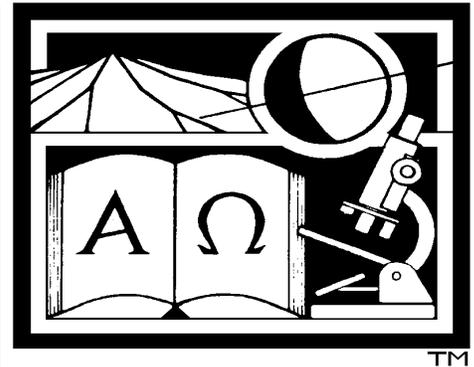


# Origins Insights

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP



July 2001

## Ancient Celtic Settlements in New England And their implications for Diffusion Theory?

by Reid Moon

The book, America B.C.: Ancient Settlers in the New World, (published by Quadrangle in 1977 and now out of print) contains the findings of the late Dr. Barry Fell during the summer of 1975. It is one of three books that he wrote on this very controversial subject and in it he sets forth and interprets the physical evidence for ancient European and African settlements. This physical evidence includes numerous inscriptions, artifacts, buildings and monuments left behind in the woods of modern day New England.

Dr. Fell's findings were not a brand new discovery. As early as 1712, the Puritan clergyman Cotton Mather reported "some strange writing" on a rock at Dighton, Massachusetts to the Royal Society in London. There were other unusual discoveries by the colonists. These were the "root cellars" that dotted the countryside. These were buildings made of large stones found all over New England that settlers assumed to be the work of the Indians. In 1823, some property near North Salem, New Hampshire containing a "large complex of slab buildings" came into the hands of a man named Pattee. This complex came to be known as Mystery Hill and stands out as America's own Stone Henge. Like its English counterpart,

Mystery Hill is a series of buildings and stones arranged so that the sun sets directly behind them on the days of the equinox and summer and winter solstices. These and other finds in New England were indeed a mystery to the early Americans. They

prompt the questions "Who built them?" and "What were they used for?" and "How old are they?"

It was Barry Fell who came up with some startling explanations to these questions by identi-

### MEETING INFORMATION

What can be done to combat evolutionary indoctrination in public high schools?

At our July meeting, Steve Sobek will discuss the battle in public schools. Steve is a public school mathematics teacher and is the webmaster of [www.GetEquipped.org](http://www.GetEquipped.org), a site designed to equip parents on education related issues.

He has been following the development of science standards by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. These standards could be finalized before the end of this year. He will give us an overview on how evolution is presented in these proposed standards and will provide practical advice on how individuals can still have an impact.

Steve has also communicated with various legal organizations like the Rutherford Institute and the Alliance Defense Fund as to their most current advise in dealing with public schools. A summary of the responses will be presented along with suggestions from his own personal experiences.

During the question/answer time, Steve will welcome participants to share from their own interactions with their local school districts.

**DATE:** Tuesday, July 17, 2001

**TIME:** 7:30 PM

**PLACE:** Mars Alliance Church, 997 Route 228, Mars, PA, 16046  
Church Phone: (724)776-9400

(Continued from page 1)

fying the "strange writing" Cotton Mather referred to as Ogam; the ancient language of the Celts. As it turns out, Dr. Fell and his team found hundreds of Ogam inscriptions in that summer of 1975 all over New England and in particular at Mystery Hill, NH (now a museum). Dr. Fell identified the "root cellars" as *dunans* (little fortresses). These were similar to the structures left in Scotland by the Goidelic Celts. These are sacred areas dedicated to the various gods of the Celts. After scouring the area, his team was able to identify several triangular stones with Iberian Ogam script on them. Iberian Ogam, like other ancient eastern languages (i. e. Hebrew) has no vowels thus the date for these inscriptions is fixed between 800 - 600 B.C.

As it turns out, these were the "dedication stones" which identified each "root cellar" as a place dedicated to a particular Celtic god. These were strikingly similar to those Dr. Fell had seen in Scotland. Some of these dedication stones were especially helpful because they were bilingual; having the same message written in two different languages and making a translation possible. One stone yielded this pearl "*To Baal of the Canaanites (Phoenicians), this in dedication*". Dr. Fell offers this explanation to the existence of this inscription to Baal of the Canaanites when he writes, "It became clear that ancient Celts had built the New England megalithic chambers and that their Phoenician mariners were welcome visitors, permitted to worship at the Celtic sanctuaries and allowed to make dedications in their own language." (p. 91).

In addition to the above mentioned inscriptions in Iberian Ogam, there are numerous other discoveries of distinctive artifacts to identify the Celts were here. A few from Dr. Fell's book are listed here:

large stones "tables" called *dolmens*. These are huge rock monuments (up to 90 tons) that memorialize Celtic leaders or some great event. They are precariously perched on three to five stone legs. The *dolmen* near north Salem closely resembles a Celtic monument near Dublin, Ireland. These *dolmen* are found in most of the 6 New England states.

monoliths marking the place of fallen heroes similar to those found in Brittany. They are distinctively Celtic because they occur in straight lines of threes.

outdoor alters with dedications to the Celtic sun god *Bel* complete with "libation bowls" believed to be used in initiation rites for youth.

rectangular, megalithic chambers (what early settlers called "root cellars") are built with their narrow doorways facing the rising sun during the winter solstice.

distinctive Celtic burial urns found in northeastern America similar to those found in modern day Portugal.

geographical names given to places which betray a Celtic influence.

And the examples go on and on. There seems to be no other explanation for the evidence except that the Celts were in New England 1800 years before the

Vikings reached North American shores. In addition to the inscriptions, there is the matter of the discovery of copper and bronze implements (knives, axes and pins) that very closely match artifacts found in the Iberian Peninsula (modern Spain and Portugal). It is well established that the Celts had settlements in ancient Iberia and it is theorized that it is there that they came to know the seafaring peoples called the Phoenicians.

