

Why the Paharohs built the Pyramids with Fake Stones

The only limit to the number of theories for the lifting and transport of these stone blocks appears to be that of the ingenuity of human imagination. In general, they all come from retired public works engineers or architects, who are, after all, serious people with a considerable intellectual background. But the profusion of their systems hides a fundamental error in their approach to the problem: they are concerned only with how the stones were moved, never with how they were shaped using stone or soft copper tools; neither are they concerned by the dimensions of the blocks, let alone their perfect fit. Thus, they are only interested in the pyramid of Cheops —certainly the most remarkable —and ignore the eight earlier and some 40 later pyramids, each one different. They are interested only in one very precise technical problem, and take no account of the environment and knowledge of Egyptology. **It** is moreover very easy to show that their ideas do not stand up to archaeological proofs.

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3.4 The mini pyramid of NOVA

In October 1991, in the USA, I took part in the making of a television documentary on the various experts' theories currently in circulation. The main aim was to actually build a mini-pyramid. Although the experiment was carried out from start to finish with modern tools —a forklift truck, lorries to transport the stones —the programme makers claimed that they wanted to field test certain methods of carving quarrying and transporting. The accent was on building a ramp, a sledge and rollers and on handling with levers. My contribution remained theoretical, since I did not have access to the various sites for raw materials.

The documentary was broadcast in 1992 by the American public channel PBS and entitled "This old pyramid"; it was produced by IOVA (WGBH, Boston), with the American Egyptologist, Dr Mark Lehner as the anchorman. However, the producer deliberately avoided showing the modern lifting machinery or the steel tools being used, leaving the viewer with the impression of having seen a mini pyramid being built by the methods really used by the ancient Egyptians. But during the building of this mini pyramid, which took

three weeks, I was able to witness the flagrant weaknesses of the traditional theories. Figures 3.14, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17 shares some of my photos; they illustrate the main problems that the builders had to cope with.

The Egyptian workers employed to build this mini pyramid for OVA, used modern steel tools that were in no way imitations of the stone tools of the Old Kingdom. But even with these powerful steel carving tools, they were incapable of imitating the perfect jointing obtained by their ancestors. Their casing blocks did not join properly and had gaps 0.5 to 1 cm wide, plus broken corners. By comparison, you cannot insert a razor blade between the stones of the Great Pyramid.

Building this mini pyramid provided no satisfactory answers to the following questions: How, using stone and copper tools, could absolutely fiat surfaces on the pyramids have been made? How did the Egyptians ensure that the four surfaces joined perfectly in a single point at the summit? How did they get the tiers to be perfectly horizontal? How could they have quarried stones with uniform and repetitive dimensions? How could they have placed the heaviest blocks in the pyramid at a great height? How could they have made the casing blocks fit so perfectly that a hair cannot be inserted between the joints? And finally, how could they have built this monument in 20 years?



Figure 3.14: The NOVA mini pyramid, 1991.



Figure 3.15: Steel tools and a stone tool.



Figure 3.16: The gaps in the NOVA casing.

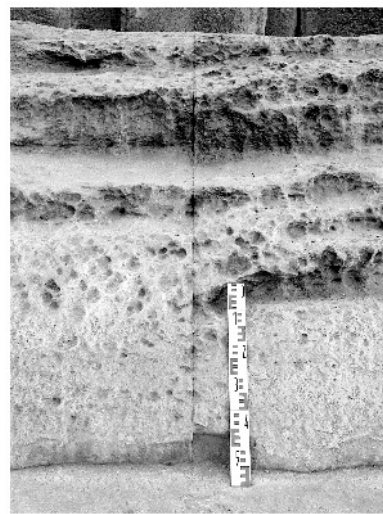


Figure 3.17: The joints in Cheops (1991).



Figure A.2: J. Davidovits and M. Lehner in the TV film "This Old Pyramid", WGBH, Boston, 1992.



Figure A.3: After 24 hour soaking in a plastic bag with water, the limestone chunk separated into clay and nummulites. In the presence of an excess of water, the heavier clay settles, leaving the nummulites separated from each other. "This Old Pyramid" WGBH, Boston, 1992.