# The Mollusk Collection at the Academy of Natural Sciences

Gary Rosenberg and Paul Callomon



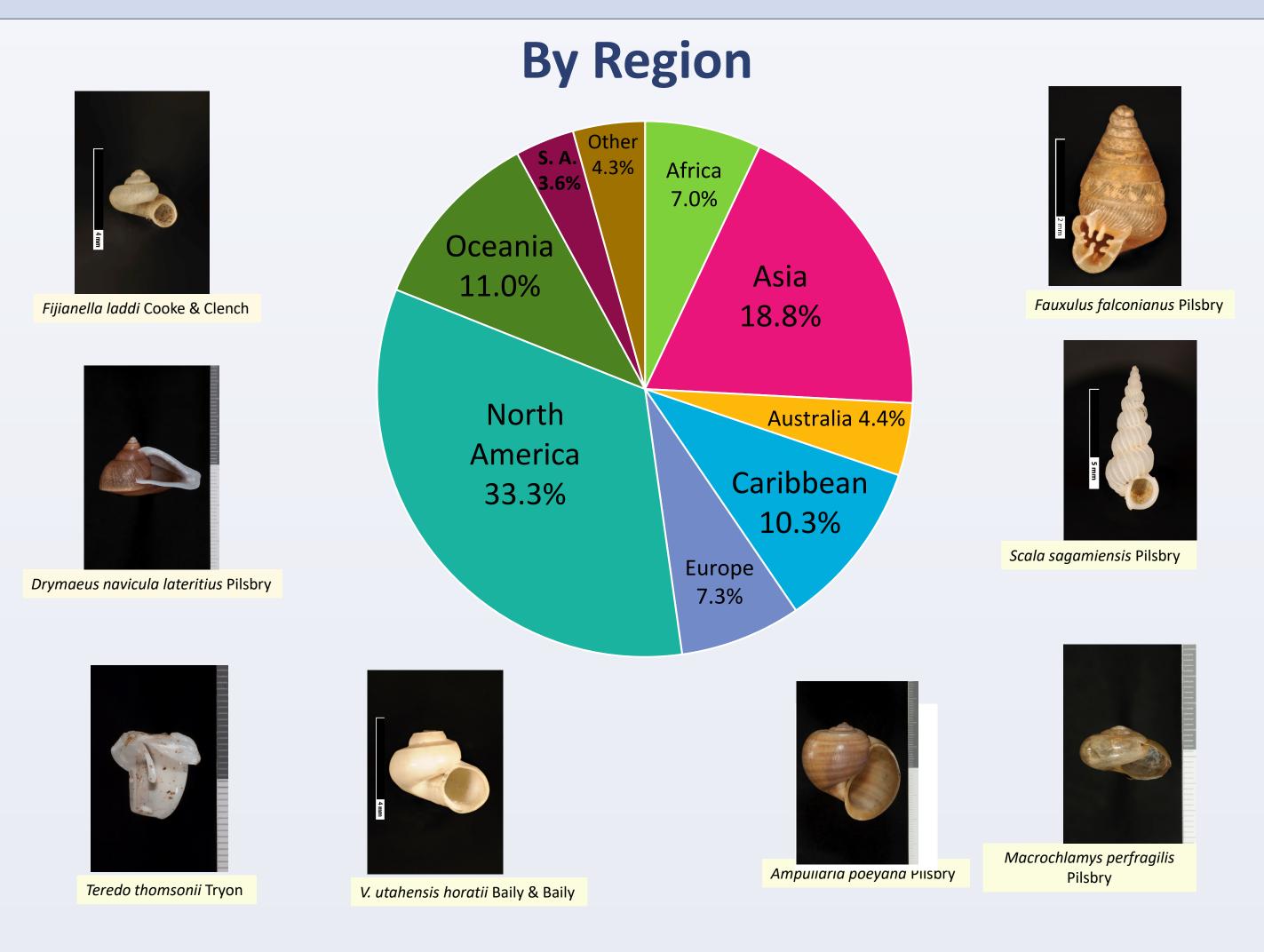
Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Drexel University 1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103



