

**Report on the 2010 Excavations at
Marco Gonzalez, Ambergris Caye**
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PART 1:

**The 2010 Excavations at Marco
Gonzalez, Ambergris Caye**

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The 2010 Excavations at Marco Gonzalez, Ambergris Caye
Report to the Institute of Archaeology, Belize
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Introduction and Background

Introduction

The original exploration and investigations that provided the context for the 2010 excavations at Marco Gonzalez began in 1986¹ (Graham 1989; Graham and Pendergast 1987, 1989; Pendergast 1990; Pendergast and Graham 1986, 1987). Work was expanded at Marco Gonzalez, and initiated in the community of San Pedro itself, in 1990²; investigations continued for two short seasons in 1991 and 1993, during which time additional test excavations were carried out at the site of Santa Cruz and much of the southern tip of the caye was explored for other sites³ (Dunn and Mazzullo 1993; Graham 1991, 1992a, 1992b; Mazzullo, Teal and Graham 1994; Pendergast and Graham 1990a, 1990b). Although Marco Gonzalez was the original focus, a good deal of construction took place in San Pedro in the late 1980s and early 1990s. As a result, Pendergast and Graham salvaged burials and artefacts that turned up as construction proceeded. Salvage excavations were carried out where northern additions to Elvi's Restaurant are now located, as well as on the site of the shopping centre across from the Atlantic Bank, and along Middle Street just north of the Sea Turtle Gift Shop (Pendergast and Graham 1991).

In 1993, excavations were carried out in limited areas of the grounds of the Sands Hotel, owned by George and Marie Parham, located in the centre of San Pedro across from the beach park and playground (Graham and Pendergast 1994). Although the 1990 season was intended to be the first season of a long-term project, and small grants were obtained for soils and botanical work, further funding for archaeological research never materialized. The 2010 season at Marco Gonzalez was aimed specifically at assisting the local Marco Gonzalez Preservation group in drawing attention to the site as a potential archaeological and nature park, and our hope is that funding can be found to develop the site (in coordination with local and national efforts), process; interpret and permanently house the finds; and ensure that the artefacts become available for public viewing.

A number of publications on the results of analyses of data from Marco Gonzalez, San Pedro and Santa Cruz have been produced over the years. These range from palaeocoastal reconstruction (Dunn and Mazzullo 1993); marine resource studies (Emery and Graham 2003); procurement and use of chert and obsidian tools (Stemp and Graham 2006; Stemp, Graham and Goulet 2011); perspectives on Maya economy (Graham 2002); and the implications for perceptions of the Maya Postclassic period (Pendergast 1990) and for our understanding of European impact in the early colonial period (Graham 2011). In addition, the detection of the presence of distinctive soils, vegetation, sediment history and stratigraphy at Marco Gonzalez and other Belize coastal sites (e.g., Graham 1989, 1992, 1994) has stimulated a number of publications on the significance of anthropogenic soils and the importance of studying the long-term environmental impact of human activities--particularly in coastal environments--in order to be able to assess present-day goals of attaining sustainability and resilience with any security (Graham 1996, 1998, 1999a, 1999b, 2006a, 2006b).

¹ Supported by the Royal Ontario Museum.

² Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and Committee for Field Archaeology, ROM (CFFA)

³ CFFA, York University (Toronto).

In 2009, the threat from the South Beach Development (SBD) was brought to Graham's attention by Dr. Awe, and Graham was put in touch with Jan Brown, who was heading archaeological preservation efforts on Ambergris Caye. Graham, Tim Beach and Sheryl-Luzzader Beach visited the caye in May of 2009 to carry out a preliminary environmental assessment; Graham then visited the caye later in May to meet Jan Brown and discuss strategy; and in January 2010, Graham and the Beaches returned to the caye to take soil samples at Marco Gonzalez, the test results of which are forthcoming.

Graham and Simmons joined forces in the autumn of 2009 and began to strategize with Jan Brown. Although neither we nor the local organisation had access to funding, the local San Pedro group was able to provide some logistical support, and we arranged to run a field school on the island in the hope of drawing attention to the site's importance. Fifteen students from the University of North Carolina Wilmington field school and 11 students from UCL participated in the excavations, along with 5 Belizean field excavators. Given the relative inexperience of the students we did not plan to excavate large or sensitive areas, but the team proved to be uniquely capable, well organized, and extremely hard-working. We were able to add information to what we had learned in earlier years and to form more detailed questions about the history of the site that will help to structure future excavations.

What we knew about the site before 2010

Chronology

The site or locale which we now call 'Marco Gonzalez' has a long history of occupation and utilization on the caye. Sherds recovered from one of the test pits in 1986 date to Late Preclassic times--to about the time of Christ and possibly to as early as 100 B.C. Coastal sites such as Marco Gonzalez (see Graham 1994) grow circumferentially as well as vertically. Therefore we would have to run a trench across the entire site in order to pinpoint its 'centre' and original zone of occupation. Test pits in this zone would be expected to yield evidence of the earliest occupation in the lowermost levels.

Excavations so far reveal that the area was continuously and intensively occupied from Late Preclassic times until about A.D. 1250 or 1300. Sedimentological and environmental studies (Dunn and Mazzullo 1993) indicate that by this time mangrove vegetation had encroached significantly enough to discourage the site's use as a port or trading centre (Fig. 1), and its inhabitants moved to another part of the caye, most likely where the town of San Pedro is now located.

Some occupation clearly continued, however, because Late Postclassic-style low house platforms were detected in 1990, and Late Postclassic sherds can be found in surface deposits. That there were people in the area as late as the 16th century is indicated by the appliqué faces from censers

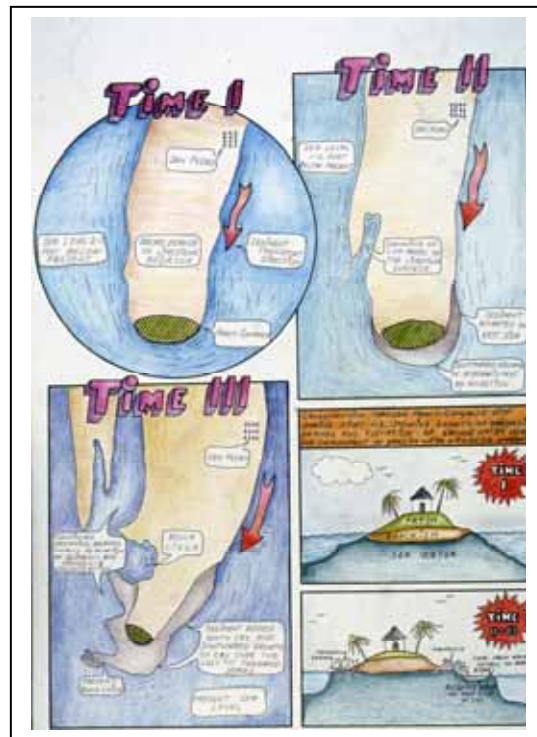


Figure 1: Artist's reconstruction of mangrove encroachment. (Drawn by Emil Huston)

deposits over the giant riser stairs of Str. 12 (Fig. 2). The style of these effigy appliqué faces is very much in keeping with those found at the mainland site of Lamanai, all of which date to the colonial period.



Figure 2: Effigy faces found in deposits overlying the giant riser stairs of Str. 12.

There is good evidence from the various excavations in San Pedro that the town was a thriving Late Postclassic centre. Colonial contact is also in evidence in the form of a few sherds of Spanish pottery. Late Postclassic pottery is abundant, however, and it is unfortunate that, to date at least, most of the material comes from disturbed deposits, although house platforms were detected in the excavations at the Sands Hotel. It is clear from excavations carried out north of the centre of San Pedro, in the region of what today is the site of Castillo's Hardware Store, that this part of the caye experienced greater depth of occupation than simply the Late Postclassic period. Burials that seem to be associated (we say this because the area was very disturbed and primary associations could not be established) with a Middle or Early Postclassic occupation turned up in this zone, as did sherds from Coconut Walk Unslipped ware, the pottery believed to have been used in the making of salt cakes during the Late Classic period.

Pottery and lithics have appeared in ditches and drainage canals from San Pedro south to Marco Gonzalez, and it is clear that Ambergris Caye was a densely occupied island in Precolumbian times. Sal Mazzullo has remarked (personal communication 1993) that the beach sands that characterize the modern leeward shore of San Pedro have accumulated rapidly in the past two to three hundred years and therefore represent relatively recent deposits. The coastline in Precolumbian times probably ran more or less along what is now Front St. (Barrier Reef Drive). Nevertheless, a small probe in 1991 through the beach sands at the south end of the island, about 10m from the shoreline, revealed Maya artefacts at approximately 60cm below the surface. This suggests, not surprisingly, that sand deposition is uneven, with some areas more heavily affected than others.

Suffice it to say, based on present evidence, that the southern part of Ambergris Caye was intensively occupied in Precolumbian times from at least the Late Preclassic through to the early Spanish colonial period.

Nature of occupation and use

Late Preclassic and Early Classic periods: Very little can be said about Preclassic occupation at this stage, except for the fact that more work needs to be done to clarify it. The pottery dating to the Early Classic comes from test pits, and almost all sherds come from below the modern water level. Surfaces are blackened and not well preserved. Comparisons with pottery recovered from similar levels, although much better preserved, at Colson Point in the Stann Creek District tell us that this was a time when ceramics seem to have been moved up and down the coast as an exchange item. Polychromes are common, as are jar types. This matches the Colson Point profile. Jars seem to be associated with water storage; the polychromes seem to have been a valued trade item. One floor was discovered in 1990 that sealed a Terminal Preclassic level and therefore is dated to the Early Classic. Only a small portion was recovered at the base of a looter's pit, however, and we have little information beyond the fact that the floor was thick and solid and well constructed.

Late Classic period: It is during the Late Classic period that we see the inhabitants of Marco Gonzalez, and elsewhere on the caye, change their focus of activity from trade in ceramics (and presumably other items such as obsidian and dried or salted fish, shell products) to intensive processing. Based on evidence found elsewhere on the Belize coast by Graham (1983, 1994), McKillop (2002), McKinnon and Kepecs (1989) and Mock (1994); and evidence on salt-making in other areas of the Yucatan Peninsula (Andrews 1983; Andrews and Mock 2002), we think that the material being processed is salt. Test pits dug in 1986 and 1990 revealed layers of charcoal alternating with red-coloured soil. The main artefact type recovered from these layers is Coconut Walk Unslipped pottery--hundreds of sherds of poorly made, unslipped shallow bowls that we think were used as moulds for salt cakes. No bowl bases have yet been discovered; all of the sherds are from the sides and lips. This suggests strongly that the bowls were set directly on or over fires and that once the water from the salt had evaporated, and the bowls were broken to remove the salt cakes, the bases disintegrated. Coconut Walk sherds have been recovered in abundance from several locales on the island, including the site noted above in San Pedro Town. All indications are that the salt processing was not a subsistence activity but instead was a major export industry. Whether the salt travelled around Yucatan or south to Honduras or mostly to inland Late Classic Maya cities is unknown, but there is the strong suggestion that the success of Late Classic centres, even in Peten, was somehow intertwined with the salt trade.

With regard to trade in items other than salt, there is very little evidence. The only polychromes that show up consistently, although in very small numbers, in association with the salt processing deposits are small fragments of Late Classic cylindrical vases. Were these items moved along the coast as trade or exchange items? Are the sherds we recovered from vases that broke in transit? And why are there only these vases, whereas in the Early Classic, many types and kinds of polychrome bowls were transported up and down the coast of Belize?

Terminal Classic or Epiclassic period (A.D. 800-1000): Evidence tells us that the salt industry on the island declined in the latter part of the 8th century. At Marco Gonzalez, salt processing deposits are overlain by Structures 12 and 14, and excavations in 2010 (see below) indicate that salt processing may underlie many of the visible structures at the site. Str. 14 has burials interred beneath its floor that date largely to the Terminal Classic period (Fine Orange ware, plumbate, Teabo Red), although the earliest burials (as revealed in 2010) are of Late Classic date.

The demise of the salt processing industry seems not to have dented the activities of Marco Gonzalez's inhabitants. They turn again to trade in an array of items: ceramics, lithics, and obsidian. Green obsidian suggests connections with central Mexico, plumbate pottery with highland Guatemala and El Salvador and Teabo Red and Fine Orange pottery with Yucatan. Burials

(ca. 35) are almost all face-down with the legs bent back at the knees, and usually with lower limbs crossed. There is one exception--a child on his back with his legs crossed. A change in worldview of some kind seems the most likely explanation, and it might tie the Marco Gonzalez inhabitants to broader trends such as those seen at Chichen Itza (Ringle et al. 1998, 2004).

Early Postclassic period (A.D. 1000 to 1250): A great deal in the way of Buk-phase pottery, best known and described at Lamanai (Pendergast 1982, Graham 1987) but officially named by Deborah Walker at Cerros as Zakpah Orange-red and Zalal Gouge-incised, has been found at Marco Gonzalez. It has not yet been found in primary contexts, however. Most has been recovered from the surface, where it is common everywhere on the site, or from the large shell mounds at the site's periphery. The 'mounds' are the remains of platforms built up of shells and stone, with the shells used as core material and the stones as facings. The bulk of the sherds from amongst the shells forming the cores of these structures are forms of Zakpah-group pottery. Given present evidence, it is hard to say whether the sherds were swept up in debris used as core, or we are looking at percolation through what once were surfaces or floors of the shell-built platforms. Sherds of Zakpah-group pottery have been found on the surface and in mixed deposits in the areas of Structures 12 and 14, and it would seem that the phase in which the Zakpah group pottery was made and used post-dated the Terminal Classic, but the disturbed contexts in which the pottery was recovered do not permit a more refined assessment.

Late Postclassic to colonial period (A.D. 1250 to 1600): As noted above, two or three platforms were detected in 1986 and 1990 that reflect Late Postclassic construction style--tabular stones set on-end to form a low platform face with other tabular stones placed horizontally to 'cap' the line of the face. A few sherds were also recovered from Tulum Red-style bowls, indicating that people indeed resided at the site in the Late Postclassic, but it no longer served as a major port facility. The only colonial-period remains, as noted above, were recovered from the stairs of Str. 12 in the form of effigy human faces that had been applied to censers.

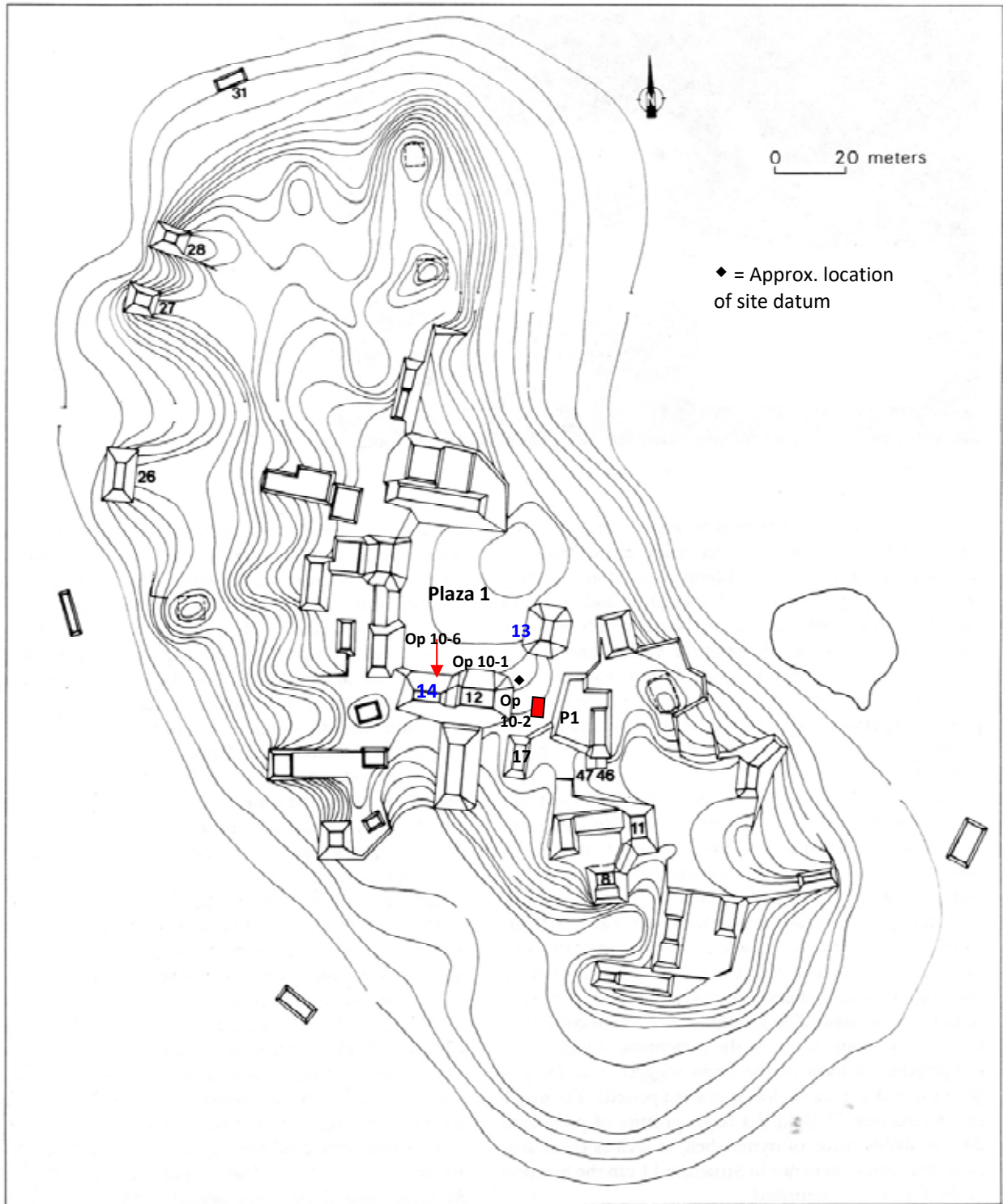
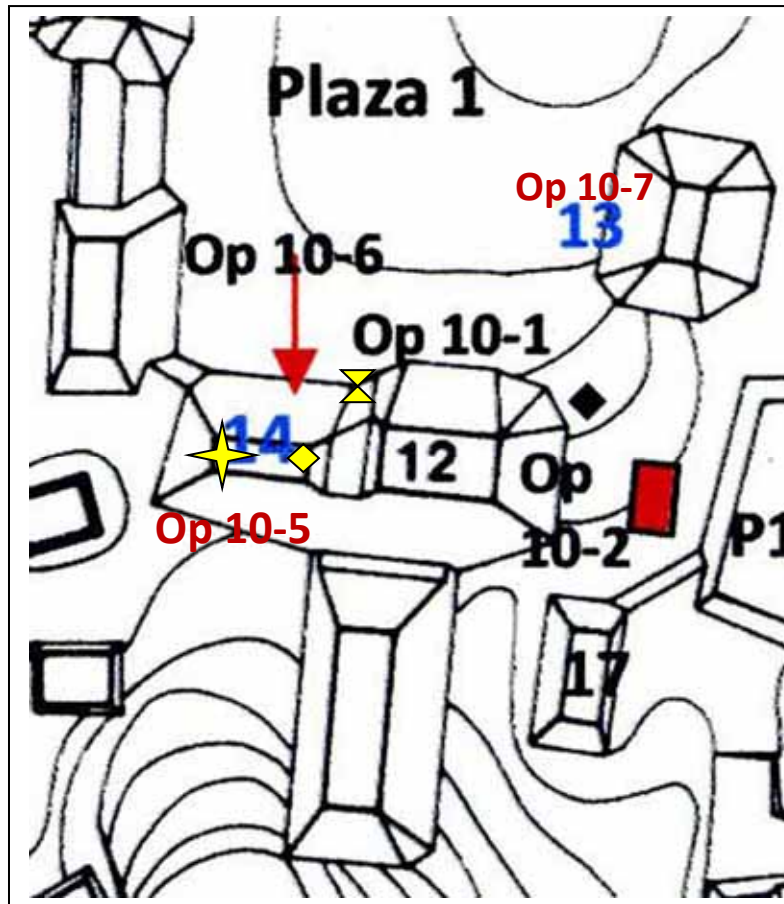


Figure 3a: Map of the Marco Gonzalez site (C. Belanger 1986)



★ Op 10-4

◆ Op 10-3

⌘ Op 10-8

Figure 3b: Focus on Structures 12 and 14 showing approximate locations of the operations in 2010.

