

The Optical Microscope Manual

Past and Present Uses and Techniques

There is no shortage of books that look back at early microscopes. But how did they work? How were they used? Who first used Canada Balsam? Why is a slide a slide? When did coverslips first appear? And how were specimens examined before modern methods arose? This book traces the gradual evolution of microscope technique. The emergence of mountants, the discovery of staining, microdissection — the whole range of endeavour is described up to the present century. The author also deals thoroughly with all modern methods, including mineral preparation, plant and animal histology, fluorescence microscopy, the best way to select a microscope, setting up the instrument, and the location of faults in adjustment, making this book a useful practical handbook for the working microscopist.

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