

*Lima Subterránea: Arqueología
Histórica: Criptas, Bóvedas,
Canales Virreinales y Republicanos*

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The city of Lima, Peru, was founded in 1535 as the base of operations of Francisco Pizarro after conquering the Inca Empire. At the time it was named *La Ciudad de los Reyes* (The City of Kings) and it was placed near the mouth of the Rimac River so it could serve as a port. Before the Spanish arrived in the Chillón, the Rimac and Lurín Valleys had been occupied by permanent settlements and large ceremonial centers for over 4,000 years. That history can be seen throughout the city from the mounds of the Initial Period's (1800–800 B.C.) U-shaped temples, to Late Intermediate (A.D. 900–1400) pyramids with ramps, to colonial mansions (1532–1821), to modern skyscrapers.

Richard Chuhue and Pieter van Dalen's new edited volume, *Lima Subterránea*, explores Lima's history and shows how the urban landscape is marked by social and political changes. Lima is littered with traces of its past: there are numerous archaeological sites that date to Lima's pre-Hispanic occupation, and many colonial churches and buildings are still being used to this day. The work presented in this volume represents the ways that archaeology provides a deeper understanding of the city's history.

Two themes that recur throughout the book are the treatment of the dead and the way constructions were altered and repurposed over time. These two themes seem natural given that the majority of the research presented in this volume was conducted by cultural resources management (CRM) firms. Most of the CRM work done in Lima is either to evaluate archaeological sites within the city or restore historical buildings, including churches with crypts. Very little data are published from this type of work, and that alone makes this volume worthwhile. Beyond publishing data, however, this volume examines the continued use of buildings from one period to the next and the way human bodies are treated to explore Lima's history. The archaeological data presented show the continuity from period to period, and in particular from the region's prehistoric occupation to its Spanish occupation.

The first two chapters primarily deal with Lima's prehistory. Alberto Bueno gives a general survey of Lima's preconquest occupation, discussing a number of sites including Mateo, Salado, and Maranga. Bueno makes some odd choices in his discussion of Lima's prehistory. He begins his discussion in the Late Intermediate Period, deciding not to discuss the earliest major sites in the Lima area or the many important sites that emerged in the Middle Horizon (A.D. 600–900) during the Huari Empire's domination of the region. Similarly, he makes no mention of the oracle center of Pachacamac, which was a major religious center that wielded considerable power during both the Later Intermediate

Period and within the Inca Empire (A.D. 1400–1532). Van Dalen's chapter discusses the continuity from the Late Intermediate to the colonial period. By focusing on excavations at the site of Lumbra, he is able to demonstrate the transition from period to period. There is evidence of the site's use first by the Yschma and then by the Inca, and van Dalen also complements this with historical documentation that shows the Spaniards' attitude toward Inca administrative centers.

The following three chapters focus on mortuary practices in colonial Lima. Edwin Greenwich chronicles the history of Francisco Pizarro's body and uses this as a starting point for discussing differences in crypt architecture at different colonial chapels. Carlos Farfán's chapter on excavations at the church Santa Ana de Lima looks at whether or not it contained evidence of a pre-Hispanic occupation. Farfán provides an interesting discussion into why the church may have been built over a pre-Hispanic site, and then proves this was not the case. What is missing from this section is a discussion of who was buried at Santa Ana de Lima and what that says about Lima's colonial history. Chuhue's chapter on the sepulchral vault of Lima's orphanage and hospice uses a combination of excavation and historical documents to discuss issues of child mortality, the legal standing of children, and the role of the church in colonial Lima.

The subsequent three chapters look at the construction and use of different buildings in the colonial period. Miguel Fhon's chapter discusses the construction of underground structures at Casa Bodega y Cuadra. The description of the tunnels is interesting but the article does little to provide a context for the structures. Conversely, Boris Márquez and Hugo La Rosa begin their history of San

Marcos University with a lengthy history of its structures before discussing the impressive restoration work being undertaken at the Congress building. Unlike van Dalen or Chuhue, who use historical documents to supplement archaeological excavations, Márquez and La Rosa show how excavations can enrich historical texts in Lima. Antonio Coello and Brian Bauer balance data from excavations and historical texts about the Medical School of San Fernando de Lima. Much like Fhon, they start from historical texts on the medical school and then show how excavations provided more data on the topic. They also dwell on the treatment of bodies by the medical school and how this reflects social classes in Lima.

The final chapter, by Paul Pérez, tells the history of the Huatica canal, which has fed water to large parts of the center of Lima since the colonial period. Through a combination of historical documents and photographs of the canal's current state Pérez demonstrates how canals have been an essential part of Lima's landscape since the first villages were established. Pérez's chapter is also a summary of what this book succeeds at doing. The book shows how material culture can supplement the historical record. *Lima Subterránea* delves into the intimate details of Lima's past and shows the continuity from its pre-Hispanic occupation to its foundation as a Spanish colony to the modern day. Lima has a complicated relationship to its past: while it is constantly growing and modernizing itself, traces of its history are still evident. Looking at the archaeological record in conjunction with the historical record provides some enlightening details on how that past shaped the city.

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