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PERRINITES (CEPHALOPODA, AMMONOIDEA) IN THE LOWER PERMIAN OF CALIFORNIA

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A SPECIMEN of the ammonoid *Perrinites* Böse, 1919, was collected from the McCloud Limestone east of the summit of Tombstone Mountain, Shasta County, California. This is the first record of the genus in California, an important addition to the meager Permian cephalopod fauna of the state previously reported by Miller, Furnish, and Clark (1957) and Wilson (1984). It was found 1,100 feet (335 m) above the base of the formation in a coarse-grained limestone (Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, Invertebrate Paleontology Section locality 6184) within fusulinid zone H of Skinner and Wilde (1965), considered to be late early or early middle Leonardian in age.

The specimen was broken before burial but about half the shell remains, having a diameter of 36 mm and showing external characters and sutures (Figure 1). No transverse constrictions are present. Septal bases preserved in the umbilicus indicate that at least one additional whorl is missing. The subdiscoidal, narrowly umbilicate, smooth shell and the highly digitate suture identify it as a *Perrinites* and the suture configuration as *P. hilli* (Smith, 1903), recently revised by Tharalson (1984), who cited occurrences in Oklahoma, Texas, Mexico, and Guatemala. The specimen was examined by W. M. Furnish, University of Iowa, who reported (personal commun.) that it was closest to specimens of the species from the Cathedral Mountain Formation of Texas and that an age designation of Late Leonardian "is fairly secure." This is slightly younger than the age obtained from fusulinids.

I am grateful to Professor Furnish for his assistance.

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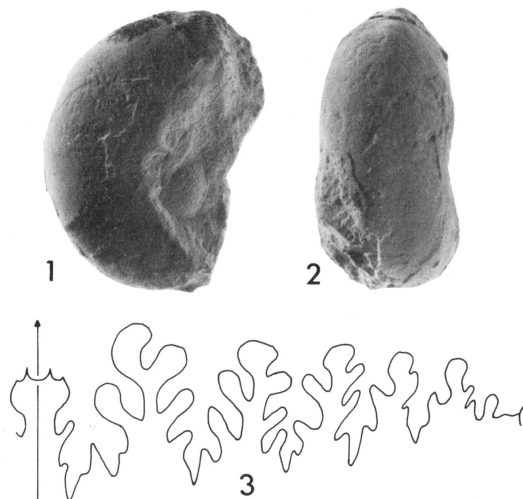


FIGURE 1—*Perrinites hilli* Smith, 1903, from the McCloud Limestone, LACMIP hypotype 7181. 1, 2, lateral and dorsal views, $\times 1$; 3, suture diagram, $\times 3.5$.

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