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- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

From the Cambrian to once-thought-impossible Pleistocene civilization PC challenges every tenet of mainstream prehistory

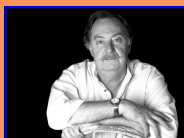


Until the discovery of Gobekli Tepe and its 12,000 year old date Pleistocene civilization was synonymous with Atlantis ([p. 2](#)).

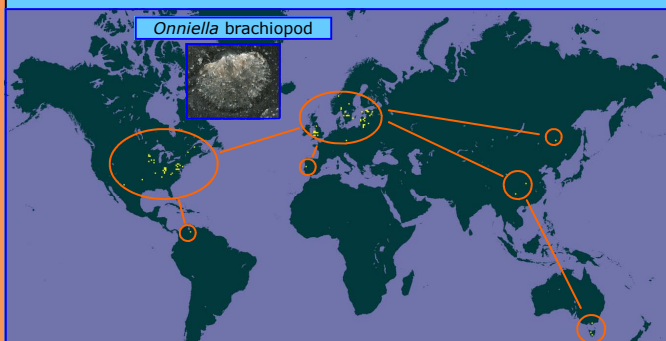


The mainstream science community has committed to a single premise by which it controls what everyone is supposed to believe about prehistory. Unfortunately, it has also succeeded in pushing U.S. Legislation enabling it to teach its ideas as facts. All of this depends upon preventing conflicting

evidence and ideas from being seen or heard. Whether talking about early human cognition, early humans in the Americas and other unexpected locations,



In their efforts to get prehistory back into the hands of objective researchers Dullum and Lynch follow in the steps of U.K. archaeologist James Reid Moir—a true scientist of the pre-dogmatic era—who followed the evidence and beat the mainstream. ([p. 12](#)).



How does one explain such spread out distribution of a highly prolific fossil organism? The answer is simple. Just like with human fossils *Onniella* has been split apart by evolution-based tricks of nomenclature. *Onniella* now has five different names! Definitions of species, genera, family are so pliable that even professional paleontologists can't keep up. Forget 'species'; the areas between the *Onniella* pockets obviously consist of once interbreeding populations now *disguised* by trick names. See the Objective Stratigraphic Column project: *Ordovician* ([p. 16](#)).

not holding up under scrutiny of this kind. Genetics, following anthropology, is simply adding to the conundrum that cultural evidence is not lining up with claims of speciation. There is plenty of mainstream coverage out there. We at the Pleistocene Coalition are committed to providing evidence and perspectives that the science community suppresses so that our readers can see prehistory from a more inclusive and much wider point of view.



"No government has the right to decide on the truth of scientific principles, nor to prescribe in any way the character of the questions investigated."
-Nobel physicist, Richard Feynman ([p. 19](#)).



Raghubir Thakur, MA History—former Consultant for Security and Land Management (India)—provides more evidence of *ancient complex patterns* in association with cup-marks incl. possible evidence of early community planning ([p. 4](#)).



Dragos Gheorghiu, pyrotechnics expert, anthropologist, artist, and Professor at Bucharest University, Romania, provides more evidence of experiences common to all people such as sky, water, and fire ([p. 14](#)).

Pleistocene civilizations Gobekli Tepe and Gunung Padang

By Chris Hardaker, MA, archaeologist

"Until the discovery of Turkey's Gobekli Tepe and its 12,000 year old birthdate, the idea of Pleistocene civilization was synonymous with Atlantis, Lemuria or Mu."



Older than agriculture or pottery

It was not long ago that putting together the words, "Pleistocene" + "civilization" would have destroyed your academic credibility forever among the professional class of archae-

ologists, prehistorians, historians, and history-of-science professionals, and almost anyone else who matters. However, that reaction is in the process of rapid change.

Gobekli Tepe

Until the discovery of Turkey's Gobekli Tepe, and its 12,000-year old birthdate (Figs. 1–2), the idea of Pleistocene civilization was synonymous with Atlantis, Lemuria or Mu, and countless other ridiculous casualty myths from the 'long, long ago and told by the very, very high.' This is the kind of baloney that the professional class had warred against valiantly for most of the 20th Century, and did their utmost to warn their students to steer clear. Then Gobekli Tepe happened, and the old baloney suddenly becomes the new golden compost, research-wise.

Since the turn of the millennium, Turkey's Gobekli Tepe has stunned the world's experts and gratified the rest of us. At 12,000 years old, that means it is also 10,000 BC. Mammoths and



Fig. 1. Gobekli Tepe in southeastern Turkey. It is located approximately 12 km (7 mi) northeast of the city of Şanlıurfa. Wikimedia Commons.

temple edifices—like the movie, *10,000 BC*, except now it could actually be knock-your-socks-off real. Sunken shorelines 300–400 feet deep are now fair

game; previously they were regarded as ridiculous wastes of time.

Paradigm shifts are like that.

Dr. Robert Schoch has been the geological go-to guy for Gobekli Tepe and a number of other ancient sites around the world including the Great Sphinx in Egypt and Gunung Padang in Indonesia. His website is a great take-off point for those concerned with the fundamental issues surrounding these

incredible archaeological developments. The world of archaeology is still feeling the tremors of Robert's identification of water erosion in and around the

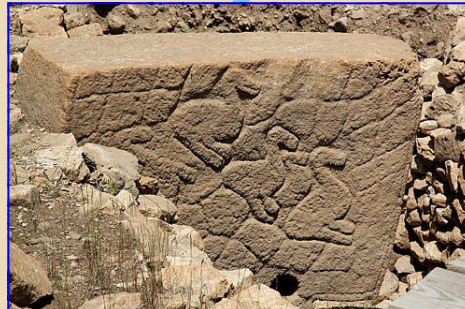


Fig. 2. One of the many unexplained engraved animal relief panels at Gobekli Tepe. Wikimedia Commons.

Sphinx indicating a very wet time after the Sphinx was carved out of its limestone massif. Last

time it was that wet at Giza was the terminal Pleistocene. Shoots straight from the hip. A great first or last word on some of the most incredible evidence for Pleistocene civilizations.

<http://www.robertschoch.com/>

> **Cont. on page 3**

Pleistocene civilizations (cont.)



Fig. 3. Gunung Padang's main stair. Wikimedia Commons.

"Another candidate for a Pleistocene civilization—possibly twice as old as the Turkish site—is Gunung Padang in Indonesia."

Gunung Padang

Another candidate for a Pleistocene civilization—possibly twice as old as the Turkish site—is Gunung Padang in Indonesia (**Figs. 3–5**).

The situation here is not so open and shut. While megaliths at the site seem to have been fashioned out of lava columns back to 12,000

years ago there is the possibility that a 22,000 year old carbon date suggests a much older occupation. The general context of the site itself looks to be a multi-story pyramid.

One of the important factors making Gunung Padang highly credible is that it too is championed by Schoch. (As mentioned briefly above, Robert shocked the world with his pronouncements of water erosion in and around the Sphinx. To fill in the details this was specifically on the profiles of the wall of the Sphinx's enclosing pit as well as on its own core limestone blocks. Again, the last time water of this amount was present on the Giza Plateau

was 10–12,000 years ago or thereabouts. It was certainly older than the 2000 BC date antiquity folks thought it was.) Robert has been in-



Fig. 4. Gunung Padang's 5th terrace. Wikimedia Commons.

involved with many fascinating sites from this time period. By no means does he agree



Fig. 5. Gunung Padang site. Wikimedia Commons.

with all of the ancient civilization claims made for them; but Gunung Padang he likes. And where there's one there must be more! If you run a check on YouTube or Google you will find a number of competing theories out there, especially for the earlier dates. Science in action!

Bon Voyage

CHRIS HARDAKER, BA, MA, is an archaeologist working in California and is one of the founding members of the Pleistocene Coalition.

He reviewed and catalogued the data from the massive artifact collection of Calico. For details, see the series, [The abomination of Calico](#), Parts 1-3, beginning in PCN #6, July-Aug 2010, and [Calico redux: Artifacts or geofacts: Original 2009 paper updated and serialized for PCN](#)

(PCN #24, July-Aug 2013) and its [Part 2](#) (PCN #26, Nov-Dec 2013). For additional in-depth

information and quality photographs of tools recovered from the Calico Early Man Site excavations see [Calico's "Double-notched" blades from T-22](#) (PCN #30, July-Aug 2014) and [Calico's only classic handaxe](#) (PCN #31, Sept-Oct2014). Hardaker is also author of the book, [The First American: The suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World](#).

All of Hardaker's articles in PCN can be accessed directly at the following link:

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/#the_first_american

Petroglyphs in Delhi-Aravallis-System, India

Vivid creations by early man, Part 2

By Raghubir S. Thakur, MA (History), rock art researcher/preservationist

"The whole arena of cup-marks is beginning to appear much more complex than originally thought."



Fig. 1. The Aravalis mountain range and Delhi region in northern India where previously unrecorded rock art petroglyphs have been discovered.



Note from PCN editor David Campbell: In our prior issue, Raghubir Singh Thakur described his discoveries of 45 locations in northern India containing over 100 ancient petroglyph sites. After documenting and encouraging preservation of the sites, Thakur and his colleagues met to consider various interpretations of the petroglyphs including their possible practical, artistic, cultural and social meaning. In this

installment, Thakur goes into some of the detail on that important stage of the research.

In Part 1 of this series (PCN #39, Jan-Feb 2016), I gave an introduction to my work and the new discoveries of ancient petroglyphic rock art in the vicinity of Delhi, India (**Fig. 1**). It represents evidence suggesting that people were living in India far earlier and more extensively than the modern science community has prior believed.

At the end of the article I provided an outline list describing the various categories of cup-marks which I discovered and catalogued over three years time. Here, I will describe two of the brainstorming sessions concerning their possible meanings and introduce some of the other researchers involved. I will also provide several more examples of the cup-marks and related petroglyphs including some of the more dramatic ones.

Probable explanations

We, in a joint session of rock art experts met for over two hours with Dr. Gyani L Badam, paleontologist and Quaternary geologist (**Fig. 2**), Dr. ML Sharma, Dr. Ramesh

K Pancholi, Dr. VH Sonawane, and Dr. Narayan Vyas to discuss the utilitarian importance of the cup-marks.

Several interpretations were exchanged and given consideration including those explicitly examined as a self-assigned issue during the mid-1990s and assumptions long held for years. The arguments emphasized cultural practices or the aesthetics of human activities prior to the origin and development of symbols and motifs respectively. The interpretation of functional utility increasingly evolved into one of joint activities for safer movements that necessitated the creation of cup-marks and performing activities, what we define as 'Rock Art.' Finally,

what we considered plausible emerged from this challenging mental exercise as the following list:

1. A kind of calendar. Possibility – Yes.
2. Count of rituals/burials. Possibility – Yes.
3. Some sort of games. Possibility – Likely.
4. Count of newborn babies

(demographics). Possibility – Yes.

