

VICTORIA LODGE OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
650 Fisgard Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 1R6  
1992 - 5

### **FREEMASONRY and the GREAT PYRAMID**

by

W. Bro. R. Simpson Mt. Shepherd Lodge No.159

While Egypt has many pyramids, only the Great Pyramid of Cheops at Gizeh has any astronomical or mathematical significance. If a surveyor were to sight with a level along the base line of the Great Pyramid, his readings would not indicate a straight line as might be expected, but a slight curve, the radius of which would be equal to half the diameter of the earth. Thus the base represents the exact rotundity of the earth.

The Great Pyramid was constructed by operative masons of solid rock composed of granite,

16.

limestone and sandstone sections all cut and fitted with mathematical exactness. The immense blocks of granite were brought from Syrene, a distance of 500 miles. Polished like glass, they so fitted that the joints can hardly be detected.

The Great Pyramid was originally veneered in a massive casing of snow-white limestone polished to a glistening smoothness. The external masonic splendor has since been removed over the years. Even without the protection, the exceptional workmanship of the operative masons involved has endured within the interior to a remarkable degree.

So fine are the joints of the Great Pyramid that unless marked, a camera will not show them. We do not know how the builders obtained an accuracy of cut and finish that is impossible to achieve in operative masonry at the present time, and is found only in the most skilled of optical achievements. Whether the face to be leveled was cut square or angular, the finished work on all the stones was practically perfect, a feat which is beyond present masonic capability.

The builders of the Great Pyramid no doubt employed special tools and lifting devices in their great undertaking. It is to be regretted, however, that whatever implements were used have since been lost for all time. The secrets of how great rocks, weighing as much as eighty tons, were dressed and placed so accurately lie buried with the builders. Modern mechanical engineering is without even a suggestion as to how such a feat could be accomplished.

Another mystery involved in the construction of the Great Pyramid is connected with the cement used. It could be reduced to the consistency of paint, and yet made to hold for fifty centuries with such tenacity that the rock breaks rather than the joint.

Still another mystery involves the drills and saws that were employed to cut the granite blocks. To cut out granite as a carpenter bores out wood requires not only a drill of exceptional hardness, but one permitting overhead pressures ranging from one to two tons. It has been established that bronze saws were used, having hardened teeth set with sapphires. In other instances, the cutting edges must have been set with diamonds.

Attention should be drawn to the fact that the Great Seal of the United States of America bears a picture of the Great Pyramid. Suspended directly above

it is the rejected headstone, portraying the all-seeing eye of God.

The Great Pyramid weighs about six million tons. It represents about 85 million cubic feet. The base covers the equivalent of thirteen acres, while the four triangular sides each represent five acres. Earthquakes have shaken but could not mar it. The vandals who destroyed its limestone mantle of glory have since returned to the dust. The dynasties of Egypt have risen and fallen in its presence. Great battles have been fought in its shadows, from Alexander the Great to Napoleon to Rommel. But the Great Pyramid, that silent watchman of the centuries, still continues to abide with us.

Just as this monument to ancient operative masonry has endured for five thousand years, so too should Freemasonry, if it continues to strive for the same degree of perfection that is necessary for survival.

\*\*\*\*\*