

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

# PALEOTECTONIC MAPS



# JURASSIC SYSTEM

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TABLE 1.—ASSIGNMENT OF UNITS TO INTERVALS USED IN THIS FOLIO

Stratigraphic units	Areas	Intervals of folio maps			
		A	B	C	D
Amador group	East-central California	X			
Araplen shale	Central Utah		X		
Arison formation	North-central California	X			
Aztec sandstone	Eastern and southern Nevada	X			
Bagley andesite	North-central California	X			
Bicknell sandstone	Northeastern California		X		
Bilk Creek sandstone member of Wanakah formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.			X	
Bluff sandstone	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.			X	
Bossier formation	Western Gulf Coast				X
Brushy Basin member of Morrison formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.				X
Buckner member of Haynesville formation	Eastern Texas to Alabama			X	
Canyon Springs member of Sundance formation	Eastern Wyoming; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.	X			
Carmel formation	Western Wyoming; Idaho, northern Utah; eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northeastern Arizona.	X			
Colpitts group	East-central Oregon		X		
Combe sandstone	Northeastern California				X
Cotton Valley group	Eastern Texas to Alabama				X
Cow Springs sandstone (lower part)	Northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.			X	
Cow Springs sandstone (upper part)	Northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.				X
Curtis formation	Western Wyoming; Idaho, northern Utah; eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado.			X	
Devdney Creek formation	North-central Washington				X
Donovan formation	East-central Oregon	X			
Dothan formation	Southwestern Oregon			X	
Dunlap formation	Western Nevada	X			
Entrada sandstone	Western Interior region		X		
Entrada sandstone, lower sandy member	Northeastern Arizona.		X		
Entrada sandstone, middle silty member	Northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.		X		
Entrada sandstone, upper sandy member	Northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.		X		
Exeter sandstone	Eastern Colorado, western Oklahoma, northeastern New Mexico.		X		
Fant andesite	Northeastern California	X			
Foreman formation	Northeastern California			X	
Franciscan formation	Western California				X
Galilee formation	Southwestern Oregon			X	
Gypsum Spring formation	Eastern Wyoming and western South Dakota.		X		

Stratigraphic units	Areas	Intervals of folio maps			
		A	B	C	D
Hardgrave sandstone	Northeastern California	X			
Haynesville formation	Eastern Texas to Alabama			X	
Hinchman sandstone	Northeastern California		X		
Hulet member of Sundance formation	Eastern Wyoming; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.		X		
Izee group	East-central Oregon		X		
Junction Creek formation	Durango-Urury area of southwestern Colorado.			X	
Kayenta formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northeastern Arizona.		X		
Knoxville formation	Southwestern Oregon; western California.				X
Lak member of Sundance formation	Eastern Wyoming; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.		X		
Lonesome formation	East-central Oregon			X	
Louann salt	Eastern Texas to Alabama		X		
Malone formation	Western Texas				X
Mariposa slate	East-central California			X	
Milton formation (lower part)	Eastern California		X		
Milton formation (upper part)	Eastern California		X		
Moab tongue of Entrada sandstone	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado.			X	
Monte de Oro formation	North-central California				X
Mormon sandstone	Northeastern California		X		
Morrison formation	Western Interior region				X
Morrison formation (lower unit)	Southwestern Nebraska, western Kansas.			X	
Morrison formation (basal beds)	Eastern Colorado, western Oklahoma, northeastern New Mexico.			X	
Mowich group	East-central Oregon		X		
Myrtle formation (in part)	Southwestern Oregon				X
Navajo sandstone	Northern Utah; eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northeastern Arizona; eastern and southern Nevada.		X		
Nooksack formation (lower part)	North-central Washington			X	
Nooksack formation (upper part)	North-central Washington				X
Norphet formation	Eastern Texas to Alabama			X	
Nugget sandstone	Wyoming; Idaho, northern Utah; western South Dakota, eastern and southern Nevada.		X		
Ocate sandstone	Northeastern New Mexico.		X		
Piper formation	Eastern Montana, North Dakota.		X		
Pony Express member of Wanakah formation	Durango-Urury area of southwestern Colorado.			X	
Potom formation	North-central California		X		

Stratigraphic units	Areas	Intervals of folio maps			
		A	B	C	D
Preuss sandstone	Western Wyoming; Idaho, northern Utah.		X		
Ralston formation	Eastern Colorado			X	
Recapture member of Morrison formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.				X
Redwater shale member of Sundance formation	Eastern Wyoming and western South Dakota.			X	
Rierdon formation	Montana and North Dakota		X		
Rogue formation	Southwestern Oregon				X
Sailor Canyon formation	Eastern California	X			
Salt Wash member of Morrison formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.				X
Sawtooth formation	Western Montana		X		
Schuler formation	Western Gulf Coast				X
Shuksan formation	North-central Washington			X	
Smackover formation	Eastern Texas to Alabama			X	
Stockade Beaver member of Sundance formation	Eastern Wyoming; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.		X		
Stump sandstone	Western Wyoming; Idaho and northern Utah.			X	
Summerville formation	Northeast Utah and eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.			X	
Sundance formation (lower part)	Eastern Wyoming; eastern Montana, North Dakota; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.		X		
Sundance formation (upper part)	Eastern Wyoming; eastern Montana, North Dakota; western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska.			X	
Sunrise formation	Western Nevada		X		
Swift formation	Montana and North Dakota			X	
Thompson limestone	Northeastern California			X	
Todilto limestone	New Mexico			X	
Trail formation	Northeastern California	X			
Troubridge shale	East-central Oregon			X	
Twin Creek formation	Western Wyoming; Idaho, northern Utah.			X	
Twist Gulch member of Araplen shale	Central Utah		X		
Wanakah formation	Durango-Urury area of southwestern Colorado; eastern Colorado, northeastern New Mexico.			X	
Werner formation	Gulf Coast		X		
Westwater Canyon member of Morrison formation	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado; northwestern New Mexico; northeastern Arizona.				X
Winsor formation	Southwest Utah			X	



# PALEOTECTONIC MAPS OF THE JURASSIC SYSTEM

By Edwin D. McKee, Steven S. Oriol, Vernon E. Swanson, Marjorie E. MacLachlan, James C. MacLachlan, Keith B. Ketner, June Waterman Goldsmith, Ruth Young Bell, and Dolores J. Jamieson

## INTRODUCTION

Paleotectonic map compilation was begun by the U. S. Geological Survey in July 1952. Work was fully underway by the fall of 1953, and from then on the staff of the paleotectonic map project has consisted of six to seven geologists. The objective of this program is to prepare folios that depict rock thicknesses, generalized lithology, ancient geography, and other regional relations for each of the geologic systems in the United States, and to interpret these data in terms of tectonic evolution.

The Jurassic system is the first for which a synthesis has been prepared in the form of a folio. It was selected for this purpose because it appeared to be well suited for the development of project methods and techniques. Rocks of this system are of current economic interest; they also include a wide variety of types, but they are believed not to be as complex stratigraphically or as extensive as those of most other systems.

Data have been compiled with the objective of developing a permanent, usable file to which new data may continuously be added. The file consists of punch cards and map overlays. A card is prepared for each formation at every locality for which data are available; each card contains the formation name, locality or map number, geologic age, source of data, and a summary of additional data. The punch card files of the paleotectonic map project, located in the Federal Center at Denver, Colo., are open and available for the use of all geologists, except for relatively few data obtained in confidence.

In accumulating information, initial efforts normally are directed toward the published record which is systematically abstracted on the punch cards. Among unpublished materials, the most important are well logs and measured sections. Through the courtesy of sample log companies, oil companies, and university and survey well-log libraries, data from thousands of wells have been made available to the project staff. Other significant contributions of data have come from university theses, from individuals, from State surveys, and from various groups within the U. S. Geological Survey. These data have contributed much toward the solution of local and regional problems.

With few exceptions, all accumulation of data on Jurassic rocks was terminated late in the fall of 1954. Stratigraphic data were compiled for each State at a scale of 1:1,000,000. They are presented on maps covering nine folded pages in this folio. Seven of the maps are of the United States on a scale of 1:5,000,000. They were prepared as objectively as possible, although a certain amount of interpretation was necessary to make the data, collected from diverse sources, mutually consistent. Also in this folio are two plates made up of maps of a more subjective nature; they represent interpretations of the factual data.

The interpretive maps include a series of nine paleogeographic maps and a summary map prepared by Ralph W. Imlay. These maps, based upon his extensive and detailed studies of Jurassic facies and sections, show the positions of major tectonic masses, and sources of sediments during short time intervals. Other interpretive maps included in the folio are the environmental maps on plate 9. These portray details of depositional environments in certain areas where control points are numerous and data good. These maps are speculative presentations prepared by the project members of the project from data compiled in connection with the other maps.

The Jurassic folio represents the cooperative efforts of the entire staff of the paleotectonic map project. Each geologist is responsible for all stages of compilation for a particular region, with coordination by the project chief and general guidance by the project procedures from a steering committee of eight appointed by the Chief Geologist. Distribution of assignments among project staff was as follows:

Marjorie E. MacLachlan  
Midcontinent region  
Steven S. Oriol  
Southwest region  
Edwin D. McKee  
Utah and western Colorado  
James C. MacLachlan  
Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and June Waterman Goldsmith  
Nevada  
Keith B. Ketner  
West Coast region  
Vernon E. Swanson

The project was directed by James Gilluly in the early stages and by Edwin D. McKee later, with an overlapping interval of joint responsibility. During the early stages, work on Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota was by Ruth Young Bell and on Utah and Idaho by Dolores J. Jamieson.

The index, that immediately precedes the map of control points (pl. 1), is designed to enable the reader to determine the precise location and the original source data for each point used on the maps in this folio. It is necessarily brief because of the number of control points, include publications and unpublished reports, well logs, sections, and personal communications. The index should not be considered a complete bibliography, although it does include references to all publications used in establishing control points on the maps. The bibliographic reference list for the folio appears at the end of the text.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many individuals and organizations have generously contributed information in the form of measured sections, well-log data, and other detailed records that were necessary for the successful preparation of this folio. The list of names on the locality index indicates those to whom the project is so indebted. This folio would be incomplete, however, if the names of those who contributed most extensively were not also included here. Appin, P. L. and E. R., U. S. Geological Survey, Jackson, Miss. Bass, N. W., U. S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colo. Callaghan, Eugene, and associates, New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Socorro, N. Mex.

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Mitchell, J. G., American Stratigraphic Co., Denver, Colo. Muller, S. W., Stanford University, Stanford, Calif. Nebraska State University, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N. Mex. Ogden, Lawrence, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo. Reed, E. G., American Geological Survey, Lincoln, Neb. Tallafero, N. L., University of California, Berkeley, Calif. Treloar, Raymond, Tyler, Tex. Wank, A., and associates, U. S. Geological Survey, Albuquerque, N. Mex.

## MAP OF CONTROL POINTS

Plate 1 shows the location of all control points used in the maps that follow. It enables the reader to determine the source of data for any portion of the paleogeologic, isopach, or lithofacies maps. Numbers shown adjacent to control points on the map indicate the relative quality of the index that precedes it. This map, with the accompanying index, should make it possible for the reader to (1) compare maps showing such data as become available in the future.

Another purpose of the map is to indicate, by the density of control points, the relative amount of information available for any area. This provides a basis, when considered together with the quality of data, for evaluating the reliability of various isopach lines. Also significant is the paucity of control points in certain areas, for it calls attention to places where additional geologic studies are needed and where problems remain unsolved.

