

# PENNSYLVANIAN STRATIGRAPHY

The lower part of the Pennsylvanian System in southern Illinois is a succession of sandstone, siltstone, shale, minor conglomerate, and thin discontinuous coal beds. These strata are difficult to map and interpret because of rapid lateral facies changes, subtle and gradational vertical changes, and an absence of marker beds.

In most of the Lick Creek Quadrangle, two Pennsylvanian formations are recognized, the Caseyville (older) and the Tradewater. The Caseyville is characterized by monomineralic sandstones: quartz arenites commonly containing rounded quartz pebbles and granules. Sandstones of the Tradewater are generally polymineralic lithic arenites containing conspicuous mica, feldspar, rock fragments, clay matrix, and rare quartz granules. The top of the Caseyville Formation is mapped at the highest occurrence of quartz arenite. In the eastern part of the quadrangle, the top of the Caseyville is mapped at the top of the Pounds Sandstone Member. In the central part of the quadrangle, monomineralic sandstones grade upward to polymineralic sandstones and the two types of sandstone intertongue. In the western part of the quadrangle, the combination of a gradational boundary and poor exposures precludes mapping of the contact. In this area, the two formations are undifferentiated and referred to as the Raccoon Creek Group (Greb et al.

The Caseyville Formation thins westward from as much as 400 feet thick near the eastern edge of the quadrangle to less than 200 feet thick near the western edge. Both the Pounds and Battery Rock Sandstone Members become finer grained as they thin westward and pinch out. The Keller sandstone lentil near the base of the Caseyville is the only Caseyville sandstone differentiated in the western part of the quadrangle. Little is known about the continuity of sandstone units in the Tradewater Formation because of limited exposures and the paucity of subsurface data for the quadrangle.

Lower Pennsylvanian strata, as subdivided in Lamar (1925), Kosanke et al. (1960), and this study, are summarized in a chart to the far right.

# STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY

The Lick Creek Quadrangle is on the southwest margin of the Illinois Basin. The structure of the quadrangle is characterized by a simple north-northeast homoclinal dip towards the basin center. The average dip decreases from about 100 feet per mile (approximately 1°) in the southwestern part of the quadrangle to about 80 feet per mile in the northeastern part. The strike changes from approximately N45°W in the southwest, to around N67°W in the northeast sector of the area.

The only mapped fault in the quadrangle is a small thrust fault exposed in an abandoned sandstone quarry southeast of Interstate 57 (I-57) in the NE¼ SW¼ NW¼, Sec. 25, T11S, R1E. The fault strikes N60°W, dips about 25° to the southeast, and displaces strata of the Wayside Member of the Caseyville Formation. A thick bedded sandstone is thrust over interbedded shale and sandstone. Throw is about 10 feet and net displacement is about 24 feet. This fault may be related to the Ste. Genevieve Fault Zone, a northwest-trending, high angle reverse fault about 13 miles to the west.

Several small faults (not shown) that probably were contemporaneous with deposition and/or compaction of sediments are exposed in the roadcut along I-57 in the NW¼ NW¼, Sec. 19, T11S, R2E. Displacements are less than 3 feet.

Joints are common in the western part of the quadrangle; they are

widely spaced and poorly developed in the eastern part. Trends of joints vary, but due north and east-northeast orientations are prevalent in most exposures.

# **ECONOMIC GEOLOGY**

The principal geologic resource in the Lick Creek Quadrangle is limestone for construction and agriculture. Sandstone was quarried for construction. The potential for developing fluorspar, base metals, sand and gravel, or coal from this area is limited. Nine unsuccessful exploration wells for shallow petroleum deposits have been drilled. Deeper petroleum prospects remain untested.

The Kinkaid Limestone is the best prospect for economic development in the Lick Creek Quadrangle because its thick limestone beds may be suitable for use in agriculture and for production of road aggregate as well as construction aggregate for portland cement concrete and bituminous road pavement (Lamar 1959). The Negli Creek, Cave Hill, and Goreville Limestone Members of the Kinkaid comprise a predominantly limestone interval of about 160 feet thick. Scattered chert nodules throughout the formation and thin shale intervals at the top and base of the Cave Hill probably are not deleterious to commercial development. The Cave Hill has been quarried in the center of the S½ NE¾ SE½, Sec. 21, T11S, R1E, near the center of the E½ NE¼, Sec. 29, T11S, R1E, and at several sites in the NW1/4 SE1/4, Sec. 20, T11S, R1E. A small amount of Goreville limestone was quarried in the NW1/4 SW1/4 NW1/4, Sec. 25, T11S, R1E. The Kinkaid is quarried just southeast of the quadrangle, and potential exists for quarry development along its outcrop

Sandstone from the basal part of the Caseyville Formation has been quarried near the center of the W½ NW¼, Sec. 25, T11S, R1E, presumably for foundation and culvert construction or road ballast. Although sandstone is abundant in the Raccoon Creek Group, the economic potential is slight because of lack of demand for this material.

