

# SASQUATCH SCULPTURE

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### Sculpture Creation and Discourse



#### SASQUATCH

Said to inhabit North American forests, the sasquatch is a hair-covered, man-like primate often reported to be over seven feet tall and to weigh in excess of 500 pounds. Sasquatch sightings are believed to predate recorded history. The first newspaper report of a credible sighting appeared in 1818.

The entire sculpture including the base occupies a space 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 16 inches deep. The sculpture itself and “snow” is made of natural clay. The entire work weighs in excess of 60 pounds. The monument stand (black box) on the right is hinged at the back and lifts to provide a little compartment for documents.

# SCULPTURE CREATION

In March 2012, I embarked on a project to create a large (about 24 inches high by 12 inches wide) clay sasquatch sculpture. Anything that large requires a rigid skeleton. My son Chris (a plumber), made for me a basic copper pipe skeleton. This I covered in carved styrofoam bound in copper wire and then covered in galvanized wire mesh.

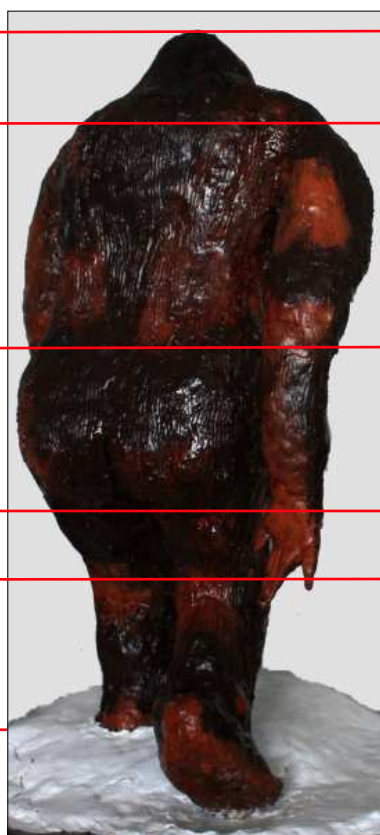
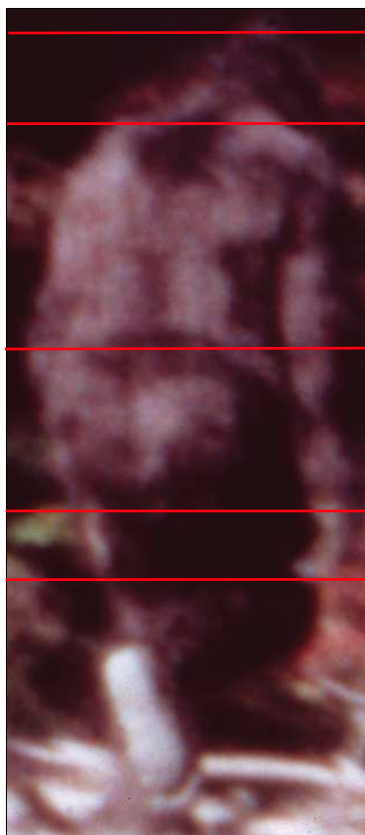
Natural white artist's sculpturing clay was used with the addition of clear scenic glue painted on the wet clay in stages. I have found that this glue helps to prevent minor surface cracks when the clay dries. It also forms a thin flexible "skin" that helps to further hold the sculpture together. I used the same process on other sculptures, now some 8 years old, and there have not been any problem.

The final sculpture was painted with acrylic paints and then painted with "satin" Varathane. The latter seals the clay, making it somewhat waterproof. The entire sculpture including the base occupies a space 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 16 inches deep.

The proportions of the sculpture are basically what can be seen as those of the creature in frame 61 of the Patterson/Gimlin film (P/G film) as illustrated here with proportion lines. I have made the sculpture a male, so I believe the actual creature would be both taller and proportionately wider than the P/G film subject. The image on the far right provides a possible comparison. Although there are concerns with some people regarding the P/G film, many (if not most) sighting reports when taken collectively indicate reasonably the same proportions, especially the general "massiveness" and the long arms.