The 2010 Initiative

(Refer to Table 1 for operation descriptions)

Description of the operations (Fig. 3a,b)

Excavations in 2010 were aimed initially at learning more about salt processing activity. However, since the salt processing levels lie beneath rather substantial Terminal Classic construction, we knew that there would be logistical challenges to face. Also, because we were running a field school we did not want to venture into new or sensitive areas of the site. Past excavations--and a looters' trench--had revealed salt processing levels beneath both Str. 12 and Str. 14. Because Graham and Pendergast had excavated portions of Strs. 12 and 14 in the past, our hope was that we would be able to clear their infill and the recent surface accumulation over the previously excavated areas and get down immediately to the salt-processing layers.

This was not to be the case, however, because strata representing decayed floors of Str. 14 continued to a depth greater than anticipated, and several burials were encountered. Because the burials were close to the surface and in danger of being disturbed and looted, we decided that it made sense to excavate them and add the data, which included reconstructable vessels and one complete pot, to what we were learning about the Late Classic to Terminal Classic transition on the island. (See Figure 3a,b and Table 1: **Ops 10-3, 10-4, 10-5**)

In the case of Str. 12, the giant stair risers (not present on Str. 14) proved to extend along the entire plaza-facing side, and we decided in this case to excavate on the that side in order to learn more about the sequence of occupation/activity at this locale. (**Op 10-1, 10-8**).

We also extended clearing operations to Str. 13 (**Op 10-7**) to recover more data on the appearance of the platforms and perhaps their function; and, as originally intended, we initiated two operations geared to exploring salt processing. One operation picked up where Graham and Pendergast left off in 1990, along the primary axis of Str. 14 on the plaza-facing side beneath what had once been a stair, where salt levels were encountered in 1990 (**Op 10-6**); and another operation (**Op 10-2**) was situated in an area peripheral to Plaza 1, just beyond its southeastern limits between Str. 12 and P1, the platform of an adjacent group (see red rectangle on Figure 3), on the assumption that there would be less overburden here, which would make the salt processing levels more accessible.

| Operation | Structure(s) | Explanation |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10-1 | Str. 12 | Architectural clearing of stair risers; investigation of relationship of Str. 12 to plaza surface; test pit in area of plaza to determine stratigraphic sequence. |
| 10-2 | Between Str. 12 & P1 | Exploratory test situated in a piece of flat ground just to the southeast of Str. 12 and between Str. 12 and a platform designated P1 (see the map, Fig. 3a); the intent was to determine whether salt processing levels occurred here and whether they would be more easily accessible than those beneath Strs. 12 and 14. |
| 10-3 | Str. 14 | Investigation of remains, structural or otherwise, associated with the superstructure that once stood on the platform surface (eastern half). |
| 10-4 | Str. 14 | Investigation of remains, structural or otherwise, associated with the superstructure that once stood on the platform surface (western half) |
| 10-5 | Str. 14 | Clearing the south face of the platform, west side. |
| 10-6 | Str. 14 | N face of the platform, transverse (primary) axis, re-opening of 1990 test trench to access salt-processing levels. |
| 10-7 | Str. 13 | Clearing of plaza-facing side of structure to expose terrace faces and/or stair. |
| 10-8 | Strs. 12, 14 | Clearing the passageway that separates Str. 12 from Str. 14; includes some clearing of terrace faces of respective platforms. |

Table 1: Marco Gonzalez excavation operations, 2010.

| Data points | Description | Horizontal | Vertical |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Site Datum | Concrete benchmark placed in 1990 at NE corner of Str. 12; NO E0 or N1000, E1000 | NO, E0 N1000, E1000 | Arbitrary 0 |
| Datum 10-A | Nail found in gumbo limbo tree at SE corner of Op 10-4; used in 1990 | | 2.38m above Site Datum |
| Datum 10-B | Op 10-1, arbitrary point on palm tree at SE corner of Op 10-1, E test pit | | 1.00m above Site Datum |
| Datum 10-C | NE corner of Op 10-2 at ground surface | | 1.25m above Site Datum |
| Datum 10-D | Op 10-7, arbitrary point on tree in proximity of stair risers | | 1.65m above Site Datum |

Table 2: Datum Points in 2010

Interim summary of excavation results

In the paragraphs below, we summarise the results of the excavations. The information is organised by structure and/or operation. Some operations bridged structures, whereas in other circumstances more than one operation contributed to our knowledge of a structure.

Structure 14 (Ops 10-3, 10-4, 10-5, 10-8)

Str. 14 measures about 13m by 7.2m, although with so much collapse it is difficult to know its precise dimensions. It has been highly disturbed by roots, animal burrowing, uprooted trees, and looting activities. Stone from collapse surrounds the structure. Some faces collapsed naturally but many were dismantled as part of looting efforts. Looters exploit the site not only for artefacts but also for the black soil for which the site is well known. This means that there are holes everywhere: at the top, side, and base of the structure.

What remains is a relatively low (just under 2m) stone-faced platform that once supported a wooden superstructure, although given the fragmentary remains of a number of successive floors, the superstructure was probably rebuilt a number of times over the years. Access to Str. 14 from the plaza was on the north side (see Fig. 3a,b), as indicated by the presence of a central stair, ca. 1.5m wide. It is difficult to be certain, but it appears that there were at least two terrace faces on the north side and at least two on the south side. So much of the platform lies buried, however, that a third terrace face may lie below present ground level on the south side. On the north side, we did not quite reach the level of the plaza surface, but evidence from the excavation of the north side of Str. 12, where we did reach the plaza, suggests that we did not have far to go, which means that there were only two terrace faces on Str. 14's north side. There was some evidence from the south side of Str. 14, recovered from the excavations carried out in 1990, that the terrace faces now exposed had been covered by a construction phase in which the platform's faces were battered, which could be said to be a Postclassic phenomenon. It might never be possible to elucidate this later phase, however, owing to the extent to which the structure has been disturbed by looters on the south side. What we can say is that there is no evidence that giant riser stairs, such as those characterizing Str. 12 and Str. 13, were ever added.

Numerous individuals were interred beneath successive floors of the building, which suggests that Str. 14 served as a residence. No clear ritual architectural features have yet been recovered to suggest a ceremonial function, although Burial 14/35 included a shell quincunx. The nature of the burial accompaniments (see below) also indicates that the residents must have been fairly well off. They could be lumped with what are traditionally referred to in Maya studies as "elites," which was in fact what was proposed in 1990 (Pendergast and Graham 1990: 4). Given what has since

been learned, however, about the collapse of the Classic-period dynasties of the central Maya lowlands (Demarest, Rice and Rice 2004), and given the dating of the burials and the stratigraphy of Str. 14 (see discussion below) it is possible that the inhabitants of Str. 14 were merchants or traders and therefore represent a middle class.

We know from earlier excavations that there were at least 7 and possibly as many as 10 floors in Str. 14 (Pendergast and Graham 1990a: 4). Thirty-one (31) burials were recovered from Str. 14 in 1990 (Pendergast and Graham 1990a: 3) and a further 7 were encountered in 2010, although only 3—Burials 14/32, 14/34 and 14/35--were articulated and completely excavated. The remaining four burials are represented by partial and fragmentary remains recovered during the excavation of Burials 14/32, 34, and 35 (see Table 3). Of the 31 burials recovered in 1990, all but one were buried face down (prone) with the knees flaring and the lower legs crossed. The exception was a child who was buried face up (supine) with knees flaring and lower legs crossed. Of the articulated 2010 burials, two (Burials 14/32 and 14/35) were buried supine, knees flared and lower legs crossed, and a third (Burial 14/34) was buried prone, knees flared and lower legs crossed.

| Structure | Burial No. | Brief description | Primary Lot No. |
|-----------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 14 | 14/32 | Op 10-3, near north edge of platform; supine, legs 'frogged', N-S , grave goods | MG 320 |
| 14 | 14/33 | Op 10-3, just E of Bur 14/32, incomplete | MG 332 |
| 14 | 14/34 | Op 10-4, roughly in the centre of the platform surface just W of the transverse axis; face down, prone, legs 'frogged' | MG 333 |
| 14 | 14/35 | Op 10-3, beneath Bur 14/32, supine, legs 'frogged', oriented E-W, grave goods | MG 341 |
| 14 | 14/36 | Op 10-3, sub-adult just SE of Bur 14/35 | MG 346 |
| 14 | 14/37 | Op 10-3, skull fragments only were removed; remainder not excavated. | MG 345 |
| 14 | 14/38 | Op 10-3, phalanges and fragment of mandible (remainder left in situ) | MG 354 |

Table 3: Burials, 2010

Burial 14-32 (Fig. 4a-f) lay close to the mid-line of Str. 14 at its northern edge (ca 20cm below ground surface in 2010 but ca 45 cm below original ground surface in 1990.) The burial was supine, face-up with knees flared and lower legs crossed. The head lay to the north. A pedestal-based, orange-red slipped, tulip-shaped vase was found at the individual's left (east) side, adjacent to the left shoulder.



Figure 4a: Burial 14/32. Note the left arm positioned over the torso with left hand on upper part of right arm. View E.

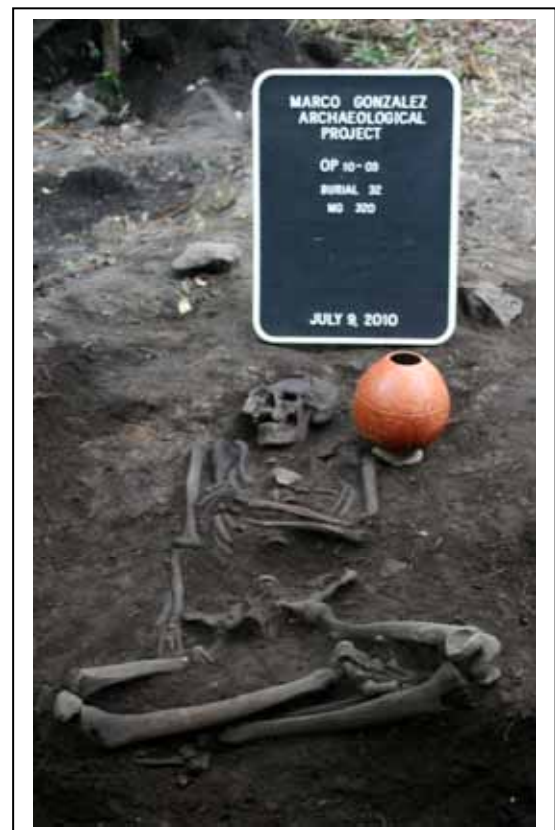


Figure 4b: Burial 14/32 View N.



Figure 4c: Burial 14/32 looking west showing floor cuts as well as the altered skull.



Figure 4d: Burial 14/32 close-up of altered skull



Figure 4e: Burial 14/32 showing vessel *in situ* on individual's upper left arm, leaning slightly towards the body. Skull can be seen in the bright patch of sunlight.



Figure 4f: Burial 14/32 showing close-up of left arm and hand on upper right arm.

Burial 14-33 was found within the vicinity of Burial 14-32, at its SE edge, but had been disturbed in ancient times and was highly fragmentary. The bone fragments were removed to access Burials 14/32 and 14/36 (See Fig. 8a,b for humerus, radius and ulna resting on a humerus of Burial 14/36).

Burial 14-34 (Fig. 5a,b) lay just west of the transverse axis of Str. 14, more or less in the centre of the building, ca 20cm bgs (this side of Str. 14 was not excavated in 1990). The burial was oriented N-S. The individual was buried face-down with the knees flared, lower legs crossed and head to the N. Two lip-to-lip pottery vessels were discovered about 35-40 cm to the burial's east, but this is enough distance to make it doubtful that the pottery is associated with the burial, although for the time being the vessels share the burial lot number (MG 333).

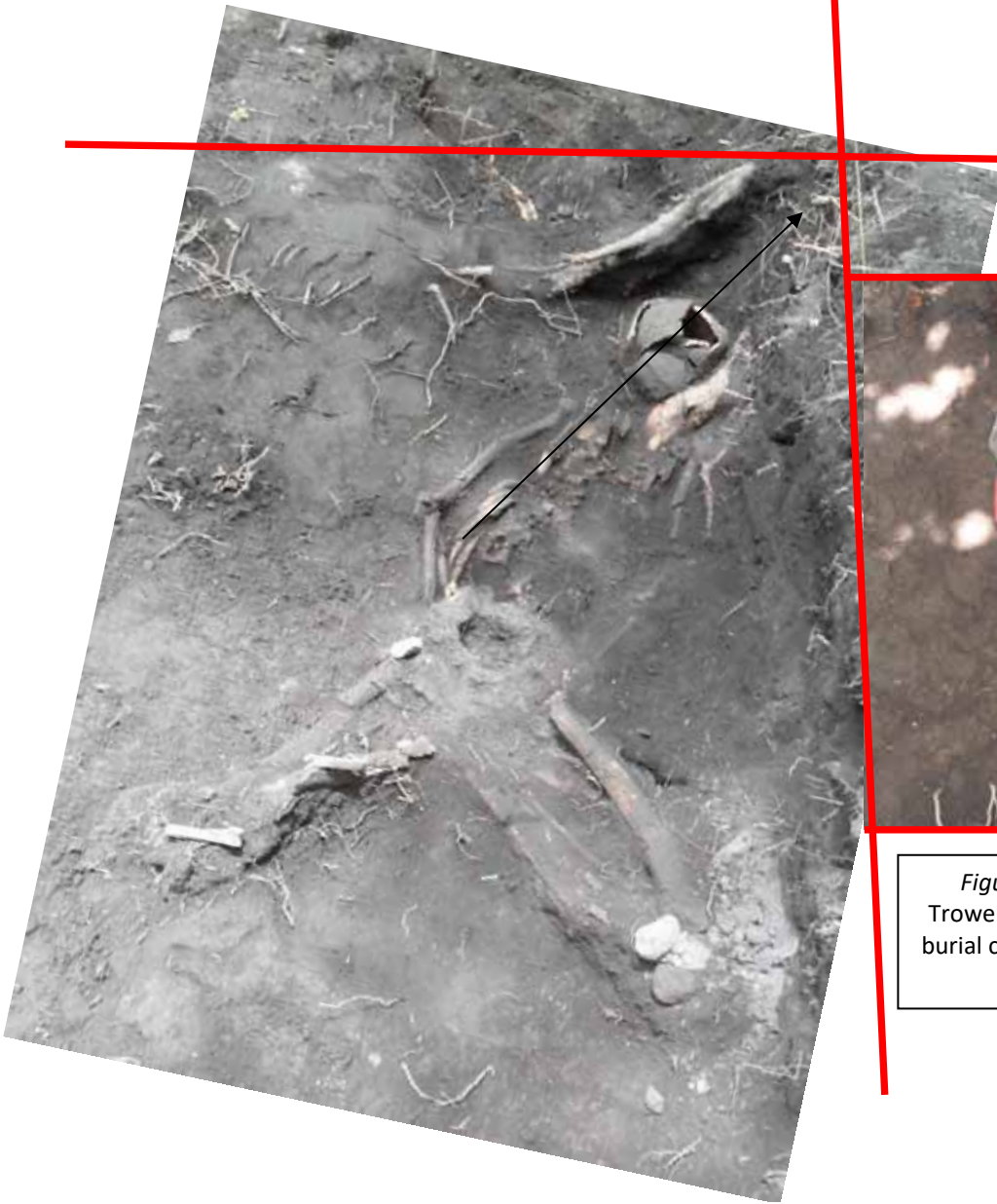


Figure 5a: Burial 14/34
Trowel points North; head of
burial ca. 20 cm below ground
surface.



Figure 5b: Burial 14/34
Photo looks east.

Burial 14-35 (Fig. 6a,b) lay just south of Burial 14-32 at about the same level. Like Burial 14/32, the individual was on his/her back but in this case oriented E-W, with the head to the E, knees flared and lower legs crossed. Three shells—1 *Melongena* sp. and 2 West Indian chank shells (*Turbinella angulata*) formed an edge to the grave-cut, and can be seen to the right of the individual's skull in Fig. 6a. Unfortunately our photographs for this burial are not clear owing to the difficult weather conditions on the day, but once our drawings are finalized, these should make up for any deficiencies in the photos.



Figure 6a,b:
Burial 14/35; photo on the left looks W; photo on the right looks E. Burial objects can be more clearly seen in the photo on the left. The *Melongena* sp. lies just to the right of the individual's skull. The animal skull and artefacts lie just to the left of the mid-section partly on the left arm.



No pottery vessels are associated with the burial, but a range of other artefacts/ecofacts served as burial accompaniments in addition to the three unworked shells noted above:

- A bone spatulate object that may be a weaving implement
- The skull of a small mammal
- A shell point?
- An unidentified conch shell, unworked
- Two spent obsidian cores
- A perforated olive shell (*Oliva* sp.)
- A carved shell adornment, quincunx in style
- A shell button or game piece



Figure 7b: Close-up of quincunx and possible shell inlay, Bur 14/35,



Figure 7a: The nine objects from Bur 14/35, MG 341. The animal skull broke into two fragments and only one fragment is shown.

