

Prepared in cooperation with **UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY** NATIONAL COOPERATIVE GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM

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Vicksburg Group **Forest Hill Formation** 

Deltaic sands, silts, and clays. Sand, fine-grained, silty, quartzose; Clay, carbonaceous, laminated, lignite and silicified wood common. Lignitic plant fossils common along fissile partings in clays. The Forest Hill Formation unconformably overlies the Yazoo Formation. Total thickness is approximately 100 feet.

**Jackson Group** 

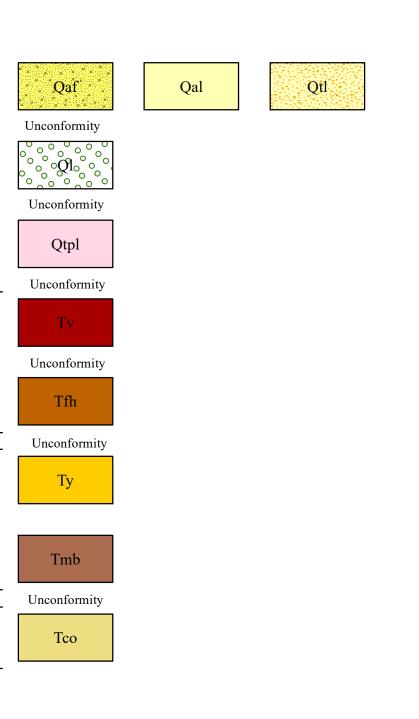
Yazoo Formation (Eocene) Locally referred to as the Yazoo Clay. Clay, bluish-green to bluish gray, weathers yellowish brown to tan, montmorillonitic, calcareous, silty, locally fossiliferous, locally contains, framboidal pyrite. The Yazoo Formation conformably overlies the Moodys Branch Formation. Total thickness is approximately 500 feet.

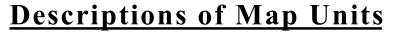
Cross Section Units Not Exposed at the Surface

**Moodys Branch Formation** 

**Cockfield Formation** Clay, brown, reddish-brown to grey in color; silty to fine sandy; strongly carbonaceous to lignitic, slightly micaceous, pyritic. Carbonized and silicified plant fossils common.Underlies the Moodys Branch Formation unconformably.

## **Correlation of Map Units**





### lluvium (Holocene to Pleistocene)

Sand, yellow- to brownish-white in color, fine- to coarse-grained, subrounded to rounded, predominately quartzose, locally graveliferous containing aggregate derived from the Pre-loess Terrace deposits, silty to clayey; humus lenses common; floodplain deposits are heavily loess-derived. Silicified wood common. Tributaries have narrow alluvial valleys and are deeply incised through the loess terrain. Thickness is interpreted to be approximately 10 feet with the exception of

### Stream Terrace (Holocene to Pleistocene)

Flood Plain deposits dominatly associated with the Big Black River; Sand, yellow- to brownish-white in color, fine- to coarse-grained, subrounded to rounded, predominately quartzose, locally graveliferous containing aggregate derived from the Pre-loess Terrace deposits, silty to clayey; humus lenses common; floodplain deposits are heavily loess-derived. Silicified wood common. These terraces are likley locations of pre-historic archeological sites.

### Alluvial Fans (Holocene to Pleistocene)

Alternating silts, sands, and gravels deposited by streams entering the Mississippi River Alluvial Plain from the adjacent uplands. Coarsest at the apex of the fan, fining laterally (radially) from the apex of the fan. Alluvial fans interfinger with the Mississippi River Alluvium and are a significant source of recharge for the Mississippi River Alluvial Aquifer. Typically, the basal sand gravels of the Mississippi River alluvium beneath the alluvial fan can be recognized by the presence of numerous granite and metamorphic rock clasts.

Silt, buff to tan, pale yellow, red, gray to gray-green where in anoxic conditions, quartzose to feldspathic. Loess is considered an eolian deposit derived from glacial outwash. Loess is typically calcareous with dolomite and calcite; however, the upper portion of the loess can be deeply weathered, leached / noncalcareous, and has been commonly referred to as "brown loam." Loess deposits unconformably blanket the pre-loess topography with substantial local variations in thickness but generally thickening towards the west. In places, weathered loess contains secondary deposits of small calcareous concretions (caliche, loess dolls). Loess can be locally and sparingly fossiliferous, commonly containing tests or steinkerns of pulmonate gastropods and less commonly containing fossils of

### **Pre-loess Terrace Deposits (Pleistocene)**

Pleistocene ancestral Mississippi River terraces deposited prior to Pleistocene loessification. Sand, yellow, orange, purple, red, pink, fine- to coarse-grained, predominantly quartzose, cross-bedded to massive; graveliferous, pea to large cobble size clasts, boulder size ice-rafted clasts of sandstone and chert. Economically significant gravels are predominantly chert with lesser amounts of vein quartz, metaquartzite, agate, sandstone, and rare rhyolite clasts; clay, pink to white, generally occurring as discontinuous lenses and as rip-up clasts up to boulder-size. Conglomeratic ironstone ledges are common in the graveliferous sands at the base of the deposits. The base of this terrace occurs at approximately 220 ft MSL. "Head-of-hollow", terrace-derived valley-fill deposits are common at lower elevations and are isolated to valley walls adjacent to the erosional remnants of the higher of the two terrace deposits. These deposits are of such limited extent as not to warrant representation on this map.

