



# Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 157

Christopher L. Murphy

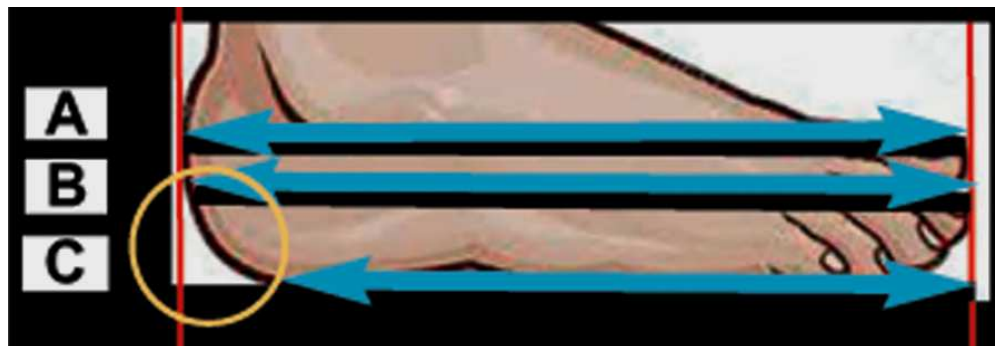
Edited by Gene Baade



The comparison of a footprint cast length to the actual foot that made the print depends on how deep the foot went into the ground. In the adjacent example, if the foot went into level A, then the cast will be about the same size as the actual foot. If it went into level B, then the cast will be about 99% (or less) of the actual foot. If it went in to level C (surface print, less than about .25 inch deep), then the cast will be just 84% of the actual foot.

The gold circle seen in the diagram illustrates the degree of discrepancy in cast sizes of a human or human-like foot. Because the heel of the foot slopes up, then the length increases until the slope stops.

I have stated that casts can be up to 1.5 inches UNDERSTATED. What you see here is primarily the reason for this. Nevertheless, casts can also be up to 1.5 inches OVERSTATED. The main thing that happens here is that casts are always a little larger than the actual foot. To make an impression, the foot pushes aside the earth by up to .5 inches all the way around. One can easily demonstrate this by making a cast of his or her foot and then comparing it to the actual foot. This is not that significant as to human feet, but sasquatch feet have a very thick sole that is likely going to spread out somewhat because of the hominoid's



excessive weight. When the weight comes off, the foot size retracts. We also have a degree of slide when a foot hits the ground in the process of walking.

I have wrapped this all up by saying casts are up to 1.5 inches larger or smaller than seen.

We have cases where casts from different locations are almost identical except one is an inch or so smaller than the other. We believe they are from the same hominoid and the difference is because of the reasons I have stated.

This means that a 14.5 inch cast length could be the same as a 16 inch cast. However, by the same token, there can be a 13-inch long print that may be simply an 11.5" (fully human-size) print. Nevertheless, very few people walk around in the forest in bare feet, especially when there is snow.

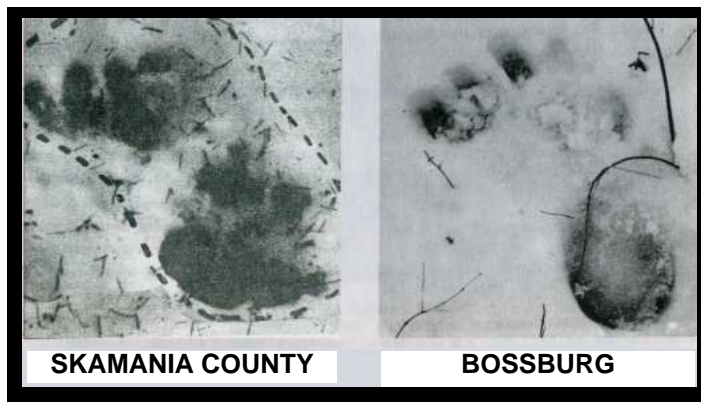
I prepared the above images to show how the 1.5 inches might appear with a



sasquatch foot. However, I think a sasquatch has a much greater pronounced heel. In other words it sticks out more. Dmitri Bayanov was highly insistent of this and if correct then the 1.5 inches would increase.

—00—

John Green reported in or about 1970 that tracks very similar to the Bossburg, Washington, cripplefoot tracks (December 1969) were discovered in Skamania County, Washington, in March of that year. Of course, if the same subject, the 272 miles between the two locations could have easily been covered in nine months—that's only about one mile each day. Obviously, if the same hominoid, he simply wandered northeast throughout the spring, summer, and fall, arriving in Bossburg in early December 1969.



