RECONSIDERING THE CHAVÍN PHENOMENON IN THE 21ST CENTURY
A Symposium at Dumbarton Oaks, Washington, D.C.
October 5-6, 2018

Friday, October 5, 2018

8:45 a.m.   Coffee

9:15 a.m.   Welcome and Introduction
            Colin McEwan, Dumbarton Oaks
            Richard Burger, Yale University
            Jason Nesbitt, Tulane University

Session I: The Chavín Heartland
Moderator: Colin McEwan, Dumbarton Oaks

9:45 a.m.   John Rick, Stanford University
            Chavín de Huántar: Exploring the Galleries and their Importance

10:30 a.m.  Matthew Sayre, High Point University
            Settlement Archaeology and Socioeconomic Organization in the La Banda Sector of
            Chavín de Huántar

11:15 a.m.  Coffee

11:45 a.m.  Jason Nesbitt, Tulane University
            Archaeological Investigations of the Chavin Heartland: New Perspectives
            From Canchas Uckro

12:30 p.m.  Lunch/Speakers’ Photograph

Session II. The Chavín Phenomenon in the Central and Northern Peruvian Highlands and
Ceja de Selva
Moderator: Tamara Bray, Wayne State University

2:00 p.m.   Rebecca Bria, University of Minnesota
            Old Temples, New Substances: Emplacing and Replacing Chavín at Hualcayán, a
            Community Temple in Peru’s North-Central Highlands

2:45 p.m.   Yuji Seki, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka
            Establishment of Power in the Formative Period of the North Highlands of Peru

3:30 p.m.   Coffee

4:00 p.m.   Ryan Clasby, Skidmore College
            From Jaguars to Harpy Eagles: Re-evaluating the Chavín Phenomenon and its
            Relationship with the Tropical Forest

4:45 p.m.   Michelle Young, Yale University
            Horizon, interaction sphere, cult? A View of the “Chavín Phenomenon” from
            Huancavelica

5:30 p.m.   Reception
Saturday, October 6, 2018

9:00 a.m. Coffee

Session III. The Chavín Phenomenon and the South Coast and Highlands
Moderator: John Verano, Tulane University

9:30 a.m. Yuichi Matsumoto, Yamagata University
Campanayuq Rumi and the Southern Periphery of the Chavín Phenomenon

10:15 a.m. Jalh Dulanto, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima
The Chavín Sphere of Interaction and the South Coast of Peru: Maritime Communities, Long Distance Exchange Networks, and Prestige Economies during the Early Horizon in the Central Andes

11:00 a.m. Coffee

11:30 a.m. Lisa DeLeonardis, Johns Hopkins University
From the Inside Looking Out: Paracas Perspectives on Chavín

12:15 p.m. Lunch

Session IV. Resistance and Alternative Developments on the Central and North Coast
Moderator: Patricia McAnany, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

1:30 p.m. Richard Burger and Lucy Salazar, Yale University
Transformations and Continuities along the Central Coast during the 1st Millennium BC and the Impact of the Chavín Phenomenon

2:15 p.m. Ivan Ghezzi, Museo Nacional de Arqueología Antropología e Historia, Lima
Reconsidering the Casma Valley’s Changing Relationship to the Chavín Phenomenon during the First Millennium BC

3:00 p.m. Coffee

3:30 p.m. David Chicoine, Louisiana State University
Hugo Ikehara, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago
Koichiro Shibata, Hosei University
Beyond Chavín: The First Millennium BCE in Nepeña

4:15 p.m. Christopher Pool, University of Kentucky
Discussant
ABSTRACTS

Rebecca Bria, University of Minnesota

*Old Temples, New Substances: Emplacing and Replacing Chavín at Hualcayán, a Community Temple in Peru’s North-Central Highlands*

This paper provides evidence and a theoretical orientation for understanding the impact of Chavin on a longstanding religious community located in Hualcayán (Ancash, Peru), and the social consequences of the interweaving of Chavin ritual practices and concretized local traditions. Data from Hualcayán shed new light on this seemingly contradictory set of social transformations by revealing the influence of Chavin at a temple and community occupied for 1500 years before the Early Horizon. These data show that the community adopted Chavin (Janabarriu-related) ceramic styles and converted their modest temple into a Chavin-affiliated platform complex. But excavations also reveal how local people responded to the end of Chavin authority by partially destroying and then rebuilding this temple. New materials, especially Huarás pottery, appear to be essential to these acts of recommissioning. Focusing on the spatial distribution and contexts of these materials in the rooms and recesses of Hualcayán’s Chavin spaces, I argue that the process of reconstruction not only generated new sets of locally-oriented meanings and values, but also transformed the temple’s physical substance from the inside out. Moreover, the subsequent return to repetitive building practices reveals potential tensions between long-standing local ritual traditions, such as the cyclical practices of temple building in the North-Central highlands, and the emplaced rituals of Chavin, which emphasized permanence and absolute authority.

