## THE MASTER MINDS OF STONEHENGE

Were they Aborigines? — Or intelligent White Men?

by Paul Bunch

#### Foreword

This small book began originally as a High School science paper by its author, a member of Lord's Covenant Church, and then, just 18 years old. His conclusions as to the type of people who must have built Stonehenge were so different from that which is generally presented in the High School text-books, that we thought it a service to a growing generation, which is so horribly ignorant of the true nature of our ancestors, to put it in book form that they may read it, and think.

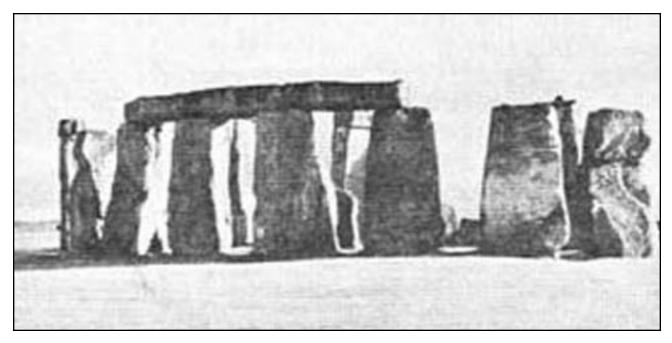
In this day when the present and past history of the White Race is so distorted, we do hope this may shed some little light on those who lived so long ago, from whom many of our people in America are descended. The prophet Isaiah wrote to Israel:

"Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged."

#### (Isaiah 51:1)

He, of course, referred to Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the House of Israel. It is, also, important to look to history as a guide to the future. If we can learn from the very stones fashioned by the ancient Britons at Stonehenge, by all means let us do so. Pray enter this little book with an open mind, laying aside all past prejudices or speculations as to its meanings or its builders. And think with this young man as he writes of Stonehenge, and possibly YOUR ancestors.

Pastor Sheldon Emry



The darkness of an English winter night, uncomfortably cold, shrouds the countryside. Whipping in gusts and giving movement to the dark, wet grass on the hill; the icy wind carries the smell of wet rock, grass, and soil through the air. It was raining not more than fifteen minutes ago, but the frosty drizzle has ceased abruptly, leaving a sward of mud behind. Now the snake-like mist of a ground fog is beginning to materialize close to the ground. The faint glow of the moon filters through the overcast sky. Silently, almost imperceptibly, the black clouds begin to pull apart, and a shadowy luminescence gradually begins to light up the lifeless plain. As the ashen blue light of the cloudfiltered moon reaches the wet earth, "they" appear. It is almost as if the end of the rain had been a signal.

"They" are the huge stones of an ancient ruin, standing silent and dead on the deserted plain, like the skeleton of what once must have been a magnificent structure. Glistening in light, the giant stones drip water, and eerie breathing around them creates a superstitious atmosphere.

This is Stonehenge, on the Salisbury Plain in southern England near Southhampton.

But what is Stonehenge? What was its purpose? Who built it? These questions immediately enter the mind of all who view this amazing structure. The purpose of this little book is to consider the "facts" we know, the "legends" that are believed by many, and rational consideration of 20th Century "hindsight," to arrive at the most probable truth in answer to the above questions.

Many legends and stories surround this most ancient of England's many ruins. One story relates that the early British Kings, slain by the invading Saxons, were buried here. Another explains how Merlin, the "wizard," arranged for the devil to whisk these massive rocks from Ireland, all done in one night! Some say the Romans built Stonehenge as a temple to the sky god, Coelus. Still others claim the Danes erected it as their court royal. But the most popular tale is that the Druids used Stonehenge for a place to practice their religious rites.

None of these are too hard to believe, while viewing Stonehenge on a shivering, stormy night of rain, fog, and vague moonlight. But all of these explanations are quite inadequate, when Stonehenge is viewed in the clear light of day, AND in the light of modern scientific methods of "dating;" which prove that these massive stones had already been in place over 2,000 years before the Saxons arrived, over 1,500 years before the first Roman trod on English soil, and were very ancient in years (and, probably, partly in ruins) long before Druidism seems to have appeared in Britain.

The light of day, and of science, requires us to assume, for the sake of our story, that this remarkable structure was built in what we call, for want of a better name, "Prehistoric Times."

Because of this scientifically-established age for Stonehenge, some psuedoscholars assume it was structured by early "savages" who struggled to stand this score or more of massive stones upright in the ground for some pagan, sacramental worship rites.

But this is a mockery to this monumental work. More realistic scientists and engineers, having studied Stonehenge with painstaking care, know it would have required a lengthy preplanning period, both for architectural work and the necessarily intelligent work of organizing the tremendous numbers of men involved in the work force. There is also evidence that parts of this structure were completed over a period of 300 years; an extremely long time for ignorant "savages" to follow any original plan or design! Add to this the further studies that indicate both planning and execution were based on geometry and astronomy, and a very high intelligence for its builders becomes a foregone conclusion.

