more informative if they had had scales to indicate their sizes.

There are a dozen pages of interest to the mineralogist, and a couple on the industrially important diamond thin films. The book will find its place as a handy compendium on diamond tools, drills and abrasives. MORETON MOORE

MacKenzie, W. S. and Adams, A. E. *A Colour Atlas of Rocks and Minerals in Thin Section.* London (Manson publishing Ltd.) and New York (John Wiley & Sons Inc.), 1994. ISBN: 1-874545-17-0 (paperback), price £15.00, 192 pp., 180 colour photos.

This new work aims to provide a clear and accessible introduction to the use of thin sections in the study of petrography and is suitable for students not intending to take geology as a main subject. After a brief introduction to optical mineralogy, there are sections on silicate minerals, igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks and metamorphic rocks. The main thrust of this book is represented by the 180 colour photographs; some are of thin sections which have been used to illustrate other publications, but all the photographs here were produced especially for this handbook, using 6 × 9 cm transparencies. The results are a great improvement, particularly for thin sections depicting textures and some of the more fine-grained metamorphic rocks.

R. A. HOWIE