

This shale unit is very extensive and reaches a maximum thickness, over 360 meters, in an elongated trough situated in the northwestern part of the basin. Figure M. Apparently, the "Upper Eocene Shale" can be traced on seismic sections into the "Torquay Embayment" across the "King Island -- Mornington High". Page 50

- The Bass basin developed in the Early Cretaceous resulting from the postulated initial break-up of the Australian and Antarctic continental masses. Major fault movements produced a series of northwest to southwest trending grabens and tilted fault blocks. The environment of deposition for this section is interpreted to be upper alluvial plain including lacustrine. Page 53.

- The distribution of late Cretaceous sediments in the Bass Basin is interpreted to be much more widespread than during Early Cretaceous times as individual trough broadened and merged into a more continuous basin. Page 53.

- During the Paleocene, the basin was structurally quiescent but continued sag along the old major fault systems resulted in over 70 meters of coarse sediments being deposited near the basin margin and possibly over 900 meters of fine sediments in the basin center. Coal deposition throughout the section was limited. The basin appears to have been landlocked with braided streams flowing from the edge of the highlands to the southwest and eastward merging basinward into a broad meandering stream pattern building out into a lacustrine delta plain in the northwest, Figure G, Page 60.

- Increased tectonic activity during the Lower Eocene resulted in renewed movement which gave rise to a slightly smaller basin configuration