

**HEARTLAND**  
  
**RESEARCH GROUP**

# **SEARCH FOR LOST MENORAH**

Clermont County Ohio

by

John Lefgren, PhD  
Economic Historian

## **Search for Lost Menorah** Heartland Research Group

### Discovery Exact Location of Menorah Earthworks

The starting point is William Lytle's 1803 Map which he showed to President Thomas Jefferson. We know that in the early 19th-century the Menorah Earthworks were visible to Lytle and his surveying team. We know that the works became lost to history more than 150 years ago. The layout for the works is specific - about 100 acres - in a region of Ohio which has hundreds of thousands of acres. The design is unusual and is related to one of the most significant symbols of the Jewish people - the Menorah.

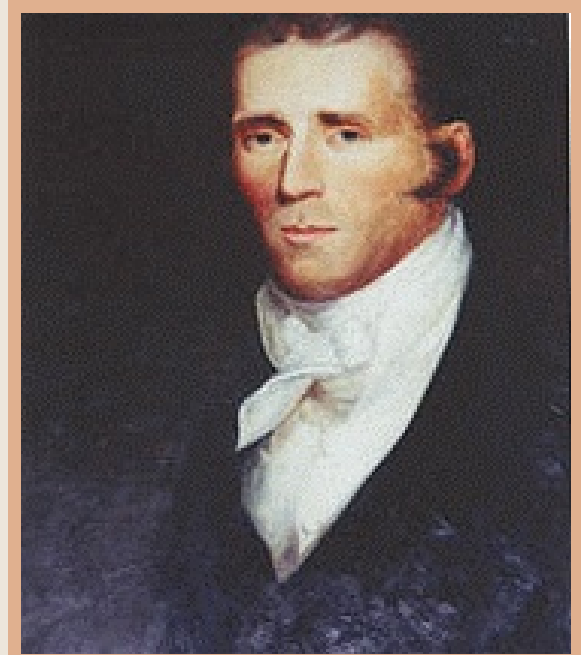
Finding the Menorah Earthworks captures the imaginations of Christians and Jews alike. It is an immediate connection between the ancient people in Ohio to the ancient Jewish people in the Middle East. The Research Group believes that the search for this object is the means by which it will be able to raise additional funding. The Group believes that the chances of success are high. Additional funding allows the Group to go back to Crane Run to expand its scanning of the same site where it found on December 15, 2018 remains of destroyed earthworks.

This project requires funding. The Group already knows the property owners and it has open access to at least 100 acres for scanning. In two or three days it would be able to do several SENSYS scans. That would be enough to determine whether or not the outline of the Menorah is in the ground. After all, the 1803 Map shows that the walls of the earthworks have thousands of linear feet of structure. To verify the outline of the earthworks the Group needs three or four scans which fit the design of the Menorah.

The Group thinks that it should make the prospect of funding this research its first priority.

#### William Lytle 1803 Map

The primary document which identifies the Lost Menorah is an original 1803 Map. The Map is a remarkable specimen of history. A close inspection reveals how the movement of the tip of a quill pen created the smooth flow of ink on to the paper. It is clear that a highly skilled draftsman created this document. There is further proof of its genuineness – a 1796 watermark is pressed into the handmade paper. A careful inspection leaves no doubt about the authenticity and historicity of the Map. For 200 years the Map has been kept in the stacks of the National Archives. Anyone looking for the Lost Menorah must begin the search by looking at the Map and at the life and times of the man who surveyed and created it.



**Figure 1**  
William Lytle  
1770 - 1830

## Search for Lost Menorah

Heartland Research Group

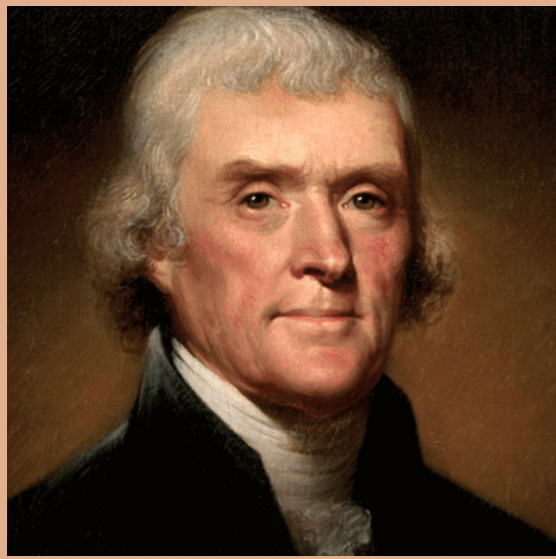
Here then is an outline of William Lytle's life.

1770

Birth - September 1, 1770, Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania.

1786

As a young man of only 16, William Lytle rode with Colonel Benjamin Logan on his famed "Logan's Raid," a punitive expedition against the Shawnee villages located near the headwaters of the Great Miami and Mad Rivers in west central Ohio in October, 1786.<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 2**  
President Thomas Jefferson  
1801 - 1809

1803

Ohio's first senator, John Brown, arranged a meeting for William Lytle to meet President Thomas Jefferson in the White House to show maps of ancient mounds which were located in the southwestern part of the new state. At that time the United States Congress asserted that the Constitution did not contain provisions for acquiring new territory. President Thomas Jefferson declared that his presidential powers were sufficient to negotiate treaties for the purchase of land from foreign countries.

1803

President Jefferson negotiated and signed the largest land deal in the history of the world. The United States bought from France 827,000 square miles of land for 15 million dollars in gold. In that same year President Jefferson was impressed when he saw Lytle's maps which had "those works of antiquity"<sup>2</sup> on the East Fork of Little Miami River in Clermont County Ohio.<sup>3</sup> He requested more information about these works. This was the first historical reference about earthworks which President Jefferson may have recognized as

---

<sup>1</sup>Lytle, William, report quoted in "Logan's Expedition Against the Mac-o-chee Towns," *Historical Collections of Ohio: An encyclopedia of the state, Volume 2*, Howe, Henry, ed., (Laning Printing Co., Norwalk, 1896) pp. 98-100.

