

*The
American Philosophical Society*

HELD AT PHILADELPHIA
FOR PROMOTING USEFUL KNOWLEDGE

Library of Congress Catalogue
Card Number: 39-2034

YEAR BOOK 1963

JANUARY 1, 1963 - DECEMBER 31, 1963

Printed in U.S.A.
George H. Buchanan Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
INDEPENDENCE SQUARE
PHILADELPHIA 6
1964

001455

Beginning in September of 1959, the grantee visited all the major European depositories of diplomatic documents. Five months of research were necessary at the State Archives in Milan, which contain by far the largest collection of fifteenth-century diplomatic records in Europe. Approximately six weeks were spent at each of the State Archives in Venice and Florence, and at the Vatican Archives, while the State Archives in Mantua, Modena, Siena, Genoa, Turin and the Archivio de la Corona de Aragon required about a week each. Although the great series of documents are located only in archives, some libraries—notably the Marciana in Venice, the Ambrosiana in Milan, and the Bibliothéque Nationale in Paris—possess important collections seen by the grantee. Additional documents and codices were also located through correspondence at the British Museum and the Nationalbibliothek in Vienna.

The magnitude of the various collections dictated the extensive use of microfilming partially financed by the grant. In February of 1961 the Rockefeller Foundation also made available to Professor Kendall and the grantee an initial grant of \$10,000 to continue the microfilm project. The microfilm collection now consists of approximately 2,000 rolls or 500,000 frames and it may reach one million frames at the completion of microfilming, which is expected within a year. This collection, the only one of its kind in the world, will be useful for research in practically all areas of scholarship in this period. Scholars and qualified graduate students may arrange to consult the microfilms at the campus of the University of Massachusetts by corresponding with the grantee. Already an honors thesis based entirely on the microfilms has been written for another institution. The grantee is deeply indebted to the Italian Ministry of the Interior for its kind permission to microfilm this vast treasure and for the numerous facilitations provided in its archives and excellent photographic laboratories.

The grantee plans to publish a complete inventory of the various collections available on microfilm at the completion of the microfilming project. In general it can be stated that all major series of documents in all archives and libraries for the period 1450-1483 are now available on microfilm. In a paper read before the New England Renaissance Conference at Williams College (April 13, 1962), the grantee discussed the significance of these documents, and gave a summary description of them which appeared later in a more expanded form in the article listed below.

LAARDI, V. 1962. "Fifteenth-century Diplomatic Documents in Western European Archives and Libraries (1450-1494)." *Studies in the Renaissance* 9: 64-112.

CYNTHIA IRWIN, Harvard University, and JUAN ARMENTA
CAMACHO, Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico

Grant No. 3022—Penrose Fund (1961), \$4,000. Explorations and excavations near Valsequillo, Mexico.

The grant enabled the grantees to conduct a thorough survey of and

preliminary excavations in the Valsequillo Gravel Formation, near Puebla, Mexico.

Previous study¹ and surficial reconnaissance of the region had been carried out by grantee Armenta, over a period of twenty-five years. These studies led him to conclude that certain objects, probably of human manufacture, had originated in a formation known as the Valsequillo Gravels. This formation and its large extinct faunal assemblage may be attributable to an interstadial of the last major Pleistocene glaciation.¹ These archaeological materials, if in fact originating in the Valsequillo Gravels, would be some of the earliest man-made remains in the New World. Because of their potential significance to American archaeology, they became the center of considerable controversy. The discovery in 1959 of a fragment of the pelvis of an extinct proboscidean, bearing engravings of "elephant" tapir, and possibly horse, intensified this controversy.^{2, 3}

With the aid of a grant from the American Philosophical Society in 1960, grantee Armenta intensified the exploration. In the same year grantees Armenta and Irwin agreed on a cooperative project to investigate the situation thoroughly, and to provide rigid well-documented evidence for or against the association of human artifacts with the Pleistocene Valsequillo Gravels. This investigation was made possible by Grant 3022 from the American Philosophical Society.

Field work was undertaken between April 23 and July 15, 1962. The initial five weeks were devoted to an intensive survey of the region aimed at making a superficial study of the major features of geological stratigraphy, and obtaining as complete a record of the archaeological and paleontological remains as possible. The area covered by this survey lies between 18°50' to 19°15' North latitude and 98°00' to 98°40' West longitude. It centers in the Valsequillo Reservoir Region between the city of Puebla to the north, and the town of San Hipolito to the south, and between the Atoyac and the Atepetzingo Rivers and the town of Zacachimalpa to the east and west respectively. Selected localities outside this district were visited to further the solution of specific problems.

Since the material in the existing collections represented a very wide area, well over one hundred square kilometers, the primary objective of the reconnaissance was the location of well-defined localities suitable for controlled excavation. Only direct association of artifacts and flakes of indubitably human workmanship, with extinct fauna *in situ* in the Valsequillo Gravel Formation, was considered admissible evidence, and an indication of a site to be excavated. A team of fifteen to twenty-five trained local workers and assistants from the Museum of the Revolution (Puebla) assisted in this phase of the investigation. The survey yielded four localities at which artifacts *in situ* were

¹ L. Avelerra Arroyo de Anda, "Bibliography of Pre-ceramic Remains of Mexico," *Univ. Nac. Autón. Inst. Historia, ser. Antropol.* 14 (1962): 44-46, 54-56.

