D., Lanphere, M. A., and Smith, J. G., 1977, New data concerning the age of Arkose Ridge Formation, south-central Alaska, in K. M. Bleam, ed., The United States Geological Survey in Alaska: Accomplishments during 1976: U.S. Geol. Survey Circ. 751-B, p. B62-B64.

Age changed from Paleocene to: Cretaceous.

Ashlock Formation (reassignment of member to)
Upper Ordovician (Cincinnatian)
east-central Kentucky

Weir, G. W., and McDowell, R. C., 1976, Geologic map of the Preston quadrangle, Bath and Montgomery Counties, Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad Map GQ-1334.

In report area only, Sunset Member of Bull Fork Formation reassigned to top of underlying Ashlock Formation. Ashlock usage remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky.

Back Bed (reassignment)
(of Tate Member)
(of Grant Lake Limestone)
Upper Ordovician
east-central Kentucky

Blade, L. V., 1977, Geologic map of the Sharpsburg quadrangle, east-central Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1419.

Back Bed of Tate Member of Ashlock Formation reassigned to: Tate Member of Grant Lake Limestone in this area; still assigned to Tate Member of Ashlock elsewhere.

Balls Bluff Siltstone (new name)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

Balls Bluff Siltstone adopted and assigned to Newark Group as middle of three formations. Overlies Manassas Sandstone of Newark; underlies Bull Run Formation of Newark.

Baltimore Complex (geographic extension)

lower Paleozoic

south-central Maryland and northern Virginia

Morgan, B. A., 1977, The Baltimore Complex, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, in Coleman, R. G., and Irwin, W. P., eds., North American ophiolites: Oregon Dept. Geology and Mineral Industries Bull. 95, p. 41-49

Geographically extended from central and northeastern Maryland and southeastern Pennsylvania into: south-central Maryland and northern Virginia.

Bartine Member (name adopted)

(of McColley Canyon Formation)

Lower Devonian

central Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

Bartine Member of Murphy and Gronberg (1970) adopted as middle of three members of McColley Canyon Formation. Overlies Kobeh Member and underlies Coils Creek Member, both of McColley Canyon.

Baseline Sandstone (subdivided)

Lower and Upper Cretaceous

southeastern Nevada

Bohannon, R. G., 1976, The tectonic and sedimentologic environment of lithium occurrences in the Muddy Mountains, Clark County, Nevada, in Vine, J. D., ed., Lithium resources and requirements by the year 2000: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1005, p 109-116.

In southeastern Nevada, Baseline divided into: unnamed sandstone member intertongued with Overton Conglomerate Member (now reduced in rank); former usage of Baseline in Arizona remains unchanged.

Bearpaw Shale Member (rank reduced)

(of Sedan Formation)

(of Livingston Group)

Upper Cretaceous

south-central Montana

Skipp, Betty, and McGrew, L. W., 1977, The Maudlow and Sedan Formations of the Upper Cretaceous Livingston Group on the west edge of the Crazy Mountains basin, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-B, 68 p.

In Sedan-Ringling area of south-central Montana, reduced in rank from Bearpaw Shale to: Bearpaw Shale Member and reassigned to Sedan Formation (new name) of Livingston Group. Overlies unnamed mudstone member of Sedan; underlies Lennep Sandstone Member (also reduced in rank) of Sedan. Usage of Bearpaw Shale of Montana Group remains unchanged in Wyoming and elsewhere in Montana.

Beaufort Formation (geographic extension?)
Paleocene
South Carolina(?)

Gohn, G. S., Higgins, B. B., Smith, C. C., and Owens, J. P., 1977, Lithostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W., ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-E, p. 59-70.

Geographically extended (tentatively) into subsurface of eastern South Carolina; remains good usage in North Carolina.

Beaverhead Formation (age variation)
Lower(?) Cretaceous to Eocene (varies)
eastern Idaho

Skipp, Betty, and Hait, M. H., Jr., 1977, Allochthons along the northeast margin of the Snake River Plain, Idaho, in Joint Wyoming-Montana-Utah Geol. Assoc. Guidebook, 29th Ann. Field Conf., Teton Village, Wyoming: p. 499-515.

In Snake River Plain, Idaho, age changed from Late Cretaceous to Eocene to: Early(?) Cretaceous to Eocene; age varies elsewhere.

Beekmantown Dolomite (assignment to group)
(of Knox Group)
Lower Ordovician
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

In southwestern Virginia only, Beekmantown Dolomite assigned to Knox Group as upper of two formations; overlies Copper Ridge Dolomite of Knox and underlies unnamed Middle Ordovician limestones. Beekmantown Shale, Limestone, Dolomite, or Group remains good usage elsewhere in Virginia, and in West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York.

Begg Member (name adopted)
(of Vester Formation)
Upper Triassic (Carnian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Begg Formation of Dickinson and Vigrass (1965) adopted as lower of two members of Vester Formation. Unconformably overlies Paleozoic rocks; conformably underlies Brisbois Member (also newly adopted) of Vester.

Belchertown Quartz Monzodiorite (name changed)
Devonian
Massachusetts

Leo, G. W., Robinson, Peter, and Hall, D. J., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Ludlow quadrangle, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, south-central Massachusetts: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1353.

Name changed from Belchertown Tonalite to: Belchertown Quartz Monzodiorite.

Belt Supergroup (its formations revised)
Precambrian Y
northwestern Montana

Mudge, M. R., 1977, General geology of Glacier National Park and adjacent areas, Montana: Canadian Soc. Petroleum Geology Bull., v. 25, no. 4, p. 736-751.

Its Appekunny Formation abandoned and replaced by Greyson Formation. Name of its Altyn Limestone changed to Altyn Formation. Age of its Altyn Formation changed from Precambrian to: Precambrian Y. Belt remains in good usage in Idaho and Washington and elsewhere in Montana.

Bergstrom Formation (name adopted)
Upper Cretaceous (Campanian)
central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Bergstrom Formation of Young (1965) adopted. Overlies Pecan Gap Chalk of Taylor Group (both raised in rank); underlies Neylandville Marl.

Bigby Limestone (assignment to group)
(of Nashville Group)
Middle Ordovician
Tennessee

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

Assigned to Nashville Group (now reinstated) as one of four formations. Overlies Hermitage Limestone or Formation; underlies Catheys Limestone or Formation; as western facies, correlates with (=), Cannon Limestone (eastern facies)--all of Nashville.

Big Dome Formation (age changed)
lower Miocene
southeastern Arizona

Banks, N. G., and Krieger, M. H., 1977, Geologic map of the Hayden quadrangle, Pinal and Gila Counties, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1391.

Age changed from middle Miocene to: early Miocene.

Black Rock Limestone Member (rank reduced)
(of Smithville Formation)
Lower Ordovician
northeastern Arkansas

Wise, O. A., Jr., Yochelson, E. L., and Clardy, B. F., 1975, Lower Ordovician stratigraphic relations at Smithville, Arkansas, and adjacent areas, in Contributions to geology of the Arkansas Ozarks, 1975: Arkansas Geol. Comm. Pub., p. 38-60.

Black Rock Formation reduced in rank to Black Rock Limestone Member and assigned to Smithville Formation.

Blanca Formation (name adopted)
Miocene
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Vedder, J. G., 1976, Miocene strata on Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands--a reflection of tectonic events in the southern California borderland, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 241-253.

Blanca Tuff of Rand (1931) adopted as Blanca Formation as redefined by Weaver and others (1969). Conformably overlies San Onofre Breccia or Rincon Formation; unconformably abuts Willows Diorite; underlies Quaternary deposits.

Bloomer Hill Formation (new name)
Jurassic
northern California

Hietanen, Anna, 1977, Paleozoic-Mesozoic boundary in the Berry Creek quadrangle, northwestern Sierra Nevada, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1027, 22 p.

Bloomer Hill Formation adopted; in fault contact with Paleozoic rocks.

Blue Hill Shale Member (geographic extension)
(of Carlile Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as middle of three named members of Carlile Formation (name changed from Carlile Shale); overlies Fairport Member and underlies Juana Lopez Member (both also geographically extended; both of Carlile). Blue Hill Shale Member of Carlile Shale remains in good usage in Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado.

Boundary Granodiorite (age changed)
Eocene
southeastern Alaska

Smith, J. G., 1977, Geology of the Ketchikan D-1 and Bradford Canal A-1 quadrangles, southeastern Alaska: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1425, 49 p.

Age changed from Jurassic or Cretaceous to: Eocene.

Braggs Member (new name)
(of Sausbee Formation)
Lower Pennsylvanian (lower Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

Braggs Member adopted as lower of two members of Sausbee Formation (new name). Unconformably overlies Pitkin Limestone; conformably underlies Brewer Bend Limestone Member (new name) of Sausbee.

Brewer Bend Limestone Member (new name)
(of Sausbee Formation)
Lower Pennsylvanian (lower Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

Brewer Bend Limestone Member adopted as upper of two members of Sausbee Formation (new name). Conformably overlies Braggs Member (new name) of Sausbee; unconformably underlies McCully Formation (new name).

Bridge Creek Limestone Member (geographic extension)
(of Greenhorn Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from Kansas and Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as uppermost of three members of Greenhorn Formation. Overlies Hartland Member of Greenhorn (also geographically extended); underlies Carlile Formation (name changed from Carlile Shale). Bridge Creek Limestone Member of Greenhorn Limestone remains in good usage in Kansas and Colorado.

Brightseat Formation (geographic extension)
(of Pamunkey Group)
Paleocene
north-central Virginia

Bybell, L. M., and Govoni, D. L., 1977, Preliminary calcareous nannofossil zonation of Brightseat and Aquia Formations (Paleocene) of Maryland and Virginia--stratigraphic implications [abs.], in Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists-Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists Program and Abstracts, June 12-16, 1977: p. 67.

Geographically extended into north-central Virginia from Maryland.

Brisbois Member (name adopted)
(of Vester Formation)
Upper Triassic (Carnian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Brisbois Formation of Dickinson and Vigrass (1965) adopted as upper of two members of Vester Formation. Conformably overlies Begg Member (also newly adopted) of Vester; unconformably underlies Rail Cabin Argillite (also newly adopted).

Bugle Member (new name)
(of Keating Formation)
(of Escabrosa Group)
Lower Mississippian (Tournasian)
southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona

Armstrong, A. K., and Mamet, B. L., The Bugle and Witch Members of the Keating Formation, Escabrosa Group, and the Mississippian nomenclature in the Big Hatcher Mountains, Hidalgo County, New Mexico: this report.

Bugle Member adopted as lower of two members of Keating Formation. Unconformably overlies Percha Shale; conformably underlies Witch Member (new name of Keating).

Bull Run Formation (name adopted)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic and Lower Jurassic(?)
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

Bull Run Shales of Roberts (1923) adopted as Bull Run Formation and assigned to Newark Group as uppermost of three formations. Divided into (ascending): Leesburg Limestone Conglomerate Member (new name) and unnamed basaltic flow-bearing clastics member. Overlies Balls Bluff Siltstone (new name) of Newark Group.

Burns Member (rank reduced)
(of Silverton Volcanics)
Oligocene
southwestern Colorado

Lipman, P. W., 1976, Geologic map of the Lake City caldera area, western San Juan Mountains, southwestern Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-962.

Reduced in rank from Burns Formation to: Burns Member; assigned to Silverton Volcanics (now reinstated and reduced in rank).

Cannon Limestone (assignment to group)
(of Nashville Group)
Middle Ordovician
Tennessee

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

In Tennessee only, assigned to Nashville group (now reinstate) as one of four formations. Overlies Hermitage Limestone or Formation; underlies Catheys Limestone or Formation; as eastern facies, correlates with (=), Bigby Limestone (western facies)--all of Nashville. Cannon Limestone remains in good usage in Virginia.

Canyon Mountain Complex (age changed)
pre-Permian(?)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Age changed from Early and Middle Triassic to: pre-Permian(?).

Carlile Formation (subdivided)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

In northeastern New Mexico, Carlile Formation (name changed from Carlile Shale) divided into by geographic extension (ascending): Fairport, Blue Hill Shale, and Juana Lopez Members and uppermost unnamed black shale unit. Carlile Shale of Colorado or Benton Group and Carlile Shale Member of Mancos or Cody or Colorado Shale remain in good usage in Colorado, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Kansas, Montana, and elsewhere in New Mexico.

Caseyville Formation (age changed)
Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian (Morrowan)
Kentucky

Rice, C. L., Ages of the Lee, Breathitt, Caseyville, Tradewater, and Sturgis Formations in Kentucky: this report.

Age changed from Early Pennsylvanian to: Early and Middle Pennsylvanian (early and late Morrowan). Caseyville remains in good usage in Illinois as formation of McCormick Group. Ages of its Members (ascending): Lusk, Battery Rock Sandstone, and Pounds Sandstone, not changed in this report.

Catahoula Sandstone (age changed)
Oligocene and Miocene (varies)
Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Club-house Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W., ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Catahoula Sandstone used in northeastern Texas; Catahoula Tuff still remains good usage in southern Texas. Catahoula Sandstone remains good usage in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. Age changed from Oligocene(?), Miocene(?), and Miocene to: Oligocene and Miocene (varies locally).

Catheys Limestone or Formation (assignment to group)
(of Nashville Group)
Middle Ordovician
Tennessee

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

In Tennessee only, assigned to Nashville Group (now reinstated) as uppermost of four formations. Overlies Bigby Limestone (west facies) or (=) Cannon Limestone (east facies) of Nashville; underlies Leipers Limestone. Catheys Limestone or Formation remains in good usage in Alabama.

Catskill Formation (member assignment)
(of Susquehanna Group)
Upper Devonian (varies locally)
central Pennsylvanian

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Divided into (ascending): Irish Valley, Sherman Creek (newly adopted), and Duncannon Members. Age of Catskill is Late Devonian only in report area; age remains Middle Devonian to Early Mississippian elsewhere (varying locally). Usage of Catskill Formation or Red Beds remains unchanged elsewhere in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Ohio.

Cejita Member (new name)
(of Tesuque Formation)
(of Santa Fe Group)
middle Miocene
New Mexico

Manley, Kim, 1977, Geologic map of the northeastern part of the Española basin, New Mexico, showing the Cejita Member (new name) of the Tesuque Formation: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-877.

Cejita Member adopted as upper part of Tesuque Formation of Santa Fe Group. Overlies unnamed eolian sand of Tesuque; underlies unnamed Pliocene(?) gravel.

Chaffee Group (name revised)
Upper Devonian and Lower Mississippian(?)
Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

Raised in rank from Chaffee Formation to: Chaffee Group and divided into (ascending): Parting Formation (now raised in rank from Parting Quartzite Member or Parting Member of Chaffee), Dyer Dolomite (now raised in rank from Dyer Dolomite Member or Dyer Member of Chaffee), and Gilman Sandstone (now raised in rank from Gilman Sandstone Member of Leadville Limestone or Dolomite). Age changed from Late Devonian to: Late Devonian and Early Mississippian(?).

Chapin Wash Formation (age changed)
upper lower to middle Miocene(?)
Arizona

Otton, J. K., 1977, Geology of uraniferous Tertiary rocks in the Artillery Peak-Date Creek basin, west-central Arizona, in Short papers of the U.S. Geological Survey Uranium-Thorium Symposium: U.S. Geol. Survey Circ. 753, p. 35-36.

Age changed from early Pliocene(?) to: late early to middle Miocene(?).

Charcoal Ovens Tuff (new name)
Oligocene (K/Ar 32 m.y.)
east-central Nevada

Hose, R. K., and Blake, M. C., Jr., 1976, Geology and mineral resources of White Pine County, Nevada--Pt. I, Geology: Nevada Bur. Mines and Geology Bull. 85, p. 1-35.

Charcoal Ovens Tuff adopted; apparently geographically restricted to White Pine County. Locally overlies Sheep Pass Formation or, elsewhere, Permian strata; underlies Windous Butte Formation.

Charles Formation (age changed)
(of Madison Group)
Lower and Upper Mississippian (Osagean and Meramecian)
Montana and North Dakota

Sando, W. J., Coral zones and problems of Mississippian stratigraphy in the Williston Basin, Montana and North Dakota: this report.

Age changed from Late Mississippian to: Early and Late Mississippian to: Early and Late Mississippian (Osagean and Meramecian). Charles remains good usage elsewhere in Montana and in South Dakota.

Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite (new name)
(of Sandy Springs Group)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite adopted and assigned as one of four formations to Sandy Springs Group. Overlies Powers Ferry Formation and underlies Factory Shoals Formation (both of Sandy Springs Group; both new names).

Chattanooga Shale (assignment of bed)
Devonian and Mississippian (varies)
south-central Kentucky

Provo, L. J., Kepferle, R. C., and Potter, P. E., 1977, Three Lick Bed: useful stratigraphic marker in Upper Devonian shale in eastern Kentucky and adjacent areas of Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee: U.S. Dept. Commerce, Natl. Tech. Inf. Service, ERDA-MERC/CR-77-2, 56 p.

Three Lick Bed adopted and assigned to: 1) Ohio Shale in northeastern Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia; 2) New Albany Shale in east-central Kentucky (correlates with lower part of Camp Run Member, of local usage, of New Albany in Indiana); and 3) Chattanooga Shale in south-central Kentucky (correlates with middle unit of Gassaway Member of Chattanooga in Tennessee). Chattanooga usage remains unchanged in Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Virginia.

Chemung Formation (geographic restriction)
Upper Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Chemung Formation abandoned in Pennsylvania; its rocks now included in Lock Haven Formation (newly adopted) of Susquehanna Group. Chemung usage remains unchanged in New York, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Chisum Quarry Member (new name)
(of McCully Formation)
lower Middle Pennsylvanian (upper Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

Chisum Quarry Member adopted as lower of two named members of McCully Formation (new name). Unconformably overlies Sausbee Formation (new name); conformably underlies shale "A" member (informal name) of McCully.

Chitka Point Formation (age changed)
middle Miocene (14-12 m.y.)
southwestern Alaska

Scholl, D. W., Marlow, M. S., McLeod, N. S., and Buffington, E. C., 1976, Episodic Aleutian Ridge igneous activity: implications of Miocene and younger submarine volcanism west of Buldir Island: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 87, no. 4, p. 547-554.

Age changed from Miocene to: middle Miocene (14-12 m.y.).

Chuska Sandstone (age changed)
Eocene(?) to lower Oligocene
Arizona and New Mexico

Hackman, R. J., and Olson, A. B., 1977, Geology, structure, and uranium deposits of the Gallup 1° X 2° quadrangle, New Mexico and Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-981, 2 sheets.

Age changed from Pliocene(?) to: Eocene(?) to early Oligocene.

Clamgulchian Stage (age changed)
Miocene and Pliocene(?)
south-central Alaska

Triplehorn, D. M., Turner, D. L., and Naeser, C. W., 1977, K-Ar and fission-track dating of ash partings in coal beds from the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska: a revised age for the Homeric Stage-Clamgulchian Stage boundary: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 8, p. 1156-1160.

Age changed from Miocene(?) and Pliocene to: Miocene and Pliocene(?).

Cody Shale (members reassigned to)
Upper Cretaceous
western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming

Merewether, E. A., Cobban, W. A., Matson, R. M., and Magathan, W. J., 1977, Stratigraphic diagrams with electric logs of Upper Cretaceous rocks, Powder River basin, Natrona, Campbell, and Weston Counties, Wyoming. Section B-F'. U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-74.

Sage Breaks and overlying Niobrara Members reassigned to base of Cody Shale in western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming. Sage Breaks Member of Carlile Shale still in good usage in eastern part of Powder River basin, Montana and Wyoming.

Coils Creek Member (name adopted)
(of McColley Canyon Formation)
Lower Devonian
central Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

Coils Creek Member of Murphy and Gronberg (1970) adopted as uppermost of three members of McColley Canyon Formation. Overlies Bartine Member of McColley Canyon; underlies Denay Limestone of Johnson (1965).

Cokedale Formation (bed reassignment)
Upper Cretaceous
southwestern Montana

Rice, D. D., 1976, Stratigraphic sections from well logs and outcrops of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks, northern Great Plains, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-71, 3 sheets.

Ardmore Bentonite Bed reassigned to Cokedale Formation in Livingston area and Crazy Mountains Basin of southwestern Montana; Ardmore reassigned to Two Medicine Formation west of Sweetgrass Arch in northwestern Montana. Ardmore not assigned to Cokedale elsewhere in Montana.

Conestoga Limestone (age changed)
Middle(?) Cambrian to Lower Ordovician(?)
southeastern Pennsylvania

Gohn, G. S., Revised ages of Cambrian and Ordovician formations of the Conestoga Valley near York and Lancaster, southeastern Pennsylvania: this report.

Age changed from Early Ordovician to: Middle(?) Cambrian to Early Ordovician(?). Remains good usage elsewhere in Pennsylvania.

Continental Granodiorite (assignment to group)
(of Santa Catalina Group)
Precambrian Y
southeastern Arizona

Drewes, Harald, 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Rincon Valley quadrangle, Pima County, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-997.

Assigned as middle of three formations of Santa Catalina Group. Overlies Pinal Schist of Santa Catalina; underlies Wrong Mountain Quartz Monzonite (new name) of Santa Catalina.

Cooper Formation (name changed)
upper Eocene, Oligocene, and lower Miocene(?)
South Carolina

Gohn, G. S., Higgins, B. B., Smith, C. C., and Owens, J. P., 1977, Lithostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W., ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-E, p. 59-70.

Name changed from Cooper Marl to: Cooper Formation (Eocene and Oligocene only) in report area. Cooper Marl still remains in good usage (usually locally) elsewhere in South Carolina and in Georgia.

Coos Conglomerate Member (rank reduced and age changed)
(of Empire Formation)
lower upper Miocene
southwestern Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Coos Conglomerate reduced in rank to Coos Conglomerate Member and assigned to Empire Formation and its Wishkahan Stage (new name). Age changed from early Pliocene to: early late Miocene.

Copley Greenstone (age changed)
Middle Devonian
northwestern California

Irwin, W. P., 1977, Review of Paleozoic rocks of the Klamath Mountains, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 441-454.

Age changed from Devonian(?) to: Middle Devonian.

Copper Basin Formation (geographic restriction)
Lower and Upper Mississippian
south-central Idaho

Nilsen, T. H., 1977, Paleogeography of Mississippian turbidites in south-central Idaho, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritzsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 275-299.

Geographically restricted from White Knob Mountains of central Idaho; its rocks now included in McGowan Creek Formation (now geographically extended). Copper Basin remains in good usage in Pioneer Mountains (its type locality).

Cougar Point Welded Tuff (age changed)
upper Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from Pliocene to: late Miocene; Cougar Point remains in good usage in southern Idaho.

Council Sandstone Member (new name)
(of Norton Formation)
Lower(?) Pennsylvanian
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

Council Sandstone Member adopted and assigned as lower of two members of Norton Formation. Overlies Tiller coal bed and underlies Jawbone coal bed (both in Norton Formation).

Cross Creek Granite (new name)
Precambrian X
central Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

Cross Creek Granite adopted. Concordant with enclosing Precambrian X gneisses and having gradational contacts; approximate, if not exact, correlative of Boulder Creek Granite of Front Range area.

Crystal Peak Dolomite (age refinement)
Middle Ordovician
western Utah

Berdan, J. M., 1976, Middle Ordovician leperditicoid ostracodes from the Ibex area, Millard County, western Utah: Brigham Young Univ. Geology Studies, v. 23, pt. 3, p. 37-65.

Age refined from Ordovician to: Middle Ordovician.

Currant Tuff (age changed)
lower Oligocene
eastern Nevada

Hose, R. K., and Blake, M. C., Jr., 1976, Geology and mineral resources of White Pine County, Nevada--Pt. I, Geology: Nevada Bur. Mines and Geology Bull. 85, p. 1-35.

Age changed from late Miocene or early Pliocene to: early Oligocene.

Daguao Formation (new name)
Lower Cretaceous
eastern Puerto Rico

M'Gonigle, J. W., 1977, The Río Abajo, Pitahaya, and Daguao Formations in eastern Puerto Rico: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1435-B, 10 p.

Daguao Formation adopted. Base not exposed; underlies Figuera Lava.

