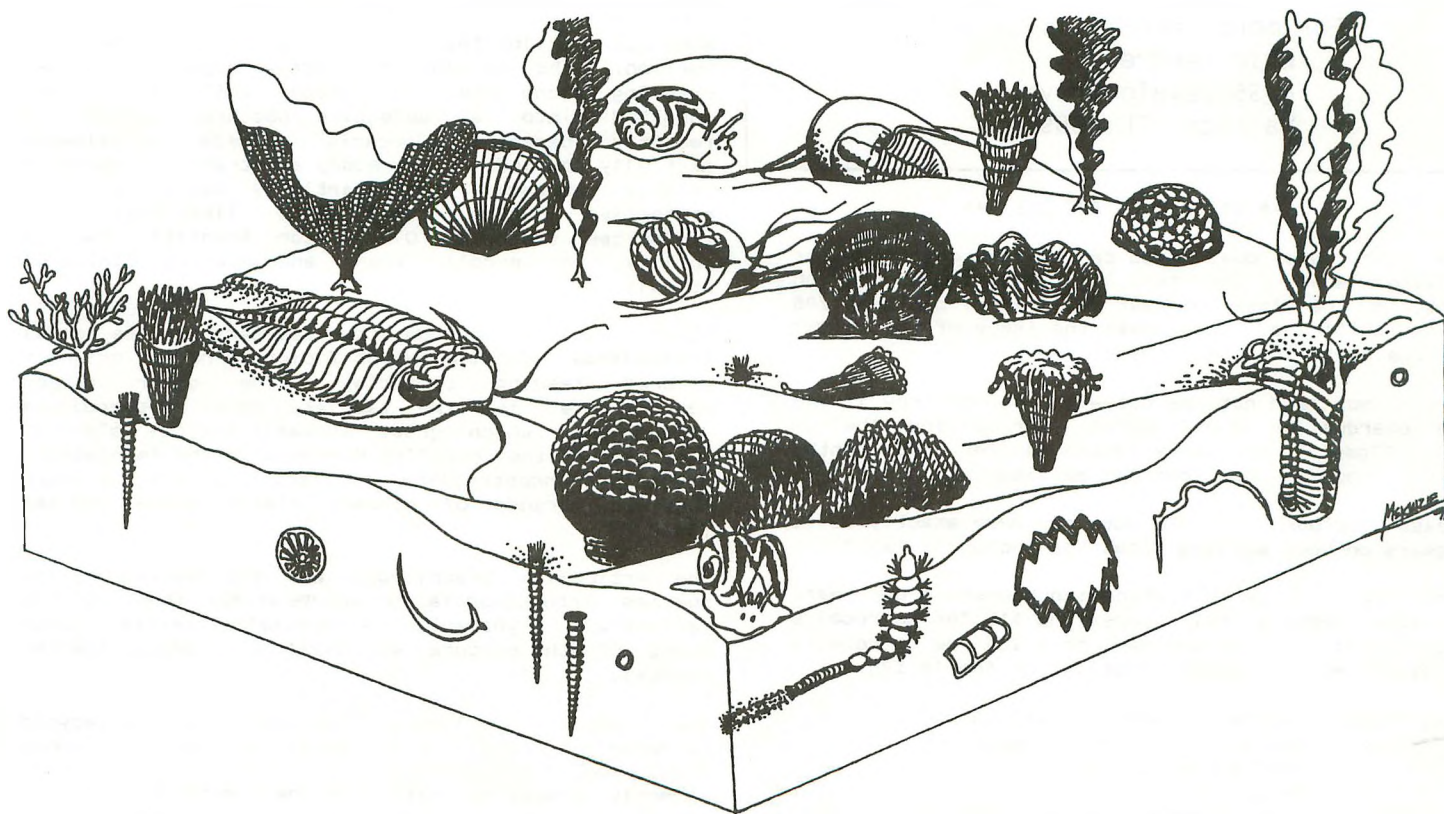


M.A.P.S. *Digest*

Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

Volume 14 Number 6
Summer, 1991



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

18 AUG MAPS SUMMER PICNIC & MEETING Doug DeRosear Residence, 103 S. Oak St., Donnellson, IA. (1 block east of four-way stop) (319) 835-5521. 11:30 to ?. Eat at 12:30. Potluck--bring a covered dish, table service and drink. Bring fossils to try your hand at fossil preparation via the air dent.	1 NOV FOSSILMANIA IX, OAKDALE PARK, 2 GLEN ROSE, TEXAS 3 Friday: 10 - 6 Saturday: 9 - 6 Sunday: 9 - noon See page 8 for details.
4 OCT EIGHTH ANNUAL "BVFS FLORIDA FAIR" 5 1991, Best Holiday Trav-L-Park, 6 7400 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven, FL. Friday: 9 - 5 Saturday: 9 - 5 Sunday: 9 - 3 For more information contact: Eric Kendrew 4436 Tevalo Drive Valrico, FL 33594	24 APR 1992 MAPS National Fossil Expo- 25 sition XIV 26 south-central Oklahoma. The rocks are of Lower Devonian age. This horizon is the informally designated "Huntonia Zone," which lies approximately six feet below the base of the Bois'd Arc formation at a quarry just west of Clarita in Coal county, Oklahoma. The quarry is on private land, and is NOT OPEN to the public. Numerous trilobites can be collected from this horizon. The dalmanitid <i>Huntonia lingulifer</i> is seen crawling along the sea bottom, while another has enrolled into a defensive posture. Nearby, a recently deceased <i>Cordania falcata</i> is already partially buried in the muddy substrate. A phacopid <i>Reedops deckeri</i> lies partially concealed in a protective burrow. This genus, like most other trilobites found at Old Hunton Townsite, had the ability to enroll when encountering stressful stimuli. Other fossils include the solitary rugose coral <i>Enterolasma strictum</i>, which I picture having brightly colored feeding tentacles. The other common coelenterate is the tabulate coral <i>Pluerodictyum lenticulare</i>, which grows in small conical colonies. Just above the crawling Huntonia is the fenestrate bryozoan <i>Fennestrellina stellata</i>. I also picture numerous strands of seaweed rising above the sea floor. The articulate brachiopods are represented by the species <i>Orthostrophia strophomenoides</i> (next to the fenestrate bryozoan), <i>Kozlowskiella velata</i> (upper right of the picture, and <i>Anastrophia grossa</i> (center bottom). The phylum Mollusca includes the