

Anatomy of the Amazon Gold Rush

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List of Plates

- 1 Basic instruments: 'cuiá' (1) and 'bateria' (r)
- 2 The *bateria* in use: panning
- 3 *Cobra fumando*: note *bateria* being used to catch overspill
- 4 Supplying water to a *cobra fumando*
- 5 The *moinho*, a portable mechanical crusher, with motor and pile of alluvium in background; the *caixa* in the foreground is being cleaned for gold, with riffles laid out on the right
- 6 *Caixao*, as used in *chupadeira* and raft *garimpagem*
- 7 A *chupadeira* (foreground) with pipes going up to *caixao* and down to *barranco*
- 8 High pressure hoses in use during a *chupadeira* operation: the two men sitting in the water are ensuring that no stones are sucked up into the *chupadeira*
- 9 Manual 'rebaixamento', showing terraced shape it typically assumes
- 10 A good haul: mercury saturated with gold resists water flow at bottom of *caixa*
- 11 The final stages: excess mercury being drained off in a *bateria*, with 'pancake' of gold and mercury lodged in centre
- 12 Mercury being burnt off with butane torch; note it is being done in area of food preparation – gas cooking rings top left
- 13 Gold: Santos Neto is holding about 100 grams, worth around \$1000 in 1985
- 14 *Montes Aureos*: earth dam constructed by British in 1859 now planted with banana trees in foreground, modern *barrancos* cut into hillside behind
- 15 Detritus from earlier rushes: in *Montes Aureos* a steam boiler and cogwheel abandoned by the British in the 1860s rusts in the middle of a modern *garimpo*
- 16 *Serra Pelada* (*photograph by Sebastião Salgado*)
- 17 The 'fofoca' of Trinta Cinco in its early days: *moinhos* amid forest only partially cleared in rush to get into production
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