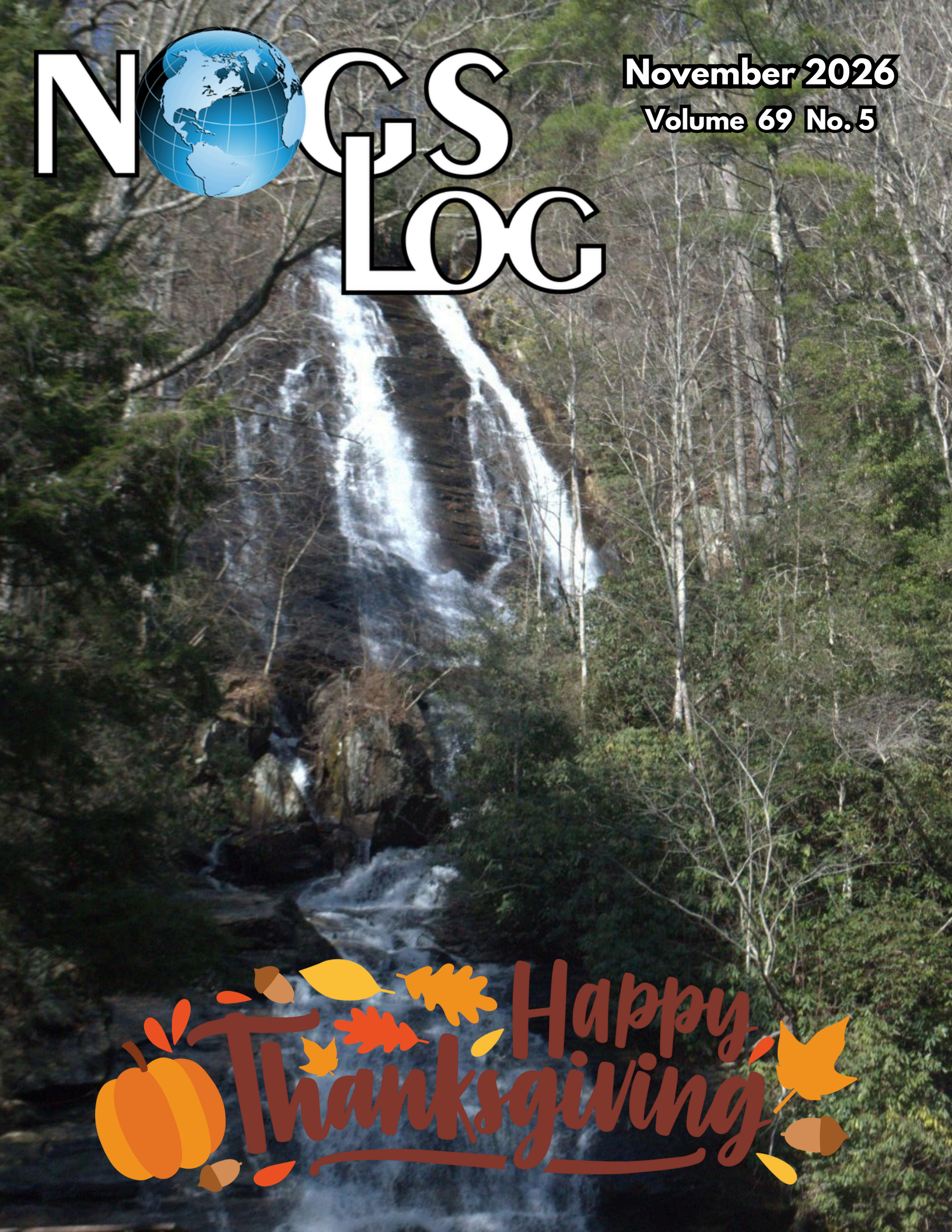
NOGS Log

November 2026
Volume 69 No. 5

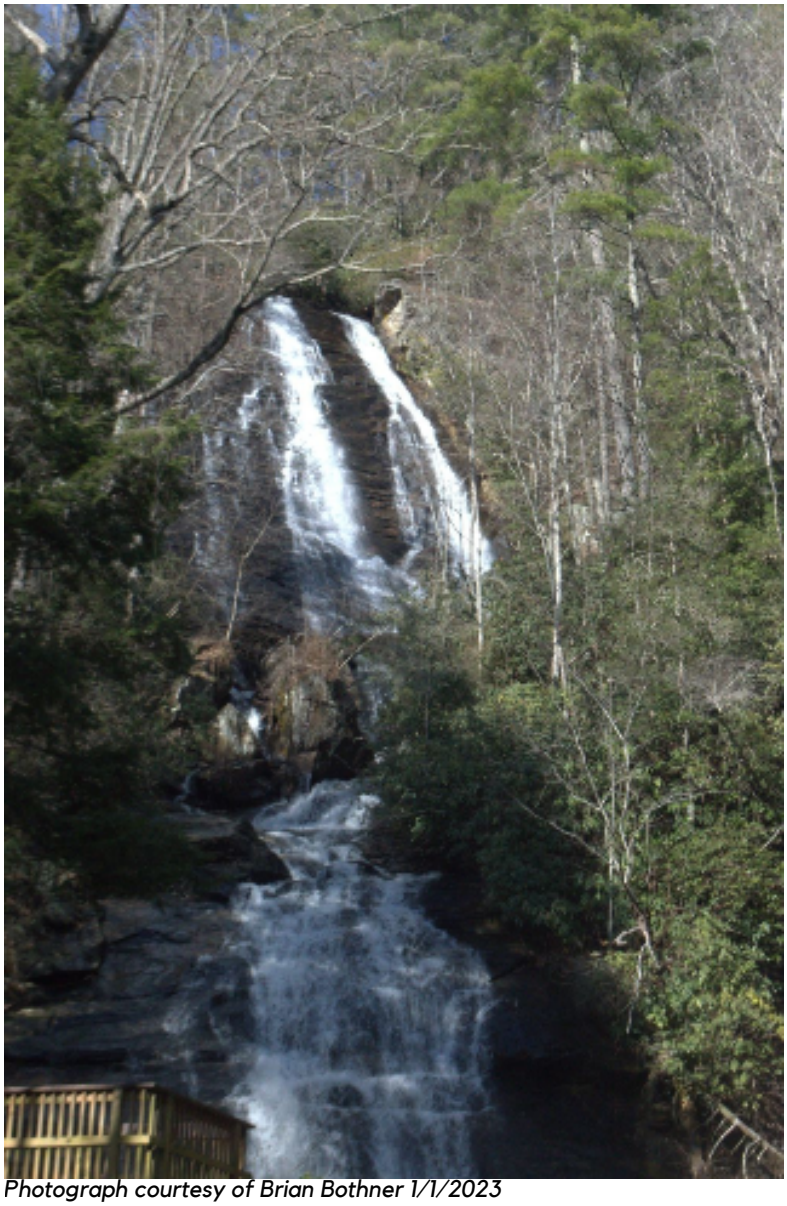


On the Cover

Anna Ruby Falls

Anna Ruby Falls in the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest near Helen, Georgia. These “Twin” falls are formed by waters of the Curtis Creek plunging 153 feet and waters of the York creek plunging 53 feet eroding steep drops into the underlying Pre-Cambrian granite gneiss and schist formed during the Grenville orogeny (1.3 to 0.98 billion years ago) and uplifted during the late Carboniferous to early Permian Alleghenian orogeny (325 to 260 million years ago).

The Tray Mountains rise to an elevation 4,422 feet and provide the headwaters for both streams which converge at the base of the falls to form Smith Creek flowing through the forested valley into the Chattahoochee River.



Photograph courtesy of Brian Bothner 1/1/2023

Resources: *Referenced and Compiled by Grokipedia.* Anna Ruby Falls - New Georgia Encyclopedia https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/geography-environment/waterfalls/m-2781/ ; pubs.usgs.gov: Southernmost Part of the Appalachian Orogen Resources: ; pubs.usgs.gov: Exploration for mineral deposits in White County, Georgia https://pubs.usgs.gov/unnumbered/70210549/report.pdf



A MESSAGE FROM THE 2026/2027 NOGS PRESIDENT

CHARLES MILLER

Dear NOGS Members,

Happy November! As we approach the holiday season and the end of another year, I want to take a moment to thank our members, volunteers, and Board of Directors for their continued support of the New Orleans Geological Society. It has been a busy and productive year, and I am grateful for the dedication and enthusiasm that keep our organization moving forward.

I would like to thank Dr. Vann Smith for his presentation in October on the applications of palynology. We appreciate his willingness to share his knowledge and expertise with our membership. Our monthly technical meetings continue to provide an excellent opportunity to learn about different aspects of the geosciences and connect with colleagues throughout our industry.

