



Stewart R. Wallace (1919-2009)

2011 Inductee from Mining's Past

Renowned molybdenum geologist, Discoverer of the Henderson molybdenum deposit, and Philanthropist. Stewart Wallace and his team of geologists at Climax Molybdenum Company, through their discoveries of the Henderson mine and the Ceresco deposit at the Climax mine, profoundly influenced molybdenum mining in Colorado and molybdenum exploration in Western North America.

Stewart Wallace earned his B.A. in geology at Dartmouth College, graduating in 1941. After serving in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1946, he earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in geology at the University of Michigan. From 1948 to 1955, Wallace served with the U.S. Geological Survey, mapping mineral districts in the western United States. In 1955, he went to work for the Climax Molybdenum Company, first as Resident Geologist at Climax, Colorado, then as Chief Geologist and finally as Chief of Geology and Exploration.

While working for Climax Molybdenum, Wallace conducted detailed studies of the geology at both Climax and Red Mountain, the location of the Henderson deposit. He developed a multiple-intrusion model to describe the complex magmatic and hydrothermal events that produced the Climax ore body. This model enabled him to find the Henderson ore body. At the Climax mine, Wallace's work resulted in the discovery of the Ceresco ore body and the deep, offset portion of the Ceresco ore body. During his tenure with Climax Molybdenum, he also examined numerous foreign and domestic deposits.

From 1970 to 1976, Stewart Wallace served as President and Director of Exploration for Mine Finders, Inc. In that capacity, he conducted mineral exploration in western North America for a three-way joint venture with Coolbaugh Mining and Bethlehem Steel. In 1976, he began a career as a geologic consultant whose advice was sought by many. Wallace published a number of outstanding articles on geology, was a Distinguished Member of the Society of Mining,

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Metallurgy and Exploration, and served as President of the Society of Economic Geologists in 1992-1993. In 1974, SME presented its prestigious Daniel C. Jackling Award to Stewart Wallace in recognition of his discovery of the Henderson ore body. Wallace trained and mentored many exploration and mining geologists; his legacy and commitment to science, engineering, and education continues through his generous legacy gifts to SME, SEG, and the Colorado School of Mines.