Yes, some still remain out in the cold, wet night, gazing at the shadowy ramparts of Stonehenge through a vaporous ground fog, This ac and believe the "theory" of superstitious savages. But, others see Stonehenge's obvious truth on a clear, sunlit day, and know it must have been constructed, not by ignorant savages, but by educated and experienced engineers who lived in the organized society of an intelligent Race.

Many people, seeing just a photograph or drawing of Stonehenge, are not impressed by it as an engineer's masterpiece. But a study of its design, and some knowledge of the size and weight of the stones involved, along with its relation to astronomical data, should arouse interest in any intelligent person.

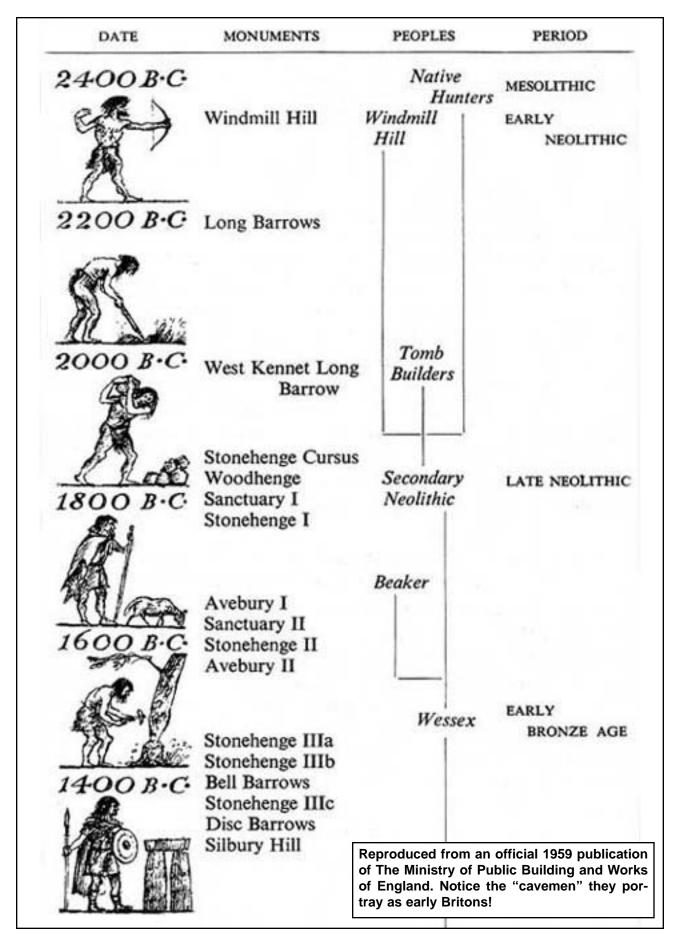
The ancient crags consist of the large stones in the Sarsen Circle, the larger sarsens called trilithons inside the circle, and a horseshoe of small stones called bluestones inside the Sarsen Circle with the trilithones. (The name Sarsen was



This aerial view of Stonehenge, seen from the west, was taken before the recent restoration. It shows the earthwork and the Aubrey Holes just inside it. The Avenue and Heel Stone can be seen on the left.

given these stones in post-Crusade days and comes from "Saracen," a term of mockery for anything heathenish, foreign, or vaguely evil) Encircling the Sarsen Circle are two pit circles made up of holes: one circle of holes is the Y holes, the other the Z holes. Beyond this lies another large circle of holes, the Aubrey Holes, surrounding the crags. (The Aubrey Holes are named after their discoverer John Aubrey — 1616-1697)

Just outside the Aubrey Holes there rises a mound which forms another circular frame around Stonehenge. The soil from this mound was dug up from the ditch on the other side of the mound and the mound is broken by a broad causeway extending in to the crags from the Heel Stone 75 feet away.



Is there any significance in this unusual and mysterious pattern? What was in the minds of those who drew up the plans? For there must have been detailed plans for so orderly an arrangement. Did it compose a temple for sun worship, or primitive sacrificial rites?

A superficial glance at only this part of the structure would not necessarily prove that it was built by educated engineers who lived in an organized society. In fact, the way the "builders of Stonehenge" are usually pictured in American and British textbooks, and even in some official tourist literature, is the stereotyped cave dweller; the exact creature who might practice sun worship with primitive, sacrificial rites. To the unsuspecting reader, he is pictured as naked except for a scanty breechclout; a typical caveman of the Neanderthal type, possessed of a large head with a shaggy beard, slanting forehead, receding chin, a grotesque face with glazed eyes, wildly dishevelled hair, a thick neck, and powerful, stocky build. His mentality would appear to be almost zero except for hunting instinct and a little mechanical ability with stone axes, arrows, knives, etc. His language would be quite limited to a series of grunts, yells, and other assorted sounds necessary to survive with others of his primitive era. That, at least in many books, is the type of "man" that is illustrated as having lived in "Prehistoric" England!

