

THE GLEN ROSE REEF COMPLEX OF EAST TEXAS  
AND CENTRAL LOUISIANA

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ABSTRACT

The massive limestone sections of the Glen Rose of East Texas and central Louisiana are considered to be clastic carbonate barrier reefs. The cause, sequence and depositional form of a clastic barrier reef complex is presented in theory and supported by examples. Basinal subsidence, a regressive pattern of deposition and subsequent fore reef leveling during periods when the sea was restricted in front of the barrier reefs develop a typical depositional form.

At least three separate clastic barrier reef complexes have developed in the lower Cretaceous of Sabine County, Texas and Sabine Parish, Louisiana. Post lower Cretaceous regional tilting has altered original reservoir conditions but there remains great potential for hydrocarbon accumulations in stratigraphically controlled traps.

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