

Patterson's Second Book

It is not common knowledge that Roger Patterson published what might be termed a second book in 1968. It is 68 pages, 5.5" x 8.5" and it appears he marketed it to his Northwest Research Association members. The cover of the book, as seen here, shows "Volume 1." In this volume he mentions that he was working on Volume II.

One would think that the work would contain mostly material on the film he took with Bob Gimlin in October 1967. Indeed, perhaps a detailed film history and a few frames. This, however, is not the case. Nevertheless, he does present a newspaper article (likely from a personal interview) that essentially "says it all," and two scientific reports on the film.

What follows is a fairly detailed synopsis of the book. I find some of the information quite interesting, so have provided this account for ardent researchers. I have not included the material Roger borrowed from other sources; I have simply referenced it.

The Table of Contents for the work is as follows:

Chapter One – Documented Stories and Interviews with People who have Encountered these Creatures

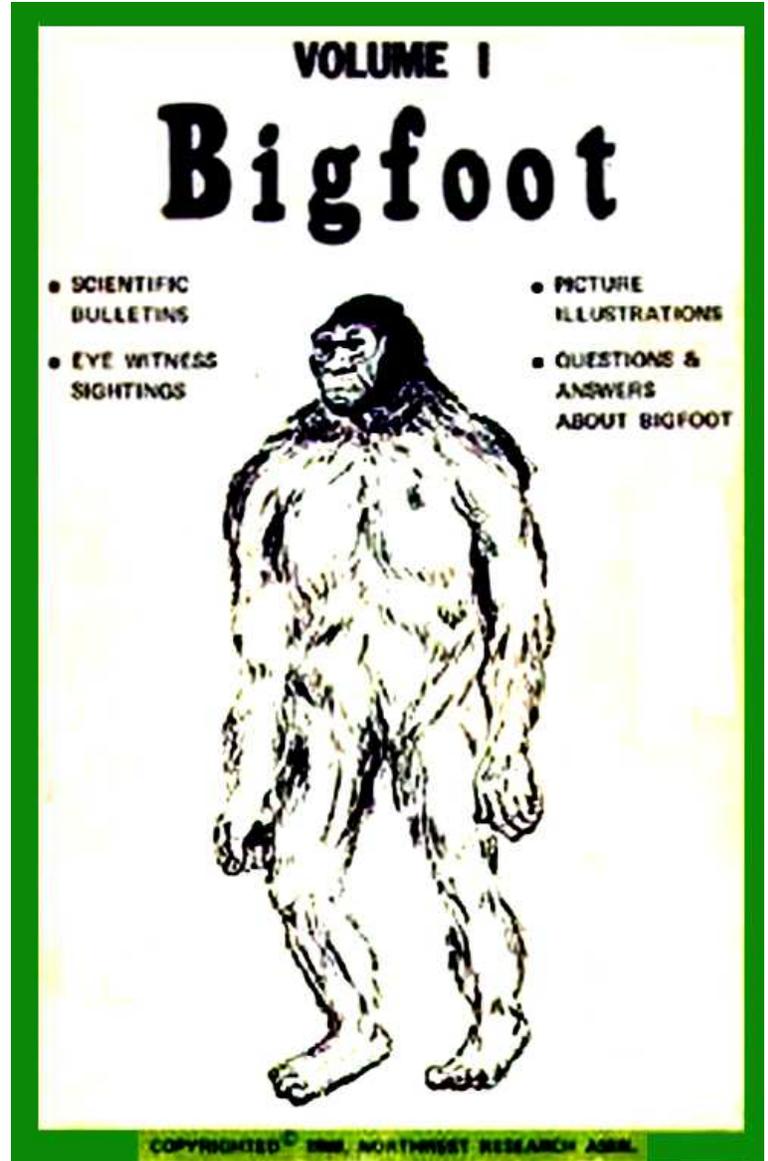
Chapter Two – Questions and Answers about Bigfoot

Chapter Three – Scientific Bulletins

He opens Chapter One with the following:

Who are these Giant Human-like creatures? Where did they come from? Why don't people see more of them? What could they possibly eat in the wilderness? Why hasn't one been captured? Why hasn't one been shot? Why haven't the scientists researched on them? Why no bones? These and many more are the kind of questions I get asked every day. The interested people that ask them have much the same curiosity as I did some eight years ago. Finding answers to these questions has led me down the sometimes discouraging but always challenging path up to the present and I must say that the present situation is far from a discouraging one. In fact, every new day as I board a jet airliner or saddle up and head for the back country—there seems to be a pulse heat that says ...it won't be long now... Bigfoot day is close at hand...

