

Finch & C^o



THE FOSSIL SHELL OR CARAPACE OF A LATE CRETACEOUS PERIOD MUD TURTLE

THE FOSSIL SHELL OR CARAPACE OF A LATE CRETACEOUS PERIOD MUD TURTLE, TRIONYX

APPROX 100 MILLION YEARS OLD

SIZE: 21.5 CMLONG, 18.5 CMWIDE – 8½ INS LONG, 7¼ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THE BONY SHELL OF TRIONYX CAN BE DISTINGUISHED FROM OTHER TURTLE SHELLS BY THE HIGHLY TEXTURED SURFACE AND LACK OF HORNY OUTER PLATES.

THESE TURTLES WERE AQUATIC OMNIVORES AND THEIR ANCESTORS CAN STILL BE FOUND TODAY LIVING IN LAKES, ESTUARIES AND SLOW MOVING RIVERS. HOWEVER, THE PRE-HISTORIC TRIONYX COULD APPROACH 2 METRES (6½ FEET) IN LENGTH !.