

ANCIENT SOUTH AMERICA

Second Edition

The second edition of *Ancient South America* features the full panorama of the South American past from the first inhabitants to the European invasions. Isolated for all of prehistory and much of history, the continent witnessed the rise of cultures and advanced civilizations rivaling those of Europe, Asia, and Africa. Independently of developments elsewhere, South American peoples invented agriculture, domesticated animals, and created pottery, elaborate architecture, and the arts of metalworking. Tribes, chiefdoms, and immense conquest states rose, flourished, and disappeared, leaving only their ruined monuments and broken artifacts as testimonials to past greatness.

This new edition is completely revised and updated to reflect archaeological discoveries and insights made in the past three decades. Incorporating new findings on northern and eastern lowlands, and discussions of the first civilizations, it also examines the first inhabitants of Brazil and Patagonia as well as the Andes. Accessibly written and abundantly illustrated, the volume also includes chronological charts and new examples.

Karen Olsen Bruhns is Professor Emerita at San Francisco State University. A field archaeologist, she has worked at and directed excavations at sites in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Colombia, Ecuador, and Belize.

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CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Preface</i>	xxxvii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xli
1 Still a New World	I
2 A Matter of Time.....	7
3 The Physical Setting	28
4 The First Inhabitants: 12000–6000 BC.....	44
5 Settling Down: 6000–3500 BC	64
6 The Problem of Maize.....	92
7 Cultural Intensification in the Andes: 3500–1500 BC.....	101
8 Ceramics: Their Origin and Technology	116
9 The First Civilizations: 2000–200 BC	130
10 Textiles: The High Art of South America	162
11 Metallurgy	180
12 Regional Diversification and Development: 200 BC–AD 600	194
13 Iconographic Studies and South American Prehistory	236
14 Militaristic and Religious Movements in the Andes: AD 500–1000	249
15 Transport and Trade	284
16 Kingdoms, Chiefdoms, and Empires: AD 900–1438	301
17 Eastern South America and the Amazon: A New Synthesis.....	336

18 The Sixteenth Century: The Last Indigenous Cultures	371
19 Intercontinental Movements before Columbus	399
20 The Future of a Continent	411
<i>Select Bibliography</i>	421
<i>Index</i>	435

FIGURES

All maps, charts, and drawings not attributed are by Tom Weller. All photographs not attributed are by the author. Wikimedia Commons pictures are licensed under Creative Commons Attribution 3.0; all illustrations from this source are indicated with an asterisk.

1.1	Modern political divisions, capitals, and other important cities of the South American continent.	<i>page 2</i>
1.2	Inca quipu (cotton), Inca (?)Nazca Valley. These devices record information via knots in the strings, using a decimal system. Farthest out are the ones, next the 10s, etc. A subsidiary string may record totals for a complex string or set of strings. Although non-numeric information was also encoded on quipus, the key(s) have been lost and thus we can read the numbers but we have no idea of what was being recorded. Gift of Philip A. Means, Dr. Alfred M. Tozzer, and Dr. Thomas Barbour. © President and Fellows of Harvard College, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, PM# 32-30-30/55.	5
2.1	Different schemes for ordering South American (mainly Andean) prehistory in use in the past and into the present.	11
2.2	Paleoindian sites of South America.	14
2.3	Peru Coast. Coastal Peru is divided into a series of east to west river valleys in which virtually all human habitation is and was centered.	16
2.4	Peru Sierra and Peruvian/Bolivian Altiplano.	18
2.5	Chile. Northern Chile is very dry with fewer and smaller transverse valleys than Peru. The dry highlands with their salt pans were mainly used for hunting.	19
2.6	Northwestern Argentina. This area was culturally part of the Andean cultural sphere and many of its indigenous cultures are also found in northern Chile and southern Bolivia/Peru.	21
2.7	Ecuador. Ecuador’s past was quite different from that of Peru and never did lead to autochthonous large political entities or urbanism.	22

2.8	Colombia. The most well-known areas are the two great river valleys of the Cauca and Magdalena and the flanking cordilleras along with the Sabana de Bogotá.	23
2.9	The lowlands of northern, eastern, and southeastern South America.	25
3.1	Major physiographic regions of South America.	29
3.2	Major geographic features of the South American continent.	30
3.3	The plaza of Huaraz in the Callejón de Huaylas of Peru after the 1970 earthquake. Photograph courtesy of Raphael X. Reichert.	31
3.4	Lake Titicaca and Tikonata Island. Lake level is over 400 m above sea level. The lake level and size fluctuate greatly with rain. Photograph courtesy of Charles Stanish.	32
3.5	In the northern Andes puna gives way to páramo: high-altitude wet (and very cold) grasslands. This is the páramo above Azogues in Cañar province, Ecuador: tuff grass with low scrub in the folds between the hills. The alpacas were reintroduced in the 1980s after the Spanish had killed them all in the early colonial period.	33
3.6	The <i>salar</i> of Talar, in Chile. These high-altitude salt lakes form and formed an important resource for both wild camelids (here a vicuña) and domestic ones. They form a chain at the bases of the great volcanoes that typify this part of the Andes. Jorge Pacheco, February 21, 2013.*	33
3.7	A view of the Fiordo Silva from Site M-S, Magellanes, Chile, a gold, wet ecosystem with temperate rainforest. Photograph courtesy of Lucy Lewis Johnson.	34
3.8	(A) Mangroves cover the wetlands of the Gulf of Guayaquil. (B) Closeup of interior of a mangrove swamp. These swamps were rich sources of food and raw materials for the early (and current) inhabitants of coastal South America.	35
3.9	The Moche Valley about 20 km inland. The agricultural riches of the Peruvian coast are dependent upon irrigation from the Andes-fed rivers. The boundary between water and no water is clear on the edges of the valley.	35
3.10	The oasis of San Pedro de Atacama, in the midst of the world's driest desert, was a magnet for early human occupation. This is the site of Tular, located in the desert, away from the land that could be cultivated because there is water. Licancabur Volcano, still active, is in the background. Photograph courtesy of the late Paul Ossa.	36
3.11	The Lomas de Lachay are protected from human destruction as a nature preserve. All vegetation here is watered only by fog. Photograph courtesy of Daniel Sandweiss.	37
3.12	Looking towards the Santa María Valley from Capischango, northwestern Argentina. Photograph courtesy of the late Joan Gero.	39

