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**GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA  
OPEN FILE 8527**

**Detailed lithological log of the lower Silurian Sayabec  
Formation in the Ressources et Énergie Squatex Massé  
No. 2 well in eastern Quebec**

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**2019**

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## INTRODUCTION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

The lower Silurian Sayabec Formation in eastern Quebec consists of a shallow water carbonate platform that was formed at the end of the first 2<sup>nd</sup> order shallowing-upward event following the end of the Taconian orogeny in the northern Gaspé – Matapédia – Témiscouata region (Bourque et al., 1995). The presence of the Sayabec Formation in the Témiscouata region was known for many years from regional and local mapping and stratigraphic surveys (Lajoie et al., 1968). However its detailed internal stratigraphy and paleoenvironmental models are largely unknown as the last sedimentological study of that unit only covered the Matapédia – Gaspé areas to the east of the Témiscouata region (Lavoie et al., 1992).

In the adjacent domain to the east, the Sayabec Formation consists of 4 informal members of alternating shallow subtidal to peritidal carbonate facies with deeper subtidal offshore carbonate muds (Lavoie et al., 1992). In the Lac Matapédia area, to the immediate east of the Témiscouata region, Lavoie and Morin (2004) and Lavoie and Chi (2010) documented the presence of an exhumed hydrocarbon reservoir hosted by fault-controlled porous hydrothermal dolomite.

Ressources et Énergie Squatex drilled a number of stratigraphic holes in the Témiscouata area targeting the Sayabec Formation for porous carbonate – dolomite facies. Oil and gas occurrences were found, primarily associated with porous and fractured dolomite intervals. A joint industry – academia (INRS-ETE) project supported in part by a National funding program (Mitacs) part of the Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence was designed to provide stratigraphic, sedimentologic and tectonic understanding of the Sayabec Formation over the Témiscouata in order to help with oil and gas exploration.

This report presents the detailed description of one of the well drilled by Ressources et Énergie Squatex Inc. (Massé No. 2; Fig. 1) which serves as the reference section for the detailed analysis of paleo-environmental evolution and regional correlation of the Sayabec Formation to be presented in a peer-reviewed contribution. Furthermore, the newly defined fine-scale stratigraphy (Fig. 2) for the Sayabec Formation in the Témiscouata area will serve as the cornerstone for detailed understanding of pore space distribution, fluid storage capacity and thermal-stratigraphy of the unit in the context evaluation of geothermal potential of the lower Silurian carbonates.

Figure 1: Location of the Massé No. 2 well on the regional geological map (adapted from Malo et al., 2015).

