

Alfredo E. Evangelista

1926-2008

Obituary by Wilhelm Solheim II

Alfredo Esguerra Evangelista

Born in Davao City 22 September 1926

Father: Catalino N. Evangelista from Pangasinan

Mother: Filomena S. Esquerra from Dumaguete City

Wife: Perfecta G. Evangelista, three children.

Education:

Primary and Secondary in Davao City,

University of the East, Manila B.A. 1953 Major in History;

University of Chicago M.A. 1959 Anthropology;

University of Hawaii as a Ph.D. Candidate 1970 Anthropology

Positions:

The National Museum of the Philippines

- Laboratory Helper February 1951-October 1955 (archaeology)

- Jr. Scientist November 1955-July 1956 (archaeology)

-Assistant Jr. Scientist July 1956-June 1957 (archaeology)

-Anthropologist July 1957-June 1967 (archaeology)

-Museum Researcher November 1967 (archaeology)

-Assistant Director 1973-1984

-Assistant Director Officer in Charge 1984-1989

-Director III 1989-1991 (retired)

University of the Philippines-Diliman

-Assistant Professor Anthropology December 1970-July 1971

-Assistant Professor 2 Anthropology July 1971-January 1973

-Assistant Professor 3 Anthropology January 1973-July 1973

University of Santo Tomas

-Faculty teaching introductory archaeology

(I have been unable to locate a vita of Evangelista's. This would have much more information than I have been able to find and fill in big gaps in my coverage)

I first became acquainted with Fred when he was a student of mine in a Social Science course that I gave at the University of the East in 1951. In the little that I presented on archaeology I mentioned that I would be going back to the field in Masbate that summer and said that I

would be happy to have any volunteers to work with me there. Fred volunteered and fell in love with archaeology. My American wife talked to Dr. Quisumbing, the Director of the National Museum at that time, about Fred and arranged for him to have a position with the museum as a Laboratory Helper. When Fred's parents heard about his taking this job they were very angry with him as they had planned with him to become a lawyer and they couldn't see where a career in archaeology would get him anywhere.

While working for the National Museum from February 1951 Fred did survey and made excavations in many different areas. Fred's first field work was with me on Masbate at Batungan Mountain in 1951. (Solheim 1954:58). He was with me there again in 1953 (Solheim 1968:21). He continued with me for the excavation of the Makabog Burial-Jar Site starting on 13 May 1951 (Solheim 1954:58). An interesting development at this site came when we removed a stone from one of the burial jars a local woman spectator excitedly shouted "dohol, dohol" which was then shouted by all the local audience. On inquiring the meaning of dohol they explained that it was the word for a pottery anvil (Plate 5 #12) used in pottery manufacture (Solheim 1954:63). Fred was with me when we discovered the Kalanay Cave Site in 1951 (Solheim 1970:54) and worked with me through its entire excavation in 1951 and 1953 (Solheim 1961:157 and 159, Fox and Evangelista 1957 and 2001g:68). In 1955 Fred excavated the Arroceros site in Manila, a late Ming porcelain site (National Museum List of sites excavated by the museum:1), but no published report..

Fred excavated with Fox in the Bato Caves in Sorsogon Province in 1956 (Solheim 1957:101, 102 and 106d Evangelista 1957a, Fox and Evangelista 1957b:58, 1981, 2001g:62, Gatbonton 1996:6, 7) and again with Fox for some years of survey and excavations on Cagraray and nearby islands off the east coast of the Bikol.(Fox and Evangelista 1957b, Fox and Evangelista 2001g), this included numerous sites..

In 1957 (Gatbonton 1996:7) Fred excavated Carranglan a probable Neolithic jar burial site in Nueva Ecija (Evangelista 1957: National Museum List:1) associated with lithic tools but no porcelain, stoneware or metal. This Neolithic jar burial site so far inland in northern Luzon has always been a puzzle.

