The editor knows the general limitation of resources available today for this type of study and directs much of his book to illustrating methods and techniques to overcome them. There is, in reality, a tendency to utilize more effective methods in cost and time. Many methods are suitable for individuals or small groups and sophisticated or complex procedures needing large investments in equipment and development are advocated only for state agencies or specialized consultants.

Smardon gives, opportunely, considerable emphasis to the use of simple field methods as an alternative to the more complex ones. In many cases the professional valuer has no access to a computer, or lacks adequate software and perhaps cannot obtain detailed photogrametric maps. Equally, he may not need to undertake elaborate and sophisticated visual judgements. Only in difficult situations is it necessary to resort to the use of more complex methods.

These subjects receive a balanced treatment by a selection of authors, including university researchers (Richard C. Smardon, William E. Hammit, James F. Palmer, Edmund C. Penning-Rowsell) and specialists and practitioners (Michael S. Lee, Molly Burgess Mooney, Rowan A. Rowntree) in such diverse subjects as the environmental sciences, landscape architecture, forest recreation, historic preservation, wildlands environments, geography, biogeography, and ecology.

The book is well structured, contains sufficient drawings, photographs and references to make the text clear, and includes as Appendix A a "generic Visual-Impact Checklist" prepared to afford a complete and adjusted field evaluation of the visual impacts of the main activities over the wetlands. Overall a useful and practical volume.

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Eolian Sediments and Processes, edited by M.E. Brookfield and T.S. Ahlbrandt, 1983, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 660p. $US 78.75, ISBN 0-444-42233-1.

The IAS meeting in Hamilton in 1982 has spawned a number of thematic volumes, of which this was one of the first to appear. Not all the 32 papers in this volume were presented at the conference, some were added later to improve coverage.

The volume is split into four parts, covering sediment texture, eolian processes and recent and ancient depositional examples. Other divisions might have been preferable, for example desert and non-desert, theoretical and empirical, but I suppose this would not have made much difference to the overall impact of the book.

The book starts with a review by the late Ed McKee on "Eolian sand bodies of the world." It is something of a personal view, highlighting areas McKee thought were interesting and worthy of further study. I remember attending his keynote address, and being slightly disappointed. This chapter leaves me with the same feeling. Obviously this does not detract from McKee's seminal contributions in this field, but this, as was the talk, is just an illustrated "tour" of various eolian (mainly desert) deposits. McKee does make passing reference to 'dune-like' structures in other depositional environments, but his remarks lack conviction. The illustrations in this paper, being screened black and white prints from color slides, are not as clear as they should be, and about a third could have been omitted. As a last minor comment, I was thrown by his use of the word 'shingle' (to describe overlapping dune ridges). It has taken years for the British to get out of the habit of calling coarse clastic beaches "shingle", so confusing to many Americans. Please don't re-open old wounds fellows!

Setting KcKee's paper aside, the rest of the volume (like all good dunes) has its ups and downs. The texture section is mainly on loess, and includes a good review by Smalley and Smalley, and a fascinating account of the Chinese Loessic Plateau by Darbyshire.

The process section leans heavily, as always, on Major Bagnold's work, although the experiments are becoming more sophisticated and technically improbable every decade. It is intriguing to reflect on how much was deduced by Bagnold, using rudimentary equipment, which is still applicable today. The other major (sorry) influence apparent in this section has been the funding of planetary eolian studies. Greeley *et al.'s* paper is a nice, thought-provoking example of this type of work.

Examples and models of eolian deposits occupy the bulk of the book (450 out of 650 pages), and range in scale from Brown's discussion of the Earth's boundary layer to details of cross-bedding and minor structures (papers by Hunter and colleagues). Several of the papers are enjoyable, especially accounts by Whitney on ventiforms, and Hyde and Wasson's unusual contribution on eolian sand movement on lake flats in Australia. It was good to

see someone considering more than wind speed and direction in determining deflation rates. Hesp's contribution on coastal foredunes (one of the only four specifically coastal papers) is interesting, but I suspect some of his conclusions may not hold outside the *Spinifex* communities of southeast Australia. Rugg's paper on Quaternary coversands in Holland is welcome, but while I accept his ascertion that this is a most neglected area of eolian sedimentology, I am puzzled as to why he has ignored the British work on the subject in his discussion, as this would appear to be 'closer' than many of the examples he cites.

