



# PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

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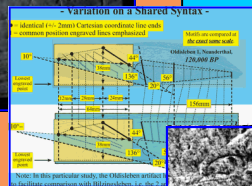
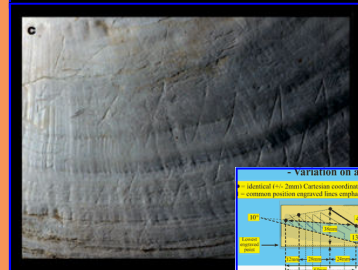
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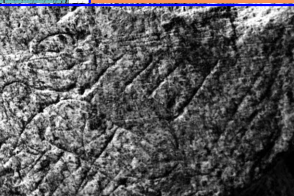
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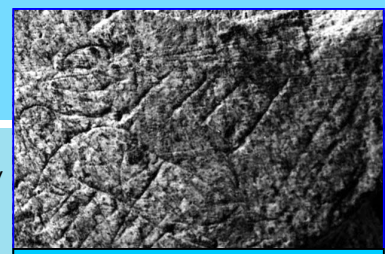
## National Geographic, January 2015— Same old same old

Virginia Steen-McIntyre  
PhD, Volcanic ash specialist

**The January 2015 issue of the National Geographic has a couple of articles you might want to read. One is on the "First Artists," the other on the "First Americans."** Both give the current establishment take on these topics. As expected, none of the early sites or artwork from the Americas reported in previous issues of the PCN newsletter (e.g., **Fig. 1**) are mentioned. Selective amnesia? You decide.

**Valsequillo**  
Concerning the Valsequillo, Mexico sites: INAH, the Mexican

government's National Institute of Anthropology and History, in 2007 coordinated an international team of researchers to study the 12,000-13,000 year old Naia skeleton and Hoyo Negro, the drowned cavern that became her tomb. They were involved in excavations at the Hueyatlaco site in 1997, 2001, and 2004. In fact, one of their key people excavated there in 2001 and stated emphatically in the field that, contrary to claims by critics, the sediment layers were almost rock hard, and no way could artifacts have been planted by driving them into the



**Fig. 1.** Tetela 1 engraved mastodon bone from Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico (Editor's crop); dated at least 80,000 years old; originally published in *National Geographic* and *LIFE* magazines. The engravings are well known to have been made while the bone was still "green." The artifact—once housed at the Smithsonian—is now missing.

dirt without leaving evidence of disturbance. (He died of a heart attack days before he was to be interviewed by a member of our team about the subsequent

> [Cont. on page 2](#)

**"Geoarchaeologist Mike Waters... had earlier tried hard to discredit the site's great age [Hueyatlatco].**

**...He was not successful."**

destruction of most of the site by massive earth moving equipment in 2011.) Not a peep from INAH to the international early man community about this exciting site, which appears to be 20-30 times older than Hoyo Negro. If they have published any research from the many sediment samples they and we took for them there, I'm not aware of it.

#### **Skeletal remains? Artwork?**

The late Sam VanLandingham, PhD, founding member of the Coalition (found dead in his home two years ago) had identified diagnostic diatoms taken earlier from within the sutures of the Dorenberg skull (discovered in Puebla, Mexico) and the sediment layers from which the Tetela 1 art piece (again, Fig. 1) was recovered. Sangamon interglacial in age, according to the diatom record. That means at least 80,000 years old. The skull itself was destroyed during a WW II bombing raid in Germany; the Tetela 1 art piece, originally stored at the Smithsonian Institution, disappeared while housed at the museum in Mexico City.

Geoarchaeologist Mike Waters shares information in the recent *National Geographic* article on the wealth of pre-Clovis artifacts dated 15,500 years ago that he uncovered at the

Friedkin/Buttermilk Creek site, Texas and what they may imply. Mike was site director at Hueyatlatco in 2004, and is well aware of the early dates we have for the artifacts uncovered at that site (from greater than 80,000 to 430,000 years). There was no mention of Hueyatlatco in the article. Earlier, he had tried hard to discredit the site's great age, at least for the upper, bifacial artifacts, by claiming a 'cut-and-fill' relationship, with a much younger set of artifact-bearing stream-channel sedimentary beds cutting into the older, dated layers. He was not successful. He didn't attempt to discredit the older, unifacial tools from lower in the sedimentary section. The million-plus viewed video, SUPPRESSED New Evidence of Early Man, especially the interview with the late Bob McKinney near the end (died in the hospital from a simple operating procedure that went wrong), and our online article (Malde et al., 2011) gives our answer to him.

#### **Other extremely old American sites**

While the Monte Verde, Chile site is mentioned, the older dates for artifacts from lower in the excavated section are not (Monte Verde 2, 33k yrs, [Issue 8 p.13](#)). No mention of: Calico (200k+ yrs., [Issue](#)

[13 pp. 6,7](#)); the Flagstaff site (Sangamon interglacial, >80k yrs. [Issue 31 p. 13](#)); Old Crow Basin, Yukon (Pre-Sangamon, [Issue 20 p.16](#)); National City/Caltrans State Route 54, California (ca 300k yrs, [Issue 3 p.10](#)); Snowmastodon/Ziegler Reservoir, Colorado (40-150k, [Issue 17 p. 18](#)); Hollomon Gravel Pit, Oklahoma (ca 150k, [Issue 25 pp 2-4](#)); Pedra Furada, Brazil (50-100k, [Issue 7 p.11](#)); the Malakoff Heads, Texas (50-100k, [Issue 20 pp. 4-6](#)); the Dorenberg skull (>80ky, [Issue 6 pp.1,4-5](#)), the Ostrander skull ([Issue 7 p.17](#)), the Calaveras skull ([Issue 8 pp.8,9](#)) Solórzano's Chapala skull ([Issue 2 p.3](#)) . . .

**What to do? Read back issues of the PCN newsletter for the rest of the story! If possible, make paper copies of them so that you have them in case our site is destroyed. And stay connected!**

Malde, Harold E., Steen-McIntyre, Virginia, Naeser, Charles W. and VanLandingham, Sam L. 2011. The stratigraphic debate at Hueyatlatco, Valsequillo, Mexico. *Palaeontologia Electronica* Vol. 14, Issue 3; 44A: 26p; [palaeo-electronica.org/2011\\_3/27\\_malde/index.html](http://palaeo-electronica.org/2011_3/27_malde/index.html) [Hal's first-draft ms. late 2006]

VIRGINIA STEEN-MCINTYRE, PhD, is a volcanic ash specialist, Founding Member of the Pleistocene Coalition, and copy editor and author of *PCN*.

## Member news and other info

### **The nose knows: Neanderthal nasal anatomy supposedly shows it is "not" a subspecies of modern humans**

Virginia Steen-McIntyre response to: Nature World News, *NBC News*, Nov. 19, Jenna Iacurci]

"Neanderthals are our close relatives, but they are not us" according to Jeffrey Laitman, one of the SUNY Downstate Medical Center researchers who made the study.

"The strength of this new research lies in its taking the totality of the Neanderthal nasal complex into account, rather than looking at a single feature," says Dr. Laitman. Neanderthals exhibited a mosaic of unique features not found among any population of *Homo sapiens*, resulting in distinguished noses. Although the external nasal aperture is similar to those found in some groups of modern humans, the protrusion of the midface

(midfacial prognathism) is drastically different.

### **[Hmmm. Not a subspecies but close enough to interbreed! -VSM]**

S. Márquez *et al.* 2014. The nasal complex of Neanderthals: An entry portal to their place in human ancestry. *The Anatomical Record*, Special Issue: The vertebrate nose: Evolution, structure, and function Vol. 297 (11): 2121-37.

