



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLUMBIA

Feb. 21, 1957

answered
May 31, 1957

Department of Geology, Mineralogy, and Geography

Mr. H. B. Stenzel
Geology Dept.
University of Houston
Houston, Texas

Dear Mr. Stenzel;

We have just received University of Texas Publication 5704 at this department. It was read, with a great deal of interest, by me. The section that is described in this Bulletin is part of the same section that I am working on in South Carolina. As you prob'ly know the there has been very little work done on the Eocene rocks in South Carolina. What work that has been done is in the nature of reconnaissance surveys and the Eocene section that is set forth by these surveys is not at all satisfactory.

I have just completed the field work and I am in the process writing my thessés on an area (six 15' quads) southeast of Columbia. The bad part is that my deadline for finishing the report is March 18.

I have a number of pelecypods that I identified as Venericardia alticostata Conrad. and another fossil from a highly critical ~~xx~~ outcrop that I identified as Ostrea divaricata Lea. Could you look at these fossils and confirm my identifications and rush a reply back to me. I realize this asking a great favor but, I dread the thought of the wasted effort of field work if the right age is not given the strata. If these identifications are verified my basis of classification is strengthened considerably.

OF THE STRATA

The shells of both species are siliceous. They occur in indurated pockets or nodules in a loose yellow sand. All the fauna in these pockets (corals, etc) seem to be of the same unit size, I have interpreted this as sorting (mechanical).

I am sending the fossils under seperate cover air mail in hopes that you will be able to confirm my identifications or re-identify the fossils for me.

Sincerely,

Le Brun N. Smith

I will appreciate return of the specimens as they must be photographed for the report - I can send you additional specimens, if you desire.

WLS