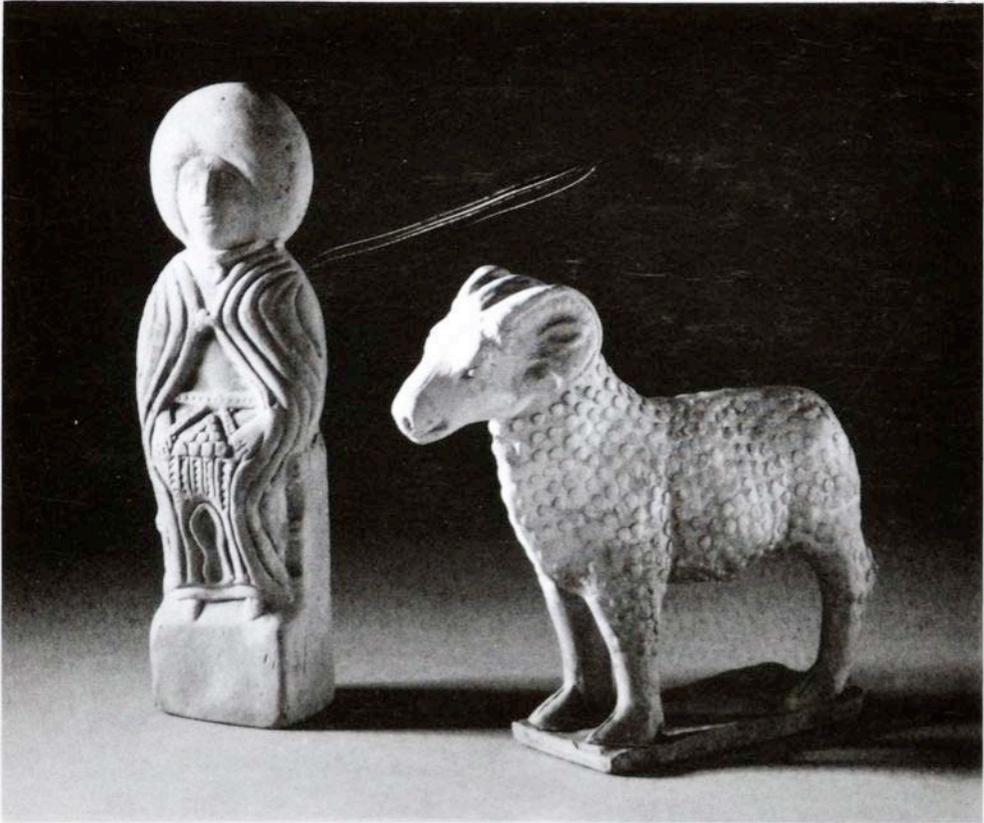




UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY



*Roman figurines from a child's burial at Arrington,  
Cambridgeshire, acquired 1990.*

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1990-91

The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology presents  
to the University the 103rd Annual Report of the Museum of  
Anthropology and Anthropology for the academical year 1990-91.

### ADMINISTRATION

The Museum Committee met three times during the year, under the Chairmanship of Dr S. Hugh-Jones.

#### STAFF

For the year under review the staff of the Museum was as follows:

*Curator:* David W. Phillipson, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

*Senior Assistant Curator (palaeolithic archaeology):*

P. L. Carter, M.A., Ph.D.

*Assistant Curator (later archaeology):*

C. R. Chippindale, B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

*Assistant Curator (anthropology):*

P. Sant-Cassia, B.A., Ph.D. (until 31 December)

Ms A.C. Herle, B.A., M.Phil. (from 17 June)

*Administrative Secretary (part-time):* Ms A. Wetten

*Secretary (part-time):* Mrs R.C. Fisk, M.A.

*Museum Assistant:* J. Osbourn

*Attendant:* B. Lewis

*Attendants (part-time):* H.G. Cambridge B.E.M.