Burial 14-36 was a sub-adult that lay just SE of Burial 14/35 and was complete. Burial 14-37 is a designation applied to skull fragments (skull face-down) recovered ca. 25-30 cm N of Burial 14-36 (Fig. 8b). Burial 14-38 is the designation applied to phalanges believed to be associated with a mandible fragment which was left in situ, but later pillaged.

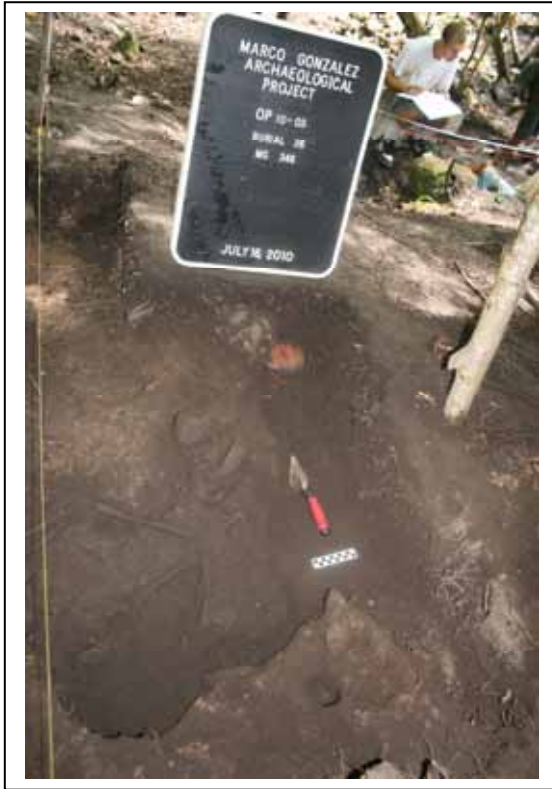


Figure 8a: Burial 14/36 lies just to the left of the trowel, which points N. The individual in the upper right is recording a terrace face on the north side of Str. 14.



Figure 8b: Some of the sub-adult bones of Burial 14/36 can be seen more clearly in this photo. The red arrow points to the east (head) end of the burial cut of 14/37.

We had hoped in 2010 to clear away the remaining floor fragments of Str. 14 over its eastern half (where the 1990 excavations had focused) to reveal the underlying salt processing levels. (Prior test pits suggested that piles of salt-processing debris formed the core of the Str. 14 platform.) Graham's assumption was that the entire eastern half of the surface of Str. 14 had been excavated in 1990, but this assumption turned out to be wrong, and fragmented floor surfaces continued below where we thought in 1990 that they ended. It also turned out that the platform surface was larger than we had measured in 1990. It seems to have been extended slightly to the north as part of a late construction phase, but this was hard to delineate owing to collapse on the north side. As noted above, in 1990 we discovered that a battered face was constructed over earlier terrace faces on the south side, and it may be that what we revealed in 2010 was the platform floor surface that had been extended to coordinate with the re-facing of the platform. No battered face was detected on the north side; however collapse and disturbance on this side was considerable, and some answers may lie beneath the material if it becomes possible to dig down to the original plaza surface at its juncture with the base of Str. 14.

Combining the information from earlier and recent excavations suggests that the period of occupation in which individuals were interred beneath successive floors of Str. 14 extended from the end of the Late Classic through the Terminal Classic period. Figures 9, 10 and 11 depict the three complete vessels recovered from burials in 2010, although only the jar from Burial 14/32 was found whole.



Figure 9: Bur 14/32, MG 320



Figure 10: MG Bur 14/34, lower vessel, MG 333



Figure 11: MG Bur 14/34, upper vessel, MG 333

Figures 12-14 show some of the burial accompaniments recovered during excavations in 1990. Terminal Classic styles are in evidence here, such as the plumbate hunchback vessel, the Fine Orange vase and the Teabo Red (tentative identification) tripod vessel.



Figure 12:
Plumbate jar, hunchback



Figure 13: Fine Orange Vase



Figure 14: Teabo Red (?) tripod jar

The Teabo Red tripod jar was found in a burial that included bones re-deposited from six other burials. Given the position of the jar atop the chest area of one individual, the implication was that the jar, too, was originally interred in previous burial. The plumbate hunchback jar and the Fine Orange vase could not be linked to a specific burial owing to disturbance.

The pottery types and styles taken together thus indicate a Late to Terminal Classic date for the use of Str. 14, from about 750/800 to perhaps 950/1000. Evidence from the 2010 excavations suggests, as did that from 1990, that Str. 14 was modified during this period, with the latest modifications possibly dating to as late as the beginning of the 11th century. Unfortunately Str. 14 has been disturbed to an extreme degree by both the ancients (in the process of successively burying people under the floors) and moderns (in mining soil). In addition, a huge amount of soil has accumulated on the former plaza surfaces with which Str. 14 is associated, which means that a

great deal of earth removal would be necessary to clear the structure in order to make sense of its faces and their modifications.

Early Postclassic Buk-phase pottery fragments similar to the Buk-phase Zakpah group ceramics from Lamanai have been found in the core of a terrace face, and extensively on the surface of Str. 14. This suggests that there was Early Postclassic activity associated with Str. 14, but the surfaces of the structure were too disturbed and we have not been able to determine if there was an Early Postclassic building on the Str. 14 platform, although the presence of the sherds strongly suggests this. Complete clearing of the structure and its remaining faces as well as clearing of Str. 12 and Str. 14's connections to Str. 12 would be necessary to determine the nature of Postclassic activity.

Structure 12 and its history (Ops 10-1, 10-8) (Adapted from Lindsay 2011) (Excavation photos in this section taken by Amy Lindsay)

Structure 12, like Structure 14, comprises multiple construction phases, and we were only able to examine its latest phase. Although Str. 12 is composed of a stone-faced platform, its superstructure(s) were made of wood. Plaster floors at one time capped the platform, but as was the case with Str. 14, these were fragmentary, and decomposed. The giant riser stairs (see below) and possibly the 16th-century effigy fragments found in 1986 (noted above) suggest that this structure served, and perhaps was known long after to have served, a ritual rather than a residential function.

One burial was recovered from beneath the surface (former floor) of Str. 12 in 1990. The vessel associated with it was a utilitarian-type jar and was therefore not as distinctive as the beautifully slipped jars recovered from the Str. 14 burials. There are indications that the two structures were contemporaneous and continued to be used and occupied for many years, but of the two, only Str. 12 exhibited the addition of distinctive giant riser stairs. The giant riser stairs at Lamanai date to the end of the Terminal Classic and to the Early Postclassic period; therefore one hypothesis is that they represent an 11th to 12th century addition to Str. 12. Certainly a large quantity of Buk-phase vessel sherds was found during clearing of the stairs and in the excavation of deposits above the plaza on the north side of Str. 12.



Figure 15



Figure 16



Figure 15: Shows the students just beginning work in Area A, Op 10-1. Jenny is seated on one of the stair risers that would be found to be associated with the plaza floor. Athena continues cleaning stair risers while Amy and Kyle are taking notes. The photo looks E.

Figure 16: Fragment of an obsidian point (biface?); from MG 310, the lot which incorporates material found while cleaning around the stair risers.

Figure 17: Here Jenny can be seen exposing Str. 12's plaza floor on the west side of Area B, Op 10-1. She is sitting on collapse from Str. 12. Str. 12 is to the viewer's left (Jenny's right); photo looks W.

One of the goals in 2010 was to expose more of the front (plaza-facing) side of Str. 12 to determine the extent of the giant risers. It turned out that they spanned the entire front of the platform (rather than, for example, forming a central stair). We could not expose Str. 12's earlier face, so we do not know if terraced faces underlay the giant risers.

Another of the goals was to see if we could tie the stair risers to a plaza surface. If we could, it would mean that the risers were part of construction that dated to a time when the community was still thriving and its plaza floors were maintained. There was always the possibility that the giant risers represented some Late Postclassic revisiting of the site rather than actual habitation and use. The excavators worked hard at what began to seem a thankless task, but ultimately were able to expose a small but significant patch of plaster that indeed lapped up onto the bottom-most stair riser and could thereby be associated with Str. 12 in its giant stair riser phase. This suggests, as noted above, that the stairs represent an Early Postclassic phenomenon.

We also wanted to know whether the plaza and giant risers represent the earliest occupation at this location, or tests might indicate other activities. The excavation area established to expose the giant riser stairs and to find the plaza floor was not extensive, which made any features discovered through deeper soundings rather limited and difficult to interpret. After digging down below the level of the plaza, however, excavators encountered a burnt orange-coloured level that in all its characteristics matched the burnt surfaces associated with salt processing. Coconut Walk Unslipped sherds associated with salt-processing turned up, but so did a sherd or two dating to Early Classic and even Preclassic times. Clearly the deposits are disturbed, but they do provide an indication of the time-depth of occupation at this locale.

Op 10-1

Work began on Str. 12 (Fig. 18) by clearing around the stair risers and the plaza directly in front (north) of the structure. Attempts were made to follow the stair risers to their junctions with the east and west sides of the Str. 12 platform. Although more soil needs to be removed to clarify construction, the evidence so far indicates that the risers actually extend the entire length of Str. 12.



Figure 18: Stair risers of Str. 12, north side, view looking SE.

The risers themselves are rather roughly fashioned (see Fig. 18). **Op 10-8**, which was designed to clear between Strs. 12 and 14, revealed portions of Str. 12's western platform face, which is composed of cut stone blocks (Fig. 19). Further excavation is necessary, but the implications are that the cut stones represent an earlier phase of Str. 12 construction and were associated with a platform face that is now overlain by the stair risers.



Figure 19:
Cut stones forming the west face of the Str. 12 platform. View ENE.



Figure 20: Op 10-1, Area A, view NE.

The area in front of Str. 12 was marked out as a 2.7m by 5.8m excavation (Fig. 20). Ultimately work concentrated on the east (Area A) and west (Area B) ends; each area measured ca. 2m x 1.5m with a baulk left between. The NE corner of Area A, at ground surface, served as Datum C. We also had a datum point, Datum B, represented by a nail hammered into a palm standing on the east side of the test pit (see arrow in Fig. 20); the nail was 80cm above ground surface (a.g.s.). Measured from the site datum (0,0) established in 1986 (a cement column with a rebar positioned east of Str. 12), Datum B was 27.8m from 0,0 at 256 degrees. The NE corner of Op 10-1 (Area A) stood at 2cm below site datum (0,0)—measured from the surface of the cement column.

Stratigraphy was poor owing to roots and the activities of burrowing crabs. Even if the surface of the test area was cleaned and smoothed at end of day, the next morning it would be riddled with crab holes.



Figure 21: Str. 12, Op 10-1: North section of Area A.

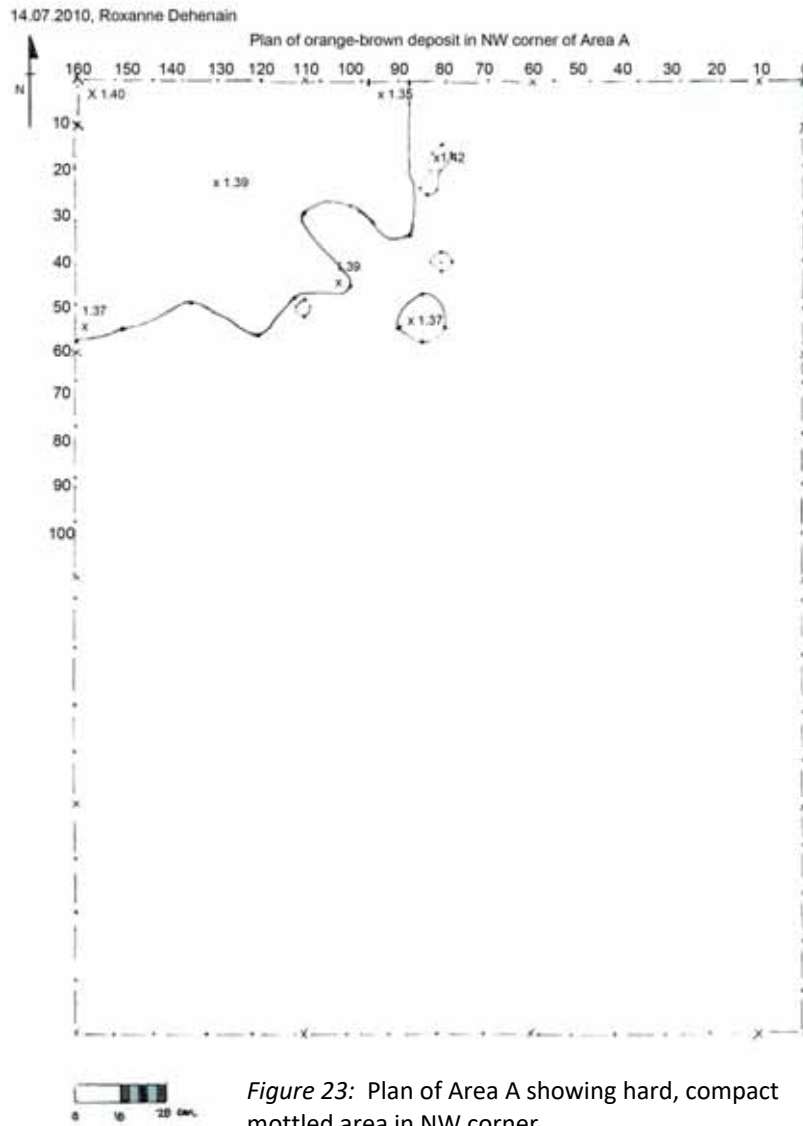


Figure 22: Plaza floor abutting Str. 12.

MG 310, not shown in Fig. 21, represents the deposit cleared around the stair risers as well as collapse north of the risers. (Some of the surface deposit in Area B was included in **MG 310** but not in Area A.) **MG 313** (Fig. 21) represents the thick, dark deposit, ca. 20-30cm in depth, that accumulated above the remains of a plaza floor (**MG 321**). **MG 313** occurred across the excavated areas (A & B) except for the SW corner of Area A where large stones remained, apparently collapse from Str. 12. The plaza floor, **MG 321**, was patchy and poorly preserved; it was best preserved in Area B (Figs. 17, 22) but appeared in Area A (Fig. 20) as a resistant/compacted but eroded surface. The floor lay at 111.5cm (1.115m) below Datum B in Area B, and at 1.105m below Datum B in Area A, which is about 30 cm b.g.s. It abutted the lowermost riser of Str. 12 in Area B.

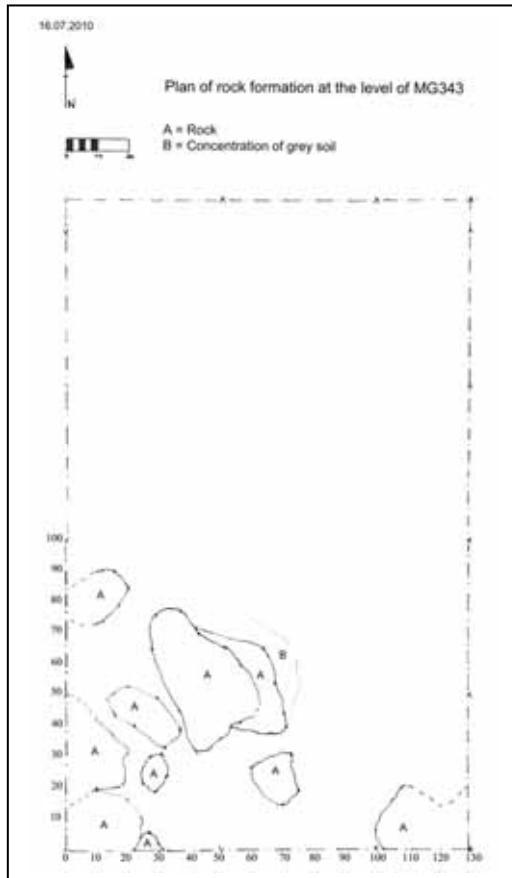
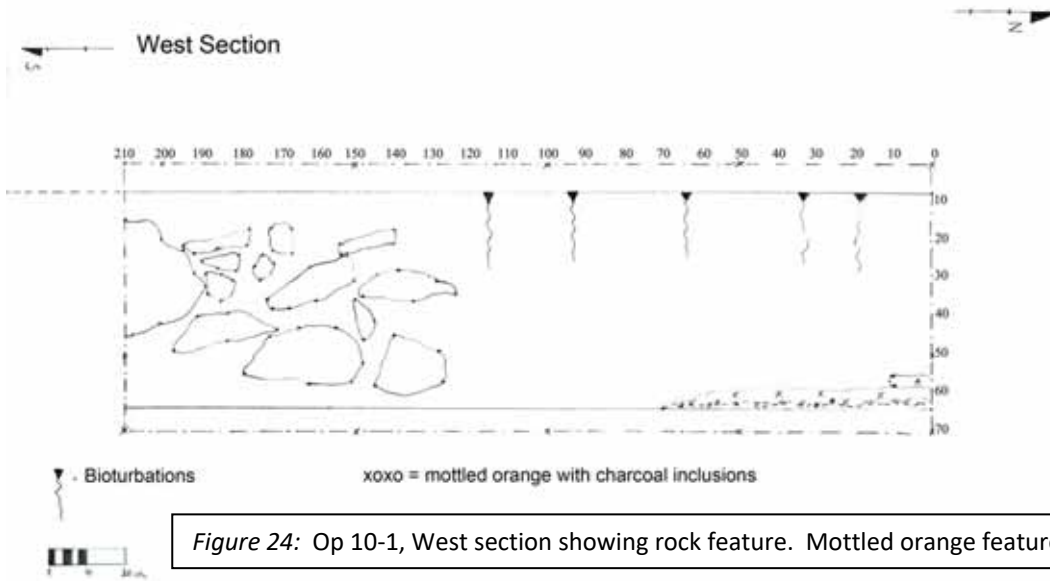
Below the plaza floor level, **MG 334** (10cm) and **MG 336** (10cm+) (Fig. 21) represent an arbitrary distinction. Both were dark brown and almost black in colour, similar to **MG 313**, which reflects heavy disturbance and possibly exposure to the elements. A slight colour change was noted at the base of **MG 336**. The soil changed from the dark brown colour of previous layers to a light grey colour, **MG 338**, which may reflect a greater admixture of limestone/reefstone construction material (ca. 20-30cm thick). One interpretation would be that **MG 338** represents all that is left of construction that pre-dates that with which the **MG 321** floor is associated, with **MG 336** and **334** reflecting abandonment or absence of activity at this location. In the NW corner of Area A, a light brown, sandy, compact area of soil was encountered (Fig. 23) but remained restricted. Large stones in the SW corner of Area A continued to be found at this depth.

