



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE MIDDEN

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EDITORIAL

To buy or not to buy

The dilemma regarding museums acquiring artifacts was brought home to us again recently, when the Society's help was sought by a local citizen wanting to dispose of the magnificent figure shown here. The piece, about 8" high and 1½" thick, in pecked stone, is a seated statue, and is said to come from Lillooet. The seller claimed it had been turned up in construction 20 years ago. He showed admirable letters from various museums refusing to buy it. And he showed letters from a Seattle dealer and Vancouver hotelier offering to buy it. The hotel man offered \$2,000. The seller wanted more. The dilemma: should the Society get involved? Consider this: the man was determined to sell, and if necessary, could easily have smuggled the piece across the border. (That's not to say he **would**. But anyone **could**.) He had a credible tale for its coming into his hands. It would be a pity for



1:3
IMAGE IS SAME ON BOTH
SIDES, AND ABOUT 1½" THICK.

it to disappear into a private collection, even Canadian, if, conceivably, it could be available to the public. (And consider the vast amounts of money spent by museums which **won't** buy artifacts in Canada, but buy them abroad, **after** they've been exported.) So what was needed (and probably the fate of this particular piece is long since sealed, but there will be others), what was needed was an Angel . . . somebody with mounds of money, an interest in Archeology, and a willingness to buy such pieces to donate immediately, or at least to will, to a local museum. Surely to have arranged that, rather than letting it slip away to

Seattle, would have been a constructive move? Or would we still be contributing to the Dig-and-Sell mentality? That's the dilemma. We're still debating, and would be happy to hear from you.

BUSY SUMMER AHEAD FOR FIELDWORK

A large number of archaeological excavations and survey projects are once again slated for British Columbia this summer. The Provincial Archaeologist's Office (P.A.O.) is sponsoring more than a dozen minor projects (with two to four persons on each), and has issued permits for some eight major excavation teams.

The projects fall into three basic categories according to their purpose: Salvage, Inventory, and Impact Assessment. Salvage Work usually involves excavation of a doomed site. An Impact Assessment Project surveys land-altering development plans referred to the P.A.O. For example, these would include Land Branch Referrals, C.N.R. Referrals, Highways Subdivision Referrals and Regional District Development Proposals. An Inventory and Assessment Project locates, records and evaluates site significance, and makes recommendations for future management of the resource base. Information generated by these projects is used to develop overall management policies for Cultural Heritage Resources in any particular region.

Archaeological Society members may wish to visit some of these larger digs, and the P.A.O. has kindly provided us with a list including contact people for any advance arrangements.

Major Projects (9 to 20 persons)

Regional Salvage Crew	May: Cache Creek June: Courtenay July: Nazko (west of Quesnel)	Contact: P.A.O.
Hope Highway Salvage	June 1 - July 31	Morley Eldridge, U. Victoria (or P.A.O.)
Port Hardy Highways Salvage	Mar. 15 - June 30	Len Ham, U.B.C. (or P.A.O.)
Hat Creek Project (U.B.C.)	June 1 - Aug. 31	David Pokotylo, U.B.C.
Peace River Project (S.F.U.)	June 1 - Aug. 31	Brian Spurling, S.F.U.
Anahim Lake (National Museum of Man)	June 1 - Aug. 31	Roscoe Wilmeth, N.M. of Man
Namu Field School (S.F.U.)	May 15 - June 30	Roy Carlson, SFU
Duke Point Project, Nanaimo, (U.Vic.)	June 1 - Sept. 30	Don Mitchell, U.Vic.

Impact Assessment and Inventory and Evaluation Projects

(2 to 4 persons on each)

