

**BEDROCK GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE PITMAN WEST QUADRANGLE  
GLOUCESTER AND SALEM COUNTIES, NEW JERSEY**

By  
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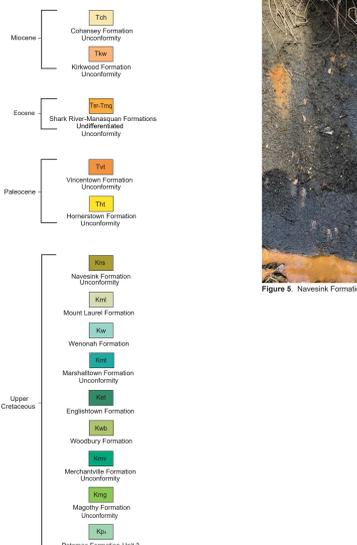
**INTRODUCTION**

Bedrock of the Pitman West quadrangle is unconsolidated Coastal Plain formations that include sand, silt, clay, and glauconite sand in various percentages. The formations were deposited in continental shelf and marginal marine environments between approximately 12 million years ago and the present. The lithology and age of the formations are provided in the Description of Map Units. Sections AA' and BB' show the subsurface geometry of the units along the lines of section. Extension created by our field geologist in certain areas, especially the Bridgton Formation (Fig. 1), obscures the coastal plain bedrock in much of the quadrangle. In places it is also difficult to distinguish the contact between the Bridgton Formation and the underlying Cohoesy Formation due to similar lithologies, deep weathering, and non-staining.

**DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS**

- Tch** **Cohoesy Formation** - Quartz sand, gravelly in places, typically cross-bedded (rough and planar bedded). Medium to very coarse-grained sand; glauconite commonly concentrated in the base of channels. Dominantly an orthoquartzitic sand with traces of weathered feldspar and chert. Clay-silt beds present locally near the top of the formation (Minard, 1965). Distinct heavy minerals may be up to several percent and include minerals among the opaque minerals. Contains local concentrations of small to large clay-sized *Glyptostrobus* nodules. Sand is white to yellow and typically weathers to various shades of red and orange. In the adjacent Pitman East quadrangle, a core hole at Wilson Lake contained intervals of interbedded laminated sand and sandy clay with rare burrows and common organic matter and intercalated sandy clay to clayey sand in the upper Cohoesy (Miller and others, 2017). Maximum thickness 90 feet. Unconformably overlies the Kirkwood Formation.
- No** **No detailed material has been recovered from the Cohoesy Formation in this quadrangle. Owens and others (1988) consider the Cohoesy as middle Miocene in age, owing to the similarity of its palynofauna to those of the Kirkwood Formation. Sporadic (2) loessite age estimates for the upper part of the Kirkwood Formation (Sugarman and others, 1963) indicate that the Cohoesy Formation is no older than middle Miocene with an age of approximately 12 million years (Ma).**
- Thw** **Kirkwood Formation** - Sand, silt, and clay. Where sand is the dominant lithology, it is quartz with minor feldspar, fine to very fine grained, in places medium, micaceous, with extensive iron oxide (lesser) banding. Commonly massive bedded, although partially preserved trough cross beds and finer beds occur in some outcrops. Ophiomorphic nodules burrows, approximately 1 inch in diameter common in some beds in the adjacent Runnemede quadrangle (Sugarman, 2011). Thin weathered nodules sheets weathery in outcrop to shades of orange (dark yellow-orange, grayish orange, yellow, reddish-brown, and light gray (Fig. 2)). In the subsurface, the Kirkwood grades down to a darker (grayish-brown) clayey, micaceous fine to very-fine grained organic rich clay laminated clay silt and shaly silty clayey fine sand (Miller and others, 2017). Maximum thickness 80 feet. Unconformably overlies the Shark River, Manasquan, Vincentown, Fornerstown, and Navisink Formations in this quadrangle.
- Thk** **Kirkwood (in the Pitman West quadrangle) is assumed to be correlative with the Shalk Mat member of the Kirkwood Formation, and is lower Miocene in age (20-21 Ma; Sugarman and others, 1963). However, Miller and others (2017) had Sr-isotope age estimates of 22.6-19.4 Ma for the Kirkwood at Wilson Lake, and correlated it with the Englistown and Shalk Mat Members. Miller and others (2017) also considered the Woodbury Member present at the Wilson Lake site based on sequence stratigraphic analysis, although there was no shell material and Sr-isotope age estimates in this correlation.**
- Shr** **Shark River and Manasquan Formations, undivided** - At the Wilson Lake corroboration in the adjacent Pitman East quad, the Manasquan is approximately 17 feet thick, while the Shark River Formation is 89 feet thick (Miller and others, 2017). The Shark River lithology is typically a greenish gray to light brownish gray sandy (fine quartz) clay silt, with intervals of shells and glauconite. Glauconite increases to over 20 percent in the base. The Manasquan Formation is clayey glauconite sand overlain by glauconite clay, greenish gray to dark greenish gray, with a trace of fine quartz sand. Foraminifera are common. Since there are no observed outcrops and limited subsurface geophysical logs in the Pitman West quadrangle, the Shark River and Manasquan Formations are undivided. Maximum thickness 90 feet. Shown only on cross-section.
- The Manasquan is lower Eocene in age based on nannoplankton zones NP14b and NP16 (Miller and others, 2017).**

