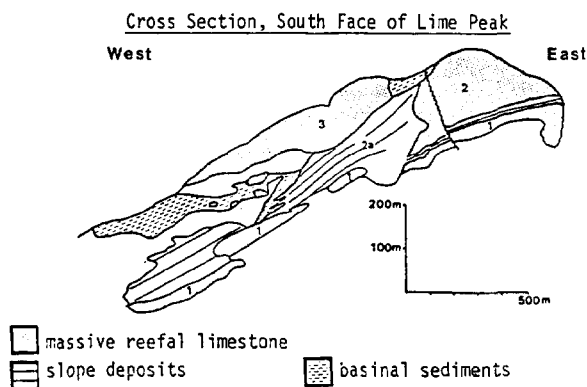


Lime Peak—An Upper Triassic Reef Complex in Yukon

The massive reefal limestones have variable lithology from peloidal mudstones to organic framestones containing spongiomorphs, tabulozoans, and calcareous sponges, with lesser contributions from corals, brachiopods, mollusks, algae, and echinoderms.



The Lime Peak reef complex is not typical of other Triassic buildups in North America which are generally low-relief, thin accumulations (less than 10 m thick) dominated by corals and spongiomorphs. The buildups at Lime Peak are much thicker, and tabuloazons and sponges are more important builders than corals.

The intertidal shoals are formed and reworked by opposing tidal currents. Ebb currents usually exceed 100 cm/sec in the deep adjacent channels and produce the long linear features on the

The shoals are up to 10 m thick and cover an area of 1 to 4 km². They extend 3 to 5 km seaward and are as much as 1 to 2 km in width. Because most of the shoals are subtidal to intertidal, preservation potential is high. As the embayment fills, prograding salt marshes will eventually cap the sand bodies.

Niobrara Formation (Upper Cretaceous), Eastern North Dakota

Over the eastern half of North Dakota, the Niobrara ranges in thickness from less than 17 m to greater than 75 m. Alternating thinning and thickening bands trend northwest-southeast and suggest structural control of deposition.

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