

Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 110

Christopher L. Murphy

Edited by Gene Baade







Peking Man bust and full body sculpture

Franz Weidenreich (1873–1948) a noted Jewish German anatomist and physical anthropologist, considered Peking Man as a human ancestor and



specifically an ancestor of the Chinese people. This last point is interesting as there just might be a direct reference here to the Chinese yeren, although the yeren is totally hair covered. It appears to me that common sense dictates hominoids of any type (or race) would need a more than normal hair covering.

Nevertheless, the story of Peking Man is one for the "hard luck" list, which goes beyond sad to totally laughable. The following is from Wikipedia, please read, weep, and then laugh.

Peking Man (Homo erectus pekinensis, formerly known by the junior synonym Sinanthropus pekinensis) is a group of fossil specimens of Homo erectus, dated

from roughly 750,000 years ago, discovered in 1929–37 during excavations at Zhoukoudian (Chou K'ou-tien) near Beijing (at the time spelled Peking), China.

Between 1929 and 1937, 15 partial crania, 11 mandibles, many teeth, some skeletal bones and large numbers of stone tools were discovered in the Lower Cave at Locality 1 of the Peking Man site at Zhoukoudian. Their age is estimated to be between about 750,000 and 300,000 years old. Most of the early studies of these fossils were conducted by Davidson Black until his death in 1934. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin took over until Franz Weidenreich replaced him and studied the fossils until he left China in 1941. The original fossils inexplicably disappeared in 1941, but excellent casts and descriptions remain.

The fossils were stored at the Union Medical College in Peking. Eye-witness accounts state that in 1941, while Beijing was under Japanese occupation, but just before the outbreak of hostilities between Japan and the Allied Forces during the Second World War, the fossils were

packed into two large crates and loaded onto a US Marine vehicle bound for the port of Qinhuangdao in northern China, close to the Marine base at Camp Holcomb. From there they were to be sent by ship to the American Museum of Natural History in New York, but the fossils vanished en route.

Various attempts have been made to locate the fossils, but so far without success. In 1972 US financier Christopher Janus offered a US \$5,000 reward for the missing skulls; one woman contacted him asking for \$500,000, but she subsequently vanished. In July 2005, to coincide with the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, the Chinese government set up a committee to find the bones.

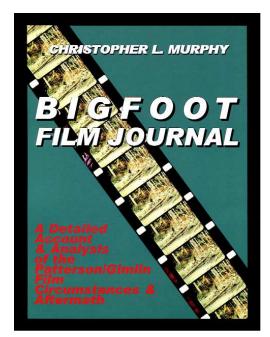
Rumours about the fate of the bones range from their having been on board a Japanese ship (the Awa Maru), or an American ship that was sunk, to being ground up for traditional Chinese medicine. Four of the teeth, however, are still in the possession of the Paleontological Museum of Uppsala University. Some opponents of the science of evolution think that the fossils may have been a fabrication, and that their disappearance was intentional.

END



This wonderful bronze sculpture of a yeren mother and son is located at the entrance of Shennongjia World Geopark, Hubei province, China. Please note the abundant body hair. Sightings of yeren have been reported in this region.

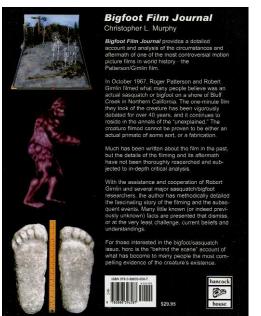
That the artists decided on a little scene of this nature was both unique and ingenious. It moves the yeren out of the "monster" category and into the realm of reality.



This book was published in 2008, but its checkered history goes back to about 1996. At that time I was meeting regularly with René Dahinden, and he told me of his efforts to get a book written by Bruce Bonney on the Patterson and Gimlin film (P/G film). René and Bruce had a falling out about five years previous, so the project was never completed.

