

The Roaming Gentle Giants

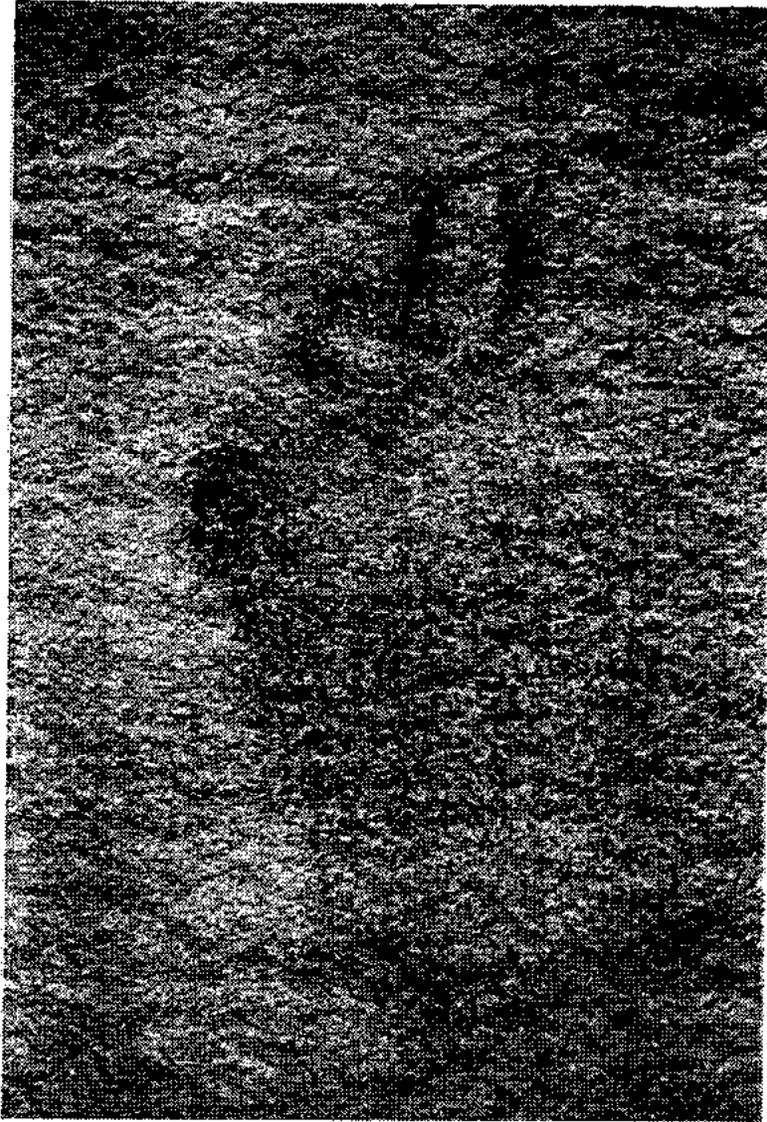
John I. Henry

Tracing the wanderings of the mammoth brought me from what is now the African Continent, through Europe, Siberia, Canada, and North America; their descendants made it all the way to South America. The following is a brief synopsis of some of my research findings and beliefs. Let it be known that I am only an amateur researcher.

The domed skull of the woolly mammoth (*mammuthus primigenius*) found on cave paintings at Font-De-Guame, France, closely parallels rock art in Ferron Canyon, Utah, and what appears to be a Jeffersonian mammoth. Pictorial comparisons of cranial and other anatomical features were based on the excellent rock art photography of Mr. Ron Lee in the southwestern U.S., cave paintings in the Franco-Castilian region of Europe (Magdalenian era), and bone incision 3-D art from Siberia recorded by Paleolithic artisans. Whether the former is the progenitor of the latter is a debate I will leave to the experts.

I substantiate this claim based on osteopathic findings and point out several examples of mammoth remains found in the state of Utah including the findings of Dr. George Hansen, formerly of Brigham Young University. Although most of the orthopedic remains are disarticulated and damaged by construction crews or water erosion in low-level strata, they can be positively identified by experts in the field.

What I didn't get a chance to cover in my treatise is the woolly rhino, also apparently reflected in the rock art of Ferron Canyon, Utah. Similarities are also seen from Font-De-Guame, France. This creature, as featured in Utah, is hardly a buffalo since the bifurcated horns (anterior being longer and posterior being shorter) protrude face out, as opposed to lateral protrusion found on modern buffalo.



