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Avocational arch. Scanner photography

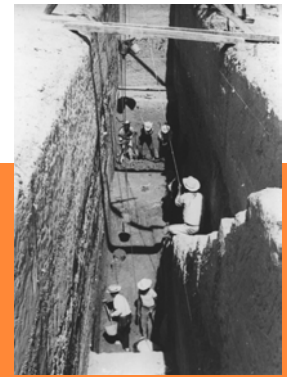
VSM/O'Doherty

- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

SECOND ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

INSIDE SPECIAL The Hueyatlaco story by those who were there (cont.)

Page 4 begins our third installment on the largest archaeological censorship effort in American history—an important site blocked by mainstream science for over 40 years. In this installment, Steen-McIntyre—after spending 30 years processing the Hueyatlaco data and fighting suppression—returns to Hueyatlaco with the aid of philanthropist Marshall Payn who produces an award-winning DVD. Also, hear how an oceanographer and engineer dated Valsequillo using palaeomagnetism.



Page 6: NEW TEST BY RENOWNED GEOCHEMIST CONFIRMS OLD DATE FOR CALICO

Page 12: FIRST PROOFS OF PREHISTORIC LANGUAGE ARE CENSORED BY ACADEMIA

The Mousterian structures of La Ferrassie

Peyrony's 1934 results revisited

By Lutz Fiedler

Ph.D., State archaeologist,
Hesse, Germany

Over the past decades American as well as European scientists have published numerous articles about Neanderthals and their replacement by so-called modern man.

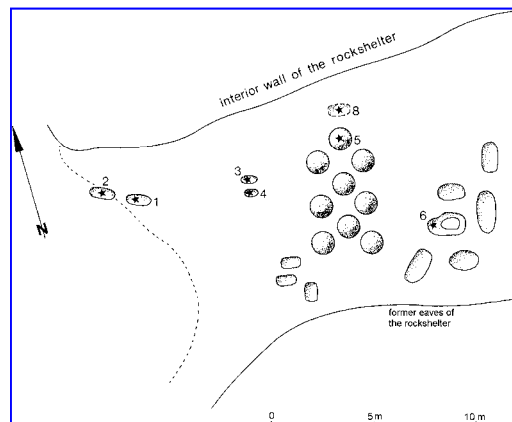
It was stressed in many papers that finally, by Cro Magnon time (c. 35,000 years ago), symbolic thinking, language, decoration and "art" came into existence. These conclusions usually ignore the functions of culture and the evi-

dence it leaves behind. All artifacts, be they stone tools, wooden objects, fire places or rock engravings, are the real-

ized expression of traditionally given and mentally stored patterns (Ambrose 2001, Cassirer 1944, Wittgenstein 1984, Fiedler 1999, 2002). If present, culture (language, signs, technique, social order etc.) needs some representation to sustain individual and social identity.

Almost 150 years after the "Neanderthal man" was discovered by Johann Carl Fuhlrott and 100 years after finding the first skeleton in La Ferrassie (1908-09) it seems appropriate to discard the well known but scientifically untrue picture of early man as a being without mental capacity. In fact, for 70 years the work performed by Denis Peyrony and his findings in the Mousterian layer of La Ferrassie once more inspired the thinking about spirituality and

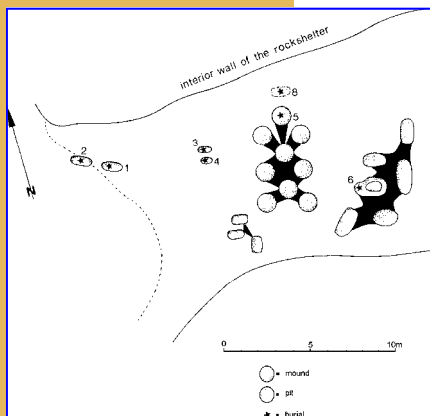
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Figs. 1. The undisturbed Neanderthal level at La Ferrassie (Dordogne, France); Stars are burials. After D. Peyrony 1934 and H. Delporte 1984. With one exception, the groups of features including the rock-shelter wall suggest that a north-south, east-west orientation was followed.

Mousterian structures (cont.)

conceptual abilities of early man (Peyrony 1934). To date there are no scientific publications to interpret these impressive structures. This may be caused by not crediting "non-utilitarian" artifacts to the Neanderthals (see also R.H. Gargett 1999 and his Pop-peristic as well as rigid negation of intentional burials).



Figs. 2. Interpretation of structures from La Ferrassie. Within the covered middle pit of the far right complex, a child was buried (star). The entire complex has a shape reminiscent of female pictures from the Upper Palaeolithic. Three of the complexes were grouped by the author (in black) to give a sense of structural shape to the features as interconnected complex groups.

"The orientation of the features according to the cardinal directions speaks for a common concept of arrangement."

However, the excavations published by H. Delporte (1984) exactly 50 years later corroborated and expanded the stratigraphic and geomorphological interpretations of Peyrony. The excavation performed by Peyrony was careful and comprehensive, and his published observations are well-founded. Although his presentation is short concerning words and figures, it is possible to get an impression of the complexity of the rock-shelter and the room which was used during Mousterian time.

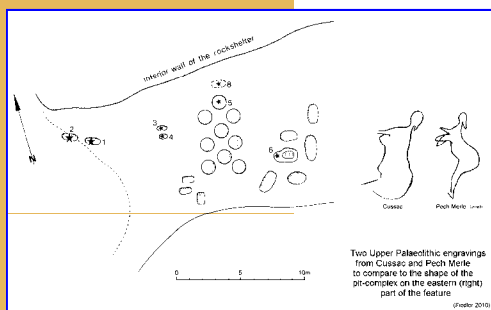


FIGURE 3: Simplified graph of the feature from La Ferrassie
 ○ = mounds □ = pits ★ = burials
 ★ = burials of adults ★ = burials of children
 ○ = slab with picked cupules

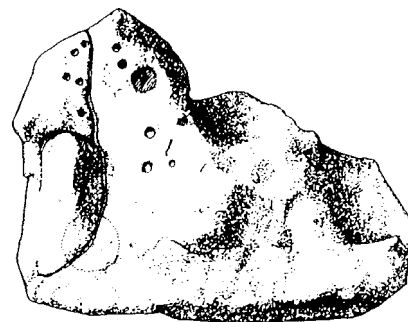
Figs. 3. Inset shows two Upper Palaeolithic engravings regarded as female representations to compare with the far right complex where a child was buried next to a slab with picked cupules (6 and star).

It is important to note that cryoturbation changes were only present in the Chatelperronien layers above the Mousterian and not in the almost 0.6 m-thick layers below with their pits and mounds; therefore, these are relatively

well preserved. The features are located in a clearly discernable area with empty regions in between. All groups of features with one exception suggest that a north-south, east-west orientation was followed, with the rock-shelter wall also in an east-west direction (Fig. 1).

In the westernmost part of the rock-shelter, about 1.5 m from the wall, a woman and a man were buried, both graves in line and oriented east-west (Peyrony 1934: 26). Five m to the east were two parallel pits containing the skeletal remains of one or two young children.

From this structure to the south-east and again 5 m apart three ovoid holes (*fosses*) were discovered, two oriented east-west, and one north-



Figs. 4. Plate of limestone with pairs of engraved cupules covering a pit containing the skeleton of a 3-year-old child.

south. The central part of the rock-shelter contained nine mounds (*monticules*) almost 0.5 m high and with a diameter of 1 m (measures by Peyrony 1934, figure 1). These mounds were grouped in three parallel rows pointing north, the middle row staggered and somewhat dislocated from the outer ones. The shape of the arrangement can be described as rectangular, measuring 3 x 6 m. Under the most northern mound of the middle row the burial of a newborn baby was found.

To the east, 2-3 m distant from the mound group, six ca 1m-long oval pits (*cuvettes*) were detected. Only the southwest one did not follow a north-south or east-west orientation. The largest east-west pit con-

tained the skeleton of a 3-year-old child and was covered by a plate of limestone with pairs of engraved cupules (Fig. 4). In the north from the mound group another burial of a young child was discovered by H. Delporte and his team.

If we assume that there are no other yet-to-be-discovered holes or mounds within the Mousterian level, it can be stated that none of these structural elements overlap each other. This fact and the grouping of the features with empty space in between suggest some kind of intentional structuring of the rock-shelter area. The orientation of the features according to the cardinal directions speaks for a common concept of arrangement.

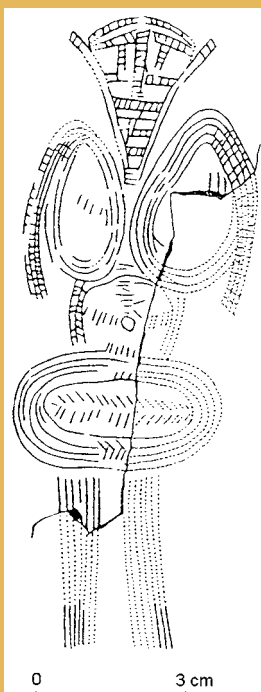
Other features also show some kind of intentional deliberation: there are separate burial areas for adults and children; there are groups of two features in the west and three in the east; there are groupings of mounds as well as groupings of pits. Also the rock-shelter had been used both as a living place for people and as a burial place for the dead. The two poles of life are seen together as an unity.

Within the covered middle pit in a structure complex from the east of the area, a child was buried. The entire complex has a shape which reminds one of female pictures from the Upper Palaeolithic (Figs. 2 and 3), and possibly has an anthropo-

> [Cont. on page 3](#)

Mousterian structures (cont.)

"This additive and summarizing way of presentation is similar to the drawings of children aged



Figs. 5. Middle Upper Palaeolithic from Predmosti, Czech Republic, engraving on mammoth ivory (Gravettian age) of a female figure, showing a similar summarizing principle or schematic thinking as suggested was used in the Neanderthal burials; After Absalon and Klima 1977.

four to ten years. Their pictures show parts of the body composed as anthropomorphic figures without any intention to follow natural or anatomical detail."

morphic configuration, representing a woman lying on her side with flexed legs. The pit in the suggested abdominal/womb region contains the child's grave. If this were true, it could be seen as a symbol for the duality of birth and death.

Consider the pit complex as an anthropomorphic configuration. It is directed towards the group of mounds. If we regard these mounds as a composite picture of a male, put together like a snowman, the upper mound would represent the head, the others body and extremities (the lower mound in the middle would be analogous to the female organ of fertility, the penis.)