The accuracy of paleogeologic, isopach, and lithofacies maps is determined by the quantity and spacing of control points and the quality of the data available for each point. In regions such as the West Coast or Nevada, for example, points are so widely spaced that interpretations are hazardous. Isopach and lithofacies maps prepared for such areas are unreliable. Consequently, in regions of sparse control, isolated points are shown with explanatory data and rock symbols, but no isopach lines are used.

In other regions, particularly in petroliferous basins where there has been much drilling, sections or wells are too closely spaced in many places to be shown individually on the scale of 1:5,000,000. In general, one point per township is the upper density limit shown on the maps in this folio. Where more data were available, however, they have been compiled on punch cards as confirmation of the validity of composite or selected data.

Where necessary, isopach lines have been variously interpreted; these interpretations are discussed in the text, although only one may be shown on the maps.

## PALEOGEOLOGIC MAP

The paleogeologic map shows the geology of the surface upon which Jurassic sediments were deposited. It is based upon those control points for which the formation immediately beneath Jurassic rocks has been determined. Areally it is limited to regions in which Jurassic strata are now found. In a few places, however, where Triassic rocks now crop out, the present limits of the Jurassic, their distribution is indicated by means of symbols but without use of color.

The base of the Jurassic is difficult to define in many areas and, therefore, subject to interpretation. In such places the boundary has been selected arbitrarily. Specific boundary problems are summarized in the pertinent evidence cited in the discussion of each region.

## ATLANTIC COAST REGION

On Cape Hatteras, N. C., Upper Jurassic(?) rocks encountered in the Esso Standard Oil, Hatteras Light Well No. 1, are reported to be underlain by Pennsylvanian granite (Swain, 1952, p. 66-67). This is the only Jurassic control point available for the region.

## GULF COAST REGION

The rocks beneath the Jurassic system in the Gulf Coast region are poorly known. Only around the northern periphery of the Coastal Plain, where they have been penetrated by wells, is information available. Therefore, present knowledge concerning them is restricted to a relatively narrow, semicircular belt extending from Alabama to east Texas.

In the Gulf Coast region, the lower Jurassic strata in the central part of the Gulf Coast region in many wells. Whether additional Jurassic strata underlie these bodies is not known. In the Gulf Coast region, the Gulf Coast region also are far from clear, owing to insufficient data. Whether the Appalachian and Ouachita orogenic belts, for example, occur or cross (King, 1950, p. 688-688) is not known, although P. B. King (written communication) believes that available data suggest a connection.

Alabama and Mississippi, units un-

derlying Jurassic.—In the eastern Gulf Coast region (Alabama) Triassic(?) diabase sills or dikes underlie younger strata at two localities. The extent of the Triassic(?) rocks is not known, but they are represented as occupying a trough comparable in size and shape to the known Triassic troughs of the Atlantic Coast States. Other Triassic deposits, not yet recognized, may be present in the Gulf Coast region (Appin, 1951, p. 15-17).

Most of the rocks of pre-Jurassic age that have been examined in Alabama and Mississippi are of Pennsylvanian and Ordovician age. Subsurface trends of these strata and adjoining crystallites to the southeast appear to be continuous with surface trends in the southern Appalachians.

Pennsylvanian strata dip to the south and thicken downward as far south as penetrated (H. R. Wanless, written communication). Where rocks of Ordovician age occur in the small bulge along the contact shown in Mississippi (pl. 2), the U. S. Geological Survey, Laramie, Wyo.

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## REFERENCES CITED

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TABLE 2.—GENERALIZED CORRELATION CHART SHOWING STRATIGRAPHIC UNITS IN MAJOR JURASSIC DIVISIONS

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		Western Wyoming	Eastern Wyoming	Western Montana	Eastern Montana, North Dakota	Idaho, northern Utah	Eastern and southern Utah, western Colorado	Durango-Ouray area of southwestern Colorado	Northwestern New Mexico	Northeastern Arizona	Eastern Colorado, western Oklahoma, northeastern New Mexico	Southwestern Nebraska, western Kansas	Western South Dakota, northwestern Nebraska																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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Interval C	Oxfordian	Stump sandstone	Curtis formation	Sundance formation (upper part)	Redwater shale member	Swift formation	Swift formation	Stump sandstone	Summerville formation	Winnor formation	Summerville formation	Wanakah formation (restricted)	Middle shale member	Wanakah formation	Cow Springs sandstone (lower part)	Summerville formation	Cow Springs sandstone (lower part)	Summerville formation	Cow Springs sandstone (lower part)	Summerville formation	basal beds of Morrison formation	Wanakah formation	Rader formation	lower unit of Morrison formation	Sundance formation	Redwater shale member																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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Map intervals	European stages	NEVADA		WEST				COAST		REGION			TEXAS	GULF REGION
		Eastern and southern Nevada	Western Nevada	North-central Washington	Southwestern Oregon	East-central Oregon, western Idaho	Western California	North-central California	Northeastern California	East-central California	Eastern California	West Texas	East Texas to Alabama	
Interval D	Portlandian													
	Kimmeridgian													
Interval C	Oxfordian													
Interval B	Callovian													
	Bathonian													
	Bajocian													
Interval A	Toarcian	Aztec sandstone	Navajo sandstone	Nugget sandstone	Dunlap formation				Potom formation		Fant andesite			
	Pliensbachian								Bagley andesite		Hardgrave sandstone			
	Sinemurian										Trail formation			
	Hettangian													