> [Cont. on page 3](#)

## Member news and other info (cont.)

**"The call for change in how evolution is conceptualized is rapidly growing. It comes not only from biologists, but also from those in genomics, epigenetics, physiology, ecology and the social sciences."**

**Ray Urbaniak** writes that he has discovered in his archives what appears to be a glyphic representation of an Ice Age camel footprint. He will cover the topic in an upcoming issue.

**Albi Wethli** of Face Music Switzerland (a site promoting non-commercialized and ancient music traditions of the world) wrote regarding Paleolithic people in Northern Siberia. Northeastern Siberia is the area where human groups are believed to have come from in crossing over the Bering Strait Land bridge into North America many thousands of years ago. [Apart from YouTube-posted recordings of ethnic music little-known in Western circles, Wethli's webpages also feature collected information on prehistoric cultures in Siberia as well as many original high-quality photographs he has taken throughout Asia, Europe, and Africa. The photos are not only of the ethnic musical groups he supports but also many of the geological features and landscapes of the regions if anyone would like to get a sense of the regions from which the early Bering Strait travelers came from (<http://www.overtone.cc/photo/photo/listForContributor?screenName=1x028pqfqt2u9>).]

### Message from Aplimat

As an expansion of the Aplimat Applied Mathematics Conference usually held in Bratislava, Slovakia, Marcella Giulia Lorenzi, PhD, and the editorial board are inviting those who would like to submit papers to the journal outside of the Conference.\* As of this year, the organization is starting up a peer-reviewed journal separate from the Conference proceedings. They invite submissions from all fields of mathematics. Here is their website (which is just getting started) where authors can

read their guidelines, etc., <http://www.journal.aplimat.com/>

\*Founding Pleistocene Coalition members Matt Gatton and John Feliks published three papers in the Aplimat proceedings in 2011 and 2012. The papers were kindly presented at the Conferences by the late mathematician, Professor Mauro Francaviglia of Turin University, Italy, along with assistance from Dr. Lorenzi of the University of Calabria.

### Penghu jawbone

Virginia Steen-McIntyre response

The Penghu jawbone, dredged from waters off the coast of Taiwan, is a "primitive-looking fossil which appears to date to within the last 200,000 years (though possibly as much as the last 450,000 years)." According to Chris Stringer, it is... "short and wide, with a very thick body and large teeth." Stringer said it could represent a late example of *Homo erectus* which still may have been present in mainland northeast Asia 400,000 years ago.

**[Interesting if proven true: then the ca 420,000 year edge-retouch tools found in the lower sedimentary beds at Hueyat-laco may have had a *H. erectus* crafter. -VSM]**

### Errata

The lead article in *PCN* Issue #32, Nov-Dec 2014, [New documentary about Hueyat-laco, featuring PC founding members, passes one million views](#), contained a very important omission. A third founding member of the Pleistocene Coalition—along with geologist Virginia Steen McIntyre and archaeologist Chris Hardaker—is also in the film, renowned diatomist and geologist, the late Sam L. VanLandingham. As of this issue, the current number of YouTube views for the film is 1,067,353.

**Ed. Note:** One published response to the film encapsulates the fact that many in academia are starting to recognize the errors in mainstream anthropology while at the same time are still unaware of other censored or ignored evidence creating a contradiction in their beliefs about the capabilities of *Homo erectus*:

"As an archaeologist I have no problems with the dating techniques [of Hueyat-laco], and the people involved are top notch. I have no problems whatsoever with *erectus* making S. America 500,000 ya.. but the tools are wrong..I'd give 30-35,000 for the tool assemblage ..at 500,000 we see acheulians—hand axes and big flakes, not small flakes and bi-facials..what remains clear, a major cover up was performed by party or parties unknown..and that screams politics."—Archaeologist, Chris Huff

It is a good sign that Dr. Huff discounts the mainstream mantra of no *Homo erectus* in the Americas and acknowledges the 250,000-year old USGS dates for Hueyat-laco. PC founding member Virginia Steen-McIntyre was part of the USGS team in 1966. However, Huff's suggestion that the tool types are too advanced for their age is not correct as proven by the Acheulian-age microlithic tools from Bilzingsleben, Germany, and the East African Middle Stone Age blades and bifacial thinning (>300,000 years ago). Bilzingsleben is a site well-covered in *PCN* for its remarkable 400,000-year old engravings (e.g., see "Variations on a shared syntax," in this issue) and cache of microlithic tools. PC Founding member, Jim Harrod, has several pictures of the 400,000-year old microliths on his comprehensive website [Originsnet.org](http://www.originsnet.org/bilzvertgallery/index.htm) at <http://www.originsnet.org/bilzvertgallery/index.htm>

# The first artist: Comparing Blombos with an artifact dated half a million years older

By Tom Baldwin

As of this writing, the current *National Geographic* magazine (January 2015)



is featuring an article on the first works of art done by mankind.

The very earliest possible artifact

mentioned by them is the Berekhat Ram. It is a piece of volcanic stone that in its natural state resembled a female head and torso. It shows evidence of having afterwards been deliberately altered to appear even more humanlike.

The magazine notes that the Berekhat Ram artifact is a quarter million years old and while controversial, says it may be the first example of art. That controversy, of course, is a product of its age. If dated at say ten thousand years old, the Berekhat Ram would be much more readily accepted. It almost always comes down to age. You see, modern archaeologists do not have a very high view of early man, and the earlier the man the less he is respected.

I've come to think that this is just something that comes natural to us human beings. Every generation thinks that it is the greatest one ever, a step or steps above the previous one. I think this holds true as a general rule, al-

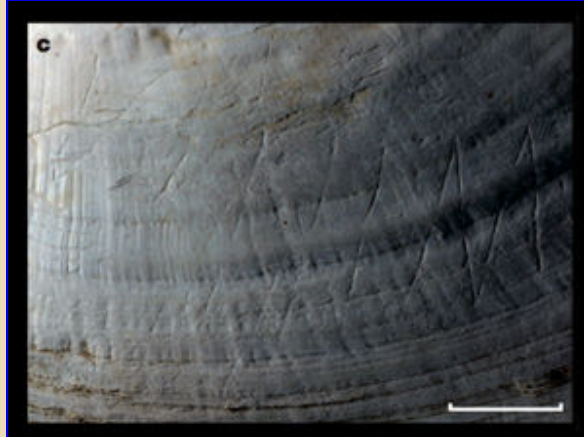
though it is hard to imagine some barbarian horde, howling through the ruins of Rome while the air hung heavy with the smoke of burning books, thinking of themselves as a step up on that ladder.

So then, archaeologists being human too, and believing in a steady progression by mankind up the evolutionary ladder (with just a few slips, i.e. the fall of Rome, etc.),

thousand generations in the last half million years, and if each was getting better than the last... Well that makes mankind's ladder pretty long and those starting up from down there on the first few rungs must have come from pretty far down. So far down, in fact, they could not have been much more than glorified chimps. Surely not capable of art. Such a level of sophistication must not

have come along until recently.