Rebecca E. Bria received her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 2017 and is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. She is the founding director and principal investigator of the Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológico Regional Ancash (PIARA; piaraperu.org), a research and community outreach project that has focused on the province of Huaylas, Ancash, Peru since 2009. Her research is primarily centered on understanding processes of long-term community transformation, which she has investigated at the site of Hualcayán. While concerned with long-term change, much of her work has concentrated on understanding the evolving social landscape of highland Ancash between the Chavin (900-500 BC), Huarás (400 BC-AD 100), and Recuay (AD 100-700) cultural phases, which shaped a pivotal transition in the Pre-Columbian Andes.
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Richard Burger and Lucy Salazar, Yale University

Transformations and Continuities along the Central Coast during the 1st Millennium BC and the Impact of the Chavín Phenomenon

Ancón, an ancient fishing village between the Rimac and Chillon Valleys, was one of the archeological sites presented as Chavin colonies in Rebeca Carrion Cachot’s historic defense of Tello’s concept of Chavin as the civilizational matrix out of which early Central Andean civilization developed. Similarly, Alfred Kreober and Gordon Willey viewed Ancon as a lynchpin in their reformulations of the Chavin concept. Despite these early assertions, the central coast has not figured prominently in more recent discussions of the Chavin phenomenon. To the contrary, many of the archeological remains once interpreted as providing evidence of a strong Chavin presence in this area have now been reinterpreted as belonging to the Initial Period Manchay Culture, rather than reflecting Chavin cultural influence or impact. This paper will provide a synthesis of the cultural developments along the central coast during the Initial Period and Early Horizon. Based on the available evidence, it will argue that the cultural transformations that characterized the area during the Early Horizon were entangled with the religious and economic forces associated with the preeminent highland oracular center at Chavin de Huantar. At the same time, the area developed significant relations with other cultural spheres, most notably that of Paracas on the south coast. The apparent decline of monumental public construction on the Central Coast during Early Horizon and the emergence of cultural patterns distinct from both Manchay and Chavin elements highlights the complex responses and uneven cultural developments that characterized the Central Andes during the first millennium BC.

Richard L. Burger received his BA in Archaeology from Yale College and his PhD in Anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley. After several years excavating in highland Peru, he returned to Yale and he is currently the Charles J. MacCurdy Professor of Anthropology and Curator of South American Archaeology at the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale. Burger has directed excavations at Chavin de Huantar and Huaricoto in the highlands, and at Initial Period sites along the central coast of Peru. He also has pioneered the study of obsidian and cinnabar sourcing and exchange in the Central Andes. Along with Lucy Salazar, he organized Machu Picchu: Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas, a major traveling exhibit that was shown in seven venues in 2003 and 2004. Burger served as the Director of Yale’s Peabody Museum from 1995 to 2002 and is currently President of the Institute of Andean Research. He has written and edited numerous books and articles on Andean archaeology including Chavin and The Origins of Andean Civilization (1992), Emergencia de la Civilizacion en los Andes: Ensayos de Interpretación (1993), Excavaciones en Chavin de Huantar (1998), and Arqueologia del Formativo en la Cuenca Baja del Valle de Lurin (edited with K. Makowski, 2009).
Lucy C. Salazar received her bachelor’s degree in Archaeology from the University of San Marcos in Lima, Peru and carried out graduate studies at Yale University, writing her Master’s thesis on the ceramics from the Machu Picchu burial caves. Salazar has extensive field experience in Peru including excavations at Initial Period and Early Horizon sites such as Curayacu and Bandurria on the coast and Pacopampa, Huaricoto and Chavín de Huantar in the highlands. More recently, she has acted as Co-Director in the excavation of Initial Period sites in the Lurin Valley including Cardal, Mina Perdida and Manchay Bajo. She has a strong interest in museums and has been on the staff of the San Marcos University Museum of Archaeology and the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale. In 2003, she was the Co-Curator of the block-buster traveling exhibit Machu Picchu: Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas and in 2011 she played a central role in the design and installation of the Museo Machu Picchu in Cuzco. She has numerous edited books and articles on early Andean civilization, Prehispanic Peruvian textiles, cultural heritage and Inca culture. Her most recent book is a volume edited with Anne Underhill entitled Finding Solutions for Protecting and Sharing Archaeological Heritage Resources (2016). Salazar was awarded the Tumi USA Award in 2015 for Outstanding Contributions by Peruvians in the United States.
Beyond Chavín: The First Millennium BCE in Nepeña

