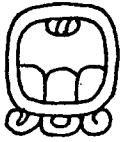


INSTITUTE OF MAYA STUDIES

OF THE MIAMI MUSEUM OF SCIENCE

Newsletter



KAN

Hal C. Ball, Editor

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(April 13, 1977)



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MEETING NOTICE:

The regular monthly meeting of the Institute of Maya Studies will be held in the Museum of Science Auditorium at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20. The program for the evening will be presented by Dr. Allan Kaplan, whose topic will be: "Mass Production of Pre-Columbian Art---Mold-Made Objects in Pre-Columbian Times..."

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE TO PRESENT SPECIAL "GALLERY TALK" ON THE MAYA CULTURE:

Included in a new series of "Gallery Talks" by the Museum of Science, is one on the Maya culture that will be presented between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. on April 28. For reservations, phone Kathy, 854-4242, extension 44...

42ND ANNUAL SAA MEETING TO BE HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, LA.:

The 42nd annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology will be held at the Braniff Place Hotel in New Orleans, La. on April 28-30. This year's Program Chairperson is Dr. Mary Elizabeth King, and the preliminary program lists 36 symposiums and 19 general sessions, several of which are directly related to the Maya civilization. It is not necessary to be a member to attend the sessions, but each individual is required to pay the registration fee, which includes a copy of the Program and Abstracts...

NUEVAS PERSPECTIVAS:

Recientemente visitó el país el Sr. Hal C. Ball, miembro del Instituto de Estudios Mayas que coopera con el museo de Ciencias de Miami. Dicho Instituto está interesado en realizar bajo los auspicios y dirección del Departamento de Investigaciones de nuestra Institución estudio y salvamento de la arqueología del Valle de Comayagua. De acuerdo a informaciones preliminares el Instituto de Estudios Mayas trabaja en Belice, El Salvador y otros países. Se espera llegar a un arreglo dentro de las bases y requisitos que nuestro Instituto sustenta para este tipo de cooperación. (From Boletín Informativo, No. 9.— INSTITUTO HONDURENO DE ANTROPOLOGIA E HISTORIA)...

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE MAYA TO BE HELD IN GUATEMALA CITY:

An "International Symposium on Maya Art, Architecture, Archaeology, and Hieroglyphic Writing," is scheduled to be held in Guatemala City on June 25 through July 2, 1977. For detailed information, write: F.L.A.A.R., Edificio El Prado, 9th Calle 4-69, Zone 1, Guatemala City, Guatemala, C.A...



Mrs. Carole Boyles	Alden C. Olander
Patricia Button	Raul Fidel Pino
Ana M. Calderin	Rosemary Rosenthal
Dr. Julio G. Garcia	Ray Stewart
M/M Samuel Grossman	Bill Thayer
Elizabeth Leathen	Dr. Marcus J. Zbar

NEW TOMB DISCOVERED AT THE MAYA SITE OF LA LAGUNITA:

French archaeologists working at the site of La Lagunita, located approximately 5 km. from the town of Canillá, in the Department of Quiché, Guatemala, have recently excavated an important new tomb that dates back to ca. A.D. 200. It is described as "a circular cave 6 meters in diameter and 2 meters high," and was discovered at the end of a long passageway that had the sides lined with vertical stone slabs. Similar slabs had been used to seal the tomb, and when these were first removed, so much talpetate (decomposed volcanic ash) began to fall into the room that it was necessary to shore it up before anyone could enter and safely work there. During the course of excavating the funerary chamber, more than 100 ceramic vessels were found, and in addition there were various jade objects, grinding stones, many shells of different sizes, and a mosaic fragment. It is believed that the tomb was built during the Protoclassic period (A.D. 200), which indicates an occupation of the site for some 1700 years---an unusual length of time for this part of the Guatemala Highlands. Besides the tomb, other interesting features of the site are the examples of art styles similar to those at Kaminaljuyu and Izapa that have been found, and also the typical Teotihuacan stairways and "talud-tablero" architecture that has been uncovered. The excavations at La Lagunita have been directed by Dr. Alain Ichon, and the site is one of several that have been investigated by Project Director Dr. Henri Lehmann. The project, which was begun in 1972, is sponsored by the National Center of Scientific Investigation and the Museum of Man in Paris, and is working in collaboration with the Institute of Anthropology and History of Guatemala. Authorization is now being sought by Dr. Lehmann for another project, which will be a survey of Cahual and other sites in that part of the Chixoy River valley that will be flooded after the completion of a new hydroelectric dam being constructed there...

