

# NEW MISSISSIPPIAN STRATIGRAPHIC NAMES

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ABSTRACT. This paper defines two new groups and four formations in the Mississippian system.

IN the forthcoming Mississippian Correlation Chart prepared under the auspices of the National Research Council's Committee on Stratigraphy, six new Mississippian stratigraphic names are introduced.

*Fabius group.* This name is proposed for those lower Kinderhook strata which are variously referred to either the Mississippian or Devonian system. In the type area of the Mississippi valley the Fabius group consists of the Grassy Creek and Saverton shales and the Louisiana limestone. It unconformably overlies strata ranging from Ordovician to Devonian age and, locally at least, is overlain unconformably by strata of the Easley group. The name is derived from South Fabius River which flows from Knox through northern Marion County, Missouri, where the above formations are well exposed.

*Easley group.* This name is proposed for upper Kinderhook strata which are generally conceded to be of Mississippian age. In the type area of the Mississippi valley the Easley group consists of the Hannibal shale and Chonteau limestone and related formations or members. At least locally, these are separated by unconformities from the underlying Fabius group and overlying Osage series. The name is derived from Easley, Boone County, Missouri, where the Chonteau limestone and Sylamore sandstone are well exposed (Moore, p. 89).

*Darty limestone.* This name is proposed for a thin glauconitic limestone occurring in one or two layers and formerly included in the basal part of the Springville shale of Union County, Illinois. It overlies the Mountain Glen shale, underlies the restricted Springville shale and is correlated with the Rockford limestone of Indiana. The name is derived from a tributary of Caney Creek west of Jonesboro, Illinois, where the stratigraphic section has been described (Kan. Geol. Soc., pp. 44 and 132).

*Downeys Bluff limestone.* This name was proposed by F. E. Tippie in an unpublished master's thesis for strata

originally identified by Stuart Weller as the Renault formation of Hardin County, Illinois, and later considered to be the post-Shetlerville member of the Renault. The name is derived from a hill on the north bank of Ohio River just below Rosiclare, Illinois, where this member is well exposed between the underlying Shetlerville member and the overlying Bethel sandstone. The lithologic characters and paleontology of this member have been well described (Weller, pp. 142-150).

*Represso and Venada beds.* These names were proposed by A. R. V. Arellano in a stratigraphic column for northwestern Sonora, Mexico, submitted to the Mississippian Subcommittee. The strata have been described (Cooper and Arellano, p. 610) but not adequately defined.

## REFERENCES

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