Skeena Regional Impact Assessment	June 1 - Sept. 30
Cariboo Regional Impact Assessment	May 15 - Sept. 15
Omineca Regional Impact Assessment	May 15 - Sept. 15
Nazko Kluskus Inventory and Evaluation	May 22 - Aug. 22
Stikine Inventory and Evaluation	June 1 - Aug. 31
South Coast Regional Impact Assessment	May 1 - July 31
Gulf of Georgia Inventory and Evaluation	Sept 1 - Nov. 30
Thompson-Okanagan Regional Inventory and Impact Assessment	Jul 25 - Oct. 25
South Thompson River/Columbia River Inventory and Evaluation	Apr 24 - July 24
Shuswap Lake Inventory and Evaluation	May 1 - July 31
Thompson-Okanagan-Kootenay Parks Branch Inventory and Impact Assessment	Apr 24 - July 24
Kootenay Regional Inventory and Impact Assessment	Jul 18 - Oct. 18
Forest Service Inventory and Impact Assessment (Flathead Valley)	Apr 17 - July 17
Highways Inventory and Impact Assessment (Southern Interior)	May 15 - Aug. 15

KING TUT AT CENTENNIAL MUSEUM

Tutankhamun's Egypt - lecture by distinguished Egyptologist Cynthia Sheikholeslami, Saturday, June 17 at 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. Tickets available from 10 a.m. on June 17. Non-members \$3.00.

Tutankhamun Films - the BBC series on Ancient Egyptian life will be shown in the Centennial auditorium on five weekends - July 13 - August 20. Advance tickets for all screenings go on sale from 10 a.m. July 1. Non-members \$2.00.

E A R T H W A T C H

If you can't find somebody who will pay you to dig this summer, you can always pay them to let you work!

That's the premise of Earthwatch, a U.S. non-profit organization dedicated to finding volunteers for research projects from watching monkeys in Boston Zoo to studying barnacles off North Carolina. Included are the following projects with an archaeological flavour:

Plymouth Shipwrecks: marine archaeological diving investigation of 16th and 17th C. shipwrecks, Plymouth, England. Jul.24-Aug.4; Aug.7-18; \$775

Mont Dardon: excavation of recently discovered Gallo-Roman chapel, 4th-10th C. A.D., Burgundy, France. Jul.9-18; \$875

Machrie Moor: excavation of stone circle complex recently found on Island of Arran, Scotland. Aug.26-Sep.15; \$700

Hayonim Cave: excavation of early Natufian rockshelter (10,000 B.C.) Judean hills, Israel. Aug.7-28; \$600

San Antonio de Padua Mission: investigation of 1770 Spanish mission, Jolon Valley, Calif. Jul.9-28; \$650

Salmon Ruins: investigation of Chacoan culture (1088 A.D.) pueblo city in New Mexico. Jul.8-28; Jul.29-Aug.18; \$725

Lubbock Lake: excavation of 12,000-yr. old Paleoindian site, Texas. Jul.3-23; Jul.23-Aug.13; \$700

Mogollon Culture: excavation of 800-1250 A.D. site, New Mexico. Jul.11-29; \$700

Mayan City of Cihuatlan: excavation of Post-classic urban centre on Mayan frontier, El Salvador. Jul.9-29; Jul.30-Aug.19; \$800

Cultural Origins of Swaziland: excavation of Late Stone Age and Iron Age sites, Jul.16-31; Aug.3-18; Aug.19-Sept.3; \$900

Prehistoric Man of Majorca: excavation of rockshelters and cave sites, Spain. Aug.9-25; Sep.8-24; Dec.19-Jan.8; \$775

Prehistoric Art of Kenya: exploration and documentation of endangered rock carvings and cave paintings. Jul.17-Aug.4; \$950

Indian Rock Art of Black Canyon: search for lost petroglyphs in the Mojave Desert, Calif. Jul.17-Aug.6; \$675

Mammoth Graveyard: search for mammoth fossils at 20,000 year old site in South Dakota. Jul.17-Aug.1; Aug.3-18; \$650

For more information write fast to Earthwatch, 10 Juniper Road, Box 127, Belmont, Mass. 02178. Phone: 617-489-3030.



Rhinoceros hunt. Rock painting. Naukluft, Southwest Africa.

Describing Artifacts, No. 12

(Part of a continuing series on artifact description, reproduced from the handbook for archaeological staff working on the National Inventory Project in B.C. The Midden extends thanks to Tom Loy of the Provincial Museum for permission to reprint.)

DECORATION, CONDITION AND CONSERVATION

Decoration: To describe artifacts, one or more of the following are suitable terms:

anthropomorphic	incised
carved	inlaid
geometric	pigmented
illustrative	zoomorphic

These modifiers should be followed by a location modifier in adverbial form, such as distally, laterally, medially, proximally, etc.

