The Trilobite bed for which the Lower Oriskany here is specially noted is a dense, dark blue limestone containing many trilobite fragments, specially of Dalmanites dentatus and Homalonotus vanuxemi. The former species is specially abundant, whence the name "dentatus fauna" for the Lower Oriskany. It likewise contains a great abundance of Rensselaeria subglobosa, Chonostrophia jervisensis, Actinopteria textilis and Loxonema jerseyense. It is bounded above and below by an inch of silicious limestone. This bed maintains a uniform thickness of from 4 to 6 inches.

Upper Oriskany (Spirifer murchisoni zone)

The upper Oriskany is characterized by dark blue silicious limestone and shale, and has an approximate thickness of 150 feet. Chert bands occur more or less frequently throughout the entire formation, but specially in the upper portion. At times these show no traces of any fossils even when weathered; at other times they are one mass of fossils. Unlike the chert bands of the upper Coeymans and Lower New Scotland, these fossiliferous bands apparently contain no bryozoa.

This formation is specially characterized by Spirifer murchisoni, Meristella lata, Leptocoelia flabellites, Coelospira dichotoma, Actinopteria textilis arenaria, Diaphorostoma ventricosum and Tentaculites elongatus. The lower portion contains an abundance of Orbiculoidea jervisensis. This large brachiopod is very noticeable, even at quite a distance from the exposure, as it occurs frequently at right angles to the bedding. The most characteristic fossil is Spirifer murchisoni, and hence the name "murchisoni zone."

are present. Omitting from the above all species marked questionable, there remain 15 characteristic of the Oriskany or later (Onondaga) and 5 of the Helderbergian. [Safford, J. M. & Schuchert, Charles. The Camden (Tenn.) Lower Oriskany. Am. Jour. Sci. ser. 4? 7:429-32]

This Camden Oriskany is developed at least as far north as western Maryland where, according to Schuchert, the lower portion of the Oriskany "recalls the Oriskany of Camden, Tennessee, and points to an older stage than the Oriskany as usually known." [Schuchert. On the Lower Devonic and Ontaric Formations of Maryland. U. S. Nat. Mus. Proc. 26:420]