Since the discovery of spectacular architectural sculptures at Punkurí and Cerro Blanco in the first decades of the 20th century, the Nepeña Valley has occupied a special place in Chavín-related studies and broader narratives about the first millennium BCE in Peru. At the center of many discussions are the stylistic affinities between the Nepeña monuments and developments at Chavín, Cupisnique, Sechín, and Manchay, and their relative chronological positions. Sustained scientific excavations at several archaeological sites in Nepeña since 2002 have produced firmer chronological control over local occupational sequences, as well as significant numbers of radiometric measurements. Perhaps more importantly, new holistic architectural, material, botanical, and zoological analyses, as well as innovative interdisciplinary efforts now permit to complement public monuments, ritual paraphernalia, and their related imageries. New data and perspectives combined with cultural historical refinements help to reveal the complexity and heterogeneity of local economic, social and political landscapes and their longitudinal transformations. This chapter is a synthesis of recent archaeological finds from the Nepeña Valley with the objective of reconsidering the multiple and diverse ways that local groups engaged economically, socially, politically, and ideologically with broader regional phenomena including Chavín during the first millennium BCE. A database of 63 radiocarbon measurements from this time range help us to explore the complex and changing aspects of key datasets including public monuments, mural art, material culture and faunal and botanical remains. We use those as proxies for tracking economic transformations, changes in social arrangements, shifts in leadership strategies, and ideological alterations in northern Peru during the first millennium BCE.

David Chicoine is an anthropological archaeologist who specializes on the development of complex societies in the Americas. He holds a PhD from the Sainsbury Research Unit for the Arts of Africa, Oceania & the Americas at the University of East Anglia. After a post-doctoral fellowship in the Department of Archaeology at Simon Fraser University, he joined the faculty at Louisiana State University where he is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Anthropology. Chicoine’s research intersects various fields and lines of evidence in order to document the complex and relational aspects of ancient Andean societies. Since 2003, he’s directed interdisciplinary archaeological fieldwork in Nepeña, a small valley of the Department of Ancash on the north-central coast of Peru. Chicoine’s collaborations and publications have explored various interrelated dimensions of Early Horizon societies in Nepeña including architecture (Journal of Field Archaeology, 2006), chronology (Boletín de Arqueología PUCP, 2010), feasting (Journal of Anthropological Archaeology, 2011), ritual performance (Ñawpa Pacha: Journal of Andean Archaeology, 2012; Antiquity, 2013), maritime economies (Andean Past, 2012; Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology, 2013), urbanism (Journal of Field Archaeology, 2014) camelid management (Environmental Archaeology: The Journal of Human Paleoeconomy, 2016), and plaza settings (Americae: European Journal of Americanist Archaeology, 2018).
Hugo Ikehara is an anthropological archaeologist who specializes in the development and dynamics of early complex societies in the Americas. He holds a MA and a PhD from the Department of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh, and he is currently an Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the Institute of Sociology at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago. His research focuses on several topics related to the formation of complex organizations such as cooperation and warfare (*World Archaeology*, 2016; *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*, in press), foodways and feasting (*Boletín de Arqueología PUCP*, 2008; *Latin American Antiquity*, 2013), and architecture (*Boletín de Arqueología PUCP*, 2010; *Ñawpa Pacha*, in press). He is currently co-editing a comparative book on landscapes of warfare while his new research in the coastal valley of Nepeña (Ancash, Peru) is a multidisciplinary effort to study the transformation of landscapes from earlier to contemporary times.

