MUSEUM PUBLICATION PROGRAM PROGRESSES

In the scholarly world, it is an axiom that it is useless to do a piece of research if it does not ultimately reach the academic community via a published report. The Museum’s publication program, a source of pride to this institution almost from its inception, has recently been expanded in both staff and quantity of pages published. Since 1967, thirteen publications have appeared, totaling 3,969 pages: seven volumes of the Peabody Papers, with a total of 2,134 pages; three numbers of the American School of Prehistoric Research Bulletins; and three items in the Russian Translation Series.

In preparation at the present time there are six more volumes of the Peabody Papers, two Bulletins of the American School of Prehistoric Research, and a graduate Monograph.

Obviously, this new output has not been accomplished without a major change in staffing. The Director of Publications, BURTON JONES, long the senior book designer in the production department at the Harvard University Press, handles the technical and business end of our publication enterprise, including design and sales promotion. He created a new cover design for vol. 61 of the Peabody Papers, and the forthcoming volume 66 has a completely new typographic look. In addition, he has designed our catalogues and the Department’s brochure, “Anthropology at Harvard.” In his spare time he has even brought a new look to the University’s staid old Course Catalogue.

Our Editor’s chair is currently occupied by Mrs. EMILY FLINT, an ardent archaeology buff, who came to the Peabody in June from the Atlantic Monthly, where she was Managing Editor for nineteen years. The fact that her husband is a Tufts professor should prepare her for dealing with the academic types on the Peabody scene. Her numerous talents have already speeded up production.

A familiar face to many Peabodyites of old is seen in the Editor’s Office, where Mrs. MELVILLE SMITH resides as Assistant Editor. Martha returned to Peabody on a part-time basis two years ago, and now we need her full time to keep the galleys rolling along.

Additional help to this department comes from SARA FISHER, our technical typist with a license to operate the big IBM MT/ST machine, which prepares tapes for typesetting, as well as writing “automatic” letters to friends of the Museum.

So it is no longer a little operation, nor can it be, considering the backlog of manuscripts already approved for publication in our several series. It seems necessary to go a bit commercial; after all, who can remember the last time Peabody sent out direct-mail advertising for its publications. More than 28,000 flyers have just gone out, and the book orders have more than met our expectations.

In October, the Harvard Coop gave our recent title, “Maya Archaeology,” an attractive window display, which resulted in selling out their complete stock; they have reordered an equivalent number of copies. A complete catalogue of all Peabody publications is now in preparation, and will be mailed out early in the new year.

PMA DISCOUNT — Members of the Peabody Museum Association have the privilege of purchasing all current Museum publications at a 20% price reduction.
STAFF APPOINTMENTS

There are a number of new faces in the heavily called-on service areas of the Museum. Mrs. JOAN LESTER has become Chief Cataloguer, replacing Anne Kern, who has left to take library training. Mrs. Lester, who has an MA in Primitive Art from UCLA, comes to us from the Children's Museum in Boston, where she has worked on anthropological projects including their very successful Algonkin study kit. She will be assisted by LINDA NONNO, who is a recent Brandeis graduate with a major in anthropology. Another anthropology major is running the Front Office affairs with LIZA MAURER, a Beloit grad, at the front desk, and Mrs. BARBARA LUTCH, with a museum and financial background assisting our Business Manager, Marge Roberts.

Our position of Preparator/Conservator is now filled by DENNIS PIECHOTA, following Arsen Charles's resignation; Mr. PIECHOTA is finding plenty to keep him busy despite the fact that the photographic chores formerly taken care of by Mr. Charles are now handled by HILLEL (STEVE) BERGER, whose fine photograph of the Front Hall graced the front page of the last issues of the Newsletter.

DINNERS HONOR STAFF MEMBERS

Archaeological accomplishments and the passage of time were honored by two separate dinners recently, which marked the concurrent publication of some major Peabody monographs. It was a pleasant concatenation of events. In mid-June, the SMITH BROTHERS, ROBERT and LEDYARD, were given a surprise dinner honoring their long and productive careers in Maya Archaeology, which was topped off by the presentation of a festschrift volume entitled "Monographs and Papers in Maya Archaeology" (Peabody Papers, Vol. 61), edited by William R. Bullard, who also hosted the dinner. ROBERT SMITH reached retirement age a couple of years ago, but hasn't let up a bit in his research and his important "Pottery of Mayapan" is now in press; LEDYARD, "retired" this July, and his current paper in the Altar de Sacrificios series is about to go to the Peabody editors. Bob is moving to California, but Ledyard has enough work on Seibal to keep him around Peabody for a number of years.

