

Local GEOLOGIC TIME

Numbers represent
millions of years ago

<i>EON</i>	<i>ERA</i>	<i>PERIOD</i>	<i>EPOCH</i>	<i>DEVELOPMENT OF PLANTS & ANIMALS</i>
PHANEROZOIC	CENOZOIC	QUARTERNARY	HOLOCENE	0.01 1.0 mya - Palos Verdes surfaces 1.6 3.5 mya - uplift and compression 5.3 5.0 mya - San Andreas system 23.7 15 mya - LA basin opens up 36.6 25 mya - a transform system 40 million years of erosion with the Great Central Valley underwater 57.8 66.4
			PLEISTOCENE	
		TERTIARY	PLIOCENE	
			MIOCENE	
			OLIGOCENE	
			EOCENE	
			PALEOCENE	
	MESOZOIC	CRETACEOUS	144	Farallon plate subducts NE-ward. Maximal subduction as North America collides with Europe. Pangaea, the super-continent has formed.
			208	
		245		
	PALEOZOIC	<small>CARBONIFEROUS</small>	PERMIAN	286 Calif becomes a converging margin similar to today's Japan with island arcs forming 408 Calif. is part of an underwater diverging margin similar to today's continental shelf off the east coast. Ancient continental fragments from an earlier dispersal begin collecting to form the super-continent of Pangaea. Evidence of these earlier continental collisions include the Ural Mountains in Russia and the Appalachian Mountains flanking the east coast of the United States.
			PENNSYLVANIAN	
			360	
		DEVONIAN		
438				
505				
570				
CAMBRIAN				
PROTEROZOIC	2500 Collectively called <u>Precambrian</u> , comprises 87% of the geologic time scale	First multicelled organisms		
ARCHEAN		3800	First one-celled organisms	
HADEAN		4600	Age of oldest rocks	
			Origin of the earth	