pelecypod <i>Leiopteria</i>, and the small coiled gastropod <i>Platyceras</i>. <i>Platyceras</i> is the only gastropod commonly preserved with the shell material. I have found numerous specimens with a faint indication of color banding on them. Other fossils include the problematical <i>Tentaculites bellulus</i>, which has been placed in numerous fossil groups since it was first described. I picture a yet undiscovered polychaete worm as being the originator of the trace fossil <i>Zoophycos</i>, which is common along some bedding planes in the Haragan formation.

*** 91/06 DUES ARE DUE ***

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of year followed by month--91/06 means 1991/June. Dues cover the issue of the *Digest* for the month in which they expire.

We do not send notices but will let you know if you are overdue by highlighting your mailing label on your *Digest*. We carry overdues for two months before dropping them from our mailing list.

Please include your **due date** and **name exactly** as it appears on your mailing label--or include a label.

Dues are \$15 per U.S./Canadian household per year. Overseas members may choose the \$15 fee to receive the *Digest* by surface mail or a \$25 fee to receive it by air mail. Library/Institution fee is \$25.

Make checks payable to MAPS and mail to:
Sharon Sonneleitner, Treas.
4800 Sunset Dr. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

ABOUT THE COVER

by: Mark G. McKinzie, Oklahoma City, OK

This month's cover represents a portion of the benthic fauna that can be collected from the Haragan formation/Hunton group in the Arbuckle Mountains of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following letters are in response to the question of how to ration tables at EXPO to accommodate all who want to participate. The question was raised at the MAPS business meeting at EXPO, and members' input was solicited.

Dear Members:

MAPS is a very unique and special organization, blending professional paleontologists, fossil dealers and amateur collectors. The MAPS EXPO is also unique as it brings together this multi-faceted group for a varied number of reasons. Specimen acquisition, information gathering, camaraderie and financial gain are certainly at the top of the list. The love of Fossils certainly does bring us together. Most love to acquire specimens (buy, sell, trade); many love to sell Fossils for profit; and many love to study Fossils for informative pleasure.

