

## SO HOW DO PRESENT BIOLOGY TEXTBOOKS EXPLAIN FOSSIL GAPS?

1998 Oxford University Press publication *Biology, an Australian Perspective*, states:<sup>11</sup>

"There are, however, many gaps in the fossil record. This is because:

- dead organisms decompose rapidly
- dead organisms are eaten by scavengers
- soft-bodied organisms do not fossilise easily
- only a small fraction of organisms die in conditions favourable to fossilisation
- only a fraction of the fossils have been unearthed."

THIS EXPLANATION IS NOT NEW. Charles Darwin used it 1859 when he said: "Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely-graduated organic chain; and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and serious objection which can be urged against the theory. The explanation lies, as I believe, in the extreme imperfection of the geological record."<sup>12</sup>

*ED.COM. The hidden assumption in both extracts above is that the fossil GAPS were caused by RANDOM processes i.e. failure to fossilise, erosion of rocks or failure to find.*

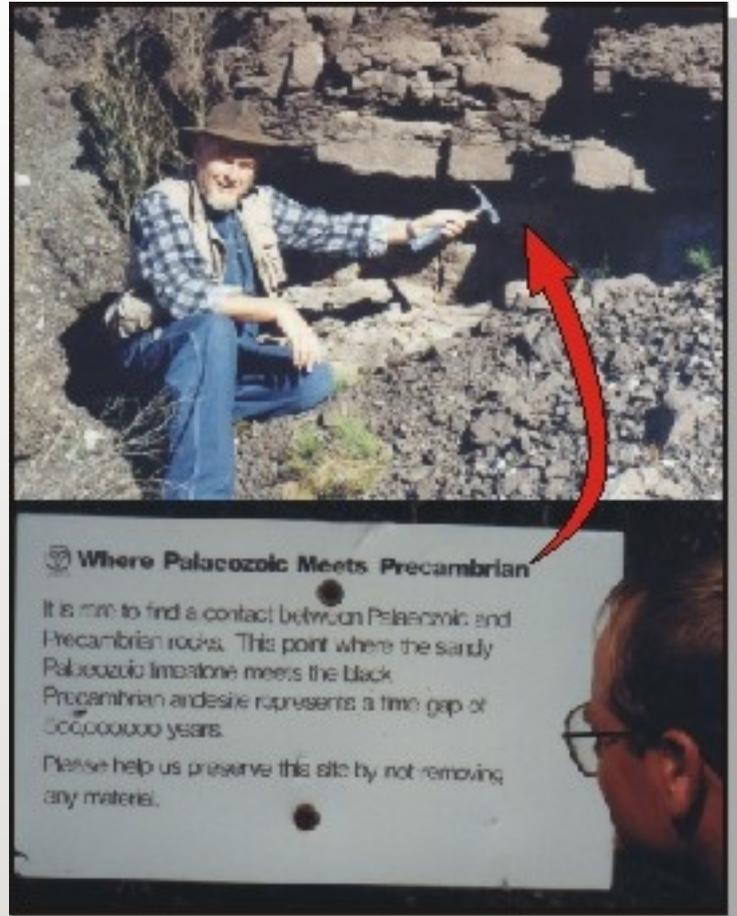
## IS THE "IMPERFECT GEOLOGICAL RECORD" ARGUMENT VALID?

Geology Professor, J. B. Waterhouse (University of Queensland) stated: "But how good is the geological record? I have already mentioned the ordinary viewpoint of evolution held by most palaeontologists favours gradual incremental change. The fossil record, they say, is too incomplete to take seriously. And, they say, you cannot prove a gap, especially if clines occurred. If there is a break in the record it must be possible to detect the break. The main point about breaks is that if they were really random, as proposed by Darwin, they must have been plugged by one hundred and fifty years of work. But the gaps have not been plugged. They still persist; yet authorities forget that if there is a million to one chance of one specimen of a population being preserved, and then if that species live 5-15 million years, we therefore will get 5-15 times the population fossilised. The trouble may perhaps have lain more truthfully in our failure to find or describe the material. It is special pleading to rely on the gaps, and its special pleading to propose inadequate preservation. We would do better to look at what the record really says."<sup>13</sup>

## THE REAL GEOLOGIC COLUMN

Comparing the actual rock record, to the IDEAL COLUMN reveals most of it is not there, as seen in the

following officially posted example in Ontario Canada.



## CAN WE AVOID THE GAP PROBLEM BY FINDING FOSSIL LINKS OR INTERMEDIATES?

Professor Niles Eldredge said on p55 of his 1991 Princeton University Press publication, *Fossils: The Evolution and Extinction of Species*, "There are intermediates to be found in the fossil record - if you are a very lucky palaeontologist. But they come packaged in a way not originally imagined by Darwin: rather than finding intermediate specimens temporally sandwiched between older and younger samples, it is far more common to find no intermediates between older, ancestral and younger descendent species. Rather it is more common to find the 'descendent' already living while the ancestor lived - but in some other region."

*ED.COM. When you find fossil descendents and ancestors buried in the same rock, isn't it time to admit this is not evidence one evolved into the other?*

## MOST FAMOUS LINK

The most popular non-missing link in the evolutionist record is the bird-like Archaeopteryx found in Upper Jurassic sediments (Germany). But the problem Eldredge refers to (above), is well illustrated by Jensen's discovery in 1977 of true birds in the Lower Jurassic Morrison formation (USA). Using evolutionist dating, that means true birds existed