Condition: Consists of two entries, one from list A and one from list B:

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
entire	complete
friable	incomplete
broken	restored
fissile	needs conservation
eroded	work
chipped	
patinated	
affected by fire	
chemical-eroded	
water-eroded	
wind-eroded	

Conservation: Any repairs or restoration work that has been done to the artifact must also be recorded.

THE ARCHIVE OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARCHAEOLOGY
SEEKS MATERIALS

By Roderick Sprague, Head



The archaeology of the Pacific Northwest, including the Plateau and Northwest Coast areas, has become known only recently, so it is possible to acquire and maintain in one central location copies of all published materials concerning the region. With this objective in mind, a proposal was presented to the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities for funding the initial year of the establishment of such a collection. A grant of \$23,320 was made to the University of Idaho with me as principal investigator in August 1975. The major portion of the grant was utilized to pay an archivist for one year and for copy costs of the materials.

The area of concern comprises the archaeological and ethnographic Plateau and Northwest Coast. In terms of political units this includes British Columbia, Alberta, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and western Montana. Because physical anthropological literature is very meager (120 items) and is largely osteological data published as an adjunct to archaeological work, this subject area is also included in the archives.

Materials included are books, monographs, journal articles, abstracts, reviews, newsletters, brief notices, "notes and news", newspaper articles, press releases, texts of meeting papers, paper abstracts, theses, dissertations, manuscripts, research reports, research proposals, films, film reviews, tapes, slide collections, maps, notes (especially of early workers), correspondence files, reminiscences, and other ephemeral material.

The material is in two sets: one bound for use by researchers utilizing the facilities, and a second set reproduced on looseleaf 8½ x 11 paper filed in a series of fireproof filing cabinets. The looseleaf format permits distortion-free copying for those requesting copies of materials contained in the archives. We are in no way attempting to compete with existing archives and special collections; for our purposes, copies are as useful as the originals.

The initial objective of the archives was accomplished through the hiring of Miss Mary Gormly, a unique person with training in both anthropology and library science. Miss Gormly prepared a master file of more than 2,000 subject heading cards as well as determining and typing well over 7,000 subject cards in relation to actual articles catalogued. More than 2,000 shelf list cards were prepared, listing materials that were copied and placed in the archive facility. Almost 4,000 author cards were prepared and an additional 600 newspaper clippings and 200 journal articles are currently in process. While on sabbatical leave in Washington D.C. during half of the grant period I was able to acquire, reproduce, and forward to the archives over 200 additional journal articles involving approximately 1,200 pages of material.

Working with my personal library as well as the University of Idaho and Washington State University libraries, Miss Gormly thoroughly processed all articles found in the following journals: Archaeology, British Columbia Studies, Historical Archaeology, Idaho Archaeologist, The Midden, Science, Screenings, Syesis, and the Washington Archaeologist. Several additional dead journals were also processed in their entirety. Processing means that the material involved was copied, all call letter and subject headings assigned, labels with call numbers added to the item, and shelf lists, author, and subject cards had been typed. More than 16,000 library file cards were typed during this first year of the project. In addition to the author catalogue, there will be a series of card catalogues organized by title, year of production, and subject headings.



One area where the interested amateur can greatly aid the objective of the archive is by sending newspaper clippings for inclusion. Newspaper clippings are very important to understanding the development of archaeology in any given area. Unfortunately most libraries are not interested in this type of ephemeral material and do not make an effort to collect it. If the interested amateurs of British Columbia could clip and forward this material to the archives it would greatly enhance the archives' usefulness. Individuals who have maintained a collection of clippings over the year are encouraged to forward these to the archives, which after copying we will return. The more complete

the references (newspaper name, date, and page), the more useful the clippings become. We are also interested in knowing of local publications that would normally not come to our attention.

The objective of the archives is to disseminate information among all interested parties, be they amateur or professional. It is only through the participation and support of these scientific amateurs that the archives can reach its fullest potential.

