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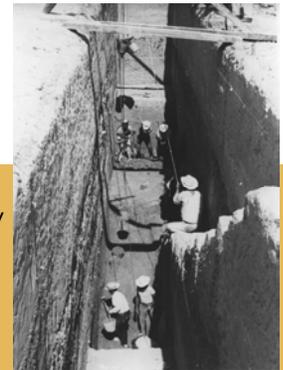
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- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

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

Page 4 continues our special series on what has become one of the most controversial sites in archaeology. Hear the next part of the story as the U.S. Geological Survey team (USGS) and other professionals repeatedly date the provenance of early human artifacts and butchered animal bones (including mastodon) in the New World at 250,000 years and older. We also hear from other important players who have battled the censors for many years while seeking truth in science and attempting to make the facts public. Continue becoming informed so that you can question what is behind the largest and longest-lasting archaeological censorship effort in American history.



Ancient tools of the Crag

Lithic evidence for early man in and under the Norwich and Red Crag Formations of Britain

By Richard Dullum and Kevin Lynch

In the previous article, "The Red Crag portrait, an enigmatic shell artifact from the late Pliocene of Great Britain" (*PCN* March-April 2011), we recounted a search for that carved shell which began with anthropologist Henry Stopes' exposition of the Red Crag Portrait in 1881. This discovery, however, was not the main or only direction his research focused on.

Stopes left behind the single largest collection of

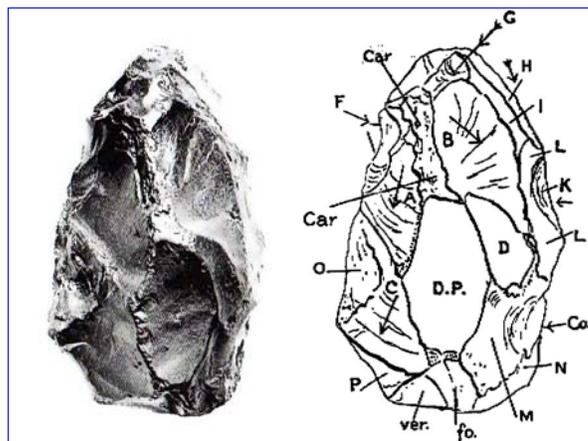
lithic artifacts in Britain, mostly collected from the high terrace river gravels of

Kent, England, south of Essex, across the Thames valley. These higher gravels are dated to the middle Pleistocene (c. 1.5 million years BP).

In one such excavation, his last and most promising, at Dierden's Pit, Ingress Vale, near Swanscombe, Kent (see **Fig. 1** on page 3), Stopes started finding worked flint flakes in a sandy layer just below this Pleistocene gravel.

This layer contained fossil mollusca species native to the Pliocene (3.5-5.3 million years BP). Stopes believed this sandy, fossiliferous layer was equivalent to the nearby sandy, early Pleistocene layers in what is now the Swanscombe Heritage Park.

In Stopes' day, it was known as



Figs. 3a & b. Rostro-Carinate chipped-flint implement from beneath the Norwich Crag. a.) Fig. 1 excerpted from Plate 1 of Lankester's *Test Specimen of the Rostro-Carinate Industry found beneath the Norwich Crag* (1914), b.) Fig. 4 schematic study of the implement excerpted from Lankester 1914 (*ibid*).

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Ancient tools of the Crag (cont.)



Fig. 2. James Reid Moir (1879-1944).

"The sub-Crag implements were not the work of 'beginners,' but showed an already high level of skill..."

The letter caused a storm because the Red Crag formation dates to the Pliocene, now dated 3.5-5.3 million years old."

Barnsfield Pit, or the Great Pit. Stopes collected thousands of handaxes from the middle upper terrace gravels of Barnsfield in the 1890's, and considered the flake implements from Dierden's Pit to be possible precursors to the flint industry of the middle gravels overlying there, as well as at the Great Pit.

Even though Stopes' collection has been catalogued, the authors were unable to find in the unpublished study any photographs or drawings of the artifacts. As acknowledged by Wenban-Smith, if Stopes had lived longer, he might have seen his work at Dierden's Pit yield some results for Man in the early Pleistocene.

Further excavations in and below the Red Crag, Suffolk, were made by James Reid Moir, F.R.S., (Fig. 2), between 1909 and 1935, and quite well-documented. He was aware of the uniqueness of East Anglian geology, the coast of which had exposed a series of formations dating from the Cretaceous and including the Red Crag Formation, with its very distinct Plio-Pleistocene boundary at 3.5 MYA (ICS Commission 11-26-2009) to be seen in the seaside cliffs of East Anglia.

Upon leaving school, Moir joined his father, Lewis Moir, in the family's custom tailoring business situated in the Thorougfare, Ipswich, Suffolk.

One of Moir's passions was golf, and a chance find—a barbed and tanged arrowhead from the Bronze Age—while playing a round would change his life forever. Moir was enthralled, but could not understand how such a beautiful, gem-like item

could have been produced by someone in such a remote period of time.

Forty-five years earlier, Charles Darwin had written in his *Origin of Species* that our ancestors had evolved from apes. "How could they have produced such an exquisite object," Moir wondered. He must learn more, and to this end he purchased a copy of Sir John Evans' *The Ancient Stone Implements of the British Isles*.

Moir had amassed a collection of his own artifacts from the lithic-rich Ipswich area. This, however, was not enough for him. He wanted to find artifacts himself, and to that end obtained permission from Bolton and Laughlin Ltd., to search in the least busy areas of their brick pit at The Dales, on the outskirts of Ipswich.

Moir reasoned that a time existed when ancient man used sharp pieces of naturally occurring flint before he started to "work" it, and only later manufactured tools for himself, and in the process he became interested in finding these "transitional" artifacts that he believed man had fashioned before the quite sophisticated tools that had been found by others, displaying the more obvious working of man. These he found examples of, below the Red Crag layers in the Bolton and Laughlin brick pit.

It was at this point in time that Moir wrote his now famous letter to *The Times* of London, October 1910, reporting what he believed he had found.

The prevalent belief of the time was that man had first entered England in post-glacial times and that the flint axes found in the valley gravels represented the earliest tools of man.

Moir challenged this belief by: 1) finding worked flints

below the level of the Crag formations in East Anglia, in the 'bone beds' underlayment, 2) the tools found were ancestral to the valley gravel handaxes, the latter evolving from the former, and 3) the sub-Crag implements were not the work of "beginners," but showed an already high level of skill and that there must be still older forms which would link them to the Kent plateau Eoliths, found by Harrison.

The letter caused a storm, because the Red Crag formation dates to the Pliocene, now dated 3.5-5.3 million years old (although at the time, Moir regarded the Red Crag early-middle Pleistocene), but Moir had found his purpose in life. He would convince these disbelievers of the authenticity of his finds below the Red and Coraline Crag of Suffolk. Moir was thirty-two.

Moir was not alone in his hypothesis. Benjamin Harrison had for some time been finding "Eoliths" or "dawn stones" in the high gravels of Kent river terraces, and was keen to lend his support to Moir. Despite advice to 'leave it to the experts', Moir was undeterred by critics who claimed his specimens were naturally-formed by geological processes, preferring to design experiments to test these objections, and convincing some recalcitrant foes, such as the Abbe Henri Breuil (the Pope of Prehistory) of the validity of his finds. Moir made important finds in the Red Crag of Foxhall Hall, Ipswich, which were examined by Breuil in 1922, in the Red Crag where the remains of a flint workshop, camp and hearths were represented by Moir's finds.

Moir continued to have detractors who challenged the flint implements as

> [Cont. on page 3](#)

Ancient tools of the Crag (cont.)

"There exist at the base of the Crag, in undisturbed strata, worked flints



Fig. 1. Discoveries of ancient tools were made in the clay pits and ancient river gravels in the south-eastern part of England. Suffolk County is in red with Norfolk above and Essex and Kent below.

(we have observed them ourselves). These are not made by anything other than a human or hominid which existed in the Tertiary Epoch. This fact is found by us prehistorians to be absolutely demonstrated."

- 1923 Commission of French, British, Belgian, and U.S. scientists reviewing Moir's findings

'pseudoeoliths,' natural geofoms: the result of pressure by glaciers, natural land movements such as slippage, slumping and grinding against other rocks, water action of streams, rivers and surf. Even icebergs (Warren, 1948) impacting the coastlines of England were proposed as an explanation for the anomalously old implements.

A commission of scientists from France, Britain, Belgium and the U.S. considered Moir's findings at Foxhall Hall, Ipswich: specifically whether or not the flints were man-made. The study concluded in 1923 (Capitan, in Cremo and Thompson 1998: 138): "there exist at the base of the Crag, in undisturbed strata, worked flints (we have observed them ourselves). These are not made by anything other than a human or hominid which existed in the Tertiary Epoch. This fact is found by us prehistorians to be absolutely demonstrated."

Earlier, in 1914, Sir E. Ray Lankester had written about the Norwich test specimen, recovered from under the Norwich Crag at Whitlingham (**Figs. 3a & b**, front page): "It is not possible for anyone acquainted with flint workmanship and also with the non-human fracture of flint to maintain that it is even in a remote degree possible that the sculpturing of the Norwich test flint was produced by other than human agency" (Cremo and Thompson 1998: 123, citing Coles 1968). Moir and other researchers considered the 'rostro-carinate' test specimen to be a forerunner of the handaxes found in early Pleistocene excavation levels.

Moir co-founded the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia with editor W.C. Clarke, (later

to become the Prehistoric Society), which survives today. Sir E. Ray Lankester, head of the British Museum, read Moir's paper, *The Earliest Men*, to the Royal Society in 1939, earning Moir a Fellowship in the society. Moir went on to become President of the Ipswich Museum.

Unlike Stopes' poorly provenanced collection, Moir's efforts, which included commission members visiting the sites of his discoveries, confirming the stratigraphy and seeing firsthand the excavations, handling the flints themselves, confirmed many of his claims to the antiquity of man in England.

Even today, the boundaries of the antiquity of man in England are being pushed further back in time by the efforts of modern-day researchers such as Dr. Chris Stringer, Merit researcher at the Natural History Museum, London, presently excavating at Happisburgh, Norfolk, revealing evidence of man dating back to 950,000 years or older. These more recent finds will be examined in our next installment.

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RICHARD DULLUM is a surgical R.N. working in a large O.R. for the past 30 years as well as a researcher in early human culture. He is also a Vietnam vet with a degree in biology. Dullum has written three prior articles for *Pleistocene Coalition News*.

