

The Yale, BC, Historic Site Museum Sasquatch Exhibit

NOTE: Only exhibited three-dimensional items are provided here, and may not be on exhibit in the same way. Plaster casts, skulls or other artifacts previously provided have been excluded to avoid repetition. I have, however, provided a “walk through” at the end that gives a good sense of the entire exhibit.



The town of Yale is about 113 mile east of Vancouver. It is currently a very small community, but during the gold rush in the mid to late 1800s had a population of up to 15,000 and was the largest town in the West north of San Francisco. It was also the wildest—a veritable den of vice, violence and lawlessness. Tombstone, Arizona. paled in comparison.



Shown here is Creighton House which is now the Yale Historic Site Museum.

The museum curator is Deb Zervini, seen here with me in September 2011. I was simply visiting the museum with family and mentioned my latest book about Yale, whereupon the sasquatch became the conversation. Deb said that she would love to have a sasquatch exhibit and things went forward on a very positive note from there.





A giant (9 feet tall) iron human skeleton (plastic head) provides a little insight as to what a sasquatch skeleton might look like if one were ever uncovered. This skeleton was made by students at a university in Arizona, probably in the 1970s. For many years it graced the lobby of a motel and caught David Hancock's eye some time in the distant past. He took a photograph of it which he eventually showed to me. I tried to get it for my Vancouver Museum exhibit, but this did not work out. When the skeleton became available, David obtained it, thus providing me with a "show piece" for future sasquatch exhibits. (Although nothing but bones, it weighs some 300 pounds).

Footprint plaster casts are the mainstay of any sasquatch exhibit. This presentation shows how casts are made and exactly what they represent—a view from BELOW the foot. This is important for the numerous grade school children who are taken to museum exhibits. The sasquatch is high on the list for these future researchers (they are my biggest fans).





This is a clay sculpture I created in 2011/12. The creature is not only ugly, it's kind of comical. For sure, if there were an animal beauty contest, primates would not even make the top 100. For those who might think the sasquatch looks like a champion body-builder covered with hair, I think you are sadly mistaken. Of the thousands of sighting reports, I have not found one that gives the creature Greek god features. Indeed, we see the complete opposite—a very large, scruffy, frightening thing that has a terrible odor. I used as much as I could from sighting reports in British Columbia to create the rather unflattering work. If the creature is a “human” of some sort, then it goes back a long, long way.



I am shown here with my sculpture at the museum. I am holding a 16-inch footprint cast. Please try imagine how large the sculpture would need to be to have feet the size of the cast. Now use your imagination to bring the creature to life. Is there any wonder why people “forget themselves” when they see something like that? Even if they can retain their composure, how close do they want to get to the oddity? These are major factors that limit photographic evidence.

This is a clay foot I created to get a simple appreciation of how a sasquatch foot might appear from above.

However, it does serve to illustrate an important point. The



sole of the foot is an actual 16-inch plaster cast. It is totally buried in the soil as would be the case with soil of this nature given the weight of the creature. However, if the soil were softer, then even more of the foot would register. If it were harder, then less would register. I believe the size of a footprint can vary as to the size of the actual foot by about 8% (larger or smaller) depending of the type of soil. Many footprints found that only marginally make an impression were made by a foot considerably larger than the impression seen. A 12-inch impression (human size—higher range) could have indeed have been made by a 13-inch, or larger, foot (sasquatch size—lower range).



A frame from the 1967 Patterson/Gimlin film is matched with a scale model (diorama) of the same scene, except with the camera (eye) about 50 feet in the air. Great care was taken to ensure all measurements in the model were those recorded when the film was taken.



The model has provided reasons as to why the creature proceeded directly ahead rather than seek cover in the background forest that appears to be very close in the film.

The wood fragment (26.25 inches long) that the creature in the Patterson-Gimlin film is believed to have stepped on. The fragment was retrieved from the site and its length confirms that the creature filmed was over 7 feet tall.

