Frozen in time: 5 prehistoric creatures found trapped in ice

By Amy Grisdale , How It Works magazine published June 04, 2021

Here are 5 of the most famous prehistoric creatures found preserved in the frozen depths of Siberia.

Woolly mammoths and prehistoric bison are among the prehistoric creatures found trapped in frozen time capsule of Siberia. (Image credit: Getty Images/Science Photo Library - LEONELLO CALVETTI)

These frozen prehistoric animals are superbly well-preserved and now famous around the world.

1. Woolly rhino baby named Sasha

Preserved body of Sasha the woolly rhino. (Image credit: Yakutian Academy of Sciences)

This woolly rhino baby, affectionately named Sasha by the man who found it, was the first young member of its species ever found. It's unclear if it is male or female, but the horn size suggests it had been weaned by the time it died. It roamed the mammoth steppe, a dry, cold region from Spain to Siberia.

Related: See photos of the extinct wooly rhino baby

2. Lion or lynx

The mysterious mummy kitten lying on its back. (Image credit: Courtesy of Anastasia Koryakina)

Scientists unearthed a squashed, mummified cat in eastern Siberia in 2017. It could either be a lynx kitten or a cave lion cub. Its coat is in beautiful condition, but we can't be sure of the species as we don't really know what a cave lion looked like.

Related: See photos of the mysterious ice age cat mummy

3. Mammoth calves

Lyuba, one of the perfectly preserved frozen baby mammoths.
(Image credit: University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology)

Explorers unearthed two mammoth calves dating to about 40,000 years ago in two different areas of Siberia. Researchers took a closer look at the specimens using CT scans and discovered that both baby mammoths had choked on mud. The little mammoths appeared otherwise plump and healthy when they met their demise.

Related: See inside the skin and bones of preserved mammoth calves

4. Ancient bison

The almost perfectly preserved bison mummy was found on the shore of a lake in northern Siberia. (Image credit: Dr. Gennady Boeskorov)

The most complete steppe bison specimen ever found is 9,000 years old. It has a complete heart, brain and digestive system, along with near-perfect blood vessels. Some organs have shrunk over time but are remarkable, nonetheless.

Related: See photos of the 9,000-year-old bison mummy found in Siberia

5. Frozen foal

Frozen in ice for millennia, this Siberian mummy is the best-preserved ancient horse ever found.
(Image credit: Michil Yakovlev/SVFU/The Siberian Times)

A two-month-old horse that died between 30,000 and 40,000 years ago made its way approximately 100 meters (328 feet) below the surface, deep in a Siberian crater. In life, the young horse stood almost 1 m (3 feet) tall, and its hooves are still intact, along with tiny hairs that are still visible inside the foal's nostrils.

Related: See photos of the perfectly preserved ice age foal

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https://www.livescience.com/5-prehistoric-frozen-creatures.html

On another website that wants to debunk the myths about frozen mammoths, it does list the following:

Well-preserved mammoth carcasses

The "funny thing" is that almost all of the well-preserved mammoth carcasses date back older than 20,000 years ago.

Name	Location of discovery	Date of discovery	Age (14C yr BP)
Adams mammoth	Siberia	1799[1][2]	35,800±1200[1][3]
Beresovka Mammoth	Siberia	1900[4]	44,000±3,500[4]
Fairbanks Creek Mammoth (Effie)[5]	Alaska	1948[5]	21,300±1,300[5][6]
Fishhook Mammoth[7]	Siberia	1990-1992[7]	20,620±70[7]
Jarkov Mammoth[8][9]	Siberia	July 1997[8]	20,390±160[8]
Kirgilyakh (Magadan) Mammoth (Dima)[8][10]	Siberia	June 23, 1977[10]	41,000±900[10]
Lyuba Mammoth[11][12]	Siberia	May 2007[11]	41,700+700/-550[11]
Malolyakhovsky Mammoth[13] Buttercup[14]	Siberia	2012[13]	28,610±110[13]
Yuka Mammoth[16][17]	Siberia	August 2010[17]	34,300+260/−240[17]
Sopkarga Mammoth (Zhenya)[18][19]	Siberia	August 28, 2012[18][19]	43,350±240[19]
Khroma Mammoth[20]	Siberia	October 2008[20]	greater than 45,000[21]
Yukagir mammoth	Siberia	Autumn of 2002	22,500 cal. BP [22]

https://wattsupwiththat.com/2021/07/27/younger-dryas-myths-flash-frozen-mammoths-edition/

