

Narrow Neck of Land

Ever since Joseph Smith's day, the location of the Narrow Neck has been on the minds of those searching for Book of Mormon lands. The Narrow Neck of Land was certainly on the mind of Joseph Smith just two years prior to his martyrdom. During that time, he was editor of the *Times and Seasons* and the following excerpt was printed.

They [the Nephites] lived about the narrow neck of land, which now embraces Central America.
Times and Seasons, vol. 3 (November 1841–October 1842), Vol. 3 No. 21 Sept 1, 1842.

Numerous scholars have made extensive studies on the Book of Mormon lands and especially an effort to locate the Narrow Neck of Land and almost without exception they have come up with a hypothetical configuration that is similar to an upright hour glass. See a sampling of some of them below:



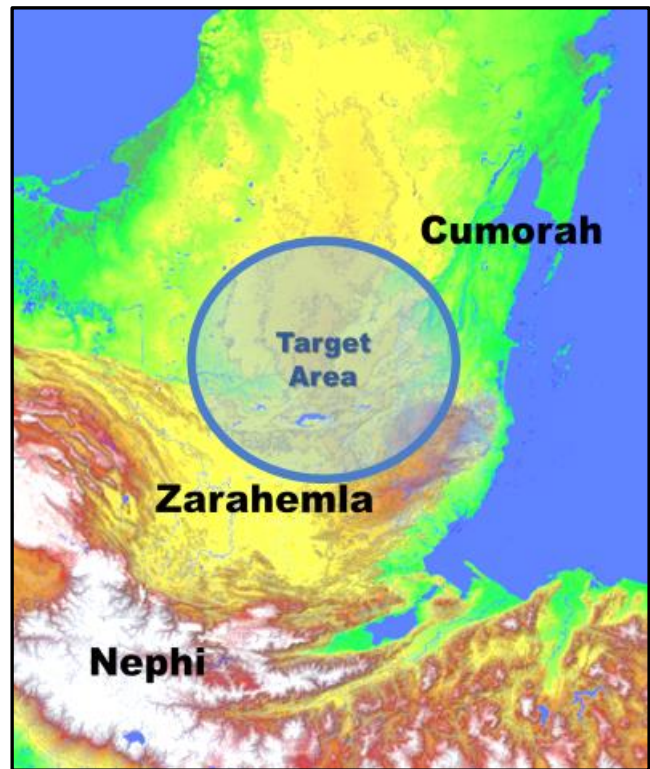
The most recent effort to create a hypothetical model is 2017 model established by the religion department at BYU. They too have determined that it must be similar to an hour glass.

There were numerous attempts in the last century to apply these hypothetical models to a specific land mass but it has never reached a consensus. In fact, the scholars are divided today more today than they have ever been. There are even some scholars that are saying that the Book of Mormon is a spiritual fantasy. So, it goes without saying that it is imperative that this problem be solved.

It is now obvious that a narrow neck of land in the traditional sense (See map to the right) does not exist. However, the one that seems certain is that it is somewhere in the Mesoamerica, therefore, it has to be in an obscure location.



One way to find the Narrow Neck of Land is to first identify other major segments of the Book of Mormon Lands. To wit, if the lands of Nephi, Zarahemla and Cumorah can be found with a high level of confidence, then a target area can be established, and at that point an intensive investigation can focus on that target area to find the Narrow Neck of Land. As set forth in other papers put forward by the proponents of the Pasion River Model, the lands of Nephi, Zarahemla and Cumorah have been established with a high level of confidence. These locations conform to over one hundred and fifty criteria taken from the Book of Mormon text.



If the Narrow Neck of Land cannot be found in this target area, the credibility of the proposed locations of Nephi, Zarahemla and Cumorah would certainly be suspect. However, if a potential Narrow Neck of Land is found, then a major effort should be unleashed to not only fully verify the location of the Narrow Neck of Land but to also review and refine the claims made about the lands of Nephi, Zarahemla and the Cumorah.

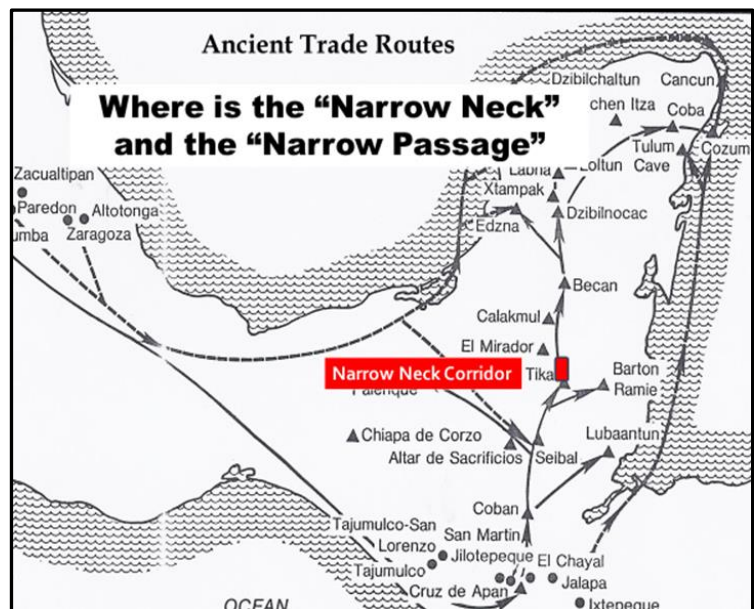
For a review of the Book of Mormon scriptures that discuss the Narrow Neck of Land, please see Addendum B.

The following segments will establish a credible location for the Narrow Neck of Land:

- **Trade routes provide initial evidences of a narrow neck of land:**

Anciently, the travelers between the Yucatan and Guatemala were forced into a single travel route that was a result of massive water systems that stretched toward the Gulf of Mexico on west side and toward the Caribbean Ocean on the east side. These water systems were primarily lakes, wetlands, river etc. Even to this day there is no road that connects the northern boundaries of Guatemala to Mexico.

If the Narrow Neck of Land existed within the proposed target area is likely It would be along the ancient trade route.



- **Understanding the meaning of the word sea as found in the Book of Mormon is important:**

Lehi and his people came from the Holy Land, a place where bodies of water, both fresh and salty were considered as seas. This is illustrated in the two prominent bodies of water in the land of Israel such as the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Therefore, when they made reference to any body of water whether it was an inland lake or an ocean it was referred to as a sea. If the bodies of water on both sides of the Narrow Neck of land were lakes, even small lakes, they could have called them seas. It is interesting to note that in the 1830 version of the Book of Mormon the seas associated with the Narrow Neck were capitalized, such as the West Sea and East Sea. On the other hand, essentially all references to the surrounding oceans were uncapitalized such as sea to north, east and west.