W. J. Blackburn (until 12 April)

Mrs A. Came

E. Kirby (from 15 April)

*Honorary Keepers:*

G. I. Jones, M.A., Ph.D. (*Nigerian anthropology*)

L.E.R. Picken, M.A., Ph.D., Sc.D., F.B.A.  
(*organology*)

In addition, the following assistant staff of the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology held specific Museum responsibilities:-

*Head of Workshop:* P. W. Smith

*Workshop Assistant:* C. Langford

*Photographer:* G. J. Owen, A.B.I.P.P., A.R.P.S.

The Board received with regret Dr P.L. Carter's decision to retire from the post of Senior Assistant Curator on 30 September 1991. Dr Carter has been a member of the Museum's curatorial staff since 1973 and has contributed greatly to the institution's development. By October 1991, permission has not yet been granted to fill the vacancy caused by Dr Carter's retirement: this is causing very major difficulty and the Museum and the Board will press vigorously for the necessary permission.

Dr P. Sant-Cassia resigned from his Assistant Curatorship at the end of 1990, to take up a lectureship in Social Anthropology at the University of Durham, for which he has the Board's best wishes. Much of Dr Sant-Cassia's work for the Museum during his six years of service was involved with creating the new anthropology displays, completed in July 1990.

Ms A.C. Herle was appointed Assistant Curator in Anthropology, and took up her post on 17 June. Ms Herle is no stranger to the Museum, having completed the M.Phil. course here in Social Anthropology and the Work of a Museum in 1987, and having worked on the new anthropological displays in 1989-90.

The Museum was sorry that Mr W.J. Blackburn resigned as a part-time Attendant in April, but pleased to welcome Mr E. Kirby in his place.

Mrs H. Harris has continued her work on the American archaeological collections. During the year under review she has concentrated on preparing a major new exhibition 'The Americas 1492', due to open in the Andrews Gallery in 1992. The costs of this project are largely met by grants from the Crowther-Beynon Fund, with a modest contribution from Cambridgeshire County Council.

As noted below. Dr M. Levine and Mr A. Bolton were employed as temporary Research Assistants to work on the Museum's computerised data-base, with the aid of a grant from the Crowther-Beynon Fund. Dr J. McIntosh undertook editorial work on the catalogue of prehistoric bronzes. The names of other volunteers and temporary assistants are recorded elsewhere: such contributions, for which the Board is very grateful, are indispensable to the Museum.

#### *FINANCE*

Financial support for the Museum has continued to be a major source of anxiety. The increasing tendency for University financial allocations to be based on student numbers does not take adequate account of the needs of those institutions, such as museums, which do not have their own student enrolments. The Board is continuing to seek a solution to these problems by urgent discussions and negotiations both within the University and on the wider front.

The University's provision for the Museum's recurrent expenditure was again reduced in real terms. Welcome grants were, however, received from the Area Museums Service for South-East England (£1500 for computerised documentation), Cambridgeshire County Council (£600 for 'The Americas 1492' exhibition) and Cambridge City Council (£500 for public services). The last-noted grant was, however, at only one-quarter the level of the City Council's support in 1989-90.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

The special exhibition 'The Nagas', prepared by Ms A. Herle and Mr J. Jacobs, working with Dr A. Macfarlane and Ms S. Harrison of the Social Anthropology Department, remained in the Andrews Gallery throughout the year, and attracted considerable attention. With the assistance of the County Museums Officer, an evening meeting was held in order to publicise the value of the exhibition to school teachers: weather conditions resulted in a disappointing attendance and the event will be repeated in the autumn of 1991. 'The Nagas' will be replaced in 1992 by a new exhibition, 'The Americas 1492', preparation for which is being co-ordinated by Mrs M.H. Harris.

In the Archaeology Gallery there have been during the year three exhibitions. 'A Roman burial from Arrington' opened in April and centred on the recently discovered Roman child burial, lead coffin and accompanying terracotta figures. It extended to other recent excavations in the county to give a rounded picture of archaeological salvage

in Cambridgeshire. The other two short-term exhibitions of art on an archaeological theme used temporary display panels devised to attach to permanent display cases. 'Rituals and Relics, pastels, drawings and print', by Carolyn Trant, was on view from April to June and showed English downland sites in their landscapes. 'Experiencing the past', photographs by Michael and Helen Shanks, showed archaeological sites and objects as we experience them today, and was set up in September.