I am pleased to announce that our next NOGS luncheon will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at Drago's in Metairie. Our featured speaker will be Crystal Luna, presenting "Petrologic and Geochemical Insights into the Generation and Development of Oceanic Crust." Crystal's presentation will explore the processes responsible for the formation and development of oceanic crust through the study of gabbroic rocks sampled from Pito Deep. By examining petrographic textures, geochemistry, and accessory minerals, her research provides insight into the complex relationship between crystallization, magmatic activity, and metamorphic processes occurring at mid-ocean ridges. This promises to be an interesting technical presentation and another great opportunity for our members to expand their geological knowledge. Our November luncheon networking will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by the program and lunch at noon. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

As we begin looking toward 2027, planning is also underway for another exciting year of NOGS activities, including our monthly technical meetings and the 2027 Deepwater Technical Symposium. We are looking forward to assembling the symposium committee and building upon the success of this year's event. The continued involvement of our members, sponsors, and volunteers is essential to making these programs successful, and I encourage anyone interested in becoming more involved to reach out. We can use more volunteers and fresh ideas too.
One of the greatest strengths of NOGS has always been the relationships and friendships developed through our shared interest in geology and the energy industry. Whether you have been involved for decades or have recently joined, your participation helps keep our Society strong and ensures that we continue providing valuable opportunities for education, professional development, and networking. If you have ideas to share, please let us know.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I want to express my appreciation for everyone who contributes their time and energy to NOGS. I hope you and your families enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our November luncheon.

Sincerely,
Charles Miller III
President, New Orleans Geological Society
Charlie

OCTOBER MEETING

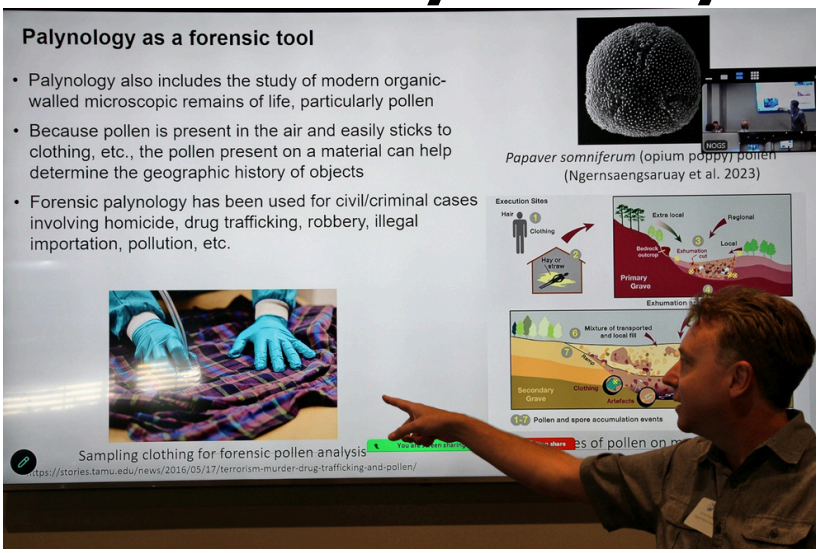
Applications of palynology in the oil industry and beyond



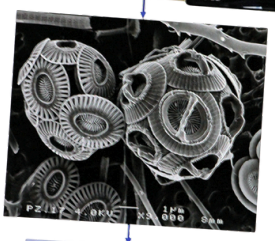
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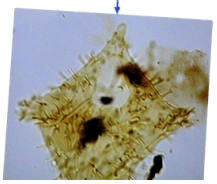
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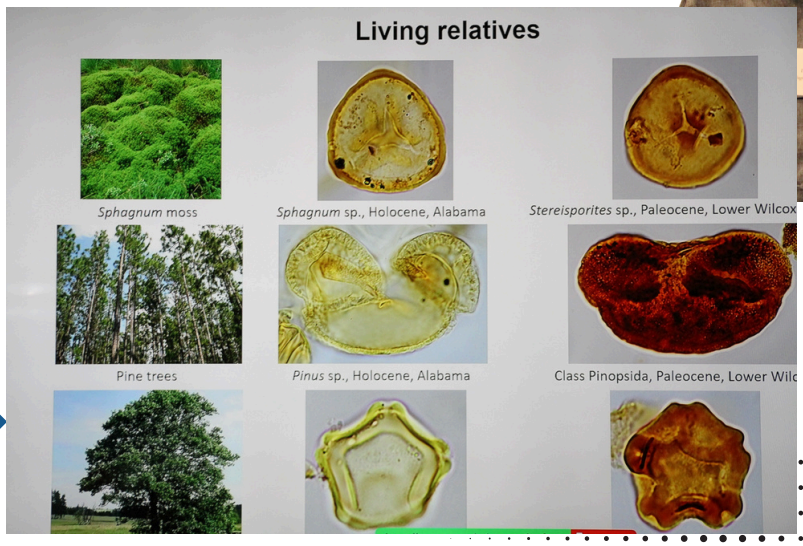












PETROLOGIC AND GEOCHEMICAL INSIGHTS INTO THE GENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF OCEANIC CRUST



Crystal Luna

By observing the petrographic textures and geochemistry of insitu gabbroic rocks sampled from Pito Deep, we can gain insight into processes that facilitate crustal accretion at mid-ocean ridges. Principal crystallization processes proposed for crustal accretion are: (1) fractional crystallization; (2) mush-influenced reactive processes (e.g., reactive porous flow or Melting-Assimilation-Storage-Hybridization). Furthermore, the conventually less explored accessory minerals offer insight into the development of oceanic crust. Our preliminary data suggests a complex interplay of igneous and metamorphic processes.

