

# INSTITUTE OF MAYA STUDIES

OF THE MIAMI MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

## Newsletter



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Hal C. Ball, Editor

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(January 1, 1977)



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### MR. IAN GRAHAM TO PRESENT PROGRAM AT IMS DINNER:

In lieu of a regular IMS meeting this month, the Institute has arranged for a special dinner at the Sheraton Four Ambassadors Hotel on January 21st. Our guest of honor for the evening will be Mr. Ian Graham, Assistant Curator of Maya Hieroglyphics for the Peabody Museum of Harvard University. Mr. Graham is a well-known British archaeologist and explorer who became particularly interested in Maya hieroglyphics many years ago. Since then he has made numerous trips into the jungle of the Maya area to investigate and record the carved glyphic inscriptions that are found on the stone stelae, altars, and lintels that still remain partially hidden among the ruins of once magnificent religious and ceremonial centers. His account of his interesting experiences and the present work he is doing at the Peabody Museum should be of special interest to all IMS members, so be sure and plan to attend. Invitations have already been mailed, but as a reminder, please note the following information: Place - Pan American Room of the Sheraton Four Ambassadors Hotel (801 South Bayshore Drive); Time - 7:30 p.m. (cocktails at 6:30-cash bar); Members - \$12.50; Guest - \$15.00. R.S.V.P...

### IMS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ELECTED FOR 1977:

At the December 3 meeting of the Board of Directors, the following officers were elected to serve in 1977: Robert Little, president; Fay Hochen, vice president; Beverly Little, secretary; Irving Eyster, treasurer; and Ellen Jacobs, parliamentarian. Those elected to serve on the Board of Directors by the members at the regular November meeting were: Mitza Block, Fay Hochen, Ellen Jacobs, Elayne Marquis, Al Rosenberg, John Rousseau, and Len Schafer. As per the By-Laws, the board now consists of 15 members...

### RE: FOUNDING MEMBERS OF IMS:

For the information of new members and others who have inquired as to the names of the Institute's founding members, the persons who first organized the Institute in September of 1971 were: Charles Lacombe, who first proposed the idea, Hal and Alberta Ball, Lewis Dorn, John Harrison, Allan Kaplan, Elayne Marquis, Timothy Sullivan, and Albert Weintraub...

A CORRECTION: Lines 27/28 of the December issue of the IMS Newsletter, should read: "Akademische Druck- u. Verlagsanstalt, Graz, Austria"...



Mrs. Hinda Finn	Mr. Brian Mong
Ms. Rosemarie Helfen	Ms. Lourdes L. Nieto
Mr. & Mrs. John Henson	Ms. Kathy Wallace
Dr. & Mrs. Allan Kaplan	Mr. John M. Villamil

RECENT DONORS TO IMS LIBRARY:

We wish to extend sincere thanks to the following persons who have made recent donations to the IMS library: Joann Andrews, Hal Ball, Sam Block, Jack Eaton, Irving Eyster, Larry Hochen, Al Rosenberg, Irwin Rovner, and Larry Tabor. Donations were also received from the Museum of Science and the Middle American Research Institute, which brings the total number of items given during the past few months to 26. Besides these, 13 new books were purchased by the library, and others are ordered for 1977...

DR. DAVID PENDERGAST TO CONDUCT MAYA TOUR FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO:

Dr. David Pendergast, member of the IMS Editorial Board, will conduct his second Maya tour for the University of Toronto in February of 1977. The tour is scheduled for 16 days and will begin in Mexico City and end in Guatemala city. For details see IMS Bulletin Board...

PRE-COLUMBIAN ART EXHIBIT IN FORT LAUDERDALE:

The Fort Lauderdale Museum of Arts will exhibit its collection of Pre-Columbian and Primitive art from January 12th through the 30th, and Director George Bole has extended an invitation to IMS members to attend the preview reception at 8:00 p.m. on the 11th. (Refreshments will be served and a \$1.00 contribution is requested.) The Museum is open 10 to 4:30 Tuesday through Saturday and 12 to 5 on Sunday. 426 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale...

EMBLEM AND STATE IN THE CLASSIC MAYA LOWLANDS:

This clothbound volume released by The Center for Pre-Columbian Studies at Dumbarton Oaks in December, analyzes the political organization of Cycles 8 to 10 and delves deeply into the site histories of the four Cycle 9 capitals (Tikal, Yaxchilán, Palenque, and Copán), using as its primary source of information the carved stone monuments of the region. It was written by Joyce Marcus and contains a foreword by Gordon R. Willey. 203 pages, 83 illustrations, 13 tables. \$13.50...

FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY:

Dr. Barbara Purdy of the University of Florida, reports that a team of eight anthropology students have been unearthing an ancient Indian tool factory at a site approximately 20 miles south of Gainesville. The site has been designated as a "field school," and students spend six hours a day mapping, labeling and photographing artifacts that have been dug up during the past few months. Crude stone tools possibly dating back to 10,000 years ago have been discovered, plus numerous projectile points and potsherds found near the surface that are estimated to be about 500 years old...

"CODICES SELECTI" (THE DRESDEN CODEX):

Now available from AKADEMISCHE DRUCK- u. VERLAGSANSTALT, Graz, Austria, are excellent facsimile editions of more than 50 different ancient Central American manuscripts that are included in the popular "Codices Selecti" series. These are considered by many experts on the subject to be the finest reproductions of pre-Columbian codices that may be obtained, and persons who have seen the 12 that are included in the Group "C" series, seem to be particularly impressed with the detail and color reproduced from the originals. The last one published in this series was the CODEX DRESDENESIS, which besides being the most important of the three surviving Maya codices, is also considered as the most artistic. It has been printed in Graz with the most up-to-date techniques, and the photography of almost all of the codex's 78 pages is entirely new. Included with the full color Graz facsimile of the codex, which is in its original screen-like form, is a supplementary 135-page book that contains commentaries by Helmut Deckert and Ferdinand Anders on the history and early editions of the manuscript. The book also has 42 pages of illustrations, including the codex as it was printed in black and white by the Villacorta's in 1930, and examples of the color reproductions of Ernst Forstmann and Lord E. K. Kingsborough. The codex and the book come packed together in a heavy cardboard box with a leather spline and are a valuable addition to the library of anyone interested in Maya codices. The price is 3500 Austrian shillings and additional information may be obtained from Dr. Hand Biedermann: Akademische- u. Verlagsanstalt, POB 598, A-8011, Graz, Austria...

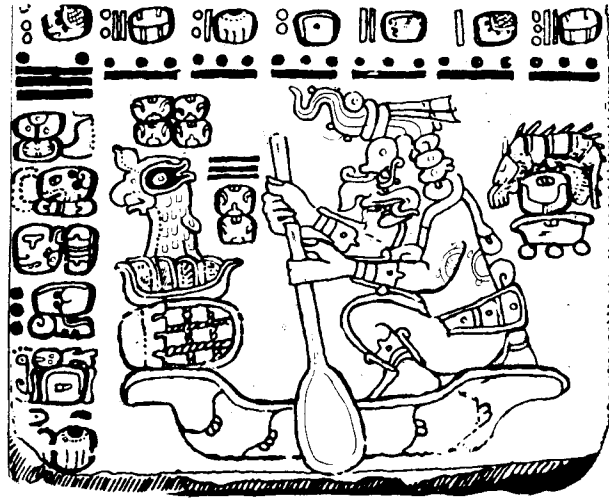


Fig. 1 Lower panel, page 43.  
(The Dresden Codex)

EXCAVATIONS AT REAL ALTO, ECUADOR:

The first year of a two-year program of excavations at the Early Formative site of Real Alto was finished in 1976 and the archaeologists believe that it has now been proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was a permanently settled village for at least 1,000 years. The site is located in the Chanduy Valley on the coast of Ecuador and the work there is being conducted under the auspices of the University of Illinois, the National Science Foundation and the Archaeology Museum of Banco Central of Ecuador. An intensive investigation of 80 of the site's early domestic structures, (only a fraction of the large number erected during the long occupation of the site), revealed differences in floor plans and settlement patterns for 3 major time periods. These included the small beehivelike oval houses of the people who lived at

the site prior to the introduction of pottery making, and the large elliptical houses of the later Valdivia Period II to V (2,400 to 2,000 B. C.). One discovery of particular interest was the uncovering of sandstone spindle whorls at the bottom of one of the trenches (C) that suggest that cotton was being cultivated for weaving at the site some 5,500 years ago! In addition, evidence in the form of rim sherds decorated with corn kernel impressions indicate the importance of maize to the inhabitants around 2,300 B. C.---and possible much earlier. Numerous manos and metates were also found in some of the lower levels of excavations, and at least 2 vessel forms similar to those discovered in Mesoamerica were identified. The Director of the program, Dr. Donald W. Lathrap, and his staff, state that "the Valdivia ceramic tradition was even richer and more elaborate than had previously been thought" and their conclusions now push backward 1,500 years or more the beginnings of settled farm life and the roots of civilization in the Western Hemisphere...

### PICTOGRAFÍAS MAYAS:

This new book on the Maya civilization is now available from Escuela de Ciencias Antropológicas at Universidad de Yucatan, Calle 76 N. 455- LL por 41 y 43, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. It is the first number in a new series (Analte) and contains 93 pp., 64 illustrations, 5 photographs, 8 plates, and a Bibliography. Price \$4.00 (U.S) or \$7.00 (N.M.)...

### NEWSLETTER

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### TIME VALUE

