

Saying 'stay out' forever

Scientists at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, one of the nation's repositories for long-lasting waste from nuclear weapons production, are preparing a warning system designed to be legible and understandable for 500 generations.

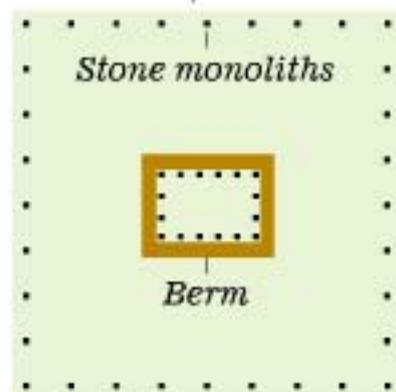
A series of protective measures

A traveler entering the 16-square-mile site would encounter a succession of warning features: stone monoliths, concrete structures and a 33 foot-high earthen berm surrounding an "information room" that includes diagrams about the site and warning messages in different languages.

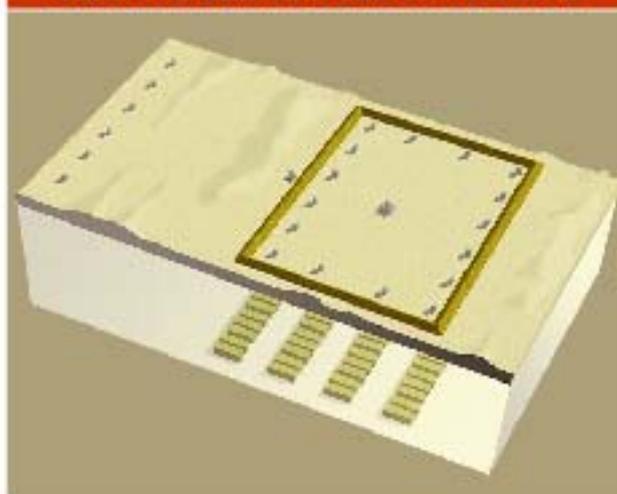
Approaching the site

Top view of site

21,120'



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Underground radar

Radar reflectors easily detected in aerial surveys would be buried in the berm, identifying the structure as artificial.



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Outer perimeter of monoliths

Information
Berm Room Berm

Outer perimeter of monoliths

Side view

Hot cell Monoliths

Overall site measures 21,120 ft.
(4 miles) across