Actuncan

Early Classic Maya Project

Report of the second season

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Chapter 1: Research Design and Excavations
By Lisa J. LeCount and John H. Blitz

Our research at Actuncan attempts to understand the processes associated with the institutionalization of Maya kingship during the Early Classic period from A. D. 250 to 600. According to Joyce Marcus (1993:115), part of the process by which Maya rulers institutionalized their positions involved severing the bonds of kinship that had once linked leaders to community members. This action resulted in a two class-endogamous society and a well-developed ideology of stratification by which upper-stratum nobles claimed separate descent from lower-stratum commoners. According to Quigley (1993:127), "kingship is the denial of kinship, an assertion that not all men are brothers, and that kinship does not have the power to operate throughout social life." This said, the dominance of state administration over kinship does not mean that kin relations are no longer a source of power in state-level societies. Maya kings cajoled and coerced kin leaders, who were immersed in community relations, to organize hinterland tribute and labor, just as they called on their own kin to provide sumptuary goods and loyal courtiers (see Inomata and Houston 2001).

An equally important process was the creation of hierarchies (Marcus 1993:116). This organizational mode is lacking in middle range societies such as chiefdoms where power is concentrated in the hands of an elite lineage whose paramount leader is at the head of the political, social and religious orders. These individuals wield great personal power, very similar to kings in state-level societies, but in state-level societies the sources of power increasingly are centralized and segmented. We believe hierarchies developed when expanded state responsibilities at the local and regional level forced Maya rulers to delegate decisions and authority to individuals outside his or her immediate family, in essence creating new positions within a growing political apparatus (LeCount 2004). This process results in the promotion and linearization of political positions into a hierarchical arrangement of relationships and institutions (Flannery 1972). For instance, kings required loyal office holders, who could be trusted to enforce the laws of the state. Certainly, some office holders may have been recruited from cadet lines within the leader's extended family; however, these people also would have been the king's most potent rivals. Promotion of non-kin might have been the safest and most effective way to install officers.

Households, therefore, should hold a key to understanding the processes associated with the institutionalization of political power. Many large households, especially those associated with founding families, might have had the most to lose in the political and social transformations associated with Maya statecraft. If kings effectively instigated strategies that limited control over land, labor, and wealth by traditional kin-based leaders, then the influence of many previously powerful lineages would have contracted rather than expanded during the Early Classic period. On the other hand, some upstart households may have gained authority and wealth as officer holders and supporters of the state by siding with the ruling lineage rather than traditional kin-based leaders. If this is indeed the case, the Early Classic period should be marked by the appearance of what we might think of as nouveaux riches households that look larger than expected given normal developmental cycles. Therefore, the archaeological evidence for the Maya state will be written not only in the institutionalization of Maya kingship as an aristocratic position with all its hereditary privileges and trappings of royal power, but in the promotion and proliferation of new houses and new wealth among families.

2004 Excavations

This season we sampled five areas across Actuncan in order to recover Early Classic remains from a broad set of social strata, especially households.

- Structure 19's northern courtyard (4A) and Structure 20 (4B, C, D, E)
- Structure 41 (6A, B, C, D, E)
- Structure 29 (7A, B, C, D, E)
- Structure 59 (1D) and its patio crypt burials (1C)
- Structure 18 (5A, B)

The following is a broad interpretation of the remains found in these suboperations. A more detailed summary of the excavations can be found in Appendix A, which contains summaries and Harris Matrices for each suboperation.

Structure 19's northern courtyard (4A) and Structure 20 (4B, C, D, E)

The most likely candidate for an early palace is a complex of buildings, Structures 19, 20, 21, and 22, defining the northern boundary of Plaza C. Structure 19 exhibits the high, long substructure that often supports a set of masonry rooms typical of a ruler's residence. Abutting the northern exposure of Structure 19 is a set of low platforms that form an elevated plaza and enclosed courtyard. We excavated a single 2-by-2 m suboperation (4A) at the base of Structure 19 near the southwest corner of the courtyard in order to understand the construction history of the courtyard (Figure 1).

Suboperation 4A encountered three courtyard or plaza floors: Floors 0, 1, and 2 (Figure 2). Floor 0 was encountered at the base of Lot 2 as a layer of small rock and decomposing limestone ballast. It was so poorly preserved that initially it was not given a floor number. In profile, however, we could clearly see bits of plaster associated with the ballast. Ceramics in the construction matrix dates to the Samal phase or Gifford's Tiger Run complex. Floor 1 was encountered approximately 20 cm below Floor 0 in Lot 3. It was well-preserved in the SE corner of the unit. Like Floor 0, it dates to the Samal phase, suggesting a good deal of construction during this short time period from A.D. 600 to 670 (LeCount et al. 2002). Floor 2 was encountered 60 cm below Floor 1, and dates most like to the Late Formative. A well prepared occupation surface or possibly another plaster floor dated to the Terminal Late Formative is present between Floor 1 and 2 at the base of Lot 7. It showed up in the excavation unit as flecks of plaster and a distinct break between fill layers. Although we did not encounter an Early Classic floor, it is clearly obvious that there was continuous occupation of this area from the Late Formative into the Late Classic period, especially since James McGovern (1994:114) tested the southern façade of Structure 19 and found an Early Classic staircase overlaying a Formative plaza floor.

Suboperations 4B, C, D, and E combine to form a shallow trench (2-by-8 m) across the top of Structure 20, a western platform in the northern courtyard of Structure 20. The objective in placing this trench across the building was to locate a stratified sequence of plaza floors and to associate them to those found in Suboperation 4A. It was our goal to uncover the terminal architecture and excavate behind it to find trash and in front of the building to recover additional information about courtyard or plaza floors. By trenching across the top of Structure 20 we also

though we could solve an architectural problem found at Structure 41, where we observed that the ancient Maya piled large amounts of river cobbles behind the platform. We were unsure if this was an architectural technique which buttressed the back of the platform or if it merely represented trash or construction debris for future expansions. We choose this area near the southern extent of Structure 20 because it appeared to be a low platform that blocked access into the courtyard from the southwest, and we thought it would be relatively simple platform, possibly constructed in a single phase. After removing the collapse debris, we did not conduct penetrating excavations below the first plaza floor in the front of the building nor did we excavate deeply into the platform fill to find earlier materials. However, we did sample the river cobble "buttressing" or fill encountered behind this structure. The following is a description of the terminal phase building from these limited excavations. The terminal phase architecture dates to the Late Classic Hats' Chaak phase (A.D. 660-780); no Terminal Classic materials were encountered.

A simple platform is not what we found, and it is difficult to reconstruct the entirety of this building from such a small and shallow excavation (Figure 3). However, looters dug into the platform during the last weekend of the 2004 field season, so some of the information presented below is based on our examination of the looters trench profiles.

The front of Structure 20's platform is defined by Wall 1, a nicely constructed retaining wall built of 5 courses of small, cut-faced limestone blocks (10-by-20-by-10 cm). To the east of this wall is the last courtyard floor (Plaza Floor 1) that associates with Floor O in Suboperation 4A, and this last courtyard floor runs under Wall 1. What remains of the platform (no floor or surface remains on top the platform core) sits 80 cm above Plaza Floor 1. Therefore, most of the architecture described post-dates the construction of this floor in the Samal phase. The back of Structure 20's platform is also well defined. River cobbles are packed up against Wall 7 and spread outward for more than 2 meters. This "buttressing" is little more than river cobbles, a few large artifacts, and very little matrix, which suggests to us that it is not *in situ* trash, but may be platform fill for an architectural addition which was never completed. Structure 20's platform is approximately 5 m wide and, based on McGovern's calculations, 10 m long. However, Structure 20 may not actually abut Structure 19 on the southern end, rather it appears from these excavations that there is an alleyway between the two buildings, which maybe as wide as 2 m. If this is the case, our excavations are located no more than 20 to 40 cm from the southern end of platform.

The layout of Structure 20 is not well understood from this narrow trench, and to complicate matters, the front of the building underwent substantial modifications and embellishment, presumably because it faced the courtyard. The front of the platform may have been an open terrace or living platform, since no double-faced walls were encountered at the front of the platform. Since the platform is at least 80 cm high, it would have been approached from the courtyard via a staircase, presumably located near the center axis of the platform to the north. On top of the platform, there may have been a perishable structure, the front of which began about mid-way toward the back of the platform. Here, two walls (Walls 3 and 4) of dressed limestone blocks may form the east and west faces of a double-faced wall. These two "walls" or facings are placed a standard width apart for a double-faced wall -- 75 cm (Jason Yaeger, personal communication 2005) and are supported by a massive 80 cm wide cobble stone column

seen in the platform fill exposed by the looters. This central double-faced wall may have supported a perishable roof that covered the front terrace, but it is also possible that the back of the building was also covered over since this area displays a bench. The western (or back) portion of Structure 20 that contains the bench likely predates the Late Classic I, and may contain an earlier platform dating to the Early Classic period since the last courtyard floor does not extend beyond Wall 3.

At the back of the platform sits a bench that is formed by a chamber of small, dressed limestone slabs with a plastered top. How the bench is situated on the platform is unknown at this time. From what little we know the SE corner of the building may have been either 1) a single L-shaped room with a partition wall that forms a small ancillary room to the south of the bench or 2) two rooms, one of which is small and appended to the main room containing the bench. From the surface, the back walls (Walls 6 and 7) are unimpressive, both consisting of a single line of small dressed limestone blocks. However, in the looters trench it is obvious that these dressed limestone walls sit on much sturdier foundations or columns of river cobbles, each two courses wide (30 cm) that run deep down into architectural core of the platform. Therefore, it is possible that at least a portion of Walls 7 and 6 formed a double-faced wall, but both the limestone superstructure facings and the cobblestone foundations are only 60 cm apart, which is too narrow for a double-faced wall.

Between Structures 19 and 20 is a low terrace, what we call the southern terrace of Structure 20, which may or may not have been built entirely across the alleyway between the two buildings. The ultimate phase of the southern terrace contains loose rubble fill bounded by a crudely constructed wall consisting of sporadically spaced river cobbles. We never found a floor capping this fill, but we assumed it was there and must have eroded away. The penultimate southern terrace of Structure 20 is 30 cm above the courtyard floor. This earlier terrace has a patchy plastered floor. The northern section of this floor nearest Structure 20 is elevated and nicely plastered. It is a low feature no more than 8 cm above the terrace floor of southern terrace-2nd, and is about 50 cm wide and 110 cm in length. Abutting Structure 20's platform is Wall 3, an extension of which runs south toward Structure. 19, and may be a wall used to block the alleyway. In the corner formed by the platform of Structure 20 and Wall 3 is an interesting architectural feature. Here we can see what appears to be a block or chamber, possibly an outset or step (in John Morris's opinion), which is nicely built of dressed limestone slabs, probably two courses high.

Structure 41 (Suboperations 6A, B, C, D, E)

Elite residences are found bordering Plaza D and the eastern edge of the site (Figure 4). We excavated either behind or beside Structures 41 and 29 in an attempt to locate stratified trash deposits and to date plaza floors. We avoided the front of these structures because here we expected to find many architectural embellishments that could slow our excavations and not lead to a best understanding of the entire construction sequence. Both these structures are large tiered buildings built on cobble terraces. Structure 41's substructure is 5.25 meters high and likely supported a corbelled arched superstructure since key stones were found tumbled down the rear of the building. An elevated (> 4 m) front terrace faces the major temple at Actuncan, and there is a low (<2 m) L-shaped terrace at the back of the building.

In Suboperation 6B, we can see a two-meter stretch of the southern face of Structure 41 (Figure 5). It is composed of stacked, large (average size approximately 25-by-15 cm) cut-limestone blocks three courses high (possibly more). There is a small tree growing up beside it partially destroying the wall. This line of stone, which we assume to be one of two faces of a double-faced superstructure wall, sits on the cobble fill with no sign of a plastered living surface. This wall face is 30 cm high. We left this wall intact. The largest river boulders found in the cobble fill are located directly underneath this building and they are extremely large, upwards of 30 cm in diameter. As one moves towards the exterior edge of the platform, the cobbles become smaller. The façade of the platform consists of loose rock, decomposing limestone, and fill matrix. Is it possible that this platform displayed a "plastered" slope reminiscent of a battened block façade seen on monumental architecture?

Behind the platform fill of Structure 41 is a sequence of two floors and their associated ballast (Figure 6). The top floor (6A6, 6B4, & 6C4) dates to the Early Classic period and terminates at a small midden (6D2 & 6D3) of the same age off the back end of the patio floor. This midden contained many obsidian blades, an expended core, and a large, slightly chipped cylindrical jade bead. It is surprising that the ancient Maya would have intentionally discarded such a large piece of jade, but its presence in the trash may be indicative of how the Maya used such items as disposable wealth during the Early Classic period. Sometime during the Late Classic Hats' Chaak phase, the Maya built a low foundation wall of large limestone blocks on top this floor that might have acted to contain the cobble buttressing at the rear of the building. It may also have served to restrict access to the building itself. Below the first floor is a patchy sascab floor (6A7, 6B5, & 6C5) dating either to the initial part of the Early Classic period or slightly earlier. Plaza Floor 2 rests atop a sterile stratum of yellowish clay. Given our limited testing, it is possible that an earlier Formative platform is deeply buried under the substructure at the southern end of the dwelling.

Here, I want to describe the fill of the platform. This fill consists of very large river cobbles and boulders packed tightly together with little matrix in between. It is best seen directly underneath the superstructure wall of Structure 41 resting on the top of the platform; however, the platform is not uniformly built. According to Dr. Blitz, large stone fill alternates with loose fill that has less rock. Finally, near the outer edge of the platform is what we are calling battening. Battening is looser material, still mostly river cobbles, but they are smaller in size and the matrix contains more artifacts and decomposing limestone, as if this once was the backing to a stone façade (see Loten and Pendergast 1984: Figure 4). However, it is entirely possible that this battening is collapse coming down from the structure on top the building. But no matter what interpretation is correct, we attempted to separate these different architectural units.

Suboperations 7 A, B, C, D, E

Another elite residence is Structure 29, just to the north of Structure 41, along the eastern periphery of the site. The substructure stands only 2.6 meters above the present ground surface at the back of the building; however, the dwelling presents an imposing façade because the front terrace takes advantage of the rise of the hill slope. Like Structure 41, Structure 29's staircase orients the dwelling toward Actuncan South.

Suboperation 7A is located just north of the NE corner of the eastern terrace of Structure 29. In other words, we are off the platform looking for trash in Plaza E. If Structure 29 faces to the south, as McGovern has mapped it, then we are behind the building and off the eastern terrace. McGovern also placed a suboperation (100A) off the eastern side of the eastern terrace looking for trash but found very little. Unfortunately, we found very little here, except wall fall and terminated the unit after just two shallow lots.

Suboperations 7 B, C, and D are 2-by-2 m units located along the northern edge of the eastern medial terrace of Structure 29. Suboperation 7B is located at the farthest edge of the terrace, nearest Suboperations 7A, and 7D is near the base of the platform that presumably supports a house. We assume a masonry superstructure is located on the top platform of Structure 29 above us to the west, and that this represents the oldest portion of the "house". We excavated on the medial terrace, below the "house" to understand the placement of the eastern terrace's retaining walls and to find trash tossed off the terrace from above. In Suboperation 7B, we found many lines of cobble stones that possibly represent the corner of the eastern medial terrace. And in Suboperations 7C and D we think we found the northern retaining wall of the medial terrace, but since there were no cut-limestone blocks, we had trouble sorting out which rocks were associated with retaining walls and which were collapse and fill of the terrace itself. So the surface of Suboperations B, C, and D were cleared in an attempt to understand this terrace. This procedure didn't help much since all the stones used to make these terraces were undifferentiated river cobbles. After removing 20 cm of rock in Suboperation 7B, we discerned limestone flecks and decomposing limestone material in the SW corner of the unit/quadrant, and we assume that this represents the NE corner of the eastern medial terrace.

In Op7E, directly under the highest platform, we decided to excavate downward in an attempt to understand the construction sequence of the medial terrace. We found that the eastern terrace was built of massive river cobbles during the Early Classic period. This construction engulfs an earlier platform (Wall 1) that can be seen running diagonally across the southern most portion of the unit at 1.30 meters below present ground surface (Figure 7). Unlike the cobble architecture of the eastern terrace, the wall of this earlier platform was constructed of large cut-limestone blocks. Given its distinctly different orientation and construction materials, it is unclear at this time if this wall represents an earlier construction phase of the terrace or a deeply buried structure. It is possible that this deeply buried platform represents the earlier, Formative period occupation of this area.

Wall 1 runs diagonally across the southwestern portion of the unit and is a two-course-high wall with cut-limestone blocks. Most blocks are not large, but they range greatly in size. The largest is 40 cm long and 20 wide, but most are not so well dressed or shaped. It is possible we are looking at a filled doorway, since blocks to the east are nicely shaped and stacked, whereas blocks to the west are smaller and more crudely formed. The cut-facing is exposed, so this is the exterior face of this wall, and Wall 1 sits on sterile clay. Unfortunately, we did not sample the material behind these facing stones, so we don't have a date for Wall 1.

Wall 2 is seen only in profile in the western sidewall. It consists of small cut limestone blocks, possibly 6 courses high, and from this angle we can see only 1 face. Wall stones are nicely

shaped and regular in size (approximately 30 cm wide and 10 cm high). In the profile, Wall 2 appears to abut Wall 1, but it is difficult to understand its orientation and relationship to Wall 1.

At the bottom of the fill episode is *in situ* refuse. Large sherds appear to be coming from a deposit packed up against Wall 1, because the fill is very rocky. Below this fill is ballast consisting of gravel and cobbles with decomposing limestone, burnt clay, and clay loam. A good radiocarbon sample was taken from here. Wall 2 rests on this burnt clay stratum, whereas Wall 1 is deeper. This ballast sits on sterile yellow clay; therefore, it may be the initial preparation for occupation of this area.

Structure 59 (Suboperation 1D) and its patio crypt burials (Suboperation 1C)

We continued our excavations begun in 2001 at Actuncan Plazuela 1 (Structures 59, 60, 61, and 62) located at the northern end of the site (Figure 8). AP-1 is the largest *plazuela* on the ridge top. It measures 26.5 m north-south and 25.5 m east-west, and has a maximum height above ground surface of 2.5 m at the NE corner of Structure 59. All platforms are raised at least 2 m above the ground surface with the southern platform being the largest in area. In 2001, we encountered two impressive stone crypts cut into Edwin's Patio Floor 2, both contained Protoclassic materials (Figure 9). These crypts were located 25 cm apart along a north/south axis just one meter east of the western platform (LeCount and Blitz 2001). We excavated only the southern crypt (1A7B1) due to time constraints that year. This year we excavated the second stone lined crypt (1D25B4).

Suboperation 1C is a 2-by-2 m test pit on the south side of Suboperation 1A, a 2-by-1 m test pit excavated in 2001. Here, our objectives were to recover the remnants of Burial 1 (1A7B1) uncovered in 2001, to understand the architectural context of this burial, and to determine how this individual relates to the individual in the second crypt (1D25B4). We started by removing the backdirt from Suboperation 1A, so that we could excavate this area using natural levels. Edwin's First Patio Floor was easily found (1C6), as was a short terrace or step jutting out from Structure 62-1st's eastern platform wall (1C2, 1C4, 1C5). Fill from the terrace or step itself dates to the Hats' Chaak times. Its façade is at least two courses high and composed of small, but nicely shaped limestone slabs. The NE corner of this step or terrace was anchored by a large flat limestone slab rather than stacked rocks. The terrace, as we encountered it, was short, possibly no higher than 10 cm, as judged by the remaining risers. After removing this terrace or step, Structure 62's platform wall was clearly exposed (flush) in western sidewall. The fact that the platform wall is equivalent to western sidewall means 1) we will not be able to date platform and 2) we will not be able to understand the relationship of Burial 1 to Structure 62-1st. The platform façade is composed of large and small river cobbles, none of which appear to be dressed limestone. A dressed limestone block protrudes perpendicular from the platform wall. This block might be a remnant of an earlier terrace or step, but since it is a single block protruding from wall it is hard to tell exactly what it is.

Below this step or terrace to Structure 62-1st are multiple floors and fill layers: Edwin's First Patio Floor (1C6), a layer of fill (1C7), and a second layer of fill under what appeared to be a compact occupation surface (1C8). At the bottom of Lot 1C8 we encountered two important cultural features: Leonel's Patio Floor and the redeposit fill above the capstones of the second

crypt (1C12B1). Leonel's Patio Floor (1C20) is a rough cobble stone surface with patches of plaster. In 2001 while excavating Suboperation 1A, we believed this compact surface existed but could not find it since it was so highly disturbed by the burial and the fact that we were working in such as small space. At the time, it was distinguished only by the difference between small rock fill (1A4) and large rock fill (1A5). The pit for Burial 1 cut Leonel's Patio Floor and was covered by Edwin's 1st Patio Floor. Therefore, the date of Burial 1 post dates Leonel's Patio Floor, but predates Edwin's Patio Floor 1, which is Early Classic.

In order to reach the remains of Crypt 1, we excavated down beside Leonel's Patio Floor removing only the redeposited fill (1C9, 1C10, 1C11) until we could see the top of the capstones. This redeposited fill consists of big rocks and very little matrix, hence the nickname "big rock fill". The crypt itself is best described in our 2001 report, and Scopa (this volume) describes the cranium and associated artifacts. However, it should be mentioned here that the individual was indeed laying prone, the head to the south. Beneath the cranium near the mouth and nose was found an obsidian flake and a jade bead. The bottom of the crypt is very disturbed and Edwin's Second Patio Floor was difficult to see in this small area.

After removing the burial, we excavated Leonel's Patio Floor and the fill below it (1C21) to Edwin's Second Patio Floor. Here at the termination of Op1C, we can see Edwin's 2nd Patio Floor extending almost all the way across the exposed units. Edwin's 2nd Patio Floor elevation is only a few centimeters below its elevation in Suboperation 1A (as measured in the profile). Laying on this nicely prepared floor are two perpendicular lines of large river cobbles which mirror the layout of the eastern terrace for Structure 62-1st, and therefore they may represent either the foundational rocks to the terrace or remnants of walls for an earlier, completely different structure that lies under the 62-1st platform. We tend not to think they are foundational stones for the terrace because we excavated fills and occupation surfaces to reach them. Rather we believe that they are foundation stones for an earlier, completely different structure. Exposed in the eastern side is what appears to be a third crypt placed in the center of this patio. We covered it and left it for another year.

After finishing Suboperation 1C, we turned the second crypt encountered in this patio during the 2001 season. In order to reach Burial 4, we excavated a portion of the small northern structure (1D), which covered more than half this burial (Figure 10). Structure 59 is a low platform sitting on the last well-preserved patio floor (Edwin's Patio Floor 1). Suboperation 1D caught the SW corner of Structure 59's platform and a part of the patio. To the west of this platform was an alleyway between Structure 59 and Structure 62. Structure 59's platform was rebuilt or modified at least three times during the Late Classic since it contained at least two floors, and the alleyway was blocked and filled with trash (1D3) during the Hats' Chaak phase, presumably to expand the living platform to its terminal configuration (Figure 11). The terminal occupation floor was never found, but we assume it was there because we encountered its Hats' Chaak phase ballast (1D2). No Terminal Classic diagnostics have been found.

The platform was raised at least 40 cm above the patio floor, and possibly more, over the course of the Late Classic. Structure 59 Floor 1 dates to the Hats' Chaak, and Floor 2 dates to the Samal phase. There may have been a series of wattle-and-daub houses that spanned the early and late

phases of the Late Classic period associated with these floors, but so little of this platform was excavated that it is impossible to tell at this time.

Two interesting features were found associated with Structure 59. A dedicatory or termination cache (1D8F2) was encountered in Structure Floor 1 (SF1). A broken mano and metate, and large sherds were smashed and embedded in the fill of Structure 59-1st underneath SF1. The cache is probably associated with a Late Classic house ritual that occurred during the use of Structure 59-1st, or it may be associated with the dedication of the new structure floor (SF1) and/or termination of the previous occupation (Structure Floor 2). The second feature (1D10F3), an enigmatic plastered hole, may be a posthole in the SW corner of Structure 59-2nd. It is very possible that Structure 59-2nd was a wattle-and-daub house without much of a stone foundation. The hole is plastered, except on its eastern side where there are two rocks embedded in the plaster. The hole is approximately 15 cm in diameter and 8 cm deep. The plaster floor (SF2) is very thick and well prepared. On its southern edge, the floor terminates at the platform wall for Structure 59 (Wall 1), and on the western side of the structure, this floor abuts a single upright stone.

Structure 59 sits on Edwin's First Patio Floor (EPF1); however, this nicely plastered floor does not extend across the entire 2 x 2, but appears patchy or non-existent in the north and northwest, as if the entire northern portion of the patio was raised and filled for the building of Structure 59. Also, there appears to be occupation material on the patio floor (1D5) associated with its use late in the Hats' Chaak and before the construction of Structure 59 (1D14) during the Samal phase.

Underneath Edwin's First Patio Floor is a series of strata which ultimately raised the patio 56 cm above Edwin's Second Patio Floor, including a layer of small-rock fill (1D18), a cobble stone surface (1D21, called Leonel's Patio Floor) and packed dirt occupation surfaces over big rock fill (1D23). These strata date to the critical transition between the Terminal Late Formative to Early Classic period.

The Maya lived on Leonel's Patio Floor, possibly during the earliest phase of the Early Classic or the very end of the Late Terminal Preclassic. At the cobble stone surface, we first saw evidence of the crypt below. Leonel's Patio Floor was a rough occupation surface with many small stones first encountered in Op1C, where it was easy to see how 1A7/1C12B1 was cut into this stratum. Here, in 1D, the relationship between Burial 4 and Leonel's Patio Floor was more difficult to understand, mainly because the northern portion of this unit appeared disturbed. In the NE portion of the unit, the matrix was very rocky (1D19), consisting of large cobbles stones and little dirt. There was so little dirt that what existed filtered down through the rocks onto the crypt below. The porous nature of the big rocky fill above the crypt made us think that this material is re-deposited crypt fill on top the grave. In the NW portion of the unit, there was a hard compact matrix. Between these two enigmatic strata, a few upright limestone slabs marked the top of 1D20B3. This burial was a simple grave located directly underneath the western wall (Wall 2) of Structure 59 (see Scopa for more information).

Burial 3 predates Structure 59, and is associated mostly closely with Leonel's Patio Floor – a compact cobble surface that was laid down across the patio sometime during the Early Classic period. The burial is located in fill near the western edge of what we think is the top of Burial

4's burial pit. Burial 3 was placed in a simple depression with upright slabs on the western side of the larger grave. Burial 3 is a child lying supine with the head to the south. The child was placed in a pit with a necklace of two stone or shell beads and upright stones on the western side of the shallow depression. The eastern side of the grave is indistinguishable from the rocky fill of Burial 4's burial pit. Interestingly, this burial is also directly under the western wall of Structure 59, about 20 cm down from the initial foundation stones. This individual may have been an offering to the house at the time of initial construction during the Early Classic period. Based on the paltry amount of sherds, our guess is that this child burial dates to the Early Classic. Associated sherds of Peten Gloss Orange wares and striated jars do not contradict this time designation; however, it is also possible that these types could date to an earlier time period.

The context of Burial 3 is somewhat ambiguous, depending on where Burial 4's pit begins and how archaeologists think about Maya rituals. Viewed from Leonel's Patio Floor, the child burial appears to be part of the redeposited fill above Burial 4's capstones. In other words, Burial 4's crypt was sealed by capstones, the pit was filled, and the final act was the placement of this child burial. However, as we dug downward to find Burial 4, we encountered a compact surface running partially across the top of Burial 4 in the SE corner of the unit. This surface makes our interpretation of the Burial 4 stratigraphy problematic. Maybe Burial 4 was not dug into Leonel's Patio Floor after all, but a lower surface. But, because this patchy surface is found only over the crypt area, it is also plausible to think that the filling of Burial 4's pit was not a single act, rather it was a protracted set of events, as multiple layers of fill and packed surfaces were packed down above the capstones.

Burial 4 (1D25B4) was similar in many ways to Burial 1, only a few centimeters to the south. Both were placed in nicely prepared crypts made of upright limestone blocks capped by large limestone slabs (Figure 10). Both burials were clearly dug into Edwin's Second Patio Floor, where the capstones were first encountered, and the bottoms of both crypts rested on Edwin's Third Patio Floor. In places, the bottom of 1D25B4 protruded down into the fill below Edwin's Third Patio Floor. Both crypts were barely large enough to hold the bodies but their construction was identical, as if they were constructed with a template in mind. A third crypt can be seen in the sidewall of Op1C at the same level suggesting that the ancient Maya used this patio as a household burial ground. We did not excavate below Edwin's Patio Floor 2 this field season, but rather, concentrated our efforts around the second crypt (1D25B4).

Like the individual in crypt 1 (1A7B1), the person interred in the second crypt lay face down, with the head -- what little remained of it -- to the south (see Scopa, this volume for more details). Only small fragments of the occipital plate and a few teeth were found in association with the body; however, more cranial fragments were found in the pot placed over the person's head. Three pots were positioned in the crypt with this individual: 1) a Chan Pond jar placed over the knees; 2) an Aguacate Orange Z-angled dish with four broken hollow supports, presumably mammiform in shape, covered the missing head and contained cranial fragments; and 3) an Aguacate Orange effigy chocolate pot situated to the right of the individual's missing cranium (Figure 12). This pot may have acted as a symbolic substitute for the missing head. Both Aguacate Orange vessels exhibit hard, "glossy" slips and fine light colored pastes; however, neither exhibits the distinctive white to buff undersurface of Early Classic types.

According to James Gifford's (1976) Barton Ramie scheme, these pots belong to the Floral Park subcomplex; however, LeCount is reluctant to assign a Protoclassic date (approximately 50 B.C. to A.D. 250) to these burials. Although these pots taken by themselves appear to be good examples of "Protoclassic" types, they lie at the same stratigraphic level as the brown-ware effigy lid associated with crypt 1. As LeCount (2004) has suggested before, this pot appears similar to Tzakol 1 effigy lids at other sites. Thus, like other "Protoclassic" assemblages across the eastern periphery of the Peten (Brady et al. 1998), Classic and Formative ceramic modes co-occur in vessels from the same excavation lot at Actuncan. According to Brady and colleagues (1998:34), however, Protoclassic assemblages chronologically overlap the Late Formative and Early Classic periods as traditionally defined. Given the ambiguities in defining the "Protoclassic," more detailed ceramic analysis and radiocarbon dating are needed to securely place these pots into a ceramic complex.

This interpretation will require additional excavation at this stratigraphic level to retrieve a larger sample of pottery, preferably from domestic middens, in order to better understand assemblages associated with the transition from the Formative to Classic period. Initially, LeCount thought that both these crypts originated from a cut in Edwin's Patio Floor 2 since 1) in 2001 we did not see Leonel's Patio Floor and 2) the capstones of Burial 1 appeared flush with Edwin's Floor 2. Now, we think these burials originated from higher up in the stratigraphy and are associated with a cut in Leonel's Patio Floor. Interestingly, the burials are 40 cm below Leonel's Patio Floor and the occupation associated with the burials. In 2001, LeCount thought Edwin's Patio Floor 1 dated to the Late Classic I, now after seeing more of the material from this floor, she suggests it may date to the late Early Classic (Tzokol 3). However, she would like to see more of this material before assigning a date. Leonel's Patio Floor has yet to be dated, but will be studied this coming summer.

What is interesting about these crypts is their impressive size and construction techniques and the relative richness of their burial goods. Apparently this household was influential during that transitional period from the Terminal Formative to the Early Classic period, later, however this family seemed to have lost much of its authority since we have yet to find evidence of those highly diagnostic basal flange bowls so characteristic of the later phases of the Early Classic. Nor did the Late Classic *plazuela* members bury their ancestors in the same patio location as earlier members had, although it is entirely possible that they might have buried them nearby. These patterns are indicative of the types of processes we associate with the shift away from kin-based authority and the widening gap in wealth among households in early state-level societies.

Off-plaza Refuse Deposit

Two 2-by-2 m suboperations were placed off the edge of Plaza C in a ravine below Structure 15, a pyramidal structure that defines the nexus between Actuncan North and Actuncan South (Figure 13). Here, a 60-cm deep Early Classic trash deposit was first encountered beneath a small residential platform, Structure 18 (McGovern 1993). We excavated units on either side of the original 2-by-1 m test pit (93A) to retrieve a larger sample of this material (Figure 14). We started by removing the backdirt from unit 93A, so that we could excavate this area using natural levels.

Structure 18's platform (5B5) dates to the early part of the Late Classic and a single floor caps this trash deposit (5B4, 5B6) in the western unit. Remnants of a similar floor (5A3) can also be seen in the eastern unit, and these two separate patches are probably the same surface. The southern platform wall of Structure 18 is angling NE to SW with the NE corner of the platform outside the unit to the north. In other words, we just caught this wall in the unit profiles. However, we can also see this wall in the northern side of McGovern's 93A pit, since apparently he did not remove it. The platform wall appears no more than three courses high, and the facing stones are crudely shaped and stacked. The stones form a single line of large flat, shaped river cobbles – approximately 25-by-10 cm in size – over which 2 courses of smaller limestone dressed stone were placed. There is only one abutment: the south platform wall of Structure 18 and the patch of exterior cobble pavement seen at the bottom of 5A2. From excavations in 5B, we know that the patch of plaster "patio" floor abuts the wall, and does not run under it, and the platform wall is sunk into the midden. Therefore, this structure sits on the Early Classic trash.

Under this structure is a 60 cm deep deposit of stratified refuse. The top layer is light brown in color ranging from 10YR 5/3 to 10YR 6/6 and friable with abundant large artifacts including human bone, obsidian, shell, jute, Early Classic and Protoclassic ceramics, and large chunks of painted plaster. This top layer of refuse is best exemplified by Lots 5B7, 5B8, 5B9, 5A5, 5A8, and 5A9, which although interpreted as a single refuse deposit exhibits lighter and darker lenses of refuse. Below this, the matrix becomes darker in color (10YR 4/3 to 10YR 6/3) and more compact, and the artifacts become smaller. Because of this change we suggest that this lower stratum was occupation debris, and not the same kind of refuse as that found above it. This occupation layer is exemplified by Lots 5B10 and 5A10. Deeper still was a darker and more compact occupation layer with very little materials (5A11) below which was "sterile" yellow clay with some artifacts.

The ancient Maya interred at least two individuals in simple side-by-side graves lined with small limestone slabs and river cobbles (5A6B2 and 5A7B2) into this trash deposit. Immediately above these graves, human bones were found in and around a cairn of three limestone slabs (5A4B2). This bone scatter may represent an interment (which we called Individual 0 in the field notes), but in fact, human bones were found randomly scattered throughout the Early Classic refuse deposit. All potential burials in the refuse deposit are labeled Burial 2; however, each was taken out as a separate lot (see Scopa this volume for more details).

Given their close proximity, initially we thought the burials were placed in the ground simultaneously. However, after looking at the profiles, it was discovered that Individual 1 and Individual 2 were placed in the ground in two separate actions. Individual 1 was interned later in time (possibly in the late Early Classic – Tzokol 3 or maybe in the Late Classic I after the structure was built) than Individual 2 (possibly early-to-mid Early Classic), and they received very different burial treatments. Individual 1 was placed prone with head to the south in a simple stone lined grave with some capstones of dressed limestone slabs and flat river cobbles. Some of the river cobbles lining the pit were also quite flat and placed upright. The bottom of the grave appeared unprepared. Individual 2 was placed in the midden at an earlier time without a stone-lined grave, probably just a shallow pit dug into the soft trash. Some flat river cobbles were placed on parts of the body, particularly the feet. Like Individual 1, the position of the head was to the south, but the body was lying flexed on its right side. Individual 0 may represent parts of

Individual 1 since these bones were found immediately above Individual 1 commingled with a triad of dressed limestone slabs placed above its pelvis. If individual 1 was interned after the construction of Structure 18, then the individual was buried just off the southeast corner of the platform. No artifacts appeared to be intentionally placed with the burials.

The context of these burials is somewhat ambiguous. We first began to encounter human bones immediately under the collapse debris. Here, a few pieces of human bones were scattered around three flat dressed limestone blocks that formed a triad of stones. We left this possible cairn burial (5A4B2 – Individual 0) in place and removed matrix from around it. We assume this matrix was the remnants of a disturbed occupation surface associated with the patio floor encountered in 5A2. To the west of the cairn, the Early Classic trash deposit is clearly visible running under the patio floor (5A2). A jumble of river cobbles, presumably collapse debris, remained on the eastern side of the cairn. This interpretation would mean that the burial dated to the Samal phase. Directly below the cairn was the burial of Individual 1. Initially, we thought that the grave for 5A6B2 cut into the south façade of Structure 18 in order to place this individual into the trash. We had to excavate into the unit's side wall to recover digits and thus assumed the individual's toes were buried deeply into a hole in the platform wall. However, it must be remembered that the south platform wall angles sharply NE to SW (disappearing into the excavation sidewall), so that the lower extremities of Individual 1 may not have intruded into the platform wall at all. Rather this individual may have been buried just off the platform near the SE corner of the building. This scenario seems more congruent with the northern profile of the unit. Pottery associated with Individual 1 are ambiguous, most date to the Early Classic period before the platform wall was built in the Late Classic I phase. But some ceramics, such as a few lateral ridges and ash wares, also could date to the Late Classic I phase. That would mean that all the Early Classic materials in the burial pit represent redeposited midden placed in the grave when the Maya dug down into the earlier strata to create and fill this burial pit. The second individual was encountered during the excavation of Burial 1 under a rumble of stones and located just east of Individual 1. Initially we thought that the two individuals were placed in the ground nearly simultaneously. After studying the profile of the north side of the unit, however, it is clear that Burial 2 was placed in the grave at an earlier date than Individual 1, and that the digging of Individual 1's grave likely disturbed Individual 2's grave located just to the east of it. Burial 2's grave was very modest indeed. Unlike Individual 1's grave, no upright stones appear to line the sides of the pit, although there are many un-modified river stones around the body and above it. We did not find the eastern side of the "pit" mainly because there are no stones that lined it, and also it appear that at least a portion of the pit runs into the eastern sidewall of the unit. Individual 2 looks to have been place in the refuse deposit without much preparation of a pit. There were no grave-goods, just materials from the redeposited fill.

