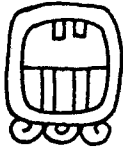


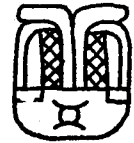
INSTITUTE OF MAYA STUDIES

OF THE MIAMI MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Newsletter



BEN



PAX

Hal C. Ball, Editor

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(February 12, 1975)

MEETING NOTICE:

The February meeting of the Institute of Maya Studies will be held in the Museum of Science Auditorium on Wednesday the 19th, at 8:00 p.m. A program will be presented by Charles Lacombe on "Mystical Medicine of the Maya."...

SPECIAL MAYA LECTURE SERIES---1975:

During the months of February and March, the IMS is sponsoring a special series of three lectures on the Maya Civilization. The date of the first lecture will be February 14th, at which time Miss Elizabeth P. Benson, Curator for the Pre-Columbian Collection at Dumbarton Oaks, will present an illustrated program on "Gestures and Offerings in Maya Art." The second of the series will be on February 28th, and the speaker will be Dr. Munro S. Edmonson, Professor of Anthropology at Tulane University, whose subject will be "The Poetry of the Maya." The last of the series will take place on March 14th, when Dr. William L. Rathje, Professor of Anthropology at the U. of Arizona, will present a lecture on the rather unusual subject title of: "The Last Tango on Cozumel: An Archaeological Study of an Ancient Maya Trading Center."...

All three of these special lectures will be in the Main Auditorium, (2nd floor), of the Downtown Campus of Miami-Dade Community College at 300 N. E. 2nd Ave., and will begin promptly at 8:00 p.m. (There is a new parking lot directly across the street.) The regular subscription rate for the three-lecture series is \$15.00, and a 50% discount will be given to IMS members and college students. This should be an especially interesting series of lectures, and we suggest that you inform your friends and neighbors not to miss this opportunity to hear these three distinguished guests. For information regarding tickets, contact Elayne Kaplan or Ellen Jacobs...

ARCHITECTURAL RESEARCH SECTION MEETING:

The IMS Architectural Research Section will hold its February meeting in Ft. Lauderdale on Thursday the 23rd at 7:30 p.m. The topic for the evening will be "Architectural Similarity in Pre-Columbian Peoples." For more information, phone Len Schafer: 522-2177 (home) or 792-4713 (office)...

LIBRARY NOTE:

A complete list of the books in our IMS library is now available, and those who have not obtained a copy may have one by contacting librarian Reginald Kennedy. If you are not able to visit the library during regular hours, you may request a particular book by writing Mr. Kennedy and he will bring it to you at the next regular meeting. If already on loan, the book will be reserved for you and you will be notified when it is available. Mr. Kennedy's mailing address is: 14620 S. W. 83 St., Kendall, Florida, 33158...

MAYA STELA RETURNED TO GUATEMALA:

A Maya stela that had illegally been taken out of Guatemala has now been returned to the country by Consul General Nery Rodolfo Valladares. It was confiscated by the FBI from Harry N. Brown of West Helena, Arkansas, who has pleaded guilty to transporting it from Florida. As the stela had been cut into numerous pieces prior to its removal from Guatemala, it will require a great deal of repair and restoration before it is worthy of exhibit...

"PRECLASSIC TO POSTCLASSIC IN NORTHERN BELIZE":

An interesting and informative article written by Norman Hammond on the Maya sites in northern Belize appeared in the XLVIII issue of "Antiquity," a quarterly review of archaeology published in Cambridge, England. Dr. Hammond describes the background of the Corozal Project and presents the results of the 1973 and 1974 seasons, with special emphasis on the major ceremonial centers of Nohmul, San Estevan and Colha...

PRE-COLUMBIAN RUINS FOUND IN MEXICO CITY'S CHAPULTEPEC PARK:

While workmen were excavating for the installation of new water lines in Chapultepec Park, numerous prehispanic structures, sculptured stones, ceramics and other miscellaneous artifacts were discovered. The temple ruins are quite well preserved and most of the artifacts are reported to be related to water deities. The archaeological site will eventually be reconstructed and serve as an additional attraction in Mexico City's most interesting park...