KEVIN LYNCH is a retired British businessman, an amateur archaeologist, archivist and member of the Prehistoric Society of Britain. An avid collector of flints from his local countryside and beaches, he and his wife live in Hadleigh, Suffolk, and enjoy vacation time at their cottage located at Walton-on-the-Naze, near the largest exposed cliffs of the Red Crag Formation in England. Lynch's specialty is British archaeology of the late 19th and early 20th centuries concentrating on the life and works of J. Reid Moir. He and Richard Dullum have lately blended their interests in prehistory to write a series of articles dealing with the hey-day of British archaeology at the turn of the 20th Century.

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 3

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

PhD, Tephrochronologist (Volcanic ash specialist)

Denver, USGS, 1973

We continue with the saga started last issue. Back from the field, and 1973 passed at a hectic pace. I concentrated zircon phenocrysts from coarse fragments of Hueyatlaco ash and lumps of Tetela brown mud pumice and sent them to Chuck Naeser, the USGS fission-track expert, for possible age dating. Survey geologists in another

branch had become interested in my tephra hydration dating techniques, and I was "loaned out" to try them on some Yellowstone samples. The Yellowstone area had produced many volcanic eruptions, and my tephra hydration/superhydration methods could quickly differentiate between the three main ones, age 0.6, 1.2, and 2.0 million years, this from collection localities as far away as Kansas and Saskatchewan. Meanwhile, I was busy writing a major paper on tephra hydration dating and mineral weathering for the November 1973 INQUA meetings (International Quaternary Association) to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand. It was a busy time and all thoughts of a new dissertation project were put on hold.

Summer drew to a close. Chuck Naeser's fission-track ages came back: 370,000 +/- 200,000 years for zircons in the Hueyatlaco ash and 600,000 +/- 200,000 years for zircons in the Tetela brown mud pumice. The 2-sigma ages meant that there was nearly a 95%

probability that there had been no error in the laboratory examination of the samples. When Cynthia Irwin-Williams learned of the new ages, and that her artifacts came from sedimentary layers we had proved by direct tracing passed beneath (were older than) the dated tephra units, she became almost hysterical. Calling us "the lunatic fringe," she refused to publish her massive Valsequillo Project report until we retracted the ancient dates. She broke contact and refused all further communication with us.

The split with Irwin-Williams was painful, but Hal, Fryx, and I thought it necessary to alert the media to our discovery. This they did in a news conference at the November GSA meetings (Geological Society of America) in Dallas, Texas, while I stayed behind and packed for my flight to New Zealand, leaving the next day. Our announcement was considered NEWS! and it was picked up by the wire services and carried world wide. Scientists on the long flight down to the meetings in Christchurch kidded me about it, and I ended up giving an unplanned second

talk on Hueyatlaco to a packed room while there.

1974-1977, Changes

1974 started on a high note, but then, tragedy. Roald Fryxell (**Fig. 1**) was killed in an automobile accident while doing fieldwork in the Columbia Plateau, Washington state. Shaken to the core by the loss not only of such an essential colleague but also of a dear friend, Hal and I carried on, drafting a manuscript that would cover our

new work at Hueyatlaco. It was to be a small paper, with emphasis on my tephra hydration and mineral weathering studies, so I became first author. In the final Valsequillo compendium report, my contribution probably would only merit a page or two, and that rightly so. It took awhile to come up with a version we could agree upon; our writing styles were so different. In fact, Survey friends wondered at the start of our joint effort how Hal and I,

"The Martinet" and "Pollyanna" could ever manage to work together! As it was, we finished it at last and sent it out for in-house review and editing.

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"When Cynthia Irwin-Williams learned ...that her artifacts... (were older than) the dated tephra units, she became almost hysterical. Calling us "the lunatic fringe," she refused to publish her massive Valsequillo Project report until we retracted the ancient dates. She broke contact and refused all further communication with us."

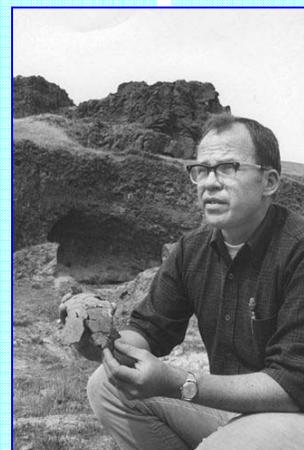


Fig. 1. Late colleague, Roald Fryxell, professor of geochronology at Washington State University. Fryxell worked with the USGS to study and date Hueyatlaco as well as being one of the principals at the Marmes Rockshelter excavation in Washington (pictured here). Fryx was also designer of the device used for collecting core samples of the moon's surface for NASA's *Apollo* program. The lunar crater Fryxell is named after him.

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 3 (cont.)

"Apparently it was highly irregular for a part-time physical science technician to be first author of a paradigm-shaking research paper under the Survey name without going through the proper channels."

The USGS manuscript review process is slow but thorough. It was 1975 before it was O.K.'d. We had decided, given Cynthia's strong reaction to our dates, to slip it quietly into the archaeological record. We chose the proceedings volume of the 1975 Southwestern Anthropological Association/Sociedad Mexicana de Antropología meeting held in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was another conference from hell. So disorganized that the abstract for my second paper, one on tephra hydration dating for the archaeologist, lacked the critical table, the core of the whole piece, because the conveners did not know how to place a table in an abstract. (In it, among other things, I gave the hydration data for a tephra layer immediately above grains of modern corn pollen, from 72 m down in the Bellas Artes sediment core, from Mexico City. It fell in the ca 250,000-year age range on my graph (Fig. 2). [It falls on top of the one for the Buena Vista lapilli, Hueyatlaco area. The black

curve is for a Yellowstone tephra dated at roughly 250,000 years.] Were these beings also farming back then?) We gave our talks, presented our manuscript to the editor of the proceedings volume, and waited for results.

About this time our 1973 news conference and release of the Hueyatlaco dates were having repercussions at the Survey—for me. Apparently it was highly irregular for a part-time physical science technician to be first author of a paradigm-shaking research paper under the Survey name without going through the proper channels. This was news to me, but women geologists were often discounted back then, so I

was never warned about such channels. It was an uncomfortable situation. Having left Ray Wilcox with his blessing, I applied for a PST (physical science technician) position in the branch studying the Yellowstone tephra. I was hoping eventually for a professional position there. Meanwhile, caught between branches, the government initiated a hiring freeze. So there I was in limbo, released from one branch of the Survey, but forbidden to be hired by another. Then we had an arson fire in our building, which forced me to move my smoke-stained office home. When someone "discovered" that my hus-

> [Cont. on page 17](#)

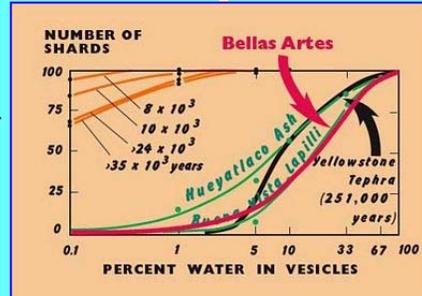


Fig. 2. Shard count curve for the Bellas Artes tephra (in red).

Good News!

The Bailey Library and Archives at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science has agreed to archive paper copies of *Pleistocene Coalition News (PCN)* and make them available to the public.

It is a great relief to have them preserved in physical form.

Only lately, after my third website died (all killed by outside forces) have I realized how fragile a website and an on-line newsletter

could be. Years worth of work. Poof! Gone.

Would those of you willing to donate paper, ink, space, and a little time please make paper copies of the newsletter and file them away somewhere? And those who have influence with libraries—public, private, university, museum,

etc., could you see if they would be willing to do the same, and then let us know? As I'm sure you now realize, our newsletter provides content you simply will not find any-

where else.

Thank you! -VSM

Btw, September-October 2011 will be our 2nd Anniversary issue.



"Only lately... have I realized how fragile a website and an on-line newsletter could be."

VALSEQUILLO, *FORBIDDEN ARCHEOLOGY*, AND I

By Michael A. Cremo

Independent historian of archaeology

"At the very least the find would mean some drastic re-thinking of



the history of man in the New World. The authors of the dating study said in their report that they were 'painfully aware that so great an age poses an archaeological dilemma.'"

I first learned about the Valsequillo site in 1984, when I was just beginning the research that eventually led to the publication of my book *Forbidden Archeology*, coauthored with Richard Thompson. Both Thompson and I were students of the ancient Sanskrit writings of India, which tell of human populations existing at times far earlier than

current scientific theories allow.

Thompson and I first wrote about the Valsequillo case in a 1984 publication called *Origins: Higher Dimensions in Science*. The case was initially brought to our attention by our research assistant Steve Bernath. Thompson and I wrote in *Origins*:

"Moving to the New World, we come to the archaeological site at Valsequillo in southern Mexico. There, in 1962, archaeologist Cynthia Irwin-Williams excavated stone artifacts, including spear-points, representative of a technology usually associated with fully modern (Cro-Magnon) man in Europe. In 1972 and 1973 a team of dating experts, including geologists from the U.S. Geological Survey, using several inde-

pendent dating techniques, found that the layers in which the artifacts were found were about 250,000 years old. ...At the very least the find would mean some drastic rethinking of the history of man in the New World. The authors of the dating study said in their report that they were 'painfully aware that so great an age poses an archaeological dilemma.' The authors knew what they meant when they used the word painfully, for they had met with an extremely hostile reception from archaeologists nationwide, one of whom accused the team of ruining Dr. Irwin-Williams' career. There is indeed a dilemma here, because man is generally thought to have arrived in the New World no earlier than 12,000 years ago, although some extend the date to 30,000 years. The mainstream scientists' resolution of this dilemma is typical—the Valsequillo find is simply not mentioned in standard textbooks and popular accounts of human evolution."

After *Origins* was published, I began a correspondence with Virginia Steen-McIntyre. She provided me with further details about the discoveries and their dating. She also provided me with firsthand accounts of the difficulties she and her colleagues encountered in getting their research

results published and accepted. Thompson and I wrote extensively about the Valsequillo case in *Forbidden Archeology*, which was published in 1993.

At the suggestion of Jean Hunt of the Louisiana Mounds Society, I sent a copy of *Forbidden Archeology* to television producer Bill Cote.

He was beginning work on a documentary called *The Mysterious Origins of Man*, which was broadcast on NBC in 1996. Bill decided he wanted to include some of the cases from *Forbidden Archeology* in his documentary. He asked me which cases would be best. One of the cases I recommended was Valsequillo, and I suggested that he should interview Steen-McIntyre. He got in touch with her, and brought her to the site in Mexico for filming.

The show attracted a lot of attention. A lot of my correspondence with Virginia in relation to the show can be found in my book *Forbidden Archeology's Impact*.

Philanthropist Marshal Payn saw the show and decided to fund new research at Valsequillo. He involved Virginia Steen-McIntyre in that project. Later, an acquaintance of mine who liked my books was traveling through Texas and met Sam VanLandingham, a geologist specializing in using diatom evidence for dating purposes. Sam got a copy of

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Valsequillo, *Forbidden Archeology*, and I (cont.)

