

Chapter 1 : New England Patriots: The mysterious case of Malcolm Mitchell continues

The New England region of the eastern United States is a place of deep history, struggle, and indeed many mysteries. Here we can find all manner of ghost stories and strange tales, and it is a wellspring of the paranormal and the bizarre.

Description[edit] The Newport Tower is located in Touro Park at the top of Mill Street, surrounded by a historical residential neighborhood on the hill above the waterfront tourist district. Eighteenth-century paintings show that the hill itself once furnished a view of the harbor and would have been visible to passing mariners in Narragansett Bay , [1] but recent tree growth now obscures the view. The Newport Tower is not exactly circular. The tower has a height of 28 feet 8. At one time, the interior of the tower was coated with smooth white plaster, the remnants of which may be seen on the interior faces of several pillars. It is supported by eight cylindrical columns that form stone arches , two of which are slightly broader than the other six. Above the arches and inside the tower is evidence of a floor that once supported an interior chamber. The walls are approximately 3 feet 0. The chamber has four windows on what used to be the main floor, and three very small ones at the upper level. Almost directly opposite the west window is a fireplace backed with grey stone and flanked by nooks. Nothing in early Norse architecture is similar to the Newport Tower in size or appearance. However, this 17th-century windmill near Chesterton, England shares many characteristics with the Newport Tower. The tower is described in a document of as "the old stone mill. Construction[edit] The tower is located at the upper end of the plot behind the now-demolished mansion built by Benedict Arnold , the first colonial governor of Rhode Island, who moved from Pawtuxet to Newport in An illustration from the British "Penny Magazine" published in shown at right reveals that the tower is of a similar type to Chesterton Windmill , a 17th-century mill near Chesterton , Warwickshire , England. Jackson of Newport collected samples of mortar from the mill and some of the oldest known structures in the town, including the very early Bull house c. Under detailed examination, all proved to be of very similar composition, "composed of shell lime, sand, and gravel". At some period before Arnold built the Old Stone Mill. Thompkins, , quoting Roger Williams, The original owner had been Jeremy Clarke, but there is no indication that Clarke ever built on the property. In June of this same year Roger Williams, in writing to Gov. Winthrop of Connecticut says, "Benedict Arnold having now bought house and land at Newport, proposing thither to remove. The results suggest a probable date of production of the mortar between and The researchers drilled "deep so as to get past any recent mortar that might have been applied during tuck pointing.

Chapter 2 : Newport Tower (Rhode Island) - Wikipedia

Mysterious New England: A History of the Region's Mysteries, Hauntings, and Strange Creatures profiles a sampling of strange, unexplained, and just plain odd stories of New England that have fascinated people in and around the region for centuries.

Comments Everyone knows that stone walls cover the New England landscape like honeycombs. In the s, someone estimated that New England had , miles of stone walls. A stone chamber in Leverett, Mass. Some of those ancient stone structures are oriented to the stars and planets. They also stand near megaliths, cairns or dolmens. A few have what are probably stone beds or sacrificial altars. Speculation now runs rampant about the origins of the mysterious stone structures. Or did the English colonists just built them as root cellars? Most noteworthy, just three Northeast counties account for the majority of stone structures in North America: Massachusetts has the densest concentration of beehive-shaped stone chambers like those built by Culdee monks in Ireland. The state has sites containing stone structures. Tiny Rhode Island has only 12 stone structures, but still more than Maine, which has only four. They then built their stone structures along those routes. Here, then, we bring you ancient stone structures or maybe colonial root cellars , with at least one in each New England state. Gungywamp stone circle New England colonists found many stone buildings, when they arrived. Typically they were one story high, circular or rectangular and as long as 30 feet. Many had roof openings that allowed a little light to illuminate the interiors. All date back hundreds of years. Some of the structures are thought to be Native American and perhaps had ceremonial functions. Colonial settlers built others with purposes such as root cellars and birthing chambers. Some features of the site suggest they were originally built as fortifications. There is plenty of speculation about the purpose of the Gungywamp stone structures. Some theorize that 8th-century Irish monks built certain structures. Others say it is an Indian word. A vent at one end of the chamber aligns with the spring and fall equinoxes. It thus allows a shaft of sunlight to fall directly on a smaller chamber within the larger structure. Gungywamp is preserved, but many of the structures stand on private land. It can be toured virtually here. More information is available here. The stone chamber in Belmont, Maine , aligns so the summer solstice illuminates its interior. Click here for a photo of the Belmont Stone Chamber and here for a diagram. Upton Stone Chamber, Upton, Mass. It includes a tunnel that connects to a roundish beehive room. A stone slab sits on top. To see photographs from of the Upton Stone Chamber, click here. A excavation found evidence people stored food in it in the 18th or 19th century. Some argue Indians built it before the colonists arrived. Still others say railroad workers lived in it during the 19th century. American Stonehenge, Salem, N. As the largest collection of stone structures in North America, it includes dolmens, or horizontal stone slabs on vertical stone uprights. It also has cromlechs, or circles of standing stones and barrows, or tombs. He wrote that a family named Pattee owned the land, called Mystery Hill, and had many of the stones carted away for construction in Lawrence, Mass. A retired insurance executive named William Goodwin bought the site in He had it excavated and became convinced Irish Culdee monks built the site about A. The monoliths are astronomically aligned, leading to the conclusion the stones were used as a prehistoric calendar. The site can still be used as an accurate yearly calendar. Archaeologists and historians associate the fort with a man named Stonewall John, a talented stone mason who may have been Narragansett or English. Within the fort a chamber " six square feet with a seven-foot ceiling and a sand floor " was perhaps built for the Narragansett queen Quaiapen also called Matuntuck. Some have also suspected that Quaiapen and Stonewall John were lovers. Many archeologists have since dug at the site. You can get to it via a series of trails in Exeter that surround the property. Eastern Vermont has some of the densest concentrations of ancient stone structures in North America. They discovered them in 23 towns in five Vermont counties, particularly Orange and Windsor. In , a retired marine biologist from Harvard announced his discovery: He concluded Celts from the Iberian peninsula carved them around BC. They all faced east and many had inscriptions. And some have symbolic markings, while others have Celtic place names. But no one found any such evidence. So in , the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation studied the stone chambers in the state. They concluded the stone structures did not serve as stone burial vaults, charcoal or lime kilns,

