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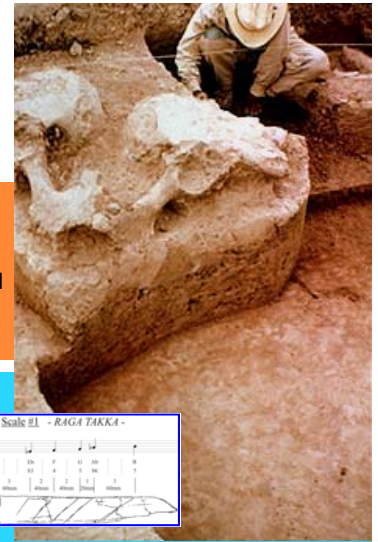
- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

El Horno A potential Lower Paleolithic site in the Americas

Page 4: In the last issue of the *PCN* newsletter, we laid to rest the Hueyatlaco archaeological site just short of 50 years after it had been discovered on the north shore of the Valsequillo Reservoir, state of Puebla, Mexico. But that's not the end of the story of the Valsequillo early man sites; in fact, it just may be the opening chapter. [Click to read more >](#)

Page 6: VSM provides an English translation of the late Juan Armenta's views on his discoveries at Valsequillo including the *Tetela 1* engraving. [Click to read more >](#)

Page 10: Continuing story on the suppression of a Lower Paleolithic knowledge system. [Click to read more >](#)



Paleolithic techniques and tools used to calculate space and time, Part 3

By Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez

Ph.D, Anthropology; Ethno-astronomy, MA, Psychology

Following is a continuation of a discussion started last issue ([PCN #14](#)) on the astronomical capabilities of prehistoric people and the tools which they used.

Strings and ropes

- a) A string long enough and strong enough to support a plummet (for example horse hair).
- b) Ropes and knots.

A piece of rope was found at Lascaux in the shaft leading to the Salle des félins (Felines Hall). So rope was then already known as well as the knot as it often forms of itself. Let us imagine three ropes with knots

at regular intervals. One with six intervals one with eight and the last with ten. If we gather tightly



Fig. 1. Left. Disk with radiating barbed pattern, Mas d'Azil, Ariège, France. **Right.** Disk with a central perforation, Mas d'Azil. Length 8cm. Saint-Germain en Laye Museum. The occupation of Mas d'Azil cave ranges in date from c. 17,800 B.C. to c. 6500 years BC.

all three we form a right angle. I do not presume that Paleolithic people knew the Pythagorean theorem. I only say they knew

how to determine a right angle and that they knew the east point. The proof of this is found in the Salle de la Rotonde (Rotunda Hall) at Lascaux where the points north, south and east are still precisely inscribed on the walls. An even older proof—the reindeer bone from the Abri Blanchard Shelter, 35,000 BP—is a study of the lunar movement starting precisely in the west on a spring day.

Bone disks

It should be emphasized that the disks perforated with a round hole in the middle indicate that prehistoric people had inte-

> [Cont. on page 2](#)

Paleolithic techniques & tools (cont.)



The author

"By superposing a protractor on the photograph of the bone disk, we realize that the divisions almost regularly correspond at an angle of 5°."

grated the principle of the compass, building a circle starting from the center and a constant radius (thus with a pole and a rope or with a thread through the eye of a needle to trace a small object). It is possible to stick a small gnomon in the center which will project its more or less lengthy shadow turning on the periphery according to the time. The shortest shadow being at midday towards the north.

Fig. 1, Left. Disk from bone; radiating barbed pattern. Discovered at Mas d'Azil, Ariège (France). Length 8cm. Exhibit n° 47225, Saint-Germain en Laye Museum.

Fig. 1, Right. Disk with central perforation. Discovered at the Mas d'Azil, Ariège (France). Length 8cm. Exhibit n°47225, Saint-Germain en Laye Museum.

Sometimes the disks are also perforated on the periphery (completely around, in some cases). Notches at regular intervals seem to decorate the edge of the disk. These notches are not necessarily there as "embellishment." This design can be seen on several disks.

The spiky pattern determines an axis which allows counting

an equal number of intervals on either sides of the hole. One could wonder, if the hole on the periphery on this particular one could be there to

diameter = 10cm

Thickness = 4mm

By superposing a protractor on the photograph of the bone disk, we realize that the divisions almost regularly correspond at an angle of 5°.

We count 21 notches (20 spaces) on a 100° circumference. By placing the 0° on the hole we measure an 80° space with 16 spaces thus again 5° for each space.

One can assume that the complete circle has:

$360° : 5 = 72$ spaces with 5° each.

Fig. 2. Superposing of protractor and Paleolithic disk. Photo Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez.

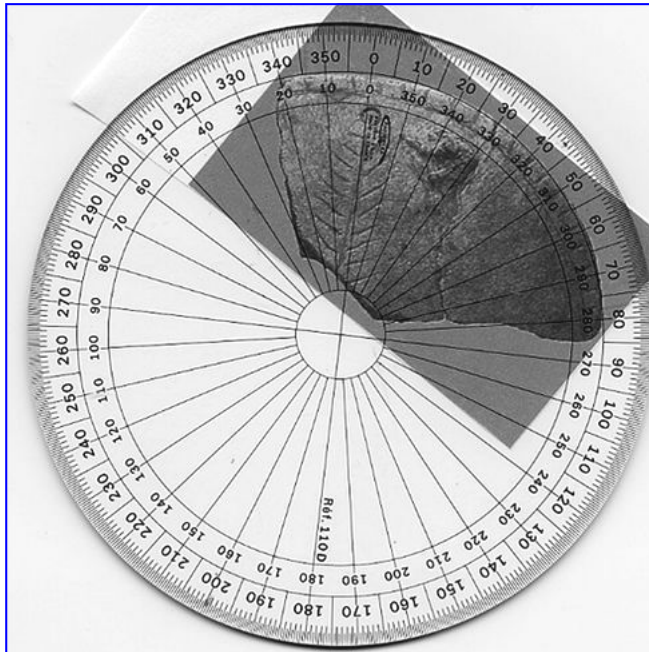


Fig. 2. Superposing a protractor over the Paleolithic disk. Photo Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez.

indicate the direction north, and the pattern below being the symbol corresponding to the north-south axis.

and Paleolithic disk. Photo Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez.

A) If we do not know where the north is, this disk allows us to determine the line north-south in any place and on any sunny day. One only needs to secure a stick in the center to fix the disk in the ground. In the morning, one makes a note of the

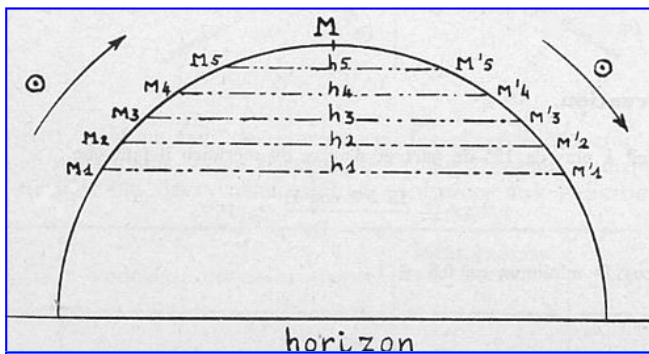


Fig. 3. Diagram showing the use of a notched disk as a protractor and allowing to establish the meridian where the star's culmination is.

We will demonstrate that these disks can be used as angle protractors by reconstructing this disk out of cardboard. Its measures being:

stick's shadow on the notch. Then, in the afternoon, one waits for the shadow to be on the symmetrical notch. The center indicates the direction

$A = 8\text{cm}$ $b = 2\text{cm}$. Therefore

> [Cont. on page 3](#)

Paleolithic techniques & tools (cont.)

"Determining the precise time of the equinox is difficult. It is child's play with a disk, especially when we are at 45° latitude, which is the case in a large number of Paleolithic sites in the Dordogne."

north. It is evident, that one should not move the disk during the day (fastening in the center and on the periphery). It is then easy to determine the central axis which

the time of the afternoon. The shadow's angle in relation to the peripheral hole shows the sun's azimuth. The shadow's length gives the sun's height. The shortest shadow of the day will

be exactly north when the sun culminates (solar culmination). This disk can be used as a simple sun dial.

It is perhaps to measure space and time in two different places that concentric circles exist on certain disks.

