In the modern age, most people consider perspectives from science to be a critical part of their view of the world. They trust that science is objective and that its primary concern is the quest for knowledge and truth. In fact, these are indeed traits of most sciences where virtually every new discovery makes its way into public awareness through normal publication shortly after it is made. However, three very important fields—biology, paleontology, and anthropology—began to stray from the path of objective reporting long ago with affected institutions forming a monopoly over what the world’s masses hear and, therefore, believe, about prehistory. They have created a picture of the past which is neither objective nor supported by the physical evidence; yet they are selling this story as fact. Powerful science institutions in the U.S. have even succeeded in pushing legislation to force this picture on school children who cannot turn away and are not permitted to question it. Being committed to a few limited ideas, e.g., that every form of life has mutated into other forms of life, that early humans were of low intelligence increasing in intelligence over time, and that there were no early humans in the Americas—these three sciences block any conflicting evidence. Many people are beginning to realize that reality may be very different from what they’ve been taught. It was information like this—and the goal to make suppressed evidence known—that inspired us to form the Pleistocene Coalition in 2009 and PCN in October of that year. We hope you enjoy PCN #31 and that it inspires you to join us in exploring the fascinating past—a heritage that belongs to everyone.

Forgotten heroes of archaeology

Emma Lou Davis Mojave maverick, 1905–1988

By David Campbell

As past articles in the Pleistocene Coalition newsletters have abundantly illustrated, some of the most significant contributors to the knowledge of our earliest ancestors have been relegated to the great Memory Hole of current public awareness. Consignment to this abyss of oblivion is generally the result of having discovered something that is “impossibly” old in light of the current consensus. In instances the authors are not vigorously refuted or marginalized due to their standing in the established community, they are forgotten through a process that might be termed malignant neglect.

> Cont. on page 2
Emma Lou Davis
Mojave maverick, 1905–1988 (cont.)

Fig. 1. Coso volcanic area of the northern Mojave Desert, China Lake, southern California, the general region where Davis discovered the 42,000-year old mammoth butchering site (Wikimedia Commons).

“...Dr. Davis became curator of the Museum of Man in San Diego...that institution became a rallying point for those involved in pushing the presence of Early Man in the Americas to dates comparable to African, Asian, and European early sites.”

Emma Lou Davis is a prime example. Though my readings in the extreme antiquity of human presence in the Americas had been what I thought to be extensive over the last fifteen years, it was to my great chagrin that fellow PCN editor, Virginia Steen-McIntyre suggested an article on a remarkable woman whose name I did not recognize. Humbled, this article represents my rapid remedy to that ignorance.

Born in Indianapolis, Indiana November 26, 1905, “Davey,” as her friends called her, embarked upon a career in art and design from which she could have retired as a notable American artist. Graduating from Vassar in 1927, Davis took up sculpting and her bas relief sculpture was placed upon the Social Security Building in Washington, D.C. in 1938. During the tumultuous ’30’s she found time to live in the Caucasus Mountains in Bolshevik Russia and later the turbulent China of the competing Warlords. Had she discovered her love of archaeology at that time, there were all the ingredients for a true “Indiana Joan” series of books and films.

Archaeology, however, was not yet a blip on Emma Lou Davis’ radar screen. Instead she returned to the United States to work at the Whitney Art Gallery and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. When World War II broke out she applied her talents as an aircraft designer and draftsman for Douglas. Following the war, she became a contemporary furniture designer in California and went on to instruct art at Chapel Hill.

It was when Davis moved to the Land of Enchantment in the 1950’s that the anthropology bug finally bit her—hard. Enrolling in basic anthropology courses at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, she soon advanced to graduate courses at UCLA and received her Masters degree for her ethnographic research on the Kutzadika’a Paiute indigenous people of Mono Lake in mid-eastern California.

Emma Lou Davis pioneered the concept of migration and cultural change at Wetherill Mesa at Mesa Verde, southwest Colorado, and was rewarded with a Ph.D. in anthropology in 1964 at age 58. At an age when most are having thoughts of retirement, Davis was just getting her second wind.

At 60, Dr. Davis became curator of the Museum of Man in San Diego in 1966 and served in that position until 1971. This was most serendipitous for all of us as that institution became a rallying point for those involved in pushing the presence of Early Man in the Americas to dates comparable to African, Asian, and European early sites. As a result of her increasing awareness and discoveries in the Mojave and the Great Basin, Dr. Davis was moved to found the Great Basin Foundation. With interests as far ranging as its founder, the Great Basin Foundation has advanced our knowledge of the prehistory and geology of this region through many books, documentaries and publications. This was in addition to the over 70 books, papers and articles authored by Emma Lou Davis herself.

Perhaps the most important discovery made by Davis personally was a mammoth butchering site at China Lake in southern California that produced two human modified flakes in direct association with the faunal remains that were firmly dated to 42,000 years BP (Fig. 1).

Davis’ discovery occurred in that brief window of open minded examination of empirical evidence in the 1970’s. It was in the same timeframe that Dr. Jeffrey Bada arrived at similar dates for archaeological sites in the Channel Islands and Southern California by means of a dating method he discovered called protein racemization.

To their credit, many of these mavericks did not back down and persisted despite withdrawal of funding and support. Emma Lou Davis was among these steadfast adherents to the “Earlier Than You Think” school of archaeological dissidents. Though never mean spirited about it, Davey stood her ground and even expanded it.

Dr. Davis had a larger view of the potential of science to illuminate our ancient past and might rightly be seen as something of a visionary. Long before Michael Waters received his ordination in geology and archaeology, going on to become a major exponent of the emerging science of geoarchaeology, Emma Lou Davis stated the need and the name. In her paper, Evaluation...
Emma Lou Davis, Mojave maverick, 1905–1988 (cont.)

“Perhaps the most important discovery made by Davis personally was a mammoth butchering site at China Lake in southern California that produced two human modified flakes in direct association with the faunal remains that were firmly dated to 42,000 years.”

In her book *Evaluation of Early Human Activities and Remains in the California Desert*, she stated the critical importance of an interdisciplinary approach that combined anthropology, geology, and paleoclimatology along with other relevant sciences.

Davis also criticized the narrow view of approaching sites as groups of artifacts of a common style. Rather, she suggested a larger overall consideration of what she called ‘traditions.’ This spanned a greater time span and focused on the people who had produced these assemblages. Not surprisingly, she drew attention to the religious art scattered throughout the region, that, like the artifacts and remains were among the oldest on the continent.

Likewise, Davis voiced concern for the preservation of sites that—contrary to common perception—are quite fragile. Increasingly these profoundly important remote desert locations were becoming victims of looters, vehicles of all sorts, and government installations such as artillery ranges and warfare training sites. The fact that her paper was partially funded by the Department of Interior and local Bureau of Land Management indicates that at least some movers and shakers were listening.

Most gratifying in that report was her support and advocacy of what she called the "learned avocational." The following excerpts from the above mentioned paper express her appreciation in her own inimitable style.

Actual map-to-map information transferred and provided by the backcountry expert observers—the ‘desert rats’ who love and know these wild landscapes and who have kept their own map records. These people are the true keepers of knowledge and were our best sources of site information. Their maps supplied the data (with their own interpretations) and their hands applied the color coded dots under our supervision.

Were it not for the tireless interest and efforts of amateur support, there would have been very little California desert archeology until the past two decades. The deserts were far removed from urban centers and university campuses. Elegant scholars took little interest in getting sunburns and flat tires in the wearying pursuit of stone trash (they thought) made by prehistoric savages whose un instructed efforts could not be worked up into sensational museum displays. Who wants a rock-knocker object made by some unknowable Paleolithic when, for the same output of energy, one could dig up a gold mask of Agamenon? So the archeology of California’s deserts languished in academic oblivion.

Fortunately, other minds were more inquisitive, more keenly attuned to recognizing both pattern and anomaly in geology, flora and in exotic stones with unexpected attributes and distributions.

What followed in the report was a brief chronology of pioneering efforts in what Davis termed the 'California Desert Conservation Area.’ Beginning with George Carter’s mentor, Malcolm Rogers—himself a learned vocational and former curator of the San Diego Museum of Man—she went on to list William and Elizabeth Campbell, M.R. Harrington, and others who set the standards of desert research in the dawn age of modern American archaeology. Davis’ report is highly recommended as a detailed primer for all PCN readers who feel an urge to get up to speed on the American aspect of the subjects I’ve addressed here. Online access to *Evaluation of Early Human Activities and Remains in the California Desert* is available free of charge at:

http://archive.org/stream/evaluationofearldavidi/evaluationofearldavidi_djvu.txt

Regrettably, the illustrations are not viewable at that venue. Among those credited with the work is our own founding member, archaeologist, Chris Hardaker. Chris informed me that Emma Lou had been a critic of Pre Clovis and George Carter up to the time he showed her the results of his bipolar flaking experiments. She instantly converted (Chris Hardaker, pers. comm.).

Emma Lou Davis died peacefully on October 19, 1988 having lived a life larger than most. She left us an invaluable legacy and we should demonstrate our appreciation by keeping her memory alive.

References


Mammoth Trumpet 5, Number 1, January, 1989 (obituary/tribute).