<sup>2</sup>Anthony F.C. Wallace, *Jefferson and the Indians: The Tragic Fate of the First Americans*, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1999, p. 139 and n. 18.

<sup>3</sup>William Lytle, amassed a fortune surveying lands in Ohio which were granted to Virginian veterans of the Revolutionary War. Before meeting President Jefferson William Lytle made sure that the President knew his father had served with distinction as an officer in George Washington's army.

## Search for Lost Menorah Heartland Research Group

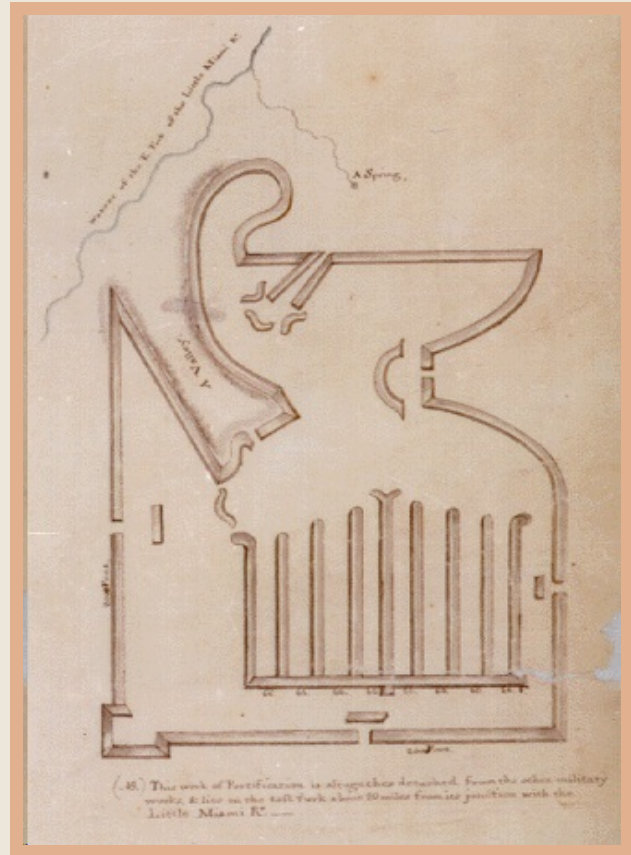
having a design which is in the likeness of a Jewish Menorah. The ancient features of these works were surveyed in the early 19th-century but by the late 19th-century these same works were lost and buried under row crops in southwest Ohio. These lost works have since become known as the Menorah, Gridiron or Hebrew earthworks. There is a new technology which makes it possible to discover their exact location.<sup>4</sup>

1803

Let us first outline what we know from the National Archives. Figure 3 is a portion of the William Lytle Map which was presented to President Thomas Jefferson in 1803. The complete original map is well preserved in the Cartographic and Architectural Branch of the Military Archives Division of the U.S. National Archives in College Park, Maryland, Record Group 77 (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fortifications File), Drawer 144, Sheet No. 20. The map consists of two sheets of identical paper glued together, so it is not entirely clear whether the scale pertains only to the Milford Works on the left panel, or to the entire map, including the East Fork Works on the right panel. A less detailed survey of the same works was published in 1811 in a book, *Observations on the Climate in Different Parts of America*.<sup>5</sup>

1803

It seems clear that William Lytle's 1803 Survey is the ultimate source of Panel 2B of Plate 34 of Squire and Davis, *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley*. This in 1847 was the first book ever published by the Smithsonian Institute in Washinton, D.C.



**Figure 3**

National Archives Scanned Image RG77 144.20

---

<sup>4</sup>SENSYS GmbH of Bad Saarow, Germany, designs and manufactures equipment which uses non-destructive methods to digitize in a few days hundreds of acres of land. The technology generates about 30 million data points for each acre and each data point has GPS coordinates with a precision of +/- 0.25 inch. The use of this technology makes it possible to identify ancient features which are buried under the plow zone. The technology allows for the search and discovery of ancient features which are now lost.

<sup>5</sup>Hugh Williamson, *Observations on the Climate in Different Parts of America*, New York: T & J Swords, 1811.



## Search for Lost Menorah

Heartland Research Group

Sometime during the last half of 19th-century farmers plowed over the East Fork Works and planted row crops so that since the late 19th-century the features of the Menorah Earthworks have been unnoticeable on the land's surface. Perhaps in the mid-19th-century some wanted to destroy the 100-acre earthworks to disassociate any link to the idea that in ancient times Hebrews were in North America. By making the Menorah Earthworks unknown the European settlers diminished the cultural heritage of the native peoples of America.

1812

In the War of 1812 Lytle was commissioned major-general of the Ohio militia with his headquarters at Cincinnati. Lytle served with General Andrew Jackson. After his service Lytle would use the title of General for the rest of his life.<sup>6</sup>

1820s

Lytle became the richest man in Ohio and was considered to be the first landed millionaire in the West. Lytle lost much of his money during a financial panic when western landowners could not pay their debts and the banks in Cincinnati failed.

1820s

He was very ambitious and watched closely the economic impact which the digging of the 425-mile Erie Canal had on the value of the western lands of Ohio. There were several canal projects which soon started after people had seen the high returns of the Erie Canal. At this time Lytle got involved with his brother-in-law, John Rowan<sup>7</sup>, in the construction of a canal on the Ohio River about 50 miles south of Crane Run.



**Figure 4**

President Andrew Jackson  
1829 - 1837

1820s

Lytle got caught in a financial crisis. His canal project and falling land prices forced him into near bankruptcy.

---

<sup>6</sup>J.L. Rockey and R.J. Bancroft, *History of Clermont County, Ohio* J.B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia 1880, p. 191.

<sup>7</sup>*Journal of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky*, November 1, 1824, p. 150.