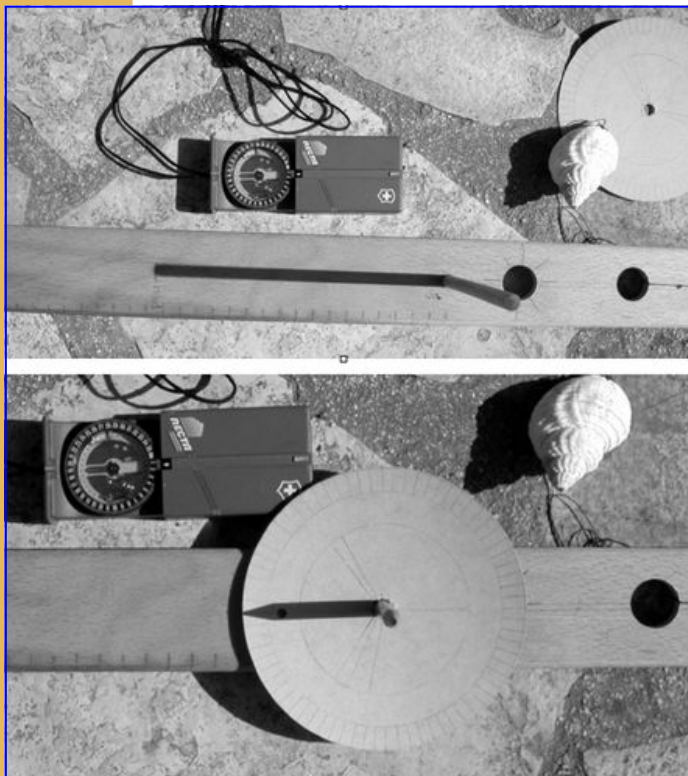


Fig. 4. Top: Photo made at midday during the spring equinox with the 18cm gnomon used in summer and in winter. The shadow's length is intermediary to those of summer and winter. At the same time of the equinox at 45° latitude, at midday (local), the shadow of another gnomon whose height is equal to the radius of the disk, reaches just about its edge.

At the same time of the equinox at 45° latitude, at midday (local), the shadow of another gnomon whose height is equal to the radius of the disk, reaches just about its edge.

We see that at the time of equinox, a gnomon of equal height to the diameter of the disk at 45° latitude indicates: the middle of the day (thus the culminating position of the sun), the direction north, and the equinoctial season.

It is enough to have a slightly longer gnomon for a less important latitude, and slightly shorter gnomon for a more important latitude. The notches on the gnomon allow for driving it in, more or less.

...Part 4, with Conclusion and references, begins at page 8.

[Note: original submission was in French.]

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gives the north-south line.

Fig. 3. Diagram showing the use of a notched disk as an angle protractor and allowing to establish the meridian where the stars' culmination is.

B) If we know where north is:

Let's fix the cardboard disk with a pencil-gnomon on the perforated wooden baton; the spiked pattern of the disk is in the axis of the baton, which itself is in the north-south axis.

The shadow progresses in the anti-horary direction. Before the disk's peripheral hole, it indicates the time of the morning, and after the hole

Let's place in the center of a disk a gnomon whose height is equal to the disk's radius; at midday on the day of the equinox the shadow's extremity in direction north will just about reach the edge of this disk. Each latitude will have a different length of gnomon.

If we keep the same disk, the one we constructed, for use at the Mas-d'Azil, the gnomon must measure 46mm above the surface of the disk. For Lascaux, the gnomon must be above 5cm once it is placed in the central part for the shadow of an equinoctial configuration line to reach the edge of the circle.

El Horno: A potential Lower Paleolithic site in the Americas

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Ph.D, Tephrochronologist (Volcanic ash specialist)

"Reverse magnetism in itself makes the tuff unit at least as old as the last "flip" in the earth's magnetic field 790,000 years ago."



I thought I had finally finished with my telling of the Valsequillo Saga, but find I need to add a post script.

In the last issue of the newsletter, we laid to rest the Hueyatlaco archaeological site just short of 50 years after it had been discovered on the north shore of the Valsequillo Reservoir, state of Puebla, Mexico. But that's not the end of the story; in fact, it just may be the opening chapter.

archaeologist Cynthia Irwin-Williams and her colleague Juan Armenta Camacho: Hueyatlaco (2056 m), Tecacaxco (2055 m), El Mirador (2049 m), and El Horno (2040m), (Malde *et al*, 2011: Fig. 1 caption). It is a two-component site, with bifacial tools confined to ancient stream-channel deposits and unifacial edge-retouched tools found below them in flat-lying older sediments. The other three sites contained only the edge-retouched tools (**Fig. 1**).

Hal Malde's geologic maps (**Fig. 2**: Malde 2011 in color, Malde *et al*, 2011: Figs. 6 and 7: black and white)

his map. They range in elevation from 2056 to 2049 m. The fourth site, El Horno (2040m, **Fig. 3**), located a short distance to the west of Hueyatlaco was nine meters under water when the aerial photos used as the base for his map were taken (reservoir level was 2049m).

The Xalnene tuff, a wide-spread volcanic unit shown in red, has been dated at roughly 1.3 million years old and is reversely magnetized (Renne *et al*, 2005, Feinberg *et al*, 2009). Reverse magnetism in itself makes the tuff unit at least as old as the last "flip" in the earth's magnetic field 790,000 years

ago (Brunhes/Matuyama geomagnetic polarity transition). El Horno lies some 16m lower in the landscape than Hueyatlaco and roughly 10m lower than the nearby Xalnene tuff outcrops. Could it be older than 1.3 million years?

El Horno site Background

Following is some background information for the El Horno site taken from the 1962 progress report of Cynthia Irwin-Williams to the

authorities in Mexico City (INAH):

> [Cont. on page 5](#)

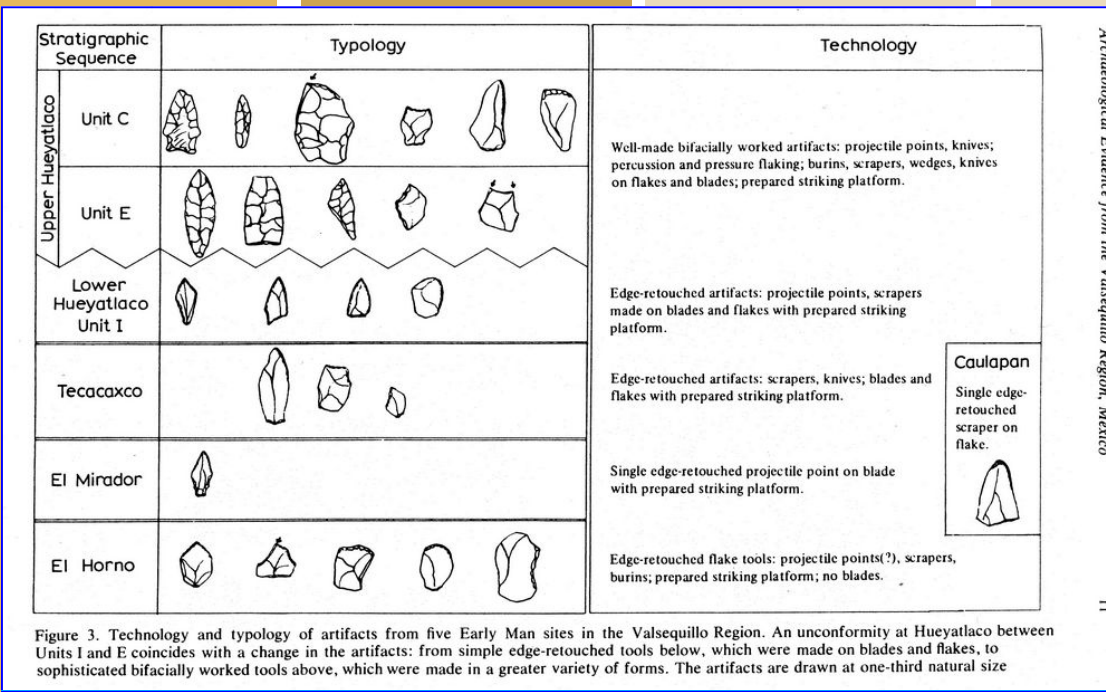


Figure 3. Technology and typology of artifacts from five Early Man sites in the Valsequillo Region. An unconformity at Hueyatlaco between Units I and E coincides with a change in the artifacts: from simple edge-retouched tools below, which were made on blades and flakes, to sophisticated bifacially worked tools above, which were made in a greater variety of forms. The artifacts are drawn at one-third natural size

Fig. 1. Typical lithic or stone tools from the Valsequillo sites.

As far as elevation goes, Hueyatlaco is the highest of four sites found in 1962 by

places three of the archaeological sites in the Valsequillo Gravels, colored yellow on

El Horno (cont.)

"The site of El Horno is located on the west bank of

1978, Fig. 61]. Microscopic examination revealed that the cut had been made by a sharp edged object used in a sawing motion. The adjacent phalange evidently from the same animal, showed some evidence of butchering. When the locality was visited, it was evident that a considerable portion of a single proboscidean was represented. Although much had been eroded away, much still remained in place in a deposit considered

(3) A red clayey deposit with occasional small gravel lenses designated Zone B (40-60 cm. in excavated thickness) including a few fragmentary fossils pertaining to the proboscidean, and several artifacts...

