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## History of Bolivian Archaeology: Geraldine Byrne de Caballero

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Today the principal archaeological museum of Cochabamba, Bolivia is called the Museo Geraldine Byrne de Caballero. Yet there is surprisingly little information on Byrne de Caballero at the museum, or elsewhere in Bolivian sources. Fortunately, Walter Sánchez Canedo (2006) has written a brief article, providing some more information about her career.

Byrne de Caballero investigated and wrote articles on Cochabamba sites, from the formative period up through historical periods. I knew most of the eight journal articles cited for her, but she wrote another five dozen articles for local newspapers. All of these publications, however, were written when she was director of the museum in Cochabamba, from 1972 to 1986, so we lack information on her earlier archaeological contributions. Although publishing in special supplemental newspaper sections has been a well-accepted practice or tradition for informing the public and specialists about Bolivian archaeology, it obviously makes it difficult for the non-Cochabambinos to track down her publications. But at least now with title, newspaper, and date, it may be possible to go back into old local archives and retrieve some of these articles.

Geraldine Byrne de Caballero was born in Algeciras, Spain in 1906, and died in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in 1986. She studied history and anthropology at Cambridge, London and Oxford, finishing with an A.B. degree. She may have come to Bolivia as early as 1935, but we know that she taught English at the Escuela Nacional de Maestros de Sucre from 1943 to 1945, where she first met Dick Edgar Ibarra Grasso (1914–2000) and later Leonardo Branisa Minarik (1911–1999). She joined with Ibarra Grasso and Branisa to conduct the first archaeological investigations in Chuquisaca, and they together came up with the idea of founding the Museo Arqueológico de Sucre in 1944 at the Universidad de San Francisco Xavier. From 1946 until the 1960s, she worked for William Brothers Sudamericana. She became the Vice-Consul of Great Britain for Chuquisaca and Cochabamba departments in 1955, and in the 1960s, she moved permanently to Cochabamba, where she was also a correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph* of London, and *La Razón* in La Paz.

It would sound from what Walter Sánchez Canedo writes, that Byrne de Caballero was not involved

in archaeology in the interim. But that is far from true. For example, pulling volumes from my bookshelf, I find that Stig Ryden (1908–1965) credits her with showing him the majority of sites that he investigated in 1951–1952, particularly the important Formative site of Chullpa Pampa. Similarly, Hermann Trimborn (1901–1986) credits her with showing him the many of sites he excavated in his field seasons of 1955–1956, and 1959–1960. Thus while Byrne de Caballero did not have any formal position in archaeology during that period, she was very involved in documenting the archaeological record.

Hence, she had a good background in regional archaeology, when she took over the directorship of the Museo Arqueológico de la Universidad Mayor de San Simón in 1972 from Luís Céspedes Barbery. It was during her fourteen year tenure as museum director that she conducted a number of excavations at the Inca sites of Cotapachi, where she identified more than 2400 storage colca, and at Incarrqay and Inkallajta, work that convinced her that the Inca presence in Cochabamba was much stronger than previously had been recognized archaeologically. As a female and not native born, she has been often forgotten, and this problem is of course exacerbated by the fact that her publications are in rather obscure sources.

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## History of Bolivian Archaeology: Max Portugal Ortiz

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One of the continuing problems for students of the history of our discipline is the tendency for retrospectives to identify and discuss the same ‘big names’ in the field, as if these individuals were the only ‘players’ or ‘actors’ involved. Thus in Bolivia, for example, a list of prominent archaeologists working in the mid-20th century often gets limited to Europeans such as Stig Ryden and Heinz Walter, Americans such as Wendell C. Bennett and Alfred Kidder, and Bolivians such as Arturo Posnansky and Carlos Ponce Sanginés. With respect to the in-country, Bolivian contributors, then, one comes away with the impression that the baton passed rather seamlessly from Posnansky to Ponce.

There is a vibrant community of young archaeologists in La Paz, Bolivia, who have started new web-sites, new journals, new advanced degree programs, and even pushed through some ‘cultural resource management’ legislation. Two of these scholars, Carlos Lémuz Aguirre and Claudia Rivera Casanovas, are the new editors of the recently revived journal *Nuevos Aportes*. The first (and for many years only) issue of *Nuevos Aportes* came out in 1992. There thus has been nearly a fifteen year gap between that premier issue and the current issue No. 2. Utilizing new web-technology, this journal now is wholly a web-based publication, accessible through <arqueobolivia.com>.

The first issue of *Nuevos Aportes* is found in only three libraries in the United States (with similar rare occurrences in Europe and other locales outside of Bolivia). I had been trying to get a copy of an obituary on Maks Portugal Zamora, by his son Max Portugal Ortiz, from that issue for some time, but none of the three U.S. libraries would loan the journal, and without the exact page numbers, my ‘interlibrary loan’ requests were rejected. Thus I was delighted to see that Lémuz and Rivera decided