

# Nephites Final War-Hill Cumorah

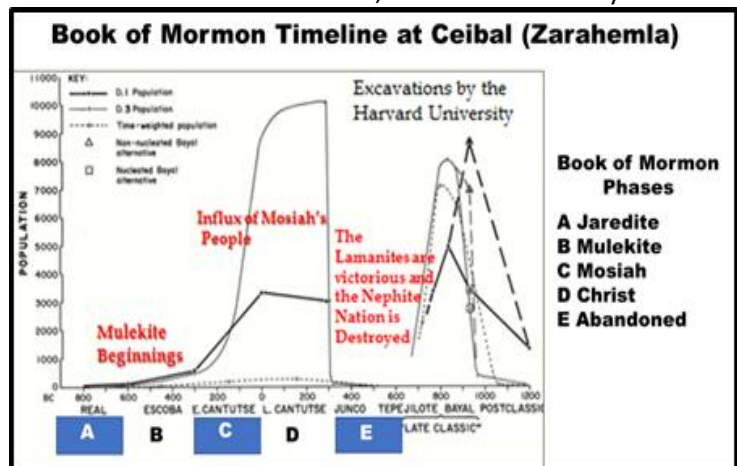
## The Nephite Final War

According to Mormon 3:10 the final Nephite war began about 325 AD in Zarahemla when the city was abandoned and the Nephites were driven to north countries (Mormon 2:3)

*Mormon 3:10 And it came to pass that the war began (about 325 AD) to be among them (the Nephites and Lamanites) in the borders of Zarahemla, by the waters of Sidon.*

*Mormon 2:3... the Lamanites did come upon us with exceedingly great power, insomuch that they did frighten my armies; therefore, they would not fight, and they began to retreat towards the north countries.*

In 1988, Gordon R. Willey, Harvard University, completed an exhaustive archeological study at Ceibal and determined that this site was abandoned around 310 AD. Takeshi Inomata, from the University of Arizona, basically confirmed much of Willey's research. They call this time of abandonment the JUNCO period. This is a remarkable outcome when it comes to making comparisons between Ceibal and Zarahemla. Not only does the time of abandonment correlate with the Book of Mormon but the time frames of the Jaredites, Mulekites, the influx Mosiah and the times right after Christ correlate as well. See illustration to the right. In addition, to these time frame correlations there are over thirty other connections between Ceibal and Zarahemla that are covered in the Lands of Zarahemla paper.





Another remarkable relationship between the Book of Mormon and archeological evidences is the information contained in the Stela 13 at Tikal. This is especially true as it pertains to the final Nephite war. It has an amazing story line that has a near perfect match for a twenty-four-year period during the final years of the people of Nephi. In 325 AD, right after the Nephites fled to the north countries there continued to be major conflicts between the Nephites. The Lamanites would win some and Nephites would win some. And then in 350 AD, Mormon made the 350 AD Treaty with the king of the Lamanites. According to Stela 31 this king could have been K'nich Muwaan who was located at Tikal.

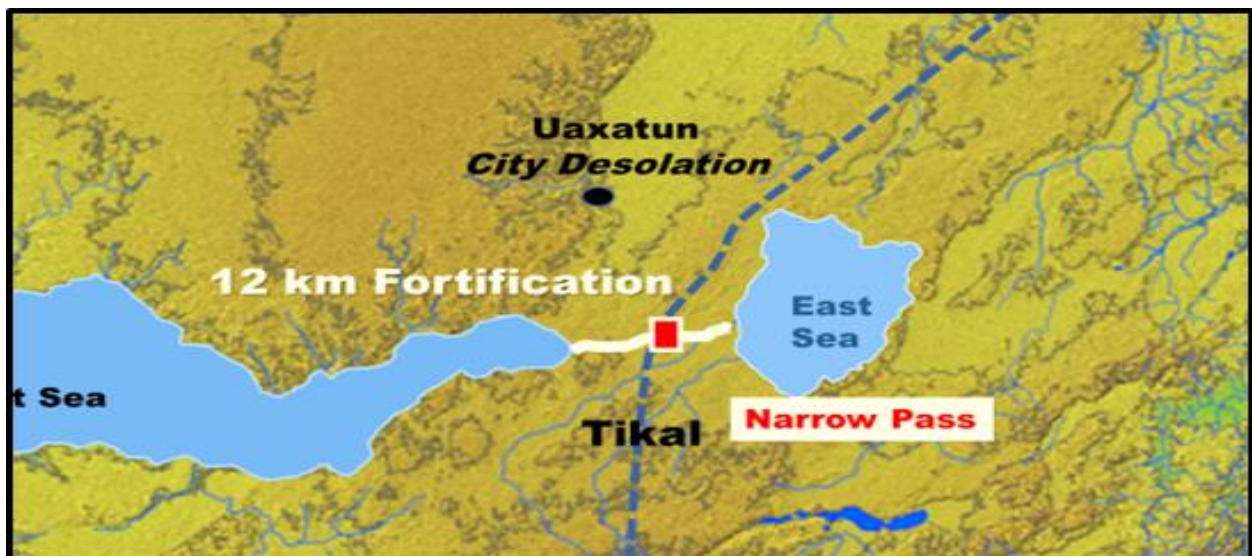
*Mormon 2:28 And the three hundred and forty and ninth year had passed away. And in the three hundred and fiftieth year we made a treaty with the Lamanites and the robbers of Gadianton, in which we did get the lands of our inheritance divided.*