On September 11th, another surprise party honored PHIL PHILLIPS' 70th birthday, just one month late, but timed to coincide with the publication of his massive 2-volume work on Lower Yazoo Basin archaeology (Peabody Papers, Vol. 60). Also presented to Phil at the dinner was a small volume drawn from the writings of friends and colleagues commemorating the thirty years of work that he has put into the Lower Mississippi Survey. Friends came from afar for the festive occasion, including Griffin from Michigan, Haag from LSU, Neitzel from Louisiana, and Mrs. James A. Ford from Florida.

PMA ACTIVITIES

The first event of the Peabody Museum Association for this academic year was a lecture/reception with Professor C. C. LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY discussing "The Rediscovery of Iran's Most Ancient Civilization." It was held on November 5th at the Geological Lecture Hall, with a reception at the Museum following.

The highlight of the winter season will be the opening of an exhibition entitled "The Art of Maya Hieroglyphic Writing," to be held jointly with the Center for Inter-American Relations of New York City. The show, featuring many original works from the Museum's collection, will be held at the Center, 650 Park Avenue, and will offer an opportunity for a number of Association members from the New York area to participate in its activities. The opening on January 27th will be by invitation, with the exhibit running until late March. One of the focuses of the show will be the recent discoveries of IAN GRAHAM, who is the field director of the Museum's Maya Hieroglyphic Study, funded primarily by the Guttman Foundation of New York.
A BRIEF SUMMARY OF RECENT STAFF RESEARCH

ARCHAEOLOGY

There is just no way to keep diggers out of the field, especially when they are head-down in some very interesting discoveries. Karl LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY returned to Tepe Yahya in southeastern Iran for his third major season at this important site that spans six millennia. Assisted by a number of students, he made important discoveries linking this area with the Mesopotamian and Indus civilizations, and on an even earlier time level found written clay tablets. Half way around the world, Mike MOSELEY survived the earthquake in coastal Peru, and with a large staff of students continued his excavations and mapping of the great site of Chan Chan. A major burial area was uncovered, as well as a large structure that may be a central market place. Hal MOVIUS, with a small group of students in Les Eyzies, continued to work up the materials excavated at the Abri Pataud, although Hal’s illness midway through the summer slowed progress on the project somewhat. All goes along well now.

Things were relatively quiet on the Maya scene, with Gordon WILLEY working in his study instead of in the field, while Jerry SABLOFF was one of a small group of summer residents in the Museum, where he worked on several manuscripts. Lee PARSONS, in western Guatemala, finished his second and last season at Monte Alto, where he continued to search for definitive information to date the impressive sculptures for which the site and area are justly famous. Jeff BRAIN, after a brief visit to Louisiana and Mississippi, spent the summer on the Lake George monograph research in the Museum; Dena DINCAUZE, also in Cambridge, managed some worthwhile fieldwork in the Charles River area, before taking off for Maine. Back in the Yucatan jungle, Ian GRAHAM continued his survey of hieroglyphic inscriptions; he discovered several new stelae, as well as witnessing again the awful depredations that sculpture hunters have perpetrated on many important sites in the area. The subject of Upper Palaeolithic notation and symbolism continues to be researched by Alex MARSHACK, who has now covered much of the movable art in Europe bearing this kind of inscription; he hopes to continue his study with fieldwork on the cave art which has many notations of the same type.

SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Continuity with change has been the keynote of Evon VOGT’s fieldwork in Chiapas, to which he returned this summer for his 12th consecutive season. As usual, a number of students, graduate and undergraduate, were trained in this longterm project to study the changing customs of the Maya-speaking Indians of the region. David MAYBURY-LEWIS has returned to Cambridge this fall after 18 months in South America, where he founded a program of post-graduate study in Anthropology at the University in Rio, taught sociology in the University at Recife, and directed research in social change in central and northern Brazil.

Another returnee to the local scene is Doug OLIVER, back from what is his regular Spring term tour of duty in Hawaii, where he has been continuing his Pacific research, especially that of Bougainville. Irv DE VORE’s Bushman project continued in the field, although he spent most of the summer in the Boston area; John WHITING has been doing his own African study with fieldwork in December and January, so he too was around this summer, but with a foothold on the Vineyard.