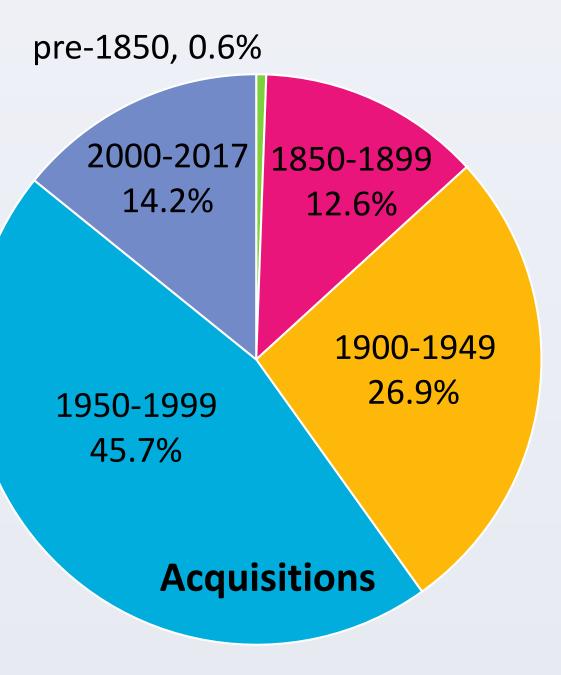
## Introduction

The Academy of Natural Sciences was founded in 1812 as a private natural history museum and continued in that status until 2011, when it affiliated with Drexel University. It is now transitioning to being a university museum. The malacology department currently has a curator, a collection manager, an assistant collection manager, two curatorial assistants supported on soft money, a research technician, a part-time undergraduate intern, several volunteers, and three graduate students.

History



The first mollusk specimens entered the ANSP collection around 1816, when Thomas Say, one of the Academy's founders, began describing American species. By 1889, when catalogue numbers were first assigned, the collection had grown to about 60,000 lots. Under the curatorship of Henry Pilsbry, the collection grew more rapidly, reaching 186,000 lots by 1950. Growth accelerated again under R. Tucker Abbott, with 30 expeditions across the Indo-Pacific in the 1950s and 60s, and 317,000 lots by 1970. Several serial publications were started at ANSP: American Journal of Conchology, The Manual of Conchology, The Nautilus, Indo-Pacific Mollusca, and Tryonia.



## Current

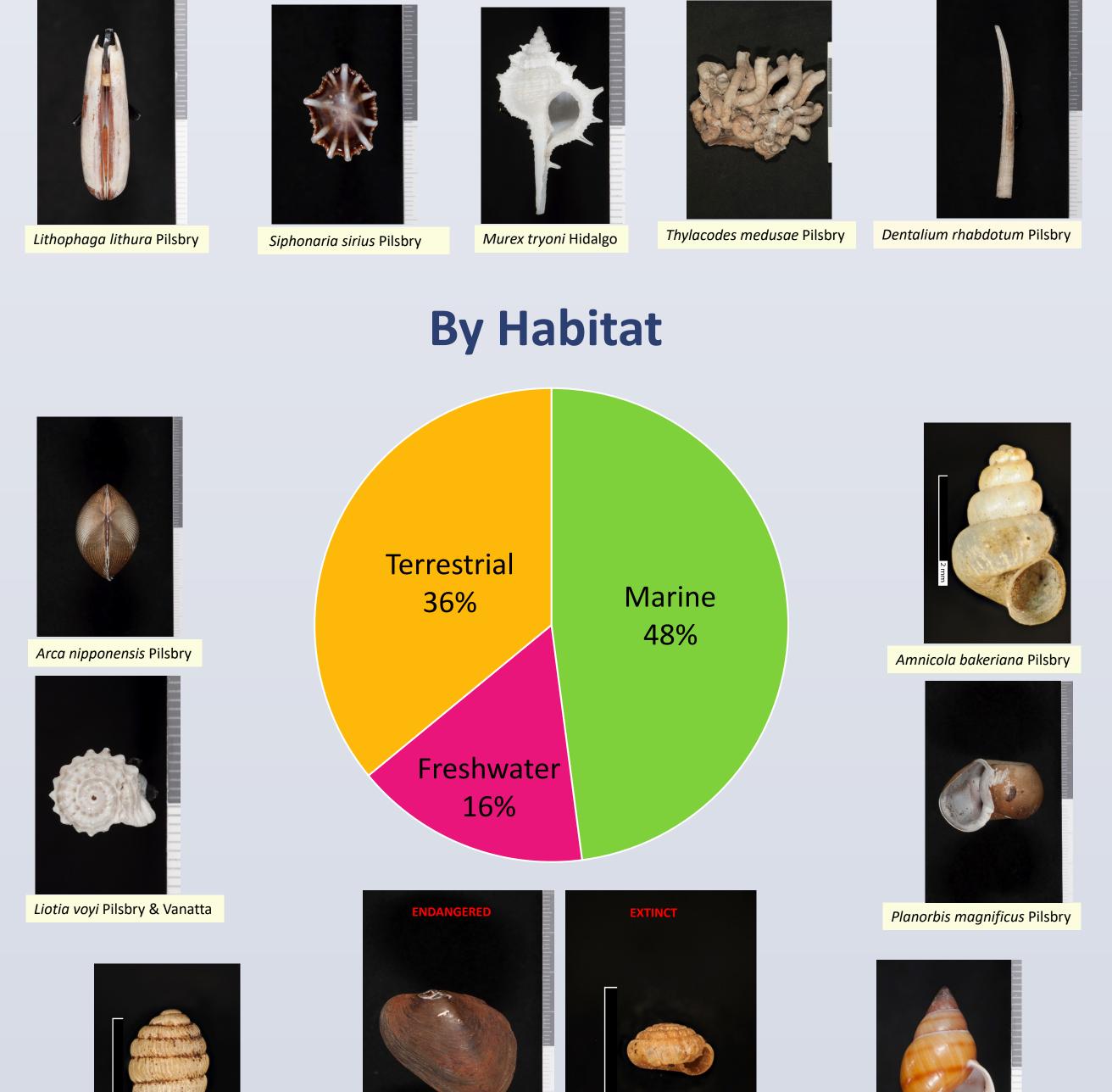
- 8-10 million catalogued specimens in 458,000 dry lots and 43,000 alcohol lots
- 18,000 type lots representing 10,000 names by more than 600 authors
- About 8,000 primary type lots (holotype, lectotype, neotype, syntype)
- Almost all catalogued lots are databased and served online
- About 25% georeferenced, but not to current standard (our greatest need)
- Backlog of about 50,000 lots to be assessed for cataloguing

#### Current projects

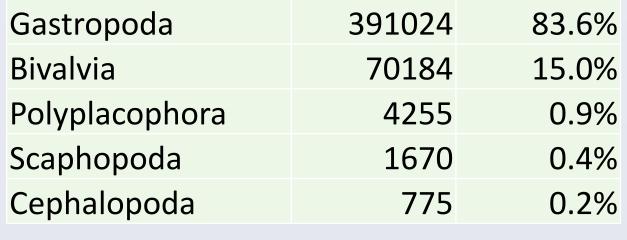
• Digital imaging of primary types (funding from NSF); images of >5,000 nominal taxa and labels online (specimens images on this poster are types from this project)



*Ischnochiton aspidaulax* Pilsbry

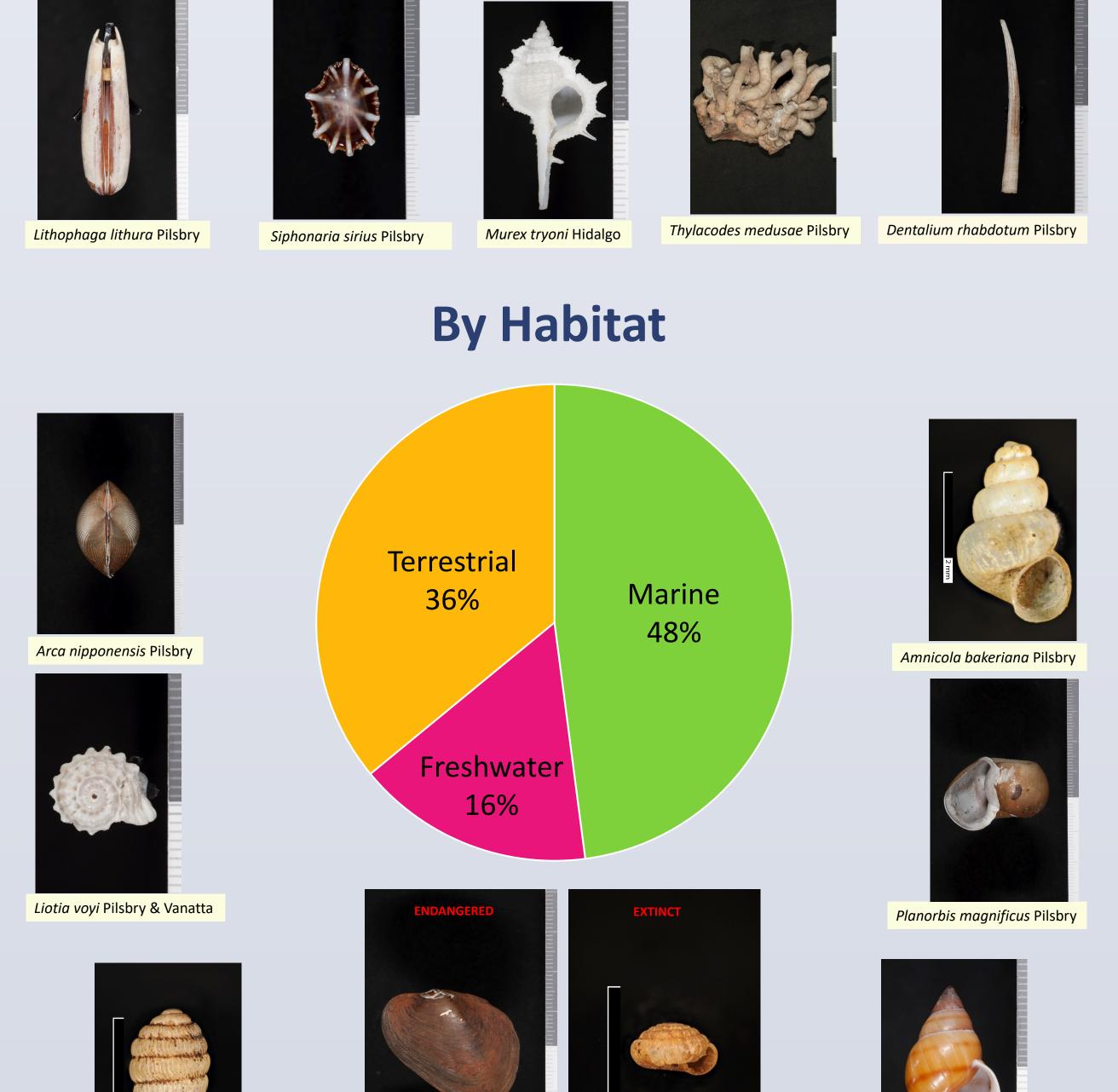


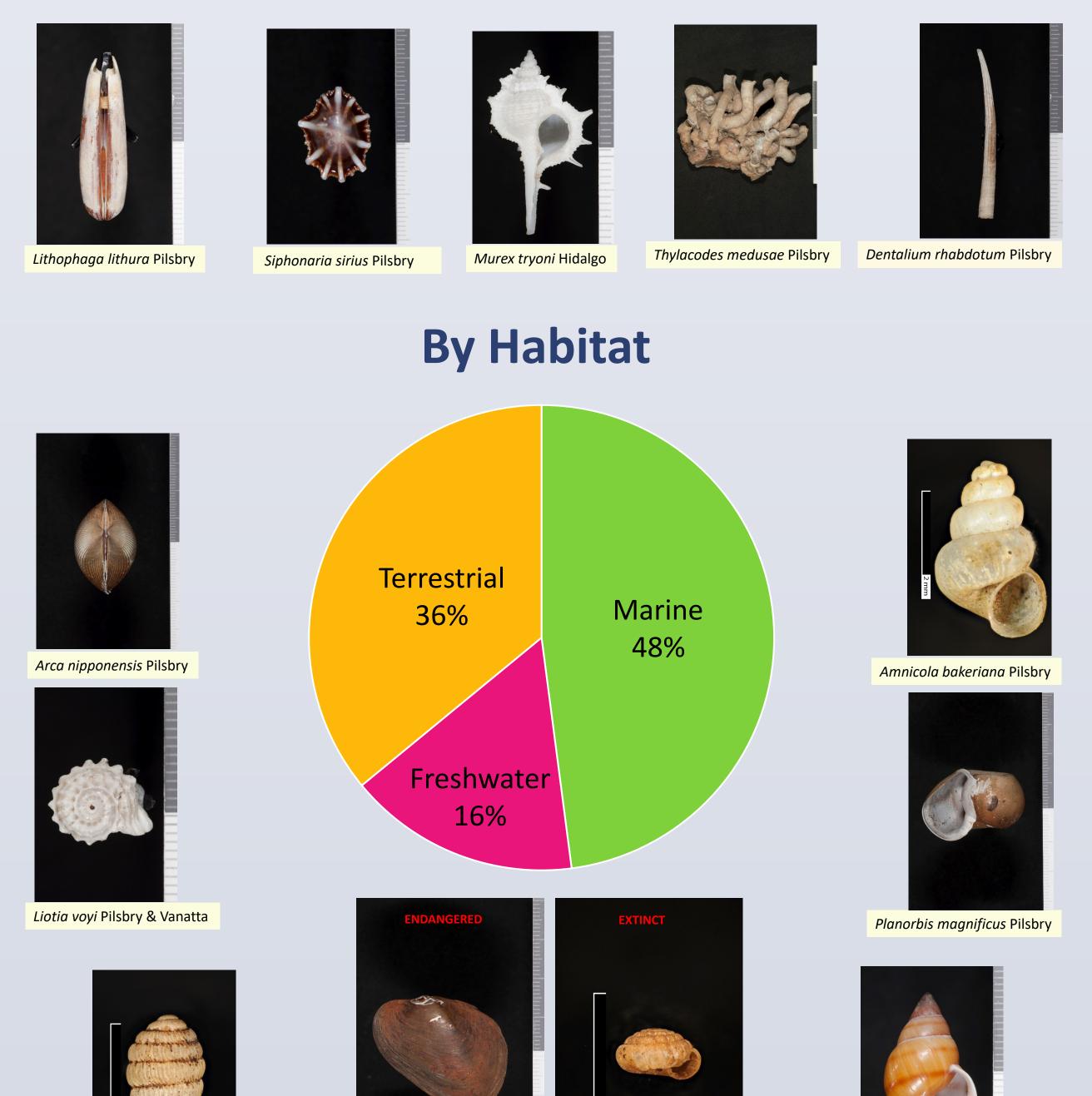




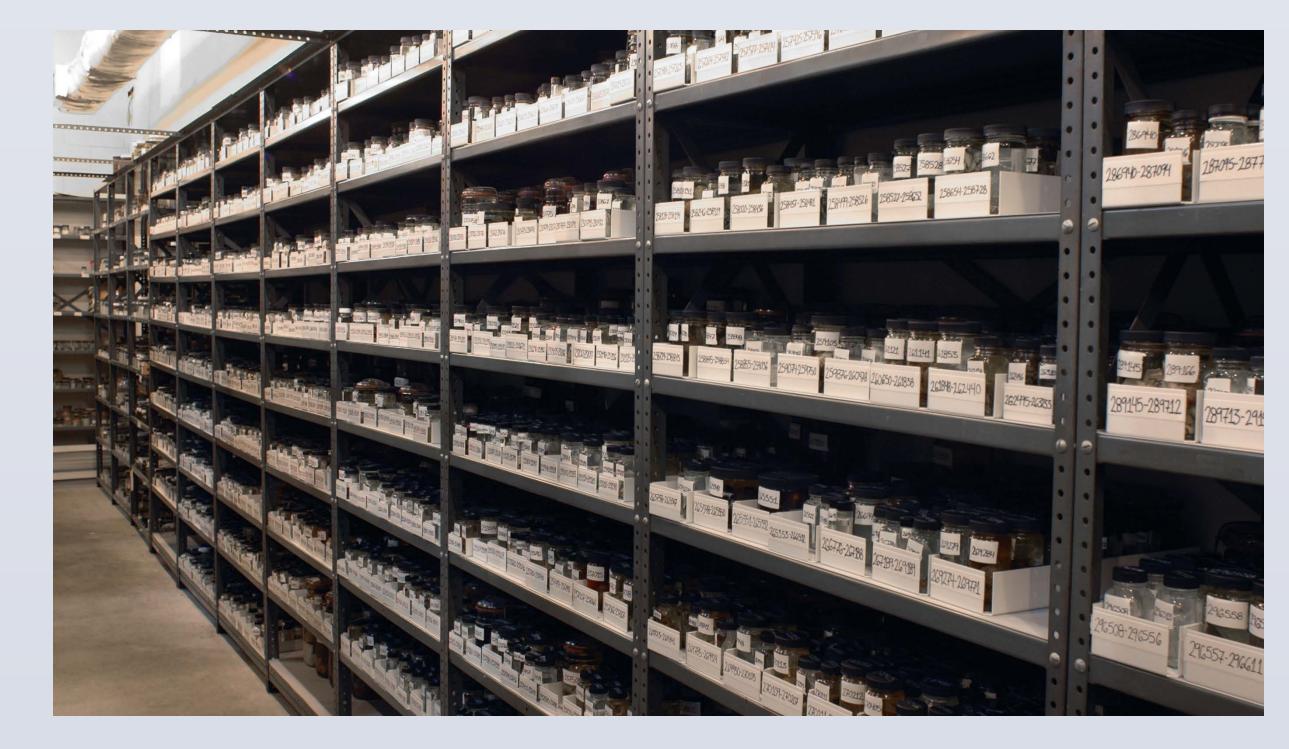


Sepia hercules Pilsbry



