## THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT JULY, 1951, THROUGH JUNE, 1952

Canal Zone (1946–1947, 1948, 1949, and 1952), and the New York Zoological Society's Tropical Research Station in Trinidad (1950). The field work has been financed by the National Research Council, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Office of Naval Research, and the American Philosophical Society.

Lester R. Aronson spent considerable time at the Lerner Marine Laboratory on Bimini in both 1950 and 1951, and also at the Marine Studios in Florida, engaged upon the field study of the behavior of various kinds of fish. Eugenie Clark spent six months of 1949 in the Palau Islands studying the biology and systematics of the fishes. In 1950–1951 she spent nine months at the Marine Biological Station at Ghardaqa in Egypt making similar investigations there.

In 1946 A. P. Blair visited Mexico to gather observations on the behavior and ecology of the frogs and toads of that country.

In the Department of Geology and Paleontology, the field program of George Gaylord Simpson has, since the end of the war, been directed towards a comprehensive and detailed survey of the Paleocene and Eocene sediments of the San Juan Basin in New Mexico. Work has been carried on during every summer since 1946 and has also included the exploration of adjacent regions, especially in Colorado. The fine material obtained from these explorations and excavations has added greatly to the Museum's collections and to our knowledge of the early mammals of North America.

Edwin H. Colbert has concentrated particularly upon the Triassic of the Southwest during the years since 1945. There are two reasons for the selection of this geological period as the subject for study. The Museum's collections are rather weak in material from the Triassic, and, secondly, the Triassic was a period of special importance in the history of the lower forms of four-legged vertebrates. Field work has been going on every year since 1946, resulting in the acquisition of