PHOEBE APPERSON HEARST MEMORIAL VOLUME

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DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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ON THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT AND MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER 10, 1901



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IN MEMORY OF THE FOUNDER PHOEBE APPERSON HEARST

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HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

Nearly thirty years ago, Mrs. Phoebe Apperson Hearst conceived the idea of adding further to the valuable objects of art and antiquity which she already possessed, with a view to forming a great collection for permanent deposit in an institution. As the years went by, she acquired paintings, statues, tapestries and other textiles, ceramics, baskets of primitive peoples, and other antiquities, and came to look upon the University of California as the destined recipient.

By 1899, the concept of a great University Museum, serving not only the academic community but the people of California, had taken clear shape in her mind. She resolved to widen her efforts and to enlist the services of specialists. She provided for an expedition to Egypt, of which Dr. George A. Reisner became the head; for another to Peru, with which Dr. Max Uhle was entrusted; and Dr. Philip Mills Jones was placed in charge of explorations seeking to preserve tangible evidences of the prehistory of the Californian aborigines. Dr. Alfred Emerson was delegated to spend three years in the collection of antiquities of the peoples of ancient Mediterranean civilization.

During 1900, these expeditions continued active; by 1901, a mass of objects had arrived at the University and further collections were in prospect of receipt. The University thus found itself with the substance of a Museum actually in its possession, but without building or housing equipment. It was also the beneficiary of the researches which were being maintained in connection with the explorations provided for by Mrs. Hearst. The time for organization and systematic planning by the University had come.

At the suggestion of President Benjamin Ide Wheeler an informal meeting was called at Mrs. Hearst's Hacienda del Poso de Verona near Pleasanton. In this meeting there participated, at Mrs. Hearst's suggestion, besides herself and President Wheeler, Mme. Zelia Nuttall, Miss Alice C. Fletcher, and Professor F. W. Putnam. After consideration of plans for the encouragement of anthropological and related research at the University, and for the establishment of a Museum, it was decided that Mrs. Hearst and President Wheeler should bring the subject before the Regents of the University, of whom Mrs. Hearst at that time, as until her death, was an honored member. Accordingly, on September 10, 1901, President Wheeler presented to the Board of Regents a statement which was entered in full upon the minutes and which embodied the following passages:

The work which Mrs. Hearst has been conducting under various heads, all looking toward the collection of material illustrative of Anthropology and all its subdivisions, is now offered by her to the University of California, to be created into a consolidated Department of Anthropology, free of all expense to the University.

Mrs. Hearst's plan is to give the opportunity of the conduct of that Department to the University, and to support it; the Department to be guided for the present by an Advisory Committee.

The work of the Department may be thus defined:

1. Conducting special researches in the field and laboratory in the various subdivisions of the Department.

2. The preservation of materials and facts secured, and the formation of a Museum.

3. The diffusion of knowledge by publications and lectures.

4. The final establishment of courses of instruction and researches in the University.

The President further recommended that the Advisory Committee consist of seven persons; namely, the five who had met at Mrs. Hearst's hacienda and Dr. Franz Boas and Dr. John C. Merriam. He recommended also the appointment of G. J. M. E. d'Aquin as assistant secretary and executive officer of the Department, of A. L. Kroeber as instructor, and of P. E. Goddard as assistant in Anthropology.

The President's report was unanimously concurred in by the Regents, Mrs. Hearst's plan being thereby accepted and the proposed Department and Museum of Anthropology instituted.

After a year the Advisory Committee recommended the transfer of its functions to a smaller body, comprising those of its members to whom meetings at the University were conveniently accessible. Direction was therefore placed in the hands of an Executive Committee consisting of President Wheeler, Mrs. Hearst, and Professors Putnam and Merriam. Two years later the organization of the Department was completed, headed by F. W. Putnam as Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Museum; and the Executive Committee ceased to meet. Professor Putnam remained in charge until his emeritus retirement in 1909.

As the collections which Mrs. Hearst's generosity was assembling had begun to arrive in quantities before the institution of the Department, they had been temporarily deposited in what was then known as the Myers Cottage, the nuclear building of what later became the University Infirmary. Recognizing the need of a larger building and one better protected against fire risk, Mrs. Hearst in 1901 offered to erect for the University an iron storage structure. This gift was gratefully accepted by the Regents, and after its completion early in 1902 the accumulating collections were transferred to their new home.

