

A new deinonychosaurian track from the Lower Cretaceous Hekou Group, Gansu Province, China

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Herein we describe deinonychosaurian (Dinosauria: Theropoda) tracks in the Lower Cretaceous Hekou Group at sites I and II of Liujiaxia Dinosaur National Geopark, Gansu Province, China. The site preserves 71 didactyl tracks, the largest concentration of deinonychosaurian tracks in Asia. The tracks pertain to a new dromaeopodid ichnospecies: *Dromaeosauripus yongjingensis* ichnosp. nov., which is diagnosed by: a digital pad formula of $x-1-3-4-x$ and a mean divarication angle between digits III and IV of 19° , and having the proximal portion of digit II contacting the anterior margin of a large, rounded metatarsophalangeal pad. Six *Dromaeosauripus* trackways from site II comprise at least two, and possibly three, turning trackways in which the track maker(s) turned without slowing down. None of the *Dromaeosauripus* trackways are parallel or closely spaced, suggesting that they were made by solitary track makers. Estimates of dromaeopodid track-maker sizes are between 61–300 cm, well within the size range established by body fossils of both dromaeosaurids and troodontids.

Key words: Dinosauria, Theropoda, Deinonychosauria, *Dromaeosauripus yongjingensis*, Cretaceous, Hekou Group, China.

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