

The case for the Celtic Plain as the location of Atlantis

By Philip Runggaldier

The Celtic Plain is the area lying between southeast Ireland and southwest Britain. It is now covered by the Atlantic Ocean, but would have been dry land during the latter half of the last Ice Age (approximately 26,000 and 10,000 years ago) when sea levels dropped to around 120m below current levels. 15,000 years ago it was home to mammoth, bison, giant deer, reindeer and horse and an expanding population of sophisticated Stone Age hunter-gatherers. The area has been studied in the past by Russian scientist, Viatcheslav Koudriavtsev who, in 1995, first proposed that it could be the location of Atlantis¹ and expanded upon his idea in 1996.²

Now new evidence suggests that Viatcheslav's hunch might be right. That evidence³ shows that this area was struck by a series of megafloods. Four are recorded in the soil profiling spanning the period up to 620,000 years ago and an earlier fifth one is suspected. The most recent deluge occurred around 14,700 years ago. It was one of the largest megafloods known and the only one to have directly and catastrophically impacted a human population. This not only suggests an event which could have destroyed the area in a day and a half (as Plato tells us), but the earlier deluges can be shown to have created a unique landscape all of which appears to fit the physical description of Atlantis.

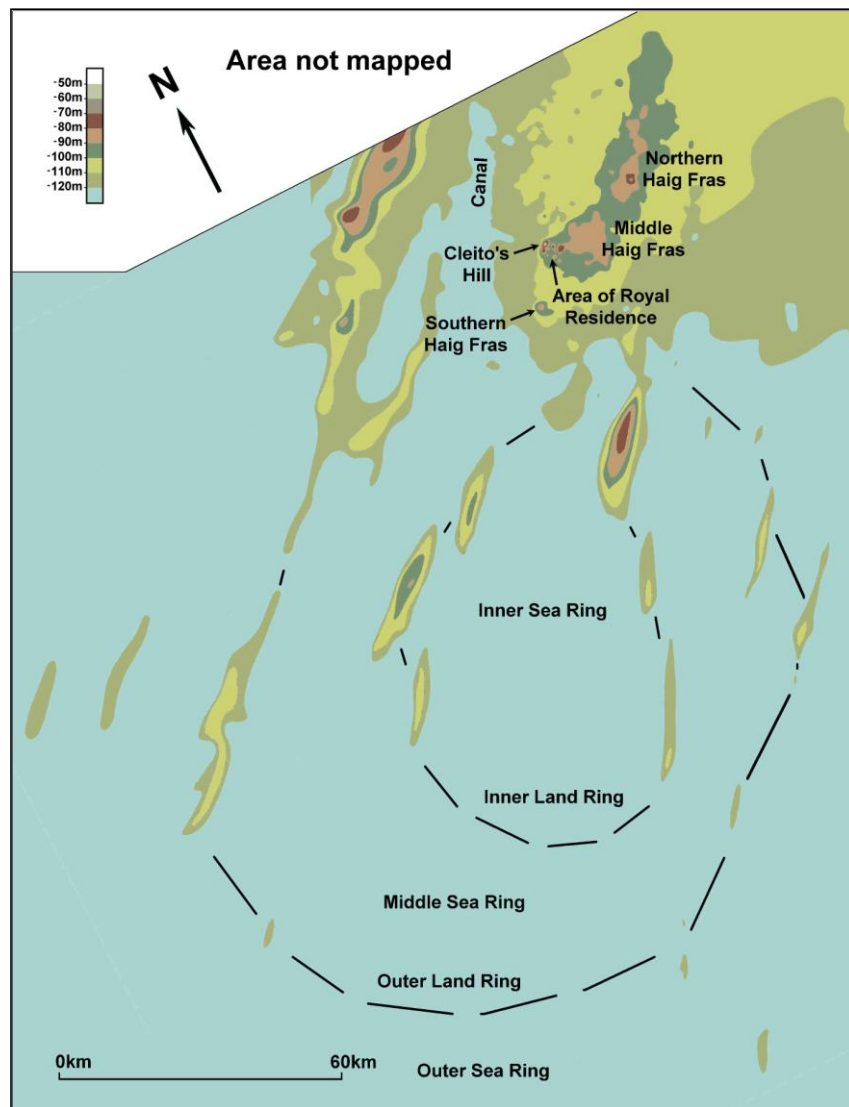


Figure 1: Reconstruction of the Celtic Plain around 15,000 years ago showing sea levels 120m below present. Scale shows metres below current sea level. Produced using data courtesy of British Geological Survey @Philip Runggaldier and NERC. All rights reserved.

On the southern edge of the Celtic Shelf sits the Haig Fras granite outcrop. It comprises three sections: a larger northern section, a middle section containing the highest peak and a small southern rocky hill. As each successive megaflood struck the Haig Fras outcrop from the north, the floodwaters were diverted around the outcrop. In doing so they shaped the surrounding area, compacted the sediments and created a series of regularly-spaced linear ridges to the south. It is possible to reconstruct how the Celtic Plain would have looked 15,000 years ago. As shown in Figure 1, the tops of these linear ridges would have protruded

above the surface of the sea to create 2 truncated rings of land with cuts in them, surrounded by 3 rings of sea – remarkably similar to Plato’s description of the Atlantis ring system. Through this system, and just to the left of the Haig Fras outcrop, runs the St George’s Channel, a natural waterway which, as can be seen, could be interpreted as a canal, again remarkably similar to Plato’s description. I have designated the highest point (some 60m above the plain) as Cleito’s Hill and speculated that the royal residence lay just to the east of it.

