



The PALEOBIOLOGY of INDRICOTHERES
**RHINOCEROS
GIANTS**

DONALD R. PROTHERO

Rhinoceros Giants

Life of the Past

James O. Farlow, editor

Rhinoceros Giants

The Paleobiology of Indricotheres

Donald R. Prothero

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This book is dedicated to the memory of
Dr. Malcolm C. McKenna
and
Dr. Richard H. Tedford
for all their contributions to our understanding
of the evolutionary history of mammals.



Frontispiece. The life-sized reconstruction of Paraceratherium, here shown on display at Morrill Hall at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (the reconstruction now resides in Gering, Nebraska). To the right are modern African elephants for scale, and in the center is a reconstruction of the running rhino Hyracodon, from which indricotheres evolved. (Photo courtesy University of Nebraska State Museum.)

Behold now the behemoth that I have made with you; he eats grass like cattle. Behold now his strength is in his loins and his power is in the navel of his belly. His tail sways like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. His limbs are as strong as copper, his bones as a load of iron.

—*Job* 40:15–18

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Preface

This book is the culmination of over thirty-five years' worth of research on fossil rhinoceroses, beginning with my first introduction to the Frick and American Museum collections in 1976. I thank Dr. Earl Manning for introducing me to the fossil rhino collections at the American Museum and Dr. Michael O. Woodburne and the late Drs. Malcolm C. McKenna and Richard H. Tedford for all they have taught me over the years. I thank my colleagues Drs. Spencer Lucas, Pierre-Olivier Antoine, Mikael Fortelius, Kurt Heissig, Claude Guérin, and Deng Tao for all their help and efforts in understanding rhinoceros evolution and Drs. Brian Kraatz and Jonathan Geisler for their new insights into Gobi stratigraphy.

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*Donald R. Prothero
La Crescenta, California
August 2012*

Rhinoceros Giants

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