In this volume we'll travel down that challenging path answering questions, talk with scientists and listen to many people who have seen these strange creatures.



Cover of Patterson's second book. We might wonder why he did not use an image from his film; however, doing such was much more involved and expensive in 1968, so it seems he just did not want to bother.

Canada and Alaska are the last frontiers in North America, but you may not realize, as I didn't, just how much a frontier they really are. For instance, in British Columbia, there is one section that covers 250,000 square miles of trackless wilderness. This section has only a single main road through it and a few small towns and villages.

It is from that section that many strange stories have evolved over the years. One of these stories came out in the following article that appeared in *True* magazine:

—Article by Ivan Sanderson, “A New Look at America’s Mystery Giant,” 1960 (covers the William Roe sighting and Ruby Creek incident, augmented with Patterson’s own map and artwork).

—Article by Ted Van Arsdol, “Wild-Eye Rifleman Fleeing Devils of Peak Launched Legend of Mt. St. Helens Apes”; *Longview Times* (article covers Fred Beck/Mt. St Helens incident, again with Patterson’s maps, a photo of his camp at Ape Canyon, and a photo of the team that investigated the incident).

—Letter re a sighting near Neah Bay, Washington

—Letter re strange incidents, but no location shown

—Letter re sightings in Wildwood Park, Washington (near Puyallup)

—Letter re sighting in Bear Valley, California (between Happy Camp and Orleans)

—Photo of cast Patterson took at the Charlie Erion Ranch, July 7, 1966

—Letter re footprint findings near White River and Stevens Pass, Washington

—Article by George Draper, “Animal-Men of the Northwest,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 6, 1965

—Article by George Draper, “They Saw the Man-Animal,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, December 7, 1965

He then has the heading: “Teddy Roosevelt Told This Story” and the following introduction:

Here is a frightening story, from Idaho, told by none other than Theodore Roosevelt. The story was in a book he published in 1893 entitled *Wilderness Hunter*. Teddy spent a lot of time in the wilderness and he was a hard man to fool with a wild tale. This story seemed to have impressed him greatly mainly because of the still noticeable tremor in the voice of the old mountainman as he related the story to Teddy—even though it was half a lifetime after it happened. Roosevelt’s strange story goes as follows:

(Reprint of Roosevelt account)

Patterson then continues on with the Fort Bragg incident (1962). He does not show a reference for the material, so I will assume it is his own work, and have reprinted it here:

Another eye-witness account comes from south of Willow Creek at the Coastal town of Ft. Bragg, California in 1962. Mr. Jennings, who has a ranch there, was awakened late at night by his dogs barking. His brother-in-law, who was staying with them at the time, had gone out to see what was the matter and had come back into the house and told them to come quickly and see the biggest bear they would ever see. It was standing upright looking over the back fence at the dogs. Mr. Jennings grabbed a gun and a flashlight and stepped out back but didn’t see anything.

In the meantime, his brother-in-law stepped out a side door and came face to face with the giant thing he had thought was a bear. Letting out a scream, he stepped backwards, fell down, and went scrambling back into the house on all fours. Mr. Jennings’ wife and brother-in-law started to shut the door and got it almost closed when the creature held it open from the outside. Mr. Jennings had come back into the house after hearing the racked from the backyard, and told them to step aside and he would shoot the creature. Just then the thing let go of the door and walked upright past the window, across the yard and out toward the road. As it walked past the window they could see only the middle of its body, as the head and shoulders were above the window and the legs below. They decided to wait until dawn before looking around.

The brother-in-law was so shook up by his experience that it was fifteen or twenty minutes before he could hold a cup of coffee still enough to drink it! Of course, he had come face to face with the creature and the others had not. When questioned about what it looked like, he said it had a flat nose, small round black eyes, and a dark rough skin on the face. It had a very bad odor that lingered about the place for some time. Mr. Jennings said it stood about eight feet tall with hair all over its body. He knew it was that tall because his brother-in-law had said it stood a good two feet above the six foot fence in back. They also found a hand print by the door that was quite human except it measure eleven and one-half inches from the palm to the end of the fingers! They all agreed it walked upright at all times. They know it was not a bear, wild man, or any kind of ape. What it was for sure, they can only guess.