Yukagir mammoth

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Yukagir Mammoth** is a frozen adult male woolly mammoth specimen found in the autumn of 2002 in northern Yakutia, Arctic Siberia, Russia, and is considered to be an exceptional discovery.[1] The nickname refers to the Siberian village near where it was found.[2]

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Discovery [edit]

The head of this specimen, entirely covered with skin and very well-preserved, was first discovered in 2002. After hearing about the discovery, a polar explorer carried out the expedition with his team to extract the remains from the permafrost. One of the members of the team was the French polar explorer, "Mammoth-Hunter" Bernard Buigues, known for carrying out expeditions to the North Pole, Siberia since the 1990s.[1] It took three excavation trips to gather and put the Yukagir fossil together. Although mammoth remains are not a rarity, few are as notable as this specimen.[3]

The discovery of the Yukagir Mammoth, is described as one of the greatest paleontological discoveries of all time as it revealed that woolly mammoths had temporal glands between the ear and the eye[1] and the well-preserved remains of the Yukagir Mammoth, such as the foot, shows that the soles of the feet contained many cracks that would have helped in gripping icy surfaces during locomotion. Like modern elephants, woolly mammoths were *Paenungulata*, meaning they walked on their toes and had large, fleshy pads behind the toes. Among other discoveries, the Yukagir Mammoth showed that the species had suffered from spondylitis in two vertebrae, and osteomyelitis which is also known from some other specimens. Several specimens have healed bone fractures, showing that the animals had survived these injuries.[4]

The Yukagir Mammoth head

The Yukagir mammoth's permafrost tomb preserved its head, tusks, front legs, and parts of its stomach and intestinal tract. From its bones and enormous tusks, the scientists who rushed to the site (including mammoth experts Dick Mol and Larry Agenbroad) guessed that the woolly mammoth was an old male that when alive stood over nine feet tall at the shoulder and weighed four to five tons. Furthermore, scientists were able to discover that the main component of the Yukagir's final meal was grass, including stems from the family Poaceae. Remarkably, like many of the dung's floral remains, the stems have retained their color and shape ever since the woolly mammoth tore them from the tundra roughly 22,500 years ago.[5] Based on the Yukagir Mammoth's last meal, scientists were able to discover facts about the elephant's ancestors and conduct an environmental reconstruction[6] showing fungi's importance in the process of nutrient cycling in the mammoth steppe.[7]

The following types of research were agreed upon at the meeting of the Scientific Council:[8]

- Geological and pedological surveys of the site, as well as research on the process of fossilization;
- Research on the external structures of the mammoth, as well as on the internal structures using nondamaging methods;
- Histological, cytological, and genetic research on the mammoth's soft tissue;
- Paleobotanical and paleoclimatologic analysis;
- Microbiological research on the soil and the inside of the mammoth.

Exhibitions [edit]

Since the Yukagir Mammoth has been found, it has been transported globally for informative and educational purposes. The specimen was displayed in an effort to understand the link between life and the global environment with the theme of the Expo - "Nature's Wisdom." To keep it preserved, the exhibition room needed to be kept at -15 °C. The 2005 World Expo was held in Aichi, Japan at took place on November 17–18, 2005.[9]

See also [edit]

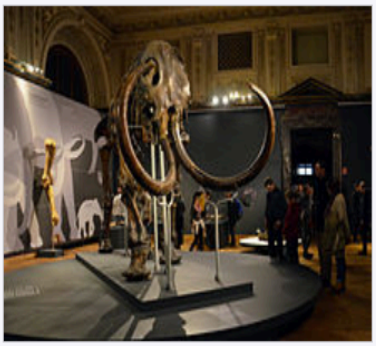
- List of mammoths
- Adams' Mammoth
- Jarkov Mammoth
- Lyuba Mammoth
- Sopkarga Mammoth (Zhenya)
- Yuka Mammoth

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yukagir_mammoth

Adams mammoth

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Adams mammoth** is the first woolly mammoth skeleton with skin and flesh still attached to be recovered by scientists. The mostly complete skeleton and flesh were discovered in 1799 in northeastern Siberia by Ossip Shumachov, an Evenki hunter[1] and subsequently recovered in 1806 when Russian botanist Mikhail Adams journeyed to the location and collected the remains.