- **It's important to establish the fact that there are bodies of water on both ends of the Narrow Neck:**

Based on the text of the Book of the Mormon, there has to be bodies of water on the east and west of the narrow neck.

*Alma 50:34 ...and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, **by the sea, on the west and on the east.***

This language makes it clear that there is a sea on the east and the west of the Narrow Neck of Land. There are other scriptures that discuss the seas around the narrow neck of land and strongly imply that there is a sea on both sides of the narrow neck:

Alma 22:33 ...the Nephites had inhabited the land Bountiful, even from the east unto the west sea, and thus the Nephites... had hemmed in the Lamanites on the south... that they might not overrun the land northward.

Helaman 4:7 they did fortify ...from the west sea , even unto the east: it being a day's journey for a Nephite...

Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land

Alma 22:32...the land of Nephi and the land of Zarahemla were nearly surrounded by water, there being a small neck of land...

Some have argued that the word "east" in Helaman 4:7 does not say "east sea", therefore, there is no east sea. This interpretation ignores the basic structure of English and ignores the context of other scriptures, specifically the above Alma 50:34. The Pasion River model has adhered to the belief that there are a sea on both sides of the narrow neck and that belief has led to other corroborating evidences that further solidifies the accuracy of the Pasion River model.

- **The Narrow Neck of Land was fortified. According to the Book of Mormon text the entire width of the Narrow Neck was fortified:**

The length of the Narrow Neck was a day of a Nephite, therefore, around 10 to 20 Km in length. This would have been a massive structure and would be visible today.

Scriptures that are associated with the fortification of the Narrow Neck of Land:

Alma 52:9-10 And he also sent orders unto him that he should fortify the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward

Helaman 4:7 And there they did fortify against the Lamanites, from the west sea, even unto the east; it being a day's journey for a Nephite, on the line which they had fortified and stationed their armies to defend their north country.

Helaman 4:7 ...they did fortify against the Lamanites. From the west sea, even unto the east...

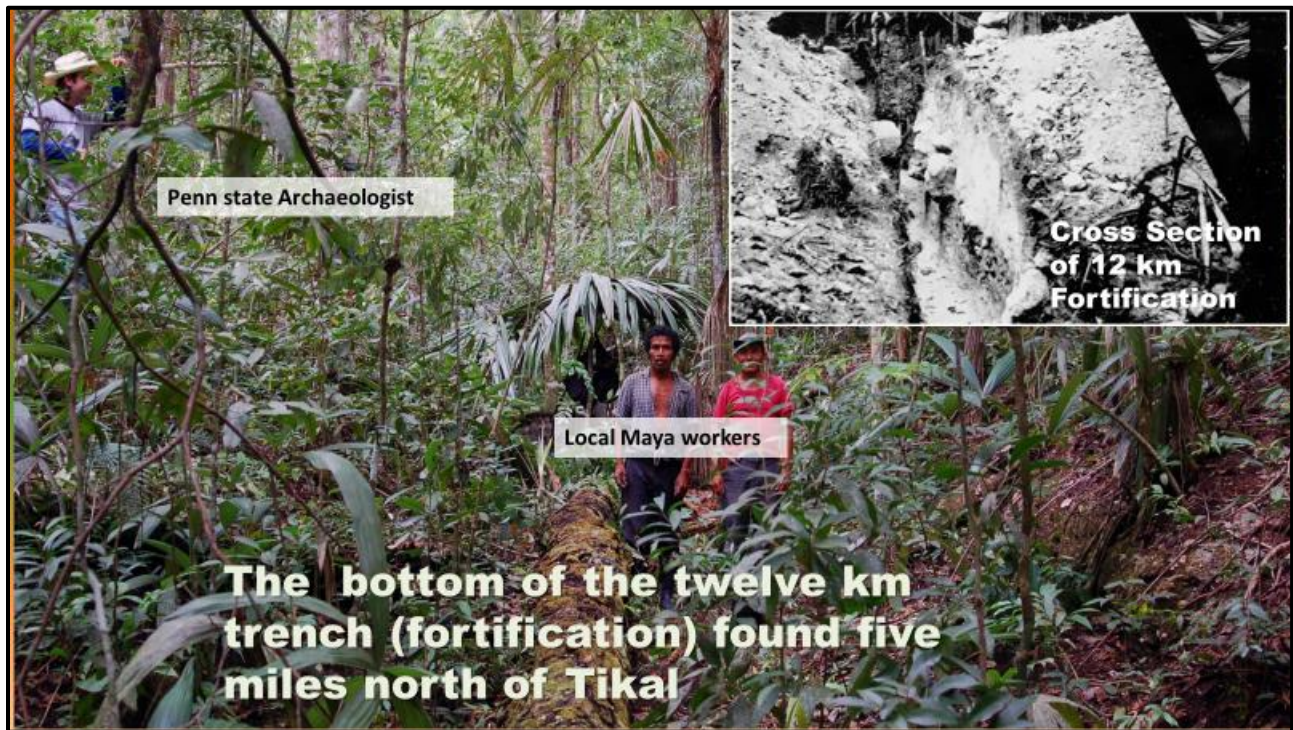
Alma 50:11...fortifying the line which was northward of the land Bountiful

