

Figure 1—Location of the Upham quadrangle and surrounding quadrangles.

Map Unit Descriptions

- Quaternary**
- Qpy** Younger piedmont-slope alluvium—Sand, gravel, silt, and clay of modern, shallowly incised drainageways, and thin sand and gravel veneers mantling broad pediments. As much as 20ft (6m) thick.
 - Qpo** Older piedmont-slope alluvium—Gravel and gravelly sand deposits of alluvial fans that are intermediate in geomorphic position between higher Palomas (Qpg) fans and lower (Qpy) arroyo alluvium. Upper part of Qpo deposits are cemented by pedogenic carbonate that represents stage II to stage IV carbonate accumulation. As much as 25ft (7m) thick.
 - Qpa** Qpy and Qpo, undifferentiated.
 - Qc** Slope colluvium—Generally correlative with Qpy but some may be as old as Qpo. As much as 3ft (1m) thick.
 - Qpg** Palomas Formation, piedmont-slope deposits—Boulder to cobble conglomerate, gravel, and sandy-gravel of both high-level alluvial fans and erosion surface veneers. Upper beds are generally indurated by stage IV caliche. Unit forms relatively undisturbed alluvial fans as well as mesa-capping erosional remnants of fans or pediment veneers. As much as 20ft (6m) thick.
- Tertiary**
- Trp** Palm Park Formation—Only lower few feet (10m) of gray to purplish-gray, tuffaceous, soft, volcaniclastic sandstone is exposed in the southeastern part of the Upham quadrangle. Unit may be as much as 1,800ft (550m) thick in adjacent quadrangles to the south and east.
 - Tr** Love Ranch Formation—Finning upward sequence of red, gray, and purple conglomerate, conglomeratic sandstone, sandstone, and mudstone representing alluvial-fan and fluvial deposits in the Laramide Love Ranch basin. The formation documents progressive erosional unroofing of Cretaceous intermediate- and siliceous composition volcanic rocks, Mesozoic, and Paleozoic sedimentary rocks, and Precambrian granite from the Laramide Rio Grande uplift. At least one intraformational unconformity probably exists near the middle of the formation. In the Upham quadrangle the formation is approximately 2,600ft (796m) thick, but this does not include uppermost beds which are exposed to the east in the Prisor Hill quadrangle. Total thickness probably exceeds 3,000ft (914m).
- Cretaceous**
- K** Km, Kt, Kde, Kg and Kcl, undifferentiated.
 - Krh** McRae Formation, Hall Lake Member—Purple to gray shale and mudstone with interbedded volcaniclastic sandstone and conglomeratic sandstone in lower half. Medial tongue of volcanic cobbles to boulder conglomerate, and upper section of purple to gray volcaniclastic sandstone, conglomeratic sandstone, and mudstone containing conspicuous granitic detritus. Fluvial in origin, the formation also contains scattered dinosaur bone fragments. Zero to approximately 600ft (183m) thick in the Upham quadrangle; thinning, and pinching out to the southwest.
 - Kml** McRae Formation, Jose Creek Member—Brown to dark-gray boulder conglomerate in channel-form lenses. Clasts are angular to sub-rounded, intermediate-composition volcanic and hypabyssal rocks ranging in size from 0.2 to 1m in diameter. Debris flow in origin. In Upham quad the unit is only exposed discontinuously in the hangingwall of the Yoast Draw fault. 20 ft (6m) thick or less.
 - Kca** Crevasse Canyon Formation, Ash Canyon Member—Predominantly tan, medium-grained, cross-bedded lithofeldspathic sandstone interbedded with lesser amounts of olive gray mudstone. Chert-pebble conglomerate lenses within sandstone beds are present locally, especially near the top of the unit. Local petrified wood. Approximately 1,200ft (366m) thick.
 - Kcd** Crevasse Canyon Formation—Tongues of Ash Canyon sandstone and conglomeratic sandstone within Kel, each 30-50ft (9-15m) thick.
 - Kd** Crevasse Canyon Formation, lower member—Crevasse Canyon Formation - Brown to tan to greenish-brown, fine to medium-grained, lithofeldspathic sandstone in channel shaped and lenticular beds, intercalated with olive-gray shale and mudstone. At least 830ft (253m) thick.
 - Kg** Gallup Sandstone—Massive to cross-bedded tongue to gray marine sandstone and minor marine shale, gradational downward into D-Cross Tongue of Marcos (Kdc). Approximately 110ft (33m) thick.
 - Kdc** D-Cross tongue of Mancos Shale—Dark gray, fissile marine shale with thin interbeds of fossiliferous sandstone. 60ft (18m) thick.
 - Ki** Tres Hermanos Formation, Lower Atarque Member—Consists of brown and greenish-brown fossiliferous, burrowed marine sandstone, followed upward by fluvial, brown sandstone, and olive-green mudstone of the Carthage Member, and capped by marine, brown, fossiliferous, burrowed sandstone of the Fite Ranch Member. Total thickness is approximately 328 to 348ft (100-106m).
 - Km** Mancos Shale—Not exposed or not identified in Upham quadrangle. In adjacent parts of Apache Gap quadrangle the Mancos consists of thin-bedded to fissile, fine, marine siltstone and shale with at least 5 ash beds, each 2 to 5in (5 to 12cm) thick. Total thickness is approximately 394ft (120m).
 - Kd** Dakota Sandstone—Lower yellow-brown, cross-bedded, fluvial, quartzose sandstone overlain by marine shale and marine, cross-bedded, quartzose sandstone gradational upward into Mancos Shale. Approximately 144 ft (44 m) thick.
- Permian**
- Pyu** Upper Yeso Formation (sandstone-limestone member)—Only upper 50ft (15m) exposed in southwest corner of Upham quadrangle, consisting of medium- to light-gray limestone. Total thickness of Yeso, including both upper and lower parts and all four members described in McLeod Tank and Alivio quadrangles, is approximately 1,300ft (396m).