René asked me if I could write a book of that nature, which was not a problem. At this time, we were working with Peter Byrne and the project was discussed with him. Peter agreed that he would be pleased to be included in the project and thereupon provided me with his notes on the film. Indeed, Peter said he could get financial backing to produce a major book. The plan was to include as many images as possible from the P/G film together with images from René's significant general photo collection.

I started interviewing René, reading Peter's material and anything else I could find on the film. I took printed copies of manuscript chapters to René as they were completed and he was pleased with everything. We discussed things at length and made corrections as required. I even contacted a local printing company and discussed the cost of the finished book. We planned to market it through my oneman registered company, Pyramid Publications. It was at about this time that René told me he had prostate problems and was on medication, but asked that I not tell anyone. This problem was much more serious than I thought.



Unfortunately, after some months, René decided he did not want to continue with the project. Nevertheless, by this time, he had provided much material to me, but few photographs. He did give me a reason, but I wish to just leave it there.

At the same time, we were working with the North American Science Institute (NASI) and I reasoned that we could include some of the material we had gathered in the NASI Report, which was completed in 1998. I put everything together and showed it to René, but he was not happy. In this case, I gathered that his reason was that publication of P/G film images would lead to copyright infringements and reduced revenue from use of film material. He refused to have the NASI report published in any way, but as he had given me the rights to publish it, he later reversed this decision. Nevertheless, he put conditions on the method of publication that I could not accept.

This resulted in a falling-out between René and me so we just went our separate ways. I started working more closely with John Green. I created a coil-bound research book entitled *Circumstantial Evidence: The Patterson and Gimlin Film* and sent copies to Dr. Henner Fahrenbach and John Green for comment. I did not publish this work because I was uncomfortable with some things and did not have the rights to publish P/G film images.

I was greatly shocked when René died in April 2001. I had simply forgotten about his health problem.

When I decided to write *Meet the Sasquatch* (originally *Meet Bigfoot*), I visited with Mrs. Patterson (2003). She kindly provided answers to many questions on the film. Later that year I met with Bob Gimlin and we spent several hours discussing the film.

I was able to get permission to publish P/G film frames in *Meet the Sasquatch* (2004) and they were also included in my supplement to Roger Patterson's book provided in *The Bigfoot Film Controversy* (2005). Neither of these books, however, got into the detail I had documented in *Circumstantial Evidence*.

I decided that such detail needed to be published and thereby started working on the *Bigfoot Film Journal*. I asked Thomas Steenburg and Daniel Perez to work with me, and Roger Knights agreed to edit the work. I greatly expanded my unpublished work *Circumstantial Evidence*, which eventually (2008) resulted in the *Bigfoot Film Journal*.

The book was designed as a Hancock House ebook. I had no intention of having it published in paper. Hancock House, however, decided to have it printed anyway. A short run of about 50 books was printed locally in full color and on glossy paper. I was surprised when I saw copies. Unfortunately, there was a page reverse error. I just put in a hand-written note in the books that were left. Later, a regular run of the books was ordered and the page error did not reoccur (just something in the page collating process).

Since its publication, two issues have arisen:

- 1. The subject (bigfoot) was likely much farther from the camera than 102 feet as shown on page 29. (See BP#23)
- 2. What I show as the location of the film site on the map on page 32 is not correct; it is farther east.

During this time I worked on *Know* the Sasquatch, published in 2010. Because the P/G film is such an important part of the sasquatch issue, the Bigfoot Film Journal is actually an extension of Know the Sasquatch (you might consider it an appendix).