Alma 52:9 ... he should fortify the land Bountiful and secure the narrow pass

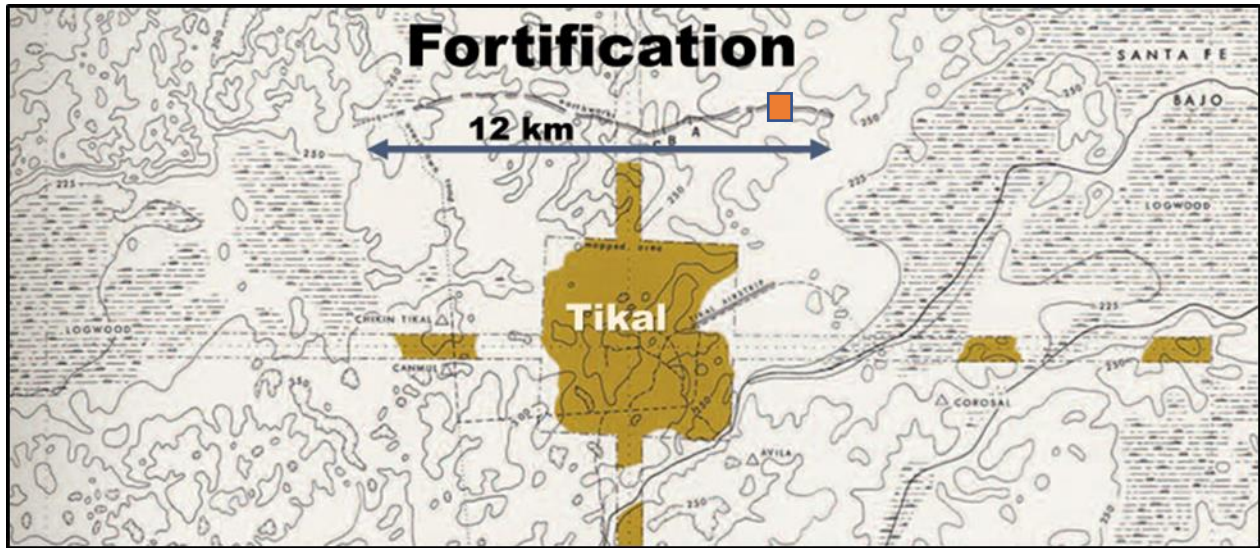
Mormon 3:5,6 5... I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the narrow pass ...therefore we did fortify against them with all our force.

Alma 53:3 ...they had encircled the city of Bountiful roundabout with a strong wall of timbers and earth, to an exceeding height.

About a massive 12km fortification is located about 8 km north of Tikal and is along the only trade route between Guatemala and the Yucatan. This is a major find and could be a major factor in establishing the location of the Narrow Neck of Land. See picture below of the actual fortification and insert showing the cross section.



This map shows the relationship between the location of the fortification and Tikal. It is also interesting to note that there are water systems on both sides of the fortifications.



- **There are numerous references to a narrow pass that is located within the fortification that are mentioned in the Book of Mormon:**

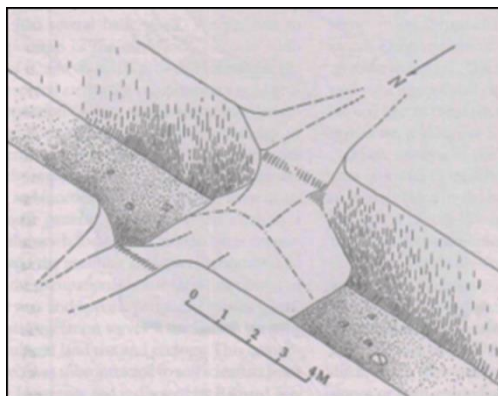
Mormon 2:29 And the Lamanites did give unto us the land northward, yea, even to the narrow passage which led into the land southward.

Alma 50:34 they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.

Alma 52:9 ...secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward...

Mormon 3:5 ...by the narrow pass which led into the land southward.

The picture to the right shows the narrow pass that is located within the fortification. The illustration below is an artist rendition of what the narrow passage way actually looked like. The red mark on the map above shows the location of the narrow pass.



The narrow pass was the gateway between the land northward and land southward



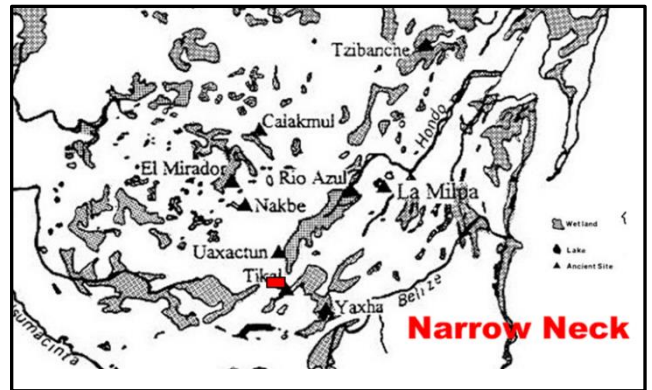
This passage way is another strong indication that the Narrow Neck is located just north of Tikal.

- **There should be many bodies of water near the Narrow Neck of Land:**

The land of many waters and the associated scripture.

Mosiah 8:8 And they were lost in the wilderness for the space of many days, yet they were diligent, and found not the land of Zarahemla but returned to this land, having traveled in a land among many waters, having discovered a land which was covered with bones of men...

The scriptures are clear and the fact that the land of Desolation, which was just north of the Narrow Neck of Land was littered with the signs of a massive war. And in Mosiah 8:8 it also states that there were many waters in this land. The map to right positions the Narrow Neck is such a way that correlates well with descriptions outlined in Mosiah 8:8.



- **Tikal and the surrounding area were under Lamanite control from around 200 AD on, therefore the Narrow Neck has to be to the north of Tikal.**

The following scripture suggest that the Lamanite controlled the lands south (area around Tikal) of the Narrow Neck:

Mormon 2:28 ...And in the three hundred and fiftieth year we made a treaty with the Lamanites ...in which we did get the lands of our inheritance divided.

Mormon 2:29 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 3:5 And it came to pass that I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land southward

Mormon 16:16 And the Lamanites did not come again against the Nephites (in the city of Desolation) until the three hundred and seventy and fifth year.

Stela 31 at Tikal chronicles the events that led up to the final war where various events took place on the south side of the Narrow Neck. This provide a great deal in insight of where the Narrow Neck should be. The events include the 350 AD treaty, the breaking of the treaty in 360 AD, the abrupt increase in the numbers of the Lamanite and the final defeat across the Narrow Neck of Land.

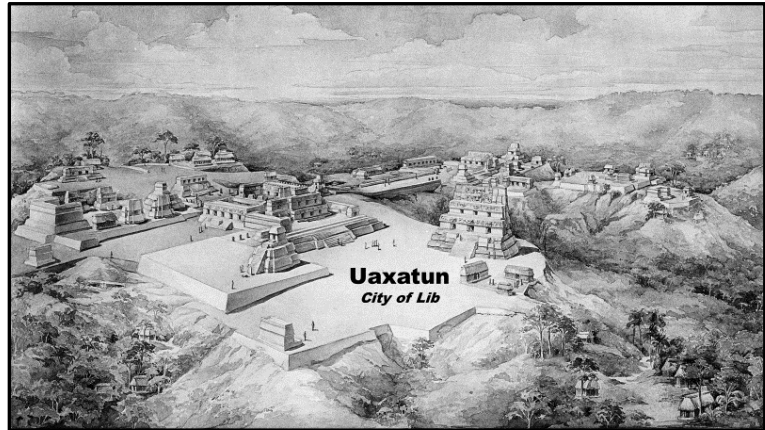


- **The great city of Lib**

Scriptures associated with the city of Lib:

Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land.

