

Natural History Museum
Of Los Angeles County
Invertebrate Paleontology

MIOCENE MACROFAUNA ALONG SESPE CREEK, VENTURA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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INTRODUCTION

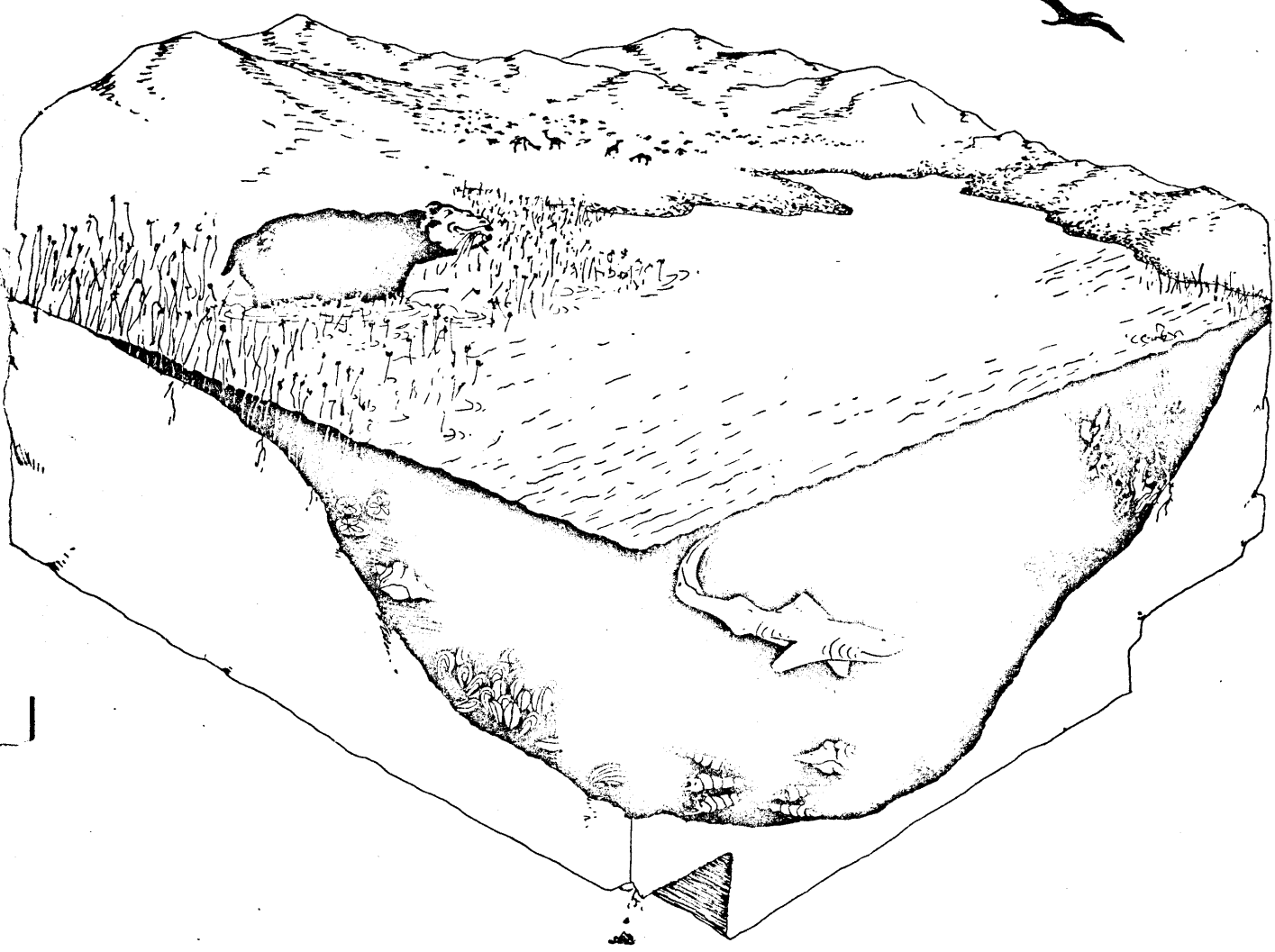
and photographic record of the Sespe Creek Miocene