"The Love of Fossils Brings Us Together" is not the only goal of MAPS. From its conception, MAPS has desired to grow. And, its rapid growth has certainly been applauded by all. No longer a small group of local individuals gathering informally to share experiences, etc., MAPS is now an international organization which addresses the needs of many. The MAPS EXPO is certainly feeling the "crunch" of this rapid growth. Will MAPS allow EXPO to continually grow and expand or will its evolution and growth as a yearly event and possibly an organization be discontinued?

Much of the attraction at MAPS EXPO are fine Fossil specimens offered for sale or trade. While amateur collectors are valuable and indispensable, the majority of specimens is offered by dealers (both full and part-time). To make a venture profitable, it is important that dealers have enough space to display their products. The amateur collector who relies on professional dealers for trades and purchases of specimens does not often understand the expenses and space requirements needed to succeed in a profitable venture.

The EXPO has been enjoyable, enlightening and profitable (in many aspects) for most who have attended over the years. As membership grows and needs expand, it is almost inconceivable that the Society would restrict and even reduce the needs for its members at EXPO. The EXPO is what it is because of its unique and essential blend of individuals. Expansion and growth can only enhance this. GROWTH IS ESSENTIAL; STAGNATION IS DESTRUCTIVE! To restrict it can only reduce or even destroy what we know and love. A change to a larger and more accommodating facility is desperately needed.

Our May Digest mentioned the formation of a committee to study the problem. This is a 1st step. But, it's time for ALL members to voice their opinions!! Please send a response to YOUR organization.

Best wishes,
Dan Damrow

(Ed. note: Dan says his letter sums up the opinions of a large number of MAPS members he has spoken with.)

I have been meaning to write for two months concerning the table problem at the yearly EXPO. I had made a suggestion at the business meeting during this year's EXPO, suggesting that a *fixed* number of table sets (1,2,3,4, etc.) be established by looking over the past years' records. Having this data, the table committee could offer these table arrangements on first come-first serve basis. I don't think that charging more for tables that exceed the basic setup of two will necessarily solve the problem. If those mega-dealers (Wards and Midland, etc.) want a quantity of tables, why not set up these large professional companies in the lounge area outside of the main ballroom. The cost of their tables should be set to cover the additional rental fees and security fees. (Then you would see if they really want to participate or not.)

I have been coming to EXPO for about ten years and sincerely concur that the gathering of amateurs and professionals is a credit to your organization. You need those part-time collectors that require more than 3 or 4 tables, such as Stuart Grieves and Dan Damrow. I do most of my inventory buying and trading at EXPO and these individuals as well as others, are a vital part of your show. In the past I have had four tables. This year I had three on the second round of table distribution. It was adequate, but it makes selling and trading difficult. The purpose in going to EXPO is that I have made a lot of wonderful friends at the decade of EXPOs, and each year I meet more. If tables are limited to two (I usually have four; this year I had three on the second round of table distribution), I would probably not participate, not so much because of recovering travel expenses in sales, but mainly because the show would not have those collectors that I purchased the majority of my inventory from.

Sincerely,
Rich Hamell

(Ed. note: We've discussed using the lounge area, but feel that adequate security cannot be provided for it.)

DIGEST NOTE

The next *Digest* is the October issue, which will be published in late September. New members and address changes from June through September will appear in that issue.

Summertime finds me extremely busy with my children (ages 16, 14, and 9) and their activities, so if you are waiting for a reply to a query, please be assured that it will be taken care of.