If we suppose that an anthropomorphic interpretation of the above features is correct, then the Neanderthals from La Ferrassie, may have had another counterpart with male and female features. The holes trenched into the ground could represent the earth-bound being giving life and protection, whereas the rising mounds would speak for the active, space-occupying male. Incorporating the two children's burials may also speak for a specific picture of the world in which apparently contradictions (life and death) can be seen as unity.

Of course, these interpretations are speculative and can be questioned. But from the middle Upper Palaeolithic, from Predmosti, Czech Republic, there is the engraving of a female figure, composed by a similar summarizing principle or schematic thinking, using ovals and triangles (**Fig. 5**). This additive and summarizing way of presentation is similar to the drawings of children aged four to ten years. Their pictures show parts of the body composed as anthropomorphic figures without any intention to follow natural or anatomical

detail; figures of men summarized and "right" only because the most important parts of the body are arranged in an almost suitable way. Similar compositions can be found in European folk art, and as a clear concept in pictures or arrangements from contemporary art. If men or animals are given in naïve pictures this does not mean that their creators have only childish ways of thinking; it means that the Gravettian people or the Neanderthals from La Ferrassie used concepts for showing and demonstrating human beings which are familiar to us from our culture.

The double structure from La Ferrassie, if the interpretation holds true, is not the description of an optical impression of men but a synthetic composition, which additively reflects human organs by points and arranges them in an almost topographical manner. They could be seen as an early expression of reflecting the human self (Peyrony 1934). The two burials of children incorporated within them stand for the womb and the head.

Conclusion

If we regard only the conceptual arrangement of the rock-shelter from La Ferrassie—not to speak of the anthropomorphic interpretation given here—it can be seen as an early expression of "art." But what we call art is just a consequence of classification: the products of a piano player, a porcelain painter, an actor and a landscape architect are so different in regard to function and effect.

For our understanding of the species *Homo* and his behavior it is important to understand his methods of doing things and his identity. Techniques, social order and ways of communication, as well as things produced have been

continuously realized, presented and anticipated. Artifacts in the strict sense of the word are products and are simply concepts set in physical reality. If we only use narrative concepts of art, the academic discussions about the cultural change that occurred about 45,000 years ago will be incomplete.

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- (This article is based on an oral presentation at the Hugo Obermaier meeting 2006 in Cologne. It is also related to the article by Greve & Neuhäuser on p. 8.)

Address

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Freiherr-vom-Stein-Strasse 10
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Germany

LUTZ FIEDLER is the discoverer of the Tan Tan figurine from Morocco commonly known as the "Venus of Tan Tan," and dated at 200,000-400,000 years old. The artifact, found in context with Acheulian handaxes. State Archaeologist, Hesse, Germany.

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 5

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Ph.D., Tephrochronologist (Volcanic ash specialist)

"Dave and I managed it, only to discover that the bulk of the Valsequillo data had disappeared!

... When questioned closely, [Irwin-William's] executor mentioned something about a couple of men from the Smithsonian visiting before I came (Smithsonian officials deny this.)"



1997 and back to Hueyatlaco
Marshall Payn has an engineering degree from MIT and an insatiable curiosity. He would have been a friend of Charles Fort. Marshall wanted to see more age dates for the Hueyatlaco site using modern dating methods, and offered to pay for them.

So in 1997 I was back to Hueyatlaco for me once again, to clean up tephra outcrops with the help of two young women assistants so that scientists from Mexico City could sample them (Fig. 1). Both Marshall and I thought it best if I never once handled those samples!

The necessary materials were collected and brought to Mexico City to begin their journey to high-tech research labs in California and beyond.

Marshall also had a hush-hush project planned; the production of a film similar to *The Mystery of the Sphinx* for the Hueyatlaco site, but with none of the "mystery" and lots of cold, hard scientific facts. I

was asked to provide a lot of data "blind," and to make a July trip down to Portales, New Mexico to copy Cynthia Irwin-Williams' Valsequillo files, supposedly in storage there.

New Mexico in July, especially in a non-air-conditioned storage shed, is not the most pleasant place to be, but husband Dave and I managed it, only to discover that the

Hueyatlaco trench profiles, but when it was opened, there was only packing material. No sign of her field notebooks, either. No sign of the thousands of photos and slides that we knew she took to document proceedings. No sign of her artifact casts.

I noticed that her Valsequillo files were somewhat in disarray, as if they had been gone through before. When questioned closely, George Agogino, her executor mentioned something about a couple of men from the Smithsonian visiting before I came (Smithsonian officials deny this.)

We were left with the dregs. I copied what was there, over 1000 items, two copies each, one for the Payn group and one for me. We could still piece together a good story, but it would take a LOT more time and effort. Nothing new about that for the Valsequillo Saga!

I still have hopes that the Irwin-Williams Valsequillo materials will eventually come to light. Mulling over the vanished data, I think I see what happened. Cynthia

apparently had harbored very bitter feelings toward me because of our old dates for Hueyatlaco and El

> [Cont. on page 5](#)



Fig. 1. Group sampling volcanic ash at Hueyatlaco, 1997. Top: Mexican scientist Dra. Ana Lillian Martin, Bottom: Others on the sampling team. I oversaw the operation; but as pre-planned with Marshall Payn, did not handle any of the samples.

bulk of the Valsequillo data had disappeared!

There was a cardboard box sealed with mover's tape and marked to contain

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 5 (cont.)

"Cynthia apparently had harbored very bitter feelings toward me because of our old dates for Hueyatlaco and El Horno. Marie Wormington, her mentor and friend, once mentioned to me at a cocktail party that I had "ruined Cynthia's reputation."

Horno. Marie Wormington, her mentor and friend, once mentioned to me at a cocktail party that I had "ruined Cynthia's reputation." There was no way she would have wanted me to have access to her field records. Her close friends probably agreed!

1998-2000 Steady progress

Much of the next couple of years was spent supplying data for the Payn group.

Marshall told me others in the film would prove my case for the old dates; all I had to do was provide the information and photos that they needed. Apparently he had lined up a well known director and interviews with some highly placed honchos in the early man field.

Results for the tephra samples sent away to the high-tech labs in 1997 for dating came back. Essentially as old as we had found, or older! The manuscript was

Diatomist Sam VanLandingham made contact with me. He had heard of the Valsequillo sites through the Cremona and Thompson book, *Forbidden Archeology*.

Would I have any sediment samples from the archaeological sites that he could examine for diatoms? How I blessed the foresight that caused me to take small samples of the sediment layers from which artifacts had been extracted back in my suitcase in 1973! I could supply him test samples with ease!

What happened to the stratigraphic monoliths and sam-

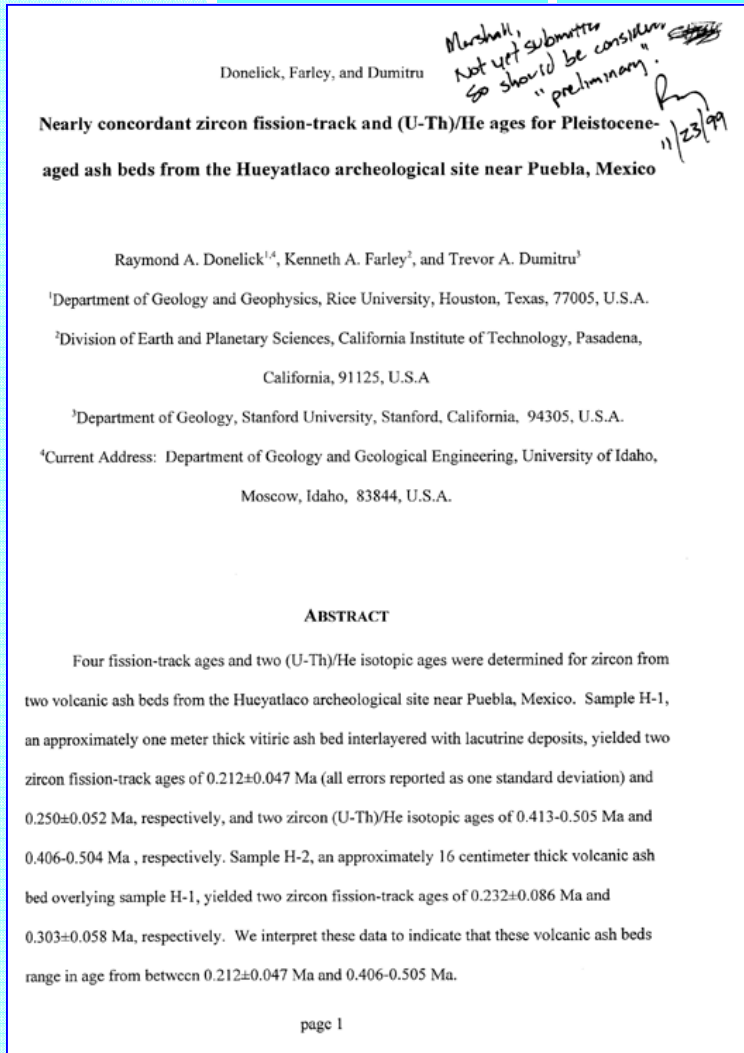


Fig. 2. First page of the paper by Donelick, Farley, and Dimitru detailing the dating results of the tephra samples sent to high-tech labs in 1997. Ready for publication in 1998, over a decade later it has yet to see print. **Overview:** Two zircon fission-track ages c. 212,000-250,000 years old; Two zircon (U-Th)/He isotopic ages c. 406,000-505,000 years old.

in final form and ready to send out for review (Fig. 2). But...! Problems. Over a decade later it has yet to see print.

ples taken from the trench walls at Hueyatlaco in 1973? They, along with all the Malde bagged geologic

> [Cont. on page 15](#)

UPHOLDING THE 200,000-YEAR OLD DATES FOR CALICO

Jim Bischoff responds to challenge of his original findings

Ph.D, Geochemist, USGS

"It is not a rock as you assert. It was a flaked artifact taken from within context."



Fig. 1. Location of Calico Early Man Site near Barstow, California.