DAVID CAMPBELL is an author/historian and an investigator of geological or manmade altered stone anomalies or large natural structures which may have been used by early Americans. He also has a working knowledge of various issues regarding the peopling of the Americas. Along with Virginia Steen-McIntyre and Tom Baldwin, Campbell is one of the core editors of Pleistocene Coalition News. Campbell has also written five prior articles for PCN which can be found at the following link:

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

Website:

anarchaeology.com
Member news and other info

Paleo-camera gets a brief mention on Neil DeGrasse Tyson's Cosmos, Episode 5, National Geographic Channel

A golden nugget in the current Cosmos TV series—contrasting otherwise standard representations of early humans as intellectually less than us—is a reference to PC founding member Matt Gatton's Paleo-camera Theory (Fig. 1).

Gatton's is only a mention; but that's a good step past where other PC members have made it thus far with evidence demonstrating that our ancestors were of equal intelligence to modern people. That includes Co-founder, tephrochronologist Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre who has been fighting suppression of evidence provided by her and other scientists from the USGS for over “40” years.

Many of the first scientists to see Paleo-camera demonstrations as well as comparable evidence from other Coalition members were incredulous. This was because of the standard picture of early humans as incapable of normal perception or astute observation of nature.

Evidence crediting early people with intelligence equal to our own such as Gatton’s Paleo-camera (the idea that early people could understand and even make artistic use of projected images) goes against the belief that humans get more and more intelligent over time.

That idea has been assumed true in modern anthropology which bases its whole story of human prehistory upon it. Commitment to this story requires that early human abilities be seen as inferior; so popular venues such as PBS science programs and grade school and college textbooks typically withhold any conflicting information as it challenges the entire system. Paleo-camera suffered such treatment early on.

As evidence of how far Paleo-camera has come, the Layout Editor was present at one attempt to prevent its early presentation in Portugal in 2006. Very similar experiences by other researchers, as well, was the inspiration behind the Pleistocene Coalition being formed. The goal has been to make the public aware of evidence it didn’t even know existed.

So, Paleo-camera is now being looked at as a valid theory. Hopefully, by the time the rest of the information contained in PCN gets to the public the opinions they have about their forebears will change. However, people can only change their minds if they are permitted to see the evidence. Cosmos’ minor nod to very intelligent ancestors is a great step in the right direction.

MATT GATTON is a multimedia artist with a BA cum laude from the University of Louisville and an MFA from the University of the Philippines. He has held adjunct positions at the University of Louisville, Kentucky; and De La Salle University, Philippines; and is an artist-in-residence at St. Francis High School in Louisville, USA. He continues to do invited demonstrations in the U.S. and abroad having presented in the UK, Germany, France, Portugal, and Belgium.

Gatton’s articles in PCN include Paleo-camera and the concept of representation (PCN #5, May-June 2010), Paleo-camera, Phase II: Projected images in art & ritual (or why European Upper Paleolithic art looks the way it does) (PCN #6, July-August 2010), The camera and the cave: Understanding the style of Paleolithic art (PCN #7, September-October 2010), and Projecting projection: a statistical analysis of cast-light images (with Leah Carreon) (PCN #18, July-August 2012).

Valsequillo saga going out to the Spanish speaking world

Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Plans are being made by a group in Spain to write up the Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco story in Spanish and give it wide distribution, not only in Europe, but in the Americas as well. What a nice fifth anniversary present!

I have provided illustrations for them, and will do an interview via e-mail. They have also contacted other members of our team, including philanthropist Marshall Payn, who provided the funding for much of our work since 1992. Marshall volunteered some interesting information, much of which was new to me. I’ve copied and edited part of his e-mail to them, mainly adding capital letters where appropriate. See below. Used with permission:

Payn, M. (to Bartlett C., X.) 14-08-05 Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco background information

"The Dorenberg skull had no effect on our findings. We made an effort to locate it and thinking it would be confirmation to our dating but we weren’t able. When I said Homo erectus I was guilty of the points you made. The 400,000 year old artifacts dated to conventional wisdom for erectus and I should have known better. I should have

> Cont. on page 5
Member news and other info (cont.)

"The site was declared by INAH an official archeologic al site but in Mexico money supersedes law. ... the Mexicans had not only nothing to gain but much to lose by suppressing the evidence."

-Marshal Payn, philanthropist

Florida's Old Vero Man site may hold ancient DNA

[Based on Sun-Sentinel; Fort Lauderdale, FL; Sept. 20, 2014]

Archaeologists excavating at the Old Vero Man site in southern Florida hope that scientists at Florida Atlantic University can extract ancient DNA from human and animal remains to prove that modern humans lived there alongside mastodons, mammoths, and saber-toothed cats about 14,000 years ago.

The site was originally discovered in 1915 when workers dredging a canal uncovered a human skull and 44 other bones from up to five individuals, both male and female. The state geologist at the time, Dr. E.H. Sellards, believed the bones were up to 14,000 years old. This was in sharp contrast with the prevailing theory that humans had entered the New World no earlier than 4,000 to 6,000 years ago. Mercyhurst University Archaeological Institute of Erie, Pennsylvania is overseeing the Vero Beach dig and wants to prove Sellards was right.

Florida Atlantic University researchers will first analyze animal fossils from the site because Mercyhurst is still trying to locate the human bones that originally were found there. They have been sent to various museums over time.

Archaeologists made new excavations at the Old Vero Man site earlier this year and plan another dig for January.

- VSM

Neanderthal "hashtag" art

[Based on Sharon Begley, Reuters, Sept. 01, 2014]

Drive another nail into the coffin of the idea that the Neanderthals were our "dumb cousins." Recent discoveries show that they used pigments and shell and feather jewelry for adornment, buried their dead with honors, and cared for the elderly and infirm. Add to that, they created cave art in abstract form. All this is evidence of the Neanderthals' capacity for complex thought processes. Location? Gorham's Cave overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, Gibraltar.

In a new study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, research from several European institutions reported finding a hashtag pattern, "eight partially crisscrossing lines with three shorter lines on the right and two on the left incised on a bedrock shelf jutting out from the wall about 16 inches (40cm) above the cave floor."

The engraving was covered by undisturbed sediment layers that contained 294 stone tools, previously discovered. The tools are in a style long ascribed to the Neanderthals, who apparently reached Europe 300,000 years ago. The tools have been dated to 39,000 years old; the underlying artwork must be older.

The engravings were intentionally made according to Clive Finlayson, anthropologist and director of the Gibraltar Museum, and colleagues. A sharp stone tool was used to etch the rock. "One line required at least 54 strokes and the entire pattern as many as 317."

According to Finlayson, "It follows that the ability for abstract thought was not exclusive" to modern humans.

- VSM

Eds. Note: This brings up the issue of 'representational' art by Neanderthals the evidence of which is ignored in anthropology because it suggests equal intelligence between people 40,000 years ago and people today. See Fig. 1.

*See Valsequillo: An Archaeological Enigma and New Evidence of Early Man: SUPPRESSED
Celebrating 37 years of Calico work

Dee Simpson and Louis Leakey and the beginnings of the Calico Early Man Site

By Tom Baldwin

While researching for another article for this newsletter I ran across a fascinating account by Dee Simpson telling of her involvement with Louis Leakey in founding of the Calico Early Man Site. In 1967 she was interviewed on this subject by Denny Dennis. That interview was then transcribed in 1994 by Russell L. Kaldenberg (former California State Archaeologist) and Simpson was curator of the San Bernardino County Museum from 1964 until her retirement in 1982, and had continued to direct the dig at Calico until her health failed. The interview is too long for inclusion in its entirety in this newsletter. Even with editing it will require two installments. So I will quote salient points and fill in the blanks with paraphrases. I hope our readers will find this as enthralling as I did.

First let me give credit where it is due. All quotes will be from the Appendix of "An Examination of Dee Simpson’s Role in the Development of California Desert Archaeology," by Russell L. Kaldenberg, as it appears in the Proceedings of the Society for California Archaeology. The entire article can be found at:


So then, on to our tale…

In 1956, Dee Simpson was to attend the Congress of the Americas conference in Philadelphia. For two years prior to this she had been spending weekends in the Manix Lake basin collecting archaeological materials unlike any found elsewhere in the Americas. "So by that summer," as she tells it, "I had quite a few nice specimens and I took an assortment of these with me. I showed these both at Philadelphia and at the various museums, wherever people evidenced any interest in the subject."

Generally the materials were not well received. However, one person that was interested was Father Gormes, an Australian Missionary, to whom Simpson showed her finds. He in turn had another missionary contact named Father Amphreon Favrio, who’s mission was in the Congo, view Simpson’s artifacts. Together they decided that what she had was important and she should go to Colorado Springs where Kenneth Oakley—famed archaeologist of the British Museum of Natural History (then leading expert on early human intelligence as well as identifier of the Piltdown Man Hoax)—was speaking and see what he thought of her materials.

Oakley, thought they were important enough that she should take them to Europe for archaeologists there to study. Simpson says, "I think that Kenneth Oakley was a little surprised that there wasn’t more interest in this country in the early material." It took a few years, but she did as he suggested and took her finds to Europe. She goes on, "Oakley sent me to see people in various parts of England and then one day he said casually to me you know it’s too bad while you’re here you can’t meet Dr. Leakey."

Cont. on page 7
Simpson and Leakey—beginnings of Calico site (cont.)

