WE SAILED AWAY TO PEDDOCK’S ISLAND

by Paula Cronin, Harvard Gazette

On Saturday morning, May 20th, at the invitation of the Peabody Museum, we packed a picnic lunch and joined over a hundred archaeology buffs — members of the Museum, students there, and friends of the Peabody including lots and lots of children — on the rain-swept decks of the Massachusetts Bay Line’s New Boston bound for Peddock’s Island. DENA DINAUZE, Assistant Curator of North American Archaeology, has excavated prehistoric projectile points, tools, and waste material indicating that Indians were living on the southwest shore of the island at least 4500 years ago. What the Peabody promised us on this occasion was the opportunity to see a dig, and meet the archaeologists working it.

At 10:43 the lines were cast off, and the New Boston sailed into Boston Inner Harbor. With jets screaming overhead to Logan Airport at the rate of one a minute, we passed Castle Island and entered the main ship channel, President Roads. By now we were so far out to sea that the New Boston was rolling heavily. We studied our copy of “A Guide to Peddock’s Island,” provided by the Peabody and illustrated by another passenger, the artist BARBARA WESTMAN. Peddock’s Island loomed out of the rain, and at 11:35 we docked.

Peddock’s Island today, like most of the islands in Boston Harbor, is abandoned. Its sole inhabitants, aside from a small summer colony, are Mr. and Mrs. ED McDEVITT, who have lived there with their children for 12 years. As caretaker for the Metropolitan District Commission, which currently owns the island, Mr. McDevitt has the responsibility of keeping passers-by off.

The rain had forced a change in plans, we learned from Professor STEPHEN WILLIAMS. The original plan called at this point for the mile hike to the dig and picnicking there. Instead, Mr. Williams directed us to the abandoned fort and the only habitable space there, a guard room. We left our lunch on the window sill, and struck out after Mr. Williams and his bullhorn for a tour of the fort — brick barracks, bunkers, gun emplacements, warehouse, hospital, officers’ quarters.

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STAFF APPOINTMENTS

ROBERT W. EHRICH has received an appointment as Research Associate in European Archaeology. Professor Ehrich received his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard in 1931, 1933 and 1946, respectively, and is currently at Brooklyn College of City University of New York, where he started teaching in 1947 and received his professorship in 1963. His special field of interest is Eastern European Archaeology.

Dr. DOROTHY K. WASHBURN, an archaeologist specializing in the Southwestern United States, has been appointed Research Fellow in North American Archaeology. Dr. Washburn will be studying the Museum collections gathered by expeditions directed by Dr. Brew in Arizona and New Mexico.

HALLAM L. MOVY, JR., Professor of Anthropology and Curator of Palaeolithic Archaeology, has been appointed a member of the Faculty of the Peabody Museum.

RETIEMENTS

HUGH O’NEILL HENCKEN, Curator of European Archaeology, retired effective June 30, 1972. Dr. Hencken was graduated from Princeton and received his Dr.Phil. from Cambridge University. He has been associated with the Museum since 1930 and in 1945 became Director of the American School of Prehistoric Research. In 1971 his latest work, The Earliest European Helmets, a Bulletin of the ASPR, was published. Dr. Hencken plans to continue active research and publication on the Iron Age Hallstatt Culture.

JOHN OTIS BREW, Peabody Professor of American Archaeology and Ethnology, will become Professor Emeritus, effective August 31, 1972. A graduate of Dartmouth, Dr. Brew received his doctoral degree from Harvard and has been associated with the Museum for many years. In 1949 he was appointed Peabody Professor and served as Director of the Museum from 1948–1967. Next year Dr. Brew will be a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

DERWOOD W. LOCKARD, Curator of Middle Eastern Ethnography retired as of June 30, 1972. From the University of Chicago Ted received his Ph.B. in English and from Harvard an A.M. in Anthropology. Since 1954 he has been affiliated with Harvard as Lecturer and most recently as a curator and as Associate Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies. Unfortunately, an arthritic condition has forced him to take early retirement.

In June Dr. WALTER MUIR WHITEHILL retired, after 21 years as a member of the Faculty of the Peabody Museum. Dr. Whitehill received both his A.B. and A.M. from Harvard and his Ph.D. from the University of London. Since 1946 he has been the Director and Librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, concurrently pursuing a career as local historian interested in preserving Boston’s architectural heritage.

