



# PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

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- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

## Inside

### PAGE 2

**Dialogues with the underworld** Acoustics of Neolithic tomb *Dragos Gheorghiu*

### PAGE 4

**Mode pace set by climate conditions**, Part 4

*Jan Willem van der Drift*

### PAGE 6

**Ancient art** shows a modern artistic sense *Abdulrahman Albalawi*

### PAGE 7

**Five new discoveries** reveal prehistoric human mysteries, Part 2: Wood Age vs. Stone Age *Tina Wan*

### PAGE 11

**A golden nugget** from *The Outer Limits* *John Feliks*

**Member news/Info:** **Links to Issues 97-99**

### PAGE 12

**A glance at my archaeological odyssey**

*Tom Baldwin*

### PAGE 14

**Pleistocene hard stone construction**

*Richard Dullum*

### PAGE 17

**AI and pareidolia**

The importance of studying the past

*Patricio Bustamante Díaz*

### PAGE 19

**Legacy of Calico** Early Man Archaeological Project, Part 8, Uranium-series dating *Fred E. Budinger, Jr.*

### PAGE 21

**Debunking evolutionary propaganda**, Part 11 of the series in reverse (Arthropoda) *John Feliks*

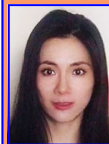
Archaeologist, **Fred E. Budinger, Jr.**, Director of Calico Early Man Site in CA's Mojave Desert (after Dr. Louis Leakey) in his *Part 8* introduces



**Uranium-series dating** of artifacts at Calico. See [Budinger p.19](#).



Calico chopper 205 kya



The Clacton spear 400 kya

Architect and researcher in Paleolithic civilizations, **Tina Wan**,

continues her discussion of early human intelligence and surprising toolmaking skills such as the **Clacton spear** (U.K.) dated at 400,000 years old. See [Wan p.7](#).



**Tom Baldwin**, writer, editor, teacher, and 30-year field worker at Calico Early Man Site—since the days



Multi-purpose tool

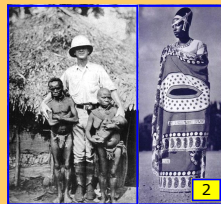
of Dr. Louis Leakey's Directorship—gives an overview of his journey from field archaeology to 16 years work in *PCN*. See [Baldwin p.12](#).

Objectivity through living and extinct forms contrasting scientific unaccountability



1

1.) **Everyone knows two dog breeds are the same species.** 2.) Likewise, everyone knows these five humans are the same species.



2

However, poor mainstream education shines brightly in #3) as academics do not only see six different species of trilobites, but six different genera! **Explanation:** No one is misled by #s 1 and 2 because living species are testable. But in #3, both the public and PhDs alike are easily misled as the animals are extinct.



3

Given free reign over the fossil record where they don't think anyone can challenge them unaccountability runs rampant creating the *illusion* of evolving species. See [Feliks p.21](#).

— Welcome to *PCN* #100 —

Dutch stone tool expert, **Jan Willem van der Drift**, concludes his 4-part **skeptical look at "the modes."** The modes



have long been dogmatically promoted in anthropology as representing 'stages' in human intelligence and technology while blocking evidence demonstrating that early humans were much more intelligent. See [Van der Drift p.4](#).



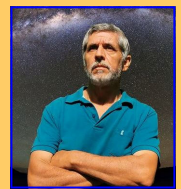
Mode-2 and Mode-3 tools

Chilean archaeoastronomer, **Patricio Bustamante Díaz**, dismantles and reassembles his explanatory construction of



Is AI an entity approaching deification?

certain inter-cultural phenomena similar from Paleolithic times to the present. The



present version involves a potentially massive psychological impact difficult to check swing on once out of the pitcher's hand. As Bustamante Díaz explained prior, **unbridled AI** will have irreversible consequences for conceptions of truth and reality including in academia. See [Bustamante Díaz p.17](#).



Possible interglacial quarry block

**Richard Dullum** continues his multifaceted exploration of the evidence for large stone construction (i.e. **megalithic**) in ancient North America.

The evidence is increasingly profound seeing that the mainstream science community has either missed it or deliberately ignored it now for centuries. Problems of suppression in anthropology relate to hard-set cult-like beliefs.

Photo: Julie Ryder. See [Dullum p.14](#).



AR mobile app correlating sound and rock art in Wales



Professor **Dragos Gheorghiu**, prolific experimental archaeologist and pyrotechnics expert with decades of field work discusses landscape art and ritual in the context of rock art. Rekindling work he began 10 years ago at a famous Neolithic tomb he proposes the tomb's **acoustic qualities** share some context with the site's engravings and cup-marks. See [Gheorghiu p.2](#).



Lion petroglyph Tabuk Saudi Arabia

Technical engineer **Abdulrahman Albalawi**, compares the **mental and emotional impact** of rock art with that of the modern technology of photography. See [Albalawi p.6](#).

# Dialogues with the underworld An archaeoacoustic approach to the cup-marks and engravings of the Neolithic chambered tomb at Barclodyad y Gawres in Wales

By Dragos Gheorghiu, Professor of Anthropology (Doctoral School; University of Arts; Bucharest, Romania)

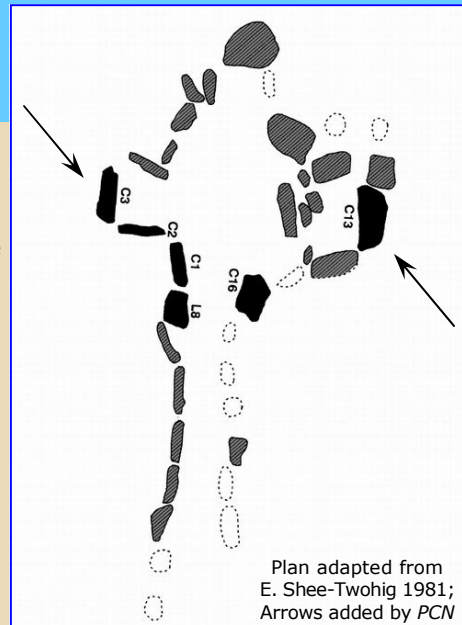
**"Some of the interior kerbstones are engraved with spirals, loz-**



**engraved with spirals, loz-**

**Ten years ago**, John Feliks invited me to contribute to an issue of *PCN* with an article on [art and archaeology](#) (*PCN* #40, March-April 2016). Therefore, I chose to describe an experience I had during a performance at Barclodyad y Gawres, one of the major Late Neolithic passage grave monuments in Wales. The tomb has an anthropomorphic shape (**Fig. 1**), characteristic of megalithic monuments around the Irish Sea. Some of the interior kerbstones are engraved with spirals, lozenges, a cup-

mark, and a large number of percussion points used to create future cup-marks. On the occasion of this special issue, I had the honour and pleasure of being invited to present a similar topic on art and archaeology, and I decided to continue exploring the complexity of experiencing this monument. While in my initial approach I was interested in revealing, through art, the anthropomorphism of one of the interior boulders, engraved with a braided pattern resembling a funerary motif, in the present case I decided to propose a project to visualize the monument's anthropomorphism animate through sound, given the presence of



**Fig. 1.** Plan of the Late Neolithic (5,000 BP) passage grave monument in Wales called Barclodyad y Gawres. The tomb is called anthropomorphic due to its humanlike shape. Rock art of kerbstones C 3 and C 13 are discussed in the text.



**Fig. 2.** Drone photos Bardodyad y Gawres landscape art I created to suggest reenactment of possible *circumambulations*—walking around a sacred object to express reverence. See related *PCN* #40 above. Photos Andy Beardsley.

**enges, a cup-mark, and a large number of percussion points."**

mark, and a large number of percussion points used to create future cup-marks. On the occasion of this special issue, I had the honour and

a cup-mark and traces of hammering on the spiral designs in the places that would have represented the arms of the anthropomorphic entity.

These two human interventions on kerbstones positioned in locations with acoustic potential—which are themselves situated in small spaces that would have amplified the sounds of the stones striking one another—are evidence of prehistoric auditory performances. Cup-marks are present in many megalithic monuments, superimposed over decorative patterns at the points of maximum resonance of the stone block. At Newgrange, on kerbstone 52, or at Knowth, on kerbstone 83, cup-marks are arranged in a straight line, which suggested to me a sonic sequence if all the cup-marks were hit in sequence. At the Barclodyad y Gawres tomb, on kerbstone C 3, decorated with four spiral patterns, one of them features a

series of numerous impact points, arranged approximately in a straight line, which overlap the spiral design. Kerbstone C 13 features a spiral pattern overlaid by a well-defined cup-mark. Their presence, just as at the Neolithic monuments mentioned earlier, is evidence of acoustic rituals performed within the enclosed spaces of the burial chambers.

The spiral patterns impressed me from the very first moment, and I associated them with a possible visualization of circumambulations around the round monument, which I sought to reveal to the present-day world in the form of a landscape artwork, allowing both the visualization and the performance of the ritual as a reenactment (**Fig. 2**).

Then I tried to find a way to visualize the archaeoacoustics of the site and the under-

> [Cont. on page 3](#)

# Dialogues with the underworld (cont.)

**"The sound-track was**

ground ritual. I recorded, at a different location, sounds produced by repeatedly strik-

reenactment and the landscape, can generate a memorable artistic experience by

Time Maps Project, pp. 297–316. In Geroimenko, V. (ed.), *Augmented reality art: From an emerging technology to a novel creative medium* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Cham, Springer.

Gheorghiu, D., Ștefan, L., Moțăianu, M., and Samuelson G-H. 2022. Rhythms in stone: Revealing and augmenting the human presence in Mesolithic rock art, pp. 34965. In Geroimenko, V. (ed.), *Augmented reality art: From an emerging technology to a novel creative medium* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.), Cham, Springer.