5. Drum beaters' marks. Possibility – Yes.



Fig. 2. Top: Detail of cup-marks in association with complex geometric patterns from a large rock face west of the road to Convocation Hall (Delhi University) that is rich with petroglyphs. **Bottom:** Wider view showing engravings stretching across the whole rock face. The gentleman pictured here is leading paleontologist and Quaternary geologist Dr. Gyani Lal Badam. Dr. Badam has studied fossil sites throughout India and established the Paleontology Department at renowned Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute, in Pune. He is presently working with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts to establish connections between the natural and social sciences.

6. Some places counting of big hunts. Possibility – Yes.

7. Count of select plantations done. Possibility – Yes.

8. Their select settlement patterns. Possibility – Yes.

9. Spiritual purposes. Possibility – Yes.

10. Many of them important meeting places. Possibility – Yes.

> [Cont. on page 5](#)

Petroglyphs in northern India (cont.)

"In addition to ancient bone engravings in

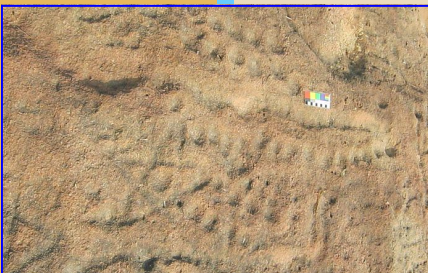


Fig. 4. Here is the rare star figure (one of only two) which I discovered and featured in [Part 1](#) shown in its larger context. It clearly suggests an association between the star and the cup-marks. Notice also the triangular figure in the lower left corner which is echoed in the star. Cup-marks in India date as far back as 270,000 years e.g., Bhimbetka with several dates given, and possibly 700,000 years (i.e. Acheulian age). In addition to ancient bone engravings in Europe as far back as c. 400,000 to 1.4 million years, cup-marks in India are the oldest known rock art in the world. This locality in Delhi region consists of about 22 sites with over 2000 cup-marks, geometric patterns, and symbols. (**Eds. Note:** The Bhimbetka glyph was featured in two prior *PCN* articles; one by founding member, James B. Harrod, Ph.D; and the other by artist and linguistic theorist, Michael Winkler, *Ancient Art and Modern Language*, *PCN* #5, May-June 2010).

Europe as far back as c. 400,000 to 1.4 million years, cup-marks in In-



Fig. 5. Another complex-engraving. This is the only example of this type noticed so far in the explored area of the Delhi-Aravallis system.

dia are the oldest known rock art in the world. "

11. If count is near 100 or more, of community gathering. Possibility – Yes.

12. Made to explain a group's systematic movement before abandoning a settlement site. (e.g., meetings to plan ahead). Possibility – Yes

13. May have been astrophysical representations. Possibility – Yes. (See for instance, **Fig. 4**—the 5-pointed star from *Part 1*—shown here in part of its wider context. Some of these were actually ascertained after subsequent meetings at Delhi and Chhattisgarh at a rock art site known as Siroli Dongari [Chhattisgarh], where the author had then discovered about 30 cup-marks [Thakur and Bajpai 2009].)

In addition to the above, later pondering guided us to add the following to the list of possibilities:

1. May have numerical-occult meaning. Possibility – Yes.
2. Their select patterns lead to architectural planning. Possibility – Yes.
3. Courses of migratory movements. Possibility – Yes.

Alternative explanations

Some of the petroglyphs observed here are rarely reported from elsewhere or have been observed but not

considered of any importance. Also, it is very likely that these rare kinds (see **Figs. 5–7**, for instance) are not noticed where they do exist or are not exposed. Likewise similar representations may have been reported already but we are not aware of them if any have.

Some of those considered and noticed as rare finds are arrow-like markings, pitted markings forming stars (two only, again, see Fig. 4), cup-marks said to be small and larger ones linked together with grooves or furrows that suggest the planning of larger and smaller settlements and linkages managed or arranged. Some of the cup-marks in strange formations and those in dispersed patterns could represent the universe. In certain instances it appears they are scattered in some strange shapes, either representing heavenly bodies in constellations or galaxies and planets. Astonishingly, there seems to be a similarity to some extant with what is expressed by Odak Osaka (1992) in his essay titled, *Cup-Marks Patterns as an Interpretation Strategy in some Southern Kenyan Petroglyphs*.

Discussion

The very connotation used, 'Old World', in itself is indicative of a living world, though in the past of what we are aware of today. This is one world of animals that includes man, which is not free of intentional creations and generated artifacts. Here the effort is to comprehend the creations of early man and learn about their ways of life. Thus, the intentional creations known as petroglyphs need to be analyzed, particularly the cup-marks,

which continue to be mysterious. How and why were they created and what were their purposes? As noted above, reasonable answers to some of these have been put forth and quite a few are commonly accepted as most probable. All that has been assimilated from the available material within reach and in written form shall be presented to the best of our understanding.

Paleolithic art, ancient art, is popularly called rock-art. It has usually been classified in two groups. One involving colored substances (painted work or rock-paintings) and the other involving engravings, *bas relief* carving, and pecked patina color contrast imagery, which is older and likely created during pre-pigment times. It is therefore certain that petroglyphs were one of the earliest forms of rock art. They have been in continuous presence since early

Paleolithic times through to pre-Mesolithic times. Signatures of early man in the form of petroglyphs are one of the most authentic and direct evidence of human artistic activity found everywhere in the world. As it so appears, or is at least assumed, India stands distinct in concentrations and diversity of rock-art. Scientific studies in the chronology, ecology, and site specific environmental surroundings using multidisciplinary approaches have been initiated with great interest in respect to the rock-paintings and petroglyph inheritances that have emerged in India.

In recent years attempts are being made to obtain absolute dates for the petroglyphs under the Early Indian Petroglyphs

> [Cont. on page 6](#)



Fig. 6. Geometric square motif found near a big pit-like area perhaps indicating utility of the pit or from which side to trap an animal. It is in the JNU Complex (Jawaharlal Nehru University).

Petroglyphs in northern India (cont.)

"From this perspective Egenter stated:



Fig. 7. Clear human depiction. This petroglyph was created on the same rock surface richest with petroglyphs in Delhi which is within the JNU Complex (Jawaharlal Nehru University). It is the same site as the square shape or possible animal trap is from in Fig. 6. IFRAO placard is 10cm long.

'Where the first man is now considered to have originated, in primatology. ..the original built-hut actually existed... the first master builder too.'"

Project (Kumar *et. al.* 2005). As stated therein: "Other purposes of this multi-faceted research project are to provide new data for the chronology of the Middle and Late Pleistocene hominin history of India; to introduce scientific methods of rock art

dating in this country; and to investigate its Lower Palaeolithic stone tool industries." In addition to multidisciplinary study and research much stress has been placed upon conservation and site management. If the mystery around cup-marks is given the right approach our goal to understand petroglyphs and rock-art may be realized (Thakur 2009). In this way, our

approaches during discussions and workshops as well as in the writing of essays, agree to what was proposed by Egenter (1992). Besides the standard anthropological approach to reconstructing the human past we cannot ignore an architectural approach either. From this perspective Egenter stated: "Where the first man is now considered to have originated, in primatology. ..the original built-hut actually existed... the first master builder too (*ibid.* p. 133)." Therefore, anthropology cannot stand alone; architectural theory needs to be given special focus where a site-specific context is known. The creation of shelters says quite a bit. It needs to be taken into serious account when discussing the nature of humans in the past and their endeavors or capabilities in general. Similarly, Consens (1995) has communicated about various

ideologies in current research. He discusses how researchers can achieve better explanations for cultural complexities such as social structures as well as how to approach such as symbolism. Learning how activities of the past might be represented within rock art is also important to help create more accurate interpretations.

To resolve this mystery an understanding of aesthetics and other traits of these markings is required. The whole arena of cup-marks is beginning to appear much more complex than originally thought; and so, it is necessary to find a systematic approach in attempting to interpret them. The same is true, of course, for other petroglyphic styles as well. The scope of the newly-discovered rock art sites is being added to an already extremely wide range already explored for over a century. Understanding rock art really does demand a multidisciplinary approach.

In conclusion, rock art study presents an ideal meeting ground for specialists from prehistoric archaeology, anthropology, paleontology, eco-geology and geography, eco-environmental, and social sciences as well as those with wider less-specialized approaches. We need to bring our knowledge and ideas together in multidisciplinary fashion as many insights can be gained this way. We also want to encourage that most localities have been explored and frequented, topographically, in the areas dotted with rocky outcrops of Delhi-Aravallis-System as well as protected. There is a great deal to explore within the field of early man sites in India including around the particular region explored in this series which, during the British regime, was under the jurisdiction of Imperial Delhi.

In the next installments of this series, I will discuss the menhirs or standing stones

and what appear to be stone tools discovered at several of the petroglyph sites.

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CAPT. RAGHUBIR S. THAKUR, MA (History), is an Ex-Army Officer (Gazetted) with his last role as Consultant for Security and Land Management for the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Govt. of India. His responsibilities included protecting National Government-listed 'Heritage properties' including World Heritage monuments. The Security Cell was formulated and created by Thakur's persuasion of every Director General of the ASI for over 19 years. Over the years, Thakur has gained a broad firsthand knowledge of rock art sites in the region around Delhi independently carrying out explorations to document prehistoric sites. He is the first to discover and document rock art in Delhi. Thakur has participated in 10 international archaeological and environmental conferences (1990-2012) presenting papers in India, Sweden, and Japan. He was Organizing Secretary of the *Asian Conference on Air Pollution*, Jaipur-Rajasthan, 1999. Thakur's most recent presentation was at the Joint Annual Conferences of the IAS, ISPQS, and IHCS, Hyderabad, December 2015. Among others, Thakur is associated with the discovery of an Upper Paleolithic site near Ellora Caves (1992), megalithic menhirs in Western Rajasthan (1997), cup-marks in Siroli Dongari, Chhattisgarh (2007), and nearly a hundred cup-mark and other petroglyph sites within the ancient Delhi-Aravallis mountain range (2013-2015).

Member news and other info

"It is already clear that genetic differences

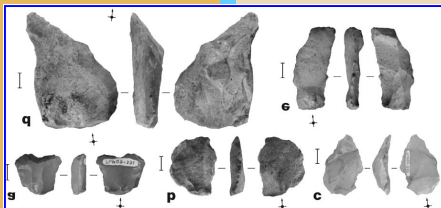


Fig. 1. Detail; c. 100–200,000-year old artifacts from Talepu, Sulawesi, south Pacific manufactured by some "unknown hominin." Nothing out of the ordinary here. Like at many other so-called "hominin" sites we discover *well-manufactured and recognizable* stone tools that could be dropped into collections from other parts of the world and not one professional would know the difference. Stone tools may represent various stages of "cultural" evolution but certainly not any kind of "biological" stage of the people who made them.

have absolutely nothing to do with whether or not various human populations can interbreed and produce viable offspring with genes passed down through thousands of generations."

More evidence that so-called "hominins" (ignoring the trick apes recently included) are all the same species

Kevin Callaghan of Birmingham, MI, sent us the following update on new "hominins" in

the south-west Pacific, as recently 'peer review' published (van den Bergh, *et. al.* 2016.

