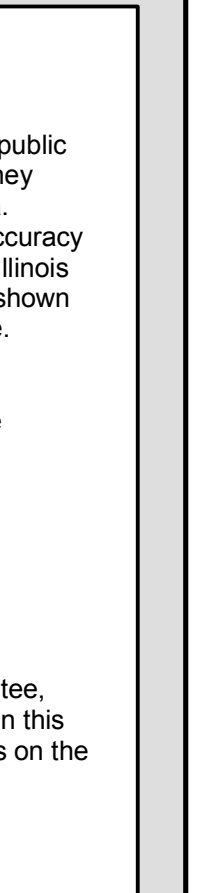
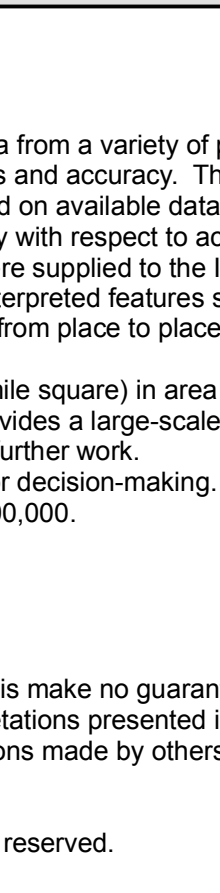
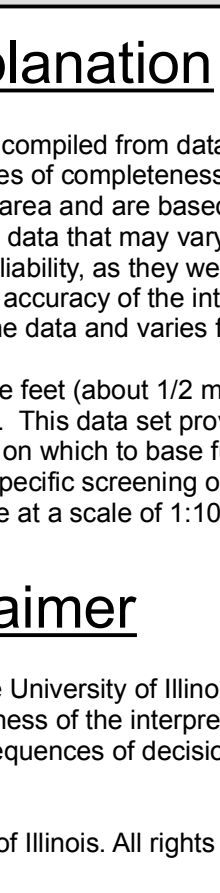
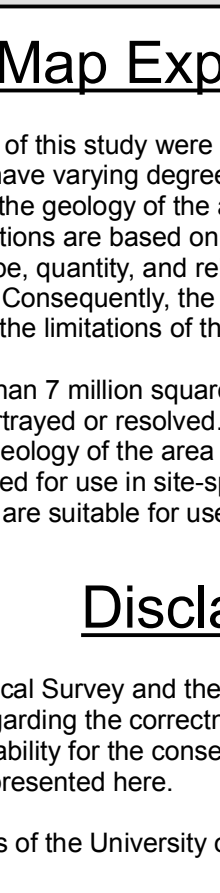
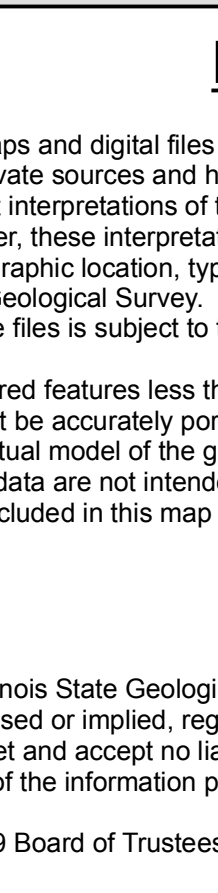
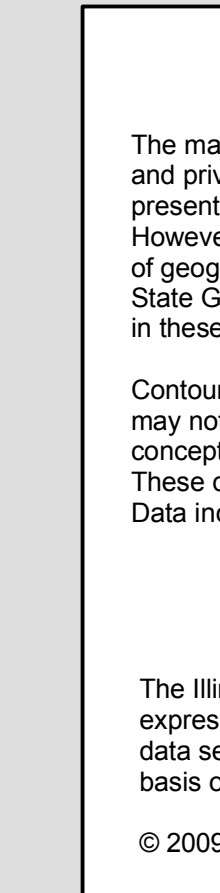
