

COLUMNAR SECTION

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
CHARLES D. WALCOTT, DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA - WEST VIRGINIA
POCAHONTAS SHEET

GENERALIZED SECTION FOR THE POCAHONTAS SHEET.						
SCALE: 1000 FEET = 1 INCH.						
PERIOD.	FORMATION NAME.	SYMBOL.	COLUMNAR SECTION.	THICKNESS IN FEET.	CHARACTER OF ROCKS.	CHARACTER OF TOPOGRAPHY AND SOIL.
CARBONIFEROUS	Sewell formation.	Cs		100+	Sandy shale.	Irregular knobs on the ridges. Poor soil.
	Raleigh sandstone.	Cr		80	Coarse sandstone in heavy beds.	Ridges and mountains. Sandy soil.
	Quinnimont shale.	Cq		800	Shale with thin beds of sandstone and a few coal seams. Quinnimont coal seam.	Steep slopes. Little or no soil.
	Clark formation.	Cc		880	Sandstone with some shale and coal seams. Heavy beds at the top and bottom.	Steep slopes. Poor soil.
	Pocahontas formation.	Cph		960	Pocahontas or No. 3 seam of coal. Gray and green, argillaceous sandstone, and sandy shale.	Generally steep slopes. Poor soil.
	Bluestone formation.	Cbl		800	Purple shale and thin, red sandstone, with calcareous beds, sometimes taking the form of limestone conglomerate, toward the base.	Ridges and plateaus sharply cut by streams. Good soil where lime predominates.
	Princeton conglomerate.	Cpr		40	Coarse sandstone or conglomerate with calcareous matrix in places.	Ridges and cliffs. Sandy soil.
	Hinton formation.	Chn		1250-1300	Purple shale, green and purple sandstone, and impure limestone or calcareous shale.	Gentle hills with rounded slopes. Some good farming lands.
	Bluefield shale.	Cbf		1250-1350	Heavy sandstone or quartzite.	The "Stony Ridges."
					Sandy shale at the top, graduating into argillaceous shale below.	Steep slopes of the "Stony Ridges."
	Greenbrier limestone.	Cgr		1500	A series of alternating shaly and heavy-bedded, blue, fossiliferous limestones.	Undulating valleys. Generally rich soil.
					Heavy beds at the base which carry some black chert.	
	Pulaski shale.	Cpk		20-300	Bright-red or purple shale.	Gentle slopes.
	Price sandstone.	Cpc		200-300	Coarse, yellow sandstone interbedded with sandy shale and coal seams.	Ridges. Poor soil.
DEVONIAN	Kimberling shale.	Dk		3000-3250	Green, sandy shale and thin sandstone containing one or more beds of quartz conglomerate.	Steep, serrate ridges, generally capped by a bed of conglomerate.
					Generally sandy shale or thin-bedded, green sandstone.	Steep slopes. Poor soil, almost destitute of vegetation.
	Romney shale.	Dr		400-600	Black, carbonaceous shale.	Valleys. White, poor soil.
	Giles formation.	SDg		80-200	Coarse, yellow sandstone. Cherty limestone. Coarse, reddish sandstone. Blue limestone.	Valleys or gentle slopes. Good soil where not cherty.
SILURIAN	Rockwood formation.	Sr		20-400	Heavy sandstone or quartzite. Sandy shale and ferruginous sandstone, with siliceous, red fossiliferous sandstone, and hematite.	Gentle slopes of the high, valley ridges. Poor soil.
	Clinch sandstone.	ScI		150-250	Coarse, white sandstone or quartzite.	Mountainous ridges.
	Bays sandstone.	Sb		250-350	Red sandstone and sandy shale.	Very steep slopes.
	Sevier shale.	Ssv		1250-1500	Yellow, sandy shale.	Steep slopes. Rich soil.
					Yellow or blue shale, slightly calcareous.	
	Moccasin limestone.	Smc		300-400	Red, earthy limestone.	Gentle slopes. Good soil.
	Chickamauga limestone.	Sc		550-850	Blue, flaggy limestone. Heavy-bedded blue limestone, locally containing beds of gray marble. Black chert.	Valleys. Best farming lands in the region.
	CAMBRIAN	Shenandoah limestone.	CSs		8000-4000	Gray, magnesian limestone with cherty horizons.
Thin bed of blue, calcareous shale, limited to the western part of the district and representing the Nolichucky shale of Tennessee.						
Russell formation.		CrI		500+	Variegated shale, with beds of impure limestone.	Low hills. Pasture lands.

M. R. CAMPBELL,
Geologist.