"Earliest hominin occupation of Sulawesi, Indonesia. *Nature*

529: 208–11). Here are excerpts from the abstract followed by a critique of the standard context in which the discoveries have been placed:

"Sulawesi is the largest and oldest island within Wallacea, a vast zone of oceanic islands separating continental Asia from the Pleistocene landmass of Australia and Papua (Sahul). By one million years ago an unknown hominin lineage had colonized Flores immediately to the south, and by about 50 thousand years ago, modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) had crossed to Sahul. ... humans were living on the island at least 40 thousand years ago [based on rock art paintings discovered in the Maros region]. Here we report new excavations at Talepu in the Walanae Basin northeast of Maros, where *in situ* stone artefacts ... have been recovered from stratified deposits that accumulated from before 200 thousand years ago until about

100 thousand years ago. Our findings suggest that Sulawesi, like Flores, was host to a long-established population of archaic hominins, the ancestral origins and taxonomic status of which remain elusive."

Our thanks to Kevin for sending this. It serves as an excellent reminder that words such as "hominid" and "hominin" are rhetorical devices used in anthropology to 'evolutionize' even evidence that obviously points to the normal human mind at work. 'Hominin' is a red herring taxonomic ruse in a never-ending chain of such ruses that draws attention away from the most important point—i.e. similarity in cultural traits such as art and stone tool making—and diverts attention instead to the outward physical appearances of human groups. The ruse is so interwoven into anthropological jargon that few are aware of it. In other words, everyone is taught to see evidence through pre-colored glasses.

Each term is easily discredited and, in fact, each already has been discredited many times over even by mainstream experts themselves. Yet these trick terms continue to be used.

The reason the focus is not placed on similarities of the cultural products is that acknowledging their sameness (see **Fig. 1**) goes straight against the whole mythology that they represent various "stages" of evolution. The evidence as so far provided in 40 issues of *Pleistocene Coalition News* demonstrates that cultural products do not re-

flect biological stages. They may reflect "cultural" evolution but not "biological" evolution. A true scientific approach would not ignore the clear

message sent by repeatedly observed commonalities of tool production, bone engravings, rock art, etc.—which prove a common mindset—to focus instead on the physical appearances of the groups of people involved.

It also needs to be remembered that physical appearance extends to genetics as well. Genetics is just physical appearance at the microscopic level. It is already clear that genetic differences have absolutely nothing to do with whether or not various human populations can

interbreed and produce viable offspring with genes passed down through thousands of generations. This is not to mention that identical cultural items are produced by those with different genes. Why do we then persist in calling modern *Homo sapiens*, Neanderthals, Denisovans, *Homo erectus*—ad infinitum—different species? -jf

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Direct links to recent articles
PCN #39, January-February 2015:

[Valsequillo story 50th Anniversary special links feature](#)

[Petroglyphic rock art in Delhi, India](#)

[Member news and other info](#)

[How three countries are treating their early man sites](#)

[Reviving the Calico of Louis Leakey, Pt3: Audio clips](#)

[Marija Gimbutas: 1921-1994](#)

[Lithic site at West Runton, Norfolk](#)

[Pleistocene underground, Part 2](#)

Member news and other info (cont.)



"According to COMETS (CNRS Ethics Committee), current publications allow access to 10% of all produced scientific data!"



Library Reading Room of the Linnean Society



Dr. Louis Leakey

"You'll be amazed when I tell you that I'm sure that they exist. I have talked to so many Native Americans who have all described the same sounds, two who have seen them."

—Jane Goodall, the world's leading primatologist and foremost expert on chimpanzees, on NPR's *Science Friday*, Sept. 27, 2002, regarding her beliefs about Bigfoot.

What do you do when the world's leading primatologist and foremost expert on chimpanzees expresses that she is *convinced* that Big Foot exists? Or, similarly, when one of the world's leading evolutionary paleontologists, the late Stephen Jay Gould, becomes known for revealing that the field is lacking transitional forms, so much so that mainstreamers get upset and accuse you of "quote mining" if you quote him? Or what if the head of the Human Genome Project—a project considered by many to be the end-all proof of evolution—Dr. Francis Collins, actually believes in God? I am curious to know what gives someone such as Jane Goodall an open mind on a topic that most in the science community just respond to in a knee-jerk fashion.

Despite what most may assume, views like these are common among scientists. Yet most scientists do not have the confidence to discuss controversial topics openly for fear of ridicule by peers or the press or for fear of losing a "science" job. Well, I have discovered something interesting. There are a lot of Big Foot stories out there. Out of curiosity, I wrote to several scientific colleagues, stuck my neck out, and asked if they had a Big Foot story. Three (all in western states) wrote back with their own stories. So, to a larger question, I wonder how many scientists, such as Jane Goodall, may believe something other than what is accepted in their fields but reluc-

tant to mention it. Part of my Hueyatlatco experience (in addition to the overview I gave last issue, [PCN #39, Jan-Feb 2016](#), and our USGS professional team's dating of the site to c. 250,000 years) relates to this kind of mainstream steering. It involved a young colleague who took the opposite path than I had in sticking with the facts regarding Hueyatlatco. He knew that sticking with the facts would make it difficult for him to get a major university job. So, he chose to deny the facts. He got the job. I related this experience in Bill Cote's film, *The Mysterious Origins of Man, Part 2*. Even though I was a trained volcanic ash specialist I could not get a job in my field once I decided to stick with our USGS dates—even though they were also confirmed by a geologist from NASA—and, as I related in the film, I wound up doing flowers instead! That's the kind of control the mainstream science community can have when it gets stuck on something. —VSM

In response to our Jan-Feb Issue's "Mainstream quote of the day" a U-M reader relayed an announcement from a new journal dedicated to a similar topic. First, here is the quotation from *PCN #39*:

"Peer review... isn't very good at identifying paradigm-shifting work. Put another way, peer review rewards mediocrity at the expense of breakthroughs."

—Ivan Oransky, MD, *Retraction Watch*, December 22, 2014

Retraction Watch was launched in August 2010 about a year after *PCN*. Ivan Oransky founded it to bring attention to all the mainstream papers the public didn't know were 'retracted' even though they had breezed straight through 'peer review' to publication in the world's leading science journals including *Science* and *Nature*. Retraction Watch also covers

related practices employed by the mainstream. In *PCN*, we discuss the effects of these practices such as when the science community blocks conflicting evidence from the public. The new journal addresses this problem head on:

"Dear U-M community members, I am pleased to announce the launch of *Data Journal*, the first peer-reviewed open access journal dedicated to the publication of negative, null and inconclusive (NNI) results covering any scientific discipline.

According to COMETS (CNRS Ethics Committee), current publications allow access to 10% of all produced scientific data! ...valuable and important results are unpublished, underexploited or lost, and this is particularly true for negative results that can be completely forgotten. Any result is important for the assessment, improvement or completion of the specific and global knowledge and the stimulation of scientific reflection."

Richard Dullum just sent some good news regarding co-researcher and *PCN* writer Kevin Lynch. Turns out Kevin was invited and accepted as a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London. Kevin, who has a specialty in the research and life of influential British amateur archaeologist, James Reid Moir—a Fellow of the Society during the early 1900s—had updated them on renewed interest in Moir's work. The Society includes such present day luminaries as Sir David Attenborough.

Note for those unable to play the audio in last issue's [Reviving the Calico of Louis Leakey, Part. 3: Audio clips](#): Some computers may not play PDF audio while online. Simply download the PDF to your computer and the Leakey audio clips should play back.

The controversial legacy of Arthur Posnansky, the half-forgotten pioneer of Andean archaeology

Part 1

By David Truman, ancient civilization researcher



"His dating of Tiwanaku's Kalasasaya Temple at 15,000 BC became a hotbed of controversy. ... because it simply did not fit with the story they had begun to tell about the relatively recent development of civic society in South America."

Arthur Posnansky (1873–1946) enjoys a rather ambiguous status in contemporary Bolivian society. On the one hand, he is hailed as the father of the South American nation's archaeology. On the other, many of his findings are ignored and his theories dismissed to the point where most of the evidence he uncovered is excluded from archaeological syllabuses. There are cultural reasons for this curious ambiguity. Although Posnansky (**Fig. 1**) was born in Austria, he spent most of his life in Bolivia studying the remains of the great Andean metropolis of Tiwanaku or Tiahuanaco (**Fig. 2**). For this reason, he is almost universally held in high esteem by present-day Bolivians. The implications of what he found, however—after over fifty years of excavations and analysis—do not sit easily with the current archaeological consensus concerning Andean pre-history.

Tiwanaku's megalithic ruins lie at some two and a half miles (4 kilometers) above sea level on the mountain plateau called the *altiplano*, which is nestled between the high peaks and ridges of the Andean *Cordilleras* on either side. The *altiplano*'s harsh and forbidding landscape, coupled with an atmosphere deprived of oxygen, seemingly defy any logic for constructing a city in this location. Posnansky was amongst the first to discover that Tiwanaku was far more extensive than the ruins visible to the public today would suggest. He found that parts of

the great City lay submerged beneath the waters of Lake Titikaka, situated some fifteen miles (24 kilometers) to the north-west of the current archaeological site. His findings on the extent and significance of this vast Metropolis were vindicated in the 1980s when an aerial survey estimated that the ruins of the complex—not beneath the waters of the Lake—covered some 1,038 acres, or 420 hectares.¹

Even today, only a very small part of this vast complex has been excavated.

Had Posnansky's work confined itself to the evidence quoted above, he may indeed today be mentioned in the same breath alongside some of the other great pioneers of early 20th century archaeology. That he is not revered in this manner can largely be attributed to his conclusion that Tiwanaku had risen to prominence as a sophisticated culture at an extremely early date. His dating of Tiwanaku's Kalasasaya Temple at 15,000 BC became a hotbed of controversy. It raised consternation amongst certain influential members of the archaeological community in his own day because it

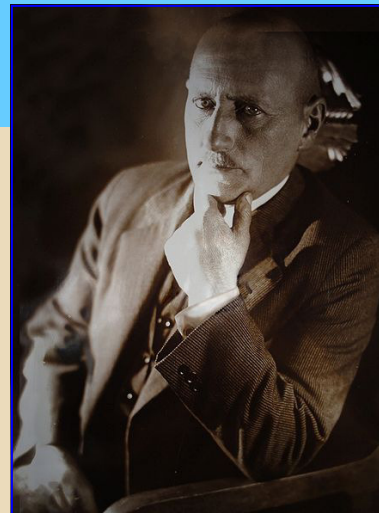


Fig. 1. Arthur Posnansky, considered by many to be the Father of Bolivian archaeology; Wikimedia Commons.

simply did not fit with the story they had begun to tell about the relatively recent development of civic society in South America. For Posnansky, however, the early date he ascribed to the Tiwanaku culture was the centerpiece of his life's work. This was encapsulated in the title of his most famous and comprehensive book, *Tiahuanacu: The Cradle of American Man* (Vols. 1-2, 1945; Vols. 3-4 were published in 1957). He became convinced he had discovered a wealth of physical evidence to support his bold assertion, but he also studied and respected the mythology and

> [Cont. on page 10](#)

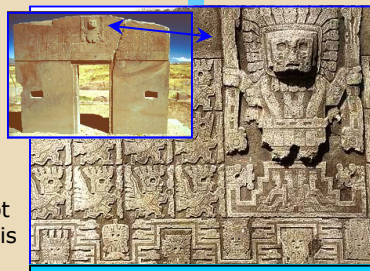


Fig. 2. Elaborate decorations on the eastern side of the famous "Gate of the Sun," one of the features for which Tiwanaku, Bolivia, is best known. Posnansky—who dated the site to 15,000 BC—studied Tiwanaku for most of his life amounting to about 50 years; Images, Wikimedia Commons.