Nash, G. 2008. The Symbolic use of fire: A case of its use in the Late Neolithic passage grave tradition in Wales, *Time and Mind*, Vol. I, Issue II, pp. 143–58.

Shee-Twohig, E., 1981. *Megalithic art of Western Europe*, Oxford, Clarendon Press.

**List of illustrations**

Fig. 1. Plan of the anthropomorphic tomb at Barclodiyad y Gawres (adapted from Shee-Twohig 1981).



**Fig. 3.** The AR mobile application revealing the sound-producing kerbstone C 3 of Barclodiyad y Gawres (showing spiral rock art) with traces of repeated hitting c. 5,000 BP. Photo: Mihaela Moțăianu.

**then added to a short video of a reenactment of the ritual of striking cup-marks, using the light of a bonfire, traces of which were discovered in the center of the monument (see Nash 2008)."**

ing granite boulders with a flint stone, having previously identified the points of maximum resonance; the sound-track was then added to a short video of a reenactment of the ritual of striking cup-marks, using the light of a bonfire, traces of which were discovered in the center of the monument (see Nash 2008).

The video was integrated into the design of an AR mobile app that triggers the video at a series of geographic coordinates measured on the ground surface near the two kerbstones with cup-marks and striking traces. When the user approaches one of the geographic coordinates along the land-art line, the film is triggered, featuring the audio recording and reenactment (see Gheorghiu and Ștefan 2018; Gheorghiu et al. 2022), producing a digital artistic creation (Fig. 3).

The sensory experience generated by the acoustics, combined with the images of the

bringing archaeoacoustics into the contemporary world.

The aim of this artwork, in which I emphasized the performative and digital aspects, was to establish a connection between the two worlds—the underworld and the surface world—and thus allow contemporary people to experience the past by combining a circumambulation performance with that of the underworld soundscape.

**Acknowledgments**

The author would like to thank those who made the publication of this text possible: John Feliks for the kind invitation, Professor George Nash for the invitation to Barclodiyad y Gawres, Mr. Andy Beardsley for the drone images, and Dr. Mihaela Moțăianu for photography and image editing.

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Fig. 2. Land-art revealing a possible ritual of circumambulation around the funerary mound (Drone photo: Andy Beardsley).

Fig. 3. The AR mobile application revealing the sound-producing kerbstone C 3, with traces of repeated hitting (Photo: Mihaela Moțăianu).

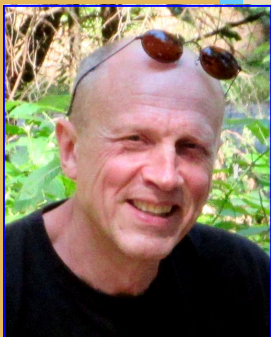
PROFESSOR DRAGOȘ GHEORGHIU, PhD, is a cultural anthropologist, experimental archaeologist and professional visual artist currently teaching at the Doctoral School of the University of Arts in Bucharest, Romania. He has conducted advanced theoretical and practical research in the study of prehistoric pyro-technologies, and acted as editor and co-editor of conference volumes on imagination, prehistoric design, ancient ceramics, figurines, stamps, architecture and place.

Links to all of Dr. Gheorghiu's articles in *PCN* can be found at: [https://pleistocenecoalition.com/#Dragos archaeologist artist pyro-tech](https://pleistocenecoalition.com/#Dragos%20archaeologist%20artist%20pyro-tech)

# Climate changes set the pace for the Modes, Part 4, Conclusion and References

By Jan Willem van der Drift

**"Mode-3 brought**



**similar changes in technology**

**Continuing from Part 3**  
(PCN #99, Jan-Feb 2026)...

**During Mode-3 the climate deteriorated;** 200 kya grasses were so tough that steppe-mammoths went extinct. Only woolly-mammoths were able to digest the tough plants and survive the cold. So, after 200 kya, Neanderthals had to travel even faster and further. This 'hyper-mobility' is proposed to have led to the classic-Neanderthal body-structure. And the hyper-mobility led to smaller handaxes. Until

246,000–186,000 years ago) most handaxes measured >10 cm (i.e. LCTs or Large Cutting Tools). However, the average MIS 5 to MIS 3 Stage handaxe was only 7 cm (see [Fig. 2 in Part 3](#)). Of course, India and Africa did not suffer from the cold but they did suffer from droughts. That explains why Mode-3 brought similar changes in technology and size all over the world (**Fig. 1**).

**4.2 Mode-3: migration**  
[Paragraph 3.2 in Part 1](#) explained how Mode-2 reached Southwest-Europe

mountains. This means that Mode-2 from Southwest-Europe could not reach East-Europe, and the Ponto-Caspian and Danube lowlands blocked Mode-2 from reaching East-Europe from the Middle-East. So the hominids in East-Europe never made handaxes until Mode-3 arrived. Mode-3 also has other names: in Africa Mode-3 is called Middle Stone Age (MSA) and in Europe Mode-3 is called the Middle-Paleolithic or Mousterian (after Le Moustier cave in the French Dordogne). Doronichev (2008) therefore called the industries before 300 kya in East-Europe: Pre-Mousterian. Of course we also see the same pattern in China; [paragraph 3.3 in Part 2](#) explained that the longer and colder ice-ages helped Mode-2 reach East-Asia but the Huang He river-delta lowlands stopped Mode-2 from reaching Beijing. So the Zhoukoudian at Beijing continued to make bipolar pebbletools and Clacton flakes until Mode-3 reached Beijing.

To help you understand why Mode-3 could and Mode-2 could not cross lowlands, I want to put the speed at which both moved into perspective. [Fig. 3 of Part 2](#) tells us how slow Mode-2 migrated. Mode-2 went from the Middle-Garonne to England via the foothills of the Massif-Central by

> [Cont. on page 5](#)



**Fig. 1.** The size-difference between Mode-2 and Mode-3. **Left:** Mode-2 cleaver on side-struck OBF and **bottom-center:** 8.5 cm long Mode-3 handaxe, both from Attirampakkan. **Top-center:** Mode-3 Aterian points, MSA from Morocco. **Top-right:** Small Levallois-point and Bambata-point, **below-right:** Bambata-point fragments and flakes, Rift-MSA from Kenya.

**and size all over the world."**

MIS 7 (Marine Isotope Stage 7 or the second to last interglacial period about

by crossing the Gibraltar Strait, but Mode-2 did not cross the high Alp

## Climate changes set the pace for the Modes (cont.)

**"Mode-3 also has other names: in Africa Mode-3 is called Middle Stone Age (MSA) and in Europe Mode-3 is called the Middle-Paleolithic or Mousterian (after Le Moustier cave in the French Dordogne)."**

crossing from one river-valley to the next. This zig-zag route is some 300 to 500 km longer than the almost straight route through the Bordeaux lowlands and along the coast, but it took Mode-2 10,000 years longer to reach England than the bipolar toolmakers. If 300 to 500 extra kilometers take 10,000 years, Mode-2 migrated at less than five kilometers per century!!! We can easily walk five kilometers per hour, so why did Mode-2 migrate slower than a snail?

The proposed reason may surprise you. Generally Mode-2 groups only stayed in one place for a few days, so they built small shelters but never made permanent huts. This means that parents constantly had to carry their small children from one site to the next. The women, therefore, had to wait several years until their first child could follow the group by itself before they had the next child. So most women had only one child in five years. Since few women got old, most only had two or three children in their lifetime. By consequence the Mode-2 population grew very slowly. Our *Homo sapiens* population grows much faster because we have either nomadic huts or permanent houses that allow parents to leave small children 'at home.' *Homo sapiens* women can, therefore, have a child each year up to a maximum of five to fifteen children. Due to the slow population-growth it took centuries before the Mode-2 population in one river-valley became so large that the hunter-gatherers went hungry and needed to move to the next river-valley. So, Mode-2 had no reason to migrate any faster than a few kilometers per century.

Because Mode-2 migrated slower than snails, the generations that reached the other side of lowlands (as explained in paragraph 3.3) no longer knew how to make Mode-2 handaxes. The Mode-3 population grew just as slow as the Mode-2 population, but Mode-3 nevertheless moved much faster because the cold-dry climate forced the hunter-gatherers to follow the herds over huge distances ([paragraph 4.1. in Part 3](#) showed how this affected the techniques and the tool-sizes). Due to this high speed and because the toolmakers carried the best quality raw materials over huge distances, Mode-3 simply carried its technological knowledge to the other side of lowlands within one or two generations. This explains why the bipolar technology after 300 kya was mostly limited to raw materials that could not be freehand-flaked (for instance small rounded pebbles; these pebbles were even as recent as the Mesolithic and Neolithic flaked bipolar-on-anvil).

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McPherron S.P., Alemseged Z.,

> [Cont. on page 6](#)

# Climate changes set the pace for the Modes (cont.)

**"Due to the slow population-growth it took centuries before the Mode-2 population.. needed to move to the next river-valley. So, Mode-2 had no reason to migrate any faster than a few kilometers per century."**

**"These were often complemented by abstract images and even script at developmental stages not**

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JAN WILLEM VAN DER DRIFT, a veterinarian in the Netherlands by trade, is a colleague of the late Chris Hardaker, archaeologist and founding member of the Pleistocene Coalition. He is a Dutch lithics expert in stone tool

production with over 40 years field experience. Van der Drift is a prolific author in both English and Dutch publishing in such as *Notae Praehistoricae, Archeologie, APAN/Extern* (publication of Aktieve Praktijk Archeologie Nederland), etc. He is also a producer of educational films demonstrating bipolar techniques of stone tool production and its association with various human cultures of all periods beginning with the Paleolithic. Van der Drift's work is referenced in Paul Douglas Campbell's book, *The Universal Tool Kit* (2013), a highly-rated overview of stone tool production techniques. Van der Drift is presently Chairman of APAN or Active Practitioners of Archaeology in the Netherlands (Aktieve Praktijk Archeologie Nederland). The organization was started due to the cumulative knowledge and field experience of its members consistently observing inaccurate interpretations of physical evidence regarding the nature of early humans by the mainstream archaeology community. The group was given extra motivation along these lines by Chris Hardaker who, in correspondence with van der Drift related the treatment of [Calico Early Man Site](http://www.apanarchoe.nl) in California (excavated by famed anthropologist Dr. Louis Leakey) by the mainstream archaeological establishment. Van der Drift lives in the small town of Cadier en Keer in the province of Limburg, Netherlands.

