

## **MOTHER STONES**

These curious stones were picked up along the ocean shore at Topsail. Their natural, clean round holes pass through the hard stone in such a precise way as to suggest they were drilled by a lapidary. But this, of course, is not the case.

From early records we learn that such stones with holes were much revered by ancient cultures as talismans/amulets related to goddess religions and fertility rites.

I do not know if there is any definitive, single explanation of how these holes came about. It has been suggested that certain sea creatures, millenniums ago, drilled them when the stones were in a formative, less solid state. But it has been also suggested that the stones were solidified around worm like sea plants which soon disappeared, leaving a hole.

“Mother Stones” deserve more scientific study and literary research. Sadly, most of this can only be found in thick german-language anthropologies of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

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July 21, 1998

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