Controversial Legacy of Arthur Posnansky (cont.)

"Can we really be confident that the temperatures of the altiplano have been modeled to reflect accurately the actual changes in temperature over time, in order to yield valid dates?"

oral traditions of the Andean peoples. Although these exist in many different versions Andean lore is consistent on one point, namely, that the *altiplano* and Lake Titikaka are where civilization began.

In the event, those who disputed Posnansky's early dating of the Kalasasaya Temple (Figs. 3–4) won out, at least as far as the academic consensus was concerned. Pick up any textbook on Andean, or Pre-Columbian history today and you will read that the Tiwanaku culture flourished some time after 1,500 BC² until around 500 AD. In the years since Posnansky's death in 1946, archaeologists have drawn almost exclusively on two methodologies in order to reach these conclusions: radio carbon 14 dating and obsidian hydration dating. Neither of these techniques was available to Posnansky and his early date for the Kalasasaya was based on astronomical observations. In addition, he believed that he had found much to corroborate the 15,000 BC date in geological evidence gathered from the numerous physical excavations he had undertaken. Most of these aspects of Posnansky's work are simply ignored today because they raise awkward questions about the relative value of different kinds of evidence, especially if some reveal results that are at odds with the prevailing paradigm.

The acute climate, extreme altitude and particular geology

of this part of the Andes can combine to provide conditions under which the reliability of C14 and obsidian hydration

water is affected by the surrounding temperature; the higher the temperature the faster it absorbs water. Can

we really be confident that the temperatures of the *altiplano* have been modeled to reflect accurately the *actual* changes in temperature over time, in order to yield valid dates? At the very least, sudden and catastrophic environmental changes would render this task something of a challenge—that is if they have been included in the modeling at all.

The Younger Dryas: geology versus archaeology

In fact, geological studies conducted on the *altiplano* in the 1980s are far closer to Posnansky's dating than the archaeological consensus, indicating a human presence of around eleven thousand years.³ Human occupation there followed the initial shrinking of a great lake called Tauca which was formed at the end of the transition from the Pleistocene to the present Holocene era. These early occupants were hunter-gatherers, by which it is often inferred that they were

the "primitive" predecessors of the people who built Tiwanaku. We have, however, no hard evidence of this. Their hunting and gathering lifestyle may equally have resulted from the aftermath of catastrophe as much as any innate "primal" qualities they may have had.

Contrary to what was once thought to have been a

> [Cont. on page 11](#)



Fig. 3. Kalasasaya Temple, original excavations; Tiwanaku, Bolivia. Wikimedia Commons.



Fig. 4. Kalasasaya Temple, new wall reconstructions; Tiwanaku, Bolivia. Wikimedia Commons.

dating is pushed to its limits. This is especially so if there have been dramatic changes in any or all of those conditions; a factor that has not generally been acknowledged by those who rely exclusively on these dating methods. For example, the amount of water absorbed by a piece of obsidian is measured in order to date the object—usually a blade of some sort. The rate at which the obsidian absorbs

Controversial Legacy of Arthur Posnansky (cont.)

"Geological studies conducted on the altiplano in the 1980s are far closer to Posnansky's dating than the archaeological consensus, indicating a human presence of around eleven thousand years."

gradual melting of glaciers marking the slow and steady change to our modern climatic era, the end of the last Ice Age was a violent affair that included rapid and extreme fluctuations in temperature. The end of the Pleistocene culminated in a sudden and extreme cold snap that geologists have named the Younger Dryas. Perhaps in as little as a few days, temperatures suddenly plunged back into the bitterest cold once again in an almost instantaneous big freeze, before an equally sudden warming took place, some 1,400 or so years later. There is now a growing body of very tangible geological evidence that this rapid cooling was the result of a series of objects from outer space colliding with the surface of the Earth around 12,800 years ago. The collisions were probably with fragments of a very large comet or meteorite producing "multiple outbursts" which cannot be explained by means of "any known terrestrial mechanism."⁴

Posnansky's own geological studies indicated that there had been two principal periods of flooding on the *altiplano*. One was largely of salt water, whilst the other had consisted of fresh.⁵ He concluded that the source of the salt water had been the Pacific, whereas the fresh water had originated from melting glaciers. His study of numerous Andean water samples convinced him that sea water had become trapped on the *altiplano* when the mountain range had risen rapidly during the Pleistocene. Posnansky was not, of course, aware of more recent evidence indicating a sequence of catastrophic changes that had engendered something called the Younger Dryas.

Although Posnansky knew nothing of such violent transitions, his careful observations of Andean geology led him to conclude that the Andes had risen to their present altitude during the Pleistocene era.⁶ His views were remarkably prescient of some geologists later in the 20th century who considered the Andes to have formed rapidly and violently during the late Pleistocene.⁷ This era, as we have just seen, coincides with when the earth may have suffered the kind of extraterrestrial impact that seems to have initiated the Younger Dryas.

Excavations in Pleistocene strata

Posnansky's most intriguing findings were from the excavations he made on the *altiplano* at Tiwanaku and on the shores of present-day Lake Titikaka. Although he was an engineer by profession, he was one of the first to have excavated Tiwanaku systematically. Indeed, he makes several references in *Tiwanaku, Cradle of American Man*, to how previous excavators and treasure hunters had destroyed so much valuable evidence. In the *altiplano*'s alluvial mud, Posnansky discovered, mixed up with human bones, the remains of species of fish and aquatic fauna that are still living today in Titikaka's waters. This he took to be definitive proof that Tiwanaku had been flooded at least once in its long history.

In the next installment, I will cover the additional details regarding Posnansky's Pleistocene excavations at Tiwanaku as well as potentially-related relief carvings at the site. I will also detail Posnansky's as-

tronomical dating and discuss the value and limitations of other dating methods.

Endnotes

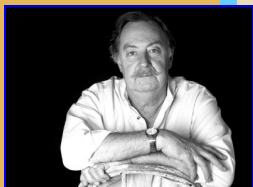
- 1 Buero Rojo, H, *et al.* 1987. *El Imperio del Sol: Titicaca, El Lago Sagrado de los Incas, Tiwanaku, Cusco, Machupicchu*, Editorial Hispania, La Paz. Pp. 100-1.
- 2 *Ibid*, p.101.
- 3 *Ibid*, p.87.
4. Israde-Alcantara, I, JL Bischoff, G Dominguez-Vazquez, *et al.* 2012. Evidence from central Mexico supporting the Younger Dryas extraterrestrial impact hypothesis. *PNAS* 109 (13): 1. [Eds. Note: See [Bischoff PCN #13](#), Sept-Oct 2011 supporting also the older dates from Calico Early Man Site in California.]
5. Posnansky, A. 1945. *Tiwanaku, La Cuna del Hombre Americano*. Augustin, Publ, New York and Minister of Education, La Paz, Bolivia, p23, Archivo y Biblioteca Nacionales de Bolivia.
6. *Ibid*, p17.
7. Allan, DS, *et. al.* 1995. *When the Earth Nearly Died: Compelling Evidence of a Catastrophic World Change 9,500 B.C.* Gateway Books, Bath, England p30, citing the work of Zeil 1979.

DAVE TRUMAN is a writer, researcher and world traveler with a special interest in ancient civilizations. He has worked as a lecturer and civil servant. Presently, he divides his time between South America and the Wirral Peninsula in England. In addition to research, traveling extensively in South America has given him an in-depth perspective of the past and present of the sub-continent. Truman has also written articles for such as Graham Hancock's page and has appeared as a guest on several radio programs including Sweden's Red Ice Radio.

The repeatability factor of Moir's discoveries

By Richard Dullum and Kevin Lynch

"Here's the clincher:



the report concluded that man capable of making and using tools existed in what was then called the Pliocene, approximately 2.5–5.0 million years ago."

Kevin Lynch has amassed a large collection of implements just quite recently from the North Sea coast of Norfolk, U.K., by following in James Reid Moir's footsteps (e.g., **Fig. 1**). Reid Moir documented the steps he took in his studies of the region finding the ancient Cromerian strata and finding artifacts within it of certain human manufacture.

The number and quality of Happisburgh, West Runton, Cromer, Ipswich and Darmsden Pit implements Kevin has found while tracing Moir's steps—not to mention the Ipswich skeleton and the Ipswich Museum's basement collection each of which have been featured in our articles previously, plus Moir's many articles and books on his discoveries—are without a doubt worthy of serious scientific investigation. Many would ask why this has not been done before? Why has mainstream paleo-anthropology not looked into the discoveries of J.R. Moir?

Actually, the mainstream did look into the worthiness of Moir's discoveries in the early 1920's by way of an International Commission, composed of prehistorians from England, France, and the U.S. They visited the sites and even excavated flints there for themselves on the spot. Members had close contact with the stratigraphy of each site, saw the artifacts they contained, including remains of hearths. They handled the implements personally and exam-

ined specimens for signs of human workmanship. Their

for tens of millions of years, 200–400 feet thick latite caps



Fig. 1. A dark black unifacial flint handaxe featuring edge wear and retouch. Note the parallel flake removal on the working edge. On the butt end a striking platform can be seen. Discovered near Happisburgh, Norfolk, U.K., the handaxe was fashioned from the same type flint as nearby Cromerian deposits excavated by other researchers. It was found in one of the many chalk basins in the region exposed by the North Sea. Photos: Kevin Lynch.

conclusion was that many of them did indeed clearly demonstrate human work.

Here's the clincher: the report concluded that man capable of making and using tools existed in what was then called the Pliocene, approximately 2.5–5.0 million years ago.

Earlier; on the European continent in Portugal and shortly thereafter in Greece, France, and Belgium; researchers were finding humanly-worked flint and bone implements from known Miocene-age formations (c. 10–12 million years old) and known Eocene-age formations (c. 55–65 millions years old). Researchers in Italy found modern human skeletons in the middle of a known Pliocene-age formation, dating to at least 3–4 million years old. These reports came from trained professionals in geology, paleontology, prehistory, anatomy, and stratigraphy.

In the U.S., the California gold rush of 1849 put numerous tunnels into many Sierra formations that had been covered by volcanic outflows

on top of table mountains that lie in Tuolumne county California. Miners reported finding human remains, as well as stone tools and implements such as mortars and pestles in the gold-bearing gravel that lay next to the bedrock. The age of the gold-bearing gravel is 33–55 million years old. Reported by J.D. Whitney, the state geologist for California, in his book, "The Auriferous gravels of the Sierra Nevada," published by Harvard University, his reply from the establishment at the time was basically that his facts were impossible, given the assumed reality of evolution, and they should be rejected *a priori*. Many of Whitney's artifacts still exist in a box in a University of California, Berkeley, storehouse. The type of artifacts found are those typically found at fully human archaeological sites of the Neolithic Era c. 12,000–5,000 years old. Small wonder this collection never goes on display.

