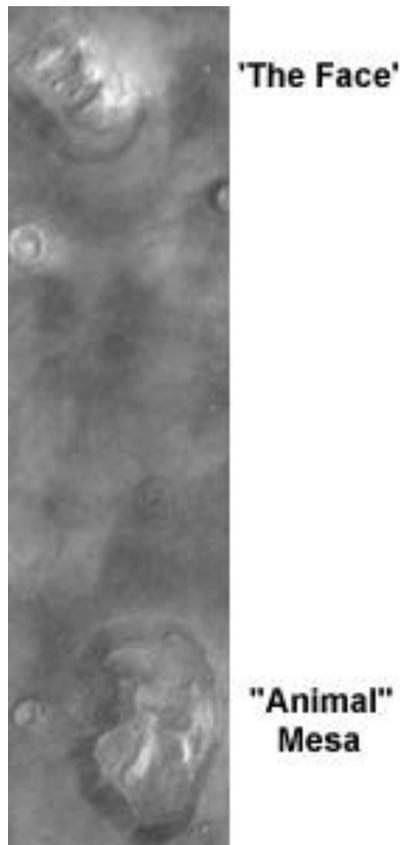


The Animal

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2000 (Revised February 2020)

**A Second Face at Cydonia**

It became apparent to us upon examining this first swath on the NASA web site, (MOC image SP1-22003)<sup>1</sup> that the Face on Mars was not alone. Below the Face at the center of the swath was another anomalous mesa. This second mesa, roughly the same size as the Face, also had a bifurcated appearance (Figure 1). The swath was photographed with a resolution of 4.29 meters per pixel. It seemed obvious that the construction of this mesa went far beyond a series of random geologic processes and other researchers must have noticed its anomalous appearance.



**Figure 1**  
The Animal (context)  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003

Upon conducting a quick search on the web, we found that Dr. Tom Van Flandern posted an example of this interesting mesa (figure 2) on his web site. It was here that Van Flandern casually referred to this mesa as the “Animal.”



**Figure 2**  
The Animal  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003

Richard Hoagland also noticed the facial aspects of the mesa and hailed it as evidence of another “Face” within the Cydonia area. Unlike Van Flandern, he posted a horizontal version of the formation on his web site and referred to it as an example of Author C. Clark’s vision of “Childhood’s End” (Figure 3).



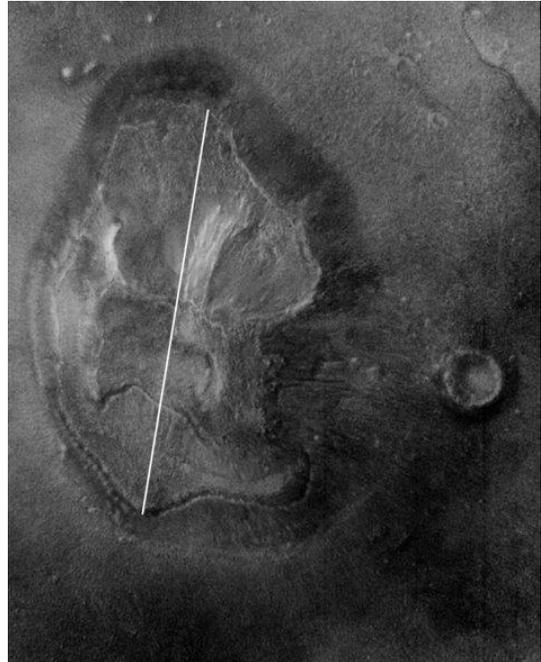
**Figure 3**  
Another “Face” to Cydonia  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003  
The Enterprise Mission  
Rotated

Of the two, we agreed with Van Flandern that the mesa does look like an animal's face, but we saw two separate faces. We inverted the mesa to what we thought was the correct orientation for viewing by rotating the image 180 degrees (Figure 4). We also noticed distinct facial features and odd markings across the top of the mesa.