“[She] said ... if you can have your materials ready you can meet Dr. Leakey and talk to him for five minutes. ... I had everything laid out in a tray and pictures of the sites... She took me into him at five minutes of two and at five thirty the janitor came in and said that they were going to close the building and we would have to get out.”

wonderful but I have neither the money nor the time. I can’t afford to go to Africa, and he said well he is not in Africa he’s in London right now so naturally I wanted very much to see Dr. Leakey and show him this material.” However, “He said he’s too busy, he has no time to see you and he’s over at the London University a great deal of the time... you might check once in a while when you’re there... I did, they came to nothing apparently there was no chance to see him.”

"Then... [came] my last day... [in England]. Just when I was getting up that morning I got a call from Dr. Oakley saying bring your material and come over to the museum, there’s a possibility that sometime today there will be a little while when you can see Dr. Leakey. Well, I was there when the museum opened and went in with the materials and after an hour so Dr. Oakley’s secretary came in and said Dr. Leakey’s appointment schedule is completely filled. You might as well go on with the schedule you had planned for today. He hasn’t any time to see you. I said no, I would wait, there’s a little possibility someone wouldn’t show up... [Then] she came in little after one o’clock and said well you know there’s about five minutes, just before two o’clock and if you can have your materials ready you can meet Dr. Leakey and talk to him for five minutes. So I had everything laid out in a tray and pictures of the sites, everything ready. She took me into him at five minutes of two and at five thirty the janitor came in and said that they were going to close the building and we would have to get out.”

“I’ve always wondered since then whatever happened to all the appointments that were scheduled from two to five. Dr. Leakey, when they told us we would have to leave, he said, Well I have a dinner engagement, I have some evening engagements I’m going to try to break them. If I can I’ll be at your hotel by six thirty.”

Dee waited for him at her hotel. He didn’t come, then “just before seven the phone rang. It was Dr. Leakey.” He had been downstairs in the lobby for about an hour but couldn’t remember Simpson’s name. Finally getting it from the concierge. “We went down, we had dinner, Dr. Leakey spent all of dinner time explaining the flaking techniques of early man, breaking up the rolls and using them as demonstration material much to the displeasure of the waiters.” About eight thirty they went up to her room and they spent another five and half hours with her and his materials. Then at two in the morning as he “left the room he turned around and shook his finger at me and said you keep on looking, you’ll find this material in deposit and when you do let me know and we will get money and we will have an expedition in America.”

That winter The Archeological Survey Association had a number of field trips to the Calico Mountains. They divided up the area to be surveyed into quarter mile squares and assigned teams to each. One area, 22, had Keep Out and No Trespassing signs up so it was not searched as the rest was. However, a Dr. Rob Peters, a geologist decided that he would run the risk of mining shafts or whatever the danger was and survey 22. He spent a day in the area then came out and told Dee he thought he’d found artifacts in the side of a road cut. Dee and others went in. “The three of us with Rob Peters made a quick trip late that afternoon into this commercial prospect area in section 22 and sure enough Rob Peters was right, there were features of chalcedony protruding from the face of the... cut... As soon as I saw that there were what I thought were artifacts protruding from the bank I started trying to find a scientist, an archaeologist who would come out and look at this material in place and bear witness to the discovery and I could find no one. It took me three years to find an American archaeologist who is willing to come and look at it and stick his neck out and say whether or not these were truly tools protruding from the bank.” A Dr. Elias Sellers finally did so.

In 1963, five years after they had met in London, Dr. Leakey visited the United States. At this point she had not told him about her finds. She felt that it was very far from his African digs and it just didn’t seem to be worth his while. However she attended a talk that he was giving about his work in Africa. He saw her in the crowd and came over and asked her point blank, “you have your material in place?” She told him she did. He said, “I want to see you soon... and see you. I said no, I would wait, there’s a little possibility someone wouldn’t show up...” She said, “I want to see you soon as we can get together.”

To be continued...

TOM BALDWIN is an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah. He has also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. Baldwin has been actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, California) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site’s excavation Director (Calico is the only site in the Western Hemisphere which was excavated by Leakey). Baldwin’s recent book, The Evening and the Morning, is an entertaining fictional story based on the true story of Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of Pleistocene Coalition News, Baldwin has published nine prior articles focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.
Calico’s only classic handaxe

By Chris Hardaker MA, archaeologist

The Old World handaxe family was singly represented at Calico by artifact #5006 (Fig. 1). It was found over thirteen feet deep in Unit I-13 in Master Pit 2. All flake scars along the bifacial element were evenly weathered, which means they were fractured during the same period. In the world of “statistical likelihoods,” this feature strongly suggests intentionality.

- Depth: 159”
- Length: 12.4 cm.
- Width: 8.3 cm.
- Thickness: 5.1 cm.
- Weight: 456.4g

No other specimen from the Calico collection came close to matching the cordate shape. That shape is an early classic handaxe style featuring a bulbous proximal end paired with a bifacial edge along its distal half (Fig. 2).

The two distal edges on #5006 are a bit asymmetrical. One edge is bifacial and slightly concave (see Fig. 3). The other edge is also bifacial and exhibits an “S-curve” (see Fig. 4, on the following page). This wavy S-curve element turns up on a number of specimens both large and small that have bifacial edges, from flake cutters to larger chopper types. The S-curve feature will be highlighted in upcoming galleries.

“Skreblo” is Russian for a boat’s keel. Their proximal edges, i.e. the butts, are often squared off, or “backed.” This means they often exhibit heavy damage—namely a strong dose of step-fractures which typifies battering, or shaping a grip with a hammerstone. All skreblos have bifacial and/or sinuous distal working edges, also accompanied by step-fractures of varying sizes. The Calico Skreblos will be the focus of a future installment.

Comment

Critics of Calico’s archaeology need to come up with a geological prece-

> Cont. on page 9
Calico’s only classic handaxe (cont.)

dent, i.e. another “Calico” geofactory in order for their criticisms to have any scientific merit. They need to find a precedent to prove their case that this cordate handaxe and the other catalogued specimens from Calico are nature’s own geofacts.

After fifty years, there is still no geofact precedent to account for Calico’s fractured rocks anywhere on the globe.

None.

Until a similar geofactory is found—or until they are able to explain the fracture anomalies at the Calico Early Man Site—all criticisms of Calico must be regarded as entirely faith-based, not science-based.

References

see Herb Minshall’s classic work, Broken Stones, for the best illustrated book on pre-Clovis assemblages.


CHRIS HARDAKER 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.

American: The suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World.

Website: http://calico.earthmeasure.com/

“Critics of Calico’s archaeology need to come up with a geological precedent, i.e. another “Calico” geofactory in order for their criticisms to have any scientific merit.”

Fig. 4. The other edge is also bifacial and exhibits an “S-curve.” This wavy S-curve element turns up on a number of specimens large and small with bifacial edges, from flake cutters to larger chopper types. The S-curve feature will be highlighted in upcoming galleries; this edge is an excellent, if not iconic, example.

Fig. 5. Calico does have skreblos along with other types of choppers and wedges. Skreblos are East Asian chopper types. “Skreblo” is Russian for a boat’s keel. Their proximal edges, i.e. the butts, are often squared off, or “backed.”
The Ipswich Skeleton

a possible link to Happisburgh

By Richard Dullum and Kevin Lynch

"Working around the find, Moir removed a complete skeleton in situ, in its containing matrix blocks, which were transported to the Royal College of Surgeons, London."

[Eds. Note: This article is about an ancient skeleton discovered by James Reid-Moir in 1911, not to be confused with a more recently discovered skeleton called by the same name.]

In October of 1911, near Ipswich, England, workmen from Messrs. Bolton and Laughlin, Co. Brickworks uncovered a human skeletal remains under 4 feet of glacial chalky boulder clay. James Reid-Moir (the well-known British amateur archaeologist, former President of the Ipswich Museum, and elected Fellow of the Royal Society) was notified immediately from prior arrangement with the owners to come and investigate. Exposed at the site was a partial skull lying attached to a brain endocast of darkish clay. Working around the find, Moir removed a complete skeleton in situ, in its containing matrix blocks, which were transported to the Royal College of Surgeons, London, where the skeleton contained was carefully extracted and examined by Sir Arthur Keith, the eminent anatomist (Fig. 1). An anatomically modern human male of 5' 10" was lying on his right side in a 'hyperflexed' position commonly seen in many types of burials.

A thin sheet or band of calcareous material was spread under the corpse, found at the interface of boulder clay and stratified sands. The 'thin, calcareous sheet' under the corpse was almost certainly a remnant of the ancient land surface of the burial, which was continuous away from the body itself for some distance, but quite thin.

Bones facing the boulder clay were very much damaged, while the (right) side facing the sands, were better preserved. Only the bones of the right hand were reported as being complete. Early Pleistocene mammalian bone pieces, which were in a similar, chalky, crumbly condition, appeared at this same horizon, as did human bones from possibly two other individuals, suggesting an intentional burial, in a particular place (perhaps the equivalent of a cemetery) and certainly not somebody wandering into a snowstorm.

Also, stone tools were not found with the body, but...
The Ipswich Skeleton (cont.)

“Human remains and a tusk of Elephas meridionalis (Southern Mastodon)

were found at the boulder clay-sand interface in the same horizon as Ipswich Man. Elephas meridionalis was an early Pleistocene species.”

human remains and a tusk of Elephas meridionalis (Southern Mastodon) were found at the boulder clay-sand interface in the same horizon as Ipswich Man. Elephas meridionalis was an early Pleistocene species that can be regarded as a time marker for the sandy layer.

Moir and witnesses determined that no grave had been dug through the boulder clay. No clay was found beneath the body, the remains were on stratified sands over fifteen feet in thickness. Known at the time as ‘middle glacial sands,’ thought to have been laid down during interglacials before the last, An-
The Ipswich Skeleton (cont.)

the Anglian glaciations. The burial matrix is still very much distinct from the overlying and reddish glacial clay, (as can be seen from photos obtained by Kevin Lynch in a visit to the Ipswich Museum, where the skeleton is conserved, in June 2014), indicating the remains were infiltrated with the original grave soil, a grayish sandy loam, which filled the cranium in a hardened cast state, before the overlying load of boulder clay could compress or flatten it very much, and can be seen in the marrow cavities of many of the long bones and in the grayish coloring of the brain cast itself.

Stone tools of ‘Aurignacian’ type (c. 30,000 years ago) and pottery shards of a crude type commonly found in known Late Paleolithic cultural sites, at the horizon of the skeleton in neighboring valleys (that is, covered with boulder clay presumed to have been ‘re-made’) prompted Moir to later revise the age of the skeleton upward to 30,000 years ago. These artifacts were lying on the same stratified sandy layers nearby, as Moir dug test-pits around the site of the skeleton. It was suggested the body had been covered by a sludge or hillwash, a re-made boulder clay falling down the hillside, as was apparently observed in many valleys whose bottoms are covered with the clay. He suggested the burial preceded the deposition of the remade boulder clay hillwash. It was not proven, however, that the boulder clay covering the Ipswich skeleton was a hillwash.

In fact, the findings at Happisburgh recently, locate humans in the vicinity as much as 850,000 years ago.

The 2013 discovery of a modern human hand bone in 1.42 million-year old African strata proves that modern man cannot be ruled out as the footprint-maker at Happisburgh; and the Ipswich skeletal remains strengthen that possibility.

Bibliography


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 five 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 archeology of the late 19th and early 20th centuries concentrating on the life and works of J. Reid-Moir. He and Richard Dullum have lately blended their interests in prehistory to write a series of articles dealing with the hey-day of British archaeology at the turn of the 20th Century.

All of Dullum and Lynch’s articles about Classic British Archaeology in Pleistocene Coalition News can be found at the following link:

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#Dullum_and_Lynch
Potential of the Flagstaff Stone in the search for early man in the Americas

By Dr. Jeffrey Goodman, anthropology, geological engineer

One cannot be a little bit pregnant. Either one is pregnant or one is not. Man was in the Americas before glacial times or he was not.

Putting aside the academic “establishment” models that are based on absent evidence, if man was in the Americas during pre-glacial times, then the artifacts he left behind should not only tell us he was here but how intelligent he was. Fortunately, the establishment’s refusal to look at and fairly evaluate the mounting evidence for early man in the Americas is now being challenged by a growing number of qualified people who have no allegiance to preconceived models of early man in the New World.

The PCN newsletter is a beacon revealing the discoveries and specimens that have come in and keep coming in that challenge the establishment models for early man in the Americas. The PCN is now celebrating its fifth anniversary in reporting about discoveries ignored by the establishment. It is my privilege to write a few words about PCN’s efforts in this noble and honest scientific endeavor. I am an independent archeologist and geologist. When I found a very old engraved stone in 1979 (Inset and Figs. 1-3), it was Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre, one of the founders of PCN, who came forward to do a critical petrographic study of the stone. Since then Virginia has joined up with three others who are the editors of PCN (John Feliks, Editor-In-Chief; Tom Baldwin; and David Campbell). These men share her passion in the quest for truth about early man in the New World. None are paid or given credit in academia for the important service they provide. They simply love what they do. Each of them has been a help and of great encouragement to me and I heartedly thank them and wish them continued success.

In the summer of 1979 in Flagstaff, Arizona, 1979.

Fig. 1. One of several pictures showing the hoist and construction of the shaft at various stages; Flagstaff excavation outside Flagstaff, Arizona, 1979.

Fig. 2. Some of the people involved in the Flagstaff excavation directed by the late Dr. Alan Bryan, Professor of Archaeology, University of Alberta, outside Flagstaff, Arizona, 1979. Several screening tables can be seen—left, center, and right—as well as the hoist and shaft at the right.
Potential of the Flagstaff Stone (cont.)

The Flagstaff Stone is a piece of indurated or hardened well-sorted dacitic volcanic ash approximately three inches long by five inches wide by 3/8 inches thick. Petrographic studies of the stone in 1980 were performed by Dr. Arend Meijer, Professor of Geology, University of Arizona, who specialized in the study of volcanic rocks; and Dr. John Ferry, Professor of Geology, Arizona State University. They both concluded that the stone was very old, and because the lines on the stone had a consistent width and depth, both agreed that the lines on the stone were man-made. Dr. Ferry was able to show that the lines did not cut down at the edges of the stone and were once part of longer lines.

Both petrographers were able to distinguish between the clay matrix which coated the stone and the clay which resulted from the in situ weathering (weathering in place) of the original rock. Dr. Ferry observed that the undisturbed clay on the bottom part of the stone (the result of in situ weathering) had a characteristic flakey structure to it (a sort of crater pattern) and noted that the clay in most of the grooves also had this distinct pattern. To Ferry, this meant that all the grooves with clay in them were old.

A third petrographic study of the Flagstaff stone was made in October 1982. Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre, a tephrochronologist (a petrographer who specializes in the study and dating of ejected volcanic materials), then an adjunct professor in the anthropology department at Colorado State University, conducted a much more detailed study of the piece (Steen-McIntyre, 1982). In addition to a petrographic study, she took specific samples of all the weathering products coating the stone and chemically analyzed them in a field laboratory. Steen-McIntyre's more definitive chemical tests were able to distinguish: 1.) the "fresh" or unweathered parent rock ("tuff"); 2.) the weathered volcanic glass and mineral fragments immediately below the waxy clay; 3.) a red-

"Flakes of the waxy clay weathering rind were still occasionally preserved in the scribed grooves, demonstrating that the grooves themselves were made before the piece was buried."

Potential of the Flagstaff Stone (cont.)

the mountains of Flagstaff, Arizona a flat stone with straight lines engraved on both sides was found in a Pleistocene deposit at my archeological site where I had been excavating each summer since 1973. Until the discovery of the engraved stone, excavation had only produced some scrapers, choppers, and a few delicate blades. The engraved stone is popularly called the “Flagstaff Stone.”

The Flagstaff Stone offers profound information on how far back in time early man goes in the Americas and what he knew. This is why authenticating the stone and its age must be convincingly established and documented. Beyond the three petrographic studies done to date, efforts are under way to do this by spectroscopy, scanning electron microscopy, and a thin section cutting across several of the lines inscribed on the stone.

Excavation at the Flagstaff site consisted of a 35-foot deep shaft. The sediments exposed were colluvial interrupted by at least two buried soils: a thin one at a depth of fifteen feet and a much thicker compound soil at 22 feet. The late Dr. Alan Bryan, Professor of Archeology at University of Alberta, directed the excavation in 1979. Two of Bryan’s graduate students and two assistants found the stone on the screen sorting table. The stone was encased in muddy sediments brought up from a depth of 23 ft. within a deeper soil. Radiocarbon dates by the Smithsonian Institute and Teledyne Isotopes for the soil at 15 feet were approximately 25,000 B.P. The thick compound soil at 22 feet has not been dated, but is believed to be much older. Dr. Thor Karlstrom, a senior USGS geologist, believed that this soil was interglacial. Other geologists working in the area who are acquainted with this soil informally called it “the 100,000 year old soil (Sangamon soil, last interglacial soil).”

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Cont. on page 15
Potential of the Flagstaff Stone (cont.)

Approximately 22,000–24,000 years that orthopyroxene crystals begin to show signs of etching and the glass begins to cloud. The samples from specimen #378 (Flagstaff Stone) are all highly weathered by comparison. This suggests an age for them considerably greater than 24,000 years. A soil at 15 feet at the site, 8 feet above the soil that contained the stone, was radiocarbon dated to approx. 25,000 B.P.

In 1981, my plans for further work at the site and study of the stone came to a sudden halt. The US Forest Service denied a permit for further excavation at the site by Dr. Bryan and me, and demanded the return of the Flagstaff Stone and related stone tools. The study of the stone in Flagstaff at the Forest Service’s offices by Dr. Steen-McIntyre in 1982 required special permission from the Forest Service. The stone resided in the storage facilities of the Coconino Branch of the U.S. Forest Service for 30 years (from 1981 until 2011) until they honored my request for its return.

Efforts are being made to complete the analysis and authentication of the Flagstaff Stone and its age using the most advanced scientific instrumentation currently available. When study is concluded and if it turns out to be consistent with the three previous petrographic studies, we should be able to say that the wisdom and scientific intelligence of the culture that produced the Flagstaff Stone—no matter how long ago they lived—is clearly and unequivocally demonstrated. The fact that it challenges most generally accepted ideas about our early human ancestors and their purported primitive minds and beliefs is a conundrum that future textbooks and theorists will have to confront.

More detailed information about the Flagstaff Stone, including Dr. Steen-McIntyre’s report can be found in PCN:


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Louis Leakey’s view on indigenous languages and age of the earliest Americans

By Tom Baldwin

"Those words from the great man, uttered in the 1960s, ran contrary to the 'received wisdom' of a late arrival for man in the Americas."

