

'Cave' at

## NAGALA ROCK

or, perhaps: Nagolla Gala / Nagollagala; or: Nikawae-kanda

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural or man-made sacred cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Kurunegala (Kurunaegala) district: Maho town: Galgamuwa - Nikawewa road area: Nikawewa (Nikawae) village: "Nagala Rock" (Nikawae Kanda; perhaps: Nagolla Gala, Nagollagala).

POSITION: (If at Nagolla), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°48': E 080°24' / N 7.8°: E 80.4° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1984; Parker, H. 1909.

A »temple cave« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 150) or »series of natural caves« (PARKER 1909: 332).

SITUATION 1 (PARKER 1909: 332): »High up on the precipitous eastern side of Nikawae-kanda [mountain at Nikawae / Nikawewa], a steep rocky hill in the North-western Province.«

SITUATION 2 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 150): Nagala Rock (note 1) is reached by bearing left at the top of the climb to the tiny, hideously "restored" but beautifully located cult spot (either a man-made "cave temple" = rock chamber or a modified natural temple cave), which clings like a wild bees' nest to the face of Nagala rock near that Nikawewa (note 2), which lies »13 miles« (21 km, probably along the road and possibly east-northeast) from the Rest House at Maho (note 3).

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1 (PARKER 1909: 332): »... a series of natural caves. Some of these contained statues, and one had also a small dagaba which had been demolished by treasure seekers, so that only a little of the lower part remained.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - Human use: According to PARKER (1909: 332), »... an early monastery was established.« PARKER (1909: 334) narrates how »... about eight years ago, Selaratna Thera, the energetic superior of the monastery now at the foot of the hill, undertook the restoration of the cave wihara [vihara]. Among other preliminary work, the heap of bricks in the lower part of the dagaba was removed, and it was then discovered that the persons who rifled it, possibly the followers of King Magha, had not found the true relic-chamber, which was covered by a large stone slab in the very bottom of the structure. When this was raised the undisturbed contents of the cavity under it were found to be as follows ...«

NOTE 1: »Nagala Rock« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 150) is not identified unless it corresponds to the village of Nagolla N 07°48': E 080°24' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: Nikawewa N 07°53': E 080°25' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 3: Maho N 07°49'22": E 080°16'40" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil](http://www.nima.mil)> 16.11.2003) lies at travelling distances of 82 miles (132 km) from Colombo (N 06°55'55": E 079°50'52" WGS84) and 29 miles (47 km) from Kurunegala (N 07°29'12": E 080°21'53" WGS84).

## NAVAKEERY WELL

→Tidal Well ( Navakiri, Navakkeeri )

A natural pothole cave and well / spring.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: "Jaffnapatam: Walligamme district" (obsolete!): »Walligamme district« (PRIDHAM 1849) area: Navakiri /

Navakkeeri (Navakeery, Navokeiry near Majlittle) village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Pridham, Charles 1849, 2: 515.

#### NAVOKEIRY WELL

→Tidal Well ( Navakiri, Navakkeeri )

A natural pothole cave and well / spring.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: "Jaffnapatam: Walligamme district" (obsolete!): »Walligamme district« (PRIDHAM 1849) area: Navakiri / Navakkeeri (Navakeery, Navokeiry near Majlittle) village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Tennent, James Emerson 1859 reprinted 1860,1: 21.

#### NERAVANA GALGE ( Kukulegama )

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Kukulegama and Lenama villages.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°31': E 080°22' / N 6.51666667°: E 80.36666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Alutgama, Horana, Rakwana, or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Simon J. Brooks 1995, personal correspondence. An allegedly »small« (so what?) cave or rock shelter in gneiss (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 21).

SITUATION (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 21): Somehow »close« (note 1) to the village of Kukulegama (note 2).

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1945: P.E.P. Deraniyagala undertook an archaeological investigation (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980: 173).

NOTE 1: Brooks (1995 Mss, no. 21) takes »Neravana Galge (Kukulegama - Lenama)« as one. The villages of Kukulegama and Lenama are about 40 km in a direct line apart from each other.

NOTE 2: Kukulegama (N 06°31': E 080°22') lies in the south-east of Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84).

#### NERAVANA GALGE ( Lenama )

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area: Kukulegama and Lenama villages.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°31': E 080°22' / N 6.51666667°: E 80.36666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Alutgama, Horana, Rakwana or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Simon J. Brooks 1995, personal correspondence.

An allegedly »small« (so what?) cave or rock shelter in gneiss close to the village of Lenama (N 06°10': E 080°27') in the south-east of Ratnapura (N 06°40'58":

E 080°23'57" WGS84) had been archaeologically investigated in 1945 by P.E.P.

Deraniyagala (S.J. Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 21 after DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980: 173). CAVE POTENTIAL: Brooks (1995 Mss, no. 21) takes »Neravana Galge (Kukulegama - Lenama)« as one but the two sites are about 40 km in a direct line apart from each other.

#### NIKAWAE KANDA CAVES

see: Caves on →Nagala Rock

A natural or man-made sacred rock shelter (temple cave) or rock chamber (cave temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Kurunegala (Kurunaegala) district:

Maho town: Galgamuwa - Nikawewa road area: Nikawewa (Nikawae) village:

"Nagala Rock" (Nikawae Kanda; perhaps: Nagolla Gala, Nagollagala).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Parker, H. 1909: 192, 205, 332-335, 344, 345, 537, 631.

#### NIKAWAEWA CAVE WIHARA

see: Caves on →Nagala Rock

A natural or man-made sacred rock shelter (temple cave) or rock chamber (cave temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Kurunegala (Kurunaegala) district:

Maho town: Galgamuwa - Nikawewa road area: Nikawewa (Nikawae) village:

"Nagala Rock" (Nikawae Kanda; perhaps: Nagolla Gala, Nagollagala).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Parker, H. 1909: 536, 631.

#### NILGALA CAVE

or: Gangodedeniya / Gangodeniya Galge; or: Weddahöhle in Nilgala

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural troglodyte cave or rock shelter in gravitationally dislocated gneiss boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Nilgala range area: Nilgala village: Bulupitiyahela rock.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°11': E 081°22' / N 7.18333333°: E 81.36666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nilgala; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980, 1987, 2002;

Rütimeyer, L 1903; Sarasin, Fritz 1931; Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1907a, 1907b, 1907c, 1908, 1939.

A rock shelter with a 5 by 8 m wide sheltered space (Brooks 1995 Mss item 11) beneath a gravitationally dislocated gneiss boulders (note 1). RÜTIMEYER (1903: 203 Abbildung 2) gives a photograph of the entrance, titled »Früher bewohnte Weddahöhle in Nilgala (Sarasin, Atlas, Taf XXVI, Abb. 48).«

ETYMOLOGY: Nilgala Cave (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. passim) has also been called »Weddahöhle in Nilgala« (RÜTIMEYER 1903: 203 Abbildung 2), Gangodeniya Galge (SARASIN & SARASIN 1908), and Gangodedeniya- Galgè (SARASIN & SARASIN 1939: 164).

SITUATION 1, RÜTIMEYER (1903: 201): »In der prächtigen Fluh des Gneisdomes des Nilgala« (note 2).

SITUATION 2, SARASIN & SARASIN (1907a: ?; 1907b: 189): »In the eastern low-country of Ceylon ... near the village Nilgala.«

SITUATION 3, SARASIN & SARASIN (1907c: 255): »In Nilgala, dem Zentrum des Weddalandes.«

SITUATION 4, SARASIN & SARASIN (1908): At the foot of Bulupitiyahela Rock

(note 3).

SITUATION 5, SARASIN & SARASIN (1939: 164): »Ein Bauer erbot sich, uns eine Höhle zu zeigen. Wir überschritten den Patipal- Fluss und wanderten dann eine halbe Stunde lang dem malerischen Gneissberg entlang, der den südlichen Hintergrund des Örtchens Nilgala bildet ... Dann etwas nordwärts an dem Fuss des dem Nilgala- Stock vorgelagerten Felsberges Bulupitiahela. Hier bildete ein gewaltiger, abgestürzter Felsblock eine geräumige Halbhöhle, vom Führer Gangodedeniya - Galgè genannt.«

SITUATION 6, DERANIYAGALA (1980: 155) needs to be checked.

SITUATION 7, DERANIYAGALA (1987: 105): »In Nilgala.«

SITUATION 8, DERANIYAGALA (1992 chapter 5.3.5; 2002: 31-32): In ecozone C (intermediate dry lowlands).

SITUATION 9: Brooks (1995 Mss) places Gangodedeniya-Galge / Nilgala Cave at a distance of »one hour« (cross-legged on flying carpet?) south of Nilgala village, which is said to lie east of a certain »Bibi« (sic!) which appears to reflect an attempt to mention the town of Bibile N 07°10': E 081°13' WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: SARASIN (1931: 48-49) and SARASIN & SARASIN (1939: 163-166, plates XIX, XX, XXI) recall the excavation of a dry shelter. Here, the "Stone Age of Ceylon" was first discovered (SARASIN 1931; SARASIN & SARASIN 1907c: 255; 1939: 164) but the human remains excavated from Nilgala Cave were too fragmented for proper analysis (DERANIYAGALA 1987: 105).

Concerning the faunal remains, yielded Nilgala cave a preponderance of spotted deer, sambhur taking second place, within a mixed assemblage of miscellaneous vertebrates (DERANIYAGALA 2002: 31-32).

NOTE 1: SARASIN & SARASIN (1939: 164) recall »ein gewaltiger, abgestürzter Felsblock eine geräumige Halbhöhle.«

NOTE 2: Nilgala (hill) N 06°42': E 081°16' and Nilgala (village) N 07°11': E 081°22' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-03.

NOTE 3: »Bulupitiahela« (SARASIN & SARASIN 1939: 164) is not identified unless it has something to do either with Bulupitiya N 07°15': E 081°20' or with Bulupitiya N 07°27': E 080°17' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NISO LENA

or: Nisolena

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Kurunegala (Kurunaegala, or Seven Korles) district: Melsiripura village.

POSITION: (If at Melsiripura itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°39': E 080°30' / N 7.65°: E 80.5° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

An unspecified cave or rock shelter called »Nisolena« (Niso Lena) is situated somewhere near Melsiripura (N 07°39': E 080°30') in Kurunegala district (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 254; 1983: 256).

NISSANGALA LENA

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural sacred (?) cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area: Sri Pada summit, Maskeliya side.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°49': E 080°31' /

N 6.81666667°: E 80.51666667° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A large »cave« (or rock shelter) used by pilgrims and »formed by a mass of overhanging rock« (CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 243; 1983: 245) is known as Nissangala Lena, though some dispute this. Compare →Nissangala Lena 2.

Nissangala Lena possibly corresponds to the »Adam's Peak Cave« of MORGAN (1943: 13; after BASSET 1929).

SITUATION: Somewhere on the pilgrims route from Maskeliya (N 06°50'09": E 080°34'13" WGS84) to Adam's Peak / Sri Pada (N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53" WGS84: 2243 m), and not much more than a mile from the Dalhousie tea factory (N 06°49': E 080°31' WGS84).

#### NISSANGALA LENA 2

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural sacred (?) cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area: Sri Pada summit, Maskeliya side.

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°50': E 080°28' / N 6.83333334°: E 80.46666667° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

Some hold that the true Nissangala Lena on the pilgrims route from Maskeliya to Adam's Peak / Sri Pada is nearer to the summit (N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53" WGS84: 2243 m) but the exact location is not known (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 243; 1983: 245).

#### NITRE CAVE

LOCATION: Sri Lanka.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Davy, John 1821, 1822; Hamilton Walter 1828; Malte Brun, Konrad 1834.