The origin of the Early Classic material in this trash deposit is an important question to address because the crux of hypotheses concerning the nature of elite and common Early Classic pottery assemblages hinge on context. We suggest that this material originated from activities on the civic plaza rather than those associated with Structure 18. Structure 18 is a low platform built in a ravine below the northern civic center. Although we originally assumed it represented a commoner house, it is also possible that this platform served a specialized function, such as a kiosk for a gatekeeper or temple guard. None of these interpretations are congruent with the materials found underneath it because the Early Classic deposit contains mostly elite materials,

such as large basal flange bowls and painted plaster, and little household trash, such as manos and metates. Jason Yaeger (personal communication 2004) suggests that this deposit might be the result of temple or civic building remodeling because large chunks of painted plaster are rarely found in domestic trash. Thus at this juncture, we suggest this material represents the remains of elite activities, although we cannot specify what kinds of activities they represent.

Looting Incident at Actuncan

Excavation of Actuncan Operation 4, Suboperations B-E came to an unexpected halt when looters dug into the exposed trench over the weekend of June 26-27, 2004. We discovered the damage upon returning to the site on the morning of June 28. A thorough search was made of the other operations, but the destruction was limited to Op4. The looters apparently came at night because we found candle stubs and flashlight batteries discarded in the trench. We discovered that our excavation tools, hidden near Op4, were missing. Based on this observation, we believe that the looters may have observed us from a distance during the day, returned at night, retrieved the tools, used them in the digging, and then stole the tools when they left. We suspect that the looters had little experience or knowledge of looting strategies, for they completely ignored other operations with potentially richer finds. For this reason, it is likely that the looting represents an opportunistic incident rather than the efforts of an experienced or organized group.

At the time of the incident, Operation 4 had exposed portions of Structure 20 and associated architecture in an 8-meter long, east-west trench consisting of Units B-E. The looters confined their digging to the open trench. They destroyed all architecture exposed in place above the last courtyard floor, including Structure 20-1st, Walls 2-7, western terrace, the outset staircase, plaster surfaces, and much of the rubble "buttress" on the western exterior of Structure 20. Wall 1 and the eastern terrace was left intact. The digging removed from 50 to 80 cm of deposits from one end of the trench to the other.

We cannot know what was removed from the deposits by the looters, of course. However, examination of back dirt revealed examples of domestic refuse that varied little from the artifacts that had been recovered in the Unit B-E trench prior to the looting. No fragments of human bones or fine pottery were present in the back dirt, so there was nothing to suggest that a burial or cache deposit had been removed. In short, what was lost was the contextual evidence archaeologists require to properly interpret their finds. Because the looters confined their digging to the trench, we were able to draw a profile of the exposed northern trench wall. We took photographs of the looted trench from several perspectives to document the extent of the damage.

We alerted Brian Woodye of the Department of Archaeology and Mr. Rudy Juan, the landowner, on the same day we discovered the damage. Also, we informed Mr. Ramon Galvez, owner of an adjacent portion of the site where we had an active operation, of the looting incident. Both landowners resolved to have their men ride through the site more frequently. We took additional precautions to ensure the security of artifacts with potential market value (whole pots, jade bead, and shell pendant) that had been recovered earlier in the season. No other acts of looting occurred in the remaining days of the 2004 season.

Laboratory Procedures

A trained Belizean lab archaeology team of four women completed the basic processing, cataloguing, and tabulation of artifacts. We worked in the lab only on Saturdays and for a week after excavations closed. All artifacts were washed, dried, and bagged by excavation lot and class. In addition, before they are bagged, each artifact class is counted (Table 1) and weighed (Table 2) by lot. The artifacts are then ready for further analysis by specialists trained in the analysis of the relevant artifact category. Dr. LeCount conducted a rough sort of ceramics within lots to determine the temporal phase of materials from significant contexts (see LeCount 1996: 133 for a description of quick sort procedures). Results of the quick sort analyses are tabulated by lot and lists of type-varieties are also presented (Table 3). These data were then used to construct a master list of proveniences that included phase, cultural context, and volume (Table 4).

Scopa curated the human bone in the lab. Each human bone was wrapped separately in aluminum foil and labeled. Each tooth and enamel crown was cleaned to remove debris and calculus. If the condition of the cranium or other fragile bone complexes, such as pelvises, was so poor that they may have fallen apart upon removal, then bones were left in the soil matrix and curated as a lump of material. See chapter 2 for details of the analysis, and burial descriptions.

Collections were stored in fifty-five gallon drums and stored in Rueben Penados's house in San Jose Succotz for future analysis. The Penados bodega has iron bars and paneling covering all windows, and two dead bolt locks on the doors. Whole vessels from the burials, including the bird pots from 2001, were curated at the Institute of Archaeology at the end of the season.

Discussion and Conclusions

In summary, we excavated in three types of residential groups – a palace courtyard, elite residences, and commoner residences -- associated with the Early Classic period. Materials recovered from these contexts clearly indicate that Actuncan was a major site during the Late Formative and Early Classic periods; nonetheless, the Late Classic component of the site represents Actuncan's population maximum.

Non-royal residences at Actuncan appear to fit into two architectural layouts: *plazuela* (patio-focused mounds) and terraced dwelling. In general, we associate *plazuelas* with Haviland's (1988) and Tourtellot's (1988) rendition of the developmental model in which a founding family grows from living in a single structure to a descent group whose members live in multiple buildings around an "inward-focused" patio. Unlike these patio-focused groups, terraced dwellings at Actuncan appear to be more akin to Levi-Strauss' model of a house, recently revisited by Susan Gillespie (2000). Rather than displaying an "inward-focused" or communal layout, these large single houses faced outward toward the pyramid of Actuncan South. There appears to be little room on the terraces for other residences that would have faced the paramount family's house. Thus these single elite houses appear to represent the prerogatives of the paramount family rather than the entire corporate group.

Examining these two kinds of household organizations at Actuncan is beyond the scope of this report, but what we may be looking at here is not only differences between elite and common

modes of living, but also differences between agrarian and urban families. Our guess is that these households are fundamentally different in the way family labor is organized. But it is important to note at this juncture that the architectural layouts -- *plazuelas* and terraced dwellings -- need not conform exclusively to a single organizational model. Based on our excavations, it is clear that the historical trajectory of AP-1 spanned many centuries, but it is nearly impossible to envision how the entire use-life of this *plazuela*, which was occupied for over a 1000 years, could be attributed to the developmental cycle of a single localized patrilineage. Later residents may have ritually constituted themselves as the "descendants" of AP-1 founders in order to anchor themselves to this specific place, but if this was indeed the case, then we must evoke the concept of the house to explain the later history of this *plazuela*.

It is equally interesting to note that AP-1 pre-dates Structures 29 and 41, both of which were built during the Early Classic expansion of the site. It could be suggested that Structures 29 and 41 were the family houses of the nouveaux riches which, at least archaeologically, appear to have had no antecedents at the site. Yet these families prospered during the time in which kingship became institutionalized, whereas the fortunes of AP-1 members waxed and waned through the Classic period. Clearly, some founding families did not gain status because of their long-term standing in the community as kingship became more entrenched during the Early Classic period.

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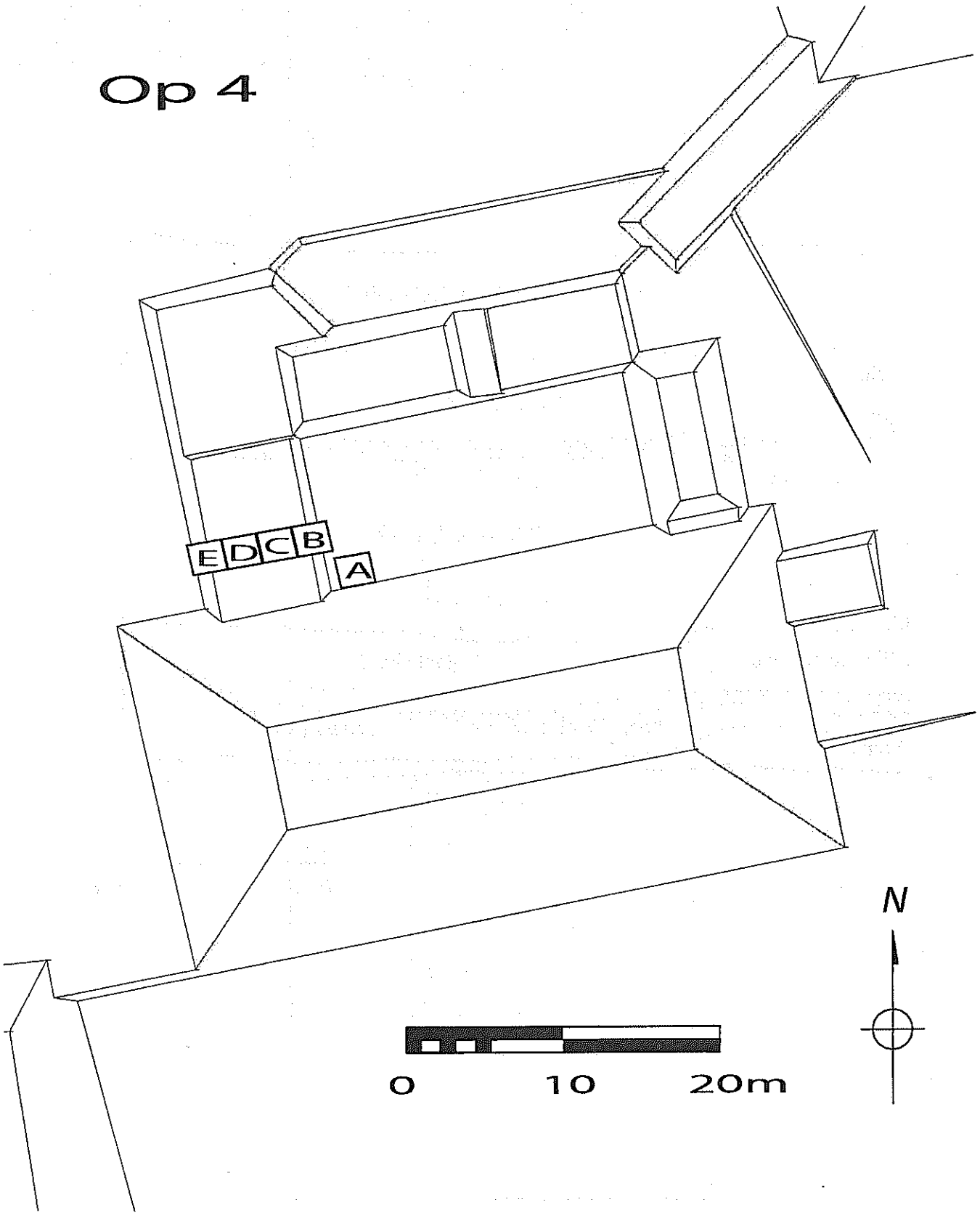


Figure 1: The layout of Operation 4 and Structure 19's northern courtyard.

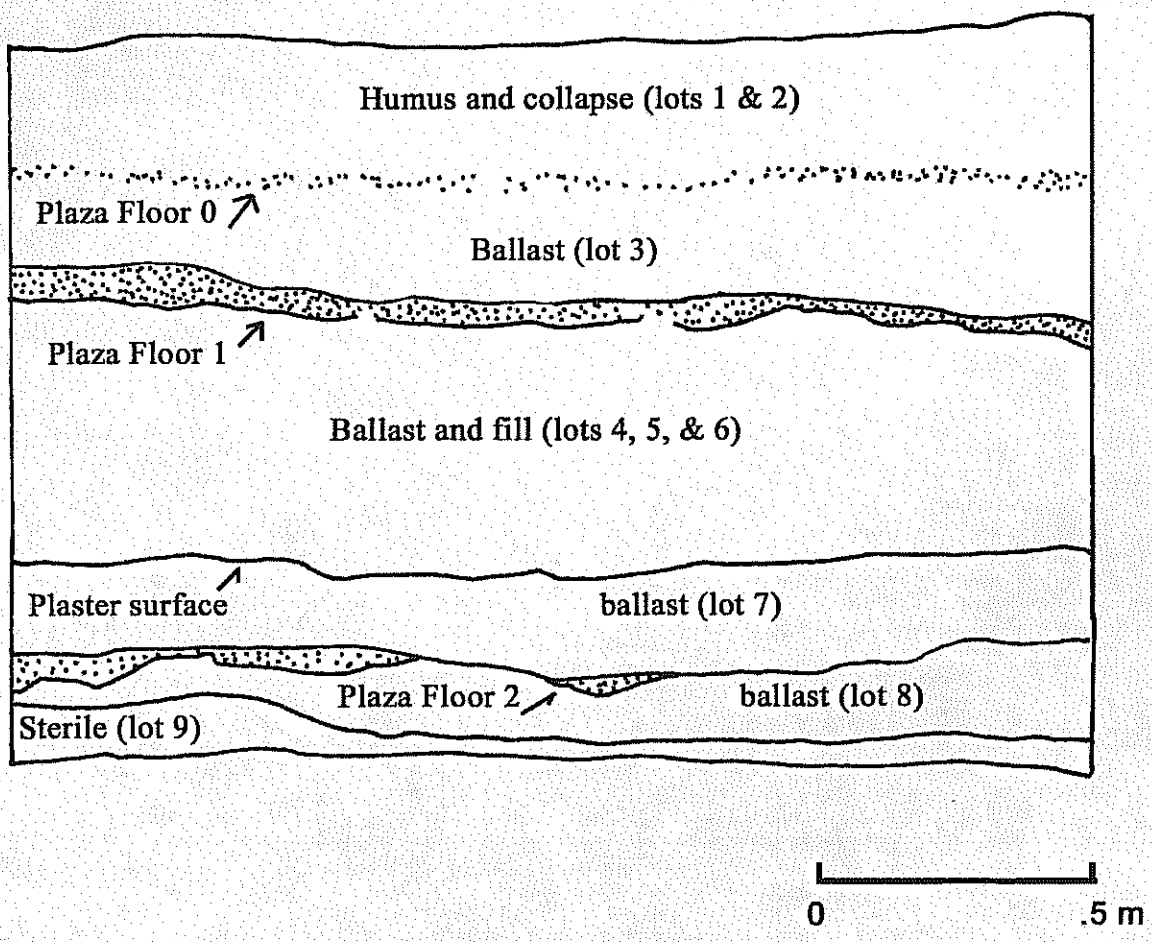


Figure 2: South profile of Suboperation 4A

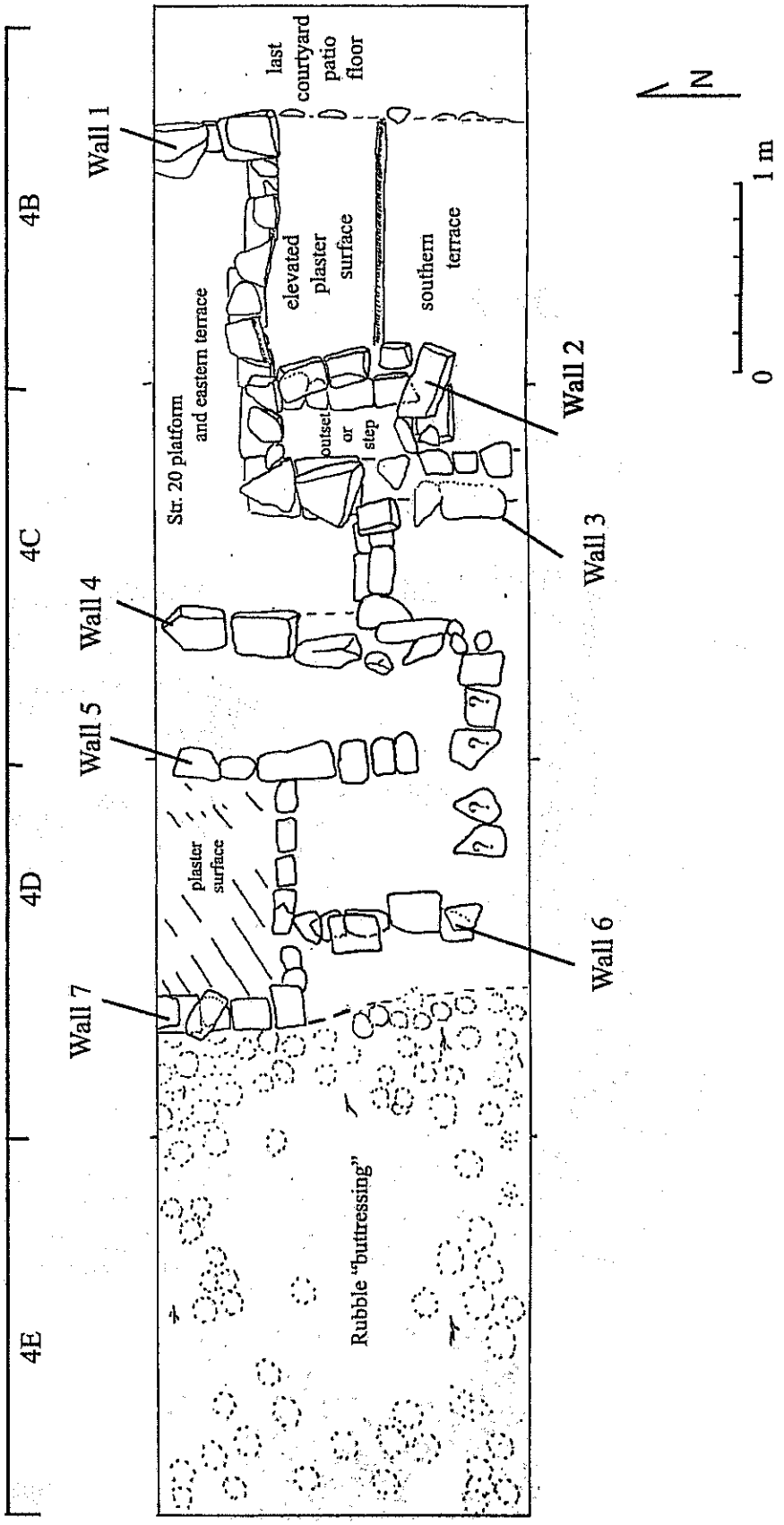


Figure 3: Plan view of Structure 20 as seen from Suboperations 4B, C, D, and E.

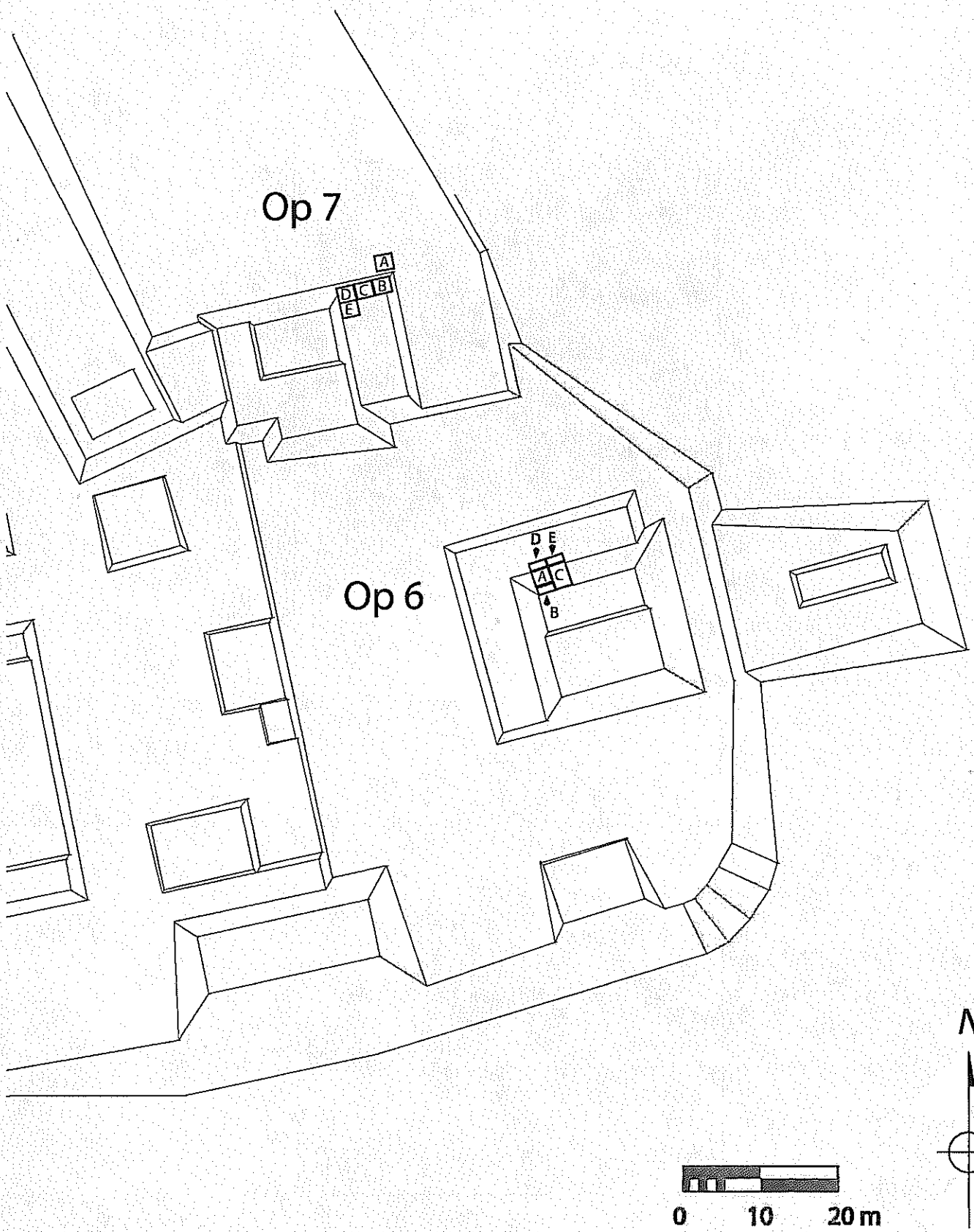


Figure 4: The layout of Operation 6 (Structure 41) and Operation 7 (Structure 29).

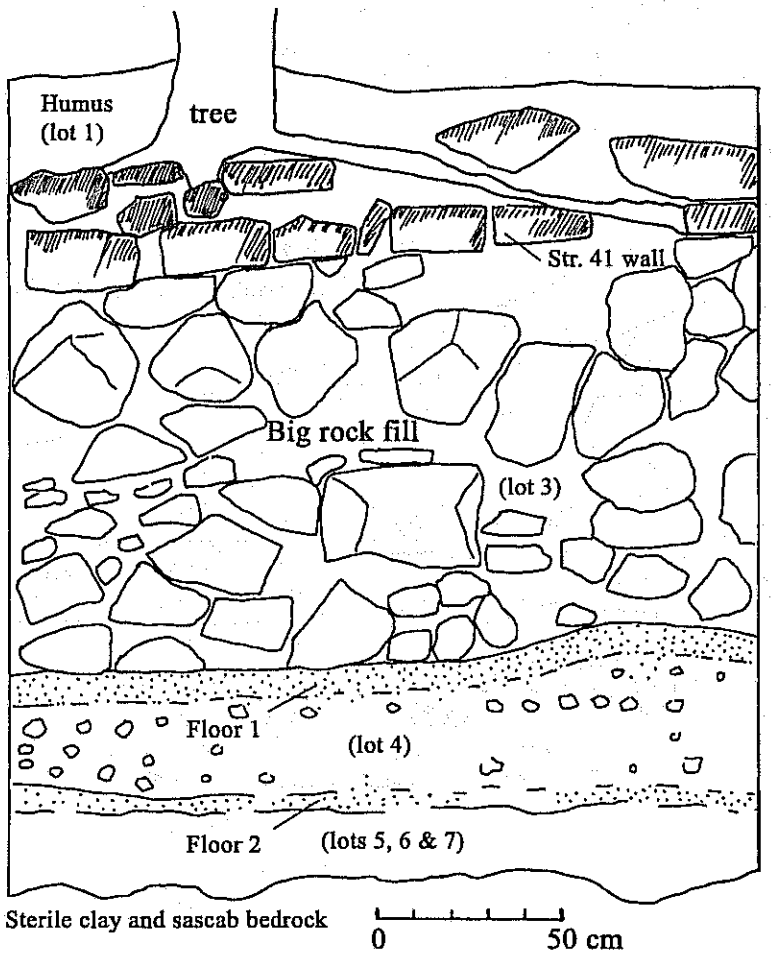


Figure 5: The south profile of Suboperation 6B.

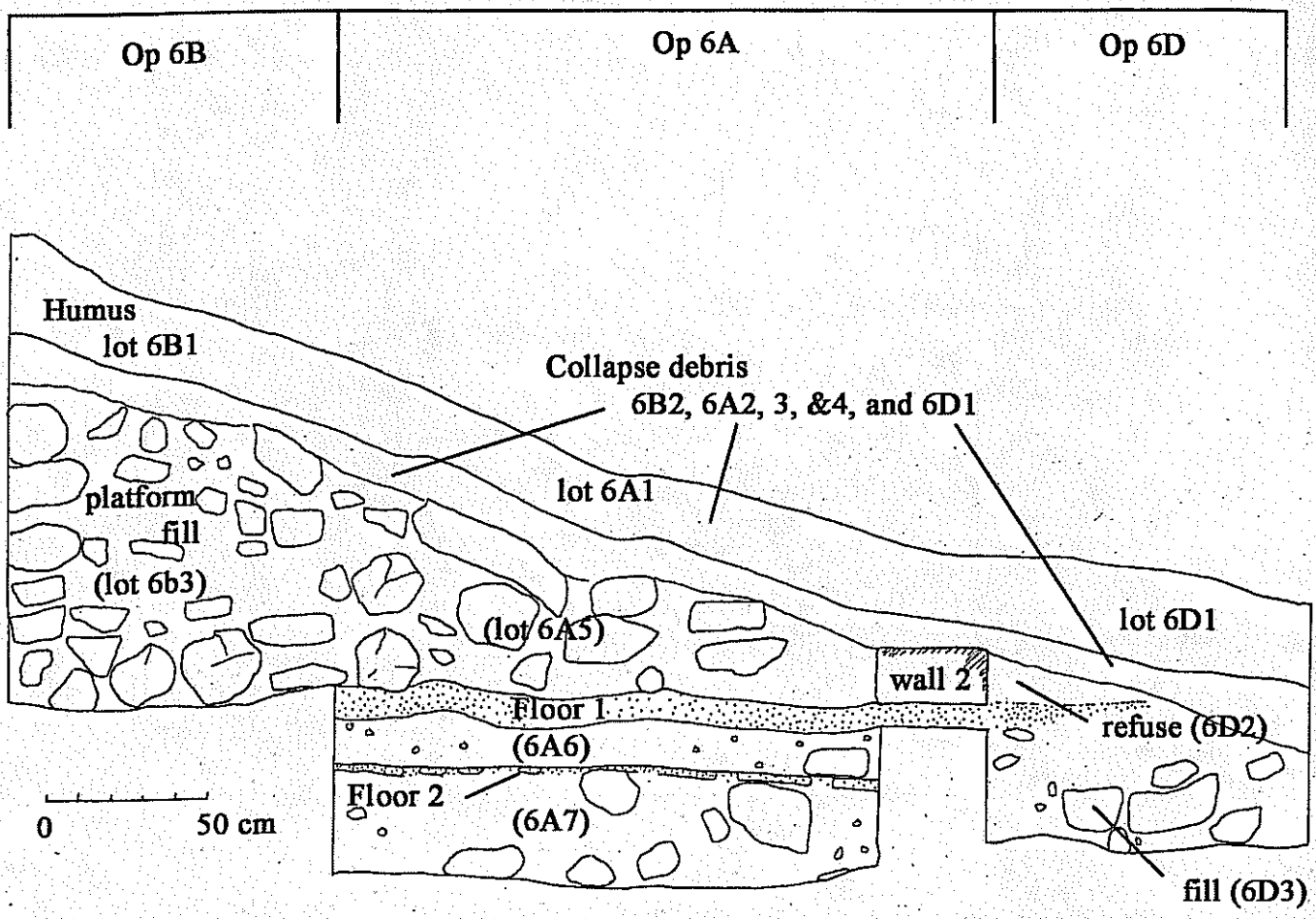


Figure 6: The west profile of Suboperations 6A, B, and D.

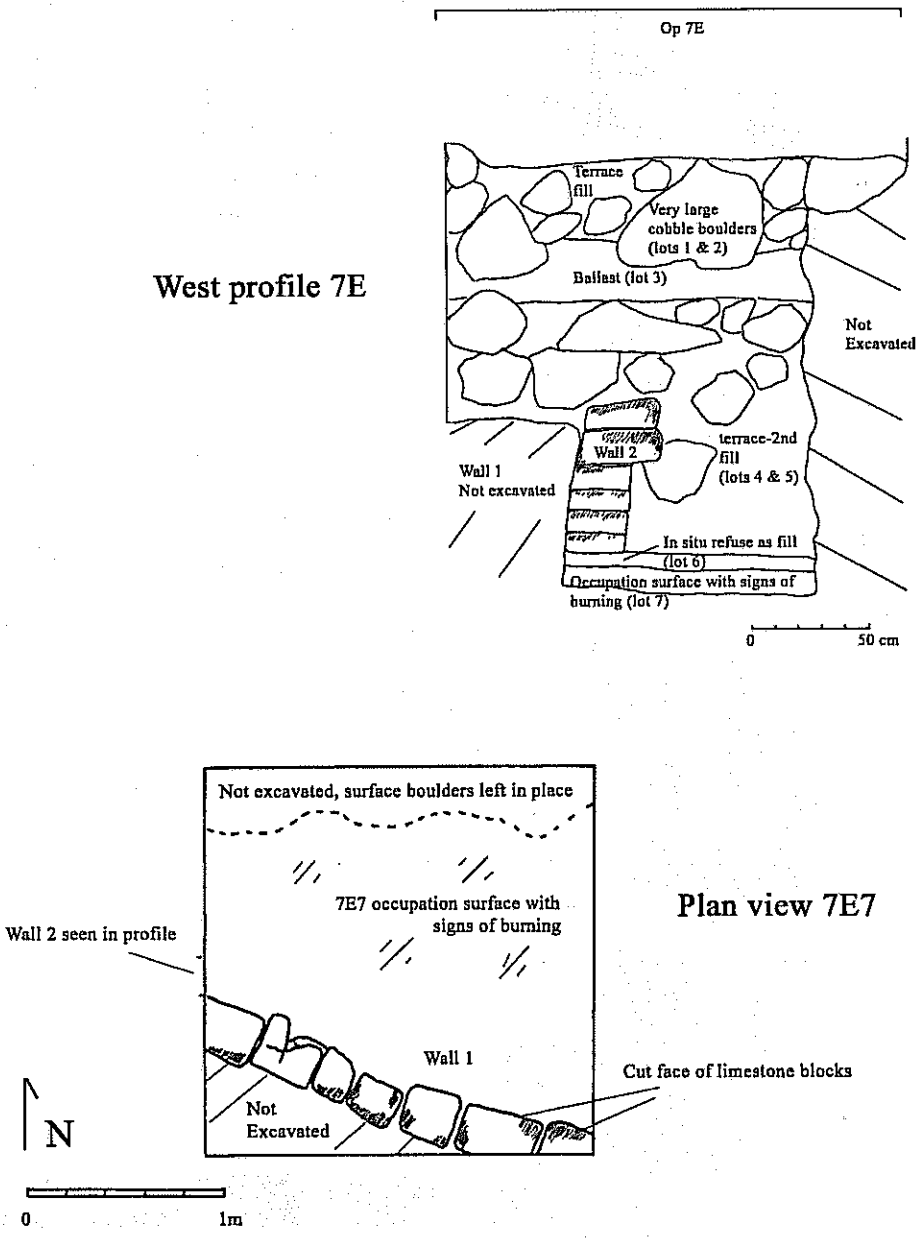
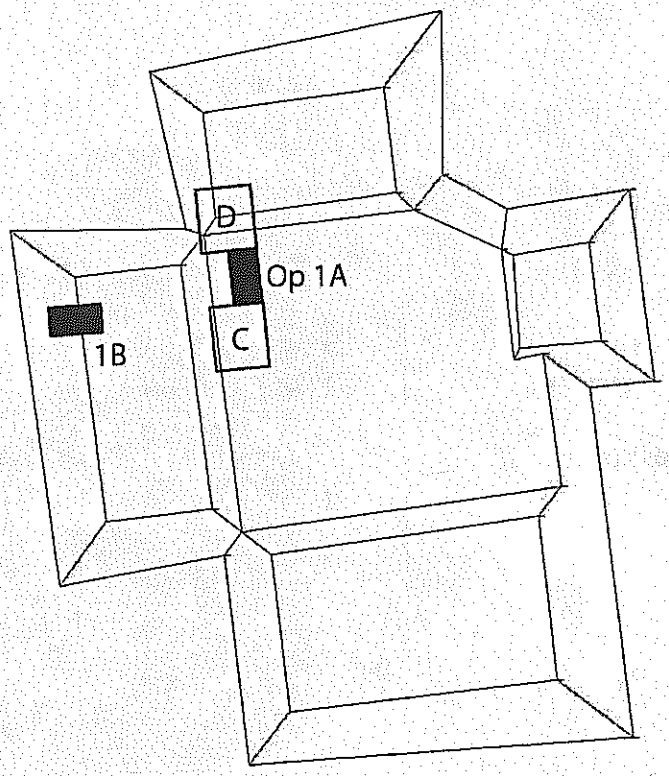
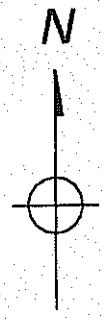


Figure 7: The west profile of Suboperation 7E and plan view of Lot 7E7.





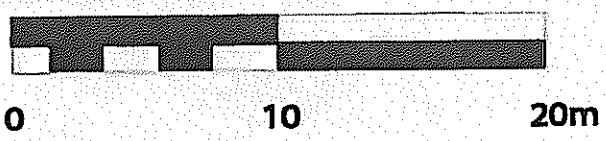


Figure 8: The layout of Operation 1 and Structures 59, 60, 61, and 62.

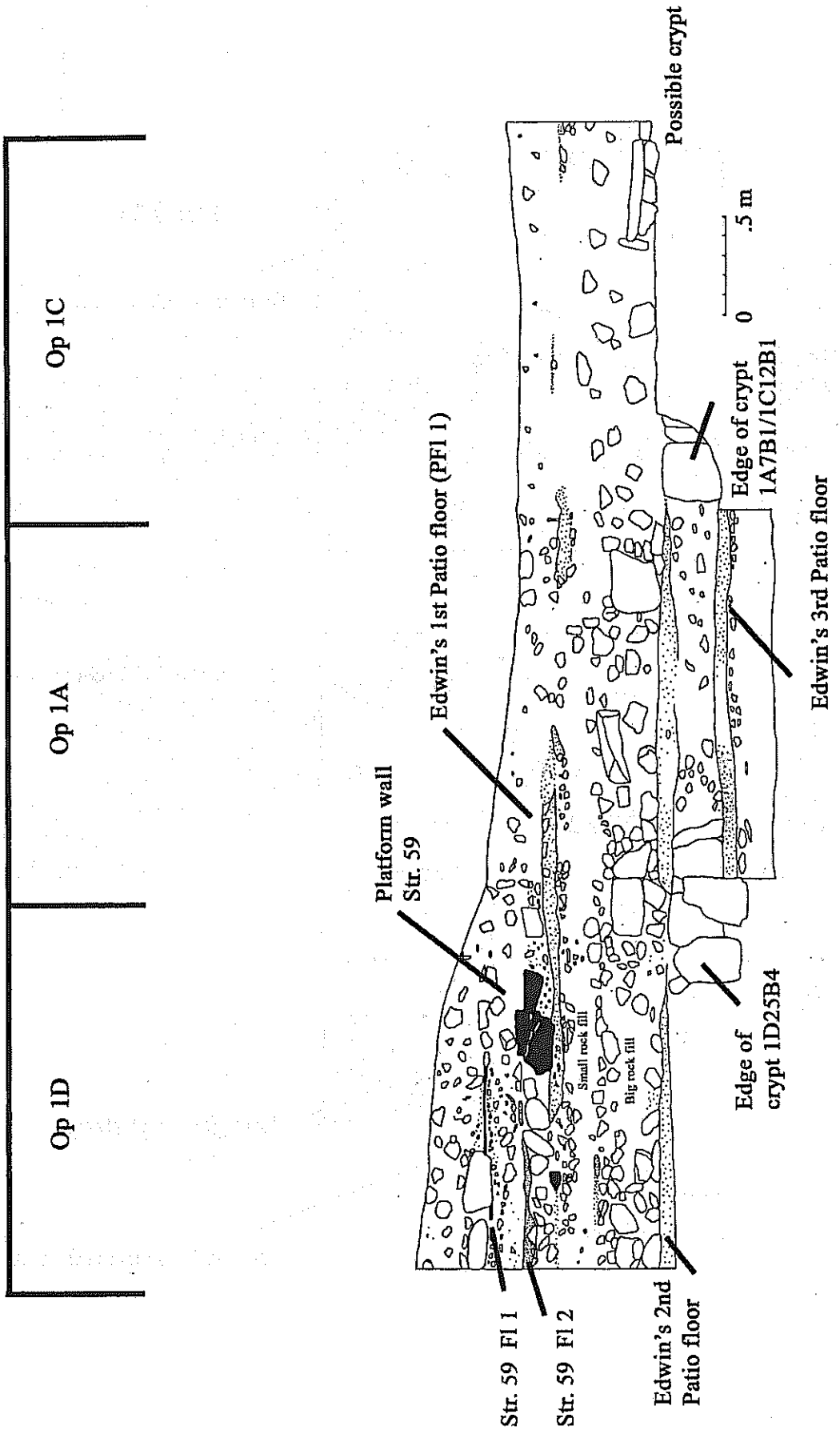


Figure 9: The east profile of Suboperations 1D, A, and C.

