

MYSTERIES of the MEGALITHS

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Scattered across the world, on six continents, lie mysterious ancient structures you have probably never heard of. The giant relics made of mostly unhewn stone are called megaliths. Harkening back to a forgotten age, these stony monuments stand as silent testimony to ancient cultures from the dawn of humanity that we know almost nothing about. How did supposedly primitive people build such magnificent structures? Did they have advanced knowledge and technology that has been lost to the ages? Perhaps they were an ancient race of super-strong giants that spread all over the globe before the Flood, cousins of the *Nephilim* and the *Rephaim* we read about in the Torah. And if so... did some survive?



Massive arches large enough for a giant to pass through.... Slabs of granite weighing tens of thousands of pounds arranged in mysterious patterns and in huge numbers.... Rock castles built atop high mountains.... Giant mounds of earth filled with millions of pounds of soil transported from impossibly far distances....

Welcome to the world of the megaliths. (*Megas* means “great” in Greek and *lithos* means “stone.”) These structures have awed and inspired those who beheld them since the beginning of recorded history. They were built in a time when it is thought that most of human civilization consisted of hunter-gatherers living in huts built of sticks and straw. And most tantalizing of all is that these ruins speak of a past time so distant that nothing was written about it, and no legends even remain about it—at least, none that might contain even a kernel of truth.



Megalithic monument in Bulgaria dated to 4,000 years ago.

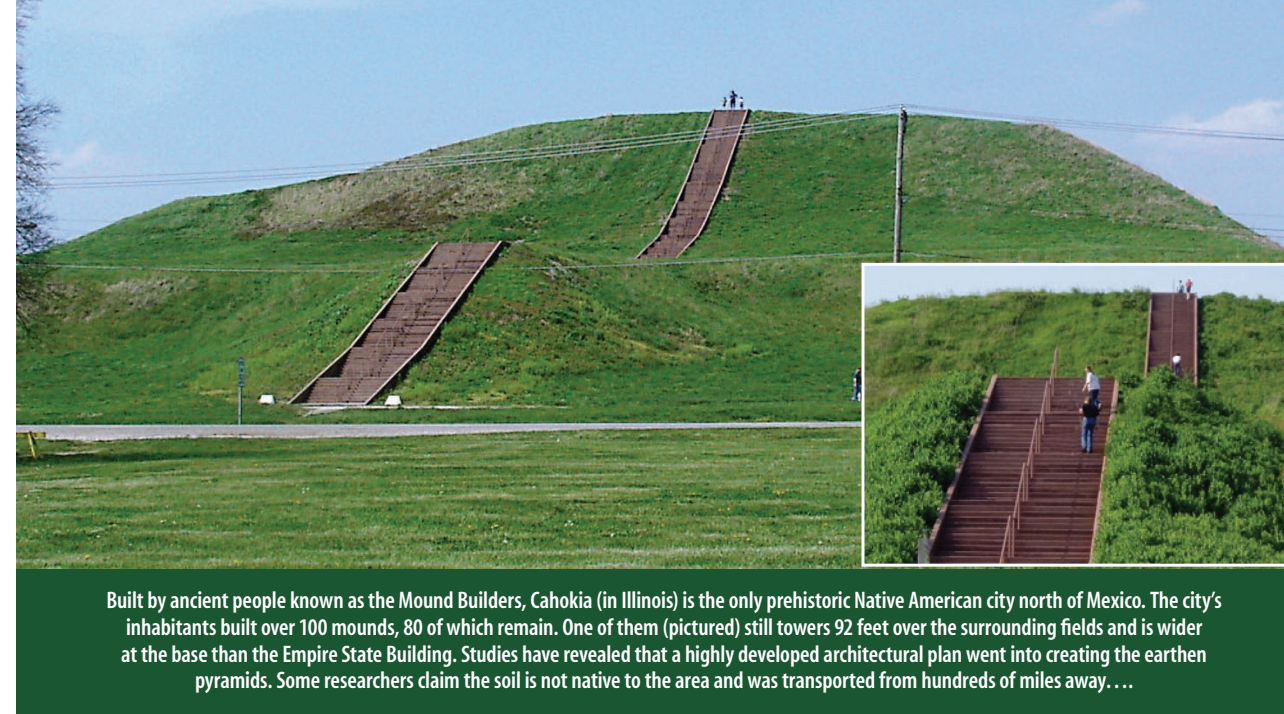
Perhaps some of these magnificent relics date from a time when the close descendants of Adam and the giant *Nephilim* and *Rephaim* roamed the Earth. The only records we have of their activities are obscure hints in *Tanach* and the *Midrash*. We leave that possibility for the reader to debate and decide.