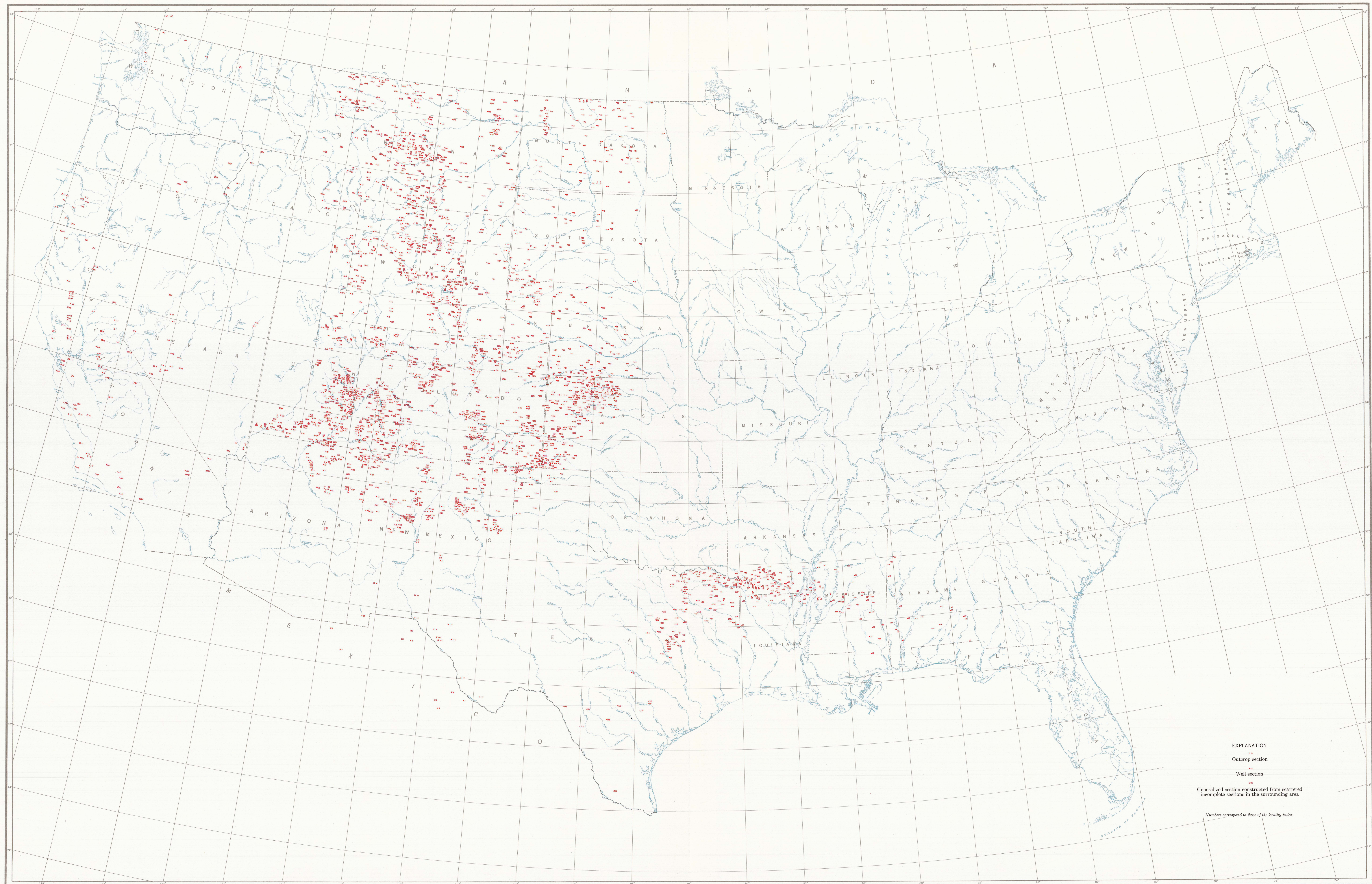








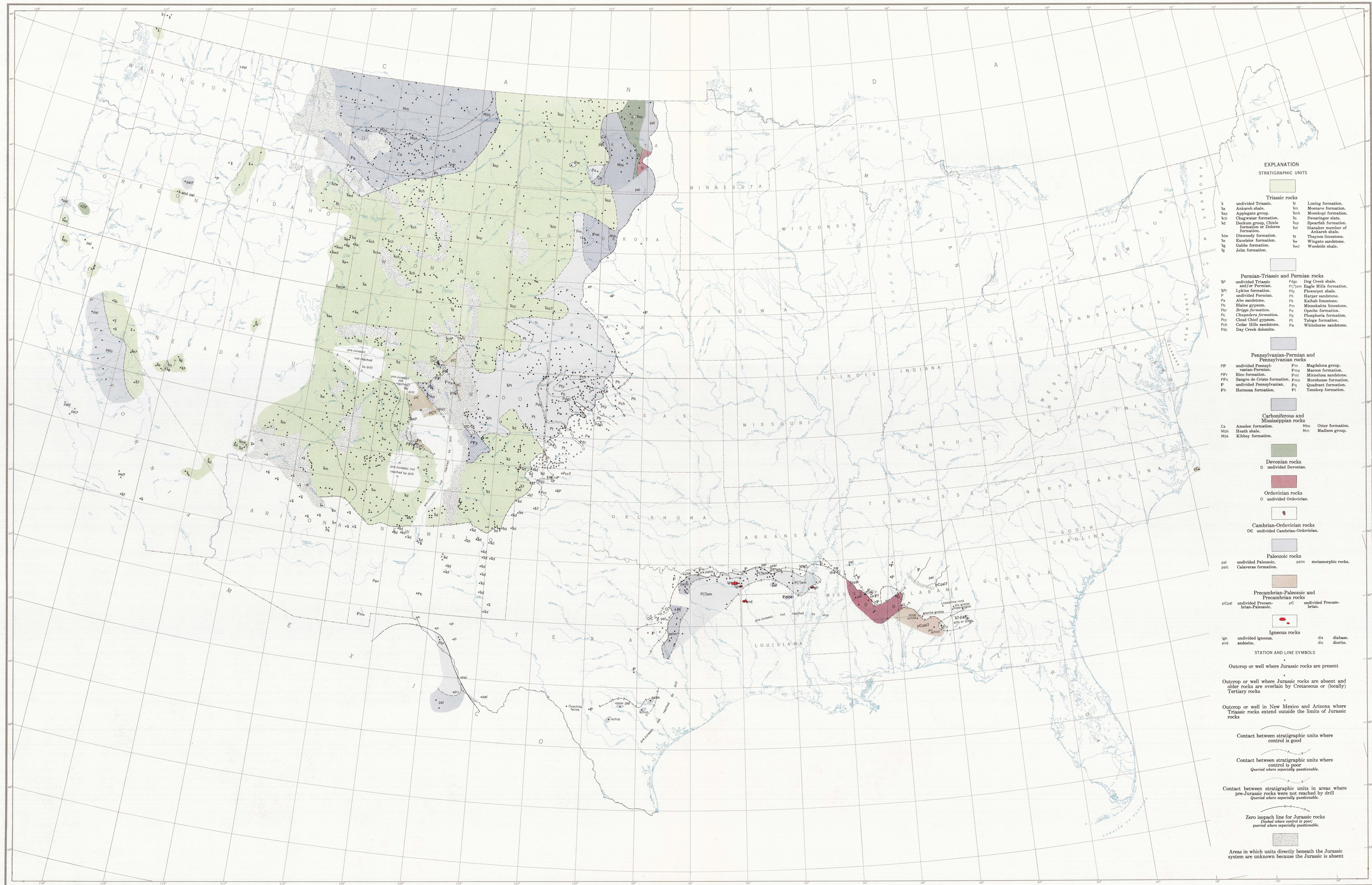




# LOCATION OF CONTROL POINTS

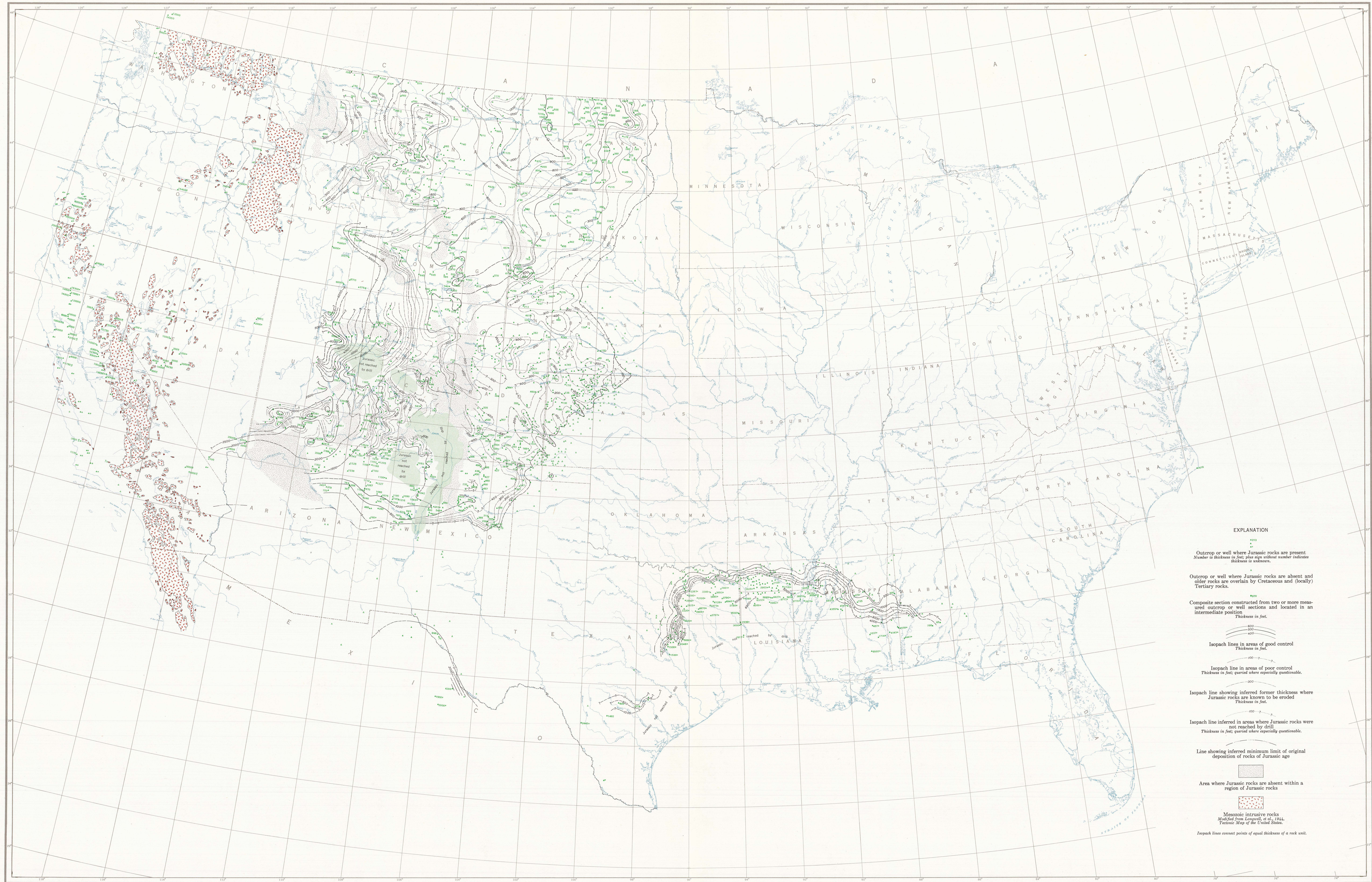
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GEOLOGIC UNITS DIRECTLY BENEATH JURASSIC SYSTEM



