



Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education  
Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences  
Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5241  
Fax: (269) 387-5513  
Phone: (269) 387-8633 or 387-8642

**William B. Harrison, III**  
*Director and Professor Emeritus*  
**Peter J. Voice**  
*Professor*  
**Jennifer Trout**  
*Geologist*  
**Linda K. Harrison**  
*Administrator*



## **MGRRE—Ensuring Future Research, Education and Economic Development by Preserving Geological Data**

### **MGRRE's background and purpose**

The Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education (MGRRE) is part of the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences and the Michigan Geological Survey (MGS) at Western Michigan University (WMU). Our faculty and staff have sought out and preserved geological material for more than 30 years. Our samples and data are used by faculty and students in research and education and by industry and government in resource exploration and development.

More than half of our materials were acquired since 2011 when the MGS was transferred to WMU, and those materials are now, by legislation, the property of the State.

These samples and data represent both shallow and deep subsurface formations that are not available elsewhere and are needed for economic development and scientific investigations.

Because there are few bedrock outcrops in Michigan's Lower Peninsula (due to thick surface glacial deposits), and because several areas undergoing redevelopment are densely populated, these samples will likely be the only sources of subsurface geological data for these areas in the foreseeable future.

### **Samples and Data at MGRRE**

We preserve more than 550,000 linear feet of geologic core, rock cuttings from more than 25,000 oil, gas, mineral, and water wells, and records from about 60,000 wells. Most of the paper well records have been scanned and are available digitally.

These materials were donated to MGRRE by industry members (largely the oil and gas industry), engineering firms, State agencies and other universities. We have never refused any collections and our goal is to continue that policy.

State regulations do not require preservation of these geological samples. Most of them would be in landfills today if they had not been preserved at MGRRE.