

THE  
WHITLOCK MOUNTAIN  
ENIGMA



In my essay “Further Discussions Of The Horse Stone” , there was a discussion concerning what I called the “scar” symbol on the HORSE Stone which on further analysis deserves a closer look. The “scar” symbol referenced is shown and reviewed below:

On the Superstition Tablets stone referred to as the HORSE stone:

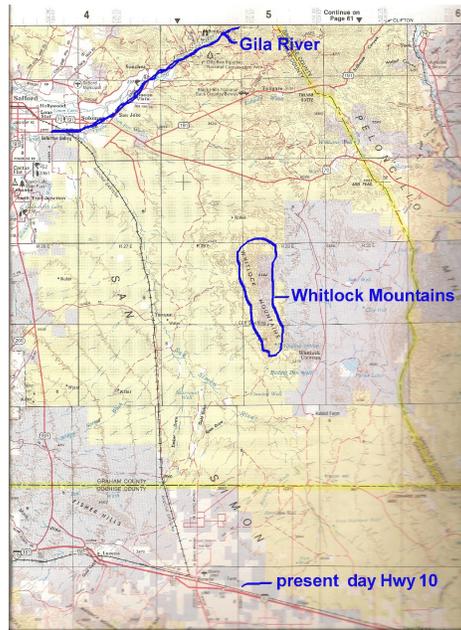


on the horse’s stomach is the symbol which was referred to as the “scar”:



measurements from horse photo showed that the number of pixels from the top of the horse where the butt starts leaving the back line to the stomach line was 302 pixels and the scar height was 62 pixels. This means that the scar is about 20 percent of the total distance. Measurements also showed that the scar was entirely in the bottom half of the horse - the top of the scar was 63 percent below the back of the horse.

The essence of the discussion and conclusion was that the “scar” represented Whitlock mountain shown below:



The discrepancy between the position of Whitlock Mountain and the position of the “scar” were noted:

This shows the Whitlock Mountains between the Gila River (just past the upward arch in the river) and the present day Highway 10. An interesting point is that the Mountain - as outlined - takes up 20.3 percent of the distance between the Gila River and Highway 10 - in agreement with the HORSE measurement - although it starts at 37 percent from the Gila River and not as on the HORSE stone at 63 percent below the back of the horse (Gila River)!

but to a certain extent the real position of the mountain between the back of the HORSE and the stomach line compared to the “scar” symbol placement was ignored because of other positional consistencies such as its position relative to the arch in the back of the horse and the position relative to the horse's neck (Aravaipa Canyon) and the nose (Brandenburg Mtn):



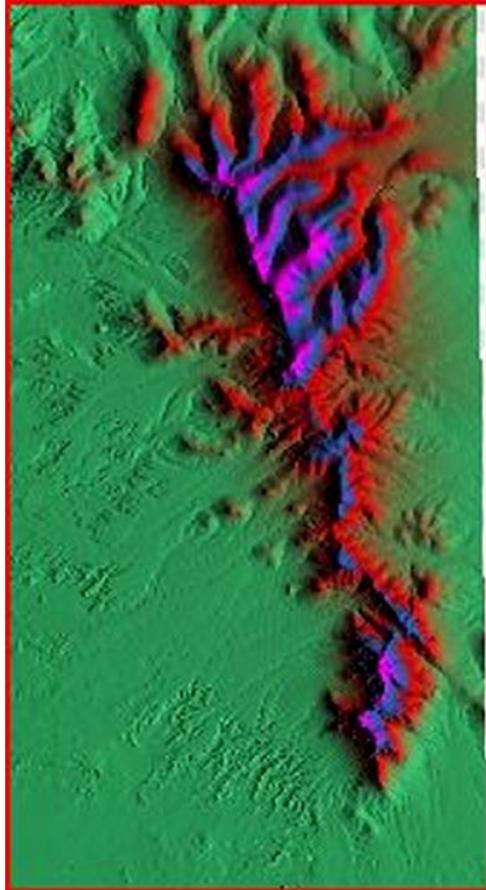
With this being said, a legitimate question which should have been asked but wasn't is "does the symbol truly reflect the nature of Whitlock Mountain?" Basically, is the "scar" symbol analogous to the Whitlock Mountain? For instance the "scar" symbol has a crescent shape more tapered at the top (north end) than the bottom where it is more rounded, does the Whitlock Mountain have this shape?

The photo of Whitlock Mountain below does show a mountain which appears to have a crescent shape; however the 22 mile long and 9 mile wide mountain has its widest part at the north end! Perhaps this was an error by the carver or perhaps the symbol does not represent Whitlock Mountain.

