



The Origin of Our Number Symbols



In ancient times, the Phoenicians (modern day Lebanon) were the predominant world traders. There is evidence, based on the unique isotopic signature of Michigan copper (purest copper ore known), that a five thousand year old shipwreck found on the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea was filled with copper unique to Isle Royale in Lake Superior. When “modern copper mining” (mid 1800’s) began in earnest, miners claimed (based on amount of ore removed) that billions of tons of copper had previously been removed. So, Michigan copper fueled the Bronze Age,

To support their world-wide trade enterprises, it was necessary for the Phoenicians to interact commercially with a wide variety of different cultures and languages. To support their trade with peoples speaking different languages, they created language independent symbols to designate numerical values. These symbols, based on number of angles in the line, is considered the basis of our current “Arabic” numbers.