The initial procedure was to remove the entire recent lake deposit exposing the early layers and negating the possibility of contamination with modern materials. Subsequent excavation was

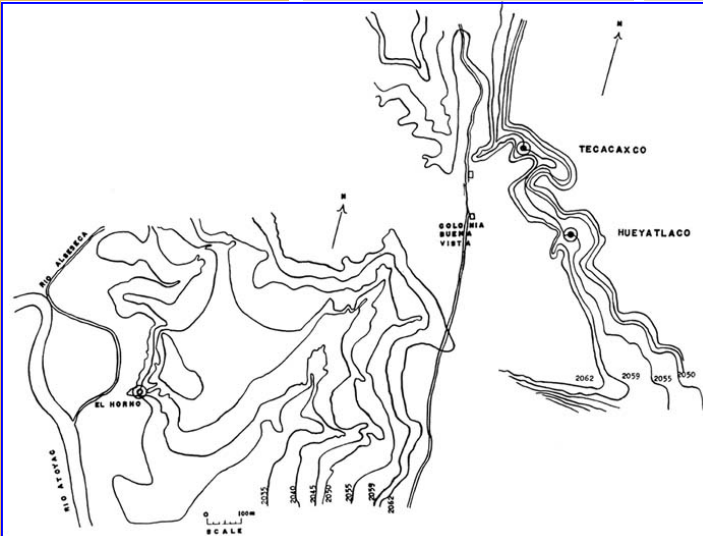


Fig. 3. 1962 topographic map showing the archaeological sites Teca-caxco, Hueyatlaco, and El Horno and a portion of the Tetela peninsula. Irwin-Williams file.

"One of these [bones] a phalange, displayed indisputable signs of butchering... Microscopic examination revealed that the cut had been made by a sharp edged object used in a sawing motion."

the old pre-reservoir Atoyac River on a low peninsula jutting out from the highland of the Tetela peninsula. See **Fig. 3** for its topographic position. It lies about one kilometer west of the town of La Colonia Buena Vista de Tetela at 98° 11' longitude, 18°55' North latitude. It is situated at an altitude of 2040 meters above sea level. The site was located on June 8, 1962 during the above mentioned archaeological survey of the Valsequillo area. Sr. Hector Montiel, an assistant at the Museum of the Revolution in Puebla, collected from the surface of the future site several bones of a proboscidean, and brought them to the Museum for further study. One of these a phalange, displayed indisputable signs of butchering; a deep (ca 2 mm) V-sectional cut running almost entirely about its circumference [**Fig. 4** on page 13; Armenta

to belong to the Valsequillo Formation (Maldonado-Koerdel, 1962, p.c.; Mooser 1962, p.c.)." [See also Irwin-Williams, 1962: 10-11.]

"[A] small test trench indicated the presence of three observable depositional units:

- (1) Recent lake shore deposits (0-18 cms. thick), including glass, metal, ceramics, and redeposited fragmentary fossils evidently belonging to the proboscidean.
- (2) A well defined white silty deposit, labeled Zone A, (0-45 cms. thick) containing undisturbed mastodon fossils.



Fig. 2. Malde geologic map showing El Horno site and Tetela Peninsula (see Malde 2011 PCN news July-August).

carried out with small hand tools..." (Irwin-Williams 1962: 14-15).

"Between June 8 and July 14, 1962, excavations were carried out at the Site of El Horno, in the Valsequillo Zone, Puebla, Mexico. A total

> [Cont. on page 13](#)

WORDS FROM THE PAST JUAN ARMENTA CAMACHO WRITES ABOUT HIS VALSEQUILLO FINDS

"This was an intriguing result, especially in regards to proboscids (mammoth and mastodon) seeing it was absurd to suppose that the enormous bones should have been carried away by predators, and also illogical to suppose that natural agents should have selectively detached them, re-working [?] them until they disappeared."

The following was taken from the English translation of Juan Armenta's (Figs. 1 and 2) 1978 monograph, *Vestigios de labor humana en huesos de animales extintos de Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico*, pages 17 & 18.

For a copy of the complete monograph and an English translation of the text and figure captions, see [my Pleistocene Coalition webpage](#). The map of his fossil and artifact collection localities (Fig. 3) is Figure 1 of that work. -VSM

Pages 17 & 18

Preliminary Studies

The first studies of the remains of human workmanship on bones of extinct animals were begun in the selfsame Valsequillo deposits, where the author observed the following:

1) The animal remains were incomplete and, in spite of the abundance of materials and the determination to collect specimens for museum display, never was a complete large mammal skeleton encountered but [on the contrary] lacked the ribs, vertebra, pelvis, and legs. This was an intriguing result, especially in regards to proboscids (mammoth and mastodon) seeing it was absurd to suppose that the enormous bones should have been carried away by predators, and also illogical to suppose that natural agents should have selectively detached them, re-

working [?] them until they disappeared; while respecting at the same time small pieces and light-weight fragments which remained in large number.

2) In contrast with the number of large pieces that were missing (and that, curiously, corresponded to parts of the anatomy rich in meat), hundreds of tooth pieces, loose or still implanted in fragments of mandibles were encountered,*

(* In numerical order, the following types of fragments were found: horse, bison, camel, mammoth, mastodon, pecary, cervids, canids, felids, glyptodon, ursids, and megatherium.) as well as a large number of skull fragments, horns/ tusks, antlers, glyptodon carapaces, articulated remains, shattered vertebrae, and bones cut from the extremities, as well as other diagnostically-important fragments.



Fig. 1. Juan Armenta Camacho holding the *Tetela 1* engraved mastodon pelvis bone from Puebla, Mexico; photo by David Hiser (See *Pleistocene Coalition News* Nov-Dec. 2010 issue for Steen-McIntyre's [Tetela 1 mastodon](#) write-up). As mentioned in the article, the artifact was published in *National Geographic Magazine*¹ as well as *LIFE magazine*² where it was given its own spread. By 1960, the *Tetela 1* engraving was on display at the prestigious Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., along with other artifacts from Hueyatlaco which are now missing.

1 Canby, T. Y. 1979. The Search for the First Americans. *National Geographic* Vol. 156 (3): 330-63, September 1979 (pp. 350, 352 & 354).

2 Art of the Americas from 30,000 B.C. p.86. *LIFE magazine*, August 15, 1960.

3) Many of the fractures, especially on bones of the extremities, had classic shapes, which in medicine are called "a flute [?] point," "a green twig," "a butterfly wing," "spiroidal," etc., **which only is produced in life or very soon after death** [Armenta's emphasis] when the bone is still very fresh; which is well known in trauma study, and in forensic medicine.

These classic fractures have a well defined etiology which, in their case, could have been [caused by?] twisting, flexure, the most numerous of which show action by damaging

agents of precise mechanism; which have been studied for many years, and of which there is a very extensive literature (15-27).

Now, because those classic fractures were produced, it is indispensable that a series

> [Cont. on page 7](#)

Juan Armenta Camacho (cont.)

"Evaluating all of the indications, the author arrived at the conclusion that the fossiliferous deposits of Valsequillo were hunting camps... and that the materials found were proof of hunting... and artistic manifestations of prehistoric hunters."

of precise, well define factors coincided; because their repetition—in the quantity that was observed in the deposits—cannot be attributed to simple natural agents, which have diverse mechanisms very capricious in intensity, point of application, direction, duration, and frequency.

On the other hand, the type of fragmentation, the way in which the materials were dispersed, and the regular absence of certain pieces correctly tallies with certain dismemberment practices, butchering, extraction of bone marrow,

and other handiwork fitting for hunters.

remained some doubt of the presence of hunters, part of a mammoth mandible was encountered which still had a flint artifact sticking out of it. (All these materials are described in this report.)

Evaluating all of the indications, the author arrived at the conclusion that the fossiliferous deposits of Valsequillo were hunting camps (kill sites), and that the materials found were proof of hunting: remains of dismemberment, primitive tools,

and artistic manifestations of prehistoric hunters.

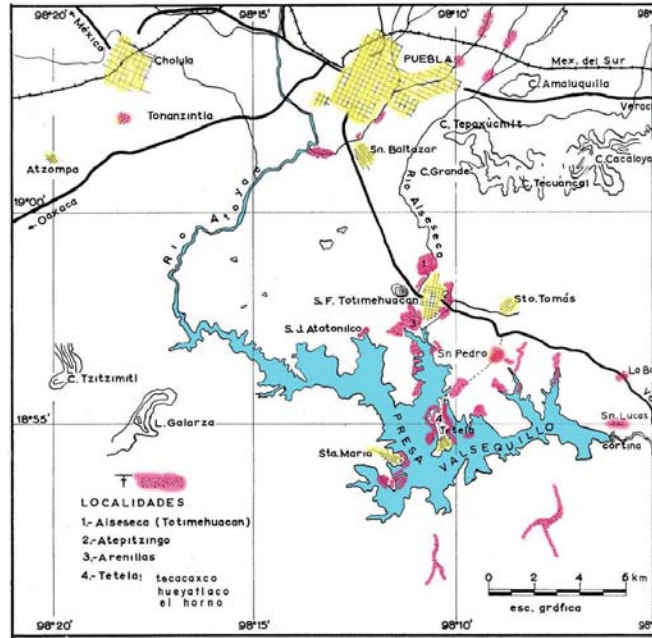


Fig. 3. Armenta location map, fossil/artifact finds, taken from his 1978 monograph, Figure 1.