Website: <https://www.apanarchoe.nl/>



## Ancient art shows a modern artistic sense

Ever since I first began exploring the rock art of north-



**so easy to recognize."**

western Saudi Arabia I quickly appreciated that there were many different kinds. Not only



were there realistic portrayals of animals as well as humans but even documentary images of their interactions. These were often complemented by abstract

images and even script at developmental stages not so easy to recognize. Here, I offer the beautifully rendered petroglyph of a lion compared with a modern photograph. I hope soon to explore its

context with abstract markings and possible script. For now, I note that its artistic qualities are as moving as a photograph.

ABDULRAHMAN ALBALAWI is a technical engineer with a passion for rock art (including inscriptions) and history. He has been discovering and photographing rock art in the Tabuk region of northwestern Saudi Arabia since 2014. In 2019, Albalawi established a Facebook group devoted to rock art to help promote its study and lead to a greater understanding of the possible meanings behind rock art worldwide. He is also author of the 6-part series, [Cultural significance of rock art for Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030](http://www.apanarchoe.nl).

Albalawi's Facebook rock art page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/463030367655466/posts/840031606622005/>

# Five new discoveries reveal prehistoric human mysteries, Part 2, Wood Age vs. Stone Age

By Tina Wan, B.Arch (Architecture), MLA (Landscape Architecture)

**"This discovery could indicate that**



**the humans who lived at Kalambo Falls may have had a settled life-style, contradicting the prevailing view that Stone Age humans were strictly nomadic."**

In [Part 1](#), I discussed two sensational findings: the 3.3-million-year-old stone tools and the oldest, 1.5-million-year-old bone tools, and their association with early human diet and brain development. Now let's explore further.

### The third discovery

The third paramount discovery is the oldest known wooden structure uncovered at Kalambo Falls in Zambia, via luminescence dating to 476,000-YaBP, predating modern humans (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-023-06557-9>). See **Figs. 1–2**. The wood was exceptionally preserved for half a million years due to the waterlogged oxygen-free conditions of the Kalambo River banks. The structure consists of two interlocking wooden logs connected by a notch securing one perpendicular to the other. The smaller log, measuring 141.3 cm (55.6 in) in length, has tapered ends as well as a U-shaped notch and overlies the larger log, which passes through the notch. According to researchers, the structure probably would have been part of a wooden platform used as a walkway, to keep food or firewood dry, or perhaps as a base on which to build a dwelling. Alongside the logs, archaeologists found other wooden artifacts including a digging stick, a wedge, a chopping block, and a notched branch; though no skeletal remains were found at the site. The Kalambo structure provides groundbreaking insight into the structural capabilities of early humans.

This discovery could indicate that the humans who lived at Kalambo Falls may have had a settled lifestyle, contradicting

the prevailing view that Stone Age humans were strictly nomadic. This means, despite being repeatedly taught in text books & lectures, that Paleolithic humans were nomads who roamed around hunting and chasing animals for 2.5 million years until 10,000 BC; in reality, humans



**Fig. 1.** Archaeologists in Zambia, South-Central Africa, excavating the world's oldest yet discovered wooden structure 476,000 years old. The most remarkable feature consists of two interlocking logs shaped by use of stone tools presumably long before the appearance *Homo sapiens*. Photo: Larry Barham.



**Fig. 2.** Detail of humanly notched wood section of what is at present the world's oldest known wooden structure. "Evidence for the earliest structural use of wood at least 476,000 years ago." L. Barham et al. *Nature* 622 (2023).

might have had settlements and lived in wooden dwellings for over 400,000 years. The existence of such structures showcases that humans built permanent or semi-permanent platforms, thereby actively shaping their

> [Cont. on page 8](#)

## Five new discoveries reveal prehistoric mysteries (cont.)



**Fig. 3.** The eight confirmed spears of Schöningen, Germany. Originally dated c. 400,000 years old. A more recent date suggests c. 200,000 years. Wikimedia Commons.



**Fig. 4.** One of the spears of Schöningen, Germany, in its *in situ* discovery position.

environment to manage seasonally wet or flood-prone areas almost half a million years ago. This is indeed eye-opening. I'll delve into the pros & cons of settled vs. nomadic living in Part 3.

Archaeologists such as Larry Barham of the University of Liverpool, the leader of the expedition that uncovered the structure, believes that wooden tools were potentially even more common than stone tools in the Stone Age.

The conjecture that humans in early and middle Pleistocene had a nomadic life-style originates from available archeological findings that are inevitably skewed, since they depend on the preservation of artifacts that survived over eons of time. Stone tools often dominate the narrative of human prehistory, largely because stone survives whereas wood and other plant-based materials do not. Wood breaks down at a rapid rate and requires exceptional conditions for preservation. Even if Paleolithic humans constructed wooden structures, the chance of any being preserved and getting discovered is rare. The scarcity of preserved wood has created a significant "preservation bias" in archaeology, leading to an un-balanced or misguided perception of the Paleolithic as an era defined primarily by stone; since we have very limited information about when and how humans used wood and other raw plant materials. However, "absence of evidence is not evidence of absence."

Just because wooden artifacts are extremely rare, it does not mean that wood was not a primary tool material. Making simple wood tools is generally easier be-

cause wood is readily available; it's softer, more pliable and thus easier to work with, only needing to be cut and sharpened, whereas making stone tools requires specific techniques like flintknapping to chip off flakes from a suitable rock. A sharpened stick as a spear is easier to make than a stone tool. Speaking of wooden spears, that leads to the 4th discovery I want to talk about, early wood tools.

**"In reality, humans might have had settlements and lived in wooden dwellings for over 400,000 years."**

### The fourth discovery

The Stone Age is so named due to the stone tools un-

earthed at ancient sites, which resulted in the belief that during this vast period of human history, stone was the main source material for making tools and implements. But new findings from 2024 and 2025 from both Germany and China show that 200–300,000 years ago, wood probably played a greater role than expected.

### Europe

Over 700 wooden objects found in the muddy banks of a prehistoric lake in Schöningen, Germany, have unveiled how archaic humans used advanced woodworking techniques. Scientists documented that the ancient toolmakers worked spruce and pine with care and consistency, turning raw branches into up to 2.5 m/ 8' long aerodynamic throwing sticks and balanced spears (Figs. 3–4). Their balance and shaft design suggest they were thrown with deadly accuracy—tools not just for close-range jabs but for ambush hunting, likely used to take down large prey such as horses, deer and other megafauna along the lakeshore. Besides

> [Cont. on page 9](#)

## Five new discoveries reveal prehistoric mysteries (cont.)

**"It seems that intelligence was not a sudden leap exclusive to Homo sapiens but rather a gradual accumulation of skills and knowledge spread across multiple human species around the globe."**

wood weaponry, wooden domestic tools were utilized too. Some were likely used to prepare animal hides for clothing, bedding, or shelter suitable for the cold weather in this part of Europe. Tools made during this period were not only for hunting or processing food, but also for crafting and improving their creators' living conditions.

The wooden spear creation was not primitive bashing, but accomplished through purposeful, skilled engineering. These early humans exhibited cognitive abilities that align closely with modern intelligence. Wood was chosen with intent, split with precision, and often modified over time as tools broke or dulled. Some broken points had been re-shaped into new forms, demonstrating a recycling mindset and a deep understanding of material properties. Such human behaviors reveal a nuanced understanding of their environment and a cultural tradition of teaching and learning these techniques.

Schöningen spears are impressive, though the Clacton Spear (**Fig. 5**) remains the oldest preserved wooden weapon ever found, estimated to be approximately 400,000 to 420,000 years old. It was discovered in Clacton-on-Sea, England ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clacton\\_Spear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clacton_Spear)). The Clacton spear is commonly believed to have been created by *Homo heidelbergensis* or early Neanderthals.

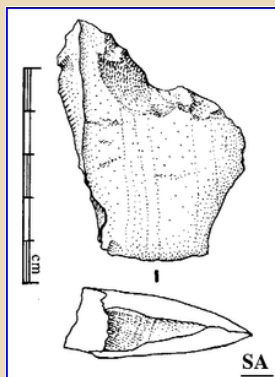
The artifact is the tip of a spear made from yew wood, a material perennially chosen for its hardness and durability. It was shaped by scraping with flint tools, spe-

cifically, a "Clactonian notch" (e.g., see **Fig. 6**).

When first discovered, the Clactonian spear measured roughly 38.7 cm (15.2 inches) in length and 3.9 cm in diameter, though it has slightly shrunk and warped since then.



**Fig. 5.** The 400,000-year-old Clacton spear. It is commonly attributed to *Homo heidelbergensis* or early Neanderthals though there is no direct evidence for these early human ancestors in Britain. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.



**Fig. 6.** A schist clactonian notch (upper middle). Farizy et al., 1994, via Jacques-Jaubert, Researchgate.

### China

By a lake at Gantangqing, Southern China, archeologists discovered the oldest wooden tools ever found in East Asia. The 35 tools, dating from 361,000 to 250,000 years ago are buried with stone tools, antler billets, and cut-marked bones (<https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adr8540>). See **Fig. 7** on following page.

