

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

The following section will show how the mystery stone in New Hampshire was used in a lodestone compass for alignment in building the Newport Tower in R.I. and locating the west boundary of Vinland in Minnesota by measuring the magnetic declination of the earth to establish longitude location.

It also provides a vision in symbols of what the user recorded as he explored the interior of America. He saw the round face of the Mandan living in a round log and sod home next to the plains Indian living in teepees. He explained what they ate and how they measured time and distance over 500 years ago.

The mystery stone has the Portuguese rose wheel on the top and bottom as well as a double diameter hole from top to bottom with vertical wear marks indicating it was likely loaded by packing magnetic magnetite into the hole to allow the compass needle to point to magnetic north.



Mystery Stone of N.H.



The two Norths



Magnetic declination

by William Smith

Part 2

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THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

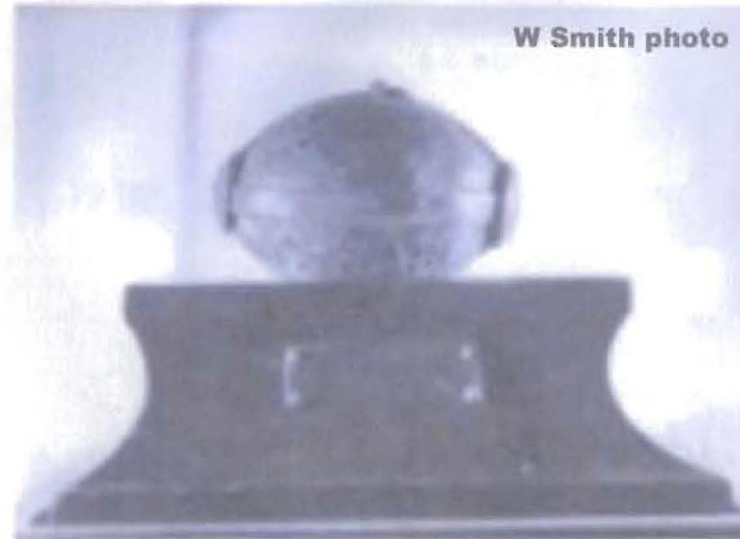
Mystery Stone of New Hampshire (giving up some secrets)?

W Smith photo



New Hampshire Mystery Stone

W Smith photo



1600 Lodestone Bermuda

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Lodestone compass (1250 AD to 1600 AD)

The intent of this report is to identify the Mystery Stone in New Hampshire and its function as part of a lodestone compass.

In addition a complete replica of a lodestone compass will show how the builder used this compass at the Newport Tower in Rhode Island and the placement of the Kensington Rune stone boundary marker in Kensington Minnesota. It will also show how the carvings on the stone are a recorded history of early USA.

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

The Mystery Stone History

- In 1872, construction workers dug up a suspicious lump of clay near the shore of Lake Winnepesaukee. Seneca A. Ladd of Meredith discovered this intriguing carved stone and his daughter, Frances Ladd Coe of Center Harbor donated the Mystery Stone to the New Hampshire Historical Society in 1927 where it remains today. The Society does not know of any other reported findings of a stone like this until now. (see its mate the Sommers stone on page one)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Admiral George Sommers Lodestone

- The lodestone used by Admiral Sommers in 1600 is on display at the Historical Society Museum in Bermuda. Admiral Sommers was the fleet commander of 9 English ships which were sent to relieve the people of Jamestown. In a storm one ship was lost and 7 aborted their cargo before going on to Jamestown. The ship of Admiral Sommers went aground in Bermuda with all crew and cargo intact. After ten months of constructing two ships, they sailed on to Jamestown with their cargo to relieve the 60 Jamestown survivors.

The New York Lodestone Compass

- The following slides explain some artifacts found in a cave in the Caskille Mountains which are the tools of an early cartographer. The lodestone compass in this group did not include a lodestone, however the New Hampshire Mystery stone makes a very good fit into the assembly. The lodestone compass shown in the next slides was made to show a working compass and its use to measure magnetic declination.

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Overview of artifacts and notes

The subject artifacts were found in a cave in the Catskill Mountains in the state of New York in the mid 1970s. They were in the possession of the late Dr. Jackson until his death in 2007. In 2008 the artifacts were given to Mr. Don Ruh.

Mr Ruh has asked that I not show any of the original photos at this time, however all of the photos of the compass components are to scale and of the same material.



Wikipedia

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

The Lodestone compass

- The following slides will show each part of the compass and explain it's function to the assembly. The lodestone compass assembly will be addressed in five sub assemblies.
- A-Base plate for holding compass.
- B- Holding basket for holding lodestone.
- C- Compass body for holding needle and oil.
- D- Compass lid and sun dial Medallion.
- O- Other cartographer tools and notes.
- The gimbals box allows the compass assembly to remain level when on a ship.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass holding plate (A)

- The compass holding plate is made of 1/32 in copper about 6 in. by 4 in. The wire cage on the top side is copper for holding the compass body and allow easy removal. Lead solder was used to fuse the wire cage to the holding plate. The notches on all sides of the plate are relief for the copper straps that hold the lodestone under the plate. The lead on the underside of the plate is to provide stability to the base as well as to decrease corrosion of the assembly.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass holding plate A (cont.)

- The hole in the compass plate is for a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. brass rod (gnomen) that is adjustable up and down to measure latitude at the holding plate by reading a scale on the base of the rod. The original brass rod is about 6.88 in. long with 6.25 in. marked as the length to be above the holding plate at it's longest setting.
- The rod is pointed at the upper end to generate a shadow from the sun light or a pointer on the medallion when in use. The two notches on the lower end of the holding plate is to allow the user to view the scale on the rod in relation to the upper surface of the holding plate.

(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)



W Smith photo



W Smith photo
(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass holding plate A (cont.)

