University of Cambridge

Annual Report of the Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology

11 June 1929.

The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology beg leave to present to the University the Annual Report on the Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology.

Museum and Library

The Museum has suffered during the year a heavy loss in the death of the Baron Anatole von Hügel, the first Curator, who was appointed in 1883 and remained in office until ill-health compelled him to retire in 1921. The Museum owes to him its existence in its present form, for he not only gathered together the greater part of the collections but also collected all the money for the building of that part of the Museum which is already completed.

In the Babington Hall the Curator has continued the re-arrangement of the collections from Africa. A second case was purchased to contain African stone implements, matching the one acquired in 1927.

Mr Bird has continued the arrangement of the Primitive Currency Collection in the wall-cases in the passage leading from the Maudslay to the Babington Hall.

In the Andrews Gallery a large case has been constructed for the exhibition of North American Indian baskets and other specimens.

A large case has been constructed in the Bevan Hall for the exhibition of the collections from South-West Bay, Malekula, New Hebrides, mostly made by the late Mr A. B. Deacon (Trinity)

Mr John Layard (King’s) spent some time in arranging this case and an adjacent case containing collections from other parts of Malekula.

Col. F. Hayter has been appointed Honorary Keeper of the Australian Collections. He reports that the provision of two new show-cases in the Bevan Hall has afforded an opportunity for a final display of the collections from Australia. The arrangement is as follows: Movable show-case. Churingas and bull-roarers. Case 1, Spears. Case 2, Spear-throwers; magical and ceremonial objects. Case 3, Boomerangs; stone knives, axes and chisels; grinding-stones and other stone objects including cylindro-conical and cornute stones. Case 4, Clubs; fire-making appliances; articles of apparel and some ornaments; utensils. The seven drawers contain small stone implements, articles of apparel, ornaments, various artifacts and rubbings of churingas. The many valuable and duplicate specimens in the store cupboards have been so arranged as to be readily accessible for inspection and handling.

The Honorary Keeper of the Stone Implements, Mr M. C. Burkitt (Trinity), reports continued activity in his department. A new case in the Andrews Gallery has been filled with Palaeolithic specimens, local and foreign. Among donors of valuable gifts may be mentioned Mr Wayland (Government Geologist in Uganda), Miss Caton Thompson, Mr Giffen, Mr Buckley, Dr Haddon, and the Curator.

The Honorary Keeper of the New Guinea Collection, Dr Haddon, reports that in 1928 he overhauled all the ethnographical specimens from Netherlands New Guinea, and installed as many as possible in the Andrews Gallery. The collections from the Utakwa River given by Dr Wollaston can now be conveniently studied. During 1928 Miss Webber gave him great assistance in describing for future publication the decorated bamboo tobacco-pipes of various districts of British New Guinea; each district has its distinctive technique and decorative motives, some of which have not hitherto been noted. Later she devoted considerable time to helping him to check and arrange the large collection from Torres Straits.

Mr Horace Beck, F.S.A., again spent a week working at the collection of Anglo-Saxon beads.

At the end of March and beginning of April the Curator co-operated with the National Museum of Hungary, Budapest, in excavations at a neolithic site at Borsód, Hungary, and later at a site dating from the first period of the Bronze Age at Nagy Rév, Hungary; three days’ work was done at the cave of Szeleta. Later in the year Mr F. R. Parrington (Sidney Sussex) took part, on behalf of this Museum, in a longer excavation at Szeleta. As a result of these excavations and of those carried out last year the Museum now contains the most important collection in this country for the study of Hungarian archaeology. The Curator hopes to co-operate again in excavations with the National Museum of Hungary in September 1929.

Mr Ralph Griffin, F.S.A., Honorary Keeper of the Collection of Monumental Brass Rubbings, reports: “This year we have been able to make steady progress in adding to the collection and mending rubbings we have already. The counties of Cheshire and Lancashire have been studied with some care and as a result a large number of brasses hitherto unrecorded have been found. Though most of these were of the seventeenth century they were found to be productions of a local
school, some of them being signed, and they open an interesting field for the local antiquary. Our Lancashire collection is now complete.

