

3 Sisters

Near the lookout at Echo Point, about an hour's drive west of Sydney, Australia, the Three Sisters watch over an impressive valley (cover). Throughout the day, the vista alters as the changing sunlight transforms the colours of these majestic rock figures.

Here, before you, is compelling evidence of a world-wide flood.

The sandstone strata of which the Sisters are made point to the fact that, at some time in the past, a huge volume of sediment was deposited over a vast area, including the magnificent valley in front of you. Once it was filled with the same sedimentary sandstone, before massive floodwaters eroded the valley and carved the shape of the Three Sisters. Let's look a bit closer.

VAST SIZE

It's not difficult to appreciate that the sandstone covers an immense area. From the lookout we can see that the same rocks form steep cliffs all around the gorge. In fact, the strata extend 160 km north and south, and 160 km east to the coast in what geologists call the Sydney Basin. Furthermore, many geologists consider the Sydney Basin (red) is the southern end of a 250-km wide sedimentary system extending over 2,000 km north (pink). It contains rich deposits of coal and gas, the products of buried vegetation.

This extensive sedimentary system has itself been buried by further deposits of sediment and vegetation kilometres deep (yellow), concealing the connection between the Sydney Basin and the northern basins. The later-deposited sediments contain abundant water resources in what is called the Great Artesian Basin. The immense size of these deposits is evidence for a watery catastrophe on a grand scale.

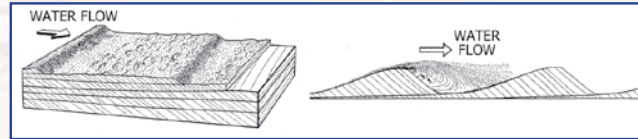


SANDSTONE LAYERS

The sandstone cuttings and cliffs around Sydney show prominent horizontal layers.

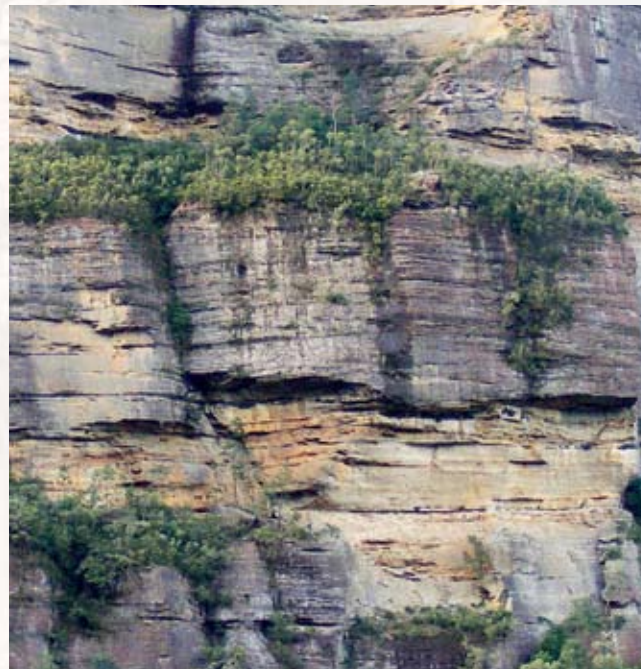


Usually you can see finer layers at an angle between the horizontal layers.



This is called "cross-bedding" and forms as fast-flowing water makes sand waves on the bottom. The sand waves move with the water, forming the pattern of cross-bedding.

The orientation of the sand waves indicates the direction the water flowed, and their thickness indicates the speed of the water and its depth. A university geologist has described the sand in the Sydney area as being deposited from a "river" of water 250 km wide, 20 m deep and flowing from the north at enormous speed.¹ Such a watery catastrophe is what you would expect during the Biblical Flood.



RAPID EROSION

In the second part of Noah's Flood, well after the sediments of the Sydney Basin were deposited, the offshore ocean floor sank and the Blue Mountains rose. The water then covering Australia began to run off the continent, rapidly cutting the landscapes.

At first the water flowed in sheets, shaving vast areas of the continent flat, like the Blue Mountains plateau. Then, as the flow reduced, the water cut wide valleys, like those we see closer to Sydney. As the volume of water continued to decrease, narrower valleys were cut at the edges of the plateaus, like the valleys we see from the Three Sisters lookout.

When the water had completely receded and the land was dry, large valleys remained where the huge flow had been. These valleys end abruptly in blind, steep walls, which prevented the early explorers finding a way through the Blue Mountains. We see waterfalls today at the ends of these valleys. There is no way that such minuscule water flows could have carved the huge valleys. This pattern of erosion is exactly what we would expect during the final phase of the global Flood.



WHAT ABOUT CARBON DATING?

One reason people don't connect the Three Sisters with Noah's Flood is that the rocks are said to be over 200 million years old. At this age they obviously could not have formed in a flood 4,500 years ago. However, there is a problem with the way the rocks are dated.

Basically, long-age geologists get the wrong date because they make wrong *assumptions* about the past. In particular they ignore the catastrophic effects of Noah's Flood, trying instead to explain the rocks by assuming they were deposited slowly, e.g. by rivers like we see on Earth today. With so much sedimentary rock, they imagine that it took millions of years.

But catastrophic conditions during Noah's Flood deposited the sediment quickly, eliminating the need for millions of years.

A respected dating laboratory found that a wood sample in this Hawkesbury sandstone from a quarry (Bundanoon) still contained carbon-14, meaning the rocks are only thousands of years old, not millions of years as generally believed.²

1. Woodford, J., Rock doctor catches up with our prehistoric surf, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 April 1994, p. 2.

2. Snelling, A.A., Dating dilemma: fossil wood in "ancient" sandstone, *Creation* 21(3):39-41, 1999.

This brochure has been adapted from: Walker, T., 3 Sisters: evidence for Noah's Flood, *Creation* 25(2):38-42, 2003.

THINK IT THROUGH

The Three Sisters are an Australian tourist icon. They are also evidence of Noah's Flood. These sandstone monuments display evidence of a large-scale catastrophic deposition, and evidence of watery erosion. That is exactly what we would expect from Noah's Flood as recorded in the Bible. Yes, there really was a global flood, just as the Bible says.

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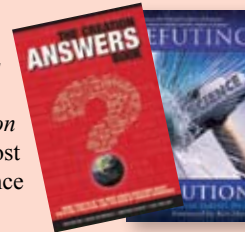
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Many visitors to the Three Sisters don't realise they are looking at evidence for the global Flood as described in the Bible

