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Geological Magazine

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The *Geological Magazine* was originally established in 1864 and has been published continuously ever since.

It covers the whole field of earth sciences and welcomes papers which, provided they are of scientific merit, are also controversial in nature. It is the policy of the editors to encourage short papers so that all readers can expect to find at least one major item of interest in each part.

A section is devoted to scientific correspondence. Book reviews are of two kinds: essay reviews either review a group of books on related subjects or enable an author to discuss a particular topic in relation to the account given in a recently published book; in addition there are shorter reviews of recent books. The list of publications received provides a useful check list which is used by many librarians.

The editors wish it to be known that authors alone are responsible for the correctness of their references. There are no page charges for papers published in the *Magazine*.

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Editorial Notice

GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE – NEW INITIATIVES

The *Magazine* will be starting a new rapid-publication section for papers not exceeding four printed pages. These papers will be dealt with via a streamlined schedule, and the editors envisage that all such papers should appear within 5–6 months from receipt, some even more quickly. To meet this schedule, authors will be required to make revisions with minimal delay. Papers must be no more than four printed pages (approximately 5000 words), including abstract (100 words), references, tables, figures and captions.

Papers in all areas of mainstream geology will be considered. Topical interest to a wide readership is more important than the subject area. Contributions to current debates are particularly welcome, even in the form of two or more papers giving conflicting viewpoints. Discussions of papers which have already

appeared in the *Magazine* will still be acceptable, subject to the four-page limit. All typescripts should be in 'paper' rather than the defunct 'letter' format.

Please send typescripts to the *Magazine* with the envelope clearly marked 'Rapid Communication'.

From 1991 the editors also wish to encourage good review papers in areas of topical interest; they will be glad to discuss proposals for review papers with intending authors in advance of submission. The current sections 'Correspondence and Notes', and 'Essay Reviews', will be dropped, but normal book reviews will continue to appear.

The publication scheduling for normal-length papers is also being improved, so that these will have an even shorter acceptance-to-appearance time than at present.