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## Looking Back at Ancient America I

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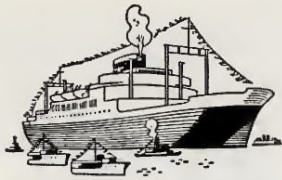
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**Abstract:** This series is a presentation of photographs of ancient American ruins, accompanied by brief descriptions and comments.



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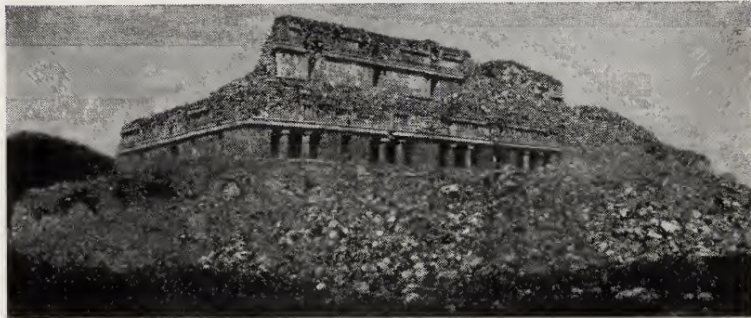
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### AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES

*Round-World Service*

# LOOKING BACK AT *Ancient America*

By DEWEY FARNSWORTH  
*Publisher of "Grandeur of Ancient  
America" and "Buried Empires of  
South America"*



THE PALACE OF SAYIL

In the city of Sayil, in the modern state of Yucatan, is a massive ruin known as the palace. It could be called, more appropriately, the first apartment house of America. The building is low and rambling, three stories high, and about one half block long. It contains seventy-two rooms en suite. They were reached by a broad, outside stone stairway on each side of the building, extending from the ground to the terraces of the second and third floors. As usual, the building has no windows, for the sun shining through the doorways on the white stucco floors, was reflected into the farthest corners of the rooms, providing ample light. ("Lost Empires," Willard.)



THE GREAT JUNGLES OF GUATEMALA

Green elevations seen in the forest appear to be just ordinary green hills, but usually turn out to be forest-covered temples and substructures whose perpendicular walls and huge terraces have for centuries been buried by great growths of trees and vegetal mould. From external appearances, one would little suspect their existence until the ax of the archaeologist has dug into them and bared their stone surface. Here in the heart of the jungles are vast remains of pyramids, tombs, temples, and palaces standing as a mute evidence of a once great civilization. Although countless numbers of these ruins have now been unearthed, there may be ruins in the brush of Central America as yet undiscovered, larger than those at present known to us.



THE RUINS AT MALINALCO TOLUCA, MEXICO

An example of overlapping of characteristics is found in the ruins being uncovered in Malinalco Toluca, Mexico. In parts, six hundred feet of mountain are being removed from this ancient site. The temple itself is a massive structure of stone and cement. Thus far, three terraces with huge stone stairways leading to each terrace have been uncovered. It would seem that cement was used as a mortar to splice the stones together. It is this feature as well as the huge stone serpent heads, which adorn its entrances, that would seem to connect the building with the ruins of the great cement city of Teotihuacan.