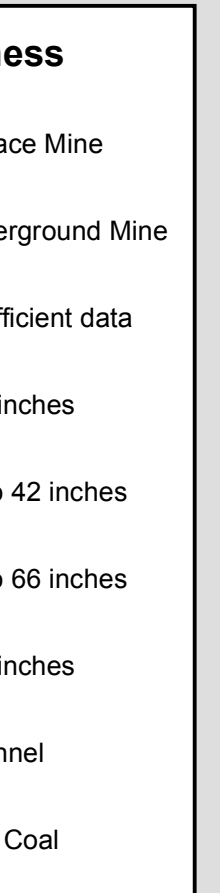
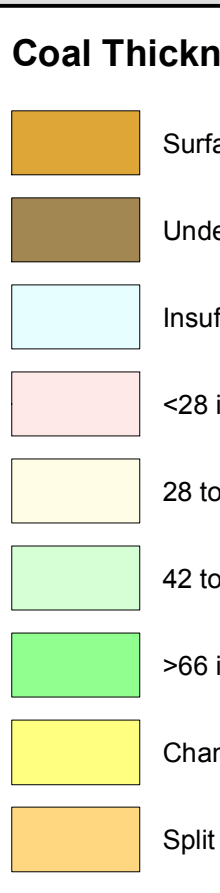
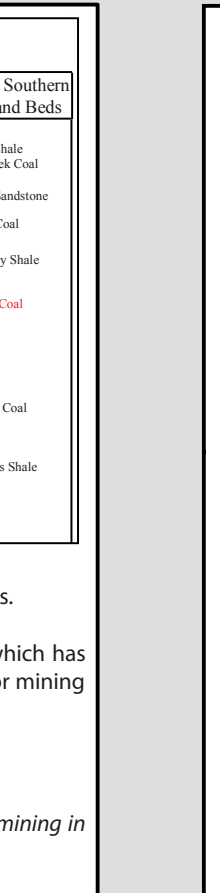
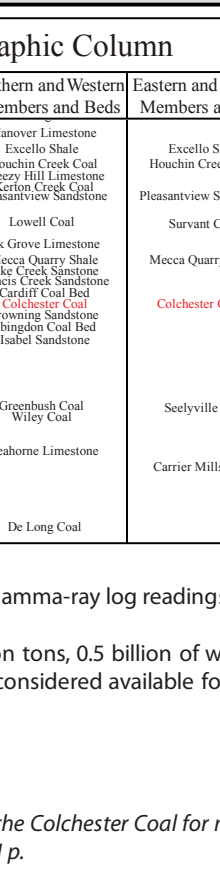
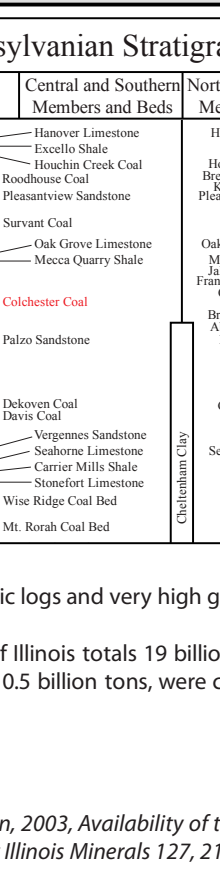
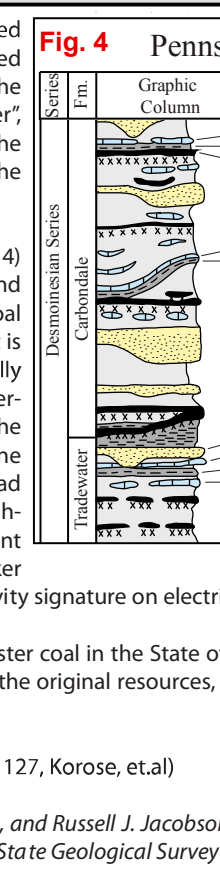
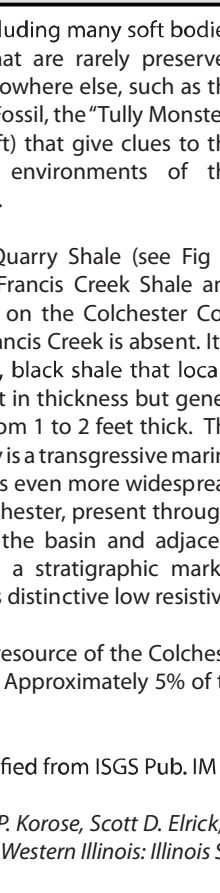
