



PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

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SPECIAL LINKS FEATURE: Valsequillo story 50th Anniversary



Virginia Steen-McIntyre, PhD, provides direct links to her *Valsequillo Saga* series marking her 50th anniversary of fighting for truth in science publication (p.2).



Standing up for truth in science no matter what the consequences is what it's all about. 2016 marks the 50th Anniversary since Pleistocene Coalition founding member, Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre (volcanic ash specialist), began her work with the long-suppressed evidence from the Hueyatlaco early man site excavations in Mexico in 1966. She has stuck to her guns. Virginia was part of [a team of professional geologists and chemists from the U.S. Geological Survey \(USGS\) whose various dating](#)

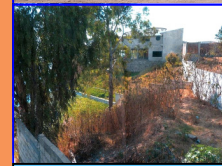
[methods \(uranium series, fission-track, glass hydration, mineral etching\) produced dates of c. 250,000 years](#). Later re-testing confirmed the old dates as did new dating by leading diatomist, Sam L. VanLandingham. Learn the story of how objective scientists—lacking a necessary outcome based on ideology—had no problems with their dates. The only problems—and they were immediate—came from those in anthropology and archaeology steered by preconceived expectations that the dates were “too old” for the Americas (p.2).



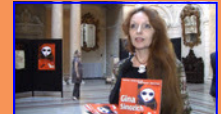
Archaeologist Marilyn Jesmain, PhD, provides a bio of [the fascinating and controversial archaeologist the late Dr. Marija Gimbutas](#). Whatever one may think of Gimbutas' ideas her work was highly influential creating a niche between archaeological interpretation and mythology (p.12).



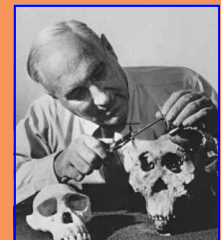
Getting prehistory back into the hands of objective researchers the team of Lynch and Dullum continue to set high standards. Here, they further demonstrate the value of emulating amateur scientists who beat the mainstream at their own game 100 years ago (p.14).



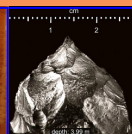
Comparing how three countries—Germany, the United States, and Mexico—are treating their early man sites. -jf (p.10)



“It would be useful to...say Why not? from time to time, and to rethink all we believe we know.”
-Vesna Tenodi, *Pleistocene underground, Prt 2* (p.16)



Audio excerpts from Dr. Louis Leakey's 1970 Calico talk. When promoting standard evolutionism Leakey was praised the world over. Ridicule began when he followed the evidence and started promoting early man in the Americas—more proof anthropology is agenda-driven. - John Feliks (p.11).



Archaeologist, Fred E. Budinger Jr., disturbing news on what is being done to Calico Early Man Site (p.9).

Raghubir S. Thakur, MA History (former Consultant Security and Land Management, Archaeological Survey of India—ASI) studying the oldest rock art for over 20 years provides [an introduction to his discoveries and extensive GPS catalogue of ancient rock art in Delhi region](#) (p.5).



The Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco story

Overview and links

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre, PhD, Volcanic ash specialist

"My contributions are part of the larger story of the geologists and chemists—including the U.S. Geological Survey team (USGS) and other professionals who produced similar results confirming a c. 250,000-year old date for Hueyatlaco."



2016 marks the 50th anniversary of my first involvement with the Valse-

quillo early man archaeological sites (**Fig. 1**), State of Puebla, Mexico. Who could have predicted that the project would essentially control the rest of my professional life!

Or that I would end up as a black-sheep scientist because of it!

In the last issue of this newsletter (Issue 38), editor John Feliks presented an overview, including links, of his many articles to date debunking evolutionary propaganda. He suggested I do something similar for my reminiscences of "The Valsequillo Saga." Actually, articles on the subject by myself and several other authors are sprinkled throughout *Pleistocene Coalition News* beginning with Issue 1; but they are concentrated in a series of pieces from Issues April-May to November-December of 2011. They begin when we learned that the Hueyatlaco site, at least the upper part, was no more; it had been leveled by heavy equipment and a large house and park built atop it.

A few external links

For a popular video of the saga produced by Emmy-winning filmmaker, Bill Cote (*Mystery of the Sphinx*), see [SUPPRESSED: New Evidence of Early Man](#). The film, drawing attention to scientific suppression, presently has well over a million views.

For our comprehensive 2011 scientific paper on Hueyatlaco

written by the then still-living scientists involved, here is the link to the online version:

[The stratigraphic debate at Hueyatlaco, Valsequillo, Mexico](#). *Palaeontologia Electronica* 14 (3), Nov. 2011. palaeo-electronica.org/2011_3/27_malde/index.html.

Here is the link to the downloadable PDF (28 MB):

Malde, EH, V Steen-McIntyre, CW Naeser, and SL VanLandingham. 2011. [The stratigraphic debate at Hueyatlaco, Valsequillo, Mexico](#). *Palaeontologia Electronica* 14 (3), pp. 1-26. http://palaeo-electronica.org/2011_3/27_malde/27_malde.pdf

For PC founding member, Chris Hardaker's 2007 take on the story, see his book [The First American: the suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World](#).

Detailed history

Below is the history of my involvement with the Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga as given in *PCN* with direct links to the articles. For those not yet familiar with Hueyatlaco and Valsequillo, they represent middle Pleistocene-age sites in North America where advanced tools, engravings, and other signs of intelligent early people have been discovered and, as such, have made them the bane of mainstream

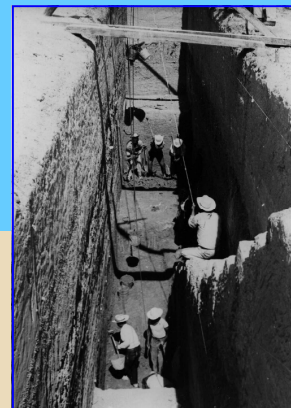


Fig. 1. JL Lorenzo Hueyatlaco excavation, c. 1966.

American archaeology (**Fig. 2**). As mentioned in the opening paragraph of [PCN #11](#) (May-June 2011), my contributions are part of the larger story of the geologists and chemists—including the U.S. Geological Survey team (USGS) and other professionals—who produced similar results confirming a c. 250,000-year old date of for Hueyatlaco.

The Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga

[It begins](#) (*PCN* Issue #10, March-April 2011, page 3)

We at PC learn of the destruction of Hueyatlaco.

[Introduction](#) (*Issue 11*, May-June 2011: 4-5)

[Part 1](#) (*Issue 11*, May-June 2011: 15-17)

[Part 2](#) (*Issue 11*, May-June 2011: 17-20)

Parts 1 & 2 tell of my introduction to the project, marriage, and move to Puerto Rico. Barney Szabo's uranium series dating method

> [Cont. on page 3](#)



Fig. 2. The only artifact of archaeologist Cynthia Irwin-Williams' Valsequillo artifacts and fossils the location of which is known. It is a bifacial spearhead which—after having been lost—was re-discovered in 2003. It was found "unlabeled" in a case of common Paleo-Indian artifacts at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico city.

The Valsequillo-Hueyatlaco story with links (cont.)

"News release on the old dates our USGS team had announced was the beginning of isolation from my peers."

places the Valsequillo sites at roughly a quarter-million years. I describe my inability to correlate the volcanic ash layers at the Hueyatlaco site with dated layers on a nearby volcano. Details of the 1973 field season are given as they relate to Hal Malde, myself, and geologist and archaeologist, Roald Fryxell.

[Part 3](#) (Issue 12, July-August 2011: 4-5 & 17)

Part 3 includes my years at the USGS (United States Geological Survey) where I developed my methods for rough-dating volcanic ash (tephra) from the Valsequillo sites and other sites. Chuck Naeser's fission track dating method placed tephra samples from Hueyatlaco in approximate agreement with Szabo's uranium series dates. News release of the very old dates from the Valsequillo sites marked the beginning of isolation from my peers. Also covered are my New Zealand trip, the death of Roald Fryxell, and the difficulty of getting information from our 1973 field work into print, as well as work in El Salvador and production of the Hueyatlaco stratigraphic monoliths (**Fig. 3**).

[Part 4](#) (Issue 12, July-August 2011: 18-20)

Trouble getting our 1973

field data into print continues. When finally published in *Quaternary Research* (1981) it elicits no response



Fig.3. Steen-McIntyre preparing one of the Hueyatlaco monoliths (stratigraphic samples) for extraction and later study, 1973.

from the establishment.