“During the autumn Mr Humphries and Mr Donald Missen made a tour in Somerset, and as a result our wants in Somerset are few. Mr Missen has also exerted himself round Ipswich and Bury, and as a consequence Suffolk now only lacks the brasses round Lowestoft, and I hope to be able to report next year that Suffolk is complete. Mr Benson has not only given help in Cheshire and Lancashire but has sent us many rubbings from the neighbourhood of Tewkesbury. Mr de Fraine and his helpers have given weekly help as in times past and all thanks are due to them for steady work in the general arrangement of the collection. I am hoping to interest several Freshmen of the year in our collection, so as to carry on the work of those who, like Mr Ruck, have gone down but still help us nobly. Mr Ruck has been able to fill, for collection. I am hoping to interest several Freshmen of the year in our collection, so as to carry on the work

Library. During Miss Fegan’s absence in Africa her duties as Honorary Librarian have been carried on by Mrs A. H. Quiggin, to whom the Museum is much indebted. Mrs Quiggin reports as follows: “The Hon. Librarian, Miss E. S. Fegan, completed the Teclassification ‘of the greater part of the Library before her departure for Africa, and the labelling is of great assistance in keeping the books in due order. Considerable interest continues to be shown in the Cambridge Photographic Record, which is of value to students and has also been of service to the Cambridge Preservation Society. There are no important bequests to record and few purchases of books have been made, except in the Anglo-Saxon Department, but gifts are continuous, and thanks are specially due to the following: Mr E. A. B. Barnard, Mr H. F. Bird, Mr H. H. Brindley, Mr M. C. Burkitt, Mr S. Cowles, Dr C. Crossland, Mr I. H. N. Evans, Miss M. Gardner, Mr R. Griffin, Dr Hodson, Mr T. C. Hodson, Professor Minns, Dr W. M. Palmer, Mr N. T. Porter, Mr T. A. G. Strickland, and the Curator.”

The importance of the Museum to the Borough and neighbourhood has again been illustrated by visits made by members of local societies, classes from local schools and an increasing number of the general public. Many eminent archaeologists and ethnologists from different parts of the world have visited the Museum and have spent a considerable time working in it.

Accounts. See Cambridge University Reporter, 10 November 1928, p. 155, under the heading of Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology.

Appendix

List of Accessions from 1 January to 31 December 1928

Alves, Mrs: Sandals, boomerangs, specimens of vegetable fibre and a string of Basket-makers’ culture, from a dry cave in Hueco Mts, Texas, U.S.A. (28. 742—746).

Barnard, Mr E. A. B.: Opium pipe, China (28. 961).


Bird, Mr H. F.: Very fine spearhead, Late Bronze Age, dredged from R. Wissey near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (28. 748).


British School of Archaeology in Egypt: Pottery bowls, jugs and lamps, beads and other ornaments, etc. Beth Pelet, Palestine (28. 551—571).

Buckley, Mr F.: Series of pygmy tools, Pennis Hills, Yorkshire (28. 1004—1016).

Burkitt, Mr M. C.: Flint tools, Bedfordshire and Norfolk; potsherds, Spain, Crete and Greece (28. 977—981; 983—994).

Buxton, Mr D.: Pot–rest from kiln and fragments of others, Granada, Spain (28. 747).

Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. Excavations in co-operation with the National Museum of Hungary, Budapest: Archaeological series, including pottery, stone and bone tools, etc., Bronze Age, Period I, excavated at Nagy Rev, Hungary, 1928 (28. 140—150); archaeological series, Bronze Age, excavated at Toszeg, Hungary, 1928 (28. 151—237); pots, potsherds, fragments of kiln, mould, etc., excavated from a kiln-site, Bronze Age, Period II, Tiszap–Inoka, Hungary, 1928 (28. 238—249); archaeological series, Neolithic and Copper Age, excavated at Herpaly, Hungary, 1927 (28. 251—304); archaeological series, including decorated pottery, stone and bone tools, Neolithic, excavated at Borsdéd, Hungary, 1928(28. 351—438); stone implements, Palaeolithic, excavated from Széleta Cave, Hungary, 1928 (28. 485—500).