But — is it at all possible that this personification of grace, liveliness, and intelligence was ACTUALLY the type of man who built Stonehenge? Or, has this picture of the apish, inarticulate brute as the "builder" been foisted on us by those who, perhaps for their own reasons, deny the ex istence of a highly intelligent Race in occupancy of the British Isles so long ago? Let-us now consider the findings of the true scientists who have investigated the scientific and architectural engineering facets of this stone edifice.

Gerald S. Hawkins, an astronomer at Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory Cambridge. Massachusetts in and Chairman of the Department of Astronomy at Boston University, using a modern IBM 7090 computer, established an extraordinary sun-moon correlation throughout the structure. His research on the Aubrey Holes, also, revealed that they could have been used as a computer to predict the eclipses of the moon and the sun and other celestial events!

Alexander Thorn, Emeritus Professor of Engineering Science at Oxford, has discovered that in the many rings and circles, varying in diameter from a few yards to 370 feet and scattered over England and Scotland, there is evidence that the prehistoric occupants of the British Isles knew geometry and were trying to obtain, through practice, circles whose "pi" (circumference-diameter ratio) equaled exactly 3. Some of these "practice circles," which appear to be modified or eggshaped are really true ellipses, fairly advanced mathematical figures.

Science writer Alexander Marshak, believes that these prehistoric men were counting days of the month. As far back as 30,000 to 35,000 years ago (by estimation) men of prehistoric Europe were noting, in cave drawings and many other ways, the 30 or 29 days (or nights) from full moon through the three phases to full again.

C. A. Newham, an avid student of the astronomy and geometry indications of Stonehenge, proves the builders of Stonehenge chose the best latitude to place their observatory in order to get the most from the sun and the moon alignments. This latitude is the exact one in the northern hemisphere at which the sun and the moon azimuths, at their lowest declinations, are separated by 90 degrees!

As mentioned previously, Gerald Hawkins' research, also, reveals an extraordinary sun-moon correlation throughout Stonehenge, corroborating the fact that the designers must have had a definite interest in the sun and moon. With his IBM 7090 computer, he discovered that the stones of the original structure were positioned so that 27,060 alignmenis existed between 165 positions in the monument.

To understand what Mr. Hawkins meant by an "alignment," visualize an alignment as a person standing at a certain point inside Stonehenge and looking across the edges or the top of a stone to the horizon or sky. The point where this straight line of vision meets horizon or sky is called a "declination." A well known alignment at Stonehenge is viewing the Heel Stone from the exact center of Stonehenge at Midsummer sunrise — the sun rises almost exactly over the Heel Stone.

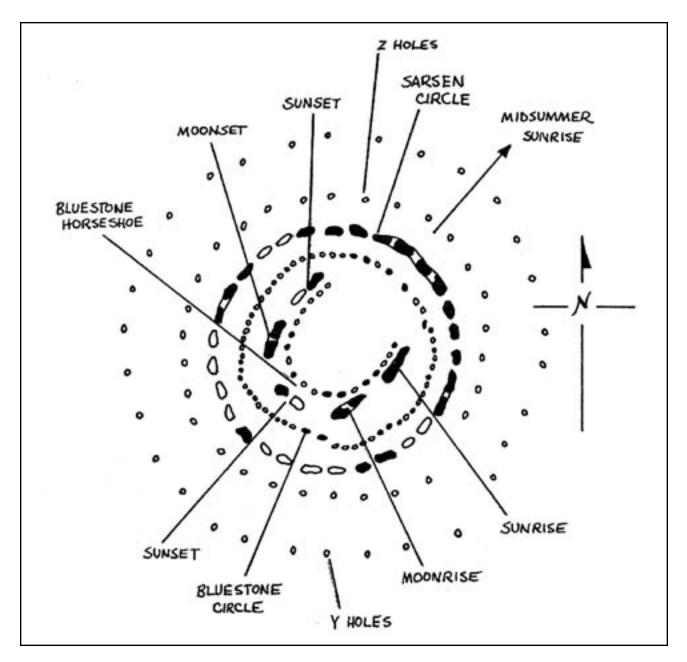
Because of the great number of alignments between the 165 positions, any alignment could point to anything in the sky. So Mr. Hawkins chose 120 pairs of charted points to study with the computer to ascertain their "declinations." (Actually this means 240 celestial declinations as each alignment of 120 pairs was considered as pointing in both directions.)

What special heavenly bodies rose orset at these declinations? An obvious clue to follow was the frequent duplication of three sets of declinatio.n figures, north 29 degrees, north 24 degrees, and north 19 degrees, with their southern counterparts of south 29 degrees, south 24 degrees, and south 19 degrees. Disregarding the other declinations, Hawkins searched for the celestial bodies that would line up at those specific declinations and found the sun and the moon in their extreme positions!