## Search for Lost Menorah

Heartland Research Group

1820s

It seems likely that Lytle brought his ditch digging men to his property near the East Fork Little Miami River and told them to destroy the Menorah Earthworks. Very likely, Lytle wanted to open these particular earthworks so he could see if he could find anything valuable inside the mounds. The features were so unusual when compared to thousands of other ancient earthworks in Ohio. It seems that the destruction was a systematic effort which employed techniques used in the digging of a 19th-century American canal. The images of soil movement suggest that mules, drag lines and scrapers were used to level the earthen walls of a structure which was 2,000 years old. Perhaps all this was done in the hope of finding treasure and artifact. Such objects were valuable then as they are today.



**Figure 5**  
Mules, Drag Lines and Dirt Scrappers Destroying Mound #25 in Chillicothe, Ohio

1830

President Andrew Jackson appointed William Lytle as surveyor general of public lands for Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan.<sup>8</sup>

1829

President Jackson brought William Lytle into his kitchen cabinet. The President used the powers of government under his Indian Removal Act of 1830 to force Native Americans from the eastern states into the western territories.

Lytle was a senior member of the Administration which forcefully removed the Indians. He, with other members of the kitchen cabinet, provided President Jackson with advice on many important matters. In addition to dealing with the removal of Native Americans from their tribal lands, the members of the cabinet dealt with the opening of the Oregon Trail, the Texas Revolution and the events which arose from the Battle of the Alamo. Nevertheless, one of the main problems for the Jackson Administration was an ongoing conflict as the United States Army moved Native Americans into the western wilderness.

---

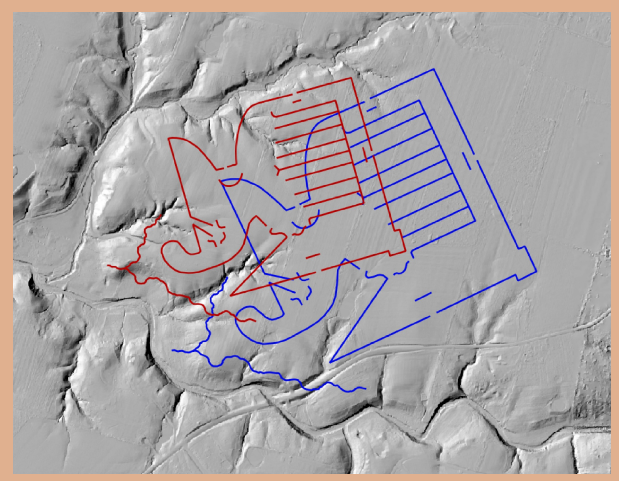
<sup>8</sup>Daniel Feller, Editor, *The Papers of Andrew Jackson*, The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, 2007, p. 228.

## Search for Lost Menorah Heartland Research Group

### The First Steps in the Search for the Lost Menorah

Using LIDAR technologies, the Research Group followed the terrain and topography of the East Fork Little Miami River. LIDAR measures the differences in return times and the wavelengths of the beams of laser light to make 3-D digital representations of the surfaces of land areas.

Figure 6 shows the outlines of possible locations for the ancient earthworks which William Lytle identified and drew in 1803. The blue outline shows a possible location for earthworks which have a 2,000-foot side. The red outline shows a possible location of earthworks which have 1,200-foot side. This site is of particular interest because it is at the highest elevation point in



**Figure 6**  
LIDAR Image at Crane Run  
Red : 1,200 ft Side  
Blue : 2,000 ft Side



**Figure 7**  
16 Magnetic Probes  
SENSYS MX Carrier  
Arrayed on 12.3-Foot Rack

Clermont County. At 910 feet the site has views of the surrounding countryside. This may have been a consideration when the ancient people selected this site.

The owners of a 60-acre lot near Crane Run in Clermont County Ohio gave Heartland Research Group access to their property to look for the remains of the Lost Menorah Earthworks. SENSYS from Germany sent its equipment to Ohio and a German engineer came to oversee the first scientific search for the Menorah. It all began in the icy rain at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, December 15, 2018.

### SENSYS Technology

The German technology uses the differential of magnetic forces to identify ancient features under the surface of the earth. The impact of this new technology on archeology is comparable to the impact which MRI technology has had on the practice of modern medicine.

SENSYS, located outside Berlin, is one of the world's leading providers of magnetic and electromagnetic ground survey systems and components for



## Search for Lost Menorah Heartland Research Group

archaeological research. A representative of this company agreed to come to America to demonstrate the operation and effectiveness of their equipment on sites in Clermont and Perry Counties. The German engineer was in Ohio from December 13th to December 18th. The technology identified the remains of human activities which have been buried under the surface of the ground for the last 2,000 years.

The SENSYS equipment has 16 magnetometer probes on a rack which has a width of 12.3 feet. Using this machine allows the Research Group to survey as many as 40 acres in eight hours. In a day it is possible to collect about 30 million data readings. Each data reading has a GPS location which is accurate to a range of +/- 0.25". From these readings, it is possible to detect activities of ancient people who lived in America 20 centuries ago. The German machine creates about 18 data points in a space of one square foot. With this machine it is possible to consider a detailed survey of what is in the ground for hundreds of sites and for thousands of acres.

The amount of information is more than anyone could have imagined ten years ago. Fortunately, with modern-day software, it is possible to create digital images which will identify many kinds of human activity which are from 3 feet to 5 feet under the surface and which occurred at the time of the 1st century. It is amazing that by measuring the magnetic differences caused from construction and the heat of a campfire this technology can identify locations where Native Americans were active in the building of their earth mounds. The fact that this technology can collect and handle this amount of data is a marvel of science.

