

## MADISON AND ST CLAIR COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

Andrew C. Phillips  
2004

to very moist; up to 30 feet thick

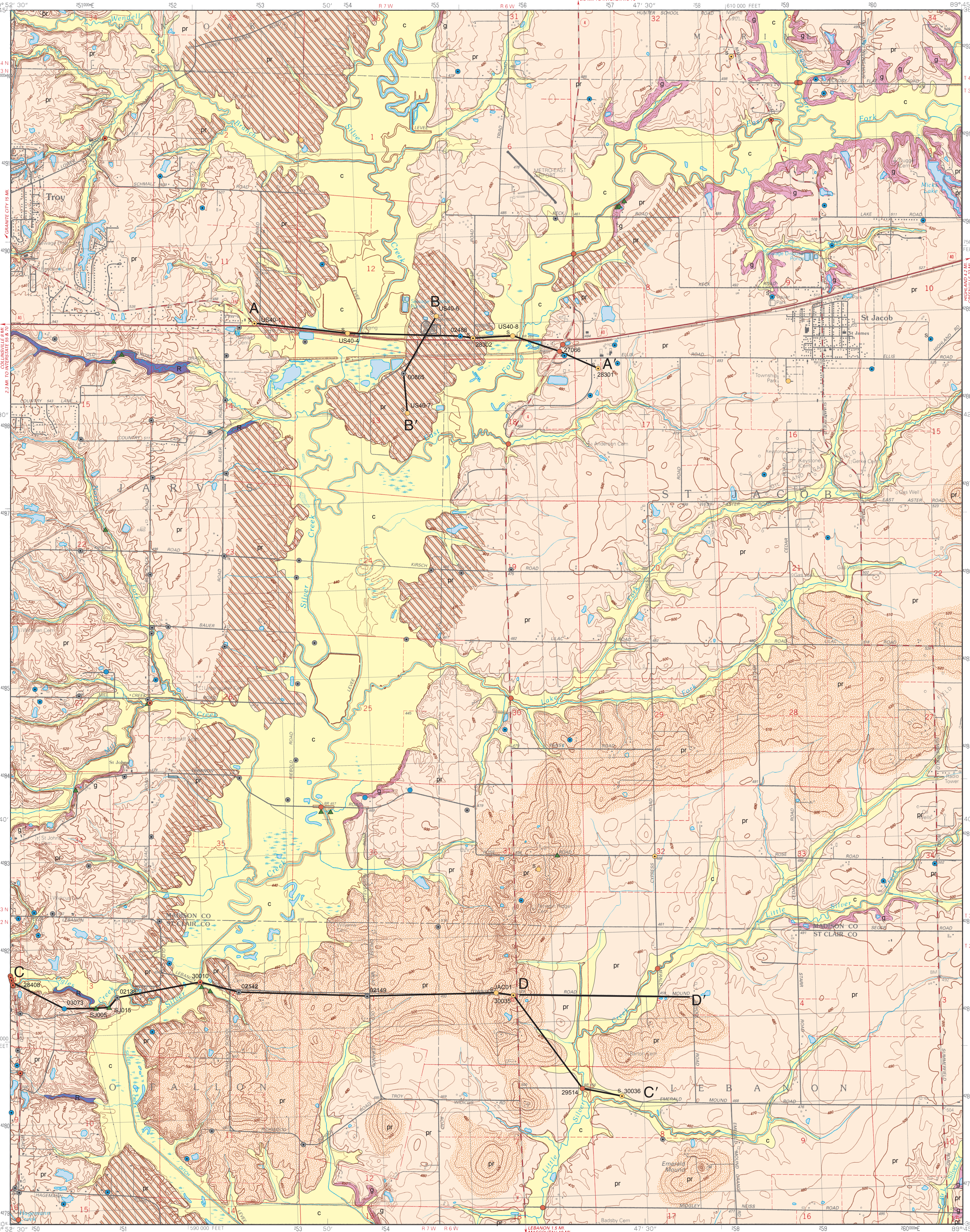
deposits

WISCONSIN EPISODE (~75,000 years - 12,000 B.P.)