Introduction

Since its discovery by Louis Leakey in the 1960s, the ages for the deposits at the Calico Early Man Site, located just off I15 near Barstow, California **(Fig. 1),**

have been the subject of controversy. While the site's first three directors including Leakey all held to ages of 50KBP for the upper layers and 200KBP for the lower layers, of late there is a move afoot to assert a date for the entire site to approximately 45 to 50KBP.

The problem with this younger age is the existence of a number of published test results that yielded ages more in line with the earlier directors' thoughts. These must be discredited if the supposed new younger age is to be believed.

The challenges have taken the form of a postulated hot springs that percolated up through the deposits throwing off all dates, or another—the entire site is just the product of a massive slide about forty-five thousand years ago that re-deposited surface artifacts at depths up to thirty feet. The list goes on.

Geochemist Jim Bischoff on one side of the controversy, has recently sent the *PCN* newsletter (with permission to print) a copy of an e-mail he sent last January to geologist, Ren Lallatin, on the other side, regarding her criticism of his dates. Jim has not received a reply from her. We offer the letter without comment, except to note that whoever is right, the site is over four times to as much as seventeen times older than Clovis, and speaks to a very early arrival of humans in the Americas.

On February 22, 2011, Jim Bischoff wrote:

To: rensys-tems4@yahoo.com
 From: Jim Bischoff <jbischoff@usgs.gov>

Subject: Correcting the Calico record

Cc:

Hello Ren:

I must respond to your recent postings on the geology and dating of the Yermo gravels.

You state my dating is controversial, and you make some assertions that are

simply not true and that I cannot let pass unchallenged.

Firstly, I dated a "secondary" calcite coating on an artifact taken within the basal layer of the deposit. It is not a rock as you assert. It was a flaked artifact taken from within context. And "secondary" means that the coating formed on the artifact within the fan after deposition of the artifact. This calcite formed as a result of post-depositional ground-water flow along the base of the fan. I observed several other examples of this coating at the same general level as the dated sample. I examined the field relations carefully and am convinced of this interpretation of the context. Thus, the



Fig. 1. Object tested by the author using uranium-thorium dating (U-Th). Calico Photo #803, courtesy of Fred Budinger Jr. Editor's Note: The object came from Calico R-19 with other artifacts at a depth of 199 inches or nearly 17 feet.

For more details see:

Bischoff, J.L., R.J. Shlemon, T.L. Ku, R.D. Simpson, R.J. Rosenbauer, and F.E. Budinger. 1981. Uranium-series and soil-geomorphic dating of the Calico archaeological site, California. *Geology* 9: 576-582.

calcite is younger than the emplacement of the fan! The coating is delicate and would not have survived any transport had it formed prior to deposition of the clasts.

The carbonate is demonstrably not a pedogenic caliche

> [Cont. on page 7](#)

Upholding the old dates for Calico (cont.)

"I take great care in determining the context of samples that I select in the



Fig. 2. Photo 800; courtesy of Fred Budinger.

field. There is simply too much labor involved in obtaining a good U-series date to ignore questions about how the date relates to the age of associated artifacts or bones."

"I recently repeated the U-series analysis on a smaller purer sub sample of the calcite rind, using the latest ICP-mass spec technology. The resulting date is amazing close to the earlier alpha spec value on the bulk sample of ca 205 kyrs."

Jim Bischoff
Geochemist emeritus
USGS

formed prior to deposition, as you assert. I don't understand your statement about how a modern pocket knife could be dropped into the ancient mudflow. Do you mean to imply that I salted the artifact?

And the U-series results are robust. They date the time of precipitation of the calcite, not the age of the ground water as you state. Soluble trace amounts of uranium in

the ground water are co-precipitated with the calcite at the time of precipitation. The daughter isotope of Th is insoluble in ground water, thus the U/Th clock is reset to zero at the time of precipitation. Therefore, your assertion that the results date only the uranium-rich ground waters is not correct.

I have had much experience in dating secondary and primary calcites in archeological sites, mostly in Spain in deposits of even greater age than Calico. Let me assure you that I take great care in determining the context of samples that I select in the field. There is simply too much labor involved in obtaining a good U-series date to ignore questions about how the date relates to the age of associated artifacts or bones.

Regarding the geology of the fan, it is tightly folded into an anticline and syncline with some significant offsets along faults that cut the fan. Your assertion of 45,000 yrs for the age of

emplacement just doesn't seem enough time for such tectonic modifications to have taken place, nor for the degree of internal weathering of the clasts.

Sincerely,
Jim Bischoff

James L. Bischoff,
Geologist Emeritus

U.S. Geological Survey ms/470
Menlo Park, CA 94025
<https://profile.usgs.gov/jbischoff>

On July 22, 2011, Jim Bischoff wrote to VSM:

Hello Ginger:

Here is the website with Ren's heresy to which my email was directed: <http://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-Calico-Early-Man-Site/messages/boards/thread/8901492/>.

I recently repeated the U-series analysis on a smaller purer sub sample of the calcite rind, using the latest ICP-mass spec technology. The resulting date is amazing close to the earlier alpha spec value on the bulk sample of ca 205 kyrs....

JIM BISCHOFF is Geochemist emeritus, USGS. During his distinguished career of over 40 years he has specialized in the geochemistry of marine and lake sediments, seafloor geothermal systems, hydrothermal ore deposits, and climate change. He has made contributions in carbonate diagenesis, lunar geochemistry, pore-water chemistry, the Red Sea geothermal system, and the plate tectonics of the Gulf of California. His experimental work with the "temperature of squeezing effect" is now the basis for all pore

fluid diagenetic studies. Bischoff managed the USGS participation



Fig. 3. Photo 796; courtesy of Fred Budinger.

in the DOMES program (Deep Ocean Mining Environmental Study) in the equatorial Pacific and organized several oceanographic expeditions to the SE Pacific. His work with the process of seawater-basalt interaction became widely recognized as a major new part of the geochemical cycle. Later work led to the prediction of massive sulfide deposits at seafloor discharge sites of heated seawater and eventual discovery of the famous black smokers and massive sulfides by an expedition using the research submersible *Alvin*.

Bischoff was the first American to participate on a Soviet oceanographic expedition and was twice Special Guest of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

He was awarded the Goldschmidt Medal of the Geochemical Society in 1999. He is a Professeur Associe Honoraire of the Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris and invited Distinguished Researcher at the Instituto de Geología, Barcelona, Spain, where he assisted Spanish colleagues in establishing a U-series dating laboratory.

In parallel with his marine work, Bischoff has pursued studies of paleoclimate and human evolution by U-series isotopes as well as developing new dating techniques. His study of rock shelters in northern Spain showed that the Neanderthals had been abruptly replaced by modern humans 40,000 years ago.

Which factors could have caused the expansion of Modern Man—impact, hazard or transition?

By Jörn Greve
and Gerhard
Neuhäuser

"This could also suggest the presence of spear throwers. If tiny objects are put together as composite weapons, hunting changes dramatically. Neanderthals in small groups went eye to eye with the animals they hunted, Modern Man no longer needed to."

Note: This article is associated with the article by Lutz Fiedler on page 1.

Abstract: During Aurignacian times 40,000 years ago some kind of impulse promoted the spread of Modern Man, probably out of Asia and all across Europe, displacing Neanderthals. Potential



Fig. 1. The Gravettian age, "Venus of Dolní Věstonice" is representative of all these younger Palaeolithic sites most of which are associated with findings of "Venus" figures such as this.

causes range from isolation (Aiello) to progression (Kuhn-Stiner) or successive breeding (Greene). If migration was the result of changes to "Werte-Welt" and living conditions as a whole, this could lead to expansion of Kuhn-Stiner's thesis. This could be put to the test by critical analysis of archaeological findings.

1. Did the arrival of *Homo sapiens* cause the numbers of Neanderthals to diminish, lead to their retreat, or result in an intermingling of the species?

The arrival of Modern Man using better ways of communication such as art could be interpreted as progress even though it reveals its own relativity (Fiedler 2010). Signs of "modernity" are related to the decline of Neanderthals. When archaeological findings and anthropological contexts are considered, which explanation seems most plausible? Is there indication of some

severe impact or is all due to slow transformation between 40,000 and 36,000 years ago, accompanied by vanishing Mousterian (Neanderthal) techniques and appearance of ivory Venuses as well as new tools?

Most astonishing is the disappearance of Acheulian (c. 1.76 million—100,000 years ago) or Mousterian age (c. 300,000—30,000 years ago) hand axes. Their marvellous shapes (Fiedler 2010) are never found in Gravettian age sediments (28,000–22,000 years ago). These former tools are replaced by rough, handily formed pieces of silex (flint). Changes in shape and symmetry signal alterations in lifestyle, the beginning of industrial production and trade. It reveals distinct differences between Neanderthals and Modern Man. The technological advantage of spear throwers and composite tools could have led to some sort of mass slaughter. An archaeological find of some sort of relic might add to the "isolation" arguments of Aiello.

2. Other facts and techniques responsible for the rapid spread of Modern Man

The relatively short time it took Modern Man to spread all over Europe is astonishing. An enormous area was occupied from Central Asia to France within at most 4000 years (statistics by D. Henry-Gambier 2008). This spread is associated with findings of "Venus" figures (Fig. 1) and can be explained by a rapid spread of tool tradition and "art." (However, carefully perforated teeth of special animals already produced in Aurignacian times, c. 45,000–35,000 years ago, may have been made by Neanderthals.)

Some time later Modern Man produced tools called "Point de la Gravette" (Fig. 2). Tiny bladelettes were handled as microliths (small stone tools typically averaging a centimeter or so in length). This could also suggest the presence of spear throwers. If tiny objects are put together as composite weapons, hunting changes dramatically. Neanderthals in small groups went eye to eye with the animals they hunted, Modern Man no longer needed to. Technical changes resulted in new patterns of social behavior creating various demands for work within and outside the camp and resulting in variably organized population groups.

Breakdown of specific funeral rites?

Cultural changes can be detected also by differences in intentional funeral rites. Denise Henry-Gambier, a well-known archaeologist, also considered anthropological aspects, but her thesis, that there exists no difference between funerals of Middle and Upper Palaeolithic, has to be questioned.

During Mousterian we find single funerals with human ossuary relics. These are often put down carefully with heads lifted in a special shelter (for instance, Neander Valley, Germany; Trinkaus and Shipman 1993). On the other hand, relics are gathered and intentionally thrown in a pit, as in Atapuerca, Spain ("fuente de los muertos"; 1.8 mya, Aguirre 2008) or at other places (Ullrich 2008). Some findings certainly indicate that secondary funeral rites were practiced

> [Cont. on page 9](#)

The expansion of modern man (cont.)