DAVY (1821: 31 footnote) reported exploitation of saltpetre (nitre,  $\text{NaNO}_3$ ) in »Ceylon« (Sri Lanka) from cave deposits (note 1) in twenty-two »nitre-caves formed on the best authorities I had the means of consulting.« DAVY (1821: 33-34) gives two chemical compositions of samples collected from »the nitre-rock of Memora cave in Doombera« (note 2) and »nitre-earth from the great cave near Wellaway in Lower Ouva« (note 3) in comparison with »nitre earth from the district of Tirhoot, Bengal« (note 4). HAMILTON (1828, 1: 385) confirms that »In certain caves of the interior [of »Ceylon« or Sri Lanka], nitre, nitrate of lime, sulphate of magnesia, and alum are found. Twenty-two of these caves have been recorded, but the manufacture of gunpowder being prohibited by the British government, they are now much neglected.« MALTE BRUN (1834, 1, book 48) confirms: »The country contains several nitre caves.«

NOTE 1: DAVY (1821: 265ff) gives a detailed account on the manufacturing process.

NOTE 2: »Memora cave in Doombera« (DAVY 1821: 33) appears to correspond to →Lunugala Lena.

NOTE 3: The »great cave near Wellaway in Lower Ouva« (DAVY 1821: 34) corresponds to →Wellaway Cave.

NOTE 4: DAVY (1821: 34) does not specify from where exactly the »nitre earth from

the district« was collected in »Tirhoot, Bengal« (Tirhoot N26°07': E 085°24' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003): Somewhere in the marshy plains drained and swamped by the Buri Gandaki (AMS sheet NG45-05 Muzzafarpur) in Uttar Pradesh state, India.

**NITRE CAVE ( Agalawatte )**

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Agalawatte village.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 11 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is near »Agalawatte« (note 1).

NOTE 1: »Agalawatte« (DAVY 1821) is not identified: In Matale district? Galawatte N 07°19': E 079°52' on sheet NB44-02 Galewatte N 07°29': E 079°53' on sheet NB44-02 Galgawatte N 07°27': E 080°42' on sheet NB44-02 Gallawatte N 06°31': E 080°10' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-06.

**NITRE CAVE ( Doombera )**

→Lunugala Lena, or: Cave at Rangala, Meemoorra, Meemoore, Mimura, Mimure; or: Wavulgala Lena

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: »Doombera« (Davy 1821) - Kandy district: Rangala range / Knuckles - Heen Ganga valley area: »Looloowatte« (Loolwatte): Mimura / Mimure (Meemoorra, Meemora, Memora).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Davy, John 1821: 31 footnote, 32-33, 379-380; Pridham, Charles 1849, 2: 709.

**NITRE CAVE ( Dunugama )**

or: Nitre Cave »Doonoogama«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district: »Four Korles« (Davy 1821) area: »Doonoogama« (Davy 1821) = Dunugama village.

POSITION: Representative WGS84 coordinates (assumed horizontal precision error ±5 km) N 07°16': E 080°27' / N 7.26666667°: E 80.45° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Kandy; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 20 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) had been near »Doonoogama« or Dunugama (note 1), at Davy's time in the by now obsolete administrative subdivision »Four Korles« (circa N 06°45': E 080°10' to N 07°20': E 080°30'), and now in Kegalla district.

NOTE 1: »Doonoogama« (DAVY 1821) possibly corresponds to Dunugama N 07°16': E 080°26' or, about 3 or 4 km in a direct line further east, Dunugama N 07°16': E 080°28' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

**NITRE CAVE ( Galgiriya )**

or: Nitre Cave »Galgiriawah«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala district: »Hatilispahay korle« (Davy 1821) area: »Galgiriawah« (Davy 1821) = Galgiriya village.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°55': E 080°23' / N 7.91666667°: E 80.38333333° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

The Nitre Cave no. 6 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near a place called »Galgiriawah« (Galgiriya N 07°55': E 080°23' WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) in the obsolete »Hatilispahay korle« (note 1) of the obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Hatilispahay korle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with Hathalispahuwa N 07°22': E 080°18' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-02.

NITRE CAVE ( Giribahwah )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala district: »Demoole pattoo« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified »Giribahwah« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

The Nitre Cave no. 4 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near an unidentified »Giribahwah« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Demoole pattoo« (note 2) in the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Giribahwah« (DAVY 1821) is not identified.

NOTE 2: »Demoole pattoo« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has some connection with Dammulla N 06°04': E 080°44' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-06 or Dammulla N 06°35': E 081°43' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

NITRE CAVE ( Hapolacadavette )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: unclassified province in Sri Lanka: unidentified »Welassey« (Davy 1821) district: unidentified »Hapolacadavette« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°54': E 079°52' / N 7.9°: E 79.86666667° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave 22 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated near an unidentified »Hapolacadavette« (note 1) in an unidentified »Welassey district« (note 2).

NOTE 1: »Hapolacadavette« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with the village of Halpola N 07°01': E 080°38' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-02.

NOTE 2: »Welassey district« (DAVY 1821) may have something to do -- but this is mere guesswork -- with »Welasiya« and the lake Welasiya Wewa N 07°54':

E 079°52' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) in Kurunegala district.

**NITRE CAVE ( Kaddigaway )**

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala district: »Demoole pattoo« (Davy 1821) area: »Kaddigaway« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

The Nitre Cave no. 8 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near a place called »Kaddigaway« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Demoole pattoo« (note 2) in the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Kaddigaway« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it corresponds to Kadigawa N 07°43': E 080°00' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02 or to Kadigawa N 08°08': E 080°24' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NOTE 2: »Demoole pattoo« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has some connection with Dammulla N 06°04': E 080°44' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-06 or Dammulla N 06°35': E 081°43' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

**NITRE CAVE ( Kadigomuwa )**

or: Nitre Cave »Kodigomoova«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district: »Four Korles« (Davy 1821) area: »Kodigomoova« (Davy 1821) = Kadigomuwa village.

POSITION: Representative WGS84 coordinates (approximate horizontal precision error ±30000 m) N 07°15': E 080°20' / N 7.25°: E 80.33333333° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 19 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near a place called »Kodigomoova« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Four Korles« (circa N 06°45': E 080°10' to N 07°20': E 080°30') in Kegalla district).

NOTE 1: »Kodigomoova« (DAVY 1821) appears to correspond either to Kadigomuwa (N 07°12': E 080°19' WGS84), Kadigomuwa (N 07°08': E 080°14' WGS84), or Kadigomuwa (N 07°19'06": E 080°26'08" WGS84) close to the Kandy - Colombo railway line.

**NITRE CAVE ( Kaduru Wewa, Kaduruwewa )**

or: Nitre Cave »Kadooroowuva«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala district: »Hatilispahay korle« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified »Kadooroowuva« (Davy 1821) or, perhaps, Kaduru Wewa, Kaduruwewa.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.



Nitre Cave no. 7 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near a place called »Kadooroowuva« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Hatilispahay korle« (note 2) of the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala).

NOTE 1: Kadooroowuva (DAVY 1821) is not identified. <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists 1) Kaduru Wewa N 07°34': E 079°56' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02; 2) Kaduru Wewa N 07°44': E 080°24' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02; 3) Kaduru Wewa N 08°47': E 080°49' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NC44-14; 4) Kaduruwewa N 07°34': E 079°56' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02; 5) Kaduruwewa N 07°47': E 080°23' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-02; 6) Kaduruwewa N 07°57': E 080°22' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NC44-14; 7) Kaduruwewa N 08°10': E 080°24' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NC44-14; 8) Kaduruwewa N 07°58': E 080°24' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NOTE 2: »Hatilispahay korle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with Hathalispahuwa N 07°22': E 080°18' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-02.

NITRE CAVE ( Kaludawella )

or: Nitre Cave »Kaloodawella«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Kandy district: Kitulgala area:

»Kaloodawella« (Davy 1821) = Kaludawella (Kaludewala) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°29': E 080°38' / N 7.48333333°: E 80.63333333° (WGS84).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rangala; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 12 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) lies near »Kaloodawella« which appears to correspond to Kaludawela / Kaludawella / Kaludewala (a village and tea estate) at the trigonometrical station Kitulgala N 07°29': E 080°38' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NITRE CAVE ( Mahakelle )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821)

- Kurunegala district: »Hatilispahay korle« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified

»Mahakelle« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Representative WGS84 coordinates (±56 km) N 07°30': E 080°30' / N 7.5°: E 80.5° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

The Nitre Cave no. 5 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere near a place called »Mahakelle« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Hatilispahay korle« (note 2) in the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala).

NOTE 1: »Mahakelle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified. There is, however, one village of Mahakeliya N 07°35': E 080°17' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: »Hatilispahay korle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with Hathalispahuwa N 07°22': E 080°18' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)>

accessed 16.11.2003) on sheet NB44-02.

NITRE CAVE ( Maturatta )

see: Cave at →Maturata ( Padiyapellela ); or: Nitre Cave 18 ( Maturatta )

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: »Hewahette district« (Davy 1821) - Nuwara Eliya district: Padiyapellela: »Maturatta« (Davy 1821) = Maturata village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hanguranketa; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Davy, John 1821: 1821: 27, 31 footnote, 34-35, 339-340; Davy, John 1822.

NITRE CAVE ( Meddegama )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: »Saffragam« (Davy 1821) district: unidentified »Meddegama« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Not known <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Colombo, Happutale, Nuwara Eliya, or Ratnapura; AMS sheets: NB44-02, NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 21 of DAVY (1821: 31 footnote) is at an unidentified »Meddegama« (note 1) in »Saffragam district« (now more or less Ratnapura district).

NOTE 1: <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists Medagama

N 06°46': E 080°19' (Ratnapura district, SL sheet Colombo) Medagama N 06°44':

E 080°26' (Ratnapura district, SL sheet Colombo) Medagama N 06°44': E 079°58'

(Ratnapura district, SL sheet Colombo) Maddegama N 06°43': E 080°41' (Haputale

district or Nuwara Eliya district) Medagama N 06°36': E 080°42' (Ratnapura district,

SL sheet Happutale) Meddegama N 06°29': E 080°39' (Ratnapura district, SL sheet

Rakwana) Maddegama N 06°22': E 080°22' (Galle district, SL sheet Rakwana)

Medagama N 06°04': E 080°50' (Hambantota district, SL sheet Ambalantota)

Midigama N 05°58': E 080°23' (Matara district, SL sheet Ambalantota).

NITRE CAVE ( Medellenewa )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821)

- Kurunegala district: »Demoole pattoo« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified

»Medellenewa« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 2 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated a place called »Medellenewa« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Demoole pattoo« (note 2) of the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Medellenewa« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it corresponds to the village of Midellewa N 07°53': E 080°18' (sheet NB44-02) or to Midellawa N 07°38': E 080°10' (sheet NB44-02).

NOTE 2: »Demoole pattoo« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has some connection with Dammulla N 06°04': E 080°44' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-06 or Dammulla N 06°35': E 081°43' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

#### NITRE CAVE ( Meemoorra )

→Lunugala Lena

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Kandy district: "Doombera district" (obsolete!): Rangala range / Knuckles - Heen Ganga valley area: Looloowatte (Loolwatte): Mimura / Mimure (Meemoorra, Meemora, Memora).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Pridham, Charles 1849, 2: 663.

#### NITRE CAVE ( Memoora )

→Lunugala Lena

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: »Doombera« (Davy 1821) - Kandy district: Rangala range / Knuckles - Heen Ganga valley area: »Looloowatte« (Loolwatte): Mimura / Mimure (Meemoorra, Meemora, Memora).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821: 31, 1822.

DAVY (1821: 31, footnote) Nitre Cave no. 15, »Memoora« (Mimure), »Doombera district.«

#### NITRE CAVE ( Mimure, Rangala range )

→Lunugala Lena

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Kandy district: Rangala range / Knuckles - Heen Ganga valley area: Looloowatte (Loolwatte): Mimura / Mimure (Meemoorra, Meemora, Memora).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974: 243; 1983: 245; Cooray, P. Gerald 1967: 97; Peet, Geoffrey A. 1945, 1946; Wilson, Jane M. 1988: 22.