Of course, this was present day evidence. So Hawkins obtained sun-moon extreme positions as of 1500 B.C. by using the computer. These figures varied from the present by less than a degree to a maximum of a degree and a half. This meant that 12 of the significant Stonehenge alignments point to an extreme position of the sun, and 12 of the alignments point to an extreme position of the moon. The stones had apparently been aligned so carefully that the extreme positions of sunrises, sunsets, moonrises, and moonsets could be noted by definite alignments using the stones for sightings!

Could a hairy, Neanderthal type brute, knowing little but sheer survival, suddenlv come up with those strange ellipses, with the days of the month, with this amazingly NECESSARY latitude and even the sun-moon alignlongitude. ments in their ris ing and setting? Hardly. Even if he were huddled up some cold night under an extremely crude windbreaker, gazing at the moon, he still wouldn't be inspired by the fact that this was the thousandth time he had seen the moon in its first phase. He would more likely grunt, scratch himself, and occupy his mind with thoughts of how he would fill his belly in the morning.

The designers of Stonehenge would have had to possess intelligence, purpose, and patience, as well as physical skill and strength to complete such a monumental task over a period of 300 years. Each generation had to have more intelligence than anyone has dared ascribe to "cave-

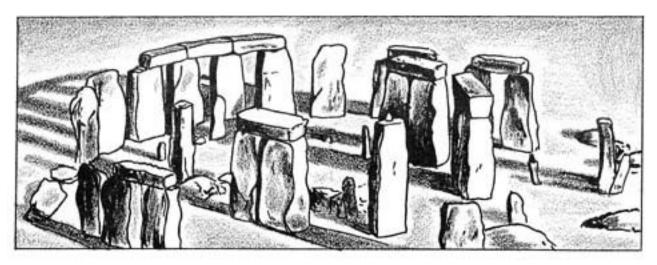


The locations of existing stones are shown in solid black above, with missing stones drawn in to show the structure as it must have been when complete. Only a few of the astronomical "alignments" are shown on this drawing. Missing stones are believed to have been broken up during the past centuries by farmers using them for building foundations, etc.

men" and, also, to know varied skills beyond those possessed by many twentieth century occupants of this planet! They had to, also, maintain the single purpose initiated by the first designers until the project was complete.

Crumbling under the scientific investi-

gations of Stonehenge, the "savage brute" theory fades into the myth, which it is. Instead, we can visualize a man almost exactly like the modern Caucasian, having an intelligent countenance, clear eyes, a high forehead, an erect body and supple hands. In fact, anthropologists say that the men who existed in the last part of the



Old Stone Age, or the Upper Paleolithic Era (just before the building of Stonehenge) were men of large brains, well developed foreheads and chins, and sometimes reached exceptional heights. From then on, passing through the Middle Stone Age, or the Mesolithic Era, into the New Stone Age, or Neolithic Era, these men, commonly known as "Caucasians," existed.

But perhaps the term "existed" shouldn't be used to describe the Caucasian, for being quite intelligent, he has always found much more to do than just "exist." A look at the Stonehenger's origins, legends, and history, reveal many of the things they did accomplish.

The earliest recorded history of the Britons locates them in Central Asia in the fertile crescent watered by the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Their border is to Mount Ararat on the north and the Persian Gulf on the south. To this area the earliest settlers of Britain trace their origins. The Book of, Conquests, a collection of ancient Irish legends, corroborates this general area of origin. Scholars believe that, although many of the details of these legends are fallacious, the general story they relate is based on reality as to the origin of the people.

This is shown in the talents of the different people and their origins. The Formorians were warlike and farmers, who built towers. The Partholonians and Fomorians brought skills from Africa by way of Spain. The Nemedians came from Greece, bringing political skill. The Fir Bolk were industrious and competent farmers, coming from Greece in ships. The Tuatha de Danaan were very know ledgable people; knowing wizardry, lore, diplomacy and science. They also came via Greece. The Milesians had federations of aristocratic republics and a consistent foreign policy; their bards, or poets, could memorize twelve books, along with 350 kinds of poetic meter, relating history and legend.

These were the people of the legends. But the people who followed them show the same talents and skills. The real people of Stonehenge and England fit well the description of the people of the ancient legends.

History does give us some definite links with those who built Stonehenge. A people from Holland and the Rhineland known to archeologists as the "Beaker" People (from the pottery drinking-vessels found in their graves) invaded southern England about 1700 B.C. They did not drive out the native people, but subdued them and established trade between England and Ireland. Ireland was a source of metal, which the Beaker People used for weapons AND TOOLS. In time, the Beaker People were fused with the native people, forming the Wessex People. About that time the Bronze Age began. These Wessex People increased their trade and use of metals and extended their trade as far as central Europe, Scandinavia, and, even, to Crete and Greece. This is revealed in the resemblances found in certain coins in England and those found in Greece and in Crete and, also, in certain designs on pottery.