Work on evaluating the geological components of the scribed Flagstaff stone. Care giving relatives.



Fig.4. See reference on Page 7. Steen-McIntyre at Hueyatlaco during fieldwork with Hal Malde and Mike Waters in 2004 (about 30 years after Fig. 3).

Part 4 also covers the time in which Cynthia Irwin-Williams, Juan Armenta, José Lorenzo, Scotty MacNeish, George Agogino, and Marie Wormington die. Michael Cremo's and Richard Thompson's book, *Forbidden Arche-*

ology is published containing a prominent entry on the suppression of the Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo early dates.

This is also the time in which I connect with several "maverick archaeologists" and when Bill Cote's special, *Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charleton Heston featuring an account of the Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo suppression was produced and aired twice on NBC TV. Among many other researchers I was included in the broadcasted interviews giv-

ing a quick overview of the Hueyatlaco story and how the extremely old dates affected my career.

[Part 5](#) (Issue 13, September-October 2011: 4-5, 15-16)

I returned to Hueyatlaco in 1997, sampling volcanic ash for more dates. My trip to Portales New Mexico to copy the late Irwin-Williams' files revealed much had disappeared. Announcement of a new video on Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo in the works along with new radiometric dates up to c. 400,000-500,000 years old, but not published.

Geologist and renowned diatom specialist, Sam VanLandingham, joined our team in 1999 analyzing dates from Hueyatlaco by means of microscopic freshwater fossils. Part 5 also

> [Cont. on page 4](#)

The Valsequillo-Hueyatlaco story with links (cont.)

"I was included in the broadcasted interviews giving a quick overview of the Hueyatlaco story and how the extremely old dates affected my career."

covers field work with Sam, archaeologist Chris Hardaker, Bob McKinney and Mexican colleagues in 1999–2001 (**Fig. 5**). Hueyatlaco stratigraphic sections or 'monoliths' (such as seen in Fig. 3 on preceding page) were transferred from my rental space in Colorado to VanLandingham's garage in Texas for unpacking and filming in 2002. Talks given in Mexico and Washington DC (2002, 2003). New field work at Hueyatlaco was done with Hal Malde, Mike Waters, and Mexican colleagues in 2004 (**Fig. 4** prior page).

Part 6 (*Issue 13*, September–October 2011: 17–19)

Part 6 covers transferring the Hueyatlaco trench profiles of Roald Fryxell (**Fig. 6**) to computer. I had assisted Fryx, as he was known, in drawing the profiles in 1973 though, as mentioned, we could not get our data published until 1981 (Steen-McIntyre, V, R Fryxell, and HE Malde. 1981. Geologic Evidence for Age of Deposits at Hueyatlaco Archaeological Site, Valsequillo, Mexico. *Quaternary Research* 16: 1–17). This time also included transferring a couple of Irwin-Williams' profiles and one of

INAH's profiles to computer and taking on the job of

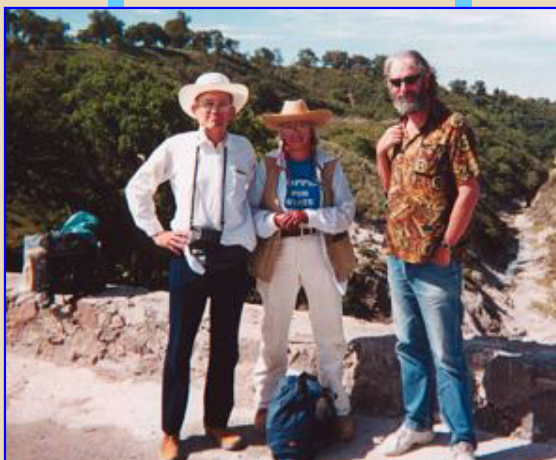


Fig. 5. From *PCN* #13 (Sept–Oct 2011), three PC founding members, well-known diatomist, the late Sam VanLandingham; archaeologist, Chris Hardaker (author of *The First American*); and myself on the road crossing Barranca Caulapan in Mexico. This was the region where a worked stone flake dated at c. 23,000 years old was found by archaeologist Irwin Williams in the mid-60's. The Valsequillo Reservoir is out of sight behind us.

publishing the Malde *et al* manuscript after Malde's death in 2007.

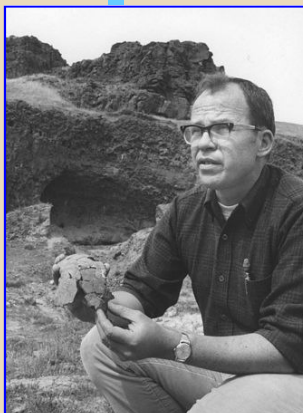


Fig. 6. Geologist, archaeologist, and late dear friend, Roald Fryxell; from Part 3. After dating Hueyatlaco and the Marmes rock shelter in Washington (seen here), Fryx was selected for the team of geologists who examined the moon rocks from NASA's Apollo missions. He also designed the device used for collecting core samples on the moon. The lunar crater Fryxell is named after him.

There were even attempts to prevent this new paper from publication though it was finally published in 2011.

The new film/video; *Valsequillo, an archaeological enigma*; was finished but not aired during this time as well. VanLandingham finds the Valsequillo area to be unique in the world for the study of fresh-

water diatoms. Hueyatlaco as an archaeological site around this time was essentially (intentionally?) destroyed.

Part 7 (*Issue 14*, November–December 2011: 4–5, and 15)

Part 7 provides a comprehensive list of resources and published the known locations of materials and data.

We've lost several players from the Valsequillo Project over the past few years: Bob McKinney, Hal Malde, Sam VanLandingham, and husband Dave McIntyre. And I'll be 80 this year, no spring chicken. Hopefully the *PCN* newsletter will continue on after us, and people will have access to the Valsequillo Saga through it. It deserves to be remembered.

VIRGINIA STEEN-MCINTYRE, PhD, is a volcanic ash specialist; founding member of the Pleistocene Coalition; and copy editor, author, and scientific consultant for *Pleistocene Coalition News*. She began her lifelong association with the Hueyatlaco early man site in Mexico in 1966. Her story of suppression, now well-known in the science community, was first brought to public attention in Michael Cremona's and Richard Thompson's classic tome, *Forbidden Archeology*, which was followed by a central appearance in the NBC special, *Mysterious Origins of Man* in 1996, hosted by Charleton Heston.

Petroglyphs in Delhi-Aravallis-System, India

Vivid creations by early man, an introduction

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

"Man of the Old World trotted in Delhi, India, far earlier and farther than the science communities have yet to admit."

Introduction

Man of the Old World trotted in Delhi, India (**Fig. 1**), far earlier and farther than the science community has yet to admit. The footprints of early man in the form of petroglyphs (engravings), discovered in Delhi, are found to be in a variety of known, lesser known, and a few unidentifiable forms; figurative markings, and impres-



sions, e.g., **Fig. 2** (I will provide more information on the locations of the rock artworks I write about in a later article). There is a dominance of cup-like markings along with geometric and non-geometric patterns, symbols, anthropoid or anthropomorphized figures, and figures of other animals. The richness of these creations establishes an affinity and a strongly meaningful relationship between the Old World and the Delhi-Aravallis-System in ancient times.



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

Rock art

These vivid creations are regarded to be an artwork of the open-air landscape. However we interpret them, they certainly contain human history, biological, and ecological relationships interwoven with the then existing paleoenvironment.

No doubt, the artistic quality in the engravings, the line drawings, and the painted works on rock generated the relatively recent term, 'Rock-Art'; but the artistic quality must have been the result of many developmental stages over several millennia. Just like today, people back then were experimenting with different media skillfully utilizing time and space and recording their life-ways to be passed down to future generations. We would not be sitting here claiming them to be our ancestors today if they had not taken the time to do so.

