

For General Board on 1 December 1954

**Annual Report of the Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology
on the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, 1953-54**

1 November 1954

The FACULTY BOARD OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY beg leave to present to the University their Annual Report on the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology for the year 1 October 1953 to 30 September 1954.

1. The Honorary Keepers have again given much help and the Board thank them for their services.
2. Mr Gordon Fowler, Hon. M.A., died during the year. While he lived at Ely he obtained a great deal of local material for the Museum and brought many archaeological discoveries to the notice of the staff.
3. The first year's income from the Crowther-Beynon bequest became available in the financial year ended 31 July 1953. A substantial grant was made towards the expenses of the Departmental excavation of a Neolithic site at Hurst Fen, Mildenhall, and further sums were allocated for excavations at Jericho, publication of material from North Africa and from the Cambridge Region, and the purchase of specimens.
4. Among the accessions, special mention may be made of the following:
An important collection of ethnological material selected from the Beasley Collection and given by Mrs Beasley; Neolithic and Bronze Age material excavated by Dr Kathleen M. Kenyon at Jericho, including a fine series illustrating the earliest Neolithic levels, some of them pre-ceramic, and two complete tomb groups of the Bronze Age; and a piece of the very rare Pre-Columbian ikat-dyed cloth from Peru, given by Mr Charles Ikle.
5. Many improvements were made, under the direction of Dr Furness, in the arrangement of material in the Egyptian and Near Eastern Hall.
A useful chronological series of medieval potsherds was arranged in the new case in the Clarke Hall by Mr J.G. Hurst, previously a student of the Department and now on the staff of the Ministry of Works.
The removal of much of the skeletal material belonging to the Duckworth Laboratory from the museum attic to the basement of the Arts School provided some sorely needed storage and working space, much of which was filled with material which had been stored temporarily at Short's Factory.
Many labels in the Museum were redrafted, and rewritten by D.Cavanagh.
6. The cataloguing of the lantern slides was brought up to date as far as was possible. Mrs Robinson was unable to complete the work, but the Museum was fortunate in obtaining the services of Mrs Rishbeth. Mr H. Marshall again gave much voluntary help, for which the Board is very grateful.
7. The establishment was increased by the addition of a post of Museum and Library Assistant grade B2, and this was filled by the appointment of Mr D.J. Allen at the beginning of January 1954.
8. The Curator gave a lecture on Mexican Archaeology in a course of lectures on Arts Subjects for science students in the Cavendish Laboratory. He also gave a lecture on South American Archaeology in a course on Recent Developments in Archaeology at the University of London Institute of Archaeology.
9. The Curator represented the University at the Thirty-first International Congress of Americanists which was held in August at Sao Paulo, Brazil. He subsequently visited the sites where discoveries of Lagoa Santa man had been made in the State of Minas Gerais.
10. Overseas visitors included Dr J.B. Griffin of the University of Michigan, Dr Helge Larsen, Mr C.G. Schultz of Copenhagen, Dr G.Bersu of the Germanische-Romanische Kommission, Dr C. Nootboom and Mr J.V. Jansen of Rotterdam, Professor S.L. Rogers of San Diego, California, Dr Mats Petersson of Lund, and Professor P. R.Giot of Rennes.

Mr K.E. Larsson of Gothenburg, paid another visit in order to work on the Fijian collections.

11. *Slone Age Collections*. Mr M.C.Burkitt, the Honorary Keeper, reports considerable rearrangements and additions in his collections. The figured specimens from Dr Garrod's Mount Carmel excavations have now been set out in order on vertical panels. This has permitted a much better display of the collections from the Kharga oasis presented by Dr Caton-Thompson. Dr M^cBurney is in process of arranging some of his excavated material from Cyrenaica in the adjoining showcase. Several gifts have been received, including some more stone implements from near Heacham, Norfolk, and from the neighbourhood of Folkestone, collected by Mr H. le Strange, and some stone tools from the Gold Coast found by Mr J.R. Goody.