The great city of Lib was built around 1000 BC by two righteous rulers Lib and his father Kish. The origins of the Uaxatun match the same timeframe as outlined in the Book of Mormon. This ancient city is approximately 13 km north of the Narrow Neck of Land which correlates very well with not only Lib's great city location but also as the city of Desolation.



- **The area just north of the Narrow Neck has to have been destroyed around 380 AD.**

Scriptures associated with the demise of the city of Desolation that is just north of the Narrow Neck of Land:

Mormon 4:17 And in this year (375 AD) they did come down against the Nephites with all their powers; and they were not numbered because of the greatness of their number.

Mormon 4:18 And from this time forth did the Nephites gain no power over the Lamanites, but began to be swept off by them even as a dew before the sun.

Mormon 4:19 And it came to pass that the Lamanites did come down against the city Desolation...

There are a number of indications that the city of Uaxatun - Desolation was destroyed around the end of 3rd century AD. The mural to the far right was found at Uaxatun and has been dated back to last of the 3rd century AD. It appears that two warriors are meeting (Moroni & Lamanite Leader?). Stela 5 is depicting Siyah K'ak', at Uaxatun. His attack on the city of Desolation-Uaxatun is implied with this stela.



A preliminary review suggests that there is a strong indication that the Narrow Neck of Land resides within the target area. This is due to [1] the ancient trade routes, [2] the 12km fortification [3] the narrow passage way, [4] the bodies of many waters, [5] the Lamanite control area [6] the location of the great city of Lib and the [7] the timing of the Nephite war at Uaxatun. These seven items are very convincing however, the strongest evidences are The elements that went into the establishment of the target area in the first place. This is due to the remarkable triangulation points that exist between the lands of Nephi, Zarahemla and Cumorah. And now its time to turn the attention to two of the most important elements of the Narrow Neck of Land Complex, the West Sea and the East Sea.

- **The Pasion River Model proposes that the West Sea and the East Sea be associated with the Bajos (once ancient bodies of water) that are on both ends of the Narrow Neck. This includes the Bajo Santa Fe and Bejucal.**

Scriptures associated with the East and West Seas:

Alma 50:34... they did head them, by the narrow pass...By sea, on the west and on the east

Alma 22:33...the Nephites had inhabited the land Bountiful, even from the east unto the west sea...

Helaman 4:7 they did fortify ...from the west sea, even unto the east: it being a day's journey for a Nephite...

Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the neck of land, by the pace where the sea divides the land

Alma 22:32...the land of Nephi and the land of Zarahemla were nearly surrounded by water, there being a small neck of land...

It is very unlikely that two large land masses (the land northward and land southward) would be separated by a small (less than 30 km) neck of land with ocean like bodies of water on both sides. This situation does not exist anywhere in the Americas therefore, inland seas or water bodies could resolve this dilemma. The Pasion River Model proposes that inland seas were present during the relevant times of the Book of Mormon.

The following 8 factors support the premise that it is likely that these bodies of water existed anciently:

1. Extreme drought periods since the high rainfall era.

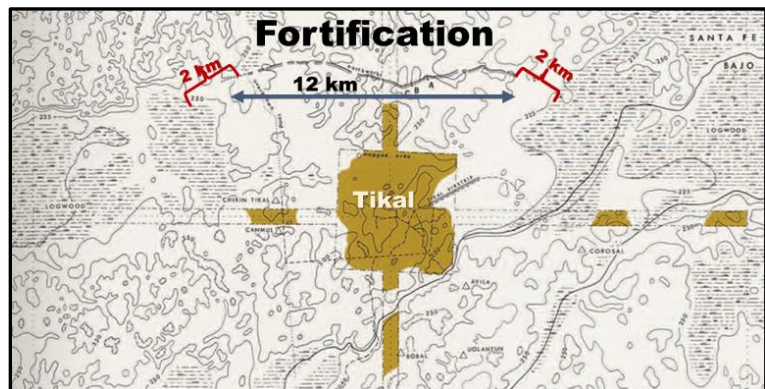
The current rainfall levels are so low for six months of the year that the areas around the El Mirador Basin are uninhabitable. They even have to haul water by truck to supply the water needs at the hotels at Tikal

2. Expansive bodies of water emerge after high rainfall periods.

During the time Ray and Deana Metheny were involved the El Mirador project they witnessed the huge lakes that were temporarily created in the wetlands during high rainfall periods in the Petén. Ray said some of the lakes were so large you could see the curvature of the earth.

3. Narrow Neck fortifications are currently over two km from the edge of the Bajo's.

The two km gaps between the end of the fortification and the current water levels is a strong indication that the ancient water levels were much higher

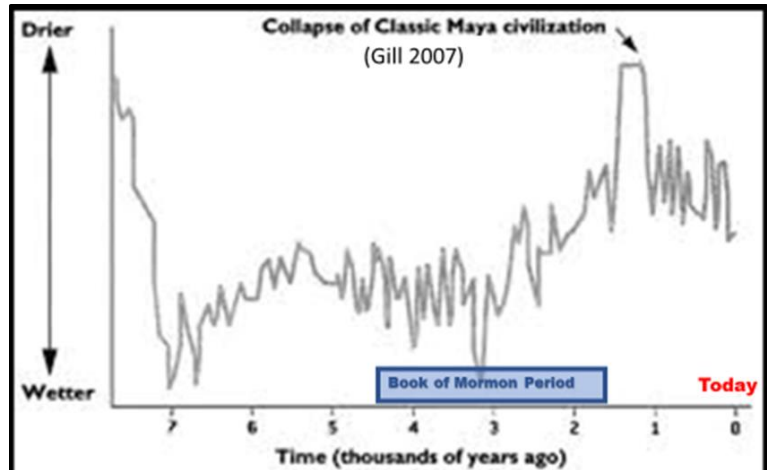


4. Historical rainfall periods during some of the Book of Mormon timeframe are high.

JOURNAL ARTICLE
DROUGHT AND THE MAYA COLLAPSE

Richardson B. Gill, Paul A. Mayewski, Johan Nyberg, Gerald H. Haug and Larry C. Peterson
Ancient Mesoamerica
 Vol. 18, No. 2 (Fall 2007), pp. 283-302

