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¹⁻¹⁻¹⁹³⁹ Method for Cataloging Pictographs

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Perico Island near Bradenton.⁶ However, it has never been described or figured.⁷ The vessel forms all seem to be bowls with inward slanting lips.

The only other ware found was a few shards of a fugitive red ware. They resemble the Glades Gritty Ware in paste but most of the specimens have a combination shell and sand tempering. This ware is sparsely and widely distributed throughout the state and it is possible the pieces found here were traded in.

Other artifacts found were perforated Arca ponderosa shells such as are common to the area and have been generally supposed to have been tied in bunches and used for net sinkers. Also the typical pick made from *Busycon perversum* is represented in the collection by several examples. An unidentified artifact is a rectangular section of clam shell (*Venus sp.*) with a circular notch on one side.

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A METHOD FOR CATALOGING PICTOGRAPHS Wesley Hurt, Jr.

Reviewing the archaeological literature of North America, the writer was impressed by the fact that in comparison with the publications devoted to the stone artifacts, pottery, and architecture of the Indians, practically nothing has been written about their pictographs. Scattered throughout several publications are a few brief paragraphs describing the pictographs of certain areas, which, however, give little or no information as to the percentages of the various types of their distribution over wider areas. There are, nevertheles, a few publications by Renaud, Stewart, Jackson, and Mallery which give more detailed information about the pictographs in the areas which they studied.

The small amount of intensive work done on the pictographs is probably the result of one of three things: the lack of interest in the subject, the lack of field material for research, or the fact that as yet there is no adequate method of publishing the results of an intensive pictograph survey without the necessity of using a very large number of plates to illustrate the hundreds of pictograph types and their variations.

Although the use of a large number of plates is the ideal method of presenting the material, it is prohibitive, from a practical standpoint, due to the cost of the plates. If it is desirable to have more publications written about pictographs, it is necessary to find other methods by which the material can be adequately presented.

^{6.} Ibid.

^{7.} An exception to this statement is a "feathered" design shard illustrated in a a popular newspaper article by Allan L. Cass, "Indian Finds Cast New Light on Florida," *Miami Daily News*, July 29, 1934.

One method that has been used is an attempt to describe the various pictograph types. However, this method is inadequate for the reason that a large number of pictographs can not be described in a manner that the reader will have a clear picture of them. If all the types were simple forms such as the cross, swastika, and triangle, there would be no difficulty in describing them. In publishing the results of a survey of the southwest, for example, we would be at loss to describe the hundreds of geometric and realistic types of pictographs. Although this system can be used, there is a second method which eliminates several of the objections that the first one has.

In the second method, such as the one described in this paper, an attempt is made to classify the pictographs according to a definite system and then to give names to the various types, which can be used thereafter for all references to these types. By doing this it is no longer necessary to make a drawing or take a paragraph to describe a pictograph type every time it is referred to. This method, however, necessitates the use of a plate to give a clear picture of a pictograph type the first time it is presented to the reader, a step not necessary if the descriptive method is used. If it is possible to have a small number of plates for a publication showing the results of an intensive pictograph survey, this second method can be used to an advantage.

The first step necessary in making an intensive study of pictographs by this method is to sketch in the field as large a number of different types as possible from various sections of the country. These types are then recorded and temporarily catalogued in a notebook which contains the divisions that are shown in the table at the back of this paper. It is only necessary, however, to record and catalog the types that vary from those already entered in the notebook.

The temporary catalog number for the new type is obtained from the symbols that are used to represent the divisions of the notebook that it is to be recorded in. For example, a drawing of a human figure that shows only the facial features in detail is to be cataloged. It would be recorded next to a previously recorded and cataloged human **0** I

figure No. — in the following divisions of the notebook: a 12

- O. Series. This is the division that contains all the human figures. Symbol for this division is O.
- I Subseries. Division that contains the human figures that show details other than the outline of the body and limbs. Symbol is I.
- a Group. The smaller division containing the human figures that show only the facial features added to the outline of the body. Symbol for this group is a.

From the above symbols are obtained the general catalog number

for the type, O I a, which is set up, for convenience, as $\frac{O I}{a}$. It is then

necessary to give the symbol which represents the variation that the new type adds to the *a Group* division of the notebook. In the example given, it would be 13, since the individual variation symbol of the previously cataloged type, a $\frac{O I}{a 12}$, is 12. This symbol is obtained by giving the next highest numerical number above the variation number of the previously recorded type to the new type. The temporary catalog number for the new type would then be $\frac{O I}{a 13}$. After the temporary catalog area to be a symbol is determined by a symbol is determined by a symbol is determined.

