

New Mexico Geological Society

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Front Matter

(Usually includes Dedication, President's Message, & Conference Organizer's Message.)

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Annual NMGS Fall Field Conference Guidebooks

Every fall since 1950, the New Mexico Geological Society (NMGS) has held an annual [Fall Field Conference](#) that explores some region of New Mexico (or surrounding states). Always well attended, these conferences provide a guidebook to participants. Besides detailed road logs, the guidebooks contain many well written, edited, and peer-reviewed geoscience papers. These books have set the national standard for geologic guidebooks and are an essential geologic reference for anyone working in or around New Mexico.

Free Downloads

NMGS has decided to make peer-reviewed papers from our Fall Field Conference guidebooks available for free download. This is in keeping with our mission of promoting interest, research, and cooperation regarding geology in New Mexico. However, guidebook sales represent a significant proportion of our operating budget. Therefore, only *research papers* are available for download. *Road logs*, *mini-papers*, and other selected content are available only in print for recent guidebooks.

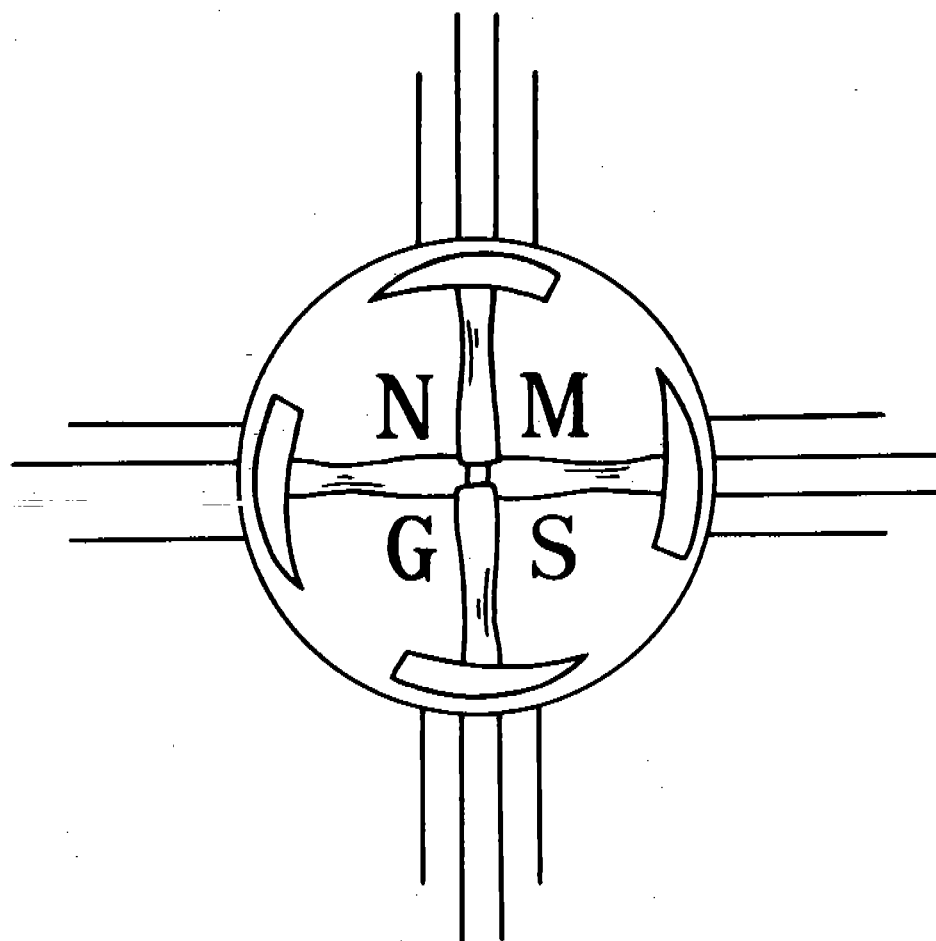
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NEW MEXICO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Guidebook

OF THE

RIO GRANDE COUNTRY

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO

THIRD FIELD CONFERENCE

October 3-4-5, 1952

CONTENTS

Greetings	3
Officers of the Society	3
Acknowledgements	4
Conference Committee	5
Schedule	6
Instructions	7
Introduction	9
Road Logs	12
Field Trip of Friday, October 3.	12
Field Trip of Saturday, October 4	35
Field Trip of Sunday, October 5	66
Tectonics of the Rio Grande depression of central New Mexico	93
Stratigraphy of the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic rocks in parts of central New Mexico	106

GREETINGS

The New Mexico Geological Society welcomes you to its Third Field Conference. We have enjoyed your participation in the first and second conferences, which were along the margins of the San Juan Basin. This year, by way of showing you some of the diversities of New Mexico geology, we wish to take you along the mountain backbone of the State, which extends from the Colorado line north of Taos, to El Paso, Texas. Unfortunately, to traverse the entire area would be too strenuous and too time-consuming for most of our guests. In consequence, we have selected a sample from the central, and perhaps the best-known, part of this backbone. We hope that you will enjoy your trip and the scenery, and that you will find the geology both interesting and stimulating. We invite you to actively participate in the discussions at the various stops along the route. We shall appreciate all of your comments and criticisms.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

President

W. B. Hoover

Humble Oil Co.

