CHAN PROJECT

THE CHAN PROJECT: 2003 SEASON

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THE CHAN SITE

The Chan site is an ancient Maya agrarian community in west-central Belize, which was occupied from the Early Preclassic to the Early Postclassic periods (ca. 1000 B.C. - A.D. 1250; LeCount, this volume). The site was named Chan after the landowners Don Ismael and Derric Chan. Located just east of the modern day community of San Jose Succotz, the Chan site is situated in an interfluvial area of undulating limestone uplands between the Mopan and Macal branches of the Belize river in a region of high, rounded hills (peaks >160m; Smith 1997). In the 3.29 sq km of the site currently surveyed, 583 mounds (177 per sq km) and 1258 terraces (382 per sq km) have been identified (see Wyatt and Kalosky this volume). Across Chan's hilly terrain its ancient inhabitants constructed and utilized a productive agricultural landscape of hill-slope and cross-channel terraces. Chan's rounded limestone hills seem to have been particularly well suited or particularly well adapted for terrace agriculture (Juarez in Robin et al. 2002: 21-23).

The agrarian community of Chan is situated at the center-point between larger civic-centers located 4 to 6 km to the north, south, east, and west (Figure 1). To the west lies Xunantunich and Actuncan, to the north, Nohoch Ek, Buenavista, and Cahal Pech, to the east Dos Chombitos and Guacamayo, and to the south, Las Ruinas/ Arenal.

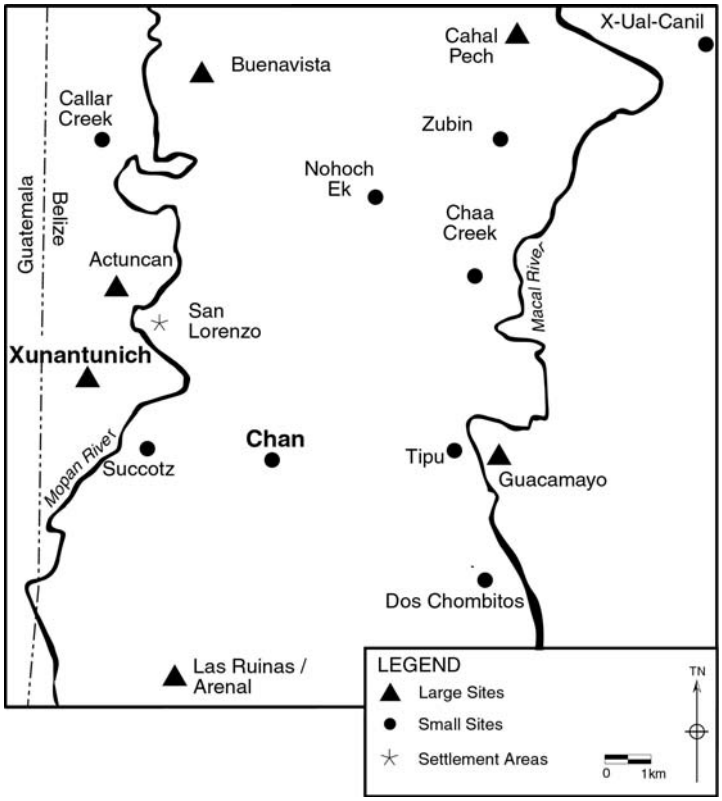

Figure 1: Location of the Chan site.

CHAN PROJECT RESEARCH GOALS

Studies of ordinary agricultural producers, such as the inhabitants of the Chan site, are critical for understanding ancient complex societies. This is particularly the case in agrarian-based complex societies like the ancient Maya, where agricultural producers make up the bulk of society (e.g., Fedick 1996). While archaeology around the world may have initially focused on temples, tombs, and kings, archaeologists are now emphasizing that ordinary people and ordinary communities are made the 'focal point' rather than the periphery of archaeological research (e.g., Brumfiel 1992; McAnany 1995; Pyburn 1998; Sheets 2002).

The Chan site was selected for study, not because of any imposing monumental architectural remains, but for the ordinariness of the site. In many ways the Chan site is similar to other small agricultural centers throughout the Maya area. Research at Chan affords us the opportunity to study the importance of daily life in an ordinary community. The long history of occupation at Chan provides the time depth necessary to understand the relationship between agrarian life and larger political-economic changes throughout Maya society during the Preclassic, Classic, and Postclassic periods. Because many of the larger civic-centers surrounding the Chan site have been well studied by previous and current archaeological researchers in Belize, research at Chan will be able to directly examine how agrarian life related to the changing political fortunes of neighboring civic-centers. Given the long history of occupation at Chan, its agrarian residents would have interacted, both directly and indirectly, with residents of a number of neighboring centers at different points in time, for example, with Cahal Pech residents in the Preclassic, Actuncan in the Early Classic, Buenavista in the early Late Classic, and Xunantunich in the late Late Classic. The extensive nature of previous research at centers in the upper Belize river area makes it possible for new archaeological research at Chan to now examine the relationship between life in an agrarian community and life in major centers (e.g., Awe 1992; Taschek and Ball 1992; LeCount 2003; Leventhal and Ashmore n.d.).

The research goals of the Chan project can be summarized as three straight-forward objectives: (1) to document the over 2000 year history of ordinary life in an agrarian community; (2) to understand how agrarian life is transformed through interactions with larger centers, and (3) to understand how larger centers may have had to accommodate to life in agrarian communities.

In relationship to the multiple civic-centers in the upper Belize river area who's power waxed and waned at different times during the Preclassic, Classic, and Postclassic periods, the relationship between Chan and Xunantunich appears to have been particularly transformative during the Late Classic period based on current survey data. Chan's settlement occupation remains relatively low throughout the initial 1670 years of its history (Early Preclassic to Early Classic periods). Chan's settlement occupation increases dramatically in the Late Classic period largely within the late Late Classic period (A.D. 670-780) of Xunantunich's political florescence. During the short-lived period of Xunantunich polity expansion in the late Late Classic, Chan's occupation increases dramatically. At this time Chan residents were probably part of Xunantunich polity economic networks, such as those by which Mount Maloney black pottery was distributed. Mount Maloney black pottery is the most common pottery found at Chan and throughout the Xunantunich polity (LeCount et al. 2002; Robin 1999). Alongside the decline and abandonment of Xunantunich the long-lived community of Chan declines and is abandoned. The parallel trajectories of Chan’s settlement expansion and Xunantunich’s political florescence

suggest a relationship between the local dynamics of agrarian life at Chan and the changing political-economic system centered at Xunantunich.

By way of contrast, Jennifer Ehret's (1995) test pitting research around the small center of Callar Creek located to the north of Xunantunich and only ca. one km from the center of Buenavista (see Figure 1) documented that Callar Creek's primary period of settlement expansion took place in the early Late Classic (A.D. 600-670) parallel with Buenavista's major period of political expansion. Parallels in the timing of local settlement expansion, such as that seen at Chan and Callar Creek, contextualized in relationship to political developments at nearby centers such as Xunantunich and Buenavista suggest specific inter-relationships between local settlements and major centers, and micro-level movements of local populations within the upper Belize river area as major centers waxed and waned.

Figure 2 shows El Castillo (Str. A-6), the central temple-pyramid, at Xunantunich as seen from the Chan site. Similarly the late Late Classic residents of Chan would have been able to see Xunantunich each day as they worked in their fields and lived in their homes. As they viewed this temple-pyramid, Chan residents would have had a constant reminder of the broader society in which they were participants. This distant image of monumental construction, which was unlike any construction at Chan, may also have reminded residents of the limits of their social world and the social differences that existed in their society.

Just as Xunantunich is visible from Chan, Chan is also visible, albeit only partially, from Xunantunich as seen in Figure 3. From the top of the El Castillo, the Chan site looks today, like a homogeneous mass of trees. Just as the trees at Chan today as seen from El Castillo appear homogeneous, the diversity and complexity of everyday life at Chan is obscured from an archaeological perspective taken from the center looking out. The goal of the Chan project is to promote a change in perspective on Maya society by focusing on the diversity of everyday life in an ordinary community and turning our archaeological perspective from the center looking out (Figure 2) to that of the ordinary community looking in (Figure 3).

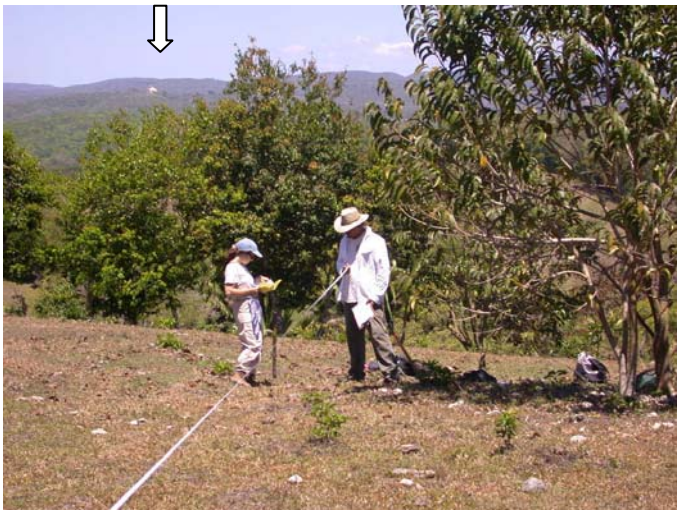

Figure 2: El Castillo at Xunantunich (marked by arrow) as seen from Chan.

Figure 3: Chan (marked by arrow) as seen From Xunantunich.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Research at the Chan site was first permitted in 2002 by the Belize Institute of Archaeology. 2002 was the initial season of six proposed years of research at the Chan site. In that year full-coverage survey work completed the mapping of 2.88 sq km of the site. This research documented 491 mounds and 1137 terraces. Publications and research reports on the 2002 work include: Robin et al. 2002 and 2003a. Santiago Juarez' (2003) senior thesis on the agriculture terraces at Chan received the 2003 Oswald Werner prize for the best senior thesis in Anthropology at Northwestern. Papers were presented by project members at the 2003 Belize Archaeology Symposium, the Midwest Mesoamericanist meetings, and the American Anthropological Association meetings (Robin 2003a; Robin et al. 2003b, 2003c).

2003 RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND GOALS

The 2003 season at the Chan site had two goals:
1) To continue the full-coverage survey of the site, and
2) To commence excavations at Chan's central platform group (C-001; Figure 4).

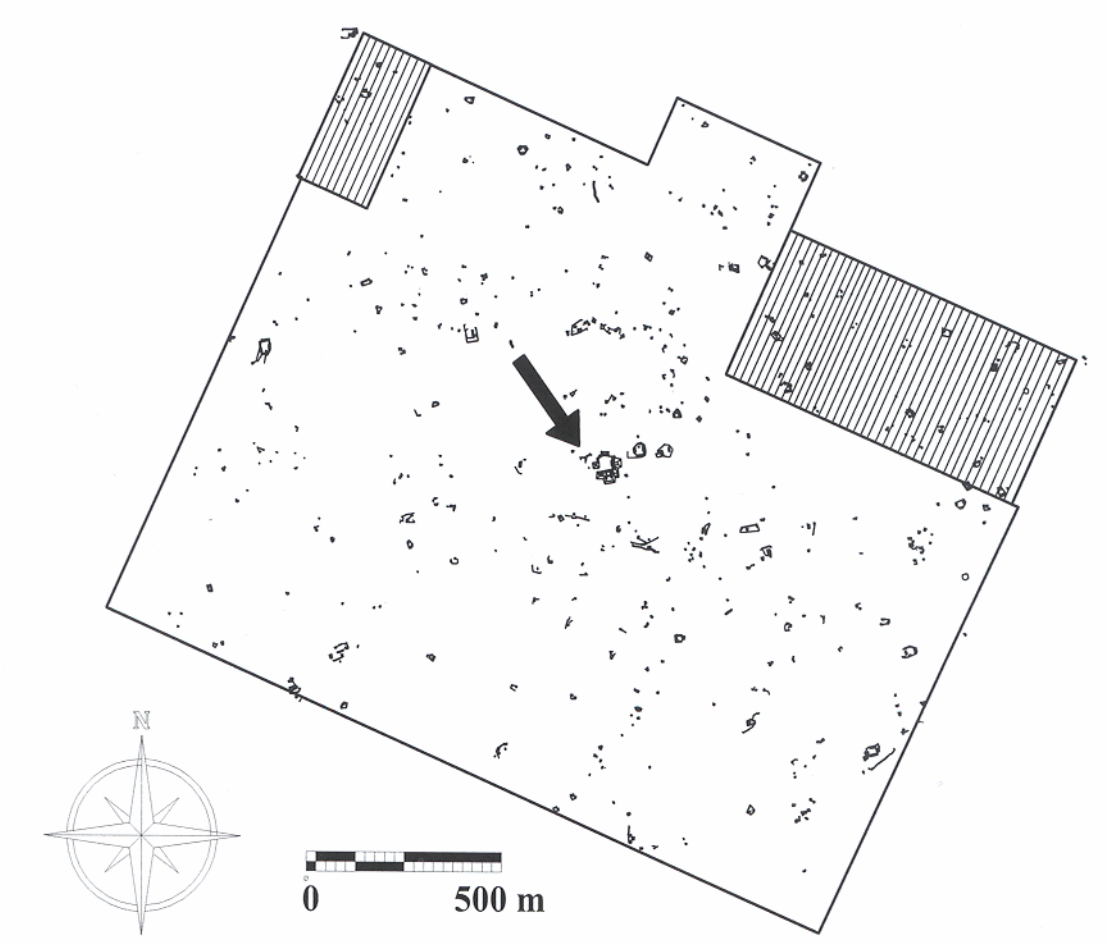

Figure 4: Location of C-001 at the Chan site. Shaded areas indicate 2003 survey area.

