

Location Found

It seemed the only "loose end" left to tie down was the original location. Numerous interviews with "old timers" of Glen Rose produced the clue that it came from a tributary of the Paluxy, south of Glen Rose. After several days of searching we located a stratum exposed by Cross Branch (a tributary south of Glen Rose) which appeared to perfectly match the rather unique characteristics of the Burdick track matrix (ivory-tan color; fine grained; somewhat mottled; crystalline calcite inclusions). We had our lapidary expert cut a thin slice from

both the Cross Branch stratum and the Burdick track matrix. The match was obvious. We now know the "old timers" knew what they were talking about. The original location is established.

Track Width

An unexpected source of encouraging evidence appeared in the March issue of *Natural History* (p.63), in an article by Russel H. Tuttle, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago and Affiliate Scientist with the Primate Research Center of Emory University. Dr. Tuttle had been cho-

sen by Mary Leakey to examine the Laetoli footprints which she discovered in Africa. His article destroys the uninformed objection that the Burdick track is too wide to be a human footprint. In his description of the Laetoli footprints, Dr. Tuttle points out that individuals who habitually go bare-foot have significantly wider feet than those whose feet are "deformed" by shoes. He illustrates his point with a picture which compares his foot with a habitually barefoot Indian foot. Considering the variability of size and shape of the human foot, it is rather ironic that the length to width ratio of the foot in Tuttle's picture and the Burdick track are almost exactly the same (48%). By the way, James Donaldson, center for the Dallas Mavericks, has a foot that exceeds the length of this one by over three inches. While the dimensions of the feet of Cro-Magnon man are not readily available, these men averaged 6'6" in height. Several were over 7 feet tall.

Summary

The appearance of the Burdick track is strikingly human, well within the variability of human feet observed today. We know that it came from Middle Cretaceous limestone of the Glen Rose Formation and we know it was not carved. We have demonstrated that the track which was "just too good" to be real, really is. The significance is virtually unimaginable.

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"There is an infinite variety of ways in which, since 1859, the general concept of evolution might have been demolished. Consider the fossil record—a little known resource in Darwin's day. The unequivocal discovery of a fossil population of horses in Precambrian rocks would disprove evolution. More generally, any topsy-turvy sequence of fossils would force us to rethink our theory, yet not a single one has come to light. As Darwin recognized, a single geographic inconsistency would have nearly the same power of destruction." *The New Evolutionary Timetable*, 1981, p.171

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