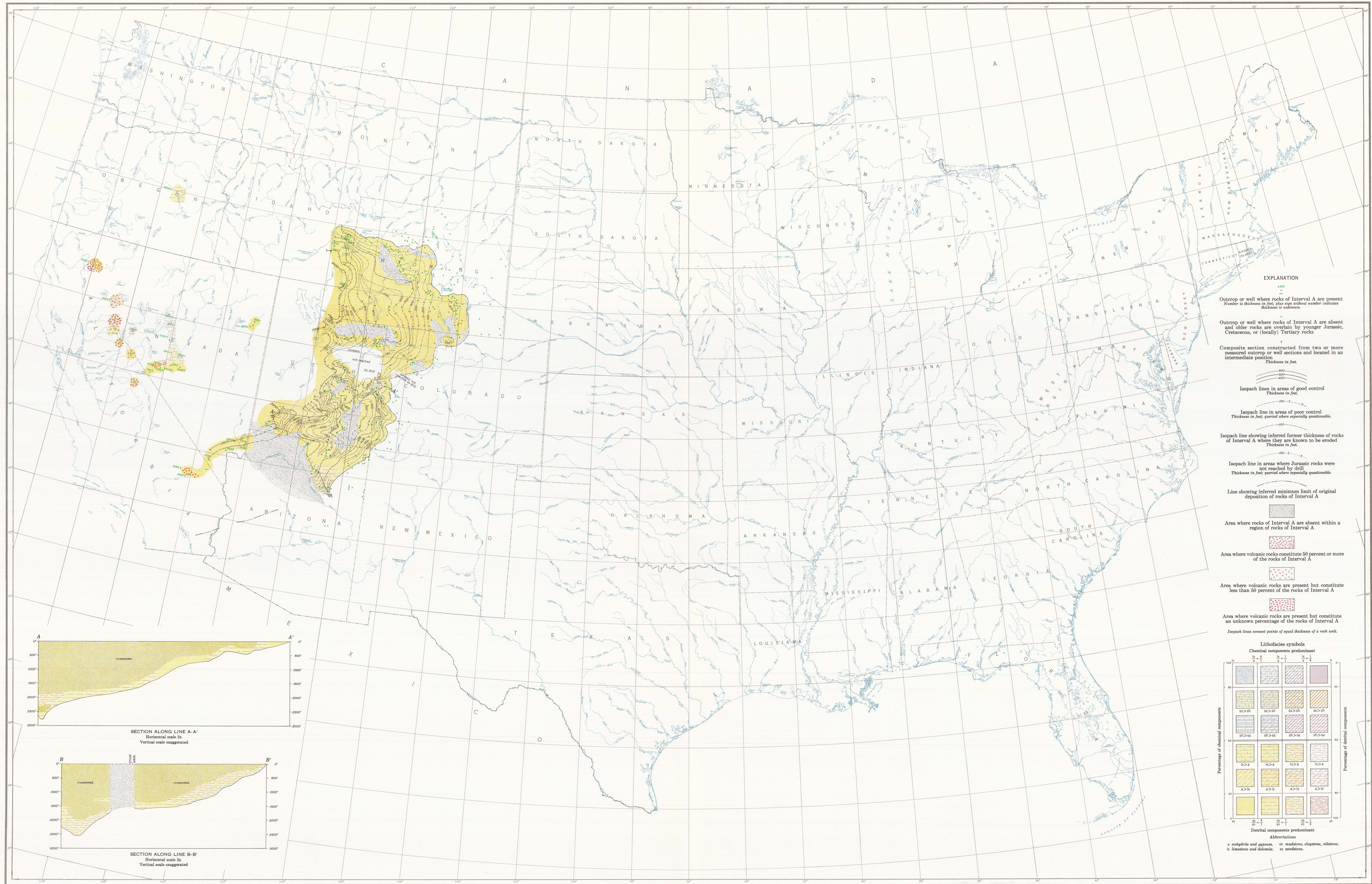


SUMMARY OF JURASSIC ROCK THICKNESSES

Scale 1:5,000,000

1956





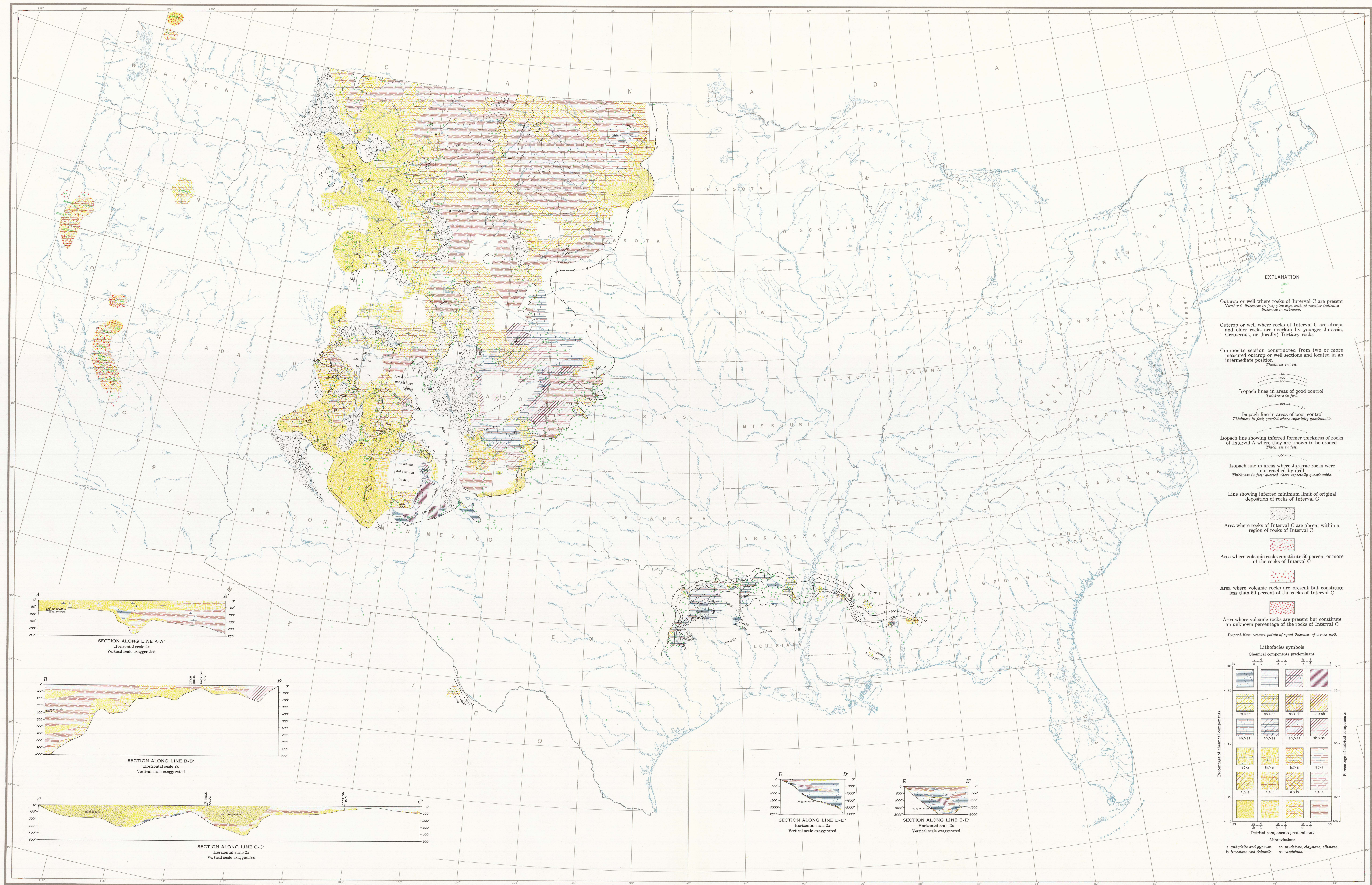
LITHOFACIES AND THICKNESSES, INTERVAL A

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# LITHOFACIES AND THICKNESSES, INTERVAL C

Scale 1:5,000,000







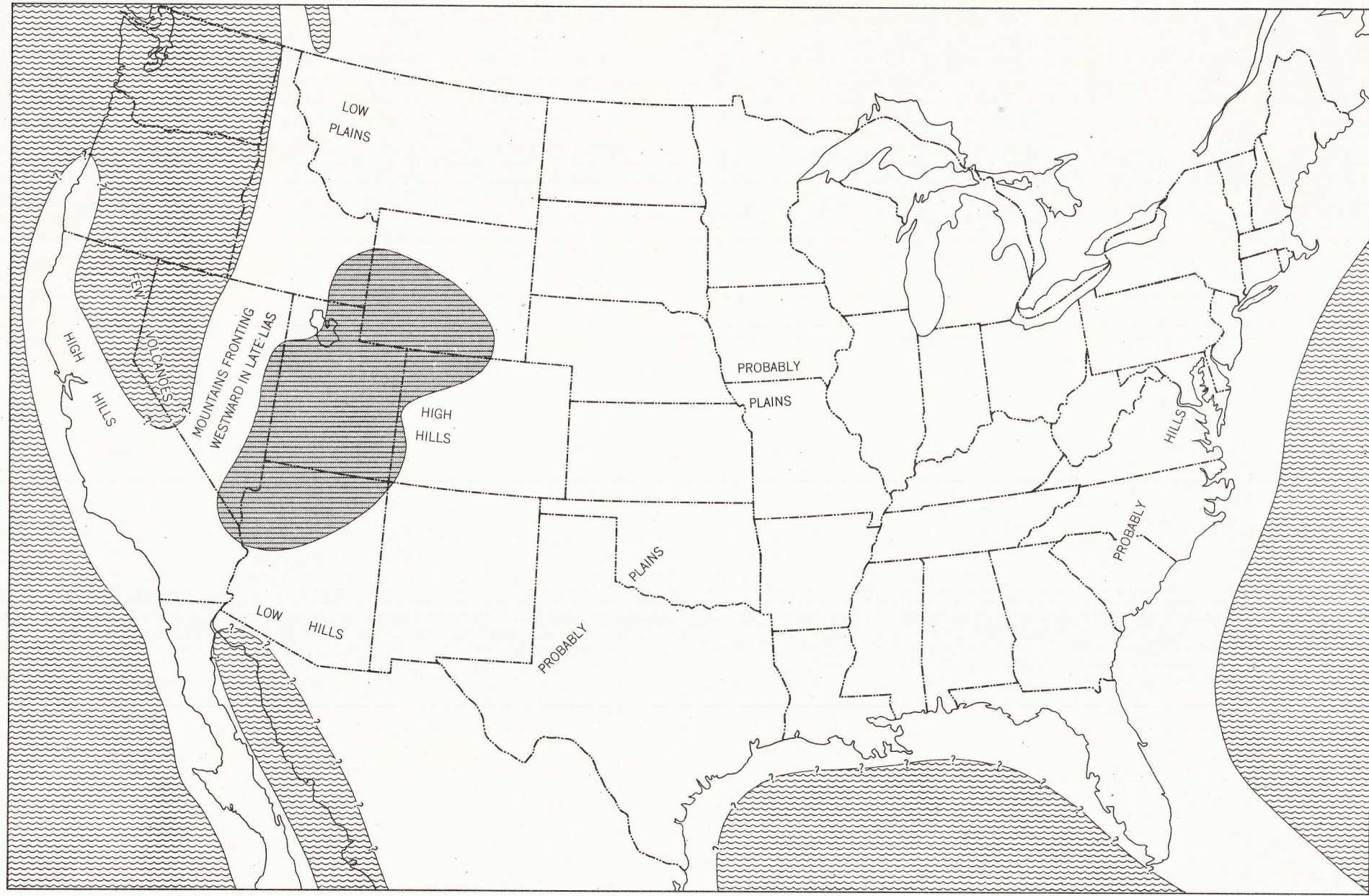


FIGURE 1.—EARLY JURASSIC (LIAS)

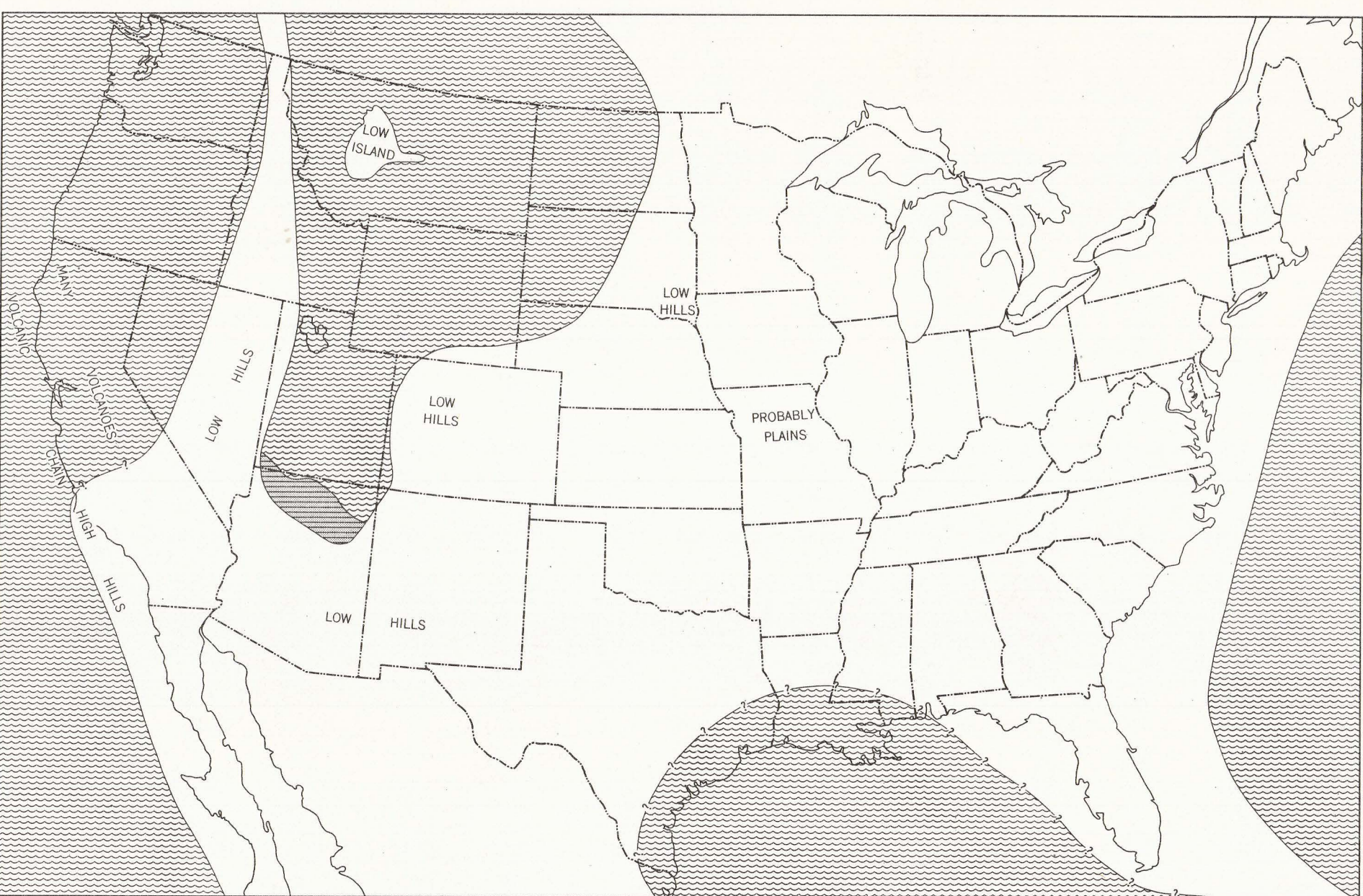


FIGURE 4.—EARLY LATE JURASSIC (EARLY AND EARLY MIDDLE CALLOVIAN)