Survey

To understand more completely the cultural and natural constitution of the Chan site area, in 2003 we continued our full-coverage survey work applying the same survey methodologies initially developed in 2002 (see Robin et al. 2002 and Wyatt and Kalosky, this volume). Topographic mapping, archaeological reconnaissance, and surface collection was recorded using laser surveying technologies (Topcon GTS605 Total Station) and digital computer imaging (VisualCADD and SURFER software).

Excavation

In 2003 we began excavations at Chan's largest and central platform group (C-001) and we expect to continue excavations there in the coming two season (Figure 4). We conducted two excavation operations in 2003 (Figure 5) -- Operation 1, located in the C-001 plaza area (Blackmore, this volume) and Operation 2, located on the northern structure, Str. 2 (Latsch, this volume).

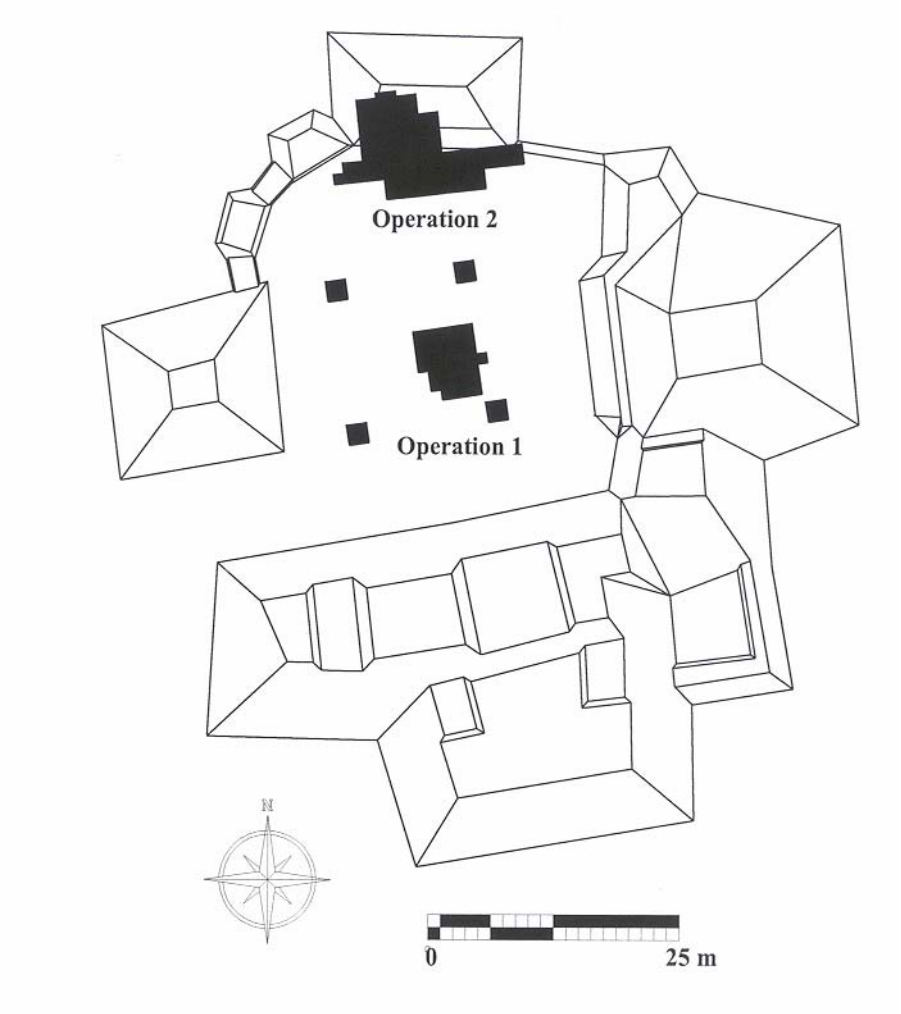

Figure 5: Location of excavation Operations 1 and 2 at C-001.

Our selection of C-001 for the initial year of excavations at the Chan site is strategic. Robin's previous excavations in the Chan area for her dissertation research targeted the mound groups at the smallest end of the Chan mound group spectrum (Robin 1999, 2001, 2002a, 2002b, 2003b, 2004). By targeting C-001, the largest group at Chan, we can assess the other extreme on the spectrum of variability at Chan and gain a better understanding of the range and variability and socio-economic differences across the community. Give the size and uniqueness of C-001, we postulate that this group constituted a central place for public and administrative activities at the Chan site. Given the presence of Middle Preclassic ceramics in surface collections and both Early and Middle Preclassic ceramics from excavations at C-001 (LeCount, this volume), it may also have been the settlement location of founding members of the Chan community who subsequently became community leaders.

C-001 is the only mound group at the Chan site to have mounds over 3 meters tall. The layout of the central group in terms of formality and directionality is comparable, albeit at a smaller scale, with that seen at larger centers across the Maya area (compare Ashmore 1991; Coggins 1988). C-001 has an east-west focus (Figure 6). The eastern and western structures, which have yet to be excavated, based on surface from and size, are postulated to be shrines. The east to west focus of C-001 may relate to the Preclassic founding of the site or to Chan's agrarian focus and the ritual association between the agricultural cycle and the east-west cycle of the sun in Maya cosmology (compare Ashmore and Sabloff 2002; Hansen 1998). Although the ceremonial function of the eastern and western mounds at the Chan site is currently only hypothetical, Blackmore's (this volume) excavations in the center of the C-001 plaza documented an over 2000 year Preclassic to Postclassic sequence of ritual deposits at the center of the plaza at C-001 which illustrates an intensity and longevity of ritual practice at C-001. At the northern end of the central plaza is a range structure. Based on surface form and its northern location, the northern range structure is postulated to be a residence of Chan leaders, located in the northern position at C-001 paralleling rulers' placement of their residences in northern positions within sites and residential groups throughout the Maya area (Ashmore 1991). Latsch's (this volume) excavations at the northern range structure, Str. 2, provisionally suggest that this was an actual or public residence of important and founding members of the Chan community.

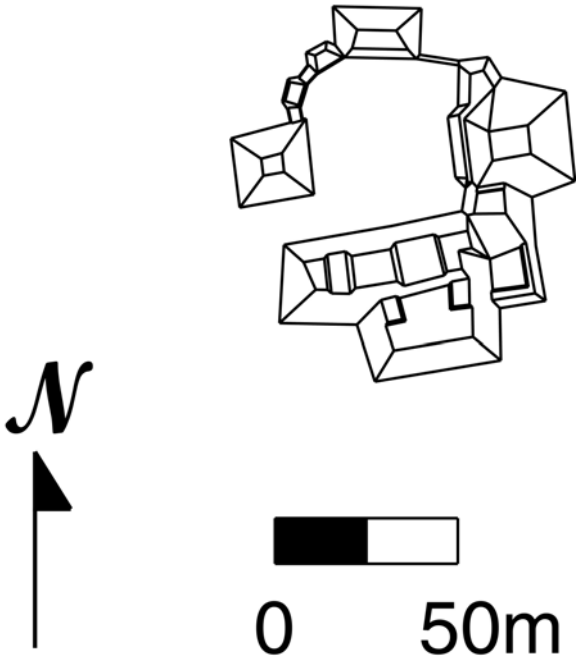

Figure 6: Layout of C-001

The basic goals of the C-001 excavations are to test the propositions outlined above that C-001 is a central public and administrative place for the Chan community as well as residential area for founding community members and subsequent community leaders. To further these goals the Chan project has developed excavation procedures, which build upon and expand traditional Maya excavation methodologies, which have tended to be mound or architecture focuses as well as focused on the collection of macro archaeological remains. The Chan project excavation procedures additional target non-mound spaces (exterior area, such as the plaza area of C-001) and the collection of micro archaeological remains. We will pay as close attention to non-mound areas as we do to mounds, because non-mound areas are the types of places where most ancient activities occurred (Robin 1999, 2002a; Robin and Rothschild 2002). We conduct detailed micro artifact and chemical studies because these micro remain often yield the only currently preserved evidence of certain ancient activities. Our micro sampling includes the following sample types:

(a) paleoethnobotanical studies
    -macrobotanical
    -flotation
    -pollen
    -phytolith
(b) chemical studies
    -Melich II phosphorous test
    - Inductively Coupled Plasma/Atomic Emissions Spectroscopy (ICP/AES) to determine absolute levels of 12 elements (Aluminum, Barium, Calcium, Iron, Potassium, Magnesium, Manganese, Sodium, Phosphorous, Strontium, Titanium, and Zinc)
    -bulk density
    -particle size
    -organic C
(c) micromorphology
(d) micro artifact
(e) plaster
(f) radiocarbon.

For all Chan project excavations all sediment is screened through 1/4 inch mesh screen or finer. All quantitative field excavation data are entered into Excel spreadsheets and Access databases to facilitate future analysis. All visual field excavation data (drawings of excavations) are digitized into Adobe Illustrator format and all photographs are initially recorded in digital form using a digital camera. Our specific excavation procedures are detailed in Appendix A and our specific sample collection procedures are detailed in Appendix B.

A 2000 YEAR HISTORY OF RITUAL AT THE CENTER OF CHAN

We initiated excavations in the center of this plaza at C-001, which is the social and spatial center of the larger agrarian community, in 2003 to attempt to locate potential evidence of community center ritual. We proposed this plaza center location for excavation, following the lead of evidence from contemporary Maya agrarian communities where people come together to worship at the social and spatial centers of their communities (e.g., Hanks 1990; Vogt 1976). As

well recent research in Maya plazas has been revealing evidence for plaza center ritual activities (e.g., Awe 1992; Garber and Brown 2003; Hammond 1991; Robin 1989; Wells 2004; Welsh 1988).

The results of these excavations exceeded any outcome we could have imagined prior to our excavations. As LeCount's (this volume) preliminary ceramic analysis indicates, for over 2000 years the people of Chan came to that exact center point of their community to perform rituals. As Blackmore (this volume) details this sequence, which includes an ancestral burial, six caches cut into or placed on bedrock, two altars, a shrine, and a stela. Initially the physical remains of these rituals took the form of the ancestral burial or the caches dug into bedrock. The items incorporated into the caches include both local and non-local materials including -- ceramic vessels, incense burners, and figurines; jade and greenstone ornaments: spondyllus shell beads and pendants; and slate and obsidian objects. The most intriguing cached object was a stalactite from a cave.

Later in the Classic and Postclassic periods rituals took the form of altars and shrines. Two altars were sequentially dedicated with two objects, a figurine and an incense burner. A single-course high subrectangular shrine was constructed around the final altar and associated with a 2 meter high plain stela. Finding a stela, probably of Terminal Classic date at Chan was unexpected. As the stela had been broken or broke into over 9 pieces it had not been observed during the original 1994 survey mapping of C-001. The finding of the stela suggests that at the end of the Classic period, as the power of Classic Maya elites is waning, the trappings of their political offices, such as stela, were being co-opted into the politico-ritual inventories of the leaders of increasingly smaller communities across the Maya countryside that never utilized this politico-symbolic form previously in the Classic period.

The 2000 year ritual sequence at the center of the Chan site documents a tremendous continuity in the ritual use of a single sacred spot at the center of a community. This multi-generational performance of ritual was enacted without the aid of written history. A number of lines of evidence indicate how community residents remembered or discovered earlier ritual practices. The location of the ancestral burial was either remembered or discovered later in Chan's history as Blackmore's (this volume) osteological and excavation evidence shows that the burial was re-entered at least two times and the skull and upper portion of the body were removed for veneration. Even later in time, an object, an incense burner stand was hierloomed. It was broken and half of the stand was interred with the penultimate altar while the other half was kept in circulation and finally buried in the last ritual offering placed on Chan's final altar. Like the repeated re-entering of the burial, the hierlooming of objects attests to the memory and remembrances of earlier ritual practices that formed part of subsequent ritual enactments.

The configuration of ritual knowledge invoked in the C-001 plaza center ritual sequence documents the early development and transmission of types of ritual knowledge on the part of ordinary farmers that we typically ascribe to the literate elite. Green, jade and greenstone, is being used to mark the cosmic center. The underworld in the form of a stalactite from a cave or a figural image of the jaguar god of the underworld is being used to mark the center point and axis below the community. Other ritual deposits from the humblest of farming households at Chan, such as the caching of colored river cobbles oriented following color-directional symbolism, further demonstrates this point (Robin 1999, 2002a).

