



HUNTER AND MOVIE STAR

DILOPHOSAURUS* PLAYED A SUPPORTING ROLE IN THE MOVIE *JURASSIC PARK

"It was quite a thrill to see Dilophosaurus as an actor in Jurassic Park. He came on strong. The only two things I would question were his ability to spit poison forward . . . and the erection of the neck frill. These are minor points and I enjoyed the movie thoroughly." — Sam Welles

This specimen is a cast produced for the California Academy of Sciences from the original skeleton housed at U.C. Berkeley's Museum of Paleontology.

The cast is on long-term loan to City College of San Francisco.

Dilophosaurus wetherilli lived about 150 million years ago. It is the earliest and most primitive carnivorous theropod – a group of dinosaurs that includes *Tyrannosaurus rex*. Professor Sam Welles of the **University of California Museum of Paleontology in Berkeley**, who discovered the species in 1942, describes *Dilophosaurus*:



“He was a powerful animal. He stood about eight feet tall — body the weight of a small horse with long, strong hind legs; forelimbs with an opposable thumb, so he could grasp prey. His feet were armed with powerful claws ... used as weapons as well as for locomotion. He was bipedal and a rapid runner. He moved around in small herds of family groups, covering a lot of territory. I don’t know the significance of the crests, probably either ornamental or sexual.”