The only major town between Skamania and Bossburg is Yakima, and there are only a few highways.

Really, the cripplefoot would have seen very few people or vice versa, if any at all. The biggest question I have is what did he



eat? Eastern Washington is not teeming with game, but there are small rivers, creeks, streams and small farms with vegetables and orchards. —00—

I have adjusted the far right image of film frame 61 in the Patterson and Gimlin film to take out the background at about the level of the knees. Here is the actual film frame for comparison. My objective is to determine the thickness of the sole of the subject's left foot. Please note that the left foot heel is directly under the right foot (see the arrow). It is not on the other side of the branch. That branch is off in the distance. The subject absolutely does not step over the branch, it moves right.

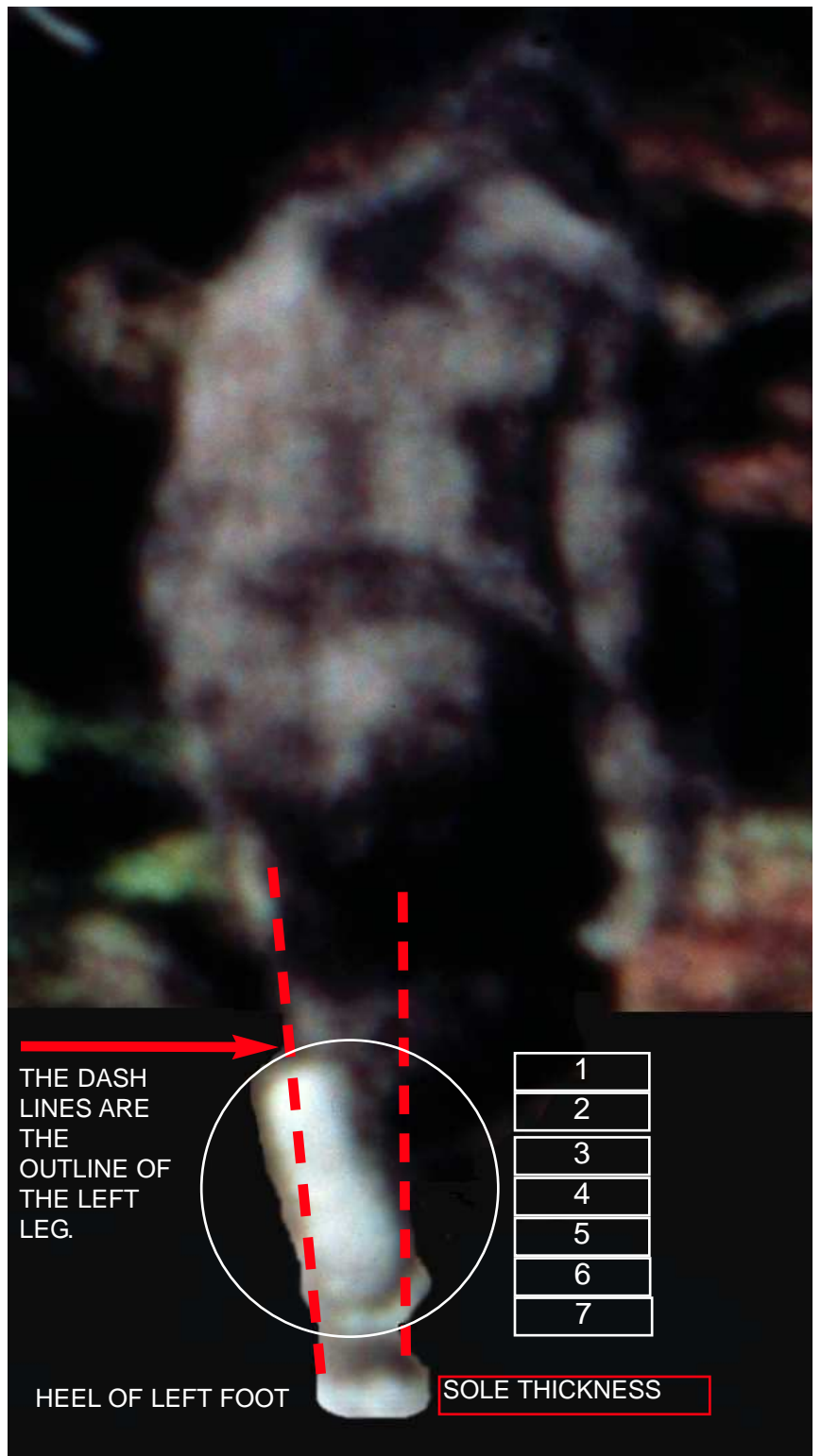


There are too many complications to determine a ratio and measure the sole of the left foot. Nevertheless, I can determine the relative size of the complete heel as it applies to the size of the right foot. As can be seen on the right, the heel thickness is about one-seventh the length of the right foot. Please note that this is the MINIMUM the heel would be because it is farther away from the right foot. If the two (foot and heel) were directly in the same plane, then the sole of the heel would be a *minimum* of 2.14 inches thick. The image provided of the sole (lower right) is life-size when viewed on an 11.0" x 8.5" sheet of paper. Please keep in mind that regardless of the nature of the subject (real or fabrication), that is about the thickness of the soles of its feet.

