

英汉对照典藏版

世界文化巡礼丛书

UPDATE YOUR VISION
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

你所不知道的 英国

学习最地道的英语 感受最真实的英国

Update Your Vision
of
the United Kingdom

吕洁斐 黄飞高 程杰晟 编译

[英] Adam Smith 审定



中国宇航出版社

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· 北京 ·

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前言

英国，全称“大不列颠及北爱尔兰联合王国”（The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland），由大不列颠岛、北爱尔兰以及附近一些小的岛屿构成。奇特的格子裙、悠扬的风笛、香醇的威士忌以及北部苏格兰高地的民族风情都让人们心生向往。南部英格兰的原野上遍布着肥硕的牛羊，像满天星斗，与周围的风光融为一体；偶尔会有一座农庄或古堡跃入人们的视线当中，令人眼前一亮。位于西部的威尔士拥有蜿蜒曼妙的迷人海岸、美丽的乡村风光，她的海滨度假区更是英国最著名的景点之一。这是一个历史悠久的岛国，伊比利亚人、毕克人、凯尔特人成为最先入住不列颠岛的居民，公元43年罗马人率军征服了不列颠岛，此后盎格鲁人、萨克逊人、莱特人又成为这个岛屿的新主人，开创了“盎格鲁-撒克逊”时代，英国文化由此奠定了基础；英国国土面积虽小，却是美国、加拿大、澳大利亚文化的发源地。这是一个充满神秘色彩的梦幻国度，这里有巨石阵（Stonehenge）和小巫师哈利·波特（Harry Potter）。这是一个大师辈出的国家，曾几何时，美丽的昆布兰湖区留下了3位湖畔派诗人漫步的踪迹，而埃文河畔（Avon）的莎士比亚更是流芳千古。这还是一个与众不同的国度，经济高度发达，却依然保持传统的君主立宪制。在这个国家，传统和现代、古典和浪漫并存……《你所不知道的英国》这本小书将带你走进英国，了解英国，感受英伦的独特气息。

全书共10单元，内容涵盖风景名胜、教育、娱乐、媒体、节假日、历史、王室、政治及在英华人等各个方面，均取材自国外权威资料。文章新鲜、有趣、可读性强，可使读者在轻松阅读的同时丰富自己的知识、了解真实的英国。为了方便读者学习，本书还特设置了原汁原味、文化标签库等栏目，并在文中对生词加注标出，相信此举能够帮助广大读者更好地理解文章，感受英语阅读带来的快乐。

这本小书内容丰富、难易适中，不仅可以作为英语教材，更可以开

阔读者视野，帮助读者更深入地认识英国文化和掌握英语。美国语言学家萨丕尔曾经说过：“语言的背后是有东西的，并且语言不能离开文化而存在。”英国语言学家帕默尔也指出：“语言的历史和文化的历史是相辅而行的，它们互相协助和启发。”我们也希望《你所不知道的英国》这本书能够在帮助读者感受英国文化提高阅读能力、增加词汇量的同时，引领读者走上一条英语学习的“彩虹之路”。

编者

2009年初夏于北京

目录

Contents

Unit 1

Views and Vistas

英伦风光

1. Stonehenge: a Mystery of Megalith 巨石阵 1
2. British Royal Residences 英王行宫 9
3. A Walk Around London 伦敦人文风光 18
4. Lake District: a Place of Poetry 英格兰诗意湖区 28
5. Unique Scottish Highlands 苏格兰高地风光 37
6. Away from the Maddening Crowd 英格兰五大幽静去处 46

Unit 2

Education

教育体制知多少

1. An Overview of British Education 教育概览 56
2. Eton College 伊顿公学 64
3. Legends of the British Universities: Oxford vs Cambridge
 英伦传奇二校：牛津 vs 剑桥 71

Unit 3

Media and Entertainment

媒体与娱乐

1. An Overview of British Media 媒体概述 79
2. Beatlemania and Beyond 乐坛谁与争锋 86
3. *Coronation Street* and *The X Factor*
肥皂剧与选秀节目 96
4. Resisting Hollywood 英国电影业何去何从 104

