
VII

Few objects have been taken out of these ruins; some clay vases, small statues of the same, a skull, a necklace of gold beads and other small and insignificant articles.

With the exception of the tomb in group B, situated near the stream, from which the necklace of gold beads was extracted, nothing of importance was taken from the tomb in the Southern hall of palace No. 2 nor from that of Guiarú.

It appears that the Spaniards or the Indians, after the Conquest, profaned the tombs and scattered the bones, appropriating everything of value.

VIII

Up to the present time no descriptive information whatever regarding Mitla is known, excepting that of Burgoa, during all the period of Spanish rule.

Towards the end of the Spanish dominion in the year 1802, these ruins were visited by the Mexican architect Mr. Luis Martin and the Spanish Colonel Pedro de la Laguna; they made some good plans which were handed original to the Vice-roy the Marquis de Branciforte, who showed them to the learned Baron Humboldt. The latter published a small copy of said plans but today nothing is known as to the actual finding place of this collection.

In 1806 they were explored by royal orders, by a french Captain, William Dupaix, accompanied by the celebrated Mexican artist Castañeda, who made plans and drawings.

These works were only published in Paris in 1834 and later on in London.

In 1830 the German traveller Edward Muhlenpford carried out an important survey of the buildings; he made a general and separate plan of them all, of the platforms and other objects. An extract of his studies and part of his drawings on a reduced scale, were published by Mr. Juan B. Carriedo in 1851; and in 1890 Dr. Antonio Peñafiel published them for the first time complete in Berlin and in their original size.

In 1895 the German ethnologist Mr. Edward Seler, also had a partial publication made of them in Berlin.

In 1837 an English traveller called Sawkins visited Mitla and made several drawings of its ruins, which were published in Washington in 1856 by the American writer, Brantz Mayer.

Mr. Juan B. Carriedo who accompanied Muhlenpford on his visit to Mitla, made a second exploration in August 1852; he remarked the destruction of the buildings in that short lapse of time and wrote a

description of same which he promised to publish but failed to do. Mention has already been made of what he published.

In 1854 Gustave Fernando von Tempski went to Mitla and made six visits giving a clear description of them which was published in London in 1858.

It appears that the German traveler J. W. Muhller in 1865 made a trip to Mitla and refers to same in the book he had printed in Leipzig in 1865.

The French Colonel Doutrelaine, member of the "Scientific Committee of Mexico" explored this same place in July 1865, making plans of palaces Nos. 2 and 3, and a general one of the ruins, details of the masonry work and the fortification, publishing it all in Paris in 1867 in the "Reports" of said Committee.

In 1867 the French photographer Mr. Desiré Charnay made a trip to Mexico for the first time, visited Mitla and took splendid pictures which together with a printed text made in Paris in 1863, was sold to the public.

Emilio Herbruger (senior) came from Guatemala to take photographs of the ruins of Mitla in 1875; he took 34 views of them accompanied by a description which was published in Oaxaca in 1875.

A second archaeological expedition brought Charnay again to Mitla and he published the result of same in Paris in 1885.

Mr. Adolfo Bandelier went to study the ruins in 1881, formed plans, discovered the history and offered his results to the public in a book published and re-printed respectively in Boston in 1882 and 1885.

His successor was Mr. Frederick Ober, who published his notes in Boston in 1887.

Mr. Luis Aymé in 1881 made a study of the same buildings giving the results in a pamphlet published in Worcester (U. S.) in 1882.

Mr. Edward Seler a talented German, also made a study of these ruins in 1888; he made use of the works of Muhlenpford, saved the wall paintings from destruction, copying them carefully and published all in Berlin in 1895.

An Englishman, Mr. Corner, visited and studied these palaces in 1891 and published his ideas in London in 1899.

In June 1893 we undertook a new study of Mitla, taking 25 photographs, we rectified the general plan made by Muhlenpford, and under

the form of a brief "Guide" we published our works in Morelia in 1893.

The place was visited in the same year by Professor Frederick Starr who published his views in Chicago in 1894.

