

KONA DOLOMITE

Oldest Fossil of North America

NAME: *Collenia kona*

AGE: Paleoproterozoic Era
2.4 billion years

UNIT: Kona Formation

SITE: Kona Hills, Michigan



This material is the oldest fossil of North America and the oldest outside of Australia. It is from an ancient reef - but not just any reef, and NOT one made by coral. The iconic coral reefs we see today are fairly recent, having evolved in the Triassic, about 240 million years ago. But did you know that reef-building was invented billions of years prior to the first corals?

These fossils are from one of the oldest and largest reef systems in the world – the *Kona Reef* – which was constructed by photosynthesizing bacteria *stromatolites* about 2.4 billion years ago. It eventually covered thousands of square miles in what is now Michigan, Wisconsin, and southern Ontario. Pacific GeoLab has a site in the Kona Hills where we excavate these specimens. Note the bands and layers - these are relics of the ancient reef layers.

In addition to its antiquity, Kona Dolomite is also very attractive and suitable for carving. It takes a high polish and can be carved into a variety of shapes, large and small.

VISIT HERE to purchase
a unique specimen of
this material, found and
conserved only by us.



pacificgeolab.com