### Crane Run SENSYS Scan 12/15/18

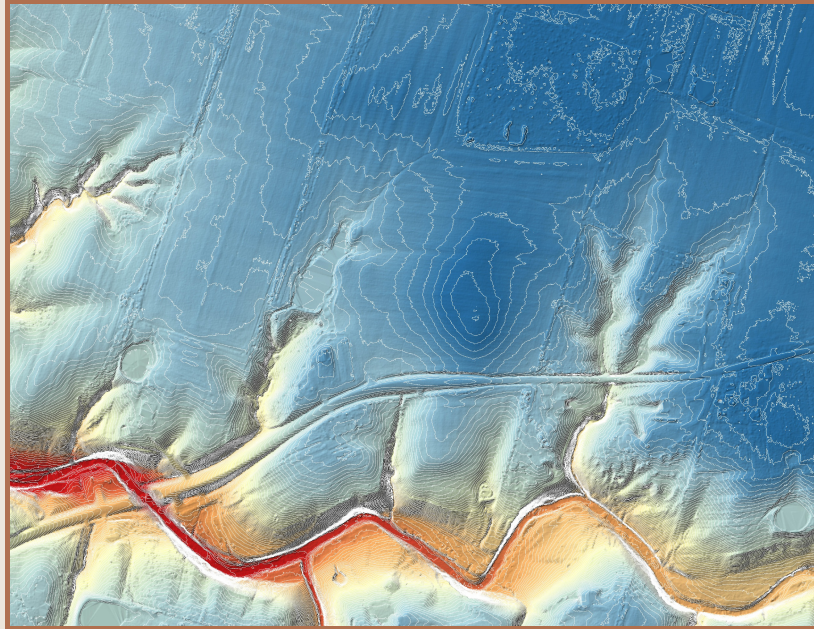
On December 15th the SENSYS equipment from Germany created digital magnetic images which were 4 feet below the surface of the ground. This new technology is capable of identifying the exact location of ancient earthworks. The technology has been used with great success in many countries in Europe. The best example for the application of this technology is at the world famous site of Stonehenge in England.



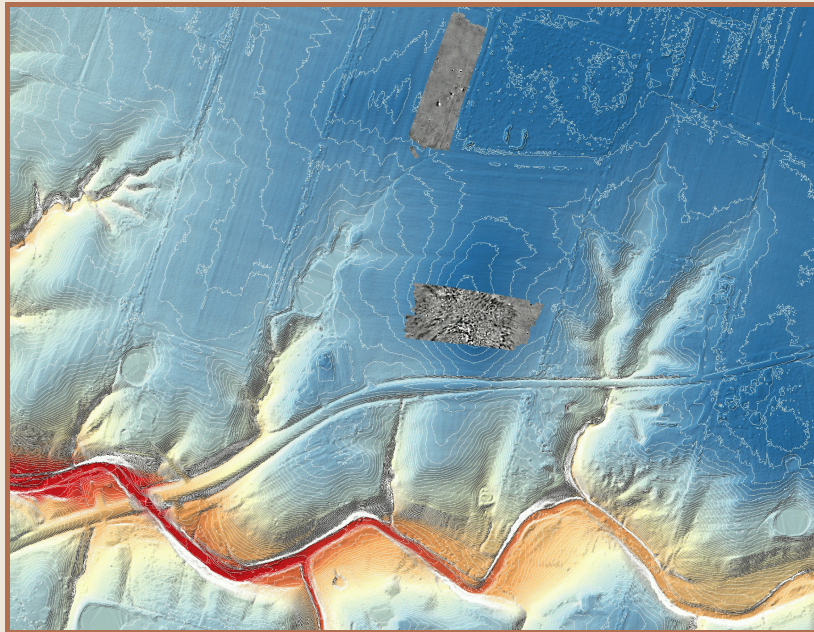
**Figure 8**  
SENSYS Equipment in Field  
Crane Run During Icy Rain, December 15, 2018

Figures 9 and 10 are made from high definition LIDAR images and show within the framework of one-foot contour lines the topographical layout of the land which was scanned on December 15, 2018. After looking at the SENSYS scans within the context of this particular topography, some experts state that the Lost Menorah is not in this area. They say that there are better places to look for the location of the Lost Menorah in Clermont County. These same experts want to take the SENSYS equipment and make more scans in other areas of the county.

**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group



**Figure 9**  
Crane Run Clermont County Elevation  
One Foot Contours



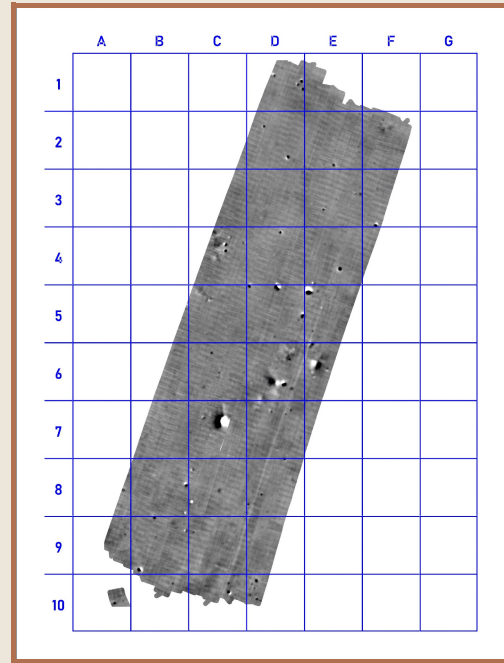
**Figure 10**  
Crane Run Clermont County - SENSYS Scans 12/15/18



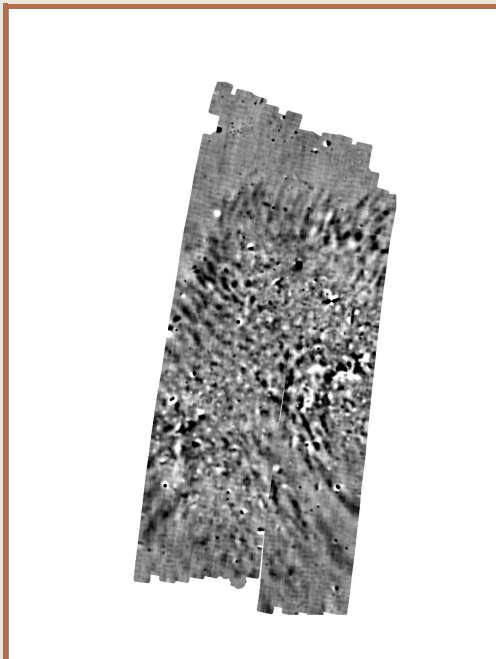
**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group