As is reported in *Forbidden Archeology* the period of time

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Repeatability factor of Moir's discoveries (cont.)

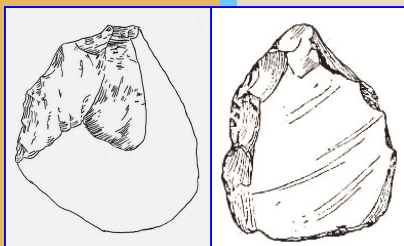


Fig. 2. Left: Tool from Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania, on the African continent (Wikimedia Commons). **Right:** Sample tool recovered by James Reid Moir from the c. 2 million-year old Red Crag Formation in England as published by Moir (*The antiquity of man in East Anglia*, Cambridge University, 1927).

"These reports came from trained professionals in geology, paleontology, prehistory, anatomy and stratigraphy."

from 1850–1930 was formative for modern paleo-anthropology in that Darwinian evolutionary theory had stated—through some of its most notable supporters like Swiss professor of embryology, Ernst Haeckel—that man's forebears were likeliest to be found in warm, jungle climates, such as in tropical Asia and Africa: "That is where they are to be found."

With the discovery of Java Man by Eugene Dubois in 1899, Peking Man in 1921 by Davidson Black, and *Australopithecus africanus* in 1924 by Raymond Dart, the 20-year interregnum that was WWII, Africa was to demand the entire attention of prehistorians as it does to the present day as the most likely point of genesis of modern man.

The stone tools found associated with some of these remains appeared to get more sophisticated as time wore on: we were told of the evolution of tools along with the physical evolution of man himself.

The problem with this outlook is that you have to ignore, forget, or otherwise dismiss half of the work done by professional scientists both during that earlier time frame from 1850–1930 and to this very day. One would also have to ignore the fact that modern primitive societies use the crudest to the most sophisticated of stone tools, depending on their tool needs. Extinct Tasman stone tools exactly match tools found in Belgium by A. Rutot from the Oligocene age 33–

55 million years ago. Choctaw split pebble tools from Alabama in the U.S. resemble exactly those found in Bed 1 of Olduvai Gorge; yet we know that the Choctaws were totally modern humans, not *Homo erectus*. For all anyone knows, the split pebble tools found at Olduvai Level 1, might have been used by those who preyed on *Homo erectus*, maybe ate them. Signs of "cannibalism" were found on Peking Man bones in China dating as far back as c. 500,000 years. See **Fig. 2** for a comparison of an Oldowan-age tool from Olduvai Gorge and a tool from the Red Crag formation at Foxhall, England discovered by Reid Moir

As I've written before, the cases in *Forbidden Archeology* and especially the work of J.R. Moir prompted me to look into these discoveries more closely. Fortuitously, my colleague, Kevin Lynch—veritable scholar and archivist of Moir and archaeologist in his own right—lives in the very epicenter of Moir's world of East Anglia including Ipswich itself. Living near Moir's sites, Kevin has been able to visit them regularly and has observed that some of these sites such as Darmsden Pit lie untouched since Moir's day and are still capable of being excavated.

We have shown by Kevin's astute and informed analysis of Moir's old directions in his original papers that these sites—even obscure ones like Darmsden which is not mentioned in *Forbidden Archeology*—can be found and re-explored and still yield artifacts just like those in the Ipswich Museum basement.

We feel that finding what Moir found, where he found it, in other words, repeatability, is a valid test of an archaeological site. It is a strong indication that Moir was on the right track and this should encourage future excavation

there and reassessments of Moir's claims. It should also lead to re-excavation of other sites, such as Foxhall, Thorington Hall and West Runton, Darmsden, and Ipswich, looking into the deeper layers such as the Red Crag and into the bone beds beneath.

Although the idea is avoided by the mainstream, the fact is that fully modern humans *could* have been in Britain around a million years ago. They left their modern human footprints in the mud at Happisburgh, Norfolk, U.K. It turns out that a fully modern human hand bone was found in deposits dated securely to 1.47 million years old in Southern Africa suggesting plenty of time to get to England. And there are footprints in Olduvai, indistinguishable from modern feet that date to 3–4 million years old. Those in Happisburgh Cromerian mud date 1.0–1.75 million years.

RICHARD DULLUM is a surgical R.N. working in a large O.R. for the past 30 years as well as a researcher in early human culture. He is also a Vietnam vet with a degree in biology. In addition to his work with Lynch, he has written seven prior articles for *PCN*.

KEVIN LYNCH is a retired British businessman, an amateur archaeologist, archivist and member of the Prehistoric Society of Britain. An avid collector of flints from his local countryside and beaches, he and his wife live in Hadleigh, Suffolk, UK. Lynch's specialty is British archaeology of the late 19th and early 20th centuries concentrating on the life and works of J. Reid-Moir. He and Richard Dullum have blended their interests in prehistory over the past several years to write informative articles related to the hey-day of British archaeology at the turn of the 20th Century.

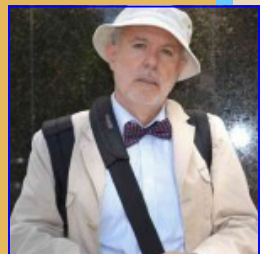
All of Dullum and Lynch's articles about Classic British Archaeology and related topics in *PCN* can be found at the following link:

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#Dullum_and_Lynch

Experiencing a prehistoric ritual

By Dragos Gheorghiu, Experimental archaeologist, professor, and land-artist

"The experientiality of this perform-



ance of binding and unbinding the stone had a deep influ-



Fig. 2. The author wrapping one of the large standing stones inside the Neolithic chambered tomb Barclodiyad Y Gawres, Anglesey Island, Wales as part of the GestART project coordinated by Dr. George Nash. Photo: George Nash.

ence on me also because of the mystery of the context."

In my experimental work I use art to reveal "invisible" aspects from the archaeological record, like "space," "ritual," or even ancient mental processes, which are not noticeable in the archaeological record.

Because of its metaphorical value art allows the utilization of an analogous language (i.e. poetic) that can help to express visually certain concepts that cannot be expressed in standard scientific writing. For example, art can visually communicate some psychical states that science cannot yet articulate or even record. An approach using art can sensitize the researcher focused mostly on the material aspects of the past and can also contribute to the understanding of prehistoric visual representations.

PCN has presented some study cases with my approach using art in archaeology (that I labeled art-archaeology) where I revealed through what is known as "land-art" certain features of prehistoric archaeological sites which—in the present day—are otherwise indistinguishable in the landscape.

In the present essay I would like to describe a more complex case of employing art as an archaeological tool on two subjects with a wide rele-

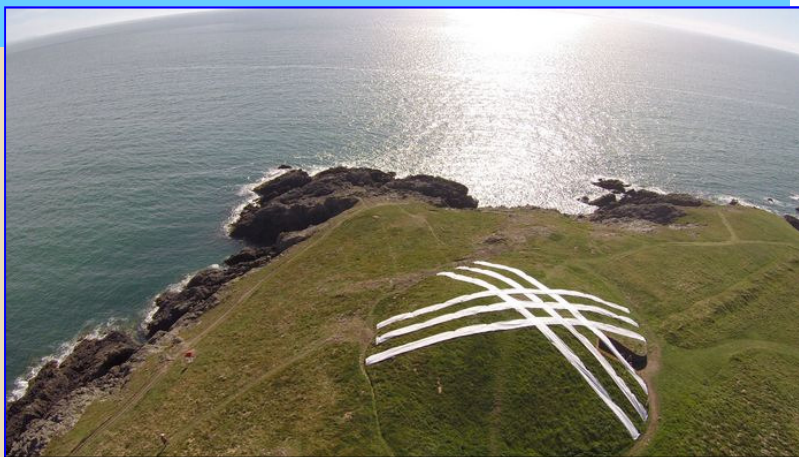


Fig. 1. Barclodiyad Y Gawres, the famous Neolithic chambered tomb on Anglesey Island in Wales, showing the "land-art" portion of the GestART project. **Aerial drone photo:** Andy Beardsley.

vance in prehistory. These are funerary rituals and the shamanic trance (sometimes called shamanic trance state) as is often described in ethnographic literature.

The experiment was carried out in Barclodiyad Y Gawres, at the site of a famous Neolithic chambered tomb on Anglesey Island in Wales (**Fig. 1**). I was invited to take part in a research project (GestART) coordinated by Dr. George Nash (Dept. of Archaeology and Anthropology, Univ. of Bristol, U.K.), to present the monument in a work of art.

Inside the funerary chamber I observed that one of the large standing stones decorated with a lozenge pattern had an anthropomorphic aspect and therefore could have represented an "ancestor" wrapped in a mummy-like manner with funerary bandages. Such kind of funerary representations are characteristic of many cultures including the ones from the Balkan Neolithic. Positioned in front of the stone (**Fig. 2**), I succeeded to wrap it following the accurate incised lines, using a small num-

ber of simple and ergonomic arm movements. After a single wrapping operation I was able to repeat it in total darkness, which infers a ritual character of the pattern and of the action to reproduce it. The experientiality of this performance of binding and unbinding the stone had a deep influence on me also because of the mystery of the context.

As a consequence I decided to reveal to the world outside a ritual presumably hidden for millennia by using a metaphor to contain all the experientiality already described. To achieve this goal I first exploited a trait characteristic of the time period, namely, monumentality, or creating things on a large scale. I reproduced in a slightly simplified form the basic incised pattern on the standing stone enlarged by a few hundred times, to make it visible from quite a distance and also from the sky, just as the Neolithic monument itself was. In other words, I intended to present the set of my structured ges-

> [Cont. on page 15](#)

Experiencing a prehistoric ritual (cont.)



Fig. 4. Barclodiyad Y Gawres, the famous Neolithic chambered tomb on Anglesey Island in Wales, showing the "land-art" portion of the GestART project. **Aerial drone photo:** Andy Beardsley. **Inset:** Detail of another aerial photo showing the entrance side and project participants in the foreground; Crop of photo by Andy Beardsley.

"This metaphorical experiment demonstrates that some archaeological subjects cannot be approached through the traditional methods, but need new cognitive instruments, even if today they are not yet recognized by science."

tures made in the darkness of the funerary chamber (**Fig. 3**) as a monumental shape within the landscape.

To see it also from the sky—as I imagined prehistoric people intended—a drone was used to take photos from afar (**Fig. 4**). By following the vertical flight of the drone and seeing how the land art diminished in the landscape I experienced a sensation of a sort of disembodiment that I associated with the shamanic flight.

The experientiality of this moment revealed a new significance of the performance, which, together with the "flight," was perceived as an out-of-this-world experience, and helped me later to imagine the monument as a more complex human product.

