

Table 1.--Geologic history of the San Joaquin Valley and bordering mountains--Continued

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Epoch	Coast Ranges	San Joaquin Valley	Sierra Nevada
Miocene	General trend of present structural and topographic features was established.	Deposition of continental and marine sediments in southeastern part of valley contemporaneous with marine sedimentation in central and western areas. Valley largely above sea level during early Miocene.	Uplift along faults on eastern border elevated range several thousand feet.
Oligocene	Most of ranges above sea level.	Continental deposition in southeastern part of valley.	Erosion continued.
Eocene	Marine deposition along east flank.	Shallow sea occupied most of valley area, shore locally encroached on Sierra and Coast Range; streams from Sierra deposited nonmarine clay, quartzose sand, and gravel along eastern border of valley.	Moderate uplift of change in base level caused dissection of weathered rocks.
Paleocene	Sedimentation practically uninterrupted along eastern flank of present Coast Ranges.	Deposition of marine sediments in northwestern part of valley.	Erosion continued.
Late Cretaceous	Shallow-water marine sediments deposited in sinking geosyncline.	Deposition of elastic sediments in shallow sea occupying the northern and western parts of present valley. Downwarping kept pace with deposition.	Erosion uncovered granitic rock over broad areas. Rocks of Paleozoic and early Mesozoic age folded and intruded by igneous rocks of granitic composition.