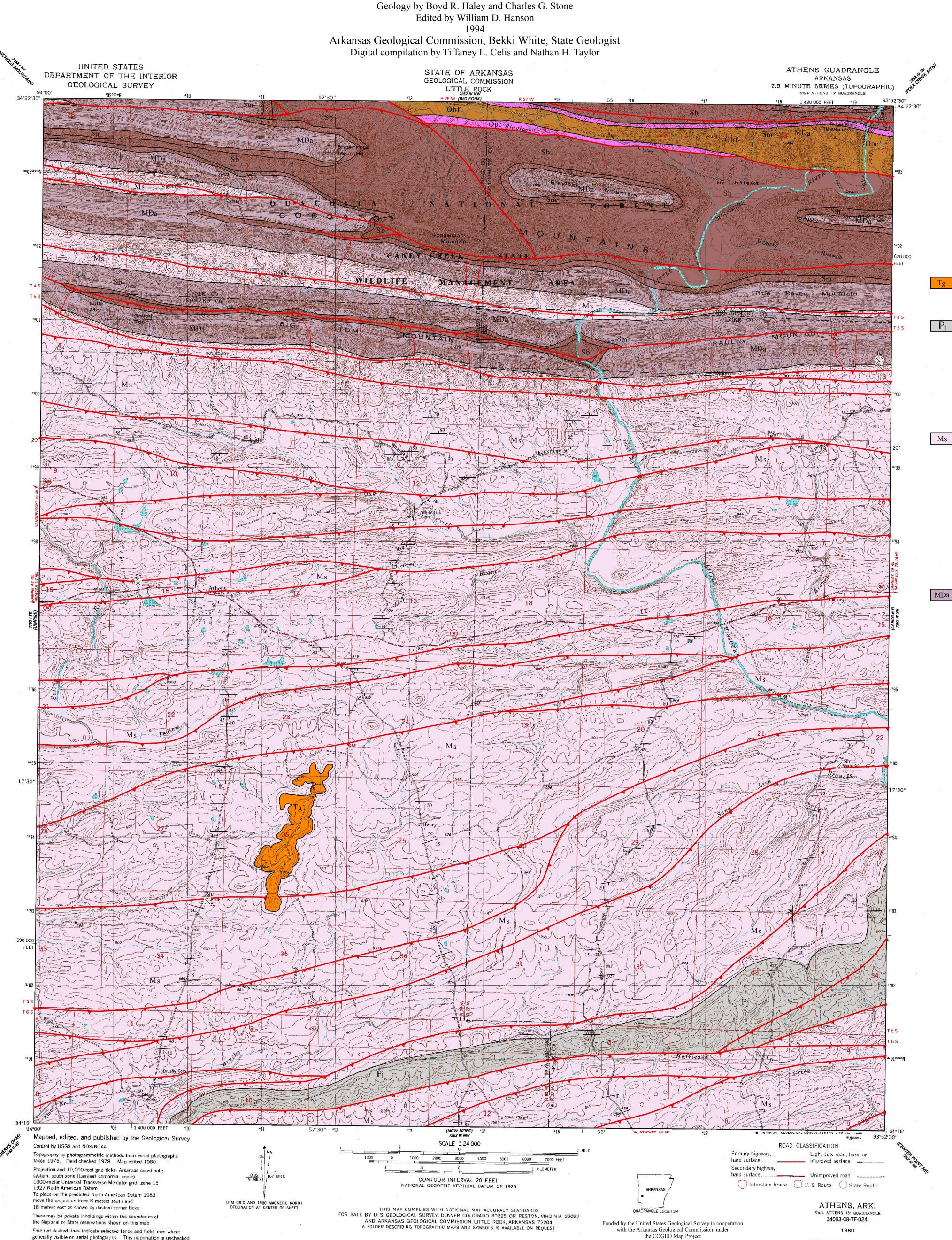
GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE ATHENS QUADRANGLE, HOWARD, PIKE, MONTGOMERY, AND POLK COUNTIES, ARKANSAS