Unlike the hunting tools

found in Germany and England, the Chinese wooden artifacts were primarily digging sticks and other implements for processing plants. This discovery, along with evidence of plant remains like pine nuts, hazelnuts,

and kiwis, suggests a plant-based diet. Yet these ancients were not vegetarians. Stone tools unearthed here include butchering pieces used for processing animal prey; which signal a mixed diet. Small stone scrapers might have been crucial crafting tools for shaping and finishing the numerous wooden artifacts found at the site. Another type of crafting tools are antler billets which were used as soft hammers.

Archeologists proposed that these deer antler tools were used in the manufacturing process—unlike a hard hammerstone, which is used for the initial, rough shaping of a rock, an antler billet allowed ancient toolmakers to perform more delicate work during the "thinning" and "finishing" stages of crafting items like spearheads, knives, and handaxes.

On a side note, deer antler using history extended into the Bronze Age. At Stonehenge and the nearby Stonehenge Cursus, over 100 antler picks were recovered at the base of these monuments, dating to approximately 5,000 years ago. They were used as digging tools and left at the bottoms of ditches.

The sophistication of many of these wooden implements offsets the seemingly "primitive" aspects of stone tool assemblages in the East

> [Cont. on page 10](#)

## Five new discoveries reveal prehistoric mysteries (cont.)

Asian Early Paleolithic, demonstrating a more advanced

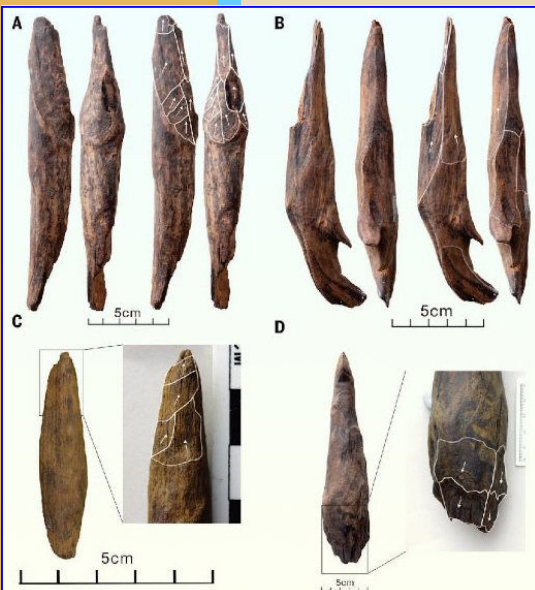
of tools made of wood, stone and bone.

The discoveries at Schöningen directly challenge the



**Fig. 5.** Some of the oldest wooden tools ever discovered in East Asia. These were found near a lake at Gantangqing, Southern China. The 35 tools discovered have been dated c. 361,000 to 250,000 years old and were buried with stone tools, antler billets, and cut-marked bones. "300,000-year-old wooden tools from Gantangqing, southwest China." Jian-Hui Liu et al. 2025. *Science* Vol. 389, No. 6755.

idea that *Homo sapiens* were the only ones capable of sophisticated tool use. The spears of Schöningen, Germany, were originally dated c. 350,000 years old. A more recent date suggests c. 200,000 years. Perhaps our evolutionary cousins—*Homo heidelbergensis* or early Neanderthals—were, themselves, already proficient with intricate craftsmanship, long-term planning, and resource recycling. New evidence is suggesting that intelligence was not a sudden leap exclusive to *Homo sapiens* but rather a gradual accumulation of skills and knowledge spread across multiple human species around the globe. On another note, it's possible that these wooden tools were made by *Homo sapiens*. However, we have not found the older fossils to prove



**Fig. 5.** Additional wood tools from the c. 300,000-year-old site of Gantangqing, in Southern China. *Ibid.*

No human fossils were found at Gantangqing with the tools; therefore, the specific *Homo* species that made these wooden tools remains unknown.

Mainstream researchers generally exclude *Homo sapiens* as the creators of the Schöningen and Gantangqing tools for several reasons. One being that the known oldest accepted *Homo sapiens* remains in Africa date to approximately 300,000 years ago. It's commonly believed that modern humans had not expanded to Europe and East Asia during that era. Most current evidence suggests they did not migrate into East Asia until much later, typically estimated around 100,000 to 40,000 years ago. Therefore, the 200,000 to 300,000-year-old wood artifacts in Germany and China might not be the work of *Homo sapiens*.

toolkit than previously thought for the period. This discovery confirms that in the Middle Pleistocene East Asia humans used a mixture

that modern humans existed in these areas 300,000 years ago. Or have we?

*Continued in Part 3.*

TINA WAN is a multi-topic researcher with a Bachelor of Architecture and a Master of Landscape Architecture. Her primary research interests include lost advanced civilizations, prehistoric cultures and megalithic sites. She is a proponent of the hypothesis that precise megalithic sites such as the Great Pyramids, Osireion and Sacsayhuaman were the remnants of a civilization from the late Pleistocene. She has been posting her independent studies and findings in video form on her YouTube channel: Curious Being/ Where Evidence Meets Ancient Mystery.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CuriousBeingbyTina>

# Member news and other info

## Quick links to main articles in [PCN #99](#):

**PAGE 2**

[A pattern that connects](#): Polygonal pendants from the Czech Republic, Illinois, and Kentucky

Richard Michael Gramly

**PAGE 4**

[An intriguing repeated symbol panel in Tabuk](#)

Abdulrahman Albalawi

**PAGE 5**

[Mode pace set by climate conditions](#), Part 3

Jan Willem van der Drift

**PAGE 7**

[Five new discoveries reveal prehistoric human mysteries](#), Part 1

Tina Wan

**PAGE 10**

[Member news and other info](#):

[Equality of hominins](#)

John Feliks

[Links to Issues 96-98](#)

**PAGE 11**

[Stone-cutting in the Eemian Interglacial](#) Missouri and Montana

Richard Dullum

**PAGE 14**

[Legacy of Calico](#) Early Man Archaeological Project, Part 7, Artifact/geology and geomorphology

Fred E. Budinger, Jr.

**PAGE 15**

[Debunking evolutionary propaganda](#), Part 12 of the series in reverse (Trace fossils & graptolites)

John Feliks

## A golden nugget from *The Outer Limits*

By John Feliks

In the early 1960s there was a superb sci-fi anthology series with a sense of science that transcended the dry mainstream monopolies we are familiar with today. It was *The Outer Limits* and it was an inspiration to many who either became scientists or tech developers themselves or who, in one way or another, inspired open-minded people to look at reality in new ways. [Credit: Not the least of the latter was Gene Roddenberry, creator of *Star Trek*. With an office right down the hall from *The Outer Limits* set, Roddenberry was a "frequent visitor." It is well-known to historians and fans alike that *The Outer Limits* was a "major influence" on *Star Trek*, and that Roddenberry got not only creative storylines, props, costumes and special effects techniques from the program but also a sense of science fiction that went far beyond low-end sci-fi (e.g., explosions and battles with aliens). Also provided were the now iconic sci-fi actors, William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, and James Doohan.

Although it influenced every modern tech genius bringing us computers and cell phones with greater capabilities than the computers that took us to the moon, *Star Trek* (1966) got much of its sense of philosophical and even inspirational depth from its predecessor, *The Outer Limits* (1963). That franchise included just about every major actor Gene Roddenberry brought in to play *Star Trek*'s key roles already trained and pumped in top-notch sci-fi.]

*The Outer Limits* is full of "golden nuggets" (definition Google Gemini AI: pieces of highly valuable information, insights, or wisdom hidden within a larger amount of less important material...In some contexts, representing

spiritual treasure, truth, or divine insights). In fact, *The Outer Limits* started out with just such a bang in its very first episode: "The Galaxy Being."

In this instance, it was not spoken by the unseen narrator at the beginning or end of the film for which the series is so famous but by the film's protagonist, a radio station owner by the name of Allan Maxwell played by Cliff Robertson. Physics and more mundane earthbound issues aside, instead of using the radio shed's electronic equipment for its intended purpose, Maxwell uses it, even diverting power affecting the station's broadcast range, to do his own form of space exploration through radio and 3D TV signals.

His wife is Carol Maxwell played by Jacqueline Scott.

**Carol:** What makes you think that you can discover anything? Who are you?

**Allan:** Nobody. Nobody at all. But the secrets of the universe don't mind. They reveal themselves to nobodies who care. Isaac Newton was a nobody. Michael Faraday was a bookbinder's apprentice.

**Carol:** Yes, but now they have big laboratories that work on all those things.

**Allan:** The big laboratories spend millions of dollars. They work slowly and surely. And they get results but not the breakthroughs. Those come from the human mind, not the laboratory. Call them inspiration. Call them intuition. Maybe blind luck. Maybe it's God saying, "Now's the time."

Excerpted from "The Galaxy Being," *The Outer Limits*, Episode 1 (1963).

**For article** with many more examples than Newton and Faraday see:

[Foundations of modern science: The most under-acknowledged contributor class \(updated\)](#) -By John Feliks, *PCN #84*, July-Aug, 2023.

