

Fundamental laws of Geology

Uniformitarianism:

- states that the present is the key to the past.
- James Hutton in 1795 and was popularized in 1830 by Charles Lyell in the textbook *Principles of Geology*.

Original horizontality:

- Sedimentary rocks are formed by particles which, under the influence of gravity, settle to the bottom of rivers, lakes, and oceans and form essentially horizontal layers.
- Steno (1638-1687)

Superposition:

- in any undisturbed sequence of strata the oldest or first-deposited layer would be on the bottom and that the youngest or last-deposited layer would be on the top.
- Steno (later seventeenth century)
- Demonstrated by Hutton (1795)

Also along with
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