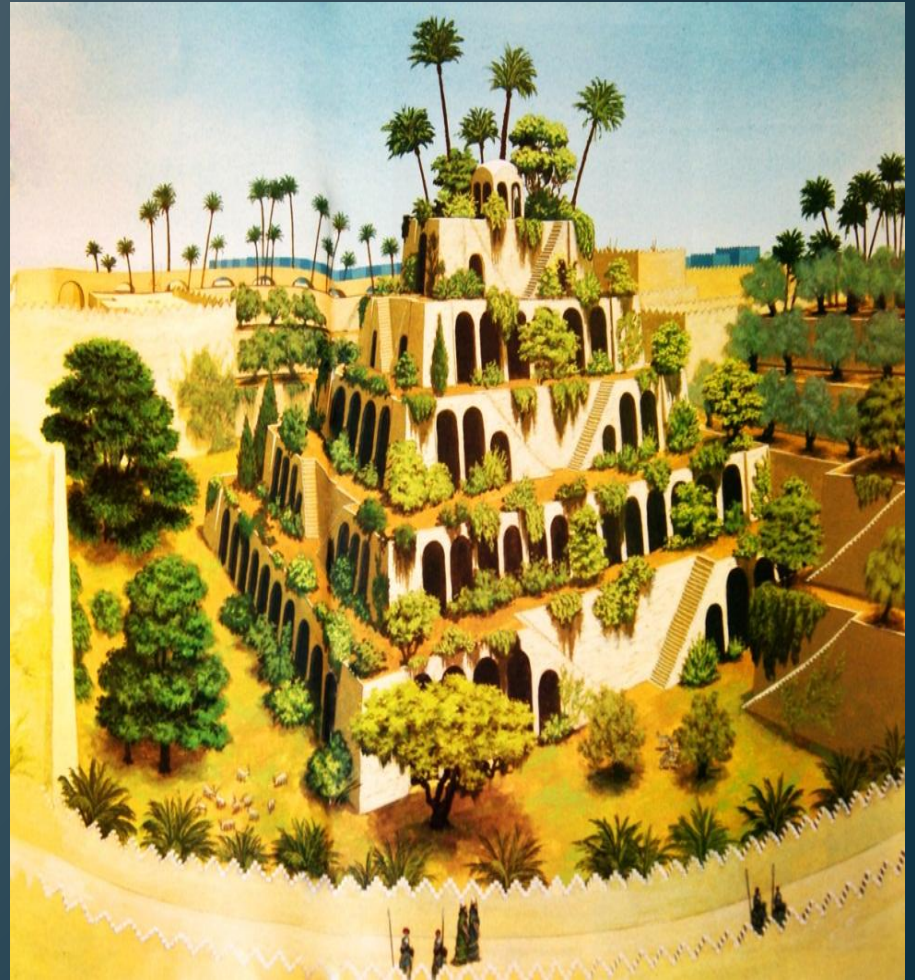


Hanging Gardens of Babylon



- The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, and the only one of the wonders that may have been purely legendary. They were purportedly built in the ancient city-state of Babylon, near present-day Al Hillah, Babil province, in Iraq.



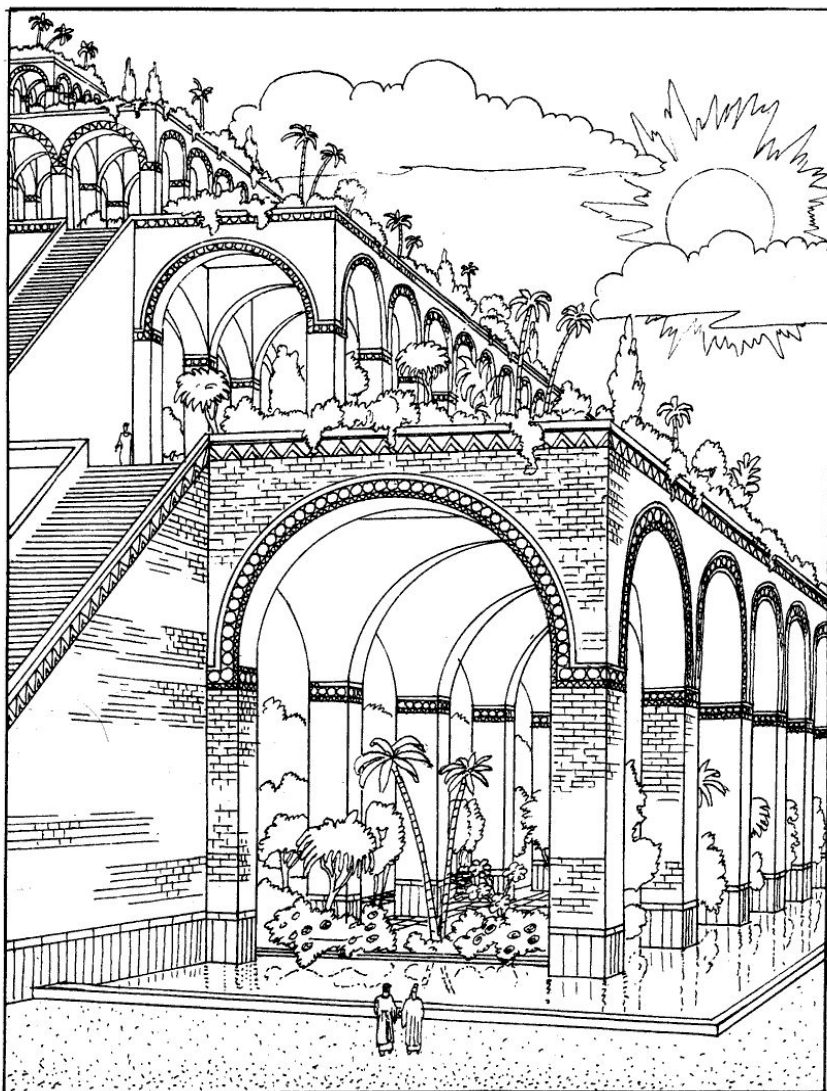
- Ancient writers describe the possible use of an Archimedes screw-like process to irrigate the terraced gardens. Estimates based on descriptions of the gardens in ancient sources say the Hanging Gardens would have required a minimum amount of 8,200 gallons (37,000 litres) of water per day.





Hanging Gardens of Babylon, 20th century Interpretation

In ancient writings the Hanging Gardens of Babylon were first described by Berossus, a Babylonian priest of Marduk who lived in the late 4th century BC, although his books are known only from quotations by later authors (e.g., Flavius Josephus). There are five principal writers (including Berossus) whose descriptions of Babylon are extant in some form today. These writers concern themselves with the size of the Hanging Gardens, why and how they were built, and how the gardens were irrigated.



Висячие сады Семирамиды в Вавилоне. Месопотамия. 605–562 гг. до н.э. Причислены к “Семи чудесам света”. Построены Навуходоносором II для своей жены. В перекрытии использованы асфальт, свинцовые плиты. Вода подавалась по каналам в стенах с помощью винтовых воротов.

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- To date, no archaeological evidence has been found at Babylon for the Hanging Gardens. It is possible that evidence exists beneath the Euphrates, which cannot be excavated safely at present. The river flowed east of its current position during the time of Nebuchadnezzar II, and little is known about the western portion of Babylon.