

Table 2.B

Diction, language typology, and placement symbolism in the small plates of Nephi

Temporal observation	Suggested symbol pattern	Suggested letter pattern
then, now, then	=∩=	ABA
artificial day, night	☺ ☹ ☺ ☹ ☺ ☹ ☺ ☹	ABABABAB
sun position, brightness	☀☀ and ☀☀☀☀☀☀ *☀☀* and *☀☀☀☀☀☀*	ABA and ABACABAC ABCBA and ABCBADABCBA
full moon, new moon nights	☺ ☹ ☺ ☹ ☺ ☹ ☺ ☹	ABABABAB
visibly notable moon phases	*☀☀* and *☀☀☀☀☀☀*	ABCBA and ABCBADABCBA
synodic month	*~☀~* or *☀~*~*	ABCBDDBCBAE or EABCBDDBCBA

Year-term symbolism

Diction, type and pattern	Proposed meaning
Singular <i>year</i> or A	chronological system related to royalty in the kingdom of Judah
Plural <i>years</i> or B	chronological systems related to prophecy in Judah or with Lehi ₁ 's followers
(AB[A]BA) letter pattern	12 B year-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent usual year of 12 synodic months 4 A year-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent most number of years for intercalation
Single (B) letter-set	13 B year-terms in year-related expressions after Nephi ₁ 's (AB[A]BA) letter pattern represent intercalated year of 13 synodic months or perhaps 13 sidereal months
(BA[B]AB) letter pattern	13 B year-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent intercalated year of 13 synodic months 2 A year-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent least number of years for intercalation
Single B letter pattern	12 B year-terms in year-related expressions after Nephi ₁ represent the usual year of 12 synodic months
(1/6/1/6/1) number pattern	(1+1+1 = 3) in Nephi ₁ 's writings represents the 3 roles of the prophesied prophet, Messiah, and Savior of the world, and 3 B year-terms may represent the usual number of years for intercalation (6+6 = 12) in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent 12 apostles having the brightness of the moon and the usual year of 12 synodic months composed of two 6-month semesters

Time-term symbolism

Diction, type and pattern	Proposed meaning
Personalized or G	12 G time-terms in the small plates represent the usual year of 12 synodic months 7 G time-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent a 7-day week
(6 within 7) number pattern	6 (G) letter-sets in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent 6 days of labor in the 7-day week
Long name or D	unique express time-term in the small plates (distinct from 12 G time-terms) implies intercalated year of 13 synodic months and/or year of 13 sidereal months Nephi ₁ 's 6 (G) letter-sets combine with Jacob ₂ 's single (D) letter-set (apparently planned by Nephi ₁) to represent a 7-day week ending in a Sabbath day 6 of the G and D time-terms in the small plates describe the Lehi era and imply the Lehi era context and/or a 6-month lunar semester

Time-term symbolism (continued)

Diction, type and pattern	Proposed meaning
Omitted or H	10 H time-terms intertwine with 7 G time-terms in Nephi ₁ 's writings to create his (GH[G]HG)[H](GH[G]HG) letter pattern that draws particular attention to the central [H] letter-set representing the time when the Holy One of Israel reigns on earth
(GH[G]HG) letter pattern	3 G time-terms and 7 H time-terms in First Nephi represent 2 G delimiting times and a central G time of importance 7 H time-terms in First Nephi create a single (H) letter-set and a second (H) letter-set composed of 6 H time-terms, representing 6 days of labor following the Sabbath day of the 7-day week and the continuous nature of the 7-day cycle 4 G time-terms and 2 H time-terms in Second Nephi represent 2 G delimiting times and a central G time of importance 7 G time-terms and 9 H time-terms in the (GH[G]HG) letter-groups in Nephi ₁ 's writings represent a (7 within 9) number pattern suggesting two continuous 7-day and 9-day cycles (the larger being a Mesoamerican divinatory cycle) 5 G time-terms and 6 H time-terms in the writings of Jacob ₂ , his descendants and Mormon ₂ also represent 2 G delimiting times and a central G time of importance
(D)(GH[G]HG) letter pattern	6 express D and G time-terms and 6 H time-terms divide these 12 time-terms into 2 groups of 6 each, suggesting a 12-month calendar divided into two 6-month semesters
(GHGHG)(H)(GH[G]HG) (D)(GHGHG) letter pattern	17 time-term letter-sets apparently planned by Nephi ₁ draw particular attention to the central [G] letter-set associated with the calling of Isaiah ₁ and his prophecy of the destruction of Judah