The maximum thickness of the sole on a human foot is 3.2 sixteenths of an inch or 5 mm. That is an astounding difference. I suppose a synthetic rubber foot could be made to specification and then affixed to some kind of footwear, but this is going to extremes.

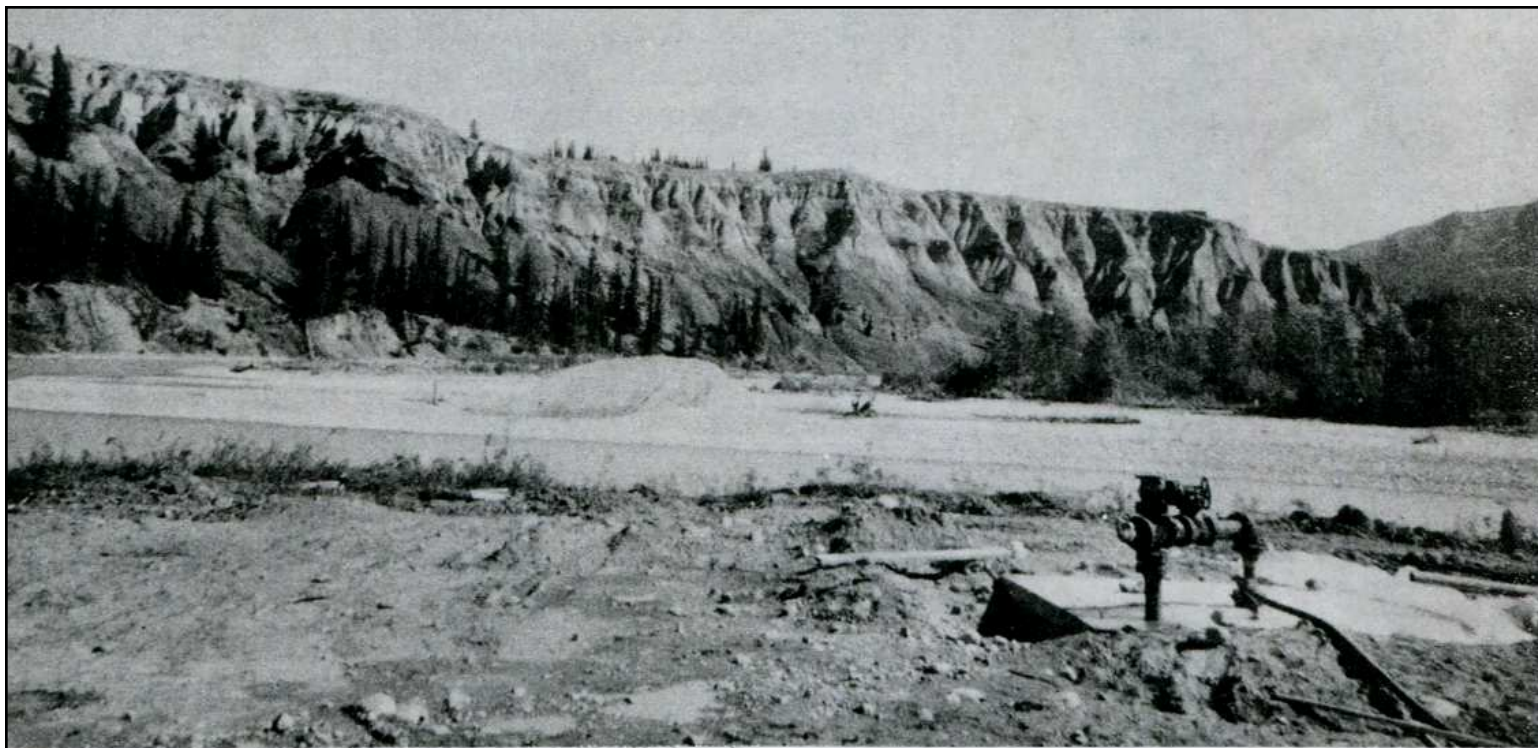
For certain, the sole of a sasquatch foot would have to be about that thickness—even a bit thicker. The terrain in the Pacific Northwest particularly is treacherous. The only human naturalist I have seen who goes everywhere in bare feet is the Australian Rob Bredl. This man is amazing.