MG 343 was the lot number assigned when mottling was first noted along the northern side of Area A, with possible associated burning activity. **MG 343** was a light orange/orange-brown colour (ca. 20cm thick). At this same level, around the rocks in the SW corner, a light grey ashy deposit was in evidence.



MG 348 was the designation given to the sand layers as the orange colour became consistent (ca 20-40cm in thickness). These layers are believed to be associated with salt processing activities; the orange colour comes both from burning and from the disintegration of vessels used in the process of making salt cakes. At this level, about 160 cm b.g.s., the excavation was ended for the season. An attempt was made to clean the rocks in the SW corner (**MG 349**) to determine their function, but time was too limited. What we can say is that the stones seem to be the fill of a pit-like feature, possibly a large posthole but conceivably a burial. The feature was about 70cm in diameter (see Figs. 24, 25), and lay in a matrix of what appeared to be ash. The uppermost stones protruded above the level of the plaza floor **MG 321**, which suggests that the feature post-dates construction and use of Str. 12 and its plaza floor.

17.07.2010



Artefacts

MG 310, 313: Pottery, conch shells and a broken obsidian point (Fig. 16) were found. The ceramics remain to be analysed; Preclassic and Classic pottery are represented but Lamanai Buk-phase-like pottery is the most easily recognisable.

MG 321: A jade ‘button’ (Fig. 26) and jade bead were found as part of this lot, as was a perforated shell adornment (Fig. 27); fine sieving revealed fish bones and small shells. Chert artefacts were also recovered from a grey soil deposit at this level.



Figure 26: Jade ‘button’ from MG 321.



Figure 27: Perforated shell from MG 321.

| MG 321 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Type | Date | Quantity |
| Utilitarian vessels | | |
| Arrowhead/wide-mouthed jars | Terminal Classic or later | 2 |
| Body fragment-Ram Jam Red on White | Protoclassic or Early Classic | 1 |
| Coconut Walk bowl/dish | Late Classic | 20 |
| Striated body sherds | Mixed | 54 |
| Utilitarian unslipped body sherds | Mixed | 69 |
| Serving vessels | | |
| Bichrome rounded bowl | Classic | 1 |
| Medial flanges from bowls | Proto, Early Classic | 2 |
| Nondescript rounded bowls, monochrome | Classic | 4 |
| Ring bases | Middle to Late Classic | 2 |
| Button foot tripod base (volcanic ash temper) | Late Classic | 1 |
| Monochrome black slip | Late Classic | 1 |
| High quality body sherd | | 1 |
| Outcurving jar sherd | Early Postclassic | 1 |
| Narrow-mouthed jars | | 2 |
| Censer fragment, pie-crust appliqué | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Incised body sherds | | 2 |
| Base fragments | | 2 |
| Slipped body sherds | | 95 |

MG 334 and 336:

| MG 334 | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Type | Date | Quantity |
| <i>Utilitarian vessels</i> | | |
| Red-necked mother | Late Classic | 1 |
| Arrowhead rim jars | Terminal Classic or later | 3 |
| Wide-mouthed jar | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Coconut Walk dish/bowl | Late Classic | 1 |
| Brazier dish fragment | Postclassic | 1 |
| Coarse ware body sherd | | 1 |
| Prop from censer | Middle to Late Postclassic | 1 |
| Striated body sherds | Mixed | 28 |
| Plain body sherds | Mixed | 21 |
| <i>Serving vessels</i> | | |
| Polychrome rounded bowl | Classic | 1 |
| Monochrome rounded bowl | Classic | 1 |
| Ring bases of dishes/bowls | Late Terminal Classic | 5 |
| Narrow mouthed jars, orange | Terminal to Early Postclassic | 2 |
| Narrow mouthed jars, other | Mixed | 3 |
| Buk-style orange incised rounded bowl | Early Postclassic | 1 |
| MG 336 | | |
| <i>Utilitarian vessels</i> | | |
| Red-necked mother wide-mouthed jar | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Thick-walled collared rim (Mayapan-style) jar | Postclassic? | 1 |
| Jar fragment | Early Classic | 1 |
| Striated body sherds | Early and Late Classic | 10 |
| Non-slipped body sherds | Mixed | 12 |
| <i>Serving vessels</i> | | |
| Red-slipped tecomate sherd | Classic | 1 |
| Ourcurving dish | Classic | 1 |
| Incised body sherd | | 1 |
| Frying pan censer | Classic to Postclassic | 1 |
| Slipped body sherds | | 20 |

MG 338: This represents the deposit light-grey in colour. In addition to pottery, fish bones and shells were recovered.

| MG 338 | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Type | Date | Quantity |
| <i>Utilitarian vessels</i> | | |
| Red-necked mother | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Double-mouthed jar | Late to Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Wide-mouthed jar | | 1 |
| Coconut Walk dish | Late Classic | 2 |
| Striated body sherds | Mixed | 9 |
| Body sherds | | 7 |
| <i>Serving vessels</i> | | |
| Monochrome rounded bowl | | 1 |
| Outcurving narrow-mouthed jar | | 1 |
| Body sherds | Mixed | 26 |

MG 343: This lot was separated owing to the mottling along the northern end of Area A (Fig. 23). The layer was a light orange and orange-brown colour.

| MG 343 | | |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Type | Date | Quantity |
| Utilitarian vessels | | |
| Red-necked mother jar rims | Terminal Classic | 5 |
| Coconut Walk dishes/bowls | (Note: Amy has Middle to Late Postclassic? If CW, they are Late Classic; it is possible they are not CW) | 6 |
| Pedestal bases | | 3 |
| Jar neck | Early Postclassic | 1 |
| Red-slipped rim | Proto or Early Classic | 1 |
| Slipped coarseware, slateware finish | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Unslipped body sherds | Mixed | 80 |
| Coarseware striated body sherds | Terminal Classic | 16 |
| Serving Vessels | | |
| Rounded bichrome bowl | Classic | 1 |
| Rounded bichrome dish | Terminal Classic | 1 |
| Monochrome red-slipped dish | Late-Terminal Classic | 3 |
| Monochrome red-slipped outcurving dishes | Late-Terminal Classic | 4 |
| Slipped body sherds | Mixed | 53 |
| Buk-style orange-slipped incised sherd | Early Postclassic | 1 |
| Pedestal-based jar | (Amy has no date but probably Early Postclassic) | 1 |
| Chalice | (Amy has no date but is Early Postclassic) | 2 |
| Body sherds | | 3 |
| Pedestal base | | 1 |

MG 348: As the orange colour became pronounced, the lot number was changed from MG 343 to MG 348. As described above, this deposit was orange in colour, and sandy; it is believed to represent the debris of salt processing activities. At this level, the excavation terminated.

| MG 348 | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Type | Date | Quantity |
| Utilitarian vessels | | |
| Jar rim | | 1 |
| Coconut Walk bowl | Middle to Late Classic | 5 |
| Striated body sherds | Mixed | 5 |
| Body sherds | Mixed | 6 |
| Serving vessels | | |
| Rounded bichrome | Classic | 1 |
| Slipped body sherds | | 5 |

MG 349: This refers to the matrix of the enigmatic rocks in the SW corner of Op-1, Area A. All that was recovered in the way of artefacts were two sherds, one slipped and the other unslipped; both were fragments from the body of a vessel.

Summary

Str. 12 will be worth returning to once longer-term funding is acquired. The first thing to investigate will be the rock feature in an ash matrix, particularly because it seems to post-date the occupation and use of Str. 12. Str. 12 itself is judged, based on limited evidence, to have had at least two construction phases. The cut stone of its east platform face is similar to the stone used in Str. 14, and it is therefore likely that its earlier phase is contemporaneous with a phase of construction of Str. 14 in which both shared a construction style. Str. 12, however, at some point had giant riser stairs constructed on its north side. Although we know that the stairs stretched the full length of the platform, we do not yet know the nature of the junctions of the stairs with the

platform sides. We also do not know the nature of the north face of Str. 12 before the addition of the giant stair risers.

The plaza floor encountered in Op 10-1 was shown to be associated with the 'stair-riser' phase of Str. 12. No earlier floors were encountered, but the characteristics of the deposits, such as the light grey colour of MG 338, hint at earlier construction phases. Based on excavations in 1986 and 1990 but also on results of excavations at other coastal sites, such as Colson Point, the orange colour and 'sandy' features of MG 343 and MG 348 are believed to be indicative of salt processing that was the main activity in Late Classic times, although evidence from Colson Point suggests that intensive processing began as early as the Middle Classic period (5th century). Sterile deposits were not reached in Op 10-1, so we do not know the nature of any activities that might have preceded salt processing.

Structure 13 (Op 10-7)

The excavation of Str. 13, which lies just northeast of Str. 12 and also faces the plaza, shed some light on Str. 12. The plaza-facing side of Str. 13 was cleared to determine its architecture. Unlike Str. 14 but like Str. 12, Str. 13 had giant riser stairs on its entire front or plaza-facing side. Therefore occupation and use of Str. 12 and 13 must have been contemporaneous.



Figure 27: Str. 13 showing giant riser stairs behind backdirt pile. View looks E.

To what uses these structures were put, we do not know. The small surface of the Str. 13 mound (platform) suggests a ritual rather than residential function; Str. 13 is also the easternmost structure in Plaza 1, adding to the possibility that it was used for ritual purposes. Both Str. 13 and Str. 12, in their giant stair-riser phases, are likely to be contemporaneous with the later phases of

Str. 14. Str. 14 displayed no giant riser stairs, however. It could be that Str. 14 served a residential use whereas Strs. 12 and 13 had ceremonial or civic functions in the Early Postclassic. We suggest this because the giant riser stairs, though negotiable, are not what one would want to climb up and down every day to access and to leave one's house. The treads are wide, however, and in the case of a lower step of Str. 13, very wide. This suggests that individuals could sit or stand on the steps rather easily, so it is possible that the giant risers served as seating for people viewing or attending to activities in the plaza. Only future excavations can help to clarify these issues.

The Salt Industry (Op 10-6, Str. 14; Op 10-2) (Fig. 3a,b)

These operations were intended to expose more of the Late Classic salt-processing levels encountered in 1986 and 1990, and by Graham elsewhere in Belize (Graham 1989, 1994). Op 10-6 was situated where the north-side stair of Str. 14 once stood. The stones of the balustrades are still in place but the stones of the steps have been severely disturbed. In 1990 this area was planned and a test trench begun with the intention of exposing salt processing. Time prevented completion of the operation in 1990, so we re-opened the test area in 2010 and carried the excavations deep into the core of Str. 14. As it turned out, the 'core' of Str. 14 seems to be the massive debris of salt processing: burnt levels of earth, charcoal, and the pottery (Coconut Walk Unslipped) used to make the salt cake moulds. In other words, the debris from salt processing provided the 'armature' over which Str. 14 was built.

Op 10-6 was limited (5m x 1.7m) but did reveal stone alignments, ash-coloured soil, and other features that were clearly part of the salt processing activities but could not be clarified without opening up a much larger area of excavation. Unfortunately we could not open up a larger area without damaging what remained of Str. 14. We did manage to recover samples of the burnt earth, sherds with various residues, and most important, charcoal which we hope can be analysed to determine the kind of wood that was burnt. The assumption is that wood from the area was used as fuel in driving off the remaining water to make the salt cakes.



Figure 28: Op 10-6 showing the salt-processing deposits, which were overlain by construction of Str. 14. View looks W. In the west section, one can see where the charcoal levels have been cut into—this reflects the construction of the terrace faces of Str. 14. August (left) and Jake are taking levels.



Figure 29: Op 10-6, view looking S. The three large stones at the top of the photo were part of the building platform of Str. 14. In the west section can be seen the cut through the charcoal levels made during the construction of one of the terrace faces of the platform of Str. 14. The charcoal seems to be the remains of spent fuel; the orange levels appear to be worn and degraded Coconut Walk bowls/dishes used to make salt cakes. Most of these deposits are not, however, primary but instead represent debris from processing that has been shifted. The line of white stones lower down in the section, seems to be part of a constructed surface associated with salt production. Unfortunately, until an extensive area can be exposed, the nature of the salt processing, as regards the steps in its production as well as the level of community involvement (household, supra-household, specialized), remains unknown.

Op 10-2 was located east of Strs. 12 and 13 in an area that gave all appearance of being 'behind' the plaza group of which Strs. 12, 13 and 14 are a part (Figs. 3a,b). The area was distinguished by being low in elevation and relatively flat, and we hoped that with no evidence of structural remains (mounds) we could reveal salt-processing deposits that had not been built over. Unfortunately it was also devoid of breezes and a haven for mosquitoes. Working conditions were extremely challenging. What we encountered was a line of stones (Fig. 30) (the facing of a step or low platform?) that we expect is part of a structure associated with the salt processing activity. A pit excavated in front of the line of stones (Fig. 30) did indeed reach salt-processing levels (burnt earth, charcoal, Coconut Walk sherds). Below the salt processing levels in this area lay a hard white surface that at first seemed equivalent to the Early Classic floor encountered in 1990. We exposed such a small area, however, that it was difficult to determine the identity of the feature. The other important result of these excavations was the recovery of more than the usual number of Terminal Preclassic sherds, which suggests that this area, upon further excavation, might reveal information on early occupation of the site.



Figure 30: Op 10-2. The line of stones standing on edge at the right of the photo represents the face of a low platform that seems to be associated with the salt processing activity. The debris of processing, light orange-brown in colour, can be seen in the side of the test pit, overlain by the dark black soil that is characteristic of the site. Just below the water level lies a stratum of white, hard material which may be a construction surface of some kind.

Conclusions and future research

It will be possible to sort out the construction sequence of Str. 14 if the entire base can be cleared, the plaza floor encountered, and the platform methodically excavated. Str. 12 has at least given us an indication of the plaza floor level, and this can be followed to determine the nature of the junction with Str. 14. The hope, ultimately, is to excavate Str. 14 completely so that the underlying salt processing levels can be extensively exposed. We need to determine if there are indeed houses associated with the phase, whether or not people were living at the site, and most important, what was involved in the extraction and processing of salt. How much fuel was used, and where did it come from? Did the resulting charcoal act in the same way that the charcoal in the Amazon deposits acts to produce *terra preta*, hence enhancing soil fertility?

A number of important questions remain to be answered. Where are the features or residences that are associated with the Buk pottery? Are the giant stair risers from this period? Clearly Marco Gonzalez had associations with Chichen Itza in its Terminal Classic phase as indicated by the ceramics. What happened in the Early Postclassic? Once Chichen Itza declined, did Lamanai become the urban focus? And what can we learn from the San Pedro artefacts about how the transition was made to the Late Postclassic?

With regard to the Late Classic period in general, where did the salt processing fit in with Late Classic activity in Peten? Were the powerful Peten dynasties dependent on coastal salt? Or were they the 'market' for the merchants on the coast? Did the Classic collapse cause the collapse of the salt industry, or is it the reverse—did the collapse of the salt industry cause the Classic

collapse? Marco Gonzalez is a small and modest site, but it is rich in information. There is no question that its activities, although they seem peripheral, can provide keys to unlocking many of the 'mysteries' of Late Classic competition and the downfall of Classic dynasties, but it can also show us how the Maya weathered the inland storms and continued to flourish on the cayes by adjusting activities to suit the demands of the day.

Some of the Artefacts from the 2010 Excavations



Coconut Walk sherds encrusted in charcoal & soil from Op 10-6.



Chert from Op 10-1, MG 310.



MG 306/1 on the left.



Oval biface.



Standard Maya Biface - MG 313/2, from Str. 12 PAA (post-abandonment accumulation).



Various obsidian prismatic bladelets.



Buk and other sherds from Op 10-1.



Sherds from Op 10-1, MG 310.



Examples of Coconut Walk Unslipped sherds lined up in the centre, with striated jar sherds piled in the lower corner of the photo.



Some of the worn 'Buk' sherds from Op 10-1, Str. 12.



Above: Sherd from polychrome bowl, from Op 10-1 deposits that are believed to be debris from salt processing. Levels of Op 10-1 are heavily disturbed, however, with little reliable in the way of stratigraphy. Fine polychromes such as this have been found in salt processing deposits at Colson Point, in the Stann Creek District, which suggests that some trade in polychromes may have taken place in the period when salt was also traded.

Left: Examples of sherds from Op 10-1. Coconut Walk are present as well as glossy Classic wares and jars that are Terminal Preclassic-Early Classic.