Correlation Diagram

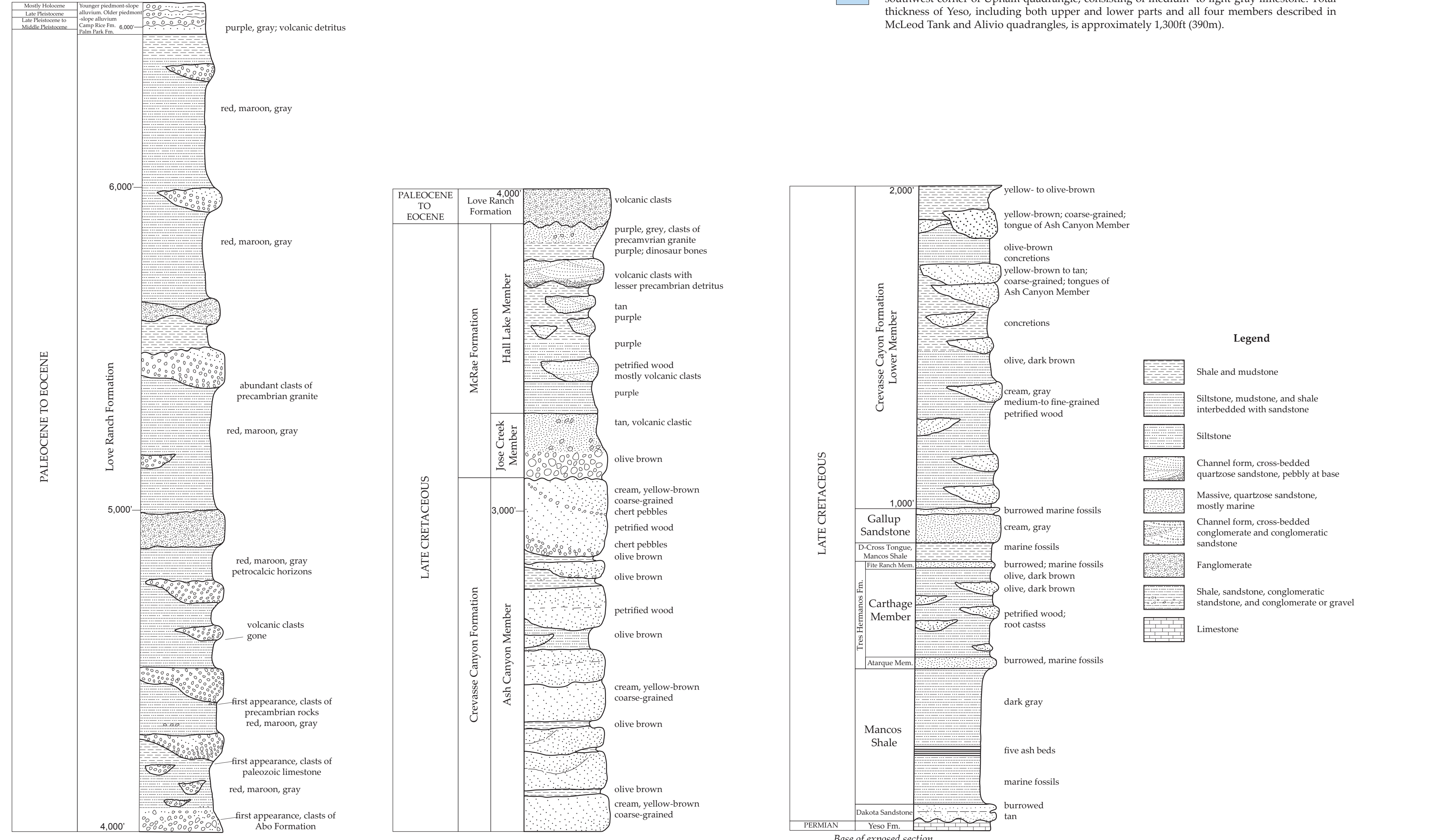
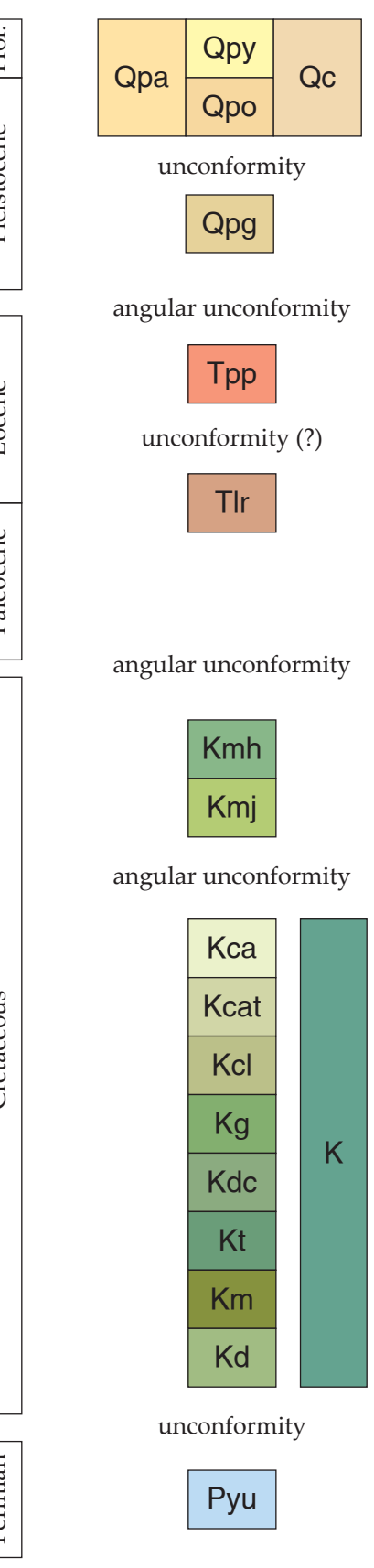
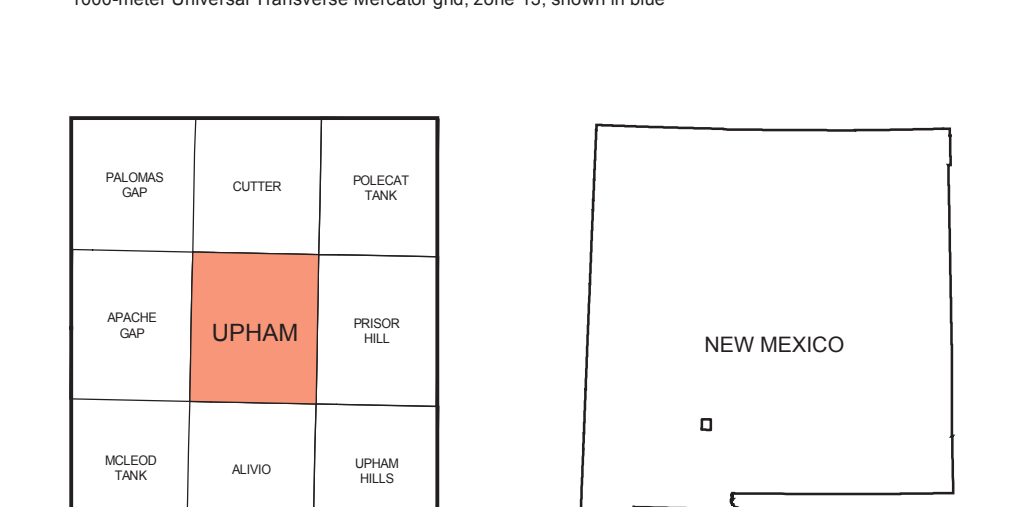


