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Grounding the past : the praxis of participatory archaeology in the Mixteca Alta, Oaxaca, Mexico

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Stellingen

1. The concept of 'Community Archaeology' is misleading in its scope and is best replaced by 'Participatory Archaeology'. (*Contra Moser et al. 2002*)
2. Monte Negro's Early Ramos phase monumental architecture reflects the unity of religious and political lordship in the Mixteca Alta as depicted in the Late Natividad phase pictorial manuscripts.
3. Participatory archaeology not only makes an effort to seek collaboration with local community members, but indeed depends on it.
4. Monumental landscape features, rather than monumental architecture, underscore the regional authority of the Apoala Valley as described in pictorial and ethnohistorical sources.
5. Kent Flannery (University of Michigan) is to be credited for initiating the reflexive method in Mesoamerican archaeology, by introducing the R.M.A. ('Real Mesoamerican Archaeologist') and the S.G.S ('Skeptical Graduate Student').
6. Archaeology is a rational academic activity that can be applied in contemporary societal contexts. Paradoxically, in the majority of cases archaeology is perceived by these contexts as lacking purpose.
7. In archaeological surface surveying you can sometimes pick up more by picking up less.
8. For the disciplinary development of archaeology, postcolonial discourse is a paradigmatic means, not a discursive end.
9. The teaching program at the Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University would benefit from a course in archaeological ethics.
10. Solving a problem does not always bring more peace of mind than struggling with it.