Unit 4

Holidays and Festivals

缤纷节日

1. Colorful Guy Fawkes Night 绚丽的篝火之夜 111
2. Having Fun in Scotland 苏格兰传统节日 119
3. Enjoying Festivities in Wales 威尔士传统节日 129
4. Green St. Patrick's Day 绿色的圣帕特里克日 138

Unit 5

Past Memories

英国往事

1. The Origin of Britain 英国的起源 145
2. The Formation of Britain 英国的形成 151
3. The Transitional Period 过渡时期 159
4. The Rise and Fall of the British Empire 英帝国的兴衰 166

Unit 6

Royal Family

王室风云

1. Henry VIII: a King of Six Marriages 风云人物亨利八世 173
2. Elizabeth I: a Queen with the Heart of a King
拥有君主胸襟的女王 181
3. Elizabeth II: a Model Queen 模范女王伊丽莎白二世 189
4. Princess Diana: Queen of the People, Queen of Humanity
人民的王妃, 博爱的王妃 197

Unit 7

Politics

政党政治

1. An Overview of British Government 政府概况 204
2. Party System 政党制度 212
3. Iron Lady: Thatcher 铁娘子——撒切尔夫人 218
4. Present Prime Minister: Brown 现任首相——布朗 226

Unit 8

Sports

体坛盛世

1. An Overview of Sports in Britain 体育大观 232
2. Football and David Beckham 足球与小贝 240
3. Renowned Sports Events 著名赛事集锦 248
4. Snooker 英式撞球斯诺克 257

Unit 9

Cultural Kaleidoscope

文化万花筒

1. British Superstition 英国迷信 266
2. Emblems of Scotland 苏格兰风情 275
3. British Wedding Traditions 英国婚礼习俗 283
4. British National Dress and Modern Fashion
英国民族服饰和现代时尚 292
5. Magic World: J. K. Rowling and Harry Potter
魔法妈妈罗琳与《哈利·波特》 300

Unit 10

BBC: British Born Chinese

华人世界

1. The Development of Chinese in Britain
华人在英国的发展 308
2. The Richest Chinese in Britain: Woo Wing Yip
英国华人首富——叶焕荣 317
3. Prince on Horseback: Hua Tian 马背上的王子——华天 326

Unit 1

Views and Vistas

英伦风光

1. Stonehenge: a Mystery of Megalith

巨石阵

这是失落在历史长河中的巨石文明。究竟是谁，又是为了什么，把这些大石头留在了这里？巨石无语，对于今天的我们来说，它仍是一个巨大的难解之谜。



原汁原味

Stonehenge is certainly England's greatest national icon, symbolizing mystery, power and endurance¹. Its original purpose is unclear to us, but some have speculated that it was a temple made for the worship of ancient earth deities. Others claim that it was a sacred site for the burial of high-ranking citizens from the societies of long ago. And it has also been called an astronomical² observatory³ for marking significant events on the prehistoric⁴ calendar. While we can't say with any degree of certainty what it was for, we can say that it wasn't constructed for any casual purpose. Only something very

1 endurance *n.* 忍耐力

2 astronomical *adj.* 天文学的

3 observatory *n.* 天文台, 气象台

4 prehistoric *adj.* 史前的

important to the ancients would have been worth the effort and investment that it took to construct Stonehenge.



巨石阵

Stonehenge and its surroundings were added to the UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites in 1986 in a co-listing with Avebury henge monument. The Stonehenge, Avebury, and Associated Sites World Heritage property is internationally important for its complexes of outstanding prehistoric monuments.

Stonehenge is one of the most impressive prehistoric megalithic¹ monuments in the world. It is the most architecturally sophisticated² prehistoric stone circle in the world, unrivalled in its design and unique engineering. Stonehenge is distinguished by the unique use of two different kinds of stones (Bluestones and Sarsens³), their size (the largest weighing over 50 tons), and the distance they were transported (up to 240km).

