

VOLUME 51  
PART 2

MEMOIRS  
OF THE  
QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

BRISBANE  
31 DECEMBER 2005

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PO Box 3300, South Brisbane 4101, Australia  
Phone 06 7 3840 7555  
Fax 06 7 3846 1226  
Email [qmlib@qm.qld.gov.au](mailto:qmlib@qm.qld.gov.au)  
Website [www.qmuseum.qld.gov.au](http://www.qmuseum.qld.gov.au)

National Library of Australia card number  
ISSN 0079-8835

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**FIRST RECORD OF FOSSIL FRESHWATER GASTROPODS WITHIN THE WINTON FORMATION.** *Memoirs of the Queensland Museum* 51(2):406. 2005:- The Winton Formation is a mid Cretaceous (latest Albian to Cenomannian) terrestrial deposit which covers significant parts of the central west of Queensland and is the uppermost unit of the Eromanga Basin sequence. It contains a diverse flora (McLoughlin et al., 1995), sporadic terrestrial and aquatic vertebrate fauna and associated ichnofauna (Thulborn & Wade, 1984; Dettman et al., 1992), and freshwater bivalves (Hocknull, 2000). No gastropods have been previously recorded in this unit. Freshwater and estuarine gastropods are known in the Aptian (Etheridge, 1902; Kear et al., 2003), and early Albian (Hamilton-Bruce et al., 2002) of the Great Artesian Superbasin.

These two poorly preserved gastropod specimens are noteworthy due to their rarity and as the first record of gastropods within the Winton Formation. The material is preserved as part of silicified peat accumulations commonly referred to as "forest floor".

Family THIARIDAE Troschel, 1857  
**Melanoides** Olivier, 1804  
**Melanoides** sp. indet. (Fig 1)

*Material.* QMF49451, QMF49452, lowermost Winton Formation, Wanora Stn, NW of Winton.

*Description.* Shell turriculate, 14.9 mm high, 6.1 mm wide, spire angle approx 15°; no apex or protoconch preserved. Suture impressed situated well below mid whorl, whorls flattened, whorl face gently convex bearing regular costae. Aperture not preserved.

*Remarks.* A coarser non-cancellate ornament and less elongated whorl profile is noted on both specimens than that of *Melanoides godthelpi* Hamilton-Bruce et al., 2004. Affinity to the genus is indicated by the obvious ornamentation and shell shape.

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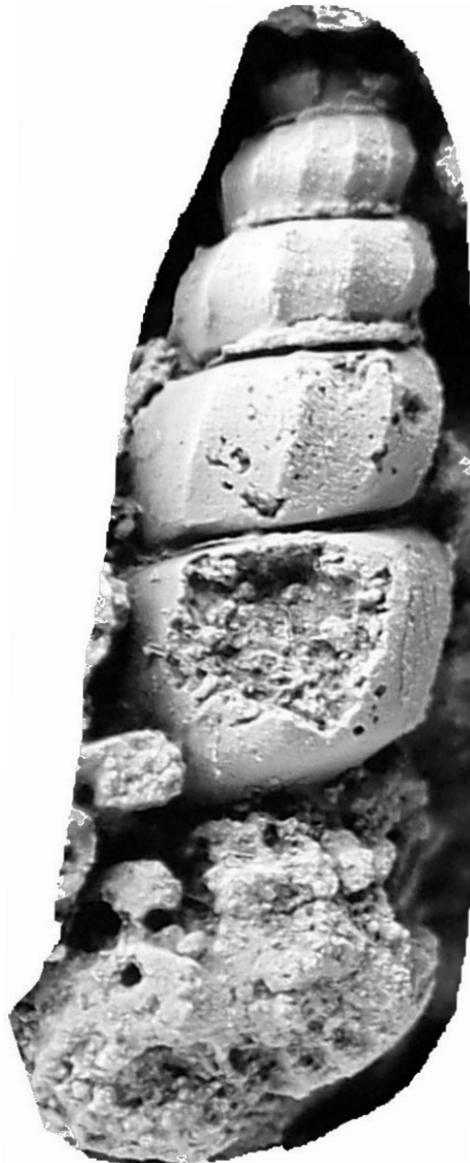


Fig 1. *Melanoides* sp.. Side view QMF49451, specimen 15mm high.

Alex G. Cook Queensland Museum, PO Box 3300, South Brisbane, QLD 4101 (alex@qm.qld.gov.au); 20 August 2005.