philippine studies

Ateneo de Manila University · Loyola Heights, Quezon City · 1108 Philippines

Spanish Philippine Architecture

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Philippine Studies vol. 8, no. 3 (1960): 656-659

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http://www.philippinestudies.net Fri June 27 13:30:20 2008 ten to help the reader better understand the significance of the Holy Father's message, and to appreciate the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Following Haurietis Aquas section by section, Father Dechauer has put together a popular "encyclopedia" on the devotion to the Sacred Heart which should prove most useful to priests, religious and religion teachers who will be happy to have a compendium of the theology and history of the devotion so competently and readably written. They, and the general reader, will also find Father Dachauer's book a rich source of material for prayerful reflection. We trust that this work will have the wide readership it deserves.

C. G. AREVALO

SPANISH PHILIPPINE ARCHITECTURE

ARQUITECTURA ESPAÑOLA EN FILIPINAS (1565-1800). By María Lourdes Díaz-Trechuelo Spínola. Sevilla: Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos, 1959. Preface; Introduction by Don Diego Angulo-Iñíguez; Index. 562p. of text and appendices. 188 illustrations.

A rich and individual style of architecture peculiar to the Philippines has been looked at, but not seen, for four centuries; it has been seen and recognized only during the past decade and, characteristically, only after the majority of its finest monuments have suffered destruction through warfare or neglect. Research on what is left us is slowly and laboriously beginning in the Philippines, hampered up to now by an almost total lack of documentary information. Providentially, Miss Díaz-Trechuelo, with an imposing display of erudition and documentary wealth, has bridged much of the gap. Her book deals exhaustively with much that we have lost and she brings to light a mass of hitherto unexamined sources of indispensable importance to the Philippine cultural historian, all of it so carefully and clearly organized that the result becomes both the framework and the basic reference for all subsequent work on Philippine colonial architecture.

Naturally there still are gaps, inevitable in a work based entirely on documentary evidence. The biggest gap concerns civil architecture on which, naturally, very few specific documents exist. In my opinion, however, this is the only area of importance left untouched. For the rest the scholar is left with the pleasant task of filling in details and the slippery task of analyzing, evaluating and

interpreting. Miss Diaz-Trechuelo is out to provide material, not to prove points in aesthetics. In her avowed purpose she succeeds spectacularly well. In her own words: "We have attempted a first step in this study by gathering and organizing within this work a mass of original sources obtained over a period of many years from the astonishingly rich documentation kept in the Archivo General de Indias de Sevilla, and this provides the basis of the present work.... The 'Audiencia de Filipinas' by the abundance of its material forms one of the most important parts of the Fifth Section of the Archivo de las Indias. We have carefully examined almost all of its one thousand and seventy-two legajos..."

The result of this staggering piece of research among papers that are classified by the standards of a simpler age and too often written in a style and penmanship calculated to try the patience of the most saintly, is best set forth by a simple translation of the book's table of contents:

- Urban evolution of Manila from its founding to the end of the XVIIIth Century.
 - Arrival of the Spaniards. Founding of the City. Its name and coat of arms. Manila's first years. Li-Ma-Hong's attack. Manila after the attack; two fires. Manila in the first half of the XVIIth Century. The surroundings of Manila. Suburbs surrounding the coast: The "Parian de los Sangleyes". Other suburbs. The San Lázaro hospital. San Juan de Bagumbayan. The Santiago church. The hermitage of Nuestra Señora de Guía. The right bank of the Pasig, Binondo, Bay-Bay, Tondo. The "Alcaicería de San Fernando."
- II. Military Architecture. The fortification of the city up to 1700.

 The Fort of Nuestra Señora de Guía. Walled Manila. Was Leonardo Turriano the first architect to reach the Philippines? The beginning of the "domestic siege" of Manila. The Dutch peril. Other Dutch expeditions against Manila. New defensive preparations. Manila's defenses in the second half of the XVIIth century. The threat of Koseng and the defense of Manila. The fortifications to the end of the century.
- III. Military engineers in the Philippines.

 Creation of the Engineering Corps, Juan de Ciscara y Ramírez. Tomás de Castro y Andrade. Miguel Antonio Gómez. Feliciano Márquez y Trujillo. Dionisio O'Kelly y Burke. O'Kelly's assistants. José Belestá y Pared. Tomás Sanz. Gregorio Clavero.
- IV. Manila's fortifications up to 1762 and the new project,

 The administration of Don Fernando Valdés Tamón. New stage of activity. The administrations of the Bishop of Nueva Segovia and of Don Pedro de Arandia. The third "Family Pact" and the War with Great Britain. Siege and attack of the city. Reunion of the Council of War. Assault and sack of the city. The Treaty of Paris and the return of Manila. The belt of stone. Provisional constructions.
- V. Military Architecture: The execution of the project.

 Extramuros again, provisional defense, 1770: desire and reality, Working-plans for 1771.

 Progress during 1772. Work suspended, Tomâs Sanz in charge; the new gates of the city, The final constructions. New preparations for defense.
- VI. Civil and Military Architecture,
 Fort Santiago. Repairs carried out under Curuzelaegui, Danger posed
 by the warehouses, Santiago at the start of the XVIIIth century. Repairs
 by Navamuel, The project of Juan de Ciscara. The collapse of the wall

¹Here follows a listing of bundles examined with titles that correspond to a specialized system of classification that this reviewer hesitates to interpret. Briefly, the bundles include official correspondence and reports of all kinds, plans and descriptions of fortifications and a wealth of ecclesiastical documents, particularly those concerning the Archdiocese of Manila and the Dioceses of Cebu, Nueva Segovia and Nueva Caceres.

facing the bay and its repair. The Fort under Valdés Tamón. The administration of Arechederra. Fort Santiago and the new plan of fortification. The Manila barracks. The Real Palacio and the Audiencia. The Royal Warehouses.

