

# EMORY UNIVERSITY. DEPT. OF GEOLOGY.

## Department of Geology records, 1920-1986

Emory University  
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## Descriptive Summary

- Creator:** Emory University. Dept. of Geology.  
**Title:** Department of Geology records, 1920-1986  
**Call Number:** Series No. 152  
**Extent:** 11.25 linear ft. (23 boxes) and 2 bound volumes (BV)  
**Abstract:** The Department of Geology was officially established at Emory University in 1938, chaired by James George Lester. Lester helped established undergraduate and graduate programs in geology as well as a geology field camp for faculty and students in northern Georgia. The Department was closed in 1986 and was absorbed into the Department of Environmental Studies. The Department of Geology records include administrative materials, grant proposals, correspondence, teaching materials, and field books from the department's geology camp. The earliest materials, 1920-1938, are those of department founder James George Lester.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## Administrative Information

### Restrictions on Access

Special restrictions apply: Selected materials are closed to research until 2033 in accordance with Emory University Archives access policy for Student Educational Records.

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Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact MARBL in advance to access this collection.

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**Source**

Transfer

**Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Department of Geology records, Emory University Archives, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

**Processing**

Processed by Lisa Chinn, December 2010.

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**Collection Description****Administrative History**

Instruction in geology was part of the Emory curriculum from the College's earliest days. Classes were originally conducted in the school's dormitories, as were its other classes, but were relocated to "Old Main" upon that building's completion in 1852. The school's 1839 catalog noted that study in the sciences included a course in geology, typically taken during a student's junior year; however by 1848 geology had shifted to a senior level course. Alexander Means, Emory College's fourth president, held the chair in the science and was the first instructor in the sciences, teaching classes in geology, as well as physiology, natural philosophy, and chemistry.

The course catalogs from the antebellum period suggest that geology and the other sciences were highly regarded at the College and engaged students in scientific demonstrations. At the same time, however, Means inflected his science courses commonly held mid-nineteenth century ideas about the relationship between science and religion as the 1853 course catalog description of geology instruction indicates, "These Lectures [on geology], aided by numerous Diagrams and experiments in Dynamics, are intended to illustrate the kindred origin and relationship of our planet with others of the solar train, and to establish the harmony of geological and astronomical disclosures with the Mosaic Cosmogony, and the announcements of Revelation."

Geology continued as an important part of the science curriculum at Emory College in the period after the Civil War, with laboratory work becoming an essential component of science courses during the Reconstruction era. Geology instruction continued at Emory when the University opened in 1915 and the mineral cabinet first used in teaching geology at Oxford was transferred to the Atlanta campus. Despite a long history of teaching geology at Emory, it was not until 1938 that geology became its own department. James G. Lester joined in Emory faculty in 1919, serving for years as a professor in the Department of Engineering, before founding and chairing the new Department of Geology. Serving at the helm of the Geology Department for over twenty five year, Lester oversaw the fundraising and construction of a new building for the department in 1949, the creation of a bachelor's and master's of science in geology, and the establishment of a geology field camp for faculty and students in the north Georgia mountains.

In 1986, Emory University closed the Department of Geology, which at the time had five tenure track positions, a graduate, and undergraduate program. Although it eliminated the

geology department, Emory continued its 150 year tradition of instruction in geology by incorporating in geology into the geosciences program which along with the program in human and natural ecology formed the new Department of Environmental Studies. James G. Lester's contributions to the sciences at Emory endure as well and he is memorialized by the James G. Lester Scholarship in Environmental Studies.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Department of Geology records, 1920-1980 (10 linear feet), document the department's administrative functions and teaching activities and include materials related to departmental founder Professor James George Lester. The collection is organized into seven series: Administrative materials, Grant proposals, Correspondence, Teaching, Field guidebooks, College of Arts and Sciences materials, and Graduate School materials.

The first series, Administrative Materials, documents the day-to-day functions of the Department of Geology and includes meeting notes and minutes, committee reports, and financial records.