potash burners or iron furnaces. And the door aligns with the solstice sunrise. A Norwich University professor studied aerial photographs of Vermont and discovered another mystery. He found odd hexagonal patterns made of stone walls and ditches. But many had no relation to current and traditional land use patterns. The mystery remains unsolved. Gungywamp By Randal J. This story about mysterious stone structures was updated in

Chapter 3 : New England Mysteries :: Mystery Readers International

Mysterious New England has 30 ratings and 5 reviews. Ann said: This book is a very interesting collection of stories about the weird, legends and ghostly.

Have a look at our analysis of this fascinating thinker. He had no siblings and his mother was an unreliable presence in the house; she suffered from a mental disorder and was institutionalized briefly when Jung was just 3 years old. He graduated from the University of Basel in and, later, the University of Zurich, earning both his M. At the turn of the 20th century, Jung was drawn to unusual subjects for a psychologist. Jung looked to witchcraft, alchemy, folklore, and then-exotic yoga to explore his principles. Followers of Sigmund Freud criticized Jung for such activities, believing them to be outside the purview of science. Jung argued that so many people had devoted so much time to thinking about such things that it must make up a portion of the collective conscious and was worth studying. Jung and Freud shared a fascination with the unconscious mind, an interest that led to a fruitful five-year working relationship between and Freud was adamant that psychological issues stemmed from childhood sexual development; Jung agreed but argued humankind had a religious instinct that was just as influential. The volume so offended Freud that he cut off contact with Jung and encouraged the rest of the psychoanalytic community to do the same. Undaunted, Jung continued to pursue his work. Jung was hardly one to respect the limits of the doctor-patient relationship. Despite his marriage to Emma Rauschenbach, whom he married in and had five children with, Jung was a notorious womanizer. He carried on with mistresses as well as patientsâ€™ some during, and some after, their treatment. Rather than feel shamed, Jung wrote to them and bluntly offered to stop seeing her if they paid him more for her counseling. In , Jung began hearing voices and having visions. Jung later wrote that he would sometimes grip a table for fear he might be coming apart at the seams and even compared it to a drug trip. Instead of fighting it, Jung embraced it, trying to induce hallucinations to acknowledge whatever his unconscious mind might be trying to tell him. He charted his experiences in what he called the Red Book, an unkempt diary of thoughts, illustrations, and theories. The work was so personal that when Jung died in , his family declined to allow anyone to see it. It was finally published in Though Jung has no direct involvement with the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous, the landmark support group for people struggling with substance abuse, he is widely credited with helping launch the idea of self-improvement through affirmations. In the early s, a man named Rowland H. The Oxford Group practiced self-evaluation through acknowledging and correcting wrongs. Rowland then recommended the method to Bill W. Through this baton-passing, Bill W. There is no aspect of the mind that failed to fascinate Jung. While his contemporaries were busy with dry volumes of psychoanalytic theory, Jung published a book titled *Flying Saucers*: Instead, Jung explored what might drive the psyche to entertain the idea of alien visitations and what those beliefs revealed about the subconscious mind.

Chapter 4 : New England's Dark Day - Wikipedia

The Mysterious Megaliths of New England By Paul Tudor Angel Located in the heart of modern-day New England stand sites of such great antiquity; sites so enigmatic, so sophisticated and seemingly inexplicable, serious scientists and archaeologists have denied their study because of their monumental implications: it would force them to throw away their preconceived notions about the achievements.