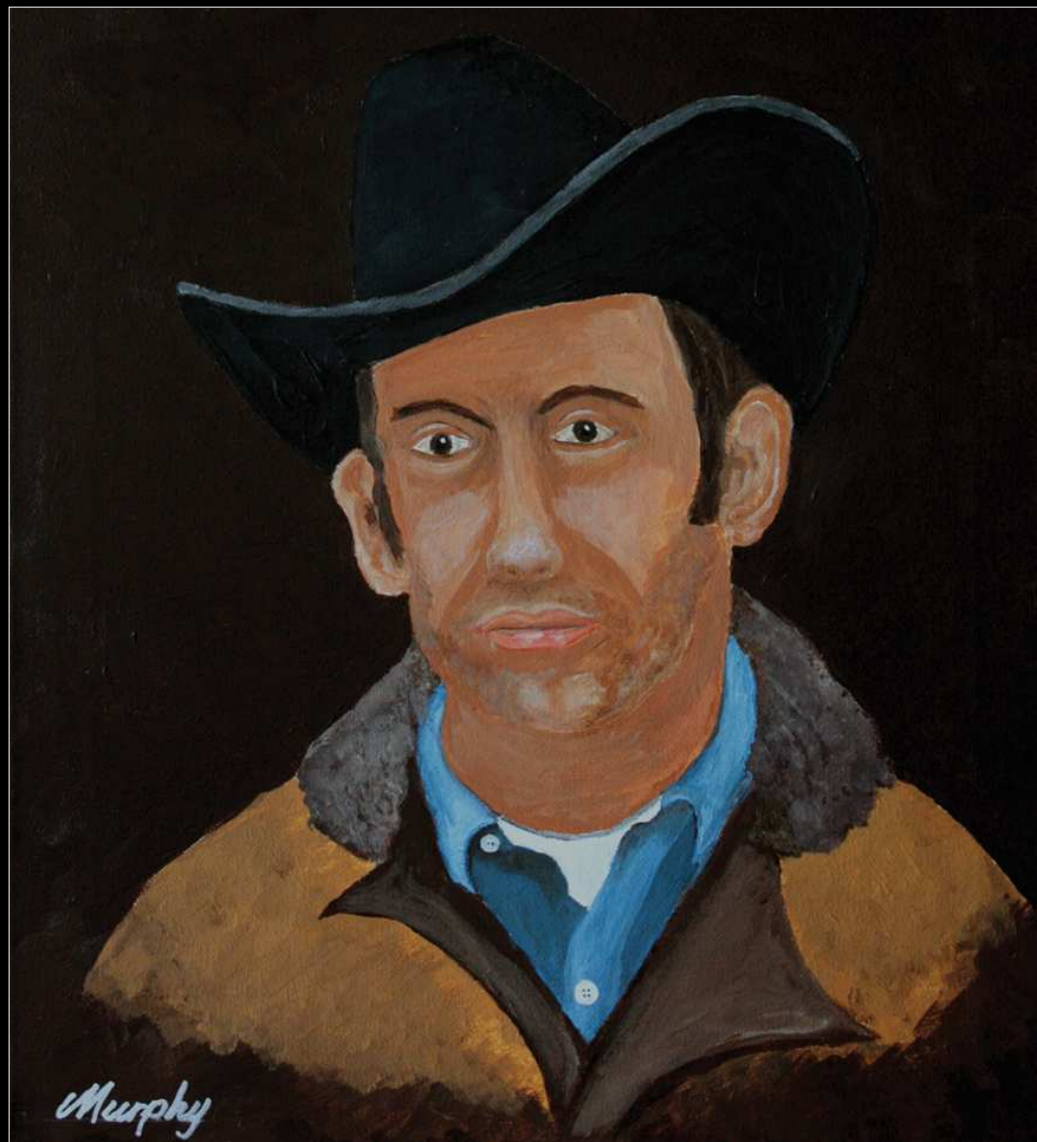


(Scale photo cut-out is exhibited.)