"Valsequillo shows how the process of knowledge filtration operates in contemporary science. Theoretical preconceptions influence how scientists react to evidence."

Forbidden Archeology, and after reading some of it Sam began a correspondence with me. Aware of the new work going on at Valsequillo, I put him in touch with Steen-McIntyre, who connected him with Marshal Payn. Sam went to Valsequillo and used diatom evidence to confirm the dates for the site originally obtained by Virginia and her colleagues.

In 2003, I was given a chance to be co-organizer of a session on history of archeology for a meeting of the World Archeological Congress (WAC). I decided to invite Virginia and Sam to present papers about Valsequillo at my session at the meeting, which was held in Washington, DC. They agreed to do it. It was a big conference, with lots of simultaneous sessions, so they did not get as big an audience as I would have liked, but at least I tried (See "The Conference from Hell," March-April 2011 issue, *PCN* newsletter).

After *Forbidden Archeology* was published, I began speaking at universities and scientific institutions around the world (**Fig. 1**), and presenting papers at mainstream conferences of the World Archeological Congress, the European Association of Archeologists (EAA), and other associations. In most of my lectures, I have a section about Valsequillo.

I have always regarded the Valsequillo case as ex-

tremely significant. I am very interested in archeological evidence for extreme

cause them to reject otherwise good evidence that happens to contradict the timeline of that theory. From Virginia Steen-McIntyre, I received first hand testimony and copies of correspondence demonstrating that this happened in connection with Valsequillo.

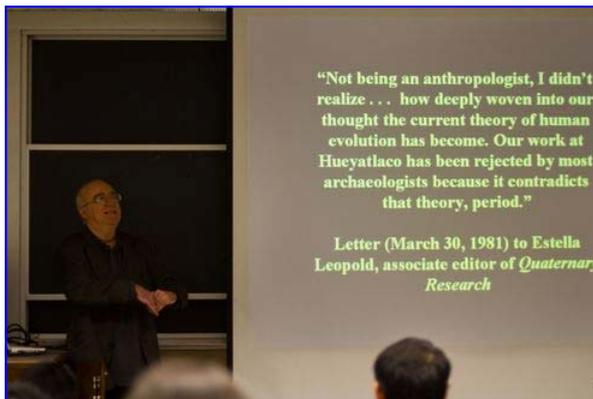


Fig. 1. Michael Cremon speaking about his book *Forbidden Archeology* at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, March 30, 2011. The slide is quoting a 1981 letter from Virginia Steen-McIntyre about the Hueyatlaco site at Valsequillo. Photo courtesy of Michael A. Cremon.

human antiquity. Over the years, I have documented many cases of professional scientists discovering anomalously old human bones, footprints, and artifacts. But most of these cases are from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Critics sometimes reject these cases because they are, in their minds, old, outdated.

Valsequillo was important because it showed that anomalously old archeological finds are still being made by modern scientists, using the latest archeological methods and geological dating techniques.

Not only that, Valsequillo shows how the process of knowledge filtration operates in contemporary science. Theoretical preconceptions influence how scientists react to evidence.

Specifically, the commitments of scientists to the theory of human evolution

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Sadaputa Dasa [Richard L. Thompson], Drutakarma Dasa [Michael A. Cremon], Bhutatma Dasa [Austin Gordon]. 1984. *Origins: Higher Dimensions in Science*. Los Angeles: Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, p. 52.

MICHAEL A. CREMON is a long-time researcher on the topic of human antiquity and an independent historian of archeology. He is best known for his comprehensive volume, *Forbidden Archeology*, which he co-authored along with the late Richard Thompson, as well as for the controversial television special, *The Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charlton Heston.

Website: www.forbiddenarcheologist.com

Latest book: [The Forbidden Archeologist](http://www.forbiddenarcheologist.com)

In my opinion

Reassessing American archaeology: The legacy of Professor George F. Carter

By Tom Baldwin, author, educator, and avocational archaeologist

"Such is the medieval mindset of North American Archaeology today...

anyone who dares challenge this 'party line' is likely to find themselves on a collision course with the academic establishment and subject to its attack and rancor."

Imagine yourself and a good friend cozying up to a fire on a cold winter's eve 700 years ago. Outside the wind sighs through naked branches and rattles the shutters over your windows. Inside, each of you is armed with a tall beaker of warm ale to fortify yourselves against the night's chill. The fire crackles, and pops on the grate. Life is good.

The conversation ranges from the weather to politics, finally fixing on your trusty Irish wolf hound. The question of how many teeth the dog has becomes a topic of importance.

Back in AD 1311 the way to answer such a question would have been to consult Aristotle. You'd look him up, and find that the ancient sage authoritatively states that the number of teeth to be found in a dog's mouth is 30. Question answered. You'd contentedly return to fire, ale, and other topics of interest.

Days later, just out of curiosity, you look in the dog's mouth where you count 28 teeth. Since it is manifest that Aristotle could not have been wrong, you are forced to draw one of only two possible conclusions. Either you miscounted or your animal is hideously malformed.

Move that scene up to the

present, and the same question arises. How would you, a twenty-first-century savant, solve the puzzle—check Aristotle or find the dog and count the teeth for yourself? Hopefully the latter.

Times have changed. How we determine the truth today is more empirical, or at least it should be. There are notable exceptions, North American archaeology for one.

On this continent archaeological sites will only be dug down to the Clovis level (perhaps 13,000 years old) and then, in most cases, the digging will cease. Why?

Because the sages of the academic establishment (our modern day Aristotles) have told us there is nothing to be found in a lower strata. So why bother to dig deeper? Why check for yourself? It wastes time and money.

Such is the medieval mindset of North American Archaeology today; empiricism is abandoned and dogma blindly followed.

To make matters worse, anyone who dares challenge this "party line" is likely to find themselves on a collision course with the academic establishment and subject to its attack and rancor. One does not have to be a reader of this newsletter to realize that.

An interesting exchange took place in the July/August 2010 edition of *Bib-*

lical Archaeology Review. The editor, Hershel Shanks, interviewed Lawrence Stager, a Harvard professor of archaeology, and commented: "To our readers, Biblical archaeology often seems like an enormously argumentative discipline. Archaeologists are sometimes almost derogatory of one another and uncivil. It

> [Cont. on page 9](#)



Fig. 1. The late geographer George Carter of Texas A & M University. Carter was one of the primary proponents of calling American archaeology like it is, driven almost entirely by dogma rather than open scientific inquiry. He regarded the artifact-geofact issue of Calico as manufactured and maintained by mainstream American archaeologists as a means of discrediting evidence for early man in America.

Reassessing American archaeology (cont.)

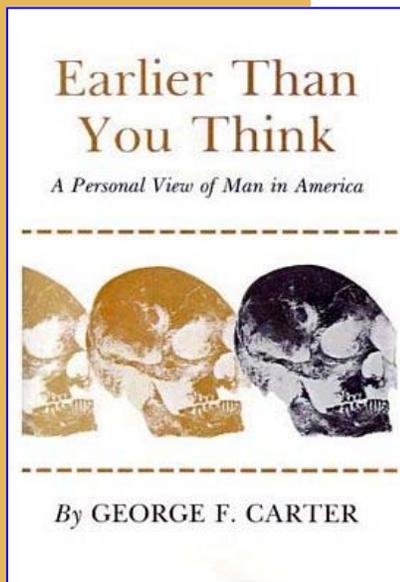


Fig. 2. Fred Budinger, former Director of the Calico Early Man Site, suggested that George Carter's book *Earlier Than You Think* should be required reading for all American archaeologists. As a rule, if mainstream American archaeologists avoid it, consider that reason enough that you definitely should read it.

"Regular readers of this newsletter, however, will no doubt recognize that Stager puts too nice a face on it. In American Paleo-archaeology it often goes beyond name calling, and becomes censorship."

is not simply a critical exchange of ideas, but enormously contentious. Is that peculiar to Biblical archaeology?"

Stager's answer is illuminating. He replied, "I think there is too much of that in Biblical Archaeology. But there is quite a bit in other fields too... I think if you go into depth in places, even in American archaeology, you'll find some very heated arguments—for example, about when did humans first arrive here." How true!

Regular readers of this newsletter, however, will no doubt recognize that Stager puts too nice a face on it. In American Paleo-archaeology it often goes beyond name calling, and becomes censorship.

The archaeological establishment is not content to make light of findings that do not fit into the accepted model. They ignore them or attempt to block them, keeping them from publication and other forms of dissemination. The writings of the late geographer George Carter (**Fig. 1**) of Texas A & M University on the artifact-geofact issue is one example. Have you seen any of them mentioned in recent college textbooks?

Fred Budinger, then Director for the Calico Early Man Site, speaking of Carter's 1980 book *Earlier Than You Think* (**Fig. 2**) wrote in the Friends of Calico newsletter: "[The book] should be required reading for all American archaeologists; especially the chapter titled 'Mankind on

the Rock Pile.' This chapter adequately summarizes the essence of the so-called 'artifact-geofact issue.' Many Americans believe that pseudo-artifacts can be produced easily by natural processes (especially, stream and debris-flow tumbling and collisions). Such is not the case." (See **Fig. 3**.)

Carter states; "The great furor over geofacts versus artifacts is very largely... manufactured and maintained by archaeologists primarily as a rearguard action against the evidence for early man in America... Any situation that challenges his fossilized beliefs in the recency of man in America is uncomfortable, and the easiest way

also called, that allows the archaeological establishment to turn a blind eye to anything they find disturbing or which appears to place humans on this continent earlier than their dogmas allow.

When something is found that would question them, they just say it is not man made, rather it is a geofact, created by nature in a storm, stream bed, etc. The problem is solved and the embarrassing item is thus dismissed.

As Carter points out however, study after study has shown that rocks in streambeds are rounded, not sharpened. He says, "If this were not true then any stream bed you care to look in should



Fig. 3. Stone blade collected by the author from the Lake Manix Surface Industry near Calico, Barstow, California, showing extensive wear to working edges as described by the late geographer George F. Carter. Such patterns are typical of chipped flakes but not of water worn stones. Unlike water worn stones, the ridge and striking platform edges are still pristine.

to deny the evidence is to snort: geofact or natural-fact" (p. 130). One well known establishment archaeologist responded by renaming his labeled geofacts "Carterfacts."

It is this belief in geofacts or pseudo-artifacts as they are

contain numerous examples of chipped and sharpened rocks that cannot be distinguished from man-made items. In fact if streams make stone tools, then all the items you see in museums must really be sus-

> [Cont. on page 10](#)

Reassessing American archaeology (cont.)

"It is this belief in geofacts ...that allows the archaeological establishment to turn a blind eye to anything... which appears to place humans on this continent earlier than their dogmas allow."

"Shearer added that if any of these bones are determined to be human, and if we can't determine race, they are not a NAGPRA issue."

pect" (p. 94). That last statement is profound. In their frenzied attempts at denial, the archaeological establishment is treading a dangerous path.