<i>List of Figures</i>		xi
3.13	The Guinea Shield rises dramatically from the Orinoco Plains of Venezuela. Photograph courtesy of William Barse.	39
4.1	Some important Paleoindian sites of South America. 1. Taima Taima; 2. Sabana de Bogotá; 3. San Isidro; 4. Peña Roja; 5. Mullumica; 6. Paiján; 7. Guitarrero Cave; 8. Lauricocha Cave; 9. Zaña Valley; 10. Cunaicha; 11. Tiliviche; 12. Pay Paso; 13. Monte Verde; 14. Deseado Massif; 15. Pai Aike and Fell's Caves, Magellanic sites.	45
4.2	Fishtail points are easily recognized by their wide and somewhat flaring base. This shape point was evidently extremely useful as it has a very wide distribution and was used for many thousands of years. Drawing courtesy of Ernesto Salazar, from Robert E. Bell, <i>Archaeological Investigations at the Site of El Inga, Ecuador</i> , p. 32. University of Oklahoma, 2000.	47
4.3	The Taima Taima site shows the ancient inhabitants of Venezuela hunted two species of mastodons as well as other large animals. Photograph courtesy of Ruth Gruhn.	49
4.4	Monte Verde in southern Chile provided our first good look at an entire Paleoindian settlement, due to its excellent organic preservation (the site is in a peat bog). This drawing is not accurate as skin houses with flat roofs are not viable in such a rainy climate. Drawing and photographs courtesy of Tom D. Dillehay.	50
4.5	The Deseado Massif arises out of the Patagonian desert (with guanaco grazing in the foreground). The sites here show the range of different sorts of activities undertaken by the early Patagonians. Photograph courtesy of Laura Miotti.	52
4.6	The enormous Mullamica obsidian source was used from the Paleoindian era through early historic times. It is located in the high páramo to the east of Quito. Photograph courtesy of Ernesto Salazar.	54
4.7	Panalauca Cave in the high pampa of Peru is one of many hunting camps used over the centuries by early hunters. Photograph courtesy of John Rick.	55
4.8	The Cunaicha site, located at a very high elevation in southernmost Peru shows that Paleoindians regularly exploited the area for stones for tools. Here is a range of tools from that site. Photograph courtesy of Kurt Rademaker.	57
4.9	The Camarones site in desertic northern Chile shows the aquatic orientation of early Chilean gatherers. Their sites are mounds of shells from past meals (garbage was simply thrown over their shoulders, leading to a shell mound buildup). Camarones has the advantage of a river mouth and hence some drinking water as well as ocean resources. Photograph courtesy of Mario Rivera.	58
4.10	Excavations and survey in the Zaña Valley of northern Peru show that people using fishtail points and people using these long, thin Paiján points were contemporaries, although they had	

	different economies and occupied spatially different sites. Photograph courtesy of Tom D. Dillehay.	59
4.11	Although the popular image of Paleoindians has them living in caves or rockshelters, both Monte Verde (Figure 4.4) and this site in the desertic Zaña Valley show that they also built houses in the open. This house would have been of brush and, perhaps, some clay-like modern humble houses are still built. The stone circle is the foundation for the small structure. Photograph courtesy of Tom D. Dillehay.	60
5.1	Locations of early sites discussed in the text. 1. The very early ceramics-producing sites of northern Colombia are all quite close together on the Caribbean littoral. 2. The Valle de Calima is a small valley to the west of the enormous Cauca Valley. 3. The high, cold, and wet Sabana de Bogotá was the scene of early agricultural societies and the independent (of Peru) domestication of the guinea pig (<i>Cavea porcellus</i>). 4. The small fishing village of Valdivia is another early locus of ceramics inventions. The Valdivia culture is found along the entire coast of Ecuador in local variations. 5. Real Alto is a site of the Valdivia culture which contains very early special-purpose (non domestic) structures. 6. The Huaca Prieta de Chicama was initially important as the first Preceramic site to be extensively investigated (by Junius Bird of the American Museum of Natural History in New York in the 1940s); new investigations by Tom Dillehay and the late Duccio Bonavia have shown that much of Bird's original interpretations were erroneous and that the initial occupation of the site – which is on the same small plateau as the large Moche site of Cao Viejo – was about 15,000 years ago. 7. The small house excavated by Christopher Donnan at Chilca was an important landmark in understanding early coastal cultures in Peru. 8. Ayacucho, now a modern city, was the locus of important Paleoindian cultures as well as the center of the first multicultural conquest state in the Andes, that of Huari. 9. The early sites of Quiana and Taltal are on the extremely dry Chilean coast. 10. The Antofagasta region was home to a series of important cultures. It was also the southern limit of the Chinchorro burial tradition. 11. San Pedro de Atacama is a large oasis in the desert and an important locus of pre-Hispanic activity, including mining.	66
5.2	San Jacinto in northern Colombia has yielded extremely early ceramics associated with these pits for stone boiling. Photograph courtesy of Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo.	67
5.3	The Calima Valley in the dry season. The rivers here flood during the rainy season creating rich habitats for fish, reptiles, and birds as well as larger animals. Early hunters and gatherers took full advantage of these riparian habitats as well. Photograph courtesy of Diogenes Patiño Castaño, Universidad del Cauca.	69

<i>List of Figures</i>	xiii
5.4 The foundations of a small Las Vegas house, probably used mainly for sleeping out of the wind. Photograph by the late Neil Maurer, courtesy of Karen Stothert.	72
5.5 A double burial from Las Vegas: the secondary burial, once wrapped in a mat or textile to form a packet, is buried with a flexed primary burial. Photograph by the late Neil Maurer, courtesy of Karen Stothert.	73
5.6 The Chilca house. Probably most ordinary houses along the coast were similar: round and made of sticks and thatch with, perhaps, a bit of mud plastering. Drawing courtesy of Christopher B. Donnan.	75
5.7 The Camarones site. (A) Mario Rivera and his crew discuss the excavation while another crew member excavates. The sides of the excavation show the very high shell and debris content of this aceramic site. (B) Sandstone artifacts of unknown use or meaning are typical of these early Chilean coastal cultures. Photograph courtesy of Mario Rivera.	78
5.8 A wooden snuff tablet from San Pedro de Atacama but with a Tiahuanaco style figure on top. Earlier tablets were similar; hallucinogenic snuffs seem to have been popular since the Paleoindian period. Drawings by Jane Becker after Llagostera Martinez 1979, figure 3. The piece is from a private collection in Chile.	79
5.9 A Chinchorro black mummy, the most elaborate type of mummy of this astounding mortuary tradition. Photograph by Pablo Trincado, September 26, 2008.*	82
5.10 The Valdivia site and village in 1980 before the village was rebuilt with cement blocks.	85
5.11 Two Valdivia figurines. Most Valdivia figurines show women at various stages of life: adolescence, full maturity, pregnancy, and old age. The meaning of the double-headed figurines is not known, although Karen Stothert has hypothesized that they show two girls closely entwined and dancing together (she bases this on modern lowland indigenous dancing). These particular examples also exhibit a serious problem in pre-Columbian art history: forgery. These ladies were made by modern Valdivians out of the same clay and using the same formation and firing methods as their ancestors. There are far more forgeries of Valdivia figurines than genuine examples.	85
5.12 Huaca Prieta de Chicama is located on the same geological terrace as the much later Cao Viejo and contiguous to a Cupisnique site. The giant mound is formed of superimposed structures and debris beginning in the Early Paleoindian Period. The dark color is due to its high organic content. Huaca Prieta is right on the sea and the one-story house visible on the right (which is on the beach) gives some idea of the size of this entirely Preceramic mound.	88