THE NEW ORLEANS GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ★ FOUNDED 1941

Wednesday, November 18, 2026
Drago's Metairie

11:30 am Networking
12:00 noon Program & Lunch

NOGS Members: $30
Guest: $40
Virtual Option Available

Wednesday,
November 18, 2026
Drago's Metairie

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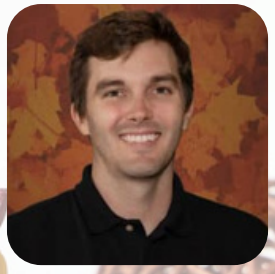
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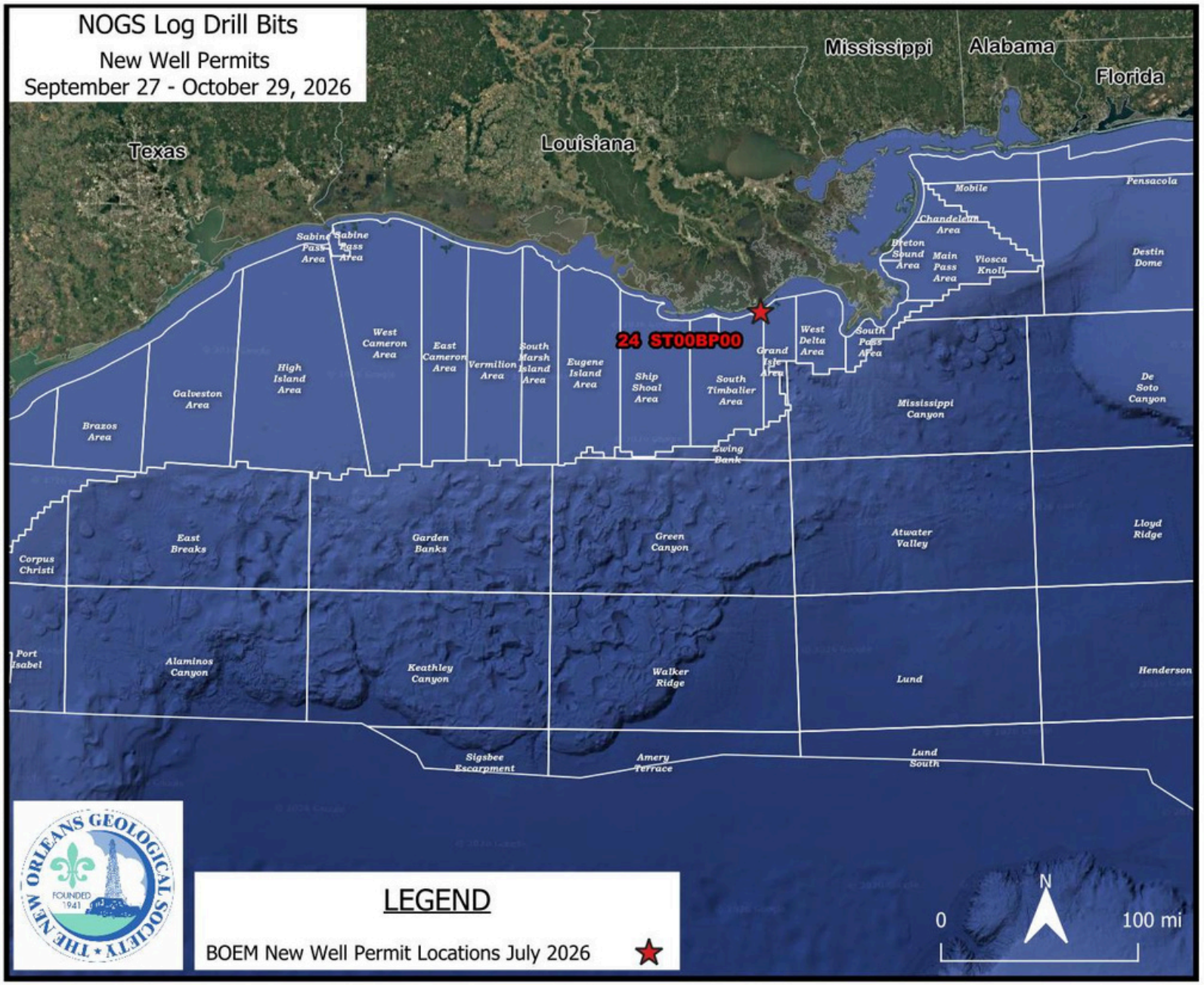


The NOGS LOG invites short articles from industry professionals, academics, and graduate students on topics related to Gulf Coast geology, energy resources, and related disciplines. Submissions may include technical summaries, case studies, research highlights, or industry perspectives.