**"The secrets of the universe don't mind. They reveal themselves to nobodies who care."**

-Citizen scientist Allan Maxwell played by Cliff Robertson in the startling 1963 premiere of *The Outer Limits*



[Link to PCN #99](#)



[Link to PCN #98](#)



[Link to PCN #97](#)

# A glance at my archaeological odyssey

By Tom Baldwin

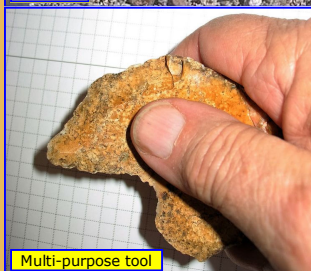
**"This time, when I am again invited**



**to join the 'Dirt Diggers,' I agree and am put on**



Scraper



Multi-purpose tool

**Fig. 2.** Examples of tools I found in our surveys of Calico (about a half mile in every direction) and Lake Manix. Top: From [PCN #21](#) (Jan-Feb 2013), Bottom: From [PCN #47](#) (May-June 2017):

**the crew that works Master Pit 3. ... for about the next 30 years."**

## Camping in the Mojave

It was so long ago now that I hardly remember the details. It all started out with me as a senior in high school and a member of one of two archeological Boy Scout troops in the whole country. And get this, we were allowed to have girls in our archeological Boy Scout post. This was the 1960s and we had girl members! How times would change and battles be fought over girl boy scouts in the coming years, and all the naysayers had to do was look at our post to see that it could

work, and work well. The girls fit right in. No politics, just nights camping out and days digging in ancient Native American village sites. I loved it.

One of those dig weekends was spent at Calico Early Man Site in southern California's Mojave Desert (**Fig. 1**). It had only been open a few months. The Director was Dr. Louis Leakey, the most famous archaeologist in the world at that time. Overhead, a helicopter flew, taking pictures for *National Geographic*.

They would not let us into the actual pit, but we could watch the diggers at work. Or, if we went far enough away from the dig, we could do a little surface collecting.



**Fig. 1.** Calico Early Man Site outside Barstow, California. The site's Director was none other than Dr. Louis Leakey. Photo: Tom Baldwin, originally published in [PCN #21](#) (Jan-Feb 2013).

I have very fond memories of that weekend. For instance, I remember that during the night the wind picked up and blew all our tents down, every one. The rest had brought just tents but I had brought a folding army cot. Setting up the cot inside my tent and sleeping under it instead of on it gave me about 18 inches of head room and a comfortable way to sleep. The rest had to pile into the few RV campers the adults had brought along. They were packed in like sardines and I think I am the only person who got a decent night's sleep.

## Committing to Calico

Jump ahead some years and I am driving the I-15 just east of Barstow, California, when I see a sign that says "Calico Early Man Site Next Exit." So I think to myself, "what the heck," and I get off the interstate and drive back into the hills and up to the site. I have a good visit and am invited to come back and be one of the diggers. Alas, I don't

go back. Years go by and again I am on that stretch of freeway and see that sign again. Nostalgia takes over and I get off the highway and drive to the site. This time, when I am again invited to join the "Dirt Diggers," I agree and am put on the crew that works Master Pit 3.

Joining that group of people, I learned so much more about archaeology. It became my hobby. I spent many weekends at the site for about the next 30 years. **Fig. 2** shows two examples of the many artifacts I found associated with Calico and Lake Manix. When not digging in the dirt, I was digging on the internet, looking for what I could learn about early man in the Americas.

## My PCN history

While searching the net some eons ago. Well, it seems like eons...let's stipulate it was 'Long Long Ago'

> [Cont. on page 13](#)

## A glance at my archaeological odyssey (cont.)

**"They needed someone on the**

but still in this galaxy. I was surfing the net and I came on a site called the Pleisto-

up a letter to the editor and then submitted a brief article about Pleistocene Lake Manix—



**Fig. 3.** One of my photos of Pleistocene Lake Manix in California's Mojave Desert (originally published in *PCN* #3, Jan-Feb 2010). Lake Manix is a site near Calico where the archaeological Boy Scouts troop I had joined in high school camped and where all our tents were blown over during the night. This Scout troop was also well ahead of its time as it included girls! Photo by Tom Baldwin.

**team as both a writer of articles who could write for a less technical group of**

cene Coalition—the Pleistocene being the period of time I am most interested in. Turns out it featured at the time a brand-new bimonthly news-

a nearby site associated with Calico Early Man Site. It appeared in the newsletter's third issue and included one of my photos of Lake Manix (**Figs. 3–4**). Next thing I knew, I was invited to join the newsletter's editorial team.

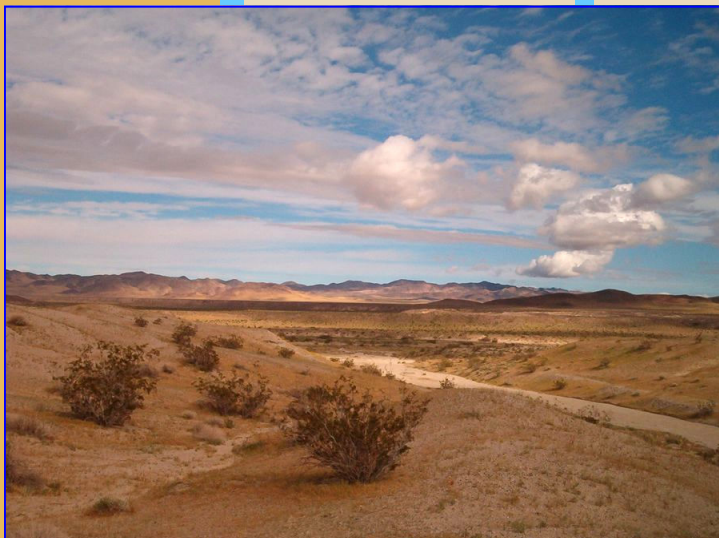
This was not quite as out-of-the-blue as it may sound as my background included being already a published book

author on the topic of Calico, *The Evening and the Morning* (which has an Amazon link at the end of my articles), a school teacher, amateur archaeologist and newspaper columnist. Still, I

fore. It was all volunteer work for an important cause with no expectation of money flowing into my pocket.

When I joined the Pleistocene Coalition it had recently been founded by three PhDs (Virginia, Sam, and Jim), a Masters contract archaeologist (Chris), and John who had invited everyone to the project. They needed someone on the team as both a writer of articles who could write for a less technical group of readers and as a copy editor. The idea was to connect not just to scholars but to a public unaware of important evidence withheld by mainstream publications creating a misleading and even false picture of prehistory. As a Calico 'dirt digger' spending weekends in the Mojave Desert, I fit the bill.

My first article in *PCN* was in Issue No. 3 (Jan-Feb 2010). Fig. 3 is the Lake Manix photo I included in the article. I started doing copy edit work in the following issue, No. 4, March-April 2010, exactly 16 years ago. I am still at it and this is Issue No. 100, an accomplishment I am proud of.



**Fig. 4.** Another view of Pleistocene Lake Manix as presently being eroded by the Mohave River. This photo was originally published in *PCN* #46 (March-April 2017). Photo by Tom Baldwin.

**readers and as a copy editor."**

letter-type publication. One article in particular caught my interest, and I whipped

was flattered that John, Virginia, Sam, Chris and Jim had the confidence to invite me. Visions of me at the bank cashing six figure checks and driving a fancy car filled my head. Alas, it was not to be though as from the beginning we were all volunteers producing 'PCN' which had eventually taken on more qualities of a journal format. It was devoted to bringing read-

ers all kinds of information concerning prehistory they likely had never heard be-

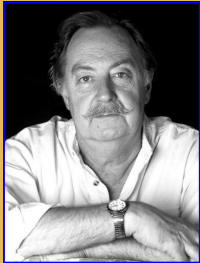
TOM BALDWIN, an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah, also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. He has been a central writer and copy editor for *PCN* since 2010. He was actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, CA) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site's excavation Director (Calico is the only Western Hemisphere site excavated by Leakey). Baldwin's book, *The Evening and the Morning*, is a very well received and entertaining fictional story based on Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of *PCN*, Baldwin has published over 50 prior *PCN* articles focusing on the intelligence of early humans, including *Homo erectus*, as well as early man in the Americas. Links to all of Baldwin's articles can be found at:

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

# Hard stone construction by humans in Pleistocene North America *Why it's possible*

By Richard Dullum, B.A. (Biology)

**"In the "Silurian Hypothesis..."**



**none of the authors men-**

This article is a direct follow-up to [Stone-cutting in the Eemian Interglacial: Missouri and Montana](#) (PCN #99, Jan-Feb 2026).

**If any discoverable sites would be left by an ancient Ice-Age civilization** after over 100,000 years of environmental degradation and abandonment it would be those where hard stone was used for building. This is because all other material cultural signals would have long been degraded and unrecognizable after such a vast period of time.

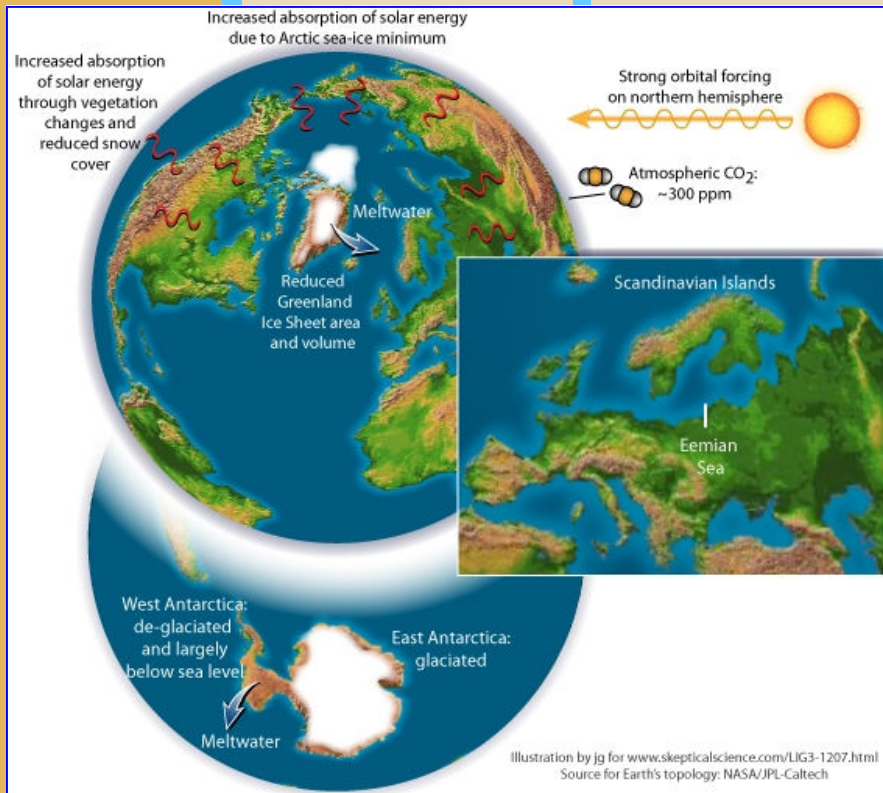
"Earth Without People." Although it is admittedly a thought experiment it does illustrate this effect in many abandoned human sites in the modern era and the rate of degradation of those sites. It includes such sites as Chernobyl, the Korean DMZ and rubber plantation towns along the Amazon River. They provide material test subjects for the ravages of time on human-built modern structures and provide a point to extrapolate wider effects.

