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(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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GUIDEBOOK OF

Taos--Raton--Spanish Peaks Country New Mexico and Colorado

STUART A. NORTHROP

CHARLES B. READ

Co-Editors

NEW MEXICO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SEVENTEENTH FIELD CONFERENCE --- OCTOBER 14, 15, AND 16, 1966

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WHAT NEXT IN NEW MEXICO?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 17th Field Conference of the New Mexico Geological Society convenes in an area of unusual diversity. We will visit a large newly opened mine operating in Tertiary intrusive rocks; we will see and examine volcanic, intrusive, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks of many types in several different provinces; we will see and discuss complex and controversial structures, and consider stratigraphic sequences ranging in age from Precambrian to Recent. We will see also scenery of unparalleled beauty and we will enjoy the comradeship of those fellow geologists whom we have come to know through past conferences, and those we will meet for the first time on this excursion. To all of you—our old and new friends—a warm welcome.

Our past conferences have covered rather well all but the northeast and east-central parts of New Mexico. This year we examine the northeast; next year we hope to take that last step to full coverage and visit east-central New Mexico.

This approximate attainment of a long-sought goal of the Society raises a number of questions for the membership, and those of you who may not be members but who regularly participate in our conferences. The question is "What next?" The question is not new—it was posed by President Beaumont in 1959 and indirectly by President Baltz in 1962 at times when positive answers were not an immediate necessity. We now must explore the problem and question further, and come up with an answer.

The New Mexico Geological Society's field conferences have been first-rate from the start. The early guidebooks were simple and inexpensive but, at the same time, thorough and reliable; attendances at the early field trips were large and the conferences were eminently successful. Other societies took note and the proliferation of conferences began in this region.

Now, almost two decades later, there are many local and state geological societies that conduct annual field conferences. Almost all these societies print elaborate and expensive guidebooks. Attendance at field conferences has declined markedly in recent years, largely because of the numerous conferences held annually.

We must ask, and answer, the questions, "Are too many field trips being held in the Rocky Mountain area each year? Can we successfully change the pattern of our field conferences?" If the answers are "no" we assume that we can continue on our merry way and ignore the warning signs of decreased attendance, increased costs and deficit financing, increasing difficulty of obtaining good papers, and an ever-increasing scarcity of willing workers whose employer and family obligations will permit them to drop all and spend weeks or months each year on first this and then that field conference. If the answers to our two questions are "yes" then what can be done about it? I believe the answers are "yes" and I believe we can find satisfactory solutions that will permit us to continue our activitiessuccessfully and without radical curtailment for many years to come.

First, I believe that representatives of each state and local geological society in at least the Southern Rocky Mountain area should meet after preliminary planning and attempt to resolve the somewhat chaotic situation that now exists with respect to numbers of conferences. The objective, it seems to me, should be the establishment of a generally acceptable policy reducing the number of conferences annually, within the region, to not more than one or two, possibly in the spring and in the fall.

It is suggested that the types of trips could alternate between broad coverage, such as our Society has had most of the time, and "outcrop" trips that confine the conferences to intensive studies of one or a few limited areas.

Another possibility is the undertaking of more cooperative ventures between the societies—joint conferences of the type that our Society has undertaken on several previous occasions. Perhaps some year we could join with several societies and hold a major field conference involving most of a week and encompassing the Southern Rocky Mountain Province.

If it is not possible to coordinate the activities of the various local and state societies then perhaps we can adapt these plans to our Society alone. We can have major conferences *every other year* with guidebooks comparable to those of our past conferences. We can hold outcrop conferences on *alternate* years with modest and inexpensive guidebooks that nevertheless make significant contributions to the literature. The two greatly different types of conferences could allow two different groups to proceed simultaneously, each with two years to prepare, thus allowing more time for enlistment of conference chairmen, editors, committees, and the solicitation and preparation of papers.

Early guidebooks are now out of print and perhaps we should, after visiting east-central New Mexico, begin retracing our steps. The eastern New Mexico trip will have exhausted the possibilities for visiting regional areas in New Mexico not previously covered. We already have repeated one early field conference—the fourth—by returning in 1965 to the southwestern part of the State, some 12 years later. We will be forced to retrace our steps again and again unless we adopt one or another of the above suggestions, or perhaps one not yet proposed.