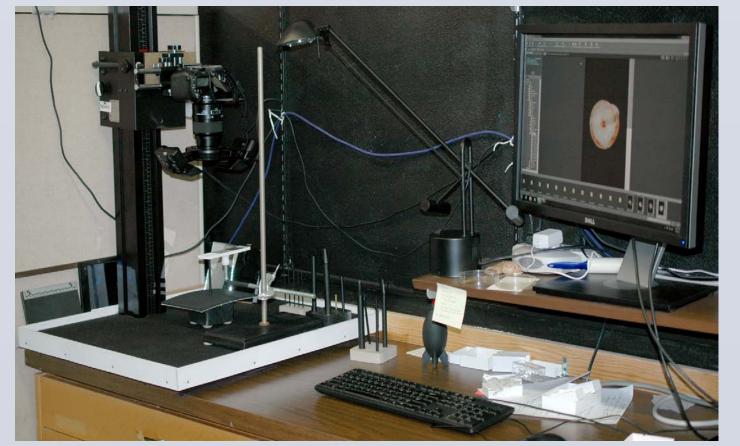


- Rehousing the alcohol collection, image below (funding from NSF)
- Inventory of the dry collection to capture current taxonomic placements
- Cataloguing backlog materials, particularly Unionidae

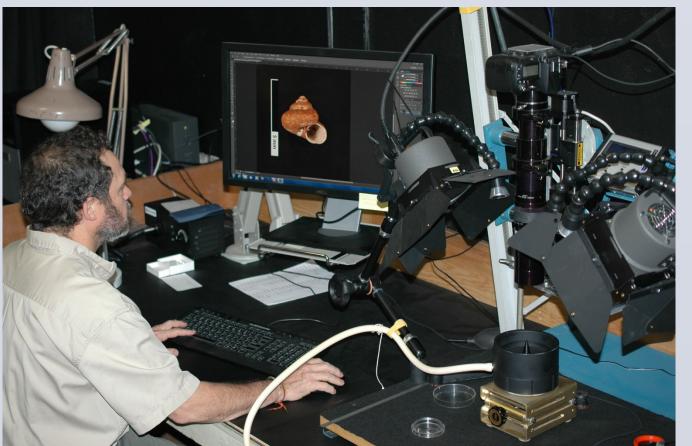


### Photography

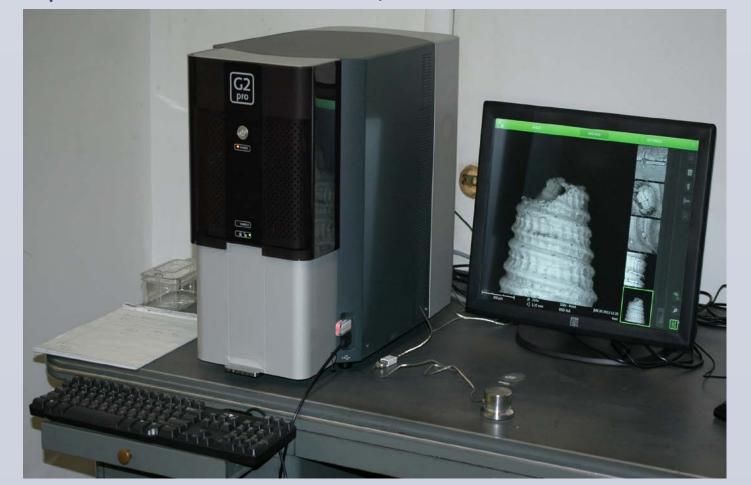
Macro rig, for specimens 5-500 mm. Automatic flash unit (macro flash, TTL), computer camera control



