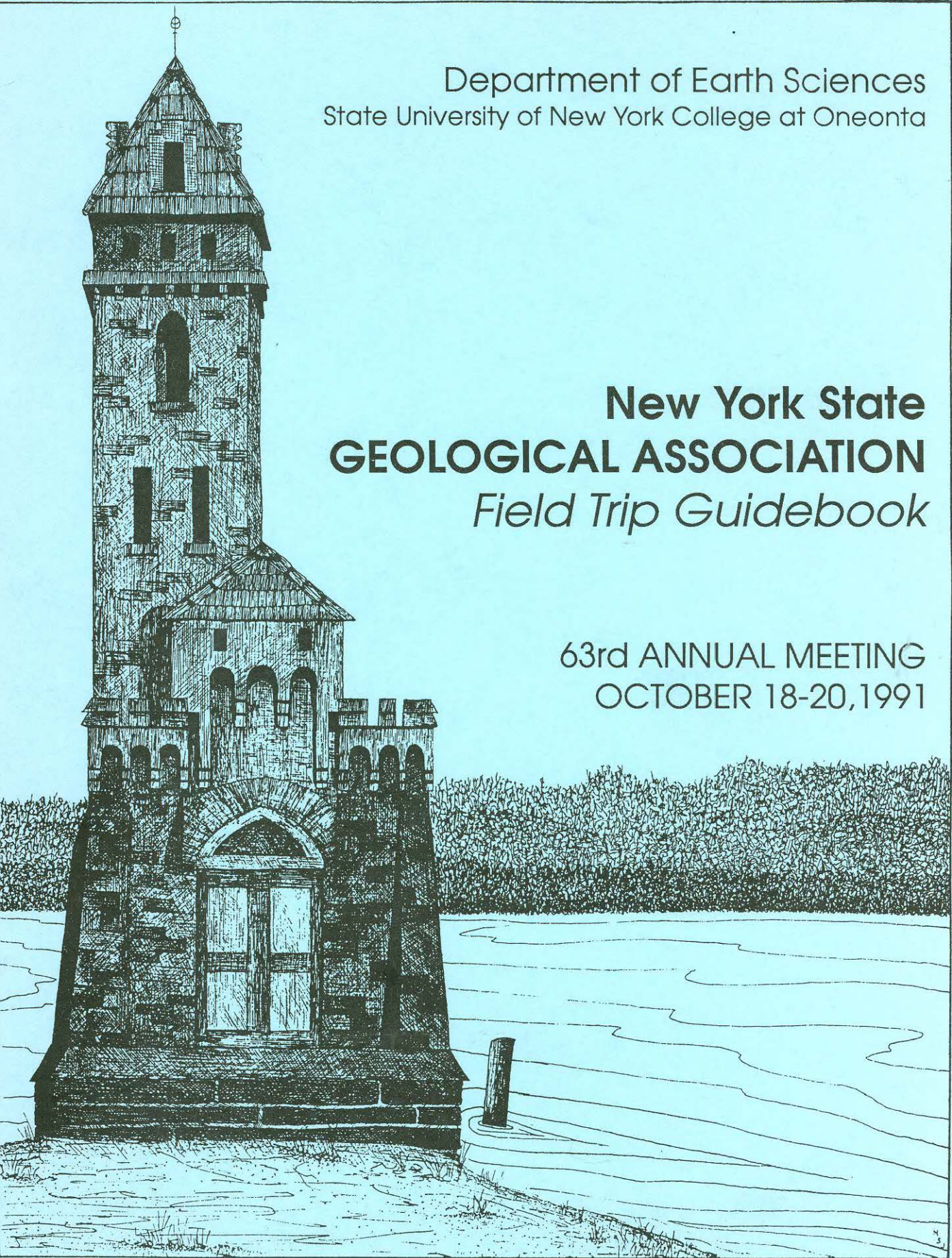


Department of Earth Sciences
State University of New York College at Oneonta

**New York State
GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**
Field Trip Guidebook

63rd ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 18-20, 1991



NEW YORK STATE GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

63rd Annual Meeting

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James R. Ebert, Editor

FIELD TRIP GUIDEBOOK

Department of Earth Sciences
State University of New York
College at Oneonta
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DEDICATION

This Guidebook is affectionately dedicated to all those that share their knowledge of the Earth with students in the field. In this age of full-color textbooks, interactive software packages and exquisitely-produced videotapes, these teachers, from kindergarten through graduate programs, know the excitement that is instilled when students experience the Earth firsthand.

Geologists, in their all but closed conversation, inhabit scenes that no one ever saw, scenes of global sweep, gone and gone again, including seas, mountains, rivers, forests, and archipelagoes of aching beauty rising in volcanic violence to settle down quietly and then forever disappear - almost disappear.

John McPhee

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are very pleased to welcome you to the 63rd Annual Meeting of the New York State Geological Association and to the State University of New York College at Oneonta. Seven of this year's trip leaders were also contributors in 1977, when this department last hosted NYSGA. In the intervening fourteen years, tremendous advances have been made in our understanding of the geology of central New York.

From precision geochronology of precambrian rocks to processes of deglaciation and interaction of glacial and karst processes, geological investigation in the heart of New York is alive and well. Since 1977, we have witnessed the burgeoning of "sequence stratigraphy", the emergence of hydrogeology as a distinct subdiscipline and the expansion of process-oriented sedimentology. These changes are clearly represented by the spectrum of field trips in this guidebook. Sequence stratigraphy is applied to Lower Devonian Limestones, Middle Devonian clastics, and Quaternary sediments in Finger Lakes' basins. Hydrological studies of caves and glacial sediments are described. Physical processes of sedimentation in Devonian shelf, shore, and fluvial environments are also examined.

We hope that you enjoy the field trips and other activities this weekend and that you find them stimulating and enlightening.

The core of an NYSGA meeting is obviously the slate of field trips. The contributions of all the trip leaders (especially those that submitted manuscripts early!) are gratefully acknowledged. Without their efforts, the Association could not exist.

For all endeavors such as this, there is usually an unsung hero who is largely responsible for bringing the event to fruition. For typing the announcements, executing editorial changes, generally greasing the institutional wheels and reassuring a sometimes frazzled editor and frantic president, Moira Beach is our unsung hero.

We would also like to acknowledge the herculean efforts of Wayne Byam and his staff in the college print shop, Dorothy Gill for the cover layout, Bill Harman for supplying the sketch for the cover, Charlie Winters for shooting negatives for some figures and the administration of the college for their support and encouragement.

Finally, we thank the students of the Department of Earth Sciences, especially the Geology Club under the leadership of Heather Finlayson and Kelly Milunich for their logistical and clerical assistance.

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