Devils Peak Member (name adopted)
(of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics)
upper Oligocene to middle Miocene
(Saucesian and Relizian)
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

Crowe, B. M., McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Higgins, R. E., 1976, Petrography and major-element chemistry of the Santa Cruz Island Volcanics, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 196-215.

Devils Peak Member of Nolf and Nolf (1969) adopted as one of four members of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics. Overlies Stanton Ranch Member and underlies Prisoners Harbor Member, both of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics.

Dillsboro Formation (bed adopted and assigned to)
Upper Ordovician
southeastern Indiana

Swadley, W. C., and Gibbons, A. B., 1976, Geologic map of the Cambellsburg quadrangle, north-central Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1364.

Marble Hill Marble of Owen (1859) adopted as Marble Hill Bed of Dillsboro Formation in southeastern Indiana as used by Shaver and others (1970). Geographically extended into north-central Kentucky and reassigned to Rowland Member of Drakes Formation.

Doughnut Shale (geographic extension and name changed)
Upper Mississippian
northwestern Colorado

Hansen, W. R., 1977, Geologic map of the Canyon of Lodore South quadrangle, Moffat County, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1403.

Geographically extended from Utah into northwestern Colorado as Doughnut Shale. Doughnut Formation remains good usage in Utah.

Doyle Creek Formation (new name)
(of Seven Devils Group)
Upper Triassic
northeastern Oregon

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Doyle Creek Formation adopted and assigned as uppermost of four formations to Seven Devils Group (now raised in rank). Includes Kurry Creek Member (new name). Conformably overlies Wild Sheep Creek Form Formation (new name) of Seven Devils; unconformably(?) underlies Martin Bridge Limestone.

Duzel Phyllite (reinstated and renamed)
Upper Ordovician(?)
northwestern California

Hotz, P. E., 1977, Geology of the Yreka quadrangle, Siskiyou County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1436, 72 p.

Duzel Formation reinstated for its type area and renamed Duzel Phyllite. Conformably(?) overlies Sissel Gulch Graywacke (new name) and, elsewhere, thrust over Gazelle and Moffett Creek (new name) Formations and Schulmeyer Gulch sequence.

Duzel Phyllite (age changed)
Ordovician and (or) Silurian
northwestern California

Potter, A. W., Hotz, P. E., and Rohr, D. M., 1977, Stratigraphy and inferred tectonic framework of lower Paleozoic rocks in the eastern Klamath Mountains, northern California, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec. p. 421-440.

Age changed from Late Ordovician(?) to: Ordovician and (or) Silurian.

Dyer Dolomite (rank raised and age changed)
(of Chaffee Group)
Upper Devonian and Lower Mississippian(?)
central Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

Raised in rank from Dyer Dolomite Member or Dyer Member to: Dyer Dolomite and reassigned as middle formation of Chaffee Group (now raised in rank).
Age changed from Late Devonian to: Late Devonian and Early Mississippian(?).

Eliot Formation (geographic extension)
(of Merrimack Group)
Middle and Upper Silurian
eastern Massachusetts

Barosh, P. J., 1976, Stratigraphy of the Webster-Worcester region, Massachusetts, in Geology of southeastern New England--Guidebook, New England Intercollegiate Geol. Conf., 68th Ann. Mtg., Boston, Mass.: Princeton, New Jersey, Science Press, p. 352-365.

Geographically extended into eastern Massachusetts from Maine and New Hampshire.

Empire Formation (member assigned)
middle Miocene to lower Pliocene
southwestern Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Coos Conglomerate reduced in rank to Coos Conglomerate Member (lower upper Miocene) and assigned to Empire Formation and its Wishkahan Stage (new name).

Endicott Group (name adopted and assigned)
Upper Devonian to Upper Mississippian
northern Alaska

Armstrong A. K., and Bird, K. J., 1976, Facies and environments of deposition of Carboniferous rocks, Arctic Alaska, in Miller, T. P., ed., Recent and ancient sedimentary environments in Alaska: Anchorage, Alaska Geol. Soc. Symposium Proc., p. A1-A16.

In eastern Sadlerochit Mountains, Itekilyariak Formation of Mull and Mangus (1972) adopted as uppermost formation of Endicott Group.

Erving Formation (name and age changed)
Lower Devonian
Massachusetts

Leo, G. W., Robinson, Peter, and Hall, D. J., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Ludlow quadrangle, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, south-central Massachusetts: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1353.

Name changed from Erving Hornblende Schist to Erving Formation after Thompson and others (1968). Age changed from pre-Triassic to: Early Devonian.

Factory Shoals Formation (new name)
(of Sandy Springs Group)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Factory Shoals Formation adopted and assigned as one of four formations to Sandy Springs Group. Overlies Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite and underlies Rottenwood Creek Quartzite (both of Sandy Springs Group; both new names).

Fairport Member (geographic extension)
(of Carlile Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from Kansas and Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as lowermost of three named members of Carlile Formation (name changed from Carlile Shale). Overlies Greenhorn Formation (name changed from Greenhorn Limestone or Shale); underlies Blue Hill Shale Member of Carlile (also geographically extended). Fairport Chalk or Chalky Shale Member of Carlile Shale remains in good usage in Kansas and Colorado.

Fernvale Member (name revised and geographic extension)
(of Shellmound Formation)
Upper Ordovician
southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmuth, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

Fernvale Limestone or Formation reduced in rank to Fernvale Member and assigned to upper part of Shellmound Formation (new name) in southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia (geographic extension). Former formation rank remains unchanged elsewhere in Tennessee and in Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Illinois.

Finger Bay Volcanics (age changed)
Paleocene or lower Eocene
southwestern Alaska

Hein, J. R., and McLean, Hugh, 1977, Paleogene sedimentary and volcanogenic rocks from Adak Island, central Aleutian Islands, Alaska: Geol. Soc. America Abs. with Programs, v. 9, no. 4, p. 433.

Age changed from early Tertiary to: Paleocene or early Eocene.

Flint Hill Gneiss (new name)
Proterozoic (Precambrian Z)
northern Virginia

Lukert, M. T., Nuckols, E. B., and Clarke, J. W., 1977, Flint Hill Gneiss--a definition: Southeastern Geology, v. 19, no. 1, p. 19-28.

Flint Hill Gneiss adopted. Intruded by Robertson River Formation of Allen (1963); contiguous with Marshall Granite of Jonas (1928); juxtaposed with Pedlar Formation of Bloomer and Werner (1955).

Floyds Knob Bed (rank reduced)
(of Muldraugh Member)
(of Borden Formation)
Lower Mississippian
north-central Kentucky and southern Indiana

Kepferle, R. C., 1977, Stratigraphy, petrology, and depositional environment of the Kenwood Siltstone Member, Borden Formation (Mississippian), Kentucky and Indiana: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1007, 49 p.

In north-central Kentucky and southern Indiana, Floyds Knob Formation reduced in rank to Floyds Knob Bed and assigned to basal part of Muldraugh Member of Borden Formation. Floyds Knob Formation usage remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky and Indiana.

Fort Logan Formation (rank raised)
lower Miocene
Montana

McGrew, L. W., 1977, Geologic map of the Black Butte Mountain quadrangle, Meagher County, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1381.

Raised in rank from Fort Logan Beds to: Fort Logan Formation.

Furner Valley Limestone (new name)
(of Oquirrh Group)
Upper Pennsylvanian and Lower Permian
central Utah

Morris, H. T., Douglass, R. C., and Kopf, R. W., 1977, Stratigraphy and microfaunas of the Oquirrh Group in the southern East Tintic Mountains, Utah: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1025, 22 p.

Furner Valley Limestone adopted and assigned to Oquirrh Group as uppermost of four formations. Conformably overlies Bingham Mine Formation of Oquirrh; disconformably underlies Diamond Creek Sandstone.

Gazelle Formation (age changed)
Lower(?) Silurian to Lower Devonian
northwestern California

Hotz, P. E., 1977, Geology of the Yreka quadrangle, Siskiyou County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1436, 72 p.

Age changed from Middle and Late Silurian to: Early(?) Silurian to Early Devonian.

Gem Park Complex (age refinement)
Middle Cambrian
Colorado

Olson, J. C., Marvin, R. F., Parker, R. L., and Mehnert, H. H., 1977, Age and tectonic setting of lower Paleozoic alkaline and mafic rocks, carbonatites, and thorium veins in south-central Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Jour. Research, v. 5, no. 6, p. 673-687.

Age changed from Cambrian to: Middle Cambrian.

Gerome Volcanics (name abandoned)
Oligocene
northeastern Washington

Pearson, R. C., and Obradovich, J. D., 1977, Eocene rocks in northeast Washington--radiometric ages and correlation: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1433, 41 p.

Gerome Volcanics abandoned; its rocks now included in Sanpoil Volcanics.

Gila Conglomerate (geographic restriction and age changed)
Miocene, Miocene(?), Pliocene, Pliocene(?),
and Pleistocene (varies locally)
southwestern New Mexico

Hedlund, D. C., 1977, Geologic map of the Hillsboro and San Lorenzo quadrangles, Sierra and Grant Counties, New Mexico: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-900-A, 2 sheets.

In southwestern New Mexico, geographically restricted as Gila Conglomerate by eastern limit above Mimbres River and in canyons in northwestern part of San Lorenzo quadrangle. Age changed from Pliocene and Pleistocene to: Miocene, Miocene(?), Pliocene, Pliocene(?), and Pleistocene (varies locally). Gila Conglomerate or Formation remains in good usage in southeastern Arizona.

Gilman Sandstone (rank raised and age changed)
(of Chaffee Group)
Upper Devonian and Lower Mississippian(?)
central Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

Raised in rank from Gilman Sandstone Member of Leadville Limestone or Dolomite to: Gilman Sandstone and reassigned as upper formation of Chaffee Group (now raised in rank). Age changed from Early Mississippian to: Late Devonian and Early Mississippian(?).

Gladeville Sandstone (age changed)
Middle Pennsylvanian
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

Age changed from Pennsylvanian to: Middle Pennsylvanian. Gladeville Sandstone remains good usage in southeastern Kentucky.

Glastonbury Gneiss (age changed)
Middle Ordovician to Middle Devonian
Massachusetts

Leo, G. W., Robinson, Peter, and Hall, D. J., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Ludlow quadrangle, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, south-central Massachusetts: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1353.

Age changed from Mississippian or Devonian to: Middle Ordovician to Middle Devonian. Glastonbury remains in good usage in Connecticut.

Gods Pocket Dacite (age changed)
upper Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from Pliocene(?) to: late Miocene.

Graylock Formation (named adopted)
Lower Jurassic (Hettangian and Sinemurian?)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Graylock Formation of Dickinson and Vigrass (1965) adopted. Conformably overlies Rail Cabin Argillite and unconformably underlies Mowich Group (both newly adopted).

Graysian Stage (new name)
upper Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Graysian Stage adopted. Overlies Wishkahan Stage and underlies Moclipsian Stage (both new names).

Greenhorn Formation (subdivided)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

In northeastern New Mexico, Greenhorn Formation (name changed from Greenhorn Limestone or Shale) divided into by geographic extension (ascending): Lincoln, Hartland, and Bridge Creek Limestone Members. Greenhorn Limestone or Shale of Colorado or Benton Group and Greenhorn Limestone or Calcareous Member of Colorado or Benton or Mancos or Cody Shale remain in good usage in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and elsewhere in New Mexico.

Greenleaf Lake Limestone Member (new name)
(of McCully Formation)
lower Middle Pennsylvanian (upper Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

Greenleaf Lake Limestone Member adopted as upper of two named members of McCully Formation (new name). Conformably overlies shale "A" member (informal name) of McCully; underlies shale "B" member (informal name) of McCully or Atoka Formation.

Green River Formation (tongue adopted and assigned)
Eocene only
northwestern Colorado

Hail, W. J., Jr., 1977, Stewart Gulch Tongue—a new tongue of the Eocene Green River Formation, Piceance Creek basin, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-E, 8 p.

In northwestern Colorado only, Stewart Gulch Tongue (Eocene) adopted and assigned as uppermost of six named units of Green River Formation. Stewart Gulch overlies Parachute Creek Member of Green River and intertongues with Uinta Formation. Overall age of Green River remains late Paleocene and early and middle Eocene (varies) elsewhere in Colorado and in Utah and Wyoming.

Greyson Formation or Shale (name replaced by)
(of Ravalli Group)
(of Belt Supergroup)
Precambrian Y
northwestern Montana

Mudge, M. R., 1977, General geology of Glacier National Park and adjacent areas, Montana: Canadian Soc. Petroleum Geology Bull., v. 25, no. 4, p. 736-751.

Appekunny Formation abandoned; its rocks replaced by Greyson Formation (or Shale).

Griffith Canyon Member (name adopted)
(of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics)
upper Oligocene to middle Miocene
(Saucesian and Relizian)
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

Crowe, B. M., McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Higgins, R. E., 1976, Petrography and major-element chemistry of the Santa Cruz Island Volcanics, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 196-215.

Griffith Canyon Member of Nolf and Nolf (1969) adopted as lowermost of four members of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics. Overlies in subsurface San Onofre Breccia; underlies Stanton Ranch Member of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics.

Hartland Member (geographic extension)
(of Greenhorn Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from Kansas and Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as middle of three members of Greenhorn Formation (name changed from Greenhorn Limestone); overlies Lincoln Member and underlies Bridge Creek Limestone Member (both also geographically extended; both of Greenhorn). Hartland Shale Member of Greenhorn Limestone remains in good usage in Kansas and Colorado.

Hayfork Bally Meta-andesite (new name)
Jurassic(?)
northern California

Irwin, W. P., 1977, Review of Paleozoic rocks of the Klamath Mountains, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 441-454.

Hayfork Bally Meta-andesite adopted. Intruded by Ironside Mountain batholith and Wildwood pluton; unconformably underlies Weaverville Formation.

Henson Member (rank reduced)
(of Silverton Volcanics)
Oligocene
southwestern Colorado

Lipman, P. W., 1976, Geologic map of the Lake City caldera area, western San Juan Mountains, southwestern Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-962.

Reduced in rank from Henson Formation to: Henson Member; assigned to Silverton Volcanics (now reinstated and reduced in rank).

Hermit Shale (geographic extension)
Lower Permian
southeastern Nevada

Bohannon, R. G., 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Valley of Fire region, north Muddy Mountains, Clark County, Nevada: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-849.

Geographically extended into southeastern Nevada from Arizona and Utah.

Hermitage Limestone or Formation (assignment to group)
(of Nashville Group)
Middle Ordovician
Tennessee

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

In Tennessee only, assigned to Nashville Group (now reinstated) as lowermost of four formations. Overlies Carters Limestone; underlies Bigby Limestone (west facies) or (=) Cannon Limestone (east facies) of Nashville. Hermitage Limestone or Formation remains in good usage in Kentucky.

Hoko River Formation (new name)
(of Twin River Group)
upper Eocene
(upper Narizian)
northwestern Washington

Snively, P. D., Jr., Niem, A. R., and Pearl, J. E., Twin River Group (upper Eocene to lower Miocene)--defined to include the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations, Clallam County, Washington: this report.

Hoko River Formation adopted and assigned as lower of three new formations to Twin River Group (now raised in rank). Conformably overlies Lyre Formation; unconformably underlies Makah Formation (new name) of Twin River.

Homerian Stage (age changed)
Miocene
south-central Alaska

Triplehorn, D. M., Turner, D. L., and Naeser, C. W., 1977, K-Ar and fission-track dating of ash partings in coal beds from the Kenai Peninsula, Alaska: a revised age for the Homerian Stage-Clamgulchian Stage boundary: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 8, p. 1156-1160.

Age changed from Miocene and Pliocene(?) to: Miocene.

Humbug Formation (geographic extension)
Upper Mississippian
northwestern Colorado

Hansen, W. R., 1977, Geologic map of the Canyon of Lodore South quadrangle, Moffat County, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1403.

Geographically extended from Utah into northwestern Colorado; remains in good usage in northeastern and north-central Utah.

Humbug Formation (geographic extension)
Upper Mississippian
southeastern Idaho

Platt, L. B., 1977, Geologic map of the Ireland Springs-Samaria area, southeastern Idaho and northern Utah: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-890.

Geographically extended from Utah and Colorado into southeastern Idaho; remains in good usage in Utah and Colorado.

Hunsaker Creek Formation (new name)
(of Seven Devils Group)
Lower Permian
northeastern Oregon and northwestern Idaho

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Hunsaker Creek Formation adopted and assigned as one of four formations to Seven Devils Group (now raised in rank). Unconformably overlies Windy Ridge Formation and underlies Wild Sheep Creek Formation (both new names of Seven Devils).

Hyde Formation (name adopted)
(of Mowich Group)
Lower Jurassic (Toarcian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Hyde Formation of Lupper (1941) adopted as uppermost of four formations of Mowich Group as used by Dickinson and Vigrass (1965). Conformably overlies Nicely Formation of Mowich (both newly adopted); conformably and unconformably underlies Snowshoe Formation.

Hyder Quartz Monzonite (age changed)
Tertiary
southeastern Alaska

Berg, H. C., Elliott, R. L., Smith, J. G., Pittman, T. L., and Kimball, A. L., 1977, Mineral resources of the Granite Fiords Wilderness study area, Alaska: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1403, 151 p.

Hyder Quartz Monzonite (age changed)
Eocene
southeastern Alaska

Smith, J. G., 1977, Geology of the Ketchikan D-1 and Bradford Canal A-1 quadrangles, southeastern Alaska: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1425, 49 p.

Age changed from Tertiary to: Eocene.

Inman Formation (name adopted)
Upper Ordovician
southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmuth, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

Inman Formation of Wilson (1949) adopted. Overlies Catheys Limestone; underlies Leipers Limestone.

Itkilyariak Formation (name adopted and assigned)
(of Endicott Group)
Upper Mississippian
northern Alaska

Armstrong A. K., and Bird, K. J., 1976, Facies and environments of deposition of Carboniferous rocks, Arctic Alaska, in Miller, T. P., ed., Recent and ancient sedimentary environments in Alaska: Anchorage, Alaska Geol. Soc. Symposium Proc., p. A1-A16.

Itkilyariak Formation of Mull and Mangus (1972) adopted and assigned to Endicott Group as its uppermost formation. Conformably underlies Alapah Limestone of Lisburne Group.

Jackson Bluff Formation (name adopted)
upper Miocene
northwestern Florida (panhandle)

Cameron, C. C., and Mory, P. C., 1977, Mineral resources of the Bradwell Bay Wilderness and the Sopchoppy River study area, Wakulla County, Florida: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1431, 37 p.

Jackson Bluff Formation of Puri and Vernon (1964) adopted. Overlies Hawthorn Formation; underlies Miccosukee Formation.

Jarbidge Rhyolite (age changed)
middle Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from late Miocene(?) to: middle Miocene.

Jenny Creek Tuff (age changed)
upper Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from Pliocene to: late Miocene.

Josephine Peridotite (name adopted)
Jurassic or older
southwestern Oregon and northwestern California

Loney, R. A., and Himmelberg, G. R., 1977, Geology of the gabbroic complex along the northern border of the Josephine Peridotite, Vulcan Peak area, southwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Jour. Research, v. 5, no. 6, p. 761-781.

Josephine peridotite sheet of Wells, Hotz, and Cater (1948, 1949) adopted as Josephine Peridotite. Includes rocks previously designated by informal name "Vulcan Peak peridotite," overlies Dothan Formation in thrust contact.

Juana Lopez Member (geographic extension)
(of Carlile Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from elsewhere in New Mexico and in Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as uppermost of three named members of Carlile Formation (name changed from Carlile Shale). Overlies Blue Hill Shale Member of Carlile (also geographically extended); underlies uppermost unnamed black shale unit of Carlile. Juana Lopez Member of Mancos or Carlile Shale remains in good usage in Colorado and elsewhere in New Mexico

Juanian Stage (new name)
lower Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Juanian Stage adopted. Overlies unnamed Oligocene stage; underlies Phillarian Stage (new name).

Juanian Stage (age changed)
upper Oligocene and lower Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1977, Neogene chronostratigraphy of nearshore marine basins of the eastern North Pacific, in Proceedings of the First International Congress on Pacific Neogene stratigraphy, Tokyo, 1976: p. 151-175.

Age changed from early Miocene to: late Oligocene and early Miocene.

Keating Formation (subdivided)
(of Escabrosa Group)
Lower Mississippian
southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico

Armstrong, A. K., and Mamet, B. L., The Bugle and Witch Members of the Keating Formation, Escabrosa Group, and the Mississippian nomenclature in the Big Hatchet Mountains, Hidalgo County, New Mexico: this report.

Divided into (ascending): Bugle and Witch Members (both new names). Unconformably overlies Percha Shale; unconformably underlies Hachita Formation.

Kialagvik Formation (age changed)
Lower and Middle Jurassic (Toarcian and Bajocian)
southern Alaska

Imlay, R. W., and Detterman, R. L., 1977, Some Lower and Middle Jurassic beds in Puale Bay-Alinchak Bay area, Alaska Peninsula: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Bull., v. 61, no. 4, p. 607-611.

Age changed from Middle Jurassic to: Early and Middle Jurassic (Toarcian and Bajocian).

Klondike Mountain Formation (age changed)
Eocene
northeastern Washington

Pearson, R. C., and Obradovich, J. D., 1977, Eocene rocks in northeast Washington--radiometric ages and correlation: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1433, 41 p.

Age changed from Oligocene and Miocene(?) to: Eocene.

Knox Group (subdivided)
Upper Cambrian and Lower Ordovician
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

In southwestern Virginia only, divided into (ascending): Copper Ridge Dolomite (including Chances Branch Dolomite Member of Maynardville Limestone at base, undivided) and Beekmantown Dolomite. Knox Group or Dolomite remains good usage in Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and other parts of Virginia.

Kobeh Member (name adopted)
(of McColley Canyon Formation)
Lower Devonian
central Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

Kobeh Member of Murphy and Gronberg (1970) adopted as lowermost of three members of McColley Canyon Formation. Overlies Lone Mountain Dolomite; underlies Bartine Member of McColley Canyon.

Kurry Creek Member (new name)
(of Doyle Creek Formation)
(of Seven Devils Group)
Upper Triassic
northwestern Idaho

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Kurry Creek Member adopted and assigned to Doyle Creek Formation (new name) of Seven Devils Group (now raised in rank). Locally underlies Martin Bridge Limestone.

Lago Garzas Formation (age changed)
Upper Cretaceous and Eocene
Puerto Rico

Krushensky, R. D., and Curet, A. F., 1977, Unconformity between the Late Cretaceous and early Tertiary in western Puerto Rico—a concept rejected, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 91.

Age changed from Late Cretaceous to: Late Cretaceous and Eocene.

Lawler Peak Granite (age refinement)
Precambrian Y
Arizona

Ludwig, K. R., and Silver, L. T., 1977, Lead-isotope inhomogeneity in Precambrian igneous K-feldspars: Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta, v. 41, no. 10, p. 1456-1471.

Age changed from Precambrian to: Precambrian Y.

Leadville Limestone or Dolomite (name revised)
Lower and Upper Mississippian
central Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

In central Colorado only, stratigraphically restricted to beds above Gilman Sandstone. Gilman Sandstone Member removed from Leadville, raised to formation rank, and reassigned to Chaffee Group (now raised in rank). Leadville usage remains unchanged in Arizona and New Mexico and elsewhere in Colorado.

Ledger Dolomite (age changed)
Middle Cambrian
southeastern Pennsylvania

Gohn, G. S., Revised ages of Cambrian and Ordovician formations of the Conestoga Valley near York and Lancaster, southeastern Pennsylvania: this report.

Age changed from Early Cambrian to: Middle Cambrian. Remains good usage elsewhere in Pennsylvania and in Virginia.

Lee Formation (member name and age changed)
Upper Mississippian and
Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian (varies)
Kentucky

Rice, C. L., Ages of the Lee, Breathitt, Caseyville, Tradewater, and Sturgis Formations in Kentucky: this report.

Names of its Rockcastle Sandstone or Conglomerate Member (above) and its Livingston Conglomerate Member (below) changed to: Rockcastle Sandstone Tongue and Livingston Conglomerate Tongue (both intertonguing with Breathitt Formation) in Pottsville escarpment area of eastern Kentucky only; former usage as Members of Lee remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky. Age of its Rockcastle changed from Early Pennsylvanian (Morrowan) to: Early and Middle Pennsylvanian (early and late Morrowan). Lee usage remains unchanged in Virginia and Tennessee.