Finally this metaphorical experiment demonstrates that some archaeological subjects



Fig. 3. Two separate instances of the wrapped stone inside Barclodiyad Y Gawres. I was able to repeat the process in total darkness which inferred a deeper ritual quality of the pattern and of the action to reproduce it. The experientiality of binding and unbinding the stone had a deep influence on me not the least reason being the mystery of the context. Photos: Dragos Gheorghiu.

cannot be approached through the current methods, but need new cognitive instruments, even if today they are not yet recognized by science.

cult subject of understanding the spirituality of prehistoric people through experimental archaeology.

His work involves such universal and timeless experiences as human perceptions of landscape and the shared experiences of fire, water, and sky. Gheorghiu's [Time-maps](#) project on YouTube involves creating unadorned film representations of prehistoric or later early technologies by discovering little known living communities and giving them a presence on the Internet. The films are done in a style that gives a sense of real time in daily life without the embellishments or editing styles of other types of

filmmaking. All of Gheorghiu's articles, books, and experimental archaeology projects are attempts to reproduce perceptions common to all people and to help create a more direct connection to the past.

Therefore I believe that experientiality could be considered as a catalyst of the archaeological research enriching the archaeological imagination.

DRAGOS GHEORGHIU is an experimental archaeologist, artist, pyrotechnics expert, and Professor of cultural anthropology and prehistoric art at National University of Arts, Bucharest, Romania. For many years, Gheorghiu has attempted to tackle the difficult

Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 17

The 'Objective' Stratigraphic Column project: *Ordovician*

A lifelong reader of textbooks in every field exposes "thousands" of examples of **false statements of fact and other propaganda techniques** easily spotted in anthropology, biology, and paleontology textbooks

By John Feliks



Treptoceras? Orthoceras? Orthonybyoceras? It depends on who you ask—and *when*, what databases you reference, and what evolution mythology is currently popular. Upper Ordovician; Direct from strata; author; Boone Co. KY.

"The same fossils are given different names by different authors ... their nomenclature becomes confusing."

—Benjamin Campbell, biological anthropologist

"Why do we do this?... It seems to me that names should be unique and stable."

—Roderic Page, Professor of Taxonomy, former Editor, *Systematic Biology*. *Taxacom Digest* 75 (15); 2012.

"The names MUST change to reflect the evolutionary relationships (at least our current hypothesis of those relationships). ... This is about evolutionary hypotheses!"*

L. Brian Patrick; Chair, Biological Sciences; Dakota Wesleyan University. *Ibid* above.

*Non-objective science couldn't be stated more clearly.

Have you ever heard the claim that fossils are rare? Or have you ever heard the claim that the earth contains fossils of imperfect creatures that had to "evolve" in order to survive? Neither of these are true. If you believe such things from the science community then you would certainly be surprised were you to spend some time in the field with Ordovician-age rocks and fossils—and especially those of the Cincinnati formations of Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky (**Figs. 1-5**). If you were to do this objectively, i.e. without evolutionary preconceptions, there is potential to see the fossil record for what it actually is.

This new series makes the case for the importance of bringing objectivity back to the interpretation of fossils and the strata or rock layers that contain them. It will suggest several ways by which those interested in the truth can learn about the

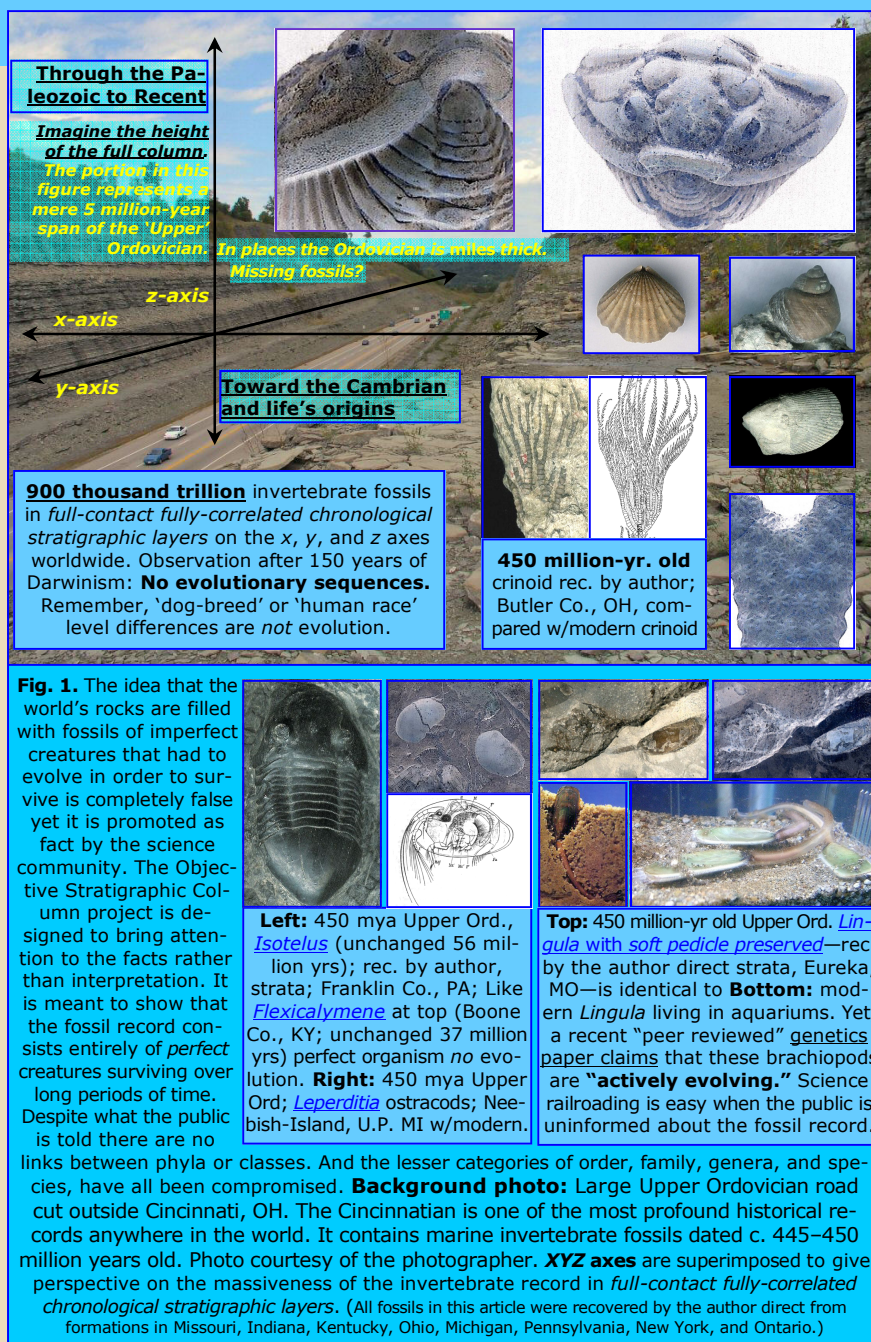


Fig. 1. The idea that the world's rocks are filled with fossils of imperfect creatures that had to evolve in order to survive is completely false yet it is promoted as fact by the science community. The Objective Stratigraphic Column project is designed to bring attention to the facts rather than interpretation. It is meant to show that the fossil record consists entirely of *perfect* creatures surviving over long periods of time. Despite what the public is told there are no

links between phyla or classes. And the lesser categories of order, family, genera, and species, have all been compromised. **Background photo:** Large Upper Ordovician road cut outside Cincinnati, OH. The Cincinnati is one of the most profound historical records anywhere in the world. It contains marine invertebrate fossils dated c. 445–450 million years old. Photo courtesy of the photographer. XYZ axes are superimposed to give perspective on the massiveness of the invertebrate record in *full-contact fully-correlated chronological stratigraphic layers*. (All fossils in this article were recovered by the author direct from formations in Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ontario.)

fossil record for themselves. Questioning mainstream mythologies which are increasingly claimed as "fact" is

a very important step. With enough objective knowledge one will eventually be able to > [Cont. on page 17](#)

The 'Objective' Stratigraphic Column (cont.)

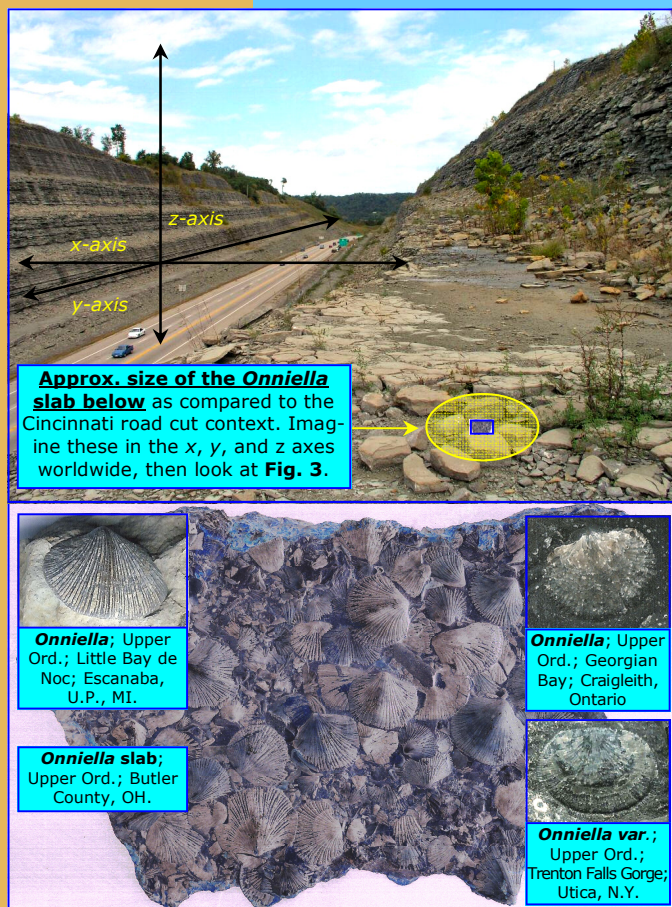


Fig. 2. The science community's overuse of genera, species, family, and order name-changing conceals what are no more than dog-breed-level variations. It is not the result of normal scientific inquiry but that of bending facts to fit a theory: Even experts can't keep track of all the *different names for the same fossils*. Quoting a leading invertebrate paleontologist—and professed authority on 'pseudoscience'—regarding a similar slab to that shown above (rec. by author; Cincinnati, OH): "I have long called the common brachiopod here *Onniella meeki*. Now I learn from my colleagues...that since 2012 I should be referring to this species as *Cincinnetina meeki*." The professor's website is one of the best paleontology sites on the Internet. However, his quote proves my point: Obfuscation effects everyone. It is used by researchers who have never studied the fossil record objectively. To drive this point home, the professor failed to mention that these same fossils have actually gone through five names already. They have cycled these brachiopods through *Orthis*, *Resserella*, *Dalmanella*, *Onniella*, and now, *Cincinnetina*. Question sciences promoting evolutionism as fact when databases do not provide the public with all names by which duplicate fossils are known. Half the papers in paleontology are nothing more than games of taxonomic musical chairs.

see that the fossil record is not a record of evolution but a record consisting entirely of perfect well-established and distinctive organisms which have persisted unchanged through long eons of time (see Parts 6–16 of the larger series beginning in PCN #28, March–April 2014, called [The inconvenient facts of living fossils](#)).

