

in Toolka 1, Bass 1, Pipipa 1, Narimba 1, Pelican 3, and Dondu 1 (Table 1.2).

A more detailed exploration history may be found in Brown (1976).

2.0 STRATIGRAPHY

2.1 General Stratigraphy

Sediments within the Bass Basin range in age from Early Cretaceous to Late Tertiary (Fig. 2.1). The Lower Cretaceous (Otway Group equivalent) comprise the oldest sediments within the Basin and rest unconformably on Mesozoic and Palaeozoic "basement" rocks. They consist of fluvio-deltaic sands, silts, shales, and coals. Durroon 1 is the only well to have penetrated the Otway Group and 4000' was drilled before total depth was reached.

The Upper Cretaceous to Late Eocene EVCM is a sequence of sands, silts, shales, and coals deposited in a dominantly fluvial system comprised of high and low sinuosity streams. Seismic data indicates that the EVCM attains thicknesses as great as 15000' in the vicinity of Cormorant 1 and Toolka 1. Cormorant 1 intersected 5625' of this interval before reaching total depth.

Overlying the EVCM is the Late Eocene Demons Bluff Formation (also referred to as the Upper Eocene Shale in some studies). It consists of fine grained marine clastics and has an average