#### NITRE CAVE ( Nalande 1, Pridham 1849 )

or, perhaps: Lunuge Cave (Luhunda Cave, Lunuhinda Cave); Nitre Cave Nalandi (Davy 1821)

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Nalanda (Nalande, Nalandi) village.

POSITION: (If at Nalanda itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°40'32": E 080°38'35" / N 7.67555556°: E 80.64305556°

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Pridham, Charles 1849.

The first of »... two caves, from which a small quantity of saltpetre was prepared under the native government« (PRIDHAM 1849, 2: 656) at an unspecified location somewhere »in the vicinity of Nalandé« or Nalanda (note 1). Compare →Lunuge Cave (Luhunda Cave, Lunuhinda Cave), →Nitre Cave Nalandi (Davy 1821).

NOTE 1: »Nalandé« (PRIDHAM 1849) appears to correspond to the village of Nalanda N 07°40'32": E 080°38'35" (WGS84) at the base of the trigonometrical station Nalanda Rock N 07°42': E 080°38' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### NITRE CAVE ( Nalande 2, Pridham 1849 )

or, perhaps: Lunuge Cave (Luhunda Cave, Lunuhinda Cave); Nitre Cave Nalandi

(Davy 1821)

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) Limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Nalanda (Nalande, Nalandi) village.

POSITION: (If at Nalanda itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error)

N 07°40'32": E 080°38'35" / N 7.67555556°: E 80.64305556°

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Pridham, Charles 1849.

The second of »... two caves, from which a small quantity of saltpetre was prepared under the native government« (PRIDHAM 1849, 2: 656) at an unspecified location somewhere »in the vicinity of Nalandé« (Nalanda N 07°40'32": E 080°38'35"

WGS84). Compare →Lunuge Cave (Luhunda Cave, Lunuhinda Cave), →Nitre Cave Nalandi (Davy 1821).

NITRE CAVE ( Nalandi, Davy 1821 )

→Lunuge Cave (Luhunda Cave, Lunuhinda Cave); →Nitre Cave Nalande (Pridham 1849) 1; →Nitre Cave Nalande (Pridham 1849) 2;

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: »Nalandi« (Davy 1821) village = Nalanda, Nalande village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821: 31 footnote, 1822.

NITRE CAVE ( Paramakande )

or: Nitre Cave (Paramakande)

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821)

- Kurunegala (Kurunaegala) district: »Demoole pattoo« (Davy 1821) area:

»Paramakande« (Davy 1821) = Paramakande village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°55': E 080°00' /

N 7.91666667°: E 80.° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 3 (: 31 footnote) is situated somewhere in the vicinity of the village of

»Paramakande« (DAVY 1821) or Parama kande (note 1) in the obsolete

administrative subdivision »Demoole pattoo« (note 2) of the likewise obsolete

»Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Paramakande« (DAVY 1821) appears to correspond either to the village of Paramakanda N 07°55': E 080°00' (WGS84) or to the "rocks" (conspicuous, isolated rocky masses) of Paramakanda N 07°54': E 080°0' (WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: »Demoole pattoo« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has some connection with Dammulla N 06°04': E 080°44' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-06 or Dammulla N 06°35': E 081°43' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

NITRE CAVE ( Rajawella )

or: Nitre Cave »Rajahvilla«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: »Doombera« (Davy 1821) - Kandy district: Rangala range area: Rajawella estate = »Rajahvilla« (Davy 1821).

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°17': E 080°44' / N 7.28333333°: E 80.73333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hanguranketa; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave 16 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is at »Rajahvilla« or Rajawella (note 1), at Davy's time in one »Doombera district« (note 2).

NOTE 1: »Rajahvilla« (DAVY 1821) appears to correspond to Rajawella N 07°17': E 080°44' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003), an estate on sheet NB44-02.

NOTE 2: DAVY (1821: 379) places the Nitre cave of »Memoora in the Doombera district.« Little doubt remains that »Memoora« (DAVY 1821) corresponds to the village of Mimure / Mimura (N 07°26': E 080°50' on sheet NB44-02) just beyond the pass called Corbett's Gap / Corbet's Gap (N 07°22': E 080°50'), which lies some 15 km in a direct line approximately north-east from Kandy and thus in the north-eastern corner (very roughly N 07°15': E 080°45' to N 07°30': E 081°00') of Kandy district (Central Province).

NITRE CAVE ( Ressirowey )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala district: »Naganpahay korle« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified »Ressirowey« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 9 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated at »Ressirowey« (note 1) in the obsolete »Naganpahay korle« (note 2) of the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Ressirowey« (DAVY 1821) is not identified.

NOTE 2: »Naganpahay korle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with the village of Negampaha N 07°59'14": E 080°27'35" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NITRE CAVE ( Saffragam, Tennent 1860 )

An area of natural caves.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: ex- Saffragam area.

MAPS: Survey of India sheet: Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Tennent, James Emerson 1859, 1860; Uragoda, C.G. 1973.

»In Saffragam alone [now, more or less, in Ratnapura district] there are upwards of sixty caverns [unidentified] known to the natives, from which it may be extracted, and others exist in various parts of the island, where the abundance of wood to assist in its lixiviation would render that process easy and profitable« (TENNENT 1860, 1: 31). URAGODA (1973: 39) refers to TENNENT (1860, 5th edition, page 31).

NITRE CAVE ( Unaweruwa )

or: Nitre Cave »Oonaweroowa«

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Unaweruwa = »Oonaweroowa« (Davy 1821) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°32': E 080°35' / N 7.53333333°: E 80.58333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave 13 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is said to be situated near »Oonaweroowa« or Unaweruwa (note 1) in Matale district.

NOTE 1: »Oonaweroowa« (DAVY 1821) appears to correspond to the village of Unaweruwa N 07°32': E 080°35' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NITRE CAVE ( Wadingapallama )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: »Neurakalawa« (Davy 1821) district: »Naganpahay korle« (Davy 1821) area: unidentified »Wadingapallama« (Davy 1821).

POSITION: Not known (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: unidentified.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 10 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated near a place called »Wadingapallama« (note 1) in one obsolete administrative subdivision »Naganpahay korle« (note 2) in a certain »Neurakalawa district« (note 3).

NOTE 1: »Wadingapallama« (DAVY 1821) is not identified. Some suspects Wadigala N 06°05': E 080°51' (WGS84), sheet NB44-06, trigonometric station, Wadinagala N 07°07': E 081°32' (WGS84), sheet NB44-03, village, Wadinagala N 07°08': E 081°34' (WGS84), sheet NB44-03, village, Wadinagala N 07°06': E 081°31' (WGS84), sheet NB44-03, trigonometric station.

NOTE 2: »Naganpahay korle« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has something to do with the village of Negampaha N 07°59'14": E 080°27'35" (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NOTE 3: »Neurakalawa district« (DAVY 1821) is not identified: Anuradhapura ?

NITRE CAVE ( Wellaway )

or: Cave at →Wellawaya

A natural CAVE.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Wellaway, Weleway = »Wellawaya« (Davy 1821) village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Haputale; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Davy, John 1821: 31 footnote 17, 1822; Pridham, Charles 1849, 2: 709.

NITRE CAVE ( Werengodde )

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave, probably in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: »Seven Korles district« (Davy 1821) - Kurunegala (Kurunaegala) district: »Demoole pattoo« (Davy 1821) area:

unidentified »Werengodde« (Davy 1821) or Waragode, Weragoda, Wiragoda village.  
POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02 or NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Davy, John 1821, 1822.

Nitre Cave no. 1 (DAVY 1821: 31 footnote) is situated at an unidentified »Werengodde« (note 1) in the obsolete administrative subdivision »Demoole patoo« (note 2) in the likewise obsolete »Seven Korles district« (N 07°30': E 080°30' ±30', Kurunegala district).

NOTE 1: »Werengodde« is not identified unless it corresponds to Waragoda N 07°07': E 080°09' Waragoda N 07°15': E 080°24' Weragoda N 07°11': E 080°06' Weragoda N 07°11': E 080°28' Weragoda N 07°12': E 080°11' Weragoda N 07°17': E 080°17' or Wiragoda N 07°34': E 080°70' and that it.

NOTE 2: »Demoole pattoo« (DAVY 1821) is not identified unless it has some connection with Dammulla N 06°04': E 080°44' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-06 or Dammulla N 06°35': E 081°43' (WGS84) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

#### NITTEVO CAVES

or: Nittaewo Caves

A group of natural troglodyte caves or rock shelters.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: unclassified province in Sri Lanka: unclassified district:

Mahalenama area: Lenama.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Hussein, Asif (a.i.); Lewis, Frederick 1914; Neville, Hugh 1886.

Unspecified »caves and crevices« (note 1) in remote but otherwise unspecified jungle areas of Sri Lanka are said to have been used as homes by the Nittevo (also: Nittaewo), an apparently extinct and possibly fabulous race of dwarfish human beings (note 2).

SITUATION 1: NEVILLE (1886) has small communities of Nittevo living at Lenama (note 3).

SITUATION 2: HUSSEIN (note 4) has the Nittevo living in the region of Mahalenama (note 5), which is not only in the so-called »Yala East Intermediate Zone« but also in one Tamankaduwa (note 6) area: Some 140 km in a direct line approximately WSW of Neville's Lenama,

CULTURAL HISTORY: HUSSEIN (op. cit.) refers to the Vedda tradition as recorded by Frederick Lewis (1914: Notes on an exploration in Eastern Uva and Southern Panama Pattu.- Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon): The Nittevo were about three feet (0.9 m) tall, the females being shorter than the males. They are said to have walked erect, had no tails and were completely naked. Their arms were short and their talon-like nails long and powerful. They lived in trees, caves and crevices while their prey consisted of small animals like the hare, squirrel (*Sciurus* var.) and tortoise. They lived in gangs of 10 or 20 or more and their speech was like the twittering of birds. The Nittevo are said to have lived two generations earlier, so that the extermination of this race — if they ever had existed — may have to be assigned to about the late eighteenth century.

NOTE 1: Compare the →Kudimbegala Cave (Mahalenama area) and the →Pinnacle Rock Cave (Tiriyai)..

NOTE 2: Further reading: HILL, Osman (1945): Nittaewo: An unsolved problem of Ceylon.- Loris (a.i.); LEWIS, Frederick (1914): Notes on an exploration in Eastern Uva and Southern Panama Pattu.- Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon (Colombo); NEVILL, Hugh (1886): The Nittaewo of Ceylon.- The Taprobanian (l.i.);

RAMBUKWELLA, [Captain] A.T. (1963): The Nittaewo: The legendary pygmies of Ceylon.- Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Ceylon (Colombo).

NOTE 3: »Lenama« (NEVILLE 1886) N 06°10': E 080°27' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) lies 140 km in a direct line approximately WSW from the Mahalenama (N 06°39': E 081°42').

NOTE 4: Asif Hussein (a.i.: The Nittevo: Sri Lanka's Lost Tribe) on: <[www.bigfootencounters.com/articles/nittevo.htm](http://www.bigfootencounters.com/articles/nittevo.htm)> (accessed 2005.08.17); <[www.lankalibrary.com/cul/nittevo.htm](http://www.lankalibrary.com/cul/nittevo.htm)> (accessed 2005.08.17); <[www.lanka.net/ExploreSL/98feb/Nittevo.html](http://www.lanka.net/ExploreSL/98feb/Nittevo.html)> (accessed 2005.08.17); <[www.meta-religion.com/Paranormale/Anomalies/nittevo.htm](http://www.meta-religion.com/Paranormale/Anomalies/nittevo.htm)> (accessed 2005.08.17).

NOTE 5: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists a trigonometric survey station Mahalenama (N 06°39': E 081°42' (WGS84) in addition to one forest of Mahalenama Eliya (N 06°38': E 081°42' (WGS84).