**CORRELATION OF MAP UNITS**



**Tht** **Vincentown Formation** - Quartz sand and quartz glauconite sand are the two distinct lithologies of the Vincentown. Colors vary from greenish gray, grayish green and yellowish-green to dusky yellow to pale yellowish orange where weathered. The quartz sand is typically medium and contains a low percent feldspar and glauconite, with minor pyrite and mica. The calcareous (calcareous sand) beds is very fossiliferous containing brachiopods and bryozoan debris. While not observed in the Pitman West quadrangle during this mapping, the basal 5 feet of the Vincentown is a quartz glauconite 40-50 percent sand which may contain a bedrock composed of *Chonetes* harlani Morin and *Gryphaea deshayesi* (Minard, 1965; Bernheim, 1987). This shell bed lies above the contact of the older glauconite sands of the Fornerstown Formation, although some geologists (e.g., Miller and others, 2017) place the shell beds at the top of the underlying Fornerstown Formation. Contact can also be consolidated (to 1 ft thick) and contain quartz and phosphatic granules. Fornerstown crops out along a fine shell along Raccoon Creek in the southeast of Mullica Hill.

In outcrops from well 30-0741, the Vincentown is dominantly a light gray to dark brownish gray clay that has a similar gamma log signature to the Marboro Formation described in the Wilson Lake site where the Marboro Formation is close to 50 feet thick (Miller and others, 2017). While the authors here include this clay in the Vincentown Formation on this map, it is possible that the Vincentown is thinner than we illustrate in cross-section A-A' and the upper part of the Vincentown Formation is correlative with the Marboro Formation. Generally 20-30 feet thick, with maximum thickness 70 feet when Marboro Formation is included.

Based on its foraminifera, the Vincentown is late Paleocene in age (Olson and Wias, 1987). At the Wilson Lake site, the Vincentown was assigned to calcareous nannoplankton Zone NP9 (upper Paleocene; Miller and others, 2017).

**Thh** **Fornerstown Formation** - Glauconite sand, slightly clayey to very clayey (where weathered), dusky green to dusky blue green where fresh. Primarily fine to medium grained glauconite sand, bryozoan shaped, with some accretion forms. Traces of quartz, mica, feldspar, and phosphatic material. No bedding seen due to extensive burrowing (Fig. 3). Its dusky green clay matrix, composed mostly of glauconite, helps distinguish it from the underlying Navisink. Maximum 20 feet thick.