Koichiro Shibata is an archaeologist specializing on the Andean Formative Period. He holds a MA and a PhD from the Department of Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies at the University of Tokyo. After a post-doctoral fellowship at the Yamagata University and an affiliated research position at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, he joined the faculty at the Kobe City University of Foreign Studies and then at the Hosei University where is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Economics. He has directed archaeological projects in the lower Nepeña valley since 2002, focusing on topics around interregional interaction and the Chavín phenomenon (*Boletín de Arqueología PUCP*, 2010), chronology (*Andes*, 2011), factional competition (*Senri Ethnological Studies*, 2014), and architecture and cosmology (*Indiana*, 2017).
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Ryan Clasby, Skidmore College

*From Jaguars to Harpy Eagles: Re-Evaluating the Chavín Phenomenon and its Relationship with the Tropical Forest*

Efforts to evaluate the Chavin Phenomenon has long been beset by questions concerning the tropical forest and its influence on early Andean cultural developments. The prevalence of eastern lowland imagery in the art and iconography of Chavin led scholars early on to consider the idea that Chavin culture may have had its roots in the tropical forest whether through the result of direct migration or via interaction with neighboring *ceja de selva* and Amazonian lowland societies. Indeed, a central theme of the first Chavín symposium at Dumbarton Oaks in 1968 was the meaning and symbolism of Chavín art and its possible derivation from Initial Period interaction spheres. Unfortunately, a lack of investigation within the tropical forest and the paucity of identifiable tropical forest products at early coastal and highland Andean sites made it difficult to fully assess the role of the region within the broader context of the Chavín Phenomenon. Now, 50 years after the original Chavín symposium, renewed interest in tropical forest archaeology and advances in scientific techniques have provided insights into the type of Formative Period societies that developed in the *ceja de selva* and western Amazonian lowlands. Through an examination of these data, this paper will reassess the position of the tropical forest within the processes that culminated in the Chavín Phenomenon.

**Ryan Clasby** is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Skidmore College. He has recently taught at Central Washington University and was a Fellow in Pre-Columbian Studies at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection in Washington D.C. He received his PhD in Anthropology from Yale University in 2014 specializing in Andean and Amazonian archaeology. Since 2007, Clasby has conducted archaeological research in the Jaén region of the northeastern Peruvian Andes and the lower Marañon focusing on the sociopolitical developments of the *ceja de selva* and their relationship to the rise of Andean civilization.
From the Inside Looking Out: Paracas Perspectives on Chavín

One of the issues that continues to intrigue scholars of Andean history is the nature of interaction between the Chavín and Paracas peoples. Questions about the relationship speak to larger concerns about how complex ideology is transmitted, received, and materially manifested by its intended audiences. Current research indicates a broader geographical and social sphere of interaction than previously known and prompts reassessment about how ideological boundaries are established and maintained.

My research situates these concerns in the context of Paracas visual culture. As active participants in the exchange of ideas and materials, acquisition of the exotic – feathers, pigments, stone, shell – was fundamental to their cultural practices. The circulation of materials is equally evident within the Paracas interaction sphere, the proposed heartland that encompasses seven river valleys and adjacent areas of the south-central coast. Social relations forged in this interregional group are manifest in a constellation of related styles that collectively define the Paracas tradition.

In this paper, I offer insight into how the Paracas culture interpreted and translated Chavín imagery and its attendant ideas, and created a unique visual culture that endured for nearly a millennium. I approach related questions of transmission, reception, and materialization through the lenses of iconographic, technical, and contextual analyses. My analysis draws from portable and public art for points of comparison, with particular attention to figural sculpture. These comparisons reveal the liminal boundaries where Chavín and Paracas ideas intersect as well as diverge. In my analysis, I demonstrate how Paracas leaders engaged with the “outside,” at once materializing the presence of distant peoples and places while establishing social valuables distinct from their neighbors.