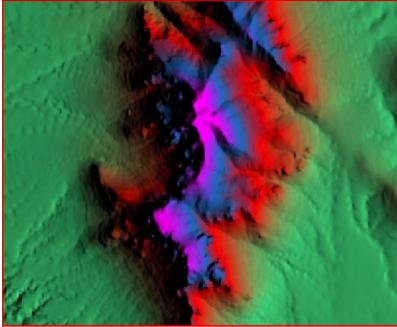


Whitlock Mountain looking east from about 8 miles

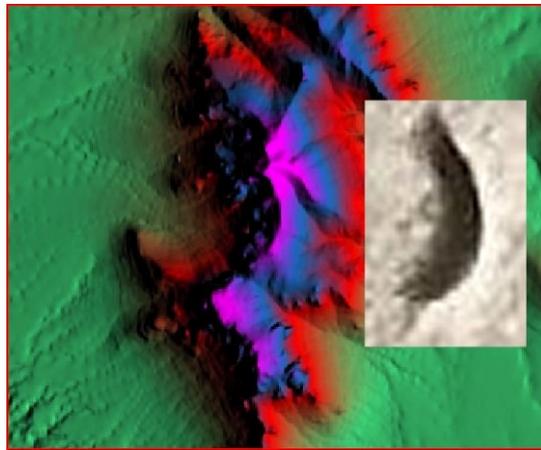
With these thoughts in mind, let's look at the Whitlock Mountain from a different perspective - an areal view. The below image is a Digital Elevation Map (DEM) where the "height" has been "false colored" based upon the height (pink highest, then blue, red and green lowest) of the mountain to highlight the shape of the mountain. It can be seen that Whitlock Mountain does have a "slight" crescent shape; however, it is obvious that the north end of the mountain is much broader than the southern end. This certainly does not agree with the symbol!



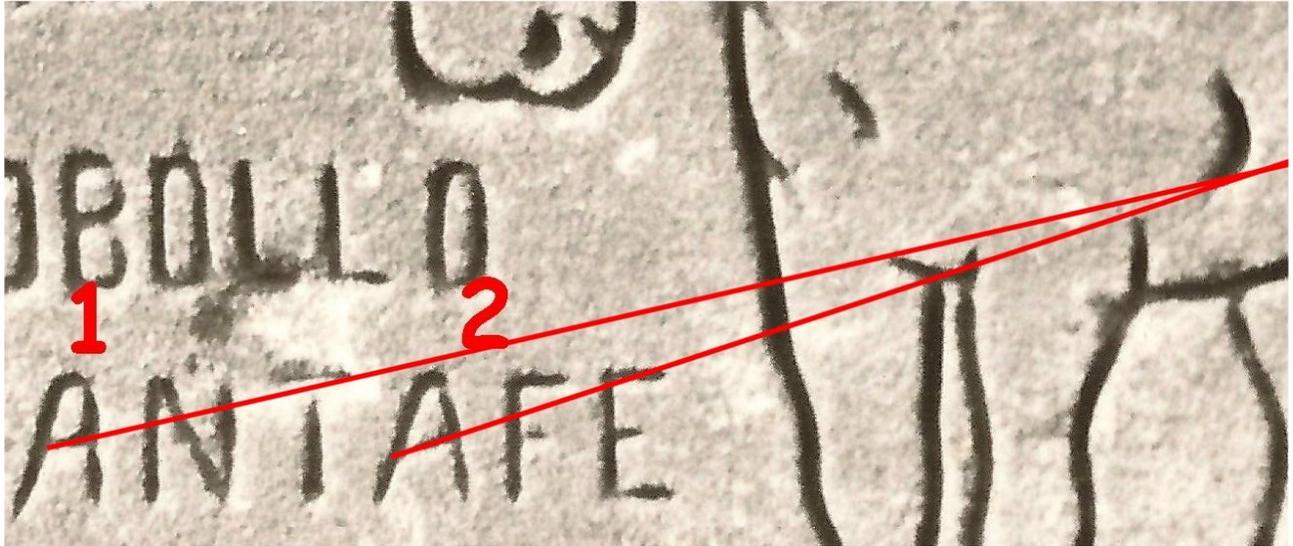
However, if we take a closer look at the southern end of the mountain (about 2 miles in length):



and compare it to the “scar” symbol, we see a high degree of correlation both in the crescent shape and the taper at the northern end:



So does this correlation justify saying the southern end of Whitlock Mountain is what this symbol represents? Perhaps! It should be recalled that in the essay “Further Discussions Of The Horse Stone”, there was a discussion concerning variations in the carving of the letter A and that the crossbar on the A’s were vertical except for two A’s on the HORSE stone where the crossbar was slanted and if the crossbars were extended the results was:



The point where the two extended lines cross is said, according to this theory, to be the bottom tip of the Whitlock Mountains. It is interesting how several independent symbols can be merged into a single concept. As to whether or not the concept is valid or complete (and in this case - at a minimum - incompleteness must be assumed since no firm conclusion about the concept implied can be given) must remain in doubt; however, I felt that this possibility needed to be explored as a possible patrial explanation of the Stone Tablets.