Tikal is located in Lamanite territory just south of the 350 Treaty line which is also the twelve km fortification that separates the West Sea and East Sea.



In 360 AD, ten years after the 350 AD Treaty Chak Tok Ich'aak became the ruler, he could have been the Lamanite king that sent the epistle to Mormon. This started a series of wars that lasted for another eighteen years. It appears that this new king was more aggressive than K'nich Muwaan.

*Mormon 3:4 And it came to pass that after this tenth year had passed away, making, in the whole, three hundred and sixty years from the coming of Christ, the king of the Lamanites sent an epistle unto me, which gave unto me to know that they were preparing to come again to battle against us.*

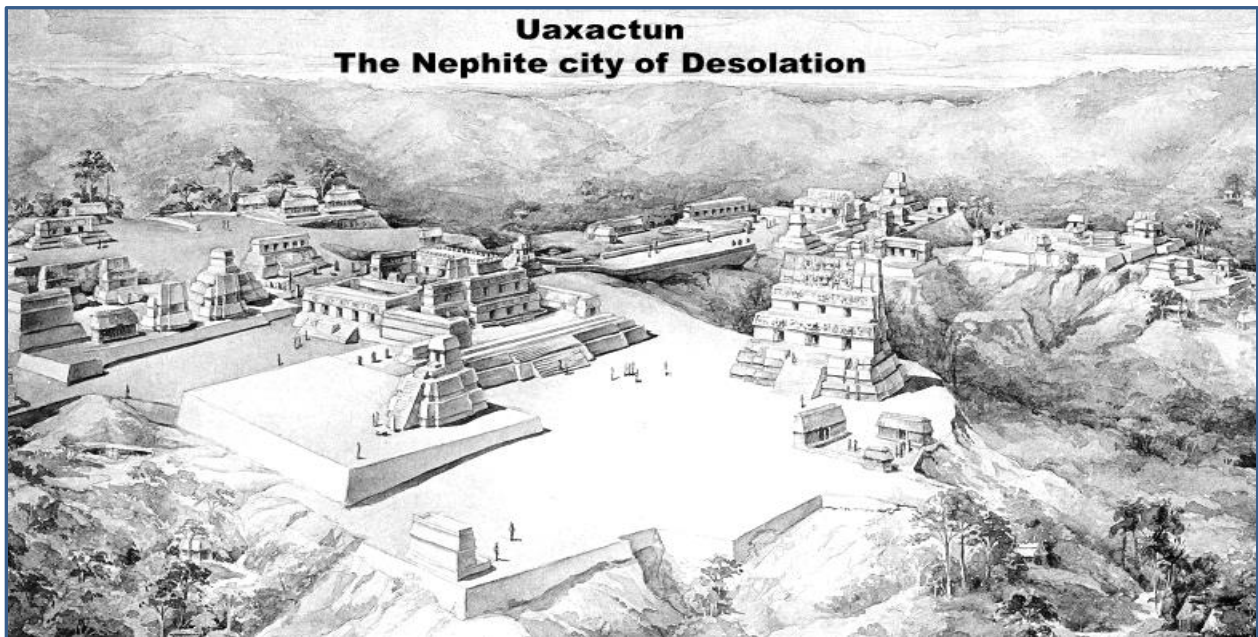


Eighteen years after the 350 treaty was broken, Chak Tok Ich'aak was killed by Siyaj K'ak'. Siyaj K'ak was from Teotihuacan and was believed to been a general under Spear Thrower Owl. Siyaj K'k' attacked Tikal with a powerful army and took over that part of the land. It is speculated that this army boarded ships at Veracruz and then proceed to the mouth of the Usumacinta River. They then sailed up Usumacinta River and then moved up the San Pedro River to Waka (El Peru) where they staged the attack on Tikal.

