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EARLY GEOLOGY BOOKS

including books from
Thomas Cooper’s personal library
and
The C. Warren Irvin, Jr., Collection of Charles Darwin

Graniteville Room
Thomas Cooper Library
University of South Carolina
March 2001
This brochure is based on items displayed in early March 2001, for a class visit by Prof. Pradeep Talwani’s undergraduate honors-college course in Solid Earth Geology.

Most of these books have been in the library since the early 19th century, and some were among the books of Thomas Cooper (1759-1839), professor of chemistry and second president of South Carolina College. These earlier acquisitions have recently been joined by items of geological interest in the C. Warren Irvin, Jr., Collection of Charles Darwin & Darwinana, donated to the library in 1996.

Further background on the development of geology in the period covered by this display is available in such classic studies as Charles Couston Gillespie’s *Genesis and Geology . . . 1790-1850* (1951) and Stephen Jay Gould’s *Time’s Arrow, Time’s Cycle: Myth & Metaphor in the Discovery of Geological Time* (1987).

THE EXHIBIT

1. EARLIER WORKS


* Burnet, Thomas, 1635?-1715. *The sacred theory of the earth: containing an account of its original creation, and of all the general changes,*
which it hath undergone, or is to undergo, until the consummation of all things. In two volumes. 7th ed. London: for T. Osborn [etc.], 1759. Two copies shown, one with signature of Charles Pinckney, Charleston, March 25, 1788.

* Whiston, William, 1667-1752. "An appendix, containing a new theory of the deluge," in his A new theory of the earth, from its original, to the consummation of all things. Wherein the creation of the world in six days, the universal deluge, and the general conflagration, as laid down in the Holy Scriptures, are shewn to be perfectly agreeable to reason and philosophy. 5th ed. London: for J. Whiston, 1737.


2. SOME NEPTUNIANS


3. HUTTON AND PLAYFAIR

* James Hutton, 1726-1797, "Theory of the Earth; or an Investigation of the Laws observable in the Composition, Dissolution, and Restoration of Land upon
the Globe,”
in Transactions of the Royal Society of
Edinburgh, I (1788), 209-304 (read March
7 and April 4, 1785).
* James Hutton, selected plates from G. Y.
Craig, ed., James Hutton’s Theory of the
Earth: the Lost Drawings. Edinburgh:
* Playfair, John, 1748-1819. Illustrations
of the Huttonian Theory of the Earth, in
The works of John Playfair. 4 vols.
Edinburgh: Constable, 1822.

5. FOSSILS AND STRATA
* Smith, William, 1769-1839.
Strata identified by organized fossils,
containing prints on colored paper of the
most characteristic specimens in each
stratum. London: Printed by W. Arding,
June 1, 1816.
* Cuvier, Georges, baron, 1769-1832.
Essay on the theory of the earth . . . With
mineralogical notes, and an account of
Cuvier's geological discoveries, by
Professor Jameson. To which are now
added, Observations on the geology of
North America . . . By Samuel L.
* Cuvier, Georges, baron, 1769-1832.
Discours sur les révolutions de la surface
du globe: et sur les changemens qu'elles
ont produits dans le règne animal.
D'Ocagne, 1825. Thomas Cooper's copy.
* Cuvier, Georges, baron, 1769-1832.
Map of Paris and its surroundings,
in Cuvier and Bringniart, Description
géologique des environs de Paris,
Nouv. éd. Paris, Amsterdam: G. Dufour et
E. d'Ocagne, 1822.
* Macculloch, John, 1773-1835. A


* Mantell, Gideon Algernon, 1790-1852. Illustrations of the geology of Sussex: containing a general view of the geological relations of the south-eastern part of England; with figures and descriptions of the fossils of Tilgate forest. London: Relfe, 1827.


6. LYELL AND DARWIN

* Lyell, Charles, Sir, 1797-1875. Principles of geology, being an attempt to explain the former changes of the earth's surface, by reference to causes now in operation. 3 vols. London: John Murray, 1830-33. *Lyell and Darwin

Vols. 1 and 2 in leather from the library of Thomas Cooper with his notes; copy in boards from C. Warren Irvin Collection.


* Darwin, Charles, 1809-1882, "On the connexion of certain Volcanic Phaenomena in South America; and on the
Formation of Mountain Chains and Volcanos, as the Effect of the same Power by which Continents are elevated,” in Transactions of the Geological Society, 5 (1842), 601-632 (read March 7, 1838).

* Darwin, Charles, 1809-1882


INFORMATION & HOURS

Further information on individual items is best sought through the library's on-line catalogue, on the web at www.sc.edu/uscan. A web-exhibit on the C. Warren Irvin Collection and introductions to other collections are available at http://www.sc.edu/library/spcoll/rarebook.html.

The Department of Rare Books & Special Collections is located on the mezzanine level of Thomas Cooper Library. The Graniteville Reading Room is open to registered readers from 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday. For further information contact 803-777-8154 or e-mail spcoll@sc.edu.