When the rod is placed in its highest position in the hole in the holding plate and the one in. thick compass body with medallion is in the wire cage the angles generated from the top of the rod to the compass face would be of importance to the user.

Line A: from the center of the compass to the top of the rod is 26 degrees. This would indicate the home latitude for the compass manufacture would be 26 degrees north. This 26 degree latitude is important in many early navigational tools, and building structures of ancient times. It is also the holy angle of the Egyptians.

Lines B,C and D will be covered in the compass lid section D.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Holding basket for lodestone B

- The holding basket for the lodestone is made of two copper strips of material which cross at 90 degree angles and rest on the upper surface of the holding plate. The strips are bent to conform to the notches in the holding plate. The ends of the strips are cut to form two bending points on each that secures a brass ring 2.25 in in diameter making a basket to hold the lodestone. The basket on this compass is designed to hold a lodestone 4.25 in. long and 2.5 in. in diameter.
(Mystery Stone of NH)



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Holding basket for lodestone B cont.

- The lodestone was not found with the artifacts, however a replica of the Mystery Stone of Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire may be from this compass. This stone is 4.25 in. long and 2.5 in. in diameter.
- The Mystery Stone was found in 1872 when construction workers were digging a hole. It has a vertical hole made of two different sizes which go thru the stone. The lower hole portion shows a lot of straight marks indicating the stone was loaded with magnetite. This would generate a magnetic field to charge the metal needle in the compass.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)



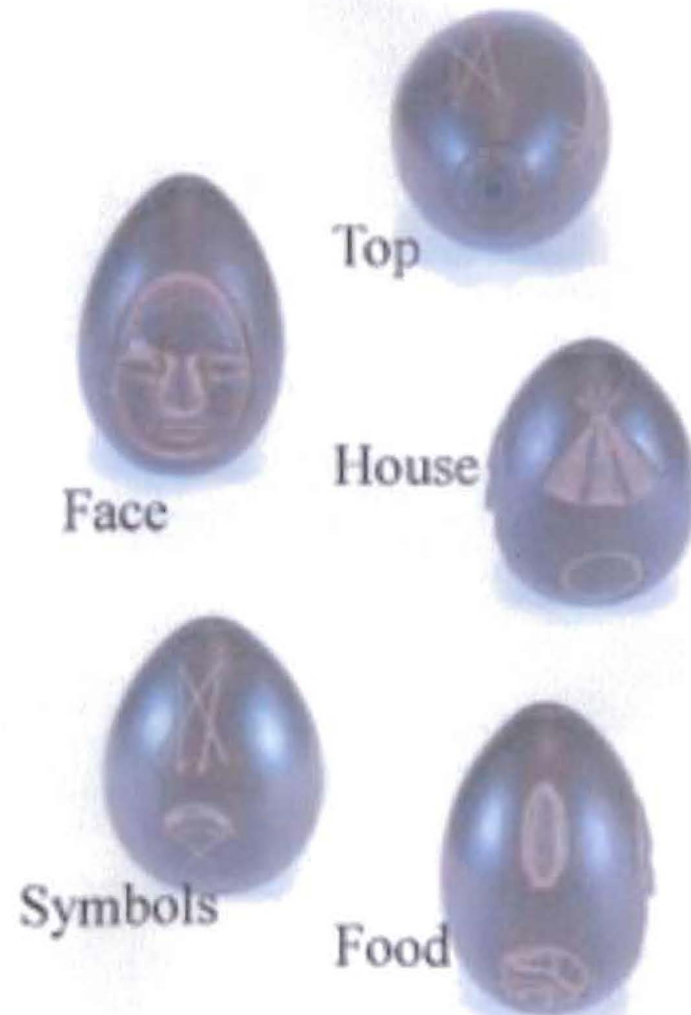
Bottom of Mystery Stone

W Smith photo

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Holding basket for lodestone B cont.

- The top and bottom of the stone has the cardinal star.
- The face is round and likely the face of a Mandan native American.
- The Teepee and Round house only existed together in western Minn.
- The two pointers represent magnetic north and true north.
- The crescent moon and sun and star represent lunar navigation.
- The spiral of two and one half turns represents lunar months or 75 days.
- The ear of corn and plate with fish, bird and deer leg represent food.



- (thanks to Mr. Wesley G. Balla, director of collections & Exhibitions at Museum of New Hampshire History for the photos and information on The Mystery Stone)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass body for holding needle - C

- The compass body was made from 1/16 in. sheet copper. The outer diameter piece was pinned with two brass pins, the core of the compass was filled with lead to give it stability. The recess portion of the compass held the floating steel needle on a 1/16 pin pivot of brass. Also inside the compass was a small circular map of copper. A 1/4 in. wide strip of copper was used to form five scale surfaces to read the needle position. Each of these five surfaces were used with one of the five arcs on the medallion (lid).



W Smith photo

(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass body for holding needle – C cont.

- The five arcs on the medallion or compass lid and the five scales inside the compass body were used to compensate for the change in the length of day due to latitude position on the earth change. The compass body with medallion lid were made to be removed from the lodestone assembly once the location was recorded on the copper disc inside the compass body. The Cartographer would transfer the recorded information from the small circular disc to a large map with the aid of an enlarger tool most likely 1 to 20 transfer ratio.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass body for holding needle – C cont.