—Letter re a sighting in about the turn of the century (1900s) in the Kildeer Mountains, North Dakota

—Patterson’s artwork (not related to the article) and photo of the cast he took near Laird Meadow Road, Bluff Creek, 1964

—Letter requesting Patterson to speak at CWSC (college) in Ellensburg, Washington

—Transcript of a tape-recorded interview by Lee Trippett with Don Hunter, October 18, 1963. Hunter and his wife had a sighting at Todd Lake, which is in the Three Sisters Wilderness area in 1942

Patterson then shows the following heading and newspaper story. I have not seen the actual newspaper article referenced, but it was written in February 1968.

THIS STORY APPEARED IN A PORTLAND NEWSPAPER

Roger Patterson of Yakima, Washington, the man who came out of the wilderness area of northern California last October with the only pictures ever filmed of what is purported to be a species of the North American version of the “Abominable Snowman” was in Portland Tuesday to organize a “bring ‘em back alive” expedition.

Roger considers himself a man spurned. He had a date with a 7½ foot hominid, a gal who made up in stature what she lacked in delicacy—and she ran out on him. He’s going back this spring to show her who’s boss.

Patterson, whose spectacular movie has been creating a public sensation, is contemplating an expedition into the rugged mountain country northeast of Eureka where he filmed what he describes as an almost 7½ foot, 500-pound, hair covered female creature last fall. Early skepticism regarding his weird adventure has given way to serious investigation. Patterson says he is encouraged by the interest top scientists are now taking in the pictures he filmed.

Patterson hopes to penetrate the formidable terrain of the northern California wilderness during the early part of May when the snow loosens its grip on the high country. The expedition he is now organizing will include German shepherd tracking dogs

equipped with radio transmitting collars, horsemen and helicopters. He hopes to subdue one of the creatures by use of a tranquilizer gun and to bring it out of the mountains unharmed for a scientific study.

The Yakima man is thoroughly convinced that “Big Foot,” the name given to the legendary shadow creature by northern Californians, is not a figment of anyone’s imagination. Many others who have reported seeing the strange beast share his conviction. There have been more than 400 purported sightings in recent years. The most recent occurred when an airplane pilot reported seeing one of the Big Foot tribe north of Eureka a few weeks ago.

Patterson believes it is essential that the existence of the creatures be substantiated by an actual capture in order to set up safeguards for the species’ preservation. “I don’t want to see a slaughter of these near human creatures by trigger-happy adventurers when the lid finally blows on this thing...” He declares.

Patterson was suspected of perpetrating a hoax when he first made his story public last fall. Not many believe the “hoax” angle today.

Dr. John Napier, director of the primate Biology Program at the Smithsonian Institution, after studying the “Big Foot” film at great length, has stated that he “observed nothing that on scientific grounds, would point conclusively to a hoax.” Napier has called for serious scientific study of the pictures for an analysis of the creature’s “gait and body proportions, and a study of the joint angulation and limb displacements.” Other prominent scientists have expressed like opinions.

Patterson and a companion, Bob Gimlin, packed in on horseback last October after hearing stories about giant, almost-human creatures in the northern California wilderness area and observing photographs taken by others of huge footprints in the region.

They had gone about twenty miles beyond the terminus of the last access road to the region when Patterson’s horse reared suddenly, after rounding a bend, and fell to rocky earth. As he hit the ground, Patterson

saw the “thing” that had frightened the horses—a Gargantuan, hair-covered, big-breasted creature standing erect like a human being and startled, like the men and the horses, at the sudden confrontation. Patterson, who had been carrying his 16mm camera loaded and ready for action, scrambled to his feet and took off towards the creature, approximately 100 feet distance.

The mountain maiden, who by no stretch of the imagination bore any physical resemblance to Al Capp’s Moonbeam McSwine, did—according to Patterson—possess one of Moonbeam’s purported attributes; she stunk to high heaven. She turned and lumbered off into the woods with the excited photographer in hot pursuit. He got several feet of film, much of it remarkably clear, before the six-foot strides of the hairy Amazon carried her out of view.

Footprints of the creature, preserved in plaster casts made by Patterson and Gimlin at the time and by others who visited the scene later, measured 14 ½ inches from heel to toe.

Patterson’s film was examined by experts at the special effects department of Universal Pictures in Hollywood shortly after the incident [early November 1967] and the experts practically ruled out the possibility of fakery. It’d take a couple of million dollars, they stated, for Universal to duplicate the realism of the pictures.