Appendix I: Lot Numbers and Assessments

| Lot No. | Description | Structure | Op |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| MG 306 | PAA | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 307 | Architectural clearing, N face of platform on E side of C trench. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 308 | Architectural clearing, S face of platform at W end. | Str. 14 | Op 10-5 |
| MG 309 | Decayed remains of former floors plus PAA (cont'd from 1990 exposure). | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 310 | Architectural clearing of giant stair risers (originally 1st stair riser but now subsumes all). | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 311 | Architectural clearing, 2nd stair riser. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 312 | Architectural clearing, 3rd stair riser. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 313 | North of bottom-most stair riser, in area of plaza surface, PAA. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 314 | General surface collection on and around platform; PAA. | Str. 14 | --- |
| MG 315 | N side, C trench, PAA plus in some areas backfill from 1990. | Str. 14 | Op 10-6 |
| MG 316 | W side of platform surface; PAA. | Str. 14 | Op 10-4 |
| MG 317 | Below MG 315 at S end of trench; begins at the level of salt processing deposits. | Str. 14 | Op 10-6 |
| MG 318 | Below MG 306 at level where rock feature appears; clearing rocks (possible face). | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 319 | PAA. | Str. 13 | Op 10-7 |
| MG 320 | Bur 14/32; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 321 | Below MG 313; outside structure in presumed plaza area which structure faces. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 322 | Between structures; PAA and possible fill/core. | Strs 12,14 | Op 10-8 |
| MG 323 | Bur 14/32; fill (deposit from around burial). | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 324 | Below MG 316; arbitrary. | Str. 14 | Op 10-4 |
| MG 325 | Below MG 317; salt processing levels. | Str. 14 | Op 10-6 |
| MG 326 | Below MG 306 in area of pit extension; salt processing levels. | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 327 | Ashy level; at same depth as MG 325 (does not show in section); backfill from 1990? | Str. 14 | Op 10-6 |
| MG 328 | Architectural clearing of (uppermost?) terrace face, NE corner; also includes some material from between the structures, below MG 322, that is possible core material deliberately deposited between structures (see notes). | Str. 14 | Op 10-8 |
| MG 329 | Clearing on W half of platform surface from upper edge of S-side terrace face (Op 10-5) (and presumed edge of building platform) moving N across area of floor surfaces; PAA; equivalent to MG 316. | Str. 14 | Op 10-4 |
| MG 330 | Below MG 316; PAA, decayed floor surfaces | Str. 14 | Op 10-4 |
| MG 331 | Below MG 326 in area of extension; not clear from notes whether MG 331 includes clay beneath the white 'floor'; should include lower processing levels. | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 332 | Bur 14/33; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 333 | Bur 14/34; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 334 | Below MG 321; apparently still PAA. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 335 | Equivalent to MG 306; PAA but in SW extension (1m). | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 336 | Below MG 334; arbitrary as soil remains black & root-disturbed (PAA?). | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 337 | Fill of Bur 14/33; not primary to burial. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 338 | Clearing down to orange sandy area or patch (top of processing levels). | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 339 | Architectural clearing of terrace face in area of the NE corner; largely equivalent to MG 328. | Str. 14 | Op 10-8 |
| MG 340 | Equivalent to MG 309 in are of Burials 14/33,35, 36,37; extending excavation into baulk on E side. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 341 | Bur 14/35; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 342 | Notes say below MG 326 but as this lot applies to the clayey deposit below water level, it is beneath MG 331. | --- | Op 10-2 |
| MG 343 | Below MG 338; clearing at level of sandy patch (processing level). | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 344 | Clearing NW corner. | Str. 12 | Op 10-8 |
| MG 345 | Extension E of Bur 14/34; 50 x 80 cm. | Str. 14 | Op 10-4 |
| MG 346 | Burial 14/37; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 347 | Core of lowermost stair riser. | Str. 13 | Op 10-7 |
| MG 348 | Below MG 343; excavating processing level of orange fired deposit of sand, tiny sherds, possible lime-making debris (?); largely in N. side of test pit or at least higher here. | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 349 | Deposit that constitutes probable fill of a pit into which large rocks were placed; very ashy, grey, with shell bits; below MG 336? | Str. 12 | Op 10-1 |
| MG 350 | Lot given to shell (horse conch or shank) taken from 3 shells shown on plan. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 351 | Burial 14/36; primary lot. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 352 | Burial 14/35; fill; refers to material found in proximity of burial but not provably primary. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 353 | Refers to material originally excavated as MG 340 but now refers to deposit under skull of Bur 14/37. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 354 | Primary burial lot for Bur 14/38. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |
| MG 355 | Surface finds but not certain of locale; so refers to general surface. | | |

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| MG 356 | Found a bag dated 6 June that is from coring the "New Road"; I think this is when Sal took me S of MG where a road had just been built at the end of the island. We cored through the sand and got out pottery and ground stone, I believe in 1992. | ---- | 1992 |
| MG 357 | Found sediment samples from 1992; 'bricotage' plus mixed clays probably from below water level at MG so this number was assigned to the samples. | --- | 1992 |
| MG 358 | See MG 320, Bur 14/32; assigned to material excavated with Bur 14/32 but not likely Primary. | Str. 14 | Op 10-3 |

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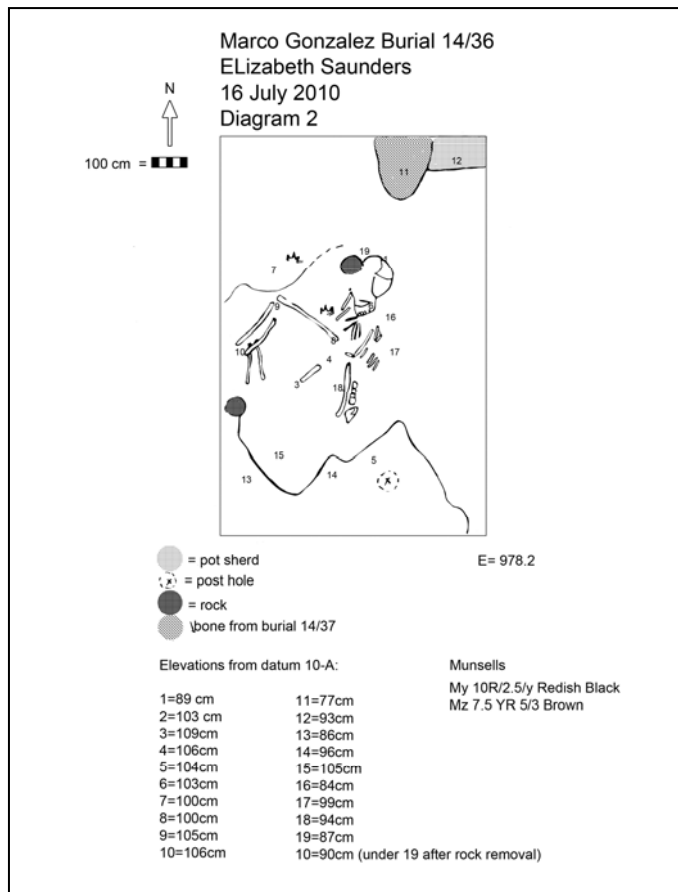
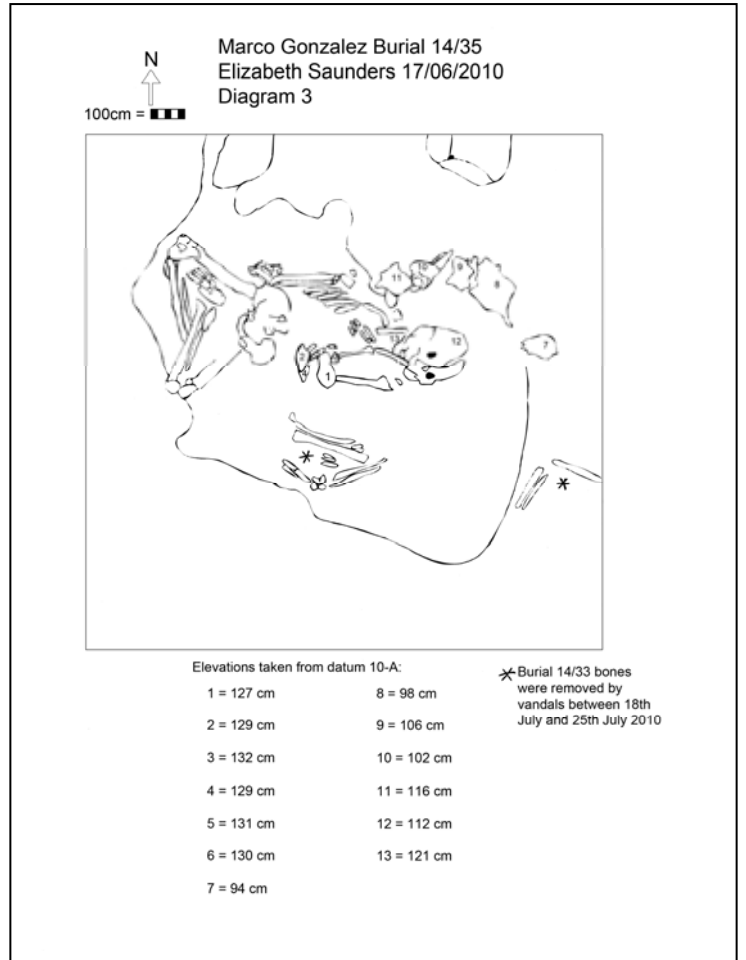
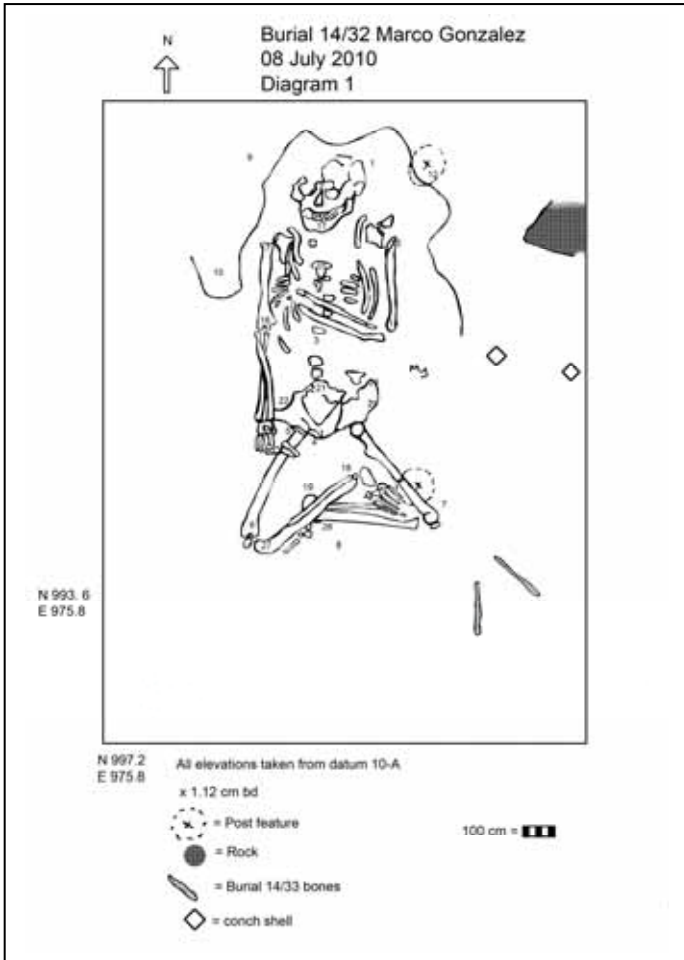
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Appendix 1 – Burial drawings
Field drawings adapted by Amy Lindsay



PART 2:

(A)

**A Brief Report on the Analysis of the
Buk-Phase Ceramics from Marco
Gonzalez**

Carmen Ting, Institute of Archaeology, UCL

(B)

**List of exported ceramic fragments
taken from Buk sherds**

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 26-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 2 | 26-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 3 | 26-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 4 | 26-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 5 | 26-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 6 | 26-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 7 | 26-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 8 | 26-CH9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 9 | 26-CH10 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 10 | 26-CH11 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 11 | 26-CH13 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Chalice fragment |
| 12 | 74-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Chalice fragment |
| 13 | 74-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Chalice fragment |
| 14 | 74-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Chalice fragment |
| 15 | 74-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Chalice fragment |
| 16 | 76-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Chalice fragment |
| 17 | 76-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Chalice fragment |
| 18 | 76-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Chalice fragment |
| 19 | 76-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 20 | 77-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 21 | 77-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 22 | 77-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 23 | 77-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 24 | 77-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 25 | 77-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 26 | 77-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 27 | 77-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 28 | 77-CH10 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Chalice fragment |
| 29 | 78-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 78 | Chalice fragment |
| 30 | 81-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 81 | Chalice fragment |
| 31 | 90-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 90 | Chalice fragment |
| 32 | 94-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 94 | Chalice fragment |
| 33 | 94-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 94 | Chalice fragment |
| 34 | 95-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 95 | Chalice fragment |
| 35 | 95-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 95 | Chalice fragment |
| 36 | 104-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 104 | Chalice fragment |
| 37 | 104-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 104 | Chalice fragment |
| 38 | 105-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 105 | Chalice fragment |
| 39 | 105-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 105 | Chalice fragment |
| 40 | 107-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 41 | 107-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 42 | 107-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 43 | 107-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 44 | 107-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 45 | 107-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 46 | 107-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Chalice fragment |
| 47 | 114-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 114 | Chalice fragment |
| 48 | 114-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 114 | Chalice fragment |
| 49 | 120-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 120 | Chalice fragment |
| 50 | 120-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 120 | Chalice fragment |
| 51 | 122-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 122 | Chalice fragment |
| 52 | 129-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Chalice fragment |
| 53 | 129-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Chalice fragment |
| 54 | 129-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Chalice fragment |
| 55 | 129-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Chalice fragment |
| 56 | 131-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 131 | Chalice fragment |
| 57 | 135-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Chalice fragment |

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 58 | 135-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Chalice fragment |
| 59 | 135-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Chalice fragment |
| 60 | 137-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 137 | Chalice fragment |
| 61 | 158-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Chalice fragment |
| 62 | 158-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Chalice fragment |
| 63 | 158-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Chalice fragment |
| 64 | 160-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 160 | Chalice fragment |
| 65 | 161-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 161 | Chalice fragment |
| 66 | 189-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 189 | Chalice fragment |
| 67 | 195-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 195 | Chalice fragment |
| 68 | 195-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 195 | Chalice fragment |
| 69 | 196-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 196 | Chalice fragment |
| 70 | 199-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 199 | Chalice fragment |
| 71 | 199-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 199 | Chalice fragment |
| 72 | 199-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 199 | Chalice fragment |
| 73 | 200-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 200 | Chalice fragment |
| 74 | 200-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 200 | Chalice fragment |
| 75 | 202-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 76 | 202-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 77 | 202-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 78 | 202-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 79 | 202-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 80 | 202-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 81 | 202-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 82 | 202-CH9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 83 | 202-CH10 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Chalice fragment |
| 84 | 206-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 206 | Chalice fragment |
| 85 | 216-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Chalice fragment |
| 86 | 216-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Chalice fragment |
| 87 | 216-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Chalice fragment |
| 88 | 224-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 89 | 224-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 90 | 224-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 91 | 224-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 92 | 224-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 93 | 224-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Chalice fragment |
| 94 | 230-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 230 | Chalice fragment |
| 95 | 233-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 96 | 233-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 97 | 233-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 98 | 233-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 99 | 233-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 100 | 233-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 101 | 233-CH9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 102 | 233-CH10 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 103 | 233-CH11 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 104 | 233-CH12 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 105 | 233-CH13 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Chalice fragment |
| 106 | 234-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 107 | 234-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 108 | 234-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 109 | 234-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 110 | 234-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 111 | 234-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 112 | 234-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 113 | 234-CH9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 114 | 234-CH11 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 115 | 234-CH12 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 116 | 234-CH13 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 117 | 234-CH14 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 118 | 234-CH15 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 119 | 234-CH16 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 120 | 234-CH17 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 121 | 234-CH18 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 122 | 234-CH19 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 123 | 234-CH20 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 124 | 234-CH21 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 125 | 234-CH23 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Chalice fragment |
| 126 | 235-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 127 | 235-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 128 | 235-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 129 | 235-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 130 | 235-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 131 | 235-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 132 | 235-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 133 | 235-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Chalice fragment |
| 134 | 236-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 236 | Chalice fragment |
| 135 | 237-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 237 | Chalice fragment |
| 136 | 240-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 240 | Chalice fragment |
| 137 | 240-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 240 | Chalice fragment |
| 138 | 240-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 240 | Chalice fragment |
| 139 | 241-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 241 | Chalice fragment |
| 140 | 256-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 256 | Chalice fragment |
| 141 | 256-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 256 | Chalice fragment |
| 142 | 256-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 256 | Chalice fragment |
| 143 | 258-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 258 | Chalice fragment |
| 144 | 258-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 258 | Chalice fragment |
| 145 | 274-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 274 | Chalice fragment |
| 146 | 282-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 282 | Chalice fragment |
| 147 | 291-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 148 | 291-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 149 | 291-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 150 | 291-CH4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 151 | 291-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 152 | 291-CH6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 153 | 291-CH7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 154 | 291-CH8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 155 | 291-CH9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Chalice fragment |
| 156 | 295-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 295 | Chalice fragment |
| 157 | 295-CH2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 295 | Chalice fragment |
| 158 | 295-CH3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 295 | Chalice fragment |
| 159 | 295-CH5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 295 | Chalice fragment |
| 160 | 299-CH1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 299 | Chalice fragment |
| 161 | 26-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 162 | 26-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 163 | 26-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 26 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 164 | 74-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 165 | 76-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 166 | 76-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 167 | 76-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 168 | 76-PJ5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 169 | 76-PJ6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 170 | 77-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 171 | 77-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Pedestal base jar fragment |

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 172 | 77-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 173 | 77-PJ7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 77 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 174 | 81-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 81 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 175 | 81-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 81 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 176 | 81-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 81 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 177 | 81-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 81 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 178 | 94-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 94 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 179 | 95-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 95 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 180 | 107-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 181 | 107-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 182 | 107-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 183 | 107-PJ5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 184 | 113-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 113 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 185 | 115-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 115 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 186 | 129-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 187 | 129-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 188 | 130-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 130 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 189 | 130-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 130 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 190 | 130-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 130 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 191 | 135-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 192 | 135-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 193 | 135-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 194 | 135-PJ5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 195 | 135-PJ6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 135 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 196 | 137-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 137 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 197 | 137-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 137 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 198 | 158-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 199 | 158-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 200 | 158-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 201 | 189-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 189 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 202 | 189-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 189 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 203 | 194-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 194 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 204 | 196-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 196 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 205 | 202-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 206 | 202-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 207 | 206-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 206 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 208 | 216-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 209 | 216-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 210 | 216-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 211 | 216-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 212 | 216-PJ5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 213 | 216-PJ7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 214 | 216-PJ8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 215 | 224-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 216 | 233-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 217 | 233-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 218 | 233-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 219 | 233-PJ5 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 220 | 233-PJ6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 221 | 234-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 234 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 222 | 235-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 223 | 235-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 224 | 235-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 225 | 235-PJ4 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 226 | 235-PJ6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 227 | 235-PJ7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 228 | 235-PJ8 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|-------------|----------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 229 | 235-PJ9 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 235 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 230 | 237-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 237 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 231 | 237-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 237 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 232 | 237-PJ3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 237 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 233 | 241-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 241 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 234 | 256-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 256 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 235 | 258-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 258 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 236 | 291-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 237 | 291-PJ2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 238 | 295-PJ1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 295 | Pedestal base jar fragment |
| 239 | 129-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 240 | 129-B3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 241 | 129-B2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 129 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 242 | 224-B2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 243 | 236-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 236 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 244 | 230-B2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 230 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 245 | 137-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 137 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 246 | 233-B2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 233 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 247 | 291-B2 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 248 | 194-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 194 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 249 | 224-B3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 250 | 256-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 256 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 251 | 105-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 105 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 252 | 258-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 258 | Outcurving rim bowl fragment |
| 253 | 74-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 74 | Round bowl fragment |
| 254 | 113-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 113 | Round bowl fragment |
| 255 | 291-B3 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 291 | Round bowl fragment |
| 256 | 202-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 202 | Round bowl fragment |
| 257 | 158-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 158 | Round bowl fragment |
| 258 | 224-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 224 | Round bowl fragment |
| 259 | 18-B1 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 18 | Round bowl fragment |
| 260 | 107-Non buk | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 107 | Non-buk bowl fragment |
| 261 | 216-Non buk | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 216 | Non-buk bowl fragment |
| 262 | MGMC1-290 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 290 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 263 | MGMC2-282 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 282 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 264 | MGMC3-76 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 76 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 265 | MGMC4-347 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 347 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 266 | MGMC5-285 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 285 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 267 | MGMC6-285 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 285 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 268 | MGMC7-285 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 285 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 269 | MGMC8-285 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 285 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 270 | MGMC9-299 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 299 | moulded-carved sherd |
| 271 | Vpnk | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | pnk (check 1989 pub Graham) | outcurving bowl |
| 272 | V30/6 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 30 | pedestal-based jar |
| 273 | V30/7 | pottery | 1 | Marco Gonzalez | 30 | pedestal-based jar |
| J-1 | n/a | pottery | 2 rim sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | unslipped, rounded, thin-walled bowls (CW) |
| J-2 | n/a | pottery | 5 rim sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | unslipped, rounded bowls with grooved rims (CW) |
| J-3 | n/a | pottery | 6 rim sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | unslipped, in-curving, thin-walled bowls |

