

## **New Exhibition: Peabody Museum Harvard**

**Date :** May 28, 2008

**Fragile Memories: Images of Archaeology and Community at Copán, 1891–1900.**

**Opening June 4, 2008 5-7 pm, Curator's talk, 5:45 PM**

**June 4, 2008–December 31, 2009**

In the late nineteenth century, Peabody Museum expedition teams set out to remote areas of Mexico and Central America, often with little inkling of what they might experience and barely prepared to navigate the cultural encounters essential to their missions. The Peabody Museum holds the written and visual records of these early expeditions and recently completed a two-year project to digitize over 10,000 nineteenth-century glass-plate negatives. The earliest images in this amazing and unique collection were photographed at Copán, during the museum's pioneering archaeological expeditions to the site. These images offer a wealth of archaeological information for current research along with a visual narrative of the budding town and the archaeologists' interactions with the local community. As the excavations unfold before our eyes, scenes of the Copán community also emerge. But, who are the people in these images, and what effect did the excavations have on their community?

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For more information see [Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology](#)