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Brainstorm

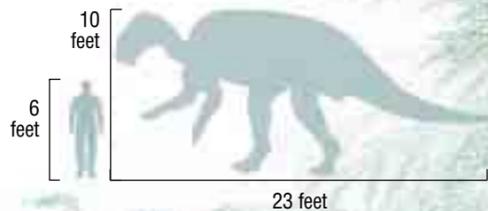
HADROSAURUS FOULKII

The 1858 discovery of the Haddonfield dinosaur was the most complete dinosaur skeleton found in the world at the time. It was a revelation in the scientific community that settled decades of skepticism and debate and gave new insight to natural history.

Family: Hadrosaurs, also known as duck-billed dinosaurs because of the birdlike nature of the jaws and skull.

Habitat: Lived along marshes and shrub lands of Atlantic coast.

Diet: Leaves, branches, seeds



Discovery

In 1858, William Parker Foulke was vacationing at the Haddonfield home of John E. Hopkins when he heard the story of gigantic bones found in a marl pit nearby, 20 years earlier. Marl was used as fertilizer by farmers at the time. With Hopkins' permission, Foulke, a fossil hobbyist, assembled a team and re-excavated the old pit. They found a nearly complete skeleton. Foulke summoned Dr. Joseph Leidy, a university professor and curator of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, to the site. He identified the bones as belonging to a "huge herbivorous saurian," naming it *Hadrosaurus fouldkii*, meaning "Foulke's bulky lizard."

Meaning of find

The findings were groundbreaking to the scientific community for several reasons. After decades of speculation and debate over the existence of dinosaurs, the bones proved that dinosaurs did exist. It also revealed the new idea that a dinosaur could stand on its hind legs, using its forearms to forage. *Hadrosaurus fouldkii* also became an important part of the debates over evolution, showing the resemblance to the skeletons of modern birds. And in 1868 it became the first mounted dinosaur skeleton ever displayed in the world, at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.



Forty-nine bones and teeth were recovered in 1858. The skeleton revealed for the first time a bipedal dinosaur because the forelimbs were significantly shorter than the hind limbs.

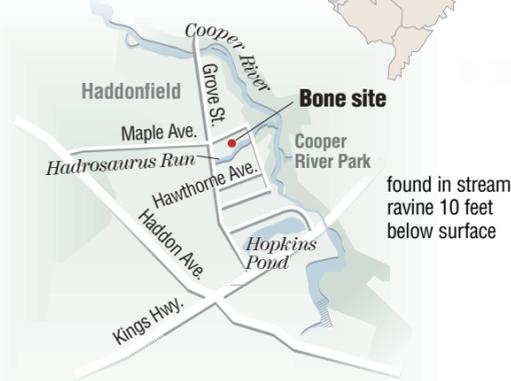
The original reconstruction in 1868 featured the dinosaur in a kangaroo stance. The latest evidence indicates that it held its rear body aloft as a counterweight while projecting its upper body forward, similar to a modern bird, shown here and displayed at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. An intermediate reconstruction is featured at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton.

Inner coastal plain

The inner coastal plain has fossiliferous marine sediments of clay, sand and marl deposited about 100 million to 50 million years ago, when South Jersey was under 100 feet of water.



Excavation site



Hadrosaurs lived

Triassic period 245-208 million years ago

Jurassic period 208-144 million years ago

Cretaceous period 144-66 million years ago

MESOZOIC ERA, THE AGE OF REPTILES

Mass Extinction