PALAEOXYRIS — A FOSSIL ENIGMA

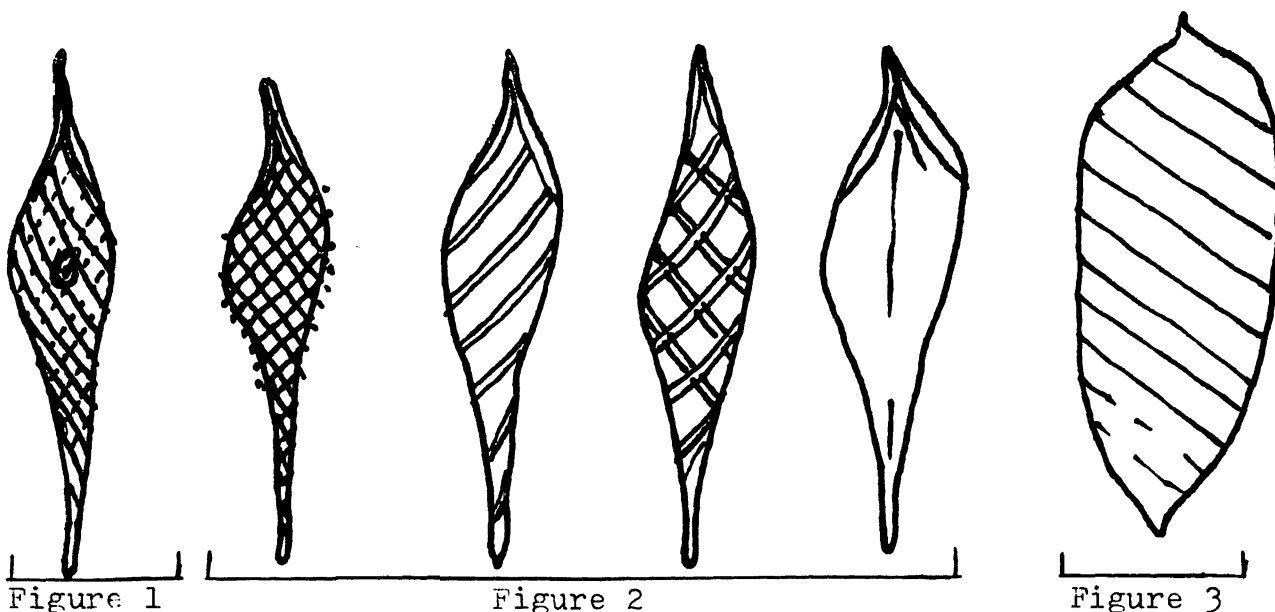
by Jim Konecny, 2026 Geronimo Rd., Prescott, AZ 86301

The fossil record is filled with countless examples of various plants and animals. Most of them are assignable to one of the numerous phyla that we have today. Occasionally an organism is found that cannot with certainty be placed in one of the phyla that we have constructed for our existing plants and animals. Many of these have been bantied around from one phylum to another--almost always with some doubt. A classic example of one of these is the *Palaeoxyris*. In fact, the kingdom (plant or animal) to which this organism belongs has not been established with certitude. Let us examine this enigma more closely.

Various authors have described this organism under numerous genera--*Palaeoxyris* Brongniart (1828), *Carpolithus* Morris (1840), *Palaeobromilia* Ettingshausen (1852), *Sporleteria* Stiehler (1860) and *Spirangium* Schimper (1870). All of the above authors considered it to be in the plant kingdom. It was thought to be a seed or seed pod. The currently accepted placement is in the genus *Palaeoxyris*. The geologic range is Pennsylvanian to Cretaceous. Specimens are fairly common in certain locations of the world-famous Mazon Creek Area of northern Illinois. This area is of middle Pennsylvanian Age, being in the Francis Creek Shale Member of the Carbondale Formation. Further discussion

here is based on specimens found in these locations.

The general outline is that of a willow leaf with one end quite pointed and the other end with a long stem or tail. They range in size from 1" to 6" long. The length to width ratio is variable, with some specimens being long and thin while others are short and stout. See Figure 1. This figure also shows the most common ornamentation. Other less common types of ornamentation are shown in Figure 2. Notice that the ornamentation generally gives a knurled effect. In some specimens the knurling is barely visible, while in others it is deeply incised. The least common form is shown in Figure 3. Note that this form lacks the pointed end and the long stem-like end. The two ends have been referred to as head and tail in some literature. Some specimens exhibit a small, round nodular impression in the center of the body. Thus far, fine detail of this feature has not been observed, consequently its true nature has not been established. It has been characterized as a seed, an egg and a larve. Presently the *Palaeoxyris* is described as a shark egg case. I disagree with this designation--at least as far as the Mazon Creek specimens are concerned.



