DIS-Vermont-South Hero-Fossiliferous limestone

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This fossiliferous limestone specimen is a medium gray, fine to medium-grained, with fossil fragments, mostly less than 3-4 mm. across, which are composed mainly of calcite. This sample has cleaved into a parallel plane that represents the deposition of its marine organisms during the Ordovician Period, about 460 million years BP (Before the Present), of the Glens Falls Formation.

This deposition of the Glens Falls Formation of Vermont limestones developed as a result of the accumulation of hard calcite skeletal remains of marine organisms that are visible to the naked eye as fragments that have settled into a matrix of younger, finer particles, of sedimentary deposits, which filled in the voids between the harder calciferous fragments that re-crystallized until finally the entire mass hardened into a solid rock. Ancient limestones, as represented by this sample, have been buried for 460 million years and as a result are very dense and hard.