Correlation of Map Units Tg — Tertiary — CENOZOIC UNCONFORMITY Pj — Pennsylvanian Ms — Mississippian MDa — Devonian Sb — Silurian Opc — Ordovician

Description of Map Units

Gravel (*Tertiary*) - Scattered deposits of gravel found on isolated hills lying atop Paleozoic age rocks. This sequence has not been assigned to a specific stratigraphic unity or studied in detail

Jackfork Formation (Pennsylvanian) - The Jackfork is thin-to massive-bedded, fine- to coarse-grained, brown, tan, or bluish-gray quartzitic sandstone with subordinate brown silty sandstones and gray-black shale. Toward the north of its outcrop area the shale units of the lower and middle Jackfork take up more of the section and the sandstones are more lenticular, often occurring as chaotic masses in the shale. Minor conglomerates composed of quartz, chert, and metaquartzite occur notably in the southern exposures of the formation. The Jackfork rests conformably on the Stanley. The formation is generally between 3500 to 6000 feet in thickness.

Stanley Formation (Mississippian) - The Stanley is composed predominantly of grayish-black to brownishgray shale, with lesser amounts of thin to massive-bedded, fine-grained, gray to brownish-gray feldspathic sandstone. Weathered shale is olive-gray and the sandstone is generally more porous and brown. Interbedded layers of thin black siliceous shale and chert are present and are used to subdivide the formation in other areas. Locally, volcanic tuffs (primarily the Hatton Tuff Member) and a quartzose sandstone-chert conglomerate unit (Hot Spring Sandstone Member) are present in the lower Stanley. Cone-in-cone and calcareous silty concretions are present in the shale. Most of the Stanley is Late Mississippian (Chesterian) as indicated by the presence of conodonts and plant fossils. The formation is a deep-water marine turbidite sequence, derived primarily from a landmass (Llanoria) that existed along the southern margins of the Ouachita trough.

Arkansas Novaculite (Mississippian-Devonian) - Three Divisions of the Arkanasas Novaculite are recognized. The Lower Division is white massive-bedded novaculite with some interbedded gray shales near its base. The Middle Division is greenish to dark-gray shales interbedded with many thin beds of dark novaculite. The Upper Division is white, thick bedded, and often calcareous.

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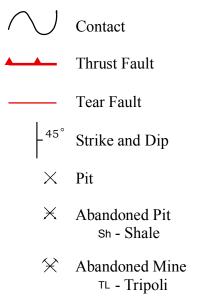
Missouri Mountain Formation (Silurian) - The Missouri Mountain represents the Silurian aged rocks found in the west central Ouachita Mountains. The Missouri Mountain consists of shale interbedded with conglomerate, novaculite, and sandstone. Few identifiable fossils have been found in this unit. The unit was deposited in a deep marine environment and is about 300 feet thick.

Blaylock Formation (Silurian) - The Blaylock consists of tan to gray, fine to medium sandstone interbedded with black fissile shale. Graptolite and trace fossils may be found, but are rare. The thickness of the unit ranges from 5 feet to as much as 1200 feet, and was deposited in a deep marine environment.

Opc Polk Creek Formation (Ordovician) - The Polk Creek rocks are black, sooty, fissile, shale with minor black chert traces of gray quartzite and limestone. Graptolites are common in most of the shales in the formation. Its thickness ranges from about 50 to about 225 feet.

Bigfork Formation (Ordovician) - The Bigfork consists of thin bedded, dark gray, cryptocrystalline chert interbedded with varying amounts of black siliceous shale, calcareous siltstone, and dense, bluish-gray limestone. Fossils are rare but fragments of brachiopods, crinoids, sponges, conodonts, and graptolites have been reported. The unit in Arkansas ranges from about 450 feet thick in the northern Ouachitas to about 750 feet thick in the southern Ouachitas.

Symbols



References

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