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Editors(s): Dee F. Green, Ray T. Matheny, and Lawrence O. Anderson

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Published approximately every six weeks by THE UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. The purpose of the Newsletter is to disseminate knowledge of recent archaeological discoveries bearing on the Latter-day Saint scriptures; also of the archaeological activities and viewpoints of the Society and its members. Subscription by membership in the Society: three dollars per year; or Life Membership, fifty dollars. (Membership also includes subscription to other publications of the Society and of the BYU Department of Archaeology.)

76.0 OPERATION SCRUB. Materials from the Sixth BYU Archaeological Expedition to Middle America are now being processed and readied for study. Included are all artifacts from Aguacatal and vicinity, plus non-cultural items, such as botanical and soil samples.

Graduate students Carl Hugh Jones and Ray T. Matheny are heading the project under expedition director Dr. M. Wells Jakeman. Undergraduate students Dorothy DeWitt, Sandra Working, and Lawrence O. Anderson are assisting for the summer. The processing is being done in a large Chemistry laboratory on the BYU campus.



Sandra working, washing specimens from Aguacatal

At present, potsherds (pottery fragments) and other artifacts are in the cleaning process or Stage I of the project. Every sherd must be cleaned for easy identification and labeling. The sherds were bagged and tagged at the site to insure that the exact provenience would be known. The bags in the laboratory are sorted according to site, exploration trench, numbered square within the trench, and excavation level. Handling the materials in this manner allows personnel to become familiar with the general types found at the different levels and aids them in sorting out the run-of-the-mill items from the unusual.

Cleaning consists of selecting washable and non-washable items and directing them to the proper racks. Washable materials are further selected for organic

and inorganic composition which can or cannot be given an acid bath. The acid bath (dilute hydrochloric) cleans off the calcareous deposits that are common on ancient pottery in the Xicalanco region and releases much of the dirt and clay imbedded in the rough surfaces. The acid is neutralized with ammonium hydroxide, then rinsed in running water.



Dorothy DeWitt, sorting various types of pottery



Lawrence Anderson recording and filing specimens

The potsherds are then selected for special shape, type, rim form, pigments, designs, etc., and carefully cleaned so as not to destroy any feature, such as a flaky paint. The common bodysherds are not cleaned any further but are piled according to provenience

while the selected sherds then have a small spot of white lacquer daubed on them for identification numbering. The numbers are coded and recorded in a master file for future reference. Boxes also marked with appropriate code numbers are now used to store materials which have gone through this first stage of processing.

Later, comparative studies and detailed analyses of pottery composition will be made as part of Stage II. Examination of paste constituents with a stereo-microscope, crystallographic studies of the pigments, thin-section analyses, and vessel-form studies for diagnostic traits of the time periods represented at the site, are included.

The monumental task of finding and fitting broken pieces of pottery together will be a part of the Stage II processing also. This work calls for a patient person with a steady hand. One pot, has already been discovered with over 500 pieces of irregularly-shaped fragments. This job will be the master jig-saw puzzle of the project.

Stage III calls for interpretative studies and the preparation of a report for publication. Stage IV will include publication and distribution of the printed report.

76.1 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS. A meeting of the Executive Committee of the UAS was held June 12, 1961, on the BYU campus. Six of the Committee's 19 members were present, with Welby W. Ricks, UAS vice-president acting as chairman.

76.10 Financial and Membership Reports. Dr. Ross T. Christensen, UAS general secretary-treasurer, reported that Society membership totaled 667, including 26 Life Members. Total assets of the Society stood at \$1,973.06.

76.11 Administrative Appointments. Dr. M. Wells Jakeman was reappointed general editor to serve for an indefinite period. Prof. Eldin Ricks was named a member of the Society's Publications Committee, of which the general editor serves as chairman. Dr. Christensen was appointed to continue in the office of general secretary-treasurer until the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

76.12 New Memorial Fund. A Society member who prefers to remain anonymous has contributed \$25 for the establishment of the "Orson A. Iverson Memorial Fund." According to the Committee's decision, this amount may be coupled with an equal amount from the Society treasury and will be awarded to that student of Brigham Young University, or any other university, who produces the best publishable paper on an archaeological subject between now and June, 1962. Selection of the best paper will be made by the UAS Publications Committee. Entries should be sent to the committee, c/o Department of Archae-

ology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

The Iverson Memorial Fund was named by the donor in honor of a deceased friend, who was an LDS patriarch. The donor would welcome additional contributions to the Fund on the part of UAS members who desire to encourage student endeavor in archaeology.

76.2 BACCALAUREATE MAJOR RESTORED AT BYU. The BYU administration has authorized the restoration of the bachelor's degree major in archaeology, according to Dr. Ross T. Christensen, department chairman.

This move becomes effective at the First Semester registration, September, 1961, thus allowing new students to declare archaeology as their major subject or returning students to transfer into the department.