This stature of Siyaj K'ak' (A Fire is Born) is located at Tikal.

Just to the north of Tikal, on the other side of the narrow pass, is the city of Uaxactun. This is the proposed city of Desolation where Mormon was amassing his people so they could withstand the threats that were emerging from the Lamanites.

*Mormon 3:5 And it came to pass that I (Mormon) 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.*



According to Stela 31, after Tikal was conquered, Siyaj K'ak moved his armies north. There may a connection between Stela 5 in Uaxactun and Siyah Kak. The wardrobe and timeframe of the Stela to the right, Stela 5 would suggest that there is a tie there. Evidently these combined armies were way too much for the Nephites because they were swept off like the dew before the sun.

*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.*

According to Stela 31 this event took place around 378 AD which correlates quite well with the Book of Mormons date of 375 AD.





The Lamanite armies drove the Nephites to Boaz and then to the city of Jordan and after Jordan they continued to retreat. Sometime shortly after 380 AD the leader of the Lamanites granted Mormon's request to allow the Nephites to regroup in in the Land of Cumorah where they prepared for the final battle.

*Mormon 6:2 And I, Mormon, wrote an epistle unto the king of the Lamanites, and desired of him that he would grant unto us that we might gather together our people unto the land of Cumorah, by a hill which was called Cumorah, and there we could give them battle.*



It appears that the Nephites took several years to prepare for the final battle and during that time it was important to have food, water and weapon making materials.

*Mormon 6:4 And it came to pass that we did march forth to the land of Cumorah, and we did pitch our tents around 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.*

In 385 AD, the same year that the Nephites were destroyed, it appears that the rulers of Tikal established a military outpost at Rio Azul, about twenty miles from the proposed location of the hill Cumorah.

The proposed land of Cumorah is located along the Belize Mexico border and has well over a hundred thousand of some of the most productive hectares in Mesoamerica. There are three rivers within a short distance of the proposed hill Cumorah and there are also over thirty cenotes within a few miles of the hill. Some of these cenotes overflow during high rainfall periods and would certainly qualify as being fountains. In addition, there are massive chert outcroppings that provide high grade materials for making weapons. These deposits are the most extensive in Central America.

There are also a number of caves that are in a short distance of the hill Achotal, the proposed hill Cumorah. This would satisfy the scriptural requirement of having a cavity in the rock that Ether used to avoid detection and these caves could also be used to store Mormon's records.

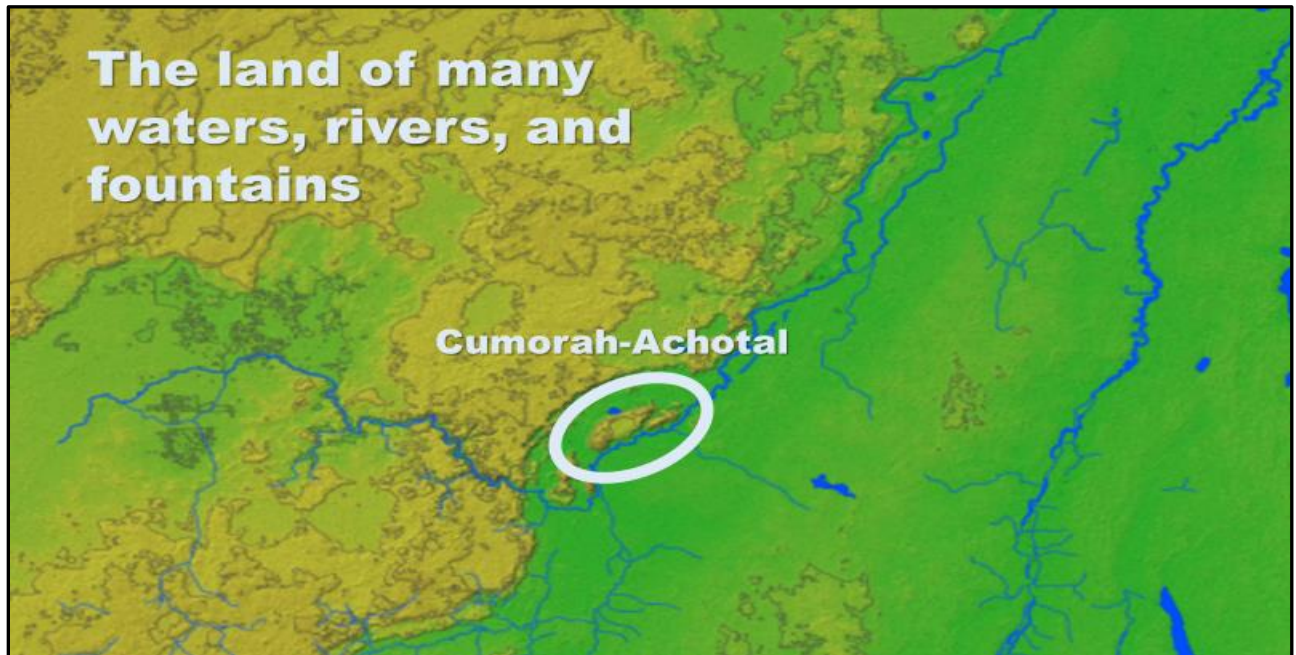
*Ether 13:18 Wherefore, it came to pass that in the first year that Ether dwelt in the cavity of a rock, there were many people who were slain by the sword...*

