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A BIBLIOGRAPHY TO THE PALEONTOLOGY OF MASSACHUSETTS

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A BIBLIOGRAPHY TO THE PALEONTOLOGY OF MASSACHUSETTS

1821 - 1949

by

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HARTSHORN

A BIBLIOGRAPHY TO THE PALEONTOLOGY OF MASSACHUSETTS

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The geological literature of Massachusetts is widely scattered and frequently it is difficult to discover what has been published about particular Massachusetts fossils. As part of the program of geological research by the University of Massachusetts, the following bibliography to the paleontology of Massachusetts is presented in hope that it will serve to further stimulate the professional and amateur paleontologist and others interested in the various phases of earth science. This is the second bibliography published by the University of Massachusetts, the first being entitled "A Bibliography of Massachusetts Minerals" by Warren I. Johansson.

In compiling the bibliography, the major sources of reference were the Catalogue and Index of Contributions to North American Geology, 1732 - 1891-Darton, the United States Geological Survey Bibliographies of North American geology through 1949, other bulletins and folios of the United States Geological Survey, publications of Essex Institute, American Journal of Science, and the Journal of Paleontology.

The author has not seen all the literature listed in the bibliography nor are notations made for all papers. Annotations have been inserted only where they appeared desirable to clarify the contents. Many of the references are of historical interest only, but they are included for completeness.

No attempt has been made to include newspaper articles, student reports and theses.

The bibliography consists of two parts: Part I is arranged as an author index; Part II is an index arranged to acquaint the reader with the geographical distribution, the general types of fossils and the geological age of the fossils of Massachusetts as listed in Part I.

Because of the nature of such a bibliography, there are bound to be some unintentional omissions. The compiler will appreciate having omissions brought to his attention in order that a supplementary bibliography may be prepared at a future date.

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Part II

INDEX

This index is arranged to acquaint the reader with the geographical distribution and geological age of the fossils of Massachusetts as listed in this bibliography.

Cambrian - Eastern Massachusetts

The fossiliferous strata of eastern Massachusetts is assigned to the Lower and Middle Cambrian. The Lower Cambrian includes the Hoppin slate and Weymouth formation while the Braintree slate is considered to be Middle Cambrian. Lower Cambrian fossils occur in the vicinity of East Point, Nahant, and in the Hoppin slate of North Attleboro. Both Lower and Middle Cambrian fossils occur in the Weymouth-Braintree area. Emerson (1917, p. 39) states that Upper Cambrian fossils have been found in the quartzite pebbles of the Carboniferous Dighton conglomerate in the Narragansett Basin. The Cambrian of eastern Massachusetts is best known for its trilobites, but a number of other fossils including Brachiopoda, Pelecypoda, Gastropoda and Pteropoda have been found.

The following references deal with the Cambrian of eastern Massachusetts: 2, 9, 20, 21, 24, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 70, 71, 72, 82, 87, 88, 89, 93, 94, 95, 96, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 149, 150, 157, 170, 185, 193, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 222, 223, 225, 227, 228, 232, 233, 235, 236, 243, 257, 258, 259, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 272, 273, 279, 284, 285, 286.

Cambro-Ordovician - Taconic Mts. and Berkshire County

This area includes extreme western Massachusetts adjoining the New York State Border and also the vicinity of Mt. Greylock, Adams, Massachusetts. J. D. Dana (1888) reports the finding of both Cambrian and Ordovician (Trenton) fossils in this area. For the most part the remains are scarce and not well preserved.

The following references deal with the Cambro-Ordovician of extreme western Massachusetts: 10, 43, 48, 49, 50, 82, 112, 199, 260, 261.

Devonian - Bernardston and from Glen Mills, Rowley.

Fossiliferous strata has been found in the cuts of the long - abandoned Williams farm quarry in Bernardston. This locality is situated about one mile north of Bernardston on the east side of West Mountain. The crystalline limestone together with the overlying magnetite and quartzite has supplied paleontological material. The fossil remains include some corals, broken crinoid columns and brachiopods. For the most part remains of fossils are not well preserved.

Some late Silurian (?) or early Devonian marine invertebrates are reported (Emerson, 1917, p. 163) from a calcareous shale near Glen Mills in Rowley.

The following references deal with the Devonian of the Bernardston area: 46, 47, 51, 76, 78, 82, 98, 102, 278.

Carboniferous - Narragansett Basin, Worcester area, Chelmsford and Newbury.

The Narragansett Basin is located in southeastern Massachusetts. It extends essentially from Brockton in a southwesterly direction into adjacent Rhode Island. Much of the underlying rock is assigned to the Rhode Island formation. This graphite-coal bearing formation has yielded many fossil plant remains from localities throughout much of the basin. A few fossil ostracods, insects and amphibia have also been reported.

