

Arizona Geological Society Digest

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 Proceedings of the Porphyry Copper Symposium, Tucson, Arizona/March 18-20, 1976
 New Publications of the Geological Survey
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 Porphyry Copper Deposits of the American Cordillera
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 Studies on the Mesozoic of Sonora and adjacent areas
 Desert Heat, Volcanic Fire
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 Frontiers in Geology and Ore Deposits of Arizona and the Southwest [proceedings of the Symposium "Frontiers in Geology and Ore Deposits of Arizona and the Southwest" Held at the University of Arizona in Tucson on March 20-21, 1986, with Associated Field Trips on March 17-19 and 21-23]
 Frontiers in Geology and Ore Deposits of Arizona and the Southwest
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 A geologic history of southern Arizona, and specifically of the Tucson Mountains, includes an outline of the geologic evidence that was used to reveal the history of the area, explains the processes that formed the rocks found in the Tucson Mountains, summarizes all the rock formations in the range, discusses the state's numerous mineral deposits, and more.

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Formation, also of late Oligocene and earliest Miocene age but including a sedimentary upper member of conglomeratic strata as well as a volcanic lower member correlative with part of the Galiuro Volcanics; and (d) San Manuel Formation, composed of lower Miocene alluvial fan and braidplain deposits that display contrasting clast assemblages in different areas of exposure. Generally correlative Oligocene-Miocene strata exposed south of the Catalina core complex are assigned to the Pantano Formation, which contains similar lithologic components. Less-deformed Neogene strata of post-mid-Miocene basin fill are assigned to the Quiburis Formation along the San Pedro trough, but stratigraphic equivalents elsewhere lack adequate nomenclature. High benchlands mantled by paleosols mark the highest levels of Neogene aggradation. Successive stages of subsequent erosional dissection are recorded by multiple terrace levels incised into basin fill. Key exposures of syntectonic mid-Tertiary sedimentary sequences in several local subareas reveal typical structural and stratigraphic relationships. Multiple fault blocks expose pre-Tertiary bedrock overlain by tilted mid-Tertiary strata confined to intervening half-grabens. Bounding syndepositional faults dip southwest and associated homoclines dip northeast. Fanning dips and buttress unconformities reflect progressive tilt and burial of eroding fault blocks. Dips of block-bounding faults are inversely proportional to the ages of the faults. Steeper dips for younger faults suggest either progressive erosion of successive listric faults or progressive rotation of successive planar faults. Uniformly moderate to steep dihedral angles between fault surfaces and offset homoclinal bedding imply that the faults dipped more steeply near the surface when syntectonic mid-Tertiary strata were subhorizontal. Although the inference of listric faulting best links apparent strands of the Catalina detachment system, the alternate interpretation of rotational normal faulting is compatible with local structural relationships including tilt of porphyry copper orebodies. Within the San Pedro trough, multiple homoclines of mid-Tertiary strata are exposed locally in tilt-blocks exhumed by Neogene erosion from beneath nearly flat-lying basin fill of the Quiburis Formation. Faults bounding the mid-Tertiary exposures include backtilted strands of the Catalina detachment

system, somewhat younger listric or rotational normal faults, and steeper basin-range normal faults that display offsets both synthetic and antithetic to the flanks of the San Pedro trough. In Cienega Gap, flanking the Tucson Basin, multiple tilt-blocks of the Pantano Formation form part of the upper plate of the Catalina detachment system. Initial construction of alluvial fans by generally westward paleoflow was followed by ponding of lacustrine environments along the foot of secondary breakaway scarps that also generated massive megabreccia deposits. In summary, syntectonic Oligocene to Miocene sedimentation succeeded a prominent pulse of polymodal mid-Tertiary volcanism and was coeval with mylonitic deformation and detachment faulting along the flank of the Catalina core complex. The headwall rupture for the detachment system migrated westward from an initial position along the range front of the Galiuro Mountains. After mid-Miocene time, accumulation and subsequent dissection of essentially undeformed basin fill was accompanied by basin-range block faulting. The most challenging structural issue is whether fault strands of the Catalina detachment system are interconnected or are disconnected rotational segments.

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Accompanying CD-ROM contains text and graphic material from the book.

Porphyry Copper Deposits of the American Cordillera

Collects 23 technical papers examining the geology of porphyry copper deposits in the southwestern United States and adjoining regions in Mexico, presenting both general summaries of the gross characteristics of these mineral deposits and descriptions of representative samplings of these deposits.

A Symposium

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