

The Shawnee Runestone: A Sneaky Little Riddle

B.L. Freeborn © January 2023



Photo by Heironymous Rowe at Wikipedia.

The Shawnee Runestone was found in 1969 by three children in Shawnee, Oklahoma. It is on display at Robert S. Kerr Museum near Poteau, Oklahoma.

The stone is round-oblong and out of the right side there is an ark shaped chip. (The chip is assumed to be original and not the work of some expert who chipped it away to prove the age of the stone as has been done to the Spirit Pond Stones, the 'In Camera' stone and the Kensington Stone which was bored through.)

The shape and ark suggests a Pagan / Baalist origin. The chipped ark shape is seen on the Kensington just below the first line.

The inscription is to the casual observer just five runes. There are two suggested readings: MLDOK and MIDOK.

The present decipherment began with MLDOK. Observe the words: DO ⇒ do, LOK ⇒ look, MK ⇒ make. From previous experience, 'look' suggests a shift cipher which was attempted with no results. So looking again, one sees the L might actually be an E or I. It is unusually connected to the first rune and the third. This forms three connected runes followed by two detached runes. This suggests 32 which implies 5.65². ✓ This is significant since its validity lies substantially with certain numbers appearing. The reader is directed to *Validating North American Runestones* (PDF) for a better understanding. With respect to numbers, 56 and 792 must be present in a Baalist inscription. They are typically found by studying the number values of the runes (gematria). The numbers 76, 51, 90 and 86 are often found as well. If it is of a Norse origin, or most northern people origin, (which means Viking to many) it should also have an Easter Calendar date imbedded (see Landsverk). The true rune master was able to encode his/her name as well. Can these five letters produce? Absolutely!



Arc cut into Kensington Stone.

Alf Mongé felt the I was an E. His decipherment can be found in Syverson (pg. 94). He was primarily interested in dates so his decipherment did not comment on anything else for this stone.

If it is an I then it is MIDOK. The small words I DO MaKe can be found. If an E, MEDOK, it is ME DO MaKe. If it is an E, another obvious word is formed that is very surprising. Runes are read from both right to left and left to right. Read it from the left and it says ME DO and from the right it says clearly CODE so that it reads: ME DO CODE.

A closer look is now required. Note the top of the O in the photo above is not fully connected. The photo in Syverson actually looks like a complete single rune. (This is probably why Mongé did not see the possibility that this is two runes.) As two separate runes it is an X and ^ which are G and K respectively. This makes the inscription:



K
MEDGK. This is now 5 runes with a 6th on top or 56✓ and KG ⇒ keg which is another typical Baalist word. But there is more...

Note that the mysterious second letter is actually an H. It is a bindrune with the D. This makes the inscription: M(HE)DGK and K. Now the words HE ⇒ he, HEM ⇒ hem, and MED ⇒ made, are apparent. Looking further while including the O note KOME ⇒ come.

One should not forget this was found in America and so X is often A with value 10 in the Younger Futhark. If it is an A, it can be verified by converting to numbers at this point. (See charts at end.)

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|--|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|
| K | | K | | K | | K |
| MEDAK | vs. | MEDGK | vs. | MEDOK | vs. | MLDOK |
| 6 | | 6 | | | | |
| 20,14,23,10,6 | vs. | 20,14,23,7,6 | vs. | 20,14,23,24,6 | vs. | 20,21,23,24,6 |
| Sum = 79✓ | vs. | 76✓ | vs. | 87 | vs. | 94 |
| | | In MEDGK 76 repeats twice with the rune placement. | | | | |

Only the first two have notable sums (✓). It would appear then that A is a possible transliteration of the X. If it is seen as MED(A/G)K then the total sum becomes 86.✓ The word DAG ⇒ ‘day’ or ‘lump of metal’ can be found.

Then in MHDGK/K or 20,9,23,7,6,6 sum from H to end is 51.✓ This is the only 51 found.