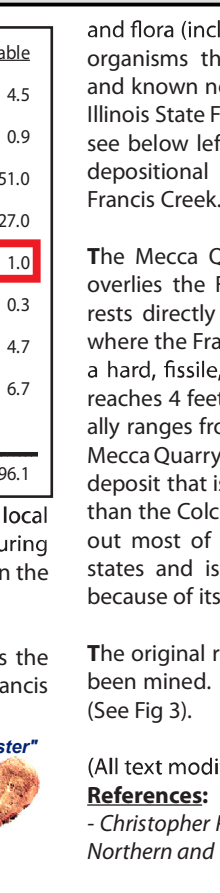
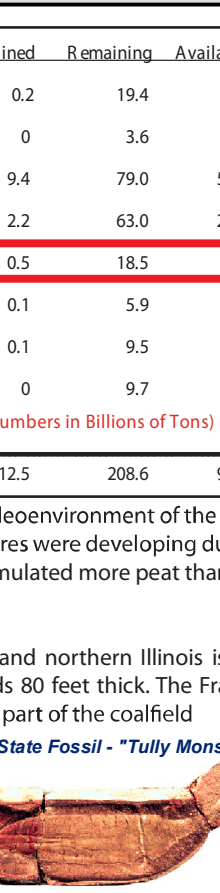
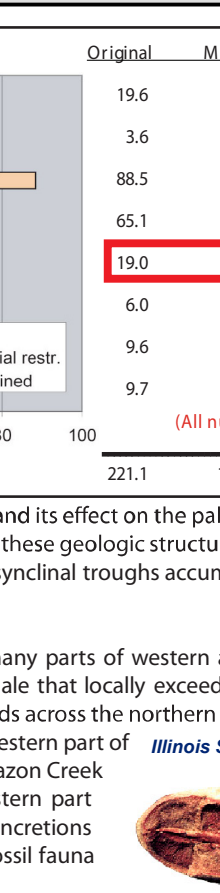
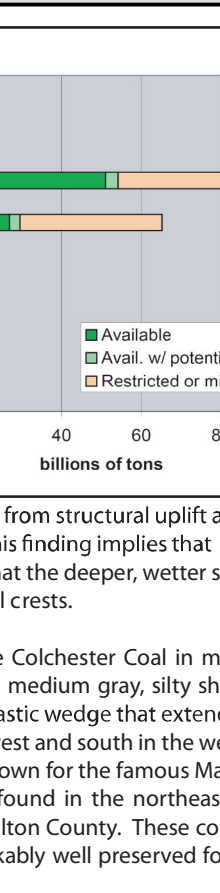
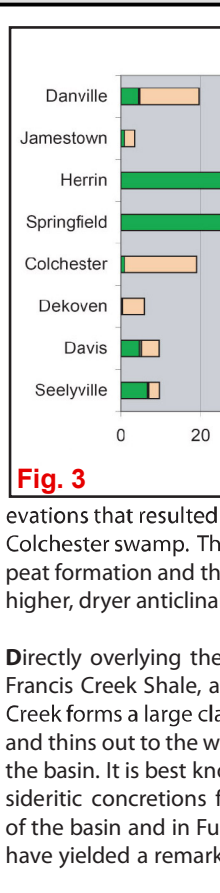
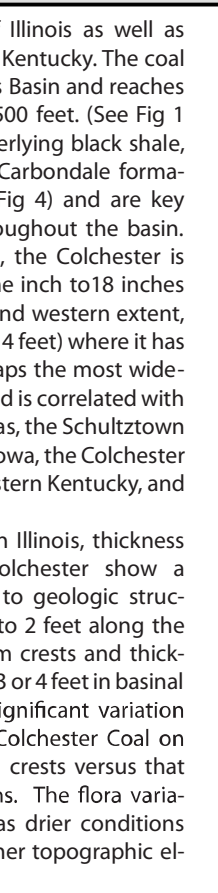
