

GLYPH

Notes

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A New Book of Mormon Geography Map

by Shirley R. Heater

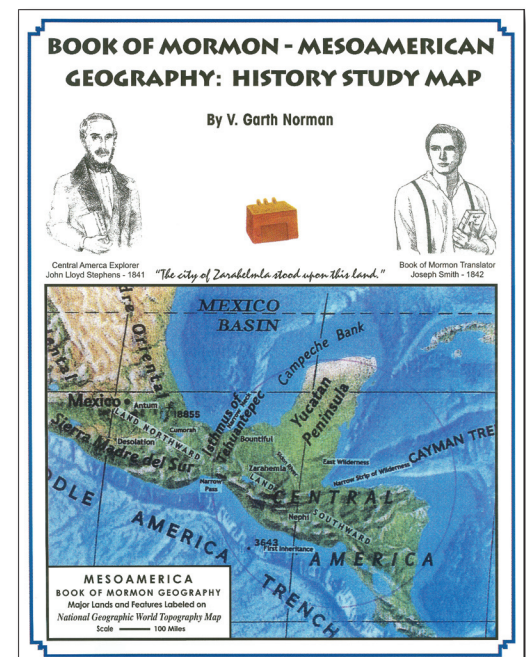
Review of Book of Mormon–Mesoamerican Historic Geography, 3rd ed. and companion map Mesoamerica & Book of Mormon Lands (American Fork, Utah: ARCON, Inc. with Ancient America Foundation, 2008) 42 pp. \$22 (booklet and map)

“Packed with detail and user friendly” is my overall assessment of a new full-color map and information booklet by LDS archaeologist V. Garth Norman, a timely and significant addition to the study of Book of Mormon geography. The map—*Mesoamerica & Book of Mormon Lands*—and companion guide—*Book of Mormon–Mesoamerican Historic Geography*—bring together over 40 years of both scriptural and Mesoamerican research. The author combines in-depth study of The Book of Mormon with his background in archaeology and archaeo-astronomy to present a detailed map on a real landscape, accurately based on USAF topo maps, National Geographic, and archaeological maps. Full-color photos in the study text of relief and topographic maps dramatically demonstrate the varied and rugged terrain of these lands (p. 4). A color fold-out version of the map is inserted at the back of the guide.

Garth Norman is perhaps best known for his field experience in Mesoamerica which resulted in the landmark work *Izapa Sculpture* in two volumes (Norman 1973, 1976). He is in the process of preparing a work on his discovery of the use of two Old World measuring systems in Mesoamerica: the Royal Babylonian cubit (49.5 cm) and the Royal Egyptian cubit (52.5cm) “compelling evidence of significant trans-oceanic culture contacts” (p. 9). He currently serves as president of Ancient America Foundation and director of Archaeological Research Consultants.

MAP FEATURES AND STUDY TEXT

Norman’s 11” x 17” map and study text incorporate several unique features which make this map and guide an invaluable aid to everyday study or serious evaluation. Topographical features are easily seen in relation to sites. Darker green mountains stand out against a lighter green (for general forested) background. Valleys and plains are depicted in beige, and arid regions in brown. Book of Mormon place references are noted by 76 numbered circles, and other symbols are used to indicate archaeological sites (depicted in italics) which correlate



Continued on Page 2

We hope you will enjoy the focus of this issue of *glyph notes*—Book of Mormon geography. This important subject continues to resonate as we consider the people to whom its message is directed in these last days. We also are reminded that as archaeology reveals the past, it is The Book of Mormon which will provide the most accurate and historical interpretation of the physical evidences—that Mesoamerican archaeology is actually the temporal or physical revelation of The Book of Mormon (Heater 2005, 2006). In this issue, a new geography map by V. Garth Norman linking The Book of Mormon to a historical Mesoamerican setting is introduced. We have also included reprints of the 1917 map by Louis Hills, as well as Glenn A. Scott’s *Book of Mormon Lands* (2000).



A New Map (cont. from page 1)

with a Book of Mormon site. Boundaries of the major lands are outlined in a dot-dash line highlighted in yellow. On the reverse is a Gazetteer, listing each of the 76 sites with a description and suggested Mesoamerican correlations.