NOTE 6: »Tamankaduva« (HUSSEIN a.i.) is not identified as it is neither listed on <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) nor in IMPERIAL GAZETTEER (1907-1909, 25: 563) or in EICHER (2007: India Road Atlas.- index).

#### NUWARAGALA "ROCK CAVES"

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made, troglodyte caves or rock shelters.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern province: Batticaloa district: Maha Oya: Nuwaragala area: Pollebadda / Pollebedda.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°29': E 081°26' / N 7.48333333°: E 81.43333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Maha Oya; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A group of »rock caves« (CEYLON TRAVELLER) in the jungle south of Maha Oya town. Compare →Wauwuwela Galge. APPROACH: The route is from Maha Oya (note 1) south-east for 10 km to the Veddah village of Pollebadda / Pollebedda (N 07°28': E 081°23') along a motorable road. The buried city (N 07°29': E 081°26') on the rock is reached by an 8 km walk through dense jungle (a local Veddah guide is essential) on a path that takes off to the left of the road at Pollebedda crossing the Rambukkan oya.

CULTURAL HISTORY - rock art (epigraphy): One rock chamber below the summit bears inscriptions in the 2nd century Brahmi script (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 251-253; 1983: 253-254).

NOTE 1: Maha Oya (N 07°32': E 081°21'), on the road from Batticaloa (N 07°43': E 081°42') to Badulla (N 06°59': E 081°03') or Kandy (N 07°17'47": E 080°38'06" WGS84).

#### OKANDA GALGE

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural painted cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern province: unclassified district: Okanda village.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°39': E 081°46' / N 6.65°: E 81.76666667° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1953.

A "rock shelter" (or cave?) containing rock art (painted with polychrome markings of animals inserted, and with numerous symbols) is situated somewhere near Okanda



(N 06°39': E 081°46') in the Eastern Province (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1953: 125).

Cave at

#### OKKAMPITIYA

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gravitationally dislocated boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Okkampitiya village.

POSITION: WGS84 (approximate horizontal precision error  $\pm 5$  km) N 06°45': E 081°17' / N 6.75°: E 81.28333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 5 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Personal correspondence.

A cave or rock shelter, situated at an unspecified location somewhere near Okkampitiya (note 1), consists of single 5 m wide chamber in gravitationally dislocated boulders. The site, when archaeologically excavated (by the Sarasin brothers?) in 1908, was found to be barren (Brooks 1995 Mss, item no. 9; after DERANIYAGALA 1980: 155).

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1908: Archaeological excavation (by the Sarasin brothers?) proved the site to be barren.

NOTE 1: Okkampitiya N 06°45': E 081°17' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) lies some 10 km approximately east of Buttala (N 06°45': E 081°14').

#### OLDEST CAVE

→Wavulpane

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Rakwana range - Halwinne dola / Halwinna river area: Pallabeda, Wavulpane & Werawatta villages.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Oldest Cave Found 1968a, 1968b, 1969.

'Cave' at

#### OMUNA

or: Höhle am Omuna Felsen, Caves at Oomanoo

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural sacred troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave) in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Polonnaruwa district: Maha Oya - Omuna village area: Omunagala Forest Reserve: Omuna Galge.

POSITION: (If at the village of Omuna itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°37': E 081°16' / N 7.61666667°: E 81.26666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Maha Oya or Rukam; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Baker, Samuel White 1854, 1871, 1875, 1898; Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1908, 1939.

»Caves that would have housed some hundreds of men« (BAKER 1854 edited 1871, 1875, 1898: chapter xii: A jungle trip) consist of a wide rock shelter (SARASIN & SARASIN 1908: 1-15), which is partly closed by a wall and characterised by a nearby spring. At least in the 1930ies, it contained a Buddhist sanctuary and hermitage (SARASIN & SARASIN 1939: 83).

ETYMOLOGY: The »caves at Oomanoo« (BAKER 1854 edited 1871, 1875, 1898) and »Höhle am Omuna Felsen« (SARASIN & SARASIN 1908) are but other names

of the cave on Omuna Galge / Omunagalge (Omuna Rock) near the village of Omuna.

SITUATION 1: Below an overhanging wall of the Omuna Rock / Omuna Galge (N 07°37': E 081°16'), which lies in the Omunagala Forest Reserve (N 07°39': E 081°18') and at a travelling distance of about 12 miles (19.3 km) approximately north-west of Maha Oya (N 07°32': E 081°21').

SITUATION 2: BAKER (1854, 1871, 1875, 1898: chapter xii: A jungle trip) came across the »caves at Oomanoo« on a route from one »Monampitya« (note 1) past a »2000 feet high« hill called »Gunner's Coin« (note 2) to the village of »Oomanoo« (note 3) in Veddah country (note 4).

CAVE DESCRIPTION (BAKER 1854 edited 1871, 1875, 1898: chapter xii): »In one part of this forest a rocky mountain appeared at some period to have burst into fragments; and for the distance of about a mile it formed the apparent ruins of a city of giants. Rocks as large as churches lay piled one upon the other. forming long dark alleys and caves that would have housed some hundreds of men. The effect was perfectly fairylike, as the faint silver light of the sun, mellowed by the screen of tree tops, half-lighted up, these silent caves. The giant stems of the trees sprang like tall columns from the foundations of the rocks that shadowed them with their dense foliage. Two or three families of 'Cyclops' would not have been out of place in this spot; they were just the class of people that one would expect to meet.«

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1851 November 26: "Sir" Samuel White BAKER (1854 edited 1871, 1875, 1898, chapter xii: "A jungle trip"), accompanied by his brother Lieutenant Valentine Baker, Honourable E. Stuart Wortley (later: Lord Wharnccliffe), E. Palliser (Esq.) passed by the caves at »Oomanoo« (Omuna). For the fun of destroying wildlife, they were helped along by a large crew of gun bearers, trackers, servants and a Veddah guide: »The coolies, with the tents and baggage, kept close up with the horses, being afraid to lag behind, as there was not a semblance of a path, and we depended entirely upon our small guide, who appeared to have an intimate knowledge of the whole country.«

NOTE 1: »The village of Monampitya consists of about six small huts« (BAKER 1854 edited 1898 chapter xii) and lies on the banks of the Mahawelle (Mahaweli Ganga; also: Mahaveli, Mahawela, Mahevella, Makawelu) River. There is one Manampitiya / Mannampitiya N 07°55': E 081°06' (WGS84) and another Manampitiya / Mannampitiya at N 07°54': E 081°07' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 2: »Gunner's Coin« (BAKER 1854 edited 1898.xii) is a misinterpretation of »Gunners Quoin 1753« (Survey Department 1977: Road map of Sri Lanka) and means Dimbulagala N 07°52': E 081°07' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003): 1753 m asl (Survey Department 1977: Road map of Sri Lanka).

NOTE 3: »Oomanoo« (BAKER 1854 edited 1898.xii) appears to correspond to Omuna, a village in the Omunagala Forest Reserve. This »Oomanoo« lies four Veddah miles or twentyfive Baker miles from one »Pyelay« (1850ies Government maps), which lies on the track from Badulla (35 Baker's miles distant) to Batticaloa, and on this track 4 Baker miles from one »Curhellulai« (not identified: Korelai?), which itself lies 4 Baker miles from the »Park« (on AMS sheet NB44-02 N 07°00': E 080°49') and 20 Baker miles from »the luxurious and pretty village of Bibille« (Bibile N 07°10': E 081°13').

NOTE 4: BAKER (1854 edited 1898.xii): »All vestiges of open country had long ceased. We now rode for seventeen miles through magnificent forest, containing the

most stupendous banian trees that I have ever beheld. The ebony trees were also very numerous, and grew to an immense size. This forest was perfectly open. There was not a sign of either underwood or grass beneath the trees, and no track was discernible beyond the notches in the trees made at some former time by the Veddah's axe.«

Höhle am

OMUNA FELSEN ( Sarasin & Sarasin 1908 )

see: Cave at →Omuna

A modified natural sacred troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Polonnaruwa district: Maha Oya - Omuna (Oomanoo) village area: Omunagala Forest Reserve: Omuna Galge.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Maha Oya or Rukam; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1908: 1-15.

'Caves' at

OOMANOO ( Baker 1854 )

see: Cave at →Omuna

A modified natural sacred troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave) in gravitationally dislocated boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Polonnaruwa district: Maha Oya - Omuna (Oomanoo) village area: Omunagala Forest Reserve: Omuna Galge.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Maha Oya or Rukam; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Baker, Samuel White 1854, 1871, 1875, 1898: chapter xii: "A jungle trip".

ORANGENGROTTE

see: Cave of the →Bitter Orange

A natural or man-made troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple hermitage).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagula area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Hatton or Ratnapura; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: [Ibn] Battuta, Muhammad Ibn-Abdallah Awamiri, ca. 1355 for 1325-1354, edited by Leicht, Hans 1999: 200.

OTCHAPPUVA CAVE

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gravitationally dislocated boulders.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Uva province: Puttalam district: Wilpattu National Park (Wilpattu Game Reserve).

POSITION: Estimated WGS84 coordinates (assumed horizontal precision error ±25000 m) N 08°30': E 080°00' / N 8.5°: E 80.° (mere guesswork).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 4 m. Vertical range: Not known.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995, personal correspondence  
A so-called »small« (so what?) cave or rock shelter with an entrance some 4 m across that opens into a 3 or 4 m wide chamber.

ETYMOLOGY: »Otchappuca« (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 31) sounds strange to me (note 1).

SITUATION: At an unspecified location somewhere »on the edge of the Wilpattu

Game Reserve« (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 31) or Wilpattu National Park (note 2) in the »North Western semi-arid Lowlands« (DERANIYAGALA S.U. 1980: 177). LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka (2003: 114): »Wilpattu National Park. Wilpattu, 26 km to the north of Puttalam [N 08°02': E 079°49'] and covering 1085 sqkm, is Sri Lanka's largest National Park ...«

NOTE 1: There is one village of Ottappuwa N 08°11': E 080°15' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) falling on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NOTE 2: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) listed Wilpattu National Park N 08°25': E 080°00' (WGS84). Wilpattu North Sanctuary N 08°34': E 080°00' (WGS84) Wilpattu West Sanctuary N 08°21': E 079°53' (WGS84).

#### PACCHIMA VIHARA

→Dambulla Galge Cave 4 or: Western Cave, Westliche Höhle

A modified natural, sacred and painted, troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave) in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Dambulla (Dambul) village: Dambulla Gala.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nalanda; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Reichenbach, Kurt & Kiedrowski, Rainer 1995. Cave at

#### PADANWELA

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: unclassified province in Sri Lanka: unclassified district: Wilson's Bungalow: Padanwela.

POSITION: (If at Wilson's Bungalow itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°53': E 080°51' / N 6.88333334°: E 80.85° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Cooray, P. Gerald 1967.

There is an unexplored cave in crystalline limestone (COORAY 1967: 97) is situated at Padanwela (note 1) near Wilson's Bungalow (N 06°53': E 080°51').

NOTE 1: Padanwela (COORAY 1967) is not identified: Too far north lies Padawela N 07°29': E 081°14' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-03 and too far south lies Pananwela N 06°07': E 080°41' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-06.

#### PARAMAKANDA "CAVE"

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Puttalam district: Paramakanda.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°55': E 080°00' / N 7.91666667°: E 80.° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheets: Battulu Oya, Puttalam; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

Either a natural temple cave sacred to Buddhists or a man-made »cave temple« (rock-cut chamber used for religious purposes) reports the CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249; 1983: 251) from Paramakanda.

ETYMOLOGY: The Sinhala "kanda" means something along the lines of a hill.

SITUATION: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions under »Paramakanda« not only one village at N 07°55': E 080°00' but also certain

»conspicuous, isolated rocky masses [RKS]« at N 07°54': E 080°00' (WGS84) in the

lowlands south-east of Puttalam (N 08°02': E 079°49') and north-north-west of Anamaduwa (N 07°52'39": E 080°00'52").