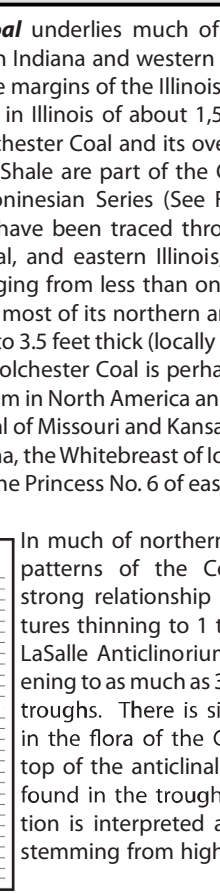
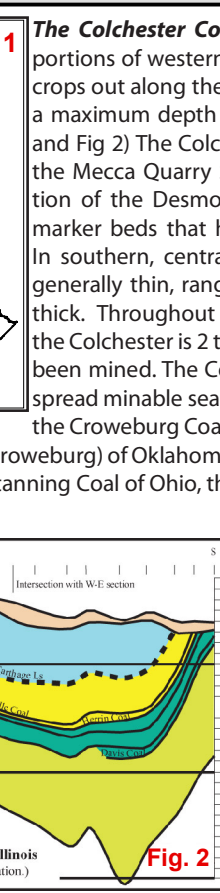
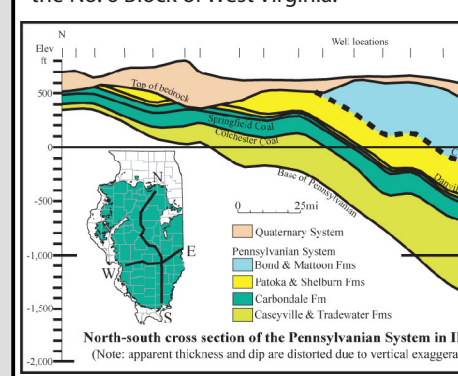
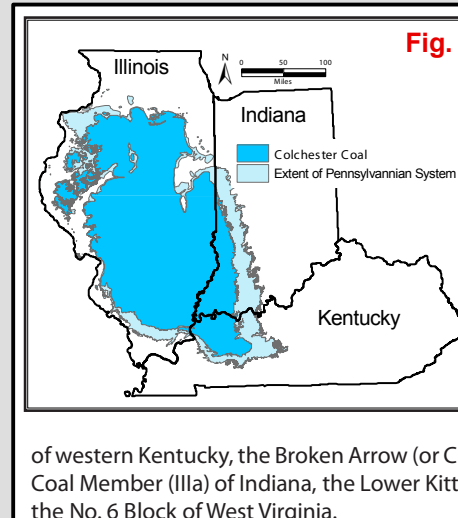
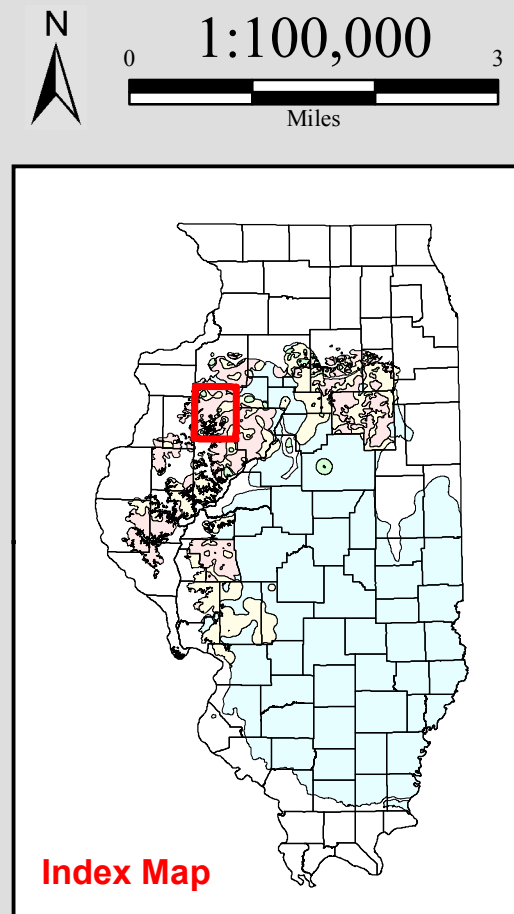
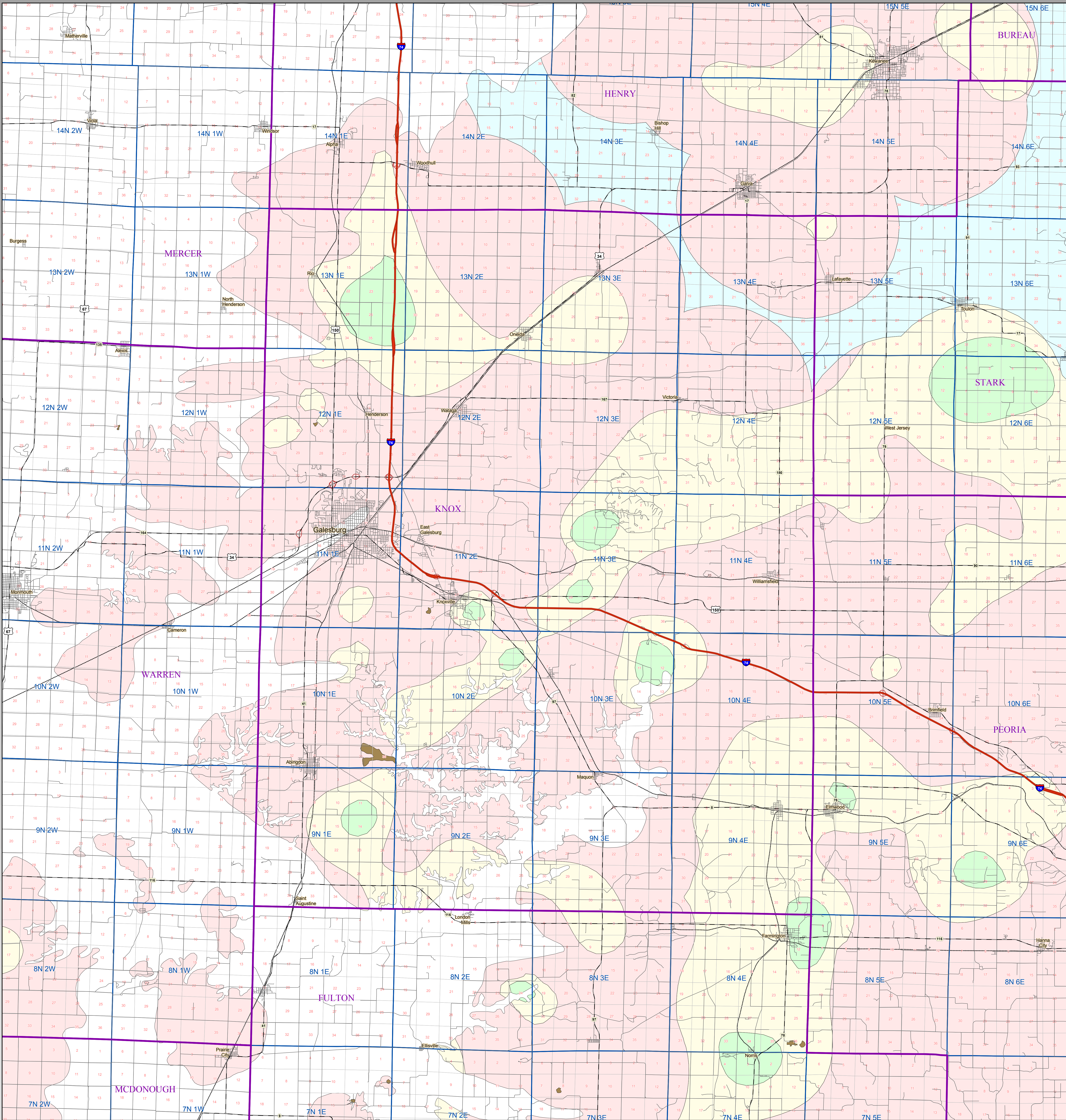