Mr. Reau Campbell went to Mitla in 1894 and we can read his ideas in the "Guide" he published in Chicago in 1895.

Professor W. H. Holmes passed a week among these ruins in 1895 and wrote a splendid book on them which was published in Chicago in 1897.

In October 1895 and on the occasion of an archaeological excursion to Mitla which was given to the members of the 11th meeting of the American International Congress, held in the City of Mexico, Engineer Manuel F. Alvarez took some measurements of the palace of columns and made some other observations.

Said gentleman repeated his trip in December 1898 to rectify his first studies, and in 1900 published in Mexico a book which can only be compared with that of Holmes and being even superior as regards some engineering details.

Mr. M. H. Saville, a young professor of the Museum of Natural History in New York, undertook a complete exploration at Mitla in the winters of 1900 and 1901, discovering things that were really admirable; and as a forerunner for those that were anxious to have details of his works, he published a pamphlet regarding the *cruciform structures* of Mitla and adjoining places, in New York in 1900.

To write this present book we made a second exploration to the ruins in September, finding that the aspect of groups 2 and 3 was greatly changed on account of the works undertaken in them by Mr. Saville and on account of the reconstructions of Mr. Leopoldo Batres.

Time and negligence, which latter is even more destructive than time, helped by men, especially since the communication with Oaxaca has been easy and rapid through the establishment of the railroad (1892), have little by little been doing away with these monuments.


Means were tried to avoid their destruction ever since 1888 and in order to isolate the buildings from persons and animals, a wall was begun to enclose them.

Work was suspended shortly after being commenced and only at the beginning of the present year, was anything important really done.

Mr. Leopoldo Batres, preserver of national archaeological monu-

ments, well seconded by the then Secretary of Justice and Public Instruction, Lic. Joaquín Baranda, gathered all the hewn stones and ornaments loosened from the hall of columns, placed them in their respective places, restored the level of the Northeast angle of the closed patio in palace No. 3, secured it conveniently, placed a support of iron beams in the monolithic door-frames of some of the doors, which being broken threatened a speedy and imminent ruin, and executed other repairs of immediate necessity.

IX

he most important works on the ruins of Mitla are the following:
ALVAREZ, Francisco Manuel—Ruins of Mitla and Architecture, Mexico, 1900.

AYME, Louis H.—Notes on Mitla, Oaxaca, Mexico, with plans and measurements of the ruins. In "Proceedings of the Amer. Antiq. Society" New Series.—Vol. II, Part. I, Worcester, 1882.

BANDELIER, Adolf F.—Report of an archaeological tour in Mexico, in 1881, Boston, 1885.

BURGOA, Fr. Francisco de—Second Volume of the second part of the geographical history, description of the northern part of the Arctic Pole of America. . . . Antequera, Valley of Oaxaca, etc., Mexico, 1674.

CAMPBELL, Reau—Complete guide and descriptive book of Mexico, Chicago, 1895.

CARRIEDO, Juan B.—Ancient palaces of Mitla. In "La Ilustración Mexicana." Vol. 2, pp. 493-500. Mexico, 1851.

CHARNAY, Désiré—Les anciennes Villes du Nouveau Monde, voyages d'explorations au Mexique et dans l'Amerique Centrale. 1857. Paris, 1885.

DOUTRELAINÉ, Le Colonel—Rapport a son Exc. le Ministre de l'Instruction publique sur les ruines de Mitla. In the "Archives de la Commission Scientifique du Mexique." Vol III, pp. 104-111. Paris, MDCCCLVII.

DUPAIX, Guillermo—Antiquités Mexicaines, relation des trois expéditions du capitaine Dupaix, 1805-1807, pour la recherche des antiquités du pays notamment celles de Mitla et de Palenque; accomp. des dessins de Castañeda; suivie d'un parallele de ces monuments avec ceux de l'Egypte, de l'Indostan, etc., par A. Lenoir, suivie d'une dissertation sur l'origine de l'anc. popul. des deux Amériques, etc., p. Warden, etc., Paris 1834-36, 2 Vols.

