

Bits & Pieces – Issue No. 53

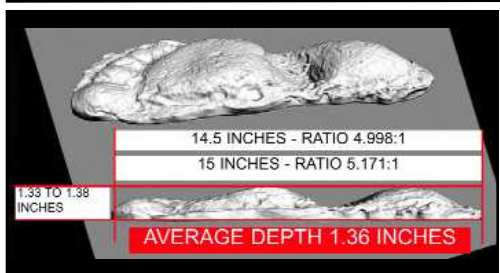
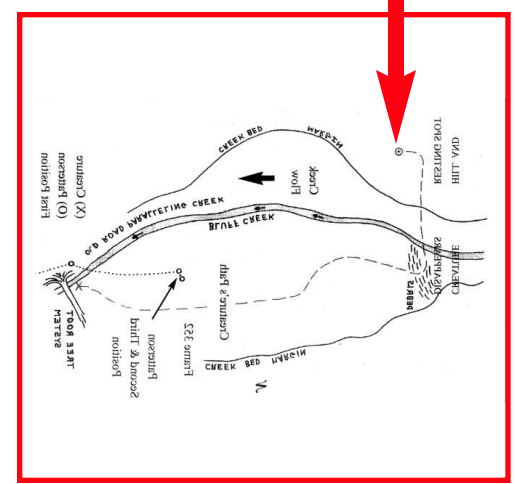
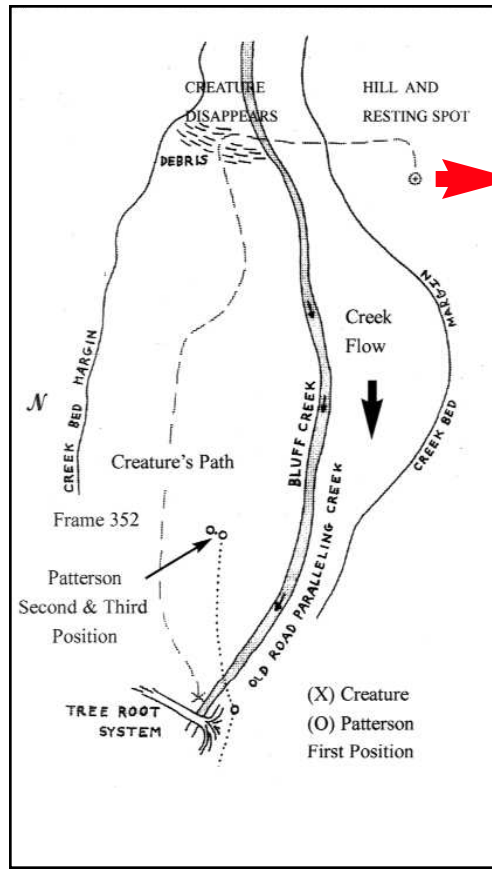
Christopher L. Murphy

The Bluff Creek Film Project group brought something to my attention that I had not thought about. The photo taken by René Dahinden showing a “aerial” view of the P/G film site was taken from the film subject’s “resting spot” as determined by Bob Titmus. Seen here are a map created by Titmus and the photo. When the map is turned sideways (map with red border) the relationship can be more clearly seen.

The “resting spot” was at the top of a hill providing a full view of the film site. Titmus followed the tracks of the film subject and saw a spot where it evidently rested and looked down at Patterson and Gimlin.

Dahinden showed me the photo many years ago, but I never asked him how he got it; I thought he (or one of his sons) had climbed a tree. This is another one of those little things that sort of creeps out in the passage of time.

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The thickness of a cast is generally a good indicator of the depth of a footprint. Here, I have calculated this using a cast of a print made by the P/G film subject.

Given one knows the hardness of the soil in which a print was made, then the weight of the subject can be calculated. In other words, a determination is made as to the weight needed to make an impression in that soil.

I don't know the hardness of the soil at Bluff Creek; however, I would rate it as “soft”—about the same as cultivated ground (gardens and farms). For non-cultivated ground (forest floor) I would rate this as “medium,” and for hard-packed ground (trails, non-paved roads) I would rate them as “hard.”

To begin, it needs to be noted that bears can reach 9.8 feet tall (two legs) and

weigh up to 2,400 pounds, so I want to draw a parallel here and then present formulas for determining **HYPO-THEITICAL** sasquatch weight in different circumstances (i.e., made on the basis of limited evidence as a starting point for further investigation).