In the 1979 publication *Mazon Creek Fossils*¹ one of the authors, Daniel C. Fisher, contends that the horseshoe crab *Euproops danae* engaged in subaerial activities. One basis for this contention is the fact that most of the *Euproops* specimens are found in areas that are considered to have been terrestrial environments rather than in areas that are considered to have been marine environments. Johnson & Richardson² divided the Mazon Creek Area into two distinct environments--the terrestrial Braidwood Fauna and the marine Essex Fauna. Naturally, the terrestrial environments are dominated by plant remains, whereas the marine environments are dominated by animal remains. Although Fisher cites other evidence, the compelling factor is their location in the terrestrial environment. Daniel C. Fisher is considered by some³ to be the foremost authority on horseshoe crabs--both modern and fossil. I therefore assume he knows whereof he speaks. His form of reasoning is why I contend that the *Palaeoxyris* is not a shark egg case.

In over 13 years of collecting in the Mazon Creek Area my wife and I have found 67 specimens of *Palaeoxyris*. Of these, only 4 were found in the marine environment, while 63 were found in the terrestrial environment. We also have 3 specimens from a middle Pennsylvanian location in east central Illinois. This location is also in the Carbondale Formation and is considered to have been a terrestrial environment. This adds up to a 66 to 4 ratio of terrestrial vs. marine specimens. Hence my contention that these organisms are not

shark egg cases. If I am wrong, and these truly are shark egg cases, what is the explanation for the majority of them being found in terrestrial rather than marine environments? I am sure that this is not the product of some sort of collecting bias on our part. Incidentally, shark remains are rare in both the Braidwood and Essex faunas.² I have not had the opportunity to examine specimens from any location other than the Mazon Creek Area. Could the resemblance between the Mazon Creek specimens and specimens from the other locations merely be superficial? Could it be that the Mazon Creek critters are not the same as those from other locations.? Perhaps we are talking about two different organisms.

A number of years ago, during one of my many conversations with the Dr. Eugene S. Richardson, Jr. (Curator of Fossil Invertebrates at the Field Museum, Chicago), I presented my idea that these organisms are some sort of cocoon or chrysalis. I pointed out that they are found in terrestrial environments, the general shape resembles a pupal body, plus the fact that some of them are found with the pointed end attached to some form of plant material; also, that there are some modern beetles that take leaves and roll them up in a fashion that produces an end result that resembles the *Palaeoxyris*. See Figure 4. I believe that these factors give some credence to the idea that this is an insect-manufactured product. He replied, "Your idea is as good as anyone else's." He paused for a moment and added, "You know, I like that idea. I just might work on that someday." Alas, he never got to do it.

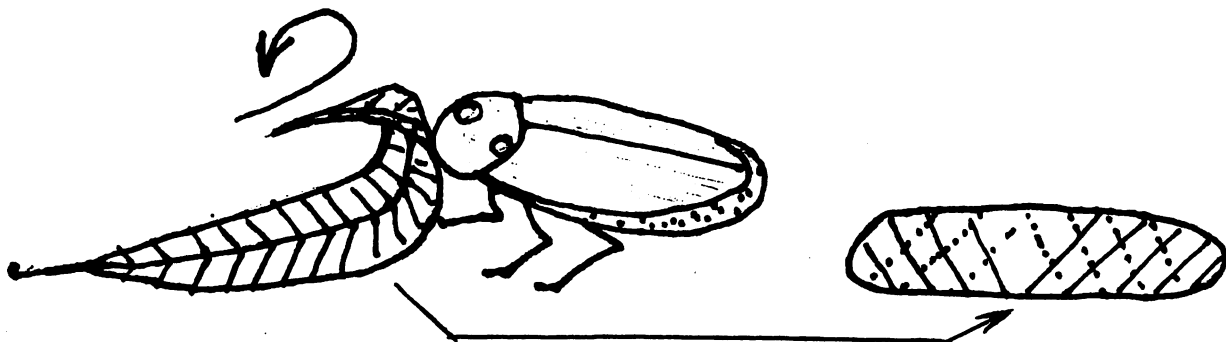


Figure 4

One other thought comes to mind. The remains of the horseshoe crab *Euproops danae* are common in the Braidwood Fauna.² In our collection they are the most abundant form of animal life in that faunal group. Again, I am sure that this is not due to any kind of collecting bias on our part. Comparative examination of other

collections shows similar results. Since there is evidence of terrestrial activity by Euproops, could there be some sort of relationship between *Palaeoxyris* and *Euproops*? Perhaps in a future concerted study of the Mazon Creek organisms by professionals, this dilemma will be solved.