Aravallis Hill-System

The Aravallis Hill ranges run parallel to the Western Frontiers of Rajasthan that forms the skyline almost to central and western India, stretching between northeast of Gujrat to northeast of Delhi. It is a giant geological landmark, passing through about a dozen districts of Rajasthan and Haryana, before sheathing the Union Territory of Delhi. From one end to the other it covers a medial distance of about 700 kilometers. The rock types of the Delhi-Aravallis area consist of sparse laterites, much sandstone, quartzite, granite, and pegmatite. The formation



Fig. 2. Top: Examples of the enigmatic form of rock art petroglyphs from the Delhi-Aravallis region known as cup-marks. Cup-marks are a very common phenomenon in India. Those in India such as at Bhimbetka—estimated to be somewhere between 200,000 and 700,000 years old—are likely the oldest known form of rock art in the world. While many have attempted to come up with 'monolithic' explanations for what cup-marks are they would obviously have had many different meanings or purposes in various cultures and locations throughout the world and through time. The fact that cup-marks are found in many different positions—including on vertical surfaces such as walls—is evidence that they were not only of practical significance such as storage. The color placard in each picture measures 10 cm or just under 4" in length. **Bottom:** A rare (one of only two) star-shaped petroglyph.

of the Aravallis Hills affected the drainage system of northern India, which also affected paleogeography and paleoecology long before hominids were in the region. These natural forces created several hundreds or thousands of surfaces that can be thought of as 'natural black-

> [Cont. on page 6](#)

Petroglyphs in northern India (cont.)

"The result thus far



Fig. 3. Rock surfaces in the Delhi region were perfect for creating impressions and can be thought of as 'natural blackboards.'

is the discovery of nearly 45 localities with over 100 rock art sites explored."

boards' (e.g., **Fig. 3**) along with overhangs, etc., that would later be used as rock shelters. Those shelters were useful for animals as well as humans who used them when climatic conditions forced them to move to naturally formed structures. As

noted above, these rock faces were used like blackboards or canvases, where humans skillfully recorded or represented eventful lifeways to communicate with others. There is no reason not to think that they might also have used them to maintain unseen contacts and/or relationships by way of silent communication. Nor is there any reason not to consider the possibility that they might have worked these surfaces for the sake of landscape beautification. I.e. they do appear to be artistic creations on rock.

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Background

At the outset, it is stated, as shared with Dr. Badam and partly from John Feliks, "the views about our ancestors as unintelligent ape-people as has been promoted by the science community is not at all correct. In reality, there is no evidence for a gradual evolution of mental ability but only evidence of continuing and stable human intelligence." And the evidence also suggests that, "whatever intelligence level any creature was at when it first appears in the fossil record is likely to be no different today." Now in support of finding all petroglyphs in the open air in the Aravallis-System, I, quote Paul (1992): "Since, they spent almost their whole

lives in the great outdoors, it has always been assumed that they must also have produced art outside the cave." In subsequent paragraphs, the cause is further strengthened stating, "In recent years, however, a series of important finds in western Europe has finally proved that the Palaeolithic people did produce art in the open air, that it can survive and therefore that the Soviet claims may be valid after all."

There is no debate that our ancestors were able to record their thoughts in some external form which has been preserved across time. There is need, however, as to what we call "artwork," to see if there is a relationship between the Old World and what we have discovered in India. In 1997, the author had drawn attention to the idea that early human artwork was essentially an activity of inventory and also used for silent communication. Capt. Newbold during 1842—probably the first one to have discovered petroglyphic drawings in India, during 1843—published an article about his findings in the Madras Journal of Art and Letters. In 1916, Bruce Foote was the first one to describe and publish about fifteen pictures from the site in his book, *The Indian Prehistoric and Protohistoric Antiquities: Their ages and distribution* (after A. Sundra 1994).

When it comes to looking for what associated material culture is found from these or any of the sites in the Delhi region? Attention is drawn to Morgan's last book (1881). He was the first anthropologist to recognize that products of material culture do not occur in isolation from other social developments. He has debated the patterns of architecture to interrelate with forms of family organizations and social life. In addition Rajan (2008) at the

very outset states, "Rock Art is an expression of belief system of the contemporary society and it represents tremendously rich and multifarious philosophical life...." Thus, whatever we find or explore we can identify 'rock-art' in itself as the remnants of material culture!! Of course we still need to establish strings to our discussions and findings, bringing in acceptance of the archaeologists.

Exploration and some distinctive aspect

The very continuum of exploring rock art sites with a multidisciplinary point of view bespeak of importance that has been realized in the scope of understanding rock art and its aesthetics for over a century. However, I would like to acquaint the reader with a formidable task that I have taken up single-handedly for nearly three years now. The result thus far is the discovery of nearly 45 localities with over 100 rock-art sites explored during the time span from January 26, 2013 to roughly the end of December 2015, in the Delhi-Aravallis System. (There are also three sites in the neighboring popular place, Surajkund (one locality), in the district Faridabad of Haryana State.) Since the exploration continues, the total numbers of petroglyphs have not been recorded. But, the counting of cup-marks located to date comes to about 7,000, megaliths nearly 45 of them, and also a good number of Stone Age tools. Some of the cup-marking patterns formed by Aravallis man seem to be uncommon, a few attract greater attention and so is the case with animal figures located that include two of the anthropomorphic figures, hand impressions, etc. It would not be out of context

> [Cont. on page 7](#)

Petroglyphs in northern India (cont.)

"There is no debate that our ancestors were able to record their thoughts in some external form which has been preserved across time."

just to express how arduous and challenging the exploration was: It had taken about twenty years to discover more than 100 rock-art sites in Karnataka (Sundra 2006).

Those considered and noticed to be rare finds are pitted markings, probably with a stone serving as a hammer. Two were pitted-out to form star shapes (as in Fig. 2, opening page); arrow-like marking (one only); and cup-marks, small to large ones, seen combined in some form or other; in some a few linked with deep and wide grooves; at two different sites several seen linked together. At some spots there seems to be a plan of smaller and larger settlements, or the formation of bigger groups to move in a strategic formation. At some spots scattered cup-marks could represent the universe, galaxies, and the revolution of planets. This was also, noticed and reported by Odak Osaka (1992). Some look like geometric patterns and some for playing games. In addition there are a good number of stone furnishings suitable for sitting, resting or sleeping, to collect water and to place or store belongings. Some may have been used as crucibles and some as hearths and fire pits, etc.

Common patterns with cup-like markings

1. Linear;

- a) Rarely, but seen single ones.
- b) Seldom seen in single row.
- c) Forming 'V' like shapes, some indifferently.
- d) In parallel-looking rows; could be in two, three, four and seldom more than four in numbers.
- e) A few of two rows have one each cup-mark at both ends ahead of the rows, but in the middle axis. Rarely noticed.
- f) Some of the two rows in semi-circle pattern.
- g) Some of two rows making 'L' like form.
- h) Some indifferent than all above types.
- i) Some of the cup-marks are in unidentifiable shapes.

2. Linear and curved lines together;

- a) Single row lightly curved.
- b) Two rows linear and one curved.
- c) Also, a few different than a) and b).

3. Circular shapes;

- a) True circle, very few.
- b) Circular formation with a cup-mark in the center.
- c) Some shaped like an elongated necklace.
- d) Some rectangular with corners curved enough to call circular shape.
- e) Some forming semi-circular shape.
- f) Some in diamond shape but near circular.

4. Rows closer at one end with wider gap at the other;

- a) Could be two, three or more rows in number.
- b) Some pitted/ chipped off markings seen in the same order as above.

5. Some of the cup-marks only at one spot small, normal or larger ones have shallow but flattened base. At this very site five of these basin-like cup-marks are interconnected with a slightly deeper grooved line.

Other markings observed;

6. Some very large grinding hollows and containers with rounded deeper base, a few with conical base. And, some angularly centered.

7. At three of the sites engraved longish pits look to be hearths or just the fire pits, to keep the flame going.

8. All known types of cup-marks are observed here.

9. Individual cup-marks are very few. At one of the sites explored found only 'one'.

10. Some of explored patterns are unidentifiable.

11. In one locality two stars are explored. One shaped out of shallow pitted grooves and the other with smaller cup-markings formed in that manner.

12. Anthropomorphic figures are in the same rock from which animal figures are being reported.

Besides all the above there are megaliths, mainly Menhirs and a goodly number of Palaeoliths. The explored localities are the following ones.

Eds. Note: With the time and space allotted and amount of material submitted it was not possible to do a more thorough treatment of Thakur's introduction. Details in later issue.

