

# Connecticut's Geologic History

## Before 500 million years ago - Did not exist

Evidence: lots of Schist which forms in water

marble comes from ocean

gneiss-volcanic

CT was a series of volcanic islands off coast of North America

A subduction Zone where Ocean collides with Continent

Much like Japan

## 500 million years ago - Pangea Forms

Evidence:

Africa & Europe Crash into North America to make Pangea

This creates non-volcanic mountains covering Connecticut

Mountain building Creates Metamorphic of rocks:

granite become gneiss, limestone becomes marble,

mudstone becomes schist

The Appalachian Mountains of Ct. rival the Himalayas

Standing over 20,000 feet tall

## **Weathering- breaking down of rock into sediment**

**-rain, wind, ice, chemicals (Acid Rain)**

## **Erosion-movement of sediment**

**-Gravity, flooding, glaciers**

## 250 Million years ago - Pangea Splits Apart

Evidence:

Divergent Plate Boundary

Basalt proves volcanic activity in the Ct. River Valley

## 100 Million Years Ago - Dinosaurs Roam

Evidence:

fossil footprints found in Sedimentary Rocks  
in CT River Valley @ ~ 12 places

## 2 Million Years Ago - Glaciers Scour Connecticut

Evidence:

Many periods of Glaciations:

Last glaciers leave about 10,000 years ago

Glaciers here in Windsor Locks were about 2 miles deep