The Grant proposals series documents the department's efforts to cultivate funding for fellowships, professorships, and secondary school programs and includes National Science Foundation grant materials, primarily correspondence related to grants.

Materials in the Correspondence series relate primarily to professor and department chair James G. Lester. The series is divided into three subseries: institutional correspondence, which contains letters to and from geological societies; alphabetical correspondence, which includes letters written in Lester's capacity as departmental chair; and individual correspondence, which contains personal correspondence.

The Teaching series includes records documenting summer school and field camp activities, publications, thesis committees, and lecture materials.

The Field guidebooks series includes guidebooks from the 1960s used in the Department of Geology's field camp program.

Materials in the College of Arts and Sciences series include correspondence between the College and the Department, administrative policies, and student policies and procedures.

The Graduate School series includes correspondence between the dean of the Graduate School and the Department of Geology, student policies, faculty committee minutes and reports.

### **Arrangement Note**

Organized into eight series: (1) Administrative material, (2) Grant proposals, (3) Correspondence, (4) Teaching, (5) Field guidebooks, (6) College of Arts and Sciences, (7) Graduate School, and (8) Printed material.

## **Description of Series**

Series 1: Administrative materials, 1950-1969

Series 2: Grant proposals, 1951-1981

Series 3: Correspondence, 1920-1971

Subseries 3.1: Institutional correspondence,

Subseries 3.2: Alphabetical correspondence,

Subseries 3.3: Individual correspondence

Series 4: Teaching, 1950-1964

Series 5: Field guidebooks, 1942-1986

Series 6: College of Arts and Sciences, 1944-1981

Subseries 6.1: Administrative policies and documents, 1949-1981

Subseries 6.2: Deans, 1950

Subseries 6.3: Student records and policies, 1944-1976

Series 7: Graduate school, 1949-1981

Subseries 7.1: Administrative policies and documents, 1951-1980

Subseries 7.2: Dean's correspondence, 1950s

Subseries 7.3: Graduate School committees, 1950s

Subseries 7.4: Student records and policies, 1949-1981

Series 8: Printed material, 1953

**Series 1**  
**Administrative materials, 1950-1969**  
**Boxes 1-2**

**Scope and Content Note**

Records relate to the day-to-day functions of the Geology Department and include meeting notes and minutes, committee reports, and financial records.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

**Restrictions on Access**

Special restrictions apply: Selected materials are closed to research until 2033 in accordance with Emory University Archives access policy for Student Educational Records.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1	1	Alumni information, 1950s
1	2	American Geological Institute Personnel Placement
1	3	Budget suggestions, 1959
1	4	Course outlines and offerings
1	5	Daily Oil Report, 1952
1	6	Expense account reports
1	7	Geology inventory
1	8	Graduate School Summer Program Committee
1	9	Graduate exam scores, 1958 [RESTRICTED until 2033.]
1	10	Library correspondence
1	11	Meetings, Emory University Senate, 1951-1952
1	12	McCandless Property
2	1	Non-Academic Assistants, 1962
2	2	Office memoranda, duties, reports
2	3	Research Committee
2	4	Safety and Traffic Committee, 1965-67
2	5	Safety and Traffic Committee, 1968-69
2	6	Staff Meeting reports, 1951-52
2	7	University Committee reports, 1952-53
2	8	University Committee on Polar Research
2	9	Visiting Scholars Committee, 1968

**Series 2**  
**Grant proposals, 1951-1981**  
**Boxes 3-4**

**Scope and Content Note**

Series documents the department's efforts to cultivate funding for fellowships, professorships, and secondary school programs and includes National Science Foundation grant materials, primarily correspondence related to grants.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by file type.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
3	1	Boats
3	2	Georgia Academy of Science, 1951
3	3	National Science Foundation, Consortium Proposal, 1976
3	4	National Science Foundation correspondence, 1961
3	5	National Science Foundation correspondence, 1961
3	6	National Science Foundation correspondence, 1961
3	7	National Science Foundation reports
4	1	National Science Foundation, Scientific Equipment Program, 1959
4	2	National Science Foundation, Scientific Equipment Program, 1965
4	3	National Science Foundation, Summer Science Training Program, 1960
4	4	National Science Foundation, Summer Science Training Program, 1961
4	5	River Mouth Sedimentation, 1968
4	6	Sea Grant Proposal, 1981
4	7	Summer Field Courses