In any event, we are at a crossroads insofar as field trips and conferences are concerned. I and the Executive Committee as a whole would appreciate the thinking and advice of not only the members of the New Mexico Geological Society but also that of all other conferees on this trip. We want your opinions; feel free to give them, and soon. Carry this message to other societies in our region of interest—perhaps they, too, can see a solution here to what I believe is a mutual problem.

Fred Trauger,
President

COMMITTEES

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PUBLICATIONS OF THE

NEW MEXICO GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

GUIDEBOOKS

1. Guidebook of the San Juan Basin [covering the north and east sides], New Mexico and Colorado; First Field Conference, 1950; edited by Vincent C. Kelley and others; 152 ii pages, 40 illustrations. (Out of print)
2. Guidebook of the south and west sides of the San Juan Basin, New Mexico and Arizona; Second Field Conference, 1951; edited by Clay T. Smith and Caswell Silver; 163 + iv pages, 71 illustrations. (Out of print)
3. Guidebook of the Rio Grande country, central New Mexico; Third Field Conference, 1952; edited by Ross B. Johnson and Charles B. Read; 126 + iii pages, 50 illustrations. (Out of print)
4. Guidebook of southwestern New Mexico; Fourth Field Conference, 1953; edited by Frank E. Kottlowski and others; 153 + v pages, 70 illustrations. $5.00
5. Guidebook of southeastern New Mexico; Fifth Field Conference, 1954; edited by T. F. Stipp; 209 + viii pages, 76 illustrations. $5.00
6. Guidebook of south-central New Mexico; Sixth Field Conference, 1955; edited by J. Paul Fitzsimmons; 193 vii pages, 66 illustrations, hard binding. Prepared with the cooperation of the Roswell Geological Society. (Out of print)
7. Guidebook of southeastern Sangre de Cristo Mountains, New Mexico; Seventh Field Conference, 1956; edited by A. Rosenzweig; 151 + iii pages, 61 illustrations. $7.00
8. Guidebook of southwestern San Juan Mountains, Colorado; Eighth Field Conference, 1957; edited by Frank E. Kottlowski and Brewster Baldwin; 258 + vi pages, 110 illustrations. $7.00
9. Guidebook of the Black Mesa Basin, northeastern Arizona; Ninth Field Conference, 1958; edited by Roger Y. Anderson and John W. Harshbarger; 205 vii pages, 106 illustrations; hard binding. Prepared in cooperation with the Arizona Geological Society. $8.50
10. Guidebook of west-central New Mexico; Tenth Field Conference, 1959; edited by James E. Weir, Jr., and Elmer H. Baltz; 162 + iv pages, 91 illustrations; hard binding. $8.50
11. Guidebook of the Rio Chama county [New Mexico and Colorado]; Eleventh Field Conference, 1960; edited by Edward C. Beaumont and Charles B. Read; 129 + vii pages, 35 illustrations, hard binding. $8.50
12. Guidebook of the Albuquerque country [New Mexico]; Twelfth Field Conference, 1961, edited by Stuart A. Northrop; 199 + viii pages, 83 illustrations, hard binding. $9.50
13. Guidebook of the Mogollon Rim region, east-central Arizona; Thirteenth Field Conference, 1962; edited by Robert H. Weber and H. Wesley Pierce; 175 + xi pages, 77 illustrations, hard binding. Prepared with the cooperation of the Arizona Geological Society. $9.50
14. Guidebook of the Socorro region, New Mexico; Fourteenth Field Conference, 1963; edited by Frederick J. Kuellmer; 240 + ix pages, 90 illustrations, hard binding. $9.00
15. Guidebook of the Ruidoso country [New Mexico]; Fifteenth Field Conference, 1964; edited by Sidney R. Ash and Leon V. Davis; 195 + viii pages, 64 illustrations, hard binding. $9.00
16. Guidebook of southwestern New Mexico II; Sixteenth Field Conference, 1965; edited by J. Paul Fitzsimmons and Christina Lochman-Balk; 244 + xii pages, 73 illustrations, hard binding. $9.50
17. Guidebook of Taos-Raton-Spanish Peaks country, New Mexico and Colorado; Seventeenth Field Conference, 1966; edited by Stuart A. Northrop and Charles B. Read, hard binding.

