

Archaeologists Honor Paul Martin

THE Alfred Vincent Kidder Award for outstanding contributions to American Archaeology was presented recently to Dr. Paul S. Martin, Field Museum's Chief Curator Emeritus of the Anthropology Department.

The award, a bronze medal, was established in 1950 and is awarded every three years by the American Archaeology Association in recognition of leadership and outstanding contributions to the field of New World prehistory and Archaeology. Dr. Martin, interestingly, worked in 1929 as a graduate student under the guidance of Dr. Kidder, a leading American archaeologist in whose honor the award was created. While working with Dr. Kidder, Dr. Martin discovered the Temple of the Three Lintels at Chichen Itza, Mexico, and was responsible for its excavation and reconstruction.

However, for the past 40 years, his primary interest has been the study of the American Southwest, especially Anasazi and Mogollon prehistory. He is a firm believer in student involvement in archaeological work and has conducted a formal summer program at Field Museum's field station in Vernon, Arizona, since 1964 under a National Science Foundation grant. His interest in music and sense of humor have brightened the field camp routines there. Students awaken to Bach and work hard to the sounds of the Beatles from a loudspeaker.

His published reports on archaeological sites in New

Mexico, Colorado and eastern Arizona have filled a dozen volumes of the scientific series, *Fieldiana: Anthropology*, and one section of the upcoming exhibit on the Museum's 75th Anniversary will be devoted to Dr. Martin's work.

Although he retired as the Chief Curator of the Anthropology Department in 1964, after holding that post for 30 years, he continues actively in research at the Museum and conducts a graduate seminar in anthropology at the University of Chicago.

In receiving the award, Dr. Martin was cited for various innovative applications of theories concerning the interrelationships in time and space of cultural traditions of early Southwestern peoples and to pottery classification techniques and for his use of computer processing in the evaluation of archaeological data. He is one of the few in his field to be successful in utilizing this resource.

In the conclusion of an, as yet, unpublished essay, "The Revolution in Archaeology," Dr. Martin wrote "... I have changed substantially in both my orientation and techniques. I have proceeded from the traditional approach to a fresh and primary concern with testing hypotheses concerning human behavior."

"In the future, I hope to maintain this momentum by investigating and adopting any new, valid techniques that will allow for a fuller understanding of human behavior. I do not fear changes; I welcome them."



The Kidder Award bronze medal bears on one side a design taken from a carved slate mirrorback excavated by Dr. Kidder at Kaminaljuyu in Guatemala. The reverse (right) is a conjectural detail of a Southwestern cliff dwelling. The designs and sculpturing were executed by Tatiana Proskouriakoff, an earlier recipient of the Kidder Award.



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