

THE MAIN PYRAMID

Located within the Cydonia Complex is a structure that has become known as the “City Center Pyramid” or the “Main Pyramid” (Figure 1). Although the entire structure was not captured by the 1998 MGS camera, we approximate its length and width to be about 3 kilometers (2 miles).

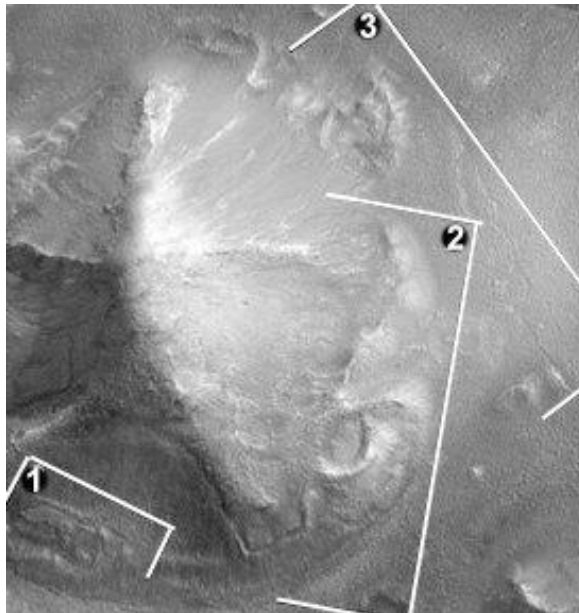


Figure 1

Context image: Main Pyramid of the Cydonia Complex (1998)

Inverted and contrast adjusted with notations (SP1-25803).

Note pictograph marked number 1.

As a result of the many early interpretations of Viking data, the “Main Pyramid” was once thought to be an enormous four-sided pyramid based on an Egyptian model. However, the 1998 MOC image (SP1-25803) shows that this is not the case. It now appears to be five-sided, segmented by five major “spines” radiating from the top to an almost circular base. The most prominent anomalies on this structure are an almond-shaped “crater” accompanied by two adjoining rectangular impressions on the northern end of the “pyramid.”¹

The new image reveals that “Main Pyramid” has a complex series of radiating “spines” and a set of geometrically shaped features within its surrounding apron. After a considerable amount of time was invested in evaluating these formations, we noted that they were parts of a complex set of half-images along the segmented base line (Figure 1). Although we uncovered three pictographic portraits that appear as either the right or left side of a whole image we will only focus on the pictograph marked number 1 in this study.²

The pictograph from the “Main Pyramid” marked number 1 in figure 1 consists of a half faced portrait (Figure 2). When the pictograph is cropped and rotated to a vertical presentation, the heads demarcation line can be detected running along the adjoining terrain. When duplicated the head appears to be composed of a full-bearded face with twisting braids, deep set eyes, a nose, and mouth. The head is completed with a Viking-like helmet. The “Viking” head is roughly 700–800 meters (half a mile) in length from the top of the helmet to the neck.

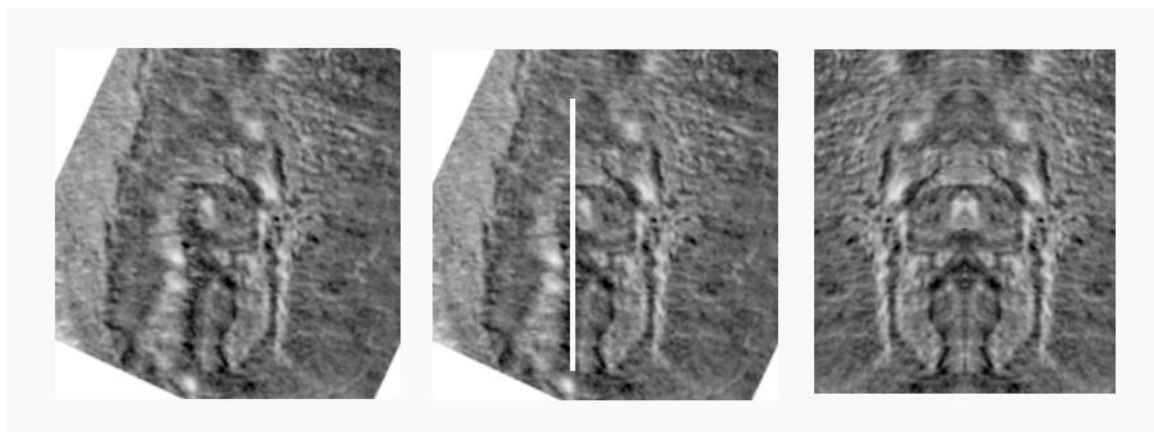


Figure 2
The Cydonia Viking
Detail: Main Pyramid (marked number1 in figure 1)
Left: Half Faced Portrait
Center: Demarcation Line
Right: Duplicated

When the Cydonia Viking head is compared to a typical Viking age helmet the common features become quite apparent (Figure 3). Notice the central helmet crest, the brow and nose guard, the false mustache and lower-helmet extensions.