In fact, the first "art" the authors of the *National Geographic* are willing to fully embrace is a cross hatching design that was done on some ochre dated to between 65,000 and 75,000 years old that was found in the Blombos Cave in South Africa (Fig. 1, Top). The magazine makes a pretty bold statement about this artifact. It says: "These seem rudimentary, but creating a simple shape that stands for something else—a symbol, made by one mind, they can be



**Fig. 1.** Comparing the Blombos Cave engraved ochre, c. 75,000-year old (Top) with the well-dated c. 500,000-year old engraved shell from Eugene Dubois' original *Homo erectus* artifact collection, Trinil, Indonesia, 1891 (Bottom). There can be little doubt that we are looking at the very same mental abilities represented. Blombos ochre: Wikimedia Commons. Engraved shell: Photo by Wim Lustenhouwer, VU University of Amsterdam.

find themselves in somewhat of a pickle. For you see there have been about twenty five

shared with others... Even

> [Cont. on page 5](#)

**"Among Dubois' artifacts, —reliably dated to between 430,000 and 540,000 years old—the students found a shell that had been overlooked for about 125 years. It had carvings very similar to the Blombos Cave art."**

# The first artist (cont.)

**"Modern archaeologists do not have a very high view of early man, and the earlier the man the less he is respected."**

more than the cave art these first concrete expressions of consciousness represent a leap from our animal past toward what we are today—a species awash in symbols, from the signs that guide your progress down the highway to the wedding ring on your finger and icons on your iPhone."

But a problem has arisen. I suspect it has to do with the time it takes a magazine like the *National Geographic* to go from conception to print in order to meet a mailing deadline. For you see, some students decided to go through the collection of artifacts assembled by Eugene Dubois, the Dutch archaeologist who, back in 1891, found the very first evidence of *Homo erectus* whom he called Java Man. There among Dubois' artifacts—reliably dated to between 430,000 and 540,000 years old—the students found a shell that had been overlooked for about

125 years. It had carvings very similar to the Blombos Cave art (**Fig. 1, Bottom**).

I am willing to bet that the *National Geographic* statement about the cross hatching on the ocher as representing a "leap from our animal past toward what we are today," would not have found its way into the magazine if the issue had not already gone to print when the students' discovery was announced. For you see, that idea of incremental leaps from generation to generation, they just went by the board. As the Pleistocene Coalition has long held and supported with over 30 issues filled with such evidence, early men and women were not a bunch of grunting savages sitting around a fire and tossing skulls into the air. They may not have had cell phones but their brains were as good as ours. Our sophistication is built on theirs along with the knowledge and discovery of

succeeding generations and not on increasing intelligence.

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 ten prior articles in *PCN* focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

Links to all of Baldwin's articles on Calico and many other topics can be found at:

[http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom\\_baldwin](http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin)

# Variation on a shared syntax

By John Feliks

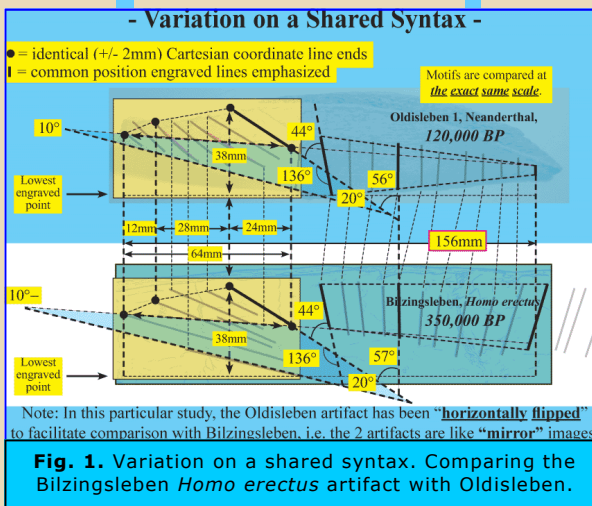
**Tom Baldwin's astute observations regarding the identical workmanship of the Blombos Cave and Trinil engravings**

despite their great differences in age encouraged me to share the slide attached here (**Fig. 1**). It is a study of the common elements between the *Homo erectus* engraved elephant tibia bone from Bilzingsleben, Germany, dated 350,000–400,000-years old and the 120,000-year old 'Neanderthal' engraved bone from Oldisleben—10.5 km away. The same message is coming through

namely, that the level of human competence indicated appears to be identical. This is a never-published November 2006 study 'requested' of me by the Chair of

Congress in Lisbon. The request was to produce a geometric study of the Oldisleben artifact in the same style that was applied to the Bilzingsleben artifacts as presented at the Congress. Ironically, the study was done at the same time *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* publication was already in the process of being blocked (for five years) first by the UISPP Congress itself and then by the *Journal of Human Evolution*. This and Baldwin's comparison shows a similar human mind at work 75k, 120k, 375k, and 500k years ago. It is understandable why the evolution community does not wish that such evidence be published.

**"It is understandable why the evolution community does not wish that such evidence be published."**



**Fig. 1.** Variation on a shared syntax. Comparing the Bilzingsleben *Homo erectus* artifact with Oldisleben.

# The art of hunting

By Tom Baldwin

**"I think this ability to see more than is there, to fill in blanks, is indeed a quality that separates us from the rest of creation."**

**This might come as a shock to those who see the artists among us as mankind's gentle souls; however, I think there's a direct connection between those beautiful paintings done by early man on the walls of their caves and that same early man's ability to put food on the table.**

I believe that in Paleolithic times the more artistic one was, the more likely one's family was to go to bed at night with full bellies.

This issue of *PCN* is going to be full of pieces on Pleistocene art. Current thought tells us that man took a great leap forward from the ranks of the animals when he learned to think symbolically. (See my other article in this issue: "The First Artist.")

I think this ability to see more than is there, to fill in blanks, is indeed a quality that separates us from the rest of creation. If I show my dog a picture of cave art from France depicting a deer she might deign to sniff the paper. That is about all the reaction I will get out of her. Why? She sees the same lines and curves I do! But those markings mean nothing to her, bring nothing to her mind. However, when she looks out the window and sees a deer moving around in our garden and eating our plants she goes crazy, whining and scratching to be let out. If we do let her out, the deer is in for a chase, and will hopefully think twice before returning to our yard to eat.

The drawing I show my dog is not a Pleistocene deer; but my mind sees hints. It reaches into its memory, draws out facts, and fills in the blanks. Soon a vision of deer fills my consciousness. As for my dog,

she is the cold hard realist here.

Those are just lines

and paint on a rock wall. She is not fooled for a moment. That isn't a deer. Deer run and she chases.

That does not mean she doesn't know and remember just the same as me what a deer is and looks like. While she may not be able to take the hints a drawing offers and suddenly envision a deer, it is not that she does not know or remember what a deer looks like. She dreams of the hunt. At night she will lie on her bed, making muffled barks and growls, her legs working too. In her dreams she is out there again, in headlong pursuit of the fleeing deer.

So then, what good is this talent of mine to see a curve here, a color there, and a particular shape and using those hints build a picture in my mind of a deer? Just this, it is that ability that makes mankind the number one hunter on this planet.

Other predators are faster and stronger than man. Their claws and teeth are better for hunting than a human's. They can smell things that people can't. Yet we were, and are, the greatest hunters this planet has ever seen. How so? Just this. That ability to think artistically, to fill in the blanks allows a human to see maybe ten percent of a deer hiding in a thicket and tell that it is there (Imagine this scenario looking at the picture in **Fig. 1**). He might see only an antler, part of a hind leg, and its tail.



**Fig. 1.** You and a lion hunt the same forest. Dinner awaits. Who is going to eat well tonight?

But those few clues are all it takes for a person to fill in the blanks and deduce that a deer is hiding over there. They can throw their spear with a good chance of success.

That is the same ability I use when I look at a drawing or painting and with the few clues left by the artist know it is a deer I am supposed to see.

My dog can't see a deer hiding in a thicket and can't see the one on the wall of the cave either. Only I, man, can do that. It is the artist in me that makes me the hunter I am; and the better artist I am the better my family eats.