These caves are near the proposed hill Cumorah-Achotal

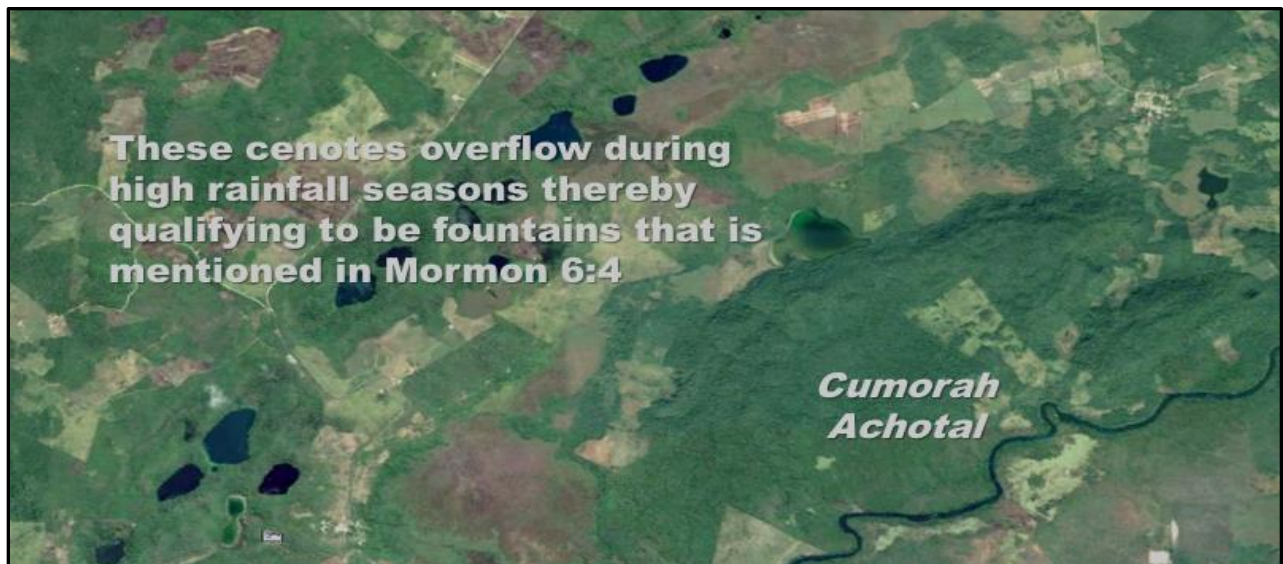


The Hondo River that flows along side hill Achotal is a major ancient travel route and probably the road that Omer took on his way to Ablom. It is also the most likely the escape route that the Nephites took in order to escape the wrath of the Lamanites. Any other route would have been slow and would have been easy for the Lamanites to inflict heavier casualties.

The proposed land of Cumorah That along the Mexico-Belize border has extensive water systems that includes three rivers, a number of lakes and wetlands and numerous cenotes. These water systems correlate very well with the descriptions found in the Mormon 6:4.



*Mormon 6:4 And it came to pass that we did march forth to the land of Cumorah, and we did pitch our tents around 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.*





During the time that both the Nephites and Jaredites were gathering their people for the final war it was essential that they were in an area that had extensive agricultural lands. These lands along the Mexico-Belize border are some of the most productive lands in Mesoamerica.

