MUSEUM RENEWAL CONTINUES

For many old Peabody hands anthropology at Harvard centers on the granite front steps and the crowded front hall leading to the Library. Those who have not been back in a few years will have to contend with a new image with the great stone ball from Costa Rica as a new totem beside the entrance and a rather new look, but only a coat of paint thick, in the front hall leading to the inevitable Glass Flowers.

There’s a bathroom now tucked under the front stairs for the use of evening clients of the Library, and a sales desk purveying popular anthropology in book form. No Indian trinkets or colored post cards yet.

Changing exhibits, long suggested as a solution to our exhibition program, or lack thereof, have indeed come to the front hall. The current one on toys and games is an example of another new Museum policy with installation, under the direction of Mrs. ANNE KERN, our Cataloguer, done by students, but not Harvard or Radcliffe. Instead, short-term visitors—Miss SUSAN FREIBERG, a graduate student intern from a University of Michigan Museum training program, and Miss GRETCHEN CHRISTOL and Mr. FLOYD LATTIN, Antioch students who spent a work term at the Museum, carried out the project. The exhibit with dolls and children’s games has proven a favorite of our young visitors.

This current exhibition is due to stay for the summer, but the program has seen at least three exhibit changes per year and hopefully a feeling is generated that although the Peabody remains much the same, it is renewing itself regularly with a new look here and there and new personnel against a panorama of familiar red brick and faces.
NEW APPOINTMENTS

JEFFREY P. BRAIN has been named Research Fellow in North American Archaeology. Dr. Brain is carrying forward analysis of archaeological materials from the Lower Mississippi Valley. He was involved in the excavation of the materials while an undergraduate at Harvard College, prior to receiving his Ph.D. at Yale. He is jointly preparing a final report with Prof. WILLIAMS on these investigations.

IAN GRAHAM, newly appointed Research Fellow in Middle American Archaeology, has just returned from Guatemala where he is currently involved in a project of recording the Maya hieroglyphic inscriptions in Middle America. Mr. Graham has spent the last ten years in archaeological work in the area; this project is jointly sponsored with the Center for Inter-American Relations and is supported by the Guttmann Foundation. He hopes his research will aid cryptographers in breaking the Mayan code so the historical records of the Maya may be deciphered.

ALEXANDER MARSHACK has been appointed Research Fellow in Palaeolithic Archaeology. Mr. Marshack is carrying out research into the development and significance of Upper Palaeolithic notation in Western and Eastern Europe. Mr. Marshack has spent the last six years using new microscopic techniques to re-examine Palaeolithic art treasures of Europe. This research has been primarily funded by the National Science Foundation. In his book, The Roots of Civilization, to be published this fall by McGraw-Hill, he will offer a reinterpretation of man’s first art, symbols, and notations.

MUSEUM PIECES ON THE MOVE

RECENT STAFF HONORS

Dr. L. CABOT BRIGGS was invited to participate in a program of seminars given this spring dealing with various aspects of “Man in the Biosphere” at the invitation of the Faculté des Sciences of the University of Paris. This program combined the approaches of classical physical anthropology, human ecology, physiology, and cellular biology, and involved a number of outstanding authorities in France and from other countries. The main purpose was to break down, primarily for the benefit of advanced students, the interdisciplinary barriers which in recent years have developed an excessive compartmentation among the several disciplines that deal with Man’s response to his environment.

Dr. J. O. BREW, Peabody Professor of American Archaeology and Ethnology, delivered the Commencement address at the University of Liberia last December. At the ceremonies, Dr. Brew was awarded the honorary degree of LL.D. in International Relations by President R. L. Weeks of the University of Liberia, and was decorated by Dr. William V. S. Tubman with the extraordinarily high honor of Grand Commander in the Order of the Star of Africa. Dr. Brew is currently President of the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, and in his Commencement address strongly urged the immediate expansion of the Department of Anthropology.

In May, Prof. IRVEN DE VORE was awarded the 1970 Walker Prize by the Boston Museum of Science. This award was established in 1864 through a special gift of Dr. William J. Walker of Newport, R. I., and is given in recognition of meritorious scientific investigations and discovery in the general area of Natural History. This year the prize carried a cash award of $5,000 (tax free).
VISITING COMMITTEE VIEWS MODEL

The annual meeting of the Visiting Committee was held on Sunday, February 15, 1970, following the dinner given by the Peabody Museum Association at the Academy of Arts and Sciences on Saturday evening. The meeting began with a brief Museum message by Prof. WILLIAMS, its Director. Next, the model for the proposed new wing of the Museum was discussed by the Committee with the architect, Mr. ROBERT HOTVEDT. Then the Committee broke into three groups: one meeting with the Department's Committee on Graduate Affairs, another with the Committee on Undergraduate Affairs, and the last with the Museum staff to discuss Museum Design. Both departmental committees have student members, and thus the Committee members had ample opportunity to hear and respond to a wide range of opinion on current academic matters. Following luncheon with the Faculty and Museum staff, Prof. VOGT, Department Chairman, gave a review of its affairs and the Committee then met privately with the student members of the Student-Faculty Committee.