If a bear was as indicated, its average weight per one-foot of height would be 245 pounds. The film subject's weight as determined by a forensic scientist (Jeff Glickman) was 1,957 pounds. The subject's **STANDING HEIGHT** was about 7.91 feet. This equates to an average of 247 pounds per one-foot of height. The two are so close as to be essentially the same. In my mind, this is further confirmation that the forensic scientist was right, despite all the controversy and disagreement on his calculation. A sasquatch weight of 1,957 is NOT out of the question.

Whatever the case, we have, in my opinion, a rough standard for soft soil. For any print in that kind of soil, the formula is:

$$(\text{Depth}/1.36) \times 1957 = \text{Subject Weight}$$

So if a print was say .75 inch deep,

the weight would be 1,079 pounds; if it were just .25 inch, the weight would be 360 pounds—and so forth.

I don't have a standard for other types of soil; but from looking at photos, it appears to me that footprints in medium soil go in about .50 inch; and in hard soil, about .25 inch. So the respective formulas are:

$$\text{Medium Soil: } (\text{Depth}/.50) \times 1957 = \text{Subject Weight}$$

$$\text{Hard Soil: } (\text{Depth}/.25) \times 1957 = \text{Subject Weight}$$

So if a print was .30 inch deep in medium soil, the weight would be 1,174 pounds. In hard soil it would be 2,348 pounds—excessive, but not beyond reason.

As the film site prints were made in the process of the subject walking, then any extra depth caused by such is included.

Bob Gimlin stated that he could not match the depth of the prints at Bluff Creek by jumping off a stump. I have considered that soil “soft.” Prints of that depth in soft, medium or hard soil indicate very significant weight; far

greater than estimates of 500 to 600 pounds in soft soil. Although this is all speculative, the math indicates to me, at least, that estimates for “scientific comfort” need to be questioned.

One fact that needs to be noted is the following:

Up to 60% of the human adult body is water. According to H.H. Mitchell, Journal of Biological Chemistry 158, the brain and heart are composed of 73% water, and the lungs are about 83% water. The skin contains 64% water, muscles and kidneys are 79%, and even the bones are watery: 31%. (Jul. 23, 2018)

This is likely the same for all mammals, and as water is a “constant” (weighs the same in any circumstance) then bears and sasquatch have a common weight factor. Just how different the non-water content (as to weight) is between a bear and a sasquatch we don’t know; but do you really think it would be significantly different?

Having said all that, the weight of the P/G film subject according to our scientists was 542 pounds. The formula therefore changes as follows:

$$(\text{Depth}/1.36) * 542 = \text{Subject Weight}$$

This means that GIVEN MY DEPTH ESTIMATES the following results:

Soft soil (1.36” depth)	542 pounds
Medium soil (.50” depth)	199 pounds
Hard soil (.25” depth)	100 pounds

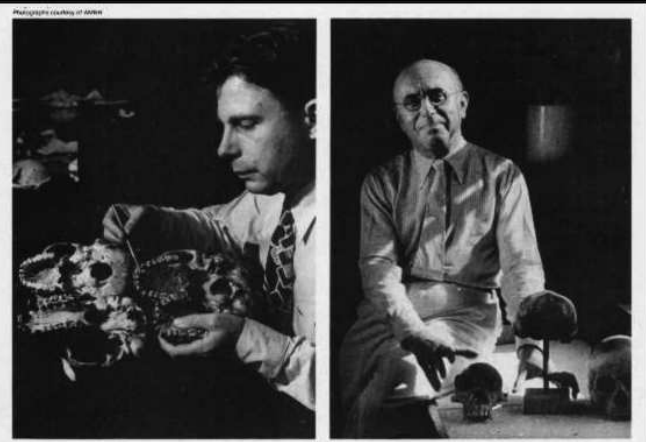
If you don’t like my depth estimates for medium and hard soil, then double them and therefore double the pounds, which will equate to 398 pounds and 200 pounds respectively.

In order for the film subject to come out as 542 pounds in medium and hard soil, then her prints would need to have an equal depth (1.36”) in each. I would consider that impossible. In other words, “You can’t have your cake and eat it too.”