OBITUARIES

Former Assistant Director of the Peabody Museum

WILLIAM R. BULLARD, JR. died on May 21, 1972, at the age of 45 after a long illness. Dr. Bullard had recently made his home in Gainesville, Florida, and had been chairman of the Department of Social Sciences, Florida State Museum.

He was graduated from Harvard in 1950 and received his doctorate from the University in 1960. Dr. Bullard was a specialist in Maya archaeology and authored several major archaeological monographs. He also edited Peabody Papers, Vol. 61, honoring BOB and LEDYARD SMITH.

FRANCIS BOYER, a member of the Visiting Committee, died at his home in Philadelphia on May 22, 1972. For more than 50 years Mr. Boyer had been associated with Smith, Kline & French Laboratories, serving as president or chairman from 1951 to 1966.

A member of the Class of 1915, Mr. Boyer has been a faithful and thoughtful alumnus. He was an Overseer of the University and Chairman of the Peabody Visiting Committee. In his will he very generously left the Peabody Museum a bequest of $500,000.

PEDDOCK’S ISLAND (continued from p. 1)

Following our picnic (the Peabody provided soft drinks, beer, and coffee), Mr. Williams brought out a portfolio of woodworking tools used by “Archaic” Indians similar to those who had lived on Peddock’s Island. “Let’s go, the archaeologists are waiting for us!” he concluded, and we set out across the island on a track worn only by Mr. McDevitt’s jeep. As we struggled up to the dig, Mrs. Dincauze and her team were indeed waiting for us. All around were heaps of oyster, quahog, and clam shells — meaning, Mr. Williams explained, that we were standing on top of a prehistoric garbage heap. A semi-circle of rocks on the floor of one of the excavations was possibly an ancient hearth.

We hadn’t been there long, but it was time to start back so as to make the New Boston’s three o’clock departure. As the New Boston picked its way through the rain back to Rowe’s Wharf, we heard a small boy, who had just successfully dodged a frisbee tossed by Professor C. C. LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY, tell his mother, “When I grow up, I’m going to be an archaeologist. I just love to dig.”
SOME CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Anthropologists study man's past and present endeavors from a global vantage point. These research projects are but a small sample of the wide-ranging programs being carried out around the world by staff and students. Staff projects add Europe, Africa, and the Far East to the roster, while student programs range from northern Canada to the sunny Caribbean, and from India to Brazil.

Cozumel Island, a few miles off the Yucatan coast, may sound like an unlikely spot for archaeological research on the ancient Maya, but proves to be the site of a recently-inaugurated program and is already providing interesting new data. Under the direction of JERRY SABLOFF, fieldwork focuses on the trading patterns of the Maya as seen from this historically well-documented trading center.

The highlands of Chiapas in southern Mexico have been the site of a thirteen-year study and training for a large number of students from both Harvard and Radcliffe under the direction of EVON VOGT. Centering in San Cristobel de las Casas, this social anthropological research project has focused on the cultural changes that are affecting the Tozotzil-Maya speaking villagers.

KARL LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY is excavating for his fifth season at the now-famed archaeological site of Tepe Yahya in southeastern Iran. At this immense tell, more than 5000 years of cultural history are stacked layer on layer, beginning with early pottery cultures and closing with a visit from Alexander the Great. One of the most important discoveries has been to link this area with Mesopotamia and the Indus Valley at approximately 2500 B.C.
PH.D.'S IN ANTHROPOLOGY 1971–1972
Boehm, Christopher H., * Montenegrin Ethical Values: An Experiment in Anthropological Method
Cohn, Andrew H., * Suburban City: Social Structure and Socialization of Adolescents in a Black Community
Dening, Gregory M., Tapu and Haka'Iki in the Marquesas 1774–1813
Hally, David J., The Plaquemine and Mississippian Occupations of the Upper Tensas Basin, Louisiana
Harpending, Henry C., !Kung Hunter-Gatherer Population Structure
Harpending, Patricia Draper, !Kung Bushman Childhood
Haviland, John B., * Gossip, Gossips, and Gossiping in Zinacantan: K'al Tana Xpah Slo7iltael (Gossip about him will never cease)
McHenry, Henry M., The Postcranial Skeleton of Early Pleistocene Hominids
Mitchell, Donald D., Gardening for Money: Land and Agriculture in Nagovisi
Mitchell, Jill Nash, Aspects of Matriliny in Nagovisi Society
Newton, Dolores, Social and Historical Dimensions of Material Culture
Rosaldo, Michelle Z., * Context and Metaphor in Ilonggot Oral Tradition
Rose, Roger G., The Material Culture of Ancient Tahiti
Saul, Frank P., Disease and Death in an Ancient Maya Community: An Osteobiographic Analysis
Sertel, Ause K., * Peasant Conceptions of Community Power Structure: A Comparative Study of Two Turkish Villages
Smith, Derek G., Natives and Outsiders: Pluralism in the Mackenzie River Delta, N.W.T., Canada
Whelan, Mary Ann, The Bulk of the Measured Sibling Correlations in Selected Measures of Growth and their Application to the Problem of Relative Growth Failure
* Social Relations