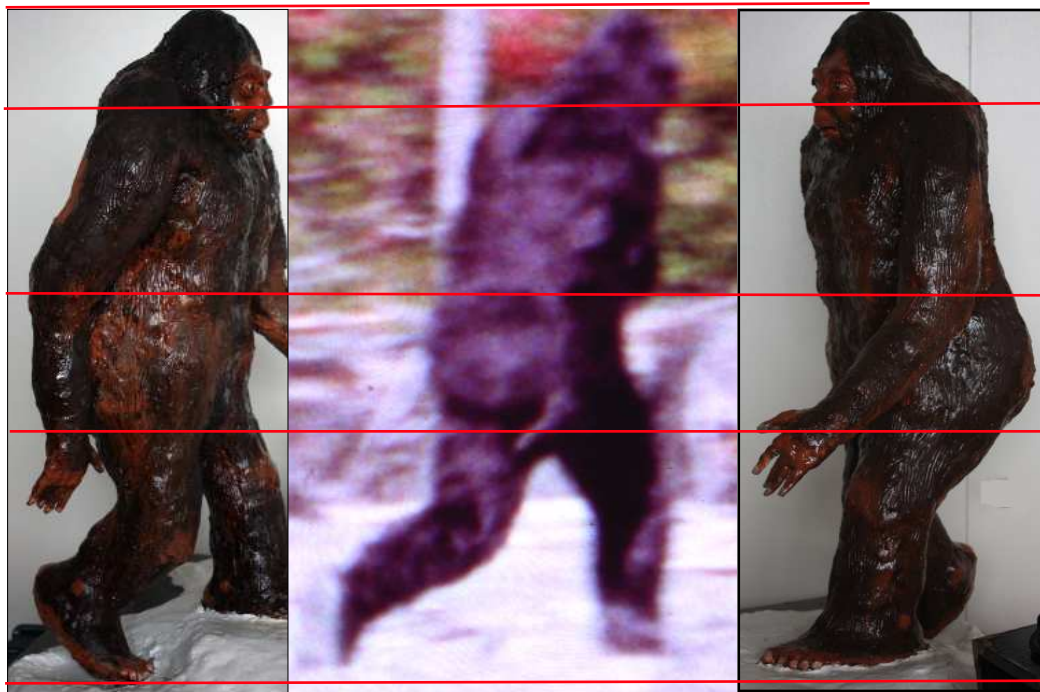


*Sculpture frame and finished work. Please keep in mind that the VALUE of artwork is the EXPRESSION it conveys, not the degree of perfection (artistic talent) present. The work is not, as it were, "scientific."*





Here is a comparison with frame 310 of the P/G film. It can be seen again that the sculpture is “in the ballpark.” One discrepancy might be the thickness of the legs. However, if we look at frame 72 of the film we get a totally different impression of the legs from that seen in other frames. One of the BC reports states that the creature had “legs like tree stumps.” We can sort of see this in frame 72, but definitely not in the other frames. Camera angle possibly has a lot to do with this.



One will notice that at certain angles the sculpture appears very animal-like — specifically, a long-armed, short-legged ape, built more for knuckle-walking than on two legs. There is even a similarity here with a gorilla. The main difference in the bodies is that the gorilla’s legs are much shorter, and its buttocks region is totally below its stomach.

As you rotate the sculpture the degree of change in its appearance is so drastic that you have trouble reconciling the fact that it is the same work. Remarkably, in my opinion, this experience is not unlike looking at the twelve Cibachrome prints from the P/G film. We go from definitely an ape of some sort (frames 61 and 72), to more like a man (frames 307 to 332), to a mis-shaped man (frames 339 and 343) to definitely an ape-man/woman, (frames 350 to 364). If all the film frames sort of tallied with what we see in frames 61 and 72, I think there would be much less controversy over the authenticity of the film.



### Cibachrome Prints from the P/G film



The sculpture has reasonable similarity with frames 61 and 72, then marginal similarity with frames 339 and 343. There is little or no close similarity with the other frames, save perhaps slightly with frame 362. Sculptures and artwork by others is all based on frame 352. If it were based on frame 61 it would be very different.

# DISCOURSE

## The Sasquatch Head

Some witnesses have stated that the sasquatch has a very large head. The creature in the P/G film supports this observation. It appears its head to walking height ratio 5 to 1. In other words, five heads equals its walking height. If it were standing perfectly erect, then we can reasonably add another head, making the ratio 6 to 1. Adult humans have a standing height ration of 8 to 1. Why would the sasquatch need such a large head? Aside from the unlikely conclusion that the creature has a sagittal crest, we might conclude that it simply has a very large and thick skull. The head is very vulnerable, so a thick skull would be an asset. Having said that, the head can also be used as a weapon. A creature with a large head and a thick skull would have the advantage in some confrontations.

