

Concerning the House of the Governor at Uxmal, Yucatan, Gregory Mason says:

This building is 320 feet in length, and is said to contain two hundred thousand cubic feet of masonry not counting the massive substructure. Wonderfully designed and constructed, its façade is covered with most ornate sculpture. . . .

In the application of beautiful sculpture to the façades of buildings, the Mayas have never been equalled.¹²

S. G. Morley says, "Façades were treated with a sculptural decoration which for intricacy and elaboration has rarely been equaled by any people at any time."¹³

In 1940 a group of eight of us visited the ball court and Temple of the Bearded White God at Chichen Itza, Yucatan. Our guide divided the party one half at one end of the structure and the other half at the other end. We whispered back and forth, a distance of well over three hundred feet. In the *St. Louis Globe Democrat* for December 12, 1948, there is an article describing the remarkable acoustics of this ancient building. A Mayan quartet accompanied by violin and guitar softly played and sang, and though they were 493 feet away every note of the music and blending of the native voices floated perfectly through the tropical air.

The Yale expedition to Machu Picchu in 1912 uncovered stone buildings of master artists in masonry. The precision, symmetry of construction, and gradual graduation of the tiers combine to produce an effect which is a joy to behold.¹⁴

Archaeologists marvel at the way huge stones weighing many tons are fitted together with such accuracy that not even a knife blade can be inserted between them. With some of the finest work at Ollantaytambo, Peru, the joints are too fine to be seen with the naked eye. It is necessary to use a lens to be sure there is really a seam and not a false joint.¹⁵

METALLURGY

Some learned men of the nineteenth century thought the pre-historic Americans were a stone-age people. The Book of

Mormon, however, told the world a different story when it was published in 1830. Here is a sample of numerous statements found in the book:

And we multiplied exceedingly, and spread upon the face of the land, and became exceeding rich in gold, and in silver, and in precious things, and in fine workmanship of wood, in buildings, and in machinery, and also in iron, and copper, and brass, and steel, making all manner of tools of every kind to till the ground, and weapons of war.—Jarom 1: 19.

J. B. Baldwin says of ancient American metallurgists:

They had great skill in the art of working metals, especially gold and silver. Besides these precious metals, they had copper, tin, lead, and quicksilver. . . . Their goldsmiths and silversmiths had attained very great proficiency.¹⁶

Specimens of metallic plating have been found. The only way we could duplicate this work is by electroplating. How the ancient Americans accomplished it is unknown.

Clark Wissler says:

Metal work was praiseworthy, especially at Cartago (Colombia). Skillful casting . . . has been noted, and good examples of soldering, plating, and even gilding have been collected. Different colored alloys were produced of gold, silver, and copper.¹⁷

In the "treasure room" of the Mexican National Museum in Mexico City and in the state museum at Oaxaca, there are dazzling displays of jewelry and necklaces of gold, silver, and precious stones found at Monte Alban.

The Book of Mormon says the ancient people wore all manner of gold and silver jewelry and even pearls (III Nephi 1: 27).

Dr. Alfonso Caso found more than five hundred articles from tomb seven (Monte Alban), including necklaces of gold, pearl, and turquoise composed of hundreds of beads each.¹⁸

prophets were here in America and led at least two great civilizations to high levels of accomplishment.

1. Robert E. Speer, *The Man Christ Jesus*, page 245.
2. Kenneth Scott Latourette, *Advance Through Storm*, pages 440, 441.
3. Lewis Spence, *Myths of Mexico and Peru*, pages 6, 7.
4. Hezekiah Butterfield, *South America and Panama*, pages 3, 4.
5. Leslie Mitchell, *The Conquest of the Maya*, page 197.
6. H. H. Bancroft, *Native Races*, Volume 3, pages 241, 251, 259, 260.
7. S. G. Morley, *National Geographic*, July, 1931.
8. Gregory Mason, *Columbus Came Late*, page 76.
9. J. Leslie Mitchell, *Conquest of the Maya*, page 117.
10. Thomas Gann, *Ancient Cities and Modern Tribes*, pages 196, 197.
11. Thomas Gann, *Ancient Cities and Modern Tribes*, page 199.
12. Gregory Mason, "The Great American Mystery," *McCall's Magazine*, April, 1930.
13. S. G. Morley, *Introduction to Study of Maya Hieroglyphics*, page 5.
14. See *National Geographic*, April, 1913.
15. O. F. Cock, *National Geographic*, May, 1916.
16. J. D. Baldwin, *Ancient America*, pages 248, 249.
17. Clark Wissler, *The American Indian*, page 291.
18. Doctor Alfonso Caso, "Monte Alban," *National Geographic*, October, 1932.
19. Herbert Spinden, *Scientific American*, January 20, 1928.
20. S. G. Morley, "Yucatan, Home of the Gifted Maya," *National Geographic*, November, 1928.
21. Showalter, *National Geographic*, June, 1930.
22. Herbert J. Spinden, "Thank the American Indian," *Scientific American*, April, 1928.
23. Nadaillac, *Prehistoric America*, page 276.
24. Donald Cadzow, "The Vanishing Indian Medicine Man," *Scientific American*, May, 1927.
25. Herbert Spinden, "Thank the American Indians," *Scientific American*, April, 1928.
26. Hiram Bingham, *National Geographic*, May, 1916.
27. Donald Cadzow, *Scientific American*, May, 1929.
28. A. Hyatt Verrill, *Old Civilizations of the New World*, page 322.
29. Walter L. Beasley, *The South American*, page 30, April, 1917.
30. S. G. Morley, "Unearthing America's Ancient History," *National Geographic*, July, 1931.
31. Edward Herbert Thompson, *People of the Serpent*, page 16 (published 1932).