**Series 3**  
**Correspondence, 1920-1971**  
**Boxes 5-12**

**Scope and Content Note**

Materials in the Correspondence series relate primarily to professor and department chair James G. Lester. The series is divided into three subseries: (3.1) institutional correspondence, which contains letters to and from geological societies; (3.2) alphabetical correspondence, which includes letters written in Lester's capacity as departmental chair; and (3.3) individual correspondence, which contains personal correspondence.

**Arrangement Note**

Organized into three subseries: (3.1) Institutional correspondence, (3.2) Alphabetical correspondence, and (3.3) Individual correspondence.

**Subseries 3.1**  
**Institutional correspondence,**  
**Boxes 5-6**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
5	1	American Association for the Advancement of Science
5	2	American Association of Petroleum Geologists
5	3	American Geological Institute, 1955-1959
5	4	American Geological Institute
5	5	American Geological Institute Committee on Geological Education
5	6	Driftwood
5	7	Fellowships at other schools
5	8	Geological Society of America, 1953
5	9	Geological Society of America
5	10	Georgia Academy of Science, 1951
5	11	Georgia Mineral Society, 1953
5	12	National Association of Geology Teachers
5	13	National Science Foundation
6	1	Newsletters, 1950-53
6	2	Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies
6	3	Public Information Office
6	4	Sea Island Corporation, 1968
6	5	Seismological Society of America
6	6	Smithsonian Institution, 1953
6	7	Specimen correspondence
6	8	Standard Oil of Texas
6	9	State Department of Education, 1970
6	10	State Geological Survey, 1953
6	11	Thomas Jefferson Committee, 1971
6	12	United States Corps of Engineers, 1954
6	13	United States Geological Survey, 1959
6	14	Valdosta Well Testing, 1953



**Subseries 3.2**  
**Alphabetical correspondence,**  
**Boxes 7-9**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
7	1	A
7	2	B
7	3	B
7	4	C
7	5	C
7	6	D
7	7	E
7	8	F
7	9	G
8	1	H
8	2	I
8	3	J
8	4	K
8	5	L
8	6	L [RESTRICTED: File is closed until 2033.]
8	7	M
8	8	M
8	9	N
8	10	O
8	11	P
8	12	P
9	1	Q
9	2	R
9	3	S
9	4	S
9	5	T
9	6	T
9	7	U
9	8	V
9	9	W
9	10	W
9	11	X, Y, Z

**Subseries 3.3**  
**Individual correspondence**  
**Boxes 10-12**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
10	1	Aldrich, Henry R.
10	2	Allen, B.L.
10	3	Archie, W.M.C.
10	4	Batey, Nancy
10	5	Berry, E. Willard
10	6	Bradley, John F.
10	7	Brown, M. Gordon
10	8	Callahan, Joseph T.
10	9	Centini, Barry
10	10	Colwell, E.C.
10	11	Colwell, James F.L.
10	12	Cronheim, Sam P.
10	13	Darnell, Virginia
10	14	Davis, Walt
10	15	Delo, David
10	16	Dowell, Thomas
10	17	Ebens, Richard J.
10	18	Edwards, Richard A.
10	19	Ellerman, Thomas
10	20	Emmerich, C.O.
10	21	Fisher, Verna L.
10	22	Foshag, W.F.
10	23	Fry, Wayne L
10	24	Furcron, W.S.
10	25	Gibson, Count D.
10	26	Goldfrank, Joan
10	27	Goodland, John T.
10	28	Hackney, Courtney
10	29	Hall, Jon F.
10	30	Hart, John F.
10	31	Hilley, Maude
11	1	Hobson, Richard D.
11	2	Houston, Scott
11	3	Hunsucker, Jeanie
11	4	Jewell, W.B.