1st Vice President

J. E. Allen

New Mexico Bureau of Mines
and Mineral Resources

2nd Vice President

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New Mexico Bureau of Mines
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Councilors

Gordon H. Wood

U. S. Geological Survey

J. L. Borden

Pure Oil Co.

E. J. Foley

Humble Oil Co.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society and the Conference Committee wish to express appreciation to all persons and organizations who have contributed to the field conference and the guidebook. Members of the University of New Mexico, the New Mexico Institute of Mines and Technology, and the U. S. Geological Survey have generously contributed time, and in some cases vacation periods, in order to prepare the material that is in the guidebook and to make the arrangements that are necessary to carry on a conference.

During the preparation of this guidebook the responsible committees of the New Mexico Geological Society have drawn freely from numerous sources of information. Many of the maps and much of the stratigraphic information have been extracted from published reports by the U. S. Geological Survey. Other maps and data are from a forthcoming report on the geology of the Caballo Mountains by V. C. Kelley and Caswell Silver. To these principal contributors as well as to others specifically mentioned in the following pages, the Society is greatly indebted.

The Society also wishes to express its gratitude to those persons and companies who have advertised and otherwise have contributed to the financial success of the conference.

W. B. Hoover

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

General Chairman

John E. Allen. New Mexico Bureau of Mines

Advisory

Eugene Callaghan.	New Mexico Bureau of Mines
E. J. Foley.	Humble Oil and Refining Co.
Vincent C. Kelley.	University of New Mexico
Thomas F. Stipp.	U. S. Geological Survey
Clay T. Smith.	New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Robert Weber.	New Mexico Bureau of Mines

Guidebook

Ross B. Johnson, Editor.	U. S. Geological Survey
Charles B. Read, Editor.	U. S. Geological Survey

Road Log

Gordon H. Wood, Chairman.	U. S. Geological Survey
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Vincent C. Kelley.	University of New Mexico
John Schilling.	New Mexico Bureau of Mines
Caswell Silver.	Consulting Geologist
A. A. Wanek.	U. S. Geological Survey

Trip Arrangements

Brewster Baldwin.	New Mexico Bureau of Mines
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Caravan

Brewster Baldwin.	New Mexico Bureau of Mines
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Registration

R. R. Spurrier.	New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission
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Advertising

O. A. Larrazolo.	Consulting Geologist
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Publicity

E. J. Foley.	Humble Oil and Refining Co.
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SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 2.

2:00 p.m. Registration, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Friday, October 3. Santa Fe to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

8:00 a.m. Caravan assembles west city limits, Santa Fe, New Mexico

8:30 a.m. Caravan leaves Santa Fe, New Mexico.

5:00 p.m. Caravan arrives Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Saturday, October 4. Albuquerque to Socorro, New Mexico.

7:00 a.m. Caravan assembles by Terrace Drive-In Theater on East Central Avenue (U. S. 66), Albuquerque, New Mexico.

7:30 a.m. Caravan leaves Albuquerque, New Mexico.

5:00 p.m. Caravan arrives Socorro, New Mexico.

6:30 p.m. Banquet.

8:30 p.m. Smoker.

Sunday, October 5. Socorro to Carthage, Caballo, and Elephant Butte.

7:00 a.m. Caravan assembles on west side of plaza on U. S. 66, Socorro, New Mexico.

7:30 a.m. Caravan leaves Socorro, New Mexico.

4:00 p.m. Caravan disbands at Elephant Butte.

