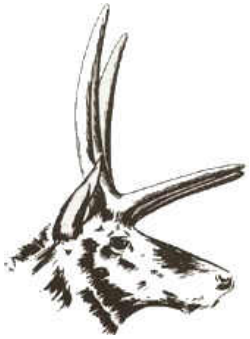
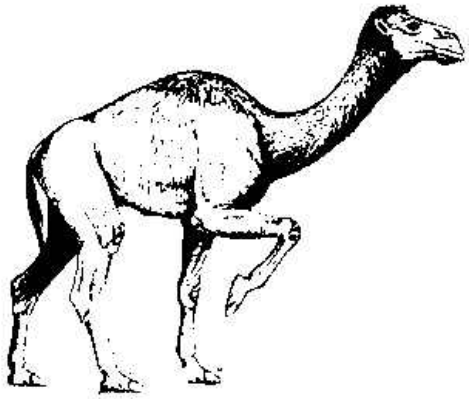


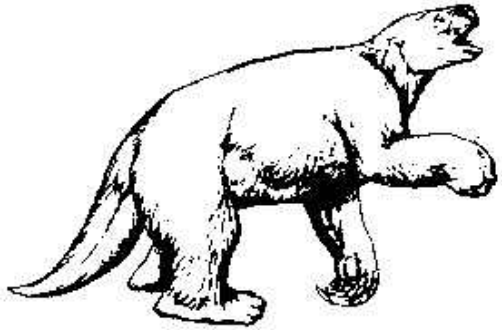
Antelocarprid

Four pronged antelopes were unique to the Irvington fauna. Their teeth tell us they were grazers and were larger than the modern deer.

Camelids

Camels were common in the Irvington fossils. They were larger than the modern camel. You can tell the difference between a camel and horse by the deeper indent in the camel's teeth.





Ground Sloth

These six foot mammals with few teeth would browse on leaves and twigs from trees with their long tongue. They had large claws.

PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS
OF
IRVINGTON DISTRICT
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA

painting by Laura Cunningham

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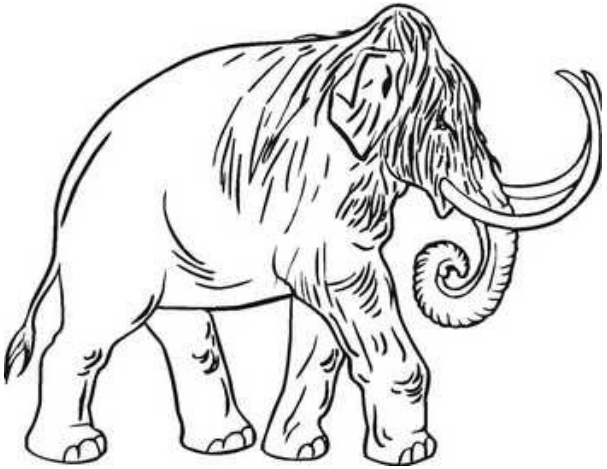
PLEISTOCENE ORGANISMS OF IRVINGTON

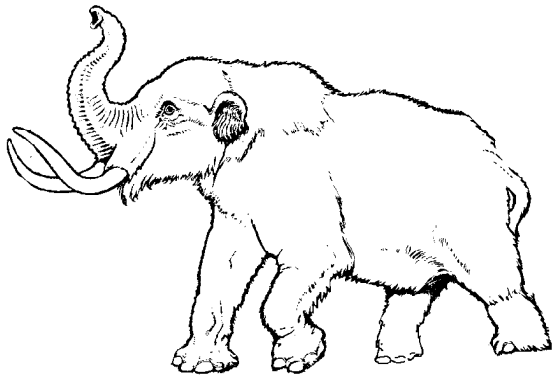
The fossils from the Irvingtonian Mammal Stage of North America signals the beginning of the Pleistocene in North America (about 1.8 million years ago). The section in Fremont is the type locality where it was first described. Sabercat Creek runs through the original site and is a remnant of a large river that flowed through this area.

Mammoths and Mastodons

Columbian mammoths stood over 12 feet tall at the shoulder and much larger than the elephant. The mammoth's primary diet consisted of grasses. These bones are common in the Irvingontian time.

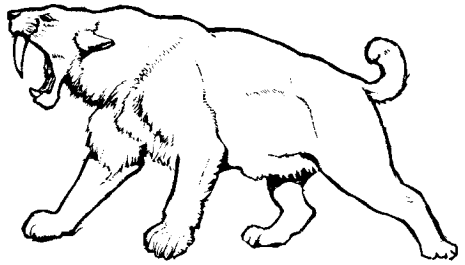


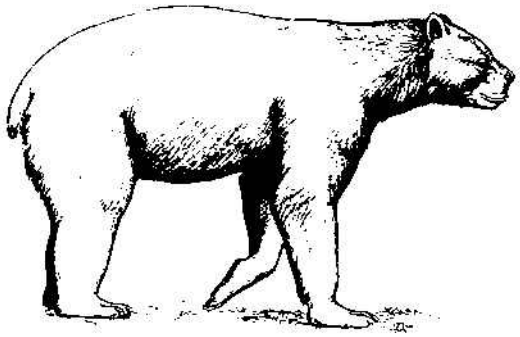
The **American mastodon's** simple and low crowned teeth indicate that this animal had the diet of a browser, an animal that tends to eat leaves and twigs. Mastodon's tusks were much smaller than the mammoth and their fossils are not as abundant at Irvington.



Sabertooth cat

The Sabertooth cat is the state fossil of California. Unlike the modern lion, this cat used its power to overcome its prey and not its speed. The canine teeth tell us it is a carnivore.





Giant Short-faced Cave Bear

When standing upright, the short-faced bear was over 11 feet tall and could weigh as much as 1,800 pounds. Its teeth suggest that this bear, like the modern grizzly or brown bears, was an omnivore with a diet dependent on food that was available

Horse

The western horse during the Pleistocene was similar in size to modern horses. They already developed a single hoof unlike its ancestors from the Eocene.