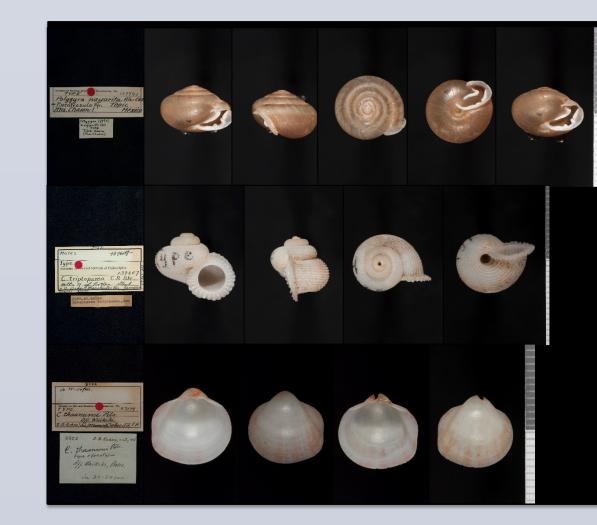
**Z-stacking rig,** for specimens 2.0-5.0 mm. Automated computer-controlled Z-stacking; manual lighting

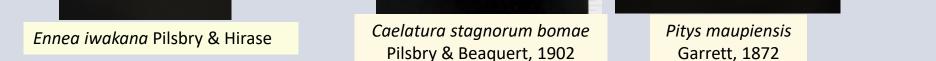


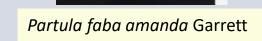
Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). For specimens under ~2.5 mm, and details



**Typical image sets.** 







#### **Online data** (http://clade/ansp.org/malacology/collections/)

Se	Search Collection			Help	A	- Philadelphi Advanced S	
	aren c	onection	Location:	Collector/Donor/Source:	Catalog Number:	Sea	
				Conectory Donory Bource.		Cle	
				Page 1 of 1 (7 records)			
				1			
orec	helicidae [	REFINE					
	ame			Gastropoda Heterobr	anchia	ANSP #	
					coidea Stylommatophora		
0	Oreohelix haydeni Gabb, 1869			Pulmonata		174023	
01	Original Combination				Type Statu:	5	
0	reohelix he	aydeni hesp	<i>eria</i> Pilsbry, 1939		lectotype	e	
	Country		1st Division	2nd Division	Locality Details		
	USA		Idaho		John Day Creek, 2 1/2 m	d.up	
	Lat.	Long.	Collector	Collection Year	Donor/Source	Ye	
			Baker, H.B.		Baker, H.B.		
N	ame			Gastropoda Heterobr	anchia	ANSP #	
					Oreohelicidae Helicoidea Stylommatophora		
0	Oreohelix haydeni Gabb, 1869			Pulmonata		17402	
01	riginal Combi	ination			Type Statu:	5	
0	reohelix he	aydeni perp	<i>lexa</i> Pilsbry, 1939		holotype		
	Country		1st Division	2nd Division	Locality Details		
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	Lat.	Long.	Collector	Collection Vear	Donor/Source	Ye	
			Baker, H.B.		Baker, H.B.		
Na	ame			Gastropoda Heterobr Orecholicidae Heli	anchia coidea Stylommatophora	ANSP #	
0	Oreohelix metcalfei Cockerell, 1905		Pulmonata	coldea Stylommatophora	10324		
01	riginal Combi	ination		1 4111011010	Type Statu:	5	
0	reohelix m	etcalfei flor	ida Pilsbry, 1939		lectotype		
	Country		1st Division	2nd Division	Locality Details		
	USA		New Mexico		Florida Mountains, above	spring	
	Lat.	Long.	Collector	Collection Year	Donor/Source	Ye	
			Pilsbry & Ferriss	1906	Pilsbry, H. A. & Ferriss, J.	н.	
						11105	
Na	ame			Gastropoda Heterobr Oreobelicidae Heli		ANSP #	
0	Oreohelix peripherica Ancey, 1881 Original Combination			Oreonencidae Hein Pulmonata	coidea Stylommatophora	113572	
0				i unionata	Type Statu:	5	
	Oreohelix peripherica weberiana			holotype			
	Country	- Thered	1st Division	2nd Division	Locality Details		
					West side Weber River, 4	miles west	
	USA		Utah		Coalville		
	Lat.	Long.	Collector	Collection Vear	Donor/Source	Ve	
			Stanton, T.W.		Bartsch, P., U.S.N.M.		



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