6.1	(A) The head of a modern teocinte and seeds from a head of modern teocinte. (B) The seeds are small and extremely hard. Photographs courtesy of Paul Amaroli, Fundación Nacional de Arqueología de El Salvador.	93
6.2	The Cuzco market in 1969. The vendor is selling several kinds of potatoes, ullucos (another tuber), and local maize, of which more than 100 varieties are grown in the region.	94
6.3	An ancient brewery for maize beer (<i>chicha</i>) at the site of Huaca Pukullana located within the Miraflores district of Lima.	94
6.4	A Chimú “maize god.” The fangs indicating supernatural status are here reduced to scars on the face and the rays signifying which god are changed to maize cobs. The deity also holds a manioc plant, perhaps signifying that he is a generalized agricultural deity and not simply a “maize god.”	95
6.5	Ladies selling maize beer in Chincheros, Peru, in 1970.	99
7.1	The Late Preceramic in the Andes. 1. Machalilla; 2. Casma Valley Cerro Sechín, Sechín Alta, etc.; 3. Las Haldas; 4. Los Gavilanes; 5. Kotosh; 6. La Galgada; 7. Tarapacá; 8. Faldas el Morro and El Laucho; 9. Guatacondo Valley, Northwestern Argentina. Inset: The Norte Chico. Unlabeled triangles indicate monumental sites which are not discussed in the text and are included to show the density of these sites; numbered sites are those which have been investigated to the point of publication of results. 1. Aspero; 2. Limón Carro and Era de Pando; 3. Lurihuasi; 4. Chupacigarro; 5. Caral; 6. Bandurría; 7. Vichama; 8. El Paraíso.	102
7.2	Bandurría; the earliest known of the circular sunken plaza temples is also one of the largest. Photograph by Guillermo Arévalo Aucahuasi, April 3, 2010.*	103
7.3	Two unfired clay, brightly painted figurines from the site of Miraya (often mistakenly identified as from Caral). These and related figurines found in the Preceramic temple complexes are our best clues to clothing, hairstyles, and social structure in the Late Preceramic Andes.	104
7.4	Caral. (A) Looking down from the main pyramid. Note the circular sunken “temple” in front of the pyramid. (B) Double pyramids on another plaza. These structures would have supported temples and other religious structures of adobe or wattle and daub. Although often roofless or simply with perishable awnings (it seldom rains in coastal Peru), many of these structures may have been originally painted in bright colors. (A) US Navy ID 10033 0-N-4 774B-129. * (B) Photograph courtesy of Charles Orloff.	105
7.5	Shigra construction was widespread in Peru. (A) The quickly made reed bags were filled with field stones and (B) deposited in adobe rooms, filling them and making platforms. These pictures are from El Paraíso. Photographs courtesy of Jeffrey Quilter.	106

List of Figures

xv

7.6	Relief carvings from the main temple at Cerro Sechín. A shows a prisoner, divested of his headdress and cut in half; B is a series of smaller reliefs, used to fill in between the tall vertical ones such as A. These show a pair of entwined, dismembered, arms and a series of trophy heads. The entrance to the temple was flanked by a pair of vertical banners in the same low relief and the entire composition appears to refer to a successful war or raid in which the captive warriors were beheaded, dismembered, or otherwise turned into miscellaneous body parts (piles of intestines, eyeballs, etc.).	107
7.7	Aerial view of El Paraíso, showing the long “arms” flanking a giant plaza and the partly reconstructed Structure 1. Photograph courtesy of Jeffrey Quilter.	108
7.8	Las Haldas, the excavated temple complex. This drone shot shows how the sunken circular temples were inserted into a large complex of walled plazas and subsidiary buildings. Haldas has seven of these complexes, vaguely visible around the excavated one. Haldas is right on the sea, but many kilometers from any fresh water. Las Haldas after the 2017 El Niño, by Area Consulting Management for the Proyecto Arqueológico Las Haldas, April 30, 2019.*	109
8.1	Sherds of various wares from Puerto Hormiga, Colombia. Although extremely early, the pieces exhibit highly sophisticated decoration which may be ancestral to the Barrancoid tradition of later Venezuela. Drawing by Jane Becker after Reichel-Dolmatoff n.d., figures 23 and 28.	117
8.2	A cooking vessel with roughened exterior from Rancho Peludo in western Venezuela. Rancho Peludo is either very early or very late, depending on whose C-14 dates you trust.	118
8.3	An Early Guañape figurine from northern Peru, dating to as early as, perhaps, 1500 BC. The elongated head and details of the modeling of the body and face show its derivation from Ecuadorian models. Figurine from Huaca Prieta #41.2/4717. Courtesy of the Division of Anthropology, American Museum of Natural History, New York.	121
8.4	Six stirrup bottles from the tombs of Santa Ana-La Florida. The ring-shaped vessel and the one with faces with Spondylus headdresses have traces of a chocolate drink inside. Photograph courtesy of Francisco Valdez.	122
8.5	A Recuay “cacique jar,” a peculiar form limited to the Recuay style in which a large male figure is surrounded by smaller figures, serving women, warriors, or servants. This example has serving women offering the central figure cups (of chicha?). Their dresses and the sides of the pot are painted with organic resist. The vessel’s painted design is of the Moon Animal, a crested supernatural that among the Moche (whose ceramic style was the only one to show context) is sometimes shown standing in a crescent moon.	126