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CAPT. RAGHUBIR S. THAKUR, MA (History), is an Ex-Army Officer (Gazetted) with his last role as Consultant for Security and Land Management for the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Govt. of India. His responsibilities included protecting National Government-listed 'Heritage properties' including World Heritage monuments. The Security Cell was formulated and created by Thakur's persuasion of every Director General of the ASI for over 19 years. The position had not been created for over 150 years in the Archaeological Department—which itself is one of the oldest and largest in the world. Over the years, Thakur has gained a broad firsthand knowledge of rock art sites in the region around Delhi independently carrying out explorations to document prehistoric sites. He is the first to discover and document rock art in Delhi. Thakur has participated in 10 international archaeological and environmental conferences (1990–2012) presenting papers in India, Sweden, and Japan. He was Organizing Secretary of the *Asian Conference on Air Pollution*, Jaipur-Rajasthan, 1999. Thakur's most recent presentation was at the Joint Annual Conferences of the IAS, ISPQS, and IHCS, Hyderabad, December 2015. Among others, Thakur is associated with the discovery of an Upper Paleolithic site near Ellora Caves (1992), megalithic menhirs in Western Rajasthan (1997), cup-marks in Siroli Dongari, Chhattisgarh (2007), and nearly a hundred cup-mark and other petroglyph sites—including some with Paleolithic stone tools within the ancient Delhi-Aravallis mountain range (2013–2015).

Member news and other info

"When mainstream scientists fear facts enough to go after researchers who look into evidence for themselves you know their beliefs have serious weaknesses. That's why blocking evidence is one of their most commonly used defenses."

For our Spanish readers

There is an excellent series of PCN-related articles in Spanish on Xavier Bartlett's blog, *La otra cara del pasado*.

First, with some assistance from our own Kevin Lynch and Richard Dullum, there is a very good overview of influential amateur archaeologist James Reid Moir's life and contributions:

[La herejía olvidada: Los descubrimientos de James Reid Moir](#) (*Forgotten heresy: The findings of James Reid Moir*); sábado, 14 de noviembre de 2015

Reid Moir is the early 20th Century researcher featured often in Kevin and Rick's articles who a hundred years ago discovered evidence for very early Pleistocene man in the U.K., and which put him into direct conflict with the mainstream scientists of his day—even the late Dr. Louis Leakey. However, as is well known to our readers, Reid Moir was recently vindicated by the 2013 discovery of human footprints in the U.K. dating to c. 850,000 years old.

Agradecimiento: A los investigadores Richard Dullum y Kevin Lynch, miembros de la Pleistocene Coalition, por haber recuperado la memoria de Reid Moir a través de un exhaustivo trabajo bibliográfico y de campo.

Xavier's website also features the Google translator for instant translation into other languages.

Second, there is an excellent new interview with Pleistocene Coalition Co-founder Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre the title of which describes her story well:

[Virginia Steen-McIntyre: la lucha de un científica disidente](#) (*Virginia Steen-McIntyre: The struggle of a dissenting scientist*) jueves, 24 de diciembre de 2015.

Finally, there is an article about another influential PC writer and inspiration behind many PC writers, Michael Cremo, co-author with the late Dr. Richard Thompson of the impeccably-researched tome and bane to mainstream archaeologists, *Forbidden Archeology*.

Michael is the author responsible for first bringing Virginia Steen-McIntyre's story into public awareness in the pages of *Forbidden Archeology* and later in the Bill Cote NBC TV special, *The Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charlton Heston. While both *Forbidden Archeology* and Cote's film are regularly attacked by the mainstream there is little they can do about the Virginia Steen-McIntyre portions other than employ presumptuous or *ad hominem* attacks using standard propaganda techniques discussed in *Pleistocene Coalition News*. When mainstream scientists fear facts enough to go after researchers who look into evidence for themselves you know their beliefs have serious weaknesses. That's why blocking evidence is one of their most commonly used defenses.

Question from a reader on the topic of fraud in school textbooks

(a topic reiterated in PCN #38)

"Aren't there laws against fraud? Couldn't the proof be pushed into a courtroom and 'tried' by a jury?"

If the Layout editor were not utterly swamped the reader's question would be the beginning of a long editorial on what has happened in the U.S. Education System and the degree to which U.S. legislators, professors and grade school teachers, the U.S. Judicial System, as well as attorneys would actually permit already-proved falsehoods to be presented as "fact" in school textbooks. The Next Generation Science Standards documentation contains easily-cited deceptive language couched in scientific-sounding terms. It also contains psychological and rhetorical tricks on how to manipulate students' thinking during the K-12 developmental window. Complicated and crafty results like that are not by accident. They are the deliberate effort of powerful institutions such as AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science), the NRC (National Research Council), and the NSTA (National Science Teachers Association). It would take many concerned people to challenge what is going on. See [PCN #27, Jan-Feb 2014](#) for examples of well-known propaganda techniques identified in the NGSS document.

> [Cont. on page 9](#)



Direct links to recent articles

PCN #38, November-December 2015:

[Bairoil, Wyoming site plowed under](#)

[Re-establishing Moir's Pleistocene U.K. sites](#)

[Member news and other info](#)

[The controversial Brownwood Skull](#)

[Mammoth migrations suggest early humans](#)

[Oldest Monte Verde dates 'ignored'](#)

[More on Utah rock art panel](#)

[Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 16](#)

[Pleistocene underground, Part 1](#)

Member news and other info (cont.)

"No artifacts can be seen by anybody."

—Fred E. Budinger Jr., archaeologist, former Director of Calico Early Man Site, in an e-mail update on the state of affairs at Calico. Quoted with permission.



An important update on the state of affairs at Calico Early Man Site

was sent to us from former Director, Fred E. Budinger Jr. Here is an especially critical

section from Fred's update. It is timely both as concerns the preservation of evi-

dence in U.S. archaeology and for the subject of truth in science:

"Just now, the site is only open to the public on Sundays ... and no artifacts can be seen by anybody."

"A respected book author (the author of *Bipoints Before Clovis*) wrote to Schroth about flying out to California from Virginia to photograph selected Calico specimens for an up-coming book.

Dr. Schroth's response:

"The Calico collection is no longer available for study."

Does this sound like the kind of science Americans should be proud of?

Updated information on the antiquity of mammoth hunting in the Arctic

was sent to us by Dr. Terry Bradford. A report in the January 15 issue of *Science* about a recently-discovered frozen mammoth carcass showing signs of human tool work has pushed back the dates for early humans in Eurasia by another 10,000 years. That now sets human presence in the coldest northern regions at c. 45,000 years ago.

"Advancements in mammoth hunting ... likely facilitated the arrival of humans

in the area close to the Bering land bridge, providing them an opportunity to enter the New World before the Last Glacial Maximum."

Mainstream dating changes on migration stories related to the Americas are often added in 5,000–10,000-year increments. Of course, we at the

Pleistocene Coalition keep tabs on such dates which again are invariably pushed

farther and farther back in time. This brings us back to one of the main reasons the Coalition was formed; that is the fact that evidence for the presence of truly ancient man in the Americas is suppressed by the science community. That gives a false impression of what the complete evidence actually says. Related to this is Virginia Steen-McIntyre's brief report, [Mammoth migrations into North America suggest human presence](#) (PCN #38 (November-December 2015)). It concerns the presence of mammoths on the Bering Strait Land Bridge. Virginia suggested that if mammoths of any kind were wandering the Bering Land Bridge 1.5 million years ago that human mammoth hunters would likely not have been far behind. This idea is supported by evidence of which most Americans are not aware. Mammoth migration across the Bering Land Bridge is more evidence pointing straight to North American early man sites dated between 200,000 and 400,000 years old by profes-

sional geologists and chemists including from NASA and the USGS. These sites are suppressed by the mainstream science community because of their antiquity. They conflict with the mainstream belief system. They include such sites as Old Crow in Alaska, Caltrans and Calico in California, Hueyat-

laco in Mexico, and Monte Verde in Chile. —jf

Former contract archaeologist, Marilyn Jesmain, PhD, who told a portion of her story in *PCN*

[Issue #38](#) (Nov-Dec 2015), wrote that one of her associates "found a large site [c. 1980s] on the American Falls Reservoir in Idaho when the water was extremely low." Jesmain and her associate went back several times and got "boxes and boxes of mammoth bones, camel, and other extinct animals." They found "charcoal, fire pits, artifacts of all kinds, and even human bones. They donated so much to the museum at Pocatello that they refused it. Jesmain adds, "The site was never recorded and I still have a box full of mammoth bones and a human femur from there."