The underlying contact with the Navisink Formation is unconformable and heavily bedded, irregular, and marked by glauconite-filled burrows containing bright green glauconite sand from the Fornerstown Formation in the upper 1-2 feet of the Navisink. The contact is well exposed in a gully in Mullica Hill (Fig. 4) where the base of the Fornerstown is deeply weathered, partly cemented clayey glauconite sand that irregularly overlies a dark, clayey glauconite sand with lighter nests of pyrite-rich burrows just below the contact.

Based on its foraminifera, the Fornerstown is early Paleocene in age (Olson and others, 1987).

**Nv** **Navisink Formation** - Clayey glauconite sand, massive-bedded, burrows up to 1" in diameter that can be pyrite-filled, olive-gray, olive-black and dark greenish-black with fresh (Fig. 5) shades of gray and brown where weathered. Glauconite is biopeloidal and predominantly medium to coarse grained. Clay-silt content as much as 30 percent. Accessories include pyrite, mica, quartz, and phosphatic fragments. Vivante is present in places as a replacement for shell material (Weller, 1907). Maximum 100 feet thick.

The basal few feet of the Navisink contains a thick-bedded glauconite quartz sand with granules and sand-size lignite fragments (reworked from the underlying Mount Laurel Formation), and black phosphate nodules. This zone contained indurated iron-cemented layers in an exposure in Mullica Hill, Gloucester County (Fig. 6). Weller (1907) and Richards (1962) describe a fauna from the basal Navisink Formation that is dominated by pelecypods and gastropods at a former outcrop locality in a hillside in the village (Fig. 7). This sand shell bed is shown at the base of a gully in Mullica Hill (Fig. 8).

The contact with the underlying Mount Laurel Formation is unconformable. This contact is easily distinguished in the subsurface by the sharp positive gamma-ray response.

The Navisink is Late Cretaceous (Maastrichtian) in age based on the occurrence of the planktonic microfossils *Globobuccella ganseri* (Olson, 1964) and *Utriculothales quadrata* and the previously described microfossils. The presence of the calcareous nannoplankton *Agulhinella* frequent in the Navisink at Wilson Lake (Miller and others, 2017) also documents a late Maastrichtian age.

**Mt** **Mount Laurel Formation** - Quartz sand, massive to crudely bedded, mostly medium, slightly clayey and feldspathic (5-10%), with scattered dark, oval-shaped medium grained phosphate pellets. Generally weathered to a light brown, pale yellowish brown or light gray. Coarser in the upper 5 feet with granules and pebbles; this interval also contains reworked glauconite from the Navisink above concentrated in burrows. The Mount Laurel fines downward to a clayey fine-medium grained quartz sand, with a noticeable increase in glauconite and mica. Burrows are common in upper, while fossils are rare (due to weathering), but common in the subsurface. Maximum 110 feet thick.



Figure 5. Navisink Formation outcrop.  
Figure 6. Weathered iron-cemented layers located in the lower part of the Navisink Formation.

**EXPLANATION OF MAP SYMBOLS**

- Contact - Approximately located
- Gamma-ray log - On sections, vertical line shows well location and depth of penetration. Gamma intensity increases to right
- Well with geophysical log - Location accurate to within 500 feet. Identifiers of the form 30-xxxx and 31-xxxx are New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection well permit numbers.
- Approximate photograph location, number corresponds to figure number.

Where fossiliferous, fossils are preserved as poorly weathered casts although *Belemnitella americana* and *Gryphaea* have been identified. The Mount Laurel is uppermost Campanian in age. A Sr-isotope age estimate of 70.1 Ma was obtained from a shell in the Mount Laurel in the Wilson Lake corhole (Miller and others, 2017); slightly older ages of 71.1-71.6 Ma were obtained from bivalves from the Mullica Hill outcrop (Sugarman and others, 1963).

The Mount Laurel grades downward into the underlying Englistown Formation.

