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PLAN DE MANEJO (Review)

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seum US\$1,075, grand projects are not possible. But now the municipality has promised to put up a new 2-story building and the *moai* would be moved inside to a climate controlled environment. "It is our only hope," said Fernandez. The mayor of Viña stated that the new building will transform the Fonck into one of the principal museums of the world in matters of Easter Island culture. Fernandez is more modest and noted that the Museum contains 2,052 Rapanui pieces and the largest library in the world that is dedicated to Easter Island studies. It was founded by William Mulloy, the North American anthropologist, and is run by the Easter Island Foundation.

The Centro de Restauración del Consejo de Monumentos Nacionales has experimented with a *moai* on the island [at Hanga Kio'e] and after drying it out, they injected chemicals to a depth of up to ten centimeters to stabilize and waterproof the volcanic tuff.

There is risk in moving the *moai*. When it arrived on the continent in 1951, it was installed on a base of concrete with a one-inch diameter iron rod extending through the base and more than half way up its interior. Most of the base is now underground but it should be removed before placing the *moai* in a new location. Any traditional method of removal would cause detrimental vibrations, and so other methods are being considered. Cutting away the concrete will be expensive, and the Fonck Museum hopes that some international institution will help.

El Mercurio de Valparaíso 26 October 1998

ANOTHER *MATA RANGI*

NEVER ONE TO SAY 'enough already', Kitin Muñoz is now preparing to build yet another *Mata Rangi*. A camp has been set up on the beach at Chinchorro (north of Arica) where construction of another large *totorá* reed boat has begun. The new destination will be Micronesia, some 8,000 nautical miles to the west, and Muñoz hopes to prove that Pre-Columbian people made such a voyage.

During his last attempt, on the *Mata Rangi* #1, the reed boat broke in two and sank some twenty days and 150 nautical miles out of Easter Island. The crew and Muñoz, huddled in the aft section, were rescued by an American sailboat, *The Stray Dog*. The sailboat was subsequently wrecked on the north shore of Easter Island upon their return (See RNJ 11(2):96 and 11(3):138 for more on this soggy saga.)

Arica was chosen, says Muñoz, "to avoid technical difficulties that caused the earlier disaster." He claimed that bad weather on Rapa Nui as well as limited time were problems, causing the reeds to shrink and loosen the ropes. A Bolivian UNESCO representative said that the project has their backing, along with Don Felipe, Prince of Asturias (Spain), the governments of Chile and Bolivia, and the city of Arica.

The ship will have the same dimensions as *Mata Rangi* #1 but the prow and the stern will be steeper. The sails will be made of cotton and the crew will be smaller, seven persons. This current boondoggle is financed by a Swiss watch company, at the cost of one million dollars, about 30% the cost of the first (and disastrous) voyage.

El Mercurio de Valparaíso October 1998

REVIEWS

PLAN DE MANEJO - PARQUE NACIONAL RAPA NUI CORPORACIÓN NACIONAL FORESTAL, SANTIAGO DE CHILE 1997

A. Elena Charola, World Monuments Fund Consultant, Easter Island Program

THIS HARD COVER BOOK, 162 pages long, includes three fold-out maps of Easter Island. One is the topographic map, the second gives the zoning within the Park, and the third marks the location of cultural resources. It is divided into two main sections, Background information, and Management and Development of the Rapa Nui National Park; a Bibliography, and six Appendices.

The Background information section is divided into three chapters. The first one deals with what can be called general information on the Island: location, climate, geology and geomorphology, soils, hydrography, flora and vegetation, marine flora, wild animals, scenic values and critical areas. The second gives a socio-historical and archaeological review and also describes the current situation on the island. The third chapter concerns the legal aspects, surface and boundaries of the Park, its use, an analytical review of the previous management plan, and a synthesis of the importance of the Park.

The Management and Development section has four chapters. The first concerns the objectives of management and development. The second chapter deals with the different zoning



The Viña *moai*, now standing in the front garden of the Fonck Museum. The cement base is partially hidden by shrubbery.

for its use. The third includes management programs; and the last one is a synthesis of the proposed development.

The Bibliography covers seven pages and gives the most important references in the field, focusing on conservation of cultural heritage specifically for Easter Island and management of the Park.

Of the six Appendices, the first provides a chart and a table describing the land use on the island; the second lists the endemic and introduced plant species based on Ziska (1991). The third one gives demographic information on the island and the fourth provides information about tourists, and air and sea transportation. The fifth and the sixth appendices reproduce the text of the 1988 Meeting held in Santiago de Chile to determine the requirements for the conservation of Easter Island's heritage, and the Conclusions and Recommendations that resulted from the 1990 Lavas and Volcanic Tuffs International Meeting.

The presentation of the book is very good. The information it provides has been carefully prepared and summarized; however, it is definitely aimed for use by Park staff, being presented with management and conservation of the island's cultural heritage in mind. Except for the small photograph of Ahu Akivi on the dust-jacket, there are neither photographs nor drawings in the book.

An interesting point, for anybody following closely activities on the Island, is the list of accomplished tasks from those considered for the 1974-1996 period. They are subdivided into thirty-nine categories ranging from excavation, consolidation and restoration of archaeological sites, such as the restorations of 'Orongo village, or the repairs at the Tahai Complex; to fire control, and cattle management. The latter is a problem, as described on page 73, "... since a large number of cattle from the islanders is still within the Park's boundary. It is hoped that this situation will be solved through a Territorial Management Plan for the whole island, within the legal framework of the 'Indigenous Law (Ley No.19.253 'Ley indígena')." [. . . *gran parte del ganado de los isleños se encuentra al interior de la unidad, situación que se espera solucionar a través de un plan de manejo territorial para toda la isla, en el marco legal que plantea la Ley N° 19.253 Ley indígena.*]

This recently published Management Plan for the Rapa Nui National Park took nearly ten years to come to light. It replaces the first plan—created in 1974 and implemented two years later—and which was valid for nearly 20 years. It is important to point out that the core of that first plan is still valid and included in this second one which also takes on the unfinished tasks of the previous one. The most important changes introduced in the new plan refer to the greater flexibility required for this very special island. As an example, one of the issues deals with replanting contemporary species around the monuments, in particular by restored ahu. In the specific case of Anakena, the *Cocos nucifera*, an introduced species, would not be acceptable. However, from an aesthetic and didactic point of view, the plantation is perfectly adequate. Other changes are the increased responsibility the Park staff has with regards to maintenance of the archaeological sites, such as replacement of displaced stones, erosion or vegetation control.

The Management Programs chapter (Chapter 6) is probably one of the most interesting. It presents six programs: cul-

tural heritage, natural heritage, tourism support; education and recreation; research support; and administration. The activities that need to be covered to develop these programs, which include the various tasks referred to above, provide a daunting list. More so, when considered in the light of the meager staffing that this Park Unit has, varying between 8 - 12 rangers plus a part-time maintenance crew of 4 during fire season. It is obvious that the Management Plan, prepared by and for CONAF, blazes a trail to the ideal Park where the well-preserved archaeological heritage, surrounded by carefully planted native species, can be enjoyed by both residents and tourists, and where various education and information programs serve all levels of curiosity, from native children to foreign scientists. Much as we would all like to make this a reality, we cannot expect the Rapa Nui National Park to accomplish this without support. It requires support from CONAF headquarters, from other institutions, such as SASIPA (*Sociedad Agrícola y de Servicios Isla de Pascua*) and MOP (*Ministerio de Obras Públicas*), from the local government, from tourist agencies, and last but not least, from the people on the island themselves, since it is their heritage that the Rapa Nui National Park is trying to preserve.

Reference

Ziska, G. 1991. Flowering Plants of Easter Island. *Palmarum Hortus Francofurtensis*. Scientific Reports; Research Activities PHF 3. Palmengarten, Frankfurt.

HEAVEN'S MIRROR. QUEST FOR THE LOST CIVILIZATION

Graham Hancock and Santha Faiia. 1998

Crown Publishers, NY. 322 pages, hardcover. \$45.

Review by Georgia Lee

THE BOOK JACKET of this glossy book states "[The] author . . . continues the quest . . . to rediscover the hidden legacy of mankind—the revelation that the cultures we refer to as ancient were, in fact, the heirs to a far older forgotten civilization and the inheritors of its archaic, mystical wisdom." And, ". . . a stunning and illuminating tour into the spirituality of the ancients. . ."; ". . . a shockingly sophisticated understanding of the solar system, and perhaps even encompass the Holy Grail of immortality." In other words, Erich von Daniken's successor has landed. Fasten your seatbelts.

As the book covers everything from Mexico/Peru/Bolivia to Egypt, to Cambodia and the Pacific, a comprehensive review of all the material presented would take another book. So we will focus instead on Easter Island, and some of the misinformation therein. To thoroughly rebut every error, or to correct all misspelled words and erroneously interpreted facts, would take a mega review, and would likely send this reviewer into a cata-tonic state.

The subject of Easter Island begins with the statement that the island is ". . . as close as it is physically possible to get to 144 degrees of longitude east of Angkor." Duh. This is supposed to indicate some vast network by unknown navigators and architects. In reference to Easter Island's role in the larger scheme of things, "Its efficient [sic] cadre of literate architects and sculptors, whose predecessors had found the 'Navel of the World' through extraordinary feats of astro-navigation, were