

## **SYMPOSIUM**

### **Recent developments in the archaeology of Western Mexico**

The symposium 'Recent Developments in the Archaeology of Western Mexico', coordinated by Robert Novella and Dr. Eduardo Williams, formed part of the 47th. International Congress of Americanists held in New Orleans from the 7th. to the 10th. of July, 1991. Eleven papers focusing on recent archaeological and ethnoarchaeological research in Western Mexico (which includes the modern states of Jalisco, Colima, Nayarit and Michoacán) were presented at the symposium and produced new evidence for the understanding of this area. The papers encompassed a wide range of opinions on various topics covering a time span from the Preceramic to the Postclassic period. New data was provided on West Mexican sites. Attention was focused on recent ethnoarchaeological approaches to the problem of interpreting material culture through the use of various sources, including ethnohistorical documents, and on the results of recent excavations in the area. Special emphasis was given to the notion that contact took place, from as early as the Preceramic period, between Western Mexico and neighbouring regions of Mesoamerica, as well as with the Southwest United States.

Further details of the symposium may be obtained from Robert Novella at the Institute of Archaeology, London or Dr. Eduardo Williams, Universidad de Michoacán, Zamora Mexico.

R. Novella