Following are the course offerings leading to a baccalaureate major in archaeology and other pertinent information:

76.20 Lower Division Courses

- 200. Introduction to Archaeology.
- 241. (Arch-Anth) The Growth of Culture in the Old World.
- 246. (Arch-Anth) The Growth of Culture in the New World.

76.21 Upper Division Courses

- 310. Historic Near Eastern and Mediterranean Archaeology.
- 327. Prehistoric Archaeology of the Old World.
- 360. Ancient Civilizations of the New World.
- 440. Archaeology and Early History of Middle America.
- 465. Archaeology of South America.
- 475. Archaeology of North America.

The following courses in other departments also count for upper-division credit in archaeology: History 300. Early Oriental History. Art 403. Ancient and Primitive Art.

76.22 Advanced Undergraduate or Graduate Courses.

- 500. History and Theory of Archaeology.
- 551. Methods of Archaeological Research: General and Field.
- 571. Methods of Archaeological Research: Interpretative.
- 590. Recent Developments in Archaeology.

76.23 Requirements for the Major. The student majoring in archaeology is required to complete the following course work: (a) Twenty-four semester-hours in the department, including all the above-listed archaeology courses below the 500 series; and (b) either of the following combinations: History 110 and 388, or Anthropology 101 and 590.

76.24 Acceptable Minors to Accompany an Archaeology Major. The minor or collateral subject to accompany a major in archaeology must be either history or anthropology, except that with the approval

of the archaeology department chairman, a subject such as art, geology, geography, or a foreign language may be substituted.

76.25 Requirements for Minor in Archaeology. A minor in archaeology requires the completion of 14 semester-hours in the department, including Archaeology 200.

76.26 Twenty-three Degrees Awarded. According to Dr. Christensen, the bachelor's-degree major in archaeology was created with the founding of the department in 1946. In September, 1959, the major was eliminated by decision of the BYU administration, except that a few students who were already advanced in their programs were allowed to continue (Newsletter, 69.15). The archaeology major on the Master's-degree level has continued at BYU since 1946 without interruption.

Twenty bachelor's degrees and three Master's degrees in archaeology have been awarded at BYU since 1946. It is anticipated that two more Master's degrees will be conferred in August.



Miss Hansen

76.3 KRISTINE HANSEN GRADUATES. Miss Kristine Hansen, Corvallis, Oregon who has for the past several years been a major in the archaeology department, was awarded a BA degree at the annual June, 1961, commencement at BYU.

Miss Hansen has served the Campus Chapter of the UAS as secretary, president, and honorary president. She has also helped with many departmental and Society projects and functions, including the reading of

a paper at the 13th Annual Symposium on the Archaeology of the Scriptures, held last April 1.

Miss Hansen is currently attending the Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of Oklahoma. She plans to return to BYU in the fall to work with the William E. Gates Collection of Middle American Linguistic Documents (Newsletter, 39.1), including the preparation of a check list which may be published by the Department of Archaeology. She will also help with a Maya-English-Spanish dictionary presently being prepared by Society member Robert W. Blair, an authority on Yucatecan Maya.

76.4 LEADERSHIP WEEK LECTURES. Dr. Ross T. Christensen is giving several series of lectures on archaeological subjects at five separate Leadership Weeks being conducted by the BYU Adult Education and Extension Services and its outlying centers. Three of the series have already been given (BYU campus, Ogden, and Salt Lake City), and two more are scheduled for August in California.

The Southern California Leadership Week will be held from August 21 to 25 at the East Los Angeles College, 5357 East Brooklyn Avenue. The Northern California Leadership Week is slated for August 28 to September 1 at the East Bay Interstake Center, 4780 Lincoln Avenue, Oakland. Topics for the three series by Dr. Christensen, each consisting of five lectures to be given Monday through Friday, are summarized as follows:

76.40 Archaeology and the New-World Scripture. The correct procedure for applying the archaeological test to the Book of Mormon and the extent to which Latter-day Saint scholars have gone with it. Important progress has been made in identifying Nephite and Jaredite homelands and time periods and in discovering correspondences with Old-World civilizations.

76.41 Archaeology and the Old-World Scriptures. How archaeology sheds light upon the Bible and the Pearl of Great Price. Recent inquiries into the Old and the New Testaments, the Dead Sea Scrolls period, and the spread of early Christianity. New research on the Lebolo-Chandler collection of Egyptian antiquities which resulted in the Book of Abraham.

76.42 Latter-day Saints as Students of Antiquity. Joseph Smith and the beginnings of archaeology. The Deseret Museum and the 1900 expedition of Brigham Young Academy. How a fundamental change in attitude on the part of Americanist scholars has come about since 1935--a change which makes room for the Book of Mormon view--and how Latter-day Saints have been preparing themselves to meet this opportunity.