Leesburg Limestone Conglomerate Member (new name)
(of Bull Run Formation)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

Leesburg Limestone Conglomerate Member adopted as lower of two members of Bull Run Formation of Newark Group. Overlies Balls Bluff Siltstone (new name) of Newark; underlies unnamed basaltic flow-bearing clastics member of Bull Run.

Lennep Sandstone Member (rank reduced)
(of Sedan Formation)
(of Livingston Group)
Upper Cretaceous
south-central Montana

Skipp, Betty, and McGrew, L. W., 1977, The Maudlow and Sedan Formations of the Upper Cretaceous Livingston Group on the west edge of the Crazy Mountains basin, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-B, 68 p.

In Sedan-Ringling area of south-central Montana, reduced in rank from Lennep Sandstone to: Lennep Sandstone Member and reassigned as uppermost Member of Sedan Formation (new name) of Livingston Group. Overlies Bearpaw Shale Member (also reduced in rank) of Sedan; underlies Billman Creek Formation of Livingston. Usage of Lennep Sandstone of Montana Group remains unchanged elsewhere in Montana.

Lincoln Member (geographic extension)
(of Greenhorn Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern New Mexico

Pillmore, C. L., and Eicher, D. L., 1976. Lower part of the marine Cretaceous at Gold Creek Vermejo Park, New Mexico, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. Guidebook, 27th Field Conf., Vermejo Park, 1976: p. 171-176.

Geographically extended from Kansas and Colorado into: northeastern New Mexico as lowermost of three members of Greenhorn Formation (name changed from Greenhorn Limestone); underlies Hartland Member of Greenhorn (also geographically extended). Lincoln Limestone Member of Greenhorn Limestone remains in good usage in Kansas and Colorado.

Livingston Conglomerate Tongue (name changed)
(of Lee Formation)
Lower Pennsylvanian (Morrowan)
Kentucky

Rice, C. L., Ages of the Lee, Breathitt, Caseyville, Tradewater, and Sturgis Formations in Kentucky: this report.

Name changed from Livingston Conglomerate Member to: Livingston Conglomerate Tongue (intertonguing with Breathitt Formation) in Pottsville escarpment area of eastern Kentucky only; former usage as Member remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky.

Livingston Group (subdivided)
Upper Cretaceous
south-central Montana

Skipp, Betty, and McGrew, L. W., 1977, The Maudlow and Sedan Formations of the Upper Cretaceous Livingston Group on the west edge of the Crazy Mountains basin, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-B, 68 p.

Divided into (ascending): in Sedan-Ringling area, Sedan Formation (new name with its (ascending) unnamed lower sandstone, welded tuff, middle sandstone, and mudstone members and Bearpaw Shale and Lennep Sandstone Members (both reduced in rank)) and Billman Creek Formation; in Maudlow area, Maudlow Formation only. Livingston usage remains unchanged elsewhere in Montana.

Lock Haven Formation (name adopted)
(of Susquehanna Group)
Upper Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Lock Haven Formation of Faill and others (1977) adopted and assigned as one of four formations to Susquehanna Group; replaces part or most of rocks formerly included in Chemung Formation (now abandoned in Pennsylvania). Overlies Brallier Formation and underlies Catskill Formation, both of Susquehanna Group.

Lone Mountain Dolomite (age changed)
Upper Silurian and Lower Devonian
Nevada

Smith, J. F., Jr., and Ketner, K. B., 1977, Tectonic events since early Paleozoic in the Carlin-Pinon Range area, Nevada: in Geology of the Carlin-Pinon Range area, Nevada: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 867-C, p. C1-C18.

Age changed from Late Silurian to: Late Silurian and Early Devonian.

Long Island Creek Gneiss (new name)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Long Island Creek Gneiss adopted; in fault contact with adjacent rocks (so stratigraphic position is unknown).

Mableton Amphibolite Member (new name)
(of Powers Ferry Formation)
(of Sandy Springs Group)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Mableton Amphibolite Member adopted and assigned to Powers Ferry Formation (new name) of Sandy Springs Group.

Madison Limestone (reassignment of member to)
Upper Devonian (locally) and
Lower and Upper Mississippian
north-central Wyoming

Sando, W. J., 1975, Stratigraphic sections of the Madison Limestone and Amsden Formation, west flank of the Bighorn basin, Wyoming, in Wyoming Geol. Assoc. Guidebook, 27th Ann. Field Conf., Bighorn Basin, 1975: p. 129-137.

In north-central Wyoming only, Woodhurst Member reassigned as member of Madison Limestone; Woodhurst remains member of Lodgepole Limestone of Madison Group in Montana and Idaho and elsewhere in Wyoming. Usage of Madison Limestone or Formation or Group remains unchanged in Montana, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, and South Dakota and elsewhere in Wyoming.

Mahantango Formation (subdivided)
Middle Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In report area, divided into (ascending): unnamed shale member and Tully Limestone Member (reduced in rank). Mahantango usage remains unchanged elsewhere in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

Makah Formation (new name)
(of Twin River Group)
upper Eocene to lower Oligocene)
(upper Narizian, Refugian, and Zemorrian)
northwestern Washington

Snively, P. D., Jr., Niem, A. R., and Pearl, J. E., Twin River Group (upper Eocene to lower Miocene)--defined to include the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations, Clallam County, Washington: this report.

Makah Formation adopted and assigned as middle of three new formations to Twin River Group (now raised in rank). Unconformably overlies Hoko River Formation (new name) of Twin River; gradationally and, locally, unconformably underlies Pysht Formation (new name) of Twin River.

Manassas Sandstone (name adopted)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

Manassas Sandstone of Roberts (1923) adopted and assigned to Newark Group as lowermost of three formations. Divided into (ascending): Reston Member (new name) and unnamed sandstone member. Underlies Balls Bluff Siltstone (new name) of Newark.

Marble Hill Bed (bed adopted and assigned)
(of Dillsboro Formation)
and
Marble Hill Bed (reassignment of bed and geographic extension)
(of Rowland Member)
(of Drakes Formation)
Upper Ordovician (Cincinnatian)
southeastern Indiana and north-central Kentucky

Swadley, W. C., and Gibbons, A. B., 1976, Geologic map of the Cambellsburg quadrangle, north-central Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1364.

Marble Hill Marble of Owen (1859) adopted as Marble Hill Bed of Dillsboro Formation in southeastern Indiana as used by Shaver and others (1970). Geographically extended into north-central Kentucky and reassigned to Rowland Member of Drakes Formation.

Martin Bridge Limestone (name changed and geographic extension)
Upper Triassic
northeastern Oregon, western Idaho, and
southeastern Washington

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Name changed everywhere from Martin Bridge Formation or Limestone to: Martin Bridge Limestone. Geographically extended from northeastern Oregon and western Idaho into: southeastern Washington.

Maudlow Formation (name adopted)
(of Livingston Group)
Upper Cretaceous
south-central Montana

Skipp, Betty, and McGrew, L. W., 1977, The Maudlow and Sedan Formations of the Upper Cretaceous Livingston Group on the west edge of the Crazy Mountains basin, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-B, 68 p.

Maudlow Conglomerate Lentil of McMannis (1955) adopted, raised in rank, and redefined as Maudlow Formation and assigned to Livingston Group in Maudlow area, Montana. Overlies Eagle Sandstone or Telegraph Creek Formation; underlies Dunbar Creek Formation or Quaternary gravel.

Maywood Formation (geographic extension)
Middle and Upper Devonian (varies)
Montana and northern Wyoming

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds. Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Geographically extended from Montana into: northern Wyoming.

McClure Mountain Complex (age refinement)
Middle Cambrian
Colorado

Olson, J. C., Marvin, R. F., Parker, R. L., and Mehnert, H. H., 1977, Age and tectonic setting of lower Paleozoic alkaline and mafic rocks, carbonatites and thorium veins in south-central Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Jour. Research, v. 5, no. 6, p. 673-687.

Age changed from Cambrian to: Middle Cambrian.

McColley Canyon Formation (name adopted)
Lower Devonian
central Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

McColley Canyon Member of Carlisle and others (1957) herein adopted as raised in rank to McColley Canyon Formation by Johnson (1962) and as divided into three members (ascending: Kobeh, Bartine, and Coils Creek) by Murphy and Gronberg (1970).

McCully Formation (new name)
lower Middle Pennsylvanian (upper Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

McCully Formation adopted as upper of two formations in Morrowan Provincial Series. Divided into (ascending): Chisum Quarry Member (new name), shale "A" member, Greenleaf Lake Limestone Member (new name), and shale "B" member. Unconformably overlies Sausbee Formation (new name); unconformably underlies Atoka Formation.

McGowan Creek Formation (geographic extension)
Lower and Upper Mississippian
east-central Idaho

Nilsen, T. H., 1977, Paleogeography of Mississippian turbidites in south-central Idaho, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 275-299.

Geographically extended into White Knob Mountains of central Idaho, replacing Copper Basin Formation (now geographically restricted).

Meade Peak Phosphatic Shale Member (geographic extension)
(of Phosphoria Formation)
Lower Permian
northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada

Maughan, E. K., 1977, Petroleum source beds and trace elements in the Phosphoria Formation of Utah and Nevada, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 21.

Geographically extended into northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada. Meade Peak Phosphatic Shale Member or Tongue remains good usage in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and northeastern Utah.

Mesquite Schist (age changed)
Ordovician
southern California

Poole, F. G., Marvin, R. F., and Hedge, C. E., 1977, Age of the Mesquite Schist in southern California, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 71-72.

Age changed from Precambrian(?) to: Ordovician.

Metaline Limestone or Formation (age changed)
Middle to Upper (?) Cambrian and
Lower Ordovician(?)
northeastern Washington

Repetski, J. E., Age of the Metaline Limestone or Formation in northeastern Washington: this report.

Age changed from Middle Cambrian to: Middle to Late(?) Cambrian and Early Ordovician(?).

Miccosukee Formation (name adopted)
upper Miocene
northwestern Florida (panhandle)

Cameron, C. C., and Mory, P. C., 1977, Mineral resources of the Bradwell Bay Wilderness and the Sopchoppy River study area, Wakulla County, Florida: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1431, 37 p.

Miccosukee Formation of Puri and Vernon (1964) adopted. Overlies Jackson Bluff, Hawthorn, and St. Marks Formations; underlies Pleistocene sands.

Middle Canyon Formation (age changed)
Lower and Upper Mississippian
south-central Idaho

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Age changed from Late Mississippian to: Early and Late Mississippian.

Moclipsian Stage (new name)
Pliocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Moclipsian Stage adopted. Overlies Graysian Stage (new name).

Moenave Formation (geographic extension)
Upper Triassic(?)
southeastern Nevada

Bohannon, R. G., 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Valley of Fire region, north Muddy Mountains, Clark County, Nevada: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-849.

Geographically extended into southeastern Nevada from Arizona and Utah.

Moffett Creek Formation (new name)
Silurian or older
northwestern California

Hotz, P. E., 1977, Geology of the Yreka quadrangle, Siskiyou County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1436, 72 p.

Moffett Creek Formation adopted. In thrust contact with overlying Sissel Gulch Graywacke (new name) and Duzel Phyllite (now reinstated) and in thrust contact with underlying Duzel Phyllite and Schulmeyer Gulch sequence.

Monacillo Formation (age changed)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern Puerto Rico

Pease, M. H., Jr., and Monroe, W. H., 1977, Geologic map of the San Juan quadrangle, Puerto Rico: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1010.

Age changed from Late Cretaceous and early Tertiary(?) to: Late Cretaceous.

Mount Pomeroy Quartz Monzonite (age changed)
Paleocene(?) and Eocene(?)
Colorado

Sharp, W. N., 1976, Geologic map and details of the beryllium and molybdenum occurrences, Mount Antero, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-810, 2 sheets.

Age changed from Paleocene(?) to Oligocene(?) to: Paleocene(?) and Eocene(?).

Mount Toby Conglomerate (name abandoned)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic
Massachusetts

Peper, J. D., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Hampden quadrangle, Massachusetts and Connecticut: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1368.

Mount Toby Conglomerate abandoned; its rocks now included in Portland Formation (of Newark Group).

Mowich Group (name adopted)
Lower Jurassic (Pliensbachian and Toarcian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Mowitch (spelling incorrect) Formation of Davis (1937) adopted as Mowich Group as redefined by Lupper (1941) and Dickinson and Vigrass (1965). Divided into (ascending): Robertson, Suplee, Nicely, and Hyde Formations (all four newly adopted). Unconformably overlies older Mesozoic rocks; conformably and unconformably underlies Snowshoe Formation.

Mowitza Shale (name abandoned)
Upper Devonian
Utah

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Mowitza Shale abandoned; its rocks now included in part of upper member of Pinyon Peak Limestone.

Muldrough Member (assignment of bed)
(of Borden Formation)
Lower Mississippian
north-central Kentucky and southern Indiana

Kepferle, R. C., 1977, Stratigraphy, petrology, and depositional environment of the Kenwood Siltstone Member, Borden Formation (Mississippian), Kentucky and Indiana: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1007, 49 p.

In north-central Kentucky and southern Indiana, Floyds Knob Formation reduced in rank to Floyds Knob Bed and assigned to basal part of Muldraugh Member of Borden Formation. Muldraugh usage elsewhere in Kentucky and Indiana remains unchanged.

Murderers Creek Graywacke (age changed)
(of Aldrich Mountains Group)
Lower Jurassic
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Age changed from Late Triassic to: Early Jurassic.

Narrangansett Pier Granite (age changed)
upper Paleozoic
Rhode Island and Connecticut

Goldsmith, Richard, Zietz, Isadore, and Dixon, H. R., 1977, Correlation of aeroradioactivity and geology in southeastern Connecticut and adjacent Rhode Island and New York: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 7, p. 925-934.

Age changed from Late or post-Pennsylvanian to: late Paleozoic.

Nashville Group (reinstated and subdivided)
Middle Ordovician
Tennessee

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

Nashville Group reinstated based on usage of State of Tennessee (after Wilson, 1949). Divided into (ascending): Hermitage Limestone or Formation, Bigby Limestone (west facies) or (=) Cannon Limestone (east facies), and Catheys Limestone or Formation.

Neruokpuk Quartzite (name revised)
Precambrian
northeastern Alaska

Reiser, H. N., Norris, D. K., Dutro, J. T., Jr., and Brosge, W. P., Restriction and renaming of the Neruokpuk Formation, northeastern Alaska: this report.

Usage of Neruokpuk Formation returned to original (stratigraphically restricted) usage of Leffingwell (1919) as Neruokpuk Quartzite. Age changed from Precambrian, Cambrian, and post-Cambrian pre-Mississippian to: Precambrian.

New Albany Shale (assignment of bed)
Devonian and Mississippian (varies)
east-central Kentucky

Provo, L. J., Kepferle, R. C., and Potter, P. E., 1977, Three Lick Bed: useful stratigraphic marker in Upper Devonian shale in eastern Kentucky and adjacent areas of Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee: U.S. Dept. Commerce, Natl. Tech. Inf. Service, ERDA-MERC/CR-77-2, 56 p.

Three Lick Bed adopted and assigned to: 1) Ohio Shale in northeastern Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia; 2) New Albany Shale in east-central Kentucky (correlates with lower part of Camp Run Member, of local usage, of New Albany in Indiana); and 3) Chattanooga Shale in south-central Kentucky (correlates with middle unit of Gassaway Member of Chattanooga in Tennessee). New Albany usage remains unchanged in Indiana and Illinois.

Newark Group (age changed)
Upper Triassic and Lower Jurassic
Massachusetts and Connecticut

Leo, G. W., Robinson, Peter, and Hall, D. J., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Ludlow quadrangle, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, south-central Massachusetts: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1353.

In Massachusetts and Connecticut where its Portland Formation of Newark Group is Early Jurassic in age, age of Newark changed from Late Triassic to: Late Triassic and Early Jurassic. Newark remains in good usage in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Rhode Island, and North Carolina.

Newark Group (its formation abandoned and replaced)
Upper Triassic and Lower Jurassic
Massachusetts

Peper, J. D., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Hampden quadrangle, Massachusetts and Connecticut: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1368.

In Massachusetts only, its Mount Toby Conglomerate abandoned; Mount Toby rocks now included in its Portland Formation (Lower Jurassic). Newark usage remains unchanged elsewhere.

Newark Group (subdivided)
Upper Triassic and Lower Jurassic(?)
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

In Culpeper basin of north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland, divided into (ascending): Manassas Sandstone and its Reston Member (new name) and overlying unnamed sandstone member, Balls Bluff Siltstone (new name), and Bull Run Formation and its Leesburg Limestone Conglomerate Member and overlying unnamed basaltic flow-bearing clastics member. Age in Culpeper basin is considered to be Late Triassic and Early Jurassic(?); age elsewhere remains Late Triassic and Early Jurassic. Newark usage elsewhere remains unchanged.

Newportian Stage (new name)
middle Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Newportian Stage adopted. Overlies Pillarian Stage and underlies Wishkahan Stage (both new names).

Newportian Stage (age changed)
lower and middle Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1977, Neogene chronostratigraphy of nearshore marine basins of the eastern North Pacific, in Proceedings of the First International Congress on Pacific Neogene stratigraphy, Tokyo, 1976: p. 151-175.

Age changed from middle Miocene to: early and middle Miocene.

Nicely Formation (name adopted)
(of Mowich Group)
Lower Jurassic (Toarcian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Nicely Shale of Lupper (1941) adopted as Nicely Formation, one of four formations of Mowich Group as used by Dickinson and Vigrass (1965). Conformably overlies Suplee Formation and conformably underlies Hyde Formation, both of Mowich (all three also newly adopted).

Niobrara Member (reassignment)
(of Cody Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming

Merewether, E. A., Cobban, W. A., Matson, R. M., and Magathan, W. J., 1977, Stratigraphic diagrams with electric logs of Upper Cretaceous rocks, Powder River basin, Natrona, Campbell, and Weston Counties, Wyoming. Section B-B': U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-74.

Sage Breaks and overlying Niobrara members reassigned to base of Cody Shale in western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming. Niobrara Chalk, Shale, Limestone, or Member of Mancos/Colorado/Cody Shale remains in good usage in Colorado, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Kansas, New Mexico, Montana, and elsewhere in Wyoming.

Norton Formation (age changed)
Lower(?) and Middle Pennsylvanian
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

Council Sandstone Member adopted and assigned as lower of two members of Norton Formation; age of Council is Early(?) Pennsylvanian. Age of Norton changed from Pennsylvanian to: Early(?) and Middle Pennsylvanian.

Oak Canyon Member (age changed)
(of Dakota Sandstone)
Upper Cretaceous (Cenomanian)
northwestern New Mexico

Hook, S. C., and Cobban, W. A., 1977, Pycnodonte newberryi (Stanton)--common guide fossil in Upper Cretaceous of New Mexico: New Mexico Bur. Mines and Mineral Resources Annual Report, v. 1976-1977, p. 48-54.

Age changed from Early and Late Cretaceous to: Late Cretaceous (Cenomanian).

Oakdale Formation (name variation and age changed)
Silurian(?) or Devonian(?)
Massachusetts

Barosh, P. J., 1976, Stratigraphy of the Webster-Worcester region, Massachusetts, in Geology of southeastern New England--Guidebook, New England Intercollegiate Geol. Conf., 68th Ann. Mtg., Boston, Mass.: Princeton, New Jersey, Science Press, p. 352-365.

In Webster-Worcester region only, name changed from Oakdale Quartzite to: Oakdale Formation; Oakdale Quartzite remains in good usage elsewhere in Massachusetts. Age changed from Silurian and Devonian to: Silurian(?) or Devonian(?).

Ohio Shale (assignment of bed)
Upper Devonian
northeastern Kentucky and adjoining areas in
Ohio and West Virginia

Provo, L. J., Kepferle, R. C., and Potter, P. E., 1977, Three Lick Bed: useful stratigraphic marker in Upper Devonian shale in eastern Kentucky and adjacent areas of Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee: U.S. Dept. Commerce, Natl. Tech. Inf. Service, ERDA-MERC/CR-77-2, 56 p.

Three Lick Bed adopted and assigned to: 1) Ohio Shale in northeastern Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia; 2) New Albany Shale in east-central Kentucky (correlates with lower part of Camp Run Member, of local usage, of New Albany in Indiana); and 3) Chattanooga Shale in south-central Kentucky (correlates with middle unit of Gassaway Member of Chattanooga in Tennessee).

Old Port Formation (name adopted)
Lower Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Old Port Formation of Conlin and Hoskins (1962) adopted. Divided into (ascending): Shriver Chert and Ridgely Sandstone Members (both reduced in rank). Overlies Keyser Formation; underlies Onondaga Formation.

Olean(?) Sandstone Member (name and age changed)
(of Pottsville Formation)
Lower Pennsylvanian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In Pennsylvania, name changed from Olean Conglomerate Member of Pottsville to: Olean(?) Sandstone Member of Pottsville; name remains unchanged in New York. Age changed from Pennsylvanian to: Early Pennsylvanian.

Oquirrh Group (subdivided)
 Upper Mississippian to Lower Permian (varies locally)
 southern East Tintic Mountains, Utah

Morris, H. T., Douglass, R. C., and Kopf, R. W., 1977, Stratigraphy and microfaunas of the Oquirrh Group in the southern East Tintic Mountains, Utah: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1025, 22 p.

In southern East Tintic Mountains, central Utah, Oquirrh Group, divided into (ascending): West Canyon Limestone, Butterfield Peaks Formation, Bingham Mine Formation, and Furner Valley Limestone (new name). Overlies Paleozoic sedimentary rocks; underlies Diamond Creek Sandstone. Oquirrh remains of formation or group rank elsewhere in Utah and in southeastern Idaho. Age is Early Pennsylvanian to Early Permian only in this area; age remains Late Mississippian to Early Permian elsewhere.

Overton Conglomerate Member (rank reduced and age changed)
 (of Baseline Sandstone)
 Cretaceous
 southeastern Nevada

Bohannon, R. G., 1976, The tectonic and sedimentologic environment of lithium occurrences in the Muddy Mountains, Clark County, Nevada, in Vine, J. D., ed., Lithium resources and requirements by the year 2000: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1005, p 109-116.

Reduced in rank from Overton Fanglomerate to: Overton Conglomerate Member and assigned as one of two members to Baseline Sandstone. Age changed from Tertiary to: Cretaceous.

Paine Member (geographic extension)
 (of Lodgepole Limestone)
 (of Madison Group)
 Lower Mississippian (Kinderhookian)
 Utah

Sando, W. J., 1977, Significance of coiled Protocoralla in some Mississippian horn corals: Palaeontology, v. 20, Pt. 1, p. 47-58.

Geographically extended from Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho into: Utah.

Pancho Rico Formation (age changed)
 upper Miocene
 western California

Addicott, W. O., Revision of the age of the Pancho Rico Formation, central Coast Ranges, California: this report.

Age changed from early Pliocene to: late Miocene.

Parting Formation (rank raised)
(of Chaffee Group)
Upper Devonian
Colorado

Tweto, Ogden, and Lovering, T. S., 1977, Geology of the Minturn 15-minute quadrangle, Eagle and Summit Counties, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 956, 96 p.

Raised in rank from Parting Quartzite Member or Parting Member to:
Parting Formation and reassigned as lower formation of Chaffee Group
(now raised in rank).

Pecan Gap Chalk (rank raised)
(of Taylor Group)
Upper Cretaceous (Campanian)
Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Raised in rank from Pecan Gap Chalk Member of Taylor Marl to: Pecan Gap Chalk of Taylor Group (also raised in rank). Overlies Wolfe City Sand (raised in rank) of Taylor Group; underlies Bergstrom Formation.

Pembina Member (bed reassignment)
(of Pierre Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
North Dakota

Rice, D. D., 1977, Stratigraphic sections from well logs and outcrops of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks, northern Great Plains, North Dakota and South Dakota: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-72, 3 sheets.

Ardmore Bentonite Bed geographically extended into North Dakota and reassigned in that location only to Pembina Member of Pierre Shale.

