

THE LATE PRECAMBRIAN GEOLOGY OF
THE WYACCA BLUFF - BUCKARINGA GORGE AREA,
FLINDERS RANGES, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

by
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ABSTRACT

Detailed lithostratigraphic mapping of the Late Precambrian sequence extending from the Tapley Hill Formation in the Umberatana Group, to the A.B.C. Range Quartzite in the Wilpena Group in the Wyacca Bluff - Buckaringa Gorge area, has indicated 18 mappable units. These may be lithologically uniform, or contain several distinct or gradational lithologies, ranging from almost pure carbonates to clastics with only minor carbonate content. Stromatolite growth proliferated during deposition of the Brighton Limestone and the morphology of these stromatolites is described. Minor stromatolite growth occurred during deposition of the upper parts of the Tapley Hill Formation and Etina Limestone Member respectively.

Deposition occurred under shallow marine conditions, in environments ranging from below wave base, to supratidal. Comparison with the Hallett Cove - Marino area suggests that similar environments prevailed in both areas, although not necessarily synchronously.

The sequence is located on the eastern side of a shallow southerly plunging anticline, which has been truncated on the western side by Wyacca Fault.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | page |
|--|------|
| Abstract | (i) |
| Introduction | 1 |
| Regional Setting | 1 |
| Stratigraphy | 2 |
| General | 2 |
| Umberatana Group | 2 |
| Farina Sub-Group | 2 |
| Willochra Sub-Group | 5 |
| Wilpena Group | 12 |
| Stromatolites in the Brighton Limestone | 13 |
| Structure | 16 |
| Comparison between the Wyacca Bluff - Buckaringa Gorge Area and the Hallett Cove -- Marino Area. | 17 |
| Palaeoenvironmental Interpretation | 18 |
| Conclusions and Recommendations | 23 |
| Acknowledgements | 24 |
| References | 25 |
| | |
| Appendix 1: Measured Lithologic Sections | A1 |
| Appendix 2: Thin Section and Hand Specimen Descriptions | A16 |

LIST OF PLATES

- I. General.
- II. Sedimentary Features.
- III. Sedimentary Structures.
- IV. Brighton Limestone Stromatolites.
- V. Photomicrographs.

LIST OF FIGURES

1. Locality Map and Regional Geology.
2. Stratigraphic Terminology: Orroroo 1: 250,000 Map
Area and the Wyacca Bluff - Buckaringa Gorge Area.
3. Geological and Lithofacies Map.
4. Characteristics of Brighton Limestone Stromatolites.
5. Stereographic Plot : Poles to Bedding.
6. Stratigraphic Correlation : Waterfall Creek, Hallett
Cove and Wyacca Bluff - Buckaringa Gorge Area.
7. Palaeocurrents : Cross - Bedding.
8. Palaeocurrents : Ripple Marks.
9. Summary of Palaeoenvironmental Interpretation.
10. Location Map : Measured lithologic sections, Thin
sections and hand specimens, Locality Points,
Plates.