



**Smithsonian Institution**

*National Anthropological Archives*

## **Oral History, Gordon Ekholm, Side 2, Part 1, Winter-Spring 1971, William C. Sturtevant Papers**

Extracted on Feb-06-2023 04:51:13

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the National Anthropological Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the National Anthropological Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact National Anthropological Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the National Anthropological Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

00:07:00.000 --> 00:07:15.000

courses also from Clyde Kluckhohn, not in archaeology but I think he was, his one course I took from him I thought was very important for me.

00:07:15.000 --> 00:07:21.000

<i>Shirley Gorenstein</i>: Did you take work in physical anthropology?

00:07:21.000 --> 00:08:00.000

<i>Gordon Ekholm</i>: Yes, I took work in physical anthropology with Hutin, his courses, and in the last year a course in field methods both in physical anthropology, in linguistics, or rather in archaeology and in social anthropology. As a matter of fact, at the time when I graduated in 1937, when I'd finished my graduate work in 1937, there was very little opportunity for positions available and Hutin was casting about for jobs for me and there were three possibilities.

00:08:00.000 --> 00:08:27.000

One, to do some excavations in Iceland, to get skeletons for physical anthropological work, or in other words to become a physical anthropologist; and there was also a possibility of my going to the Barbados to do a social anthropological study and I'm afraid that if any one of those jobs really came through I probably would have been in those fields rather than archaeology. [[Door slams in background]]

00:08:27.000 --> 00:08:47.000

I had become very interested in the Barbados through this field work course where we studied the Barbadian Negroes in Boston and Cambridge and I got to know many of them and got extremely interested in the whole subject of social anthropological studies.

00:08:47.000 --> 00:08:59.000

However my main interest was archaeology, although at that time I had no intention whatsoever of going to Mexico or the Maya area.

00:08:59.000 --> 00:09:09.000

I had worked in the southwest and in the north and I think my general preference was for work in southwestern archaeology.

<i>Shirley Gorenstein</i>: Excuse me. You didn't tell what the third choice was.

00:09:09.000 --> 00:09:12.698

<i>Gordon Ekholm</i>: Ah, let me see, um--



**Smithsonian Institution**

*National Anthropological Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)