DEPARTMENT NEWS
A noted anthropologist will join the Department's faculty this fall. Professor NUR YALMAN, formerly Director of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, became Professor of Anthropology effective July 1, 1972.

Professor Yalman's special interests are social anthropology — sociological theories of the religions of Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam; mythology and art; as well as political organization and ideology; urbanization; and social and economic change. A native of Istanbul, Professor Yalman was graduated from Robert College in that city and received his higher degrees from Cambridge University. He was a Bye-Fellow of Peterhouse from 1956–59. Following service with the Turkish Armed Forces, Professor Yalman spent a year as a Fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences.

Since 1963 he has been affiliated with the University of Chicago. His research and publications have covered both the Near East (Turkey) and Southern Asia (Ceylon and India).

During 1971–72, 108 graduate students were actively engaged in working for a Ph.D. in Anthropology at Harvard, with 70 in actual residence. Of the 13 graduate students receiving the Ph.D. degree in 1971–72, all will begin or continue academic jobs in September. In addition, 6 advanced graduate students expecting degrees in 1972–73, have been placed in teaching and research positions outside of Harvard.

During 1971–72, 132 undergraduates concentrated in anthropology, compared to 110 in 1970–71. This was a record for the Department, ranking it as the 10th largest department in undergraduate concentrations at Harvard.

Among the 41 seniors, 24 graduated with honors in anthropology — 11 cum laude, 10 magna cum laude, and 3 summa cum laude.

CURRENT PUBLICATIONS

THE HIEROGLYPHIC INSCRIPTIONS AND MONUMENTAL ART OF ALTAR DE SACRIFICIOS, by John A. Graham. Peabody Museum Papers, Vol. 64, No. 2. ($5.00)

A MEMENTO OF THE HEMENWAY EXPEDITION, by Philippa Shaplin. Buried Treasures of the Peabody Museum, No. 4 ($5.00)

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN THE NAME OF ART, by Stephen Williams. Peabody Museum. (Free)


Published at The Peabody Museum, 11 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
As part of more than 30 years of Peabody-sponsored archaeological study of the Lower Mississippi Valley, research under the direction of JEFFREY BRAIN has recently turned to the Natchez, Mississippi, area. This summer's field season emphasizes excavations of bluff areas to the north and south of the city, occupied by Natchez and Tunica Indians during late prehistoric and historic periods.

IAN GRAHAM is now in his fourth year of fieldwork on the Maya Hieroglyphic Project, specifically attempting to gather as many texts of hieroglyphic writing as possible from the carved stone monuments in Middle America. Graham's work is facing an additional difficulty with the extensive looting now going on. His first fascicle of a long series of reports on individual sites with glyphic monuments will be printed soon.

The Solomon Islands have been a significant laboratory for ALBERT DAMON, WILLIAM HOWELLS, and their assistants for a long-term bio-medical study of a number of peoples of these Pacific Islands. Coupling medical research with ethnographic studies, this team of scientists has been investigating the health and disease patterns of sample groups to compare the effects of civilization on these historically diverse populations.