HERBRUGER, (Senior) Emilio—Album of photographic views of the

ancient ruins of the Mitla palaces, in the State of Oaxaca, Mexican Republic. Containing 34 views with descriptions, taken in July and August 1875, etc., *Oaxaca*, 1875.

HOLMES. William H.—Archaeological studies among the ancient Cities of Mexico, Part. II, Monuments of Chiapas, Oaxaca and the Valley of Mexico. *Chicago*, 1897.

LEON. Dr. N.—Album of Mitla—Collection of 25 photographs representing the most remarkable parts now existing of the palaces of Mitla. From Oaxaca to Mitla—Historical-descriptive guide for use of travellers. *Morelia*, 1893.

MÜHLENPFORD. Edward—Plans of Mitla. *Carriedo, Peñafiel and Seler* published them in the works above mentioned.

MÜHLER. J. W. von—Beitrage sur geschichte, und Ethnographie von Mexico. *Leipzig*, 1865.

OBER. Frederick A.—Travels in Mexico and life among the Mexicans. *Boston*, 1887.

SAVILLE. Marshall H.—Cruciform structures near Mitla. In the "Bull. of the Amer. Mus. of Nat. History." Vol XIII, Article XVII, pp. 201-218. *New York*, 1900.

SELER. Dr. Edward—Wandmalereien von Mitla eine mexikanische bilderschrift in fresko, nach eigenen an ort stelle aufgenommenen zeichnungen. *Berlin*, 1895.

TEMPSKY. G. F. von—Mitla. A narrative of incidents and personal adventures on a journey in Mexico, Guatemala and Salvador, in the years 1853 to 1855. *London*, 1858.

VIOLLET-LE-DUC—Cités et ruines américaines. Mitla, etc., etc. *Paris*, 1863.


PART SECOND.

From Oaxaca to Mitla.

I.—Direction in which Mitla is found.—Distance from Oaxaca.—From Tlacolula.—Description of the road.—Vehicles to Mitla and their price.—Small towns.—Sabine tree of Santa Maria del Tule.—Tlacoahuaya.—Prince Naatipa and his sad ending.—Huayapan, San Agustín, Tlalistac, the painter Miguel Cabrera, Santiago de los Borrachos.—Macuilxochitl.—Chapel of «El Señor de Tlacolula.»—Glyphs.—«Caballito Blanco.»—Proximity of Mitla.—San Pablo Mitla.

II.—The traveler in the ruins.—Group No. 1.—Hieroglyphic paintings on walls.—Group No. 2.—Crypts and monolithic door-frames.—Group No. 3.—Monolithic columns and wall ornamentation.—Group No. 4.—Stables and hieroglyphic wall paintings.—Image of San Isidro Labrador and the Tzapoteca copper instruments.—Temple A.—Beautiful panorama.—Platforms B.—Fortification.—Quarries.—Guiaru tomb.—Notice to the traveller.—Indian name of the ruins of Mitla.

I

o the East of the City of Oaxaca and in the District of Tlacolula, is the town now called San Pablo Mitla, in whose vicinity can be found the famous prehispanic ruins of that name.

They are about 10 leagues distant from the Capital City of the State and 3 from Tlacolula, this latter place being at 7 leagues from the former.

With a slight grade and in the gorge or ravine formed by high mountains, the road is traced which unites the City of Oaxaca with said above mentioned town.

The traveller can employ three ways of transportation to visit Mitla, which are: by *coach, horseback or carts*. The price for a coach for one round trip not exceeding two days, is \$ 20 or \$ 25, calculating at the rate of \$ 5 for the extra number of days the coach remains at Mitla.

The price per day for a horse, with suitable bridle, is \$ 1.50 to \$ 2.

The trip going and coming in a cart costs more or less \$ 8. On horseback or in a coach it takes one day on the road, but two in a cart, and with the necessity of remaining over night in Tlacolula.