Dr. Louis Leakey, the premier archaeologist of the Twentieth Century said to American archaeologists: "With man from Alaska to Cape Horn, with many different languages and at least two civilizations, it is not possible that he was present only the few thousand years that you at present allow."

Those words from the great man, uttered in the 1960s, ran contrary to the "received wisdom" of a late arrival for man in the Americas. They died. With the passing of Clovis, archaeologists were suddenly free to think outside of the box that that theory had held them in. Regrettably that newfound freedom was short lived. Constraints were slapped on them again, this time by fellow scientists from other disciplines. The Max Planck institute started taking stands that forced archaeologists to rethink much of their dogma. It has gotten to the point that more often than not, archaeologists must now run any new theory past their local geneticist for his or her blessing before even presenting it to fellow archaeologists.

That is not the only scientific discipline that’s trampling through archaeology’s garden. Now the linguists are having their say, and that say is much like the quote from Leakey (himself an expert in languages) with which we opened this article. Simply stated, diversity of languages is something that develops over great periods of time. Precontact North America had language and language groups by the score. This would not be true if it all really started with just a single group of people arriving here a mere 11,000 years BP.

In fact, the multitude of languages on the North American side compared to...
Indigenous languages and the earliest Americans (cont.)

The few found on the Siberian side would argue for migration being from east (Alaska) to west (Siberia) and not the other way around as we have all been taught since our infancy. The geneticists say the tie between the two lands is real, but the linguists say how the tie was formed needs to be rethought.

America’s plethora of languages argues for the great age of its peoples. With sites like The Calico Early Man Site in California and Valsequillo in Mexico both yielding dates of around or above 200,000 years for the age of the artifacts found there the evidence mounts for a really early arrival of man in the Americas.

If we allow ourselves that kind of scope for man’s advent on this continent, then there were many glacial maximums and minimums during this planet’s long string of ice ages, when Beringia was either flooded or dry land ready for a crossing (a crossing that was being made in both directions by scores of species of mega fauna from camels to mastodons). So the questions is why wouldn’t man come too? And the answer is, he would.

The Out of Africa theory says we are all descended from an African Eve who lived some 100,000 to 125,000 years ago. Followers hold that her progeny spread out across the planet replacing Neanderthals, Homo erectus, Homo floresiensis (popularly known as Hobbits), Denisovans, etc as they went. These ideas have many advocates today.

Others, however, hold to what is called the Regional Continuity Model. They believe that modern humans evolved more or less simultaneously in all major regions of the world. For example today’s Africans evolved from archaic humans living in Africa.

The same situation would hold for Europeans, and Asians.

As evidence of the Regional Continuity Model adherents say the noses and brow ridges found in many Europeans can be traced back to Neanderthals. Homo erectus remains from China have facial characteristics similar to and unique to modern Chinese. Asians also have shovel shaped teeth just as Homo erectus had. If we all simply came from Africa these things would not be true.

Native Americans do not have a place in the Regional Continuity Model for the simple reason that Clovis taught us for years that America was empty of humanity while any evolving or replacing was going on. Man only found his way here after the change. But what if it wasn’t that way? If Homo erectus was here on the American continents they may very well have evolved into today’s Native Americans, just as Asian Homo erectus may have evolved into modern Chinese.

No Native American tribe has a tradition of its people coming to this land from across a sea. All believe that their ancestors were always here. It is hard to see 10,000 years as being an “Always” but a quarter million years, yeah, that can be an “Always.”

Reference cited
1 Leakey, L. 1972. Pleistocene Man at Calico, 1972, Pleistocene Man in America, pp. 9-12

TOM BALDWIN is an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah. He has also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. Baldwin has been actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, California) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site’s excavation Director (Calico is the only site in the Western Hemisphere which was excavated by Leakey).

Baldwin’s recent book, The Evening and the Morning, is an entertaining fictional story based on the true story of Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of Pleistocene Coalition News, Baldwin has published nine prior articles focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

All of Baldwin’s articles in Pleistocene Coalition News can be found at the following link:
http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin
Creators of widespread “hashtag” cave art are not so easily identified

By Ken Johnston

With an analog from a cave in Ohio, the author questions archaeologists’ claim of ‘hashtag’ cave art at Gibraltar as necessarily being by Neanderthals.

Archaeologist Clive Finlayson’s team has identified a ‘hashtag’ pattern at Gibraltar (Gorham’s Cave near the southern border of Spain and the mouth of the Mediterranean Sea) which he attributes to Neanderthals (Rodríguez-Vidal, J. et al. 2014. A rock engraving made by Neanderthals in Gibraltar. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences [PNAS] 111 (37): 13301–306).

I suggest that Professor Finlayson and most other mainstream archaeologists, as well, should take a broader look at Paleolithic art before so readily attributing any examples to specific “species” of humans. In this particular instance, they should acknowledge the existence of clearly similar symbolic marking conventions in Koonalda Cave, Australia; Seneca Caverns, Ohio; and many other locations around the world (Fig. 1).

One of the reasons this is seldom done in the mainstream is because it brings into view the possibility that early people were far more mobile than they’ve taught they were.

This a problem for the mainstream because it makes it much more difficult to confine different early people to specific places and times which, of course, creates problems for all the migration and similar theories.

According to dogmatic mainstream beliefs, Neanderthals could not have been in Australia or the Americas. My question would be then, how do we explain how a proposed Neanderthal behavior as the hash-tag was transferred to another “species” (i.e. modern Homo sapiens which is the most likely candidate according to the mainstream view for the Seneca Caverns engraving)? And this would apply similarly to other places distant from Gibraltar.

> Cont. on page 19
“Hashtag” cave artists not easily identified (cont.)

Just like the Gibraltar example in the article, the Ohio cave grid carvings that I discovered are on a flat stone shelf extending from the cave wall and approximately 16 inches above the cave floor. While it may have some symbolic meaning it might also have marked an ideal sitting spot, and hence, have had some practical significance. The grid pictured is approximately 25cm wide.

Both Seneca Caverns, Ohio, and Koonalda Cave, Australia, have underground bodies of water. And like the Ohio caverns, Koonalda Cave also has deliberate markings on a stone shelf.

Archaeologists like Finlayson are too quick to attribute examples of art to Neandertals primarily because they have a certain preconceived date and time frame in mind for designating the ‘arrival of modern humans’ in Western Europe.

These dates and the certainty of them are quite dubious. They are based largely on association of tool and technology types to different human species or cultures. This idea is well-known to be un-supported and, in many cases, even contradicted by archaeological evidence.

Those working in the discipline of archaeology tend to get stuck in the rut of thinking of different cultures in the terms of various tools. Again, it is well-known that you can’t separate cultures by tool types as practical needs will always tend toward production and use of the same types of tools for the same types of purposes. E.g., all cultures have practical use for sharp implements or tools for hammering or scraping. On the other hand, artistic behaviors, languages, social systems, religious beliefs, these are the kinds of things more appropriate for distinguishing between different cultures or linking them to each other.

And while not as popular an explanation as it was 20 years ago, many still think of such patterns as those discussed in this article as related to hallucination-type experiences by humans in deep states of shamanic or meditative trances (phosphenes and other entoptic phenomena) as unconsciously influencing what artists did.

More realistically, though, perhaps Neandertals and modern humans had the same cognitive abilities and mind-state alteration practices or rituals. Might not the cross-hatch carving be a shared behavior which can destroy the intelligence dichotomy traditionally implied by separation terms such as “Neanderthal” or “modern human” in a similar way to the use of practical tools?

Another important consideration is that the existence of the cross-hatch or hashtag motif on three continents could just as well be an indicator that Neandertals, like other humans, made their way around the world in the hundred thousand years or so they dominated the planet. In the many archaeological locations where tools are found, but no human remains, we must keep our minds open to the possibility that Neandertals were using stone tools which are not yet associated with Neandertals only for the reason that in a few locations similar tools have been found along with modern human remains.

Or perhaps the link to Neandertals cannot be so certain at Gibraltar because modern humans were also purveyors of these very same grids.

More information is needed to assure us that this Gibraltar find is indeed attributable to Neandertals. At this time, I do not think this is possible. Meanwhile, ample evidence of Homo heidelbergensis and Neanderthal art detected by amateur and professional archaeologists is completely ignored by the mainstream discipline because it does not fit its dogma.

If Finlayson is eager to discover Neanderthal art in situ, he might consult with the people who have actually studied it, such as art and religion scholar James Harrod, Ph.D., founder and curator of OriginsVerg and The Pleistocene Coalition.

There is no sense in looking for art near the supposed c. 40,000 years BP arrival of “modern humans” in Europe because there is substantial room for confusion about which “species” were responsible for it. Their art may be found in much older contexts if one knows what to look for. Or better yet, maybe we should consider it all our art, that is, the art of human beings, which dates to the dawn of our existence.

Ken Johnston, one of the primary researchers in the topic of “figure stones,” lives on Buckeye Lake in Hebron, Ohio. He has a B.A. from Ohio State University in Communication, including cultural anthropology coursework. He is now a self-employed software quality and testing analyst. He is a member of the Flint Ridge chapter of the Ohio Archaeological Society as well as the American Society for Amateur Archaeology. Johnston received over one hundred acclamations from like-minded amateurs in response to his locally published 2007 paper, Forsaken Artifacts: Crude Stone Tools. Johnston has two prior articles in Pleistocene Coalition News: Pair of eyes or pareidolia? PCN #9, Jan-Feb 2011, and ‘Figure stones,’ what to do with them?, PCN #13, September-October 2011.