The Mysterious Megaliths of New England By Paul Tudor Angel Located in the heart of modern-day New England stand sites of such great antiquity; sites so enigmatic, so sophisticated and seemingly inexplicable, serious scientists and archaeologists have denied their study because of their monumental implications: Many also had carefully crafted openings in their roofs which allowed a small amount of light to pass through to the interiors. Simultaneously, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of oddly-inscribed flagstones were being found in the surrounding New England woods, carted off by farmers for use in stone walls or in larger stone structures in the settlements of the growing northeast. As any New Englander can tell you, the entire northeast is strewn with large chunks of striated stone material left from the last era of glacial recession. But a local Puritan clergyman, Cotton Mather, was not convinced. Unexpectedly, his letter generated little interest. The scientists of the Royal Society were already busy exploring newly discovered rock inscriptions in neighboring Ireland. These European inscriptions were later identified as Irish Hinge Ogam, a form of Gaelic Keltic writing unknown for centuries and stubbornly undecipherable. Little did anyone know at the time, the inscriptions found on both sides of the Atlantic were firmly connected. Yet how could Celtic writing, a style reminiscent of that from the first millennium B. Who were the authors of the many rock engravings? How could the carvers possibly have gotten to America a thousand years before the birth of Christ? Why had they come and what evidence is there to support such a far-fetched notion? And what of the large stone structures found across the American northeast, eerily similar to types found in Europe? The answers were being spoken loudly and clearly if someone could only listen to what the rocks and buildings themselves had to say. But time seemed to be running out. Thousands of the inscribed rocks were being broken up for building material and the larger stone structures were being dismantled or vandalized, destroying the monumental works of these mysterious builders. At the top, I parked and started walking around. I get a certain feeling at power centers and I was picking up on this feeling as I found a standing stone and a recumbent stone with Iberian Ogam inscriptions believed to have been written by European Celts years ago. At the center of this cosmic place is a beautifully preserved underground chamber called Calendar II because it is oriented to the midwinter sunrise. If you sit inside the chamber and look out the entranceway on the morning of the winter solstice, December 21, the sun will rise in the center of the entrance. Analysis by archeoastronomer Byron Dix shows that the chamber was also used in lunar observations and eclipse prediction. This is only one of many such sites found all over New England. This chamber, like most other such chambers, is located over an underground water spring and a ley-line power center. As I entered the chamber, I felt a palpable presence in the air, an increase in energy density, an intensity of experience. It came to me that this chamber was specially designed to evoke these kinds of feelings and experiences. The overhead lintel stones weigh approximately three tons each. Monuments harbor the potential for universal creative power that can be directed for the progress of humanity. In India, such spots are called tantrapieds, places for liberation and enlightenment. These sacred places have a very spiritual vibration, facilitating deep meditation and contemplation. The Mystery Hill complex, the largest and most sophisticated of its kind in North America, covers over 30 acres and is composed of monolithic standing stones, stone walls and underground chambers, most of which are aligned to obvious astronomical points. Even now the site can be used as an accurate yearly calendar utilizing the stones set up over two thousand perhaps as long as 5, years ago. The roof is a massive, quarried slab of granite of several tons. On the back wall of the chamber the stones contain a high percentage of white quartz, a stone found in its pure form in many of the neolithic structures over the world and treasured by ancient peoples for its reflective qualities. This particular chamber is aligned to the February first sunrise and lunar minor south. At sunrise on this date the sunlight enters the entrance of the chamber and slowly moves along one wall until it illuminates the quartz

crystals at the back wall, making the semi-precious gems sparkle noticeably. February first was one of the eight most important divisions of the Keltic year as we shall discuss in more detail later. It is significantly larger than any other chamber found at the site and contains unique characteristics found nowhere else in any of the other megalithic sites in New England. A 4 inch by 6 inch shaft, lined with thin facing stones, runs from the exterior and enters through the interior wall at about chin level. Also found across the Mystery Hill site are huge monolithic standing stones some now fallen all of which line up to sun, moon or star alignments as seen from a central viewing slab located by one of the earlier researchers at the site. From this slab, monoliths align to the Midwinter solstice sunrise and sunset, the November one sunrise and sunset, the Spring and Fall Equinox sunrises and sunsets, the May one sunrise and sunset, the Midsummer solstice sunrise and sunset, the August one sunrise and sunset and true north this stone is aligned to the star Thuban, the pole star of 2, B. On these days the sun will either rise or set above worked monolith stones. Exact alignments coincide, according to scholars and astronomers, with a date of B. Other impressive constructions on the site include a number of underground chambers with clear astronomical alignments. The calendrical orientations of these slab-roofed chambers, it would seem, would rule out these structures being constructed as root cellars by early American colonists or the woodlands Indians of the northeast as neither were concerned with alignments that coincide with the most important of yearly Keltic celebrations. Further, noted archaeo-astronomer Byron Dix has determined that New England is replete with underground chambers. In the words of archeologist and Mystery Hill curator Robert Stone: It is positioned on four worked stone legs and is located at the center of the site in a large courtyard. And we do know that blood sacrifice and altars such as these were connected firmly to Neolithic religions. But even more than mere physical resemblance to European sites, it was carbon dating, carried out under the supervision of respected scientists from Geochron Laboratories in that supported the disputed claims of researchers who were being ridiculed for insisting that Mystery Hill was a site of extreme antiquity. Carbon tests conducted on charcoal found alongside a stone pick and a hammer stone unearthed at an excavation near one of the underground chambers reveal a date of 2, B. The artifacts were clearly related to Neolithic pieces of the same era in the British Isles and Iberia. The excavation pit carbon tested had been undisturbed before digging and layers of strata above were perfectly intact. Megalithic constructions known as dolmens can be found all across new England, the western part of Europe and even into Syria and South Africa. Dolmen comes from the Breton word for stone table as the dolmens in many instances are three, four or five smaller boulders topped by an immense, flat-topped boulder than can weigh any where from several tons to 90 tons. Many of these capstones are however roundish, dressed stones, and not flat topped. The dolmen usually was erected to commemorate the death of a chieftain or an historical event of great importance and scriptural incisions usually accompany the dolmen on stone markers. Dolmens are frequently occurring structures in the American northeast. There are in fact over examples of dolmens in New England alone and some very impressive examples can be found in our country as far away as California. Another frequently occurring megalithic structure familiar to all readers is the stone circle. We know of the great Stonehenge complex in England with its huge stones found there and the many calendrical alignments they delineate. But there are ancient stone circles in New England as well. Extensive fire burning on some of the slabs is apparent which leads many to believe it was an ancient altar. Nearby there are several large pillar stones and one boulder slab that have been carefully positioned along astronomical site lines. Visiting the Gungywamp site on the afternoon of September 21st, Dave Barron, the head of the Gungywamp Society, saw a sight that he would never forget. This beam of light slowly moved down the east wall and spotlighted into the small beehive crypt near the entrance. The high density of garnet in the stones magnified the intensity of the sunlight entering the chamber. It certainly acts as a predictable calendar. The Gungywamp site has been carbon dated to A. Situated on a mound were weathered megalithic stones. The reality of the scene was astonishing. And the stones, as Whittall predicted, provided astronomical alignments. The monoliths were oriented east to west, and bearings of the sight indicated that it had been used to observe solar events. The first observation was made on September 22nd, the fall equinox, from the highest stone on the western side from the peak of the eastern most stone. The sun set behind stone number four just as Whittall had surmised. This article was originally published in The Barnes Review and is reprinted here in edited form with the kind permission of the author.