Fig. 2. Professor Juan Armenta Camacho discoverer of the Tetela 1 engraved mastodon bone at Valsequillo in 1959. Crop of photo used in the NBC documentary, *The Mysterious Origins of Man* (jf crop). See Bill Cote's article, "[The Valsequillo saga and Hueyatlatco site: Bill Cote's involvement](#)," in the Jan-Feb 2011 issue of *Pleistocene Coalition News*.

4) Besides those indications, gradually by degrees there were discovered in the Valsequillo deposits bones with scoremarks, incised marks, cutmarks; with margins rounded by abrasion; with tips modified to a point, smoothed or spatulate; with sections bur-nished, [and? or?] engraved; culminating with the discovery of an "ornament" (?) with perforations, and six bones with engraving, all of them of unquestionable human workmanship [See **Fig. 1**]. And, if there still

Paleolithic techniques and tools used to calculate space and time, Part 4

Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez

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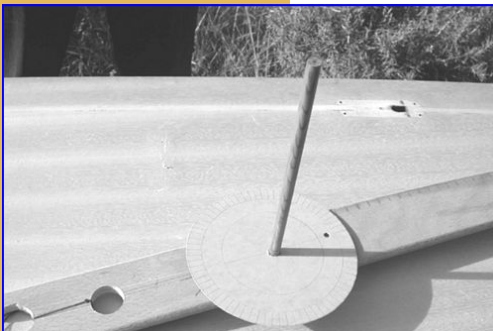


Fig. 5. The shadow of the gnomon is on the 4th notch after the one corresponding to the north-south alignment. Photo: Chantal Jacques-Wolkiewiez.

"One cannot assert that this is what the artists at Lascaux wanted to express; however, the fact remains that these measures correspond to the summer circuit of the sun entering Lascaux."

Continuing from Part 3, this issue...

Fig. 5. The shadow of the gnomon is on the 4th notch after the one corresponding to the north-south alignment. Thus, at an angle of about 20°, that is to say 200°/north. The photograph was made on 5th December at 12h43 UT and the azimuth was 200° 12'07"/north. The precision is not that of an atomic clock, but is still remarkable. Photo: Jacques

Wolkiewiez.

D) This disk can also be used as a nocturnal dial. A plumbline held from a stick by an acolyte, allows the placing of the circle's axis (spike) in the right position. One places the disk against the thread for it to be parallel to the pole axis and geographical north.

a) One targets the polar star through the central hole. At arm's length, one maintains the circle far enough to allow the eye to see the central orifice at the same time as a reference star in the peripheral hole. When this star appears, it determines the vertical position above the pole, the central constellation, therefore the time of night.

b) One can also target a star from the edge of the disk and measure its azimuth against the north. Of course, this measure is not cali-

brated, nor absolutely precise. But I think it is efficient enough for recording this angle on a piece of hide or on a wall.

E) These disks can also measure the angle between an object (celestial or other) and a marker (north, for example) when laid flat at eye level. A baton is fixed in the center of the disk; an exterior mark is made on the ground to indicate the north. Then, another baton is fixed in the peripheral hole and the disk is turned for the two batons to come into alignment with the object to be measured. Then, all that remains to do is to count the number of spaces between the first reference and the alignment to find out the angular spacing. The reverse is done to record this spacing on a drawing or the wall of a cave.

The Assegais

a) Among the assegais discovered in the cave, one of them is decorated with lines and geometrical designs also found on the walls. That is the reason why it is justifiable to connect the two. Measuring about 25 cm it is decorated with a star pattern. The branches are at an angle of about 12° from the central halfway line. If we place this assegai alongside the entrance-diverticulum, the left angle of the pattern is in the direction 292° azimuth. It is the azimuth that the sun (at 10° height) had to have to start reaching the interior wall north of the entrance of 6 m wide and 2m50 height which existed at that time. The adjacent angle of 12° also in that space, corresponds in time to the moment when the stars appear, a little over an hour after sundown.

One cannot assert that this is what the artists at Lascaux wanted to express; however the fact remains that these measures correspond to the summer circuit of the sun entering Lascaux.

b) A big curved assegai.

In the shaft, there was also a big curved assegai of 45 cm in length. Its back is decorated with a line with two serrations toward its distal section. What can one do with a curved Assegai concerning the measuring of space? Nothing. It must be accompanied by a straight assegai, like the one above. One sticks these two assegais towards the north.

Fig. 6. To experiment with this measure of time and space, knitting needles can be used just as well. One sticks them in the ground turning the dorsal section of the curved one towards the north. A plumbline is used to position the straight needle in the right place. On a daily basis, this tool is perfectly efficient to know the moment of the local midday point or of the local midnight point with culmination of the moon.

Needle and awl

A needle and an awl were discovered at Lascaux. Considering their common usage, one can wonder on their reason for being there, as Lascaux was not used as a living settlement and people probably did not manufacture their clothes there. The answer could be, that a needle stuck in the central hole of a small disk would allow a small string to hang for measuring and recording an angle and an alignment either on a wall or on the ground.

> [Cont. on page 9](#)

Paleolithic techniques and tools, Part 4 (cont.)

"[As] so many discoveries from time immemorial were lost long ago, only to be rediscovered, we modern men have underrated their possibilities; we have not searched into domains which we thought outside their capacity."

The lamps

A great number of lamps were found, one particularly in the Shaft. They are the "womb", the "vessel" for the fire they contain. They are



Fig. 6. For these types of time and space measuring experiments everyday knitting needles are just as effective.

attached to the sacred time of the rites. The sacred fire, symbol of the solar heat and light, which replaces the daylight star in the obscurity. In the dark, the flames help to mark and trace alignments, naturally receiving this qualification of sacred.

CONCLUSION

The memory of our ancestors

I would like now to discuss Parietal art which brings out the memory of our ancestors. The engravings and paintings are the symbolic reflections of their time and of their knowledge. The orientation of cave entrances and openings of shelters have allowed me to demonstrate that the times of solstices and equinoxes were not only known but that their importance differed according to the times: light of winter solstices until the Solutrean period, light of summer solstices starting from Lascaux. The symbols which we find difficult to understand

become less mysterious when we attach this notion of time to them. A long research process started by me will be necessary to bring more light on this subject.

We can see, however, that certain symbols we still use already existed. For example, the sun on the perforated baton above, or the small moons well placed by the Aurignacian engraver in Abri (Shelter) Blanchard. By joining these symbols with space and time, I was able to decipher and date the annual time through studies on the reindeer bone from Abri Blanchard. I could elucidate the techniques that were used, the knowledge already acquired, and the wish for memorization as the daily observations over more than two lunar cycles were recorded.

Memorizing the link between the light movements, the horizon, and time were man's first objectives. But what is more interesting, is the realization that already the Aurignacians as well as all the men from the cultures that followed, wanted to progress in their knowledge and their techniques. They used the whole scale of symbols: colors, forms, qualities of the animals, seasonality, and measures. But, as so many discoveries from time immemorial were lost long ago, only to be rediscovered, we modern men have underrated their possibilities; we have not searched into domains which we thought outside their capacity.

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CHANTAL JÈGUES-WOLKIEWIEZ, Ph.D, Anthropology, Ethno-astronomy; is a long-time Paleolithic researcher specializing in studying the time-keeping and astronomical capabilities of the people of Lascaux Cave in France.

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The graphics of Bilzingsleben series

Scientific misconduct over ancient artifact studies and why you should care

Part 4: 350,000 years before Bach

By John Feliks

As hopefully is becoming clear, the evidence offered in this series is meant to demonstrate that the view of our ancestors as unintelligent ape-people as promoted by the science community is not at all correct. In reality, there is no evidence for a gradual evolution of mental ability but only evidence of a continuing and stable human intelligence.

Because there is the physical evidence of complex engravings, it can safely be said that human abilities such as

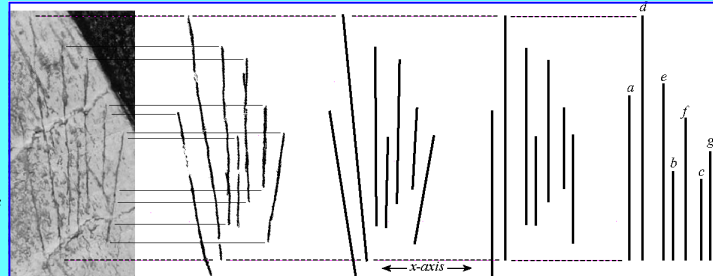


Fig. 1. A study of the 400,000-year old engraved bone *Artifact 1* side-fan motif from Bilzingsleben eliminating the variables of angle and horizontal positioning of the lines and applying the musical technique known as "compound line" (see Fig. 5 for definition). It was originally presented at the XV UISPP Congress in 2006 in the program *Phi in the Acheulian*. Photograph by R. Bednarik, cropped with permission. The study is further explored in the recent paper, *Five constants from an Acheulian compound line*, presented at the Aplimat (Applied Mathematics) 2012 Conference in Bratislava by Professor Mauro Francaviglia (see Fig. 5).

