

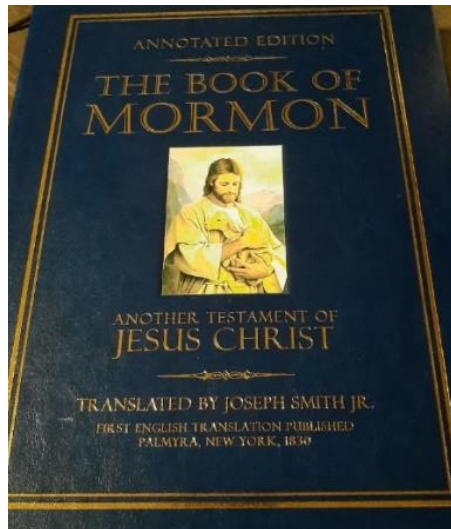
The Book of Mormon Promised Land In the Heartland of North America

Geography Doctrine & History of the Nephite Record

Introductory Studies

&

Highlights from David Hocking's Annotated Book of Mormon



Nate Richardson

RichardsonStudies.com

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PART 1: INTRODUCTORY HEARTLAND GEOGRAPHY & DOCTRINE STUDIES

[Book of Mormon Heartland Geography](#)

The main reason I subscribe to the heartland geography for Book of Mormon events is the prophetic promises within the book itself and the many statements of Joseph Smith on this being the place.

Repeatedly the book identifies North America, the country that would be there, as the promised land and nation, the most prosperous land, and the same land in which the events of the book occurred. The reason the USA is so prosperous is because it is the promised land.

It is where Adam and early prophets lived until the flood of Noah, which relocated the house of faith to the east. Then the Book of Mormon peoples came to this promised land as a choice blessing. All those who come to this land come here by the hand of the Lord.

Missouri is the location of Adam-Ondi-Ahman, and will be where the New Jerusalem is built.

Joseph Smith, who saw the Nephites in vision, identified the USA as the place of Book of Mormon events.

Eliza R. Snow spoke of Nephite temples once existing throughout Utah (“A Journeying Song for the Camp of Israel”, Eliza R Snow An Immortal (SLC: Nicholas G. Morgan, Sr., Foundation, 1957), 267)

On the Zion’s Camp march, Joseph Smith said they were wandering through the plains of the Nephites, and even found a Lamanite skeleton there, whose name and life information came to Joseph by revelation, that he was Zelph, a warrior. Other information we have on this also.

Why Not Mesoamerica?

I do not subscribe to the meso America theory of Book of Mormon geography as portored by John Lund, John Sorenson, & many at the BYU. Just because cultures climates etc. in one area show some amount of correlating evidence with the Book of Mormon doesn’t mean similar things couldn’t have been going on in the other area.

I’ve taken classes from those who teach the meso-America model, and find their evidences to be wholly lacking when compared with those of the heartland theory.

The Hill Cumorah was in New York, and those who try to place the book’s events in central or southern Utah must deal with that fact by saying there were two Hill Cumorah’s.

The primary evidence for the heartland model is the words of the book of Mormon, indicating that their land was to be the great promised land. The USA is the obvious fit.

[FAQ: Size of Heartland too Big? Travel Time?](#)

They could travel by river quickly.

The area is agreed upon by by meso and heartland advocates.

The area is not the WHOLE of north America, but particularly an area in the mid-east.

There's only 1 Hill Cumorah!

FAQ: The Narrow Neck of Land (Ether 10:20) Near Buffalo, NY

The land between north and south America divides water from water, but the Book of Mormon title is about dividing land from land.

There's only 1 narrow neck of land, & it's spoken of in Ether 10:20.

It doesn't say "the land divides the sea". Instead it says,

"And they built a great city by the **narrow neck of land**, by the place where the sea divides the land."

It's in the northeast near Buffalo NY.

This is the only narrow neck of land.

There is also a passage in Alma 63:5 on a narrow neck:

"And it came to pass that Hagoth, he being an exceedingly curious man, therefore he went forth and built him an exceedingly large ship, on the borders of the land Bountiful, by the land Desolation, and launched it forth into the west sea, by the narrow neck which led into the land northward."

This is above Ohio between the Grand Kankakee Marsh and the Black Swamp.

There is also Alma 22:32 on a small neck of land:

"And now, it was only the distance of a day and a half's journey for a Nephite, on the line Bountiful and the land Desolation, from the east to the west sea; and thus the land of Nephi and the land of Zarahemla were nearly surrounded by water, there being a small neck of land between the land northward and the land southward."

This is also in NY.

For more detailed analysis & maps see [The ONLY Narrow Neck of Land | Book of Mormon Evidence](#)

[On Jonathan Neville: Message & Resources](#)

Mobom.org is Jonathan Neville website Museum of Book of Mormon.
Also "interpreter peer review" where he debunks The Interpreter journal.
Has stuff like the gospel topics essays but which actually quotes scripture.
Also his site LetterVII.com, know what Joseph Smith said about Cumorah.

John Welch leaves out narrative of church history about the plates being at Cumorah on his book that supposedly has all the sources about the subject as they want the idea of central America not north America.

See video by Mormon book reviews on heartlanders etc.

Mormon scholars taught a certain view al their careers and are willing to quickly say the prophets are just wrong.

FARMS and Book of Mormon Central and Mormons Codex have all belittled the prophets and correlate to significant decreased growth of the church. FARMS and their mesoamerica geography theory go directly against the prophets testimonies.
The keystone of the book of Mormon is the hill Cumorah in New York!

If Cumorah wasn't in NY, it doesn't matter where it was, as it means the prophets were wrong.

Note: If you have a problem with something, you say there are 2 of those things with the same name. This is a band aid, and leads to other problems down the line!

The rational thing to do with church history first hand accounts is to believe them, the scholars make many irrational interpretations to fit their theories.

[Rod Meldrum Book of Mormon Geography showing centrality of Missouri, Enoch & Adam, etc](#)

From a BookofMormonEvidence.org newsletter

In short, I came to understand that America is WHERE and that this is HOW the "tens of thousands of Ephraim and the thousands of Manasseh are now pushing the people together to the ends of the earth" in the Last Days, just as Moses prophesied in *Deuteronomy* 33: 13-17. In addition to being **1)** Joseph's promised land, **2)** the land choice above all other lands, **3)** the land where remnants of Ephraim and Manasseh would dwell, and **4)** the location of the New Jerusalem, just look at what else we know about Missouri through modern-day prophets! It is **5)** "the center of the land", **6)** the Garden of Eden, **7)** the place where Adam dwelt, **8)** the place where Enoch lived and to which his city will return, **9)** the location of Adam-ondi-Ahman, and **10)** one of only TWO designated promised lands on this earth which He gave to, and personally prepared for, His chosen House of Israel: The OLD JERUSALEM in the Holy Land and this very sacred land of the NEW JERUSALEM in America. Christ will Return to the earth! And when He does, He will Rule and Reign from Jerusalem and the New Jerusalem. Clearly, Missouri---and America---have been chosen of the Lord!

Annotated Edition of the Book of Mormon by David Hocking and Rod Meldrum pages 506-507

For the Lord to send Lehi and his family to any other land on the face of the earth for their promised land makes reason stare! Of their promised land, Lehi said in 2 Nephi 1: 5 and 6, "...we have obtained a land of promise, a land which is choice above all other lands; a land which the Lord God hath covenanted with me should be a land for the inheritance of my seed. Yea, the Lord hath covenanted this land unto me, and to my children forever..." Together, the prophet Ether and the prophet Joseph Smith have identified Lehi's covenanted promised land for us today! It is none other than the New Jerusalem in America's Heartland. The New Jerusalem was prepared by the Lord as the place where Manasseh and Ephraim would dwell and where they would become Joseph's "horns", with which he would push the people together to the ends of the earth! In other words and at the risk of becoming overly redundant, **why would the Lord have Ether prophesy that the New Jerusalem in the land choice above all other lands was prepared for Manasseh and Ephraim, tell Joseph Smith the New Jerusalem is in Missouri, but send Manasseh to Mesoamerica to write the Book of Mormon? That is completely and totally illogical!**

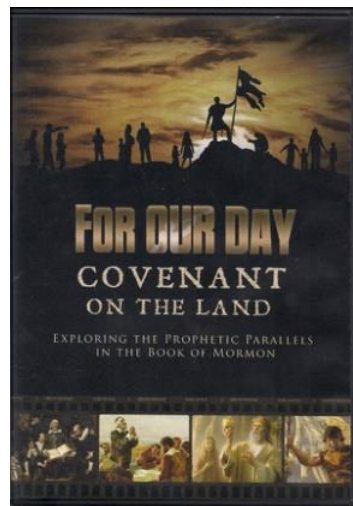
If all of this is as intriguing, enthralling, exhilarating, and humbling to you as it is to me, you will not want to miss having THE most beautiful Book of Mormon of all times---*the Annotated Edition*-- in your home. You can find all of this information expounded upon and much, much more explained by ancient and modern-day prophets in this red-letter edition of the Book of

Mormon. The colored text and the easy-to-read narrative combine together to make the Book of Mormon more understandable and comprehensible than ever before. In addition, there are hundreds of inserts which magically place the Hill Cumorah in New York (as ALL the modern-day prophets have stated) and the Book of Mormon geography in Joseph's promised land---the New Jerusalem. Joseph Smith stated over and over that, "...**The remnant (the Lamanites) are the Indians which now inhabit this country (America).**" The scholars who have been the keepers and interpreters of our Church History for many decades claim it was merely Joseph's opinion. Consequently, and most unfortunately for us, they feel completely justified in censoring, repudiating, and hiding Joseph's words from our view so that Joseph's words will then fit their interpretation instead of making certain their interpretation fits Joseph's words. Shame on them! Please thank the Lord often in your prayers for the publication of the Joseph Smith Papers in 2001 and for our Heartland friends who pour through them to find what Joseph actually said! As one such friend, Jonathan "Martin Luther" Neville, recently stated, "Make certain you are following the words of prophets and not the words of scholars!"

Annotated Edition of the book of Mormon by David Hocking and Rod Meldrum page 431

Scores and scores of my favorite inserts include the phenomenal number of ways the *Annotated Edition* prove Joseph correct---**the Native American Indians in America today are indeed the descendants of the Lamanites!** How profound is that? We have an actual, real, and authentic link to Book of Mormon peoples living in the world today! But not just anywhere in the world! *They are living in America!* How significant and breath-taking it is to me that the Lord allowed this phenomenon as part of the proof that the Book of Mormon is true! The Book of Mormon is about real members of the House of Israel who came to a real promised land called the New Jerusalem located in America the Beautiful. They were real descendants of Manasseh because Lehi was from Manasseh! Manasseh came to Joseph's promised land to write the "stick of Joseph" which would be in the hands of Ephraim, to be joined with the "stick of Judah", and then to be one in the hand---just as the Book of Mormon and Bible are literally one in our hand today. The Book of Mormon is now known to be an authentic, sophisticated Hebrew document, complete with the Hebrew Chiasmus and the Hebrew Midrash, and which also contains the essential Hebrew Old Testament "second witness" which completes the proof for of the divinity and authenticity of Jesus the Christ as the Only Begotten of the Father, the Holy Messiah, and Savior of the world! The Heartland of America is a real-world location for Book of Mormon geography which makes perfect sense, which has abundant proof which has come out of the earth in this country, and to which the Spirit abundantly testifies is true! This Annotated Edition of

the Book of Mormon will delight, inspire, and prove, without question, that Joseph was the prophet of the Restoration whom the Lord chose above all others and that America has been, and will always be, the land which the Lord chose above all others to accomplish the majority of His grand and glorious Purposes through and for all of His Children! Once you have read the *Annotated Edition of the Book of Mormon*, like Lehi of old, you will desire that your loved ones should partake of it!



Stoddards: Covenant on the Land by The Joseph Smith Foundation – Documentary Highlights

The following notes are shared with permission.

Be sure to visit JosephSmithFoundation.org to purchase the full presentation which goes far beyond the scope of these notes!

-some think the signs of the times are dangerous and fanatical, but the Lord said in the D&C that the righteous will seek to know the signs.

-Both America and Book of Mormon societies were founded on scripture. Pilgrims' religion is what brought them to America, like Nephi's religion is what brought him and his family to America.

-Laws of Mosiah and the laws of the Constitution were both from righteous men of God.

-Nephites found the Jaredite record, a warning for them. Americans found the Book of Mormon, a warning for them. Both records show what happens to a people who live in America who reject God and their destruction.

-Alma establishing God's church among the Nephites is parallel to Joseph Smith establishing God's church among the Americans.

-Abinadi's martyrdom and the martyrdom of Joseph Smith are very similar. Both these prophets are types of Christ. They voluntarily laid down their lives. Joseph Smith was in prison for 3 days before the mob shot him.

-Darwin, Dewey, Keynes, Marx, and Sigmund Freud are all anti-Christ's who rose up in our time. President Benson named these names as anti-Christ's. Book of Mormon figures are Sherem, Korihor, Nehor. Mormon warns against whole groups of people being led astray by the false teachings of these anti-Christ's false teachings.

-Dr. William Provine at Purnell a professor of biology is teaching these same ideas as Korihor, of no God meaning no morals.

-Missionaries among Nephites and Lamanites are parallel to missionaries now going to all the world. They teach the 3 pillars of creation, fall, atonement.

-see book "The Book of Mormon and the Constitution" by H Verlan Anderson.

-Vladimir, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Zedong, etc. are secret combinations seeking to overthrow the government.

-socialism is soul destroying -Ezra Benson

-atheistic communism or socialism we learn of Machiavelli's "The Prince" about how to gain and abuse power; we hear the same thing in the book of Mormon.

-Alma said we go to war so we can continue to worship God and keep our liberty for our families.

-in the Book of Mormon when the church grew greatly, it started to be very proud and put God aside not listening to the prophets.

-Benson said we have strayed from moral and constitutional principles and its getting us into a quagmire.

-see book "From Darwin to Hitler"

-free travel and trade lead to increased prosperity we see this in the Book of Mormon; we also see today many walls coming down to open the way for prosperity and the spread of missionary work, like the Berlin Wall coming down. When the Lamanites get converted they prosper.

-Many scholars have agreed that the books of Helaman and 3 Nephi parallel our day. The Lord gives the Nephites physical signs of the times to give them one last chance to repent. Some of these signs are earthquakes, waves heaving themselves beyond their bounds, fire, darkness, etc.

-Just before the Savior comes in the Book of Mormon, the words of the prophets are heavily rejected, the more righteous are gathered in and the more wicked are destroyed.

-In the Book of Mormon the 200 years of peace following the coming of Christ is like the forthcoming Millennium, and there are no more tribal divisions, but everyone joins Christ.

-at the end of the Book of Mormon period of peace, the people rebel outright, so will they people at the end of the Millennium.

Part 2, about America's founding:

-Benson: we should review the religious history of the US lest we forget.

-The Nephites came to America from Jerusalem with the brass plates which is the Old Testament, similarly the pilgrims came to America with the bible.

-The tool the Lord used persecution to drive the Mulekites to America, the pilgrims, etc.

-in schools they don't teach that the pilgrims came to America for religion. They describe the first Thanksgiving etc. without mentioning God. This is an attack on Christianity, trying to revise history.

-all the colonists believed that they were completing the journey which Moses started.

-see Of Plymouth Plantation by William Bradford, the primary source

-Jeremiah said that the day would come that the people would not look to the time of Moses as when they were delivered, but that there would be a gathering of the tribes from the north, which would be the great gathering and salvation of Israel. North and West Europe have many Ephraimites.

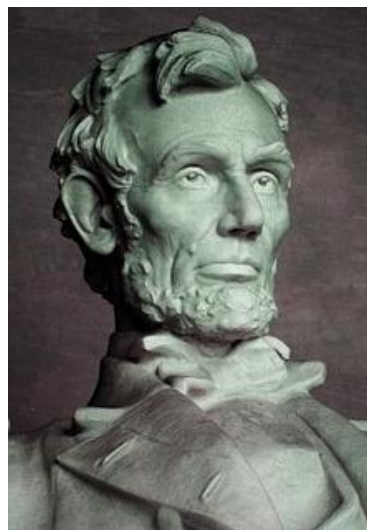
-Puritans named their first township "Salem" after Jerusalem. They named their children Hebrew names.

-The New Jerusalem is America. Just as the Nephites governed themselves by what was written in the brass plates (a more complete version of the Old Testament), that the Pilgrims considered the bible to be the law. They modeled their feast days after the feasts of the Old Testament; these holidays were very different than our holidays, they involved much prayer. The pilgrims repeatedly referred to Moses leading an Exodus to the promised land being akin to themselves being led to a promised land.

-there are many parallels of Puritan churches and the restored gospel. Bearing testimony, being born under the covenant, sealings, sanctification, a sacred Sabbath, worthiness interviews, accepting new members by vote, sustaining leaders with the uplifted hand, church courts, disfellowship, excommunication, renewing covenants, prophecy, prayer lists, fasting for a purpose, bread and water in the sacrament, schools of the prophets, etc. Some say Joseph Smith stole these ideas but it's just the true pattern restored

-the founder of Rhode Island taught that the authority had not been restored yet to perform the church ordinances. John Westley also understood that shortly after the deaths of the apostles that the authority was gone. They understood a restoration of the ancient truth was needed and did what they could to move toward that direction. Asel Smith and Joseph Smith Sr. awaited the restoration of the gospel, and it came from Joseph Smith Jr.

-The founder of Harvard believed in God creating and against Darwinism, but secular leaders replaced that. The motto for Harvard was originally "truth for Christ and the Church" was changed to "truth". On the motto one of the books depicted was shown as inverted, meaning that reason alone can't lead to man finding all truth, but the later secular leaders put that book not



inverted anymore to suggest man was independent of God. This secular shift flew in the face of everything the founders of Harvard stood for.

-Yale originally had a seal with the Hebrew Words on their logo “Urim and Thumim” meaning light and truth.

-all the Ivy Leagues were originally founded as Christian Schools.

-Columbia University seal had Psalm 36:9 in thy light shall we see

-the Princeton motto was “under God’s power she flourishes”

-University of Pennsylvania’s motto was “laws without morals are in vain”

-Dartmouth College’s motto was “a voice crying in the wilderness”

-Rutgers state university motto was “Sun of Righteousness”

-Pilgrims were saved miraculously at sea much like Lehi’s company on their way to America. They couldn’t see anything for 7 days, and said they had never seen such a storm. The people greeting them on shore were amazed that anyone could survive such a storm.

-Squanto walked into the Pilgrim camp and saved their lives, he spoke perfect English. William Bradford pilgrim leader was amazed; they needed help to farm which Squanto brought. He came out of nowhere to their aid.

-the pilgrims had a large drought, they prayed 8 hours, and then clouds came and it rained for 14 days

-we wonder how it is possible that the Nephites forgot after 1 generation the great miracles of God; but we also have forgotten the miracles associated with the settlement of the US.

-modern history portrays pilgrims as killers, hypocrites. It was the wicked among the colonists that did the bad things, the Lamans and Lemuels among Nephi’s people did bad things in the new land. They traveled side by side with the righteous Nephi Sam and Lehi. Not everyone came to America for the right reasons, and they make the good guys look bad.

-some of the greatest peace makers came in the time of the pilgrims, like Thomas Mayhew, who was not fighting Indians, but living among them, knowing their language, teaching them the gospel. He was one of the nursing fathers prophesied of by Isaiah.

-The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne rewrote the history of the pilgrims as being wicked people. This was not a historically accurate book. He made them become associated with snobbery, self-righteousness, rudeness. The red capital A is used by atheists from Scarlet Letter, they use it as a symbol of rebellion against Christianity.

-Miller’s “The Crucible” was comparing anti-communists to witch hunters. He was a procommunist adulterer teaching us about the puritans. This is like going to Hitler to learn about the Jews.

-just like how people think of the Puritans as too strict, people are seeing Nephi and Lehi as being too strict about keeping the commandments. The book of Mormon says the Nephite law was “exceedingly strict” dealing with the commandments.

-Winthrop and other early leaders made an official covenant to be accountable to God and his angels to obey the commandments of God.

-one man stole wood from Winthrop, Winthrop instructed him to use his wood until the cold season was over. Winthrop was strict in the law, but to punish lawbreakers, he taught them, and the stricter punishments were given to the more knowledgeable trespassers.

-Sir Thomas Dale a leader of the Jamestown plantation saw

-Rog Cragg “Forged in Faith” book. Calls America the New Jerusalem because of that strong theme.

-Sowell in his book wrote of his belief that the heart of America is where the new Jerusalem would be. Joseph Smith confirmed this doctrine.

-The Lord called Far West “most holy”, unlike any other place

-Sowell said the native Americans were Israelites unawares

-The colonists considered themselves literal Israelites by blood.

-John Winthrop’s words to place the people under covenant on the new land seem like Lehi’s words. He said we will know God is with us when 10 of us can resist 1000 of our enemies, for we will be as a city on a hill. He said if they turn away from God they will be cut off from the presence of God and be cursed.

-1 Ne. 13 Nephi saw thousands of years before the pilgrims and said the pilgrims would carry the bible with them to the promised land which he was on namely America, which they did.

-generations ago when the bible was the essence of education and government, there was little to no delinquency.

Stoddards: Book of Mormon as parallel timeline to modern history of God's people (From "Divinely Sanctioned Governments")

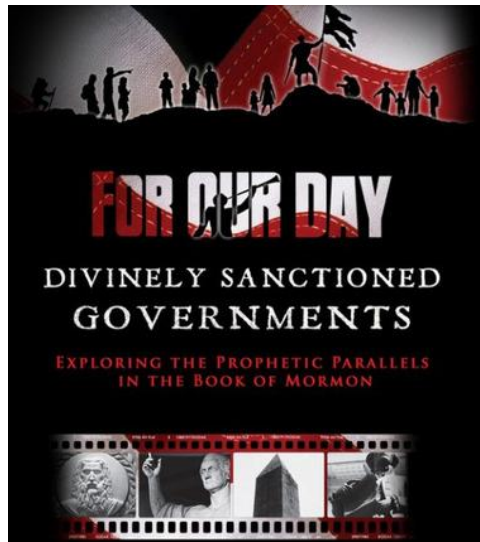


- 1 prophets persecuted: akin to the reformation
- 2 Lehites to America: akin to Gentiles to America
- 3 Mosiah's law is akin to the US Constitution of the US.
- 4 They found the Jaredite record, which is akin to Joseph Smith finding the Nephite record.
- 5 Then Alma restoring the church is a parallel on a Book of Mormon timeline to Joseph Smith restoring the church.
- 6 Abinadi's martyrdom is akin to Joseph Smith's martyrdom
- 7 Anti-Christ's deceive Nephites: akin to Anti-Christ deceive Saints
- 8 Missionaries to the Lamanites and Nephites: akin to missionaries to the world
- 9 Wicked leaders conspire: akin to communism and socialism
- 10 Title of Liberty: akin to Constitution
- 11 Astonishing church growth: akin to worldwide church growth
- 12 Nephites degenerate: akin to moderns reject founding moorings
- 13 Lamanite religious freedom: akin to walls come down
- 14 Combinations infiltrate Nephites: akin to complicity in America
- 15 signs warn Nephites: akin to signs warn moderns
- 16 more wicked destroyed: akin to earth cleansed
- 17 Christ visits Nephites: akin to Second Coming
- 18 period of peace: akin to the Millennium
- 19 Nephites openly rebel: akin to Satan loosed after the Millennium
- 20 Mormon leads final battle: akin to Michael leads final battle

Stoddards: Divinely Sanctioned Governments: Exploring the Prophetic Parallels in the Book of Mormon - Highlights

The following notes are shared with permission.

Be sure to visit JosephSmithFoundation.org to purchase the full presentation which goes far beyond the scope of these notes!



-there is a painting “the apotheosis of Washington” of him surrounded by 13 women representing the colonies. Washington was found praying often during the war; there is plenty of evidence of the US as a Christian nation. Some historians call Washington a deist, but this is absurd, he consistently evoked Gods law on the land. Deists believe God is only found via reason and observation not via revelation and supernaturalism. (*Note some other Joseph Smith Foundation materials make a good point: that some of the US founding fathers were skeptical of the form of Christianity in their day; so was Joseph Smith!) The most quoted source in the writings of the founding era were from the bible, and this was quoted 4x more than the next most quoted boo. 34% of their quotes were from the bible. This is hard to understand in our secular era. The language of the constitution reads similarly to the bible type of language.

-at top of the Washington Monument it says in Latin “praise to God”; in the miniature display in the museum it hides this inscription on the back; all the way up to the top there are bible verses from Proverbs, these are seen on the stairs ascending the tower, and those stairs are no longer allowed to be used, people are required to use the elevator. This is supposedly because people can’t handle the stairs.

-the founding fathers believed America was the new promised land of the Lord. They wanted the national symbol of the US to be an image of the Israelites traveling in the wilderness. We have an eagle instead.

-like how Mosiah didn’t create the government in the Book of Mormon, so didn’t the US founders create the government here, really, they were instituting laws of God.

-Mosiah's law deals with a transition from monarchy to a government where the people make the laws, elect those who make the laws, and are responsible for the outcomes. People answer for their own sins. Mosiah instituted a system of judges as found in the brass plates. The ultimate authority of their government was recognized as God. Just as the Nephites in the Book of Mormon, the Americans had a law which started out as recognizing God as the leader, and have not continued to recognize God. The principles of the Constitution are in the Book of Mormon.

-without God as a justification for human rights, it becomes impossible to explain why a human should be treated differently than an animal. Those who profess to believe Darwinian Evolution often believe that saving a dog is just as important as saving a human. Certain rights are given to every person by God. When we believe we are from apes, we act like apes. The Columbine shooter was wearing a shirt that said "natural selection". Where do the unalienable rights of humans come from? From their creator, as the founders wrote into the Constitution.

-The bible teaches that the purpose of government is to secure God given rights.

-Moroni includes property rights in his Title of Liberty. He called upon the people to show a "spirit of freedom". Private property is referred to often in the Book of Mormon. 3 Nephi 3 tells of a group of people trying to tempt God's people into communal pooling of land rather than individual property. Moroni defines defending our rights as "the cause of Christians"

-The Book of Mormon has poetic parallels and chiasmus reflecting scenes of the American revolution; Joseph Smith was 21, backwoods, uneducated, not well read. He could not have written that.

-one couple was fined for holding bible study group in his home without a permit

-Jayson Kunzler a BYU professor surveys his class on government views and most the students align with the communist manifesto. They then study readings from the Book of Mormon, and the students' views change dramatically.

-when governments of liberty are established, people are simply returning to the government of God.

-without God, no one can say what's right and what's wrong. Morals become irrelevant.

-Ancient Israel had a type of federalism, the states were called tribes, and there was a central national federal government to help in things the tribes could not. It's the divided limited government.

-freedom is participation in power. The more is controlled by remote Washington the less power we have.

-Supreme Court Justice Ginsburg wanted to use foreign laws to settle issues in the US not our constitution.

-Obama called the Constitution very flawed and representing cultural issues of the time it was written.

-Genesis 49 is the words Jacob delivered to Joseph; it said Joseph is a fruitful bough whose branches go over the wall; they understood this wall as being the Atlantic Ocean, and that a

remnant of Israel would spread across it to this land. George Washington put his hand on this chapter when swearing his oath to God to be the president of this land.

-when we attend the temple, we hear of our liberty binding us to our land

-Franklin Roosevelt called the Constitution quaint from the horse and buggy era. J Reuben Clark of the First Presidency responded that though they had horse and buggy, they still understood human nature, which is the same as it always has been.

-The first presidency of the LDS Church (Grant, Clark, McKay) condemned “New Deal” policies because of their socialistic and unconstitutional nature; they warned that as a nation and as a people we are moving towards communism. Just like ancient Israel’s prophets condemned political leaders, so have the modern Israel prophets. The saints rejected the advice of the First Presidency of the Church as seen in the election results in the 4 elections of FDR, Utah Idaho and Arizona citizens gave majority support of FDR.

-McKay in the First Presidency said the church’s position on communism has always been the same: it’s of the Devil and takes away our liberty.

-Ezra Benson said socialism eventually has the same effects on our freedom as communism.

-Alma 51 they sent a petition to change the government, seeking to destroy the government ratified by the voice of the people these laws of Mosiah. Similarly, people want to get rid of the Constitution thinking it outdated. These people wanted to restore monarchy, getting a leader not representing the people. As people move away from spiritual moorings, they move from political ones. Religion and liberty are always tied together.

-Obama lamented the checks and balances system has kept him from making all the changes he wanted.

-When Nancy Pelosi was asked where the constitutional authority was for requiring people to have healthcare, her answer was “are you serious? Are you serious?”

-representative Phil Hare said he cares less about the constitution and more about the people dying without healthcare.

-The D&C says God inspired by US Constitution. Clark and Benson repeated this. Clark carries his copy of the constitution with his scriptures. They taught the constitution is the law of Zion. It’s a political version of the blessings for Israel, telling us how we can receive and preserve liberty. Brigham Young says that Jesus Christ himself dictated the constitution, and that it is as good as he can ask for.

-the early US Supreme Court gave preference to the bible over less authoritative sources.

-the 10 commandments are the basis of the common law in America. We also have several depictions of Moses with the 10 commandments in our government buildings. He was the Genesis of Judeo-Christian law. The law from the brass plates taught by Mosiah is akin to Moses giving the law to Israel and akin to our constitution.

-secular humanism says man is predominant not God.

-President Hinckley condemned society for taking God out of our laws despite him being in our pledge of allegiance and our coins. He said we have the name of God on our coinage, but we cannot mention the name of God in our schools. He said we are forsaking the Almighty, and I fear he is forsaking us.

-Obama said we do not consider ourselves a Christian nation, but only a nation of citizens.

-an 8-year-old boy had candy with the name Jesus taped onto them at Christmas, he was not allowed to give these to his peers.

-a photographer was ordered to pay 7000 dollars for declining to photograph a same sex marriage.



Resources on Book of Mormon culture / geography studies

WorksOfJoseph.com

Rod Meldrum BookofMormonEvidence.com. His Annotated Book of Mormon is a printing of the Book of Mormon with evidences of the heartland model throughout the text, and is a tremendous resource.

John Neville

Willard Bean

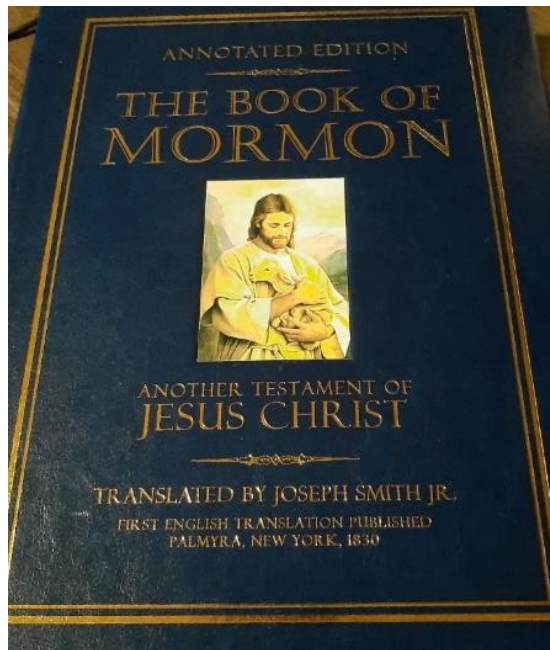
Hugh Nibley – Hebrew, Arabic, Egyptology insights

Stephen Ricks – Hebrew & Arabic insights

Stoddard's at the JosephSmithFoundation.org

PART 2: SELECTIONS FROM DAVID HOCKING'S ANNOTATED BOOK OF MORMON ON
AMERICAN HEARTLAND GEOGRAPHY, ETC.

Shared with Permission



Nate Richardson and David Hocking at the Sept. 2021 Book of Mormon Evidence Conference

[Hocking's Annotated Book of Mormon: Introduction](#)

Book of Mormon Origins, Heartland of North America Geography, Land of Promise,
Artifacts

The following pictures of the text are shared here with permission of the author. These images are not to be used for profit. Please visit www.beaconlightbooks.com for more information. These are a small sampling of the wonderful pictures charts analysis and text you'll find in his books, be sure to get copies of these landmark works!

The Annotated Book of Mormon is Hockings foremost masterpiece. It highlights the heartland North America geography of the historical record called the Book of Mormon.