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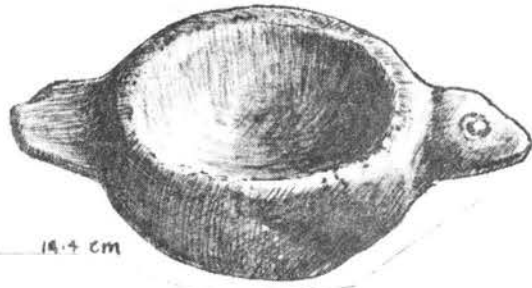
PRE-COLUMBIAN EXHIBITION IN SAN FRANCISCO

Anyone travelling to San Francisco this year shouldn't miss this collection of rare pre-Columbian goldwork from Peru. At the California Academy of Science in Golden Gate Park it will be on display from June 15 through September 17. Second in importance only to the Tutankhamun collection, the Peruvian treasures show is the largest of its kind ever to be presented in the U.S. Five civilizations spanning 2,000 years are included. The Academy is open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

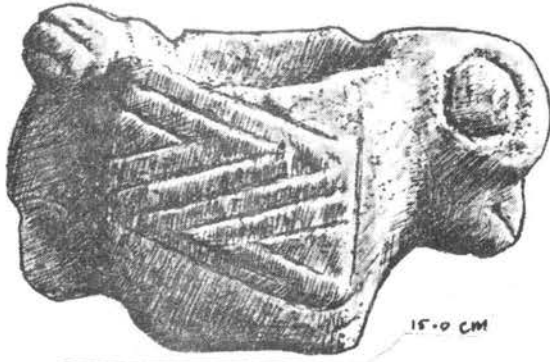
KING TUT ON NINE

For those who cannot attend the "Tutankhamun's Egypt" film series at the Centennial Museum (see item elsewhere in this issue) it will also be shown on Channel 9 on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 12:30 p.m. commencing June 7.