If you are interested in contributing or have a topic idea, please contact the Editor or email admin@nogs.org.

DRILL BITS

NEW WELL PERMITS OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA
SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES
MAP BY BRIAN BOTHNER

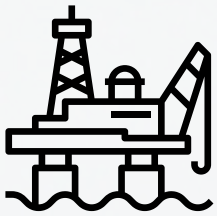


API Well Number	APD Approved Date	Company Name	Block Area	Well Name	Well Name Suffix	Water Depth (feet)	Rig Name	Surface Latitude*	Surface Longitude*
17714400170	10/28/2026	Cantium, LLC	BM 2	24	ST00BP00	47	ENTERPRISE 205	29.04392167	-90.15525167

DRILL BITS

OFFSHORE GULF OF AMERICA SHELF AND DEEPWATER ACTIVITIES

BY BRIAN BOTHNER



North America Rig Count Report as of October 23, 2026

North America: 623, change from previous report +19

State/Province	Protraction Area	Rig Count Value	Change from Previous Month
LOUISIANA	East Cameron	0	0
LOUISIANA	Green Canyon	3	1
LOUISIANA	Keathley Canyon	1	0
LOUISIANA	Mississippi Canyon	6	4
TEXAS	Alaminos Canyon	1	1
Gulf of America Total:		**11**	**6**

State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month	State	Rig Count	Change from Previous Month
ALASKA	12	0	NEW MEXICO	100	3
ARKANSAS	0	0	NORTH DAKOTA	31	-1
CALIFORNIA	6	0	OHIO	9	0
COLORADO	13	0	OKLAHOMA	55	4
LOUISIANA	**32**	**1**	OREGON	2	1
MICHIGAN	1	0	PENNSYLVANIA	15	0
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	TEXAS	283	0
MONTANA	4	0	UTAH	19	5
NEBRASKA	0	-2	WEST VIRGINIA	9	0
NEVADA	4	1	WYOMING	17	1

Recent Energy Headlines

October 2026 Recap

10/26/2026 - EIA Edges 2026 USA Oil Output Forecast Closer to 14MM Bpd - The EIA raised its forecast for U.S. crude oil production in 2026 to an average of 13.87 million barrels per day, up from its September estimate of 13.83 million barrels per day. Its October outlook projects 14.30 million barrels per day for 2027. The federal Gulf of America is expected to provide about 2.03 million barrels per day in 2026. Read Full Article

10/26/2026 - 1947 Oil & Gas boosts production in Gulf of America, as planned - 1947 Oil & Gas brought Eugene Island 331 back into production after repairs to a downstream condensate facility, with output restarting near 1,200 barrels of oil equivalent per day gross. Workovers also increased production at Ship Shoal 198. The company reported winning West Delta 133 and South Timbalier 314 leases, adding approximately 10,000 gross acres. Read Full Article

10/26/2026 - Chevron prepares to offload older US gulf oil and gas fields - Chevron is exploring the potential sale of mature Gulf of America producing assets as it concentrates investment on newer, higher-growth developments. The marketing process includes Petronius, Tubular Bells and Llano. The company said any sale remains uncertain. Sources cited in the report estimated that transactions could raise approximately $1 billion, with interest possible from other offshore operators. Read Full Article

10/8/2026 - MMA Proposes Fourth Gulf of America Lease Sale Under the Working Families Tax Cut Act - The Marine Minerals Administration proposed Big Beautiful Gulf 4, its fourth Gulf of America offshore lease sale under the Working Families Tax Cut Act. The proposed offering encompasses about 15,104 unleased blocks and 80.4 million acres. Proposed terms include a 12.5% royalty rate. A 60-day state and local government comment period precedes a final sale notice and a planned March 2027 bid opening. Read Full Article

10/6/2026 - USA Continues Strategic Petroleum Reserve Release - The Department of Energy requested proposals for an exchange of as many as 40 million barrels of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, extending previously announced emergency supply actions. The solicitation forms part of a larger 172-million-barrel U.S. release coordinated with an International Energy Agency response. The department said exchange participants must later return borrowed oil plus additional barrels. Read Full Article

Recent Energy Headlines

October 2026 Recap Cont.