Cave near

PATANAGEDERA ( Lagalla )

or: Patanegedara

Unexplored and not mapped natural cave in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central province: Matale district: Lagalla: Patanagedera (Patanegedara) village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°34': E 080°45' / N 7.56666667°: E 80.75° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Cooray, P. Gerald 1967.

An unspecified cave in crystalline limestone (COORAY 1967: 97) lies at an unspecified location somewhere in the vicinity of the village of »Patanagedera« (COORAY 1967) or Patanagedera (N 07°34': E 080°45') near Lagalla (N 07°33': E 080°44').

PERIYA MANDAPAM

or: Kerudavil Cave, Perya Mandapan, Siberiya Mandapam / Mandapan

Explored and mapped natural cave and fabulous tunnel in upper Lower Miocene (Burdigalian) Jaffna limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Kerudavil: Kankesanturai village.

POSITION: (If at Kerudavil itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 09°49': E 080°09' / N 09.81666667°: E 80.15° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: 65 m. Vertical range: ±6 m (+0m / -6m).

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Liska, Milan 1980; Mitter, Pavol 1978; Sasvari, Tibor 1978.

A shallow pothole or collapse doline. Until »recently« was possible to pass by subterranean passages all the way from from Periya Mandapam to →Sinna Mandapam. In 1974, and at least before 1983, the entrance to Periya Mandapam was still public (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 249-250; 1983: 250-251). According to LISKA (1980), the young sinkholes and combined horizontal / vertical caves on the flat surface of the peninsula (e.g. like Periya Madapam) result from recent slow uplift. ETYMOLOGY: "Periya Mandapam" translates into »large [pilgrim's] shelter« and corresponds to the »krasové kaverny Siberiya Mandapam pri Kerudavil« of MITTER (1978: 147).

SITUATION: Not far from Kankesanturai (N 09°49': E 080°02') and either well over 400 m (note 1) or almost 800 m (note 3) in an unspecified direction from →Sinna Mandapam in a prominent ridge of rock near Kerudavil (note 4).

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1978 (SASVARI 1978: 49-50) gives a cave plan with 4 cross sections in addition to a description in Hungarian language of »Sinna és Parya Mandapan« titled »Kerudavil-barlang« and »Kerudavil Cave.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1979 (MITTER 1979a: 154- 155): The labyrinthic, 40 m long, 4 to 6 m below the surface, »Sucha jaskyna pri Kerudawill (Dry Cave by Kerudawill)« is said to once have been connected with »Sibieria Mandapan.«

NOTE 1: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974, 1983: 250): »... the cavern locally called Sinna and Periya Mandapam ... not far from Kankesaanturay ... are well over a

quarter of a mile [402 m] apart, but until recently it was possible to pass by subterranean passages [a fabulous tunnel?] all the way from one to the other.«  
NOTE 2: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974, 1983: 131): »... the limestone caverns at Sinna and Periya Mandapam [are] exceeding for close on a half mile, showing glimpses of the limestone shelf on which Jaffna stands.«

NOTE 3: Kerudavil, reached by a 1.2 km long minor road turning inland off the Kankesanturai - Point Pedro main road by a temple near milepost 5 3/4 = 9.3 km (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 249-250; 1983: 250-251), is positioned at N 09°49' E 080°09' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### PERYA MANDAPAN

→Periya Mandapam

A natural cave and fabulous tunnel.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Kerudavil: Kankesanturai village.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Sasvari, Tibor 1978: 49.

#### PIDURAGALA " CAVE " no. 1

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made rock-cut chambers ('cave temple').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Matale district: Sigiriya (Sighiri, Sigiri): Piduragala.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°58': E 080°46' / N 7.96666667°: E 80.76666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Polonnaruwa; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

An unspecified »cave« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974, 1983: 114, 253), which serves as a vihara, contains an inscription (note 1) and houses an old image, now renovated.

SITUATION: »About a mile [1 or 2 km] to the north of Sigiriya« (N 07°57': E 080°45') and »above the modern temple« at the village of Piduragala (N 07°58': E 080°46').

#### PIDURAGALA " CAVE " no. 2

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made, sacred, troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave) or rock chamber (cave temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Matale district: Sigiriya (Sighiri, Sigiri): Piduragala.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°58': E 080°46' / N 7.96666667°: E 80.76666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Polonnaruwa; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

Either a »cave dwelling« (note 1), »large cave« (note 2), or »long cave« (note 3), if not a wide rock shelter, contains an inscription (rock art: epigraphy) and a colossal statue of Buddha.

SITUATION: »Close to the summit of the rock« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 251; 1983: 253) at the village of Piduragala (N 07°58': E 080°46').

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 251; 1983: 114): Piduragala Cave no. 2 is »a large cave in which reposed a colossal image of the recumbent

Buddha, made from brick and stucco.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 2 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 114): »A long cave [wide rock shelter?] on the east of the summit has been divided into three sections by walls. Near this cave is a 7th century inscription [rock art: epigraphy], which refers to the donation of gold and of fields. In one image house of this cave is a large recumbent Buddha statue made of brick and stucco, probably 10th century, and on the wall of another image house is the drawing of a woman.«

NOTE 1: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249): »Cave dwellings ... include those at ... Piduragala in the Matale District.«

NOTE 2: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 251; 1983: 253).

NOTE 3: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1983: 114).

PIHILEGODA GALGE

or: Pihilegodagalge

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural troglodyte rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: unclassified province in Sri Lanka: unclassified district: Pihilegoda or, perhaps: Pihillikanda / Pihillakande tea plantation.

POSITION: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Kopper, J.S. 1973; Seligman, M.E. or C.G. & Seligman, B.Z. 1911.

A rock shelter used by man: »The dwelling is about 11 m long and averages 2 m in depth from the drip line to the back wall for a floor area of about 22 square metres. Average roof height appears to be 1.5 m. In this limited space 5 extended families, which for the sake of conservatism is estimated at 7 individuals each, lived for months at a time in 0.6 square metres.m of floor space or 1 cubic metre of total space per person« (KOPPER 1973: 36).

SITUATION: The location of »Pihilegoda Shelter« (KOPPER 1973) is not known but possibly lies near a place called»Pihilegoda« (note 1).

NOTE 1: »Pihilegoda« (KOPPER 1973) is not identified unless it has something to do with Pihillikanda / Pihillakande (a tea plantation at N 07°26': E 080°38' on AMS sheet NB44-02) or Pillagoda (a village at N 06°09': E 080°12' on AMS sheet NB44-06) or the Pillagoda Valley (a tea plantation at N 06°08': E 080°14' on AMS sheet NB44-06).

PILIKUTTUVA "CAVE DWELLING" ( Gampaha )

or: Pilikuttuwa Cave Dwelling

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made, troglodyte cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Western province: Colombo district: Gampaha: Pilikuttuva (Pilikuttuva) village.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°04': E 080°03' / N 7.06666667°: E 80.05° (unspecified coordinate source).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

A »cave dwelling« (vihara? = group of man-made, rock-cut chambers used for monastic troglodyte dwelling) reports CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249; 1983: 251) from »Pilikuttuva« or Pilikuttuwa (note 1) »near« (about 7 km in a direct line approximately WSW from) Gampaha (N 07°05'30": E 079°59'39" WGS84), which itself lies from Colombo city (Fort Railroad Station at N 06°56'01": E 079°51'01" WGS84).

NOTE 1: »Pilikuttuva« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 249; 1983: 251), thePilikuttuwa

at N 07°04': E 080°03' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003), lies about 26 km in a direct line approximately north-east from Colombo (N 06°56'01": E 079°51'01" (WGS84)..

NOTE 2: Gampaha (N 07°05'30": E 079°59'39" WGS84) lies about 23.5 km in a direct line north-east from Colombo city (Fort Railroad Station at N 06°56'01": E 079°51'01" WGS84).

#### PILIMA LENA

or: Pilimalena, Pilima-lena

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Kegalle (Kegalla) district: Kitulgala village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°59'40": E 080°24'41" / N 6.99444445°: E 80.41138889° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-02.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

An unspecified cave or rock shelter called »Pilima-lena« (Pilima Lena, Pilimalena) reported the CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 253, 254; 1983: 256, 257) from somewhere near Kitulgala village (N 06°59'40": E 080°24'41" WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### PINNACLE ROCK 'CAVE' ( Tiriya )

or: Vilattie Malai, Nachchiya Malai

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made cave, rock shelter or rock-cut chamber, possibly in limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Trincomalee district: Tiriya: Pinnacle Rock (Vilatti Malai, Nachchiya Malai).

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°46': E 081°01' / N 8.76666667°: E 81.01666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nilaveli, Padawiya, or Kokkilai; AMS sheet: NC44-15.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Fernando, Kishanie S. 2003.

An »ancient cave hermitage dating back to very early Buddhist times. There is a Brahmin inscription [rock art: epigraphy] on the brow of the cave and some other strange stone formations« (FERNANDO 2003), possibly in limestone (note 1).

Compare →Tiriya Cave.

ETYMOLOGY: Pinnacle rock is »Known as Vilatti Malai in Tamil and Nachchiya malai« (FERNANDO 2003).

SITUATION (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974 edited 1984: 120): South of Kuchchaveli (N 08°49': E 081°06') and near the summit of Pinnacle Rock (note 2).

CULTURAL HISTORY - Human use (CEYLON TRAVELLER (1983: 119): »Hugh Neville in Tapobanian suggests that this is one of the Island's most ancient places of worship and connects it interestingly with similar styles of worship in very far-flung places.« APPROACH 1 (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974 edited 1984: 120): South of Kuchchaveli (N 08°49': E 081°06'): »A most convenient way to reach this out-of-the-ordinary site is to hire a vallam, an outriggerless dug-out canoe, from the fishing settlement at the Salappai Aru ferry [note 3]. The journey —one way— is about four miles through fascinating mangrove swamp and heavy, bird-filled jungle.«



APPROACH 2 (FERNANDO 2003): »The 25 kilometre jungle track to Tiriya [N 08°52': E 081°01'] was irresistible to us. This was our second trip. It was not so long ago that it was inaccessible to civilians and now it seemed it had opened its vistas luring many into its wilds. Passing Nilaweli and a few other small hamlets, the security check points warned us that we were travelling into the hidden heart of Lanka along its eastern sea line rarely broken by the mark of man. However, the once deserted migrant fishing hamlets seemed to be awakening. There were more huts and more people than during our last visit. ... However, to explore these strange places is not yet possible due to tight security. In fact it is almost a shock to realise the fragility of the peace which we enjoy along the roads of Colombo when we pass through the heavily guarded and constantly patrolled jungle tracks. At all times you may be sure to find soldiers watching you almost hidden amongst the trees.«

NOTE 1: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1983: 119-120): »At the foot of the hill runs a small river [no name mentioned: Matti Aru], which is said to have the property of petrifying objects by coating them with a heavy deposit of calcium [more likely: calcium carbonate, calcareous tufa / travertine speleothem]. It is certainly true that on the sand banks lining the stream petrified crab shells and similar objects, apparently turned into limestone, are often found.« Slow cavers: Take care! FERNANDO (2003): »Nihal Fernando in his book the Ceylon Traveler says that it is certainly true that on the sand banks lining the stream petrified crab shells and similar objects apparently turned into limestone are often found. The petrified crabs of Matti Aru [\*], which is one of the several rivers which flow into Salape Aru [\*\*] as common estuary, have been said to be of medicinal value and used to cure urinary disorders. Dr. H. Woodward describes a certain medicinal crab found here used in the Chinese pharmacopoeia.« \* There is one Matti Aru N 08°6': E 079°49' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NC44-14. The Tamil "aru" means »stream« (water course). \*\* »Salape Aru« (FERNANDO 2003) is the »Salappai Aru« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 120)..