The first serious consideration of the Patterson film by scientists took place at Vancouver, BC, a few months ago [October 26, 1967]. This session was attended by Dr. Ian McTaggart-Cowan, dean of graduate studies at the University of British Columbia, the province’s leading zoologist; by Don Abbott, an anthropologist with the Provincial Museum in Victoria; and by a dozen or so other scientists. These men admitted to the press later that they had come to the meeting as skeptics but left a little “shaken up.”

Several sightings of similar creatures have been reported in Canada where they are referred to as “Sasquatch.” British Columbia scientists are talking about organizing an expedition to seriously explore the possibility that the semi-beast, semi-human species actually exists.

Patterson’s film has been shown to several scientific groups in the United States and the US. Depart of the Interior has expressed more than a passing interest in it. Dr. A. Joseph Wraight, chief geographer of the department’s Coast and Geodetic Survey, is one of the country’s leading

scientists who doesn’t pooh pooh the idea that creatures of the borderland between ape and human life exist. “The presence of large, hairy, human-like creatures in North and Central America, often referred to as Sasquatch or ‘Big Foot,’ appears very logical when the physiographic history of the northern part of this continent is considered.” Wraight observes. He believes that a migration of the creatures from Asia to North America could have taken place over a land bridge known to have existed once between the two continents.

Dr. Osman Hill, an anthropologist at Yerkes Regional Primate Research Center at Emory University in Georgia is another noted scientist sufficiently impressed by Patterson’s film to urge that further studies be made. “The most interesting evidence they [Patterson and Gimlin] have so painstakingly produced should serve to stimulate the formation of a truly scientific expedition to the area with the object of obtaining the required physical data,” Dr. Hill says.

Meanwhile Roger Patterson isn’t letting the “Big Foot” story gather dust. This month his encounter with the mammoth creature of the wilds is featured in *Argosy* magazine [February 1968]. He has already appeared on several television shows and is scheduled for other network appearances (including the Joey Bishop and Johnny Carson shows) soon.

Roger Patterson is only five-foot-three. But no eight-foot female is going to push him around.

In Chapter Two, he provides the following questions and answers:

1. Why have there been no bones of the creature found?

First: these creatures seem to roam mainly in the rain forest where the climate is wet. Bones decay quickly in this type of climate. Ask any hunter how many bones of wild animals they have found. Second: there is a possibility they bury their dead. Third: how many people would know what they were looking at if they did see this type of bones? Fourth: giant hominid bones have supposedly been found, only to be misplaced by some unknowing person.

2. Why don’t people see them more?

Actually people do see them much more than one would think. We have hundreds [of accounts/sightings]

on file and I personally have about 45 taped interviews of eyewitness sightings. People, however, are reluctant to talk much about what they have seen because of the ridicule and laughter they receive after telling their story. Consequently the majority of sightings are never heard of.

3. Why is it that someone hasn't captured one?

According to information, Ivan Sanderson (a biologist and author of *Abominable Snowmen Legend Come to Life*) has uncovered many such incident. Here are two happenings:

—Story of capture of a young sasquatch in Yale, BC., in 1884

—Story of the Karapetian Hominid (1941)

4. What are they?

Undoubtedly they are one of the missing links in man's hazy past—probably somewhere between the advanced *Australopithecus* and *Homo Erectus*. For some reason we can only guess, the haven't evolved —this happens in many cases; look at the giant turtle who hasn't evolved or become extinct in 190,000,000 years.

5. Where did they come from?

—Here Patterson quotes Dr. Joseph Wraight, who offers that the creatures came from Asia over the Bering Strait land bridge.

6. Why hasn't one been shot?

There have been many stories of people shooting at huge hairy creatures—here is one that is most interesting, from *Golden Mirages* by Philip a Bailey (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1941).

The story provided is that of Deadman's Hole, San Diego County, California where in the mid and late 1800's, several people were found murdered and there were rumors of a wild man in the area. In 1876, there was a sighting of some sort of a man-animal that walked on two legs. After the murder of an Indian girl in December 1889, two hunters, John Weeks and Frank Cox, determined to get to the

bottom of the mystery. They went deep into the area and shot and killed a creature that resembled a gorilla. It was fully six feet tall, with quite a small head and large buck teeth. The features had Indian characteristics, with only a few long hairs on its face. It had long muscular arms, and enormous feet—fully twenty inches to two feet long. The entire body was covered with black hair. The men estimated its weight at about four hundred pounds. They were convinced that the creature was a cross between a man and some carnivorous animal, probably a bear.