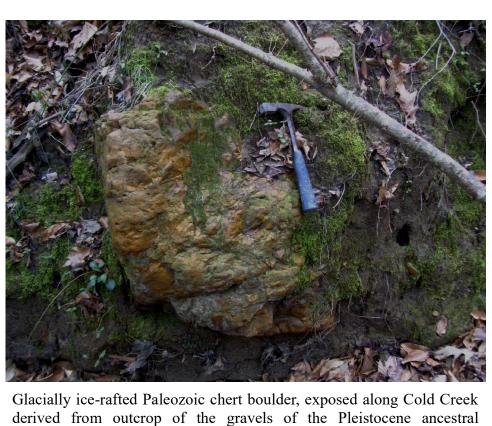
### Vicksburg Limestone Undifferentiated (Oligocene)

Includes the Bucatunna Formation, Byram Formation, Glendon Limestone, Marianna Limestone, and Mint Spring Formation. The Glendon Limestone is white to gray, commonly indurated to semi-crystalline bioclastic limestone, either massive or with alternating ledges separated by thinly-bedded glauconitic marl. The Glendon Limestone commonly contains solution cavities at or near outcrop. Larger cavities usually form at the contact with the underlying Marianna Limestone. The Marianna Limestone is white to pale-yellow, soft to indurated, glauconitic marl, containing an admixture of fine-grained sands and clays in places. There is an abundance of the large Foraminifera Lepidocyclina mantelli in the Marianna Limestone and Lepidocyclina supera in the Glendon Limestone and the echinoid *Clypeaster rogersi*. The Vicksburg Limestone unconformably overlies the Forest Hill Formation. Thickness is approximately 100 feet.

Sandy fossiliferous marl containing an abundance of marine invertebrates typically, Glycymeris and Venericardia shells. Conformably grades into the overlying Yazoo Formation. Total thickness is approximately 15 feet.



Alluvium of Cold Creek. The creek at this point of its lower reaches as it crosses the alluvial fan becomes intermittent as it's flow is lost through the transmissivity of the fan and directly recharges the Mississippi River Alluvial Aquifer taken on October 8, 2006 in Section:14, Township: 9 North, Range 4 West.



Mississippi River, Pre-loess Terrace Deposit. This rectangular clast exhibits an excellent glacial polish and parallel grooved striae on the upper righthand face taken on February 15, 2008 in Section 24, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.