Mainstream quote of the day

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

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

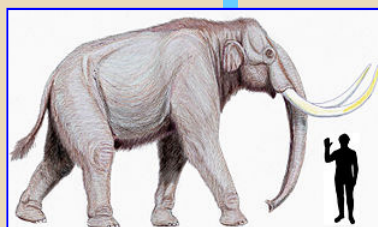


Fig. 1. *Mammuthus trogontherii*; Wikimedia Commons.

The U.S. and Mexico falling behind in protecting early man sites

By John Feliks

"The Calico col-

The effects of dogmatic Pleistocene archaeology often go unrecognized. This is because the field is

dogmatic students are only told of evidence that supports the dogma which can result in a great loss in the quest for truth—the loss of conflicting evidence.



Fig. 1. Protected site. Visitor Center at Bilzingsleben early man site (locality of the c. 400,000-yr. old engraved bone artifacts *PCN* editor has specialized in with geometric secondary analyses). Bilzingsleben's Visitor Center reflects the value now placed on the site. While mainstream specialists—not artistically interdisciplinary—questioned even profound engraved artifacts suggesting such as gnawing by hyenas the German people had to fight to protect Bilzingsleben via "World Heritage status."

lection is no longer available for study."

-Former Calico Early Man Site Director, Fred E. Budinger Jr., citing Dee Schroth, archaeologist, Director at Calico

set up to produce thousands of mainstream adherents and Out-of-Africa migration-story advocates who don't realize what it means for science



Fig. 2. Destroyed site. Pictures 1–3 show the present state of Hueyatlaco early man site, Puebla, Mexico. Note that the buildings and landscaping do not represent a Visitor Center but private houses, yards, and walls built right on top of the famous archaeological site dated to c. 250,000 years by geologists and chemists from the USGS, NASA, and a renowned diatom authority. Picture 4 shows the site in 2004 before remaining area below a house was scraped and landscaped. V. Steen-McIntyre, M. Payn.

when conflicting evidence is withheld, allowed to become endangered, or is destroyed. When anthropology becomes

history. What is happening at Calico fits a pattern used historically in anthropology to suppress controversial ideas. It is the same pattern I also know as a former activist having experience with golf course developers, mayors, etc., trying to destroy local nature preserves and "undeveloped" recreation areas. The issues are similar because such agendas are accomplished by first doing as much as possible without public awareness. If they get past this stage destruction can often proceed unhindered. Public awareness is key.

Budinger already wrote about the deliberate destruction of Calico artifacts in [PCN #17](#) (May-June 2012) and [PCN #32](#) (November-December 2014). Bilzingsle-



Fig. 3. Endangered site. Visitor Center at Calico Early Man Site, Barstow, California. Keep in mind that Calico, dated 50,000–200,000 years old, is the only site in the Western Hemisphere excavated by the 20th Century's most famous anthropologist, Dr. Louis Leakey, who was its advocate until his death. Leakey—a stone tool expert—was ridiculed for his confident promotion of Calico because of the mainstream predisposition of no early Americans. Now, Budinger cites Dir. Dee Schroth that the Calico collection is simply, "no longer available for study."



ben early man site in Germany (**Fig. 1**) went through similar ordeals as both Calico in the U.S. and Hueyatlaco in Mexico regarding its recognition as an early man site. The difference is that Bilzingsleben is now a protected site. Lacking public awareness, by comparison, Hueyatlaco (**Fig. 2**), is a site destroyed. Calico (**Fig. 3**) is an endangered site. Like Germany, the U.S. and Mexico should protect their controversial sites and keep in mind that new evidence could change the whole picture at any time.

JOHN FELIKS and several scientists and other researchers started the Pleistocene Coalition as a means to bring suppressed evidence regarding prehistory to public awareness. Feliks has specialized in early human cognition. Prior, his focus was on the invertebrate fossil record studying fossils in the field across the U.S. and Ontario, Canada. He was also involved in preventing a rare secluded recreational lake from being turned into a standard 'all-amenities' campground and in saving a nature preserve from development into a golf course.

Reviving the Calico of Louis Leakey, Part 3

Audio clips from Leakey's 1970 Calico talk

By John Feliks

Double-click the sound icons

"A great age... should not interfere"

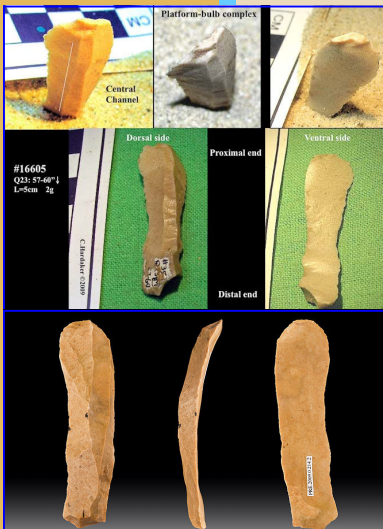


Fig. 2. Comparison from [Reviving the Calico of Louis Leakey, Part 1](#) (PCN #21, Jan-Feb 2013). I made this figure so that readers could compare a stone blade from Calico in California dated c. 50,000–200,000 years old (meticulously photographed and catalogued by PC founding member archaeologist Chris Hardaker) with a virtually identical stone blade from the famous site of Brassempouy in France, dated c. 22,000–29,000 years old. Readers can judge the objectivity of pre-committed scientists who claim that the Calico specimens were *made by nature* being “too old” while the European specimens are fully-accepted as *made by man*. **Top:** Artifact #16605 from Hardaker’s Calico Lithics Photographic Project (see PCN #6, July-August 2010). **Bottom:** a flint blade from Brassempouy (Wikimedia Commons). Dr. Leakey, familiar with artifacts worldwide, was fully confident in the artifacts from Calico despite persistent attempts by mainstream scientists to denounce them as “geofacts.”

with the interpretation of facts.”

“A great age should not disturb, or should not interfere, with the interpretation of facts. And you are going to see facts presently after lunch on the tables that I don’t think anybody can bypass.”

—Louis Leakey, PhD, “The Problems of Calico.” Talk given at the *International Conference on the Calico Mountains Excavation*; San Bernardino Valley College, California, October 24, 1970.

As explained in [Part 1](#), Dr. Louis Leakey and Ruth D. Simpson began the Calico early man site excavations in 1963 with a grant from the National Geographic Society. On October 24, 1970, Leakey presented several talks at the *International Conference on the Calico Mountains Excavation*, at San Bernardino Valley College. They included, “Pleistocene Man in America,” and “The Problems of Calico.” The conference was sponsored by the San Bernardino County Museum, University of Pennsylvania Museum, and the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation.

Here I offer a few audio clips from *The Problems of Calico* so that readers can hear Leakey’s passion and conviction regarding the site and its artifacts.

Finally, for those not yet familiar with the science scandal unfolding, here is an overview. Since the American science community is *pre-committed* to the belief that there could not have been people in the Americas 50,000–200,000 years ago they have had no choice but to discredit Calico. They’ve done it in three ways: 1.) Ridicule Leakey (**Fig. 1**), and demean the evidence as not representing actual artifacts at all but “geofacts”—supposedly natural creations that only look like artifacts and are misidentified even by leading experts (**Fig. 2**), 2.) Block artifacts from the public so that it cannot see the evidence, and 3.) Literally destroy physical evidence (see Budinger [PCN 17](#) & [32](#)). These are the means by which the legacy of Calico is in danger of complete destruction by the science community. I invite readers to look closely at Fig. 2, assess the artifacts for themselves, and decide whether or not Dr. Leakey was correct.

“I have consistently refused to say more about Calico than that it is over 50,000. And I have consistently warned the crew that it may be a great deal more than over 50.”

“But the safe thing is to say that it is certainly over 50—beyond the range of carbon dating.”

“I have from the very beginning taken into very close consideration the question of whether or not these *could* have been the work of nature.”

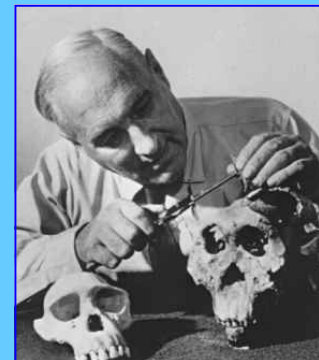


Fig. 1. The late Dr. Louis Leakey, Project Director at Calico Early Man Site from 1963 until his death in 1972, and the most recognizable name in early human archaeology and paleontology. Leakey’s expertise and scientific willingness to go wherever the evidence leads is being undermined by destruction of the evidence from Calico.