As a bindrune HD does not have to appear in that order. It can just as easily be DH but the H is attached to the M. If all three can switch then perhaps it becomes DMH GK/K or numerically: 23,20,9,7,6/6. The three underlined form 7920 in reverse.✓ The sum then becomes 65 / 6 which is very similar to 56.5.✓

Since reversals have been noted, MHDOK sums to 82 or 28 in reverse. (28 x 2 = 56)✓

The only numbers not found yet are the date. To find the date recall ‘day’ was found in the word DAG or (23,10,6). This calls attention to this portion of the inscription. Note that 10 and 6 suggest

the year 1006 which is from the same era as other Heavener / Poteau inscriptions and the Byfield, Massachusetts inscription. It should not be surprising then that the name Ago (an old Swedish name) can be found easily here which is the same name found in these as well. It is highly likely the author is the same person since the style and skill level required to formulate this are similar. The date then should be here.

If 1006 is the year, then it has Golden Number (GN) 19, Day Letter (DL) 6 and Rati (Line #) 15. (See Easter Table and Landsverk below for more information.) The GN is in the KGK arrangement: $6,7,6 = 19$. The DL is 6 which is apparent. Where then is the 15? It is found in the original arrangement of 5 runes with the 1 seen above $\Rightarrow 15$. The year this was written was 1006. If it is the same person then he wrote this before the Byfield, Massachusetts rune stone and before going to Oklahoma, unless he traveled back and forth. It is also true that year 1135 can be implied by Rati # 19, GN 15 and DL 6. But 1135 is not supported by the inscription. The final decision lies with the reader.

Mongé obtained the date 24 November 1024 from the inscription. His date of 1024 is easily explained. He also used Day Letter (DL) 6 and Rati (Line #) 15. He saw the O (24) as the year. He did not see it as separate runes since in his image it looks joined.



Upside down U rune between M, E and H. Two 'daggers' and X marks the spot at the Arc.

And yet there appears to be more... Notice that the MEH hides another rune. There is a U !! Now the Baalist riddle is complete with a hem, hidden cup, two daggers, X marks the spot and an ark all on a round stone. Surely this cannot have been created by any 'modern' person!

It then translates as:

***A hem surrounds the hidden cup from the daggers.
The kegs are where it came at the arcs.
Me, Ago, made this code in 1006.***

References

Gordon, Cyrus, *Riddles in History*, Crown Publishers, Inc. New York, 1974.

Landsverk, O.G., *Runic Records of the Norsemen in America*, Erik J. Friis, Publisher, Rushford, MN, 1974.

Landsverk, O.G., *Ancient Norse Messages*, Norseman Press, Glendale, California, 1969.

Mongé, Alf & O.G. Landsverk, *Norse Medieval Cryptography in Runic Carvings*, Norseman Press, Glendale, California, 1967.

Syversen, Earl, *Norse Runic Inscriptions: with their Long-forgotten Cryptography*, The Vine Hill Press, Sebastopol, California, 1979.

Liestol, Aslak - Derogatory article of Alf Mongé's work:

<http://collections.mnhs.org/MNHHistoryMagazine/articles/41/v41i01p034-042.pdf> and...

.... Landsverk responded to these comments in *Ancient Norse Messages* pg. 126-129; and often in *Runic Records of the Norsemen in America*

Similar Articles by this Author

Freeborn, B.L., *Deciphering the Spirit Pond, Nomans Land and Narragansett Runic Inscriptions*, noahsage.com, November 2022.

Freeborn, B.L., *Et in Arcadia Ego - OUOSVAVV DM - Deciphered*, noahsage.com, December 2022.

Freeborn, B.L., *The Kensington Stone: A New Translation*, noahsage.com, February 2023.

Freeborn, B.L., *Lifting the Veil of Time off the Rökstone of Sweden*, noahsage.com, April 2023.

Freeborn, B.L., *The Narragansett Inscription: A Translation with its Date of Dedication, Author and Inscriber*, noahsage.com, October 2022.

Freeborn, B.L., *The Newport Tower: Finding the Date of Dedication, its Designer and Builder*, noahsage.com, October 2022.

Freeborn, B.L., *The Vinland Map - Encoded Riddle*, noahsage.com, February 2023

The following two tables are copied from Mongé pages 221 and 224.