"Neanderthals respected their honored dead by placing them in certain positions and special shelters following the primary funeral.

On the other hand, there is not a single secondary funeral during the Gravettian."



Fig. 2. Two examples of "Point de la Gravette" Gravettian age micro blade tools. 'Microliths' are small stone tools that typically measure a centimeter or so in length and half a centimeter wide. They are usually made of flint or chert.

in Middle Palaeolithic. Neanderthals respected their honored dead by placing them in certain positions and special shelters following the primary funeral.

On the other hand, there is not a single secondary funeral during the Gravettian. Dead bodies are spread, if not scattered, around settle-

ments without any sign of respect; perhaps the frozen ground was a reason.

There are only one or two outstanding exceptions, one found in Sungir, Russia, with decorated shoulder blades of mammoths. Dead members of the community seem to have been treated with neglect. However, this might be questionable, because only some 70 dead persons are known to have been buried intentionally during the Gravettian compared to about 400 Neanderthal burial sites.

These findings need explanation as do as well the many funeral gifts, even if Henry-Gambier strictly rejects social hierarchy. Gravettian bodies are sometimes accompanied by perforated animal teeth, ivory figures or shells and mostly a high amount of ochre (golden-yellow, yellow-brown, or red clay used for pigment). This is done without any sign of regularity and ritual intention (Sungir being an exception).

3. Differences suggestive of a sudden event or of slow cultural transformation

Another change after 38,000 BP not found in the Middle Palaeolithic is the arrangement of possibly permanent settlements and their enlargement. Lodgings have a size of up to 40 sq m, many aggregated to one village without any sign of social hierarchy. This means that groups are enlarged to more than 42 persons in comparison to Neanderthals. This represents a marked difference in the socio-economic life-world. Neanderthals split their groups if there was not enough game; *Homo sapiens* would stick together.

What is the meaning of Venus figure icons and elaborate decoration? What does a complex sign system mean used by Gravettian people? Why do Neanderthals or *Homo erectus* at Bilzingsleben only use symmetric scratches even though they are already able to produce flutes (e.g., the debated Divje Babe flute from Slovenia, c. 43,000 BP; See also Feliks, *PCN Nov-Dec 2010: 10*) before Modern Man did the same at Geissenklösterle.

Neandertalian "couples" as in Ferrassie, Sergeac (see map, Greve and Neuhäuser *PCN March-April 2011: 8*) or elsewhere are indicative of memorization of events by a 'polymodal' code. More complex symbol systems, on the other hand, condense time. Primarily there doesn't seem to be a great difference between simple or more elaborate systems, but the aspect of 'time' as a personal attribute is necessary for specification. Time is abbreviated as well as extended into future using different ornaments. On the contrary, polymodal

codes preserve and fix presence as condensed eternity and unity of a divine whole.

Adjustment to the present might be characteristic of Modern Men, explaining their spread by cultural and communicative strategies. It could explain why children were scarcely buried intentionally and less signs of the handicapped being cared for (s. Henry-Gambier).

All these arguments seem to flow in one direction (**Table 1**). How people looked at life changed with the spread of Modern Men. In the Middle Palaeolithic of the Neanderthals, life and death were respected as a unity (Fiedler, this issue, pp. 1-3). However, the trend since Gravettian times has been to separate these two which has led us to where many of our Western cultures are today. As far as what will happen next, only time will tell.

Table 4. CONCLUSION

No facts prove any "emergence" of Modern Men. Spreading all over Europe during the Gravettian was probably caused by a complex series of impact factors. Changing tools signal another way of hunting, probably the use of composite weapons and propulsors. There are signs of cultural transformation resulting in morphological changes and affecting the appearance of Neanderthals by "social selection" (Roughgarden 2009), enforced by epigenetic factors (Stotz 2002).

The most exciting fact besides the loss of a more "sensory and polytheistic" view (omnipresence of hand axes since the Acheulian) is the (archaeological) loss of buried bodies during the Gravettian. It could indicate

> [Cont. on page 10](#)

The expansion of modern man (cont.)

"Primarily there doesn't seem to be a

the neglect of caring for relatives and well-known people.

All these facts can be proven by archaeological findings,

Delpech, F., Texier, J.-P. 2007. Approche stratigraphique de temps gravettiens: l'éclairage aquitaine. *Paléo* 19: 15-30.

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Gravettien de Kostienki et des terri-toires associés. *Paléo* 19: 181-202.

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Morphological or anatomical contribution	- N - (Neandertals, <i>Homo erectus</i>)	- CR - (Cro-Magnon, <i>Homo sapiens</i>)
TECHNOLOGY (leading fossils)	Handaxe	Point à la Gravette, microliths (Fig. 2)
SETTLEMENT	Seasonal changing, small, in "abris" or shelters (migration)	Relatively "steady," enlarged in shelters or plain sight (east)
SIZE OF GROUP	Small, relatively constant about 30 persons (filiation)	Enlarged, about 45 persons (aggregation)
FUNERAL RITES	Secondary, collectively <i>and</i> (honored?) primary, singular burials	Primary, "scattered" sometimes single or groups, "loss" of burials
SYMBOL SYSTEM	Simple signs (wholes, "couples," scratches) arrangements of burials	Complex signs arranged in symbolic systems, figures, ochre, gifts for some burials
CARE AND CLOSENESS	Relatively high	No certain proof for care
BIRTH RISK, EARLY CHILDHOOD DEATH	Probably high	High, but not proved

Table 1. Differences between Neanderthals and Cro-Magnon people (N, CR) representing causes of impact or demonstrating order of control and transformation, rejecting "emergence" of modern man in Europe. Morphological analysis assessing states of symbolic elaboration.

great difference between simple or more elaborate systems, but the aspect of 'time' as a personal attribute is necessary for specification."

but there is no evidence for a striking impact or for some steady flow leading towards transition. However, these facts can tell us a lot about what should be studied or what would be of help in our future: To retain the unity of life and earth, as in former small communities, will also save nature as "good" and the basis of life. Neighborhood and solidarity are necessary because each one may be the next to need assistance. "Inclusion" is not only a signal from the UN-Convention for the Rights of Handicapped People (2006) but a necessity to survive as a species.

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Paleomagnetic age determinations at Hueyatlaco

By Joe Liddicoat, Ph.D, University of California, Santa Cruz

"The samples, 12 each of lacustrine clay and the Hueyatlaco ash, were analyzed in the Paleomagnetism Laboratory at Stanford University and gave good grouping of paleomagnetic directions of normal polarity after alternating field demagnetization (Liddicoat et al., 1981)."

The 1970s brought another method to the attempt to date the sediment and tephra at Valsequillo. Rob Coe and I at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and Wayne Lambert who was at the Departamento de Prehistoria of INAH in Mexico City and later at the USGS in Denver, Colorado, were studying the magnetic polarity and gradual change of Earth's past magnetic field (secular variation) at the Tlapacoya archeological locality on the margin of Lake Chalco in the southeastern Basin of Mexico.

As part of that investigation, Hal Malde and Virginia Steen-McIntyre provided us with oriented samples from four horizons from renewed excavations at Valsequillo.

The samples, 12 each of lacustrine clay and the Hueyatlaco ash, were analyzed in the Paleomagnetism Laboratory at Stanford University and gave good grouping of paleomagnetic directions of normal polarity after alternating field demagnetization (Liddicoat et al., 1981).

For those measurements, the samples were in plastic boxes for insertion in a slow spinner magnetometer and for the demagnetization in a three-axis tumbler; because of the plastic boxes, the samples could not be heated for thermal demagnetization experiments.

However, during a field trip to Valsequillo in May 2007 with Joshua Feinberg of the University of Minnesota and Joaquin Arroyo-Cabrales of the INAH Laboratorio de Arqueozoología in Mexico City, after the Spring Meeting of the American Geo-

physical Union in Acapulco, I sampled the Hueyatlaco ash for thermal demagnetization measurements, and Feinberg collected samples for a mineralogical study of the ash. The paleomagnetic and thermal demagnetization measurements were done in the Paleomagnetism Laboratory at the University of California, Santa Cruz, using a cryogenic magnetometer.

Again it was found that the Hueyatlaco ash records normal polarity, presumed to have been acquired in the Brunhes Normal Chron (Present to 0.78 mya, Berggren et al., 1995).

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Geofisica Internacional 20(3): 249-62.

JOE LIDDICOAT, Ph.D, Earth Science, is a full-time faculty member in the Department of Environmental Science at Columbia University's Barnard College. He teaches part-time at other institutions including New York University (astronomy and chemistry). Liddicoat is also Visiting Research Scientist at the American Museum of Natural History and the University of California, Santa Cruz where he does research on the Earth's past magnetic field (the paleomagnetic record recorded in sediments) in Central America, Eastern Asia and the Mediterranean as well as on both coasts of the United States. In the early 1960's, Liddicoat was Chief Engineer on a U.S. Navy destroyer. Liddicoat's primary studies began nearly 40 years ago with his research on the Pleistocene lake deposits in the U.S. Great Basin and Mexico in the early 1970s. Much of the research involves the Mono Basin in east-central California to document the Mono Lake Excursion and long-term behavior of the paleomagnetic field during the last approximately 40,000 years. Liddicoat has nearly 50 peer-reviewed publications in books and scientific journals including *Nature*.

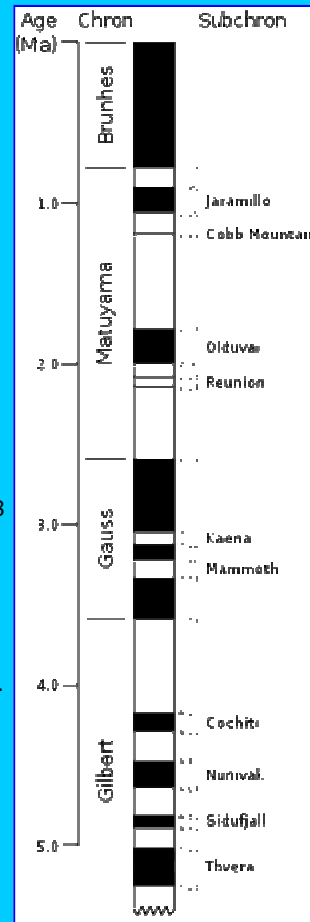


Fig. 1. Geomagnetic polarity during the late Cenozoic Era. Dark areas are periods where the polarity is the same as today's polarity; light areas are periods where the polarity is the opposite or reversed. 1964-66, USGS.