Published by: [Cambridge University Press](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521876223)

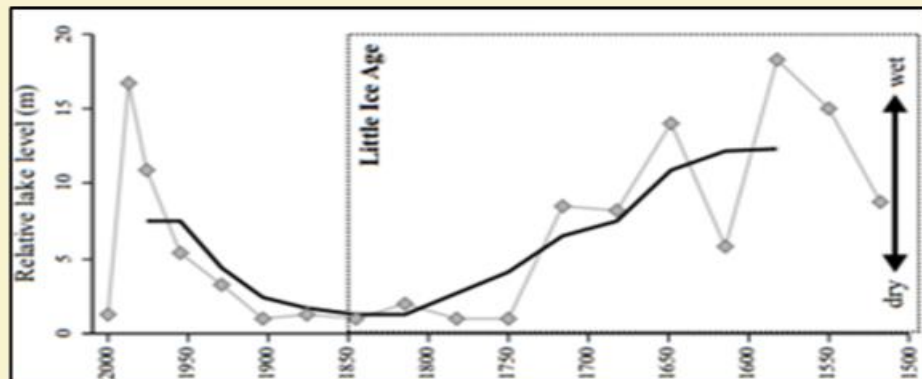


In this region, rainfall levels dropped substantially in the latter period of the Late Pre-Classic period and have never recovered to the levels they were at during relevant Book of Mormon times. This would strongly imply that higher rainfall could have resulted in higher water levels of lakes and bajos during the Book of Mormon times.

Recent paleoclimatic change evidence indicates 30-50 percent reduction in the summer precipitation in the Late Classic period (Medina-Elizalde and Rohling 2012), which produced an estimated 30 percent lower lake level at Chichancanab in the Yucatan. Similar evidence is taken from Southern Belize (Webster, J., et al. 2007) (Lentz 2015).

5. Lake Petén Itza has been much higher in the past

Guatemala scientist claim the lake Petén Itza was 30 feet higher 800 years ago.



6. Settlement development patterns show gradually drying trends.

According to a recent study using Lidar, pre-classic settlements were non-existent in our proposed west sea area. (Garrison 2019). This strongly implies that the area was under water during that pre-classic period and was later settled during the dryer era of the Classic. In the following chart from this Garrison article, yellow dots represent pre-classic settlements and white dots reflect classic era settlements. The proposed west sea is the area east of the grouping of yellow dots to close to the edge of the right side of this map. Furthermore, the elevations in this area are appropriate for this west sea area being quite deep in water and not flooding the city of El Palmar.

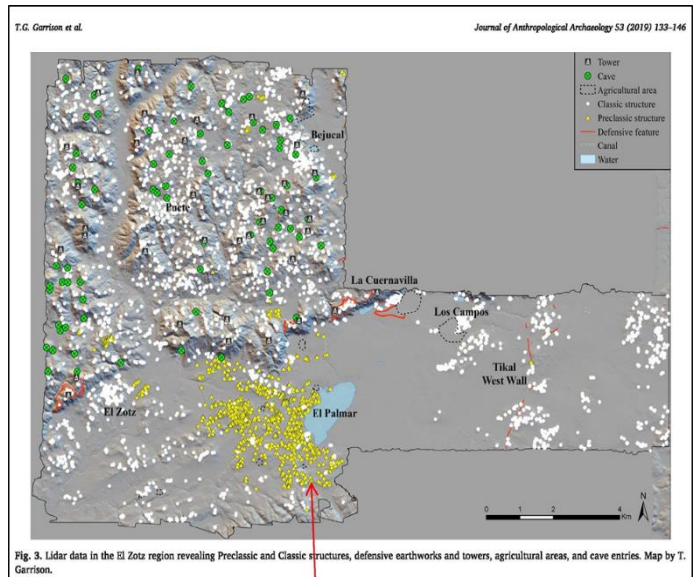


Fig. 3. Lidar data in the El Zotz region revealing Preclassic and Classic structures, defensive earthworks and towers, agricultural areas, and cave entries. Map by T. Garrison.

7. Cortez claimed that the bodies of water in the upper Petén were so large they appeared to be a part of the ocean.

When Cortez was reporting his findings to his emperor, he stated in one of his letters that it appeared like one of the lakes in northern Guatemala was an extension of the ocean.

8. Renowned archeologist, Coe, reports on the higher water levels of the past

Michael Coe claims that the rainfall during certain times of the Preclassic period was at least 20% higher than it is today.

The Pasion River Model team proposes that the West Sea, that borders the west side of the Narrow Neck of Land would be in the Buenavista valley, east of the ruins of El Palmar in that valley, and west of the western end of the fortification (such fortification will be discussed in more detail below). This would make up a lake/sea of about 12 km in length and 6 km in width, more or less. By comparison, the Sea of Galilee is 20 km in length and is 12 km in width at its widest point. The significant water systems continuing west to the Gulf of Mexico, which would likely have included additional large lakes/seas and were bordered mostly on the north by the substantial Buenavista escarpment, would have acted as a significant impediment to accessing the land to the north (See the writings of Hernan Cortes and Stephens & Catherwood in describing the difficulty in traveling through this area between the Gulf of Mexico and the interior of the Yucatan Peninsula).

Summary:

The overriding confirmation to the validity of the Pasion River Model can be compared to a 1000-piece jig saw puzzle. If 999 pieces fit nicely together and there is one piece that doesn't quite fit, the picture is still very clear. It is understood that the location of the West Sea, could be difficult to explain. But it is also true that there is not a single aspect of this explanation that is a disqualifier pursuant to the Book of Mormon text. One may say that the West Sea is too small, but the Book of Mormon text does not reference the size of the West or East Seas. One might complain about the ability of Hagoth's ships to reach the ocean and to proceed northward. But the Rio San Pedro begins in and drains the wetlands of the proposed West Sea. Hagoth's journey likely began at the wider portions of the San Pedro and his journey continued northward through the delta of the Usumacinta River to the Gulf of Mexico. One thing is certain - Mesoamerica, the consensus location for the events of the Book of Mormon in the Americas, is a constantly evolving place. Our proposed location for the West Sea (and the East Sea for that matter), is the result of a recognition the evolving characteristics of this place and ultimately identifies a Narrow Neck of Land that meets the requirements of the Book of Mormon text.

