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or combination of layers into which they are intruded, and not to the prolongations of these growth planes further out in these layers.

The classification of ribbing and related structures used here is based mainly on morphology, in part also on deduced genesis, and is as follows:

1. Non-additive ribbing, with the shell margin deformed into plications, lobations, or both.
2. Additive ribbing, with structures that appear added onto the shell surface.
3. Composite ribbing, with components of both previous types, comprising a non-additive framework on which are secreted additive structures, whose position is directly related to and in most cases apparently determined by that of the non-additive components.

Introduction

This paper is essentially a condensed version of a thesis written for the University of California nine years ago¹. It concerns the various layers found in pelecypod shells, their classification, arrangement, and hence the distribution of the various microstructures contained in these layers, including tubules; an attempted classification of pelecypods based on structure; and the various types of ribbing, together with the modifications they bring about in the structural arrangements within the pelecypod shell. Most of the species observed came from the collection of the University of California and originated from the West Coast of the United States. Some specimens were obtained from the Collection of the Museum of Natural History in Berne and were of European and Asiatic origin.

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¹ A short abstract of the thesis was published at that time by the author (OBERLING, 1955).