

Inscriptions- Preliminary Interpretation

Preliminary Interpretation:

Provenience: Chisel-happy epigrapher after spending more hours watching reruns of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* than studying cuneiform.

TPQ: 1981 AD

-Indy

Attach file0.jpeg

Later Steve sent:

Jim,

I think the photo I sent of the cuneiform writing was upside down and the circle object appears to be a wedding ring set on the rock so one can get the idea of the size of the carvings.

Steve

Hi Jim,

I was sent this photo asking if it could be deciphered to which I replied that we have the best in the world at our disposal. Please pass this around for comment. As of yet I have no idea where it is located but will soon find out that information.

Thanks,
Steve

Hi Jim,

As mentioned to you during a telephone conversation earlier this year, members of our Foundation have recovered a number of atypical artifacts from several areas in Northern Georgia. It has been quite a busy time for us, but I finally got a website built to display artifacts and share information regarding our efforts. The site is in continuous development, so there are more artifacts, two statues and information that will be added as time permits.

I thought the MES group would like to see the artifacts, so please pass along the URL .
www.precontact.org

all the best,

jon

Thanks, Jim.

I have communicated with Jon a month ago when he showed me a picture of the dagger. It has 3 prominent features that are undoubtedly Chinese from 2000-2500 years ago. Two other features could be Chinese.

This site is very important in studying cultural exchange between indigenous Americans and the rest of the world.

SL Lee

ARTIFACT

Hi Jim,

A young man asked for Assistance on these objects as seen in his note below.

"Assistance requested. This artifact found in a sand bar near Vicksburg, MS appears to have some symbol/letters etched into it. It was described as an atlatl weight. Any suggestions?"

(these 2 pics need to be found and attached)

These look similar to those Rich Moats showed during our Symposium. I think they were from Poverty Point.

Rolled Lead

Rotate the rolled lead.jpg picture 180degrees & the writing looks English "hoot mine". Google yields a 'hoot owl mine' in NC, once a gem mine, now a museum w/guided tours???. Jim L.

Hi Jim,

I was sent these photos of rolled lead artifacts with inscriptions on them. I am trying to get more info from the man that sent it. He seems a bit hesitant but I think I can get him to divulge under what circumstances they were found under and where. Perhaps we can have one of the very knowledgeable epigraphers in the group give us an idea as to what the characters are.

Steve

Attach 2 filesfrom rolledlead folder

Then attach 2 more files01 and 02.jpg

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/10/23/us-science-easterisland-idUSKCN0IC28C20141023>

- from Chris Finefrock

<http://mysteriousuniverse.org/2014/10/new-dna-evidence-confirms-pre-colonial-contact-between-easter-island-and-south-america/> - from Buzz Calvert

The Easter Island Rongorongo Tablets

Jim, here's a challenge for the MES epigraphers.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/earliest-sign-of-human-habitation-in-canada-may-have-been-found-1.2775151>

Sent from my iPad

Thanks Buzz - similar to the weir along the underwater ridge of Lake Huron. Here is a google map of the above Hecate Strait:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Hecate+Strait/@52.9090594,-123.2370651,6z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x5472bae4e208d5d9:0xb7db75491d1e48ef>

Jim L.

Dang! Sent the wrong link for the Easter Island story!

Buzz

An interesting paper about Rongorongo:

http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/arqueologia/eastern_island/easter03.htm

Rapa Nui are not Chinese(as far as Rongorongo is concerned), but they have contacts with Chinese on two counts - 1. chicken; 2. Moai (a Chinese term for bluff carvings), as I presented at the MES symposium, Oct. 2014.

SL Lee

Another example of how much we do not know about how ancient stone works were actually built.

How could any serious observer believe that these were built with stone tools? Finely machined hard stone blocks also exist at the Giza Pyramids, Stonehenge, and Puma Punchu. These sites would be very difficult to build with modern technology.

An ancient technological culture must have existed about which we know

nothing.

Dave Rush

QUESTION: "How could any serious observer believe that these were built with stone tools? Finely machined hard stone blocks also exist at the Giza Pyramids..."

ANSWER: With hard BRONZE tools to work soft limestone at Giza and Stonehenge III (Sarsen Circle) and cobble stones and wooden wedge-splitters at Puma Punku.:

<http://www.touregypt.net/featuresstories/minesandquarries2.htm>

<http://davidpratt.info/andes2.htm>

- A "serious observer"

That's great, except that some of the finest stone work at Giza / Gizeh is in red granite. Nothing soft about that.

That's great, except that some of the finest stone work at Giza / Gizeh is in red granite. Nothing soft about that.