Figure 2—Composite stratigraphic column of the Cutter and Upham quadrangles.

Base map from U.S. Geological Survey 1971. From photographs taken 1965, field checked in 1970, edited in 1993. 1927 North American datum. UTM projection—zone 12N. 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 12, shown in blue.



Geologic Map of the Upham 7.5-Minute Quadrangle, Sierra County, New Mexico.

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New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources
Open-file Geologic Map 205

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COMMENTS TO MAP USERS

A geologic map displays information on the distribution, nature, orientation, and age relationships of rock and deposits and the occurrence of structural features. Geologic and fault contacts are irregular surfaces that form boundaries between different types or ages of units. Data depicted on this geologic quadrangle may be based on any of the following: reconnaissance field geologic mapping, compilation of published and unpublished work, and photogeologic interpretation. Locations of contacts are not surveyed, but are plotted by interpretation of the position of a given contact onto a topographic base map; therefore, the accuracy of contact locations depends on the scale of mapping and the interpretation of the geologists. Any enlargement of this map could cause misunderstanding in the detail of mapping and may result in erroneous interpretations. Site-specific conditions should be verified by detailed surface mapping or subsurface exploration. Topographic and cultural changes associated with recent development may not be shown.

Cross-sections are constructed based upon the interpretations of the author made from geologic mapping and available geophysical and subsurface (dribble) data. Cross-sections should be used as an aid to understanding the general geologic framework of the map area, and not be the sole source of information for use in locating or designing wells, buildings, roads, or other man-made structures.

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