A small sample of the actual soil along Bluff Creek, California, in the area where Roger Patterson filmed a sasquatch in 1967. The toy, which depicts the creature in frame 352 of the film, was made in Japan and marketed about 8 years ago.

An artistic rendering (acrylic on canvas) of Roger Patterson. He lived in Yakima County, Washington, which has a highly “Western” culture—cattle ranches, farms, horses, Western attire, and so forth. Roger had his own horse and participated in rodeos. He invented a device called the “prop lock” that was used to more efficiently support fruit tree branches.





This is a piece of actual 16mm film from a copy of the Patterson-Gimlin film. The width of the strip, including the edges is 16mm. The image portion is 10mm x 7mm. The creature seen in the film is about 1.2mm high. The fact that actual film was used (as opposed to standard video) has enabled us to get reasonably good enlargements of the film frames. However, had a high-quality video been used with full close-up (zoom) in use, then I believe we would have had a better movie, and better still images.



This is the type of movie camera Roger Patterson used to film the creature at Bluff Creek, California, in 1967. It is a silent (no sound) spring-loaded “wind-up” camera (no batteries). It took a 100-foot reel of film and snapped pictures at your choice of 16, 18 or 24 frames per second. The standard would be 16 frames per second, in which case a 100 foot film roll would last about 4 minutes and 23 seconds.

Although the camera is very old technology, it was perfect for getting photographs of animals -- far better than a standard camera (much like a machine gun compared to a single shot rifle). The main draw-backs were its size and weight (9" x 5.75" x 2.5" and 5.75 pounds). Also, when you changed a film roll, this had to be done in the dark.

It was a “what you see is what you get” camera and would have taken a bit of practice to use properly.



A very unique item I obtained at a gift show was this plate engraved with a sasquatch head. It was created by Ron Austin, a talented artist, who designed the logo for the Chehalis First Nations Band in British Columbia. The head seen here is the same as that on the logo, which is reminiscent of the creature in the Patterson-Gimlin film when it turns to look at the two men.

Vancouver artist, Penny Birnam, created four sasquatch heads for my Vancouver Museum exhibit (2004). I provided her with images from the Patterson-Gimlin film for inspiration. I expected only one head, but she created four, all different in appearance. Penny had reasoned that the sasquatch were likely similar to humans with individual facial features.



Penny gifted me one of the heads, shown on the right, which I now use for museum exhibits. Penny has created many marvelous animal heads. She has reasoned that perhaps her creations will avoid the need for at least some “trophies.” Indeed, perhaps we all need to start thinking along those lines.

