

An unusual Early Ordovician (Tremadoc) trilobite fauna of Gondwanan affinity in the Cow Head Group, western Newfoundland

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Most trilobites collected from the Cow Head Group to date are of Laurentian affinity, and have come from transported limestone boulders within the carbonate breccia beds. However, an unusual trilobite fauna of Gondwanan affinity has been recovered from *in situ* dolomitic siltstone beds also containing abundant graptolites. While the fauna is diverse, the constituent trilobites are minute, almost microscopic. The following taxa have provisionally been identified:

?*Angelina* sp. undet.

Apatokephalus sp. cf. *A. asarkus* Szűcs, 1955

Asaphellus sp. cf. *A. homfrayi* (Salter, 1866)

Asaphoon sp. cf. *A. pithogastron* Hutchison and Ingham, 1967

Bienvillia sp. undet.

Hospes sp. undet.

Macropyge sp. undet.

Orometopus sp. undet.

Parabolinella sp. undet.

?*Proteuloma* sp. undet.

Pseudokainella sp. undet.

Shumardia sp. undet.

This assemblage is comparable to Early Ordovician (Tremadoc) faunas in Argentina, Mexico, Nova Scotia (Cape Breton Island), eastern Newfoundland (Random Island), the British Isles (England and Wales), France, Germany (Bavaria), Czechoslovakia (Bohemia), Scandinavia (Norway and Sweden) and Kazakhstan. It is interpreted to be a cold water fauna.