Mesoamerica


2. Gordon R. Willey; Robert Wauchope. *Archaeology of Southern Mesoamerica, Parts 1 and 2. [Handbook of Middle American Indians, Volumes 2 and 3]*. London: University of Texas Press, 1965. First Edition. Orange cloth boards with black and silver titling on spine. Corners, head and tail of spine mildly rubbed. On Part One, binding beginning to pull away at headband. Part two has tiny ink marks on dust jacket and first free endpaper. From the private library of Larry Southwick, collector's marginalia pencilled near front hinge. Dust jackets price clipped, sunning, some rubbing and showing wear at top and bottom of dust jacket. Brown paper dust jacket, which has offset and toned the end papers on both volumes. Illustrated with photos, table, graphs, drawings and plates. Quarto, 7 1/2 x 11 inches tall. 560; 524 pp. Very good. Original cloth.  (266) $60.00

3. Sarah C. Blaffer; Robert M. Laughlin. *The Black-Man of Zinacantan: A Central American Legend:, including an Analysis of Tales Recorded and Translated by Robert M. Laughlin*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1972. First Edition, First Printing. A fine first edition in a very good plus dust jacket. Brown pictorial cloth boards. Orange endpapers. From the private library of Larry Southwick, collector's marginalia penciled near front hinge. Pages clean and bright. Sunning to dust jacket spine, no other flaws. Dust jacket now protected in a clear, removable, archival cover. Illustrated with black and white photos, drawings and tables. 194 pp. Fine in very good + dust-jacket. Cloth. Sarah Blaffer analyzes the position of anomalies in societies in this study of a norm-offending, yet norm-reinforcing, specter who by his character and actions demonstrates the proper sex roles for Zinacantec men and women. A black, winged, super-sexed demon also figured in ancient Maya mythology. He was the bat deity known in Nahuatl as Tlacatzinacantli—the source of the name Zinacantan. This bat was associated with blood and death and with other sacrificing creatures, the buzzard and the hummingbird.  (240) $35.00


"Sahagún is perhaps best known as the compiler of the Historia general de las cosas de la Nueva España (in English): General History of the Things of New Spain (hereinafter referred to as Historia General). The most famous extant manuscript of the Historia General is the Florentine Codex. It is a codex consisting of 2400 pages organized into twelve books, with approximately 2,500 illustrations drawn by native artists using both native and European techniques. The alphabetic text is bilingual in Spanish and Nahuatl on opposing folios, and the pictorials should be considered a third kind of text. It documents the culture, religious cosmology (worldview), ritual practices, society, economics, and history of the Aztec people, and in Book 12 gives an account of the conquest of Mexico from the Tenochtitlan-Tlatelolco point of view. In the process of putting together the Historia general, Sahagún pioneered new methods for gathering ethnographic information and validating its accuracy. The Historia general has been called "one of the most remarkable accounts of a non-Western culture ever composed," and Sahagún has been called the father of American ethnography." ---wikipedia

Sabin notes that Bustamante may have taken editorial liberties with his 1840 edition. This work is Book XXII in the aforementioned Historia General. (248) $60.00


"Scope: all... except codices and pottery vessels...Thus, inscriptions on jade, shell, bone, wood, stucco, and painted walls are taken to fall within the purview of the Corpus, in addition to those carved in stone, which form the largest category." pg. 1:7 (274) $65.00
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Among other honors, Dr. Sabloff "is a past President of the Society for American Archaeology, a past Chair of Section H (Anthropology) of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and past Editor of American Antiquity. He served as Chair of the Smithsonian Science Commission and currently is a member of the National Advisory Board of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, as well as a member of the Committee on Research and Exploration of the National Geographic Society. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences (elected in 1994) and the American Philosophical Society (elected in 1996), and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected in 1999). Furthermore, he is a Fellow of both the Society of Antiquaries, London, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was the American Anthropological Association's Distinguished Lecturer in 2010 and received the Society for American Archaeology's inaugural Award for Excellence in Latin American and Caribbean Archaeology in 2011, and its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. He also received the Lucy Wharton Drexel Medal from the University of Pennsylvania Museum in 2014." - from author's vitae.


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Sahagún is perhaps best known as the compiler of the Historia general de las cosas de la Nueva España (in English): General History of the Things of New Spain (hereinafter referred to as Historia General). The most famous extant manuscript of the Historia General is the Florentine Codex. [wikipedia]. The Codice Matritense del Real Palacio is the oldest codex of the Historia General.

"...all of the Florentine Codex's 26 deities have their counterparts in the Primeros Memoriales. The Primeros Memoriales represents an earlier stage in Sahagún's work and is closer to native pictorial traditions in that it maintains the primacy of the visual image over the text. The images were drawn before the text was copied and are more true to the Pre-Colombian canon." --- Emily Floyd, Tulane University

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The world’s first team sports were invented in Mexico by the Olmec, circa 1800 B.C. Played with balls made from the indigenous rubber plants, the games shared some aspects of basketball, football and soccer and were a vital part of Mesoamerican society, through the Mayan civilization until the Spanish forbade them in the 16th century. In The Sport of Life and Death: The Mesoamerican Ballgame, editor E. Michael Whittington, curator of pre-Columbian and African art at North Carolina’s Mint Museum, displays 323 photographs (171 in color) of numerous artistic and textual representations of such games, including the Mayan creation myth, the Popol Vuh. Various scholars discuss mythic games between humans and gods, the human sacrifices that followed certain games, the ball court of Aztec capital Tenochtitlan now buried under Mexico City and other fascinating details about the Mesoamerican jock set. --- Publishers Weekly (272) $30.00
