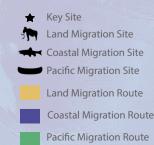


## Though genetics point

to migrants from Northern Russia, archaeologists had long been puzzled by the presence of Pacific Islander DNA in cultures indigenous to South America; neither migration model could explain this enigma. However the discovery of remains on various Pacific Islands have allowed for a more detailed comparison between archaic populations. The results point to the possibility that Polynesian explorers arrived in South America by canoe, and intermingled with local populations, hundreds of years before Europeans. Overall, all of these competing models hold portion of the truth; in all likelihood, the indigenous populations of the Americas at the time of European contact were descendants of explorers who arrived in numerous waves over many thousands of years.





**Thousands** 

Monte Verde

## Atlantic Ocean

Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area, CM: -103°, Scale 1:67,500,000