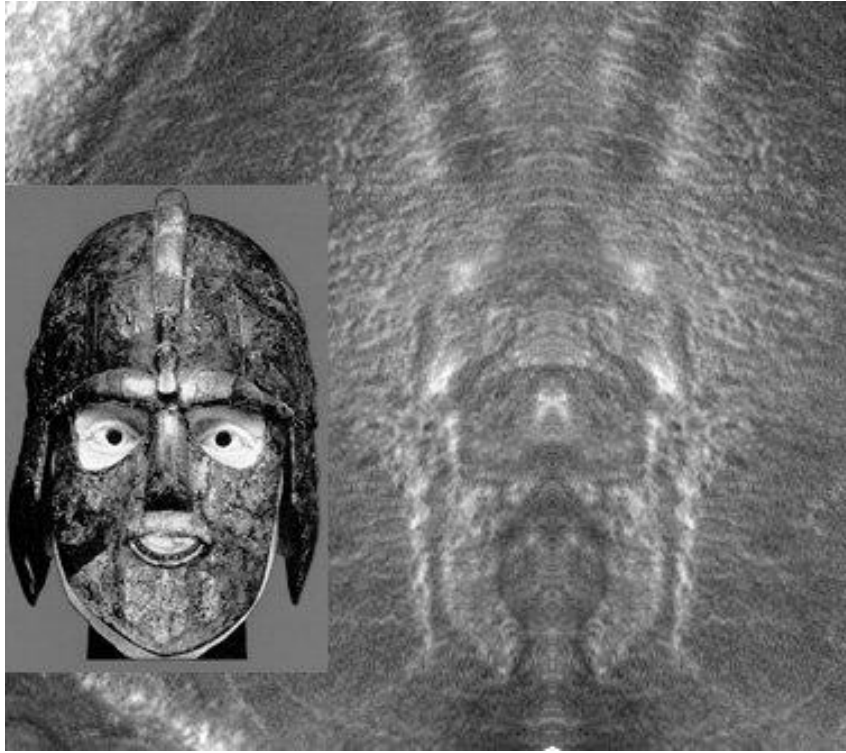


Figure 3

Helmet Comparison

Detail of MOC SP1-25803

Marked number 1 in Main Pyramid, figure 1

Inset photograph is of a Saxon Helmet.

(Image source, History Unearthed, Leonard Woolley,
(Ernest Benn Limited: London), 1963, fig. 173, p.167.)

QUETZALCOATL

Although our initial judgment of this geoglyphic structure led us to believe that it represented a classic betrayal of a Viking lord, we acknowledge that this image also bears many similar features to the Aztec depiction of the god Quetzalcoatl, also known as the “Feathered Serpent.” One in particular that is found in the Codex Telleriano³ (Figure 4).



Figure 4

Quetzalcoatl
(Aztec Codex)

Notice the beard, feathered plumes and serpent ear braid.

Drawing by George J. Haas

(Image source: Codex Telleriano, page 22)

This image of Quetzalcoatl shows him to have a beard and wearing a helmet that has a striking similarity to the Martian visage found at Cydonia. The Aztec portrait includes a lower-helmet extension and long braids made of serpents. If one looks closely at the braids of the Martian image in Figure 5 it also appears as though they are formed by serpents.

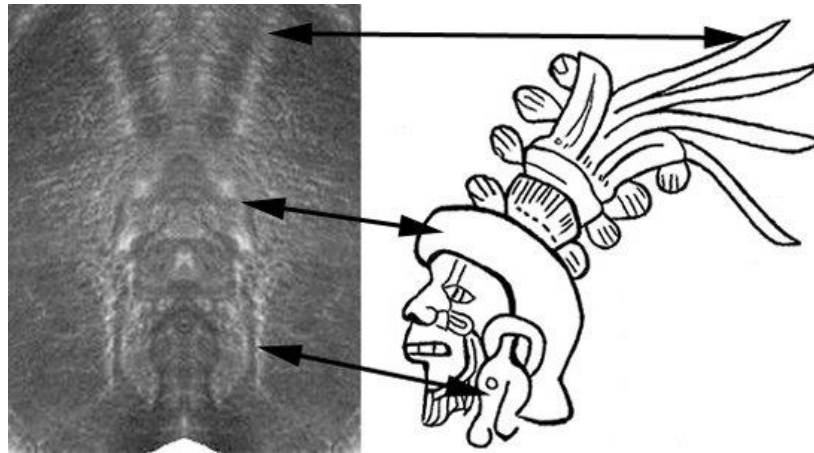


Figure 5
 Comparison of the Viking and Quetzalcoatl
 Right: Detail of Cydonia Viking
 Left: Detail of Aztec Quetzalcoatl
 Note the beard and lower extension of Quetzalcoatl's helmet
 and serpent braids match the Mars image.