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 ten prior articles in *PCN* focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

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# Devastating: The Upper Paleolithic invasion of America

By Chris Hardaker MA, archaeology

**"They offer up a precedent for future archaeologists by showing how to proceed when they find themselves confronted with unexplainable and intolerable evidence."**



This is a very slightly modified version of a **BOOK REVIEW** I wrote on Amazon, February 7, 2012 for the book, *Across Atlantic Ice: The Origin of America's Clovis Culture* (Hardcover).

I felt the review contained a few points appropriate to some of the subject matter currently being discussed.

You've just turned fifty years old, and you are having a good life. You just got off the phone with your son. It was a boy! "You are now an official grandfather," he chuckled, and you think 'maybe I will live to see my grandson's son.' Then your wife comes down from the attic with an old box of your dad's memorabilia that you haven't seen for decades. It is a Friday evening. You crack open some wine and dump the box out on the floor. You see a large tattered envelope with your name on it, so you take

out the thick document and begin reading. Your jaw drops. You discover for the first time that you were adopted.

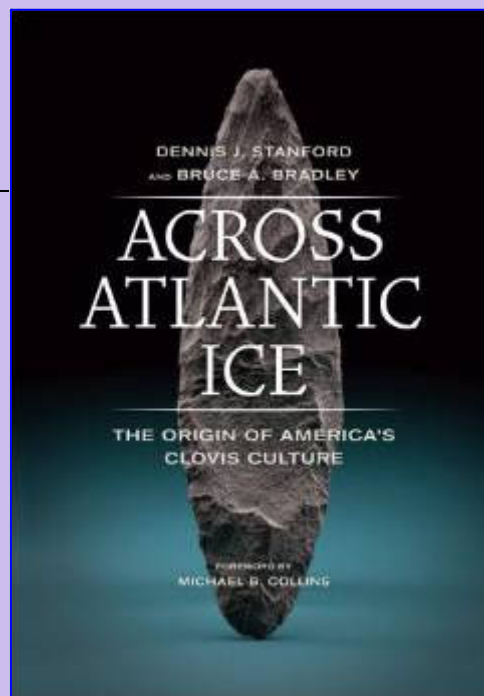
Take this surprise and amplify it across anthropology and archaeology departments in North, Central and South America; throw in the archaeology departments of Western Europe for good measure. The concept of the First Americans just got a makeover. Stanford and Bradley have written a masterpiece, an instant classic that will guide New World prehistorians into the 21st Century.

Once upon a time, 12,000 years ago, Adam and Eve Clovis and their extended family walked across a Siberian land bridge and arrived in Alaska. As the Ice Age ended and the oceans rose 300 feet, the land bridge disappeared and Family Clovis went south to the Plains hunting mammoths. Their spontaneous invention of hi-tech

projectile points was their first miracle.

Family Clovis was not just the First American culture; they were the *only* First American culture. Ultimately, Family Clovis became the genetic fount of all of American prehistory. All New World cultures, all languages, all inventions, all civilizations arose directly from Family Clovis. Only around 1000 years ago did some errant Eskimos arrive in Canada and the northwest. The rest of the New World's Native Americans were all the grandsons and granddaughters of Clovis. The Maya, Aztec and Inca among them. Who else could they be? The entire western hemisphere was Clovisville, or as Clovis

> [Cont. on page 8](#)



## Upper Paleolithic Invasion of America (cont.)

***"This is a book that could never have been written even up to a few years ago. It is too devastating to the status quo."***

Mafia don Paul Martin once requested, Clovisia. Where else but Siberia could anyone have come from?

Once upon a time, Columbus was the first to reach the New World by boat in 1492. Nobody had ever crossed the ocean to America before. All of the Indians he encountered were the sons and daughters of Family Clovis.

Mainstream prehistorians had given up trying to "explain" the Clovis culture. And even though there was no Clovis archaeology in Alaska or Canada, US archaeologists lazily accepted (and defended to the death!) the idea that the Clovis were a spontaneous cultural derivation from Siberia who just happened to spontaneously invent the most hi-tech stone technology that was operating on the planet 12,000 years ago—and only when they arrived on the American Plains.

Once upon a time, old myths and forced theories fell flat on their face. That time is now. It means that American Prehistory has an entirely new foundation. Not only does this book point to a European origin of the Clovis, but it opens prehistory to an idea that sends chills down the backs of the Old School: it means that for 20,000 years, Europeans and presumably Asians had the technology to cross oceans. For the Old School, oceans were absolute barriers to human exploration, and the New World was an immaculate test tube of Anthropology. "It is Clovis from Siberia

and only Clovis, and the prime directive was not interrupted or influenced by any other Old World cultures until 1492." Sorry, this book represents the smash of the immaculate New World cultural test tube.

Stanford and Bradley have finally put the Clovis First theory to bed, a theory that had more in common with Genesis than science and forensics. Stanford and Bradley did what they set out to do: follow the evidence, no matter what. You know, Science! Stanford and Bradley have provided a priceless gift to 21st century archaeologists and aficionados of all stripes: not only by providing an Upper Paleolithic European source for the Clovis, and not only by introducing concrete evidence for boat crossings during the time of the mammoth and the saber tooth tiger—but they now personify the courage of science in archaeology. They offer up a precedent for future archaeologists by showing how to proceed when they find themselves confronted with unexplainable and intolerable evidence: follow it, no matter where it leads.

It is indeed fortunate that we live in a time of Reason, when their American peers will calmly weigh the controversial evidence objectively and with great earnestness, and enjoy with astonished pride that two of their own have conquered the Clovis First myth, and that they did so methodically and scientifically. Above all they will receive kudos at the up-

coming Society for American Archaeology meetings for their fashion choice: Kevlar Noir.

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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](#).

<http://www.amazon.com/The-First-American-Suppressed-Discovered/dp/1564149420>



# Ipswich Man, like other ancient remains, creates snags for mainstream timelines

By John Feliks

*"The man who lived in Britain in the inter-Glacial period before the Boulder Clay was laid down, and who is, therefore, of a vast and unknown antiquity, was to all intents and purposes modern man."*

In the September-October Issue of *PCN*, Richard Dullum and Kevin Lynch continued their enlightening series about little-known (or swept-under-the-rug) discoveries in British archaeology with some detailed information on the 1911 Ipswich Man skeleton. (See [The Ipswich skeleton: a possible link to Happisburg](#), *PCN* #31, September-October 2014). As Dullum and Lynch pointed out, Ipswich Man was discovered

"under four feet" of glacial chalky boulder clay.

To keep the interest up with this important topic I reproduce here a description and portrayal of the Ipswich Man which recently came into the public domain and was digitized by Google. Both the picture and the accompanying text portray an ancient man perceived as being modern in every way which may explain why Ipswich Man is seldom discussed in mainstream "evolutionary" literature:



**"The 'Modern' of hundreds of thousands of years ago: The Ipswich Pre-Boulder Clay Man."**

"Before the Chalky Boulder Clay was laid down there was apparently a sandy land-surface to the north of Ipswich, and on this land-surface lived the man whose remains have been found ... The man who lived in Britain in the inter-Glacial period before the Boulder Clay was laid down, and who is, therefore, of a vast and unknown antiquity, was to all intents and purposes mod-

ern man. He stood about 5 feet 10 inches in height; his head was perhaps a trifle smaller and flatter than present-day examples, but there was nothing brutal or simian in his appearance... even at such an immensely remote period... modern man was already evolved."

-The earliest-known Englishman—reconstructed from his remains. *The Illustrated London News* 23 March 1912: 447.