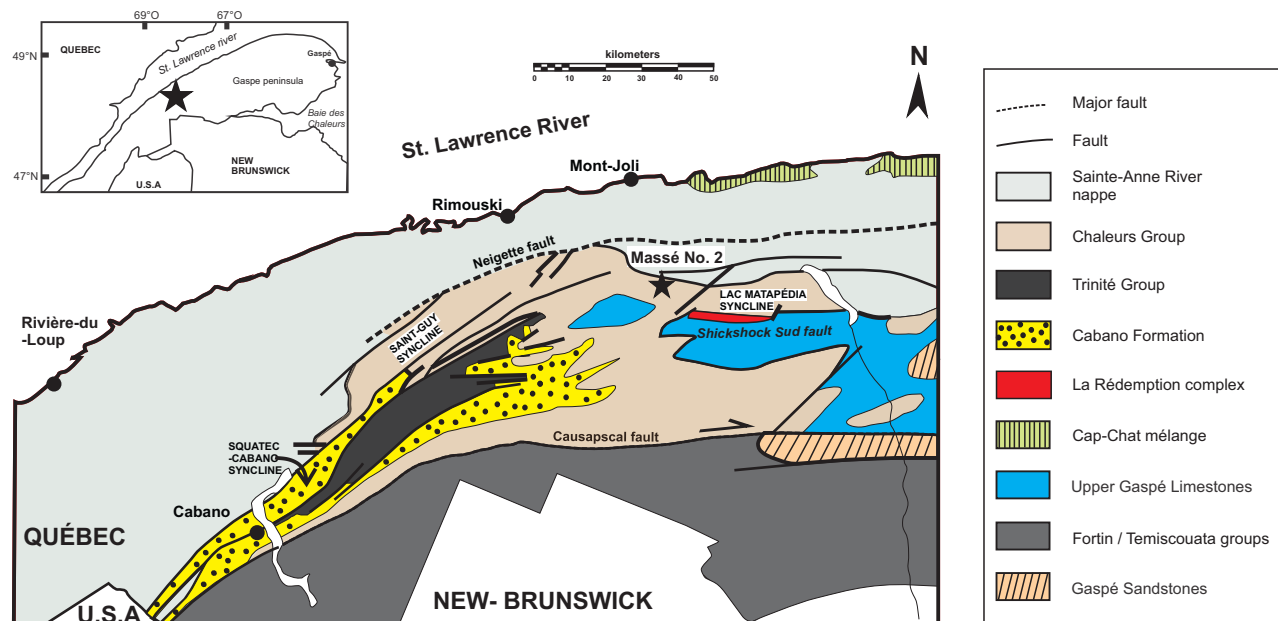






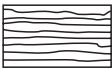


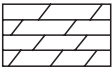


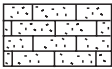


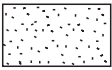


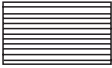


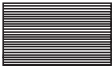


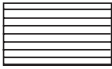


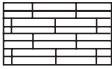








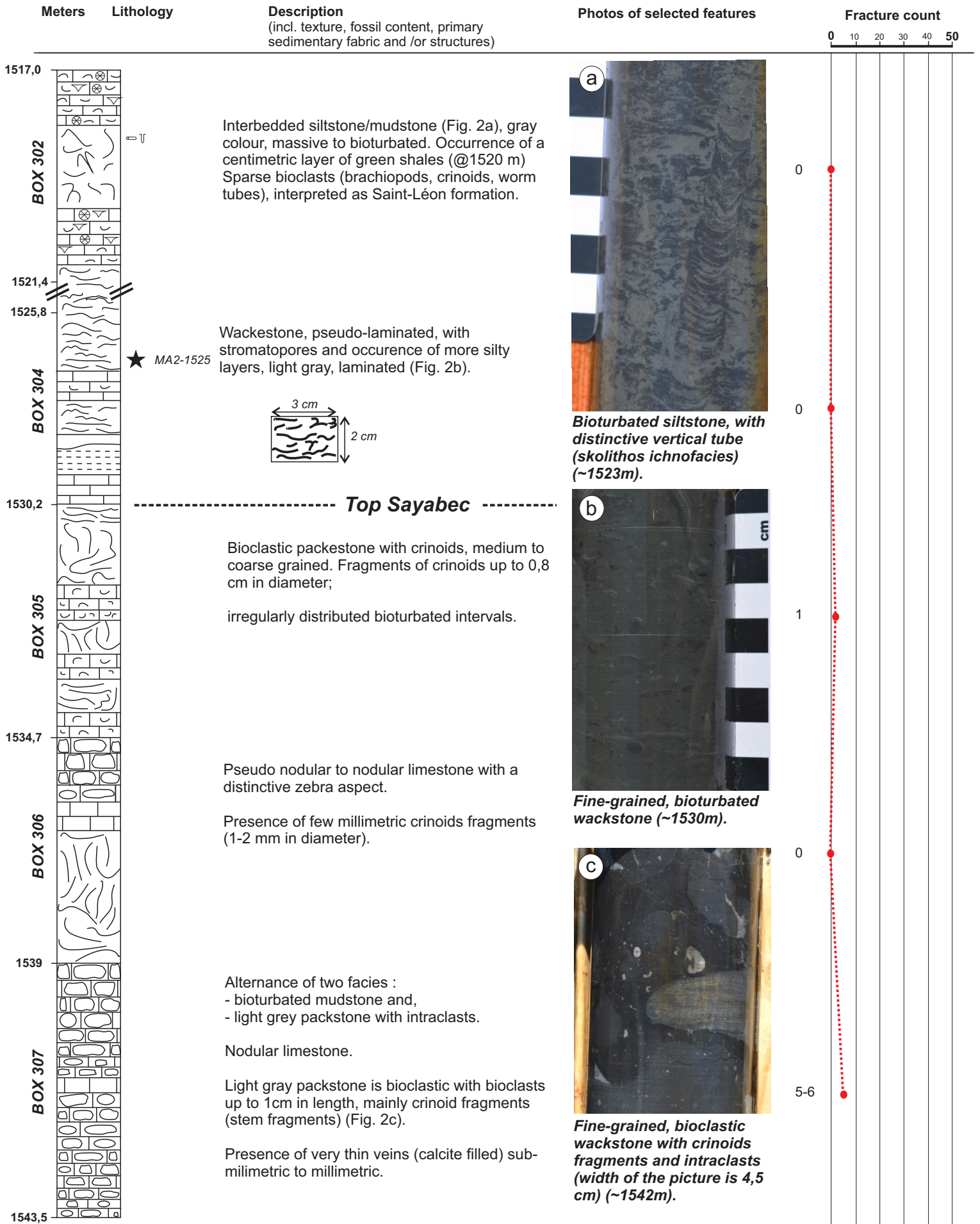
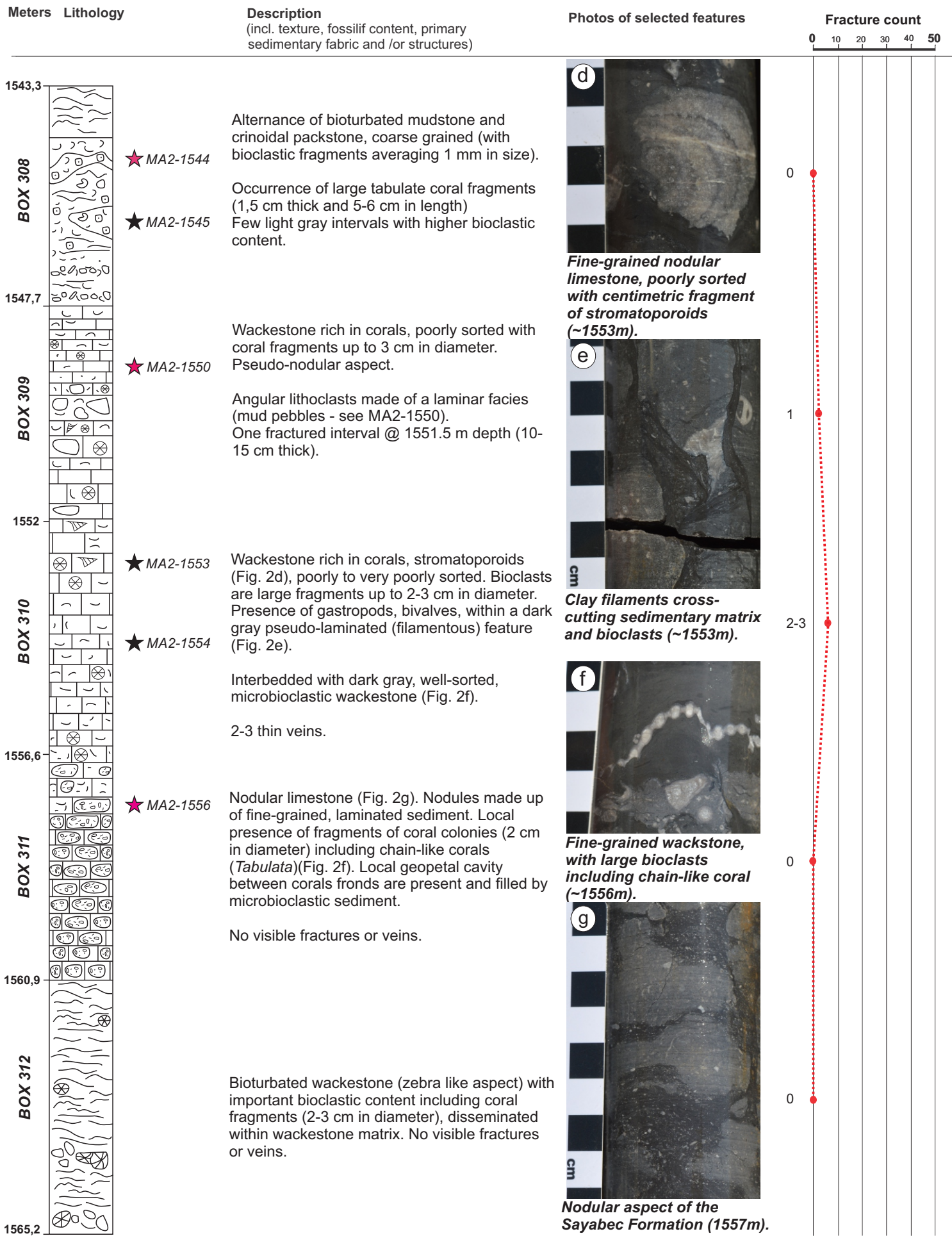


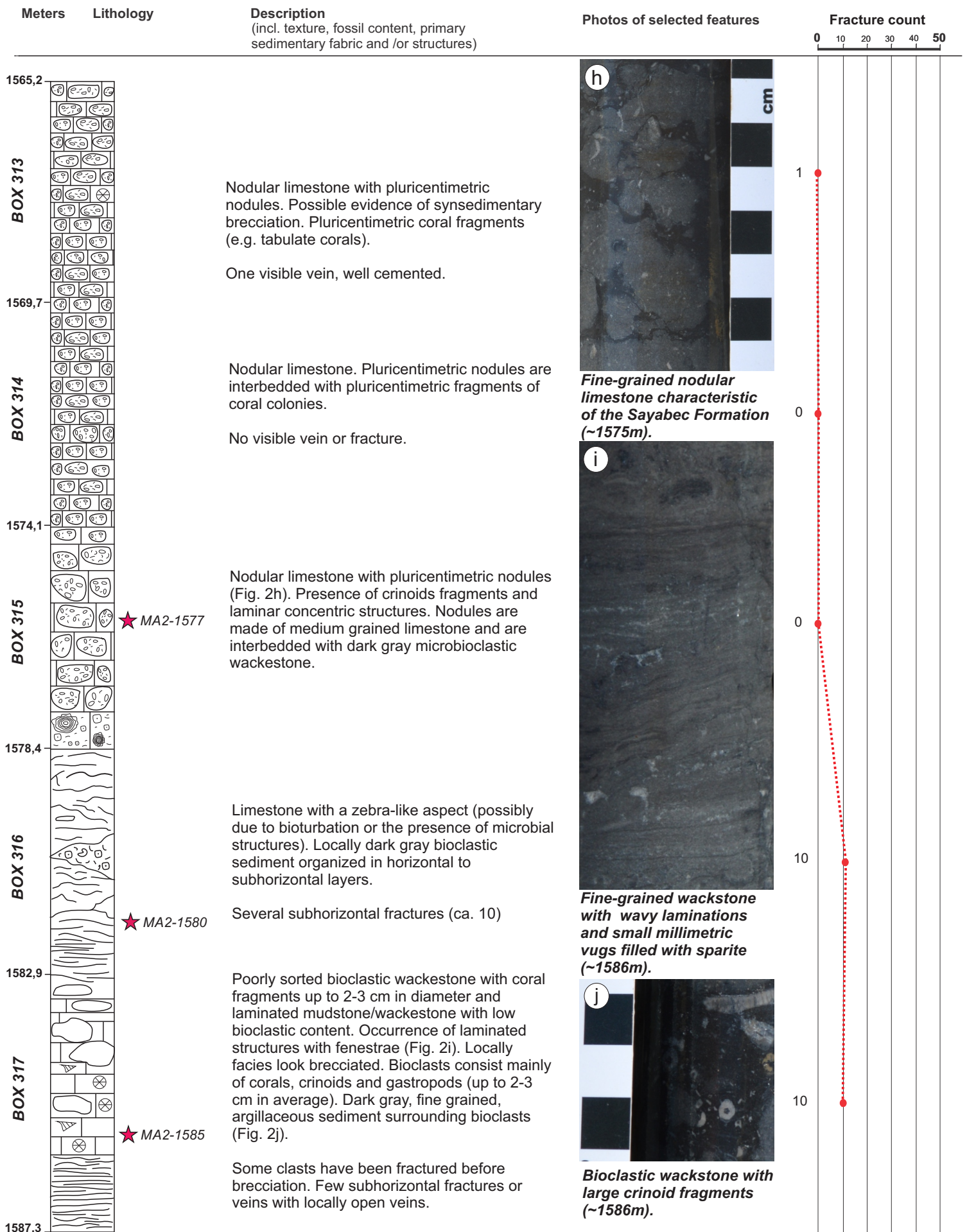
Figure 2: Main sedimentary and paleontological symbols and detailed stratigraphy description of Massé No. 2 drilled well.

