

UMPC CONTACTS

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Web Site

<http://www.cas.umt.edu/paleontology>

Feel free to contact us with any questions regarding the UMPC or to schedule a tour of the facilities.



UMPC

THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

PALEONTOLOGY CENTER

LOCATION

The UMPC is located in the Charles H. Clapp building on the south end of campus, off E. Beckwith Ave. behind the US Forest Service Research Station.



Our mission is to enhance education by serving as a center for research, teaching, and public outreach, in order to preserve the fossil heritage of Montana and other regions.

UMPC FACILITIES

Preparation Lab (800 sq. ft.)

3rd Floor CHCB

- Paleo Preparation Tools including: air scribes, air abrasive machine, casting/molding equipment, various viscosities of archival glues, different types of microscopes, and specimen photography station.
- Acid Lab
- Computer lab with 3D modeling program and scanner.

Display Cases – 1st and 3rd Floor CHCB

3rd Floor – Rancho La Brea Tar Pits
Dire Wolf & Saber Toothed Cat

1st Floor - 14 cases of paleontological and geological specimens accounting for only <1% of the collection

Collections Room (1500 sq. ft.)

Basement CHCB

- 192 cases (45 empty/147 full), housed in a Space Saver System
- Estimated 50,000 specimens
- Since 1898, almost 300 published research papers and thesis resulted from the study of UMPC specimens.
- Currently, about 30,000 specimens have been digitally entered into the new database.
- Houses vertebrate, invertebrate, plant, and geologic specimens.
- Equipped with 2 computers and scanners for collections management.

UMPC HISTORY

October 2005 - The state Board of Regents approved the UM Paleontology Center (UMPC).

December 2007 – The UMPC received a substantial grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), to renovate the collections with special attention being allocated to the Bear Gulch Collection.

January 2008 – A full-time Collections Manager was hired to organize, protect, and curate the collections.

August 2008 – The Space Saver System was installed and became fully functional.

September 2008 – New web page/data base was developed by Spectral Fusion and made available to the public.

Currently - students and volunteers are working to inventory and digitize all of the specimens housed in the UMPC collection.



Renovated collections room

UMPC SERVICES

School or organizational tours of the facility are also available from 8am – 5pm, Monday - Friday. Please contact the Collections Manager for questions or to schedule your tour.

The UMPC makes short-term loans to qualified researchers and institutional exchanges also can be arranged. We also host meetings and visits from local, national, and international scientists who come to study the fossil collections. Space is provided at the UMPC for visiting researchers. If you are an outside researcher or would like to request a loan, please contact the Director for further information.



Students excavating during the Paleo Exploration Project, summer 2008