**Wn** **Wenonah Formation** - Quartz sand, fine to very-fine grained, massive, clayey, very micaceous (micaceous and lesser chert), with abundant carbonaceous matter, and varying amounts of glauconite (3-20%; most abundant in the lower 3-5 feet). Colors include light olive gray, brownish, and light brown where weathered; medium dark gray to dark gray where fresh. Grades down into the Marshallow Formation. Maximum 50 feet thick. Shown only on cross-section.

The Wenonah is late, but not latest, Campanian based on ammonites (Owens and others, 1966).

**Msh** **Marshallow Formation** - Quartz glauconite sand, massive, fine- to medium-grained, and clayey, glauconite very abundant in the lower few feet but increases upward to a nearly equal mixture of quartz and glauconite. Greenish black weathering to a greenish gray, moderate olive-brown and light brown. While quartz and glauconite constitute the bulk of the formation, feldspar, mica, finely disseminated pyrite, and phosphatic fragments are present. Macrofaunal assemblages containing *Exogyra ponderosa* and *Orthis fatiata* (Minard, 1965) are abundant locally. Maximum 20 feet thick. Shown only on cross-section.

The Marshallow is the basal transgressive unit of an unconformity-bounded cycle of sedimentation that includes the overlying Wenonah and Mount Laurel Formations.

The Marshallow has been assigned to the middle Campanian nannofossil Zones CC 20-21 in southwestern New Jersey (Sugarman and others, 1995).

The Marshallow unconformably overlies the Englistown Formation; along the contact, the Englistown is extensively bedded with burrows filled with glauconite sand from the overlying Marshallow.

**Eng** **Englistown Formation** - Quartz sand, fine to coarse grained, locally interbedded with thin to thick beds of dark clay and silt. Medium-dark gray to dark gray. Sand contains carbonaceous matter, feldspar, mica and glauconite; carbonaceous matter and pyrite are common in the clay (giving them a dark-gray color where unweathered). Maximum 20 feet thick. Shown only on cross-section.

Wells (1975) assigned an early Campanian age to the Englistown based on a distinctive assemblage of palynomorphs.

**Wd** **Woodbury Formation** - Clay, grayish-black to black, massive, and sandy (very fine-grained quartz). Conspicuously micaceous with major amounts of finely dispersed pyrite and carbonaceous material locally contains several percent glauconite. Iron oxides fill fractures and occur in layers in some weathered beds. Maximum 50 feet thick. Shown only on cross-section.

The Woodbury is lower Campanian in age (Owens and others, 1966).

**Mch** **Mercherville Formation** - Interbedded, thick-bedded sequence of glauconite sand and silt and micaceous clay silt. The glauconite sand is grayish-olive, greenish-black, or dark greenish-gray; the clay silt shades of black and gray. Quartz and glauconite are the major sand components; feldspar, mica (colorless and green), and pyrite are minor constituents. Siderite-cemented layers are common. The formation is highly indurated. Maximum 60 feet thick. Shown only on cross-section.

The Mercherville is the basal transgressive bed of the unconformity-bounded coarsening-upward cycle which includes the overlying Woodbury and Englistown Formations.

The Mercherville is lower Campanian in age based on the ammonite *Scaphites hippocrepis* (Owens and others, 1977).

**Mg** **Magy Formation** - Interbedded quartz sand and clay, thin- to thick-bedded. Sand is light to medium-gray or brownish-gray; clay is olive-black to grayish-black. Bedding is horizontal (laminated) and cross-stratified. The sand is fine to very fine, well sorted within each bed, predominantly quartz, and includes minor feldspar and mica. Pyrite-cemented and siltstone sand concretions are common. Carbonaceous material is abundant.

The Magy is Upper Cretaceous (Santonian) in age based on pollen (Christopher, 1977).

**Pt** **Potomac Formation Unit 3** - Sand, fine to coarse, light colored, cross-bedded, somewhat gravelly, interbedded with clays that are white or variegated red and yellow. Beds of dark gray woody clays are less common. Maximum thickness 300 feet. Shown only on cross-section.