8.6	Two iridescent painted pots from Salango, Manabí Province, Ecuador. Photographs courtesy of Richard Lunnis, Salango, Ecuador.	127
8.7	Ceramics were (and are) an important item of trade. The method of moving them in large nets has not changed, although llamas or human porters have been replaced by trucks. These are pots from Jatunpamba in the Cuenca, Ecuador, market in 1990.	128
8.8	A Moche stirrup bottle painted with a complex Northern Moche scene of the Burial Theme, a theme common in the late Moche style of San Jose de Moro in the Jequetepeque Valley. This bottle, however, was made and painted by a modern Moche, Sr. Julio Ibarría Quiroz of San José de Moro in November of 2003 (it is signed, but dealers have sandpaper, and numbers of Sr. Ibarría’s vessels are known to have ended up on the illicit pre-Columbian art market).	129
9.1	Important early sites and regions of South America: 1. Valle de Calima, Colombia; 2. Malagana site; 3. Esmeraldas, Tumaco, Atacames (Colombia and Ecuador); 4. Santa Elena Peninsula; 5. Pirincay, Cuenca, and Cañar; 6. Cerro Ñañañique, Piura Valley; 7. Pacopampa; 8. Kuntur Wasi (at the headwaters of the Jequetepeque Valley); 9. Chavín de Huántar; 10. Kotosh; 11. Cerro Blanco, Nepeña Valley; 12. Cerro Gentil (Chincha Valley); 13. Paracas Peninsula; 14. Karwa (in desert south of Ica Valley); 15. Animas Altas (lower Ica Valley); 16. Nasca Valley; 17. Hacha, Acarí Valley; 18. Taraco Peninsula; 19. Wankarani (north and northeast of Lake Poopo); 20. Copacabana Peninsula and Chi’isi; 21. Pukara; 22. San Pedro de Atacama; 23. Hualfín Valley (northwestern Argentina).	131
9.2	Ceramics of the Chavín and related traditions of the highlands and coast. (A) and (D) Figures of men carrying a deer and of owls first appear with Cupisnique style ceramics and continue as important themes in north coast ceramics until the colonial period. (B) and (C) Various sorts of texturing contrasting with smooth areas typify many of the Cupisnique and related “chavinoid” styles of ceramics. Vessels are also generally small and fired in a reducing atmosphere, although oxidation firing (red) and postfired painting were also known, although more popular in some substyles than in others. (A) Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, #67.239. Harris Brisbane Dick and Fletcher Funds, 1967. Height 17.8 cm. (B) Formerly Proctor Institute, current location unknown, Art Institute of Chicago. Photograph: Saiko, December 2017.* (C) Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Collection of Michael D. Rockefeller. Gift of Nelson A. Rockefeller 1969. #1978.412.40. Height: 24.4 cm.* (D) Owl-shaped bottle Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, #67.239. 9. Harris Brisbane Dick and Fletcher Funds 1967. Height: 20 cm.*	132

9.3	The Great Temple of Chavín de Huántar is located at the junction of the Mosna and Huachasca Rivers. The temple is entirely built of cut stone and is riddled with interior galleries used for storage of ritual equipment, indoctrination of initiates, and other religious purposes. On the right in front of the temple is a sunken circular plaza that originally was faced with low-relief carvings of felines (pumas and spotted cats), supernatural figures with San Pedro cactuses, monkeys, and other figures of religious importance. Photograph courtesy of Lynn Hirschkind.	134
9.4	Relief carvings from the sunken circular plaza of Chavín. (A) is a jaguar whose minor supernatural importance is shown by the simple kennings on his back and tail. (B) A fanged supernatural human carries a stalk of the hallucinogenic San Pedro cactus. (C) A Cupisnique stirrup bottle shows the association of wild cats and San Pedro cactuses. (D) shows a San Pedro cactus growing in the Pumpapungu botanical garden in Cuenca, Ecuador. This cactus contains mescaline, a potent hallucinogenic drug widely used in traditional curing rituals. (A), (B) Photographs courtesy of John Rick. (C) Art Institute of Chicago. Photograph: Saiko, October 26, 2016.*	135
9.5	(A) The Lanzón, in situ in the crossing of two galleries inside the Great Temple. (B) The Raimondi Stela, probably originally associated with the sunken circular plaza. Its image is of the Staff God, who was the ancestor of the major deities of Tiahuanaco and Huari. (A) Photograph courtesy of Lynn Hirschkind. (B) Vectorized version of the original drawing by Antonio Raimondi. Uploaded by user Locutus Borg. Author Tomato 356.*	136
9.6	(A) and (B) Embroidered textiles from Paracas mummy bundles. A and B show images of the Oculate Being as does the resin painted bowl shown in D. (C) A Topará style double spout and bridge bottle. (A), (B) Photographs courtesy of Edward Dwyer. (C) Metropolitan Museum of New York, #63.232.55. Gift of Nathan Cummings, 1963. Height 14.29 cm. (D) Metropolitan Museum of Art. Gift of Nathan Cummings, 1976.287.31. 5.1 × 17.5 cm.*	143
9.7	The enormous ritual center of Cerro Gentil in the Chincha Valley is but one of a number of monumental Paracas sites now known. Many have substantial towns around them. Photograph courtesy of Charles Stanish.	144
9.8	The Paracas Peninsula and Cerro Colorado. The holes are what is left of looted tombs, surrounded by torn cloths and scattered human bones. Photograph courtesy of Edward Dwyer.	145
9.9	Stages in the formation of a Paracas mummy bundle. A large basket has a shroud of plain cotton paced in it along with offerings of ceramics, gourds, plant materials, and small artifacts; the nude body of the deceased, with its fingers and toes woven together with colored threads, is placed, seated, in the basket.	