The graphics of Bilzingsleben series

Scientific misconduct over ancient artifact studies and why you should care

Part 2: Censoring the world's oldest human language

By John Feliks

Q: Why is the science community blocking proof of the oldest language?

A: Because it challenges evolutionary thinking.

Readers are invited to compare the original authoritative responses to the Bilzingsleben engravings (in the sidebars and text)

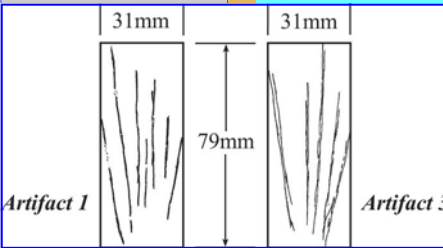


Fig. 2. Conference Slide #19: **Artifacts 1 & 2**, Observation 1: These complex motifs are the same size.

with the censored geometric studies. By responding to proof of any early language with censorship (as recently occurred) the scientific community is losing credibility on the topic of human origins.

"Certain bones from Bilzingsleben...have scratches in groups of parallel or radial lines. These could be due to butchery, especially as there are clear indications of knawing."

- William Noble & Ian Davidson Psychology and Anthropology, University of New England, 1991: 245-6

"Mania & Mania have published...a series of marked bones from the German Acheulean site of Bilzingsleben, claiming that the markings were purposeful... [I] find no greater patterning in these marks than on the wooden cutting board in my kitchen."

-Randall White, Anthropology, New York University, 1992: 545

Language is the most unique aspect of what makes us human; and without doubt, it is the greatest difference between human beings and animals.

In its most basic form language is a system of organized signs or symbols, audible or visible, such as spoken words or written words which we use to communicate with each other. With this single tool, the possibilities of poetry, art, mathematics, history, music, philosophy, even ideas of space and time open up to anyone who learns to use it. In written or graphic form language is even able to communicate across vast stretches of time as if earlier people were in our very presence.

The origins of language is a problem that has puzzled philosophers and now scientists for thousands of years because it has no known link to the natural world. Modern-day linguists (those who study language) and scien-

tists who think only in evolutionary terms believe with little reserve that human language evolved gradually out of animal communication systems and that there were necessary stages of language development between ape cries or gestures and modern human words. Although evolutionary linguists seldom even mention who these middle language speakers might have been—writing primarily in abstract terms and without recourse to artifacts—they certainly mean them to be either early

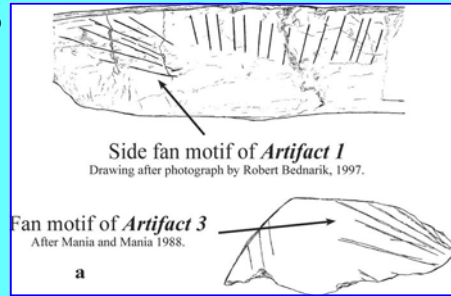


Fig. 1. The two motifs of **Artifacts 1 & 3** in context with other syntactic variables. The fact that these are 'duplicated' motifs was discovered by the author and submitted for publication in 2004, *Musings on the Palaeolithic Fan Motif*. This is Slide #17 (of 112) presented at the XV UISPP Congress in Lisbon, Portugal, 2006, and Fig. 5a of *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben*. Prior to its 5-year censorship by the science community—while it was circulated in peer review to researchers worldwide—theorists such as Bednarik, White, Davis, Davidson, Chase, Noble, Dibble, Mithen, claimed the engravings showed no deliberation beyond simple patterning or 'half-way-there' mental states comparable to those of apes; phosphene hallucinations were also suggested. However, these two extremely sophisticated and linked motifs featuring precision angles (Figs. 4-6, 9-10) and Cartesian point relationships (Figs. 7-10) would have been recognized as such were it not for evolutionary preconceptions.

1950s and 60s never believed that human language could have had any half-way-there stage but that it appeared as a fully-developed capacity. Even though evolu-

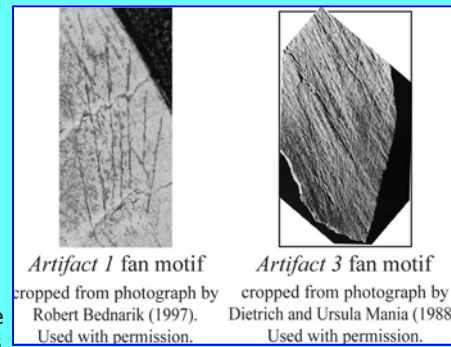


Fig. 3. Conference Slide #18: Photographs of **Artifact 1 side-fan** and the **fan of Artifact 3**.

tionary linguists believe that this is where Chomsky went

> [Cont. on page 13](#)

"In my opinion, the [Bilzingsleben] marks should not be thought of as anything more than 'self-sufficient,' to use a term I once applied to some chimpanzee scribbles."

- Whitney Davis
Art History, Northwestern University, 1988: 103

"By suggesting that the deliberate marks indicate a faculty of abstract thought, the authors may in fact be trivializing their find. Its scientific significance is perhaps primarily that it does not indicate, but foreshadow such a faculty."

- Robert G. Bednarik
Editor, RAR, IFRAO, 1988: 99

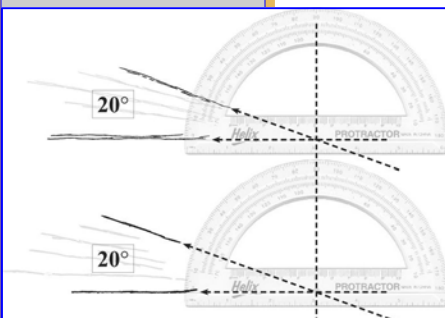


Fig. 4. Slide #20 (of 112). Observation 2: The motifs share identical outer angles and vertices demonstrated via protractor. **Artifacts 1 & 3.**

"There are a few objects that... bear markings that some have considered symbolic in nature, such as marked bone scraps from... Bilzingsleben... However, some of these may indeed have served practical functions such as 'cutting boards'... Such 'motifs' are not repeated often enough to be recognized either as intentional or as a style."

-Philip G. Chase
Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, 1991: 210.

"Over the course of hundreds of thousands of years there are no two [Acheulean or Mousterian] objects that are alike."

- Randall White
Anthropology, New York University, 1992: 546

Censoring the oldest human language (cont.)

wrong, Chomsky's was, and still is, the most scientific position as there are no known existing or historical 'primitive' languages. They are all complex. Still, most modern linguists have adhered to the evolutionary system ever since the claims made in Darwin's 1859 book, *On the Origin of Species*, were accepted as axioms. Chomsky himself, influenced by peer pressure to conform with the template, adopted Eldredge and Gould's theory of *punctuated equilibrium* though anyone familiar with the physical rather than the theoretical evidence from both paleontology (fossils) and palaeolinguistics knows that what this theory really says is that we have no idea how anything including language evolved. The conditional, "if it evolved at all" is of course, not permitted.

Shooting-in-the-dark approaches to language origins are relied upon because it is believed that language leaves no traces we can study directly. However, this is not true, as demonstrated at the XV UISPP Congress (International Union for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences) in Lisbon in 2006 in a program called *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben*. In this program by means of easy-to-understand geometric studies was presented the first proofs of a Lower Palaeolithic language of *Homo erectus* 400,000 years old (Figs. 1-10 and others). These studies showed that *Homo erectus* people were just as intelligent as we are today and that their symbolic and mathematical abilities made them our equals.

The problem this created for the mainstream science community is that it simultaneously showed that there has been no evolution of language ability nor any other human mental ability for at least 400,000 years—a claim which can readily be extended back 1.4 to 2 million years (including evidence such as the incised bones from Kozarnika Cave, Bulgaria; fire use; etc.) or, in fact, to whatever point in time we assign as the first appearance of the genus *Homo*. The prediction is that future evidence will show not Darwin's gradation of mental abilities but that there has been no change in such abilities and that everything interpreted as change in cognitive ability is actually related to culture.

Since the scientific community is committed to the evolutionary paradigm as an act of faith, any evidence which does not align with this paradigm is seen not in the light of normal scientific discovery but rather as a threat.

This is reason enough for even scholars of once high-integrity to participate in behind-the-

scenes block-ades of the early language hypothesis from publication.

Ignoring evidence like this did not occur with the discovery of

cuneiform or translation of hieroglyphs via the Rosetta Stone as neither of those discoveries challenged a religious dogma. However, in the biased modern science community, one must contend with the dogged belief that everything, including language, evolved from lower forms.

Ironically, despite many months of behind-the-scenes accolades from those present at the program and others with copies of the

Thumb-nails hand-out—including linguists, psychologists, engineers, etc.—*The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* was immediately censored from the public record not only in the false

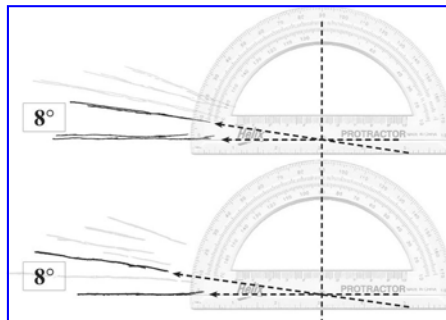


Fig. 5. Slide #21 (of 112). Observation 3: The motifs share identical 'inner' angles and vertices demonstrated via protractor. **Artifacts 1 & 3.**

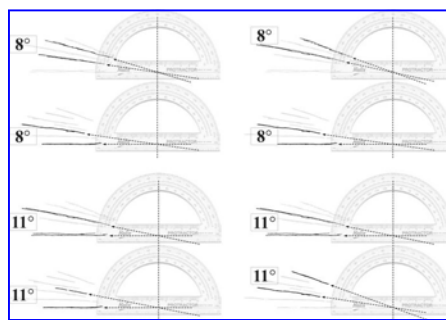


Fig. 6. Slide #22 (of 112). The motifs share many other identical angles. **Artifacts 1 & 3.** NOTE: There are many more shared angles besides those in Figs. 4-6, the only difference being that they do not share the same vertices within their respective motifs whereas as all of these do.

