

“thunder stone”, a black projectile that came whistling out of the west” at great speed and sound, “*a scenario that seems akin to the modern theory of an asteroid impact 65 million years ago*” (page 289; emphasis added). The implied connection is not tenable. Likely an interpretation of a meteor, the connection between the extinction of a group of species by an extraterrestrial object is a contemporary idea.

Fossil Legends of North American should have been written a century ago when contact with the First Nations people was still fresh. But the exploration of the cultural/science intertwining is still a relatively recent phenomenon. In this case, only a few other recent titles address fossils in a cultural context (see Cohen 2002; and to a lesser extent Semonin 2000). Still, if it were not for Mayor's effort, from document-

ing the oral traditions, the searching of archives, museums and journals, we would be left with a culturally insensitive, simpleton view of rich and diverse cultures and their varied, unique surroundings.

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A Field Guide to Gold, Gemstones & Mineral Sites of British Columbia, Sites Within a Day's Drive of Vancouver

By Rick Hudson, 2006. Volume 2 Revised Edition. Harbour Publishing Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 219, Madeira Park, British Columbia V0N 2H0 Canada. 368 pages \$26.95 Paper.

Rick Hudson has succeeded in expressing his passion for mineral collecting through his field guide book. On a second level he also tries to promote a sense of adventure by teasing the reader to go out and explore or prospect for nature's buried treasures.

The author structured the book so the reader can easily cross-reference required information in the lengthy location lists. A “How to use this Book” and a “Quick Reference Guide” helps to quickly locate items of interest throughout the book.

The book cover illustrates the hobby of mineral collecting as a family activity. Hudson educates the reader from first principles on how to become a rockhound. To accomplish this, he describes how to prepare yourself by choosing proper clothing, safety gear, collecting tools and maps. He warns the future mineral collector about natural hazards they may encounter such as rattlesnakes, grizzly bears and ticks. Ethics, access rights and mineral rights are also discussed to keep the collector within acceptable collecting practices and to

avoid unintentional trespassing.

Mineral collecting is attractive to many people because as you find an interesting mineral specimen, you want to learn how nature created it and or its geological history. The author has included short geological descriptions partitioned by collecting areas as well as mining histories of local economic importance within the collecting area.

Colour plates illustrate the minerals found in some of the collecting sites and detailed occurrence maps are included in all the collecting area sections throughout the book. The colour plates represent minerals that are possible to find in the collecting sites. Government mineral index files were included in the locality information along with detailed road log descriptions.

The author has made a successful merger of personal knowledge and technical data to compile an informative volume which can provide years of enjoyment for many future rockhounds and their families and friends.

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NEW TITLES

†Available for review * Assigned

ZOOLOGY

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