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Altri autori (Persone)	AltermannWladyslaw <1954-> CorcoranPatricia L
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Nota di contenuto	Introduction; W.ALTERMANN and P. L. CORCORAN; Introductory Papers; Actualistic versus non-actualistic conditions in the Precambrian sedimentary record: reappraisal of an enduring discussion; J. A. DONALDSON, P. G. ERIKSSON and W.ALTERMANN; The evolution of life and its impact on sedimentation; W.ALTERMANN; The significance of iron-formation in the Precambrian stratigraphic record; A. F. TRENDALL; The isotopic composition of Precambrian sulphidesaseawater chemistry and biological evolution; H. STRAUSS Decimetre-thick encrustations of calcite and aragonite on the sea-floor and implications for Neoarchaeon and Neoproterozoic ocean chemistryD. Y. SUMNER; Case Studies; The 2.7-2.63 Ga Indin Lake supracrustal belt: an Archaeon marginal basin-foredeep succession preserved in the western Slave Province, Canada; S. J. PEHRSSON; Sedimentology of a tide- and wave-influenced high-energy Archaeon coastline: the Jackson Lake Formation, Slave Province, Canada; W.U.

MUELLER, P.L. CORCORAN and J. A. DONALDSON

The effects of weathering, sorting and source composition in Archaean high-relief basins: examples from the Slave Province, Northwest Territories, Canada P. L. CORCORAN and W.U.MUELLER; Stratigraphic evolution of Archaean volcanic rock-dominated rift basins from the Whim Creek Belt, west Pilbara Craton, Western Australia; G. PIKE and R. CAS; Syn- and post-eruptive volcanoclastic sedimentation in Late Archaean subaqueous depositional systems of the Black Flag Group, Eight Mile Dam, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia; J. L. HAND, R. A. F. CAS, L. ONG, S. J. A. BROWN, B. KRAPEZ and M.E. BARLEY

Sedimentary environment of the amphibolite-grade Early Proterozoic Keiva and Kukas basins (north-east Baltic Shield): normative mineral MINLITH analysis O. M. ROSEN, V. T. SAFRONOV and A. A. ABBYASOV;

Two meta-sedimentary basins in the Early Precambrian granulites of the Anabar Shield (polar Siberia): normative mineral compositions calculated by the MINLITH program and basin facies interpretations; V. L. ZLOBIN, O. M. ROSEN* and A. A. ABBYASOV;

Mixed siliciclastic-carbonate storm-dominated ramp in a rejuvenated Palaeoproterozoic intracratonic basin: upper Hurwitz Group, Nunavut, Canada

L. B. ASPLER and J. R. CHIARENZELLI Aspects of Late Palaeoproterozoic fluvial style: the Uairen Formation, Roraima Supergroup, Venezuela; D. G. F. LONG;

Volcanogenic and sedimentary rocks within the Svecofennian Domain, Ylivieska, western Finland-an example of Palaeoproterozoic intra-arc basin fill; K. STRAND;

Palaeoproterozoic epeiric sea palaeoenvironments: the Silverton Formation (Pretoria Group, Transvaal Supergroup), South Africa; P. G. ERIKSSON, W. ALTERMANN, L. EBERHARDT, S. AREND-HEIDBRINCK and A. J. BUMBY

Facies sequence and cryptic imprint of sag tectonics in the late Proterozoic Sirbu Shale, Central India

Sommario/riassunto

The motivation for this volume came from the idea that the Precambrian is the key, both to the present, and to the understanding of the Earth as a whole. The Precambrian constitutes about 85% of Earth's history, and of that, about 3.75 billion years of Precambrian time, represented by rocks, are accessible to geoscientists. Ancient atmospheric and environmental conditions can be traced back to the time when the Earth was only about 250 million years old. Precambrian rocks supply almost 75% of important mineral resources such as Fe, Mn, Au, Pt and Cr. Many of these elements are associated with