- The chart to the right shows the difference in the length of day light hours due to the change of latitude position on the earth as well as the time of the year. By using the arc on the medallion and it,s scale in the compass body that matches, the user would improve the accuracy of reading location.
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- (Day Length for Various Latitudes) published in Meeus, Jean. (1991) *Astronomical algorithms*, Richmond, Va.: Willmann-Bell ISBN 0943396352

Day Length for Various Latitudes (Meeus, 1991)

Latitude 40°

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Day	9:51	10:10	10:29	10:48	11:07	11:26	11:45	12:04	12:23	12:42	13:01	13:20
Night	14:09	13:50	13:31	13:12	12:53	12:34	12:15	11:56	11:37	11:18	10:59	10:40
Day	10:11	10:30	10:49	11:08	11:27	11:46	12:05	12:24	12:43	13:02	13:21	13:40
Night	13:49	13:30	13:11	12:52	12:33	12:14	11:55	11:36	11:17	10:58	10:39	10:20

Latitude 50°

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Day	9:01	9:20	9:39	9:58	10:17	10:36	10:55	11:14	11:33	11:52	12:11	12:30
Night	14:59	14:40	14:21	14:02	13:43	13:24	13:05	12:46	12:27	12:08	11:49	11:30
Day	9:21	9:40	9:59	10:18	10:37	10:56	11:15	11:34	11:53	12:12	12:31	12:50
Night	14:39	14:20	14:01	13:42	13:23	13:04	12:45	12:26	12:07	11:48	11:29	11:10

Latitude 60°

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Day	8:11	8:30	8:49	9:08	9:27	9:46	10:05	10:24	10:43	11:02	11:21	11:40
Night	15:49	15:30	15:11	14:52	14:33	14:14	13:55	13:36	13:17	12:58	12:39	12:20
Day	8:31	8:50	9:09	9:28	9:47	10:06	10:25	10:44	11:03	11:22	11:41	12:00
Night	15:29	15:10	14:51	14:32	14:13	13:54	13:35	13:16	12:57	12:38	12:19	12:00

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass body for holding needle – C cont.

- The small 2 in. diameter copper Disc that rest below the needle in the compass body is most likely to be one of the first maps of the east coast of the United States. Side one of the disc is the voyage from Spain to the Caribbean. Side two of the disc is the recorded last voyage of the ship from the Caribbean to Maine. The X in a circle on side two marks the tomb of the ship. The octopus design is the ships symbol and is also shown on a copper plate which was the last recorded work of the cartographer.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

Side 1 - Europe to America
(Caribbean)



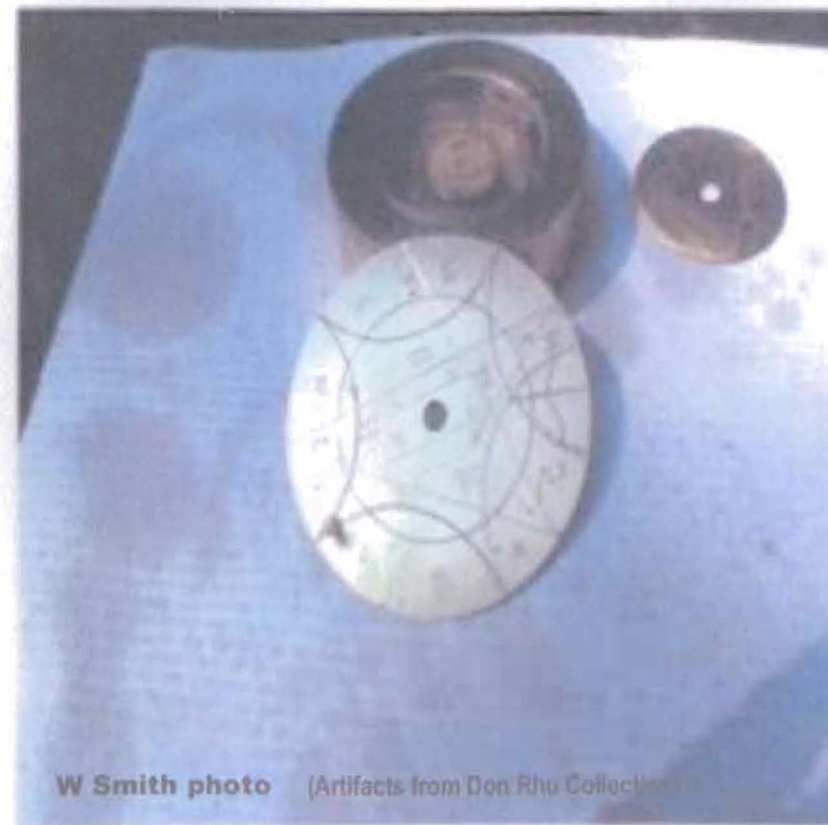
Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

Side 2 – Caribbean to (Maine) (Ships
Tomb)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part - D