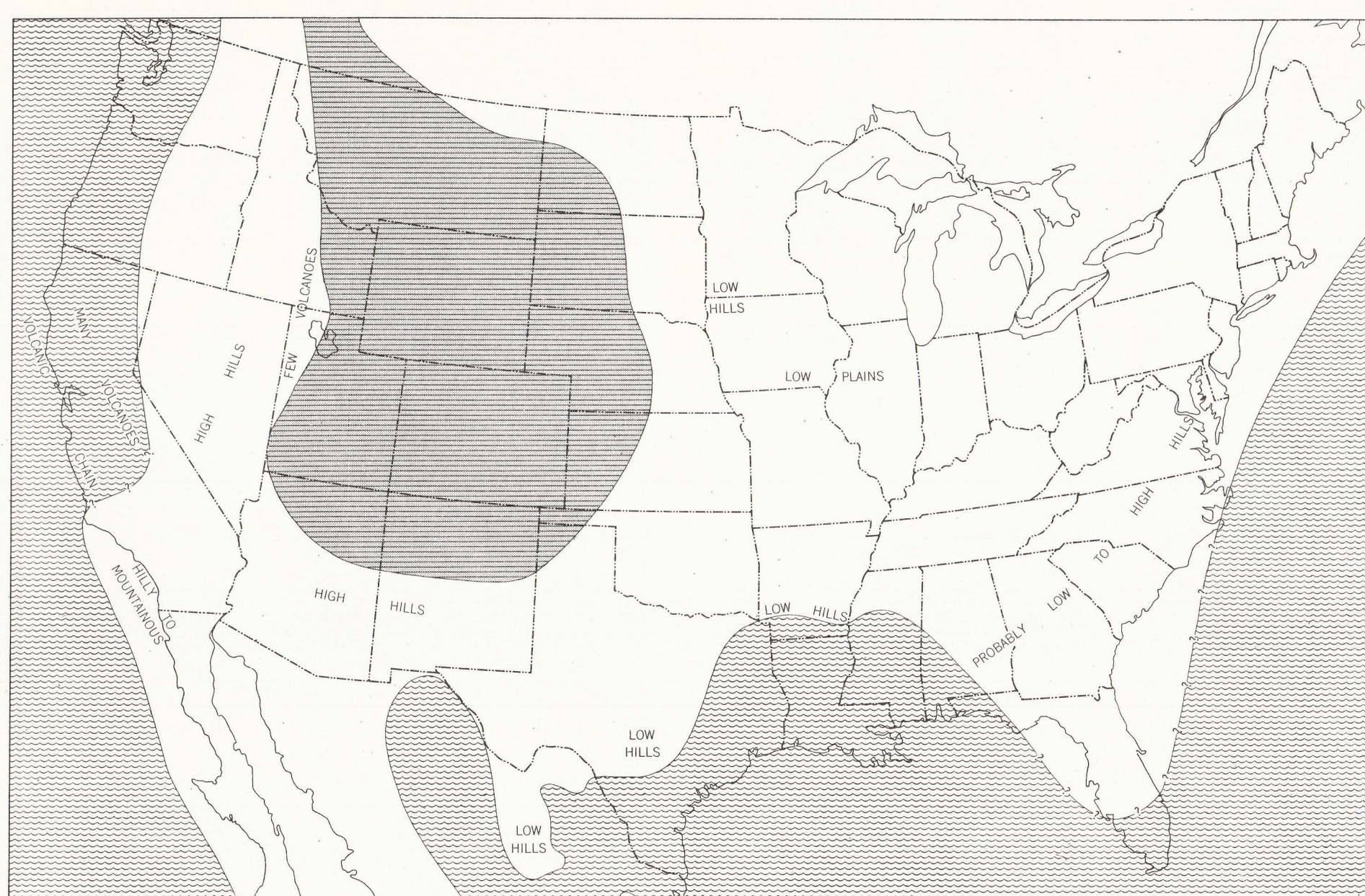


FIGURE 7.—LATE JURASSIC (EARLY KIMMERIDGIAN)

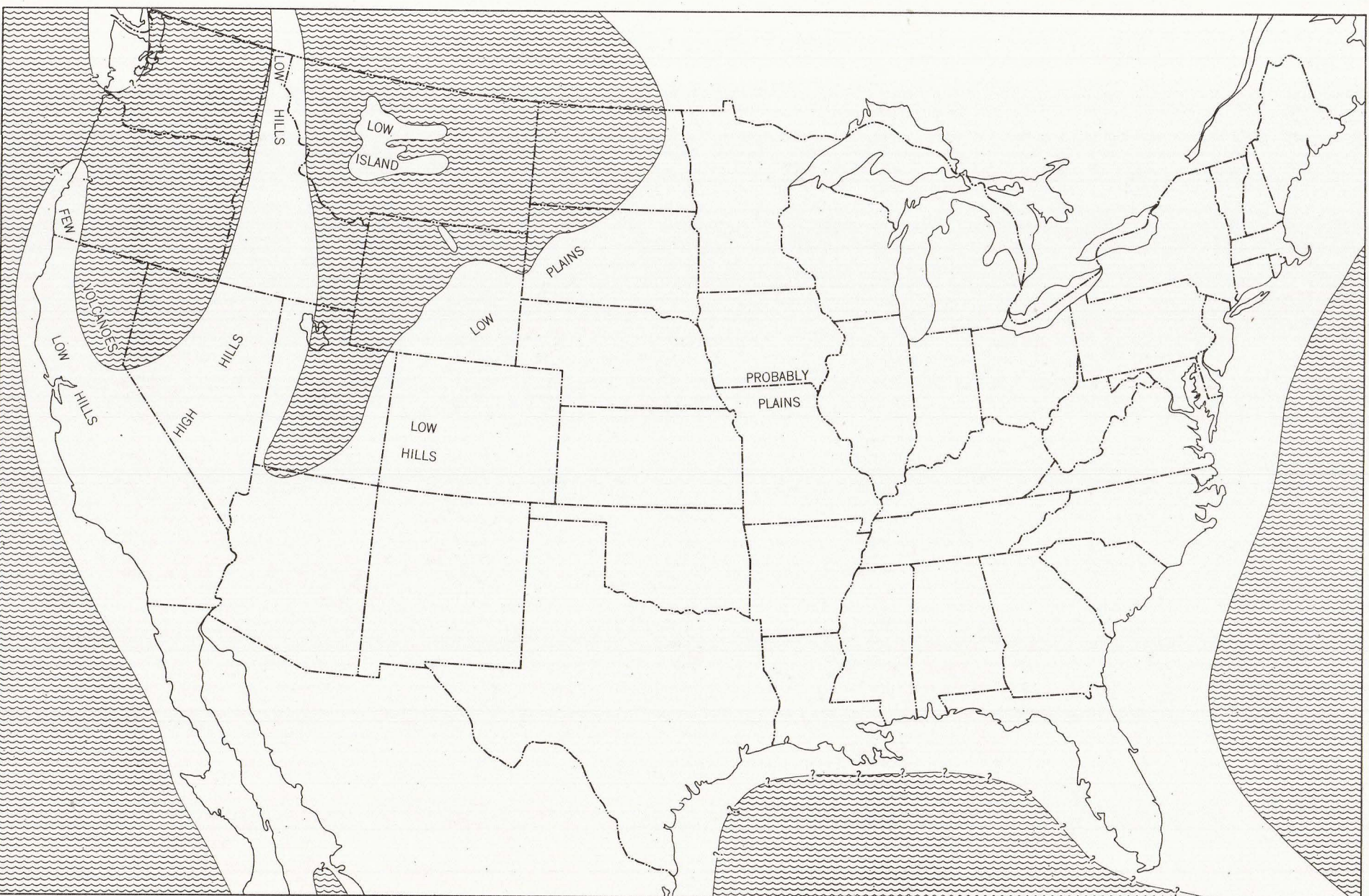


FIGURE 2.—EARLY MIDDLE JURASSIC (BAJOCIAN)

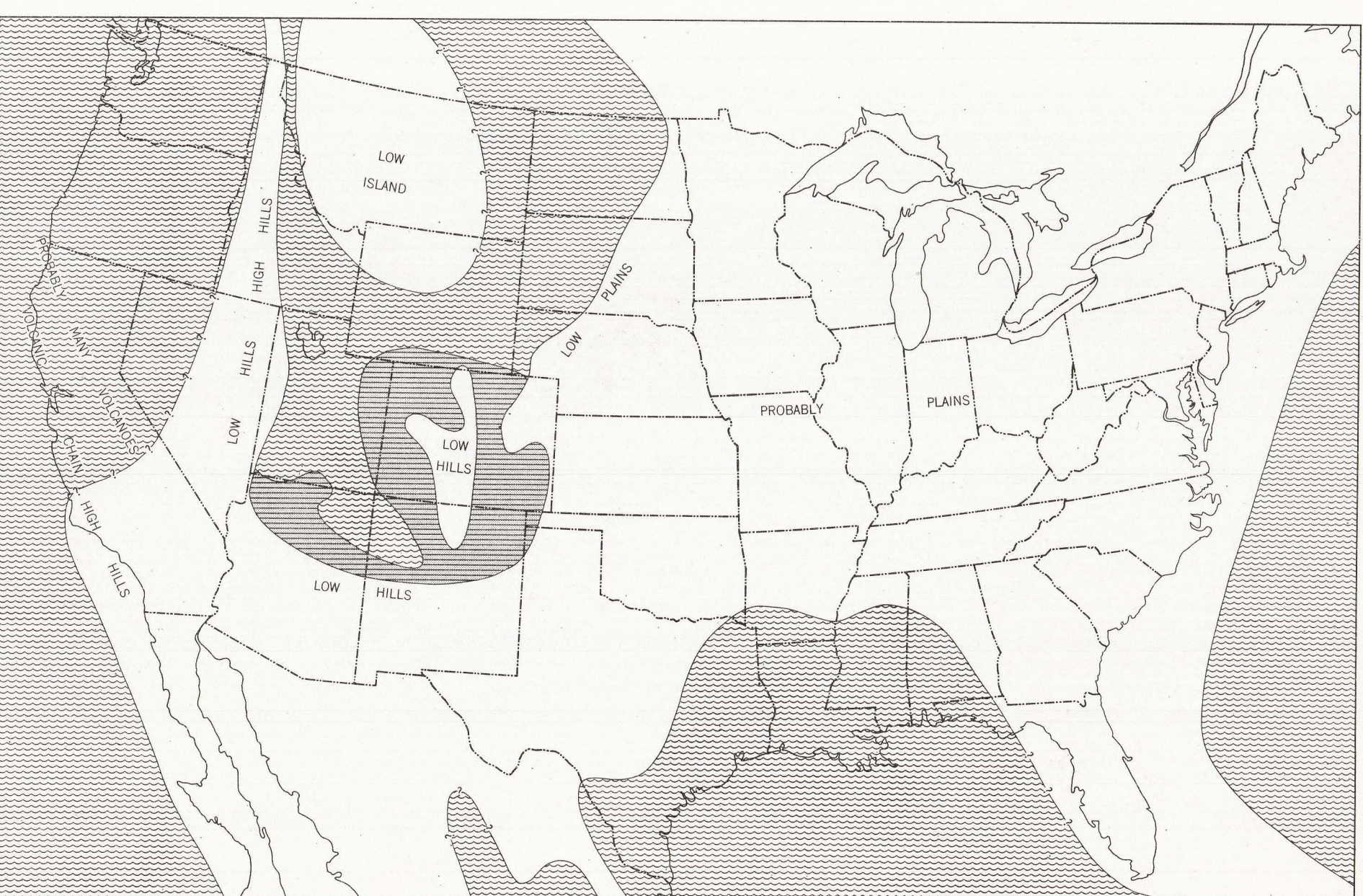


FIGURE 5.—EARLY LATE JURASSIC (LATE MIDDLE AND LATE CALLOVIAN)

