

Although the actual top of the basement is somewhat vague, the form of the basement high on B-3 and B-14 appears to be somewhat sharp and steep on its southwest side but quite broad and gentle along B-2.

Shelf Reefs: (Figs. 23, 24)

The shelf reefs occur on the northeast and southwest shelf of the basin, extending into the hinge zone. These areas display extensive build-ups, believed to have risen from a common shelf reef or sort of reef plateau. The reefs and their relation to the basin are shown on Fig. 13 (Structure Top Unit II).

The shelf reefs are recognized in the surveyed area over distances of 35 x 12 miles (400 square miles) on the northeast flank and 35 x 12 miles (350 square miles) on the southwest flank. The maximum thickness of the shelf reef where built up is about 2,000 feet; otherwise probably only about 500 feet.

The reefs developed within Unit II and it is assumed that growth is from the base of the Unit which generally lies on basement in the shelf area.

The reef front appears to be steep and the facies change is abrupt. Basinward beyond this front the sediments of Unit II below the Limestone Bank are expected to be mostly marls and sands.

The build-ups are expressed in a prominent reflection marking the top of Unit II. Where not built up, only a slight rise of the reflection marks the basinward front of the shelf reef. The lower beds of the overlying Unit III wedge out against the build-ups, but the higher beds assume draping attitude. While the build-ups were growing they apparently kept ahead of sedimentation in the adjacent area.