	The shroud is drawn up and tied at the top. Following this, layers of clothing, much of it used, presumably belonging to the deceased, dance costumes, etc. are put on the shrouded body, each layer separated from the next by another shroud. Clothes are placed with headdresses on top and shirts, cloaks, etc. around the center with loincloths below them (women’s clothes follow a similar distribution). The huge bundle is finally wrapped in a final shroud and is ready for curation until burial. There is some reason to believe that mummy bundles were curated at their site of residence until that generation or group was all deceased. Then the mummy bundles were taken to the Paracas Peninsula and inserted down a narrow shaft into the burial chamber. It would be impossible to put bundles in sequentially without crushing older ones and there is no sign of this having happened. Redrawn after Paul 1990, figures 4.1–4.7.	146
9.10	A Wankarani camelid sculpture.	149
9.11	Chi’si on the Copacabana Peninsula of Lake Titicaca is a typical highland square sunken plaza temple. Today it is used once more as a gathering place by the local peoples. Photograph courtesy of Sergio and Stanislawa Chavez.	150
9.12	The Yayamama Stela shows the male and female paired deities along with other symbols. The Yayamama Religious Tradition was paramount in much of the Altiplano before the rise of Tiahuanaco. Drawing courtesy of Sergio Chavez and the late Karen Mohr de Chavez.	151
9.13	A “suppliant” figure. The function of these strange figures is unknown although they were apparently made by several local cultures in northwestern Argentina. Metropolitan Museum of Art 2016.734.3, attributed to Alamito culture. Height 30.5 cm. Anonymous gift, 2016.*	154
9.14	(A) Inguapi, northern Ecuador. The small earthen platforms are nearly invisible in the swamp and trees but originally supported buildings. Arrows indicate the mounds’ platforms locations. (B) A rare well-preserved effigy vessel showing a La Tolita house with elaborate organic resist-painted decoration on a small platform like those remaining on the site to the present. Photographs courtesy of Jean-François Bouchard.	157
9.15	A <i>canastero</i> in the form of a double supernatural figure teeming with snakes. These peculiar ceramics are of unknown function although one presumes the “basket” on the back was used for something, perhaps offerings, perhaps food.	159
9.16	An llama golden funerary mask. Such masks are relatively frequent in the richest graves of llama and Malangana. This one is unusual in that the eyes are open so that it could have been worn in life as well as in the tomb. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Jan Mitchell and Sons Collection, gift of Jan Mitchell, 1991. #1991.419.39. 19.1 × 33.8 × 9.5 cm.*	160

<i>List of Figures</i>	xix
10.1 Llamas have rather coarse hair which is used mainly for weaving potato and other sacks. Their main use is as beasts of burden. Photograph courtesy of Nicholas Tripceвич.	163
10.2 Spindles in the Tucumé site museum in northern Peru. Here pieces of dried potato and soda bottle caps are used in place of formal spindle whorls. Photograph courtesy of Alice B. Kehoe.	165
10.3 The Peruvian chronicler Felipe Guaman Poma de Ayala shows a woman spinning camelid hair and a man plying the spun threads. Both are using drop spindles. This division of labor continues to the present in both Peru and Ecuador. After Felipe Guamán Poma Primer Nueva Cronica y Buen Gobierno (ca. 1613) Illustration of “Terzera Edad De In(di)os, PVRVN RVNA.”	166
10.4 One of the last traditional spinners and weavers on the Ecuadorian coast spinning cotton using a spinning tripod. Although these tripods were usually wooden, this weaver’s son made her one of metal pipe. Photograph courtesy of Karen E. Stothert.	167
10.5 Master weaver José María Cotocachi of Peguche, Ecuador, working on a backstrap loom. Weaving is a male occupation in much of the Andes.	168
10.6 A Huari four-sided cap in <i>rya</i> technique. Four-sided caps are typical of Huari, whereas in closely related Tiahuanaco males wore a round skull cap, often with a turban wound around it. Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1983.497.5, gift of Arthur M. Bullowa, 1983. 12.1 × 18.4 cm.*	169
10.7 A Jama-Coaque figurine shows a seated male wearing a tabard with a matching headdress, both decorated with tufts. The headdress has two huge shells attached to it and the man is wearing elaborate jewelry, including a nose ornament, a large metal ornament inserted under his lower lip, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, and a belt of beads. Photograph courtesy of Tom Cummins.	170
10.8 The Lady of Cao, a Moche queen regnant, wearing one of the dresses she was buried with, a loose shift-like garment of elaborately woven cloth. She also has impressive gold and silver jewelry and giant golden war clubs. Cao Viejo Site Museum. Manuel González Olaechea y Franco, January 3, 2000.*	172
10.9 Two views of a Capulí (northern Ecuador/southern Colombia) lady in an elaborately patterned skirt. The geometric design indicates that the skirt was made of tapestry or, perhaps, supplemental weft (brocade) weave.	173
10.10 One panel of the “warrior hangings,” painted cotton cloths meant to adorn temples or other important building in the thirteenth to fourteenth century on the central coast of Peru. At least seven sets of similar hangings are known to exist. Chimú Prisoner textile, Princeton University Art Museum 2011-43.	

	Museum purchase, Fowler McCormick, Class of 1921, Fund. 189 × 165.3 × 2.5 cm.	175
10.11	Two motifs from the painted cotton cloths looted, supposedly, from Karwa (Carhua) on the south coast of Peru. (A) A Staff God and (B) a supernatural feline (probably a jaguar was meant as the tail has spots, not stripes). The motifs' elaborate Chavín iconography suggests one way in which complex religious information was spread in these non literate societies.	176
10.12	A delegation of indigenous people from the village of Coroma (Bolivia) came to San Francisco, California to try to recover their sacred ancestral textiles from the art dealer who had had them stolen from the ritual bundles in which they were kept and venerated. Because the textiles (which had been seized from the dealer by US Customs and were stored in the Customs House in San Francisco) had been without "love" and offerings for so long they had not only sent drought and famine to Coroma, but were actively dangerous to the Coromans themselves. Here the descendants of the people who wore the textiles in the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries make a fire offering, sacrificing coca leaves, candies, and tobacco to the ancestors along with prayers that they might retrieve them and take them home. They were only partly lucky and the thieving dealer got to keep and sell a fair number of the ancestors.	177
11.1	Sodalite beads and gold foil from the early site of Waywaka in Andahuaylas, Peru; some of the earliest evidence of gold working in the Andes. Photograph courtesy of Joel Grossman.	181
11.2	A golden crown from Tomb 1 in the main ceremonial precincts of Kuntur Wasi. The 14 faces dangle and move as the person wearing the crown moved. All the early golden ornaments in the central Andes are hammered foil, like this piece. Photograph Stephen Wassipaul, November 24, 2006.*	182
11.3	A gilded copper Sacrificer God from Loma Negra, Piura Valley. Metropolitan Museum, 1982.394.69.*	184
11.4	A unique Moche vessel shows smelting. The central figure – the foreman? – is polishing a back flap while the three other males keep the heat high using blow tubes(<i>tuyeres</i>). The smelter itself is made of adobe bricks and was presumably demolished, at least in part, to remove the crucibles with the melted metal in them. Photograph courtesy of Christopher B. Donnan.	185
11.5	A modern <i>huayra</i> or <i>huayrachina</i> being repaired in central Peru. Huayras use the strong winds of the higher altitudes to get the high temperatures needed to smelt metallic ores. Courtesy of Mary Van Buren.	185
11.6	(A) and (B) A gang smelter for copper. It was fueled with <i>huarango</i> (<i>Prosopis</i> spp.) wood. Located five m below the modern surface	