On the more fieldwork-oriented side of things, Claudia and Keith KIERNAN were in British Honduras this summer, involved in a preliminary survey to check the possibilities for future research in the area. Jim FOX was a full-time Cambridge resident, working up his Indonesian materials, while Klaus KOCH spent the summer in Fiji with four students placed at different sites to initiate studies on customary law at the village level among mountain Fijians of Vita Levu, Fiji-Indians on Vanua Levu, and the Lau Islanders of Moce.

BIOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

In the peace of Kittery, Maine, Bill HOWELLS made great progress on his current book on “People of the Pacific,” while the Solomon Islands project, which he and Al DAMON direct, carried out its third major summer expedition, as part of its long-range program of research in the bio-medical field. The field party of 12 members had a very successful summer with a record number of individuals (960) studied by the medical team. Jonathan FRIEDLAENDER was also in the Pacific doing fieldwork in Bougainville, collecting genealogies from the peoples that he has studied; he too had a very productive session. Carl SELTZER does not have to go so far for his data: he spent the summer here working on a project which he and Al DAMON are conducting on 100,000 soldiers discharged from the Army in 1946, studying longevity and cause of death as related to physique.
NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

The incoming class of graduate students in Anthropology numbers 28, eleven who intend to specialize in Archaeology, five in Biological Anthropology, and twelve in Social Anthropology, including seven who are enrolled in the Social Anthropology program of the Department of Social Relations. This first-year class was selected from a record number of applicants (168).

The new students come to us from fourteen different universities—from Cambridge, England, to the University of Oregon. Seventeen members of this new class are men, eleven are women. They are hard at work in their various courses and seminars which will prepare them for their Harvard PhDs. In recent statistics circulated by Dean Dunlop, the Department was proud to note that we have one of the lowest percentages (only 12 per cent) of students who are more than 5G (five years in Graduate School) while completing their PhDs.

THE UNDERGRADUATE SCENE

Anthropology is a popular subject in the 70's. Numbers tell the story in this area: 113 concentrators, a new all-time high. Many classrooms are crowded: LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY's 1a, Introductory Archaeology with 100, and JERRY SABLOFF's Anthropology 75, a seminar on ecology, has been cut to 17 after 50-60 turned up at the initial class meeting. The majority of our students, however, are interested in Social Anthropology, which puts a severe burden on the staff in that area.

VOGT VOLUME HONORED

Professor EVON VOGT's book on "Zinacantan, a Maya Community in the Highlands of Chiapas" has been awarded two prizes. Early this year, it shared the Harvard University Press Faculty Prize for the best work of scholarship published by the Press written by a faculty member. This award was anonymously inaugurated by the late DONALD SCOTT. More recently, the book was awarded the "Fray Bernardino de Sahagún" prize for the year 1969 by the Mexican National Institute of Anthropology and History for the best work written by a foreign investigator.

The Editor's Scrapbasket

This issue will try to catch up on the calendar round a bit with a shorter edition and fewer pictures, but a lot of news. This change is momentary, but also monetary—costs are up and income down all over. No one trying to juggle budgets or raise capital funds will argue with that.

Research continues at a staggering pace—more than 80 per cent of the staff was away for the summer doing new fieldwork or writing up past endeavors. It was not a quiet summer in Harvard Square, and we introduced Dimitri Shimkin, our Summer School professor, to dissidence Cambridge-style. The fall term started with beautiful golden-warm afternoons and a bomb blast across the street. But the Peabody Library is open again in the evenings after being closed for that time period during our May "recess," and students and staff are hard at academic tasks again. May it continue thus.

Our staff artist, BARBARA WESTMAN, has captured some of the more peaceful aspects of the Cambridge scene in a new book entitled "The Beard and the Braid." A vignette from it recently appeared as the cover of the Harvard Bulletin.

STEPHEN WILLIAMS

CURRENT MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS


A STONE HEAD FROM COPAN by Philippa Shaplin. Buried Treasures of the Peabody Museum, No. 3. ($.50).

ANTHROPOLOGY AT HARVARD compiled by Jeremy A. Sabloff. Special Publication of the Department of Anthropology and the Museum. (Free).

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