

Creation News Update

Proclaiming the TRUTH of the Bible starting at Genesis 1:1

Vol. 23, #1- Winter 2026 (#91)

But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these (his followers) become silent, the stones will cry out!" Luke 19:40

We must speak for silence would shame us, and the rocks themselves would cry out... You, O Lord Christ Jesus, must be praised for who You are in the world You have made.

Hello! The latest science is full of new findings that show that God, in the person of Jesus, is Creator of the universe, you and us. Thank you for joining us in learning the Good News.



Guy & Cindy Forsythe

You will find technical references for our articles at:
<http://www.CryingRocks.org>

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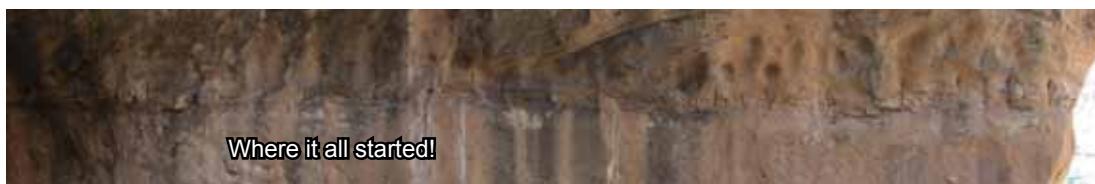
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Sedona Geology Series



Part 4 - The Great Sedona Earthquake! (Part 2)

While researching the Coconino, some amazing discoveries were also made in the Schnebly Hill Formation (actually in several formations). Geological features never before mentioned in any papers or books, not even Sedona Through Time, by Wayne Ranney, were discovered by the author. **In part 4, we will show you that what you think about Sedona geology in general (not just about the Coconino) is mostly incorrect.** We will support that statement with photos and data. No published papers - it's all recently discovered. **We're still having fun!**



Where it all started!

Introduction

The past three issues have dealt with the Coconino Formation and an earthquake in Sedona (and elsewhere). Materialist/atheist geologists believe that the rock around Sedona was deposited over many millions of years. Of course, that means it could not have been deposited during Noah's Flood... which lasted less than a year. Because those geologists have had to give up their paradigm of geological activity happening slowly over long periods of time for most formations, they hold onto sandstone such as the Coconino and Schnebly Hill to inject millions of years in deposition of strata. Outside of sandstones they have to put their millions of years at the boundary lines between formations (lack of data is the evidence). They want one type of rock, sandstone, to require long times for deposition. In this and the previous three issues we show that all the rock around Sedona was deposited rapidly, a few days at most (most of the rock around Sedona is sandstone).

Review

To review what we have written so far, you can download PDFs of our previous three issues (Spring, Summer and Fall of 2025) at: <http://www.cryingrocks.org/nl/nl.html>.

Where It All Started

The photo above is where it all started. The discovery is extremely important and started the research project. The fact is that we didn't know what was here; we just knew it was significant. Notice the vertical slits. We have close-up views of them on the next page. These slits are about 15 to 18 inches tall and spaced about 30 to 36 inches apart. They run for a tenth of a mile along the Mushroom Trail near the top of the ridge. We presented a poster session at the Geological Society of America (GSA) at the 2010 annual meeting. On the poster, we asked for input. Most had no idea, but several times during the day of our poster session, someone would say, with no hesitation, "Those are **water escape features**." After asking those **structural geologists** questions and digging up references when we got back home, we discovered that these are extremely important in an analysis of the deposition of the strata. Here are the two close-up photos:

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A bit of the largest collection of slits



A bit more of the largest collection of slits

This collection of slits is at about the vertical middle of the Coconino Formation. (Most of the Coconino folds we discussed two issues ago were near the vertical bottom of the Coconino.) You will notice in the left photo that the strata is folded in a manner similar to the other Coconino folds. But a couple of the folds look more like earthquake-caused folds. So, the slits may have formed during deposition or they may be the result of the great Sedona earthquake (the most likely cause) we described in the last issue, or both.

Water Escape Features

Let's back up a bit. Last issue, we showed you a [water pipe](#). A water pipe is a water escape feature. During an earthquake, the water in a saturated or liquefied sediment will tend to separate from the sediment and flow out. The water gets concentrated in a particular place and then flows like a stream through the sediment, carrying sediment along with it. Like electricity, the water follows the path of least resistance. Usually, the least resistance is upward to the top of the layer of sediment. We get a water pipe visible on a horizontal surface. In this case, the sediment above is so thick, creating so much resistance, that the water flowed horizontally, forming slits! The slits above can be seen on both sides of the ridge between Long and Boynton Canyons. We don't know where the ends were before erosion created the canyons.

Liquefaction and Evulsion

You will recall from the last two issues that "[liquefied](#)" means there is water between the grains of sediment, acting as a lubricant, allowing the grains to slide past each other, leaving an undisturbed strata line except that it may bend from the original straight line that happens at deposition. You will also recall that "[evulsion](#)" is the forcing out of the water as the grains of sediment are squeezed from the pressure of sediment above or from the shaking of an earthquake. In other words, the strata at the bottom of a pile of strata will have the water squeezed out in just minutes so that the strata is still very wet, but no longer liquefied. Once evulsion occurs, distorted strata will have crumbly strata lines. These water escape slits are the result of incredibly fast and powerful evulsion.