The *Bigfoot Film Journal* remains the most detailed and comprehensive work on the P/G film. I had a lot of help in writing that book and it has passed the test of time. —00—

The Sanderson/Australia Question

Twrote to Paul Cropper in Australia as to the Sanderson/Australia question (i.e., why did he not write about the yowie?). The following is Paul's reply:

Hi Chris

We talked about this to a degree in *The Yowie*, but it appears that although the idea of hairy, man-like creatures in Australia (previously called the "Hairy Man") was reasonably well-known up to around the early 1900s, they basically disappeared in European consciousness until 1975, when Rex Gilroy started publicising his own research into what he called the "yowie." As our next book shows, the newspaper reports and sightings were happening right across that period, but for some reason they never caught the wider public's attention. Kind of like bigfoot before Jerry Crew!

The recent digitisation of Australian regional newspapers has shown the steady stream of reports from 1843 to the 1960s. Tony Healy and I have also spoken and interviewed several excellent eyewitnesses from this period — cases in point:

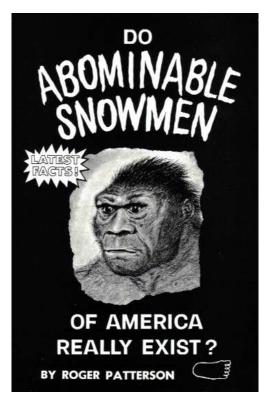
Clyde Shepherdson in Qld in 1938/39: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vjs5J 28XCil

Melba Cullen in 1930, NSW https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3_n E8Rk4F4

So, as I said, it was like bigfoot before Jerry Crew—known, but not to the wider public. So, not surprising, Sanderson had no idea. I'm surprised no one in Australia said anything when the bigfoot stuff started or when Patterson's movie was covered in the media here, but at that time maybe only indigenous Australians had the appreciation of the wider scope of the phenomenon.

Cheers, Paul

Many thanks to Paul for fully enlightening us on this issue. It is my opinion that if Sanderson had contacted scientists in Australia on the hairy man question, they would have pleaded ignorance or just said the hominoid was a myth. Unfortunately, Sanderson might have taken their word for it. I think there is a lesson here. —00—



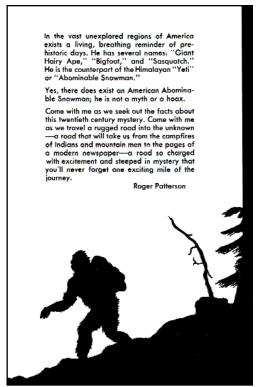
Sometime in 1996, René Dahinden gave me a copy of the original edition of this book (1966). I had been working with him since 1993, and in truth did not know the book existed.

I read the book over the next few days, and really can't say I was impressed. Nevertheless, Patterson had cobbled together and illustrated probably most of what was generally known of the sasquatch up to the publishing of the book in 1966.

René told me that he had only a few copies, but if we could get more we could sell them. I contacted Glen Koelling, who had handled the book, and asked if he had any copies we could purchase. He said he would look around and get back to me, but was unable to find any.

When I told René this information, he simply said, "Well, can you print the book?" He then told me he owned the book copyright. By this time, I had printed several business books and other books, so this was not a problem. I just needed a clean copy to make a master copy for printing. We now had high-speed photocopiers and, as I recall, the best was the Kodak machine—available at a local printing shop. The covers had to be printed at a different shop.

I think I had about 200 books printed and had them glue-bound at a local bindery (1996). They were sold through my company, Pyramid Publications, and this quantity lasted until late 1998. By

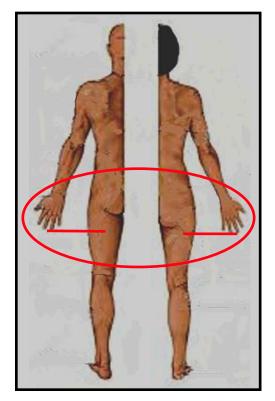


this time René and I had parted company, but one day he called me and asked if I had any more books left. I had about 12 copies that I could not sell because pages had become loose. He wanted them, so I glued the pages back in and sent the books to him via courier. I would imagine he sold them himself or gave them away, but more likely they just ended up in his storage.