Lisa DeLeonardis is the Austen-Stokes Professor in Art of the Ancient Americas at Johns Hopkins University. Her research on the Paracas has addressed questions about visual culture, ancestor veneration, and mortuary practices. DeLeonardis’ work has appeared in a number of articles and edited volumes including Andean Archaeology (Silverman, ed., 2004), The Construction of Value in the Ancient World (Papadopoulos and Urton, eds., 2012), and Making Value, Making Meaning: Techné in the Pre-Columbian World (Costin, ed., 2016). She is concurrently completing manuscripts on Paracas sculptural design and the architectural and social history of Santa Cruz de Lancha. She is the recent recipient of the Charles K. Williams II Rome Prize fellowship in Historic Preservation and Conservation at the American Academy in Rome.
The period between the 10th and 5th century BC is critical in the Pre-Hispanic history of the Central Andes. During this time, Central Andean populations experienced important political and economic changes—in particular, the emergence of powerful elites and the consolidation of “prestige economies” in which long-distance exchange networks of exotic goods seem to have played a key role. Finds along and across the Central Andes suggest that during this period such exchange networks expanded and intensified, connecting populations within a large area (from Lambayeque and Cajamarca to the north, to Ica and Ayacucho to the south), and moving an increasing volume and diversity of both raw materials and manufactured goods.

Recent research in the south coast of Peru sheds light on the organizational characteristics and historical trajectories of those networks. In this paper I will present the results of three fieldwork seasons in Puerto Nuevo, a fishing village located in a rather marginal desert area between the Pisco and Ica valleys, and will explore the role that maritime communities of the Peruvian coast might have played in the long-distance exchange or exotic goods during the Early Horizon.

Jalh Dulanto is a Professor of Archaeology and Chair of the Archaeology Program at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. His most recent research focuses on the maritime communities and long-distance exchange networks of the first millennium BC in the Central Andes. He is the author of several articles, and the editor of several volumes, on Andean archaeology and ethnohistory. He has been a visiting professor at Colgate University (2008), Rollins College (2008-2010), and DePauw University (2010-2011) in the United States, as well as at University of Lund in Sweden (2015) and L’École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and the University of Paris IV – La Sorbonne in France (2015-2017). Since 2010 he has served as the director of the Paracas Archaeological Program in the South Coast of Peru and since 2014 he has been a member of the Grupo de Investigaciones de Materiales de Patrimonio Cultural de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.
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Ivan Ghezzi, Museo Nacional de Arqueología Antropología e Historia, Lima

Reconsidering the Casma Valley's Changing Relationship to the Chavín Phenomenon during the First Millennium BC

This paper presents an updated understanding of the Chavin phenomenon from the perspective of Casma. Since the discovery of the temple at Cerro Sechín by Tello, this small coastal valley has played an important role in the interpretation of Chavin. Views on this subject have evolved from the identification of coastal “colonies” to the recognition that the late Initial period and Early Horizon centers in Casma are contemporary with Chavin de Huántar at the time of its development, apogee and decline. The relationship to the Chavin heartland was diverse: some of these sites participated in the pan-regional exchange of exotic goods, while others did not buy into Chavin’s religious ideology, network of social relations, and overall influence. Thus, the nature of the relationship between first millennium BC societies in Casma and Chavin de Huántar illuminates the sociocultural and religious diversity that underwrites the development of a sphere of interaction spanning parts of the coast, highlands, and adjacent tropical forest in the Central Andean region.

Ivan Ghezzi is Director of the National Museum of Archaeology, Anthropology and History of Peru (MNAAH). He has carried out research throughout coastal Peru and his interests include the study of ancient complex societies, prehistoric warfare, ancient architecture, cultural astronomy, dating methods (especially radiocarbon and dendrochronology). He has published papers in international journals, such as Science, and chapters in academic and non-academic books. Currently, he leads efforts to support the study, conservation, and revalorization of the Chankillo, presently under consideration as a World Heritage site. At the MNAAH, he is overseeing a recovery that has led to the opening and/or renovation of exhibits and a strong increase in visitor numbers and research projects.
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Yuichi Matsumoto, Yamagata University, Japan

Campanayuq Rumi and the Southern Periphery of the Chavín Phenomenon

The importance of the Peruvian south-central highlands in the context of the Chavin Phenomenon has been recognized mainly as a provider of important resources, such as cinnabar and obsidian, which were widely distributed in the central Andes during the Early Horizon. However, the nature of its role in such long-distance exchange has not been well understood due to the scarcity of appropriate data from the region. Our excavations at Campanayuq Rumi and a recent survey of the Ayacucho region provide a new data set to examine this theme from a diachronic perspective. The main objective of our paper is to describe the historical process of interregional interactions between the northern centers of the Chavin interaction sphere and those located in its southern periphery or frontier. This process will be considered by focusing on the changing relationships between religious beliefs and long-distance exchange. We discuss the way in which the foreign religious ideology of Chavin de Huántar was integrated into Campanayuq Rumi through the negotiations with local beliefs and the way in which this process was linked to the expansion of the pan-Andean interaction sphere during the Early Horizon.