Pend Oreille Andesite (name abandoned)
Eocene
northeastern Washington

Pearson, R. C., and Obradovich, J. D., 1977, Eocene rocks in northeast Washington--radiometric ages and correlation: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1433, 41 p.

Pend Oreille Andesite abandoned; its rocks now included in Sanpoil Volcanics.

Peñon Blanco Volcanics (age changed)
Triassic or Jurassic
central California

Morgan, B. A., III, 1976, Geologic map of the Chinese Camp and Moccasin quadrangles, Sierra Nevada, California: U.S. Geol. Misc. Field Studies Map MF-840.

Age changed from Late Jurassic to: Triassic or Jurassic.

Phi Kappa Formation (age changed)
Lower Ordovician to Middle Silurian
Idaho

Carter, Claire, and Churkin, Michael, Jr., 1977, Ordovician and Silurian graptolite succession in the Trail Creek area, central Idaho--a graptolite zone reference section: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1020, 37 p.

Age changed from Ordovician to: Early Ordovician to Middle Silurian.

Phosphoria Formation (geographic extension)
Permian
northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada

Maughan, E. K., 1977, Petroleum source beds and trace elements in the Phosphoria Formation of Utah and Nevada, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 21.

Geographically extended into northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada. Phosphoria Formation remains good usage in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and northeastern and central Utah.

Pillarlian Stage (new name)
lower Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Pillarlian Stage adopted. Overlies Juanian Stage and underlies Newportian Stage (both new names).

Pinal Schist (assignment to group)
(of Santa Catalina Group)
Precambrian X
southeastern Arizona

Drewes, Harald, 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Rincon Valley quadrangle, Pima County, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-997.

Assigned as lowermost of three formations of Santa Catalina Group; underlies Continental Granodiorite of Santa Catalina.

Pitahaya Formation (new name)
Lower Cretaceous
eastern Puerto Rico

M'Gonigle, J. W., 1977, The Río Abajo, Pitahaya, and Daguaó Formations in eastern Puerto Rico: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1435-B, 10 p.

Pitahaya Formation adopted. Overlies Río Abajo Formation (new name); underlies Quaternary deposits or rocks of Mambiche sequence (informal name); probable eastern facies of Torrecilla Breccia.

Plainfield Formation (geographic extension and age changed)
Precambrian(?)
eastern Massachusetts

Barosh, P. J., 1976, Stratigraphy of the Webster-Worcester region, Massachusetts, in Geology of southeastern New England--Guidebook, New England Intercollegiate Geol. Conf., 68th Ann. Mtg., Boston, Mass.: Princeton, New Jersey, Science Press, p. 352-365.

Geographically extended into eastern Massachusetts from Connecticut and Rhode Island. Age changed from Cambrian(?) to: Precambrian(?).

Pocono Formation (age changed)
Upper Devonian and Lower Mississippian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Age changed from Early Mississippian to: Late Devonian and Early Mississippian; age of Pocono Formation or Sandstone or Group is changed accordingly elsewhere in Pennsylvania and in Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia. In report area, divided into (ascending): unnamed lower sandstone member interbedded with conglomerate at Cedar Run and Burgoon Sandstone Member.

Pole Creek Dacite (age changed)
upper Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from Pliocene(?) to: late Miocene.

Portland Formation (name and age changed)
(of Newark Group)
Lower Jurassic
Massachusetts

Leo, G. W., Robinson, Peter, and Hall, D. J., 1977, Bedrock geologic map of the Ludlow quadrangle, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, south-central Massachusetts: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1353.

Name changed from Portland Arkose to: Portland Formation. Age changed from Late Triassic to: Early Jurassic. Portland remains in good usage in Connecticut.

Pottsville Formation (member name changed)
Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In Pennsylvania only, Olean(?) Sandstone Member (name changed from Olean Conglomerate Member in New York) included in Pottsville Formation. Usage of Pottsville Formation or Group remains unchanged in Ohio, New York, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Powers Ferry Formation (new name)
(of Sandy Springs Group)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Powers Ferry Formation and its Mableton Amphibolite Member adopted. Assigned to Sandy Springs Group as lowermost of four formations: underlies Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite (new name) of Sandy Springs.

Prisoners Harbor Member (name adopted)
(of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics)
upper Oligocene to middle Miocene
(Saucesian and Relizian)
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

Crowe, B. M., McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Higgins, R. E., 1976, Petrography and major-element chemistry of the Santa Cruz Island Volcanics, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 196-215.

Prisoners Harbor Member of Nolf and Nolf (1969) adopted as uppermost of four members of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics. Overlies Devils Peak Member of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics; underlies Monterey Formation.

Pysht Formation (new name)
(of Twin River Group)
upper Oligocene to lower Miocene
(Zemorrian and Saucesian)
northwestern Washington

Snavely, P. D., Jr., Niem, A. R., and Pearl, J. E., Twin River Group (upper Eocene to lower Miocene)--defined to include the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations, Clallam County, Washington: this report.

Pysht Formation adopted and assigned as upper of three new formations to Twin River Group (now raised in rank). Gradationally and, locally, unconformably overlies Makah Formation (new name) of Twin River; gradationally and conformably underlies Clallam Formation.

Quiburis Formation (age changed)
upper Miocene or lower Pliocene
southeastern Arizona

Krieger, M. H., 1977, Large landslide, composed of megabreccia, interbedded in Miocene basin deposits, southeastern Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1008, 25 p.

Age changed from middle Pliocene to: late Miocene or early Pliocene.

Rail Cabin Argillite (name adopted)
Upper Triassic (Norian and Rhaetian)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Rail Cabin Argillite of Dickinson and Vigrass (1965) adopted.
Unconformably overlies Brisbois Member (also newly adopted) of Vester Formation; conformably underlies Graylock Formation (also newly adopted).

Rattlesnake Formation (age changed)
middle Pliocene
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Age changed from middle Pliocene to Pleistocene to: middle Pliocene.

Red Warrior Limestone (name abandoned)
Silurian(?) and Devonian(?)
Utah

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, ed Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Red Warrior Limestone abandoned; its rocks now included in (ascending): Laketown Dolomite, Sevy Dolomite, Simonson Dolomite, and Guilmette Formation.

Reston Member (new name)
(of Manassas Sandstone)
(of Newark Group)
Upper Triassic
north-central Virginia and south-central Maryland

Lee, K. Y., 1977, Triassic stratigraphy in the northern part of the Culpeper basin, Virginia and Maryland: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-C, 17 p.

Reston Member adopted and assigned as lower of two members of Manassas Sandstone of Newark Group. Underlies unnamed sandstone member of Manassas.

Retort Phosphatic Shale Member (geographic extension)
(of Phosphoria Formation)
Lower Permian
northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada

Maughan, E. K., 1977, Petroleum source beds and trace elements in the Phosphoria Formation of Utah and Nevada, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 21.

Geographically extended into northwestern Utah and northeastern Nevada. Retort Phosphatic Shale Member or Tongue remains good usage in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and northeastern Utah.

Rices Mudstone Member (name adopted)
(of San Lorenzo Formation)
upper Eocene and Oligocene (Refugian and Zemorrian)
west-central California

Poore, R. Z., and Brabb, E. E., 1977, Eocene and Oligocene planktonic Foraminifera from the upper Butano Sandstone and type San Lorenzo Formation, Santa Cruz Mountains, California: Jour. Foraminiferal Research, v. 7, no. 4, p. 249-272.

Rices Mudstone Member of Brabb (1960, 1964) adopted as upper of two members of San Lorenzo Formation. Paraconformably overlies Twobar Shale Member of San Lorenzo; conformably underlies Vaqueros Sandstone.

Ridgeley Sandstone Member (rank reduced)
(of Old Port Formation)
Lower Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In report area, Ridgeley Sandstone reduced in rank to: Ridgeley Sandstone Member and reassigned to Old Port Formation (newly adopted) as upper of two members; overlies Shriver Chert Member (also reduced in rank in report area). Former usage of Ridgely remains unchanged elsewhere in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Rincon Valley Granodiorite (name adopted)
Precambrian Y
south-central Arizona

Drewes, Harald, 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Rincon Valley quadrangle, Pima County, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-997.

Rincon Valley Granite of Acker (1958) adopted as Rincon Valley Granodiorite.

Río Abajo Formation (new name)
Lower(?) Cretaceous
eastern Puerto Rico

M'Gonigle, J. W., 1977, The Río Abajo, Pitahaya, and Daguaó Formations in eastern Puerto Rico: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1435-B, 10 p.

Río Abajo Formation adopted. Faulted against other stratigraphic units with its top and bottom not exposed; underlies Pitahaya Formation (new name).

Robertson Formation (name adopted)
(of Mowich Group)
Lower Jurassic (Pliensbachian and Toarcian?)
northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Robertson Formation of Lupper (1941) adopted as lowermost of four formations of Mowich Group as used by Dickinson and Vigrass (1965). Unconformably overlies older Mesozoic rocks; conformably underlies Suplee Formation of Mowich (both also newly adopted).

Rockcastle Sandstone Tongue (name and age changed)
(of Lee Formation)
Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian (Morrowan)
Kentucky

Rice, C. L., Ages of the Lee, Breathitt, Caseyville, Tradewater, and Sturgis Formations in Kentucky: this report.

Name changed from Rockcastle Sandstone or Conglomerate Member to: Rockcastle Sandstone Tongue (intertonguing with Breathitt Formation) in Pottsville escarpment area of eastern Kentucky only; former usage as Member remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky. Rockcastle Sandstone (formation rank) remains good usage in Tennessee and Georgia. Age changed from Early Pennsylvanian (Morrowan) to: Early and Middle Pennsylvanian (early and late Morrowan).

Rockdale Formation (name adopted)
(of Wilcox Group)
upper Paleocene
northeastern and central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886-- a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Rockdale Formation of Plummer (1933) adopted and assigned as middle of three formations to Wilcox Group in northeastern and central Texas. Overlies Seguin Formation of Wilcox; underlies Sabinetown Formation of Wilcox.

Rockwood Formation (member assigned to)
Lower and Middle Silurian
southeastern Tennessee

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmuth, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge, Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

In southeastern Tennessee only, Skillern Chert Member (new name) adopted and assigned to lower part of the Rockwood Formation. Former usage of Rockwood remains unchanged elsewhere in Tennessee and in North Carolina, Virginia, and Kentucky.

Rottenwood Creek Quartzite (new name)
(of Sandy Springs Group)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Rottenwood Creek Quartzite adopted and assigned as uppermost of four formations to Sandy Springs Group. Overlies Factory Shoals Formation (new name) of Sandy Springs.

Rowland Member (reassignment of bed to)
(of Drakes Formation)
Upper Ordovician (Cincinnatian)
north-central Kentucky

Swadley, W. C., and Gibbons, A. B., 1976, Geologic map of the Cambellsburg quadrangle, north-central Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1364.

Marble Hill Marble of Owen (1859) adopted as Marble Hill Bed of Dillsboro Formation in southeastern Indiana as used by Shaver and others (1970). Geographically extended into north-central Kentucky and reassigned to Rowland Member of Drakes Formation. Rowland usage remains unchanged elsewhere in Kentucky.

Sabinetown Formation (name adopted)
(of Wilcox Group)
lower Eocene
northeastern and central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Sabinetown Formation of Plummer (1933) adopted and assigned as uppermost of three formations to Wilcox Group in northeastern and central Texas. Overlies Rockdale Formation of Wilcox; underlies Carrizo Sand of Claiborne Group.

Sage Breaks Member (geographic extension)
(of Carlile Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
Montana

Merewether, E. A., Cobban, W. A., and Ryder, R. T., 1975, Lower Upper Cretaceous strata, Bighorn Basin, Wyoming and Montana, in Wyoming Geol. Assoc. Guidebook, 27th Ann. Field Conf., Bighorn Basin, 1975: p. 73-84.

Geographically extended from Wyoming into: Montana.

Sage Breaks Member (reassignment)
(of Cody Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming

Merewether, E. A., Cobban, W. A., Matson, R. M., and Magathan, W. J., 1977, Stratigraphic diagrams with electric logs of Upper Cretaceous rocks, Powder River basin, Natrona, Campbell, and Weston Counties, Wyoming. Section B-B': U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-74.

Sage Breaks and overlying Niobrara Members reassigned to base of Cody Shale in western part of Powder River basin, Wyoming. Sage Breaks Member of Carlile Shale still in good usage in eastern part of Powder River basin, Montana and Wyoming.

St. Joe Limestone Member (geographic extension)
(of Boone Formation)
Lower Mississippian (Osagean)
Missouri

Sando, W. J., 1977, Significance of coiled *Protocoralla* in some Mississippian horn corals: *Palaeontology*, v. 20, Pt. 1, p. 47-58.

Geographically extended from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas into: Missouri.

St. Marks Formation (name adopted)
upper Miocene
northwestern Florida (panhandle)

Cameron, C. C., and Mory, P. C., 1977, Mineral resources of the Bradwell Bay Wilderness and the Sopchoppy River study area, Wakulla County, Florida: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1431, 37 p.

St. Marks facies of Puri (1953) adopted as St. Marks Formation as used by Puri and Vernon (1964). Overlies Suwannee Limestone; underlies Hawthorn Formation.

Salmon Hornblende Schist (age changed)
Devonian
California

Irwin, W. P., 1977, Review of Paleozoic rocks of the Klamath Mountains, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., *Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States*, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 441-454.

Age changed from Devonian or older Paleozoic to: Devonian.

Sandy Springs Group (name adopted)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

"Sandy Springs Sequence" of Higgins (1966, 1968) adopted as Sandy Springs Group. Divided into (ascending): Powers Ferry Formation (with its Mableton Amphibolite Member), Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite, Factory Shoals Formation, and Rottenwood Creek Quartzite (all new names). Fault-bounded by Long Island Creek Gneiss (new name) and Yellow Dirt Gneiss.

San Lorenzo Formation (subdivided)
middle and upper Eocene and Oligocene (Narizian,
Refugian, and Zemorrian)
west-central California

Poore, R. Z., and Brabb, E. E., 1977, Eocene and Oligocene planktonic Foraminifera from the upper Butano Sandstone and type San Lorenzo Formation, Santa Cruz Mountains, California: Jour. Foraminiferal Research, v. 7, no. 4, p. 249-272.

Divided into (ascending): Twobar Shale (middle and upper Eocene, Narizian) and Rices Mudstone (upper Eocene, Refugian, and Oligocene, Zemorrian) Members. Conformably overlies Butano Sandstone; conformably underlies Vaqueros Sandstone.

San Manuel Formation (age changed)
upper Oligocene and lower Miocene
southeastern Arizona

Banks, N. G., and Krieger, M. H., 1977, Geologic map of the Hayden quadrangle, Pinal and Gila Counties, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1391.

Age changed from early Miocene to: late Oligocene and early Miocene.

Sanpoil Volcanics (geographic extension)
middle Eocene
northeastern Washington

Pearson, R. C., and Obradovich, J. D., 1977, Eocene rocks in northeast Washington--radiometric ages and correlation: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1433, 41 p.

Geographically extended into areas of northeastern Washington where Gerome Volcanics and Pend Oreille Andesite (both now abandoned and replaced by Sanpoil) were previously used.

Santa Catalina Group (name adopted)

Precambrian X and Y
south-central Arizona

Drewes, Harald, 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Rincon Valley quadrangle, Pima County, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-997.

Santa Catalina Gneiss of Blake (1908) adopted as Santa Catalina Group. Divided into (ascending): Pinal Schist (X), Continental Granodiorite (Y), and Wrong Mountain Quartz Monzonite (Y) (new name).

Santa Cruz Island Volcanics (name adopted)

upper Oligocene to middle Miocene
(Saucasian and Relizian)
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

Crowe, B. M., McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Higgins, R. E., 1976, Petrography and major-element chemistry of the Santa Cruz Island Volcanics, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 196-215.

Santa Cruz Island Volcanics of Nolf and Nolf (1969) adopted. Divided into (ascending): Griffith Canyon Member, Stanton Ranch Member, Devils Peak Member, and Prisoners Harbor Member (late Oligocene to middle Miocene age applies to all members). Overlies in subsurface San Onofre Breccia; underlies Monterey Formation.

Santa Fe Group (member added to its formation)

Miocene to Pleistocene (varies locally)
New Mexico

Manley, Kim, 1977, Geologic map of the northeastern part of the Española basin, New Mexico, showing the Cejita Member (new name) of the Tesuque Formation: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-877.

In New Mexico, Cejita Member adopted as upper part of its Tesuque Formation. Cejita overlies unnamed eolian sand of Tesuque and underlies unnamed Pliocene(?) gravel.

Sappington Member (age changed)

(of Three Forks Formation)
Upper Devonian and Mississippian(?)
Montana

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Age changed from Late Devonian and Early Mississippian to: Late Devonian and Mississippian(?).

Sarten Sandstone (age changed)
Lower Cretaceous (Albian) and
Upper Cretaceous(?) (lower Cenomanian?)
New Mexico

Landis, E. R., and Cobban, W. A., 1977, Age of top of Sarten Sandstone and base of Colorado Formation, Luna County, New Mexico, in Geological Survey research 1977: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1050, p. 201.

Age changed from Early Cretaceous (Comanchean) to: Early Cretaceous (Albian) and Late Cretaceous(?) (Cenomanian?).

Sausbee Formation (new name)
Lower Pennsylvanian (lower Morrowan)
northeastern Oklahoma

Sutherland, P. K., and Henry, T. W., 1977, Carbonate platform facies and new stratigraphic nomenclature of the Morrowan Series (Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian), northeastern Oklahoma: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 88, no. 3, p. 425-440.

Sausbee Formation adopted as lower of two formations in Morrowan Provincial Series. Divided into (ascending): Braggs Member and Brewer Bend Limestone Member (both new names). Unconformably overlies Pitkin Limestone; unconformably underlies McCully Formation (new name).

Sedan Formation (new name)
(of Livingston Group)
Upper Cretaceous
south-central Montana

Skipp, Betty, and McGrew, L. W., 1977, The Maudlow and Sedan Formations of the Upper Cretaceous Livingston Group on the west edge of the Crazy Mountains basin, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-B, 68 p.

Sedan Formation adopted and assigned to Livingston Group as its lower of two formations in the Sedan-Ringling area, Montana. Divided into (ascending): unnamed lower sandstone member, unnamed welded tuff member, unnamed middle sandstone member, unnamed mudstone member, Bearpaw Shale Member (reduced in rank), and Lennep Sandstone Member (reduced in rank). Overlies Eagle Sandstone; underlies Billman Creek Formation of Livingston Group.

Seguin Formation (name adopted)
(of Wilcox Group)
upper Paleocene
northeastern and central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Seguin Formation of Plummer (1933) adopted and assigned as lowermost of three formations to Wilcox Group in northeastern and central Texas. Overlies Wills Point Formation of Midway Group; underlies Rockdale Formation of Wilcox.

Seldovian Stage (age changed)
lower and middle Miocene
south-central Alaska

Wolfe, J. A., 1977, Paleogene floras from the Gulf of Alaska region: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 997, 108 p.

Age changed from late Oligocene(?) to middle Miocene to: early and middle Miocene.

Sequatchie Formation (geographic restriction)
Upper Ordovician
southeastern Tennessee

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmuth, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

In southeastern Tennessee, Sequatchie Formation geographically restricted to northern Sequatchie Valley area (Shellmound Formation (new name) geographically restricted to southern Sequatchie Valley area). Former usage of Sequatchie remains unchanged elsewhere in Tennessee and in Virginia, Alabama, and Georgia.

Seven Devils Group (name revised)
Lower Permian(?), Lower Permian, and
Middle and Upper Triassic
northwestern Idaho and northeastern Oregon

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Raised in rank from Seven Devils Volcanics to: Seven Devils Group. Divided into (ascending): Windy Ridge (Lower Permian?), Hunsaker Creek (Lower Permian), Wild Sheep Creek (Middle and Upper Triassic), and Doyle Creek (Upper Triassic) Formations (all four new names). Geographically extended from northwestern Idaho into: northeastern Oregon. Age changed from Permian and Late Triassic to: Early Permian(?), Early Permian, and Middle and Late Triassic.

Seventy Six Basalt (age changed)
uppermost Oligocene or lowermost Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from late Miocene(?) to: latest Oligocene or earliest Miocene.

Shady Dolomite (age changed)
Lower and Middle Cambrian
Tennessee and Virginia

Harris, L. D., and Milici, R. C., 1977, Characteristics of thin-skinned style of deformation in the southern Appalachians and potential hydrocarbon traps: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1018, 40 p.

Age changed from Early Cambrian to: Early and Middle Cambrian. Shady Dolomite or Formation remains in good usage in North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama.

Shellmound Formation (new name)
Upper Ordovician
southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmuth, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge, Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

Shellmound Formation adopted and geographically restricted to southern Sequatchie Valley area (Sequatchie Formation geographically restricted to northern Sequatchie Valley area). Overlies Leipers Limestone; underlies Rockwood Formation. Fernvale Limestone or Formation reduced in rank to Fernvale Member and assigned to upper part of Shellmound Formation in southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia; former usage of Fernvale remains unchanged elsewhere in Tennessee and in Alabama, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Illinois.

Sherman Creek Member (name adopted)
(of Catskill Formation)
(of Susquehanna Group)
Upper Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Sherman Creek Member of Dyson (1967) adopted as middle of three members of Catskill Formation. Overlies Irish Valley Member; underlies Duncannon Member.

Shriver Chert Member (rank reduced)
(of Old Port Formation)
Lower Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In report area, Shriver Chert reduced in rank to: Shriver Chert Member and reassigned to Old Port Formation (newly adopted) as lower of two members; underlies Ridgeley Sandstone Member (also reduced in rank in report area). Former usage of Shriver remains unchanged elsewhere in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.

Silverton Volcanics (reinstated and redefined)
Oligocene
southwestern Colorado

Lipman, P. W., 1976, Geologic map of the Lake City caldera area, western San Juan Mountains, southwestern Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-962.

Reinstated and reduced in rank (stratigraphically restricted) from Silverton Volcanic Group to: Silverton Volcanics. Divided into: unnamed pyroxene andesite member, Burns Member, and Henson Member (Burns and Henson now reduced in rank).

Sissel Gulch Graywacke (new name)
Ordovician and (or) Silurian
northwestern California

Hotz, P. E., 1977, Geology of the Yreka quadrangle, Siskiyou County, California: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1436, 72 p.

Sissel Gulch Graywacke adopted. Directly overlies Mallethead thrust; conformably(?) underlies Duzel Phyllite. Age is Ordovician(?).

Sissel Gulch Graywacke (age changed)
Ordovician and (or) Silurian
northwestern California

Potter, A. W., Hotz, P. E., and Rohr, D. M., 1977, Stratigraphy and inferred tectonic framework of lower Paleozoic rocks in the eastern Klamath Mountains, northern California, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec. p. 421-440.

Age changed from Ordovician(?) to: Ordovician and (or) Silurian.

Skillern Chert Member (new name)
(of Rockwood Formation)
Lower Silurian
southeastern Tennessee

Milici, R. C., and Wedow, Helmut, Jr., 1977, Upper Ordovician and Silurian stratigraphy in Sequatchie Valley and parts of the adjacent Valley and Ridge Tennessee: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 996, 38 p.

Skillern Chert Member adopted and assigned to lower part of Rockwood Formation in southeastern Tennessee.

Slaven Chert (age changed)
Lower, Middle and Upper(?) Devonian
Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

Age changed from Middle and Late(?) Devonian to: Early, Middle, and Late(?) Devonian.

Slide Creek Gravel (age changed)
upper Miocene
northeastern Nevada

Coats, R. R., Green, R. C., Cress, L. D., and Marks, L. Y., 1977, Mineral resources of the Jarbidge Wilderness and adjacent areas, Elko County, Nevada, with a section on Interpretation of aeromagnetic data by W. E. Davis: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1439, 79 p.

Age changed from Pliocene(?) to: late Miocene.

Smithville Formation (assignment of member to)
Lower Ordovician
northeastern Arkansas

Wise, O. A., Jr., Yochelson, E. L., and Clardy, B. F., 1975, Lower Ordovician stratigraphic relations at Smithville, Arkansas, and adjacent areas, in Contributions to geology of the Arkansas Ozarks, 1975: Arkansas Geol. Comm. Pub., p. 38-60.

