An Introduction to Sedimentology

R. C. Selley

London University Reader in Petroleum Geology at Imperial College, London, England Formerly with Continental Oil Company

December 1975/January 1976, x+240 pp. Hard cover: £8.90/\$22.00 Soft cover: £5.90/\$14.75

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- spans the whole field of sedimentology from sand grains to sedimentary basins
- informally written, clear and simple illustrations
- emphasises the practical and economic aspects of sedimentology, particularly its application to petroleum geology
- a textbook for students as well as a handbook for practising geologists

The study of sedimentology has grown rapidly in the last quarter century, the impetus for this development coming initially from the oil industry, later from oceanography. By the end of the 1960s sedimentology was firmly established as a separate discipline of the earth sciences; it is now taught as a course in most university earth science curricula.

An Introduction to Sedimentology presents an overview of the subject. The approach throughout the book is qualitative and conceptual rather than quantitative and analytical. The book is a text for students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, and is also recommended to practising professional geologists, especially in the oil industry.

Academic Press London New York San Francisco A Subsidiary of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers 24–28 Oval Road, London NW1, England 111 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003, USA



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The book describes the long prehistory and history of Death Valley, including a discussion of Indian occupation and of the usefulness of tin cans, bottles, and other litter for dating some of the historical sites, especially the old trails that were abandoned when packtrain travel was replaced by vehicular travel.

Death Valley's water budget is analyzed; and the sources of water, mostly outside the valley and some far distant, are identified. The geology of the bedrock formations that form the mountains and that underlie the valley floor is described along with the history of the great earth movements – the folding, faulting, and volcanic activity – that have characterized the valley's geologic history.

In addition to the full description of the geologic and human history of Death Valley, there are sections that deal with mineralogy and geochemistry, and mines and mining.

and mines and mining. The book is lavishly illustrated with 163 photographs and line drawings, some of which may be considered works of photographic art.

256 pages, £9.70

GEOLOGY OF THE OLDUVAI GORGE A Study of Sedimentation in a Semiarid Basin Richard L. Hay

The major aim of this work is to present the geologic history of a small basin in a semiarid rift-valley over the past two million years. This history is built on results from many fields: stratigraphy, geochronology, paleontology, sedimentary petrography, mineralogy, isotope geochemistry, and amino-acid chemistry. A central thesis is that modern laboratory analysis of sediments can provide a wealth of information about the paleo-environment. Eolian sedimentation is emphasized in environmental interpretations, and new information is presented on the effect of wind in selective sorting of minerals.

Another major aim is to provide the archaeologist and anthropologist with the stratigraphic position, age, and paleogeographic setting of the many hominid remains and archaeologic sites for which Olduvai Gorge is famed. Finally, a preliminary assessment is made of man's selectivity and transport of stone used for tools over the past 1.85 million years in the Olduvai region.

This study differs from others of this general nature in the fine scale of stratigraphic subdivision and the comprehensive nature of the environmental interpretations. The analysis of hominid activities is unique by virtue of the large number of Paleolithic archaeologic sites and hominid remains that can be placed in a paleogeographic context.

300 pages, £15.60

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