Just before Christmas in 1960 Fred joined a National Museum crew to work in Batangas (Evangelista 1960a:87). The National Museum List names ten sites that Fred worked on with Fox and Santiago mostly in

Batangas, but one at Minolo Bay in Mindoro. In his *AP* Regional Report submitted in 1961 (p.68) Fred reported that he and Fox ran an archaeology field school at Santa Anna, Calatagan. In that report he also mentioned (p.69) that "The writer thrice interrupted his participation in the Calatagan excavations in order to do archaeological work on Marinduque Island.", this in 1961 (National Museum List:1) He also reported (p. 70) "The writer, with the assistance of two field-school students, made a quick investigation of a reported coffin-burial in caves on Banton Island, Romblon Group." He also worked there at Guyangan, a porcelain site, as listed in the National Museum List:1).

From 21 August to 6 Sept. 1961 Fred attended the Tenth Pacific Science Congress in Honolulu. At a Philippine conference in late Nov. (Evangelista 1962:46) Fred ". . . spoke on archaeology in the Islands, its growth and development, workers as well as its current status and problems." In mid December Fred ". . . represented the Philippines at the International Conference on Asian Archaeology in New Delhi" presenting a paper on finds in the Philippines showing trade relationships with Indian, Chinese and Thai sources. (Evangelista 1962:46)

Tabon Cave, on the west coast of central Palawan, was discovered by Fox and Manuel Santiago on the 28th of April, 1962 (Fox 1970:x). This site and many other sites in the same limestone formation and in nearby associated areas came to be the most important series of excavations undertaken by the Philippine National Museum. Work there has continued for lengthy periods until the present day. Fred worked many times here but specific dates have not been recorded. (Fox 1970:xi, xii; Evangelista, Henson and Salcedo 2001h:77;; Jago-on 2008:2; Evangelista 1963:54-56). "Fred was connected with this from the beginning for many years.

Duyong Cave is about 11 kilometers north of Tabon Cave (Evangelista 2001i:88). I have been unable to find when Duyong Cave was discovered and excavated and by whom. A very nice, undisturbed Late Neolithic burial was discovered and probably excavated by Fred (Fox 1970:60, Plate 8). A plate of his excavation is presented (Evangelista 1963:Plate 1a) showing Fred at his final cleaning of the burial.

From the 30th of March through the 4th of June 1963 Fred with the assistance of Inocentes Paniza, the Museum geologist, surveyed and tested mainly cave sites in limestone formations on the islands of Burias, Ticao, Masbate and Higantes. (Evangelista 1963: 52-53). Separate

archaeological excavations conducted by Fox, Evangelista and Solheim in various areas of the country show that an older tradition of jar burial in caves had entered the Philippines from the south at a much earlier date than those of Batanes and Babuyan." (Gatbonton 1996:5). From 1962 to 1967 the National Museum List (pp 2-4) indicates dozens of sites throughout much of the Philippines where Fred was in charge or worked mainly with Fox and Santiago or with Paniza, Legaspi and others.

The site of San Piro was first noticed in April 1973. It was noted by a school teacher in the school yard close to the end of the school year when she noticed the scattered shards of porcelain. She was able to get word of this to the National Museum (Evangelista et al:2001h:81) and Evangelista was put in charge of the excavation after it was decided to investigate (Evangelista et al:2001h:82). It is interesting how sites have been found in schoolyards. Might some schools have been purposefully built over a site?

From July 1973 to August 1991 Fred, in effect, was the Director of the National Museum. The official Director realized that Fred knew more about this than he did so to keep his official position he was not happy with Fred and contrived to make it appear that Fred was not capable of running the Museum. Fred was never promoted to be the official director, which he should have been. I visited him in the directors office fairly often and saw that he was fully occupied in running the museum without the official position. Shortly after his retirement in 1991 he started teaching at the University of Santa Thomas. It is obvious from his Partial Bibliography that I have been able to assemble that he was a very talented man.

Partial Bibliography

- 1957a *Report on an investigation and exploration of a Jar Burial Site in the Sitio of Butaling, Carranglan, Nueva Ecija from June 4 to 8 1957: A Field Report.* Unpublished Manuscript. Manila: The National Museum of the Philippines.
- 1957b (with Robert B. Fox) The Bato Caves, Sorsogon Province, Philippines. A preliminary report of a jar-burial stone tool assemblage. *University of Manila Journal of East Asiatic Studies* 6(1): 49-55. Mimeographed in 1958 for distribution at the 9th Pacific Science Congress.
- 1957c (with Robert B. Fox) The cave archaeology of Cagraray Island,

- Albay Province, Philippines: A preliminary report on exploration and excavation. *University of Manila Journal of East Asiatic Studies* 6 (1): 57–68. 1958 Mimeographed in 1958 for distribution at the 9th Pacific Science Congress.
- 1958 *Report of explorations and test excavations in an open jar burial site in Nueva Ecija Province, Philippines.* Unpublished manuscript distributed at the 9th Pacific Science Congress.
- 1960a *Philippines* (Regional report). *Asian Perspectives* 4: 85–88.
- 1960b Ancient burial customs among Filipinos. *Saturday Parade: Magazine of the Evening News* 1(16):9–10.
- 1961a *Philippines* (Regional report). *Asian Perspectives* 5: 67–70.
- 1961b (with Abdullah T. Madale) Latest clues on our forgotten past. *Chronicle Yearbook*: 74–80.
- 1961c (with Abdullah T. Madale) Digging up history: recent archaeological surveys in Marinduque and Zambales bare data on Philippine past. *Sunday Times Magazine* 16(36): 36–37.
- 1962a Philippine archaeology up to 1950. *Science Review* 3(9): 17–22.
- 1962b *Philippines* (Regional report). *Asian Perspectives* 6: 46–47.
- 1963 *Philippines* (Regional report). *Asian Perspectives* 7: 52–56.
- 1966 “The incipient and emergent periods in Philippine Culture History.” in *Filipino Cultural Heritage, Lecture Series No. 1: Prehistoric Cultures*. pp. 15–33. Manila: Philippine Women’s University.
- 1967 “H. O. Beyer’s Philippine Neolithic in the context of postwar discoveries in local archaeology,” in *Studies in Philippine Anthropology*. Edited by Mario D. Zamora, pp. 63–87. Quezon City: Phoenix.
- 1969 The Philippines: Archaeology in the Philippines to 1950. *Asian Perspectives* 12: 97–104.
- 1971 “Type sites from the Philippine Islands and their significance,” in *Studies in Oceanic Culture History*. Edited by R. C. Green and M. Kelly, pp. 28–35. Honolulu: *Pacific Anthropological Records* 12.
- 1972 H. O. Beyer’s Philippine Neolithic in the context of postwar discoveries in local archaeology. *Seminar On Southeast Asian Prehistory and Archaeology (Studies in Philippine Anthropology, In Honor of H. Otley Beyer)*:1–30. Quezon City: Alemars-Phoenix Publishers.

- 1981a "Introduction: Archaeology in the Philippines," in *Explorations in Philippine Prehistory (A Sourcebook)*. Edited by F. Landa Jocano and Alfredo E. Evangelista, pp. . Quezon City: The Asian Study Center.
- 1981b (with Robert B. Fox) "The cave archaeology of Cagraray Island, Albay Province, Philippines: A preliminary report on exploration and excavation," in *Excavations in Philippine Prehistory (A Sourcebook)*. Quezon City: The Asian Study Center.
- 1981c (Edited with F. Landa Jocano) *Excavations in Philippine Prehistory (A Sourcebook)*. Quezon City: The Asian Study Center.
- 1983 "Indigenous cultural minorities in the Philippines," in *Filipino Tradition and Acculturation--Reports on Changing Societies Research Report II*. pp. 161-170. Tokyo: Philippine Studies Program, The Institute of Social Sciences, Waseda University.
- 2001 *Soul Boats A Filipino Journey of Self Discovery (Selected essays of Alfredo E. Evangelista)*. Manila: National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