## The Sasquatch Neck

One of the most common observations is that the creature does not appear to have a neck. Its head appears to sit directly on its shoulders like a football player. This is actually a good comparison. The football player has padding to protect his neck (i.e., shoulder padding) and he wears a helmet to protect his head. It is likely the sasquatch resolved the issue of neck protection by having high shoulders, and its thick skull took the place of a helmet.

## The Sasquatch Head Hair, Facial Hair and Facial Features

I think there is little doubt that the sasquatch has thick brow ridges, a short flat nose, a wide upper lip area, thin lips, and a small chin. Most reports when taken collectively confirm this. As to facial hair, witness reports range from no hair, to some hair, to lots of hair and even beards. Notwithstanding females and young sasquatch, if an adult male has a beard, then all adult males should have such. I believe all primates, except humans, are consistent in this regard. With humans, Native North American men do not have facial hair unless (to my knowledge) their parents or ancestors have interbred with non-native people. Whatever the case, to my knowledge, human head and facial hair continually grows and must be cut when it becomes inconvenient.

The only likely answer to this whole issue is that the sasquatch may have long head hair that stops growing or falls out at a certain point, like that seen on the orangutan. It also may have short facial hair that stops growing, like that seen on both the orangutan and,



*Sculpture face.*



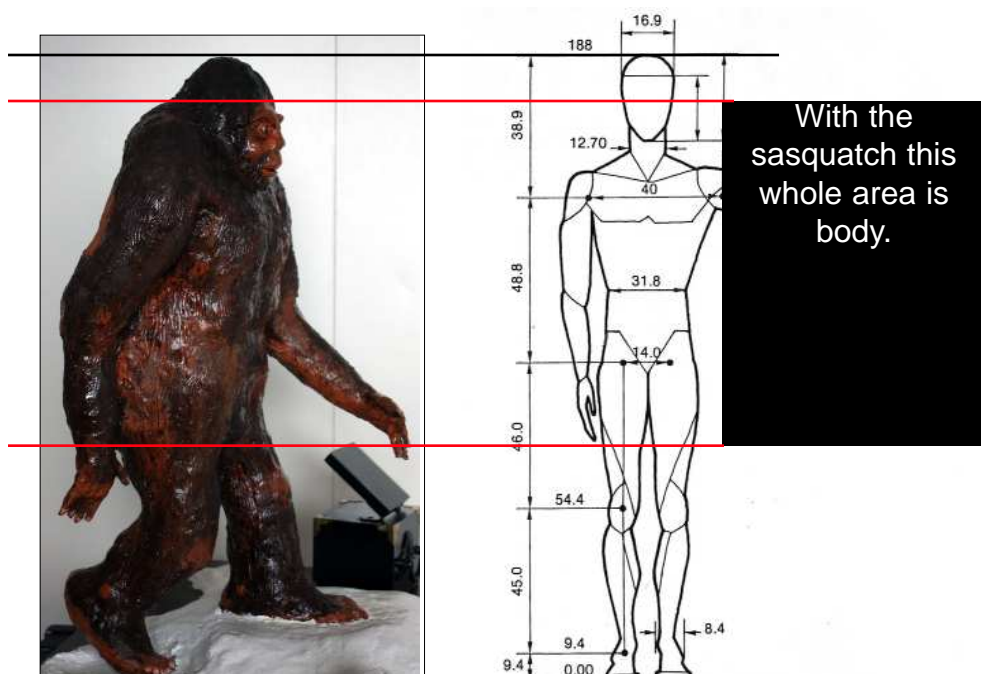
more particularly, the gorilla. From a distance such hair might be taken as simply “dark skin” in some cases. If sasquatch head hair and facial hair is the same as human hair, the creature must have a way to “cut” it when it becomes too long—perhaps uses its teeth.