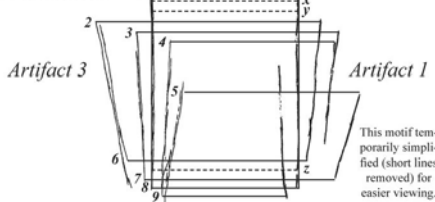
> [Cont. on page 14](#)

Censoring the oldest human language (cont.)

"If the authors mean that the mark makers of Bilzingsleben exhibit preferences for orderly pattern...these kinds of preferences are well documented among the great apes."

"There is no need to invoke some 'faculty for abstract thinking,' like

Observation 4: *The motifs share horizontal point coordinates.*



Here are 9 of more than 20 point relationships based on the 2 artifacts' longest lines, which are equal in length. Lines x, y & z were added to demonstrate the perfect ratios between parallels.

Fig. 7. The motifs share horizontal point coordinates. **Artifacts 1 & 3.** This is Slide #25 of the "original 144-slide series" before reducing to 112 to fit the time constraints of the XV UISPP Conference. It is also Fig. 6a of the published thesis paper, *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* (**BAR International Series 2224**) registered © April 2007 but censored from publication until 2011! (NOTE: Anticipating problems such as this, I made certain to register the Slide programs & Thumbnails handout in 2006 and the papers in early 2007 being already experienced with extreme misconduct in anthropology including discovering my work or its influence in papers by competitive researchers as peer reviewers "without citation.") Working in the shared space of mathematics and linguistics the technique used to prove association between the two motifs as well as their obvious 'pre-planned' complexity is a double Cartesian grid (optional curvilinear grid). Whether one is thinking in terms of grammar or other organizational systems it offers a means to test the placement or shared association of any components. Looking beyond this, Figs. 1-2 and 4-10 clearly show complex and intricate structures within a single 'radial structure convention.' Unlike standard writing systems, *fugue techniques* (as in musical composition) and radial structures can potentially hold a great deal more factual or symbolic information in multi-layered or superimposed form. *There is no doubt that what we are dealing with here at Bilzingsleben is not an "ape-man."*

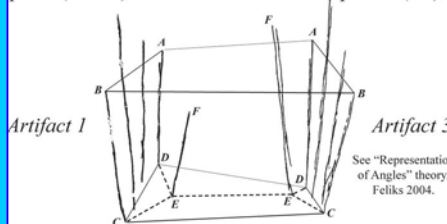
planning ahead, to account for these morphologies."

- **Whitney Davis** Art History, Nonwestern University, 1988: 102

report mentioned in Part 1, but in the subsequent follow-up report on the congress by the Session's Chair in *Rock Art Research*. In fact, the Chair allotted only one sentence to the entire *Pleistocene palaeoart of the world* session sacrificing a standard acknowledgment of all presenters, while in its place publishing an unexpectedly high claim about engraved bones from a site 10km from Bilzingsleben. I have had many similar experiences ever since submitting my work for peer review in anthropology in 1995.

The proofs of language in *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* were subsequently forced to endure five years of academic misconduct. This involved agendas not only of known competitive

Observation 5: *Each motif shares an established plane (ABCD) and one isolated 3D component (EF).*



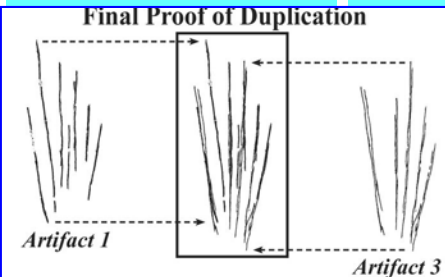
Theory: *Three-dimensional thinking associated with conscious awareness of an opposing thumb.*

Fig. 8. Conference slide #23. Observation 5: Each motif shares an established plane (ABCD) and one isolated 3D component (EF). **Artifacts 1 & 3.** These aspects relate to the internal 3D radial system (*Musings on the Palaeolithic fan motif, Graphics*, p.72, *Phi*, p.12). Not expecting a 5-year censorship, I assumed the "Larger system" announced in the papers would be published shortly after.

researchers but a censoring peer review board working from the safety of anonymity at

the *Journal of Human Evolution*

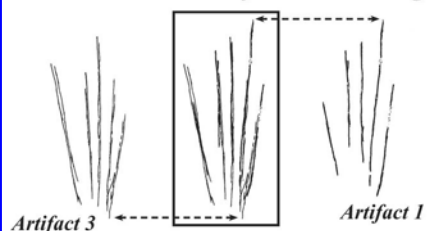
By keeping *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* from



If the two original motifs are superimposed, any remaining doubt that each is a sophisticated variation on the same motif is effectively dissolved

Fig. 10. Conference slide #25. **Artifacts 1 & 3.** If the two original motifs are superimposed, any remaining doubt that each is a sophisticated variation on the same motif is effectively dissolved. Duplicated motifs are the hallmark of language.

Observation 6: *The motifs are mirror images*



Here, the "reversed and simplified" **Artifact 1** motif is superimposed over **Artifact 3**. This shows that the two motifs are, essentially, "mirror images."

Fig. 9. Conference slide #24. Observation 6: The motifs are mirror images. **Artifacts 1 & 3.**

(recommended by Randall White familiar with the disgraceful action by UISPP and with editor of *JHE* in his own department at NYU) doing all in their power to keep the first proofs of *Homo*

erectus language obscured.

The Graphics of Bilzingsleben from the public, the science community has performed a great disservice. Here is *physical evidence* that our ancestors were like us rather than ape-like. Suppressing this evidence because it does not agree with the preferred world view is academic misconduct on a very high level. In light of the recent scandal in the Cognitive Evolution Lab at Harvard University (eight counts of misconduct related to evolution of language research) and similar examples brought forward by the Pleistocene Coalition, consumers of science should prepare themselves for the fact that this is only the tip of the iceberg in the evolutionary community.

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Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 5 (cont.)

"Later studies by [VanLandingham] showed the edge-retouched



Fig. 3. Diatomist, Sam VanLandingham, archaeologist, Chris Hardaker, and I on the road crossing Barranca Caulapan in Mexico, where a worked stone flake dated at c. 23,000 years old was found by Irwin Williams in the mid-60's. The Valsequillo Reservoir is out of sight behind us.

tools from lower in the section were

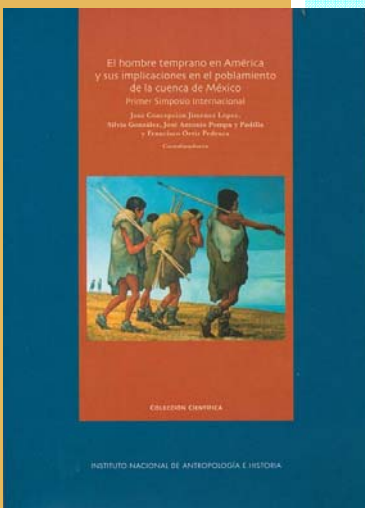


Fig. 4. Cover of proceedings volume from the *Early Man in America symposium*, Mexico City, 2002.

even much older, Illinoian up to 430,000 years old."

> [Cont. from page 5](#)

samples from the Valsequillo Project, some 40 cubic feet of boxes, were in my care, occupying rented storage space in a converted chicken shed in Idaho Springs.

After being moved about between various storage areas at the USGS Denver complex for close to twenty years, they needed a new home. Hal had retired, and the Survey was running out of storage space.

2001-3 The pace increases

With the start of 2001, things became a little blurry in my mind. So much was happening! And so fast!

VanLandingham reported back that the samples I'd sent him contained lots of diatoms, some specific for the Sangamonian (last Interglacial), ca 80,000-240,000 years ago. This agreed with Szabo's earlier U-series dates for a fragment of

butchered camel bone associated with bifacial tools in the upper part of Hueyatlaco. Sam mentioned his previous work on

diatomite from within the Dorenberg skull, collected in the area in the 1890s: same sequence! (Later studies by him showed the edge-retouched tools from lower in the section were even much older, Illinoian, up to 430,000 years old.)

Another field session was scheduled for Hueyatlaco in 2001, this time with greater involvement of scientists from Mexico City. VanLandingham joined the group, bringing his microscope out into the field with him to check sediment samples as they were removed from the outcrop. He kept finding diatoms, all over the place!

Archaeologist Chris Hardaker was there, filming the progress of the excavation for Marshall Payn (**Fig. 3**). Bob McKinney was there also, a consulting geologist and friend of Marshall's who collected sediment samples for thin section analyses.

2002

We transferred the sealed wooden crates with the Hueyatlaco stratigraphic monoliths to VanLandingham's lab in Midland, Texas and filmed their opening and the sampling of the sediment columns by VanLandingham, McKinney and Steen-McIntyre for the Payn video. The crate with the bags of individual samples taken from the trench walls was not among the set. Lost down in Mexico? On the way up to Colorado? During the stay at the Survey? Who can say?

I gave a paper at the first Early Man in America symposium in Mexico City (**Fig. 4**). It was on "seat of the

pants" methods for rough-dating a Mexican archaeological site using tephra layers. Mike Waters, from the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A & M University was there. He expressed his interest in Hueyatlaco to Mexican colleagues, and plans were formed to start a new Valsequillo Project group.

2003

I had translated the 1978 Armenta monograph into English September 1996-February, 1997, text only, and checked the translation with Celine Armenta in 2003 to make certain it was accurate.

Another visit to Mexico City and to Hueyatlaco, this time for a photo shoot. One of the missing Hueyatlaco artifacts had been located, unlabeled, in a display of typical Mexican artifacts at the museum. There was no sign of the others.

Sam, Michael Cremo, and I spoke at "the conference from hell" in Washington, D.C. (see my article in the [March-April 2011](#) issue of *PCN* and Cremo's piece in the [July-August](#) issue.)

The 2004 field season

The trenches at Hueyatlaco were opened once again in 2004 by the new Valsequillo Project group. Hal Malde and I were also there, Hal taking film shots for Marshall Payn and assisting Mike Waters in preparing Mike's 4-extension trench profile while I collected three series of sediment samples from the trench walls, one for Sam

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

Hueyatlatco/Valsequillo saga, Part 5 (cont.)