Barry Fell, America, B. Simon and Schuster, , p. Kingston, New Hampshire, Sunrise Publications, , p. Old Saltbox Publishing House, , p.

Chapter 5 : Popular New England Mystery Books

Everyone knows that stone walls cover the New England landscape like honeycombs. But far fewer people know about the region's hundreds of mysterious stone structures. In the s, someone estimated that New England had , miles of stone walls.

By Paul Tudor Angel LOCATED in the heart of modern-day New England stand sites of such great antiquity, sites so enigmatic, so sophisticated and seemingly inexplicable, serious scientists and archaeologists have denied their study because of their monumental implications: The impressive Megalithic ruins of Mystery Hill, near North Salem, New Hampshire, photographed by Malcolm Pearson in , were at first interpreted as the works of Culdee monks who had fled Iceland just before the arrival of the Northmen. Further research has assigned them an origin of much greater antiquity – perhaps as old as B. Evidence indicates that this site, and others like it were made by Bronze Age Kelts as predictive calendars and ceremonial centres for religious gatherings. But their existence – and their importance – is becoming harder and harder to hide as more are discovered and interested folk become exposed to their grandeur. Many also had carefully crafted openings in their roofs which allowed a small amount of light to pass through to the interiors. The colonial newcomers were convinced that these so-called root cellars had been constructed by the former Amerind inhabitants of the area – irrespective of the fact that their Indian neighbours showed little hint of an ability to work in large stone or the desire to do so. Before long, the inheritors of these properties thought their own American ancestors had built these cellars – some which were eighty feet deep and lined the entire way with roughly hewn stone. Simultaneously, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of oddly-inscribed flagstones were being found in the surrounding New England woods, carted off by farmers for use in stone walls or in larger stone structures in their settlements of the growing northeast. The angular cuts on these stones looked much like the marks a plow makes when it strikes a submerged piece of stone – at least they looked that way to most of the simple country farmers of the day. As any New Englander can tell you, the entire northeast is strewn with large chunks of striated stone material left from the last era of glacial recession. Dighton Rock on the Taunton River seemed a hodgepodge of graffiti until Cotton Mather suspected that the engravings covering its face were ancient scriptural alphabets including Keltic ogams and Viking runes. Photo courtesy of the author But a local Puritan clergyman, Cotton Mather, was not convinced. In he discovered some strange incisions on an exposed seaside rock face in Dighton, Massachusetts – far from where any plough could have marked it. He immediately wrote to the Royal Society in London, England, to inform them of his find and to convey his belief that the rock carvings were in fact an ancient scriptural alphabet – perhaps several differing ancient alphabets. Unexpectedly, his letter generated little interest. The scientists of the Royal Society were already busy exploring newly discovered rock inscriptions in neighbouring Ireland. These European inscriptions were later identified as Irish Hinge Ogam, a form of Gaelic Keltic writing unknown for centuries and stubbornly undecipherable. Little did anyone know at the time, the inscriptions found on both sides of the Atlantic were firmly connected. Yet how could Celtic writing, a style reminiscent of that from the first millennium B. Who were the authors of the many rock engravings? How could the carvers possibly have got to America a thousand years before the birth of Christ? Why had they come and what evidence is there to support such a far-fetched notion? And what of the large stone structures found across the American northeast, eerily similar to types found in Europe? The answers were being spoken loudly and clearly if someone could only listen to what the rocks and buildings themselves had to say. But time seemed to be running out. Thousands of the inscribed rocks were being broken up for building material and the larger stone structures were being dismantled or vandalized, destroying the monumental works of these mysterious builders. For answers, we first turn to an odd stone arrangement found in the hills of New England. The Mystery Hill complex, the largest and most sophisticated of its kind in North America, covers over 30 acres and is composed of monolithic standing stones, stone walls and underground chambers, most of which are aligned to obvious astronomical points. Even now the site can be used as an accurate yearly calendar utilizing the stones set up over two thousand perhaps as long as 5, years ago. Over the years the more interesting features and structures

