

Looking in the Wrong Places

The Reasons Why Hill Vigia or other hills west of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are not suitable for the hill Cumorah:

- Hill Cumorah is in the land northward and associated with the north countries. Hill Vigia is west of a number of proposed narrow neck locations as well as most other Book of Mormon locations. The word west or east is never used in the book of Mormon when long distant travel is mentioned.
- Settlements in the area west of Isthmus of Tehuantepec or the “first landing” site do not match the Tower of Babel time frame. The Olmec’s emerged around 1200 BC, 1000 years after the Tower of Babel. It is true there are some minor non-Olmec settlements in the area, however, they are extremely limited and don’t come close in correlating with the population requirements of the Jaredites. In addition, they fail to match the statement in the first chapter of Ether where is declares that the Jaredite nation will be a “great nation, none greater”.
- The Olmecs do not come close to qualifying as a great nation, “none greater”. Whereas the Maya do.
- The only Olmec city that was abandoned at the time of the Olmec war was La Venta. San Lorenzo was abandoned around 900 BC and the other small Olmec sites appear to have disappeared some time after the final war. The book of Ether implies that here was widespread destruction at the time of the war. The led to calling the destruction the “land of Desolation”.
- La Venta had around 18,000 residents, including, surrounding farm lands, at the time of its demise. It does not begin to match the millions that were associated with the war.
- Within a few hundred years the Jaredite lands were resettled with Nephites that were fleeing the Lamanites. There is no evidence that La Venta or any other lands were resettled.
- The rulers from Teotihuacan were in control of the area during the time prior to the final Nephite war. This does not correlate with events of the Book of Mormon.
- There is no suitable “narrow neck of land” that has a fortification with a narrow passage way.
- The Olmecs were from Asia. The Jaredites were from the Middle East.
- The location of Cumorah should conform to the recent hypothetical model outlined buy BYU staff. This model is in harmony with numerous others who support an upright “hour glass” hypothetical models.
- Many of those that are working the area west of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are satisfied with arbitrarily assigning locations without any archeological evidence. If they (Nephites or Jaredites) existed at a location there is usually evidence that someone actually lived there during the appropriate time frame. If there is no evidence then the model is probably faulty.
- Omer went eastward to the seashore. The Gulf of Mexico is north of the proposed hill Cumorah (Vigia).
- Hill Vigia and others lack the reasons why both the Nephites and Jaredites should fight both of their battles in the same place.