He also has an annotated book of Isaiah, Jasher, & Enoch.

(Nate Richardson & David Hocking at the 2021 FIRM Foundation Book of Mormon Evidence Conference)

Hocking: Seed of My Brethren Smitten: Native Americans

“...the seed of my brethren...were scattered before the Gentiles and were smitten.” (1 Nephi 13:14)

A descendant of the Pawnee Indian tribe describes his great-grandfather being forced from their native homeland in the Midwest:

“On the title page [of the Book of Mormon] I read that it is “written to the Lamanites, who are a remnant of the House of Israel; and also to Jew and Gentile.” In the introduction to the Book of Mormon: Another Testament of Jesus Christ, it says that the Lamanites “are among the ancestors of the American Indians.” As I read the Book of Mormon, it seemed to me that it was about my American Indian ancestors. It tells the story of a people, a part of which were later described as “Lamanites,” who migrated from Jerusalem to a “land of promise” (1 Nephi 2:20) about 600 B.C. It is an account of God’s dealings with these ancient inhabitants located somewhere on the American continents... Their prophets foretold that many multitudes of Gentiles would eventually come to this land of promise and the wrath of God would be upon the Lamanites and they would be scattered, smitten, and nearly destroyed.

“My great-grandfather Echo Hawk, a Pawnee Indian, was born in the mid-1800s in what is now called Nebraska. When he was 19 years of age, the Pawnee people were forced to give up their 23-million-acre (9.3 million ha) homeland to make room for settlers. In 1874 the Pawnee people were marched several hundred miles south to a small reservation located in the Oklahoma Indian Territory...

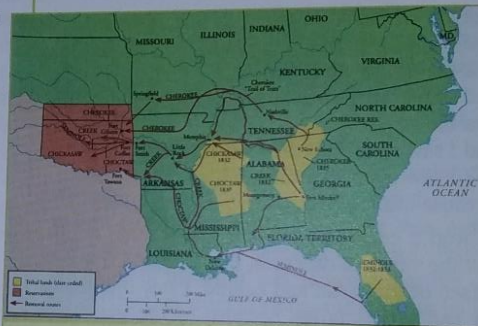
“The Book of Mormon has a special message for descendants of the Lamanites, a remnant of the house of Israel. Nephi expressed this message while interpreting his father’s vision of these latter days: “And at that day shall the remnant of our seed know that they are of the **House of Israel**, and that they are the covenant people of the Lord; and then shall they know and come to the knowledge of their forefathers, and also to the knowledge of the gospel of their Redeemer, which was ministered unto their fathers by Him...” (1 Nephi 15:14) – Elder Larry Echo Hawk, “Come Unto Me, O Ye House of Israel,” *Ensign*, [Nov. 2012].



Echo Hawk, “Come Unto Me, O Ye House of Israel,” *Ensign*, [Nov. 2012].

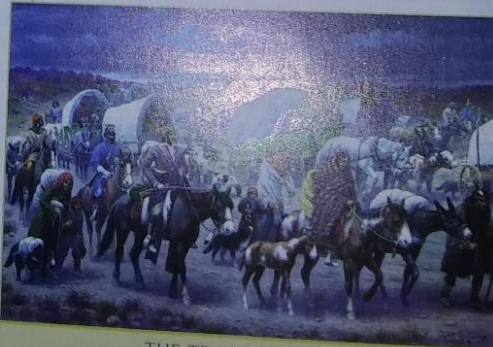
(BYU Photo, Kerry Crookston/BYU. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:LarryEchoHawkDOI.JPG>)

“The population of Pawnee people had declined from over 12,000 to less than 700 upon their arrival in Oklahoma. The Pawnee, like other tribes, had been scattered, smitten, and nearly destroyed” – Larry



INDIAN REMOVAL ACT

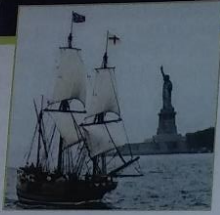
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Trails_of_Tears_en.png)



THE TRAIL OF TEARS

OIL PAINTING BY ROBERT O. LINDNEUX (1871-1970)
Courtesy of Woolaroc Museum, Bartlesville, Oklahoma

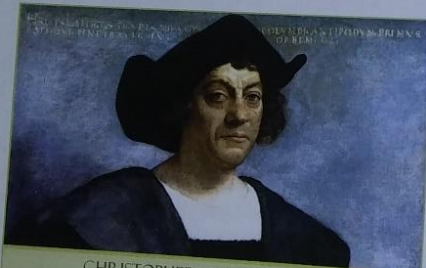
NEPHI'S VISION OF A NEW NATION ON THE LAND OF PROMISE



Were the Thirteen Colonies "delivered by the power of God out of the hands of all other nations?" (1 Nephi 13:19)

The Godspeed near the Statue of Liberty, Statton Island, New York
(<https://pxhere.com/en/photo/1360847>)

"Nephi saw in vision also the coming of the Pilgrims, who came to escape religious persecution. He foresaw the coming to America of peoples from many nations, their wars and contentions. As Nephi said, "they did humble themselves before the Lord." (1 Nephi 16:5; p. 28) Thus the American colonies attained their independence and set up the government of the United States, all under the divine intervention of God in preparing this land for its divine destiny...Th[e] restoration began in the United States of America in the 1820s, through the [assistance] of the Prophet Joseph Smith, who was chosen by the Lord and who, through [visits] from heavenly messengers, received... records that contained the authentic record of early American peoples and God's dealings with them" – President N. Eldon Tanner, "A Choice Land," 146th Annual General Conference of the Church in April, 1976.



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS (1519)
BY SEBASTIANO DEL PIOMBO (1485-1547)

"And I looked and beheld a man among the Gentiles who was separated from the seed of my brethren by the many waters, and I beheld the Spirit of God, that it came down and wrought upon the man, and he went forth upon the many waters, even unto the seed of my brethren who were in the promised land." (1 Nephi 13:12)

"[Christopher] Columbus was inspired of God to persevere as he did to discover this continent, and thus prepare the way for a class of people upon whom the Spirit of the Lord moved to follow" – Wilford Woodruff, *Journal of Discourses* 23:82.



"And I beheld that their mother Gentiles were gathered together upon the waters, and upon the land also, to battle against them." (1 Nephi 13:17)



Top Painting:
"The Death of General Mercer at the Battle of Princeton"
by John Trumbull (1756-1843)
Bottom painting:
"Battle of Princeton" by Edward Percy Moran (1909).



THE MAYFLOWER – 1922

([https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:History_of_the_Pilgrims_and_Puritans_their_ancestry_and_descendants_basis_of_Americanization_\(1922\)_14783815205.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:History_of_the_Pilgrims_and_Puritans_their_ancestry_and_descendants_basis_of_Americanization_(1922)_14783815205.jpg))

"And it came to pass that I beheld the Spirit of God, that it wrought upon other Gentiles; and they went forth out of captivity, upon the waters." (1 Nephi 13:13)

"The United States is the promised land..." – L. Tom Perry

Latter-day Church leaders continue to be consistent with the foretelling by Book of Mormon prophets of the rise of America. Elder L. Tom Perry once stated:



"The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is truly a world-wide Church. Nevertheless, it is important to realize that the Church could never have become what it is today without the birth of a great nation, the United States of America. The Lord prepared a new land to attract the peoples of the world who sought liberty and religious freedom..."

"The United States is the promised land foretold in the Book of Mormon, a place where divine guidance directed inspired men to create the conditions necessary for the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was the birth of the United States of America that ushered out the Great Apostasy, when the earth was darkened by the absence of prophets and revealed light. It was no coincidence that the lovely morning of the First Vision occurred just decades after the establishment of the United States" – Elder L. Tom Perry, "The Tradition of Light and Testimony," *Ensign* [Dec. 2012], 29; emphasis added.

(Photo: Tom Perry Special Collections at Brigham Young University, 2 January 1960. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Perry.jpg>)

"An interesting exercise is to insert the words 'United States' into prophetic passages from the Book of Mormon regarding the latter-day 'promised land' or 'land of promise' as indicated by Elder Perry. In doing so, note how this affects the significance and clarity of the passages shown below." (Emphasis by Rod Meldrum.)

1 Nephi 12:1: "And it came to pass that the angel said unto me: 'Look, and behold thy seed, and also the seed of thy brethren.' And I looked and beheld the **United States** (land of promise); and I beheld multitudes of people, yea, even as it were in number as many as the sand of the sea."

1 Nephi 13:14: "And it came to pass that I beheld many multitudes of the Gentiles upon the **United States** (land of promise); and I beheld the wrath of God, that it was upon the seed of my brethren; and they were scattered before the Gentiles and were smitten."

1 Nephi 14:2: "And harden not their hearts against the Lamb of God, they shall be numbered among the seed of thy father; yea, they shall be numbered among the House of Israel; and they shall be a blessed people upon the **United States** (promised land) forever; they shall be no more brought down into captivity; and the House of Israel shall no more be confounded."

1 Nephi 18:23: "And it came to pass that after we had sailed for the space of many days we did arrive at the **United States** (promised land); and we went forth upon the land, and did pitch our tents; and we did call it the **United States** (promised land)."

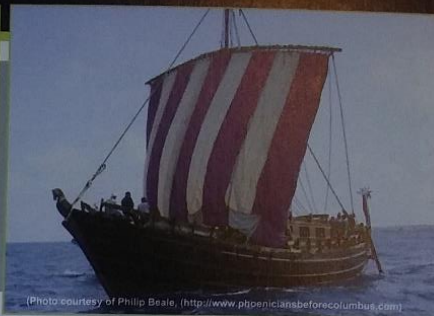
2 Nephi 1:5: "But, said he, notwithstanding our afflictions ~~are~~ obtained [**the United States**] (a land of promise), a land which is *choice* above all other lands; a land which the Lord God hath covenanted with me should be a land for the inheritance of my seed. Yea, the Lord hath covenanted this land unto me, and to my children for ever, and also all those who should be led out of other countries by the hand of the Lord."

2 Nephi 1:10: "But behold, when the time cometh that they shall dwindle in unbelief, after they have received so great blessings from the hand of the Lord—having a knowledge of the creation of the earth, and all men, knowing the great and marvelous works of the Lord from the creation of the world; having power given them to do all things by faith; having all the commandments from the beginning, and having been brought by His infinite goodness into this precious **United States** (land of promise)—behold, I say, if the day shall come that they will reject the Holy One of Israel, the true Messiah, their Redeemer and their God, behold, the judgments of Him that is just shall rest upon them."

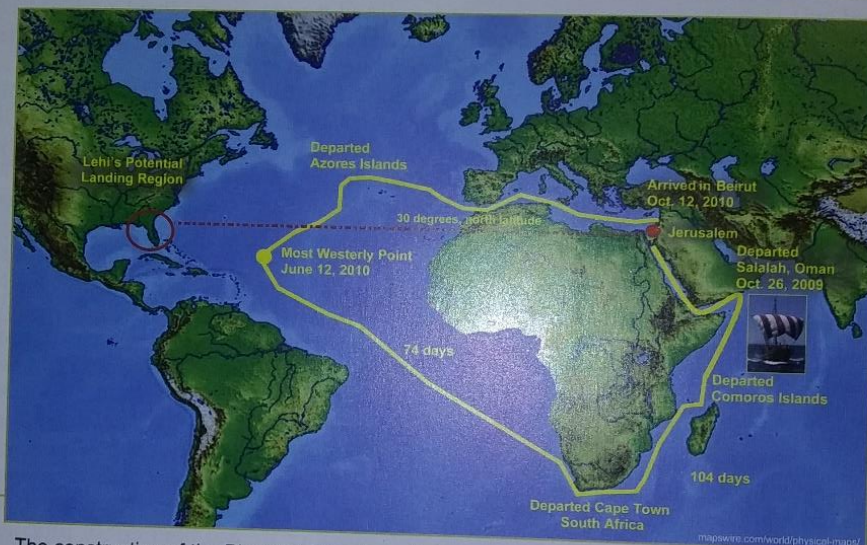
Hocking: Phoenicia Wood Ship Expedition 2009, 600BC Tech Replicating Lehi's Voyage Route, Timing, Etc.

"...we were driven forth before the wind towards the Promised Land."
(1 Nephi 18:8)

The Phoenicia Ship Expedition of 2009-2010 conclusively demonstrated that a wooden sailing ship, constructed with technology available in 600 B.C., could circumnavigate Africa using only the wind and natural ocean currents. Once the Phoenicia, shown on the right, sailed past Cape Town, South Africa, the prevailing winds and currents brought them westward towards North America. The map below is the actual route of the Phoenicia voyage. Lehi's family may have also been blown along a similar route, making their landing somewhere in the southeastern United States.



(Photo courtesy of Philip Beale, (<http://www.phoeniciansbeforecolumbus.com>))



The construction of the Phoenicia was from timber, similar to Nephi's description that he made it from "timbers of curious workmanship; and the Lord did show me from time to time after what manner I should work the timbers of the ship" (1 Nephi 18:1). The Phoenicia Expedition departed from Oman, the possible site of Bountiful as it is rich in honey and fruits as well as trees for timber and ore to make tools. The map above is the route taken by the Phoenicia as the winds "drove it forth" towards America. Based on the timing of the autumn departure of the Phoenicia voyage, which, like Lehi's, occurred when fruit and honey was in abundance (1 Nephi 18:5-6), it can be shown that Lehi's arrival in America would have been in early spring if Lehi didn't make any lengthy stops along the way as did the Phoenicia expedition. Such timing would have been ideal for Lehi's family to begin sowing seed: "And it came to pass that we did begin to till the earth, and we began to plant seeds, yea, we did put all our seeds into the earth, which we had brought from the land of Jerusalem; and it came to pass that they did grow exceedingly, wherefore, we were blessed in abundance" (1 Nephi 18:24). The red circle shown on the map in the upper left shows Lehi's potential landing region. The red dotted line extending to Jerusalem shows that this region is nearly the same latitude on the earth and thus would have similar growing conditions, allowing their seeds from Jerusalem to "grow exceedingly" well with the rich soil and rainfall in that region of North America. (See Appendix, "Where Did Lehi's Colony Land?" pp. 530-531.)

Hocking: Plates of Ore, Hopewell Artifacts

“...I did make plates of ore...” (1 Nephi 19:17)

A Town No More...

In the mid-1800s a town called Etowah, located not far from the Leake Site, grew up around the iron mining operations. Similar to the American Indians, the citizens of Etowah were attracted by the area's minerals.



Cooper's Furnace

The town of Etowah was destroyed during the Civil War and in the 1950s was covered up by Lake Allatoona. Cooper's Furnace, pictured above, is all that remains of Etowah. You can still see this iron furnace near the Allatoona Dam.

Etowah, Georgia: “A Town No More”
(Georgia Department of Transportation Sign)

The Hopewell Culture peoples settled in regions rich in rocks containing mineral ores. “Plates of ore” have been found in many mounds. The picture below shows a copper plate* with residual textile fragment preserved by being in contact with the copper.

(See Appendix, “Hopewell Mound Builders: 400 B.C. - 500 A.D.,” pp. 536-537, for correlations to the Nephites.)

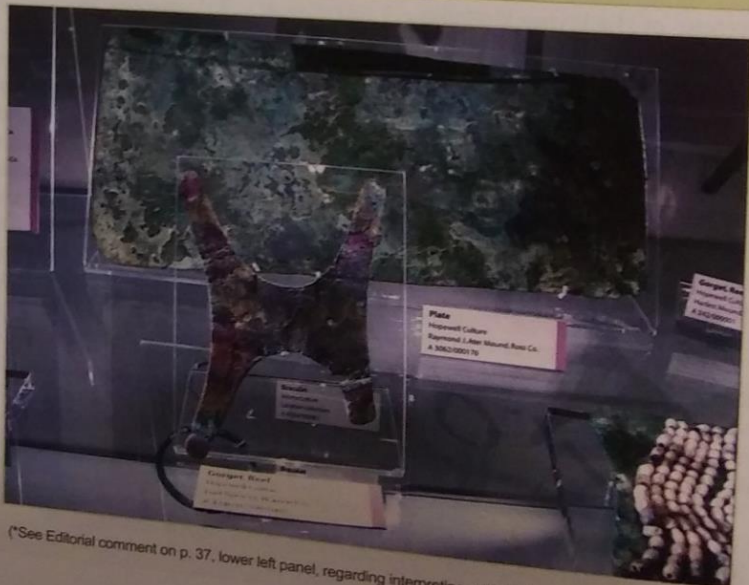


(Ohio History Center Museum, Columbus, Ohio)

The Etowah and Leake Mounds located in Bartow County, Georgia, occupied an area rich in iron, copper, gold and silver. Iron mining operations were robust during the mid-1880s, an industry associated with an earlier Hopewell Culture people.

The people of the Hopewell Culture were, as paralleled by the Nephites, skilled in metal working. Museums in several Mid-western States display artifacts uncovered during archaeological digs. Displayed on the right is a breastplate* and gorget* made of copper from the Ohio History Center Museum in Columbus, Ohio.

(Photos by Rod Meldrum)

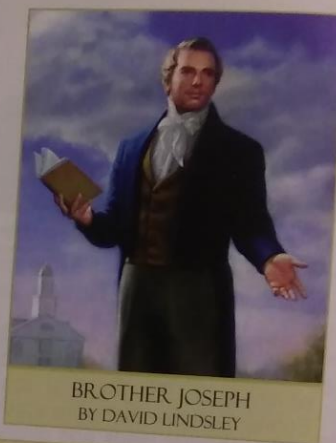
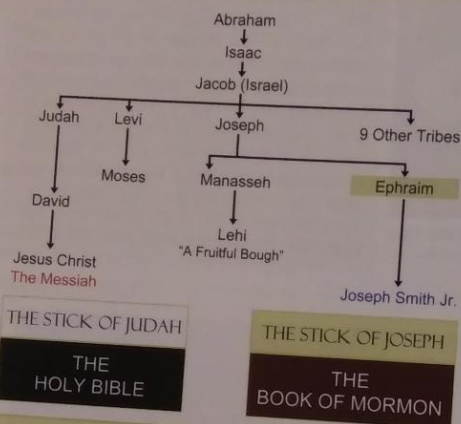


(*See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding interpreting artifacts.)

Hocking: Joseph of Egypt Foretells Lineage of Joseph Smith: A Patriarchal Blessing of Joseph, etc.

PROPHETIC LINEAGE PROPHESED BY JOSEPH OF EGYPT

Yea, Joseph truly said: "Thus saith the Lord unto me: "A choice seer will I raise up out of the fruit of thy loins, and he shall be esteemed highly among the fruit of thy loins. And unto him will I give commandment that he shall do a work for the fruit of thy loins, his brethren which shall be of great worth unto them, even to the bringing of them to the knowledge of the covenants which I have made with thy fathers. And I will give unto him a commandment that he shall do none other work, save the work which I shall command him; and I will make him great in Mine eyes, for he shall do My work. And he shall be great like unto Moses whom I have said I would raise up unto you, to deliver My people, **O House of Israel**" (2 Nephi 3:6-9).



Joseph Smith Sr., Patriarch of the Church, gave his son Joseph Jr., the following Patriarchal blessing (an excerpt) on December 9, 1834:

"I bless thee with the blessings of thy fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; and even the blessings of thy father Joseph, the son of Jacob. Behold he looked after his posterity in the last days, when they should be scattered and driven by the Gentiles, and wept before the Lord; he sought diligently to know from whence the son should come who should bring forth the word of the Lord, by which they might be enlightened and brought back to the true fold, and his eyes beheld thee, my son; his heart rejoiced and his soul was satisfied and he said:

'As my blessings are to extend to the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills; as my father's blessing prevailed over the blessings of his progenitors; and as my branches are to run over the wall, and my seed are to inherit the choice land whereon the Zion of God shall stand in the last days; from among my seed, scattered from the Gentiles, shall a choice Seer arise...whose heart shall meditate great wisdom, and whose intelligence shall circumscribe and comprehend the deep things of God, and whose mouth shall utter the law of the just...and he shall feed upon the heritage of Jacob his father...'

"Thou [Joseph Smith Jr.] shall hold the keys of this ministry, even the Presidency of this Church, both in time and in eternity, and thou shalt stand on Mount Zion when the tribes of Jacob come shouting from the north, and with thy brethren, the Sons of Ephraim, crown them in the name of Jesus Christ."

("Blessing from Joseph Smith Sr., 9 December 1834," pp. 3-4, *The Joseph Smith Papers*, <http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/blessing-from-joseph-smith-sr-9-december-1834/1>)

Hocking: Joining The 2 Sticks: Contract & Perfect Match

“...the fruit of thy loins shall write...” (2 Nephi 3:12)

Say unto them, thus saith the Lord GOD: “Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, even with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in Mine hand.”
(Ezekiel 37:19)



Photo by Sandstein

Tally Sticks - Double Tessel from Alp Blümatt (Turtmann VS), 1893
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:SAM_PC_1_-_Tally_sticks_1_-_Item_06.jpg)

“When a contract was made, certain official marks were placed upon a stick of wood in the presence of a notary representing the king. . . . The stick was split down the middle, and each of the parties kept half as his claim-token. . . . When the time for settlement came and the king's magistrate placed the two sticks side by side to see that all was in order, the two would only fit together perfectly mark for mark and grain for grain to 'become one' in the king's hand if they had been one originally” – Hugh Nibley, “The Tally Sticks,” *An Approach to the Book of Mormon*, Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co. [1957], 319–20.

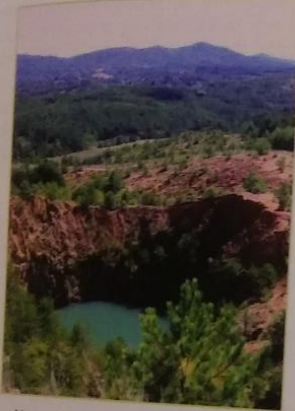
The tally sticks as shown in the above picture are symbols of the book of Joseph, which is in the hand of the tribe of Ephraim—those that were scattered from their ancestral lands and directed to the American continent, and the book of the tribe of Judah—the Old and New Testaments handed down from those of the House of Israel living in Judea. Both books will *‘fit together perfectly, mark for mark and grain for grain,’* or ‘prophecy for prophecy and detail for detail’ concerning the covenant and destiny of the House of Israel, to *“be one”* in the King of King's Hand, even Jesus Christ, the Holy One of Israel. Combined they are witnesses to each other, testify that the Messiah is Jehovah of the Hebrew Scripture and Jesus, the Anointed One, or the Christ, in the New Testament and the pre-mortal and resurrected Jesus Christ in the Book of Mormon. America was the *choice* land above all other lands upon which the Nephite prophets, who were from the tribe of Manasseh, lived and wrote their record on metal plates, which later would be translated into English as the Book of Mormon by Joseph Smith Jr., a direct descendant from the tribe of Ephraim, the son of Joseph of Egypt. The prophet Ezekiel prophesied of a *“stick of Joseph”* in the hand of Ephraim, which is the Book of Mormon, and that the *“stick of Joseph”* would be joined with the *“stick of Judah”* or the Holy Bible, which the Pilgrims and Puritans brought with them from England to the New World or what would become the nation of the United States of America. These two “sticks”, or records, have literally become one in the Hand of God for the gathering of the **House of Israel**.



(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Olive_tree.jpg)

MINING IN DUCKTOWN, TENNESSEE

"And I did teach my people to build buildings, and to work in all manner of wood, and of iron, and of copper, and of brass, and of steel, and of gold, and of silver, and of precious ores, which were in great abundance." (2 Nephi 5:15)



Above: View of caved, flooded mine workings at the Burra Burra historic mine site at Ducktown in the Copper Basin.

(Photo by Brian Stansberry)

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ducktown-mine-collapse-tn1.jpg>

"Copper was used by Native Americans in the Copper Basin area. European settlers "rediscovered" copper at Copper Basin in the tri-state area of Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina in 1843 and started mining it. Mines produced copper, iron, sulfur, zinc, and small amounts of gold and silver. Before 1900, Copper Basin was the largest metal mining district in the Southeast. The last mine closed in 1987" – U.S. Geological Survey, <https://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/ocoe2/>.

Nephi states he worked in brass (made from copper and zinc) and in steel, an alloy of iron. All the metals Nephi lists are found in the Copper Basin.



Copper ore from the Burra Burra Mine is located near the center of the Copper (or Ducktown) Basin, a broad valley in the southern Appalachian Mountains near the common borders of Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia.

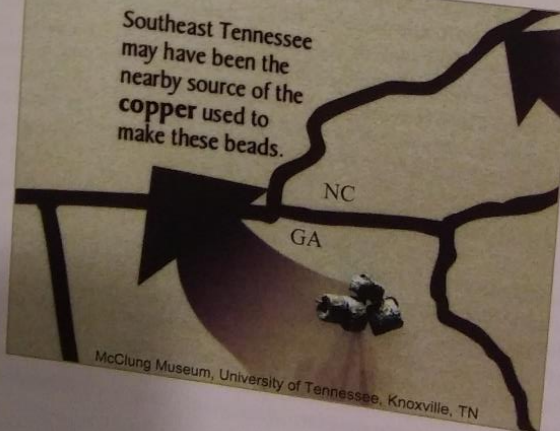
(Photo by Brian Stansberry)

<https://wikivisually.com/wiki/File:Copper-ore-ducktown-tn1.jpg>



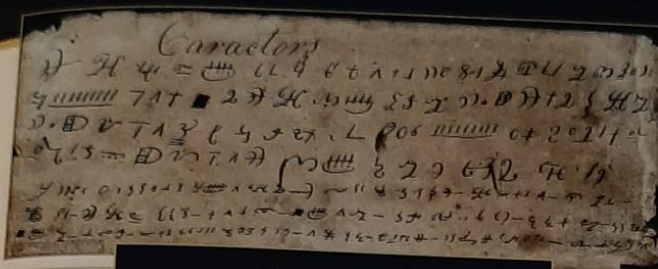
(Photo by World Museum)

Southeast Tennessee may have been the nearby source of the copper used to make these beads.



McClung Museum, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

"I cannot bring the book, for it is sealed." (2 Nephi 27:17)



"Caractors"

(Courtesy of Community of Christ Archives)

The above are representative of the "Caractors" given to Martin Harris, the scribe to Joseph Smith Jr., where he requested that he obtain proof of the antiquity of the record being translated. Martin was given a small piece of paper on which were written several lines of characters from the metal plates. According to Joseph Smith, these characters represented a form of reformed Egyptian writing. At the time, Joseph was to start translating from the Book of Lehi produced from source material inscribed on the Large Plates of Nephi and edited by the prophet and historian Mormon on his Plates of Mormon.



Charles Anthon
Source: Richard S. Van Wagoner, "Natural Born Seer," Smith-Pettit Foundation, SLC, 2016.

Martin Harris subsequently traveled to New York City and met with Professor Charles Anthon, a well-known classical scholar at Columbia College, for an expert opinion on the authenticity of the characters and the translation. In 1838, Joseph Smith related an account based on Harris's version of the meeting writing that Anthon "stated that the translation was correct, more so than any he had before seen translated from the Egyptian. [Martin] then showed him those not yet translated, and he said they were Egyptian, Chaldaic, Assyriac, and Arabic;" and that they were "true characters." According to Harris, Professor Anthon wrote Harris a letter of authenticity declaring "the fragment to contain true Egyptian characters." Anthon was also reported to have confirmed the translation of these

characters as correct. When informed that an angel of God had revealed the characters to Smith, Anthon reportedly tore up the authentication stating that there was no such thing as angels and asked Harris to bring the plates to him for translation. Anthon is reported to have said to Harris, "I cannot read a sealed book" – Joseph Smith History 1:62-65.

Fig. 1 shows hieroglyphs from ancient Egyptian has similarities and meanings to those of the Mi'kmaq (Micmac), First Nations, an important Algonquian tribe that occupied Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and Prince Edward Islands, the northern part of New Brunswick, and probably points in south and west Newfoundland. (Fell, Barry, "The Micmac Manuscripts," *Epigraphic Society Occasional Papers*, 21, [1992], 295.)

Fig. 2 shows that some of the characters copied from the Book of Mormon plates closely resemble selected hieroglyphs of the Mi'kmaq. The Micmac have a biological relationship to the Algonquians of the plains. (Speck, Frank G., *Beothuk and Micmac*, New York: Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation [1922], 87.) DNA haplogroup X2a is a major mtDNA subclade in North America; among the Algonquian peoples, it comprises up to 25% of mtDNA types which is also found in a similar percentage among the Druze in the Hills of Galilee. ("The peopling of the Americas: Genetic ancestry influences health," *Scientific American*, 14 August 2009. See also: <https://dnaconsultants.com/acadian-anomalies/> and "Map of Algonquian Language Distribution" in Appendix, "Native America DNA Studies" pp. 556-57.)



Fig. 1 – Comparison of Ancient Egyptian (left) and Mi'kmaq hieroglyphs (right)

Nephtie Mi'kmaq

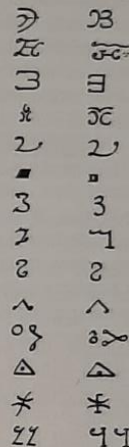


Fig. 2 – Above left: 14 Nephtie "Caractors" taken from the plates.

Above right: Mi'kmaq hieroglyphs.

(Wayne N. May, "THIS LAND #3. They Came from the East," *Ancient American Archaeology Foundation*, [2005], p. 45; edited; based on research by Barry Fell, Ph.D. and Stan Johnson.)

THE PROPHET ZENOS' ALLEGORY OF THE TAME OLIVE-TREE

"Hearken, O ye **House of Israel**, and hear the words of me [Zenos], a prophet of the Lord. For behold, thus saith the Lord: 'I will liken thee, O **House of Israel**, like unto a tame olive-tree, which a man took and nourished in his vineyard; and it grew, and waxed old, and began to decay'"
(Jacob 5: 2-3).



SYMBOL	MEANING
Vineyard	The world
Master of the Vineyard	JESUS CHRIST
Servants	Prophets and those called in the Lord's service
Wild Olive-Tree	Gentiles or non-Israelites, apostate Israel
Tame Olive-Tree	Jews, Gentiles, Nephites, Lamanites, etc
Branches	The House of Israel , the Lord's covenant people
Fruit	Lives or works of people, whether good or bad
Cultivating	The work of the Lord with the people of the world
Transplanting	Scattering groups of people
Grafting Branches	Spiritual gathering through conversion

THE MASTER OF THE VINEYARD VISITS AND THEIR MEANINGS

FIRST Visit: God saw that the tree (The House of Israel) and its rulers (the main top of the tree?) were in apostasy so He sent His prophets to warn them of their breaking the covenant. The wicked were destroyed, the Gentiles were grafted into the tree and a few righteous branches of Israel were scattered throughout the world.

SECOND Visit: God saw that the old root of the tree (The House of Israel) was saved and produced good fruit, as well as the scattered "branches." However, the Nephite branch produced good fruit and the Lamanite branch produced bad fruit.

THIRD Visit: God saw that the founding Christian Church, made from the old root tree and the grafted Gentiles, had become corrupt, yet the roots were still viable. The natural branches that had been scattered (those of the House of Israel) became corrupted.

FOURTH Visit: God and His servants, the prophets and apostles, restore the fulness of the gospel and they begin to gather in the House of Israel by missionary work throughout the world. As the righteous are gathered, the wicked are destroyed until no wickedness remains, ushering in the Second Coming of Christ.

MILLENNIUM: Righteousness lasts for 1,000 years then wickedness again enters the world. God will separate the righteous from the wicked and cleanse the earth by fire.

