

Larry Lynch

REPORT ON PACKING OF PHILIPPINES ARTIFACTS
FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
by
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In January 1993, the Chippewa Valley Museum agreed to remove a Philippines collection from 31.5 running feet of glass-fronted display cases in Schneider Hall Room 207 on the UWEC campus. Larry Lynch, archivist, Robert Barth, archeology department chairman, and Johannes Dahle, UWEC Foundation, authorized and provided direction for this project. Haste was in order because the room was already in the process of being remodeled and the collection's welfare was in question. This report describes our steps and gives some commentary on the condition of the collection.

Photos were taken of the cases as they stood (copies are attached) by CVM Technician, Dondi Hayden on 1-27-93. A few artifacts from the above collection were removed to the Museum that day by Diane Schmidt, CVM Senior Curator, and Dondi Hayden under the direction of Dr. Robert Barth.

Subsequently we were issued keys for the cases and provided with the university's existing inventory lists. The rest of the Philippines collection was then removed from the display cases in Schneider 207 to the Museum on 1-29-93. Dr. Roger Mitchell and Dr. Robert Barth were present during some of the packing. It was noted by Dr. Mitchell, who had collected some of the material, that some items were missing and had been for a long time. He estimated they had been removed at the time of a much earlier off-site display and/or T.V. program which occurred when Dr. Mitchell was Department chair. Dr. Mitchell helped identify many of the pieces which were not familiar to us. All keys were returned to Dr. Barth at the end of that day.

Careful inventorying and packing was carried on at Chippewa Valley Museum during the weeks of 2-1-93 to 2-12-93. We presented two options for packing, either "archival quality" acid-free, inert materials or commercial materials. Archival materials protect artifacts in long-term storage but are substantially more expensive. Johannes Dahle decided to forego purchase of acid free packing boxes but did approve the use of some acid free materials for rolling textiles and padding several statues.

During the packing procedure, we removed pressure sensitive tape from artifacts. Such tape causes long lasting harmful effects such as staining and glue reactions. These pressure sensitive identification tags were replaced with identical information on non-damaging string tags. Because our collections do not contain Philipine ethnographic materials, we could not identify all items removed from the glass cases. These unidentified items were tagged with our own description of said item. No attempt was made to remove tape residues.

The carved statues were cushioned with ethafoam, an inert material. Ethafoam was also used as a barrier between these three wooden carved figures of a man, a woman (inggu) and the grain god Bulul.

The textiles and grass woven articles were deeply creased from display folds and previous storage. There is light fading obvious on several pieces because of long term exposure to display and window lighting. These pieces were rolled on mylar covered tubes and interleaved with acid free tissue to cushion and prevent color migration from natural dyes. Textiles were, in most cases, rolled on tubes in multiple layers. They were secured with cotton twill tape. As each tube was finished, it was covered with a portion of cotton blend sheeting to allow textile breathing and adjustment to temperature and humidity variation.

Each packed unit has its own inventory attached. A composite inventory is attached as well.

The packing methods followed currently recommended museum practices. Because the containers and tubes are not acid-free, they do not conform to current standards and should only be considered as suitable for the short-term. Some packed units must be handled very carefully especially the Ifugao hut model. It must remain upright and not loaded heavily from above. Likewise, the numerous baskets and grass woven pieces will not benefit from heavy top loading. The textile tubes would be best stored in a horizontal position.

The current packed condition of this collection cannot prevent further damage from temperature or humidity changes. It will not prevent insect invasion. These conditions need to be controlled in the UWEC storage environment.

Damage that occurred to artifacts because of inappropriate exhibit techniques, such as stretched weaves in textiles from mounting pins, brittleness in woven pieces, or fading from long exposure to light, cannot be corrected easily. More care should be taken to properly mount this collection if it is displayed again. The collection, however, is in generally good condition considering it's long exposure. It is quite clean and no visible infestation is present.

Following directions from Otis Franke of UWEC, the museum staff delivered the packed and inventoried materials to Larry Lynch at the UWEC Library at 3 o'clock on 2-15-93 along with packing inventories.

Inventory as packed at Chippewa Valley Museum
1/29/93 through 2/11/93 - Delivered to UWEC
2/15/93

Box #1

2 spears - Game - "balabog"

warrior - "gayang"

walking stick - "hukui"

Digging bar with wood handle - BoKka

Box #2

wooden spade for Ifugao farmers - "gaud"

decorated bamboo water container - "aluwag"

7

Box #3

x-2 - Bow + Arrow - "Panga"

Bird Net - "Tawang"

Box #4

xiv-8 Bird Trap - "Lingon"

Box #5

carved wooden figure - man } 1 pair "tinggu"

carved wooden figure - woman }

carved wooden granary god - "Bulul"

x-5 Stone Hammer - "Totu, pamalu"

xvii-1 Potters Clay

Box # 6 - ~~Box~~

XIV-6 Large eel trap

Box # 7

XIV-1 - bamboo mouse trap - "Atob"

XIV-3 - Fish trap

XIV-3 - Fish trap

XIV-7 - Bird snare - "Hulu"

~~Box~~ Wooden clapper with beater - "pattung"

XIX-9 - Bamboo knife - killing sacrificial fowl - "Golot"
tattooing needle - "pun batck"

V-19 - head basket - "suklung"

fire piston - "banting" or "hul pakan"

lime container - "tabayag"

VI-13 Bull roar - "Bingngigan"

Box # 8

Ceremonial feathered Headdress - 3 parts

Box # 9 in Larger Box # 15

XX-5 clay pipe

XX-6 brass pipe

Betel nut crusher - 2 parts

polished shell belt - "set ginuttu"

carved wooden tobacco pipe - "binangnga"

2 sets seed beads - "set attae"

cont.