- VII. Religious Architecture: The Manila Cathedral,
 Formation of the Dioceses, Beginnings of the Cathedral, The first stone building. The XVIIth century, Reconstruction of the Cathedral. The earthquake of 1645. New reconstruction. The Cathedral during the first half of the XVIIIth century, Fray Juan Angel Rodríguez and the Manila Cathedral, Fray Pedro de la Santisima Trinidad and the reconstruction of 1751. Execution of the project, Inauguration. The Cathedral during the last third of the century. The chapel of the Sagrario.
- VIII. Religious Architecture: The XVIth Century. The earliest religious in the Philippines. The Convent of San Pablo de Manila. The Convent of San Francisco. The Jesuits in Manila. The Convent of Santo Domingo. The Colegio de Santa Potenciana. Manila's hospitals: the Spaniards' hospital; the native hospital.
- IX. Religious Architecture: The XVIIth and XVIIIth Century.

 The Discalced Augustinians in Manila. The Convent of San Nicolás de Tolentino, The hospitals of the Order of San Juan de Dios. The new church of the hospital. The first nunnery in the Philippines: Santa Clara. The Beaterio of Santa Catalina de Siena. The Colegio de San Juan de Letrán and the University of Santo Tomás. The chapel of La Encarnación. The Archiepiscopal Palace. The Seminario Conciliar, The Monastery of Santa Rosa de Lima. The parishes outside the walls.
- X. The Port of Cavite in the XVIIth Century.
 Port fortifications, The projects of 1659. Opinions of Ricardo Carr and Juan de Somovilla. Execution of the project, Cavite constructions during the administration of Cruzat y Góngora.
- XI. The Cavite fortifications in the XVIIIth Century. The city and its buildings.

 The works of Juan de Ciscara, Years of inactivity (1711-1745). The Fort of Arechederra, Cavite during the second half of the century. The typhoon of October 12, 1761 and its damage. Provisional repairs. The capture of Cavite by the British. New projects of fortification, The plan of Feliciano Márquez. Cavite during the administration of Basco y Vargas. Cavite under the command of Don Rafael María Aguilar. The city and its buildings.
- XII. The episcopal cities of Cebú, Nueva Cáceres and Nueva Segovia.

 The city of El Santísimo Nombre de Jesús, Cebú, episcopal seat, tion of its Cathedral. The Cathedral of Cebú in the XVIIIth century, religious buildings in Cebú. The church and houses of the Society. Cáceres, The Cathedral. The Bishop's Palace and the Seminary. Nueva Segovia. Cathedral and Bishop's Palace in Vigan.
- XIII. The forts of Mindanao, Calamianes and Visayas.

 The fortification of Mindanao.
 de Zamboanga. Re-use of the fort.
 Calamianes. The forts of Labo and Balabac. The forts of Visayas.

After so lengthy and, I trust, so useful and illuminating a quote there is really very little left to say. The table of contents provides not only a refreshingly clear outline of the entire subject under discussion but, in its abundance of hitherto unexamined material, the most powerful possible magnet for the attention of all students of Philippine culture.

I do not consider it profitable to hunt for small inaccuracies or to quarrel with the quality of the printing, which is much inferior to the quality of the text. My personal reaction is overwhelmingly one of delighted gratitude to the author and to all those who made the publication possible. I should perhaps mention that this book was successfully presented as a doctoral thesis to the University of Madrid and that it has received the Luís Vives Prize for 1955.

Personally, I wish that some way could be found to bring Miss Diaz-Trechuelo to the Philippines. I can see nothing but benefit resulting from a confrontation of her scholarship with the actual subjects of her brilliant research.

FERNANDO ZOBEL DE AYALA

THE DOMINICANS IN THE PHILIPPINES

DOMINICOS DONDE NACE EL SOL. Historia de la Provincia del Santísimo Rosario de Filipinas de la Orden de Predicadores. By Fr. Pablo Fernández, O.P. Manila 1958. 712 pp.

This book is a welcome addition to historical literature on the Far East, where the Order of Preachers has played such an important role since the first Dominican, Bishop Domingo de Salazar, arrived in Manila in 1581.

Though the narrative carries the reader briefly to America and Europe, the Province—reckoned by Fr. Fernández the foremost of the Order—has its center in Manila. From Manila the Dominicans worked out to Japan, Formosa, China, Tonkin, Cambodia. In the Philippines they were active in Bataan, Pangasinan, Tarlac, Nueva Viscaya, Zambales, the Cagayan Valley, the Mountain Province, the Batanes; and in a limited degree in Cavite, Laguna, the Ilocos provinces and La Union. They were very briefly in Iloilo, Negros and Zamboanga.

Dominican archives, acta, letters, unpublished manuscripts, published works of restricted availability, and is the fruit of ten years' work. The treatment of particular events is necessarily brief in view of the long period and many activities covered. The author gives as his purpose "to write a compendium of the history of the Province... to serve as a text for our scholasticates (colegiaturas) and novitiates, and as a source of information concerning the activities of those who have gone before" (Prólogo, p. 9).

The reader will be impressed by the record of the Dominicans. It is recognized that the conquest of the Philippines by Spain was due to the friars more than to anything else, but one understands this better after reading the present book. The Dominicans spread the faith in the Philippines mainly by the example of their holy lives. They were men of prayer and mortification, lovers of poverty, chastity and obedience, ready for any hardship, and if necessary prepared to lay down their lives for the Gospel.