PERPETUAL EASTER TABLE

| Dominical | | 7 | 2 | | | | | 4 | | | | | 6 | | | | | 1 | | | | | 3 | | | | | 5 | | | | |
|------------|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|
| Letters: ⇒ | | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | | |
| 1) | 1140 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | | |
| 2) | 1168 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | | | |
| 3) | 1196 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| 4) | 1224 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | |
| 5) | 1252 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | |
| 6) | 1280 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | |
| 7) | 1308 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | | |
| 8) | 1336 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | | | |
| 9) | 1364 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| 10) | 1392 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | | |
| 11) | 1420 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | |
| 12) | 916 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | | |
| 13) | 944 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | |
| 14) | 972 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | | | |
| 15) | 1000 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | | | |
| 16) | 1028 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | | |
| 17) | 1056 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | | | |
| 18) | 1084 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | |
| 19) | 1112 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | | | |

In the Julian versions of Luni-solar perpetual calendars and Easter tables, The Dominical (Sunday) Letters (DL) are normally represented by the first seven letters in the alphabet. In this table, however, the DL's (top lines) for any and all years are indicated by the equivalent numbers 1 to 7 inclusive, i.e. 1 = the FIRST of the seven DL's; 2 = the second, etc. (Double numbers are for Leap Years: Top number for January and February only, bottom numbers for March to December inclusive.)

The Golden Numbers (GN) (within the rectangle), which in Latin calendars are usually represented by Roman numerals, and in Runic calendars by Runic and/or other symbols, are shown as numbers from 1 to 19 inclusive. Each line in the rectangle shows the GN for twenty-eight years, beginning with the year shown at left of the line, hence AD 1140 (line 1) has assigned to it GN - 1, and DL - 7/6; AD 1141 has GN - 2, and DL - 5, etc. The table repeats itself in 532 years."

Further comments:

- This table from Mongé's book begins in year 916 and ends in year 1447. Since it repeats every 532 years it is possible to renumber the table to run from 1447 forward.
- The information contained in the table was carried on a Primstav which is the equivalent of a slide rule for calculating such dates.

