

# The Elephant and The Book of Mormon

Last Updated  
October 2003

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The Book of Mormon in referring to the Jaredites who came to the Americas from the Tower of Babel states that they enjoyed a high standard of technology and utilized elephants in their civilization. Many people have criticized The Book of Mormon over these statements.

Pictographs and drawings shown below show that the ancient Americans did portray the elephant and often being utilized as beasts of burden.

## Ether 10:

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

21 And they did preserve the land southward for a wilderness, to get game. And the whole face of the land northward was covered with inhabitants..

22 And they were exceedingly industrious, and they did buy and sell and traffic one with another, that they might get gain...

25 And they did make all manner of tools to till the earth, both to plow and to sow, to reap and to hoe, and also to thrash.

26 And they did make all manner of tools with which they did work their beasts..

## Ether 9:

17 Having all manner of fruit, and of grain, and of silks, and of fine linen, and of gold, and of silver, and of precious things;

18 And also all manner of cattle, of oxen, and cows, and of sheep, and of swine, and of goats, and also many other kinds of animals which were useful for the food of man.

19 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.

## ELEPHANT REMAINS IN MEXICO Anonymous; American Antiquarian, 25:395-397, 1903.

From the City of Mexico comes a statement bearing the signature of Dr. Nicholas Leon, archaeologist of the National Museum of Mexico. The signature would justify the belief that proper investigation of the facts related has been made. The one great fact is that an ancient city, which was located near the present town of Paredon, in the state of Coahuila, some 500 miles north of the City of Mexico, was suddenly destroyed in some past age by an overflow of water and mud, and that its remains are still existent on the spot. Many massive walls have been found, but they are covered with a mass of deposited earth, sixty feet in thickness. And mingled in this earth are human skeletons, the tusks of elephants, etc. , are distributed in a way which indicates that the overflow of water and mud was sudden, giving no time for escape...

According to the estimates of the scientists under whose directions the excavations are now being made, the city in question had a population of least 50, 000.

"The destruction which was brought by the flood was complete. All the inhabitants of the cities were killed, as well as all the animals. Skeletons of the human inhabitants of the cities and of the animals are strewn all through the debris, from a depth of three feet from the surface to a depth of sixty feet, showing that all the debris was deposited almost at once. Measurements show that the debris is on an average, sixty feet deep where the largest of the cities stood.

"Most remarkable of the minor finds that have been made at Paredon is that of the remains of elephants. Never before in the history of Mexico has it been ascertained positively that elephants were ever in the service of the ancient inhabitants. The remains of the elephants that have been found in Paredon show plainly that the inhabitants of the buried cities made elephants work for them. Elephants were as much in evidence in cities as horses. Upon many of the tusks that have been found were rings of silver. Most of the tusks encountered so far have an average length for grown elephants, of three feet, and an average diameter

at the roots of six inches. Judging from the remains of the elephants so far unearthed, the animals were about ten feet in height and sixteen to eighteen feet in length, differing very little from those at present in existence.

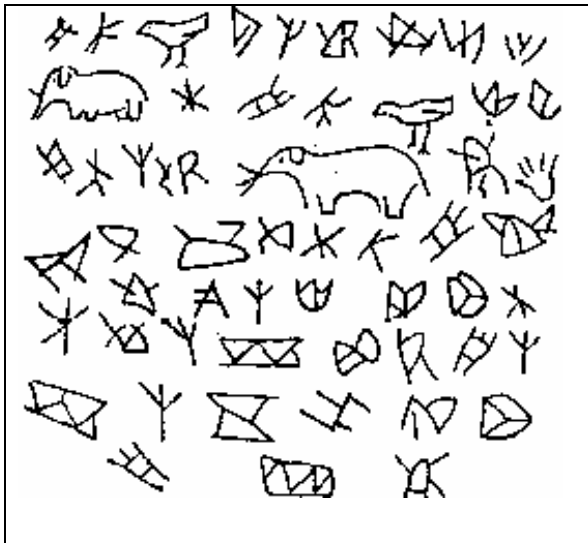


Figure 1  
**THE RIDDLE OF AMERICA'S ELEPHANT SLABS** Harris, Neill J.; *Science Digest*, 69:74-77, March 1971

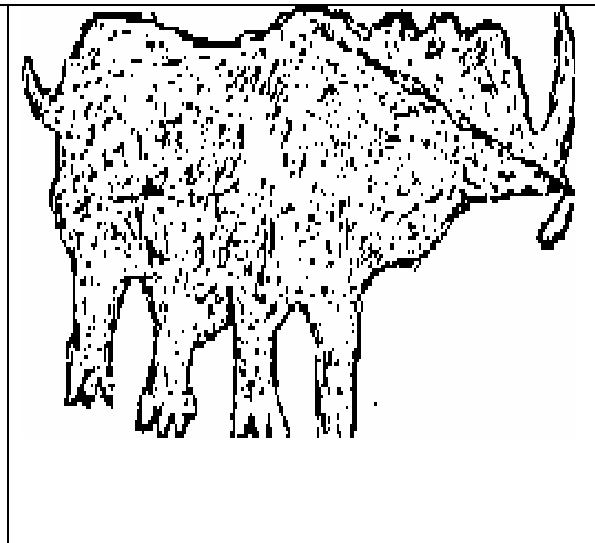


Figure 2  
**THE MOAB MASTADON PICTOGRAPH** Anonymous; *Scientific Monthly*, 41:378-379, 1935

