swamps, rivers, and inlets of the southern sea had their quota of water-frequenting and purely aquatic types. Water plants abounded. On the land were ferns and shrubs of various kinds besides a diversity of trees—pines and other conifers, cedars, poplars, oaks, birches, elms, and maples.

The type of Gorgosaurus is an example of a land dinosaur entombed in a water borne deposit. One can conceive that the body of this animal, floating with the left side uppermost, was stranded feet first in shallow water, and that the right limbs, touching bottom first, were forced upward toward the back into the position in which they were found. With the settlement of the body into the sand all the bones of the right side would be held firmly in position, accounting for the presence of all the bones of the right side in the type. In the case of the left side of the specimen the loss of a number of parts, notably the scapula, fore limb, and the left half of the cuirass of ventral ribs, could result from the body lying with that side uppermost in shallow water, possibly more or less exposed to the air, for a considerable interval of time subject to the action of water or the depredations of animals or both.

It was in a land of the above character that Gorgosaurus played its part in the economy of nature, and although many of this reptile's habits and characteristics are at present only surmised, others are clearly indicated by its fossil remains.