

C. RICHARD BURNETTE
Biographical Review



C. Richard Burnette was born in Los Angeles, California. He received a B.A. in Geology from Whittier College in 1951 and an M. S. in Geology from the University of Arizona in 1957. Additional work at the University of New Mexico in meteorology was taken when in the U.S. Air Force. He maintains his Air Force connection as a member of the Reserve.

Mr. Burnette's professional experience has been with Tenneco Oil Company. From 1957 to 1959, he was in Denver where his activities centered on the Westward Slope and the Denver Basin. In Jackson, Mississippi from 1959 to 1960, he studied the Black Warrior Basin and Cretaceous and Eocene (Wilcox) sediments. As a Senior Geologist in Corpus Christi and Houston from 1960 to the present, Mr. Burnette is involved with Southwest Texas, Southern Arkansas and East Texas.

He is a member of AAPG, AIPG, and the American Meteorological Society and is a Fellow of the GSA.

ABSTRACT

A SEARCH FOR STRATIGRAPHICALLY TRAPPED HYDROCARBONS IN
THE LOWER CRETACEOUS OF FIFTEEN COUNTIES IN SOUTH TEXAS

A search for stratigraphically trapped hydrocarbons was conducted in fifteen counties of South Texas over a period of three years. Thirty-one exploratory wells were drilled to the Sligo Formation. None of these exploratory efforts encountered commercial hydrocarbons.

The primary area of exploration was the Lower Cretaceous shelf area of the Gulf Coast Basin. The main objective was the Cow Creek member of the Pearsall formation. The Cow Creek represents a beach and offshore bar complex along the shore lines of the Pearsall sea, and contains up to fifty feet of porous calcarenite. Other members of the Pearsall are the Bexar shale and La Pryor limestone which overlie the Cow Creek and the Pine Island shale which underlies it.

The Pearsall represents the transgressive phase and stillstand of a cycle which began as the Sligo regression and ended as the Glen Rose regression.

Data gathered during the drilling program supports contention that the Lower Glen Rose reef section is another possible location of stratigraphic traps. The Lower Glen Rose is represented by a series of offlap rudistid reefs prograding in the Glen Rose sea.

A complete suite of electrical logs and approximately 9000 feet of core were taken during the drilling program.