



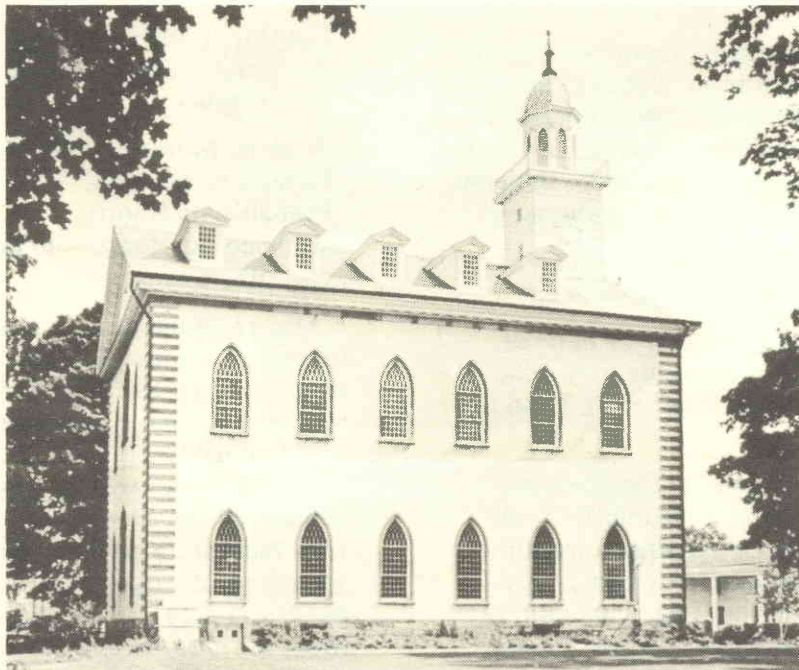
MIGHTY



SUMMONS

A quarterly report to Helaman's Two Thousand

Vol. 6 No. 3 Foundation for Research on Ancient America July 1993



**Kirtland Temple Poster at
FRAA Bookstore**

Posters based on scenes from The Book of Mormon, Bible, and church history—like the one pictured above—are now available from FRAA. To help church school teachers as well as those engaged in personal study, the Foundation has expanded its bookstore area to include other items such as books, children's materials, audiotapes with songs about The Book of Mormon, videotapes, and maps.

Stop by and see the new selection!

**Open: Monday—Friday
10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

**(816) 461-3722 or FAX (816) 461-5850
210 W. White Oak, Independence, Missouri**

A MIGHTY SUMMER!

In its second year, the FRAA summer Book of Mormon student leadership program got underway June 14. This exciting program, begun last year with eight students, expanded to thirteen as a result of financial support given specifically toward this project (see page two). Five of the students from last year were invited to return: **Jared Anderson, Jeff Anger, Jason King, Brett Methner, and Aaron Smith.** These five will act as mentors to the incoming students.

The new student interns selected for 1993 include:

Aaron Bailey—South Crysler Restoration Branch; sophomore, University of Missouri-Columbia, bio-chemistry;

Angela Bailey—South Crysler Restoration Branch; senior, Truman High School, Independence.;

Elizabeth Brown—RLDS Parkview Congregation; high school senior, home school;

Charity Coney—South Crysler Restoration Branch; senior, Truman High School, Independence.;

Eric English—Oak Grove Restoration Branch; sophomore, University of Missouri-Kansas City, electrical engineering;

Jennifer Hawley—RLDS Parkview Congregation; sophomore, Longview Community College, physical therapy;

Mike Moores—Woodbine Followers of Christ Restoration



Individuals and branches who made The Book of Mormon student internship program happen!

- Elton Ahlberg
 - Atherton Restoration Branch
 - Blue Springs Restoration Branch
 - Dorothy Cargyle
 - Mrs. Willis Cline
 - Ella Coile
 - Colbern Road Restoration Branch
 - El Cajon, California, Restoration Branch
 - Michael and Julie Gatrost
 - Kirtland Restoration Branch
 - Oak Grove Restoration Branch
 - Parkview RLDS Congregation
 - South Chrysler Restoration Branch
- Thank you!**

Branch; senior, Iowa State University, architecture;

Amy Whitcomb—RLDS Clio, Michigan, Branch; sophomore, Graceland College, international studies.