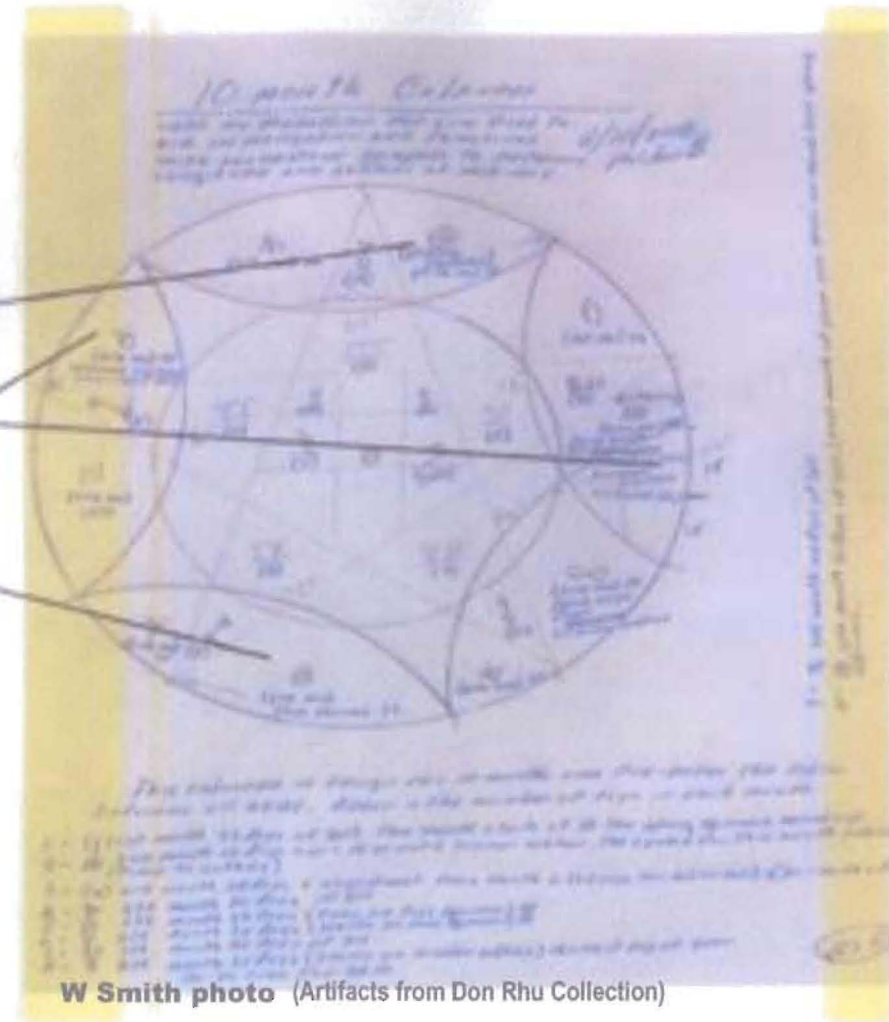
- The compass lid or medallion is made to fit on top of the compass body and pivot on one brass pin. Its face has markings that work in conjunction with the brass rod on the holding plate to form a sun dial for determining mid day. Each symbol on the medallion will be explained in the following slides.



THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part – D cont.

- The outer symbols mark the 10 months of a year which were standard prior to 45 BC. Or the Julian calendar.
- Spring equinox -
- Summer solstice -
- Fall equinox -
- Winter solstice -
- These symbols imply that the technology of this medallion may predate the birth of Christ, however does not verify the date of this compass.

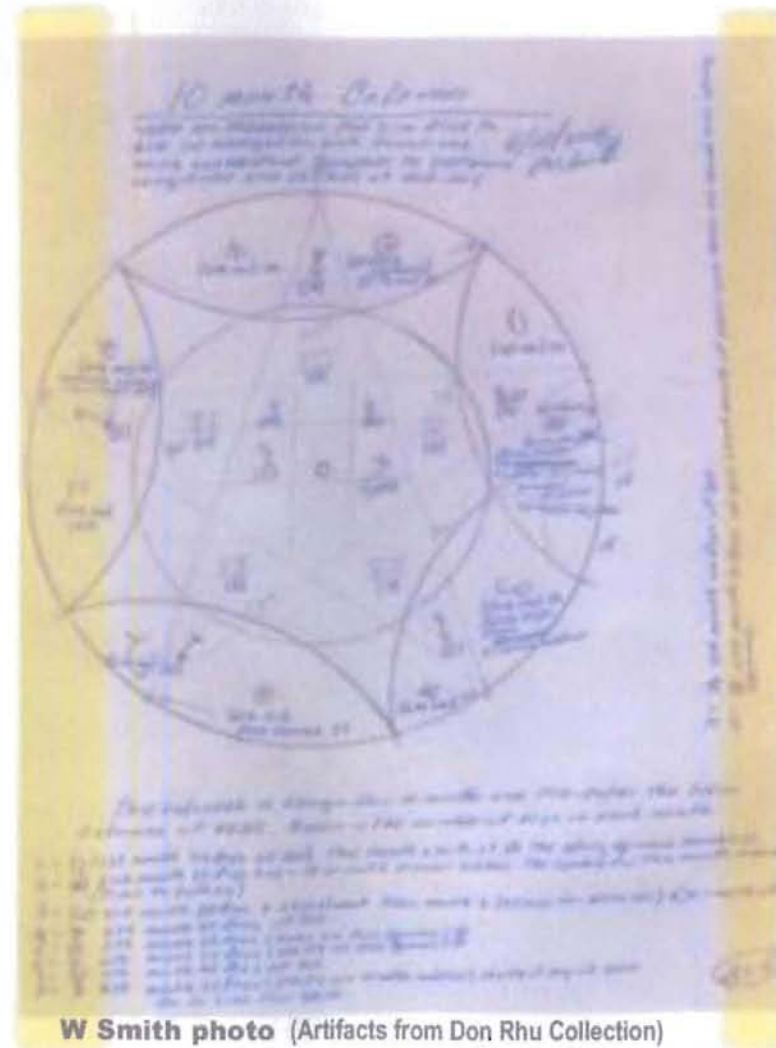


W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part – D cont.

- The home latitude of the user is 32 degrees north, represented by the perfect circle. At mid-day the user could adjust the base plate rod height to cast a shadow on this circle. The variance to home latitude could be read at the base of the rod where it inserts into the holding plate. The compass would then be rotated to one of the five arcs which best represent his latitude. The chosen arc would be located away from the vertical rod to allow the sun's shadow to follow the arc during mid day.