More Data

As we started this series nearly a year ago, I was looking through my photographs and remembered that there are many more places with these vertical water escape slits. Next are a few:

Possible horizontal water escape features in Pumphouse Wash (in the Coconino). Note that the slits are in distorted strata. That is an indication that the cause was an earthquake.



was still liquefied or at least saturated, the sediment above had to have been deposited



These two sets of slits are in HS Canyon. They line up horizontally with the slits in the ridge between Long and Boynton Canyons. These shots required a very long lens on the camera as they are hundreds of feet above the trail. They are visible in late morning, when the sun is at the right angle to illuminate them properly. These are important because you can see that one of the slits in each group crosses from one bed up into another bed. These two beds would have been laid down many years apart according to naturalist theory, yet the water escape slits tells us that they were both still liquefied. Here is the really important significance: If the sediment above the slits was thin, the water would have shot up like a regular water pipe. But the water moved horizontally. That tells us that there was a huge amount of sediment above the features... hundreds of feet of sediment. But the strata would have been hardened into rock with all that weight on top. Since the sediment shown and the hundreds of feet of sand within a few hours.

The top two photos to the left are taken in an area just southeast of Brins Mesa. The bottom photo is from Boynton Canyon near the end of the official trail. Notice in all three photos that the slits cross bedding planes showing that two (three in the center photo) separate deposition events occurred at nearly the same time. in the center photo, there two layers of slits. Since these are all Schnebly Hill Formation sandstone, the naturalists have a serious problem. The naturalists say the sand was deposited very slowly over time. They see thousands of years where data indicates a few minutes. Notice also that the upper slits in the middle photo have round holes at the tops and at a couple bottoms of the slits. It appears that the water creating the slits hit softer material at the tops and bottoms and spread out to form a round pipe.

The sandstone formation around Sedona can be explained by slow deposition or fast deposition when looking at most locations. The naturalists and creationists interpret based on their world view, but for both it is speculation. These slits are data that show the creationist explanation is the correct one. The naturalists have no explanation.



The two photos on the left are of the same set of slits. They are located on Cockscomb. The photo below, right, is on the east side of Long Canyon. Notice there are two very tall slits going through two sediment beds. This group is more irregular than most of the slits. They are also very close to the earthquake resonance zone described in the last issue.

Fay Canyon Overlook - location of a large area of earthquake distortion shown in last issue.



This is a great example of the slits. There are two rows, the slits are tightly spaced with one another, and it is directly below earthquake distorted strata. The earthquake affected a couple hundred vertical feet of strata here. This example is a leading reason I think the slits were caused by earthquake rather than deposition of the sediment. This was a minor resonance point and we get two different earthquake effects at the same location.





What about the Fort Apache strata that lies in the middle of the Schnebly Hill Formation? The Fort Apache, unlike the other layers we have discussed, is limestone, actually dolomite (limestone plus magnesium). Dolomite is not forming anywhere in the world today that we know of, yet there is a lot of it in the strata in various locations, including here (and in the Coconino). Dolomite only forms in water with a temperature of at least 104°. The dolomite is very hard. It rings when you tap one piece against another. Notice that once again we have vertical slits. Dolomite turns to rock rather quickly because it forms by chemical reaction. The naturalist explanation would be that the cracks are caused by shrinkage as the partially hardened dolomite dries. But, look closely and you will see horizontal water pipes at the tops of the slits. Because the sandstone is softer than the dolomite, the water penetrated into the sandstone in order to make its escape. So, my interpretation is that the slits are water escape features. The water could not erode enough Fort Apache so it dug into the sandstone above. The top left photo is on the west side of Wilson Mountain. The center left photo is from the ridge that is at the focal point of the earthquake shaking. The bottom left is a close-up of the center left photo. The bottom right photo is on the east side of Long Canyon, in the focal point of the shaking and where you can get up close to the slits in several locations.



It gets more exciting! The stripes of different shades of red we find in the Schnebly Hill Formation have been explained, based on world view rather than data, as layers where ground water either coated the sand grains with iron or eroded away the thin layer of iron on the sand grains. The latter seems a better explanation than the former to me. BUT! Now we have data! All of the data presented on the Sedona earthquake indicate that the layers were deposited rapidly right after each other. That would mean there was varying amounts of iron in the water that transported the sand grains. The conclusive evidence for this fact is found on the top of Cockscomb. The photo below right was taken on top of Cockscomb at the location indicated by the magenta arrow in the left photo. Notice the whitish strata indicated by the blue arrows. The photo on the right shows an injectite. An injectite is a water pipe

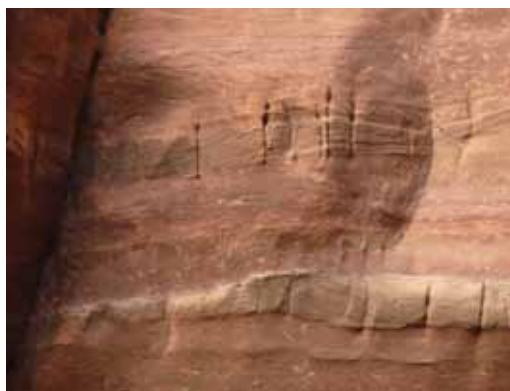


ANOMALIES: When looking at most strata it is impossible to determine if it was deposited quickly or slowly. Naturalists and creationists simply follow their underlying world view to make the determination and explanation. The earthquake related data we have found in the Sedona area can only be explained within the creationist worldview. It does NOT and CANNOT fit the old earth naturalist view. The water escape features and injectites can only form in sediment that was deposited within the past day or less. By eroding horizontally, water escape features show that sediment above the features was incredibly thick when the features were formed so the sediment was recently deposited for hundreds of feet of thickness. If the deposition was rapid in the area of Sedona, it had to be rapid through the entire formation. In the next issue, our final look at the geology of Sedona, we will look at data from across the Colorado Plateau that shows evidence of Noah's Flood. The data will show that very little time passed in forming geological features. CRM



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