



MARTIAN TERRA-FORMS CELEBRATE ANIMAL LIFE

Question asked of MARS: Andy, you have written that we should not think of The Face on Mars but The Thousand Faces on Mars. What do you find most conspicuous about the terra-forms that you are finding on Mars? What do these sculptures on the surface of the Red Planet tell us about the Martian civilization?



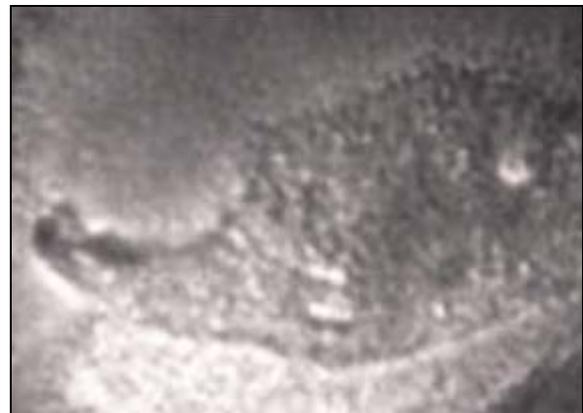
Andrew D. Basiago, president, Mars Anomaly Research Society (MARS): This is a great question to ask on Earth Day. What astonishes me about the terra-forms on Mars is the way in which the Martian humanoids that built them have a penchant for celebrating animal life forms in their terra-forms. The Martian civilization that built these terra-forms was – *is* – clearly an ecological one with a high regard for the other life forms inhabiting the Red Planet. While they were probably made when the Martian biosphere possessed more biodiversity than it does today, they are significant for the way in which they reveal the living creatures that we are finding in the images taken on Mars by the NASA rovers *Spirit* and *Opportunity*. One finds this menagerie of stone emerging in the work of MARS' own chief photo-analyst **Ross Curley**. We have been struck by how often the terra-forms on Mars feature themes of animals, like the terra-form of The Snake (*top right*), The Whale (*center right*), and The Snail (*below right*) near The Fish first found by Joseph Skipper. The Martians that made these terra-forms were celebrating the animal life on their planet and in this way, we might imagine, “Mars Day”!



The Snake, discovered by Curley of MARS



Beneath it, a large terra-form of a whale



To the right of the whale, a garden snail