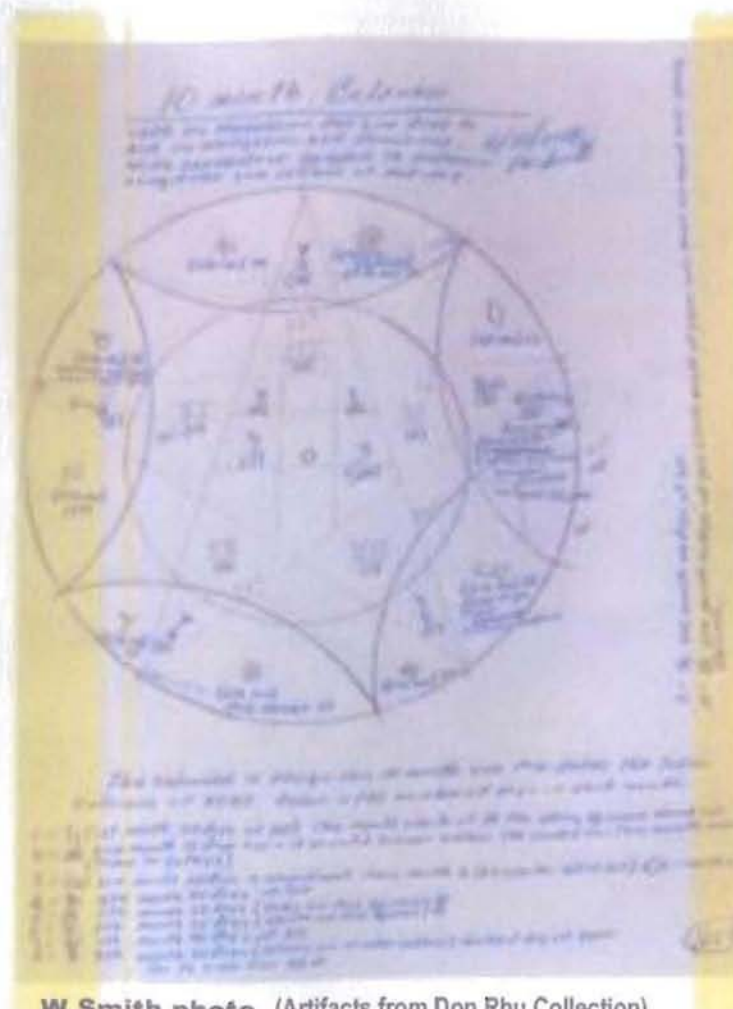


W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part – D cont.

- The mid day sun will cast a shadow directly on the arc chosen for about 90 minutes. This allows the user to pinpoint mid day when the shadow is in alignment with the center hole of the medallion. The straight lines that are next to each arc make up a five sided star. Each line shows sun rise and sun set during the day and is parallel to the path of the sun. This was useful in maintaining direction.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part – D cont.

- Also located within each of the star legs and at each arc is the Roman numerals 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. These numbers identify which arc is best suited for use at the users latitude location.



THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Compass Lid or Medallion Part – D cont.

- Each point on the five pointed star is identified by Theban letters, when translated they read A,B,C,D and E going clockwise from the top. The Theban script was used to code important military and other information and is also called the Witches Alphabet.

(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

W Smith photo



Wikipedia

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

- This tool is like the one shown in the notes and was used to measure distance on maps as well as an aid for the Cartographer. It would normally have 30 points on the spinner to represent one lunar month. The distance between points would be about 70 miles or the average travel time in one day.



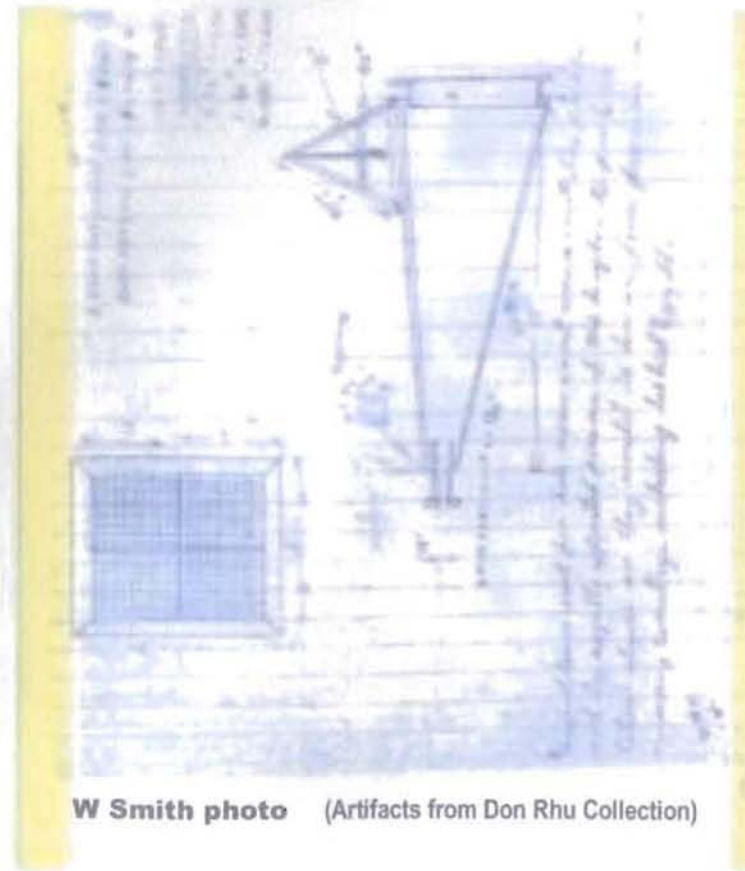
W Smith photo

(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

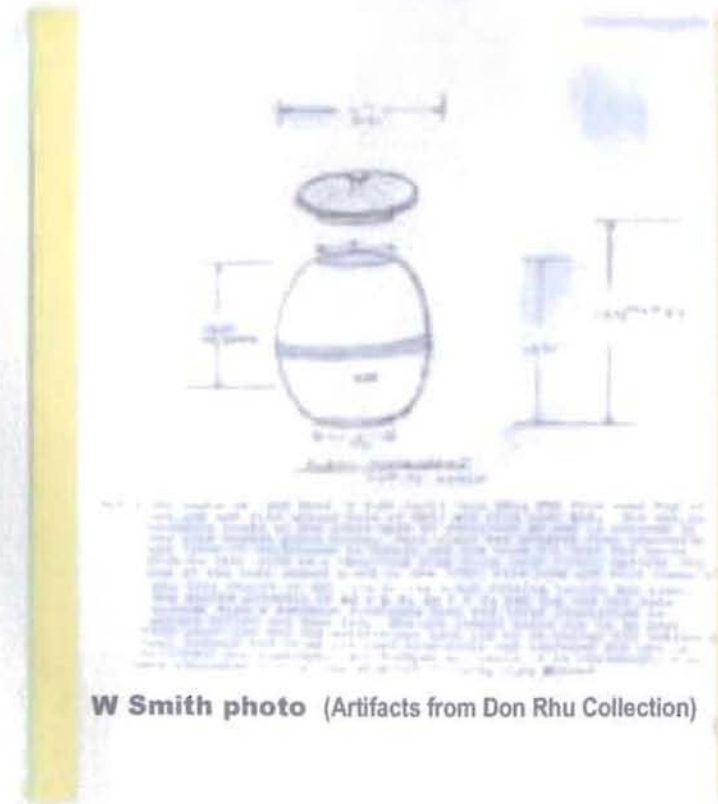
Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