11	5	Johnson, Collus O.
11	6	Kaufman, Myron
11	7	Lester, J.R.
11	8	Martin, Walter
11	9	Mew, George H.
11	10	Meyers, Orrie
11	11	Miller, H.P.
11	12	Mitchell, Lane
11	13	Mitchell, William L.
11	14	Munyan, Arthur C.
11	15	Murray, Daniel P.
11	16	Nelson, Lloyd A.
11	17	Odum, Pauline
11	18	Parizek, E.J.
11	19	Pettijohn, F.J.
11	20	Peyton, Garland
11	21	Phillips, Howard M.
11	22	Pierce, Howard
11	23	Pitts, William B.
11	24	Platt, Robert B.
12	1	Priddy, Richard R.
12	2	Pumpelly, J.W.
12	3	Purks, Harris
12	4	Rawson, Richard
12	5	Rece, E.H.
12	6	Record, Kenneth
12	7	Reed, Grady
12	8	Reeves, Barney
12	9	Robinson, David W.
12	10	Russell, Richard B.
12	11	Russell, Richard J.
12	12	Sandberg, A.E.
12	13	Saunders, Gloria
12	14	Searl, S.E.
12	15	Shenkel, Claude B.
12	16	Shiver, Samuel
12	17	Stanford, Henry K.
12	18	Stipe, J.G.
12	19	Stockdale, Paris B.

12	20	Stowe, Marcellus H.
12	21	Straley, H.W.
12	22	Taylor, Grady
12	23	Thompson, W.O.
12	24	Thomson, M.T.
12	25	Tillman, Lamar
12	26	Tolman, Carl
12	27	Trowbridge, A.C.
12	28	Uhl, Harry C.
12	29	Watson, Charles N.
12	30	Weatherly, George E.
12	31	Weiss, Malcom P.
12	32	White, George W.
12	33	White, Goodrich C.
12	34	Whitehead, R.K.
12	35	Wilson, John

**Series 4**  
**Teaching, 1950-1964**  
**Boxes 13-14**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes records documenting summer school and field camp activities, publications, thesis committees, and lecture materials.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in roughly alphabetical order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
13	1	"Zonation of the Middle and Upper Ordovician Strata in Northwestern Georgia" by A. T. Allen and James George Lester, 1957
13	2	Bibliography of Publications from Emory Faculty and Students
13	3	Curriculum Committee
13	4	Field Camp
13	5	Freshmen advisees, 1955
13	6	Faculty publications by A. T. Allen, Howard Ross Cramer, Willard Grant, James G. Lester, Arthur Munyan, Ernest Renshaw, Wiley S. Rogers, W. B. Size
13	7	"The Geology of Hart County, Georgia" by Willard Grant, 1958
13	8	"Contributions to the Paleontology of Northwestern Georgia" by James George Lester, 1954
13	9	James George Lester lectures, 1964
14	1	James George Lester lectures, 1964
14	2	Scholarships and Fellowships
14	3	Science Fair Committee
14	4	Seminar schedules
14	5	Summer School curriculum, 1972
14	6	Teaching applications, 1938-50
14	7	Teaching applications, 1938-50
14	8	Teaching applications, 1951-52
14	9	Teaching applications, 1951-52
14	10	Thesis Committee

**Series 5**  
**Field guidebooks, 1942-1986**  
**Boxes 15 and BV 1-2**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes guidebooks from the 1960s used in the Department of Geology's field camp program.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in roughly alphabetical order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
15	1	Field Camp, 1970-75
15	2	Geology of Emory University Campus, 1942
15	3	Georgia Geological Society, 1962, 1967
15	4	Munyan Paleontology Field Trip, 1947
15	5	Munyan Paleontology Field Trip, 1947
15	6	Physiography of Emory University Summer Field Trip, 1947
15	7	Physiography of Emory University Summer Field Trip, 1947
BV1	1	Field Camp reports, 1951
BV2	1	Field Camp rosters, 1946-1986

**Series 6**  
**College of Arts and Sciences, 1944-1981**  
**Boxes 16-17**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes correspondence between the Emory University College Arts and Sciences and the Department of Geology, administrative policies, and student policies and procedures.