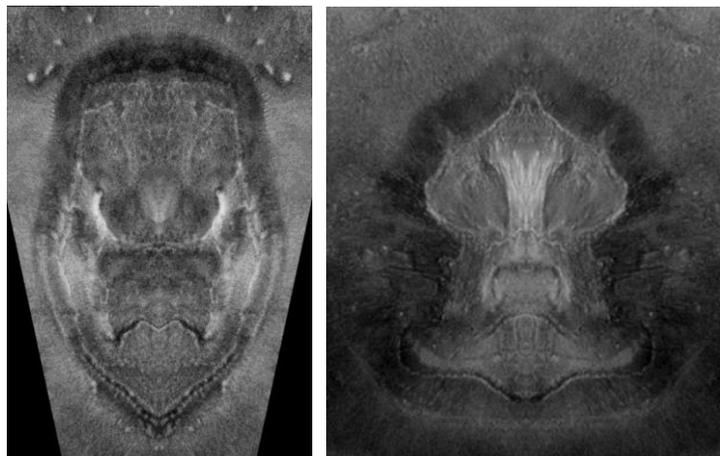
**Figure 4**  
The Animal  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003 (inverted)  
Contrast adjustment by George J. Haas

An obvious demarcation ran down its middle of the mesa formation (Figure 5). Despite the oblique camera-angle of the strip, the facial duality within this aesthetically designed formation is readily seen.



**Figure 5**  
The Animal  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003 (inverted with demarcation line)  
Contrast adjustment by George J. Haas

Inspired by Hoagland's mirroring of the original Cydonia Face, we performed a mirror flip of each side of this formation as well. What we observed was a set of oddly matched creatures. The left side resembles the head of a rabbit (Figure 6), while the left side resembles the head of a monkey (Figure 6).



**Figure 6**  
The Animal - Duplicated  
Detail of MOC SP1-22003 (inverted and duplicated)  
Left: Rabbit Head. Right: Monkey Head

## The Rabbit

Looking at the top half of the formation, on the eastern rabbit side, there appears to be a geologic uplifting or rampart in the shape of a rabbit's ears (Figure 7). Between the ears are a set of bars, and spikes and small spherical globes that create a decorative crown feature. Further down at the center of the face is a faint wedge shape that outlines a thick brow and eye sockets with small squinting eyes. Below the eyes are raised cheekbones and a muzzle that extends down to a clearly defined ridge line. This swerving ridge forms and shapes the outline of a mouth and jowls.



**Figure 7**

The Rabbit Head

Left: Detail of MOC SP1-22003 (inverted and duplicated)

Right: Analytical drawing by George J. Haas

In the Mayan counting system, bars and dots were used to form numbers, whereas a single bar represents the number five and a dot equals the number one. Could these bar-like spikes and spherical globes within the headdress be identifying this portrait as an image of the Maya king known as 18 Rabbit?

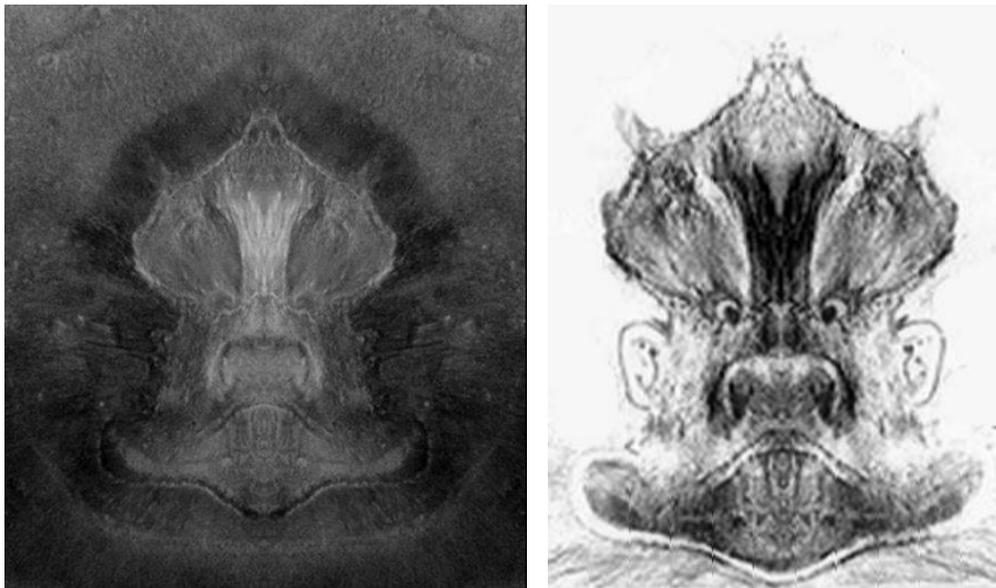
The glyphic representation of 18 Rabbit displays a profiled head of a rabbit with a set of three bar-and-dot symbols stacked in front of his forehead (Figure 8).



