summit, or any marked pause in sedimentation. Prof. N. H. Winchell has long held, and has recently reiterated the view, that the typical Potsdam at Potsdam is much older than the upper, white, less indurated beds, and he classes it in the middle Cambric and correlates it with a portion of the Keweenawan of the upper lake region.[1] As above indicated, the writer's judgment is that any present attempt to divide the formation on the basis of age is premature and has but slender basis of fact, considering the lack of all evidence from fossils.

As has been shown by many observers, the transition from Potsdam to Beekmantown sedimentation is not a sharp one but through a series of passage beds. Near the summit of the former, thin beds of gray dolomite make their appearance, interbanded with the soft, white sandstones which prevail there, increase in frequency till they constitute half the mass of the rock, and finally prevail and cut out the sandstones altogether. The sandstone layers are characteristically Potsdam in appearance, and the dolomites as characteristically Beekmantown. There is no mixing of materials but rather a rapid alternation of two contrasted sets of deposition conditions. Walcott has measured a thickness of 25 feet of such passage beds along the Chateaugay river and 70 feet near Whitehall. In the writer's judgment, the latter is much nearer the usual figure than the former. These beds are exposed at many localities along the northern border of the region, but seldom suitably for measurement of thickness. They seem usually of considerable bulk.

Beekmantown (Calciferous) formation. Just as in the case of the Potsdam beneath, the Beekmantown formation is thickest on the northeast margin of the Adirondack region and thins out to the west and south, though the thinning is less rapid, so that the formation extends much beyond the limits of the Potsdam, being lacking only on the west side of the region. The type locality is at Beekmantown, Clinton co., where the formation is very fossiliferous, but where the section is quite incomplete; in fact, there is no one locality in Clinton county where anything like a complete section of the formation can be obtained.

[1]Am. Geol. April 1903, p.246–49.