

# WYBOG NEWS



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## Wyoming's Fossil Cabin

Wyoming's famed Fossil Cabin museum has existed, at least in some form, for millions of years, but the last five have been perhaps the longest of its lifespan.

The cabin was the brainchild of Thomas Boylan, who homesteaded the property it sits on in 1908.

The homesite is at the base of Como Bluff, which was ground zero for the 1870s "dinosaur rush," paleontologist Laura Vietti, director of the University of Wyoming Geology Museum, told Cowboy State Daily.

"That hillside was the source for the first large dinosaur skeleton discovered in America," she said.

The bluff is a geological formation that exposed ground from the Jurassic Period. It contains incredibly rich deposits of dinosaur bones, most of them from mighty sauropods, Vietti said. Those were the lumbering long-necked dinosaurs, such as diplodocus, which were among the largest land animals to ever live.

There are still many dinosaur fossils left at Como Bluff, although it's on private property, so digging is by permission only, Vietti said. The site retains its legendary reputation. "You talk to any paleontologist, and they've heard of Como Bluff," she said.

To learn more about the fossil cabin please click [here](#) ←



## Utah's Dark Canyon Complex

Deep, meandering canyons cut through the Colorado Plateau in southeastern Utah. These canyons, known as the **Dark Canyon complex**, have distinctive geology, ecology, and archeology. They are some of the only intact protected canyons in the United States.

This rugged and remote landscape has been shaped by erosion. Over thousands of years, the Colorado River and smaller tributaries have eroded winding, steep-walled canyons into the sedimentary rock. Dark Canyon—one of seven canyons within the complex—cuts diagonally across the photo (see full article). Within this canyon, sandstone walls tower up to 3,000 feet (900 meters), shading visitors from morning and afternoon sun—hence its name. The canyon's steep walls expose roughly 250 million years of geologic history and contain deposits from the Permian period. Cockleshell and crinoid stem fossils have also been found in the area.

To read the full article click [here](#) ←

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