

**Annual Report of the Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology  
on the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, 1955-56**

26 November 1956

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 1955 to 30 September 1956.

1. The Board offer their thanks to the Honorary Keepers for their services; in particular, they wish to express their gratitude for the work of Miss J. Liversidge who has spent much time on the Roman collections. They also wish to place on record their appreciation of the help which was given by Mr B.R. Hartley during his tenure of the post of Assistant in Research in Archaeology.

2. Mr D. Cavanagh died on 24 April after a long illness. During his service with the Museum he proved himself a most useful assistant, and in his special work of lettering he acquired great skill. He faced his illness with great courage, and remained at work until it became quite impossible. He was a man of fine character, and his cheerful willingness endeared him to all who worked with him. He is very much missed.

3. The following accessions merit particular mention;

An Inca wooden beaker with inlaid designs in polychrome lacquer, purchased with a grant from the Crowther-Beynon Fund.

Three notable objects from Fiji, namely, a superb ivory meat hook, a wooden cannibal fork, and a kava bowl formerly belonging to King Cacombau. These were part of the collection of Sir Arthur Gordon, afterwards Lord Stanmore, of which the greater part is already in the Museum, and were given by his son, the present Lord Stanmore. The Duckworth Laboratory possesses some of the bones of the last man to be eaten in Fiji, so the addition to the Museum's collection of Fijian cannibal forks is considered very appropriate.

A large and important collection of Mexican antiquities, mainly from the Huastec area in the State of Vera Cruz, collected and given by Mr R. Wright Barker.

A valuable ethnological collection from British Guiana, much of it from the Wai-Wai, a tribe that has not previously been represented in the Museum. This was collected and given by Dr C. R. Jones.

4. Grants from the Crowther-Beynon Fund were made in aid of local excavations by the Disney Professor and Dr M<sup>c</sup>Burney, of excavations in the eastern Mediterranean in which it was expected that Miss Munn-Rankin and Dr Furness would take part, and of an expedition to the Canadian Arctic arranged by the Danish National Museum.

5. *Exhibits.* The chief improvement undertaken was the reorganization of the New Zealand exhibit, in which much help was received from Mr T.T. Barrow, a research student who is on leave of absence from the staff of the Dominion Museum in New Zealand.

A new table case, with drawers beneath, was made, under the direction of Mr S.C. Lilley, for the Egyptian Hall.

The work of improving the labels throughout the Museum was stopped by the illness and death of Mr D.Cavanagh, to which reference has already been made. It has not yet been possible to arrange for this work to be continued.

6. *Photographic Department.* The photographic department, in the person of Mr L.P. Morley, has rendered great services to the Museum and the Faculty during the past few years. In the current year over two hundred new photographs have been taken in the Museum and on archaeological sites, and about four hundred prints and enlargements have been made. In addition, nearly a thousand lantern slides, eighty of which are in colour, have been made.

7. In December the Curator gave the Rhind lectures under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland at the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh. His subject was 'A Survey of American Archaeology'.

8. In addition to the usual teaching undertaken by the staff. Dr Furness gave a course of lectures on the Origins of Civilization. These were in place of some lectures usually given by Dr Daniel who was on sabbatical leave.

Dr Furness assisted in the supervision of excavations on the site of the Shire Hall Law Courts on Castle Hill in the Easter and Long Vacations. The first was under the auspices of the Ministry

of Works, and the second was part of an archaeological course arranged by the Board of Extramural Studies.

Dr Furness also assisted at a Ministry of Works excavation of a bronze age barrow in the Isle of Wight during the Long Vacation.

9. Among overseas visitors the Museum staff had the pleasure of welcoming the following:

Dr Antonio Arribas, Curator of the Archaeological Museum at Barcelona; Dr Henry B. Collins, of the Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Archaeology; Mr E.S. Dodge, Director of the Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass.; Fil.Lic. K.E.Larssen, of the Gothenburg Ethnographical Museum; Dr J.Neustupny, of the National Museum, Prague; Professor Dr S. P.Tolstov, Director of the Institute of Ethnography, Moscow.

10. The Curator represented the University at the XXXIInd International Congress of Americanists at Copenhagen in August.

11. *Stone Age Collections*. Mr M.C.Burkitt, the Honorary Keeper, reports that, as a result of his recent visit to Central Africa, a large number of stone implements from the Rhodesias and the Katanga Province of the Belgian Congo have been added to the Museum Collections. Many of them have been put on show. A collection of coups-de-poing from the Constantine area in Algeria has been lent to the Museum and is also on show. These new acquisitions have necessitated a considerable rearrangement of the existing collections.

