

**AAPG Annual Meeting
March 10-13, 2002
Houston, Texas**

William L. Fisher¹ (1) The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

The Geological Surveys of Texas

The Bureau of Economic Geology, a part of The University of Texas at Austin and most recently a component of the Jackson School of Geosciences, has served as the state geological survey of Texas since 1909. Its roots go back to 1858 when the Legislature created the first survey known as the Geological and Agricultural Survey of Texas, a survey that functioned a couple of years before and after the Civil War but accomplished little. A second survey, the Texas Geological Survey, operating in the early 1870's, likewise, was of little note. The third survey, the Geological and Mineral Survey, also known as the Dumble survey from its director, operated for six years with appropriations and five without. This survey completed a large volume of quality work and laid the foundation for geological research in Texas. In 1901, the Texas survey became a part of The University of Texas, first as the Mineral Survey, established to survey the vast mineral holdings of the State and The University, and in 1909 as the Bureau of Economic Geology. W. B. Phillips was director of the Mineral Survey and first director of the Bureau. He assembled a staff of top scientists, including J. A. Udden, Oscar Professor at Augustana College. When Phillips left for the presidency of Colorado School of Mines in 1915, Udden became director. Udden, a preeminent scientist dedicated to research, set the Bureau in a pattern that has existed largely to this day, one with a close research tie to academia, state government and industry, but one without direct involvement in the management of the State's energy, water, and mineral resources. Although substantially increasing in size and activity through the years, the Bureau's core dedication to research has made it one of the best known geological research centers.