“And one of the most striking things, even with the cortex flakes at Calico, is that almost without exception—and I can only think of two exceptions in my mind—they are *not* flakes struck off of a bad piece of chert; they are flakes struck off a *selected* piece of chert or a piece of jasper.”

“This selectivity is something nature *never* does. Nature is pushing off flakes at random. Man pushes off flakes, for a specific purpose.”

“With the age, supposing in fact this site is *infinitely* older than 50,000, and it could well be. What does it mean? Does that mean that the site is impossible? Are we therefore going to write off the other evidence, the factual evidence?”

“I know that there are those who believe it is so old that it *couldn’t* contain artifacts; but I don’t believe because the artifacts are there!”

Marija Gimbutas: 1921–1994

By Marilyn Jesmain, PhD, archaeologist



"From 1967 to 1980, Gimbutas oversaw the excavations of over three thousand pre-Neolithic sites in south-eastern Europe."

Dr. Marija Gimbutas' groundbreaking work in interpreting the female images and feminine symbols of Neolithic Europe, initiated the sudden escalation of what became known as the Goddess spirituality movement of the 1980's. A Professor of Archaeology at the University of Southern

California, Gimbutas (**Fig. 1**) is best known for her research into the early Neolithic and later Bronze Age of "Old Europe." She was a pioneer in archaeomythology—an interdisciplinary field based on archaeology, comparative mythology and folklore.

Born in Vilnius, Lithuanian, Marija Birutė Alseikaitė graduated from Ausra Gymnasiums in 1938 and received her Master of Arts degree in linguistics, ethnology and literature from the University of Vilnius in 1941. Her thesis, *Modes of Burial in Lithuania in the Iron Age*, was based on Lithuanian folklore and rituals of death.

After her marriage to architect Jugis Gimbutas in 1941, she fled the Soviet reoccupation of Lithuania and moved to Tübingen Germany, where she received her doctorate in archaeology in 1946 with minors in ethnology and history of religion. Her dissertation, *Prehistoric Burial Rites in Lithuania*, was published later that year. Her post-graduate work was done at the University of Heidelberg and the Univer-

sity of Munich.

After the war, she and her husband and two daughters moved to the United States.

As an adjunct at Harvard, she lectured in anthropology, and translated Eastern European archaeological texts. In 1955 she was made a Fellow of Harvard's Peabody Museum.

During the 1950s and early 60s, Gimbutas had become a world-renowned authority on the Indo-European Bronze Age. Using her knowledge of Proto-Indo-European linguistics and comparing it with the migration patterns of the people from the Pontic Steppe of Southern Russia, she was able to unravel a time/space conundrum of a period that saw a transition from an apparently peaceful agrarian society to a pastoral warlike patriarchy.

Using comparative analogies, Gimbutas noted a striking absence of images of male domination or warfare and a profusion of art focused on the goddess. By deciphering meanings through image association and comparing the vast number of female representations with the lack of mili-



Fig. 1. Professor Dr. Marija Gimbutas at the Frauenmuseum (Women's Museum), Wiesbaden, Germany, in 1993. Photo: Monica-Boirar; Wikimedia Commons.

taristic paraphernalia and fortification, Gimbutas concluded that a gynocentric (woman-centered) social structure had preceded an androcratic patriarchal Bronze Age culture.

Gimbutas' controversial *Kurgan Hypothesis* was introduced in 1956 at the International conference at Philadelphia. *Bronze Age Cultures of Central and Eastern Europe*, published in 1959, reflected the cultural disruption and chaos during the late Neolithic. According to her interpretations, the diverse and complex Paleolithic and early Neolithic were egalitarian and non-violent. Her work had a significant impact on contemporary academia because it challenged traditional assumptions about the initial stages of European civilization.

From 1967 to 1980, Gimbutas oversaw the excavations of over three thousand pre-Neolithic sites in southeastern Europe. She recorded thousands of female statuettes, often dubbed "Venus figurines," along with large quantities of ritual vessels, alters,

> [Cont. on page 13](#)

Marija Gimbutas: 1921–1994 (cont.)

"Many of these sites were in areas that other archaeologists had given up on or ignored because they did not expect further finds."

temples, and wall painting representing female deities such as the snake goddess, bee goddess, bird goddess, mountain goddess, etc.

Major support for her thesis came in the 1950s with the discovery of the Neolithic settlement Çatal Hüyük (8th millennia B.C.E) by British archaeologist James Mellart. The site is located on the Konya plain of Southern Anatolia, Turkey. Excavations continue today and are now overseen by Ian Hodder of Stanford University.

The people of Çatal Hüyük, the largest agrarian Neolithic settlement yet discovered, were primarily agriculturalists and horticulturalists. The un-walled city is a honeycomb of connected mud rooms and courtyards, once housing as many as 10,000 individuals. Mellart recorded a plethora of 'female figurines' in which he meticulously avoided any interpretations to the point of referring to them as 'dolls'. Large wall paintings and plaster reliefs within each dwelling depicted a reverence for female deities. Clearly, this was a matrifocal social structure, but Mellart's dry academic text took little notice.

Professor Gimbutas' interest in Çatal Hüyük suddenly brought about a new curiosity in the site. Everywhere she saw the presence of the goddess. It was clear to her that the burial practices and artifacts left in graves proved women occupied principal positions as priestesses and heads of clans and were held in high esteem. An absence of weapons and the lack of a depiction of violence in their artwork enforced her premise that it was a peaceful matrifocal community, a claim Mellart vehemently contradicted.

In 1963, Dr. Gimbutas was

invited to teach at the University of California in Los Angeles, where she remained a tenured professor until her retirement in 1989. She was appointed Chair of European Archaeology and Indo-European Studies, established the Institute of Archaeology, was Curator of Old World Archaeology at the Cultural History Museum, and co-founder of *The Journal of Indo-European Studies*. She continued her field research by overseeing a number of major excavations in southeastern Europe. Many of these sites were in areas that other archaeologists had given up on or ignored because they did not expect further finds.

During the mid-80s, the feminist philosopher and writer, Riane Eisler, published *The Chalice and the Blade* (1987) bringing Dr. Gimbutas' innovative work to the public's attention.

Gimbutas' three books

The Goddesses and Gods of Old Europe (1974), was written while Gimbutas was a Fellow of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Holland (1973-74).

The Language of the Goddess (1989) which is probably Gimbutas' most famous profusely illustrated book scientifically analyzes and reconstructs a proposed symbolic religious ideology of "Old Europe."

In her final book *The Civilization of the Goddess* (1991), she elaborates on her theory that divided the Old European goddess-centered matrifocal system to what she saw as the patriarchal cultural elements of Indo-European during the Bronze Age:

"Gimbutas has not only prepared a fundamental glossary of pictorial keys

to the mythology of otherwise undocumented era of European prehistory, but has established the main themes of a religion in veneration both of the universe as a living body of Goddess-Mother Creatrix and of all the living things within it as partaking in her divinity."

—Joseph Campbell, from the book's foreword

Much like her predecessor, Margaret Mead, mainstream archaeology has dismissed many of Gimbutas' theories as radical or monolithic. Yet for many, she had an ability to see 'outside-the-box' and recognize the significance of spirituality within the identity of the Old European pre-Neolithic cultures. From Gimbutas' perspective this was a collective identity rather than a collection of disconnected cultures.

In June of 1993, a year before her death, she received an honorary doctorate at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania.

Marija Gimbutas died in Los Angeles on February 2, 1994. The following year, thousands of people gathered to express their love and respect for this great woman scholar for a concert celebration of her life, *Returning to the Mother of Us All*, which I was so honored to attend. That led to the production of the film, *Signs out of time: The story of archaeologist Marija Gimbutas*, which is available on YouTube.

MARILYN JESMAIN, PhD, is an archaeologist, explorer, and Professor Emeritus at UNM Taos. She has worked at many sites throughout the U.S. from Texas to Alaska, including the [Bairoil, Wyoming, site](#) which she wrote about in *PCN #38*, November-December 2015, giving the fascinating perspective of contract archaeologists.