The text just below his feet reads: "If all the evidence holds good...the Ipswich skeleton...

represents not only the earliest remains of man yet found in England, but, with the exception of the Heidelberg jaw, the earliest yet found in Europe." "The modern type of man was apparently evolved before the commencement of the Glacial Period... At least we are now certain that thousands of years before the Neanderthal race flourished in South Germany, Belgium, and France, England was occupied by a race of men which in build of body and form of brain were of the modern type."

# Further investigations into the Denisovans and the foundation of today's races, Part 1

By Trevor R. McNaughton Retired stud breeder, New Zealand

***"It seems unlikely that a uniting would have occurred unless there was a level of sapience above the rudimentary levels found in all predatory animals."***

**A few months back, I discussed some of the implications of the interbreeding between Denisovans—the recently discovered extinct human group currently known from three fossil fragments from the Altai Mountains in Siberia—modern humans, and Neanderthals.** (See [A second look at early sapient culture](#), PCN #29, May-June 2014). Here I would like to look further into the background of the Denisovans. I offer more support for the idea that there must have been a much greater similarity between the three groups, including their level of sapience or intelligence, than is implied in the standard writing on the subject.

Perhaps the most important observation concerns the so-called 'out of species' mating that occurred across many generations. In the terms of phylogenetics, the matings occurred between three distinct 'clades' or groups of humans. (In this system of classification, a *clade* is a group consisting of an ancestor and all of its descendants.) They occurred in an order dictated, of course, by contact and most likely of a single clade over an existing group of already merged clades rather than the other way around.

Regarding the 'out-of-species' mating, this is a rare phenomenon in the animal kingdom especially in a group consisting of one of the top predators. Usually, where two like species of predators reach a point where their territories begin

to overlap, aggression is more common than mating.

It should be remembered that in the context of the times, c. 40,000 years ago, the Denisovans were representative of apex carnivores or predators. It seems unlikely that a uniting would have occurred unless there was a level of sapience between the groups which was above the rudimentary levels found in all predatory animals.

It needs also to be remembered that throughout the time span of the genus *Homo* mating, in all likelihood, was not restricted to environmentally dictated 'urges,' with day length or other factors triggering hormonal responses and inducing mating.

There is also a case to be made for the apparent initial suppression of senses other than sight in the initial choosing to mate (especially among the males) which would—and still does—allow a more random level of intercourse. It suggests that the level of uniting had the opportunity to rise as sapience elevated and more environmental triggers were suppressed therefore enabling a greater degree of random congress.

Each of these points take the moment further forward in the story of humanity as concerns the degree of culture and intellect. It stands to reason, therefore, that all three parties in the Denisovan's background share a reasonable equality or level of sapience coupled with environmental trigger suppression to allow the random intercourse between the

two primary clades to proceed to the stage where there are viable progeny. These progeny survive to produce further viable generations of progeny and then again further viable progeny willing and able to mate with a third or even fourth or fifth clade.

In such a situation, the so-called Denisovans represent less a race apart and more the repeatable product of a triangulated series of matings. This could be repeated with any point of the triangle representing both the beginning and the male or the female. In this case the male could be from any of the three groups just as easily as the female.

Finally, the admixture rate has at least eighty-one possible combinations; and these extend further for the length of time that these initial three clades of humanity remain separately viable. This would have taken a species—or three closely related clades within a species—onto a path of multiple genetic variations laying the foundation for today's races and taking the foundation of today's races back further into prehistory than currently accepted.

The initial mating would provide a genetic balance of equal parental dominance in the primary progeny (genes from each parent). And, in theory, as long as equidominant progeny mated within their own group the dominance ratio would remain relatively static. However it is unlikely that such

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## Denisovans and the foundation of today's races (cont.)

**"In the end, what would be produced would not be a new population or a new species. It would simply be a gradual and subtly altering series of populations which would change in genetic balance to a greater degree with each generation than any of the individual isolated clades would have been able to do on their own."**

stability would have been remotely achievable during either the withdrawal from the area before glaciation or during the re-colonization of recently vacated areas. This is because as the game came back the predators would also return. The balance of genetic dominance would have changed with each succeeding generation in a wide number of variations dependant on the influx of the new genetic material. Some would have faced prosperity while others faced extinction but neither in a wholesale manner at any one time; Like all peoples who have traversed the globe, fragments would remain in a multitude of disguises among different races.

Enter the third clade, whether a wholly new clade or a clade of a long separation from the other two, or simply a clade with very little contact or admixture with either of the other two. Any mating which now occurred between the new clade and the amalgamated or partially amalgamated prior clades would produce a different and more sporadic genetic make up. Also, each mating that produced viable offspring would produce subtle and dramatic variations most of which would favor the third clade and give it a genetic dominance in almost all situations.

As long as the single genetic third clade came into a bi-clade population in the form of roving males entering an existing group (or taking over an existing group) their genetics would dominate in any future population. It is also likely that other factors would have then been introduced through the continual imbalance of genetic input. Hybrid vigor would have been continually refreshed because of the three-way

genetic split ensuring it would become nearly irrepressible within the altered population. It would generally favor the last introduction of single-clade genetics.

In the end, what would be produced would not be a new population or a new species. It would simply be a gradual and subtly altering series of populations which would change in genetic balance to a greater degree with each generation than any of the individual isolated clades would have been able to do on their own, or indeed the equi-dominant A-B clade either. The changes would be dominated by the environmental factors—such as isolation and re-integration—with other population clusters. And out of these two dominant factors populations in particular areas would stabilize as to type and either prosper as a distinct viable unit able to dominate, or in turn would be dominated by other populations and reabsorbed into a larger more stable unit.

Two other subtle and incremental intergenerational factors which would most possibly be byproducts of the tripartite hybrid vigor would be a longer life span and a greater range of genetic faulting. These would produce a greater array of positive and negative factors. As positive factors merged and increased, the general viability of a population would improve quite radically. However, on balance, so would some of the negative factors; but in a more primeval environment negative factors would have reduced the ability to mate and would never achieve the balance in the population as there might have been in any of the three clades individually.

At this point, let's consider the base populations in this outline and the characteristics that they need to share:

- 1.) They need a close enough genetic relationship to viably breed.
- 2.) They need a level of sapience to lift them above the level of unbridled competitive aggression.
- 3.) They each need a 'similar' level of sapience and with it the ability to be socially tolerant of some level of difference.
- 4.) They need a viable personal culture to support viable offspring allowing filtering of the hybrids back into a general population so that the hybrid dominance would spread in various levels and combinations.

Finally, with reference to the Denisovans, two clades are known or 'presumed' to be known; Clade A being *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis* (i.e. Neanderthals) and Clade C being *Homo sapiens sapiens* (what is commonly called modern man). This only leaves the explanation of what the third clade might be. Considering the geographic area and the make up of populations known to be in that area over an extended period of time there is only one candidate, namely, *Homo erectus*, or its equivalent *ergaster*.

...To be continued in Part 2

TREVOR MCNAUGHTON is a retired stud breeder from New Zealand. He has written four prior articles for PCN: [Basic polynomial genetics applied to hybrid vigor](#) (PCN #20, November-December 2012), [In defense of Neanderthals](#) (PCN #25, September-October 2013), [Ice and air differentials](#) (PCN #28, March-April 2014); and [A second look at early sapient culture](#) (PCN #29, May-June 2014).

# Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 11

## The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Arthropoda

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

**“So where did trilobites come from? ...The evidence is neither clear nor unambiguous.”**

-Sam Gonn III, PhD, biologist; trilobite authority, and webmaster of the comprehensive resource trilobites.info



**Fig. 1:** The 100-yr famous trilobite, *Phacops rana* (coiled specimen; Devonian; Medusa Quarry, Lucas Co., OH), now changed to *Eldredgeops* (!) for reason of evolutionary “theory.” Niles Eldredge himself knew that the trilobite record did not support Darwinian evolution. Eldredge and Gould’s resulting *punctuated equilibrium* is a scientific error of equal magnitude. There are many trilobite genera but Eldredge knew they each remained the same throughout their tenure.

**The date ranges in this article** are from *Fossilworks: Gateway to the Paleobiology Database*, Macquarie Univ. Dept. of Biological Sciences, Sydney, Australia—assembled by hundreds of paleontologists internationally; Sam Gonn III’s superb site, trilobites.info/index.htm, Honolulu; and many other sources.

Trilobites are extinct undersea arthropods that are one of the most successful and diversified animal groups of all time. (See the author’s fossils in **Figs. 1-7**, each recovered direct from formations across the U.S. and Ontario, Canada, over a 30-yr span.)

Dr. Gonn’s statement about the mysterious origins of trilobites should have a familiar ring to it. As pointed out earlier, this is the same observation made of *all* organisms. But the public doesn’t know it because it is routine in the evolution community to admit “problematic evolution” for the organism at hand while implying that other organisms have been figured out in evolutionary terms. They haven’t. Proof of evolution has not been established for a single group—not one species, not one genus, not one family, order, class, phylum, or any other category.

Trilobites represent a single plan with thousands of variations, and the same is true for all other subgroups of the phylum arthropoda (**Fig. 2**). The first insects? Insects. The first

Genus, etc.	Current living fossils	Range	Fossils recovered in situ by the author
<b>Arthropoda</b> <i>Phylum</i> Includes crustaceans; e.g., lobsters, crabs, and shrimp; as well as insects, trilobites, etc. <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>542 million years</b> Cambrian–Recent; 542.0 MYA–Present	Worldwide	 Left: 1 3/8" long (3.5 cm) Left: <b>Greenops</b> ; Devonian; Arkona, ON. Right: <b>Hollardops</b> ; (Wikimedia C.); Two “genera” no more different than Chihuahuas and dachshunds
<b>Crustacea</b> <i>Subphylum</i> Class Malacostraca: crabs, crayfish, shrimp, etc. Phyllocarida, its oldest <i>Subclass</i> <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>509 million years</b> Cambrian–Recent; 509.0 MYA–Present  “The history of malacostracans..is subject to doubt and argument.” -CL & MA Fenton	Worldwide	 Left: 1 1/2" long (3.8 cm) Left: <b>Echinocaris</b> , Phyllocarid Malacostracan; Devonian; Arkona, ON. Right: <b>Nebalia</b> , a living Phyllocarid; Wikimedia Commons
<b>Ostracoda</b> <i>Class of Crustaceans</i> Tiny shrimp-like animals live in clam-like shells; the fossil record’s most common arthropods <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>500 million years</b> Cambrian–Recent; 500.0 MYA–Present	Worldwide	 Left, each 1/4" long (7 mm) Left: <b>Eoleperditia fabulites</b> (a.k.a. <b>Leperditia</b> ); Ordovician; ostracods in negative; Neebish Island, MI, U.P. Right: Modern-day ostracod; pub.dom.
<b>Chelicerata</b> <i>Subphylum</i> Arachnids (e.g., scorpions, mites, spiders, daddy longlegs), horseshoe crabs, etc. <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>445 million years</b> Ordovician–Recent; 445.0 MYA–Present	Worldwide	 1/2" wide (1.2 cm) <b>Cryptomartus hindi</b> , early spider-like Trigonotarbid (Sil-Perm); Penn; Youngstown, IN; Some of oldest land animals; obvious similarity living forms.

**Fig. 2.** A few examples of “thousands” of living fossils—classes, orders, families, genera (presently arthropods), showing *no evolution* over hundreds of millions of years.

Genus, etc.	Former living fossils	Range	Fossils recovered in situ by the author
<b>Trilobita</b> <i>Class</i> <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1 1/4" long (3.6 cm); 7/8" (2.2) <b>Elrathia</b> , a.k.a. <b>Conochorpe</b> ( <b>conocephalites</b> ); Cambrian; Equalized and neg. for detail; Antelope Springs, Utah
<b>Trilobita</b> <i>Class</i> <b>No evolutionary links</b>	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 2 3/8" long (6 cm) L: <b>Prosaukia</b> head spine (orig. <b>Dikelocephalus misa</b> ); Cambrian; Waucedah, MI, U.P. R: commissioned 1982 watercolor of R. Perlman 1962 orig.

**Fig. 3.** As Eldredge, Gould, and others observed, once species enter the fossil record, they never change. Yet evolutionary stories continue to be sold to the public as fact.

> [Cont. on page 13](#)

# The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Arthropoda (cont.)

crustaceans? Crustaceans.  
Crabs, lobsters, shrimp?  
Crabs, lobsters, shrimp. In

every case, the oldest of  
each organism known from  
the fossil record is already

ogy, said that multiple names  
made it difficult even for some-  
one like himself to figure out.

Genus, etc.	Former living fossils	Range	Fossils recovered <i>in situ</i> by the author
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 Left image 9/16" wide (1.7 cm) Left: <i>Spergenaspis boonensis</i> coiled; Right: Flat specimen disarticulating. Rare Mississippian trilobite unique to Benton Co., AR, Boone Formation; War Eagle, AR
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 5/16" long (8 mm) <i>Triarthrus eatoni</i> ; Two impressions of the same trilobite. Ordovician; Bellefonte, PA; Like several trilobites, <i>Triarthrus</i> are sometimes found with appendages preserved. See also the author's <a href="#">Ungula with pedicle preserved</a> .
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1 7/16" long (3.7 cm) <i>Calymene celebra</i> (a.k.a. <i>Flexicalymene c.</i> , <i>Gravicalymene c.</i> , <i>Apocalymene c.</i> , or <i>Sthenarocalymene c.</i> ); Silurian; Bluffs of the Mississippi River; Grafton, Illinois
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 15/16" long (2.4 cm) <i>Calymene breviceps</i> ; Silurian; Waldron Quarry, IN
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1 1/4" long (3.2 cm) Left: <i>Ceraurus pleuroxanthemus</i> ; Ordovician; Chandler Falls, Escanaba, MI, U.P. Right: <i>Gabriceraurus</i> ; WikiCom. Two "genera" about as different as beagles and basset hounds
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> <b>269 million years</b> Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1/2" wide (1.3 cm) <i>Ditomopyge</i> and <i>Paladin</i> of the Phillipsiidae family (last surviving trilobites); Carboniferous–Permian; L. Penn; St. Aloysius Quarry; Paris, IL. R: Miss; Sulphur, Indiana

**Fig. 4.** Former living fossils. Promoting evolution as fact the science community has no choice but to ignore the fossil record. Once in the record every taxon remains the same. Trilobites recovered by author *in situ* across U.S. and Ontario over 30-yr. span.

that organism.

The truth of this was known by Charles Darwin. He knew that the fossil record was a problem for the theory of evolution because it did not provide the evidence the theory predicted.

### Name-changing

One trick in the evolution community that helps create the illusion of evolution is the constant naming and re-naming of fossils to try and force-fit them into evolutionary templates.

Responding to the confusion this practice causes, Roderic Page, Professor of Taxonomy and former Editor of *Systematic Biol-*



**Fig. 5** Proof of low rigor in Darwinism.

**Top:** Do we see one dog species or two?

Answer: Everyone knows that Chihuahuas and great Danes are the same species despite differences.

