

Reconstructing the Landscape
Geology and Art, Fall 2004

Read the following brief history of a region (an actual location) and draw a sketch of a road cut that is consistent with the scenario. Make sure to include color and any labels that you think might help explain the geology.

A river system deposited sands, pebbles, muds, and thin accumulations of organic matter 48 million years ago. These deposits lithified and were intruded by several basaltic dikes 3 million years later. During the Oligocene there was a deformational event and the rocks were severely tilted. In the Pleistocene an alpine glacier eroded the valley and left a thin layer of outwash sands and gravels on the valley floor. Thirty years ago the Department of Transportation blasted the bedrock in the valley in order to put in a highway up the river valley.



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