

# Utah's Geoheritage

## From the Iconic to the Unsung

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Utah Geological Survey  
Director and State Geologist

Acknowledgments:  
Jim Davis, Mark Milligan, Jen Miller, and other UGS Staff





# ICONIC

## Utah's National Parks **THE MIGHTY 5®**



Mesa Arch - Canyonlands



Kolob Canyon - Zion



Delicate Arch - Arches



Cathedral Valley - Capitol Reef



Thor's Hammer - Bryce Canyon



UTAH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

[geology.utah.gov](http://geology.utah.gov)

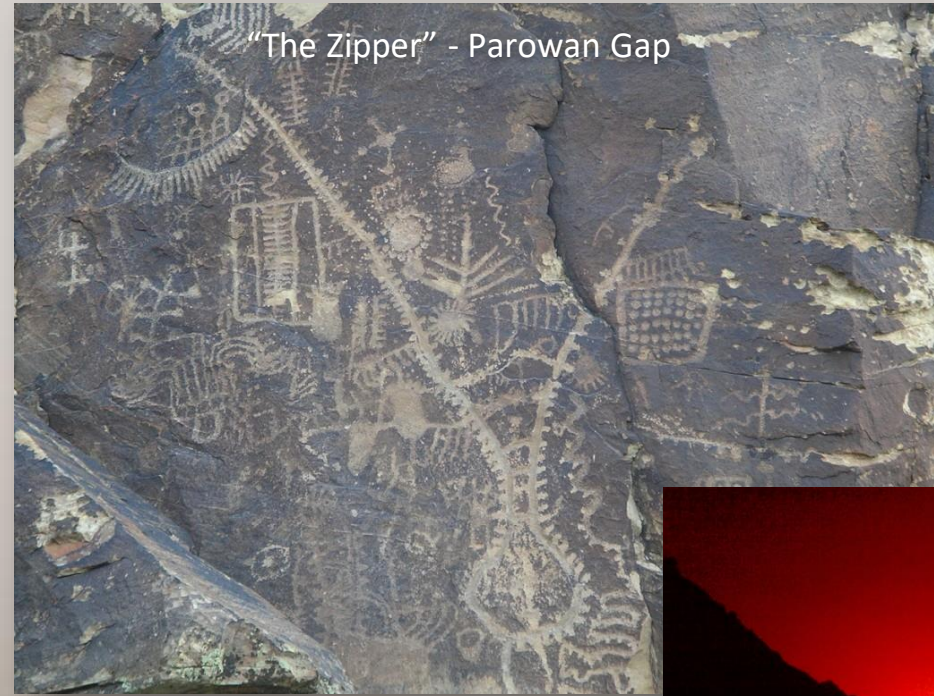


# Our Geoheritage Has Deep Roots

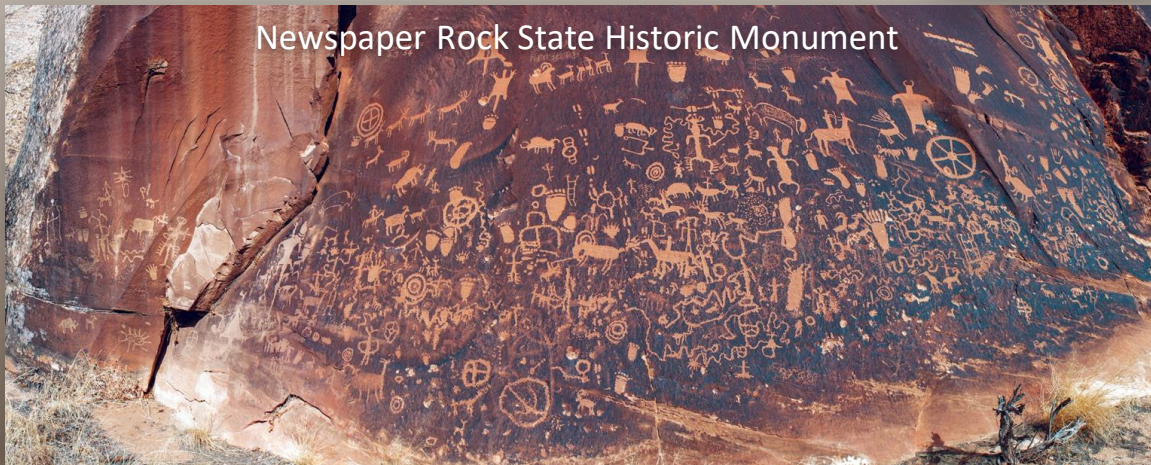
"The Great Hunt Panel" - Nine Mile Canyon



