



Photo MatrizNet:



Photo: Elisabete Pereira, 8 Feb. 2023 -



Photo: Elisabete Pereira, 8 Feb. 2023 - Professor Marília Xavier Cury's visit to the MNA.



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Designation	Cocron" pan
Custodian	National Archaeological Museum (MNA)
Current possessor	Portuguese state
Inventory number	ETNO 2022.9.1
Material/technique	Ceramic
Measurements	30.5 cm high, 22.7 cm in diameter
Conservation status	Several cracks on the bottom

Summary of findings

This ceramic vessel comes from Brazil. It was made and used by the Brazilian "Caingangues de Goio-Chê or Água Preta" tribe. It was registered as a "Cocron" pot and given by Silvio de Almeida, a Brazilian citizen, to the Portuguese Ethnological Museum in 1912. The gift was brokered by Ana De Castro Osório, a relative of the director of the Ethnological Museum, José Leite de Vasconcelo. The object was in the MNA's reserves when the TRANSMAT project began studying its ethnographic collection in 2021. No record of its exhibition in the same museum has been identified.

Reconstruction provenance

[no date] - pot ("cocron") made by the Caingangues of the Goio-Chê or Agoa-Preta tribe in Brazil.

1912 - The newspaper *Estado de São Paulo*, of 22 December 1912, published a letter sent by José Leite de Vasconcelos to his cousin, Anna de Castro Osório, consul in that city at the time, requesting the sending of "stone tools, still in use by the Indians". Anna de Castro Osório digests Leite de Vasconcelos' letter in the *Folha de São Paulo* newspaper and receives several objects at her home, including the "cocron" pot, given to her by the Brazilian intellectual Sílvio Tiribiçá de Almeida.

January 1913: It was incorporated into the Portuguese Ethnological Museum in January 1913; (number E 4662): "A pot ("cocron") of the Cainghangues of Goio-Chê or Agoa-Preta, the last warrior tribe that existed in Brazil, now entirely pacified" "off. by Prof. Sílvio de Almeida. ¹

[?] - The object was inventoried in the MatrizNET System on an unknown date:
<http://www.matriznet.dgpc.pt/MatrizNet/Objetos/ObjetosConsultar.aspx?IdReg=1144426&EntSep=5#gotoPosition>

2022 - The object was identified as part of the MNA's comparison collection and its journey was reconstructed as part of the TRANSMAT project; at which time the National

¹ Entry Book of the Portuguese Ethnological Museum.

Archaeological Museum assigned it the inventory number ETNO 2022.9.1., with the collaboration of TRANSMAT project grant holder Liliana Caldeira.

Object information

In 1912, the director of the Portuguese Ethnological Museum asked Anna De Castro Osório, his cousin who was in Brazil, to send him objects still in use by Brazilian tribes, namely "stone tools" and any others he could find. In order to fulfil the request, Anna de Castro Osório decided to publish the letter from the director of the Ethnological Museum in the newspaper "Estado de São Paulo". In this context, she received donations from various Brazilian individuals, including Silvio Tibiriçá de Almeida, a Brazilian lawyer, chronicler, essayist and poet who was a friend of Luís Bueno Horta Barbosa, director of the Indian Protection Service (SPI). It is therefore hypothesised that it was through Horta Barbosa that Silvio Tibiriçá de Almeida obtained the "cocron" pot, which is now in storage at the National Archaeological Museum.

The Brazilian Kaingang or Caingangues tribe are descendants of the Guayanás, living between Angra dos Reis and Cananéia, near the city of São Paulo. The Kaingang belong to the *Jê* linguistic family, of the *macro-Jê* trunk, with dialects subdivided according to the geographical area in question. The first contacts with European settlers, in this case the Portuguese, took place in the 16th century, mainly with villages that were located close to the Atlantic coast. The first attempts to effectively conquer and occupy the fields and forests belonging to the Kaingang began in the province of Paraná (which included most of the state of Santa Catarina) in the second half of the 18th century, with the organisation of conquest expeditions. Eleven expeditions were organised between 1768 and 1774. Attempts to subjugate the indigenous populations continued until the 19th century, when the last Kaingangues were overrun. The Kaingang attacks on railway construction workers led to the creation of the SPI - Indian Protection Service - and the organisation of pacification expeditions. Several Kaingang from the Tibagi basin and other linguarás (interpreters who took part in the expedition) were hired to help with contacts in 1912, when the conquest began. Horta Barboza recorded that half of the Kaingang from São Paulo died of a flu epidemic soon after the first contacts between 1912 and 1913. This was precisely the period when the Kaingangue pot was collected, which is currently in the National Archaeological Museum.

Provenance report

The "concron" pot has the number "T/MNA:617" in the TRANSMAT project database. The starting point for identifying this object was an analysis of the journal *Archeologo Português*, where we identified it in volume XVIII, published in 1913 (p. 165-169): "pot ("cocron") of the Caingagues of Gôio-bhê, or of Alagoa Preta, the last warrior tribe that existed in Brazil but is now entirely pacified - a gift from Prof Silvio de Almeida" (p. 167). In this text, "Acquisitions by the Portuguese Ethnological Museum", the aim of obtaining stone objects still in use by the indigenous populations of Brazil is recorded, in order to "increase the section of Purchasing Ethnography" and understand through "inspection of the artefacts used by modern savages [...] those used by prehistoric savages". The entry book of the National Archaeological Museum, at the time the Portuguese Ethnological Museum, also refers to the object, but with slight differences in the wording: "panela ("cocron") of the Caingagues of Goio-hê, or of Água-Preta, the last warrior tribe that existed in Brazil, now entirely pacified". These elements, corresponding to primary sources on the formation of the purchasing collection of the Portuguese Ethnological Museum, were the starting point for reconstructing the object's journey. A report was drawn up within this framework and is summarised in this document. Among the bibliography we consulted was an article by Marília Xavier Cury, "The Kaingang, Guarani Nhandewa and Terena collections - Documentary journey, requalification and collaboration"², with whom we contacted to learn more about the object.

Suggestions for further research

Contact with the descendants of the Kaingages is being prepared in collaboration with Professor Marília Xavier Cury. It is necessary to document the progress of collaborative research with the object's communities of origin in order to "decolonise" the view of the object.

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² Marília Xavier Cury (2021) - "The Kaingang, Guarani Nhandewa and Terena collections - Documentary journey, requalification and collaboration". *Annals of the Museu Paulista*, vol. 29, pp. 1-39.