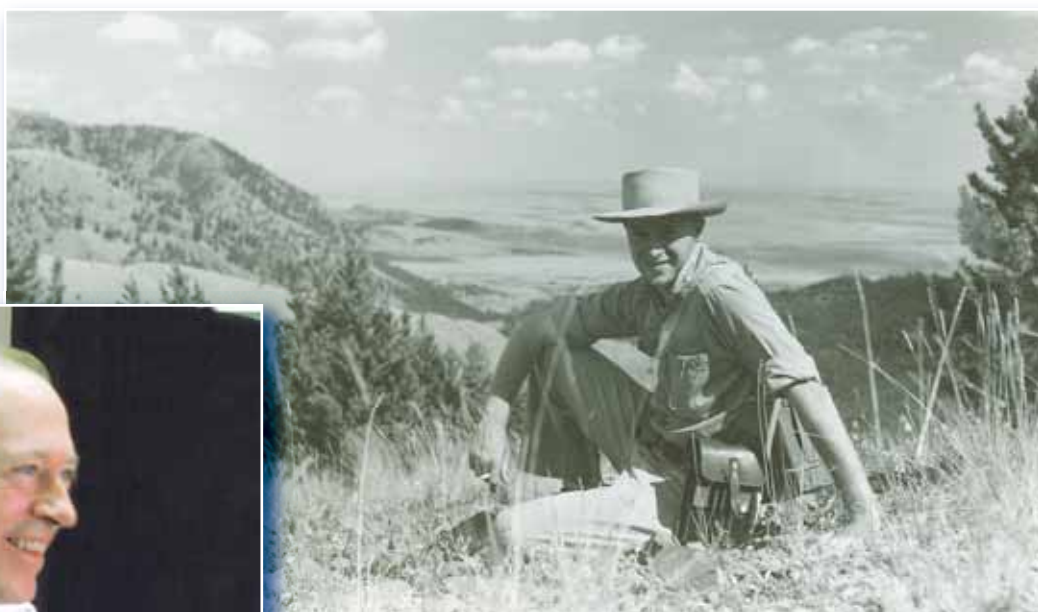


## Stewart R. Wallace — 1919–2009

*SEG's  
Anonymous  
Donor*



Mine Finders, Inc. office, Lakewood, Colorado – 1973



Judith Mountains, Montana — Summer 1951

“... there absolutely should be some ‘center’ from which the Society functions—preferably in one place and permanent.”

—Stewart R. Wallace,  
July 1994

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SEG Headquarters  
Littleton, CO USA



Reprint from the SEG Newsletter, April 2009, Number 77, page 5.

## STEWART R. WALLACE — 1919 – 2009

### SEG'S Anonymous Donor

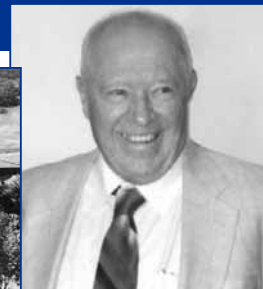
Stewart R. Wallace (SEG 1961, SF1991), a highly regarded, world-renowned authority on molybdenum deposits, discoverer of the Ceresco Ridge orebody at Climax and the Henderson mine in Colorado, and the Anonymous Donor

who provided 100 percent of the funding for the SEG Headquarters Building in Littleton, Colorado, died on March 12, 2009, at the age of 89, just a few weeks short of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Stewart was born March 31, 1919, in Freeport, New York, obtained a BA degree from Dartmouth College in 1941 and, after serving 4.5 years as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army during World War II, received MSc and PhD degrees in 1948 and 1953, respectively, from the University of Michigan. From 1948 to 1955 (part time 1950–1952, while pursuing graduate study at Michigan), he worked as a geologist in the Minerals Deposit Branch of the U.S. Geological Survey and participated in several western U.S. mining district mapping projects including the following: thorium and rare earth deposits in the Powderhorn district near Gunnison,

Colorado; mineral zoning in the Front Range, Colorado; uranium deposits in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming, and the alkaline complex of the Judith Mountains, Montana. The last was the subject of his PhD thesis. His work with the USGS resulted in seven publications.

In 1955, he left the Survey to join Climax Molybdenum Company at the recommendation of John W. Vanderwilt (SEG 1930, then Climax consulting geologist and president of Colorado School of Mines). From 1955 to 1957, he was “Resident Geologist” and embarked on a detailed study of the complex geology of the Climax ore deposit and, in the process, greatly clarified ore deposition controls. This work resulted in his first publication on “Climax-type” ore deposits.<sup>1</sup> In 1958, he was promoted to Chief Geologist and then Chief of Geology and Exploration, until 1969. During this period, he and his team of geologists continued the



detailed study of Climax geology that resulted in the discovery of large tonnages of new ore, including the spectacular discovery of the Ceresco orebody and its deep offset portion at more than 10,000 feet below surface across a major fault. This detailed geologic work led to the development of a multiple-intrusion model to describe the complex magmatic and hydrothermal events that produced the Climax orebody, and was key to the prediction and discovery of the world-class Henderson orebody at Red Mountain, near Empire, Colorado.

Stewart was also renowned for his ability to work closely with mine engineers and mine management and was particularly successful in the application of geology to mining and exploration. Detailed geologic mine mapping and related studies carried out under his leadership greatly facilitated engineering operations at the Climax and Henderson mines.