Website: http://http://portablerockart.blogspot.com/

"Archaeologists like Finlayson are too quick to attribute art examples to Neandertals because they have a certain preconceived date and time frame in mind for the 'arrival of modern humans' in Western Europe. These dates and the certainty of them are quite dubious."
Celebrating 50 years of Valsequillo work

The more things change ...

By Chris Hardaker MA, archaeologist

Fifty years ago it was August 1964, and the hidden gears of academic forces were being fueled by the great realization of a remarkable discovery southeast of Mexico City outside a town called Puebla (Fig. 1).

Archaeologist Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams was ending her second season at the Valsequillo Reservoir. This was the year she called for backup: Hal Malde, a geologist from the US Geological Survey, and paleontologist Clayton Ray from the Smithsonian. Harvard is supporting the archaeologist. Williams was now directing what may have been the first top shelf geo-archaeological investigation in the history of New World archaeology. She was doing geo-archaeology before it officially existed within the Academy, by decades; probably even before the name was ever coined.

Four years earlier, August 15th, 1960, the reservoir became famous for something that took the world by storm. This is the issue of LIFE magazine with Marilyn Monroe on the cover. Inside was the debut of an Ice Age artifact, the New World’s oldest art (Archaeology: Art of Americas from 30,000 B.C.: Pictures Carved on Bone Found in Mexico give Valuable New Clues About Prehistoric Man, p. 86). Juan Armenta Camacho, an uber-avocationalist from Puebla, discovered part of an elephant pelvis. There was an Ice Age bestiary etched into the mineralized bone.

Later they found the bone was scribed when it was ‘green’—i.e. still fresh. Small filaments of bone matter which were also mineralized still occupied the crevasses of the artwork. Such filaments are only produced when cutting green bone. Armenta verified this with local university help.

By 1964, Williams had accrued a number of stone tool artifacts, primarily projectile points, from small flake points lower down in the profile, to a thick notched point and several nicely worked bifaces (stone tools worked on both sides) higher up. One point fragment even showed evidence of pressure flaking. At that point she had enough evidence to demonstrate in situ evolution of projectile point technology.

And there was no sign of Clovis fluted point technology anywhere.

The lowest site in the Valsequillo Gravels, a geological column of sediments—mostly sand and silt with a few gravel lenses and lots of volcanic ash and pumice layers—had built up over hundreds of thousands of years. Nobody who mattered ever imagined it would contain archaeological material.

Two years later, during the initial excavation season, Irwin-Williams and Armenta surveyed the perimeter of the reservoir when it was low and found up to 90 elephant bone sites. Three were excavated that year and they all had stone artifacts and butchered bone.

Williams was now directing what may have been the first top shelf geo-archaeological investigation in the history of New World archaeology.”
The more things change (cont.)

els was El Horno. There were no points at that site, just flake tools used to help butcher an elephant. Some-where in the Gravels above El Horno, projectile points appeared. And she knew she had just barely scratched the surface of what lay buried around the reservoir.

90 known elephant bone features were logged in during a routine survey of the shores. Of these, about 87 remain where they were noted more than a half-century ago. Locals say that when the lake lowers during the seasons, small islands of bone-encrusted sediments peep above the waters.

The Valsequillo sites were no-brainers where artifacts (e.g., Fig. 2) and bones and everything else (like diatoms) were stuck fast in gently laid lake and stream sediments that virtually locked them in their original placements. The geology of the Valsequillo sites was perfect for paleontology and archaeology. Everything was perfect about Valsequillo.

1966 was the last year Valsequillo was excavated by archaeologists during the 20th Century. INAH (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, or National Institute of Anthropology and History, a Mexican federal government bureau) called a halt. By the 1970s Valsequillo was forgotten by all professionals who valued their career. The Society for American Archaeology took control of the situation by running away, officially. A decade ago they tried throwing Professor Mike Waters of Texas A & M University on it, and he failed. It was a hit job from the beginning, and it backfired. Now only silence graces Academia, on both sides of the border ... if you know what’s good for you.

Valsequillo is the most fertile paleo-archaeologi-cal wonderland in the New World. It comes with a built-in evolution of projectile point technologies, a large amount of unmodified and probably tons of modified and/or butchered bones, all surrounded by diatoms and sandwiched in between volcanic ash layers. And if that’s not enough, it also houses the earliest figurative art in the New World, possibly the entire world. The largesse of the overall deposits promises a century or more of unimaginable Paleolithic delights.

The Mojave Desert surrounding Calico (in California) is a close second. Do a records search and look at the last fifty years of paleo-sites and paleo-sites research either for the Pleistocene Lake Manix region or for the Valsequillo Reservoir region. Nuff said.

Apparently, the professional investigation of the First Americans was never about science. It was, and remains, about consensus and the agendas by a hierarchy of the experts, namely, the Clovis Mafia.* I don’t know what these folks are called now, but they are currently moving the goal posts back to 25,000 years as the wall of acceptable research. Even the 33,000-year old dates from Mesa Verde 2 (in Chile) are out of bounds. Meanwhile, these extraordinary archaeologies sit patiently for a future generation or none at all.

Seems like old times.

* Some information on the “Clovis Mafia”:


While you’re at it, here’s a search for the phrase, Clovis Mafia.


CHRIS HARDAKER 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. See the series, The abomination of Calico, Parts 1-3, beginning in PCN #6, July-August 2010, and Calico redux: Artifacts or geofacts: Original 2009 paper updated and serialized for PCN (PCN #24, July-August, 2013) and Part 2 (PCN #26, November-December 2013) for more details. Hardaker is also author of the book, The First American: The suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World (Amazon).

Website: http://calico-earthmeasure.com/
Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 9

The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Echinodermata

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

“The apparent first appearance of a crinoid occurs in the Lower Ordovician of England... It was not an intermediate form. It was not a primitive link with older... ancestors. The lack of a sequence of transitional types leading back to the ancestral stock is, of course, the chief reason for the uncertainty about origin of the class.”


**Question.** According to the physical facts of the fossil record (not imaginary family trees, extrapolations from genetics, or other tricks of the Darwinism trade), what are the ancestors of the echinoderms—crinoids, starfish, and sea urchins?

**Proposed answer.** Crinoids, starfish, and sea urchins.

Echinoderms (Figs. 1-7) appeared hundreds of millions of years ago and survive today. And like with all invertebrates, the fossil record and origin of these creatures is a frustration to scientists incongruously teaching evolution as fact. Tasch’s description implying that the ‘intermediate’ ancestors of other animals are less uncertain than those of crinoids is misleading (see Part 2, *Fictions taught as fact in college textbooks, 1st half, PCN #23, May-June 2013; or in html* because not one has been established.

### Table 1

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The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Echinodermata

Echinoderms (Figs. 1-7) appeared hundreds of millions of years ago and survive today. And like with all invertebrates, the fossil record and origin of these creatures is a frustration to scientists incongruously teaching evolution as fact. Tasch’s description implying that the ‘intermediate’ ancestors of other animals are less uncertain than those of crinoids is misleading (see Part 2, *Fictions taught as fact in college textbooks, 1st half, PCN #23, May-June 2013; or in html* because not one has been established.

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<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>1 7/8&quot; (4.5 cm) Portion of very tall crinoid stem showing internal structure, Mississippian; War Eagle River; War Eagle, Arkansas</td>
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<td>Crinoidea</td>
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<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>View c. 1 1/16&quot; (3.3 cm) Encrinal limestone; author; Ordovician; Middletown, Ohio</td>
</tr>
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<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>2&quot; tall (48 cm) L. Eucalyptocrinites crown, R. holdfast root system; Silurian; Waldron Quarry, IN</td>
</tr>
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<td>Crinoidea</td>
<td>Unchanged 488 million years</td>
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<td>1 1/2&quot; tall Arthrocantha crown; Devonian; Medusa Quarry, Sylvania, Ohio</td>
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<td>Crinoidea</td>
<td>Unchanged 488 million years</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>Calyx 11/16&quot; (1.8 cm) Left: Well-preserved UJ crinoid calyx (today). Middle and Right. Two crinoid spines; Pennsylvanian; St. Aloysius Quarry; Paris, Illinois</td>
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<td>Crinoidea</td>
<td>Unchanged 488 million years</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
<td>2 1/2&quot; (6.5 cm) L. Ectenocrinus crown; R. Ectenocrinus stems (c. 3&quot;) preserved in &quot;logjam style&quot;; Ordovician; Big Bone Lick, Kentucky</td>
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Fig. 4. Examples of the class Crinoidea. It appeared in the Ordovician seas c. 488 MYA, survived the Permian extinction, and lives today. The three genera named were living fossils up to 50 million years (Eucalyptocrinites) until they went extinct. All from formation.

Fig. 5. Two completely different crinoid types which remained the same throughout their tenure in the fossil record and which, like all other animals, did not mutate or morph into anything other than what they were originally (both collected from formation by the author). *Top:* Periechinocrinites (Subclass Camerata); Mississippian; Table Rock, Missouri; 1 3/4" tall (4.3 cm). *Bottom:* Phanocrinus (Subclass Cladida); Mississippian; Sulphur, Indiana; Crown is 2" tall (3.7 cm). During the Permian extinction 252 million years ago—when all life nearly came to an end—98% of crinoid families were lost. That means that all crinoids living today are the descendents of the remaining 2%. If you are looking for a scientific “Noah’s Ark,” there you have one. The point is that they were crinoids when they first appeared in the fossil record 488 million years ago and they are crinoids today.

