

Trackway Near Sunnyslope, Washington State

by Paul Graves

Aside: The following report and photographs rate as about the best I have seen. Paul Graves is a very meticulous researcher, and has made some great contributions in the field of sasquatch research. CLM

My name is Paul Graves, I live in eastern Washington state and have been researching Sasquatch since 1988. On Monday, February 13th, 2017 I answered an early morning knock on my front door. It was Roy Bianchi, an acquaintance I had met a few years back through the construction trade (I own a concrete business). He was excited and said he wanted to show me something. He produced his cell phone and showed me photos of tracks he found on Friday, February 10th behind a new subdivision built on former orchard land. Roy is also a lifelong outdoorsman, and he had never seen tracks like these before. Upon first glance at the photos, I knew I had to go see the trackway.

Previously, on Thursday, February 9th, roughly 8 inches of snow had fallen. The next morning, Roy and a coworker had to plow the construction area and discovered the trackway. The tracks were most likely made at night during the snowstorm, because when they were discovered, they were partially filled in with snow. After a third coworker examined the tracks, he suggested they should get hold of me (I am well known in this town as a sasquatch researcher).

When I arrived on site there were five people already present, including the home builder, my research colleague Josh Lawrence, and a reporter for the *Wenatchee World* newspaper. With the exception of the reporter, each and every one of us are hunters and trackers with many years of experience, and we were all equally baffled by these prints. There was nearly 2 feet of snow on the ground, with a thin crust of ice on top that made walking very difficult. I am a trained tracker and spend a lot of time in the winter on snowshoes, and there was no indication of an animal bounding or hopping, nor animal tracks present inside of the prints. The trackway was perfectly linear, not out of line by a centimeter for over a mile. I noted the step length was immense (varying from 4' to 6' 2"), with no drag marks, nor kicked snow. There was evidence of bipedalism (left foot/right foot), clear heel strikes, and the front of the tracks were fairly straight across the toe box area. Close examination showed a footprint in both outline and contour. The small amount of snow that had filled up the tracks perfectly replicated the bottom of the tracks, showing the curve of the foot, and the push-off caused by



Sunnyslope is a census-designated place (CDP) in Chelan County, Washington. It is part of the Wenatchee–East Wenatchee Metropolitan Statistical Area. The population was 2,521 at the 2000 census. As of 2007, 2,672 people live in Sunnyslope. Sunnyslope is about 87.5 miles from Bellevue and 93.6 miles from Seattle. (Not to be confused with Sunnyslope in Kitsap County.)



a mid-tarsal break (mid-foot flexibility). I tried blowing and removing some of the snow to get a better indication of the size and compression of the track—initial measurements showed 20 inches in length and 10 inches in width. By making an estimate based on snowmelt, time and temperature, the tracks were originally 15–16 inches long and 7 1/2 to 8 inches wide. The tracks were visually classic Sasquatch prints.

We back-tracked the prints coming out of an orchard to the south, but lost them because of damage from heavy snowmobile tracks going up and down the orchard rows from tree pruning activity. The prints came out of that orchard, and over to three trees (that may have been used as cover), then continued through the field. There have continually been many deer in this field throughout winter. We tracked the prints around the back of the last house under construction, and then into another orchard. When the tracks led up to trees with low branches, the step length shortened considerably, and when clear, longer step lengths again. The tracks went through a second orchard, then crossed a road going north. Continuing on, the trackway then passed between two farm houses, and crossed a large irrigation canal. Afterwards, they went directly into an evergreen tree line for another 1/8 mile to where they were lost momentarily. We then noticed snow missing from the trees at this point—leading us to wonder if the track-maker had passed intentionally close to the tree trunks to drop snow over its own tracks. We circled out and reacquired the trackway going back east into yet another orchard. We tracked them through this orchard, crossed a farm road and came upon a small 4 to 5-foot embankment with just a little bit of grass and dirt sticking out of the snow (right in line with the tracks). There, it left a footprint in the exposed dirt that clearly showed toes. We shot video footage, took photos, and recorded all measurements of the print. It is extremely difficult to cast on a steep surface; but I have a considerable amount of experience in track casting to draw upon. I stopped by the home construction site and obtained some wood scraps to build a form for a cast with some “20 minute” concrete patch mud. The result was a good quality cast that shows the gripping action of the toes. The big toe landed on a pad of grass, and thus did not sink in as much as the next three in moist dirt.



We continued on tracking from there and followed the prints along the lip of a ravine thick with brush that passes between, and divides, two orchards on either side. At one point, the tracks went down into it the thickest section of the ravine, making them nearly impossible to follow. The tracks made a circle deep into the ravine, then looped back up and out, going east into an adjacent orchard. There was a leap of about nine feet from the last print coming out of the ravine and into the orchard. We followed until we were confronted by the land owner, who was running a pruning crew (with tractor tire marks up and down every row). This is where we lost the tracks temporarily going east. They were rediscovered further east going through a home owner's backyard.

On Friday, February 17th, I was contacted by a retired couple who read the story on the trackway published in the *Wenatchee World* newspaper. The couple resided just east of the trackway and said they had some very odd tracks going through their backyard, and wanted to know if I would examine them. I arrived at their property—only 1/2 mile from the end of the original trackway—and met the couple—Rodger and his wife. Though the property is not fenced, there are large hedgerows lining both sides from front to back. Rodger mentioned that every winter there are many deer in his backyard.

We walked out onto the back deck and looked down to see the same tracks we had been investigating all week. There was a well-worn trail of deer tracks coming from the road and down one side into the backyard—this is where the first print appeared (the track-maker had walked up the deer trail from the road into the backyard). The first print was pointed south and the next step is 13 feet from heel to heel. This print has a strange indentation adjacent to it. The step length then changes from that print to the next four, all at 6 feet 2 inches, perfectly inline with no drag marks. The sixth print was 10 feet heel to heel, the seventh print 9 feet 8 inches heel to heel. Rodger, the homeowner, noted that underneath the house deck is a motion sensing security light, and it was where the 10 foot step lengths were. The tracks continued on from the last one sideways/sidestepping to the edge of a three foot masonry retaining wall. The tracks then pointed east and leapt the other side of the wall. The prints were then side by side pointing back to the north with a strange drag mark in the middle. This is where the tracks were lost. They were pointed right at the large



hedgerow that went back to the road. Whatever left the prints must have used the dense hedgerow as cover, and without leaving tracks. I looked in every yard and the front and sides of the hedgerow and there were no tracks. Another odd observation was a small set of domestic cat prints that came out from under the deck and within a few feet of the mystery prints. At their closest approach, the cat tracks simply disappeared. This second trackway proved to be exactly the same prints as the original trackway from earlier in the investigation. I also filmed this whole trackway.

For some background information, this area of Wenatchee, Washington is separated from the main part of town by the Wenatchee River, and is on the shoulder of Birch Mountain. There are a number of reports of people seeing a Sasquatch in this area over many years. I have also interviewed a long-time orchard owner who has heard odd screams and growls over the course of 20 years in this area. Until recently, there were few homes in this area; mostly orchards and farms. There are ravines and canyons running up into the mountains all throughout the area, which leads right into the Cascade Mountains. As people who know me can attest, I am not trying to prove Sasquatch, but merely investigated this trackway with thanks to Roy and the others. The clues that were evident are truly baffling, most of the specifics happen to be known Sasquatch traits that have been document on other trackways. After working on this investigation for 5 days and going through all possible explanations, I am left with the near certainty this is an actual Sasquatch trackway. I give this subject the respect it deserves, for when you have a personal encounter like I have in the past (and as many other people have), it forces you look to at the world differently. There is without doubt something real behind this, too many good people have had encounters to say otherwise.

Measurements:

Snow depth: 16"-18" loose snow with a 6" packed base, 22" total

Foot length and width (6 consecutive steps), melted out 4 days since first made:
20" x 10.5"



21" x 10"
20" x 10"
20" x 10.5"
20" x 10"
20" x 10.5"

Foot length and width of dirt print:

14"-16" length
7 1/2 "-8" wide (at widest point behind toes)

Step length (heel to heel):

4' 6"
4' 7"
4' 9"
5' 0"
5' 3"
5' 4"
5' 7"
6' 2"
6' 2"
6' 2"
6' 2"

Largest step lengths (heel to heel):

13'
10'
9' 8"

Step length passing under tree branches were much shorter and shuffled about 2 to 3 feet apart. As soon as it cleared a branch it went back to a 5-foot step or larger, single file in line.

Tree branches: 2' 7" was the lowest branch that I measured that the tracks went under

Outside temperature: 31 degrees

I wish to express thanks to Roy Bianchi (hunter/initial contact), Josh Lawrence (research colleague/tracker), Dr. John Bindernagel (Canadian wildlife biologist), Robert Hackett (documentation), Dave Hanson (home builder/hunter), Ryan Schwinlendorf (witness/hunter), Michael Fox (hunter/tracker) and Derek Bianchi (Roy's son)

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS







MEDIA REPORTS

Photos not shown as all provided above.

Sasquatch Tracks Found in Washington? February 18, 2017

A Bigfoot researcher in Washington state suspects that a half-mile series of intriguing tracks discovered in the snow earlier this week may be a sign of Sasquatch.

The odd impressions were found on Monday by a resident in the town of Sunnyslope who noticed the prints in a field.

A subsequent investigation by veteran Bigfoot researcher Paul Graves shed additional light on the trail of tracks that boasted an enormous stride.

According to his observations, the tracks measure around two feet long and approximately five inches wide at the heel, but were strangely only two inches deep.

Grave's theory for the remarkably shallow depth of the prints is that it is due to both natural weathering and the enormous foot of the Sasquatch acting almost like a snowshoe for the creature.

A closer examination of the prints indicated that there were no signs that they came from deer hooves and the incredible single-file nature of the line of the tracks seems impossible for a human to accomplish while wearing snowshoes.

Along with a group of other researchers and a local reporter, Graves tracked the lengthy trail of prints through two orchards, a field, and even across a road.

While skeptics will no doubt suggest any number of natural, non-Bigfoot related, causes for the perplexing series of prints, Graves and his fellow investigators were fairly confident that the tracks came from the legendary cryptid.

Unfortunately, since the tracks were not found until long after their creator had left the area, the investigators were left with little more than photos, measurements, and some plaster casts of the prints.

That said, the puzzling prints are perfectly timed to the news earlier in the week that Bigfoot is about to be named Washington state's official cryptid.

With that in mind, perhaps the tracks found in Sunnyslope were simply the result of Sasquatch celebrating its impending title with a night on the town.

Source: Wenatchee World

Coast to Coast (Radio):

<http://www.coasttocoastam.com/article/sasquatch-tracks-found-in-washington>

Not saying it was Big Foot... but it was Big Foot

By Kaitlin Hetterscheidt - 02/17/2017014503

A mile-long trail of over-sized footprints were

discovered in the Sunnyslope area this week. Is it another Big Foot sighting for the Wenatchee Valley?

Paul Graves was among a group of men who tracked the footprints after they were found by a Rock Island man near a new housing development near Easy Street.

“The stride on this thing was amazing, and it didn’t even leave a drag mark,” Graves said. “It walked through this orchard and crossed this road, and there was one spot where there was just a little bit of dirt. Sure enough, he put his foot right there and the toes dug right into the dirt.”

Back in January of 2013 Graves examined similar footprints found in an orchard off Western Avenue in Wenatchee. Graves has been researching Sasquatch for over a decade, with work featured in National magazines and TV.

NCW LIFE CHANNEL: <http://www.ncwlife.com/not-saying-big-foot-big-foot/>

Bigfoot researchers study Sunnyslope prints | Video

by Pete O'Cain Feb. 17, 2017, 5:17 a.m.
Outdoors

SUNNYSLOPE – Paul Graves stands in a field buried in a foot of snow with his legs stretched one in front of the other like some cruel game of Twister. He’s trying to mirror a mysterious set of tracks that recently appeared in Sunnyslope.

Each individual track is about two feet long, a couple inches deep and 4 to 6 feet apart, heel to heel. They stretched for a half-mile in a near perfect single file line from an orchard.

The Wenatchee World:
<http://www.wenatcheeworld.com/news/2017/feb/16/bigfoot-researchers-study-sunnyslope-prints/>

PROOF OF BIG FOOT?

Mysterious two-foot long snow prints spark fears Sasquatch is on the loose.

The half-mile stretch of intriguing tracks were discovered in the snow in Sunnyslope, Washington state.

BY JENNY AWFORD 19th February 2017, 1:44 pm

Article, photos and a video are provided at the following link

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/2902083/do-mystery-two-foot-long-snow-prints-could-finally-prove-sasquatch-is-real/>

The Sun, UK

Paul Graves is seen here in a 2013 photograph while researching sasquatch sign and symbol in Washington State. He discovered and photographed a possible “bigfoot nest,” unusual little stick structures, and fascinating plant formations that appear to have been made with great hand dexterity. For certain something made them, but they are beyond the capability of any known non-human North American animal.

A presentation on Paul’s findings is provided at the following link:

http://www.sasquatchcanada.com/uploads/9/4/5/1/945132/signal__sym_for_sas_canada.pdf