A lithic site at West Runton, Norfolk

By Kevin Lynch and Richard Dullum

Earlier this year, encouraged by news of the finds at Happisburgh,

I decided to visit the site and attempt to find flint implements for my own collection. After visiting on several occasions, I found examples of the flint and fossil bone tools of early man described in prior articles. Given the fact that James Reid Moir—the groundbreaking amateur archaeologist who 100 years ago predicted the discovery of ancient man in the U.K. and who’s now vindicated work is the subject of many of our articles—

wrote several papers on various other locations in the area. That is what prompted me to visit some of the North Norfolk beach sites that he wrote about.

My first choice was the west beach at Cromer. Moir’s finds in that area resulted in his book, *The Great Flint Implements of Cromer, Norfolk*.

Over the years since Moir’s time the area has changed considerably. His location which he detailed as “the end of the bathing

beach” no longer applies as it has been extended since Victorian times and is no longer the correct position to start from. I scoured the beach for finds not knowing if I was even in the right area and in the process found only one cordiform handaxe. I then explored the beach at East Runton, the next most westerly location,

and there, once again, found very little. It was not until I searched the most westerly beach at West Runton (**Fig. 1**), that I found a considerable number of flint implements from the Paleolithic through Mesolithic and Neolithic. The Paleolithic finds all bear the deep ocherous patination that Moir refers to in his papers on the area.

My finds from West Runton (a couple more samples in **Figs. 2–4**) were all found in a small area about 50 X 50 meters, around a plateau of

chalk that rises above the rest of the surrounding chalk-based beach. This area, back before the ice age, was considerably further inland than it is today. I found so many probable implements that it is taking me a great deal of time to investigate their authenticity and catalogue them. I believe I have found a Paleolithic workshop/butchery site. There are Mesolithic and Neolithic implements as well. Was this a favorite spot for Early Man over many thousands of years? I found projectile points, picks, handaxes and scrapers. A Neolithic Thames pick found has very little patination compared to the Paleolithic finds. The deep ocherous patination Moir refers to may be the result of their containment in sand-based concretions rich in iron salts.

These coastal areas of North Norfolk are famous for their

> [Cont. on page 15](#)



“I found so many probable implements that it is taking me a great deal of time to investigate their authenticity and catalogue them.”



Fig. 2. Thumb scraper found in West Runton, Norfolk, U.K., by Kevin Lynch. Note patina.



Fig. 1. Location of West Runton, Norfolk, U.K. The arrow points at the site’s present location on the North Sea coastline. The green areas show how the part beyond the shore of the region was dry land in the past.

A lithic site at West Runton, Norfolk (cont.)

rapid erosion and a bare sandy beach can be transformed by a single tide stripping away sand and exposing artifacts beneath, with a sub-



Fig. 3. Here are front and back views of the same scraper featured in Fig. 2.

"Further investigations are needed in this important region of Great Britain ... before being lost to the sea forever."

sequent tide covering the beach with many tons of sand, hiding everything. It really is a case of studying tide and weather reports over the winter storm periods for successful lithic collecting.

It is my belief that more evidence of Early Man will be found in these regions. The Happisburgh finds may be only the tip of the iceberg at one million years. No one has yet explained the lithic finds below the Red Crag formation in the Suffolk bone bed (the Red Crag sea deposit has been estimated at 2.6 million years old by their contained fossils).

In *Pleistocene Environments of the British Isles* by Jones and Keen, they state the following

regarding the West Runton Cromer forest bed formation:

"Indications of the existence of Lower Palaeolithic humans in the British Isles during the time span under consideration are slight (Mellars 1974, Roe 1981, Wymer 1977, 1981, 1988) as the assertions that artifacts (eoliths) have been recovered from the Lower Pleistocene Crag sediments of East Anglia are untenable."

We now know that this belief is most probably incorrect.

I have found flint implements fashioned by human hand in the Suffolk bone bed (or detritus layer) consistently over the past ten years.

In Sparks and West's, *The Ice Age in Britain*, speaking of the Cromerian, they state:

"This stage was succeeded by the glacial stage which deposited the tills at the cliff face. This sequence at West Runton gives the clearest demonstration in the British Isles of climatic changes in immediately pre-glacial times."

They further suggest:

"At West Runton the Cromerian is overlain by a thickness of 30m of glacial deposits, heavily contorted by ice pushing and by movement during ice melting."

Archaeologists/anthropologists

are reluctant to enter the "eolith" debate today. Perhaps the Norfolk and Suffolk beach finds would be a good place—and reason—to start.

In my opinion, further investigations are needed in this

important region of Great Britain regarding the search for evidence of Early Man. It really needs to be sooner rather than later before being lost to the sea forever.

KEVIN LYNCH is a retired British businessman, an

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

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

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

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

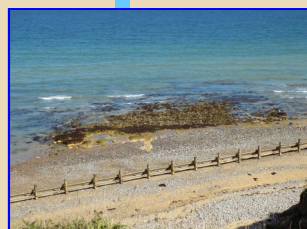


Fig. 5. View of locality on the Norfolk coast from the West Runton Cliffs. As noted in our prior installment, [Following Moir along the Norfolk coast at West Runton and Cromer \(PCN #38, November-December 2015\)](#), finds are in pockets of the chalk area below those covered in seaweed (center).

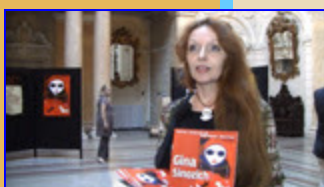


Fig. 4. Cordiform-style handaxe which the author found at Cromer, Norfolk, U.K., by following Reid Moir's directions to the site area. Photo: Kevin Lynch.

Pleistocene underground, Part 2

By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer

"As opposed to the popular



'Out of Africa' single-origins theory the evidence from Petralona Cave offers an entirely different picture of Pleistocene groups, their multidirectional migrations, and their parallel and in some cases overlapping co-existence."

First appearances and migrations

As mentioned in [Part 1](#) (*PCN* #38, Nov-Dec 2015), Greek anthropologist and archaeologist Dr. Aris Poulianos' research of Petralona Cave in Greece seems to support the theory of the appearance of the current main human population at a number of different sites simultaneously almost one

million years ago. This is otherwise known in mainstream ideas of human origins as the multiregional theory. As opposed to the popular 'Out of Africa' single-origins theory the evidence from Petralona Cave offers an entirely different picture of Pleistocene groups, their multidirectional migrations, and their parallel and in some cases overlapping co-existence.

Petralona is far from being an isolated case or an "anomaly"—as the mainstream routinely likes to refer to any inexplicable find or site—when it comes to evidence for the multiregional theory. There are a number of equally interesting Pleistocene localities in Europe in support of the theory of autochthonous or indigenous first appearances.

The earliest and most abundant evidence of early man in Europe is to be found in the Gran Dolina and Atapuerca caves which form part of an archaeological complex located in the Sierra de Atapuerca region of central Spain (**Fig. 1**). Just as Petralona Cave in Greece prompted the introduction of a new *Homo* variety named *Archanthropus europaeus petraoniensis*, Gran Dolina

and Atapuerca in Spain also called for a new name for the species found in that region.

Gran Dolina is a Lower and Middle Palaeolithic cave site, discovered in the mid-19th century. Archaeological excavations began in the 1960s and continue to this day. Out of 19 strata, eleven of them (TD-11 to TD-1) contain human deposits, dated between 300,000 and 780,000 years old. (Paul G. Bahn, "The Peopling of Eurasia," *Archaeology Magazine*, January/February 1996).

In TD-11 Mousterian tools—a technology primarily associated with Neanderthals—have been found. Level TD-10 could have been a camp of *Homo heidelbergensis* with tools and bison remains. But the most intriguing finds were unearthed in TD-6 called the Aurora stratum where in 1994 and 1995 archaeologists found over 80 bone fragments—postcranial, cranial, facial, and mandibular bones, as well as teeth—of at least six individuals. About 25% of human remains found in TD-6 show the earliest evidence of cannibalism.

The Aurora stratum hominids, dated to c. 780,000–857,000 years ago, do not fit into any known category of species. These finds are at least 250,000 years older than any other hominid yet



Fig 1. Fig. 1 Sierra de Atapuerca map

discovered in western Europe and is unclear which species these fossils belong to—either *Homo erectus*, *Homo heidelbergensis* or a newly discovered species.

[**Eds. Note:** The recently-discovered 850,000–950,000-year old and possibly older human footprints from Happisburgh, U.K., reported on by Dulum and Lynch in several issues of *PCN* (e.g., #28, March-April 2014 and #34, March-April 2015) need to be included in the western Europe mix as human trace fossils.]