Upon examining the area, they found a handmade cave or "dugout." In one corner there was a large pile of bones, some of which may have been human. Hanging on the wall were five skulls [type not indicated], and on the floor, a partially eaten mountain sheep. There was also a pile of leaves and weeds which they thought was a bed.

Also included in this section is Patterson's primate diagram (somewhat appropriate I suppose).

In Chapter Three, "Scientific Bulletins," he provides reports and correspondence from professionals and others.

—Film Report – Dr. John Napier

—Film report – Dr. Osman Hill

—Letter from Tom Slick to Dr. George Agogino (casts, scat and hair), October 12, 1959

—Letter from Dr. Osman Hill to Ivan Sanderson re scat and hair, January 18, 1960

—Letter from Dr. George Agogino to Ivan Sanderson (tracks, scat and hair), November 9, 1959

—Letter from Dr. Osman Hill to Tom Slick (hair). This letter says a report is enclosed, and the report (another letter), is provided. It is from H.M. Appleyard of Wool Industries Research Association in England. It is dated September 28, 1962 and states as follows:

Dear Dr. Osman Hill:

We have now had the opportunity to

examine the fibres [hair] from British Columbia. Unfortunately we must this time admit defeat; the type of medulla seen in some of these fibres is one which we have not seen before and therefore we have nothing to compare them with.

Sample AB:

Whole mounts: The photographs show the appearance along the length of the fibres, most of the fibres had tips, and some had roots. The medulla is not like the medulla in dog hair or any of the fibres we have from bear.

Cross Sections:

Some of the finer fibres and fibres of intermediate thickness are similar to some bear fibres, but the coarser fibres are not like bear fibres.

Scale casts:

The finer fibres have the same pattern throughout, but the coarse fibres have a diamond petal pattern in the root region and crenate near to close scale margins along the length and the tip.

Furthermore, in this section Patterson included his feet diagram entitled “Comparative Foot Sizes” (i.e., shows different types of feet). This diagram (which is also shown in his book, *Do Abominable Snowmen of America Really Exist?*), is a little confusing because he shows separate feet for, sasquatch, bigfoot, and giant hairy ape. I do not know what he was intending with this.

Patterson final words in the book are as follows:

I hope this volume of information has helped you to become as positive as I of the existence of these Giant human-like creatures.

I am in the process of assembling more material on Bigfoot. Volume II we be available in the near future.

If you enjoyed Volume I, write and tell us. If you would like more on this strange phenomenon we will send you Volume II. Please enclose \$4 for printing and handling.

In closing might I remind you that Bigfoot's Day is

close at hand. It will be a day of scientific upheaval—of rewriting textbooks—a day of astounded public [?]-of religious soul-searching—but nevertheless, a day that is sure in coming as life and death in our universe.

—00—

I have not seen Volume II of this work, and as far as I know Patterson never completed it.

With regard to the “fibres [hair] from British Columbia, I do not know where such was obtained. Nevertheless, Tom Slick had Bob Titmus do research in British Columbia, but I don't recall the latter obtaining any hair.

The reference to “religious soul-searching” in the closing statement reflects the mind-set of the day wherein finding the “missing link,” as it were, would prove the theory of evolution and disprove the Bible and human creationism. This has all essentially now “gone by the board” with findings effectively proving human evolution. Even the Roman Catholic Church no longer challenges the question; it simply says believe what you will.

Finally, I don't believe the effect of proving sasquatch existence (or that of other homins) would be as earth-shaking as Patterson predicted. For certain, it would rattle through the scientific community and cause a lot of “text book re-writing (fairly easy computer file updating), but the average person would not give it a lot of thought. In all likelihood, the main people who would get involved would be the environmentalists who would lobby to leave the entity alone (stay away scientists) and protect its habitat (no logging and limited development). There would certainly be a short-lived feeling of relief with sasquatch witnesses, and a cry of “I told you so” from sasquatch researchers, but beyond that very little, aside from special-interest books and magazines (finally giving way to other subjects).

The world has drastically changed in the 49 years since Patterson penned this work. Back then, the sasquatch was a part of the spirit of “great adventure.” Many men's magazines, such as Argosy, Stag, Saga, True and so forth fired the imagination with all sorts of “crypto” stories and other wonders (mostly factious). Lacking some 200 TV channels and other electronic entertainment, people read magazines.