If streams make tools, then everything we have in our archaeological assemblages becomes dubious. There would be no way to know what humans made and what they didn't.

Carter also notes how wear patterns can be used to tell artifacts from geofacts: "On living sites, wear on flaked stone is limited to obvious working edges: in the concavity of concave scrapers, on the edges of used flakes and knives, on the tips and edges of a drill, and so on. The wear is limited and specific to the use for which the artifact was manufactured.

Wear does not extend all over an artifact or into the hollows of the flake surfaces... The contrast with the pseudo-artifacts [geofacts]... could not be greater. Enormous degrees of wear are evident all over the... rock. Wear is universal. It is not confined to the working edges or to ridges but extends into all depressions" (p. 106).

These and other gems of wisdom can be found in old books and articles, most of them out of print for many years, but not in modern textbooks. A case of Michael Cremo's "knowledge filter" at work.

In issues to come, we hope to resurrect more of these "lost beauties" and present them here in the *PCN* newsletter.

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TOM BALDWIN is an award-winning author, educator, and avocational archaeologist living in Utah. He has also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. Baldwin has been actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, California) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site's excavation Director. Baldwin's recent book, *The Evening and the Morning*, is based on the story of Calico. Along with Ice Age adventure and stories of Native American mysticism the book features a "critical look at the scientific establishment." Baldwin is one of the core editors of *Pleistocene Coalition News*.

Friends of Calico, Inc., Meeting minutes from 2010 and 2011

More on the Calico bones

The Calico Core, Spring 2011 Issue, newsletter for members of the Friends of Calico archaeological site, Yermo, CA., page 6

Feb 2011—board meeting

New business -

Bones at San Bernardino County Museum

Jim Shearer explained that some of these bones, which are large enough to be carbon dated, have turned to stone and fossilized. The rest are too small to test. These artifacts are in the possession of the SBCM and curator

of anthropology, Dee Schroth, is responsible for them, not the BLM.

Shipping of artifacts is not allowed, but any qualified archaeologist interested in studying them may go to the museum for access. This is in keeping with federal law.

Shearer added that if any of these bones are determined to be human, and if we can't determine race, they are not a NAGPRA issue. There are no associated grave goods, artifacts, etc. He stated that the Friends of Calico has no obligation under NAGPRA to do anything about them. Shearer also feels that the people who found the bones would have immediately had them studied/tested if they thought they were important.

Richard Ceretto has also

looked at the bones. Out of the bags available, he felt three or four *could possibly* have human bones, but they probably were not. They were badly weathered so DNA testing might not be possible. He also noted that the fragments have no provenience—they could be from the pits, the trench or from the surface.

Dee Schroth has already had two experts look at the bones and each confirmed they were not human.

It was decided that Friends of Calico would do a faunal analysis on the bones to satisfy any curiosity about them.

George Jefferson was recommended to do the analysis and give an official report. It was moved and seconded that the board find out what Mr. Jefferson would charge.

The footprints that were not

Alleged fossil human footprints near the Hueyatlaco Site

By Harold E. Malde (deceased), Chief Geologist, Classic Valsequillo Project

"The González group has since retracted the claim for the footprints and their 40,000-year age (Mark et al., 2010), but their interpretation of the geology of the area, which differs substantially from the interpretation of the Classic Valsequillo Project group, still stands in the literature."

Following is part of a manuscript written in 2006 by the late Harold E. Malde, chief geologist for

countered in a test pit at Hueyatlaco in 2004, two metres below the lowest layers with artifacts. The

in November, 2007. (VSM)

Alleged Footprints on Cerro Toluquilla

Conflicting results have emerged [2006] for dating the Xalnene tuff, which underlies the Hueyatlaco archaeological site. Paul Renne of the Berkeley Geochronology Center and his colleagues (2005) obtained an age of 1.3 million years by whole-rock argon-argon analysis of a sample taken at an old quarry in the tuff on the western flank of Cerro Toluquilla (Figs. 1a & 1b). Outcrops of Xalnene tuff (Qx) are in maroon, the artifact-bearing Valsequillo alluvium (Qv) in yellow, and the overlying Tetela brown mud (Qvt) in orange. Archaeological sites are shown by red diamonds. This age is supported by finding that the paleomagnetism of the tuff is re-

versed, and this circumstance is interpreted to mean that the tuff cannot be younger than 790,000 years (that is, the Brunhes/Matuyama geomagnetic polarity transition). However, González and her associates (2006a: 213) rely on an Optical Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) date of 40,000 years for a baked sedimentary inclusion in the tuff that they determined to be compatible

> [Cont. on page 12](#)

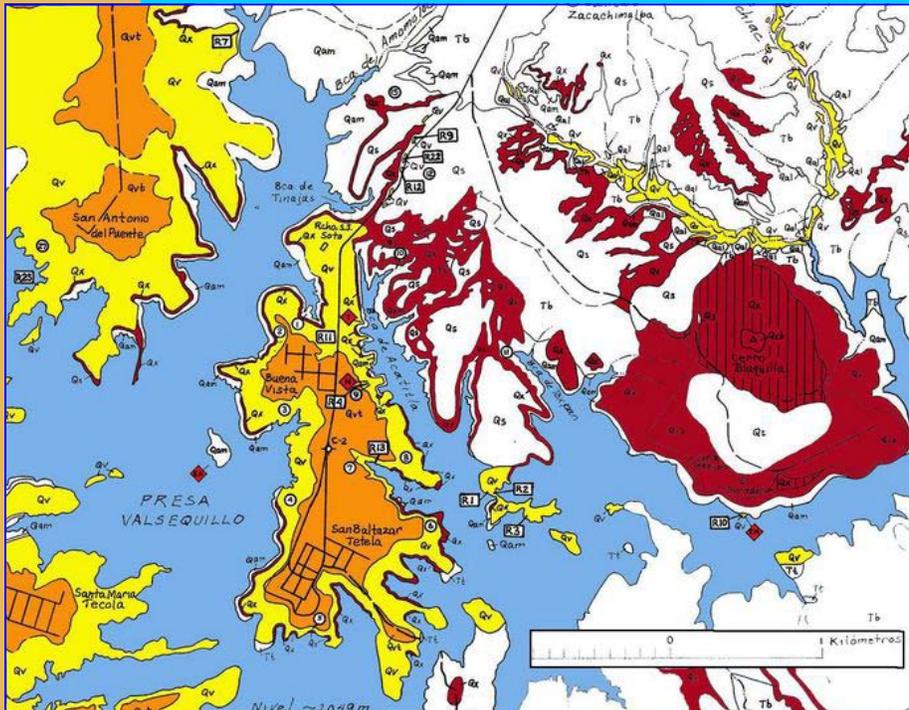


Fig. 1a. Geologic map of the Tetela area, Valsequillo, Mexico, completed by Harold E. Malde, 1964-1966. Original scale 1:20,000.

the Classic Valsequillo Project. It is in response to a 2005 news release by Silvia González, Liverpool John Moores University, UK and her colleagues announcing the alleged discovery of human footprints in the Xalnene tuff on the flanks of Cerro Toluquilla, a large basaltic cinder cone and source of the tuff some two-plus km. east of the Hueyatlaco archaeological site. The Xalnene tuff also was en-

González group has since retracted the claim for the footprints and their 40,000-year age (Mark et al 2010), but their interpretation of the geology of the area, which differs substantially from the interpretation of the Classic Valsequillo Project group, still stands in the literature. Malde addresses both the "footprints" and the González group's geologic interpretation in this, his last manuscript. Hal Malde died

The footprints that were not (cont.)

with the presence of inferred human footprints thought to be indigenous to the tuff at the same old quarry.

Their description of the footprints is quite detailed. González deals with the substrate (lapilli gravel and coarse sandy ash of basaltic composition), with three-dimensional images of the 269 prints with foot indices, i.e. morphology and size, with variations attributed to poor molding. She classifies the footprints as having been made by 67 adults, 87 children, and various animals.

The supposed footprints have been a matter of archaeological excitement, because they would demonstrate that human occupation in the western hemisphere was much earlier than previously defined (Largent 2006). Discovered in 2003, the footprints were not announced by González and her associates until a press release in 2005. They suggested that the footprints had been made by people walking on a beach, formed by the basaltic tuff, on the shore of an ancient lake. González further had a paper "in the mill," but before it could be published she was scooped by Paul Renne, who announced the date of 1.3 million years for the tuff (Renne *et al* 2005.)

The González paper was published in February 2006 (González *et al* 2006a), but she and the editor, James Rose, failed to deal with the conflicting Renne date. The editor settled the dilemma of whether to publish the footprint paper, or withdraw it, by choosing to publish, on the grounds that "the issues identified will only be re-

solved by open evaluation of the evidence and further research" (Rose 2006).

Responding to Renne's date, because her original manuscript had already been accepted for publication in October 2005, González appended a "Note added in proof." Here she rejects Renne's date (claiming that her team couldn't find enough potassium for argon-argon dating).

As for why the Renne date was rejected, González and her associates in their subsequent paper (2006b: 620) refer to the presence of non-atmospheric argon producing spuriously old ages ranging from 2.2 to 4.6 million years. They cite a "saddle" shape, "commonly associated with extraneous argon." However Renne and his coworkers (2005) reported uniformity of the ³⁹Ar released during heating—that is, a "plateau" suggesting that their results are trustworthy. González *et al* (2006a: 201 and Fig. 1) believe the Xalnene tuff is a product of a subaqueous eruption, spread widely in an ancestral lake. Whether González learned this for herself or from Malde's unpublished manuscript on the Valsequillo geology, of which she has a copy, is not revealed in her writing, but she cites the manuscript as a reference (2006b). In any case, the Malde manuscript describes multiple criteria by which the subaqueous origin is identified. Ripple marks are common, such as at a promontory 1.2 km north-east of San Baltazar Tetela, as are instances of cross-bedding. Particularly significant is an outcrop of tuff 3/4

km southeast of San Antonio del Puente, where three layers of Xalnene tuff are present. The upper one, 25 cm thick, displays contorted bedding characteristic of subaqueous slumping. The layers are separated by lacustrine sediment and diatomite.

Further, a wide-spread feature of the Xalnene is a meter or more of massive palagonitized tuff, which is an alteration product produced by reaction with water.

The palagonitized tuff is thought to represent a slurry that was dispersed in the lake. It can be conveniently examined at Malde's Measured Section 15 at Barranca de Amomoloc (Fig. 1). Like the bedded Xalnene tuff, the massive palagonitized tuff rapidly increases in thickness on the flanks of Cerro Toluquilla, where it is two meters thick, according to Malde.

Also, below the Xalnene tuff is found as much as 30 meters of Amomoloc lake beds while above are a maximum of 36 meters of Atoyatenco lake beds. For the most part, the Xalnene tuff was deposited in a long-standing, deep-water lake.

