

ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

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WELLFILE No 33

STATOIL 15/9 - 1 NORWEGIAN
NORTH SEA WELL:
BIOSTRATIGRAPHY OF THE
INTERVAL 3300m - 3735m

by

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I

SUMMARY

1. The initial section of the well is a poorly fossiliferous (due to the use of a diamond bit or turbo-drill) indeterminate section presumably of Cretaceous age.
2. The use of a normal bit resulted in dateable Lower Cretaceous microfaunas indicating that early Albian - Aptian to Barremian - Hauterivian sediments occur.
3. The Cretaceous - Jurassic contact is marked by a stratigraphic hiatus.
4. The Upper Jurassic appears to be relatively complete varying from the Middle Volgian (unit o) to early Oxfordian (unit r).
5. A feature of particular note in this well is the development of sands in the base of the Oxfordian (unit q) and in the early Oxfordian (unit r) and ?Callovian (unit ?sl). Sand development is particularly strong from the top of the middle Callovian - late Bathonian (units s2 - t1) interval and persists until the base of the ?Bathonian - ?Bajocian.
6. A large part of the sand appears to have been deposited under shallow inner shelf or marginal marine conditions. This marine influence is more marked in the interval above 3636m.
7. Below 3636m marine influences were less pronounced and only a questionable Bathonian - Bajocian age is possible for the lower part of the sand body.
8. The well terminated in waxy shales and sands of possible Lower Jurassic age.
9. A further stratigraphic hiatus separates the Middle Jurassic from the ?Lower Jurassic.

II

INTRODUCTION

This report summarises the results of the micropalaeontological, palynological and stratigraphical analyses which have been carried out on material received from the interval 3300m - 3735m from the Statoil 15/9-1 Norwegian North Sea Well under Project No. IIA/778/1240.

Under this project a total of 145 ditch cuttings and 6 core samples was analysed utilising standard micropalaeontological techniques. In addition 39 ditch cuttings and 14 core samples covering the interval 3301m - 3735m were treated palynologically.

The data available from a previous study carried out on core samples only from this well (Robertson Research International Limited, Memorandum No. 2158) have been incorporated in this report.

A summary of the determinations obtained by these analyses has already been communicated by telex and forms the framework of factual information on which this report is based. A summary of the sequence penetrated in this well can be seen in Table 1.

The Jurassic biostratigraphic units used in this report are those proposed in our study - "The Jurassic of Northwest Europe: Offshore Project". Their stratigraphical significance is summarised in Appendix I. In addition the dinocyst zones of the Norian - Barremian can be seen in Appendix II.

The prepared samples and recorded information are now filed and curated in the confidential records section of these laboratories.

We wish to acknowledge the continued co-operation and assistance received from the various members of Statoil with whom we have been associated during the course of this work.

The personnel involved in this work were:-

John Church: Well Co-ordinator and Micropalaeontology.
Chris Denison: Palynology.
Cyril Haskins: Ostracodes.
John Underwood: Lithologies.

III

SUCCESSION

<u>System/Subsystem</u>	<u>Stage</u>	<u>Interval</u>
Indeterminate	-	3300m - 3322m
	(early Albian - Aptian	3325m - 3340m
	(
Lower Cretaceous	(Barremian	3343m - 3358m
	(
	(Barremian - Hauterivian	3361m - 3370m
----- UNCONFORMITY -----		
	(middle - early Volgian	3373m - 3418m
	((unit o)	
	(
	(early Volgian - late	3421m - 3454m
	(Kimmeridgian (units o-p1)	
	(
Upper Jurassic	(early Kimmeridgian - late	3457m - 3463m
	(Oxfordian (unit p2)	
	(
	(middle Oxfordian (unit q)	3466m - 3520m
	(
	(early Oxfordian (unit r)	3521m
	(
	(?Callovia n (unit ?s1)	3523.7m - 3528.95m
	(
	(middle Callovian - late	3531m - 3537m
	(Bathonian (units s2-t1)	
Middle Jurassic	(
	(?Bathonian (unit ?t2)	3540m - ?3648m
	(
	(?Bathonian - ?Bajocian	?3651m - 3726m
----- UNCONFORMITY -----		
? Lower Jurassic	-	3729m - 3735m

This breakdown is based on ditch cuttings and core samples only.
Electric logs were not made available.

IV

INDETERMINATE

INTERVAL 3300m - 3322m; INDETERMINATE

No age determination is possible on this interval because, due to the use of a diamond bit or turbo-drill, no significant microfossils or lithotypes have been recorded.

LITHOLOGY

Light grey, argillaceous limestone or calcareous shale is thought to be the in situ lithology. In addition traces of white chalk and, at 3307m, possible traces of pink chalk are recorded.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The samples from this interval proved to be either devoid of any microfauna or only contained rare long-ranging forms. This is presumably the result of the use of a diamond bit or a turbo-drill. No age determination is possible on this meagre assemblage.

PALYNOLOGY

Palynomorphs are rare: no age-diagnostic taxa were recovered.

ENVIRONMENT

A general shelf environment is suggested for this interval on the slender palaeontological evidence available.

CRETACEOUSINTERVAL 3325m - 3340m; LOWER CRETACEOUS, EARLY ALBIAN - APTIAN

This interval has been assigned an early Albian - Aptian age due to the appearance of a characteristic agglutinating foraminiferal assemblage.

LITHOLOGY

There is an influx of red shale at 3325m in association with medium dark grey shales. Traces of olive-grey shale and light grey limestones also occur whilst at 3337m there is a further appearance of red shales.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The upper limit of this interval has been placed on the occurrence of a red-stained Glomospira gordialis. This is followed at 3328m by an impoverished microfauna also consisting of red-stained species. At 3337m the numbers of specimens recovered increase although the assemblage still remains impoverished.

The occurrence, as a prominent species, of Glomospira gordialis, together with Recurvoides sp. and ? "Lingulogavelinella" gyroidinaeformis indicate that these sediments are of early Albian - Aptian age.

PALYNOLOGY

Although a sample at 3337m yielded a moderate palynoflora, there is considerable evidence of caving. Those forms considered to be in situ indicate only a general Lower Cretaceous age.

ENVIRONMENT

The occurrence of microfaunas dominated by agglutinating foraminifera suggests that deposition took place in a shallow inner shelf environment.

INTERVAL 3343m - 3358m; LOWER CRETACEOUS, BARREMIAN

The age and upper limit of this interval are based on the appearance of Hedbergella infracretacea.