9/27/2026 - Trump administration proposes $5 billion to kickstart investment fund to rebuild Gulf energy sites, WSJ reports - Reuters reported that the administration had proposed a $5 billion investment in a fund to help Middle Eastern countries rebuild energy infrastructure damaged during the Iran war, citing a Wall Street Journal report. The proposed fund was also described as a way to reduce dependence on the Strait of Hormuz for oil and gas shipments. Reuters said it could not independently verify the account. This story concerns the Middle East, not U.S. federal offshore waters. Read Full Article

9/25/2026 - Shell completes sale of interest in Gulf of America platform - Shell finalized a sale of its 50% non-operated interest in Na Kika and related fields, together with its Coulomb tieback interest, to buyers associated with Talos Energy and Ridgewood Energy. Shell reported approximately $840 million in cash proceeds at closing, reflecting adjustments since the July 2025 effective date. The sale is part of its ongoing upstream portfolio optimization. Read Full Article

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- Gulf Coast Carbon Capture and Sequestration, Minerals, Geothermal
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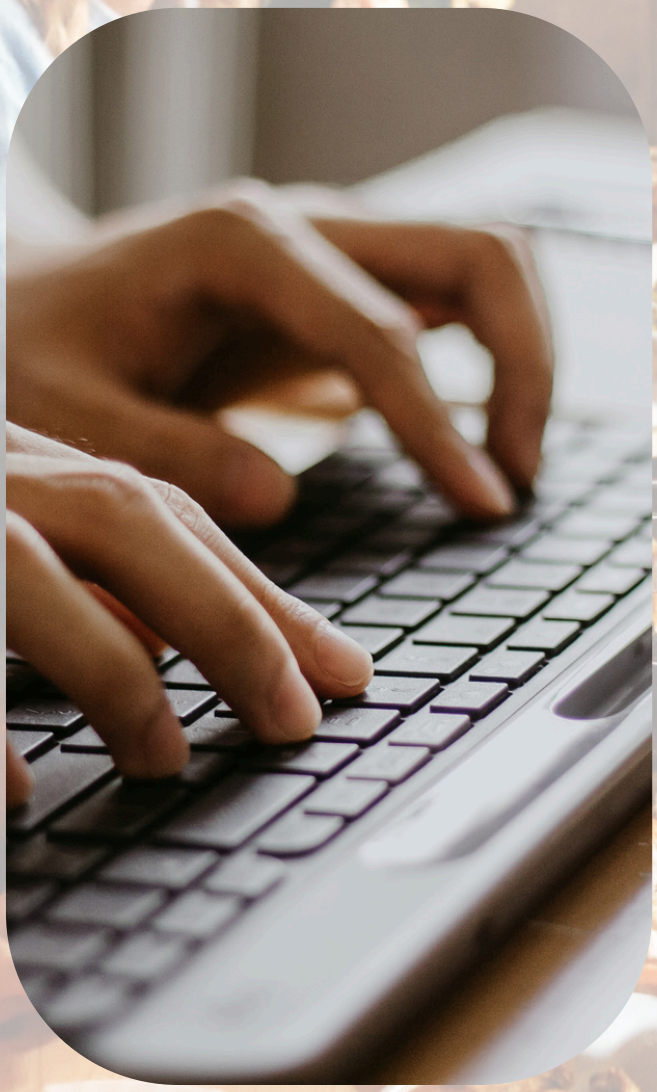
FALL 2026

E130 Howe-Russell-Kniffen at **3:30 pm Wednesday**
except as noted

Date	Speaker
Sept. 2	Welcome back Pizza Party
Sept. 9	*Prof. Jianwei Wang, LSU G&G* Deep Interior of Planet Earth
Sept. 18 Friday	*Prof. Cindy Ebinger, Tulane (NAS)* Critical Minerals Bottlenecks: Expediency of Extraction from Waste Streams
Sept. 23	*Faculty Meeting – no seminar*
Sept. 30	*Dr. Shiyun Jin, Gemological Institute of America (GIA)* Nanostructures and Special Optical Properties of Gem Minerals
Oct. 7	*Dr. Kohei Nimura, National Institute of Polar Research, Tokyo, Japan* Deformation and Fluid–Rock Interaction in the Lower Oceanic Crust of Back-Arc Basins
Oct. 14	*GSA Connects 2026 – no seminar*
Oct. 21	*Prof. Suniti Karunatillake, LSU G&G* Mars
Oct. 28	*Faculty Meeting – no seminar*
Nov. 4	*Prof. Virginia Sisson, University of Houston* *AAPG Grover E. Murray Distinguished Educator* "Perspectives on Undergraduate Education and Jade"
Nov. 11	TBA
Nov. 18	*Faculty Meeting – no seminar*
Nov. 25	*No seminar Wednesday before Thanksgiving*
Dec. 2	TBA