Yuichi Matsumoto obtained his BA and MA at the University of Tokyo and his PhD from Yale University in 2010, and is currently an Associate Professor in the faculty of Literature and Social Sciences at Yamagata University, Japan. His PhD research explored the periphery of Chavin interaction sphere during the Initial Period and Early Horizon by focusing on the ceremonial center of Campanayuq Rumi. Matsumoto’s research interests include the development of complex societies, emergence of monuments, interregional interactions in the ancient Andes. Currently he is conducting archaeological project in the Peruvian south-central highlands for the purpose of understanding the emergence, growth and collapse of the Chavin Phenomenon from its periphery.
Decades of archaeological research at Chavín de Huántar have demonstrated the complexity of this important ceremonial and urban center. While a great deal of attention has been paid to Chavin de Huántar’s monumental core, as well as its residential occupation, less research has been devoted to the settlements that make up the Chavin heartland. Archaeological survey along the Mosna, Puccha, and Huaritambo Rivers has documented a vast landscape of small-scale sites that were contemporary with Chavin de Huántar. However, until recently few of these sites have been subjected to detailed research. This paper presents the results of recent archaeological investigations of Canchas Uckro, a site located above the Puccha River approximately 25 km to the north of Chavin de Huántar. Canchas Uckro is significant because it dates to the late second and early first millennia B.C., and therefore provides insight into the period in which Chavin de Huántar was coalescing as a major center. While Canchas Uckro is much smaller than Chavin de Huántar, the architecture exhibit features that suggest strong connections between the two sites. Furthermore, analysis of the material culture of the site indicates that Canchas Uckro was not only closely interacting with Chavin de Huántar, but also some of the archaeological cultures that inhabited parts of the Upper Amazon. The abandonment of Canchas Uckro occurs just after 800 B.C. and corresponds to a time of settlement growth at Chavin de Huántar and expansion of highland interaction spheres. This paper concludes with a discussion of the implications of the research at Canchas Uckro for understanding the social, religious and economic conditions underlying the formation of Chavin de Huántar.

Jason Nesbitt is an anthropological archaeologist specializing in the emergence of complex societies in the Central Andes. He is currently an Assistant Professor at Tulane University. Before receiving his Ph.D. from Yale University, he completed his BA in Archaeology from Simon Frazier University and his Masters in Anthropology from Trent University. His MA thesis was focused on Cerro Ichhal, a late prehistoric oracular center in Huamachuco. For his Ph.D. research, he shifted his focus to the famous Initial Period/Early Horizon center of Caballo Muerto in the Moche Valley, where he carried out extensive excavations at Huaca Cortada and other Cupisnique mounds. More recently, he has concentrated on research in the Callejón de Conchucos in the northern highlands and the south-central highlands near Vilcashuaman. Nesbitt has broad interests spanning from archaeometry to the archaeology of religion. He has published numerous articles including a 2016 Antiquity article entitled “El Niño and Second Millennium B.C. Monumental Building at Huaca Cortada (Moche Valley, Peru)”.

Jason Nesbitt, Tulane University

Archaeological Investigations of the Chavin Heartland: New Perspectives
From Canchas Uckro
Christopher Pool, University of Kentucky

