



Ore Deposits of Mexico: A Compilation 1906–2013

Preface

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Mexico has featured prominently in publications of the Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) since S.F. Emmons' paper on Pilares de Nacozari in *Economic Geology*, Volume 1 (1906). In fact, a total of more than 300 papers on Mexico have been published in 84 of the 108 years of existence of the Economic Geology Publishing Company and its later sister organization, SEG (founded 1905, 1920, respectively). Predictably, the papers reflect the major ore deposit types of Mexico in subject and number, with epithermal veins, carbonate replacement deposits, porphyry copper, and dispersed gold heading the list. However, there have also been significant numbers of papers on coal and oil and gas, Mississippi Valley-type deposits, volcanogenic massive sulfides, and iron and manganese. Regional characterization and synthesis papers and genetic papers have also been published. Menu divisions are somewhat arbitrary, in that one publication may cover several types of deposits. The search function will help the researcher overcome this challenge.

Many notable SEG founders and presidents have authored papers (e.g., Spurr, Emmons, Lindgren, Kesler) as well as notable Mexican economic geologists (e.g., Ordoñez, Salas, Escandon, Ruiz, Querol). Nearly 25% of the papers have been authored or co-authored by Mexican scientists, reflecting Mexico's long participation in SEG. Easily the most prolific author has been Kenneth F. Clark, who has 32 senior-author titles to his credit, including five guidebooks and the editorship of the December 1988 Special Issue of *Economic Geology*, devoted to the ore deposits of Mexico. Papers on Mexican ore deposits also grace the pages of several SEG Special Publications, including Special Publication 8 (2001), entitled *New Discoveries in Mexico and the Central America*, edited by Tawn Albinson (past Regional SEG Vice President for Mexico) and Carl Nelson. It is also worth noting the five-volume 1986-1990 "Minas Mexicanas" series, edited by long-time SEG member Jorge Ordoñez and published by the Mexican Section of the AIME in cooperation with SEG. For copyright reasons, these volumes can't be reproduced here, but they represent an excellent source of technical information published in Spanish.

Reading the papers on a specific deposit type in chronological order traces the intellectual and technological development of the science of economic geology and gives great insight into the observations and concepts on which many of our modern concepts are based. In many ways, it is distressing to note the field and communication skills that have been lost, and humbling to note that many of what we consider modern insights into deposit genesis are fields that have been plowed before. In contrast, it is intriguing to see how profoundly the plate tectonic "revolution" affected the evolution and depth of understanding of ore deposit genesis and regional localization. Applying to Mexico the recognition that certain ore deposit types are predictable products of specific plate tectonic environments has led not only to major discoveries but also to greatly improved understanding of the overall geologic evolution of Mexico... which in turn generates even more exploration opportunities.

Compiler's notes: Because context is so important when reading items that make up a guidebook (e.g., road logs), the five SEG field trip guidebooks that cover Mexico have been included here as single, searchable volumes. Their titles are given on a separate Menu page. Also, Conference Abstracts are grouped together rather than by theme, and because several of these mostly paragraph-long documents will appear on a single journal page, finding one among many may be awkward. However, some of these abstracts are not generally available and we felt it was important they not be overlooked.