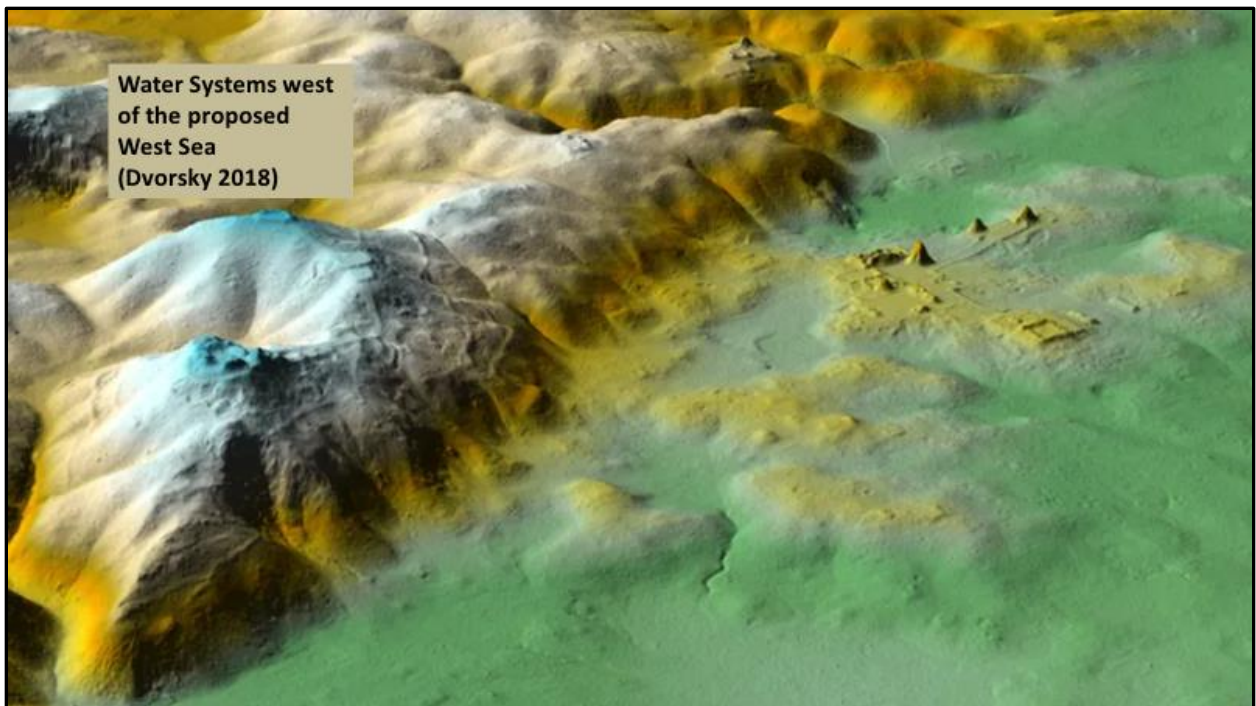
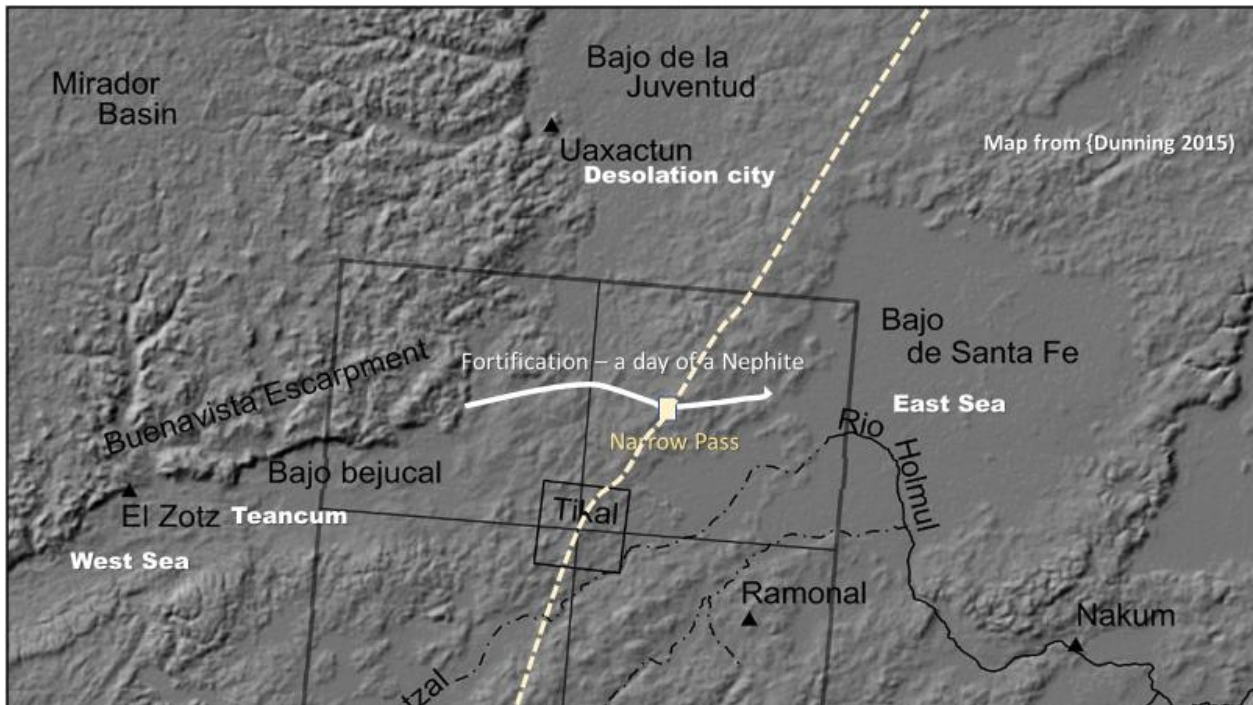
Summary requirements for the narrow neck:

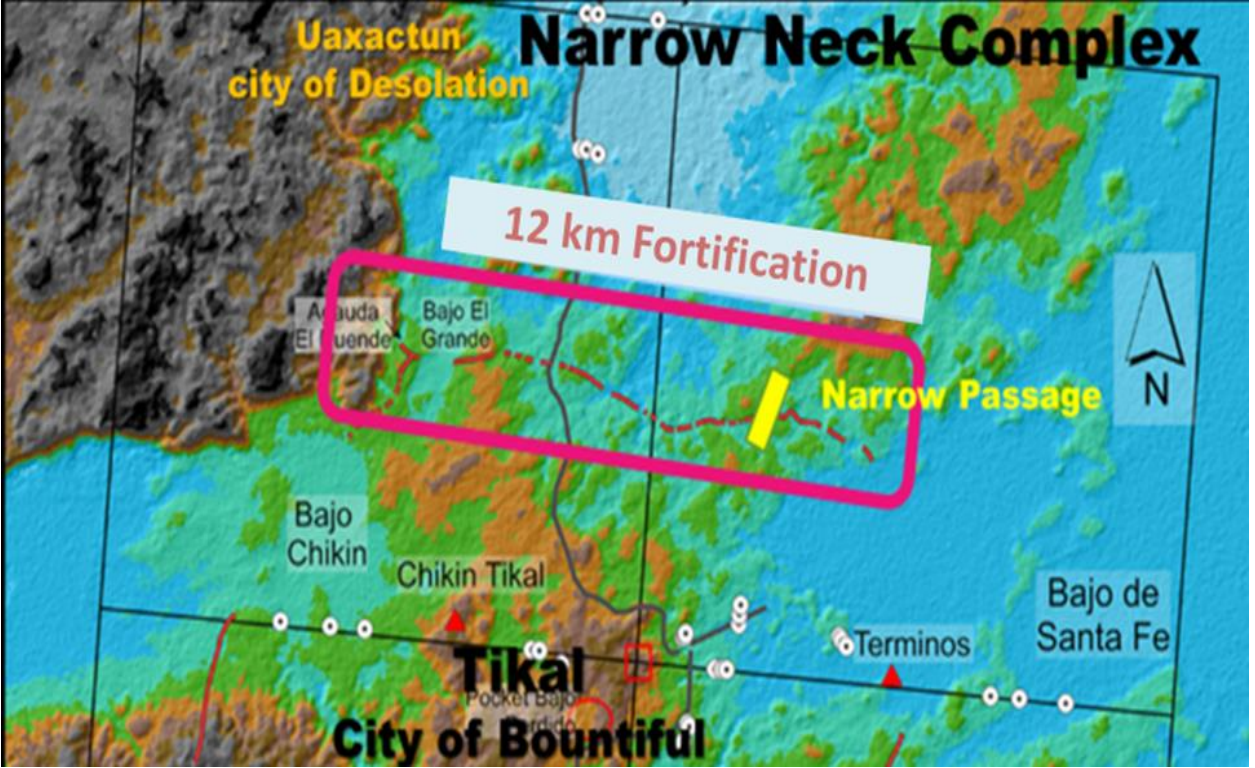
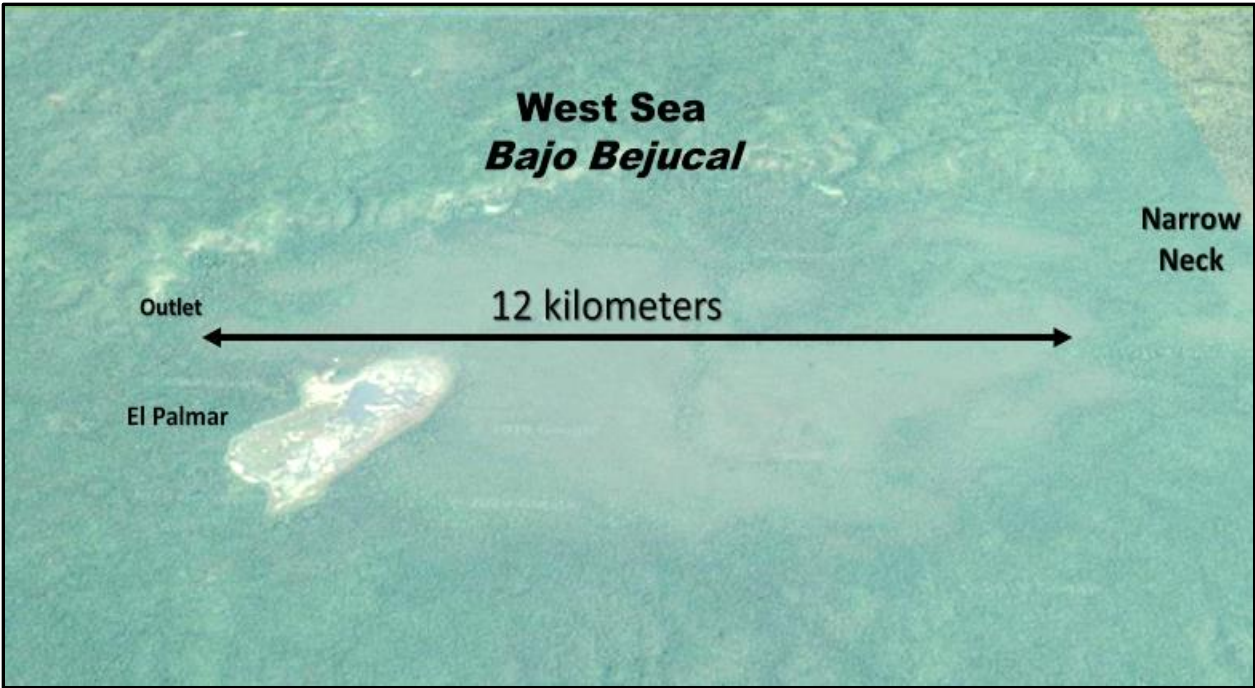
- It must be the length of a day of Nephite, somewhere between 10 and 20 km.
Alma 22:32 And now, it was only the distance of a day and a half's journey for a Nephite...
- It must be between two bodies of water.
Alma 50:34 ...they did not head them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.
Alma 22:33 ...the Nephites had inhabited the land Bountiful, even from the east unto the west sea...
Alma 22:32 And now, it was only the distance on the line Bountiful and the land Desolation, from the east to the west sea;
Helaman 4:7 And there they did fortify against the Lamanites, from the west sea, even unto the east; it being a day's journey for a Nephite, on the line which they had fortified and stationed their armies to defend their north country.
- There must be a fortification that extends between the two bodies of water.
Alma 50:11 And thus...fortifying ...all the land which was northward of the land Bountiful...
- There must be a passage way within the fortification.
Alma 50:34 ...they did not head them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.
Alma 52:9...he should fortify the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward...
Mormon 3:5 ...I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land southward.
- The fortification must have an east-west orientation.
Alma 22:32... from the east to the west sea; and thus, ...there being a small neck of land between the land northward and the land southward...

