

# Footprint Fascination

Unfortunately, sometimes footprint photographs create a bit of an optical illusion. Rather than the prints appearing to go into the ground, they appear raised above it. If we take footprint photographs and invert them (i.e., make them negatives) then they appear as they should, except the coloring or shading is incorrect.

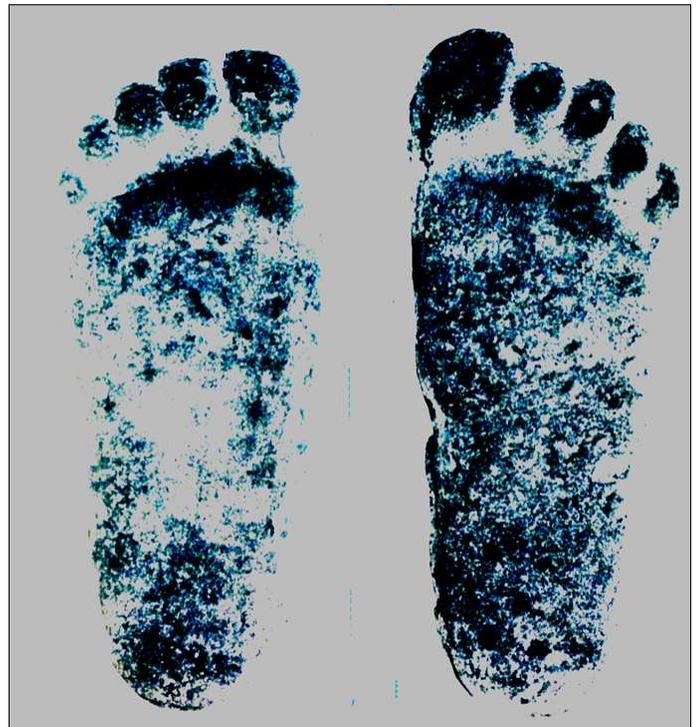
The following print was found on Blue Creek Mountain. When the image is inverted (second image) you get a much better idea of the depth of the print.



Footprint casts also create a bit of an illusion. One cannot help but get the impression that he or she is looking at the top of the foot, rather than from beneath. Naturally, if you were looking at the top, the foot would appear totally different, and you would not be able to see the whole foot. To illustrate this point, I had Yvon Leclerc create the following image for my museum exhibit in Vancouver. The cast used for the sole of the foot is from the Patterson/Gimlin film site (14.5 inches long).



Now, if you want to see what sasquatch footprints might look like if the entity stepped in a puddle of black/blue ink and stood on light colored paper, then you must flip the casts (make left right, and right left), invert the image, and take out information that would not be there. Here are Patty's feet.



None of this proves anything, it just makes things a little easier to understand. We have all heard of the expression "Seeing is believing;" however, "seeing" is "relative,"—depends on the person doing the seeing. Many men are totally or partially color-blind (not the same with women) and color shades can result in seeing something differently to what others

see. In many cases our brain interprets things and we see what it tells us to see.

We also have the expression “Cameras don’t lie.” That is true, but photographs definitely “deceive.” Unless you have photographs of a number of angles of the subject (above, below, both sides), then you have to assume

certain things, and you will likely be wrong.

Of course, we now have the “digital revolution” and can manipulate any image to make it appear as we wish. In many, if not most cases, it is difficult to determine if something has been manipulated (this includes videos).