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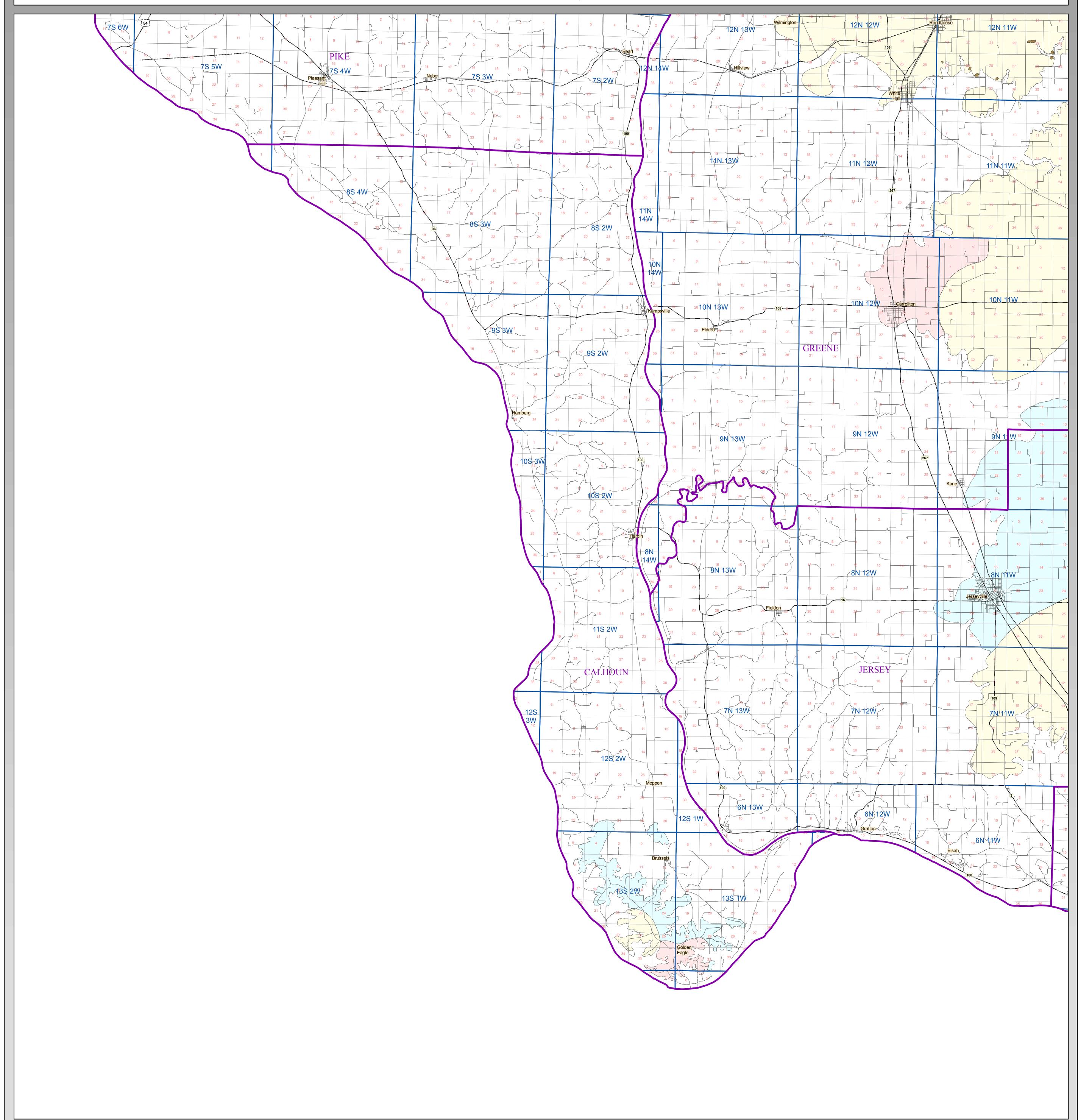
# Colchester Coal Thickness CALHOUN County

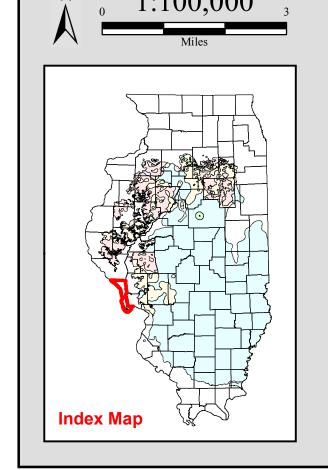
County Coal Map Series Andrew Louchios, Scott Elrick,

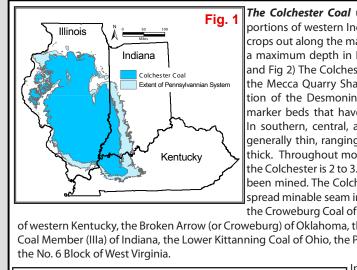
Chris Korose, David Morse Map construction: October 28, 2009

This product is under review and may not meet the standards of the Illinois State Geological Survey.