As an expression of monumentality, the ritual performances at the center of the Chan site were certainly un-monumental. Figure 7 shows how just a few archaeologists fill the entirety of the ritual pits dug into bedrock at the center of the site. Chan's ultimate central shrine was but

one course of stones high and 2.60 by 2.00 meters in area. The rulers of larger cities in the Maya area may have controlled the labor of hundreds if not thousands of slaves or commoners to build temples and monuments within the sacred ceremonial precincts of sites. These monumental places could be defaced, dismantled, or fall out of use after the political decline of a city and its ruling family. But the ordinary farming people of Chan were able to maintain the sacred nature of their community through more than 2,000 years of rituals consecrating the center of their community. The ritual practices at Chan illustrate that the politico-ritual practices, ascribed to and well documented for the Maya royalty, were in fact derived or co-opted from the domestic ritual practices of ordinary Maya people. The development of ritual practices in the Maya area certainly involved the interactions of all member of society, even those that were likely systematically excluded from the public royal ritual performances in the grandest of Maya monumental plazas. While it may be that Maya royalty initially co-opted aspects of ordinary people's domestic ritual to constitute the core of royal politico-ritual practices, it also seems to be the case that years later, as royal power waned, ordinary community leaders re-claimed aspects of royal ritual practice that had never previously been accessible to members of smaller communities. The 2003 Chan research at the center of C-001 attests to the power of ordinary people's practices in the making and maintaining of ordinary landscapes.

Figure 7: Archaeologists sitting in the central ritual pits at C-001. From left to right, Elvis Chi, Don Bernabe Camal, Omar Chi, Edwin Camal, Everaldo Chi, Nestor Alfaro, Ciro Hernandez, Carlos Salgueros, Jonny Camal, Ifrain Chan, Don Cruz Puc.

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THE 2003 CHAN SURVEY

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RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND GOALS

To understand more completely the Chan site area, the Chan Project in 2003 continued a full-coverage survey around the site core to identify the area's cultural, natural, and historic constitution. This survey builds on the previous survey and mapping completed in the 2002 season of the Chan Project, and the 1994 season of the Xunantunich Settlement Survey (Ashmore et al. 1994; Robin et al. 2002, 2003). The Chan survey methodology utilizes 3 techniques; (1) topographic mapping, (2) archaeological reconnaissance, and (3) surface collection to obtain information on natural features (land formations, vegetation, environment), cultural features (architecture, agricultural features, other human constructions), and chronology (relative dating of archaeological features through surface collection ceramics).

The full-coverage survey of the Chan site is designed to document the natural environment of the site and identify traces of human settlement and sort these on chronological, functional, and socio-economic dimensions. The survey will generate data to answer the following questions and allow us to develop a model of the development and demise of the Chan site:

1) What was the spatial, temporal, and functional extent of the farming community?

2) How were the mounds and terraces distributed in relation to one another and in relation to specific features of the landscape such as topography, slope degree, slope aspect, and waterways?

3) How did the distribution of settlement and settlement size change temporally, particularly in relation to the political growth of the nearby polity capital of Xunantunich?

4) How are residential and agricultural groups organized spatially and temporally? How does agricultural intensification relate functionally and temporally to the Late Classic expansion of settlement at Chan?

5) Based on surface collection artifacts and typological differences in mound groups (number of mounds and platforms, size of mounds, formality of arrangement, and presence/absence of a "focal" structure) how does the spatial and temporal distribution of different types of mound groups relate to ancient social and economic hierarchies within Chan? How do these differences relate to environmental resources and agricultural lands?

The goal for the 2003 Chan survey was to continue the settlement survey of the Chan area. In 1994, the Xunantunich Settlement Survey mapped 0.8 sq km of the Chan site, which was expanded in the 2002 season by 2.08 sq km, providing a total coverage of 2.88 sq km. This year, a total of 0.41 sq km was completed, bringing the total area surveyed to 3.29 sq km. This report combines the 1994 and 2002 survey data with the data obtained from the 2003 survey to begin to define the spatial, temporal, and functional extent of the community based on survey and surface collection data.

DESIGN AND METHODS

The identification of the Chan site area is based upon a transect survey completed by the Xunantunich Settlement Survey in 1994 (Ashmore et al. 1994), which located an area of concentrated settlement approximately 4k m southeast of Xunantunich and approximately 4 km northwest of Dos Chombitos (Figure 1). In addition to being intuitively visible, Jon VandenBosch used stem-and-leaf and nearest neighbor analysis to statistically identify the Chan cluster (ibid.). The Chan settlement survey adapts the transect-coverage methodology, procedures, and terminology of the Xunantunich Settlement Survey for a full coverage survey, and is designed to enable systematic and full-coverage survey in an area of dense vegetation (for a complete description of the field, recording, and laboratory methods utilized in this survey, see Robin et al. 2002, pp. 8-17).

The field survey at Chan utilized in the 2002 and 2003 settlement survey consisted of four phases:

(1) Cutting *brechas* and *picados*
(2) Walking *brechas* and *picados* to locate cultural and natural features
(3) Brunton compass mapping and surface collections at sites
(4) Topographic and site location mapping using a GTS 605 Total Station

The methodology of the 2002 Chan settlement survey was adhered to for the 2003 survey season with only a few alterations, these being made primarily due to the size of the survey crew. As the crew consisted of only three individuals, Andrew Wyatt, Ethan Kalosky, and Don Bernabe Camal, walking of *picados* and *brechas*, mapping with a Brunton compass and tape measure, and site location with a GTS 605 Total Station were all performed by the same team. For optimal use of time, a week was spent walking *picados* and *brechas*, the following week spent mapping sites with a tape and compass, and the third week spent locating sites with a Total Station. An added benefit to the same individuals performing all tasks was the greater refinement in determining a site's spatial orientation and dimensions. The repeated visitation to the various sites by the same persons allowed the survey team to discuss and revise the size of the site, the number of mounds, their orientation to one another, as well as the location and orientation of terrace sets in relation to the mounds.

In addition, a small area of dense terrace concentration was precisely surveyed and mapped using a topographic map generated from points taken with the GTS 605 Total Station and created in the computer program Visual CADD 4.0. In previous years field mapping of terraces was completely solely in the *picado* walking stage of the survey (see Robin et al. 2003, p. 12). The topographic map provided an additional aid to placing the terraces exactly in space, as well as their orientation to the nearby sites and the natural terrain. This extra attention was given due to the concentration of terraces, as well as their complex arrangement (Figure 2). In this area, mounds, hillslope terraces, and cross-channel terraces were constructed adjacent to and often connected to one another providing an ideal location for future in-depth studies of agricultural terracing (Wyatt 2003).

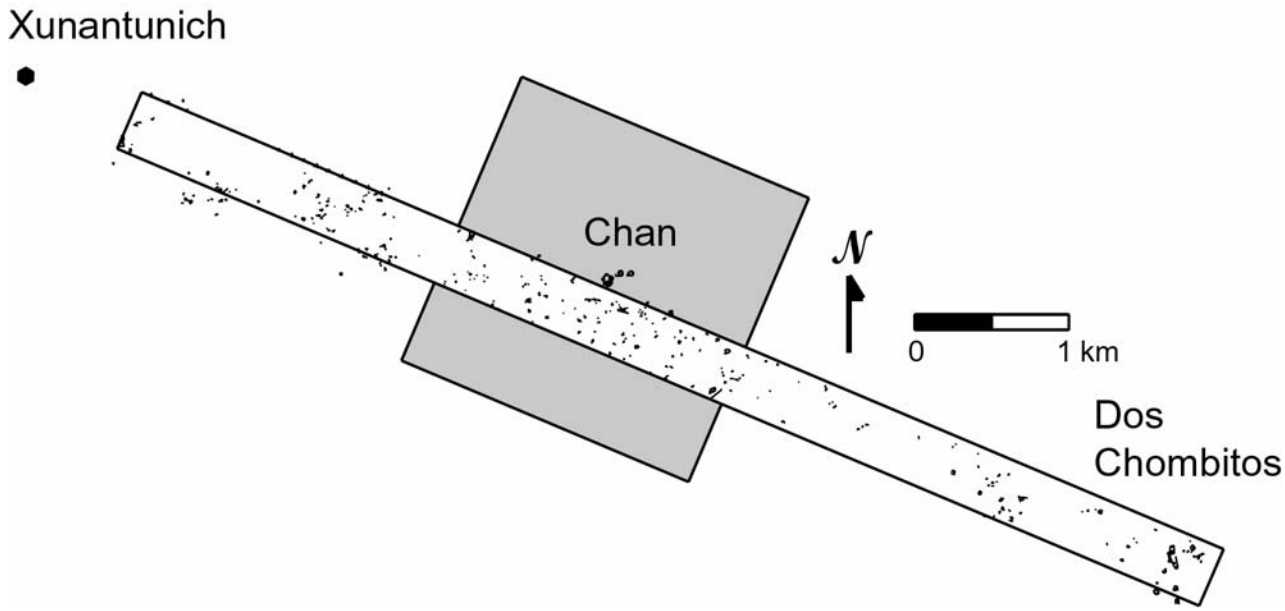

Figure 1: 400-meter wide survey transect from Xunantunich to Dos Chombitos, which located the Chan site in 1994

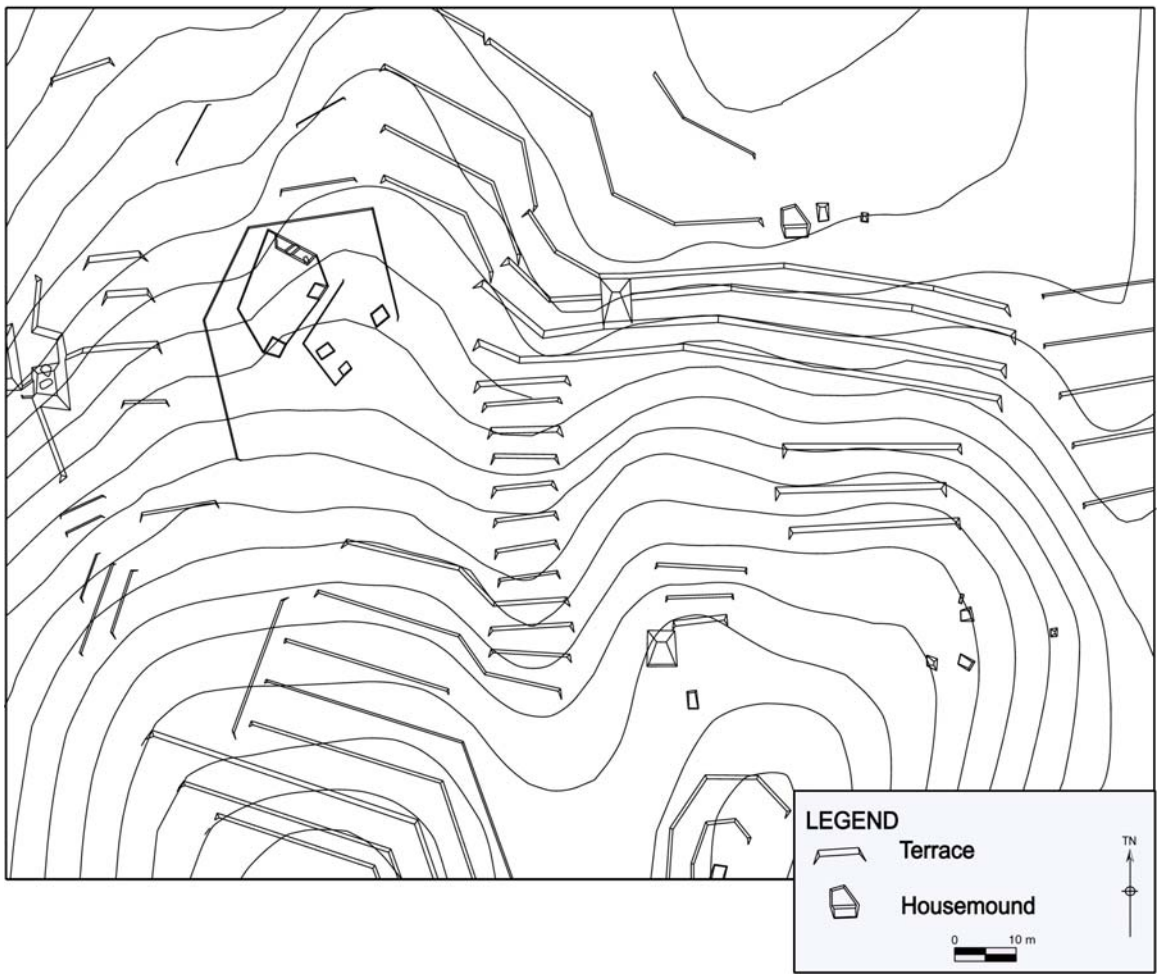

Figure 2: Area of Intensive Terrace Mapping

Special attention was also given to a recently burned site (Figure 3) with excellent visibility. At this site (C-314), we completed a 100% surface collection on and around the mounds and on the adjacent terraces. This expanded surface collection will allow us to look at the spatial relationships between the artifacts and the mounds and terraces, as well as provide us with a more complete account of the artifacts at this particular site.

