

NOTE

**A Pleistocene mangrove cockle *Anadara grandis* (Pelecypoda: Arcidae)  
from Cartagena, Colombian Caribbean**

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In the Colombian Caribbean, the genus *Anadara* Gray, 1847 includes, according to Díaz-Merlano and Puyana-Hegedus (1994), five species: *A. notabilis* (Röding, 1798), *A. baughmani* Hertlein, 1951, *A. ovalis* (Brugière, 1798), *A. brasiliiana* (Lamarck, 1819), and *A. chemnitzii* (Philippi, 1851). These species are common in sandy mud bottoms on depths of 1 to 60 m. Only *A. ovalis* has been founded in waters with low salinities, typical of estuaries and coastal lagoons.

In 1995 a single, fossilized shell of *A. grandis* was found in Pleistocene terraces over reefs or calcareous rocks near Cartagena (Colombian Caribbean; 10°20' N, 75°25' W).

The specimen collection matches the description of *A. grandis* presented by Keen (1971). The white shell is very large (112 mm long, 89 mm height and 80 mm diameter), solid, massive and heavy. It has 26 ribs, thick-

est in the middle of the shell. A ligament scar shows its distribution in grooves or pits above the hinge. The shell is well preserved and still shows the fibrous periostracum.

This specimen suggests ancient exchanges between oceans before the rise of the isthmus of Panama. Associated corals (*Agaricia*, *Favia*, *Meandrina*, *Porites*, and *Siderastrea*) are also important.

REFERENCES

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