|   |                             |   |                        |   |  |
|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|---|--|
|    | Limestone                   |    | Limestone clasts       |    | <i>Pentamerus</i> sp.                  |
|    | Nodular limestone           |    | Intraclast             |    | Bivalve undiff.                        |
|    | Laminated limestone         |    | Fenestrae              |    | Massive coral                          |
|    | Dolomite                    |    | Bioturbation (undiff.) |    | Branching coral                        |
|    | Silty limestone             |    | Burrow                 |    | Stromatoporoid - hemispherical/bulbous |
|  | Siltstone to fine sandstone |    | Sparite infilling      |    | Oncoid                                 |
|  | Gray shale                  |    | Vugs                   |    | Crinoid                                |
|  | Black shale                 |   | Granules               |   | Gastropod                              |
|  | Silty shale                 |  | Pebbles                |  | Undifferentiated bioclasts             |
|  | Calcareous shale            |  | Cobbles                |  | Shell Debris (undifferentiated)        |
|   |                             |  | Boulders               |  | ★MA2-1545 Sample available             |
|   |                             |  | Erosive contact        |  | ★MA2-1550 Sample with thin section     |
|   |                             | Py  | Pyrite                 |  | Core section missing                   |
|   |                             | Dol   | Dolomite               |   |  |
|   |                             |  | Brachiopod             |   |  |







