

Contents

Preface page ix

PART I BACKGROUND 1

- 1 Introduction 3
- 2 Resolution of the K-T boundary 13
- 3 Using fossil plants to study the K-T boundary 27
- 4 Brief history of K-T boundary paleobotany
and palynology 34
- 5 Overview of latest Cretaceous and early
Paleocene vegetation 46

PART II REGIONAL CASE STUDIES 67

- 6 Williston Basin – the most complete K-T sections
known 69
- 7 Other North American records 104
- 8 Eurasia 159
- 9 The remnants of Gondwana 195

viii Contents

PART III INTERPRETATIONS 215

- 10 Assessment of the K-T boundary event 217
 - 11 Evaluation of scenarios for the K-T boundary event 222
 - 12 Floral effects of the K-T boundary event 229
- Appendix* 231
References 254
Index 278