The problem began when the science community allowed itself to be bedazzled by Darwinism in 1859. It was at that point that it started putting the cart before the horse and lost all objectivity regarding the past.

The most important way that the reader can begin changing their perspective of fossils is

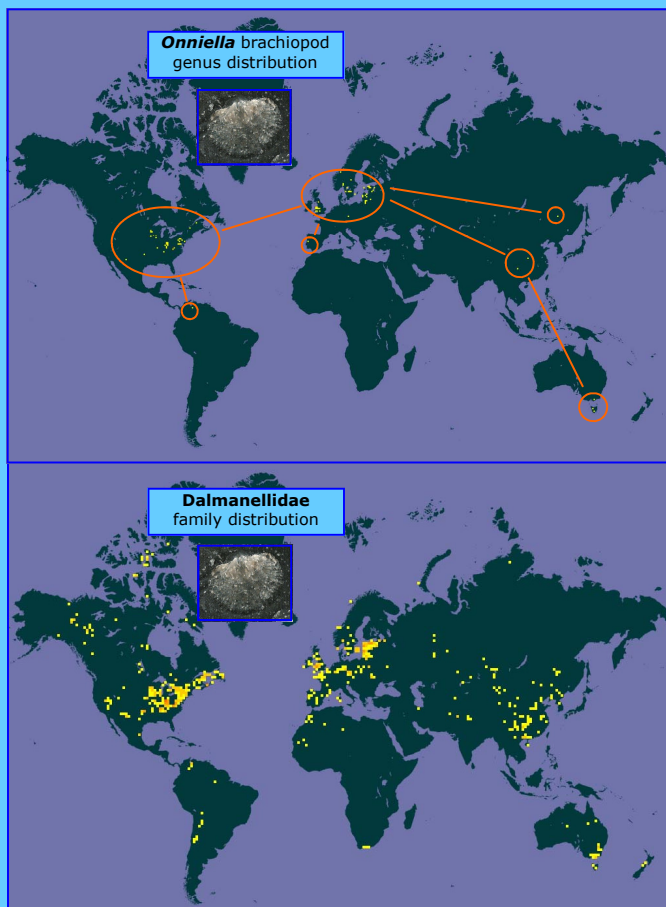


Fig. 3. When organisms are extinct the paleontology and anthropology communities can easily mislead the public with name-changes that conceal continuity and sameness. The effect can be seen in distributions such as these two maps. **Top:** Current distribution for the genus *Onniella* (see Fig. 2). It is an example of the spaces created when what is the brachiopod equivalent of a dog breed is split up from interbreeding groups into different genera. Recall from Fig. 2 that *Onniella* is also called *Orthis*, *Resserella*, *Dalmanella*, and *Cincinnetina*, depending on the year a certain mythology was promoted. Of course, one would expect that if *Onniella* is known in the Americas, Europe, China, and Australia that it would also be known from the places in-between. **Bottom:** The distribution of *Onniella* seen differently when one gets away from constantly-changing genus-level claims, starts thinking "dog breeds" instead, and takes a step up the taxonomic ladder to the Family *Dalmanellidae*. This distribution includes the various other names for the same fossils which are now obfuscated as "sister-taxa." *Onniella* data from Global Biodiversity Information Facility (Free and Open Access to Biodiversity Data) accessed via <http://www.gbif.org/species/3251959> on 2016-03-26. *Dalmanellidae* data *ibid.*, accessed via <http://www.gbif.org/species/3251957>.

to start getting out into the field for direct contact. Here is a telling prediction that most paleontologists would agree with: You will not find evolutionary sequences; but you will find your own examples of the same remarkable organisms featured in this article. This proves a very significant

> [Cont. on page 18](#)

The 'Objective' Stratigraphic Column (cont.)

"the fossil record con-



Fig. 4. *Rafinesquina* brachiopod shells such as the reader can find for themselves; Cincinnatian; Largest shell is 2 1/2" wide.

sists entirely of perfect creatures surviving over long periods of time."

"We need to get the

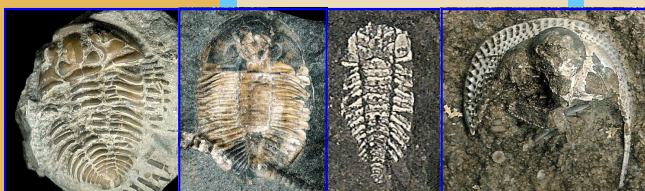


Fig. 5. Additional Upper Ordovician trilobites collected by the author. Readers can collect these very types for themselves. By so doing they will realize they are well-established distinctive organisms with well-known appearance and disappearance dates: *Flexicalymene* (Middletown, OH), *Pseudogygites* (Georgian Bay, Craigleith, ON), *Triarthrus* (Bellefonte, PA), *Cryptolithus* (head shield, Cincinnati, OH).

horse back in front of the cart."

point, namely, that we already know what fossils are out there. The idea that thousands of 'transitional fossils' will eventually turn up is a science pipe dream.

In the next few installments I will explain more about how to reassess the fossil record and be critical of popular science. To finish out this introduction, though, I would like to tell some of the history of why the Cincinnati region is so important to the study of fossils. It might give readers some confidence to look again at mainstream positions in paleontology, biology, and anthropology.

Most people are unaware that the core of modern geology and the science of stratigraphy (the study and interpretation of the rock layers which also contain the fossil record) was in large part developed in the Cincinnati, Ohio, region during the 1800s. Although many researchers of the time were easily bedazzled by Darwinism their story and dedication can help inspire those ready to call to task a mainstream community

controlling interpretations of prehistory. Here are a few highlights excerpted from, *A Sea Without Fish: Life in the Ordovician Sea of the Cincinnati Region*, 2009: pp. 8–36):

"Beginning even before the

Ordovician Period was named, there was in the region of Cincinnati, Ohio, a group of paleontologists who have been called the 'Cincinnati School of Paleontology.' ...They were all serious collectors of local fossils. But they went beyond that. ... They also assiduously studied their finds... they shared their information... and their thinking about fossils...with the world as a whole, through publication. ...individuals spent a significant portion of their lives, especially their formative years, in the type-Cincinnatian outcrop area. ... They all were amateurs" (p. 15).

"They comprised a 'learning community.' They worked together. ... Above all, they stimulated one another to perform at a higher level than they otherwise might have done. The whole was more than the sum of its parts. There was true synergism in the Cincinnati School of Paleontology. Although called a school, the Cincinnati School was not one, nor did it have any formal relationship with any college or university" (p. 16).

"It is primarily through the efforts of the Cincinnati School of Paleontology that the Cincinnati area is truly world famous for its fossils. It was due to their work that the Cincinnati region is the North American standard for the span of geologic time during which its rocks were deposited and the organisms that were to become its fossils lived" (p. 36).

Reasons the Cincinnati can inspire objective reassessments of the Stratigraphic Column

"The pristine quality of many Cincinnati fossils is clear evidence that they have undergone very little diagenetic alteration and no metamorphic change over their long burial since the Ordovician" (p. 8). "The entire Cincinnati Arch region has one of the most extensive surface exposures of Upper Ordovician strata in North America, if

not the entire world" (p. 10). "In the Cincinnati Arch region we have a truly unique window to the past—easy access to ancient strata and fossils that elsewhere lie buried under thousands of meters of rock" (p. 12).

"Many practices and concepts of paleontology and geology originated from research on Cincinnati fossils and rocks. ... the Cincinnati region was one of the birthplaces of modern geological science" (p. 12).

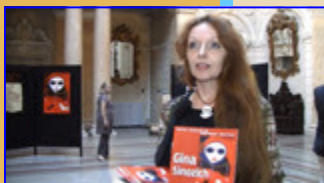
The direct descendents of the Cincinnati School are a very prolific and well-organized group known as the Drydredgers. Their coverage of the Cincinnati is of extreme high quality and rigor. However, their base is still in the mainstream. What I am proposing is a reassessment of the entire fossil record (and by extension, the archaeological record) minus the mainstream evolutionary templates. Their adamant pre-commitment to evolution by natural selection discourages the objective study of fossils. We need to get the horse back in front of the cart. As explained before the information-packed invertebrate fossil record with its countless fossils in full stratigraphic context worldwide is the standard against which all evolution claims must be measured. This is true even if the vertebrate record has dazzling skeletons or DNA. Scientific objectivity has to be regained. Let's start over in a new objective light. This time let's focus on the facts without preconceptions and see where the evidence leads.

JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for 20 years demonstrating that human cognition does not evolve. Earlier, his focus was on the invertebrate fossil record studying fossils in the field across the U.S. and Ontario over a 30-year span, as well as studying many of the classic texts such as the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology* and *Index Fossils of North America*.

Pleistocene underground, Part 3

By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer

"This makes Göbekli



Tepe a chronological puzzle. The order of things is inverted with the most sophisticated art found in the oldest layers."

As mentioned in Part 1 and Part 2, the caves and man-made underground tunnels and cities with evidence of human presence dating back to the Middle Pleistocene such as Petralona in Greece or Gran Dolina and Atapuerca in

Spain show continuous occupation spanning hundreds of thousands of years longer than ever imagined.

Another site that yielded unexpected

finds in a stratum where such material "doesn't belong" is Göbekli Tepe in Turkey. The site was first noted in a survey conducted by Istanbul University and the University of Chicago in 1963. American archaeologist Peter Benedict thought there could be a Neolithic site under the layers of Byzantine and Islamic cemeteries. The archaeologist who led excavations from 1996 to 2014 was a German prehistorian Klaus Schmidt.

Excavations uncovered a site that is planned and developed with carefully arranged circular structures. It contains more than 200 T-shaped stone pillars up to 6 meters high and 20 tons in weight, arranged in about 20 circles, which are more than 12,000 years old.

Conventional archaeology tells us this is the time of primitive Paleolithic hunter-gatherer groups who had no knowledge of building and no organized settlements.

Out-of-place artifacts

How does Göbekli Tepe fit into that picture of the Paleolithic world? So far, only about 5 percent of the site

has been excavated. Its construction is a mystery and the meaning of the elaborately carved reliefs is an enigma yet to be deciphered (**Fig. 1**). Among the carvings on the stones are anthropomorphic figures, which so far have been explained in the same manner as most of such mysterious archaeological finds—commonly known as Ooparts (out-of-place artifacts)—as ceremonial places for the worship of ancestors or supernatural beings, and gathering places for an ancient cult or spiritual practice.

In his preliminary report, Klaus Schmidt allowed that Göbekli Tepe could have been a ritual centre. As to another obvious question—why were the structures buried deliberately under 3 meters of earth fill—he toyed with the idea that people simply lost interest, or the original inhabitants were replaced with a more primitive race of incomers, who could neither understand nor appreciate the old beliefs encoded in a variety of images and symbols engraved on stone pillars. However, the question remains as to why a primitive group would go to such trouble, covering a large area with tons of soil

and turning it into a hill.