"The Zipper" - Parowan Gap



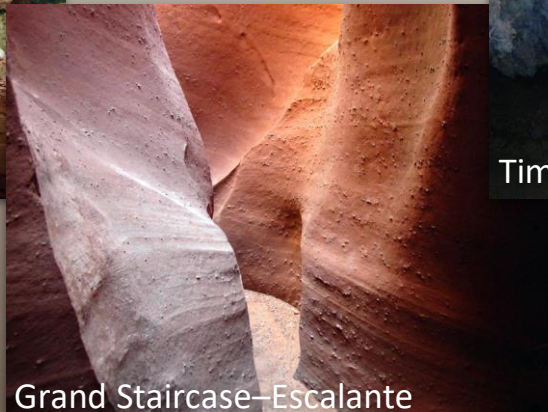
Newspaper Rock State Historic Monument



Indigenous  
'geo'signage



# 9 National Monuments

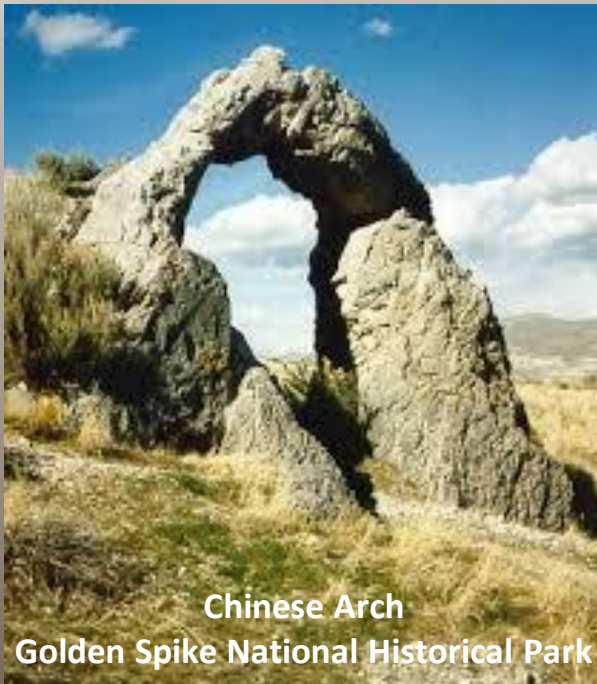




# Other NPS Units and Tribal Park

**Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park**  
("Utah" and "Arizona")

"Forrest Gump Hill"



