

Oklahoma Hevener Runestone: decipherment into Iberian

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Gloria Farley was born and grew up in Hevener, Oklahoma, on land recently obtained from the Choctaw Indians. A local resident introduced Gloria to the Hevener runestone when she was a teenager, an event that focused her life toward finding more evidence of ancient peopling of the Americas. During fifty years, she found and documented hundreds of other inscriptions.

Gloria deduced that only someone familiar with runes could have left the inscription. However, it was not entirely runes, some letters were reversed, and no Norse sites existed in Oklahoma. Therefore, she dismissed the Norse hypothesis, but was unable to proceed further.

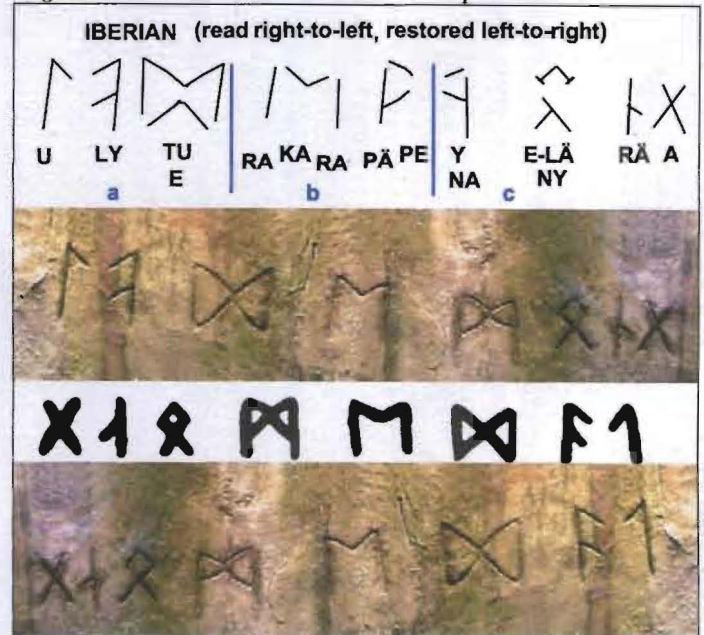
She and her collaborator Barry Fell failed to translate the inscription into Norse. That is because the writing is not the Runic alphabet, but Iberian consonant-vowel script. The scribe wrote right-to-left, a common practice in Spain. The tell-tale letters are the first two, U LY, which read in only one direction.

Iberian scribes employed some tricks to reduce most common words to one or two consonant-vowel syllables: delete the final consonant of every syllable, which eliminates double consonants; delete internal D, H, J, T and V; and compress the remaining vowel string into the first vowel. When writing, combine letters judiciously to save space.

The Heavener inscription has eight letters, which expand into 16 CV syllables, which in turn expand into three sentences. Compound letter, TU-E, has three different readings, each of which contributes to the inscription. Final letter A reads Akka, the name of the letter, meaning 'Old Woman, Mother Earth', and represents a prayer to her.

The time lies between 700 BC and 0 AD when Iberian was written. Most likely it is between 400 BC and 300 BC, when Carthage transported many different groups of people to America. For example, the Adena, ancestors of the Shawnee, arrived in Ohio in 400 BC.

Figure 1: Hevener Runestone inscription.



Iberian

- a. U LY TU E, TU E, TU E.
- b. RA KA RA, PÄ PE.
- c. Y NA E-LÄ NY, RÄ A.

Finnish

- a. Urhoa lyötiin tuulten etelän, tulvan 'eden, tuhannen estea.
- b. Rae kaatoi ravasta, päättyi perhettä.
- c. Yhtä naista elävät nyt, rähjää akkaa.

English

- a. The men were defeated by wind from the south, by flood waters, by a thousand obstacles.
- b. Hail toppled the people, finished the families.
- c. Some women live now, wretched women.

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