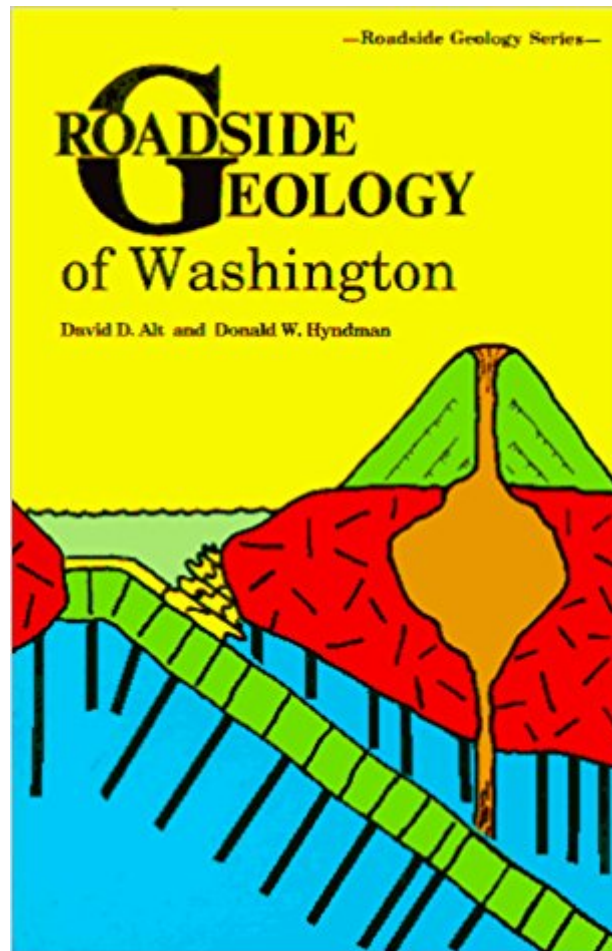




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Roadside Geology Of Washington (Roadside Geology Series)



Synopsis

The geology of Washington is a story of islands--micro-continents--coming in from the sea. Two hundred million years ago most of Washington consisted of two large islands, each one a scrap of continent, lying somewhere in the vastness of the Pacific Ocean. One after the other they docked onto the North American continent, each adding its distinctive bit to the complex geologic and geographic mosaic of western North America.

Book Information

Series: Roadside Geology

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Customer Reviews

"Through the Roadside Geology of Washington . . . I've started to make sense of . . . the natural features of our state . . . from the vast volcanic flows that formed the Columbia Plateau . . . to the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens." --Kristin Jackson, Seattle Times

David Alt is a geology professor at the University of Montana in Missoula. Dedicated to bringing geology to the general public, he cofounded the popular Roadside Geology series. He has written a number of books in the series with coauthor Donald Hyndman, and helps edit others. Alt also teaches elderhostel courses, leads field trips, and presents public lectures about regional geology. He lives in Missoula. Donald W. Hyndman is dedicated to bringing geology to the general public, and cofounded the popular Roadside Geology series. He has written a number of the series titles with coauthor David Alt, and helps edit others. When he is not writing or editing books, Hyndman teaches geology at the University of Montana in Missoula.

I've bought this book several times. Worn out or lost several copies. Wonderful overview from a technical as well as a lay perspective.

Unfortunately for me, I live on the Kitsap Peninsula which the writers pretty much abandon at the outset, "We surrender to the opacity of glacial sediments as much as 3000 feet thick."

Let's say you have a craving for geology, which is one of the hottest subjects on the planet (you know, molten rock and such). Let's say you want to drive a particular route through Washington State. This book is organized by route (just like the other books in the series) so you can have an expert's explanation of what geologic features you are looking at and how they were formed. Imagine a time of massive flooding when glacial Lake Missoula burst out of the ice dam and drenched most of Eastern Washington with 500 cubic miles of water more than 30 times. You can easily find the evidence today with the help of this book. Imagine a time when the northern end of Puget Sound was blocked by glacial ice, the level of water in the sound was about 100 feet higher than today, and all the rivers draining into the South Sound were dammed up and forced to escape to the South, through modern-day Black Lake and down the Chehalis River Valley. Some people worry about Mt. Rainier erupting again, which of course it will. But imagine the numerous and relatively recent mudflows off Mt Rainier which were not even associated with an eruption. Some of these mudflows contained up to a cubic mile of material with the consistency of liquid bricks. The inundated areas are now inhabited by hundreds of thousands of people. All you folks in Sumner and Orting, good luck in the next one! Once I wanted to be a Geologist, but the projects took too long to complete. If you have this book, at least the explanation is fast and easy to understand for the non-geologist such as myself. All the books in this series are fun to read when traveling through the subject areas. Thanks, Steve Willie, Olympia, WA

this is a great book i would recommend it to anyone who has ever wondered at what made the interesting formations along the road when on a long trip. it now sits on my desk within easy reach for review. a great introduction to the active geology that shaped the land we live upon.

Father in law loved the book

My 13 year old son and I just finished a 1000 mile trip son through Washington, Idaho, and Montana. This series of books was our companion. My son read it aloud as we drove. We both learned a lot about the Columbia river basin, and the cascade mountains. After reading it, my son could spot and identify the different general rock types and color changes described. An excellent companion with good diagrams and short sections that convey the most important (and observable) facts.

Item arrived on time and as specified! Thanks. Got this for a gift for another person. They are familiar with the "Roadside Geology.." books and really like them.

Great---just wish they had used more in the way of mile marker signs to show where the rocks were.

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