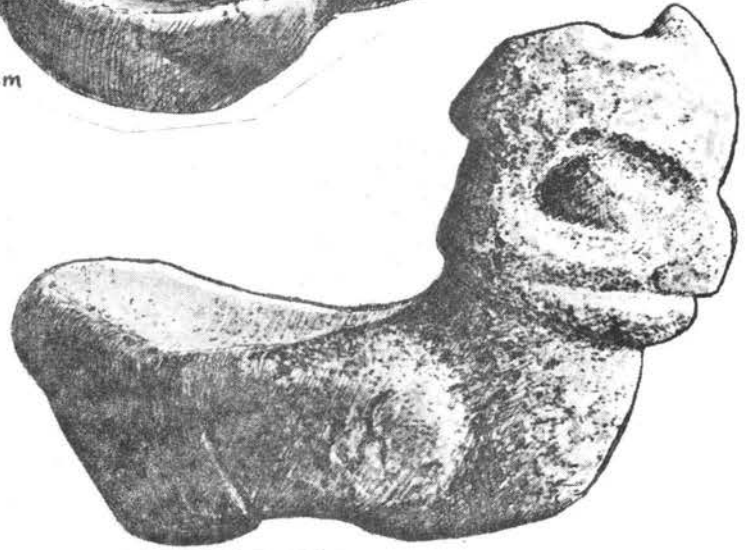
ZOOMORPHIC BOWLS



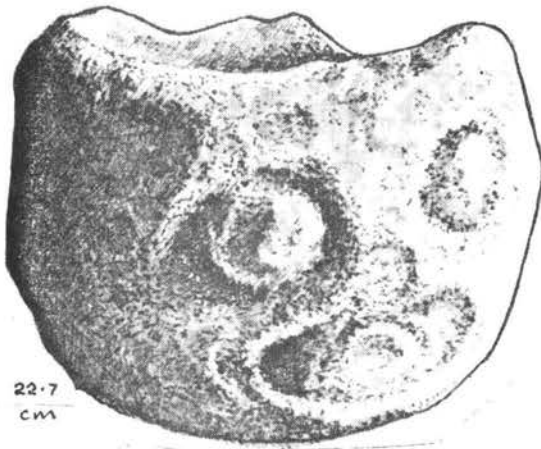
14.5 CM



15.0 CM



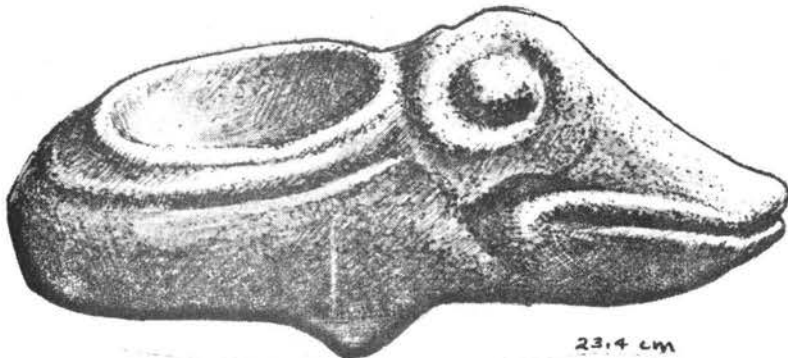
BOWL DEPICTING RAVEN -
WING CARVED WITH EAGLE
HEAD, UPSIDE DOWN



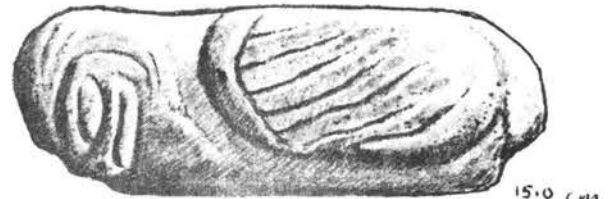
22.7
CM



33.0 CM



23.4 CM



15.0 CM

EAGLE BOWL MADE OF SANDSTONE -
UNDERSIDE HAS BEEN USED AS AN
ABRADER.

Some of the most successful examples of combining design with function are to be found among the zoomorphic bowls of the Northwest coast, particularly those carved in wood. The skillful blending of these two elements often shows a strong sense of three dimensional sculpture conceived in a very sophisticated way. The creatures represented on the stone bowls may well have had a mythological significance, the bowls quite likely being used in a ceremonial way. They were not used as domestic utensils, as were most of the wooden bowls.

EXCERPTED FROM:
"ARTIFACTS OF THE NORTHWEST
COAST INDIANS"
by HILARY STEWART
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A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADER

This issue of the Midden allows me the last opportunity as your President to express my sincere appreciation to all members of the Archaeological Society for their support, encouragement and friendship extended to me over the past two years.

I consider myself fortunate to have begun my term of office on the Society's 10th Anniversary and would like to reflect on that occasion and on some of the more important accomplishments achieved by the dedication and hard work of the Executive Committee.

To mark our first decade as a Society in September 1976, we were honored to have our good friend Dr. Carl Borden as our guest. Later in the month of September a special celebration was held at Langara Campus of V. C. C. Many of the original members of the Society attended and a special presentation was made to the Society's first President, the late Alex Ennenberg.

During the past two years a variety of programs and projects were offered to members of the Society, ranging from a tour of the Anthropology Museum and Archaeology Laboratory at U. B. C. to a series of illustrated lectures held at Langara on the origin and development of prehistoric Indian culture within British Columbia. Other activities included:

- * The Executive Committee submitted a draft proposal to the Greater Vancouver Regional District for the protection and preservation of archaeological sites within the Belcarra Park Development Plan.
- * Renewed liaison with the Vancouver Museums and Planetarium Association, and developed a beneficial and useful exchange of ideas and information.
- * Arrangements are under way for a permanent home for the preservation of A. S. B. C. records and related material in the Archives Division of the Main Library at U. B. C.
- * An intensive salvage project was undertaken by the Society at Crescent Beach which resulted in the recovery of many fine artifacts which were turned over to the Archaeological Department at Simon Fraser University. Several members also offered their assistance with a dig at Crescent Beach conducted under the supervision of the Archaeological Department at U. B. C.
- * Since applying for and receiving a substantial grant from Canada Council, the Private Collections Committee has made extensive progress in photographing and recording private collections in B. C.

This only touches on a few of the areas of involvement by your executive and members of A.S.B.C. There is still much to be accomplished, and the incoming president and executive will need the support of all the members in order to advance the aims and objectives of the Society.