Cawdor, the Earl: Bronze pin, Early Iron Age; pottery bead, bone fragments, etc. and clay pipe bowl, Pembrokehire (28. 948—949; 975).

Cazdow, Mr D.: Eskimo model lamp, wooden vessel and harpoon, Arctic America (28. 1851—1053).

Cambridge Antiquarian Society: Dagger, Bronze Age, Burwell Fen; bronze bowl, La Tène Period, and two pots, Roman Period, dredged from R. Wissey near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (28. 516—519); flint axe, Stapleford, Cambs. (28. 572); iron sword, La Tène Period, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (28. 749); palstave, Bronze Age, Swaffham Prior, Cambs.; sword, XIV Century, Fen district; sword, Mediaeval, dredged from Old West River near Aldreth High Bridge (28. 941—944); grave furniture from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery excavated for the Society by Mr T. C. Lethbridge at Burwell, Cambs. (28. 1067—1071).

Cam Conservancy Board: Iron Dagger, Mediaeval; two buckles, Late Saxon and Mediaeval; two Roman 3rd brass coins, dredged from R. Cam in Cambridge (28. 946; 963—964; 1075).

Clarke, Mr L. C. G.: Archaeological series, including...
pottery, stone and bone tools, Bronze Age, Tösseg, Hungary (28. 101—125); shoe-last cobs, Bölzömény and Pilim, Hungary; large bowl, Bukkien culture, Neolithic, Borsód, Hungary; stone and bone tools, pottery, ornaments, etc., from various sites, Hungary (28. 334—350); potsherds, Bukkien culture, Neolithic, Borsód, Hungary (28. 439—443); two pottery vases, Bolivia; perforated stone, China (28. 304—306); silver torque, air, Viking Period, Estonia; Lapp spoon, Scandinavia; shoe-horn, dated 1613 (28. 511—513); series of scrapers, knives, arrowheads, fragments, etc., found near Stade de Bute Mine, S.W. Texas, U.S.A. (28. 539—550); scrapers, arrowhead and fragments, Brewster County and Santiago Draw, Texas, U.S.A. (28. 573—575); hammer-stones, scrapers, arrowheads, etc., Mildenhall, Undley and other sites, Suffolk (28. 1040—1046); scrapers and arrowheads, Texas, U.S.A. (28. 1097—1098); arrowheads, etc., Mildenhall, Undley and other sites, Suffolk (28. 1097—1098); scrapers and arrowheads, Texas, U.S.A. (28. 1104—1105).

Chimney, Mr. E. W. P.: Ethnographical specimens from New Britain, Gilbert Islands, Solomon Islands, St Matthew Islands and Tonga Is. Mandated Ter. (28. 693—710).

Clay, Mr. C. F.: Flat stone axe or chisel, Coton, Cambs. (28. 501).

Collins, Major: Black chert fragments, Nidderdale, Yorkshire (28. 996).

Cowles, Mr. S.: Glazed pottery well-pitched, early XVIII Century, Cambridge (28. 514).

De Bar, Mr. S.: Calabashes, basket, beads, toy pots and glazed plate, Guatemala; pottery bowl, Ut, Mesopotamia (28. 1060—1065).

Evans, Mr. I. H. N.: Clothes-pegs made by gypsies, Hampshire (28. 750). specimens of currency and two potsherds, Siam; wine-cups, tobacco-pipe and bracelet, Sumatra; pellet-bow, weight and lacquered letter-case, Burma; string of cash beads, Borneo (28. 751—757); two Eagle figures and two head-cloths, Sumatra (28. 959—960); casts of three axes, Burma (28. 995).


Giffen, Mr. M. H.: Human skull, stone and bone tools and potsherds, the result of his examination of a kitchen-midden near Cape Town, South Africa (28. 997—1007).

Grove, Mr. E.: Valuable series of ethnographical specimens, Sudan (28. 526—538).

Guillermad, Dr.: Two specimens of tical currency, Siam (28. 503).

Haddon, Dr.: Tools, flakes and bones, Moisterian, La Quina, France (28. 716—718); tools and flakes, Solutrean and Magdalenian, France (28. 720—728); coup de poing, scraper and flake, Sidmouth, Devon; kitchen midden shells, etc., Constantine Bay, Cornwall; fragments of flint and bone, France; flakes, bones and shells, Spain (28. 734—738).