These publications arc available by mail (please add 25 cents for postage and handling) from the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Campus Station, Socorro, New Mexico. Also over-the-counter sales at the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Socorro; the Department of Geology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque; Holman's, Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona. Checks should be made payable to the New Mexico Geological Society. Discounts of 20 percent are available on all guidebooks in print except this one and those of the two previous years to members of the New Mexico Geological Society and to non-members who purchase one set or more. Dealer's discounts are available on all publications by request.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

1. Bibliography and index of the New Mexico Geological Society Guidebooks, 1950-63; compiled by Sidney R. Ash. $1.00
2. A history of the New Mexico Geological Society; by Stuart A. Northrop. In preparation.

MAPS

Geological maps are available by mail or over-the-counter from the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Socorro, as follows:

(a) Geologic highway map of New Mexico; compiled by Frank E. Kottlowski and others. $1.25 folded; $1.50 rolled. Also available from the Department of Geology, University of New Mexico, and Hol-

man's, Albuquerque; and Roswell Map Company, Roswell.

(b) Geologic map of the Sierra County Region, New Mexico; compiled by Vincent C. Kelley; accompanies Guidebook of the Sixth Field Conference. $1.00

(c) Geologic map of the the Rio Chama country; compiled by Clay T. Smith and William R. Muehlbergcr; accompanies Guidebook of the Eleventh Field Conference. $0.50

(d) Geologic map of the Albuquerque country; compiled by Stuart A. Northrop and Arlette Hill; accompanies Guidebook of the Twelfth Field Conference. $0.50

(e) Tectonic map of the Ruidoso-Carrizozo region; compiled by V. C. Kelley and Tommy B. Thompson; accompanies Guidebook of the Fifteenth Field Conference. $1.00

ROAD LOGS

Entry and exit road logs to supplement Guidebook of the Ninth Field Conference. $0.10 each. The Road Logsare available by mail or over the counter from the New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Socorro, as follows:

Albuquerque to Gallup (N.M.) and return, by E. H.

(a) Baltz, Jr. and S. W. West.

Mountainair to Correo (N.M.) and return, by

(b) Frank B. Titus, Jr.

Gallup (N.M.) to Cortez (Colo.) and return, by

(c) K. G. Smith, W. D. Fcnex, et al.

Socorro (N.M.) to Holbrook (Ariz.) and return,

(d) by S. Thompson III and 0. C. Hutson.

Globe to Showlow and to Sanders (Ariz.) and re-

(e) turn, by J. P. Akers and H. W. Pierce.

Monticello (Utah)) to Tuba City (Ariz.) and re-

(f) turn, by T. L. Britt, E. L. Howard, and W. F. Auer.