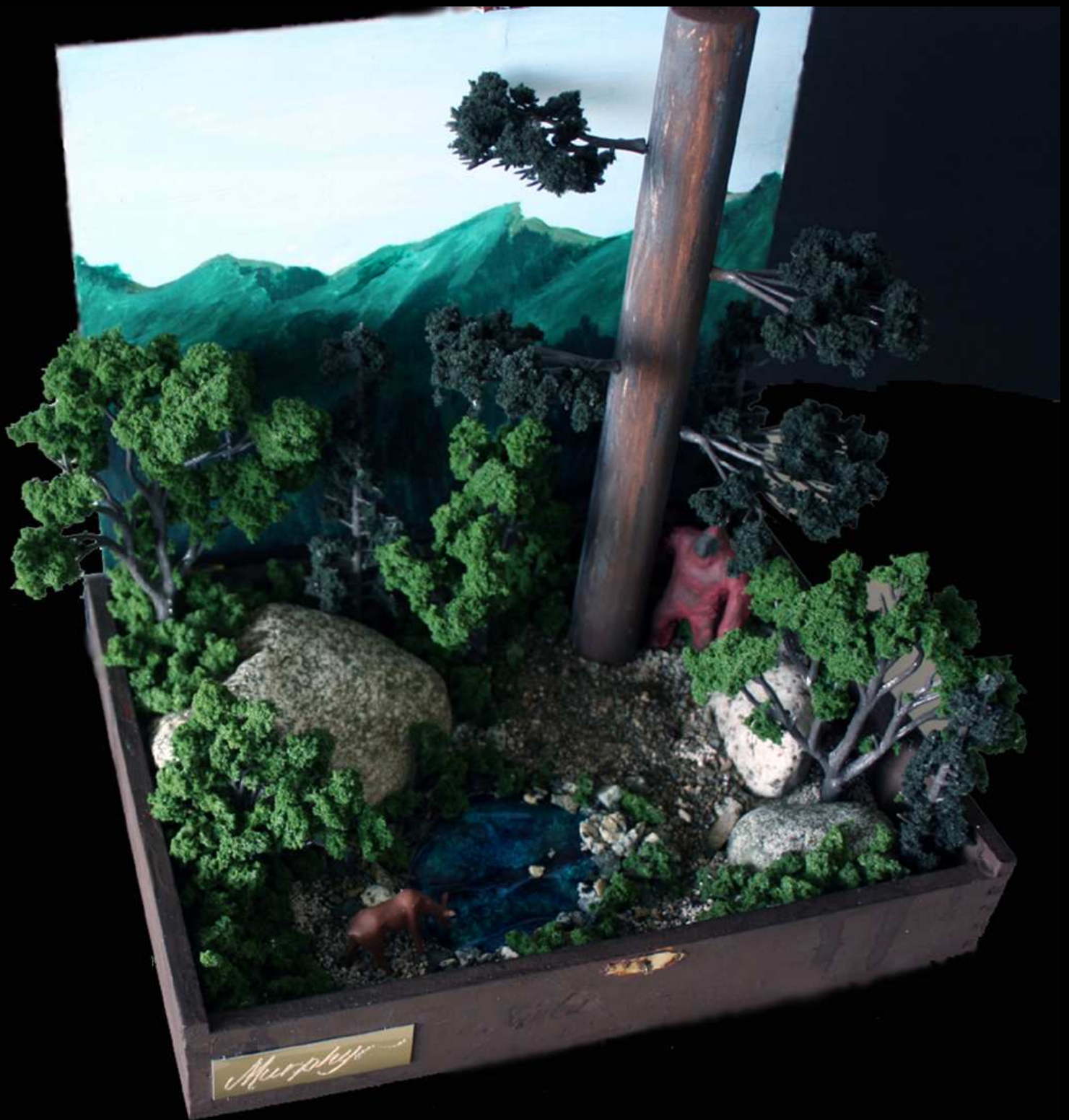


A small clay sculpture (4 inches high) with “glued-on hair.” It was made as an experiment to see if one can in fact “glue-on” hair. Facilities that offer a solution to baldness do “glue-on” head hair as a last resort. However, constant (and expensive) maintenance is needed (skin perspires and sheds cells). Could hair be glued-on to some type of modern tight-fitting synthetic fabric? I suppose it’s possible, but not in the 1960s. Whatever the case, it is an extremely difficult and time-consuming process and I doubt very much that it has been used to hoax a sasquatch as one scientist has suggested (gluing hair onto long underwear is highly questionable).

As to the sasquatch, hair is an interesting subject. Non-Native human males have continually-growing head hair and facial hair; females have continually growing head hair, but no facial hair. Native North Americans are the same except **males** and females do not have facial hair. It appears those males who do, reflects interbreeding with Europeans. If the sasquatch is human-related, then males likely have to cut their head hair and facial hair at some point. However, male facial hair effectively eliminates a direct sasquatch connection with Native people, whose males do not have such hair. If we now “cross the gap” and consider a direct sasquatch connection with other primates, such as gorillas and so forth, then there is no issue. These animals have non-continually growing head hair and facial hair in both males and females.