Before long, however, this building also proved inadequate. Mrs. Hearst, the Advisory Committee, and the Regents concurring, the collections were therefore transported once more, this time to an ample three-story building in San Francisco, comprising the westernmost of the three then known as the Affiliated Colleges of the University of California. This structure had been erected by the state for the Hastings College of Law but had remained unoccupied. It afforded more space and better fire protection than had heretofore been available, and was also well lit and unusually adapted for museum purposes. Mrs. Hearst provided the means for the erection of shelving, storage racks, and other equipment. A considerable part of the collections could now be removed from their packing cases and became accessible for inspection and study as well as protection from deterioration.

The transfer of the collections to San Francisco released the iron structure on the campus for other uses. The casts of Greek and Roman sculpture which had been included in the acquisitions of antiquities authorized by Mrs. Hearst, have remained in this building. Besides serving as models in the teaching of drawing, they have acted as a stimulus upon the aesthetic life of the University. Specially selected collections of material illustrative in the teaching of Anthropology have also been retained in this building. The space not thus utilized has gradually been converted into office and class rooms, and has served to give the anthropological activities of the University an abiding place.

The inventorying, preserving, and arranging of the contents of the Museum made progress year after year until in 1911 it appeared that relatively slight changes in equipment and operation would enable at least half the collections to be transformed from a condition of accessible storage to one of public exhibition. With unabating interest Mrs. Hearst provided for the alterations, and on October 3, 1911, the Museum was formally opened by her and President Wheeler in the presence of several hundred guests. Since that time it has been open to the public six days in the week, and has attracted from ten to thirty thousand visitors annually. The collections displayed at the outset were those from Egypt, Peru, the Graeco-Roman civilization, the Indians of California, and the North American natives. From time to time installations have been made in other rooms, until now there are additional exhibits illustrative of Asia, the various Oceanic regions, and the American Indians of the Southwestern, Plains, and Northwest Coast areas. For several years also there was maintained a Revolving Exhibit. This placed on public view for specified periods collections that ordinarily, on account of lack of space, were kept in storage, or that were of a synoptic character, or otherwise of particular interest.

The opening of the building to exhibition also made possible the development of popular lectures. These were in two series: one designed primarily for adults, and held chiefly on Sunday afternoons; the other arranged by coöperation with the Superintendent and Board of Education of San Francisco for school children visiting the Museum in classes on week days. Both series continued successfully for many years, the number of children visiting the Museum in classes averaging about ten thousand annually.

With all this activity, however, the Museum in San Francisco was regarded by Mrs. Hearst and by the Regents of the University as temporary, the ultimate home destined for it being a contemplated splendid structure on the University grounds at Berkeley, opposite to and balancing the University Library. Here it has always been hoped that the treasures assembled by and through Mrs. Hearst would find a final resting place amid surroundings adequate to their inherent importance.

Of the original corps of investigators and collectors whose work precipitated the institution of the Department, Dr. Jones resigned in 1902. Dr. Emerson's work was completed in 1904. At the end of the same year Dr. Uhle resigned to assume the directorship of the National Museum in Lima. Active explorations in Egypt were concluded in 1906. Two years later the University felt itself able to assume the maintenance of the activities of the Department, which, in recognition of Mrs. Hearst's splendid interest and efforts, it has continued to meet ever since. Her beneficences, however, continued until her death. She provided for the physical maintenance of the building that housed the collections, and for its safeguarding; for the publication of the researches of the Department, especially those in the Egyptian and Graeco-Roman fields; she met many an emergency or rendered provision for development of a new activity; and time and again contributed additional collections formed by herself or brought to her attention. Her final contribution was the bequest of a number of important works of art, many of which had long adorned her home.

From the first, Mrs. Hearst had hoped that her contributions to the Museum would stimulate contributions from other sources. In considerable measure, this expectation has been realized. Some two hundred and fifty gifts have been made to the Museum since its inception by donors other than Mrs. Hearst. These gifts vary from single specimens to important collections. Their considerable aggregate, however, still remains far surpassed by the results of the munificence of Mrs. Hearst, whose name will always remain associated with the Museum and Department as its founder in substance as well as spirit.