References:

- Andrews, Henry N., 1970, Index of Generic Names of Fossil Plants, 1820-1965: U.S.G.S. Bulletin 1300.
- ³Eldridge, Niles, 1987, Life Pulse: Episodes from the Story of the Fossil Record: Facts on File Publications.
- ¹Fisher, Daniel C., 1979, Evidence for Subaerial Activity of *Euproops danae*: Mazon Creek Fossils, Matthew H. Nitecki, Editor; Academic Press.
- ²Johnson, Ralph Gordon & Eugene S. Richardson, Jr., 1966, A Remarkable Pennsylvanian Fauna from the Mazon Creek Area, Illinois: The Journal of Geology Vol. 74, No. 5, Sept. 1966.
- Langford, George, 1958, the Wilmington Coal Flora from a Pennsylvanian Deposit in Will Co., Illinois, ESCONI Associates: Downers Grove, Illinois.

PALEONTOLOGICAL NOTES by Denis Tetreault, Welland, Ontario, Canada

Rarely does a single discovery, in one fell swoop, decide a controversy, let alone an argument that has been raging for some time; however, one such milestone passed relatively unnoticed by amateurs in 1985.

Although tabulate corals are generally placed in the phylum Coelenterata along with all other known corals, many people over the years have argued for their placement into other phyla. The discovery of living sclerosponges¹ that have an internal skeleton somewhat reminiscent of some tabulates has put more fuel into the argument that the tabulates belong to the phylum Porifera (the sponges).² With increasingly sophisticated lab techniques becoming available, the search for spicules was on! The recent discovery of siliceous spicules in chaetetids (coral-like fossils superficially resembling tabulates with very tiny pores, formerly classified as Problematica), and their placement into Porifera as a result, has spurred many to attempt to place tabulates in the same pigeon-hole. Over the last ten years

several papers have been published along these lines. One report as recently as mid 1989 professed to finding spicules in a tabulate specimen.³ (Amateurs, take heart, some professionals apparently did not get the news either!)

While tabulate corals are among the most common Silurian fossils, there seemed to be no record of carbonized, calcified, silicified, or phosphatized soft parts. At the very least, they differ from modern corals in that their skeletons are composed of calcite, not aragonite, and only rarely do they exhibit any septal structures, while virtually all other coral groups do. Thus one could expect some reservation concerning their affinities.

In the July 11, 1985, issue of the British journal *Nature* (Vol. 316, pages 142-144), Dr. Paul Copper of Laurentian University (Sudbury, Ontario) reported the discovery of six specimens of a new species of *Favosites* which settled this question once and for all time. Within the Early

Silurian Jupiter Formation of Anticosti Island, Quebec, were found six well-preserved coralla (colonies) with unmistakable calcified polyps. The tabulates can now be assigned to Coelenterata without a shadow of a doubt. Of more than 300 corallites (individual "cells") examined on one corallum, approximately 70% had polyps in various stages of degradation. The average number of individual tentacles per polyp was 12, with no particular enlargement, division, or symmetry of tentacles (no "sweeper" tentacles). This dodecal symmetry would seem to set the Tabulata away from the tetracorals (Rugosa--horn corals), hexacorals (Scleractinia--modern stony corals), and octacorals (Octocorallia--modern soft corals). Although the fossilized polyps only occupy about two-thirds of the calice, this is

not significant because the fully extended polyps of living corals can be inflated to several times the corallite diameter.

The lithology of the unit these specimens were found in consists of richly fossiliferous, calcareous shales with interbedded, thinly-bedded, micritic (very fine grain) limestones. Other fossils found within the unit include the brachiopods *Eocoelia*, *Atrypa*, *Triplesia*, *Pentamerus*, *Leptaena* and small matchstick bryozoans. Other than the small hemispherical *Favosites* (approximately 6 cm. in diameter), no other corals, stromatoporoids, or calcareous algae were found. There seem to be no unusual environmental conditions present, and polyp tissues are soft and contain no apparent mechanism for *in situ* precipitation of calcite. The exoskeleton is secreted only by a very thin layer of basal disk tissue. As of yet, there is no clue as to how this remarkable preservation was achieved.