The Worcester " coal mine" is situated east of the city in a bed of the Worcester phyllite. The carbonaceous and graphitic phyllite has produced several types of Pennsylvanian plant fossils.

Eozoon canadense in limestone is reported from Chelmsford and Newbury.

The following references deal with the Carboniferous of the Narragansett Basin, the Worcester area and Eozoon canadense of Chelmsford and Newbury: 3, 13, 18, 19, 21, 37, 82, 91, 92, 112, 147, 148, 153, 154, 156, 166, 189, 190, 191, 208, 209, 210, 212, 233, 246, 281, 287, 288.

Triassic - Connecticut Valley.

The Upper Triassic rocks of the Connecticut Valley are assigned to the Newark group. Triassic conglomerate, arkose, sandstone, shale, diabase and tuff is represented in various parts of the valley. The Longmeadow sandstone and Chicopee shale has produced many types of animal and plant fossils. Good plant fossil remains have been found at Gill, Turners Falls, Easthampton (vicinity of Mt. Tom Reservation), Holyoke and South Hadleys Falls. To summarize, plant fossils from the Connecticut Valley include some conifers, cycads, ferns and scouring rushes. Invertebrate remains are few and for the most part uncommon. A neuropterous insect larva is abundant

in the shale in the vicinity of Turners Falls. The Crustacean Estheria has been reported from west Holyoke and in Wilbraham two species of clams (Unio) have been collected. Arthropod and worm trails are common in many areas. The vertebrates are well represented by fish and reptilian remains. The fish are mostly ganoids. Fossil fishes are associated with the black bituminous shales of Turners Falls, Whitmore Ferry, Sunderland and also less commonly at Chicopee Falls. Many species of reptilian footprint impressions or dinosaur prints as they are often called, are found in the shales in the vicinity of Turners Falls and also near the Holyoke-Mt. Tom Range. In comparison with the footprint impressions, the osseous remains are rare. R. S. Lull (1915) lists twenty-eight localities for bone and footprint impressions in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts.

The following references deal with the Triassic of the Connecticut Valley: 1, 6, 11, 15, 16, 27, 45, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 74, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 90, 97, 99, 100, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 167, 169, 171, 172, 173, 175, 176, 177, 180, 181, 182, 186, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 200, 201, 202, 203, 217, 218, 219, 220, 234, 237, 238, 245, 247, 268, 269, 270, 271, 290.

Cretaceous and Tertiary - Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

Fossiliferous Cretaceous rocks are found at Gay Head and near Indian Hill, Martha's Vineyard. At Gay Head they contain lignitic leaf-bearing clays and a number of invertebrate fossils. Sponge spicules have been reported from the Cretaceous clay and sand at Third Cliff, Scituate.

Lower Eocene plant and molluscan fossils (T. C. Brown, 1905) were found in the drift of Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard.

The Miocene and Pliocene of Gay Head and Chilmark has produced a long list of Mollusca as well as the partial remains of sharks and whales. (W. H. Dall, 1894).

The following references deal with the Cretaceous and Tertiary of the Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket area: 17, 22, 39, 40, 41, 44, 68, 73, 82, 112, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 151, 168, 187, 211, 226, 231, 241, 242, 248, 249, 267, 274, 275, 276, 285, 289.

Pleistocene and Post-Pleistocene - Boston Basin, Cape Cod, Connecticut Valley, Dighton, Nantucket, etc.

One should consult the long list of Pleistocene fossils from the coastal beds of Massachusetts (See Emerson, 1917, pp. 144-145) to get a detailed breakdown of the number of species and their locations. From the drumlins of the Boston Basin and fossiliferous sands of Sankaty Head, Nantucket, many different marine invertebrates representing several phyla have

been found. Near Gloucester, a number of molluscs have been noted in the till. The John Hancock Fish weir site in Back Bay, Boston has provided much material including diatoms, peat, pollen, Foraminifera, molluscs and barnacles which have been the subject of much study. The Grassy Island site near Dighton and several other locations in southeastern Massachusetts have supplied fossil pollen for purposes of analysis and evaluation. In the vicinity of Eastham, Truro and Wellfleet, diatoms, fossil pollen, lignite and bits of wood as well as sponge spicules are found in the clay tills. The Pleistocene clays of Amherst and those of Hadley near the Fort River have produced a number of plant remains and representatives of several families of beetles. Parts of the head of Mastodon giganteus were found in Northboro and a single tooth of the same species in Colrain.

The following references deal with the Pleistocene and Post-Pleistocene of Massachusetts: 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 36, 38, 40, 42, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 73, 75, 82, 112, 132, 135, 136, 137, 152, 155, 158, 159, 174, 178, 179, 183, 184, 188, 192, 213, 214, 215, 216, 221, 224, 226, 230, 239, 240, 244, 250, 251, 252, 255, 256, 282, 283, 289.