

*NEW YORK*  
**PERSPECTIVES**

The News & Arts Weekly Of Uptown Manhattan

## **Best Place to Buy Something That Looks Like Part of a Dinosaur**

Maxilla & Mandible, Ltd.  
451-5 Columbus Ave.  
(724-6173)

The window of this Columbus Avenue shop says everything. Beneath a huge skeleton poised as if it's ready to fight Godzilla, there's a sign reminding passersby "This is a horse not a dinosaur skeleton." Within a Stone Age throw from the great American Museum of Natural History, it's only too easy to assume that any neighboring skeletons are remnants of some prehistoric era (you know, back when the Earth still had an ozone layer). But while Maxilla & Mandible may not carry any dinosaur remains, visitors are usually too enthralled with the store's macabre artistic flourish to notice. There's bones all over this store, along with fossils, shells and horns worthy of any coffee table. Prices range from \$1 for porcupine quills, which are gorgeously polished, to a \$594 American alligator skull. The management has posted a statement explaining how its items are found—all, it notes, by legal means. But they won't say how they get their bones so clean, begging off with the phrase, "Ancient Chinese secret."

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