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1984/19. Late Cambrian agnostid faunas from the Huskisson River area.

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Abstract

Three rich agnostid faunas have been located in the Dundas Group in the Huskisson River area. All locations can be assigned to the *Glyptagnostus reticulatus* zone.

INTRODUCTION

Geologist A.V. Brown has located three rich agnostid faunas in black graphitic slate in the Dundas Group sequence exposed in the Huskisson River. The localities and faunas are given below.

LOCALITIES AND FAUNAS

Location 1079 [CP723762] (Unit 14 of Taylor, 1954)

Glyptagnostus reticulatus (Angelin) and spicules of the sponge *Protospongia* sp. occur in great profusion. Rare fragments of another small (?immature) agnostid also occur. Preservation is good to very good.

Location 1143 [CP715766] (Unit 18 of Taylor, 1954)

Pseudagnostus idalis Öpik occurs in profusion with rare specimens of *Glyptagnostus reticulatus* (Angelin). A considerable number of the *Pseudagnostus* specimens are complete and articulated. Preservation is excellent.

Location 1197 [CP712770] (Unit 18 of Taylor, 1954)

Pseudagnostus idalis Öpik occurs in moderate abundance with rare fragments of *Glyptagnostus reticulatus* (Angelin). Most of the *Pseudagnostus* specimens are complete. Preservation is only moderate.

All three localities can be unequivocally assigned to the earliest Idamean *Glyptagnostus reticulatus* Zone (early Late Cambrian). This conclusion agrees in part with Öpik (1951), as location 1143 is close to that from which Öpik recorded a *Glyptagnostus reticulatus* fauna. However, location 1079 is close to the locality from which Öpik recorded poorly preserved hydroids and the brachiopods *?Otusia* sp. and *?Protorthis* sp., and dated as middle Middle Cambrian. The suggestion of Blissett (1962) that Units 14 and 18 of Taylor (1954) represent the same stratigraphical interval is substantiated. Both Taylor (1954) and Blissett (1962) correlated the overlying Unit 19 with the Zeehan Conglomerate (= *?Misery Conglomerate*). Thus the youngest rocks in the Huskisson River Dundas Group section are significantly older than those from the Climie Slate of the Zeehan area.

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