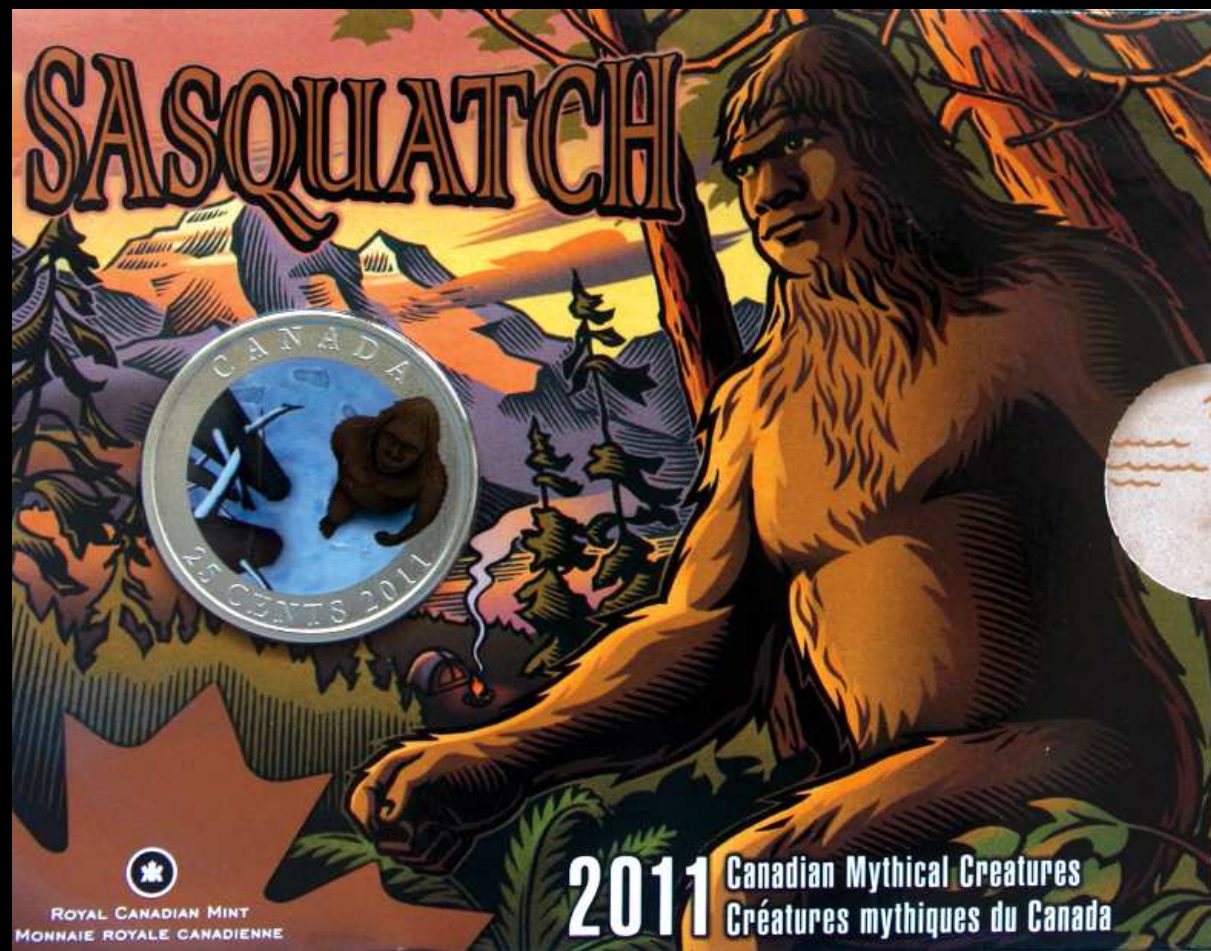
A diorama of the Ruby Creek incident, September 1941. A sasquatch approached the Chapman house causing Mrs. Chapman to flee with her children. Footprints 17 inches long were found on the property and other evidence of the unwelcome visitor. A cast was made of a print and later traced on brown paper. To the left is a clay scale model of the tracing.