Given the sasquatch has a 2.14 inch thick foot sole, then to get the full length of a foot in an impression, the foot must penetrate the soil by about that amount plus about another one-quarter of an inch or so. My guess is about 2.5 inches deep for a full foot impression. What this says is, if you find a footprint and it is less than about 2.5 inches deep, then you have to compensate for the additional length. If the print is very shallow, then you must add at least 1.5 inches to whatever you measure.



Note the angle of the foot and heel. With humans, we call this "walking like a duck."



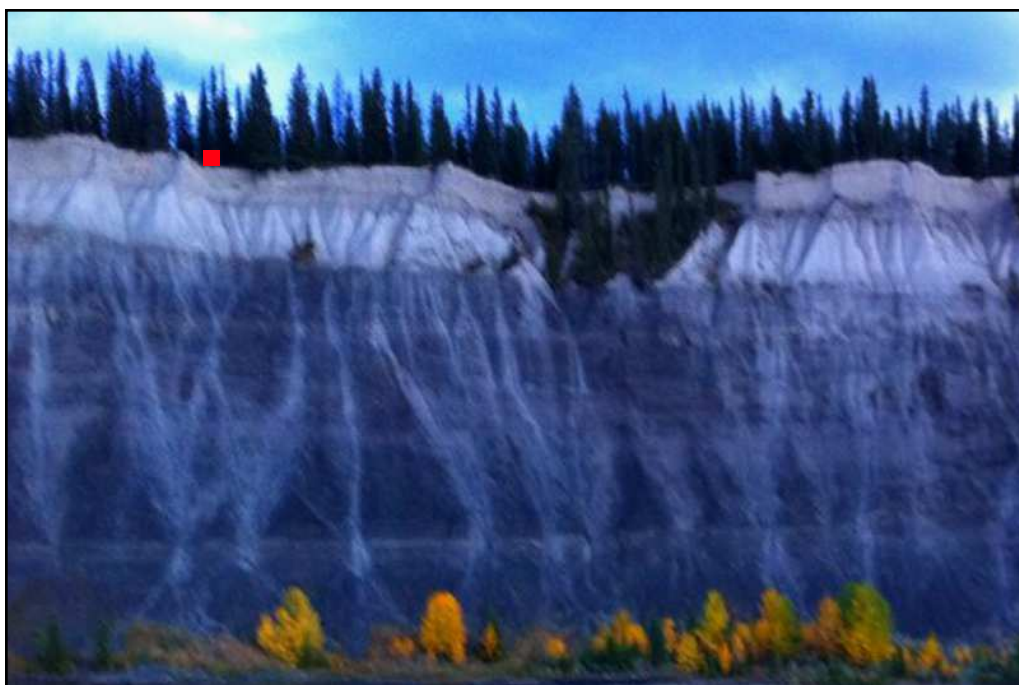


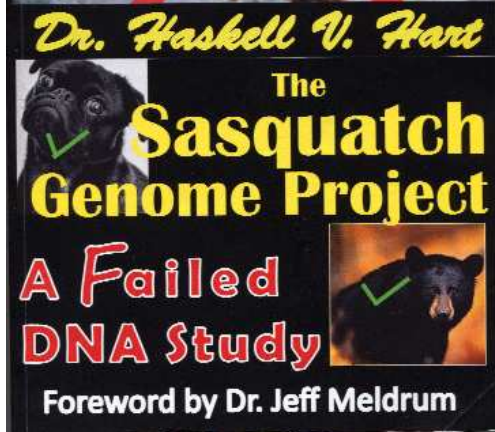
**Skyline where the Sasquatch walked at Bighorn Dam, taken from the spot where the men who saw it were working. They watched it walk the whole length of the ridge, checking its height as it passed in front of the trees in the centre.**

In 1969, five (5) construction workers at the Bighorn Dam in Alberta observed a hominoid between 12 and 15 feet tall walking along the ridge seen in the above photo taken by John Green. On the right are more contemporary images. The last is a close-up of the ridge, and I will estimate that the trees seen are about 100 feet tall. Fir trees grow at about 2 feet per year and it was probably around 50 years since Green took his photo. The red box shows the height of a 15-foot hominoid in this close-up (12 feet would be less by about 20%). In John Green's photo, the hominoid would have been farther away so much smaller—about 45%. It would have been visible, especially since it was moving, but certainly very small to the naked eye.