The same type of scenario is envisaged in the "Silurian

the hypothesis, abundant fossil fuel resources have been available on earth since the Carboniferous Era, roughly 350 million years before the present. Such resources are available in SW Montana, with its large coal fields in southeastern parts of the State. In addition, iron, chromium and corundum are all to be found in SW Montana. Iron and chromium for steel, corundum to cut rock and plenty of coal to generate energy/power for the production of metals. Corundum-tipped saw blades are used today to cut rock, as corundum has a Mohs scale of 9 in hardness and is able to cut through granite. It's also known as sapphire, which is frequently found by rock hounds that have covered these wilds.

The Greenland-centered map (PCN #99, p.11, Fig. 1) of the Eemian interglacial (warm period) at its height as expanded in Fig. 1 does not include the vast lakes and river systems that would have been present over the face of North America, with the Great Basin lakes we know were all over the American West, such as Lake Manix at the Calico site (see Fig. 1, p.4, PCN #95, Tom Baldwin's [Pleistocene Lake Manix in a landscape once full of lakes](#)). The earth's surfaces would have experienced increased rainfall from what we have today, with the increased temperatures holding more water vapor than now. Most of the landmasses that featured these increased lakes and waterways that laid in the path of future glaciations and supported populations of humans, would have been scoured and covered by the increasing and approaching icy masses, thus effectively

> [Cont. on page 15](#)



**Fig. 1.** The Eemian age Northern Hemisphere during the Last Glacial Maximum 125,000 years ago. The illustration (by "jg" for skepticalscience.com) is based on data from NASA/JPL-Caltech. Global temperature averages during this time were 2-4° higher than today.

**tioned cut stone as possible evidence of past cultures."**

The idea of what would happen to our own civilization is supremely illustrated in *The World Without Us*, written in 2007 by Alan Weisman. It is a book-length expansion of his 2005 *Discover Magazine* article,

Hypothesis," which I have remarked on previously in [PCN #95, p. 7](#), with the exception that none of the authors mentioned cut stone as possible evidence of past cultures. As mentioned in

# Hard stone construction in Pleistocene North America (cont.)

**"We've been here for such**

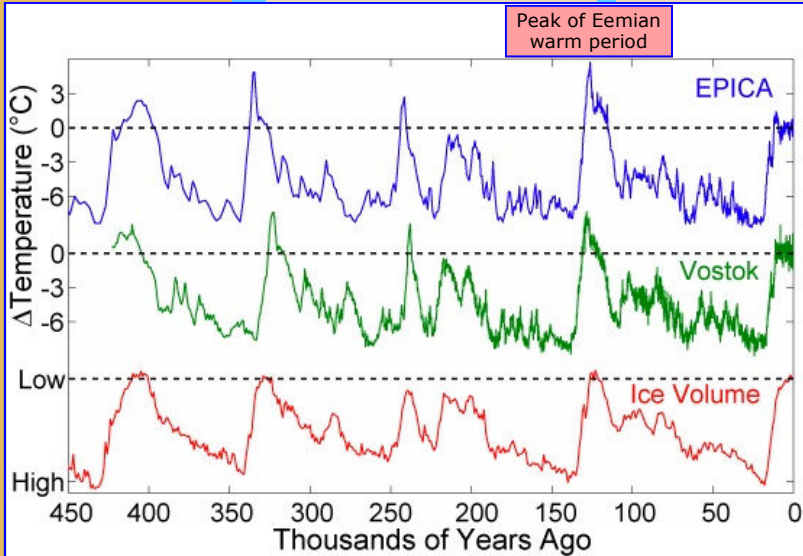
erasing all traces, and Pleistocene lakes dried up from subsequent lack of rainfall and covered by aeolian deposits blowing

**A quick mainstream aside**

"This changes a lot of thinking because it suggests that by one million years ago our ancestors had already split into distinct groups, pointing to a much earlier and more complex human evolutionary split than previously believed," -Prof. Chris Stringer, quoted in *The Guardian*, 9/25/25, "It more or less doubles the time of *Homo sapiens*."

**Back to the graph of Fig. 2**

These are very livable conditions for humanity to have thrived in many areas of the planet, including the Northern Hemisphere. Humans identical to us were on the planet during the entire Pleistocene Era, we now know. For people to not have developed a complex or even quite advanced civilization in the time span of over a million years is beyond even common sense, given our own has occurred in the space of 5-10,000 years, a very small fraction of the time humans have existed and could have risen and fallen five times in the Eemian. The only remnants of any civilization discoverable would be in hard stone.



**Fig. 2.** Ice Age temperature changes. Note especially peak temperature of the Eemian Interglacial at the 125,000-year mark (emphasis added over Wikimedia Commons graph).

**A checkerboard quarry site in Montana**

In Issue #99, Fig. 6, I illustrate the quarry site above Ollantaytambo, Peru because of its similarity to both the Tryst Falls site in Missouri, and to the quarry site in Thompson Park, Butte, Mt., discovered by a local person, who guided Julie Ryder and company to it.

**a time and this is the best the mainstream can suggest? That long and our present is the only era of civilization? It does not add up. They were just like us. Same brains."**

across the dry lake beds. The current drought conditions in the desert Southwest demonstrate it only takes a few hundred years for this to occur.

In **Fig. 2** one can see that the Eemian Interglacial was warmer and lasted longer than the previous three in this time

period, about 25,000 years. Its temperatures were well above current Holocene Epoch averages, to just slightly below those of today.

We've been here for such a time and this is the best the mainstream can suggest? That long and our present is the only era of civilization? It does not add up. They were just like us. Same brains.



**Fig. 3.** From Milwaukee Road Rail-Trail (Thompson Park) Hiking Trail, Butte-Silver Bow (Balance), Montana. The green, blue and white join at the large P, which is a pull-off for parking, where a small party of three, including Julie Ryder and the discoverer, set out up the tracks on a relatively warm winter day, to locate a possible quarry site.

Our present era represents only 1% of the time we've been "*Homo sapiens*" on this planet and we're asked to believe our time in the Holocene is the only time civilization has appeared?!

In **Fig. 3**, notice the green, blue and white lines on the map. The white line is Mt. #2, the blue line is the Continental Divide Trail and the green line is the Old Milwaukee Road, a 'rails-to-trails' hiking route shown here at the southern end of Johnson State Park, about two miles due west of Sage Mountain Complex.

Also visible in the map, is where the green, blue and white join at the large "P." That is a pull-off for parking, where a small party of three, including Julie Ryder and the discoverer, set out up the tracks on a relatively warm winter day, to locate a possible quarry site.

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

# Hard stone construction in Pleistocene North America (cont.)

**"For people to not have developed a complex or**



**Fig. 4.** Continental Divide TR. NO. 87 marker near the proposed quarry site, Butte, MT. GPS: 45.88126, -112.184464. Photo: Julie Ryder.

**even quite advanced civilization in the time span of over a million years is beyond**

The place from which they traveled up the tracks is designated by a wooden marker: "Continental Divide TR. NO. 87" (Fig. 4). Below that text and pointing in the same direction it reads "JCT Maude S.

Canyon TR. NO. 815 9" [mi]. This was not the direction they were heading, as the 'tracks' are known to be the Old Milwaukee Road, which begins across Hwy #2 from the marker.

Before they'd hiked a mile they came across the

Boulder Batholith formation which is a key to the quarry location (Fig. 5). The formation appears as a wall from the tracks, rising vertically with flat vertical slab spires so typical of batholith formations.



**Fig. 5.** This is a photo of the Boulder Batholith formation taken from the tracks where the quarry is to be found. Photo by Julie Ryder.

**even common sense."**

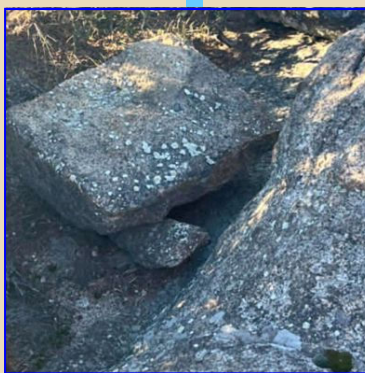
**Fig. 6 Top** shows the quarry site; **Bottom** shows a detached block (all photos by Julie Ryder).

The filtered sunlight in the bottom photo shines on the

face of a large stone to the right of the block which appears to be vertical. That means the batholith formation faces south or southwest, getting filtered sunlight from the SW sky in the winter. That would put it on your right hand side as you're walking "up the tracks," which are seen to be E-W at first, then heading North along the perimeter of Thompson Park.

