

## 12 The Land of Nephi

During the years 2005 through 2009, F. Richard Hauck and company explored the possibility of Salama Valley, Guatemala being the Land of Nephi. Both Richard Terrey and Robert Roylance also spent parts of two years assisting in the effort. Dr. Terry in ancient agriculture studies and Roylance conducted tour groups in the villages in order to create favorable relations with the the villagers so they would give Hauck's excavations crews permission to work.

The table to the right is a culmination of the work and they claim that there is a 95% probability that it is the land of Nephi.

This was of particular interest to Roylance and Terry because this location was a perfect fit in the Passion River model. Our additional work in increased Hauck's findings of 40 evidences to over fifty.

**Test Criteria and Comparative Values for Land of Nephi**  
A Comparison of the Nephi Settlement Complex with Primary Mesoamerican Candidates  
Forty Criteria Developed for Field Testing by the Archaeological Research Institute

No.	Description	Kami- najuju Viejo	Mixco	Salama Valley	References
1	Greater land of Nephi was S of and higher than Zarahemla	10	10	10	Alma 22:27-34
2	Greater land of Nephi extended from the E sea to the W sea	10	10	10	Alma 22:27-34
3	Greater land of Ne was S of the narrow strip of widrns (NSW)	10	10	10	Om 1:12-13; Al 22:27-34; 27:14
4	Greater land of Ne had diverse elevations and environments	10	10	10	Alma 22:27-34
5	Route north from Nephi connected with Zarahemla via NSW	0	10	10	Alma 22:27-34
6	Route west from Ne connected with the west-sea settlements	10	10	10	Mos 10:13; Alma 22:28; 53:8
7	Route east from Ne connected with the east-sea settlements	10	10	10	Alma 31, 32, 39, 47
8	Large mineral deposits available to Ne settlement complex	5	10	10	2 Nephi 5:15; Mosiah 11:8
9	Diverse agriculture available to Nephi settlement complex	5	7.5	10	Mosiah 9:9, 11, 15; 22:7, 10
10	Occupation of city of Nephi from about 580 BC to 30 BC	10	2.5	10	2 Ne 5:4-13; Hel 5:26-21
11	City of Ne had temple like Solomon's in const. and orientation	?	?	?	2 Nephi 5:16
12	Tower overlooking Shilom & Shemlon at city of Nephi temple	2.5	0	10	Mos 11:12, 19:6-7; 20:7-9
13	City of Nephi had defensive walls and gates	0	10	10	Mosiah 7:10; 9:8
14	West of the city of Nephi is a wilderness and a pass	0	7.5	10	Mosiah 19:6-10; 22:11, 13
15	Shilom had defensive walls	0	0	10	Mosiah 9:8
16	View to Nephi/Shilom from tower atop hill north of Shilom	0	0	10	Mos 7:5-6, 16; 10:6; 11:13
17	Tower on the hill N of Shilom located 2-3 miles from Shilom	0	0	10	Mosiah 11:13
18	Tower on hill N of Shilom 3-6 miles from the city of Nephi	0	0	10	Mosiah 11:13
19	Open battlefield between Shilom and the hill north of Shilom	0	0	10	Mosiah 10:8, 19-20
20	Shilom is 1 to 3 miles northward of the city of Nephi	10	0	10	Mosiah 11:12
21	Fields, pastures, and water between city of Nephi and Shilom	2.5	10	10	Mosiah 9:14-15
22	Shilom and city of Nephi abandoned by Nephites ca. 321 BC				Mosiah 21:18-19
23	Shemlon occupied by Lamanites between 580 BC and 30 BC	10	0	10	Mosiah 9:1, 5-6
24	Shemlon located in a valley that is 2-6 miles across	0	0	10	Mosiah 10:7
25	Shemlon 2-4 miles E from city of Ne at same or lower elev.	0	0	10	Mosiah 19:7-9
26	Land of Mormon, thicket, near fountain surrounded by forest	0	0	7.5	Mosiah 18:2
27	Land of Mormon 1/2 day's travel (6-12 miles) from city of Ne	0	0	10	Mosiah 18:32-34
28	Land of Mormon adjacent to wilderness associated with NSW	0	0	10	Explained in chapter
29	Jerusalem adjacent to Land of Mormon in city of Nephi area	0	0	10	Alma 7:12
30	Jerusalem controlled by Lamanite king located at city of Ne	10	2.5	10	Alma 22:7
31	Amalekites at Jerusalem had sanctuaries like Nehors	?	?	?	Alma 21:4
32	Trail linked Jerusalem to Ani-Ani and continued to Jerusalem	?	?	?	Alma 21:11-13
33	Amulon, Helam, Jerusalem north of Nephi; first two in NSW	0	5	10	Explained in chapter
34	Land of Mormon northward from Nephi and Shilom	0	0	10	Explained in chapter
35	City of Jerusalem flooded in AD 34	?	?	10	3 Nephi 9:7
36	Land of Ishmael at lower elevation than the city of Nephi	?	?	2.5	Alma 20:2
37	Land of Ishmael linked by trail to Middoni	?	?	?	Alma 20:6-7
38	Middoni at lower elevation than Ishmael	?	?	?	Alma 20:7
39	Ishmael-Middoni trail linked to the city of Nephi	?	?	?	Alma 18:9; 20:8-9
40	Ishmael is arid; waters of Sebus are within a day's walk	?	?	?	Alma 17:26
Total points allocated to each candidate		115	125	310	Conclusion: Salama is likely the city of Nephi