- This tool was used to transfer the data from the compass disc to a flat map. It allowed the Cartographer to enlarge the drawing. It would be mounted on the wall and depending on the grid box ratio would determine the size of the finished map.



Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

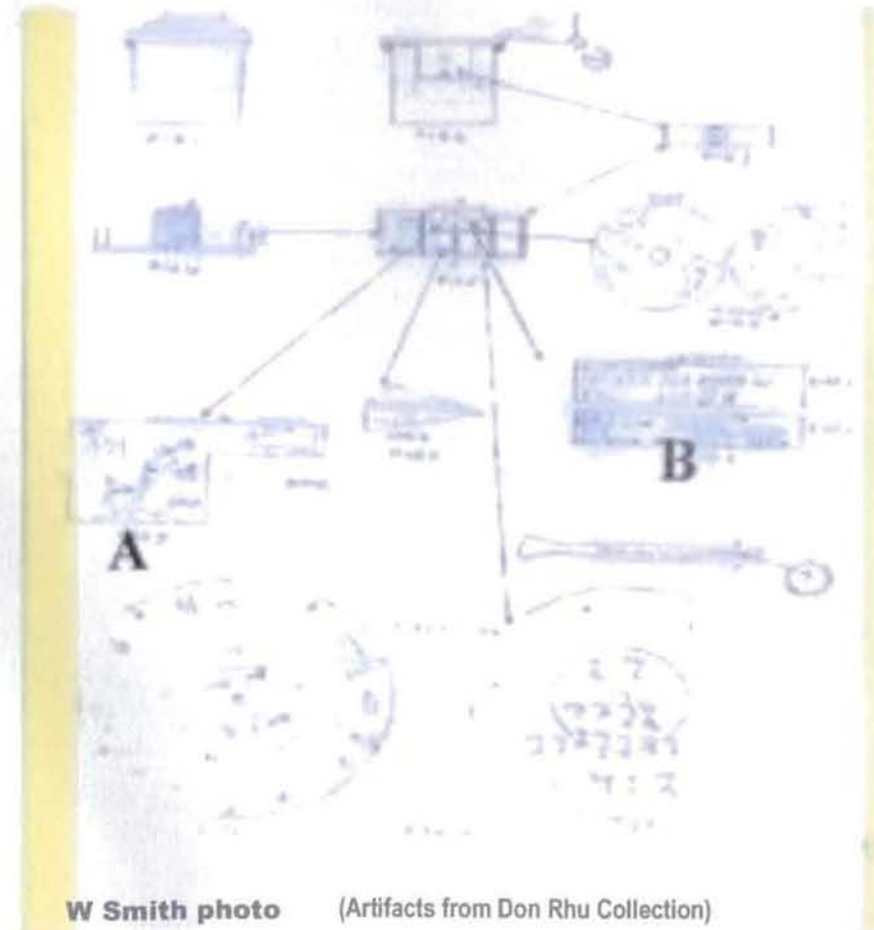
- This small jar held animal fat to aid in floating the needle in the compass body. Per the notes the jar is 3000 years old, however the animal fat is only 500 years old. This supports the date of 1511 which will be explained later.



THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

- Of all the material found, the two small rectangular pieces of copper are of the most important. The piece identified as B was cut from the corner of the piece identified as figure A. This is apparent when both pieces are scaled. These were the last known work's of the cartographer.
- Piece B identifies the location of the sunken ALTOMRA. This location is 42°27'30" West x 70°60' North (Near Portland Maine).