The authority of sciences that teach as fact the exact opposite of what the cumulative, abundant, and better than photographic physical evidence of the fossil record actually says needs to be questioned. It doesn’t matter how many adherents there are. Three sciences are now caught up in the concealment of evidence for the sake of promoting a mythological view of origins as science—biology, palaeontology, and anthroplogy. These fields are grouped together because they each push the same ideas through the use of propaganda and suppression, which are not traits of science. Note that traits like the above are not a part of chemistry, physics, astronomy, geology, psychology, or mathematics. But the course of science as a collective discipline made a big mistake when it absorbed Darwinism despite the fossil record. Beginning with Darwin, scientists actually started belittling the fossil record as a “record poorly kept.” Then, when the evidence did not support evolution, instead of being honest with the public, they increased their commitment to the error—the largest in science—and started teaching it as “fact.” Recently, they have begun to derive the world’s multicultural religions and their beliefs as a form of intimidation—a standard propaganda technique.

One sign of a catch-22 in science is the range of contradictions in how experts describe the fossil record. If the reader recalls, in Part 7, *Living Fossils: Mollusca* the late Dr. Ralph Buchsbaum,
The inconvenient facts of living fossils: *Echinodermata* (cont.)

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<td>Crinoidea</td>
<td>Several variations on crinoid stems from a single locality</td>
<td>Worldwide</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="View c. 3 1/2&quot; (9 cm)" /> Variable crinoid stem sections; Pennsylvanian; Paris, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 488 million years</strong></td>
<td>Ordovician–Recent; 488.3 MYA–Present</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="9/16&quot; (1.4 cm)" /> Left: Unidentified fossil used here only as a quick placeholder. Being rare or unknown at all of the formations visited, even over thirty years time, the author has no confirmed starfish or sea urchins in his collection. This fossil may well be something like the byrozoan <em>Evactinopora</em> which is often confused with starfish. The fossil is in slight relief above the surface. Each ray has what resembles an ambulacral groove extending from the center hole to the tip of the ray, Mississippian; War Eagle, Arkansas. Right: A modern-day starfish (public domain).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starfish</td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 450 million years</strong></td>
<td>Ordovician–Recent; 450.0 MYA–Present</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="1/16&quot; ea. (1.3 cm)" /> c. 1/2&quot; ea. Detoocrinus crinoid cups; Pennsylvanian, Paris, Illinois.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crinoids and trilobites lived together for 200 million years</td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 200 million years</strong></td>
<td>Ordovician–Permian; c. 450.0–252.3 MYA</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="11/16&quot; ea. (1.8 cm)" /> Left: Twisted-stem crinoid; Pennsylvanian, Paris, Illinois. Right: unidentified fossil used here only as a quick placeholder. Being rare or unknown at all of the formations visited, even over thirty years time, the author has no confirmed starfish or sea urchins in his collection. This fossil may well be something like the byrozoan <em>Evactinopora</em> which is often confused with starfish. The fossil is in slight relief above the surface. Each ray has what resembles an ambulacral groove extending from the center hole to the tip of the ray, Mississippian; War Eagle, Arkansas. Right: A modern-day starfish (public domain).</td>
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<td>Platycrinidae</td>
<td>crinoid family; Class Camerata</td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 157 million years</strong></td>
<td>Ordovician–Permian; 416.0–259.0</td>
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<td>Eriscorinoida</td>
<td>Crinoid superfamily</td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 122 million years</strong></td>
<td>Devonian–Permian; 376.1–254 MYA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancycrocrinus</td>
<td>Crinoid genus with grapnel-style anchor; Subclass Cladida</td>
<td><strong>Unchanged 33 million years</strong></td>
<td>Devonian; 416.0–383.7 MYA</td>
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*Fig. 6. One reason biology, paleontology, and anthropology have been able to spread evolutionism without standard scientific rigor is a public unfamiliar with the fossil record. Change that and the “evolution is a fact” story will gradually start to be questioned.*

"Excellent." "Unbroken." "Relatively complete." These descriptions do not at all match what the public has been told about the fossil record, that it is "a record poorly kept." This is a very relevant contradiction which anyone with a scientific mind needs to ponder. If a record is "excellent" and "unbroken" one can surely conclude that any transitional forms—if they ever existed—would be as abundant as any other fossils. Instead, genera, families, orders, classes, and phyla are all very distinct.

One way I have proposed to bring biology, paleontology, and anthropology closer to the open-minded goals of science is the *Objective International 3D Stratigraphic Column* project. It involves trillions of chronological layers with fossils accessible in road cuts, railroad cuts, quarries, mountainsides, stream cuts, and geological cores across tens of thousands of miles (those interested can be involved in many different ways which I hope to describe later). The *Column* is an interactive spherical graph literally the size of the earth because it *is* the earth. Sequences of fossils can be followed in three or four dimensions in the field, in books, or on the Internet.

The fossils in the invertebrate record are excellently laid out and preserved with no need to imagine invisible or unknown creatures, something which has implications that must be addressed. So far, the facts (not evolutionary theory) confirm that the oldest of every creature is ‘already’ that creature. To look at this picture objectively, that’s what science is all about.

*John Feliks has specialized in the study of early human cognition for twenty 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 parts of Canada. With increasing efforts to force evolution on U.S. children as fact while blocking opposing evidence, Feliks encourages students to insist that science teachers present all evidence objectively—as it is done in all normal sciences.*
By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer

My recent travel to Europe reawakened my enthusiasm. I am convinced that Australian archaeology can be rescued, and that my theory of the advanced pre-Aboriginal races can be proven correct, thanks to the impressive work of our European colleagues.

European archaeologists have little dealings with Australian archaeologists, who usually try to prevent and obstruct any objective scientific research into Australian prehistory. Nowadays, international institutions do not really need Australian cooperation when piecing together the bigger picture of the past of mankind. A number of research projects are in progress, since DNA tests can be conducted on the Australian fossilized skeletal samples already held by European institutions.

I found many reasons to be optimistic again. Although most of the Australian archaeological collections have been destroyed, thanks to the collections preserved outside Australia, and to DNA testing conducted by multinational teams of researchers, Australians will eventually be able to learn the facts about the Australian past.

To keep such research going and gain more insight into the history of mankind, European and American museums have a common interest—to resist Australian demands for repatriation of archaeological objects. Australian requests for return of those objects, unsupported by the DNA evidence, are often based solely on arbitrary claims that the bones belong to the ancestors of a contemporary Aboriginal tribe.

The museums in Europe and the United States have for decades argued that most of the objects in their collections have little or no connection with contemporary Aboriginal tribes. Whether there is indeed any link between the ancient fossilized skeletons and the individuals who claim to be their descendants can be easily proven these days. DNA genome sequencing has advanced, and comparison of the DNA markers is now routine.

Cardinal errors which have spelled the end of Australian academic freedom

Australian prehistory can be discussed in two ways: 1.) as being in line with a BPC (Before Political Correctness) or 2.) with the APC (After Political Correctness) paradigm.

The new paradigm, developed during the 1970s, dictated a new approach to archaeology. It was a political decision which started with good intentions to empower Aboriginal people, lift them out of the stone age, and help them better themselves. The new APC regime started with the systematic falsification of the Australian past, engaging a number of experts and spending billions of dollars on vilifying BPC researchers and refuting historical records.

The APC “sensitive” approach, which started with the Whitlam Government in the 1970s, marked the beginning of a number of disastrous decisions. Those included the practice of hiding the truth in order to pacify contemporary tribes. One of them was a repatriation policy—mandatory return of all fossilized human remains to the Aborigines. This led to systematic destruction of hundreds and thousands of ancient bones.

Repatriation policy was met with resistance by Australian archaeologists. They saw it as the end of academic freedom and strongly opposed it, pointing out it was based on Aboriginal false claims. They were convinced that those claims were formulated only to achieve political objectives (The Herald, July 23, 1984).

Stuart Piggott, a British archaeologist, also rejected the validity of Aboriginal beliefs. He too agreed that requests were politically motivated and protested against the demands of the Echuca Aboriginal tribe for the return of the Kow Swamp fossils: “When emotions mixed with political objectives take over from common sense and reason, the results can be disastrous. If we are to ignore great men of science such as Emeritus Professor John Mulvaney and Dr Alan Thorne, and act on the radical rec-
Aboriginal Australian tribes."

To this day, Professor Mulvaney has stood by his convictions. He maintains that repatriation policy is a form of crime. In his unsuccessful appeal to the Government to prevent the loss of the Kow Swamp fossils, he argued: "Their kin cannot be presumed to have shared the same cultural values or religious concepts of this generation. Neither can a few people 'own' them, in the sense of being free to destroy them. Indeed, this vast time factor, combined with their distinctive physical differences, ensure that any line of descent is to the Aboriginal race everywhere, not to Echuca people alone. Whatever justification the local people advance for re-burial, future generations of Australians of any skin colour will term it vandalism" (John Mulvaney, Past regained, future lost: the Kow Swamp Pleistocene burials, Antiquity 1991).