LITHOLOGY

Red shale is common at the top of this interval. Dark grey shales subsequently appear at 3346m where they are associated with traces of light green, waxy shales and light grey, argillaceous limestones. Hard, crystalline, yellowish grey limestone and pyrite are present at and below 3352m. Red-stained limestone occurs at 3358m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

A distinct microfaunal change is apparent at 3343m with an influx of planktonic foraminifera. The presence of Hedbergella infracretacea in this assemblage indicates that the Barremian has been penetrated.

The microfaunas are generally sparse and below 3343m the planktonic element decreases.

PALYNOLOGY

A sample at 3349m yielded a very sparse flora of no age-diagnostic value.

ENVIRONMENT

The association of a strong agglutinating element with significant numbers of planktonic foraminifera suggests that sedimentation took place in an inner to outer shelf environment with strong open marine influence.

INTERVAL 3361m - 3370m; LOWER CRETACEOUS, BARREMIAN - HAUTERIVIAN

The upper limit of this interval is based on a distinct microfaunal change at 3361'.

The age of these sediments is indicated by:-

- the appearance of abundant Uvigerinammina moesiana associated with common polymorphinids, Marssonella spp. and Aulotortus (Spirillina) neocomiana which indicate a Barremian or older Lower Cretaceous age.

LITHOLOGY

White and pink, chalky limestone, fissile, dark grey shale and accessory pyrite are considered to be the in situ lithologies in this interval.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

A distinct microfaunal break is apparent at 3361m with an influx of Uvigerinammina moesiana. This is followed at 3364m by an improved microfauna, the appearance of ostracodes and the incoming of Marssonella cf. trochus, M. hauteriviana and common polymorphinids. This assemblage is typical of those recovered from the basal part of many Lower Cretaceous sections from the North Sea area. The age is difficult to define but the microfauna is no younger than the Barremian and is generally considered to be of Barremian to Hauterivian age, although it could extend into older Lower Cretaceous sediments. The occurrence of Aulotortus (Spirillina) neocomiana at 3376m supports this determination.

PALYNOLOGY

A rich and diverse palynomorph assemblage, dominated by dinocysts, was recovered at 3361m. Pseudoceratium pelliferum, which is relatively common, indicates a Barremian or older age, and Necrobroomea longicornuta suggests an age no older than Hauterivian. The presence of Dingodinium cf. cerviculum and large gonyaulacean cysts referred to Gonyaulacysta aff. "neocomica", also suggest a pre-Barremian, possibly Hauterivian age. However, a specimen of Endoscrinium pharo, a species which does not range younger than Valanginian, is present.

As this is the first richly palyniferous Lower Cretaceous sample encountered in this well, it is probable that the effect of caving will be limited and that the assemblage is effectively in situ. It would appear, therefore, that the isolated specimen of E. pharo is reworked and in situ forms are of

Hauterivian age. The absence of other pre-Hauterivian forms either at this horizon or as cavings suggests that Valanginian and Ryazanian deposits are missing, rather than a condensed sequence being present.

ENVIRONMENT

The occurrence of moderate microfaunas, dominated by agglutinating foraminifera with significant numbers of calcareous benthonic forms and ostracodes, indicates that deposition took place in an inner shelf environment.

The rich and diverse dinocyst assemblage also suggests an inner shelf environment, but the miospore assemblage, which contains common bisaccate pollen grains suggests some terrestrial influences.

VI

JURASSIC

INTERVAL 3373m - 3418m; UPPER JURASSIC, MIDDLE - EARLY VOLGIAN (unit o)

The upper limit of this interval is indicated by:

- the appearance of dark grey-black shale typical of the Upper Jurassic.

The age of these sediments is based on:

- the appearance of Glossodinium dimorphum and Dichadogonyaulax pannea at 3379m.

LITHOLOGY

Dark grey, black and olive-grey shales and common carbonaceous fragments occur in this interval. In addition scattered medium-grained, white sand is recorded at 3403m - 3406m, and traces of pyrite at 3412m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

No in situ foraminifera have been recovered from this interval. Bone fragments occur commonly from 3376m and provide some support for an Upper Jurassic age whilst at 3406m Rhaxella perforata appears and occurs in abundance from 3412m. The incoming of this sponge spicule again provides some support for an Upper Jurassic age because it normally occurs in abundance in early Kimmeridgian - Oxfordian sediments, although it does range into the Volgian and Lower Cretaceous.

PALYNOLOGY

The upper limit of this interval is marked by the appearance of amorphous sapropel kerogen, which is diluted by caved humic kerogen at 3373m, but below becomes the dominant kerogen component.

The palynomorph assemblage at 3373m is rich in leiospheres and

Pterospermopsis spp., which are typical of middle and late Volgian assemblages, but forms restricted to the late Volgian are absent, indicating that the youngest Jurassic deposits are of middle Volgian age. An age no older than middle Volgian at 3373m is indicated by the presence of Muderongia simplex, although this specimen may be caved from the overlying Barremian - Hauterivian interval.

Evidence of a middle Volgian age is present at 3379m, with the first appearance of Glossodinium dimorphum and Dichadogonyaulax pannea, both of which indicate an age no younger than the Dichadogonyaulax pannea Subzone (VIIA) but both forms range into the early Volgian.

Evidence below this depth is poorer, but the overall decrease in leiosphere and Pterospermopsis spp. abundances suggest the penetration of early middle Volgian to early Volgian deposits. A form referred to ?Pareodinia mutabilis at 3409m may indicate an age no younger than the lower part of the Dichadogonyaulax culmula Subzone (VIIB).

Miospore assemblages are generally rather sparse, although at 3397m bisaccates become common and, to a lesser extent, Cerebropollenites mesozoicus.

Amorphous sapropel continues to be the dominant kerogen component throughout this interval.

ENVIRONMENT

The association of carbonaceous shales and sponge spicules suggests that deposition took place in a shallow water inner shelf environment. Terrestrial influences are poor, as miospores are generally sparse, although at 3397m there was an isolated influx of material of terrestrial origin.

INTERVAL 3421m - 3454m; UPPER JURASSIC, EARLY VOLGIAN - LATE

KIMMERIDIGIAN (units o-p1)

The age and upper limit of this interval are based on:

- the appearance of Gonyaulacysta jurassica.

LITHOLOGY

Dark grey, black and olive-grey shales persist into this interval, although the shales have become waxy at 3427m and slightly micaceous at 3442m. Yellowish brown crystalline limestone forms a distinct bed at 3436m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

This interval contains rare specimens of agglutinating foraminifera and common to abundant Rhaxella perforata. No specific age determination is possible on this assemblage, although the abundance of pyritised Rhaxella perforata is more usually encountered in sediments of early Kimmeridgian - Oxfordian age.

PALYNOLOGY

The appearance of a specimen of Gonyaulacysta jurassica at 3421m, in an otherwise sparse assemblage, indicates an age no younger than the Gonyaulacysta jurassica Subzone (VIII B).