CHIASTIC STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK OF MOSIAH

- {A Mosiah Chapters 1 and 2 are missing due to the loss of the 116 pages*; reign of kings}
- B King Benjamin exhorts his sons; continual peace in the land (1:1-8)
 - C Mosiah₂ chosen as king to succeed his father (1:10)
 - D Mosiah₂ receives the Nephite records (1:16)
 - E Benjamin's speech and the words of the angel; being born of God (2:1-15)
 - F People enter into a covenant (5-6:2)
 - G Priests are consecrated (6:3)
 - H Ammon leaves Zarahemla for the land of Lehi-Nephi (7:1-6)
 - I People are in bondage, Ammon is put in prison (7:7-15)
 - J The twenty-four gold plates found and brought to king Limhi; could not interpret (8:9)
 - K The Record of Zeniff begins as he leaves Zarahemla (9:1) [FIRST FLASHBACK; p. 159]
 - L Defense against the Lamanites (9:14-10:20)
 - M King Noah and his wicked priests (11:1-15)
 - N Abinadi is persecuted and thrown into a prison (11:20-12)
 - O Abinadi reads the old law and Isaiah's **Messianic** prophecies to the priests (13-14)
 - O' Abinadi gives his own prophecies about **Jesus Christ** to the priests (15-16)
 - N' Abinadi is persecuted and killed by fire (17:5-19)
 - M' King Noah and his wicked priests (19:4-20:5)
 - L' Lamanites threaten the people of Limhi (20:6-26)
 - K' The Record of Zeniff ends as king Limhi leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi (20)
 - J' The twenty-four gold plates brought to king Mosiah₂; could interpret (21:27; 22:14)
 - I' People of Alma are in bondage (23) [SECOND FLASHBACK; p. 185]
 - H' Alma leaves the land of Lehi-Nephi for the land of Zarahemla (24)
 - G' The Church is organized by Alma₁ (the Elder) (25:14-24)
 - F' Unbelievers refuse to enter into a covenant (26:1-4)
 - E' The words of Alma₂ and the words of the angel of the Lord; being born of God (26-27)
 - D' Alma₂ receives the Nephite records (28:20)
 - C' Judges chosen instead of a king (29:5-32)
 - B' King Mosiah₂ exhorts his people; continual peace through the land (29:5-36)
 - A' Alma₂ becomes the first Chief Judge; reign of kings ended (Mosiah 29:37-47)

The Book of Mosiah is organized into a complex chiasmus which focuses on the Messianic teachings of the prophet Abinadi and places emphasis on the powerful teachings of king Benjamin and king Mosiah (Welch, John W., "Chiasmus in the Book of Mormon," *BYU Studies*, Vol. 10, No. 1 [1969], 13). The prophet and historian Mormon accomplishes this by using two flashback sequences. The FIRST FLASHBACK (K through K') is inherently chiastic, so Mormon puts it in the center. The rest of the account, if told in chronological order, would not be chiastic. Mormon uses a SECOND FLASHBACK (I' through D') to create a chiastic structure.

This complex narrative demonstrates a deliberate effort by Mormon to use the parallel structure common to Hebrew writing as also found in the Bible. This is further evidence that both scriptural witnesses of Christ—the Bible and the Book of Mormon—were written by prophets inspired of God.

*See "For a Wise Purpose," p. 135 and p. xxxi.

Hocking: American Indians with Israelite Tallis

“...all that He requires of you is to keep His commandments.”
(Mosiah 2:22)

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, “Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them **fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations**, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring: That ye may remember, and do all My commandments, and be holy unto your God. I am the Lord your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the Lord your God.” (Numbers 15:37-41)



(Licensed from Getty Images;
by Frank Rosenstein)



(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Heb_cover_19.jpg)



Photo by Michael Pasetti

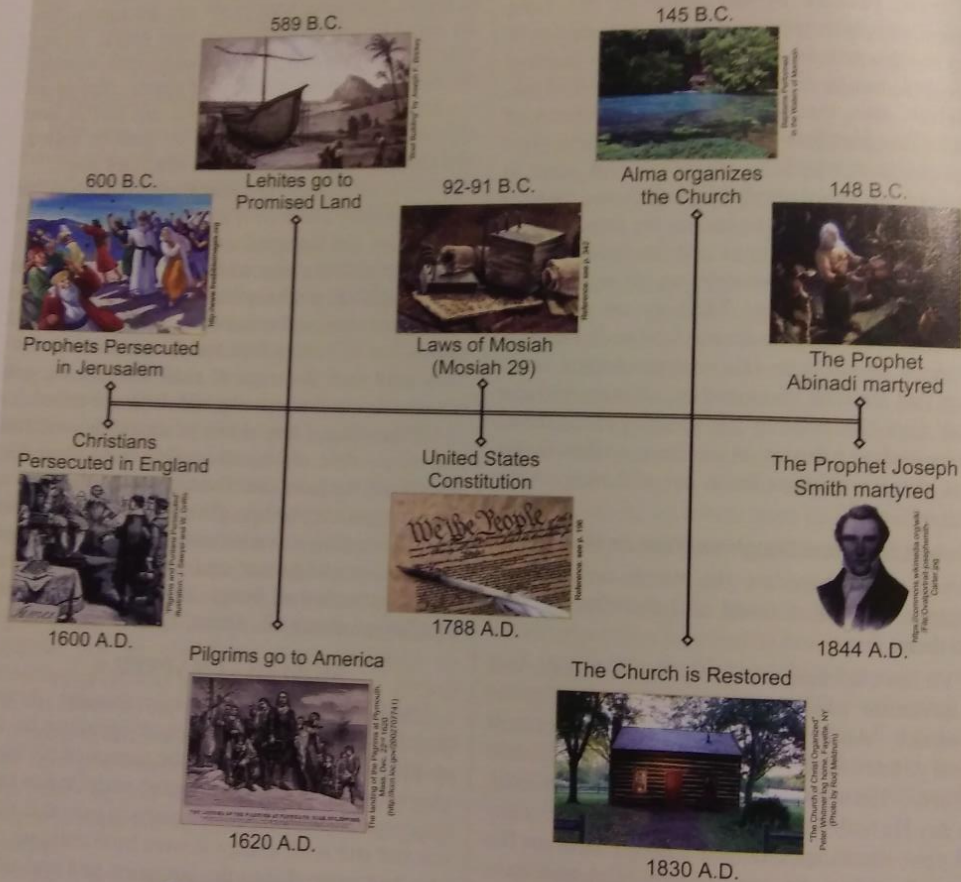


The Tzitzit, shown in the above top photos, are specially knotted ritual fringes, or tassels, worn in antiquity by Israelites and today by observant Jews and Samaritans. Tzitzit are attached to the tallit gadol, (prayer shawls shown on observant Jews above upper left and right) usually referred to simply as a tallit or tallis, appear to be worn by some American Indians. Their shawls and clothing reflects similar fringes worn by various tribes as shown in these old photos taken in the 1880s to 1920s.

(Photos: <https://www.firstpeople.us/FP-HTML-Pictures/American-Indians-00.html>)

BOOK OF MORMON PROMISED LAND PARALLELS

Book of Mormon Relative Timelines



America Relative Timelines

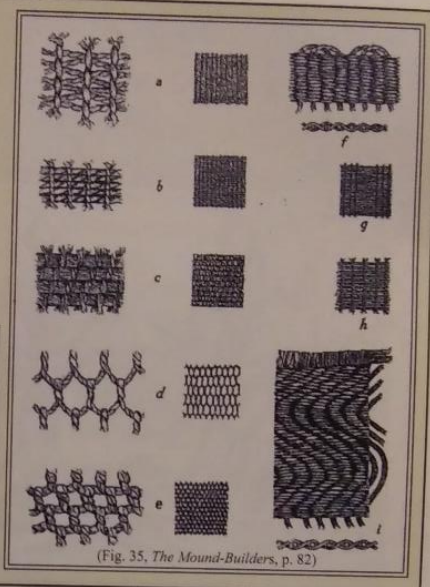
(See Appendix, "Book of Mormon Prophetic Parallels Timeline," p. 534.)

Cloth of Every Kind: "The comparatively well-made fabrics of the Hopewell mounds of the Etowah Group of Georgia indicate that some convenient adaptation of the loom was in use in these areas" – Henry Clyde Shetron, *The Mound-Builders*, D. Appleton-Century Company, NY [1930], 83.

Figures on the right show various weaving of cloth by the Hopewell Group found in Georgia. Descriptions for each weave type are: *a-c, g-i* (twined weaving); *f* (in-and-out weaving); *d* and *e* (netting).

Below left: Woven cloth found in the Seip Mound, Chillicothe, Ohio, 1928. Cloths of various weaves were preserved by contact with copper.

Below right: Squier and Davis 1847 survey map of Seip Mound.



(Fig. 35, *The Mound-Builders*, p. 82)

people that they should contend with my people, therefore there began to be wars and contentions in the land.

(L) Defense Against the Lamanites

¹⁴For, in the thirteenth year of my reign in the land of Nephi, away on the south of the land of Shilom, when my people were watering and feeding their flocks, and tilling their lands, a numerous host of Lamanites came upon them and began to slay them, and to take off their flocks, and the corn of their fields. ¹⁵Yea, and it came to pass that they fled, all that were not overtaken, even into the city of Nephi, and did call upon me for protection. ¹⁶And it came to pass that I did arm them with bows and with arrows, with swords and with cimeters, and with clubs and with slings, and with all manner of weapons, which we could invent; and I and my people did go forth against the Lamanites to battle. ¹⁷Yea, in the strength of the Lord did we go forth to battle against the Lamanites, for I and my people did cry mightily to the Lord that He would deliver us out of the hands of our enemies, for we were awakened to a remembrance of the deliverance of our fathers. ¹⁸And God did hear our cries and did answer our prayers, and we did go forth in His might, yea, we did go forth against the Lamanites, and in one day and a night we did slay three thousand and forty-three; we did slay them even until we had driven them out of our land. ¹⁹And I,

dead. And behold, to our great sorrow and lamentation, two hundred and seventy-nine of our brethren were slain.

^a[About 200 B.C.], ^b[About 188 B.C.], ^c[About 187 B.C.].

MOSIAH - CHAPTER 10

¹And it came to pass that we again began to establish the kingdom and we again began to possess the land in peace; and I caused that there should be weapons of war made of every kind, that thereby I might have weapons for my people against the time the Lamanites should come up again to war against my people. ²And I set guards round about the land, that the Lamanites might not come upon us again unawares and destroy us; and thus I did guard my people and my flocks, and keep them from falling into the hands of our enemies.

³And it came to pass that we did inherit the land of our fathers for many years, yea, ⁴for the space of twenty and two years. ⁴And I did cause that the men should till the ground, and raise all manner of grain and all manner of fruit of every kind. ⁵And I did cause that the women should spin, and toil, and work, and work all manner of fine linen, yea, and cloth of every kind, that we might clothe our nakedness; and thus we did prosper in the land; thus we did have continual peace in the land for the space of twenty and two years.

⁶And it came to pass that king Limoni, that

Hocking: Missouri Long Sword & Other Weapon Artifacts

Note: These long metal swords are NOT found in ancient Mesoamerica, which disqualifies it as the Book of Mormon geographical location.

“...I did arm them with bows and with arrows,
with swords and with cimeters, and with clubs and with slings,
and with all manner of weapons...” (Mosiah 9:16)



“A Weroan or Great Lorde of Virginia”
Engraving by Theodore DeBry, 1590,
after a watercolor by John White, 1585

Courtesy of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Division,
The New York Public Library,
Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations



Photo by David R. Hocking

Four small arrow heads, an obsidian arrowhead, a spear
and a stone ax shown above were found by Oscar
Muhm in the area of Augusta, Missouri, near the
Missouri river in the 1880s. Objects in the possession
of his grandson, Barry Cooper, Pittsboro, North Carolina.



Courtesy of Wayne N. May, Ancient American Magazine

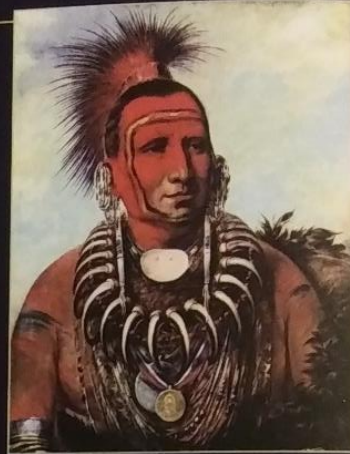
The long-blade weapons shown above represent the many types of swords* that have been
discovered in North America. Metals found include iron and copper. The top and bottom weapons
appear to be in the shape of a cimeter. The bottom (Fig. 8) is about 23 inches (60 cm) in length.

*See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding interpreting artifacts.

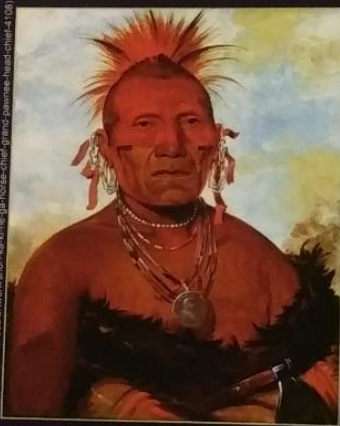
“...yea, they set the mark upon themselves,
yea, even a mark of red upon their foreheads.” (Alma 3:13)



(https://www.wikiart.org/en/George-Catlin-Ah-yaw-ne-tak-oar-ron-Menominee-1831)



(https://americanart.si.edu/works/show?id=y-ga-little-wolf-famous-warrior-4215)



(https://americanart.si.edu/works/show?id=sh-ka-ki-he-ga-horse-chief-grand-pawnee-head-chief-4108)



(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sharitarish_-_Wicked_Chief_-_by_Charles_Bird_King_c1822.jpg)

Upper left: Ah-yaw-ne-tak-oár-ron, a Menominee Warrior, Wisconsin (1831)

Upper right: Shon-ta-yi-ga, Little Wolf, Iowa (1844)

Above left: Shon-ka-ki-he-ga, Horse Chief, Pawnee, Oklahoma (1832)

All paintings by George Catlin (1796-1872)

Above right: Sharitarish (Wicked Chief) Grand Pawnees, Oklahoma (1822)
by Charles Bird King (1785-1862)



The significance of red paint is a notably common element of American Indian cultures as shown in the above paintings. For instance, Heháka Sápa (Black Elk, Dec. 1863 – Aug. 19, 1950), a holy man of the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) tribe, described his vision and the importance of using red paint for the ghost dance: “This sacred man [the Messiah] gave some red sacred paint and two eagle feathers that the sacred man taught to Good Thunder, Yellow Breast, and Brave Bear.” (Neihardt, J.G., *Black Elk Speaks*, Albany, New York: State University of New York Press [2008], Chap. 21, The Messiah, 187.) Photo of Black Elk (L), daughter Lucy and second wife Anna, circa 1910; https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Black_Elk.jpg.

“...they do study at this time that they may destroy the liberty of thy people, for thus saith the Lord...” (Alma 8:17)

Freedom vs. Liberty

Noah Webster Dictionary Definitions of Freedom vs. Liberty
from the 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language.

FREE, noun

1. Being at liberty; not being under necessity or restraint, physical or moral.
5. Unconstrained; unrestrained; not under compulsion or control. A man is free to pursue his own choice; he enjoys free will.

FREE'DOM, noun

1. A state of exemption from the power or control of another.

LIB'ERTY, noun [Latin *libertas*, from *liber*, free.]

1. Freedom from restraint, in a general sense, and applicable to the body, or to the will or mind. The body is at liberty when not confined; the will or mind is at liberty when not checked or controlled. A man enjoys liberty when no physical force operates to restrain his actions or volitions.
2. Natural liberty consists in the power of acting as one thinks fit, *without any restraint or control*, except from the *Laws of Nature*. (But generally men mean by nature, the Author of created things, or the operation of His power.)
5. Religious liberty is the free right of adopting and enjoying opinions on religious subjects, and of worshiping the Supreme Being according to the dictates of conscience, without external control.

Book of Mormon Definition of Freedom vs. Liberty

“Wherefore, men are free according to the flesh; and all things are given them which are expedient unto man. And they are free to choose [first choice] *liberty* and eternal life, through the great Mediator of all men, or to choose [second choice] *captivity and death*, according to the captivity and power of the devil; for he seeketh that all men might be miserable like unto himself.” (2 Nephi:2:27; emphasis added.)

“And thus he was preparing to support their *liberty*, their lands, their wives, and their children, and their peace, and that they might live unto the Lord their God, and that they might maintain that which was called by their enemies the ‘cause of Christians.’” (Alma 48:10; emphasis added.)

“For behold, they do study at this time that they may **destroy the liberty** of thy people, (for thus saith the Lord) which is contrary to the statutes, and judgments, and commandments which He has given unto His people.” (Alma 8:17; emphasis added.)



(CC) License: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/stock-photo-of-liberty-in-new-york-during-daytime-35236/>

Freedom provides the ability to choose between good and evil—God’s Natural Law or Satan’s counterfeit plan. True liberty is the conscientious choice to follow God’s law. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” – *United States Declaration of Independence*, final draft, July 4, 1776.

THE DESTRUCTION OF AMMONIHAH

“Desolation of Nehors” Zoram, Lehi and Aha’s Prophetic Victory (Alma 16:1-12)

- Armies of the Lamanites enter the city of Ammonihah and slay the people and destroy the city
- Lamanites march from the south wilderness
- Zoram and his sons cross the river Sidon and march away beyond the borders of Manti into the south wilderness and scatter the Lamanites
- Zoram and his sons take their brethren who were held captives – not one soul being lost

“And thus ended the eleventh year of the judges, the Lamanites having been driven out of the land, and the people of Ammonihah were destroyed; yea, every living soul of the Ammonihahites was destroyed; and also their great city which they said God could not destroy because of its greatness. But behold, in one day it was left desolate and the carcasses were mangled by dogs and wild beasts of the wilderness. Nevertheless, after many days **their dead bodies were heaped up upon the face of the earth and they were covered with a shallow covering.** And now so great was the scent thereof that the people did not go in to possess the land of Ammonihah for many years; and it was called, ‘Desolation of Nehors’, for they were of the profession of Nehor who were slain, and their lands remained desolate.” (Alma 16: 9-11; emphasis added.)

On May 16, 1834, Zion’s Camp March came into a piece of thick woods of recent growth near Dayton, Ohio. The Prophet Joseph Smith commented, “I felt much depressed in spirit and lonesome, and that there had been a great deal of bloodshed in that place...In about forty rods from where I made this observation...was a mound sixty feet high, containing human bones.”

(“History, 1838–1856, volume A-1 [23 December 1805–30 August 1834] [addenda],” p. 7 [addenda], *The Joseph Smith Papers*, accessed January 23, 2018, <http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/history-1838-1856-volume-a-1-23-december-1805-30-august-1834/566>)



Some Hopewell mounds have been found to contain the remains of numerous individuals.

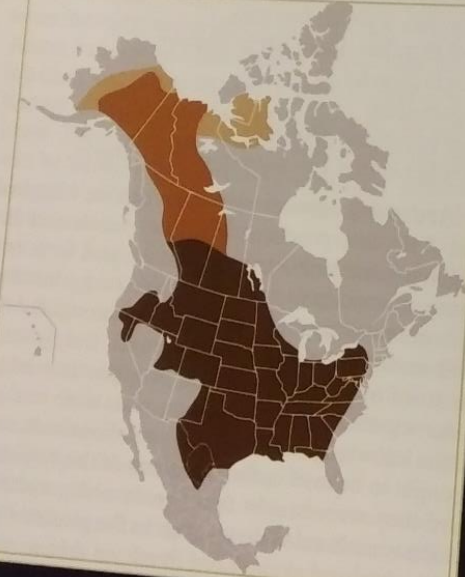


(Photos by Paul Medtrum)

“...the wilderness which is filled with all manner of wild animals of every kind, a part of which had come from the north and northward for food.” (Alma 22:31)



Photo by Rod Meldrum



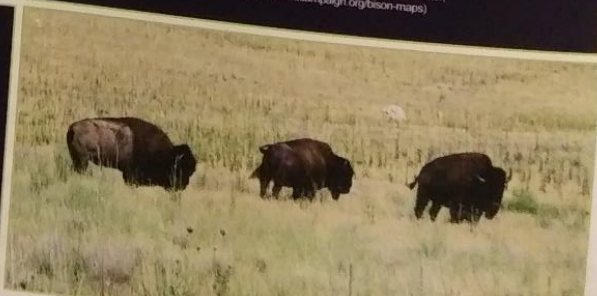
In Alma 22:31, Mormon describes a wild animal that came (migrated) from a northern region for food. In Mosiah 18:4, Mormon describes how the land of Mormon was “infested, by times or at seasons, by wild beasts.” And in Ether 9:34, it says that “the people did follow the course of the beasts, and did devour the carcasses of them which fell by the way” following a great dearth (drought) that forced the beasts to retreat southward.

The map on the left shows the ancient migration of bison based on available zoo-archaeological, paleontological, oral and written historical accounts. Herds came from the north to graze on the fertile grasses of the plains of North America. (Stephenson, R. O. et al. *Wood bison in late Holocene Alaska and adjacent Canada: Paleontological, archaeological and historical records*, [2001], 125-159; S. C. Gerlach and M. S. Murrya, eds.)

(Map courtesy of Lara Anderson, BFC Office Coordinator, <https://www.buffalofieldcampaign.org/bison-maps>)

Seasonal Migrations

“Bison migrated up to 310 miles between summer and winter ranges...” – *Mystery of Migration*, Planet Earth Series [1981].



Hocking: Joseph & Emma Witness: Book of Mormon History. No Manuscripts, Just Metallic Plates

(Note: The statement of Joseph not being able to dictate a coherent sentence however is questionable, Joseph was actually quite smart from his youth and spent years studying the bible.)

"The Book of Mormon is true" – Joseph Smith Jr.

David Osborn was present when Joseph Smith preached in Far West, Missouri, in 1837. He recalled these words of the Prophet: "The Book of Mormon is true, **just what it purports to be**, and for this testimony I expect to give an account in the day of judgment." – Quoted by David Osborn, in *"Recollections of the Prophet Joseph Smith,"* Juvenile Instructor [Mar. 15, 1892], 173; emphasis added.



"The President [Joseph Smith Jr.] then gave a relation of obtaining and translating the Book of Mormon, the revelation of the Priesthood of Aaron, the organization of the Church in 1830, the revelation of the High Priesthood, and the gift of the Holy Ghost poured out upon the Church, and said: 'Take away the Book of Mormon and the revelations, and where is our religion? We have none.'" (*History of the Church*, 2:52; punctuation modernized; paragraph divisions altered; from the minutes of a Church conference held on Apr. 21, 1834, in Norton, Ohio; reported by Oliver Cowdery.)

(Painting of Joseph Smith Jr., circa 1842, owned by Joseph Smith III)

The Book of Mormon is a True Historical Account



Emma Smith, the wife of the Prophet reports that, in the late 1820s, Joseph "could neither write nor dictate a coherent and well worded letter, let alone dictate a book like the Book of Mormon... The larger part of this labor [of translation] was done [in] my presence and where I could see and know what was being done... During no part of it did Joseph Smith have any [manuscripts] or book of any kind from which to read or dictate except the metallic [sic] plates which I knew he had." (Milton V. Backman, Jr. *Eyewitness Accounts of the Restoration*, Salt Lake City, Deseret Book Co. [1983, 1986], 126–27.)

"If,' she said, 'he had had anything of the kind he could not have concealed it from me. And,' she added, writing to her son Joseph Smith III: 'I am satisfied that no man could have dictated the writing of the manuscripts unless he was inspired; for, when acting as his scribe, your father would dictate to me hour after hour; and when returning after meals, or after interruptions, he would at once begin where he had left off, without either seeing the manuscript or having any portion of it read to him. This was a usual thing for him to do. It would have been improbable that a learned man could do this; and, for one so ignorant and unlearned as he was, it was simply impossible.'" – Richard L. Bushman, *Joseph Smith and the Beginnings of Mormonism*, University of Illinois Press, Champaign, IL [1988], 96.

(Photo of Emma Smith, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EmmaHSmith2.jpg>)

“...He doth visit us by His angels, that the Plan of Salvation might be made known unto us...” (Alma 24:14)

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

King Anti-Nephi-Lehi, the brother of King Lamoni and a Lamanite who converted to the Lord, made a speech to his people after visiting with the missionary Ammon. He tells his people that God has mercy on them and taught them before Ammon came to preach to them saying: “Yea, and He [God] has made these things known unto us beforehand, because He loveth our souls, as well as He loveth our children; therefore, in His mercy, He doth visit us by His angels, that the **Plan of Salvation** might be made known unto us, as well as unto future generations” – Alma 24:14; emphasis added.

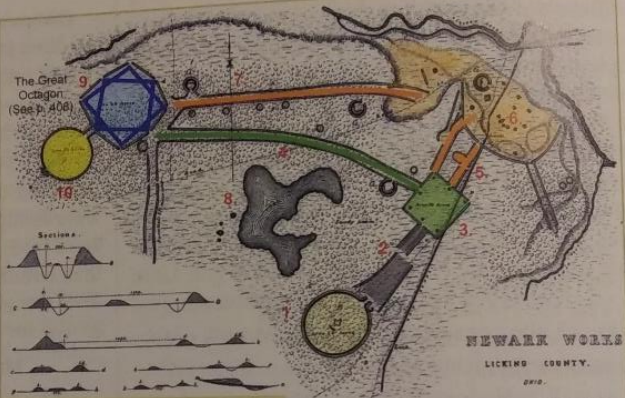
The Newark Earthworks, built between 100 A.D. to 500 A.D.,* originally encompassed more than four square miles. Taken as a whole, the earthworks appear to symbolize elements of the Plan of Salvation and Redemption:

1. Pre-Mortal Life as spirits being born with a...
2. Veil of Forgetfulness to begin mortal...
3. Earth life: “the four corners of the earth”
4. Direct path after death to a higher kingdom
5. Spirit Prison (holding area for the wicked)
6. Paradise (Gospel preached to the dead)
7. Vicarious Path with multiple check points
8. Lake of Filthy Water (worldly temptations)
9. Terrestrial Kingdom (cf. 1 Cor. 15:40) The Seal of Melchizedek¹ consists of two interlocked (or overlapping) squares, making what appears to be an eight-pointed star within the octagon.
10. Celestial Kingdom (narrow path entered only through the realm of the Melchizedek Priesthood)

*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newark_Earthworks



“He [Moroni] represented them as once being an enlightened and intelligent people, possessing a correct knowledge of the gospel, and the plan of restoration and redemption” – Oliver Cowdery, Letter IV, Introduction, p. X.
(PAINTING BY LEWIS A. RAMSEY, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:LDS_Oliver_COWDERY.jpg)



Map symbolism by Amberli Nelson

Lehi's speech to his son Jacob stated that, “the way is prepared from the fall of man, and salvation is free.” (2 Nephi 2:4). Lehi explained to Jacob the future atonement of the Holy Messiah, that He would “offereth Himself a sacrifice for sin” and would “layeth down His life according to the flesh, and taketh it again by the power of the Spirit, that He may bring to pass the resurrection of the dead, being the first that should rise.” (2 Nephi 2:7–8)

Jacob then taught the people of Nephi the “Merciful Plan of the Great Creator: “For as death hath passed upon all men, to fulfil **the Merciful Plan of the Great Creator**, there must needs be a power of resurrection, and the resurrection must needs come unto man by reason of the fall; and the fall came by reason of transgression; and because man became fallen they were cut off from the presence of the Lord.” (2 Nephi 9:6)

Throughout the book of Alma, there are many teachings concerning “the Plan.” Alma (the Younger) taught Zeezrom “the **Plan of Redemption**, which was laid from the foundation of the world.” (Alma 12:25). Ammon, a son of King Mosiah, also laid out “the Plan” to the Lamanite King Lamoni, “...for he expounded unto them the **Plan of Redemption**, which was prepared from the foundation of the world.” (Alma 18:39). Aaron, unto him the scriptures from the creation of Adam, laying the fall of man before him, and their carnal state for all whosoever would believe on His name.” (Alma 22:13)

Other names are symbolic of “the Plan” and include: “The great **Plan of Happiness**.” (Alma 42:8); “The **Plan of Mercy** could not be brought about except an atonement should be made.” (Alma 42:15); and, “I say unto thee, my son, that the **Plan of Restoration** is requisite with the justice of God.” (Alma 18:39)

¹The name “Melchizedek” is Hebrew for “King (melek) of Righteousness (sedek),” who was also Prince of Salem, which translated is “Prince of Peace,” making this name a type of Christ. The “Melchizedek Priesthood” is the Priesthood of Christ (see p. 225; D&C 107:1-4).

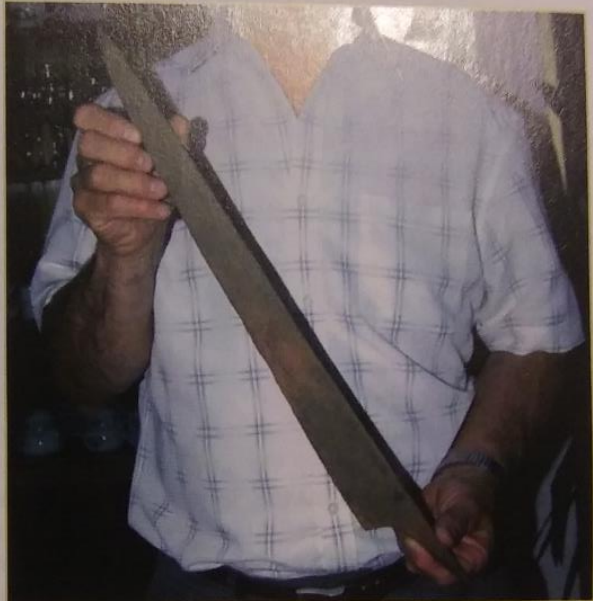
Hocking: Iroquois Bury Weapons, "Bury the Hatchet"

"...we will hide away all swords,
yea, even we will bury them deep in the earth." (Alma 24:16)

To "bury the hatchet" is an American English idiom meaning "to make peace." The phrase alludes to the figurative or literal practice of putting away the tomahawk when hostilities ceased during the formation of the Iroquois Confederacy. Weapons (tomahawks, hatchets, swords, etc.) were to be buried, or otherwise stored, in time of peace.

Samuel Sewall wrote in 1680: "I write to you in one [letter] of the Mischief the Mohawks did; which occasioned Major Pyncheon's going [sic] to Albany, where meeting with the Sachem the[y] came to an agreement and buried two Axes in the Ground; one for English another for themselves; which ceremony to them is more significant & binding than all Articles of Peace[,] the hatchet being a principal weapon with them." (*O Brave New Words!: Native American Loanwords in Current English* [1994] by Charles L. Cutler Encyclopedia of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy) [2000], edited by Bruce Elliott Johansen and Barbara Alice Mann.)

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burying_the_hatchet)



Shown above: A large ancient iron sword* was found buried deep in the soil on the shores of Lake Superior. Although not dated, it has ancient hallmarks.

(Photo courtesy of Wayne N. May, *Ancient American Magazine*, Colfax, Wisconsin.)

*See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding interpreting artifacts.



NOT A WAY, IROQUOIS CHIEF
BY GEORGE CATLIN

The Treaty of Hopewell, signed by Colonel Benjamin Hawkins, General Andrew Pickens and Headman McIntosh, in Keowee, South Carolina in 1785 established the boundary of the Cherokee Nation, and made use of the phrase "bury the hatchet." Article 13 reads, "The hatchet shall be forever buried, and the peace given by the United States, and friendship re-established between the said states on the one part, and all the Cherokees on the other, shall be universal; and the contracting parties shall use their utmost endeavors to maintain the peace given as aforesaid, and friendship re-established." (*Treaty with the Choctaw, 1786* [Jan. 3, 1786] 7 Stat., 21. *Indian Affairs: Laws and Treaties*. Vol.II (Treaties). Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office [1904].)

(<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/newnati/nativeam/chokeee.html>)

Hocking: Sioux Costly Apparel

“...their costly apparel, and their ringlets, and their bracelets, and their ornaments of gold...” (Alma 1:28)



(See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding interpreting artifacts.)

(Photos by Rod Meldrum)



1870 photo of Red Fox, Bear Skin, Red Dog, Rocky Bear and Living Bear of the Ogala Sioux Tribe in "costly apparel" including "ringlets."

Hocking: Zion's Camp & Plains of the Nephites: Artifacts, Zelph Mound

ZION'S CAMP AND THE "PLAINS OF THE NEPHITES"

"The whole of our [Zion's Camp*] journey, in the midst of so large a company of social honest and sincere men, wandering over the plains of the Nephites, recounting occasionally the history of the Book of Mormon, roving over the mounds of that people, the beloved people of the Lord, picking up their skulls & their bones, as a proof of divine authenticity, and gazing upon a country the fertility, the splendour and the goodness so indescribable, all serves to pass away time unnoticed." (Letter to Emma Smith [4 June 1834], 57; *The Joseph Smith Papers*; see p. 320; emphasis added.)