Colchester Coal Thickness
KNOX
County

	Original	Mined	Remaining	Available
Carroll	186	0	184	45
Jameson	36	0	36	09
Herrn	863	94	769	510
Springfield	661	22	639	270
Colchester	190	05	185	10
Colborn	60	01	59	03
Davis	96	01	95	47
Seelyville	97	0	97	67
(All numbers in Billions of Tons)	221.1	125	206.6	96.1

evations that resulted from structural uplift and its effect on the paleoenvironment of the local Colchester swamp. This finding implies that these geologic structures were developing during peat formation and that the deeper, wetter synclinal troughs accumulated more peat than the higher, dryer anticlinal crests.

Directly overlying the Colchester Coal in many parts of western and northern Illinois is the Francis Creek Shale, a medium gray, silty shale that locally exceeds 80 feet thick. The Francis Creek forms a large clastic wedge that extends across the northern part of the coalfield and this out to the west and south in the western part of the basin. It is best known for the famous Macon Creek siltstone concretions found in the northeastern part of the basin and in Fulton County. These concretions have yielded a remarkably well preserved fossil fauna

and flora (including many soft bodied organisms that are rarely preserved and known nowhere else, such as the Illinois State Fossil, the "Tully Monster"; see below left) that give clues to the depositional environments of the Francis Creek.

The Mecca Quarry Shale (see Fig. 4) overlies the Francis Creek Shale and rests directly on the Colchester Coal where the Francis Creek is absent. It is a hard, fissile, black shale that locally reaches 4 feet in thickness but generally ranges from 1 to 2 feet thick. The Mecca Quarry is a transgressive marine deposit that is even more widespread than the Colchester, present throughout most of the basin and adjacent states and is a stratigraphic marker because of its distinctive low resistivity signature on electric logs and very high gamma-ray log readings.

The original resource of the Colchester coal in the State of Illinois totals 19 billion tons, 0.5 billion of which has been mined. Approximately 5% of the original resources, 0.5 billion tons, were considered available for mining (See Fig. 3).

(All text modified from ISGS Pub. IM 127, Korose, et al.)

References:
- Christopher P. Korose, Scott A. Erick, and Russell J. Jacobson, 2003. Availability of the Colchester Coal for mining in Northern and Western Illinois. Illinois State Geological Survey Illinois Minerals 122, 21 p.