An assemblage at 3433m is again sparse, and contains a non-age diagnostic microflora, but at 3445m there is an increase in the abundance and diversity of microplankton and miospores. The concurrence in this deeper sample of a fragmentary specimen of ?G. jurassica and Leptodinium egemenii indicates an age no younger than the G. jurassica Subzone (VIII B), but a fragment attributed to ?Scriniodinium luridum may indicate an age no younger than the Gonyaulacysta cladophora Zone (X).

Miospores assemblages are rich and reasonably diverse, particularly in the lower part of the interval, where bisaccates, Perinopollenites elatoides and Cerebropollenites mesozoicus are common.

Amorphous sapropel is again the dominant kerogen component.

ENVIRONMENT

A shallow water inner shelf environment is indicated for these deposits by the presence of abundant sponge spicules. The dominance of amorphous sapropelic kerogen indicates anaerobic bottom conditions. Abundant miospores, which form the dominant element of the palynofloras, suggest proximity to a source of terrestrial debris.

INTERVAL 3457m - 3463m; UPPER JURASSIC, EARLY KIMMERIDGIAN -

LATE OXFORDIAN (unit p2)

The age and upper limit of this interval are based on:

- a distinct microfaunal break with the consistent appearance of agglutinating foraminifera including Haplophragmoides cf. canui.
- the appearance of Scriniodinium crystallinum at 3457m.

LITHOLOGY

Slightly micaceous dark grey shale persists in this interval.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

A distinct microfaunal change in the assemblage is apparent at 3457m with the appearance and subsequently consistent occurrence of agglutinating foraminifera. The numbers of foraminifera recovered from the three samples of this section are very low and consist entirely of agglutinating forms. This association, which includes Haplophragmoides cf. canui, suggests a unit p2 (early Kimmeridgian - late Oxfordian) equivalence, although it could possibly extend into unit q sediments of Oxfordian age.

Rhaxella perforata persists as an abundant form in this interval.

PALYNOLOGY

The first downhole appearance, in an otherwise sparse assemblage, of the dinocyst Scriniodinium crystallinum at 3457m indicates an age no younger than the Leptodinium egemenii Subzone (XIA) of the early Kimmeridgian to late Oxfordian Scriniodinium crystallinum Zone (XI).

Miospores are the dominant element of the assemblage recovered, the forms Perinopollenites elatoides, Cerebropollenites mesozoicus and bisaccates being common.

Amorphous sapropel is the dominant kerogen component.

ENVIRONMENT

A shallow water inner shelf environment is suggested for these sediments by the sparse microfaunas. The consistent occurrence of foraminifera suggests that the conditions were not as restricted as in the overlying sediments, although amorphous sapropel continues to be common. Abundant miospores suggest a nearby source of terrestrial material.

INTERVAL 3466m - 3520m; UPPER JURASSIC, MIDDLE OXFORDIAN (unit q)

The age and upper limit of this interval are based on:

- the appearance of calcareous benthonic foraminifera which include Lenticulina cf. ectypa.

LITHOLOGY

Dark grey, slightly micaceous shales persist into this interval with the addition of small amounts of fine-grained sand; there is an increase in sand in the sample at 3517m. Limestone or siderite forms a thin bed at 3478m and yellowish grey crystalline siderite is present at 3502m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

This interval is again characterised by agglutinating foraminifera but with the addition of calcareous benthonic foraminifera. Although agglutinating foraminifera predominate calcareous forms comprise a significant element of the assemblages and become particularly prominent from 3472m. The presence of species of Lenticulina, which include Lenticulina cf. ectypa, suggests a unit q-s1 (middle Oxfordian - late Callovian) connotation which in view of the subsequent palynological information can be restricted to unit q (middle Oxfordian).

The microfaunas recovered from this interval are initially low in numbers. From 3475m there is a gradual reduction in numbers and below 3508m the assemblages are very sparse.

PALYNOLOGY

There is no palynological evidence to distinguish the top of this interval, and the dinocyst species which first appear towards the top e.g. ?Scriniodium galeritum and Stephanelytron redcliffense range into basal Kimmeridgian deposits. It does, however, coincide with a marked change of palynofacies. The kerogen content is characterised by a high proportion of inertinite. This forms a marked contrast to the overlying Jurassic, which is rich in amorphous sapropel: some sapropel is present at 3469m as cavings.

At 3504m a form referred to Acanthaulax ? spinosissima suggests a mid-Oxfordian age (Acanthaulax spinosissima Zone (XIII) or older) an age also suggested by Acanthaulax sp.1 JOHNSON and HILLS at 3519m. Microplankton abundances and diversity are similar to those in the overlying interval, but there is an increase in the abundance of microforaminiferal linings, which are relatively common, except at 3519m.

Miospores are again the dominant element of the assemblages, although there is some decrease in abundance and diversity at 3504m and 3519m. Bisaccates are the dominant forms, with Cerebropollenites mesozoicus relatively common. Perinopollenites elatoides is relatively common at 3481m and 3495m.

ENVIRONMENT

A shallow water inner shelf environment is again indicated by the microfauna. The occurrence of calcareous benthonic species suggests that the seas were more oxygenated than those of the overlying sections.

INTERVAL 3521m; UPPER JURASSIC, EARLY OXFORDIAN (unit r)

The age of this sample is based on:

- the presence of the diagnostic dinocysts Wanaea fimbriata and W. digitata.

LITHOLOGY

This sample consists of silty, sandy, micaceous, slightly carbonaceous dark grey shale with fine-grained, angular, brownish sand.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

This sample proved to be devoid of any microfauna.

PALYNOLOGY

Dinocysts from the core sample at 3521m form an assemblage which is diagnostic of the Wanaea fimbriata Subzone (XIVB) of the Wanaea digitata Zone (XIV). W. fimbriata and W. digitata are present and Adnatosphaeridium aemulum is common. ?Wanaea fimbriata does not occur until 3540m in ditch cuttings, where it has presumably caved. Miospores form a varied assemblage and are much more common than dinocysts.

Kerogen is dominantly humic, but there is a minor amorphous sapropel content.

ENVIRONMENT

Both the kerogen and the predominance of miospores suggest that deposition occurred in a nearshore environment, with some material being derived from a terrestrial source.

INTERVAL 3523.7m - 3528.95m; MIDDLE JURASSIC, ?CALLOVIAN (unit ?sl)

This interval has been separated essentially as sediments occurring between the disappearance of diagnostic early Oxfordian species and the appearance of Callovian (unit s2-t1) microfaunas.