Squires & Fritsche 1978

Pacific Coast Paleogeography Field Guide 3

USNM Paleogeography Collection

Squires & Fritsche
1978



DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENT

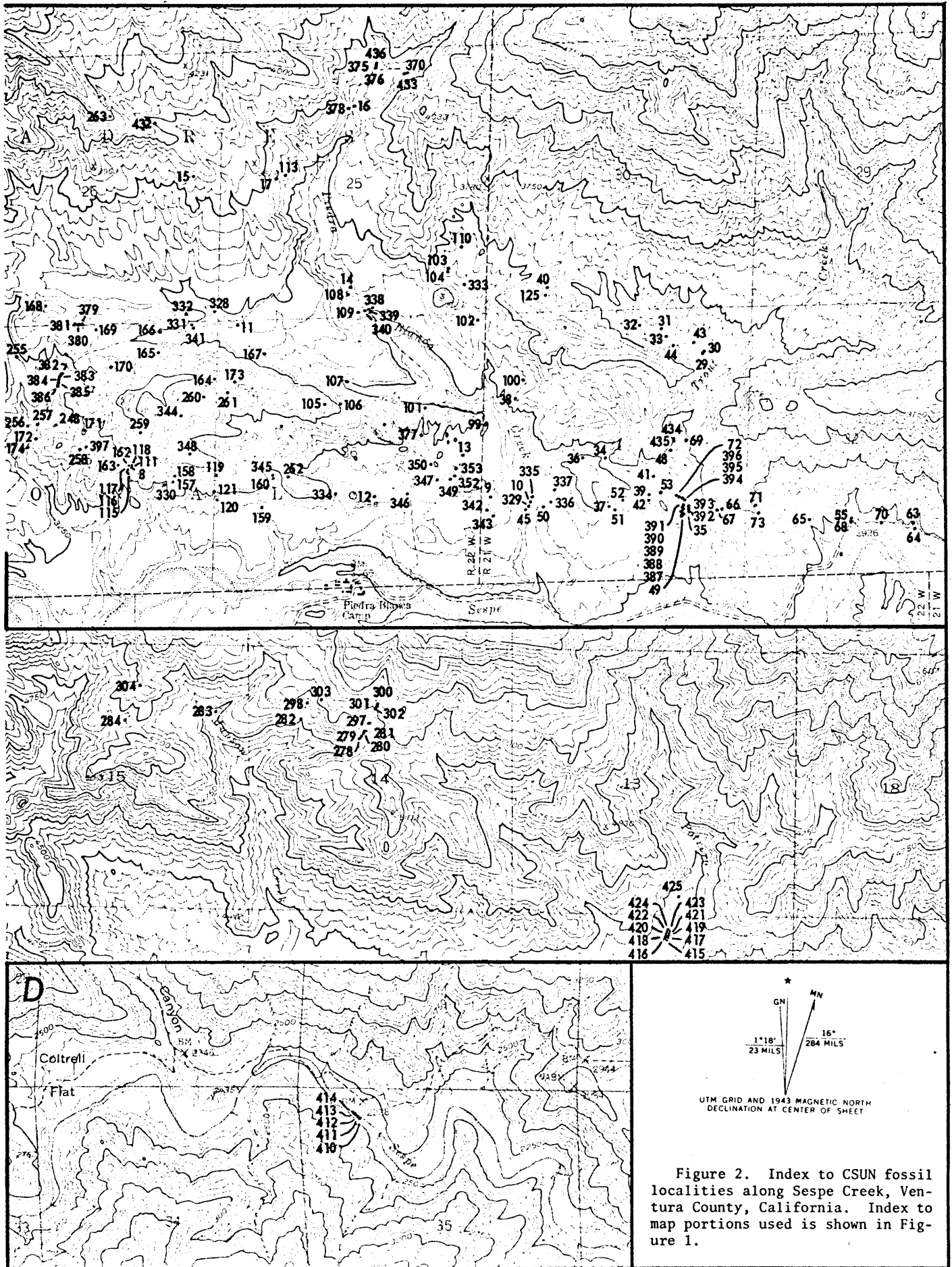


Figure 2. Index to CSUN fossil localities along Sespe Creek, Ventura County, California. Index to map portions used is shown in Figure 1.