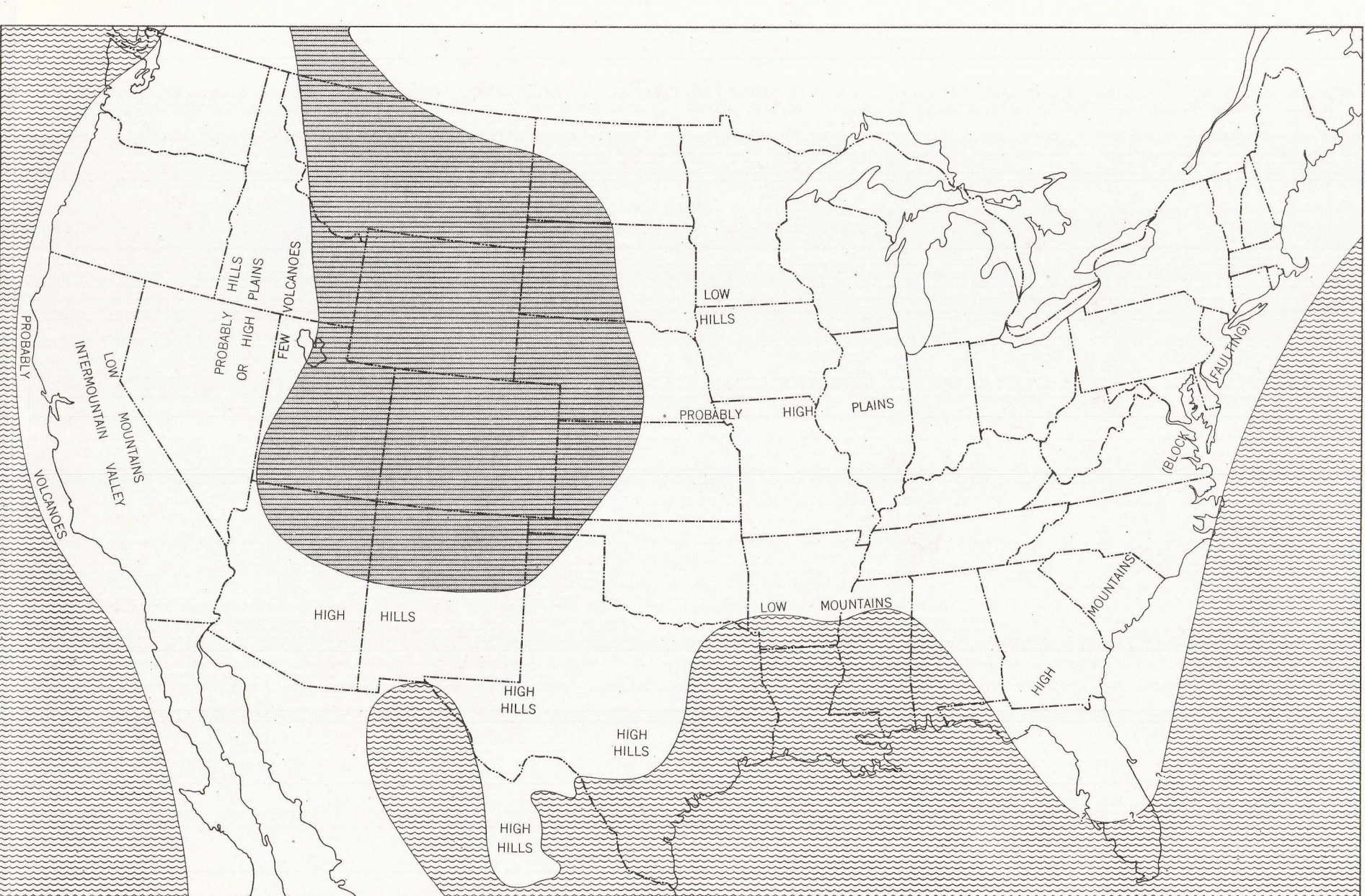


FIGURE 8.—LATE JURASSIC (MIDDLE KIMMERIDGIAN TO EARLY PORTLANDIAN)

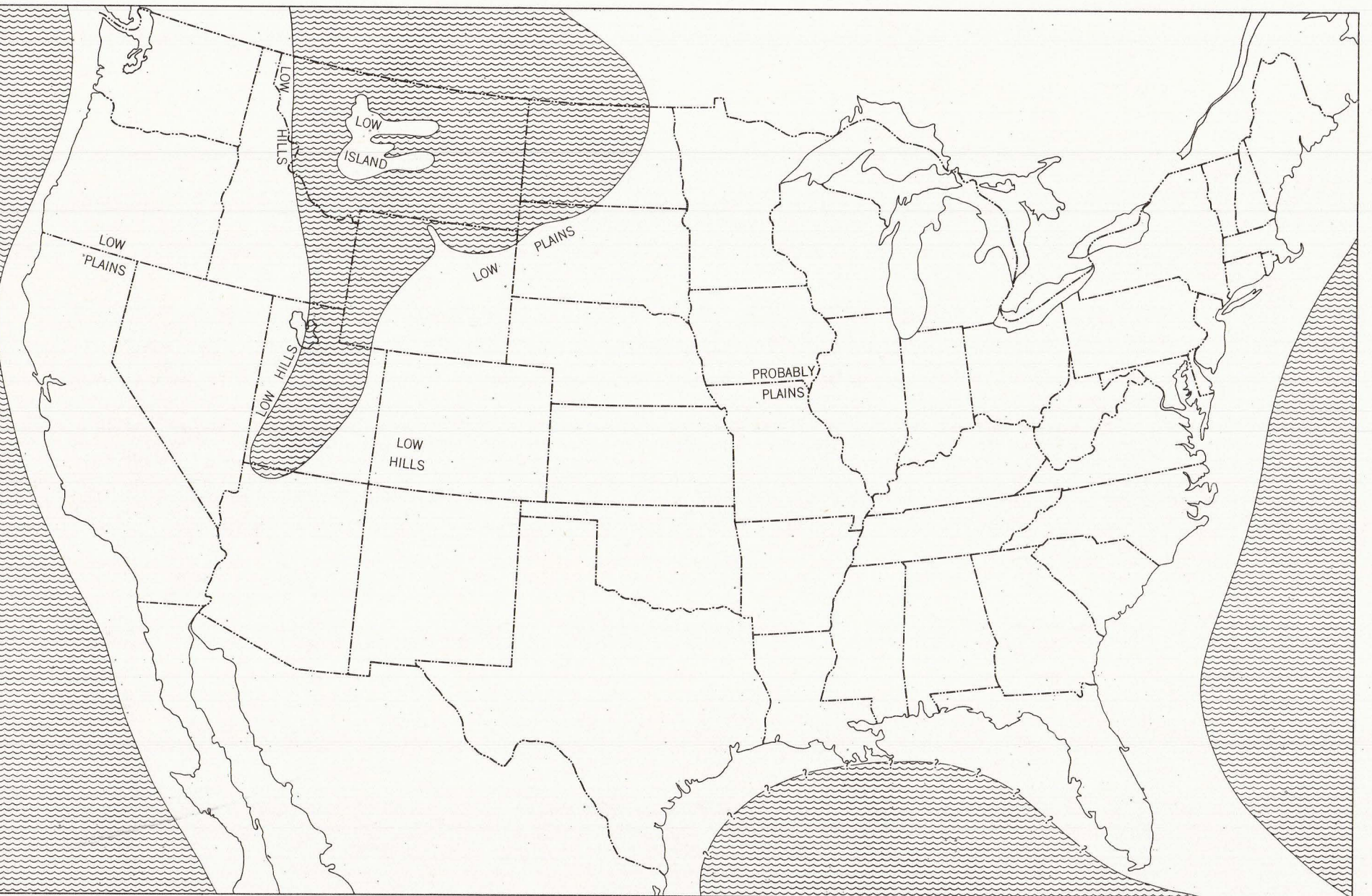


FIGURE 3.—LATE MIDDLE JURASSIC (BATHONIAN)

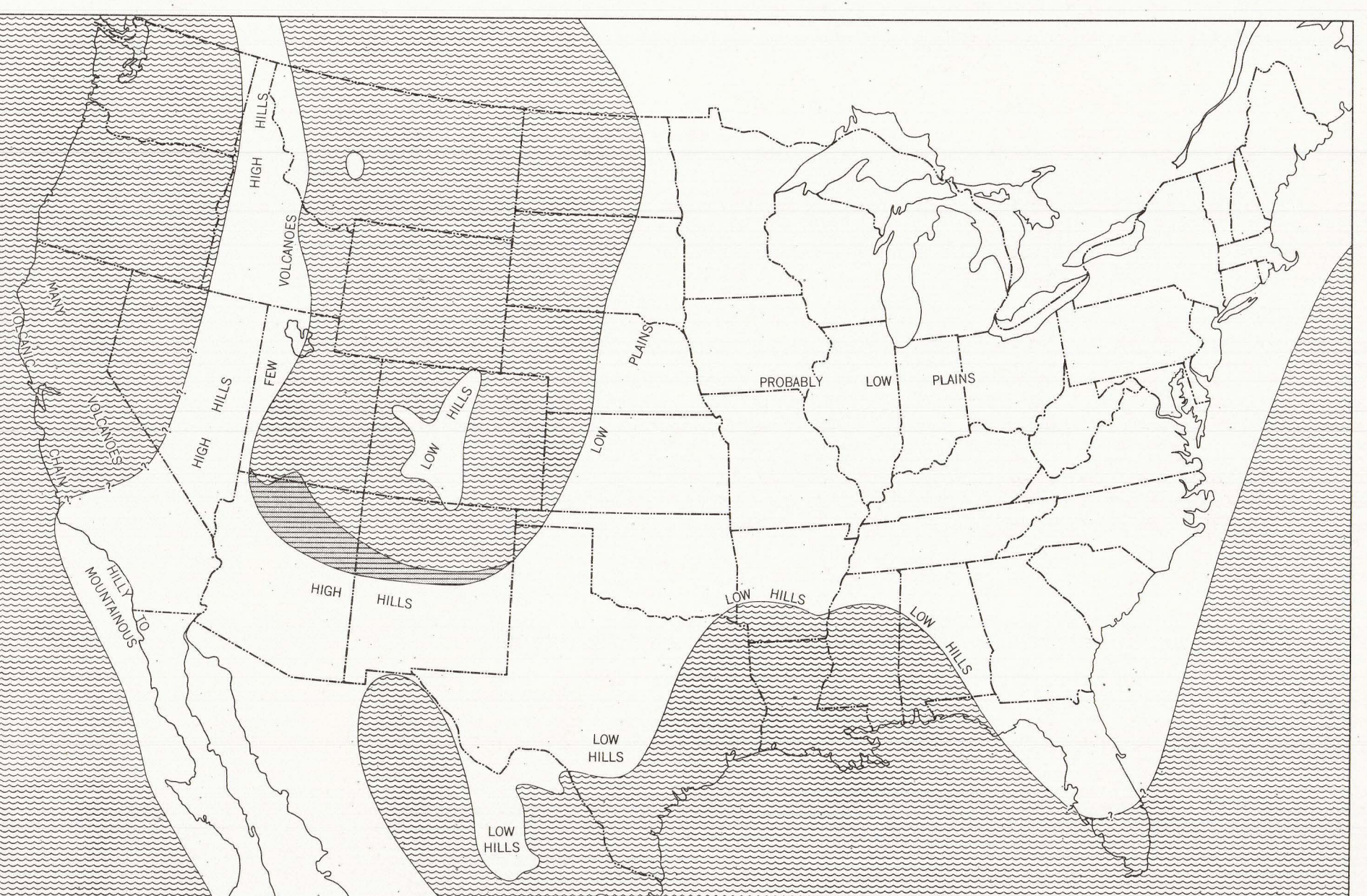


FIGURE 6.—LATE JURASSIC (OXFORDIAN)