NOTE 2: There are two different »Pinnacle Rock« in Sri Lanka: Pinnacle Rock N 08°46': E 081°06' a hill\* 14 km in a direct line south-east of Tiriya N 08°52': E 081°01') and Pinnacle Rock N 08°34': E 081°14' a rock\* 40 km in a direct line south-east of Tiriya (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) but the latter seems to be too far away. \* rock: a conspicuous, isolated rocky mass hill: a rounded elevation of limited extent rising above the surrounding land with local relief of less than 300 m.

NOTE 3: »Salappai Aru« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1984: 120) or »Salape Aru« (FERNANDO 2003). The Tamil "aru" means »stream« (water course).

PINNACLE ROCK 'NICHE' ( Tiriya )

or: Vilattie Malai, Nachchiya Malai

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made rock shelter (temple cave).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: North Western province: Trincomalee district: Tiriya:

Pinnacle Rock (Vilatti Malai, Nachchiya Malai).

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°46': E 081°01' / N 8.76666667°: E 81.01666667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nilaveli, Padawiya, or Kokkilai; AMS sheet: NC44-15.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

»A strange, egg-shaped niche in a vertical rock, wonderfully smoothly-surfaced and

not unlike a similar niche in the famous Hypogeum [Hypogæum] on the island of Malta« reports CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974, 1983: 119) from somewhere below the Pinnacle Rock Cave.

#### POTANA " SHELTER "

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Matale district: Sigiriya (Sighiri, Sigiri): Potana.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°00': E 080°47' / N8°: E 80.78333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Polonnaruwa; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Adikari, G. 1998. SECONDARY

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 2002.

An unspecified »shelter« (possibly a daylight lit rock shelter, perhaps a cave used by man as a shelter) which was archaeologically excavated (ADIKARI 1998) and dated on charcoal to 5'800 cal BP.

SITUATION: In the lowland Dry Zone and at a distance of 5 km west of Sigiriya (DERANIYAGALA 2002: 5), and possibly somewhere in the approximate vicinity of N 08°00': E 080°47' = Potana (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) but in this region there are several "Potana" places and features.

#### POTOOR WELL

→Tidal Well ( Puttur )

A natural pothole cave with sink and spring in upper Lower Miocene (Burdigalian) Jaffna limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Puttur (Putur, Putturu, Potoor, Potur) village area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Tennent, James Emerson 1859 reprinted 1860, 1: 21, 1860, 2: 536.

#### POTUR WELL

→Tidal Well ( Puttur )

A natural pothole cave with sink and spring in upper Lower Miocene (Burdigalian) Jaffna limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Puttur (Putur, Putturu, Potoor, Potur) village area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Balfour, Edward 1885 reprinted 1968, 3: 274.

#### PUDULI GALGE

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural, sacred and painted, troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Polonnaruwa (Polonnaruva) district: Dimbulagala (Gunner's Quoin): Tamankaduwa village.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 07°51': E 081°08' / N 7.85°: E 81.13333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rukam; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Bellew, Peter 1957 reprinted 1964a.

A rock art site of unspecified nature and character reports reports BELLEW (1957 reprinted 1964a) from the Puduli Galge at Dimbulagala / Gunner's Quoin (note 1)

near Tamankaduwa (note 2). Compare the →Dimbulagala caves and the →Pulligoda Cave.

NOTE 1: Both »Gunners Quoin 1753« (metres above sea level) and »Dimbulagala« (place of archaeological and tourist interest) on the "Sri Lanka road map" (Survey Department 1977). <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions (WGS84): N 07°52': E 081°07' Dimbulagala "RKS" (rocks: conspicuous, isolated rocky masses) N 07°51': E 081°08' Dimbulagala Archaeological Reserve "ANS" (ancient site: a place where archeological remains, old structures, or cultural artifacts are located).

NOTE 2: »Tamankaduwa« (BELLEW 1957 reprinted 1964a) is not identified. 'Cave' at

#### PULLIGODA

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural, sacred and painted, troglodyte cave, rock shelter (temple cave) or rock-cut chamber ('cave' temple).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Polonnaruwa (Polonnaruwa) district: Dimbulagala (Gunner's Quoin).

POSITION: (WGS84) N 07°51': E 081°08' / N 7.85°: E 81.13333333° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rukam; AMS sheet: NB44-03.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1984.

Pulligoda is a rock art site (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1973, 1984: 112). Compare the →Dimbulagala Caves.

SITUATION: »Three and a half miles« (5.6 km, probably along the road) south of Dimbulagala / Gunner's Quoin (note 1).

CULTURAL HISTORY - rock art (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1973, 1984: 112): »... in a cave on a boulder. Two layers of plaster of clay and lime have been applied on the rock face to prepare it for the painting, which depicts five gods seated on a beautifully embroidered scarf —four in the anjali mudra (making obeisance with palms together) and the fifth holds up a garland of flowers. Part of the painting, which probably belongs to the 12th century, has broken off.«

NOTE 1: Both »Gunners Quoin 1753« (metres above sea level) and »Dimbulagala« (place of archaeological and tourist interest) on the "Sri Lanka road map" (Survey Department 1977). <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) positions (WGS84): N 07°52': E 081°07' Dimbulagala "RKS" (rocks: conspicuous, isolated rocky masses) N 07°51': E 081°08' Dimbulagala Archaeological Reserve "ANS" (ancient site: a place where archeological remains, old structures, or cultural artifacts are located).

#### PUTTUR WELL

→Tidal Well ( Puttur )

A natural pothole cave with sink and spring in upper Lower Miocene (Burdigalian) Jaffna limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern province: Jaffna district: Puttur (Putur, Putturu, Potoor, Potur) village area.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Jaffna; AMS sheet: NC44-10. Caves at

#### RAKWANA

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter, possibly in limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district: Rakwana

village.

POSITION: (If at the town of Rakwana itself), WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°28'18": E 080°36'42" / N 6.47166667°: E 80.61166667° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Rakwana; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995, personal correspondence.

One, two or more unspecified caves or rock shelters are situated in the hillside near one of the villages called Rakwana (N 06°28'18": E 080°36'42" WGS84). Compare →Wavulpane Cave.

CULTURAL HISTORY: Archaeological excavation yielded stone tools made from chert and quartz (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 35, 36, 37; after: S.U. DERANIYAGALA 1980: 177].

#### RALTARAN GUHA

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Wilson, Jane M. 1988: 22.

#### RANAGIRI CAVES

or: Viharegale Caves; including →Dagoba Galge; →Gale Deviya Galge

A group of modified natural troglodyte rock shelter (temple cave) in gneiss (DAVY 1821: 419).

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Monaragala district: Yala National Park area: Kataragama - Buttala - Wellawaya road: Niramulla: Galge (Gallegay, Gallege) village: Ranagiri (Manikpaya Kanda, Maenikpaya Kanda, Manikpayakanda, Ranagiriya, Devagiriya) hill: Viharegala.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Buttala; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Parker, H. 1909; Sarasin, Fritz 1931; Sarasin, Fritz & Sarasin, Paul 1908, 1939.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995: Mss.

PARKER (1909: 180): »As at most of the detached metamorphic hills of Ceylon, there are several large natural caves [note 1], due to weathering and flaking of the rock, on the sides of Ranagiriya, which retain evidence of their former occupation as residences of Buddhist monks, or temples; but all are now abandoned to the forest, and to the bears and leopards which sometimes take shelter in them. [...] There is a small ruined dagaba, or solid dome-shaped relic-mound, built of brick, near some lower caves [→Dagaba Galge, Ranagiri], and over a cave close by it the following inscription has been cut in the earliest form of letters, with the bent r, which shows that it is probably of not later date than the second century B.C.«

SITUATION 1 (PARKER 1909: 179, 181-182): Somewhere on Ranagiri / Ranagiriya, an isolated outcrop of gneissic rock (note 2), about 40 to 50 m high, which lies »nearly two miles« (about 3 km) above the village of Niramulla.

SITUATION 2 (SARASIN 1931: 43): Three hours north of »Kataragam« (note 3).

SITUATION 3 (SARASIN & SARASIN 1939: 157-158) about 15 km north of »Kataragam« (note 3).

SITUATION 4 (ROAD MAP OF SRI LANKA 1977): On the western border of the Yala National Park, a short distance north of the small village of Galge N 06°35':

E 081°18' (WGS84), and some 15 or 20 km north-east of Kataragama (note 3). SITUATION 4: <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003) and, slightly unbettered, <www.wayhoo.com> (accessed 25.05.2004) positions the "caves" on Ranagiri under the title »Dagaba Caves.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - folklore / religion: Compare →Gale Deniya Galge. PARKER (1909: 179-180) stages the legendary contest of the god Gale Deviya with Buddhist monks at »a large Buddhist cave-wihara or temple« at Ranagiriya, the hill called »Maenikpaya-kanda, Rana-giriya, called also Deva-giriya (the Hill of the God), a steep forest-clad rocky hill near Niramulla, about fifteen miles north-east of Kurunaegala [Kurunegala].«

NOTE 1: Compare the →Dagaba Galge, a group of small caves or rock shelters recorded by DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1980: 155) and Brooks (1995 Mss, item no. 7).

NOTE 2: DAVY (1821: 419) noticed »... gneiss containing mica and so large a proportion of carbonat of lime that it effervesces with an acid.«

NOTE 3: »Katragam« (SARASIN (1931: 43) and »Kataragam« (SARASIN & SARASIN 1939: 157-158) corresponds to Kataragama N 06°25': E 081°20' (WGS84 <www.nima.mil/geonames> accessed 16.11.2003).

#### RANAHINGE HERESSA GALGE

Archaeologically investigated but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave or rock shelter in gneiss.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Sabaragamuwa province: Ratnapura district.

POSITION: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Simon J. Brooks 1995, personal correspondence.

An allegedly »small« (so what?) cave or rock shelter somewhere in the vicinity of Ratnapura (N 06°40'58": E 080°23'57" WGS84) yielded lithic tools when archaeologically excavated (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 32 after DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980: 177).

ETYMOLOGY: The »Ranahinge« bit (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 32) sounds strange.

Does it stand for Ranasinghe? The »Heressa« bit (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 32) sounds strange. Does it stand for Hewessa?

#### RASNAKAWEWA VIHARA " CAVES "

Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped modified natural or man-made, sacred, troglodyte caves, rock shelters (temple caves) or rock-cut chambers ('cave temples').

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Anuradhapura district:

Kahatagasdigiliya - Horowapotana (Horawapotana, Horowupotana) road area:

Rasnakawewa.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°34': E 080°44' / N 8.56666667°: E 80.73333333° <www.nima.mil/geonames> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983.

Several drip ledged »caves« (some with inscriptions) are found around a hummock of rock on which the Rasnakawewa vihara stands, which itself »is built inside a cave« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974, 1983: 106) containing rock art (paintings) and nine statues: »The approach is about 3 miles [4 or 5 km] on the Nikawewa road [note 1] from the turn off at the 16th mile [25.75 km] on the Kahatagasdigiliya [note 2] - Horowapotana [note 3] road.«

NOTE 1: <[www.nima.mil/geonames/](http://www.nima.mil/geonames/)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists 28 different "Nikawewa" entries from Sri Lanka.

NOTE 2: Kahatagasdigiliya N 08°25': E 080°41' (WGS84

<[www.nima.mil/geonames/](http://www.nima.mil/geonames/)> accessed 16.11.2003), on AMS sheet NC44-14.

NOTE 3: The Horowapotana (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1983: 106) or Horawapotana and Horowupotana N 08°33': E 080°50' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames/](http://www.nima.mil/geonames/)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NC44-14.

#### RAVAN ÄLLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1953: 127, plates 1-6.

#### RAVAN ELLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Siffre, Michel 1975: 37.

#### RAVAN TANK CAVITY

or: Bhopot Tank Cavity, Raban Tank

A dubious cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central or Sabaragamuwa province: Badulla district or Ratnapura district: Adam's Peak / Sri Pada / Pidurutulagala area: Bhopot, Raban, Ravan something.