José Bermúdez de Castro of the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid, who excavated the site, and his colleagues concluded that this is a newly identified species and named it *Homo antecessor* (from the Latin for pioneer or explorer). They claim that it is directly ancestral to both modern humans and Neanderthals, as the remains also show some Neanderthal characteristics.

As is always the case in paleoanthropology, there are many interpretations. Some researchers, for instance, who have studied the findings at Gran Dolina argue that *Homo antecessor* may have given rise to *Homo heidelbergensis*, who eventually gave rise to Neanderthals, and disagree about

> [Cont. on page 17](#)

Pleistocene underground, Part 2 (cont.)

"We realized right away that the face was modern-looking."

—Dr. Juan Luis Arsuaga, Universidad Complutense, Madrid, concerning the Gran Dolina 850,000-year-old human remains.

whether the fossils indeed represent the new species *Homo antecessor*.

The Aurora stratum, in addition to the *erectus*-like fossils, contained retouched flake and stone core tools, chipping debris, and animal and hominid remains that were dated using electron spin resonance and palaeomagnetic measurements to the Early Pleistocene period, i.e. earlier than 780,000 years old (reverse polarity). In 2014, new results pushed the dating further back, to 900,000 years old. This makes Gran Dolina one of the oldest human sites in Europe (Bermudez de Castro et al., *Earliest humans in Europe*, 1999). Some of their observations are very interesting however one looks at human origins:

"We realized right away that the face was modern-looking."

—Juan Luis Arsuaga, PhD, Universidad Complutense, Madrid; Co-director of the Gran Dolina excavation.

"We tried to put the fossils in *Homo heidelbergensis*, but they were so different that we could not."

—*ibid.*

Some paleoanthropologists disagree with Arsuaga's team and have expressed reservations about the designation of a 'new species' as well as Arsuaga *et als'* revision of the traditional evolutionary tree. They propose, instead, that these fossils might be a subspecies of some other already known *Homo* species in a similar way that Neanderthals are regarded as *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis* by many rather than as a separate species.

Arsuaga doesn't mind people having different 'mainstream' opinions. To the contrary, he said:

"This controversy is welcome, because it will help us to understand human evolution better."

There are, Arsuaga said,

"two main groups of paleoanthropologists today. Those who consider that human evolution is like a ladder with only one species at a time—*Homo habilis*, *Homo erectus*,

***Homo sapiens*—who will never accept more species. The other group sees human evolution as a tree with many branches. Some authors think that *Homo erectus* represents a separate branch and that Neanderthals and modern humans are two separate branches with a common ancestor"**

—Juan Luis Arsuaga, *Archaeology Magazine*, July 1997.

From time to time, one of these two camps, with their two competing theories, announces that they have "proved" one or the other.

The advocates of multiple origins of mankind use the Petralona and Atapuerca caves and the test results to prove their theories. At the same time, the researchers at the University of Cambridge believe they have proved the single-origin-of-humans theory, by combining studies of global genetic variations in humans with skull measurements across the world. New genetic re-

search, they claim, has "proved" that all humans originate from one single ancestor in sub-Saharan Africa (*Nature*, July 2007).

Advocates of these two competing theories on the origins of anatomically modern humans continue to argue

about whether humans originated from a single point in Africa and migrated across the world, or whether different populations independently

evolved from what they regard as the '*Homo erectus* stage' (Fig. 2) to *Homo sapiens* in different areas. Too busy to look beyond their own preferred theories, they forget a third group of archaeologists in an evolutionary trio. This third group thinks that neither the one-point-of-origin linear evolution of *Homo* or the tree-with-many-branches origin are on the right track.

The profound implications of Atapuerca cave

The Atapuerca archaeological site of several limestone caves, excavated by the same team as Gran Dolina, is also well known for abundant human remains discovered there since the excavations began in 1976. The site is called the Sima del Elefante (Pit of the Elephant). It contains even earlier evidence of humans in western Europe than that mentioned so far including fragments of a jawbone and teeth dating to 1.1–1.2 million years ago, while Sima

> [Cont. on page 18](#)

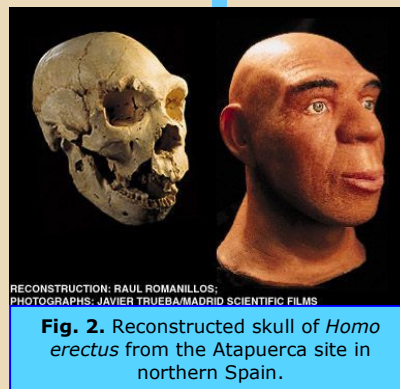


Fig. 2. Reconstructed skull of *Homo erectus* from the Atapuerca site in northern Spain.

Pleistocene underground, Part 2 (cont.)

"From time to time, one



Fig. 3. Skull 17 from the Sima de los Huesos (Pit of Bones) cave site in Sierra de Atapuerca, Spain. Javier Truebe / Madrid Scientific Films.

of these two camps, with their two competing theories, announces that they have 'proved' one or the other."

de los Huesos (Pit of Bones) yielded a high number of human fossils (**Fig. 3**).

In 2014 alone, the Bone Pit yielded 200 hominid fossils, including ribs, vertebra, cranium fragments, and hand and foot bones. In February, Dr. Arsuaga published the

results of the work with Dr. Svante Pääbo of the Max Planck Institute, who has developed

new methods for recovering and sequencing badly eroded DNA. Pääbo and his team applied their new techniques to a femur from the Bone Pit site to sequence their mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). They discovered that the people who lived in Atapuerca about 400,000 years ago were related to the Denisovans—an ancient human "species" in the standard vernacular—that lived in Siberia at the same time as Neanderthals, and survived up until around 40,000 years ago.

In 2014 the team published results showing that 17 skulls, each around 430,000 years old—reconstructed from fragments found in the Bone Pit since 1992—had Neanderthal features. This suggested that Neanderthals—prior known to have lived in Europe from 200,000 years ago until 30 to 40,000 years ago—or their ancestors were around much earlier than previously thought (*Science*, June 2014). A later report stated: "Indeed, the Sima de los Huesos specimens are early Neandertals or related to early Neandertals" (*Science*, September 2015).

Mysterious mind

Arsuaga and his team said that the huge number of human remains found in the Bone Pit might mean that the bodies were intentionally dropped into the pit as part of a burial ritual. While the idea of 'ritual' burial is only speculation, if true, it would mean that Atapuerca would represent some of the earliest evidence of symbolic thinking in an early hominid. In this light, excavation co-director Bermudez de Castro added that it was "very hard to get colleagues to accept evidence of ritual for early humans."

These glimpses into the mind and everyday life of *Homo antecessor* are both fascinating and frustrating. Did these early humans already possess a complex mind? Did they already have the ability for symbolic thinking and ritualistic behaviour?

Towards an Integrated theory of human origin

Why not? As any ethicist knows, human beings have always had a yearning for the divine, expressing that longing in different ways. According to some, such as PC founding member Dr. James B. Harrod, even apes have some sort of a "religion" (*The Case for Chimpanzee Religion*, 2014).

It would be useful to be able to allow the unimaginable and say *Why not?* from time to time, and to rethink all we believe we know. Instead of a blind insistence on only one theory of origin, it might be a good idea to consider that more than one theory might be correct. In mainstream science there are only two theories of human origins ever discussed—the Out of Africa theory and the Multiregional theory. Each attempts to prove the other wrong. But even if keeping oneself in this evolutionary

framework there is still room for a third option an integrated theory suggesting that each of the other two may have some elements of truth in them. Looking at things that way might keep the proponents of both main theories happy and enable a more free and honest exchange of ideas.

Even though the multiregional theory seems more plausible in explaining both ancient races and contemporary racial differences, the integrated theory would be a good compromise to keep the advocates of Out-of-Africa happy and allow both camps to move away from duelling over minor points that may be irrelevant when considering the big picture.

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

Website: www.modrogorje.com

E-mail: ves@theplanet.net.au

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

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/#vesna_tenodi



The Pleistocene Coalition

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SPECIALTY EDITORS
James B. Harrod, Rick Dullum,
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[Virginia Steen-McIntyre](#)

CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

Raghubir S. Thakur

Marilyn Jesmain

Fred E. Budinger Jr.

Kevin Lynch

Richard Dullum

Vesna Tenodi

Virginia Steen-McIntyre

John Feliks

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