Table 1. Continued - Checklist of macrofauna from the lower member of the Vaqueros Formation.

| CSUN LOCATIONS | | SPECIES |
|----------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| 332 | 333 | |
| | | BRYOZOA unidentified bryozoan |
| | | GASTROPODA |
| | | <i>Potamides sespeensis</i> |
| | | <i>Rapana vaquerosensis</i> |
| | | <i>Turritella inezana s.l.</i> |
| | | <i>T. inezana bicarina</i> |
| | | <i>T. inezana pervulgata</i> |
| | | <i>Turritella s.p.</i> |
| | | unidentified gastropods |
| | | unidentified naticid |
| | | PELECYPODA |
| | | <i>Anomia vaquerosensis</i> |
| | | <i>Clementia sp.</i> |
| | | ? <i>Eucrassatella granti</i> |
| | | <i>Macoma arctata</i> |
| | | <i>Mytilus sp.</i> |
| | | <i>Ostrea howelli</i> |
| | | pholadid borings |
| | | ? <i>Saxidomus vaquerosensis</i> |
| | | unidentified bivalves |
| | | unidentified mytilid |
| | | unidentified pectinid |
| | | unidentified solenid |
| | | <i>Vertipecten nevadanus</i> |
| | | <i>Zirfaea sp.</i> |
| | | CIRRIPEDIA |
| | | <i>Balanus sp.</i> |
| | | BRACHYURA |
| | | crab parts |
| | | ECHINOIDEA |
| | | <i>Kewia fairbanksi</i> |
| | | VERTEBRATA |
| | | cetacean vertebrae |
| | | <i>Galeocerdo sp.</i> |
| | | unident. myliobatoid teeth |
| | | unident. shark teeth |
| | | unident. vertebrate bones |
| | | TRACE FOSSILS |
| | | unidentified burrows |

sity of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) invertebrate paleontology collection. The remaining specimens are part of the CSUN invertebrate paleontology collection.

SYSTEMATIC PALEONTOLOGY

No attempt has been made to write synonymies for the taxa discussed herein. The original reference is given for each species and, where the original reference is inadequate, a supplementary reference is presented which adds pertinent information.

Representative specimens of many of the species from Sespe Creek are figured in Plates 1 through 4 of this article. Species not figured are those for which the specimens were too poorly preserved to allow informative photographs or those that have been figured by others in numerous publications.

Taxonomic classification and arrangement of the brachiopods, cirripeds, and echinoids is based on the

systems used in the "Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology" edited by R. C. Moore. The classification scheme used for the molluscan groups is based on the system used by Keen and Coan (1974). Other groups and their respective classification formats are: desmostylid (Reinhart, 1959), elasmobranch (Phillips and others, 1976), and coralline algae (Bold and Wynne, 1978, p. 464, 499, 508).

Kingdom ANIMALIA

Unidentified fossil fragment

At locality 280, a single specimen was found which consists of a circular depression, 5 mm in diameter, that has shell material around the sides and along the bottom. The shell material along the bottom shows concentric lines.

Family Naticidae

Genus *Sinum* Röding, 1798*Sinum scopulosum* (Conrad)*Sigaretus scopulosus* Conrad, 1849, p. 727, pl. 19, figs. 6, 6a.*Sinum scopulosum* (Conrad). Marincovich, 1977, p. 350-354, pl. 33, figs. 13, 14; pl. 34, figs. 1-5.

Only a single, moderately preserved specimen of *Sinum scopulosum* was found. Loel and Corey (1932) also reported only a single specimen of this gastropod from the Sespe Creek region.

Unidentified naticid

Three specimens of unidentified naticids were found, all poorly preserved and crushed.

Family Ficidae

Genus *Ficus* Röding, 1798*Ficus ocoyana* (Conrad)*Sycotopus ocoyanus* Conrad, 1855, p. 19.*Ficus (Trophosycon) ocoyana* (Conrad). Grant and Gale, 1931, p. 743-746, pl. 30, figs. 3, 7, 8a, 8b, 11.

Only two moderately well preserved juvenile specimens of *Ficus ocoyana* were found. Loel and Corey (1932) reported that *F. ocoyana* is rare in the Vaqueros horizon, with only a questionable occurrence in the Ventura-Ojai area and no occurrences in the Sespe Creek region.

