

Siebenrock's numerous herpetological publications cover the period 1892-1924. His earliest papers were on the anatomy and osteology of lizards, turtles, and the tuatara, but his interests shifted to the systematics of turtles at the turn of the century. He described and classified turtles from all parts of the world, with special emphasis on those from South America, Australia, Asia, and Africa. He named 27 taxa of turtles, including the genus *Pseudemydura*, the Madagascan *Acinixys planicauda*, the soft-shelled tortoise of East Africa (*Malacochersus tornieri*), and numerous emydids, kinosternids, and trionychids. He also published a few papers on crocodylians. His *magnum opus* was "Synopsis der rezenten Schildkröten" (1909), the first major review of the world's turtles since that of Boulenger (1889).

• *References*: "Friedrich Siebenrock," p. 507-508. In A. Handlirsch and R. von Wettstein (ed.), *Botanik und Zoologie in Österreich in den Jahren 1850 bis 1900*. Festschr. Zool.-Bot. Gesellsch., Vienna, 1901; "Friedrich Siebenrock (1853-1925)," by F. Tiedemann and G. Grillitsch, *Herpetozoa* (Vienna), 1, in press. • *Portrait*: Courtesy Heinz Wermuth. • *Signature* (1908): Smithsonian Institution Archives, courtesy William Cox and Alan E. Leviton.

WERNER, Franz (1867-1939).

The zoologist and explorer Franz Joseph Maria Werner was born in Vienna on 15 August 1867. His father interested him in amphibians and reptiles when he was six. As a precocious high school student, he received instruction and encouragement through correspondence with George A. Boulenger and Oskar Boettger whose scope and style of research Werner came to emulate. After obtaining his Ph.D. from the University of Vienna (1890) and a year of further training in Leipzig, he returned to the university where he became an instructor at the Zoological Institute and rose through the ranks to become a full professor in 1919; he retired in 1933 and died on 28 February 1939, in Vienna.

During his tenure at the university, Werner supervised numerous students, not only in herpetology but in entomology, as he was equally interested in insects, especially Orthoptera. Among his herpetological students were Georg Haas, Walter Mosauer, and Otto von Wettstein. Werner was also an avid explorer, especially of Southeast Europe, Asia Minor, northern Africa, and the islands of the eastern Mediterranean. Despite rough seas and difficult landings, he explored 45 of the Greek islands, the last of them (Thasos) at the age of 71 and less than a year before his death.

Although situated near the Naturhistorisches Museum in Vienna, with its extensive herpetological collections, the personal animosity of then-director Franz Steindachner prevented Werner from working with those collections. In his youth, Werner's fervent wish had been to be appointed to the museum's staff, but Steindachner rejected him, probably seeing in him a serious competitor. Thus, until Steindachner's death (1919), Werner had to base his research on collections in other European museums and on his own enormous private collection, which was later donated to the Vienna museum by his sons.



Despite this handicap, Werner published over 550 titles, the vast majority on herpetology. These works emphasize taxonomy and faunistics and cover the world fauna, but there are also papers on anatomy and behavior. In his eagerness to describe new taxa (he named 24 genera of amphibians and reptiles, and over 400 species and subspecies), he occasionally erred and named as new some well-known species of snakes from specimens whose continent of origin had been mixed up or had no locality data at all, but his other publications were quite competent.

Werner's first major faunal work, in 1897, was on Austria-Hungary and the so-called occupation territories (part of the Balkans), followed by one on the Bismarck Archipelago east of New Guinea (1900) and, much later, on Greece (1938). His primary taxonomic monographs include one on chameleons (1902), a three-part series covering colubrid snakes (1923, 1924, 1929), and several issues in the *Das Tierreich* series. Werner also wrote the section on Amphibia for the *Handbuch der Zoologie* (1930) and co-authored a standard work on venoms and venomous snakes (1931), with Rodolpho Kraus, a former colleague in Vienna who later became Director of the Instituto Butantan in Brazil. Unlike most of his contemporary fellow scientists, he was not adverse to popular or semi-popular