12. *Monumental Brass Rubbings*. Mr G. A. E. Ruck, the Honorary Keeper, reports that a special exhibition showing how brasses illustrate English history was arranged at the request of the Historical Association at the time of their visit during the Christmas vacation. Over a hundred carefully selected examples were displayed in the Babington Hall. The Curator and Mr Ruck were greatly assisted by Messrs J. Page-Phillips and N. H. MacMichael of Magdalene College, and Mr P.Spofford of Jesus College in preparing the exhibition and explaining it to the visitors.

13. *American Collections*. Mr L.C.G. Clarke, the Honorary Keeper, reports that a useful collection of Pueblo pottery from the Mesa Verde region in Colorado was obtained by exchange from the Denver Museum of Natural History. The piece of Peruvian ikat-dyed cloth given by Mr C. Ikle of New York through Professor Boyd, dates from the earliest part of the Chimu period in the Viru valley, and is one of about half a dozen examples known to exist, so it is a very important accession. Another important accession from Peru is a quipu, obtained by exchange from the Gothenburg Museum. Dr J.B. Griffin, Director of the Museum of Anthropology of the University of Michigan, was of great assistance during his visit to the Museum in ascribing many of the artifacts from the Eastern United States to their proper chronological position.

14. *Haddon Library*. Miss Thatcher, the Librarian, reports that the Library Committee appointed by the Board in the Michaelmas Term, 1953, met twice during the year. The members of the Committee are: Professor Dickins (Chairman), Professor Clark, Professor Fortes, Dr Bushnell, Dr Trevor, and Miss Thatcher (Secretary).

The Library accommodation is inadequate. Although there is seating for only 25 persons it was used by about 70 students, 17 research students, Departmental staff, and occasional visitors. If the number of accessions to the Library remains comparable with this year's accessions, which were 120 books by purchase, 34 books and 97 pamphlets by gift, and the annual intake of about 170 periodicals, all shelf space will be filled in about three years.

The Library Committee are much indebted to the University Library for offering duplicate pamphlets from the late Sir Ellis Minn's bequest. A further large number of pamphlets on Slavonic archaeology have thus been added to our collection, which is chiefly formed from Sir Ellis Minn's previous gifts to the Library.

The Library Committee are also indebted to:

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| Mr H.O.Baecker | Dr J. D. Freeman |
| Dr E.Bostanci | Dr D. A. E.Garrod |
| Dr A.C.Bouquel | Mr J. R. Goody |
| Monsieur F. Bourdier | Dr Ema Gunther |
| Mr M.C.Burkitt | Professor C. F.C. Hawkes |
| Dr G.H.S.Bushnell | Isle of Ely County Library |
| Mrs N.K.Chadwick | Mr G. I. Jones |
| C.I.B.A., Basle | Mr E R Leach |
| Professor J.G.D. Clark | Dr E. J. Lindgren |
| Mr L.C.G.Clarke | Professor D.G Mandelbaum |
| Curator of Aerial Photography | Dr C. B. M ^c Burney |
| Czechoslovakian Academy of Sciences, Arch. Inst. | Mr F. D. McCarthy |
| Department of Territories, Canberra | Mr N.O. A. Morgan |
| The Director of Census and Statistics, Union of South Africa | Professor T. Parsons |
| The Director, Inst, de Antropologia y Geografia, Carácas | Miss S. Powvalla |
| The Director, Inst, de Estudios Ibericos y Etnologia, Valencia | Mrs K. Rishbeth |
| The Director, Inst. Nacional Indigenista, Mexico | Professor D.S. Robertson |
| The Director, Koninklijk Inst, voor de Tropen, Amsterdam | Sedwick Museum Library |
| The Director, Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | South Pacific Commission |
| The Director, Museum voor Land- en Volkenkunde and | Miss J. M. Thatcher |
| Maritime Museum, Rotterdam | Mr J.Eric S. Thompson |
| The Director, West African Inst, of Social and Economic | Professor J. M.C.Toynbee |
| Research, Ibadan | United Fruit Company |
| Mr R. W. Dunning | University Library |
| Dr Henry Field | University of Lodz |
| Professor M. Fortes | Venezuela, Ministry of Justice |

15. *Roman Collections*. Miss J. Liversidge, the Honorary Keeper, reports that a small bronze bust and an important hoard of Roman ironwork found recently at Worlington are being cleaned and studied in preparation for publication.