| Bag No. | Sample No. | Material | Quantity | Site | Provenance (OP/Lot No.) | Description |
|---------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| J-4 | n/a | pottery | 17 rim sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | unslipped, sack-shaped jars |
| J-5 | n/a | pottery | 14 rim sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | unslipped, thick-walled crude bowls |
| J-6 | n/a | pottery | 2 sherds (1 rim & 1 body) | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | polychrome rounded bowl fragments |
| J-7 | n/a | pottery | 5 body sherds | Marco Gonzalez | 325 (orange soil G) | pottery sherds |
| J-8 | n/a | modern charcoal | 4 packets | Marco Gonzalez | n/a | modern charcoal samples |
| J-9 | 317-1 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 317 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 317-2 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 317 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 317-3 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 317 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 317-4 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 317 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 317-5 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 317 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 325-1 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 325-2 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 325-3 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 325-4 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 325-5 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 348-1 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 348 | carbon sample |
| J-9 | 333-1 | charcoal | 1 vial | Marco Gonzalez | 333 | carbon sample |
| J-10 | n/a | archaeological matrix | 4 vials | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | archaeological matrix (control samples) |
| J-11 | M-1 | archaeological matrix | 1 bag | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | archaeological matrix |
| J-11 | M-2 | archaeological matrix | 1 bag | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | archaeological matrix |
| J-11 | M-3 | archaeological matrix | 1 bag | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | archaeological matrix |
| J-11 | M-4 | archaeological matrix | 1 bag | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | archaeological matrix |
| J-12 | BR-1 | construction material | 1 piece | Marco Gonzalez | 325 | bricotage |
| J-12 | BR-2 | construction material | 2 pieces | Marco Gonzalez | 313 | plaster |
| J-12 | BR-3 | construction material | 1 piece | Marco Gonzalez | 309 | plaster |
| J-12 | BR-4 | construction material | 5 pieces | Marco Gonzalez | OP 10-4 | plaster floor |
| J-12 | BR-5 | construction material | 6 pieces | Marco Gonzalez | OP 10-1 | plaster floor (plaza) |
| J-12 | BR-6 | construction material | 6 pieces | Marco Gonzalez | OP10-2 | processing levels in deep pit extension, below water level |
| J-12 | BR-7 | construction material | 1 piece | Marco Gonzalez | 338 | compacted sand |
| J-12 | BR-8 | construction material | 2 pieces | Marco Gonzalez | 306 | bricotage |
| J-12 | BR-9 | construction material | 1 piece | Marco Gonzalez | 310 | plaster |
| C-1 | 1 | bone/teeth | 2 teeth & one bone fragment | Lamanai | N25/E50 Burial 4 LA2800 | premolar, 3rd molar and rib fragment |
| C-1 | 2 | bone/teeth | 3 teeth & one bone fragment | Lamanai | N12-4 Burial 1 LA2466 | premolar, 3rd molar and rib fragment |

A brief report on the analysis of the Buk-phase ceramics from Marco Gonzalez

Carmen Ting

Throughout the course of my three-week research at the Marco Gonzalez Archaeological Project, I went through the ceramic assemblages – which was excavated during the early 1990s – from the site of Marco Gonzalez at the Ambergris Cay. In particular, I focus on the ceramic materials that was produced during the Early Postclassic period (A.D. 1050 – 1250), which share similar stylistic attributes (e.g. forms, surface treatment and decoration) with the Buk-phase ceramics from Lamanai. These ceramics, also known as the Zakpah Orange Red in the type variety naming system, occur in a great variety of forms (Fig. 1), such as chalice, pedestal base jar, outcurving rim bowl, round bowl, and tripod dish. The exterior surface are covered in slips that range from light orange to red in colour. Incision is the most common mode of decoration. Another distinctive feature of these ceramics is the presence of dark firing core almost throughout the entire cross sections of the freshly fractured surfaces in most cases. I, therefore, refer the pottery that displays the above characteristic stylistic attributes as Buk ceramic. The occurrence of the Buk ceramic was first reported in Lamanai (*Pendergast the Spanish article*, Graham 1987), as well as numerous sites, which are mostly located along the coastal and riverine locations (Masson 2000, Andres & Pyburn 2004, Walker 1990).



Figure 1. Different forms of Buk-phase ceramics. Pedestal base jar (left) from Actun Yaxteel Ahau; chalice (right) from Lamanai (Photographed by Carmen Ting).

As part of my doctoral research, samples of the Buk ceramics from Marco Gonzalez were taken. The sample selection procedures involve the separation of the Buk-phase ceramics from the rest of the ceramic assemblage on the basis of their form, the presence/absence of dark firing core, the presence/absence of slip, and decoration. Only the diagnostic sherds, such as rim sherd, pedestal base, and foot, were selected for further macroscopic analyses. The diagnostic sherds were further divided into five major form classes, namely chalice, pedestal base jar, outcurving rim bowl, round bowl, and tripod bowl/dish. Strenuous effort was then made to refit the sherds together so as to obtain the minimum vessel number of the assemblage. The initial result of the macroscopic analyses suggested that the Buk ceramic assemblage from Marco Gonzalez is highly complex and there is a great variety in terms of the morphology, especially the curvature and thickness of the chalice rims, and the fabric and the surface treatment. Samples, which represent statistically the variations within the Buk assemblage from Marco Gonzalez, were then taken for further petrographic, chemical and technological analyses in the Wolfson Archaeological Sciences Laboratory at University College London. All sherds were documented, photographed and illustrated before a tiny piece (ca. 2cm x 2cm) of samples were cut off by the tile cutter. In total, 261 samples, including 160 chalices, 78 pedestal base jar, 12 outcurving rim bowls, and 6 round bowls were collected. More research will be required to sample the Buk ceramics which is excavated during the 2010 field season.

The Buk ceramics samples from Marco Gonzalez will be analysed by an integrated archaeometric approach. Thin-section petrography and instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA) will be employed to identify the mineralogical and chemical compositions. These data are useful in discriminating the potential production groups within the assemblages and characterizing the organization of production, as well as determining the provenance of ceramic production if the information on local geology is available or clay samples are collected. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) will be used to examine the manufacturing technology, such as firing temperature and atmosphere, and the application of slip. This, together with the compositional data, is useful in reconstructing the ceramic tradition(s) of the Buk ceramics from Marco Gonzalez. The results of my analyses will then be compared with those of Dr. Linda Howie, who conducted a comprehensive technological analyses of the ceramics, including the Buk ceramics, from Lamanai during the Classic to Postclassic transition (Howie 2005). In addition, samples from other coastal or riverine sites, such as Caye Coco, Laguna de On and Cerros – which I have collected earlier this year – will also be included in my research to obtain a regional perspective in terms of the production, distribution and consumption of the Buk ceramics during the Early Postclassic period. Overall, I expect to reveal the mechanism(s) behind the resultant production and distribution patterns of the Buk-phase ceramics and their implications for the political, social, economic and ideological development of the Early Postclassic in the Maya Lowlands. More importantly, it is hopeful that my research will provide an insight on the nature of settlement and the relationship between the coastal sites during the Early Postclassic period.

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PART 3:

**The Flora of Marco Gonzalez,
Ambergris Caye**

Preliminary Survey, May 2010

Zoe Goodwin, Royal Botanical Garden Edinburgh

The Flora of Marco Gonzalez, Ambergris Caye

May 2010

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Zoë Goodwin (Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh)



**Royal
Botanic Garden
Edinburgh**

Surveyers

Zoë Goodwin (Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh)

Jan Brown (San Pedro)

Ramon Gonzalez (San Pedro)

Location

Belize District; Ambergris Caye; 7 Km South of San Pedro at very southern tip of Ambergris Caye. 17° 52' 54.75"N 88° 00' 52.24"W

Methods

A general survey of the flora of Marco Gonzalez was conducted on the 29th & 30th May 2010 by wide area patrolling and general collecting of voucher specimens where necessary. Two to five duplicates were collected for every voucher specimen. The duplicates of each specimen will be deposited at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (E), Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources, Belmopan, Belize (BRH), the Natural History Museum, London (BM), the Missouri Botanical Garden (MO) and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (MEXU).

Results

27 vascular species were recorded on the island, Voucher specimens were made of 18 species. Currently (August 2010) 13 out of 27 species observed or collected have been identified to species. A full species list with voucher details (Table 1) is provided. In addition, a brief description and observations on the vegetation, and notes on past human disturbance at the site are also provided. Plant species of interest to highlight and interpret for visitors to the site are also suggested.

General Site Description

Forest island on site of Mayan ruins in red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle* L.) swamp.

Vegetation Description

Low canopy 12-15 m characterised by abundant *Coccoloba* sp (Goodwin 1646, & 1629), frequent *Bursera simaruba* (L.) Sarg. (pers.obs.), *Pouteria campechiana* (Kunth) Baehni (pers.obs.), *Guazuma ulmifolia* Lam. (pers.obs.), *Ficus* sp. (Goodwin 1636), *Citharexylum* sp. (Goodwin 1630) & *Thrinax radiata* Lodd. ex Schult. & Schult. f. (pers.obs.). Many of the canopy trees including the *Caesalpinia* sp. had significant trunks up to the dense understory shrub layer contained abundant *Picramnia antidesma* Sw. (Goodwin 1628) & frequent *Psychotria* sp. (Goodwin 1631).

Notes on Vegetation

The forest was species poor, probably due to the small area of the island. Most of the species observed at Marco Gonzalez are typical of disturbed, lowland, broadleaved forests on limestone found throughout Belize, such as *Bursera simaruba*, *Pouteria campechiana*, *Hirtella americana* L., *Guazuma ulmifolia*, *Hamelia patens* Jacq. and *Metopium brownei* (Jacq.) Urb.. Two species found across the island, *Thrinax radiata* and *Pithecellobium keyense* Britton are typical of the coastal fringes of the cayes and the coasts of Corozal and Belize districts, these two species are found only in the Yucatan & Greater Antilles. *Hyperbaena winzerlingii* Standl. is a Northern Mesoamerican species that has only been found in Corozal and the northern parts of Belize and Orange Walk districts within Belize.

The forest appears to have suffered some wind damage on various occasions, several large trees being partially uprooted including a large *Caesalpinia* sp. tree (that one has to duck under to enter the central clearing from the north) and a large strangler fig to the east (?) of structure 12, the latter probably toppled by Hurricane Dean in 2008.

Vegetation differed between the formerly cultivated clearing at the centre of the island and the non-cultivated areas; the clearing had an open understory and was dominated by cultivate species such as *Cocos nucifera* and *Coccoloba uvifera*. Where as the rest of the site, especially on the structures, had a 10-12 m canopy of forest trees and dense understory of *Picramnia antidesma* and *Psychotria* sp.. The 'shoreline' of the island, contained some additional species (Goodwin 1640, 1641) not found further into the island and other mangrove associated species including sterile sedges (Cyperaceae) that were probably associated with the adjacent red mangrove swamp and more open canopy. There was no observed difference in vegetation between structures 12 and 14 and the other structures on the site.



Figure 1. *Thrinax radiata* Lodd. ex Schult. & Schult. f. leaves (left) and stem with leaf bases (right).

For visitor interpretation species of interest include:

- *Thrinax radiata* Lodd. ex Schult. & Schult. f. (Arecaceae, palm) is the common solitary palm across Marco Gonzalez that can be identified by its

radiate leaves and split at the base of the leaf stalk, Figure 1, this is restricted to the coastal fringes of Northern Belize.

- Strangler fig (*Ficus* sp.) for its unusual habit and life style, especially the individual to the east (?) of structure 12 that has been knocked down fairly recently (Hurricane Dean in 2008?) and has numerous new trunks sprouting from the fallen trunk.
- *Bursera simaruba* ('gumbo limbo' or the 'tourist tree') is easy to recognise due its extremely distinctive peeling bark. It is used traditionally as a medicinal tree especially for skin complaints.
- *Metopium brownei* ('black poisonwood') is a member of the mango family and is infamous for its high toxicity; depending on your susceptibility to the sap, simply touching the tree can cause severe blisters to the skin. This species often grows near *Bursera simaruba*, whose bark can be used as a salve for poisonwood burns. The trunk of this tree is often marked with machete marks by Belizeans as a warning because the cut marks dry black. Visitors should be careful of this tree.
- *Hamelia patens* Jacq. ('polly redhead') is a common shrub of disturbance on limestone, the red tubular flowers are loved by hummingbirds and thus this species is often cultivated to attract them to gardens.
- *Guazuma ulmifolia* Lam. ('bay cedar' and 'pix oy' amongst many other names) is a classic species of disturbed forest in Belize. This species has many traditional uses.
- *Rhizophora mangle* ('red mangrove') has many adaptations to prolonged inundation by salt water such as fleshy leaves, salt-excreting glands, stilt roots to stabilise the sediment and to assist aeration of the roots below the surface. Also there are some *Avicennia germinans* (L.) L. ('black mangrove') and *Laguncularia racemosa* ('white mangrove') are present here, with slightly different methods of coping with the same harsh conditions (salt excretion on the leaf surface and finger-like pneumatophores which protrude above the ground, allowing oxygen uptake to continue even when there is standing water at the surface).

For further reading on traditional plant uses for these species see Arvigo 1993 and for more common plants in Balick 2000.

Human Activity



Figure 2. *Coccoloba uvifera*

There are many signs of human disturbance including looters and attempts at cultivation. The latter is indicated by the presence of cultivated species such as *Cocos nucifera* & *Coccoloba uvifera* (Figure 2), as well as abandoned tools and the presence of nails & wire in the trunks of some of the trees (Figure 3). Regrowth of the affected trunk and size of the *Coccoloba uvifera* tree suggests some time has past since this cultivation, perhaps a decade or more.



Figure 3. Wire (left) & nails (right) in the trunk of a tree (*Coccoloba* sp.).

Table 1. List of species observed and collected at Marco Gonzalez with family, full species name, voucher name and number (where appropriate) and DAFOR frequency.

| Family | Species | Voucher | Frequency |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Anacardiaceae | <i>Metopium brownei</i> (Jacq.) Urb. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Frequent |
| Arecaceae | <i>Cocos nucifera</i> L. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Occasional |
| Arecaceae | <i>Thrinax radiata</i> Lodd. ex Schult. & Schult. f. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Frequent |
| Burseraceae | <i>Bursera simaruba</i> (L.) Sarg. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Frequent |
| Chrysobalanaceae | <i>Hirtella americana</i> L. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Rare |
| Fabaceae (Caesalpinioideae) | <i>Caesalpinia</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1643 (V) | Occasional |
| Fabaceae (Faboideae) | <i>Crotalaria</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1638 (V) | Rare |
| Fabaceae (Mimosoideae) | <i>Pithecellobium keyense</i> Britton | Goodwin, Z.A. 1634 (V) | Occasional |
| Lauraceae | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1637 (V) | Rare |
| Malvaceae | <i>Guazuma ulmifolia</i> Lam. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Frequent |
| Menispermaceae | <i>Hyperbaena winzerlingii</i> Standl. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1641 (V) | Rare |
| Moraceae | <i>Ficus</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1636 (V) | Frequent |
| Myrtaceae | <i>Eugenia</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1632 (V) | Occasional |
| Picramniaceae | <i>Picramnia antidesma</i> Sw. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1628 (V) | Abundant |
| Polygonaceae | <i>Coccoloba</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1646 (V) | Abundant |
| Polygonaceae | <i>Coccoloba</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1629 (V) | Occasional |
| Polygonaceae | <i>Coccoloba uvifera</i> (L.) L. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Rare |
| Pteridophyta | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1642 (V) | Rare |
| Rubiaceae | <i>Hamelia patens</i> Jacq. | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Rare |
| Rubiaceae | <i>Psychotria</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1631 (V) | Occasional |
| Sapotaceae | <i>Pouteria campechiana</i> (Kunth) Baehni | Goodwin, Z.A. s.n. (O) | Frequent |
| Sapotaceae | <i>Pouteria sapota</i> (Jacq.) H.E. Moore & Stearn ? | Goodwin, Z.A. 1635 (V) | Occasional |
| Unknown | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1640 (V) | Frequent |
| Unknown | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1644 (V) | Occasional |
| Unknown | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1645 (V) | Rare |
| Unknown | Unknown sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1633 (V) | Rare |
| Verbenaceae | <i>Citharexylum</i> sp. | Goodwin, Z.A. 1630 (V) | Frequent |

Acknowledgements

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Futher Reading

Arvigo, R., Balick, M.J., Evans, L. 1993. *Rainforest remedies: one hundred healing herbs of Belize*. Twin Lakes, Wisconsin: Lotus Press. 221 pp.

Balick, M.J., Nee, M.H., Atha, D.E. 2000. *Checklist of the Vascular Plants of Belize*. Bronx, New York: New York Botanical Garden Press. 246 pp.