Resources of coal are negligible in the quadrangle. Coal beds in the Raccoon Creek Group are too thin, less than 1 foot thick, and discon-

Nine oil and gas exploration wells have been drilled in the quadrangle. The deepest test was the C.A. Houston No. 1 well, which was drilled in the SE¼ NE¼ NE¼, Sec. T10S, R2E, to a depth of 2,109 feet. All of these wells were drilled to the middle Mississippian Ste. Genevieve Limestone, except for the Walker No. 1 well, which was drilled to the upper Mississippian Cypress Sandstone. Only the Mary Throgmorton No. 1 well, in the NE1/4 SE1/4 NW1/4, Sec. 29, T10S, R2E, had an oil show from 1,980 to 1,981 feet deep in the Ste. Genevieve Limestone. Chances of finding shallow petroleum deposits are slim. Geologic mapping did not reveal any structural closures near the surface. Reservoir characteristics and structure of pre-middle Mississippian strata are unknown within the quadrangle. All of the wells were plugged and

# REFERENCES

Greb, S.F., D.A. Williams, and A.D. Williamson, 1992, Geology and Stratigraphy of the Western Kentucky Coal Field: Kentucky Geological Survey, Bulletin 2, Series XI, 77 p. Kosanke, R.M., J.A. Simon, H.R. Wanless, and H.B. Willman, 1960, Classification of the Pennsylvanian Strata of Illinois: Illinois State Geological Survey, Report of Investigations

Lamar, J.E., 1925, Geology and Mineral Resources of the Carbondale Quadrangle: Illinois State Geological Survey, Bulletin 48, 172 p. Lamar, J.E., 1959, Limestone Resources of Extreme Southern Illinois: Illinois State Geological Survey, Report of Investigations 211, 81 p.

# Pennsylvanian lithostratigraphic nomenclature used on the Lick Creek Quadrangle Cartography by Williams and Heintz Map Corp. Base from U.S. Geological Survey, 1966. 10,000-foot grids based on Illinois coordinate system, east and west zones Geology mapped from 1987 to 1989 NOTE: A detailed report on the geology of the quadrangle will be published in the 1°15′ 71 MILS CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET Illinois State Geological Survey Bulletin Series, entitled "Geology of the DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL Lick Creek Quadrangle, Johnson, Union, and Williamson Counties, Illinois," by W. John Nelson and C. Pius Weibel

R.1E. WOLF CREEK O. I MI. 2'30"

Geologic Map of the

LICK CREEK QUADRANGLE, ILLINOIS

**EXPLANATION** 

Talus, includes colluvium

Alluvial deposits

Glacial deposits

Unconformity

Raccoon Creek Group

Tradewater Formation

ts. Tradewater sandstone lentil(s)

Casevville Formation p, Pounds Sandstone Member

lts, lower Tradewater sandstone lentil

CS, unnamed Caseyville sandstone lentil

br, Battery Rock Sandstone Member

bb, Buck Branch sandstone lentil

Unconformity

Kinkaid Limestone

Degonia Formation and Ford

Station, Tygett Members of Clore

Formation undifferentiated

ds, sandstone lentil in Degonia

I, limestone in Tygett Member

Cora Member of Clore Formation

Palestine Sandstone

LINE SYMBOLS: Dashed where inferred

Reverse fault: triangle on upthrown side

contour interval 100 feet

Strike and dip of bedding;

Horizontal bedding

number indicates degree of dip

Coal exposure, with ISGS coal maceration and palynological analysis number Outcrop of special note, shown where contact, map unit, or fault was well exposed at time of mapping

DRILL HOLES FROM WHICH

SUBSURFACE DATA WERE OBTAINED

ISGS cored test hole, with ISGS county number

Mineral/water well, with ISGS county number

Index map showing areas geologically

Pounds Sandstone

Member

(unnamed)

Battery Rock

Sandstone Member

Wayside Member

surveyed by authors

Kosanke et al., 1960

Member

Drury Shale Membe

Battery Rock

Sandstone Member

Wayside Sandstone

Member

WEIBEL

Makanda sandstone

Drury shale and

sandstone member

Lick Creek

sandstone member

Wayside sandstone

and shale member

Oil test hole, with ISGS county number

SYMBOLS

Structure contour on base of Kinkaid Limestone;

WS, unnamed Wayside sandstone lentil(s)

w, Wayside Member

k, Keller sandstone lentil

GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE LICK CREEK QUADRANGLE JOHNSON, UNION, AND WILLIAMSON COUNTIES, **ILLINOIS** 

UTM GRID AND 1966 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

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1993