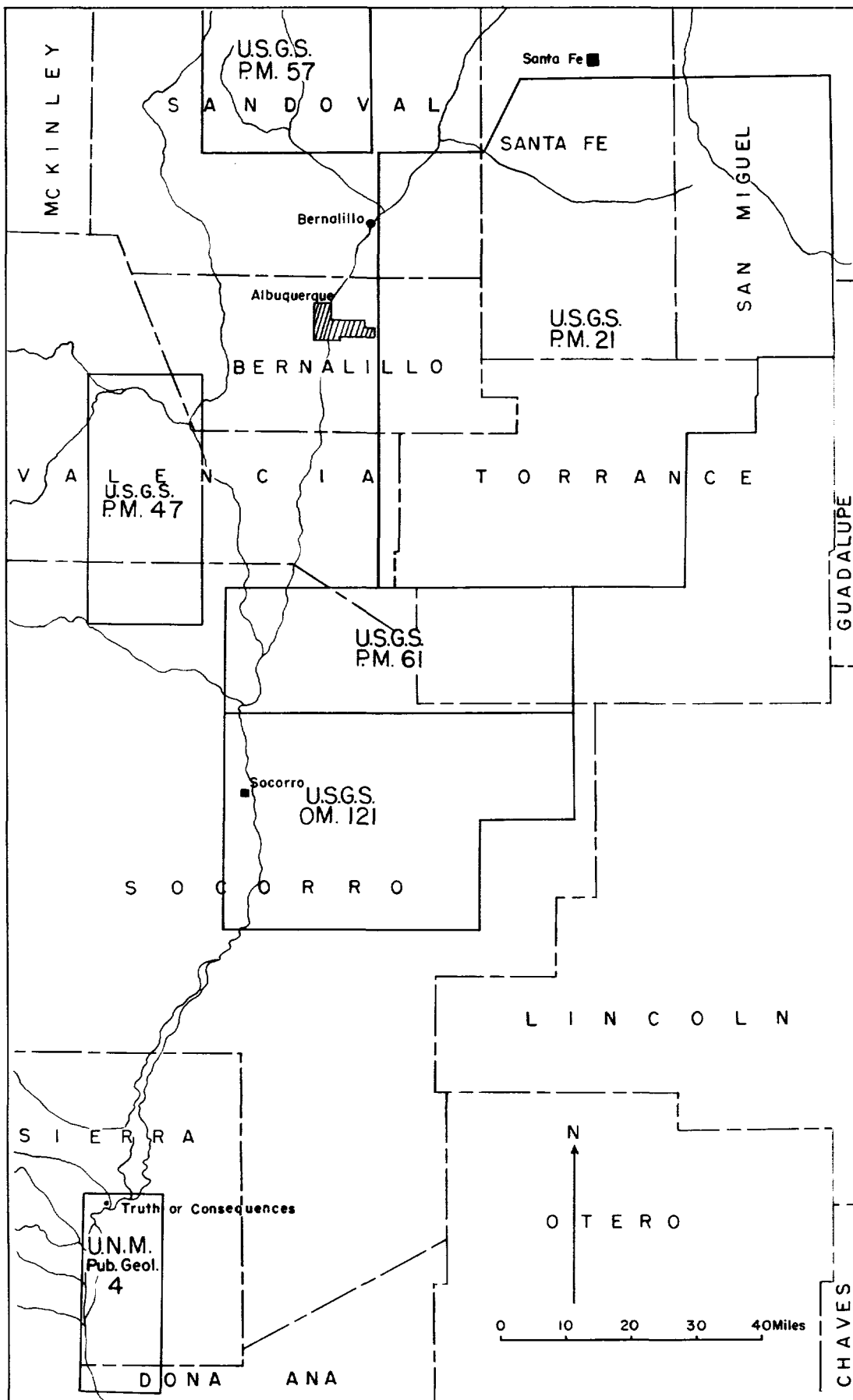
Conference ends.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. It is essential that the caravan start each morning at the announced time. Your cooperation will be appreciated.
2. You will be seated in a different car each day (except drivers). Your car assignments are listed on the slips which give your room assignments and your total charges for the trip. If you wish to ride in some special car, please notify some member of the Arrangements Committee the night before you make the change.
3. You will be assigned to your lodging reservations at the time of registration. Please do not make any subsequent change of room without notifying some member of the Arrangements Committee.
4. Please pay your lodging bill in advance or before you go to breakfast so you will not delay the departure time of the caravan.
5. There will be several pick-up trucks in the caravan and if you have luggage which will not fit in the car in which you are riding notify a member of the Arrangements Committee and you will be provided with space for your luggage in some car in the caravan.
6. The person sitting in the front seat with the driver will keep him informed of stops, points of danger, points of interest, etc., noted in the road log, and he should read the geologic road log to the driver.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CAR DRIVERS

1. DO NOT DISREGARD THE WARNINGS IN THE ROAD LOGS CONCERNING ROAD CONDITIONS; THEY ARE FOR YOUR PROTECTION.
2. You will be given a numbered placard for attachment to your rear window. This number designates your position in the caravan.
3. If for any reason you have dropped out of line, you may resume your position at any subsequent stop. A space will be left for you by the driver in your rear at all stops until you return.
4. Never pass another Conference car while the caravan is in motion unless that car has dropped out of line.
5. If you have car trouble, please stop at the side of the road and allow the caravan to pass. If you need help, flag down the tow-car which will be at the rear of the caravan.
6. Please service your car at night to insure prompt departure the following morning.
7. Water is very scarce and if your car has a tendency to overheat, you should carry water.
8. At stops when parking in more than one line, drive as close as possible to the adjacent line and leave as little space as possible (one foot or less) between bumpers.



MAP OF THE RIO GRANDE COUNTRY

(Showing geologic maps from which
information has been drawn)