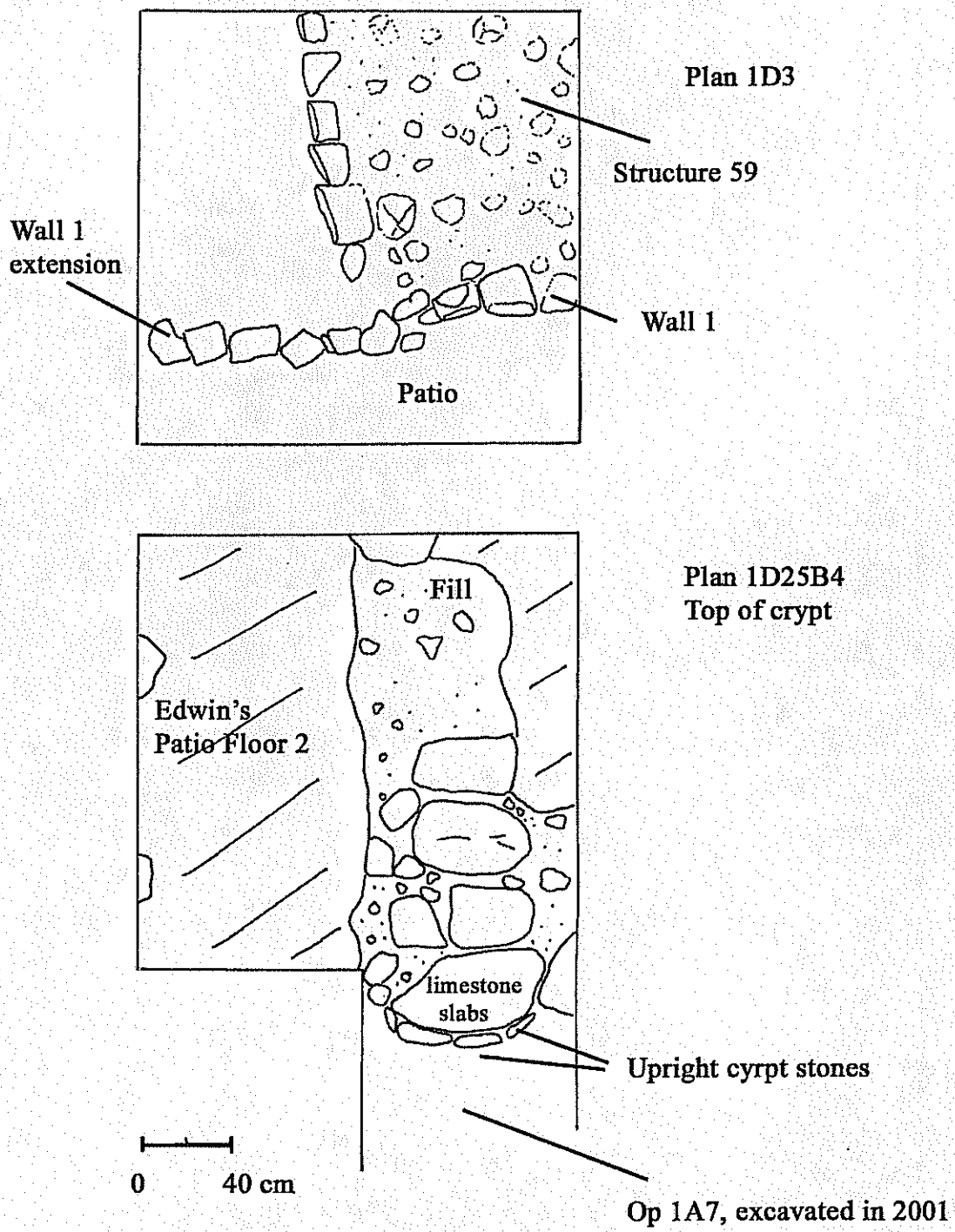


Figure 10: Plan view of 1D3 (Str. 59-1st and alleyway) and plan view of Burial 4's crypt capstones

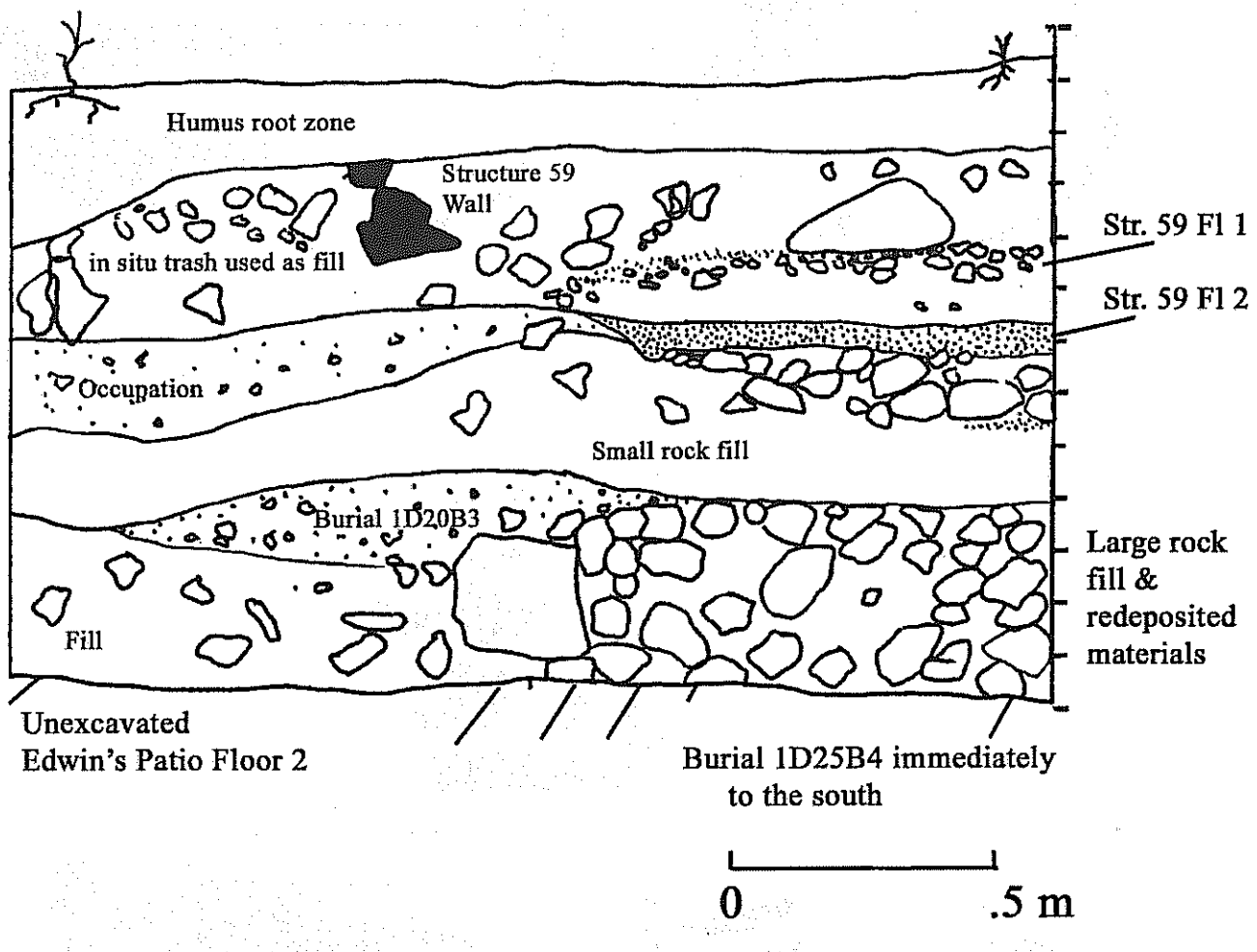


Figure 11: North profile of Suboperation 1C.

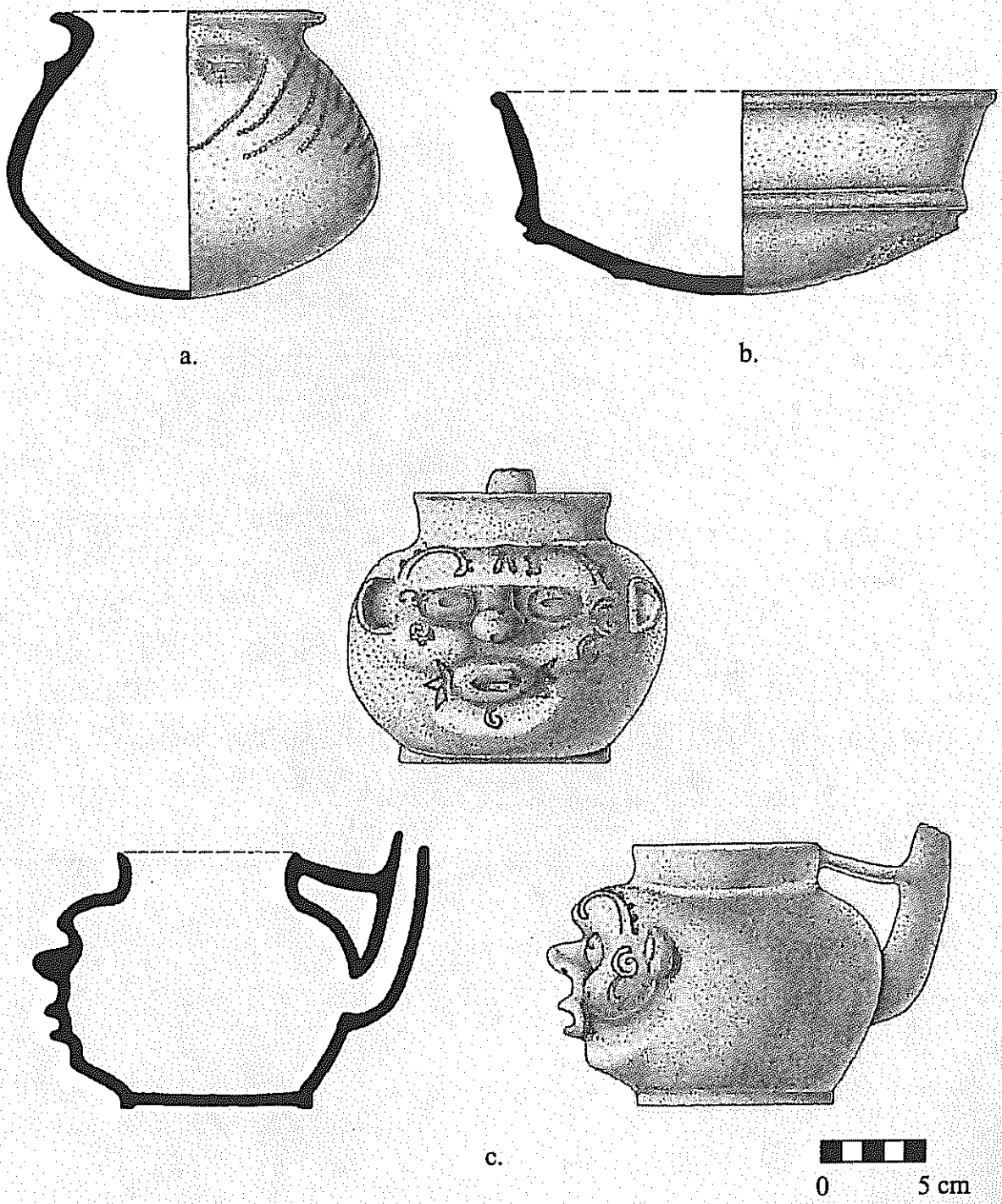


Figure 12: a. Chan Pond jar (1D25B4SA3), b. Aguacate Orange Z-angled dish (1D25B4SA1), and c. Aguacate Orange effigy chocolate pot (1D25B4SA2).

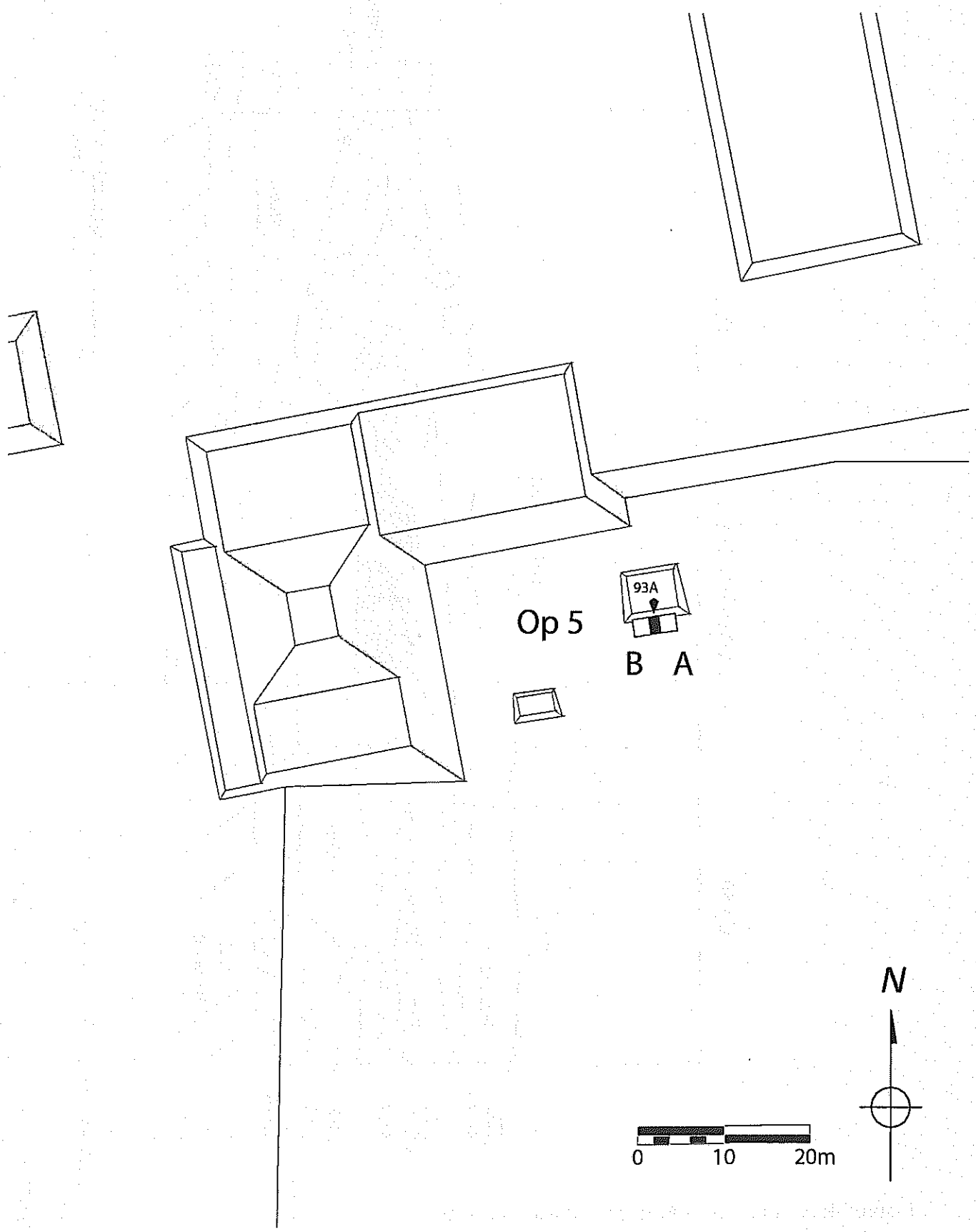


Figure 13: The layout of Operation 5 and Structures 15 and 18.

Figure 14: North profile of Suboperations 5A and B.

Table 1: Actuncan Artifact Classes and Miscellaneous Items by Count

Provo	Ceramics	Lithics	Obs.	G. stone	Jute	Shell	Barj.	Bone	Plaster	Misc. 1	count	Misc. 2	count	Misc. 3	count
1C01	1181	225	1	3	1	0	169	0	0						
1C02	625	93	0	0	0	0	46	1	0						
1C03	884	251	0	0	2	0	97	0	0	Slate	2				
1C04	1100	105	0	1	4	0	64	1	0						
1C05	527	87	0	0	0	0	8	0	0						
1C06	1030	167	0	0	3	0	25	0	0						
1C07	522	132	0	0	0	0	24	0	0						
1C08	1330	315	4	0	0	0	30	1	0						
1C09	1044	114	2	0	1	0	22	0	0						
1C10	181	46	0	0	0	0	5	0	0						
1C11	148	35	0	1	0	2	0	3	0						
1C12	100	17	0	0	1	0	0	0	0						
1C20	1814	331	0	4	7	1	21	0	4	Slate	4	Barkbeater	1		
1C21	398	84	0	1	5	0	2	0	0	Quartz	1				
1D01	3437	502	0	1	0	0	28	0	0	Slate	2				
1D02	2029	312	1	1	0	2	43	0	0						
1D03	4678	519	0	8	9	0	183	9	4	Slate	3	Misc. stone	1	Barkbeater	1
1D04	450	80	3	0	1	0	8	0	0						
1D05	318	58	0	4	0	0	1	0	0						
1D06	757	117	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	Slate	1				
1D07	593	104	4	0	0	0	12	0	0	Slate	1				
1D08F2	875	95	0	12	0	0	2	0	0	Pebble	2				
1D09	1007	183	2	2	2	1	2	0	0	Slate	1				
1D10F3	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
1D11	1228	196	1	0	1	0	7	0	0	Slate	1				
1D12	1248	180	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	Slate	3				
1D13	499	75	1	0	0	0	10	0	0						
1D14	150	25	1	0	0	0	4	12	0						
1D15	1158	195	2	0	0	0	3	0	0						
1D16	70	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
1D17	800	226	2	0	1	1		37	0	Slate	1				
1D18	1162	250	4	0	4	0	29	0	6						

1D19	523	173	1	0	0	0	11	0	0		
1D20	31	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0		
1D21	2309	380	0	0	4	3	7	0	0	Slate	1
1D22	774	87	0	0	2	0	14	1	9	Slate	4
1D23	552	72	0	0	3	0	0	0	4		
1D24	238	46	0	0	1	0	12	0	1		
1D25B4	322	60	0	0	9	0	13	0	2		
1D25B4SA2	14	4	0	0	67	0	0	30	0		
1D25B4SA3	4	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0		
1D26	10	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
4A01	252	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4A02	366	84	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		
4A03	355	89	0	0	1	1	3	0	0		
4A04	757	57	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	Slate	1
4A05	606	52	0	0	4	0	0	0	0		
4A06	516	41	0	0	14	0	0	0	0		
4A07	384	64	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	Ochre	2
4A08	216	3	0	0	6	0	0	0	0		
4A09	46	1	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	Slate	1
4B01	110	48	0	2	1	1	1	0	0		
4B02	57	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4B03	22	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4B04	52	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4B05	43	12	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
4B06	132	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4B07	87	33	0	0	1	0	0	0	2		
4B-E	35	11	0	0	2	0	0	0	0		
4C01	217	99	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4C02	45	7	0	0	0	0	3	0	0		
4C03	71	14	0	0	2	0	0	0	0		
4C04	75	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4C05	41	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
4D01	294	11	1	1	1	0	5	0	0		
4D02	91	15	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
4E01	160	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

4E02	240	9	0	3	0	0	1	0	0					
4E03		12	2	0	1	0	0	0	0					
5A01	2085	172	4	3	7	0	0	0	0					
5A02	1888	115	2	2	22	0	2	2	0	Slate	1	Shell bead	1	
5A03	1509	108	3	1	75	0	6	0	16					
5A05	854	93	7	0	67	1	4	4	0	Chalk	4			
5A06B2	140	21	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	Slate	1	Misc. stone	1	
5A07B2	434	21	1	0	1	0	3	0	1	Organics	1			
5A08	546	5	1	1	0	1	0	0	4	Slate	1			
5A09	907	29	1	0	10	3	0	0	0					
5A10	1479	0	6	0	49	0	10	0	0					
5A11	1094	161	1	0	452	0	17	0	2	Slate	2			
5B01	1154	59	2	4	6	0	2	0	1	Slate	1			
5B02	1249	60	0	0	9	1	0	0	0					
5B03	767	21	3	0	9	0	2	0	0					
5B04	838	29	0	0	30	7	2	0	5					
5B05	1166	43	13	1	12	0	1	5	4	Slate	2			
5B06	357	23	0	0		0	4	0	0	Slate	1			
5B07	1669	542	11	1	180	15	2	8	13	Slate	3			
5B08	1957	180	0	0	158	0	0	0	8	Slate	1	Quartz	1	Shell bead 1
5B09	2472	258	10	0	68	1	5	8	9	Slate	2			
5B10	2507	413	5	1	244	4	5	0	40					
6A01	829	55	1	2	12	0	4	0	0					
6A02	930	38	3	6	4	1	7	3	2	Misc. stone	1			
6A03	470	16	1	0	4	0	2	0	0	Pebble	1			
6A04	370	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0					
6A05	257	7	0	0	6	6	0	0	1					
6A06	252	10	0	1	4	0	1	0	0					
6A07	280	7	0	0	5	2	3	0	0					
6B01	837	29	0	0	1	0	2	3	1	Misc. Stone	1			
6B02	807	10	1	0	1	4	1	2	0	Misc. Stone	5	Barkbeater	1	
6B03	514	16	2	0	6	0	0	0	0	Slate	1			
6B04	78	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0					
6B05	58	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	0					
6C01	1655	34	6	5	9	5	15	0	0	Slate	1	Misc. Stone	5	

6C02	862	19	1	5	9	6	2	0	1	Misc. Stone	1
6C03	400	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	1		
6C04	140	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0		
6C05	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6C06	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
6C07	80	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0		
6D01	238	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0		
6D02	493	16	5	1	3	1	1	0	0		
6D03	1003	13	6	0		2	6	0	0		
6E01	410	4	2	0	3	0	0	0	4		
6E02	125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Misc. Stone	2
6E03	205	5	1	0	3	0	0	1	0		
7A01	447	19	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		
7A02	389	14	0	0	4	0	2	0	0		
7B01	113	24	1	1	2	0	0	0	0		
7C01	136	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7E01	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7E02	180	18	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	Slate	1
7E03	103	11	0	0	5	0	0	0	0		
7E04	190	14	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	Slate	1
7E05	167	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
7E06	94	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0		
7E07	120	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	2		

Table 2: Actuncan Artifact Classes and Miscellaneous Items by Weight (grams)

Provo.	Ceramics	Lithics	Obs.	G. stone	Jute	Shell	Barj.	Bone	Plaster	Misc. 1	gm	Misc. 2	gm	Misc. 3	gm
1C01	8019.0	1935.0	3.0	668.0	0.1	0.0	639.0	0.0	0.0						
1C02	4283.0	1193.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	254.0	32.0	0.0						
1C03	5696.0	2290.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	335.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	13.0				
1C04	9698.0	1673.0	0.0	204.0	18.6	0.0	333.0	0.5	0.0						
1C05	6698.0	1112.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	76.0	0.0	0.0						
1C06	6071.0	1196.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	181.0	0.0	0.0						
1C07	3185.0	2213.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	218.0	0.0	0.0						
1C08	8462.0	4052.0	3.5	235.0	0.0	0.0	256.0	0.2	0.0						
1C09	5923.0	1168.0	6.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	172.0	0.0	0.0						
1C10	947.0	627.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.0	0.0	0.0						
1C11	830.0	356.0	0.0	673.0	0.0	18.0	0.0	3.0	0.0						
1C12	329.0	55.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
1C20	11153.0	2961.0	0.0	2334.0	15.6	13.0	195.0	0.0	10.0	Slate	16.0	Barkbeater	49.0		
1C21	17382.0	3311.0	0.0	102.0	0.3	0.0	70.0	0.0	0.0	Quartz					
1D01	17382.0	6151.0	0.0	380.0	0.0	0.0	180.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	7.0				
1D02	13963.0	3145.0	5.3	20.0	0.0	14.0	175.0	0.0	0.0						
1D03	42397.0	6260.0	0.0	4205.0	63.0	0.0	485.0	10.0	30.0	Slate	28.0	Barkbeater	177.0		
1D04	3086.0	867.0	3.8	0.0	7.3	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0						
1D05	2851.0	467.0	0.0	49.0	0.0	0.0	29.0	0.0	0.0						
1D06	7415.0	2933.0	0.0	7.3	0.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	66.0				
1D07	4115.0	1812.0	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	207.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	47.0				
1D08F2	4455.0	890.0	0.0	6395.0	0.0	0.0	11.7	0.0	0.0	Pebble	28.0				
1D09	5704.0	1647.0	1.6	378.0	8.6	19.0	11.4	0.0	0.0	Slate	4.1				
1D10F3	382.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
1D11	7540.0	1968.0	1.6	0.0	13.0	4.1	128.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	75.0				
1D12	4308.0	4928.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	13.0	3.8	0.0	Slate	8.0				
1D13	3601.0	790.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.0	0.0	0.0						
1D14	874.0	266.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.0	15.0	0.0						
1D15	4317.0	1162.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.0	0.0	0.0						
1D16	602.0	45.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
1D17	5003.0	2605.0	4.1	0.0	4.0	0.5		37.0	0.0	Slate	0.8				
1D18	4870.0	1491.0	12.4	0.0	16.2	0.0	105.1	0.0	6.0						
1D19	2377.0	888.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	114.0	0.0	0.0						
1D20	216.0	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0						
1D21	20622.0	3677.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	29.0	110.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	5.0				
1D22	7377.0	1249.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	195.0	4.0	43.0	Slate	36.0				

1D23	6936.0	1203.0	0.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.0				
1D24	2085.0	701.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	98.0	0.0	118.0				
1D25B4	2433.0	396.0	0.0	0.0	15.1	0.0	51.0	0.0	117.0				
1D25B4SA2	116.0	113.0	0.0	0.0	2.0		0.0	2.7	0.0				
1D25B4SA3	71.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
1D26	109.0	178.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.0	0.0	0.0				
4A01	1565.0	219.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4A02	2942.0	924.0	0.0	85.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4A03	3336.0	1997.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	2.0	112.0	0.0	0.0				
4A04	4202.0	599.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	5.0		
4A05	2712.0	380.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4A06	2267.0	259.0	0.0	0.0	12.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4A07	2950.0	867.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Ochre	108.0		
4A08	1611.0	23.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4A09	1267.0	4.0	3.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	4.0		
4B01	529.0	348.0	0.0	83.0	7.6	16.2	2.6	0.0	0.0				
4B02	408.0	122.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4B03	102.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4B04	245.0	158.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4B05	203.0	60.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0				
4B06	745.0	410.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4B07	384.0	163.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3				
4B-E	829.0	898.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4C01	1432.0	1008.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4C02	230.0	27.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0				
4C03	479.0	301.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4C04	306.0	132.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4C05	179.0	7.7	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4D01	1828.0	1640.0	2.0	1317.0	2.0	0.0	19.0	0.0	0.0				
4D02	508.0	296.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0				
4E01	1165.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
4E02	2431.0	584.0	0.0	2155.0	0.0	0.0	32.0	0.0	0.0				
4E03		157.0	1.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
5A01	17422.0	3572.0	3.9	975.0	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
5A02	16131.0	2305.0	1.2	796.0	38.0	0.0	10.0	1.3	0.0	Slate	2.6	Shell bead	0.5
5A03	10410.0	1378.0	104.0	461.0	95.4	0.0	131.0	0.0	62.2				
5A05	8140.0	748.0	8.0	0.0	59.0	3.0	91.0	3.0	0.0	Chalk	18.0		
5A06B2	931.0	130.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	Slate	4.1		
5A07B2	3889.0	118.0	2.0	0.0	5.0	5.0	9.0	0.0	8.0	Organics	1.0		

5A08	6492.0	38.0	3.2	18.0	0.0	15.6	0.0	0.0	622.0	Slate	75.0				
5A09	6489.0	12.0	4.0	0.0	15.0	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
5A10	6734.0	116.0	5.0	0.0	96.2	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0						
5A11	4855.0	686.0	1.0	0.0	682.0	0.0	120.0	0.0	5.0	Slate	7.0				
5B01	8930.0	860.0	2.8	635.0	15.1	0.0	28.0	0.0	7.7	Slate	57.0				
5B02	9681.0	1140.0	0.0	0.0	24.5	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0						
5B03	6373.0	513.0	5.6	0.0	16.6	0.0	12.0	0.0	0.0						
5B04	6761.0	668.0	0.0	0.0	61.2	43.5	50.5	0.0	22.0						
5B05	6667.0	616.0	12.5	305.0	30.0	0.0	25.0	6.0	69.0	Slate	22.0				
5B06	2291.0	214.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	52.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	3.0				
5B07	14038.0	1073.0	11.0	9.0	306.0	82.0	7.0	19.0	46.0	Slate	8.0				
5B08	17016.0	2054.0	0.0	0.0	232.0	42.1	0.0	0.0	28.0	Slate	22.9	Quartz	314.0	Shell bead	0.9
5B09	19586.0	2918.0	14.3	0.0	121.0	20.0	41.0	7.7	46.3	Slate	6.1				
5B10	17625.0	2707.0	7.0	141.0	385.0	1.3	40.0	0.0	97.0						
6A01	6699.0	743.0	2.0	885.0	65.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0						
6A02	8938.0	1159.0	6.4	190.0	13.4	13.4	98.0	9.0	8.0						
6A03	3111.0	153.0	0.7	0.0	8.4	0.0	75.0	0.0	0.0	Pebble	1.4				
6A04	2165.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	15.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6A05	2113.0	82.0	0.0	0.0	13.0	34.0	0.0	0.0	10.0						
6A06	2691.0	653.0	0.0	204.0	14.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	0.0						
6A07	2502.0	59.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	28.0	17.0	0.0	0.0						
6B01	6710.0	267.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	26.5	1.7	118.0	Misc. Stone	43.0				
6B02	8663.0	695.0	10.0	0.0	18.0	23.0	6.0	5.6	0.0	Barkbeater	359.0				
6B03	3766.0	639.0	1.9	0.0	19.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	5.3				
6B04	680.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6B05	285.0	21.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6C01	13738.0	771.0	13.8	1856.0	27.4	26.0	310.0	0.0	0.0	Slate	26.0				
6C02	8170.0	253.0	2.0	158.0	18.6	53.0	143.0	0.0	72.0						
6C03	4465.0	268.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6						
6C04	1301.0	301.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6C05	188.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6C06	329.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6C07	595.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	11.0	0.0	0.0						
6D01	2045.0	27.5	0.0	0.0	18.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0						
6D02	4015.0	131.0	8.1	94.0	8.8	6.0	11.8	0.0	0.0						
6D03	9832.0	92.6	11.4	0.0		10.1	369.7	0.0	0.0						
6E01	3432.0	44.0	2.0	0.0	12.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0						
6E02	1046.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Misc. stone	26.0				
6E03	1933.0	201.0	2.0	0.0	10.1	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0						

7A01	3221.0	338.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0
7A02	2926.0	140.0	0.0	0.0	23.4	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0
7B01	877.0	391.0	2.7	401.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7C01	1202.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7E01	245.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7E02	1691.0	134.0	0.0	26.0	0.0	0.0	28.1	0.0	0.0
7E03	732.0	291.0	0.0	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7E04	1189.0	65.0	0.0	0.0	23.0	0.0	55.0	0.0	0.0
7E05	2134.0	76.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7E06	1796.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.0	0.0	0.0
7E07	1338.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	10.4	0.0	86.0	0.0	4.7

Actuncan Early Classic Maya Project
Table 3: Ceramic Inventory

Provenience	Condition	Phase*	Diagnostics
1D8-F2	Fair	Samal	Chial Orange-red, LCI Mount Maloney bowls, jars
1D17	Eroded	Ak'ab	Early Mount Maloney bowl, 2 basal flanges, 2 Balanza Black sherds, 2 ring bases, earl spool, 1 unknown matte black bowl, Mars Orange, Jocote, and Sierra
1D20-B3	Fair	Ak'ab?	Peten Gloss Orange, Striated jars
1D24	Fair	Pek'kat	Medial flange, Gale Creek Ware (brown jar with punctuations), horizontally striated jars, incensario, 2 Society Hall, Peten gloss brown, waxy black, waxy cream, Hillbank, brown matte, Sierra Red, Mars Orange.
1D25-B4	Fair	Pek'kat	Waxy Cream, medial flange bowl, thin waxy red-orange, glossy black foot, brown matte, brown waxy simple bowl, Monkey Falls Striated, ring base, Hillbank, flange (basal?), bolstered rim tecomate.
1D25-B4-SA1	Excellent	Pek'kat/Ak'ab	Aguacate Orange quadrapod Z-angle dish and a few misc. sherds
1D25-B4-SA2	Excellent	Pek'kat/Ak'ab	Aguacate Orange effigy chocolate pot with a few misc. sherds including a Society Hall.
1D25-B4-SA3	Excellent	Pek'kat/Ak'ab	Chan Pond Group jar
1D27	Fair	Classic	Ash ware, matte black sherd with postfire incising
4A1	Eroded	Samal	Ring base, LCI Mount Maloney bowl, ash ware with punctuates, 2 basal flanges, other ash ware
4A2	Eroded	Samal	Ash wares, LCI Mount Maloney bowl, incensario frags., Chial orange-red.
4A3	Eroded	Samal	Ring base, ash ware, lid, Sierra Red, striated sherds, LCI Mount Maloney, basal flange and lip flange
4A4	Eroded	Samal	Lateral ridge, ash ware, Balanza Black flange, ash ware, 2 basal flanges, Mount Maloney closed ollas, calcite ware polychrome, Sierra Red, LCI Mount Maloney bowl
4A5	Eroded, small sherds	Early Samal	LCI Mount Maloney bowl, ash wares, cream slip calcite ware, lateral ridge, striated sherds, Balanza Black flange, flange, Aguacate Orange, Dolphin Head.