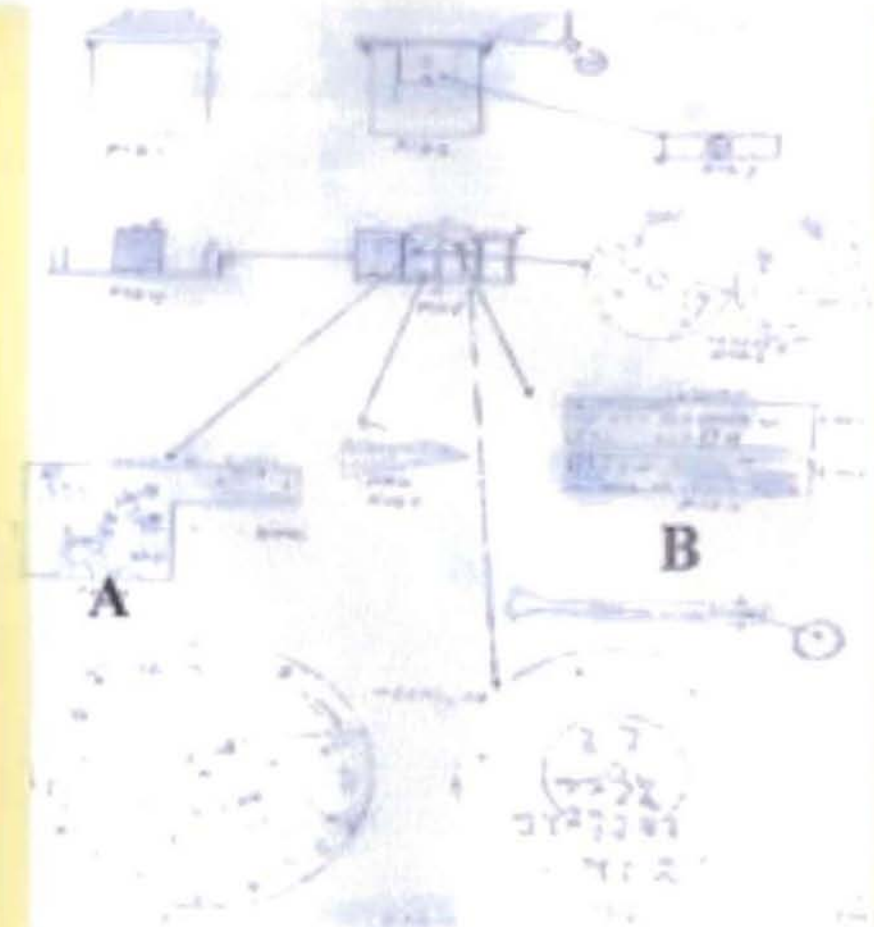
W Smith photo

(Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

- On insert B is also the location of the cave where the artifacts were left in New York. 40° S of W x 312A/356 SW. Notice the octopus on B that matches the small map. This same design has been reported in Nova Scotia on a recovered ships mast brass ring. The clockwise Atlantic current could explain why the mast made it from Maine to Nova Scotia.

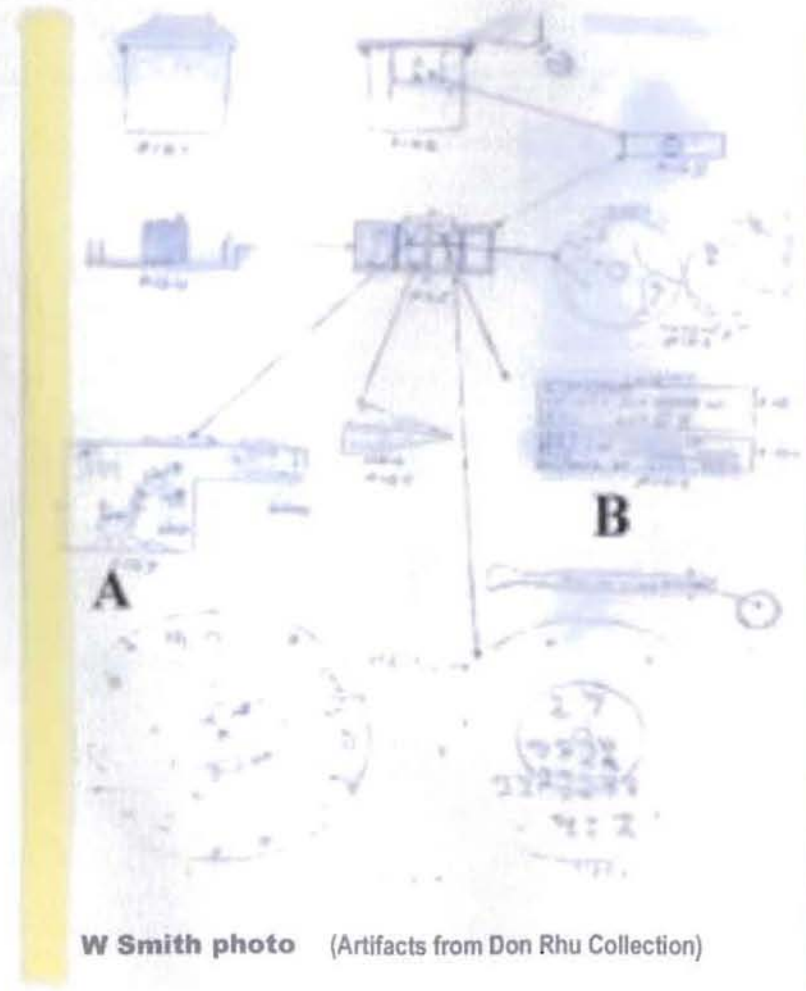


W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

- Insert A is the last recorded note from the cartographer. In stick figure form it explains how the Portuguese were attacked by the Indians when they went ashore. One Portuguese was killed and one mortally wounded in this skirmish. (notice the Indians have one feather and the Portuguese have a two lobe hat.) The upper right hand corner of this note indicates that when the Portuguese returned to their ship it was destroyed and they were forced to go inland toward the north west.



W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Other Cartographer tools and notes - O

