

# Quaternary Fault and Fold Database of the United States

As of January 12, 2017, the USGS maintains a limited number of metadata fields that characterize the Quaternary faults and folds of the United States. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the [interactive fault map](#).

## Mission Ridge fault system, Santa Ana section (Class A) No. 88d

Last Review Date: 2017-02-19

*citation for this record:* Bryant, W.A., compiler, 2017, Fault number 88d, Mission Ridge fault system, Santa Ana section, in Quaternary fault and fold database of the United States: U.S. Geological Survey website, <https://earthquakes.usgs.gov/hazards/qfaults>, accessed 12/14/2020 03:14 PM.

### Synopsis

**General:** East-striking system of generally moderately to steeply south-dipping reverse to reverse sinistral oblique faults and associated folds. Fault system reported to be mostly blind at the western end (Keller and Gurrola, 2000), but is mostly a surface fault along the eastern extent. Mission Ridge fault system is characterized by late Pleistocene, and locally Holocene displacement (Minor and others 2009; Gurrola, 2006; Keller and Gurrola, 2000; Weber and others, 1975; Chauvel, 1958; Kahle, 1985 #7940; Rockwell and others, 1984). Mission Ridge fault system divided into 4 sections in this compilation, generally following the segmentation first proposed by Keller and Gurrola (2000). The Ellwood Mesa site (88-1) exposed evidence of three events, the most recent occurring after 36 ka. The penultimate event occurred about 37 ka and the pre-penultimate event occurred between 37 ka and 47 ka (Keller and Gurrola, 2000;

Gurrola, 2006). Gurrola (2006) calculated a minimum dip slip rate of 0.4 mm/yr at the Ellwood Mesa site, based on a vertically offset 47 ka wave cut platform. The Santa Barbara Mission scarp site (88-2) exposed evidence of two events that offset latest Pleistocene to Holocene stream channel and floodplain deposits (Gurrola, 2006). Gurrola and Keller (2003) reported a vertical uplift rate of 0.75 mm/yr at the Sheffield Reservoir site (88-3), based on 90 m uplift of a 125 ka alluvial fan deposit. Assuming a 45° dip for the Mission Ridge section, a dip-slip rate of about 1 mm/yr is indicated. Gurrola and Keller (2003) reported progressive deformation of young fluvial deposits indicating multiple events across the northern limb of the Mission Ridge anticline at the Sheffield Reservoir site (88-3), but no dates or event horizons were determined.

**Sections:** This fault has 4 sections. There is insufficient data to delineate seismogenic segments. Keller and Gurrola (2000) defined three segments that define their Mission Ridge fault system based on differences in geometric, geomorphic, and structural style. From west to east they defined the More Ranch segment, Mission Ridge segment and Arroyo Parida segment. The Arroyo Parida segment included the Santa Ana fault. The segments defined by Keller and Gurrola are adopted in this compilation, although they are considered sections and the Santa Ana fault is separated into a fourth section.

**Name  
comments**

**General:** Mission Ridge fault system first introduced by Gurrola and Keller (1999) and Keller and Gurrola (2000) for the zone of surface faults and near surface blind faults consisting of (from west to east) the More Ranch, Mission Ridge, Arroyo Parida, and Santa Ana faults (referred to by Gurrola and Keller as fault segments). The More Ranch fault was first mapped and named by Hill (1932). The Mission Ridge fault, named for the low, north-facing scarps along the north side of Mission Ridge, was first inferred to be a fault and was named by Dibblee (1966). Arnold (1907) first described the Arroyo Parida fault. Putnam (1942) may have been the first to map the Santa Ana fault.

**Section:** The Santa Ana section was considered as part of the Arroyo Parida segment by Keller and Gurrola (2000). However, in this compilation the Santa Ana section, which is delineated by the Santa Ana fault, is considered as a separate section because of the documented evidence, locally, for Holocene displacement (Kahle, 1985 #7940; Rockwell, 1983; Buena Engineers, 1981). The Santa Ana section extends from just west of the Ventura