Miscellaneous

- Cuevas, Maharlika A. 2008. "Alfredo E. Evangelista 1926-2008 (obituary)," in *Proceedings of the Society of Philippine Archaeologists*. Vol. 6. Edited by _ , pp. ii.
- Dizon, Eusebio Z. and Rey A. Santiago. 1996. *Faces From Maitum, the Archaeological Excavation of Ayub Cave*. Manila: The National Museum of the Philippines
- Gatbonton, Esperanza Bunag. 1996. "Fire in the Hearth: Overview of prehistoric Philippine pottery with reference to burial jars," in *Faces from Maitum, the Archaeological Excavation of Ayub Cave*, by Eusebio Z. Dizon and Rey A. Santiago. Manila: The National Museum of the Philippines.
- Other unpublished national museum list dating from 1949-1986.

References

- Fox, Robert B. 1970. *The Tabon Caves*. Manila: Monograph of the National Museum of the Philippines No. 1.
- Jago-on, Sheldon Clyde B. 2008. "Technological analysis of the lithic materials from the 2007 Tabon Cave Excavations," in *Proceedings of*

the Society of Philippine Archaeologists. Vol. 6. Edited by —, pp. 1–13.

Solheim, Wilhelm G. II. 1954. The Makabog Burial-Jar Site. *The Philippine Journal of Science* **53**(1): 57–68.

_____. 1957. Philippine Islands (Regional report). *Asian Perspectives* **1**: 101–107.

_____. 1961. Further notes on the Kalanay Pottery Complex in the Philippine Islands. *Asian Perspectives (Sa-huynh: Pottery Relationships in Southeast Asia)* **3**(2): 157–165.

_____. 1968. The Batungan Cave Sites, Masbate, Philippines. *Asian and Pacific Archaeology Series, No. 2, Anthropology at the Eighth Pacific Science Congress*: 21.

_____. 1970. Prehistoric archaeology in eastern mainland Southeast Asia and the Philippines. *Asian Perspectives* **13**: 47–58.

Hukay, published twice a year, is the refereed journal of the University of the Philippines - Archaeological Studies Program. **Hukay** has expanded its geographical area beyond the Philippines. **We now accept articles on the archaeology, ethnoarchaeology, palaeoenvironmental studies, and heritage of the Asia and Pacific regions.** Reviews of books and articles on similar and related topics are likewise accepted. On occasions, we invite a guest editor to come up with a theme volume. Papers may be submitted throughout the year while contributions for theme volumes have specific deadlines. Articles are reviewed by at least three specialists from a pool of international scholars. Reviewers' comments and suggestions are forwarded to the author(s), who should implement them in the final version of the paper.

Hukay is published bi-annually. The main text, including captions, must not be more than 7,000 words provided that these can stand on their own and have not been previously published. Book reviews are also accepted. Manuscripts may be mailed or personally submitted with a soft copy to:

**The Editor, *Hukay*,
Archaeological Studies Program,
University of the Philippines,
Diliman, Quezon City 1101**

Or the articles can be sent to Grace Barretto-Tesoro at mdbarretto@upd.edu.ph. The Editors and the Board of Consultants are not responsible and should not be held liable for any personal views or opinions expressed here by the contributing authors. All questions and/or reactions to such should be addressed to the individual author concerned.



Hukay

Volume 14
2009

Characterisation and Geological Provenance of Jasper that was Used for Debitages in the Archaeological Site of Tabon Cave, Philippines
Patrick Schmidt

Prehistoric Sites in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh (India), with Evidence of Using Modern Materials
Babul Roy

A Study of the Animal Bone Recovered from Pits 9 and 10 at the Site of Nagsabaran in Northern Luzon, Philippines
Phil J. Piper, Fredeliza Z. Campos, and Hsiao-Chung Hung

Fording Upstream in Search for Balitok: Ibaloi Diaspora Into Benguet (Part 1)
Michael Armand Canilao

BOOK REVIEWS

Grace Barretto-Tesoro. 2008. *Identity and Reciprocity in 15th Century Philippines.*
Review by Bernice Anne Varona

OBITUARY

Alfredo Evangelista: 1926-2008
Wilhelm Solheim II