County coal maps and select quadrangle maps available as downloadable PDF files at: http://www.isgs.illinois.edu/maps-data-pub/coal-maps/county-index.shtml



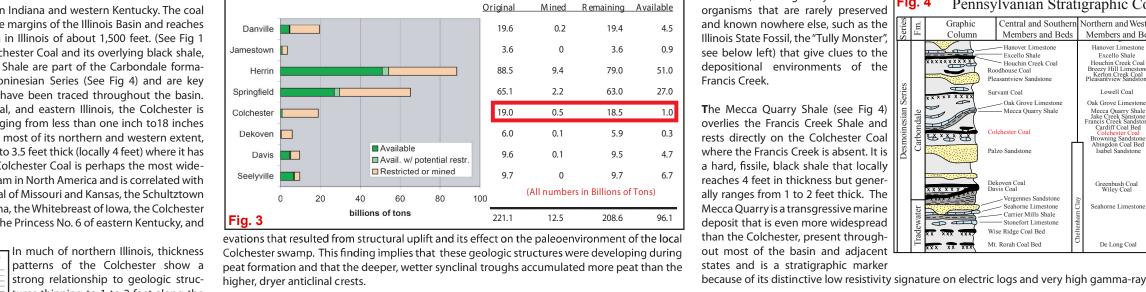




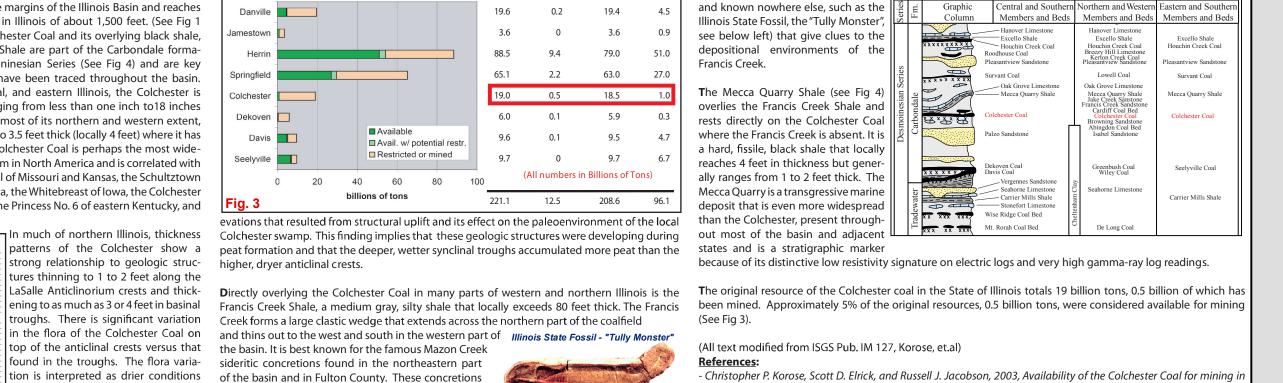
North-south cross section of the Pennsylvanian System in Illinois

The Colchester Coal underlies much of Illinois as well as portions of western Indiana and western Kentucky. The coal crops out along the margins of the Illinois Basin and reaches maximum depth in Illinois of about 1,500 feet. (See Fig 1 and Fig 2) The Colchester Coal and its overlying black shale, the Mecca Quarry Shale are part of the Carbondale formation of the Desmoninesian Series (See Fig 4) and are key marker beds that have been traced throughout the basin. n southern, central, and eastern Illinois, the Colchester is generally thin, ranging from less than one inch to 18 inches thick. Throughout most of its northern and western extent, the Colchester is 2 to 3.5 feet thick (locally 4 feet) where it has been mined. The Colchester Coal is perhaps the most widespread minable seam in North America and is correlated with

the Croweburg Coal of Missouri and Kansas, the Schultztown of western Kentucky, the Broken Arrow (or Croweburg) of Oklahoma, the Whitebreast of Iowa, the Colchester Coal Member (Illa) of Indiana, the Lower Kittanning Coal of Ohio, the Princess No. 6 of eastern Kentucky, and strong relationship to geologic struc- higher, dryer anticlinal crests. tures thinning to 1 to 2 feet along the



ening to as much as 3 or 4 feet in basinal Francis Creek Shale, a medium gray, silty shale that locally exceeds 80 feet thick. The Francis troughs. There is significant variation Creek forms a large clastic wedge that extends across the northern part of the coalfield in the flora of the Colchester Coal on and thins out to the west and south in the western part of Illinois State Fossil - "Tully Monster" top of the anticlinal crests versus that the basin. It is best known for the famous Mazon Creek found in the troughs. The flora varia- sideritic concretions found in the northeastern part tion is interpreted as drier conditions of the basin and in Fulton County. These concretions stemming from higher topographic el- have yielded a remarkably well preserved fossil fauna Northern and Western Illinois: Illinois State Geological Survey Illinois Minerals 127, 21 p.



and flora (including many soft bodied organisms that are rarely preserved rarely preserved Pennsylvanian Stratigraphic Column

## **Coal Thickness** Surface Mine **Underground Mine** Insufficient data <28 inches 28 to 42 inches 42 to 66 inches >66 inches Channel

Split Coal

## **Map Explanation** The maps and digital files of this study were compiled from data from a variety of public

and private sources and have varying degrees of completeness and accuracy. They present interpretations of the geology of the area and are based on available data. However, these interpretations are based on data that may vary with respect to accuracy of geographic location, type, quantity, and reliability, as they were supplied to the Illinois State Geological Survey. Consequently, the accuracy of the interpreted features shown in these files is subject to the limitations of the data and varies from place to place.

Contoured features less than 7 million square feet (about 1/2 mile square) in area may not be accurately portrayed or resolved. This data set provides a large-scale conceptual model of the geology of the area on which to base further work. These data are not intended for use in site-specific screening or decision-making. Data included in this map are suitable for use at a scale of 1:100,000.

#### Disclaimer

The Illinois State Geological Survey and the University of Illinois make no guarantee, expressed or implied, regarding the correctness of the interpretations presented in this data set and accept no liability for the consequences of decisions made by others on the basis of the information presented here.

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