

What are these collections?
See his ensayo nueva españa
See cordilleras

What are the collections
See Maru constantino

Figure: collections in New Spain...

Elhuyar; Cervantes; Gonzalo de Carvajal; Dupaix; Mutis, Duquesne... we see a certain kind of conversation between all these peoples... but also, precarious... what happens to these collections? They are sold abroad, each and every one of them

How are they modelled; provincial collections elsewhere tend to be modeled on metropolitan collections (Alberti)... here?

In 1790, an article in the *Gazeta de México* had described various collections of “curiosities” around Mexico City. Those amassed by José Antonio Alzate y Ramírez, Mexico’s foremost Creole intellectual, and by José Longinos Martínez (1756-1802), one of the naturalists on the Royal Botanical Expedition to New Spain led by Martín Sessé and José Mariano Mociño, stand out for their abundance in “objects from the three reigns” of nature.ⁱ Stimulated by scientific expeditions to the New World in the last decades of the eighteenth century, private collecting had been increasingly modeled on instructions produced specifically for the expeditions in an effort to define collectibles (rocks, taxidermies, pressed plants, and, increasingly, antiquities) and to discipline collecting practices.ⁱⁱ Although many of the collectors mentioned in the *Gazeta* in 1790 were no longer around when Alamán lived in Mexico City, their collections had survived, passed on to other hands; Longinos’s cabinet, for instance, was transferred to the Colegio de San Ildefonso after his death in 1802.ⁱⁱⁱ Besides, new collections had emerged on the urban scene. Humboldt lavished special praises on the beautiful collections of physics, mechanics and mineralogy at the School of Mines;^{iv} he found the Botanical Garden “small but extremely rich in rare natural productions” of “much interest for commerce or industry;”^v he took note of the collection of ancient casts at the Royal Academy of San Carlos;^{vi} and he was especially impressed with the private cabinet of Ciriaco González de Carbajal (1745-181?), a magistrate at the Real Audiencia, who owned “very remarkable oryctognosic and geological collections” and a “superb cabinet of shells, formed during his stay in the Philippines, where he deployed the same zeal for the natural sciences, which distinguished him in Mexico.”^{vii}

González de Carbajal's interests had not been limited to the natural sciences. Having served as a member of the Comisión de Antigüedades of the Academia de la Historia in Madrid, he was instrumental in promoting the Royal Antiquarian Expeditions (1805-1808), which deployed Guillermo Dupaix and his draftsman Luciano Castañeda to study the ruins of New Spain, as far as Palenque, Oaxaca, and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The expeditionaries returned with detailed notes and descriptions, drawings, antiquities and natural history samples. Viceroy José de Iturrigaray founded the Junta de Antigüedades and commissioned González de Carbajal, Dupaix, Ignacio Cubas (178?-1844), a secretary in the viceroyal archives, and José Mariano Beristáin y Souza (1756-1817), an eminent theologian and bibliographer (author of the celebrated *Biblioteca Hispano-Americana Septentrional*, 1816-1821), to study Pre-Conquest manuscripts and monuments, among them, the manuscripts produced by Dupaix's expeditions.^{viii}

He receives info from various peoples: Juan José de Oteyza; Mutis (Duquesne); Dupaix
Farther afield: Guatemala; Peru; Bogota

(Three major civilizations considered by Humboldt: Mexico, Peru, Muyscas: mountain peoples)

We have little information about how this was being collected... except for Dupaix, for instance.
And for some of the

Try to imagine these forms of sociability... what I he giving them in return? Publication? What did he leave them?

Information passed on as gifts... as forms of socializing with others...

What happens to these collections? Relations, brought together... his book as a sort of space
A space for comparisn... gathering together fragments. Did he know he would?
Fragments and deciphering

Also, interestingly, the comparisons on the basis of the calendar

Vues des cordilleres

Introduction:

Characteristic traits of nations, as in the interior structure of plants expanded over the Surface of the earth

A primitive type, despite the differences produced by cliamtes, soil, and many accidental causes

iii. A lot of writing on America has thought of the continent as big swamp, little civilized hoards.

Comentado [aR1]: Takes issue with the previous writing

But, new trend in history, to see civilization in relation to the factors that arrest or favor development

Natural history as a model for this: we have learned to know nations whose customs, institutions, and arts are as different from those of the greeks and the romans, as primitive forms of animals now destroyed (extinct?) from those tht are the object of descriptive natural history

Calcutta; Egypt... and my work on America appear at a moment when one does not think it unworthy of attention everything that is far from style of the greeks

Reason he is not circumscribing work to geographical ranges: his illustrations are coming from many places, France, Germany, and Italy\

But he does provide a classification of sorts:
Mexico monuments; hieroglyphic paintings
Peru
Muyscas
Sites: devided into Mexico and south

He has followed a middle road between those who study languages and those who study objects

Some have built systems; others have accumulated materials without arriving at a general idea...