**Middle:** One human species or three?

Answer: Everyone knows that Pygmies, white people, and African Tutsis are the same species despite differences.

**Bottom:** Two species of trilobite or six?

Answer: The evolution community sees not only six different species but six genera: *Greenops* (jf), *Bellacartwrightia* (WikiCom), *Hollardops* (WikiCom), *Cryptolithus* (jf), *Reedolithus* (WikiCom) and *Onnia* (WikiCom)—and many more than just three of each.

### Explanation for the discrepancy:

Where the evidence for sameness is testable, evolutionists can't bulldoze anyone. However, give them free reign over the fossil record where they don't think anyone can challenge them and unaccountability ensues creating the illusion of evolving species. This test is proof that Darwinism is low-rigor science.

To illustrate the problem Dr. Page is talking about, I have included samples of trilobite renames in each of the figures. See especially *Calymene celebra* in Fig. 4.

### The deceptive effects of hair-splitting and creating new genera

Artificially splitting up established genera to create new genera (e.g., Fig. 1, Fig. 5) makes it appear as though each had shorter existence spans and narrower geographic ranges than if consolidated. Like name-changing, artificially adding genera perpetuates the







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# The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Arthropoda (cont.)

illusion that genera evolve. Get rid of tricks like this and the trick of flipping between

multiple definitions of genus and species and organisms will show longer time spans

If the facts after 150 years of Darwinism are not bringing everyone to a confident sense

Genus, etc.	Former living fossils	Range	Fossils recovered in situ by the author
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 2" long (5 cm) <b>Asaphiscus wheeleri</b> ; Cambrian; House Range, Wheeler Formation; Antelope Springs, Utah, prior to commercialization of the famous site
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1 7/8" long (4.8 cm) <b>Pseudogygites latimarginatus</b> ; Ordovician; South shore of Georgian Bay; Craighleith, Ontario
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1/2" long (1.2 cm) <b>Crassiproteus sibleyensis</b> pygidium (tail); Rare Devonian trilobite from the long-closed Sibley Quarry, Detroit, Michigan
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1/4" long (6 mm) <b>Peronopsis interstrictus</b> (a.k.a. <b>Agnostus interstrictus</b> , or <b>Entomolitus</b> ); Cambrian; Antelope Springs, Utah
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 1 1/16" long (2.2 cm) <b>Calymene celebra</b> ; Believe it or not, this fossil is only a 'hole' in the rock—not a 3D positive fossil. It was scanned and converted to negative resulting in this beautiful image almost impossible to see as the external mold that it is; Silurian; Bluffs of the Mississippi River; Grafton, Illinois
<b>Trilobita</b> Class No evolutionary links	<b>Unchanged</b> 269 million years Cambrian–Permian; 521.0–252.0 MYA	Worldwide	 Approximately 2" long (4.3 cm) <b>Isotelus gigas</b> ; Ordovician; Trenton Limestone; Kaufman, Pennsylvania

**Fig. 6.** One reason that biology, paleontology, and anthropology are able to spread evolutionism without normal scientific restraint is because the public and most scientists have little direct contact with the fossil record.

(see Part 2, [Fictions taught as fact in college text-books, 1st half, PCN #23, May-June 2013](#)).

Longer time spans for each and every type of organism is not exactly what evolutionary theory had in mind. However, if this is what the evidence shows then everyone has a right to know that this is what the evidence shows. That's how science works; you don't pick an ideology first and then only publish evidence that supports that ideology.



**Fig. 7.** Trilobites are a thousand varieties based on a 'single plan' that lasted 269 million years (e.g., the Cambrian–Permian trilobites in this article). They are no more evolutionarily significant than dog breeds are; and anyone who knows the fossil record, has experienced it in the field, and who hasn't been programmed into a paleontology-anthropology religion through blinkered education *knows* that the invertebrate fossil record is absolutely profound with trillions of chronological layers across tens of thousands of miles which easily would show smooth transitions in great number were evolution even remotely true. **Top-down:** **Sphaerexochus rominjeri**, Silurian, Phoneton, OH; **Dalmanites limulurus** showing remarkable compound eyes, Silurian; Grafton, IL; and **Flexicalymene meeki** (formerly **Calymene**), Ordovician, Butler Co., OH.

that prehistory has been resolved then the public has a right to know.

As to the arthropod fossil record, we have an extremely large number of fossils to go by and it is clearly not a record of organisms morphing and mutating into each other. The only thing that can be said for certain is that it is a record of remarkable organisms with each type remaining essentially the same over vast stretches of time.

JOHN FELIX 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 as well as studying many of the classic texts such as the *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology and Index Fossils of North America*.

# Decoding the messages of pre-Aboriginal rock art—Part 1

By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer

**"Deception about Australia's past goes all the way up to the top of the establishment."**



### Factual and arbitrary truth—what's the difference?

In Australia today, mainstream archaeology forms part of the Aboriginal industry. The current theories relating to Australian prehistory invented over the last few decades are often questionable.

Some rely on suspect or, in some cases, fabricated evidence but are deceitfully presented as if based on actual proof.

Over the last few decades, new "discoveries" and finds of dubious authenticity (e.g., **Fig. 1**) were often made just in time to coincide with yet another Aboriginal land claim:

"Despite claims by some activists that all these archaeological discoveries were known already, but were kept secret by Aborigines, it is evident that such discoveries are incorporated into their political and land claims agendas."

-John Mulvaney, "Past Regained, Future Lost," *Antiquity* 1991

These Orwellian "truths" as we find in Australian textbooks today leave no room for any debate. They were force-fed to the Australian people and usually go on unchallenged because—as former New South Wales detective, Tim Priest puts it—the "corruption in this country goes all the way up

to the top of the judicial tree" (*The Enemy of the State*, 2000). In relation to Australian archaeology, we can rephrase Detective Priest's words to inform the public of what is going on and why it was allowed to go on: it is because the deception about Australia's past goes all the way up to the top of the establishment.

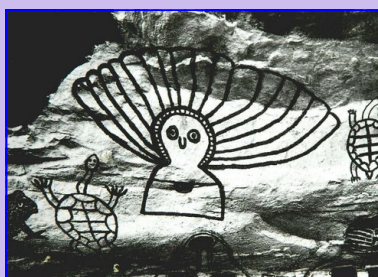
Factual truth comes from genuine, objective assessment of evidence, actual indicators, and a sensible approach, supported by the honest statements made by sincere Aboriginal informants over the last two centuries. Their words were recorded at the time when they were able to speak freely and did not have an army of lawyers telling them what to say in order to win more land claims.

Hence the difference: factual, evidence-based findings, contradicting the ideological system currently in power, are being suppressed and replaced by the enforce-

ment of arbitrary politically-driven invented theories.

### Factual truth about Wan-jina and Bradshaw rock art

I wrote about pre-Aboriginal Australian rock art before, and about the anthropomor-



**Figs. 1.** Forbidden archaeologists argue that recently created rock art belongs to a category of graffiti rather than art. Photos by the late Grahame Walsh.

phic, clothed figures known as Wan-jina and Bradshaw paintings in the Kimberley region of Western Australia ([PCN #17](#); (May-June 2012), [PCN #20](#) (November-December 2012), and [PCN #22](#) (March-April 2013). At that time, I believed that what needed to be said was said and so concen-

trated on other topics of interest. However, the culture wars have recently been reignited, and I feel the subject needs to be revisited.

