

Cross-sections

Geologic Cross Section: a diagram showing the structure and arrangement of rocks as they would appear in a vertical plane below the Earth's surface. These diagrams provide a viewpoint as if you were looking from the side (or a side view).

Cross sections provide a lot of useful information, such as the type of rock exposed and its characteristics, such as color, thickness, strength, shapes of clasts, amount of dip, fossils, and sedimentary structural features (like cross bedding, graded bedding, etc).

An example:

_____ Interbedded gray clay and coal, fern fossils, _____ interbeds are 3-5 mm thick

Black shale, fossil rich, thinly laminated bedding (1-3 mm)

Red brown sandstone, cross-bedded, some minor graded bedding, individual beds are 5-8 mm thick

Tan conglomerate with successive graded bedding sequences, each sequence 15-30 cm thick, minor fossils, which are in fragment only

Grayish White limestone, massive, no bedding
Interbedded gray clay and coal, fern fossils, interbeds are 3-5 mm thick

Red sandstone, some minor cross bedding, some fossil fragments

Gray conglomerate, massive, no bedding

Scale: 100 CM

0 CM