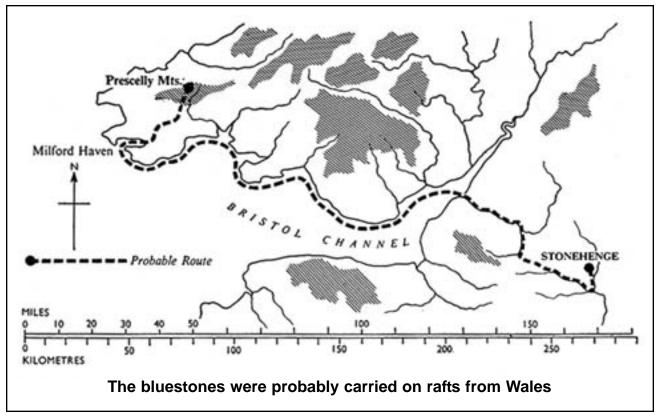
This metal trade brought wealth and power to the people of southern England. Indications are that they lived by agriculture and trade, developing a wealthy commercial aristocracy dominated by a dynasty of commanding chieftains or "kings." Evidence of this is found in the rich furnishings of their barrow-burials clustered around Stonehenge and Avebury.

A more correct picture has now been painted. Instead of the builders of Stonehenge being typical brute "cavemen," living in caves or primitive mud huts, or as wandering nomads living by the hunt, we find a much more complex and intelligent Race living in a rather organized society, complete with an upper class of commanding chieftains; with the stability of an agricultural class, and with rather extensive trade with distant, yet related, cultures. These were the Wessex People, and a people who obviously, possessed a working knowledge of astronomy and geometry.

Their affluence, or surplus wealth, would have had to be such that many hundreds, perhaps thousands of men, could have been employed for many years in the construction of Stonehenge. Mindless, poverty-stricken societys do NOT build monuments!

And yet surplus wealth could not be the reason Stonehenge was built. It may have provided the means, but certainly not the motive. The purpose the Wessex People and their predecessors had for Stonehenge must have been fairly advanced. One theory, probably the only feasible suggests that the one, Stonehengers had a religion. They wondered about the creator of the world. Since He never changes he couldn't be in this world, which is forever changing. Therefore, they looked toward objects in the heavens, which seemed never to change. Concluding that the Creator was manifested there, they patterned Stonehenge after what they saw in the heavens. That there is a relationship between the universe and Stonehenge is proven by Gerald Hawkins' research. This ancient, curious circle of stones would then be their "astronomical temple;" built for religious, as well as scientific, reasons by these prehistoric Britons. In Babylon and Persia, as in Britain, no ruins of palaces or dwellings are found, only remains of magnificent temples, witnesses to the importance the people of those countries attached to their religious worship.

Now, the Stonehengers brought their knowledge of astronomy and geometry into play. Taking their time to plan out Stonehenge, the architects first observed the sky; watching the moon and the sun. Erecting wooden posts in the ground by trial and error, they may have established the paths the sun and moon followed, and finally, over a period of years or generations, the Stonehengers achieved the correct calculations. They would then be ready to replace their wooden marking



posts with stones, which would make the temple or observatory more permanent.

The type of stone needed was not close to the location prescribed by their astronomical observations; so they had to search out Britain for a source of a good, permanent type of stone. They found two types of stone, sarsens and bluestones. The sarsen stones, comprising the Sarsen Circle and the trilithons, are a form of sandstone found on the Marlborough Downs, 24 miles away. These stones average 30 tons each, with the largest, the trilithons, weighing up to 20 tons more! (The very massiveness of these stones almost precludes their erection by "savages.")

The eighty or more bluestones, which lined the inside of the Sarsen Circle weighed up to 5 tons each, and the three main types,dolerite, rhyolite" and volcanic ash, occur naturally close together in one place. This is a small area, a mile square, in the Prescelly Mountains of southwestern Wales, 140 miles away. One can readily-see the problems the engineers were faced with as they prepared to extract these monstrosities from the earth and transport them to the correct location.

The chieftains of Stonehenge were not worrying about transporting the stones, however. They had strict control of a very large proportion of the local population, and with this available manpower, they could move the giant stones and fashion them to their requirements.

Doubtless, some rough shaping of the stones: sarsens and bluestone, was done at the sources at Marlborough Downs and Wales, respectively. After excavating a likely looking boulder, the cutters would begin to shape it, using maul stones or fire. Pounding continuously on the sarsen or bluestone with maul stones made of the same material and weighing as much as sixty pounds, one or two men could have shaped the stones, slowly. One archeologist has estimated that it took fifty



As pictured in an official British tourist guide. Can you imagine "Neanderthals" organizing this?

masons three years to beat the sarsens into final form.

If big chunks of stone had to be broken off to achieve the right shape, the Stonehenge masons would, probably, light a brisk fire on the large boulder; then when it was hot, pour water on it, pounding with their maul stones, while it was in stress. With skill, the boulder would crack directly along the water mark.