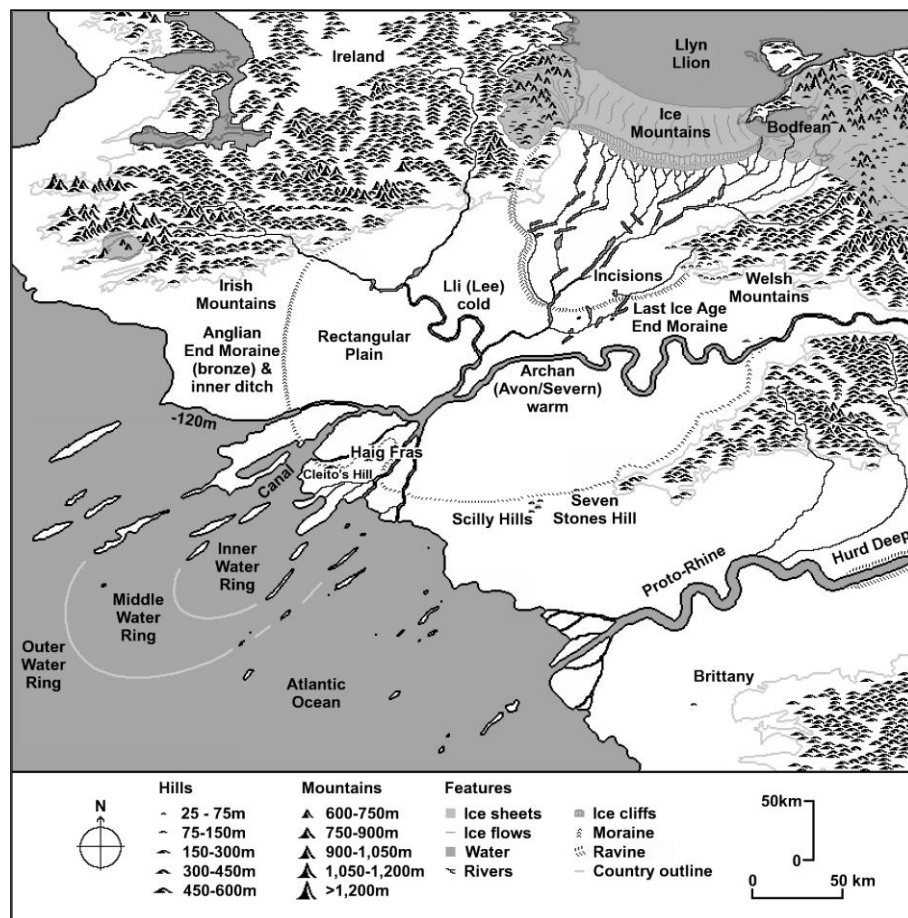


Figure 2: The wider features of the Celtic Plain 15,000 years ago. Produced using data courtesy of British Geological Survey @Philip Runggaldier and NERC. All rights reserved.

During the Elsterian Ice Age (equivalent to the Anglian in Britain and dated 478,000 to 425,000 years ago) the British–Irish ice sheet extended all the way to the edge of the Celtic Plain and, before it, it pushed up a mound of earth (called a moraine) which was left when the ice sheet melted away. This formed an embankment surrounding the area, curving inwards

towards the Haig Fras outcrop on either side. The last ice sheet, which reached its maximum around 22,000 years ago, also deposited a moraine towards the top of the plain perhaps giving the impression of a large embankment surrounding the plain, again as described by Plato (see Figure 2).

Further physical features such as walls/embankments, ditches, and rivers are present and appear to match with Plato's description. These are too numerous to detail here but are outlined in the ebook *Atlantis and the Biblical Flood: The evidence at last?*⁴ (English only). It includes a scoring system whereby the user can evaluate the evidence for him- or her-self and compare it directly with Frost's leading theory that Atlantis formed part of Minoan Crete.⁵ The results will surprise you.

References:

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- ¹ Koudriavtsev, V. 1995. 'Returning to the Enigma of Plato's Atlantis'. Institute of Metahistory website: www.imh.ru. Accessed Dec 2010.
 - ² Koudriavtsev, V. 1996. 'Atlantis: New Hypothesis'. Institute of Metahistory website: www.imh.ru. Accessed Dec 2010.
 - ³ Runggaldier, P. (2015) *Llyn Llion Theory* and Runggaldier, P. (2015) *Atlantis and the Biblical Flood: The evidence at last?*
 - ⁴ Runggaldier, P. (2015) *Atlantis and the Biblical Flood: The evidence at last?* See also www.PhilipRunggaldier.co.uk.
 - ⁵ Frost, K.T. 1913. 'The Critias and Minoan Crete'. *Journal of Hellenic Studies*. Vol 33, pp 189–206.