² H. B. Nicholson, "Notes and News," *Amer. Antiquity* 26 (1961): 596-597.

³ "Earliest Art in the Americas," *Life* 86 (August 15, 1960).

unquestionably associated with extinct fauna in the Valsequillo Gravels: El Mirador, Hueyatlatco, Tecacaxco, and El Horno. All were located within a few kilometers of the town of La Colonia Buena Vista de Tejela.

The remaining part of the field season was devoted to testing at El Mirador, conducting preliminary excavation at Hueyatlatco and Tecacaxco, and excavating completely the site at El Horno. A team of thirty-five trained workmen and museum assistants cooperated in this. Brief tests at El Mirador produced a crude unifacial percussion-flaked object, probably a projectile point.

Extensive preliminary excavations at Hueyatlatco yielded numerous unifacial percussion-flaked tools, including a probable projectile point, scrapers and perforators. Bifacial tools were rare, but included a cutting tool and a scraper. The association of these tools with a rich faunal assemblage (featuring prominently mastodon, horse, and camel), is unquestionable; one small scraper was in fact recovered still imbedded in the mandible of a mastodon.

Preliminary excavations of Tecacaxco produced a large number of chert flakes of human manufacture, but only a few retouched pieces which can be considered tools.

The only completely excavated locale is that of El Horno, which proved to be an ancient kill-site, where a single large animal (a mastodon) had been killed and butchered. Numerous unifacial stone tools, representing cutting edges, scrapers, and perforators or graters were recovered in direct association with mastodon remains. Several of the latter showed evidence of having been cut or butchered. One stone flake showed marked signs of calcination.

These sites were visited and examined by specialists in geology, paleontology, and archaeology, including M. Maldonado-Koerdel, F. Mooser, H. M. Wormington, A. D. Krieger, J. L. Lorenzo, and R. D. Simpson, all of whom contributed valuable opinions and suggestions.

The archaeological and paleontological remains were taken to the Museum of the Revolution in Puebla, where they will be studied. A tusk from the El Horno mastodon will be processed by the carbon-14 method at the Research Division of the Humble Oil Company to provide an exact date for the remains.

In summary the project succeeded in providing definite evidence of the association of human artifacts with the extinct fauna of the Valsequillo Gravels. This association may prove to be one of the earliest indications of man's occupancy of the Western Hemisphere.

On the basis of the work of 1962, plans are under way to continue and expand the investigations in the Valsequillo Region. In addition to the extremely promising archaeological situation, the 1962 project showed clearly the need for a multi-disciplinary attack on the problems of the Valsequillo Gravels. Not only is such an approach essential to a thorough study of the archaeology, but the extraordinarily rich and complete faunal and stratigraphic record indicates the existence of a fertile field for coordinated programs of research in geology and paleontology.

Brief preliminary articles on the site of El Horno have been submitted to *American Antiquity* and the Universidad de Puebla, for publication in 1963.

HERMAN IVENTOSCH, University of Kansas

Grant No. 2926—Penrose Fund (1961), \$800. Onomastic invention in Don Quijote.

The project that the grantee was engaged in, and for whose beginning stages he requested aid from the Society for the summer of 1961, was a study of the onomastics of Cervantes' *Don Quijote*, that is, of the proper names in the novel according to their categories of chivalric, pastoral and picaresque names. The first, and most difficult, task confronting the grantee was the collection and categorizing of the huge number of names in the Spanish romances of chivalry, difficult since the majority of these works (probably approaching a hundred) had not been reprinted since they appeared in the sixteenth century and still remained scattered in the various libraries of Europe and America.

The grantee dedicated the summer of 1961 to setting up the file and gathering the names from the few romances which had been republished, the *Amadis de Gaula* (about 400 names), the *Palmierin de Inglaterra*, etc. The point throughout, of course, was the attempt to reproduce the onomastic atmosphere which affected Cervantes as he conceived his great parody. There was scarcely time in the summer to do more than collect the names in the published works, but this established the method and the core of the subsequent file. Since that summer, with grants from the Carnegie Foundation (undergraduate research) and the University of Kansas Research Fund (graduate research), it has been possible to collect at the University of Kansas something approaching two-thirds of the entire extant series of romances in microfilm, and to file the proper names thereof, a number approaching at this date approximately 12,000.

It is scarcely necessary to observe that such a huge mass of unknown material is pregnant with information and leads to new knowledge both for the Hispanist and general Arthurianist, or, say, for the specialist in Celtic onomastics. In addition, then, to establishing the onomastic atmosphere around Cervantes, a study of the file has so far produced or influenced heavily two articles: (1) "Orinda, California; or the Literary Traces in California Toponymy," accepted for publication in *Namcs*, (2) "Dulcinea, nombre pastoril," a 50-page monograph accepted for publication by *Nueva Revista de filología hispánica* in Mexico.

WILHELMINA F. JASHEWSKI, University of Maryland

Grant No. 2239—Penrose Fund (1957), \$600. Roman gardens.

The grantee is studying the Roman garden in all of its aspects from earliest times through the Roman period. The Roman garden is inti-