Finding aid to the Ecuador Figurine Drawing collection, undated MS.1308

Finding aid prepared by Krystal Appiah  
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2008
Title: Ecuador Figurine Drawing collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS.1308
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(1 box)
Date: undated

Abstract: The collection is comprised of 160 photocopies of drawings that depict figurines, which were likely produced by the Jama Coaque (200 B.C.–800 A.D.) culture in the province of Manabí in Ecuador. Date that the photocopies were made is unknown. In the pre-Columbian era, the Manabí region was inhabited by many cultures who produced ceramic figurines, including the Bahia, Jama Coaque, Guangala and Tolita/Tumaco cultures. Although ceramics from these cultures share some resemblances, the figurines depicted in this collection most closely resemble those of the Jama Coaque culture.

Arrangement
Original order has been retained. The sets are collated with the drawings in numerical order according to the numbering on the labels.

Scope and contents
The collection is comprised of 160 photocopies of drawings that depict figurines, which were likely produced by the Jama Coaque (200 B.C.–800 A.D.) culture in the province of Manabí in Ecuador.

There are two identical sets of drawings with each set consisting of 80 sheets. Most sheets contain labels with handwritten notes in Spanish listing the number of the figurine and geographic locations. All the labels list the province Manabí and either Cojimies or Pedernales, which are coastal cities in Manabí, Ecuador. The labels also contain a third location, which may be the name of an archeological site.

Preferred citation
Ecuador Figurine Drawings, undated, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.1308.

Historical note
In the pre-Columbian era, the Manabí region was inhabited by many cultures who produced ceramic figurines, including the Bahia, Jama Coaque, Guangala and Tolita/Tumaco cultures. Although ceramics from these cultures share some resemblances, the figurines depicted in this collection most closely resemble those of the Jama Coaque culture. Figures produced by the Jama Coaque were more elaborately decorated than those of other cultures in the region during this period. Jama Coaque figurines were decorated with fine carving and painted in many colors, with many figures wearing ceremonial garments, crowns, pendants and collars. Jama Coaque figurines were often made from molds and had an average height of seven to twelve inches. Figurines frequently depicted warriors, musicians, hunters, dancers, or zoomorphic figures. Although some Jama Coaque figurines were attached to vessels, most were freestanding.

References:

Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org. An item-level inventory is available from library staff.

Use
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Processing history
Initial processing and finding aid completed by Krystal Appiah, 2008. Final processing completed by Anna Liza Posas 2012 October 17. Final processing of collection and publication of finding aid made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).
Acquisition
Donor unknown, acquired by the Braun Research Library before 2008.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Cojimies (Ecuador)
Drawings
Ecuador -- Antiquities
Indians of South America -- Ecuador
Jama Coaque culture
Manabi (Ecuador)
Pedernales (Ecuador)
Photocopies