

This book is a study of glacial processes and forms. Not only is it a critical and creative synthesis of recent research, but it also provides significant modifications to accepted theory and approach. In each chapter, the authors have proposed models and hypotheses as an aid to understanding and a stimulus to inquiry. At the same time, they present fundamental data from a wide range of sources, with particular attention to current work in Greenland and Antarctica.

'... the authors have produced a *tour de force* in logic, clear discussion and geographical expertise ... this is the most important text on glacial geomorphology.' *Arctic*

'... this book provides the best all-round current introduction to the field.' *Progress in Physical Geography*

'Sur tous ces points, les mêmes qualités d'information, de raisonnement et d'exposition rendent la lecture très profitable. Les auteurs recherchent les explications vraiment scientifiques, mais avec très peu d'appareil mathématique. Des figures suggestives, d'excellentes photographies, une langue claire aident le lecteur. Un remarquable instrument de travail.' *Revue de Géographie Alpine*

'... an unusual and striking textbook about glaciers and their effects on the landscape beneath them ... The book is encyclopaedic, clearly written from a geographical viewpoint, and profusely illustrated with good drawings and photographs.' *Science*

'Few books are better presented for the price and none more captivating to the reader interested in the fascinating phenomenon of ice on the land.' *Nature*

Cover: False-colour ERTS image (no. 8139212185) of the Eyjafjörður region of north Iceland, showing a spectacular landscape of glacial erosion. The white snow-covered mountains stand out clearly and the red colouring emphasizes the dendritic pattern of glacial troughs. The broadest troughs, which are major ice discharge routes, are fed by short tributaries and the main watershed has been breached in two places.

Preface

vii

I Introduction

I

PART I Glaciers and glacier dynamics

- 2 Glacier ice 15
- 3 Glacier systems 35
- 4 Glacier morphology 56

PART II Glacier distribution in space and time

- 5 Spatial distribution of glaciers 81
- 6 Short and medium term glacier fluctuations 102
- 7 Long term glacier fluctuations 129

PART III Glacial erosion and its effects

- 8 The processes of glacial erosion 151
- 9 Landforms of glacial erosion 168
- 10 Landscapes of glacial erosion 192

PART IV Glacial deposition and its effects

- 11 The processes of glacial deposition 213
- 12 Landforms of glacial deposition 235
- 13 Landscapes of glacial deposition 258

PART V Meltwater: a glacial subsystem

- 14 Meltwater as part of a glacier 279
- 15 Meltwater erosion and its effects 300
- 16 Meltwater deposition 318

References 337

Index 363