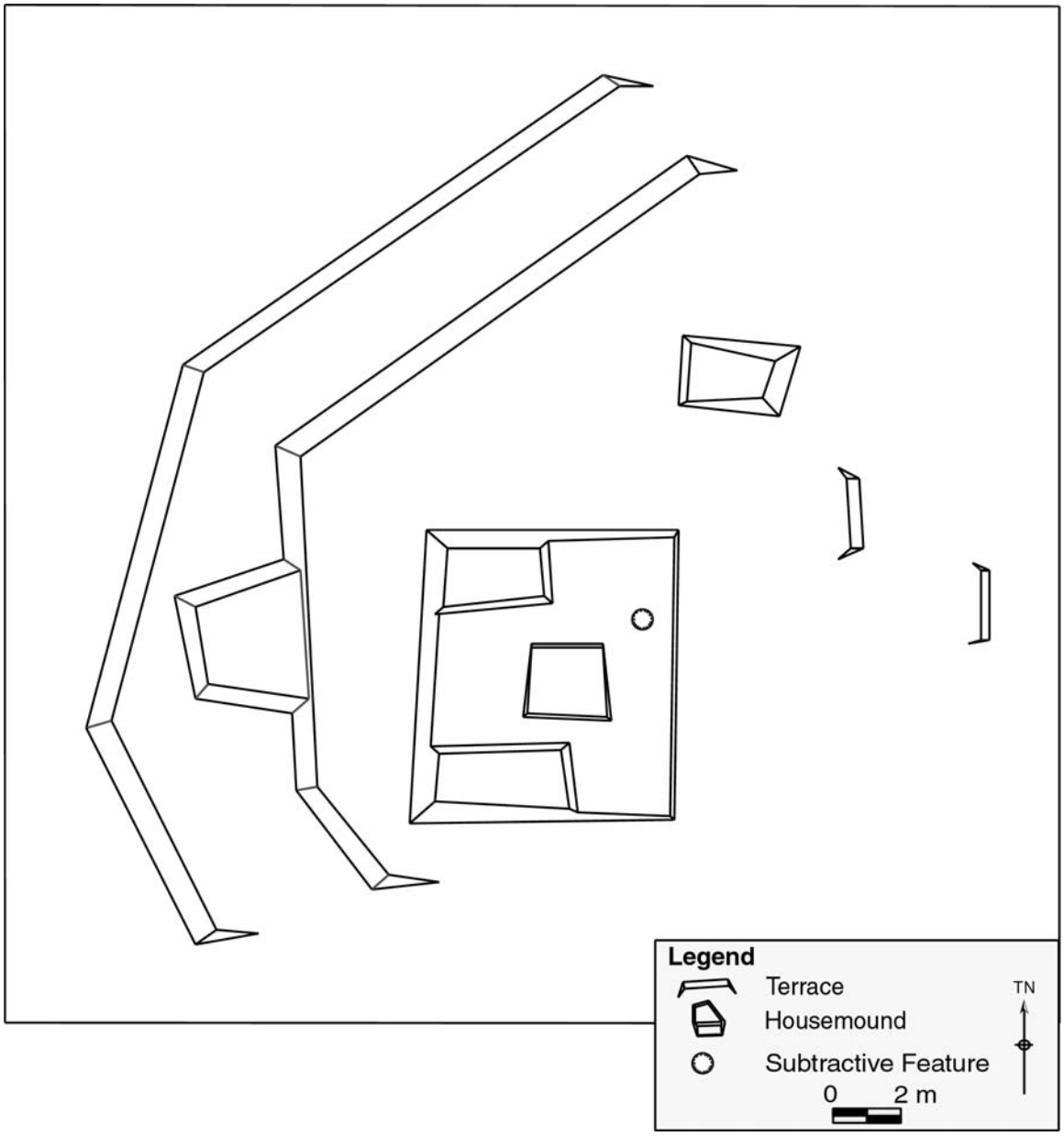

Figure 3: Site C-314

RESEARCH RESULTS

Figure 4 shows the .41 km² area surveyed in the 2003 field season. Terrace sets are too numerous for illustration at the scale of Figure 4. Figures 5 and 6 provide larger scale maps of the 2003 survey area, showing all additive and subtractive features and terrace sets. The research results sections below report on (1) quantitative observations on sites and additive features, (2) site typology, and (3) terrace sets.

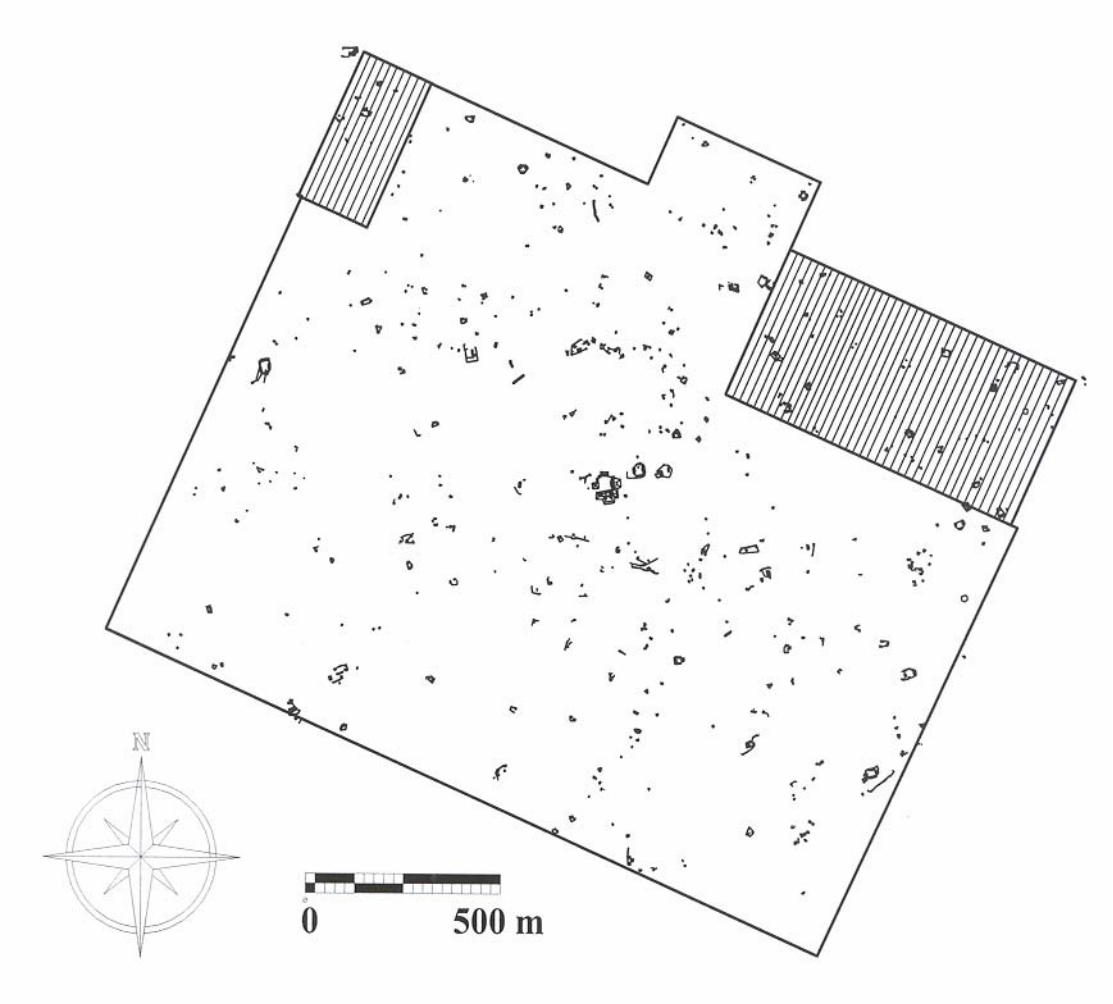

Figure 4: Shaded areas indicate the location of the 2003 survey

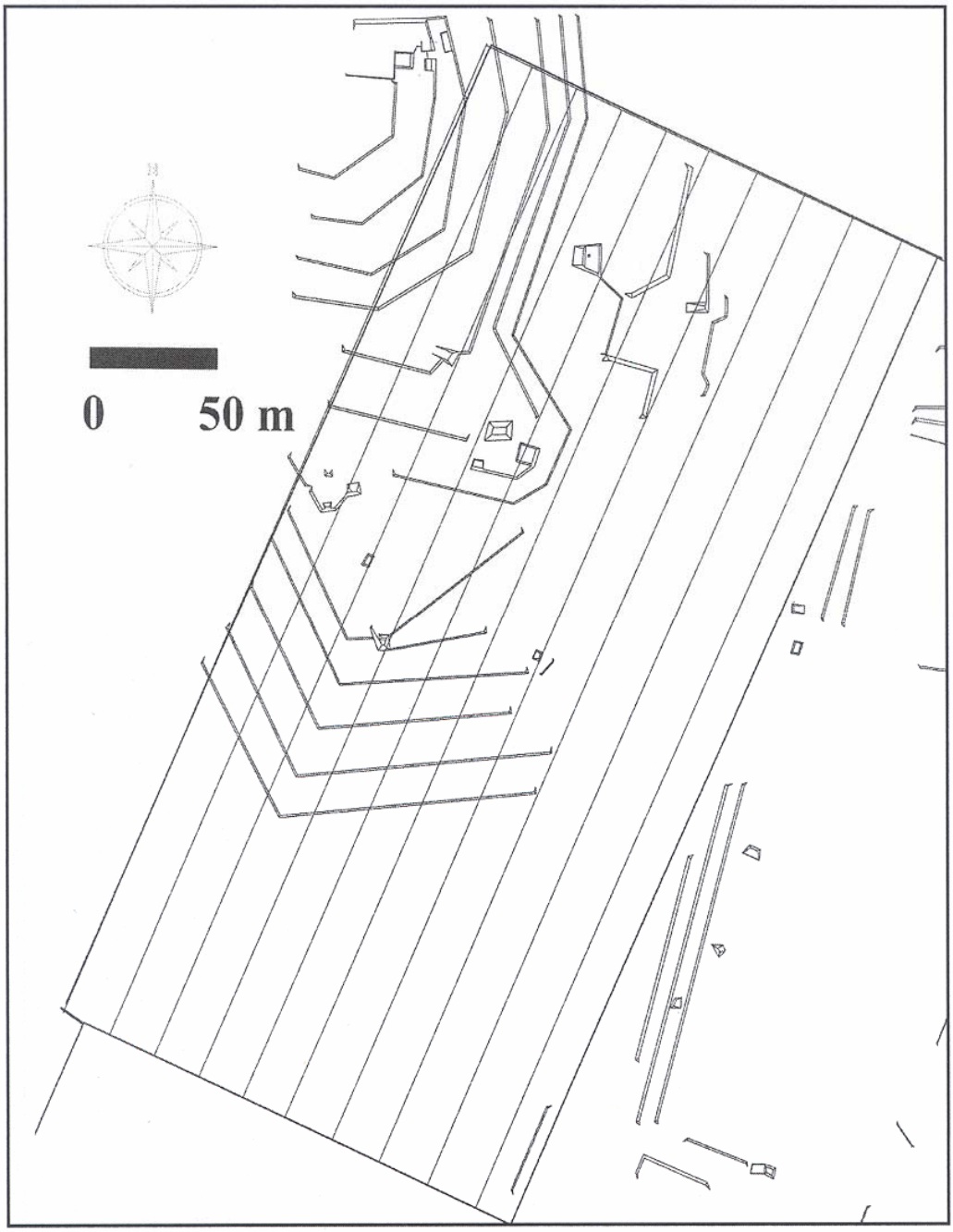

Figure 5: Western portion of the 2003 survey area

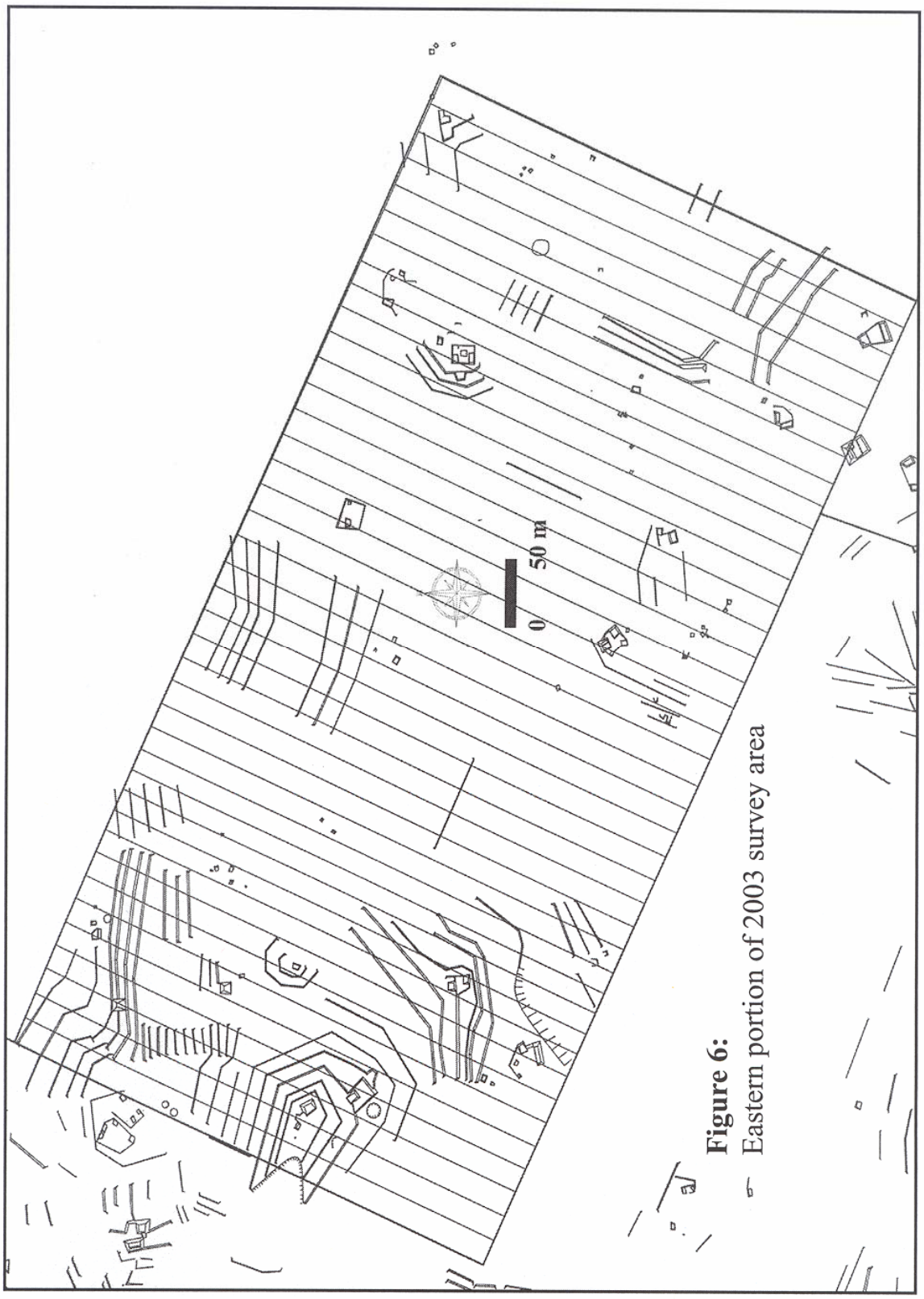

Figure 6:
Eastern portion of 2003 survey area

Quantitative Observations on Sites and Additive Features

A preliminary site typology defined by the Xunantunich Settlement Survey in 1994 was used to classify the sites encountered at Chan. This typology utilizes 4 criteria – number of mounds and platforms, height of mounds and platforms, formality of mound arrangement, presence or absence of a focal mound – to define an 8-tiered site typology (Ashmore et al. 1994; Neff et al. 1995), The 8 site types are:

type 0: no mounds
type 1: 1 mound, 0 platforms, <1 m in height, no focus
type 2: >2 mounds, 0 platforms, <1 m in height, no focus, informal layout
type 3: >2 mounds, 0 platforms, <1 m in height, no focus, formal layout
type 4: >2 mounds, platforms, 1-2 m in height, mound focus, mixed layout
type 5: >4 mounds, platforms, 1-2 m in height, mound focus, formal layout
type 6: >4 mounds, platforms, 2-5 m in height, mound focus, formal layout
type 7: >4 mounds, platforms, >5 m in height, mound focus, formal layout

Across the .41 sq km area surveyed in the 2003 season, 46 sites have been identified, 42 mound sites (site types 1-7) and 4 sites without mounds (site type 0). 189 sites were identified in the 2.08 sq km 2002 survey area, and 76 sites were identified in the 0.80 sq km 1994 survey area. The total number of sites in the Chan survey area is 311, with 284 mound sites, and 27 sites without mounds. The density of mound sites in the Chan survey area is 86 sites per sq km

We identified and mapped a total of 118 additive features in the 2003 Chan survey area, bringing the total number of additive features for the entire survey area to 818. The overall additive feature density for the 3.29 sq km area currently surveyed is 249 additive features per sq km.

		Add Other	Platform	Mound	Ramp	Sacbe	Wall	Total
Count	Combined	23	153	583	4	1	54	818
	1994	9	42	165	2	0	34	252
	2002	12	88	326	1	1	20	448
	2003	2	23	92	1	0	0	118
Density	Combined	6.99	46.50	177.20	1.22	0.30	16.41	248.63
	1994	11.25	52.5	206.25	2.5	0	42.5	315
	2002	5.77	42.31	156.73	0.48	0.48	9.62	215.38
	2003	4.88	56.10	224.39	2.44	0.00	0.00	287.80

Table 1: Additive Features

Site Typology

Sites identified at Chan were classified into 8 site types. Site type 0 includes all sites without mounds or platforms, such as sites that only contain aguadas or quarries. Site types 1-7 include all sites with mounds or platforms. 9% (n=27) of the 311 sites identified at Chan were site type 0, and the majority, 91% (n=284) were mound sites.

Site type 1, single mound sites, comprises the largest proportion of Chan settlement, 47% (n=133; Table 2). Site type 6 and 7 platform groups comprise the smallest proportion of Chan settlement, less than 1% (n=2 and n=1 respectively), and no new sites of this type were encountered in the 2003 survey. The proportions of site types at Chan are roughly parallel to the

overall proportions of site types identified along the Xunantunich Settlement Survey's transect coverage survey of the Xunantunich region (Neff et. al. 1995). In the Chan area smaller sties are more prevalent than they are in the Xunantunich region as a whole (e.g., type 1 sites make up 47% of Chan area sites and 41% of regional settlement) and similarly larger sites are less prevalent at Chan than they are throughout the Xunantunich region (e.g., type 5-7 sites make up approximately 5% of Chan area sites and 8% of regional settlement). Without statistical analysis it is unclear how significant these differences may be. These differences could reflect the smaller scale of the Chan village in relation to other settlements surveyed in the Xunantunich region, although all Xunantunich Settlement Survey transects crossed through hinterland and intra-center settlement areas.

Site Type	Number	Density	Percent
1	133	40.43	46.83%
2	68	20.67	23.94%
3	42	12.77	14.79%
4	28	8.51	9.86%
5	10	3.04	3.52%
6	2	0.61	0.70%
7	1	0.30	0.35%
Total	284	86.32	100.00%

Table 2: Site Types

While the smaller type 1 sites are scattered everywhere throughout Chan, the one type 7 site and one of the two type 6 sites lie at the center of the farming community atop a knoll. The largest type 5-7 sites are either located at the center of the community atop its central knoll or on separate knolls at the edges of the community located roughly 700 m to 1 km distance from the site center. The 2003 survey only located one type 5 site.

46 new sites were identified during the 2003 Chan survey. Table 3 provides basic descriptive information on each newly identified 42 sites, which contained additive features. Basic information about the site includes site number, site type, number of platforms, and number of mounds. Within each site all additive features are listed by additive feature number, including platforms, mounds, walls, sacbes, ramps, and additive others. For each additive feature quantitative information on length, width, area, minimum elevation, and maximum elevation is provided.

Site #	Site Type	Platform #	Mound #	Feat #	L	W	A	Min El	Max El
C-295	1	0	2	M1	4.70	3.30	15.50	0.55	0.55
				M2	4.90	3.30	16.20	0.05	0.75
C-296	1	0	1	M1	3.30	2.90	9.60	0.28	0.80
C-297	1	0	1	M1	8.50	3.70	31.40	0.10	0.58
C-298	1	1	1	M1	8.60	4.70	40.40	0.20	0.84
				F1	11.00	6.10	67.10	0.80	0.80
C-299	3	1	3	M1	9.90	7.10	70.30	2.15	2.15
				M2	7.00	7.80	54.60	0.65	0.65
				M3	4.30	4.20	18.10	0.35	0.35

C-299				F1	27.30	14.80	404.00	0.00	0.95
C-300	4	2	5	M1	4.30	2.70	11.60	0.65	0.65
				M2	4.90	4.60	22.50	0.15	0.40
				M3	3.30	3.30	10.90	0.05	0.60
				M4	3.00	2.30	6.90	0.00	1.15
				M5	3.80	2.20	8.40	0.25	0.25
				F1	19.90	13.00	258.70	0.00	1.05
				F2	8.40	5.40	45.40	0.00	2.05
C-301	1	1	1	M1	9.00	4.50	40.50	0.00	1.45
				F1	13.00	1.00	13.00	0.95	1.45
C-302	1	0	1	M1	5.55	3.52	18.65	0.05	0.95
C-303	3	3	4	M1	7.60	6.20	47.10	0.33	1.15
				M2	4.50	4.40	19.80	0.15	0.40
				M3	5.00	4.10	20.50	0.20	0.35
				M4	7.50	3.80	28.50	0.20	0.20
				F1	29.40	22.00	646.80	0.30	1.65
				F2	8.60	5.50	47.30	0.70	0.70
				F3	15.90	7.50	119.30	0.65	0.20
C-304	1	0	1	M1	10.80	8.60	92.90	0.00	3.15
C-305	2	0	2	M1	8.40	8.30	69.70	0.50	2.70
				M2	4.20	2.90	12.20	0.15	0.45
C-306	3	1	3	M1	6.50	2.00	13.00	0.20	0.80
				M2	4.50	3.50	15.75	0.10	0.90
				M3	2.10	2.00	4.20	0.20	0.70
				F1	7.20	3.50	25.20	0.20	0.60
C-307	2	1	2	M1	9.40	8.00	75.20	0.80	2.40
				M2	5.30	3.50	18.55	0.40	0.85
				F1	8.20	5.90	48.38	0.00	0.60
C-308	1	2	1	M1	9.00	7.20	64.80	0.45	1.65
				F1	20.50	14.50	297.25	0.00	1.65
				F2	9.40	6.60	62.04	0.00	1.30
C-309	2	0	2	M1	5.50	4.20	23.10	0.75	0.85
				M2	3.00	1.70	5.10	0.15	0.30
C-312	2	1	2	M1	6.20	5.40	33.48	0.30	0.80
				M2	6.10	5.20	31.72	0.10	0.90
				F1	11.00	7.00	77.00	0.45	0.60
C-313	3	1	4	M1	17.30	5.70	98.61	0.30	1.50
				M2	7.30	6.20	45.26	0.20	0.40
				M3	4.20	2.80	11.76	0.10	0.30
				M4	3.00	3.00	9.00	0.45	0.55
				F1	14.60	14.40	210.24	0.50	0.90
				P1	5.50	2.25	12.38	0.00	0.90
C-314	3	1	4	M1	7.50	4.30	32.25	0.30	0.50
				M2	6.30	3.90	24.57	0.40	0.40
				M3	4.80	4.20	20.16	0.20	0.20
C-314				M4	5.60	4.40	24.64	0.30	1.10
				F1	17.90	14.30	255.97	0.40	0.80
C-315	1	1	1	M1	9.80	7.30	71.54	0.10	0.90

C-315				F1	12.20	7.70	93.94	1.00	1.00
C-316	2	0	2	M1	5.00	4.40	22.00	0.00	0.45
				M2	3.40	2.70	9.18	0.00	0.75
C-317	5	1	5	M1	9.20	8.10	74.52	0.75	1.15
				M2	6.80	6.70	45.56	0.45	0.50
				M3	4.80	3.90	18.72	0.25	0.25
				M4	3.80	2.40	9.12	0.20	0.20
				M5	3.20	2.30	7.36	0.15	0.15
				F1	16.00	15.00	240.00	0.25	0.95
C-318	2	1	2	M1	5.10	4.40	22.44	0.30	0.60
				M2	3.40	3.30	11.22	0.10	0.60
				F1	19.40	16.30	316.22	0.70	1.20
C-319	2	0	3	M1	3.90	3.50	13.65	0.10	0.60
				M2	4.60	2.60	11.96	0.10	0.50
				M3	3.20	2.80	8.96	0.10	0.90
				A1	4.00	1.00	4.00	0.10	0.10
C-320	3	1	5	M1	3.20	2.70	8.64	0.10	0.30
				M2	2.40	2.00	4.80	0.15	0.30
				M3	2.50	1.40	3.50	0.30	0.30
				M4	2.90	2.80	8.12	0.30	0.30
				M5	5.90	3.70	21.83	0.00	0.60
				F1	4.60	2.50	11.50	0.10	0.10
C-321	2	1	2	M1	3.80	3.50	13.30	0.30	0.70
				M2	3.20	2.20	7.04	0.10	0.40
				F1	4.60	2.60	11.96	0.10	0.10
C-322	2	1	2	M1	4.50	3.70	16.65	0.20	0.70
				M2	8.50	6.40	54.40	0.60	0.90
				F1	19.10	8.60	164.26	0.30	0.30
C-323	2	0	3	M1	3.90	3.60	14.04	0.30	0.70
				M2	3.40	2.40	8.16	0.20	0.45
				M3	2.90	2.10	6.09	0.10	0.10
C-324	1	0	1	M1	2.00	2.00	4.00	0.10	0.70
C-325	2	0	2	M1	3.10	2.20	6.82	0.10	1.00
				M2	2.50	2.00	5.00	0.05	0.80
C-326	1	0	1	M1	3.80	3.30	12.54	0.20	0.30
C-327	2	1	3	M1	5.80	3.10	17.98	0.40	0.70
				M2	3.90	3.70	14.43	0.60	0.70
				M3	3.20	3.10	9.92	0.60	0.70
				F1	3.30	2.20	7.26	0.00	0.00
C-328	2	0	3	M1	4.10	3.00	12.30	0.00	0.40
				M2	2.70	1.80	4.86	0.00	0.35
				M3	5.40	4.50	24.30	0.45	1.00
C-329	2	1	2	M1	9.30	6.30	58.59	0.70	0.90
				M2	5.70	4.70	22.14	0.10	1.30
				F1	5.20	5.00	26.00	0.10	0.55
C-330	2	0	2	M1	6.00	5.30	31.80	0.70	1.00
				M2	2.90	2.20	6.38	0.10	0.60
C-331	3	1	3	M1	10.30	5.50	56.65	0.70	0.75

C-331				M2	7.90	4.70	37.13	0.25	0.90
				M3	4.40	2.90	12.96	0.35	1.05
				F1	11.00	10.30	113.30	0.40	0.45
C-332	2	0	2	M1	3.80	3.20	12.16	0.00	0.90
				M2	4.40	2.90	12.76	0.00	0.90
C-333	1	0	1	M1	3.30	2.80	9.24	0.25	0.80
C-334	1	0	1	M1	3.00	2.50	7.50	0.15	0.35
C-335	2	0	3	M1	3.40	1.90	6.46	0.10	0.55
				M2	2.10	1.90	3.99	0.20	0.35
				M3	2.00	1.50	3.00	0.00	0.45
C-336	1	0	1	M1	2.80	2.20	6.16	0.10	0.40
C-337	1	0	1	M1	3.90	3.40	13.26	0.10	1.00
C-338	1	0	1	M1	3.00	2.40	7.20	0.00	0.60
C-339	0	0	0	A1	11.00	11.00	298.25	0.00	0.00
C-340	1	0	1	M1	6.30	4.30	27.09	0.20	0.60

Table 3: Sites and Additive Features

Terrace Sets

Within the 3.29 sq km Chan Survey area, 1258 terraces grouped into 305 terrace sets were recorded. On the Visual CADD map terrace sets were enclosed with loosely drawn polygons to determine the areal coverage of terracing. This analysis indicates that the terraces cover 0.80 sq km or roughly 24% of the total terrain.