12. *Roman Collections*. Miss J. Liversidge, the Honorary Keeper, reports that the interesting collection of material from Hauxton lent by Colonel Hurrell is now on exhibition. It includes three fine bronze jugs and a glass flask of very unusual type and great importance.

A large consignment of fragments of wall paintings from the Verulamium excavations has been received for study and treatment.

13. *Duckworth Laboratory (Osteological Collections)*. Dr J.C.Trevor, the Director, reports that the amenities of the Laboratory have been greatly improved by the provision of new floor covering, adjustable electric lamps, and other additions. Storage space continues to be a pressing need.

The death, in February 1956, of Dr W.L.H. Duckworth, Reader Emeritus in Human Anatomy, in whose honour the Laboratory was named in 1940, is recorded with deep regret. Grateful acknowledgement is made to his executors for the gift to the Laboratory of a number of his books and offprints.

In February 1956 the Director delivered the Munro Lectures at the University of Edinburgh on 'The Racial History of Britain', the great bulk of the illustrative material for these being derived from specimens now in the Laboratory's collections.

The restoration by C.B.Denston of the best preserved Minoan skeleton, from Knossos, yet found in Crete is almost complete, and an odontological examination of over 500 teeth of the same period, also from Knossos, is being carried out by Mr H.G.Carr.

Among prominent visitors to the Laboratory have been Professor W.W. Howells of Harvard University, Professor M. Cappieri of the University of Naples, Dr F. Clark Howell of the University of Chicago, and Dr T. A. Trofimova of the Institute of Ethnography, Moscow.

14. *Publications*. Publications arising out of work on the Museum collections include the following:

(a) 'A microlithic industry from the Cambridgeshire Fenland and other industries of Sauveterrian affinities from Britain', *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* 21 (1955), 3-20. J.G.D.Clark.

(b) 'Star Carr, a Mesolithic site in Yorkshire', in *Recent Archaeological Excavations in Britain* (edited by R.L.S.Bruce-Mitford), chap. i, pp. 1-20. London, 1956. J.G.D.Clark.

15. *Haddon Library*. Miss Thatcher, the Librarian, reports that during her absence in London her duties as Librarian were carried on very satisfactorily by Miss Tolfree. In December new table lamps were installed to augment the very inadequate lighting. During the year, 66 books and 46 pamphlets were acquired by gift, 123 books bought, and 170 parts of periodicals received. The Library was used by 81 Tripos students and 34 research students, besides members of the Faculty, Cambridge Antiquarian Society members and visitors, a total of over 115 persons. There is seating accommodation for 22 persons only, which means that in term time there is considerable overcrowding.

## The Board are indebted for gifts of books and periodicals to:

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## APPENDIX

## List of Accessions to the Museum, 1955-56

- Barker, Mr R. de la Bere*: Glass beads, Tanganyika (56.274).  
*Barker, Mr R. Wright*: Stone implements, figurines, pottery and ornaments, Mexico (56. 143-238); bamboo flute (56. 270).  
*Bartlett, Professor Sir F. C.*: Baskets, wooden dishes and spoon, Swaziland (56. 271-273).  
*Blarney, Mr*: Greek coin, Montrose, Scotland (55. 202).  
*Briscoe, Lady*: Bronze Roman brooch, Lakenheath, Suffolk (56. 221).  
*British Institute of Archaeology in Ankara*: Late Bronze Age potsherd scries, Beycesultan, Turkey (56. 52-57).  
*British School of Archaeology in Iraq*: Predynastic amulet, Assyrian pottery, figurines and ornaments, Nimrud, Iraq (56. 1-19).  
*British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem*: Pre-Pottery neolithic stone vessels and implements, Bronze Age pottery, stone implements and wooden objects (55. 328-330, 340-345, 56. 257-265).  
*Burkitt, Mr M. C.*: Collection of Palaeolithic core and flake implements. Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Belgian Congo and Union of South Africa (55. 251-284, 286-309).  
*Busk, Mr H. G.*: Two copper tools, Ecuador (55. 312).  
*Butler, Mr A. S. H.*: Japanese one rupee note, Assam (56. 275).  
*Caton Thompson, Dr G.*: Palaeolithic core and flake tools, Belgian Congo (55. 285); neolithic leaf-shaped arrow-head, Khargan Oasis (55. 326).  
*Clarke, Mr R. R.*: Cast of Icenian gold stater, Stonea, Cambs (56. 269).  
*Cornford, Mrs H.*: Acheulean hand-axe, Linton, Cambs (55. 310).  
*Crofton, Lady*: Potsherds, clay figurine and lamp, fossil shells, Bahawalpur, India (55. 205-208); two basalt celts, Deccan (55. 221).  
*des Voeux, Executors of the late Lady*: Two carved wooden lime spatulae, New Guinea (55. 249, 250).  
*Dyer, Mr J. F.*: Roman coin of Faustina, Waterbeach, Cambs (55. 201).  
*Elliott, Mr S. J.*: Late Gothic wooden window frame, Ashley, Suffolk (56. 61).  
*Forbes, Dr C. L. i*: Hebrew phylactery (55. 222); pair of embroidered moccasins, northern Canada (55. 311).  
*Gimbert, Mr H. W.*: Two Romano-British coarse ware jars, Sutton, Cambs (55. 223).  
*Haddon, Mr E. B.*: Ceremonial sword, Gilbert Islands (56. 22).  
*Hartley, Mr B. R.*: Iron Age and Romano-British potsherds and tile fragments, Chippenham, Cambs (56. 266); Iron age, Samian and Romano-British coarse ware potsherds, Stonea Camp, Cambs (56. 268).  
*Hawes, Mr A. W. H.*: Neolithic polished flint axe, scraper and flakes, Wicken, Cambs (55. 224-227).  
*Hereford City Museum*: Albanian chief's costume (56. HOMO).