<i>List of Figures</i>		xxi
	in the Huaca del Pueblo Bataan Grande, these smelters have been C14-dated to AD 950–1050, the earliest well-dated copper smelters in South America. Courtesy of Izumi Shimada.	187
11.7	<i>Naipes</i> or axe monies from a Sicán tomb. These artifacts were buried wrapped in lots of multiples of 10. Courtesy of Izumi Shimada.	188
11.8	A family home in Yutopian, northwestern Argentina. At Yutopian, as in more modern coastal Ecuador, smelting and confection of metal artifacts took place in the home. There is evidence that similar activities in domestic settings took place at Chimú Farfan in northern Peru as well. Photograph courtesy of the late Joan Gero.	189
11.9	Doña Adela Borbor, one of the last traditional metallurgists of the Santa Elena Peninsula, Ecuador, smelting brass in her kitchen fireplace. Photograph courtesy of Karen E. Stothert.	190
11.10	A funerary mask of the Sicán culture of the Lambayeque Valley, northern Peru. The gold is very much “value within” as the gold alloy base mask was covered with layers of cinnabar and crushed lapis lazuli, and the final layer was colored feathers pasted to completely cover the mask with brilliant color. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 1974.271.35.*	192
12.1	1. Filandia (where the “Treasure of the Quimbayas” was found); 2. Tierradentro; 3. San Agustín; 4. Manta; 5. Jama Valley; 6. Lima (and Huaca Pukullana, Maranga, and a host of other pre-Hispanic sites of all periods from Paleoindian to early Colonial); 7. Pachacamac; 8. Nasca Valley and Cahuachi; 9. Nazca Lines on the Pampa de Nazca, one of the largest concentrations of geoglyphs in Peru; 10. Tiahuanaco; 11. Palpa Valley; 12. Pukara; 13. Taraco Peninsula; 14. Tiahuanaco; 15. Yutopian. Inset: The north coast of Peru in Moche times. 1. Cerro Ñañañique; 2. Vicús; 3. Loma Negra; 4. Sipán; 5. Pampa Grande; 6. Ucupe; 7. Pacatnamú; 8. San José de Moro; 9. Dos Cabezas; 10. La Mina; 11. Cao Viejo (El Brujo); 12. Huacas de Moche; 13. Huaca Santa Clara; 14. Gallinazo Group and the Castillo de Tomaval; 15. Recuay; 16. Pashash; 17. Chinchawas; 18. Pañamarca; 19. Yayno.	195
12.2	(A) The huge walls of the fortified Recuay site of Yayno suggest unsettled times. (B) This architectural Recuay vessel indicates social status by figure size. The warrior cacique on the roof of the structure is surrounded by smaller women offering him drink. A smaller cacique on the lower story seems to be a lookout and is also offered drink by servants. (A) photograph of Yayno courtesy of Gordon Lau; (B) photograph courtesy of Raphael X. Reichert.	196
12.3	Two Gallinazo ceramic vessels. (A) A multi chamber vessel of an elite ware was found at the Huaca Arco Iris in Trujillo. (B) An ordinary jar with the characteristic rudimentary smiling	

	face of Gallinazo ceramics. Both vessels are decorated with organic resist black paint.	198
12.4	Part of one of the Pañamarca murals: the seated woman makes enigmatic signs with her hands while the standing woman offers bowls of food. A blue bird flies behind them. Photograph courtesy of Lisa Trever.	202
12.5	Cerro Blanco and the Huaca de la Luna at Huacas de Moche. The Luna is built up and into Cerro Blanco with one of the stone outcrops walled and the resulting plaza used as a scene of mass human sacrifice.	203
12.6	(A) The north façade of the Huaca de la Luna is decorated with stacked lines of painted reliefs: from the bottom these are a procession of warriors leading prisoners, dancers, Decapitator Spiders, a line of marine deities, mythical animals, part iguana, part feline, with trophy heads. Above these were a line of faces of a fanged deity, a huge serpentine form that was decorating the main ramp of the Huaca de la Luna, and then a line of other deities with rays and trophy heads. (B) Close-up of one of the Decapitator Spiders. When new, the Huaca de la Luna would have been a multicolor spectacle in the gray-tan landscape of the desert.	203
12.7	A (reconstructed) relief of a deity head at Cao. The reliefs at Cao are almost identical to those at the Huacas de Moche. This head is one of many covering the walls of a small room on the main pyramid.	206
12.8	Looking from the Huaca de la Luna across the Great Plaza (and company town) of Moche towards the later Huaca del Sol. Approximately 3/4 of the Sol was lost to colonial mining operations.	207
12.9	Moche ceramics. (A) A portrait jar. (B) A stirrup bottle in the form of an ordinary jar with a fabric stopper, painted with a line of running warriors. (C) “The Whistler,” an image of a female shaman. (D) A flaring bowl, called a “ <i>florero</i> .” All these vessels are from Moche or Chicama, the southern heartland. (A) Art Institute of Chicago, Kate S. Buckingham Endowment. 1955.2338 courtesy of Dadecot, Wikimedia 10-10-2010. Height 35.6 cm; (B)–(D) all from Metropolitan Museum via Wikimedia: (B) Bottle with painted warriors #64.228.4; (C) Curandera bottle 1976.287.8 Gift of Nathan Cummings. Height 17.5 cm; (D) Pedestal bowl 63.2265. Gift of Nathan Cummings. Diameter 26 cm, height 17.8 cm.*	210
12.10	(A) The Huaca Pukullana is located in what is now the Miraflores district of Lima. The peculiar Lima style of construction with many small bricks is evident. (B) A Lima style, or “Interlocking” cup.	212
12.11	Part of the ritual center of Cahuachi in the Nazca Valley of southern Peru. Cahuachi seems to have been a largely vacant	