BUILDING DESIGN CONTINUES

By January, much of the necessary preliminaries of design had been completed in terms of how to use the available space in the quadrangle. A dozen or more trial designs had gone all the way to model stage, and there were some wonderful ones among the discards. Price and feasibility were strong considerations that bore down on the final decisions. By the Visiting Committee meeting a rather generalized solution was offered for consideration including the ultimate addition of an 8-story tower to provide the long-range expansion capability required of the program by the Corporation.

Schematic design of both the new wing and the renovation of the old building was completed by the end of March, and currently Design Development for the Library and Ethnographic Research Facility will meet a June 30th deadline, with Working Drawings to be begun following Corporation approval of this stage of the program. The design of the Tozzer Library portion of the structure has involved the most staff time, but the results have proved very satisfactory to all concerned.
The Peabody Museum Association Dinner given on Saturday evening, February 14, 1970, at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Brookline, was a tremendous success largely due to the newly formed Women’s Committee. Honorary Members of this committee for the affair were Mrs. Oric Bates, Mrs. Alfred V. Kidder, Mrs. Donald Scott and Mrs. Alfred M. Tozzer. Members are Mrs. William White Howells, Mrs. C. C. Lamberg-Karlovsky, Mrs. William A. Lincoln, Mrs. Hallam L. Movius, Jr., Mrs. Douglas L. Oliver, Mrs. Philip Phillips, Mrs. H. E. D. Pollock, Mrs. Gordon R. Willey and Mrs. Evon Z. Vogt.

Following a formal dinner by candlelight, the one hundred and twenty Association members and guests adjourned to the ballroom of the former Brandegee estate for the evening’s program. After a few introductory remarks, Professor WILLIAMS, Museum Director, showed and narrated a multi-screen slide presentation entitled, PEABODY PANORAMA: Past, Present and Future.

Next, THALASSA CRUSO, “The Flower Lady” of WGBH-TV (Channel 2) fame, creator and author of the program, and a recent book titled “Making Things Grow,” gave an informal talk, “As It Was,” based on her early training as an archaeologist in England. She is the wife of Dr. HUGH O. HENCKEN, Curator of European Archaeology at the Peabody.

In the entrance foyer were three small exhibits; a case containing selected pieces of rare Mayan and Panamanian gold and jade from the Museum collections, an exhibit of photographs from Peabody’s past, and an architects’ model showing the placement of the new wing.

Returning to the now-familiar evening lecture and reception pattern on May 14th, the third Peabody Museum Association function of the year featured the Museum’s Bowditch Professor, GORDON R. WILEY, speaking on the topic of The Ancient Maya Civilization: Harvard Research 1888-1970. A record crowd of nearly two hundred turned out to learn in detail about our long history of research in this area and about the Museum’s current program of studies in this important field.

Several small dinner parties preceded the lecture, and special guests included Jaime Peña Vera, the Mexican Consul, and his wife, and Mrs. A. V. Kidder, widow of the renowned Middle American archaeologist. The reception afterward in the Hall of North American Indians featured May wine with Copan sculptures as table decor.

MUSEUM TREASURES ON RARE DISPLAY

Gold and Jade Artifacts from the Cenote at Chichen and from Coclé
CURRENT MUSEUM LOANS

Since the last report, our segment of the Hieroglyphic Staircase from Copan, Honduras, has been packed and shipped to New York where it will acquire a new display framework and a rearrangement of the individual blocks. It goes on exhibition for the Metropolitan Museum’s 100th anniversary Middle American Sculpture show in October.

The Tlingit totem pole, mainstay of the American Indian Hall, also left for the World’s Fair (Expo) in Osaka, Japan. The dismantling and shipment of these pieces were major jobs requiring planning and supervision.

As always, African and Pre-Columbian art have been the most popular loan items. Borrowing institutions since May, 1969, have included the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art in Texas; Asia House Gallery, New York; the Boston Museum of Science; the Berkshire Museum; Brandeis University; the Currier Gallery, Manchester, N. H.; Fogg Museum; the La Jolla Museum of Art in California; the Universities of Florida, Maine and Massachusetts; and the University Museum, Philadelphia. Six of our important African sculptures, now on exhibition at the National Gallery in Washington, will travel to the Nelson Gallery in Kansas City and the Brooklyn Museum during the spring and summer. They have been published by William Fagg in the excellent exhibition catalogue.

A show of Pre-Columbian Art was held at Bowdoin College in October-November honoring both its new President Roger Howell and the late William C. Root whose unpublished manuscripts on Pre-Columbian metallurgy were recently willed to Peabody. Asmat artifacts from New Guinea collected by Michael Rockefeller were exhibited in his memory by Phillips-Exeter Academy in November.