The primary quantitative data collected for terraces related to height and length. Terraces ranged in height from 0.10 m to 3.15 m and in length from 4 m to 300 m. On average, terraces had a maximum height of 1.16 m, a minimum height of 0.65 m, a maximum length of 85 m and a minimum length of 53 m.

Other qualitative categories focused on how terraces related to the environment. Slope degree was recorded in order to understand how the ancient people of Chan were utilizing different slopes. The data shows a significant preference toward gentle and moderate slopes (Table 4). Only 2 terrace sets were encountered in flat areas, whereas 36 were found on very gentle slopes, 116 on gentle slopes, 114 on moderate slopes, 34 on steep slopes, and 1 on a slope of mixed degrees.

	Flat	V. Gentle	Gentle	Moderate	Steep	Mixed	No Data	Total
Number	2	36	116	114	34	1	2	305
Percent	0.66%	11.80%	38.03%	37.38%	11.15%	0.33%	0.66%	100.00%

Table 4: Slope Degree

The cardinal and intercardinal orientation of slopes provides additional information on how terraces may have been oriented to attain better light or weather. There is a slight preference for slopes facing north (Table 5), with 21% (n=64) facing this direction. Terraces were found on slopes of all orientations, however, with 8% (n=25) on northeast facing slopes, 9% (n=28) on east facing slopes, 7% (n=21) on southeast facing slopes, 15% (n=45) on south facing slopes, 10% (n=29) on southwest facing slopes, 14% (n=41) on west facing slopes, 14% (n=43) on northwest facing slopes, and 2% (n=6) facing multiple directions. The number of

terraces on north facing slopes deserves future attention given that south facing slopes seem the logical choice for the placement of terraces for maximum sunlight. Future research in prevailing weather patterns and types of crops grown on the terraces may shed light on this issue.

	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Multiple	No Data	Total
Number	64	25	28	21	45	29	41	43	6	3	305
Percent	21.0%	8.2%	9.2%	6.9%	14.8%	9.5%	13.4%	14.1%	2.0%	1.0%	100.0%

Table 5: Slope Aspect

Terrace set orientation to slope and terrace set type indicate trends in ancient terrace structure (Table 6). Out of 305 terraces sets all were oriented parallel to the slope except one terraces set, which included both parallel and perpendicular slope terraces. The parallel terraces were then subcategorized by type. The types of parallel terraces included 8 complex angular arrangements on one slope, 7 cross-channel terraces sets, 271 linear parallel sets, 17 wraparound arrangements on different slopes and aspects, and 1 unspecified "other" set.

	Linear	Wraparound	Complex	Cross-Channel	Other	Total
Number	271	17	8	7	1	304
Percent	89.14%	5.59%	2.63%	2.30%	0.33%	100.00%

Table 6: Parallel Terrace Types

Facing stone, purely determined by what could be seen on the surface, was also examined for each terrace set. The most prevalent type of facing was undressed stone (185 terrace sets; Table 7). As well, 26 terraces sets were constructed of dressed stone, 2 terrace sets had bedrock facing, 2 terraces sets had a mixed facing, and 81 terraces sets had indeterminate facing.

	Und. Stone	Dressed Stone	Bedrock	Mixed	Indeterm.	No Data	Total
Number	185	26	2	2	81	9	305
Percent	60.66%	8.52%	0.66%	0.66%	26.56%	2.95%	100.00%

Table 7: Terrace Facing Stone

31 new terrace sets were identified during the 2003 Chan survey. Table 8 provides basic descriptive information on each of these newly identified terrace sets including terrace set number, type of facing stone, orientation to slope, terrace set type, and number of terraces in set.

Terrace Set #	Facing	Orientation	Type	# Terraces
CT-369	Undressed Stone	Parallel	Linear	2
CT-370	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	3
CT-371	Indeterminate	Parallel	Wraparound	5
CT-372	Undressed Stone	Parallel	Wraparound	7
CT-373	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	3
CT-374	Indeterminate	Parallel	Wraparound	8
CT-375	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-376	Undressed Stone	Parallel	Wraparound	5

CT-377	Dressed Stone	Parallel	Cross-Channel	12
CT-378	Dressed Stone	Parallel	Linear	6
CT-379	Indeterminate	Parallel	Cross-Channel	3
CT-380	Undressed Stone	Parallel	Linear	3
CT-381	Indeterminate	Parallel	Cross-Channel	5
CT-382	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-383	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	3
CT-384	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	1
CT-385	Undressed Stone	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-386	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-387	Dressed Stone	Parallel	Wraparound	3
CT-388	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-389	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-390	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	3
CT-391	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	4
CT-392	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	1
CT-393	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	2
CT-394	Indeterminate	Parallel	Cross-Channel	3
CT-395	Indeterminate	Parallel	Wraparound	2
CT-396	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	7
CT-397	Indeterminate	Parallel	Cross-Channel	4
CT-398	Indeterminate	Parallel	Linear	2
TOTAL	---	---	---	121

Table 8: Terraces and Terrace Sets

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The 1994 and 2002 seasons surveyed a total of 2.88 sq km of the Chan site. This year, a total of 0.41 sq km was completed, bringing the total area surveyed to 3.29 sq km. 9% (n=27) of the 311 sites identified at Chan were site type 0, and the majority, 91% (n=284) were mound sites. The density at Chan is 94 sites per sq km, with 86 sites per sq km of types 1-7.

Within the 3.29 sq km Chan survey area, there are a total of 1258 terrace sets, grouped into 305 terrace sets, with 24% of the total terrain covered by terraces. The majority of the terraces are linear (89%), made of undressed stone (60%), on gentle to moderate slopes (75%). No clear majority of terraces were located in a particular slope aspect, although terraces on north facing slopes were the slight majority (21%), followed by terraces on south facing slopes (15%).

Perhaps the most intriguing developments in the 2003 survey season at Chan were the discovery of a number of interconnected cross-channel and hillslope terraces. An area of intensive terrace survey (see Figure 2) shows this arrangement, as well as the density of terraces. A greater number of cross-channel terraces were also located this year, as well as a numerous wraparound terraces. These three factors demonstrate the complex agricultural system at Chan.

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PRELIMINARY CERAMIC ANALYSIS AT C-001

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INTRODUCTION

Between July 5 and July 9, 2003, Cynthia Robin and I analyzed a sample of ceramic lots from the 2003 excavations at Chan's central plaza group C-001. Our goal was to gain a coarse grained, yet accurate understanding of the temporal depth and stylistic breath of ceramics recovered from both Structure 2 and the central plaza area of C-001.

Ceramic lots were analyzed using a quick sort method (LeCount 1996:133). This technique consists of visually inspecting the lot for known ceramic diagnostics and recording each temporal phrase represented by the materials (Table 1). Ceramic types, styles, or forms are not quantified by frequency or weight at this point in the analysis since more detailed research is expected in the near future. Ceramic phase names in Table 1 below follow LeCount et al. 2002 for the Late and Terminal Classic periods and Gifford 1976 for earlier periods.

Plaza lot analyses documented a stratified sequence of occupation beginning in the Middle Preclassic (ca. 900 - 600 B.C.) and extending into the Early Postclassic (ca. A.D. 890 - 1250). Substantial stratified material was encountered dating to between the Middle Preclassic and Late Classic (ca. A.D. 600 - 780) and less material dated to the Terminal Classic (ca. A.D. 780 - 890) and Early Postclassic. Early Preclassic Cunil (ca. 1000 - 900 B.C.) ceramics were found mixed into the deepest Middle Preclassic deposits, suggesting that there was Early Preclassic activity in the area of C-001, but to date no single phase Early Preclassic deposits have been identified.

Radiocarbon assays have yet to be conducted on the Chan materials, thus the absolute dates for ceramic phases suggested here are based on comparisons to dated ceramic sequences in the vicinity.

CERAMIC SUMMARIES

Operation 1, suboperation F, the 2 m by 2 m test pit located in the southeast corner of the C-001 plaza, was the only collection of excavated ceramics analyzed completely from bedrock to surface materials. Op. 1.F contains ceramic diagnostics with great time depth lending evidence to suggest that the plaza area was built upon a Middle Preclassic period surface, which through time was the foundation of construction and occupation into the Late Classic period. We suggest that this area may have been the focus of continuous construction since it contains diagnostics from the longest continuous ceramic sequence yet seen at the site.

Humus 1 ceramics from the plaza area yielded diagnostics indicative of many phases including Jenny Creek, Barton Creek, Mount Hope, Hermitage, Samal (Tiger Run), and Hats' Chaak (early facet Spanish Lookout). In the central plaza's suboperation D, as well as Structure 2, there is also some solid Postclassic and possible Terminal Classic diagnostics. Below this humus zone there are at least four fill episodes, Fill 1, Fill 2, Fill 12, and Fill 3. An additional fill episode below Fill 3 called Fill 4 was found in suboperation D.

Fill 1 is the latest full scale fill level to be encountered in the plaza. The Fill 1 lots analyzed are Hats' Chaak (early facet of the Spanish Lookout) in date. A few transitional Terminal Classic diagnostics were found, such as McRae Impressed and flaring lip jar rims.

Lots analyzed from Fill 3, the earliest fill level that defines the plaza area, date to the Barton Creek phase. Barton Creek diagnostics are mixed with earlier Jenny Creek materials.

The articulation between the plaza fill levels and the structures surrounding the plaza has yet to be explored, except for the articulation of Fills 1 and 2 with Structure 2 (see Latsch, this volume). However, existing excavations already show that the site was not built in a single episode late in the Classic period; rather, buildings and activity areas were constructed over time.

A stratified sequence of fill lots was analyzed from Structure 2, but at the time of the ceramic analysis excavations in Structure 2 had not reached the earliest substructures or bedrock. The fill lots analyzed provide a stratigraphic sequence from the Terminal Preclassic into Late Classic periods.

In addition to plaza and structure fill and humus lots, the caches from Altars 1 and 2 and were analyzed. The penultimate cache on Altar 2 contains an incensario fragment which is certainly Late Classic in date. However, the figurine is unusual for the Late Classic, and may possibly date to the Terminal Classic. The ultimate cache in the plaza sequence located on Altar 1 is probably early Postclassic in date.

The ceramics from the ritual deposits cut into bedrock in the center of the plaza (see Blackmore, this volume) have not been analyzed systematically, but materials found in deposits appear to be predominantly Jenny Creek. However, in addition to these Middle Preclassic materials, there appears to be early Jenny Creek and Cunil diagnostics. But no single phase Cunil deposit has yet been identified.