Malde located outcrops of subaqueous Xalnene tuff on thin deposits of Amomoloc lake beds at an altitude of 2100 meters above the east side of Barranca de Caulapan (Fig. 3). The González group's "footprints" occur at an altitude of about 2070 metres, some 30 meters lower. No shoreline of a shallow Pleistocene lake there (2006a: 201), but rather deep water. Impossible that the alleged foot-

> [Cont. on page 13](#)



Fig. 2 The author, the late Hal Malde.

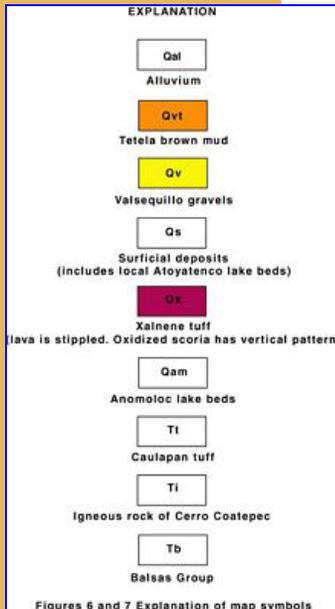


Fig. 1b.

Explanation of map symbols

- Qai** = Alluvium
- Qvt** ('orange,' though Malde labeled it 'brown') = Tetela brown mud
- Qv** (yellow) = Valsequillo gravels
- Qs** = Surficial deposits (includes local Atoyatenco lake beds)
- Qx** (purple) = Xalnene tuff (lava is stippled. Oxidized scoria has vertical pattern)
- Qam** = Anomoloc lake beds
- Tt** = Caulapan tuff
- Ti** = Igneous rock of Cerro Coatepec
- Tb** = Balsas Group

The footprints that were not (cont.)

"In our judgment, these marks are not "trace

prints were made by people and animals walking on the lake bottom. In our judgment, these marks are not "trace fossils," as they interpret them (2006a: 201), but are produced by tools used during quarry operations in the 1960s.

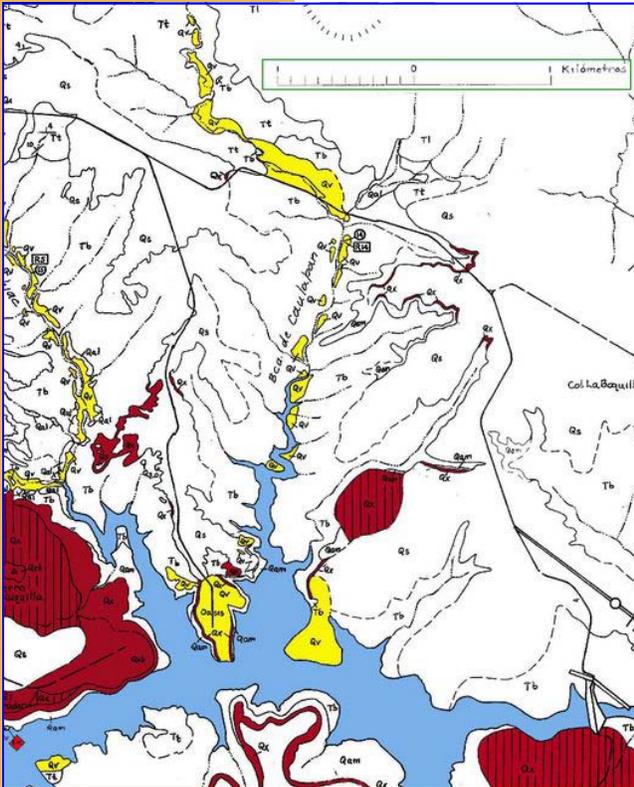


Fig. 3. Geologic map of the Barranca de Caulapan area, completed by Harold E. Malde 1964-1966. Original scale 1:20,000.

fossils," as they interpret them (2006a: 201), but are produced by tools used during quarry operations in the 1960s."

The Short Chronology Proposed by González and others

González and her coworkers (2006b: Table 1) argue for an abbreviated chronology for the upper part of the Valsequillo basin deposits, based on an age of 40,000 years for Xalnene tuff at the bottom. The chronology is supplemented by some new radiocarbon dates from Barranca de Caulapan (**Fig. 3**), together with a compatible date determined by the Electron-Spin-Resonance

(ESR) method on a mammoth tooth (2006b: Fig. 4). To make the chronology consistent, they reject the reported uranium-series and fission-track ages, and the diatom evidence (which partly pertains to Caulapan itself) (2006b: 622). Also, no new ages for the Tetela area, particularly Hueyatlaco or the other sites described by Irwin-Williams, are given. The chronology ends with the Tetela brown mud and the Buena Vista lapilli, which are assigned an age of 8,000 years.

Obviously, this means several seemingly long-lasting geological events must be squeezed into a 40,000 year chronology. However, González herself lists only the upper lake sediments, lahars derived from La Malinche, the Valsequillo Gravels, and the terminal Tetela brown mud and Buena Vista lapilli. She ignores all erosional events. Indeed, she argues (2006b: 620) that there was no major unconformity after the Xalnene tuff. In this, she ignores the significance of valley entrenchment that preceded buildup of the Valsequillo Gravels, which amounted to at least 60 meters of down cutting over a broad area (from 2100m to 2040m). Besides that, one must reckon with the time required to accumulate the 30 meters of Valsequillo Gravels and whatever time it took to dissect the present valley, cutting down a depth of 50 meters to the Rio Atoyac (Steen-McIntyre *et al* 1981: 10).

Our conclusion is that the chronology proposed by González lacks any basis in reality, and that it reveals no comprehension of the processes involved that account for the Valsequillo basin geology.

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HAROLD (HAL) E. MALDE, was a renowned geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey from 1951 to 1987. Apart from his 10-year project at Valsequillo and many other accomplishments Malde also helped with the development of the theory of plate tectonics. His work at Valsequillo gave him an extensive knowledge of volcanic deposits from the nearby volcanoes while he developed the area's geologic maps. Through his work at Valsequillo he was invited to participate with the discoveries of early man in the Peoples Republic of China. Malde's honors include the Geological Society of America's *Kirk Bryan Award* (1970), the U.S. Department of the Interior's *Meritorious Service Award* (1979), and the Nature Conservancy's *Oak Leaf Award* (1993)—their highest honor.

The graphics of Bilzingsleben series

Scientific misconduct over ancient artifact studies and why you should care

Part 1: Proof of straight edge use by *Homo erectus*

By John Feliks

"Psychology will be based on a new foundation, that of the necessary acquirement of each mental power and capacity by gradation. Light will be thrown on the origin of man and his history."

- Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*, 1859, p. 488

"Archaeologists will try every trick in the book to reject your interpretation of the

With Darwin's bold proclamation began what was to essentially become the religion of the modern scientific community and its unwavering acceptance that human intelligence evolves over time. The necessity of finding evidence to fulfill Darwin's

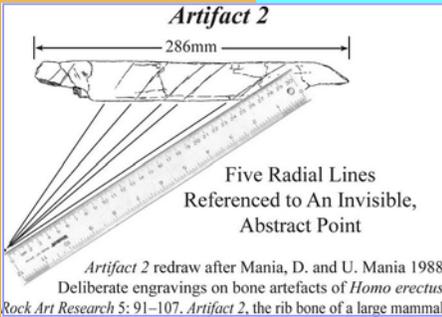


Fig. 2. Conference Slide #4: **Artifact 2.** Five radial lines referenced to an invisible abstract point.

engravings. It is entirely unacceptable to them that they were completely wrong about the cognitive abilities of these people."

prediction has involved the relentless promotion of "halfway-there links" between ape-like ancestors and modern humans with the most crucial link long assigned to *Homo erectus* as an "ape-man." Unfortunately, the science community's faith in applying Darwinism to everything and its increasing intolerance of conflicting ideas have worked together to block from the public any evidence that does not support the ape-man paradigm. Evolution of psychology is the most essential part of this paradigm and the public has a right to know that the paradigm's veracity has been challenged with easily-grasped geometric evidence.

This series is the story of scientific evidence that challenged and disproved the idea that intelligence evolves and the unethical treatment it received

at the hands of science institutions, journals, and competitive researchers. The story begins after I was requested to present the material at the XV UISPP Congress (International Union for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences) in Lisbon, Portugal, 2006.

After five years of fighting censorship from those in power over both the presentation and thesis paper, the thesis version of *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben: Sophistication and subtlety in the mind of Homo erectus* was recently "published," dumped into an obscure miscellanea volume which the reader is encouraged to locate and read.

In the meantime, accept this abridged visual series based

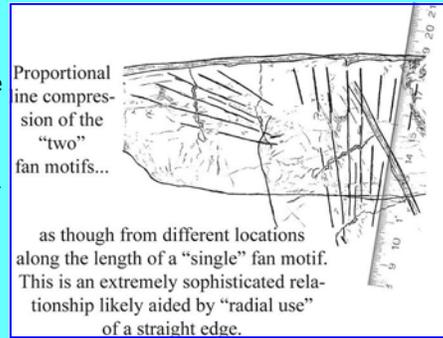


Fig. 1. Slide #14 (of 112) presented at the XV UISPP Congress in Lisbon, 2006. **Artifact 1.** The fact that the materials were presented there was denied in a falsified report within one week of the Congress.

on the original 2006 slides (cropped and converted to b&w) mixed in with the telling of the story about how and why both the pres-

entation and the paper were manipulated in such a way as to obscure that they were ever presented or even written. It is a story involving institutions such as UISPP, IFRAO (International Federation of Rock Art Organizations), EAA (European Association of Archaeologists), New York University, the *Journal of Human Evolution*, and many professors working behind-the-scenes from the safety of anonymity to block these discoveries

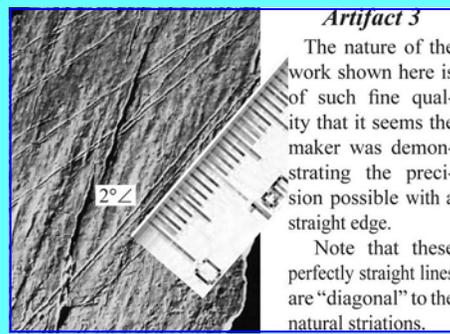


Fig. 3. Conference Slide #7: **Artifact 3.** Demonstrating one of many perfect straight edge angles.

from the public.

Readers can assume that the anonymous reviewers who blocked the paper were leaders in the

field now known as *evolutionary psychology* or those adhering to standard-school

> [Cont. on page 15](#)

Straight edge use by *Homo erectus* (cont.)