**Arrangement Note**

Organized into three subseries: (6.1) Administrative policies and documents, (6.2) Deans, and (6.3) Student records and policies.

**Subseries 6.1**  
**Administrative policies and documents, 1949-1981**  
**Box 16**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
16	1	Awards and Scholarships
16	2	Civilian Defense, 1952
16	3	College Curriculum Committee
16	4	Course listings, 1953, 1955, 1960
16	5	Department Chairmanships, 1951-52
16	6	General Sciences Program, 1949
16	7	Inter-Office Purchasing
16	8	Phi Beta Kappa
16	9	Reserve Officers' Training Corps (R.O.T.C.)
16	10	Self-Study
16	11	Semester Transition Plan, 1981
16	12	Teaching education
16	13	Veteran's Administration policies



**Subseries 6.2**  
**Deans, 1950**  
**Box 17**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged alphabetically by surname.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
17	1	Martin, 1950
17	2	Miller, 1950
17	3	Stephens
17	4	Ward, 1950

**Subseries 6.3**  
**Student records and policies, 1944-1976**  
**Box 17**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in chronological order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
17	5	1944
17	6	1954
17	7	1954
17	8	1974
17	9	1976

**Series 7**  
**Graduate school, 1949-1981**  
**Boxes 18-22**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes correspondence between the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies and the Department of Geology, student policies, faculty committee minutes and reports.

**Arrangement Note**

Organized into four subseries: (7.1) Administrative policies and documents, (7.2) Deans' correspondence, (7.3) Graduate School committees, and (7.4) Student records and policies.

**Subseries 7.1**  
**Administrative policies and documents, 1951-1980**  
**Box 18**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
18	1	Draft policies, 1954
18	2	Faculty surveys, 1951-53
18	3	Graduate degrees
18	4	Graduate School program inquiries, 1975-78
18	5	Graduate School program inquiries, 1975-78
18	6	Graduate School program inquiries, 1978-80
18	7	Ph.D. Program proposal in Geology
18	8	Research on Graduate School programs

**Subseries 7.2**  
**Dean's correspondence, 1950s**  
**Box 19**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order by surname.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
19	1	Archie, William C.
19	2	Dean of Graduate School
19	3	Dean of Graduate School
19	4	Eady, Virgil
19	5	Martin, S. Walter
19	6	Phillips, H. M.

**Subseries 7.3**  
**Graduate School committees, 1950s**  
**Box 19**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in alphabetical order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
19	7	Committee on Graduate Qualifying Exam
19	8	Foreign Language Exam
19	9	Sigma Xi

**Subseries 7.4**  
**Student records and policies, 1949-1981**  
**Boxes 19-22**

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged in chronological order.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
19	10	1949-1953
19	11	1954-1955
19	12	1954-1955
19	13	1955-1956
19	14	1955-1956
20	1	1965-1966
20	2	1966-1967
20	3	1967-68
20	4	1968-69
20	5	1968-69
21	1	1969-70
21	2	1969-70
21	3	1970-71
21	4	1970-71
21	5	1971-72
21	6	1971-72
21	7	1973-74
21	8	1974-75
21	9	1975-76
22	1	1976-77
22	2	1977-78
22	3	1977-78
22	4	1978-79
22	5	1979-80
22	6	1979-80
22	7	1980-81

**Series 8**  
**Printed material, 1953**  
**Box 22**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
22	8	<i>Geology at Emory University</i> , brochure, 1953

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