Overall the book is well-produced, aside from a few blurred pages, which may just be my copy. It constitutes an important body of information on eolian sediments and deposits, and deserves to be widely used.

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Shoreline Protection, by the Institution of Civil Engineers, 1983, Thomas Telford Ltd., London, 243p. £22.50, ISBN 0-7277-0173-8.

Shoreline Protection is the proceedings of a symposium organized by the Institution of Civil Engineers held at the University of Southampton (U.K.) in september of 1982. A total of 27 papers comprise the volume grouped into 8 sessions: (i) general outline of the shore protection problem and administrative responsibilites; (ii) coastal zone planning and economics; (iii) short-term sea level trends, waves and littoral drift mechanisms; (iv) sediment budgets and stablity and the use of vegetation in shore protection; (v) coastal protection-design, construction and maintenance; (vi) the effectiveness of groins and beach nourishment; (vii) structural form and materials, and (viii) coastal cliff stabilization.

The subjects and authors (ranging from practicing engineers, local government employees and academicans) were obviously chosen carefully to span a wide variety of coastal problems and phenomena. Consequently, the target readership is wide. In effect, the proceedings pertain to practically all concerned with the many aspects of the British coast.

Most of the papers are well-written and supplemented by meaningful diagrams. To look at a few: in Session 1, Trafford and Braybrooks provide a refreshing account of the background to shoreline protection in Great Britain. The authors have written in such a way that permitted me to make continual comparisons between the British and US coastal policies. Clark's review, in Session II, succeeded in doing what I have mentally attempted with Trafford and Braybrook's paper. Clark provides a review of the US Coastal Zone Management Act and emphasizes some past experiences. He constantly equates the US policies with those of the UK and suggests some implications for British policy review. While a commendable paper, a little too fragrant for my liking. Clark in my mind omitted an exceptionally important point; the CZMA appears attractive on paper at the federal level. However, the real proof of the pudding lies at the state, and, in particular, at the local levels of government. On scrutinizing the latter in the US, I think that one will find that some states (*e.g.* Alabama and Mississippi) tend more towards attaining economic stability than coastal management. However, abiding by Clark's philsophy, Britain should determine such inherent weaknesses and learn from the US mistakes. The three papers in Session III (Sea Level, Waves and Littoral Drift) were of particular interest to me in that they overlapped with my personal research bias. Pugh and Faull provide an interesting account of tides, surges and mean sea level trends around Britain and make the very important point that short-term sea level trends are poor indicators of longer term trends (a somewhat discomforting thought for US engineers). Unfortunately, the following two papers ('Waves at Shorelines' by Professor Holmes of Liverpool and 'Littoral Drift in Relation to Shoreline Protection' by Bijker and Van De Graaff) were little more than a gross reiteration of what is already well-understood in nearshore dynamics. I found the latter two papers a little unnecesary in their present form although I admit that the general topics must be addressed in order to ensure completeness in the proceedings. Unfortunately, both papers are void of any meaningful application to shore protection. Session IV is, in my opinion, the most superior collection of papers in the proceedings. In particular, Clayton *et al.'s* discussion of sand budgets and policy aternatives for the East Anglian Coast is an example of coastal management at its best. Similarly the next 3 papers in Session V appear concise, well thought out and integrated, offering food for thought in terms of design, construction and maintenance of protection schemes. Brampton and Motyka open the next session (VI) on Groins and Beach Nourishment with a paper devoted to the effectiveness of groins. While the authors refer to it as being a "state-of-the-art" report, it most certainly is