4A6	Small sherds	Early Samal	Less ash ware than 4A5, Sierra Red, LCI Mount Maloney bowl
4A7	Good	Pek'kat	Substantial amount of orange and red wares, especially Holmul Orange wares, Chan Pond, 1 Holmul polychrome.
4A8	Good	Pek'kat	Laguna Verde Incised, Gale Creek Red ware, Aguacate Orange, Sierra, Polvera, and some glossy black sherds (Balanza?).
4A9	Small bag	Pek'kat	Mostly Sierra and Mars Orange, but some evidence of later types like Holmul Orange and Gale Creek Red.
5A1	Eroded	Hats' Chaak?	Basal flanges, lateral ridge, Alexander jar, ash ware vase, Mount Maloney LCI bowl, cauldron, brown slipped bowl similar to MMLCI bowl, closed olla, McRae Incised.
5A2	Eroded	Samal	Striated sherds, lateral ridge bowls (4), Alexander jar, Belize Red, LCI Mount Maloney bowl, Incensario fragment, calcite ware polychrome, Balanza Black basal flange.
5A3	Eroded	Samal	EC cauldron, lateral ridges, LCI Mount Maloney bowl, Polychrome calcite wares, Balanza Black.
5A4	Eroded	Samal	LCI Mount Maloney bowl, basal flanges, lateral ridges, lateral ridge polychrome calcite ware, Peten gloss orange.
5A5	Eroded	Ak'ab	Incensario, 9 basal flanges, 1 Teotihuacan style slab foot, large jars, Balanza Black lateral ridge, a few ash wares
5A6-B2		Ak'ab	Jar with lip grooves, Aguila Orange, Minanha Orange, lateral ridge bowl
5A7-B2	Eroded	Ak'ab	Jar with groove on top of lip, like those found in 5A6-B2
5A8	Fair	Ak'ab	Bowl with appliquéd lip, Balanza Black, jars, Aguila Orange flange, Z-angle Aguacate Orange, waster, lid.
5A9	Fair	Ak'ab	Dos Arroyos, flange, Balanza Black, massive jars, striated jars, medial flange, plain ware flanges.
5A10	Fair, small sherds	Ak'ab	Striated jar
5A11	Small sherds	Ak'ab	Sharp Z-angled ridge, Balanza Black
5B4	Fair	Early Samal	2 Mount Maloney Black LCI bowls, Balanza Black, 2 lateral ridges, flanges.
5B5	Fair	Samal/Ak'ab	6 flanges, Teotihuacan foot, Balanza Black sherd with mat design, 2 lateral ridges, 5 LCI Mount Maloney bowls, jars, incensario foot, Negroman jar, cauldrons.
5B6	Fair	Samal/Ak'ab	LCI Mount Maloney bowl; material same as above.
6A1	Eroded	Hats' Chaak	Mount Maloney LCI and II bowls, and ash ware

6A2	Eroded	Late Hats' Chaak	Mount Maloney bowl and Belize Red
6A4	Eroded	Ak'ab/Pek'kat	Small basal flange on waxy red slip with bright orange paste, possible Balanza Black rim, waxy cream and black sherd, Mars Orange.
6A5	Eroded	Hats' Chaak	Calcite polychrome, Mount Maloney Black LCII bowl, ash ware, Dolphin Head, basal flange, lip flange, Usulatan trickle, glossy black sherd, massive outflaring bowl with cane stamping below basal break, heavy red slip
6A6	Eroded	Ak'ab?	1 basal flange, 1 medial flange, 1 lip flange, 5 pieces ash ware
6A7	Eroded	Ak'ab	Flange, mammiform foot, Peten gloss orange, Dos Hermanos, Balanza, Orange slipped brandy-snifter form
6B3	Eroded	Late Hats' Chaak?	Ash ware, Sierra Red, Mars Orange, Polvera, lateral ridge bowl, Dolphin Head, 2 flanges, Balanza Black, Tinaja Red carinated bowl?
6B4	Eroded	Ak'ab?	Gale Creek Red, Sierra Red, Black glossy sherd, Mars Orange
6B5	Eroded	Pek'kat	Medial flange, Sierra Red, Floral Park Black on Orange, Gale Creek Red
6C1	Eroded	Tsak'	Ash ware figurines, Ash ware, Mount Maloney LCI bowl, Mount Maloney TC bowl, Piecrust lipped jar, basal flange
6C2	Fair	Tsak'	Ash ware, piecrust lipped jar, Balanza Black, Mars Orange, Quacco Creek, Paso Caballo ware
6C3	Fair	Hats' Chaak	Belize Red, LCII Mount Maloney bowls (2)
6C4	Eroded	Pek'kat	Mars Orange, 2 Z-angles, jars, very little Sierra,
6C5	Eroded	Pek'kat	Small plain cache vessel cup
6C6	Eroded	Pek'kat	Lid, Medial flange, Vaquero Creek, Mars Orange
6C7	Eroded	Formative	Mars Orange, Striated sherds, Red-brown Paso Caballo ware, Gale Creek ware, Orange waxy sherd
6D1	Eroded	Hats' Chaak	Ash ware, LCI and LCII Mount Maloney bowls, Alexander jar, cauldron, Balanza Black flange, flange, Dolphin Head, Early Classic forms, small bowls
6D2	Eroded	Ak'ab	Pedestal base, nubbin foot, Balanza Black basal flange and brandy snifter form, cauldrons, jars, flange, ka'kaw bosses.
6D3	Eroded	Ak'ab/Pek'kat	Balanza Black brandy-snifter form like that found in 6D2, cauldrons, large bowl, 2 Sierra rims, Mars Orange, Gale Creek Red (looks like Sierra but redder with smoother lips)
6E1	Eroded	Samal	Ash ware, Mount Maloney Black LCI bowl, Alexander jar, 2 basal flanges

6E2	Eroded	Hats' Chaak	Mount Maloney LCI and LCII bowls, lateral ridge
6E3	Eroded	Hats' Chaak	Mars Orange with mat design, LCII Mount Maloney bowl, medial flange, basal flange, Alexander jar, Balanza Black
7A1	Very eroded	Samal	Lateral ridge bowl, Mars Orange, Sierra Red form, ash ware, LCI Mount Maloney bowls (2), LCII Mount Maloney bowl, basal flange.
7A2	Very eroded	Hats' Chaak	LCII Mount Maloney bowl, Alexander jar, Mars Orange, basal flange
7B1	Very eroded	Hats' Chaak	2 LCII Mount Maloney bowls, EC cauldron, ash ware
7C1	Very eroded	Hats' Chaak	Ash ware, LCII Mount Maloney bowl, Gale Creek Red
7E1	Very eroded	Ak'ab	Basal flange
7E2	Very eroded	Classic to Formative	Ash ware, medial flange, basal flange.
7E3	Very eroded	Ak'ab	Basal flange
7E4	Eroded	Ak'ab	Ring base, calcite ware polychrome, Mars Orange
7E5	Eroded	Ak'ab	Large basal flanges, ring bases, Gale Creek Red, Cauldrons, Negroman jar
7E6	Eroded	Ak'ab	Very large cauldron (reconstructable), Sierra-Polvera
7E7	Eroded	Ak'ab	Cauldrons, ring bases, Dos Hermanos

*Terminal Post Quiem date

Xunantunich phase designations: Tsak' (Terminal Classic), Hats' Chaak (late Late Classic), Samal (early Late Classic), Ak'ab (Early Classic), and Pek'kat (Terminal Late Formative/Protoclassic).

Table 4: Cultural Context, Phase and Volume for Excavation Lots

Provenience	Cultural Context	TPQ date*	Volume m3
1C01	Collapse	Late Classic	0.3294
1C02	Fill (mixed)	Late Classic	0.1514
1C03	Collapse on floor	Late Classic	0.2272
1C04	Fill (platform)	Late Classic	0.2764
1C05	Fill	Late Classic	0.2082
1C06	Patio floor (Edwin's Patio floor 1)	EC	0.2272
1C07	Trash used as fill	Classic	0.1287
1C08	Compact surface and subfloor fill	Classic	0.4732
1C09	Crypt fill (redeposited fill)	EC/TLF	0.2196
1C10	Crypt fill (redeposited fill)	EC/TLF	0.0681
1C11	Crypt fill (redeposited fill)	EC/TLF	0.0568
1C12B1	Burial (same as 1A7)	EC/TLF	0.0379
1C20	Floor and fill (Leonel's patio floor)	TLF	0.4846
1C21	Fill	TLF	0.2196
1D01	Disturbed surface	Hats' Chaak	0.5414
1D02	Fill	Hats' Chaak	0.6436
1D03	Trash	Hats' Chaak	0.4240
1D04	Collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.1136
1D05	Occupation	Late Classic	0.0681
1D06	Occupation	Late Classic	0.0719
1D07	Floor (house floor 1)	Late Classic	0.1325
1D08F2	Dedicatory cache	Samal	0.0492
1D09	Floor (house floor 1, same as 1D7)	Samal	0.1211
1D10F3	Post-hole?	Samal	0.0038
1D11	Fill & wall of Platform 59	Samal	0.1174
1D12	Floor (house floor 2) and fill	Samal	0.1704
1D13	Wall (Platform of Str. 59)	Late Classic	0.0946
1D14	Material above floor	Late Classic	0.0303
1D15	In situ trash used as fill	Late Classic	0.1363
1D16	Wall (Platform of Str. 59)	Late Classic	0.0151
1D17	Edwin's Patio Floor 1	Ak'ab	0.3407
1D18	Fill, with occupation	Ak'ab	0.2309
1D19	Fill (redeposited crypt fill)	TLF	0.1136
1D20B3	Burial (simple)	Ak' ab?	0.0379
1D21	Patio floor (Leonel's Patio Floor)	TLF	0.5300
1D22	Patio fill	TLF	0.1514
1D23	Fill & patchy floor	TLF	0.2650
1D24	Fill	Pek'kat	0.0946
1D25B4	Burial (Crypt)	Pek'kat	NA
1D26	Crypt fill (redeposited fill)	Pek'kat	0.0189
1D27	Pot and crypt fill	Classic	0.0189
4A01	Collapse	Samal	0.9616
4A02	Plaza fill	Samal	1.0411
4A03	Plaza Floor 1 and ballast	Samal	1.1131
4A04	Plaza fill	Samal	1.0941

4A05	Plaza fill	Samal	1.0790
4A06	Plaza fill	Samal	0.8897
4A07	Plaza fill under floor?	Pek'kat	1.1509
4A08	Plaza Floor 2 and ballast	Pek'kat	0.7685
4A09	Natural soil with artifacts	Barton Creek	NA
4B01	Surface	Late Classic	0.2082
4B02	Collapse	Late Classic	0.1704
4B03	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.0946
4B04	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.1514
4B05	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.0568
4B06	Collapse	Late Classic	0.3218
4B07	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.1136
4C01	Humus	Late Classic	0.4922
4C02	Fill	Late Classic	0.0568
4C03	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.0833
4C04	Platform fill	Late Classic	0.0946
4C05	Fill	Late Classic	0.0757
4D01	Humus	Late Classic	0.5490
4D02	Collapse	Late Classic	0.0946
4E01	Humus	Late Classic	0.5679
4E02	Rubble battening	Late Classic	0.7383
4E03	Rubble battening	Late Classic	0.2839
4E04	Rubble battening	Late Classic	0.0000
5A01	Collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.7383
5A02	Collapse	Samal	0.6057
5A03	Occupation	Samal	0.3975
5A04B2	Burial (Cairn)	Samal	0.0568
5A05	Midden	Ak'ab	0.3521
5A06B2	Burial (Lined)	Ak'ab	0.0681
5A07B2	Burial (Lined)	Ak'ab	0.0946
5A08	Midden	Ak'ab	0.3597
5A09	Midden	Ak'ab	0.4657
5A10	Midden	Ak'ab	0.6625
5A11	Midden	Ak'ab	0.6815
5B01	Surface	Late Classic	0.5225
5B02	Collapse	Late Classic	0.3029
5B03	Collapse	Late Classic	0.2574
5B04	Surface or ballast	Samal	0.3407
5B05	Platform fill	Samal/Ak'ab	NA
5B06	Platform wall and Patio floor	Samal/Ak'ab	0.1325
5B07	Midden	Ak'ab	0.6247
5B08	Midden	Ak'ab	0.8518
5B09	Midden	Ak'ab	0.8329
5B10	Midden	Ak'ab	0.8140
6A01	Surface and collapse	Hats' Chaak	1.1926
6A02	fill and collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.7572
6A03	loose rubble fill	Classic	0.5679

6A04	Loose rubble fill	Samal/Ak'ab	0.3597
6A05	Big rock rubble fill	Hats' Chaak	0.3218
6A06	Patio Floor 1 and ballast	Ak'ab?	0.7572
6A07	Patio Floor 2 and ballast	Ak'ab	0.6625
6B01	Surface	Hats' Chaak	0.5490
6B02	rubble fill or collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.5565
6B03	Big rock rubble fill	Hats' Chaak	0.6247
6B04	Patio Floor 1 and ballast	Ak'ab?	0.1893
6B05	Patio Floor 2	Pek'kat	0.1893
6C01	Surface	Tsak'	2.1580
6C02	Rubble fill or collapse	Tsak'	0.7383
6C03	Big rock rubble fill	Hats' Chaak	0.3786
6C04	Patio Floor 1 and ballast	Pek'kat	0.3786
6C05	Patio Floor 2	Pek'kat	0.0568
6C06	Fill	Pek'kat	NA
6C07	Fill	Foramtive	NA
6D01	Surface	Hats' Chaak	0.4732
6D02	Refuse	Ak'ab	0.4164
6D03	Refuse	Ak'ab/Pek'kat	0.6057
6E01	Surface	Samal	0.6815
6E02	Collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.1136
6E03	Collapse and fill	Hats' Chaak	0.0076
6E04	Fill below Floor 1	Hats' Chaak	0.3786
7A01	Humus	Samal	0.7761
7A02	Collapse	Hats' Chaak	0.7950
7B01	Humus	Hats' Chaak	0.3862
7C01	Humus	Hats' Chaak	0.0946
7D01	Humus	Ak'ab	NA
7E01	Humus	Classic	0.0946
7E02	Terrace fill	Ak'ab	0.4732
7E03	Ballast	Ak'ab	0.3218
7E04	Terrace fill	Ak'ab	0.6247
7E05	Terrace fill	Ak'ab	0.8329
7E06	In situ trash used as fill	Ak'ab	NA
7E07	Ballast	Ak'ab	NA
Total volume			46.5704

*TPQ ceramic date: *Terminus post quem* refers to the date after which an artifact must have been deposited. Therefore, the ceramic dates presented here are based on the latest temporal diagnostics.

Two kinds of names are used in the construction of this table: XAP ceramic complexes (LeCount et al. 2002) and general period names. Those given XAP complex names have been analyzed by the quick sort method; whereas those given general period names were assigned dates based on stratigraphy.

Chapter 2: Osteological Report and Dental Analyses
Rebecca Scopa Kelso

Research on dental hypoplasia can provide an overall index of prehistoric population health; therefore, these data can provide empirical data for testing models for the rise of Maya kingship in the Early Classic period, and the effects of political, social and environmental policies during the Late and Terminal Classic period. Changes in society and environment condition the frequency and severity of nutritional and health stresses. Children who have nutritional or health problems severe enough to cause a disruption in growth have a permanent record of this stress imprinted on the developing teeth in the form of enamel hypoplasia. An enamel hypoplasia on a tooth surface can be measured to reveal the age of the individual when the stress occurred (Goodman et al. 1980). General social trends in nutritional and health stress can be viewed by looking at the trends in enamel hypoplasias in the population. For instance, if hypoplasias recur on a regular basis, say every year, it might indicate a certain seasonal time of stress for that person. If hypoplasias occurred at a particular time of life for the entire population it can be assumed that there is a shared developmental period of stress. In contrast, enamel hypoplasias outside these established patterns can indicate occurrences of both chronic and acute serious illnesses in individuals. The numbers of these hypoplasias give a picture of the overall health of a particular population.

Archaeology and Ancient Maya Health

The large cultural center of Copan, both urban and rural, was found to have a higher frequency of enamel hypoplasia than smaller northern coastal communities. This pattern is an indication that Copan's population was under more chronic stress than the populations of smaller coastal communities during the Late and Terminal Classic period (Storey et al. 2002). A hypoplastic sample from the Pasión River region in Guatemala illustrates that children experienced no great change in the frequency or severity of stress throughout the Classic period or into the Terminal Classic period (Wright 1997). However, there is a shift in the age in which the children experienced the most stress. Children from the Terminal Classic period were affected at the earliest age, Early Classic period children were slightly older, and the children from the Late Classic period were the oldest before being affected by stresses severe enough to form an enamel

hypoplasia (Wright 1997). This data does not support the ecological deterioration theory for the collapse of the southern lowland Maya, which would predict that childhood stresses would have increased over the Classic period culminating in the Terminal Classic due to resource restrictions. Wright's (1997) interpretation of why this data does not fit the ecological model is that perhaps the Terminal Classic children were forced to wean at an earlier age than they had been previously. Weaning children earlier deprives them of their mothers' IgA immunoglobulins and leaves them more prone to infection and illness at a much younger age. Another explanation for the findings could be that, during the Late Classic period childrearing practices, including weaning, were more heterogeneous, presumably because in this highly stratified society elites and commoners raised their children differently (Wright 1997). In contrast, during the Terminal Classic period there was poor nutritional consistency throughout the ranks, therefore all women weaned children at an early age (Wright 1997).

Danforth (1997) found that individuals from Tikal, Seibal, and Barton Ramie who died before the age of eighteen had significantly higher rates of enamel hypoplasia and other enamel microdefects. She determined that children were most healthy as infants (six months to two years of age), but then became increasingly susceptible to illness (Danforth 1997:131). The most common time of enamel hypoplasia formation was during the ages of three and five. Other enamel microdefects were most common between the ages of one and one half and three (Danforth 1997:131). The temporal spacing of the enamel hypoplasias does not suggest that it is related to annual food shortages (Danforth 1997). Tikal, being the largest of the three sites, had the highest frequency of enamel hypoplasias and Barton Ramie, being the smallest, had the lowest. Barton Ramie had a higher frequency of other enamel microdefects than Tikal. Because enamel hypoplasias are the results of a much more enduring stress these results may indicate that the stressors at Barton Ramie were not as severe as those at Tikal.

Dental pathologies such as caries and abscesses show that the populations of Jaina and Xcaret had a more varied diet (Storey et al. 2002). These populations had fewer pathologies than both rural and urban Copan. Men had vastly greater numbers of pathologies than women at these coastal sites. This pattern could be due to the consumption of maize beer during ceremonies, which would have provided males a starchier overall diet than women. In Copan, rural women

had a higher percentage of dental pathologies, indicating a very starchy and limited diet. Men and urban women had about the same index of dental pathologies. These data lend evidence to suggest that maize would have been treated very differently at inland centers. Being a dietary staple, lower status individuals would have eaten more of it, and very little else (Storey et al. 2002).

Ann Magennis (1999) found that at the site of Kichpanha in northern Belize individuals had a low frequency of caries and dental calculus during the Protoclassic period, and that there was even a dip in the rate of dental pathologies during the Early Classic period. Only in the Middle Classic did the frequency start to rise, and a sharp increase occurred during the Late Classic and Terminal Classic. It can be inferred that the high starch levels in maize most likely caused the increase in caries and build-up of calculus, but it is harder to explain the rise and fall in caries frequency over time (Magennis 1999). Kichpanha has an interesting history in which it flourished from the early Middle Preclassic until the Early Classic period. At this point there was a drop in population, to the extent that Kichpanha's elite moved to another center. It is thought that Kichpanha remained occupied by agriculturalists left behind and thereafter acted as a satellite to a larger regional center. One hypothesis is that the lower frequency of caries during the Protoclassic and Early Classic periods can be attributed to the fact that the elite population which would have had access to a wider variety of food resources. The higher caries and calculus frequencies from the Late Classic and Terminal Classic population, therefore solely represents the health of common agriculturalists (Magennis 1999).

The Dental Sample: Upper Belize Valley Sites

Actuncan, Chaa Creek, San Lorenzo, and Xunantunich are all situated in the upper Belize River Valley in the most western portion of the Cayo District, Belize, Central America. Actuncan is a medium-sized center on a ridge over looking the Mopan River, approximately two km north of Xunantunich, a similarly sized center that also overlooks the western bank of the Mopan River. Chaa Creek is a small hinterland site located on the western shore of the Macal River, approximately nine km east of the urban center of Xunantunich. Like Chaa Creek, San Lorenzo is a hinterland site positioned along the eastern bank of the Mopan River roughly equidistant

between Actuncan and Xunantunich. Jason Yeager (2003) estimates that over 35,000 people lived within five km of Xunantunich during the later part of the Late Classic. Louis Wirth (1938) defines a city as a large number of people living in a densely nucleated settlement with a high degree of social and economic heterogeneity.

During the Late Classic, Actuncan, Chaa Creek and San Lorenzo were members of a single political state centered at Xunantunich, which was a political and religious center (LeCount et al. 2002; Yaeger 2003). The resident population density of Xunantunich itself was low as compared to its surrounding area (Yeager 2003). From the varying amounts of labor time per structure, Yeager (2003) suggests that individuals of varying economic status resided at Xunantunich. Although a member of the Late and Terminal Classic Xunantunich polity, Actuncan was an autonomous center during the Middle Preclassic and in the Late Preclassic periods when a triad temple was built (McGovern 1994; LeCount 2001). Ashmore and Leventhal (1993) speculate that Actuncan was the ancestral shrine of the Late Classic Xunantunich population. Building and activity at Actuncan continued into the Classic period, with renovations made throughout the Late and Terminal Classic (McGovern 1992, 1993, 1994; LeCount 2001). San Lorenzo was first settled in the Early Classic period and was at the height of its population early in the Late Classic period. By the Terminal Classic period (A.D. 790-850) the community dwindled and was then abandoned (Yeager 2003). Despite being a part of the Xunantunich polity, Yeager (2003) postulates that members of the San Lorenzo community were economically stratified, presumably because of their access to good farmland and the political elite at Xunantunich. Chaa Creek also flourished during the Classic period, and was a member of the Xunantunich polity during the Late Classic period (Connell 2000).

Actuncan Burials

All burials, except those recently recovered from Actuncan, have been described previously (Braswell 1998; Connell 2000; Yaeger 2000). Therefore, a brief description of Actuncan burials will be presented before a presentation of the results of my dental hypoplasia study. Further descriptions of the Actuncan burials can be found in LeCount and Blitz (this volume, and 2001).

Burial 1: 1C12-B1

Burial 1 was excavated over the course of two field seasons. Op 1C12B1 is a continuation of 1A7B1 excavated in 2001. The crypt was defined by upright limestone slabs that was no larger that the body. The crypt originated from above the Terminal Late Preclassic Patio Floor 2, possibility at Leonel's Patio Floor. The bottom is defined by Edwin's Patio Floor 3. Here, I will discuss only the cranium associated with 1C12B1. The skull was positioned face down between two upright limestone slabs (Figure 1). Due to the poor preservation the condition of the bone was poor. Further osteological research needs to be done to look for pathology and trauma in this individual. The teeth recovered from this individual were the first right maxillary incisor, the first left maxillary incisor, the second left maxillary premolar, the first left mandibular incisor, the right and left mandibular canines, the first and second right mandibular premolars, the left second mandibular premolar, and the first, second and third right mandibular molars. There is a 10cm x 5cm rock at the bottom of the crypt on 1/A-Floor 3 on which the head of the individual was placed. There was a piece of the left clavicle north (below) the skull. The body was prone with the right arm and possibly left arm positioned behind the back. The body is oriented roughly north/south, with head to the south. The lower legs were crossed with the right leg behind the left ankle. See LeCount and Blitz (2001) for a more detailed discussion of the post-cranial remains (1A7-B1). A small piece of obsidian was found about 1cm away from the left mastoid process. There was also an unfinished flake and a green stone bead positioned in the area of the nose and mouth. A small brown vessel with a bird effigy adorno knob was placed on the feet of this individual.

Burial 2: 5A4B2, 5A6B2, and 5A7B2

Suboperation 5A area contained three burials. The first and most recently placed burial was 5A4-B2 individual 0, if indeed this was a burial it was a meager cairn burial. This burial was placed above both 5A7-B2 Individual 2 and 5A6-B2 Individual 1. Individual 1 was place directly adjacent and at a slightly higher elevation than Individual 2.

5A4-B2 (Individual 0)

This cairn burial consisted of only triad of dressed limestone slabs within a midden located behind Structure 18. Due to the incredible poor preservation very little remained of Individual 0.

A fibula fragment was found to the west and possible radius and ulna fragments were found to the east. There was a single tooth found within this poorly prepared burial along with some other bone fragments.

It should be noted that while excavated Individual 2 (5A7B2), miscellaneous bone were recovered from above the grave and it now seems that these fragments should be associated with the cairn burial 5A4-B2 rather than 5A7B2. In the area directly above 5A7B2, long-bone fragments (2) and other fragments were found. While the two long-bone fragments were located at a higher elevation than 5A7B2, they were originally placed with this burial. Many fragments, possibly associated with 5A4B2 Individual 0, were scattered throughout the matrix and may have been confused with 5A7-B2.

5A6-B2 (Individual 1)

This burial was located within the midden behind Structure 18. The lined grave was poorly constructed, but well defined by a series of small upright limestone slabs and river cobbles. Individual 1 was oriented to the south lying supine with its lower legs and feet slightly elevated. Although the exact relationship of the grave to Structure 18 is not known, it is possible that Structure 18's southern wall had to be cut in order to make room for Individual 1's feet. However, the cut-out was not dug deep or long enough for the entire body, causing the feet to be elevated above the rest of the body. The preservation of the osteological remains was overall poor, but variable due to the moisture content of the soil and lack of burial preparation. All the long bones were recovered fragmented and incomplete, along with the pelvis, ribs, scapula, and skull (Figure 2). There was complete deterioration of the carpals, tarsals, patella, and sacrum. While a good portion of the cranial vault and facial area were recovered, the maxilla and mandible were not and no teeth were present. The pelvis preservation was so deficient that sex determination is unlikely in the laboratory. Further osteological analysis of the remains needs to be done to determine pathology and trauma information. There was a stone approximately 10 cm in diameter located under the upper right torso of Individual 1 with a large sherd around it. Large ceramic sherds were also found under the legs. Due to its location within the midden and the materials associated with redeposited grave fill, this burial has been preliminarily dated to the

Ak'ab (Early Classic) time period, however, given that this burial originated from above the midden, it could date to the Late Classic period.

5A7-B2 (Individual 2)

This burial was located within the midden behind Structure 18 and extends along the eastern wall of the unit. The well defined, yet similarly poorly constructed burial pit was outlined in cut limestone slabs and river cobbles. Individual 2 is oriented to the south lying on its right side facing east in a semi-fetal position (Figure 2). Its head was found approximately 9 cm above the level of the post-cranial portion of the body. Cranial fragments present included the mandible and teeth, which were in fairly good condition, and were removed in a block to allow for more complete analysis at a later time. The right arm and hand were brought up towards the face, while the left extended slightly more in front of the body. The right humerus, radius, and ulna were very fragmented and incomplete due to there location under the body. The soil in the torso area was slightly moister than the surrounding soil. The preservation of the ribs, vertebra, and pelvis was very poor. The femurs, tibia, and fibula were in fairly good condition. The feet were positioned under the southern wall of Structure 18, which was undisturbed. The tarsals were much deteriorated resulting in poor recovery. No artifacts were found directly associated with the body. The location of Individual 2 within the midden has resulted in date estimation of the Ak'ab (Early Classic) time period. Individual #1 was buried at a higher elevation than Individual 2, who was buried at a lower elevation with its feet under the southern wall of Structure 18. This positioning may indicate that Individual 2 was buried earlier than Individual 1; however, it is also possible that there is little difference in temporal placement since both graves originated at approximately the same strata.

Burial 3: 1D20-B3

The simple grave originated at Leonel's Patio Floor, beneath an upright slab and a flat limestone slab. The grave was shallow and not lined with stone. This is the burial of a small child. Due to the immaturity of the bone and the complete lack of a crypt the preservation of the bone is very poor. The child was lying in a supine position, head to the south (Figure 3). There were only fragments of the ribs, radius, ulna, and humerus. The shafts of the femurs, tibia, and fibula were present. The skull had either been propped up on the chest or the mandible had fallen forward in

decomposition, lying flat on the chest area. All that remained of the skull was fragments, but the mandible was in fair condition with several teeth still in crypt. The permanent mandibular left and right first incisors as well as the left first molar were found in crypt. Other teeth scattered throughout the burial included the deciduous maxillary canines, the permanent mandibular right first molar, and the permanent mandibular right second incisor. From the development of the molars, canines and incisors (Ubelaker 1978) the estimated age at time of death for this individual is 3± 12 months. Present on the first incisors were linear enamel hypoplasias (LEH). See the dental analysis for a more in depth discussion. Further osteological research needs to be done to look for pathology and trauma in this individual. There were few artifacts found in association with this burial. Two stone beads were found about 8cm to the southwest of the skull and an obsidian flake was found in the center of the burial.

Burial 4: 1D25-B4

This burial was located below a thick plaster floor (Edwin's Plaza Floor 2). The plaza floor had been cut along the midline of the unit and the crypt was surrounded by rock fill containing gravel, cobles, and rubble up to 50cm in length. The floor curves up to make a finished edge in several places along the western perimeter of the unit indicating a junction of the floor and a wall. The crypt was positioned north to south in the eastern half of the unit. Large shaped limestone slabs or capstones covered almost the entire length of the crypt, except for the feet. After the capstones were removed faunal remains and a nest of a small rodent were discovered in the fine soil. There was a faced limestone "footstone" placed directly north of the individual's feet with the faced side up, but the crypt continued past it for another 45cm to the north. Here, an upright crypt stone terminated the actual crypt. Unlike the crypt associated with 1A7B1 and 1C12B1, there seems to be no clear floor at the bottom of the crypt, which has been cut though Edwin's Plaza Floor 3. The bottom of the crypt is a poorly preserved limestone surface.

The individual was found in a prone, extended position (Figure 4). No limb epiphyses are present. The right and left femur shafts are in good condition, but the radius and ulna are in poor and fragmentary condition. The right tibia and fibula appear to have been moved in some manner to make room for the pot resting on top of them. The fibula had crossed on top of the tibia and had been placed almost parallel with the femur. The right and left hands/metacarpals

were located below the femurs respectively. Their preservation was very poor and recovery was difficult, especially of the right. The feet/metatarsals were located at a slightly lower elevation, much more of the left foot was present than the right. The majority of the ribs were fragmented and incomplete; with further study two ribs on the left side may be identifiable. An orange ware dish was located just where the head should have been, but after removing the bowl the head was not found under it. Three teeth, including a distally III4 modified incisor, were found under the bowl. The other tooth was found near the pelvis region. Only two small cranial fragments were found adjacent to the dish on the north northwest side, but while excavating the bowl itself cranial fragments were discovered in it. Within the dish, an extra first mandibular premolar was present, which raises many interesting questions. Further osteological analysis needs to be done on the cranial bones for pathological and trauma studies.

After removing 2 to 3 cm layers of soil the rims of three pots emerged. The first pot, 1D25B4SA1 is the orange-ware dish that contained cranial fragments. A small spouted cacao pot (1D25B4SA2) was wedged in the southwest corner of the crypt. Over time the upright crypt stones lining the crypt had shifted breaking the pot, but all the pieces were present, making reconstruction possible. A third pot (1D25B4SA3) was positioned near the individual's knees, but its position in relationship to the body is unnatural. It was placed either on the backs of the calves at the time of death and through time shifted into position, falling to the west and pushing the calves out of the way (to the east) or the calves were originally moved aside to make room for the pot. A third possibility is that the pot was not placed in the burial until after some time had past and the body had time to decompose, at which time the tibia and fibula where pushed aside to make room for the pot.

Evaluation of Enamel Hypoplasia

The teeth from Xunantunich, San Lorenzo, and Chaa Creek had been previously cleaned, leaving calculus intact. Macroscopic observation of the teeth was conducted aided only with the use of a simple magnifying glass. Enamel hypoplasias were measured with thin-tipped calipers to the tenth of a millimeter (0.1mm) from the center of the hypoplasia to the cemento-enamel junction. This measurement was converted into a developmental age established according to the tooth

developmental chronology of Swärdstedt (1966) as used by Goodman, Armelagos, and Rose (1980). The developmental age for each tooth is divided into half-year periods, beginning with birth to six months and continuing to six and half years to seven. In order to concentrate the statistical analysis of this study on the growth disruptions of individuals in a population, the frequency and time of formation of enamel hypoplasia must be recorded using the individual and not solely the episode as the unit of analysis (Martin et. al 1991; Goodman et al. 1980). This gives a better understanding of as to the temporal patterns of health and growth disruptions for individuals. Individuals were selected on the basis of the presence of at least one permanent maxillary or mandibular central or lateral incisor or canine tooth. These particular teeth were used due to their increased susceptibility to developmental disruptions as compared to molars and premolars (Martin et al. 1991; Goodman et al. 1980; Saunders and Keenleyside 1999). When both the right and left teeth were present in an individual, the left tooth was used in the sample except when there were no enamel hypoplasias on the left tooth. But if hypoplasias occurred on the right, then the right was used in the sample. Statistics for the frequency of growth disruptions have been assembled both in terms of mean number of growth disruptions per individual and percent of individuals with at least one growth disruption. For this study a growth disruption is defined as a half-year period determined by the measurement of a hypoplasia from the cemento enamel junction and converted using the table from Goodman, Armelagos, and Rose (1980).

The sample of dental remains from the hinterland community of Chaa Creek consists of 58 permanent first and second incisors and canines. At San Lorenzo, the sample dental remains consist of 14 permanent central and lateral incisors and canines. The Xunantunich sample dental remains contain sixty-two 62 permanent central and lateral incisors and canines. The sample dental remains from Actuncan include 17 permanent central and lateral incisors and canines.

Results

In this Upper Belize Valley population, there is a slightly higher mean of hypoplasia for individuals living within urban centers than those living in hinterland communities. The mean growth disruption per individual in centers is 1.56, whereas the mean growth disruption per

individual in hinterland communities is 1.10 (Table 1). The percentage of individuals with one or more growth disruptions in centers is 0.76, but the percentage of individuals with one or more growth disruptions is only 0.55 (Table 2). This slight trend remains when all four sites are compared (Table 3).

The frequency of enamel hypoplasia per tooth and half-year development period for the entire sample indicates that only three defects occur on maxillary teeth before the age of one year (Table 6). The combined the hinterland communities have the highest frequency of hypoplasias in the half-year development period of 2.0 to 2.5 at 33% and another peak during the developmental period of 3.0 to 3.5 years at 26.0% (Table 4). The combined center communities have several peaks of high frequency of hypoplasias. The first peak is during the developmental period of 2.5 to 3.0 at 33% (Table 5). The second is during the 3.0 to 3.5 developmental period at 31% and the third peak is much later during the development period of 4.5 to 5.0 at 38% (Table 5).

When the frequencies of enamel hypoplasia per tooth and half-year developmental periods are compared across sites a pattern emerges. Individuals from Actuncan have a higher frequency of hypoplasia occurring during two age ranges: 2.0 to 2.5 years of age and 3.5 to 4.0 years of age (Table 7). In the Chaa Creek sample, the majority of hypoplasias also occur between 2.0 and 2.5 years of age, but also slightly later, between 4.0 and 4.5 years of age (Table 8). Interestingly, the San Lorenzo sample contained no hypoplasias at all (Table 9). Within the Xunantunich sample population the majority of hypoplasias occurred later between the ages of 2.5 to 3.0 years of age and 4.5 to 5.0 years of age (Table 10). When the frequency of enamel hypoplasia per tooth and half-year development period by hinterland communities and centers are compared there is a slight tendency for a greater number of hypoplasias to occur at a later developmental age in urban centers (Tables 9 and 10).

No temporal trends can be interpreted from these data, since only six burials pre-date the Late Classic period. The Actuncan burials form the bulk of the Early Classic and Protoclassic samples (n=5), and there is one early burial from Chaa Creek (190P27-B1).

Discussion

From this study, the percentage of growth disruptions and mean number of growth disruptions per individual for Upper Belize Valley centers is higher than that of hinterland communities. There was a difference in the age at development for growth disruptions between hinterland communities and centers. The frequency of growth disruptions in the centers occurred at an older age than that of individuals living in the hinterland communities.

This has many implications for understanding the overall dynamics and health of the Lower Belize River valley. Although this is a limited study, a few hypotheses concerning the health of valley populations can be formulated for later testing. If hypoplasias are more common in Late Classic centers than in hinterland communities, then it can be suggested that rural populations appear to have enjoyed greater health than those who lived in centers. Why might this be so? Poor sanitation and higher population densities in urban centers might have made these sites less healthy placed to live than small villages. It is also probable that stress in urban centers arose due to social and economic factors. Since populations living in centers were more likely to be occupational specialists and not farmers, disruptions in food supply might have caused short-term dietary stresses. Interestingly, urban populations were more likely to be elite; therefore, generalizations about elite versus commoner health should take into concerning context, as well as social status.

If age of growth disruptions can be used as a measure to determine age of weaning, it can be inferred that families in Upper Belize Valley centers weaned their children later than those who lived in hinterland sites. Why might this be so? Again, this pattern may be due to environmental stress or cultural factors. Rural women may have been more likely to wean their children earlier because of their workloads in the fields. Urban women may have had been able to breast-feed their children even when they were at work. It is also possible that many elite women did not work, in the sense of laboring in workshops. An alternative hypothesis to explain this data may be that elite women weaned their children later due to social practices that marked their status.