The pollen from the Potomac unit 3 is assigned to Zone III (early Cenomanian in age; Doyle and Robbins, 1977).



Figure 7. Old Mullica Hill exposure of Navisink and Mount Laurel Formations showing former NJ Geological Survey State Geologist Henry B. Kimmel at the fossil shell bed at the base of the Navisink Formation (11141918).

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Figure 8. Shell bed at base of the Navisink Formation.

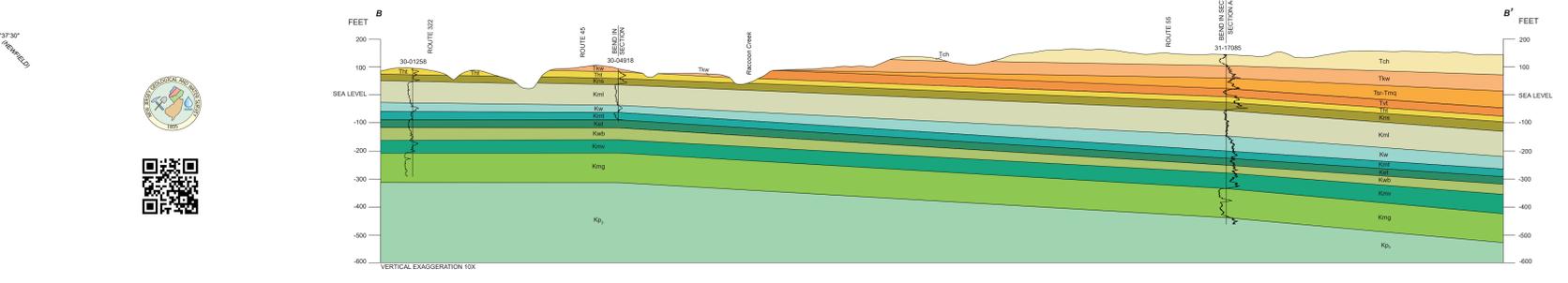


Figure 1. Bridgton Formation with alternating beds of gravelly sand, clayey gravel, and cross-bedded sand.  
Figure 2. Kirkwood Formation outcropping in Raccoon Creek.  
Figure 3. Homersink Formation greensand outcropping along the Mullica Hill bypass.  
Figure 4. Patuxent unconformably overlying Upper Cretaceous dark glauconite sands of the Navisink Formation (below red line) in a gully in Mullica Hill.

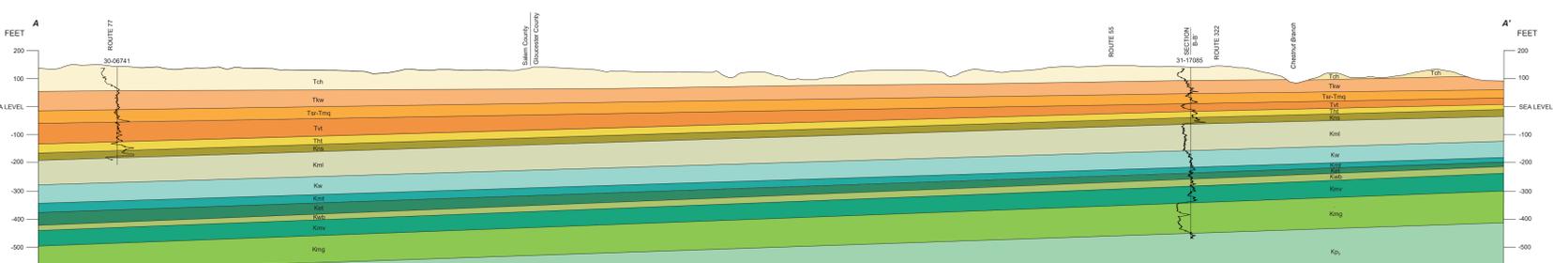


Figure 4. Patuxent unconformably overlying Upper Cretaceous dark glauconite sands of the Navisink Formation (below red line) in a gully in Mullica Hill.