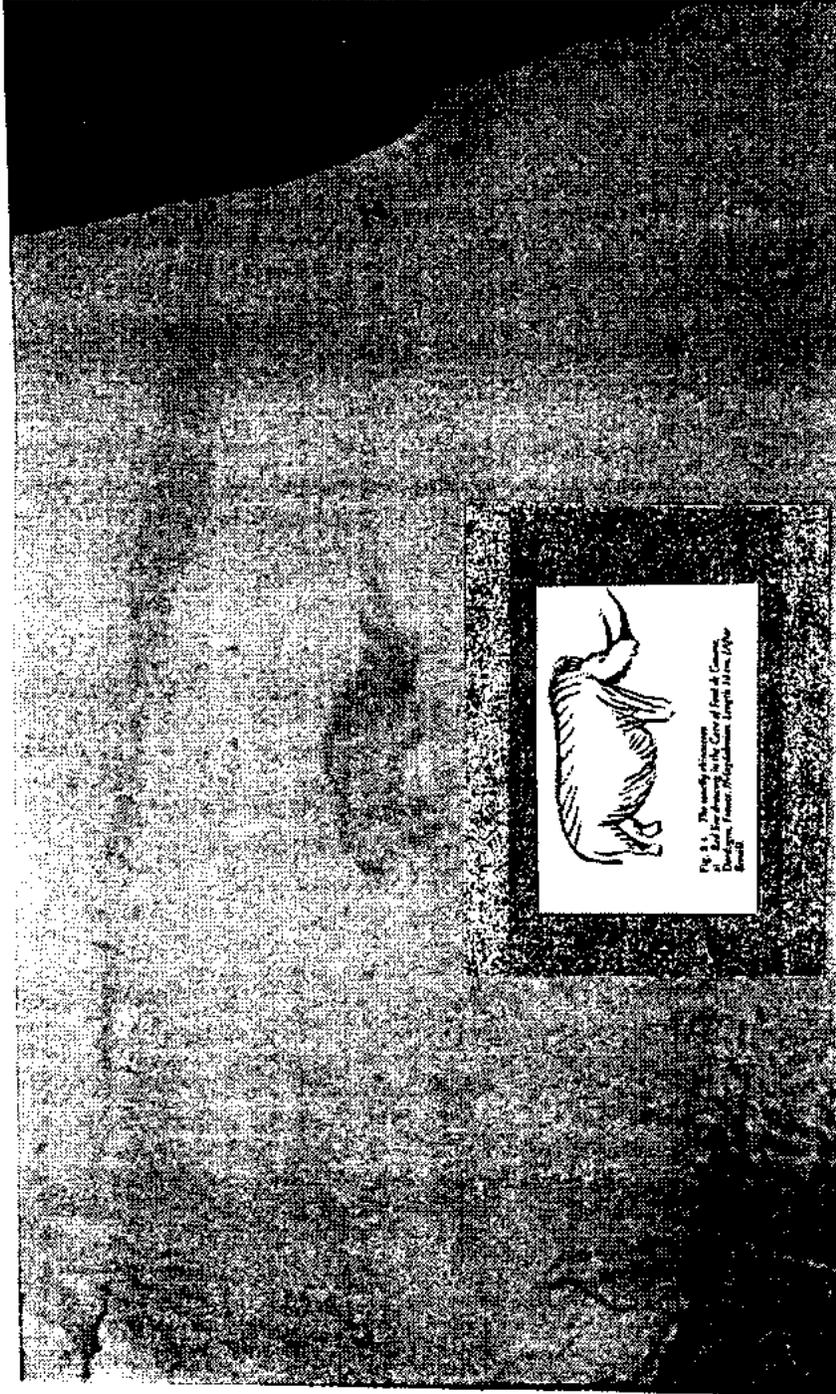
SUPPOSED MAMMOTH MONOCHROME FERRON CANYON, UTAH



The woolly mammoth

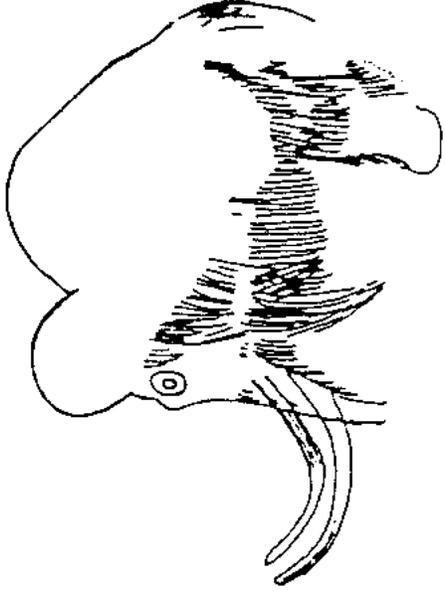
b) Painted in red ochre on the wall of Kapovaya Cave, Southern Ural Mountains, USSR.

