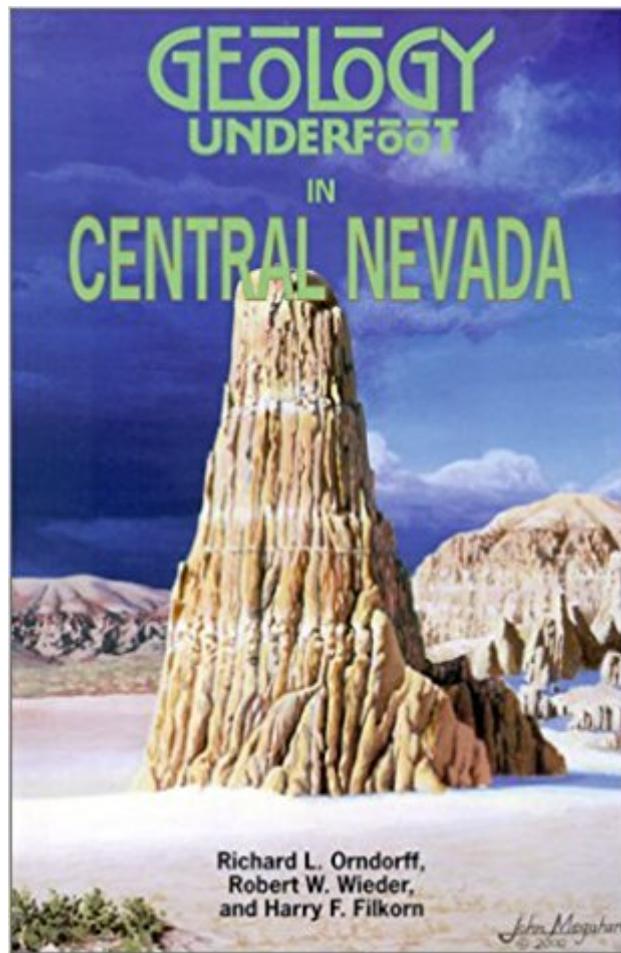


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Geology Underfoot In Central Nevada



Synopsis

Most people think of Nevada as a land of casinos and drive-in wedding chapels punctuating vast expanses of desolate desert. But at the heart of the Basin and Range province, the Silver State is also a geologist's playground, with great topographic relief exposing spectacular geology. Cutting a wide swath that straddles U.S. 50, *Geology Underfoot in Central Nevada* explores 21 diverse walking and driving tours from Lake Tahoe and Reno east to Great Basin National Park. In Ichthyosaur State Park, examine fossil remains of giant sea lizards as you imagine the ocean that covered Nevada more than 200 million years ago. In Great Basin National Park, walk where glaciers sculpted the slopes of 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak, the second highest mountain in Nevada, and go underground in Lehman Caves to marvel at dripstone features called speleothems. South of Carson City, place your hand on an active earthquake fault that continues to lift the Carson Range--evidence that, at least geologically, Nevada is still a work in progress.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This invaluable guide enthusiastically and appealingly describes two dozen geological attractions in Nevada near U.S. Highway 50. . . . Interpretation of the landscape fills each chapter, and the authors present the evidence and reveal the reasoning process that led them to their scientific conclusions." --*Science Books & Films: Your Guide to Science Resources for All Ages*, American Association for the Advancement of Science

Richard Orndorff, an associate professor of geology at Eastern Washington University, teaches

courses in surface processes, engineering geology, and GIS. His research interests include glacial geology of the western United States, geomorphology of arid lands, and spatial modeling.

A nice book. Highway 50 is a very cool drive, and this was an interesting book to take along. Unfortunately, it did not live up to my expectations of a "roadside geology"-type book. It explores various interesting places, some of which are hours off the route, but does not supply many answers to the questions I always have while traveling: "What is that feature about?" and "What is the age and origin of those sedimentary rocks?". I'm still glad I bought it, but I'm hoping for a better Nevada Geology book in the future.

As an amateur geologist (minor in geology in college) I found this book to be very illuminating, clearly written and very useful as a field guide during my travels through Nevada. MacPhee is a poet of great power, who fortunately turned his attention to geology and is a joy to read, but his books would never be as useful as this one for actual journeys when you might be trying to identify details in the landscape.

We wrote this book to let people know about a place we know well, a vast and beautiful landscape that lies hidden behind the clanging slot machines and roulette wheels that people associate with Nevada. This is a dynamic landscape created by glaciers, vast lakes, desert winds, and explosive volcanism. We lead you to active faults that have produced violent earthquakes, hot springs where steam escapes from far below, ghost towns where men once toiled for gold, and 10,000-year-old petroglyphs left behind by ancient inhabitants. We'd like to invite you on a trip that may change your mind about Nevada; we'll be your guides, but the land itself is the storyteller.

Limited to areas along U.S. 50; could have expanded the book to cover U.S. 6, 93, and 95. Rather simplistic in writing style and tone. Would have liked more detailed geology of the areas the authors did cover.

I bought this but was disappointed. The writing was plain bad, like high school writing. Hard to get through it to the geology, which is boring and uninspired (like high school science?). Was this self published? An exciting topic like this deserves much better. See McPhee.

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