on-site have been given un-scientific names that insinuate inferred function. The roof is a massive, quarried slab of granite of several tons. On the back wall of the chamber the stones contain a high percentage of white quartz, a stone found in its pure form in many of the neolithic structures over the world and treasured by ancient peoples for its reflective qualities. This particular chamber is aligned to the February first sunrise and lunar minor south. At sunrise on this date the sunlight enters the entrance of the chamber and slowly moves along one wall until it illuminates the quartz crystals at the back wall, making the semi-precious gems sparkle noticeably. February first was one of the eight most important divisions of the Keltic year as we shall discuss in more detail later. It is significantly larger than any other chamber found at the site and contains unique characteristics found nowhere else in any of the other megalithic sites in New England. A 4 inch by 6 inch shaft lined with thin facing stones, runs from the exterior and enters through the interior wall at about chin level. It would seem that the speakers within the Oracle Chamber could talk into the tube, their voices warped and amplified, carrying up to the altar above and creating quite an impressive sound to a group of worshippers who might be gathered around the altar-in effect making the altar talk. Also found across the Mystery Hill site are huge monolithic standing stones some now fallen all of which line up to sun, moon or star alignments as seen from a central viewing slab located by one of the earlier researchers at the site. From this slab, monoliths align to the Midwinter solstice sunrise and sunset, the November one sunrise and sunset the Spring and Fall Equinox sunrises and sunsets, the May one sunrise and sunset, the Midsummer solstice sunrise and sunset, the August one sunrise and sunset and true north this stone is aligned to the star Thuban, the pole star of 2, B. On these days the sun will either rise or set above worked monolith stones. Exact alignments coincide, according to scholars and astronomers, with a date of 2, B. Other impressive constructions on the site include a number of underground chambers with clear astronomical alignments. The calendrical orientations of these slab-roofed chambers, it would seem, would rule out these structures being constructed as root cellars by early American colonists or the woodlands Indians of the northeast as neither were concerned with alignments that coincide with the most important of yearly Keltic celebrations. Further, noted archaeo-astronomer Byron Dix has determined that New England is replete with underground chambers. In the words of archeologist and Mystery Hill curator Robert Stone: It is positioned on four worked stone legs and is located at the centre of the site in a large courtyard. It is a massive 4. Was it the site of human sacrifice conducted by ancient travellers escaping religious persecution? Photo courtesy of the author. It too bears a striking resemblance to altar stones found at megalithic sites in Europe. And we do know that blood sacrifice and altars such as these were connected firmly to Neolithic religions. But even more than mere physical resemblance to European sites, it was carbon dating, carried out under the supervision of respected scientists from Geochron Laboratories in that supported the disputed claims of researchers who were being ridiculed for insisting that Mystery Hill was a site of extreme antiquity. Carbon tests conducted on charcoal found alongside a stone pick and a hammer stone unearthed at an excavation near one of the underground chambers reveal a date of 2, B. The artifacts were clearly related to Neolithic pieces of the same era in the British Isles and Iberia. The excavation pit carbon tested had been undisturbed before digging and layers of strata above were perfectly intact. Unfortunately, many of the other structures at the site were carted away, vandalized or destroyed yet what remains should be viewed as one of the most important historical sites in the Western Hemisphere. And Mystery Hill is not-by far-the only megalithic site in New England whose origins are somewhat clouded. Megalithic constructions known as dolmens can be found all across New England, the western part of Europe and even into Syria and South Africa. Dolmen comes from the Breton word for stone table as the dolmens in many instances are three, four or five smaller boulders topped by an immense, flat topped boulder than can weigh any where from several tons to 90 tons. Many of these capstones are however roundish, dressed stones, and not flat topped. The dolmen usually was erected to commemorate the death of a chieftain or an historical event of great importance and scriptural incisions usually accompany the dolmen on stone markers. Some experts believe that the dolmen was actually a tomb that was then covered in huge amounts of earth-in effect a tumulous tomb in which the earth has been eroded away. Dolmens are frequently occurring structures in the American north east. There are in fact over examples of dolmens in New England alone and some very impressive examples can be found in our country as faraway as California. Another frequently occurring megalithic structure

familiar to all readers is the stone circle. We know of the great Stonehenge complex in England with its huge stones found there and the many calendrical alignments they delineate. But there are ancient stone circles in New England as well. Two concentric circles of large quarried stones-large slabs laid end to end-are at the centre of the site. Extensive fire burning on some of the slabs is apparent which leads many to believe it was an ancient altar. Nearby there are several large pillar stones and one boulder slab that have been carefully positioned along astronomical site lines. Visiting the Gungywamp site on the afternoon of September 21st, Dave Barron, the head of the Gungywamp Society, saw a sight that he would never forget. This beam of light slowly moved down the east wall and spotlighted into the small beehive crypt near the entrance. The high density of garnet in the stones magnified the intensity of the sunlight entering the chamber. It certainly acts as a predictable calendar. The Gungywamp site has been carbon dated to A. Situated on a mound were weathered megalithic stones. The reality of the scene was astonishing. And the stones, as Whittall predicted, provided astronomical alignments. The monoliths were oriented east to west, and bearings of the sight indicated that it had been used to observe solar events. The first observation was made on September 22nd, the fall equinox, from the highest stone on the western side from the peak of the eastern most stone. The sun set behind stone number four just as Whittall had surmised. This article was originally published in The Barnes Review and is reprinted here in edited form with the kind permission of the author.