POSITION: Not known.

MAPS: Unidentified Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet; AMS sheet: NB44-06.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Duncan, Jonathan 1799, 1807.

A »extensive mirky cavity« called »Bhoput Tank« (note 1) but also »Ravan« or »Raban Tank« (note 2) noted DUNCAN (1799 reprinted 1807: 39) when interviewing at Varanasi (Banaras / Benares, India) a saddhu (holy man) called »Purana Poori.«

SITUATION: On the island »Silan« (Ceylon, Sri Lanka) and at the side of the mountain »Sreepud, or The Divine Foot« (note 3). The »cavity« was said to be accessible from »Catlgong« (Kataragama?) on the river »Manic Gunga« (Manik Ganga, the Gem River) where there is the temple of »Cartica / Carticeya« (note 4).

CULTURAL HISTORY: This »cavity« or »tank« of dubious character is somehow reminiscent of the cave associated with the »landing of Wijayo in Ceylon« as related in the 7th chapter of the ancient Pali chronicle Mahawanso (TENNENT 1860,1: 332) or Maha-vansa. Compare →Kuvani.

NOTE 1: A »tank« would mean an artificial lake (water reservoir), which of course is sort of a cavity, but how does it come to be a »mirky cavity« ? There are hundreds if not thousands of man-made "tanks" all over Sri Lanka and some famous rock shelters are found close to some of them, including →Galge (Monaragala district), about 3 or 4 km east of the Manik Ganga but at least 100 km in a direct line from Adam's Peak / Sri Pada.

NOTE 2: »Ravan« or »Raban« is a demon / legendary warrior / god. Compare

→Ravanella Cave (near Ella).

NOTE 3: »Sreepud, or The Divine Foot« (DUNCAN 1799) is Sri Pada (Shri Padda, Pidurutulagula, Adam's Peak) N 06°48'30": E 080°29'53": 2243 m asl.

NOTE 4: »Cartica« or »Carticeya« (DUNCAN 1799) is Karttikeya (Kartikeya), also called Subrahmanya (Subramanya, Subramanyar, the bachelor): Heavenly minister of defense; god of war (STRASSER 1993: 419); brother of Ganesha (also: Ganapati); his parents are Parvati and Shiva but he was born from Agni (fire) and Ganga / Akashaganga (water) and reared by the tribal Kritikas (RAMAYANA I.36). The story of Karttikeya's disappointment, which was triggered by his parents conducting the marriage of his brother before his own is well-known (GUPTA, S.M. 1988: Karttikeya, the son of Shiva.- Dehli: Somaiya Publications): Karttikeya felt deceived and retired hurt to a sulking corner, where he is believed to reside pouting to this day (JAIN, Sandhya 2004: Adi deo - Arya devata: A panoramicview of tribal - Hindu cultural interference.- New Delhi: Rupa & Co, pages 206-209).

#### RAVANA ELLA CAVE

or: Ella Cave, Raltaran Guhava, Ravan Älle Cave, Ravana's Cave, Ravanaella Cave, Cave of Ravana, Rawana Ella Cave, Rawanaella Cave, Sita Guha / Gupha / Lena  
Frequently visited but speleologically unexplored and not mapped natural cave in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

POSITION: Unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830 coordinates (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°51'19": E 081°03'23" / N 6.85527778°:

E 81.05638889° (STRINATI & AELLEN 1981): 1220 m asl (4000 feet,

DERANIYAGALA P.E.P. 1955b: 301) or 1050 m asl (altimetric, STRINATI & AELLAN 1981).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

SPELEOMETRY: Length: Estimated 100 m. Vertical range: Not known.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Aellen, Villy; Sket, Boris & Strinati, Pierre 2001; Basset, Ralph Henry 1929; Brignoli, Paolo Marcello 1972; Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Ceylonische Quartzgeräte 1908; Cooray, P. Gerald 1967; Deraniyagala, P.E.P. 1945, 1953, 1965; Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980, 1987, 1992, 1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002; Dulling, L.A. 1926; Haddon, A.C. 1908; Lonely Planet, Sri Lanka 2003; Maa, T.C. 1980; Morgan, Robert 1943; Sahni 1952; Seligmann, C.G. 1908; Seligmanns Forschungen... 1908; Siffre, Michel 1975; Strinati, Pierre & Aellen, Villy 1981; Tennent, J. Emerson 1860; Villiers, A. 1970; Wilson, Jane M. 1988.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995.

ATTENTION: Some aspects (location, entrance coordinates, cave description, etc.) of Ravana Ella Cave are probably confused with those of →Ravana Ella Cave 2. A »precipitous ascent« (DERANIYAGALA 1953 plate 1 figure 3) or climb up requiring a ladder (DERANIYAGALA 1953 plate 1 figures 3, 4) gives access to an estimated 10 by 15 m large cave entrance (Brooks 1995 Mss, no. 39a), which faces an unspecified direction (note 1), resembles in shape »an inverted map of Sri Lanka« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974, 1983) and leads to an »extremely narrow opening at floor level« which leads to one solitary, »quite a large« (CEYLON TRAVELLER), and ascending cave passage, which is either formed in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone (COORAY 1967: 97) or in a pocket of carbonate breccia in gneiss (Brooks 1995 Mss). Compare →Ravana Ella cave 2.

ETYMOLOGY: »Ravan Älle Cave« (DERANIYAGALA 1953) is the earliest printed

spelling, which I have seen. WILSON (1988) recorded the (apparently Tamil) cave name "Raltaran Guhava" as an alternative for the »cave of Rawana, Rawanaella Cave« where the entrance is »a gash in the striking outcrop at Ella Gap and requires rope or ladder to descend into it« Resident urban scholars and foreigners prefer to call the cave along the lines of Ravanaella or Rawana Ella cave (note 2) and in the sense of one "Cave near R..." after the one or two kilometres distant »Ravan älle or Ravana's Waterfall« (DERANIYAGALA 1953), the Ravanaella Falls (note 3).

SITUATION 1: DERANIYAGALA (1953: 127): »Ravan älle cave (plate 1, figure 1) is on a hillside in the intermediate peneplain. It is about a mile [about one or two kilometres] away from Ravan älle or Ravana's Waterfall, which drops about 90 feet and flows into the valley. The stream [note 4] is about one mile below the cave.«

SITUATION 2: DERANIYAGALA (1955b: 301) places »Ravan älle« at an elevation of »4000 feet« (1220 m asl) and »1.5 miles« (2.4 km) as the crow flies north of →Alu Galge.

SITUATION 3: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 241-242; 1983: 243-244) places the cave »... at the northern extremity of the Ella Rock, a great slab of primeval stone that dominates the valley of the Kirindi oya [note 4] as it flows down the Ella Gap [note 6]. Ravana Ella cave overlooks the Ella Resthouse [note 7], from which the great rock is clearly visible, though an observer standing in the court of the Resthouse would not see the entrance to the cavern, which is hidden by the configuration of the rock and by foliage. The cave is approached via a path to a rock temple fifty to sixty feet [some 15 or 18 m] below on the mountainside. The ascent to the mouth of the cave demands grit and determination and the tenacity of a mountain goat. An expedition to this site is not recommended in wet weather which, it should be added, prevails most of the time in the Ella area. March - April and August - September to early October provide the best opportunity for easy access.«

SITUATION 4: WILSON (1988: 22) places one or the other »... cave of Rawana, Rawanaella Cave or Raltaran Guhava (Nuwara Eliya one inch map 06°51'19" N: 081°03'23" E: altitude about 1000 m asl) ... is difficult to find but its entrance is a gash in the striking outcrop at Ella Gap.«

SITUATION 5 (LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka 2003: 210-211, two location maps on pages 211, 212): From the town of Ella (N 06°52': E 081°03'), »the Rwana Ella Falls are about 6 km [approximately ESE] down Ella Gap towards Wellawaya [N 06°44': E 081°06']. ... Further up the road and to your left [south-west] as you approach Ella, a side road takes you to a little temple [unidentified] and cave ... Just before the temple, in a cleft in the mountain that rises to Ella Rock [note 8], is a cave ... Boys often materialise to show you where a track up to the cave starts, but the track is steep, overgrown and slippery.«

POSITION: N 06°51'19": E 081°03'23" (unspecified map datum probably Everest 1830, STRINATI & AELLAN 1981: 459) at altitudes ranging between 1220 m asl (DERANIYAGALA P.E.P. 1955b: 301), 1050 m asl (altimetric, STRINATI & AELLAN 1981: 459), 1000 m asl (WILSON 1988: 22).

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1953: DERANIYAGALA (1953: 127): »The floor consists of (1) loose and (2) cemented beds. The loose upper ones are at times separated by thin cemented beds but the lower and older ones are all firmly cemented. The cementing is affected by the deposition of Calcium carbonate ... [washed-in hill sand, wind borne dust, bat and / or swiftlet guano, angular blocks of rock fall, products of spalling & decomposition] ... The cave is one of the few that could be worked out with any degree of reliability since extensive tracts of the floors of many of the other caves had been disturbed by villagers who had dug them for guano.«



CAVE DESCRIPTION 1974: CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 241-242; 1983: 243-244): »The entrance to the cave resembles an inverted map of Sri Lanka, the opening at floor level is extremely narrow and is obstructed by irregular shaped rocks protruding from the floor. The crevice in the rock face is much wider in the upper end, through the opening, overall, is so small relative to the size of the cavern that light hardly penetrates more than a few feet from the entrance. The cave is quite a large one —exactly how large has not been determined yet. Somewhere in its dark recesses a subterranean stream rushes in wet weather; at other times, dripping water pitpats in an unending effort to break the deathly silence.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1981: STRINATI & AELLEN (1981: 459) report from near the summit of a hill a large entrance at 1050 m asl (barometric) leading to a steeply ascending cave passage of which the length is in the range of 100 m: »Large entrée au sommet d'une paroi de rocher. Couloir ascendant allant en se rétrécissant et long d'un centaine de mètres.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1988: WILSON (1988: 22): »The cave of Rawana, Rawanaella Cave or Raltaran Guhava ... is difficult to find but its entrance is a gash in the striking outcrop at Ella Gap and requires rope or ladder to descend into it.«

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1995: Brooks (1995 Mss, item 39a: Ravana Ella Cave 2 / The Cave of Rawanna / Rawanaell Cave) quotes from the CEYLON TRAVELLER (1983: 243-244) and adds the entrance is 10 by 15 m large.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 2003: LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka (2003: 211) advises most individual travellers and backpackers to »... find the cave itself to be disappointing.«

CULTURAL HISTORY - archaeology: SELIGMANN (1908 reviewed by HADDON 1908, CEYLONESISCHE QUARTZGERÄTE 1908, and SELIGMANN'S FORSCHUNGEN 1908) reports lithic tools from a cave at 1220 m asl.

DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (2002: 32) says »Ravanalla Cave« yielded »a large faunal assemblage, mostly of small vertebrates which have yet to be assigned to their proper stratigraphic context and analysed (disposition: Colombo National Museum).« DERANIYAGALA, S.U. (1980: 174; 1987: 105; 1992: 465-467, 696; 1996 published 1998, 2001b, 2002) on the absence of prehistoric rock art and cave paintings, notes the only item of possible ritualistic interest —a human frontal bone in the deposit of »Ravanalla Cave.« This bone had been bifacially drilled, and the rough sutural edges and a zygomatic prominence chamfered off. One aspect of the bone had been smeared with red ochre. Traces of this latter substance are frequently encountered on prehistoric grindstones. The human remains excavated from Ravanella were too fragmented for proper analysis.

