Earliest Evidence of Life

Malcolm Walter
Australian Centre for Astrobiology
Macquarie University
CYANOBACTERIA — Phormidium — LAGUNA MORMONA, MEXICO
WARRAWOONA GROUP, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, ~ 3.5 Ga
tubular microbial sheaths (*Siphonophycus antiquus*) and,
at far right, septate microbial filament (*Primaevifilum septatum*)
APEX CHERTS, ~3.4 Ga, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MEDIUM DIAMETER (2-5 μm) FILAMENTS, CYLINDRICAL CELLS

Primaevifilum amoenum
Eoentophysalis -- N.W.T., CANADA -- 2.0 Ga
STAGE 1: Volcanism

STAGE 2: Hydrothermal circulation

STAGE 3: Caldera collapse
After c. 580 Ma
QuickTime® and aTIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor are needed to see this picture.
Inside the Newton Basin: area about 1,500 metres across
QuickTime® and a YUV420 codec decompressor are needed to see this picture.

Meridiani, Isidis, Gusev
Mars Exploration Rovers (MER)
Latest image