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LOWER CRETACEOUS PRE-BATHOLITHIC ROCKS OF NORTHERN BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO[1]

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INTRODUCTION

Cretaceous fossils have been found at scattered localities in the pre-batholithic metamorphic rocks of northern Baja California by investigators during the past half-century. The resulting information has been inadequate, however, for the explanation of regional stratigraphic and structural relations, particularly those correlations between the less metamorphosed coastal sections and the more deformed rocks of the mountainous interior. The previous work has strongly suggested that some of these rocks are not much older than the plutonic rocks that have intruded them. An undeformed section of Late Cretaceous age has been reported to rest in erosional unconformity not only on the metamorphic rocks but on the batholithic intrusives as well. The writers have selected the Ensenada-Colonia Guerrero region, as a particularly suitable site for correlating the absolute and stratigraphic time scales. Careful geologic field mapping, detailed paleontological studies, and the employment of sensitive geochronological methods are being completed to establish a clear understanding of this point of correlation. As part of this program, the pre-batholithic rocks have been re-examined in a region extending from Ensenada to Colonia Guerrero and from the coast to the Sierra San Pedro Mártir. This paper is a report on some of the in-

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