Partially shaped, the stones were ready for transport to the building site.

The Stonehengers, probably pulled the huge boulders along on sledges, which rolled over an endless belt-tread of tree trunks; the sledges being pulled by teams of men using ropes of twisted hides. At the rate of 16 men per ton, it would have taken 800 men to pull one sarsen stone, with perhaps 200 more needed to move the log rollers, level the roadbed, guide the sledge, and so on. The task of moving the sarsens from Avebury after being brought to there from the Marlborough Downs — to Stonehenge would have kept 1,000 haulers busy for seven full years!

Of course, the engineers could have utilized the winters of ancient England to move their stones more easily. We have no absolute way of knowing what the Bronze Age British winters were like, but if they were colder than the winters of the present, which average 40 degrees Fahrenheit, smooth ice or snow on the gentle slope extending 17 of the 20 miles from Marlborough Downs to Stonehenge could have reduced the number of men necessary to pull a 50 ton stone to as little as

25. There is, also, the possibility of part of the move being made on natural waterways or man-made canals dug for that purpose. No evidence of such remains today, but whatever manner was used, it would have required a high degree of engineering skill, organization, and cooperation among many people.

After reaching Stonehenge the stones probably underwent a more delicate shaping with small maul stones before final erection and exact finishing. The method of erection, which long puzzled the archeologists, but which modern engineers now believe was used, will be described for our readers.

To erect the huge stones, the builders first dug holes, three sides of which were vertical and the fourth sloping at a 45 degree angle. This sloped side formed a reception ramp for the blunt end of the stone. In order that the blunt end of the stone would not gouge the opposite side, while being slid into the hole, thick wooden stakes were placed vertically against the opposite side. The enormous sarsen, resting on the rollers of tree trunks, was positioned with its base towards the hole, then moved forward until its base was over the hole and its center of gravity just behind the leading roller. At that point, the top end would be levered up on more logs, tilting the base down ward into the hole until it overbalanced, tipped on over, and slid downward into the hole, corning to rest in an upright position. Ropes of leather or cowhair were then tied to the top of the sarsen to pull; poles

would be used for pushing, and sev eral score of men could manipulate the towering rock into a perfect

upright position, while other men quickly filled the hole in with dirt and smaller stones. Thankfully, for our studies today, in their haste, they sometimes dropped tools into the hole, which have been dug up by modern scientists and furnish proof of the types of tools used by the builders.

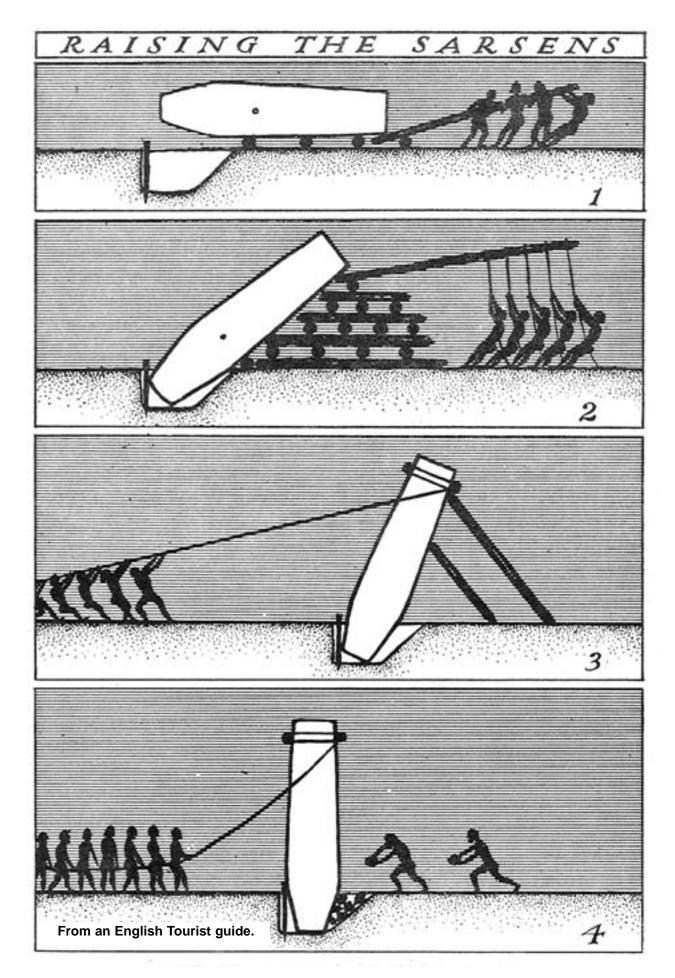
When the hole had been packed tight so that the stone could not move, that sarsen was finished and the builders