- Hopkins, Mr M.*: Two Roman bronze coins, Belsar's Hill, Willingham, Cambs (56. 59).
- Jesse, Reverend C.*: Potsherds, clay figurine, shell adzes, St Lucia, British West Indies (55. 314, 315, 56. 46-51).
- Johnson, Mr W.H.*: Clay horn, Ely, Cambs (56. 65).
- Jones, Dr C. R.*: Collection of personal ornaments, clothes, musical instruments, weapons, tools and basketry of the Wai Wai, Akawaio, Wapishana and other tribes, British Guiana (56. 69-128).
- King, Professor W. B. R.*: Fish hook. New Zealand (55. 313).
- Lambert, Miss S.C.*: Quiver of poisoned arrows, Nigeria (56. 20); hammock, British Guiana (56. 21).
- London, Mr H. S.*: Painted pottery bowl, Ecuador (55.203).
- McBurney, Dr C.B.M.*: Palaeolithic hand-axe and flint cores and flake tools, Caversham and Shiplake, Oxfordshire (56. 37-39).
- Nettlefold, Miss R* Straight hiked sword, Shan, Burma (56. 64).
- Ozanne, Mr P.C.*: Deverel-Rimbury potsherds, Storrington, Sussex (56. 67); Romano-British potsherds, Gloucester Street, Cambridge (56. 58, 63).
- Purchased*: Weapons, personal ornaments, clothing and musical instruments, Bagisu, Uganda (55. 228-245); Eskimo arrows with stone, antler, copper and bone heads. North America (55. 316-325); bone-tipped arrows, Melanesia (55. 332, 333); poisoned arrows, Indonesia (55. 334); pottery vessels, Peru (55. 336-339); casts of bone and shell celts, harpoons and fish-hooks, Esh Shaheinab, Sudan (56. 23-31); whistle, bone and shell necklaces, West Kimberley, Australia (56. 32-34); lacquered wooden beaker, Peru (56. 239); Palaeolithic hand-axe, St Ives, Hunts (56. 240); two neolithic axe-heads, Isleham Fen, Cambs (56. 241, 242); socketed bronze axe-head, Prickwillow, Cambs (56. 243).
- Reynolds, Mr L.C.K.*: Romano-British coarse ware potsherds, Landbeach, Cambs (56. 267).
- Ruck, Mrs E.F.*: Wooden spoon, Zulu (55. 209).
- Saltmarsh, Mr E.F.*: Romano-British potsherds, tile fragment, bronze finger-ring and two coins of Constantinus, Exning, Suffolk (56. 40-43).
- Sieveking, Mr G. de G.*: Pottery vessels, stone adzes and bracelets, Gua Cha, Kelantan, Malaya (56. 244-256).
- Simmonds, Mr N. W.*: Bow and arrows, Wakamba, Kenya (56. 142).
- Smith, Mrs Stanley*: Ethnographical material, Korea (55. 210-220).
- Standen, Mr E.*: Belgic potsherds, Stonea Camp, Cambs (56. 66).
- Stannmore, The Lord*: Cannibal fork, ceremonial meat-hook, kava bowl, Fiji (55. 246-248).
- Thomas, Mrs A.M.*: Romano-British coarse ware jar and potsherds, Prickwillow, Cambs (56. 60).
- Thompson, Mr J.E.S.*: String bag for maize, Yucatan, Mexico (55. 204).
- Tillyard, Mrs E. M. IF.*: Pieces of carved woodwork, Zanzibar (56. 62).
- Tonge, Mr F.*: Naga cane helmet, Assam, and two spears, Burma (56. 35, 36).
- Walker, Mr F. M.*: Romano-British grey ware jar Wisbech Cambs (55. 327).