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The Earth Science Picture of the Day (EPOD) highlights the diverse processes and phenomena which shape our planet and our lives. EPOD will collect and archive photos, imagery, graphics, and artwork with short explanatory captions and links exemplifying features within the Earth system. The community is invited to contribute digital imagery, short captions and relevant links.

Archive - Blended Image of Rock Outcrop

May 31, 2020



Each Sunday we present a notable item from our archives. This EPOD was originally published June 1, 2003.

Provided by: [Jerome Bellian](#)

Summary author: [Jerome Bellian](#)

The location of the rock outcrop pictured above is in Victorio Canyon, Texas, just south of Guadalupe Mountains National Park. The color part of the image was scanned from a Pentax medium format print and digitally matched with a 3-D laser scan acquired by an Optech ILRIS 3-D lidar (light detection and ranging) scanner. When the photograph was blended with the 3-D laser model, (the black and white image) the result was a spatially correct 3-D photograph that enables geologists to quantitatively examine the ordered layering of strata directly from the 3-D model. This is especially important when trying to relate geology we observe on the surface of the Earth to that which we cannot observe directly in the subsurface.

Related Links:

- [U of Texas/Bureau of Economic Geology](#)
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