*Zion's Camp was originally called the Camp of Israel: "Joseph Smith departed Kirtland, Ohio, [5 May 1834 on his way to Missouri] at head of Camp of Israel." — "Elder Kimball's Journal," *Times and Seasons*, 15 Jan. 1845, 6:771.



Naples-Russel Mound 8 (NRM#8) or "Zelph's Mound" is 3 miles east of Griggsville, IL. The people in the circles are shown for scale.



A shallow bowl, excavated from NRM 8, is about 7 inches wide and has an abstract water-bird design, typical of the Middle Woodland period (1-500 A.D.).

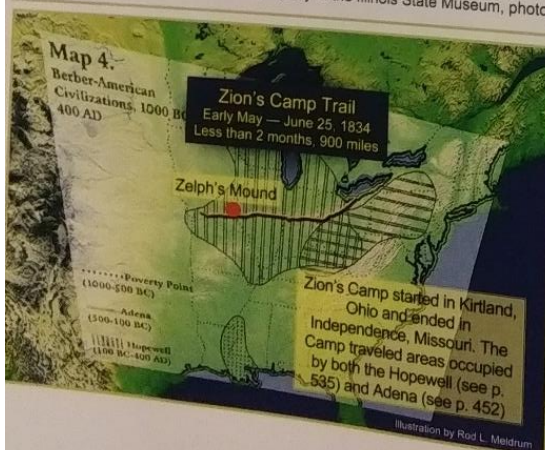


Copper celts were removed from NRM 8 during an archaeological dig. There are remains of fabric on the surface that was preserved from contact with the copper.



A shallow bowl, excavated from NRM 8, is about 7 inches wide and has an abstract plant design. The mound has been carbon-dated to 150-350 A.D.

Artifacts property of the Illinois State Museum, photographs by Dr. Eldon Barrowes.



Naples-Russel Mound 8 (or Illinois Archaeological Survey #PK 335), also known originally as Zelph's Mound, pictured above, is a Havana Hopewell culture mound site located in Pike County, Illinois. The artifacts found during an excavation conducted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1990 confirmed the mound was a Hopewell burial mound, dating from 100 B.C. to 500 A.D. — a time-frame within the fully developed Nephite civilization and when it collapsed. (*Archaeology of the Americas Before Columbus*, Ancient American Magazine, Volume 12, No. 74, 36.)

BEING BORN OF GOD (THE CHIASTIC STRUCTURE OF ALMA 36)

A – Give Ear to My Words

v. 1... My son, give ear to my words;

B – Trust in God and be Supported in Trials, Troubles and Afflictions

v. 3...whosoever shall put their trust in God shall be supported in their *trials*, and their *troubles*, and their *afflictions*, and shall be lifted up at the last day.

C – The Knowledge which I have is not of the Carnal Mind, but of God

vv. 4-5... And I would not that ye think that I know of myself—not of the temporal, but of the spiritual, not of the carnal mind, *but of God*. Now, behold, I say unto you, if I had not been *born of God* I should not have known these things; but *God has*, by the mouth of His holy angel, *made these things known unto me*, not of any worthiness of myself.

D – I Sought to Destroy the Church of God

vv. 8-9... But behold, the voice said unto me: "Arise." And I arose and stood up, and beheld the angel. And he said unto me: "If thou wilt of thyself be destroyed, seek no more to destroy the Church of God."

E – I did Remember all My Sins and Iniquities

vv. 12-13... But I was racked with eternal torment, for my soul was harrowed up to the greatest degree and racked with *all my sins*. Yea, I did remember *all my sins and iniquities*, for which I was tormented with the pains of hell; yea, I saw that I had rebelled against my God, and that I had not kept His holy commandments.

F – I Remembered that Jesus Christ, a Son of God, would Atone for Sins

v. 17...behold, I remembered also to have heard my father prophesy unto the people concerning the coming of one Jesus Christ, a Son of God, to atone for the sins of the world.

F' – I Cried: "O Jesus, Thou Son of God, have Mercy on Me..."

v. 18... Now, as my mind caught hold upon this thought, I cried within my heart: "*O Jesus, Thou Son of God, have mercy on me, who am in the gall of bitterness, and am encircled about by the everlasting chains of death!*"

E' – I was Harrowed up by the Memories of My Sins No More

vv. 19-20...yea, I was harrowed up by the memory of my sins no more. And oh, what joy, and what marvelous light I did behold; yea, my soul was filled with joy as exceeding as was my pain!

D' – I have Labored without Ceasing to Bring Souls unto Repentance

vv. 23-24... But behold, my limbs did receive their strength again, and I stood upon my feet, and did manifest unto the people that I had been *born of God*. Yea, and from that time even until now, I have labored without ceasing, that I might bring souls unto repentance; that I might bring them to taste of the exceeding joy of which I did taste; that they might also be *born of God*, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

C' – The Knowledge which I have is of God

v. 26. For because of the word which He has imparted unto me, behold, many have been *born of God*, and have tasted as I have tasted, and have seen eye to eye as I have seen; therefore they do know of these things of which I have spoken, as I do know; and *the knowledge which I have is of God*.

B' – I Trust in Him and have been Supported under Trials, Troubles and Afflictions

v. 27... And I have been supported under *trials* and *troubles* of every kind, yea, and in all manner of *afflictions*; yea, God has delivered me from prison, and from bonds, and from death; yea, and I do put my trust in Him, and He will still deliver me.

A' – According to His Word

v. 30... Now this is according to His word.

Alma's commandments to his son Helaman centers on his being born of God. The above is an example of how his conversion story can be structured in a chiasmic pattern. A more detailed analysis on this can be found in "Chapter 31: Alma 36–39," *Book of Mormon Student Manual* (2009), 232–41. (<https://www.lds.org/manual/book-of-mormon-student-manual/chapter-31-alma-36-39?lang=eng>.)

“...by their breastplates, and their arm-shields,
and their head-plates...” (Alma 43:38)



Above photo: Private collection of Danny Lawson.
Discovered near Nauvoo, Illinois.

Left Photo: Ocmulgee Mounds Museum, Macon, Georgia.



Arm-shield found by Daniel Lawson in a creek bed near Nauvoo, Illinois.

"The copper arm-shield (shown in the photo on the left) was used to protect one's forearm from blows from a sword. It is a tapered scroll joined by some sort of welding even though most of it is cold hammered. It is joined by this weld near the wrist, but the rest is open and probably had a strap to cinch it on the fleshy part of the forearm so it would be secure during the struggle." – Ryan Fisher, www.NephiteExplorer.com.

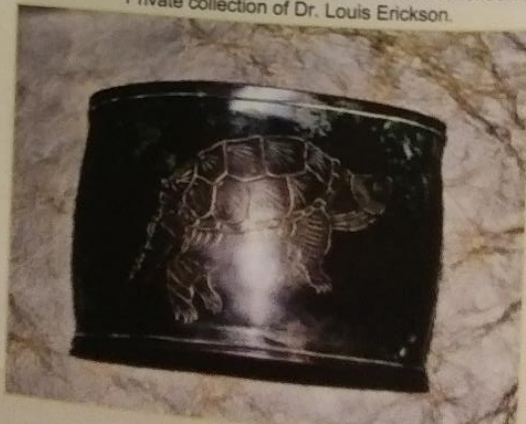
(<https://nephiteexplorer.com/2011/11/19/copper-arm-band-found-near-zarahemla/>)

Arm-shields were implements Captain Moroni had made for use in battle to protect the soldiers from severe blows to their arms. Several mound excavations in the Mid-western states have yielded copper arm-shields as shown in these photos. Holes in the metal arm shields allow cords to secure them on the arm.

(Photos by Rod Meltum)



Arm-shields were discovered during Ohio road construction.
Private collection of Dr. Louis Erickson.

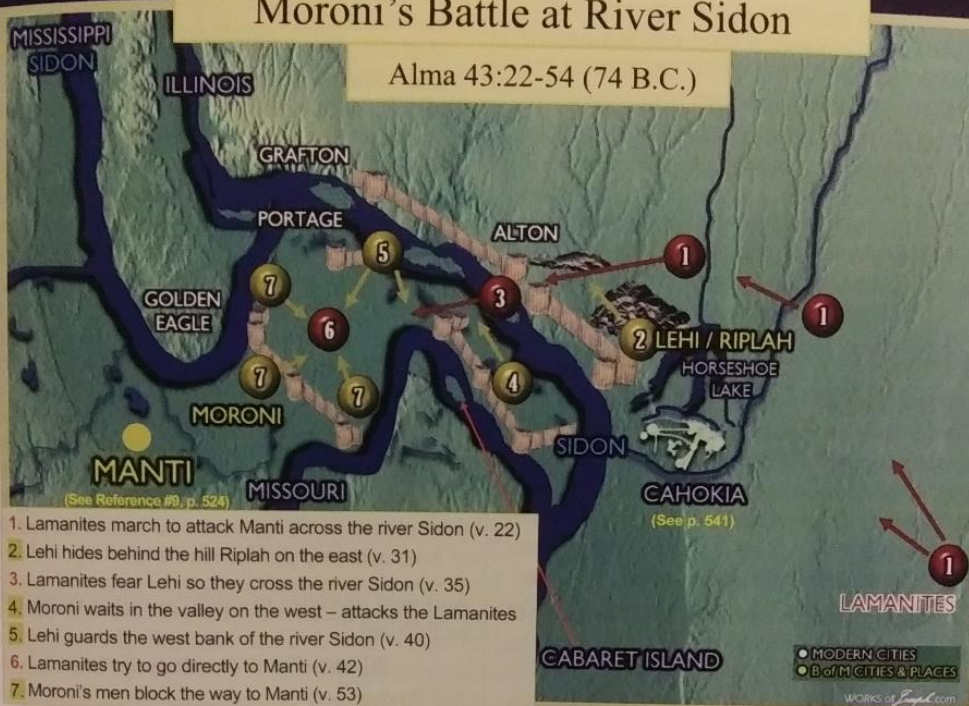


(*See Editorial comment on p. 37.)

THE ZORAMITE WAR (Alma 43-44)

Moroni's Battle at River Sidon

Alma 43:22-54 (74 B.C.)



THE ZORAMITE WAR

Location: Between land of Antionum (Zoramites/Lamanites)
and the land of Zarahemla (Nephites), southeast of the city of Zarahemla

After the Zoramites separated from the Nephites, they entered into a correspondence with the Lamanites. A war was precipitated after many of the Zoramite working class defected from the city of Antionum, having been converted by Alma and given refuge in the land of Jershon (see maps on pp. 258; 267) which was given to the Anti-Nephi-Lehies (see Alma 27:22).

Moroni's strategy was to build up troops to oppose the Lamanites in the land of Jershon (Alma 43:15). It was followed by Lamanite attempts to flee, the Nephite's pursuit, and then a battle at the river Sidon as depicted in the above suggested map. For battle protection, Moroni equipped his army with the use of innovative armor: "they being shielded from the more vital parts of the body, or the more vital parts of the body being shielded from the strokes of the Lamanites, by their breastplates, and their arm-shields, and their head-plates." (Alma 43:38)

Because of the success of Moroni's superior battle strategies that allowed the Nephites to win the war, the Zoramites all took an oath of peace never to attack Nephites again: "Now Zarahemnah, when he saw that they were all about to be destroyed, cried mightily unto Moroni, promising that he would covenant and also his people with them if they would spare the remainder of their lives, that they never would come to war again against them." (Alma 44:19)

Hocking: Moroni & George Washington: Titles of Liberty

Compare with Alma 46:13 “in memory of our God, our religion, and freedom and our peace, our wives and our children.”

GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S “Title of Liberty”

George Washington's
Address to the Inhabitants of Canada
(14 September 1775)

Friends and Brethren,

The unnatural Contest between the English Colonies and Great-Britain, has now risen to such a Height, that Arms alone must decide it. The Colonies, confiding in the Justice of their Cause, and the Purity of their Intentions, have reluctantly **appealed to that Being**, in whose Hands are all human Events. He has hitherto smiled upon their virtuous Efforts—The Hand of Tyranny has been arrested in its Ravages, and the British Arms which have shone with so much Splendor in every Part of the Globe, are now tarnished with Disgrace and Disappointment.—Generals of approved Experience, who boasted of subduing this great Continent, find themselves circumscribed within the Limits of a single City and its Suburbs, suffering all the Shame and Distress of a Siege. While the trueborn Sons of America, animated by the genuine **Principles of Liberty** and Love of their Country, with increasing Union, Firmness and Discipline repel every Attack, and despise every Danger...

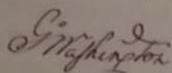


GEORGE WASHINGTON
BY KILBURN AND FEALE (1796-1800)

Come then, my Brethren, unite with us in an indissoluble Union, let us run together to the same Goal.—**We have taken up Arms in Defence of our Liberty, our Property, our Wives, and our Children, we are determined to preserve them, or die.** We look forward with Pleasure to that Day not far remote (we hope) when the Inhabitants of America shall have one Sentiment, and the full Enjoyment of the Blessings of a free Government...

Incited by these Motives, and encouraged by the Advice of many Friends of Liberty among you, the Grand American Congress have sent an Army into your Province, under the Command of General Schuyler; **not to plunder, but to protect you**; to animate, and bring forth into Action those Sentiments of Freedom you have disclosed, and which the Tools of Despotism would extinguish through the whole Creation...

I invite you therefore as Friends and Brethren, to provide him with such Supplies as your Country affords; and I pledge myself not only for your Safety and Security, but for ample Compensation. Let no Man desert his Habitation—Let no one flee as before an Enemy. The Cause of America, and of Liberty, is the Cause of every virtuous American Citizen; whatever may be his Religion or his Descent, the United Colonies know no Distinction but such as Slavery, Corruption and arbitrary Domination may create. Come then, ye generous Citizens, range yourselves under the Standard of general Liberty—against which all the Force and Artifice of Tyranny will never be able to prevail.



[G. Washington; emphasis added]

Source: *The Papers of George Washington, Revolutionary War Series*, vol. 1, 16 June 1775?–?15 September 1775, ed. Philander D. Chase. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia [1985], 461–463.
(<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-01-02-0358>)

MORONI'S DEFENSIVE STRATEGIES

"Yea, he had been strengthening the armies of the Nephites, and erecting small forts, or places of resort, throwing up banks of earth round about to enclose his armies, and also building walls of stone to encircle them about, round about their cities and the borders of their lands, yea, all round about the land."
(Alma 48:8)

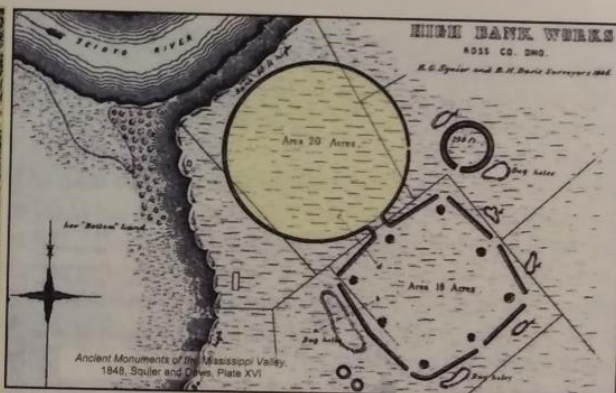


Throughout North America's Heartland there are places that have massive "walls of stone" enclosing elevated areas such as shown in the above photos from Stone Fort, Illinois. Squier and Davis's survey map of Ancient Stone Work in Ross County, Ohio, shown on the bottom center, depicts a Hopewell culture defense that parallels Captain Moroni's descriptions in Alma 48.



All Photos by Rod Meldrum

The photo above is of the Great Circle in Ross County, Ohio, part of the Newark Earthworks (see p. 250) and is similar to the circle shown in Plate XVI on the upper right, surveyed by Squier and Davis in 1846. The photo highlights the steep slope of the bank and the size of the ditch surrounding it.

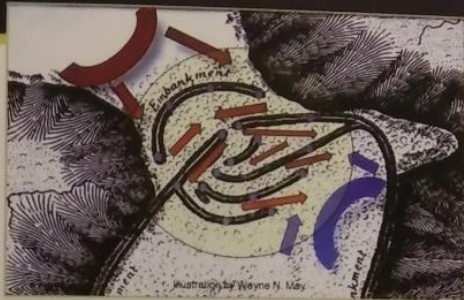


"The defenses consist of walls of stone which is carried around the hill, a little below the brow; but at some places it rises, so as to cut off the narrow spurs, and extends across the neck that connects the hill with the range beyond" – Squier and Davis, p. 68.

See also the January 1, 1842 issue of the *Times and Seasons* (Vol. 3, No. 5) article, "Evidences In Proof of the Book of Mormon"; refers to the Licking County, Ohio fortifications; online at <https://archive.org/details/TimesAndSeasonsVol3/page/n101>

Hocking: Military Forts of Hopewell in Ohio

“...the Lamanites could not get into their forts of security
by any other way save by the entrance
because of the highness of the bank,
which had been thrown up and the depth of the ditch,
which had been dug round about...” (Alma 49:18)



“Thus they were prepared, yea, a body of their strongest men [depicted with blue arrows above], with their swords and their slings, to smite down all who should attempt to come into their place of security by the place of entrance [depicted with red arrows]” (Alma 49:20).

Fortified Hill in Butler County, Hamilton Ohio, (shown on left) was surveyed in 1847 by Ephraim G. Squier and Edwin H. Davis.

The picture below is from the Mound Builders in Ohio. The Hopewell people would build a ditch and heap the dirt to form a protected bank and create places of entrance with a series of earth berms to trap and hinder the enemy from entering the place of security.



Squier and Davis described the ditch as being "equal" at the steepest points of the hill, and "almost obliterated" in other areas. The wall is noted as being eight to ten feet high, and following the shape of the hill it was built on. There are three entrances into the earthwork that could act as killing fields as shown in the above survey maps. (Ephraim George Squier and Edwin Hamilton Davis, *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley*, Smithsonian Institution, [1848], 89-92.)

“...and they were naked, save it were a skin which was girded about their loins...” (Alma 43:20)



INTERVIEW OF SAMOSET WITH THE PILGRIMS
BOOK ENGRAVING, UNCREDITED (1853)

“On a cold March 16, 1621, in Plymouth, Massachusetts, the English settlers were startled to see a Native American Indian approach them and with great enthusiasm speak the famous words, ‘Welcome, Englishmen.’ His name was Samoset (c. 1590–1653) and he towered over them. He stood before them ‘a tall straight man...’ What impressed them the most was that he was ‘stark naked,’ with just a fringe strap of leather around his waist. When a cold gust of wind kicked up, one of the Pilgrims was moved to throw his coat over the Indian’s shoulders” – Nathaniel Philbrick, *Mayflower, A Story of Courage, Community and War*, Viking, Penguin Group (USA) Inc., NY, NY [2006], 93.

This encounter shows that native Indian tribes could acclimate to the colder months even though non-natives, not accustomed to the cold, needed to be fully clothed for protection from the “cold gust of wind.”



SAMOSET COMES “BOLDLY” INTO PLYMOUTH SETTLEMENT
Woodcut designed by A.R. Waud; engraved by J.P. Davis (1876)

Hocking: Timbers about the Cities: Fort Ancient, Ohio

“...upon the top of these ridges of earth [Moroni] caused that there should be timbers, yea, works of timbers built up to the height of a man, round about the cities.” (Alma 50:2)

Top photo is of Fort Ancient, Warren County, Ohio showing stone walls built by the Hopewell.

The bottom is an artist's rendition of the same site but showing how “works of timbers” could have been constructed to seal off the enclosed area as a defense.

(Courtesy of Wayne N. May)



“And he [Captain Moroni] caused that upon those works of timbers there should be a frame of pickets built upon the timbers round about, and they were strong and high. And he caused towers to be erected that overlooked those works of pickets, and he caused places of security to be built upon those towers that the stones and the arrows of the Lamanites could not hurt them.” (Alma 50:3-4)



Top picture is a depiction of the inside of an enclosure at Fort Hill, Highland County, Ohio. The enclosed timber wall with tower defense is based on the actual picture shown on the bottom photo. Fort Hill was built by the Hopewell about 2,000 years ago.

(Courtesy of Wayne N. May)

Hocking: Hanukkah Mound Earthworks Ohio: City of Lehi

“And they also began in that same year to build many cities on the north; one in a particular manner, which they called Lehi...”

(Alma 50:15)

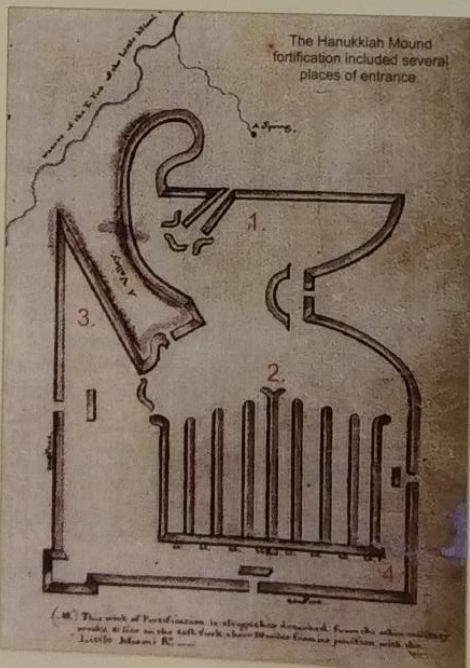
National Archives Photograph RG77 144.20



Ohio had dozens of large-scale earthworks, attributed to the Hopewell Culture (200 B.C. to 500 A.D.). Most of them incorporated huge geometrical structures, primarily circles, squares, octagons, and extended parallel walls. The East Fork Works, located north of central Ohio, are unusual for their complexity. The map on the left is a portion of one drawn in 1823 and attributed by Warden (1834) to Major Isaac Roberdeau, head of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

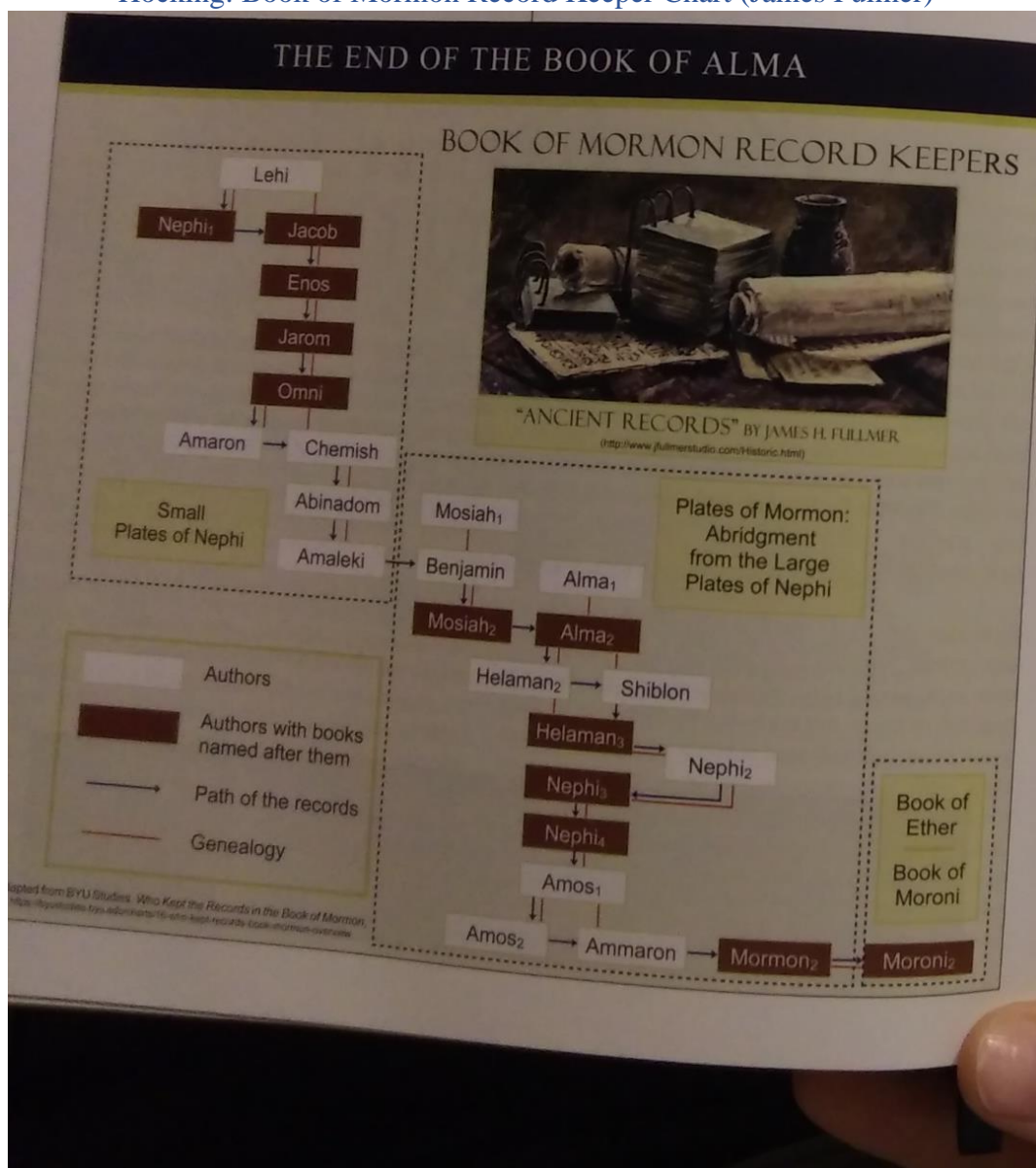
One mound, known as the Hanukkiah Mound, was situated near the East Fork of the Little Miami River in Ohio. Below left shows several components of the mound depicting Jewish symbols*: 1) oil lamp, 2) Hanukkiah (Chanukah menorah) 3) compass and 4) square.

*See the Appendix, The City of Lehi Built "in a Particular Manner," p. 558.



The Hanukkiah represents the miracle of the oil lamp burning for eight days instead of only one. Hanukkah, or Festival of Lights, commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple period, 516 B.C. - 70 A.D.) in Jerusalem. The oil lamp is lit to wait for the Bridegroom (Jesus Christ). The center elevated candle is known as the service candle, or in Hebrew, the 'Shamash'.





MORONIAH SURROUNDS AND DEFEATS CORIANTUMR



Lamanite Invasion of Nephite Territory

1. In about 52 B.C., the Lamanite King Tubaloth appointed Coriantumr, a descendant of Zarahemla, a large and mighty man and a dissenter from among the people of Zarahemla, to lead an army from the relatively elevated Land of Nephi to "march down to the land of Zarahemla to battle against the Nephites." (Helaman 1:17). As a dissenter who once lived there, he knew the city of Zarahemla and could have known about its defenses. As his army approached the city, "Coriantumr did cut down the watch by the entrance of the city, and did march forth with his whole army into the city, and they did slay every one who did oppose them, insomuch that they did take possession of the whole city." (Helaman 1:20)

2. "And now [Commander Coriantumr, the Nephite dissenter] did not tarry in the land of Zarahemla, but he did march forth with a large army, even towards the city of Bountiful, for it was his determination to go forth and cut his way through with the sword, that he might obtain the north parts of the land. And, supposing that their greatest strength was in the center of the land, therefore he did march forth, giving them no time to assemble themselves together save it were in small bodies, and in this manner they did fall upon them and cut them down to the earth." (Helaman 1:23-24)

3. Moronihah, a Nephite, "immediately sent forth Lehi with an army round about to head them [Coriantumr's army] before they should come to the land Bountiful. And thus he did, and he did head them before they came to the land Bountiful and gave unto them battle insomuch that they began to retreat back towards the land of Zarahemla." (Helaman 1:28-29)

NEPHITE BUILDING MATERIALS

"And the people who were in the land northward did dwell in tents and in houses of cement, and they did suffer whatsoever tree should spring up upon the face of the land that it should grow up, that in time they might have **timber** to build their houses, yea, their cities, and their temples and their synagogues and their sanctuaries, and all manner of their buildings." (Helaman 3:9)



Huts located at Fort Ancient, Lebanon, OH, were made of rectangular or circular sapling frames covered in mats, bark and animal hides. These huts may have been similar to the type of homes built by the Nephites.

(Above photo by Rod Meldrum)



The outer wall of this timber-built circular hut, shown above, depicts how they were covered with clay daub, a type of "cement" filler (see p. 63).

Above photo of circular hut by Bill:
(<https://www.flickr.com/photos/20749290@N00/3827429324/in/>)

On the right:
Homes built by Plains
Indians with timber frames
and thatch roofs.

"The Nephites vastly preferred wood to any other building material, and only worked in cement when they were forced to by shortage of timber. Indeed, they refused to settle otherwise good lands in the north if timber for building was lacking (Helaman 3:5). Where they reluctantly settled in unforested areas they continued to "dwell in tents, and in houses of cement," while they patiently

waited for the trees to grow (Helaman 3:9). Since cement must be made of limestone [see. p. 63], there was no lack of stone for building in the north. Why then did they not simply build of stone and forget about the cement and wood? Because, surprising as it may seem, ancient people almost never built of stone. Even when the magnificent "king Noah built many elegant and spacious buildings," their splendor was that of carved wood and precious metal, like the palace of any great lord of Europe or Asia, with no mention of stone (Mosiah 11:8-9). The Book of Mormon boom cities went up rapidly (Mosiah 23:5; 27:6), while the builders were living in tents. And these were not stone cities: Nephite society was even more dependent on forests than is our own" – Hugh Nibley, *An Approach to the Book of Mormon, 2nd Edition*, Chapter 29, Building Materials, Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Co. [1964].



Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology
in: Wilbur Sturtevant Nye, *Plains Indian raiders: the final phases of warfare from the Arkansas to the Red River*, with original photographs by William S. Soule.
University of Oklahoma Press, 1st edition, 1968, ISBN 0806111755, p. 400.
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William_S._Soule_-_Caddo_village.jpg)

“...the devil shall send forth his mighty winds,
yea, his shafts in the whirlwind...” (Helaman 5:12)



A multi-vortex tornado in Oklahoma in 2013
(<http://matthewsweatherreport.blogspot.com/2015/05/attack-of-multi-vortex-tornadoes.html>)

“Shafts in the whirlwind is such an unusual description! It could refer to a number of things but as a meteorologist it made me instantly think of severe tornadoes. Most tornadoes have a single vortex but large and violent tornadoes can have multiple vortices. That is, they have small tornadoes rotating around the periphery of the main tornado. It is these smaller vortices that are so destructive and can carry people away.

“Helaman didn't say he was in such a tornado but you would think his description would be something his audience could identify with. This phenomenon... is common in the central United States” – Mark Edwin Eubank, Meteorologist.



A multi-vortex tornado which struck Tushka, Oklahoma
on April 14, 2011

(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tushka_Oklahoma_tornado_April_14_2011.jpg)



Artist rendering of three vortices
within one large tornado.

(Illustration courtesy of Mark Eubank)

“...the seed of Zedekiah are with us...” (Helaman 8:21)

“I was also informed concerning the **aboriginal inhabitants of this country** and shown who they were, and from whence they came...” Joseph Smith, letter to Mr. John Wentworth, March 1, 1842, Nauvoo, IL; see p. 548.



ORSON PRATT

“The records of Manasseh in the hands of Ephraim shall gather out the Lord's elect from the four winds, from one end of the earth to the other. The Book of Mormon is the record of Manasseh; it is now in the hands of Ephraim, who have been for many generations, as the Prophet Hosea said, “mixed among the people,” (Hosea 7:8). By them will the Lord “push the people together to the ends of the earth,” (Deuteronomy 33:17) by the children of Ephraim, who is the Lord's first-born in this great latter-day work. **The American Indians** are partly of the children of Manasseh; though many of them are of Ephraim, through the two sons of Ishmael, who came out of Jerusalem six hundred years before Christ, and some of Judah, through the loins of David and the kings that reigned over Jerusalem. When Zedekiah, king of Judah,

was carried away captive into Babylon, the Lord took one of his sons, whose name was Mulek, with a company of those who would hearken unto His words, and brought them over the ocean, and **planted them in America**. This was done in fulfillment of the 22nd and 23rd verses of the seventeenth chapter of Ezekiel, which read thus:

“THUS saith the Lord God, “I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it: I will cross off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon an high mountain and eminent; in the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it; and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit and, be a goodly cedar; and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell.”