Stonehenge is not a single structure but consists of a series of earth, timber, and stone structures that were revised and re-modelled over a period of more than 1,400 years. The outer circle, namely, Sarsen Circle, about 108

1 megalithic *adj.* 巨石的

2 sophisticated *adj.* 精致的, 复杂的

3 sarsen *n.* 砂岩

feet in diameter, was originally comprised of 30 neatly trimmed upright sandstone blocks of which only 17 are now standing. The stones are evenly spaced approximately¹ 3 to 4.2 feet apart, and stand on average 13 feet above the ground. They are about 6.5 feet wide and 3 feet thick and taper² towards the top. They originally supported sarsen lintels forming a continuous circle around the top. Each lintel block has been shaped to the curve of the circle. The average length of the rectangular³ lintels is 9.6 feet. The lintels were fitted end-to-end using tongue-and-groove joints, and fitted on top of the standing sarsen with mortice and tenon joints. The Sarsen Circle with its lintels is perhaps the most remarkable feature of Stonehenge in terms of design, precision⁴ stonework, and engineering. The Trilithons⁵, erected within the Sarsen Circle in the form of a horseshoe, are ten upright stones arranged as five freestanding pairs each with a single horizontal⁶ lintel. They were arranged symmetrically⁷ and graded in height; the tallest is in the central position. Only three of the five Trilithons are now complete with their lintels. The other two both have only one standing stone with the second stone and lintel lying on the ground.

The sheer immensity of the task of transporting and erecting these monoliths⁸ staggers⁹ the mind given archaic¹⁰ methodologies¹¹. As generally acknowledged, its construction is divided into three different phases.

In its day, the construction of Stonehenge was an impressive engineering

1 approximately *adv.* 大约, 大概

2 taper *v.* 逐渐变细

3 rectangular *adj.* 矩形的

4 precision *n.* 精确

5 trilithon *n.* 巨石牌坊

6 horizontal *adj.* 水平的

7 symmetrically *adv.* 对称地

8 monolith *n.* 巨石

9 stagger *v.* 摇晃

10 archaic *adj.* 古老的

11 methodology *n.* 方法论

feat¹, requiring commitment, time and vast amounts of manual labor. In its first phase, Stonehenge was a large earthwork², a bank and ditch arrangement called a henge³, constructed approximately 5,000 years ago. It is believed that the ditch was dug with tools made from the antlers⁴ of red deer⁵ and, possibly, wood.

About 2,000 BC, the first stone circle (which is now the inner circle), comprised of small bluestones, was set up, but abandoned before completion. The stones used in that first circle are believed to be from the Presceli Mountains, located roughly 240 miles away, at the southwestern tip of Wales. Given the distance they had to travel, this presented quite a transportation problem.

The giant sarsen stones weigh as much as 50 tons each. To transport them from the Marlborough Downs, roughly 20 miles, is a problem of even greater magnitude⁶ than that of moving the bluestones. Most of the way, the going is relatively easy, but at the steepest part of the route, at Redhorn Gate, modern work studies estimate that at least 600 men would have been needed just to get each stone past this obstacle.

It was not until the **Dark Ages** that Stonehenge started to be appreciated and looked at as more than just a unique pile of rocks. It was during this time that the mystique⁷ and legend of Stonehenge really started to get people's mind wondering what Stonehenge was used for and where it came from. Probably the most famous legend of Stonehenge deals with **King Arthur** and Merlin the Wizard.

It is told by the twelfth century writer, Geoffrey of Monmouth, in his *History of the Kings of Britain* that Merlin brought the stones to the **Salisbury**