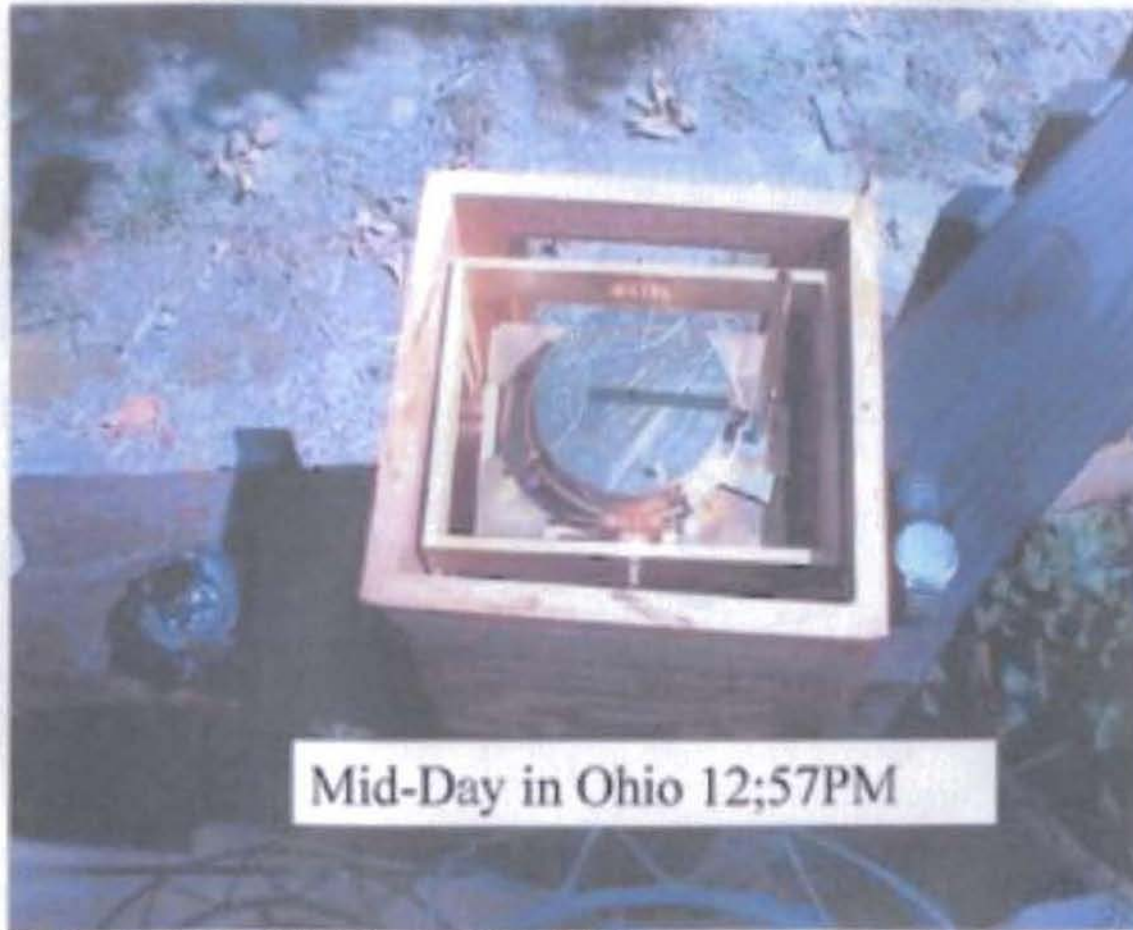
- Additional information is being collected that support the fate of the 72 man crew of the Altomra that was lost in 1511.
- The Mystery Stone of New Hampshire.
- The Pompey Stone of New York.
- A rock shooting cannon and a sword.
- Mooring stone holes in New York.
- A time stone marker and parts to a Treasure chest in Ohio.
- Six skeletons with Ancient armor on Sand Island, KY.



Wikipedia

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

The Compass at Work

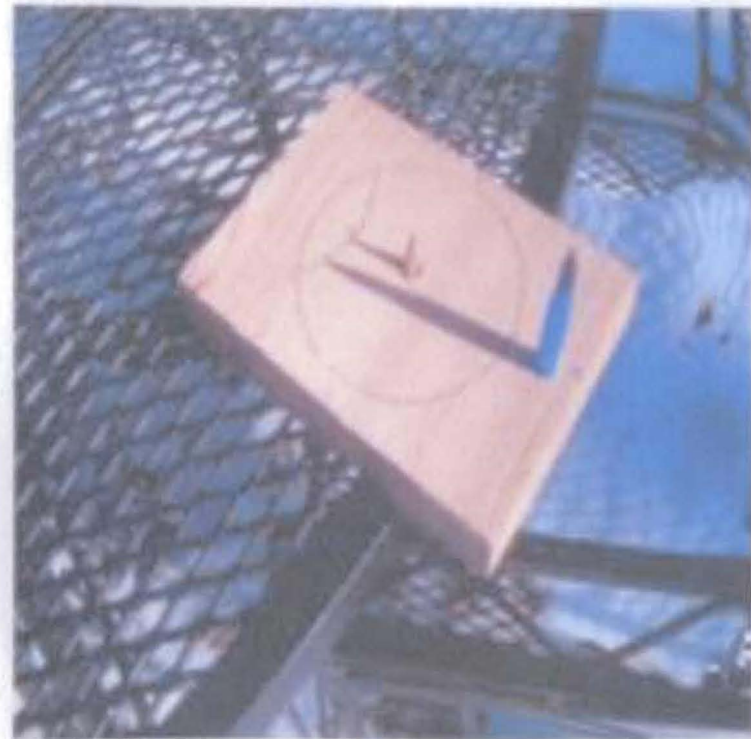


W Smith photo (Artifacts from Don Rhu Collection)

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

The compass sun dial

- This block of wood with two pointers that cast a shadow on the arc at mid day also points to true north. This was used to align the compass before reading the magnetic declination.



W Smith photo

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Magnetic declination for longitude

- The difference between true north and magnetic north is called magnetic declination. There are 4 vertical lines on the earth where magnetic north and true north have no variance, these lines are called argon lines. When going east or west magnetic declination will change and indicate position on the earth. Over a long period of time the argon lines will drift to the east at a rate of about 50 miles per 100 years. This drift allows dating of sites where magnetic declination was used. The Newport Tower in R.I. And The Kensington Rune stone in Mn. Are good examples.

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

Dating the Newport Tower in R.I.

- This triangle stone at the top of the Newport Tower is 17 degrees west of true north. The magnetic declination at the Newport Tower in R.I. Was 17 degrees west in 1472. (Today the magnetic declination at the tower indicates it is over 500 years old.



W Smith photo

THE LODESTONE COMPASS AND MYSTERY STONE

West boundary of Vinland

- The KRS is a land marker placed on the west boundary of ancient Vinland by early explorers looking for new land to claim. It was located 65 miles west of Kensington Minnesota in 1362 and relocated to Kensington in 1472 by the use of a lodestone compass. On both occasions this was on the zero magnetic declination line or the argon line.