For a couple of decades archaeologists kept fighting the unwinnable battle to preserve their professional integrity. They expressed concern that repatriation will cause irreparable damage to world archaeology, and disagreed with the new demands of mindlessly attaching a label of "secret/sacred" to any archaeological find, precluding any objective research. They saw it as the final blow to academic freedom. They pointed out that such an "ethic approach" is in fact ideological dictatorship. They were ignored.

Predecessors, Ancestors, and white Aborigines

One of the cardinal errors which in turn enabled the APC regime to flourish and keep destroying archaeological material was a failure to clearly distinguish between preceding races and the Aboriginal race. Aborigines were hastily declared to be the "first people," indigenous to the Australian continent. Consequently, by the 1990s it became forbidden to mention any advanced pre-Aboriginal race which inhabited the Australian continent long before the arrival of Aboriginal tribes. This led to the gagging of any archaeologist who examined finds belonging to pre-Aboriginal races, either to Homo erectus—such as the Kow Swamp, Talgai or Coobool Creek remains—or to modern-looking Homo sapiens, such as Mungo Man. Even those finds which are clearly non-Aboriginal now must be referred to as 'Aboriginal sacred ancestors.'

In the chain reaction which followed, all Australian prehistoric objects—including skulls, bones and skeletons—were declared to belong to contemporary tribes.

Repatriation was enforced through a new "ethical protocol" for Australian universities and museums, who were robbed of their archaeological collections, with excuses that showing these objects is offensive to Aborigines.

Another cardinal error was the failure to clearly distinguish between the original stone age Aboriginal culture that the colonisers found upon their arrival and Aboriginal culture today.

The final cardinal error was the decision to allow just about anyone to declare themselves to be of Aboriginal descent, even when not supported by any evidence. To claim Aboriginal descent brings instant access to all the privileges and funding available to Aboriginal people. Since there is no requirement to provide any real proof for such a claim, hundreds of thousands of white people scrambled to claim Aboriginal ancestry. From about 40,000 tribal Aborigines as counted a few decades ago, the number has ballooned to more than 500,000 as shown in the last Australian Census (Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census 2011). These white nouveaux Aborigines now form part of the Aboriginal industry which is the main obstacle to any objective archaeological research.

Fortunately, Australian prehistory can still be investigated in Europe, Asia, and the United States. There are great collections that most international museums have now decided to keep (e.g., Figs. 1-2), ignoring repatriation demands, as they have become fully aware that those objects would be destroyed and important...
Australian past, present, and future (cont.)

The Hungarian National Museum and its Archaeological Department, as well as the Natural History Museum in Budapest, Hungary, have collections of materials dating back 400,000 years.

Touching and examining ancient skulls in European museums was beyond scientific, analytical, intellectual or curiosity-driven work. Touching ancient bones is a spiritually charged experience, and my thanks go to the curators who organized for me to gain access to parts of their collections not open to the general public.

The Hungarian National Museum and its Archaeological Department, as well as the Natural History Museum in Budapest, Hungary, have collections of materials dating back 400,000 years. They keep hundreds and thousands of skulls that can help with adding pieces to the mosaic of the early human journey across the world. The Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, as well as the Neanderthal Museum in Krapina, both in Croatia, keep impressive anthropological collections. Even a small regional museum in Skrip on the Croatian Island of Brac, holds a collection which would put any Australian archaeological display to shame.

My delight at the opportunity to examine material forbidden in Australia was mixed with sorrow. I felt sorry for the generations of archaeology students in Australia. Most of them literally never saw, nor touched, any real Australian prehistoric skull. Instead, most of the subjects they study relate to legal matters, political imperatives and instructions on how to deal with Aboriginal tribes.

Some students can no longer tolerate this ideological tyranny and its appeasement policy. Instead of blindly accepting the APC paradigm, they are now turning to the old books, such as “The Passing of the Aborigines” by Daisy Bates (1938) and “Journals of two expeditions” by George Grey (1841), as well as more recent writings by Rhys Jones and John Mulvaney. Tired of more than four decades of enforced single-mindedness and a worldview which is now crashing down, these fresh minds are rediscovering and embracing the tenets outlined by Dr. Mulvaney in his appeal in 1991: “Outrage [over repatriation policy] would extend far beyond the ranks of the ‘heritocracy’ should the French nationalist ‘owners’ re-bury the Cro-Magnon human remains or overpaint Lascaux, or if Ethiopians cremated ‘Lucy.’”

In view of the latest DNA research, those wise words are more important today than ever before.

Note: This article is included in the Request to the Federal Government for an Inquiry into Aboriginal Industry Corruption, by Donald Richardson and Vesna Tenodi.
The most pertinent evidence goes ignored in recent Ohio History article about the “very first” Americans

By Chris Hardaker MA, archaeologist

The following is a list of grievances archaeologist Chris Hardaker posted in response to yet another mainstream article misrepresenting the extent of evidence for early people in the Americas. The article to which he is responding is Brad Lepper’s “Who were the very first Americans,” posted September 28, 2014 on the Ohio History Collection Archaeology Blog.

http://apps.ohiohistory.org/ohioarchaeology/who-were-the-very-first-americans/

Chris Hardaker regarding:

“It’s important that we neither accept a claim for a very early site that is not well substantiated nor reject a claim simply because it doesn’t fit our expectations.”

- Great idea Brad, and a nice pat on the back for archies, but very disappointing in practice. Adovasio did not refer to the Clovis First gang as “the Clovis Mafia” for no reason. In fact, according to these same “experts,” I was told if I wanted a grant to investigate the first Americans, at most, I could only propose a maximum of 25ky—which leaves out Monte Verde 2 and its 33ky dates. Back in 2008, Michael Collins (Gault site) told an audience that those dates should be kept on a shelf in the back of the academic closet for ten years until they (the SAA) knew what to do with them. Nobody publicly disagreed with him. Talk about wimps. This is pretty interesting, don’t you think? Why didn’t you even mention this monumental find as even a possibility?

- And talk about omissions from your report—why did you not mention that it took the experts of the SAA almost 20 years to actually visit (i.e. recognize) Monte Verde 1? This would have been an excellent example of ignoring a site that fell outside acceptable expectations. 20 f33king years! Finally, in 1999, the obvious finally hit the fan: the Clovis First paradigm was officially busted.

- Worse, you and the rest of the mainstream continue to practice willful ignorance when it comes to the Greatest Paleo Discovery of the Americas. It was back in the early 1960s. It was at the Valsequillo Reservoir outside Puebla, Mx. It was celebrated in LIFE Magazine in 1960, while the most amazing artifact ever to surface was on display at the Smithsonian. What was discovered? Mineralized bones were found with art on them: images of extinct mammals etched into the bone when it was green. Then Marie Wormington and Harvard sent Cynthia Irwin-Williams to excavate several sites. She had help from the USGS and the Smithsonian.

> Cont. on page 29
Most pertinent ‘first Americans’ evidence ignored (cont.)

She discovered a technological wonder never duplicated in the New World: a case for the technological evolution of pre-Clovis projectile point technology. No small thing. ONLY because the dates did not jive with “expectations” has it remained ignored. And it is still being ignored and misrepresented geologically by Mike Waters. In case you missed it, this is an excellent film on the subject. Sorry Brad. The closed dogmatic minds of US mainstream archaeology remains intact. They just moved the goal posts back a tad, again, arbitrarily.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P09HtDdhcFo [Forbidden Archeology SUPPRESSED New Evidence of Early Man HD FEATURE FILM]


These were ancient dates, but even if there were errors in the dating—something you will have to take up with the USGS who dated the site in many different ways—there is No Excuse for rejecting, avoid and ignoring these incredible finds. The mainstream—eg. the SAA—literally “ran away” when USGS would not cooperate by rejecting their own geochemical science! This was the same science and scientists involved in dating Olduvai Gorge! Sadly, you are either ignorant or worse, i.e. committing the act of omission because it doesn’t fit your expectations. The way you slammed Pedra Furada is another example: why didn’t you mention Robson Bonnichsen’s photos of use wear polish on the lithics from the site? This is what they mean by “cherry picking.” The Clovis Firsters will become the wacky wonders when future students read about this period when archaeologists “thought” they were doing science. The professor will begin the lecture: “Take note, this is exactly how you Do Not do science.”

As long as professionals like you persevere in your present mindset, ‘archaeological science’ in the United States will continue to be decided by “expectations” and “consensus.” This means that archaeology will continue to be driven by a theory-oriented, groupthink approach to the First Americans, rather than the “evidence driven” approach utilized by bona fide sciences. In the former, you fit the facts to your established theory, rejecting anything that does not fit your expectations. In the latter, you follow the evidence and let the cards fall where they may.

I know. It takes balls to attempt to negate long accepted hypotheses, but that’s how the game is played. Maybe someday, some generation of US archaeologists will grow a pair.

CHRIS HARDAKER 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. See the series, The abomination of Calico, Parts 1-3, beginning in PCN #6, July-August 2010, and Calico redux: Artifacts or geofacts: Original 2005 paper updated and serialized for PCN (PCN #24, July-August. 2013) and Part 2 (PCN #26, November-December 2013) for more details. He is also the author of a new PCN series on specific artifacts from Calico beginning with Calico’s “double-notched” blades from T-22, PCN #30, July-August 2014. Hardaker is also author of the book, The First American: The suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World. Website: http://calico.earthmeasure.com/
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The Pleistocene Coalition is now into its sixth year of challenging mainstream scientific dogma. If you would like to join the coalition please write to the editors.