Diorama of a sasquatch watching a fawn drinking from a little pool of water. We believe deer are a food source for sasquatch, so scenes of this nature likely occur. How do sasquatch catch and kill deer? They apparently have the speed necessary and are probably very efficient at throwing rocks. It has been reasoned that if a rock lands near you when out in the woods, the miss was on purpose.



Diorama showing a sasquatch approaching a campers tent in the dead of night. There a number of accounts of campers hearing strange noises and seeing frightening shadows on their tent walls. They are generally too afraid to peek outside. There has never been a confirmed account of any sasquatch aggression in these cases, so what might be happening here? It appears sasquatch are simply very curious which is the case with animals of higher intelligence, especially domesticated dogs and cats.



You may find him
in the silent mountains
of the West,
Watching in stillness
from behind
the forest mists...

SASQUATCH

Il parcourt peut-être
les montagnes silencieuses
de l'Ouest,
Scrutant le monde
derrière la brume calme
des forêts...

Myth? ...Or Missing Link?

A mighty ape-man has haunted forest lore for hundreds of years. In Asia, he's known as Yeti. In the western United States, he is Bigfoot.

And in the wild mountain forests of the Yukon, British Columbia, and even northern Ontario, he is Sasquatch (pronounced sas-kwatch).

Although we don't know much about our Canadian ape-man, there are lots of people who claim to have seen him or his massive footprints. They say he stands more than three metres (ten feet) tall and weighs 227 kilos (500 lb)! He's also described as hairy, strong, stinky and very fast.

Is Sasquatch just a myth? His size is very close to that of a bear standing on its hind legs — could Sasquatch really be a bear mistaken for an ape-man?

Other experts suggest Sasquatch is something more amazing: the descendant of a species we thought was extinct, like Gigantopithecus, an enormous ape.

Nobody has ever found Sasquatch remains, or caught a live Sasquatch, so for now there's no way to know whether he is real.

Whatever you believe, be sure to keep your eyes open the next time you find yourself alone in the woods!

Mythe ou chaînon manquant?

Depuis des centaines d'années, on raconte qu'un homme-singe énorme hante nos forêts. En Asie, on le nomme le Yéti. Dans l'Ouest américain, c'est le Bigfoot.

Dans les forêts sauvages des montagnes du Yukon et de la Colombie-Britannique, et même dans le nord de l'Ontario, cette créature est le Sasquatch (prononcé sas-kwatch).

Bien que nous en sachions peu sur lui, beaucoup de personnes affirment avoir vu l'homme-singe ou les immenses traces de ses pas. On dit qu'il mesure plus de trois mètres (dix pieds) et pèse 227 kilos (500 lb)! Hirsute et nauséabond, il serait aussi puissant et très rapide.

Le Sasquatch est-il un mythe? Sa taille ressemble beaucoup à celle d'un ours debout sur ses pattes arrière. Notre homme-singe ne serait-il pas tout simplement un ours?

D'autres soutiennent que le Sasquatch est une créature beaucoup plus fascinante : le gigantopithèque, un singe énorme descendant d'une espèce que nous croyions disparue. Personne n'a jamais retrouvé d'ossements du Sasquatch ni n'a attrapé celui-ci vivant; il n'y a donc jusqu'à présent aucune preuve de son existence.

Qu'à cela ne tienne! La prochaine fois que vous vous promènerez seul en forêt, ouvrez l'œil!

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Canada's sasquatch coin and presentation case (front and back).
Canada is the only country that has issued a coin and stamp featuring the sasquatch. A stamp was issued in 1990.

Museum "Walk-Through"

The following are various shots of me and my exhibit. You will notice the various artifacts and other items on display that I have discussed in this entire presentation. However, there are many more items not covered. Indeed there was not enough physical space for many poster, charts and so forth. However, this is a TRUE sasquatch exhibit. It was not hampered by fears as to what professionals or critics would think.

