

Fundy Geological Museum Parrsboro, Nova Scotia


Project



Prosauropod

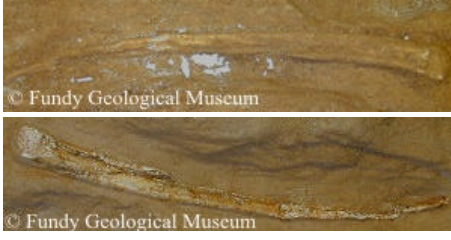
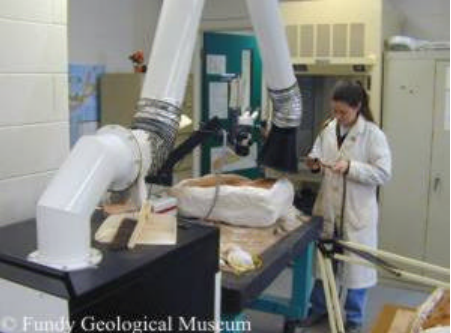



Become part of Project Prosauropod and watch as researchers uncover the **200 million year old skeleton of a prosauropod dinosaur**. Check in every week to see what discoveries have been made, as well as new animations and photographs of this important specimen.





View exactly what technicians see in their Leica stereomicroscope

Microscope Cam	
	<p>View exactly what technicians see in their microscope while working on some of the prosauropod dinosaur bones.</p> <p>View Large File View Small File Click Here Click Here 1050 kB 138 kB</p> <p style="color: red;">These movies will take several minutes to download depending upon your connection to the internet.</p> <p>Windows Media Player is required.</p>
<p>Updated October 23, 2001</p>	



Current Lab Update

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preparator has carefully removed the matrix from the exposed surface of the rib. • She has consolidated the soft, mushy bone with Vinac. In doing so, she prevents further cracks that would have resulted in the complete disintegration of the bone.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feb. 15, 2002, 9:30 a.m. • As shown in the photos above, the rib has been consolidated, and will withstand the vibrations from the air scribe when it is used on other sections of the same block. • Before using the air scribe, the hammer must be lubricated with a light oil to prevent unnecessary wear.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:34 a.m. • The technician has been using the air scribe for almost an hour, taking breaks to clean the surface of the block. • Removing the loose matrix minimizes air-borne dust particles. A dust mask and safety goggles also protect the technician's eyes and lungs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:29 a.m. • The technician has removed several centimetres of matrix, allowing her to clean the surface of the bone with the hand pick. • The air scribe is a much more efficient tool for removing large quantities of matrix, but the fine work must still be done with the pick.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:30 p.m. • Now that all of the exposed bone has been consolidated, the technician continues to air scribe the block's surface. • Since the bone is positioned at about a 45 degree angle, she must remove a large amount of overlying matrix.

 <p>© Fundy Geological Museum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:40 p.m. • Two suction tools are in use in this photo. As in other photographs, the Environmental Mobile Air Cleaning Unit is in use to remove air-borne dust particles. This is especially important when the technician is using the air scribe. • Coarser, loose sand and small pieces of matrix are simply vacuumed with a Shop Vac.
 <p>© Fundy Geological Museum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3:27 p.m. • The technician switches angles to see the side of the tipped bone. • The surface of the bone is not as perfect as a modern bone. Slight faults and compression have made the surface irregular. This irregular surface can be easily chipped if the technician is not a careful when removing the sand from cracks.
 <p>© Fundy Geological Museum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:32 p.m. • The technician spends a few more minutes on hand preparation before consolidating the exposed bone and cleaning up for the day.
 <p>© Fundy Geological Museum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:00 p.m. • The grey surface seen in the photo (left) was exposed when the jacket was removed. • Some of the preparation of this bone was completed earlier in the week. The technician has exposed approximately half of the gold coloured, curved surface during the past 8 hours.

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