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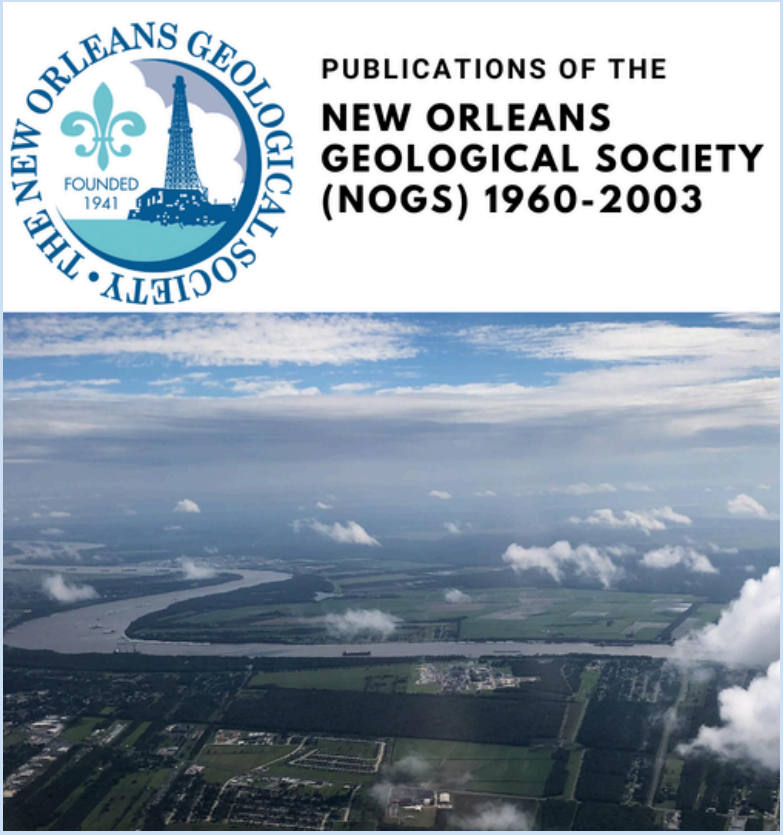
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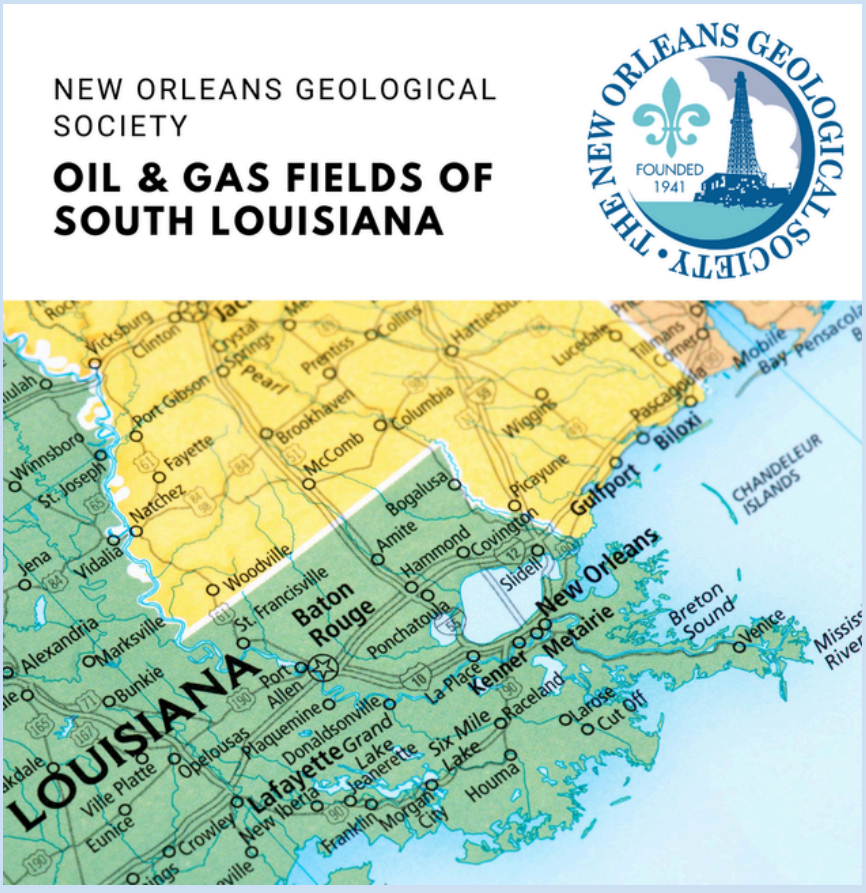
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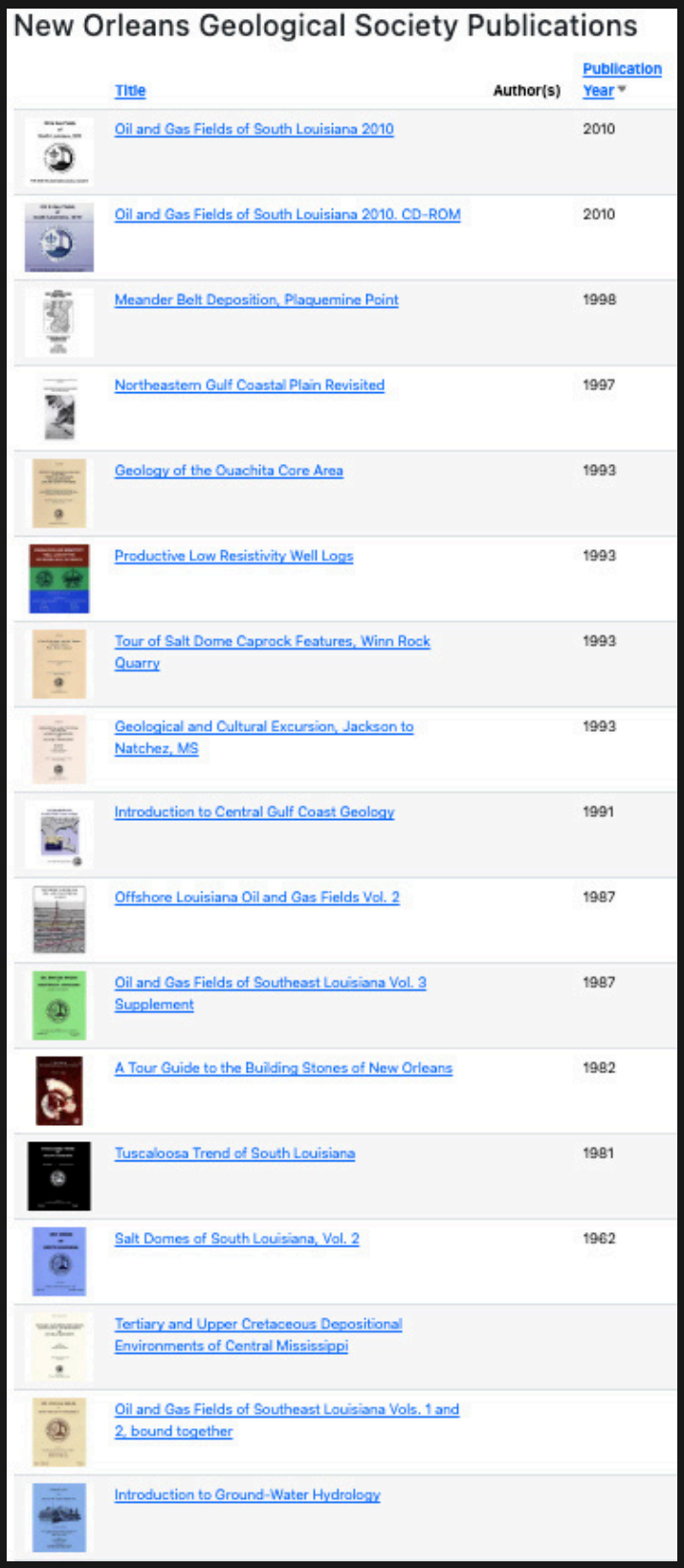




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New Orleans Geological Society Publications

	Title	Author(s)	Publication Year
	Oil and Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010		2010
	Oil and Gas Fields of South Louisiana 2010, CD-ROM		2010
	Meander Belt Deposition, Plaquemine Point		1998
	Northeastern Gulf Coastal Plain Revisited		1997
	Geology of the Ouachita Core Area		1993
	Productive Low Resistivity Well Logs		1993
	Tour of Salt Dome Caprock Features, Winn Rock Quarry		1993
	Geological and Cultural Excursion, Jackson to Natchez, MS		1993
	Introduction to Central Gulf Coast Geology		1991
	Offshore Louisiana Oil and Gas Fields Vol. 2		1987
	Oil and Gas Fields of Southeast Louisiana Vol. 3 Supplement		1987
	A Tour Guide to the Building Stones of New Orleans		1982
	Tuscaloosa Trend of South Louisiana		1981
	Salt Domes of South Louisiana, Vol. 2		1962
	Tertiary and Upper Cretaceous Depositional Environments of Central Mississippi		
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