Valuable help has been received from Miss Joyce Reynolds, who made fresh readings of the inscriptions of the two Roman milestones found near the Roman road from Cambridge to Godmanchester.

16. *Duckworth Laboratory (Osteological Collections)*. On behalf of Dr W. L. H. Duckworth, the Honorary Keeper, Dr J.C.Trevor reports that research on contemporary and fossil human remains has continued throughout the year, particular attention being paid to the St Bride's, Fleet Street, bones, on which four persons have been working, Mr H. P. R. Bury and Mr S. Genoves full time; Mr C.B.Denston and Mrs T.K.Trevor part time. By far the most valuable acquisition the Laboratory has yet had is the mandible of a young Neandertal woman, excavated by Dr C. B. M. M^cBurney in the Haua Fteah cave near Derna in Cyrenaica in 1948, and generously presented by him. This appears to be the best-dated human fossil at present known, a reliable estimate of its age, based on a Carbon-14 analysis of charcoal from an overlying hearth, being over 34,000 years. Accounts of the site and its stratigraphy by the discoverer, and of the specimen by Dr J.C. Trevor and Dr L.H. Wells have been published in *Nature* and in the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. Among other remains being studied are a dozen Dark Age skeletons from Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, excavated by Mr R.L. S. Bruce-Mitford of the British Museum and of particular interest because of the dearth of material of that period; and the skeletons of thirty-two Saxons from Hoi borough, Kent, excavated by Miss Elsan for the Office of Works. These remains will be added to the osteological collections. Sixteen skulls from various parts of the world, including Santa Cruz in the Solomon Islands and Tibet, which formed part of the Beasley collection have been given by Mrs Beasley; and casts of a femur and a tibia belonging to the Neandertal skeleton known as Spy I have been given by Mr M.C.Burkitt. Among visitors who have worked on the collections were Dr E.H. Ashton of Birmingham, Professor Mario Cappieri of Rome, Mr Raymond A.Carreyett of London, and Dr L. H. Wells of Edinburgh.

17. *Publications*. Publications arising out of work in the Museum include the following:

(a) 'The groove and splinter technique of working reindeer and red deer antler in Upper Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic Europe.' *Arch. Prehistoria Levantina*, 4 (1953). J.G.D. Clark.

(b) 'The Early Iron Age site at Micklemoor Hill, West Harling, Norfolk, and its pottery.' *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* pt. 1 (1953). J.G.D.Clark and C.I.Fell.

(c) 'The prehistoric culture-sequence in the Maltese Archipelago.' *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* 19 (1953). J.D. Evans.

(d) 'Burial of an Iron Age warrior at Snailweil.' *Proc. Camb. Antiq. Soc.* 47 (1954). T.C. Lethbridge.

(e) 'A fossil human mandible from a Levalloiso-Mousterian Horizon in Cyrenaica.' *Nature, Lond.*, 172 (1953). C.B.M.M^cBurney, J.C.Trevor and L.H.Wells.

(f) 'The Haua Fteah fossil jaw.' *J. R. Anthropol. Inst.* 83 (1953). C. B. M. M^cBurney, J.C.Trevor and L.H.Wells.