- There must be a 1,000 BC Jaredite city (Libs city) immediately to the north of the narrow neck.
Ether 10:20 And they (Lib and Kish) built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land.
- The land of Bountiful must be to the south of the narrow neck.
3 Nephi 3:23 And the land which was appointed was the land of Zarahemla, and the land which was between the land Zarahemla and the land Bountiful, yea, to the line which was between the land Bountiful and the land Desolation.
- It separates the land Desolation from Bountiful.
Alma 22:32 And now, it (the narrow neck) was...on the line Bountiful and the land Desolation, from the east to the west sea...
Alma 52:9...he should fortify the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward...
3 Nephi 3:23 And the land which was appointed was the land of Zarahemla, and the land which was between the land Zarahemla and the land Bountiful, yea, to the line which was between the land Bountiful and the land Desolation.
- Where water systems divide the land.
Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land.
- It must be the dividing line between the land northward and land southward.
Alma 22:32...there being a small neck of land between the land northward and the land southward.
Alma 52:9...he should fortify the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward...
Alma 63:5 ... Hagoth... 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.
- It must triangulate with the land of Cumorah, land of Zarahemla and the land of Nephi.
Numerous scriptures
3 Nephi 3:23 And the land which was appointed was the land of Zarahemla, and the land which was between the land Zarahemla and the land Bountiful, yea, to the line which was between the land Bountiful and the land Desolation.
- The land Desolation must be to the north of the Narrow neck.
Alma 50:34 ...they did not head them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.
Mormon 4:3 And the remainder did flee and join the inhabitants of the city Teancum. Now the city Teancum lay in the borders by the seashore; and it was also near the city Desolation
Mormon 3:5 ...I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land southward.

Appendix A

The following maps help illustrate the configuration of the Narrow Neck of Land Complex and the remarkable way that it coordinates with the overall layout of the Pasion River Model.





Addendum B

Scriptures that are associated with the Narrow Neck of Land Complex

[1] Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the sea divides the land.

[2] Alma 22:32 And now, it was only the distance on the line Bountiful and the land Desolation, from the east to the west sea; of a day and a half's journey for a Nephite, and thus, ...there being a small neck of land between the land northward and the land southward.

[3] Alma 22:33 ...the Nephites had inhabited the land Bountiful, even from the east unto the west sea, and thus the Nephites... had hemmed in the Lamanites on the south... that they might not overrun the land northward.

[4] Alma 50:11 And thus he cut off all the strongholds of the Lamanites in the east wilderness, yea, and also on the west, fortifying ...all the land which was northward of the land Bountiful, according to their pleasure.

[5] Alma 50:34 ...they did not head them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.

[6] Alma 52:9...he should fortify the land Bountiful, and secure the narrow pass which led into the land northward...

[7] Alma 53:3 ... by the orders of Moroni, caused that they should commence laboring in digging a ditch round about the land, or the city, Bountiful.

[8] Alma 63:5 ... Hagoth... 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.

[9] Helaman 4:7 And there they did fortify against the Lamanites, from the west sea, even unto the east; it being a day's journey for a Nephite, on the line which they had fortified and stationed their armies to defend their north country.

[10] 3 Nephi 3:23 And the land which was appointed was the land of Zarahemla, and the land which was between the land Zarahemla and the land Bountiful, yea, to the line which was between the land Bountiful and the land Desolation.

[11] Mormon 2:29 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.

[12] Mormon 3:5 ...I did cause my people that they should gather themselves together at the land Desolation, to a city which was in the borders, by the narrow pass which led into the land southward.

[13] Mormon 4:3 And the remainder did flee and join the inhabitants of the city Teancum. Now the city Teancum lay in the borders by the seashore; and it was also near the city Desolation.

Addendum C

Scriptures that are associated with the West Sea and the East Sea

[1] Alma 50:34 ...they did not ahead them until they had come to the borders of the land Desolation; and there they did head them, by the narrow pass which led by the sea into the land northward, yea, by the sea, on the west and on the east.

[2] Helaman 4:7 And there they did fortify against the Lamanites, from the west sea, even unto the east; it being a day's journey for a Nephite, on the line which they had fortified and stationed their armies to defend their north country.

[3] Ether 10:20 And they built a great city by the narrow neck of land, by the place where the **sea divides the land**.

[4] Alma 22:32 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.

[5] Alma22:33 ...the Nephites had inhabited the land Bountiful, even from the east unto the west sea, and thus the Nephites... had hemmed in the Lamanites on the south... that they might not overrun the land northward.

[6] Alma 63:5 ... Hagoth... 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.

[7] Mormon 4:3 And the remainder did flee and join the inhabitants of the city Teancum. Now the city Teancum lay in the borders by the seashore; and it was also near the city Desolation.

[8]Alma 53:8 And now it came to pass that the armies of the Lamanites, on the west sea, south, while in the absence of Moroni on account of some intrigue amongst the Nephites, which caused dissensions amongst them, had gained some ground over the Nephites, yea, insomuch that they had obtained possession of a number of their cities in that part of the land.

References:

Beach, Timothy (2015) *Water and Environmental History of the El Zotz Region*, University of Cincinnati, Cambridge University Press

Coe, Michael D. (1992). *Breaking the Maya Code*. London: Thames & Hudson

Doyle, James A, (2012) *Integrating GIS analysis and political in the southern Maya lowlands*, Department of Anthropology, Brown University, Providence, RI

Dunning, Nicholas P. et al (2002) *Arising from the Bajos: The Evolution of a Neotropical Landscape and the Rise of Maya Civilization*, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 92(2), 2002, pp. 267–283.

Dunning, Nicholas P. (2015) *Tikal Land, Water, and Forest*, University of Cincinnati, Cambridge University Press

Dvorsky, George (2018) *Hidden Pyramid Among Thousands of Ancient Maya Structures Revealed by New Aerial Survey*, Image Thomas Garrison, Anthropology

Garrison, Thomas G. (2019) *Recentering the rural: Lidar and articulated landscapes among the Maya*, *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*, Brown University, Providence, RI

Gill, Richardson B (2007) *Drouth and the Maya Collapse*, *Ancient American Journal Article*, Cambridge University Press

Lentz, David L. (2015) *Paleoecology of an ancient Maya city*, University of Cincinnati, Cambridge University Press, New York.

Perez, Liseth et al (2010), *Historia ambiental postcolombiana del Lago Petén Itzá, Guatemala*, *Rev. mex. cienc. geol* vol.27 no.3 México dic. 2010.

Puleston, Dennis, and Donald W. Callender, Jr. (1967) "Defensive Earthworks at Tikal;" *Expedition* 9 (30): 40-48.