Introduction

The Raddle Quadrangle is located between Calhoun and Perry counties in southwestern Illinois (Figure 1). The area is extensively karstified, with the average depth of the water table less than 10 feet below land surface. The two towns that lie along the western margin of the quadrangle, Raddle and Cahokia, are the result of the merging of smaller communities that were formed as a reaction to the presence of karst features. The area is also a site for the study of the Blackwater Anticline, an anticline that is the result of the uplift of the Illinois Valley, which is a result of the Pliocene-Quaternary uplift of the Mississippi Valley. The Blackwater Anticline is a result of the tectonic activity that is associated with the formation of the Mississippi River floodplain.

The Raddle Quadrangle is located in the Illinois Valley, which is a result of the Pliocene-Quaternary uplift of the Mississippi River floodplain. The area is characterized by a series of linear dunes that are oriented north-south and are separated by linear valleys that are oriented east-west. The dunes are composed of sand and gravel, and the valleys are composed of silt and clay. The area is also characterized by a series of small lakes that are oriented north-south and are separated by linear valleys that are oriented east-west. The lakes are composed of water that is derived from the underground water system.

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