"Archaeologist Chris Hardaker was there, filming the progress of the excavation for

VanLandingham, one for me (later passed on to Bob McKinney), and one for Dr. Caballero, the New Valsequillo Project's diatomist. Early it became evident that there was a major differ-

ence in interpretation of the older sequence. The disputed contact on the 4-extension trench profile amounted in thickness to only a half-meter of undisturbed sediment (Fig. 5),

that had been cut into the older sequence. The 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 and Rich-

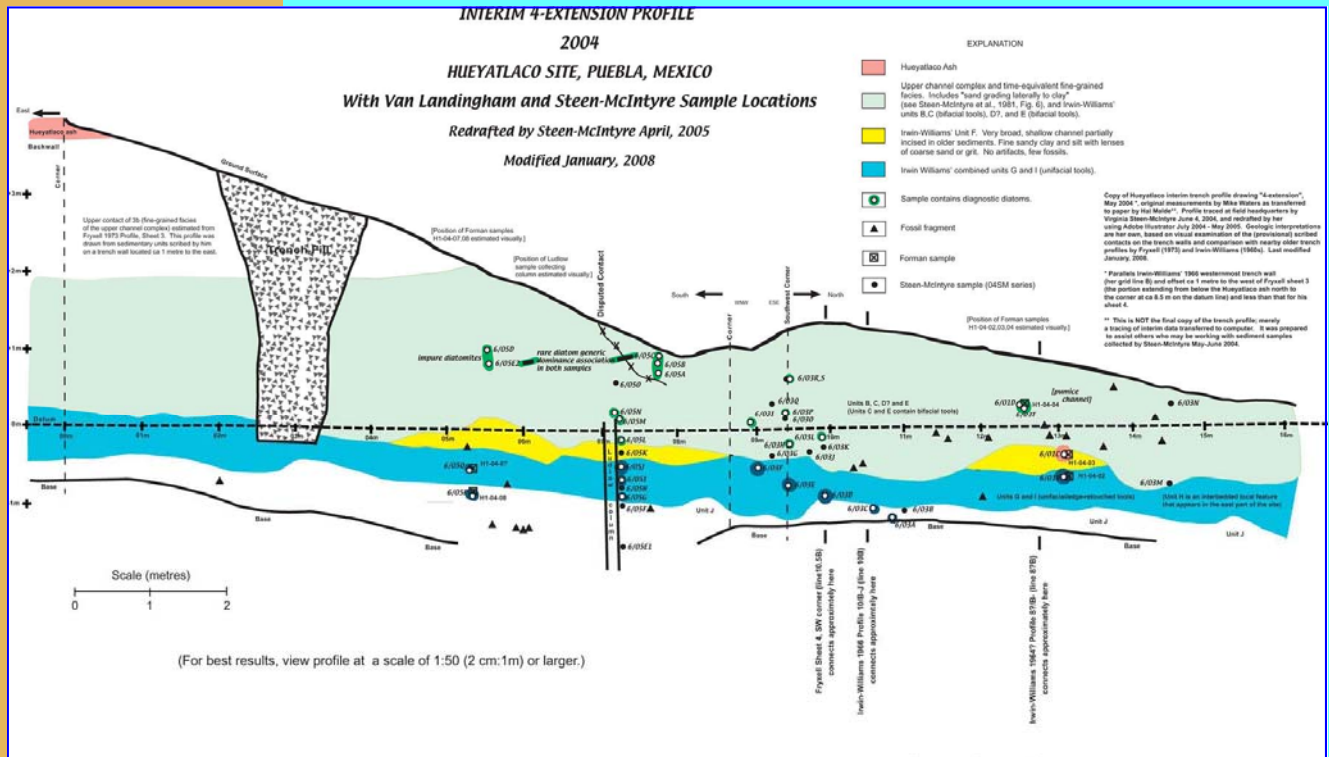


Figure 5. Profile of 2004 excavations at Hueyatlatco. Diatoms and cysts from five samples (6/05D, 6/05E2, 6/05C, 6/05B, and 6/05A) correlate across and through the disputed contact (unconformity) of Mike Waters. Note: the distance between these samples is < 2.2 m, i.e., an unconformity is very unlikely.

Fig. 5. Waters' 2004 4-extension trench profile showing Steen-McIntyre sample sites (black circles) with VanLandingham diagnostic diatom locations added (colored circles.) The "Disputed Contact", so marked, occurs between the 7 and 8 metre marks, at the top.

Marshall Payn (Fig. 3). Bob McKinney was there also, a consulting geologist and friend of Marshall's who collected sediment samples for thin section analyses."

ence in interpretation of the stratigraphy and the age of the sediments at the site. We found in 1973 that the sediment layers with artifacts were older than the bluff sediments with dated tephra layers directly to the south: the New Valsequillo Project group, on the other hand, would have the artifacts confined to a much younger stream channel

but it was enough. At the end of the field season, Hal Malde suggested that in the near future the site be re-opened and visited by a panel of impartial referees trained in microstratigraphy who would view the stratigraphic relationships.

ard Thompson's book, *Forbidden Archeology* (1993), and in the Bill Cote television special, *Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charleton Heston (1996).

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 6

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Ph.D., Tephrochronologist (Volcanic ash specialist)

"With over 100 published research papers to his credit, including an eight-volume set on the diatoms of the world, never did he [Sam VanLandingham] have such a hassle with editors and reviewers as when his results brought into question long held archaeological and anthropological dogmas."

2005-2007 Profiles, film, publications, manuscripts, loss

I spent a good part of 2005 transferring the 1973 Fryxell trench profiles from Hueyatlaco and the Irwin-Williams' and INAH profiles available to us to computer.

This was quite a learning experience as my disinterest in electronic gadgetry had allowed the computer revolution to pass me by. Now I had no choice but to learn! Husband Dave was very helpful, and interested friends began to gently introduce me to the Internet and the idea of a website of my own, even to the point of absorbing the cost of the site. With zero budget and a damaged reputation, I saw it as a way of providing the public with the hard data for the Valsequillo Project I could not provide otherwise—"online"!

In 2006 the anticipated Marshall Payn video, *Valsequillo: an Archaeological Enigma*, the one for which I had been supplying data for so many years was finished (**Fig. 1**). Well, sort of. The original director had been replaced by Bill Cote (*Mysterious Origins of the Sphinx*), who was handed a mishmash of material and told to make sense out of it. He did, to the point of winning an international award for its quality. But it could not be aired publicly: "Rights issues." All that work. . . .

Sam VanLandingham's enthusiasm for the Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco diatom study showed in the many talks and papers he produced on the subject. From 2000 until

2010 he devoted his career to the task.

According to Sam, the Valsequillo area was unique in the world for the study of fresh-water Pleistocene diatoms, displaying a thick sedimentary sequence representing a very short period of geologic time.

He did meet with frustration in trying to get his data into print. With over 100 published research papers to his credit, including an eight-volume set on the diatoms of the world, never did he have such a hassle with editors and reviewers as when his results brought into question long held archaeological and anthropological dogmas.

In late 2006 Hal Malde produced a manuscript regarding the stratigraphic debate at Hueyatlaco between the two Valsequillo Project groups. Chuck Naeser, Sam VanLandingham and I were listed as co-authors.

Hal had gathered much of his

unpublished data for the piece, and gave succinct reasons why we believed the artifacts to be very old. It was to appear in a memorial volume for famed paleontologist Charles Repenning, our murdered colleague. We other authors gave it our first critique, and Hal sent it off. For the later history of the manuscript, see my article in the *PCN* newsletter, *January-February 2011 issue*. A portion of it, an addendum, occurs under Hal's name in the *July-August 2011 issue of PCN*.

> [Cont. on page 18](#)

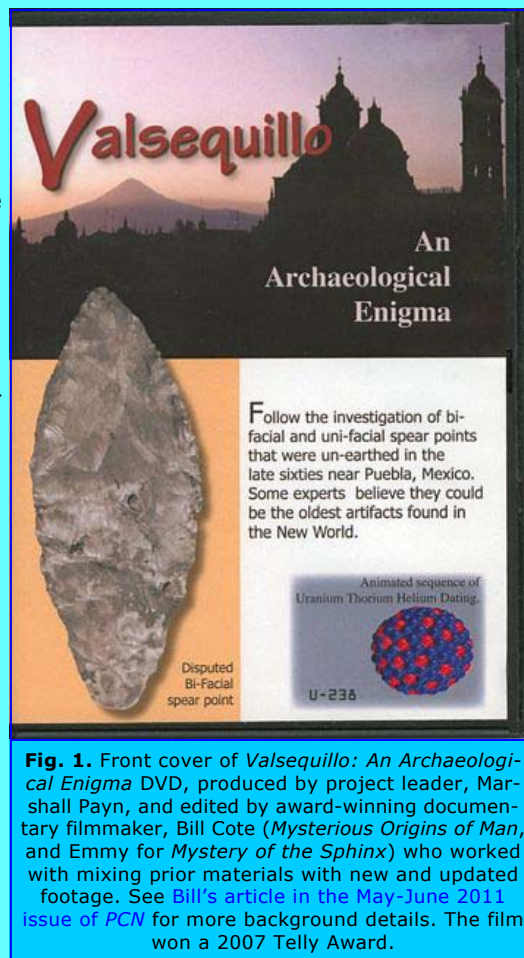


Fig. 1. Front cover of *Valsequillo: An Archaeological Enigma* DVD, produced by project leader, Marshall Payn, and edited by award-winning documentary filmmaker, Bill Cote (*Mysterious Origins of Man*, and Emmy for *Mystery of the Sphinx*) who worked with mixing prior materials with new and updated footage. See Bill's article in the *May-June 2011 issue of PCN* for more background details. The film won a 2007 Telly Award.

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 6 (cont.)

Hal sickened shortly after the manuscript was sent in. His health deteriorated rapidly over the year, and he died of leukemia in November—a painful loss.

On the bright side, 2007 was also the year that Chris Hardaker published his book, [*The First American: The Suppressed Story of the People Who Discovered the New World*](#)—a treasure of information on the Valsequillo Saga.

2008-2011, The saga continues

Colleagues of Hal Malde arranged a memorial session honoring him and his work at the 2008 annual fall meetings of the Geological Society of America in Houston.

It was shortly after the latest hurricane there, and at the beginning of the economic meltdown, so things were rather chaotic. I spoke of Hal's involvement with Valsequillo and the Hueyatlaco site and Sam about the diatom record.

