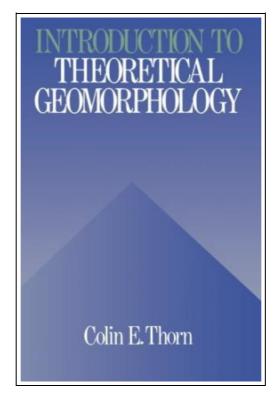
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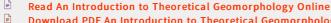
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Springer, Netherlands, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 235 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. This book stems from the belief that undergraduate, and many graduate, students in geomorphology are taught far too little about the theoretical foundation of the discipline. This is a tragic oversight because all disciplines exist solely by virtue of a body of theory; furthermore, all substantive research must, of necessity, be directed at improving this body of theory. While the centrality of theory is a characteristic of all science, it appears that it is fieldwork that has achieved sacrosanct status in geo- morphology. The supreme standing of fieldwork would seem at first sight to be supported by such comments as that cited by Ager (1984, p. 42): My old professor - the great H. H. Read - once said, The best geologist is, other things being equal, he who has seen the most rocks . The key issue in Read s comment is obviously other things being equal; what are these other things? For they will be just as applicable to geomorphology as to geology at large. One is certainly personal ability, but another critical com-ponent is the individual s knowledge of relevant theory. Pursuit of theo- retical knowledge is not generally a favored activity in geomorphology, a situation epitomized by Chorley s (1978, p. 1) one-liner: Whenever anyone mentions theory to a geomorphologist, he instinctively reaches for his soil auger. Softcover reprint of the original 1st ed. 1988.



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