Lot	**Phases**	**Materials**
1.B.1.A1	Late Classic period	Ash ware cylinder vase base
1.C.2	Samal and Hats' Chaak	Approx. 80 eroded sherds including 3 ash wares and 3 Mars Orange sherds, Samal and Hats' Chaak Mt. Maloney bowls, 1 small basal flange, 1 flaring lip Cayo jar, and many standard Hats' Chaak jar rims.
1.C.4	Middle Preclassic and Terminal Preclassic	Approx. 40 eroded sherds including 10% Mars Orange and Jocote Brown, some Aguacate Orange rims, and one orange slipped ring base
1.C.6	Middle, Late, and Terminal Preclassic	Approx. 40 fairly well preserved sherds including 10% Mars Orange and Jocote Brown and 3 Sierra Red (one with large everted lip, 1 Aguacate Orange paste sherd (fits with rim from 1.C.4), and 1 medial flange on Gale Creek Red

1.D.1		Approx 50 sherds including 2 ash wares, 3 Mars Orange, 5 micaceous wares (no true diagnostics)
1.D.2	Middle and Late Preclassic mixed with some Late Classic materials	Approx. 50 eroded sherds including Jocote Brown, Mars Orange, Sierra Red, and 2 Classic jar rims, but no ash wares.
1.D.4	Early Classic mixed with Middle Preclassic fill	Balanza Black, 3 other Peten Gloss body sherds, Sierra Red, Waxy wares, high % Micaceous wares, 2 Mars Orange.
1.D.7	90% Middle Preclassic 10% Cunil or Late Preclassic	Substantial amount of Mars Orange and Jocote Brown with a few Flor Cream, Sierra Red, Polvero and Cunil ash ware.
1.D.12	Samal and Postclassic period	Approx. 70 sherds including 4 ash wares, 1 possible Augustine Red dish, tall columnar feet, 1 lateral ridge, and possible basal flange.
1.D.13	Middle and Late Preclassic mixed with Hats' Chaak materials	Approx. 40 eroded sherds including Mars Orange, Jocote Brown, a lip flange rim, an everted Sierra Red rim, a Hats' Chaak Mt. Maloney bowl
1.D.14	Middle, Late and Terminal Preclassic	Very similar to 1E.2 including Aguacate Orange, OOO cane stamping, 1 Mars Orange, 20 Jocote Brown, 1 Sierra, and 2 Mt. Maloney (probably mixed from level above).
1.D.15	Middle and Late Preclassic plus either Cunil or Classic materials.	Approx. 100 eroded sherds including Mars Orange, Jocote Brown, Chacchinic, Sierra Red, Gale Creek Red and 8 ash wares.
1.E.1	Late Preclassic and Hats' Chaak	Very similar to 1E.2, but with minor amounts of Late Classic materials including 1 Alexander rim and 1 ash ware. Mostly large Sierra Red bowls.
1.E.2	Late and Terminal Preclassic with Middle Preclassic fill materials	Approx 60 eroded sherds including Aguacate Orange, Mars Orange and Jocote Brown, 2 possible Classic period rims, flat rim with crenulations and X incising, 000 cane stamping, no ash wares
1.E.4	Middle and Late Preclassic.	Less than 20 eroded sherds including a few very small Mars Orange and Jocote types and 1 everted rimmed Sierra Red plate.
1.F.1	Middle Preclassic, Late Preclassic, Early Classic, Samal, Hats' Chaak	Approx. 100 eroded sherds including 2 Mars Orange, Z-angle base, 2 basal angles, 1 lateral ridge, 2 Samal Mt Maloney bowls, 2 Hats Chaak rims, 5 ashware rims, ring bases, censer plug.
1.F.2	Middle, Late, and Terminal Preclassic	Approx. 80 eroded sherds including Aguacate Orange sherds, 6 Sierra Red, 1 pinched jar rim, many striated bodies, Mars Orange and Jocote Brown; no ash ware or any Classic diagnostics.
1.F.3	Middle and Late Preclassic	Same as above
1.F.4	Middle and Late Preclassic	More Middle Preclassic Mars Orange and Jocote Brown sherds than deposit above.
1.G.6		Approx. 20 eroded sherds including Hats' Chaak Mt. Maloney, 1 ash ware, 1 Mars Orange
1.H.1.A4	Unknown	Possible censer lid or base (calcite ware)

1.H.3	Unknown	12 eroded sherds (2 Mars Orange & 10 calcite unsp.)
1.J.1	Hats' Chaak	Ash ware, mold made, figurine fragment and approx. 50 eroded sherds including 4 ash wares, 1 Gallinero fluted vase, 3 Hats' Chaak Mt. Maloney rims, and no definitive Tsak' diagnostics.
1.J1.A7	Late Hats' Chaak and Tsak'	An eroded high necked jar or pedestal base (calcite ware)
1.J1.A9	Postclassic period	Hand modeled figurines
1.J1.A10	Tsak' or Postclassic	Possible pedestal censer base or ladle (calcite ware)
1.J.4	Postclassic, Hats' Chaak, and Samal	Approx. 60 eroded sherds including at least 10 ash wares, 2 refit pieces from Postclassic censer, 1 ashware mold made figurine fragment, 1 cauldron rim, 1 Mt. Maloney jar, 1 Samal Mt Maloney bowl
1.J.5.D3	late Hats' Chaak or early Tsak'	Approx. 35 eroded sherds including 2 ash wares, 1 other high neck calcite jar that refits with 1.J.1.A7
1.J.5.D3. A37	Hats' Chaak	Pedregal Modeled censer fragment
1.J.5.D3. A38	Tsak' and / or early Postclassic period	Ash ware effigy vessel Scroll feet (possibly Augustine Red)
1.J.1.A9	Postclassic period	Hand modeled figurines
1.M.1	Samal and/or Hats' Chaak	Approx. 50 eroded sherds, few ashwares
1.M.4	Tsak' or Postclassic	2 refit pieces from ritual deposit vessels 1.H.1.A4 (lid) and 1J.1.A10 (censer); 5 calcite sherds total
1.N.3	Possibly Samal with Middle Preclassic fill	Micaceous jar, Jocote Brown, Classic rims, Samal Mt. Maloney bowl, striated body, no ash wares, ring base
1.P.5	Preclassic and Classic	40% Jenny Creek materials and then early Sierra Red everted and grooved rim, 1 "Classic" ashware, 3 polished red-orange ware.
1.NN.3	Mostly Jenny Creek and Barton Creek with 2 small intrusive sherds.	Very small sherds (occupation surface or poss. slope wash). 1 very tiny ash ware and 1Aguacate Orange the rest are waxy black, cream, and red sherds. 1 Sierra Red everted lip and 20% Mars Orange sherds.
1.NN.4	Late Preclassic	Everted Sierra Red rim.
2.C.2	Samal, Hats' Chaak, and possibly very late Late Classic materials.	Over 95% eroded calcite sherds; no Mars Orange, very little Micaceous ware, some ash ware. Diagnostics include calcite polychrome lateral ridge, Samal and Hats Chaak Mt. Maloney bowls, Belize Red, McRae Incised bowl, censer parts, and Alexander type jars.
2.C.3	Late Classic	Approx. 50 sherds including typical Late Classic diagnostics; Samal Mt. Maloney bowls; very little ash ware in general.
2.K.1	Possible Tsak'	Approx. 20 eroded sherds including 1 ashware and 2 bowl rims.
2.K.2	Late Classic mostly	Ashware vase, Alexander jar, Sierra Red, and lots of highly eroded large bodied calcite wares.

2.K.3	Hats' Chaak mixed with Late and Terminal Preclassic materials	2 Mt Maloney bowls, 3 Dolphin Head, 3 ash wares, 5 or 6 Classic rims, red-orange Classic bowl, medial Sierra Red flange, other flanges.
2.K.4	Jenny Creek, Barton Creek, Mt Hope, Hermitage, Hats' Chaak	Jocote Brown, Mars Orange, lip flange, Mammaform foot, San Antonio Golden Brown, possible Early Classic bowls, Dolphin Head, Mt. Maloney bowls.
2.K.6	Late Preclassic to Early Classic	Small lot with 1 Sierra Red and 1 poss. Early Classic local bowl form.
2.K.9	Late Preclassic to Early Classic	Same as 2K.6, Sierra Red, Polvero, poss. Terminal Preclassic to Early Classic jar. 1 rim refit other in 2.K.6
2.K.10	Hats' Chaak with Late Preclassic materials	Peten Gloss, Sierra Red, Jocote Brown, Mars Orange, and Hats' Chaak rims.
2.K.12	Late Classic	Mt. Maloney, Dolphin Head, Ash ware, Classic orange slip sherd.
2.K.13	Classic period with Late Preclassic materials	2 Classic period "Peten Gloss" brown and orange sherds, 2 Sierra Red everted lip dishes.
2.K.14	Terminal Preclassic to Early Classic	Balanza Black Z-angle, 2 ash wares, non-waxy orange slip, Sierra.
2.K.15		Poss. Polvero, poss. Early Classic jar and orange slipped sherd, Mars Orange, striated body sherds, micaceous wares -- all of which are badly eroded.
2.K.16	Late and Terminal Preclassic and Early Classic	Same as 2.K.14, refit rim with Balanza Black rim in 2.K.14, Flor Cream, Jocote Brown, Mars Orange, Black gloss sherd, big large bodied micaceous ware jar sherds.
2.K.17	Poss. Early Classic	Local Early Classic bowl, Aguila Orange, 2 large Classic jar rims, 1 Sierra, Mars Orange, 1 thin Peten Gloss black sherd.
2.K.18	Late or Terminal Preclassic	Well-preserved ceramics with large rim sherds. Looks like a single dumping episode. Sierra Red sherds, and later looking jars (possibly Mt. Hope).
2.K.19	Late or Terminal Preclassic	No true diagnostics, only large unslipped jars and a few Mars Orange and Jocote Browns, which are obviously intrusive. Very large striated jar and another high neck jar rim similar to that found in 2.K.18. 2 Sierra Red bodies.
2.K.20	Terminal Preclassic	Probably Mt. Hope since there are some non-waxy wares like San Antonio Brown and Quacco or Gale Creek Red. Very nice jar rim. No evidence of earlier Middle Preclassic materials.
2.K.21	Late Preclassic?	Mars Orange, everted lip plate (poss. Sierra Red), jar rims, large bowl, large smudged black jar.
2.K.22	Late Classic with some Preclassic materials	Mt. Maloney, ash wares, 1 waxy orange-red bowl rims, no Jenny Creek materials.
2.S.3	Hats' Chaak	Clean Hats' Chaak assemblage.
2.W.1	Preclassic and Classic	8 sherds including a ring base, flat base, possible censer pedestal, closed olla, 2 calcites unsp., Mars Orange, and Jocote Brown.

Table 1: 2003 Ceramic Analysis

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OPERATION 1, C-001

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PURPOSE

Operation 1 at C-001, the central platform group at the Chan site, focused on the central plaza area of the group (Figure 1). Excavations of plazas tend to concentrate on the identification of floor sequences and the construction of ceramic chronologies. Less systematic attention has been given to the testing and excavations of ritual and other activities that occur in plaza areas. Interestingly, evidence has been uncovered at a number of sites, suggesting that plaza spaces were often as intensively modified as the surrounding architecture. At Cuello, for instance, in the center of the Platform 34 plaza, a Middle Preclassic to Early Classic ritual sequence was identified, including burials, mass burials, caches, a shrine, and a plain stela (Hammond 1991; Robin 1989). Similarly at Cahal Cunil, a Holmul I phase (0-200 A.D) burial of seven individuals was located in the center of the Plaza 1 floor (Welsh 1988: 253). Recent research in archaeological chemistry utilized both chemical and material residues to identify ritual feasting in the central plaza at El Coyote, Honduras (Wells 2004). As a result of this evidence, strategies defined for C-001 included an intensive test-pitting and excavation program focused on the central plaza area. The purpose of investigations focused not only on plaza floor sequences but on the identification of any surface and subsurface features and architectural modifications. As the following report will illustrate, we uncovered a number of architectural features and deposits placed in the center of the plaza spanning from Preclassic to Postclassic periods (see LeCount this volume). Their identification suggests that investigations in plazas are a necessary and substantial component of any archaeological work conducted within these types of domestic and ritual groups.

EXCAVATION METHODS

Suboperation Locations

As part of our investigations at C-001, five, 2x2m test pits were opened, located at the approximate center (suboperation B) and four corners (C-northwest, D-northeast, E-southeast, F-southwest) of the plaza (see Figure 1). Although we also intended to conduct post-hole test (suboperation A) at 2m intervals, concentrations of limestone rubble and the poor preservation of the final phase plaza floor forced us to abandon this plan and refocus investigations on general excavations. During the initial 2003 survey of the plaza area, two fragments of an uncarved monument, possibly a stela, were identified in the central area of the plaza. Excavations in suboperation B also revealed two pits cut into the limestone bedrock (Special Deposits 1 and 2). The southwest edge of the pit, Special Deposit 1, was located in suboperation B while Special Deposit 2, a small capped pit containing a piece of jade, was cut into Special Deposit 1. In order to understand the extent and relationship between Special Deposits 1 and 2 and the monument fragments, excavations were extended to the east, north, and south of suboperation B. They included 6 2x2 m suboperations (G, H, I, J, K, N, OO, MM), 2 1x2 m suboperations (L, M), and 1 1x1m suboperation (Q) (see Figure 1 for locations). Once we began excavations around the