True, but irrelevant. Egyptian monumental architecture is mostly in limestone rather than granite largely because bronze or copper (Moh's Scale 3.5) chisels are equally as hard as limestone, whereas they are too soft for working granite (MS= 6 to 7). Smaller scale (i.e., obelisks & statues) stone carving in granite was done with granite/quartz cobble stones, copper coring bow-drills and copper slag abrasives (Moh's Scale = 7.5).

- A "serious observer"

References:

Dieter Arnold, *Building in Egypt: Pharaonic Stone Masonry*, Oxford University Press, 1997.

http://books.google.com/books?id=0JFRWFI5gHMC&printsec=frontcover&dq=egyptian+stonemasons&hl=en&ei=5ENXTepGkbi3B92w9KMN&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=7&ved=0CFcQ6AEwBg#v=onepage&q=egyptian%20stonemasons&f=false

http://www.oocities.org/unforbidden_geology/ancient_egyptian_copper_coring_drills.html

https://www.google.com/search?q=stone+working+egypt&client=firefox-a&hs=yNo&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&channel=np&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ei=BtZQVNjVPMWU8QGbn4DICQ&ved=0CAgQ_AUoAQ&biw=1280&bih=890

<http://www.molon.de/galleries/Egypt/Luxor/Temple/img.php?pic=8>

<http://kennethgarrett.photoshelter.com/image/I0000DBLtCU3DBSw>

The Mohs Scale of Hardness for Metals

<http://www.jewelrynotes.com/the-mohs-scale-of-hardness-for-metals-why-it-is-important/>

- Lead: 1.5
- Tin: 1.5
- Zinc: 2.5
- Gold: 2.5-3
- Silver: 2.5-3
- Aluminum: 2.5-3
- **Copper: 3**
- Brass: 3
- **Bronze: 3**
- Nickel: 4
- Platinum: 4-4.5
- Steel: 4-4.5
- Iron: 4.5
- Palladium: 4.75
- Rhodium: 6
- Titanium: 6
- Hardened steel: 7-8
- Tungsten: 7.5
- Tungsten carbide: 8.5-9

Moh's Scale of Hardness for Minerals

<http://www.specialtykitchens.com/mineral-hardness-scale>

- Soapstone 1
- Slate 2.5-4
- Marble 3-4
- **Limestone 3-4**
- Travertine 4-5
- Sandstone 6-7
- **Granite 6-7**
- Natural Quartz 7

- **Note: Quartz = 7**

Then attach file ...0.png

Mohs Scale of Abrasives

Hard abrasives seven and above on the Mohs scale (see below) mostly remain intact, therefore most of the force is directed into the substrate. Softer abrasives such as glass beads and soda crystals shatter on impact and part of the forces are directed in other directions as the particle "explodes" into finer fragments. Some of the fragments travel along the substrate perpendicular to the initial direction of impact. These fragments moving along the surface do a remarkable job of cleaning.

Then attach file 01.png

Note: Copper Slag = 7.5

Moh's Scale

Dear "Serious Observer"

Nice work with the hardness scale, with which as a geologist I am very familiar. A tool can cut another material of the same hardness. The problem is that so many ancient structures are not just chipped or cut, they are finely machined so that multi-ton blocks have flat surfaces that fit together exactly, across many different angles. I contend that this could not be done with what has been found of their technology. To cut granite with copper tools, they would have needed diamond or corundum grit embedded in those tools, which have never been found. Also, a project would need to be done with their tools to demonstrate that it could actually have been done, and that would mean quarrying, shaping, transportation, setting into position, and final finishing. No one has ever attempted such a complete construction project on even one stone block with their tools that have been found, because our civil engineers know IT CANNOT BE DONE.

The Egyptians had as much chance of building the Giza pyramids with copper tools as they had of flying to the Moon, no matter how many slaves or willing workers they had.

The archaeological establishment states the pyramids at Giza were built during the reign of the respective Pharaohs, which was maybe 30 years max. Try doing some simple math, and you will calculate that the 2.4 million blocks in the pyramid of Khufu would be quarried, shaped, moved, set into position, and polished every few minutes, even assuming 24-hour operations. This does not take into account the highly polished white casing stones which originally covered the pyramids, but have been looted for other building projects over the ages.

2.4 X 10 X 6 blocks / (30 yrs X 365 days/yr X 24 hrs/day X 60 min/hr) =

2.4 X 10 X 6 blocks / 15.768 X 10 X 6 minutes =

0.152 blocks/minute = 6.6 minutes/block

Any questions?

Dave Rush

Dave, that was very nicely explained. Good job, and thanks.

Buzz

"To cut granite with copper tools, they would have needed diamond or corundum grit embedded in those tools, which have never been found."