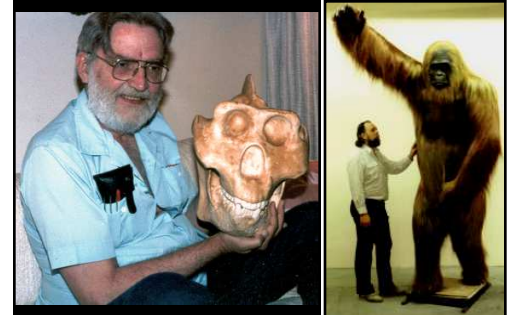
This image shows my 200 pounds on a fresh block of modeling clay 1.25 inch thick. I let the clay expand as needed. The pad of my foot went in about one inch. How would modeling clay match up in hardness to the soil at Bluff Creek? If the clay came out as 10 times as soft, the forensic scientist was dead on.



Photographed at the American Museum in the 1940’s, German paleoanthropologists Ralph von Koenigswald, left, and Franz Weidenreich, right, pose with the skulls of apes, *Homo erectus*, and modern humans. The first scientist to discover teeth of *Gigantopithecus*, von Koenigswald correctly observed that they belonged to an ape, while Weidenreich argued for their humanlike characteristics.



This material (credit D. Perez) is interesting because I don’t think any of us have assigned much “humanness” to the *Giantopithecus*. Much later (1980s?) Dr. Grover Krantz would create his famous Giganto skull model with its conspicuous sagittal crest; and still later Bill Munns created a full-size model (images seen here). I have to assume that Bill put a sagittal crest inside the head.



From the start Giganto has been thought of as a giant ape; assumed to be a knuckle-walker. A possible connection to sasquatch was originated by John Green and is still a theory, which supports the stand that sasquatch are non-human apes.

If Dr. Weidenreich guessed correctly (that Giganto was more human-related) then that puts a different slant on things. Given the Giganto evolved into the sasquatch, more thought would need to be given to its possible human nature.

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Although I can sort of justify 1,957 pounds using the weight of a large bear, it would be very unusual for a primate to be that heavy, despite its reasonable stature. The largest gorilla on record was 550 pounds (See BP#10, page 4). Remarkably, our scientists have stayed within that range with the estimate of 542 pounds for the P/G film subject.

The gorilla had a weight of 89 pounds per one foot of height (6.17 feet). The P/G film subject nets out at 69 pounds using 542 pounds as the total weight. I think that would be one skinny gorilla or “North American Ape.”

I agree that all of this is a bit of a stretch. The answer is to do soil testing. Scientifically proving excessive weight and presenting such evidence would be a major factor as to homin reality.

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Marlon Davis sent this interesting Mitem. “...an alleged sasquatch stepped on a futon that had blown out of a truck and was on the side of the road. A couple in an oncoming car saw a



sasquatch cross the road and step on the futon. They recovered the futon with two tracks on it. (Photo courtesy of Cliff Barrackman.) *Continued*

The footprint is exactly as one would expect to see on something soft. Naturally, the sasquatch's foot sank into the futon and its soil-stained toes registered with their stems.

I suppose it might be a bit unusual that a sasquatch would step on a futon; not sure, but I think most animals would be a little cautious. For sure, the futon would have heavy human scent unless it were new. Anyway, the witnesses saw what they say so the sasquatch did not have concerns.

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There is yet another recent incident of a print found on fabric. A homin of some sort went into a house in a remote area in South Carolina when nobody was home. It found a tin of baby powder and sprinkled it around. In this process the homin's hands got covered and it left a very clear hand print (right hand) on a pillow or cushion as seen above.

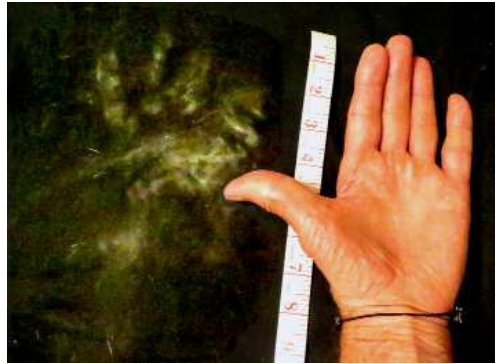
Igor Burtsev investigated the incident and noted that on the other side of the pillow there was an image of "Chewbacca," and other characters from the Star Wars series, as seen here:



Igor noted that the hand print was more homin-related than human-related because of the probable non-opposable thumb. I matched the image with my sasquatch hand sculpture (See BP#1, page 1) as seen here and agreed as to the similarity.



The following images show first, one of the house owner's hands (a lady) with the print, and then Igor's hand (same) with a ruler.



Upon inspecting the outside area, Igor found other possible homin signs in the vicinity (possible stick structures, vague footprints, and particularly smudges on windows as seen here.