	<p>River eastward forming the southern margin of Ojai Valley and is truncated at its eastern end by the San Cayetano fault zone [95].</p> <p><b>Fault ID:</b> Refers to numbers 322 (More Ranch fault), 327 (Mission Ridge fault and Arroyo Parida fault) and 329 (Santa Ana fault) of Jennings (1994) and numbers 46 (Mission Ridge–Arroyo Parida fault zone), 47 (More Ranch fault), and 56 (Santa Ana fault) of Ziony and Yerkes (1985).</p>
<p><b>County(s) and State(s)</b></p>	<p>VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA</p>
<p><b>Physiographic province(s)</b></p>	<p>PACIFIC BORDER</p>
<p><b>Reliability of location</b></p>	<p>Good Compiled at 1:24,000 scale.</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Location of fault from Qt_ft_ver_3-0_Final_WGS84_polyline.shp (Bryant, W.A., written communication to K.Haller, August 15, 2017) attributed to 1:48,000-scale mapping by Dibblee (1987 #7933, 1987 #7934), Weber and others (1975) and 1:24,000-scale mapping by Clark (1972), and Kahle (1985 #7939, 1985#7940).</p>
<p><b>Geologic setting</b></p>	<p>Mission Ridge fault system is a generally east-striking zone of faults and associated folds that extend on land for about 68 km from the Ellwood Mesa area west of Isla Vista east to the San Cayetano fault [95]. Keller and Gurrola (2000) stated that the Mission Ridge fault system extends offshore west of Ellwood Mesa. Mission Ridge fault system is considered by Keller and Gurrola (2000) to be a major structure of the Santa Barbara Fold Belt, which is located on the south side of the Santa Ynez anticlinorium. Keller and Gurrola characterized the Santa Barbara Fold Belt as a linear zone of active folds located along the southern flank of the western Transverse Ranges. They reported that the Mission Ridge fault system is comprised of shallow subsurface folding developed on the hanging-walls of blind reverse and thrust faults, although generally north-vergent reverse faults locally extend to the surface or very near surface. Farther east the Mission Ridge fault system is expressed by surface faults and folds that offset or deform late Pleistocene alluvium and terrace deposits. Maximum displacement is not well-constrained for the Mission Ridge fault system. Chauvel (1958) postulated that the Arroyo Parida section [88c] may have up to 825 m of dip</p>

	<p>separation and between 0.8 to 1.2 km of sinistral displacement, based on an offset contact between Eocene Coldwater Formation and Oligocene Sespe Formation. Dibblee (1966) reported that the Arroyo Parida section is characterized by up to 300 meters of up on south vertical displacement and a possible, though unknown, component of sinistral displacement. Jackson and Yeats (1982) argue that subsurface data do not support a large component of sinistral offset.</p>
<b>Length (km)</b>	km.
<b>Average strike</b>	
<b>Sense of movement</b>	<p>Reverse</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Clark (1982) and Rockwell and others (1984) reported that Santa Ana fault is predominately reverse.</p>
<b>Dip</b>	<p>70° to near vertical</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Clark (1982) depicts the Santa Ana fault as near vertical in cross sections A-A', B-B', and C-C'; Rockwell and others (1984) show the Santa Ana fault dipping steeply to the south. Trench excavations show dips between 70–85° N. (Buena Engineers, 1981, 1982 #7922).</p>
<b>Paleoseismology studies</b>	
<b>Geomorphic expression</b>	<p>Santa Ana section locally is delineated by north-facing scarps on late Pleistocene alluvial and terrace surfaces, and linear tonal contrasts in late Pleistocene alluvium (Weber and others, 1975; Rockwell, 1983; Kahle, 1985 #7940; Clark, 1982).</p>
<b>Age of faulted surficial deposits</b>	<p>Fault offsets Tertiary Sespe Formation, Quaternary alluvium, and late Pleistocene terrace deposits. Turner (1971) reported that the Santa Ana fault offsets water-bearing late Pleistocene alluvial gravels in the southern Ojai Valley region. Trenches by Buena Engineers (1981, 1982 #7922, 1982 #7923; described in Kahle, 1985 #7940) show that the Santa Ana fault offsets Qt5b terrace deposit mapped by Rockwell (1983) and overlying soil deposits. Rockwell and others (1984) estimated the age of the soil developed on the Qt5a surface to be 15–20 ka.</p>
<b>Historic</b>	

<b>earthquake</b>	
<b>Most recent prehistoric deformation</b>	<p>latest Quaternary (&lt;15 ka)</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Age of the most recent event is poorly constrained. Trenches across the Santa Ana fault near Mira Monte exposed offset soils developed on Qt5b surface. Rockwell (1983) estimated that age of the Qt5b terrace surface to be late Pleistocene.</p>
<b>Recurrence interval</b>	
<b>Slip-rate category</b>	<p>Between 0.2 and 1.0 mm/yr</p> <p><i>Comments:</i> Clark and others (1984) reported a minimum vertical displacement rate of 0.35 mm/yr and a maximum vertical displacement rate of 0.4 mm/yr, based on vertical separation of fluvial terrace surfaces dated by soil profile development and <sup>14</sup>C dating. A 28.5–30.9 ka surface was vertically displaced 10.7–11.3 m and a 36.5–39.5 ka terrace was vertically displaced 13.7–14.3 m along the Ventura River near Mira Monte (Rockwell, 1983; Rockwell and Keller, 1984). Kahle (1985 #7939, 1985 #7940) did not verify the amount of offset reported by Rockwell (1983). Trenches were excavated in the Qt5b terrace of Rockwell (1983), exposing faulted terrace gravels and overlying soil. However, the observed vertical displacement was about 0.5 m, south side up, suggesting a displacement rate significantly less than 0.1 mm/yr (Kahle, 1985 #7940; Buena Engineers, 1981, 1982 #7922, 1982 #7923, 1986).</p>
<b>Date and Compiler(s)</b>	<p>2017</p> <p>William A. Bryant, California Geological Survey</p>
<b>References</b>	<p>#7920 Arnold, R., 1907, Geology and oil resources of the Summerland District: U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 321, 93 p.</p> <p>#7921 Buena Engineers, 1981, Partial engineering geology study; Tract 3720, Mira Monte area, north Oak View, Ventura County, California: Unpublished consulting report dated 12-17-1981, project no. 81-12-142/B-7337-V4, 5 p., 1 plate (CGS file number AP 3086), <i>in</i> Fault investigation reports for development sites within Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones in southern California, 1974–2000: California Geological Survey CGS CD 2003-02 (2003).</p>