"We live today in perilous times for science. ...If we as scientists want to preserve our freedom...now more than ever we have a

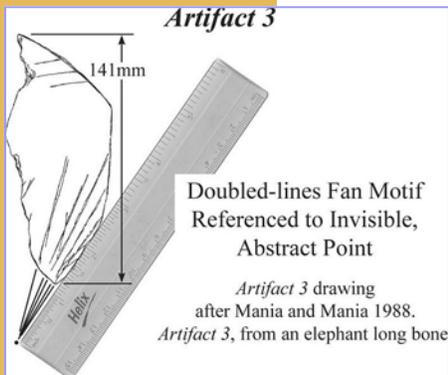


Fig. 5. Slide #5 (of 112). Doubled lines fan motif referenced to invisible abstract point. **Artifact 3.**

responsibility. And that responsibility is to bring our science to the public arena and to speak out as forcefully as we can against even the most cherished beliefs that reflect unsubstantiated myths."

- Elizabeth Loftus, *Skeptical Inquirer* 35 (3): 13. AAAS 2011 award recipient

physical anthropology, i.e. those with a strong bias and major stake in whether or not the public should be permitted to see evidence that readily challenges their paradigm and consensus.

Evolutionary psychology stifles the otherwise objective topic of *early human cognition* by judging submissions according to the field's ideological premise which is improperly built into its name. In normal sciences, field names are objective so that falsifications of an ideology do not threaten an entire field if they should one day appear.

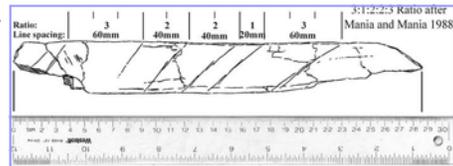
Since adherence to the evolutionary template is now required when writing about the intelligence of ancient people, no innovation such as *straight edge theory* suggesting that there has been no cognitive evolution is accepted. And if one chooses not to follow the template, it makes no difference how rigorous, factual, or scientific the work may be, it will not be published but will immediately be blocked by the peer review system (though informing the reviewers who then may plagiarize) while less rigorous papers—if adhering to the template—breeze through to publication without a hitch. I know these things not only through 15 years' experience but also directly from such well-known authorities as archaeologist Paul G. Bahn (author, *Journey through the Ice Age*).

This is obviously not how normal science works but it is how science works when adherence to an ideology overrides quality or discovery. Consumers of science tend to trust that when they are given information from the science

community that they are receiving objective information that can help them formulate their own impression of the world based on the latest evidence. They have no expectation that certain evidence is being withheld from them in order to facilitate promotion of an ideology; but such is the case when it comes to questions of human ancestry for the simple reason that science has committed to the evolutionary paradigm whether or not it is supported by the facts.

By such means as this, the strongly-requested paper, *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben*, presenting empirical geometric evidence that *Homo erectus* people living in central Germany 400,000 years ago used a straight edge to create the world's oldest duplicated engravings was immediately

censored within one week of its presentation at the XV UISPP Congress in Lisbon, Portugal, 2006 (*Pleistocene*



Artifact 2, the rib bone of a large mammal, is about the same dimensions as a modern day ruler. It is also flat like a ruler, contains markings right to its edges like a ruler, and is straight like a ruler. To get a physical sense of the artifact, simply hold a ruler. (Feliks 2004).

Fig. 4. Slide #12 (of 112). Proposed 400,000-year old straight edge device. **Artifact 2.**

Pa-laeoart of the World session) by way of a falsified report detailed below. It subsequently suffered five years of

the most disreputable treatment the scientific community could muster involving representatives from the above-mentioned organizations and competitive researchers who incorporated ideas from the programs and papers into their own work without citation while the original work was blocked from publication.

The recent publication of the evidence in an obscure miscellanea volume is what made me realize that it was time to tell the story in an

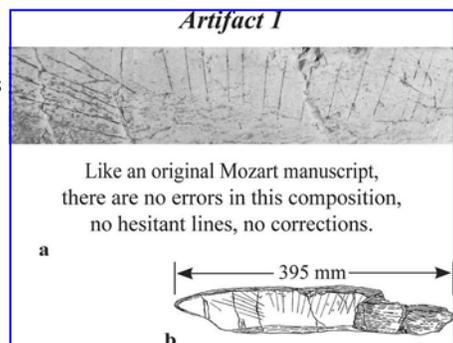


Fig. 6. Slide #2 (of 112). Explicit straightness of line, sharpness and deliberation. **Artifact 1.**

official context as a statement against unethical behaviors in the science community and its forcing of an ideology

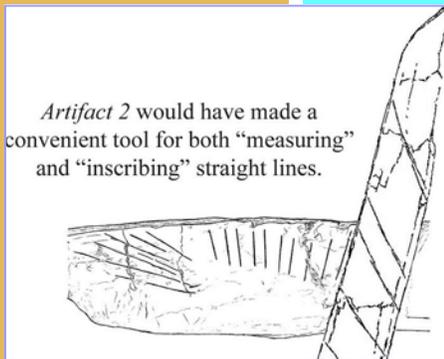
on the public while withholding public right to make informed judgments based on hearing all of the evidence. It

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

Straight edge use by *Homo erectus* (cont.)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JOHN FELIKS is founder of the Pleistocene Coalition and editor-in-chief and layout editor of *Pleistocene Coalition News*. He has specialized in the study of early human cognition for nearly 20 years. His



Artifact 2 would have made a convenient tool for both "measuring" and "inscribing" straight lines.

Fig. 8. Slide #13 (of 112). Artifact 2 is straight and marked in ratio increments. **Artifacts 1 & 2.**

father, a retired tool and die designer, taught Feliks the basic techniques of drafting at a very early age including straight edge, T-square, triangle and compass, while Feliks' mother, along with many open-minded friends and teachers, helped inspire a lifelong interest in archaeology and especially anomalies. Together, along with a healthy skepticism of the evolutionary system, these things encouraged recognizing the precision of drafting techniques in ancient artifacts as opposed to only simple scrapes and notches. Feliks is also a composer and taught computer music including MIDI, digital audio editing, and music notation for 11 years in a college music lab.

is a right worth fighting for.

"[Scientific misconduct] diminishes the vital trust that scientists have in each other. It undermines public confidence in science."

- American Physical Society, November 10, 2002

The Graphics of Bilzingsleben presentation was received

with nothing but accolades from scientists, linguists, engineers, and art historians immediately after presentation and for several months beyond that. One response from an international authority who will remain anonymous at this point stated

succinctly the dilemma faced by the archaeological community due to the evidence presented. It is uncanny the accuracy with which this person described the suppression that was to follow:

"Archaeologists will try every trick in the book to reject your interpretation of the engravings. It is entirely unacceptable to them that they were completely wrong about the cognitive abilities of these people... you do have science on your side... a proposition that is utterly falsifiable. Everyone can repeat your experiment, and the engravings are fixed in time and space. If your calculations are correct... the archaeologists will be stumped."

- Renowned international authority, 2007, five months after *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* was presented

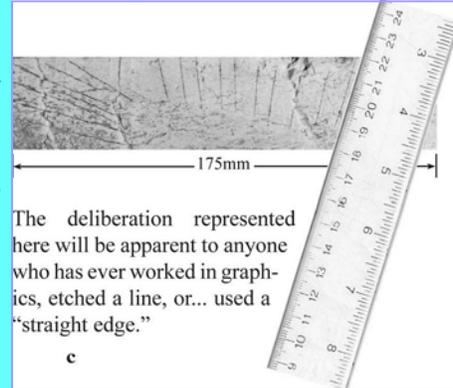
Unfortunately, within one week of presentation both of

my programs were deleted from the record of having

even been presented in a report by an associate of the Chair and delegate of the EAA in *The European Archaeologist* 26, Winter 2006/2007.

Citing each of the presenters in sequence, my programs comprising two back-to-back 20-minute presentations in the middle of the session were deleted, including my name, and making it appear as though I was not even present and so placing me in an awkward position with my 11 sponsors. This is unacceptable behavior in science.

anything more to do with it and, in fact, in a cc'd message told



The deliberation represented here will be apparent to anyone who has ever worked in graphics, etched a line, or... used a "straight edge."

Fig. 7. Slide #3 (of 112). The Bilzingsleben engravings are like modern graphics. **Artifact 1.**

many leading scholars that the work had "no scientific merit." Keep in mind that these were 'proceedings' papers promised publication in advance.

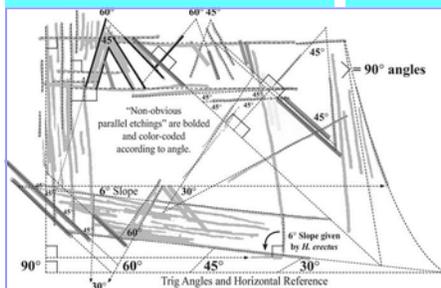


Figure 3. Presence of the special trig angles 30, 45, 60, 90: parallels, diagonals, perpendiculars, and planes (within ±3° deviation).

Fig. 9. Fig. 2g of *The Graphics of Bilzingsleben* (BAR International Series 2224) registered © April 2007 but blocked from publication until 2011. Trig-angles study of **Artifact 6.** I registered the slide programs and Thumbnails Handout in 2006 and the papers in early 2007 being already experienced with misconduct in anthropology including the experience of discovering my work in papers by competitive researchers and reviewers without citation. This is one of several dozen additional slides from 2006 not shown at the Congress.

Next, after first trying to block publication of my Part 2 program, *Phi in the Acheulian*, on the grounds that it was "highly problematic," the Session's Chair, Robert Bednarik—after referring to *Graphics* as "absolutely outstanding and stunning"—refused to have

As a matter of fact, the presentations were 'requested' by Bednarik as he was already familiar with the basics of both *straight edge theory* (Figs. 1-9) and the *earliest duplicated motif* in a paper called, "Musings on the Palaeolithic fan motif," written by request made to me for Bednarik's Festschrift volume, *Exploring the mind of ancient man* (Chapter 23). More on the UISPP scandal later.

Ironically, the second stage of suppression was set into motion by Bednarik's long-time nemesis and correspondent of mine since 1995, Randall White, Professor of Anthropology at NYU, and the *Journal of Human Evolution*.

To be continued...

Hueyatlaco/Valsequillo saga, Part 3 (cont.)

At age 40 I finally received the PhD in geology from the University of Idaho, too old to start at the beginning of a tenure track position, and with the unenviable reputation as a scientific troublemaker.

(continued from page 5)

band worked for the branch I was applying for, they invoked the Nepotism Rule.

Legally, I couldn't even work for the Department of the

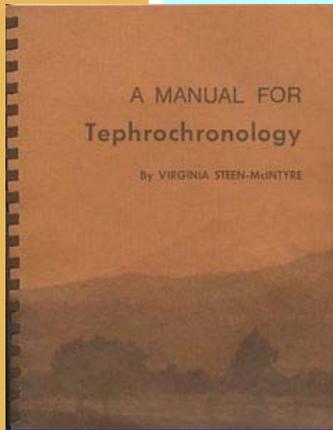


Fig. 3. Front cover of the *Manual for Tephrochronology* by Virginia Steen-McIntyre 1977.