Later another print was found in the bathroom; but this time just the fingers. If one thinks through this incident, a little **speculative** logic emerges.

The homin in this case was likely a sasquatch. The house door was probably left unlocked (wilderness area) and the homin walked in and looked around. The smell of the baby powder attracted him (her?) so he sprinkled some out—likely on himself. He noticed the pillow, which would have had the image side up. He saw that the pillow image looked a bit like him so likely went over and picked it up for a closer look.

This incident might more firmly indicate that sasquatch do not have opposable thumbs. Furthermore, if I am correct about the pillow, then we can further justify sasquatch intelligence.

Of course, one can question why the homin did not rampage the house as a bear would do looking for food. This might have been on its mind, but could have been frightened away by hearing the house owner approaching. It might have been a juvenile (print would be small for an adult) and the pillow image reminded him of adults.

The bottom line on this one is that some people in a wilderness area reported a strange incident. Fabricating something like this is highly unlikely. I am sure any of us could think of doing something much more impressive.

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The Bits & Pieces Index is being updated and greatly enhanced. It will be progressively posted. It is currently up to Issue 19. Check back from time to time.



Peter Byrne, seen here in the early days, was way ahead of the other major researchers—Green, Dahinden and Krantz. Byrne had significant financial backing so could research sasquatch full-time. Green and Dahinden did not have the financial resources and Krantz had to work (although likely in the same boat). It's a matter of common sense—if you don't have the money you are very limited in what you can do. Byrne took the photos seen here in the early 1960s, before Krantz even got involved in the sasquatch issue (1963). Generally, Green and Dahinden did not consider Byrne's research valid.

Byrne was from a different social mindset (knew how to get things done) so cooperation between the four was very limited—in other words they did not get along. It was so bad that Green refused to cooperate with me if I gave Byrne any profile in my book *Meet the Sasquatch*. My update, *Know the Sasquatch*, was different; I just did what I thought was right.

Byrne's 1975 book *The Search for Bigfoot* was very comprehensive—far more than just sighting reports and researcher opinions.

When I decided to work with Peter on his book *The Monster Trilogy Guidebook* (2012) Dahinden and Krantz had passed on and Green was in his late 80s (died 2016). Our relationship had drifted and I did not hear anything from him on this book.

The book was a bit of an eye-opener on Peter's research as he sent me all of his photos. I used what I thought were the best in the new book. I have yet to thoroughly examine those I did not use. Peter is now 93 years old.

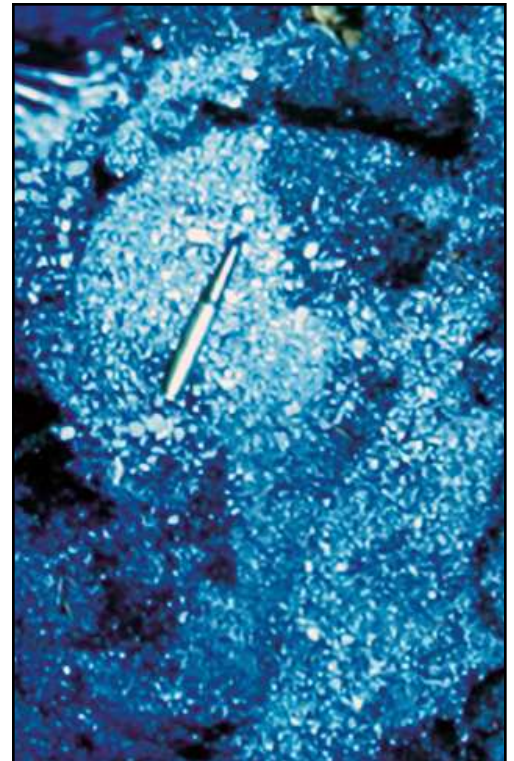
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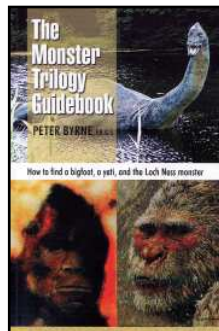
Prints on the Onion Mountain Road, California, 1961.



A 14.5 inch print, Onion Mountain Road, California, early 1960s.



A 14.5 inch print, near Bluff Creek, in a pool of water, 1961 (cartridge for size).



Murphy, Byrne and Hancock at book signing—Beachfoot Campout, Oregon, 2013.