Chapter 6 : Mysterious New England (book review) - Hollow Hill

And Mystery Hill is not-by far-the only megalithic site in New England whose origins are somewhat clouded. Megalithic constructions known as dolmens can be found all across New England, the western part of Europe and even into Syria and South Africa.

A new, unread, unused book in perfect condition with no missing or damaged pages. Like New A book that looks new but has been read. Cover has no visible wear, and the dust jacket if applicable is included for hard covers. May have very minimal identifying marks on the inside cover. Very minimal wear and tear. Very Good A book that does not look new and has been read but is in excellent condition. No obvious damage to the cover, with the dust jacket if applicable included for hard covers. Good A book that has been read but is in good condition. Very minimal damage to the cover including scuff marks, but no holes or tears. The dust jacket for hard covers may not be included. Binding has minimal wear. The majority of pages are undamaged with minimal creasing or tearing, minimal pencil underlining of text, no highlighting of text, no writing in margins. Acceptable A book with obvious wear. May have some damage to the cover but integrity still intact. The binding may be slightly damaged but integrity is still intact. Possible writing in margins, possible underlining and highlighting of text, but no missing pages or anything that would compromise the legibility or understanding of the text. Ex-library books are always noted as such regardless of condition. Additional terms used in our descriptions: Boards are the actual hardcover material of the cover, front and back. Bookplate is usually a square illustrated sticker on which an owner writes his or her name, or on which the author has signed his or her name. Bumped refers to the bent or rounded corners of the boards. Browning or tanning refers to brown or tan looking pages or page edges that appear in some older books. Chip is a tiny piece missing from the edge of the dust jacket. Closed tear is a tiny rip in the dust jacket, but no material is missing as in a chip. Cocked means the book is no longer square. If laid down, the book appears to be pushed slanted forward or backward from the spine. Creasing is where the dust jacket or pages have been bent, and then returned to its original state. Dampstain is a tan or gray stain resulting from water or other liquid damage. End papers or pastedowns are the sheets of paper pasted onto the inner covers, joining the book block to the covers. One side of the sheet is pasted to the inside cover, the other is left free see FFEF. FFEF stands for front free-endpaper. This is the first page of any book. Though usually blank, it is a common place for an inscription. Foxing is the term used for the rust colored spots which occur on paper. This is the result of oxidation of both organic and iron impurities left behind during the paper making process. Front, top or bottom edge: These are the outside page edges. Loose is what happens to a book which has been read several times. The cover easily flaps open and the pages do not return to a tight condition. Head or tail is the bottom of the spine. Head is the top of the spine. Mass-Market paperback is the most common paperback book, about four inches wide and seven inches high. Mylar cover is the clear film that most fine bookshops use to cover and protect the dust jackets. Spine separation occurs at the head top of the spine where the fingers grab and pull the book from the shelf. After repeated pulling, the glue holding the outer spine board to the inner binding separates. Stiff wraps are the outer covers of a softcover paperback book or pamphlet. Sunned is the fading of paper or binding as a result of sun exposure. Trade paperback is a softcover book, which is generally large in size and made of better quality materials than a Mass-Market paperback. Wraps are the outer covers of a softcover paperback book or pamphlet. See my other listings for more great items!

Chapter 7 : The Mysterious Megaliths of New England

Books shelved as new-england-mystery: Bookplate Special by Lorna Barrett, Killer Keepsakes by Jane K. Cleland, Death Takes Priority by Jean Flowers, Cand.