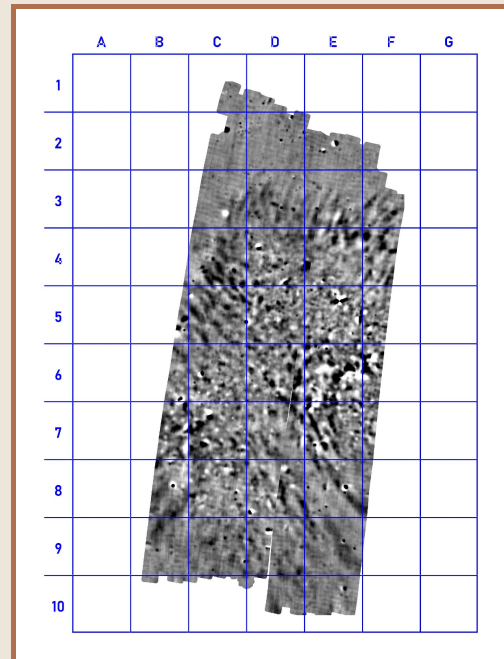
**Figure 11**  
SENSYS Scan 12/15/18a



**Figure 12**  
SENSYS Scan 12/15/18a

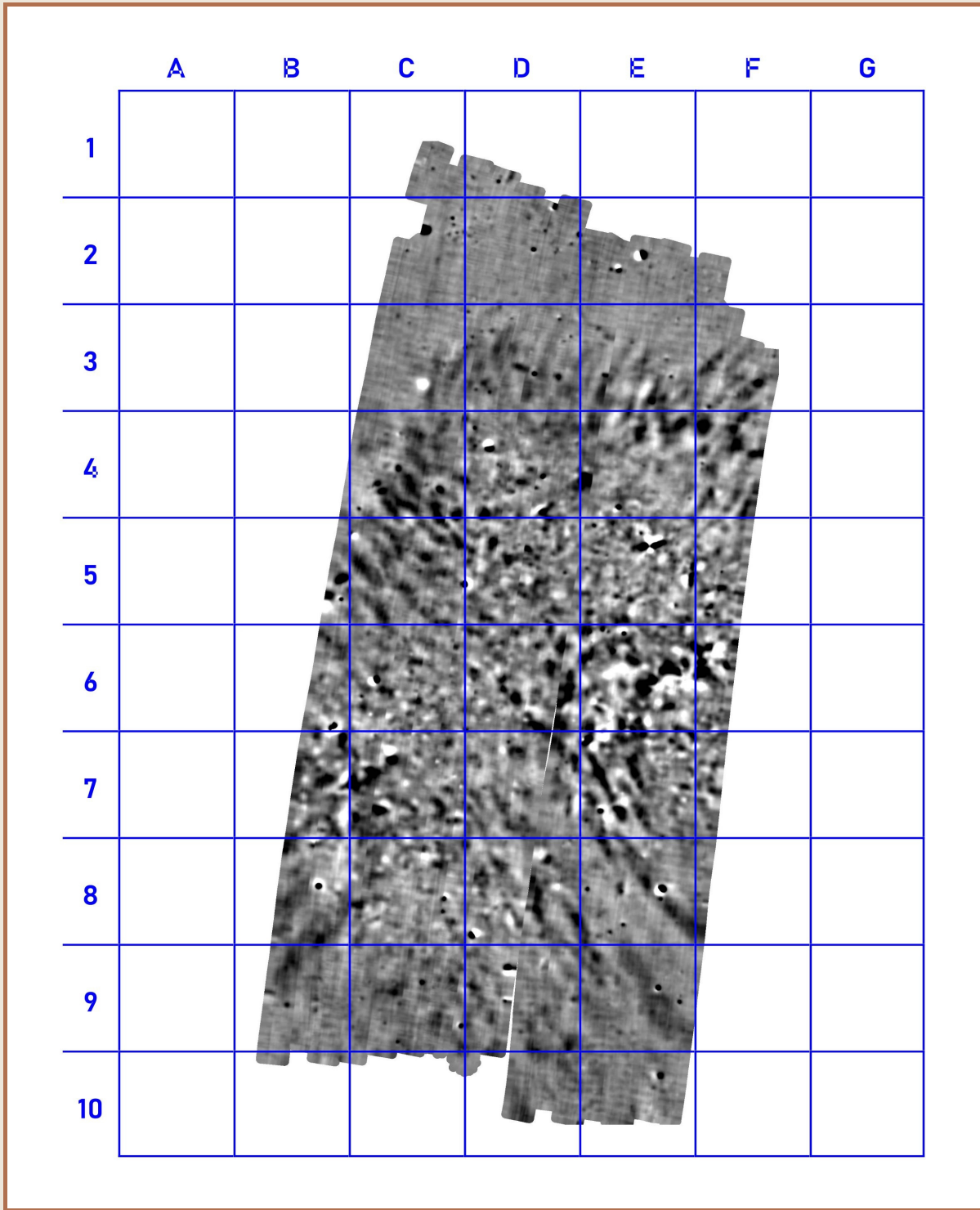


**Figure 13**  
SENSYS Scan 12/15/18b



**Figure 14**  
SENSYS Scan 12/15/18b

Search for Lost Menorah  
Heartland Research Group



**Figure 15**  
SENSYS Scan 12/15/18b

## Search for Lost Menorah

Heartland Research Group

SENSYS Scans 12/15/18

Interpretation of Crane Run Images

Figures 11 - 15 are images from the SENSYS scanning done on December 15, 2018 at Crane Run in Clermont County Ohio. The cells in Figures 12, 14 and 15 are about 50 feet x 50 feet in size. Figures 11 and 12 show the same scanned area. There is no evidences of any destroyed earthworks in this scan. The white and black spots are di-poles and are likely indications of man-made iron objects. These objects could be a piece of discarded farm equipment or an iron horseshoe.

The most interesting SENSYS Scan 12/15/18b which is found in Figures 13, 14 and 15. This is where the scanned image indicates the destruction of earthworks. The following interpretations are made from these Figures.