It can probably also be stated with a fair degree of confidence that the same is true for every representative of the animal kingdom.

Whatever intelligence level any creature was at when it first appears in the fossil record is likely to be no different today.

It may sound humorous, but invertebrate sea creatures such as clams and snails which live in the water today are probably no more intelligent than they were 500 million years ago in the Cambrian seas. The fish that live in the sea today, no more intelligent than Silurian or Devonian fishes were. And in all likelihood your cat or dog friend is no more intelligent than the first saber-toothed cat or the first wolf.

So why stop there? What proof do we have that the human species is any different?

The reason I ask this is because while we have no way to compare the intelligence of ancient animals with modern animals we do have a means to do this with ancient humans and modern humans. That method is by comparing the creative work of ancient people with that of the artists and mathematicians of today. My proposal is that there is no difference and I offer these ongoing studies, most of which have been censored by the evolutionary community, as testable and transparent proof.

This mathematical evidence, just like that for very early people in the Americas, has turned out to be a big problem for the science community because it is as close to real-time proof as science is likely to get that our ancestors did not evolve but were very much like us from the beginning and that they were able to record their thoughts in some external form which has been preserved across time and which we are able to read.

>[Cont. on page 11](#)



"New ideas are always criticized - not because an idea lacks merit, but because it might turn out to be workable."

-Physicist, requested anonymity

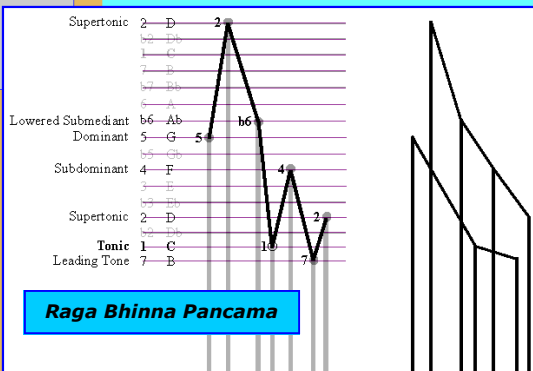


Fig. 2. This music-based study of *Artifact 1* shows how the particular compound line (zig zag melody) taken from Fig. 1 has precise analogues in use today. Although there are other possible interpretations, the terms shown here account perfectly for the Indian scale, **Raga Bhinna Pancama**. It is a challenging scale playable just as shown or set up in "universal scale" degrees as 1 2 4 5 b6 7 which in the Key of C would be played C D F G Ab B. The raga is known for its special quality of containing no major or minor 3rd.

reasoning, philosophizing, or simply being creative have never undergone any evolutionary change.

350,000 years before Bach

FIGURES 3 & 4

Fig. 3 is a study of Bilzingsleben Artifact 2 applying ratios as used in modern musical scales. The studies are not meant to imply that *Homo erectus* people necessarily used these ratios 'musically' but to demonstrate that the ratios engraved into the Bilzingsleben artifacts have modern analogues and to support the idea forwarded by Dietrich and Ursula Mania in their breakthrough 1988 paper, *Deliberate engravings on bone artifacts of Homo erectus*, that these ancestors understood rhythm, which I simply put into very specific terms, **Fig. 4**. The studies along with many others were presented at the XV UISPP Conference in Lisbon in 2006 to an enthusiastic audience only to be blocked from publication until 2011 not only by the UISPP but by Elsevier's, *Journal of Human Evolution*, my last accepted censorship before taking a public stand against faith-based evolutionary science.

With more and more such evidence coming to light it is no longer scientifically prudent to teach the ape-man scenario as fact.

Where does this lead? Since

facing it and adjusting for what the new evidence indicates.

Adjusting according to new evidence is how "normal" science works. So, what do you call a science that blocks new

evidence and continues to promote an old view despite the evidence? It is something other than science.

The science community has decided to respond this way to the evidence from Bilzingsleben and other evidence we offer in this newsletter so as not to have to address the implications. By responding to empirical evidence in this way and not addressing the challenge in a true scientific manner the science community has lost credibility.

When I started in science as a young boy I just assumed that scientists abided by high standards of truth. As background, I was absorbed early on in paleontology, biology (as a naturalist), and chemistry (even inventing my own plastic tar among other things).

In the years that followed—and this is all separate from the arts—I learned psychology, sociology and anthropology, not to mention exploring to one degree or another most other sciences, e.g., physics, optics,

astronomy, cosmology, as well as pursuing a knack for geometry, drafting and practical design. Though inspired by many including open-minded

teachers, this was primarily self-disciplined and motivated research so I naturally kept an open mind and have always been open to looking at science in new ways.

There is the saying, "Don't re-invent the wheel," but actually, that may be one of the best ways to learn.

After the few examples in Part 3, [Base grids of a suppressed Homo erectus knowledge system](#), in this Part 4, I offer additional studies based on musical composition techniques to show how they can be applied to uncovering unexpected information locked in ancient engravings.

"Fifty" of these and similar studies were blocked from publication for five years by the XV UISPP International Congress even though I was requested to present the material being promised publication in advance.

The material was all then censored by the *Journal of Human Evolution* even though submission to that journal was suggested by a longtime anthropology correspondent since the journal was edited by someone in his own department at New York University. This censorship was quite ironic because I actually began correspondence with this professor when he called me on the phone regarding my first censored paper by *Current Anthropology* in 1995-97 (two years of anonymous peer review followed by censorship). He was one of the 'anonymous' reviewers who was intrigued enough by the ideas in the paper, *The impact of fossils on the development of visual representation*, that he chose to break the anonymity to hear more about it. His recommendation for publication was vetoed by a team

> [Cont. on page 12](#)

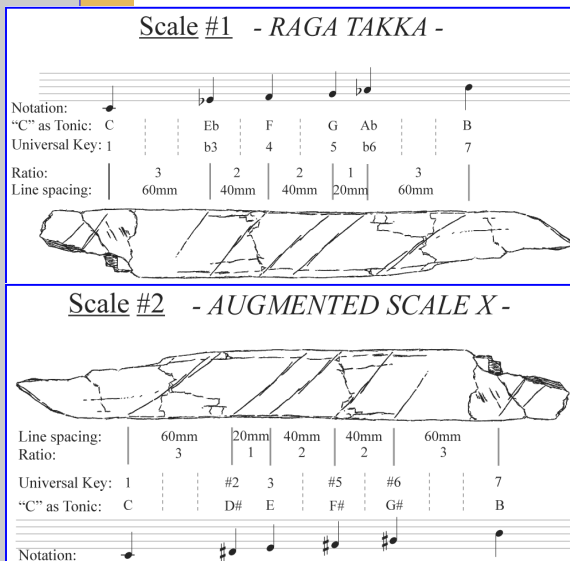


Fig. 3. Two studies of Bilzingsleben Artifact 2 applying standard ratios as used in modern musical scales.

the science community has committed to the evolutionary paradigm leaving itself

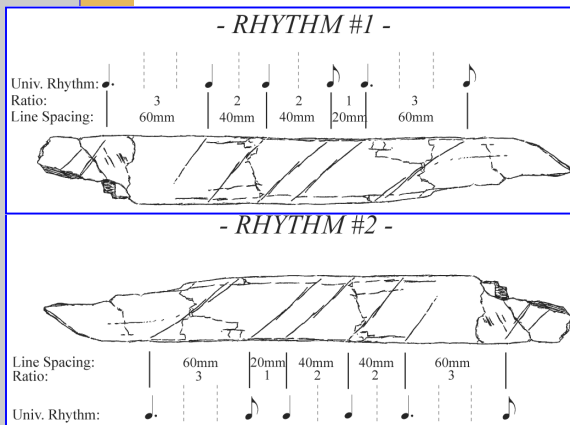


Fig. 4. Two studies of Bilzingsleben Artifact 2 applying standard ratios as used in modern musical rhythms.

no graceful way out it has been forced into the situation of using methods such as censorship to block new evidence from the public rather than

350,000 years before Bach

of anonymous reviewers obviously protecting the evolutionary paradigm as the paper

but showing up in the work of competitive researchers, there occurred a loss of trust in

graved artifacts of Bilzingsleben, who noted the mathematical ratio in *Artifact 2*

(**Figs. 3-4**). Contrary to the standard paradigm used in anthropology, approaching ancient artifacts with the expectation that there may be deeper inherent meanings increases the chance that such meanings, if they exist, can be found. For those who question such an approach, I suggest that it is no less scientific to presume high intelligence in early peoples than it is to presume low intelligence.

The engraved idea that our ancestors were of low intelligence is not based on fact and the sooner we move past this idea the sooner we can move to the next stage of discovery. Presupposition of high intelligence in ancient peoples is a powerful key. It opens up the entire world of the Paleolithic.