“By reading this chapter, it will be seen that the Jews were the “high cedar,” that Zedekiah the king was the “highest branch,” that the “tender one” cropped off from the top of his young twigs, was one of his sons, whom the Lord brought out **and planted him and his company upon the choice land of America**, which He had given unto a remnant of the tribe of Joseph for an inheritance, in fulfillment of the blessing of Jacob and Moses upon the head of that tribe” – Orson Pratt, *Divine Authenticity of the Book of Mormon*, no. 6, Liverpool, England [15 Oct. 1850], 91–92; emphasis added.

Engraving of Orson Pratt
Front of, *A Series of Pamphlets*, by Orson Pratt, Liverpool, R. James [1851]
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Orson_Pratt_engraving.png)



On the left: Elizabeth (Brown) Stephens, 1903

“Betsy” Brown Stephens,
a Cherokee Indian who walked the Trail of Tears in 1838: see p. 20

On the right: Ojibwekwe, 1901

(Ojibwe (Chippewa) Tribe, <https://www.19thcvs.com/vintage-native-american-photos/>)



WILLIAM PENN'S DESCRIPTION OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN IN 1683



THE TREATY OF PENN WITH THE INDIANS

BY BENJAMIN WEST (1738-1820)
PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Treaty_of_Penn_with_Indians_by_Benjamin_West.jpg

"The natives I shall consider in their person, language, manners, religion, and government, with my sense of their original. For their persons, they are generally **tall, straight, well built**, and of singular proportion; they tread strong and clever, and mostly walk with a lofty chin. Of complexion black, but by design, as the gipsies in England. They grease themselves with bear's fat clarified; and using no defence against sun and w[e]ather, their skins must needs be swarthy. Their ey[e] is little and black, **not unlike a straight-looking Jew**. The thick lip and flat nose, so frequent with the East Indians and black, are not common to them; for I have seen as comely European-like faces among them, of both sexes, as on your side the sea; and truly an Italian complexion hath not much more of the white; and the noses of several of them have as much of the Roman.

"Their language is lofty, yet narrow; but, **like the Hebrew in signification**, full. Like short-hand in writing, one word serveth in the place of three, and the rest are supplied by the understanding of the hearer, imperfect in their tenses, wanting in their moods, participles, adverbs, conjunctions, interjections. I have made it my business to understand it, that I might not want an interpreter on any occasion; and I must say that I know not a language spoken in Europe, that hath words of more sweetness or greatness, in accent and emphasis, than theirs: for instance, Octocockon, Rancocas, Oricton, Shak, Marian, Poquesian, all which are names of places [see p. 258 for place names ending with "-on"], and have grandeur in them. Of words of sweetness, anna is mother, issimus, a brother; neteap, friend; usqueoret, very good; pane, bread; metsa, eat; matta, no; hatta, to have; payo, to come; Sepasen, Passijon, the names of places; Tamane, Secane, Menanse, Secatareus, are the names of persons. If one ask them for any thing they have not, they will answer, malta ne hatta, which, to translate, is 'Not I have' instead of, 'I have not' – William Penn: Observations made after visiting the interior of Pennsylvania, quoted from Samuel M. Janney's, *Life of William Penn*, Friends' Book Association, Philadelphia, PA, 5th edition [1882], 241; emphasis added.

“...the Lord doth chasten His people with many afflictions.”
(Helaman 12:3)



DID ABRAHAM LINCOLN
READ THE BOOK OF MORMON?

"The Lincoln Hypothesis"
by Timothy Ballard

"And thus we see that except the
Lord doth chasten His people
with many afflictions, yea, except
He doth visit them with death,
and with terror, and with famine,
and with all manner of pestilence,
they will not remember Him."
(Helaman 12:3)

An example of the Lord chastening people with many afflictions can be understood in an episode during the presidency of Abraham Lincoln as researched by Timothy Ballard:

"In the middle of the [American Civil] war, [Abraham Lincoln] passed through a pivotal transformation, even a conversion. He called it 'a process of crystallization' during which he 'constantly prayed.' Others have referred to it as a 'Damascus Road experience.' Though at the war's beginning, Lincoln promised not to touch the practice of slavery where it existed, and though at the beginning he did not see the conflict as God's doing, all of that changed during his 'process of crystallization.'

"His conversion began with the death of his 11-year-old son, Willie, which left an already war-humbled Lincoln completely shattered. The tragedy brought Lincoln to his knees in prayer like it never had done before. That, and the powerful spiritual encouragement he gained through the teachings of a Christian nurse, who was brought in to care for the family in the wake of Willie's death, left him a changed man forever. The result: he began receiving revelations from God. He started to see the war in a different light—a spiritual light. Much to the concern of his cabinet, Lincoln began claiming, 'I talk to God,' and he began believing and testifying that 'God's purpose is something different from the purpose of either party. . . God wills this contest, and wills that it shall not end yet.'



Alan Pinkerton, President Lincoln, and Major General John A. McClelland, "Abraham Lincoln at Antietam, Maryland" by Alexander Gardner, 1862

"At one point in September 1862, he even made what he called 'a covenant' with God. 'Give us victory in this upcoming battle,' he pleaded to heaven, 'and I will turn this war into a holy endeavor. I will begin with freeing the slaves—I will issue the Emancipation Proclamation.' Sure enough, during the very battle over which Lincoln prayed and covenanted (the Battle of Antietam), one of the most astonishing miracles in American history occurred, which led to Union victory and prompted Lincoln to make good on his promise to God. It was an event that acclaimed Civil War historian James McPherson declared to be 'a million to one' chance opportunity for the North. It was a miracle that played out...yet it brought great things to pass.

“...except He doth visit them with death, and with terror, and with famine, and with all manner of pestilence, they will not remember Him.” (Helaman 12:3)



ABE
BY KEN CORBETT

“As a result of his conversion, Lincoln started to believe that God actually wanted this war in the land. Let us not take this for granted. It is a most bizarre thing for a president of the United States to believe—bizarre, that is, until coupled with the promises and prophecies of Joseph Smith. Lincoln was only saying what Joseph Smith had said [as a Presidential candidate in 1844]. ‘And inasmuch as we know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world,’ declared Lincoln, ‘may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?’”

“[The Prophet Joseph], of course, had read such things [that he had translated] in the Book of Mormon—the story of the covenant land of America. The story tells of how, in a covenant land, a wicked people may expect the humbling power of national calamities to befall them [as the prophet and historian Mormon would summarize]: ‘Except the Lord doth chasten His people with many afflictions, yea except He doth visit them with death and with terror . . . they will not remember Him’ (Helaman 12:3). Similarly, Lincoln declared to the nation: ‘It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness . . . let us then rest humbly in the hope authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings no less than the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country.’”

“Something must have influenced Lincoln to see America like the prophet Joseph did—to see America like [Mormon], an ancient Nephite prophet had. Right in the middle of his conversion, while Willie was dying, while the Christian nurse was teaching, while he was passing through what he called his ‘process of crystallization,’ Lincoln had a copy of the Book of Mormon, which he himself had requested from the Library of Congress. Having kept it for nearly eight months, Lincoln finally returned it to the Library a mere seven days after issuing his first draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet. Was this merely a coincidence?

Did Lincoln begin to insert Book of Mormon principles—even Book of Mormon language—into his speeches and policies? After having the book, did he actually change his opinion on Mormons and begin to treat them more kindly than any American president up until that time? The evidence seems to add up to the affirmative, suggesting that the Book of Mormon had influenced the president. This might have been at least partially responsible for the fundamental shift in American policy during the war: the eradication of slavery and the constitutional protection for God’s people. Or, as Lincoln declared at Gettysburg, “under God . . . a new birth of freedom.”

(Excerpts from Timothy Ballard, “Did Abraham Lincoln Read the Book of Mormon?” *LDS Living Magazine*, December 3, 2014; [http://www.ldsliving.com/Did-Lincoln-Read-the-Book-of-Mormon/s/75704], and from Timothy Ballard, *The Lincoln Hypothesis: A Modern-day Abolitionist Investigates the Possible Connection between Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, and Abraham Lincoln*, Deseret Book Company [May 9, 2016].)

“The Lord says: ‘Therefore, they must needs be chastened and tried, even as Abraham, who was commanded to offer up his only son. For all those who will not endure chastening, but deny Me, cannot be sanctified.’ (D&C 101:4-5)



1830 Edition of the Book of Mormon
(Stock image by RichVintage ID#157558670)

Hocking: Costly Apparel: Iroquois & Hebrew Cloth Similarities

“...ye will clothe him with costly apparel...” (Helaman 13:28)

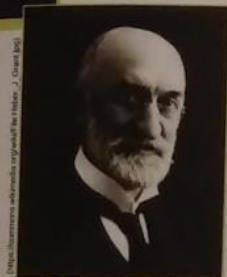


Photo: Wikimedia Commons (original by Heber J. Grant [1891])

“While I was in the city of London...I had the privilege of meeting with...a member of the British legation at Constantinople...He had traveled all over the Holy Land and was familiar with the people and their customs...he said:

“Mr. Grant, I was astonished beyond measure when I visited Canada to find there oriental patterns woven in beads by the American Indians. They were the same patterns that were woven in rugs in the oriental countries. I have traveled extensively and I had never seen those oriental patterns in any part of the world except in the Holy Land, until I found them among the North American Indians. Those patterns have been handed down for hundreds of years, from generation to generation, they are kept in families and can be found nowhere else; and how under the heavens those Indians, who have no connection with the people of the Holy Land, should have the same patterns is a mystery to me.”

“Well, my friend,” I said, “if I were to inform you that the forefathers of these American Indians came from the city of Jerusalem, that would explain it, wouldn't it?”

He replied, “Well, of course it would.”

I asked him if he had ever read the Book of Mormon. He said, “No.”

“Well it will be my pleasure to send you a copy and from it, you will learn that the forefathers of the American Indians came from Jerusalem.”

“Well,” he said, “that explains the mystery, I am much obliged for the book” — Elder Heber J. Grant, *The 79th Annual Conference Report* [April 1909], 112; emphasis added.



Little Bird, Ojibwe, 1908
By Rowland W. Reed

On the Upper Right: Iroquois Shoulder Bag — pre-1778.
Has similar geometric patterns woven within the Palestine rugs shown below.
(From the collection of the Braunschweigisches Landesmuseum, Germany)
(<http://iroquoisbeadwork.blogspot.com/2014/10/iroquois-regalia-during-18th-and-19th.html>)



Photo: Wikimedia Commons (original by B. O. Knap [1850])

Caroline Parker, Seneca Tribe
(circa 1850 daguerreotype, colorized)
Tonawanda Reservation, Western New York

On the left:
Iroquois
apparel made
with colored
beads. Note
the 12 “flowers”
on the hem of
her maroon
colored dress
(inset) are
similar to the
“flowers” on the
upper right
woven rug.

On the right:
Patterns from
woven rugs
made in
Palestine.



Photo by Fadris Hana

Photo: Wikimedia Commons (original by G. G. [1891]) (original by G. G. [1891])

Hocking: The Great Hopewell Road

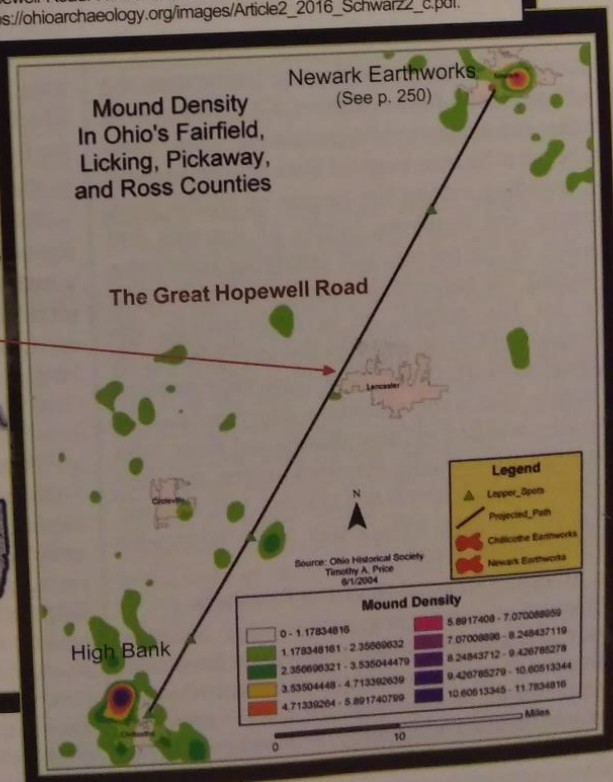
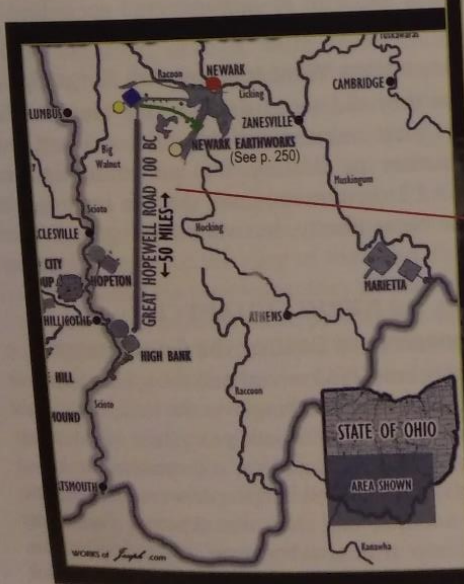
“...there were many highways cast up
and many roads made...” (3 Nephi 6:8)

The Great Hopewell Road is a prehistoric parallel-walled roadway that archaeologists have traced and documented through old aerial photographs, LiDAR (Light imaging, Detection, And Ranging) and geophysical surveys using magnetometry from the Newark Earthworks in Licking County, Ohio, to the High Bank Earthworks in Chillicothe, Ross County, Ohio, a distance of about 60 miles.

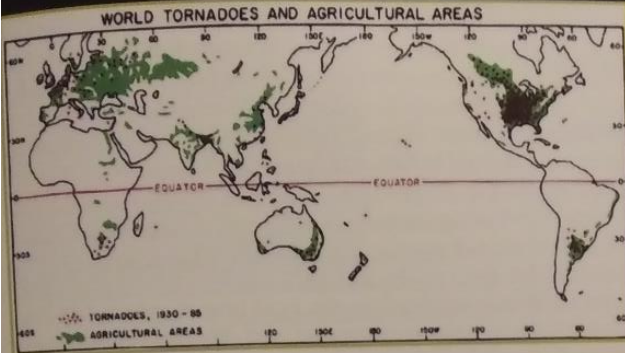
“The Mohawk Trail, the Virginia Warriors Trail, and other ancient utilitarian roads through the wilderness have been known. And before the early American settlers plowed them up, there were travel-worn trails six feet deep in the earth of Iowa. And the Hopewell Culture may have built a long road mainly for ritual processions.

“In 1862, the first 6 miles of this controversial road, marked by parallel earthen banks, were surveyed by two brothers, C. and J. Salisbury. They noted that the road extended much farther in the direction of Chillicothe. Bradley Lepper, Ph.D., a present-day champion of the Great Hopewell Road, claims that there are still traces of the road remaining at four additional places along the 60-mile line connecting Newark and Chillicothe. Skeptics do not question that the sophisticated Hopewell Culture (circa 200 B.C. to 400 A.D.) was capable of constructing such a road, nor do they contest the 1862 survey covering the first 6 miles” – Hicks, Ronald; *The Great Hopewell Mystery*, Archaeology, 52:76 [November/December, 1999].

See also, Kevin R. Schwarz, “The Great Hopewell Road: New Data, Analysis, and Future Research Prospects,” *Journal of Ohio Archaeology*, Vol. 4, 2016; https://ohioarchaeology.org/images/Article2_2016_Schwarz2_c.pdf.



TEMPESTS AND WHIRLWINDS



Tornadoes need moisture to feed their parent thunderstorms and the instability associated with spring and summer warming. Crops need moisture to grow and the temperature variation associated with changing seasons. Both conditions for tornadoes and agricultural growth are found in the same areas, as is shown on the map on the left. (Map courtesy of Dr. T. T. Fujita, University of Chicago.)

(https://www.windows2universe.org/earth/Atmosphere/tornado/agrl_map.html&edu=mid)

“And there were some who were carried away in the whirlwind, and whither they went no man knoweth, save they know that they were carried away” – 3 Nephi 8:16.

On May 11, 2011 a massive category EF5 tornado near the town of Joplin, Missouri sucked an 18-year old boy from the sunroof of his vehicle. Authorities later found him some distance from where the vehicle was shattered.

(www.nydailynews.com/news/national/body-norton-joplin-teen-sucked-suv-tornado-found-pond-article-1.140504)



Midwest tornado. NOAA photo. (<http://www.spic.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/torcans.htm>)

Devastating tornados, capable of literally carrying people away, as described in 3 Nephi 8, occur seasonally in what is termed “tornado alley” of North America’s heartland. That “whirlwind” could mean “tornado” is understood. Whirlwinds are mentioned seven times in the Book of Mormon: 2 Nephi 26:5 (“whirlwinds shall carry them away”); Mosiah 7:30; Alma 26:6; Helaman 5:12 (“shafts of the whirlwind”); 3 Nephi 8:12; 3 Nephi 8:16 (“some were carried away in the whirlwind”) and 3 Nephi 10:13 (“and they were not carried away in the whirlwind”). To be “carried away” implies a lifting force along with the wind such as found in strong tornadoes.

“An EF4 tornado has winds in the 200 to 250 mph range. Humans can easily become airborne at that force. An EF5 tornado is roughly in the 250 to 300 mph range. People have been known to be carried a mile away by severe tornadoes. No one has ever been known to survive a tornado journey of that distance” – *Tornado Project Online*.

(<http://www.tornadopproject.com/>)

“While EF4 or EF5 tornadoes occur approximately once a year in the United States they are unknown in Mesoamerica” – *Missouri Storm Aware*.

(<http://stormaware.mo.gov/tornado-facts-history/>)

On average over 1,000 tornadoes hit the U.S. each year. . . only 0.1 percent of all tornadoes achieve EF5 status.



Tornado was observed by the en:VORTEX-99 team on May 3, 1999, in central Oklahoma.
(Photo: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tornado#/media/File:Drupics1.jpg>)

“But behold, there was a more great and terrible destruction in the land northward; for behold, the whole face of the land was changed, because of the tempest and the whirlwinds, and the thunderings and the lightnings, and the exceedingly great quaking of the whole earth” – 3 Nephi 8:12.

“THE EARTHQUAKE AMERICA FORGOT” The New Madrid Earthquakes of 1811-12



The New Madrid earthquakes were the largest in American history. They occurred in the central Mississippi Valley, but were felt as far away as New York City, Montreal, and in Washington D.C. President James Madison and his wife Dolly felt them in the White House, and in Boston, church bells rang. From December 16, 1811 through March of 1812 there were over 2,000 earthquakes in the central Midwest, and at the Bootheel of Missouri where the city of New Madrid is located, near the junction (or head) of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, large lakes, such as Reelfoot

Lake in Tennessee and Big Lake at the Arkansas-Missouri border, were formed by the earthquake as river water poured into new depressions created by immense fissures of the earth. To date, no other earthquakes have lasted so long or produced so much evidence of damage as these earthquakes. In Dr. David Stewart and Dr. Ray Knox's book, "The Earthquake America Forgot," Gutenberg-Richter Publications, Marble Hill, MO [1995], eyewitnesses describe many of the earthquake phenomena (right column: New Madrid Earthquake Events) that parallel the events recorded in 3 Nephi 8 as listed below:

3 Nephi Chapter 8 Events

v.06: "there was also a great and terrible tempest"

"there was terrible thunder... did shake the earth"

v.07: "there were exceedingly sharp lightnings"

v.08: "the city of Zarahemla did take fire"

v.09: "the city of Moroni did sink in the depths of the sea"

v.10: "the earth was carried up upon the city of Moronihah, that in the place of the city, there became a great mountain"

v.12: "the whole face of the land was changed"

"because of the whirlwinds"

v.13 "the highways were broken up"
"many smooth places became rough"

v.17 "the face of the whole earth became deformed"

v.18 "the rocks were rent in twain"
"seams and cracks upon the face of the land"

v.20 "inhabitants could feel the vapor of darkness"

v.21 "there could be no light because of the darkness"

v.23 "for the space of three days – no light seen"

New Madrid Earthquake Events

"Many witnesses said they heard thunder-like rumblings and even saw flashes of light just prior to the sensation of shaking" p. 244.

"The constant discharge of heavy cannon might give some idea of the noise for loudness" p. 201.

"Bursts of light did accompany these earthquakes" p. 244.

"The smell of sulfur, methane and rotting vegetables" p. 145 "...some fires broke out" p. 144.

"There are large trees of walnut, white oak, and mulberry, such as grown on high land which are now... submerged ten and twenty feet beneath the water" p. 214.

"Former dry land was sunk into swamp while former wet land was uplifted high-and-dry" p. 214.

"A combination of tectonic faulting along the Reelfoot scarp, uplift on the west with down-warping on the east" p. 200.

"I heard what I imagined to be a distant rumbling of a violent tornado" – John Audubon, p. 182.

"The earth rolled in waves several feet high with visible depressions between swells" p. 228.

"There were frequent eruptions in which sand and stone, coal and water were thrown up" p. 226.

"It seemed like you couldn't walk in any direction without stepping into a crevasse" p. 145.

"the awful darkness of the atmosphere" p. 237.

"My maw tried to light the lamps, but the darkness was so dense they didn't help at all" "...a dense black cloud of vapor overshadowed the land" p. 237.

"For three days and nights the sun, moon, and stars were concealed by a mist and fog which dropped like a heavy dew" p. 246.

Hocking: Evidence of New Madrid Quake in 300AD (+/-200 Years) & Mapping Far Reaching Impact



Map of New Madrid Seismic Zones: <https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2003/of017-03/>

Research recently conducted within the New Madrid region has shown that the 1811-1812 earthquakes were not the first to occur in the region. They were preceded by other similar events, the last such event around 300 (+/- 200 yrs) A.D. Shown on the right are artifacts recovered in this region, some having been dated to the Hopewell cultural period. (<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/learn/topics/nmsz/1811-1812.php>)

The research indicates that the events described in 3 Nephi 8 may have taken place in this area of North America. The map shown above overlays the New Madrid earthquake areas of intensity and major property damage within the proposed North American geography. The yellow-shaded areas are where shaking of the earth was felt. The severest intensity where "the whole face of the land" (3 Nephi 8:12) was damaged, is indicated by the red-shaded region, roughly follows the Mississippi and Ohio river valleys and occupies the proposed land regions of Zarahemla, Manti, Shiloh, Jershon, Bountiful and some of the land of Nephi—areas populated mainly by the Nephites who broke their covenants. It might have been upon the face of this proposed land region that the Lord said: "many great destructions have I caused to come upon this land, and upon this people, because of their wickedness and their abominations" – 3 Nephi 9:1.



Photo by Martina Tuttle, used with permission

Hocking: Nephite Cities BURNED (Were Made of Wood)

[Note: Much of Mesoamerican construction is of stone, NOT wood, disqualifying them as the Book of Mormon people.]

NEPHITE CITIES BUILT WITH WOOD BURNED

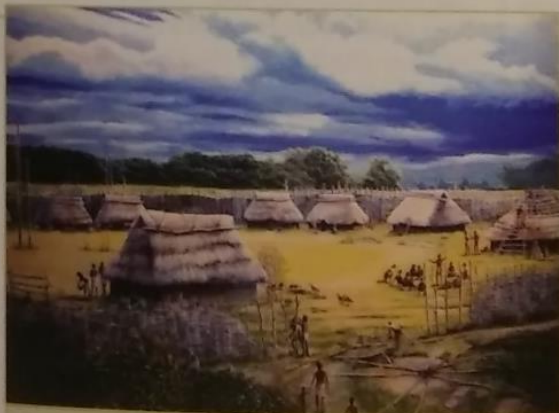
- “And many great and notable cities were sunk and many **were burned**” – 3 Nephi 8:14.
- “And behold, that great city Jacobugath which was inhabited by the people of King Jacob, have I caused to be **burned with fire**” – 3 Nephi 9:9.
- “And behold the city of Laman and the city of Josh and the city of Gad and the city of Kishkumen, have I caused to be **burned with fire**” – 3 Nephi 9:10.
- “And it came to pass that whatsoever lands we had passed by and the inhabitants there were not gathered in were destroyed by the Lamanites, and their towns and villages and cities were **burned with fire**” – Mormon 5:5.
- “And he [Shiz] did overthrow many cities, and he did slay both women and children, and he did **burn the cities**” – Ether 14:17; Jaredite timber cities.

Photo: <https://pixabay.com/en/sun-wind-fire-flame-2447452/>

“And I did teach my people to build buildings, and to work in all manner of **wood**.” (2 Nephi 5:15)

“And the people who were in the land northward did dwell in tents, and in houses of cement, and they did suffer whatsoever tree should spring up upon the land that it should grow up, that in time they might have **timber** to build their houses, yea, their cities, and their temples, and their synagogues, and their sanctuaries, and all manner of their buildings.” (Helaman 3:9)

Since the Nephites and Jaredites built their cities primarily out of wood, with no mention in the text of any buildings made of stone, burning would be the most effective way to destroy them.



“AMERICAN INDIAN LIFE IN THE LATE PREHISTORIC PERIOD”
BY SUSAN A. WALTON
Courtesy of Hopewell Cultural Center, Chillicothe, Ohio



CHIEF OF THE TAENSA INDIANS
RECEIVING LA SALLE MARCH 20, 1682
BY GEORGE CATLIN
(JULY 26, 1796 – DECEMBER 23, 1872)

Wooden Homes of the Taensa Indians

(wiki/File:Chief_of_the-Taensa_Indians_Receiving_La_Salle_March_20_1682_0-201527-20111110.jpg; Paul Mellon Collection)

Hocking: Sacred Places in the US Land of Promise

SACRED PLACES IN THE LAND OF PROMISE



Far West, Missouri – (New Jerusalem)



The Hill Cumorah – The Book of Mormon



Adam-ondi-Ahman, "an old Nephite altar or tower" (see #8, p. 524)



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER, BY KEN CORBETT
John the Baptist – Aaronic Priesthood

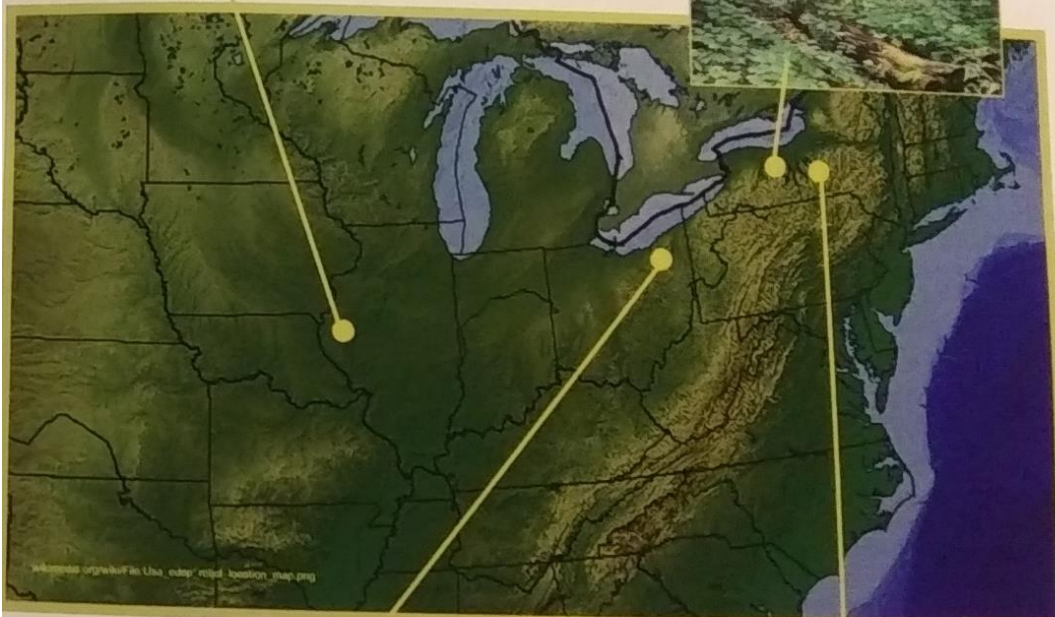
SACRED PLACES IN THE LAND OF PROMISE



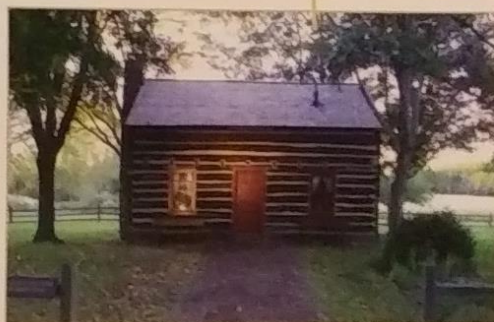
Zeph's Mound—Vision of Zeph
A Lamanite Warrior and Chieftain (see p. 321)

JOSEPH'S FIRST PRAYER BY KEN CORBETT

"The United States is the promised land foretold in the Book of Mormon, a place where divine guidance directed inspired men to create the conditions necessary for the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ"
— Elder L. Tom Perry, Dec. 2012; see p. 56.



Kirtland Temple
Elijah and Priesthood Sealing Keys



Peter Whitmer Log Home (Replica)
Church of Christ Organized April 6, 1830

Hocking: Record of "Aborigines of America"

See also the prior page for many Hopewell artifacts

"The Book of Mormon...a record of the origin of the aborigines of America" – Lucy Mack Smith.



"As Hyrum, my eldest son, was directed to go to Missouri by the way of Detroit, I thought it good opportunity to visit the family of my brother, General Mack. Accordingly, my niece, Almira Mack, Hyrum, brothers Murdock, Lyman Wight, and Cornil and I, set out together for Detroit. When we first went on board the vessel which took us across the lake, we concluded to keep perfectly still upon the subject of religion; but it was afterwards proposed by Hyrum, that Mother Smith should say just what she pleased, and if she got into difficulty, the Elders should help her out of it. Shortly after this, I was sitting at the door of the cabin, reading *The Book of Mormon*, when a lady came up and inquired of me what book I was reading. '*The Book of Mormon*,' I replied. But the title of the book was no advantage to her, for she had never heard of there being such a work in existence. By her request I gave her a brief history of the discovery and translation of the book. This delighted her, and when I mentioned that it was a **record of the origin of the aborigines of America**, she said, 'how I do wish I could

get one of your books to carry to my husband, for he is now a missionary among the Indians'" – Lucy Mack Smith, "Lucy Mack Smith, History, 1845," pp. 208-209, *The Joseph Smith Papers*, accessed January 15, 2018. (<http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/lucy-mack-smith-history-1845/216>; emphasis added.)

"During our evening conversations, Joseph would occasionally give us some of the most amusing recitals that could be imagined: he would describe the ancient inhabitants of this continent; their dress, mode of travelling, and the animals upon which they rode; their cities, and their buildings, with every particular; he would describe their <mode of> warfare, as also their religious worship. This he would do with as much ease, seemingly, as if he had spent his whole life with them" – Lucy Mack Smith, "Lucy Mack Smith, History, 1845," p. 87, *The Joseph Smith Papers*, accessed Feb. 5, 2019. (<https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/lucy-mack-smith-history-1845/94>)



Top painting: Artist unknown—painted prior to death of Lucy Mack Smith on May 14, 1856, per Joseph Smith Birthplace Memorial records.

Left photo: Hail Stone-Crow, 1883; photo by Frank Jay

Right photo: Seneca, 1906, BAE GN 00933B, Smithsonian Institution

Below: Te Ata-Chickasaw; White Bear-Kiowa; Carries the War-Crow



Hyman Jar-No-Onh



"The greatest moments of Native history lie ahead of us if a great Spiritual renewal and awakening should take place. The Native American has been a sleeping giant, he is awakening. The original Americans could become the evangelists who will help win America for Christ! Remember these forgotten people" – Billy Graham, March 1975.