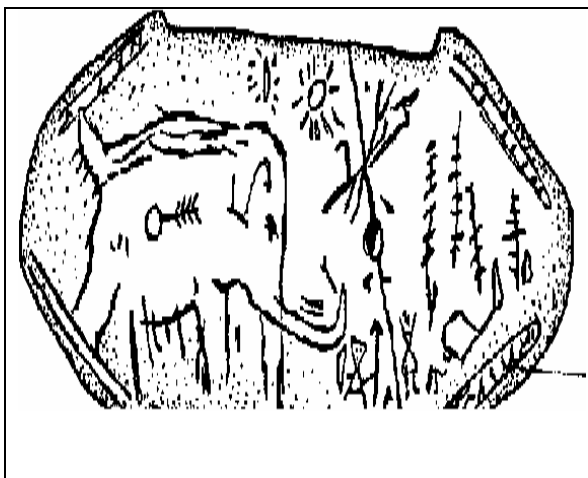


Figure 3  
**THE LENAPE STONE** Doylestown, Pennsylvania, Greene, Richard L.; *NEARA Newsletter* 71R

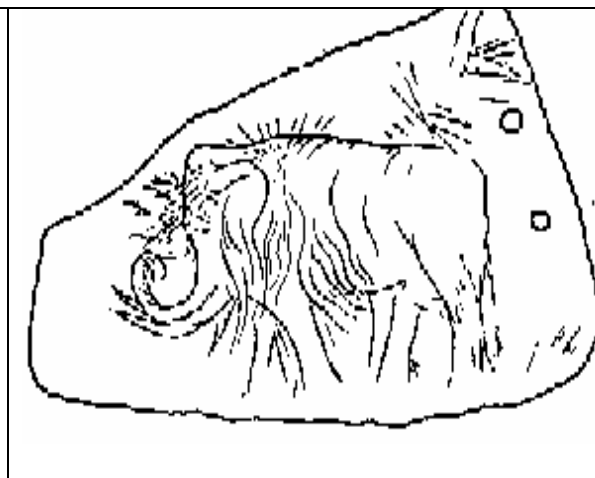


Figure 4  
**The Holly Oak pendant** Delaware Kraft, John C., and Thomas, Ronald A.; *Science*, 192:756-761, 1976

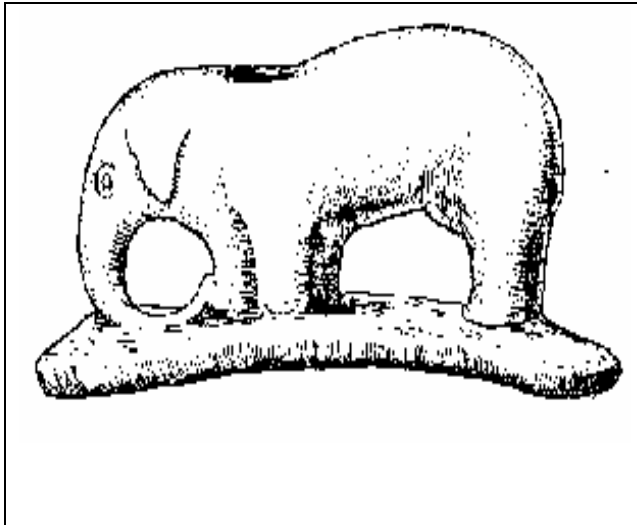


Figure 5  
**THE ELEPHANT PIPE**  
 Farquharson, R. J.; *American Antiquarian*,  
 2:67-69, 1879.  
 found in an Indian mound Louisa County, Iowa.



Figure 6  
 Painting of Mastodon in Hava Supai Canyon,  
 Arizona.



Figure 7  
**PRECOLUMBIAN REPRESENTATIONS OF  
 THE ELEPHANT IN AMERICA**  
 Smith. G. Eliot; *Nature*, 96:340 341, 1915

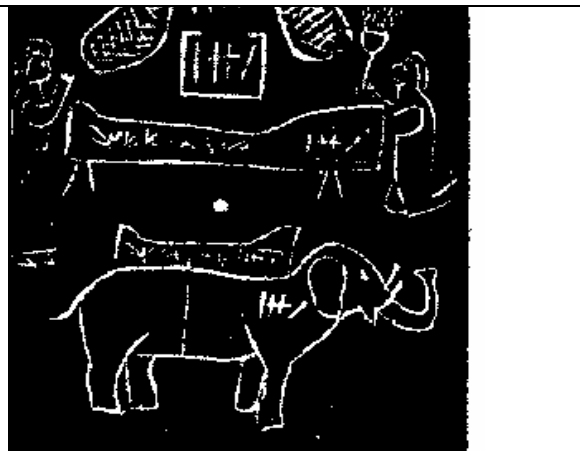


Figure 8  
**Picture of Elephant from Michigan  
 Mound Builders**  
 The Mystic Symbol Mark of The Michigan  
 Mound Builders by  
 Henrieta Mertz , Global Books , 1986

