

PARITEA / CLAY CLIFFS

- Where: Near Omarama
- What: Huge cliffs of sediment - 'badlands'
- Age: between 3.5 - 20 million years old
- How: Different sediment (i.e. sands and gravels) in the cliffs were formed by different processes:
 - Lower sands and clay - deposited in an ancient lake
 - Upper gravels and silts - deposited in an ancient river system
- The active Ostler Fault has uplifted the sediments to form these cliffs
- Erosion by the weather has created 'gully's' - leaving behind pinnacles



Ref: GNS signage at Clay Cliffs