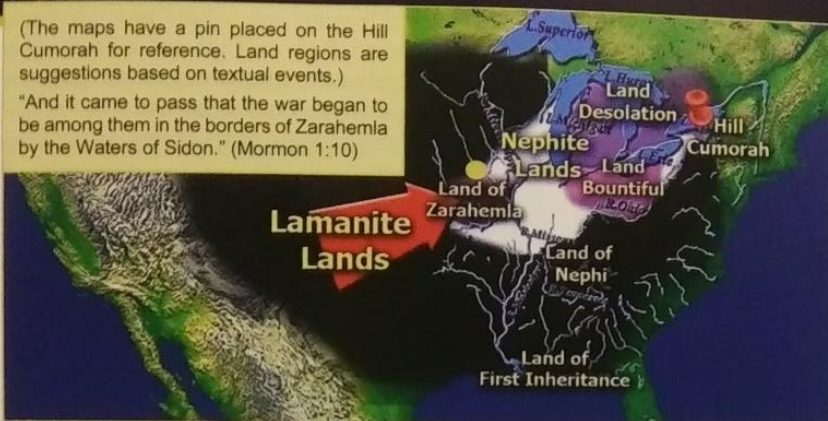
(<https://www.scribbr.com/quotes/585966/>) Photo: [wikiFile:Billy_Graham_ba_photo](https://www.flickr.com/photos/billygraham/), April 11, 1966.jpg

Hocking: Nephite Northward Retreat

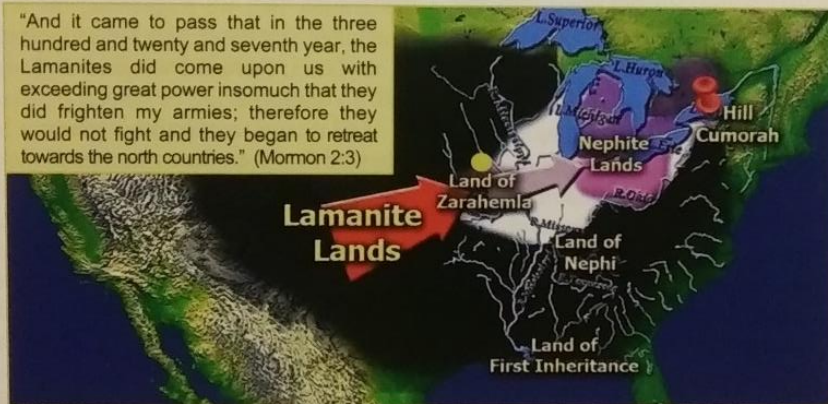
“[The Nephites] began to retreat towards the north countries.”
(Mormon 2:3)

(The maps have a pin placed on the Hill Cumorah for reference. Land regions are suggestions based on textual events.)

“And it came to pass that the war began to be among them in the borders of Zarahemla by the Waters of Sidon.” (Mormon 1:10)

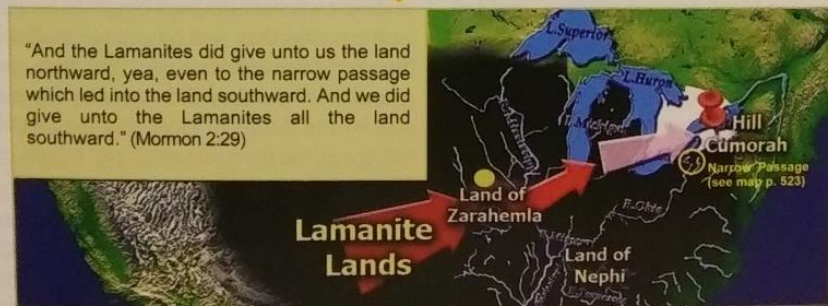


“And it came to pass that in the three hundred and twenty and seventh year, the Lamanites did come upon us with exceeding great power insomuch that they did frighten my armies; therefore they would not fight and they began to retreat towards the north countries.” (Mormon 2:3)



(Map Illustrations by Rod Meldrum)

“And the Lamanites did give unto us the land northward, yea, even to the narrow passage which led into the land southward. And we did give unto the Lamanites all the land southward.” (Mormon 2:29)



“As the fighting neared its end, Mormon gathered the remnant of his forces about a hill which they called Cumorah, located in what is now the western part of the state of New York”
— Mark E. Peterson, “The Last Words of Moroni,” October Conference, 1978.

(<https://www.lds.org/ark:/61903/3/1978/11/the-last-words-of-moroni?lang=eng>)

“For many decades the Nephites retreated before their aggressive foes, making their way north-eastward through what is now the United States. About 400 A.D. the last great battle was fought near the hill Cumorah; and the Nephite nation became extinct. The... remnant of Lehi's posterity, the Lamanites or American Indians, have continued until this day” — James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ*, Deseret News, Salt Lake City, UT [1915], p. 742.

WHERE IS THE HILL CUMORAH?

SPECULATION ABOUT BOOK OF MORMON GEOGRAPHY

"Within recent years there has arisen among certain students of the Book of Mormon a theory to the effect that within the period covered by the Book of Mormon, the Nephites and Lamanites were confined almost entirely within the borders of the territory comprising Central America and the southern portion of Mexico—the isthmus of Tehautepec probably being the "narrow neck" of land spoken of in the Book of Mormon rather than the Isthmus of Panama (See Alma 50:34; 52:9; 63:5; Mormon 2:29; 3:5). This theory is founded upon the assumption that it was impossible for the colony of Lehi's to multiply and fill the hemisphere within the limits of 1,000 years, or from the coming of Lehi from Jerusalem to the time of the destruction of the Nephites at the Hill Cumorah. Moreover, they claim that the story in the Book of Mormon of the migrations, building of cities, and the wars and contentions, preclude the possibility of the people spreading over great distances such as we find within the borders of North and South America.

EARTH POPULATED RAPIDLY

"If we are willing to accept the Bible record, which is confirmed by the Doctrine and Covenants, the entire civilization of the earth was destroyed in the flood except Noah and his family (See Gen 6; 7; 8; Moses 7:36–43). Moreover, this destruction took place less than 5,000 years ago, and today the population of the earth, notwithstanding wars and destructions, is estimated [in 1954] at over 2,000,000,000 souls [2018 population estimated at 7,600,000,000, has nearly quadrupled in just 64 years]. The population of Europe, based upon the best records available, is vastly increased over that at the time of the discovery of America; yet upon this hemisphere are to be found hundreds of millions of people, descendants of European and Asiatic ancestors who knew nothing of this land before the discovery by Columbus. The rapid increase of posterity is known to every genealogist who has traced the record of the early settlers in this western country.

LOCALE OF CUMORAH, RAMAH, AND RIPLIANCUM

"This modernistic theory of necessity, in order to be consistent, must place the waters of Ripliancum and the Hill Cumorah some place within the restricted territory of Central America, notwithstanding the teachings of the Church to the contrary for upwards of 100 years. Because of this theory some members of the Church have become confused and greatly disturbed in their faith in the Book of Mormon. It is for this reason that evidence is here presented to show that it is not only possible that these places could be located as the Church has held during the past century, but that in very deed such is the case.

"It is known that the Hill Cumorah where the Nephites were destroyed is the hill where the Jaredites were also destroyed. This hill was known to the Jaredites as Ramah. It was approximately near to the waters of Ripliancum, which the Book of Ether says, 'by interpretation, is large, or to exceed all' – Ether 15:8. Mormon adds: 'And it came to pass that we did march forth to the land of Cumorah, and we did pitch our tents round about the hill Cumorah; and it was in a land of many waters, rivers, and fountains; and here we had hope to gain advantage over the Lamanites,' (Mormon 6:4)" – Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, Edited by Bruce R. McConkie, Vol. 3 [1999] 232–243. The red pin marks the location of the Hill Cumorah below Lake Ontario, above the Finger Lakes and to the east of Lake Erie—collectively, the "many waters" in a land with many "rivers" and "fountains."



Hocking: J. Fielding Smith Identifies NY Cumorah as the Historical Site of the End Battles

(Note: The Mesoamerica activists have to come up with there being two Hill Cumorah's for their theory to work!) (Note: Perhaps this will also be the site of some of the future apocalyptic end battles.)

**My Impressions at the Sacred Grove
and the Hill Cumorah**

By Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, Of the Council of Twelve

"On the twenty-first day of September, 1923, the 'First general conference of the Eastern States mission' convened at the Joseph Smith Farm, near Palmyra, New York. Seven sessions of the conference were held and one missionary meeting at the conclusion. The conference closed Sunday evening, September 23....

"Here it was [the Hill Cumorah] that Moroni, commanded by the Lord, hid up the sacred records of his people. Here it was, fourteen hundred years later, that he, then a resurrected being, came to Joseph Smith and committed these same records to the young man's care. At the time of the Prophet's first visit to the hill, it was covered with trees; today it is stripped and bare, save for the grass which grows abundantly. This former scene of strife and bloodshed, where two nations [the Jaredites and the Nephites] perished, later the sacred repository of ancient records, today is the abode of peaceful cattle, reclining and chewing the cud. The many millions of inhabitants of the land, who, because they love darkness rather than light, will not believe, although an angel has declared it unto them, appear to have no more thought concerning the wonderful events that have taken place near and on the Hill Cumorah, than have these cattle." (*Relief Society Magazine*, Vol. X, No. 12 [December, 1923], 585-586).





Photo: Joseph Fielding Smith, Liahona: The Elder's Journal, 25 August 1942



Aerial drone photos of the Hill Cumorah Monument and Valley by Rod Meldrum

14

Hocking: Joseph Smith Identifies American Indian Remnants as Lamanites
Brigham Young cited below as well.

“THE REMNANT [THE LAMANITES] ARE THE INDIANS THAT NOW INHABIT THIS COUNTRY.”

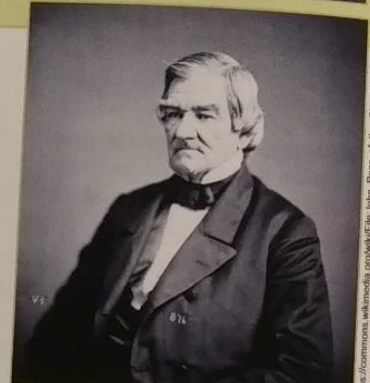
“The principal nation of the second race [the Nephites] fell in battle towards the close of the fourth century. **The remnant [the Lamanites] are the Indians that now inhabit this country**” – Excerpt from the Wentworth Letter by Joseph Smith Jr. [March 1, 1842]; See Appendix, “Church History—The Wentworth Letter,” pp. 550-53; emphasis added.

(Note: the phrase “this country” meant the nation of the United States in 1842.)

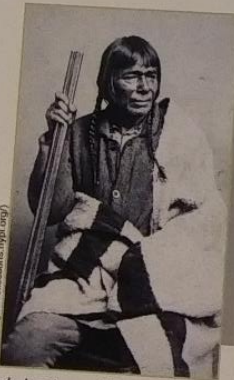
(Photo on the right is believed to be Joseph Smith from a daguerreotype taken by Lucian Foster (November 12, 1806–December 12, 1845) sometime between 1840 and 1844, submitted to the Library of Congress in 1879 by Joseph’s son Joseph Smith III.)



Oneida Lace Makers – The Oneida Nation of Wisconsin
In 1898 Sybil Carter, a deaconess of the Episcopal Church, introduced the art of bobbin lace to the women of the Oneida Indian Reservation near De Pere, WI.



John Guwisguwi Ross (ca. 1858)
Chief of Cherokee Nation, 1828–1866
Opposed the “Trail of Tears” (see p. 20).



Wah bo jeeg (White Fisher)
Chief of the Gull Lake Band
Chippewa Tribe (1862?)



Crow Tribe Group Photo (1910)
National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution
(Gill, De Lancey W., BAE GN 03425 06576500.)



Jim Thorpe (1916)
Sac and Fox Nation

“When Joseph first received the knowledge of the plates that were in the **hill Cumorah**, he did not then receive the keys of the Aaronic Priesthood, he merely received the knowledge that the plates were there, and that the Lord would bring them forth, and that they contained **the history of the aborigines of this country**. He received the knowledge that they were once in possession of the Gospel, and from that time he went on, step by step, until he obtained the plates, and the Urim and Thummim, and had power to translate them” – Brigham Young, (23 June 1874) *Journal of Discourses* 18:239; emphasis added. (https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Journal_of_Discourses/Volume_18/Secret_of_Happiness_etc)



Hocking: Miamisburg Ohio Mound of the Adena (Jaredites)



Aerial Drone Photo by Rod Meldrum

Miamisburg Mound, Miamisburg, Ohio

The Miamisburg Mound is a large conical burial mound constructed by the culture that archaeologists refer to as Adena. The Miamisburg Mound is one of the two largest conical mounds in eastern North America. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the mound is 65 feet tall and 800 feet in circumference and contains 54,000 cubic yards of earth. The mound is visible from several miles away because it stands atop a 100 foot high ridge above the Great Miami River. Steps have been built to the top observation platform, where you can enjoy a wonderful view of the area.

(<https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/miamisburg-mound>)

The Adena people flourished between 1000 B.C. to 200 B.C., a time-frame that nearly matches the Jaredite Nation as recorded in the Book of Ether and known today as the Early Woodland Culture period (see Appendix, p. 535). They established their homes across what is now Ohio, Indiana, West Virginia, Kentucky, Pennsylvania and New York. There are several burial mounds and an estimated two hundred other Adena-related sites scattered throughout their territory.

The Adena burial mound (photo shown on the right was taken before 1901), the type site for the Adena culture, was located on the west side of the Scioto River in Chillicothe, Ohio, and was 26 ft. tall and 140 ft. in diameter. Artifacts found at the site have been radiocarbon dated to the first century A.D.* There is nothing left of actual Adena Mound today.



(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Adena_Mound.jpg)

*Bradley T. Lepper, et. al, "Radiocarbon Dates on Textile and Bark Samples from the Central Grave of the Adena Mound (33RD1), Chillicothe, Ohio," *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology*, Volume 39, 2014 - Issue 3; <https://doi.org/10.1179/2327427113Y.0000000008>

Hocking: The Jaredite Nation

The Book of Ether, the Jaredites and the Adena Culture

These verses in the book of Mosiah, as well as those previously quoted in the book of Omni and others found within the book of Ether, may provide clues to help determine some of the evidences that were left behind from the people of the Jaredite Nation. Artifacts found and validated to be of the Adena culture that parallel the descriptions in these verses will be useful in determining if there are correlations among Adena culture peoples and those of the Jaredite Nation.

The description of the land, artifacts and the peoples Limhi's party discovered—who embarked from the land of Shilom—will be used to establish a possible territory of the Jaredites. The map shown below provides a possible region the Jaredite Nation occupied, “a land among many waters,” (Mosiah 8:8).



The search party left from the land of Shilom to start out for Zarahemla but possibly chose the wrong river at the head of the Tennessee and Ohio rivers (shown in the yellow circle above) taking them northeast, not north. If true, then the search party would have followed the Ohio river, through the wilderness for many days, arriving in the land among many waters, near the hill Ramah, the place where the battles destroyed the Jaredite Nation leaving behind “the bones of men, and of beasts,” (Mosiah 8:8). The map shows that the distance from the head of the two rivers to Zarahemla is nearly the same as the distance to the Hill Ramah, which may explain the relative distance and the many days the third-generation search party expected to travel to find the city of Zarahemla where their grandfathers originated.

The Hill Cumorah, where the plates of Mormon and the plates of Nephi were buried, is the same hill called Ramah in the book of Ether 15:11: “And it came to pass that the army of Coriantumr did pitch their tents by the hill Ramah; and it was the same hill where my father Mormon did hide up the records unto the Lord, which were sacred.” The red pin is placed at this hill to show a known and validated location to provide a realistic geography of the events that take place within the text.

Hocking: Indiana Giant Jaredite Skeleton, Copper Armor

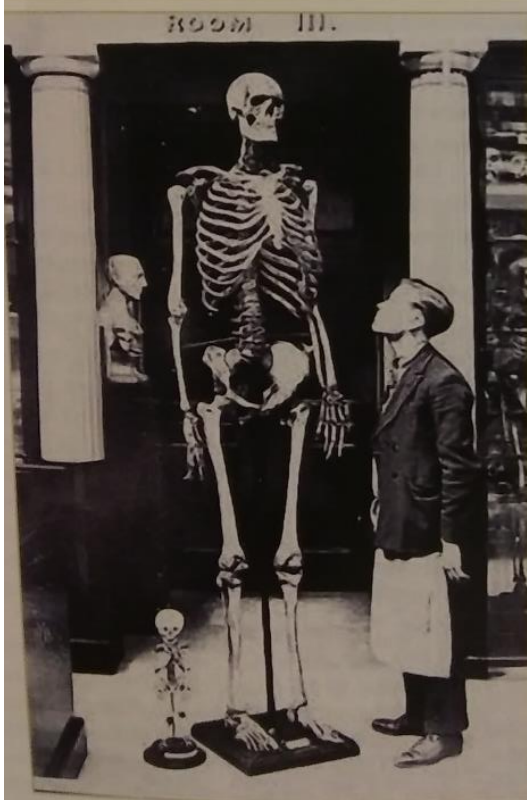
Note: Elsewhere we have an account of Joseph Smith being shown a graveyard of giant skeletons in the region, he identified them as Jaredite, and told the man who owned the land to cover them and leave them to rest.

“...being a large and mighty man...” (Ether 1:34)

“And for a testimony that the things that they had said are true, they have brought twenty-four plates, which are filled with engravings, and they are of pure gold. And behold, also, they have brought **breastplates, which are large**, and they are of brass and of **copper**, and are perfectly sound.”

(Mosiah 8:9-10; emphasis added).

Shown on the right is a newspaper article from *The Evening News*, San Jose, CA, dated Oct. 23, 1925, reporting the discovery from South Bend, Indiana, of eight skeletons being found near Walkerton, Indiana clad in copper armor, having copper breastplates, being of “great size” and having silver or gold buried with the remains.



The skeletons of Charles Byrne (1761–1783), “The Irish Giant,” and Caroline Crachami (ca. 1815–1824), “The Sicilian Dwarf,” from *The Strand Magazine*, London, January to June 1896, p. 255, are shown for a visual representation of a “giant skeleton.”

MOUND GIANTS IN INDIANA SAID TO ANTEDATE INDIAN

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Eight skeletons, one of them clad in copper armor, and a hoard of rare war weapons and bits of personal adornment have been found in a mysterious mound on the farm of Grove Vosburg, near Walkerton.

Vosburg, a 70-year-old farmer, had long desired to know the secret of the mound, which according to local tradition dates back hundreds of years. Secretly excavating the pile of earth he came upon a strange burial place.

GIANT SKELETONS

The eight skeletons lay in circular formation, arranged like the spokes of a wheel, with skulls together. Copper breastplates, bands and other bits of armor adorned the skeleton of one man, who apparently had been of giant stature. Embedded in this skull was a beautifully chipped flint arrowhead.

The soft earth of the mound revealed other treasures. Three pounds of ore, believed to be either silver or white gold, lie with the bones. There were corroded copper bands, which antiquarians here believe were used to bind war clubs; two pipe bowls, one of smooth black stone and the other carved with the replica of a fantastic monster, were found.

The belief that the bones are not those of Indians, but belong to the ancient and little known race of mound builders has arisen because of the great size of the bones and the fact that skull formations are not those of Indian types. The skulls seem to have little forehead and the eye cavities are high in the head.

The Evening News, San Jose, CA
Friday, Oct. 23, 1925

“...a large and mighty man...” (Ether 1:34)



A very large stone ax* was recently found in the state of New York by a man from the Seneca Nation. It weighs 20 pounds and must have been used by “a large and mighty man.”

(Photo courtesy of Wayne N. May)

(*See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding interpreting artifacts.)

In the 1800s, many discoveries of very large skeletal remains were found in burial mounds of North America. The skeletons were described as reaching upwards of seven to eight feet in length, with a lower frequency of discoveries spanning up to nine feet in length, all having very large skulls and gigantic lower jawbones. Historians often detailed these remains in early local records, such as the following from Cass County, Michigan:

“It was a mound about thirteen feet high...the diameter of its base was about fifty feet...Portions of the skeletons were in a good state of preservation. The femur, or thigh bone, of one of the males, which Dr. Bonine has now in his possession, is of great size and indicates that its owner must have been at least seven feet in height” – Alfred Matthews, *History of Cass County, Michigan* [1882].

Another account from Chillicothe, Ohio stated: “A recent exploration of a mound near this place resulted in some interesting discoveries...The [skeleton] form was large, the jaws massive, and the teeth perfect.” (*American Antiquarian*, Vol. 2 No. 1 [1879]).

In the 1880s, the Eastern Mound Division of the Smithsonian discovered a number of gigantic skeletons in their wanton destruction of North American tumuli. The 12th Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology documents numerous gigantic skeletons found by Smithsonian agents:

“Near the original surface [of the mound]... lying at full length upon its back, was one of the largest skeletons discovered by the Bureau agents, the length as proved by actual measurement being between 7 and 8 feet....In the center [of mound 11], 3 feet below the surface, was a vault 8 feet long and 3 feet wide. In the bottom of this...lay a skeleton fully 7 feet long...The length from the base of the skull to the bones of the toes was found to be 7 feet 3 inches. It is probable, therefore, that this individual when living was 7.5 feet high.”

“...the decrees of God concerning this land...” (Ether 2:9)

“Just as Jesus Christ has piloted to this **land of America** the vanguard of each succeeding civilization which has dwelt upon it, so has He made known to them His everlasting decree “that whoso should possess [it] should serve Him, the true and only God, or they should be swept off ... when they ... are ripened in iniquity” (Ether 2:8–9; emphasis added).

“Our present civilization is no exception. We who live in America are under this everlasting decree. And the Lord has said, “*My word shall be verified at this time as it hath hitherto been verified*” (Doctrine and Covenants 5:20). Jesus Christ, the God of this land, led Columbus to it. He led the Pilgrims to Plymouth. He sustained and gave victory to the colonists. He established the Constitution of the United States (see Doctrine and Covenants 101:80). Over a period of some twenty-six centuries He directed the writing of the Book of Mormon, which contains the record of **the former inhabitants of this land**. At His command, Moroni finished the record and hid it up in the Hill Cumorah, where, under his surveillance, it was safely preserved for some fourteen hundred years.

“By the power of Jesus Christ, the God of **this land**, the record was brought forth, translated, and in 1830 published. For nearly 150 years now it has been bearing its message to all who will receive it.

“After setting forth the everlasting decree concerning this land and reviewing the destruction of two civilizations, Moroni, seeing the present inhabitants of America, and knowing by the power of God that we would have the record, penned this message directly to those who inhabit **this land**: ‘And this cometh unto you ... that ye may know the decrees of God—that ye may repent, and not continue in your iniquities until the fulness come, that ye may not bring down the fulness of the wrath of God upon you as the inhabitants of the land have hitherto done.’” (Ether 2:11). (Marion G. Romney, Second Counselor in the First Presidency, “America’s Promise,” *Ensign* [Sept. 1979]; emphasis added.)



MARION G. ROMNEY
BY KEN CORBETT

“AMERICA”

My country! 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim's pride,
From every mountain side,
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble, free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills.
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing,
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light.
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King!

“These lines [of the song, “America”], first used in 1832 at a Fourth of July celebration, indicate that [the author] Samuel F. Smith had, with poetic insight, glimpsed some great truths concerning this land—truths which, at about the same time, were clearly made known to the Prophet Joseph Smith”
— Marion G. Romney, “America’s Promise,” *Ensign*, [Sep. 1979].

Hocking: Men & Elephants in America: Artifacts etc.

“...and there were elephants...” (Ether 9:19)

"In an interesting article by Ludwell H. Johnson, 'Men and Elephants in America,' *The Scientific Monthly* 75 (1952), 220-221 ... it was concluded: elephants; it has also strongly indicated that these elephants have been extinct for several thousand years. This means that the traditions of the Indians recalling these animals have retained their historical validity for great stretches of time. ... Probably the minimum is three thousand years, ... which would place [the elephant's] extinction about a thousand years, ... B.C., when the Jaredite culture was already very old and Lehi's people were not to appear on the scene for some centuries. ... Here, then, is a strong argument for Jaredite survivors among the Indians" - Hugh Nibley, *The Prophetical Book of Mormon*, *Collected Works of Hugh Nibley*, Volume 8, Deseret Book Company, SLC, UT, [1989], 111.



"American Mastodon"
Ohio History Center



On the left, display case of Mammoth vertebra, teeth and rib bones at the Johnson Hummrichouse Museum, Coshocton, Ohio.

The bones of elephant-related animals, such as the mastodon and mammoth, have been found throughout North America and in every state of the Midwest as well as in the northeastern states. Archaeological evidence suggests that they were hunted during the early Archaic culture period (1000 to 200 B.C.), which may correspond to the Jaredite time frames. In the Book of Mormon only the Jaredites, not the Nephites, mention the use of elephants. It is probable that the elephants had become extinct by well before the time the Lehi colony arrived.

(Photos by Paul Moberly)

“...elephants, cureloms and cumoms...” (Ether 9:19)

In the spring of 1872, a young farmer, while ploughing on his father's farm, four miles and a half east of Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, saw, to use his own words, a " queer stone lying on the surface of the ground and close to the edge of a new furrow. He stopped and picked it up; it was to be the larger piece of a fractured 'gorget stone,' as shown in PLATE 1 on the right. By wetting his thumb and rubbing it he could see strange lines and a carving representing an animal resembling a hairy mammoth with a tail and tusks. In the spring of 1881, he sold it to Mr. Henry Paxson, a youth of nineteen years of age. After many ineffectual searches for the remaining missing part, it was picked up by a Mr. Hansell while corn-husking with his brother in the same field at the same spot where nine years before, the first piece had been found, thus completing the gorget. The 4½ inch long stone is currently housed at the Mercer Museum in Doylestown, PA.

(Plate 1) Gorget, the complete mammoth-like animal, Henry Paxson



"The Lenape Stone*
or 'The Indian and the Mammoth'
by Henry Chapman Mercer - 1885
(<http://www.mercermuseum.org/collections/the-lenape-stone/>)
Aboriginal pictograph representing Indians fighting a hairy mammoth discovered in Bucks County, PA, in 1872 (piece on the left),
and in 1881 (piece on the right).

(*See Editorial comment on p. 37, lower left panel, regarding misprinting artifacts)



"And they also had horses and asses, and there were elephants and cureloms and cumoms, all of which were useful unto man, and more especially the elephants and cureloms and cumoms." (Ether 9:19)

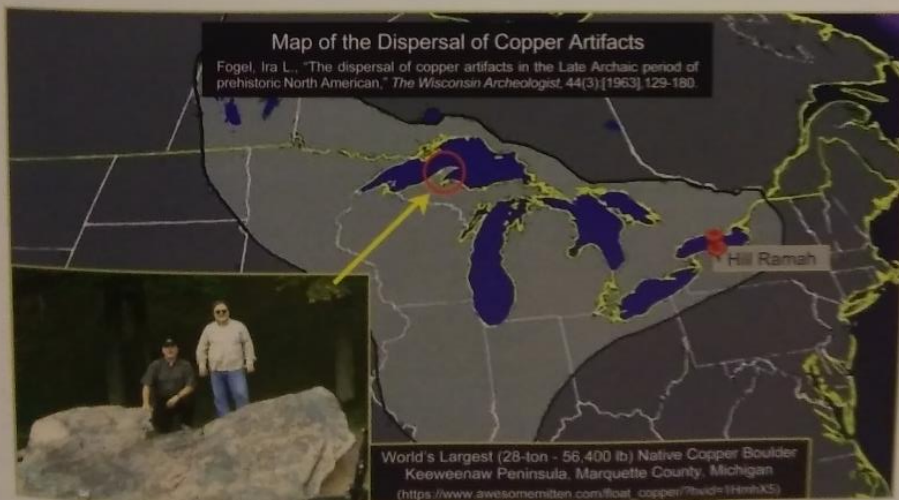
Effigy pipes, as shown above, have been excavated in controlled archaeology digs (Louisiana County, Iowa), and reported in the *Smithsonian Institution Bureau of Ethnology, Annual Printing Office Washington* (1883), 155-156. Note that these pipes show what looks like elephants but without tails and tusks. These animals could have been similar to the cureloms and cumoms mentioned in Ether 9:19.

"The fact that the mastodon was contemporary with the Mound Builders is admitted by all antiquarians. It is my opinion that in all probability they tamed and used that powerful beast to haul heavy burdens. I am confirmed in this opinion by the fact that in his organization he possessed a mild disposition, and that, like the African elephant, he could have been tamed when young and brought under subjection with as little trouble as is required for the ox or horse." (*Historical Gazetteer and Biographical Memorial of Cattaraugus County, NY*, edited by William Adams Lyman, Horton & Co., Syracuse, NY (October 1893), p. 23. <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/52662/52662-h/52662-h.htm#page-4>)

“...they did cast up mighty heaps of earth to get ore of gold, and of silver, and of iron, and of copper.”
(Ether 10:23)

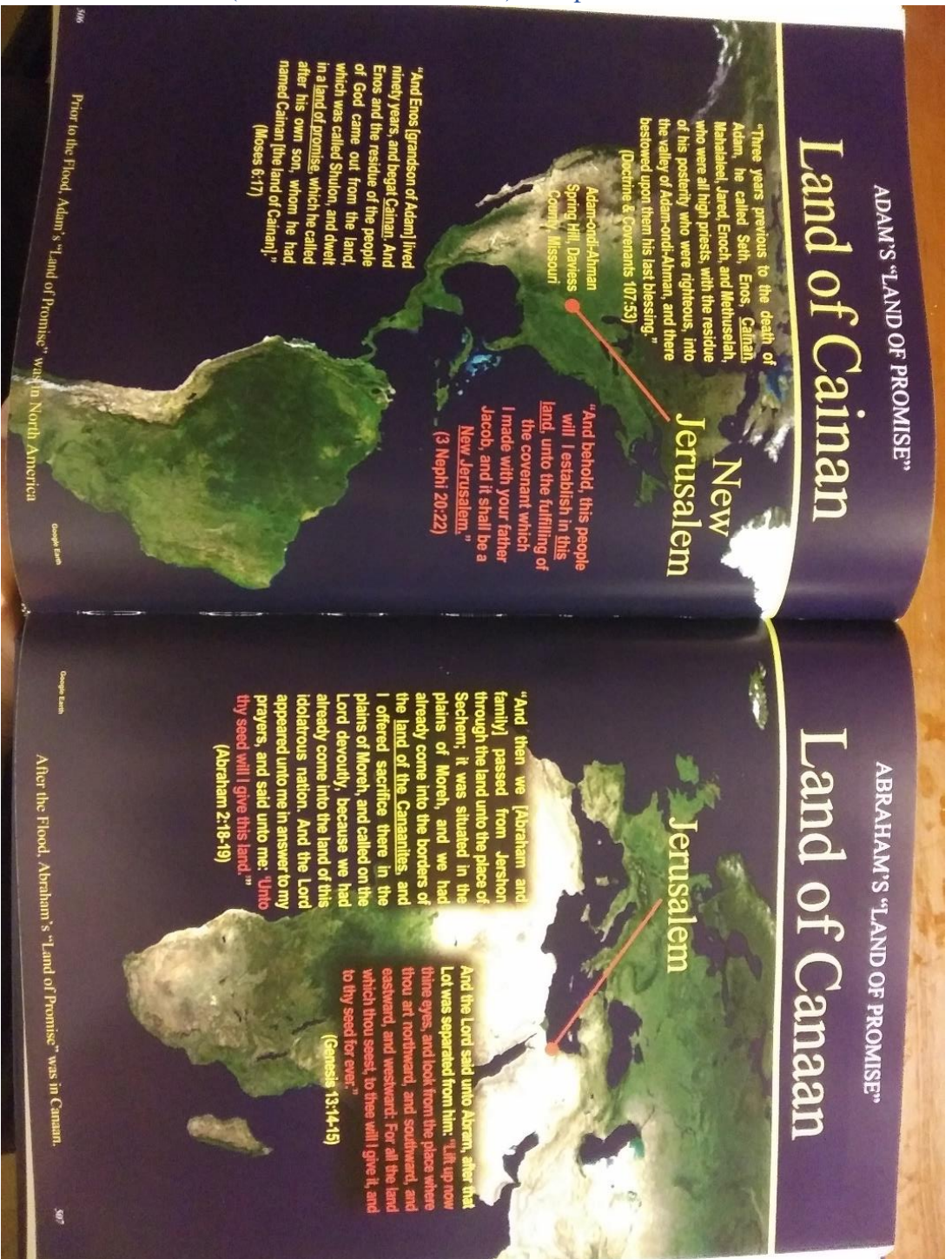


Old Copper Complex Artifacts (3000 B.C.–1000 B.C.)
Wisconsin Historical Museum, Madison, Wisconsin



Approximate Maximum Dispersal of Old Copper Complex Artifacts

Hocking: Adam's Cainan (Missouri/New Jerusalem) & Abraham's Canaan (Palestine/Old Jerusalem): Scriptural Proofs



“...a *choice* land above all other lands,
a chosen land of the Lord...” (Ether 13:2)

EVENING AND MORNING STAR.