Applicants completed a form which required them to explain why they wanted to be part of the student leadership program and to tell what they hoped to gain from their involvement in the program. The students were interviewed by Michael Gatrost, president of FRAA, and Don Beebe, director of the internship program.

Students not only attend classes on The Book of Mormon taught by a variety of instructors, but each is responsible for a particular Book of Mormon research project. The interns learn leadership skills, how to make effective use of dramatics in making Book of Mormon presentations, and how to prepare and use audiovisual presentation equipment. This year, field trips include Nauvoo, Kirtland, and the Palmyra pageant.

The staff and the interns send a heartfelt THANK YOU to those who made this program possible!



Survey of Members of Helaman's Two Thousand

The last issue of the *MIGHTY SUMMONS* included a survey to be completed by members of Helaman's Two Thousand. Its purpose is to give guidance to board members and staff in the strategic planning process. The responses received to date have been not only extremely encouraging, but more importantly, have included beneficial and constructive suggestions.

A complete report will be given in a later issue, but here are a few comments selected from those received. Since the surveys were filled out anonymously, the comments likewise are anonymous.

"Why did you become a part of Helaman's Two Thousand?"

I [am] glad to be [a part] of HTT. It thrills me to be able to send what I can when I can to you.

We believe in The Book of Mormon in our family from way back and appreciated the format and invitation to contribute small amounts monthly. It is good to be a part of Book of Mormon witnessing.

Because FRAA shares a positive witness of how archaeological findings relate to The Book of Mormon and are advancing an affirmative testimony that Jesus is the Christ and . . . that The Book of Mormon is an added testimony of that fact.

"What do you feel is the primary purpose and mission of FRAA?"

Promote the study of The Book of Mormon. We need to study and promote good (righteous) living. Some people seem to be intent on proving The Book of Mormon.

To report on and do research about archaeology as it relates to The Book of Mormon. To enlighten people about The Book of Mormon so that they can further study and witness about The Book of Mormon.

To promote The Book of Mormon, share archaeological information, and build a library.

"What program or activity does FRAA do best?"

Helping to prove the truth of The Book of Mormon with all the evidence.

Book of Mormon days.
Prints *The Witness*.
Probably its library.

Archaeology tours—no one else offers them.

One respondent mentioned several times the need for "action." "ACTION!" she wrote, "If people don't have the desire, what can be done?"

Those of you who have not yet completed the surveys can still send them in. You don't have to answer all the questions—only those you care to—but **do send them in!** Your responses will greatly aid FRAA in planning what areas to emphasize, what to improve, and what activities to increase. Thank you for participating with us in this endeavor.



Where We Are

As of June 1, 1993:

