



Hiram M. Dow
1885 - 1969
Inducted 1969

The son of an elected sheriff, Hiram Dow was born in Cotulla, Texas but lived most of his life in Eddy County and Roswell, New Mexico. He graduated from the New Mexico Military Institute, then earned a law degree from Washington and Lee University and later practiced law in Roswell. Dow's contributions to the oil and gas industry were related to the law. He helped formulate and introduce the 1929 and 1930 laws that permitted the Commissioner of Public Lands to approve pro-rationing and well-spacing agreements. He was also instrumental in getting these passed by the New Mexico legislature. Later, Dow assisted in obtaining interpretations of those laws by the New Mexico courts. In 1935, thanks to his efforts, the first comprehensive oil conservation acts were passed by the New Mexico legislature. Dow also aided in the formation of the Oil Compact Commission and represented New Mexico on that commission for 22 years. From 1937 to 1938 he served as New Mexico's lieutenant governor.

