

Maroon Bells



Publications
Geologic Hazards
Geologic Mapping
Minerals & Energy
Land Use Review
Hydrogeology

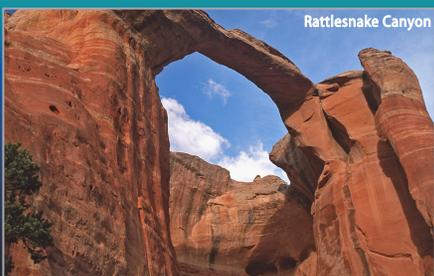
Normal Fault

Aquamarine (State gemstone)

Yule Marble (State rock)

Rhodochrosite (State mineral)

Stegosaurus (State fossil)



Rattlesnake Canyon

COLORADO GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1801 19th St.
 Golden, CO 80401
 Ph: (303) 384-2655

<http://coloradogeologicalsurvey.org>
<http://store.coloradogeologicalsurvey.org>
cgs_pubs@mines.edu

ColoradoGeologicalSurvey

GEOLOGIC TIME SCALE

Era	Period	(millions of years ago)	Major Colorado Geologic Events
Cenozoic	Quaternary	Present-1.8	Ice Ages Major canyon cutting
	Tertiary	1.8-66	Present mountain-building event Large volcanic eruptions Laramide mountain-building event
Mesozoic	Cretaceous	66-145	Dinosaurs died Widespread sea Swamps and flood plains
	Jurassic	145-200	Dinosaurs roamed
	Triassic	200-253	Low relief, desert conditions, dunes, salt flats, and red beds
Paleozoic	Permian	253-300	Uplift of Ancestral Rocky Mountains
	Pennsylvanian	300-318	
	Mississippian	318-360	Widespread, shallow-marine seas advancing and retreating
	Devonian	360-418	
	Silurian	418-443	Explosion of life forms
Ordovician	443-489		
Cambrian	489-544		
Precambrian	Accounts for more than 85% of geologic time	544-oldest known rocks in Colorado are 2.7 billion years old	Three periods of granitic, batholithic intrusions Regional metamorphism Plate collisions assembled Colorado's geologic foundation

Colorado School of Mines