CULTURAL HISTORY - religious folk lore: Hindu tales associate Ravana Ella Cave with Ravana, Sita and Rama, the legendary protagonists of the Ramayana epic. According to LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka (2003: 211), the cave is »... said to be the very one in which the king of Lanka [i.e. Ravana, Rawanna, etc.] held Sita captive.« SPELEOMETRY: STRINATI & AELLAN (1981: 459) estimate a length of »... d'une centaine de mètres« (about 100 m).

CAVE CLIMATE: DERANIYAGALA (1953: 127): »The local rainfall is heavy during six months of the year and infiltration through the roof and sides of the cave keeps about a quarter or half of the floor damp for nearly four months. ... The evidence of climatic fluctuation is provided by the calcium carbonate cemented beds which indicate humid periods with heavy rainfall and resultant increased drip.« STRINATI & AELLAN (1981: 459) recorded, most likely in the air, the »Température 25°C.«

CAVE LIFE: VILLIER (1970: 323-324) gives a taxonomical description of a new species of reduviid bugs, viz. *Bagauda aelleni*, n. sp. (Hemiptera, Heteroptera,

Reduviida: Emesina Amyot & Serville) and lists on page 321 two larvae of *Myiophanes greeni* Wygodzinsky 1966 which had been collected on 16th January 1970 P. Strinati and V. Aellen from »Grotte de Rawanaella, près d'Ella« (cave at Rawanaella near Ella). SIFFRE (1975: 37) gives two photographs showing nests of edible-nest Swiftlets in »Ravan Ella Cave.« MAA (1980: 842-843, fig. 9) gives a taxonomical description of the new species of louse-flies (Diptera: Hippoboscidae) *Myophthiria* (*Myophthiria* Rondani 1878) *zeylanica* (identified by O. Theodor as *M. reduvioides*) collected from the swiftlets *Collocalia brevirostris unicolor* from »Ravanaella Cave, Ella« STRINATI & AELLEN (1981: 459) and AELLEN, SKET & STRINATI (2001: 1978) list Arachnida (Araneae: Mimetidae: *Mimetus strinati* Brignoli 1972), Insecta (Hemiptera: Reduviidae Emesinae: *Bagauda aelleni* Villiers 1970; Diptera: Hippoboscidae: *Myophthiria zeylanica* Maa 1980, »collected in nests of *Collocalia fuciphaga* and *Collocalia unicolor*, in Rawanaella and Hindagale caves«), and Vertebrata (Chiroptera: *Rousettus* spp.; Aves: *Collocalia unicolor* Jerdon, the edible-nest swiftlet). WILSON (1988: 22) confirms: »*Collocalia*, Edible Nest Building Swiftlets, use this cave (Strinati & Aellan 1981).«

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1861: J. Emerson TENNENT (1861: 248) noted edible bird's nests provided from unspecified »inland caves« were brought from an unspecified location somewhere »35 miles from Caltura« (some 50 or 60 km from Kalutara = Ratnapura?). 1970.01.16: Pierre Strinati and Villy Aellen visited, explored and collected specimens of cave fauna (MAA 1980: 842; STRINATI & AELLEN 1981: 459; AELLEN, SKET & STRINATI 2001: 1977; VILLIER 1970: 321).

NOTE 1: DERANIYAGALA (1953 plate 1 figure 2) gives a photograph showing the view »Looking outwards from inside the cave. The distant tree shows the precipitous drop. Note the three human figures.«

NOTE 2: So far, I found the cave's name spelled, transcribed, or edited as Ella Cave (MORGAN 1943: 13), Raltaran Guhava (WILSON 1988: 22), Ravan älle cave (DERANIYAGALA, P.E.P. 1953: 127 + plates 1-6), Ravan Ella Cave (SIFFRE 1975: 36), Ravana's cave at Ella (?), Ravanaella Cave, Ella (MAA 1980: 842-843), Ravanalla Cave (DERANIYAGALA, S.U. 1980: 174; 1987: 105; 1992: 465-467, 696; 1996 edited 1998; 2002: 32), Cave of Rawana (WILSON 1988: 22), Rawana Ella cave (LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka 2003: 210-211), Rawanaella cave, près d'Ella (STRINATI & AELLAN 1981: 459; WILSON 1988: 22), Grotte de Rawanaella, près d'Ella (VILLIER 1970: 321, 324).

NOTE 2: »Ravan älle or Ravana's Waterfall« (DERANIYAGALA 1953) is the same as the Ravanaella Falls N 06°58': E 080°51' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-02.

NOTE 3: The stream Ravana Ela (Rawana Ela) with its mouth near N 07°36': E 081°25' (AMS sheet NB44-03) is not to be confused with the other stream Rawana Ela (Ravana Ela) N 07°28': E 080°52' (on AMS sheet NB44-02 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).

NOTE 4: Kirindi Oya N 06°12': E 081°18' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003) on AMS sheet NB44-07.

NOTE 5: The position of Ella Gap is not identified. The APA map "Sri Lanka 1: 450'000" (München: Nelles Verlag) shows »Ella Gap« about 2 km (or so) approximately south-west from the town of Ella (N 06°52': E 081°03') and in the upper reaches of the Kirindi Oya (N 06°12': E 081°18'). LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka (2003: 208) explains that Ella, »... the sleepy village is nestled in a valley peering straight through Ella Gap to the coastal plain nearly 1000 m below, and over to the coast where, on a clear night, you can see the Kirinda lighthouse.«

NOTE 6: The position of Ella Resthouse is not identified.

NOTE 7: Ella Rock culminates about 3 km in a direct line south-southeast of Ella town (N 06°52': E 081°03'). To get to the top, LONELY PLANET, Sri Lanka (2003: 211) recommends to head southwest »along the railway tracks (towards Bandarawela) for about 2.5 km until you come to the metal bridge; here you'll see the falls [the small Rawana Falls]. Continue along the tracks to just before the 166 1/4 km sign where you'll see a path heading to the left. Follow this over a creek, turn left, continue around a volleyball court, pass some houses and you'll soon come to woodland. The track continues to the top of the rock, where you'll be rewarded with stunning views. The walk takes about two hours each way.«

#### RAVANA ELLA CAVE 2

or: Ella Cave, Ravana's Cave, Ravanaella Cave, Cave of Ravana, Raltaran Guhava  
Unexplored and not mapped natural cave in crystalline Precambrian (Khondalite series) limestone.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town.

POSITION: (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 06°51'19": E 081°03'23" / N 6.85527778°: E 81.05638889° (Brooks 1995 Mss): 1000 m asl (Brooks 1995 Mss).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1987; Strinati, Pierre & Aellen, Villy 1981; Wilson, Jane M. 1988.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCE: Brooks, Simon J. 1995, personal correspondence.

ATTENTION: This is possibly →Ravana Ella Cave (reached by a climb up) upside down.

CAVE DESCRIPTION 1: WILSON (1988: 22): »The entrance is a gash in the striking outcrop at Ella Gap and requires rope or ladder to descent into it« (note 1).

CAVE DESCRIPTION 2: Brooks (1995 Mss nos. 22, 39, 39a) reported a Ravan / Ravana / Ravanalla / Rawanna Ella / Ravanella / Rawanaell Cave from »Nawara Eliya« (note 2): »The entrance to this cave is difficult to find. It exists as a gash in the obvious (striking) outcrop at Ella Gap. This cave is reported (S.U. Deraniyagala, personal communication 1995.04) to have been exposed during the construction of the road through Ella Gap and is now possibly closed. NE 1" map 6'51'19" N, 81'03'23" E [note 3]at an altitude of 1000 m. The gash entrance rift / pot to this cave requires a rope or ladder to assist descent ...« The entrance » ... leads into a single cleft / chamber chamber that runs into the hill for between 13 to 15 m. A side passage is present in the cave but this is completely blocked by fill. There are no other ways on. [Edible] Nest building swiftlets [Aves: Collocalia spp.] use this cave.«

NOTE 1: DERANIYAGALA (1953 plate 1, figure 3) gives a photograph showing »The precipitous ascent [climb up] to the cave [entrance]. Note the figures at the foot of the ladder, upon the ladder and in the cave« (entrance).

NOTE 2: »Nawara Eliya« (Brooks 1995 Mss) stands for Nuwara Eliya, the district in the Central Province. The first Ravana Ella cave lies in Badulla district, Eastern Central Province.

NOTE 3: These are the entrance coordinates of Ravana Ella cave (STRINATI & AELLAN 1981: 459 repeated by WILSON 1988: 22).

#### RAVANA's CAVE ( Ella )

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Cooray, P. Gerald 1967: 97.

#### RAVANAELLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Aellen, Villy; Sket, Boris & Strinati, Pierre 2001: 1978; Maa, T.C. 1980; Strinati, Pierre & Aellen, Villy 1981: 459, 460; Wilson, Jane M. 1988: 22.

#### RAVANALLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Deraniyagala, S.U. 1980: 174; 1987: 105; 1992: 465-467, 696; 1996 published 1998; 2001b; 2002: 32.

#### RAWANA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave 2

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Wilson, Jane M. 1988: 22.

#### RAWANA ELLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Lonely Planet, Sri Lanka 2003: 210-211.

#### RAWANAELLA CAVE

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella

Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Strinati, Pierre & Aellen, Villy 1981: 459, 460; Wilson, Jane M. 1988: 22.

Grotte de

RAWANAELLA, près d'Ella

→Ravana Ella Cave

A natural cave.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Eastern Central province: Badulla district: Kirindi oya - Ella Gap area: Ella town: Ella Rock.

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: Nuwara Eliya; AMS sheet: NB44-07.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE: Villier, A. 1970: 321, 324.

RITIGALA 'CAVES'

or: Caves of the Yakkas

A group of man-made rock-cut chambers.

LOCATION: Sri Lanka: Northern Central province: Anuradhapura district: Ritigala range.

POSITION: WGS84 (unspecified horizontal precision error) N 08°06': E 080°39' / N 8.1°: E 80.65° <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003).

MAPS: Survey of Ceylon (One Inch series) sheet: unidentified; AMS sheet: NC44-14.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES: Ceylon Traveller 1974, 1983; Parker, H. 1909; Pridham, Charles 1849.

A group of (at least 32) man-made 'cave temples' (rock-cut chambers used for religious purposes) commonly called »Ritigala Caves« are situated north of the road from Habarana (note 1) to Anuradhapura (N 08°21': E 080°23') in the Ritigala range (note 2). CEYLON TRAVELLER (1974: 249, 250; 1983: 251, 252): »Rising 2'513 feet [766 m] out of the north - central plain, sheer and abrupt on almost all sides, is the Ritigala range... [which is] clearly visible at a short distance from the Habarana - Maradankadawela - Anuradhapura road, just past the little village of Palugaswewa. The turn-off to the rock and cave complex is about 8 km beyond Palugaswewa, to the nearby village of Galapitagala and thence about 11 km on foot. The walk to the peak takes about four hours. As long ago as 1893 H.C.P. Bell, a former Archaeological Commissioner, discovered more than 32 caves in the range ...« CULTURAL HISTORY - legend / religion: »The caves and residences of the Yakkas are said by the natives to be still visible in Ritigalla, where they resisted one of the chiefs of Dootoo-gaimoonoo, and a numerous force, B.C. 160. The natives have a horror of trespassing on what they believe to be a stronghold of devils, and deny any knowledge of the way in which the mountain can be ascended« (PRIDHAM 1849, 2: 536). PARKER (1909: 179ff) delves into legendary history of the »large Buddhist cave-wihara or temple.«

EXPLORATION HISTORY: 1893: H.C.P. Bell discovers 32 »caves« (CEYLON TRAVELLER 1974: 250; 1983: 252)

NOTE 1: <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> (accessed 16.11.2003) lists not only the village of Habarana N 08°02': E 080°45' but also the railroad stop Habarana N 08°03': E 080°46' (WGS84).

NOTE 2: Ritigala, mountain N 08°06': E 080°39' (WGS84 <[www.nima.mil/geonames](http://www.nima.mil/geonames)> accessed 16.11.2003).#