The illustrations at left are from page 143 of the British journal Nature, cited in the article.

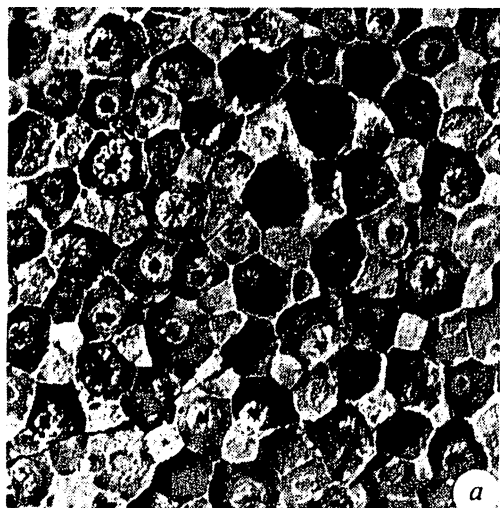


Fig. 1 Calcified polyp structures preserved in the calices of a *Favosites* corallum from the Jupiter Formation (Silurian, Llandoveryan) of Anticosti Island, eastern Canada (specimen GS79441, Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa). a, Overview of the hemispherical colony showing 109 corallites, most with centred polyps ($\times 3.75$); b, c, detailed view showing varied stages of polyp degradation ($\times 12.75$); d, inwardly retracted tentacles and gut cavity and concentrically layered, radially striated view of the lower polyp stalk ($\times 33.75$).



References

- ¹Hartman, W. and Goreau, T. 1970. Jamaican coralline sponges: their morphology, ecology and fossil relatives. Symp. Zool. Soc. of London 25: 205-243.
- ²Flügel, H. 1976. Ein spongienmodell für die Favositidae. Lethaia 9: 405-419.
- ³Kazmierczak, J. 1989. Halysitid tabulates: sponges in coral's clothing. Lethaia 22: 195-205.
(See Wood, R., Copper, P., and Reitner, J. 1990. "Spicules" in halysitids: a reply. Lethaia 23: 113-114. for a thorough rebuttal of this paper.)

ADVERTISING SECTION

Ads are \$5.00 per inch (6 lines x 1 column--43 spaces). Send information and checks payable to MAPS to: Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 34th Avenue Ct., Rock Island, IL 61201. Phone: (309) 786-6505. This space is a \$5.00 size.

To extend currently running ads, please send request and remittance to Editor by the 15th of the month. We do not bill. Ads do not run in the EXPO issue (April). Ads up to 8 lines by 54 spaces can be printed in smaller type to fit a 1" space.

MAJOR FOSSIL SHOW--Aug. 14-18, 1991, Strasburg, PA. Fifth Annual Lost Dutchman Gemboree, at Historic Strasburg Inn on Rt. 896. Dealers with fine quality fossils. Tailgate space, too. Collecting field trips daily. For information: Thomas/Tapomu, Box 8742, Lancaster, PA 17604; (717) 293-8959.

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PREHISTORIC FISH LIZARD FOUND IN ENGLAND

from: *Southern Evening Echo*, Sep. 28, 1990
 sent by: Leslie Harris, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

Leslie writes: *I have traded with Gordon Walters for a good many years, and this spring I went to visit with him, and, as the article states, he certainly has a wonderful collection...Gordon is a former MAPS member, and since this article was written, he has found some more fossil bones. Incidentally, it was my cousin in England who noticed this in the paper and sent it to me.*

On September 27, 1990, Southampton fossil collector Gordon Walters revealed his superb dinosaur find to the English newspaper *Echo*. In the back garden of his former house in Sholing, Gordon spread out the pieces that formed the four-foot skull of a 14 ft. prehistoric fish lizard.

The creature was found at a cliff-foot site at Charmouth Beach, Dorset, and it took about 250 trips to retrieve all the pieces of the specimen. According to Gordon, "It is a very good specimen of an ichthyosaur and my best find since I started an interest in palaeontology 25 years ago." The dinosaur is about 180 million years old.

Gordon, who is an aerospace part-maker, took many months to separate the slate-colored fossil from the surrounding rock. It weighs 150 lbs., and 43 exposed teeth can be seen clearly. But Gordon says there is still some work to be done.

