

RECORD OF A SOUTH AFRICAN MOLLUSC FROM  
AUSTRALIA (*Haliotis sanguinea* Hanley)

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Plate I

In February 1952 a number of Molluscs collected alive at Cowaramup Bay, South of Yallingup, Western Australia, was forwarded to the National Museum by Mrs. J. A. Grigg, an experienced collector, for identification. Amongst them were three specimens of *Haliotis* which are quite distinct from any previously recorded from Australia. Mrs. Grigg later gave one specimen to the Museum, F 12987, and it is figured here.

The shell obviously was close to Hanley's *Haliotis sanguinea* for which the locality is not given in the original description. Comparison with examples of that species in the Museum collection was then made. These are five in number, four from the Cape of Good Hope (two from the Hugh Cuming Collection) and one from Mauritius. Reeve and later authors confine the species to the first locality.

The Museum specimens form a very uniform series, and with them the Western Australian shells agree perfectly in form, sculpture and colour. There is, therefore, no justification, other than geographical, for separating them, even subspecifically from Hanley's species and they are here recorded as—

*Haliotis sanguinea* Hanley

*Haliotis sanguinea* Hanley, Young Conchologist's Book of Species, p. 60, frontispiece fig. 5, 1840

Reeve, Conch. Icon., III, fig. 17, 1846.

Sowerby, This Conch., V, sp. 27; fig. 93, 4; 1883.

Weinkauff, Conchyl. Cab., Bd. VI, t. 16, f. 3, 4, 1840.

*Haliotis ficiformis* Menke, Zeitschr. f. Mal., 1845, p. 7.

Philippi, Abbild Conch., II, p. 70, t. 4, f. 3, 1847.

Localities—Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius and Western Australia.

Mrs. Grigg attached the following field notes to the specimens —“Living amongst weed on hard rock bottom, below low water mark, usually under limestone rocks. Largest taken 61 mm., smallest 46 mm. long. Five specimens in all.”



*Haliotis sanguinea* Hanley. Cowaramup  
Bay, Western Australia.  
(natural size)