In northeastern Arkansas only, Black Rock Formation reduced in rank to Black Rock Limestone Member and assigned to Smithville Formation. Smithville usage remains unchanged in Kansas and Missouri and elsewhere in Arkansas.

Sprinkle Formation (name adopted)
upper Cretaceous (Campanian)
central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W., ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Sprinkle Formation of Young (1965) adopted. Overlies Burditt Marl; underlies Wolfe City Sand of Taylor Group (both raised in rank).

Stanton Ranch Member (name adopted)
(of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics)
upper Oligocene to middle Miocene
(Saucesian and Relizian)
Santa Cruz Island off southern California coast

Crowe, B. M., McLean, Hugh, Howell, D. G., and Higgins, R. E., 1976, Petrography and major-element chemistry of the Santa Cruz Island Volcanics, in Howell, D. G., ed., Aspects of the geologic history of the California continental borderland: Am. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists Misc. Pub. 24, p. 196-215.

Stanton Ranch Member of Nolf and Nolf (1969) adopted as one of four members of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics. Overlies Griffith Canyon Member and underlies Devils Peak Member, both of Santa Cruz Island Volcanics.

Stewart Gulch Tongue (new name)

(of Green River Formation)

Eocene

northwestern Colorado

Hail, W. J., Jr., 1977, Stewart Gulch Tongue--a new tongue of the Eocene Green River Formation, Piceance Creek basin, Colorado: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1422-E, 8 p.

In northwestern Colorado only, Stewart Gulch Tongue adopted and assigned as uppermost of six named units of Green River Formation. Overlies Parachute Creek Member of Green River; intertongues with Unita Formation.

Sturgis Formation (age changed)

Middle and Upper Pennsylvanian and

Lower Permian

western Kentucky

Rice, C. L., Ages of the Lee, Breathitt, Caseyville, Tradewater, and Sturgis Formations in Kentucky: this report.

Age changed from Middle and Late Pennsylvanian (Des Moinesian and Missourian) to: Middle and Late Pennsylvanian (Des Moinesian and Missourian) and Early Permian. Age of its Carthage Limestone Member (its uppermost named member) remains Late Pennsylvanian.

Sunset Member (member reassigned)

(of Ashlock Formation)

Upper Ordovician

east-central Kentucky

Weir, G. W., and McDowell, R. C., 1976, Geologic map of the Preston quadrangle, Bath and Montgomery Counties, Kentucky: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad Map GQ-1334.

In report area only, reassigned to top of underlying Ashlock Formation; remains member of Bull Fork Formation elsewhere in Kentucky.

Suplee Formation (name adopted)

(of Mowich Group)

Lower Jurassic (Pliensbachian? and Toarcian)

northeastern Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Suplee Formation of Lupher (1941) adopted as one of four formations of Mowich Group as used by Dickinson and Vigrass (1965). Conformably overlies Robertson Formation of Mowich (both newly adopted) or unconformably overlies older Mesozoic rocks; conformably underlies Nicely Formation of Mowich (both newly adopted).

Susquehanna Group (new formation assigned to)
Upper Devonian and Lower Mississippian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

Divided into (ascending): Harrell, Brallier, Lock Haven (newly adopted to replace now abandoned Chemung Formation), and Catskill Formations.

Taylor Group (rank raised)
Upper Cretaceous (Campanian)
Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886-- a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1023-F, p. 71-89.

Raised in rank to Taylor Group in some areas of Texas; Taylor Marl remains in good usage in Louisiana and elsewhere in Texas. Divided into (ascending): Wolfe City Sand and Pecan Gap Chalk (now both raised in rank). Overlies Sprinkle Formation; underlies Bergstrom Formation.

Temple Butte Limestone (age changed)
uppermost Middle(?) and lower Upper Devonian
Arizona

Elston, D. P., and Bressler, S. L., 1977, Paleomagnetic poles and polarity zonation from Cambrian and Devonian strata of Arizona: Earth and Planetary Sci. Ltrs., v. 36, no. 3, p. 423-433.

Age changed from late Middle or early Late Devonian to: latest Middle(?) and early Late Devonian.

Tesuque Formation (age changed)
(of Santa Fe Group)
Miocene
New Mexico

Manley, Kim, and Naeser, C. W., 1977, Fission-track ages for tephra layers in upper Cenozoic rocks, Española basin, New Mexico: Isochron/West, no. 18 p. 13-14.

Age changed from middle(?) Miocene to early Pliocene to: Miocene.

Tesuque Formation (member adopted)
(of Santa Fe Group)
Miocene
New Mexico

Manley, Kim, 1977, Geologic map of the northeastern part of the Española basin, New Mexico, showing the Cejita Member (new name) of the Tesuque Formation: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Field Studies Map MF-877.

Cejita Member adopted as upper part of Tesuque Formation of Santa Fe Group; overlies unnamed eolian sand of Tesuque and underlies unnamed Pliocene(?) gravel.

Texas Creek Granodiorite (age changed)
Upper Triassic or Lower Jurassic
southeastern Alaska

Berg, H. C., Elliott, R. L., Smith, J. G., Pittman, T. L., and Kimball, A. L., 1977, Mineral resources of the Granite Fiords Wilderness study area, Alaska: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1403, 151 p.

Age changed from Jurassic or Cretaceous to: Late Triassic or Early Jurassic.

Three Forks Formation (age changed)
Upper Devonian and Mississippian(?) (varies)
Montana and Idaho

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

In Montana where Sappington Member is present, age changed from Late Devonian and Early Mississippian to: Late Devonian and Mississippian(?). Age remains Late Devonian and Early Mississippian in Idaho, Wyoming, North and South Dakota, and Utah.

Three Lick Bed (new name)
(of Ohio or New Albany or Chattanooga Shale)
Upper Devonian
Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio

Provo, L. J., Kepferle, R. C., and Potter, P. E., 1977, Three Lick Bed: useful stratigraphic marker in Upper Devonian shale in eastern Kentucky and adjacent areas of Ohio, West Virginia, and Tennessee: U.S. Dept. Commerce, Natl. Tech. Inf. Service, ERDA-MERC/CR-77-2, 56 p.

Three Lick Bed adopted and assigned to: 1) Ohio Shale in northeastern Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia; 2) New Albany Shale in east-central Kentucky (correlates with lower part of Camp Run Member, of local usage, of New Albany in Indiana); and 3) Chattanooga Shale in south-central Kentucky (correlates with middle unit of Gassaway Member of Chattanooga in Tennessee).

Tiger Formation (age changed)
Eocene (post-Sanpoil) and younger
northeastern Washington

Pearson, R. C., and Obradovich, J. D., 1977, Eocene rocks in northeast Washington--radiometric ages and correlation: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1433, 41 p.

Age changed from Tertiary to: Eocene (post-Sanpoil) and younger.

Topache Limestone (name abandoned)
Devonian(?) and Mississippian
Utah

Sandberg, C. A., and Poole, F. G., 1977, Conodont biostratigraphy and depositional complexes of Upper Devonian cratonic-platform and continental shelf rocks in the Western United States, in Murphy, M. A., and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 144-182.

Topache Limestone abandoned; its rocks now included in (ascending): Fitchville Formation, Gardison Limestone, Deseret Limestone, and Humbug Formation.

Tor Limestone (age changed)
Lower Devonian
central Nevada

Matti, J. C., and McKee, E. H., 1977, Silurian and Lower Devonian paleogeography of the outer continental shelf of the Cordilleran miogeosyncline, central Nevada, in Stewart, J. H., Stevens, C. H., and Fritsche, A. E., eds., Paleozoic paleogeography of the western United States, Pacific Coast Paleogeography Symposium 1: Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., p. 181-215.

Age changed from Devonian to: Early Devonian.

Trail Creek Formation (age changed)
Lower and Middle Silurian
Idaho

Carter, Claire, and Churkin, Michael, Jr., 1977, Ordovician and Silurian graptolite succession in the Trail Creek area, central Idaho--a graptolite zone reference section: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1020, 37 p.

Age changed from Middle Silurian to: Early and Middle Silurian.

Trent Marl (age changed)
upper Oligocene and lower Miocene
North Carolina

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Age changed from early Miocene to: late Oligocene and early Miocene.

Trujillo Alto Limestone Member (age changed)
(of Monacillo Formation)
Upper Cretaceous
northeastern Puerto Rico

Pease, M. H., Jr., and Monroe, W. H., 1977, Geologic map of the San Juan quadrangle, Puerto Rico: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1010.

Age changed from Late Cretaceous and early Tertiary(?) to: Late Cretaceous

Tully Limestone Member (rank reduced)
(of Mahantango Formation)
Middle Devonian
central Pennsylvania

Taylor, A. R., 1977, Geology and mineral resources of the Lock Haven 7-1/2-minute quadrangle, Clinton and Lycoming Counties, Pennsylvania: Pennsylvania Topog. and Geol. Survey Atlas 124a.

In report area, Tully Limestone reduced in rank to: Tully Limestone Member and assigned to Mahantango Formation as upper of two members; overlies unnamed shale member. Former usage of Tully remains unchanged elsewhere in Pennsylvania and New York.

Turner Sandy Member (geographic extension)
(of Carlile Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
Montana

Merewether, E. A., Cobban, W. A., and Ryder, R. T., 1975, Lower Upper Cretaceous strata, Bighorn Basin, Wyoming and Montana, in Wyoming Geol. Assoc. Guidebook, 27th Ann. Field Conf., Bighorn Basin, 1975: p. 73-84.

Geographically extended from Wyoming and South Dakota into: Montana.

Twin River Group (rank raised)
upper Eocene to lower Miocene
(upper Narizian to Saucian)
northwestern Washington

Snively, P. D., Jr., Niem, A. R., and Pearl, J. E., Twin River Group (upper Eocene to lower Miocene)--defined to include the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations, Clallam County, Washington: this report.

Twin River Formation raised in rank to: Twin River Group. Divided into (ascending): Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations (all new names). Conformably overlies Lyre Formation; gradationally and conformably underlies Clallam Formation.

Twobar Shale Member (name adopted)
(of San Lorenzo Formation)
middle and upper Eocene (Narizian)
west-central California

Poore, R. Z., and Brabb, E. E., 1977, Eocene and Oligocene planktonic Foraminifera from the upper Butano Sandstone and type San Lorenzo Formation, Santa Cruz Mountains, California: Jour. Foraminiferal Research, v. 7, no. 4, p. 249-272.

Twobar Shale Member of Brabb (1960, 1964) adopted as lower of two members of San Lorenzo Formation. Conformably overlies Butano Sandstone; para-conformably underlies Rices Mudstone Member of San Lorenzo.

Two Medicine Formation (bed reassignment)
Upper Cretaceous
northwestern Montana

Rice, D. D., 1976, Stratigraphic sections from well logs and outcrops of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks, northern Great Plains, Montana: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-71, 3 sheets.

Ardmore Bentonite Bed reassigned to Two Medicine Formation west of Sweetgrass Arch in northwestern Montana; Ardmore reassigned to Cokedale Formation in Livingston area and Crazy Mountains Basin of southwestern Montana. Ardmore not assigned to Two Medicine elsewhere in Montana.

Uwharrie Formation (age changed)
upper Precambrian and (or) Cambrian
North Carolina

Seiders, V. M., and Wright, J. E., 1977, Geology of the Carolina volcanic slate belt in the Asheboro, North Carolina, area, in Burt, E. R., ed., Field guides for Geol. Soc. America, Southeastern Sec. Mtg., Winston-Salem, N.C.: North Carolina Dept. Nat. and Econ. Resources, p. 1-34.

Age changed from Cambrian to: late Precambrian and (or) Cambrian.

Verendrye Member (geographic extension)
(of Pierre Shale)
Upper Cretaceous
eastern North Dakota

Rice, D. D., 1976, Correlation chart of Cretaceous and Paleocene rocks of the northern Great Plains: U.S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Inv. Chart OC-70.

Geographically extended from South Dakota into: eastern North Dakota.

Vester Formation (subdivided)
Upper Triassic
Oregon

Brown, C. E., and Thayer, T. P., 1977, Geologic map of pre-Tertiary rocks in the eastern Aldrich Mountains and adjacent areas to the south, Grant County, Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Geol. Inv. Map I-1021.

Divided into (ascending): Begg Member and Brisbois Member (both newly adopted). Unconformably overlies Paleozoic rocks; unconformably underlies Rail Cabin Argillite (also newly adopted).

Wahoo Limestone (age changed)
(of Lisburne Group)
Upper Mississippian to Middle Pennsylvanian
(Chesterian, Morrowan, and Atokan)
northern Alaska

Armstrong, A. K., and Mamet, B. L., 1977, Carboniferous microfacies, microfossils, and corals, Lisburne Group, Arctic Alaska: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 849, 144 p.

Age changed from Late Mississippian to Permian to: Late Mississippian to Middle Pennsylvanian (Chesterian, Morrowan, and Atokan).

Watson Ranch Quartzite (age refinement)
Middle Ordovician
western Utah

Berdan, J. M., 1976, Middle Ordovician leperditicopid ostracodes from the Ibex area, Millard County, western Utah: Brigham Young Univ. Geology Studies, v. 23, pt. 3, p. 37-65.

Age refined from Ordovician to: Middle Ordovician.

Wilcox Group (subdivided and age variation)
upper Paleocene and lower Eocene (varies)
northeastern and central Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. W. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886-- a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

In northeastern and central Texas, Wilcox Group divided into (ascending): Sequin Formation (upper Paleocene), Rockdale Formation (upper Paleocene), and Sabinetown Formation (lower Eocene). Overlies Wills Point Formation of Midway Group; underlies Carrizo Sand of Claiborne Group. Remains formation or group rank in Kentucky, Tennessee, and elsewhere in Texas; remains group rank in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Arkansas, and Illinois; remains formation rank in Missouri. Over-all age remains Paleocene and early and middle Eocene (varies locally).

Wild Sheep Creek Formation (new name)
(of Seven Devils Group)
Middle and Upper Triassic
northeastern Oregon

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Wild Sheep Creek Formation adopted and assigned as one of four formations to Seven Devils Group (now raised in rank). Unconformably overlies Hunsaker Creek Formation and conformably underlies Doyle Creek Formation (both new names of Seven Devils).

Williwaw Cove Formation (age changed)
lower Pleistocene (K/Ar 1.7 m.y.)
southwestern Alaska

Scholl, D. W., Marlow, M. S., McLeod, N. S., and Buffington, E. C., 1976, Episodic Aleutian Ridge igneous activity: implications of Miocene and younger submarine volcanism west of Buldir Island: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 87, no. 4, p. 547-554.

Age changed from Tertiary or Quaternary to: early Pleistocene (K/Ar 1.7 m.y.).

Windmill Limestone (name adopted)
Lower Devonian (Gedinnian)
central Nevada

Berdan, J. M., 1977, Early Devonian ostracode assemblages from Nevada, in Murphy, M. A. and others, eds., Western North America: Devonian: Riverside, Calif., Univ. California, Riverside Campus Museum Contrib. no. 4, p. 55-64.

Windmill Limestone of Johnson (1965) adopted. Overlies Roberts Mountains Formation; underlies Rabbit Hill Limestone.

Windy Ridge Formation (new name)
(of Seven Devils Group)
Lower Permian(?)
northwestern Idaho

Vallier, T. L., 1977, The Permian and Triassic Seven Devils Group, western Idaho and northwestern Oregon: U.S. Geol. Survey Bull. 1437, 58 p.

Windy Ridge Formation adopted and assigned as lowermost of four formations to Seven Devils Group (now raised in rank). Base not exposed; unconformably(?) underlies Hunsaker Creek Formation (new name) of Seven Devils.

Wise Formation (age changed)

Middle Pennsylvanian
southwestern Virginia

Miller, R. L., and Meissner, C. R., Jr., 1977, Geologic map of the Big A Mountain quadrangle, Buchanan and Russell Counties, Virginia: U.S. Geol. Survey Geol. Quad. Map GQ-1350.

Age changed from Pennsylvanian to: Middle Pennsylvanian.

Wishkahan Stage (new name)

upper Miocene
Washington and Oregon

Addicott, W. O., 1976, Neogene molluscan stages of Oregon and Washington, in Fritsche, A. E., and others, eds., The Neogene Symposium, Pacific Coast of North America, Soc. Econ. Paleontologists and Mineralogists, Pacific Sec., San Francisco, California, April 1976: p. 95-115.

Wishkahan Stage adopted. Overlies Newportian Stage and underlies Graysian Stage (both new names).

Witch Member (new name)

(of Keating Formation)

(of Escabrosa Group)

Lower Mississippian (Tournasian)

southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona

Armstrong, A. K., and Mamet, B. L., The Bugle and Witch Members of the Keating Formation, Escabrosa Group, and the Mississippian nomenclature in the Big Hatchet Mountains, Hidalgo County, New Mexico: this report.

Witch Member adopted as upper of two members of Keating Formation conformably overlies Bugle Member (new name of Keating); unconformably underlies Hachita Formation.

Wolfe City Sand (rank raised)

(of Taylor Group)

Upper Cretaceous (Campanian)

Texas

Hazel, J. E., Bybell, L. M., Christopher, R. A., Frederiksen, N. O., May, F. E., McLean, D. M., Poore, R. Z., Smith, C. C., Sohl, N. F., Valentine, P. C., and Witmer, R. J., 1977, Biostratigraphy of the deep corehole (Clubhouse Crossroads corehole 1) near Charleston, South Carolina, in Rankin, D. ed., Studies related to the Charleston, South Carolina, earthquake of 1886--a preliminary report: U.S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 1028-F, p. 71-89.

Raised in rank from Wolfe City Sand Member of Taylor Marl to: Wolfe City Sand of Taylor Group (also raised in rank). Overlies Sprinkle Formation; underlies Pecan Gap Chalk (raised in rank) of Taylor Group.

Woodhurst Member (member reassigned)
(of Lodgepole Limestone)
(of Madison Group)
Lower Mississippian (Osagean)
north-central Wyoming

Sando, W. J., 1975, Stratigraphic sections of the Madison Limestone and Amsden Formation, west flank of the Bighorn basin, Wyoming, in Wyoming Geol. Assoc. Guidebook, 27th Ann. Field Conf., Bighorn Basin, 1975: p. 129-137.

In north-central Wyoming only, Woodhurst reassigned as member of Madison Limestone; Woodhurst remains member of Lodgepole Limestone of Madison Group in Montana and Idaho and elsewhere in Wyoming.

Wrong Mountain Quartz Monzonite (new name)
(of Santa Catalina Group)
Precambrian Y
south-central Arizona

Drewes, Harald, 1977, Geologic map and sections of the Rincon Valley quadrangle, Pima County, Arizona: U.S. Geol. Survey Misc. Inv. Map I-997.

Wrong Mountain Quartz Monzonite adopted as uppermost of three formations of Santa Catalina Group; overlies Continental Granodiorite of Santa Catalina.

Yakataga Formation (age changed)
lower Miocene through Holocene
Alaska

Plafker, George, and Addicott, W. O., 1976, Glaciomarine deposits of Miocene through Holocene age in the Yakataga Formation along the Gulf of Alaska margin, Alaska, in Miller, T. P., ed., Recent and ancient sedimentary environments in Alaska: Anchorage, Alaska Geol. Soc. Symposium Proc., p. Q1-Q23.

Age changed from middle Miocene to early Pleistocene to: early Miocene through Holocene.

Yellow Dirt Gneiss (name adopted)
probably upper Precambrian and
(or) lower Paleozoic
northwestern Georgia

Higgins, M. H., and McConnell, K. I., The Sandy Springs Group and related rocks in the Georgia Piedmont: nomenclature and stratigraphy: this report.

Yellow Dirt Gneiss of Crawford and Medlin (1974) adopted. Bounds Sandy Springs Group and is everywhere fault-bounded.

REVISION OF THE AGE OF THE PANCHO RICO FORMATION,
CENTRAL COAST RANGES, CALIFORNIABy Warren O. Addicott¹

The Pancho Rico Formation is a relatively thin--as much as 380 m thick (Durham, 1973)--marine sandstone and sandy mudstone unit of late Tertiary age in the Salinas basin of the central California Coast Ranges. This neritic unit represents the final regressive stage of the Miocene depositional cycle of the California Coast Ranges west of the San Andreas fault and the termination of marine conditions in the Salinas basin. This report summarizes paleontological data from the formation and revises the age from early Pliocene to late Miocene to agree with recent recalibration of the Pacific coast marine chronologies.

Outcrops of the Pancho Rico extend from the San Andreas fault westward to the foothills of the Santa Lucia Range, a distance of about 45 km. The formation extends 80 km from San Benito southward to near San Miguel. Exposures along the east side of the basin define a broad, continuous outcrop pattern of gentle westward-dipping strata, but along the west side exposures are confined to narrow belts and are discontinuous.

STRATIGRAPHY

The Pancho Rico Formation was named by Reed (1925, p. 606 [as Poncho Rico]) for marine strata exposed along the east side of the Salinas Valley. Later, Durham and Addicott (1964) formally defined the unit to include those marine strata that generally overlie the Monterey Formation and underlie the nonmarine Paso Robles Formation.

The Pancho Rico consists mostly of sandstone, but mudstone (sandy, diatomaceous, and siliceous) and minor conglomerate are also present. The formation unconformably overlies granitic basement of Late Cretaceous age in most of the northern part of the basin--the Gabilan High of Durham (1973). Farther south, it overlies the Monterey Formation and, by inference, the Santa Margarita Formation in the southernmost part of its distributional area. The contact with the

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, Calif.

underlying mudstone and shale of the Monterey Formation is usually conformable. The Pancho Rico is conformably overlain by conglomerate and sandstone of the Pliocene and Pleistocene Paso Robles Formation in the northern part of its outcrop area. Farther south, the Paso Robles unconformably overlies the Pancho Rico (Durham, 1973); along the north margin of the La Panza Range, conglomerate of the Paso Robles Formation directly overlies the Santa Margarita Formation, which is the sandy, basin-margin facies equivalent of the siliceous shale (Hames Member) and diatomite (Buttle Member) of the Monterey Formation (Durham, 1973).

FOSSILS AND AGE

The invertebrate macrofauna of the Pancho Rico includes about 140 known taxa (Durham and Addicott, 1965) of which pectinids, muricid gastropods, sand dollar echinoids, and a giant barnacle are the most conspicuous elements. These correspond closely to the fauna of the Jacalitos Formation of former usage (lower part of the Etchegoin Formation) of the Coalinga area of the San Joaquin basin to the east. Accordingly, the Pancho Rico has been referred to the "Jacalitos" Stage and, until recently, has been considered early Pliocene (Nomland, 1917; Woodring and Bramlette, 1950; Durham and Addicott, 1965). Recalibration of the California provincial benthic chronologies (Berggren, 1969, 1972; Addicott, 1972, fig. 3), however, has shown that this part of the late Tertiary is of latest Miocene age in terms of the European standard. Foraminiferal assemblages from the Pancho Rico contain a few shallow-water benthic species that are not age diagnostic. The only published report of diatom and silicoflagellate assemblage from the Pancho Rico--a locality about 16 km northeast of King City--listed species that are similar to those in assemblages from the lower part of the Sisquoc Formation of the Santa Maria basin (Wornardt, 1967).

THE BUGLE AND WITCH MEMBERS OF THE KEATING FORMATION,
 ESCABROSA GROUP, AND THE MISSISSIPPIAN NOMENCLATURE IN THE BIG
 HATCHET MOUNTAINS, HIDALGO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

By Augustus K. Armstrong¹ and Bernard L. Mamet²

The Escabrosa Limestone, of Mississippian age, was named by G. H. Girty (in Ransome, 1904) for the lower Carboniferous section on Escabrosa Ridge, west of Bisbee, Cochise County, southeastern Arizona (fig. 1). The Escabrosa Limestone in the Chiricahua and Pedregosa Mountains of southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico was elevated by Armstrong (1962, 1970) to the Escabrosa Group and divided into two newly named formations: the Keating Formation containing two informal members, A and B; and the overlying Hachita Formation (fig. 2).

