

Letting Movie Dinosaurs Loose Among Real Ones

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exhibitions the museum has mounted, right up there with "Ancestors" and "Pompeii A.D. 79." Net proceeds will be split evenly between the museum and the Dinosaur Society.

Divided into three rooms, the exhibition, which runs through Sept. 12, begins with a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the movie. On the left of the entrance is the T. rex wall frieze, taken right from the visitors' center of "Jurassic Park." To the right is the big chunk of fake amber that's dug up early in the film, and the frozen-embryo storage tank. There's the Barbasol can that Nedry, the greedy engineer, uses to smuggle out embryos, and the dinosaur-egg incubator.

In the second room, the dinosaurs await, in a jungle setting. There's the ailing Triceratops, along with a baby Triceratops that wound up on the cutting-room floor. There's the gentle, herbivorous Brachiosaurus, the poison-spitting Dilophosaurus and the exceedingly nasty Velociraptor, Hollywood's best villain since Erich von Stroheim. T. rex, however, is limited to his tail. The makers of "Jurassic Park" would not allow the famous face to go on view.

The jungle tour includes several dinosaurs not seen in the film. In addition to the baby Triceratops, it has a chicken-sized Compsognathus (from the Greek for "elegant jaw"), a speedy little meat-eater that fed on lizards and small game, and a Struthiomimus, similar to the ostrichlike Gallimimus that stampedes in the film. Throughout, television monitors show snippets from "Jurassic Park."

Science Has Its Say

This is an exhibition that shows signs of awesome struggle, and it's not between flesh-eating giants. Rather, it's the struggle between real science and the juiced-up version presented in the film.

In a recent stroll through the exhibition, Mark A. Norell, a paleontologist at the museum and the exhibition's co-curator, with the Dinosaur Society, cheerfully ticked off a number of scientific inaccuracies in "Jurassic Park." Dilophosaurus did not

Brachiosaurus is reconstructed much larger than the fossil evidence indicates."

For good measure, the news-release material that the museum developed for the exhibition includes a six-page rebuttal of virtually every scientific premise in the film.

Teaching, Tempting

The contradictions have not escaped Mr. Norell. "This may look like an extended commercial for the film," he said, raising the question himself, "but my view is that we can use this to teach people about science." Still, it was with a clear sense of relief that he crossed the threshold into the exhibition's final room, a mercifully quiet space dedicated to the museum's own collections. "Now, this is the real stuff," he said.

The third room starts off with a display case filled with gently glowing pieces of amber. One contains a perfectly preserved, rare anole lizard, another a tree cricket.

Other highlights are a five-foot-long T. rex skull, a Velociraptor skull, the only Ornitholestes skull yet found, and the museum's newest discovery, a birdlike dinosaur called Mononychus ("one claw").

On the way out, a final plaque offers a plaintive appeal: "There would

Spielberg's prehistoric stars are used to lure museum visitors.

be no Jurassic Park, no recreated dinosaurs for our entertainment, without science."

The departing crowds can wander down to the museum's theme restaurant, the Diner Saurus, where a \$5.95 Meal-O-Saurus, which comes in an illustrated dinosaur box, includes a hamburger, dinosaur-shaped french fries, a soft drink and a small plastic dinosaur. The dinosaur man, says