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## FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM.

82

No  
23916

Ent.

Country *North America*People *Ancient Aztecs.*Possibly Acolhua  
Locality *Valley of Mexico, Tlalmanalco.*Name *Stone box with inscriptions*  
(over)Collection *A. V. Arnould*  
(Blake Coll. 31.9)Where Placed *Old case I*Notes *Microglyphs of four "year bearers"  
sculptured on inside.*

Acc. 216

exhibited 1917  
Sculpture case

Probably a mortuary chest for the preservation of the ashes of the illustrious dead. Cremation was the most frequent form of burial among the Aztecs. The box is beautifully decorated on the inside with four calendrical symbols the "year bearers." Four House, Four Rabbit, Four Reed, and Four Stone. On the base is a figure of the water monster, Cipactle. The lid is missing and a hole has been made near the base, probably in later years to use as a watering trough.