Because the Cydonia Viking image shares such strong iconographic similarities with Mesoamerican motifs, we assert that the pictograph identified as number 1 in Figure 1 is a Martian representation of the Maya god Quetzalcoatl in his personification of the morning star, Venus.

HALF FACE (Cut in Half)

Because the portrait of the Cydonia Viking shares such strong iconographic similarities with Mesoamerican motifs, we assert that the pictograph identified as number 1 in Figure 1 is a Martian representation of the Maya god Quetzalcoatl in his personification of the morning star, Venus.

Similar half-faced geoglyphs have been recorded in Peru. Far to the north, beyond the city of Lima, are the ruins of Caral, located in the Supe Valley. From recent excavations of this site, some archaeologists are hailing this almost forgotten complex as the home of the earliest known settlement in the New World; they date it to well before 2600 B.C.⁴ Just beyond this ancient complex of mounds and half-buried pyramids is an immense half-faced stone geoglyph set into the surface of this once sacred ground (Figure 6).

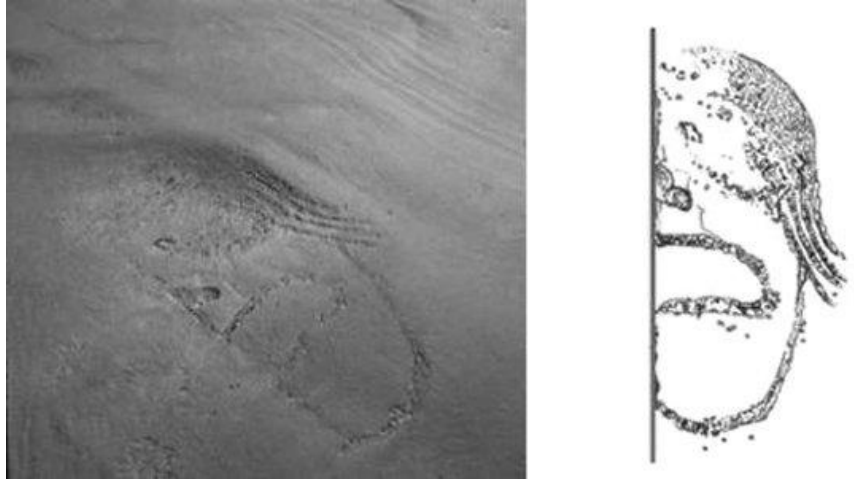


Figure 6
Caral Half Faced Geoglyph (Caral, Peru, 2500 B.C.)
Drawing by George J. Haas
(Image source: Smithsonian Magazine August 2002)

Notice the D-shaped head with its large gaping mouth and raked hair. It should be noted that this partial face is not carved in profile - it is designed in a “cut in half” manner.⁵ In the illustration on the right side of Figure 6, notice the demarcation line runs right down through the forehead - cutting the nose and chin in half.

Like the half-faced Cydonia Viking portrait on Mars, the Caral face was also constructed as a half-face to be seen from high above the ground.

THE FEATHERED SERPENT

When the area seen directly above the Martian Viking portrait (Figure 1) is included in the mirrored image - a pair of feathered plumes appear to extend from the Viking's helmet forming two serpents (Figure 7). Notice the serpents "feathered" eye and the open mouth - spewing fire and smoke.⁶ There is also an opened winged bird formation at the top of the image, diving between the two serpent heads.