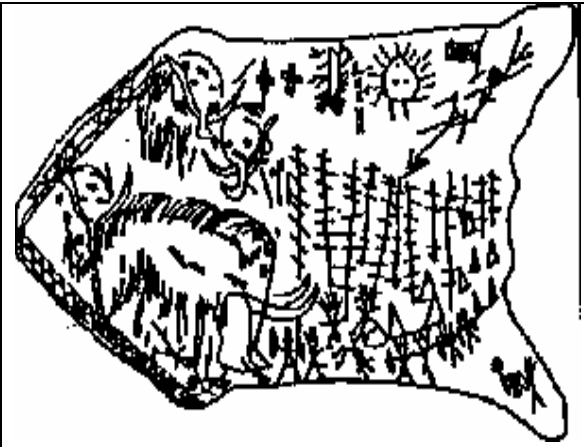
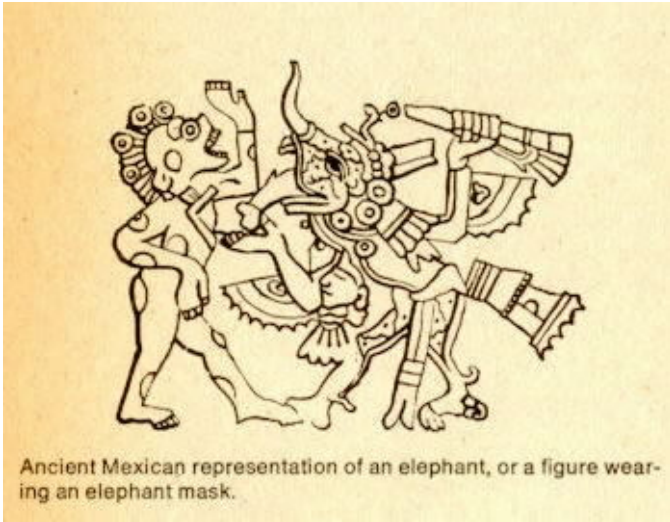


Figure 9  
Institute Newsletter (March 1988, Vol IV, No.3) has a report on the inscribed Hammond Stone found in 1922 near Taunton, Massachusetts. Of particular interest because it had a scene of a mammoth and Indians portrayed.



Elephant Tablet Michigan  
Ancient Artifact From Book  
(This Land by Edwin G. Goble  
& Wayne N. May, Ancient  
American Archaeology  
Foundation, Colfax WI, 2002)



Ancient Mexican representation of an elephant, or a figure wearing an elephant mask.

From The Book The Mystery of Atlantis by Charles Berlitz, 1975, Avon Books, N.Y. ,N.Y.



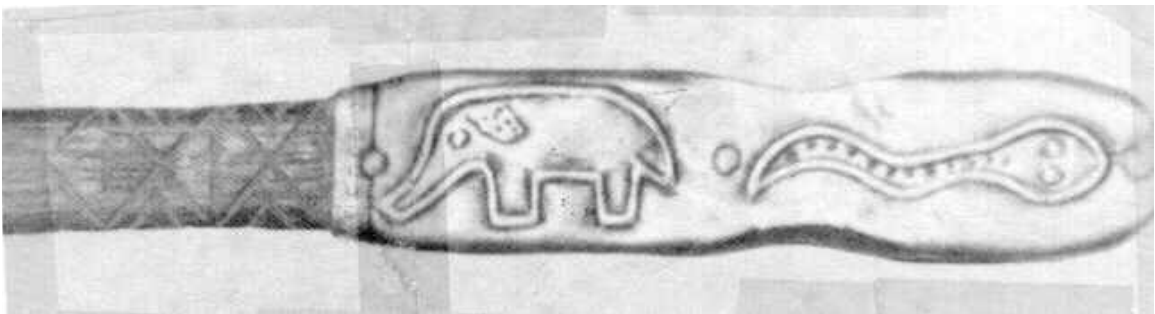
Elephant Carving in Petan Mexico (From B.M. Arch Digest Vol. IV Issue I )



Elephant Stone From Crespi Artifact Collection Cuenca Ec.



Gold Plate From Crespi Artifact Collection Cuenca Ecuador



Artifact From Crespi Collection Cuenca Ecuador



Figure of An Elephant painted on Bonampak Fresco Mexico



Figure of an Elephant Painted on a 1500 Year Terracotta plate of Pre- Inca Origin.  
(From Aincient American Magazine, Issue Number 12



Maya Vases with Elephant Paintings



**Crespi Gold Plate With Elephants from Crespi Artifact Collection**