LITHOLOGY

Dark grey micaceous slightly sandy and carbonaceous shales are seen in the core pieces at 3523.7m and 3525.5m. Fine-grained, light yellowish grey and micaceous sandstone occurs in the sample at 3528.95m. The ditch

cuttings samples contain abundant shale but are not considered to be necessarily representative over the cored interval.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The poor agglutinating foraminiferal assemblages recovered from this interval (3523.7m and 3528.95m) were originally considered to be of Callovian to Bathonian age (units s2-t2). However, now that we have been able to analyse the entire Jurassic interval it is considered that these sediments lie above the incoming of unit s2-t2 assemblages. No firm conclusion is possible on these microfaunas except to suggest an early Kimmeridgian - Bathonian (units p2-t2) age.

PALYNOLOGY

Miospores dominate the palynomorph assemblages at 3523.7m and 3525.5m and are the only elements recovered at 3528.95m.

The poor palynomorph assemblages recovered at 3523.7m and 3525.5m suggest only a general mid Callovian - Bathonian age, although the presence of several specimens of the genus Meiouronyaulax at 3525.5m tends to suggest a Callovian age.

ENVIRONMENT

The continued presence of humic kerogen and the dominance of miospores suggest that deposition occurred in a paralic to marginal marine environment. The sparse microfauna suggests nearshore, inner shelf conditions.

INTERVAL 3531m - 3537m; MIDDLE JURASSIC, MIDDLE CALLOVIAN - LATE

BATHONIAN (units s2-t1)

The age and upper limit of these sediments are based on:

- a distinct microfaunal change with the reappearance of common Haplophragmoides canui.

LITHOLOGY

Fine to medium-grained, angular, fairly uniform light brown-stained sand is present at 3531m, and becomes slightly coarser at 3534m. Light yellowish brown and yellowish grey siderite occurs at 3537m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

A distinct microfaunal change occurs at 3531m with a minor influx of agglutinating foraminifera. The assemblages from this interval consist entirely of agglutinating foraminifera, and include common Haplophragmoides canui.

This resurgence of agglutinating microfaunas usually characterises units s2-t2 (Callovian - Bathonian) sediments, but on the evidence from the underlying section this can tentatively be restricted to units s2-t1. By comparison to other areas of the North Sea, however, the s2-t1 interval is unusually thin when compared to the thick t2 section.

PALYNOLOGY

A core sample at 3531.55m yielded an assemblage rich in miospores and with only rare dinocysts. The miospore assemblage suggests only a general Middle Jurassic age.

Kerogen in this sample is dominated by humic material.

ENVIRONMENT

Nearshore inner shelf conditions are suggested for these deposits by the agglutinating foraminiferal assemblages.

INTERVAL 3540m - ?3648m; MIDDLE JURASSIC, ?BATHONIAN (unit ?t2)

The age and upper limit of this interval are tentatively based on:

- the appearance of coarse-grained agglutinating foraminifera.

LITHOLOGY

Fine grained, white sand is the dominant lithology between 3540m - 3564m. There is a large influx of dark grey to black shale at 3567m and this persists in the ditch cuttings samples to 3582m. Coarse, angular to well rounded sand persists through 3526m - 3582m, although the two core samples from this interval, at 3612.75m and 3620.6m, consist of fine-grained, angular sandstone.

Fine-grained, angular sand persists in the ditch cuttings down to 3618m. The two core pieces at 3571.85m and 3626.65m consist of light yellowish grey slightly carbonaceous shale and dark grey sandy shale respectively.

There is an increase in the amount of shale in the samples between 3627m - 3648m and coal fragments occur at 3627m.

Light yellowish brown sphaerosiderite occurs at 3540m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

The microfaunas recovered from this section are essentially highly impoverished. However, at 3540m and from 3573m to 3582m and 3627m - 3636m slightly less impoverished assemblages have been recovered from the ditch cuttings samples. The appearance of foraminifera with slightly coarser grained tests at 3540m suggests the possibility that from this point the sediments are of unit t2 connotation, Bathonian age. This is supported to a certain extent by the occurrence of ?*Verneuilioides* sp. 1. The microfauna from 3573m - 3582m is of a general Callovian - Bathonian aspect (units s2-t1) whilst the appearance of *Ammobaculites coprolithiformis* and coarse grained agglutinating forms at 3627m - 3636m provides added support for a unit t2 determination. We have therefore assigned a tentative unit t2 (Bathonian) determination to the entire interval although it is unusually thick and the basal part, 3639m - 3648m, contains no in situ microfauna.

PALYNOLOGY

With the exception of 3556.55m the core samples from the interval contain rich palynomorph assemblages, dominated by miospores, but also with varied and locally common dinocysts, indicating persistent marine influences through this section. Sample 3556.55m is relatively impoverished in both miospores and dinocysts, and is enriched in inertinite compared with the other samples which are vitrinite dominated.

Evidence from the dinocyst content suggests that this interval may be no older than middle Bathonian, as the forms Adnatosphaeridium aemulum, Leptodinium aff. regale, Dichadogonyaulax stauromatos and the D. gochtii/sellwoodi/kettonensis plexus have not yet been recorded from North Sea early Bathonian deposits, although the last two forms have been recorded from the late Bajocian in the Southern North Sea. The absence of Nannoceratopsis gracilis suggests that the Bajocian has not been penetrated.

ENVIRONMENT

The dominance of miospores and large quantities of vitrinitic material indicate proximity to a substantial source of terrestrial debris, such as that encountered in a deltaic situation. However, the marine influences as demonstrated by the presence of microplankton suggest a distal location.

At 3356.55m some winnowing is suggested, selectively removing the lighter elements and enriching the denser inertinitic fraction.

INTERVAL ?3651m - 3726m; MIDDLE JURASSIC, ?BATHONIAN - ?BAJOCIAN

The age and upper limit are based purely on the lithology.

LITHOLOGY

Much cleaner mainly medium-grained sand, which also contains coarse, angular and fine grains appears at 3651m. This persists to 3666m, below which black brittle coal is seen and shale occurs. Coal persists with variable amounts of dark grey and yellowish brown waxy shale and dark brown siderite occurs at 3681m - 3693m. Amounts of sand in the samples between 3678m - 3711m are variable, but below 3705m sand increases; traces of coarse sand are present at 3720m.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

No in situ microfauna has been recovered from these sediments.

PALYNOLOGY

A core sample at 3671.85m contains an extremely sparse miospore assemblage of no age diagnostic value. Ditch cuttings samples are rich in miospores, but also contain dinocysts which are obviously caved, thus suggesting that most of the flora has caved from the richly palyniferous overlying deposits.

ENVIRONMENT

A marginal marine or fluviatile/deltaic environment is suggested for these sediments on the basis of the lithology.