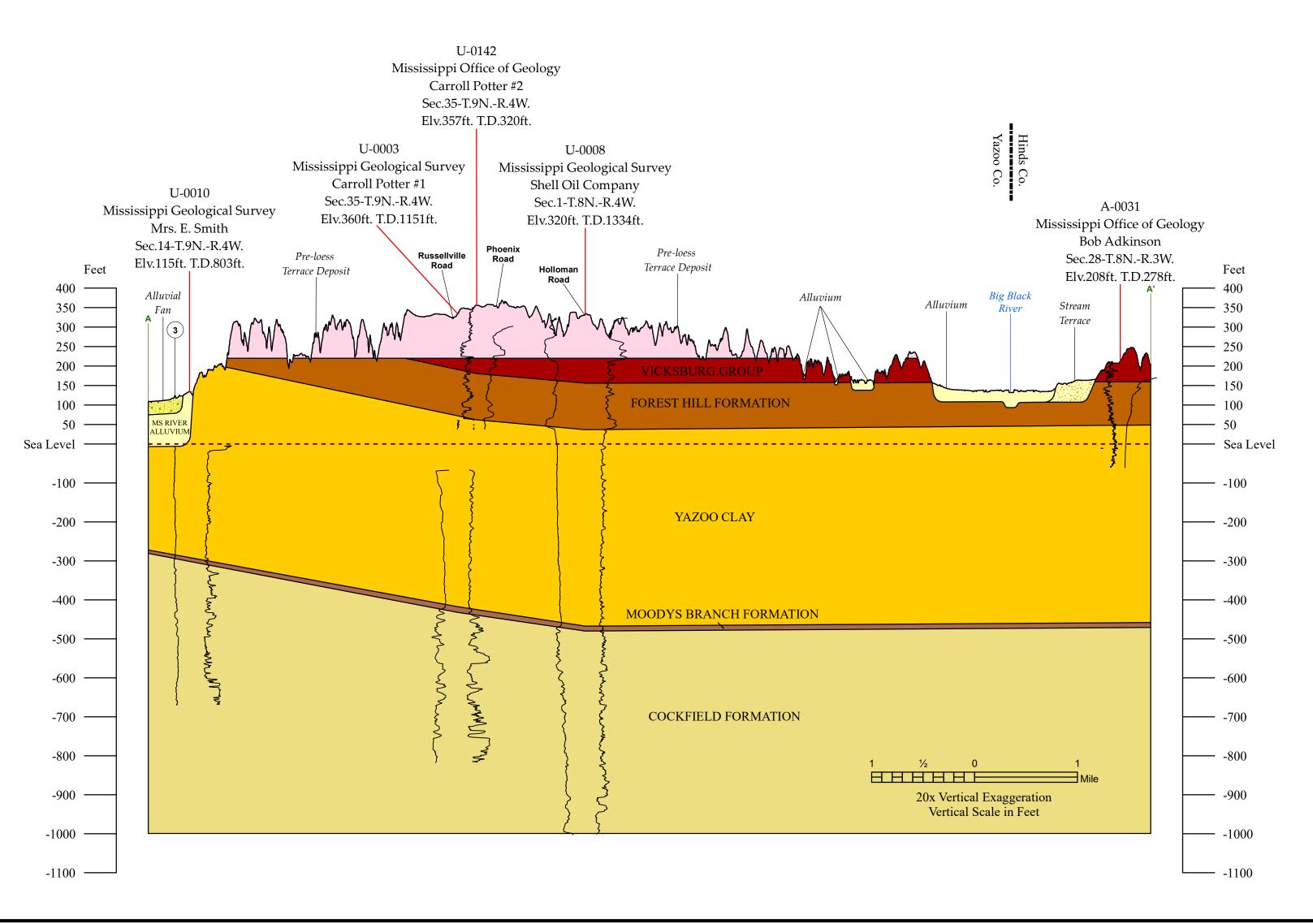


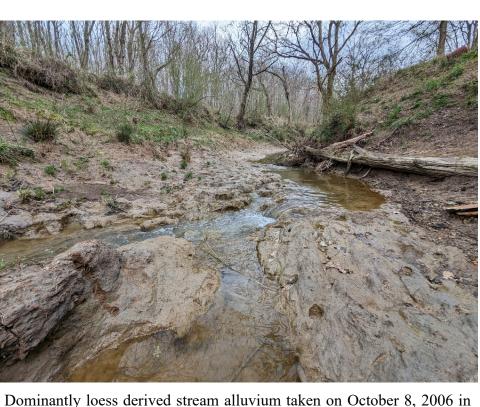
resistive ledges of the Lower Oligocene, open marine Glendon Limestone exposed along a dry tributary of the upper reaches of the Cold Creek watershed taken on September 09, 2009 in Section 25, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.



Thinly bedded deltaic sands with lignitic intervals at an outcrop of the of the lower Oligocene Forest Hill Formation exposed along the valley wall of an unnamed stream taken on February 14, 2023 in the extreme Southeast corner of Section 23, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.















Township 9 North, Range 4 West.



**GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE 7.5-MINUTE PHOENIX QUADRANGLE OPEN-FILE REPORT 329** 

# <u>Field Photographs</u>

the extreme Northwest corner of Section 25, Township 9 North, Range 4

Sioux Quartzite clast embedded in conglomeratic ironstone at the base of the from the Pleistocene ancestral Mississippi River Pre-loess Terrace Gravels at the contact with clay of the early Oligocene Forest Hill Formation. Taken on February 14, 2023 in the extreme Southwest corner of Section 24, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.

A thin bed of lignite exposed in a clay outcrop of the lower Oligocene Forest Hill Formation in the stream channel of an unnamed creek taken on February 14, 2023 in the extreme Southwest corner of Section 24,

The marginal marine glauconite sand bed of the uppermost part of the Forest Hill Formation dominated by pelecypod shells of the corbulid, Tiza alta overlain by carbonaceous estuarine silty clays of the uppermost Forest Hill taken on May 15, 2008 in Section 25, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.



derived from outcrop of the gravels of the Pleistocene ancestral Mississippi River, Pre-loess Terrace Deposit. This rectangular clast exhibits an excellent glacial polish and parallel grooved striae on the upper righthand face taken on February 15, 2008 in Section 24, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.



Waterfall over erosionally resistive ledges of the Lower Oligocene, open marine Glendon Limestone exposed along a dry tributary of the upper reaches of the Cold Creek watershed taken on September 09, 2009 in Section 25, Township 9 North Range 4 West.



Large silicified fossil log, exposed in Cold Creek along an outcrop of the sands and gravels of the Pleistocene ancestral Mississippi River, Preloess Terrace Deposit on February 15, 2008 in Section 24, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.



Shell hash of fossil mollusks along a bedding plane in the late Eocene marine clays of the Yazoo Formation. Specimen approximately 25 cm. in length taken on April 21, 2007 in Section 24, Township 9 North, Range 4 West.

# **Structural Cross-Section of the Phoenix 7.5-Minute Geologic Quadrangle**