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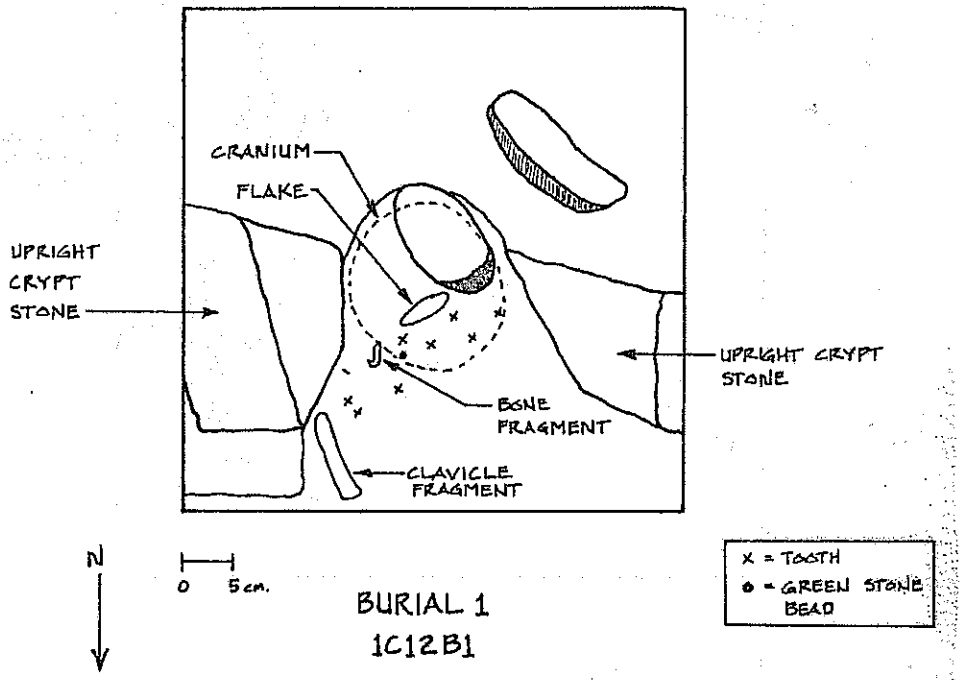


Figure 1: Burial 1

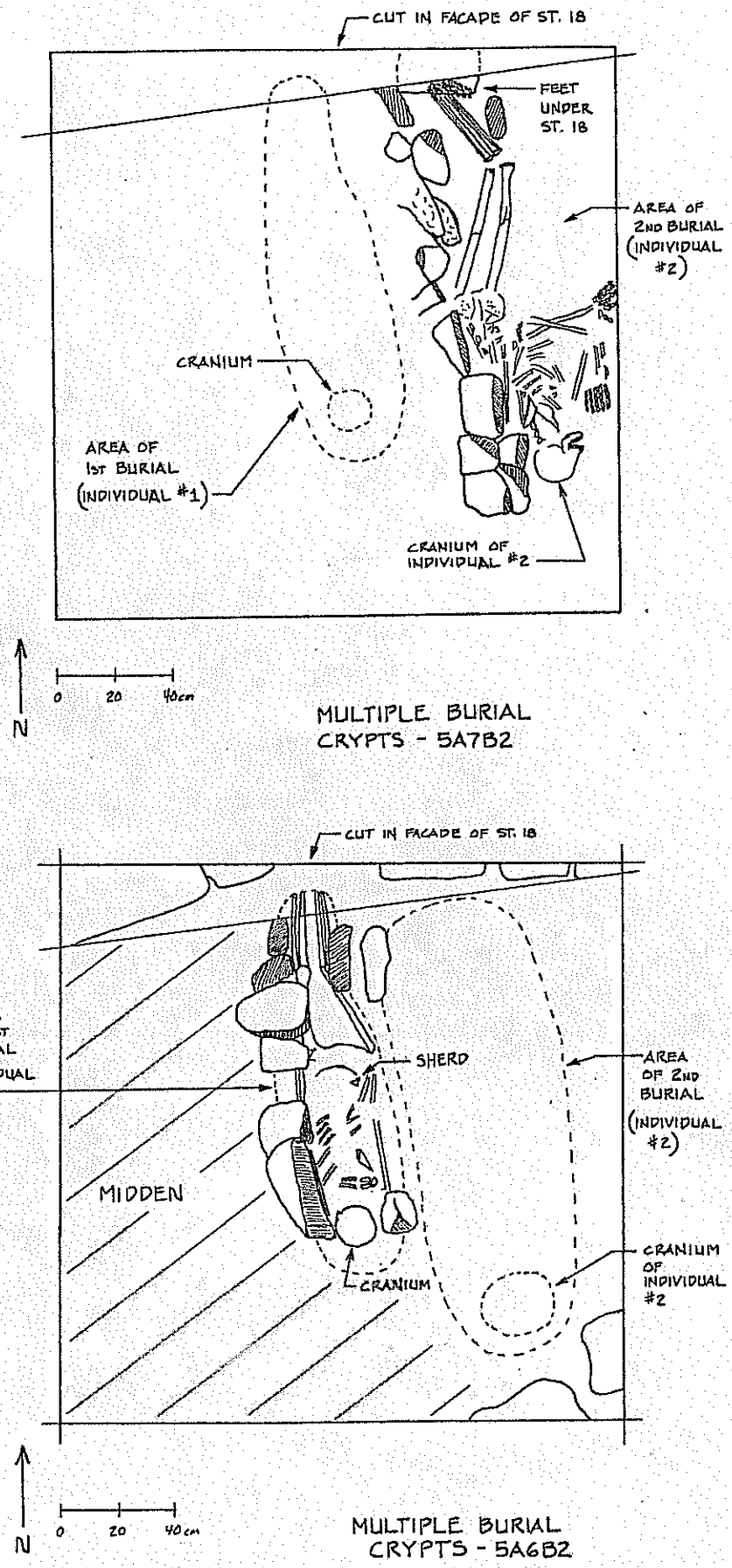
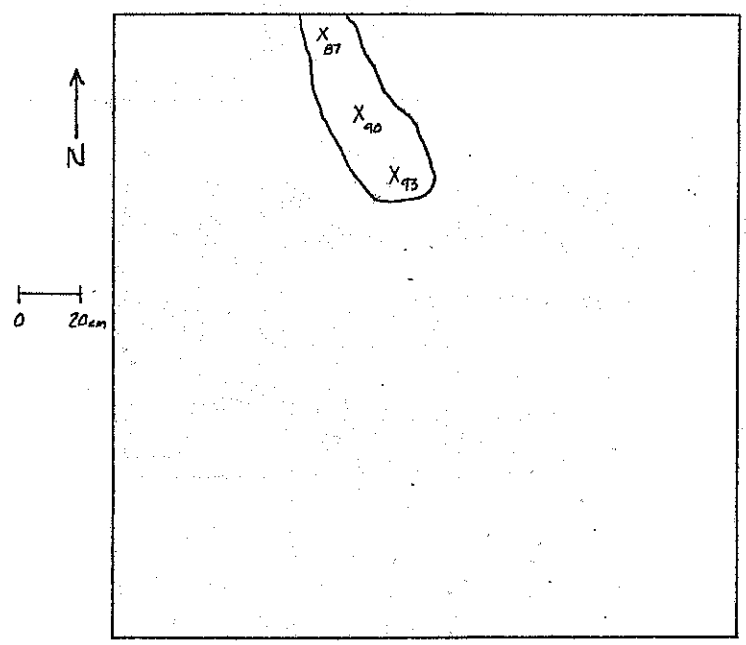


Figure 2: Burial 2, Individuals 1 and 2



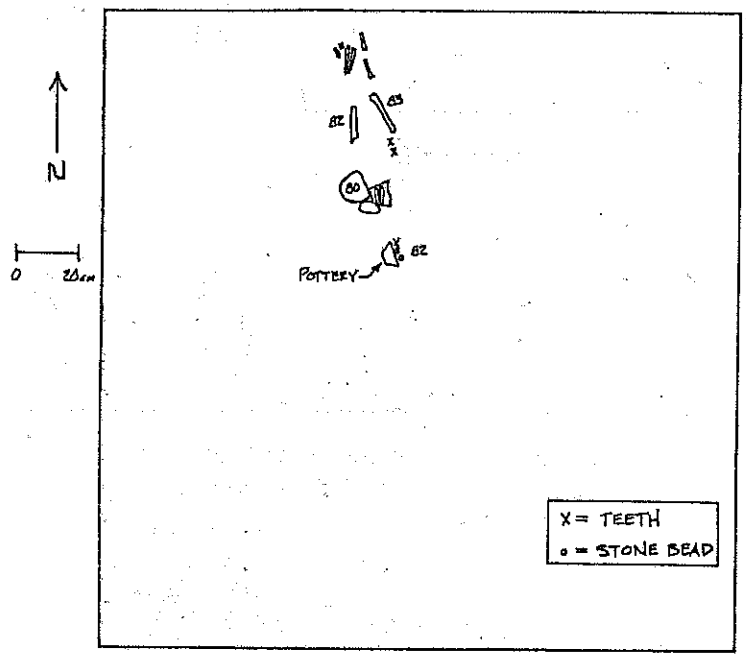


Figure 3: Burial 3

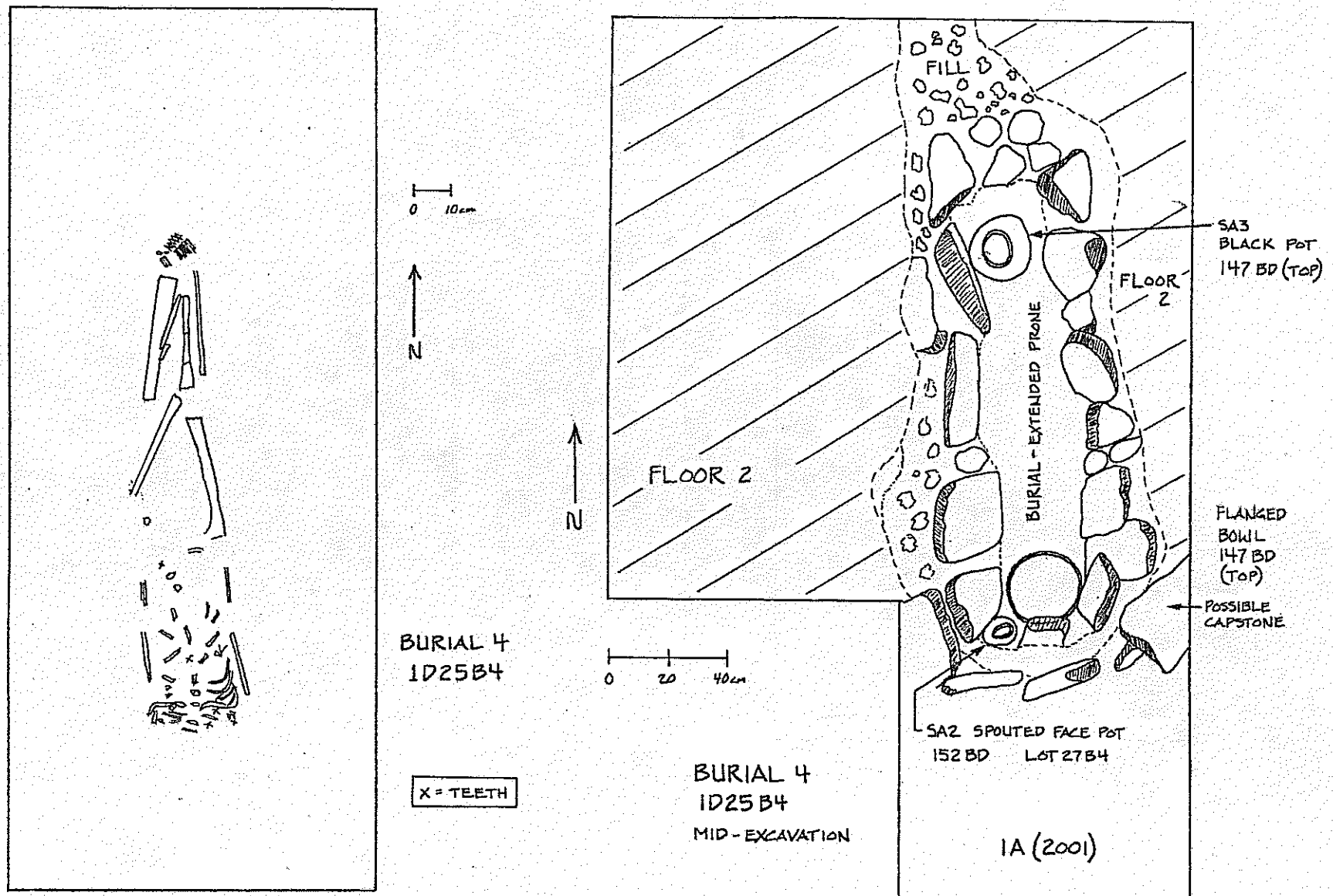


Figure 4: Burial 4

Table 1

Mean Number Growth Disruptions per Individual

Actuncan	Chaa Creek	San Lorenzo	Xunantunich	Hinterland* Communities	Center* Communities
2.00	1.28	0.00	1.42	1.10	1.56

*Note: Chaa Creek and San Lorenzo are considered the Hinterland Communities while Actuncan and Xunantunich are considered the Center Communities.

Table 2

Number of Individuals without Growth Disruptions and the Number of Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions

	Total Number of Individuals	*Individuals with No Growth Disruptions*	% of Individuals with No Growth Disruptions	*Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions*	% of Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions
Hinterland Communities	29	13	0.45	16	0.55
Center Communities	25	6	0.24	19	0.76

Table 3

Number of Individuals without Growth Disruptions and the Number of Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions by Community

	Total Number of Individuals	*Individuals with No Growth Disruptions*	% of Individuals with No Growth Disruptions	*Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions*	% of Individuals with One or More Growth Disruptions
Actuncan	6	*1*	0.17	*5*	0.83
Chaa Creek	25	*9*	0.36	*16*	0.64
San Lorenzo	4	*4*	1.00	*0*	0.00
Xunantunich	19	*5*	0.26	*14*	0.74

Table 4

Table 4

Hinterland Communities of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth						
	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/12 (0.00)		0/19 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	1/12 (0.08)		0/19 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/14 (0.00)	0/6 (0.00)	0/19 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)	1/13 (0.08)	0/11 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	1/12 (0.08)	0/6 (0.00)	0/19 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	4/12 (0.33)	0/6 (0.00)	2/19 (0.11)	1/11 (0.09)	2/13 (0.15)	2/11 (0.18)
2.5-3.0	0/12 (0.00)	0/6 (0.00)	1/19 (0.05)	0/11 (0.00)	2/13 (0.15)	0/11 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	3/12 (0.25)	0/6 (0.00)	5/19 (0.26)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
3.5-4.0	2/12 (0.17)	0/6 (0.00)	2/19 (0.11)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	1/11 (0.09)
4.0-4.5	0/12 (0.00)	0/6 (0.00)	4/19 (0.21)	0/11 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
4.5-5.0			0/19 (0.00)			2/11 (0.15)
5.0-5.5			0/19 (0.00)			0/11 (0.00)
5.5-6.0			0/19 (0.00)			0/11 (0.00)
6.0-6.5						
6.5-7.0						

*Note: the Hinterland Communities are considered Chaa Creek and San Lorenzo

Table 5

Center Communities Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth						
	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/16 (0.00)		0/16 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)	0/12 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	0/16 (0.00)		2/16 (0.13)	0/13 (0.00)	0/12 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	1/16 (0.06)	0/13 (0.00)	1/12 (0.08)	0/13 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/16 (0.00)	1/13 (0.07)	0/12 (0.00)	0/13 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	1/16 (0.06)	1/9 (0.11)	0/16 (0.00)	2/13 (0.15)	2/12 (0.17)	2/13 (0.15)
2.5-3.0	1/16 (0.06)	1/9 (0.11)	2/16 (0.13)	3/13 (0.23)	4/12 (0.33)	0/13 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	3/16 (0.19)	2/9 (0.22)	5/16 (0.31)	0/13 (0.00)	1/12 (0.08)	1/13 (0.07)
3.5-4.0	5/16 (0.31)	4/9 (0.44)	4/16 (0.25)	0/13 (0.00)	1/12 (0.08)	1/13 (0.07)
4.0-4.5	0/16 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)	1/16 (0.06)	0/13 (0.00)	0/12 (0.00)	2/13 (0.15)
4.5-5.0			1/16 (0.06)			5/13 (0.38)
5.0-5.5			1/16 (0.06)			1/13 (0.07)
5.5-6.0			0/16 (0.00)			1/13 (0.07)
6.0-6.5						0/13 (0.00)
6.5-7.0						

*Note: the Center Communities are considered Actuncan and Xunantunich.

Table 6

Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth						
	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-.5	0/28 (0.00)		0/35 (0.00)	0/24 (0.00)	0/34 (0.00)	
0.5-1.0	1/28 (0.04)		2/35 (0.06)	0/24 (0.00)	0/34 (0.00)	0/24 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/28 (0.00)	0/15 (0.00)	1/35 (0.03)	0/24 (0.00)	0/34 (0.00)	0/24 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	1/28 (0.04)	0/15 (0.00)	0/49 (0.00)	1/24 (0.04)	0/34 (0.00)	0/24 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	5/28 (0.18)	1/15 (0.07)	2/35 (0.06)	3/24 (0.13)	2/34 (0.06)	4/24 (0.17)
2.5-3.0	1/28 (0.04)	1/15 (0.07)	3/35 (0.09)	3/24 (0.13)	3/34 (0.09)	0/24 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	6/28 (0.21)	2/15 (0.13)	10/35 (0.29)	0/24 (0.00)	0/34 (0.00)	1/24 (0.04)
3.5-4.0	7/28 (0.25)	4/15 (0.26)	6/35 (0.17)	0/24 (0.00)	0/34 (0.00)	2/24 (0.08)
4.0-4.5	0/28 (0.00)	1/15 (0.07)	5/35 (0.14)			2/24 (0.08)
4.5-5.0			1/35 (0.03)			7/24 (0.29)
5.0-5.5			1/35 (0.03)			1/24 (0.04)
5.5-6.0			0/35 (0.00)			1/24 (0.04)
6.0-6.5						0/24 (0.00)
6.5-7.0						

Table 7

Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth for Actuncan

Age	Maxilla I1 H/T %	Maxilla I2 H/T %	Maxilla C H/T %	Mandible I1 H/T %	Mandible I2 H/T %	Mandible C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/5 (0.00)		0/2 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	0/5 (0.00)		0/2 (0.00)	1/4 (0.25)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/5 (0.00)	0/1 (0.00)	1/2 (0.50)	2/4 (0.50)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	0/5 (0.00)	0/1 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	1/2 (0.50)
2.0-2.5	1/5 (0.20)	1/1 (1.00)	0/2 (0.00)	1/4 (0.25)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
2.5-3.0	0/5 (0.00)	0/1 (0.00)	1/2 (0.50)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	2/5 (0.40)	1/1 (1.00)	1/2 (0.50)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
3.5-4.0	2/5 (0.40	1/1 (1.00)	1/2 (0.50)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
4.0-4.5	0/5 (0.00)	0/1 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
4.5-5.0			0/2 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
5.0-5.5			0/2 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
5.5-6.0			0/2 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
6.0-6.5						
6.5-7.0						

Table 8

Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth for Chaa Creek

	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/10 (0.00)		0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	1/10 (0.10)		0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/10 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	1/10 (0.10)	0/9 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	1/10 (0.10)	0/4 (0.00)	0/16 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	4/10 (0.40)	0/4 (0.00)	2/16 (0.13)	1/9 (0.11)	2/10 (0.20)	2/9 (0.22)
2.5-3.0	0/10 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	1/16 (0.06)	0/9 (0.00)	2/10 (0.20)	0/9 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	3/10 (0.30)	0/4 (0.00)	5/16 (0.31)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)
3.5-4.0	2/10 (0.20)	0/4 (0.00)	2/16 (0.13)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)
4.0-4.5	0/10 (0.00)	0/4 (0.00)	4/16 (0.25)	0/9 (0.00)	0/10 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)
4.5-5.0			0/16 (0.00)			2/9 (0.22)
5.0-5.5			0/16 (0.00)			0/9 (0.00)
5.5-6.0			0/16 (0.00)			0/9 (0.00)
6.0-6.5						
6.5-7.0						

Table 9

Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth for San Lorenzo						
	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/2 (0.00)		0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	0/2 (0.00)		0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
2.5-3.0	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
3.5-4.0	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
4.0-4.5	0/2 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)	0/3 (0.00)	0/2 (0.00)
4.5-5.0			0/3 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
5.0-5.5			0/3 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
5.5-6.0			0/3 (0.00)			0/2 (0.00)
6.0-6.5						0/2 (0.00)
6.5-7.0						

Table 10

Frequency of Enamel Hypoplasia per Tooth for Xunantunixh

	Maxilla			Mandible		
Age	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %	I1 H/T %	I2 H/T %	C H/T %
0.0-0.5	0/11 (0.00)		0/14 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
0.5-1.0	0/11 (0.00)		2/14 (0.14)	0/9 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
1.0-1.5	0/11 (0.00)	0/8 (0.00)	0/14 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
1.5-2.0	0/11 (0.00)	0/8 (0.00)	0/14 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)	0/9 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
2.0-2.5	0/11 (0.00)	0/8 (0.00)	0/14 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)	0/9 (0.00)	0/11 (0.00)
2.5-3.0	1/11 (0.09)	1/8 (0.13)	1/14 (0.07)	3/9 (0.33)	2/9 (0.22)	0/11 (0.00)
3.0-3.5	1/11 (0.09)	1/8 (0.13)	4/14 (0.29)	0/9 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)	1/11 (0.09)
3.5-4.0	3/11 (0.27)	3/8 (0.38)	3/14 (0.21)	0/9 (0.00)	1/9 (0.11)	0/11 (0.00)
4.0-4.5	0/11 (0.00)	1/8 (0.13)	1/14 (0.07)	0/9 (0.00)	0/9 (0.00)	2/11 (0.18)
4.5-5.0			1/14 (0.07)			3/11 (0.27)
5.0-5.5			1/14 (0.07)			1/11 (0.09)
5.5-6.0			0/14 (0.00)			1/11 (0.09)
6.0-6.5						0/11 (0.00)
6.5-7.0						

Appendix A: Suboperation Summary Forms and Harris Matrices

Suboperation Summary Forms are designed to concisely describe the lots within an excavation unit, their cultural contexts and the relationship between them. In addition, architectural features are described. All these data help to reconstruct the archaeological record and made interpretation more transparent.

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan 17, 2005_
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by L.J. LeCount
Operation #_____1___Unit_____C_____Lot Numbers____1-21_omitted 13-19
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2 N/S x 2 E/W_____
Datum__temporary datum is 43 cm above main datum located on Structure 59_____

Associated Structure(s)_Structure 62 platform to east
Dates Excavated_25 May 04 to 17 June 04

1. Unit description/location: 2x2 meter test pit in patio of Actuncan Plazuela 1, which is located on fence line between Galvez and Juan pastures at northern periphery of site. On the surface, Actuncan Plazuela 1 is a four platform plaza-focused group, the largest found at the northern end of the site. It is a very prominent group because it supports two cahune palms on its northern platform. We are excavating immediately south of 1A (dug in 2001) in the patio; therefore, we are located on Ramon Galvez's land.

2. Excavation objective: To recover the remains of Burial 1 uncovered in 2001 and to understand the architectural context of this burial.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: The lot is from a 1x2 meter test of collapse and backdirt from 1A7. Terminated lot at an eroded patio floor (equivalent to 1A4-Edwin's Patio Floor). Floor is difficult to detect on the western side nearer the center of the patio mainly because of a small cahune plant growing in the NE corner of the unit. In the eastern section, the lot was terminated at fill, which may be the terrace or step of the platform associated with Structure 62-1st, located immediate west of unit. This step fill contains very large flat river cobbles (with might have been the actual stepping stones), cobbles and abundant trash. The stones or risers fronting the patio were small but nicely prepared. Late Classic II materials.

Lot 2: Step fill from 1x2 meter test. Removed part of step fill to understand loose soil in the NW corner of the unit. Uncovered the northern side of step or staircase, which is two courses of dressed limestone blocks embedded in fill. To the south of this façade is small cobble fill making up the staircase, to the outside (north) are cobbles which might have formed ballast of Patio Floor 1, or might have been an un-plastered cobble surface. Based on the fact that I did not comment on fill material, I assume this fill dates to the LCII phase.

Lot 3: Collapse material equivalent to 1C1. Expanded 1x2 to a 2x2 with this lot. Expansion was southward to pick up more of the step or terrace and give us more room to work around this architecture in the western part of the unit. Terminated lot at Patio Floor 1 and at risers of step or terrace. Risers fronting patio are dressed limestone blocks

Lot 4: Equivalent to 1C2, collapse and fill of 62-1st terrace. Front risers are two courses high, like that found on northern side of terrace. Looks more like a terrace than a step because it is broad and deep. Lots of ceramic and trash as fill. Small river cobbles and very dark matrix 10YR 2/2.

Lot 5: Architectural fill. Removed fill or core of 62-1st terrace down to Patio Floor 1 (1A4-Edwin's Patio Floor). The fill contained large cobbles and small stones. Floor underneath it is well plastered and in good condition. Northern end of lot (that outside the terrace façade) is disturbed and lacks plaster floor. Large Belize Red tripod dish fragments (LCII) found against platform wall of Structure 62-1st.

Structure 62's platform wall was clearly exposed (flush) in western sidewall. The platform was constructed of large river boulders. The fact that the platform wall is equivalent to western sidewall means 1) we will not be able to date platform or 2) we will not be able to understand the relationship of burial 1 to western building. A dressed limestone block protrudes perpendicular from platform 62-1st wall. This block might be an earlier terrace wall, but since it is a single block protruding from wall, it is hard to tell exactly what it is. It is faced on the northern side, like the northern terrace wall, so its not some kind of earlier step associated with the northern terrace wall. It might be the remnant of an earlier terrace (62-2nd terrace), but there is no change in color or texture of fill to clearly distinguish this earlier construction phase.

Lot 6: Patio Floor 1 (equivalent to 1A4-Edwin's Patio Floor). We removed Edwin's Patio Floor 1, and terminated lot at a compact surface that was well defined in the western portion of the unit, especially the southern end, where there is a small patch of plaster. But in the eastern 1/3 of the unit, where the crypt is located, this compact surface is not visible and the matrix is darker and softer than the compact surface. Compact surface has more cobbles and is possibly an occupation surface.

Lot 7: Sub-patio floor fill, possibly *in situ* trash used as fill. This is the material located in the area above the crypt. Matrix is dark and full of trash. Terminated lot at an uneven compact stratum or possibly an occupation surface. Leonel, who is excavating, thinks this occupation surface might be the same as the one to the west as it dips downward toward the center of the patio to the east. This material, therefore, might represent a filling episode that was intended to level the center of patio above the crypt before next floor was added. Or it might be occupation material, used as *in situ* fill. In either case, the area above the crypt appears different, as if it was constantly disturbed or sinking under the weigh of the activities over the crypt or in the middle of the patio.

Lot 8: Fill and plus compact occupation surface. We removed the occupation surface across entire 2x2. This lot includes a patch of plaster and the compact surface surrounding it. Matrix is very dark grayish brown soil 10 YR 3/2 with large sherds and small cobbles, so it looks like household trash used as patio fill or living surface used as *in situ* fill. Terminated lot at Leonel's Patio Floor, a fairly well preserved floor of cobbles and sparse plaster found only in the SW portion of the unit. Again, in the area above the crypt the matrix is darker and softer. The area to the north of the Leonel's Patio Floor and to the west of the crypt's cut in the patio floor also looks disturbed and is not covered by floor.

In 2001 we believed this compact surface existed in 1A, but could not find it since it was so highly disturbed by the burial, it was distinguished only by the difference between small rock fill (1A4) and large rock fill (1A5). Burial 1 therefore cuts Leonel's Patio Floor and is covered by Edwin's 1st Patio Floor (1A4- both floor and fill). Date of burial 1 is therefore slightly post dates or is roughly equivalent to Leonel's Patio Floor, but predates Edwin's Patio Floor 1 (which is Early Classic).

Lot 9: Crypt fill and redeposited patio fill. Matrix is loose dark soft soil (10YR 5/2 grayish brown) with small cobbles and decomposing limestone. The Maya clearly cut Leonel's Patio Floor to start the crypt pit. To the south, the large rock patio fill is exposed where the Maya cut-away or damaged the floor, but to the north over the crypt, the soft brown crypt fill is distinctly different.

Lot 10: Crypt fill and redeposited patio fill. Removed only that portion of fill above crypt leaving intact the big rock fill to the south. We're trying to expose the capstones above the cranium. Abundant rock and artifacts in fill. Terminated lot at large rocks which might be capstones.

Lot 11: Crypt fill and redeposited patio fill. Continued to remove fill from area directly above Burial 1 only. Therefore, 1C10=1C11. Op 1C9 is also crypt fill but contains mixed deposits. Terminated lot at upright crypt stones and the top of three small capstones above cranium. Human bone in matrix.

Lot 12: Op 1C12B1 is the actual matrix and contents of the crypt. Therefore, 1C12B1=1A7B1. This single individual was laying prone, head to the south. Beneath cranium at the mouth/nose area was found obsidian and a jade bead. A flake was found lodged in the location of the palette. Crypt was constructed of up-right dressed limestone slabs, and in the area of the head, the capstones were smaller limestone slabs. Floor of crypt is Edwin's Patio Floor 3.

Lots 13 through 19 were not used.

Lot 20: Leonel's Patio Floor and fill below it. Large rock fill with fist-size cobbles and very little matrix (equivalent to 1A5). This rocky fill extended over that portion of the unit not cut by Burial 1. Terminated lot at Edwin's 2nd Patio Floor. This is a very hard, smooth, and thick plaster floor.

Lot 21. Patio fill (equivalent to 1C20, but without plaster floor). This is the large rock fill just to the south of Burial 1, which the Maya disturbed when they dug the crypt(s). Terminated at Edwin's 2nd Patio Floor. Therefore 1A5=1C20=1C21.

Here at the termination of the excavations, we can see Edwin's 2nd patio floor extending almost all the way across the 2x2 at 161 below datum 2. In the south, this 2nd patio floor elevation is only a few centimeters below its elevation at the bottom of 1A5 in the north. Laying on this nicely prepared floor are two perpendicular lines of large river cobbles which mirror the layout of the eastern terrace for Structure 62-1st, and therefore they might represent either 1) actually foundational rocks to 62-1st terrace, 2) an earlier terrace 62-2nd which we failed to see in the excavations or 3) some kind of modest foundation for an ephemeral "stick" house or architectural addition to whatever lies under the 62-1st platform. I tend not to think they are foundational stones for a terrace since we have excavated beneath the terrace and occupation surfaces to reach them. Therefore I think they are foundational stones for some kind of ephemeral structure. The crypt of Burial 1 clearly cuts this floor, and we can see in the eastern sidewall more flat capstones, probably associated with another patio crypt and the disturbed area in Leonel's Patio Floor.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:
See 1A7 for a description of 1C12B1.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

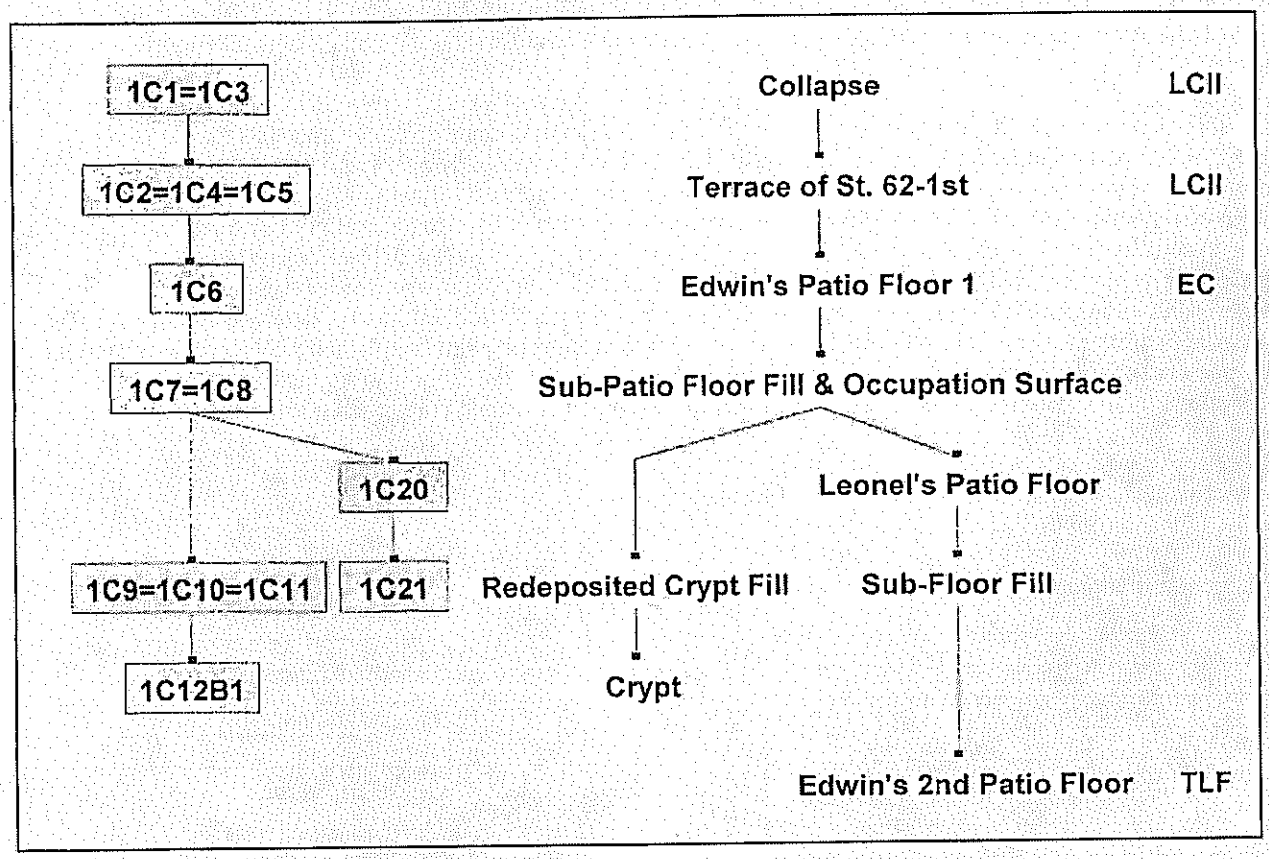
Context	Op 1A	Op 1C
Collapse	1A1, 1A2, 1A3	1C1, 1C3
Edwin's 1st Patio Floor/ small rock fill	1A4	1C6, 1C7, 1C8
Leonel's Patio Floor	missing	1C20
Large Rock fill	1A5	1C9, 1C10, 1C21
Burial 1	1A7B1	1C12B1
Edwin's 2nd Patio Floor	1A8	Not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
Structure 62-1st eastern terrace walls are two courses high and composed of small, but nicely shaped limestone slabs. The NE corner of this terrace was anchored by a large flat limestone slab rather than stacked rocks. The terrace, as we encountered it, was short, possibly no higher than 10 cm, as judged by the remaining risers. Structure 62's platform wall can be glimpsed in the western sidewall of the unit. It is composed of large and small river cobbles, none of which appear to be dressed limestone.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc)
Eastern terrace of Structure 62 sits on Edwin's Patio Floor 1.
Not clearly seen, but terrace abuts platform of Structure 62-1st
Crypt of burial 1 cut's Leonel's Patio Floor
Ephemeral foundation stones in 1C21 sit on Edwin's Patio Floor 2.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan 18, 2005_
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__LeCount_____
Operation #_____1___Unit_____D_____Lot Numbers____1-27
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2 N/S x 2 E/W_____
Datum: Permanent datum A, set in concrete at the summit of Structure 59

Associated Structure: Structure 59
Dates Excavated_02 June 04 to 16 June 04

1. Unit description/location: 2x2 meter test pit in patio of Actuncan Plazuela 1, which is located on fence line between Galvez's and Juan's pastures at northern periphery of site. On the surface, Actuncan Plazuela 1 is a four platform patio-focused group with the largest platform found at the northern end of the site. It is a very prominent group because it supports two cahune palms on its northern platform. We are excavating immediately north of 1A (dug in 2001) in the patio; therefore, we are not only digging in the patio but also in the northern structure (Structure 59) of the plazuela. We are located on Ramon Galvez's land.

2. Excavation objective: To recover the remains of Burial 4 first discovered in 2001 and to understand the architectural context of this burial.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus root zone and disturbed surface. Matrix is very dark gray (10YR 3/1) with large amounts of ceramics, lithics, and cobbles. Lot terminated at the first evidence of the Structure 59-1st, which is located in the NE corner of the unit. Here we see the southwestern corner of the structure foundation formed by Wall 1 (running east/west) and Wall 2 (running north/south). Outside the structure, we appear to be underneath the collapse, but not on a prepared floor. Is this trash beside the house?

Lot 2: Fill of the platform for Structure 59-1st. Removed some of the fill to get a better look at the foundational wall of the structure. Matrix is mostly cobblestones and is very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) with lots of artifacts. Terminated lot at a packed dirt floor in the NE corner of the unit. Floor does not abut Wall 1 (the southern platform retaining wall).

Lot 3: Refuse deposit off Structure 59-1st, possibly used as *in situ* fill of terminal architecture. We recovered 10 bags of artifacts from this deposit, the contents of which is almost entirely artifacts and not much matrix. Here there are large artifacts (groundstone, limestone axe, greenstone, ceramics, lithics), cobbles and gravel, and possibly some rubble. It is possible that this *in situ* trash was used as the fill of the terminal structure hinted at in lot 2. At first glance this is LCII material, so there could have been a Terminal Classic occupation above this, which is entirely gone. However, there is no evidence of an eroded floor above this deposit. So it could just be trash beside this house in an alleyway between it and Structure 62 to the west. Terminated lot at a line of stones that make up both the southern platform wall (Wall 1) for Structure 59 and its terminal phase edition to the west. I think this addition to Wall 1 was added later in order to raise and expand the platform.

Lot 4: Collapse onto patio floor or occupation surface. We are looking for the first patio floor (associated with 1A4 or Edwin's 1st Patio Floor) in front of Structure 59's platform. Removed a very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2) matrix with lots of small and medium sized cobbles. Terminated lot at a poorly preserved surface, which may or may not have been plastered. There are some patches of sascab in the SE portion of the unit where a floor should be.

Lot 5: Occupation material on floor or living surface. We are still looking for Edwin's 1st Patio Floor, so we removed material located up against the platform wall of Structure 59-1st and part of the platform wall itself. This material is lighter in color (10YR 4/2) than the collapse above it. It contains gravels and fewer artifacts than the collapse. Terminated at what we think is Edwin's 1st Patio Floor (1A4), which is just patches of compact soil over small pebbles. Looks like this "floor" or occupation surface runs under the Wall 1 of Structure 59-2$^{nd's}$ platform.

Lot 6: Fill or trash or occupation surface to the west of Structure 59? We are looking for the occupation surface to the west of Structure 59-1st and on top the living platform above the patio. Presumably there was an occupation

surface here on the platform that correlates to the occupation surface in the patio area (1D5). We are also trying to get a handle on the western wall (Wall 2) of Structure 59 (both 1st and 2nd). I think this is occupation material and trash because it has gravel in it and there is a lot of artifacts like groundstone.

Lot 7: Floor 1 of Structure 59-1st. Patches of plaster floor turn up, but most of the matrix is light brown in color (10YR 5/3 – brown) with lots of decomposing limestone chunks and cobbles. The matrix is hard but grainy and friable. Under a disturbed patch of floor, we find a dedicatory cache (1D8F2) consisting of a broken metate, large sherds and a mano. This feature was found in the disturbed area seen at the bottom of 1D2, so it might postdate Structure Floor 1 and be associated with the ultimate occupation floor we never found above it. However, since there are fragments of floor above it, it might be associated with the people living on Structure Floor 1 since this cache below the floor would have made this area soft and easily broken. It is also possible that the Maya re-entered this area occasionally, thus the floor was patchy and sunken.