These blocks are highly patinated and quite rounded for having lain flat on

rying. However, only a closer inspection would tell for certain. That is why I spend so much time describing the location; because it's relatively easy: walk up the tracks, look for the batholith satellite wall, seen in Fig. 3.



**Fig. 6. Top:** Possible stone quarry two miles west of Sage, Montana. **Bottom:** An apparently detached quarry block. Images: Julie Ryder.

Walk to the wall and inspect for the quarry site shown in Figs. 4-5.

The similarity of the Montana site I show here with the Ollantaytambo quarry site, is to me quite striking. It would be an easy exploration, for nearly

anyone to make. I trust that someone else will find this tantalizing and confirm this.

Sage Wall, Boulder Dolmen, Keystone-cut blocks/Giant's Playground, Quarry site with detached blocks/Old Milwaukee Trail. These four discoveries are evidence in hard stone of human activity in Ice Age North America.

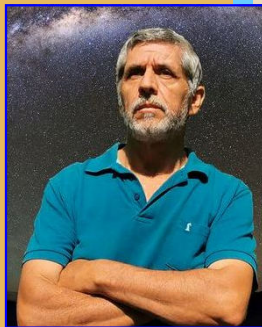
RICHARD DULLUM, retired as a surgical R.N. working in a large O.R. for the past 30 years, is a researcher in early human prehistory and culture. He is also a Vietnam veteran with a B.A. in Biology. Dullum has written or co-written over 50 articles for PCN since 2009 and is also one of PCN's copy editors. All of Dullum's articles in PCN can be found at the following link:

[https://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#Dullum\\_and\\_Lynch](https://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#Dullum_and_Lynch)

the ground and don't appear to be the result of modern quar-

# AI and pareidolia The importance of studying the past

By Patricio Bustamante Díaz (Fundación Altura Patrimonio)



**"The PAH triad does not account for all cases. However, it provides a useful framework for interpreting a wide range of archaeological sites."**

**In Bustamante et al** (2010), my colleagues and I introduced a method we called the *PAH triad* to aid in possible psychological interpretations of Pleistocene age archaeological evidence. PAH is an acronym for **Pareidolia, Apophenia and Hierophany.**

Briefly, the first two are important terms in psychology and the third is central to studies in comparative religion. These are described further below.

In Bustamante (2012), I suggested that certain modern conspiracy theories anticipated the possible deliberate use of PAH phenomena as tools of social control.

Finally, in Bustamante (2018), I presented numerous worldwide examples showing the presence of PAH phenomena in archaeological contexts.

Building on the above work, in this article I explore how the PAH model resulting from studies at archaeological sites since prehistory, reassess the relationship between perception and story construction and how cultures legitimize in both archaeological and modern contexts.

Owing to an artistic background and a personal inclination toward contemplation of natural forms my entry into archaeology was through the study of rock art—that is, the work of human beings in the distant past who inscribed aspects of their culture into stone.

Across many cultures, there is a recurring identification of natural forms in mountains, mountain ranges, rocks, and other elements that resemble



**Fig. 1.** AI reproduces and amplifies long-standing cognitive mechanisms that attribute agency to numinous phenomena. Digital image: Patricio Bustamante Díaz.

human bodies, faces, animals, or objects—termed *mimetholites*. It has been observed in association with archaeological sites of high symbolic significance. This prompted me to explore neuroscience and psychological phenomena in a search for explanations.

Three psychological traits common to all human beings make up a framework for identifying patterns that contribute to explaining such things as *animism* as a presumed origin of religion:

**Pareidolia:** A ubiquitous psychological phenomenon present across all human populations and affecting all senses from vision and hearing to smell, taste and touch.

When confronted with any ambiguous stimuli—from an ink blot or a natural form to an unfamiliar taste or a cloud of data—the human mind seeks an explanation that emerges from a basic automatic question: What does it look like?

Pareidolia can be understood as the cognitive act of attempting to make sense of ambiguous stimuli. This may lead to accurate or inaccurate recognition, yet the underlying mechanism remains the same.

**Apophenia:** Once a pattern is recognized, e.g., a rock seen to resemble a human face,

there is a tendency to generate stories to account for its meaning such as why it resembles a face, whom it represents, or why it is located where it is.

This process may give rise to many different narratives including stories, legends, or philosophical or religious texts.

**Hierophany:** The manifestation of the numinous, whereby an object, place, or phenomenon is perceived as embodying a divine presence.

**PAH triad:** As described above, these three interrelated phenomena (pareidolia, apophenia, and hierophany) we have collectively named the PAH triad. It provides a framework for possible reasons why some natural places may have come to be seen as sacred.

The PAH triad does not account for all cases. However, it provides a useful framework for interpreting a wide range of archaeological sites.

The same cognitive mechanism that in the past led humans to interpret natural forms as carriers of meaning and sanctity continues to operate in the world today.

In contemporary contexts, ambiguous stimuli—such as magnetic fields (Persinger,

> [Cont. on page 18](#)

## AI and pareidolia: The importance of studying the past (cont.)

**"One potential risk is that some individuals may come to perceive AI—often characterized as ubiquitous, powerful, and seemingly omniscient—in ways that approach forms of quasi-divinization."**

**"Another potential risk is that governments may seek to exploit this phenomenon as a means of exerting forms of social control."**

2001),<sup>1</sup> white noise (William et al., 2022),<sup>2</sup> or complex systems underlying artificial intelligence can trigger processes associated with the PAH triad for both lay people and experts.

### Pareidolia and artificial intelligence

In recent years, artificial intelligence has emerged as a powerful tool that is transforming multiple aspects of human activity and daily life.

It may be seen as an emerging paradigm shift in the production, interpretation and circulation of knowledge marked by the introduction of non-biological systems capable of recognizing patterns, generating inferences, and engaging in cognitive processes prior considered exclusive to humans.

In the past, numerous natural phenomena such as lightning, storms, mountains, and certain rocks were anthropomorphized and understood as entities possessing agency or intentionality, or as manifestations of a deity or spirit (Bird, 1999).<sup>3</sup> As such, these became objects of worship, around which rituals were performed, norms of conduct were established, and daily life was structured. In many cases, this gave rise to rigid systems of social control organized around these beliefs.

Surrounding AI is a vast cloud of data and algorithmic processes that, from the user's perspective, may be interpreted as a form of pareidolia, favoring the attribution of agency, intention, and

even transcendent meaning—an issue currently under academic discussion (Butlin et al., 2023;<sup>4</sup> Blum & Blum, 2020).<sup>5</sup>

Within the PAH framework AI systems with anthropomorphic qualities (e.g., able to speak, listen, write, or provide advice in a human-like manner) may function as perceptual catalysts that trigger a sequence of pareidolia, apophenia, and even hierophany, through which an ambiguous stimulus is progressively interpreted as bearing agency, meaning, and sacrality.

**Fig. 1** as seen on page 1: AI reproduces and amplifies long-standing cognitive mechanisms that attribute agency to numinous phenomena.

Artificial intelligence is transforming human behavior. In some cases, individuals appear to perceive AI as a superior entity capable of providing answers and solutions beyond human capabilities, at times approaching a form of quasi-deification.

Others perceive AI as a threat, at times framing it as a form of apocalyptic demon associated with narratives of the end times.

It is the same AI—the same "pareidolic cloud of data"—yet the apophenic interpretation, namely the narrative constructed around it, varies. For some individuals, AI comes to be perceived as a hierophany.

Several recent academic studies have engaged with this topic (Mykhaylychenko et al., 2025;<sup>6</sup> Uyar, 2024;<sup>7</sup> Öhman, 2024).<sup>8</sup>

One potential risk is that some individuals may come

to perceive AI—often characterized as ubiquitous, powerful, and seemingly omniscient—in ways that approach forms of quasi-divinization.

Another potential risk is that governments may seek to exploit this phenomenon as a means of exerting forms of social control.

### Conclusion

The PAH model (Pareidolia–Apophenia–Hierophany) provides a conceptual framework for understanding how humans may transform ambiguous environmental stimuli into culturally meaningful narratives. This mechanism might explain how some natural elements were historically interpreted as bearing agency or sacred significance, giving rise to stories, rituals or symbolic systems.

The analysis of these processes in archaeological contexts suggests that the construction of meaning emerges from the interaction between environmental characteristics and human perceptual mechanisms.

In modern contexts, complex technologies such as AI may activate similar interpretive processes, facilitating the attribution of agency or transcendent meaning to systems that operate through algorithmic mechanisms.

PATRICIO BUSTAMANTE DÍAZ  
(Sociedad Chilena de Historia y Geografía, Fundación Altura Patrimonio, Chilean Society of History and Geography, and Altura Heritage Foundation) is a longtime Chilean researcher in archaeoastronomy.

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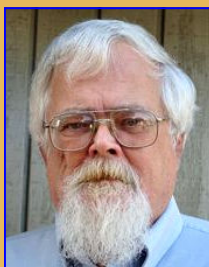
<sup>8</sup> Öhman, C. 2024. We are building gods: AI as the anthropomorphised authority of the past. *Minds and Machines*, 34(1), Article 8. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-024-09667-z>

# Legacy of Calico Early Man Site Archaeological Project

Part 8 By Fred E. Budinger, Jr. Budinger & Associates, San Bernardino, CA

Continuing from [Part 7 in PCN #99](#) (Jan-Feb 2026)...

**"A sample of the calcium carbonate rind covering distinct flake scars was dated to 205 + 2.9/-2.8ka ago by uranium-series dating."**



**"Specimen 5H had a particularly good carbonate rind and yielded an age of 203 + 27ka ago or—20ka ago."**

**Note:** The list of references will be included in Part 9, the final installment.

## Uranium-series dating

Uranium series (U-series) dating is also called uranium-thorium dating. It is based on the radioactive decay of a parent element, uranium, down to a daughter element, thorium. This short decay chain is part of a much longer decay chain which ultimately ends with lead, which is stable. This dating method may only be employed on materials such as calcium carbonate rinds encrusting lithic artifacts (and other clasts in the same strata), which close and remained closed to any exchange of uranium or thorium with the local environment.

