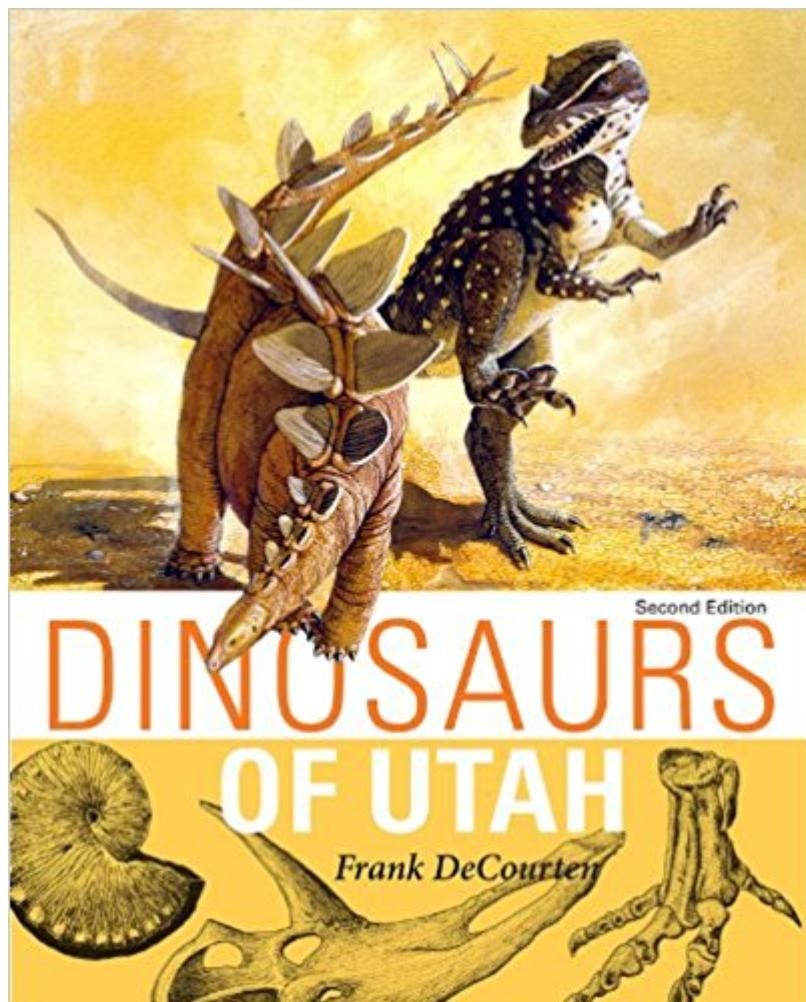


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Dinosaurs Of Utah: Second Edition



Synopsis

Since the late 1800s, when professional fossil hunters vied with each other to bring the largest and most complete specimens to the museum market, Utah has been one of the most fertile grounds for dinosaur discovery. Because rock from the Mesozoic era covers more than 25,000 square miles in Utah, the state is a natural museum of the great age of dinosaurs. The presence of sites such as Dinosaur National Park and the Cleveland- Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry underline Utah's ongoing paleontological significance. There are probably more paleontologists residing and working in Utah now than at any time in the past, and the state even has an official dinosaur, the *Allosaurus*. *Dinosaurs of Utah* is an ambitious book bridging the gap between the voluminous technical literature on Utah's Mesozoic era and the numerous publications that describe dinosaurs at the elementary level. Utah's dinosaurs are presented here as part of the Mesozoic terrestrial ecosystems that evolved in the Colorado Plateau region and are discussed in the context of the changing landscapes, environments, and biota recorded in the geological record. More than one hundred of author Frank DeCourten's meticulous line drawings illustrate fossil remains and various features of dinosaur anatomy, as do five stunning paintings by Carel Brest van Kempen. More than forty color landscape photographs by John Telford and Frank DeCourten show modern geologic contexts in most parts of the state and emphasize the dynamic nature of the region's geologic history. There is also a series of detailed maps, including several new to this edition, that show the tremendous topographical shifts that occurred within the Mesozoic era from the early Triassic to the late Cretaceous periods, a span of over 175 million years. This second edition of *Dinosaurs of Utah* enlivens our understanding of these amazing vanished creatures by explaining them and their world to us. It moves beyond the often superficial representations that have been so prevalent and more accurately portrays the variety of dinosaurs that once roamed the region now known as Utah.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Since the publication of the first edition of this book, we have accumulated a wealth of knowledge about Early Cretaceous dinosaurs from the Western Interior with the Cedar Mountain Formation, namely North American dinosaurs from the late Albian-Turonian interval. The chapter regarding Late Cretaceous vertebrates provides a valuable insight into the geographic extent of Judithian and Lancian dinosaurs known from northern part of the Western Interior. The Wahweap and Kaiparowits Formations record the widespread distribution of Parasaurolophus and Gryposaurus in the Western Interior and also the most complete ornithischian remains from the Santonian-early Campanian time interval. The North Horn Formation also yields the northernmost fossils of the sauropod Alamosaurus and the first occurrence of T rex in Utah. Utah will continue to yield new secrets about the evolution of Cretaceous dinos in Utah, namely the Cenomanian-Santonian interval. We might find a Santonian horned dino or ankylosaur from Utah. Who knows?

DeCourten makes even the trickiest dino stuff easy to read and understand, and yet he never talks down to the reader. This book is a real treat, even if you have no geology or paleontology background. It's a fascinating and expert look into the world of the dinosaur long ago. It will change the way you see your own world.

A very good review of both the animals and geology of Mesozoic Utah. I would really like to see more books written on prehistoric life like this one. Jack A. Brown

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