BRUCE DICKINS, CHAIRMAN

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J. M. MUNN-RANKIN

APPENDIX
LIST of ACCESSIONS TO THE MUSEUM, 1953-54

- Asplin, Mr C.*: Flint implements, Streatham, Cambs. (53. 572. 573).
- Beasley, Mrs I.M.*: Ethnological material from Oceania, Australasia, Tibet, and North and South America (54. 58-148).
- British Museum (exchange)*: Wooden fetish figurine, Congo (54. 149).
- British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem*: Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery series, stone implements and tomb groups, Jericho (53. 540-566; 54. 210-270).
- Burkin, Mr M. C.*: Pottery bowl. Southern Rhodesia (54. 37).
- Cambridge, Mr T.C.*: Potsherds and stone implements, Tobago (54. 192-201).
- Cossington, Mr D.J.*: Iron Age potsherds, Cottenham, Cambs. (54. 187).
- Cumrington, Dr C. Willett*: Basket-work, Siwa Oasis, Libyan Desert (54. 38. 40, 43).
- Denver Natural History Museum (exchange)*: Pottery vessels and sherds. North America (54. 152-177).
- des Voeux, Marion, Lady*: Club, Fiji (54. 150).
- Farrar, Mr R. A.H.*: Samian and Romano-British potsherds, Arbury Road, Cambridge (53. 506).
- Fitzwilliam Museum (transfer)*: Two Roman milestones, Cambs. (54. 50).
- Forbes, Dr C.L.*: Probable stone mould for bronze castings, Ireland (54. 34).
- Freeman, Mr J.D.*: Basketry fish trap, Sarawak (54. 38).
- Frend, Dr W.H.C.*: Flint implements, Algeria (54. 35).
- Gauntlett, Colonel G.*: Stone seals, beads and spindle-whorls, Transjordan (53. 574-576).
- Goody, Mr J. R.*: Stone implements, potsherds and ethnological material. Gold Coast (54. 275-294).
- Gordon, Colonel D.H.*: Stone implements, potsherds, pottery figurines, and shell and faience bracelets, India (53. 512-539).
- Gothenburg Ethnographical Museum (exchange)*: Ethnological material, Brazil (54. 203-206). Quipu, Peru (54. 207).
- Howard, Executor of the late Mr F. N.*: Flint-knappers* equipment and gun-flints, mainly Brandon, Suffolk (54. 1-32).
- Hughes, Mr G.*: Three strings of beads. Colombia (53. 567).
- Huntingford, Miss M.*: Bronze seal matrix, England (54. 33).
- Ikle, Mr C.*: Ikat cotton cloth, Peru (54. 56).
- Jansen, Mr J. V.*: Currency textiles, Celebes (54. 208).
- Langham, Mr G.D.*: Babylonian brick, Iraq (54. 191).
- Le Strange, Mr H.*: Flint implements, Snettisham, Norfolk (54. 36), and Folkestone, Kent (54. 188-190).
- Lindgren, Dr E.J.*: Ornament made of human hair, Sweden (53. 571).
- Marshall, Mr A.*: Pottery figurine heads. Mexico (54. 46,47).
- McEwen, Mr B.P.D.F.*: Bark cloth, Samoa (54. 202). *Minns, Executors of the late Sir E. H.*: Bark container, clothes beater, Scandinavia (53. 569, 570); Buddhist banners, Tibet (54. 44).
- Picken, Dr L.R.*: Turkish musical instruments, Istanbul (54. 272-274).
- Purchased*: Two wooden figures. Easter Island (53. 568).
- Rogers, Mr T.P.*: Bronze dagger. Palestine (53. 507). *Sedgwick Museum (transfer)*: Flint implements, Middlesex (54. 45), Kent and Dorset (54. 53-55).
- Smith, Dr S.*: Romano-British kiln cakes, Homingsea (53. 508); Romano-British key, nails and potsherds, War Ditches, Cherryhinton (53. 509-511).
- Stubbings, Dr F. H.*: Cast of axe mould, Mycenae, Greece (54. 209).
- Swindells, Mr E.*: Iron Age weaving-comb and sherd, Linton, Cambs. (54. 299).
- Tebbutt, Mr C.F.*: Handle of pottery vessel, medieval, Southoe, Hunts. (54. 151).
- Trump, Mr D. H.*: Neolithic and Bronze Age stone implements and potsherds, Lipari (54. 178, 179) and Malta (54. 180-186).
- Walter, Mr H. V.*: Stone implements and bone point, Lagoa Santa region, Brazil (54. 296-298).
- Wellcome Historical Medical Museum*: Iron maces, India (54. 41); wooden clubs, Angola (54. 42) and Solomon Islands (54. 57).
- Whitaker, Mr J. R.*: Plaited straw rope. Macedonia (54. 295).
- Wiles, Sir Gilbert*: Swords and sword-stick. Poona district, India (54. 48, 49, 51, 52).