Lot 8: Feature 2, a dedicatory cache. In this slight depression we found 2 layers of smashed sherds, a broken metate, and 2 possible manos resting on an internal floor (Structure Floor 2). The smashed sherds are just that – fragments of vessels, not whole ones. Like I said above, since there are fragments of floor above the cache, it might be associated with the people living on Structure Floor 1. This cache would have made the floor above it soft and easily broken. Its also possible that the Maya re-entered this area occasionally, thus the floor was patchy and sunken. The cache is interesting because it is a cluster of material, not randomly tossed items in the fill.

Since the floor below it is so close to the upper floor, it is possible that the same people built both floors. But then again it could be different people terminating the structure and its ancestors by smashing these items and building a new floor. Nash (1970:12) describes house rituals that call for ceremonies near the center post of the back wall, where the house spirit is said to live. The spirit's appetite is satisfied when the house is first occupied, but later becomes hungry and must be fed. Curing is done here, as are offerings of live chickens. The link between house and people derive from notions about soil and mud which are fleshy parts of human and house bodies. When the house is first built, there is a first ceremony called the fiesta for the house (1970:13) and a second called "meal for the house" to feed the "spirit of the house earth". Maybe this termination/dedicatory cache had something to do with feeding the house.

The sherd material from this cache dates to the LCI. It contains Chial orange body sherds, Samal phase Mount Maloney Black bowls, and jars.

Lot 9: Structure House Floor 1 and fill (same as 1D7). We followed this floor and fill (10YR5/3 brown) across the platform, and terminated the lot at Structure Floor 2. We found that SF2 abutted the western wall of Structure 59's platform (Wall 2); it was very well preserved with white patches of plaster. In SF2 there was a very shallow depression. It was lined on the eastern edge with small cobbles and near the western edge the floor dipped down into it like a small lined pit or hearth or post hole. It was probably not a hearth since the plaster was not burnt and it is so near the corner. That argues for a posthole.

Lot 10: Feature 3, probably a posthole near the SW corner of the house. It is a plastered depression in Structure Floor 2, about 8 cm deep with two rocks embedded in the eastern side of the hole. No artifacts found, no samples taken.

Lot 11: Fill of platform outside Structure 59's western house wall (in the alleyway). Near Wall 1 there are more stones, than in the fill away from the wall here in this "alleyway". The matrix is brown (10YR 5/3) and clayey, without lots of stone. At this level, the foundational stones of the Structure 59's platform-2nd are minimal at best, just a sparse row of single stones. However, Wall 1 (the new addition) is much more substantial consisting of two rows of stone with fill and chinking stones between them. This wall (including the two faces) is at least 18 cm wide near the base. The outside stones that would have faced the patio are "nicer" than the inside stones; however, they are mostly river cobbles and boulders with their fatter faces placed outward. Structure 59's original platform wall is similar in construction, but only one course wide with very few are dressed limestone.

Lot 12: Structure Floor 2 and fill of Structure 59-2nd. Plaster and rocky fill. Some artifacts but mostly the fill is small fist-sized stones, plaster, and decomposing limestone. It is still brown (10YR 5/3). There are some really large river cobbles (35 to 40 cm) in the fill.

Lot 13: Platform wall (Wall 1). These are very large foundation stones. Some as large as 35 to 40 cm in width and length. Most are river cobbles, and there "better" or flatter side faces the patio. If the stones were not sufficiently wide enough to span the width of the wall, then smaller stones were placed behind them to create the inside face of wall. Foundation stones must have been placed in a trench since the bottoms of these stones are at least 16 cm below Edwin's first patio floor.

Lot 14: Occupation material on Edwin's Patio Floor 1 located underneath Structure 59's platform wall. This material sits below the earliest structure floor and its fill and above Edwin's Patio Floor 1 that runs underneath Structure 59's wall. Edwin's Patio Floor 1 can now be seen running across the unit from north to south, clearly predating the construction of Structure 59. It is still unknown at this time if Edwin's Patio Floor 1 runs under the platform of 59 to the west of Structure 59.

Lot 15: Occupation or trash used as *in situ* fill? Soft brown loose soil with small artifacts to the west of the remnants of Structure 59 and Edwin's Patio Floor 1. It is clear to me that Edwin's patio floor 1 did not extend out to the west. But what this is, I don't know; my best guess is that it is fill used to level the area for the construction of Platform 59.

Lot 16: Wall 1 of platform for Structure 59 (same as 1D13). These are the last foundational stones located in the southwestern portion of the unit. These stones were really large, the largest yet, measuring 40 by 42 cm. They are river cobbles. Edwin's Patio Floor 1 abuts platform wall but does not run under it. This statement makes it seem like the platform wall in this area was built simultaneously with Edwin's floor, but I actually think the ancient Maya might have cut back or removed parts of this floor in order to build and fill the platform in this area near the corner of the patio.

Lot 17: Edwin's Patio Floor 1 and ballast. This floor is located in the eastern and southern portion of the unit. It consists of small cobbles and chucks of decomposing limestone with light brown grainy matrix. It is thick in places such as the SE corner. We arbitrarily terminated the ballast at a 10 cm level to see if we could distinguish any features. The only difference I can see across the unit is that there is more rock in the Northeast portion above the crypt, where the soil is filtering down through the rock.

Material from this floor dates from the late Early Classic or very early Late Classic I phases. It contains well-know basal flanges and Balanza Black sherds; however, it also contains some very early Mount Maloney Bowls and one unknown matte black bowl. In 2001, I suggested the floor was Late Classic I, now I'm not so sure this is right. We need to recover and analyze more of this material.

Lot 18: Patio Fill (mostly). Matrix is brown (10YR4/3) and there is small rock, and just a few larger cobbles. Terminated at Leonel's Patio Floor (associated with 1C20) in the south and a hard compact matrix in the NW portion of the unit. We did not remove rocky fill from above crypt. The compact living surface (Leonel's Patio Floor) at the bottom of this lot appears cut for the creation of Burial 4, just like we saw in unit 1C.

Lot 19: Fill, probably redeposited crypt fill above crypt. This is the rocky, loose material above the crypt capstones. While clearing this rocky fill, we came across a burial under a set of upright slabs near the edge of the crypt. We terminated the lot at this feature.

Lot 20: Burial 3. Burial 3 is located in fill near the western edge of what we think is the top of Burial 4's burial pit. Near the cut in Leonel's Patio Floor, burial 3 was placed in a simple depression with upright slabs on the western side of the larger grave. Burial 3 is a child lying supine with the head to the south. The child was placed in a pit with a necklace of two stone or shell beads and upright stones on the western side of the shallow depression. The eastern side of the grave is indistinguishable from the rocky fill of Burial 4's burial pit. Interestingly, this burial is also directly under the western wall of Structure 59, about 20 cm down from the initial foundational stones.

The context of this burial is somewhat ambiguous, depending on where Burial 4's pit begins and how archaeologists think about Maya rituals. Viewed from Leonel's Patio Floor, the child burial appears to be part of the redeposited fill above Burial 4's capstones. In other words, Burial 4's crypt was sealed by capstones, the pit was filled, and the final act was the placement of this child burial. However, as we dug downward to find Burial 4, we see that there is

a compact surface running partially across the top of Burial 4 only in the SE corner of the unit. This surface makes me rethink the stratigraphy associated with Burial 4. Maybe the burial was not dug into Leonel's Patio Floor after all, but a lower surface. But, because this patchy surface is only found over the crypt area, it is also plausible to think that the filling of Burial 4's pit was not a single act, rather it was a protracted set of events, as multiple layers of fill and surfaces were laid down above the capstones.

Based on the paltry amount of sherds, my guess is that this child burial dates to the Early Classic. There are some Peten Gloss Orange wares and striated jars, indicative of this time period; however, it is also possible that these types could date to an earlier time period.

Lot 21: Patio Floor (Leonel's Patio Floor) and large rock fill. This fill is mostly large river cobbles with some ceramics and lithics. It extends across the unit, but we left intact the redeposited fill above the crypt in order to separate it from this *in situ* material. The floor itself is not beautiful, just a hard packed cobble surface with some plaster. Terminated the lot at what appeared to be a compact surface over parts of the crypt.

Lot 22: Fill. The matrix is brown (10YR 5/3) with large, medium, and small cobbles. Terminated the lot at a compact surface found in patches above the crypt. The best-preserved area of the surface was over that area near the "head" of the crypt, while there is no evidence of this surface over the torso part of the crypt. I don't think this association has behavioral connotations; rather it may be a function of the compactness of the rock fill above the capstones. Looser, big rock fill allows finer soils to percolate down through the matrix, while smaller more compact rock fill helps preserve that which rests on top of it.

Lot 23: Rocky fill and patchy surface. Removed 10 to 20 cm of rocky fill, some river cobbles are greater than 25 cm wide, and brown (10YR 5/3) matrix across the entire 2x2. Terminated lot at Edwin's Patio Floor 2 on the west side of the unit and redeposited fill rocky fill above capstones of Burial 4 on the eastern side. The redeposited fill contains fewer large rocks and more moderate sized rock. We terminated the lot in the redeposited fill not because of a change in fill, but because it looked like a good (arbitrary) place to stop this lot, and change proveniences before continuing down to the crypt.

Lot 24: Redeposited fill above Burial 4's capstones. About 5 cm of rocky fill above capstones and below the cut in Edwin's Patio Floor 2. Fill contains large rocks, some animal bones and teeth, and other artifacts.

Capstones above Burial 4. Here we can clearly see the large flat capstones above Burial 4. The largest limestone capstone lies over the head of individual supported by upright limestone slabs lining the crypt. Over the shoulders and abdomen, there are smaller flat limestone capstones. Over the knees and lower legs, it is difficult to distinguish between cobbles used as capstones and the redeposited fill above it. Edwin's Patio Floor 2 can be seen on either side of the crypt near the individual's feet. Like the capstones, the upright limestone slabs lining the crypts are largest near the head and smaller near the feet.

Lot 25-B4: Burial 4. This lot is the matrix of the burial below the capstones and the contents of the crypt. The individual is lying prone and extended with head (or what remains of it) to south. Only occipital fragments remain. Only small fragments of the occipital plate and a few teeth were found in association with the body; however, more cranial fragments were found in the pot placed over the person's head. Three pots were positioned in the crypt with this individual: 1) a Chan Pond jar placed over the knees; 2) a polished orange (possibly Aguacate) Z-angled dish with four broken hollow supports, presumably mammiform in shape, covered the missing head and contained cranial fragments; and 3) a polished orange (possibly Aguacate) effigy chocolate pot situated to the right of the individual's missing cranium. The effigy pot may have acted as a substitute for the missing head since it was found at the southern end of the crypt tucked near the crypts stones. According to James Gifford's (1976) Barton Ramie scheme, these pots belong to the Floral Park subcomplex; however, I am reluctant to assign a Protoclassic date to them since many ceramicists consider Z-angle dishes diagnostic of the early phases of the Early Classic period. The crypt itself is very similar to the crypt immediately to the south of it (1A7B1) with upright crypt stones forming the sides and Edwin's Patio Floor 3 forming the base.

Lot 26: Same as 1D25D4. Material removed near the feet of the individual. May contain some redeposited fill from above the capstones in this area.

Lot 27: This is the effigy pot found in the top of the crypt and the soil contained in it. Same as 1D25B4. Excavation was stopped at Edwin's Patio Floor 2 on the western side of the unit and Edwin's Patio Floor 3 underneath the crypt. Crypt stones were left in place.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:

Four features were found in this unit: a cache (1D8F2), an enigmatic hole (1D10F3), a child burial (1D20B3) and a crypt burial (1D25B4). See lot descriptions for details.

The cache is probably associated with a Late Classic house ritual that occurred during the use of Structure 59-1st, or it may be associated with the dedication of the new structure floor (SF1) and/or termination of the previous occupation (Structure Floor 2). A broken mano and metate, in addition to sherds were smashed and embedded in the fill of 59-1st. Since there is a patchy floor above the cache, however, this does not help determine what type of ritual action caused this feature. The Maya could have easily re-plastered the floor after embedding the cache, or just as easily it could be argued that the pre-existing cache could have caused the floor to sink thus breaking the floor.

The enigmatic plastered hole may be a post-hole in the SW corner of Structure 59-2nd. It is very possible that Structure 59-2nd was a "stick house" without much of a stone foundation. In the northern profile of 1D, it appears that Structure 59-1st's western wall (Wall 2) does not extend very deeply into the fill – only 32 cm from present ground surface. This depth matches that seen in a wall elevation drawing made during the excavation of 1D7 before the removal of the wall. The hole is plastered, except on its eastern side where there are two rocks embedded in the plaster. The hole is approximately 15 cm in diameter and 8 cms deep. The plaster floor (SF2) is very thick and well prepared. On its southern edge, the floor terminates at the platform wall for Structure 59 (Wall 1), and on the western side of the structure, this floor abuts a single upright stone.

Burial 3 predates Structure 59, and is associated mostly closely with Leonel's Patio Floor – a compact cobble and plaster surface that appears to have run across the center of the patio sometime during the Early Classic period. The burial is located in fill near the western edge of what we think is the top of Burial 4's burial pit. Burial 3 was placed in a simple depression with upright slabs on the western side of the larger grave. Burial 3 is a child lying supine with the head to the south. The child was placed in a pit with a necklace of two stone or shell beads and upright stones on the western side of the shallow depression. The eastern side of the grave is indistinguishable from the rocky fill of Burial 4's burial pit. Interestingly, this burial is also directly under the western wall of Structure 59, about 20 cm down from the initial foundational stones.

The context of this burial is somewhat ambiguous, depending on where Burial 4's pit begins and how archaeologists think about Maya rituals. Viewed from Leonel's Patio Floor, the child burial appears to be part of the redeposited fill above Burial 4's capstones. In other words, Burial 4's crypt was sealed by capstones, the pit was filled, and the final act was the placement of this child burial. However, as we dug downward to find Burial 4, we see that there is a compact surface running partially across the top of Burial 4 only in the SE corner of the unit. This surface makes me rethink the stratigraphy associated with Burial 4. Maybe Burial 4 was not dug into Leonel's Patio Floor after all, but a lower surface. But, because this patchy surface is only found over the crypt area, it is also plausible to think that the filling of Burial 4's pit was not a single act, rather it was a protracted set of events, as multiple layers of fill and packed surfaces were laid down above the capstones.

Based on the paltry amount of sherds, my guess is that this child burial dates to the Early Classic. There are some Peten Gloss Orange wares and striated jars, indicative of this time period; however, it is also possible that these types could date to an earlier time period.

Here, I will continue to discuss Burial 4 and its association with Burial 1. In 2001, we first encountered both Burial 1 and 4 in our 1(E/W) x 2 (N/S) test pit -- Op1A. Burial 1 was located in the middle of the unit and extended to the south out of the unit. Burial 4 jutted out from the northern sidewall, extended 20 to 30 cm into the unit,. We excavated only that portion of Burial 1 that existed inside Op1A and left Burial 4 intact for future excavations (Op 1D). Burial 1 and 4 are stratigraphically identical, separated in horizontal space by no more than 20 cm. In 2001, we knew that these crypt burials were capped by Edwin's Patio Floor 1, dug into Edwin's Patio Floor 2, and rested on Edwin's Patio Floor 3. We recognized two distinct strata between Edwin's first and second patio floors: a top,

small-rock fill and a lower, large-rock fill. But could not see a floor that separated them, even though Jason Yaeger suggested one had to be there.

This year we came back to finish excavating Burial 1 and remove all of Burial 4. We began by excavating the remaining portion of Burial 1, to the south, as Op 1C. This time, we encountered the missing floor (Leonel's Patio Floor) between the small rock and big rock fills below Edwin's Patio Floor 1. Leonel's Patio "Floor" is a packed cobble stone surface first encountered in Op1C. We also found this cobble stone surface in 1D to the west of Burial 4. Because our excavation in 2001 was a 1x2, Op 1A did not encompass much area to the west of Burial 1 and we never recognized this floor.

Initially, I thought that these burials originated from a cut in Edwin's Patio Floor 2 since 1) I did not see Leonel's Patio Floor and 2) the capstones of Burial 1 appeared flush with Edwin's Floor 2. Now, I think these burials originated from higher up in the stratigraphy and are associated with a cut in Leonel's Patio Floor and its big rock fill. Interestingly, the burials are 60 cm below Edwin's Patio Floor 1 and approximately 40 cm below the cut in Leonel's Patio Floor.

Initially, I thought Edwin's Patio Floor 1 dated to the Late Classic I, now after seeing more of the material from this floor, I think it dates to the late Early Classic (Tzokol 3), but I would still like to see more of this material. Leonel's Patio Floor has yet to be dated, but it should fall somewhere in the range of Terminal Late Formative, if the burial ceramics are any indication of its date.

The stratigraphy in Op 1D below Structure 59 and above Burial 4 is anything but clear. We expected to find in order: Edwin's first Patio Floor, a top layer of small rock fill, Leonel's Patio Floor, and a bottom layer of large rock fill sitting on top the capstone for Burial 4. But oh no, it was not that simple. The strata over the crypt in the eastern portion of the unit were not like the strata in the western portion. Nor was the southern portion of the 2x2 like the northern portion. Strata here in Op 1D were not the same as in Op 1C to the south. To begin with, Edwin's Patio Floor 1 (EPF1) did not extend over the entire 2x2. We followed EPF1 from the southern sidewall of the unit to north and it did, indeed, extend under the platform substructure wall, but not all the way to the northern sidewall of the unit. Rather it ended in rocky fill about ½ way. To the west, EPF1 appears to have been cut by the Maya when they constructed the platform of Str. 59 by placing large river cobbles into fill. My guess is that the Maya built EPF1 and lived on the northern end of the patio for a time, possibly in fairly ephemeral structures, before they constructed a raised platform for Structure 59.

The question now becomes what did the Maya do between the time they built Edwin's Patio Floor 2 and Edwin's Patio Floor 1, which correlates to the critical time span from the Terminal Late Formative to Early Classic period. Obviously, there are at least two building phases here: an earlier big rock fill episode and a later small rock fill episode associated with Leonel's Patio Floor. The Maya lived on Leonel's Patio Floor, possibly during the earliest phase of the Early Classic or the very end of the Late Terminal Preclassic. Interestingly, Leonel's Patio Floor does not extend any further north than Edwin's Patio Floor 1, so it makes me think that the Maya are really re-working this northern area. There is no evidence of a house here, but to the northwest there is a compacted area (see1D21/1D18) that might have been a living surface similar to, but not as nice as Leonel's Patio Floor to the south. Burial 3 is associated with Leonel's Patio Floor. Currently, I think Burial 4 was dug into this living surface and down into the big rock fill. The earlier construction episode -- big rock fill—sits on Edwin's Floor 2; however, this fill is not evenly distributed over this area. In the area over crypt there is a patchy surface and the fill rock is smaller yet more porous. I interpret this as redeposited crypt fill and ritual practices associated with filling and packing the 40 cm burial shaft dug down from Leonel's Patio Floor. Therefore, ritual filling of Burial 4's shaft was not a single act, rather it was a protracted set of events, as multiple layers of fill and surfaces were laid down above the capstones. This series of strata, make them think that this lineage was following elite burial practices of the day.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

Cultural context	Op1A lots	Op 1C lots	Op 1D lots
Collapse	1, 2	1, 3	1, 4
Occupation on EPF1	3	NA	5, 14
Edwin's 1st patio floor & small rock fill	4	6, 7, 8	17, 18

Leonel's Patio Floor	Missing	20	21
Large rock fill	5	9, 10, 21	21, 22, 23
Burial 1	7B1	12B1	NA
Burial 4	NA	NA	24, 25B4, 26, 27
Edwin's 2nd patio floor	8	Not excavated	Not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
The architecture to be described here pertains to Structure 59-1st and 2nd platform. All are elevated above the central patio and its last patio floor (EPF1). The connection between Structure 59 platform and its extension to the west is not well understood at this point because we do not see the whole picture pertaining to this northern structure and the raised area.

It should be stated at the every beginning that although the southern wall of Str 59's platform (Wall 1) and its extension to the west appear at first glance to be one and the same, they are not built using the same construction technique nor are they perfectly contiguous. Structure 59's southern wall (wall 1) is offset to the north from the extension by 10 cm. In addition, the extension of the platform wall is buried deeper and its wall stones are larger than those associated with Structure 59's platform. Although it could be argued that the extension therefore pre-dates Str. 59, I don't think this is true. Rather, I think this corner portion of the patio or alleyway was raised up later in the Late Classic II, after the initial construction of Str. 59 (Str. 59-2nd), and that this raised extension was used as living space for Str. 59-1st and possibly a terminal phase of occupation for which a floor has yet to be found.

The reasons I say this is because Structure 59-2nd wall stones rest on Edwin's Patio Floor 1, whereas the extension wall cut it. Clearly, the Maya were not interested in preserving this pre-existing floor under the new platform rather they cut down through it to place very large foundation stones for a stable platform foundation. This interpretation is supported by additional evidence, in the form of differential fill underneath the structure as apposed to that beside it. Lot 3 is clearly Late Classic II trash thrown beside Str. 59-1st. Whereas those lots underneath it could relate to *in situ* trash (Lots 6 &11) and fill (Lots 15) material used to raise up this platform area.

Wall construction. Wall 1 (the southern wall of Structure 59's platform) consists of two rows of stone with some chinking materials between them, roughly 30 cm wide. The stones are not shaped, but consist of large- and moderate-sized (20 to 30 cm) river cobbles between 3 and 4 courses high. The southern façade of Structure 59 platform was predominately made using large foundation stones, possibly topped by smaller shaped limestone blocks. Structure 59's western wall construction is different (Wall 2). The western face of Structure 59's platform displays smaller stones (10 to 15 cm) -- shaped limestone and river cobbles – neatly stacked. Where the two walls meet, there is a very large "corner" stone that anchors the connection.

If there was a building on the earliest platform (Str. 59-2nd), it was likely a wattle and daub structure with some cobble foundation stones – probably no more than a single line of unshaped river cobbles. Feature 3 (1D10F3) appears to be a posthole in the SW corner of the structure. The floor was nicely plastered (1D12) and about 10 to 15 cm thick including the ballast. This ballast sat on what appeared to be a very thin layer of occupation (1D14) overlying Edwin's Patio Floor 1 (1D17).

Structure 59-1st was an elevated platform with a faced limestone foundation sitting on earlier placed river cobbles, if there was a perishable wattle and daub wall here very few wall stones remain. Those stones that do remain are not large or well shaped and none appear to be vault stones. The floor of Structure 59-1st is patchy (1D7) but runs across the lot. The ballast for 59-1st is 15 cm thick, and contains a termination or dedication cache (1D8F2) consisting of a broken metate, mano and smashed sherds. Near the wall foundations, the floor appears to be cut (in Leonel's terms). Still the SW corner of Structure 59-1st appears not to be floored as if there was disturbance possibly caused by the construction of the last phase of the platform. Core (1D2) removed above this floor suggested a missing "ultimate" floor.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc)
Wall abutments: The SW corner of Structure 59 was disturbed, possibly due to the construction of the later platform. The abutment of Structure 59's southern wall (Wall 1) to the wall that blocked the alleyway is messy (extension), in the sense that they do not join cleanly. There is a 10 to 20 cm jog where the two join.

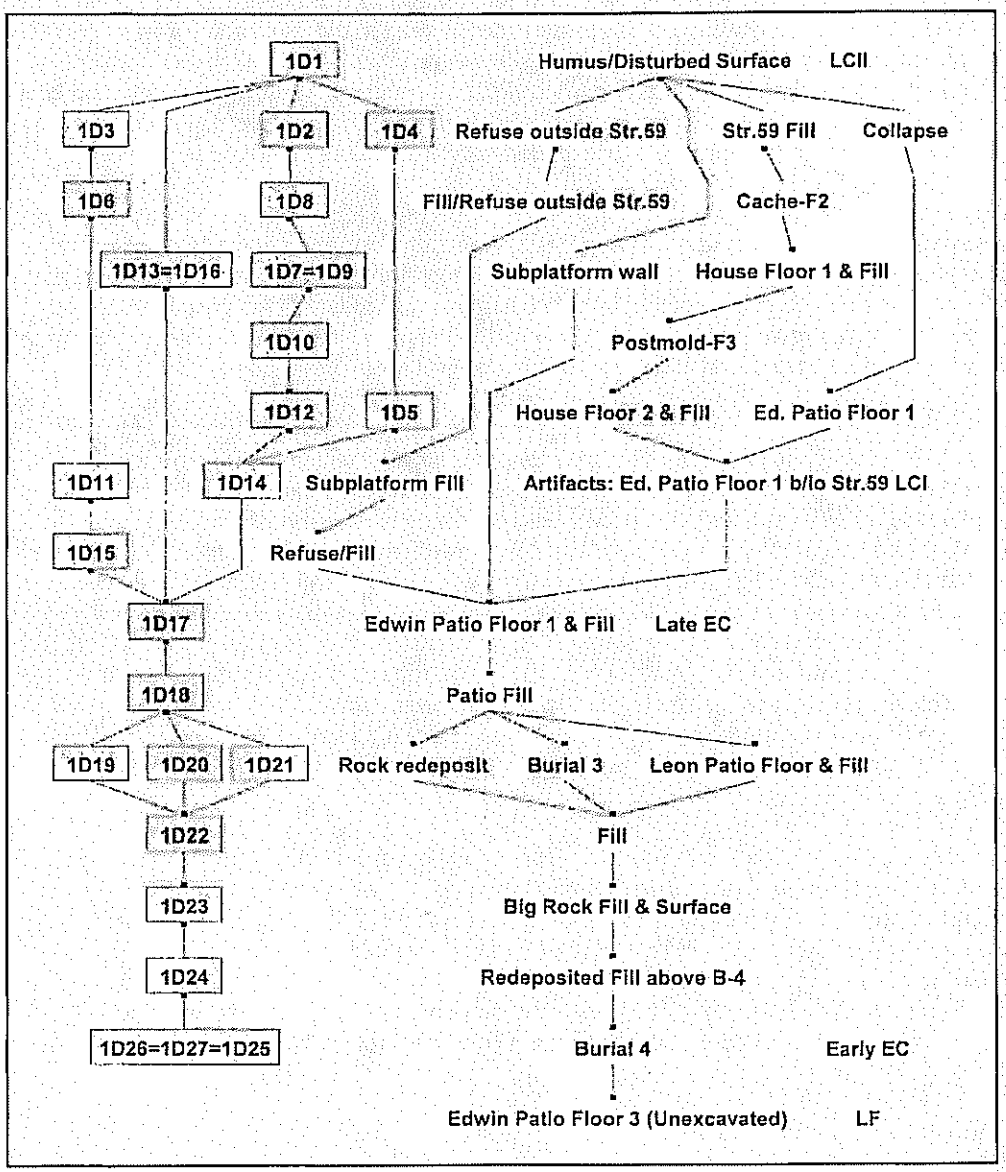
Wall to floor. Structure 59-1st and 59-2nd have floors, neither of which clearly abut the foundation.

Edwin's Patio Floor 1 runs underneath Structure 59; however, the platform wall cuts Edwin's floor. As I suggested above this set of patterns is due to the fact that although Str. 59-1st was built on top this patio floor, the construction of the platform wall for the later living surface was placed more deeply into the patio fill.

Edwin's Patio Floor 2 can be seen in the western sidewall abutting a wall, presumably the earliest foundation of Structure 62. Thus, the western structure pre-dates the northern structure.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: not much

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan. 15, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__Blitz/LeCount_____
Operation #____4___Unit__A_____Lot Numbers__1-9_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 oriented N-S-E-W_____
Datum__1 meter from SW corner___
Associated Structure(s)_Strs 19 and 20_____Dates Excavated_25 May 04 – 31 May 04

1. Unit description/location: This unit was placed in the SW corner of the north courtyard of Structure 19. It is located near the NW corner of Structure 19 in an alley way between this Structure and Structure 20.

2. Excavation objective: To find a stratified sequence of patio floors and associated trash.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Loose collapse debris and erosional material from Structure 19. Some large boulder-sized stones. No dressed stone. Matrix color 10 YR 2/2 (very dark grayish brown), which derives from the humus root zone and cow manure. Late Classic 1 materials.

Lot 2: Arbitrary 20 cm level of collapse debris. The matrix is lighter in color (10 YR 4/2 – dark grayish brown) but there is still a lot of loose rubble and cobbles. Some burnt plaster and larger sherds were found. Bits of plaster are probably from a poorly preserved floor only seen in retrospect in the profile. We will call it Floor 0. Material dates to Late Classic I.

Lot 3: Arbitrary 20 cm level. Matrix is more compact with smooth river stones (probably subfloor ballast). The first well-preserved floor (Floor 1) was found in the SE corner near the top of this lot. However, most of this level is the ballast (small stones) of Floor 0 mixed with the ballast of Floor 1. Floor 1 dips down from the SE corner toward the middle of the unit, where it is non-existent, but it appears again in the NW corner of the unit nearest Structure 20. Matrix is still dark (10YR 4/3-brown). Material dates to the Late Classic I.

Lot 4: Arbitrary 20 cm level consisting of ballast and fill below Floor 1. Ballast and/or fill is loose. Fill is mostly dirt with few cobbles and a very low density of pulverized sherds. Matrix color is same as above. Material dates to the Late Classic I.

Lot 5: Arbitrary 20 cm level of fill below Floor 1. Same as lot 4. Terminated without encountering new context.

Lot 6: Fill below Floor 1 and same as lot above. Lot was terminated at new, harder stratum. Material dates to Late Classic I.

Lot 7: Hard compact matrix with small gravel-sized stones, small cobbles and decomposing limestone. Very few artifacts, but some small pieces of plaster in eastern half of the unit. There is probably a floor somewhere here in this 20 cm level; however, none was seen in the profile. This fill extents across the entire unit. Sherds are clearly earlier than those in lots 1 through 6 with Aguacate Orange and other Proto-classic modes. Terminated Lot 7 at a clearly identifiable floor – Floor 2
Lot 8: Lot contains Floor 2, ballast and fill. Floor 2 is a poorly preserved plaster floor laid atop ballast consisting of large flat river cobbles. Floor 2 probably covered all of the surface exposed in the unit, but now it is only in patches. Plaster is between 5 and 7 cm thick. Terminated the lot at a stiff, yellow brown clay (10YR 5/6), which appears culturally sterile.

Lot 9: Natural stratum with artifacts intruding from above. Stiff clay (10YR 5/6 – yellowish brown) and gravel. Terminated lot at bedrock.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:
There were three known floors: Floors 0, 1, and 2. Floor 0 was encountered between lots 2 and 3. Floor 1 was encountered approximately 20 cm below Floor 0 between lot 3 and 4. And Floor 2 was encountered 60 cms below Floor 1 between lots 7 and 8.

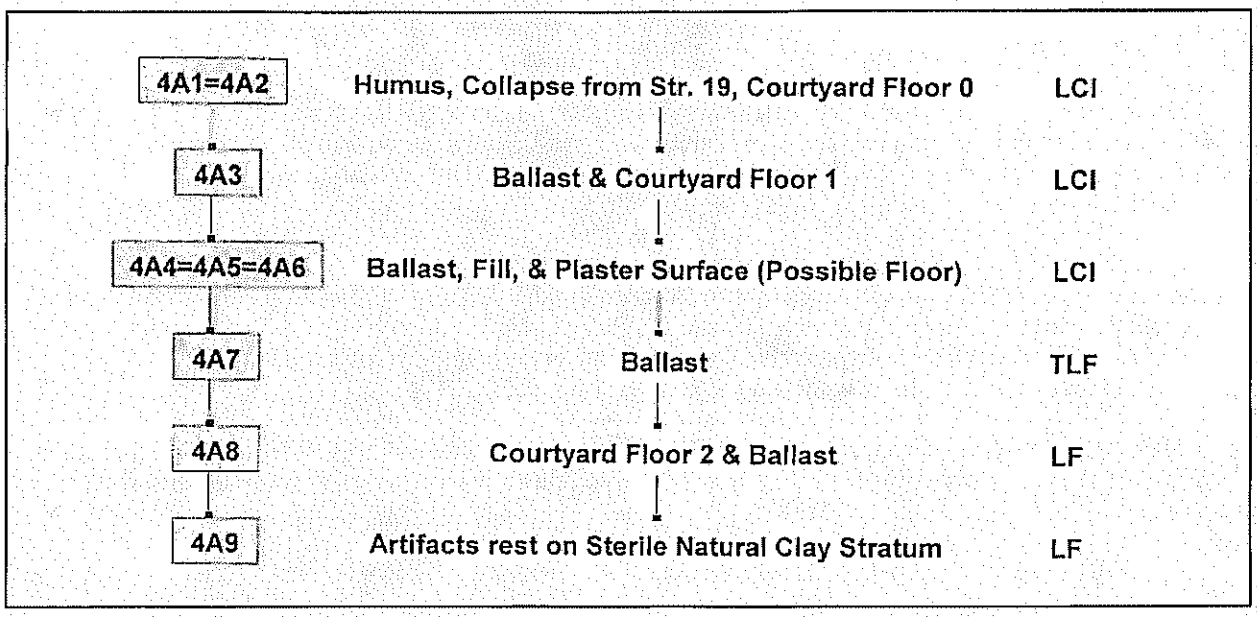
5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:
See Unit summarys for 4B-D.

6A. Describe architecture: None

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): None

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan. 27, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__Blitz/Wyman_
Operation #_____4___Unit__B_____Lot Numbers__1-7_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 oriented N-S-E-W_____
Datum__B, located 150 cm from the NW corner and 274 cm from the NE corner of the unit. It is 3 cm lower than Datum A associated with Op 4A and 33 cm above the surface on top of Str. 20
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 20, Strs 19 to the South, and the northern courtyard
Dates Excavated_18 June 04 – 23 June 04

1. Unit description/location: This unit was placed at the SE corner of Str. 20; it also includes a swath of the courtyard formed by Strs 19, 20, 21, and 22. The southern widewall should correlate with the southern wall of Structure 20 and the edge of the alley way between this Structure and Structure 19.

2. Excavation objective: To find a stratified sequence of plaza floors and associate them to Str. 20 and those strata found in OP 4A.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus and loose collapse debris. Some large cobbles no more than 25 cm in size. No dressed stone. Matrix color 10 YR 3/2 (very dark grayish brown), which derives from the humus root zone and cow manure. We terminated the lot at foundation stones for 2 walls: Wall 1 which was easily recognizable from the surface and correlates to the north/south running face of the eastern platform wall of Str. 20 and a second wall which runs east/west and may correlate to the SE corner Str. 20. Tacked onto the southern end of Str. 20 is a lower platform. Walls for this construction are poorly built using a single line of moderate and small-sized river cobbles, thus it is probably a terminal phase addition. This terminal phase addition is probably a terrace since it not very wide -- only 1.2 m. If it is a platform for a room tacked onto the southern end of Structure 20 then it did not support a masonry building, rather a perishable structure or ramada. From this point forward, I will call this platform the "southern terrace" of Str 20. Not much matrix was removed nor many artifacts collected since the foundation was clearly visible from the surface and the lot was not deep.

Lot 2: Collapse debris. We are excavating on the eastern side of the unit, in front of the Str. 20 platform wall (Wall 1), to find the last courtyard plaza floor. The matrix is the same color as Lot 1; however, the collapse stones consist of both river cobbles and dressed limestone. Terminated the lot arbitrarily at 20 cm below Lot 1 since we did not find the plaza floor and were afraid that we had dug through it. Excavation revealed that the SE corner of Str. 20's platform consists of nicely faced limestone blocks. The eastern face of the southern terrace wall is defined only by a single row of cobbles, irregularly placed.

Lot 3: Platform fill of southern terrace. Since it was difficult to find the last courtyard, we decided to excavate down into the core of southern terrace-1st. We figured it was an ephemeral, terminal phase structure and would sit on this last plaza floor. The matrix was the color as that above it and it contained small to medium-sized cobbles as fill. Excavated an arbitrary 20 cm of this fill.

Lot 4: Platform fill of southern terrace. Same as 1B3. Continued to excavate the southern terrace-1st core, working from west to east toward the east and the low terrace wall. Terminated the lot at a plastered surface that we think runs under the eastern terrace wall and out into the courtyard. The eastern wall of the southern platform sits on this surface.

Lot 5: Eastern face of Structure 20's southern terrace wall and fill. Removed the ephemeral wall to understand the extent of the plastered surface under the southern terrace. By doing so, the SE corner façade of Structure 20's platform is clearly visible. The façade is well constructed of three courses of dressed limestone blocks, and this is clearly an earlier SE corner to Structure 20. Now, the plaster surface is fully exposed; but it does not look like a floor, rather it is a slightly elevated surface located only in a portion of the exposed unit. This plaster surface is located along the southern façade of Str. 20 platform extending from its SE corner to another N/S running wall exposed in lot 3 near the western endwall of the unit (Wall 2). Patches of plaster is also found off this elevated plaster "step" to the south, and may be the last preserved floor of the southern terrace.

Lot 6: Collapse onto the last courtyard floor (Same as B2). Continued to excavate down on the eastern side of Str. 20's platform wall to find the courtyard floor. Matrix is brown 10YR 5/3 with rubble. Terminated at the first courtyard plaster floor at 110 to 114 cm bdB or 108 to 111 cm bdA. This well preserved courtyard floor is associated with Floor 0 in Op 4A2; however, there, it was so badly damaged there that it was only observed after-the-fact and in profile.

This plaster floor is well-below (30 cm) the plastered surfaces of the southern terrace-2nd. This outside area or activity space off the southern end of Str. 20 was raised up on a low terrace, which was plaster and stepped. Therefore, although the ultimate floor of the southern terrace was never found, earlier surfaces appear to be formal and nicely built.

