

《激光扫描发现中世纪的柬埔寨地下巨城》

导读:考古学家近日宣布,借助航空三维激光雷达扫描技术,他们在柬埔寨吴哥窟附近发现多处地下城市遗迹。



An extensive network of ancient cities has been discovered in the Cambodian jungle around the ruins of Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world.

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Using ground penetrating lasers, scientists, researchers came back with high definition images of 12th century cities. Covering an extensive area.

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A Unesco World heritage site, Angkor Wat dates back to the first half of the 12 century. It is estimated that it took 30 years to build the temple dedicated to the Hindu deity, Vishnu, at the behest of King Suryavarman II, the ruler of the Khmer Empire

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The discovery of the earthen mounds by archaeologists who have been working in the area for years was reported

by Livescience earlier this month.

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With the aid of airborne laser-scanning equipment, the researchers found huge fields of dome shaped earthen mounds, some of which were shaped into spirals.

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The mounds were placed on a grid, showing an ancient street pattern.

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In all the lasers scanned 735 square miles of the Angkor region and the results revealed an entire cityscape.

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Temples from the Khmer Empire were normally surrounded by wood and thatch buildings which have rotted away over time.

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But thanks to the lasers attached to the helicopters, the team was able to discover more substantial and robust structures which have stood the test of time.

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“It turned out we’d been walking and flying right over the top of this stuff for ten years and not even noticing it because of the vegetation,” Damian Evans, one of the archaeologists said.

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