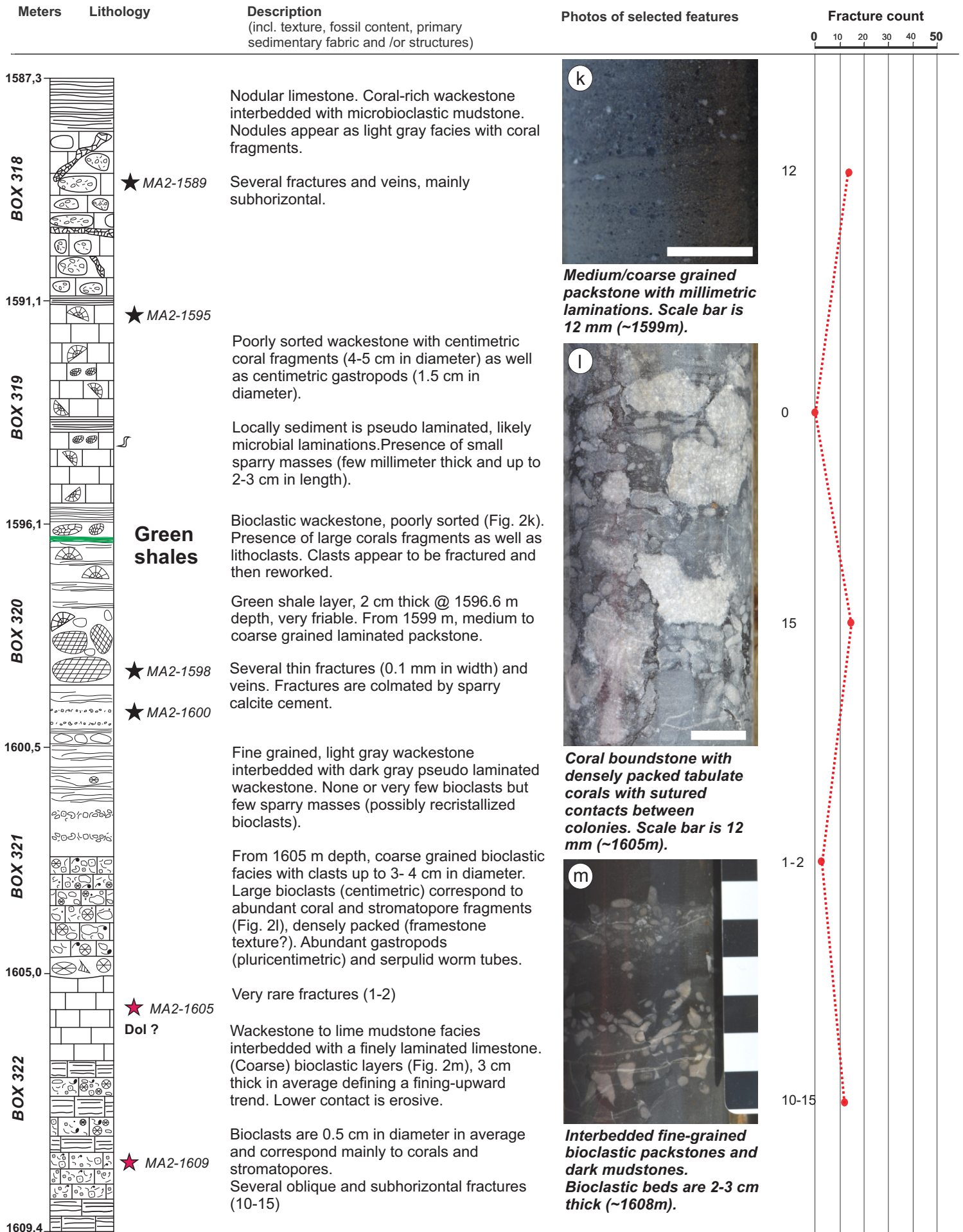


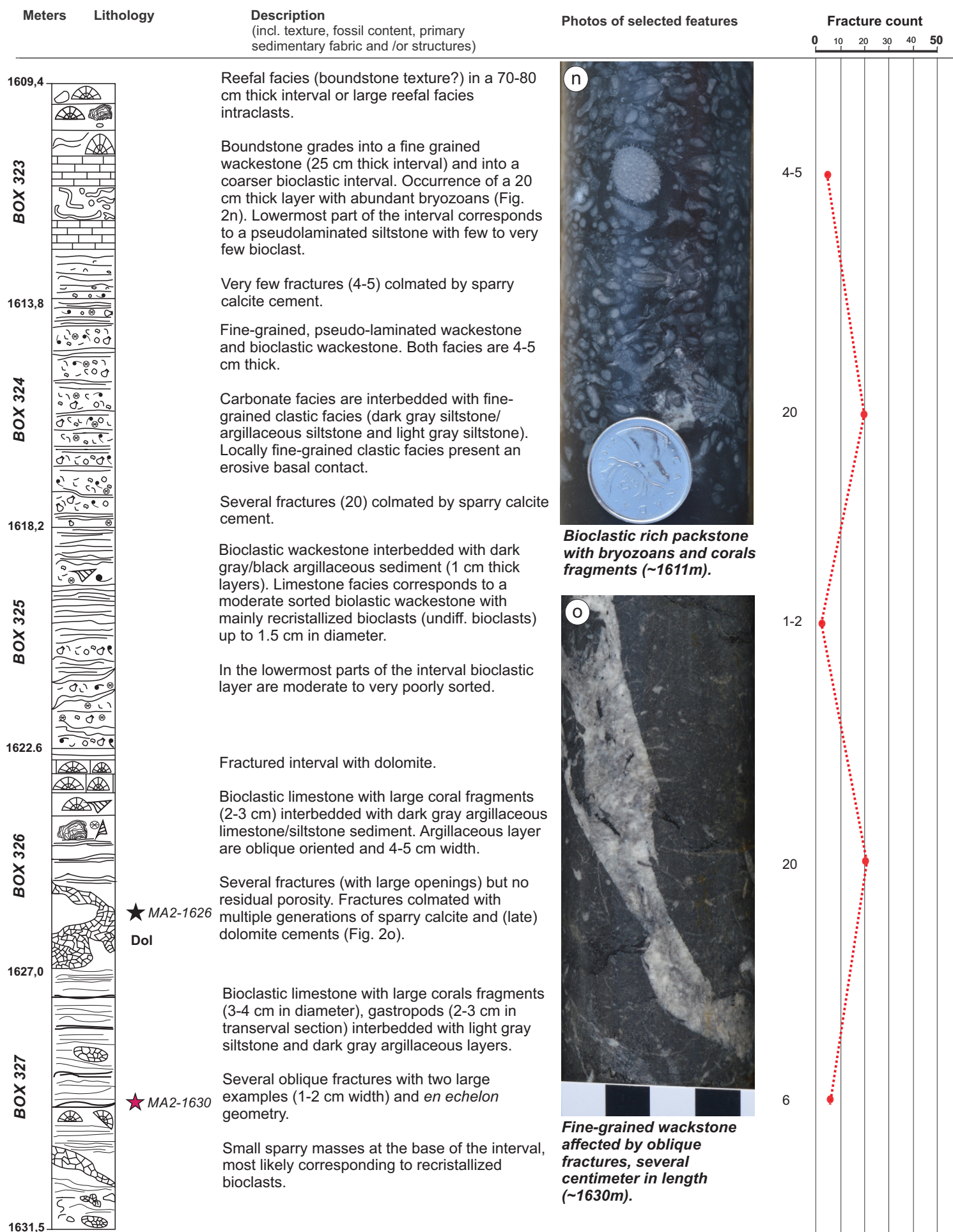
★ MA2-1577

★ MA2-1580

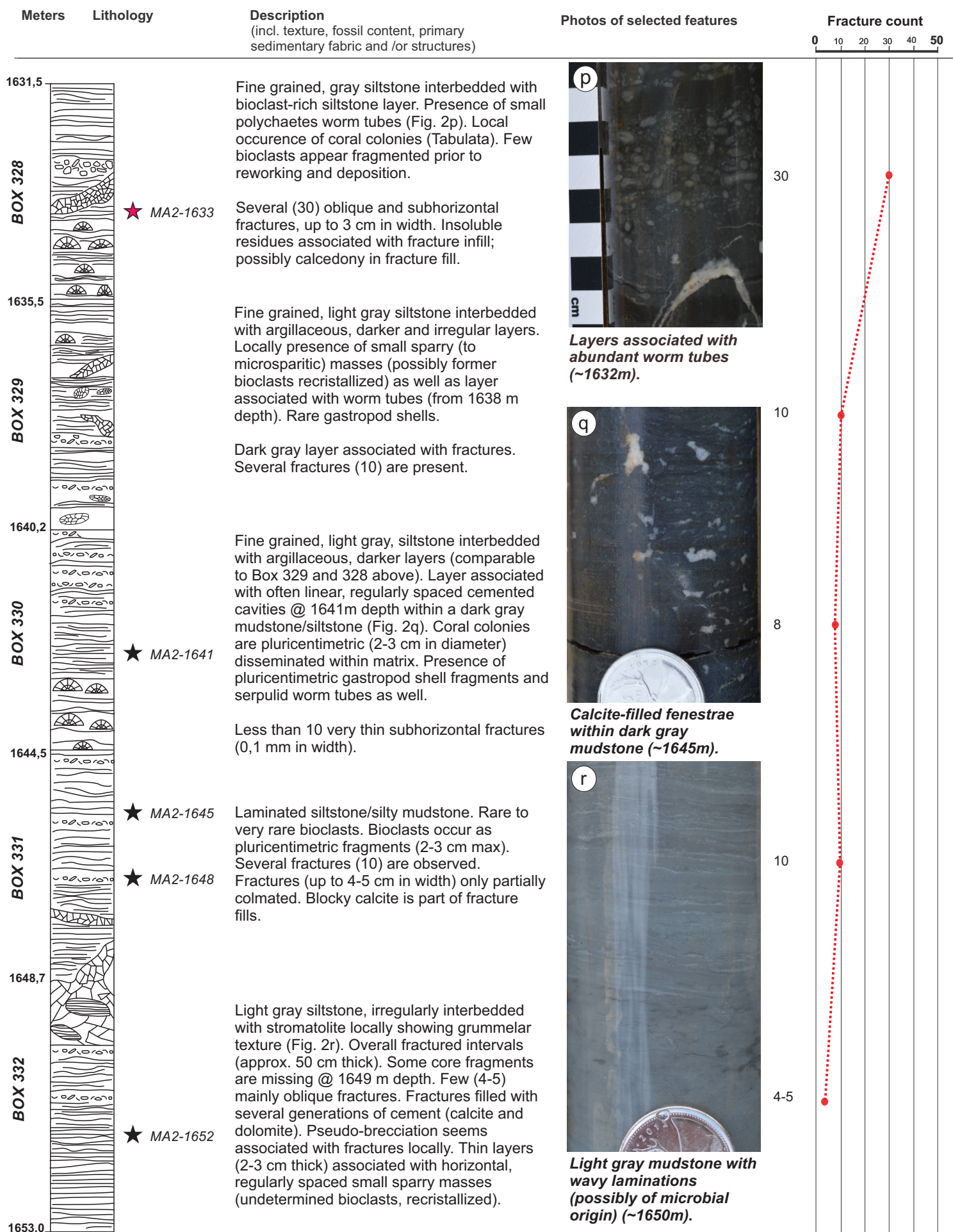
★ MA2-1585