## Sasquatch Eyes

Peter Byrne has brought to our attention that judging by the P/G film, the sasquatch appears to have what can only be termed as *strictly* “human eyes.” It appears the sasquatch, like humans, has prominent and continually visible white (or near white) sclera (whites of the eyes). Although non-humans have white sclera, such is not prominent and continually visible (can only be seen sometimes). It is believed that humans evolved or came to have this feature to aid in communications — one can sort of tell what a person is thinking by watching the action of his or her eyeballs moving about on a white background. The inference, of course, in connection with the sasquatch is that this feature likely makes the creature human-related.\*

## Sasquatch Arms

Both witness reports and the P/G film indicate that the creature has very long arms. It has been said that its hands reach down to its knees. The fact that the creature has very short legs would seemingly compensate, making the arms simply appear long. However, this is not the case because of the length of the body, which includes what would be its neck and its very large buttocks region.



*Orangutan — Note the long head hair and short facial hair.*



*Gorilla. — Note the short head hair and short facial hair.*

\*I need to mention here that Albert Ostman noticed the creatures he encountered had white sclera. If one believes Ostman's account, then this confirms Byrne's observation.

## Sasquatch Hands

Although I did off-set the thumb somewhat in the sculpture hands (reflecting on the Freeman hand cast) the effect was only marginally the same. The P/G film does not reasonably show the thumb position, but what we can see of the hands appears to indicate they would not be too different from human hands. Other hand casts (non-Freeman) appear to confirm this. With regard to the size of the hands, they are reasonably proportional to Frame 61 of the P/G film.

## Sasquatch Feet

We naturally know more about sasquatch feet than any other part of its anatomy. In the sculpture, I have made them reasonably proportional to the P/G film. The left foot is planted in “snow” (a thin layer for arguments sake). The intended “message” is that the foot has sunk about one inch into the snow/soil. The right foot is lifted slightly revealing a thick (heavily padded) sole. The foot is angled out slightly, as we see in Frame 61 of the P/G film. It is important to note that the heel curves “out and up.” As a result, the degree of heel registration in a footprint depends on the depth of the print. Generally speaking, at a depth of one inch, a sasquatch footprint is about one inch short of the length of its actual foot.

The fact that the creature is stepping up slightly was not originally planned. As I progressed, I determined that the weight of the clay was likely best “managed” under the step arrangement.

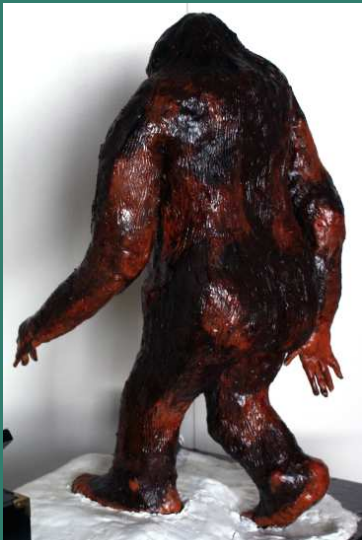
## WHAT KIND OF CREATURE IS THE SASQUATCH?

What I have inadvertently ended-up with is something that physically appears to be far more “ape-like” than “human-like.” However, it has several characteristic that strongly favor the latter, and in my opinion to disregard a possible human relationship would be a mistake. It is possible that how much of the creature is seen, and the angle it is seen at, makes a difference as to the impression a witness gets. On the next page I provide a series of images taken as the sculpture was rotated. However, this provides just one set of views. When the camera is position higher or lower, one sees other variations. The total number of all variations is essentially infinite. When lighting is brought into the equation, this adds even more variations. Like beauty, the nature of the sasquatch appears to be in the eye of the beholder.





## CLOCKWISE ROTATION OF THE SCULPTURE



## Skeleton Comparison



Here I have taken the skeleton which we believe would be that of the P/G film creature (Green's, *The Best of Sasquatch/Bigfoot*, page 6) and free transformed it onto an image of the sculpture. With a little imagination to compensate for the different stances, it can be seen that there is a reasonable match. In other words, a skeleton of this nature would correspond to the creature depicted. I did not use the skeleton for measurements in creating the sculpture. What I show here was an afterthought. However, as I used the P/G film for guidance, and the skeleton was based on the film, then there will naturally be a correlation.

My sculpture, as I have previously stated, would represent a larger and bulkier creature than the P/G film subject. The bones would be bigger, thicker and heavier. Nevertheless, the relative "layout" (for lack of a better word) would be generally the same.