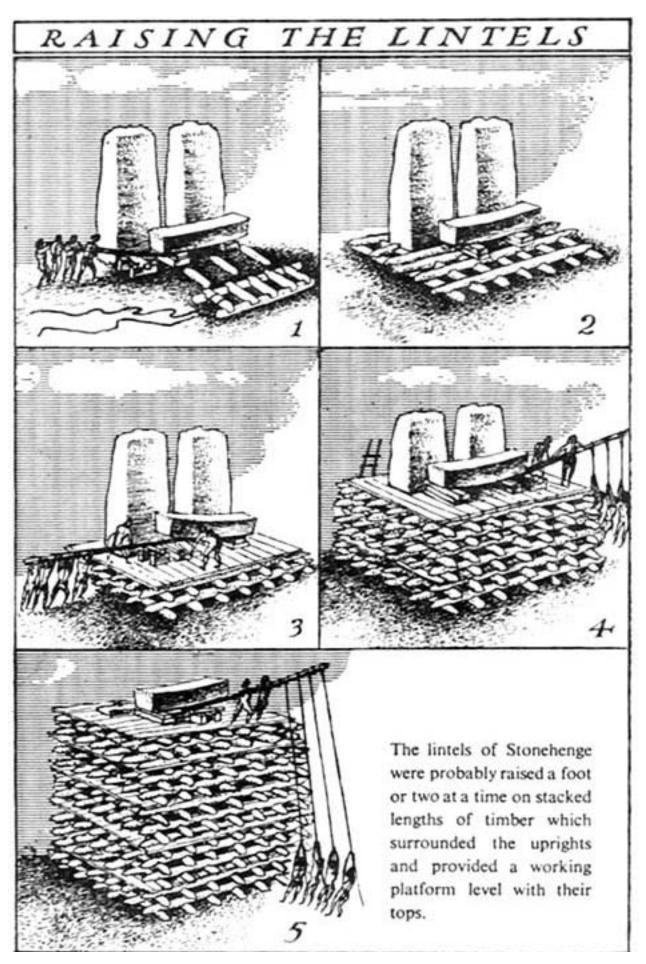


It is probable that stones were transported on such rafts — but it is highly doubtful that the men were such "cavemen" as this British drawing shows!

would have to continue the strenuous process with the others until the complete circle materialized.

The lintels, or crosspieces, topping the columns were next. But, how did these ancient people manage to lift them to the top of the sarsens with none of today's modern machines? One theory suggests that they hauled or slid the giant slabs on rollers up timber ramps to the top.





Laborious and exhausting, this method is feasible, but is probably not the one used. It is more likely that they used the lever and crib method.

A crib is a tower built of layers of timbers, with each layer running in opposite directions. After the stone arrived at the site on the sledge or log rollers, it was manuevered into position against the upright sarsens, then one end levered up to place the timbers under it. Each end would be raised, alternately, until it reached a position level with the top of the sarsen, at which it would be then levered, pushed and pulled into place atop the sarsen.

As in all other phases of this construction, human strength supplied the power to move huge stones.

The illustrations on page 13 and 25 are quite accurate, except for the "caveman" type of humans the artist portrayed. Also, in the case of the lever (in the drawing), the more intelligent engineers, who actu-

ally built stonehenge would have had all ropes fastened at the very end of the lever to gain additional leverage. A minor point perhaps, but one which would not have escaped the master minds of Stonehenge.

To get a clear picture of this painstaking construction operation, the tools the Stonehengers used must be visualized. Stonehenge is cluttered with them. Many were bone tools such as picks that were antlers of red deer and shovels that were the shoulder bones of oxen. Wooden tools, leather bags, and vegetable bags were, also, used. These were used to dig the holes and to move the dirt from the hole or trench to the surface. With such primitive tools, we can well-understand why it took many, many years to cut, trim, and transport these gigantic stones to Stonehenge, and to dig and move the great amounts of dirt at the site.

But, was Stonehenge really finished with the last stone being put into place? A final item to note on the construction of Stonehenge is the odd use of mortise and tenon, or tongue and groove. The horizontal crosspieces, lintels, on the trilithons have a groove or hole in them, which fits over a projecting piece of stone on the top of the sarsen. It is similar to a tenon, something which is usually found only in carpentry in wood! Therefore, it has been proposed that the builders were more familiar with the techniques of carpentry than of masonry. Thus, it would be only natural for these builders to top all the stones with a timber ceiling! If the weather during the Bronze Age, was similar to today's, England with an annual average of 50 degrees Fahrenheit, a person would



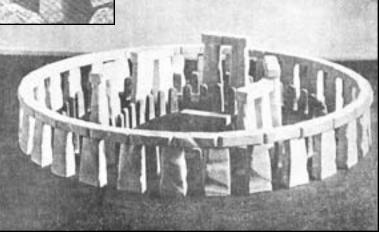


highly-organized society, were the planners and builders of this, the most ancient of astronomical observatories. Only a Race of exceptional men could have produced Stonehenge. They have been underestimated too long and were more intelligent than Twentieth Century man had imagined. ——

gladly have a roof over his head to ward off the cold, drenching rains or possible snow. The type of roof they might have added, we shall have to leave to the imagination of our readers, for nothing of wood remains at Stonehenge. Whatever it might have been, it would make Stonehenge take on an additional appearance indicating the very high intelligence and civilization of its builders.

