

3248-7777

Jupiter, a second red spot, event

Tasking:

Move to the optimum position/location and describe the target focussed on in the photograph – the newly formed second red spot on the planet Jupiter



Additional feedback

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/02mar_redjr.htm

Hubble Space Telescope April 2006 image shows the second smaller spot that had changed from white to red by February 2006, after Jupiter emerged from behind the sun. Image courtesy NASA.

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope is giving astronomers their most detailed view yet of a second red spot that emerged for the first time in human history on Jupiter, the giant gaseous planet half a billion miles from Earth. Before January 2006, the small oval below and to the left of the Big Red Spot in image above, had been white. Jupiter went behind the sun in January and when the planet emerged in February, the white oval had changed to red like the large and very old one. The Great Red Spot was first spotted by Galileo in a telescope four hundred years ago and is thought to be a huge hurricane-like storm three times the diameter of Earth. "Red Spot Jr." is roughly one-half the diameter of the Big Red Spot. Researchers speculate that the new spot may be related to a possible major climate change in Jupiter's atmosphere.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lighthouse_of_Alexandria

The **Pharos of Alexandria** was a tower built in the 3rd century BCE on the island of Pharos in Alexandria, Egypt to serve as that port's landmark, and later, lighthouse.

With a height variously estimated at between 117 and 134 metres (440ft) it was the tallest man-made structure on Earth for many centuries, and was identified as one of the Seven Wonders of the World by Antipater of Sidon.

It ceased operating and was largely destroyed as a result of two earthquakes in the 14th century CE; some of its remains were found on the floor of Alexandria's Eastern Harbour by divers in 1994. More of the remains have subsequently been revealed by satellite imaging.

Constructed from large blocks of light-coloured stone, the tower was made up of three stages: a lower square section with a central core, a middle octagonal section, and, at the top, a circular section. At its apex was positioned a mirror which reflected sunlight during the day; a fire was lit at night. Extant Roman coins struck by the Alexandrian mint show that a statue of a triton was positioned on each of the building's 4 corners. A statue of Poseidon stood atop the tower during the Roman period.

The design of minarets in many early Islamic mosques many centuries later followed a similar three-stage design to that of the Pharos, attesting to the building's broader architectural influence.

Legends tell of the light from the Pharos being used to burn enemy ships before they could reach shore, however this is highly unlikely due to the relatively poor quality of optics and reflective technology in the time period in which the building existed. Only slightly less impressive - and probably more accurate - is the claim that the light from the lighthouse could be seen up to 35 miles (56 km) from shore.