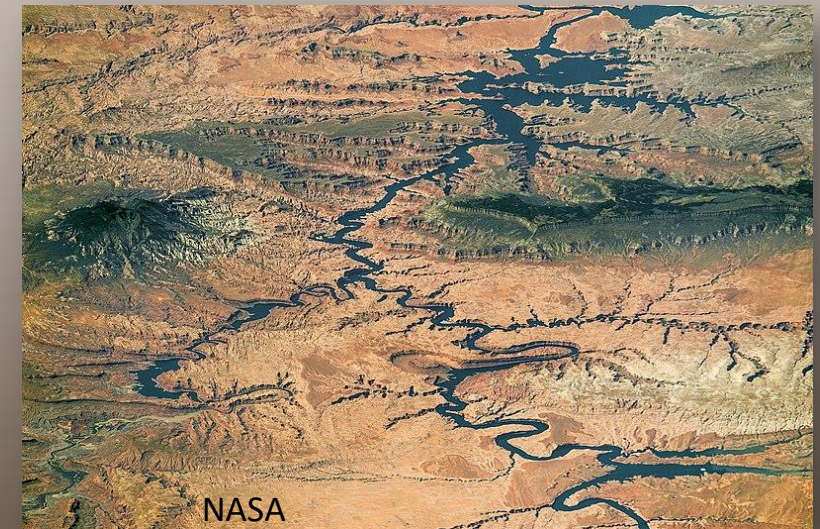
Chinese Arch

Golden Spike National Historical Park

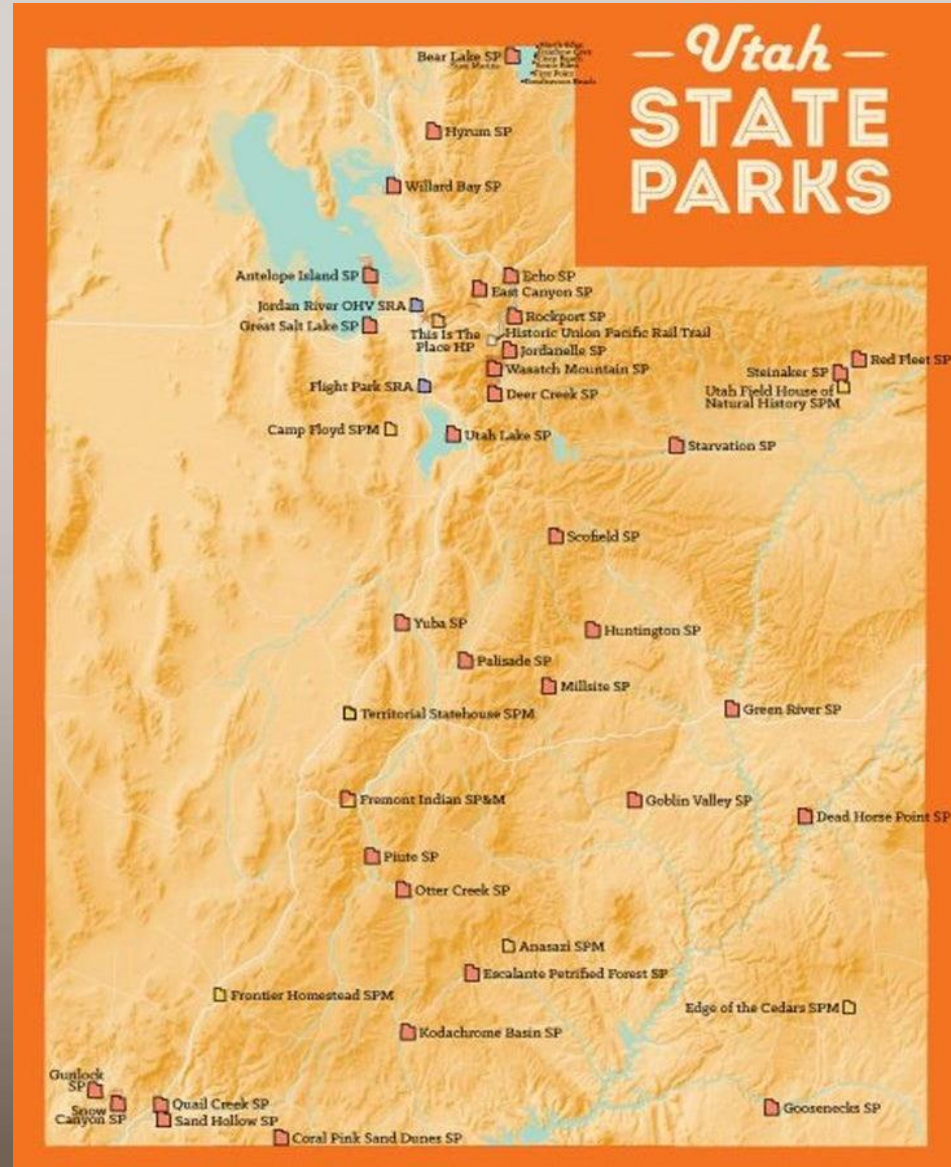
**National Historic Trails**  
California Historic Trail  
Mormon Pioneer  
Old Spanish  
Pony Express