Interior, although I knew of at least four couples where both worked for the USGS. In my case, I was told (verbally, over the phone) that it was best for me to resign from the Survey and to work under contract. I would be paid only as

a PST, not as a professional, about half as much. Sigh. I bit the bullet, resigned, waited for the contract work, and never heard from them again.

Time passed. 1975, 1976, 1977 came and went with no word from the editor of the Santa Fe volume. During that time I was very busy, working on dissertation topic Number 3. This was to be a manual for tephrochronology, wherein I shared my 13 years' experience collecting, cleaning, describing, correlating, and dating tephra samples and deposits (**Fig. 3**). At age 40 I finally received the PhD in geology from the University of Idaho, too old to start at the beginning of a tenure track position, and with the unenviable reputation as a scientific troublemaker.

1978 El Salvador, monolith news, the Armenta

monograph

In 1978, I had a short job in El Salvador, tracing remnants of the tephra blanket from the tbj (tierra blanca joven) eruption of Ilopango caldera. Covering a large area, it buried early Classic Maya sites. It gave one a funny feeling to put the trowel at the base of the ash layer and realize it was tracing the surface that existed just prior to the eruption, and that any pots and dishes found there were in use at the time. I was with the project director, Payson Sheets, when he discovered the Cerén site, "the Mayan Pompeii" as the media called it; a Classic Maya farmhouse built on the tbj tephra and buried by younger basaltic ash from a nearby cinder-cone eruption.

Everything was still in place, the mother's work area, the child's toys, even young maize plants buried upright as they grew in the field outside the door. It turned out to be only one residence of a small village, all completely preserved. Cerén has since been classified as a World Heritage Site.

One positive result for the Valsequillo Saga emerged from the El Salvador trip. I stopped over in Mexico City on the way home to see why our crated monoliths and samples from the Hueyatlaco site were still there and not

up in Denver: It had been five years. Our old nemesis, José Lorenzo, stated that there was no money for it. I believe I assured him we would cover the cost out of our personal funds (and I think Hal Malde did). Anyway, the crates finally were started on their way north.

Another very positive thing happened in 1978. Juan Armenta Camacho privately published his life work in the monograph *Vestigios de labor humana en huesos de animales extintos de Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico* ["Traces of human workmanship on bones of extinct animals from Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico"] (**Fig. 4**). Only 1,000 copies printed, but those copies were sent to correspondents in major

research centers around the world. We quote from it often in the *PCN* newsletter.

VIRGINIA STEEN-McINTYRE, Ph.D, 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 and Richard Thompson's book, *Forbidden Archeology* (1993), and in the Bill Cote television special, *Mysterious Origins of Man*, hosted by Charleton Heston (1996).



Fig. 4. Front cover of Juan Armenta's monograph *Vestigios de labor humana en huesos de animales extintos de Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico* ["Traces of human workmanship on bones of extinct animals from Valsequillo, Puebla, Mexico"] 1978.

Hueyatlatco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 4

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Tephrochronologist (Volcanic ash specialist)

"I had braced myself for the anticipated fury of the archaeological establishment with the publication of our Quaternary Research article.

Except for a letter of complaint to QR from Cynthia and our response, there was no response. Hueyatlatco and the other Valsequillo sites were never mentioned... It was as if they had never existed."

PART 4

Marking time, 1979-1980

Year: 1979. It was only then that we learned that the 1975 Southwestern Anthropological Association/Sociedad Mexicana de Antropología proceedings volume in manuscript form had been passed from one potential editor to another, until it finally was decided not to

QUATERNARY RESEARCH 16, 1-17 (1981)
Geologic Evidence for Age of Deposits at Hueyatlatco Archeological Site, Valsequillo, Mexico

VIRGINIA STEEN-MCINTYRE,¹ ROALD FRYXELL,^{2*} AND HAROLD E. MALDE
U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado 80225, and ²Washington State University,
Pullman, Washington 99161

Received February 13, 1981

Direct tracing of beds during excavation in May 1973, confirmed that the artifact-bearing layers at Hueyatlatco include 10 m of fine-grained, water-laid deposits that constitute part of the widespread Valsequillo gravels. Dissection of these deposits by the adjacent Rio Atzacac has reached a depth of 50 m. The stratigraphic section at Hueyatlatco includes four distinctive tephra units. The oldest one occupies a small channel in a series of cut-and-fill stream deposits that have yielded bifacial tools. It lies more than a meter above fine-grained beds from which edge-roughened tools have been recovered. The three other tephras occur higher in the section. Fission-track ages on zircon phenocrysts from two of the younger tephra layers (370,000 ± 200,000 and 400,000 ± 140,000 yr; 2σ) agree with conventional uranium-oxide dates for a couplet (410 ± 180,000 yr by ²³⁰Th). These dates are compatible with the depth of burial and subsequent dissection of the Hueyatlatco deposits, as well as with the degree of hydration of volcanic glass shards and with the extent of etching of heavy-mineral phenocrysts from within the tephra layers. These findings suggest to us that further search for archaeological remains in deposits as old as those at Hueyatlatco would be warranted.

INTRODUCTION

The Valsequillo area, a few kilometers south of Puebla, Mexico (Fig. 1), has long been famous among vertebrate paleontologists for its extinct Pleistocene fauna (Osborn, 1905). These remains have come from fluvial deposits, informally called the Valsequillo gravels (Aveleyra, 1962, pp. 54-56), which are well exposed in bluffs around the Valsequillo Reservoir. Remains of camel, horse, bison, mastodon, mammoth, four-horned antelope, peccary, tapir, sloth, glyptodont, short-faced bear, dire wolf, and saber-tooth cat are reported (Irwin-Williams, 1967; Kurten, 1967; Guenther, 1968; Guenther *et al.*, 1973). The Valsequillo deposits, as first noted in 1959 by the Mexican prehistorian Juan Armenta Camacho, are also the source of artifacts made of flaked chert and bone (Armenta,

1959; Aveleyra, 1962, pp. 44-46; Armenta, 1978). The discovery of these indisputable artifacts and efforts to determine their geological age has led to this report.

During 1962, controlled excavation on the north shore of the Valsequillo Reservoir by Armenta and Cynthia Irwin-Williams (Irwin-Williams, 1967) uncovered four sites in which vertebrate fossils and stone tools were found together *in situ*: El Horno, El Mirador, Tecacacaco, and Hueyatlatco (Fig. 2). Excavation at Hueyatlatco continued in 1964 and 1966, and the artifacts were shown to compose a typological sequence ranging from edge-trimmed flake tools in the lower levels to well-made bifacial tools in the upper levels (Fig. 3; see also Szabo *et al.*, 1969, Fig. 3). At the same time, Clayton E. Ray, U.S. National Museum, undertook a search for fossil vertebrates, and Malde began field work on the local and regional geology. Steen-McIntyre began a study of the tephra deposits (layers of volcanic ash and pumice) in 1966. Further field work was done by Malde and Steen-McIntyre in 1968.

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² Deceased, May 18, 1974.

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publish the volume at all! Our Hueyatlatco manuscript was returned.

We tried again with a start-up popular magazine to be called *Science 80* in 1980, *Science 81* in 1981 and so on. The editor had heard of our old dates and was excited about them. We sent off the manuscript, now a little frayed around the edges. There followed a silent void of unanswered letters and unreturned phone

calls. I finally cornered him in his office by telephone. He hemmed and hawed saying that the manuscript had fallen down behind a filing cabinet and had been lost. It was returned.

One bright spot in 1980 was a trip to Iceland for a NATO tephra conference. Sigurdur Thorarinnsson, the "father of tephrochronology" made certain I obtained an invitation to speak. I gave talks both on approximate dating of tephra and on the use of tephra to address archaeological problems. It proved to be a broadening experience. Two grim looking Russian "fisherman" were staying at the same hotel, and a European colleague casually mentioned to me that they were K.G.B. agents recording what we were up to. My!

1981, Published at Last!

The Steen-McIntyre, Malde,

Fig. 1. Page 1 of the Steen-McIntyre, Fryxell, Malde manuscript. The paper was finally published in 1981, in the prestigious journal *Quaternary Research*. This was not because the American scientific community had had a change of heart, but only because the then-editor, Steve Porter, knew me personally and responded to my letter of inquiry as a true scientist. He said he did not care how controversial our findings were as long as we had the scientific data to back them up.

Fryxell manuscript was finally published in 1981, in the prestigious journal *Quaternary Research* (Fig. 1). This was only because the then-editor, Steve Porter, knew me personally and responded to my letter of inquiry as a true scientist. He said he did not care how controversial

our findings were as long as we had the scientific data to back them up. I'm sure Hal Malde also wrote to him privately about the whole affair.

So what started out as a small paper meant for a regional proceedings volume ended up as article number one of the 1981 *QR* volume, with worldwide readership. How ironic! So much for keeping things quiet. Sad, too, that so little of the voluminous materials from the Classic Valsequillo Project had yet appeared in the literature: a couple of Cynthia's early articles, the Szabo *et al* 1969 paper, Armenta's 1978 monograph, and now our 1981 *QR* piece. Almost 20 years had elapsed from the start of the project, with very little public information to show for it!

1981-1994 Drifting

I had braced myself for the anticipated fury of the archaeological establishment with the publication of our *Quaternary Research* article. What I hadn't prepared for was—nothing! Nada! Except for a letter of complaint to *QR* from Cynthia and our response, there was no response. No personal letters of inquiry, nothing in the establishment archaeological journals, at least that I was aware of. Hueyatlatco and the other Valsequillo sites were never mentioned when Early Man sites were discussed in the media. It was as if they had never existed. And, of course, I was never asked to > [Cont. on page 19](#)

Hueyatlatco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 4 (cont.)

speak at another meeting of professional archaeologists.

For a brief span I was an adjunct professor in the anthropology department at a Colorado University, but for some reason the rules were changed for adjunct professors, and I no longer qualified. My contract was not renewed.

I became acquainted with geologist/archaeologist Jeff Goodman, and drove to Flagstaff, Arizona to examine what has come to be called the Flagstaff Stone, a fragment of scribed tuff (indurated volcanic ash). It had been recovered from the spoil pile as the crew was excavating the "100,000 year soil" some 20 feet down in their pit on a mountain north of Flagstaff. The deep lines cut into it were definitely not natural, and the sequence of weathering products covering the scribed marks (younger than the marks) agreed with its potential great age.

My correspondence fell off dramatically. Before, I could count on a chatty letter or two from old colleagues at least monthly; now I was lucky if response to my inquiries exceeded 10 per cent! Nothing was ever said to the face, but apparently a lot was said behind the back.