Narrative-link symbolism

Diction, type and pattern	Proposed meaning
Prepositional or Q	9 Q narrative-links initially form a balanced and reversible (1/1/2/1/2/1/1) number pattern and a 7-unit, balanced and non-reversible (<i>of/in/of</i>)(<i>for</i>)(<i>in/of/in</i>) diction pattern that suggest a (7 within 9) number pattern representing a continuous, evening to evening count of 7-day weeks within a continuous, evening to evening count of 9-day cycles (suggesting Mesoamerican 9-day divinatory cycles) 12 Q narrative-links in the small plates represent the usual year of 12 synodic months and 6 <i>in</i> narrative-links represent a 6-month lunar semester or Near Eastern festival/agricultural/equinoctial season that divides the year 9 Q units based on diction: <i>in</i> (4 units); <i>of</i> (3 units); <i>for</i> (1 unit); <i>within</i> (1 unit) create a (9 within 12) number pattern perhaps representing continuous cycles of 9-days within continuous cycles of 12-month years 7th and 12th Q (<i>in</i>) narrative-links use a distinctive definition of <i>in</i> to mean "at the expiration" of a "limit of time", perhaps representing the limits of a second 6-month lunar semester and/or the key calendrical measurements of the Lehi era: continuous cycles of 7-day weeks within continuous cycles of 12-month years
Adverbial or U	2 U narrative-links connect general chronological statements with specific ones and represent detailed attention to the prophecies of a Messiah's birth and a land of promise for Lehi ₁ 's descendants
(QU[Q]UQ) letter pattern	5 Q narrative-links and 2 U narrative-links in First Nephi represent a 7-day week that includes narratives about unrighteous rulers and descendants, suffering in a wilderness, and antagonism to the prophecies of true prophets

Narrative-link symbolism (continued)

Diction, type and pattern	Proposed meaning
Verbal or R	<p>15 R narrative-links are associated with time spent at Bountiful through the time of Lehi₁ and his descendants, apparently planned so the last R narrative-link would help to record the fulfillment of Lehi₁'s 600-year prophecy</p> <p>3 R narrative-links, 1 in First Nephi and 2 in Second Nephi relate to Nephi₁'s contentions with his brothers in Bountiful and the New World, and their continued conflict as the leaders of separate peoples</p> <p>12 R narrative-links in the writings of Jacob₂, his descendants, and Mormon₂ represent the usual year of 12 synodic months and suggest that later descendants stopped adding temporal-expressions to the plates, so as to reserve the placement of their 12th temporal-expression for a record of the fulfillment of Lehi₁'s 600-year prophecy</p>
(RQ[R]QR) letter pattern	Jacob ₂ 's R narrative-link, which begins the final R letter-set, represents his confirmation of Nephi ₁ 's narrative-link placement plan and sets the example for the narrative-links to be used by Jacob ₂ 's descendants

Jacob 1:1 placement symbolism

Element type	Proposed meaning
Time-term letter-set	D time-term or 12th time-term letter-set in these plates represents the Lehi era calendar composed of 12 synodic months cycling continuously
Year-term letter-set	B year-term or part of 6th year-term letter-set in these plates represents a Lehi era lunar semester of 6 synodic months cycling continuously
Temporal-expression	18th temporal-expression in the small plates of Nephi represents a Mesoamerican calendar composed of 18 synodic months cycling continuously
(6 and 12 within 18) number pattern	represents Lehi era calendar year composed of 2 6-month semesters measured within the context of a Mesoamerican 18-month calendar year composed of 3 6-month semesters
Narrative-link letter-set	10th narrative-link letter-set in these plates represents a numerical component of 10
Number-term letter-set	first 10 letter-sets (KMLOLNLOLM) symbolize a synodic month or moon and the following 3 letter-sets (LML) represent a numerical component of 3
(10+10 = 20) number pattern	10 narrative-link and 10 number-term letter-sets combine to represent a Mesoamerican continuous cycle of 20 day-names
(10+3 = 13) number pattern	10 narrative-link and 3 number-term letter-sets combine to represent a Mesoamerican continuous cycle of 13 day-numbers
(20 with 13) number-pattern	double use of 10 narrative-link letter-sets creates (20 with 13) pattern to represent a Mesoamerican 260-day cycle
(KMLOLNLOLM) letter pattern	symbolizes a synodic month or moon and represents a chronological period of 20 days
(20 with 13) number-pattern	symbolic moon representing 20 days and (10+3 = 13) narrative-link and number-term letter-sets representing 13 days symbolize another 260-day cycle
(2x260 within 18) number pattern	520-day period or 3 eclipse half-years are implied within a context of a Mesoamerican 18-month calendar year composed of 3 6-month lunar semesters
(20 + 9 or 10) number pattern	symbolic moon (KMLOLNLOLM) representing 20 days plus 9 narrative-link letter-sets in Nephi ₁ 's writings prior to Jacob 1:1 or 10 narrative-link letter-sets in Jacob 1:1 imply alternative lengths (29 or 30 days) of a synodic month
(3 + 9 or 10) number pattern	(LML) number-term letter-sets combine with 9 narrative-link letter-sets in Nephi ₁ 's writings prior to Jacob 1:1 or 10 narrative-link letter-sets in Jacob 1:1 to symbolize 12 synodic months or 13 sidereal months