**National Historical Park**  
Golden Spike

**Glen Canyon National Recreation Area**



# 44 Utah State Parks





# 44 Utah State Parks



Goblin Valley



Goosenecks



Escalante Petrified Forest



Coral Pink Sand Dunes



Dead Horse Point



Kodachrome Basin



Snow Canyon

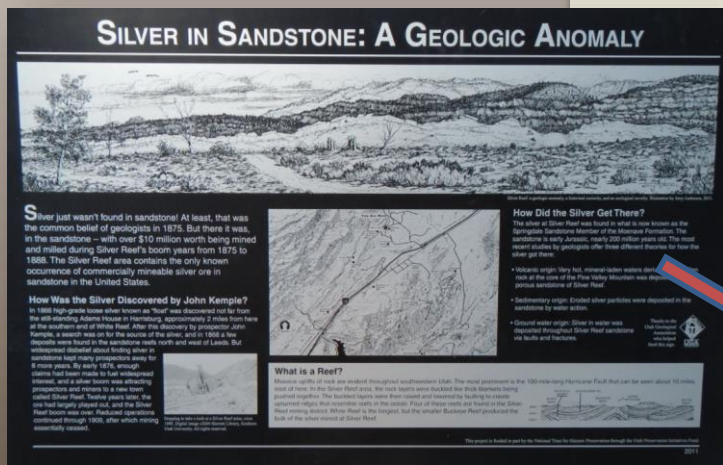
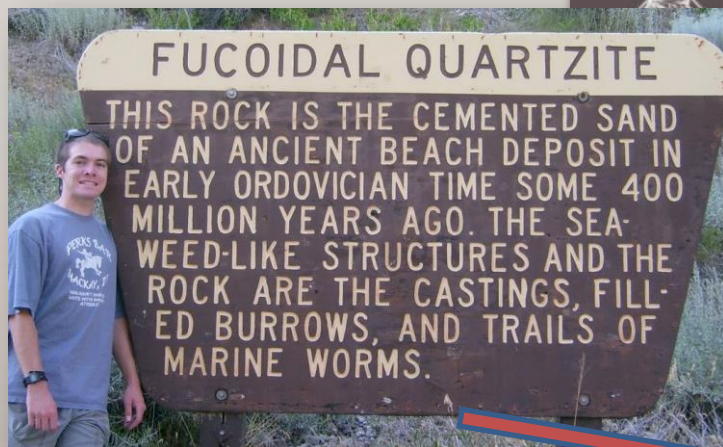




