

## The Rule of Capture, Correlative Rights, and Principles of Conservation



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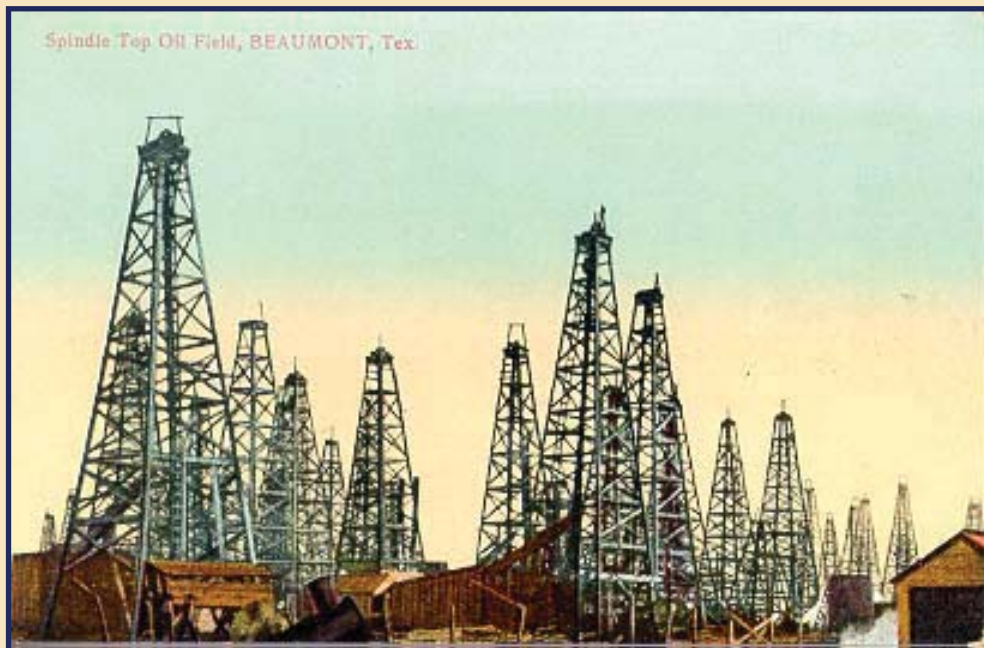
Law Center, Louisiana State University

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## Rule of Capture – Excessive Drilling



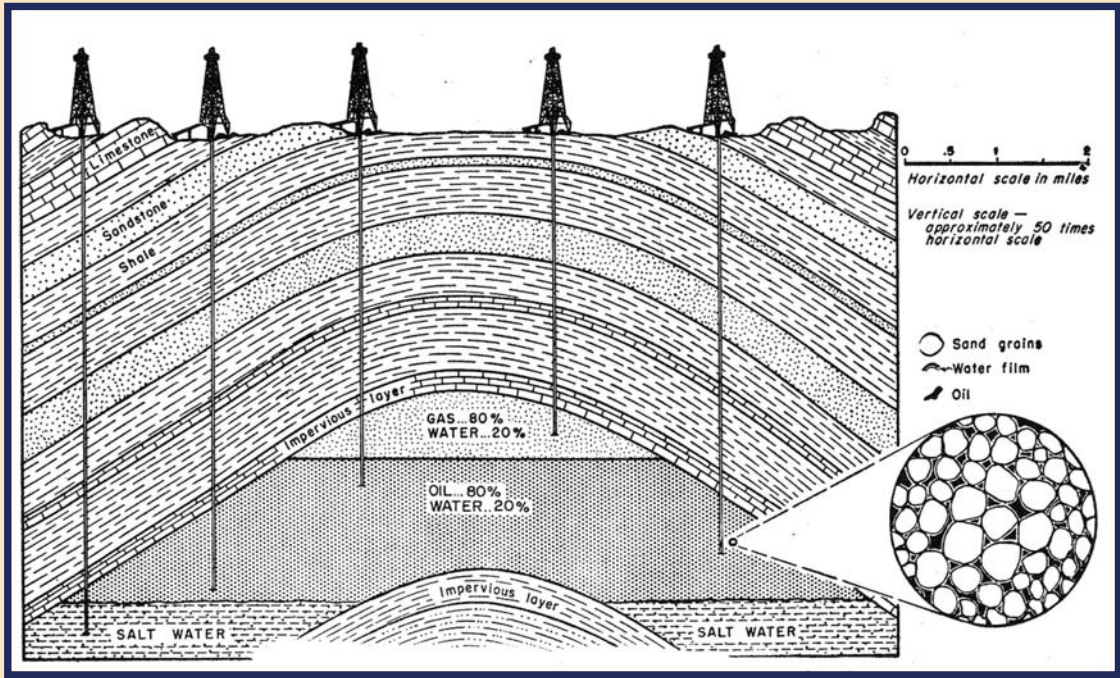
## Shale Fracking – Effective Drilling



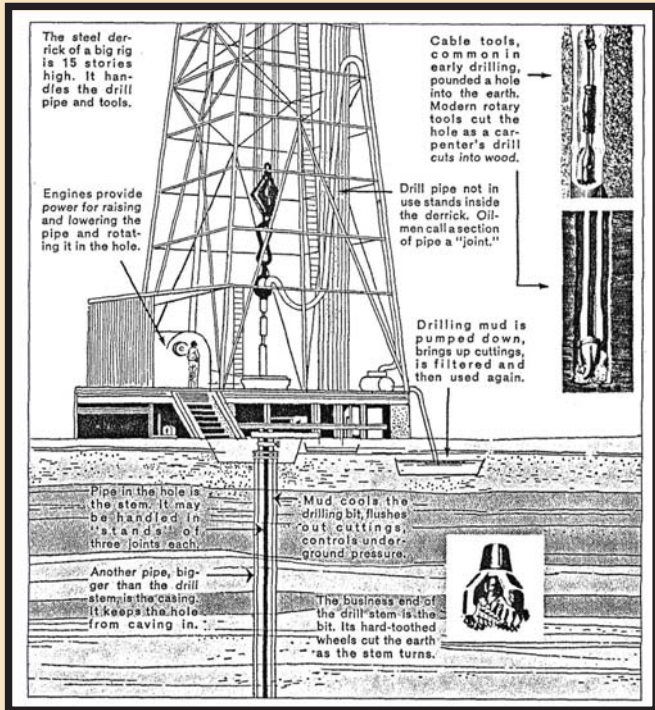
## Characteristics of Oil & Gas

- **Petroleum:** An organic chemical compound of hydrogen and carbon. The molecular structure of hydrocarbon compounds varies from the simplest, methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ), a constituent of natural gas, to the very heavy and very complex. Octane, a constituent of crude oil, is one of the heavier, more complex molecules ( $\text{C}_8 \text{H}_{18}$ ). Natural gas and crude oil are fluids – gas or liquid.
- **Alkanes:**  
methane, ethane, propane, and butane - (gases, used directly as fuels).  
penta-, hexa-, hept-, oct-, non-, dec- etc: pentane up to around  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{36}$  are liquids.
- Located underground – trapped in reservoirs.

# An Oil & Gas Reservoir



# Drilling for Oil & Gas



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