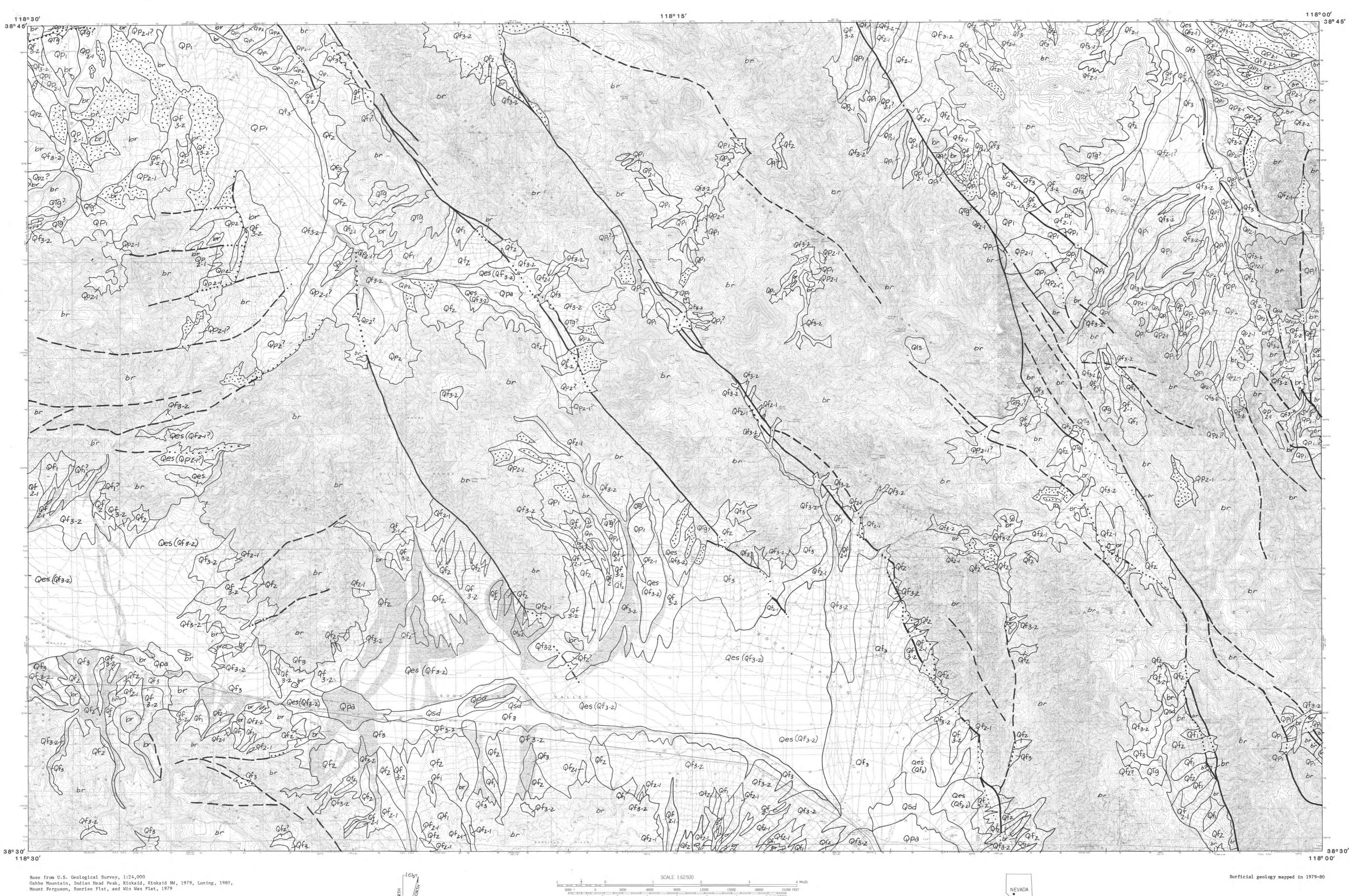
## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





