## Seed Fern Fossil

## 'Alethopteris grandini'

This fossil seed fern thrived in hot moist tropical environments during the Carboniferous period, around 360 to 300 million years ago and grew to around 6 metres.

It offers a rare glimpse into Earth's ancient plant life and stands as a remarkable piece of botanical history.

Unlike modern ferns, which reproduce by spores, seed ferns produced seeds—an evolutionary advancement that set them apart from their contemporaries. Their exquisite preservation reveals intricate leaf patterns, showcasing both their beauty and their significance in plant evolution.

Uncovered at the Stranger Formation in Franklin County, Kansas the fossil offers insights into prehistoric plant life and the ecological conditions of its time.