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JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for nearly twenty years using an approach based on geometry and techniques of drafting. Feliks is not a mathematician; however, he uses the mathematics of ancient artifacts to show that human cognition does not evolve. One aspect of Feliks' experience that has helped to understand artifacts is a background in music; he is a long-time composer in a Bach-like tradition as well as an acoustic-rock songwriter and taught computer music including MIDI, digital audio editing, and music notation in a college music lab for 11 years.

Justifying the 5 constants in the larger circle through the smaller circle

6.) *Viswanath's constant*, the *Golden ratio*, *Niven's constant*, and *Lengyel's constant* (x2) enter as a 5-part interrelated group associated with both circles and the center point of

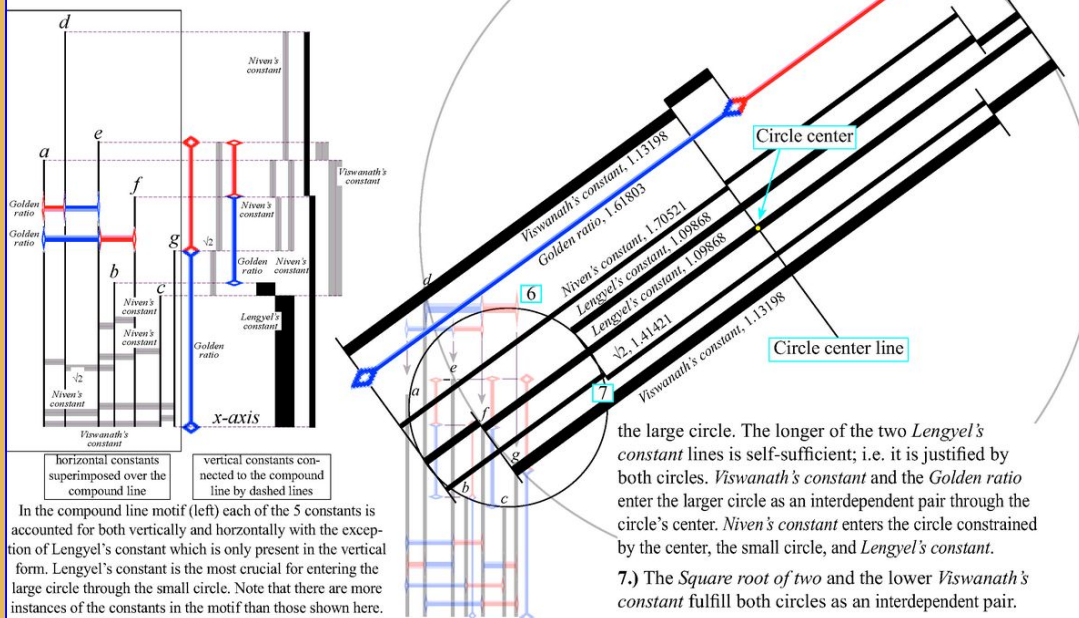


Fig. 5. Another example of how musical techniques can be applied to ancient artifacts, excerpted from the Aplimat 2012 paper, *Five Constants from an Acheulian compound line*. Compound line is a technique characteristic of Johann Sebastian Bach's music. A common form is when a single melody can be interpreted as two distinct melodies. In the example above, the *Artifact 1* sequence from Fig. 1 labeled *adebfcg* (left) measured by way of five mathematical constants (numbers which remain the same independent of physical measurement) can be read as two separate lines, *abc* and *defg*. These define two circles (right). As hard to believe as it may seem for something taken from a 400,000-year old artifact, each of the constants in the compound line are represented to equal precision (five decimals) within the two circles.

"It is no less scientific to presume high intelligence in early peoples than it is to presume low intelligence."

suggested high intelligence in early peoples. Leading neurologist Oliver Sacks, in a full-page handwritten letter, referred to the paper as, "absolutely riveting" giving permission to quote the letter. His was one of many others of a very similar nature.

So, one must ask, how does work which receives this type of response from leading authorities wind up being censored from the public?

After 15 years of such experiences plus discovering a pattern of submitted ideas not only blocked from publication

scientific process so I finally hooked up with other researchers with similar experiences and together we formed the Pleistocene Coalition to challenge the mainstream science power structure.

In Part 3, I showed how information encoded in ancient artifacts might be decoded in different ways (see founding member Jim Harrod's weblink for other methods of decoding extremely ancient artifacts such as Bilzingsleben). In this Part 4 (**Figs. 1-5**), I offer studies that were inspired by the work of Dietrich and Ursula Mania, discoverers of the en-

El Horno (cont.) the Amomoloc lake beds

"The clincher: if it can be proved that the El Horno site lies in the Amomoloc lake beds it is older than 1.3 million years, and the sediments should show reverse polarity."

> [Cont. from page 5](#)

of fifteen artifacts and flakes of indisputably human workmanship were recovered, eleven in direct association with bones of extinct animals, primarily mastodon" (Irwin-Williams, 1962:17).

Note that Zone B is "a red clayey deposit" and compare it to Malde's description of the Amomoloc lake beds as detailed below.

Amomoloc lake beds

On his geologic map, Malde outlines a knob of sediment just north of El Horno, still exposed above water level at the time the aerial photos on which he based his map were taken. It is an outcrop of the Amomoloc lake beds. Does the El Horno site, located some 9 m lower than the water surface occur in the Amomoloc lake beds? If so, it can be considerably older than a million years. One photo we have of the excavation and the hill to the east (part of the Tetela peninsula), taken at the time of severe drought when the water in the reservoir was very low (**Fig. 5a**) shows flat-lying sediments stacked layer-cake fashion, with no evidence for an episode of channel cut-and-fill at a later date. The recently dated Xalnene tuff (1.3 million years, reverse polarity, Renne et al, 2005, Feinberg et al., 2009) would be one of the flat-lying younger beds near the skyline.

In his unpublished report on the stratigraphy of the Valsequillo region (1968), Malde writes the following about the Amomoloc unit:

"The Amomoloc lake beds form subdued badlands be-

low [i.e. older than] caprock of Xalnene tuff, in which gullied slopes of red and brown clay and silt sparsely littered with limestone nodules are interrupted by limestone ledges



Fig. 4. Mastodon phalange from El Horno, showing a deep groove cut in the bone. Armenta monograph p. 90, Fig. 61; view 5 of Houston 2008 talk.

and by less conspicuous ledges of sand... Such exposures contrast with badlands formed by higher [i.e. younger] basin deposits that have no reddish fine-grained beds and that lack limestone" (Malde, 1968: S-73).

"In the Tetela Peninsula, only the upper 5-6 m of the Amomoloc lake beds are normally exposed above the reservoir. These beds consist of reddish brown clay and silt that include scattered limestone nodules... At drill hole C-2, 8 m of the Amomoloc lake beds were penetrated, beginning at a depth of 21.4 m. The material penetrated was friable to plastic calcareous clayey silt ranging in color from reddish brown (5YR 5/3) to pinkish

gray (7.5YR 5/2)" (Malde 1968: S-75).

Age of the El Horno site

Do we have an age for the El Horno site itself? Yes, three uranium-series ages on a fragment of cheek tooth from the butchered mastodon, but they are all "greater than" ages (230Th >280,000; 231Pa >165,000; open system >280,000 yrs, Szabo et al, 1969). We also have rough diatom ages for the Amomoloc lake beds: no younger than Yarmouthian, ca 500,000 to 430,000 ybp (presence of *Melosira inordinata*, which became extinct by the end of the Yarmouthian) and older than 700,000 years (presence of *Fragilaria peragalloi* which became extinct near the end of the Nebraskan) (VanLandingham, p.c. Dec. 2011.) The clincher: if it can be proved that the El Horno site lies in the Amomoloc lake beds it is older than 1.3 million years, and the sediments should show reverse polarity.

Position in the landscape, elevation in relation to Hueyatlaco and the nearby outcrops of dated Xalnene tuff, U-series ages on a mastodon tooth fragment, diatom ages. All suggest the El Horno site is much older than Hueyatlaco, perhaps older than 1.3 million years. The matter should be settled once the other Irwin-Williams' El Horno photos come to light.

Meanwhile much can be done. While it would take a serious draw-down of the water in the reservoir or another severe drought to expose the El Horno site

> [Cont. on page 14](#)

El Horno (cont.) the Amomoloc lake beds

"The clincher: if it can be proved that the El Horno site lies in the Amomoloc lake beds it is older than 1.3 million years, and the sediments should show reverse polarity."

> [Cont. from page 13](#)

(sediments should be tested for polarity and diatoms), Hal Malde's geologic maps

orange) in sediments with normal polarity.

