

BREAKING GROUND LECTURE SERIES

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE POPULAR BLACK PRESS: AFRICAN HISTORY IN EBONY MAGAZINE

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REMOTE VIA ZOOM

Dorothy and classmates piece together clay shard on scholarship financed by Delta Sigma Theta.

STUDENT'S JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

Young New Yorker tells experien Guatemala—land of the ancient I

BY DOROTHY MICHAEL

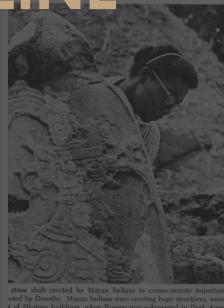
ABOUT ten months ago, while sitting with my mother's voice. "Dottie," she said excitedly, "you won't stand there speechless as mother read the letter I had just received from the State Department to begin a 1959-60 fellowship for a year's study in Guatemala under the promotion of the Bureau of Cultural Relations."

Two hectic passport-getting, travel-arranging, goo months later, I boarded a plane and sister, I began to of apprehensions about what lay ahead.

"What would Guatemala and its people be like? Would so far away from home? Would my knowledge of Spanish count?"

I had just six months before taking and passed the New exam and had been granted a provisional (until I receive degree) home to teach Spanish in the city high schools, mostly for a term at New York City's Julia Richmond H. Then too, it had been at the suggestion and with the aid of the Spanish Department at Barnard College that I had the grant as an undergraduate Spanish major.

All I knew about Guatemala then was that it was the I Mayan Indians who, as I had read in books, had reached a



Three shells created by Mayan Indians in ceremonial structures, some of 20th-century buildings, which Dottie now photographed in Guatemala.

New fossil discovery

AFRICA: Birthplace of Man



A man-like creature made Kenya his home nearly three million years ago, recent discoveries have suggested. An artist's reconstruction is presented at left. Bernard Ngweni, who recorded key discovery, is shown near the marker.

'Modern' skull unearthed in Kenya is earliest trace of man on earth

By HAMILTON BIMS



Volume of skull has been measured by anthropologists, anticipating modern man age c.e. of some 1,400—a surprising figure for



SPEAKERS



DR. JUSTIN DUNNAVANT

Assistant Professor, UCLA
Department of Anthropology



DARARTU MULUGETA

Undergraduate, UCLA

As increasing calls for science communication encourage archaeologists to convey their research to diverse public audiences, we found it necessary to explore how such research was disseminated in the past. Delving into the archives of Ebony Magazine and the Johnson Publishing Company, we examine the manner in which archaeological research was communicated in the Black popular press from the 1950s into the present. The articles, authors, and subjects provide unique insight into the topics of interest to Black America and speak to the power of the Black press at educating and exciting the public about ground-breaking archaeological research. Engaging Ebony Magazine as a historical archive, we uncover little-known figures and moments in the history of African and African diaspora archaeology and offer suggestions for future directions in science communication research.

Dr. Justin Dunnivant

Dr. Justin Dunnivant is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at UCLA. His current research in the US Virgin Islands investigates the relationship between ecology and enslavement in the former Danish West Indies. In addition to his archaeological research, Justin is co-founder of the Society of Black Archaeologists and an AAUS Scientific SCUBA Diver. In 2021, he was named a National Geographic Emerging Explorer and inducted into The Explorers Club as one of "Fifty People Changing the World that You Need to Know About." He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. His research has been featured on Netflix's "Explained," Hulu's "Your Attention Please" and in print in American Archaeology and Science Magazine.

Darartu Mulugeta

Darartu Mulugeta is a Political Science and Psychology student at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is specializing in methods and computing with the primary goal of studying African communities and history. She is currently part of the African Diaspora Archaeology Lab as a Bunche Research Fellow. Outside of school, she volunteers at the Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association as an Oromo language teaching assistant.

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