UNSUNG

# 267 Geologic Road Signs

## Cataloged by Utah Geological Association

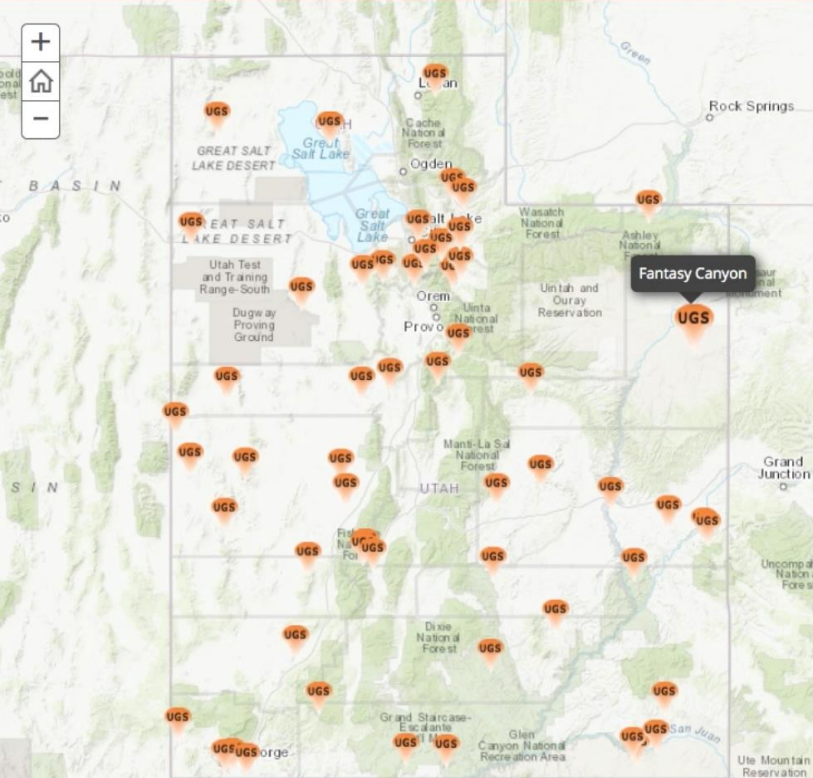





UNSUNG

# UGS GeoSights-since the year 2000 60 and Counting





**UTAH GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**  
**GeoSights**  
Explore Utah's geologic sites





**Fantasy Canyon**

Fantasy Canyon is crowded with intricate and peculiar stone figures that are a unique expression of rock weathering and erosion. Covering only a few acres, this miniature canyon can be viewed up-close on a short 0.6-mile loop trail. The sandstone layer in which the pinnacles, pillars, arches, and knobs of Fantasy Canyon are formed consists of ancient river channel sediments. The underlying and overlying rock layers sandwiching the sandstone layer, and creating scenic badland topography around the canyon, are finer grained floodplain deposits. [Click here to continue reading.](#)



Devils Playground   Devils Slide   Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson's Farm   Fantasy Canyon   Fisher Towers   Fremont Indian State Park   G.K. Gilbert Geologic View Park   Gandy Warm Springs   Glacial Landforms, Big & Little Cottonwood





# GeoSights Topics

Igneous intrusions, volcanic rock and features: 13

Sedimentary rock with erosional features: 13

Structural/tectonic: 6

Hydrologic/river landforms: 6

Great Salt Lake/Lake Bonneville features: 6

Erosional or depositional landforms (non-fluvial): 3

Mass Wasting feature (sinkholes, landslide): 3

Fossil location/city paleo museum: 2

Geologic parks: 2

Coal fires: 2

State Park: 1

Cemetery: 1

Mine: 1



GEOSIGHTS: A View of the World's Deepest Pit – Bingham Canyon Mine Overlook



# Utah Geological Association

## 40+ Geosites



### Rock Canyon near Provo, Utah County A Geologic Field Laboratory

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Provo, Utah 84604  
[bkowallis@byu.edu](mailto:bkowallis@byu.edu)

UTAH GEOSITES  
2019

UTAH GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION PUBLICATION 48  
M. Milligan, R.E. Biek, P. Inkenbrandt, and P. Nielsen, editors



