

(2) Farther east, from near Chaleur Bay, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, through New Brunswick, southwest to the coast of Maine (including the Mount Desert rocks) and into eastern Massachusetts. (3) The Acadian Range, along western Newfoundland and central Nova Scotia; then submerged off the coast of Maine and Massachusetts; then over southeastern Massachusetts, and probably along Long Island. (4) A central Newfoundland range, which may have had a submarine extension along Sable Island and the shoals about it, east of Nova Scotia. (5, 6) Two other ranges farther east.

The Acadian is the longest of these Archæan ranges; it is the chief eastern belt of the Archæan on the Atlantic border, and is strictly the Acadian protaxis. Its partial submergence is not in doubt; for besides indications of this along the sea-bottom south of Nova Scotia, there is proof of subsidence of several hundred feet in the fiords of Maine and the coast; in the Bay of Fundy, in Massachusetts and Narragansett bays, and in Long Island Sound. The combination of the Acadian and Appalachian protaxes determined the existence of the great "Middle Bay" of the Atlantic Coast (page 210), and in the region of their junction lies the bay of New York with the mouth of the Hudson. Thus the foundations were laid in Archæan time.

*On the Pacific border, northwestward in general trend.* — The chief Archæan ranges on the Pacific border are the following: (1) The Rocky Mountain protaxis, or the "backbone" of the mountains. It extends northward and westward nearly to 53° N., in the Peace River region, and is represented beyond in isolated areas. It bends eastward 250 miles south of 49° N., and then extends southward and westward through Colorado into New Mexico. The region of the bend, whence go off eastward and westward several of the large rivers of the continent, is the locality of the Yellowstone Park. Along the west side of the Wasatch Range, near Salt Lake, the Archæan areas appear to be parts of a western spur of the protaxis, nearly in a line with the part of it in British America. To the westward are other nearly parallel Archæan ranges, in the Great Basin; along the Sierra Nevada in California and in the Sierra Madre of western Mexico; and probably in the Coast and Island belts of British America. In addition, isolated areas occur east of the Rocky Mountain chain in the Black Hills of Dakota, the Iron Mountain region of Missouri, and in central Texas. Thus the oldest land areas marked out well the outlines of the continent.

There is a landward bend in Pennsylvania of the Appalachian protaxis, like the landward bend of the Rocky Mountain protaxis, and the two bends are not much south in latitude of the southern end of the nucleal Archæan area of the continent; as if connected in origin with the absence farther south of outcropping Archæan.

Archæan rocks are the prevailing rocks of the portions of Greenland free from its covering of ice, and they make a large part also of Baffin Land, on the opposite side of Baffin Bay.