Enlisted in Helaman's Two Thousand
Individuals
Groups/Branches

Income from January 1, 1993

Last year, 1992, same period



Archaeology News

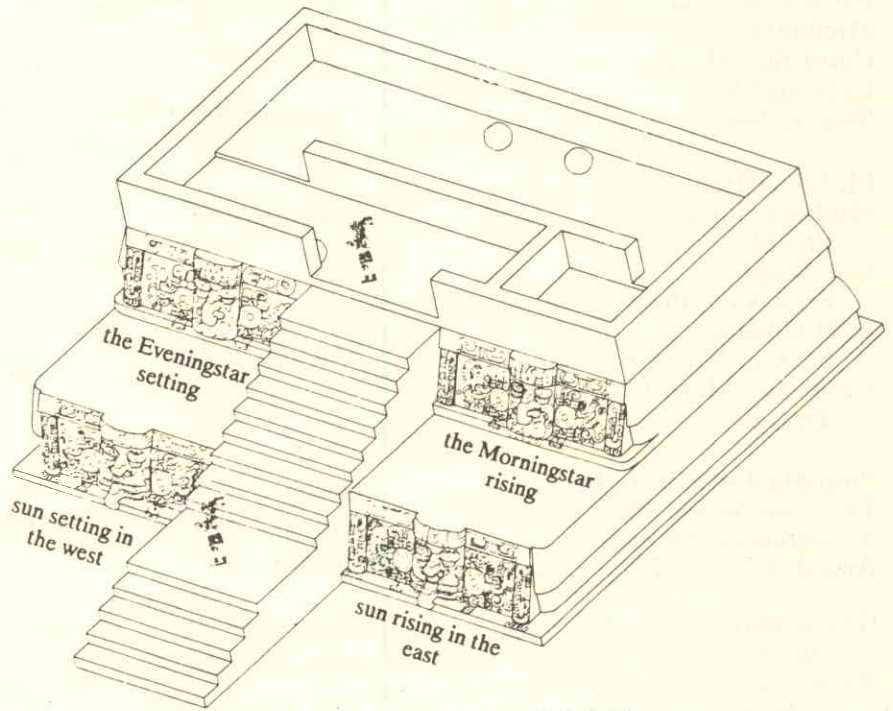
Lyle L. Smith

Brett Methner, one of the 1992 FRAA student interns, was selected to be part of an archaeological fieldwork class taking place at Cerros, Belize. Deborah Walker, from the University of Minnesota, directed the dig at Cerros. Brett, a senior majoring in history and Spanish at Graceland, worked with the group from July 7 to August 7.

Those of us at FRAA were excited to learn of Brett's opportunity because the site of Cerros dates from 300 B.C. to A.D. 300, the heart of Nephite history. Situated strategically to command the mouth of the New River where it empties into Chetumal Bay, Cerros lies in what Glenn Scott has suggested was the Land of Jershon (1993:12-14).

On a peninsula, Cerros has man-made canals which surround the site creating an island. Feeder canals branch off the main canal which divide raised fields used for intensive agriculture production, evidence of a large population required by Book of Mormon history.

The stylistic design of the first temple constructed at Cerros, seen in the drawing, lead archaeologists to believe the stucco reliefs represent Venus, as the morning and evening star, and the rising and set-



Constructed directly at the water's edge around 50 B.C., the first temple at Cerros follows the stylistic pattern as those of other sites, such as Uaxactun, El Mirador, and Nakbe. Visitors today will not see the masks as they have been covered with cement to "preserve" them.

ting sun (Schele and Freidel 1990:111-116). In Mesoamerica, Venus and the Feathered Serpent, or Quetzalcoatl, were synonymous. Irene Nicholson writes, "Quetzalcoatl is both Venus and sun" (1967:91). Also see Smith 1992:14 which presents references from The Book of Mormon for why feathered-serpent imagery was used in Mesoamerica.

Believed to be ruled by kings as early as 50 B.C. (Schele and Freidel 1990:103-104), Cerros was abandoned about A.D. 300, along with numerous other Maya cities (Sharer 1992:134). This may indicate Cerros remained a Nephite city until the Nephites fled north of the Narrow Neck in the final battles with the Lamanites about this same time.

Working this dig at Cerros gives Brett an exciting chance to learn more about archaeology and how it relates to The Book of Mormon.

For information on digs that accept volunteers, write Sherrie Smith, FRAA Information Center, 210 W. White Oak, Independence, Missouri 64050.

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1967 *Mexican and Central American Mythology*. New York: Paul Hamlyn.
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- Schele, Linda and David Freidel
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1992 "The Preclassic Origin of Lowland Maya States" in *New Theories on the Ancient Maya*, edited by Elin C. Danien and Robert J. Sharer. Philadelphia: The University Museum, University of Pennsylvania, 131-134.
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1992 "Teotihuacan: A City of Our God?" *The Witness* (78):10-14.

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thousand	838
Organizations	19
to June 15:	\$38,672
iod of time:	\$41,284



Edited by the
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*God is marshaling his army
For the rescue of his truth;
He is calling now to battle
Both the aged and the youth.
You can hear his mighty summons
In the thunder of his word;
Let us then be valiant soldiers
In the army of the Lord!*
The Hymnal #321

Coming Up

- | | |
|---|---|
| July 25
9:00–12:00 A.M. | Book of Mormon Day
Resthaven |
| September 12 | Book of Mormon Day
Farview and New Jerusalem Branches |
| September 26 | Book of Mormon Day
Detroit, Michigan Area |
| October 11, 18, 25
November 1, 8, 5
7:00 P.M. | Monday Night Book of Mormon
Archaeology Lecture Series |
| December 23–
January 1, 1994 | Annual FRAA Mesoamerican Archaeology
Tour—Oaxaca and Mexico City |
| March or April 1994 | FRAA Tour to Israel |



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