Cells C3, D3, E3 and F3 show possible signs of dirt moved by a mule-drawn earth scraper. The images suggest drag lengths for one pass of the scraper from 20 to 30 feet. This length is too long for workers moving the dirt with hand tools. It seems a reasonable length for mules pulling the drag lines which chained to a 19th-century earth scraper which was common in Ohio.

Cell E6 could be an area where the top of the earthworks was before its destruction. It seems that the outer most movement of dirt with the scraper was from Cell E6 to Cell E3 which a distance of about 200 feet. A measurement for the depth of the moved dirt would give an estimate of how many cubic feet of dirt were actually moved. If the depth of moved dirt were 4 feet in Cell E4 and Cell E6, that would suggest 2,500 square feet x 4 feet equals 10,000 cubic feet. From such a calculation it would be possible to estimate the height of the original earthworks. This is an interesting question for later investigation.

How long would it have taken diggers with mules to scrape or move the dirt from Cell E3 to Cell E6? We should remember that the early 19th-century American dirt diggers were among the best in the world. They certainly had the advantage of experience. They and/or their +15,000 co-workers were digging the 425-mile Erie Canal which would take them about 2.5 years.

We know a likely spot where this dirt moving destruction took place. Unfortunately, we have only one spot and that fact makes it nearly impossible to know how it might relate to the Lost Menorah Earthworks. We need more scans in the area to determine a possible correlation between the Menorah design and destroyed earthworks.

Why would a landowner in the early 19th-century go to the trouble of moving so much dirt from earthworks which are 2,000 years old? The cost of land in that part of Ohio was cheap. It was selling for about \$1.00 per acre. Dirt digging workers on the Erie Canal were paid the very low wage of \$0.30 per day. That sounds bad. Nevertheless, for landless peasants in Ireland that wage offered a chance for 5,000 men to come to America and to get their families out of the dreadful grip of hunger and poverty.

Here then is a calculation which a property owner would likely have made concerning the use of his land in Ohio in 1820. First, there is cost for the labor of the diggers. Then there is cost for the equipment and the mules. It seems that the landowner would quickly realize that the moving of dirt from an acre of earthworks

**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group

would have been much more expensive than just buying additional land for the planting his corn. It seems reasonable that a landowner would plant his additional corn on land where he would not have to deal with the trouble of taking down the earthworks. Lytle owned the land on Crane Run. He apparently had other motives for wanting to move the dirt. He had lots of money and ambition. He was the richest man in Ohio. He and his brother-in-law were in the canal digging business down on the Ohio River. He would become a member of President Jackson's kitchen cabinet. He would become a part of the administration which implemented the Indian Revomal Act of 1830. He was no friend of the Indians. For his whole life, he bragged how at age 16 he took part in the last Indian battle in Ohio and how he saw the utter destruction of Shawnee village. Does this sound like someone who would have liked to preserve the heritage of the Indians?



**Figure 16**  
William Lytle Military Survey 4247, (1802) Crane Run, Williamsburg Township,  
Clermont County, Ohio



## Search for Lost Menorah

Heartland Research Group

The Mind of Pythagoras Meets  
The Mind of Fibonacci in Ohio

The Menorah is one of the most enduring symbols for the Jews<sup>9</sup>. It is described by Moses in Exodus 25:31-40. The Lord instructed Moses to make the Menorah "according to the pattern shown you on the mountain". So, the design for the Menorah comes from God on Mount Sinai. The Lord told Moses to make the Menorah from one talent of pure gold (about 110 pounds). The Menorah was the lamp stand for the light inside the tabernacle built by Moses in the wilderness and later in the First Temple (10th century BC) and in the Second Temple (1st century AD). The Menorah has been a symbol of Judaism since ancient times and is today the emblem on the coat of arms of the state of Israel. The classic design of the Temple Menorah is found carved in stone in Rome. The carving can be seen from the streets and is a depiction of Legionnaires marching in celebration of victory after their destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem in AD 70. According to Edward Gibbon, author of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, the Second Temple's Menorah today lies at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea, somewhere between Italy and the northern coast of Africa.



**Figure 17**

The Menorah - Titus Victory Arch in Rome, Italy

The Bible often uses patterns to reveal the will of God. Over thousands of years Jews have developed a rich literature which describes the significance of the light which comes from the Menorah. It is certainly one of the oldest symbols in history. Here are three themes which Jews have used to give importance to the light of the Menorah: (1) it represents goodness in the story of Genesis when God separated light from darkness; (2) it is a symbol for the light from the Torah which has guided Jews through their difficult history; and (3) it shows that small light can overcome vast amounts of darkness.

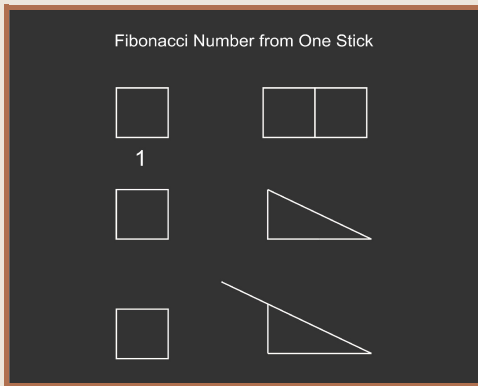
The Lost Menorah in Ohio according to the 1803 Map has many elements of design. It seems that a central point around which the earthworks is constructed is the top of the central column in the nine-column series. Figures 16 - 28 are illustrations of how the 51.8° angle is an important point for connecting the ancient people of North America to the ancient people of the Middle East. The base of the nine columns as they relate to the top of the fifth column are associated with the same angles as are found in the Pyramid of Giza and in the seven columns of light of the Menorah as prescribed by Moses when the Children of Israel were in the wilderness. This angle is perhaps one of the clearest connections between the two peoples. The angle of 51.8° can be created with a straight stick and a piece of string. Figures 16, 17 and 18 show how to get the length of the Fibonacci Number and from that it is possible to use its length as the hypotenuse for a right triangle. One of the three angles in such a right triangle will be 51.8°. This angle is the result of a deliberate calculation on the part of those Ancient Americans who built and designed the Menorah Earthworks.

