

MUSEUM REPORTS

It has been possible, since the publication of the Review Vol. I No. I in which there was a note on an intended museum, to add substantially to our collections. The museum is temporarily housed in a little room measuring 22 feet by 19 feet in the Institute. There are a few still in glass cases outside this room.

The collection of antiquities which was initiated by Professor Roy Sieber, a Visiting Professor to this Institute in 1964/5 has been admirably continued by Mr. Kwabena Ameyaw, a Research Assistant in the Institute.

We now have in the museum, Mortuary collections; Pottery types; Historic drums and regalia; Battle dresses; Abandoned Representations of deities; Figurines; Ancient musical instruments; Locally made Tobacco pipe types; Terracotta heads of historic significance; Aggrey beads; Bracelets and bangles; Play, Beauty and Fertility Dolls; Meaningful Ghanaian cloth designs and instruments; Comb types; Gold dredging bowls; Ashanti Gold-weights; Cowries; Baskets and Calabashes (decorated) Frowa sizes; Carving tools; Ancient mat (Nton kete ) and bark cloth (Kyenkyen); Leather works; Stools types; Stone axes and Quartz stones with drilled holes; Fetters; Native lamp types; and Wooden Platters.

Photographing all these exhibits and making slides out of them have been undertaken by the Institute's photographer, Mr. F.K. Andoh.

We hope to build this section of the Institute to be able to supply information on antiquities in Ghana - especially in the fields where research into various aspects of social life has been done, and is being done by Research Fellows of this Institute.

In this Review we report on a few of the Mortuary and Cult figures collected. They were all collected and catalogued by Mr. Ameyaw. <sup>1</sup>

A.K. Quarcoo

Mortuary Figures

1. Terracotta head of Okomfo Kwasi Amankwa; Spots on the forehead represent cowries. Note the scarification under both eyes. Obtained from Okomfo Kwame Oboe, Nkwatia-Kwahu. Height 12" Blackened. Cat 1 64.93.
2. Terracotta head with torso broken, depicts an attendant of Okomfo Kwasi Amankwa. Height 3" (from neck to head) Blackened. Cat. 1 64.94.
3. Two terracotta heads, used as ritual objects on which libation was poured for the spirits of the dead before any commissioned terracotta or funerary figure could be made. Collected from Aduamo - Kwahu. Height 6½", 6" Blackened. Cat. 1 64.100.
4. Terracotta head, brought from Asumegya by the ancestors of the Krontihene of Asakraka, Kwahu, during their migration. Height 7½" Blackened. Cat. 64.222.
5. Pottery figure of a woman holding a child at the breast. Made to mark the grave of the aboriginal Obaapanin of Asakraka; an indication of great expression of the deceased as a mother. Height 7½" Cat. 1 64.221.
6. Terracotta head, used for funeral rites at Atibie, Kwahu. Height 6" Cat. 1 64.233.

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1. There will be reports on others in subsequent issues.

7. Wooden male figure armed with a gun; used for funeral observance at Begoro, Akyem Abuakwa. Carved by Obosomfo Kwasi Sara of Oboho village near Begoro. Height 32" Coloured. Cat. 1 65.65.
8. Large food bowl with mud-fish figure on the lid; used for the final funeral rites of the late Kwabenhene, Nana Opoku Ware II. Given by the Akawenim Abusuapanin S.B. Asare of Kwaben. Blackened. Diameter 16". Cat. 1 65.87.
9. Large food bowl lid surmounted by proverbial figures, of related use to Cat. 1 65.87. Collected from the Akawenim royal cemetery, Kwaben. Blackened. Diameter 16" Cat. 1 65.88.
10. Set of funeral figures representing the deceased. Attendants; stool-carriers and a family pot. Prevalent in Kwahu during the final funeral rites of a Chief or Queen Mother. Local name "Sempon". Commissioned at Mpraeso, Kwahu. Height 7½" Blackened. Cat. 1 65.90a-c; 65.91 and 92.
11. Pot used during the observance of funeral rites, stored with water and placed on the grave for the use of the dead. Collected from Agona Asafo. Cat. 65.104.
12. Pottery funerary figure of a woman seated on a stool, represents a Queen Mother, used by the Agonas and known by them as "Ahode". Collected from Agona Asafo. Age 36 years. Blackened. Height 16" Cat. 1 65.106.
13. Pottery seated "funerary" figure of a chief prevalent in Agona. Age 16 years. Height 17" uncoloured. Cat. 1 65.107.
14. Terracotta head known among the Gomuas as "Nsorde". Collected from Gomua Maim. Age 33 years. Uncoloured. Height 7" Cat. 1 65.109.

15. Three terracotta heads, represented attendants of a chief; kept in the stool room at Abene. Age unknown. Given by the Omanhene of Kwahu. Blackened. Heights 7", 7", 6½" Cat. 1 65.111a-c.
16. Two tables, used to support "funerary" small pots during funeral observance. Dug from an old cemetery at Nkwatia, Kwahu. Height 5½" Cat. 1 65.117
17. Six varied sizes of open bowls with flat grooved rim; surface find at Twenedurase-Kwahu royal cemetery on unidentified graves. Diameters 15", 13-1/4", 12½", 12", 9½", 8½". Blackened. Cat. 1 64.211-216.

Cult Figures:

18. Two wooden male figures representing the Konkambia and Kontopia cults. Collected from Birifor, Upper Region. Heights 18½", 17". Cat. 1 64.294,295.
19. Wooden figure of a man, hands clasping the abdomen, scarification on the face and body. Picked out of six others of varied sizes and heights. Represent an ancestral deity "Mo Tew Tando"; formerly associated with fighting abilities now for protective and other purposes. Collected from Old Longoro. Height 15" Cat. 1 65.15.
20. Wooden male figure seated on a stool, represents the "Obu amono" god (a family cult). Believed when associated with certain materials to have power to overcome barrenness. Collected from Abomosu in Akyem Abuakwa. Height 22½". Uncoloured (head coated with egg substance. Cat. 1 65.78.