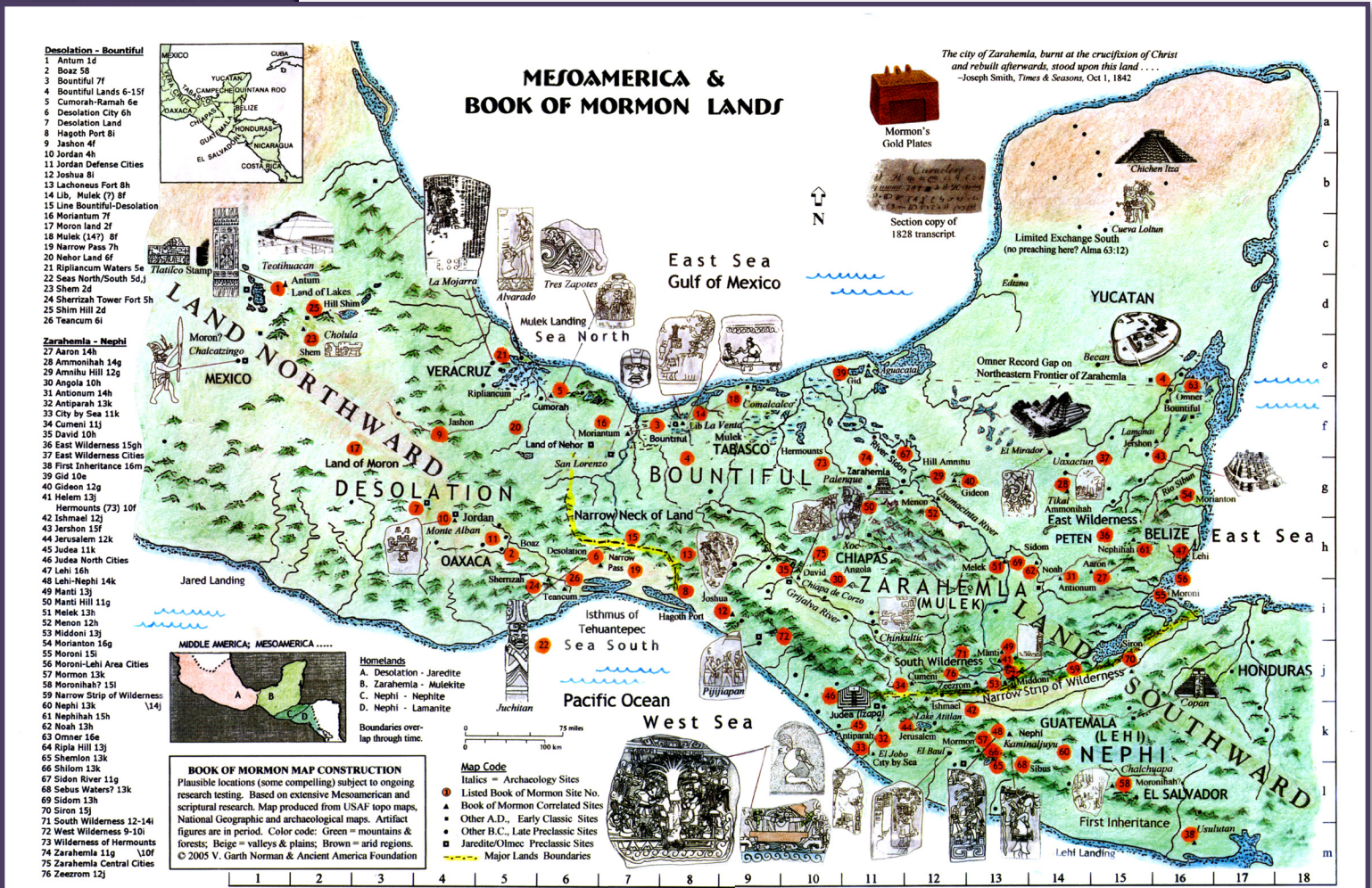
The accompanying study guide with a handy fold-out color map at the back begins with an introductory statement that the map and text open “the real Mesoamerican world of Mormon’s historic record to the student and scholar. It is designed to bring greater understanding and appreciation to this sacred record, and to position the Book of Mormon in its true geographic context as a major resource for constructing Mesoamerican history” (p. ii). In the forward, Bruce W. Warren (LDS archaeologist and author) writes, “Inevitably, a real historic document will link with its past land...Norman persuades us that solving the illusive geography

puzzle to reveal the real world of the Book of Mormon is now possible” (p. v). Background information follows for both Book of Mormon and Mesoamerican studies, as well as the author’s personal and professional pursuits.

Norman points to perhaps the most important geographic reference in The Book of Mormon—Mormon’s geographic details in Alma 13:68-81; 14:1 [22:27-34; 23:1 LDS]* (see also Treat 1992:141-143). This passage is inserted by Mormon (written c. AD 380-384) in the midst of abridging the earlier account of the sons of Mosiah among the Lamanites. Norman identifies a chiasmic pattern covering this entire passage. (A chiasm is an ancient

* Norman’s guide uses LDS versification. I have converted to RLDS first, with LDS in brackets. To use the guide, you may find it useful to consult *The Book of Mormon Chapter & Verse: RLDS-LDS Conversion Table*. Ordering info is given in a separate box in this issue on page 9.

New 11" x 17" full color map by V. Garth Norman correlating Book of Mormon lands and cities on a real landscape. Used by permission.



Hebrew writing form that presents statements that are then repeated in reverse order with the most important point in the center, the turning point.) His chiastic outline of Mormon's insertion includes 18 distinct geographic features and centers on the "small neck of land between the land northward [Desolation] and the land southward [Bountiful]" (v. 77 [32]) (pp. 5-6). The small or narrow neck is the linchpin on which Book of Mormon geography rests, and discussion in the study guide identifying the Narrow Neck as the Isthmus of Tehuantepec firmly establishes The Book of Mormon "as an authentic Mesoamerican chronicle" (p. 1).

"Frequently asked questions" cover such subjects as cataclysmic changes at the time of the crucifixion (do not hinder recognition of Book of Mormon lands), locating the Narrow Neck (Isthmus of Tehuantepec) and Pass (Tehuantepec Pacific coastal plain pass), directions (seas consistent with NW-SE axis and knowledge of correct directions), East Wilderness (Maya Mountains in Belize), and the Sidon River (Usumacinta), to name a few. References and a selected bibliography (grouped by Book of Mormon and archaeological) are followed by an appendix summarizing a history of Book of Mormon/geography studies. The Gazetteer on the back of the separate map is also included in the appendix of the study guide.

RIVER SIDON

The Book of Mormon lands depicted on the map encompass the Mesoamerican area—the evidences for timeline, population groups, archaeological correlations, linguistics, etc., far outweigh a recent resurgence of New York/Great Lakes theories. Many RLDS/LDS Mesoamerican proponents agree on nearly 20 key components or foundational points, including:

- Narrow Neck = Isthmus of Tehuantepec, dividing Land Northward from the Land Southward
- Lehi landed on Pacific coast (most commonly thought to be El Salvador)
- Mulek landed on the Gulf Coast
- Jaredites landed on Pacific coast
- Narrow Strip of Wilderness (NSW) = E/W mountain range along northern edge of Guatemala highlands
- Headwaters of Sidon = Guatemala highlands
- Land of Nephi = Guatemala highlands
- City of Nephi = Kaminaljuyu

You may wonder why I did not include the River Sidon as the Usumacinta in the list of foundational points noted above, since that is most generally accepted within RLDS/Restoration circles. However, among LDS, the Grijalva River is also considered as the Sidon candidate by a noteworthy group of scholars. A history of various Book of Mormon geography studies traces the development of several schools of thought (e.g., Sorenson 1992:7-35; Allen 1989). Norman (2008:17) and Sorenson (1992:32, 87) credit Louis E. Hills as the first to propose the Isthmus of Tehuantepec as the Narrow Neck, as well

as the Usumacinta as River Sidon (see Hills map reprinted in this issue on page 7).

Norman identifies the Usumacinta River as the River Sidon. He states, "The relationship of seven fortified cities along the Narrow Strip of Wilderness (NSW) on the east-west borderline between Nephi and Zarahemla...at the headwaters of the river Sidon... confirms the Usumacinta, not the Grijalva, as the River Sidon" (p. 7).

Additional evidence comes from surviving place names and Biblical archetypes (original pattern or source). Sidon was an ancient Phoenician seaport on the eastern Mediterranean coast. Finding this name in The Book of Mormon may be circumstantial evidence that the Mulekites were transported to the New World by Phoenicians. Naming the river that ran through their new land "Sidon" may have been a way of commemorating that connection (Scott 2002:113-115; Simmons 1981:97-99). No less significant is linguistic evidence from Hebrew and Mayan words. The Hebrew name Tsidon, also Zidon, means "fishery," and the Lacandon Maya's name for the Usumacinta River—*xokla*—means "water of the fish." "*Xokla* is a probable contraction of *Xok-ol-ha*" (p. 13). *Xok*=fish or shark; *ha*=water.

In the account in Mosiah, Limhi sent a search party from the Land of Nephi (in the highlands of Guatemala) to look for the City of Zarahemla. It is presumed that Limhi, whose ancestors came from Zarahemla, would have known the City of Zarahemla was located on the west side of the River Sidon, the only river mentioned in The Book of Mormon. But there are actually two major rivers in the area—the Usumacinta and the Grijalva. Each begins its journey with headwaters close together in the highlands of Guatemala and flow in a parallel northerly direction descending down to the lowlands before emptying into the Gulf of Mexico. It appears that Limhi's scouts got lost because they followed the wrong river—implying they must have followed the Grijalva, rather than the Usumacinta (p. 8; see also Scott 2002:95,127; Simmons 1981:117 "wrong turn"). In tracing a proposed route, it is suggested their journey would have led them down into the lowlands near the Narrow Neck and possibly encountered the Jaredite city of Lib (the Olmec city of San Lorenzo? See Norman 1983; Pratt 2007).

BOUNTIFUL & OTHER BIBLICAL/BOOK OF MORMON/MESOAMERICAN LANGUAGE LINKS

I was excited to read of Norman's study of Bountiful in The Book of Mormon which links biblical Hebrew *Tob* (*shoa*) and Chorti Mayan *Tabasco* because I recalled a discussion in 1990 while at Zarahemla Research Foundation about the meaning of Bountiful and Desolation, discovering the Hebrew word *tob* or *tov* for bountiful (ZRF Staff 1992:148). Norman asks, "what is the chance that it is purely accidental that the land of Bountiful, correlated with Tabasco, could have a geographic archetype in Palestine with a name meaning 'bountiful,' and then to

Continued on Page 4

A New Map (cont. from page 3)

find that the Hebrew words for bountiful match the pre-Columbian Indian name meaning ‘bountiful,’ which is Tabasco?” (p. 11). Tabasco, a state in Mexico, is located along the Gulf Coast south of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec with the Usumacinta River flowing north through it to the Gulf of Mexico and is a plausible identification for ancient Bountiful (the Land, albeit a portion). (See also Norman 1995 and 2006.)

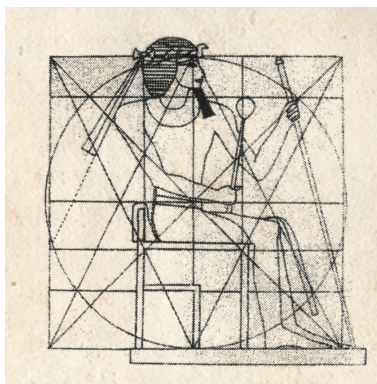
He further tantalizes us with surviving place names of 16 biblical/Book of Mormon and Mesoamerican language correlations (pp. 11-12). Also, preliminary results reveal 20 additional Book of Mormon/Hebrew place names survive in Nahuatl with corresponding meanings (pp. 12-13).

CITY OF ZARAHEMLA

Norman places the City of Zarahemla in the area of Palenque. His Gazetteer notes relate that “this region with Late Preclassic ceramics and the unexcavated large mound sites qualifies.” In contrast, Yaxchilán has also been suggested as possibly the capital City of Zarahemla, based upon its double Emblem Glyph (used together simultaneously), one of which was identified as Muluc (Simmons & Treat 1984). In spite of recent skepticism by scholars about the interpretation of the Yaxchilán glyph (Smith 2007), Glenn Scott maintains his position of the association with the City of Zarahemla, primarily because it is the only (known) site to employ two Emblem Glyphs simultaneously (personal communication). It should also be noted that the original decipherment of the base glyph as Muluc harkens back to the day sign of the same name—recorded by Bishop DeLanda from the Maya living in the sixteenth century (referenced in Smith 2007). However, Palenque also has two Emblem Glyphs (Coe and Stone 2003:69) but they are not used together. The double Emblem Glyph at Yaxchilán containing “Muluc” lends some weight to its position. Neither Yaxchilán nor Palenque has yet been explored into the time depths required for the City of Zarahemla so neither can be ruled out. We eagerly await new evidences as archaeologists continue to explore deeper levels in these areas back into the Preclassic.

OLD WORLD CULTURAL TRAITS AND ARTIFACTS

As evidences accumulate linking the Mesoamerica area with Middle and Near Eastern origins, scholars may soon no longer be able to ignore or dismiss contact as accidental or of no consequence. This subject is treated seriously in the study guide and is of particular



The Egyptian Cubit, measuring 52.5 cm., is also found on Izapa Stela 89.

interest to Garth—originating with his fieldwork of Izapa sculpture in 1976. His discovery of the Royal Babylonian and Royal Egyptian cubits as standard measures in Mesoamerican sculpture and architecture can be described as nothing less than earth-shaking! After presenting his findings at two international symposiums in 1985, publication of his paper was blocked by isolationist reviewers. He continued to accumulate “empirical” data (based on observation) finding additional evidence that the usage spanned over two thousand years throughout Mesoamerica, beginning with the “Olmec (Jaredite) civilization carvings, continued through Izapan (Nephite) civilization, and persisted down through the Classic Maya (Lamanite) era to Aztec times....” Since that time he has found similar usage of geometry and design tools “on both sides of the Atlantic” and is in the process of preparing this information for publication (p. 9).

In addition to units of measure from the Middle East, there are a vast number of shared traits with Book of Mormon lands, including (only a sampling to whet your appetite):

- Temples for monthly and seasonal religious agricultural festivals
- Lunar-solar calendar for ritual practices like the Law of Moses
- Sacrificial altars in temple centers
- Portable altars with horns at four corners

and many more (p. 9)! You will also find numerous references with hundreds of traits of not only contact, but Middle/Near Eastern origins.

Significant as well is a section entitled, “Book of Mormon Artifacts with Near Eastern Origins,” which I found especially enlightening. Following a discussion of how archaeology rigidly evaluates evidences, he suggests “that open testing of the Book of Mormon as a real history from ancient Mesoamerica has the best chance for success in breaking down the academic barriers of isolationism” (p. 20). Selected results of his accumulated research reveal remarkable details side-by-side in illustrations depicting figurines (fringe borders on garment hems are a Jewish trait); incense burner pedestal stands (depicting the same style used in Israel by followers of the Mosaic Law)

and squared stands with horns on the four corners (unique to Law of Moses worshippers); stone stelae with round altars; cylinder stamps; and geometry and measures (pp. 22-25).

Space does not permit a detailed analysis of all the material covered on the map and in the


guide—that would be a fun and productive exercise either individually or in a class setting (see Pratt 2007).† This brief review serves to introduce you to a new resource while pointing out a couple of the more interesting and significant subjects.

Ongoing and future studies will continue to flesh out the physical setting with archaeological/historical details on specific topics—subject to interpretation by The Book of Mormon. While many of the places on *Mesoamerica & Book of Mormon Lands* are easily embraced, others fall into the category of “tentative” based on the current state of archaeological resources, ready to “be refined and expand[ed] with ongoing research” (p. ii).

I recommend Norman’s map for your personal study—test it as you study the internal relationships described in The Book of Mormon. The final thought I would leave with you are Garth’s words: “Hopefully we are at the dawn of a new era of ongoing research discovery that can bring the real world of the Book of Mormon into the full light of day” (p. 20).

†For a more in-depth analysis of various aspects of Norman’s map, consult “Mormon’s Map Puzzle Solved?” by John P. Pratt. (<http://www.ancientamerica.org/>).

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Glenn A. Scott's *Voices from the Dust* and *Book of Mormon Lands Map*

by Shirley R. Heater

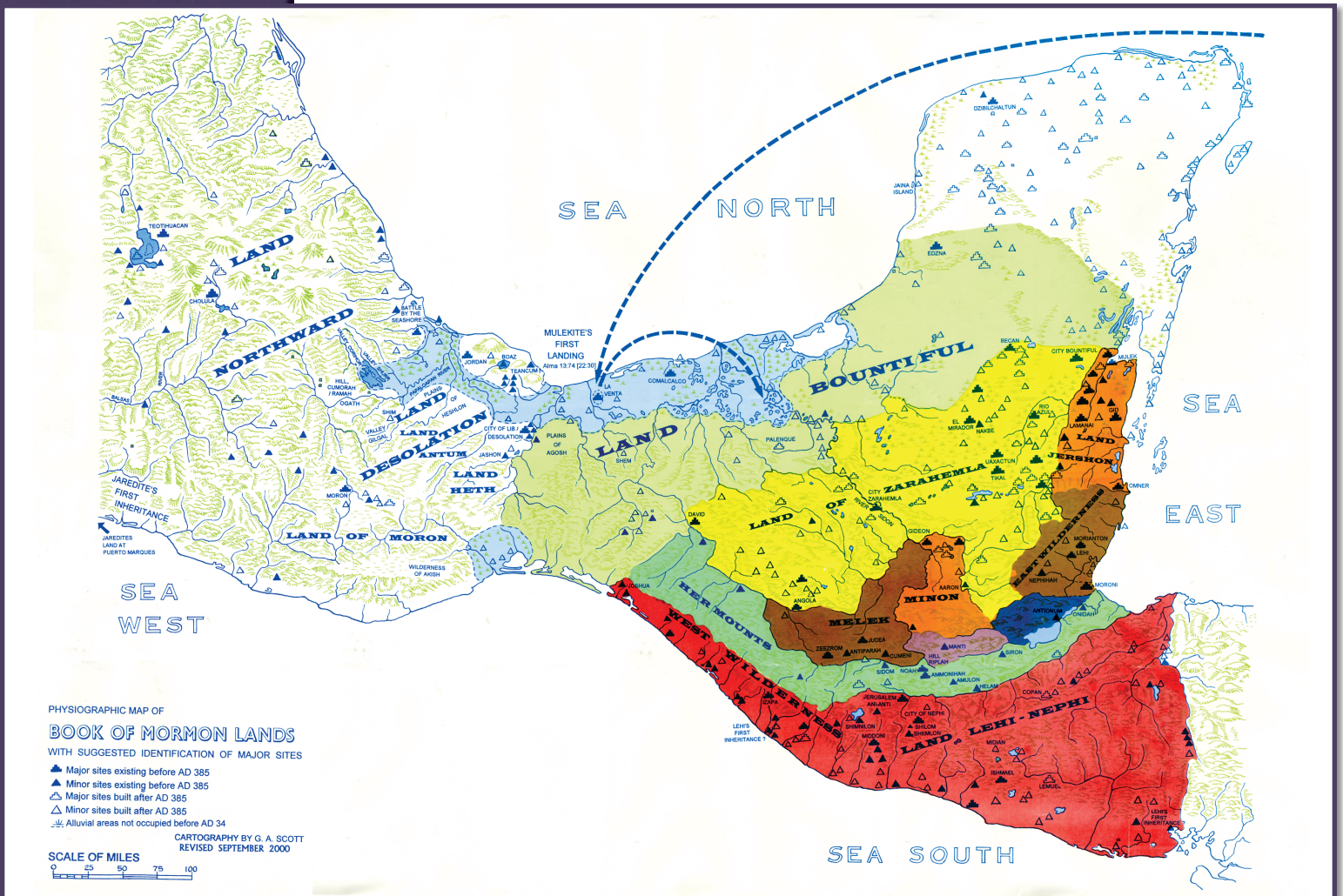
*F*irst published in 1996 and now in its third edition (2002), *Voices from the Dust: New Light on an Ancient American Record* by Glenn A. Scott, Jr., is a comprehensive work synthesizing *Book of Mormon* history with both Old World and New World evidences from recognized authorities. As a companion to his book, Glenn's *Book of Mormon Lands* is a generous 24" x 36" map.

Glenn brings a long and unique background to the development of both the book and map. After graduating from Graceland College in 1939, he first began teaching *The Book of Mormon* on a shared basis, leading to a life-long devotion sharing his expanding knowledge that has now reached nearly 70 years. He celebrates his 90th birthday in August and continues to conduct a Sunday morning adult class

using his book as the text.

The book and map bring together not only Glenn's years of teaching *The Book of Mormon*, but a degree in Mesoamerican archaeology (the field is actually anthropology) achieved after the completion of his career first in advertising and then engineering/construction. After retiring in 1982, he enrolled at the University of Kansas in 1985, graduating

A physiographic map by Glenn A. Scott with lands depicted in color. Used by permission.



in 1990. His art skills have contributed to his ability to do the map cartography, as well as illustrations in his book. Many of his drawings have also appeared in numerous articles in *glyph notes* and *The Witness*. Glenn serves as Vice-President of PSI and has served on the board of The Book of Mormon Roundtable.

Book of Mormon Lands, set in Mesoamerica, is a physiographic map which means the physical features on the land are depicted by markings for mountains, hills, and plains, as well as alluvial areas which were underwater or saturated and unoccupied before AD 34. These features are achieved by using contour markings for mountains and hills in a light green. The bright colors marking the major Book of Mormon lands, which provide instant recognition of the extent and boundaries of each, set this map apart.

The use of symbols, before and after AD 385, allows quick, at-a-glance identification of major and minor sites. While most cities and lands on the map are Book of Mormon

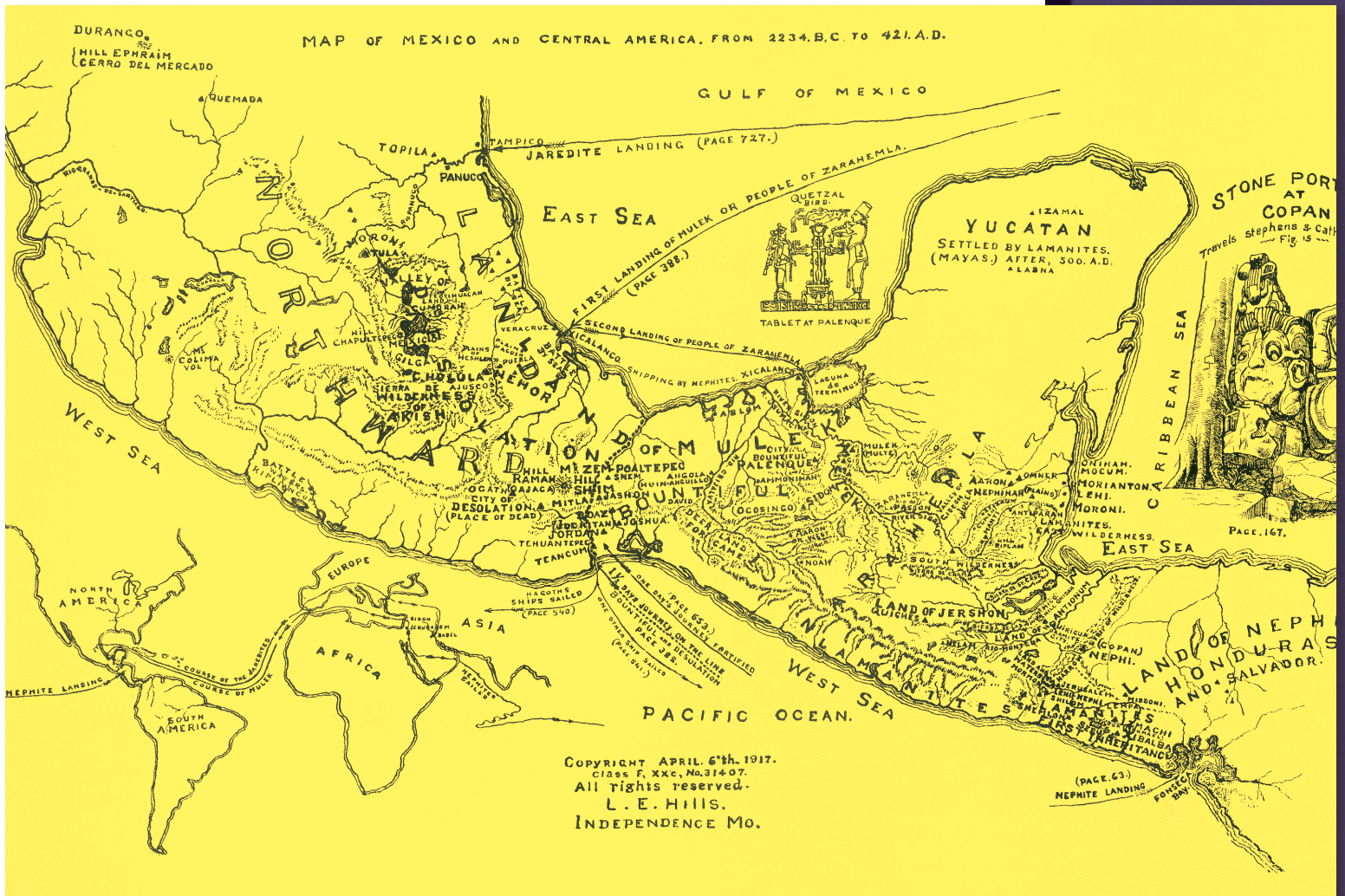
in origin, a few archaeological sites are also included.

Scott's hardback book of 248 pages includes a 16-page section of full-color plates and features a two-page spread map of Book of Mormon lands similar to the larger map. Profusely illustrated with black and white photos as well as drawings, Glenn explains that the "text includes explanatory commentary, arranged chronologically, and written in easy to read conversational language ...with evidence from recognized authorities in such widely diverse fields as anthropology, archaeology, epigraphy, ethnology, genetics, geography, history, and linguistics" (p. 1b).

Glenn hopes "that this book will motivate you to read The Book of Mormon itself, because only in the complete original (with its Hebrew syntax and quaint idioms), can you fully appreciate the sweep and adventure, the wisdom and inspiration, found in that remarkable ancient record!"



Louis E. Hills published his first map of proposed Book of Mormon lands on April 6, 1917. His was the first to designate the Isthmus of Tehuantepec as the Narrow Neck of Land, as well as the Usumacinta as River Sidon.



My "Ideal" Map

by Shirley R. Heater

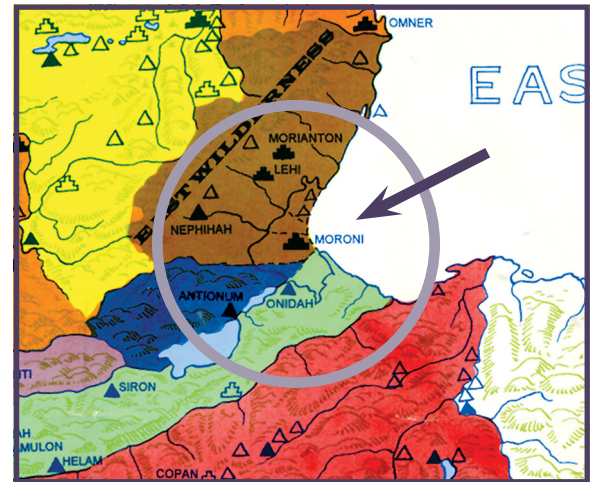
*G*rowing up I was privileged to have great Book of Mormon teachers. During my high school years (in the 1950s), one such teacher was Con Booton who taught us using a series of maps he had created to help us visualize the relationship between the lands and cities. The use of these maps on which to project the events and movements of The Book of Mormon peoples made a big impact on enlivening the story action in our studies!

In fact, in the early '90s when I prepared a small set of maps for classes given by Ray and Mary Lee Treat, I was influenced by Con's type of maps (Treat 1991).¹ My maps included: Alma's missionary journey in the Land of Zarahemla (p. 19),² missionary journeys of the sons of Mosiah (p. 19), a warfare map of lands and cities in Alma 20-30 [43-63] (p. 20), as well as the Nephites final days AD 321-400 (p. 28). Included in their presentations and handout was a map prepared by Sean Duff, a trained geographer, which detailed topographical features of actual mountain ranges, rivers and lowlands, with designations of the larger lands of The Book of Mormon (p. vii). (See also Sorenson 1996 which contains a series of individual gray scale maps with beautifully detailed physiography.)

The type of maps prepared by Con Booton and myself is called "internal," in which the places are designated in relation to each other based on the information given in The Book of Mormon and not necessarily linked to a specific archaeological site. The exercise in preparing those maps, as well as reviewing the two "external" maps for this issue of *glyph notes*, reminded me of my "ideal" map. (An external map attempts to place the events as recorded in The Book of Mormon on a real landscape, ultimately with links to historical sites which fit the requirements. For additional examples of external treatment, see Sorenson 1996; internal, Sorenson 2000 and Simmons 1981.)

The ideal map I envision would overcome limitations that are naturally a part of any one map—namely the need

to condense over 3,400 years of history and three groups of people through time and events in lands with shifting borders.



Scott's map (above left) shows the Nephite city of Moroni on land while Norman's map (above right) shows Moroni underwater in the harbor. An ideal map showing the time periods before and after the destruction would resolve circumstances such as this.

An example is the City of Moroni which was sunk during the crucifixion destruction. Glenn Scott's map shows the position where it would have been on land before the destruction, while Garth Norman's map shows it in a water harbor representing the fact that it had sunk. In this instance, maps showing the time periods before and after the destruction would resolve the two circumstances. Another concern is correlating Book of Mormon places with archaeological sites—mixing the two with the same symbols can be confusing. Norman solves this in part by the use of italics for archaeology sites to set them apart from Book of Mormon places, as well as symbols to distinguish Olmec/Jaredite

1. These presentations are available on tape, accompanied by a handout which includes these maps. Ordering info is given in a separate box in this issue on page 9.

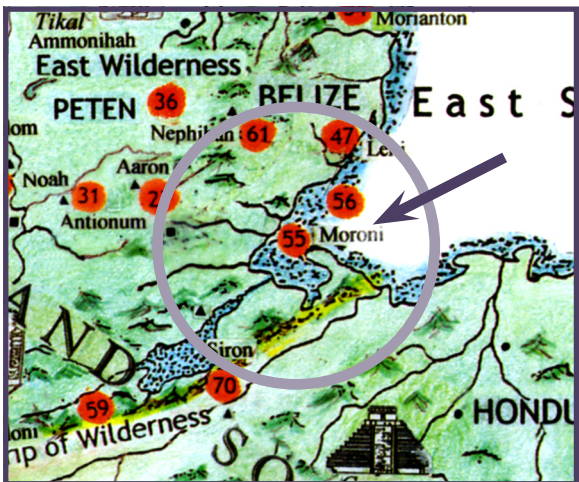
2. Page number in handout.

The ideal map would overcome limitations of condensing over 3,400 years of history and three groups of people through time and events in lands with shifting borders.



from later Preclassic (Book of Mormon Mulekite/Nephite/Lamanite) sites.

The reality of my ideal map became clearer when several years ago I saw such a map—a Bible map booklet that left a lasting impression. What made it different was that it included a basic map of Israel with a series of transparent overlays depicting chronological time periods and events in color. I always thought this would be an excellent means to merge The Book of Mormon history (the internal account) with the physical setting, as well as spotlight places and events correlated with archaeological evidences/sites from the appropriate time period—and would resolve the issues I mentioned above. It would be



possible with a series of maps to highlight the major lands in color (similar to Scott's) by time periods. Such a map must answer all questions possible based on the record—a merging of both internal requirements and external evidences, a blend perhaps of the best of Norman's and Scott's maps. Maybe someday...?

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ORDERING INFORMATION

Material mentioned in the articles in this issue of glyph notes may be ordered from the following sources:

V. Garth Norman's Map & Study Text

Prices include shipping (US first/Foreign second):

- *The Definitive Mesoamerican Book of Mormon Lands Map*
Map only, in tube \$12/\$17
- *Book of Mormon-Mesoamerican Historic Geography: An Introduction to Book of Mormon History*
42-page study text with Annotated Scriptural Gazetteer & Lexicon Notes. Booklet & Map in tube \$22/\$27

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Glenn A. Scott's Map & Book

Prices + shipping:

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(folded in envelope) \$5.00 + \$3.75;
rolled in tube + \$4.50
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For ease in converting RLDS-LDS verse references:

- *The Book of Mormon Chapter & Verse: RLDS-LDS Conversion Table*
\$3.00 + \$3.00 shipping

For Sean Duff's topo map and internal maps of Book of Mormon events:

- *Survey of the Covenants and Principles of the Book of Mormon*
Handout and tapes, \$20.00 + \$3.00 shipping

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If you are not connected to the Internet and would like copies of Garth Norman's article, "A Mesoamerican Place Name for Bountiful?" and John P. Pratt's detailed review, "Mormon's Map Puzzle Solved!" please send a self-addressed-stamped enveloped with 58 cents postage to:

Shirley R. Heater
Quetzal Archaeology Center
PO Box 266
Oak Grove, MO 64075



What made the map of Israel different was it combined a basic map with a series of transparent overlays depicting chronological time periods and events in color.



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Walk where Jesus walked!**

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

We arrive at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv. From there we will drive north along the Mediterranean Sea, visiting Caesarea and Mt. Carmel where Elijah challenged King Ahab. Then on to Megiddo which shows 20 levels of civilization. Moving on to the shores of the Sea of Galilee, we stay in the modern city of Tiberius. In Galilee we visit sites such as Tel Dan, Caesarea Philippi where Peter recognized the Christ and Capernaum when many of Christ's miracles were done. We visit the Jordan River, Cana, Nazareth and the Mount of Beatitudes, followed by a visit to a Kibbutz and a relaxing boat cruise on the Sea of Galilee. Leaving Tiberius we will visit Beit-Shean, the most magnificent archeological site in Israel displaying astounding Roman ruins, then head for Jerusalem.

We do a tour of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered, as well as a visit to Masada, the mountain top fortress. In Jerusalem we visit Mount Moriah, Mount of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, House of Caiaphas, Wailing Wall and the Rabbinical Tunnels, the Judgment Hall of Pilate, Pool of Bethesda, Gihon Springs, and walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel and see Stephen's Gate. We will walk the Via Dolorosa on our way to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Garden Tomb and Southern Wall Excavations where Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost. And yes, a visit to Bethlehem.

More information coming soon, or call Lyle Smith, 816 838-5192 or E-mail him at: smith.lyle@usa.net



Sponsored and organized by Lyle and Sherrie Smith

PROPOSED ITINERARY:

Ketchikan, Sitka, Icy Strait point, Juneau, Glacier Bay, Prince William Sound, College Fjord, Inside Passage and more.

Fortress-like glaciers • Treasured National Parks • Diverse and magnificent wildlife

As we travel to a new area of the world, we will hold classes about the geography of The Book of Mormon, an exciting topic of study. Classes are always optional.

More information coming soon, or call Lyle Smith, 816 838-5192 or E-mail him at: smith.lyle@usa.net

Chichicastenango • Quirigua • Tikal • Uaxactun * Antigua • Copan • and much more...

The Land Southward

23rd Annual Book of Mormon Archaeological Tour, February 6 – 16, 2009



Sponsored By: **Pre-Columbian Studies Institute**, Don Beebe, President
Tour Presented by PSI Tours, LLC, Lyle and Sherrie Smith, Tour Leaders

REGISTRATION FORM

Our 23rd annual tour goes to Guatemala, land of eternal spring and *alma de la tierra*, or soul of the earth. We will explore archaeological ruins, museums, and the ancient towns of Antigua and Chichicastenango. A large newly excavated site, Yaxha, will be included in the itinerary. Many will remember it as the venue for the filming of the television show *Survivor* in 2005. And of course, Tikal, Uaxactun, Copan, Kaminaljuyu and Quirigua are also in the itinerary. Classes will be held in the evenings. And, not only will we have fun together, we'll worship together.

Join us for an adventure you won't forget and let The Book of Mormon come alive for you! BUT, remember! We travel where the unpredictable happens. It's part of the adventure! Questions call Lyle Smith, 816 229-5192 or Don Beebe, 816 796-4094.

COSTS: **Tour cost per person — \$2,895**
Single Supplement — additional \$600

INCLUDES: All airfare from Kansas City; all ground transportation; hotel accommodations based on two persons in a double room; breakfasts and dinners in Guatemala/Honduras. Entrance fees, service charges, and tips.

NOT INCLUDED: Personal items such as a-la-carte orders, room service, laundry, and meals and other items not specifically mentioned as included.

LIQUOR or TOBACCO: Please refrain from using either when our group is together.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: **\$500 deposit per person due ASAP!**
Deposits refundable until Dec. 1, 2008, when final payment is due.

***** PASSPORTS REQUIRED *****

RESPONSIBILITY: *Pre-Columbian Studies Institute, PSI Tours, LLC and/or Don and Pat Beebe and /or Lyle and Sherrie Smith act only as agents for other tourist agencies, and accept no responsibility, or shall not become liable for delays, losses, damage or injury to persons or property, theft, mechanical defects or failure of any equipment, or substitution of hotel or carrier equipment beyond their control, and shall not be liable for any additional expenses incurred thereby.*

**Please photocopy this page, fill in, sign, and mail with your deposit to:
Don Beebe, PSI, PO Box 477, Independence, MO 64051**

PLEASE FILL IN INFORMATION

Name/s: _____

Full Address: _____

Telephone: () _____

Email: _____

I would like to share a room with _____

PAYMENT: Make checks out to: **PSI Tours, LLC**
Deposit of \$500 (each person) is enclosed. Deposit total is \$ _____

Payment of tour costs described here-in, and signature below, signify acceptance on the part of the purchaser to the limits of liabilities.

***** EACH TRAVELER MUST SIGN *****

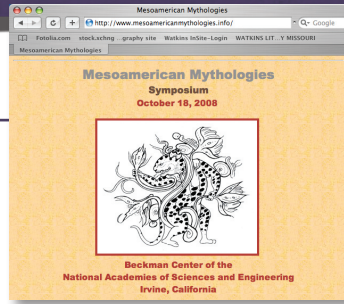
Signature

Signature

Date

GLYPH *Clips*

Mesoamerican Mythologies Symposium
October 18, 2008
Beckman Center of the National Academies of Sciences and Engineering
Irvine, California



This one-day conference brings together some of the foremost scholars to present their research on and knowledge about ancient Mesoamerican mythological belief systems and to discuss how these mythologies are reflected in their art, architecture, and sacred texts. Guest speakers include: Karl Taube, Michael Coe, Wendy Ashmore, David Stuart, John Pohl, and Leonardo Lopez Lujan. For more information and registration form see <http://www.mesoamericanmythologies.info/>.

Coming Soon by Request


2008 Series of Book of Mormon Classes

Theme: More Things You Didn't Know About The Book of Mormon

Location: South Crysler Restoration Branch Fellowship Hall
 16101 E. Salisbury Road
 Independence, MO 64050

Time: 7:00 pm

When: Tuesday evenings, beginning September 9 and running through November 11, 2008

Speakers and topics are being finalized as this issue goes to press. Watch for bulletin announcements in your local branch or contact Don Beebe at (816) 796-4094 or Lyle Smith at (816) 229-5192. 

PSI Calendar

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9

Every Tuesday
More Things You Didn't Know About The Book of Mormon
 South Crysler
 Restoration Branch
 Fellowship Hall, 7:00 pm
 Independence, Missouri

Consult your pastor or church bulletin for topics and presenters.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

Annual Book of Mormon Day
 Oakwood Restoration Branch
 Oakwood, Michigan

FEBRUARY 6-16, 2009

PSI Annual Book of Mormon Tour
 Guatemala and Honduras 

INVITE PSI INTO YOUR BRANCH FOR AN EXPERIENCE THAT WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH.

Contact:

Don Beebe at
 816-796-4094

Lyle Smith at
 816-229-5192

Or email:

Patricia.Beebe@ gmail.com



Macaws at Copan, Honduras

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INSIDE:

A New Book of Mormon Geography Map

Glenn A. Scott's Voices from the Dust and Book of Mormon Lands Map

My "Ideal" Map

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