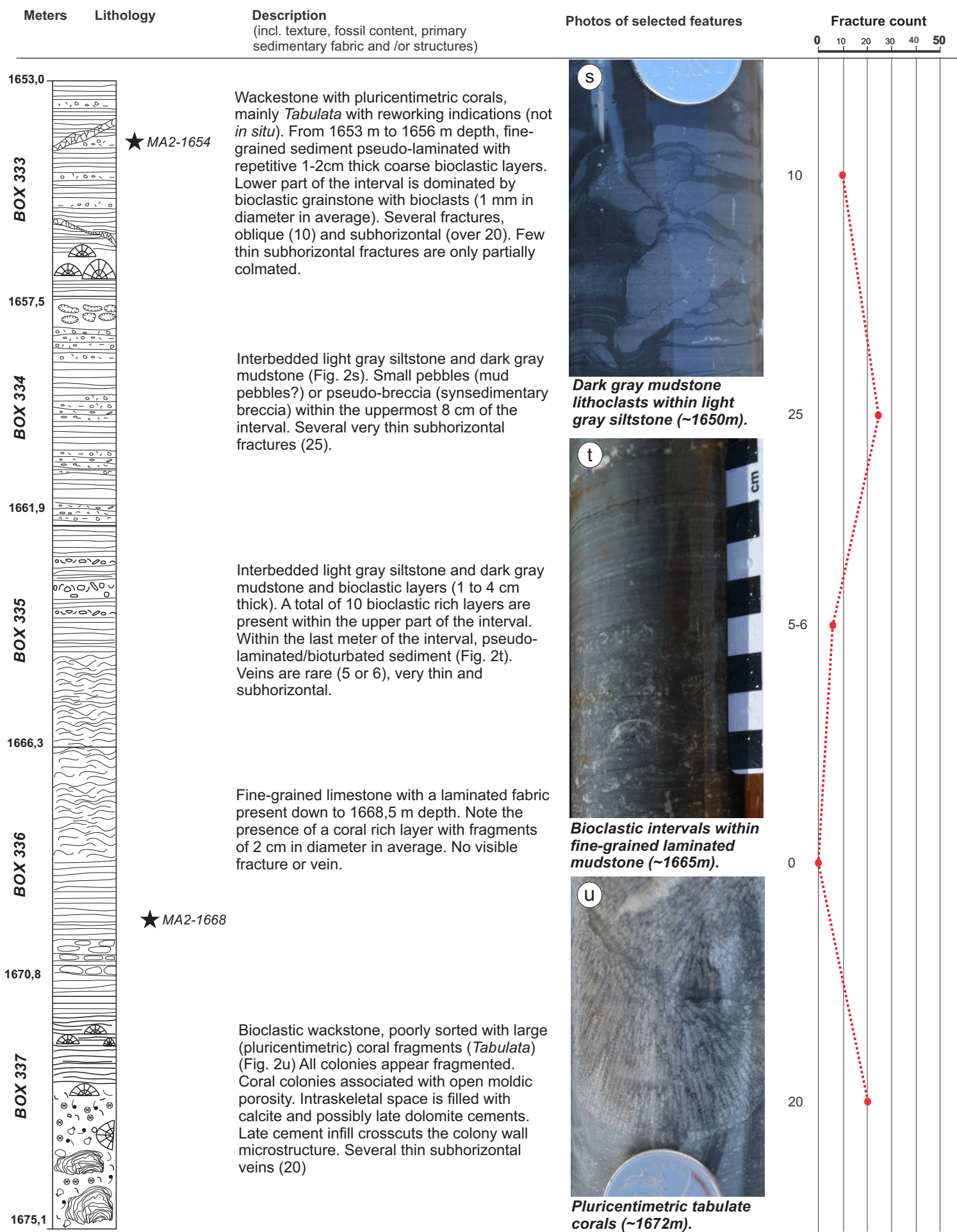




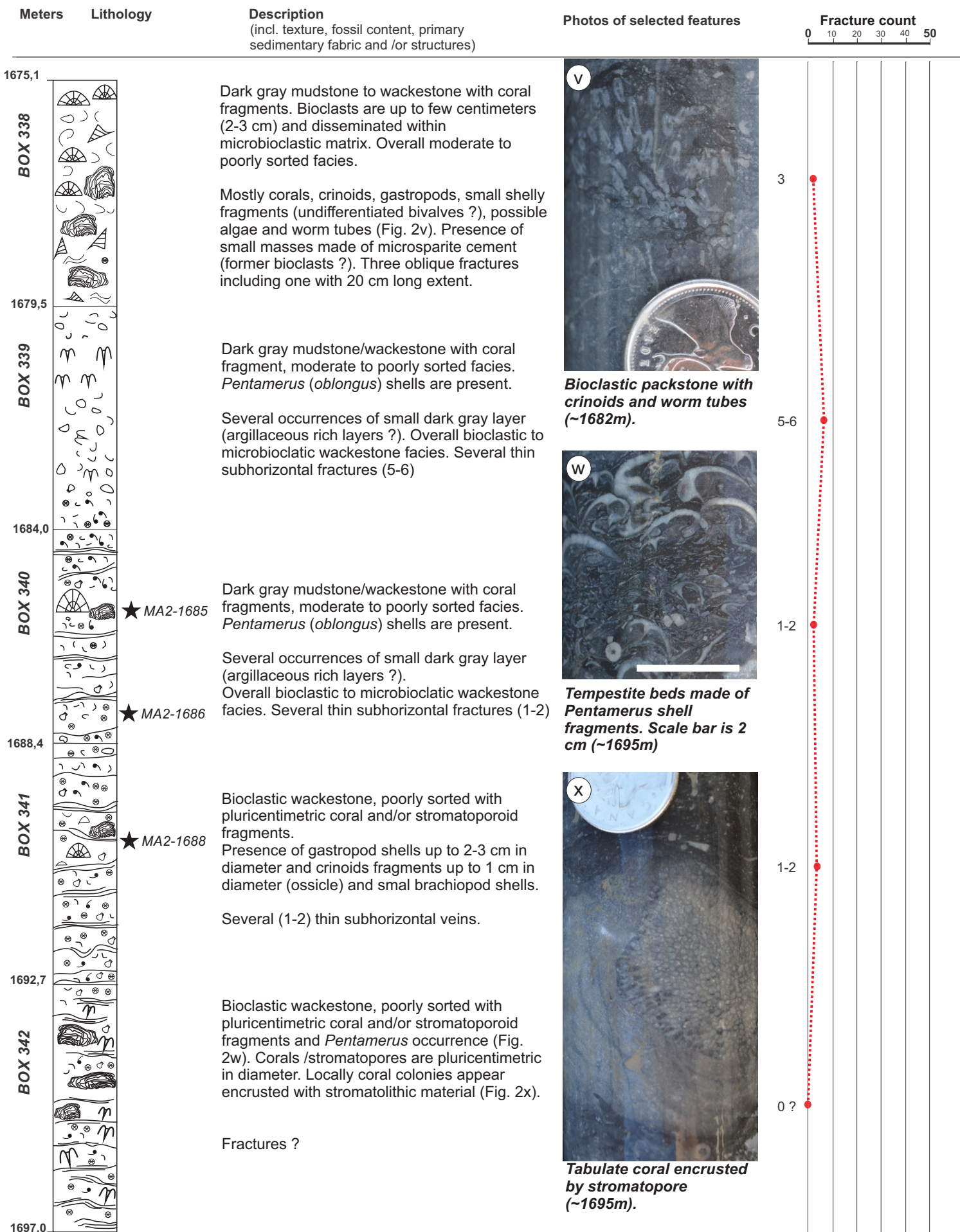
Layers associated with abundant worm tubes (~1632m).

Calcite-filled fenestrae