



IN REPLY REFER TO:

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
19 HUNTER ST., SW., RM. 416
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

June 22, 1966

Dr. H. B. Stenzel
Shell Development Company
P. O. Box 481
Houston, Texas 77001

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

Am delighted to have your letter of June 17. Under separate cover am sending specimens of a large oyster collected from the sand underlying the Ocala limestone, Clinchfield (Penn Dixie Quarry), Ga. Along with the specimens from the Clinchfield quarry am sending a single specimen (both valves) collected from Bed 1 (of Veatch and Stephenson), Griffin Landing, Burke County, Ga., latter for comparison with the specimens from Clinchfield. Am enclosing description (see enclosure) of the locality from which the fossil oysters were collected.

As noted in my letter of June 10, MacNeill placed the basal sand that underlies the Ocala at the Clinchfield quarry in the Gosport, which he regarded as basal Jackson, as I believe you know. The specimens from this sand may be Pycnodonte trigonalis (Conrad) as noted in your letter. I had the idea that these specimens from the Clinchfield sand might possibly represent trigonalis on the basis of your publication regarding the ecology of oysters, a paper that you so kindly sent me several months ago. However, the specimens will speak for themselves so I will not indulge in further idle speculation.

I appreciate your taking the time to outline the situation as written up in the Mississippi Geol. Society Field Trip Guidebook, (9th field trip, 1952) which I believe I have in my personal library. Will check on this right away as this information is important since it relates to the section in the Clinchfield quarry.

Thanking you again for your interest in this problem and with best regards, I am

Sincerely,

S. M. Herrick

SMH/hr

AIR MAIL

Description of Oyster Locality:

The oyster specimens were collected at Clinchfield, Ga.: about 25 miles south of Macon. They occur in limy sandstone ledges enclosed in fine-grained sand, about 3 - 5 feet beneath the base of the Ocala limestone. This sand is exposed in the Clinchfield Penn-Dixie Cement Company quarry which is situated on the east side of U. S. Highway 341, Clinchfield, Ga.