It is a puzzlement. How could these Celts have made their way across the hostile Atlantic Ocean? What means of navigation was available to them in the year 800 B.C.? Dr. Fell believes an answer may come from the common meeting ground of the Celts and the seafaring people called Phoenicians; Iberia. Indeed, there was an ancient town in this area called Tarshish (of Biblical renown Isaiah 2:12-17; Ezekiel 27:25-27; Jonah 1:1-3) and others), and it was famous for its very large and powerful ships. Could the Celts have hired Phoenician vessels to transport them to the new discovered land across the ocean?

Another possible explanation for the question, "How did the Celts get to North America?" comes from a Roman historian; none other than Julius Caesar. In his De Bello Gallico, Book III, Caesar describes a naval battle that took place in the summer of 55 B.C. Caesar "waxes almost lyrical" (Fell, p. 115) as he tells of a fleet of 220 very large Celtic ships with flat keeled bottoms, bound by chains of iron and powered by sails made of the beaten hides of animals. These ships were much larger than the Roman

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

bireems and trireems but were at the mercy of the winds for their power. The Celts were defeated by the Romans and their ships destroyed, but Caesar's account lives on as a witness to the navel prowess of the Celts 50 years before the birth of Christ.

What does this evidence mean for the study of diffusion? It certainly suggests that mankind's ability to build ships capable of crossing the great, Atlantic Ocean and then to navigate it is much older than previously thought. And, this technology is not limited to the Europeans. As mentioned earlier, there are also Phoenician inscriptions in New England. Egyptian hieroglyphics have been discovered in New York and as far east as Iowa and were incorporated into the Micmac Indian culture. Libyan, Egyptian and Iberian Punic inscriptions are all found together on the Davenport steel (an ancient calendar) discovered in Iowa. Where did this technology originate? How did it evolve? How did it come to be shared by so many different peoples? These are questions that go unanswered. The point is that these ancient peoples are represented here in America and they did not drop from the sky or take a land bridge. Ocean going craft and men capable of guiding them to our shores in 800 B.C. represents a new twist to the conventional thinking which assigned these nautical advancements to the Vikings of the 10th century AD

The Celtic colonies in America also supports a "hub and spoke" theory of diffusion which states that mankind had his start in one, central location (the mid-

dle east) and then spread out like spokes on a wheel. This is the model set forth in the Bible. The book of Genesis states that Noah's Ark came to rest on Mt. Ararat (in modern Turkey) and that from Noah's sons (Shem, Ham and Japheth); "came the people who were scattered over the earth." (Gen. 9:19) Later, when the "sons of men" decided to "make a name for themselves" by building the tower together, God humbled them by confusing their languages and then "scattered them over the face of the whole earth." (Gen. 11:9) There are many similarities that exist (monuments, writing, religion, burial customs, etc.) between what the ancient Celts left behind in America and the what ancient middle eastern peoples left behind. This seems to support the theory (and Biblical teaching) that people and their customs began in one location and then radiated outwards in all directions.

This article serves to give an

overview of some of the evidence that Dr. Barry Fell and his team have uncovered that offers scientific proof that Europeans and Africans were in America long before Christopher Columbus and Leif Ericson. The work of Dr. Fell sheds new light on America's ancient past. The vast array of evidence that he has assembled is to be applauded and more importantly, it should be harmonized with our current understandings of how and when this continent was peopled. Although this evidence gives us some new understandings of these ancient settlers, there seem to be so many questions that are left begging for answers. There is much work that needs to be done on the theory of diffusion. It fires ones imagination to think about what undiscovered treasures lay in New England and the America's that will "flesh out" how it is that man was scattered over all the earth by the invisible hand of God Almighty.



While a mother-in-law may seem like a curse, the reason people have trouble getting along is because Adam didn't obey the Father of law.

**CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP, INC.**  
P.O. Box 99303  
Pittsburgh PA USA 15233-4303  
Phone: (412) 341-4908

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit No. 2548

Address Service Requested

**August 21st  
Meeting Topic  
Mitochondrial DNA:  
Creation or Evolution?**

**By Robert Harsh**



**AVAILABLE on CD:** Entire audio recordings of 1994 and 1998 ICC's!

Two CD set for each year in MP3 Format- Plays on a computer via the media player program or special MP3 players but it does not play on a regular music CD player. Each 2 CD (MP3) set has over 60 hours of audio presentations with questions and answers not only from the Technical Track but also the Basic, Evening, and Educational Tracks. This is a real value at \$20.00 per set and \$5.00 shipping/handling. In addition, when purchased with a written proceedings of 1994 or 1998, the cost of the proceeding is only an additional \$5.00 with no shipping charge.

**Creation Science Fellowship, Inc.** newsletter is published monthly.

**Purpose:** The aim of Creation Science Fellowship is to inform and educate people of the biblical, philosophical, and scientific validity of creationism.

**Circulation:** 420

**Officers**

Dennis E. Wert. . .Chmn, Corres. Sec.  
Robert Harsh, Vice Chmn, Nwsltr. Ed.  
Jim Hawk. . . . . Book Coordinator  
Reid Moon. . . . . Treasurer  
Robert Ivey . . . . . Web Site Manager

**Ex-officio:**

Robert Walsh . . . ICC Proceedings Ed.

**Email Address:**

[csficc@csfpittsburgh.org](mailto:csficc@csfpittsburgh.org)

**CSF Page:** [www.csfpittsburgh.org](http://www.csfpittsburgh.org)

**Editors Address:** Robert Harsh  
439 Little Creek Road, Harmony,  
Pennsylvania, USA 16037  
Email: [naturbob@juno.com](mailto:naturbob@juno.com)