The Archaeology Gallery also provided space and archaeological material for an installation by Antonio Bellotti, as part of a Kettle's Yard programme on archaeological art. The loan exhibition to the National Trust on Barrington Anglo-Saxon cemetery continued at Wimpole Hall.

## **MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

### *THE GALLERIES*

For the first time in many years, all the Museum's three galleries were fully open, with modern interpretive displays, throughout the year. As noted below, this development is beginning to be reflected in increased public attendances. A number of special events were held in order to bring the refurbished galleries to the attention of local bodies, societies, and tourist guides. It is regretted that the Museum's public opening hours remain restricted to 12.5 hours per week, and that recurrent finance is not available for their extension.

*DOCUMENTATION*

Transcription from the card catalogue continued. Grants from the Crowther-Beynon Fund and from the Area Museums Service permitted Mr A. Bolton and Dr M. Levine to be employed over a six-month period, with over 10,000 new entries added to the catalogue. Modest progress was made on taking the catalogues of the prehistoric bronzes and of European beads in the Beck collection further towards publication.

Dr Chippindale organized, with Dr C. Gill of the Fitzwilliam Museum, a meeting at the Museum of the Museums Computer Group.

*PUBLICATIONS*

After several years in press, The Fiji Journals of Baron Anatole von Hugel 1875-1877 was published by the Fiji Museum in association with the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. These journals of the Museum's first Curator were ably edited for publication by Mrs J. Roth and Dr S. Hooper. The handsome book has been produced in Fiji but copies are on sale in Cambridge at the Museum.

Four postcards of local archaeological material, including the Roman figurines from Arrington, were produced as a joint venture with the Cambridgeshire County Archaeologist.

*CENTENARY APPEAL*

By September 1991 receipts to the Appeal, which was launched in 1984 to raise funds for the refurbishment of

the anthropological galleries and for the endowment of a graduate traineeship, totalled £379,825. The first of these aims having been completed at a cost of £312,175, the Museum has £67,650 in hand towards the second objective. A summary balance sheet is shown below.

**Income**

University of Cambridge	£127,143
Colleges	57,500
Individuals	32,952
Companies and Trusts	23,170
Museums and Galleries Commission	17,500
Self-generated income	3,659
Local Government	2,300
Area Museums Service	1,800
Interest	113,801

£379,825

**Expenditure**

New galleries	
Structural work	£155,116
Lighting	12,700
Display cases	56,310
Designer	30,192
Displays	53,511

£307,829

Appeal expenses

£4,346

£312,175

£67,650

Total expenditure

**Balance in hand**

**WORKSHOP AND CONSERVATION LABORATORY**

Mr Smith, assisted by Mr Langford, undertook many tasks related to improved display, storage, light-control and security in the Museum. In the Conservation Laboratory he worked on 53 varied projects, including the restoration and mounting of the Roman lead coffin from Arrington, noted

below. He was also responsible for the checking and packing of loan material, extending wiring for the computer network, and much routine maintenance.

### **LOANS**

The following loans were made to exhibitions outside Cambridge:

A mask and canoe prow from Torres Strait, to the new Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, for its opening exhibition in October 1991. The loan items are included in a section illustrating the maritime activities of Australia's indigenous peoples.

A number of items from the Starr Collection, to the British Museum, for inclusion in the 'Day of the Dead' exhibition, opening at the Museum of Mankind in November 1991. This material is undergoing conservation work in the British Museum laboratories prior to exhibition.

Thirty Indian artefacts, one document, and a selection of photographs, to the National Portrait Gallery, London, for 'The Raj: India and the British 1600 - 1947', exhibited from October 1990 until March 1991.

Within Cambridge, a Canadian birch bark roll and an Indian almanac scroll were loaned to the Fitzwilliam Museum for inclusion in the 'Image and Text' exhibition, October - December 1991.

**CROWTHER-BEYNON FUND**

The following grants were approved from the Fund established for the benefit of the Museum under the will of the late Mr V. B. Crowther-Beynon.

Ms S. England - Investigation of pottery industry,  
Martinique: £700.

