

XE128. 0466869  
3-12-69

**SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDIES**

POST OFFICE BOX 30365  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75230

(214) ADAMS 1-1471

EXCLUSIVE TO IOWA CITY PRESS-CITIZEN/RELEASE ON RECEIPT  
March 12, 1969

Al Mitchell, Director of  
Public Affairs - Ext 215

---

**OLD SETTLERS, LONG-TIME IOWA CITY RESIDENTS NOW IN TEXAS, GET PICTURES TAKEN**

These enlargements are new portraits of some old settlers who lived in the Iowa City area, but are now in Texas.

They lived more than 300 million years ago, and until the past summer their resting place was the River Products quarry just north of Interstate 80 on the Iowa river.

Dr. James B. Urban, working in the field with members of the Iowa Geological Survey during mid-August, brought back rock samples of the Solon member, Cedar Valley Formation to his laboratory at the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies in Dallas. These samples are Upper Devonian, in geological terms, which sets their age in the 300-million-year bracket.

In a long process involving crushing, sifting, and other steps needed to extract the photo subjects from the mineral formations of the rocks, Doctor Urban finally isolated these microfossils among many others.

Lightly gold-plated, their pictures were made in the SCAS' scanning electron microscope, as a part of his research in biostratigraphy. Object of the research is to relate fossil families more closely to geological time; eventually, to index many types of fossils according to age and thus provide a key to the ages of rock formations in which they are found. new

The basic family name of these old Iowa City settlers is Acritarch. The one that is doing the ballet step -- or, looks a little like five breasted butterfly shrimp combined -- is a Veryhachium sp. The other, who resembles an exotic cabbage, is a Cymatosphaera sp. Kinfolk, but cousins several times removed.

The enlargement, in the 8x10 prints, is 4,000 times. (Meaning, if you make a halftone at 50% scale, for example, that the published enlargement would be only 2,000 times).