The amateur fossil hunter, who travels abroad and all over the south coast of England to find his quarry, has thousands of specimens in his home and garden. In addition to the ichthyosaur, he has found the backbone of a plesiosaurus. "It is the creature they say is the Lock Ness monster," he said.

The specimens in his numbered and recorded collection range from a Star Carr deer from the comparatively recent Pleistocene period of 23 million years ago to 600 million year old algae. He also has a gigantic shark tooth, eight times normal size.

The Austin and Dallas Paleontological Societies Present

FOSSILMANIA IX

FOSSILMANIA IX will be held at Oakdale Park, Glen Rose, Texas on November 1-3, 1991. Sale and trade items are to contain only fossil or fossil-related items.

HOURS: Friday November 1, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday November 2, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sunday November 3, 9:00 a.m. to noon

LODGING: Trailer Sites \$12.50/night (full hook-up)
Tent Sites for 2 persons 8.50/night + \$2.00 each additional adult
Cabins* 36.00/night - 2 double beds, linens furnished
(3 double beds - \$41.34/night - with kitchen facilities,
without linens. Rent directly from Oakdale Park,
PO Box 548, Glen Rose, Texas 76043, 817/897-2321)

*All cabins are air-conditioned and heated. There is a 2-day (Friday and Saturday) minimum requirement on all cabins. A local motel and state park are listed below for your information.

MEALS: There are several cafes in town. FOSSILMANIA will sponsor a Potato Bust on Friday night at 6:30 and a Texas BBQ on Saturday night at 6:30.

TABLES: Tables will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is \$10 for a 6-foot table for the entire weekend, 4-table maximum. If tables are not already reserved, reduced cost basis for partial days will be available.

FIELD TRIPS: No field trips will be sponsored during the show. However, we will have information available for trips in the surrounding area.

AUCTION: We would like a donation of one nice fossil specimen for the live auction to be held Saturday night after the BBQ. Please be prepared to provide full data on the item and the name of the donor.

RESERVATIONS: Everyone should make advance reservations as soon as possible, but no later than October 10, 1991. Cabins not reserved by that date must be released back to Oakdale Park. Please separate the reservation form below and send it to Frank Crane, 1603 Twilight Ridge, Austin, TX 78746. Make checks payable to the Austin Paleontological Society. For additional information you may also call (after 5:00 p.m.) Frank or Joan Crane at 512/327-4005.

MOTELS/RV SITES: Glen Rose Motor Inn on US 67. Single \$39/night/\$4 extra person + tax.

Dinosaur Valley State Park - From US 67, FM 201 east 4 miles, Park Road 59 east 1 mile. Entrance \$2/day. Water/electricity/sewer hook-up \$10/day; water/electricity hook-up \$9/day, primitive camping \$4/day. The park is popular, you can make reservations up to 90 days in advance, requires a deposit = to the 1st night's cost. PO Box 396, Glen Rose, TX 76043, 817/897-4588.

SECURITY WILL BE PROVIDED BUT WE CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS

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PLEASE CHECK: Thurs _____, Fri _____, Sat _____

Campsites: Trailer Sites @ \$12.50/night \$ _____

Tent Sites @ \$8.50/night + \$2/ea add'l adult \$ _____

Meals: Potato Bust @ \$4.00/person Friday night \$ _____

Texas BBQ @ \$8.00/person Saturday night \$ _____

Combo PB/BBQ @ \$11.00/person (save \$1) \$ _____

Tables: 6' table for weekend @ \$10.00 each (four table limit) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

The ~~Mid~~-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology; to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: One year from month of payment is \$15.00 per household. Institution or Library fee is \$25.00. Overseas fee is \$15.00 with Surface Mailing of DIGESTS OR \$25.00 with Air Mailing of DIGESTS. (Payments other than those stated will be pro-rated.)

MAPS meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (2nd Saturday if inclement weather). October & May meetings are scheduled field trips. The June meeting is in conjunction with the Bloomington, IN, Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show & Swap. A picnic is held the fourth weekend in July. November through April (except February) meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in the Science Building, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The February meeting is held at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois. One annual International Fossil Exposition is held in the Spring.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year--October through June.

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MID-AMERICA PALEONTOLOGY SOCIETY

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Dated Material - Meeting Notice