Silt loam: massive to weakly

Peoria and Roxana Silts

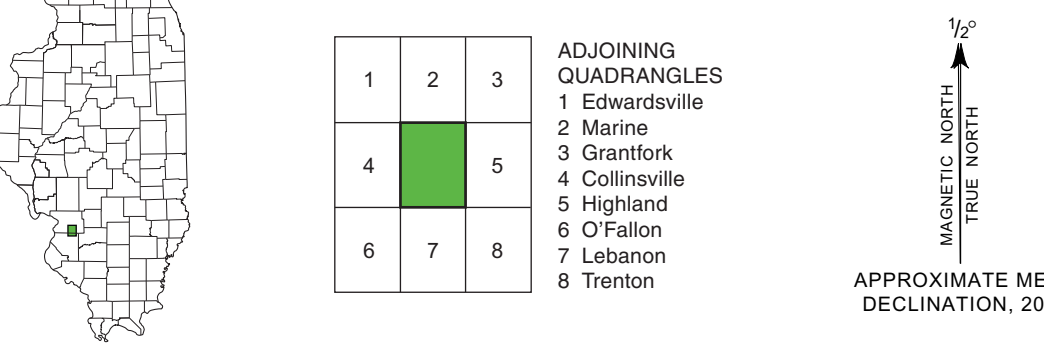
Loess (wind blown sediment)







Released by the authority of the State of Illinois: 2004


This Illinois Preliminary Geologic Map (IPGM) is a lightly edited product, subject to less scientific and cartographic review than our Illinois Geological Quadrangle (IGQ) series. It will not necessarily correspond to the format of IGQ series maps, or to those of other IPGM series maps. Whether or when this map will be upgraded depends on the resources


The Illinois State Geological Survey, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and the State of Illinois make no guarantee, expressed or implied, regarding the correctness of the interpretations presented in this document and accept no liability for the consequences of decisions made by others on the basis of the information presented here. The geologic interpretations are based on data that may vary with respect to accuracy of geographic location, the type and quantity of data available at each location, and the scientific/technical qualifications of the data sources. Maps or cross sections in this document are not meant to be enlarged.




### ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface		Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface		Unimproved road	

 Interstate Route

 U.S. Route

 State Route

This map depicts geologic materials found within 5 feet of the ground surface in the St. Jacob 7.5-minute quadrangle, Madison County, southwestern Illinois (fig. 1). The cross sections show the extent of surficial and buried units dated to bedrock. Previously published maps of the area have been at 1:500,000 scale (Linebrough, 1977; Siffert, 2000). Although there has been unpublished research at larger scales, this project builds upon that work, especially for the purpose of mapping by using new methods of data collection and processing. The data were collected from a large database and interpreted at a large scale. The morphology of a major bedrock valley was refined (fig. 2). The sediments in the bedrock valleys, modern valleys, and in upland ridges were distinguished, and areas with relatively good and relatively poor geologic cover were identified. Prediction of the occurrence of buried units far from the lines of cross section was made. The map is intended to be used by geologists and other scientists who use this product can be used for preliminary geologic assessments of construction siting issues, geologic hazards, groundwater resources, environmental protection, and other activities. The work is part of the ISGS Metro-Data mapping program, intended to provide critical geologic data in this rapidly developing area.

The surficial map was constructed by interpretations of parent materials from soils surveys (NCRS 1999, NCRS 2002) that were validated with outcrop-observations and modified to conform to topography, interpretations of borehole data, analysis of shallow borehole logs, and aerial photographs. The map was also modified to conform to previous IGSS research. Borehole data sources included new borings acquired for this project, and stratigraphic, geotechnical, water, and coal boring records stored in the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PA DEP) database. Computer modeling was used to construct the bedrock topography. The quality of the geologic and outcrop descriptions of archived data vary considerably in detail and accuracy. Outcrops described in this study provide critical two-dimensional perspectives on the geology and lithology that are not available from the three-dimensional surface units. IGSS stratigraphic boring descriptions and geotechnical logs typically provided the most detail and could be located most accurately. Except for a few select outcrops, the lithological descriptions of the outcrops were less detailed and accurate because few lithological boundaries were distinguished, typically only the drill/borehole interface, and locations tend to be imprecise. Positions of boring and outcrop locations

### Regional Setting

The St. Jacob 7.5-minute Quadrangle is located a few miles east of bluffs that overlook the Mississippi River valley (fig. 1). The landscape can be considered as three geomorphic regions: 1) river valleys, 2) gently sloping uplands, and 3) ridged or hummocky uplands. River valleys, including some terraces and small fans on valley

