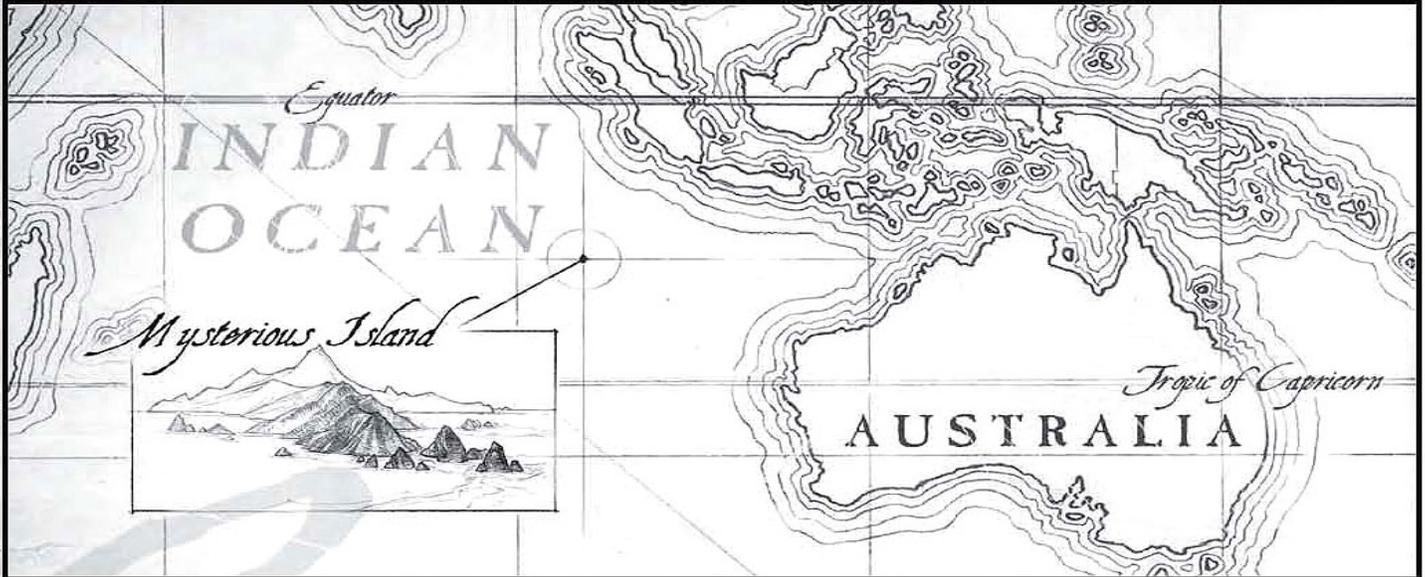


HOLLOW EARTH EXPEDITIONS THE SUNKEN STATUE

FIELD NOTES:
BY DR. C. ARTHUR TURNER



This is an Unofficial supplement to the world of *Hollow Earth Expeditions* and the Ubiquity system.

Field Notes are short, one shot encounters or introductions to creatures, places and things found throughout the world (both out and within). They are small and lack "area" details so that they may be dropped into an existing campaign without great effort. Enjoy.

Day 83

The storm of the last few days has been like nothing I've ever seen in my life. I was fortunate enough to have been in, and survived, the great hurricane of Galveston back in 1900. A sad time, a terrible storm. Thousands died in that dreadful wash. Heartbreaking it was. And yet, even that horrible force of nature was nothing compared to this storm that we have endured these last three days.

The uncanny luck we seem to have

acquired here showed itself again as we made friends with the Waywin tribe, who were hiding in caves in the mountains many hours walk above the valley they call home.

A great number of hospitable people within this Hollow Earth. People who take hard work and a man's word as great value over trinkets and gold, and the Waywin are no exception. They warned us to wait with them until the storms passed before venturing down, which we did.

When they said it was safe to continue, the storms had passed and the sun was out, but from the mountain, the destruction was evident. The valley looked as though a giant has walked through it, dragging some great club as it went. Fields were washed away by the rivers of water, dead dinosaurs lay everywhere and ancient trees were smashed to kindling.

Still, all this was nothing new to the waywin. This is, until they saw their village. Prepared for its' destruction they were, but not for the loss of their lake. You see, a great dam had been built



here, perhaps by the ancients whose ruins dot the landscape. This dam, and the reservoir created by it, had been home for them for generations. Now, it was plain to see, the Dam was smashed, and the lake drained to nothing but a river!

Still more amazing was the remnants of an ancient city that must have once occupied this valley, hidden by the lakes mud for thousands of years, it's marble walls and arches now washed clean by the storms furry. Most of the buildings all but destroyed, a single feature still leaped to our attention. A great statue. A man. Perhaps 30-feet tall, with a shield on his right arm, and his left outstretched and holding a crystal sphere the size of an American basketball within his hand. He looked

"upriver," away from the dam and toward the ruined village. His face seemed to be one of strength and courage. It was truly inspiring to see.

The most amazing thing was the sunlight shining through the sphere. It seemed to shine down upon all of us evenly, bringing a sense of hope and

renewing the strength in our weary bones.

Our party has taken this "sudden" appearance as something of a shock, but to the waywin, this is a sign from their ancestors.

A sign to rebuild anew within the rich valley that was once a lake bed. For our part, we shall stay here a few days and help them rebuild. Perhaps, with the blessings of the tribal chief, I may be able to explore the ruins. Who knows, I might be able to find another pedestal on which to watch the Glass Woman once more.

The Guardian Statue

The ancient crystal of the statue holds great power, seeming to foster a sense of "good-will" among all those within the ruined city. It also seems to increase the healing ability of those under it's light (healing four non-lethal wounds every day and one lethal wound every three days). The sphere shines continuously, even when thunderstorms block out the sun, giving a "guiding light" to those nearby, much like a modern Lighthouse.

Galveston Hurricane of 1900

On September 8, 1900, a Category 4 Hurricane, with winds estimated at 135 miles per hour, landed on Galveston, Texas. Storm predictions indicated it was going to be mild, but as it passed into the gulf it picked up strength and landed on the Texas coast with a force unseen since 1780, and not seen again until Hurricane Mitch in 1998. It is estimated between 6,000 and 12,000 people were lost. Many of those missing and presumed dead.

The "Dam" was actually a toppled ancient tower, who's mass had created a perfect seal across the valley's river area.

What was the purpose of the lost city? Was the statue to help foster good will during negotiations among nations or was it a center for health and healing? And what artifacts still remain hidden amongst the mud and dirt of the former lake bed?