#7925 Chauvel, J.P., 1958, The geology of the Arroyo Parida fault, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, California: Los Angeles, University of California, unpublished M.S. thesis, 62 p., 5 plates, scale 1:24,000.

#2876 Clark, M.M., Harms, K.H., Lienkaemper, J.J., Harwood, D.S., Lajoie, K.R., Matti, J.C., Perkins, J.A., Rymer, M.J., Sarna-Wojcicki, A.M., Sharp, R.V., Sims, J.D., Tinsley, J.C., III, and Ziony, J.I., 1984, Preliminary slip rate table and map of late Quaternary faults of California: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 84-106, 12 p., 5 plates, scale 1:1,000,000.

#5978 Dibblee, T.W., Jr., 1966, Geology of the central Santa Ynez Mountains, Santa Barbara County, California: California Division of Mines and Geology Bulletin 186, 99 p., 4 pls.

#7936 Gurrola, L.D., 2006, Active tectonics and earthquake hazards of the Santa Barbara fold belt, California: Santa Barbara, University of California, unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, 25 p., 5 plates.

#7937 Gurrola, L.D., and Keller, E.A., 2003, Tectonic geomorphology, active folding, and earthquake hazard of the Mission Ridge fault system, Santa Barbara, California: Geological Society of America Abstracts with Program, v. 35, no. 6, p. 98–99.

#8151 Jackson, P.A., and Yeats, R.S., 1982, Structural evolution of Carpinteria basin, western Transverse Ranges, California: American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletin, v. 66, no. 7, p. 805–829.

#2878 Jennings, C.W., 1994, Fault activity map of California and adjacent areas, with locations of recent volcanic eruptions: California Division of Mines and Geology Geologic Data Map 6, 92 p., 2 pls., scale 1:750,000.

#7940 Kahle, J.E., 1985, The San Cayetano fault near Fillmore, the Lion fault in Upper Ojai Valley, and the Arroyo Parida-Santa Ana fault near Mira Monte, Ventura County, California, California Division of Mines and Geology supplement #1 to fault evaluation report FER-174, 12 p., scale 1:24,000, *in* Fault evaluation reports prepared under the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act, Region 2—Southern California: California



Geological Survey CGS CD 2002-02 (2002).

#7942 Keller, E.A., and Gurrola, L.D., 2000, Earthquake hazard of the Santa Barbara fold belt, California: U.S. Geological Survey Final Technical Report Award #99HQGR0081, July 2000, 78 p.

#7941 Keller, E.A., Gurrola, L., and Tierney, T.E., 1999, Geomorphic criteria to determine direction of lateral propagation of reverse faulting and folding: *Geology*, v. 27, p. 515–518.

#8207 Minor, S.A., Kellogg, K.S., Stanley, R.G., Gurrola, L.D., Keller, E.A., and Brandt, T.R., 2009, Geologic map of the Santa Barbara coastal plain area, Santa Barbara County, California: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Map 3001, scale 1:24,000.

#6026 Putnam, W.C., 1942, Geomorphology of the Ventura region, California: *Geological Society of America Bulletin*, v. 53, p. 691-754, 5 pls.

#8432 Rockwell, T.K., Keller, E.A., Clark, M.N., and Johnson, D.L., 1984, Chronology and rates of faulting of Ventura River terraces, California: *Geological Society of America Bulletin*, v. 95, p. 1466–1474.

#7918 Weber, F.H., Jr., Kiessling, E.W., Sprotte, E.C., Johnson, J.A., Sherburne, R.W., and Cleveland, G.B., 1975, Seismic hazards study of Ventura County, California: California Division of Mines and Geology Open-File Report 76-5 LA, 396 p., 9 plates, scale 1:48,000

#5931 Ziony, J.I., and Yerkes, R.F., 1985, Evaluating earthquake and surface faulting potential, *in* Ziony, J.I., ed., *Evaluating earthquake hazards in the Los Angeles region—An earth-science perspective*: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1360, p. 43–91.

[Questions or comments?](#)

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Google](#) [Email](#)

[Hazards](#)

[Design](#) [Ground Motions](#) [Seismic Hazard Maps & Site-Specific Data](#) [Faults](#) [Scenarios](#)  
[Earthquakes](#) [Hazards](#) [Data](#) [Education](#) [Monitoring](#) [Research](#)

[Home](#)[About Us](#)[Contacts](#)[Legal](#)