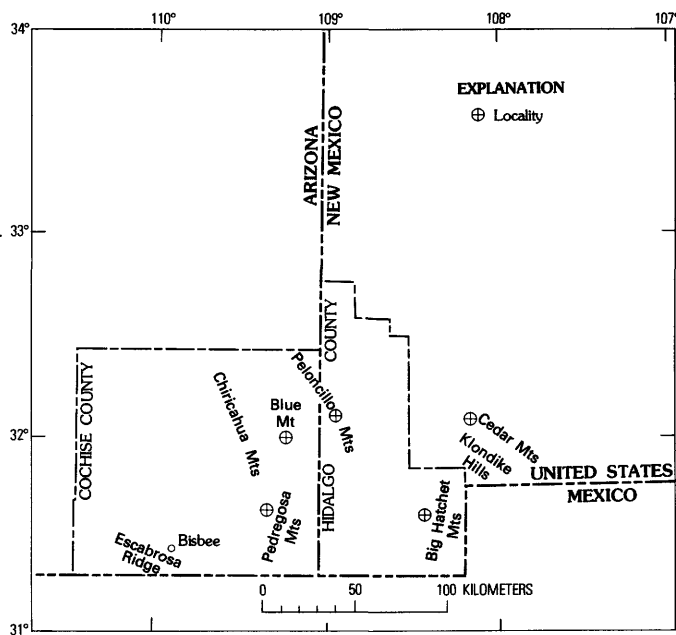
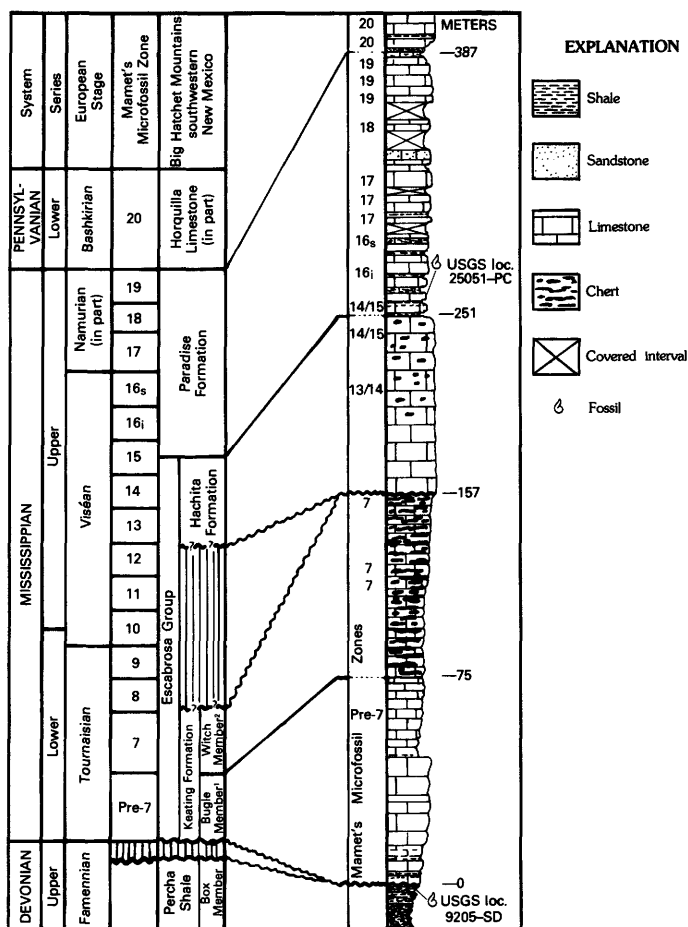


Figure 1.—Localities in southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico.

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, Calif.

²/University of Montreal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.



¹Armstrong's (1962) member A

²Armstrong's (1962) member B

Figure 2.—Biostratigraphic and lithologic correlation diagram of Mississippian strata of the Big Hatchet Mountains, Hidalgo County, southwestern New Mexico. Note that the type Tournaisian in western Europe includes Zone 6. Mamet's microfossil zonation is from Sando and others (1969) and Armstrong and Mamet (1978).

Armstrong (1962, 1970) designated sec. 20, T. 16 S., R. 30 E. (Vanar quadrangle), on the southeast side of Blue Mountain, Chiricahua Mountains, southeastern Arizona, as the type section for the Keating and Hachita Formations. The location at Blue Mountain also includes Stoyanow's (1962) type section for the Paradise Formation (Upper Mississippian).

The two informally named members A and B of the Keating Formation are here named the Bugle and Witch Members, respectively. The names are taken from Bugle Ridge and the Witch Well, published on the 1:62,500 scale Big Hatchet quadrangle map. The type sections for both members are in the E1/2 sec. 30, T. 29 S., R. 15 W., northeast side of the Big Hatchet Mountains, Hidalgo County, southwestern New Mexico (fig. 1). These two members are recognized in the Klondike Hills, Cedar Mountains, and Peloncillo Mountains of New Mexico and at Blue Mountain, Chiricahua Mountains, and Pedregosa Mountains of southeastern Arizona.

The Bugle Member (fig. 2) rests unconformably on the yellowish-gray shale and nodular limestone of the Box Member of the Percha Shale. A collection of brachiopods from the Box Member, less than a meter below the contact with the the Bugle Member, contains the following brachiopods identified by J. Thomas Dutro, Jr. (USGS loc. 9205-SD):

Schuchertella percha (Stainbrook)
Leioproductus varispinosus (Stainbrook)
Sentosia praecursor (Stainbrook)
Cyrtospirifer kindlei (Stainbrook)
Cleiothyridina? sp.
Composita? sp.

Dutro (written commun., 1973) stated that this is clearly the fauna from the Box Member of the Percha Shale that was described by Stainbrook (1947) and is a fauna of probable middle Famennian (Late Devonian) Age.

The gray crinoidal-bryozoan-packstone of the Bugle Member rests with a sharp contact on the yellow-gray calcareous shale of the Box Member of the Percha Shale. The Bugle Member is 75 m thick and is massive-bedded bryozoan-echinoderm to ooid packstone and wackestone and argillaceous crinoidal-bryozoan packstone. The member has almost no chert. Armstrong (1962) reported a megafauna from 30 to 60 m above the base of the Bugle Member: brachiopods, Unispirifer balki Armstrong, Spirifer louisianensis Rowley, Brachythyris peculiaris (Shumard); rugose corals, Lithostrotionella microstylum (White), L. lochmanae Armstrong, Homalophyllites calceolus (White and Whitfield), and Rylstonia teres (Girty). Mamet found a microfossil assemblage of pre-Zone 7 age from 68 to 70 m above the base. Mamet's microfossil zonation, as defined in Sando, Mamet, and Dutro (1969, p. E12-E17) and Armstrong and Mamet (1978), is used in this report. The Bugle Member is late early to early middle Tournaisian (Early Mississippian) in age.

The base of the overlying Witch Member is placed at the lowermost occurrence of abundant nodular black chert. The Witch Member is 82 m thick. Nodular to lenticular, gray to yellowish-orange-gray chert makes up 15 to 35 percent of the member. Sedimentary features include fine ripple cross-laminations cut by numerous small worm burrows. The

limestone is gray to dark gray and is composed to spiculitic-pelletoid-bryozoan-echinoderm-lime mudstone to wackestone and packstone. Imbrexia forbesi (Norwood and Patton) is the most abundant brachiopod in the upper half of the Witch Member (Armstrong, 1962), and Mamet found a microfossil assemblage of Zone 7 of the middle Tournaisian (Early Mississippian) for the upper 4 m of the Witch Member.

The contact between the dark-gray, chert-rich Witch Member and the overlying massive light-gray, chert-free, crinoidal-bryozoan wackestone to packstone of the Hachita Formation is abrupt. The Hachita Formation is 94 m thick.

Fossils are absent in the lower part of the Hachita Formation. The microfossils Brunsia spp. (Zones 14 and 15) and the brachiopods Syringothyris subcuspidatus (Hall) and Werria keokuk (Hall) (Armstrong, 1962) occur 10 and 15 to 20 m, respectively, below the top of the Hachita Formation. The top of the Hachita Formation is early late Viséan (Late Mississippian) in age.

The Paradise Formation has a gradational contact through 2 to 3 m with the underlying Hachita Formation. The Paradise Formation is 133 m thick and consists of gray to dusty yellow-gray to dusty greenish-gray limestone alternating with thin-bedded, calcareous shale and siltstone. The carbonate rocks, in beds 0.5 to 2 m thick, are typically lime mudstone brachiopod-bryozoan-molluscan wackestone and packstone and ooid-foraminiferal packstone to grainstone.

In 1972 Armstrong collected a cephalopod fauna 4 m above the base of the Paradise Formation. These fossils were identified by Mackenzie Gordon, Jr. (written commun., 1973; USGS loc., 25051-PC) as: Michelinoceras? sp., Brachycycloceras sp., Reticycloceras sp., Mitorthoceras perfilosum Gordon?, Girtyoceras sp., Goniatites americanus Gordon. Gordon commented "The Goniatites americanus Gordon Zone is the lowest of three zones characterized by the species of Goniatites and marks the top of the Meramecian Series in the midcontinental and western United States. It should occur in Mamet's microfossil Zone 15." Subsequently, Mamet found the Brunsia spp. microfossils of Zone 14-15 with the Goniatites. The base of the Paradise Formation in the Big Hatchet Mountains is no younger than Zone 15.

Mamet's microfossil Zones 15 through 19, Viséan and Namurian, were recognized in the Paradise section. The uppermost strata of the Paradise Formation are a pale yellow-gray foraminiferal-oid grainstone, overlain by 1 m of gray nodular limestone in a gray shale. M. K. Elias (in Zeller, 1965, table 1) gave a megafossil list for the Paradise Formation of the Big Hatchet Mountains. The basal bed of the Pennsylvanian section is 1.5 to 2 m of light-brown quartz sandstone containing imprints of plant remains. This sandstone formation is in turn overlain by massive foraminiferal-oid-brachiopod wackestone that contains brown-gray lenticular nodular chert. The microfossils in the limestone are Zone 20, Pennsylvanian, Bashkirian, in age. The hiatus between the Mississippian and Pennsylvanian Systems in the Big Hatchet Mountains, if present, represents a very brief time, and the section may be continuous.

REVISED AGES OF CAMBRIAN AND ORDOVICIAN FORMATIONS OF THE CONESTOGA
VALLEY NEAR YORK AND LANCASTER, SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

By Gregory S. Gohn¹

The Conestoga Valley, located along the northern edge of the Pennsylvania Piedmont (fig. 3), contains a sequence of carbonate and siliciclastic rocks that are broadly correlative with the Cambrian and Ordovician rocks to the north and west in the Blue Ridge and Great Valley area. Metamorphic grade and structural complexity increase abruptly to the southeast in the Piedmont, and the Conestoga Valley is one of the easternmost locations in the central and southern Appalachians in which relatively undeformed, fossiliferous, Paleozoic sedimentary rocks can be studied.

The stratigraphy of the Cambrian and Ordovician carbonate rocks of the Conestoga Valley was originally formalized in a series of articles by George W. Stose and Anna Jonas Stose (Stose and Jonas, 1922; Jonas and Stose, 1926; Jonas and Stose, 1930; Stose and Jonas, 1939; Stose and Stose, 1944). In later years, Meisler and Becher (1968, 1971) remapped part of the Conestoga Valley and defined three structural-stratigraphic belts of carbonate rocks; the Lititz and Mount Joy belts north of the Hellam Hills and Chickies Ridge and the Welsh Mountain uplifts (fig. 3), and the Lancaster belt south of the uplifts. Meisler and Becher (1968) also revised the stratigraphy of the Upper Cambrian and Ordovician rocks (Elbrook Limestone, Conococheague Group, Beekmantown Limestone, and

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Va.

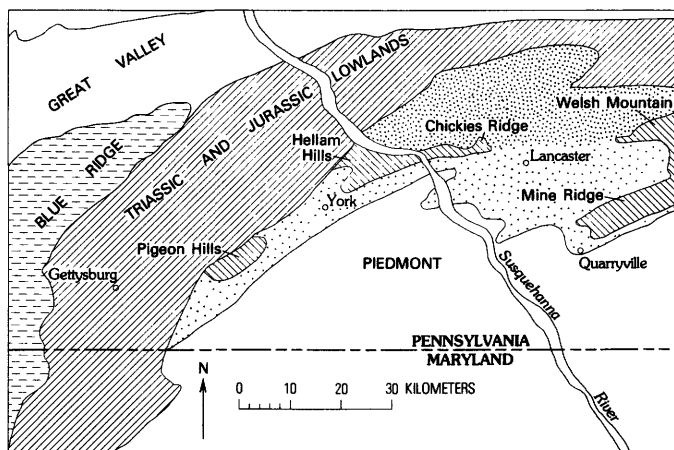


Figure 3.—Location of physiographic provinces in southeastern Pennsylvania near York and Lancaster. Structural and stratigraphic belts of Cambrian and Ordovician carbonate rocks in the Conestoga Valley defined by Meisler and Becher (1971) are shown in heavy (Lititz and Mount Joy belts) and light (Lancaster belt) stipple. The Lancaster belt is here redefined to include the carbonate rocks around York. Basement uplifts around the Conestoga Valley include the Pigeon Hills, the Hellam Hills and Chickies Ridge, Welsh Mountain, and Mine Ridge.

"Cocalico basal limestone" of Jonas and Stose, 1930) of the Lititz and Mount Joy belts but accepted the stratigraphy of Jonas and Stose (1930) for the Lancaster belt. Subsequent studies of the lithostratigraphy and biostratigraphy of the rocks of the Lancaster-York belt (fig. 3) by Campbell (1969, 1971), Yochelson (1970), and Gohn (1976) have shown the basic lithostratigraphic framework of Jonas and Stose to be correct, but they have also pointed out the need for revision of the age assignments of several formations (table 1).

Jonas and Stose had defined three informal members in the Kinzers Formation and assigned them to the Lower Cambrian Series (Stose and Stose, 1944). Campbell (1971) reported Middle Cambrian fossils ("*Ogygopsis* shale" fauna) from the upper member of the Kinzers Formation in Lancaster County. These fossils, in conjunction with the well-known Early Cambrian faunas of the Kinzers' lower and middle members and the underlying Vintage Dolomite (Resser and Howell, 1938; Stose and Stose, 1944; Yochelson, 1970) indicate that the Kinzers (table 1) belongs to both the Lower Cambrian (lower, middle, and basal part of upper members) and the Middle Cambrian (upper part of upper member).

Table 1.—Stratigraphic sections of the carbonate rocks of the Lancaster–York belt of the Conestoga Valley, southeastern Pennsylvania.

SYSTEM	SERIES	STOSE AND STOSE (1944)	THIS REPORT
ORDOVICIAN	LOWER	CONESTOGA LIMESTONE	— ? —
			CONESTOGA LIMESTONE
CAMBRIAN	UPPER	? — UNCONFORMITY — ?	
	MIDDLE		? — UNCONFORMITY — ? LEDGER DOLOMITE
	LOWER	LEDGER DOLOMITE	KINZERS FORMATION
		KINZERS FORMATION	
		VINTAGE DOLOMITE	VINTAGE DOLOMITE

Although no fossils have ever been found in the Ledger Dolomite, Jonas and Stose assigned it to the Lower Cambrian (table 1) on the basis of regional stratigraphic relationships (Stose and Stose, 1944, p. 33–34). However, the presence of Middle Cambrian fossils in the underlying Kinzers Formation and the position of the Ledger unconformably beneath Middle(?) Cambrian fossils in the Conestoga Limestone (see below) require that the Ledger be considered Middle Cambrian in age.

Until recently, no stratigraphically diagnostic fossils had been found in the Conestoga Limestone. Early reports of fossils in the Conestoga by Jonas and Stose were incorrect as the specimens were later shown to be from the Kinzers Formation (Stose and Stose, 1944, p. 37). Brachiopods from near the base of the Conestoga west of Lancaster reported to be of Early Ordovician age (D.U. Wise in Campbell, 1969, p. 35) could actually be identified only as "...most likely either Cambrian or Lower Ordovician forms" (R.B. Neuman, unpub. data, 1964).

The generally accepted Early Ordovician age of the Conestoga Limestone is based in large part upon the presence of Early Ordovician mollusks (Stose and Stose, 1944; Richards, 1958) in limestone tentatively correlated with the Conestoga from outcrops located well east of Lancaster at Henderson Station. The correlation of those beds with the Conestoga Limestone around York and Lancaster remains speculative, and the assignment of an Early Ordovician age to the Conestoga on the basis of these fossils is at best tentative.

Trilobites and inarticulate brachiopods from a single outcrop at the base of the Conestoga near York are fragmented and tectonically distorted. Tentative identification of several genera by Michael E. Taylor (written commun., 1977) suggests a Middle Cambrian age for that fauna. The very poor preservation of the fossil material prohibits conclusive statements about the age.

Biostratigraphic data for the Conestoga therefore remain sparse and inconclusive. The best age assignment for the Conestoga Limestone at present (table 1) is Middle(?) Cambrian to Early Ordovician(?).

THE SANDY SPRINGS GROUP AND RELATED ROCKS IN THE GEORGIA PIEDMONT;
NOMENCLATURE AND STRATIGRAPHYBy Michael W. Higgins¹ and Keith I. McConnell²

Northwest of the Brevard Zone, in the Georgia Piedmont, is a series of long, linear, northeast-trending ridges generally held up by quartzite; the valleys and slopes between the ridges are underlain by schist, gneiss, and amphibolite. The topography of this area is greatly different from that to the southeast and to the northwest (Clark and Zisa, 1976; fig. 4, this paper). The rocks of this terrane form a distinct structural and stratigraphic sequence. In 1966, Higgins (also 1968) used the informal name "Sandy Springs Sequence" for these rocks. Unfortunately, he capitalized "Sequence," erroneously implying a formal name. Since then, other workers in the area have used the name "Sandy Springs Sequence" in a more-or-less formal way. "Sequence" is not a recognized stratigraphic name (American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature, 1970) and should be abandoned.

The purpose of this paper is to formalize the name Sandy Springs Group, to define the group and its constituent formations and members of formations, and to propose correlations with units along strike.

SANDY SPRINGS GROUP

The Sandy Springs Group is here formally named for, and its type area given as, the town of Sandy Springs, Ga. (see U.S. Geological Survey, Sandy Springs, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle), where the name "Sandy Springs Sequence" was used (Higgins, 1966, 1968), and where most of the formations that make up the group are fairly well exposed. The group consists of (ascending): Powers Ferry Formation (with its Mableton Amphibolite Member), Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite, Factory Shoals Formation, and Rottenwood Creek Quartzite. The age of the group is unknown but is probably late Precambrian and (or) early Paleozoic. The thickness of the group (apparent thickness because of folding), its constituent formations, and the apparent stratigraphic relations are shown in figure 5. Rocks of the Sandy

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Atlanta, Ga.

²/Georgia Geological Survey, Atlanta, Ga.

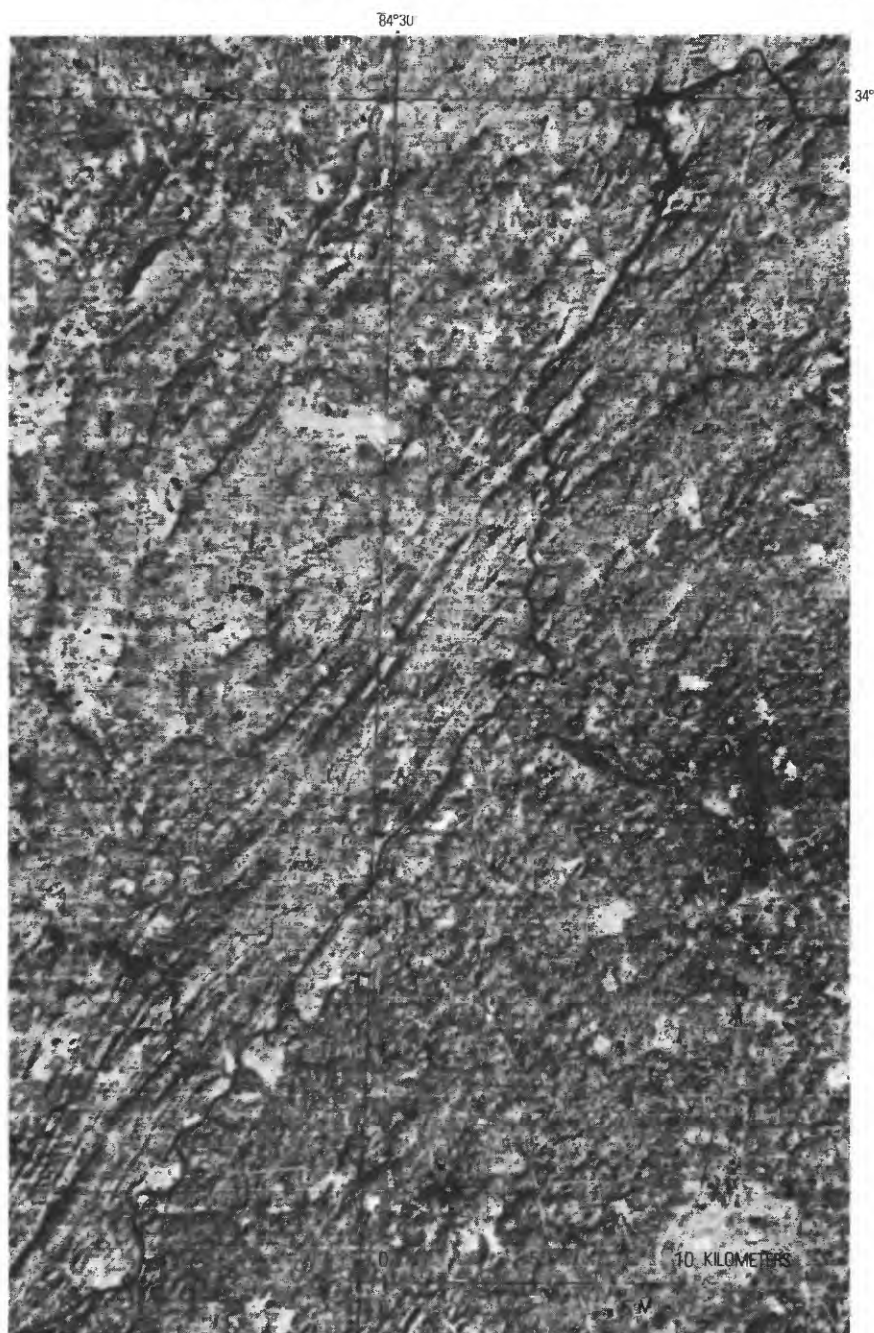


Figure 4.—Enlarged Landsat image (band 7) showing the quartzite ridges of the Sandy Springs Group.

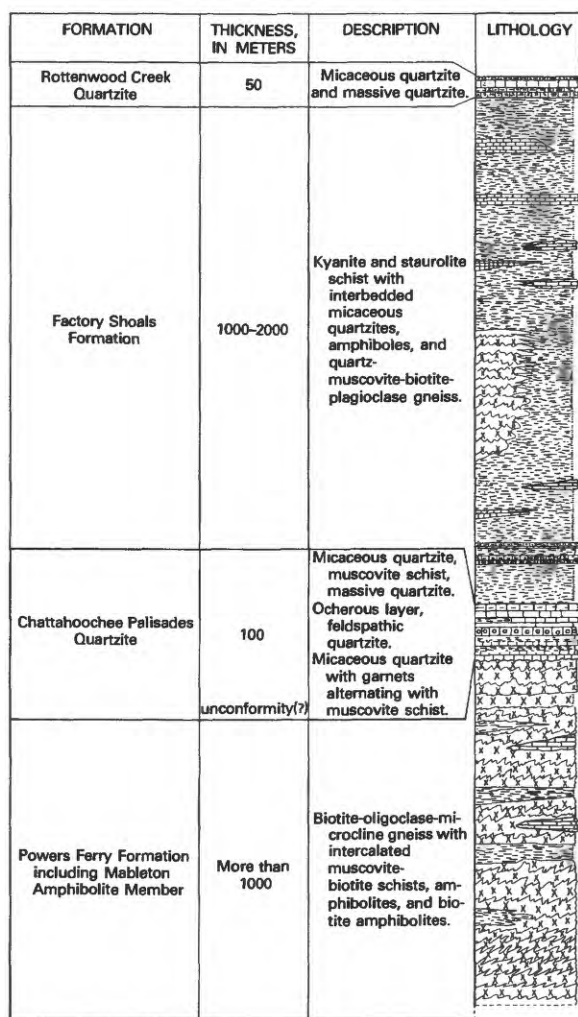


Figure 5.—Diagrammatic stratigraphic column of the Sandy Springs Group.