Thank you for honoring me with your trust these past two years, and for allowing me the pleasure of serving as your president.

Marie Duncan

DR. BORDEN HONORED

Dr. Carl Borden has won a unique honor for his lifetime of work dedicated to archaeology: the Smith-Wintenberg Award.

The award is a new one, introduced by the Canadian Archaeological Association at its recent annual meeting. It is named after Harland I. Smith, pioneer archaeologist who worked in British Columbia and with the National Museum, and W.J. Wintenberg, best known for his early work with the Iroquois.

The prize is a wood and bronze engraved plaque, and it is designed to honor those who have made a distinguished contribution to archaeology in Canada.

Dr. Borden shares the award with another archaeologist Dr. J.N. Emerson of the University of Toronto, who has made his mark on the B.C. scene with his theories on psychic archaeology.

Sadly, neither recipient was well enough to attend the presentation ceremony. R.G. Matson --a member of the U.B.C. archaeology department which Dr. Borden founded-- received it from C.A.A. president Richard Morlan on Dr. Borden's behalf.

- - - -

VOLUNTEERS ANSWER APPEAL, BUT MORE NEEDED

A record turnout of 19 people screened vast mounds of midden on an emergency project one weekend in mid-June.

The dirt --several truckloads-- had been excavated for sewer construction at the Midden-rich Crescent Beach (see last issue of The Midden), and was destined to be used as fill on a construction site. The owner allowed one weekend only for A.S.B.C. screening. The good turnout, responding to president Marie Duncan's appeal for help, resulted in most of the piles being sifted, and a number of interesting items being recovered.

Other piles now await A.S.B.C. attention! The society has been invited to help during the summer with screening a large quantity of other material being excavated at Crescent Beach.

Volunteers are asked to phone for time and place: Jim Garrison (263-8782) or Marie Duncan (224-7836).

HOW TO GET GIRT FOR THE DIRT? GET A T-SHIRT!



The Ontario Archaeological Society came up recently with a neat idea: T-shirts with the O.A.S. logo printed on them.

The only reservation we have is this: if the shirts are meant for real work, rather than for armchair archaeology or sidewalk superintending, isn't blue trim on "pure white" (as they're advertised) a bit impractical?

Therefore perhaps we could suggest for the next batch (or for an enterprising A.S.B.C. entrepreneur?) a charcoal trim on umber? If the makers have trouble visualizing this, just say it should match damp knees caked in convoluted sediments intercalated with crushed clam and compacted burnt bone and ash. Obvious really.

NR

JAPAN SHOW OPENS AT U.B.C.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Department of Anthropology and Sociology

Dear Gladys Groves:

I am writing to you in regard to the exhibition **Image and Life: 50,000 Years of Japanese Prehistory** at the UBC Museum of Anthropology from July to October 2, 1978. The exhibition, of some 200 items from earliest prehistory to the middle of the first millennium A.D., is sponsored by the Museums Assistance Program, the National Museums of Canada, the U.S. National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Japan Foundation. The objects are borrowed from a number of major museums and private collections in Japan, and include a number of spectacular pottery vessels, bronze objects including mirrors and weapons, human figures and figurines, and stone tools. About a dozen of the pieces are registered Important Cultural Properties. The exhibition has been initiated and designed by the UBC Museum of Anthropology with assistance from the University of Michigan Center for Japanese Studies; it will visit Winnipeg, Ottawa, New Haven, Texas, Ann Arbor, Chicago and San Francisco, over the next two years. I would like to invite the members of the Archaeological Society of B.C. to the museum on Tuesday evening Aug. 22 to see the exhibition and a film on the Jomon Period. The award-winning film vividly reconstructs prehistoric life in Japan. Your members might come to the exhibition about 7:00 p.m. We will show the 48-minute film in the theatre gallery at 7:30. Admission is free on Tuesdays, but there is no free parking in the lots near the museum. We are also inviting the Society for Asian Arts on the same evening.

Sincerely,



Richard Pearson,
Professor

(We hope Dr. Pearson won't mind our squeezing his kind invitation into a vase of the late Jomon period! Ed.)