Box #9

silver charm or neck ornament - "bitug an tatak"

1. ~~silver~~ silver winged earring - "hingat"

Jews harp - "bikkung"

Toy Top

Box #10

V-14 Brass Armlet for woman

V-15 Brass Leglet for man

Rice knife

V-20 Boars tooth armlet

woven Envelope purse - 2 parts

Box #11 (in Larger box #15)

V-16 Spinal Necklace

XX-12 Primitive flint + steel (no flint)

Box #12

XX-23 Primitive wood drill

XI-5 Wooden Spindle

liquid dipper "haklung"

double bladed medium large knife - hinalun

Box #13

- XIII-1 Earthen Pot
XIII-3 Bontoc water jar with support
XIII-8 Bontoc 2-compartment shoulder basket
XII-24 Bontoc Rice Basket
Ceremonial Drum "libbit"
Wooden Spoon with curved handle "binnulu"
"bitangngaya" wooden bowl with attached spice dish

Box 14

I fugao House - constructed by Dr. Orry Walz

House

3 people
1 pig
chickens
dog
pots
ladder

Box 15

- Carved wooden pillow or head rest (4 carved oxen
XIII-18 1- large decorated coconut cup
XIII-18.2 1- small scalloped edge coconut cup
XVII-3 100 grams resin for glazing

Box #9

Box #11

Box #16

Bamboo 6in long -with carved wooden stopper & 3 holes

XII-2 Rattan utility Box

XII-12 Rattan Back Basket - "Takba"

Small Basket with 2 spouts & 2 wooden stoppers

Brass Ring Handle - man's Hip Bag

Large knife - with wooden sheath

metal Rod - about 12in long - one end tapered to a point other end flat

Box #17

Rain Hat #33 (no. on item)

Rain Cape

XI-16 Pronged shield - "~~hapiyo~~" "Kalasag" (Bontoc or Kalinga)

Battle Shield - hapiyo

XI-8 Shuttle for belt loom - "Baliga"

Box #18

- Square woven basket 

- ceremonial rice basket with head strap
"balyag"

- Battle or head axe - gaman

VI-11 - 2 decorated bamboo nose flutes - kalelleng

- large photo of woman weaving

Box #19

Woven back basket - with ~~top~~ layers
of grass on back

- photo - 3 men eating + drinking
- photo - 3 men and 1 boy sitting with knife
- photo - Rice fields on mountain sides

Box #20

Dark woven Basket with handle + lid
light woven Basket with handle + lid

Roll #1 F

Binnalit - striped blue + white skirt
condition - color pretty good
deep creases from long
folding

VII-2-2 - Bontoc Decorated skirt

condition - larger one has considerable
over all fading

smaller one is mostly faded
on one end

cont.

VII-5 Kalinga Blanket - "Binittuwon"

condition - Badly faded on one end
due to light exposure

- heavy creases from long term
~~fold~~ folding
- some glue residue from paste
on tagging

Upper class Death Blanket "gamong"

- fabric stretched from long
term pin mounting
- some fading from light
exposure
- heavy creases from long
term folding
- glue residue from tags
in spots

Box # 2 F

- 3 Loin Cloths, or Sashes (unsure)

VII-18 - Bontoc Sash with long tails "Allot"

ROLL ~~2~~ # 3 F

woven bark blouse or jacket

woven bark skirt

woven bark blanket
(?)

UWEC

List of items not found on list or items which might
be on the list but the name is unknown

Ceremonial Head dress - 3 parts - Box #8

Rice knife - Box #10

Carved pillow or head rest - wooden with oxen carved on
sides Box 15

Brass Ring Handle - Mans Hip Bag Box 16

Rain Hat - no. 33 Box 17

Rain Cape - Box 17

Square woven basket 26x26 Box 18

woven BACK BASKET - with layers of grass on back

3 - loin cloth or sashes? Box 2 F

Metal rod 12 in long - one end tapered to a point
other end flattened Box 16

large knife with wooden sheath and woven strap
Box 16

Small Basket - with 2 spouts * with 2 wooden stopper
Box 16

2.

Bamboo 6 in long with carved wooden stopper * 3 hole

Betel nut crusher - 2 parts

Dark woven basket with handle + lid Box 20

Lighter woven basket with handle + lid Box 20

Toy Top - Box 9

Envelope purse - woven 2 parts Box 10

small coconut cup - scalloped rim Box 15

Woven bark skirt

List of items on inventory not found or unknown

- I- bokkan di lapne - sweet potato digging stick
I- binuhlan loin cloth or 6-string
- V-21 ear plug
- VI-4 Brass drum (Ghang)
- VII-8 Bontoc decorated loin cloth - could be I of 3
- VIII-2 Stone adze as charm
- XI-1 Loom with ~~bark~~ bark cloth
- XII-7 Bontoc utility basket } could be in
- XII-5 Bontoc ~~empty~~ green rice basket } Box 20, but
unsure of names
- XIII-2 Earthen water jar with handle
- XIII-4 Water jar with lid - impresses decor
- XVII-2 Clay potters spatula
- XVII-5 New Kalinga pot