Josh Feinberg, one of the co-conveners, had expressed interest in digitizing Hal's geological maps for the Valsequillo area and his unpublished monograph. Still in the works, I believe.

As mentioned above, Hal had insisted after the 2004 Hueyatlaco dig and our disagreement with the New Valsequillo Project members about the age of the sediments exposed there that the Hueyatlaco trenches be

knew it. The area had recently been graded, landscaped, and walled over by a local landowner (**Fig. 2**) Legally? No, of course not, but what's done is done.

The Hueyatlaco archaeological site is apparently gone. But

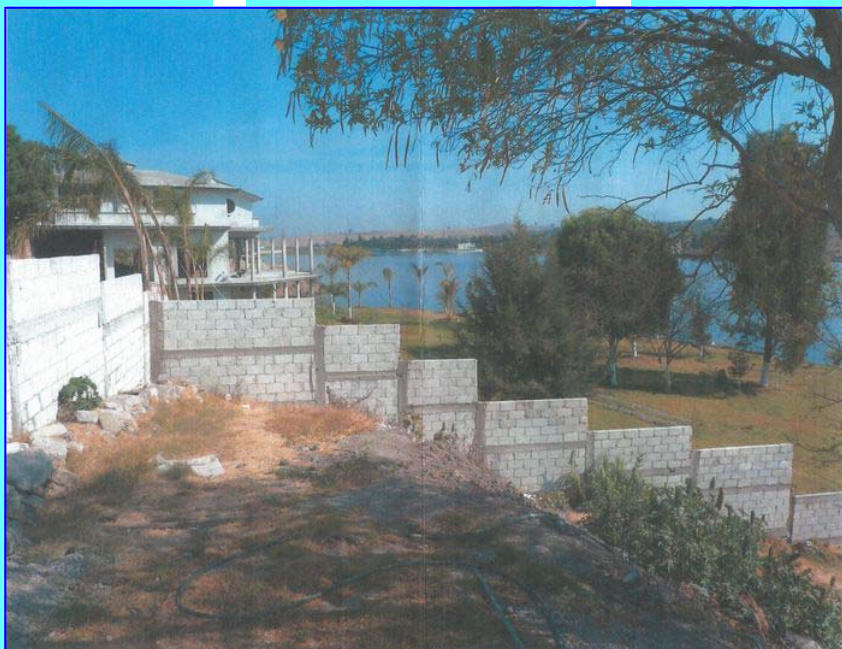


Fig. 2. The archaeological site of Valsequillo as it looks today. View to the northeast, taken in March and showing a concrete block wall crossing a path down to the Hueyatlaco site. The site occurs on the other side of the wall, roughly parallel to the house on the left. Note the fresh appearance of the wall and the presence of guy ropes still attached to the large palms by the house. The wall construction and landscaping are relatively new. Photo courtesy of Marshall Payn.

forgotten? Hardly, thanks to this newsletter. From the first issue in 2009 articles have appeared addressing various aspects of the site, of the Valsequillo area in general, and of the problems the various writers have encountered in bringing their research to the attention of the public. We are not done yet.

opened once again, and that a panel of disinterested scientists be convened to visit the site and view the stratigraphy.

Three members had been chosen for the panel, each one an expert in microstratigraphy or geomorphology. There had been attempts in previous years to fulfill his request, but either high water levels or governmental red tape had intervened.

We all hoped 2011 would be THE year and May THE month that we could finally resolve the stratigraphy problem; but then, on April 1, we were notified that the Hueyatlaco site was no more, at least as we

In the planning stage is a piece or two highlighting Hal Malde's unpublished geological maps. The Tetela brown mud unit, for example, covers a wide area in the region. It forms an easily identifiable marker bed in the field, one which has been dated. And we know that, some ten meters below this marker bed and above the Xalnene tuff, one should start to encounter artifacts. OLD artifacts! And perhaps a companion for the Dorenberg skull?

Next issue I'll wrap up with a list of resources for those who

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If you would like to submit a comment, letter, or article for publication in *Pleistocene Coalition News*, please e-mail the editor or [Virginia Steen-McIntyre](#)

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 6 (cont.)

"The Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco Saga. For me it has been a rough ride lasting 45 years."

- **Steen-McIntyre on Russia Channel One**
- **Long-stored artifacts seen**

would continue investigations in the Valsequillo area. Right now they are scattered far and wide.

Conclusion

For me, the Valsequillo/Hueyatlaco Saga has been a rough ride lasting 45 years. Being a point man on a major paradigm shift is no fun! Would I do it again? I don't know. My life certainly did not take the path I would have chosen for it!

I'll be 75 in December, and the thoughts of fame and fortune no longer have an appeal. My poor, patient husband has spent his whole married life anticipating late meals, missing buttons, cobwebs in corners, and dust-bunnies under the bed while wifey worked through her latest research challenge. Thank you, David! Perhaps now, with this reminiscence finally on paper, we can experience

what other folk would call a "normal life"!

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 Cremo'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).

Member news

Virginia Steen-McIntyre will appear in a special television interview on *Russia Channel One*. An 8-person crew from the station visited Virginia on October 1st being very interested in the 45-year suppression story of Hueyatlaco.

Richard Dullum reports that co-writer Kevin Lynch (see article, "Ancient tools of the Crag," in the July-August issue of *PCN*) was able

to secure permission to see the long-stored artifacts in the cellar of the Ipswich Museum in Suffolk, England, and that the visit went extremely well.

According to Kevin, the museum's curator, Caroline, was the perfect host, and had prepared boxes of artifacts for his perusal in advance.

Kevin was able to take photo-

graphs of many implements from three important sites: the Foxhall Road Site, Hoxne and Darmsden, which included Reid Moir finds from 1915.



Kevin further told Rick that the cellar of the museum is "bursting at the seams" with boxes and boxes of Palaeolithic finds, and that he could

not believe the "quantity and quality" of some of the artifacts.

Avocational archaeology

'Figure stones,' what to do with them?

By Ken Johnston

"The problem usually centers on verifying artifact status and then gauging probability of intent to create the icons or images perceived on the stones."

Around 1850, French amateur archaeologist Jacques Boucher de Perthes coined the term "pierres-figures," or figure stones, to describe apparently non-functional stones which had been humanly worked and invoked common patterns of particular visual properties. The subject has remained controversial in archaeology to this day. The problem usually centers on verifying artifact status and then gauging probability of intent to create the icons or images perceived on the stones. Because it is inherently subjective and interpretive, issues of pareidolia and the role of archaeologi-

cal investigators' biases of perception have led many scientists to avoid this topic.

PCN is not qualified to comment on it or to rule on individual pieces. What we can do is this: (1) Provide occasional links to the websites of members involved with figure stones. (2) Alert our readers to what some see as widespread, recurring themes such as the one-eyed man, the human/bird transition, the "portrait" stones, and the "eyed" projectile points. (3) Take a closer look at figure stones collected *in situ*, from within a sediment layer that has been or has the potential to be dated. All photos need

to have a metric scale and, ideally, the piece should be given only a light cleaning with a soft, dry brush (see the Flagstaff stone story in the May-June Issue for the "why").

Below we list two of our members' websites where you can go for more information on figure stones.

We trust this will be agreeable to (almost) everyone.

-VSM

Websites of members interested in figure stones:

Ken Johnston <http://portablerockart.blogspot.com/>

Alan Day <http://www.daysknob.com>

Avocational archaeology

Scanner photography: Slick lithics imaging

By Kyron O'Doherty

It seems we've been running an unofficial series on photography for the avocational archaeologist.

In PCN Issue #10 (March-April, 2011) we covered how to photograph lithics (stone tools) using a digital camera and computer. Last issue I shared how we did it 50 years ago with more primitive equipment. Here Kyron O'Doherty of Ireland shows what can be done with a

flat-bed scanner (copy machine) and a bit of ingenuity. Slick! -VSM

O'Doherty writes:

How to take detailed pictures of artifacts without a camera

First you'll need an ordinary desktop flatbed scanner. If you don't possess one, used examples may be purchased quite cheaply through internet auctions, garage sales etc. A USB-enabled scanner usually ensures compatibility with

downloadable drivers for most PCs or Macs.

With three-dimensional objects like lithics, the scanner lid at first appears to be your enemy, as leaving it up might let ambient light spoil your results.

Solution?

Leave the lid in the open position and do your scanning in a darkened room. It doesn't have to be pitch black; low light will suffice as the scanner won't pick up ambient light beyond a few inches.

Set the resolution of your scanner to as high as it will go for best results. You can always reduce the size afterwards.

Place the object carefully on the glass plate and scan in the usual fashion. This should result in a very detailed image of your artifact on a black background.

The most common A4 scanner size also allows you to arrange whole groups of lithics in one scan, which you can then crop or separate later with the graphics editing application of your choice such as Photoshop.

Some caveats: The scanner light is bright so it is inadvisable to look directly at it in operation. Also, lithics in particular may

scratch the glass scanner surface, so be sure to place them on the scanner glass very carefully.

If you have access to a color photocopier you can also use this technique to get hard copies.

The examples in this article

were made using a 10-year-old Agfa SnapScan 1212u with a Macbook Pro laptop computer. The object is a Mousterian/Neanderthal-style biface (worked on both sides of the tool) from Grand Bailly, Sepaux in Burgundy, France. It is part of an older collection from the late 1980s, and shows a centralized natural hollow in the base. Obverse, reverse and base. Scale is in inches.

KYRON O'DOHERTY is an amateur artifact and fossil collector who lives in Ireland. He has had a long-time fascination with Neanderthal stone artifacts which he finds in online auctions.



Fig. 1. Neanderthal biface artifact; photo taken by Kyron O'Doherty using a simple flatbed scanner. Scale is in inches.

"A USB-enabled scanner usually ensures compatibility with and downloadable drivers for most PCs or Macs."



Fig. 3. Base of the Neanderthal artifact; The hollow seen is an empty mold that once contained a fossil; photo taken by Kyron O'Doherty using a simple flatbed scanner.



Fig. 2. Reverse side of the Neanderthal artifact; photo taken by Kyron O'Doherty using a flatbed scanner. Label in lower left reads: "Sepaux Grand Bailly 89. Bif. Mousterien." Editor's note: The original scanned photos of the artifact show much more detail than seen in these thumbnails.



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- 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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