FERRON CANYON UTAH



The woolly rhinoceros

Although depictions of the woolly rhinoceros are less numerous than those of the woolly mammoth, the appearance of the animal was nevertheless very clearly accorded by the Palaeolithic artists. Its most striking features were a remarkable shoulder hump and, when at rest, a steeply sloping neck and a downward inclined head. At first sight this posture seems unlikely, but it was recorded frequently by different artists and the downward inclination of the head is also substantiated by skeletal evidence and is in keeping with the inferred habit of this animal as a grazer. Some of the illustrations show hairiness of greater or lesser magnitude, especially along the lower jaw, around the back of the head and along the belly. The two horns, of which the anterior one was generally the longer, varied greatly in shape and direction, as in some living

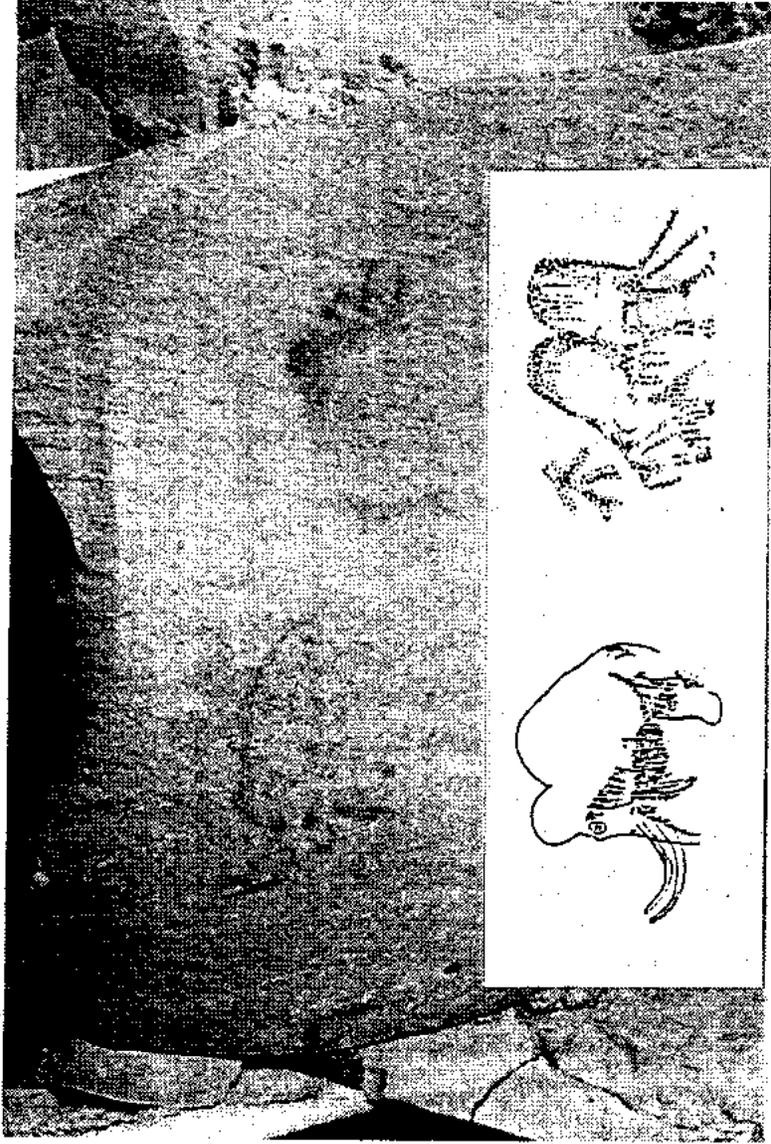


RESEMBLING JEFFERSONIAN MAMMOTH FERRON CANYON UTAH

MAMMUTHUS PRIMIGENIUS FONT-DE-GUARNES FRANCE

DATE UN-DOCUMENTED

UPPER PLEISTOCENE



MONOCHROME PICTOGRAM

SHOWING PANORAMIC FULL VIEW OF THEORIZED MAMMOTHS BACK TO BACK
FERRON CANYON UTAH

COMPARE BOTTOM SUPERIMPOSED INSET OF WOLLY MAMMOTHS FONT-DE GUARNES
FRANCE ON LEFT AND KAPOVAYA CAVE USSR. ON RIGHT URAL MTNS.

The question is, How authentic are these rock paintings in Utah? Also, are they the only ancient representations of the mammoth in the Americas? The former question I will once again leave to the savants of paleontology. The latter answer is no. Pictorial representations of mammoths were carved on a whelk shell in the vicinity of the Delaware Water Basin, and documented by the Smithsonian Museum, Washington, D. C. and featured in the *Journal of Science*.

My next logical rhetorical question was, Have extinct rhinos ever been found within the geographical borders of the U.S? The answer was an emphatic yes! They have been found from southern Florida to Nebraska, and beyond to the western provinces of Canada. However, the comparison of outward physical and anatomical features, such as tubercles and skin folds, is rendered impossible solely utilizing fossil remains.

Study of old-world woolly rhino remains presents another problem since no known woolly rhino carcasses have been found to date (to the best of my knowledge) in the continental U.S. Perhaps some day a well-preserved carcass will be found in the ice of what is now Alaska just as they have been uncovered in the frozen tundra of Siberia. This would vindicate my theory that woolly rhinos shadowed the myriad migrations of the woolly mammoths.