### Crystal Geyser: An Unusual Cold Spring System, Grand County

Sally L. Potter-McIntyre  
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Carbondale, IL 62901  
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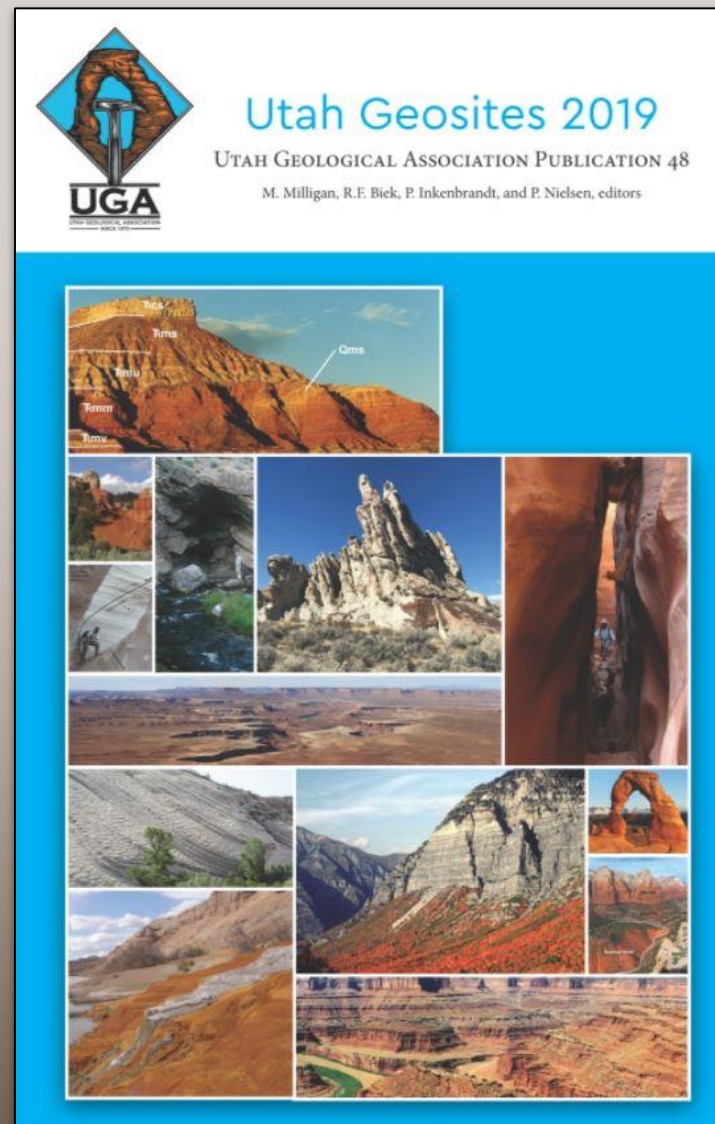


### The Wind-Swept Nautilus, Enigmatic Clastic Pipes, and Toadstool Landforms: Geologic Features of the Paria Plateau

David F. Wheatley<sup>1,2</sup>, Winston M. Seiler<sup>1,2</sup>, and Marjorie A. Chan<sup>1</sup>  
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<sup>2</sup>KCSI Aerial Patrol, 1105 Douglas St., Bakersfield, CA 93308  
<sup>3</sup>Dept. Geology & Geophysics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT 84112  
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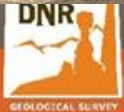
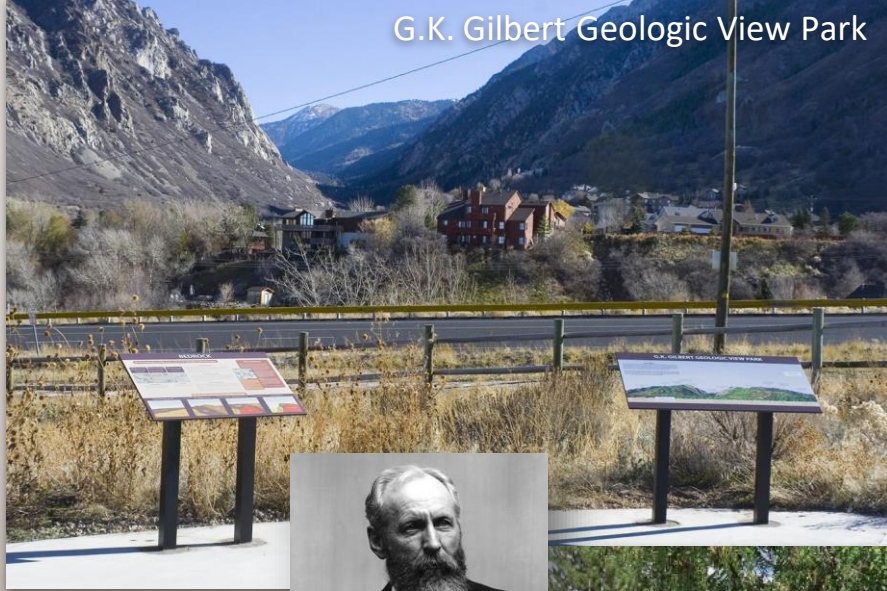


