

POSSIBLE INTERPRETATIONS OF PLEISTOCENE DEPOSITS
AT LEWISTOWN, ILLINOIS

An Abstract of a Thesis
Presented to
the Department of Geography
Western Illinois University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by
Kurt Eugene Dikkers

August 1974

MAP
GB
585
.I3
D5
1974
c.2

ABSTRACT

A significant exposure at Lewistown, Illinois was found to contain evidence from three of the four major glacials believed to compose the Pleistocene. The most striking feature is the sixteen feet thick Yarmouth Soil. Although the extremely well developed soil was found at only one exposure personally investigated, evidence of its widespread existence is found in other published profile descriptions. Another noteworthy discovery was the lack of Kellerville Till. Most sections reviewed were supposed to contain this till. These two findings support the Willman and Frye glacial model and the relative amount of years associated with each unit. The extreme weathering and accumulation of the Yarmouth Soil could only occur over thousands of years, while the similarity and inability to differentiate the Illinoian tills, leaves little doubt that the Illinoian glacial occurred over a relatively few years.