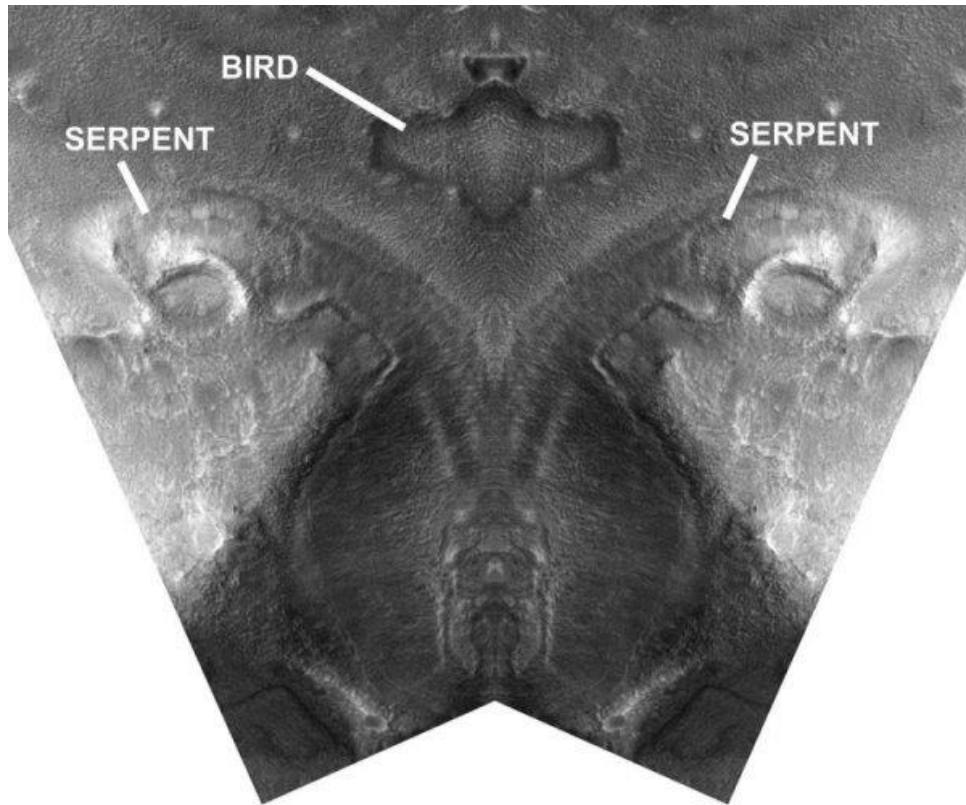


Figure 7
The Cydonia Viking/Quetzalcoatl with bird and feathered serpent
Detail of MOC SP1-25803 Duplicated
Notated by William Saunders

Here is the same image colorized (Figure 8). Notice the serpent's "feathered" eye and the open mouth spewing fire and smoke. Between the two serpent heads is a diving bird formation that appears at the top of the image.



Figure 8
The Cydonia Viking/Quetzalcoatl with bird and feathered serpent
Detail of MOC SP1-25803 Duplicated
Colorized by William Saunders

THE INUIT/NORSE CONNECTION

In 2012 an Inuit artist by the name of Abraham Ruben had an exhibit of his sculptures at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington D.C. Living in the Southern Gulf Islands of British Columbia Ruben draws his inspiration from circumpolar people and their movements which, include his Inuit ancestors and Norse myths and legends that speak of historical contact.⁷

One of the sculptures included in the exhibition featured a portrait of the Viking god Oden with a pair of twin serpents' springing from his helmet (Figure 9) - much like the Viking portrait seen on Mars.



Figure 9
Odin
Brazilian soapstone
By Abraham Ruben

Footnotes

1. These anomalous features were not only noticed by us and many other researchers, but became the main focus of an investigation set forth by Stanley V. McDaniel of the Society for Planetary SETI Research (SPSR). See Stanley V. McDaniel, *Peculiarities At Main Pyramid*, The McDaniel Report Newsletter, May, 7, 1998.
<http://www.mcdanielreport.com>.
2. The full analysis of the Main Pyramid, including pictographs number 2 and 3, is available in the book by George J. Haas and William R. Saunders *The Cydonia Codex Reflections from Mars*, (North Atlantic Books, Frog, Ltd.,2005), pp.121-139.
3. The Codex Telleriano-Remensis was produced in sixteenth century Mexico and printed on European paper. It is one of the finest surviving examples of Aztec manuscript painting. The Codex is currently held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris.
4. Ruth Shady Solis, Jonathan Haas, and Winifred Creamer, "Dating Caral, a Pre-ceramic Site in the Supe Valley on the Central Coast of Peru," *Science* 292, no. 5517 (April 27, 2001), pp. 723–726.
5. To view additional examples of half faced artworks see George J. Haas, Half Faced (Cut in Half), *The Cydonia Institute: Field Chronicle*, Vol. 2 No. 2 , December 1999 (Revised February 2020).
6. The area seen within the Main Pyramid that creates the serpent's head is part of the same area that forms the chest plate of "The Admiral" geoglyph in section 2 of figure 1.
7. Kevin Gover, *Arctic Journeys Ancient Memories, Sculptures by Abraham Angik Ruben*, Perpetua Press, Santa Barbara, 2012.