There is additional evidence that the people of that time lived in log houses. The wood is long since gone, but remnants of cooking and family utensils have been found contained within a square or a rectangle. Archeologists conclude from this and other evidence they built homes of logs. It is almost axiomatic that a people possessing sufficient intelligence to use log rollers and log platforms to build Stonehenge would have known how to construct log buildings.

With this rather brief story of Stonehenge, we have given you to consider, the men who built it should, also, take on a completely different appearance than that so commonly presented. Instead of ignorant savages erecting these massive stones for some sinister religious purpose, it is obvious that intelligent men, in a



Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the member of the children of Israel.

#### **Deuteronomy 32:7-8**

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## Appendix 1

#### The article below appeared in the Phoenix Gazette, August 4, 1971

## Stonework Intrigues Historians

#### By DAVID HASKELL

GREENFIELD, Mass.

(upi) — Atop a Mountain about 12 miles west of here stand a half-dozen stones — smaller than a man, larger than a child — mysterious in their symmetry and curious because, archaeologically, they are in the wrong part of the world.

Their meaning and the origin of whoever placed them there are a matter of conjecture, but to some experts they are further evidence an ancient European culture had settled in New England long before Christopher Columbus made his Atlantic crossing.

The standing stones are contrary to popularly held beliefs about New England's antiquity. some Archaeological quarters claim there was no European contact with North America prior to Columbus.

"Those stones shouldn't be there," according to James P. Whittall, Jr. of Loudon, NH, Head archaeologist for the New England Antiquities Research Association (NEARA), a group dedicated to unraveling the mystery surrounding many strange stone structures and formations found throughout New England.

Whittall said there are no other known formations in this region quite like that found atop this particular hill in western Massachusetts. But, he emphasized, "I have seen many similar sites in the British Isles, places where a megalithic (stone building) culture thrived thousands of years ago."

Whittall has made several trips in Europe seeking to establish links between the strange stone works in this part of the world and those known to have been part of the old Megalithic culture. The correlation between what he has seen and this site, he said, is extremely strong.

What makes him so certain he said, is the patterns in which the stones are laid out. Also, they are on top of a mountain (1,858 feet above sea level) which provides a nearly unobstructed view in all directions, a point to be seriously considered in view of the fact the ancient stone cultures used similar locations and layouts for religious and astrological purposes.

Those ancients, it is believed, selected high places because it brought them nearer to the heavens. From this hilltop one can see for more than 40 miles, to Mt. Monadnock in New Hampshire on the distant horizon. It is also ideal for viewing the movements of the sun, moon and stars.

"And the stones obviously

have been shaped." Whittall said, "an important distinction." Most of the stones—about 4 to 5 feet high—are tapered to a point, as stones found standing at sites in the British Isles and on the European continent.

Robert Stone of Derry, NH, president of NEARA, said there are more than 200 strange stone sites in New England, which he sees as supporting the theory an ancient Megalithic culture made the Atlantic crossing hundreds and perhaps more than a thousand years before Columbus.

Whittall concedes the hilltop standing stones could have been placed there by someone since colonial days, but considers this unlikely because there is not known reason for doing so. It definitely was not the work of Indians, he said, because Indians in North America did not work in stone.

## **Appendix 2**

The "preface," which follows, is from "The Story of Britons by Hubert M. Skinner, PhD, published in 1903. He tells of the founding of London by descendants of the Trojans prior to 1100 B.C., and the history of trade and commerce with the Mediterranean civilizations of Greece and Crete a thousand years before Christ. The Preface tells of 20-year schools, fortified town, and weapons superior to the Romans at the time of Caesar! America school children learn none of this today, but are led to understand the early inhabitants of Briton were little more than savages until recent centuries!...

#### PREFACE

Why should the legendary story of the ancient Britons be less familiar to American readers than that of the early Romans? Is it less connected with out literature? Is it less interesting in itself? Are we quite sure that it has less of truth for its foundation?

When the Romans entered Britain, about a half century before the Christian era, they found there a people possessing fortified towns, and employing superior arms and war chariots. They found a people who had traded for many centuries with the most progressive people of the Far East — the Phoenicians — and who had long possessed an alphabet. They found a priesthood singularly learned, whose course of instruction covered a period of twenty hears, and whose system of culture carried to human perfection the art of memorizing, since they preferred that their learning should be preserved in unwritten verse.

So much for the "savages" whom the Romans found, according to popular conception. Those who would place the traditions of such a people in the same class with the vague and often meaningless tales of savage tribes, would seem to be biased in their judgment.

# The \ Masterminds / of Stonehenge

by PAUL BUNCH