Ms A. Herle - Documentation of Leach collection:  
£1500.

Dr R. Jacobi - Research into the Museum's British Upper  
Palaeolithic collections: £1700.

Dr S. van der Leeuw - Investigation of pottery-  
manufacture in Mexico: £1000.

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology - Transcription  
of catalogue cards onto computerised data-base:  
£5000.

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology - Preparation of  
a special exhibition 'The Americas 1492' in the  
Andrews Gallery: £4800.

Rivers Video Project - Partial reimbursement of  
expenses incurred in preparing 'The Nagas'  
exhibition in the Andrews Gallery: £4000.

Mr W.J.M. Sillar - Research on Bolivian pottery:  
£1000.

Ms A. Taylor - Conservation of Anglo-Saxon artefacts  
from current excavations at Barrington: £2800.

Mr H. Wardle - Investigation of street art in the West  
Indies: £1500.

**VISITORS***RESEARCH*

There has been a significant increase in visits to the Museum by researchers from outside Cambridge, although staff shortages have on occasion hampered our ability to assist such scholars to the extent we would wish. Researchers' fields of study may be summarised as follows

Anthropology		
African	12	
American	11	
Asian	9	
Australasian/Oceanian	6	
	Total	38
Archaeology		
British	23	
European	13	
African	15	
American	5	
Asian	4	
	Total	60
Archives		5
Museology		9

Researchers came from the following places	Universities	Museums	Other
UK	29	21	26
Europe	7	4	1
Africa	2	2	1
America	5	6	-
Asia	1	1	-
Australasia/Oceania	4	2	-

#### *PUBLIC*

Public visitors to the Museum during the year totalled 12,776, representing an increase of 17% over the number recorded in 1989-90. As in several previous years, the increase in the winter months was larger than that at other seasons.

Several special visits were arranged for groups, including school-teachers, tourist guides and members of the Cambridge Society. A conducted tour of the Museum was held as a contribution to the University's first Alumni Weekend in September.

Use of the Museum by schools has increased very substantially, with 63 pre-booked parties - twice as many as in the previous year.

The public specimen-identification service dealt with 32 enquiries.

### ACQUISITIONS

97 new accessions were catalogued in 1990, all in Archaeology, and for the most part items in the Beck collection of beads that had long been in the museum, but had not been allocated accession numbers.

A notable item among the newly catalogued accessions is an escutcheon from Essex, part of an early medieval hanging-bowl (1990.5). There also came into the museum, by purchase, a remarkable group of terracotta figurines from a Roman child-burial at Arrington, illustrated on this report's cover (these are not yet catalogued).

#### *GIFTS*

Mr Beesley – Polished flint axe from Elton (1990.1)

Mr D.R. Midwood – Neolithic macehead and Saxon spearhead  
from Newmarket (1990.2–3)

National Trust – Saxon bowl from Wicken Fen (1990.6)

Worthing Museum – Flints from Chesterford (1990.4)

#### *PURCHASE*

Hanging-bowl escutcheon from Dunmow (1990.5)

### TEACHING

All members of the curatorial staff undertook teaching for the Faculty in their respective areas of specialism.

The Department of Archaeology launched a new M. Phil, option in Archaeological Heritage and Museums, with Dr Chippindale as joint co-ordinator. The course, which replaced an earlier Museum option, attracted eight students

and was notably successful. He led three residential field-trips for the course, and also contributed to extra-mural courses for the universities of Bristol and Oxford.

Dr Phillipson contributed to the International Certificate course in African Archaeology held under the auspices of the ERASMUS programme at the Universite Libre, Brussels.

#### **STAFF ACTIVITIES**

The Curator, Dr Phillipson, has been appointed to a Readership in African Prehistory from October 1991: he will hold this post concurrently with the Curatorship. For the academical year 1990-1991 he also served as Director of the University's African Studies Centre. He continued to represent the University on the County Museums Advisory Committee, to be Vice-Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Curator's Panel and a Council member of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, and to represent the University Museums on the Tourism Liason Group of Cambridge City Council.