Hibbard, Mr. G.: Leather belt and bag, Herzegovina (28. 774—775).

Highe, the late Baron A. von: Four silk figures, Japan (28. 751). carved ivory skull and iron chisem, Europe (28. 754—755).


Littledale, Mr. St. G.: Chilkat blanket, N.W. Coast of America (28. 773).


Megg, Mr. G.: Potsherds, Bukkien culture, Neolithic; worked stones, Proto-Solutrean, and two cave-bear teeth, Bödösépet, Hungary; worked stones, Proto-Solutrean, Szeleta Cave, Hungary (28. 326—329).

Moir, Mr. J. Reid: Series of sub-crag implements, Ipswich, Suffolk (28. 1077—1082).


Newall, Mr. R. S.: Painted wooden chest, cedar-bark hat, fish-hooks and harpoon-point, N.W. Coast of America (28. 965—971).

Newton, Sir D.: Coup de poing, Transjordania (28. 1076).

Oldfield, Mrs.: Two boomerangs, Australia; club, Fiji (28. 1049—1050).

Parrington, Mr. F. R.: Flint tools, Proto-Solutrean, Szeleta Cave, near Hamor, Hungary (28. 976); scraper, Ditton Comer, Cambs.; scrapers, flakes, etc., Kelling, Norfolk (28. 1047—1048).

Praet, Mr. L. D.: Beaker and other pottery fragments, Bronze Age; part of lunate flint knife, scrapers, flakes, etc. and numerous potsherds of uncertain date, dredged from W. Wissey near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (28. 520—525; 776—800); iron dagger, XIV Century, dredged from R. Cam at Fen Ditton (28. 947).

Preston, Mr. J. P.: Thirteen cinerary urns, Late Bronze Age, excavated by donor from a round barrow near Salisbury, Wiltshire (28. 926—938).

Ramsden, Sir John, Bart.: Valuable archaeological collection of stone tools, pottery, bronze and copper weapons, Bronze Age, from Patavrac, Mareczal and other sites, Hungary (28. 1—96).


Richards, Mr. G. A.: T-shaped copper object, possibly used as currency, Peru (28. 507).

Sayce, Mr. R. U.: Coup de poing, flakes, etc., Natal, Basotoland and S.W. Africa (28. 729—733).


Smith, Rev. K.: Brass beads, probably used as currency, Basoko and Lokele tribes, Belgian Congo (28. 502).


Spriggs, Dr. Felix: Two feather leaflets used by the Bantu people, Santa Cruz (28. 753).

Tebth, Mr. Philip: Iron knife, Anglo-Saxon Period, dredged from Old West River near Aldreth High Bridge (28. 945).

Thompson, Miss Caton: Gypsum dishes, pounds, etc., chert vase-gardiners and picks, diorite pounder, etc. from 3rd Dynasty gypsum plaster and vase works, Fayyum, Egypt (28. 1083—1095).

Umehara, Dr. S.: Three slate spear or arrowheads, Southern Corea (28. 508—510).

Van, Mrs.: Parish-cobstone’s baton, Cambs.; two brass spoons, Tudor Period and top of ceremonial staff, Great Britain; wooden and brass turf-blower, Ireland; two metal figures, Central Sumatra (28. 955—959).


Watney, Mr. B.: Black earthenware “dice-box” used by witch doctor, Jinja, Uganda; iron bow and axe and necklace of beads and horns, W. Africa (28. 951—954).

Wayland, Mr. E.: Series of Sangoan tools, flakes, stone tools, etc., Uganda (28. 1017—1039).

Webster, Mrs.: Specimen of shell currency, Fiji (28. 740).

Williams, Mr.: Flint flakes and rough tools, Haywood Pit, Kent (28. 982).

Purchased: Glazed pottery cup with lug, XV Century, Trinity Street, Cambridge (28. 741).

DEPOSITS

Wayland, Mr. E.: Copper and brass bracelets, iron knives, weapons and tools, Uganda (28. D. 1—14).