1) If copper slag (MS = 7.5) is a by-product of both copper/bronze smelting and as an abrasive (see below Mohs Scale of Abrasives) remains intact when grinding/polishing granite (MS = 6-7). then no need for either diamond (MS = 10) nor corundum (MS = 9) grit. Q.E.D.

2) The tools used by Egyptian stone masons to work with granite are both depicted on tomb paintings and are in the collection of the Cairo Museum and Petrie Museum.

See:

http://www.oocities.org/unforbidden_geology/ancient_egyptian_copper_coring_drills.html

<http://www.cheops-pyramide.ch/khufu-pyramid/stone-cutting.html#historisch>

"Try doing some simple math, and you will calculate that the 2.4 million blocks in the pyramid of Khufu would be quarried, shaped, moved, set into position, and polished every few minutes, even assuming 24-hour operations."

Although the volume of the regular pyramid of Khufu has a volume of **2.595 million cubic meters**, it does not necessarily mean that it is composed of 2.4 million blocks. The blocks vary in size with smaller ones on the upper courses. The interior is not solid, but has passageways, air shafts and rooms. Moreover, **"The base was not fully leveled, so untouched rock may fill up a considerably part of the Pyramid's volume. Perhaps as much as 30 % acc. to Zahi Hawass and a substantial reduction in a still gigantic work."**

Formula for the volume of a regular pyramid is **base × height / 3**. Volume for Khufu's Pyramid: (230.348 m × 230.348 m × 146.71 m) / 3 = 2.595 million cubic meter. and a substantial reduction in a still gigantic work.

<http://www.khufu.dk/article/dimensions-outer.htm>

Two Observations: Granite-Cutting & Production Rate

Dear David,

Two more observations:

Granite-Cutting.

"To cut granite with copper tools, they would have needed diamond or corundum grit embedded in those tools, which have never been found."

1) If copper slag (Mohs Scale = 7.5) is a by-product of copper/bronze smelting, then one needs neither diamond (Mohs = 10) nor corundum (Mohs = 9) grit as an abrasive to cut **granite** (Mohs = 6-7).

Q.E.D.

2) The tools "***which have never been found***" may be seen on Egyptian artwork and at Cairo Museum and Petrie Museum. I

http://www.oocities.org/unforbidden_geology/ancient_egyptian_copper_coring_drills.html

<http://www.cheops-pyramide.ch/khufu-pyramid/stone-cutting.html>

Interestingly, a wrought iron sheet, (grave good imported from Nubia or Anatolia) was discovered in the Pyramid of Khufu and an iron dagger in the tomb of Tutankhamun. While neither is shaped as a tool for carving granite, it is evidence of iron (Mohs = 4.5) in use in ancient Egypt.

<http://www.incose-cc.org/2010/03/king-tutankhamuns-dagger/>

Attach file....iron dagger

Production Rate.

0.152 blocks/minute = 6.6 minutes/block

3) The above estimated limestone block production rate for the Khufu Pyramid could have been achieved with ancient Egyptian technology with the following assumptions:

a. The 2.4 million block estimate is reduced by the empty volume of interior airways, passageways, chambers and bedrock core in the center (estimated as 13,016 blocks by Taseos 1990).

<http://books.google.com/books?id=Bhosr0h2beEC&pg=PT186&lpg=PT186&dq=zahi+hawas+estimated+that+as+much+as+%25+bedrock+volume+khufu+pyramid&source=bl&ots=ZFicMVb7Qh&sig=VDZ1UGymtkwuYd9HhznB49t3COQ&hl=en&sa=X&ei=GbVSVPOdLounyATY1YK4DA&ved=0CFUQ6AEwCQ#v=onepage&q=zahi%20hawass%20estimated%20that%20as%20much%20as%20%25%20bedrock%20volume%20khufu%20pyramid&f=false>

b. If 300,000 Egyptian slaves working 20 years (as estimated by Greek historian Diodorus Sicilius), then 100,000 could work continuously on rotating 8- hour shifts. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khufu>

c. If (even some of) the interior limestone blocks were made from a soft limestone concrete poured into molds (as proposed by Davidovits and Barsoum), then *pisé* synthetic stone could have been mass produced as uniform cubes more quickly than hand cut blocks.

"Geologists have heavily scrutinized Davidovits results and concluded that his came from natural limestone quarried in the Mokattam Formation. However,

Davidovits alleges that the bulk of soft limestone is coming from the same natural Mokkatam Formation quarries found by geologists, and insists that ancient Egyptians used the soft marly layer instead of the hard one to re-agglomerate stones, which some geologists disagree."

<http://www.materials.drexel.edu/features/pyramids/>

Regards,

-A "serious observer"

refreshing constructive dialog

Kevin Callaghan