The comparisons made by the men to determine the subject's height would have been very subjective. Nevertheless, the subject had to be very tall and large for them to see it. If it were an ordinary man around 6 feet tall, I don't think he would have been noticed.

The details of this sighting are well publicized on the Internet. With five witnesses, something was definitely observed.





Dr. Haskell Hart has provided a highly detailed analysis of Dr. Melba Ketchum and associates' Sasquatch Genome Project. As the book cover implies, the project's scientific work was highly faulty, beset with sample contamination, incorrect calculations, errors, oversights and a host of other serious issues.

Dr. Hart takes us behind the scene in his discussions with Dr. Ketchum and others. His analysis and appraisal of all the circumstances is very precise. He presents many math calculations, scientific charts, tables, and illustrations to substantiate his findings.

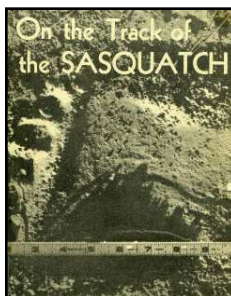
Although we have known for some time that Dr. Ketchum's analysis was greatly flawed, and that her action to publicize her results were totally unorthodox, Dr. Hart has thrown down the gauntlet, and I really don't think anyone can argue with him.

There is certainly a lot to learn in this book, especially concerning sample contamination. When samples are not obtained under very sterile condition, they are prone to massive contamination. Even the DNA of fungi can complicate the examination process.

I am reminded of the recent yeti hand bone issue whereas the DNA came out as human, only to discover that the DNA originated from Peter Byrne, who handled the bone in the late 1950s.

Anyway, great work Dr. Hart; we can now bury the Ketchum catastrophe.

In 1971, Dr. John Napier wrote a letter to John Green as to his book, *On the Track of the Sasquatch* (1968). The letter is dated August 15, 1971. The last paragraph in the letter states the following:



Any field of investigation has its good practitioners and its bad ones. There are those who press their point of view by persuasive, but one-sided arguments, and there are those who rely on assiduous observation, documentation and data analysis to present their case in a properly scientific manner. It is they—people like John Green—who will be listened to in the long run.

This was a nice letter to receive from someone like John Napier, despite the highly ambiguous book, *Bigfoot*, he wrote and had published the following year (1972).

Green discusses Napier's book in *The Sasquatch File* (1973). He is quite critical of him, but nowhere near to what I have pointed out. Green shows the following photo of Napier.



In the material Green presents that is associated with Napier's research, Green states:

Roger Patterson told me he customarily used 24fps (frames per second) but after taking this [Bluff Creek] sequence, he found the camera set at 18fps and he did not know when the setting was changed.

One will recall that the research done by Dr. D. Grieve points out that at 24fps the subject in the film could be human, but at 16 or 18fps, the possibility of fakery [i.e., human] is ruled out.

Of course, the question I have here is, WHAT IF THE SUBJECT IS HUMAN? Does that automatically make it a fake? Unfortunately, that is the opinion of scientists in general. In other words, if DNA indicate "modern human" (came to be 200,000 years ago or more) then the sample did not come from a sasquatch.

I can only really speak from experience in business management in a large corporation. I and others went through intense training in critical analysis. The reason for this is that, if we made a mistake, the company could lose millions of dollars. This is an engineering aspect much more than a scientific one. Nevertheless, many scientists in non-medical or chemical fields don't seem to have the same level of concern. Naturally, if they make a mistake, the only repercussion is words in a book and egg on their faces, so things are not quite as critical (although the boss will be upset).

I might mention in this connection that with people like Dr. Melba Ketchum, taking a chance with conclusions on the sasquatch issue is not a serious gamble. A bridge does not fall down, and nobody dies or suffers major injuries if you are wrong. There is nothing that will send one to jail in our society. It could be that she took a chance hoping that major scientific organizations would buy her arguments and seriously get into the sasquatch issue. In this case, she just might have made it, I believe firm evidence would have come to light, and Dr. Ketchum would have become quite famous, and even wealthy.

Getting back to Dr. Napier, he for one did not really listen to John Green, especially with regard to the Patterson and Gimlin film. Napier did not present anything that proved the film was fabricated. He simply concluded in his own mind that it was a fake. I can imagine John Green reading Napier's book and shaking his head. In all my discussions with Green, I can't recall even a mention of Napier. As to René Dahinden, he just handed me Napier's book as I was leaving one day and said, "Here, you might want to look at this."