In 1969, he left Climax to form Mine Finders, Inc., an exploration consulting firm based in Lakewood, Colorado, for which he served as President and Director of Exploration. Under an agreement with Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Mine Finders conducted minerals exploration in western North America and elsewhere. Following conclusion of that agreement and dissolution of Mine Finders in 1976, he continued working as an exploration consultant whose recognized expertise on porphyry molybdenum deposits was highly sought after by major international mining corporations.

Stewart was a Distinguished Member of the Society of Mining Engineers (SME), a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and a member of a number of other professional-scientific associations. In 1974, SME honored him with one of its highest awards, the prestigious Daniel C. Jackling Award, primarily in recognition of the discovery of the Henderson orebody. In 2001, he was inducted into the National Mining Hall of Fame in Leadville, Colorado, together with six

legendary North American mining industry figures.

Within the Society of Economic Geologists, Stewart will be remembered for his enthusiastic service, interest in all aspects of SEG, concern for its welfare, and his legacy of the SEG Headquarters Building. He served on various SEG committees, including the Nominating Committee, which he chaired, and was a member of the Council, 1973–1975, Vice President in 1978, and President in 1992. For the SEG Foundation, he served five years as a Trustee. His vision for SEG as stated in July 1994 was that, “. . . *there absolutely should be some ‘center’ from which the Society functions—preferably in one place and permanent.*”

On February 2, 1996, Stewart made the first of several contributions to the Society to establish a “permanent” headquarters in the Denver area. All together, those contributions totaled in excess of \$5 million and funded the purchase of a building site, design, construction, and furnishing (including then “state of the art” computer equipment) of the headquarters building, and an endowment of over \$1.5 million to cover the operating and maintenance costs of the building—a complete package. He was directly involved in the site selection for the building and its design. Completed in early 2000, the building serves as the international headquarters for both the Society and the Foundation, and houses the publishing activities of the former Economic Geology Publishing Company. All this was undertaken with strict instructions from Stewart that his contributions would be “absolutely undisclosed” until his death. Stewart’s farsighted action is greatly benefiting the Society and its members, as it also will future generations of economic geologists.

Stewart was a life-long avid sailor and sailed on numerous bodies of water on three continents. He was preceded in death by his brother, Henry, of Cortez, Florida, and is survived by son, William, of Lakewood, Colorado, and daughter, Margaret, of Oley, Pennsylvania. SEG

“. . . there absolutely should be some ‘center’ from which the Society functions—preferably in one place and permanent.”

—Stewart R. Wallace, July 1994

<sup>1</sup>Wallace, S.R., Jonson, D.C., Navias, R.A., and Skapinsky, S.A., 1957, Ring fracture intrusion and mineralization at Climax, Colorado: a preliminary report: Geol. Soc. America Bull., v. 68, p. 1809–1810.

# STEWART R. WALLACE



Dartmouth College — 1941



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — 1943



Chief of Geology and Exploration, Climax, Colorado — 1956



Climax Exploration Camp, Greenland — 1958



June — 1967

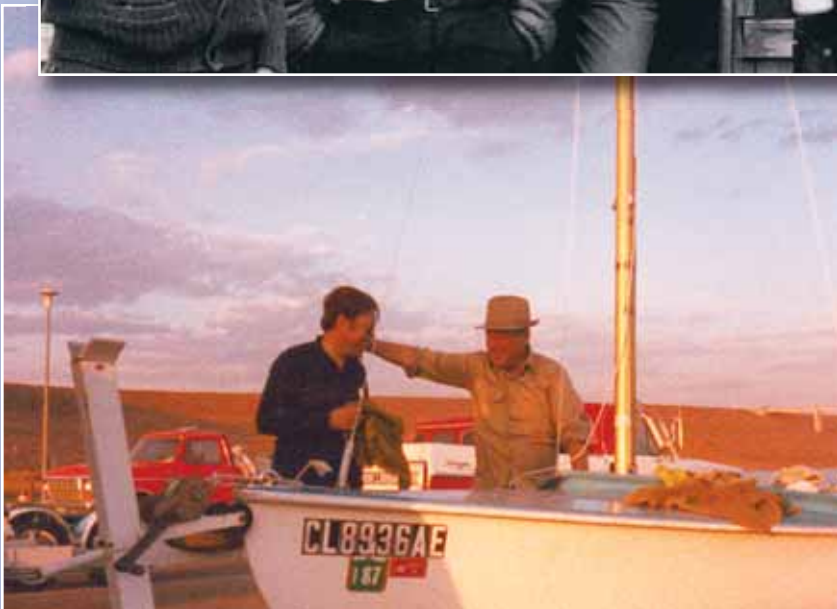


Mine Finders, Inc. office, Lakewood, Colorado — 1973

# 1919 – 2009



With Mine Finders, Inc. geologists at the core shack, Majuba Hill, Nevada – 1973



On the dock with son, Will, Chatfield Reservoir, Colorado — 1987



Sailing on Long Island Sound — 1978



In his office, Lakewood, Colorado – December 1999



Induction, National Mining Hall of Fame, Leadville, Colorado – September 2001

# The Legacy of Stewart R. Wallace SEG HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

From Concept



North Elevation



South Elevation

To Reality