within dark gray mudstone (~1645m).

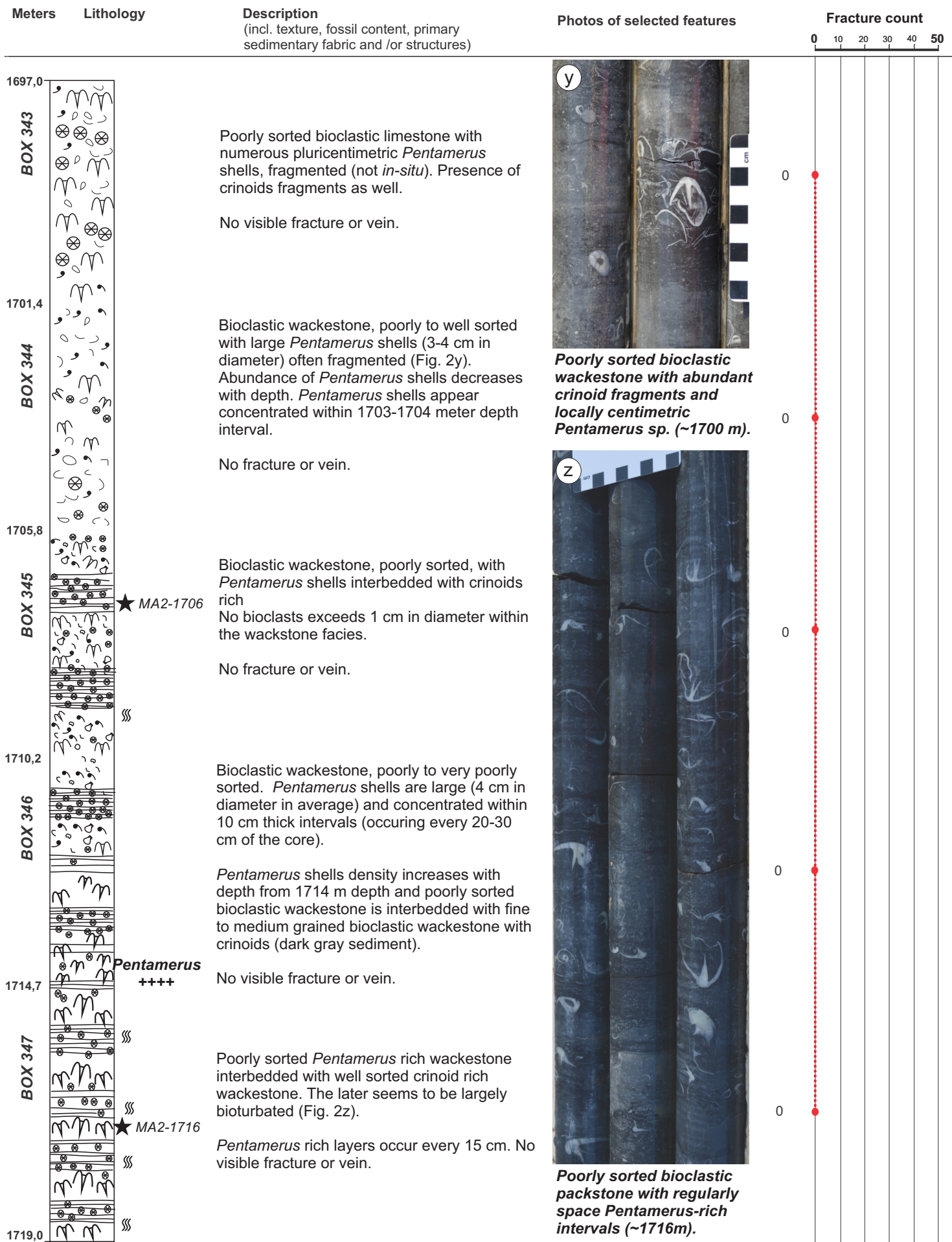
Light gray mudstone with wavy laminations (possibly of microbial origin) (~1650m).