The St. Jacob 7.5-minute Quadrangle is located a few miles east of bluffs that overlook the Mississippi River valley (fig. 1). The landscape can be considered as three geomorphic regions: 1) river valleys, 2) gently sloping uplands, and 3) ridged or hummocky uplands. River valleys, including some terraces and small fans on valley

**Uplands**

Most of the upland surface is comprised of a blanket of loess, which covers thick glacial, marginal, and non-glacial stream deposits. The Peoria Silt and the underlying Rock Silt loess units are not differentiated here because their geotechnical properties are very similar (Table I), but they have been studied extensively by McKay (1979), Wang et al. (2003), and others. Original textures of silt loam to heavy silt loam have been modified within the modern solum to heavy silt loam to silty clay loam (NRCS 1999, NRCS 2000). The loess is thickest (approximately 15–20 ft) closest to its Mississippi Valley source and in the west and thins to about 10 ft on uneroded uplands in the east.

Most of the upland surface is comprised of a blanket of loess, which covers thick glacial-marginal, and non-glacial stream deposits. The Peoria Silt and the underlying Rock Silt loess units are not differentiated here because their geotechnical properties are very similar (Table I), but they have been studied extensively by McKay (1979), Wang et al. (2003), and others. Original textures of silt loam to heavy silt loam have been modified within the modern solum to heavy silt loam to silty clay loam (NRCS 1999, NRCS 2002). The loess is thickest (approximately 15–20 ft) closest to its Mississippi Valley source area in the west and thins to about 10 ft on uneroded uplands in the east.

**Stream Valleys** The Silver Creek, East Fork Silver Creek, and Little Silver Creek valleys are filled with postglacial stream sediment (Cahokia Formation) and floored by glacial stream sediments (Pearl Formation or Tenifer Silt) that attest to their existence as meltwater outlets during the Illinoian Episode. Most other valleys contain only the Cahokia Formation and are thus more recent features. The Cahokia Formation is up to 30 ft thick. It is generally fine grained because the sediment source was primarily loess, but the texture varies from silty

(Pearl Formation or Tenerife Silt) that attest to their existence as meltwater outlets during the Illinois Episode. Most other valleys contain only the Cahokia Formation and are thus more recent features. The Cahokia Formation is up to 30 ft thick. It is generally fine grained because the sediment source was primarily loess, but the texture varies from silty

Smaller tributary streams are incised into upland sediments. In valleys that drain into Silver Creek from the west, the Glasford Formation or bedrock may be exposed in the channel bed or covered by a thin lag deposit. In some valleys the incision has been so great, perhaps related to increased runoff from changing landuse and climate over the past century, that the channels are separated from their original floodplains. Where incision has slowed because of resistant units at the channel bottoms, new terraces are being constructed from flood sediment within the channels.

[illegible]

**Geotechnical Properties:** Computed from 30-40 bridge borings from across the quadrangle and 3 stratigraphic borings  
 $w = \% \text{ moisture content} = \text{mass of water} / \text{mass of solids (dry)}$   
 $Q_u = \text{unconfined compressive strength, Pocket Penetrometer method}$   
 $N = \text{blows per foot (Standard Penetration Test)}$

**Particle size distribution and clay mineralogy:** Compiled from discrete sampling of 4 stratigraphic borings  
sand = % > 63  $\mu\text{m}$ ; silt = % 4.63  $\mu\text{m}$ ; clay = % < 4  $\mu\text{m}$  (proportions in the < 2 mm fraction)  
clay mineralogy = proportions of expandables, illite, and kaolinite/chlorite (in < 4  $\mu\text{m}$  clay mineral fraction); these calculations using Scintag  
diffractometer calculations indicate about 5% more illite than previous results by H.D. (Clays with General Electric X-ray diffractometer)

**Geophysical Data:**  
 MS = magnetic susceptibility ( $\times 10^6$  SI units), compiled from quasi-continuous sampling of 3 stratigraphic borings  
 natural gamma radiation compiled from continuous downhole logs of 1 stratigraphic boring

\* properties for Glasford Fm. and Ormleighen m. are mainly for calcareous till (excludes sand and gravel lenses and strongly weathered zones)

**Figure 2** A wide, gently sloping bedrock valley trends north-south through the center of the St. Jacob 7.5-minute Quadrangle. Bedrock is near surface and crops out locally along the bedrock

