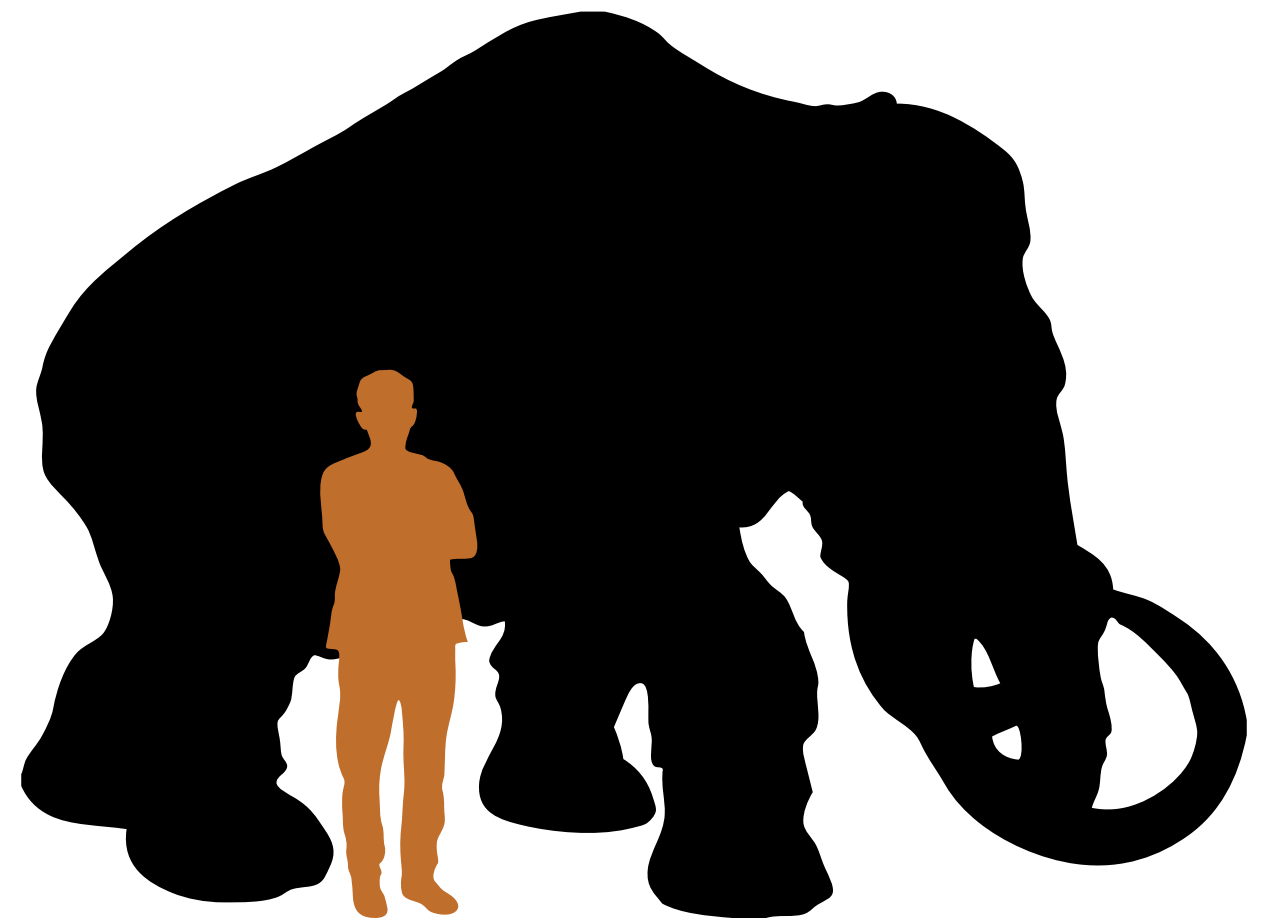


WHERE WAS IT FOUND?

The skull of a woolly Mammoth was found in the Quinzano site, a few km from the centre of Verona. At that time the environment was colder than now, and was also populated by other animal species: bears, cave lions, saber toothed tigers, deer and wolves.



WHO WAS HE?

A **Mammoth** (*Mammuthus trogontherii*) belonging to the Elephantidae family descends from the *Elephas trogontherii* (steppe dweller). It endured the cold because of its thick fur coat of long dark hair and for this reason it's called "**woolly**"; under the skin it had a thick layer of fat. **The male's tusks were curved upwards, backwards and were up to 4,20 m. long: these could also be used to clear the snow from the low herbaceous plants from which it fed (Graminaceous plants).** The Mammoth reached a height of 3 m and weighed 6 tons.

WHEN DID HE LIVE?

It appeared **200,000** years ago in the Pleistocene, a period during which the four European glaciations occurred, and **became extinct about 10,000 years ago.**

WHY DID HE BECOME EXTINCT?

Due to climatic reasons (global warming) or perhaps due to excessive hunting by the Neanderthal Man (*Homo sapiens Neanderthalensis*).

Did you know?

Who is the oldest ancestor of the Mammoth? It's the Moeritherium (*Moeritherio*), similar to a tapir. The Mammuthus (Mammoth), the Elephas (Asian elephant) and the Loxodonta (African elephant) all derive from this ancestor.



Moeritherium