1 feat *n.* 功绩, 壮举

2 earthwork *n.* 土方工程

3 henge *n.* 圆形石结构, 圆形木结构

4 antler *n.* 鹿角, 茸角

5 red deer 马鹿

6 magnitude *n.* 大小, 重要程度, 等级

7 mystique *n.* 神秘性

Plain from Ireland. Sometime in the fifth century, there had been a massacre of 300 British noblemen¹ by the treacherous² Saxon leader, Hengest. Geoffrey tells us that the high king, Aurelius Ambrosius, wanted to create a fitting memorial to the slain men. Merlin suggested an expedition to Ireland for the purpose of transplanting³ the Giant's Ring stone circle to Britain. According to Geoffrey of Monmouth, the stones of the Giant's Ring were originally brought from Africa to Ireland by giants. The stones were located on "Mount Killaraus" and were used as a site for performing rituals and for healing. Led by King Uther and Merlin, the expedition⁴ arrived at the spot in Ireland. The Britons, none of whom were giants, apparently, were unsuccessful in their attempts to move the great stones. At this point, Merlin realized that only his magic arts would turn the trick. So, they were dismantled and shipped back to Britain where they were set up as they had been before, in a great circle, around the mass grave of the murdered noblemen. The story goes on to tell that Aurelius, Uther and Arthur's successor, Constantine were also buried there in their time.

Situated in a vast plain, surrounded by hundreds of burial mounds⁵, the Stonehenge site is truly impressive, and all the more so, the closer you approach. It is a place where much human effort was expended for a purpose we can only guess at. But whatever viewpoint is brought to it and whatever its original purpose was, it should be treated as the ancients treated it, as a place of honor.

1 nobleman *n.* 贵族

2 treacherous *adj.* 背叛的, 叛逆的, 不忠的

3 transplant *v.* 移植, 迁移

4 expedition *n.* 远行, 探索, 考察

5 burial mound 古墓, 古坟



译林漫步

巨石阵是英国最伟大的标志，它象征着神秘、权力和永恒。对于建立巨石阵的初衷，我们不是很清楚，但有人猜测这里最初是一个寺庙，用于敬拜古时候的土地之神。也有人声称这是一个神圣的埋葬地，很久以前高官贵族就埋葬于此。还有人说这是一个天文观测台，在史前的日历中发挥了举足轻重的作用。虽然我们不能明确地说明修建巨石阵最初的目的是什么，但我们可以肯定地说这个初衷是非凡的。对先人来说，只有意义非凡的事件才会促使他们投入如此多的精力、人力和财力来修建巨石阵。

1986年，巨石阵、埃夫伯里和相关遗址被联合国教科文组织列为世界文化遗产，这一系列杰出的史前建筑群在国际上具有重要的历史和纪念意义。

巨石阵是世界上最令人叹为观止的史前巨石建筑之一，这一史前圆形的巨石阵向世人展示了最为先进的建筑技术和无与伦比的设计理念。巨石阵与众不同之处在于两种不同石头的使用，即蓝砂岩和砂岩，最大的石头重达50吨，搬运的距离也长达240千米。

巨石阵不是一个单一的建筑，而是一个由泥土、木材和石头共同组成的建筑群，这个建筑群历经了1400多年的风霜打磨和数次修整。石阵的外圈，也就是砂岩圈，直径大约为108英尺，起初由30块光滑、笔直的石柱围成一圈，至今只有17块还屹立于此。这些石柱平均高达13英尺，宽达6.5英尺，厚为3英尺，石柱的顶部略尖，石柱之间的间距大概为3~4.2英尺。石柱上面是石楣，围绕着顶部形成了一个连续的圆圈。每一块石楣都被雕凿过，以吻合圆圈的弧度，这些矩形的石楣平均长度为9.6英尺。石楣与石楣首尾相连，采用的是舌槽式接合的方法，榫眼和榫头帮助石楣固定在石柱上面。由于其独特的设计、精确的手法以及巨大的工程量，砂岩圈可以说是巨石阵最出色的地方。砂岩圈里面是五组“门”字形三石塔，每一组石柱上都有一块平行放置的石楣。五组石柱呈马蹄形，相互对称，由高到矮依次排列，中间的石柱最高。五组“门”字形三石塔当中只有三组还保存着石楣，另外两组中只有一个石柱还矗立着，另一个石柱和石柱上面的石楣都倒在了地上。

