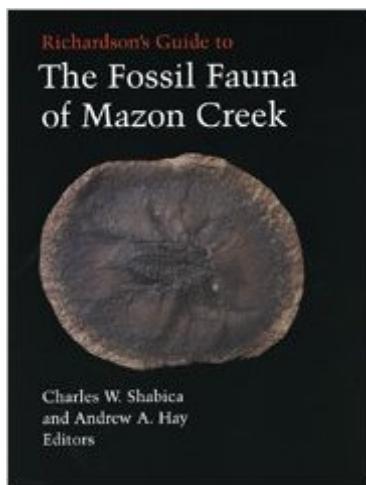


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# Richardson's Guide To The Fossil Fauna Of Mazon Creek



## **Synopsis**

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## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

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I used to take my finds to Mr. Richardson before he wrote the book. I understand that the local clubs finished putting it all together after his death. I am thankful to have it so now I can better evaluate the various specimens we collected through the years!

Everything I had hoped for and more.

Looking at the reviews I see I am not alone in knowing the late Dr. Richardson. I guess I should not be surprised. He was an incredibly generous man who I had the privilege of knowing and through him was allowed to see the "behind the scenes" collection of fossils at The Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago. A few years ago visiting family in Chicago I was sad to hear that Dr. Richardson had passed on. He was an inspiration. I still carry my "Pit 11 pass" in my wallet with pride. Mason creek is an amazing site. It is rich in fossil invertebrates (including soft bodied animals) and probably contains more different species of insects than anywhere else in the world (at least at the time when I studied there it was known as having more different species of insects than anywhere else in the world) was It is also the place where the famous "Tully Monster" was found. It was Dr. Richardson

who first authenticated the bizarre animal. Those interested in fossils will find this a very worthwhile addition to their library. Dr. Richardson your spirit lives on. Highly recommended.

After a wait of 14 years the long sought publication was released this August. The cost is rather steep but a collector of Mazon Creek fossils does not have many reference sources to deal with. The artwork is better than expected and helps a great deal in the identification of specimens, however the inner cover drawings seem rather childish. The photographs do not show a great amount of detail and some of the specimens used seem to be of poor quality. The text is excellent, the editors and individual authors went way above what I expected to find. Some chapters were rather long and drawn out (Chap 2) but they still filled a purpose in the overall text of the book. I would recommend this publication to anyone who has an interest in the fossils of the Carboniferous found in Northeastern Illinois, none of us probably will not be around to see another book of this type again!

This book is well worth the price especially for those of us who were able to collect at this site. The site now houses a nuclear reactor so I am told. Dr. Richardson was a gentleman's gentleman and I was privileged to have spent several hours with him from time to time as he poured over the "goodies" I had found at this site. He had hoped to write this book when he retired but cancer took him at a very young age. Dr. Richardson would have been proud to see this book and I for one am delighted to see it published in his honor. It is well worth the price and exposes the rest of the world to a fascinating site of Burgess Shale like preservation. It again illustrates how little we know about soft bodied animals of the past as they were rarely preserved. To the people who were responsible for this excellent book "Thank You".

I was delighted with this book. It succeeds in painting a vivid portrait of a rich ancient assemblage of tropical creatures. It doesn't skimp on the science and contains numerous anecdotal human touches. There are some amazing statistics on the relative rarities of the different forms. Well worth the money.

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