INTERVAL 3729m - 3735m; ?LOWER JURASSIC

The presence of very light grey shale with isolated sand grains and waxy light grey slightly sandy shale suggests that Lower Jurassic sediments have been penetrated.

No palynological or microfaunal evidence was found.

LITHOLOGY

Very light grey to slightly buff waxy shale containing scattered angular medium or fine sand grains occurs in the samples from this interval in association with fine and medium-grained, angular white sand.

MICROPALAEONTOLOGY

No in situ microfauna has been recorded in this section.

PALYNOLOGY

A ditch cuttings sample from 3735m contains a miospore and dinocyst assemblage composed of elements originating from Upper and Middle Jurassic sources. There are no forms present which can be regarded as in situ.

ENVIRONMENT

A similar environment to that of the preceding interval is tentatively suggested for this section on the basis of the lithology.

VII

PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY

The oldest sediments examined in this well consist of light grey shales and white sand of questionable Lower Jurassic age which were probably laid down in a marginal marine or fluvial/deltaic environment.

After a period of non-deposition or deposition with subsequent erosion, sands with minor shales of ?Bajocian - ?Bathonian age accumulated under marginal marine or fluvial/deltaic conditions. Similar lithotypes and conditions persisted into the questionable Bathonian although slightly stronger marine influence is apparent at the end of this period. Towards the end of the Middle Jurassic, in the late Bathonian - middle Callovian, an inner shelf environment was established which continued throughout the remainder of the Middle into the Upper Jurassic. Deposition of sands with minor shales persisted to the end of the Middle Jurassic and into the Upper Jurassic, extending until the base of the middle Oxfordian interval.

In the middle Oxfordian a lower energy environment became established resulting in the deposition of grey shales. The addition of calcareous benthonic foraminifera to the microfaunas suggests that conditions were more fully marine. Similar conditions and sediments occurred in the succeeding late Oxfordian - early Kimmeridgian interval. An inner shelf regime, with the deposition of dark grey - black shales persisted throughout the late Kimmeridgian - middle Volgian, although the palaeontological evidence suggests that conditions were restricted.

After a period of non-deposition, or deposition with subsequent erosion, ranging from the late Volgian - Valanginian, sedimentation recommenced in an inner shelf environment of Hauterivian - Barremian age. Slightly greater water depths prevailed in the Barremian with the establishment of an inner to outer shelf environment which had strong open marine connections whilst more restricted and shallower inner shelf conditions returned in the Aptian - early Albian. Shales with limestones were deposited throughout the Lower Cretaceous interval and into the Indeterminate section, for which a general shelf environment is postulated.

VIII

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- | | | |
|--|-----------|--|
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APPENDIX I

SUBSYSTEMS	STAGES		BIO-STRATIGRAPHIC UNITS			
	Traditional English usage	AS USED IN THIS REPORT	REGIONAL	VIKING GRABEN		
LOWER CRETACEOUS	BERRIASIAN					
UPPER JURASSIC	LATE PORT.	EARLY BERR.	n	n		
	PORTLANDIAN		o	o		
	KIMMERIDGIAN	UPPER MIDDLE			p	p
		LOWER	KIMMERIDGIAN	2		
	OXFORDIAN				q	q
			r	r		
MIDDLE JURASSIC	CALLOVIAN		s	s	1	2
	BATHONIAN		t	t	1	2
	BAJOCIAN		v	v	1	a
	AALENIAN				2	b
LOWER JURASSIC	TOARCIAN		w	w		
	PLIENSCHACHIAN	U.	x	x	1	1
		L.			2	2
	SINEMURIAN		y	y		
	HETTANGIAN		z	z	1	1
		2			2	a
UPPER TRIASSIC	RHAETIAN				b	b

THE BIOSTRATIGRAPHIC UNITS OF THE JURASSIC AS ESTABLISHED
BY ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

JAN. 1977

(In part from Riley, 1977)

GEOLOGICAL AGE		"STANDARD" AMMONITE ZONES	SPEETON CLAY LITHO-UNITS	DINOCYST ZONATION																
				ZONE	SUBZONE															
BARREMIAN	EARLY		UPPER B	SIRMIODINIUM GROSSI I	ASTROCYSTA CRETACEA IA															
			CEMENT BEDS		DOIDYX ANAPHRISSA IB															
L B1	KLEITHRIASPHAERIDIUM CORRUGATUM IC																			
L B2																				
L B3																				
HAUTERIVIAN	LATE	SIMBIRSKITES BEDS	L B4	SUBTILISPHAERA TERRULA II	ADNATOSPHAERIDIUM VETUSCULUM IIA															
			L B5 A-D		CANNINGIA cf. RETICULATA IIB															
			L B5 E		CHLAMYDOPHORELLA TRABECULOSA IIIA															
			L B6			'KLEITHRIASPHAERIDIUM SIMPLICISPINUM IIIB														
			C1																	
	EARLY	ENDEMO CERAS BEDS	C2	OLIGOSPHAERIDIUM NANNUM III																
			C3																	
			C4																	
			C5																	
			C6																	
VALANGINIAN	E		C7	PHOBEROCYSTA NEOCOMICA IV	MUDERONGIA EXTENSIVA IVA															
			C8		TUBOTUBERELLA APATELA IIB															
			C9		ENDOSCRINIUM PHAHO IVC															
			C10		? PROLIXOSPHAERIDIUM TORNYNUM IIA															
			C11		DICHADOGONYAULAX SPP. IIB															
	RYAZANIAN	E		D2 A-D	DINGODINIUM SPINOSUM V	CANNOSPHAEROPSIS SP. A. IVC														
				BASAL D2 D		EGMONTODINIUM SP. A. IIA														
				D2 E		unnamed subzone IIB														
				D3		DICHADOGONYAULAX PANNEA IIA														
				D4		DICHADOGONYAULAX CULMULA IIB														
VOLGIAN	L		D5	IMBATODINIUM VILLOSUM VI	GLOSSODINIUM DIMORPHUM VIIIC															
			D6 - D7 A-E		GONYAULACYSTA MUTABILIS VIII															
			M				GONYAULACYSTA LONGICORNIS IX	GONYAULACYSTA PENNATA VIII A												
								E			GONYAULACYSTA JURASSICA IIA									
											E			EGMONTODINIUM POLYPLACOPHORUM IX A						
	E													FROMEA WARLINGHAMENSIS IX B						
														E			LETTODINIUM EGEMENII IIA			
	E			STEPHANELYTRON HEDCLIFFENSE IIB																
				KIMMERIDGIAN	L			SCRINIODINIUM CRYSTALLINUM XI												
	M									GONYAULACYSTA CLADOPHORA X										
E														SCRINIODINIUM GALERITUM XII						
																E			ACANTHAULAX SPINOSISSIMA XIII	
				E			WANAEA FIMBRIATA IIB													
OXFORDIAN	L			POLYSTEPHANEPHORUS PARACALATHUS XV	MENDICODINIUM "EGALITUM" XIIC															
					M			PAREODINIA CERATOPHORA XVI	KALYPTEA STEGASTA IIA											
									E			WANAEA ACOLLARIS XVII B	NANNO CERATOPSIS PELLUCIDA IIB							
													E			GONYAULACYSTA FILAPICATA XVII C	DICHADOGONYAULAX GOCHTI XVII A			
																	E			
CALLOVIAN	L			NANNO CERATOPSIS SPICULATA XVII																
						M			POLYSPHAERIDIUM DEFLANDREI XVIII A											
										E			unnamed subzone XVIII B							
														E			SPHAEROMORPHS / SPHERIPOLLENITES XVIII C			
																		E		
BATHONIAN	L			POLYSPHAERIDIUM LANGII XIX	unnamed subzone XIX A															
					M			unnamed subzone XIX B												
									E			unnamed subzone XIX C								
													E			DAPCODINIUM PRISCUM XIX D				
																	E			
BAJOCIAN	L			RHAETOGONYAULAX RHAETICA XX	CLEISTOSPHAERIDIUM MOJSISOVICSII XX A															
					M			unnamed subzone XX B												
									E			unnamed subzone XX C								
													E							
																	E			
TOARCIAN	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		
PLIENS-BACHIAN	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		
SINE-MURIAN	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		
HETTANGIAN	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		
RHAETIAN ?	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		
NORIAN	L																			
						M														
										E										
														E						
																		E		