The mystery of the megaliths grows even more complex as researchers discover amazing connections in design between stone structures separated by thousands of miles, and even oceans. For example, similar stone wall building techniques seem to have been employed at Göbekli Tepe, an early megalithic city in Turkey, and at Tiahuanaco, an archaeological site in Bolivia.

All across the globe, massive stone relics shaped by human hands litter the landscape. Thirty thousand dolmens—consisting of two massive upright stones with a capstone above, forming the shape of a doorway—are visible today in Korea. The exact same type of structure is found at dozens of locations in Ireland, 5,600 miles away, and most famously at Stonehenge, England, the world’s best-known megalithic monument.

Stone circles from forgotten ages are also found in Ireland, Great Britain, Scandinavia, Bulgaria, Poland, Egypt, Ethiopia, Turkey and Israel, among other places. In the French towns of Carnac and Ménéac in Brittany, there are parallel lines of more than 3,000 giant standing rocks that extend, with breaks, for over two miles. Giant mounds of ancient earthworks exist in many parts of the world. In Illinois, there are huge prehistoric mounds containing millions of pounds of soil transported over huge distances from far regions. In the Orkney Islands of northern Scotland and in the remote wilderness of Bolivia and Peru lie extensive megalithic cities built of stone, too.

The megalith phenomenon raises far more questions than can ever be answered by archaeology. Mainstream archaeologists tend to fit all their findings into the prevailing consensus. They are very hesitant to attribute advanced knowledge or technologies to these ancient societies. Archaeologists are even reluctant to entertain the idea



Built by ancient people known as the Mound Builders, Cahokia (in Illinois) is the only prehistoric Native American city north of Mexico. The city’s inhabitants built over 100 mounds, 80 of which remain. One of them (pictured) still towers 92 feet over the surrounding fields and is wider at the base than the Empire State Building. Studies have revealed that a highly developed architectural plan went into creating the earthen pyramids. Some researchers claim the soil is not native to the area and was transported from hundreds of miles away....

that these Stone Age people had the wheel, despite the obvious difficulty in dragging massive boulders for hundreds of miles on sleds without wheels....

Over the years, this has given rise to a new study called “astro-archaeology,” a branch of archaeology researching these ancient structures and how they line up with the sun and the stars on significant dates like the summer and winter solstice and the equinoxes. The puzzle remains unsolved as to how ancient peoples, who left no written records, could have calculated such accurate astronomical observations.

On the other hand, many independent researchers (often dismissed as cranks and fringe theorists) have come up with intriguing theories that link many of the sites together by showing fascinating alignments over vast distances, as well as striking similarities in design. Those theorists claim that the ancients had advanced technology we know nothing about.

These large... immense... gargantuan stones and structures simply have to be seen in real life to be believed. Just to keep things in perspective when we talk about moving these giant boulders: A stone roughly the shape of a cube where each side measures three feet (one meter), weighs about 4,320

pounds (1,959.5 kg) if it is sandstone and 4,725 pounds if it is granite. That’s more than a typical four-door automobile!

Dolmens

A dolmen is a type of megalith featuring two or more upright stones and a horizontal



This megalithic structure lies in the Russian Caucasus Mountains, east of Gelendzhik. Many of the Caucasian megaliths feature the distinctive porthole openings. Like almost everything else about megaliths, we don’t know what their purpose was.