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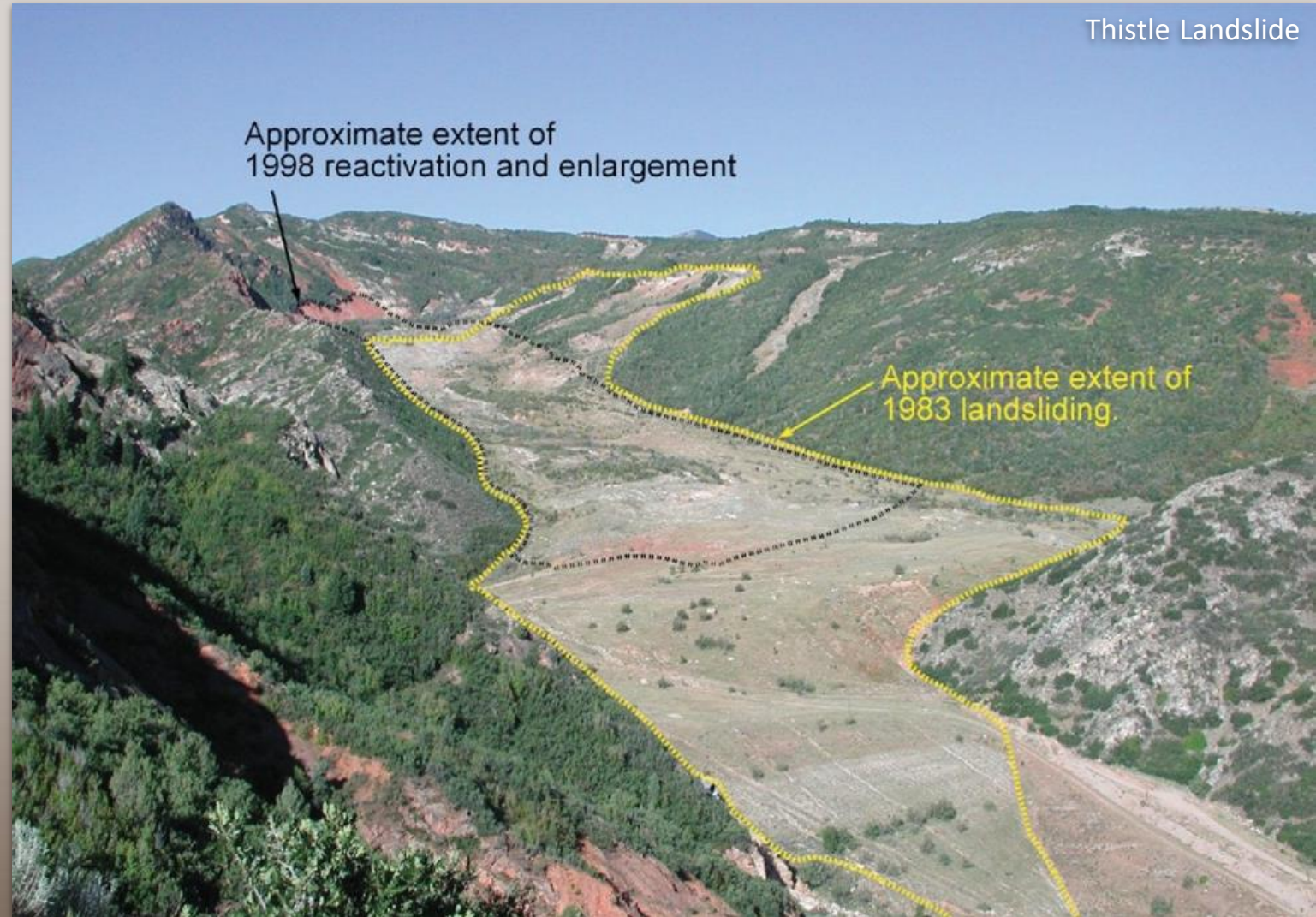


