

*Dade County*—The Miami oolite underlies nearly all of Dade County, though it is very thin in the western part, where oolitic spherules are less conspicuous than in the coastal strip. At many places percolating waters have dissolved the calcium carbonate of the spherules and redeposited it elsewhere, thus destroying the oolitic appearance of the rock or making it vesicular.

Miami oolite has been brought up by the dredge along the Miami Canal. The rock is visible above water level in the banks of the canal except where it is covered by peaty muck. In the Everglades the oolite is overlain by about one foot of gray calcareous clay, the Lake Flirt marl, containing fresh-water shells, and by a few feet of peaty muck.

Along the Ingraham Highway (Cape Sable road) the Miami oolite lies at the surface except in the Everglades, where it is covered by the Lake Flirt marl. The Tamiami Trail was built of Miami oolite dredged from borrow pits along the right of way, and the highway to Key Largo was constructed in the same manner.

Huge pits have been dug in the Miami oolite near Ojus to obtain rock for use as road metal and for concrete mixtures. The pit of the Maule Ojus Rock Company at Ojus covered about 400 acres in 1925 (Mossom, 1925, p. 130). It lies near the ocean and is connected with it by a canal. The rock rises about 3 feet above water level and was dredged in 1925 to a depth of 22 feet below it. The pit of the Ojus Rock Company at Ojus was worked to a depth of 29 feet. At the north end of this pit the rock stood 8 or 10 feet above water level and was worked by steam shovels; at the southwest end it was dredged. The oolite in this region has been altered by percolating waters to such an extent that many of the spherules have been obliterated, and the rock has become hard limestone that breaks with rough, jagged edges. A good deal of sand has fallen through cavities and become incorporated in the rock.

Numerous pits near Miami and farther south supply the local demand for road metal and building stone. A typical pit is that of the Ojus Rock Company at Naraja, in which 10 or 12 feet of Miami oolite is quarried for use as road