It appears that the main structural difference between a human and a sasquatch is the length of the latter's arms and legs in relation to its upper body. The speculated skeleton seen here is well outside humans as we know them.

I also believe, again previously stated, that head size is a major factor. People report that the creature had a big head. I believe the head is about 1/6 (maximum) of its standing height. I don't believe a normal human adult could have a head that large.



## A Burning Question — Answered Perhaps?



What I have provided here is very low shot of the back of the sculpture. If this were the only image, one would have difficulty explaining that from other angles the creature has very short legs and exceptionally long arms. That what is seen here could pass for a man in a suit would be quite reasonable. Obviously, when the camera (or one's eye view) is below about the "mid section," then the image will appear taller. Going above the mid-section makes it appear shorter. Is it likely that Patterson's physical height influenced what we see in the film frames? Frame 352, for example, does not appear to show a long-armed, short-legged creature. Had Patterson been 6 feet tall, I think the images would have been quite different. At about 5 feet 3 inches, Patterson was about 2 feet shorter than the creature. On top of that, he was likely stooped over a bit when he took the later frames. As to the early frames (Frames 61 and 72), I don't know what happened here. These are good "sasquatch shots." They were taken at a different distance and in a different area. It is possible that ground level played a part.

In my opinion, about 80% of witness reports describe a creature that reasonably corresponds with my sculpture. I would say that about half of those that don't fit are in the "looks more human" category. The other half appears to be something else entirely (wild man or hermit sort of thing).

It is possible that those in the "looks more human" category are the result of the high/low angle at which the creature was observed. However, elevation does not have to be a factor.

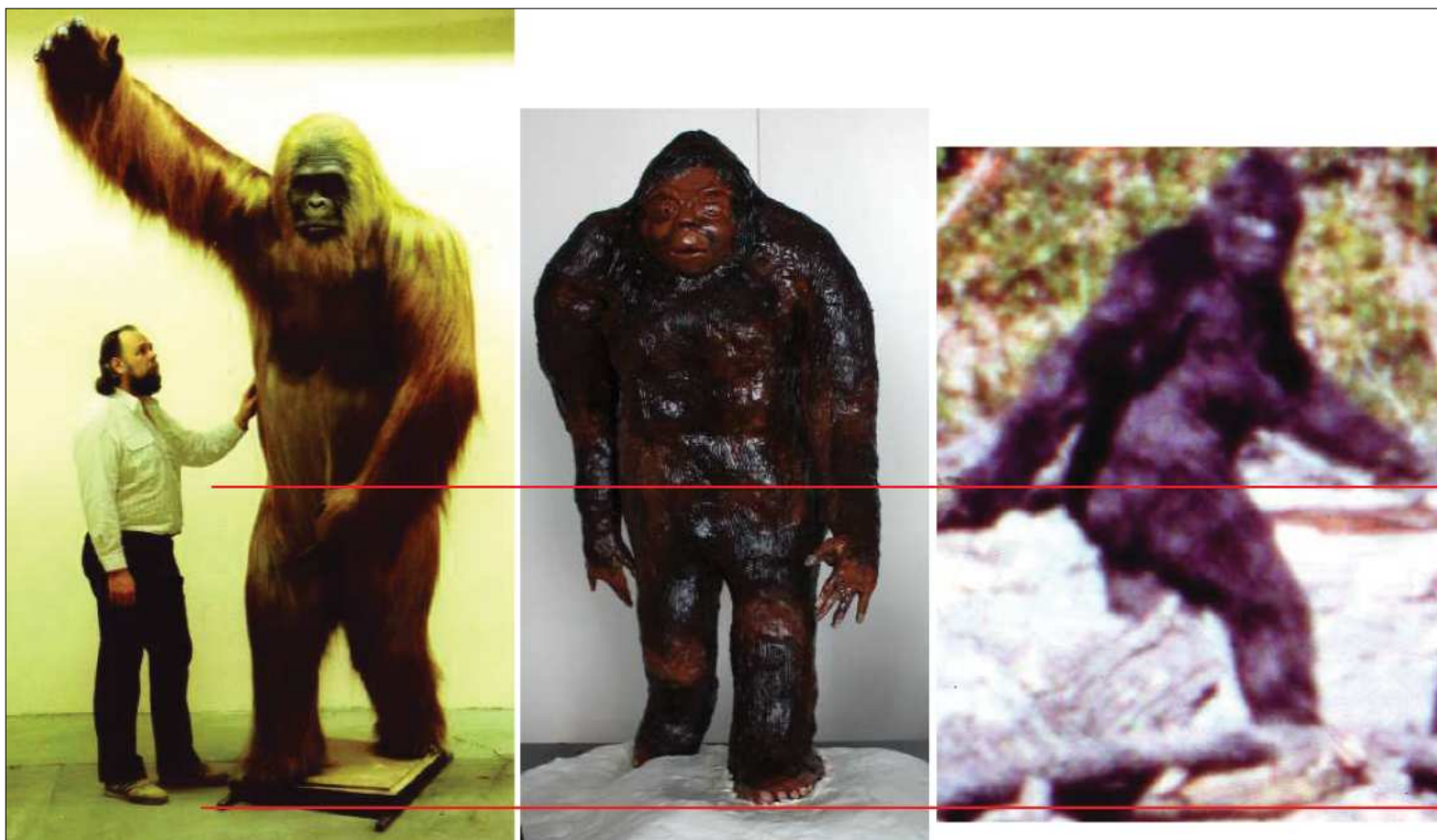
To the right is a "Photoshopped" image of the sculpture. I have flipped it, taken out the gloss and blurred it a little to illustrate what one might see for a few seconds in his car headlights. I think the verdict would be "more human than ape"