Lot 7: Structure 20-1st core. Large river cobbles and some boulders. Terminated lot arbitrarily without finding a floor. Purpose of this lot is to obtain a sample of fill to date the construction of Str. 20-1st.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:

There were two floors: Patio Floor 0 (assigned the name given to it in Op 4A2), and Floor 1 of southern terrace-2nd. They are not one-and-the-same. The penultimate southern terrace of Str. 20 is 30 cm above the courtyard floor. The courtyard floor is well preserved here, unlike that found to the south; whereas, the terrace floor is patchy at best.

The elevated plaster surface is a low feature no more than 8 cm above the terrace floor of southern terrace-2nd. It is nicely plastered, and thus stands out sharply from the patchy terrace floor. It is about 50 cm wide and 110 cm in length running from the SE corner of Str. 20 to Wall 2 to its west. This short N/S running wall may be the eastern face of another step up to Str. 20, or more likely a short outset corner for the front staircase. This wall abuts the southern wall of Str. 20, but lacks a surface.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:
Also see Unit summaries for 4A, C-D.

	4A	4B
Collapse	1	1, 2, 6
Courtyard Floor 0	2	Not excavated, see bottom of 6

6A. Describe architecture:

Southern Terrace:
The ultimate phase of the southern terrace of Str. 20 contains loose rubble fill bounded by a crudely constructed wall consisting of a single row of river cobbles. We never found the last floor, as it was eroded away. We excavated only the eastern face of the terrace, so we cannot comment on the southern façade of the terrace. It abuts the SE corner of Str. 20's platform, which displays a nicely faced façade of small, dressed limestone blocks three courses high. The penultimate phase of the southern terrace is better constructed. Terrace-2nd was approximately 30 cm high and exhibited a plastered surface, which near the platform was elevated 8 cm and nicely plastered.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc)
Eastern façade of the ultimate southern terrace abuts the SE corner of Structure 20's platform. The penultimate southern terrace also abuts the SE corner of Structure 20's platform. The first courtyard patio floor may run underneath the penultimate terrace floor, but this idea has yet to be tested.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):
See master Harris Matrix for OP 4.

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan. 27, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__Blitz/Wyman_
Operation #____4___Unit__C_____Lot Numbers__1-5_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 oriented N-S-E-W_____
Datum B, located 150 cm from the NW corner and 274 cm from the NE corner of unit B. It is 3 cm lower than Datum A associated with Op 4A and 33 cm above the surface on top of Str. 20.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 20, Strs 19 to the South, and the northern courtyard
Dates Excavated_22 June 04 – 23 June 04

1. Unit description/location: This unit was placed immediately to the west of Op 4B in an effort to trench across the top of Str. 20's southern terrace from east to west.

2. Excavation objective: To find a stratified sequence of floors and building platforms like those found in OP 4B. By trenching across Str. 20's southern terrace from east to west, we might get a handle on the construction properties of these buildings with river cobble walls and rubble cores.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus and loose collapse debris.
Not much matrix was removed nor many artifacts collected since the foundation was clearly visible from the surface. We appear to be at the top of Str 20's platform along its southern end. The lot was not deep, about 10 cm at the most in the west. Lot was terminated at the discovery of several new walls. Apparently this building had several different construction phases to it; in addition, we are excavating in an area where the eastern terrace or staircase of the building meets the platform, so what we may be looking at is a front staircase, an outset-staircase addition, and a room or rooms on top the Str 20-1st platform.

Lot 2: Fill of southern terrace-1st off Str 20, same as 4B3, 4 and 5. Removed fill of the terrace-1st down to the same level as the patchy plaster surface found at the bottom of 4B5. Here we can see what appears to be a chamber, possibly an outset staircase corner or step (in John Morris's opinion), which is nicely built of dressed limestone slabs, probably two courses high. Wall 2 in 4B forms the front or courtyard side of this rock chamber and Wall 3 forms the back of it. It abuts the southern wall of Str. 20's platform, and the final side of the chamber is only 1 "block" or faced limestone slab long. This sample is from the very SE corner of this unit outside the chamber just described.

Lot 3: Fill of Str 20-1st. A sample of platform fill. Dark 10 YR3/1 matrix with substantial gravel, cobbles, rubble, and some dressed limestone blocks, which are probably mixed architectural debris from an earlier construction stage.

Lot 4: Southern terrace-1st fill; same 4C2, except it lies on the western side of Wall 3. Wall 3 is probably a composite of two walls. It forms the back of the outset staircase (as seen from 4C3), and then at a later time, it appears to have been extended southward into the alley, possibly blocking access through the alleyway.

Forty cm of fill was removed to expose another N/S running wall (Wall 4) and possibly the southern endwall of Str 20's platform. Terminated the lot at the same level where the patchy terrace floor was found in 4B5. Due to the small confined area we are working in, it is difficult to determine if the terrace floor is there or not.

Lot 5: Fill of chamber or "outset corner staircase" or step. This material is from the chamber created by the addition of an outset corner to the front staircase. This outset corner is small in area: 80 cm N/S x 40 E/W. No plaster or surface was found. The chamber became visible almost immediately, therefore it was just centimeters below the surface. Inside this chamber, the corner formed by the southern edge of Structure 20 (Wall 1) and Wall 3 is clearly visible. Of course this makes the outset corner an addition, but it also demonstrated that the staircase façade was nicely faced with **large** cut-limestone blocks, not small facing stones.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy: No features: just wall and corners.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

Also see Unit summaries for 4A, C-D.

	4A	4B	4C
Collapse	1	1, 2, 6	1
Southern terrace		3, 4, & 5	2, 4
Southern terrace Fl 1	--	--	Not excavated
Outset staircase		NA	5
Str. 20-1st		7	3
Courtyard Floor 0	2	Not excavated	Not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
The overall layout of the architecture is not clear since we are looking at such a small portion of the southern end of Structure 20. What is most clearly defined is the southern face of Str 20's platform. Although I'm not certain, we are probably looking at the southern face of an eastern staircase or possibly a broad eastern terrace of Str. 20. This SE corner of the platform was later modified with the addition of a block or outset tucked into this corner formed by the platform and a blocking wall that ran across the alley (Wall 3). This outset sits on the low, plastered southern terrace, as does the southern extension of Wall 3, which may run across the alley and abut Structure 19.

Structure 20-1st, itself, was not excavated except for a sample (4C3) for dating purposes, but debris was cleared from the top of it. Still no final surface was found. A single line of dressed limestone blocks can be seen running N/S across the unit (Wall 4), and may correlated to the eastern face of a double-faced spine wall located near the center of the platform.

Most of the stones used in the construction of the Str. 20's platforms and walls are dressed limestone and fairly easy to sort from the river cobble fill. The "outset staircase" is nicely made using small dressed limestone blocks (at least 2 courses). The southern façade of the eastern terrace or staircase is also well constructed with small dressed limestone blocks. However in the northern profile of the unit, you can see that the size of the limestone blocks used to construct the facade is much larger behind (to the west) the outset, probably because this marks the transition from staircase to platform. It is also possible that this marks the transition point to an early platform.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc).
Wall 2 (outset) abuts southern wall of Str. 20's platform, as does Wall 3. All other abutments cannot be determined since we have not removed walls.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: Not much
8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):
See Master Harris Matrix illustration.

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan. 27, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__Blitz/Wyman_
Operation #_____4___Unit__D & E_____Lot Numbers__D1-2 & E1-4_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__two 2x2 oriented N-S-E-W_____
Datum C, located 40 cm from the SW corner and 92 cm from the SE corner of the unit. It is 52 cm lower than Datum B. Associated Structure(s)_Str. 20, Strs 19 to the South, and the northern courtyard.
Dates Excavated_24 June 04

1. Unit description/location: These contiguous units were placed to the west of Op 4C in an effort to trench across Str. 20's southern terrace from east to west.

2. Excavation objective: To find a stratified sequence of floors and building platforms like those found in OP 4B. By trenching across Str. 20's southern terrace from east to west, we might get a handle on the construction properties of these buildings with river cobble walls and rubble cores.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Unit D (represents the southwestern corner of Structure 20)
Lot D1: Humus and loose collapse debris. Removed 10 to 15 cm of humus and collapse debris. Came down on what appears to be the back walls (Wall 6 and Wall 7) of Str 20 since there is little evidence of wall stones to the west. Plaster can be seen near the back wall, at what appears to be a very high level.

Lot D2: Collapse Removed another 10 to 15 cm to better define the back walls and understand the plaster. It is evident that the plaster is higher than the interior of the room to the south and bound by walls. Thus I assume it is a bench. This bench was faced on the south and east with small dressed limestone blocks. Plaster is thickest near the back edge and degrading near the front. The back wall of Structure 20-1st consists of a single row of cobble-stones and possibly some dressed limestone, from what little of it we can see without excavating it. The bench is outset, further back than the area directly to the south of it, which we are assuming to be part of the back room here at the SW corner of the building. This jog may indicate a late expansion or modification of this bench. It is also possible that Walls 6 and 7 form the eastern and western faces of a double-faced wall running north/south. However, it doesn't make much sense, since they are not parallel, rather they are off-set: Wall 7 to the north, and Wall 6 to the south. It is possible that Wall 7 continues south, and at the point where it becomes parallel to Wall 6, it forms a double-faced wall. But again, it doesn't make much sense to have such a substantial wall blocking the alleyway.

Unit E, the most western 2x2, represents the back of Structure 20 with its rubble buttressing.
Lot E1: Humus root zone. Terminated lot at rubble spread evenly across the 2x2. No pattern of rock within rubble; thus it represents either collapse of back room of Structure 20 or the cobble-stone buttressing so commonly found behind building at this site.

Lot E2: Rubble buttressing or fill. Rough river cobbles no larger than 25 cm with dark (10YR 3/3) clay loam matrix. This cobble fill slopes downward to the west.

Lot E3: Rubble buttressing or fill behind structure -- same as above. Arbitrary 20 cm level. Within this rubble, a large portion of a Belize red dish with notched basal angle was found broken.

Lot E4: Rubble buttressing behind structure – same as above. This lot was terminated due to looters, who destroyed the architecture exposed in the 2x8 meter trench over the weekend. The looters appear to have started at the eastern end of the trench and dug across to the west following the courtyard floor, but never damaging it.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:
No features: just wall and corners.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:
Also see Unit summaries for 4A, C-D.

	4A	4B	4C	4D	4E
Collapse/Humus	1	1, 2, 6	1	1, 2	1
Southern terrace-1st	NA	3, 4, & 5	2, 4	Not exc.	NA
Southern terrace Floor 1	Not exc.	Not exc.	Not exc.	Not exc.	NA
"Outset"	NA	NA	5	NA	NA
Str. 20-1st	NA	Not exc.	3	Not exc.	NA
Rubble buttressing or fill	NA	NA	NA	NA	2, 3 & 4
Courtyard Floor 0	2	Not exc.	Not exc.	Not exc.	Not exc.

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present; Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
Architecture found in Unit D represents the back portion of Structure 20 near its southwestern corner. Here, the back wall is clearly visible after the removal of the humus root zone. To the west, in Unit E, is the rubble buttressing or fill packed up against the back of the building. This buttressing appears to be a common architectural feature during the Classic period at Actuncan and can be seen in Op. 6, where we also excavated behind a large structure.

In this 2x2 there are 3 N/S running walls: Walls 5, 6 and 7. Walls 6 and 7 represent the back walls of the building, whereas, Wall 5 represents the front of the bench. But Wall 5 also may extend south from the bench and form the western face of a double-faced wall. The eastern face of this wall is probably Wall 4 encountered in Unit C.

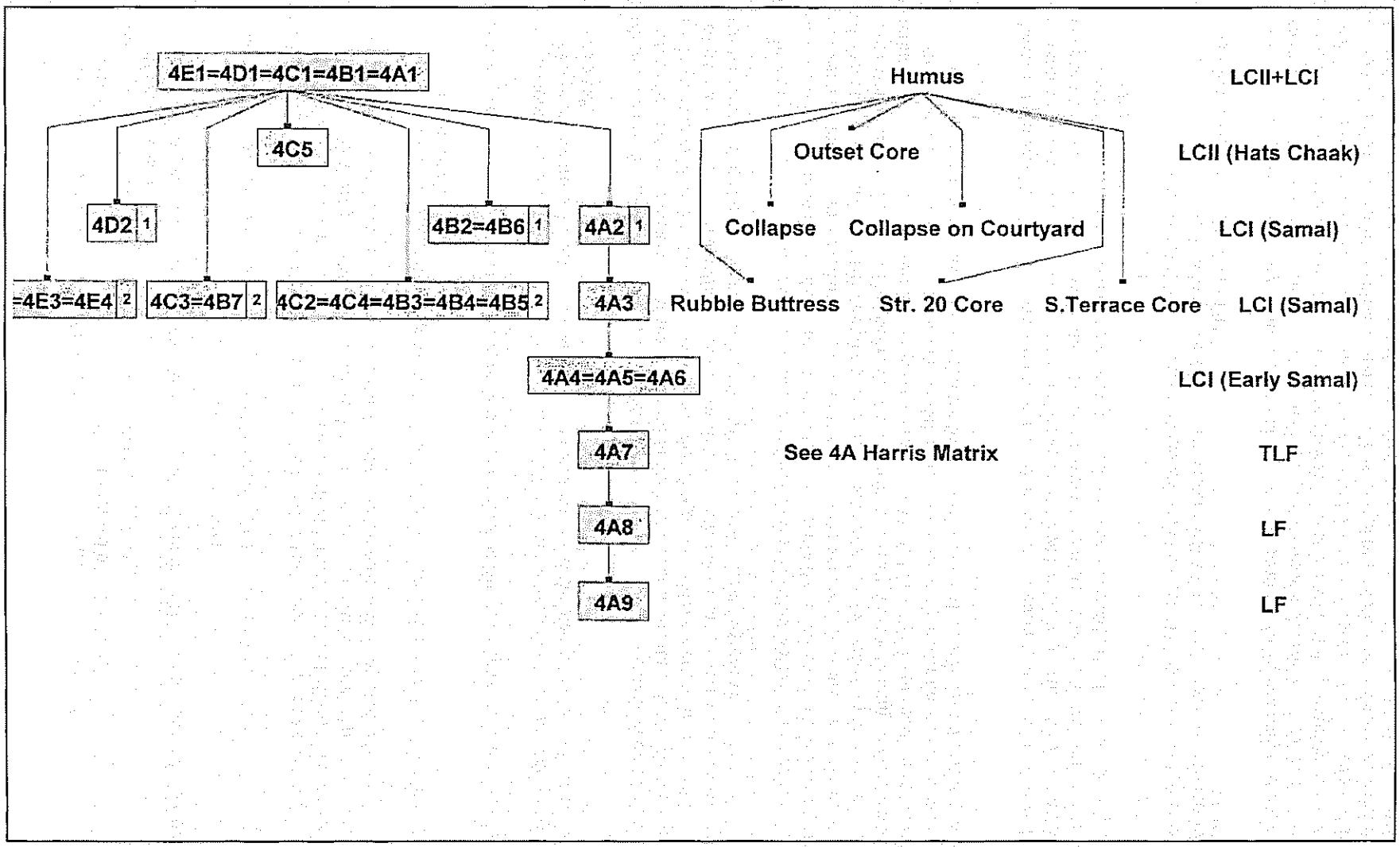
Since we did not excavate into the architecture, our understanding of the layout of this building is from lines of stone seen after removable of the humus root zone and what we can see in the looters trench. From the surface, the back walls are unimpressive consisting of a single line of small dressed limestone blocks; however, in the looters trench it is obvious that these dressed limestone courses sit on much sturdier foundations of river cobbles, each two courses wide (30 cm) that run deep down into architectural core of the platform. The smaller dressed limestone blocks thus represent what would have been seen above ground. From the looter's trench, it is clear to me that at some point along the back of the building Wall 7 and 6 was a double faced wall, since the cobblestone foundations are 60 cm apart. The spine wall, which I originally thought was Walls 5 and 4, does not seem to correlate easily to a similar set of foundations. Rather than two separate cobble stone foundations or columns, there is a single massive column of boulders measuring 80 wide, which most closely correlates with Wall 4 and possibly Wall 3. Therefore, Wall 5 might be solely the front of the bench, and the line of stones to the south may be collapse.

The bench sits at the back of the building, and is formed by a chamber of small, dressed limestone slabs with a plastered top. How the bench is arranged within a room is unknown at this time. The SE corner of the building represents either 1) a single L-shaped room with a partition wall that forms a small ancillary room to the south of the bench or 2) two rooms, one of which is small and appended later to the main room containing the bench.

The southern terrace plastered surface was not found in these units; however, the likelihood of finding them was small since there was little area outside these rooms. Based on what we see in the profile of the looters trench, the courtyard plaza floor does not extend into this area, rather it can be seen running from Unit B into Unit C underneath the terrace platform and the front eastern terrace or staircase. The last courtyard floor ends approximately at the outset or block, which means this eastern terrace or staircase was a very late addition, placed on the Late Classic I (Samal) period courtyard floor (4A2/3) during the Late Classic II (Hats Chaak) period. The western portion of Structure 20, that which contains the bench, likely predates the Late Classic I, and may contain an earlier platform dating to the Early Classic period.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): See above.
7. Disturbances/Mixing: Looters destroyed all architecture exposed in the trench above the last courtyard floor over the weekend of June 26 and 27. They came apparently at night, since they used candles and disposed of their flash-light batteries near the excavations. They used and then stole all the equipment. But in reality they were very neat, working only in the trench and systematically digging across the trench from east to west.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):
See Master Harris Matrix illustration.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4C5
4D2 1
4B2=4B6 1
4A2 1
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4A3
4A4=4A5=4A6
4A7
4A8
4A9
Humus
LCII+LCI
Outset Core
LCII (Hats Chaak)
Collapse
Collapse on Courtyard
LCI (Samal)
Rubble Buttress
Str. 20 Core
S.Terrace Core
LCI (Samal)
LCI (Early Samal)
See 4A Harris Matrix
TLF
LF
LF

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan 11, 2005_
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__LeCount_____
Operation #_____5___Unit_____A_____Lot Numbers____1-11_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2 x 2 N/S/E/W_____
Datum A is a temporary datum is 93 cm from NW corner and 177 cm from NW corner near Juan's lane fence (north side).

Associated Structure(s)_Structure 18 to north__Dates Excavated_26 May 04 to 9 June o4

1. Unit description/location: 2x2 meter test pits just south of Rudy Juan's fence. We are excavating in the lane. The lane's north fence line runs parallel along the southern wall of Structure 18's platform. We are immediately east of McGovern's 93A test pit. The civic center is above us on top the modified ridge top. We are in this ravine and the slope continues to the south and east beyond the lane into the bush owned by Ramje Patel.

2. Excavation objective: To recover a large sample of Early Classic sherds from a trash deposit first encountered by George McGovern in 1993.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus root zone and rocky collapse from Structure 18. There are lots of artifacts including groundstone and many cobbles probably from the fill of this structure. No dressed limestone blocks, but the rubble is very large – 20 to 30 cm on a side.

Lot 2: More collapse. South face of Structure 18's platform is clearly visible in northern sidewall. Terminated the lot at a patch of cobble pavement near the platform wall in the NW corner of the unit. In the southern portion of the unit, very large river cobbles and boulders (some larger than 50 cm on a side) cover the area. Cobbles seen at bottom of lot may be unexcavated collapse debris, which has tumbled down slope, and are thus lower in elevation than those we removed upslope. The matrix is dark – 10YR 3/2 or 4/2 dark gray brown.

Lot 3: Mixed deposit of burial materials plus collapse and possibly occupation surface. We removed large un-modified river cobbles that make me think this material is at least partially collapse debris. However, three flat dressed limestone blocks form a triad of stones near the center of the unit, and there are a few pieces of human bones scattered about the rock cairn. We left this possible cairn burial (Burial 2 – Individual 0) in place and removed matrix from around it. To the west of the cairn, the trash deposit is clearly visible running under the patch of floor encountered in lot 2. The matrix itself is dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2 or 4/2). To the eastern of the cairn is still a jumble of river cobbles. It appears to me that the burial is almost immediately under the collapse, and possibly associated with an occupation surface best represented by the patchy floor which overlays the trash (probably Samal/LCI in date).

Lot 4: Burial 2, Individual 0. This is a very humble burial (if indeed it is a burial), just a cairn of three flat limestone dressed blocks and a few bones. Under the rocks we found a tooth and a bone fragment. Away from this cairn, part of a long bone was found to the east and to the west was another long bone. The burial was terminated at more rocks, but around this slight depression (20 cm deep) the yellowish brown matrix can be seen. In the possible pit, we found some sizable sherds.

Lot 5: Mostly trash or midden (possibly some mixed materials from burials). This lot was the first level of trash McGovern encountered in 93A. It is located solely on the western side of the unit. Intrusive into this material are more burials in the western 2/3rd of the unit.

Lot 6: Burial 2, Individual 1 is resting prone and extended with its head to the south in a simple stone-lined grave. The western side of the grave is formed by a set of small upright limestone slabs and river cobbles. The eastern side of the grave is poorly understood line of river cobbles, probably because of the close proximity of the second grave (Individual 2) and the jumble of river cobbles that comprise the collapse of Structure 18. The cairn of dressed limestone rocks (5A4) was placed over this individual's chest and pelvis. Rather than a separate cairn burial, these materials might have formed part of the capstones covering this grave, and those bones identified as Individual 0 may actually be part of Individual 1. Skeletal analysis will solve this issue. Crude, flat river stones clearly were

placed on the body below the knees. There might have been more, but unfortunately it was difficult to distinguish between stones associated with the collapse debris and the capstones of the grave itself. There are no grave-goods to speak of.

The context of this burial is unclear. Based on the profile drawing, this grave appears to have been dug late in the occupation of this site, since the south façade of Structure 18 appears to have been cut to place this individual into the trash. However, the individual's toes were buried deeply into the north sidewall of the unit, and we had to excavate into the unit's side wall to recover these digits. At that point, we concluded that the burial was placed in the midden before the platform wall was built over it. However, it must be remembered that the south platform wall angles sharply NE to SW, so that the lower extremities of Individual 1 may not intrude into the platform wall at all. Rather this individual may have been buried just off the platform near the SE corner of the building. Materials associated with burial are ambiguous. Most of the material clearly dates to the Early Classic before the platform wall was built in the Late Classic I. But some of the materials, such as a few lateral ridges and ashwares, also could date to the Late Classic I phase. That would mean that all the Early Classic materials in the burial pit represent redeposited midden placed in the grave when the Maya dug down into the earlier strata to create, and ultimately fill this burial pit.

Lot 7: This is the second individual associated with Burial 2, which was encountered under a rumble of stones and during the excavation of Burial 1, located in the eastern portion of the unit. However, after studying the profile of the north side of the unit, it is clear that Burial 2 was placed in the grave at an earlier date than Individual 1, and that the digging of Individual 1's grave likely disturbed Individual 2's grave located just to the east of it. Burial 2's grave was very modest indeed. Unlike Individual 1's grave, no upright stones appear to line the sides of the pit, although there are many un-modified river stones around the body and above it. We did not find the eastern side of the "pit" mainly because there are no stones that line it, and also it appear that at least a portion of the pit runs into the eastern sidewall of the unit. It looks to have been place in the refuse deposit without much preparation of a pit. There are no grave-goods to speak of.

The individual is positioned with the head to the south and facing east. The body is laying on its right side in a flexed position with the right hand just under the chin and the left hand and arm flexed outward away from the body. The feet are under the wall of a building to the north. The cranium is in fairly good condition, possibly because it was buried in midden soil rather than rocky fill.

Lot 8: Mixed context, but mostly midden. The goal of this lot was to remove a thin layer of material to clear away any contaminated material associated with the burials or the excavation of the burial. Matrix is lighter in color than that above it (10YR 6/3 or 5/3 – yellowish brown to brown).

Lot 9: This is an arbitrary 10 cm level to remove refuse debris. The matrix is yellowish brown (10YR 5/4 or 6/4 – in profile 7/3) with many small rocks and gravel. Abundant artifacts including obsidian, human bone, shell, and ceramics.

Lot 10: This was intended to be an arbitrary 10 cm level of midden. However, the matrix has become progressively harder and denser with less stone. It is somewhat darker than the matrix above it at 10 YR 4/3 or 6/3 (brown). Artifacts are smaller in size and less numerous.

Lot 11: This is the bottom of the cultural matrix above the sterile clay. We assume this is occupation debris from the initial use of this area. It is possible that it is also refuse washed or tossed down into this ravine from above. Unlike the "midden" or refuse above it, it does not appear mixed or re-deposited. There are very large chunks of carbon here with lots of jute – both big and small. Terminated lot at stiff yellow clay, very blocky.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:
The only features in this unit were the burials. All burials in this unit are labeled Burial 2 because at the time they were first discovered, they appeared to be placed in the ground simultaneously; however, each was taken out as a separate lot. Therefore the burials are numbered as follows: 5A4-B2 – Individual 0; 5A6-B2—Individual 1; and 5A7-B2—Individual 2. Clearly there are two individuals represented here, and possibly a third (5A4-B2). After excavation, it was discovered that Individual 1 and Individual 2 were placed in the ground in two separate actions. Individual 1 was interned later in time (possibly in the late Early Classic – Tzokol 3 or possibly in the Late Classic I

after the structure was built) than Individual 2 (possibly early to mid Early Classic), and they received very different burial treatments. Individual 1 was placed prone with head to the south in a simple stone lined grave with some capstones of dressed limestone slabs and flat river cobbles. Some of the river cobbles lining the pit were also quite flat and placed upright. The bottom of the grave appeared unprepared. Individual 2 was placed in the midden at an earlier time without a stone-lined grave, probably just a shallow pit dug into the soft trash. Some flat river cobbles were placed on parts of the body, particularly the feet. Like Individual 1, the position of the head was to the south, but the body was lying flexed on its right side. Individual 0 may represent parts of Individual 1 since these bones were found immediately above Individual 1 commingled with a triad of dressed limestone slabs placed above its pelvis. If individual 1 was interned after the construction of Structure 18, then the individual was buried just off the southeast corner of the platform. No burial good to speak of.

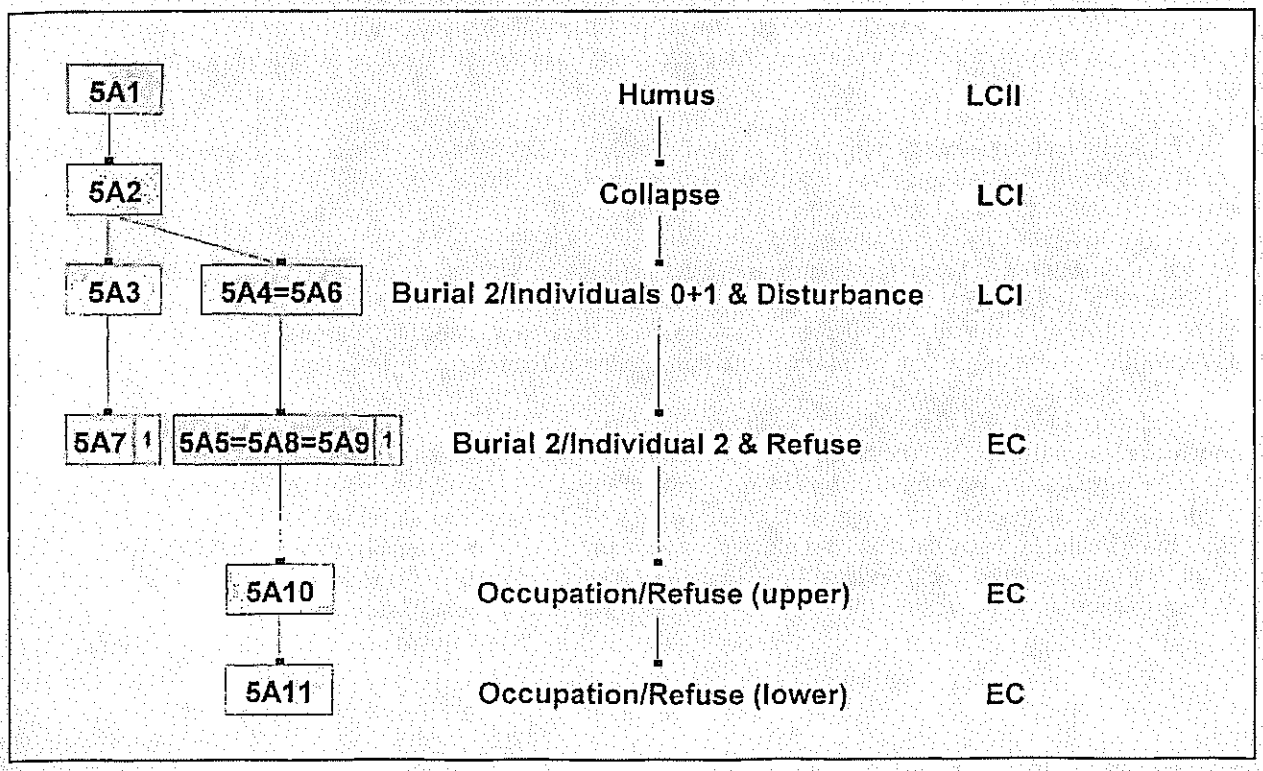
5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

6A. Describe architecture:
The southern wall of Str 18's platform is barely visible in the NW sidewall of the unit. It is represented by a single dressed limestone block probably because the platform is angling NE to SW and the NE corner of the platform is buried north of us and we just caught this wall in the profile. However, in the northern side of McGovern's 93A pit, the platform wall appears no more than three courses high. The stones are crudely shaped and stacked. See the summary of 5B for a more complete description of this wall; however, we can see from excavation of the platform wall in 5B that the foundation stones form a single line of large flat, shaped river cobbles – approx. 25 x 10 cm in size – over which 2 courses of smaller limestone dressed stone were placed.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc)
There is only one abutment: the south platform wall of Structure 18 and the patch of exterior cobble pavement seen at the bottom of 5A2. Since we did not remove the wall, it is impossible to understand if this pavement was built before or after the construction of the wall in this area. However, it is clear that the pavement sits atop the midden. From excavations in 5B, we know that a similar pavement as subfloor ballast exists there under a patch of plaster "patio" floor just above the midden. In that location the plaster floor abuts the wall, and does not run under it. And the platform wall is sunk into the midden.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: The ancient Maya really dug into the midden for these burials; tree roots are fairly contained, and cows have created a nice path in this area.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Jan 13, 2005_
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__LeCount_____
Operation #____5___Unit____B_____Lot Numbers____1-10_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2 x 2 N/S/E/W_____
Datum__temporary datum is same as 5A, near Juan's lane fence (north side).

Associated Structure(s)_Structure 18 to north__Dates Excavated_10 June 04 -17 June o4

1. Unit description/location: 2x2 meter test pits just south of Rudy Juan's fence. We are excavating in the lane. The lane's north fence line runs parallel along the southern wall of Structure 18's platform. We are immediately west of McGovern's 93A test pit. The civic center is above us on top the modified ridge top. We are in this ravine and the slope continues to the south and east beyond the lane into the bush owned by Ramje Patel.

2. Excavation objective: To recover a large sample of Early Classic sherds from a trash deposit first encountered by George McGovern in 1993. Because 5A had so many burials, and much of the midden was mixed with them, we decided to excavate here to get a larger sample.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus root zone and rocky collapse from Structure 18. Many artifacts including slate and groundstone plus cobbles probably from the fill of this structure. No dressed limestone blocks, but the rubble is very large – 20 to 30 cm on a side. Terminated lot at rock fall.

Lot 2: More collapse. South face of Structure 18's platform is clearly visible in northern sidewall. The matrix is dark – 10YR 4/3 brown. Here, these dressed limestone block in the rubble. Terminated the lot after we clearly uncovered the top of the platform (or what remains of it) and at more rock collapse. Collapsed core is seen throughout the southern part of the unit below the wall. Cobbles are the unexcavated collapse debris that has tumbled down slope, and are thus lower in elevation than those we removed upslope.

Lot 3: Collapse. We removed large un-modified river cobbles from below the south platform wall. The matrix itself is still brown (10YR 4/3). Terminated lot at small pebble ballast or occupation surface (associated with 5A3?) that spreads out from the wall toward the southern end of the unit. At the southern end however, I think there is still collapse or maybe disturbance because the soil is softer and the pebble surface is patchier.

Lot 4: Small pebble ballast to the south of Structure 18's platform wall. This ballast is fairly thick (between 5 and 7 cm) and according to my lab notes, contains early Late Classic I sherds.

Lot 5: Platform fill behind southern wall of Structure 18. Fill matrix is light in color (10 YR 6/4 light yellowish brown) and friable. Artifacts are small, but lithics are abundant. Foundation stones are very large 25 cm x 10 cm dressed limestone blocks, which were laid in a single row. Stacked on top of them are smaller dressed limestone blocks. Two courses remain. Sherd material is mixed Late Classic I and lots of Early Classic material, presumably scrapped up from around the area. We terminated lot at the base of the foundation stones. While cleaning up around the wall, we found the remnants of a nice plaster patio floor, this floor is presumably associated with the ballast found "above" it in lot 5B4. The plaster floor was preserved here because it was near the structure wall and upslope. The ballast we removed as 5B4 was from down slope where the plaster floor was eroded and poorly preserved.

Lot 6: Patio floor and foundation stones of Structure 18's platform wall. The platform wall and the plaster floor appear to have been built simultaneously. The floor abuts the platform wall near the top of the foundation stone. The foundation stones look like they site on the Early Classic refuse, however, in Dan's profiles, he shows them cut into the refuse deposit. Sherd materials look identical to 5B5.

Lot 7: Arbitrary 10 cm level of Early Classic trash deposit taken from across the entire 2x2. Matrix is brown (10YR 5/3) with lots of artifacts including human bone, obsidian, shell and ceramics. Terminated the lot at what appeared to be a compact surface near the northern sidewall and an upright limestone slab. We feared another burial;

however, no distinct pattern of bones or stones could be discerned. However, this compact surface does hint to the fact that the trash deposit might be stratified.

Lot 8: Another arbitrary 10 cm level in the Early Classic trash. Matrix is lighter in color – 10YR6/6 brownish yellow. There is gravel and construction debris throughout matrix and sherds are quite large and abundant. Nearly 10 bags of artifacts were recovered.

Lot 9: Another arbitrary 10 to 15 cm level in the trash. It is the same matrix as above, but possibly lighter in color. Large carbon sample was taken and there is a lot of human bone coming up in random spots.

Lot 10: Still trash. Matrix is becoming harder and more compact. Artifact density dropped off significantly from previous level. Size of sherds also decreased. But the color is still the same as the lot above it. We are at the bottom of the trash. We terminated lot at the darker (more yellowish brown matrix also seen in 5A11) clay loam.

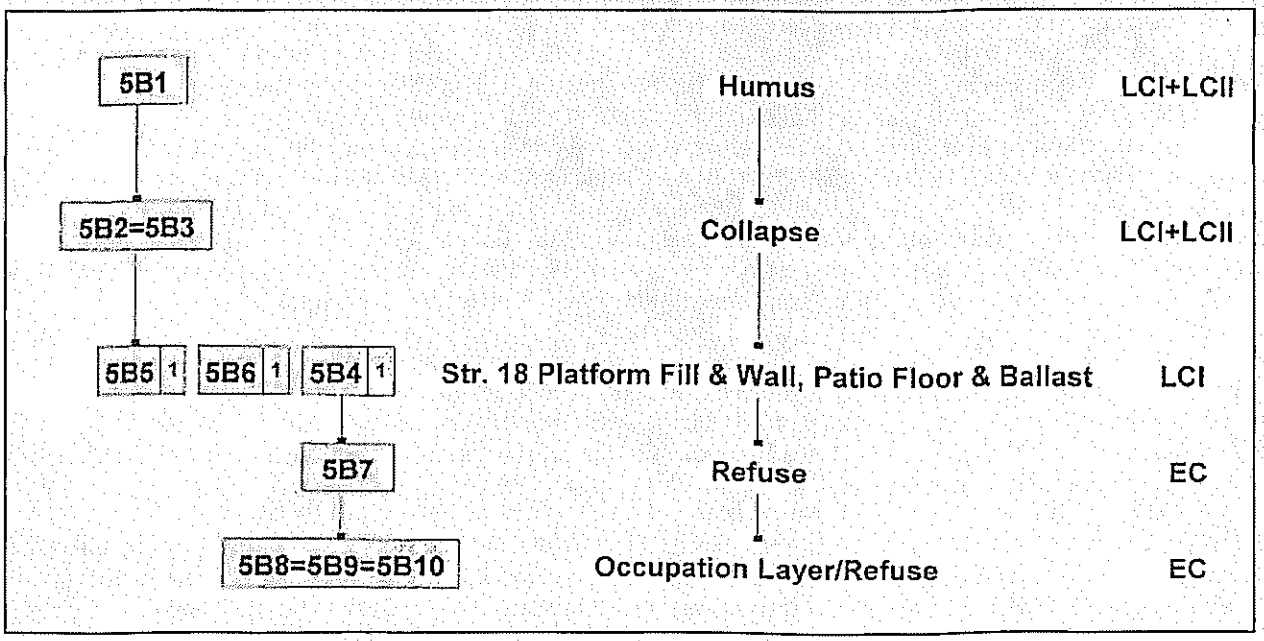
4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy:
No features except for architecture.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

5A1=5B1	Humus
5A2=5B2&3	Collapse of LCI Structure 18
5A3=5B4	LCI occupation surface/pebble ballast. Association is a hypothesis only!
5A8=5B7&8	Early Classic trash
5A9=5B9	"Early Classic trash"
5A10=5B10	earlier Early Classic trash

6A. Describe architecture: See lot 5B5.
6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): See lot 5B6 description
7. Disturbances/Mixing: Not much except tree roots.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 2, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_
Operation #____6___Unit__A_____Lot Numbers__1-7_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 oriented N-S-E-W_____
Datum A, located 2.18 meters south from the center point of the 2x2's southern sidewall. Datum is therefore located at the top of Str. 41 near the northern edge of the platform.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 41
Dates Excavated_2 June 04-10 June 04

1. Unit description/location: The unit is located immediately off the top of the platform, to the north on the battened slope.