A large long-term loan of art and ethnography from Upper Volta and adjacent areas of West Africa has been made available to the Museum through the generosity of Dr. and Mrs. Eli Newberger of Boston. Recently, three fine engraved shells from the Spiro Mound in Oklahoma, loaned by the Museum of the American Indian in New York, have been on exhibition in the front hall along with several plates from Dr. PHILIP PHILLIPS’ projected book on Spiro Indian shell art.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The Museum’s Duplicate book room, picked over by generations of students, was just that, “picked over.” With no more hidden treasures remaining it was decided to have a library book sale for all current duplicates once a year, and this program was inaugurated last fall. The leftovers, items that would not move at 5 cents a piece as a result of a daily price reduction, were sent off gratis to institutions, domestic and foreign, where it was thought that these volumes might aid other students in their anthropological researches.

The Editor’s Scrapbasket

One of the few wise things I did when I started this newsletter was not to give volume and number designations for each issue. Thus, I have retained the flexibility that any part-time editor needs to maintain his sanity.

Winter has indeed come and gone as has most of the spring with June 21 about to arrive. The lilacs, usually a herald of exam period, came early this year, possibly to avoid the embarrassment of coinciding with a time of academic confusion (only 15% of the students took exams). But Harvard survived another difficult spring with a measure of success and only a minor disruption of Commencement. It was hardly a time of status quo, but not as shattering as last April.

Progress has been made on many fronts — our program of development continues with building plans; we’ve had a bumper crop of Ph.D.s; and another banner year with two Summas and a Magna with Highest Honors in our Senior class. Research has continued apace on many fronts, and our publication department is strained to keep up with the flow of manuscripts. Summer plans call for a quiet Museum except for Summer School taught by Demetri Shimkin and the bustle of the staff in the library and the basement trying to catch up on all the backlogs.

STEPHEN WILLIAMS
PH.D.'S IN ANTHROPOLOGY 1969-1970

Abernethy, Virginia Dean,* Husband, Mother, and Social Network in Relation to the Maternal Response
Adams, Alice Kasakoff,* Explicit and Implicit Marriage Rules among the Gitksan
Adams, John Winthrop,* The Politics of Feasting among the Gitksan
Bestor, William Porter, Aldeia: Value Orientations and Social Status in a Portuguese Village
Browman, David Ludwig, Early Peruvian Peasants: The Culture History of a Central Highlands Valley
Davis, Shelton Harold,* Land of our Ancestors: A Study of Land Tenure and Inheritance in the Highlands of Guatemala
Finney, Ruth Sutherland,* Would-be Entrepreneurs? Motivation in Six New Guinea Districts
Fitzhugh, William Wyvill IV, Environmental Archaeology and Cultural Systems in Hamilton Inlet, Labrador: A Survey of the General Labrador Coast from 3000 B.C. to the Present
Gossen, Gary Hamilton, Time and Space in Chamula Oral Tradition
Nitzberg, Frances Lou,* Land, Labor and Status: The Social Implications of Ecologic Adaptation in a Region of the Western Himalayas of India
Price, Richard Swee,* Saramaka Social Structure
Ross, Harold Marion, Baegu (Malaita, Solomon Islands) Land Use and Residential Behavior
Schambach, Frank Ferdinand, Pre-Caddoan Cultures in the Trans-Mississippi South: A Beginning Sequence
Scheele, Harry George, The Chavin Influence on the Central Coast of Peru
Vatuk, Sylvia Jane, Kin and Neighbors in the Urban Mohalla: A Study of White-Collar Migrants in an Uttar Pradesh City
Weber, Joann Cynthia, Types and Attributes in the Study of Iroquois Pipes

* Degree granted by Social Relations Department

PRIMITIVE ART COURSES

The art of non-literate peoples, which has generally been the province of anthropologists in the past, is now attracting a wider audience. Increasing interest has necessitated the cross-listing with the Fine Arts Department of the few courses offered currently at Harvard, and enrollments have greatly increased. Dr. LEE PARSONS' Anthropology 150 (Primitive Art) roughly tripled its enrollment in 1969 and included students from such diverse fields as Economics, Government and the Physical Sciences. Miss PROSKOURIAKOFF's Fine Arts 122 (Cosmic Themes in Meso-American Art), offered this Spring, was so over-enrolled that, with some special exceptions, she had to limit it to Fine Arts and Anthropology students.

SENIORS SHARE HONORS

A distinguished graduating class of 24 had three candidates for Highest Honors: ELLEN MESSER and LINNEA HOLMER received their degrees Summa Cum Laude and PETER WELLS was awarded Magna Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Anthropology. Three more seniors graduated with Magnas; overall, 18 seniors graduated with honors.

CURRENT MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS

HUTTERITE AGE DIFFERENCES IN BODY MEASUREMENTS by W. W. Howells, with the assistance of Hermann K. Bleibtreu. Papers of the Peabody Museum, Vol. LVII, No. 2 ($5.00).


PEABODY PANORAMA: Past, Present, and Future. 10 pages (Published February 1970), (Free).