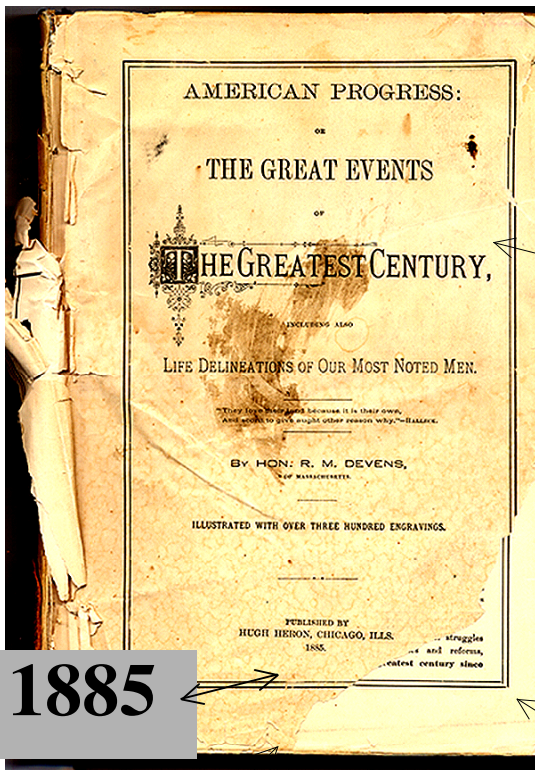


## Where did the Book of Mormon come from?

There are only two stories, as recorded in this 1885 American history book, concerning where the Book of Mormon came from.  
**Which story is true?**



1885

“God...revealing himself to Joseph Smith...thus making...a new dispensation which is to precede the second coming of Christ...”  
(*The Great Events of The Greatest Century*, p. 215-216)



The “hill” called “Cumorah.”  
Located south of Palmyra, New York.

“It is charged by the opponents of Smith that the book in question was not the production of Smith, in any wise, but of the of Rev. Solomon Spaulding, who wrote it as **a sort of romance**, and that it was seen and stolen by Sidney Rigdon, afterwards Smith’s right-hand man.”

“Mr. Spaulding’s business partner, Mr. Miller, testified on oath as follows: **‘I have recently examined the Book of Mormon, and find in it the writings of Solomon Spaulding, from beginning to end, but mixed up with Scripture and other religious matter...’**”  
(*The Great Events of The Greatest Century*, p. 215-216)

“According to his own account...” Joseph Smith received from “**the Angel Moroni...a bundle of golden...plates** deposited in a hill in Manchester, New York... **Translated into plain English**” (*The Great Events of The Greatest Century*, p. 215-216)

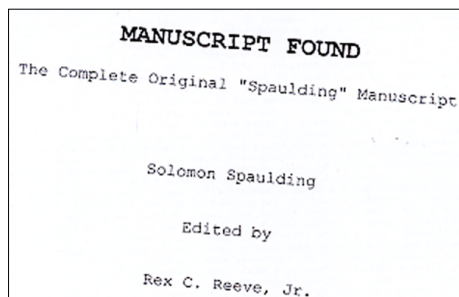
### Could Joseph Smith have written the Book of Mormon using archaeological information available to him at the time?

**No.** Because, in the year **1830**, there wasn’t any significant archaeological information on Mesoamerica that would have been **available to him**. It would have been impossible for Joseph Smith or anyone else, in the 1830’s, to produce a book that would match **future** archaeological discoveries.

The “*Book of Mormon*” was published for the first time in **1830**.

The only significant archaeological book that is known to have become available to Joseph Smith was “*The Incidents of Travel in Yucatan*”

John Lloyd Stephens published for the first time in **1841** “*The Incidents of Travel in Yucatan*”. This book was about John Lloyd Stephens’s travels in Central America and contained drawings of various ruins that he had visited.



There are **24 pages**, in Solomon Spaulding’s “*sort of romance*”.  
And **531 pages**, in the Book of Mormon.

**1830**  
Book of Mormon.