Vol. I. No. 7.]

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, DECEMBER, 1832.

[Whole No. 7.]

108

EVENING AND MORNING STAR.

my people, O house of Israel; and when these things come to pass, that thy seed shall begin to know these things, it shall be a sign unto them, that they may know that the work of the Father hath already commenced unto the fulfilling of the covenant which he hath made unto the people which are of the house of Israel. And when that day shall come, it shall come to pass that kings shall shut their mouths: for that which had not been told them shall they see; and that which they had not heard shall they consider. For in that day, for my sake shall the Father work a work, which shall be a great and a marvelous work among them; and there shall be among them which will not believe it although a man shall declare it unto them.

ZION.

It was said, when the righteous gathered together, in the days of Enoch, that the Lord called his people Zion, because they were of one heart and of one mind, and dwelt in righteousness; and there was no poor among them: and such must be the case in these last

that faith also might increase in the earth; that mine everlasting covenant might be established; that the fulness of my gospel might be proclaimed by the weak and the simple, unto the ends of the world; and before kings and rulers.

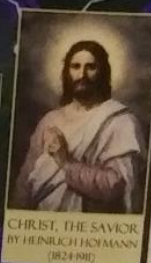
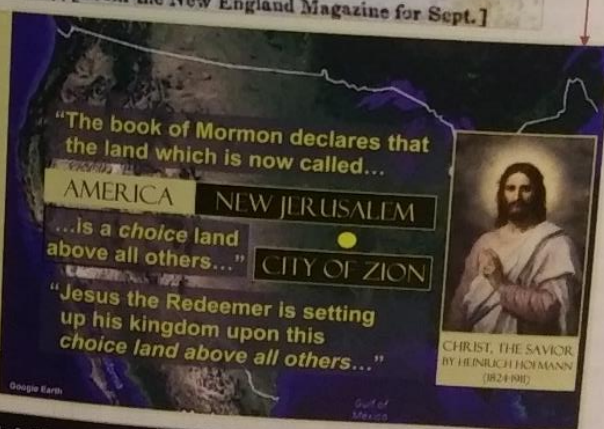
The book of Mormon declares that the land which is now called America, is a choice land above all others, and we believe it, because the Lord has said it, and we have seen it.— At present, the world thinks much of America because it is trying the experiment of a free government; and the people of the Lord are beginning to lift up their heads and rejoice, because Jesus the Redeemer is setting up his kingdom upon this choice land above all others, and it is no more to be confuted.

We came across the following, which brought to mind the above reflections:—
A LEAF FROM AN OLD ALMANAC.
[From the New England Magazine for Sept.]



William W. Phelps
Photograph by
Charles R. Savage,
circa 1865
Church History Library
Salt Lake City, UT
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:William_W._Phelps.jpg

The Evening and the Morning Star was an early newspaper of the Church, published by William W. Phelps (photo on left), as a monthly periodical in Independence, Missouri, from June 1832 to July 1833, and then in Kirtland, Ohio, from December 1833 to September 1834. The above shows Vol. 1 No. 7, printed in Independence, Missouri, in December 1832.



CHRIST, THE SAVIOR
BY HEINRICH HOFFMANN
(1824-1915)

“Because of his faithfulness and integrity, Joseph [of Egypt] received greater blessings than the progenitors of Jacob, and was rewarded with the land of Zion. His brothers, with malicious intent, separated him and cast him out from among them. The Lord, in rewarding him, separated him from his brothers — the other tribes of Israel — and gave him an inheritance in a land that is **choice above all other lands**, which, we have learned from the Book of Mormon and modern revelation, is **America**... We are informed in the revelations given to Joseph Smith the Prophet, that **the city of Zion and the New Jerusalem is one and the same**. In a number of revelations, the Lord speaks of the New Jerusalem which is to be built...” — Apostle Joseph Fielding Smith, “Zion and Jerusalem,” *Improvement Era*, Vol. 22, July 1919; emphasis added.



Hocking: Highlighting Ether “New Jerusalem upon THIS land.” & D&C “Borders of the Lamanites” & Missouri as New Jerusalem

“...a New Jerusalem upon this land.” (Ether 13:4)

“Behold, Ether saw the days of Christ, and he spake concerning a New Jerusalem upon **this land**”
(Ether 13:4; emphasis added.)

Where is “This Land” ?

Doctrine and Covenants Section 28:8-9.
Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to Oliver Cowdery, at Fayette, New York, September 1830.

“AND now, behold, I say unto you that you shall go unto the **Lamanites** and preach My gospel unto them; and inasmuch as they receive thy teachings thou shalt cause My church to be established among them; and thou shalt have revelations, but write them not by way of commandment. And now, behold, I say unto you that it is not revealed, and no man knoweth where **the city Zion** shall be built, but it shall be given hereafter. Behold, I say unto you that it shall be on the **borders by the Lamanites.**”

Doctrine and Covenants Section 45:64-67.

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to the Church, at Kirtland, Ohio, March 7, 1831.

“WHEREFORE I, the Lord, have said, gather ye out from the eastern lands, assemble ye yourselves together ye elders of My church; go ye forth into the **western countries**, call upon the inhabitants to repent, and inasmuch as they do repent, build up churches unto Me. And with one heart and with one mind, gather up your riches that ye may purchase an inheritance which shall hereafter be appointed unto you. And it shall be called **the New Jerusalem**, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the Most High God; and the glory of the Lord shall be there, and the terror of the Lord also shall be there, insomuch that the wicked will not come unto it, and it shall be called **Zion.**”

Doctrine and Covenants Section 54:8.

Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet to Newel Knight, at Kirtland, Ohio, June 10, 1831.

“AND thus you shall take your journey into the regions **westward**, unto **the land of Missouri**, unto **the borders of the Lamanites.**”

August 3, 1831 – Joseph Smith Jr. Dedicates the Temple Site in Independence, Missouri

Doctrine and Covenants Section 84:1-4.

*Revelation given through Joseph Smith the Prophet, at Kirtland, Ohio, September 22 and 23, 1832.**

A revelation of Jesus Christ unto His servant Joseph Smith, Jun., and six elders, as they united their hearts and lifted their voices on high. Yea, the word of the Lord concerning His church, established in the last days for the restoration of His people, as He has spoken by the mouth of His prophets, and for the gathering of His saints to stand upon Mount Zion, which shall be the city of **New Jerusalem**. Which city shall be built, beginning at the temple lot, which is appointed by the finger of the Lord, in the **western boundaries of the State of Missouri**, and dedicated by the hand of Joseph Smith, Jun., and others with whom the Lord was well pleased. Verily this is the word of the Lord: “that the city **New Jerusalem** shall be built by the *gathering* of the Saints, beginning at this place, even the place of the temple, which temple shall be reared in this generation.” (Emphasis added. *Symbolic date for gathering: see p. xix.)



Photo courtesy of Tim Malone
(<https://latterdaycommentary.files.wordpress.com/2013/06/independencetemplesign.jpg>)

“...a land which is *choice* above all the lands...”

“a land which is *choice* above all the lands of the earth” (Ether 1:42).

“a land which is *choice* above all other lands” (1 Nephi 2:20).



Photo: The Risks, 1977, p. 132

“I should like to confine my remarks to a discussion concerning the Western Hemisphere, and particularly to the United States of America, and to point out the destiny of America in the Lord’s eternal plan. The discovery of the Americas was not an accident. The event had been foreordained in the eternal councils. The prophets of old had it in view. Jacob foresaw it when he blessed his son Joseph, calling him “a fruitful bough by a well, whose branches run over the wall ... unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills” (Gen. 49:22, 26). Moses too made promises to the tribe of Joseph, whose land, America, was to be precious for the things of heaven and of earth, and who would “push the people together to the ends of the earth.” (See Deut. 33:13–17.) These are just some of the biblical prophecies, and we have the Book of Mormon record which tells of the Jaredites who were the first to come to America” – President N. Eldon Tanner, “If They Will But Serve the God of the Land,” *April Conference* [1976].

We learn the following in the Book of Daniel about Adam, the Ancient of Days:

“I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of Days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake:

“I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.” (Daniel 7:9-14).

In the Hebrew Scriptural book of Genesis, we learn that after the earth was created and organized God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden: “And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden and there He put the man whom He had formed.” (Genesis 2:8). In a revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith, near Wight’s Ferry, at a place called Spring Hill, Daviess County, Missouri, May 19, 1838, Jesus Christ declared: “Spring Hill is named by the Lord, ‘Adam-ondi-Ahman, because, said He, ‘it is the place where Adam shall come to visit his people, or the Ancient of Days shall sit, as spoken of by Daniel the prophet.”’ (Doctrine and Covenants 116).



Adam-ondi-Ahman
Daviess County, Missouri
(<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Adam-ondi-Ahman-Tower.jpg>)

Previous to this revelation the Lord gave insights to the importance of the sacred nature of this place: “Three years previous to the death of Adam, he called Seth, Enos, Cainan (see “Adam’s “Land of Promise” p. 506), Mahalaleel, Jared, Enoch, and Methuselah, who were all high priests, with the residue of his posterity who were righteous, into the valley of Adam-ondi-Ahman, and there bestowed upon them his last blessing. And the Lord appeared unto them, and they rose up and blessed Adam, and called him Michael, the prince, the archangel. And the Lord administered comfort unto Adam, and said unto him:


Hocking: Two Lands of Promise in Pangea

[Note: It is possible, and perhaps taught by Joseph Smith, that the Garden of Eden was in fact in Palestine as indicated by the rivers etc., and that the "Garden of God" was in Missouri, where Adam was sired by God, and to which he returned after leaving his home which was "eastward in Eden". More analysis of that elsewhere.]

TWO LANDS OF PROMISE

"...out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from *Jerusalem*." (2 Nephi 12:3)

"And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from *the four corners of the earth*." (2 Nephi 21:12)



WORKS of Joseph.com

"We are committed to the fact that Adam dwelt on this American continent. But when Adam dwelt here, it was not the American continent, nor was it the Western Hemisphere, for all the land was in one place, and all the water was in one place. There was no Atlantic Ocean separating the hemispheres" – Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation* Vol. III, [1954], 499.

"The most sacred of places... will always be those locations which God has designated for holy and eternal purposes, locations where He is the "doer of the deed." These places are revered forever by His faithful children wherever they may be.... America is such a place, but of course it wasn't always called America, nor has it always been identified by a distinctive continental shape. Originally it was simply a portion of that large, single land mass which God in His creative process called "Earth" and which, when completed, was pronounced "good." (Gen. 1:10.) Whatever its name and geographical configuration, however, it was from the beginning a land of divinity as well as a land of destiny... Temporally we call it America. But it began with a single, primeval, continent of Genesis, and the miracle of Millennial healing will bring that unity again.

"The choicest part of this earthly creation was a garden "eastward in Eden" where God placed our first parents, Adam and Eve. This resplendent place filled with paradisiacal glory was located on that part of the land mass where the city Zion, or the New Jerusalem of the earth's last days, would eventually be built. (See D&C 57:1–3, D&C 84:1–3; and Joseph Fielding Smith, *Doctrines of Salvation*, 3:74.) After Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden, they dwelt at a place called Adam-ondi-Ahman, located in what is now Daviess County, Missouri. In that region this first Christ from on high. There Adam prophesied concerning all the families of the earth and, three years before his death, called together the righteous remnant of his posterity and bestowed upon them his last blessing" – Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, "A Promised Land," *Ensign* [Jun. 1976].

Hocking: 36 Book of Mormon Prophecies & Promises about the Land, the Remnant, & the Gentiles

36 PROPHECIES AND PROMISES ABOUT THE LAND, THE REMNANT, AND THE GENTILES			
#	#Scriptures	Prophecies and Promises	Book of Mormon Scripture References
1	32	Land of Promise	1 Nephi 2:20; 4:14; 5:5, 22; 7:1, 13; 10:13; 12:1; 13:12, 14; 14:2; 17:13; 18:8, 22, 23, 25; 2 Nephi 1:3, 5, 10, 24; Jacob 2:12; Mosiah 1:7; Alma 37:44, 45; Helaman 7:7; Ether 2:7, 8, 9; 6:8, 12, 16; 7:27.
2	20	Land obtained and consecrated for an inheritance	1 Nephi 13:30; 2 Nephi 1:3, 5; 3:2; 4:11; 10:10, 19; Jacob 2:12; Enos 1:10; Mosiah 28:2; 3 Nephi 15:13; 16:16; 20:14, 22; 21:22; Ether 1:38; 2:15; 13:7, 8, 21.
3	13	Land <i>choice</i> and precious above all other lands	1 Nephi 2:20; 13:30; 2 Nephi 1:5; 3:2; 10:19; Alma 46:17; Ether 1:42; 2:7, 10, 12, 15; 9:20; 13:2.
4	12	Land will be cursed because of wickedness	2 Nephi 1:7, 12; Jacob 2:29; 3:3; Enos 1:10; Jarom 1:10; Mosiah 29:27; Alma 37:25, 28; 45:16; Helaman 13:17; Ether 14:1.
5	8	Land is consecrated and holy to those led by the Lord	2 Nephi 1:5, 7; Ether 2:7, 8, 9, 10; 9:20; 13:2.
6	7	Land of prosperity and security	1 Nephi 13:15; 2 Nephi 1:31, 32; Jarom 1:9; Mosiah 1:7; Alma 9:13; 48:15.
7	6	Land shall be a land of liberty	2 Nephi 1:7; Mosiah 29:32; Alma 46:10, 16, 17; Ether 2:12.
8	5	The New Jerusalem will be built upon this land.	3 Nephi 21:23; Ether 13:3, 4, 6, 8.
9	4	Land where all shall worship God or be destroyed	2 Nephi 10:19; Ether 2:8, 9, 10.
10	3	Land prepared for those led to it by the hand of the Lord	1 Nephi 13:13; 17:13.
11	2	Land never to be brought into captivity	2 Nephi 1:7; Ether 2:12.
12	3	Land fortified against all other nations	1 Nephi 13:18; 2 Nephi 1:9; 10:12.
13	1	Land only for those brought by the Lord	2 Nephi 1:6.
14	1	Land kept from the knowledge of other nations	2 Nephi 1:8.
15	1	Land where none shall molest or remove their inheritance	2 Nephi 1:9.
16	2	Land not to be governed by kings or kings of Gentiles	2 Nephi 10:11, 14.
17	1	Seed of Lehi to be visited by Christ on this land	1 Nephi 13:35.

36 PROPHECIES AND PROMISES ABOUT THE LAND, THE REMNANT, AND THE GENTILES

#	#Scriptures	Prophecies and Promises	Book of Mormon Scripture References
18	2	The Record to be kept about those having possessed the Land	1 Nephi 19:3; Mosiah 28:15.
19	13	Gentiles to scatter and afflict remnant	1 Nephi 13:14, 30, 34; 22:7; 2 Nephi 10:18; 3 Nephi 16:4, 8; 20:15, 27, 28; Mormon 5:15; 20.
20	10	Gentiles to bring forth a "Marvelous Work" (The Book of Mormon)	1 Nephi 13:35, 40; 22:8; 3 Nephi 16:4; 21:2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 11.
21	8	Gentiles shown mercy by the Lord and receive the Gospel	1 Nephi 13:33, 34; 14:1; 3 Nephi 16:7; 20:15, 27; 21:6; Mormon 5:15.
22	6	Gentiles to bring the Gospel to the remnant	1 Nephi 22:8; 3 Nephi 16:4; 21:3, 4, 5, 6.
23	5	Gentiles to obtain this land of promise for an inheritance	1 Nephi 13:15; Mosiah 12:8; 3 Nephi 16:8; 21:4; Mormon 5:19.
24	4	Gentiles to be blessed and prosper on this land	1 Nephi 13:15, 20; 14:2; 2 Nephi 10:10.
25	3	Gentiles to become a mighty nation upon the land	1 Nephi 13:30; 22:7; 3 Nephi 20:27.
26	3	Gentiles not to remain in blindness	1 Nephi 13:32, 34; 14:1.
27	2	Gentiles come out of captivity to this land	1 Nephi 13:13, 30.
28	2	Gentiles upon this land are protected by God	1 Nephi 13:19, 30.
29	2	This land to be a land of liberty to the Gentiles	2 Nephi 10:11; 3 Nephi 21:4.
30	2	Gentiles to become multitudes upon the land	1 Nephi 12:1; 13:14.
31	2	Gentiles not to destroy the remnant	1 Nephi 13:31; 2 Nephi 10:18.
32	2	The Lord's servant to be among the Gentiles	3 Nephi 21:10, 11.
33	2	Gentiles to have other books of truth	1 Nephi 13:39, 40.
34	1	Gentiles to bring Bible to the remnant	1 Nephi 13:38.
35	1	Church to be established among Gentiles of this land	1 Nephi 13:36-37.
36	1	Mother Gentiles to battle against Gentiles who came out of captivity	1 Nephi 13:17.

Research by Rod Meldrum and Bruce H. Porter

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAPS

"Pin in the Map"

"The New York Cumorah doesn't answer other questions about Book of Mormon geography, but it is a firm 'pin in the map' given to us by Joseph and Oliver, who knew Cumorah was in New York because they personally visited Mormon's depository there (Mormon 6:6). Every prophet and apostle who has commented about Cumorah since then, including members of the First Presidency speaking in General Conference, have affirmed what Joseph and Oliver taught. In my view, no legitimate geography can reject what they said was a fact" – Jonathan Neville.



MORONI'S AMERICA

Note: This map is not to be construed as definitive or authoritative. It is provided for consideration and study only. It reflects one of several interpretations of the text that are consistent with the New York Cumorah and with various Church historical documents (see pp. 524-26).



The yellow shaded "Land Northward" is based on the Nephites occupying those cities, places or regions described in journal entries on pp. 524-525, Note 1, the Small Neck of Land (Alma 22:32, p. 245), 2, the Narrow Neck/Line Bountiful (Alma 63:5, p. 340) that once divided the ancient Grand Kankakee Marsh from the Great Black Swamp, 3, the Narrow Neck of Land (Ether 10:20, p. 476), 4, the narrow pass (Alma 50:34, p. 313), and 5 the narrow passage (Mormon 2:29, p. 436).

The red circles mark locations that have connections between Church history and the Book of Mormon (see pp. 524-25).

The light green shaded "Land Southward" is labeled to show possible Lamanite territories.

The map shows only the suggested location of the city of Lehi-Nephi and other landmarks referred to in the text.

CONNECTIONS BETWEEN CHURCH HISTORY AND THE BOOK OF MORMON

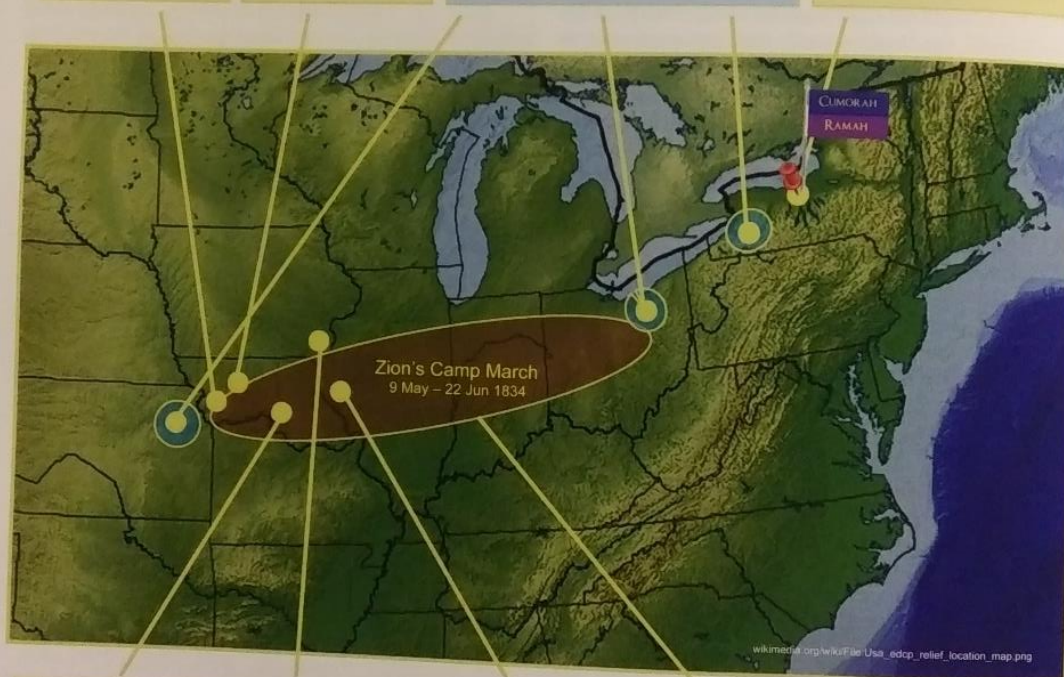
This map provides an overview of those locations from those References on pp. 524-525 that have been recorded in the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints regarding either places, events or peoples related to the Book of Mormon.

New Jerusalem
Missouri (#4)

"An old
Nephtie altar"*
Missouri (#8)

Mission to the Lamanites
NY, OH, KS (#1, 2 and 3)
(Also see pp. 116, 546-547)

The Hill Cumorah
New York (#13,15)



"Ancient site of
the City of Manti"
Randolph County,
Missouri
(#9)

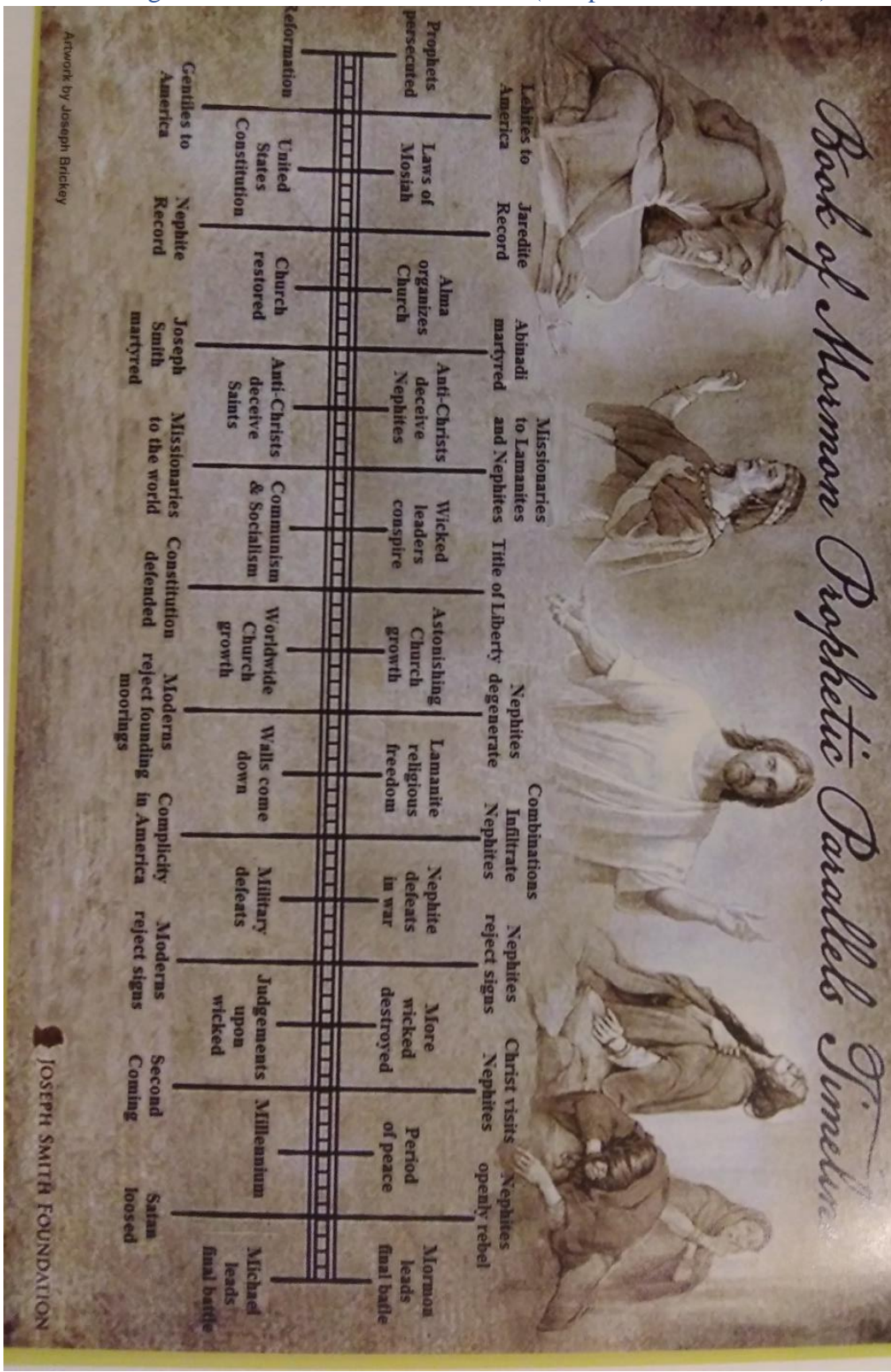
"...let the name
of Zarahemla
be named
upon it."
Iowa (#10)

Zelph's Mound
"a white Lamanite"
South of
Valley City, Illinois
(#5)

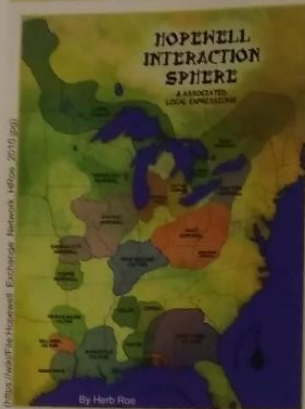
"...wandering over the plains
of the Nephites."
OH, IN, IL, MO (#5)
Foot travel: ~900 miles in 45 days
(Averaged ~20 miles/day)

Zion's Camp March provided statements on Book of Mormon geography as revealed by the Prophet Joseph Smith and were recorded by future President of the Church Wilford Woodruff and Apostle Heber C. Kimball, (see p. 555). Maps shown throughout the text will use these geographic connections between Church history and the Book of Mormon as reference points. However, there are no other known locations of specific lands, cities, rivers or other landmarks that have yet been revealed. A list of Zion's Camp participants can be found online at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Zion%27s_Camp_participants.

*Nephtie Altar: <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/history-1838-1856-volume-b-1-1-september-1834-2-november-1838/251>



HOPEWELL MOUND BUILDERS: 400 B.C. – 500 A.D.



“A closer approximation to the Book of Mormon picture of Nephite culture is seen in the earth and palisade structures of the Hopewell and Adena culture areas than in the later stately piles of stone in Mesoamerica” – Hugh Nibley, “Ancient Temples: What Do They Signify?”, *Ensign*, Sep. 1972, (see p. 349). The Hopewell culture describes the common aspects of a segment of Native American culture that flourished along rivers in the northeastern and Midwestern United States from approximately 400 B.C. to 500 A.D., a time period that nearly matches the span of the developed Nephite societies. The Hopewell peoples were not a single culture or society, but a widely dispersed set of related populations as shown on the map on the left. They were connected by a common network of trade routes, in what is known as the “Hopewell exchange system.” The name ‘Hopewell’ was chosen by Warren K. Moorehead, known as the ‘Dean of American

archaeology,’ after his explorations in 1891 and 1892 of a group of mounds in Ross County, Ohio. He named the mounds after Mordecai C. Hopewell, the owner of the land. Subsequently all mounds that have similar identifications are named as the Hopewell Mound Builders within an interaction sphere.

Currently, the Hopewell interaction sphere has come to encompass regions from the Southeastern United States as far south as the Crystal River Indian Mounds in Florida up to the southeastern Canadian shores of Lake Ontario in the north. Within this geographic area, inter societal exchanges were common along major waterways. The Hopewell exchange system received materials from all over what is now the heartland of the United States. Many objects created by the Hopewell cultures have been excavated and show a remarkable degree of commonality to items described within the text from the Nephite and Lamanite civilizations.

In 1848, Ephraim George Squier, A.M., and Edwin Hamilton Davis, M.D., published the book, *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley: Comprising the Results of Extensive Original Surveys and Explorations*. The work was a landmark in American scientific research and was the genesis of archaeology as a scientific discipline. More importantly, the book was the first volume of the Smithsonian Institution’s Contributions to Knowledge series and the Institution’s first publication. Among Squier and Davis’ most important achievements was their systematic approach to analyzing and documenting the sites they surveyed, including Seip Mound, southwest of Chillicothe, Ohio (survey Plate XXI, No. 2 shown below on the left), which they discovered in 1846, and the mapping of the Mound City Group, also in Chillicothe, Ohio, which has been restored using their data and is now part of Hopewell Culture National Historical Park. Squier and Davis collection of ancient Mound objects can now be seen at the British Museum in London, England. A few of their maps will be used in this edition as most of those mounds they identified have been destroyed by population growth that demanded land as the United States expanded westward. Their drawings are left to us to study of what was a highly educated, cultured and civilized society with roads, highways and cities rivaling the sizes of those in Europe.