Beyond the University, Dr Phillipson continued as Hon. Secretary of the British Institute in Eastern Africa and as Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries of London and of the Sutton Hoo Research Trust. He was a member of a working party set up jointly by the Society of Antiquaries and the Museums Association to report on facilities for storage of archaeological archives. He attended a conference on Sudanese archaeology at the British Museum and is a founder

Committee member of the Sudan Archaeological Research Society. His lectures included one on the African Iron Age to the Society of Antiquaries of London. He continues to edit the annual African Archaeological Review for Cambridge University Press.

As a visiting research fellow of the Australian National University and of its North Australia Research Unit, Dr Chippindale continued fieldwork in collaboration with Australian colleagues in the Northern Territory of Australia, where he was granted a five-year research permit for study of prehistoric rock-art in Kakadu National Park. He was series consultant for two series of Thames Television's Down to Earth (Channel 4), contributing to it a film on the archaeology of the Berlin Wall; among his other broadcasts were the BBC World Service and Kaleidoscope for BBC Radio 4. He edited four issues of Antiquity, and gave lectures in various places and occasions, among them the annual meeting of the Society for Museum Archaeologists (Hull), the annual Chacmool conference (Calgary), the University College, London seminar series on human landscape, Peterborough Museum Society (as special President's lecture), the Institute of Field Archaeologists conference (Birmingham), and a University of Gothenburg special rock-art meeting (Tanumshede). Among other conferences attended were those of the Society for American Archaeology (New Orleans) and the Archaeology and Linguistics conference (Darwin). He continued to serve on various committees, and during the year became Treasurer of the Bead Study Trust, a member of

the academic advisory panel to the University of Bradford Department of Archaeological Science, and joined the Editorial Board of Bulletin for the History of Archaeology. He contributed book-reviews to Science and The Times Literary Supplement, among other places.

Ms Herle, visiting Australia to accompany a Museum loan, examined reserve collections from Torres Strait in the Australian Museum, the Australian National Maritime Museum and the Macleay Museum of Sydney University. She met with Aboriginal Liaison Officers and discussed the relationship between museums and aboriginal communities, including the storage of and access to sacred objects and human remains.

Mrs Harris attended a seminar on South American archaeology at the Institute of Latin American Studies in London. She spent a month in Barbados, attending the 14th International Congress of Caribbean Archaeology and excavating as a member of the Barbados Archaeological Survey.

#### *PUBLICATIONS*

The following works by members of the Museum staff were published during the year:

C.R. Chippindale. 1991. Preface to new edition of O.G.S.

Crawford, The eye goddess. Chicago: Delphi Press.

C.R. Chippindale. 1991. 'From archaeology to art; from art to archaeology', in catalogue for South Bank exhibiton. From art to archaeology (Arts Council 1991).

- P.L. Drewett with a contribution by M.H. Harris, 1990. 'Archaeological Survey of Barbados, Fourth Interim Report'. Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society, 38, 4.
- P.L. Drewett and M.H. Harris, 1991. 'The Archaeology of Barbados 1985-87'. Proceedings 12th Congress of the International Association for Caribbean Archaeology. Martinique.
- M.H. Harris, 1991. Chapter on pottery. In P.L. Drewett, Prehistoric Barbados. London: University College.
- M.H. Harris, 1991. 'The Barbados Archaeology Survey 1985-1988: The Pottery'. Proceedings 13th International Congress for Caribbean Archaeology. Curacao.
- A.C. Herle, 1990. 'Medium and Message in an Anthropological Exhibit: Curating the Nagas'. Visual Anthropology Review. 6, 2.
- A.C. Herle, 1991. Teachers' Package: The Naga Exhibition. Cambridgeshire County Council.
- J. Jacobs, A. Macfarlane, S. Harrison and A. Herle, 1990. The Nagas: Society. Culture and Colonial Encounter. London.
- D.W. Phillipson, 1990 (editor and contributor) Mosi-oa Tunva; A Handbook to the Victoria Falls Region (new revised edition). Harare.
- D.W. Phillipson, 1990. 'Traditional Pottery Manufacture in the Southern Sudan'. Origin 1. 13.