Where does this leave the González "footprints" dis-



Fig. 5a. El Horno site and west side of Tetela peninsula during excavation, 1962.

detail where such very old early man sites are likely to occur: down slope from out-

credited (we all thought) because of the great age of the Xalnene tuff (Renne *et al*, 2005, Feinberg *et al*, 2009, Malde 2011 and cited references)? They are worth a second look. At the very least any such tracks should be traced to where they may be covered by overlying sediment and these younger sediments removed to see if the tracks continue beneath them.



Fig. 5b. El Horno site.

crops of the 1.3my Xalnene tuff in reddish lake sediments that show reverse polarity. For younger sites, but still a quarter-million years old and older, look beneath the dated Tetela brown mud unit (colored

As I mention above, the Valsequillo Saga may just be beginning.

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VIRGINIA STEEN-McINTYRE, PhD, is a tephrochronologist (volcanic ash specialist) involved in preserving and publishing the Palaeolithic evidence from Valsequillo since the late 1960s. Her story first came to public attention in Michael Cremona's and Richard Thompson's book, *Forbidden Archeology* (1993), and in the Bill Cote television special, *Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charleton Heston (1996).

'Mainstream' terminology

How to stay politically correct in these changing paleoanthropological times

By Alan Cannell, International civil engineer, M.SC.

"There is still one group of people we are only just starting to get to know: the peoples from the remote past. And, yet again, the 'us and them' tendency has been to deny these people aspects of humanity; if we are all descended from one small group (us) then they must have been different and somehow primitive (them)."

There has been a spate of recent papers on the mixing of archaic and modern human genes, the implications of which have yet to percolate down through the paleoanthropology community.

The trend started with the news that an X-linked haplotype from Neanderthals is present in all non-African populations¹ continued with the surprising discovery that the recently Denisovian DNA still exists in Melanesian and other groups² and the revelation that Sub-Saharan Africans have DNA from even more archaic human genes³ -although with no fossil evidence to back this up.

As if on cue, this last work was immediately followed by another paper by Harvati and Stringer *et al*⁴ showing that a skull from Iwo Eleru in Nigeria—newly dated at roughly 12,000 years old—has a morphology that is in many ways partly *erectus* and/or Neanderthal.

For decades, geneticists have been telling us that we are all descended from a small group of AMH (Anatomically Modern Humans) that left Africa some 60,000 years ago. This was always part science and part ideology: proof of the self-evident truth that "all men are created equal" and a reaction to the rabid racism of the mid

20th Century. This was accepted as part of the canon of political correctness around the turn of the present century and any deviation from this signaled academic death.

The new conclusion is that we are all hybrids, with 2-3% of DNA from different archaic groups that had evolved separately over hundreds of thousands of years.

Curiously, the first "smoking gun" that seemed to prove this hypothesis did not come from the DNA analysis of humans, but from lice—suggesting that two groups interacted after evolving without contact (in terms of lice) for over a million years⁵ (ref: [Archaic populations and modern humans, Part 1](#); PCN Sept-Oct 2010).

Humans are programmed to look at the world in terms of "us and them" and this is particularly true when dealing with peoples we do not know. The world is a smaller place than it was a hundred years ago and nearly all population groups are in direct contact; however, there is still one group of people we are only just starting to get to know: the peoples from the remote past. And, yet again, the "us and them" tendency has been to deny these people aspects of humanity; if we are all descended from one small group (us) then they must

have been different and somehow primitive (them).

Papers were being produced only a couple of years ago that questioned the ability of Neanderthals to speak. The apparent mathematical designs of Acheulian hand axes is still taboo (they couldn't possibly have had the skills and cognition!). Navigation 100kya and early occupation of the Americas are certainly a no-no. The list goes on.

The mainstream point of view is still stuck with the hoary old thesis that what is regarded as the *Homo*-chimpanzee split took place some 6-7 million years ago and that *Homo* only appeared some 2mya. The point being made here is that the mainstream 'forces' people to look at 2 million year-old *H. erectus* as one third of 6 million—therefore, about one third ape.

With the new evidence pouring in, the community now has a new problem: how to be Politically Correct when we all have these chunks of DNA that came from populations that were—so it seems—separated by about half of the history of humanity? Going back down the path of 'race' (my Neanderthal was smarter than your Denisovan!) is not an option.

The only way to stay Politi-

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

'Mainstream terminology'

"The mainstream 'forces' people to look at 2 million year-old H. erectus as one third of 6 million—therefore, about one third ape.

...The only way to stay Politically Correct within this mainstream context is, therefore, to push the recognition of humanity further back in time."

- **The shamans of Lascaux**
- **More Homo erectus mathematics**
- **Virginia Steen-McIntyre**

cally Correct within this mainstream context is, therefore, to push the recognition of humanity further back in time.

Something like: "All men were created (by evolution) to be (more or less) equal around a million years ago." This is reflected in the text of the paper by Harvati and Stringer, which no longer uses the term 'primitive' to describe certain features of the skull, (or even the stunningly insensitive Proto-Negroid of the original 1971 description), but only the word 'archaic.' As we all have a touch of the archaic in our gene pool this is now acceptable. Archaic is good. Archaic is Politically Correct.

Expect a new spate of papers over the coming years on how smart and sophisticated *Homo erectus* was, and how the Neanderthal fashion trade developed. And with a bit of luck, a serious review of fossils such as KSD-VP, as it dawns on the academic community that as the *erectus* from 2 million

years ago looks pretty much like us from the neck down (and pretty much like our newly-found archaic relatives from the neck up), so an archaic form of *erectus* from 3.6 million years ago would look pretty much the same as *erectus* from the post-cranial down—like KSD-VP and not like the little long-armed creatures from Malapa or like 'Lucy.'

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ALAN CANNELL, M.SC., is an international civil engineer specialized in urban transport and structuring. His anthropology work has been featured on *NatureNews* (the journal *Nature's* online magazine) and in *Scientific American* (France). Cannell has written many articles on a variety of topics for *Pleistocene Coalition News*.

Member news

Chantal Jègues-Wolkiewiez, PhD, in her first book, [sur les chemins étoilés de Lascaux](#), presents in a fictional setting her theories about the astronomical knowledge and knowledge of space and time of the people of Lascaux Cave in France. See [Blog la table d'Hermes](#) for an excellent review with excerpts in French. The book—in a way similar to Tom Baldwin's, *The Evening and the Morning*—challenges the standard view of our early ancestors in a fictional context making their abilities and sentiments, not unlike our own, the foundation rather than limitations as taught



by mainstream science.

John Feliks has a new paper being presented at the *Appli-*

mat 2012 applied mathematics conference in Bratislava, Slovakia, this week (February 7-9), by Professor Mauro Francaviglia, Mathematics Dept. at the University of Torino, Italy. The paper is called *Five constants from an Acheulian compound line* and proposes a relationship between several mathematical constants (Lengyel's constant, Viswanath's constant, Niven's constant, the Square root of 2, and Phi) based on engravings from Bilzingsleben.

Virginia Steen-McIntyre recently broke her hip after slipping on some black ice. Fortunately for us she wasn't going to let that break her flow. She wrote the El Horno piece and edited this issue of the newsletter from the rehab center.

Avocational archaeology

Lower Paleolithic 'figure stones' from the Ohle gravel pit, Gross-Pampau, Germany

By Ursel Benekendorff, avocational archaeologist

"I began my investigation

I have been fascinated with fossils since a stay in Canada 1961-1971.



Fig. 2. 1) Groß Pampau; 2) Groß Pampau; 3) Groß Pampau; 4) Olduvai Gorge, Masek Bed, c. 500,000 BP, cast, University Utrecht, NL. 5) Cognac, France, cast, late Abbevillian, c. 500,000 BP; 6) Groß Pampau; 7) Groß Pampau.

at this pit... [W]hen checking museum displays, I discovered similar pieces... comparable in style to those from Fordwich, UK... and similar... from Olduvai Gorge dated to around 500,000 years ago."

When my family relocated to Geesthacht, Schleswig-



Fig. 1. Location of Ohle sand pit, 45 km E of Hamburg, Germany.

Holstein, in northwest Germany, I spent much of my spare time collecting fossils from geological exposures. In Geesthacht, the Forest Department had resurfaced a woodland road that passed by my garden. Walking my dog there, I discovered arrowheads and small granite blades lying in the gravel on the new road surface. When I asked the source

of the gravel, the name "Ohle sandpit" came up.

Initiation into stone tool and 'figure stone' collecting

The Ohle pit is located in the village of Gross-Pampau, about 45 km E of Hamburg (Fig. 1). In 1985 I began my investigation at this pit and noticed again apparently worked stones dredged up from the Elster glacial moraine strata of the pit, this time oval-shaped handaxes. Later on, when checking museum displays, I discovered similar pieces in Acheulian handaxes comparable in style to those from Fordwich, UK, dated to the Cromerian; French 'Abbevillian' handaxes from the same period; and similar thick handaxes from Olduvai Gorge dated to around 500,000 years ago. But they were made of flint. Two casts, the French and the Olduvai handaxes are compared in size to finds from Groß-Pampau (Fig. 2).

After finding such tools, I began to notice that the dredge was also bringing up

stones with worked traces that seemed to show zoomorphic and anthropomorphic figurations (Fig. 3). The examination and study of Ohle figure stones has been the focus of my research ever since.

Artifacts rejected

When I presented my materials to museum officials as artifacts, they were rejected. They had never seen anything like them before. A lot of learning lay ahead of me and lots of material to sample. All in all, several thousand objects from the quarry pit have passed through my hands, not all artifacts by any means.

Such moraine deposits and the stones they contain were subject to many controversial discussions and the scientists' all-too-familiar rejection of any amateur research attempts. To date there are no institutional-held collections with artifacts similar to Ohle which might be used for comparison and to gain a comprehensive insight into the full Lower Paleolithic archaeological spectrum.



Fig. 3. Worked flint implement from the Ohle pit which when viewed in what might call "inverted" position appears to show the 'portrait' of a face. See Figs. 6 & 7 for similar-stones from the site and a comparison in style with an uncontested portrait artifact from the 29,000-year old site of Dolni Vestonice.

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Lower Paleolithic 'figure stones' (cont.)

"Because of these size-sorted piles, it was inevitable

History of stone sculptures, Hamburg area

I learned that the subject matter of stone sculptures in the Hamburg area was actually introduced by the late Walther Matthes, profes-



Fig. 4. Ohle Gravel Pit, Groß Pampau, as it appeared in 1989.

that I began to detect repeated,

sor of archaeology at the University of Hamburg, who published his discoveries during the years 1950-

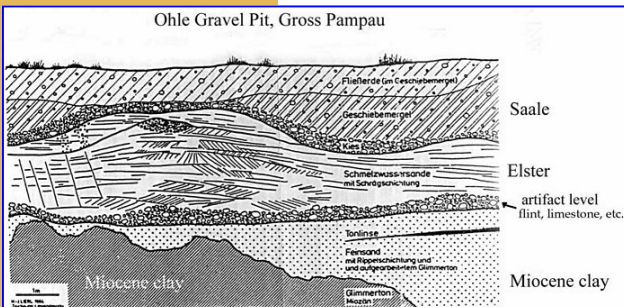


Fig. 5. East Wall profile, Ohle Gravel Pit, Groß Pampau, 1983.

stereotypical artifact shapes... across the variable size spectrum and also in different material."

1969. In 1989, Dr. James Harrod along with an avocational archaeologist associated with the group, *Archaeologische Berichten*, Elst, Netherlands, and myself visited Matthes' former Institute at the University to examine his artifacts stored there. This was a negative experience; hardly any material was available for study. Professor Matthes himself—due to illness and old age—was unable to

receive any scholars, although we were able to locate Matthes' research assistant Werner Erich, who graciously showed us his personal collection of Hamburg-Wittenbergen artifacts. These finds are dated to around 200,000 years ago. The Elsterian 'figure stones' from the Ohle pit are older by 200,000 or more years.

The Ohle pit

The artifacts I have collected from the Ohle pit (Fig. 4) come mainly from the base of the Elster till (see profile Fig. 5), from a layer that has an iron-rich matrix that gives the specimens a reddish stain before cleaning. The original surface level had already been lowered approximately seven meters, and the scoops, hanging on steel lines, often reached to a depth of 18m to 20m. I decided to concentrate mostly on the material that came from below the water level.

Three machines were dredging below the water level. Different grain sizes of rock remained on the ground for lorries and trucks to be filled. Because of these size-sorted piles, it was inevitable that I began to detect repeated, stereotypical artifact shapes (tools, zoomorphs, geometrics, and so on) across the variable size spectrum and also in different material (flint, various cherts, quartzite, quartz, granite, basalt, and limestone).

Age of the deposits

With respect to artifact dating, because of the discovery of Miocene fossils at the Ohle pit, including in 1984 of a remarkable, nearly complete whale skeleton, we are fortunate to have a published geological profile of the east wall of the pit, near where the fossil

whale was found [1983 profile by Lewandowski, in Lierl, H-J. 1985. *Der Miozäne glimmer-ton von Gross Pampau. Der Geschiebesammler* 19,1: 9-29: Abb. 1] (Fig. 5).

The tools and figure stones come from the basal gravels of the Elster glacial moraine. Thus, the Elster glacial brought the stones; and those with working traces would then have to be Elster age or older from the pre-Elster Cromerian warmtime or somehow exposed and worked during the subsequent Holstein interglacial. The species, which I believe are depicted in the figure stones represent both cold-time and warm-time fauna. Some figure stones seem to represent macaques, and this species was not present in Germany after the Holsteinian.

I have in my collection many hundreds of 'figure stones' which I believe were shaped to resemble the local fauna of the day as it existed over a long period of time—elephant, mammoth, hippo, musk ox, deer, horse, birds, macaque, fish, turtle, rabbit; human faces and masks; and sculptures with combinations of motifs. Many of these objects, if they had a suggestive shape to begin with, would have caught the eye of a right-brain thinking ancestor. I hope to present more of this material in future issues of *PCN*.

For a published article on Ohle Pit artifacts see: Benekendorff, U. 1990). From the information recorder stone to a picture book of the stone age. *Archaeologische Berichten* 20:14-28 and 43-65 (Elst, NL).

For further background information visit my website, started in 2003/4, *stoneage-*

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Lower Paleolithic 'figure stones' (cont.)

"I have in my collection many



Fig. 6. Comparing the worked flint 'portrait' from the Ohle gravel pit (left) which is likely 423-524,000 years old with the 25,000-29,000-year old ivory portrait from the Pavlovian/Gravettian site of Dolni Vestonice, Moravia, Czech Republic (right). Photo; replica of the portrait housed at the Dolni Vestonice Museum; Photo by Don Hitchcock, 2008; used with permission.

hundreds of 'figure stones' which I believe



Fig. 7. Similar profile heads from the Ohle pit. Center is the primary piece which is sometimes called 'Sorrowful Man.' Height, 13.2cm; Width, 9.6cm.

were shaped to resemble the local fauna of the day as it existed over a long period of time."

art.de and extended 2007 with extra pages, <http://www.schafftwissen.de>

Comment on dating of Benekendorff's Ohle pit artifacts

by James B. Harrod, Ph.D

Based on Benekendorff's inquiries of several geologists on site, the basal gravels are Elsterian, and the Lierl profile shows the Elster moraine strata unconformably over the "Feinsand" deposit. This sand appears comparable to the Pliocene and lower Quaternary quartz sands described in Duphorn et al

(1973); they also note that there are no moraines older than the Elster in the Hamburg and northern Lower Saxony area and Elster sediments gener-

ally—and rarely Saale or Weichsel—overly Tertiary (Pliocene or Miocene) beds. The Pampau Miocene strata are the only fresh surface exposure of the Langfeldian (Upper Miocene) in NW Germany, rich in fossils, including whale and shark skeletons discovered in 1984 (Hinsch 1990). Extensive Elsterian (MIS12, 423-478 kya) meltwater sand with crossbedding overlies the basal gravel; such sands were deposited during the Elster glacier retreat.

Saalian glacial gravels lie unconformably—'Holsteinian' or other interglacials beds are missing—over the meltwater sands. The Weichsel did not reach the Pampau area. The Ohle meltwater sands may also contain early Saalian meltwater sands; future geology might determine if this is the case.

As Benekendorff argues, the artifacts must be Cromerian (MIS13, ~478-524 kya) or older or worked/reworked—there is evidence of reworking based on patina—during the Elsterian (MIS12, 423-478 kya) ice retreat. **Thus, the artifacts appear fairly securely dated** between a minimum 423 kya to maximum 524 kya.

If sculptural representations identified as *Macaca sylvanus* sp. are accepted, faunal studies indicate that in Germany this species is reported for the Cromerian, e.g., Mauer MIS13/15 (Schreiber & Löscher 2011), and as late as Bilzingsleben II, MIS 11 (Schreve and Bridgland 2002: 366) and apparently not extent thereafter. In the UK this species is well attested in Cromerian and Anglian; rare in Hoxnian, MIS 11 (Stuart AJ 1982) and not extant after OIS9 ~303-339 ka (Schreve and Bridgland 2002: 361). Apparent representations of glacial fauna, such as musk ox and mammoth and interglacial fauna, such as elephant and hippo, at Pampau would seem to accord with dating the Pampau lower gravels to include both the Elsterian glacial and Cromerian interglacial.

Comparably dated MIS13 sites in the UK are Boxgrove, Westbury, Waverly Wood and Fordwich, and in Germany, Miesenheim I. MIS 12 sites in Germany include Kärlich H. The *Heidelberg-*



sis type-site, Grafenrain Pit, Mauer is dated either MIS13 or MIS15.

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- URSEL BENEKENDORFF is an avocational archaeologist who has been researching worked stone implements from the Ohle gravel pit near Hamburg, Germany, since 1985. She approached the owners for permission to collect after discovering worked artifacts in gravels from the pit in pavements near her home. The owners have been very supportive in her research including explaining their machinery.



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