2. Excavation objective: We are excavating here on the backside of this building to find a stratified sequence of floors and hopefully trash thrown off the back.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Surface and collapse. Large cobbles and rubble found on surface and down-slope. Only three cobbles appear to be dressed limestone, the rest are river cobbles up to 25 cm in length. Matrix is dark (10YR 3/1 clay loam), however, there is mainly just rock here. Abundant artifacts include obsidian blade fragments, sherds, and metate fragments; these materials represent household trash. Lot terminated arbitrarily since collapse continued downward without discernable change in composition or color.

Lot 2: Loose rubble fill or collapse. Cobbles and rubble with few dressed stones. Matrix is still dark clay loam with some decomposed limestone flecks and artifacts: ceramics, obsidian, jute, daub and bone. Lot terminated arbitrarily since rubble continues downward. Rubble is so dense that many are left in place along the southern edge of the unit so that the building won't fall in on us.

Lot 3: Rubble fill or collapse. Same as above. Bits of plaster scattered across unit and some burned plaster and daub. Some plaster fragments are 5 to 7 cm in size and indicate than the summit building may have burnt in the past. Most of the rock is packed against the building foundation, while the southern portion of the unit does not have many cobbles. Here the matrix is looser, decomposing limestone and much lighter in color (10YR 4/3) than the clay loam fill or battening.

Lot 4: Loose rubble fill. Another 20 cm level of cobble fill. This material is quite loose and therefore a slightly different fill episode. Matrix is clay loam 10YR 5/3, therefore lighter in color than that above it. Terminated the lot at Floor 1. To the north, massive stones are lying on this floor extending across the unit from west to east. This line of stones must be the battened façade foundation used to retain the cobble buttressing below the last construction associated with Structure 41.

In all, this battened cobble façade and fill is approximately 40 cm thick at its deepest point near the southern end wall (immediately below Structure 41 on top the platform).

Lot 5: Big rock fill. This lot is in the northern third of Unit 6A. It consists of river cobble and rubble of variable sizes up to 30 cm in length that was left in place while excavation continued to the south. Matrix surrounding the cobbles and rubble is clay loam, 10YR 4/3, with some decomposed limestone. Lot 5 is below Lots 6A1-2 and to the south of 6A3-4. Thus the division between 6A5 and 6A3-4 is arbitrary. Lot 5 is approx. 40 cm thick. Terminated the lot at Floor 1. Ceramic and stone artifacts recovered.

Lot 6: Plaster floor and sub-floor ballast fill. This lot consists of the plaster floor (Floor 1) in Unit 6A, plus the additional underlying ballast fill layer of small gravel/cobble stones (1-25 cm in size). Floor 1 is white plaster 4 cm thick. Floor buckles downward in the N1/2 of unit. Floor 1 is clean without any inclusions. Floor 1 rests on ballast fill layer of decomposed limestone, gravel/cobles, with ceramic and stone artifacts. Matrix of ballast layer is 10YR4/3. Ballast layer is 10-15 cm thick. Lot was terminated upon discovery of a sascab floor below ballast layer.

Lot 7: Sascab floor and sub-floor cobble and rubble fill. Lot 7 is a poorly preserved sascab floor (Floor 2). Floor 2 is preserved only in patches but extends across entire unit 6A. Floor 2 is 3 cm thick. Fill layer below Floor 2 consists of decomposed limestone, gravel and cobbles up to 25 cm, and larger undressed stones up to 40 cm. Matrix of sub-floor fill layer is 10YR 5/4, clay loam, with ceramic and some artifacts. Fill layer is approx 30 cm thick and rests on yellow clay layer. Lot 7 terminated at yellow clay layer, presumed to be sterile.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units: Also see Unit summaries for 4A, C-D.

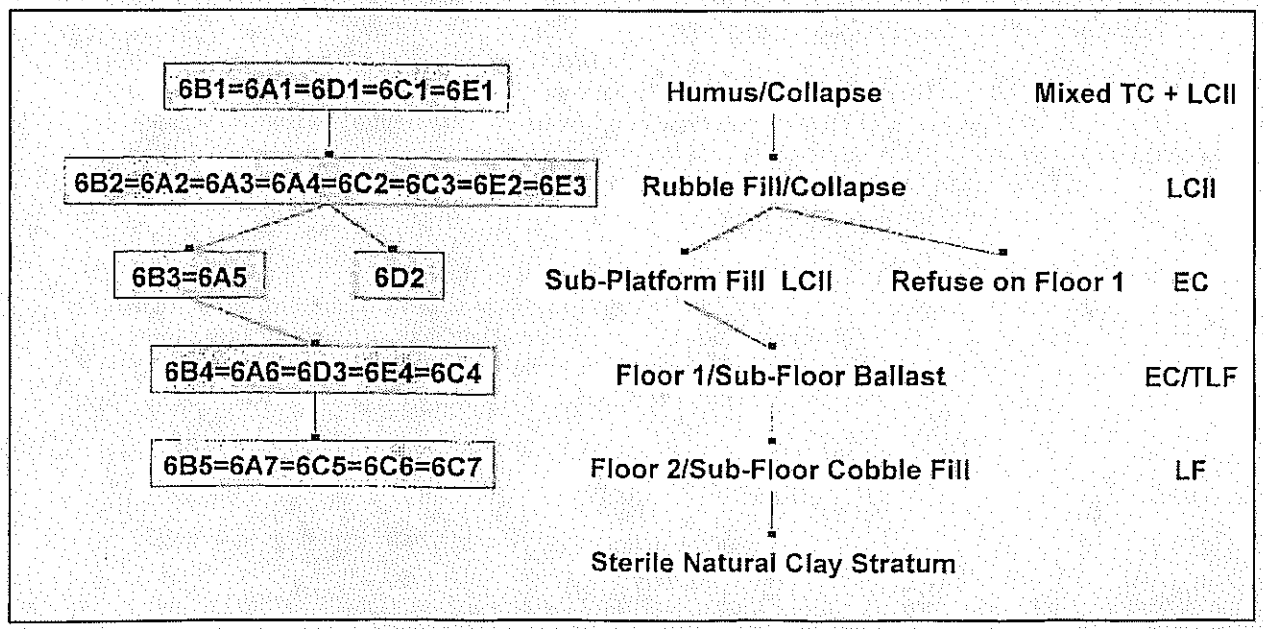
	6A
Collapse/Humus	1
Loose rubble fill or collapse	2,3,4
Big rock fill	5
Floor 1/sub-floor ballast fill	6
Floor 2/sub-floor cobble fill	7

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present
Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
There is no formal architecture to be seen in this unit; what we have is the following temporal sequence: cobble stone rubble or fill, followed by the first plaster floor and its ballast, followed by a second floor of packed sascab on the north side of structure. Laying on Floor 1 is a line of very large limestone blocks at the SE corner of the 2x2. Currently, that line of blocks is poorly understood, so a more detailed description will follow in the next units. We expanded this unit in an attempt to address architectural aspects discovered, or not discovered in this unit. A more complete description will be provided in the following unit summaries (B, C, D, and E) after more information is collected.

Here, I want to clarify the difference between what we are calling platform fill versus platform battening. Platform fill consists of very large river cobbles and boulders packed tightly together with little matrix in between. It is best seen directly underneath the superstructure wall of Str. 41 resting on the top of the platform; however, the platform is not uniformly built. According to Dr. Blitz, large stone fill alternates with loose fill that has less rock. Finally, near the outer edge of the platform is what we are calling battening. Battening is looser material, still mostly river cobbles, but they are smaller in size and the matrix contains more artifacts and decomposing limestone, as if this once was the backing to a stone façade. However, it is entirely possible that this battening is collapse coming down from the structure on top the building. But no matter what interpretation is correct, we will now try to separate it from the actual platform fill.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): No abutments to be described at this point
7. Disturbances/Mixing: None noted.
8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 2, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_
Operation #_____6___Unit__B_____Lot Numbers__1-5_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x1 oriented 1 m N/S and 2 m E-W_____
Datum A, located 0.18 meters south from the center point of the 1x2's southern sidewall. Datum is therefore located at the top of Str. 41 near the northern edge of the platform.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 41
Dates Excavated_3 June 04-25 June 04

1. Unit description/location: The unit is located immediately off the top of the platform, to the north on the battened slope. This unit is immediately south of 6A toward the top of the platform.

2. Excavation objective: We are excavating here to find the base of the structure on top the platform so we can understand the rubble in Op 6A. We expected to find a "typical" platform with vertical retaining walls, but there were none. What we found was sloping rubble, possibly plastered and buttressed at the base by a few very large foundation stones.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Surface and collapse. Dark (10YR 3/1) matrix with abundant rock, cobbles and artifacts. Southern wall (Wall 1 on lot forms) of Structure 41-1st is clearly visible running east to west across the unit. Three courses of stones are visible, but a small tree has disturbed the wall. Wall 1 stones are large dressed limestone blocks that stand out from the cobble battening.

Lot 2: Loose rubble fill or collapse. Rubble and cobbles eroding down slope. Many artifacts including shell, bone, metate fragments, obsidian blades. Same as 6A2.

Lot 3: Large rock fill. Same as 6A5. Large rock fill that is packed up against the back of this building. Some river cobbles are more than 25 cm in length. Terminated lot at Floor 1. This lot and 6A5 are similar in that they are mostly rock; however, 6A3 and 6A4 are looser fill without as much rock. We have yet to figure out why this is so. If the sloped façade was originally faced with stone, then the fill directly behind the façade may have been looser than that which supported the weight of the superstructure.

Lot 4: Plaster floor and fill. Thick plaster floor (Floor 1) and sub-floor ballast fill layer consisting of decomposing limestone and gravel and cobbles. This is the same floor and ballast fill layer as in 6A6. Rock in this ballast is much smaller than the cobble buttressing. Cobbles are less than 10 cm in length.

Lot 5: Sascab floor and fill. A poorly preserved packed sascab floor (Floor 2), about 3 cm thick, is directly below Lot 4. Beneath Floor 2 is a fill layer of gravel and cobbles less than 20 cm in size. Matrix of fill layer is 10 YR 5/4, clay loam, with decomposed limestone and few artifacts. Lot 5 is the same as strata in 6A7, although cobble size somewhat smaller. Lot 5 rests on sterile yellow clay. Limit of excavation in Unit 6B.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:

	6A	6B
Collapse/Humus	1	1
Loose rubble fill or collapse	2,3,4	2
Platform fill (only)	5	3
Floor 1/sub-floor ballast fill	6	4
Floor 2/sub-floor cobble fill	7	5

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present
Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture: Although the sequence of cobble fill and floors are the same as what we saw in Op6A (platform fill, Floor1, Floor 2 and sterile clay soil on north side of Str 41) in this unit we can see the northern façade

of the superstructure which sits on the cobble platform. We did not excavate the wall rather we left it intact very near the southern edge of the 1x2.

Southern face of Str. 41: In this unit we see a 2 meter stretch of this façade. It is composed of stacked, large (average size approx. 25x15 cm) cut-limestone blocks three courses high (possibly more). There is a small tree growing up beside it partially destroying the wall. This line of stone, which we assume to be one of two faces of a double-faced superstructure wall, sits on the cobble fill with no sign of a plaster living surface. This wall face is 30 cm high. Although the cobble fill is mainly composed of river cobbles less than 25 cm in diameters, some of the largest river boulders found in the cobble fill directly underneath this building are extremely large, upwards of 30 cm in diameter. As one moves towards what would have been the exterior edge of the platform, the cobbles become smaller. The slope of the platform (at the back of the building) consists of loose rock, decomposing limestone, and fill matrix. It is possible that this platform displayed a "plastered" slope reminiscent of a battened block façade seen on monumental architecture.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc).: See unit summaries for 6D and 6E.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None noted.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 2, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_
Operation #_____6___Unit__C_____Lot Numbers__1-7_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__3x2m oriented 3m N-S & 2m E-W_____
Datum A, located .18 meters south from the center point of Op 6B's southern sidewall. Datum is therefore located at the top of Str. 41 near the northern edge of the platform.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 41
Dates Excavated_7 June 04-28 June 04

1. Unit description/location: The unit is located immediately off the top of the platform and immediately adjacent (east) of 6A,B.

2. Excavation objective: To follow the façade of St. 41 and to understand the line of stones that might form a platform façade found in Op6A.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Surface and collapse. Dark (10YR 3/1) clay loam matrix with abundant rock, cobbles and artifacts. Southern wall (Wall 1) of Structure 41-1st is clearly visible running east to west into the unit. Wall stones are three courses of large dressed limestone blocks that stand on top the cobble battening.

Lot 2: Loose rubble fill (possibly collapse). Lot 2 is below Lot 1 in the northern 1/3 of 6C. We left intact the large cobble fill of the platform; so this lot represents matrix that is looser than the compact platform fill. Thus 6C2 is most equivalent to 6A3-4; not 6A5 which is the actual platform fill. Rubble and large cobbles (mostly under 25 cm but some up to 30 cm) were eroding down slope. Ceramic and stone artifacts recovered. One of the reasons Lot 2 was confined to this portion of the unit was a cluster of stones first thought to be a feature, but instead proved to be where Floor 1 slumped down. Thus Lot 2 rests on plaster Floor 1, which itself has collapsed downward. Lot 2 terminated at Floor 1.

Lot 3: Rubble fill. Lot 3 is a portion of the rubble/cobble fill in the southern 1/2 of Unit 6C. Cobbles are about 10-20 cm in size. As with Lot 2, we took out Lot 3 separately from the rest of Unit 6C because clusters of large cobbles running east-west across unit (labeled large stone fill 1 and 2 on forms) suggested possible architectural surfaces or elements. We now think that Lot 2 (and equivalent loose matrix and cobble stones in Unit 6A,B) is fill behind a stone battening, whereas Lot 3 is actual platform fill. Both lots are associated with the platform but may represent different construction techniques. Lot 3 is adjacent (east) and equivalent to 6B2, and exterior (outside) and down slope to Wall 1 and large stone fill 1. Lot 3 matrix is clay loam 10YR5/3. Ceramics and lithics present. Lot 3 terminated upon encountering large cobbles up to 25 cm in size (large stone fill 2).

Lot 4: Plaster floor and sub-floor ballast layer. Op6C4 is below 6C3 in the northern ½ of Unit 6C. To the south is the platform fill that was left intact. The plaster floor is Floor 1 previously detected in Ops 6A-B, and is composed of white plaster 4 cm thick. Ballast below Floor 1 is composed of gravel/cobbles mostly less than 10 cm in size; ballast layer was 10-15 cm thick. Ballast layer was exposed but not excavated in east ½ of Lot 4. Matrix in ballast layer is clay loam and decomposed limestone 10YR5/3, with small amount of ceramics. Because the south ½ of 6C below Lot 3 is a layer of large stone fill used to buttress wall 1, it was left in place, thus Lot 4 is that part of Floor 1 exposed when the large stone fill was removed in the northern ½ of Unit 6C. Lot 4 terminated at Floor 2.

Lot 5: Sascab floor and fill. Lot 5 is the poorly preserved sascab floor (Floor 2), previously encountered in Op 6A-B. Lot 5 is that portion of Floor 2 in the northwestern ¼ of Unit 6C. Thickness was no more than 5 cm. Matrix was packed sascab with some small gravel inclusions and ceramic artifacts. Lot terminated on removal of floor and exposure of sub-floor fill layer.

Lot 6: Ballast fill layer. Lot 6 is the ballast fill layer, 20-cm thick, directly beneath Lot 5, in the northwestern ¼ of Unit 6C. Lot 6 is clay loam, small gravel, and decomposed limestone matrix 10YR 5/4, with ceramic and stone artifacts. Some large cobbles up to 20 cm in size were found at the interface of the yellow clay layer. Lot terminated at the sterile yellow clay.

Lot 7: Ballast fill layer. Lot 7 is the equivalent of Lot 6, but adjacent, in the northeastern ¼ of Unit 6C. Division between lots 6 and 7 is arbitrary. Lot terminated at the sterile yellow clay.

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:
Also see Unit summaries for 6A, C-D.

	6A	6B	6C	6D	6E
Collapse/humus	1	1	1		
Loose rubble (battening back) and fill	2,3,4,5	2	2		
Platform fill only		3	3		
Floor 1/sub-floor ballast fill	6	4	4		
Floor 2/sub-floor cobble fill	7	5	5,6,7		

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present
Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture: Cobble battening, rubble/gravel/cobble fill, one plaster floor, one sascab floor, two sub-floor ballast layers; sequence exposed at north side of structure.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc). See 6D and 6E.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None noted.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):
See Master Harris Matrix for Op 6.

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 9, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_
Operation #____6__Unit__D_____Lot Numbers__1-3_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x1m oriented 1m N-S & 2m E-W_____
Datum A, located .18 meters south from the center point of Op 6B's southern sidewall. Datum is therefore located at the top of Str. 41 near the northern edge of the platform.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 41
Dates Excavated_11 June 04-14 June 04

1. Unit description/location: The unit is located immediately north of 6A off the platform of Str. 41.

2. Excavation objective: To follow the line of massive stones encountered on Floor 1 of Op 6A and find *in situ* floor deposits.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Surface and collapse. Dark (10YR 3/1) clay loam matrix with abundant rock, cobbles and artifacts. The massive stone found in Op 65/6 is actually a line of cut-limestone blocks running at a diagonal across the unit (Wall 2). This line of stone is one course wide and one course high. Terminated lot at base of stones, without finding Floor 1.

Lot 2: Refuse This lot is the material that is found to the north of the massive line of stone; in other words it is not platform fill but material deposited behind the house and down the slope of the platform. Matrix is brown (10YR 5/3) and full of very large sherds, obsidian blades, conch shell and other very nice artifacts (jade bead?). Floor 1 does run underneath and extend beyond this massive cut-limestone wall (which might be the foundation of façade retaining wall), so this material was deposited after the construction of Wall 2. Wall 2 consists of very large dressed limestone blocks measuring 15 cm thick, 50 to 55 cm in length, and 20 to 25 cm wide. So far 4 of these massive stones are visible. Floor 1 in this area is very patchy, and not well preserved presumably because it was the ultimate living surface in this area, even though it is older than the substructure.

Lot 3: Refuse Very similar to 6D2 in color and texture, but in this lot we continued to excavate downward to through patchy floor (Floor 1) expecting to find subfloor ballast overlaying Floor 2. But no! Terminated lot a large stones which rest on sterile stiff yellow clay (same as that found in 6A7). So in this area, there is no Floor 2, and very little ballast associated with Floor 1. Terminated unit at sterile clay

5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:
Also see Unit summaries for 6A, C-D.

	6A	6B	6C	6D	phase
Collapse/humus	1	1	1	1	Terminal & Late Classic
Loose rubble fill or battening back	2,3,4	2	2,3	NA	Same as above?
Platform fill only	5	3		NA	Late Classic II
Refuse	NA	NA	NA	2, 3	Early Classic
Floor 1/sub-floor ballast fill	6	4	4	3	T. Late Formative?
Floor 2/sub-floor cobble fill	7	5	5,6,7	NA	Late Formative

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present
Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture:
Wall 2 consists of single course of very large dressed limestone blocks measuring 15 cm thick, 50 to 55 cm in length, and 20 to 25 cm wide. (also see 6A5/6). Exposed four of these massive stones running diagonally E/W across unit. This line of stone is one course wide and one course high. This line of stones might be the foundation of the platform façade or retaining wall. It is located 2.2 meters in horizontal space from the north façade of Str. 41 on top the substructure. As currently interpreted, the platform is composed of a solid large cobble-fill (labeled fill 1 in the original field notes) and a looser, smaller cobble fill (labeled fill 2 in the original field notes). It is speculated that the looser, smaller cobble fill is the backing for a stone façade (see Lotsen and Pendergast), which has been

robbed away except for the foundation stones. At Floor 1, the retaining wall is 1 meter away from the large-cobble fill, 2.2 meters away from the northern façade of Str. 42, and approximately 1 meter down from the top surface of the platform (as estimated from exposed superstructure).

Floor 1 in this area is very patchy, and not well preserved presumably because it was the ultimate living surface in this area, even though it is older than the substructure. Floor 1 runs underneath and extends beyond this massive cut-limestone wall.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc). None.

7. Disturbances/Mixing: None noted.

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known): See Master Harris Matrix for Op. 6

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 14, 2005__
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_
Operation #_____6___Unit__E_____Lot Numbers__1-4_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x1m oriented 1m N-S & 2m E-W_____
Datum A, located .18 meters south from the center point of Op 6B's southern sidewall. Datum is therefore located at the top of Str. 41 near the northern edge of the platform.
Associated Structure(s)_Str. 41
Dates Excavated_14 June 04-15 June 04

1. Unit description/location: The unit is located immediately east of 6D off the platform of Str. 41.

2. Excavation objective: To follow the line of massive stones encountered on Floor 1 of Op 6A and 6D, and find *in situ* floor deposits.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Surface and collapse. Dark (10YR 3/1) clay loam matrix with abundant rock, cobbles and artifacts. Did not find the massive cut-stones, similar to those in Op 6D, we intended to find at the bottom of this lot.

Lot 2: Collapse and fill. Matrix is 10YR 3/3, which is dark brown and not the same color as the fill to the west. Mostly gravel and cobble here, not the massive river cobbles. Terminated lot at patches of a plaster floor (Floor 1), and a single large foundation stone, which is a part of the wall found in Op 6A. Could this termination in the line of stones be an entrance way or have the stones been robbed? Since I can't figure out how this could be an entrance way, I assume the facing stones for the back façade have been totally robbed here. The floor is really torn up in this location, which could support either scenario.

Lot 3: Same as lot 2.

Lot 4: Fill below Floor 1, therefore same as OP 6A6, 6B4, and 6C4. Unfortunately, there is no refuse here, like we found in Op 6D2. Few ceramics are coming out and there are more stones. Stones are bigger as we proceed downward, so this is definitely fill. There is gravel, cobbles, decomposing limestone and plaster mixed in with the clay loam. Terminated unit at large rocks.

5: Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units:Also see Unit summaries for 6A, C-D.

	6A	6B	6C	6D	6E	phase
Collapse/humus	1	1	1	1	1	Terminal & Late Classic
Loose rubble fill or battening back	2,3,4	2	2,3	NA	2,3	Same as above?
Platform fill only	5	3		NA		Late Classic II
Refuse	NA	NA	NA	2, 3		Early Classic?
Floor 1/sub-floor ballast fill	6	4	4	3	4	T. Late Formative?
Floor 2/sub-floor cobble fill	7	5	5,6,7	NA		Late Formative

Note: NA=not applicable because it is not present
Not exc.=present but not excavated

6A. Describe architecture: Wall 2 comes to an end here, and doesn't continue eastward. Only one additional large dressed limestone blocks was found. Floor 1 in this area is very patchy indeed, and not well preserved. We can't figure out why the stone foundation is missing here: is it some kind of architectural feature or have the stones been robbed away?

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc). None.
7. Disturbances/Mixing: None noted.
8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):
See Master Harris Matrix for Op. 6

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 14, 2005
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_____
Operation #___7_____Unit____A_____Lot Numbers___1-2_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 NSEW_____
Datum__Temporary A is located on the eastern terrace of Str. 29, near the northern edge of the terrace. It is located on the western sidewall of Op7D, one meter from either the north or south sidewall (ie at the centerpoint of the 2x2's side wall). Datum is established at 23 cm above ground surface.

Associated Structure(s)_Str. 29
Dates Excavated_16 June 04 –16 June 04

1. Unit description/location: Op 7A is located just north of the NE corner of the eastern terrace of Str. 29. In other words, we are off the platform looking for trash in Plaza E. If Str. 29 faces to the south, as McGovern has mapped it, then we are behind the building and off the terrace eastern. McGovern also placed a unit off the eastern side of the eastern terrace looking for trash (Op 100) but found very little.

2. Excavation objective: We are looking for Early Classic trash thrown off the back of this building.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 1: Humus. Cobble stones in south 1/3 of unit that appear to be wall collapse down slope from the terrace wall. Matrix is dark (10YR 3/1) clay loam with some small stones or cobbles.

Lot 2: Wall collapse. Matrix is decomposing limestone and clay loam. Still quite dark in color (10YR4/1). Most of the wall collapse is in the southern 1/3 portion of the unit. Terminated lot and unit at dramatic soil change that is sterile yellow clay (10YR 5/3) that is often seen in this area of the site.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy: none
5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units: none
6A. Describe architecture: none
6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): none
7. Disturbances/Mixing: none

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known): None

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 15, 2005
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_____
Operation #___7_____Unit____B, C, D_____Lot Numbers___1_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__a set of three contiguous 2x2 oriented NSEW.
Datum__Temporary A is located on the eastern terrace of Str. 29, near the northern edge of the terrace. It is located on the western sidewall of Op7D, one meter from either the north or south sidewall (ie at the center point of the 2x2's side wall). Datum is established at 23 cm above ground surface. Associated Structure(s) Str. 29
Dates Excavated_16 June 04 –18 June 04

1. Unit description/location: These 2x2s (Op 7B,C, and D) are located along the northern edge of the eastern medial terrace of Str. 29. From the NE corner of the eastern terrace of Str. 29 toward the base of the tallest platform associated with this house. Op7B is at the corner nearest Op7A and 7D is nearest the base of the top platform of Str. 29.

2. Excavation objective: We are trying to understand the placement of the eastern terrace's retaining walls. In Op7B, we see lots of lines of cobble stones that possibly represent the corner of the eastern medial terrace. And in OP7C and D we think we see the northern retaining wall of the medial terrace, but since there are no cut-limestone blocks, we are having trouble sorting out which rocks associate with retaining walls and which are collapse and fill of the terrace itself. We assume a masonry superstructure is located on the top platform of Str. 29 above us to the west, and that this represents the oldest portion of the "house".

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:

Lot 7B1: Collapse. On the surface we think we can see the NE corner of the eastern medial terrace, however, there are lots of river cobbles. After removing 20 cm of rock, we can see limestone flecks and decomposing limestone material in the SW corner of the unit/quadrant, and we assume that this represents the terrace corner. Matrix is very dark brown (10YR3/1) and almost all the rocks are unmodified, large (<40 cm) river cobbles.

Lot 7C1: Collapse. On the surface we think we can see the northern edge of the eastern medial terrace, however, there are lots of lines of rock. After removing 20 cm of rock, we do not see any limestone flecks and decomposing limestone material like that found in 7B1, nor do the rocks make nice neat lines. Matrix is very dark brown (10YR3/1) and almost all the rocks are unmodified, large (<40 cm) river cobbles.

Lot 7D1: Collapse. On the surface we think we can see the northern edge of the eastern medial terrace, however, there are lots of lines of rock. After removing 10 cm of rock, we do not see any limestone flecks and decomposing limestone material like that found in 7B1, nor do the rocks make nice neat lines. Matrix is very dark brown (10YR3/1) and almost all the rocks are unmodified, large (<40 cm) river cobbles. We think we see what is platform versus what is off platform, but really its just speculation.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy: none
5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units: 7B1=7C1=7D1 collapse

6A. Describe architecture: None really, except that we assume that the northern terrace retaining wall lies across this cleared 2x2s. All I can say with some amount of confidence is that the retaining walls and the fill of the eastern terrace is mostly unmodified river cobbles and very little dressed limestone. We were hoping to see some dressed limestone that would make locating the edge of the terrace easier. None has appeared though. We probably located the NE corner of the eastern terrace in the SW corner of Op 7B, because here we did see some evidence of decomposing limestone.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): none
7. Disturbances/Mixing: none

8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known): None except for the following associations: collapse: 7B1=7C1=7D1. Units B and C contain LCII Hats' Chaak ceramics, whereas 7D1 contains Early Classic, which is a good sign.

ACTUNCAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT 2004 Date_Feb. 15, 2005
UNIT SUMMARY Recorded by__John Blitz_____
Operation #___7____Unit___E_____Lot Numbers___1-7_____
Unit Dimensions/Orientation:__2x2 oriented NSEW
Datum Temporary A is located on the eastern terrace of Str. 29, near the northern edge of the terrace. It is located on the western sidewall of Op7D, one meter from either the north or south sidewall (ie at the center point of the 2x2's side wall). Datum is established at 23 cm above ground surface.

Associated Structure(s) Str. 29
Dates Excavated_21 June 04 –23 June 04

1. Unit description/location: Op 7E is located immediately south of 7D and the surface clearing associated with Op 7B, C, and D located along the northern edge of the eastern medial terrace of Str. 29. Therefore, we've moved away from the retaining wall toward the body of the terrace itself. Also we think we are close to the western side of this medial terrace just below the top platform to the west of us. Hopefully, in this location we will find deep stratigraphy and trash.

2. Excavation objective: We are looking for a place on the eastern medial terrace near the base of Str. 29's top platform to find good stratigraphy and Early Classic trash buried by the construction of the terrace. We assume a masonry superstructure is located on the top platform of Str. 29 above us to the west, and that this platform represents the oldest, most continuously built section of the "house". We assume that the eastern medial terrace was added later burying early deposits.

3. Describe lots and correlate them to stratigraphy, and discuss relationship of excavation technique to stratigraphy:
Lot 1: Collapse. Large river cobbles visible on surface, some up to 40 cm in length. Matrix is very dark clay loam (YR103/1). Cleared the humus to expose stones and determine where we are on the medial terrace. Stopped arbitrarily after removing soil from around rocks since we didn't see any evidence of a retaining wall. No evidence of a prepared surface.

Lot 2: Terrace fill. Removed large river cobble fill with very little matrix. Matrix is dark brown (10YR 3/3) with decomposing limestone. Left in place a line of very large stones along northern sidewall. Terminated lot at lighter soil color, but there still is a lot of large rocks and no evidence of a prepared surface.

Lot 3: Ballast. Matrix is lighter in color (10YR 4/4) and dark yellowish brown with decomposing limestone and more gravel, less large rock. This indeed looks like ballast below a floor, so we assume that there was a buried surface somewhere in Lot2. We will call this ballast of eastern medial terrace-2nd, since we assume that the ultimate surface is gone and Lot 1 and part of Lot 2 represents the last fill episode.

Lot 4: Large rock fill. Large river cobble fill with bits of plaster, decomposing limestone and clay loam. Matrix is yellowish brown (10YR 5/4). Some stones are 50 cm in length. This is another (3rd) fill episode. The presences of pulverized, small artifacts clearly make this a secondary context. We terminated lot after 40 cm of large stones. At the base of this unit there is a different color of matrix and fewer stones. Is this yet another fill episode?

Lot 5: Large rock fill (same as above). Mostly large river cobbles, but some cut-limestone blocks, and yellowish brown fill (10YR 5/3). Matrix is decomposing limestone, bits of plaster, with larger artifacts including bajareque. This is another 40 cm deep lot. We terminated lot at looser matrix with larger sherds. In the sidewall of the unit we have exposed a cut-limestone wall running diagonally across the southwestern portion of the unit. This wall is not oriented the same as the terrace and may be associated with a buried structure or terrace underneath the top platform.

Lot 6: *In situ* refuse used as fill. Loose and moist yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) matrix with smaller cobbles as fill. This material is found to the north of Wall 1, the diagonal wall running across the southwestern portion of the unit. Large sherds are turning up in this lot and we are wondering if these sherds are coming from a deposit packed up against the wall, because the rocky matrix looks like fill. Stopped arbitrary. Wall 1 is a two course high wall is cut-limestone blocks. The cut-facing is exposed, so we are looking at the exterior of this wall. A second wall is seen in the western profile. Wall 2 appears in profile. It consists of small cut limestone blocks, possibly 6 courses high, and from this angle only 1 course wide. However, we only get a glimpse of it in the western sidewall. In the profile, it

appears to abut Wall1, but it is difficult to understand its orientation and relationship to Wall 1. Wall 2 rests on a burnt clay stratum, whereas Wall 1 is deeper.

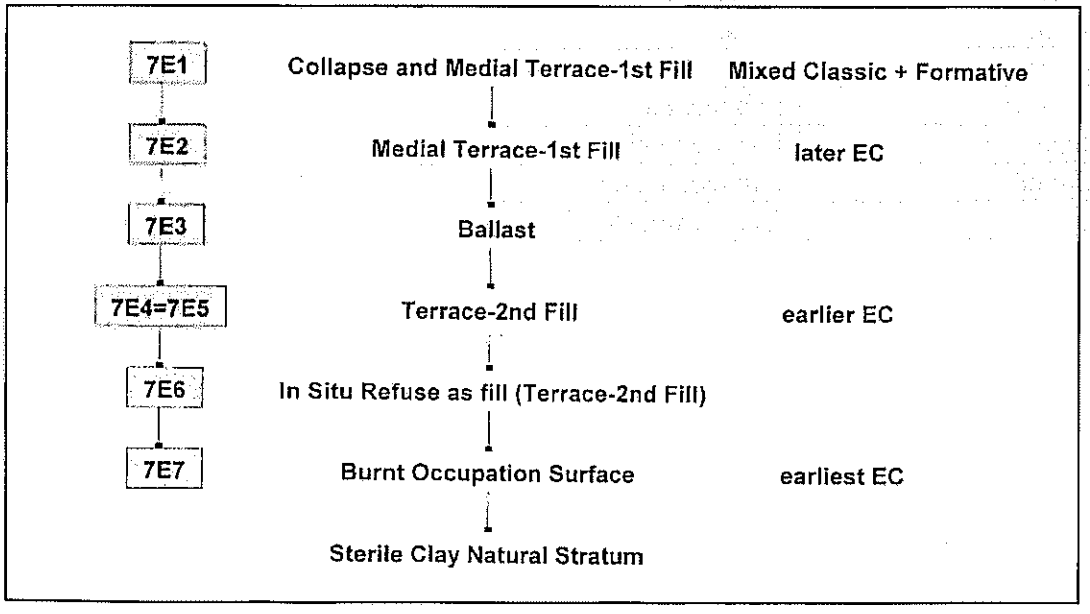
Lot 7: Ballast. Gravel and cobbles with decomposing limestone, burnt clay, and clay loam. Good radiocarbon sample taken from here. Signs of burning. This ballast is to the west of Wall 1; therefore we assume we are located on the exterior of a platform or double-faced wall. We think the house or the house platform is to the south, behind Wall 1, since to the north, we assume the landscape sloped downward. In addition, the highest platform of Str. 29 lies to the south. However, because we can't place this structure or platform in relationship to the one above that buries it, I am going to refrain from speculating exactly where or what we are in. According to the elevations, we should be close to the original ground surface. Yes, this lot terminates at sterile yellow clay. Therefore this ballast is the initial preparation for this house, house platform and/ or patio floor.

4. Describe features by lot #, and correlate feature to stratigraphy: No features, just walls: Wall 1 and Wall 2.
5. Correlate stratigraphy and/or features to contiguous units: 7B1=7C1=7D1=7E1. Humus root zones with collapse and medial terrace-1st fill.

6A. Describe architecture: Wall 1 runs diagonally across the southwestern portion of the unit and is a two course high wall with cut-limestone blocks. Most blocks are not large, but they range greatly in size. The largest is 40 cm long and 20 wide, but mostly are not so well dressed or shaped. In fact, we might be looking at a double-faced wall that was substantially modified. It is possible we are looking at a filled doorway, since blocks to the east are nicely shaped and stacked, whereas blocks to the west are smaller and more crudely formed. The cut-facing is exposed, so we are looking at the exterior face of this wall. This wall sits on sterile clay. Unfortunately, we did not sample the material behind these facing stones, so we don't have a date for the wall itself.

Wall 2 is seen only in profile in the western sidewall. It consists of small cut limestone blocks, possibly 6 courses high, and from this angle we can see only 1 face. Wall stones are nicely shaped and regular in size (approximately 30 cm wide and 10 cm high). In the profile, wall 2 appears to abut Wall1, but it is difficult to understand its orientation and relationship to Wall 1. Wall 2 rests on a burnt clay stratum, whereas Wall 1 is deeper.

6B. Describe abutments (floor to wall, wall to wall, etc): We think wall 2 abuts wall 1.
7. Disturbances/Mixing: None
8. Harris Matrix -- Diagram lots and create analytical units in stratigraphic order (list temporal phases if known):



Expenses accrued during the 2004 field season

Item	Cost (USD)
Truck rental	3353.48
Gas	368.00
Lodging & meals (Trekstop)	3229.00
Lab rental	375.00
Van service	158.00
Bodega rent	750.00
Airline ticket (one)	694.00
Supplies (bought in Belize)	887.08
Supplies (bought in US)	210.70
Labor (wages)	4230.25
Social security	346.60
IA fees	2117.50
GOB	68.00
Total	18949.61
Funding (Alabama RAC grant)	5000.00
Personal funds	13949.61

Belizeans employed in 2004

Name	job
Luis Godoy Sr.	Foreman
Leonel Panti	Excavator
Antonio Chan	Excavator
Abel Mael Chan	Ayudante
Carlos Cocom	Ayudante
Luis Godoy Jr.	Ayudante
Deneva Penados	Lab technician
Sellena Camal	Lab technician
Yolanda Camal	Lab technician
Mirla Chan	Lab technician