

The Age of Fishes Museum is one of only two[citation needed][which?] fish fossil museums in the world and is a National Heritage site due to its international scientific significance.[1] Located in Canowindra, New South Wales, Australia, it was established in 1998.[2] The Museum was designed by Australian architect, John Andrews. The museum houses a huge collection of Devonian fish fossils found in the Canowindra area.

In 1955, roadworks near Canowindra uncovered a large rock slab covered with unusual impressions, which was then placed to the side of the road whilst roadworks continued.[3][4] A local apiarist later found this slab and, believing it to contain fossils, contacted the Australian Museum about it. In 1993 paleontologist Dr Alex Ritchie led a dig at the site of the initial fossil discovery. That dig led to the removal of 70 tonnes of rock slab and revealed over 3,000 fish fossils from the Devonian period. The dig site has led to several new discoveries and tells the story of events that occurred over 360 million years ago.[5][6] In 2018 the museum was awarded a gold medal in the Specialised Tourism Services category at the Country and Outback Regional Tourism Awards[7]

See also[edit]

American Museum of Natural History

Natural History Museum, London

^ "Fossils in Canowindra, NSW". Australian Museum. Retrieved 13 January 2016.

^ The Great Canowindra Devonian Fish Fossils. Access date: 19 August 2016.

^ Age of Fishes Museum - Discovery. Access date: 19 August 2016.

^ The Great Canowindra Devonian Fish Fossils. Access date: 19 August 2016.

^ "Efforts to unearth fossil dig site". Australian Broadcasting Corporation. 23 December 2015. Retrieved 13 January 2016.

^ "The Time Traveler's Guide". Australian Broadcasting Corporation. ABC. Retrieved 13 January 2016.

^ "Regional Tourism Awards".

External links[edit]

Age of Fishes Museum Official website

Multimedia Introduction - Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Why Are Canowindra's Fish Fossils So Important?

Photos of the Fossil Displays

The Great Canowindra Devonian Fish Fossils

Fossils in Canowindra, NSW - Australian Museum

Fishing with a Hammer in Australia and Antarctica[permanent dead link] - Royal Society of NSW article on Dr Alex Ritchie