Some are big, some are small, most have crumbled, many have not. But what are they? Who built them, when, and for what purpose? An active community of believers assigns the stone chambers a mystical origin: YouTube is as good a place as any to learn what amateur alternative historians have to say on the stone chambers. The most recent residents of these areas accept them as always having been there, and credit ancestors, indigenous peoples, early explorers, ancient cultures, or even glaciers as the creators. They are silent, ancient tracings of times long past, a testimony of a fragment of our history not yet recorded or acknowledged. Past years ago, we have whole chapters that have not been written yet, and all we have are these clues, these remains from ancient cultures [that] were here. People from all over Europe and the Mideast, the Phoenicians I believe, other people, set foot in the United States and they wanted to keep it a secret. Nearly universally, these claimants discuss what they believe are astronomical or astrological alignments and positioning of the chambers, noting that they often have their doors pointing east. Nearby the stone circle there is a tall rock called the True North Stone, which was determined in to have lined up with the pole star Thuban around BCE, and is on the main central axis from which other alignments can be calculated. Several of the low stonewalls also indicate true north-south and east-west alignments. This type of claim is one of the first red flags we encounter. When you look at pictures of these structures, with their naturally contoured stones very roughly stacked with not a straight line in sight, discussion of precise astronomical positioning often to the tenth of a degree begins to sound a little silly. The mystery of the stone chambers not the chambers themselves, but rather the mystery surrounding them has a dubious origin. They were unremarkable until the year , when all of this New Age attention was being showered upon the chambers. They drew the attention of Professor Barry Fell, a marine zoologist who used his tenure at Harvard to pursue his hobby of alternative history. Fell has become infamous among North American archaeologists for his views that Celts, Basques, Phoenicians, and Egyptians all regularly visited North America centuries before Columbus, and in a series of mass market books, he identified all sorts of things as evidence of his belief. He was best known for misidentifying natural cracks and scratches as ancient runic writings. In his book *America B. Ancient Settlers in the New World*, he claimed to have translated some of these cracks and scratches and learned the following: It became clear that ancient Celts had built the New England megalithic chambers and that Phoenician mariners were welcome visitors, permitted to worship at the Celtic sanctuaries and allowed to make dedications in their own language. How well received was this by actual archaeologists? Well, a survey of archaeologists published in *American Antiquity* found that A Harvard professor, yes; but in marine zoology, not in archaeology, history, or epigraphy. He also translated a set of petroglyphs in West Virginia which he identified as having been written in the old Irish script Ogam, and from them he confirmed the old legend that St. Brendan the Navigator came there from Ireland in the 6th century. Archaeologists have interpreted these petroglyphs simply as tool sharpening markings left by native Americans. But what do the archaeologists themselves say? Turns out there is an accepted explanation for the stone chambers, and always has been, since long before Barry Fell found Phoenician inscriptions in the scratches on the rocks. The stone chambers were built not by the Celts, but by the colonial Americans beginning in the s, and they continued to be built into the 20th century until refrigeration became available. For the stone chambers, according to conventional history and all existing evidence, are nothing more or less than root cellars. Root cellars were used by farmers to store various crops including turnips, carrots, parsnips, cabbage, and potatoes through the winter. These included food for the colonists themselves, but more importantly for their livestock. The earliest root cellars were built of dry stacked stone, and these are the "mysterious stone chambers" we know today. Later root cellars were laid with mortar. Cement floors were introduced. Later cellars were made of brick or even reinforced concrete. Many were overlaid with soil for maximum insulation against the cold. As colonial root cellars made of stone are an established historical fact, the possibility of similar structures

being of Celtic or pre-Columbian indigenous origin would require us to have both side-by-side. Think of the UFOlogist who reports a mysterious light in the sky in the same direction as Venus. If a UFO was there, his report would have to say that two lights were seen, because we know Venus is there too. If a set of chambers exists that is distinct from those built by the colonial farmers, then it has not made itself known. In , the state of Vermont took the lead in fighting back against the pseudohistory. The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation launched a survey and study of the existing structures that were within Vermont. An Inquiry into Their Past. However, as experienced Skeptoid listeners know all too well, there is always a segment of the alternative history enthusiast society who never let facts get in the way of a good story. The root cellar explanation has been dismissed by them, or at least for those made of dry stacked stone and that have an especially ancient look to them. For years, the pages of the Proceedings of the Vermont Historical Society concussed with rebuttals to the archaeological findings. Amateur chamber enthusiasts reacted passionately, repeating their claims about astronomical alignments, and pointing out anomalies wherever they could be found, including a focus on some ancient charcoal that they say has been carbon dated to prove the chambers were being used by people thousands of years ago. The academic literature actually includes only a single reference to any charcoal being found and radiocarbon dated. From the context of its position within the fill of the structure, the most reasonable conclusion was that the charcoal was preexisting when the structure was covered with soil during its construction. In all probability, the researchers concluded, it was from an old forest fire, and could not reasonably be offered up as proof that humans were building fires inside the structures so long ago. A simpler way of dating the stone structures is simply to date the trees growing within them. If these structures were indeed thousands of years old, then at least a few would have trees thousands of years old growing through them. However the study found no tree older than years, as determined by coring them and counting the rings. This tells us that of the surviving stone structures “ at least those within Vermont included in this survey “ none had been abandoned by their users any earlier than In other words, all existing dating evidence is perfectly consistent with their use by colonial settlers, and no evidence has yet surfaced supporting any earlier date. Regarding the supposed astronomical alignment, it is true that many of the stone chambers have their doors facing east. No evidence suggests any deeper purpose. However this is very poor evidence. It can also be argued that ancient stone chambers found on the farms would be more remarkable to the colonists, and more likely to be written about. Archaeologists make no claim that they know everything there is to know about the stone chambers. But the range of uncertainty is small, and it does not extend to the possibility that all known history of the Americas is wrong. When you hear any alternative history supported only by a small fringe of non-experts, you should always be skeptical.

Chapter 8 : Unravelling the Mystery of New England's Day of Darkness | Ancient Origins

Cape Cod Island Mysteries by Kate Grilley (Christiansted, Virgin Islands) A cozy or traditional mystery is defined as having an amateur sleuth working in a confined setting among characters who know one another.

