

Silurian retiolitids of the East European Platform

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Late Llandovery to late Ludlow isolated retiolitid assemblages from deep boreholes drilled in the Polish part of the East European Platform are used to restore phylogeny of the group. The process of reduction of the network skeleton (reticulum and clathria), as well as reduction of the transverse rods and change of virgula position started in the Wenlock. All Ludlow retiolitids have a central virgula and reduced rhabdosomes. Colonies of the *Gothograptus* lineage with finite growth, related to reduction in the number of thecae, first appeared in the Late Wenlock and continued in the Ludlow. Their evolution leads either to development of finite rhabdosomes with few thecae (*Holoretiolites*) or to almost complete reduction of clathria and reticulum (*Plectodinemagraptus* gen. n. of the *Plectograptus* lineage). The latter homeomorph of the Ordovician abrograptid *Dinemagraptus* is the last known retiolitid of late Ludlow age (*Cucullograptus hemiaversus* / *C. aversus* Zone). The family Retiolitidae consists of five separate lineages. *Sokolovograptus polonicus* sp. n., *Neogothogroptus* gen. n., *Holoretiolites atrabecularis* sp. n., *Semiplectograptus urbaneki* gen. et sp. n., *Plectodinemagraptus gracilis* gen. et sp. n. are proposed. *S. polonicus* from the *Cyrtograptus purchisoni* Zone has a strongly reduced rhabdosome.

Key words: graptolites, retiolitids, Silurian, Poland, East European Platform, deep borings, Baltic erratic boulders, phylogeny.

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