Early Cambrian trilobites from the Ouldburra Formation, Manya-6, eastern Officer Basin

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Well preserved trilobites were discovered in 1985 by Comalco during the drilling of Manya-6, eastern Officer Basin, between 967.7 and 970.13 m depth. They occur within the Ouldburra Formation which in Manya-6 extends from a depth of 571.4 m to 1685.6 m. The Ouldburra Formation comprises mixed carbonate/siliciclastics, marine carbonates and evaporites which were deposited during a series of transgressions and regressions of an epeiric sea and on an intermittently emergent flanking sabkha. The Ouldburra Formation is part of sequence C1.2 described by Gravestock and Hibburt (1991) which in the Flinders Ranges includes part of the Mernmerna Formation (=Parara Limestone).

The trilobites occur in a grey limestone as well preserved, but isolated, cranidia and librigenae. No pygidia are known. They all belong to a single new species of *Abadiella* thus suggesting an Atdabanian age. Although only limited material is available there appear to be ontogenetic variations. These trilobites represent the best trilobite fauna yet found in the Officer Basin.

Reference

Gravestock, D.I. & Hibburt, J.E. (1991), Sequence stratigraphy of the eastern Officer and Arrowie Basins: a framework for Cambrian oil search. *The APEA Journal,* vol. 31, part 1, pp.177-90.