PEABODY MUSEUM OPENS NEW ANTHROPOLOGY LIBRARY BUILDING:

The new Peabody Museum library building is now open and provides more than 20,000 square feet of space for the Museum's large collection of books, journals, maps, etc. The new three-story building was dedicated to Dr. Alfred M. Tozzer, who devoted his entire life as an anthropologist to the service of Harvard University. Considered the finest anthropology library in the country, it is well worth a special visit on your next trip to Cambridge...

"PASSPORT TO CENTRAL AMERICA: 1975":

A new pocket-size travel guide with hundreds of facts to help you "discover" the interesting countries of Central America is now available. Send \$5.00 to: Passport, Box No. 5964, San Jose, Costa Rica, C. A.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MASTERPIECES OF MAYA ART:

The photograph seen at the right is an example of the beautiful and iconographically important 8th-9th century A.D. Maya art being photographed in a project of the Foundation for Latin American Anthropological Research. The project is being directed by Nicholas Hellmuth, who seeks to record in black and white and full color, the many masterpieces of Maya art that are in private collections in Guatemala. A grant has been received for the first year's work from Dumbarton Oaks of Washington, D. C., and the photography is planned to be published in six volumes. One volume will present an emphasis on painted pottery showing ball game scenes, some depicting the players in their ceremonial costumes and others the ball court and some of the spectators. Volumes 2 through 6 will contain photographs of throne scenes complete with servants and rare female figures, as well as dieties, plants, animals and jungle birds. (For more information, write: F.L.A.A.R., Apartado Postal 1838, Guatemala City, C. A.)...



"THE YUCATAN SALT PROJECT":

A new and rather unusual project has been proposed for research and study in the north coastal region of Yucatan. To be referred to as "The Yucatan Salt Project," one of the basic objectives will be to record the geographical and temporal positions of the components of one of Yucatan's major salt producing areas that is located in the vicinity of the small coastal village of San cristanto. A preliminary mapping of the modern and ancient salt beds there will be done, and this will include the relative positions of the old Maya civic-religious centers, storage platforms, and other features of related importance. An attempt will also be made to verify and elaborate upon the position of salt in the rise of Maya civilization from a Formative stage to a blossoming in its later Classic way of life. The project will be under the auspices of the University of Texas at San Antonio and the Director will be Jack Eaton, who has previously made an extensive archaeological reconnaissance of the west and north coasts of Yucatan during 1968. This should prove to be a very interesting project and more information will be given in a forthcoming issue of the Newsletter...

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT LA CIENAGA, EL SALVADOR:

During the first season of The Cerron Grande Project of El Salvador, Howard H. Hunt of Harvard University conducted numerous archaeological investigations in the northwestern quadrant of the proposed Cerron Grande reservoir. Although thorough reconnaissance of this area north of the Lempa River had been planned, impending destruction of an important Late Classic site on Hda. Sta. Barbara made salvage work on that site of higher priority. The site, known as La Cienaga, consists of a principal group of large mounds, presumably ceremonial, and over a hundred low house mounds. Test excavations were carried out in several areas of the site, including ones in the ceremonial group, ballcourt structures, and in three of the house mounds. Several burials were encountered beneath the house mounds, most of which were accompanied by poorly preserved ceramic vessels and infrequently by jade beads. No analysis of any of this material has yet been done, but it is tentatively assigned to Late Classic on the basis of ceramic affiliations with the Copan Late Classic. A map was also made of the site, but as it was to be destroyed by sugar cane cultivation, it was necessary to hurriedly complete the work there by early September. However, informal reconnaissance has revealed at least six other sites on Santa Barbara, including several mound groups and a Preclassic midden buried by about three meters of alluvium. Continuation of the work is planned in the area between February and August of 1975...

NEWSLETTER

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