

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



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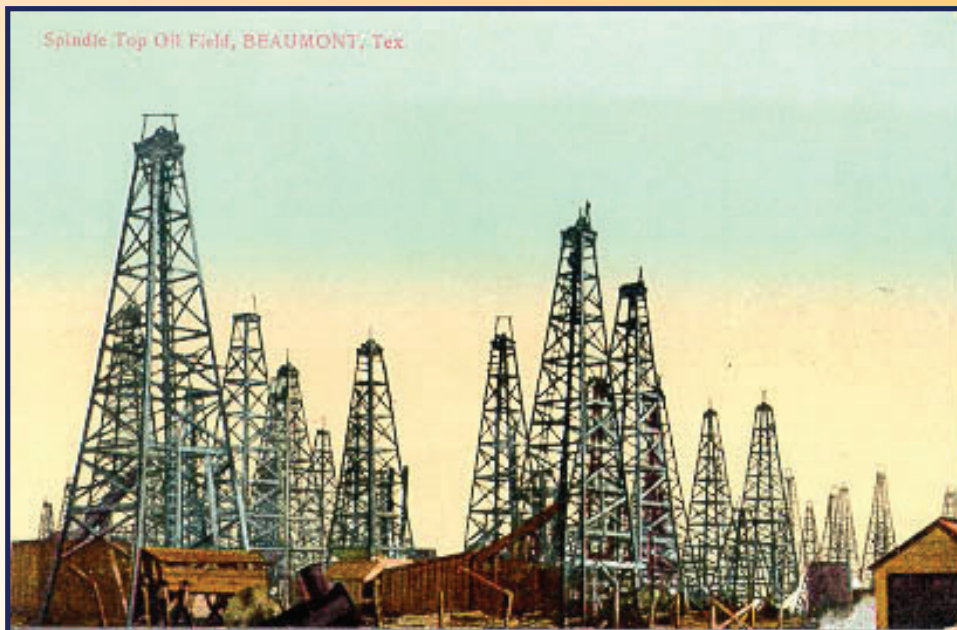
Fundamentals of Oil, Gas and Mineral Law

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Rule of Capture – Excessive Drilling



2

Shale Fracking – Effective Drilling



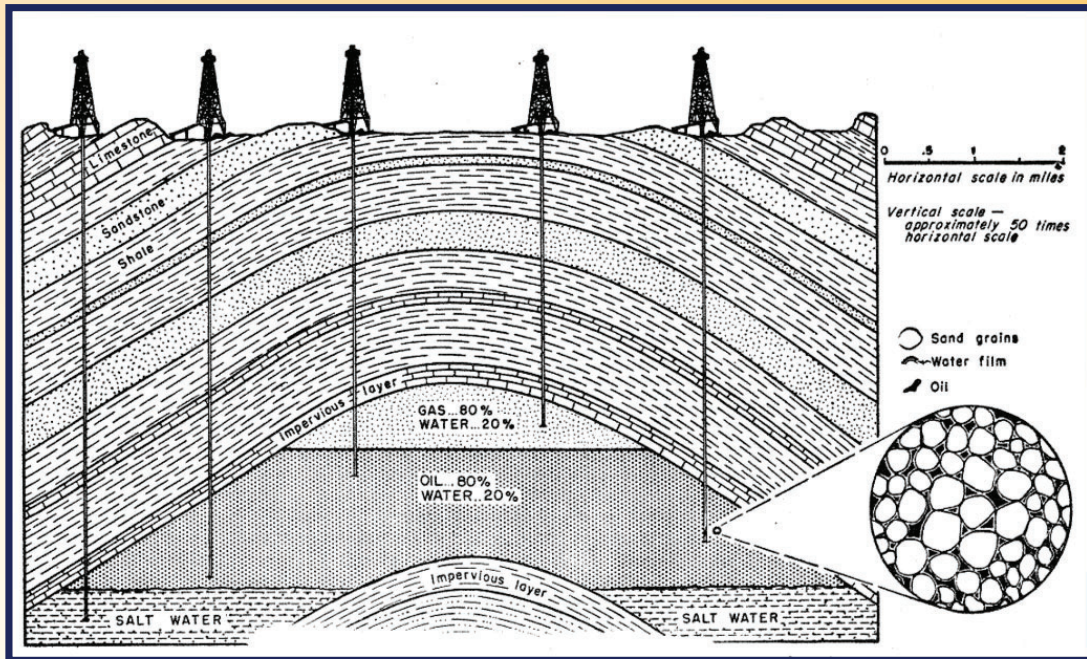
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Characteristics of Oil & Gas

- **Petroleum:** An organic chemical compound of hydrogen and carbon. The molecular structure of hydrocarbon compounds varies from the simplest, methane (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.

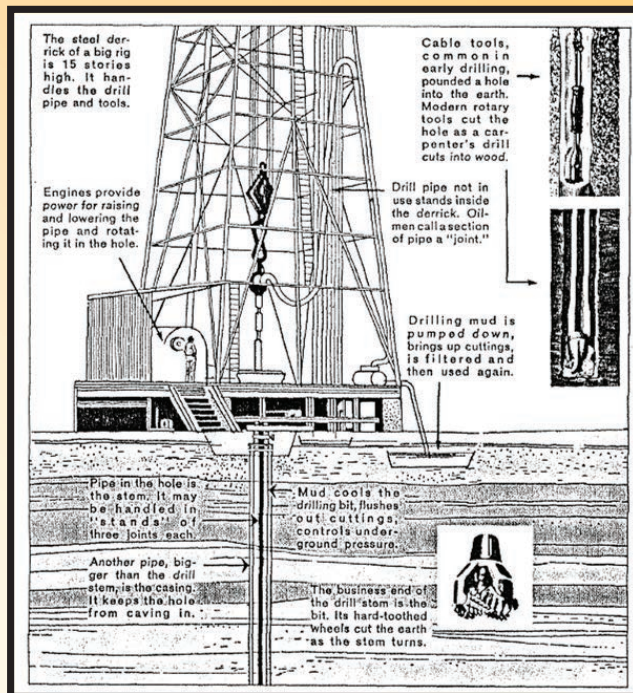
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An Oil & Gas Reservoir



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Drilling for Oil & Gas



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