An Interview with A. Rollins Murder, She Wrote: The British Connection by Philip L. Scowcroft Just the Facts: Rudolph Cape Cod Island Mysteries by Kate Grilley Christiansted, Virgin Islands A cozy or traditional mystery is defined as having an amateur sleuth working in a confined setting among characters who know one another. What could be cozier than an island setting? Craig, Sally Gunning and Francine Mathews are three authors who have chosen Cape Cod islands as the primary setting for their mystery series. Freedom from the nine-to-five gives J. Neither wife nor toddlers keep J. Like his protagonist, Colorado native and recently retired Boston literature professor Philip R. Jackson, Peter Bartholomew makes his living doing odd jobs as the head of his company aptly named Factotum. Titles in this ten-book series Pocket paperback originals include: Police detective Meredith Merry Folger is the only professional in this triumvirate of island sleuths. Her father, John Folger, is the chief of police. What do these three series by Philip R. Craig, Sally Gunning, and Francine Mathews have in common? All are set on Cape Cod area islands, and all have a strong, richly detailed sense of place. You can smell the briny breeze and taste the salt on your lips as you read. The sleuths are at one with their settings. No fish out of water in these books. There is also the appeal of a British cozy type of village life populated with characters who interact throughout each series. There are coincidental storylines. After all, how many places are there to hide a body on an island? It is to the credit of the respective authors that each book is a unique reading experience. Vermont In Depth by Archer Mayor Newfane, Vermont Writing is how I express myself, how I put the vagaries of my mind into some kind of order, and how I prefer to entertain and inform other people. I write to put the language to the best use I can, to satiate my curiosity and abate my ignorance, and to tell a good story. Language for me is not just a communicative tool, but a musical one. Handled well, it has balance, cadence, and tone, and when read with appreciation be it memo, letter, poem, or book it can be as satisfying as listening to a good orchestra with the additional kick that it often carries some useful information. As I write them, mysteries are less puzzle than process, and more about people than any sensationalist plot. Aside from being fond of language, I am fascinated by what stimulates people to do what they do, legally and otherwise. Their struggles, passions, and occupations surround us all, often unnoticed, and I take joy, book by book, in choosing a select few, wrapping them up in a compelling tale, and exposing them to both my readers and myself. Vermont in particular offers me in my social anthropologist mode an almost perfect laboratory. It is small, sparsely populated, incredibly picturesque, and offers everything from rolling, cow-filled fields and craggy, worn mountains, to an urban area like Burlington, complete with crime, drugs, violence, and close proximity to the foreign and truly huge city of Montreal. Where states like New Jersey or California provide more in all senses, they also clutter the access I need to the bureaucratic nooks and crannies I pursue to add credibility to my stories. In Vermont, I can pick up the phone and immediately chat with the Commissioner of Public Safety or the chief medical examiner no muss, no fuss. Try that in New York. My readers have come to expect that I will tell them how police departments work, how the forensic lab functions, how the courts get their job done, and most importantly how they all interact. And all without killing the story. The sheer size of these entities in more populated states makes such a prospect daunting. But in Vermont, the reverse is true. Ours is a heavily interdependent state, with a citizen legislature, a governor who lives at home, and a capitol building police force consisting of a single officer. I can figure out how things work up here by talking to the few individuals in charge. It is fascinating to me to discover the nuts and bolts of a process. But for me personally, in the end, that is not enough. I want to know about the people doing these jobs, and about the people those jobs affect. For in the long run, my job is essentially self-serving, as many worthwhile projects often are. I enrich myself by researching and writing each story, and I try to pass along some of that wealth to anyone who might be interested. I am both proud and happy to be a writer. I am hopeful that by working in and writing about Vermont, I can combine everything that I do into something beneficial to all, enriching my soul, stimulating

my intellect, entertaining my readers, andâ€”I hopeâ€”telling good stories about almost real people. I have lived in Massachusetts all my life. As a kid I went lobstering with my Uncle Wooper. I am, for better or worse, a New England Yankee. What else could I write about? What do I know? I know New England. I know the smell of low tide and lobster bait and cow manure. I know the sound of a bell buoy in the fog, of birdsong at sunrise on a New Hampshire mountaintop, of clanking silverware and piped in Italian opera in a North End restaurant. I know how Mainers talk different from Vermonters, and how none of them talk like a Catholic girl from Southie or a homeboy from Roxbury. Here I have everything: Cities, suburbs, farms, and wilderness; a great human stew of language, religion, and culture; trailer parks, homeless shelters, high-rise condos and seaside mansions; banking, publishing, fishing, apple growing, and tech high and low; heat and cold, sleet and snow, hurricane and drought; lakes, rivers, mountains, oceans, and forests. I have Kennedys and witches, rock stars and athletes, hookers and debutantes, drug addicts and sex addicts. I have the ghosts and whispers of four-hundred years of politics and crime, religion and poetry. Things happen here in New England. Anything can happen here. Good settings make things happen. They work as characters. Maybe my stories could have been set elsewhere. Maybe I could have written about L. New England gives me four distinct seasons. Well, six, actually, because here we have mud season it comes between winter and spring and Indian Summer after summer but before autumn. August smells different from July, and March is the cruelest month.

Chapter 9 : Revisiting the Mystery of the Great New England Sea Serpent of | Mental Floss

We now know the identity of the mystery wide receiver wearing No. 17 at New England Patriots practice Friday. The Patriots signed wide receiver Damoun Patterson to their practice squad Friday.