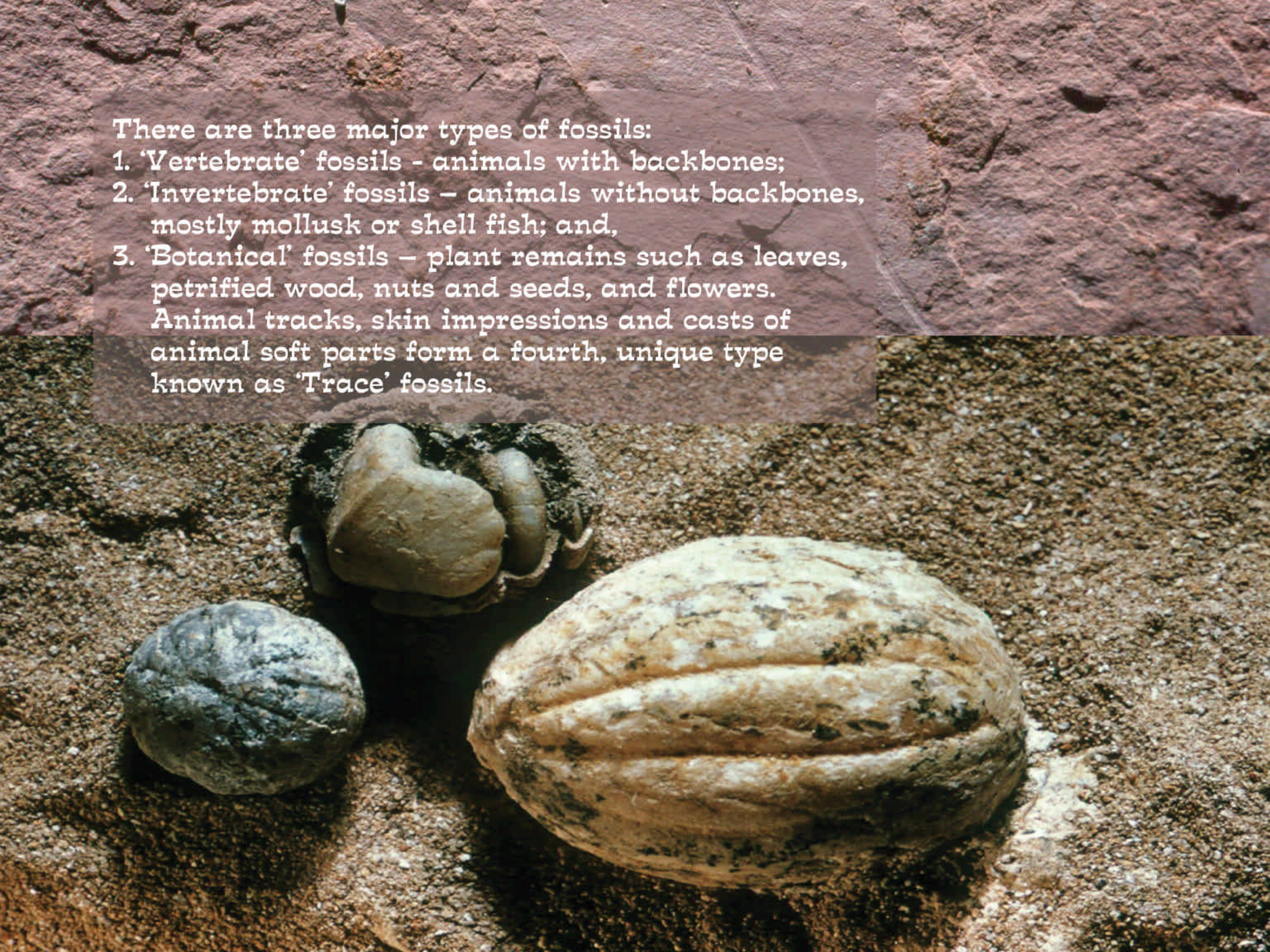
There are three major types of fossils:

1. 'Vertebrate' fossils - animals with backbones;
2. 'Invertebrate' fossils – animals without backbones, mostly mollusk or shell fish; and,
3. 'Botanical' fossils – plant remains such as leaves, petrified wood, nuts and seeds, and flowers.

Animal tracks, skin impressions and casts of animal soft parts form a fourth, unique type known as 'Trace' fossils.