Order NEOGASTROPODA
Family MuricidaeGenus *Ocenebra* Gray, 1847*Ocenebra dorrancei?* (Loel and Corey)*Tritonalia dorrancei* Loel and Corey, 1932, p. 247-248, pl. 47, figs. 17a, 17b, 18a, 18b.

Most of the few specimens of *Ocenebra dorrancei?* are very small and fragmental, but a single large specimen, 2 cm in height, was found at locality 403. Preservation is poor to fair. If the identification is correct, this represents the first recorded occurrence of the species from the Sespe Creek region.

Family Rapanidae

Genus *Rapana* Schumard, 1817*Rapana vaquerosensis* (Arnold)
Pl. 1, figs. 2-6*Purpura vaquerosensis* Arnold, 1907b, p. 426, pl. 52, figs. 1a, 1b.*Rapana vaquerosensis* (Arnold). Loel and Corey, 1932, p. 244-245, pl. 50, figs. 1, 2, 3a, 3b; pl. 51, figs. 2, 3.

Many of the specimens of *Rapana vaquerosensis* are complete or nearly complete and preservation is fair to good. Locally, as at localities 115, 391,

Plate 1. Fossils from the lower member of the Vaqueros Formation. (Figures are natural size except where noted.)

Figure 1--*Potamides sespeensis* Loel and Corey, hypotype UCLA 58223, CSUN loc. 401; 2--*Rapana vaquerosensis* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58218, CSUN loc. 384; 3--*R. vaquerosensis* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58219, CSUN loc. 391; 4--*R. vaquerosensis* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58221, CSUN loc. 392; 5--*R. vaquerosensis* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58201, CSUN loc. 51; 6--*R. vaquerosensis* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58200, CSUN loc. 51; 7--*Mytilus* sp., exterior of right valve, catalogued specimen UCLA 58224, CSUN loc. 412; 8--*Anomia vaquerosensis* Loel and Corey, exterior of left (upper) valve, hypotype UCLA 58217, CSUN loc. 383; 9--*Balanus* sp., catalogued specimen UCLA 58220, CSUN loc. 392; 10--Unidentified crab cheliped, catalogued specimen UCLA 58222, CSUN loc. 400; 11--*Kewia fairbanksi* (Arnold), hypotype UCLA 58206, CSUN loc. 142.

LACMIP 16352
LACMIP 16350
LACMIP 16351
LACMIP 16350
LACMIP 16284
LACMIP 16169
LACMIP 16253
LACMIP 16194

and 393, specimens are abundant enough to form *Rapana* beds. At localities 35, 50, 51, 391, and 393, growth series were collected. Typical well developed node ornamentation of *R. vaquerosensis* is shown in all specimens at localities 35, 50, and 51 (Pl. 1, fig. 6). At localities 391 (Pl. 1, fig. 4) and 393, the juvenile specimens are smaller than at the other localities and those less than 2.5 cm in height could be classified as *Solenosteira venturana* Loel and Corey, whereas the adult forms are definitely *R. vaquerosensis*. Loel and Corey (1932) noted that juvenile forms of *R. vaquerosensis* are practically indistinguishable from the *Solenosteira* form, so in this report no attempt has been made to differentiate between these two taxonomic groups.

Family Conidae

Genus *Conus* Linnaeus, 1758*Conus* aff. *C. owenianus* Anderson*Conus oweniana* Anderson, 1905, p. 201-202, pl. 15, figs. 58, 59.*Conus (Chelyconus) owenianus* Anderson. Addicott, 1970, p. 122-123, pl. 17, figs. 1-8, 32, 37.

Only three excellently preserved spires of *Conus owenianus* were found, all from the same locality. These spires are similar to the stout, low-spired forms recognized by Addicott (1970).

Subclass OPISTHOBRANCHIA
Order CEPHALASPIDEA
Family ScaphandridaeGenus *Cylichna* Lovén, 1846*Cylichna* sp.

Although only a few poorly preserved, but complete, specimens of *Cylichna* sp. were found, all from the same locality, *Cylichna* aff. *C. alba* was reported by Loel and Corey (1932) from the Sespe Creek region.

Genus *Scaphander* Montfort, 1810*Scaphander* sp.

Only a single, uncrushed, internal mold, 1.5 cm in height, was found.