This makes Göbekli Tepe a chronological puzzle. The order of things is inverted with the most sophisticated art found in the oldest layers. The situation is much like Bradshaw and Wanjin cave art in Australia where the oldest paintings show the peak of artistic skill while

the most recent drawings indicate somewhat clumsy attempts to copy the original art painted by a race preceding the arrival of Aboriginal tribes (*The Age*, Interview with Graeme Walsh, September 2004).

In current Australian archaeology,

there is no room for any debate about pre-Aboriginal races. But hope can come from European researchers, who seem to be far ahead of their Australian colleagues where Australian prehistory is concerned. As absurd as it might sound, those who are really interested in uncovering the truth about Australian prehistory should go to Europe and join European teams, or at least read the

> [Cont. on page 20](#)

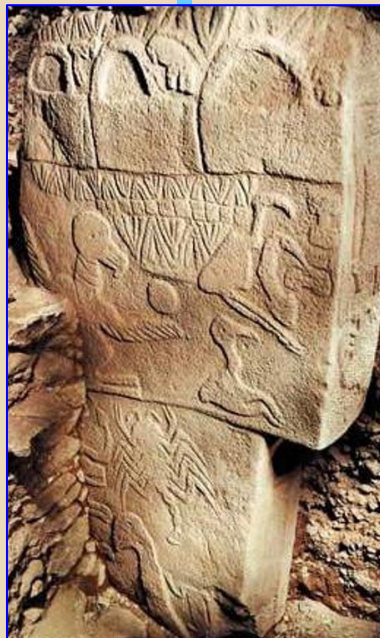


Fig 1. The Vulture Stone (Pillar 43) at Göbekli Tepe. Photo: German Archaeological Institute.

Pleistocene underground, Part 3 (cont.)

"Conventional archaeology

papers of these teams and learn from their research.

Enter the new ancestors

In September 2015, at the European Society for the

to investigate the past and are allowed to speak freely and present multiple working hypotheses (e.g., **Fig. 2**).

Among them was Svante Pääbo, a man who became a

symbol for a radical change of approach in archaeology that is sweeping the world, with the exception of Australia. The new approach allows for *Why not?* and *What if?* questions. Refreshingly open-minded, the ESHE participants presented a number of thought-provoking ideas, without fear of being attacked for their theories.

Pääbo and his Max Planck colleagues are keeping up

their pioneering DNA research to further investigate the fact that Denisovan ancestry has been detected in present-day Australian Aborigines. Pääbo indirectly criticized those narrow-minded researchers who hold on to deliberately false interpretations of prehistory. He again reminded everyone that the past is more complicated than presented by the mainstream.

"Denisovans are sort of distant relatives of Neanderthals that existed in Eastern Eurasia—for sure in Siberia but probably much more widespread in Asia because they have contributed to people who today live in the Pacific—Papua New Guinea, Australian Aborigines and so on," Pääbo said. "One possi-

ble explanation," he added, "is that Denisovans interbred with another hominin species that lived somewhere in Asia, possibly *Homo erectus*" (*New York Times*, November 2015).

In 2008 a finger bone was found. In the summer of 2010 a human toe bone had emerged, along with an enormous tooth, from Layer 11 of the Denisova Cave. Analysis of the DNA was presented for the first time at the symposium in 2011. The toe bone turned out to be Neanderthal, deepening the mystery of the site. In addition to the bone fragments and tooth, a green stone bracelet (**Fig. 2**) was found in the layer, and in alignment with mainstream beliefs was assumed to have been made by modern humans (**Eds. Note:** See Tom Baldwin's report on the bracelet in [PCN# 35](#), May-June 2015).

While the toe bone was Neanderthal, the finger bone was something else entirely. One cave, three kinds of human being, whether one chooses to call them different species or simply different races. "Denisova is magical," said Pääbo. "It's the one spot on Earth that we know of where Neanderthals, Denisovans, and modern humans all lived."

Although no easy conclusions regarding the relationship between these three groups can be drawn from so little evidence the discovery that three different groups lived in close proximity suggests two important points to consider—multiple waves of migration and the co-existence and interbreeding within presumably very different cultures or what the mainstream regards as different stages of evolution.

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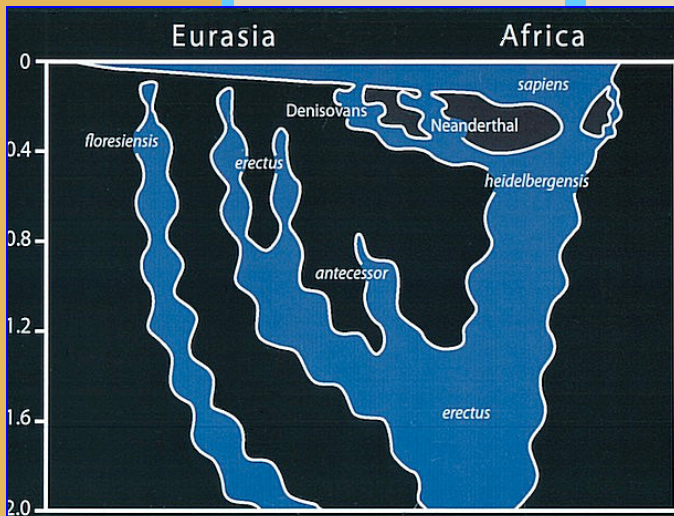


Fig. 2. Chris Stringer's hypothesis for the family tree of the genus *Homo*; Like similar ideas he places Neanderthals as the ancestors of the Denisovans (top center and to the right). Wikimedia Commons.

tells us this is the time of primitive Paleolithic hunter-gatherer groups who had no knowledge of building and no organized settlements."

study of Human Evolution (ESHE) 5th Annual Meeting in London speakers included Chris Stringer, Fred Spoor,

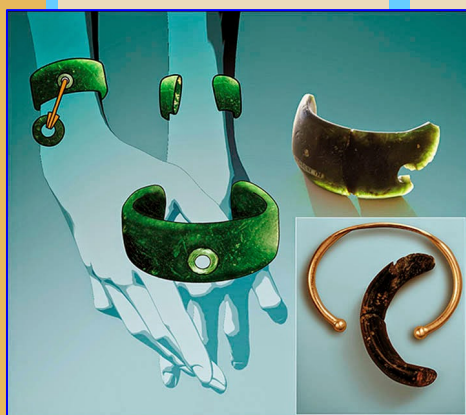


Fig. 3. Visual reconstruction of the clearly advanced Denisovan bracelet compared with a modern bracelet. Picture: Anatoly Derevyanko, Mikhail Shunkov, and Vera Salnitskaya.

Jose Maria Bermudez de Castro, Joao Zilhao, and many others. Their papers were a joy to read—thoughts by people truly interested in human origins who are able

Pleistocene underground, Part 3 (cont.)

"In addition to the bone fragments and tooth, a green stone bracelet (Fig. 3) was found in the layer, and in alignment with mainstream beliefs was assumed to have been made by modern humans."

Svante Pääbo goes on to ask: "How had all three kinds of human ended up there? How were Neanderthals and Denisovans related to each other and to the sole kind of human that inhabits the planet today? Did their ancestors have sex with ours?"

Pääbo has a history of posing the kind of questions that a lesser scientist would not dare to say out loud. His team keeps producing intriguing results. When the researchers compared the Denisovan genome with those of various modern human populations, they found no trace of it in Russia or China, or anywhere else, for that matter—except in New Guineans and Australian Aborigines, whose genomes are about 5 percent Denisovan (*National Geographic*, July 2013).

Australian scientists are not free to ponder such questions. Genetic research of Aboriginal samples is banned in Australia, most of human fossils have been destroyed, and it is no longer possible to compare *Homo erectus* samples such as found at Kow Swamp, with samples of contemporary Aborigines, and with Mungo Man DNA, which was analysed in 1995 and found to have no genetic connection with any Aboriginal group at all.

Another study incorporating genomic surveys from different Aboriginal Australians painted an even clearer picture of their ancestors' contacts with the Denisovans. Researchers led by Mark Stoneking at the Max Planck Institute show that these patterns hint at at least two waves of human migration into Asia: an early trek that included the ancestors of contemporary Aborigines, followed by a second wave that gave rise to the present populations of mainland Asia.

Other intriguing research was conducted and presented at ESHE meeting by Anna Maria Kubicka *et al.*, comparing skeletal features of Neanderthals from the Krapina site in Croatia, medieval agricultural populations from Poland, and a nineteenth-century group of hunter-gatherers from Australia.

The meaning of it all

When searching for the truth, and establishing who is trustworthy, we need to first question the motivation of the speaker.

Researchers such as those who attended the meeting in London are all apparently driven by a desire to know more about the origins of mankind. In this search for knowledge, they constantly doubt and keep an open mind, in order to consider different theories, even those contradicting their own opinions.

In Australian circles, there is no room for any doubt or mental flexibility. The main motivation of the researchers is to toe a politically enforced line, perpetuating an invented story of the Australian past, in order to keep their jobs (Keith Windschuttle, *Fabrication of Aboriginal History*, 2002).

Unethical practices, such as these found in the Australian mainstream, were clearly explained by the great American physicist Richard Feynman. This winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics, described by the *New York Times* as "The most brilliant, iconoclastic and influential of the postwar generation of theoretical physicists," summed it up as follows:

"No government has the right to decide on the truth of scientific principles, nor to prescribe in any way the character of the questions investigated. Neither may a

government determine the aesthetic value of artistic creations, nor limit the forms of literary or artistic expression. Nor should it pronounce on the validity of economic, historic, religious, or philosophical doctrines. Instead it has a duty to its citizens to maintain the freedom, to let those citizens contribute to the further adventure and the development of the human race" (Richard Feynman, *The Meaning of It All*, 1998).

Despite the current situation in Australia, I still have faith that the time will come to reclaim our freedom to think independently, to seek scientific truth, and to openly discuss Pre-Aboriginal races.

VESNA TENODI is an archaeologist, artist, and writer based in Sydney, Australia. She received her Master's Degree in Archaeology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia. She also has a diploma in Fine Arts from the School of Applied Arts in Zagreb. Her Degree Thesis was focused on the spirituality of Neolithic man in Central Europe as evidenced in iconography and symbols in prehistoric cave art and pottery. After migrating to Sydney, she worked for 25 years for the Australian Government, and ran her own business. Today she is an independent researcher and spiritual archaeologist, concentrating on the origins and meaning of pre-Aboriginal Australian rock art. In the process, she is developing a theory of the Pre-Aboriginal races which she has called the Rajanes and Abrajanes. In 2009, Tenodi established the DreamRaiser project, with a group of artists who explore iconography and ideas contained in ancient art and mythology.

Website: www.modrogorje.com

E-mail: ves@theplanet.net.au

All of Tenodi's articles published in *Pleistocene Coalition News* can be found at the following link:

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/#vesna_tenodi



The Pleistocene Coalition

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- Join a community not afraid to challenge the status quo. Question with confidence any paradigm promoted as "scientific" that depends upon withholding conflicting evidence from the public in order to appear unchallenged.

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CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

David Truman
Dragos Georghiu
Chris Hardaker
Raghubir S. Thakur
Kevin Lynch
Richard Dullum
Vesna Tenodi
Virginia Steen-McIntyre
John Feliks

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