From the earliest colonization of Australia, Aboriginal informants were reporting that Wan-jina and Bradshaw anthropomorphic figures were not painted by Aboriginal people nor even by their ancestors. Wan-jina images were feared by the tribes,

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

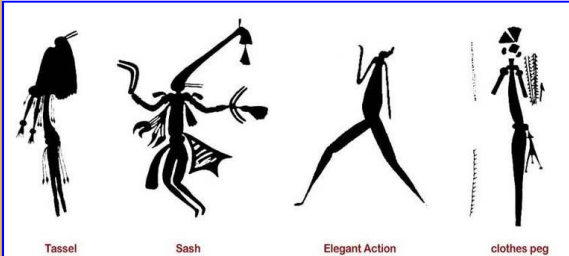
# Pre-Aboriginal rock art—Part 1 (cont.)

**"Walsh argued that the Wanjina and Bradshaw sites were universal heritage ... and that Aboriginal people should not have the right to make decisions about their repainting."**

who attributed the forces of nature to them, such as the power to bring rain, lightning and thunder. In time, the

recorded by the British explorer George Grey (*Journals of two expeditions of discovery in North-*

*west and Western Australia, during the years 1837, 38 and 39, 1841).*



**Fig. 2.** Sketches depicting the four traditional styles of Bradshaw rock paintings from the Kimberley region of Western Australia. According to famed researcher Grahame Walsh, all of the adornments featured in the Bradshaw figures were unknown to the Aboriginals before European settlers arrived; Image: Wikimedia Commons.

*west and Western Australia, during the years 1837, 38 and 39, 1841).* One of the critics of the practice of slapping new coats of paint over the original



**Fig. 4.** Bradshaw figures overpainted with less sophisticated forms and demonstrating questionable respect for the older art. Photo: Grahame Walsh.

Walsh argued that the Wanjina and Bradshaw sites were universal heritage belonging to all humanity, and that Aboriginal people should not have the right to make decisions about their repainting (Grahame Walsh, *Rock art retouch: can a claim of Aboriginal descent establish curation rights over humanity's cultural heritage*, 1992).

tribes appropriated the imagery and started painting over the original art.

Aboriginal informants also reported that Bradshaw figures (see Fig. 2 for the basic styles of this tradition) were deemed to be "rubbish paintings," made by a race inhabiting Australia before the arrival of Aborigines. [This belief is perhaps reflected in the deliberate defacing and painting over of many Bradshaws (Figs. 3-5).

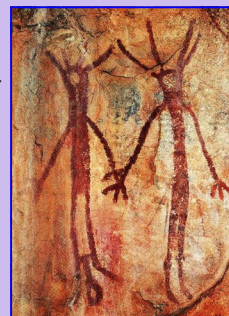


**Fig. 3.** Deliberate defacing of Bradshaw. The oldest Bradshaw paintings, from the Erudite Epoch, were defaced by either scraping the surface or by superimposition of crude motifs. Photo: Grahame Walsh.

The recently adopted practice of repainting Wanjina figures ruined the original designs. The practice was criticised by some experts for the poor standard of the overlaid paintings and crude style which are a world apart from genuine original Wanjinias as

paintings was Lorin Bishop. Bishop argued that overpainting does not constitute a "continuation of traditional practice" but is a "parody of the tradition," which ruins the paintings and causes the loss of the original cave art (Loren Bishop, 1987, *Unpublished correspondence with Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, 22 June 1987 to 4 September 1987*, AIATSIS Library, Acton).

Other critics of overpainting practice included Australian leading rock art experts Grahame Walsh and George Chaloupka. They pointed out that: 1.) Contemporary repainting has no continuity with the traditional practice of repainting, and 2.) The new paintings are unaesthetic.



**Fig. 5.** Sophisticated Bradshaw painting deliberately painted over with stick figures to indicate Aboriginal contempt for Bradshaw art. Photo: Grahame Walsh.

Based on stylistic characteristics, Walsh classified the earliest, most sophisticated Bradshaw painting—with their dynamic, elegant figures—as belonging to the Erudite Epoch. The Erudite groups of Bradshaw figures wear headdresses, clothes, decorations and adornments, all unknown to Aborigines until the arrival of European settlers (as in Fig. 2).

This oldest phase was followed by Tassel figures and Sash figures, and ended with the phase of the simple Clothes Peg or stick figures, which he attributed to Aboriginal art.

Walsh argued that the Bradshaw and Wan-

They argued that the tradition of painting has long lapsed, and that repainting the rocks is not, therefore, a continuation of traditional practice, but a reinvention of

jina rock art, with their superior aesthetics to other Aboriginal rock paintings, were created by a

> [Cont. on page 17](#)



## Pre-Aboriginal rock art—Part 1 (cont.)

"mysterious race with an advanced society and culture," predating the arrival of Aboriginal tribes



Fig. 6. Grahame Walsh and a group of Bradshaw figures.

**"To see that ongoing fraud now got the attention of the State Government of Western Australia gives us hope that other types of fraud committed by the Aboriginal industry will finally be investigated as well."**

(Grahame Walsh, *Bradshaw art of the Kimberley*, 2000).

### Reframing Wanjina and Bradshaw rock art

Another author, historian Ian Wilson, further developed the theory of pre-Aboriginal Australia in his book published in 2006. He agreed with Walsh that the anthropomorphic, clothed Wanjina and Bradshaw rock art predates the influx of Aboriginal tribes. Bishop argued that later Aboriginal art, while interesting in itself, simply didn't have the beauty and characteristics of the original paintings. He too concluded that Bradshaw art from the Erudite Epoch was driven by a different race, with different aesthetic and certainly with a different motivation (Ian Wilson, *The Lost World of The Kimberley*, 2006). Wilson too suffered a backlash from the mainstream.

Both Walsh and Wilson were fully aware of the motivation behind the attacks. In a TV interview, Walsh said that his theory of an advanced pre-Aboriginal race has become a

big issue because "Aboriginal milder-groups saw it as challenging the Aboriginals' land claims" (*ABC interview*, 2002).

He kept quoting his Aboriginal informants who reported they didn't know anything about these Bradshaw paintings, and cannot explain the Wanjina iconography. For his refusal to yield to the mainstream, this whistleblower became the "enemy of the state" to the extent that even his classification of Bradshaw paintings has been replaced with a different, more politically-correct terminology.

But attempts to erase his work and destroy his credibility were not enough. In 2013—in yet

another bizarre attack aimed at discrediting him, six years after his death in 2007—some tribes suddenly remembered that Walsh had some skeletons he had "stolen" from them, and demanded the return of the bones. Accusation sprang out of nowhere and no-one knows what they are talking about. But even such a bit of Aboriginal gossip is enough to set the Aboriginal industry in motion. The tribes demand that his personal effects and his private collection must be examined, and that anything deemed to be "Aboriginal" must be given to the tribes ("The black art of grave robbing," *Sydney Morning Herald*, 16 March 2013).

This ludicrous attack on the man who dedicated his life to saving and documenting Australian rock art fits the pattern we have long become familiar with. An accusation is made, the Aboriginal industry springs into action, and the false claim is used as an opening to engineer a process which can ultimately rob the dead man's family of its private property.

On a positive note, late last year, *The West Australian* newspaper made it known on their front page that Aboriginal heritage assessment reports cost an estimated \$100 million a year. Among the main offenders? Archaeologists and anthropologists who act as heritage and land claims consultants, "charging exorbitant fees for their reports that are sometimes simply cut-and-paste duplicates" (*The West Australian*, 27 November 2014).

Aboriginal heritage fraud as one of the standard practices within the Aboriginal industry has been known for years. But to see that ongoing fraud now got the attention of the State Government of Western Australia gives us hope that other types of fraud committed by the Aboriginal industry will finally be investigated as well. That would perhaps make us free to openly discuss the facts about Australian pre-Aboriginal rock art.

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

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