PART 4:

**Lot designations from all field seasons
through to 2010**

| Lot # | Date | Op # | Area/ Str. # | Description |
|--------|------|------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0001 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Looters' backdirt, N (front) face hole, Str. 12 |
| MG0002 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 18 | Burial 18/1 (vessel) |
| MG0003 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core in looters' pit area, N. face Str. 12, upper stratum |
| MG0004 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Looters' pit into core, Str. 27 |
| MG0005 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Looters' pit into core, Str. 28 |
| MG0006 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Surface, scraped at S. face of Str. 28 |
| MG0007 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Surface, scraped, at N. face of Str. 27 |
| MG0008 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Lower (undisturbed) portion of Str. 28 core, below looters' pit (MG-5); to old land surface |
| MG0009 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Faunal concentration, packed bed of charcoal and tiny fish bones beneath MG-8 in some places above MG-10 |
| MG0010 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | "Old land surface"; layer of grey, sticky soil beneath MG-8 and MG-9. Small sherds, no large shells, possibly some fish bones though these may be from above (1/2" sample sieved) |
| MG0011 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Undisturbed core in axial trench into N face of Str. 27 |
| MG0012 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Shallow (ca 15 cm below surface of MG-10) "pit" within MG-10 but includes some material from MG-8. Lots of bones, but earth is black as is MG-10. May just be lowest cms. of MG-8 where surface of MG-10 was pitted or undulating. |
| MG0013 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Cache 12/1 |
| MG0014 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Jade beads in stair core, Str. 12 |
| MG0015 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Burnt clay stratum, test pit in Str. 28 |
| MG0016 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Sherds from looters' pit in core of Str. 12 (relw/MG-1) |
| MG0017 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Yellow-brown lower (inner) core, Str. 12 ("salt-bed") strata; rel.w/MG-61) |
| MG0018 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core of outermost platform construction, jStr. 11, capping masonry facing, at N. side |
| MG0019 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Cache 12/2 |
| MG0020 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Sherds from upper soil in area of Cache 12/2 |
| MG0021 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Lower "bone bed" stratum in Str. 27 |
| MG0022 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Str. 12, material east of easternmost high riser in stair, excavated in vain search for stairside |
| MG0023 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 28 | Artificial separation of material from Str. 28 test pit below water level |
| MG0024 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Cache 12/3 |
| MG0025 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Fragmentary (unreconstructable) jar from atop uppermost floor, Str. 12 |
| MG0026 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Trench across top of Str. 12, surface to uppermost floor |
| MG0027 | 1986 | N/A | Strs. 26-28 | Surface at site perimeter in area of Strs. 26-28 |
| MG0028 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Trench, W face of Str. 11, upper portion of core (+ surface) |

| | | | | |
|--------|------|-----|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0029 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core at W side of Str. 11 (outermost phase) |
| MG0030 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Garbage dump at W side of Str. 11, in core of outermost phase |
| MG0031 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 31 | Surface, area SE of Str. 31 |
| MG0032 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 31 | Front area of Str. 31 |
| MG0033 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 31 | Core of front portion of Str. 31 |
| MG0034 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Burial 12/1 |
| MG0035 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core/refuse outside masonry facing, S. side fo Str. 11 |
| MG0036 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core atop floor at N face of Str. 12 (floor that caps sea level; see section) |
| MG0037 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Material atop cap of "Great Pit", Str. 12 |
| MG0038 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Material in cap above top stratum of Great pit, Str. 12 |
| MG0039 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Material in top stratum of Great Pit, Str. 12 |
| MG0040 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core of structure atop lowerst floor beneath St. 12 (see MG-36) |
| MG0041 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core of "salt-beds" levels, above MG=40 |
| MG0042 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Material below "varve" stratum in Great Pit, Str. 12 (Probably not part of the pit) |
| MG0043 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Burial 12/3 |
| MG0044 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core below sea-level floor beneath Str. 12 |
| MG0045 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Cache 12/4 |
| MG0046 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core above the top of the "salt-beds" stratum in Str. 12, beneath overlying floor (see section) |
| MG0047 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core atop floor that caps MG-46 |
| MG0048 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core atop sea-level floor, in front (N) of Str. 12 |
| MG0049 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Test pit N of Str. 12, to level of sea-level floor |
| MG0050 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Burial 11/1 |
| MG0051 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Dark grey midden beneath "bone bed" in Str. 27 |
| MG0052 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 27 | Lighter gray deposit beneath MG-51; charcoal, sherds, high sand |
| MG0053 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core of uppermost stair, Str. 11, below level of topmost floor but not sealed by the floor |
| MG0054 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Material in upper part of Collapse Dome, Str. 12 |
| MG0055 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | White ash lens, Str. 11 (see section) |
| MG0056 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | "Bag" of shells and dark soil just above gray layer over water table, Collapse Dome, Str. 12 |
| MG0057 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core of giant-riser stair, Str. 12 |
| MG0058 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Cache 12/5 |
| MG0059 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Burial 11/7 |
| MG0060 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core S of "salt beds", axial trench |
| MG0061 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Core of "salt beds", axial trench S of Collapse Dome, Str. 12 |
| MG0062 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Material filling Burial 1 pit, Str. 11 |

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|--------|------|-----|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0063 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core of top stratum, Str. 11 |
| MG0064 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 8 | Core of Str. 8 (looters' pit) |
| MG0065 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 16 | Exterior of Str. 16, including small alleyway between this str. and Str. 45 |
| MG0066 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 45 | Exterior and top surface of Str. 45 |
| MG0067 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Material at E face, probably associated with inner (masonry) facing, Str. 11 |
| MG0068 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core below top floor series (Floors 1 & 2), Str. 11 |
| MG0069 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core below Floors 3 & 4, Str. 11 |
| MG0070 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 11 | Core below bottom floor/surface (Floor 5), Str. 11 |
| MG0071 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Exterior, S face of Str. 12 |
| MG0072 | 1986 | N/A | Str. 12 | Top N portion of Str. 12, N of ends of floor chops, association unclear |
| MG0073 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Burial 12/6 (single vessel at L. knee) |
| MG0074 | 1990 | N/A | | MG 501, give by Liz when she didn't have proper lot nos; probably equals 500 or 26 but separated because here Floor I does not exist & includes all sherds down to Floor II. |
| MG0075 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | MG 502; test pit down to old Early Classic floor in front of (N) Str. 12. |
| MG0076 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | MG 503; Luis digging at base on N side of Str. 14, working towards structure, looking for face. |
| MG0077 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Bernardo & Jairo on S side of Str. 14, working towards base of structure; MG 504; looking for face. |
| MG0078 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 13 | Str. 13 - material from looters' backdirt, mostly processing levels but the earlier and later processing levels are mixed; includes the processing pottery mostly, but 2 sherds of polychrome (+ probably stuff from humus levels). |
| MG0079 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 21 | Str. 21, where Anne and Cathy are working in looters' pit - refers to older processing levels, whitish in color that I originally interpreted as a decomposed floor; interesting large polychrome sherd, overlain by yellower processing levels (see MG 90) (polychrome from here). |
| MG0080 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Surface stripping of Str. 14, N of trench divider line (Cathy & John). |
| MG0081 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Sherds from looters' backdirt dug on 4 June in process of clearing a path for stakes on S sides of Strs. 12 & 14 (sherds mostly from Str. 12). |
| MG0082 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | 4 June test pit to floor on N side of Str. 12 just at base of giant risers; this refers to Protoclassic midden levels that start about at level of white floor 85 (see 227). |
| MG0083 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Burial 12/5 - juvenile - disturbed found in MG 26 on Str. 12. |
| MG0084 | 1990 | N/A | | Base of MG 26 right above N. edge of Floor I; Nicolas and Tino cleaning edge of Floor I. |
| MG0085 | 1990 | N/A | | "FLOOR" Cathy and I reached at water level in 1986; dug test pit down to it to find floor at beginning of season - just N. of east (lowest) stair riser on N. side of Str. 12 - below 75 & at same level as MG 82. |
| MG0086 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Decided to give Floor I a lot number. Uppermost floor in Str. 12. |
| MG0087 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Assigned to Floor II in Str. 12 (lower floor). |

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|--------|------|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0088 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial (originally cache) 14/2 w/ small jar; grey, near putative top of stairs of Str. 14 |
| MG0089 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | N pit on Str. 12 dug through MG 87. (NE pit; = posthole) |
| MG0090 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 13 | Humus level - cleaning looters' backdirt - mostly humus but all mixed |
| MG0091 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | General surface finds |
| MG0092 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 15 | Temporary for net sinker found E of Str. 15. |
| MG0093 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 21 | "Level II" - yellow processing levels - over white ash levels - MG 79. |
| MG0094 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | 11 June - Cleaning surface of Str. 14 on W end, S side (Josh and Anne) (94 & 95 = 77?). |
| MG0095 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | 11 June - Next layer down from 94. Experiment to see if there is a difference between uppermost layer and lower hummus (S side). |
| MG0096 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Cache 14/1, Middle Postclassic jar that Edberto accidentally damaged with machete; in Lot 80 core. |
| MG0097 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/1; adult, no skull, assoc. w/ chert biface. |
| MG0098 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | 94 & 95; cleaning structure on W end, N side (Nick did this deeper) (98=80?) |
| MG0099 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Not excavated at time of writing - area at W end of surface. |
| MG0100 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Four perforated teeth assoc. w/ Burial 14/3. |
| MG0101 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Perforated shell disc assoc. w/ Burial 14/4. |
| MG0102 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Material associated with Burial 14/5. |
| MG0103 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Small lobed pot associated with Burial 14/6. |
| MG0104 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14/Str. 12 | Same as 77 (& 80) but approaching E end of Str. 14 where it meets Str. 12. MG 104 is 1st 10 cm or so on S side of Str. 14, where Bernardo began. |
| MG0105 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as MG 80, approaching E end of Str. 14 where it meets Str. 12. MG 105 is N side of Str. 14. |
| MG0106 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Cache 14/2; stingray spines, Marginella discs, and nacre discs. |
| MG0107 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14/Str. 12 | Zone between Strs. 12 & 14 - Tino working on June 14 - area further E of MG 105 which he was working on on June 13th. |
| MG0108 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Surface finds from Str. 14. |
| MG0109 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Cache 14/3; Fine orange vessel. |
| MG0110 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Area just E of Lot MG 107. Area is extreme W section of Str. 12 on N side of building (W face of Str. 12 - Mariano). |
| MG0111 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 13 | Frag of jadeite celt found in area where Pedro and Bernardo are bushing. Could be new building just S of Str. 13. |
| MG0112 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Spondylus beads assoc. with Burial 14/9. |
| MG0113 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Arbitrary level given to W end of building on the S side. Lot below MG 95; Str. 14. |
| MG0114 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Arbitrary level given to W end of building on the N side. Lot below Mg 98; Str. 14. |

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|--------|------|-----|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0115 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below MG 105; E end of Str. 14, just inside line of stones (face) ca 15-30 cm BELOW SURFACE (N side of building). |
| MG0116 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Oliva shell, center perforation, assoc. with Burial 14/10. |
| MG0117 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | 2 bone tubes ("flute"), shell earrings, jaguar teeth, associated with Burial 14/11. |
| MG0118 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Northeast pit- thought at first to be a burial, but yielded carbon only (one of 4 postholes) (same as MG 89! Error in assigning another lot). |
| MG0119 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Human bones found under old Datum E (no burial no. yet) - now Burial 14/12. |
| MG0120 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | N side of structure where Mariano cleaning around risers (Include with 124). |
| MG0121 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Pit south side at W end of Str. Excavated by David Pendergast (southwest pit - posthole). |
| MG0122 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below MG 104 E end of structure just inside line of stones on S side of building. MG 122 = MG 115 ca 15-20 cm below surface. |
| MG0123 | 1990 | N/A | | Arbitrary lot for artifacts without lot numbers. |
| MG0124 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | 22/9/90 Str. 12; Mariano digging between risers of stair on N side, from surface down; see 147 (between upper 2 risers). |
| MG0125 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Pottery sherd associated with Burial 14/13 (+ modified shell w/hematite). |
| MG0126 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/7 - 2 jaguar canines. |
| MG0127 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/15 - orange Chichen vessel. |
| MG0128 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/16 - red-necked jar. |
| MG0129 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below 77 - further cleaning of lowermost battered terrace face on S side of building platform (see 157 also). |
| MG0130 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | West Str. 14, below 114. Removal of hard layers exposed in 114, covering N half of area (Nick). |
| MG0131 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Southern equivalent to 130. |
| MG0132 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Small number of sherds from root hole (?) through floor 4 just E of cut for Burial 14/7. |
| MG0133 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/17 - Jar with 2 opposing perforations in wall. |
| MG0134 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Josh's W end, large upsidedown jar found by Nick; has medial ridge, seems to have been sealed by 1st (uppermost floor but cut through the next floor). |
| MG0135 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Southeast corner of Str. 14 - near base of structure. Tino excavating, June 27 1990 - became "alley" between Strs. 14 & 112 (oversin by 110; some 107). |
| MG0136 | 1990 | N/A | | Digging off Floors I & II down to Floor II - below lot 80; Grid 25/9 and 25/8 to 13/9 and 23/8. |
| MG0137 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 114 on Str. 14 - Nick excavating in Josh's area just W of baulk on N side to very edge of floor surface of latest phase - good remains here seem to extend to uppermost terrace surface. |
| MG0138 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Posthole with tripod dish (2 sherds) - at base of Burial 14/1. |
| MG0139 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Fill of pit just S of Burial 14/13 ("headless") dug at level of highest floor, Floor I. |

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|--------|------|-----|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0140 | 1990 | N/A | | Same as 130 but pit-like area on N side of excavated zone with large conch shells; at time of recording not certain of nature of pit or from what level it was dug, or whether it is a pit or not. |
| MG0141 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Obsidian blades and sherds associated with Burial 14/19. |
| MG0142 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Sherd associated with burial 14/18, + shell at S end. |
| MG0143 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Rock-filled hole - p.h. - at E side of Str. 14; area of multiple p.h.'s (between 21-22W & 6-7N) -see Bk. 2, p. 60. |
| MG0144 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Cleaning soil (remains of MG 77-80?) off various floor surfaces of Str. 14. This is in area of "Floors" 3 & 4 where Cathy planned - S side = 194. |
| MG0145 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12/Str. 14 | General surface collection from the site. (Material which had been collected and left on old lunch area between Strs. 12 & 14). |
| MG0146 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Josh-hole feature on W side of excavated floor (highest decently preserved surface, at least) - has portion of pedestal-base censer in hole- possibly posthole, though sides are not smooth but faceted as from tools. Context is 131. |
| MG0147 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Mariano digging in back (S of) lowermost stair riser; see MG 124. |
| MG0148 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Same as 124, 147. Given to area below risers 2 and 3 but only on last day of digging it! Other material is with 124. Separated because of presence of obsidian and SSNP. |
| MG0149 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Two classic dishes; top dish is bottom up - infant burial in center of bottom dish. |
| MG0150 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Material found around Burial 14/20; seeds, fish bone, and sherds. |
| MG0151 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Rock-filled hole through plaster in NW corner of building surface - see C/16/24-29 & BW/5/1-3. |
| MG0152 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0153 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0154 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0155 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0156 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Posthole (?) near E end of building between 20/7 and 20/8 and 21/7-21-8; see plan. |
| MG0157 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Beneath 129 but in restricted area; starts about 10 cm below ground surface just at rocks - clearing collapse off of lower terrace face on S side. (probably duplicated by 193). Starts at ca 21W and runs E to limit of excavation at just beyond E face of Str. 14 |
| MG0158 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | S side - beneath 77 - Tino cleaning collapse off uppermost face on S side. |
| MG0159 | 1990 | N/A | | not used. |
| MG0160 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |
| MG0161 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |
| MG0162 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |
| MG0163 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |
| MG0164 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |

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|--------|------|-----|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0165 | 1990 | N/A | | Cathy at E end of transect Op 6. |
| MG0166 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0167 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0168 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0169 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0170 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0171 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0172 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0173 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0174 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0175 | 1990 | N/A | | Edberto & Josh at W end of transect Op 7. |
| MG0176 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Sherds &c from graves of Burials 14/10 and 15 (fill). |
| MG0177 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Fill of Burial 14/21. |
| MG0178 | 1990 | N/A | | Stuff stomped into Floors 1/2. |
| MG0179 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Sherds from grave fill, Burials 14/11 & 12. |
| MG0180 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Sherds from grave fill of Burial 14/17. |
| MG0181 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Material from surface of Floor 3 & from level of Floor 3 where no floor is traceable. |
| MG0182 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0183 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0184 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0185 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0186 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0187 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0188 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0189 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Fill of NW pit, Str. 12 (=posthole). (Lots 182-188 not used). |
| MG0190 | 1990 | N/A | | Fill of PH; between W 23-W24 and N5-N6; actually lies over N5 line. |
| MG0191 | 1990 | N/A | | Fill of PH that cut into MG 156 on SW side; on line 7N + between 20 and 21 W. |
| MG0192 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/23. |
| MG0193 | 1990 | N/A | | Cleaning lower face on S side; see 157 as the same; my error in giving 193 to lot that was already 157. |
| MG0194 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | See 144; cleaning E side of SS; Cathy finding floors at levels lower than Floors 1/2 - lips around PH's are ca Floor 2 but we decided to go down to the best preserved floor. |
| MG0195 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 77 and 80 - west trench to see the relationship between surface and terrace face - where Kitty and George were digging along W side of Str. 14. |
| MG0196 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Clearing off Floor 1 below where Efrain was working (center of building; above "red" floor). |

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|--------|------|-----|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0197 | 1990 | N/A | | Polished/worked piece of albite & jadeite found along trail beyond site perimeter by Edberto. |
| MG0198 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/21 - associated plumbate vessel. |
| MG0199 | 1990 | N/A | | Bernardo - E end of transect Op 6 - 5th & 6th 10 cm levels. |
| MG0200 | 1990 | N/A | | Bernardo - E end of transect Op 6 - 5th & 6th 10 cm levels. |
| MG0201 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Material found in close proximity to Burial 14/20. |
| MG0202 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 77 & 113 clearing down terrace face - Lot is S of 131 - Josh's area on Str. 14 being cleared by Efrain (check with Josh - below 95? - YES). |
| MG0203 | 1990 | N/A | | Artifacts from Posthole in square 27/4. Approx. coordinated 70 70 in square. |
| MG0204 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 194; Digging down to "Fred" but in area of trench on S side, Str. 14, where George is working with Kitty, = 205 = 238. |
| MG0205 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Beneath 80 and in some areas beneath 76; given to area of axial trench as platform top reached & Pedro & Tony are moving in towards center of structure looking for floors; Josh is also worked here, George too; a cath-all lot as it was difficult in this area to find floors - once edges were distinguished, finer distinctions were possible - includes dark earth core in stair. |
| MG0206 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Beneath 157 (77/129/157/206). Cleaning off sloped or battered surface (that is, removing the stones) in one section of the lower terrace face on the south side of Str. 14 to reveal an earlier building phase, i.e., a vertical terrace face. Section is near SE corner of Str. 14. |
| MG0207 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/17 grave fill. |
| MG0208 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/26. |
| MG0209 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Charcoal from burnt area in Floor 2 E of burial 14/21 cranium. |
| MG0210 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Ash & c from posthole N of Burial 14/21 (under multi-hole area dug by Josh). |
| MG0211 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | W portion (Josh), below 131; given to deposit cleared to permit planning of stones and features. |
| MG0212 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Pedro & Tony digging down at base of possible stair riser on N side of Str. 14, reached plaster floor (outside (N of) stair). |
| MG0213 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Plaster floor that laps up onto stair riser, Str. 14. |
| MG0214 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Digging behind (S of) stair riser (that is core of stair) (see 228). |
| MG0215 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | "Crypt" on W side of Str. 14 - Kitty. |
| MG0216 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14/12 | Same as 135 but we jumped to N side & Edberto is looking for NE corner + cleaning area between Strs. 14 & 12 below 110 - goes all around corner of N terrace face. (see 237). |
| MG0217 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Beneath 206; cleaning down to base of lower terrace face, down to floor. |
| MG0218 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Floor on which low terrace (vertical) face rests - turns out not to be floor at base of face, but an addition. |
| MG0219 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/27. (Jar). |
| MG0220 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Pit in Fred floor, Str. 14, E of Burial 14/27 (drummer figurine; Cache 14/4). |

