

New York State Geological Association
79th Annual Meeting
State University of New York at Cortland
September 28—30, 2007

Field Trip Guidebook

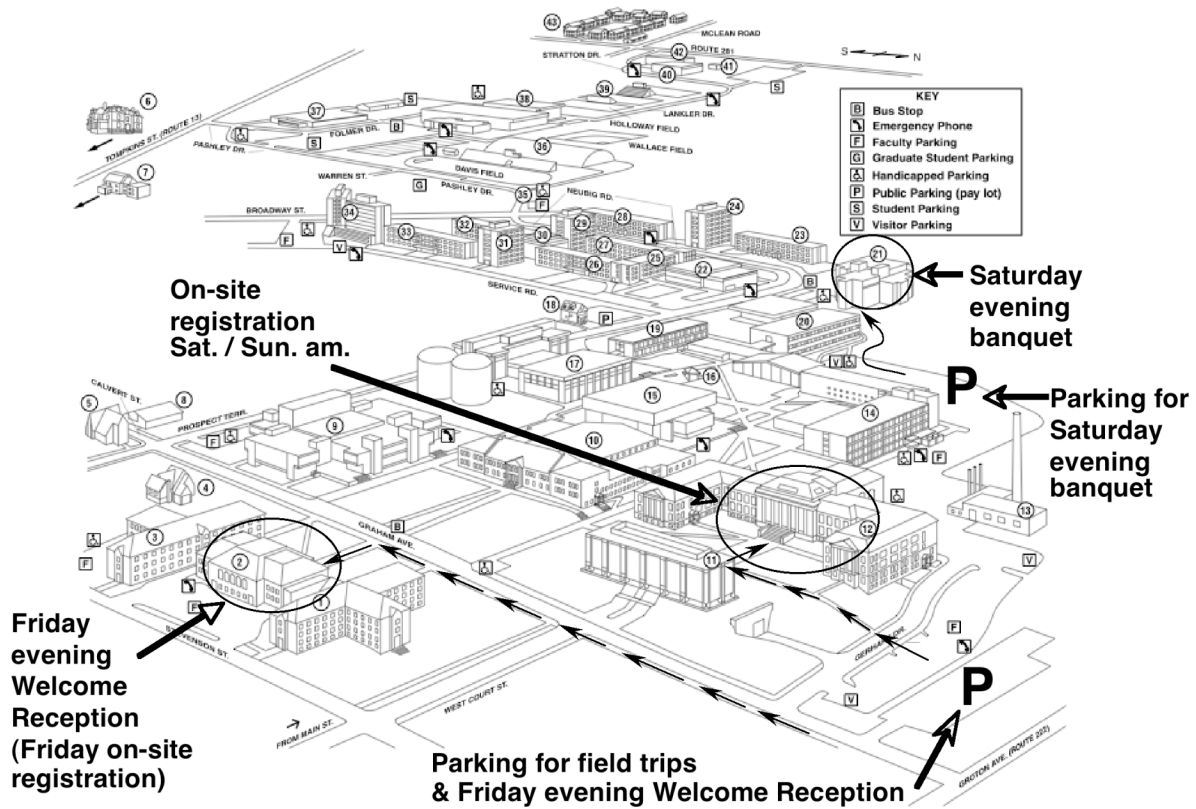
Christopher A. McRoberts, Editor

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State University of New York College at Cortland

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Cortland
State University of New York College at Cortland

Cover: Taughannock Falls. Modified from an original photograph by Michael Hall.

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EDITOR'S PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Geology Department at SUNY Cortland is proud to host the 79th Annual Meeting of the New York State Geological Association. It has been 37 years since Cortland last hosted the NYSGA meeting, and in 1970 Graham Heaslip (at whose former desk I now type these words) served as both President of the NYSGA and editor of the 42nd field guide. Although much has changed in our department in the past three decades, we are still committed to providing an excellent undergraduate program of study involving students in coursework, independent research, and field experiences. Given that much of the current research of Cortland's geology faculty involves fieldwork far removed from central New York, we have relied much on the expertise of those who have made central New York geology their passion. In selecting trips for this meeting we have strived to focus, not only on what central New York is famous for (e.g., world-class Devonian strata and its contained fossils, and a beautifully glacially sculpted landscape), but also to encompass field trips appealing to other geoscientists and educators (be they hard-rockers, soft-rockers, or no-rockers). It is our hope that there is a trip of interest for everyone.

I wish to express my appreciation to the numerous individuals who have contributed to the content and production of this field guide. First and foremost to the 26 authors of the field trips who have devoted their time, energy, and expertise in offering a truly outstanding collection of excursions and, for the most part, getting their manuscripts to me in a timely fashion and in the correct format. I also acknowledge the many reviewers of manuscripts who have helped produce a more polished and error-free field guidebook and to the landowners who provided access to their property during the field trips.

The guidebook is only one facet of producing this yearly event and it is quite clear that the 79th NYSGA meeting would not have been possible without the members of SUNY Cortland's Organizing Committee. I wish to personally thank this committee comprised of Bob Darling (meeting coordinator), Gayle Gleason (logistics) and Dave Barclay (registration) for their countless hours in planning, organizing, and generally working together to 'pull this thing off'. Secretarial support was, as always, efficiently and flawlessly provided by Sue Nevins. We are also grateful for the Cortland undergraduate students who have volunteered their time to drive vehicles and help with the smooth running of the meeting. The Buffalo Geological Society graciously donated funds to help defray some of the printing costs of this field guide. We thank Alan Benimoff and others of the NYSGA executive for cajoling us into running this meeting, providing much needed guidance and answering our many questions. Finally, we are indeed fortunate to have Jim Bell for agreeing to speak at the Banquet on his work with the Mars Rover Project.

Enjoy the meeting and have a pleasant stay in central New York!

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