Seip Mound Aerial Photo by Red Meldrum

THE HOPEWELL CIVILIZATION: 50 CORRELATIONS WITH THE BOOK OF MORMON

1. Both were from Semitic (Caucasian/Jewish) lineages evidenced in the Hopewell by Haplogroup X DNA
2. Both were in the same archaeological time-frame (500 B.C. to 400 A.D.)
3. Both were highly advanced civilizations, indicated by size, scope, language, archaeological remains and artifacts
4. Both the Hopewell and Nephites were in the same areas indicated by Joseph Smith's revelations, writings, statements, and actions such as:
 - The visitation by Moroni testified of in the Wentworth Letter (pp. 550-553)
 - The vision Joseph Smith had in Illinois regarding Zelph while on Zion's Camp (pp. 321, 524)
 - The three revelations sending missionaries to the "Lamanites" (D&C 28, 30, 32; p. 116)
 - The revelations revealing the location of the New Jerusalem in Missouri, USA (D&C 42, 45, 84; p. 485)
 - The revelation claiming Missouri to be "the land of promise" (D&C 57:1-2; pp. xii, xiii and 414)
 - Scriptural linking of Book of Mormon lands with the lands of the New Jerusalem (3 Nephi 20:22; 21:22-23; Ether 13:2-6; pp. 485, 506, 524)
 - The revelation about the city of Zarahemla in Iowa (D&C 125:3; p. 127, 528-529)
 - Joseph's Letter to Emma saying that he was "*wandering over the plains of the Nephites*" while "*roving over the mounds of that once beloved people*" (p. 320, 524)
 - Joseph Smith speaking of a Nephite altar at Adam-ondi-Ahman in Missouri (p. 486)
 - Joseph's claim of the ancient City of Manti near Huntsville, Missouri (p. 329 footnote; p. 524)
5. Both built defensive cities, "places of retreat" and fortifications (Alma 49:11-12)
6. Both built cities with ditch's, earth banks, pickets of timbers and towers (Alma 50:2-4; Alma 53:4, Mosiah 11:12-13; pp. 303, 307, 311)
7. Both built cities with engineered "places of entrance" (Alma 49:4, 20-21; p. 307)
8. Both built protective walls of stone, but no cities were built using stone (Alma 48:8; pp. 287, 303)
9. Both were in the boundaries of the Promised Land that the 36 prophecies and promises in the Book of Mormon identify as the latter day nation known as the United States of America (pp. 510-511)
10. Both had a major or primary river system within their lands (River Sidon; Mississippi River; pp. 202-203)
11. Both lived in a region where earthquakes occur rarely as recorded only twice in the Book of Mormon's 1,000 year history (1 Nephi 12:4; Mormon 8:30; p. 396)
12. Both lived in an area where earthquakes would cause massive destruction that matches every description in the Book of Mormon record (3 Nephi 8-11; p. 395)
13. Both had people who were "large in stature" as in 1 Nephi 2:16; 4:31; Alma 1:2; 46:3, Helaman 1:15; Mormon 2:1; Ether 1:34; 14:10 and 15:26 (pp. 116, 309, 344, 362)
14. Both used metal breastplates and headplates (Alma 46:13; Alma 43:38,44; Helaman 1:14)
15. Both possessed a written Hebrew or Egyptian language, evidenced by engraved stones and metal plates
16. Both used lunar time reckoning as indicated by archaeology (p. 130) and Omni 1:21, which was also the timing system used by the Jews (3 Nephi 2:8)
17. Both used wood and dirt as their primary building materials (Mosiah 11:8-10, Jarom 1:8; 2 Nephi 5:15)

THE HOPEWELL CIVILIZATION: 50 CORRELATIONS WITH THE BOOK OF MORMON

18. Both used "cement" such as "Hopewell cement" found at Mound City and Fort Ancient, Ohio (Helaman 3:7, 9; pp. 349, 383)
19. Both performed "digging up heaps of earth round about all the cities" (Alma 50:1)
20. Both utilized metals such as copper, iron and silver (1 Ne. 18:25; Mosiah 11:3, 8, 10; 8:10; Ether 10:23)
21. Both knew metallurgy and practiced smelting of metals as evidenced by smelting furnaces (p. 124)
22. Both had iron or steel swords (2 Nephi 5:15, Jarom 1:8, Ether 7:9; p. 162)
23. Both were in the same lands indicated by the Lord in D&C 54:8 near Missouri (p. 485)
24. The Hill Cumorah in New York, USA matches the descriptions in the Book of Mormon (p. 441)
25. Both were in New York, USA area where the gold plates were actually recovered (pp. 116, 547)
26. Both built ceremonial temples and they were devoid of burial crypts (pp. 63-64)
27. Both knew "seasons" because it was "the nature of the climate" (Mosiah 18:4; Alma 46:40)
28. Both lived in an area where "whirlwinds" and "tempests" or tornados and hurricanes occur (p. 353)
29. Both civilizations deforested their lands (Helaman 3:5-7, 9-10)
30. Both civilizations were agricultural and "tilled the ground" (Mosiah 23:5, 31; 10:4, 21; Alma 62:29)
31. Both civilizations utilized corn, barley and wheat (Mosiah 7:22; 9:9, 14)
32. Both had broad trading networks and commerce (Mosiah 24:7)
33. Both made colorized textiles for clothing (1 Nephi 13:7-8; Mosiah 10:5; Ether 10:24)
34. Both had "heavy clothing" and "lincloths" (Enos 1:20; Alma 43:19; 49:6; 3 Nephi 4:7)
35. Both had goats or herds as indicated by copper goat horns of the Hopewell (1 Nephi 18:25; Enos 1:21)
36. Both had mass burials resulting from wars of extermination (Mosiah 9:19, Alma 30:1-2; Ether 14:22)
37. Distances and rate of travel indications correlate with Book of Mormon journeys (Zion's Camp, p. 526)
38. Both had high concentrations of war implements to defend themselves (Enos 1:20; Alma 24: 17-19)
39. Ancient horse bones and pictograph found in North America (1 Ne. 18:25; Enos 1:21; Alma 18: 9; p. 37)
40. Both built a city in a "particular manner" that was different than all their other cities (Alma 50:15; p. 558)
41. Both built roads between primary cities (i.e. Great Hopewell Road p. 389)
42. Both had and used pearls and other ornamental items in their dress (4 Nephi 1:24, pp. 429-430)
43. Both had access to migratory beasts, i.e. Buffalo, Elk (Alma 22:31; p. 246; Ether 9:34-Jaredites)
44. Both indicate a knowledge of elephants (Ether 9:19; pp. 473-474; (Adena) Jaredites)
45. Both were familiar with vultures as indicated by Hopewell effigies (Mosiah 12:2, Alma 2:38; p. 166)
46. Both had an understanding of the "Plan of Salvation" of the gospel (Jarom 1: 2; Alma 24:14; p. 250)
47. Both utilized Hebrew above-ground burial practices (Hebrew Sepulchre's and Hopewell burial mounds. See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_of_Olives_Jewish_Cemetery)
48. Both had clothing and shawls that included fringes, as directed by the Lord (Numbers 15:38; p. 146)
49. Both knew about the Ten Commandments of Moses (2 Nephi 5:10; Decalogue Stone, p. 545)
50. Both had dogs and wild beasts (wolves) that devoured the flesh (Mosiah 12:2; Alma 5: 59; Alma 16:10; Helaman 7:19; p. 166)

Hocking: Mesoamerican “Snake People” come north & Enslave Lamanites, Intermarry, & Cause Mayan Structures to be Built ~800AD

LAMANITES USED AS SLAVES North America Core – Mesoamerican Periphery

Who built the mounds during the Mississippian Culture period? In an interview with a Native American, Wayne N. May, author and publisher of *Ancient American Magazine* (<http://ancientamerican.com/>), asked a Chieftain: “Who built Cahokia?” The Chieftain responded: “We did, the Native Americans. But we built it as slaves.” Wayne then asked: “Slaves to who?” The Chieftain replied: “We were slaves to the Snake people who had come up from the south... as a cohesive army. They enslaved us and for the space of 200-300 years they forced us to build these gigantic structures. But then we were finally able to overthrow them and drive them back out of our lands. But by that time we had intermarried with them for 200-300 years. So many of our people ended going back to the southern lands.” The “Snake people” from the south appear to be people that came from Mesoamerica during a time of severe drought between 800-900 A.D.



The Great Serpent Effigy Mound, Adams County, Ohio.
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Serpent_Mound_-_The_Century.gif)

“The ultimate meaning behind the symbol of the serpent was the Lord Jesus Christ and his saving and life-giving power. The [Nephites] understood the true intent of the symbol some 600 years before the Messiah himself appeared in mortality to articulate the message of the serpent’s being raised up in Moses’ day” – Andrew C. Skinner, *Journal of Book of Mormon Studies* 10/2 [2001]: 52.



THE BRAZEN SERPENT Num. 21:1-9
GOLDEN TEXT:—As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.
John 3:14, 15.

“And as he lifted up the brazen serpent in the wilderness, even so shall He be lifted up who should come. And as many as should look upon that serpent should live, even so as many as should look upon the Son of God, with faith, having a contrite spirit, might live, even unto that life which is eternal.”
(Helaman 8:14-15)

Anthropologist Alice Kehoe, Ph.D., emphasizes that, “from... stale and false notions of ancient Native American history, much has been missed in the archaeological record of the Americas that is only now coming to light.” She argues “that the Mississippian, often called “Mound-Building” Culture, had close trade and communication links with civilizations of Mesoamerica (Mayas, Aztecs, their predecessors and contemporaries) and that this link is readily apparent from the archaeological record.” She also argues “that Trans-Gulf contact between the Mississippi Valley and Mesoamerica was quite likely...leading to clear similarities in the culture, religion, and art of the SECC,* Midwest and Mesoamerica.” (Kehoe, Alice, “Wind Jewels and Paddling Gods: The Mississippian Southeast in the Post-Classic Mesoamerican World,” *Gulf Coast Archaeology, The Southeastern United States and Mexico*, Ed. Nancy Marie White, Gainesville, University of Florida [2005], 260-280.)

[*SECC: Southeast Coastal Communities]



Photo: http://www.wikivand.com/en/Ocmulgee_National_Monument

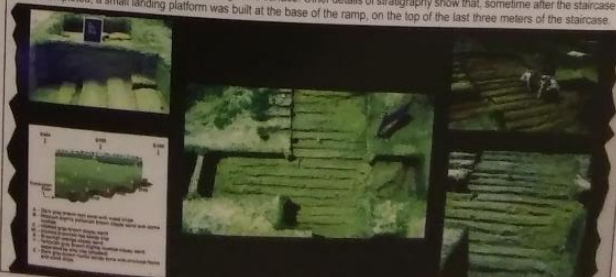
Where are all the ancient artifacts of Ocmulgee?
There are several answers to this question. Some of the finest examples are on display here in the visitor center. Another 100,000 or more objects are in storage in the climate-controlled space in the lower level of this building. But most of the collection—2.5 million objects in all—resides at the National Park Service Southeast Archaeological Center (SEAC) located at Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL.

The Ocmulgee Mound (950-1150 A.D.) excavation has yielded 2.5 million artifacts. This suggests that North America was the possible core region and the indigenous peoples were under the control of others.

The Staircase

Stone steps – Mayan influence

As work continued, it became apparent that this feature was actually one step in a clay staircase. Our excavations exposed the last 6 meters of this staircase, which measured 7 meters across and had landings made of packed red clay and risers made of logs. Each landing was approximately 30 to 40 centimeters wide and the rise from one landing to the next step was 10 to 15 centimeters. The steps on the face of the ramp were buried beneath 10 to 30 centimeters of soils, while the last step was uncovered 120 centimeters below the current ground surface. Other details of stratigraphy show that, sometime after the staircase was completed, a small landing platform was built at the base of the ramp, on the top of the last three meters of the staircase.



LAMANITES USED AS SLAVES North America Core – Mesoamerican Periphery



Cahokia Mounds, Collinsville (East St. Louis), Illinois (Aerial Drone Photo by Rod Meldrum)

“That the Algonquian, Iroquoian and Siouan immigrants were mound builders is readily proven. It may well be doubted whether the mounds were built by the voluntary effort of a free people. Monuments of such magnitude in all ages and in various parts of the world almost without exception representing the handiwork of peoples who labored unwillingly and under compulsion.

“It would therefore seem evident that either the invading immigrants must have conquered people of a more primitive type whom they found already in possession of the country and reduced them to a state of servitude, or else that they came as imperial colonists, divided into two classes, namely, soldiers and serfs” – Thoburn, J.B., “Prehistoric Migrations,” *Proceedings of the Oklahoma Academy of Science*, Vol. 6 [2014], 372-378.



Etowah Mounds, Georgia (Aerial Drone Photo by Rod Meldrum)



Gorgetes were worn as decorative necklaces.

Items found from Mound C worn by Chief / Priest
(See sketch of Eagle Dancer motif below)



(Photos by Rod Meldrum)

Mounds built during the Mississippian Culture period have square tops for temple foundations like Mayan temple foundations—not rectangular as those built by Jews, and have stone steps (see “Stone steps – Mayan Influence” p. 540) not ramps. Artifacts uncovered have been shown to have Mayan influence, as shown above and on the right.

Hocking: Native American Words Parallel Hebrew

“Indians of America” WORDS AND PHRASES

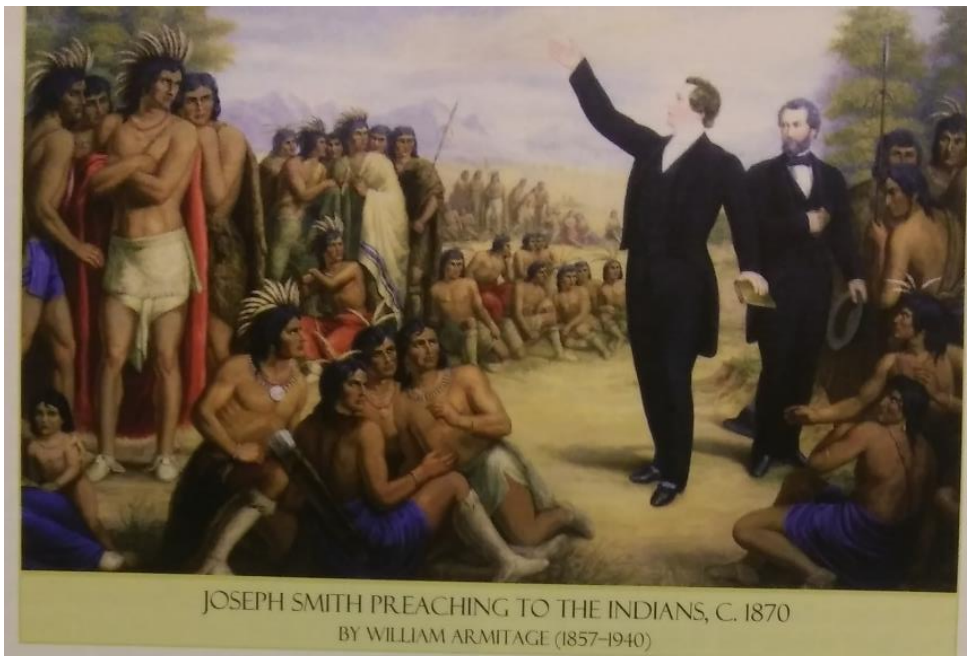
“...we should have written in Hebrew;
but the Hebrew hath been altered by us also.” (Mormon 9:33)

“Among the class of writers aforesaid is Mr. James Adair, who resided forty years among the American tribes, and who wrote a book on the subject, which was published about the year 1775, in which he, without hesitation, declares that the American aborigines are descendants from the Israelites, and so complete is his conviction on this head, that he declares he finds a perfect and undisputable similitude in each. He says: ‘From the most accurate observations I could make, in the long time I traded among the Indians of America, I was forced to believe them lineally descended from the tribes of Israel,’” – “History of the American Indians,” London: *Edward and Charles Dilly* [1775] p. 13. (https://books.google.com/books?id=5mNIAEACAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0/#v=onepage&q&f=false)

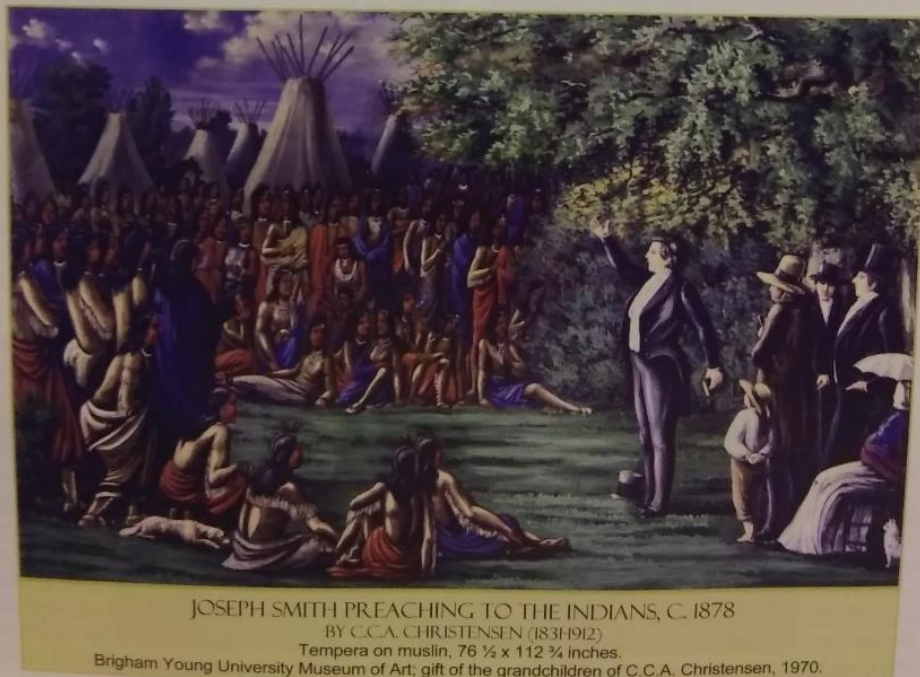
“A table of words and phrases is furnished by Dr. Boudinot, Adair and others, to show the similarity, in some of the Indian languages, to the Hebrew, and that the former must have been derived from the latter” – Haines, Elijah M., “The American Indian (UH-XISH-IK-XA-BA), The Whole Subject Complete in One Volume,” Chicago: *The MAS-SIX-XA'-GAX Company* [1888], 98; 100.

ENGLISH	INDIANS OF AMERICA	HEBREW
Jehovah	Yohewah	Jehovah
God	Ale	Ale, Aleim
Jah	Yah or Wah	Jah
Shiloh	Shilu	Shiloh
Heavens	Chemin	Shemin
Father	Abba	Abba
Man	Ish, Ishie	Ish
Woman	Ishto	Ishto
Wife	Awah	Eweh, Eve
Praise to the first cause	Halleluwah	Hallelujah
His wife	Liani	Lihene
This man	Uwoh	Huah
Nose	Nichiri	Neheri
Give me food	Natoni boman	Natoui bamen
Winter	Kora	Korah
Canaan	Canaai	Canaan
To pray	Phale	Phalac
Now	Na	Na
Hind part	Kesh	Kish
Do	Jennais	Jannon
To blow	Phaubac	Phauhe
Rushing wind	Rowah	Ruach
Ararat or high mount	Ararat	Ararat
Assembly	Kurbet	Grabit
Very hot	Heru hara or hala	Hara hara
Man of God	Ashto Allo	Isha Alloa
Waiter of the high priest	Sagan	Sagan

Hocking: Joseph Smith Preaching to Lamanite Western Tribes, “America is a Promised Land unto Them”



"The Book of Mormon is a record of the **forefathers** of our **western tribes of Indians**...containing the word of God, which was delivered unto them... By it, we learn that our western tribes of Indians are descendants from that Joseph that was sold into Egypt, and that the land of America is a promised land unto them..." – Letter to Noah C. Saxton, 4 January 1833, from Joseph Smith Jr.; written "by the commandment from God" in "Mormonism," *The American Revivalist, and Rochester Observer*, Rochester, New York, [2 Feb. 1833]; emphasis added. ("History, 1838-1856, volume A-1 [23 December 1805-30 August 1834]," p. 261, The Joseph Smith Papers, accessed June 13, 2019, <https://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/history-1838-1856-volume-a-1-23-december-1805-30-august-1834/267>.)



Hocking: Key Heartland Geography Prophecy Documents: Zeph Account Journals, Letter VII, Letter to Emma, Revelation, Epistle

Letter VII

...It about one mile west rises another ridge of
dark granite, running parallel with the former,
leaving a beautiful road between. The soil is of
the fine quality for the cereals, and under a
state of cultivation, which gives a prospect at
once imposing, where our eyes rest on the fact,
that here, between these hills, the entire power
and national strength of both the Jaredites and
Nephites were destroyed.

By turning to the 329th and 330th pages of
the Book of Mormon, you will read Mormon's
account of the last great struggle of his people,
as they were encamped round this hill
Cumorah. (It is printed Cumorah, which is an
error in this reading, for the remaining strength
and pride of a once powerful people, the
Nephites...)

Oliver Cowdery

Key North America Documents

Letter VII

by Oliver Cowdery

Authorized by Joseph.
Hill Cumorah in NY
is where final battles
destroyed the Nephites
and Jaredites.

Zeph & Onandagus

Zeph Account Journals

Several Journals*
relate Joseph's vision
of the Lamanite
Warrior found buried
in an Illinois mound.

*Journals of Willard Woodruff,
Heber C. Keeney, George A. Smith,
Loren Harrison, Moses Warren,
and Hiram H. Moore.

Letter to Emma from Joseph

"Plains of the Nephites"
are in the territory
covered by
Zion's Camp March.

Letter to Emma

My Dear Emma,
...The whole of our journey, in the
midst of so large a company of social
honest men and sincere men,
wandering over the plains of the
Nephites, recounting occasionally the
history of the Book of Mormon,
rolling over the mounds of that once
beloved people of the Lord, picking
up their skulls and their bones, as a
proof of its divine authenticity...

From your's in the bonds of
affection,
Joseph Smith

Revelation & Epistle

Revelation

D&C 125

"Zarahemla"
in Iowa

Epistle

D&C 128

Cumorah
in New York

WORKS of Joseph.com

AMERICAN INDIAN DNA STUDIES

DNA (DeoxyriboNucleic Acid) is the hereditary material found in nearly every cell in a person's body. DNA is made from nucleotides strung together in the form of a double helix. Sets of nucleotides form a gene and are passed on through families. A single-nucleotide polymorphism is a variation in a single nucleotide that occurs at a specific position in the genome, where each variation is present, to some appreciable degree, within a population. Most DNA is located in the cell nucleus (where it is called nuclear DNA), but a small amount of DNA can also be found in the mitochondria (mtDNA) where it is passed maternally from mothers to their children and is not recombined every generation (as is nuclear DNA), making it more diagnostic for human population studies. Also, the father's Y chromosome passes almost unchanged from father to son.

DNA and Population Genetics

A haplotype is a group of genes derived from DNA that are inherited together from a single parent and a haplogroup is a group of similar haplotypes that share a common ancestor with a single-nucleotide polymorphism mutation. The haplogroups most commonly studied are paternal Y-chromosome (Y-DNA) haplogroups and maternal mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) haplogroups, both of which can be used in determining genetic dispersion in population studies.

Both Lehi's and Ishmael's families are from the Semitic tribe of Joseph who married Asenath, an Egyptian. Mulek, the son of King Zedekiah of the Southern Kingdom of Judah, escaped the destruction of Jerusalem, migrated to the "choice land above all others" (Ether 13:2) and became the people of Zarahemla discovered by King Mosiah. Eventually the Nephites and the people of Zarahemla combined their groups, and sometime later, some of the people of these groups mingled and joined with the Lamanites. Any haplogroup marker that shows a lineage to specific regional origins to these groups of peoples would be important in determining the migrations of those peoples. It is significant that DNA studies have shown that some of the Native American Nations have maternal mtDNA lineages traced to both Egypt and the regions of northern Israel.

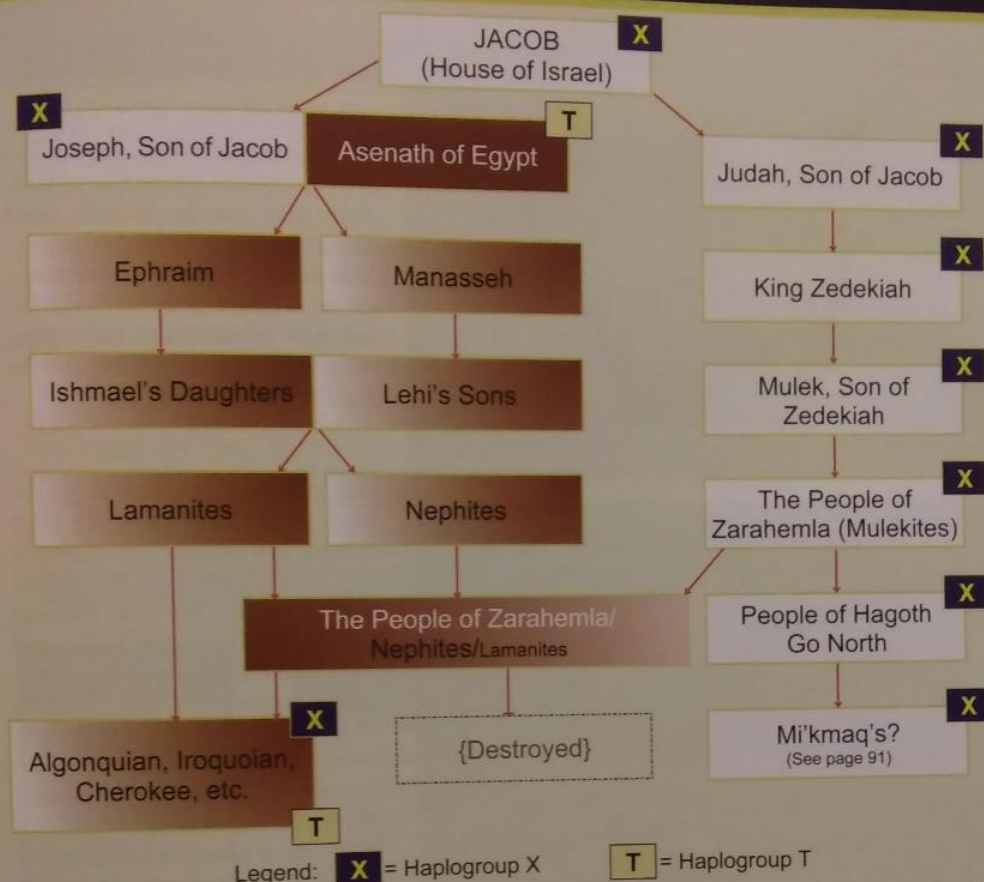
Recent DNA Studies on Native American Populations

"The level of haplogroup T in the Cherokee (Nation) (26.9%) approximates the percentage for Egypt (25%), one of the only lands where T attains a major position among the various mitochondrial lineages. In Egypt, T is three times what it is in Europe.



"Haplogroup X, found throughout the Middle East, has been found in high frequency of Native American tribes throughout the Great Lakes regions. The only other place on earth where haplogroup X is found at an elevated level apart from other American Indian groups like the Ojibwe (Algonquian) is among the Druze in the Hills of Galilee in northern Israel and Lebanon. The work of Shlush et al., "The Druze: A Population Genetic Refugium of the Near East," *PLoS ONE* 3(5): e2105 [2009], demonstrates that this region was in fact the center of the worldwide diffusion of haplogroup X." (Donald N. Yates, *Mitochondrial DNA Lineages in the Cherokee; Egyptian, Greek, Phoenician and Hebrew Origins of Cherokee?*, DNA Consultants, Longmont CO, [August 31, 2009].) Also, recent research suggests, "The mtDNA X2a evidence is more consistent with the Atlantic route and dates suggested by the Solutrean hypothesis and is more parsimonious than the assumption of a single Beringian entry, that assumes retrograde extinction of X in East Eurasia" – Oppenheimer, Steven, et. al., "Solutrean hypothesis: genetics, the mammoth in the room," *World Archaeology* 46(5), October 2014.

POSSIBLE "Book of Mormon" DNA MARKERS



Note: The blending of Mulekite/Nephite/Lamanite peoples are shown throughout the Plates of Mormon. The finding of DNA markers in both Jewish and Egyptian ancestry within Native Americans has been demonstrated and parallels what would be expected within the text of the Book of Mormon. Also, the Mulekites and Lamanites may have mixed with indigenous people, thereby diluting the founding DNA markers. However, "among the Algonquian peoples [haplogroup X] comprises up to 25% of mtDNA types" – "The peopling of the Americas: Genetic ancestry influences health," *Phys. Org* [14 Aug. 2009].
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haplogroup_X_\(mtDNA\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haplogroup_X_(mtDNA)), reference 13.)

When the Winter Olympic games were held in Salt Lake City in 2002, President Gordon B. Hinckley was asked by a reporter if he had a comment about the lack of DNA evidence for the Book of Mormon. He simply responded that all the information wasn't in yet. Eleven years later, in 2013, *National Geographic Magazine* published an article titled: "Great Surprise"—Native Americans Have West Eurasian Origins." The article presents data on a genome found that is related to present-day western Eurasian populations and modern Native Americans, not from East Asia—historically a puzzling finding.
(<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/11/131120-science-native-american-people-migration-siberia-genetics/>)

In the article, ancient DNA researcher Eske Willerslev, of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, stated: "This [DNA] study changes this idea because it shows that a significant minority of Native American ancestry actually derives not from East Asia but from a people related to present-day western Eurasians." Willerslev also said: "It's approximately one-third of the genome, and that is a lot," he added. "So in that regard I think it's changing quite a bit of the history" – Published November 22, 2013. (<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/11/131120-science-native-american-people-migration-siberia-genetics/>)

(DNA illustration: Messer/Woland. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:DNA_structure_and_bases.svg. A. Adenine; B. Thymine; C. Guanine; D. Cytosine. 1. Sugar. Phosphate. Backbone; 2. Base pair; 3. Nitrogenous base)

“HIDDEN CITIES” IN NORTH AMERICA



Roger G. Kennedy
Official Portrait, Dept of the Interior, National Park Service
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Dir14_Kennedy.jpg)

“The Lord told us, in reply that he would make it known to the people that the early inhabitants of *this land* had been just such a people as they were described in the book [of Mormon], and he would lead them to discover the ruins of great cities...” – David Whitmer, Interview with James H. Hart (Richmond, Mo., 21 August 1883), as printed in *Deseret Evening News*, Salt Lake City, Utah [Tue, Sep 4, 1883], page 2; emphasis added.

Roger G. Kennedy, Director Emeritus, Smithsonian National Museum of American History, author, “Hidden Cities, The Discovery and Loss of Ancient North American Civilization,” *The Free Press*, New York, [1995], stated, “Very, very few of us were conscious of these immense cities of a place like Monk’s Mound and Cahokia, opposite St. Louis, which is bigger in its footprint than the Great Pyramid at Giza [city in Egypt]. We didn’t know that.”

Dr. Kennedy coined the phrase, “Hidden Cities,” because he states, “I use the term because these were very big places. There were more people, that we now know, in Cahokia, across from St. Louis, than there were in London or Rome. There were major population centers in what is now Nashville and Cincinnati and Pittsburgh and St. Louis. Few realize that some of the most complex structures of ancient archaeology were built in North America, home of some of the most highly advanced and well organized civilizations in the world.”

In his book, *Hidden Cities*, he writes: “Eighteenth century pioneers passing over the Appalachians into the Ohio Valley wrote often of [the] feeling of being freed of encumbrances, of fresh beginnings. Judging from what they said, and from what has been said of them subsequently, most of them shared the misconception that they were entering an ample emptiness intended to be theirs alone.

“In fact... [t]he western vastness was not empty. Several hundred thousand people were already there, and determined to resist invasion....Even along the headwaters of the Ohio, on the banks of mountain brooks, there were signs of ancient habitation...As the streams grew larger, so did the buildings.

“In the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, tens of thousands of structures were built between six and sixty-six centuries ago. Some, as large as twenty-five miles in extent, required over three million person hours of labor” – Roger G. Kennedy, *Hidden Cities*, 1-2.

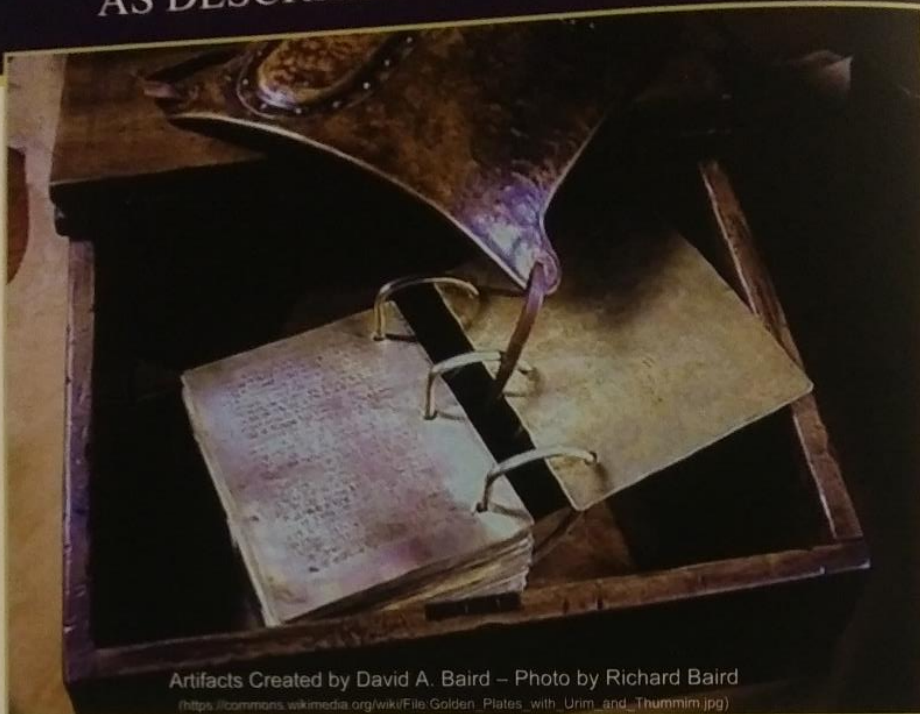


CITY OF CAHOKIA

BY WILLIAM R. ISENINGER

Courtesy of Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

A REPRESENTATION OF THE METAL PLATES AS DESCRIBED BY WITNESSES



Artifacts Created by David A. Baird – Photo by Richard Baird
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Golden_Plates_with_Urim_and_Thummim.jpg)

Weight

“weighing altogether from forty to sixty lbs.” – Martin Harris.

“I was permitted to lift them... They weighed about sixty pounds according to the best of my judgement” – William Smith.

Individual Plate Dimensions

“six inches wide by eight inches long” – Joseph Smith Jr.

“seven inches wide by eight inches in length” – Martin Harris.

“about eight inches long, seven inches wide” – David Whitmer.

Thickness of Each Plate

“of the thickness of plates of tin” – Martin Harris.

“about as thick as parchment” – David Whitmer.

“They seemed to be pliable like thick paper, and would rustle with a metallic [sic] sound when the edges were moved by the thumb, as one does sometimes thumb the edges of a book” – Emma Smith.

(Source: Kirk B. Henriksen, How Witnesses Described the “Gold Plates,”
Journal of Book of Mormon Studies 10/1, BYU, Provo, UT, [2001], 18.)

