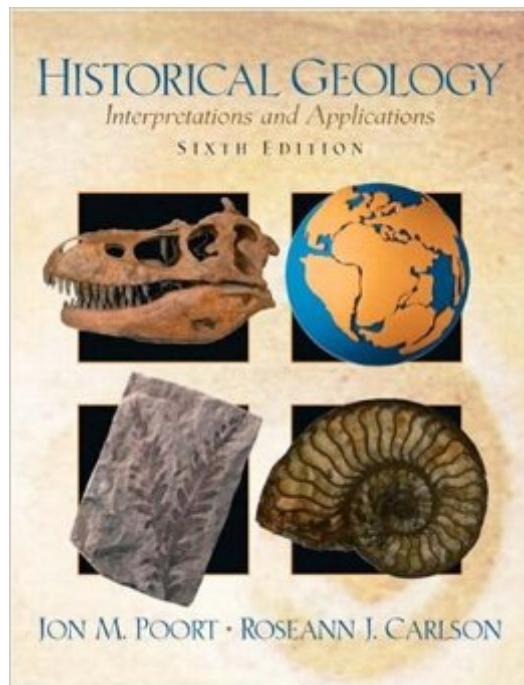


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Historical Geology: Interpretations And Applications (6th Edition)



Synopsis

This new and revised edition of Historical Geology: Interpretations and Applications has been written as a guide to the laboratory study of historical geology and can be used in conjunction with most of the current textbooks in the field. This manual helps students understand the fundamental concepts of historical geology by providing outcrop and realistic situations to which they can apply geologic concepts leading to an interpretation of the available data. The direct application of abstract principles to concrete situations and practical problems reinforces the learning process while instilling a strong sense of the purpose for geologic study. This method is of particular value to students for whom a course in historical geology will be their last academic encounter with the physical sciences.

COMPREHENSIVENESS The manual is divided into six chapters. The first chapter covers the great group of sedimentary rocks that are vital to the interpretation of most geologic structures and sequence of events, and that act as the preservation medium for the majority of fossils. Chapters 2 and 3 provide discussions, examples, and exercises in such basic principles of historical geology as the concepts of geologic time, the use of sedimentary rock layering and stratification during the ordering of geologic events, and the interpretation of environmental and sea level changes. Chapter 4 presents a systemic overview of the three groups of life forms that are commonly preserved as fossils: the invertebrates, the vertebrates, and plants. Chapter 5 covers the development and reading of geologic maps. Chapter 6 deals with plate tectonics, an important topic for both physical and historical geology. Within these chapters, exercise sets are available that require students to use the principles they have learned to solve problems involving both physical and historical geological concepts and methodologies.

USE OF THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD Historical geology is best learned through fieldwork supervised by a professional. When field studies are not feasible, diagrams, maps, photographs, and slides of fossils, landforms, and sedimentary structures can be used effectively to model a field experience. In this respect, the manual permits students to visualize how geologic data are collected, tabulated, synthesized, interpreted, and applied to solutions of various geologic problems.

NEW ORGANIZATION As suggested by several reviewers and users of the manual, a comprehensive change has been made to this edition. A greatly expanded section concerning the development, classification, and interpretation of common depositional attributes of sedimentary rocks has been added as a new Chapter 1. Selected problems from the previous Chapter 7 have been dispersed within the revised first four chapters. Extensive new photographs and new problems have been added, and many problems have been reorganized and moved to be near their explanatory text material.

SCHEDULING FLEXIBILITY In most cases, this manual will be used during a

one-semester or one-quarter term. It provides students with numerous exercises and problems. Some of these, such as the exercise questions that conclude each chapter, will require only a few minutes to complete. Others can be worked in the laboratory or at home, when more time is available. Variations in the length and content of exercises give instructors considerable latitude in choosing topics they wish to stress. This manual is written and illustrated with outcrop or rock feature photographs with the aim of helping students readily understand the principles of historical geology. These illustrations should help build student awareness that the geologic problems presented in the manual are based on real data, often in contexts that could typically affect the nongeologist in his or her professional life. This manual is not, therefore, just an academic exercise; it is designed to demonstrate that geology is a profession that relates directly to the world outside of college and that basic principles of geology can be used to understand professional situations as well as postcollege travel experiences. A glossary is also included.

INSTRUCTOR AIDS AND INTERNET SITES One of this manual's principal teaching strengths is that it does not depend on extensive supplemental teaching aids; its coverage of the basic principles of historical geology can be thought of as self-contained. A complimentary Instructor's Guide accompanies the manual and is available from the publisher on request. To obtain a copy contact your local Prentice Hall sales representative. The guide provides lists of a few additional items that may be necessary for a historical geology laboratory. It also offers suggested answers to the manual's exercises and problems. Instructors should also encourage students to use the Internet as a geologic resource. Many Web sites change through time, new sites are rapidly being added, and topical links are continually being developed. Instructors can provide key words, associated topics, and names of major museums and research organizations for students to expand in-depth analysis of topics provided in the classroom or in a laboratory.

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Customer Reviews

I've been using this Lab Manual since it first appeared in the 6th edition. I found it to have the right mix of applied and theoretical information for Historical Geology for non-major Science teachers. However, in the past couple of years, the quality control on printing of maps and other illustrations has deteriorated to point that I'm looking for a replacement text. In Spring 2016, several of my students purchased new manuals only find that many of the photographs needed for exercises were completely black - I was forced to let them use my Instructor's Copy, printed many years ago. The publisher's (Prentice Hall) representative says they can't do anything about print quality and no new edition appears to be forthcoming.

The book was in pretty good condition. All the pages I needed are in the book. I rented the book and I wish they would check the actual inside of the book. There was writing everywhere. I had to personally erase all of it and some of it is in color pencil so I can't even erase that. Definitely recommend that if you are getting lab book then to just buy a new one.

There were about 20-25 missing pages in this purchase and it affected my grade significantly. I expected the quality to be bad, not the amount of content missing.

Good lab book, but many of the maps didn't print very well... especially the color topography maps.

The book got here sooner than expected, but I thought it was going to be in better conditions, the last page was ripped out and I didn't know that it was going to be like that, it didn't say anything in the description of the book.

loved this

I attend the University of Houston which has almost 1000 geology students. We are required to take physical geology prior to taking historical geology. This insures we have an understanding of the terms used and has turned out to be a very good prerequisite. Several of the unspoken problems

encountered in physical geology are related in a historical sense and it brings about a good understanding of how the physical geology problems were unraveled. I find the material extremely interesting, I have an excellent teacher (Rosalie Maddocks), and it fits in with my love of history and genealogy; not to mention all the hullabaloo of evolution and the errant thinking of the church over the centuries.

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