Now assume the creature is seen in daylight at the angle shown below. I think the verdict would be "more ape than human." It's the same sculpture.





## The *Gigantopithecus blacki* Theory



The main (and probably only plausible) theory on sasquatch origination is the *Gigantopithecus blacki* theory. This creature, which is very physically close to the sasquatch, once inhabited east Asia. It went extinct about 300,000 years ago. That some of its kind could have migrated to North America and continued to exist there might be a consideration.

The image seen on the left above shows Bill Munns with his famous Giganto mode, which is about 8 feet tall. Particularly noticeable is the creature's short legs and long arms. It was primarily a knuckle-walker, so such were necessary to facilitate its method of locomotion.

The center image shows my sculpture, and on the right is frame 352 of the Patterson/Gimlin film. The film image is a little deceiving as to leg length, but if you look closely you will see the heel and sole of the right foot is almost visible. The ground level (red line) has been determined from previous film frames.

Given the Giganto theory has credibility, then this creature has been in North American for a minimum of about 300,00 years. In that the sasquatch is, to our knowledge, primarily bipedal (walks on two legs), then we must conclude that during this time it evolved an upright walking method. As this did not necessitate having shorter arms or longer legs, then it is likely safe to assume that both remained primarily the same.

The "fly in the ointment" regarding this theory is the apparent or perceived "humanness" of the sasquatch. Many people, even witnesses (including aboriginals), contend that it is a human of some sort, and some characteristics appear to support this contention. For certain, if it is human-related then it is a giant, ranging taller than confirmed evidence of giant humans (i.e., bones that have been found). One can, of course, provide Biblical (or the like) references, but such are hardly "scientific."

Where to from here? All that's left is some sort of highly unlikely scenario wherein the Giganto and very early humans were close enough in their genetic makeup to cross-breed.



## Contemporary Sculptures

Far be it for me to criticize the work of others. Indeed, the material shown here demonstrates very high degrees of artistic talent. The problem with the works is that none of them reasonably reflect what witness have been saying for at least 100 years in British Columbia (over 200 years elsewhere).

Generally speaking, if the description of something is “man-like” or “human-like” then there is a tendency on the part of artists to include a lot of “human content.” The gorilla went through this, as it were. The following is an early depiction of a gorilla (1890)



There is not a lot of similarity here with what we now know a gorilla looks like. Exactly when this drawing was created is not clear, however, it depicts the killing of a gorilla which was brought back to Europe for scientific study. Had the artist seen the specimen, or done some more research I am sure his drawing would have been very different.



*Whether we like it or not, the sasquatch or bigfoot has become a sort of “super villain.” Its appeal for hoaxing has made its name synonymous with the word “hoax.” Artistic depictions that do not at least parallel the believed nature of the creature fuel speculation and further distant the scientific community. Superstition and belief in the paranormal is extremely high in North America, brought about to some degree by “Hollywood.”*