

## The Ruby Creek Incident



*Distant view of the old house.*



*In the mid 1990s, another house was built on the lot by Deborah Schneider and her husband, David. Deborah is a relative of Mrs. Chapman. The new house was built on the opposite side of the large twin trees—silent witnesses to the strange event.*

George Chapman (First Nations) lived with his wife, Jeannie, and their three children (8, 7, and 5 years old) in a small isolated house on the banks of the Fraser River near Ruby Creek (about 8 miles [13 km] from Hope), British Columbia. George was employed as a railroad maintenance worker at Ruby Creek. In September 1941, he was surprised to see his wife and children running down the tracks towards him. Jeannie excitedly told her husband that a sasquatch was after her.

It all started while one of the children was playing in the front yard of the house. The child came running into the house shouting that a “big cow” was coming out of the woods. Jeannie looked out and saw a ape-like creature, 7.5 feet (2.3 m) tall, covered in dark hair, approaching the house. Terrified, she grabbed her children and fled.

George and other men went to the house and found 16-inch-(40.6-cm-)long footprints that led to a shed where a heavy barrel of fish had been dumped out. The prints then led across a field and into the mountains. Footprints on each side of a wire fence, 4–5 feet (1.2–1.5 m) high, gave another clue as to the size of the creature—it apparently just took the fence in stride.

The Chapmans returned to their home, but were continually bothered by unusual howling noises and their agitated dogs (which appeared to sense an unusual “presence”). The family left the house within one week and never returned.

The incident was thoroughly investigated by researchers, and a cast was made of one of the creature’s footprints (cast length was 17 inches [43.2 cm]—casts are always larger than actual prints).

*Tracing of the 17-inch (43.2-cm) footprint cast made from a print left by the creature on the Chapmans’ property. The tracing was made by Deputy Sheriff Joe Dunn of Bellingham, Washington. Unfortunately, the actual cast eventually shattered and was discarded.*



*For many years the Chapman house remained vacant and eventually crumbled. These photographs show the house probably fifteen years or so after it was left to the elements.*



*René Dahinden is seen here on the fence over which the creature merely stepped.*

*This is the view from the front of the house in 1995. Very little changes in that area. I am sure it looked exactly the same in 1941.*