Discussion

Christopher Pool is an archaeologist whose research focuses primarily on the evolution of complex societies in the tropical lowlands of southern Veracruz, Mexico, including the Olmecs and their Epi-Olmec and Classic-period successors. He studies the interactions among environment, economy, ideology, and political practice at scales ranging from the individual household to supraregional political economies. In pursuing his research, he draws on an interdisciplinary training in anthropology, geology, and geochemical characterization to understand patterns of resource exploitation and exchange within their social and cultural contexts. His research attempts to move the archaeological investigation of culture change toward approaches that address variability within and between ancient cultures and away from typological approaches that obscure variability within cultural types and present culture change as a sequence of steady states. The analysis of variability provides a more accurate characterization of cultural systems and allows more sophisticated analysis of dynamic change. Beginning in 1983, he has investigated ceramic production and exchange at the Classic period site of Matacapan, and household organization at the Late and Terminal Formative site of Bezuapan and directed survey and excavations at Tres Zapotes. He is currently Professor of Anthropology at the University of Kentucky.
Among the numerous important features of the Middle/Late Formative monumental site of Chavín de Huantar, the quantity and extension of galleries are perhaps the most distinctive. To date approximately 35 galleries are known, consisting of stone-lined tunnel systems embedded in structures such as plazas, terraces, atria, and major platform mounds – but notably never in truly subterranean contexts. Most galleries known prior to 2000 were unfortunately cleaned of their contents in the remote historic past. Lumbreras’ excavation of the Gallery of the Offerings in the 1960’s and 1970’s substantially amplified the database with its extensive, in-situ contents that illustrate one particular use mode – seemingly the placement of huge offerings meant to remain in the space indefinitely. Since 2001, complete or partial excavations of seven galleries, some previously unknown, have yielded new materials, locational information, inferred use and dating that greatly expands our knowledge of the galleries. Gallery contents were extremely varied and at times were apparently intentionally complementary – in effect providing maps of Chavin’s organization of ritual activity and paraphernalia. Similarly, it is now clear that gallery layouts were meant to signify the diversity of their use, and their distributions in both vertical and horizontal space were carefully planned. Furthermore, the repeated use of modular vertical growth increments in Chavin buildings, plazas, and terraces is suspiciously close to the 2.5 m necessary to allow new layers of galleries, suggesting that galleries were a major determining factor for overall Chavin architectural growth. Thus, the large number of Chavin galleries, along with their complex organization and contents suggest that Chavin de Huantar developed a highly distinct site style and strategy.

John W. Rick is Associate Professor of Anthropology, former Chair of the Department of Anthropological Sciences at Stanford University and past Director of Stanford’s Archaeology Center. He earned his B.A. (Anthropology) from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His teaching concentrates on South American archaeology, the beginnings of sociopolitical complexity, hunter-gatherers, stone tools, and digital methodologies in archaeology. For the last 26 years he has directed a large fieldwork program at Chavin de Huántar, a World Heritage site. His interests there concentrate on understanding how early religious cults strategized the beginnings of political authority in the Andes.
Matthew Sayre, High Point University, North Carolina

Settlement Archaeology and Socioeconomic Organization in the La Banda Sector of Chavín de Huántar

The monumental site of Chavín de Huántar, in the Central Peruvian Andes, has now been the subject of archaeological investigation for nearly a century. The majority of the excavations have focused on the monumental sector of the site although there has been some limited work conducted outside of this sector. The domestic sector of La Banda, located across the Mosna River from the monumental sector, offers the best opportunity to analyze contiguous domestic space from the Chavín time period. Research in this sector has focused on analyzing local production practices as well as the nature of exchange with outside regions and sites. Research to date has revealed a local production economy alongside substantial evidence for the exchange of prestige goods (whale bone, obsidian, cinnabar, shell, etc.). This emphasis on the trade of lightweight prestige goods with limited evidence for the trade of bulk commodities enables us to research conclusions about the extent of coercive political power that residents of Chavín may have employed or had access to. In addition, there are fascinating correlates between the materials recovered in the La Banda sector and the iconography in the monumental sector. Just as no site exists in isolation, it is also important to consider that no sector of a site exists in isolation. This paper will analyze connection between the La Banda sector and the monumental sector of Chavín as well as the relationships that existed between the broader site of Chavin and other contemporary sites.

Matt Sayre is an archaeologist who has conducted his primary fieldwork work at the site of Chavin de Huántar in the Peruvian Andes. He completed his M.A. and Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley and his B.A. in Latin American Studies and Anthropology at the University of Chicago. He is currently Associate Professor of Anthropology, and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, at High Point University in North Carolina. He was previously Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of South Dakota. Prior to that he was a Post-doctoral Fellow at Stanford University with a teaching focus on heritage issues. Dr. Sayre's work has been published in Anthropological and Archaeological Sciences, Andean Past, Ñawpa Pacha, Culture, Agriculture, Food and the Environment, and Latin American Antiquity. His book, Social Perspectives on Ancient Lives from Paleoethnobotanical Data, co-edited with Maria Bruno, was published in 2017.
Yuji Seki, National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka

Establishment of Power in the Formative Period of the North Highlands of Peru

Recent research on the large ceremonial centers of the Formative period—such as Kuntur Wasi and Pacopampa—in the north highlands of Peru has revealed clear evidence of the emergence of social leaders in the Late Formative period (800-500 BC). Previously, the emergence of a leader and social differentiation had been interpreted as the result of cultural or religious diffusion of the Chavin culture or cult. However, our studies and those of other archaeologists suggest that the basis of power of leaders and the process of the social differentiation vary from region to region. They should not be understood as a result of one-sided influence from an original center.