	ceremonial center, visited only on ritual occasions. It was also a cemetery, which has led to extensive looting for foreign art markets. Many, if not most, of the structures were built with natural hillocks as cores. Photograph by Ingo Melling, 11-2-2013.	213
12.12	Nazca polychrome ceramics. (A) A double spout and bridge bottle painted with images of the Anthropomorphic Mythical Being, (B) A vase with an image of “The Harvester,” an agricultural deity. (C) A modeled vessel depicting an anthropomorphized Killer Whale deity. (D) A Nazca vase showing a line of running warriors with spear throwers and darts, trophy heads, and their “war parrots.” It has been hypothesized that this scene was inspired by Moche painted scenes of running warriors.	215
12.13	The famed “Desert Lines” of the Pampa de Nazca include both straight lines or sacred paths, geometric figures, and, occasionally, animals or humans. The spider shown here may refer to a sacred ancestor or a deity associated with a specific group of Nazca people. Author Pingyao, May 2, 2006.*	217
12.14	The Pukara ritual center and the Kidder Temple. Built in two colors of cut stone it mimics the classic U-shaped temples of the coast. Photograph by the late Karen Mohr de Chavez, courtesy of Sergio Chavez.	219
12.15	Ceramics from Ecuador. (A) Guangala male figurine showing the characteristic cap, low-slung loincloth and tattoos of this culture. Figures seated on benches are probably either important people or shamans, according to ethnologists working in South America. (B) A “gigante” in the Bahia style. The spiked headdress with flat, hanging (gold?) lappets is typical as is the facial piercing. (C) Bahia or Jama-Coaque ritual performer brandishing a pair of pineapples. His elaborate headdress sports stuffed birds and his lime container (for chewing coca) is a giant pineapple. (D) A Tolita amorous couple: the eroded surface is typical of Tolita pieces.	222
12.16	The Jama-Coaque site of San Isidro, in the Jama Valley of Ecuador. The main tola still stands, although the modern town has encroached on it. Photograph courtesy of James Zeidler.	224
12.17	Statuary from San Agustín, Colombia. (A) and (B) Two views of a “feline attack” statue found within a tomb chamber at a place called La Candela. These pictures were taken less than a week after the tomb was looted. Surviving a feline attack is one way to become a powerful shaman. (C) The statue called “The Baron” once served as a caryatid in a tomb chamber at the site of Las Mesetas. He wears good Amazonian clothing: a penis string, a beaded collar, and a feather crown. He is carrying a shell for lime and a spatula to remove the lime from the shell and put it	

	on coca leaves for chewing. (D) A smiling supernatural with a feathered headdress was used as a coffin cover.	226
12.18	A “Yotoco bowl,” the most characteristic ceramic of the Yotoco or Calima culture. These bowls were widely valued and traded up and down the Cauca Valley and adjacent cordilleras.	231
12.19	A Quimbaya lime bottle in cast gold. The nude female figure with beaded ligatures and necklace is in the purest Quimbaya style. Poporo. Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1991.419.22, The Jan Mitchell and Sons Collection, Gift of Jan Mitchell. Height 22.9 cm.★	232
13.1	A Moche modeled and painted stirrup bottle shows hunting sea lions along the shore. Sand and water’s edge are indicated, placing the hunt in a specific habitat. The hunters are clubbing the sea lions to make them vomit the stones the animals swallow for digestive purposes. Today these stones are highly valued by local shamans as power objects. Courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum, 1978.412.69. Michael C. Rockefeller Memorial Collection. Gift of Nelson A. Rockefeller 1961.★	238
13.2	A shorthand version of the Sacrifice Scene. A bat warrior cuts a human prisoner’s throat and gathers his blood in a goblet. A beaker, a footed cup, and a spinning tripod fill the space between this vignette and the goddess handing the goblet of blood to the rayed god. Illuchu fruits surround her feet. The seated male deity has an elaborate nose ornament and is wearing warrior garb. To the far right a mountain cat warrior steps into the scene. Courtesy of Christopher B. Donnan and the late Donna McClelland.	240
13.3	Julia Calderón de Avila, the daughter of the famous curandero Eduardo “Chino” Calderón, has also become a healer and shaman. (A) The shaman meditating in front of her mesa, the collection of power objects which will help her to heal. (B) The mesa itself with shells, rocks, sacred images, and bottles of perfume used in the curing ceremonies. This type of shamanism is clearly descended from similar practices among the ancient Moche and earlier cultures on the north coast of Peru. Photographs courtesy of Douglas Sharon.	241
13.4	(A) A detail from a Paracas embroidered mantle showing a dancer in a bird man outfit, armed with a spear thrower and a club, he carries a trophy head in the right hand. (B) A condor man dancer, also from a Paracas mantle. Below the beak he wears a large mouth mask. (C) A human dancer with long hair carries a fan and wears a shirt and a short kilt. Dress items identical to those shown in the embroidered images are found in the mummy bundles. Photographs courtesy of Edward Dwyer.	243
13.5	A Sinú owl ornament and a feline pendant. The fine braid and open work done in lost wax technique is typical of Sinú metal	

	pieces. (A) Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1979.206.920. Michael D. Rockefeller Collection, gift of Nelson A. Rockefeller. 12.1 × 7.6 cm. (B) M. H. DeYoung Museum, San Francisco. Author Daderot, 5-11-13.*	244
13.6	Two Tairona “bat men.” This figure is extremely common among Tairona pieces and represents an important mythological figure. (A) Metropolitan Museum, 69.7.10. H. L. Bache Foundation, 1969. Height: 14 cm.* (B) Louvre. Photograph, Jostrow, 2006.*	245
13.7	A Muisca cast gold snuffing tray with a seated male, probably a priest or shaman, on one end, perhaps referring to the ritual use of hallucinogenic snuffs. Tisquesusa, own work, June 1, 2016. Museo del Oro, Bogotá.*	246
13.8	A “Veraguas eagle.” Made of tumbaga, these ornaments were widely traded (and copied locally) from their origin among the Sinú of northern Colombia. They were first identified in Panama, hence the name. Most of these “eagles” represent birds of prey, including eagles, vultures and, perhaps, hawks. Cleveland Museum of Art, 1943.289. Purchase from the J. H. Fund.*	247
14.1	1. Sabana de Bogotá; 2. Palestina; 3. Armenia; 4. Yotoco; 5. Pupiales; 6. Carchi; 7. Chordeleg and Sigsig; 8. Cajamarca; 9. Inticancha; 10. San José de Moro; 11. Huamachuco and Viracochapampa; 12. Castillo de Huarmey; 13. Huari (Ayacucho); 14. Azangaro; 15. Pikillacta (just south of Cuzco); 16. Jargampata; 17. Cerro Baúl (Moquegua Valley); 18. Pariti Island (in Lake Titicaca); 19. Tiahuanaco; 20. Pacheco (Nazca Valley); 21. Maymi (Pisco Valley); 22. San Pedro de Atacama; 23. Valliserrana Region of northwestern Argentina.	250
14.2	A tiny ceramic whistle is all the evidence we have for what Tiahuanaco buildings actually looked like. Note the very high-pitched roof (it rains and snows in the Altiplano) and the double-jamb door, which presages the Inca style. Drawn by Jane Becker.	252
14.3	The Akapana and the Sunken Semisubterranean Temple. The Sunken Temple is probably the first monumental construction at Tiahuanaco and is typical of early sunken temples throughout the southern Andean region. In the center of the rectangular sunken patio is a series of statues. One, the so-called Bennett Monolith (after Wendell Bennett, who worked at Tiahuanaco in the 1930s), is in the Classic Tiahuanaco style (it is currently in the Tiahuanaco site museum), the other, perhaps the original statue associated with the temple, is of a bearded man in Yayamama style. The small stelae are plain. The Akapana, a giant, elaborate platform in the shape of an Andean cross, was faced entirely with cut stone, much of which is now missing.	