# 3 Urban Geologic Parks



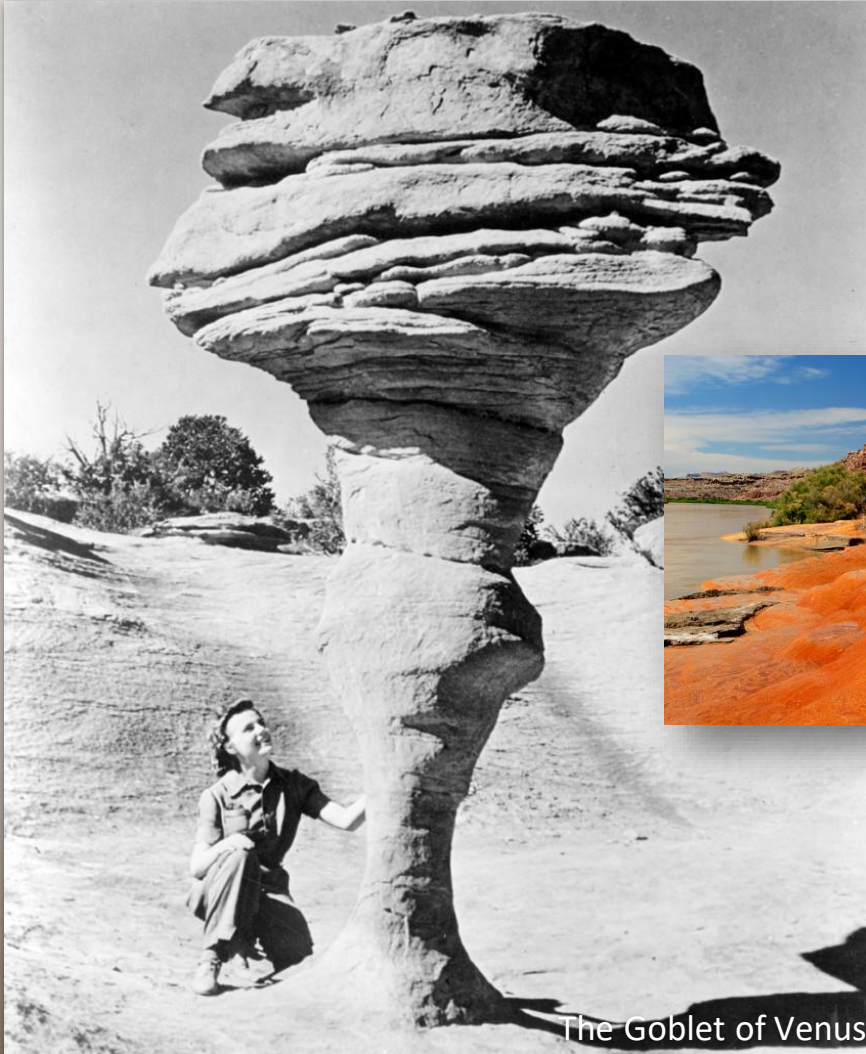


# Geoheritage Gained





# Geoheritage Lost







Delicate Arch reproduced at 5 inches tall on license plate

