

POLISH ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY – INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

**POLISH CONTRIBUTIONS
IN NEW WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

New Series, fasc. 2

Edited by

Janusz K. Kozłowski
and Jarosław Żrałka

Kraków 2010

Photo on the cover:
A section of Inca road in Oyón Region (Peru) showing stairway. Photo by Andrzej Krzanowski.

Redaktor tomu
Jarosław Brzoskowski

© Copyright by:
Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences
Jagiellonian University – Institute of Archaeology

Skład nakładu:
PAU, Kraków, ul. Sławkowska 17
UJ, Instytut Archeologii, Kraków, ul. Gołębia 11

ISBN 978-83-7676-063-6

Polska Akademia Umiejętności
Kraków 2010

Obj.: ark. wyd. 10,50; ark. druk. 9,00; nakład 500 egz.

Oficyna Wydawniczo-Drukarska „Secesja”
Kraków, ul. Sławkowska 17

CONTENTS

- 7 Investigaciones en Nakum, Petén, Guatemala: resultados de las excavaciones realizadas por el Proyecto Arqueológico Nakum en los años 2008 y 2009
Wiesław Koszkuł, Jarosław Żralka, Bernard Hermes y Boris Aguilar
- 35 Round structures in Pre-Columbian Maya architecture
Jan Szymański
- 73 Nuevos yacimientos de obsidiana en el sur de Perú (Valle de los Volcanes – Pampa Jararanca) desde una perspectiva arqueológica
Michał Wasilewski
- 99 Observaciones acerca de la construcción y el trazado de algunos tramos del camino inca en los Andes peruanos
Andrzej Krzanowski
- 113 Late Pueblo III sites in Lower Sand Canyon locality, Montezuma County, Colorado – preliminary report of the archaeological survey of 2009
Radosław Palonka

FROM THE EDITORS

The second volume of „Polish Contributions in New World Archaeology” presents a variety of articles discussing the results of investigations by Polish scholars conducted independently or in collaboration with foreign scientists in both North and South America. Reports focus on presenting primary archaeological data from field research carried out by the authors. The volume contains, besides, papers of a more interpretative character which analyze existing archaeological data.

One of the contributions is a report of archaeological excavations carried out between 2008 and 2009 at the Maya site of Nakum in Guatemala where several new and important discoveries were made. One of them is a sophisticated drain system. Its discovery sheds new light on the problem of water management and its ritual connotations among the ancient Maya (see paper by Wiesław Koszkuł, Jarosław Żrałka, Bernard Hermes and Boris Aguilar).

The contribution by Jan Szymański focuses on the analysis of round structures in Maya architecture, their meaning, dating and function across time. The author divides round constructions into three categories, each with a different function and each manifesting different cultural, social and political connotations. He also proposes new interpretations of relationship between architectural forms and the ritual perception of kingship.

The paper by Michał Wasilewski is the result of a field survey conducted by the author in the Valley of Volcanoes (south Peru) and an XRF/INAA obsidian analysis. The geoarchaeological aim of this work is supplemented by a detailed archaeological description of artifacts. The author resolves the question of archaeological obsidian provenance in the area. In addition, he proposes a sequence of human activities in the Valley of Volcanoes.

The article by Andrzej Krzanowski deals with the ancient Inca empire road system. It presents the results of a series of field surveys by the author in the 1970s in two Peruvian valleys (Río Alto Chicama and Río Huaura) where several sections of Inca roads were documented. The article enriches our knowledge about sophisticated Inca road system and also casts more light on the territorial organization of the Inca empire. This paper is an important contribution to the newly proposed international research project about the territorial structure of Inca empire proposed by the International Union of the Academies.

The last contribution is a report by Radosław Palonka on the thirteenth century A.D. sites located in Lower Sand Canyon area in the southwestern part of Colorado. The paper focuses on traces of defensive architecture, site location, and intervisibility between sites in the area. The archaeological data is supported by an account of the oral tradition of historic Pueblo Indians.

Janusz K. Kozłowski
Jarosław Żrałka