Since the book's publication in 1966, it has gone through four additional editions. They were all reprints of the book. One has a supplement that I provided. I recall discussing the book with John Green, who acknowledged that Roger was the first researcher to write a proper book on the subject and needed to be recognized for that accomplishment.

I have studied Roger Patterson quite closely, and offered to write his biography. My request was overlooked and, by the time it was seen, someone else had been given permission to do the book. I was informed that I could also write a book, but I did not wish to do that if someone else was going to produce something. Unfortunately, this other person never produced anything and it has now been at least 20 years, so I doubt anything will ever transpire. Many people don't seem to understand that you need a lot more than ambition and good intentions to write a book. Although that's about all Roger had, HE DID IT, and that's what counts above all else.

3



This illustration (left) surprised me a ▲ little—I am assuming it is correct. Men and women are, of course, different in many ways, but the variation in the position of buttocks would cause confusion if you did not know the gender of what you were looking at. If a male, you would say that the tips of its fingers were way down on the thigh, indicating very long arms. If a female, finger tips would be about even with the end of the buttock; definitely not low down on the thigh, thus short arms in comparison with the male. However, you can see that there is little difference in the length of the arms and hands. The male would likely have larger hands, which would add to the difference, but not significantly.

As to the legs, it appears that the male would have longer leg bones than the female, but both would be the same height.

On the right is Frame 307 from the P/G film. Even if we did not know the subject hominoid was a female, we can see that this is evident according to human standards (of which we don't have any proof that such apply). Obviously the hominoid's arms are longer than the human female, but the position is reasonably relative. I need to mention here that if Roger Patterson created the creature in his movie (by whatever means) he managed to get the arms and buttocks right for a female.



In B&P No. 107, John Morley discusses what is called the Intermembral Index. In the course of working with him, I mentioned work done by Jeff Glickman on the proportions of the P/G film subject. However, I overlooked the fact that the Intermembral Index does not include hands or feet. John's paper has been revised accordingly.

If the object of any exercise is to draw a comparison between humans and non-human great apes, it appears there are other considerations besides the Intermembral Index. Indeed, although I am pro-human in this argument, the Glickman facts (provided in the revised article) significantly move the needle to the non-human side. Nonetheless, they do not eliminate the human side.

Of course, the best way to determine arm and leg lengths (or any measurement for that matter) is to do it with the skeleton of what you wish to study, Failing that, x-rays would provide perfect measurement points. Unfortunately, all we have is a 50 plus year old film, but Jeff Glickman was provided with the absolute best film copy for his study. The copy had not been screened and had been stored in a proper temperature controlled storage facility. He had each film frame digitized at an exceedingly high resolution. Furthermore, he had state-ofart computer equipment, specifically for this type of study. Although this was back

Figure 26: Joint Data Extraction



The joints were digitized on-line on the computer using "play" an interactive forensic frame editing program (Figure 26) [Photek 1996]. These positions of the joints were estimated by observing the relationship of the surface deformation. For example, the hip joint was estimated by looking at the relationship of the torso to the upper leg and selecting the position that closely approximates the intersection of the medial axes.

in the late 1990s, I am sure it was more than adequate for the job that needed to be done. The above image is from Glickman's report and explains the process he used as to arm and leg lengths.

In working with John Morley, I did try to calculate my own measurements. He asked me to continue with this work, but I reasoned that I could not match the accuracy of Glickman's work. Personally, I don't think anyone can, but I can't comment on what others have done because there is very little cooperation and sharing in this field of study. The following newspaper image shows Jeff Glickman back in the late 1990s. He studied the P/G film for about four years. He was contracted to do the work, and I had the privilege of working with him on a few things.



Glickman was not a sasquatch researcher. He had nothing to gain or lose by his findings. That his report was essentially positive (no evidence found of a hoax) was evidently not what mainstream science wanted to hear, so his report was ignored. Also, that he was not a PhD anthropologist (most could not have done what he did) worked against him (and still does).

—00—