古人是怎样搬运和竖立这些巨石的呢？考虑到古时候的运输条件，巨石阵的工程量在当时是相当巨大的。现在普遍认为，巨石阵的建筑周期分成3个不同的阶段。

在当时看来，巨石阵真的是建筑史上一个令人惊叹的杰作，需要花费大量的时间、精力和人力。第一阶段的巨石阵是一个巨大的土方工程，一个由土方和沟渠组成的圆形结构，大约修建于5000年前。人们猜测挖掘沟渠的工具是用马鹿的鹿角制成的，不过更有可能是木头。

公元前2000年左右，第一个石圈开始修建，也就是今天的内圈，这个由小蓝砂岩组成的石圈在完成之前就被废弃了。据说，这些蓝砂岩是从威尔士西南部的普雷塞利群山运过来的，距此大约有240英里的距离。如此远的路途对运输来说是一个很大的难题。

每块砂岩都重达50吨，从距此20公里的马尔巴勒省草丘陵地搬运这些石头则更为艰巨。两地之间多为坦途，但途中得经过极其陡峭的红角隘口。根据现代研究的估计，每次搬运砂岩过这个关卡至少得需要600名搬运工。

直到黑暗时代，人们才开始意识到巨石阵不仅仅是一堆形状奇特的石头，人们开始重新审视这个伟大的建筑。也正是从那时开始，巨石阵成了一个迷，人们猜测它的用途，它的来源。有关巨石阵最著名的传说应当要数亚瑟王和巫师默林的故事。

故事的讲述者是12世纪的作家蒙默思的杰弗里，他在《不列颠诸王史》里面说，是默林将那些石头从爱尔兰带到了索尔兹伯里平原。整个故事是这样的，公元5世纪，叛徒亨吉斯特是撒克逊的首领，他屠杀了300名不列颠的贵族。奥勒利乌斯·安布罗修斯国王很仁慈，想为死者修建一个体面的纪念碑。默林就向国王建议去爱尔兰把“巨人戒指”的石圈搬移过来。据蒙默思的杰弗里所说，“巨人戒指”的石头是巨人从非洲搬到爱尔兰的。这些石头放置在基拉洛斯山上，用作举行仪式和疗伤的地点。在尤瑟王和默林的带领下，不列颠的军队来到了“巨人戒指”的所在地。但这支军队里没有一个是巨人，很明显，对于这些巨石他们是心有余而力不足。这时默林才意识到只有自己的魔法才能奏效。于是，他利用魔法把巨石分成一小块一小块，用船只运到了不列颠，按照之前的排列重新竖立了起来，围着那些死去贵族的坟墓绕成了一个大圈。故事还说，奥勒利乌斯、尤瑟和亚瑟的接班人康斯坦丁都埋于此地。

坐落在宽广的平原之中，四周被成百上千的古墓包围，巨石阵带给人巨大的震撼，当你一步一步向它走进的时候，震撼会越来越强烈。古人在此花了如此大的心血，而其目的我们还是无从得知。但不管修建巨石阵的初衷是什么，不管以何种角度来看待这个建筑，我们也不妨像古人一样，将巨石阵视为荣誉之地。



文化标签库

Dark Ages: 黑暗时代，指中世纪早期的西欧历史。中世纪亦称中古时代，是欧洲历史上的一个时代（主要是西欧），这个时期的欧洲没有一个强有力的政权来统治。封建割据带来频繁的战争，造成科技和生产力的发展停滞，人民生活在毫无希望的痛苦中，所以中世纪或者中世纪早期在欧美普遍称作“黑暗时代”。

King Arthur: 亚瑟王，是英格兰传说中的国王，圆桌骑士团的首领，一位近乎神话般的传奇人物，罗马帝国瓦解之后，他率领圆桌骑士团统一了不列颠群岛，被后人尊称为亚瑟王。王者之剑（Excalibur）与石中剑（The Sword in the Stone）是亚瑟王至尊的王权象征。

Salisbury Plain: 索尔兹伯里平原，也译作索尔斯堡平原，位于英格兰威尔特郡，是英国最著名的开阔平坦地区之一。这里有很多史前遗迹，其中最著名的是圆形石林。大部分用于军事训练，当地军营是英国最大的军营之一。