Springs Group have now been mapped as far northeast as South Carolina (fig. 6; Higgins, 1968; Murray, 1973, and unpub. data, 1975; Hatcher, 1971, 1974) and as far southwest as Alabama (Crawford and Medlin, 1974). Across strike, they extend from the Brevard Zone as far as 30 km (19 mi) to the northwest (fig. 6). Measured sections through parts of the group are given in Higgins (1965).

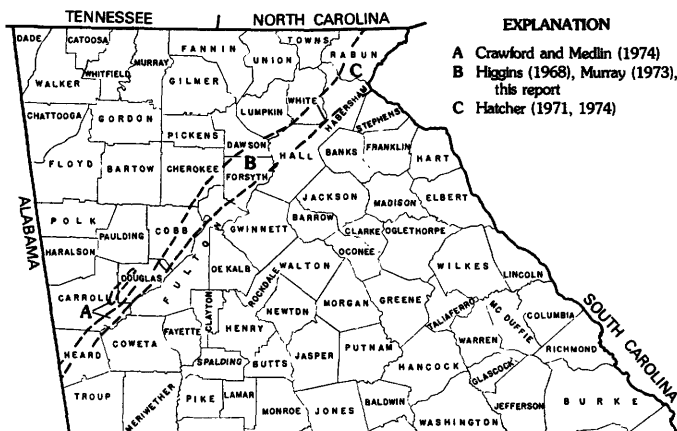


Figure 6.—County outline map of part of Georgia showing known outcrop area (inside dashed lines) of the Sandy Springs Group. Letters indicate mapped areas.

Crawford and Medlin (1974) proposed many informal names for units that they mapped in the "Sandy Springs Sequence." These names are, for the most part, not adopted in this paper because they were informal and were published only in a field trip guidebook and because we prefer to use names for geographic localities that are as near as possible to the type area for the group name.

POWERS FERRY FORMATION

The Powers Ferry Formation is here named for, and its type area given as, Powers Ferry (now called Powers Ferry Landing, where Powers Ferry once crossed the Chattahoochee River; U.S. Geological Survey, Sandy Springs, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle), where the rocks are well exposed in new cuts in the Powers Ferry Landing shopping

center and office park. The Powers Ferry Formation consists of the rocks that Higgins (1966, 1968) called "the gneiss-schist-amphibolite unit" and of other lithologies now mapped along strike by Crawford and Medlin (1974), Murray (1973), Hatcher (1971, 1974), and McConnell (unpub. data, 1977; also see McConnell and Abrams, in press). A type section of these rocks is exposed along Anneewakee Creek and along the road leading to Camp Anneewakee (U.S. Geological Survey, Campbellton, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle).

As mentioned above, the Powers Ferry Formation consists mainly of intercalated gneiss, schist, and amphibolite in decreasing order of abundance. One large mappable amphibolite unit is named below.

The gneiss in the Powers Ferry Formation is generally a medium-grained gray, discontinuously striped muscovite-biotite-microcline-quartz-oligoclase (about An₁₂) gneiss, locally having pink microcline augen as long as 7 cm (2 3/4 in). In places, it contains small amounts of epidote, opaque minerals, and garnet. Concordant quartz-microcline pegmatite is fairly common, and pods and discontinuous layers of muscovite-biotite-quartz schist, amphibolite, and hornblende schist are common and locally constitute most of the formation. Parts of the gneiss resemble massive quartzite. Some biotite-quartz-plagioclase gneiss (probably metagraywacke) occurs within the formation, and specularite quartzite and layered amphibolite are mappable for short distances.

The Powers Ferry Formation is apparently the oldest formation in the Sandy Springs Group. The base of the formation has not been seen because the Powers Ferry Formation is present only in the cores of antiforms. It is in sharp contact, possibly unconformably, with the overlying Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite (fig. 5). This contact is well exposed in cuts of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad on the flanks of the Vinings antiform (Vinings anticline of Higgins, 1966, 1968) near Vinings, Ga. (U.S. Geological Survey, Northwest Atlanta, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle). The actual thickness of the Powers Ferry Formation is unknown because the base is not exposed and because of isoclinal folding. On the basis of distribution shown on geologic map, the formation is estimated to be more than 1,000 m (3,290 ft) thick.

MABLETON AMPHIBOLITE MEMBER

Layered hornblende-plagioclase amphibolite within the Powers Ferry Formation is here named (and its type area given) the Mableton Amphibolite Member for exposures along and north of Fountain Road just northeast of Mableton (U.S. Geological Survey, Mableton, Georgia, 7 1/2

min. topographic quadrangle; McConnell, unpub. data, 1977). Higgins (1968) showed two belts of disconnected layered amphibolite within the Powers Ferry (his gneiss-schist-amphibolite unit), but McConnell's recent work has shown that they are connected. The amphibolite appears to be about 500-700 m (1,640-2,300 ft) thick on the basis of distribution shown on geologic map.

CHATTAHOOCHEE PALISADES QUARTZITE

The Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite is here named for, and its type area given as, the Palisades of the Chattahoochee River in Chattahoochee Palisades State Park (U.S. Geological Survey, Sandy Springs, Georgia, 7 1/2 min topographic quadrangle), where it forms cliff outcrops (see Higgins, 1968, lower quartzite unit). It is commonly a massive white, yellowish, or bluish, sugary to vitreous quartzite containing accessory mica and elongated garnets. Locally it shows graded bedding, but more commonly beds 0.3-1.2 m (1-4 ft) thick are interlayered with feldspathic quartzite and muscovite schist. Along strike, variations to quartzose mica schist also are seen that are due to sedimentary facies changes. The bottom of the quartzite is in sharp, possibly unconformable, contact with the underlying Powers Ferry Formation. Within a few meters (a few feet), the top grades into rocks of the Factory Shoals Formation. On the basis of distribution shown on geologic map, the quartzite appears to be about 100 m (329 ft) thick, but is locally absent probably because of nondeposition.

FACTORY SHOALS FORMATION

The Factory Shoals Formation is here named for, and its type area given as, exposures along Sweetwater Creek at Factory Shoals (U.S. Geological Survey, Ben Hill, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle; see McConnell and Abrams, *in press*). It includes the rocks mapped by Higgins (1968) as his aluminous schist unit. The Factory Shoals is commonly a light-gray lustrous garnet-biotite-oligoclase-muscovite-quartz schist locally containing kyanite or staurolite. It also contains layers of quartz muscovite schist, thinly bedded red micaceous quartzite, muscovite-biotite-plagioclase metagraywacke, and graphitic-muscovite-quartz schist. Locally metagraywacke predominates. It is in gradational contact (see above) with the Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite at its base, and grades over a short distance into the Rottenwood Creek Quartzite at its top (fig. 5). On the basis of distribution shown on geologic map (Higgins, 1968; McConnell, unpub. data, 1977), the formation appears to be 1,000-2,000 m (3,290-6,570 ft) thick.

ROTTENWOOD CREEK QUARTZITE

The Rottenwood Creek Quartzite is here named for, and its type area given as, excellent exposures along Rottenwood Creek about 1,000 m (3,290 ft) southeast of Akers Mill Road (U.S. Geological Survey, Sandy Springs, Ga., 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle). It is commonly a massive muscovite-bearing quartzite containing small amounts of plagioclase, epidote, and opaque minerals (Higgins, 1966). It is the uppermost unit of the Sandy Springs Group. At the base, it grades over a short distance into the Factory Shoals Formation. It crops out along the axial traces of synforms and is absent in many places owing to erosion or nondeposition(?). On the basis of distribution shown on maps (Higgins, 1968), it is as much as 50 m (164 ft) thick.

RELATED ROCKS

LONG ISLAND CREEK GNEISS

The Long Island Creek Gneiss is here named for, and its type area given as, exposures on the southeast side of Long Island Creek near and along Roswell Road (U.S. Geological Survey, Sandy Springs, Ga., 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle; Higgins, 1968). It is in fault contact with all other adjacent rocks; therefore, its stratigraphic position and age are unknown. It is named here because it forms a mappable boundary of the Sandy Springs Group. The Long Island Creek Gneiss is typically a dark-gray epidote-biotite-plagioclase gneiss. It generally contains euhedral crystals of sphene and a few tiny garnets. It weathers to a massive yellow saprolite. Good exposures of typical Long Island Creek Gneiss are seen in cuts for driveways at the new I.B.M. facility on U.S. Highway 41 just southeast of the Chattahoochee River (U.S. Geological Survey, Northwest Atlanta, Ga., 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle). The thickness of the Long Island Creek Gneiss is unknown.

YELLOW DIRT GNEISS

Crawford and Medlin (1974, p. 11) informally named the "Yellow Dirt gneiss" for the community of Yellow Dirt, Heard County, Ga., (U.S. Geological Survey, Lowell, Georgia, 7 1/2 min. topographic quadrangle). The gneiss is commonly a fine-to-medium-grained, biotite-epidote-muscovite-quartz-plagioclase-microcline rock that generally has strong

cataclastic textures (blastomylonite and mylonite gneiss, see Higgins, 1971). It bounds the Sandy Springs Group for long distances and is here proposed as a formal formation with the type locality that of Crawford and Medlin (1974; see above). The gneiss is estimated to be 75-240 m (250-800 ft) thick (see Crawford and Medlin, 1974). Because it is fault-bounded, its stratigraphic position and age are unknown.

CORRELATIONS

Table 2 gives the correlation that Crawford and Medlin (1974) proposed between the "Sandy Springs Sequence" of Higgins (1966, 1968) and their informal units and between these two "sequences" and the formal group proposed in this paper. To the northeast, the rocks of the Sandy Springs Group are probably correlative, as indicated, with some of the rocks in the Tallulah Falls area (Higgins, 1966; Hatcher, 1974).

Table 2.—Correlation chart of Sandy Springs Group with other informal units in northwestern Georgia.

SW	NE								
				"Sandy Springs Sequence" Crawford & Medlin (1974)	"Sandy Springs Sequence" Higgins (1966,1968)	Sandy Springs Group This paper	Tallulah Falls Formation Hatcher (1974)	Mt. Olive Church (schist)	Not present
Adamson quartzite	Upper quartzite	Rottenwood Creek Quartzite	Quartzite-schist member and graywacke schist member(?)	Backbone schist	Aluminous schist	Factory Shoals Formation	Garnet-aluminous-schist member	Anneewakee graphitic schist-quartzite	
Sparks Reservoir (schist and gneiss)				Dry Creek quartzite	Lower quartzite	Chattahoochee Palisades Quartzite	Not defined	Chapel Hill Church (gneiss and schist)	
Mt. Vernon Church graphitic schist- quartzite				Mt. Vernon Church schist	Gneiss-schist- amphibolite	Powers Ferry Formation including Mableton Amphibolite Member	Graywacke-schist amphibolite member		

RESTRICTION AND RENAMING OF THE NERUOKPUK FORMATION,
NORTHEASTERN ALASKA

By Hillard N. Reiser,¹ Donald K. Norris,²
J. Thomas Dutro, Jr.,³ and William P. Brosge¹

E. de K. Leffingwell (1919, p. 103-105, pl.11) mapped a distinctive quartzite schist from the Canning River eastward to the Jago River. He described the schist, which he considered pre-Carboniferous, as being typically developed at Lake Peters and named it the Neruokpuk Schist, stating that the name is taken from the Eskimo name for Lakes Peters and Schrader. And indeed, Lake Peters, the southern of these two joined lakes, is surrounded by mountains that are underlain by this quartzite schist.

Subsequent mapping by geologists of the U.S. Geological Survey in and east of its type area expanded the Neruokpuk to include additional rock types (Brosge and others, 1962; Reed, 1968; Reiser, 1970; Sable, 1977), and its name was revised to Neruokpuk Formation. In 1972, its age was revised to Precambrian, Cambrian, and post-Cambrian pre-Mississippian on the basis of marine fauna from some parts (Dutro and others, 1972). The quartzite schist was designated a Precambrian member of the Neruokpuk, and 11 other lithologically distinct members were described.

Geologists working in northeastern Alaska and in the adjoining northwestern part of Canada have found the name Neruokpuk Formation confusing as now applied because of the great variety of rock types and the extensive age range of the unit.

To remedy the present confusion, we propose that (1) the name Neruokpuk be again restricted to the rocks lithologically correlative and homotaxial with the type Neruokpuk as originally described by Leffingwell, and (2) that the name Neruokpuk Quartzite be used to reflect this restricted usage.

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²/Geological Survey of Canada, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

³/U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.

According to this new usage, basement rocks in the wells drilled in northeastern Alaska should no longer be referred to the Neruokpuk unless they sufficiently resemble the quartzite schist at its type locality. A lithologic unit found in the wells that cannot be correlated with rock units recognized in surface exposures perhaps should have its own nomenclature.

AGE OF THE METALINE LIMESTONE OR FORMATION
IN NORTHEASTERN WASHINGTON

By John E. Repetski¹

Conodont and vertebrate evidence, recently discovered, indicates that the top of the Metaline Limestone (or Formation) in Stevens County, northeastern Washington, probably is Late Cambrian or Early Ordovician in age. A sample containing a few poorly preserved conodont fragments and a few pieces of the oldest known fish, Anatolepis, was collected and labeled: "In place from upper 1.0 foot of Metaline Dolomite" by M. E. Taylor (U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colo.) and J. E. Schuster (Geology and Earth Resources Division, Olympia, Wash.) [USGS fossil locality no. 8667-CO]. The conodont fragments are not identifiable, but they are of a type that is not known to occur lower than the Upper Cambrian (Franconian Stage). Anatolepis is known, thus far, to have an age range of Late Cambrian (Ptychaspis-Prosaugia [trilobite] Zone) to late Early Ordovician (Arenigian to Canadian) or possibly earliest Middle Ordovician (late Arenigian or earliest Llanvirnian to Whiterockian). On the basis of this evidence, and until additional fossils are recovered, I recommend that the age of the Metaline be considered as Middle to Late(?) Cambrian and Early Ordovician(?).

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.

AGES OF THE LEE, BREATHITT, CASEYVILLE,
TRADEWATER, AND STURGIS FORMATIONS IN KENTUCKYBy Charles L. Rice¹

The boundary between the Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian Series in the Appalachian and Eastern Interior basins in Kentucky has generally been considered to be equivalent to the Morrowan-Atokan boundary of the midcontinent region. Unfortunately, however, new stratigraphic data indicate that these boundaries do not correspond; therefore, the ages of several Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian units in Kentucky need to be reassigned. In addition, new paleontological data indicate that the Sturgis Formation of western Kentucky extends from Middle Pennsylvanian to Early Permian age.

The top of the Lower Pennsylvanian Series in the proposed Pennsylvanian System stratotype section in West Virginia is placed at a marked change in lithology between resistant quartzose sandstone of the New River Formation and nonresistant shale and sandstone in the overlying Kanawha Formation (Englund and others, 1977). Although this boundary is equivalent in age to that between the Lee Formation and overlying Hance Formation (the lowest formation of the Breathitt Group) in the Cumberland overthrust block of eastern Kentucky, the Lee Formation intertongues with the Breathitt Formation northwestward, and the top of the Lee rises stratigraphically an appreciable amount in that direction (Englund, 1961, p. 69). Figure 7 shows the age relations of some tongues of the Lee Formation along the Pottsville escarpment (the western edge of the Appalachian basin) and the Lee Formation of the Cumberland overthrust block in eastern Kentucky.

Paleontological data useful in establishing the position of the boundary between the Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian Series in areas other than that of the proposed Pennsylvanian stratotype are sparse. However, Robert Kosanke (oral commun., 1978) demonstrated that the top of the range zone of the spore Schulzopora rara of Mississippian to Middle Pennsylvanian age occurs in the middle part of the Hance Formation in the Cumberland overthrust block, near the base of the Corbin Sandstone Tongue of the Lee Formation in the Pottsville escarpment, and in the upper part of the Caseyville Formation in western Kentucky. Therefore, the Lee, Breathitt, and Caseyville Formations are all Early and Middle Pennsylvanian in age in Kentucky.

¹/U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Va.

Provincial Series	WESTERN KENTUCKY	EASTERN KENTUCKY		Series
		Pottsville escarpment	Cumberland overthrust block	
Atokan	Lower and middle parts of	Lower and middle parts	Bryson Formation	Middle Pennsylvanian
			Hignite	
	Tradewater Formation	of	Formation	
		Breathitt Formation	Catron Formation	
Morrowan	Caseyville	Corbin Sandstone Tongue of Lee Formation	Mingo Formation	Lower Pennsylvanian
		Rockcastle Sandstone Tongue of Lee Formation	Hance Formation	
	Formation			
		Livingston Conglomerate Tongue of Lee Formation	Lee Formation	

Figure 7.—Chart showing general age relations of some Lower and Middle Pennsylvanian units in Kentucky.

The boundary between the Morrowan and Atokan Series in eastern Kentucky has been tentatively placed in the middle part of the Breathitt Formation (Group) in eastern Kentucky, between the Kendrick Shale of Jillson (1919), Morrowan in age, and the Magoffin Member, Atokan in age (Mackenzie Gordon, Jr., written commun., 1976). In western Kentucky, Douglass (written commun., 1977) identified fusulinids of early Atokan age in the middle part of the Tradewater Formation. Therefore, the Lee and Caseyville Formations are Morrowan in age, and the Breathitt Formation (Group) and probably the Tradewater Formation contain strata of Morrowan as well as Atokan age.

Studies of fusulinids from limestone of the Sturgis Formation of western Kentucky (Douglass, written commun., 1977) indicate that the boundary between the Middle and Upper Pennsylvanian Series occurs between the Madisonville Limestone Member (below) and the Carthage Limestone Member (above); this boundary is generally considered to correspond to that between the Des Moinesian and Missourian Series. Fusulinids of Early Permian age from drill core samples in the Bordley quadrangle also occur in the uppermost part of the Sturgis Formation in a conformable sequence of shale and limestone. Therefore, the Sturgis Formation extends from Middle Pennsylvanian to Early Permian age.

CORAL ZONES AND PROBLEMS OF MISSISSIPPIAN
STRATIGRAPHY IN THE WILLISTON BASIN,
MONTANA AND NORTH DAKOTA¹

By William J. Sando²

Study of Mississippian corals from the Madison Group in seven well cores from the Williston basin of Montana and North Dakota indicates that coral zones are useful for correlation of subsurface sections with outcrop sections and that they are more useful for correlation within the Williston basin subsurface than previously thought. The distribution of corals in the Charles Formation and Mission Canyon Limestone indicates that the Charles is a time-transgressive unit of late Osagean to early Meramecian age and is partly equivalent to the Mission Canyon Limestone of outcrop. The base of the Charles transgresses the Osagean-Meramecian boundary, ascending basinward in the well cores studied. Use of the Charles Formation should be restricted to the Williston basin subsurface. The occurrence of corals indicates that the Charles is separated from the overlying Kibbey Formation (Chesterian) by a disconformity that represents an erosion interval ranging from middle Meramecian into early Chesterian.

¹/From Sando, W. J., 1978, Coral zones and problems of Mississippian stratigraphy in the Williston basin, in Montana Geol. Soc., Williston Basin Symposium, Sept. 24-27, 1978, Billings, Mont., Proc.: p. 231-237.
²/U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.

TWIN RIVER GROUP (UPPER EOCENE TO LOWER MIOCENE)--DEFINED
TO INCLUDE THE HOKO RIVER, MAKAH, AND PYSHT FORMATIONS,
CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

By Parke D. Snavely,¹ Jr., Alan R. Niem,² and James E. Pearl¹

This report revises the nomenclature and stratigraphic rank of the Twin River Formation (upper Eocene to lower Miocene), as defined by Arnold and Hannibal (1913) and redefined by Brown and Gower (1958), that crops out in the north-central part of the Olympic Peninsula, Wash. (fig. 8). The Twin River Formation is herein raised to group rank because the three members defined by Brown and Gower (1958) are thick and distinct rock-stratigraphic bodies that have been mapped along strike for more than 100 km by Brown and others (1960), Gower (1960), and Parke D. Snavely, Jr., Norman S. MacLeod, and James E. Pearl (written commun., 1974; cited in Tabor and Cady, 1978), thus establishing their formational rank (American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature, 1952).

The Twin River Group consists of three new formations that are named and briefly described in this report. These new formations are the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations and correlate with the lower, middle, and upper members of the Twin River Formation, respectively, as defined by Brown and Gower (1958) in their type locality along Deep Creek (figs. 8 and 9). The type localities and reference sections used to define the three new formations in the Twin River Group that are described in this report are shown on figure 8. These new formations are briefly described from oldest to youngest.

HOKO RIVER FORMATION (NEW NAME)

Type locality

The type locality for the Hoko River Formation is designated as the exposures in the stream bed and cliffs of the Hoko River and in railway and road cuts parallel to the river from a point 1 km north of the junction of Blue Canyon with the Hoko River southward to a point 1.5 km north of the Hoko Falls bridge (fig. 8). The shore cliffs and wave-cut

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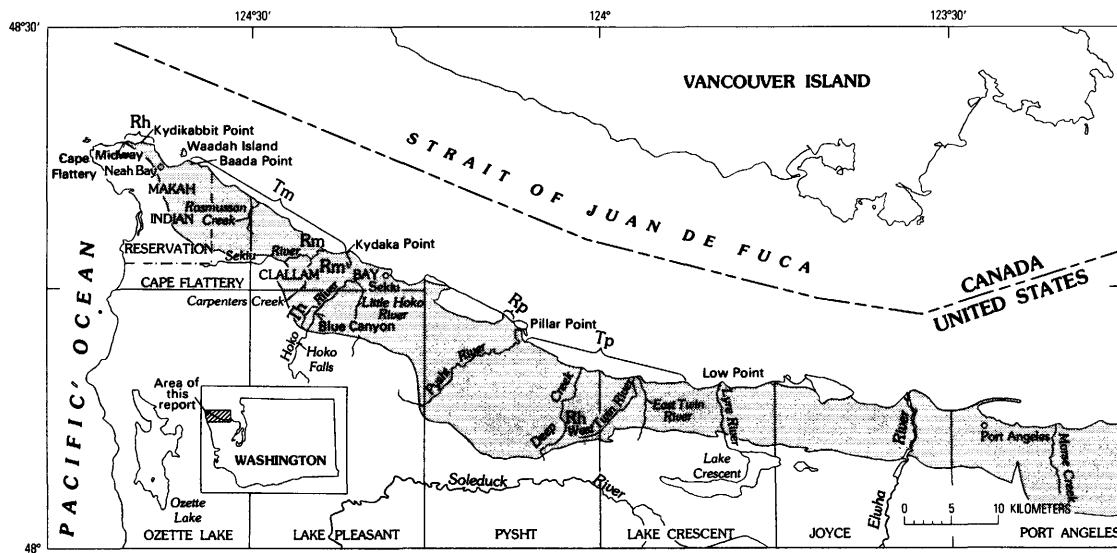


Figure 8.—Index map of the northwestern part of the Olympic Peninsula, Washington, showing distribution of the Twin River Group (upper Eocene to lower Miocene) (shaded) and locations of type localities and reference sections of new formations named and described in this report. Type localities are indicated by brackets that contain letter symbols Th, Hoko River Formation; Tm, Makah Formation; and Tp, Pysht Formation. Reference sections are indicated by Rh, Hoko River; Rm, Makah; and Rp, Pysht. Names of 15-minute quadrangles in lower part of quadrangle.

