

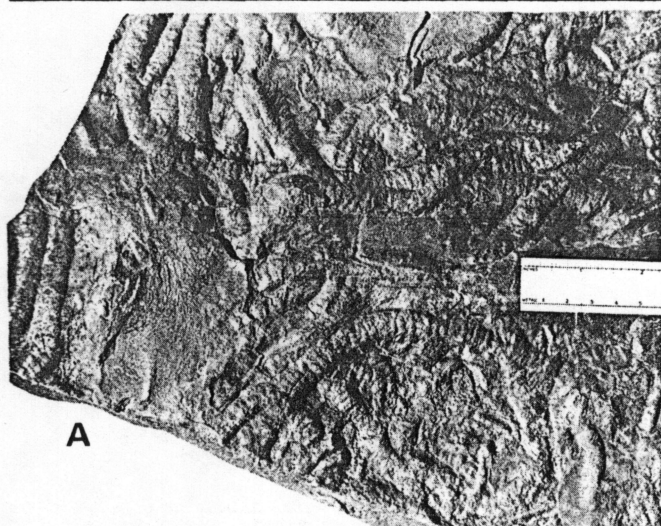
Figure 2. Lower Cambrian trace fossils.

A-E. Vertical trace fossils, x 0.7.

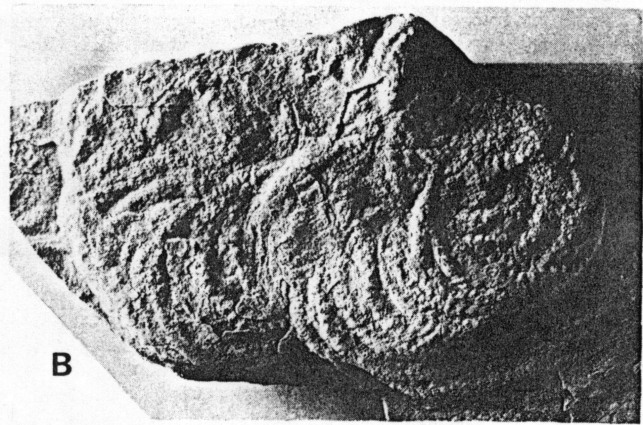
- A. Skolithos
- B. Monocraterion
- C. Laevicyclus
- D. Dolopichnus
- E. Teichichnus

F-P. Horizontal trace fossils.

- F. Planolites montanus, x 1
- G. Planolites beverleyensis, x 0.7
- H. Planolites striatus, x 0.7
- I. Planolites virgatus, x 0.5
- J. Cochlichnus, x 1
- K. Belorhappe, x 1
- L. Palaeophycus?, x 1
- M. Helminthopsis, x 0.3
- N. Asteriacites?, x 1
- O. Phycodes, x 0.5
- P. Dactyloidites, x 1



A



B

Figure 3. Trace fossils from the Andrews Mountain Member, Campito Formation. A, Arthrophycus. B, Zoophycos, x 0.6.

HARKLESS FORMATION

The Harkless Formation (2,000 ft, 610 m) consists of shale, quartzitic siltstone and sandstone, and quartzite. Trace fossils are abundant in the basal shale and siltstone beds, and include Planolites, Bergaueria, Rusophycus, Cruziana, Diplichnites, Skolithos, Monocraterion, Scolicia, Archaeonassa, and Asteriacites?. The quartzite units of the lower middle part of the formation (near Andrews

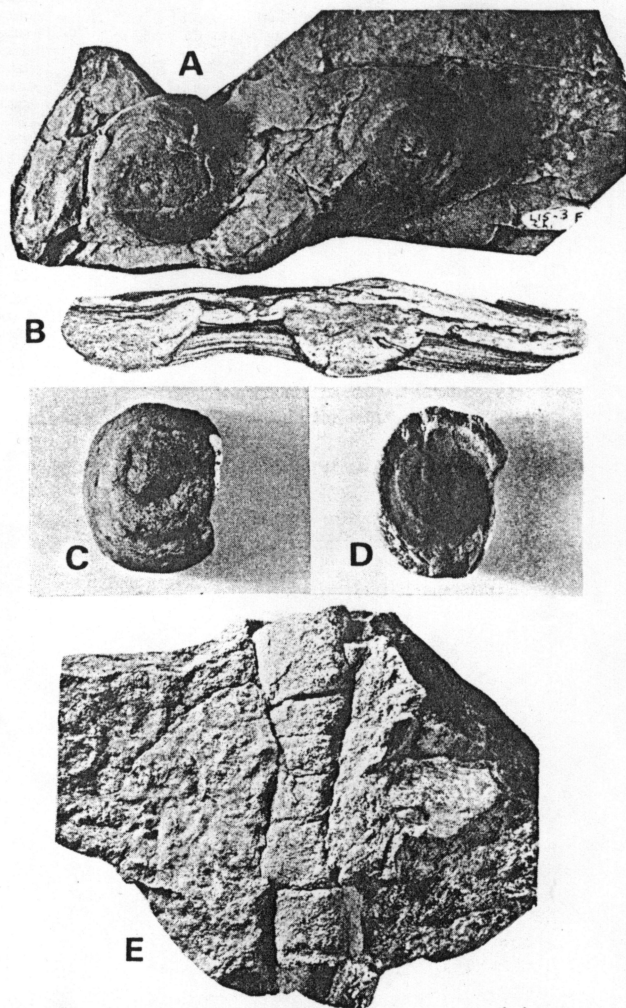


Figure 4. Trace fossils from the Poleta (E) and Harkless (A-D) Formations.

A-D. Bergaueria.

A. basal view of two specimens. x 0.6

B. vertical section through two specimens. x 0.6

C, D. weathered out specimen, basal and top views. x 0.8

E. Skolithos, side view. x 0.9

Mountain) contain Skolithos, Planolites, Bergaueria, Rusophycus, Monomorphichnus, Archaeonassa, and Teichichnus. No trace fossils were found in the upper half of the Harkless Formation.

SALINE VALLEY FORMATION

This formation (850 ft, 260 m thick) was not examined extensively for trace fossils, but Teichichnus, Planolites, and Cruziana were found in siltstone of the upper member of the formation.

TRACE FOSSILS AND THE BASE OF THE CAMBRIAN

The Precambrian-Lower Cambrian section in the White-Inyo Mountains displays the difficulties associated with the placement of the basal Cambrian boundary. The section lends itself to the study of the base of the Cambrian because it apparently spans the boundary and contains an abundant and diverse fauna of both body and trace fossils.

The Lower Cambrian extends downward at least to the presently known base of the Fallotaspis Zone,