LEGEND FOR STRATIGRAPHIC CHARTS

LITHOLOGY COLUMNS

Clay		Calcareous sediments	
Shale/claystone/mudstone		Dolomitic sediments	
Silty/sandy clay		Carbonaceous sediments	
Silty/sandy shale/claystone/mudstone		Anhydrite	
Silt/siltstone		Salt	
Sand/sandstone {	very fine to medium	Coal/lignite	
	coarse sand to granules	Undifferentiated volcanics	
	pebbles	Basement (undifferentiated)	
Argillaceous sandstone	Mudflakes	Mudflakes	
Limestone	Oolites	Oolites	
Silty/sandy limestone	Concretions	Concretions	
Argillaceous limestone	Sample gap	Sample gap	
Dolomite			
Silty/sandy dolomite			
Chalk			

LITHOLOGICAL AND DRILLING ABBREVIATIONS

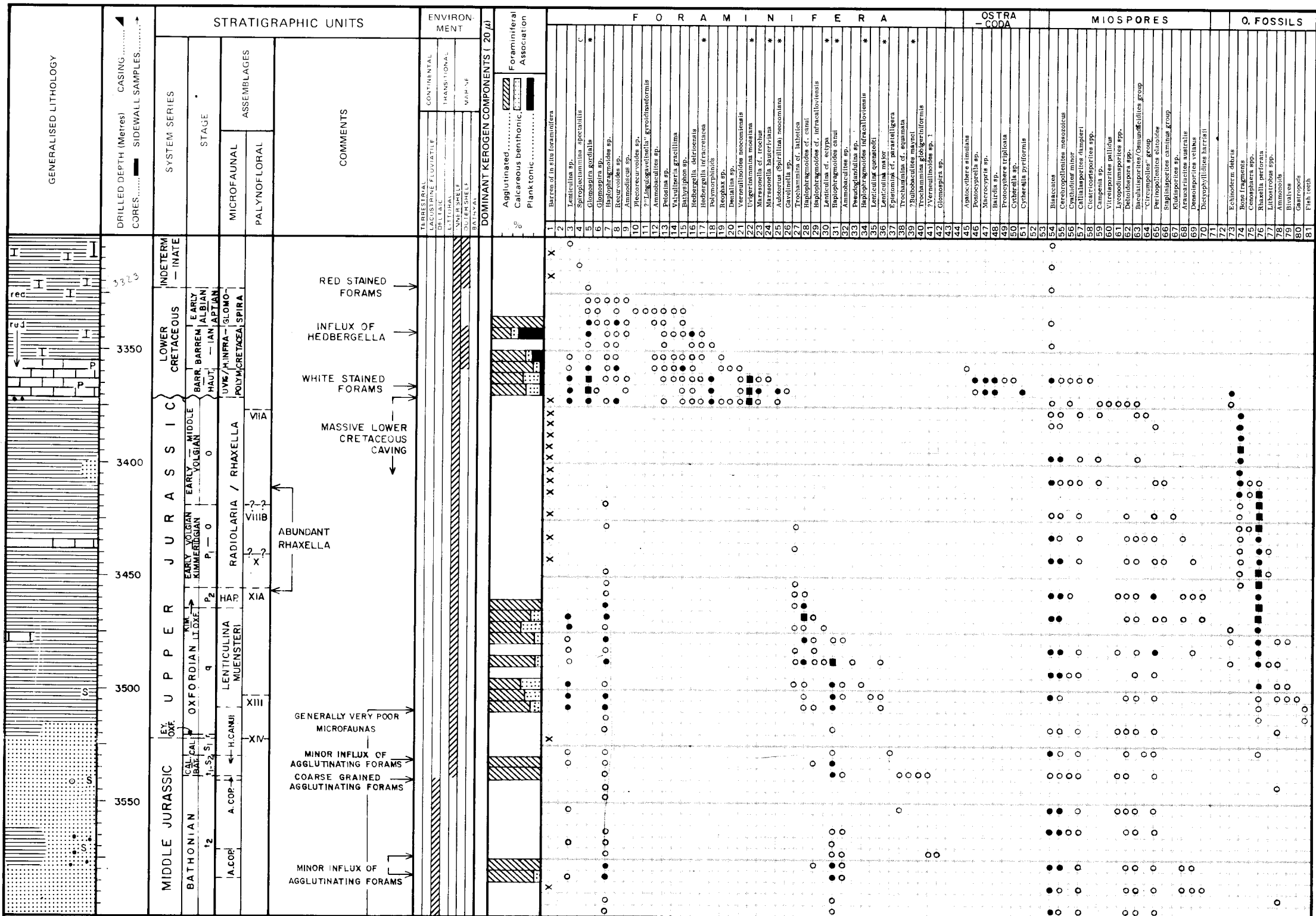
Red sedimentary rocks	red
Silica	Si
Chert	▼
Pyrite	P
Ironstone	Fe
Glauconite	G
Kaolinite	K
Siderite/sphaerosiderite	S
Shell fragments	~
Cement	cmt
Lost circulation material	lcm
Turbo drilling or diamond drilling	tu
(Samples unsuitable for good stratigraphic analysis)	