# RECONNAISSANCE SURFICIAL GEOLOGIC MAP OF THE GABBS-LUNING AREA, WEST-CENTRAL NEVADA

CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

By

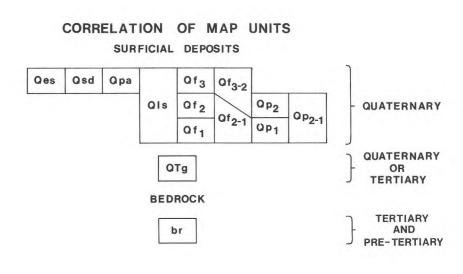
John C. Dohrenwend

1982

# MISCELLANEOUS FIELD STUDIES MAP MF - 1374



AREA OF MAP



#### DESCRIPTION OF MAP UNITS SURFICIAL DEPOSITS

- Qes EOLIAN SAND DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Well to moderately well sorted sand and silt. Occurs as thin sand sheets that veneer other surficial deposits leeward of pluvial lake deposits, playas, and distal fringes of large young alluvial fans. Extensive sand sheets veneering young and intermediate alluvial fan deposits north of axis of Soda Spring Valley were derived largely from littoral and bottom deposits of the Walker Lake arm of Pleistocene Lake Lahanton west of map area. Symbols for units veneered by eolian sand sheets are shown in parentheses. Thickness ( to 5 m
- Qsd SAND DUNE DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Well-sorted medium to fine sand. Forms barchanoid ridge dunes, 1 to 7 m high, leeward of playas and distal fringes of large young alluvial fans. Dune orientations indicate dominant southwest wind direction. Typically partly stabilized by sparse to moderate densities of low shrubs and grasses. Occurs along axis of Soda Spring Valley, east and north of major playas in that valley. Also occurs in north part of Sunrise Flat. Thickness 0 to 15 m
- Qpa PLAYA DEPOSITS (Quaternary) -- Brownish- to grayish-white clay, silt, and sand with associated evaporite salt. Some lenses of sand and gravel near playa margins. Deposited in ephemeral lakes along axis of Soda Spring Valley and in Win Wan Flat. Playas of Soda Spring Valley and Win Wan Flat are clay-pan dry-type playas with compact clayey surfaces
- Qls \_\_ LANDSLIDE DEPOSIT (Quaternary)--Chaotic mass of unsorted angular boulder- to clay-size debris. Includes some talus and colluvium where these materials overlap or are intermixed with landslide debris. Occurs as generally lobate mass of hummocky terrain in steeply sloping uplands. Limited to one large (approximately 0.7 km<sup>2</sup>) landslide in Tertiary andesite between elevations of 7,000 and 8,000 ft on southeast flank of Mount Ferguson in eastcentral part of map area. Thickness 0 to 50 m
- YOUNG ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Poorly sorted Qf3 deposits of boulders, cobbles, pebbles, sand, and silt. Clast lithologies vary according to rock types that crop out in drainage basins associated with each fan. Clast size generally decreases and sorting generally improves downfan toward distal margins. Includes some fine-grained basin-fill deposits where distal fan limits are poorly defined. Fan surfaces are undissected to slightly dissected with few, if any, well-defined drainage channels. Constructional surfaces are generally unweathered with very weak, if any, soil development. Drainage is distributary, radiating from fan apex
- Qf3-2 YOUNG AND INTERMEDIATE ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Mapped in areas where young and intermediate age fan surfaces are too complexly interrelated to be mapped separately or where age relations are uncertain
- INTERMEDIATE ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Lithologically Qf2 and texturally similar to young alluvial fan deposits. contacts between intermediate and young alluvial far deposits are commonly gradational and poorly defined. Intermediate alluvial fan surfaces are slightly to moderately dissected with numerous well-defined drainage channels. Drainage is predominantly distributary, but some drainage channels head on fan surfaces. Relief due to dissection is generally less than 5 m. Constructional surfaces are slightly to moderately weathered with weak to moderate soil development and distinct desert pavement
- Qf<sub>2-1</sub> INTERMEDIATE AND OLD ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Mapped in areas where intermediate and old alluvial fan deposits are too complexly interrelated to be mapped separately or where age relations are uncertain. Typically occurs as upper parts of bajadas adjacent to mountain fronts
- Qf1 OLD ALLUVIAL FAN DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Lithologically and texturally similar to intermediate and young alluvial fan deposits. Fan surfaces are deeply dissected by welldeveloped subparallel drainage that heads on fan surface. Relief due to dissection is commonly 10 to 30 m. Commonly separated from younger depositional surfaces by abrupt erosional scarps. Constructional fan surfaces are strongly weathered with moderately well to very well developed soils and distinct to well-developed desert pavement. Typically occurs as upper parts of bajadas adjacent to mountain fronts
- YOUNGER PEDIMENT DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Lithologically, Qp2 texturally, and morphologically similar to intermediate alluvial fan deposits except that younger pediment deposits occur as veneers on erosion surfaces cut into bedrock and older alluvium. Associated with numerous widely scattered bedrock pediment surfaces where original pediment deposits have been removed by erosion. Occurs as scattered deposits in valleys and basins of northern part of map area. Thickness 0 to 20 m
- QP2-1 YOUNGER AND OLDER PEDIMENT DEPOSITS, UNDIFFERENTIATED (Quaternary)--Designates those pediment deposits for which more precise age relations could not be determined. Associated with numerous widely scattered bedrock pediment surfaces where original pediment deposits have been removed by erosion. Occurs as widely scattered deposits in the valleys and basins of northern part of map area. Thickness 0 to 20 m
- OLDER PEDIMENT DEPOSITS (Quaternary)--Lithologically, Qp1 texturally, and morphologically similar to old alluvial fan deposits except that older pediment deposits occur as veneers on erosion surfaces cut into bedrock and Quaternary and (or) Tertiary alluvium. Probably includes some fan deposits in areas of slight to moderate dissection. Older pediment deposits are difficult to distinguish from old alluvial fan deposits in areas of pedimented alluvium. Dominates piedmonts of larger valleys and basins in northern part of map area. Associated with bedrock pediment surfaces where original pediment deposits have been removed by erosion. Thickness 0 to 20 m
- QTg OLD ALLUVIAL GRAVELS (Quaternary and (or) Tertiary)--Boulderto pebble-size gravel, sandy gravel, and gravelly sand. Gravels are subangular to subrounded. Loosely to moderately indurated matrix, predominantly sand and silt. Little or no preserved constructional form. Thickness 0 to 100+ -

