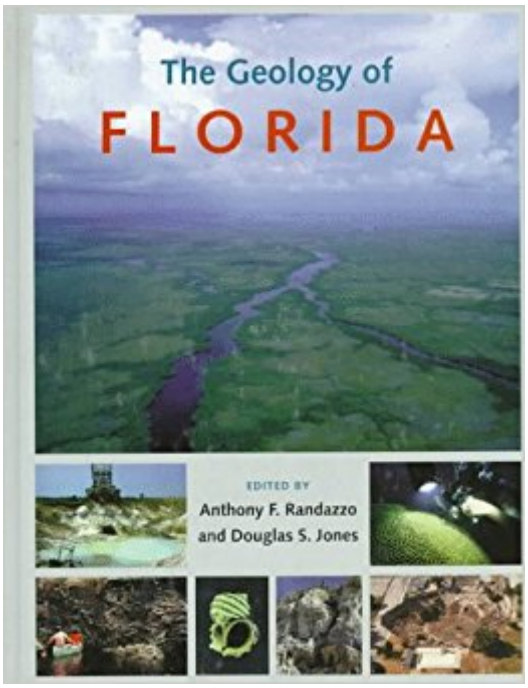
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The Geology Of Florida



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Synopsis

"A significant contribution to our knowledge of Florida geology. . . . A state-of-the-art volume that will serve as a model for other university presses to follow."--Paul A. Thayer, University of North Carolina, Wilmington"A marvelous and timely overview of the geology of Florida . . . assembled by some of the state's best geoscientists."--Henry T. Mullins, Syracuse UniversityThe first comprehensive geology of the state of Florida published in over thirty years, this volume brings together leading geoscience authorities from academia, state and federal geological surveys, and private industry in a liberally illustrated, up-to-date summary and analysis.Early chapters introduce the origin and development of the unique landscape of the Florida peninsula and panhandle. Succeeding chapters cover geomorphology, stratigraphy, plate tectonics, petrology, geochemistry, hydrogeology, vertebrate and invertebrate paleontology, geologic history, economic geology, coastal and marine geology, and environmental geology.With the longest coastline of any state except Alaska and a geology noted for its rich fossil record and abundance of living coral reefs, mineral deposits, springs, and sinkholes, FloridaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s identity--past, present, and future--is linked intrinsically to its landscape. The definitive reference for that landscape, The Geology of Florida illustrates the importance of basic geological research and its application to issues facing a society that places increasing demands upon its physical world.Anthony F. Randazzo is professor of geology at the University of Florida and author of numerous articles in Sedimentary Geology, Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, American Scientist,Ã Â Ã Â and others.Ã Â Douglas S. Jones is curator and chair of the Department of Natural Sciences at the Florida Museum of Natural History and author of numerous articles inÃ Â Nature, Geology, Science, and others.

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Customer Reviews

Fascinating reading for anyone who lives in Florida and has the slightest interest in geology. Each chapter is written by different experts in that topic area. Lots of helpful graphs and diagrams. Highly recommended.

Florida was once covered by water, and it may be again.

Comprehensive, yet detailed.

In many ways, this is an excellent book, written by a collection of experts. If you want a good description of the geology of Florida, go ahead and buy this book. What missing is a clear explanation of the important processes driving the geology. If I had been the editor, I would have asked the contributors to write top down: Describe the processes applicable to your chapter and then show how these worked in the case of Florida; don’t be afraid to mention similar cases in the rest of the world. This book -- as good as it is -- is too myopic. Geologists tend to focus on what happened when, rather than why it happened at all. Perhaps a 2nd Edition will include stand-alone chapters on (1) subsidence (due to lithospheric cooling, plate collisions, and isostasy) and eustatic sea-level change and (2) shallow water carbonate accumulation, in all its many modes, especially as affected by (1).

This book offers a lot of information on disparate subjects within the purview of geology, but in many chapters suffers from a drab prolixity beyond the requirements of the subject, and it notably neglects treatment of the very remarkable phosphatized fossil fauna of the Florida peninsula, one of the most outstanding features of Florida geology. Incredibly, contains the assertion that the courses of Earth’s great rivers are ultimately determined by the Coriolis effect (explain, then, for instance how it is that the and Congo, Earth’s two largest rivers by volume of flow, enter the Atlantic diametrically opposed! and how it is that the Nile flows north, away from the Equator!), and some quite inane language, such as "reefally rimmed". As I happen to know, the book very nearly included listing in text (and inclusion in an accompanying decay diagram) of a non-existent uranium isotope! Tut, tut.

Florida isn’t merely a drab slab of limestone; instead, it is a surprisingly complex and interesting

geological lab. For example, most of what we now call Florida was once a part of Africa! In this book, the many chapter authors (edited by Randazzo and Jones) cover the evolution of the Florida platform from the origin of its crystalline basement in paleo-Africa, through its docking with the North American plate, innumerable sea level changes, and the reef building, barrier island migration and mining impacts of the past few thousand years. This text is stuffed with information! The Keys even merit their own chapter -- a wise choice.This is a university level text; and as such, it contains some of the typically academic dryness of writing and technical terminology which probably wouldn't appeal to the mildly curious reader. But for anyone who is seriously interested in either Florida geology or in carbonate platforms in general, there can probably be no better resource. Because of its thorough coverage of the processes which have built Florida, and its rich scientific bibliography, geology students and librarians will find this book to be a solid reference.

I had recently moved to Florida and did not know much about the Florida geology. This book was perfect as a comprehensive guide to the geomorphology, sedimentology, paleontology, and hydrogeology of the area. There are many more interesting chapters with a wealth of information. Randazzo and Jones put together a wonderful collection with great geologists such as Bob Halley of the USGS and Sam Upchurch formerly of the University of South Florida.

The very best 'general interest' Florida Geology book I've ever found. It discusses a very wide range of the topic.

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