

Polonnaruwa

Friday, 26 October 2007

Last Updated Sunday, 28 October 2007

This medieval capital replaced the earlier capital Anuradhapura after its destruction in 993 BC. The City of the Land was first used as a country residence before becoming a capital, and is largely known for its monumental ruins and its amazing garden city.

The irrigation system of Polonnaruwa – a man-made Lake Parakrama - spreads over an impressive 2400 ha (5940 acres) of land. The King Parakramabahu I, the responsible one for building the irrigation system, had his Royal Citadel built too, along with a palace and other buildings. The impressive building is marked with elaborate stone carvings, and outside the walls there is the Royal Bath, made of stone. The Buddhist shrines have a number of huge standing and reclining Buddha statues, and were housing the king Parakramabahu's treasures. {jumi

[includes/googleads.php]}WHERE IS IT

216km (134mi) from Colombo. WHAT TO SEE

See the magnificent Brahmanic monuments and an amazing garden city. {mosmap

|lat='7.933627,81.008077'|lon='0.008416,0.020084'}}