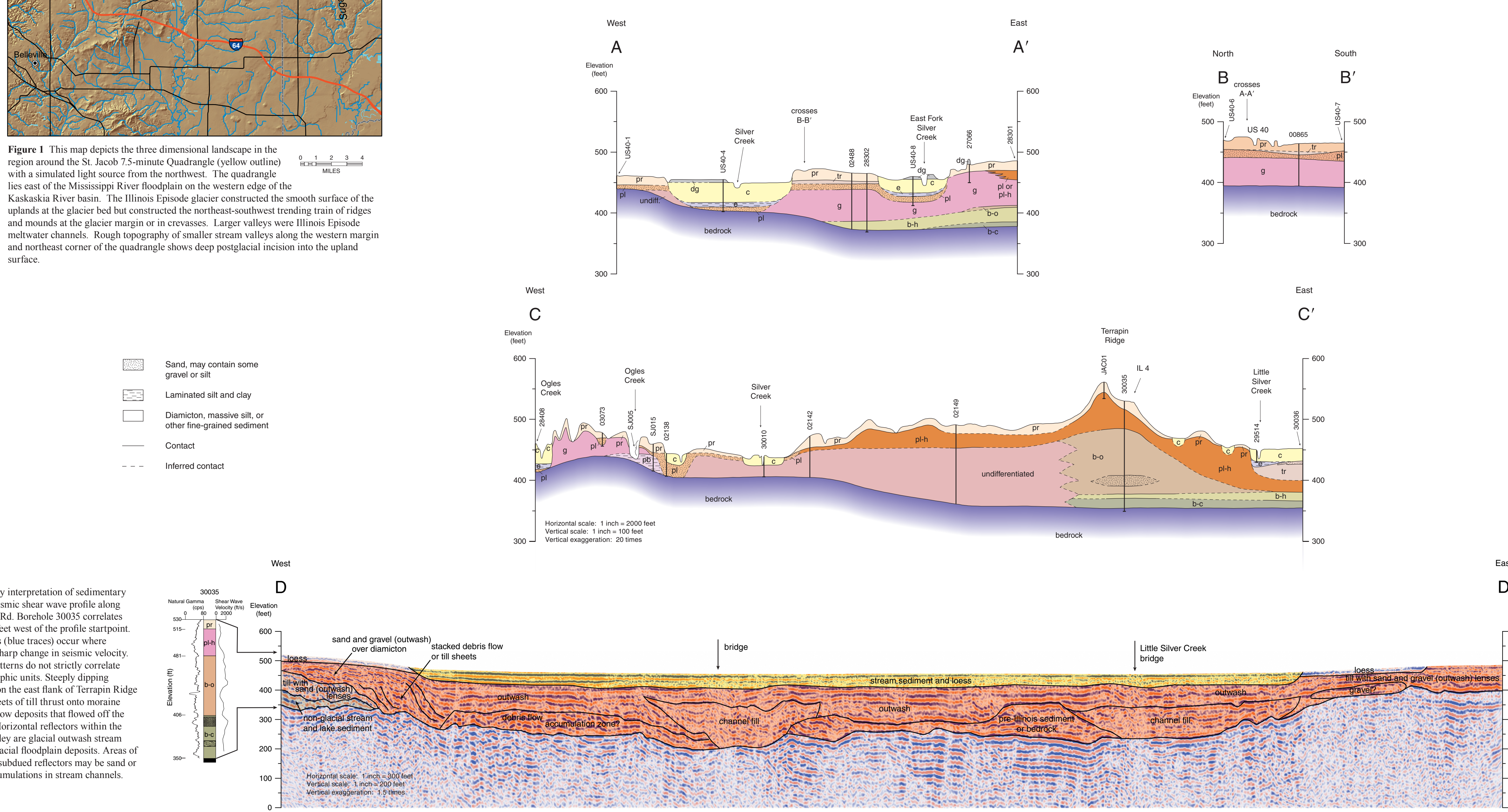


Figure 1 is a stratigraphic correlation chart for the 3003S core. The chart displays depth in meters (0 to 350) on the left and elevation in meters (100 to 250) on the right. A central column shows lithology with color-coded boxes: yellow for sand, blue for silt, and green for clay. A legend on the right defines the colors: yellow for sand, blue for silt, and green for clay. A legend on the left defines the lithology: sand (yellow), silt (blue), and clay (green). A legend on the right defines the lithology: sand (yellow), silt (blue), and clay (green). A legend on the left defines the lithology: sand (yellow), silt (blue), and clay (green).