Age		Brown and Gower (1958)	Snively and others (this report)		Foram Stages	Molluscan Stages
TERTIARY	Early Miocene	Clallam Formation		Clallam Formation	Saucesian	Pillarian
	Oligocene	upper member	Twin River Group	Pysht Formation	Zemorian	Juanian
		middle member		Makah Formation		
		lower member		Hoko River Formation	Rafu-gian	
	Late Eocene					
		Lyre Formation		Lyre Formation	Late Narizian	

Figure 9.—Comparison between the Twin River Formation of former usage and the Twin River Group. Foraminiferal and molluscan stages assigned to the Hoko River, Makah, and Pysht Formations of the Twin River Group are based on the benthonic foraminiferal stages of Kleinpell (1938), Rau (written commun., 1978), Schenck and Kleinpell (1936), and Mallory (1959); and the Pacific Northwest Molluscan Stages of Addicott (1976a).

platform exposures along the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Midway eastward to Neah Bay are named as a reference section. The stream bed and road exposures along Deep Creek from a point 140 m north of the northern border of sec. 1, T. 30 N., R. 11 W., south to a point 2.2 km east and 0.7 km north of the southeast corner, sec. 16, T. 30 N., R. 11 W., in Pysht quadrangle, are also designated as a reference section.

Lithologic characteristics

The Hoko River Formation consists predominantly of massive to thin-bedded siltstone, and lesser interbeds are of thin- to thick-bedded phyllitic and basaltic sandstone, pebbly sandstone, and conglomerate (fig. 10). Channels and lenses of conglomerate and lithic sandstone as much as 2.5 km wide and 90 to 150 m thick occur locally in the sequence. Channels exposed along the cliffs between Midway and Neah Bay (fig. 8) contain clasts of basalt, phyllite, and meta-igneous rocks that range from angular to rounded and from 3 to 4.5 m in diameter. Pebbly mudstone beds are present in the lower part of the formation. Grading is common in the coarse and medium-grained sandstone beds.

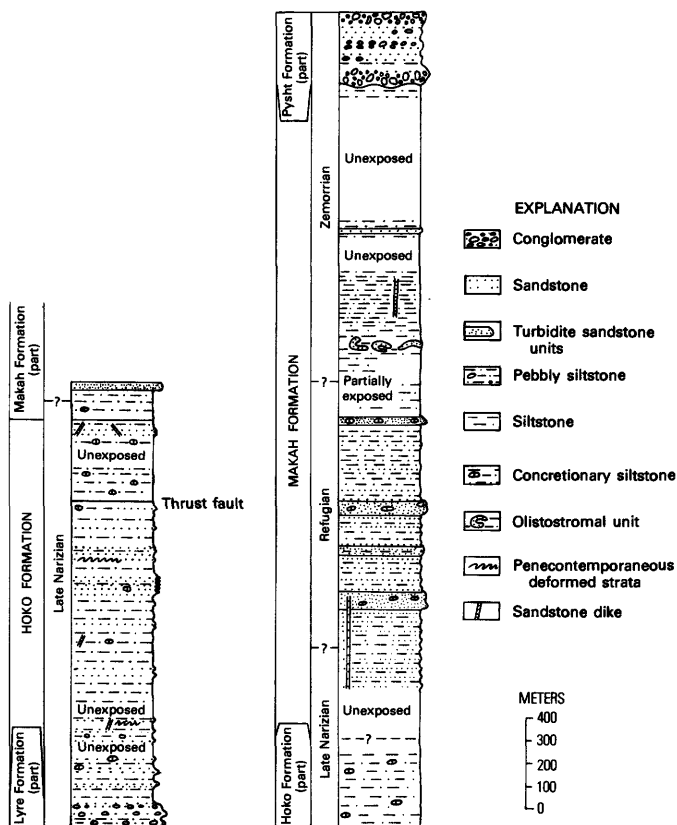


Figure 10.—Generalized stratigraphic sections and benthonic foraminiferal stages for the Hoko River and Makah Formations in their type localities, Clallam County, Washington. Figure 8 shows the type localities and reference sections. See Brown and Gower (1958) for stratigraphic section of Pysht Formation.

Calcareous concretions occur throughout the Hoko River Formation and locally contain fossil crabs, gastropods, and carbonized wood; other concretions have calcite nuclei. Sandstone dikes as much as 1 m wide occur locally.

Silica minerals are the most abundant grain type in the sandstone and include both polycrystalline quartz and chert varieties. Feldspar is predominantly sodic plagioclase, and ratio of plagioclase to potassium feldspar is 5 to 1. Lithic grains are predominantly phyllite, sheared sandstone, basalt, and metabasalt. Carbonaceous debris and Foraminifera are common. Calcite cement forms as much as 40 percent of some sandstone beds. Traces of laumontite and silica cement are found throughout the unit.

Contact relations and thickness

The basal siltstone beds of the Hoko River Formation conformably overlies sandstone and conglomerate of the Lyre Formation (Brown and others, 1956). Near Cape Flattery, the Hoko River Formation intertongues with the Lyre Formation, which consists of medium- to thick-bedded phyllitic sandstone, lithic conglomerate, and sedimentary breccia. The upper contact of the Hoko River Formation is exposed in only a few places in the Cape Flattery and Clallam Bay quadrangles and in most places appears to be gradational with the overlying siltstone of the Makah Formation. However, the upper part of the Hoko River Formation was eroded across a broad anticlinal arch between the Hoko River and Rasmussen Creek (fig. 8), and an unconformity is locally present in this area between the Hoko River Formation and the overlying Makah Formation.

The Hoko River Formation is approximately 1,600 m thick at the type locality (fig. 10) and 2,300 m thick at the reference section on Deep Creek (Brown and Gower, 1958, fig. 3).

Age

Foraminifera and mollusks indicate that the Hoko River Formation is late Eocene in age. Studies of benthonic foraminifers by Rau (1964, and written commun., 1977) places the Hoko River Formation in the late Narizian Stage of Mallory (1959). Fossil crabs from concretions in the conglomerate channel at Kydikabbit Point are late Eocene in age (Addicott, written commun., 1975).

MAKAH FORMATION (NEW NAME)

Type locality

The Makah Formation is named after the Makah Indian Reservation in the northwesternmost part of the Olympic Peninsula, Wash. The type locality is designated as the shore cliffs and wave-cut platform exposures along the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Waadah Island and Baada Point to Kydaka Point (Fig. 8). Reference sections include exposures in the stream bed of the Hoko River, in road cuts, and in an abandoned railway that parallels the river from its mouth to the northeast corner of sec. 32, T. 32 N., R. 13 W., in Lake Pleasant quadrangle. A supplemental reference section is the outcrop along the Sekiu River and adjacent logging road from the river mouth to its junction with Carpenters Creek (fig. 8).

Lithologic characteristics

The Makah Formation consists predominantly of thin-bedded siltstone and sandstone separating six mappable members, which include four packets of thick-bedded amalgamated turbidite sandstones, an olistostromal unit composed of shallow-water marine sandstone and pebble conglomerate, and a thin bed of water-laid tuff (fig. 10). The members of the Makah Formation are still being studied.

The turbidite sandstone packets are thick to very thick bedded, amalgamated, and contain sequences (Bouma, 1962). The sandstone is fine to very fine grained micaceous, lithic-bearing, and quartzo-feldspathic. Amalgamated beds are generally massive and have thin, parallel-laminated to convolute-laminated intervals. Calcareous concretions are found throughout the formation and range from small spheroids 60 to 150 mm in diameter in the siltstone to resistant zones of ellipsoidal concretions 0.5 to 4 m in length in the sandstone. The siltstone is medium light-gray and hackly fractured and commonly contains very fine grained sandstone stringers and carbonaceous laminae.

Sandstone dikes are present in the Makah Formation and range in width from 20 mm to 1 m. Zones of penecontemporaneously deformed strata as much as several meters thick occur locally in the thin-bedded siltstone and sandstone units.

A 200-m-thick olistostromal unit occurs near the middle of the Makah Formation and consists of large blocks of fossiliferous shallow-water marine basaltic sandstone and pebble conglomerate enclosed in penecontemporaneously deformed sandstone and siltstone beds. This unit occurs within a deep-water thin-bedded sandstone and siltstone sequence typical of the Makah Formation.

A 1-m-thick tuff unit consisting of seven thin water-laid silicified tuff beds 40 to 150 mm thick occurs in the lower part of the formation. This tuff member has been mapped along strike for 20 km in the Clallam Bay quadrangle.

Contact relations and thickness

Although the basal contact of the Makah Formation is poorly exposed in most places, the formation appears to be conformable and gradational with the underlying Hoko River Formation where the contact is exposed in the Little Hoko River and adjacent logging roads. A local unconformity occurs, however, over a broad anticline in the Hoko River Formation and older strata between the Hoko River and Rasmussen Creek (fig. 8). There, strata in the lower part of the Makah Formation lap out against the anticlinal high, but reappear east of the anticline east of the Hoko River. Makah strata above the local unconformity extend uninterrupted across the anticlinal structure.

The upper contact of the Makah Formation is placed at the base of a unit of thick-bedded sandstone and boulder and pebble conglomerate that occurs in the lower part of the predominantly massive siltstone sequence herein named the Pysht Formation. Where best exposed in road cuts 1.6 km southeast of Kydaka Point (fig. 8), the contact with the overlying Pysht Formation appears to be gradational. Immediately north of the airport, 0.6 km northwest of Sekiu, quarry faces and road cuts expose a cobble and boulder conglomerate of the Pysht Formation that is channeled into the underlying thin-bedded Makah siltstone and sandstone, suggesting a local erosional unconformity.

A thickness of 2,800 m is estimated for the Makah Formation at the type locality between Neah Bay and Kydaka Point (fig. 10). The thickness of the reference section along the Hoko River is 2,500 m. Approximately 700 to 800 m of basal Makah strata are missing across the broad anticlinal high between the Hoko River and Rasmussen Creek (fig. 8).

Age

As shown in figure 9, foraminiferal assemblages studied by Rau (written commun., 1978) indicate that the Makah Formation ranges in age from late Eocene (late Narizian Stage of Mallory, 1959), to Oligocene (Zemorian Stage of Schenck and Kleinpell, 1936). Mollusks from sandstone blocks in the olistostromal unit are late Eocene in age (Lincoln Stage of Weaver, 1937) and Foraminifera from siltstone in this unit are also late Eocene (Refugian Stage of Schenck and Kleinpell, 1936). This deformed unit is overlain by thin-bedded strata of Zemorian Age, indicating that these shallow-water upper Eocene olistostromal deposits were transported into the deep marginal basin by a large submarine slide during Oligocene time.

PYSHT FORMATION (NEW NAME)

Type locality

The type locality (fig. 8) is designated as the shore-cliff exposures along 18 km of the Strait of Juan de Fuca from Pillar Point State Park (near center sec. 10, T. 31 N., R. 11 W., Pysht quadrangle) eastward to a point 3.5 km west of Low Point (SW cor., sec. 19, T. 31 N., R. 9 W., Lake Crescent quadrangle). Exposures in the cliffs and on the wave-cut platform 1.9 to 2.7 km west of Pillar Point are designated as a reference section.

Lithologic characteristics

The Pysht Formation is composed chiefly of massive medium-gray to light olive-gray mudstone and sandy siltstone. The argillaceous rocks are poorly indurated and contain calcareous concretions 25 to 100 mm in diameter. A few light-gray 5-mm- to 0.5-m-thick subfeldspathic sandstone beds occur in the sequence (Brown and Gower, 1958, fig. 3).

Channel deposits of pebble and boulder conglomerate containing interbedded lithic and quartzo-feldspathic sandstone and mudstone occur at the base of the Pysht Formation along the coast between Sekiu and Kydaka Point in the eastern part of the Clallam Bay quadrangle. However, similar conglomerate and sandstone channels in the western part of the Pysht quadrangle were mistakenly included in the Clallam Formation (lower Miocene) by Gower (1960), but were later included within the upper member of the Twin River Formation (Pysht equivalent) by Addicott (1976a, b).

These conglomerate lenses consist of cobble- to boulder-sized subrounded to rounded clasts of metamorphic and igneous rocks and mollusk-bearing fine-grained sandstone. Light-gray cobbles of a distinctive felsic tuff also occur in these conglomerate members.

The lithologic similarities between the conglomerate and sandstone lenses in the Sekiu-Kydaka Point area and those in the Pysht quadrangle suggest that they occur in the same stratigraphic position and mark the basal contact of the Pysht Formation.

The upper 30 to 40 m of the formation consists of alternating mudstone and light-gray lithic sandstone.

Contact relations and thickness

The Pysht Formation overlies the Makah Formation with a gradational contact. This contact is exposed in several road cuts between Sekiu and Kydaka Point where thin-bedded siltstone and sandstone of the Makah Formation interbeds upward with conglomerate in the lower part of the Pysht Formation. The lower contact of the Pysht Formation is exposed farther east in Deep Creek and in the Lyre River where Brown and Gower (1958) indicated that it is conformable and gradational with their underlying middle member (Makah equivalent).

The upper contact of the Pysht Formation is well exposed in the shore cliffs and wave-cut platform 2.5 km west of Pillar Point (Gower, 1960; Addicott, 1976a, b). Here, a gradational and conformable contact separates the sandy siltstone and mudstone of the Pysht Formation from the overlying thick-bedded sandstone of the Clallam Formation (Addicott, 1976a, fig. 8; Gower, 1960).

The Pysht Formation is estimated to be 1,100 m thick along the Pysht River, but structural complications in this area make an accurate thickness measurement tenuous. Farther east, strata assigned to the Pysht are estimated to be 1,400 m thick (Brown and Gower, 1958).

Age

Foraminifera and mollusks indicate that the Pysht Formation is late Oligocene in age (fig. 10). A study of benthonic foraminifers by Rau (1964; written commun., 1977) would place the Pysht Formation in the Zemorrian Stage (Kleinpell, 1938). The boundary between the Zemorrian and Saucian Stages is in the uppermost part of the Pysht on the basis of the benthonic foraminifers (Addicott, 1967b, p. 442).

Durham (1944) assigned mollusks collected from the Pysht Formation along the Strait of Juan de Fuca to his Echinophoria apta zone of the late Oligocene.

Reworked sandstone boulders in the conglomerate channels in the Pysht and Clallam quadrangles contain a large number of mollusks. Addicott (1976a; written commun., 1973) stated that these fossils represent a very shallow water depositional environment and are probably coeval with fauna of the Echinophoria apta zone of Durham (1944), which Addicott included in his late Oligocene or early Miocene Juanian Stage of the mega-invertebrate sequence (Addicott, 1976a; and fig. 9). Foraminifers indicative of the late Oligocene Zemorrian Stage occur in siltstone interbeds in the basal conglomerate near Sekiu. Addicott (1976a) considered the latest Zemorrian to be early Miocene in age. Sedimentary structures indicate that the reworked fossiliferous sandstone boulders in the conglomerate channels in the Pysht Formation were derived from nearly coeval but lithified neritic deposits on an ancient Vancouver shelf and were transported into the deep basin through large submarine channels.

Summary

The three informal members previously assigned to the Twin River Formation by Brown and Gower (1958) are now assigned, in ascending order, to the Hoko River Formation, the Makah Formation, and the Pysht Formation (fig. 9). The Twin River Formation is herein raised in rank to the Twin River Group. Investigations are still in progress concerning members of the Hoko River and Makah Formations.

AGE AND CONTINUITY OF THE VALDEZ GROUP, SOUTHERN ALASKA

By Russell G. Tysdal¹ and George Plafker²

The name Valdez Group (originally named Valdes series) was given to rocks near Port Valdez (fig. 11) by Schrader (1899, 1900), and subsequently was used by Moffit (1954) for rocks exposed in the northwestern part of Prince William Sound that previously were called the Sunrise series by Mendenhall (1899, 1900). Similar strata north and south of Turnagain Arm were mapped as Valdez(?) Group by Clark (1972), however, because continuity with Valdez of the type area was not established. This paper summarizes evidence establishing the continuity of the strata, permitting removal of the query from the Valdez(?) Group. Fauna collected from the Valdez Group (as used here) were, until the studies of Jones (Jones and Clark, 1973), assigned a Jurassic to Cretaceous age. Jones' work showed that all age-diagnostic fossils of the Valdez identified to species level are Maestrichtian and Campanian(?) (latest Cretaceous). Thus, we consider the Valdez to be of Late Cretaceous age and abandon the Jurassic to Cretaceous age assignment.

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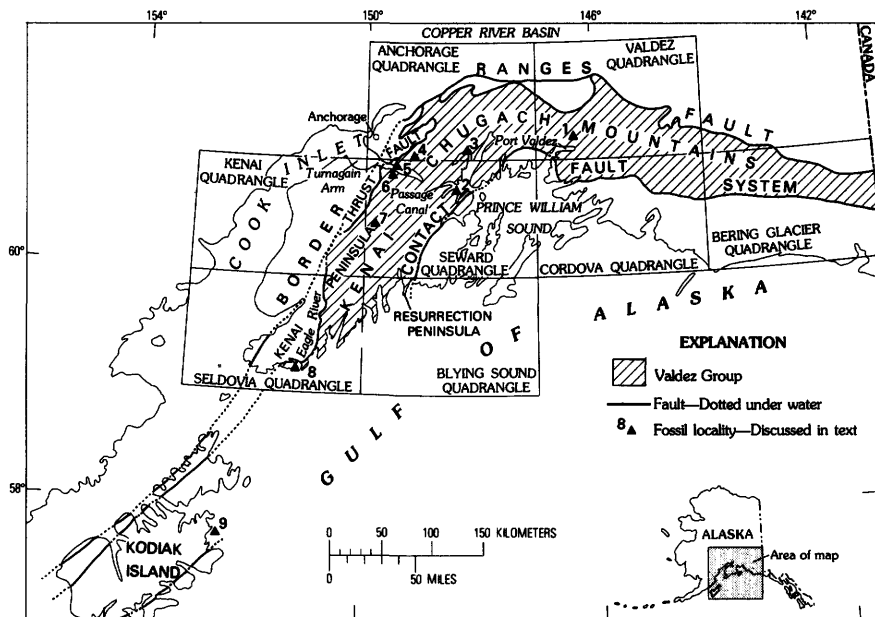


Figure 11.—Map showing area of Valdez Group.

VALDEZ GROUP

The Valdez Group is a thick sequence of rhythmically interbedded, indurated graywacke, siltstone, and minor mudstone and pebble conglomerate. Graded beds, cross beds, convolute laminations, and flame structures are present but are not readily observed owing to deformation and metamorphism. Valdez strata locally contain interbedded tuff and pillow basalt and on the Resurrection Peninsula are intruded by basalt sills and sheeted dikes, gabbro, and rarely serpentinized dunite (Tysdal and others, 1977; Tysdal and Case, *in press*). The entire sequence is intensely folded and regionally metamorphosed to grades ranging from the zeolite facies and the lowermost greenschist facies to the upper zones of the amphibolite facies. Granitic plutons and dikes intrude the Valdez in some areas.

Rocks exposed in the Port Valdez area and northward across the Chugach Mountains to the Copper River Basin originally were named "Valdes series" by Schrader (1899, 1900). Port Valdez (formerly spelled

Valdes) is the type area, but no type section was designated. In the same publications, the name Sunrise series was introduced by Mendenhall (1899, 1900) for rocks exposed along Passage Canal (then called Portage Bay) "all about the western waters of Prince William Sound," along the overland route from Resurrection Bay (west of Resurrection Peninsula, fig. 11) to Turnagain Arm, and along the shore of the Arm. Grant and Higgins (1910) changed the name of the Valdez to Valdez Group and, like Mendenhall, assigned most of the strata along the eastern side of the Kenai Peninsula, south from Resurrection Bay, to the Sunrise series. Moffit (1954) believed that part of the Sunrise strata in the northwestern part of the Prince William Sound was westward continuation of the Valdez Group, and he abandoned usage of the name Sunrise series.

Strata north of Turnagain Arm were designated as Valdez(?) Group by Clark (1972) because correlation with rocks of the type area was not certain. The query is herein removed from the Valdez(?) Group because continuity has been established between rocks of the type area and those of the Turnagain Arm area. Plafker, Hudson, and Winkler (unpub. data, 1975) have traced Valdez strata from the type area at Port Valdez across the southeastern corner of the Anchorage quadrangle and into the Seward quadrangle. Tysdal and Case (in press; unpub. data, 1976) have shown continuity of Valdez rocks in the Seward quadrangle with those of the Anchorage quadrangle, including the Turnagain Arm area.

From its type area, the Valdez Group was traced eastward across the Valdez, Cordova, and Bering Glacier quadrangles to the Canadian border (Plafker, Hudson, and Winkler, unpub. data, 1975) and southward through the Seward, Blying Sound, Kenai, and Seldovia quadrangles to the southern part of the Kenai Peninsula (Tysdal and Case, unpub. data, 1976; Plafker, unpub. data, 1975). The southern limit of the Valdez Group is defined by the Contact fault system, a major structure that extends westward from near the Canadian border in the Chugach Mountains to Prince William Sound (Winkler and Plafker, 1975); thence, southward through the Seward quadrangle and into the Blying Sound quadrangle (Tysdal and Case, in press). Plafker and others (1977) project it southwestward to Kodiak Island, where it juxtaposes correlative Cretaceous rocks on the northwest against Tertiary rocks. The northern margin of the Valdez Group is delimited by the Border Ranges fault system, a major system of faults that extends from the Kodiak Islands into Canada and probably into southeastern Alaska (MacKevett and Plafker, 1974; Plafker and others, 1977), or by the Eagle River thrust fault and related faults (Clark, 1972; Plafker and others, 1977; Tysdal and Case, 1977, in press).

Age

We consider the Valdez Group to be Late Cretaceous in age because all of the age-diagnostic fossils identified to species level are of Maestrichtian and possibly Campanian (latest Cretaceous) Age. The unit previously was assigned a Jurassic to Cretaceous age because of uncertainty regarding (1) the age range of the few fossils then known and (2) boundaries of the Valdez Group in its eastern extensions and its possible correlation with units containing Late Jurassic fossils (Plafker and MacNeil, 1966). New mapping precludes the possibility that Jurassic strata are included within the group (Plafker and Hudson, unpub. data, 1977).

Prior to the studies of Jones (Jones and Clark, 1973), all the age-diagnostic fossils obtained from the Valdez Group (as defined here) were assigned to the range of Jurassic to Cretaceous. Ulrich (1910) considered Inoceramya concentrica, collected from strata on Woody Island (loc. 9, fig. 11) that are correlative with the Valdez Group, as Early Jurassic (Jones and Clark, 1973). Inoceramus fossils collected north of Turnagain Arm (loc. 4, fig. 11) by B. L. Johnson in 1911 were believed by T. W. Stanton to be similar to Inoceramya concentrica, but he stated that there was no essential difference in general type between the Jurassic species of Inoceramus and some of those in the Cretaceous (Martin and others, 1915). Johnson also collected Inoceramus from float on a moraine on the east side of Valdez Glacier (loc. 1, fig. 11) and Inoceramya concentrica from the north side of Barry Arm (loc. 3, fig. 11) and from float at Point Cochrane (loc. 2, fig. 11) (Johnson, 1914). Park (1933) collected imprints of Inoceramus from six closely spaced localities (loc. 4, fig. 11) north of Turnagain Arm that J. B. Reeside, Jr., believed were Cretaceous, largely because he thought it unlikely that so many Inoceramus would be present in a rock older than Cretaceous. D. L. Jones (in Plafker and MacNeil, 1966) restudied these collections and concluded that the fossils, which are mostly poorly preserved, could not be assigned a more definite age than Jurassic to Cretaceous. But subsequent collections of fossils from the Valdez Group of the Kenai-Chugach Mountains and from correlative rocks on Woody Island (loc. 9, fig. 11) have yielded Inoceramus kusiroensis, a widespread fossil of Maestrichtian Age; it occurs with Inoceramya concentrica at some localities (Jones and Clark, 1973). In addition, poorly preserved Inoceramus collected by Plafker and John Kelley from the Valdez Group near Point Dick (loc. 8, fig. 11) are, according to Jones (oral commun., 1977), of Campanian or Maestrichtian Age. No other age-diagnostic species have been collected from the Valdez Group.

The fossil localities north and south of Turnagain Arm (loc. 4, 5, 6, 7, fig. 11), at Barry Arm and Point Cochrane, and at Valdez Glacier show that these Maestrichtian fossils span almost 3/4 of the width of outcrops of the Valdez Group. Tysdal and Case (1977) suggested that those localities north and south of Turnagain Arm may be in the central part of a complex synclinorium, and we suspect that the Barry Arm-Point Cochrane trend also may be synclinal. The intervening areas could represent somewhat older rocks, but no data exist to suggest that the rocks are older than Late Cretaceous. Certainly no evidence exists to indicate a Jurassic age.

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