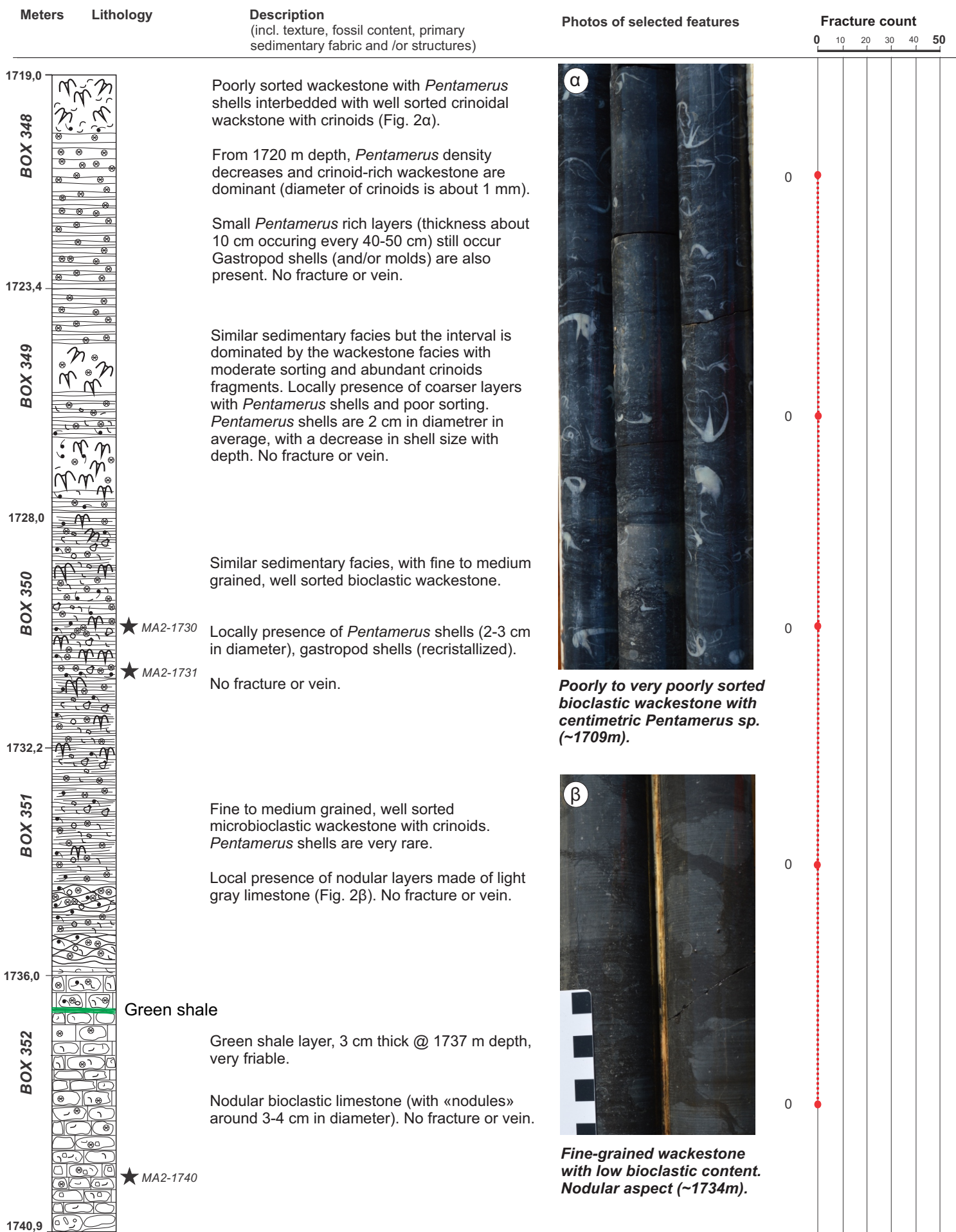






Detailed stratigraphy

Sayabec Formation, Masse No. 2 well



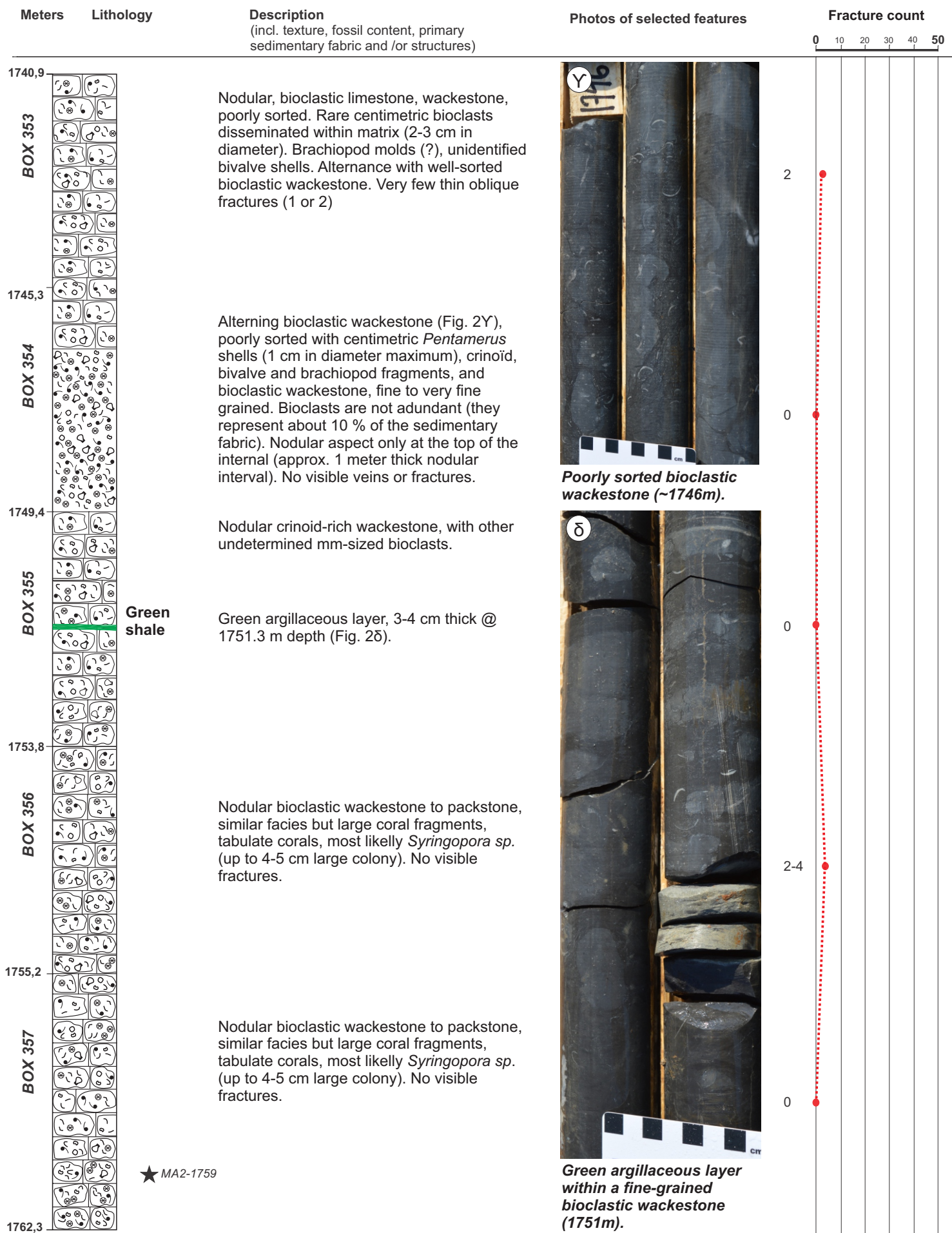
Poorly to very poorly sorted bioclastic wackestone with centimetric *Pentamerus* sp. (~1709m).

