

coal remains much the same as in the 1st Edition, coal petrography itself has been expanded from a single short paragraph to cover four pages and has illustrations of various macerals.

The appendices remain as useful as before, with optical data clearly laid out. New values, particularly for reflectance, have been incorporated not just into the appendix listing reflectance values but the major table of the diagnostic properties of common minerals has also been amended. Ancillary Techniques now extend far beyond X-ray diffraction and electron probe microanalysis. Outlines of SEM, Scanning Tunneling Microscopy and Atomic Force Microscopy are given, together with microbeam methods of trace element and isotopic analysis and image analysis.

The 2nd Edition of *Ore Microscopy and Ore Petrography* remains the basic textbook for reflected light microscopy at both undergraduate and post-graduate level and a useful reference book at any level. The alterations to the 1st Edition represent significant improvements and updating of an already excellent text, making the book more complete. It is to be hoped that the cosmetic changes were made in order to keep the price of this invaluable book down. Will the 2nd Edition survive regular use as long as the 1st Edition did? Only time will tell, but it will certainly get as much use.

R. J. L. COLVINE

Ford, T. D. *The Castleton Area, Derbyshire*. London (Geologist's Association), 1996, iv + 94 pp. ISBN 0-900717-98-X. Price £8.50.

Although this area of Derbyshire is much visited by field parties, there has hitherto been no comprehensive guide to all aspects of the geology and geomorphology of the caves and mineral deposits

of the Castleton area. In this latest of the Geologists' Association Guides (No. 56), after introductory chapters on the geology and geomorphology of the area, the main part of the book describes four itineraries, each designed to occupy the best part of a day on foot (though some of the itineraries can be shortened to meet transport *en route*). In addition to the four route maps, there are many other maps, sketches and photographs, amounting to a total of 65 figures. Descriptions are given of the Blue John deposits in Treak Cliff and of the mineral veins in Dirlow Rake and the bitumen deposits of Windy Knoll, collectively referred to as elaterite but now known to contain some 30 varieties of hydrocarbon.

R. A. HOWIE

Tomlinson, J. M. (with geological appendices by T. D. Ford), *Derbyshire Black Marble*. Matlock Bath (Peak District Mines Historical Society, Spec. Publ. No 4), 1996, 95 pp. Price £9.95. ISBN 0-904334-04-X.

This work gives a beautifully illustrated account of the black marble from Ashford-in-the-Water, near Bakewell in Derbyshire, and the inlay work carried out in it, using such materials as Blue John, malachite, baryte and various coloured marbles. The Ashford marble is a very fine-grained, dark, bituminous limestone of Carboniferous age; this was mined from around 1750 until 1905. Both smaller items such as brooches, pendants, paperweights and candlesticks, and the larger tabletops and urns are now collectors' items. There are numerous colour plates and also black-and-white photographs of the workshops; in an appendix, photographs are given of some of White Watson's geological tablets showing cross-sections of Derbyshire strata.

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