Problems of urban life are not confined to the 70's, as MICHAEL MOSELEY is amply demonstrating in excavations at the archaeological site of Chan Chan, on Peru's northern coast near Trujillo. In addition to well-preserved ceremonial structures, the site has acres of slumlike housing outside the seven major quadrangles. The Chimu empire flourished here in the centuries prior to the Inca conquest in A.D. 1400.
VISITING COMMITTEE MEETS

This year the Visiting Committee of the Peabody Museum met in Cambridge on April 13 and 14. A dinner meeting was held in the Penthouse of Holyoke Center the night of April 13 with members of the Committee and members of the staff attending. After dinner Professor Williams gave a slide show reviewing current Museum activities.

At the full committee meeting Friday morning, the Visiting Committee heard reports from members of various Museum departments: Mr. Jones on Publications; Miss Currier on the Library; Professor Williams on Museum Operations and Finances; and Richard Keating and Pat Lynch on Research.

Later in the morning the full committee was broken up into sub-committees to meet with appropriate staff members who discussed the topics of Fund Raising, Collections (Museum and Library), Community Service, and Long-Range Planning.

Following sherry and a buffet luncheon for members of the staff and the Committee in the Hall of the American Indians, the Committee held its executive meeting with Mr. Hoguet presiding.

PMA PRESIDENT

The energetic new President of the Peabody Museum Association is Mr. ANDREW F. WILLIS. Mr. Willis was graduated from Harvard in 1945 and is now Trust Officer of the Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Company. Because of his interest in archaeology and museums, Mr. Willis became involved in Museum activities, and is a member of the Visiting Committee. He will work to promote greater interest in the Association.

The Editor's Scrapbasket

The summer doldrums, with gentle breezes and long peaceful afternoons, have bypassed Cambridge this season, too. Every year I look forward to the time when the building is really empty of both students and research staff, and each year I find that they are not what fill my days with activities. It's Building and Grounds, fund raising and foundation chasing, and odds and ends. But then there are days when it all seems very worthwhile. Now the Tozer Library finally looms as a reality and the endless months of planning and negotiating fall into place. More on that topic next time.

Recent decades have not seen a great many retirements but in the middle Seventies the old order will be changing fast. We welcome now our new "Honorary" Curators (the University reserves the term Emeritus for professors only) with the happy knowledge that they will be around as much as ever despite their change in status.

STEPHEN WILLIAMS

MOLA EXHIBIT

We are currently exhibiting a group of Cuna Indian mola textiles, a gift in 1971 from Mr. and Mrs. F. LOUIS HOOVER of Norman, Illinois. The Hoovers have been collecting molas from the San Blas Islands for many years and have selected pieces of the highest quality. The exhibit includes examples of the earlier mukan molas or "cloth of the grandmother" and the traditional mythological themes of the Sacred Earth Mother or the Tree of Life, as well as the contemporary acculturated designs adapted from advertisements and magazines. Excellent photographs of the Cuna were contributed by ELIZABETH KATZ.

PMA ACTIVITIES

In March the Boston Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America and the Peabody Museum Association co-sponsored a lecture by Dr. EZAT O. NEGAHBAHAN on "Haft Tepe: An Elamite Capital." The 1971-72 Norton Lecturer of the AIA, Dr. Negahban is also Professor and Director of the Institute of Archaeology, University of Teheran, as well as Adviser to the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments and Antiquities (UNESCO).

On Wednesday evening, March 8, the Peabody Museum Association gave an effective presentation of the complex and emotion-laden topic of Land Cessions and Treaty Rights of the American Indian. Dr. WILCOMB WASHBURN (Harvard Ph.D. 1955), Director of the American Studies Program at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, lectured on the topic "Red Man's Land — White Man's Law," the title of his recent book on the subject. There followed a movie entitled "Treaties Made, Treaties Broken" dealing with Indian fishing rights on the Columbia River as contested by the Washington State Fish and Game Department.

A reception at the Hall of North American Indians was well attended, with a welcome number of individuals from the Boston Indian community in attendance.

On April 27, 1972, Professor C. C. LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY gave a slide lecture entitled "Tepe Yahya: A Major Link Between the Indus Valley and Mesopotamia." Dr. MAURIZIO TOSI of the Italian Institute for the Middle and Far East, who was doing some research in the Museum at that time, joined Professor Lamberg-Karlovsky and also showed slides on his excavations at Shahr-i Sokhta, a Bronze Age urban settlement. This program was sponsored jointly by the Peabody Museum Association, the Classics Department, and the Boston Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America.