	A palace and perhaps a temple were on top. Photograph courtesy of the late Jean-Pierre Protzen.	253
14.4	Looking down on the Kalasasaya from the Akapana. This structure consists of a huge walled enclosure, with a second, higher, enclosure inside. Inside this higher enclosure is a series of small buildings, perhaps shrines or similar structures. Photograph by the late Karen Mohr de Chavez; courtesy of Sergio Chavez.	254
14.5	The Gateway of the Sun in 1877. This monolithic entrance was never finished. It was meant to be part of a larger structure. The door is low as the inhabitants of the Altiplano generally were quite short. The unfinished low-relief decoration on the upper gate features the Staff God, standing on a stepped platform, and surrounded by running human- and bird-headed “angels.” This is apparently the main deity and the core iconography of Tiahuanaco. That of Huari is very similar, arguing that both states had the same religion but, perhaps, noting that there are numbers of differences in both iconography and offering practices, and different sects or cults. Photograph by Georges B. van Grumbkow, 1877, Lima Art Museum, Peru.★	257
14.6	(A) Inside the Kalasasaya enclosure was found the so-called Ponce Stela, a large statue of a supernatural (?) male. He wears a tie-dye kilt and is holding a keros of beer and a snuff tray. (B) This <i>chachapuma</i> (a human/puma figure holding a trophy head), is one of the very few statues of Tiahuanaco whose find spot is actually known. Still, there is reason to think that find spot may not equal original context, given the immense amount of movement of stones at Tiahuanaco. (B) Courtesy of Antti Korpisaari.	258
14.7	Tiahuanaco ceramics. (A) Llama shaped incensario. (B) Feline incensario with mythological winged animal painted on its side. (C) Miniature <i>keros</i> (height 8.3 cm) with a semi-modeled image of the Staff God topped by a row of trophy heads, Pariti offering #PRToo168. (D) Full size <i>keros</i> (23.4 cm) with design of a low modeled rayed head (the Staff God) displayed on a stepped platform. Pariti offering # 00482. (A) Metropolitan Museum of New York, Michael C. Rockefeller Collection, gift of Nelson A. Rockefeller, 1969. # 1978.412.100 25.7 × 21. com.★(C), (D) Photographs courtesy of Antti Korpisaari.	259
14.8	Huari ceramics. These are all outsize ceramics from offerings, usually broken in place in the offering pit and then covered over. (A) Face neck jar from Conchopata. (B) Outsized urn with a band of heads of supernatural, fanged, animals. (C) Giant keros from Pacheco with a design of cultivated plants above the low modeled face. (D) Giant urn from Pacheco offering with a low relief/painted decoration of crop plants and walled pairs of <i>colcas</i> (storage buildings). (A), (B) Photographs courtesy of Jane Stone.	265

List of Figures

xxvii

14.9	The Moraduchayuq Compound at Huari. This walled enclosure originally had at least eight patios and was two to three stories high. When its shiny white exterior plaster was intact it must have been stunning. The excavator, William Isbell, interprets it as the home of an extended family of middle-level administrators who used some of the patios and associated rooms for administrative duties, including brewing and feasting, essential activities in the Andean scheme of doing business. Photograph courtesy of Jane Stone.	267
14.10	Pikillacta, in the southern part of the Cuzco Valley, was a “company town” par excellence. (A) The main part of town, laid out on a grid with the near identical compounds arranged along the streets and a large plaza in front, looking over the valley. (B) The northern sector, of walled round buildings, was once thought to be an area of storage (colcas) but excavation has shown that it was workers’ quarters.	268
14.11	(A) Excavations in Monjaschayoc revealed a looted mausoleum with many (looted) burial chambers. The Huari, unlike the Tiahuanacans, mainly used finely cut stone in subterranean constructions such as tombs and elaborate drains. (B) The Cheqo Wasi sector of Huari is noted for its concentration of stone slab tombs, most of which were surrounded by a round or D-shaped structure. All have been thoroughly looted. Photographs courtesy of Jane Stone.	269
14.12	The Vegachayoc D-shaped temple is surrounded by other earlier and later religious structures and boasts an extremely elaborate drainage system to take away the waters of the Andean downpours. Photographer Ronald Sheppard, May 8, 2012 and March 29, 2013.*	270
14.13	(A) The Huari site of Cerro Baúl is located on this high mesa. (B) The mesa top is covered with the remains of living quarters, a brewery, a temple and administrative living and ruling quarters. All water had to be carried up from the valley floor. Photographs by Ronald Sheppard, May 8, 2021 and March 29, 2013.*	273
14.14	(A) A gray bowl of the Aguada culture depicts a large monkey and some smaller stylized animals and geometric designs. (B) A bronze plaque, also of the Aguada culture, shows a man wearing an elaborately patterned tunic, long hair, and a fez-like cap with a frontal ornament, flanked by two happy felines. (A) Photograph by Cristina Tolesano and Claudio Elias, La Plata Museum, Buenos Aires, 2009. (B) Drawing by Jane Becker.*	274
14.15	A Tacalshalpa or Cañari hilltop <i>pucara</i> (fort) near modern Cumbe. Terracing of hilltops with villages below and a fortress on the top was typical of this restless period in Ecuadorian prehistory. Photograph courtesy of Lynn Hirschkind.	276