Number of Days to December 24

| Day# | JAN K | FEB K | MAR K | APR K | MAY K | JUN K | JUL K | AUG K | SEP K | OCT K | NOV K | DEC K |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| 1.. | 357 | 326 | 298 | 267 | 237 | 206 | 176 | 145 | 114 | 84 | 53 | 23 |
| 2.. | 356 | 325 | 297 | 266 | 236 | 205 | 175 | 144 | 113 | 83 | 52 | 22 |
| 3.. | 355 | 324 | 296 | 265 | 235 | 204 | 174 | 143 | 112 | 82 | 51 | 21 |
| 4.. | 354 | 323 | 295 | 264 | 234 | 203 | 173 | 142 | 111 | 81 | 50 | 20 |
| 5.. | 353 | 322 | 294 | 263 | 233 | 202 | 172 | 141 | 110 | 80 | 49 | 19 |
| 6.. | 352 | 321 | 293 | 262 | 232 | 201 | 171 | 140 | 109 | 79 | 48 | 18 |
| 7.. | 351 | 320 | 292 | 261 | 231 | 200 | 170 | 139 | 108 | 78 | 47 | 17 |
| 8.. | 350 | 319 | 291 | 260 | 230 | 199 | 169 | 138 | 107 | 77 | 46 | 16 |
| 9.. | 349 | 318 | 290 | 259 | 229 | 198 | 168 | 137 | 106 | 76 | 45 | 15 |
| 10.. | 348 | 317 | 289 | 258 | 228 | 197 | 167 | 136 | 105 | 75 | 44 | 14 |
| 11.. | 347 | 316 | 288 | 257 | 227 | 196 | 166 | 135 | 104 | 74 | 43 | 13 |
| 12.. | 346 | 315 | 287 | 256 | 226 | 195 | 165 | 134 | 103 | 73 | 42 | 12 |
| 13.. | 345 | 314 | 286 | 255 | 225 | 194 | 164 | 133 | 102 | 72 | 41 | 11 |
| 14.. | 344 | 313 | 285 | 254 | 224 | 193 | 163 | 132 | 101 | 71 | 40 | 10 |
| 15.. | 343 | 312 | 284 | 253 | 223 | 192 | 162 | 131 | 100 | 70 | 39 | 9 |
| 16.. | 342 | 311 | 283 | 252 | 222 | 191 | 161 | 130 | 99 | 69 | 38 | 8 |
| 17.. | 341 | 310 | 282 | 251 | 221 | 190 | 160 | 129 | 98 | 68 | 37 | 7 |
| 18.. | 340 | 309 | 281 | 250 | 220 | 189 | 159 | 128 | 97 | 67 | 36 | 6 |
| 19.. | 339 | 308 | 280 | 249 | 219 | 188 | 158 | 127 | 96 | 66 | 35 | 5 |
| 20.. | 338 | 307 | 279 | 248 | 218 | 187 | 157 | 126 | 95 | 65 | 34 | 4 |
| 21.. | 337 | 306 | 278 | 247 | 217 | 186 | 156 | 125 | 94 | 64 | 33 | 3 |
| 22.. | 336 | 305 | 277 | 246 | 216 | 185 | 155 | 124 | 93 | 63 | 32 | 2 |
| 23.. | 335 | 304 | 276 | 245 | 215 | 184 | 154 | 123 | 92 | 62 | 31 | 1 |
| 24.. | 334 | 303 | 275 | 244 | 214 | 183 | 153 | 122 | 91 | 61 | 30 | 0 |
| 25.. | 333 | 302 | 274 | 243 | 213 | 182 | 152 | 121 | 90 | 60 | 29 ^{New Year} | 364 |
| 26.. | 332 | 301 | 273 | 242 | 212 | 181 | 151 | 120 | 89 | 59 | 28 | 363 |
| 27.. | 331 | 299 | 272 | 241 | 211 | 180 | 150 | 119 | 88 | 58 | 27 | 362 |
| 28.. | 330 | 299 | 271 | 240 | 210 | 179 | 149 | 118 | 87 | 57 | 26 | 361 |
| 29.. | 329 | - | 270 | 239 | 209 | 178 | 148 | 117 | 86 | 56 | 25 | 360 |
| 30.. | 328 | - | 269 | 238 | 208 | 177 | 147 | 116 | 85 | 55 | 24 | 359 |
| 31.. | 327 | - | 268 | - | 207 | - | 146 | 115 | - | 54 | - | 358 |

NOTE: This table shows the number of full days remaining in the medieval Norse calendar year which ended on December 24. When the cryptographic KEY (Column K above) is applied, the true date of the inscription is shown on the left (Column D). For example: KEY - 231. The true date is May 7.

Table after Mongé page 224.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ƿ | ᚢ | ᚦ | ᚱ | ᚷ | | ᚖ | ᚗ | ᚛ | ᚠ | ᚡ | ᚢ | ᚣ | ᚤ | ᚥ | ᚦ | ᚧ |
| ƿ | ᚢ | ᚦ | ᚱ | ᚷ | | ᚖ | ᚗ | ᚛ | ᚠ | ᚡ | ᚢ | ᚣ | ᚤ | ᚥ | ᚦ | ᚧ |
| f | u | p | a | r | k | h | n | i | a | s | t | b | m | l | r | |

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

The Younger Futhark: Danish long-branch runes and
Swedish/Norwegian short-twig runes. Transliteration
and numbers shown below.
Grouped by aett.

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| ƿ f 1 | ᚢ u 2 | ᚦ p 3 | ᚱ a 4 | ᚷ r 5 | < k 6 | ᚨ g 7 | ᚨ w 8 |
| ᚠ h 9 | ᚡ n 10 | ᚢ i 11 | ᚣ j 12 | ᚤ ð 13 | ᚥ p 14 | ᚦ z 15 | ᚧ s 16 |
| ᚨ t 17 | ᚢ b 18 | ᚱ e 19 | ᚷ m 20 | ᚡ l 21 | ᚣ ŋ 22 | ᚤ d 23 | ᚥ o 24 |

Older Futhark: symbol, transliteration and number. Grouped by aett.