I did manage one more professional article, on tephrochronology and its application to archaeology, published 1985 in the book *Archaeological Geology*, but that was the last one. For the next decade I essentially was out of the writing field.

Still active, but in a very different way! Beloved family members were aging and needed help. Being "free" (i.e. without a paying job) I took on the caregiver role, and for nine years divided my time between Florida, Washington (state), and Colorado.

And there was loss. Cynthia Irwin-Williams died in 1990, from an overdose of her prescription medicines according to her executor, George Agogino. Juan Armenta Camacho died a few years later: kidney failure. Later, our Mexican nemesis died of cancer; Marie Wormington, Cynthia's mentor, in a house fire; Scotty MacNeish, one of her counselors in a car crash; George Agogino of cancer. It was the passing of an era.

Michael Cremo and I became acquainted during this time and exchanged many letters. He and Richard Thompson were compiling data for their book, *Forbidden Archeology* (Fig. 2), and they were interested in my experiences (or lack of them!) with the archaeological establishment. The first edition (914 pages!) was published in 1993. It was Michael who began to mention the Hueyatlatco site and my problems with it while on his lecture and media tours; free publicity that soon opened up many doors for me.

I corresponded also with George Carter (see article by Tom Baldwin also in this issue) and his old friend Herb Minshall, and heard for the first time of their many old sites in southern California and of the Black's Fork culture in Wyoming. Emma Lou Davis and I re-connected, and I learned of her work with old sites in the Mojave Desert. We had first

met on an INQUA field trip (International Quaternary Association) in 1965.

Was it Michael or George that

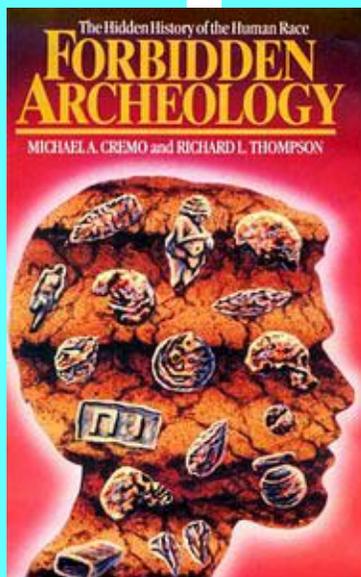


Fig. 2. Michael Cremo's and Richard Thompson's groundbreaking and dangerous to the mainstream book *Forbidden Archeology*.

mentioned my name to the producers of the TV program "Sightings"? Anyway, they had learned of Hueyatlatco and my troubles with it and wanted to do a segment on it for their TV series. "What the heck!" thought I, it would be a new experience. When it finally aired, it was perhaps only a minute or two long, but it was long enough to catch the attention of producer Bill Cote and philanthropist Marshall Payn,

and to start my professional career, what there was of it, moving forward once again!

1995-1996 The controversial *Mysterious Origins of Man* film

Early 1995. I was contacted by producer Bill Cote about doing a segment for his film project, *The Mysterious Origins of Man*. Honored! Bill had recently won an Emmy for his documentary, *The Mystery of the Sphinx*. I knew he would handle my segment in a thoroughly professional manner.

Quite a crew of us descended on the City of Puebla that spring: Bill, his wife and assistant Carol, cameraman and partner John Cheshire, a soundman, and archaeologist Neil Steede. Mine was only one stop on their tour, one that would continue down to

> [Cont. on page 20](#)

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](#)

Hueyatlatco/Valsequillo Saga, Part 4 (cont.)

"They were fortunate enough to contact and interview Ce-



Fig. 3. Still from Bill Cote's award-winning documentary, *Valsequillo: An Archaeological Enigma*, with Celine Armenta, Juan Armenta's daughter, recounting some of the treatment her father received at the hands of scientific authorities in Mexico. The interview was also part of Cote's 1996 film, *The Mysterious Origins of Man, Part 2: Challenging New Theories*. Used with permission.

line Armenta, Juan's daughter (Fig. 3). She provided some fascinating background information about her father's trials and tribulations."

South America. We located the old Hueyatlatco site, but it looked different. For one thing, the drought had broken long ago, and what was once bare dirt with an occasional thorn tree or cactus was now a green, grassy slope. Also, the water in the reservoir was high, flooding the lower section where the artifact-bearing beds were located. The meter-thick Hueyatlatco ash layer was still exposed, well above the water line, although diminished in area by 22 years' of erosion; the Tetela brown mud unit, higher yet, still could be identified.

I was filmed walking along the waters' edge and banging with my rock hammer on the tephra deposits. Later I did an interview at the hotel

in a makeshift studio. They were fortunate enough to contact and interview Celine Armenta, Juan's daughter (**Fig. 3**). She provided some fascinating background information about her father's trials and tribulations.

The film aired on NBC in March 1996, with Charlton Heston as narrator (**Fig. 4**). And met with howls of protest and threats from the archaeological establishment! For a feeling of the response, see Bill Cote's piece, last issue and Michael Cremo's article in the January-February 2011 PCN newsletter. *Mysterious Origins of Man* was definitely *not* a politically correct film!

With Hueyatlatco and the Valsequillo sites finally in the public eye, I began once again to give talks to small, interested groups, and to write articles for them. And a new wrinkle: I wrote a couple of longer articles for niche magazines (*The Barnes Review*, *the Australian NEXUS*.) For pay!

VIRGINIA STEEN-McINTYRE, PhD, is

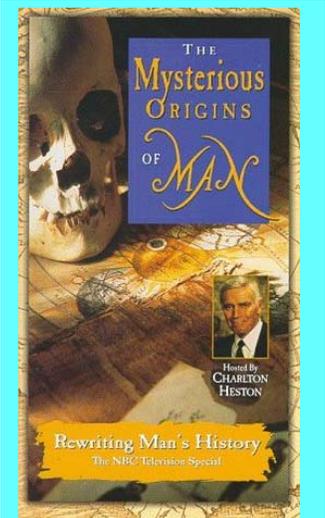


Fig. 4. Bill Cote's controversial documentary, *Mysterious Origins of Man*, shown on NBC to the outrage of scientists everywhere and hosted by Charleton Heston.

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

Utah mammoths

Professor emeritus of Linguistics at Northern Arizona University and rock art photographer Ekkehart Malotki

be 11,000-13,000 years old demonstrating that contrary to prior expectations early Native Americans have long been capable of fully representational art.



Fig. 1. Drawing of the Native American rock art panel showing two mammoth depictions (far left and second from right) believed c. 11,000-13,000 BP. Drawing by Rob Ciaccio; image quality as in pdf submitted.

along with Henry D. Wallace (Desert Archaeology, Inc.) have published their complete scientific report on the discovery of *two* mammoth representations in Utah (**Fig. 1**). The images are believed to

Their case is well made both in the physical science involved as well as in the logical discussion of origins and questions of possible forgery. The images are clearly genuine and not forgeries.

Reference

Malotki, E., and H. D. Wallace. 2011. *Rock Art Research* 28 (2): 1.

Contacts

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EKKEHART MALOTKI is an expert on Hopi language and culture. He was also Hopi language consultant for the ground-breaking film *Koyaanisqatsi* (Life Out of Balance), scored by Philip Glass.

HENRY WALLACE is an expert on the Hohokam culture of the American Southwest.

Avocational archaeology

More on taking better photographs

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

In issue 10 of this newsletter ([PCN, March-April, 2011](#)) we

had a short article by Dave McIntyre on how to photograph lithic artifacts using a digital camera and a computer. Slick and relatively easy, with excellent results. But

50 years ago (BC - before computers) we still were able to take excellent shots. The methods had evolved over decades and, while more time consuming, can be used just as well today.

Fig. 1 has been contributed by "Ricky Bobby," the young son of a member who used his cell phone to show us how *not* to photograph his dad's lithic artifacts. Note the busy background, multiple pieces, distant view, lack of a metric scale, shadows, sharp contrast between the various colored specimens. These are all problems that need to be addressed in order to have a professional-quality photo. Some suggestions on how to solve these types of problems are given below:

Background: Purchase a yard each of white, light gray, and black velvet or similar fabric. Keep them protected from dust and

keep them rolled instead of folded to prevent wrinkles. Velvet has a matte finish and will not reflect your light sources back into the camera.

Multiple specimens: Good for your reference file, but not that great for an illustration—too much information. Best to use one, or if you are doing a comparison, two or three pieces (with metric scale! i.e. showing millimeters as this is the modern standard for science). Also, point out exactly what is the comparison you are making between the specimens.

Distant view: Doesn't give much information about an individual piece. Take a vertical shot to cut out distortion (may need a tripod to hold the camera) and get in close so that the specimen (with metric scale!) fills most of the screen.

Lack of metric scale: The lack of a scale can really give a distorted picture of a piece! Are we looking at a spear point or a bird point? A scraper or a micro-flake? And metric instead of inches because that's how most of the world measures things, and our newsletter goes out worldwide.

Shadows: Shadows can distort an image. To minimize them, shoot vertically and use two or more light sources, coming from different angles. Take a clean sheet of glass, perhaps a piece of window glass or one taken from a picture frame (frosted or non-glare

would be best.) Mount it somehow so that it is a couple of inches above your background velvet and parallel to it. Place your specimen on it. When you take your shot (with scale!), the background will be out of focus so that any wrinkle or lint won't distract from the specimen and your shadow problem should be minimal. Just watch for "burn" spots on the glass caused by the reflection of your light sources.

Color contrast between specimens: Say you want to compare the flake scars on two specimens in the same photo, one "white" and one "black." How can you do it? Your shot will be underexposed for one and/or overexposed for the other. There is (or was) a method called "fuming" that I've heard of but never have tried. (Can any of our readers supply details about this technique?) You put your specimens in an airtight box along with an open dish each of ammonia and hydrochloric acid. The vapors from the two dishes combine and form a white precipitate which settles out on everything inside the box, including the artifacts. The flaking detail shows up very well because the colors of the original rocks are masked. The precipitate is water soluble and can later be washed away.

Any questions? Comments?

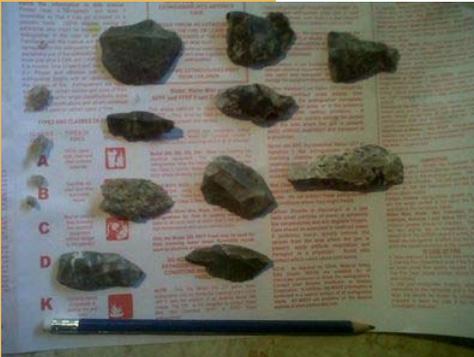


Fig. 1. How 'not' to photograph stone tools or "lithics." Example used with permission of the photographer, Ricky Bobby.

"Take a vertical shot to cut out distortion (may need a tripod to hold the camera) and get in close so that the specimen (with metric scale!) fills most of the screen."



The Pleistocene Coalition

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