**Figure 8**  
Maya glyph for 18 Rabbit

### The Monkey

The companion face to the Martian Rabbit Head is an odd-looking primate creature that resembles a monkey or an orangutan (Figure 9). The odd shape of the jaw is similar to that of a mature male orangutan. At the center of these broad jowls is a small, bow-shaped mouth. The shape of the mouth is formed by an extension of a fluctuating ridge line that starts on the left half of the mesa. If you follow the length of the full ridge you will notice that it transversely forms a common mouth line for both faces.



**Figure 9**  
Monkey Head  
Left: Detail of MOC SP1-22003 (inverted and duplicated)  
Right: Analytical drawing by George J. Haas

Above the mouth line is an ape-like nostril and a short muzzle. Above the nostrils is a flaming torch-like feature that extends up through the forehead. This torch-like feature that extends from the nose up through the forehead can be seen as a smoking torch, which is a symbol that was attributed to the Maya king known as Smoke Monkey, the successor to the most famous Maya king of Copan—18 Rabbit. Maya mythology states the following;

*Thirty-nine days after the defeat of 18 Rabbit, on a day close to the maximum elongation of Venus as Morningstar, a new king named Smoke Monkey acceded to the throne.”<sup>4</sup>*

It's obvious in the quote above that some kind of cosmological reference between 18 Rabbit and Smoke Monkey is encoded in this text. Is this cosmological symbolism harking back to the duality of the original Face and its connection with the masks found at the First Temple at Cerros? The timing of Smoke Monkey's accession to the throne is very interesting, considering what we have learned about the original Face, which is just above The Animal geoglyph. It is also amazing that these depictions of two Maya kings (represented as a rabbit and a monkey), who were contemporary rivals in Mayan history, are also found side by side (or face to face) on a single geoglyphic structure on Mars!

## The Scribe

Besides being the names of consecutive kings, the rabbit and the monkey are both seen as tricksters and are portrayed as the sacred scribes of the Maya on pottery (Figure 10).



**Figure 10**  
Maya Scribes  
Left: Rabbit scribe  
Maya vase, Princeton University.  
Right: Monkey scribe  
Maya vase K5744  
Notice the paint brushed in the monkey's headdress.

Besides being a reference to the dot and bar system of counting for the Maya, perhaps the spherical globes and bars shaped spikes seen between the ears of the Rabbit Head, within the crown formation, are meant to represent the gourd-shaped paint containers and brushes that Maya scribes carried within their headdress (Figure 11).

**Figure 11**

Scribe with paint brushes and a gourd-shaped paint container held in his headdress.  
Maya carved bowl, K9206  
Color wash highlights the paint brushes and gourd



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#### Footnotes

1. Mars Viewer, MOC, SP1-22003, *Mesa and Butte in Cydonia Mensae*, Dated April 5, 1998.
2. J. Eric S. Thompson, *Maya Hieroglyphic Writing* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1971), 231.
3. *Ibid.*, 230.
4. Linda Schele and David Freidel, *A Forest of Kings: The Untold Story of the Ancient Maya* (New York: Quill, 1990), 319.