*Mormon 6:2 And I, Mormon, wrote an epistle unto the king of the Lamanites, and desired of him that he would grant unto us that we might gather together our people unto the land of Cumorah, by a hill which was called Cumorah, and there we could give them battle.*



One of main reasons that both the Nephites and Jaredites chose the area that included northern Belize were the extensive deposits of chert. Chert is a mineral that is ideal for making weapons. These chert beds that are illustrated to the right are the largest and most extensive anywhere in the Central America.

As a result of these wars there are a number of areas in these chert bed where they can be seen today. The illustration below is an example of how extensive they are. These beds are in Colha.



**Summary:**

This “Final Nephite war” document establishes further credibility in the validity of the Pasion River Model especially when it is coupled with the “Final Jaredite War” document. The archaeological and physical evidences are truly remarkable particularly when the triangulation with other Book of Mormon locations are considered and the consistency in the various timelines. The following lists present an abbreviated summary of this report.

**Archaeological Evidences:**

- Remarkable correlations between the Book of Mormon dates and carbon dating at Zarahemla-Ceibal.
- Other carbon dating correlations at Ceibal that correspond to key Book of Mormon events.
- Stela 31 at Tikal illustrates possible connections between the influx of military power from Teotihuacan and the overpowering impact it had on the Nephites.
- Stela 31 chronicles Tikal’s movements to the north which coincides with the Book of Mormon timeline when they were swept off like dew before the sun.
- Stela 31 has a change in kings at Tikal in the same year when the 350 Treaty was broken as explained in Mormon 4:3.
- A narrow pass exists just south of Desolation city, a place where the Nephites gathered to defend themselves just prior to being overrun by the enlarged army.
- The narrow pass is a part of the 12 km fortification that is just north of Tikal. The fortification that is mentioned numerous times in the Book of Mormon.
- Stela 5 at Uaxactun records the fact that the Teotihuacan leader was responsible for the destruction of that city, a city that corresponds to the city Desolation in both time and the destruction that occurred.
- The Uaxactun timeframe is similar to the timing requirements of the Book of Mormon, both as Lib’s great city and the city Desolation.
- Inscriptions at Rio Azul tell of Teotihuacan leader being there in approximately the same time frame as the final Nephite war. This implies that this location could be the place where Boaz was defeated and it could also mean the establishment of a Lamanite military post set up to observe the Nephites preparation for war and also to prepare for war.
- The origins of Milpa and Lamanai matches the same timeframe requirements of the city of Jordan that is found in Mormon 5:3.
- Hill Achotal-Cumorah has ancient structures that appear to be a military command center.
- Ancient settlements in northern Belize-land of Cumorah matches the scriptural requirement the timing of their origins and those of the Tower Babel.
- An ancient shaft near the hill Achotal-Cumorah contains items that tell of a demise of an ancient society.
- An ancient travel route follows the Hondo River from near the city Desolation-Uaxactun to the city of Boaz-Rio Azul to the city of Jordan-Milpa and passes by the hill Achotal-Cumorah and then to Ablom that would be near Chetumal Bay. This provides a route for Omer and a route for those fleeing the city Desolation.
- The battle grounds near the hill Cumorah, the location where the Jaredites were destroyed matches the requirement in Alma 22:30 that is also the location where the Jaredites first landed.

**Physical Evidences:**

- The north countries should be north of Zarahemla and north of the narrow passage.
- There should be two ancient lakes on both sides of the 12 km fortification.
- The distance between the city Desolation and the land of Cumorah should be of reasonable distance, probably not more than 200 km.
- There massive deposits of chert in norther Belize-land of Cumorah that is idea for making weapons.
- Hill Achotal-Cumorah is a very large prominent-500-foot hill along the Mexican border that has vast flat lands around it and could be a very good defensive site.
- This hill is of such a size that it would accommodate several hundred thousand warriors.
- There are over thirty cenotes within a few miles of hill Achotal-Cumorah. Some of them overflow during high rainfall periods. This would fit the description of fountains that is found in Mormon 6:4.
- There are three rivers in close proximity to hill Achotal-Cumorah that matches the requirement in Mormon 6:4.
- There are adequate agricultural lands in the land Cumorah to feed the millions that are preparing for the final battle.
- The ocean currents from Europe would deposit Jared and company in northern Belize, possibly in Chetumal bay.
- The following map illustrates a common consensus that the land of Cumorah is located in the southeast corner of the upper half of a hypothetical upright hour glass model. This also matches the location of the Pasion River Model.



- This map also illustrates the numerous similarities between the BYU map and the Pasion River Model map. There are large number of other hypothetical maps produced by scholars that follow the same hour glass configuration. The key to these configurations is that they remain upright so the land northward is in fact north of the land southward.



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