

Seewarte Formation

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Österreichische Karte 1:50.000
Blatt BMN 197 Kötschach

Carta Topografica d'Italia 1:50.000
Foglio 018 Passo di Monte Croce Carnico

Blatt UTM 3109 Oberdrauburg

Definition

Dark gray fossiliferous limestone (wackestone to rudstone/grainstone) slightly dolomitic in places.

Description

The Seewarte Formation consists of dark gray (presumably bituminous) wackestone, grainstone and rudstone. In some segments appear yellowish (dolomitic) laminated or nodular textures. Gastropods are common macrofossils. Bioclasts of corals, stromatoporoids, algae, bivalves, crinoids are frequent components.

Fossil content

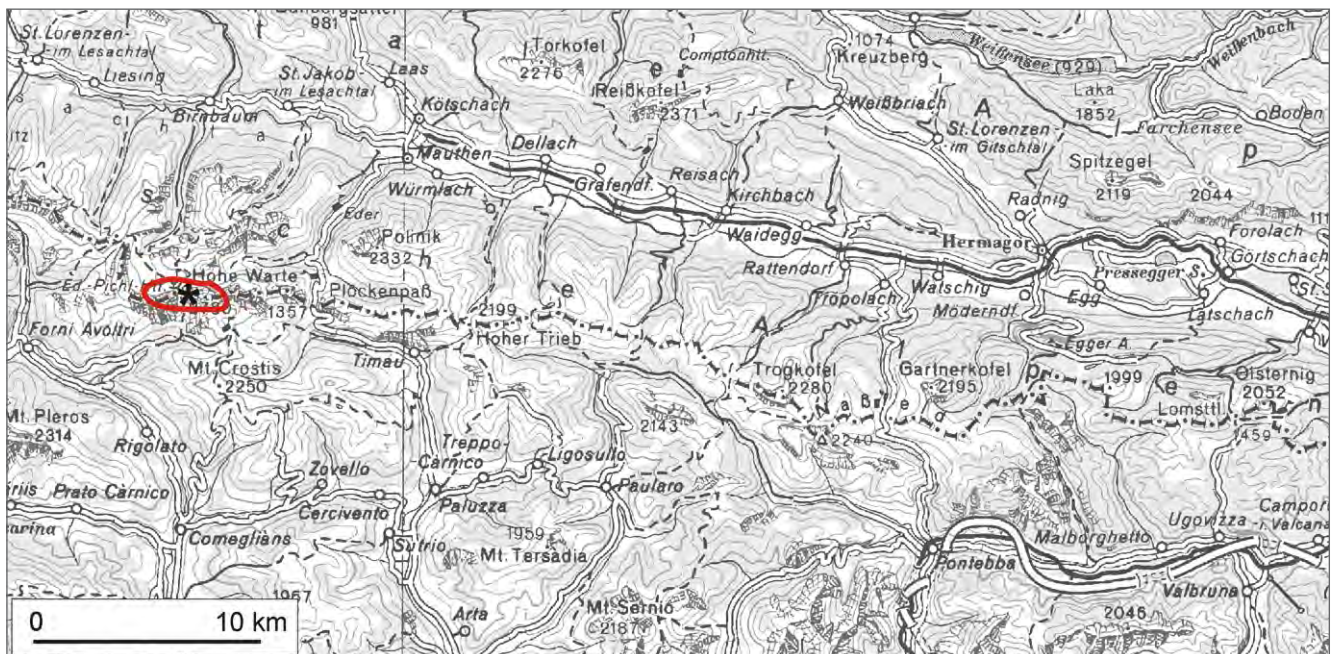
Brachiopods, calcareous algae, cephalopods (nautiloids), crinoids, dactyloconarids, gastropods, ostracods, sponge spicules, trilobites.

Depositional environment

The dark gray fossiliferous limestones of the Seewarte Formation were deposited in shallow subtidal water with sufficient aeration to support the rich fauna with abundant large gastropods, stromatoporoids and corals. Dolomitic laminae and dark colour are suggestive of restriction and possibly anoxia in sub-bottom sediments.

Stratotype

Seewarte section (JHAVERI, 1969), at the base of Mt. Seewarte near Rifugio Lambertenghi-Romanin, at coordinates N 46°36'30", E 12°52'14".



Areas of outcrop of the Seewarte Formation with indication of the stratotype (asterisk).



The Seewarte Section. a) simplified log of the Seewarte Formation; b) view of Mt. Seewarte with the dark band of the Seewarte Formation (dashed white line) above the Hohe Warte Formation and below the Lambertenghi Formation. The red line depicts a fault. The continuation of the Seewarte limestone towards the peak of the mountain is not visible in this image (photo H.P. SCHÖNLAUB).

Reference sections -

Type area

Central Carnic Alps.

Main outcrop areas

The Seewarte Formation crops out mainly in Lake Wolayer area at Mts. Hohe Warte, Seewarte and Seekopf.

Thickness

About 40 m.

Boundaries

Underlying units – Hohe Warte Formation (conformable gradual contact).

Overlying units – Lambertenghi Formation (conformable gradual contact).

Lateral units – Polinik Formation, Kellerwand Formation.

Derivation of name

After Mt. Seewarte where type section is located.

Synonymy

Riffkalk-Facies der Stockwerke H-G-H [partim]: STACHE (1884).

Schwarzer Gastropodenkalk: GAERTNER (1931).

Schwarze Kalke mit ihrem reichlichen Vorkommen von Hercynellen: GAERTNER (1931).

Gastropodenkalke: HERITSCH (1943).

Hercynellen-führende Gastropodenkalke: ERBEN et al. (1962).

ZONA A *HERCYNELLA*: SELLI (1963).

Seewartekalk: JHAVERI (1969).

Hercynellenkalk: SCHÖNLAUB & FLAJS (1975); KREUTZER (1990).

Seewarte-Kalk: KREUTZER (1992).



Views of the Seewarte Formation in the field. a) large gastropods are characteristic of the Seewarte Formation (photo H.P. SCHÖNLAUB); b) euomphalid gastropod from near the top of the unit (photo T.J. SUTTNER).

Chronostratigraphic age

Devonian: Lower Emsian (ERBEN et al., 1962; KREUTZER, 1990: 295; SCHÖNLAUB et al., 2004: 12).

Biostratigraphy -

Complementary references -

Remarks -

References

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