Fine-grained wackestone with low bioclastic content. Nodular aspect (~1734m).



Detailed stratigraphy

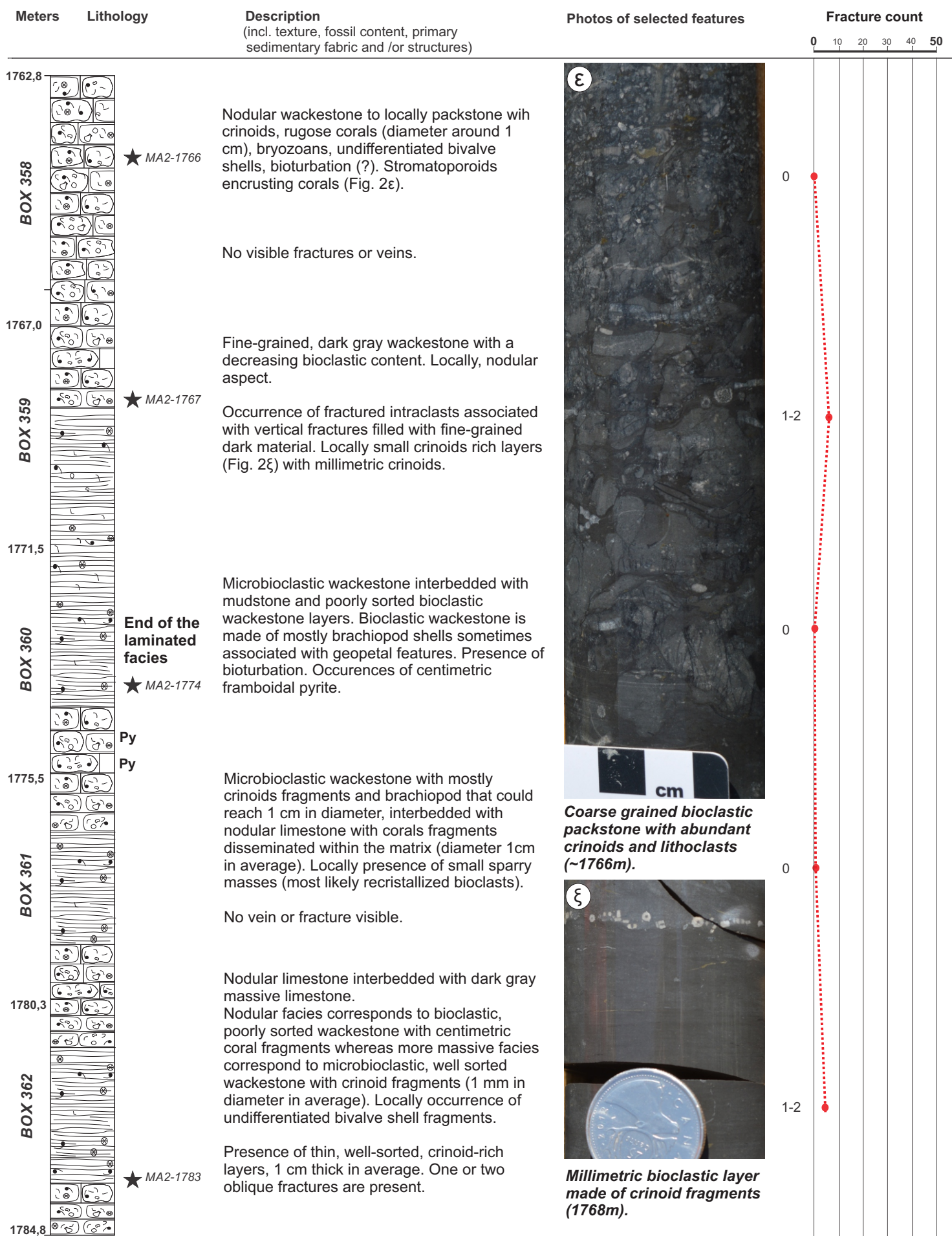
Sayabec Formation, Massé No. 2 well



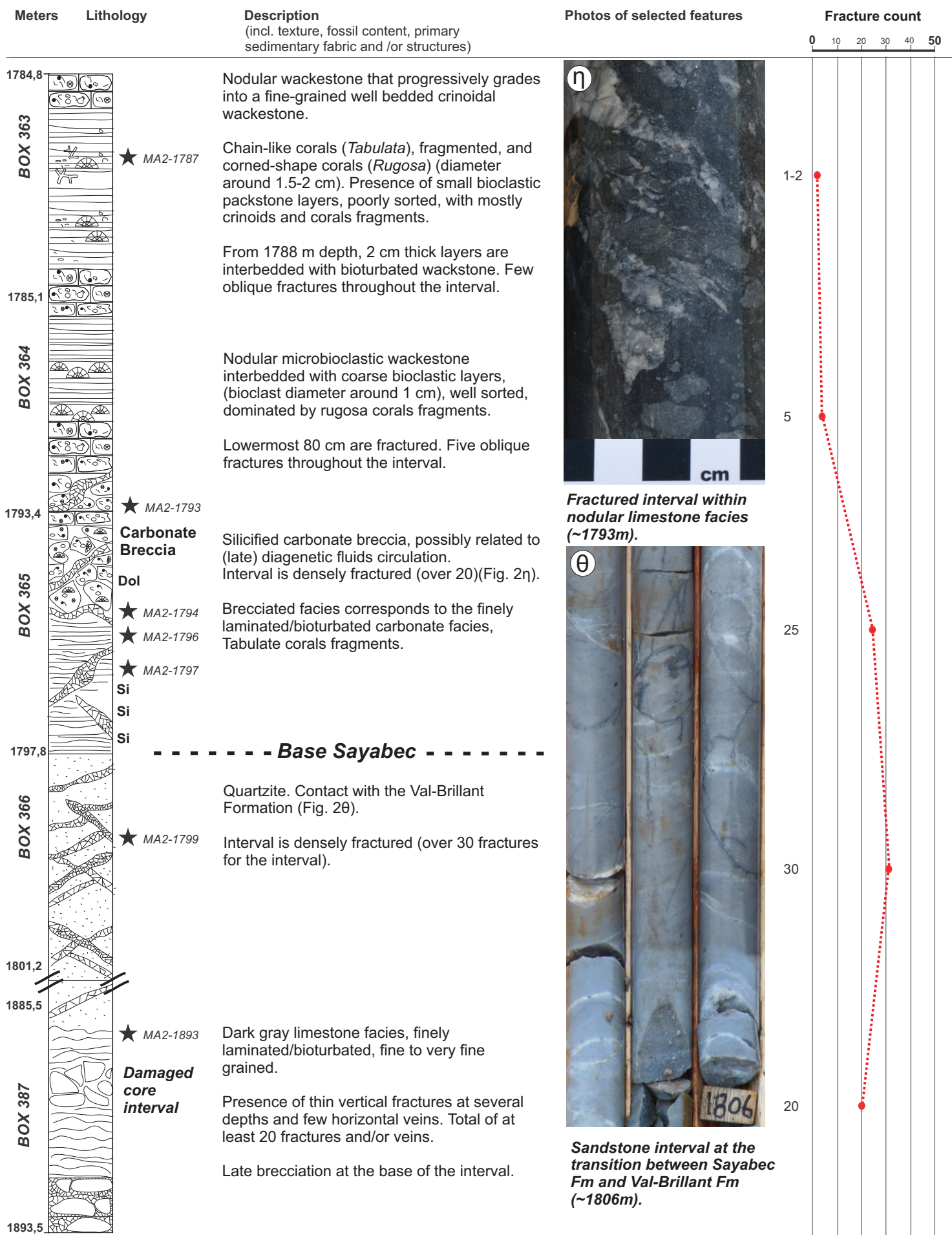
★ MA2-1759

Poorly sorted bioclastic wackestone (~1746m).

Green argillaceous layer within a fine-grained bioclastic wackestone (1751m).



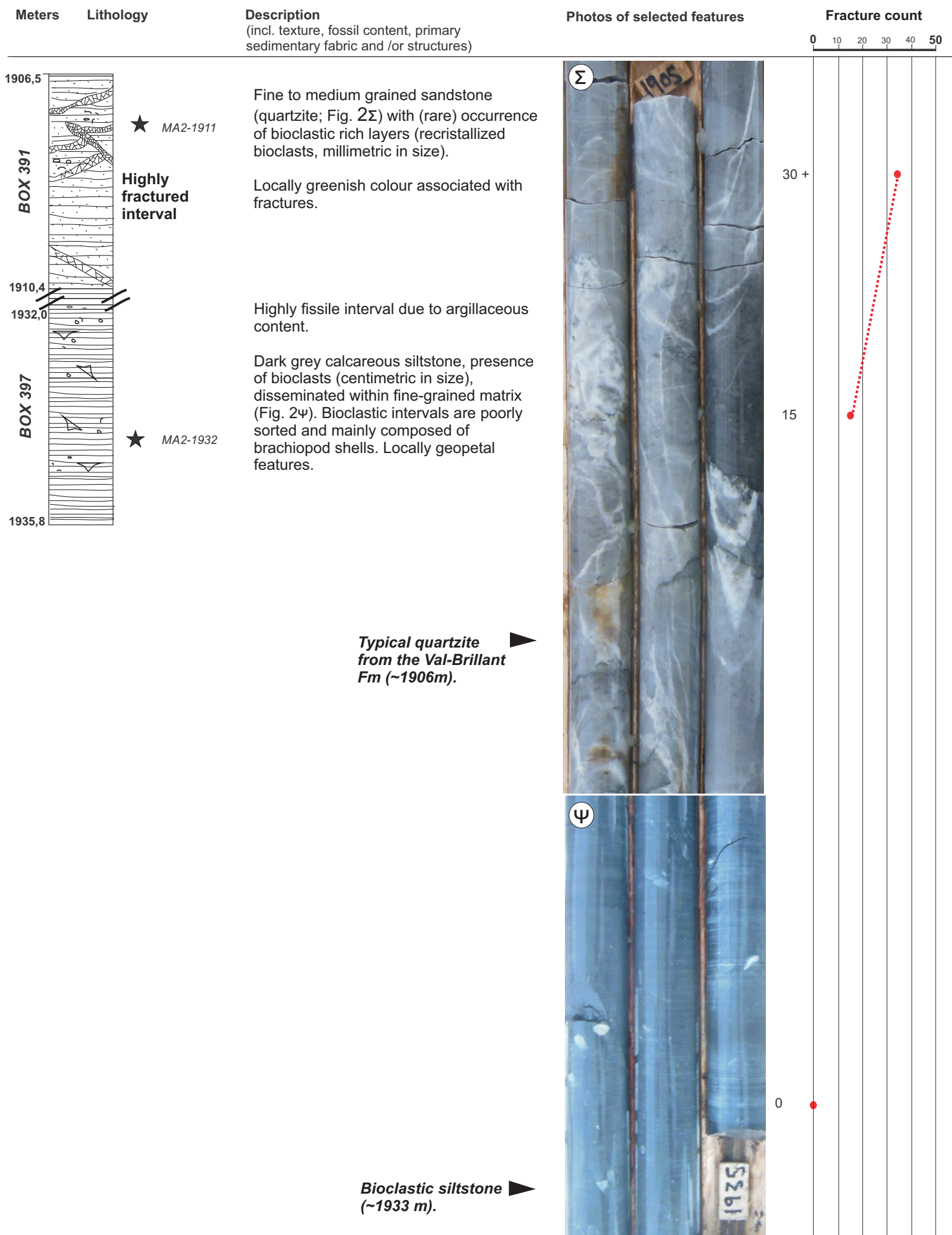






Detailed stratigraphy

Sayabec Formation, Massé No. 2 well



Typical quartzite from the Val-Brillant Fm (~1906m) ▶

Bioclastic siltstone (~1933 m) ▶

## DISCUSSION

In the adjacent Lac Matapédia syncline to the east of the study area, the Sayabec Formation thickness ranges between 250 to 350 m where its four internal members are developed (Lavoie et al., 1992). These four members are:

- Member A: sharp contact with the underlying quartzite of the Val-Brillant Formation. The member is 25 m thick and consists of well bedded peritidal to shallow subtidal carbonates with locally high siliciclastic content.
- Member B: the member is between 30 and 100 m thick. It consists of below fairweather wave base fine-grained, muddy to nodular limestone with locally abundant open marine fauna, with the distinctive abundance of the brachiopod *Pentamerus oblongus*.
- Member C: the member is between 30 and 170 m thick. It consists of an assemblage of shallow subtidal carbonate facies including well sorted packstone to grainstone calcarenite, metazoan (coral, stromatopore, algae) bioherms and biostromes and some intertidal laminites.
- Member D: the member is between 10 and 30 m and is dominated by below fairweather muddy to nodular limestone although to the contrary of member B, it is largely devoid of fossils.

In Massé No. 2 well, the Sayabec Formation is 267.6 m thick (1797.8 – 1530.2 m); the four members recognized in the Lac Matapédia Syncline are recognized, from bottom to top:

- The first member, at the contact with the quartzite of the Val-Brillant is 29.8 m thick (1768 – 1797.8 m), it consists of well-bedded limestone facies with locally pseudo-nodular fine-grained mudstone.
- The second member is 88.5 m thick (1679.5 – 1768 m), it is dominated by nodular lime mudstone to packstone, rich in marine fauna including locally abundant *Pentamerus sp.*
- The third member is 101.1 m thick (1578.4 – 1679.5 m), the member consists of diverse well-bedded carbonate lithologies, from wackstone to packstone. Fauna is abundant in particular corals and stromatopores. Even with the limited size of the core, metazoan bioherms are suggested. Interpreted intertidal facies (cryptalgal laminites, laminated mudstone and siltstone) are locally abundant.
- The fourth member, at the top of the formation is overlain by the green siltstone of the Saint-Léon Formation. The member is 48.2 m thick (1530.2 – 1578.4 m) and is represented by muddy to nodular lime mudstone and wackestone with locally abundant corals and crinoids.

The detailed facies association found in the four members as well as their environmental interpretation and comparison with the Sayabec Formation in the Lac Matapédia Syncline are covered in a peer-reviewed publication.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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