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS FROM EL SALVADOR:

Recent correspondence from Stanley Boggs in El Salvador indicates considerable archaeological activity within the country during 1977, including (1) Richard Crane digging one of the two ball courts found at the El Tanque site in the Cerron Grande area, (2) Howard Earnest working at the Pre-classic site of El Perical, (3) Stanley Boggs and Arthur Demarest continuing investigation of Sta. Leticia, (4) Wolfgang Haberland's Corinto cave area project, (5) Additional restoration at Cihuatan, and (6) Excavation of new mounds at San Andres. (More information on these projects will be published in the NEWSLETTER after the Editor's return from El Salvador in mid April)...

THE MAYA OF GUATEMALA:
(THEIR LIFE AND DRESS)

This attractive new book published by the Ixchel Textile Museum, describes the present day Maya Indians of the Highlands of Guatemala and portrays in 60 full-page (9½ X 12") water color paintings, the men, women, and children as they appear in the colorful clothes representative of the particular town or village in which they live. The author is Carmen L. Pettersen, who was born in Guatemala and has lived on a coffee



Maya women of Mixco

finca among the Maya Indians of the Highlands for over fifty years. Her paintings include Indians of the Quiche, Cakchiquel, Kekchi, Pokiman, Tzutujil, and several closely associated tribes that live in the mountain region of southern Guatemala. The various scenes illustrated present the Indians in almost all aspects of their daily life, some of the most interesting of which are: grinding corn, carding wool, tending sheep, carrying water jars, weaving, attending church, and visiting the local market. Opposite each painting is a description of the village in which the people live, what it is best known for, and special notes on the particular type of costumes that are shown. This combination of illustration and text presents a vivid and true to life image of the proud Maya as he lives today. (Distributed by the University of Washington Press, Seattle, 98105. 280 pp, 74 color illustrations, 14 black-and-white drawings, glossary, index. \$39.95.)...

"THE MAYAN CALENDAR REFORM OF 11.16.0.0.0":

This article, written by Munro S. Edmonson of Tulane University, is of special significance because it presents new interpretive data on the problem of the correlation of the classic Mayan and Gregorian calendars. The basis for the author's research on the subject is a passage in the text of the Book of Chilam Balam of Chumayel, which he interprets as including the only direct colonial reference to the classic long count dating system of the Maya. The particular passage that Edmonson makes reference to appears on pp. 15 and 16 of the Chumayel manuscript, which relates directly to the Maya building of pyramids between 8.0.0.0.0. (40 B.C.) and 11.13.6.0.0. (A.D. 1486), and further states that the Spaniards came to Merida two years after 11.16.0.0.0 (1539), which is in complete accord with Acona's account in his book Historia de Yucatan. This information is presented by Edmonson in a chart with two different translations, and he also discusses the Maya calendar at Mayapan, which was reformed on July 30, 1959 by shifting the date of New Year's Day from 0 Pop to 1 Pop. (For detailed information, see: CURRENT ANTHROPOLOGY Vol. 17, No. 4, pp. 713-717)...

ARCHITECTURE OF OLD BOLIVIAN CULTURE BASED ON THE TRAPEZOID:

Investigation of the ruins of a citadel in Bolivia called "Iskanwaya," has revealed what is believed to be a previously unknown culture that existed 500 years ago and whose architecture was based on the trapezoid. The site is located 190 miles north of La Paz on the eastern slope of the Andes, and it was built and surrounded by terraced garden areas used for grain and for supporting houses constructed in a trapezoidal form. The ruins cover 34 acres and are claimed to rival in size the Inca stronghold of Machu Picchu in central Peru. The inhabitants are believed to have been of the "Mollo" culture, the last known descendents of the Tiahuanaco people who disappeared in the late 12th century. The construction of the houses was based on extremely careful calculations, and photography clearly indicates the use of the trapezoid form of architecture. Each unit was formed by 3 small buildings with 4 to 9 rooms in a row, and archaeologists estimate that Iskanwaya was a collectivist-styled community of 3,000 inhabitants...

THE NEW SCHOLAR:

The New Scholar is a biannual review which stresses an interdisciplinary approach in the understanding of human condition and experience in an americanist context. Subscription rates are \$7.00 for individuals, and \$5.00 for students. Univer. of Cal., San Diego Q-015, La Jolla, Cal. 92093...

NEWSLETTER

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