---

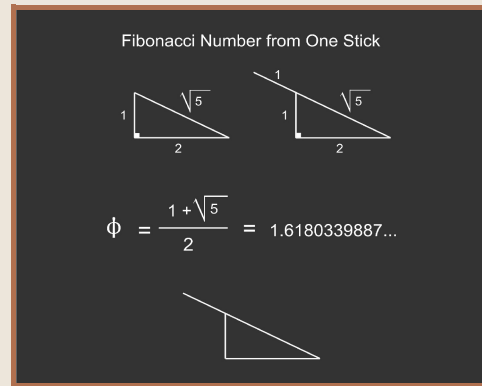
<sup>9</sup>For more information see [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah\\_\(Temple\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_(Temple))



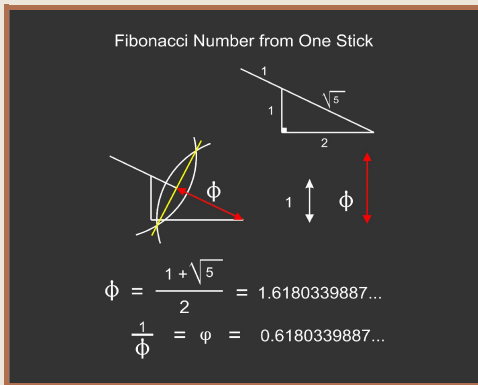
**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group



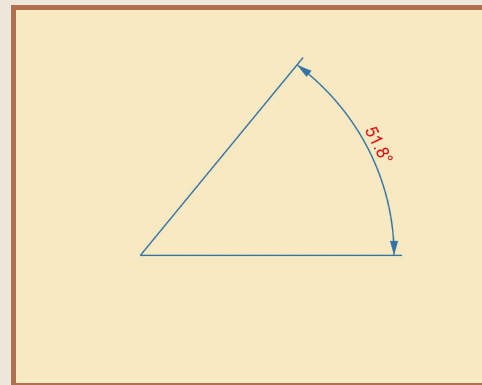
**Figure 18**  
Squares and Triangles



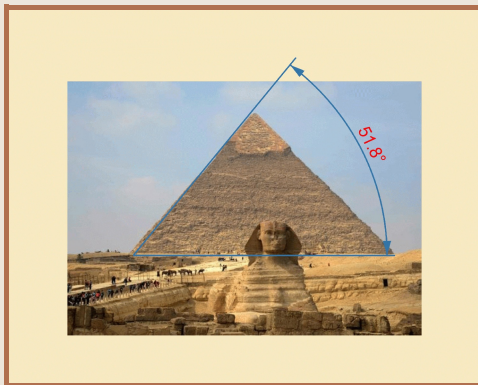
**Figure 19**  
Creating Fibonacci Number (a)



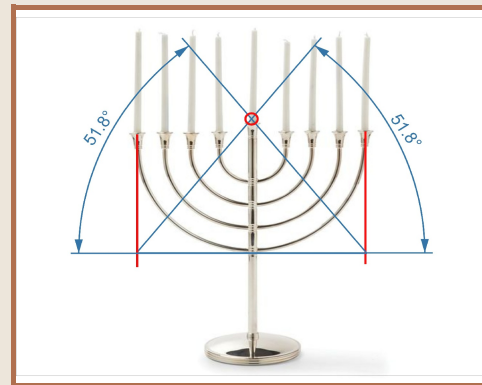
**Figure 20**  
Creating Fibonacci Number (b)



**Figure 21**  
Important Angle in Ancient World



**Figure 22**  
Slope Angle for Pyramid of Giza

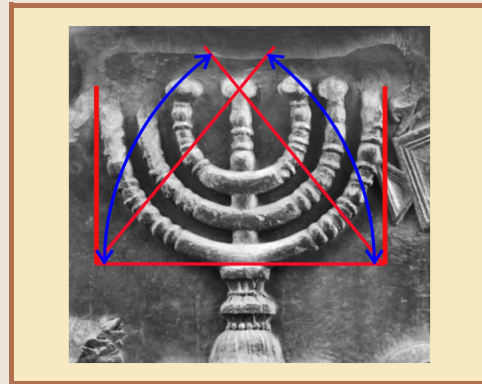


**Figure 23**  
Classic Menorah Design for Hanukkah

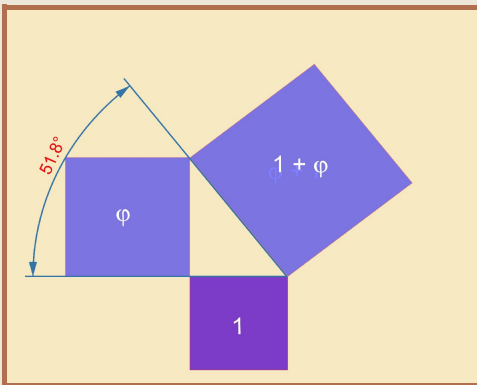
**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group



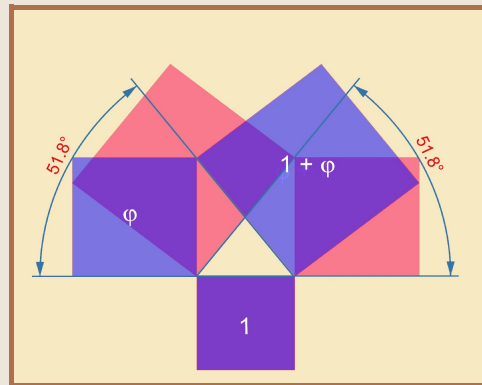
**Figure 24**  
Arch of Titus in Rome 70 AD



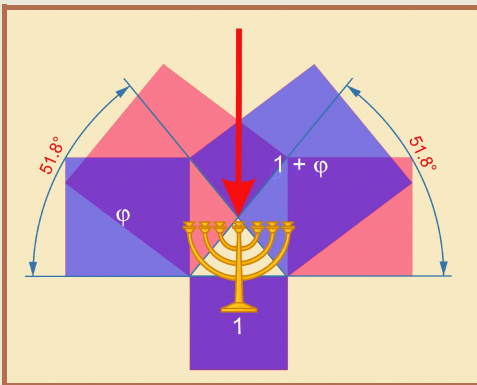
**Figure 25**  
Menorah 70 AD within 51.8 Angles