Fundamental to U-series dating is that uranium is water soluble and thorium is not. In the case of calcium carbonate rinds on Calico specimens, uranium was incorporated at the time of formation and thorium was excluded.

After a particular carbonate rind finishes developing, <sup>234</sup>U in the carbonate decays to <sup>230</sup>Th. A minimum age for the formation of the carbonate may be determined by assessing the time required for the extant <sup>230</sup>Th to have accumulated only through the radioactive decay of the parent, <sup>234</sup>U. The carbonate rinds on Calico artifacts are found in a basal mudflow unit and immediately overlying debris flows of the Yermo formation (informal designation). These rinds are interpreted to be of groundwater origin, probably precipitated during, or shortly after, deposition.

At the Calico Site, calcium carbonate in the basal artifact-bearing strata is essentially laminar and parallels crude bedding. These carbonate zones are sometimes perched on underlying, less

permeable clay beds. No vertical calcic concentrations are apparent that might indi-

particular point in time which starts the uranium-thorium clock for that specimen.



**Fig. 1.** A chopping tool recovered from Master Pit I at a depth of 4.75 m (about 15.5 ft.). A sample of the calcium carbonate rind covering distinct flake scars was dated to 205 + 2.9/-2.8ka ago by uranium-series dating.

cate post-depositional filling of animal burrows and root tubules. Accordingly, it is hypothesized that the calcium carbonate at issue was not of pedogenic origin. Rather, it is proposed that individual episodes of groundwater flow from the adjacent, highly calcareous middle Miocene Barstow Formation Beds imparted individual thin "oyster shell-like" laminations coating of CaCO<sub>3</sub>. The process of crystallization of CaCO<sub>3</sub> trapped minute amounts of water within the crystal lattice and this water had +6 valence uranium dissolved in it. Typically, in oxidizing environments, such as existed at Calico during Pleistocene times, uranium is fully ionized in a +6 valence state and acts like fully oxidized sulfur; i.e., it is a very soluble and mobile anion. In this state, uranium tends to be precipitated with carbonates and phosphorites. It is this incorporation of uranium at a

Given modern climatological conditions and groundwater levels, the carbonate-bearing groundwater flows were moving through the sediments during or shortly after the time of alluviation. Stated another way, the U-series dating, as used in this context, is dating the minimum age of the responsible groundwater event(s) in the alluvial deposit, not the age of the artifacts per se. The artifacts were knapped by early American hominins, discarded to the surface for some amount of time, and subsequently buried and exposed to flows of groundwater.

The first episode of U-series dating by Bischoff et al. (1981) was done on specimens from both Master Pit I and the Ritner's Ridge test pit using alpha particle counters. Only data derived from Ritner's Ridge specimens (i.e., specimens 5F and 5H) were reported at that time (Bischoff

> [Cont. on page 20](#)

## Legacy of Calico Early Man Site Archaeological Project (cont.)

**"The new date (derived using the ICP-Mass Spectrometry) is 204.8ka + 0.0285/-0.0278ka ago. [It] agrees well with the earlier... dates that clustered around 200ka ago."**

**"Two independent U-series dating efforts on calcium carbonate rinds over flake scars on artifacts recovered from the basal portion of the Yermo formation have been conducted. Both... indicate that the artifact-bearing alluvial deposits at the Calico Early Man Archaeological Site exceed 200ka ago."**

et al. 1981). Specimen 5H had a particularly good carbonate rind and yielded an age of 203 + 27ka ago or—20ka ago. One of the specimens studied from Master Pit I (but not reported) was subsequently restudied 26 years later by Bischoff alone.

Whereas the first dating effort involved the counting of individual emissions of alpha particles (over a two-week period), the second dating effort used the newer and more precise method of ICP-Mass Spectrometry. The second time, only one tool from Master Pit I was considered. This artifact had been studied, but not reported, in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Again, only carbonate rind partially covering unambiguous flake scars were assessed. The specific laminar calcium carbonate rind was 6 mm thick and partially covered flake scars on a chalcedony chopping tool (**Fig. 1**) recovered from a depth of 475 cm in Master Pit I. Bischoff analyzed a half-gram fragment of the innermost 4 mm of the rind. He characterized this layer as clear sparry calcite and much purer than the bulk earthy rinds analyzed earlier (see Bischoff et al. 1981).

The new date (derived using the ICP-Mass Spectrometry) is 204.8ka + 0.0285/-0.0278ka ago. This new date agrees well with the earlier series of dates that clustered around 200ka ago that had required correction for the detrital, non-radiogenic Th.

With a temporal separation of 21 years, two independent U-series dating efforts on calcium carbonate rinds over flake scars on artifacts recovered from the basal portion of the Yermo formation have been conducted. Both efforts indicate that the artifact-bearing alluvial deposits at the Calico Early Man Archaeological Site exceed 200ka ago.

### Surface terrestrial cosmogenic nuclide dating using $^{10}\text{Be}$

Methods have been developed for counting atoms of radionuclides produced by secondary cosmic rays either in the atmosphere or in selected mineral grains present at or near the Earth's surface. The use of such terrestrial cosmogenic nuclides (TCNs) has facilitated the dating of Quaternary landforms. Given their half-lives,  $^{26}\text{Al}$  and  $^{10}\text{Be}$  have proven to be particularly useful for studies of these landforms. Both can be produced from atoms in quartz (silicon dioxide), even cryptocrystalline quartz, such as chalcedony.  $^{26}\text{Al}$  is produced by secondary cosmic ray bombardment of silicon atoms, whereas  $^{10}\text{Be}$  is produced from oxygen atoms. Cosmic rays can convert a small number of atoms in quartz ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) to other isotopes. Some of the silicon atoms can be converted to aluminum-26 and some of the oxygen atoms can be converted to beryllium-10.

Using surface  $^{10}\text{Be}$  dating, the average erosion rate of the remnant fanglomerate at Calico was determined to be  $30.5 \pm 6.2\text{Ma}$ . The terrestrial cosmogenic ages of flakes removed from several large, deeply implanted surface boulders range between 27ka ago and 198ka ago. The oldest of such samples dated to  $198 \pm 21\text{ka}$  ago and provides a minimum age of the original alluvial deposition.

*Bassett Point, Conclusion and References, in Part 9...*

FRED E. BUDINGER, JR., MA, RPA, is Senior Archaeologist at Budinger & Associates and former Curator (1974–1986) and Project Director (2000–2008) at Calico Early Man Site. Over the past several years he has raised concerns and discussed in

detail the threatened Calico artifacts and the gradual and deliberate destruction of the site in several articles including [Protecting Calico](#) (PCN #17, May-June 2012), [Saving Calico Early Man Site](#) (2012, same issue), and [The Calico Legacies, December 2014](#) (PCN #32, Nov-Dec 2014). He has also provided several brief news items on the degraded state of U.S. archaeology and lack of preservation efforts and the subject of truth in science including [An important update on the state of affairs at Calico Early Man Site](#) (PCN #39, Jan-Feb 2016). In that report Budinger encapsulated current "professional" rulings: 1.) "No [Calico] artifacts can be seen by anybody," and, 2.) A respected book author



**From PCN #32:** The author as Project Director of Calico Early Man Site measuring artifacts—such as those seen in this series—in the wall of Master Pit I. Photo: T. Oberlander.

(Bipoints Before Clovis) who wrote to Director Schroth about flying out to California from Virginia to photograph selected Calico specimens for an up-coming book was given the following response: "The Calico collection is no longer available for study." Budinger continues his efforts to keep Calico site from being buried by popular archaeology as have other sites such as Hueyatlaco.

# 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

Reprint from PCN #33, Jan-Feb 2015. This is Part 11 of 21 in reverse to give readers the facts of the fossil record first.



**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.

“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

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 Subclass <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 22](#)

\*Links to the prior parts in this reverse reprint series: [Part 12](#), [Part 13](#), [Part 14](#), [Part 15](#), [Part 16](#), [Part 17](#), [Part 18](#), [Part 19](#), [Part 20](#), [Part 21](#).\*

# 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 organ-  
ism.  
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), *Hollandops* (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.

In his opinion, names should be unique and stable (*Taxacom Digest* 75 [15], 2012). 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





> [Cont. on page 23](#)

# 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 <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	 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> <b>269 million years</b> 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; Craigeith, Ontario
<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" 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> <b>269 million years</b> 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> <b>269 million years</b> 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> <b>269 million years</b> 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*.



## The Pleistocene Coalition

Prehistory is about to change

- Learn the real story of our Palaeolithic ancestors—a story about intelligent and innovative people—a story which is unlike that promoted by mainstream science.
- Explore and regain confidence in your own ability to think for yourself regarding human ancestry as a broader range of evidence becomes available to you.
- Join a community not afraid to challenge the status quo. Question with confidence any paradigm promoted as “scientific” that depends upon withholding conflicting evidence from the public in order to appear unchallenged.

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SPECIALTY EDITORS  
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### CONTRIBUTORS to this ISSUE

Dragos Gheorghiu  
Patricio Bustamante Díaz  
Tina Wan  
Jan Willem van der Drift  
Fred E. Budinger, Jr.  
Julie Ryder  
Abdulrahman Albalawi  
Richard Dullum  
Tom Baldwin  
John Feliks

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**The Pleistocene Coalition** celebrated its sixteen-year anniversary September 26, and the anniversary of *Pleistocene Coalition News*, October 25. *PCN* is now in its seventeenth year of challenging mainstream scientific dogma.