Small number of nations, very far ones from the others, offer analogies (Egypt, Tibet, Aztecs) in their bldings, religious institutions, chronologies, cycles of regeneration, etc. But one must point out lacunae also

America is no newer than other continents; same geological strata in the Alps as in the Andes; same fossils

History to figure out migrations...
Humans: only one type, modified by circumstances which have remained unknown

Languages... analogous organization because they use additives.... If this is not same origin, at least they point to cerain intellectual dispositions

It is impossible to prove when contact with asia occurred. Important to decide if it was community of origin or if it is simply level of advancement at different stages

Civilization, among mountain peoples... need obstacles

3.... Fragments of American monuments: their study can become as useful as that of imperfect

languages.... They are of interest not only in relation with other languages, but also in order to reveal relation between their structure and degree of intelligence of man more or less distant from civilization

Why sites and monuments: the farther from civilization, the more milieu affects To know the origin of art, one must study the nature of the place that saw them be born

4. mountain people... surrounded by volcanos with their craters surrounded by eternal snow, ... they strike the imagination by the grandeur of their masses

Planches 1 and 2:

Dupaix: Papantla, ... cabinet d'un amateur eclaire.

(pearls indicate communication between California and center of Mexico)

Zoega... Fabrega... have studied mexican manuscripts in Italy

75-76. Only six collections of hieroglyphic paintings in Europe at the time Humboldt was writing: Escorial, bologna, Velletri, rome, berlin

Planchet XII

Genealogy of azcapozalco... originals in Mexico city... he took them to berlin

Planchet XLIV

Jose Domingo Duquesne de la Madrid: calendario muysca: he has collected together sculpted stones on the division of time... he has learnt to recognize hieroglyphs... long research:

Disertacion sobre el calendario de los muyscas, indios naturales del nuevo reyno de Granada... passed on to Humboldt by Celestino Mutis

Humboldt adds info on analogies with cycles of Asian peoples

Again, surprising higher degree of civilization by the people on mountains

Zipaquira, he was directed to a village, saw traces of an ancient culture

Connected with the origin of the waterfall at Tequendama... Bochica, Manco-Copac, Quetzalcoatl

Bochica established a form of government very similar to Japan or Tibet

253. Duquesne has gotten information from a small number of Indians that conserve explanations on the calendar

El Dorado. Anillo astronómico de los Moscas, por el dr. D. Joseph Duquesne de la Madrid, 1795 (the information is passed on by Celestino Mutis... this means that these things were preserved and passed on between these groups)

De lo geroglíficos: quiere decir imagen of figura Sagrada. Diose este nombre a aquellas de que se servían los egipcios para representar los dogmas de su teología a las máximas de su ciencia moral y política que se veían esculpidas sobre piedras, pirámides, etc. No hubo rasgo o carácter entre estos indios gentiles que no mirase alguno de estos objetos, y principalmente al primer; y así se cegó voluntariamente Walton¹ para despreciar los símbolos mexicanos, conociéndose que no los entendió, en el mismo ejemplo que puso para rebatirlos.

Las pinturas de los indios algunas veces eran una pura escritura; explicaban sus pensamientos con imágenes y, faltando imágenes, con caracteres. En el Padre garcía se puede ver un ejemplo de la confesión de los peruanos.

Numeros solo hasta 20... fechas en terminos de 20

Need to understand papers, archives that circulate also as part of collections... Duquesne is reading extensively

Velazquez

Alzate

Caravajal

Duquesne

Cervantes

Elhuyar

Dupaix

Moxo

Dendera

Visconti

Denon

Fabrega

Klaproth

Kaempfer

Mozino

Pedro de los rios... manuscript on antiquities

waddilove

80 Majority of Boturini collection has been destroyed, dispersed by people who do not know the value of these objects

They are in the viceregal palace, ground floor, lots of humidity, whence viceroy has taken out the archives because they were getting destroyed

University library is no better

81 richest collection belongs to Jose Antonio Pichard, San Felipe Neri

Has made copies of that which he could not obtain

¹ Adrian Walton, polyglot bible... clavijero compares him to de pauw..

Gama on Piedra del sol

Planchet XI.

48. Mexican relief at Oaxaca... in this case, the drawing passed on by Cervantes – in reality, it is one of the Palenque drawings

Aquiline nose... does that mean it was a different people that came here? Or that these peoples emphasized features they considered special

Has it been modified by the drawer? No... ... manuscripts, Veltri and Berlin show resemblances... one needs to bring together all that which has been produced by same époque in order to form an exact idea of style that one discovers among fantastic and bizarre forms

Is it possible that this was done after they already had contact with European art

ⁱ *Gazeta de México*, (August 24, 1790): 152-154.

ⁱⁱ Constantino Ortiz and Pimentel, “Cómo inventariar el (Nuevo) Mundo.”

ⁱⁱⁱ For a detailed study of Longinos’s cabinet, see Constantino Ortiz, “Coleccionismo de naturaleza.”

^{iv} Humboldt, *Essai politique sur la Royaume de la Nouvelle-Espagne*, vol. 2, 121.

^v Humboldt, *Essai politique sur la Royaume de la Nouvelle-Espagne*, vol. 2, 123.

^{vi} Humboldt, *Essai politique sur la Royaume de la Nouvelle-Espagne*, vol. 2, 119.

^{vii} Humboldt, *Essai politique sur la Royaume de la Nouvelle-Espagne*, vol. 2, 146.

^{viii} Iturrigaray, letter to Dupaix, June 3, 1808 (G317, Guillermo Dupaix Papers, 1804-1820. Benson Latin American Collection, University of Texas Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin).