

ABSTRACT
NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF THE OUACHITA OVERTHRUST
SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA

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The western exposure of the Ouachita facies in Southeast Oklahoma crop out in Atoka and Pushmataha Counties. To date, nine oil or gas wells have been completed in this isolated exploration area, and six exploratory tests are in the drilling or completion stage. Six of the completed wells are productive of gas from the Mississippian Stanley Sands but produce at low rates. Three wells are now completed in the Arkansas Novaculite, Lower Mississippian-Devonian-Silurian age, and/or the Big Fork Chert, Ordovician age. The Novaculite has been found to produce at very commercial rates and a very extensive lease and seismic play has developed. In the past, only five test wells in this general area were drilled deep enough to penetrate the Novaculite, with three of the wells reporting commercial flows of gas, but due to being in an isolated area with no gas pipeline, exploration has been at a lull from the 1950's to early 1980. With the information from the new discovery wells, greatly improved stimulation methods, and adequate gas market conditions, a new Frontier Exploration Area has been opened and will provide many new targets for the remainder of the 1980's.