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|--------|------|-----|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0221 | 1990 | N/A | | Op 6 - Mariano digging down through midden to BR in E periphery; below MG 200. |
| MG0222 | 1990 | N/A | | Op 6 - below 221, Mariano digging in white sand. |
| MG0223 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Pit in center of trench, David's 2nd figurine - cache area on N side of trench (Cache 14/5). |
| MG0224 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 202; Efrain on W side nearing NW corner looking for upper terrace face. |
| MG0225 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Artifacts from fill pit in Fred floor (Str. 14) (same pit as figurine MG 220; Cache 14/4). |
| MG0226 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Pit in center trench (cache 14/5) artifact associated with whistle figurine. |
| MG0227 | 1990 | N/A | | Op 4 - test pit at base of riser to earlier floor. Below MG 82 but actually has some material from 82. Whitish sand beneath 82, presumably as we are nearing bedrock. |
| MG0228 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Stair on N side, core; below 214; sherds from processing levels in stair core; much from this deposit has been included in 214, above 229 (grey clay). |
| MG0229 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Stair core; below 228; bits of sherds from grey clay below processing levels (214/228/229). |
| MG0230 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Stair core/platform core/digging at interface of platform surface and stair N of 205; S of 76 and below 76; between 25/13 and 25/11; digging remains of surface soil and collapse; really mixed as no clear stone alignments visible; mixed hummus and processing levels (76/230 205). |
| MG0231 | 1990 | N/A | | Op 4; (82/227); this mixture of 82 and 227; Mariano I think dug below water level in areas that included 82, and other areas in the white sand. |
| MG0232 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below 135- Southeast corner near base- Estevan working checking to see if lower vertical terrace face continues eastward; does not, but battered face does. |
| MG0233 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Right at northeast corner - Efrain now moving eastward from corner. This includes all material up to stair on N (see 266). |
| MG0234 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | David sent Edberto & Mariano to sieve Postclassic midden near swamp periphery on path home; Str. 12 (looters' pit). |
| MG0235 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Imp!; Estevan digging down to base of upper terrace face on S side (behind lower face); lots of 9th-10th c ceramics. |
| MG0236 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 16 (?) | Nicolas testing E of Str. 12; includes area skirting vertical stone face and cap from test area. |
| MG0237 | 1990 | N/A | | Continues 216, Luis continued along N "face" where Edberto left off. Found only collapse so moved farther S & encountered a true N face and followed it westward. |
| MG0238 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Trench area of Str. 14, S side; = 204; but Josh cleaning mainly band along platform edge on S side at junction with upper terrace face (see 269). |
| MG0239 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Contents of SW pit. |
| MG0240 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 12 | Digging to find W face & following it northward; below 110; = 216 and just E of 216; however continues N beyond limit of 110 + includes surface soil down; Late Postcl. Pottery; Mayapan-style pottery (censer?) fragment. |
| MG0241 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Stair on N side; Edberto excavating outside stair on E side, that is along E stairside down to a surface. |

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|--------|------|-----|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0242 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0243 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0244 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0245 | 1990 | N/A | | |
| MG0246 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Taking off Floor 4 in area of C. trench down to 5 (Lots 242-245 not used). |
| MG0247 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | In level to 246; George taking away deposit that had only 1 "Crust" of Floor 4 in one small area; TD found instead with rocks that protruded slightly above level of 4 (at ca -97 BD at F) - dug in area between 25W and 26W and between ca 7N and 9N; between 7-8N a lower floor ringed by some stones found; between 8-9N is mostly TD and may be a cut. |
| MG0248 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/28. |
| MG0249 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/ 29. |
| MG0250 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Same as 194 but near E "wall" feature where Cathy was digging postholes that seem to be part of a dividing wall - digging down to "Fred" (see 257). |
| MG0251 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Estevan digging through 218 (which turns out to be base of lower terrace face) down to piso verdadero (254). |
| MG0252 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Contents of ash pit, centre trench. |
| MG0253 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | George; fill of a hole in which 2nd tulip vessel was found (vessel with Burial 14/29). |
| MG0254 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | True Floor at base of lower terrace face on S side, Str. 14; below 251, which is below 218: 157/206/217/218/251/254. |
| MG0255 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 16 | Nicholas; below 236; in area of test pit, Str. 16. |
| MG0256 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | N side upper (inner) terrace face; after exposing a line that runs E/W, Mariano is digging down to find the base of this face; 256 is below 237 (which runs to the surface) 237/256. |
| MG0257 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Cathy and postholes, below 250; digging away posthole area down to Fred to PH area overlies Fred. |
| MG0258 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | N side; Efrain & Pedro, digging to find W stairside (from surface). |
| MG0259 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | NW corner; Edberto moving in after Efrain traced the face and poking down to find base of face on W and N sides. |
| MG0260 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below 256; see above; Mariano encountered a TD surface; 260 is below the TD (237/256/260). |
| MG0261 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Below 246; area of center trench; taking off Floor 5 down to 6. |
| MG0262 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Small PH through 6 - dug by Luis; see plan of Floor 6. |
| MG0263 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Big Posthole through Floor 6, dug by Luis; see plan of Floor 6. |
| MG0264 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 16 | Nick, Str. 16; below 255. |
| MG0265 | 1990 | N/A | | PH through Fred - see Bk 2, p. 84. |
| MG0266 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Continuation of 233 but Ef has gone elsewhere & Edberto is digging here - moved into area which should be above stair; trying to define stair & its W edge. |
| MG0267 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Kitty cleaning 6 to reveal next floor. |

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|--------|------|-------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0268 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Fill of Burial 14/29. |
| MG0269 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Part of trench at junction with upper face; below 238; Josh examining levels of juncture between floors & stones of upper terrace face. |
| MG0270 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | PH in Fred cleared by Cathy. |
| MG0271 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Luis cleaning PH on W side of SX trench, S of center between 8-7N; see plan. |
| MG0272 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Luis cleaning on west side of SX trench down to 5 or its equivalent; PH area seems to be associated with floor above & perhaps 4 & go through 5. |
| MG0273 | 1990 | N/A | | Posthole in Floor 7 or the trench, below directly, posthole in floor 6. Conch shells and chert lump. |
| MG0274 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Fill, burial 14/27. |
| MG0275 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Estevan's last job - digging SW corner of upper face looking for base - did not reach yet. |
| MG0276 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Efrain clearing around & inside crypt feature off W side. |
| MG0277 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/30. |
| MG0278 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/7 fill. |
| MG0279 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 14 | Burial 14/30 grave fill. |
| MG0280 | 1990 | N/A | Str. 40 | Surface collection from looted structure - looters' trench in Str. 40. |
| MG0281 | 1990 | N/A | | This is stuff that Anne labelled 147, but we are not sure that the material is 82; it looks like 82 but sine Mariano's 147 was on the other side of the lowermost riser, there may have been a quantity of Postcl. Sherds. |
| MG0282 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Pass 1 EASTERN EDGE TEST PIT Surface to 20 cm (top of Conchs) Above 285. OP - 9 Originally to designate 0-20 cm but reached Conch so refers to layer above conch. |
| MG0283 | 1992 | 00-10 | Str. 14 | Pass 1 Str. 14 TEST PIT |
| MG0284 | 1992 | 00-11 | | Pass 1, OP 11, WESTERN TEST PIT Surface to 20 cm. Below: 0, Above: 286. |
| MG0285 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Pass 2, Layer of conch and assorted shell at depth of approx. 10-25 cm below surface. Below: 282, Above: 290. Goes deeper than 25- ca. 40 cm. |
| MG0286 | 1992 | 00-11 | | Pass 2, Approx. 21-40 cm. Below 284, above 287. |
| MG0287 | 1992 | 00-11 | | 40-60 cm, Below 286, above 289. Lots of conch; see book; also includes 60-80 cm |
| MG0288 | 1992 | 00-10 | | Pass 2, 10-40 cm deep, south end of square: 40 cm, north end of square: 10 cm. |
| MG0289 | 1992 | 00-11 | | Below 287, 80 -> 100 |
| MG0290 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Below 285, Above: __; Level of sticky earth below conch/sherd midden; starts at 40 cm below ground surface. |
| MG0291 | 1992 | 00-12 | | 0-20 cm. Edberto in grove of Gumbo limbo. |
| MG0292 | 1992 | 00-10 | | Continuation to N of original pit, same as 283 and 288; slightly less than 40 cm. Ca. 0-30-40 cm. |
| MG0293 | 1992 | 00-10 | | Continuation to North of original pitt, below 292. South end of pit 20 cm deep, north end of pit starts 30 cm deep. |

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| MG0294 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Below lot 290, starts 60 cm below surface. |
| MG0295 | 1992 | 00-12 | | Below lot 291, starts approx. 25 cm down. |
| MG0296 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Below lot 294, starts at 90 cm. |
| MG0297 | 1992 | 00-10 | | Below lot 293, starts 50 cm down - area now totally rock and shell. |
| MG0298 | 1992 | 00-9 | | Below lot 296 - approx 1 m below surface, white sandy clay. |
| MG0299 | 1992 | 00-12 | | Tierra dura and below - lot 295 above this level. |
| MG0300 | 1992 | 00-10 | | South area, 50 cm by 50 cm in North Square, grey clay level area restricted by rock. |
| MG0301 | 1992 | 00-10 | | South area, 50 cm by 50 cm in North Square. Starts 124 cm down (from datum line #2 on section) - water level with white sandy clay. Munsell = 10 yr 3/2. |
| MG0302 | 1992 | | | Sherds picked up along new road between Ruben's house and new houses of Reef Realty; not really MG; most are v. blackened; seem burned and have tannin stains. |
| MG0303 | 1992 | 00-10 | | White possible construction level below 301. OP 10: on drawing below grey/postclassic sherds. |
| MG0304 | 1992 | | | Beige clay level, below 303 - lots of fish bone. |
| MG0305 | 2010 | | | 22 June 2010; Found Sp bag with sherds labelled R. Woods. Int. & ext. glazed sherds from Alijua Bldg. Other 2, Beach, SP. |
| MG0306 | 2010 | 10-2 | Behind Str. 12 | Test pit for 100. Mike and Jake; 24 June. 0-15 cmbs. PAA |
| MG0307 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Structure 14, north side; cleaning north face on E. side of C. trench; Alicia, Nora; 24 June. 0- |
| MG0308 | 2010 | 10-5 | Str. 14 | Structure 14, S. side, cleaning south 'face' at western end of structure. Gavin,, Miles, Jordan and Caitlin; 24 June |
| MG0309 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Decayed remains of former floors plus PAA (cont's from 1990 exposure), S. side, top of Structure. Elizabeth, Kenda and Mandy; 24 June. |
| MG0310 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Architectural clearing of giant stair risers on N. side (originally lowest stair riser but now subsumes all). Amy; 24 June. |
| MG0311 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Structure 12, area north of second stair riser. IE - area between 1st and 2nd stair riser. Jenny; 24 June. |
| MG0312 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Structure 12, area north of 3rd stair riser, or area between 2nd and 3rd stair risers; 24 June. |
| MG0313 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Surface collection, area immediately north of structure 12. |
| MG0314 | 2010 | | Str. 14 | Surface collection on and around platform. PAA |
| MG0315 | 2010 | 10-6 | Str. 14 | Structure 14; N. side central trench; All material from upper level digging down to salt processing. PAA in some areas plus backfill from 1990 |
| MG0316 | 2010 | 10-4 | Str. 14 | Structure 14; W. side clearing down 1st 10-20cm. PAA |
| MG0317 | 2010 | 10-6 | Str. 14 | Below MG 315 at S end of trench- digging down ca. 10-15 cm. Mistakenly given 316 but should be 317. Begins at level of salt processing deposits |
| MG0318 | 2010 | 10-2 | Behind Str. 12 | Op 10-2 Beneath 306, "toilet" pit - begun at point of clearing rocks. |
| MG0319 | 2010 | 10-7 | Str. 13 | Upper level; ca. 15-20 cm. PAA |

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|--------|------|------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MG0320 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Burial 14/32, primary lot |
| MG0321 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Str. 12, N side below 313, largely outside structure in presumed plaza area where structure faces |
| MG0322 | 2010 | 10-8 | Strs. 12/14 | Strs. 12, 14 between structures. Top level. Paa and possible fill/core |
| MG0323 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Burial 14/32 fil (deposit from around burial). Most material including spindle whorl is from E of the burial. |
| MG0324 | 2010 | 10-4 | Str. 14 | Below MG 316, arbitrary. Rachael & Gavin. |
| MG0325 | 2010 | 10-6 | Str. 14 | Below MG 317 salt processing levels |
| MG0326 | 2010 | 10-2 | | Below 306, in toilet pit - area of pit extension; salt procesing levels. |
| MG0327 | 2010 | 10-6 | Str. 14 | ASH LEVEL at same depth as MG 325. Does not show in east section; backfill from 1990? |
| MG0328 | 2010 | 10-8 | Str. 14 | Architectural clearing of (uppermost?) terrace face, NE corner; also includes some material from between the structures; below MG 322, that is possible core material deliberately deposited between structures (see notes) |
| MG0329 | 2010 | 10-4 | Str. 14 | Clearing of West half of platform surface from upper edge of South side terrace face (Op 10-5) (and presumed edge of building platform) moving north across area of floor surfaces; PAA; equivalent to MG 316 |
| MG0330 | 2010 | 10-4 | Str. 14 | Beneath MG 316 in NE 2x2 m square. PAA, decayed floor surfaces. Miles and Alicia. |
| MG0331 | 2010 | 10-2 | | Below MG 326 in 'toilet pit'; beneath brickotage, hit water level; soil texture changed to clayey soil. Not clear from notes whether MG 331 include clay beneath the white 'floor' ; should include lower procesing levels. |
| MG0332 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Burial 14/33; primary lot |
| MG0333 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Burial 14/34; primary lot |
| MG0334 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Below MG 321. Apparently still PAA. Roxanne & Amy |
| MG0335 | 2010 | 10-2 | | Equivalent to MG 306, first 10-15 cms of SW extension of 'toilet pit'. PAA in 1x1 m extension. Mikey, Leanna and Alice Gomer |
| MG0336 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Below MG 334. Arbitrary as soil remains black and root disturbed. Roxanne & Amy |
| MG0337 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | Fill of Burial 14/33. Not primary to the burial |
| MG0338 | 2010 | 10-1 | Str. 12 | Below MG 336, Str. 12 plaza area (abutting Str. 12); clearing down to sand area or patch (top of processing levels) |
| MG0339 | 2010 | 10-8 | Str. 14 | architectural clearing of terrace face in area of NE corner. Kyle excavating below Strs. 14 & 12 but then moving to clear terrace face of Str. 14. MG 328 also has sherds from here. MG 328, however, was meant to apply to posible core behind the face we discovered that connected Str. 12 to Str. 14 but it got used for architectural clearing as well. So MG 339 = MG 328. |
| MG0340 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | equivalent to MG 309 in area of Burials 33, 35, 36 & 37 - extending excavation into baulk on east side. |
| MG0341 | 2010 | 10-3 | Str. 14 | primary lot for Burial 14/35. |

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PART 5:
Summary of Artifact Counts by Lot,
2010 Field Season

Summary of Artifact Counts by Lot, 2010 Field Season, Marco Gonzalez, Belize

Lot Number

Material Type

| | Ceramic sherds | Notched Sherds | Perforated Sherds | Chert | Bone | Obsidian | Shell | Stucco/ Plaster | Charcoal Samples | Historic Artifacts | Special Ceramics | Small Finds | Quartz/ Quartzite | Teeth | Copper | Slate | Metamorphic | Glass | Concretions | Daub | Metal |
|--------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------|------|----------|-------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|------|-------|
| MG 306 | 2739 | 33 | 0 | 74 | 145 | 16 | 682 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MG 307 | 56 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MG 308 | 382 | 3 | 1 | 14 | 32 | 3 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MG 309 | 136 | | | 17 | 90 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| MG 310 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MG 311 | 300 | | | 129 | 380 | 7 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 171 | 6 | 13 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| MG 312 | 65 | | | 66 | 22 | 22 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 76 | 2 | 0 | 42 |
| MG 313 | 24 | | | 10 | 37 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| MG 314 | 83 | | | 9 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| MG 315 | 390 | | | 99 | 230 | 6 | 32 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 1 |
| MG 316 | 136 | | | 45 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| MG 317 | 57 | | | 29 | 19 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 2 | 0 | 17 |
| MG 318 | 81 | | | 27 | 39 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 26 | 0 | 21 |
| MG 319 | 321 | | | 61 | 29 | 6 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| MG 320 | 67 | | | 16 | 12 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| MG 321 | 458 | | | 43 | 160 | 5 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| MG 322 | 33 | | | 22 | 30 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| MG 323 | 84 | | | 25 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| MG 324 | 712 | | | 121 | 315 | 6 | 76 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 26 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| MG 325 | 21 | | | 4 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| MG 326 | - not excavated in 2006 - | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MG 327 | 372 | | | 41 | 118 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 17 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| MG 328 | 48 | | | 15 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

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| MG 329 | 596 | | | 71 | 174 | 6 | 39 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 27 | 12 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| MG 330 | 78 | | | 14 | 16 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 7239 | | | 952 | 1927 | 102 | 947 | 9 | 0 | 261 | 89 | 153 | 27 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 213 | 59 | 8 | 138 |

| Coral | Brickatage | Pumice | Ground Stone | Limestone (artifact) | Total Artifact Count |
|-------|------------|--------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 7 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 0 | 3715 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 463 |
| | | | | | 259 |
| | | | | | 7 |
| | | | | | 1061 |
| | | | | | 325 |
| | | | | | 87 |
| | | | | | 115 |
| | | | | | 800 |
| | | | | | 231 |
| | | | | | 173 |
| | | | | | 285 |
| | | | | | 452 |
| | | | | | 107 |
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| | | | | | 137 |
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