BEDROCK

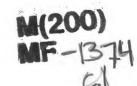
BEDROCK--Late Tertiary terrigenous sedimentary rocks and middle to late Tertiary volcanic rocks underlie most of north and br east parts of map area. Mesozoic intrusive and sedimentary rocks underlie most of southern part of map area (Ekren and Byers, 1978a, b)

CONTACT

- FAULT--Dashed where inferred in bedrock; dotted where concealed by Quaternary deposits. Mapped faults are limited to those faults that by stratigraphic evidence can be shown to be Quaternary faults or by geomorphic evidence can be inferred to be Quaternary and (or) late Tertiary faults. Fault traces in Quaternary deposits are mapped as solid lines only where offset of Quaternary deposits can be demonstrated. Fault traces forming contacts between bedrock and Quaternary units are mapped as solid lines only where offset of Quaternary deposits can be demonstrated or where Quaternary movement is suggested by morphology of bedrock scarp. Elsewhere, fault traces in or bounding Quaternary deposits are mapped as dotted lines in Quaternary deposits. Faults in bedrock are mapped only where morphology of fault trace suggests Quaternary and (or) late Tertiary movement or where fault traces can be related to faults that offset or bound Quaternary deposits
- BEDROCK PEDIMENT SURFACES--Pediment surface where original pediment deposits have been removed by erosion. Typically well dissected

### REFERENCES

Ekren, E. B., and Byers, F. M., Jr., 1978a, Preliminary geologic map of the Luning SW quadrangle, Mineral and Nye Counties, Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 78-917, scale 1:48,000. 1978b, Preliminary geologic map of the Luning SE quadrangle, Mineral and Nye Counties, Nevada: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report /8-918, scale 1:48,000.



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