Kingman via Grand Canyon Junction to Flagstaff

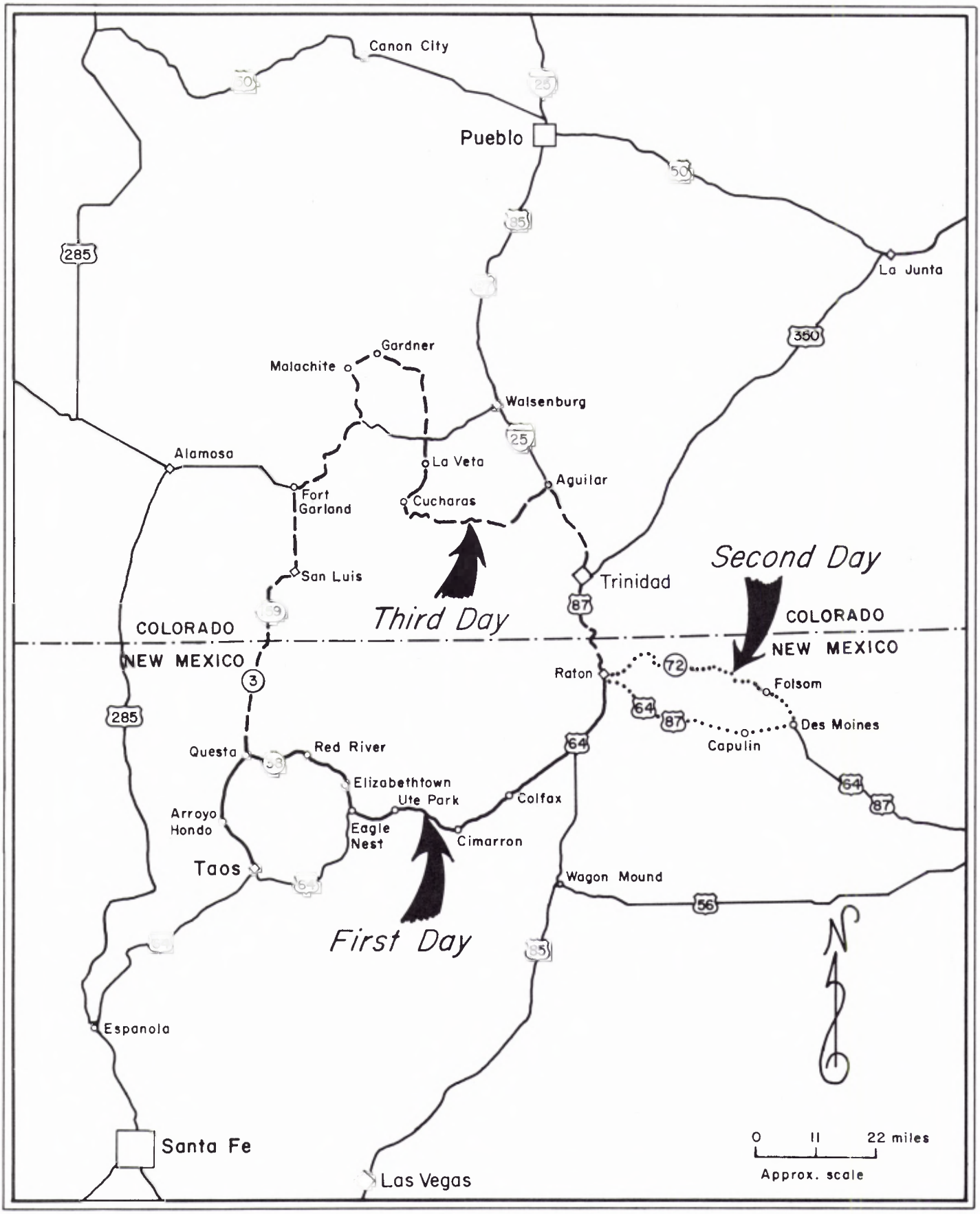
(g) (Ariz.) and return, by W. L. Chenoweth, D. R. Dow, and C. H. Williams.

Flagstaff to Prescott (Ariz.) and return, by D. G. Metzger and F. R. Twenter.

Gap Trading Post (Ariz.) to Kanab (Utah) and return, by J. P. Akers.

SCHEDULE OF CONFERENCE

Thursday, October 13 5:00-10:00 P.M.	Registration, Kachina Lodge, Taos, New Mexico
Friday, October 14 7: 30 A.M.	Caravan assembles at Kit Carson State Park on N.M. Hwy. 3 a few blocks north of the plaza.
Saturday, October 15 8: 00 A.M.	Caravan assembles on east side of Raton along U.S. Hwy. 64.
Sunday, October 16 7:00 A.M.	Caravan assembles on or adjacent to Interstate Hwy. 25 North.


Canon City
Pueblo
La Junta
285
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350
Gardner
Malachite
Walsenburg
Alamosa
La Veta
Aguilar
Fort Garland
Cucharas
San Luis
Trinidad
Second Day
Third Day
COLORADO
NEW MEXICO
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Raton
Folsom
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Des Moines
Capulin
Questa
Red River
Elizabethtown
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Arroyo Hondo
Eagle Nest
Cimarron
Taos
Wagon Mound
56
First Day
Espanola
Santa Fe
Las Vegas
0 11 22 miles
Approx. scale