Nowadays many researchers emphasize not only the political and cultural independence of each ceremonial center, but also the establishment of a coalition—weak or strong—between ceremonial centers often using the model of “peer polities”. It is certain that the interaction between ceremonial centers grew drastically during the Late Formative period through the trade of precious materials such as obsidian and cinnabar. However, this discussion frequently ignores the relationship with earlier societies of the Middle Formative period.

Here, I will present the relationships with a previous society of the Middle Formative period, as well as the regional contexts of the establishment of power in Kuntur Wasi and Pacopampa, including evidences of interaction with other contemporaneous centers, to understand the formation of power in the Formative period societies.

Yuji Seki is an archaeologist and anthropologist, and is currently Professor and General Deputy Director of the National Museum of Ethnology, Japan. He is also President of the Japanese Society of Studies on Ancient America and Vice-president of the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage. He has carried out excavations at several monumental sites including Huacaloma, Layzón, Kuntur Wasi and Pacopampa in the North Highlands of Peru since 1979 as a member of the Japanese Archaeological Team and as director of a Japanese-Peruvian archaeological project to study the formation of Andean Civilization. At the same time, he has been working on the problems of conservation and social use of cultural heritage. He published or edited several books about the Formative Period such as El Centro Ceremonial Andino (2014). He has been awarded the Meritorious Person of Peruvian Culture by the Ministry of Culture of Peru (2015-Perú) and the Commendation of the Foreign Minister of Japan (2016).
RECONSIDERING THE CHAVÍN PHENOMENON IN THE 21ST CENTURY
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Michelle Young, Yale University

Horizon, Interaction Sphere, Cult? A view of the “Chavin phenomenon” from Huancavelica

This paper will explore the “Chavin phenomenon” as it was enacted and experienced by people living far from the Chavin heartland, in the south-central Peruvian highlands of Huancavelica. It presents new findings from the late Initial period (1000-800 B.C.) and Early Horizon (800-450 B.C.) occupation of the regional ceremonial center of Atalla and other coeval residential sites in the region. These contribute to a more holistic and nuanced understanding of the long-distance and regional exchange networks, ritual practice, and stylistic emulation that constitute the Chavin sphere of interaction. A review of the production, acquisition and exchange of a variety of materials from Atalla, including cinnabar, a highly valued vermillion pigment that was exported from Huancavelica, Chavin International style ceramics, produced alongside local styles, and obsidian, imported from the Quispisisa source in Ayacucho, will reveal temporal and spatial patterns that allow us to contextualize Huancavelica’s role within the greater Andean region. Evidence of Chavin-related material culture and ritual practice illuminate the ways in which foreign ideas articulated with local traditions and were differentially adopted, modified, and rejected by Atalla residents. This paper provides a valuable bottom-up perspective of the “Chavin phenomenon” from the Huancavelica region, adding to a growing body of evidence from the south-central highlands.

Michelle E. Young is a Ph.D. candidate at Yale University in the Department of Anthropology. She received her B.A. from the University of Virginia in both the History of Art and Anthropology and an M.Phil. in Anthropology from Yale University. She has conducted archaeological field and lab work in the United States, Belize, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Madagascar and has held internships at the Museo Larco in Lima, Peru, and at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC. She is the director of the Pre-Columbian Pigments Project, a collections-based research project in collaboration with the Yale University Art Gallery and the Peabody Museum. Since 2014 she has directed the Proyecto de Investigación Arqueológica Atalla, carrying out mapping, survey, excavation, sample collection, and laboratory analyses of archaeological materials alongside a program of community outreach and education. Her dissertation project investigates the archaeological site of Atalla, located in the highlands of Huancavelca, Peru, and its relationship to the Chavin sphere of interaction during the first half of the 1st millennium B.C.