All of the aims of the Department as defined at the time of its organization have been prosecuted. University instruction commenced in 1902 with one course of lectures on the North American Indians, attended by three students. The teaching of Anthropology and subjects related to it has grown with the years, until of late there has regularly been offered a complete course of instruction providing for the needs of students ranging from new entrants at the University to post-graduate workers fitting themselves for a professional career. For several years the number of students enrolled in these courses of instruction exceeded a thousand.

The research activities of the Department have gradually become more and more concentrated in the field most proper to a State University: the prehistory, languages, ethnic customs, and types of the natives of California and adjacent regions. Studies in other fields have not been abandoned, but investigations concerned with the home area have been increasingly systematized. As early as 1903 the Advisory Committee, upon the recommendation of Professor Putnam, instituted an Ethnological and Archaeological Survey of California, which correlated the work already accomplished or then in progress. and has served as the basis for the prosecution of studies ever since. These explorations and investigations have been participated in, as the years passed, by an ever growing number of members of the staff, associated collaborators in other institutions, and advanced students within the Department. Prominent among these, besides those already mentioned, have been E. W. Gifford, R. H. Lowie, N. C. Nelson, Paul Radin, T. T. Waterman; all of whom held or hold staff positions.

The results of these studies of Californian anthropology have appeared in a number of organs, but for the greater part have been published in the present series of University of California Publications, which since 1903 have been issued at the average rate of a volume a year. The establishment of this series was also due to the support of Mrs. Hearst.

The present volume, which is the twentieth in the series, has been planned and contributed by members and friends of the Department, and approved and furthered by the University, as a small token of appreciation of the untiring and selfless efforts made by Mrs. Hearst on behalf of a cause which she regarded as one part of her life work.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS VOLUME

Franz Boas was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Department of Anthropology from 1901 until its dissolution in 1902. He lectured in Anthropology in the summer session of 1914, and again in 1922.

Juan Dolores analyzed his native Papago idiom at the University, or under its direction, during several periods between 1911 and 1914, and was Research Fellow in Anthropology in 1918–1919.

Paul-Louis Faye was a graduate student in the Department, beginning in 1916; Teaching Fellow in 1920 and 1922; Associate Curator of the Museum in 1920–1921.

L. S. Freeland was graduate student from 1919, Teaching Fellow in 1920, and Research Fellow in 1920–1921.

Edward Winslow Gifford was Assistant Curator from 1912, and has been Associate Curator and Lecturer since 1915.

Pliny Earle Goddard was Assistant in Anthropology, 1901-1902; Instructor, 1902-1906; Assistant Professor, 1906-1909.

Philip Mills Jones conducted archaeological explorations and made ethnological collections, primarily in California, under engagement by Mrs. Hearst from 1899 to 1902.

A. L. Kroeber was Instructor in Anthropology from 1901 to 1906; Assistant Professor, 1906–1911; Associate Professor, 1911– 1919; has been Professor of Anthropology since 1919, and Curator of the Museum since 1908.

Robert H. Lowie, in 1917–1918, and since 1921, has been Associate Professor of Anthropology.

W. C. McKern was Research Fellow in Anthropology in 1917 and 1919; and Teaching Fellow in 1922.

W. L. Marsden was informally associated with the Department for several years before his death in 1913. His manuscripts were presented to the University by his widow, Mrs. Clara Marsden.

John Alden Mason was University Fellow in 1910–1911, and Research Fellow in Anthropology in 1916–1917. Ruth Earl Merrill was student in Anthropology in 1917-1918.

Gilbert Natches visited the Museum in 1914 to write his native Northern Paiute language.

Edward Sapir was Research Assistant in Anthropology in 1907– 1908 and Lecturer in the summer session of 1915.

Leslie Spier was Associate Curator and Lecturer in 1920.

E. G. Stricklen is Associate Professor of Music.

T. T. Waterman was Museum Assistant in 1907-1908; Instructor in Anthropology, 1910-1913; Assistant Professor, 1913-1918; Associate Professor, 1920-1921.