

Statement of Argument

My project will be arguing for the coastal migration theory. My project will affirm the idea that humans made use of boat technology available at the time to populate america. My argument hinges on radiocarbon dating of various sites that supports the existence of humans prior to the clovis first theory– the popular theory which I'm arguing against– that claims humans migrated by land through an ice free corridor ~ 14,000 or later years ago.

Annotated Bibliography

Dillehay, Tom. *Serpentine*. 18 Nov. 2015. *New Clues Emerge about the Earliest Known Americans*, Vanderbilt University, <https://cdn.vanderbilt.edu/vu-news/files/20190417223336/serpentine.jpg>. Accessed 22 Feb. 2024.

Dillehay's Photo, and the artifact –dubbed 'serpentine'– provides important insight into the peopling of the Americas. The human made lacerations found on the rock are evidenced to be 17,000 - 19,000 years old, suggesting humans were present in the Americas prior to the ice free corridor formed within the Cordilleran glaciers. This artifact helps establish that humans were present in the Americas prior to the ice free corridor appeared in the Cordilleran glaciers.

Adovasio, J. M., et al. "The Meadowcroft Rockshelter Radiocarbon Chronology 1975-1990." *American Antiquity*, vol. 55, no. 2, 1990, pp. 348–54. *JSTOR*, <https://doi.org/10.2307/281652>. Accessed 25 Feb. 2024.

This paper affirms the dates of the radiocarbon dating of the charcoal pieces found at Meadowcroft Rock Shelter. There has been some claim that the charcoal dated past 14,000 years ago may have been contaminated but, this paper and several more contemporary papers affirm this likely isn't the case. The graph of charcoal dates helps illustrate the dates and amount of human activity for each time period the rock shelter was in use and affirms human presence prior to the clovis first theory's ice free corridor.

1975. J. Adovasio, J.D. Gunn, J. Donahue and R. Stuckenrath. Excavations at Meadowcroft Rock Shelter, 1973-1974: A Progress Report. *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* 45(3), pp.1-30.

This is one of the oldest first hand reports on the Meadowcroft Rock Shelter that has the results of the Smithsonian's carbon dating of the charcoal samples found there. Table 3 gives us a clear insight into the dates of the samples, affirming radiocarbon dates of up to 28,760 bc. This first hand report gives us insight into the validity of claims of contamination and also gives us important data from when the rockshelter was first being excavated.

Loren G. Davis *et al.* ,Late Upper Paleolithic occupation at Cooper's Ferry, Idaho, USA, ~16,000 years ago. *Science* **365**,891-897(2019).DOI:10.1126/science.aax9830

The Cooper's Ferry site is another site that gives us radio carbon dating data. This site has artifacts dating to 16,000 years old, further bolstering our claim that humans existed on the continent prior to the clovis first theory's ice free corridor.

Gauvreau, Alisha, et al. "Geo-Archaeology and Hálz̓aḡv Oral History: Long-Term Human Investment and Resource Use at EkTb-9, Triquet Island, Núláwít̓x̓v Tribal Area, Central Coast, British Columbia, Canada." *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, vol. 49, 1 June 2023, p. 103884, www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352409X23000597, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2023.103884>. Accessed 17 May 2023.

The ancient fire place found at the site held charcoal that was radiocarbon dated to 14802 and 13748 years ago. Along with the fireplace lithics where also found that further corroborate this dating. This archeological site is important because not only do the dates of the artifacts predate the ice free corridor but it also is a site which is found along the coast, supporting the theory of coastal migration.

Lesnek, Alia J. "Windows of Opportunity for the Peopling of the Americas." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, vol. 120, no. 10, 27 Feb. 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2300979120>. Accessed 22 Feb. 2024.

This paper helps outline many of the big picture ideas of the various theories of the peopling of the Americas. It affirms the coastal migration theory and introduces evidence that suggest the coastal routes were able to be traveled prior to the ice free corridor's route.

Clark, Jorie, et al. "The Age of the Opening of the Ice-Free Corridor and Implications for the Peopling of the Americas." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, vol. 119, no. 14, 21 Mar. 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2118558119>.

This paper sets the precedent for when the area of the ice free corridor was biologically viable and when the corridor itself opened. The paper dates the opening of the corridor to be around 13,000 years ago but posits that it was not biologically viable until around 11,800 years ago. This information helps disprove the Clovis first theory, since sites dating before 11,800 years ago have been found in the Americas.

Taylor, R E. "Six Decades of Radiocarbon Dating in New World Archaeology." *Radiocarbon* 51.1 (2009): 173–212. Web.

Posits that even of Naoum, a physical specimen found in an underwater cave in Mexico dates to 11,990 years ago

Extra sources and more interesting info (mentioned at the end of the video)

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/676175E6C8C656D0A0434638BA625F31/S0033822200033774a.pdf/six-decades-of-radiocarbon-dating-in-new-world-archaeology1.pdf>

https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.abg7586?adobe_mc=MCMID%3D62935753558307372153396119559157094195%7CMCORGID%3D242B6472541199F70A4C98A6%2540AdobeOrg%7CTS%3D1696515306 foot prints in white sands national park dated to 21-23000 years ago,"These finds indicate the presence of humans in North America for approximately two millennia during the Last Glacial Maximum south of the migratory barrier created by the ice sheets to the north"

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0277379119307619> posits/further confirms that the ice free corridor would not have been "closed or unlikely during the lgm

https://files.ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/271288-1/attachment/cBwwXcL7UJSWKGKuK5GH1XgOLxrO7qH3CSR-_T0-SvuQEHSzX4h1kEKebLijjPjoVNADTgaHek8iebROi0 Hearth charcoal found in santa rosa dating to 28-30k years ago

Boats in japan 20,000 years ago, kurile island like a stepping stone at the time, linguistic analysis of languages has also affirmed a migration from japan. Recall landing sites may be 5,000 miles off the modern coast