
SHORT CREEK OOLITE HORIZON IN OTTAWA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

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ABSTRACT

The Short Creek oolite horizon lies at the base of the Warsaw division of the Boone in southwest Missouri and northeast Oklahoma. The horizon is found at many places in the Joplin, Missouri, district and in Ottawa County, Oklahoma. It has not been reported south of Ottawa County in Oklahoma; however an oolite bed at about the same stratigraphic horizon in the Boone has been reported in Boone County, Arkansas, 100 miles to the east.

The Short Creek is probably the most widespread, easily identified bed in the Boone lithology. Subsurface information is lacking from areas to the west of the outcrop to show its extent beneath the surface.

A chemical analysis of the Short Creek shows it to be very high in lime content and field examination discloses very little chert in the bed, and that present occurs mainly in the form of nodules. The oolite spherules are small but uniform in size and shape. The bed, ranging from two to ten feet in thickness, may be quarried for high grade limestone if quarry sites are chosen so as to allow easy removal of the overlying chert beds.