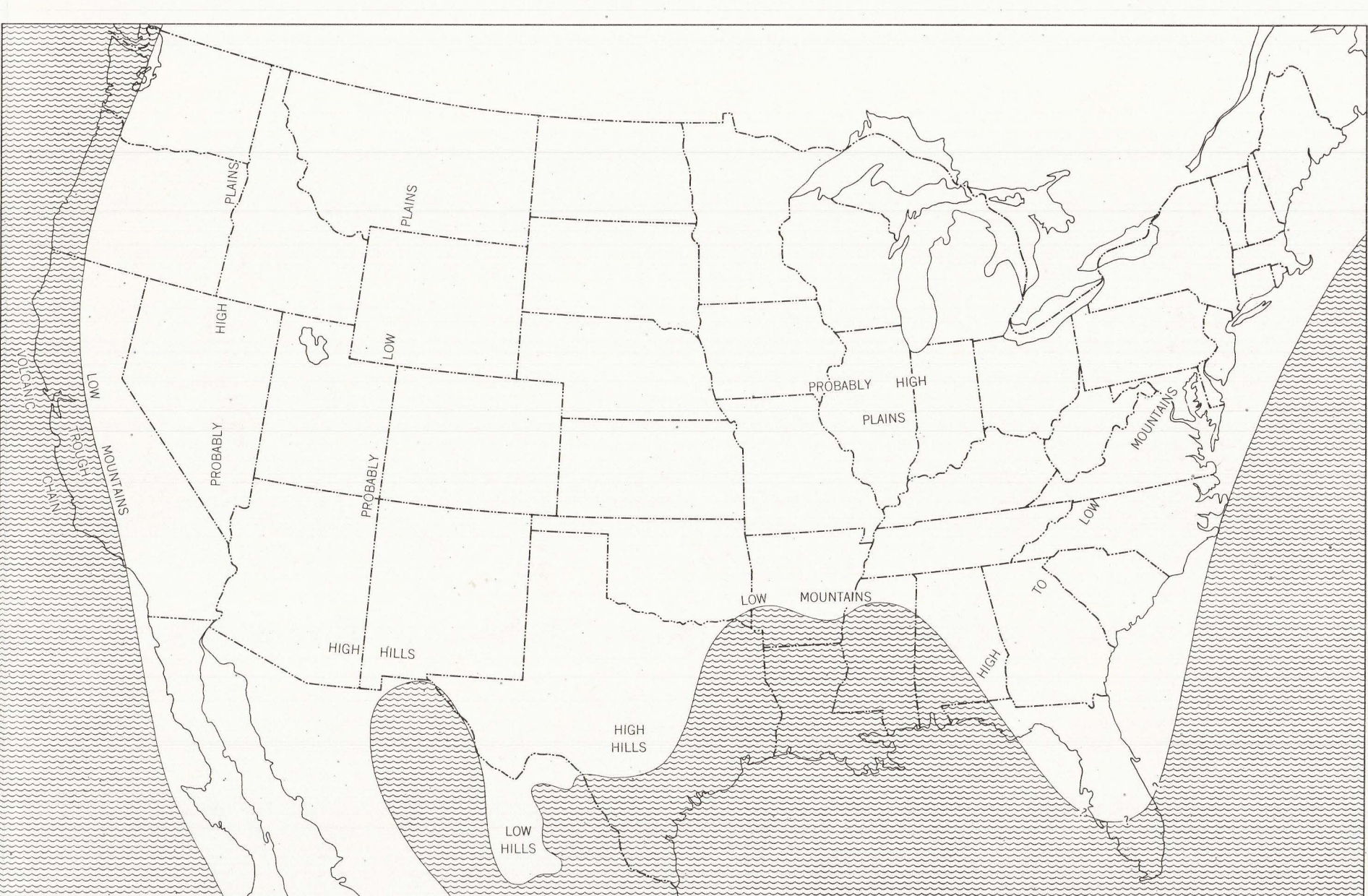
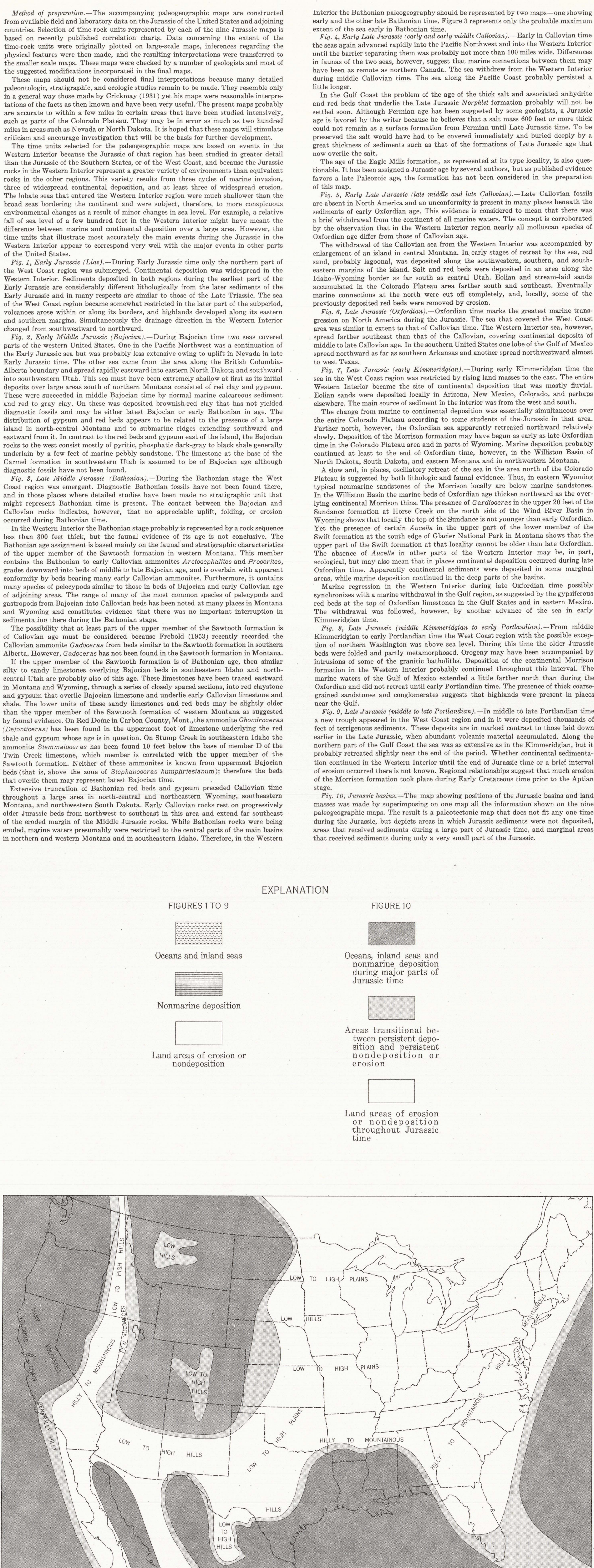
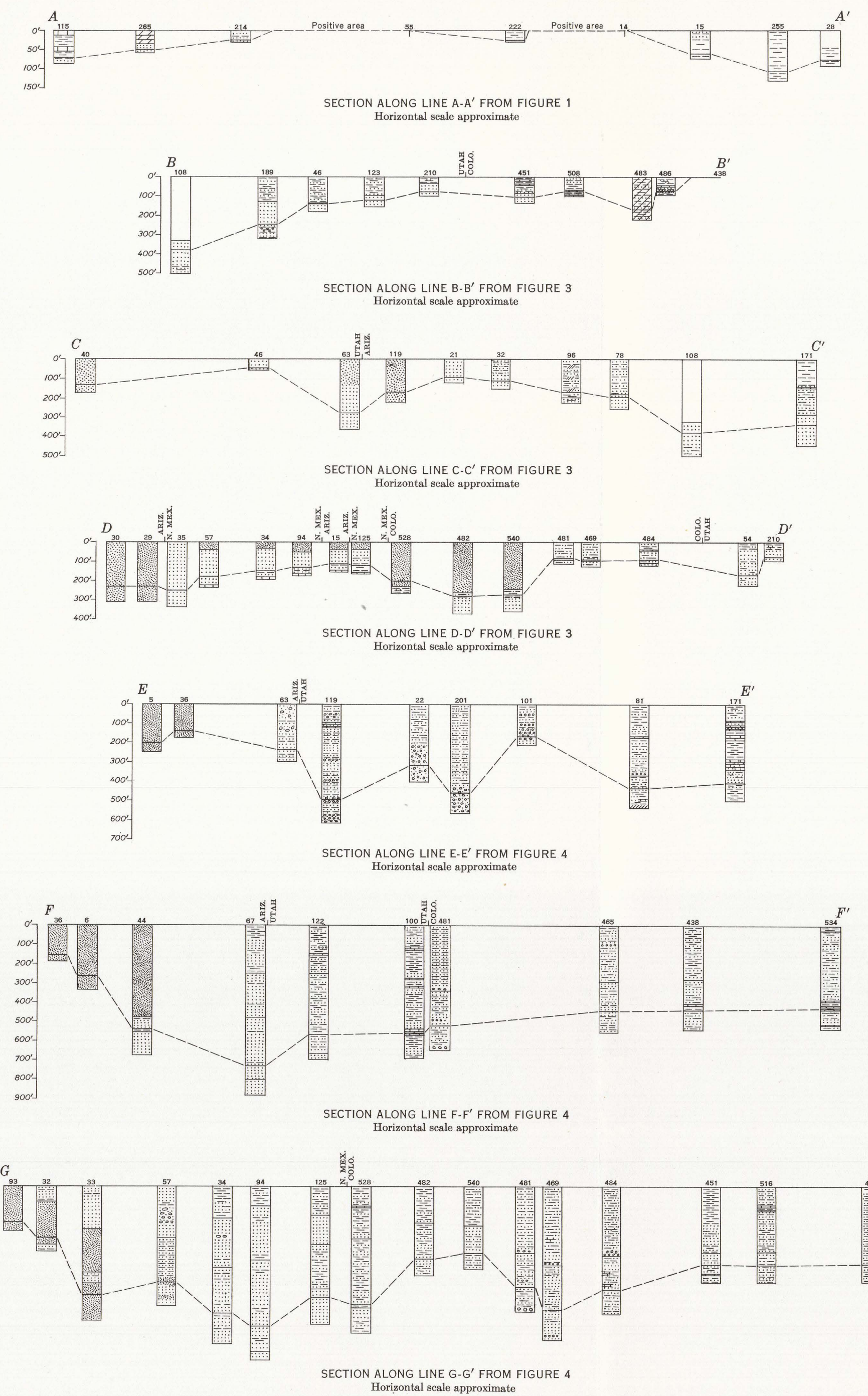
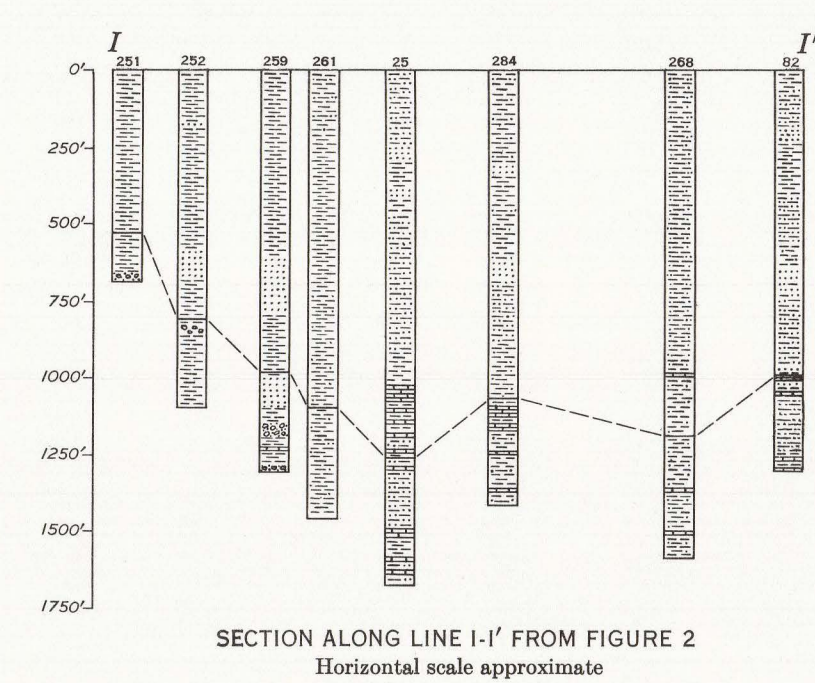
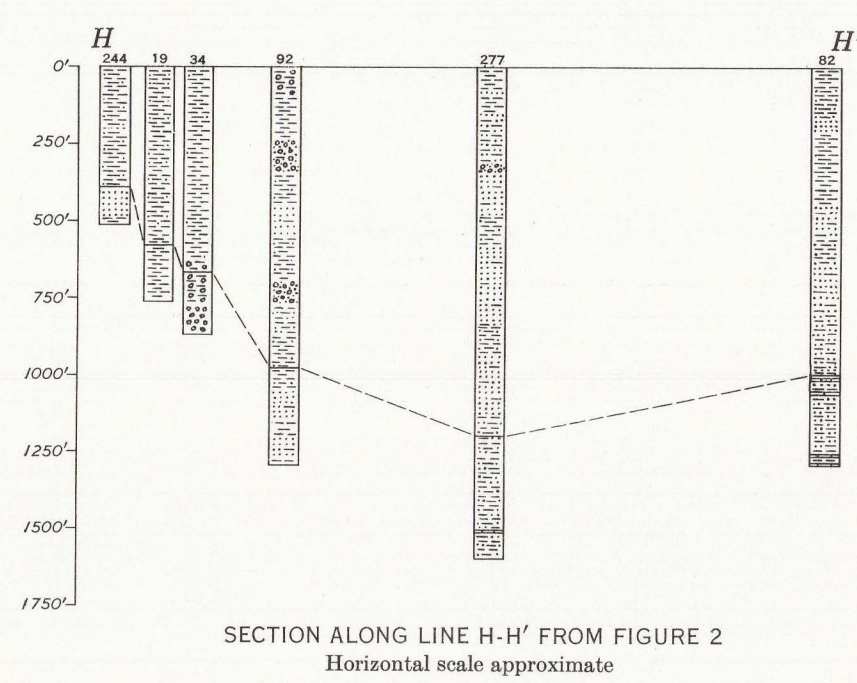
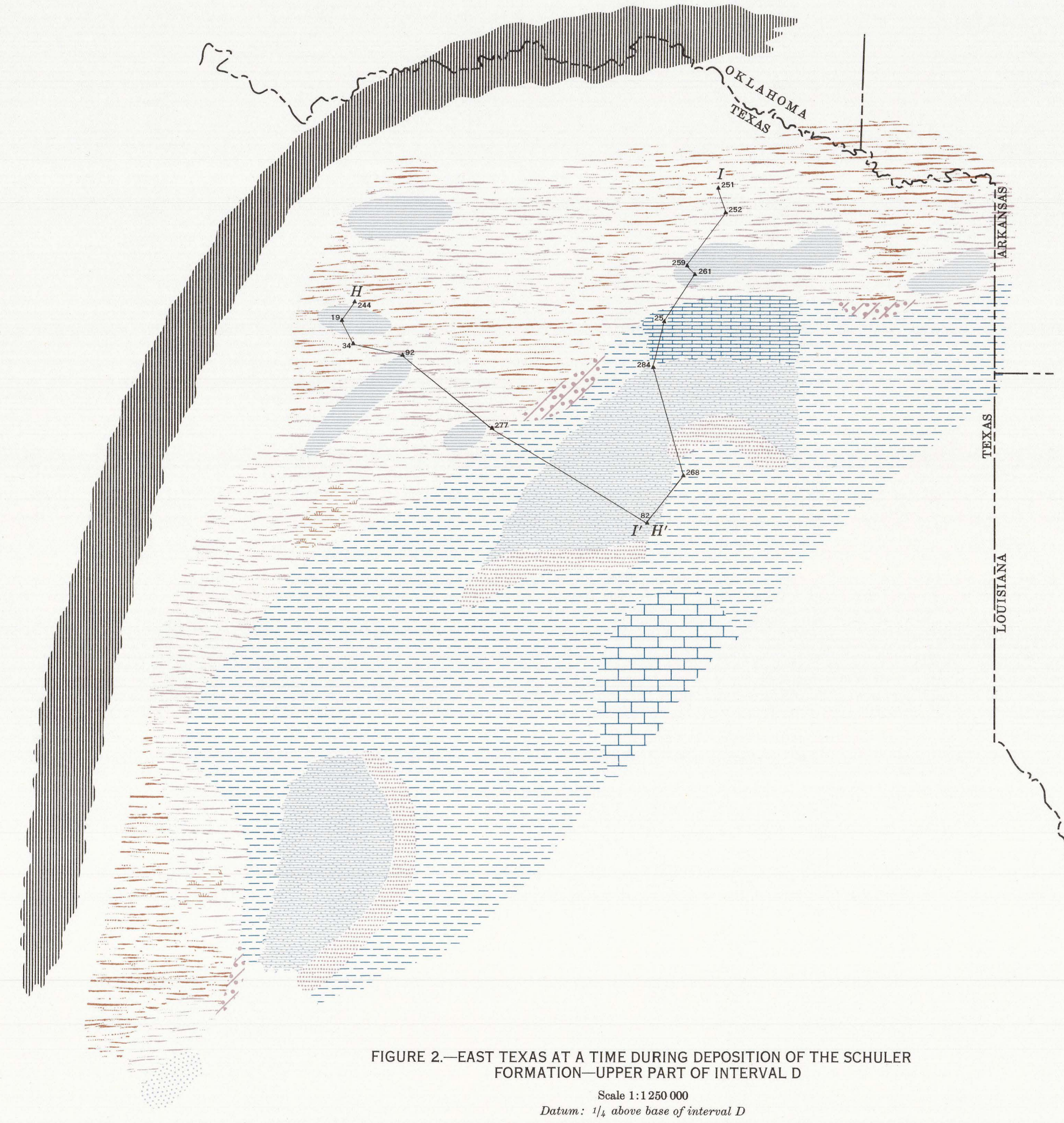
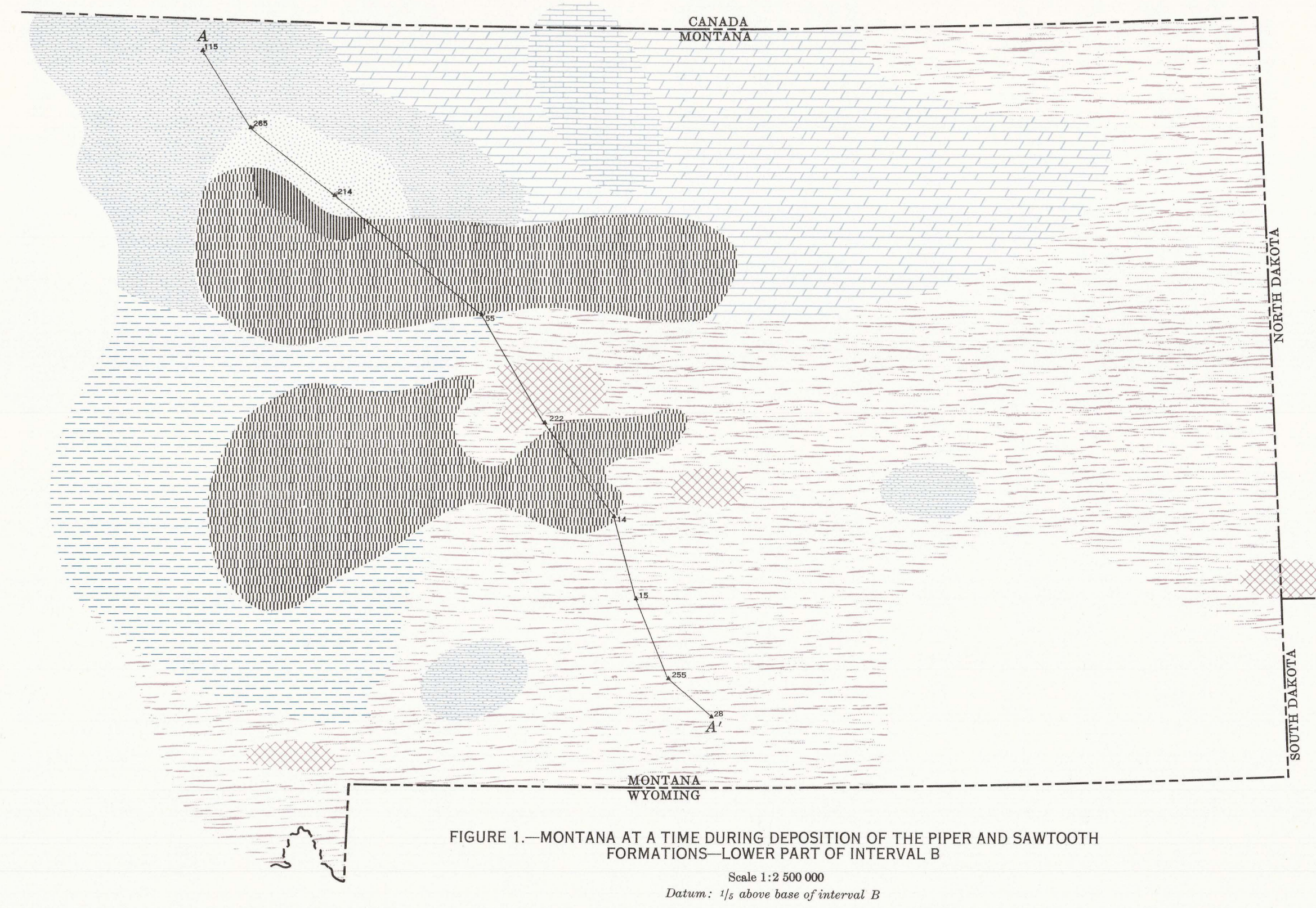


FIGURE 9.—LATE JURASSIC (MIDDLE TO LATE PORTLANDIAN)



PALEOGEOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE JURASSIC PERIOD





ENVIRONMENTAL MAP SYMBOLS

CONTINENTAL AREAS, NONDEPOSITION	Lagoon—sand portion
Elevated areas, source of detritals—epitrogenic	Flood plain or marginal mudflat
Low positive areas, minor source of detritals	Plays or lake
CONTINENTAL AREAS, DEPOSITION	MARINE AREAS, DEPOSITION
Dune	Sea, normal circulation—mud
Flood plain or alluvial plain	Near shore—lime
Alluvial fan	Sea, normal circulation—normal lime
Coal swamp	Sea, normal circulation—sand
Plays or lake	Near shore—dolomite
MARGINAL AREAS, DEPOSITION	Sea, restricted circulation—black lime
Delta	Sea, restricted circulation—black mud
Beach or bar	Sea, restricted circulation—sand
Lagoon—evaporite portion	

Location of well or outcrop used in construction of cross section