After the temporary catalog number has been given to the new type, it is then necessary to record it in the notebook for future reference. The example under discussion would be drawn in the notebook

next to the drawing of the human figure $\frac{O I}{a 12}$ and its temporary

catalog number written below it. The next step is to find the permanent catalog number, which is obtained by the following method. The percentages of the various types of pictographs from each site is obtained. The site at which a certain type is found in the largest percentage is arbitrarily chosen as the type site. As the sites must be given a number if they are to be recorded in any intensive pictograph survey, their numbers can be used as additional catalog numbers for the types that are the predominent ones here. These additional numbers added to the temporary catalog numbers of the predominent types give them their permanent catalog numbers. As certain sites are only arbitrarily chosen as type sites, it makes little difference if other sites are found later to be the real "type sites" for the pictographs that have already been permanently cataloged. The site number is added to the temporary catalog number of a certain type by placing it in front of this number. The permanent catalog number for the human figure drawing being discussed, which we may assume to be found in the largest per-

centage and numbers at site 24, would be 24. Although it may be a 13

desirable to permanently catalog the pictograph types by giving them the numbers of the sites at which they are in reality found in the largest numbers and percentages, this would necessitate the withholding of publications showing the results of small surveys until all the pictograph sites in the New World and possibly the Old World have been surveyed and studied.

After the types have been permanently cataloged, they can be presented to the reader by any of the several methods, all of which are desirable if it is possible to publish them all. All the types that have been permanently cataloged should be published by using plates to illustrate them. If it is not possible to show them all, they can be selected for illustration by plates upon a numerical or percentage basis. That is, only the 10, 25, 50, or 100 most common types are selected for publication. It is only necessary, however, to select types that have not already appeared in publications. Another method is to show the results of a survey by giving charts and tables of the pictograph types according to their percentages and actual numbers. This method has value only if the pictograph types have already been published by illustrations in other publications. A method, that is not meant to take the place of the above methods, is to show by charts and maps the distribution of the various types. It is also possible, in many cases, to give the chronological sequence of the various types by their degree of weathering, the presence of superimposition of drawings, or their association with nearby ruins which can be dated. As the object of this paper is the description of a method of giving catalog numbers to pictograph types to be used in many cases as substitutes for large numbers of plates or lengthy descriptive paragraphs, the methods for charting the pictograph types, or finding their chronological sequence have not been described in detail.

The following table showing the large division of the notebook and the symbols for these divisions is added to this paper to further explain the method of cataloging pictograph types. The smaller divisions are not shown for the reason that these can be better drawn by an actual pictograph survey. In order to make clear where the catalog number for the human figure used an an example was obtained from, the classification for human figures is shown in more detail. The symbols used for the various divisions are shown in parenthesis.

TABLE SHOWING THE MAJOR DIVISIONS OF THE NOTEBOOK

(A)—Animal series

(I)—Simple animals of unknown types showing only the outlines of the body
(II)—Fantastic and very complex animals of unknown types
(III)—Snakes
(IV)—Dogs, wolfs, coyotes, and foxes
(V)—Buffalo
(VI)—Deer
(VI)—Goat
(VIII)—Goat
(VIII)—Sheep
(IX)—Antelope
(X)—Beaver
(XI)—Bear
(XII)—Fish
(XIII)—Turtle
(XIV)—Lizard
(XV)—Introduced type of animals

(a) Pig
(b) Horse
(c) Cow

(B)—Bird series

(I)—Simple executed birds of unknown types

(II)—Complex drawing of birds of unknown types

- (III)—Hawk (IV)—Eagle
- (V)-Duck
- (VÍ)—Crane
- (VII)-Introduced type of birds such as chickens
- (VIII)-Turkey
- (C)-Circle series. Geometric designs based upon the circle or which have the circle as the main design element
- (D)—Cross series. Geometric designs based upon the cross or which have the cross as the main design element
- (E)-Square series. Geometric designs based upon the square or which have the square as the main design element
- (F)-Flower series. Realistic and geometric flower designs
- (G)—Star series. Designs based upon the star
- (H)—Meander series. All designs of the meander type
- (I)—Maze series. All designs based upon the maze
- (J)—Habitation series. Designs showing various types of habitations
- (K)—Tracks, Footprints, and Handprint series
- (L)—Interlocking Scroll and Triangle series
- (M)—Arrow and Other Types of Implement series (N)—Landscape series. Drawing of mountains, lakes, etc.
- (0)—Human Figure series. Drawings of the human figure
 - (I)—Human figures that show details of structure
 - (a) Human figures that show only facial features
 - (b) Human figures showing dress and ornaments
 - (II)—Simple outlines of human figures
 - (a) Human figures in dance groups
 - (b) Single human figures
 - (1) Standing position
 - (2) Running or dancing position
- (P)-Miscellaneous Curvilinear Geometric Figures series
- (Q)—Miscellaneous Linear Geometric series
- (R), (S), (T), (U), (V), (W), (X), (Y), (Z)—series are left open for additional classifications that may be necessary to handle certain pictograph types

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