PALAEONTOLOGICAL SYMBOLS

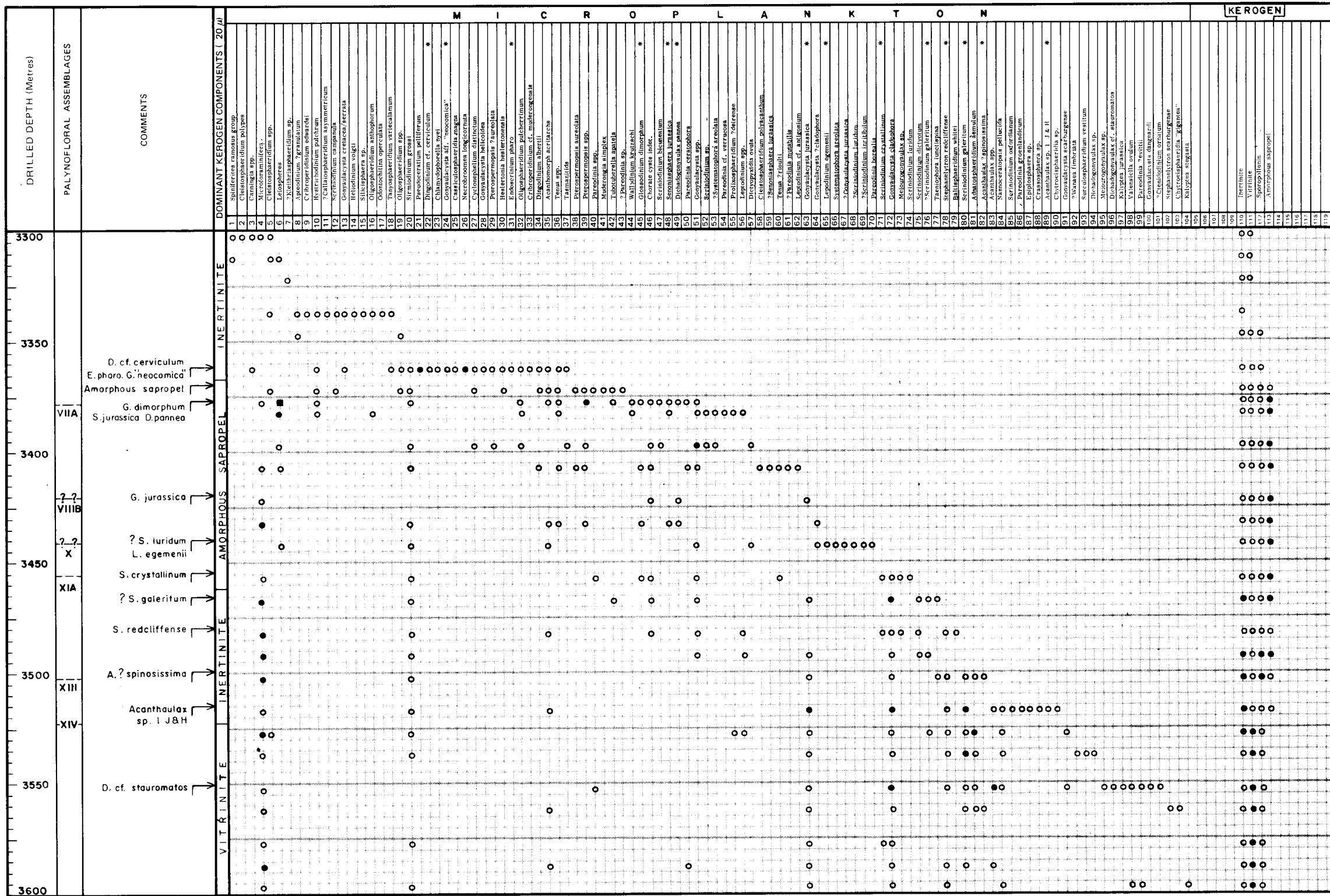
Present	o		
Common	●		
Abundant	■		
Diagnostic forms	*		
Caved forms	C		
Reworked forms	R		
Dominant Kerogen Components	{ Inertinite	I	
		Vitrinite	V
		Exinite	E
		Amorphous sapropel	s
Incoming of	↗		
Outgoing of	↘		

ENCLOSURE 1

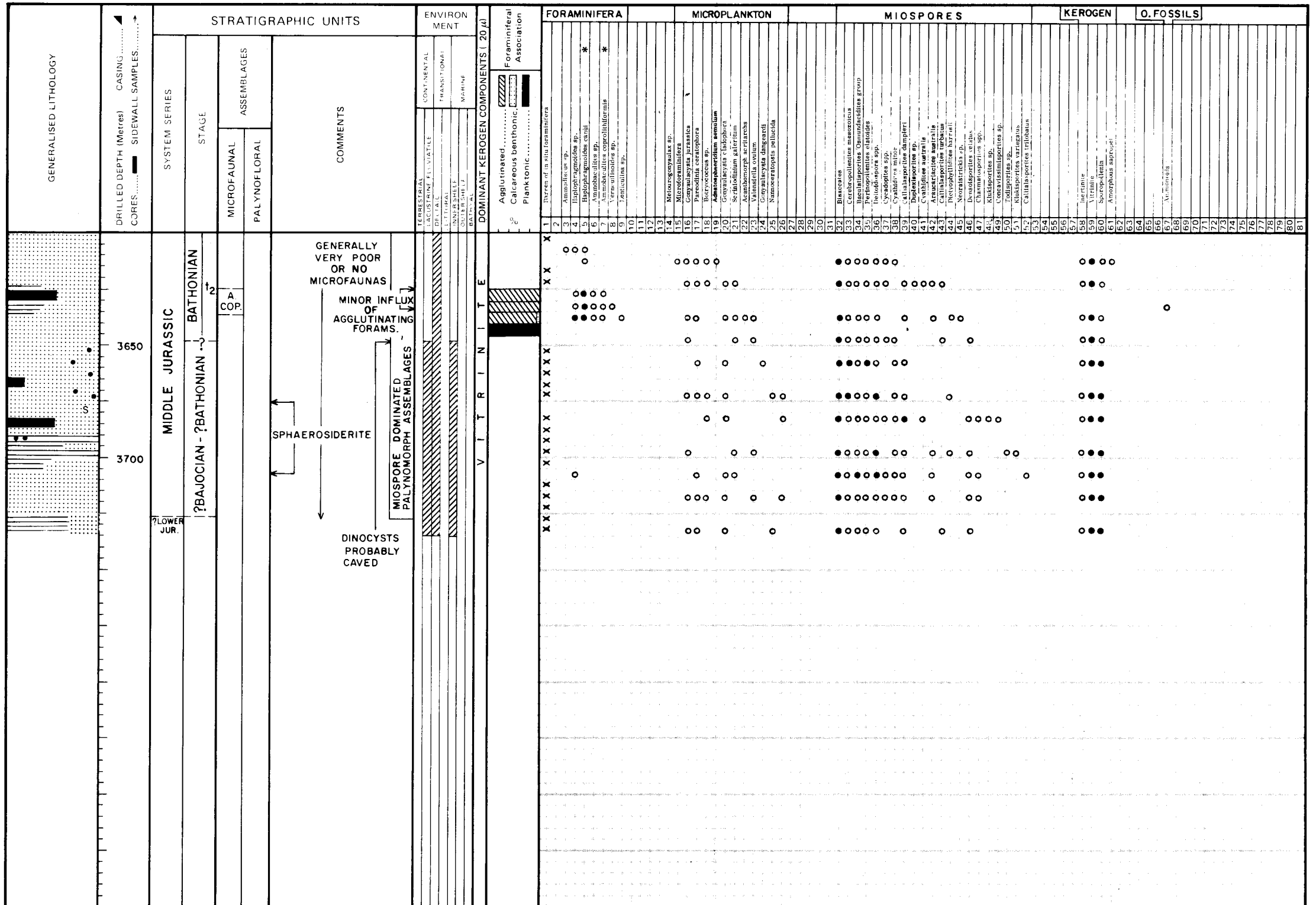
(for further abbreviations see Enclosure 2)



ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL
 WELL: 15/9 - 1
 LOCATION: NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA
 CLIENT: STATOIL
 DEPTH: 3300 - 3600m
 SHEET 1a OF 2
 ANALYST: JWC, CND, JU, CWH.
 DRAWING NO: 316/1240/4015
 DATE: DECEMBER 1977
 SCALE: 1:2,000
 ENCLOSURE 2
 For legend see Enclosure 1
BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS CHART



ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL WELL: 15/9-1 DEPTH: 3300 - 3600m DRAWING NO.: 316/1240/4015 SCALE 1:2,000 BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS CHART
 LOCATION: NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA SHEET 1b OF 2 DATE: DECEMBER 1977 ENCLOSURE 3
 CLIENT: STATOIL ANALYST: CND For legend see Enclosure 1



ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL WELL: 15/9-1 DEPTH: 3600 - 3735 m. DRAWING NO: 316/1240/4015 SCALE 1:2,000
 LOCATION: NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA SHEET 2 OF 2 DATE: DECEMBER 1977 ENCLOSURE 4
 CLIENT: STATOIL ANALYST: JWC, CND, JU, For legend see Enclosure 1

BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS CHART

GENERALISED LITHOLOGY	DRILLED DEPTH (Metres) CASING CORES: SIDEWALL SAMPLES	STRATIGRAPHIC UNITS		ENVIRONMENT	FORAMINIFERA	MICROPLANKTON	KEROGEN	
		SYSTEM SERIES						COMMENTS
		STAGE	ASSEMBLAGES					
	3521-0	U. JUR.						
	3523-7	JURASSIC						
	3525-5	?	?					
	3528-95							
	3531-55							
	3542-3							
	3556-55							
	3566-2							
	3574-5							
	3580-3							
	3612-75							
	3620-6							
	3626-65							
	3671-85							

ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

WELL: 15/9-1
LOCATION: NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA
CLIENT: STATOIL

CORES SHEET 1a OF 1 ANALYST JWC, CND, JU.

DRAWING NO 316/1240/4015
DATE DECEMBER 1977 ENCLOSURE 5
For legend see Enclosure 1

BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS CHART

DRILLED DEPTH (Meters)	PALYNOFLORAL ASSEMBLAGES	COMMENTS	DOMINANT KEROGEN COMPONENTS (%)																	
			M	I	O	S	P	O	R	E	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
3521-0	XIV		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	
3523-7		●	○	○																
3525-5		○	○	○	○		○	○	○	○										
3528-95		○	○	○			○	○												
3531-55		○	○	○	○	○	○	○			○	○	○	○						
3542-3		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○				
3556-55		○	○	○	○				○	○										
3566-2		○	○	○	○	○			○	○		○	○							
3574-5		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○					
3580-3		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○					
3612-75		○	○	○			○													
3620-6		○	○	○	○															
3626-65		○	○	○	○	○			○											
3671-85		○	○	○																



ROBERTSON RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

WELL: 15/9-1
 LOCATION: NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA
 CLIENT: STATOIL

CORES SHEET 1b OF 1
 ANALYST: CND

DRAWING NO: 16/1240/4015
 DATE: DECEMBER 1977

ENCLOSURE 6

BIOSTRATIGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS CHART

For legend see Enclosure 1

**ROBERTSON RESEARCH
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

SUMMARY LOG 15/9-1

AREA : NORWEGIAN NORTH SEA SPUD DATE : FEB 24, 1977

COMPANY : STATOIL COMPLETION DATE : MAY 30, 1977

INTERVAL STUDIED : 3301 m - 3732 m T. D. 3734 m

Dr. No. 316/1240/4015

SCALE 1 : 5000

Date : Dec. 1977

▮ Cored Interval

▴ Casing Shoe

ENCLOSURE 7

SYSTEM	SUB-SYSTEM	STAGE / FORMATION	INTERVAL BOUNDARIES (approx.)	CASING AND CORING DETAILS	DEPTH METRES FEET	GENERALISED LITHOLOGY	ENVIRONMENT OF DEPOSITION							
							TERRESTRIAL	LACUSTRINE / FLUVIATILE	DELTAIC	LITTORAL	INNER SHELF	OUTER SHELF	BATHYAL	
INDET.					3300									
CRET- ACEOUS	LOWER CRET.	EARLY ALBIAN - APTIAN	3323.5m											
		BARREMIAN BAR-HAUT	3341.5m 3359.5m 3371.5m											
JURASSIC	UPPER JURASSIC	MIDDLE - EARLY VOLGIAN (o)	3419.5m											
		EARLY VOLGIAN - LATE KIMMERIDGIAN (o - p ₁)	3455.5m											
		BY KIM - LT OXF (o)	3464.5m											
		MIDDLE OXFORDIAN (a)												
		BY OXF (r)	3520.5m 3522.5m 3524.5m 3530.5m 3537.5m	3521m										
	MIDDLE JURASSIC	? BATHONIAN (?12)			CORES 1-9	3600								
		? BATHONIAN				3649.5m								
		? BATHONIAN - ? BAJOCIAN				3675.5m								
	? L. JUR.					3727.5m								