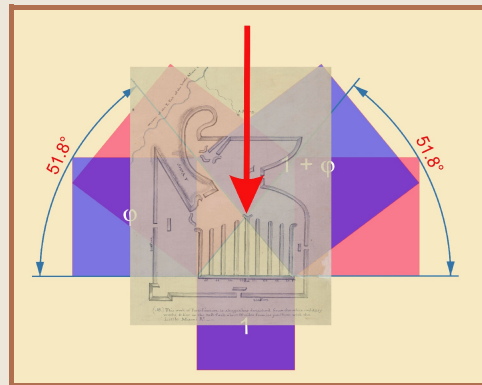
**Figure 26**  
Pythagoras and Fibonacci



**Figure 27**  
Pythagoras and Fibonacci

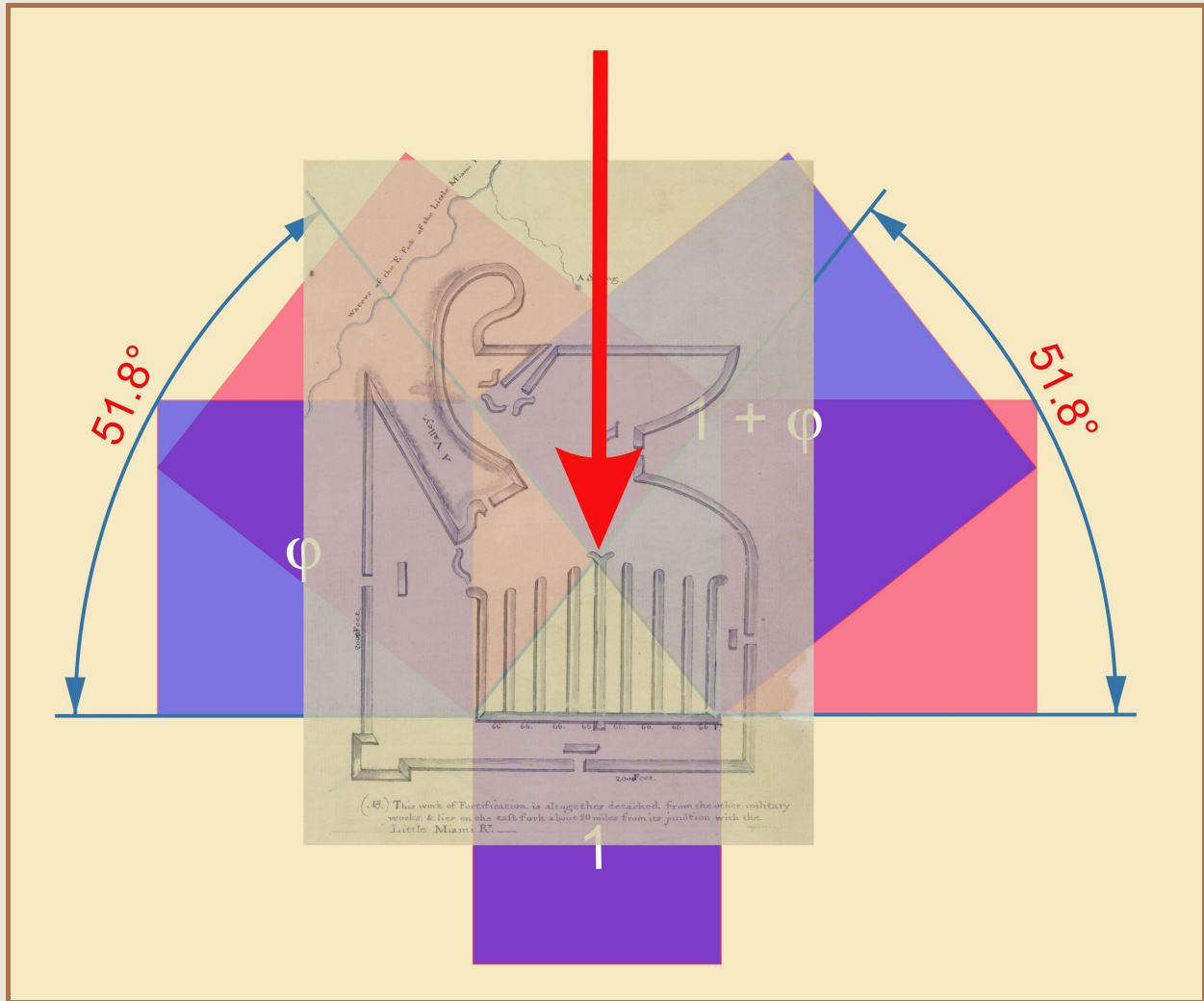


**Figure 28**  
Temple Menorah Central Light



**Figure 29**  
Lost Menorah in Clermont County

**Search for Lost Menorah**  
Heartland Research Group



**Figure 30**  
Lost Menorah in Clermon County

# Request for Research Funding

February 15, 2019

For current information about the methods and the goals for the Heartland Research Group go to the web at <https://heartlandresearch.group/>. This cutting edge research has a cost. The Group needs your support. For more than two generations too many people have looked in the wrong places for evidences which are connected to the Book of Mormon. Scripture promises that "the truth shall spring out of the ground" but that can only happen if we are looking in places where the truth took place.

Send your donations via PayPal [heartlandresearchgroup@gmail.com](mailto:heartlandresearchgroup@gmail.com). Make a donation in a meaningful amount so that those who are doing this research can make a meaningful impact on those studies which confirm that Ancient Hebrews were in North America. After all, we can only hope to witness the truth magnetically springing out of the ground if we are seriously measuring and searching on top of that ground where the truth is buried.

John C. Legren, PhD  
Economic Historian

Heartland Research Group  
Registered Nonprofit Corporation

5768 Monocacy Drive  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
Mobile Phone 484-548-3350  
Email [john.lefgren@gmail.com](mailto:john.lefgren@gmail.com)