The "Adams mammoth" on exhibit in Vienna

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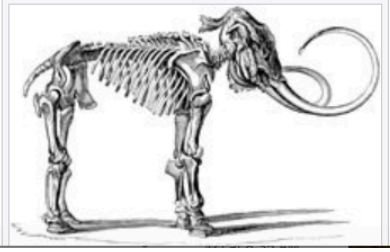
Discovery [edit]

The first published reports of Siberian mammoth remains appeared in Europe in the 1690s.[2] In 1728, Sir Hans Sloane published what can be considered the first comprehensive scientific paper on mammoths in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society.[3] Sloane's paper was based on travellers' descriptions and a few scattered bones collected in Siberia and Britain. While he discussed the question of whether or not the mammoth was an elephant, he drew no conclusions. In 1738, Johann Philipp Breyne argued that mammoth fossils represented some kind of elephant, but could not explain why a tropical animal would be found in such a cold area as Siberia; he suggested that they might have been transported there by Noah's flood.[4] Between 1692 and 1806, only four descriptions of frozen mammoths—skeletons with skin and flesh still attached—had been published in Europe.[5] None of the remains of those five were recovered and no complete skeleton recovered during that time. By the end of the century, based on this partial data, Georges Cuvier was able to argue conclusively that the Siberian mammoth was a different species than either of the two known species of elephant.[6] This was the state of affairs when Adams heard about Shumachov's discovery.

Early 19th century interpretation of the "Adams mammoth" carcass prior to excavation

Adams had come to Siberia in 1805 as part a scientific team attached to Count Yury Golovkin's unsuccessful diplomatic mission to China.[6] After the failure of the mission, several members of the scientific team stayed on in Siberia to conduct research. While in Yakutsk at the beginning of the summer of 1806, Adams heard from an ivory merchant about the frozen mammoth discovered near the Lena Delta. He hired four Cossacks and sailed down the Lena to its delta on the Arctic Ocean. At the end of June, he arrived in Shumachov's village and, at the end of July, Adams, Scumachov, and ten men from Shumachov's village journeyed to the mammoth's location.[7]



At first, Adams was disappointed to discover that wild animals had eaten most of the organs and flesh of the mammoth (including the trunk). However, he forgot his disappointment after examining the carcass and realizing that what was left would still be, by far, the most complete mammoth ever recovered. All in all, Adams recovered the entire skeleton, minus the tusks, which Shumachov had already sold, and one foreleg; most of the skin, which he

described as "of such an extraordinary weight, that ten persons ... moved it with great difficulty;" and nearly forty pounds of hair. During his return voyage he purchased a pair of tusks that he believed were the same tusks that Shumachov had sold.

Wilhelm Gottlieb Tilesius' etching of the Adams mammoth skeleton now on display in the Museum of Zoology, Saint Petersburg.

Reassembling the skeleton [edit]

In St. Petersburg, the task of reassembling the skeleton was given to Wilhelm Gottlieb Tilesius. Tilesius' task was made easier by the fact that the Kunstkamera, the museum established by Peter the Great, contained the skeleton of an Indian elephant that Tilesius was able to use as a reference. Tilesius had wooden replicas made to replace the missing leg bones.[8] His reconstruction was one of the first attempts at reconstructing the skeleton of an extinct animal.[9] While most of the reconstruction is correct, Tilesius made a glaring error by mounting the tusks on the wrong sides so that they curved outward instead of inward. The error was not corrected until 1899[10] and the correct placement of mammoth's tusks would still be a matter of debate into the twentieth century.[11]

Publication of findings [edit]

Adams' account of his journey was published in late 1807 and soon translated into other European languages and circulated throughout Europe and the Americas. Tilesius made a set of etchings of his reconstruction and sent them other naturalists to examine[12] while he worked on a detailed report of the skeleton which was finally published in 1815.[8]

See also [edit]

- List of mammoths
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- Yuka Mammoth
- Yukagir Mammoth

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adams_mammoth