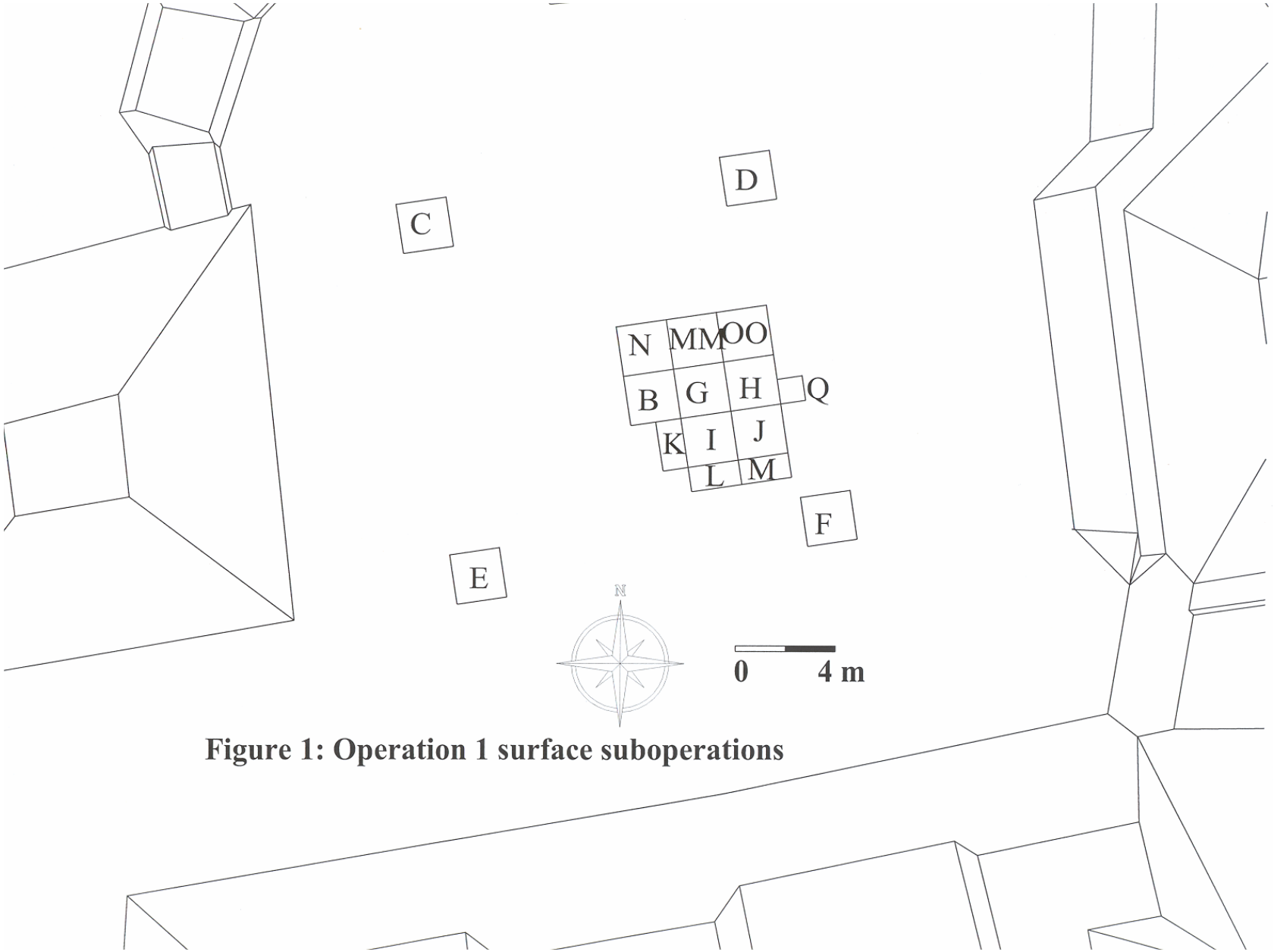

Figure 1: Operation 1 surface suboperations

fragments of the blank stela**,** we uncovered a low-lying rubble platform (Structure 1). To better capture and define the extent of this newly visible feature and those found in association with Special Deposit 1, new suboperations with different dimensions were opened below existing suboperations: suboperation P was formed below the eastern 2x1m of suboperation K and the western 2x1m of suboperation I, suboperation W consolidated the western 2x1m of suboperation J with the eastern 2x1m of suboperation I, and suboperation Z included the eastern 2x1m of suboperation G and the western 2x1m of suboperation H (Figure 2).

Later excavations focused on defining the extent of Special Deposit 1 and adjacent deposits were subdivided into 1x1m suboperations (AA-HH, JJ-LL, PP-SS) to establish greater horizontal control in excavation (see Figure 2 for locations). Addressed in more detail later, these excavations revealed a series of circular and oval pits cut into the bedrock, currently identified as Special Deposits 1 (AA-GG), 6 (RR and SS), 7 (SS), and 10 (primarily PP and RR). Other excavations in the central plaza area which were not extended below the humic layer focused on the identification of potential fragments of the stone monument, visible on the ground surface. Suboperations T, U, V (1x2m) and X, Y (1x1m) were opened to expose these fragments and determine their position in relation to the other features identified in the center of the plaza. Excavations and later reassembly revealed that the majority were in fact part of an uncarved stela, 2m in height (Figures 3 and 4).

EXCAVATION RESULTS

General Stratigraphic Sequence

Stratigraphy in Operation 1 is characterized by a complex depositional history that included a single phase platform and fourteen Special Deposits (one burial, two altars, and eleven ritual deposits). Before addressing these features in detail, I will first address the general sequence of plaza floor and fill contexts encountered during excavations, illustrated in Figure 5, the west section drawing of suboperation D. Humus 1, located in the surface root zone, covered the entirety of the Operation 1 excavations. Humus 1 is a 10YR 2/1 silty loam matrix with small limestone and gravel inclusions and numerous roots and rootlets. Humus 1 overlies Fill 1, the construction fill of the final phase plaza. Fill 1 is a limestone rubble fill containing small to medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 2/1 silty loam matrix. No indications of the final phase plaza floor that once overlay Fill 1 were encountered in Operation 1, but the final phase plaza floor, called Floor 0, was encountered in Operation 2, Structure 2 (see Latsch this volume). Based on the Operation 2 data, we assume that Floor 0 also covered Fill 1 in the area of Operation 1. Although Floor 0 was recovered during excavations in Operation 2, it was never identified in the central plaza. We assume that Floor 0 would have served as the interface between the humic layer and Fill 1. Because the floor was eroded away, Humus 1 lies directly over Fill 1, a plaza construction fill. Characterized as a 10YR 2/1 silty loam, it contained small to medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts (consistent throughout plaza fill contexts). Fill 1 overlies Floor 1, the penultimate phase plaza floor. Floor 1 is a 2.5Y 8/1 white plaster floor approximately 3 cm thick, which was identified in the majority of suboperations, although poorly preserved and highly eroded. The largest contiguous areas of Floor 1 were found in suboperations G and H. Where present, Floor 1 overlies Fill 2, the construction fill of the penultimate phase plaza. Fill 2 is a limestone rubble fill containing medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/2

Figure 3: Reconstructed 2 m high stela

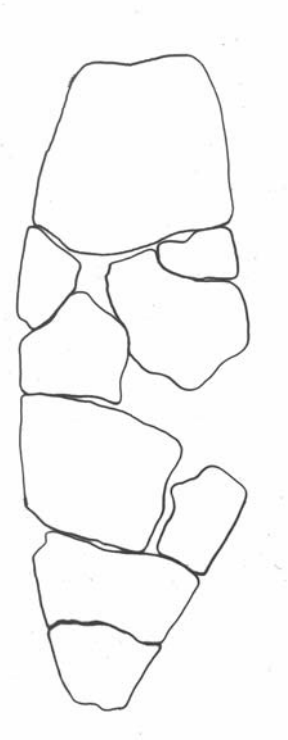

Figure 4: Reconstructed 2 m high stela

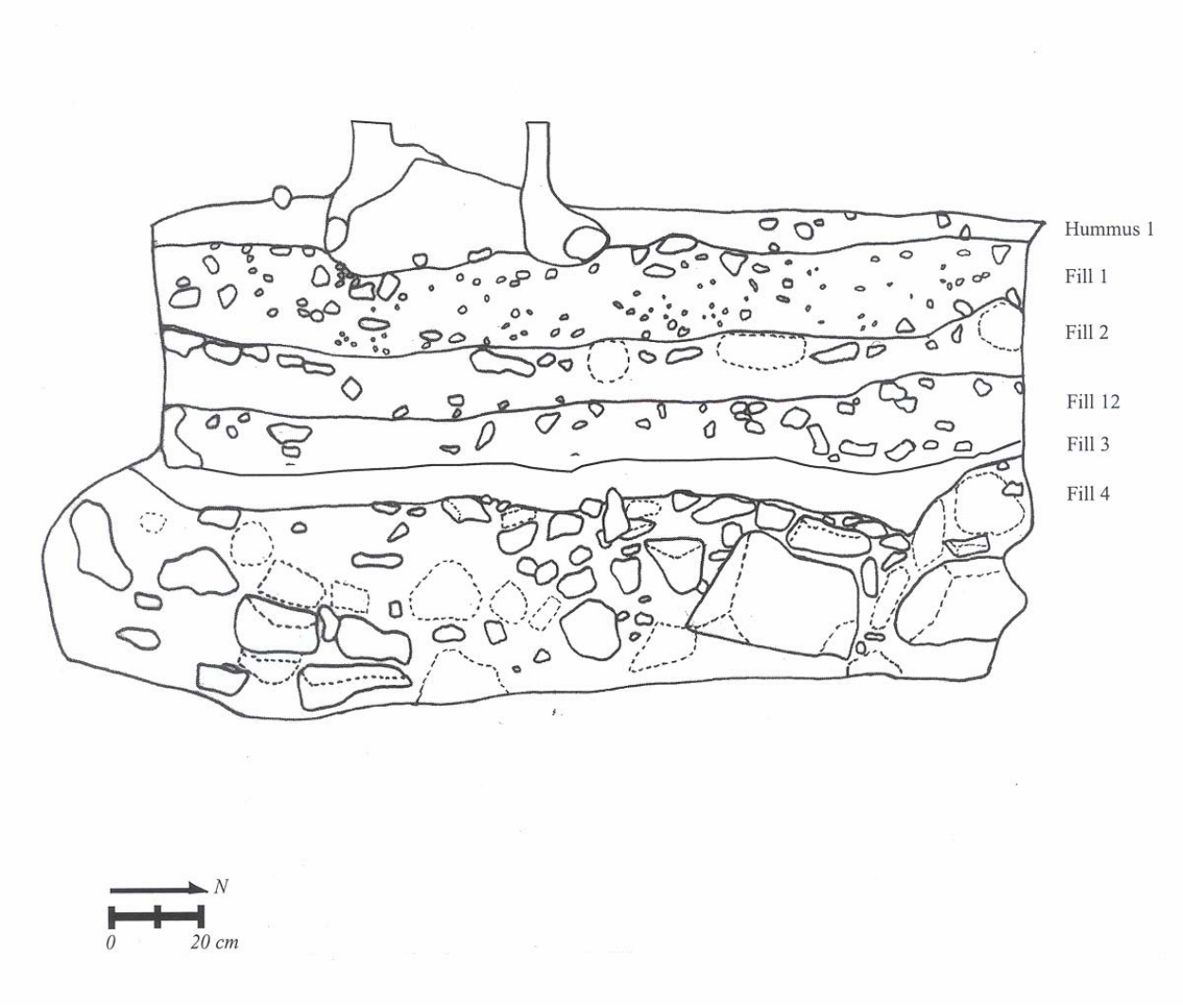

Figure 5: West section suboperation D showing sequence of plaza fills

silty loam matrix. Where Floor 1 was completely eroded, the transition between Fill 1 and Fill 2 was at times unclear given their similar composition. There was, however, a relatively flat contact zone between the fills, allowing excavators to peel Fill 1 off of Fill 2.

During excavations in suboperation OO, we also identified Surface 5, a horizontal pavement of limestone lying at the approximate level of Floor 1. We noted a similar pavement of limestone lining the surface of Fill 2 in suboperation D. Although Surface 5 lay at the same approximate elevation as Floor 1, its composition was so different that we treated it as a distinct fill context. It may be that the penultimate phase plaza floor was constructed with two compositionally distinct surfaces, a plaster floor (Floor 1) and a limestone pavement (Surface 5), which may have been initially surfaced with a thin layer of plaster. Surface 5 overlies Fill 13, a limestone construction fill containing medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/3 loam matrix. Because this fill was nearly the same in composition as Fill 2, I suspect that the fill underlying Surface 5 is in fact Fill 2.

Initial assessments of stratigraphy assumed that Fill 2 was a homogenous layer that laid on top of Floor 2, and where eroded, Fill 3. During excavations in suboperations MM and OO, we identified a third plaza floor, Floor 7 that underlies Fill 2. Floor 7 is a 5Y 8/1 compact sascab floor, approximately 3-4 cm thick. Floor 7overlies Fill 12, the subfloor plaza construction fill. Fill 12 is a limestone construction fill containing medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/2 clay loam. Because Floor 7 was only preserved in suboperations MM and OO, the contact between Fill 2 and Fill 12 was unclear, although we now believe these two construction episodes extended across the plaza. Fill 2 which overlies Floor 2, the fourth plaza floor, was poorly preserved and recovered only in a small patch in suboperation C. Floor 2 was a 5Y 8/2 plaster floor and overlies Fill 3, a 10YR 5/2 loam matrix. It has been identified as a subfloor plaza construction fill that was used to smooth out the undulating surface of the underlying bedrock. Although medium limestone inclusions were recovered, Fill 3 was characterized by a decrease in rubble fill and secondary artifact deposits. In contrast to other fill contexts, Fill 3 was a relatively compact soil layer, with a predominance of smaller gravel and well worn limestone inclusions.

Bedrock underlies Fill 3 except where there are deep cultural or natural depressions in the bedrock. In suboperation D, a subsequent fill episode, Fill 4 was identified in filling a 0.60 m depression in bedrock. Fill 4 is a limestone fill containing large limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/1 clay loam matrix. It was significantly different from other fill contexts because of its dense, compact stone fill and size of inclusions, which became significantly larger (45-65 m) as we neared bedrock. Based on excavations in Operations 1 and 2, it appears that the natural bedrock surface slopes downward toward the northern end of C-001. The apparent depression in bedrock in suboperation D and the shape of the cut in bedrock suggest that this depression was originally a borrow pit or collapsed chultun. We believe that Fill 4 was used to fill in the depression and create a level surface before the laying of Fill 3.

Structure 1, Stela 1, and Altars 1 and 2

Structure 1, a shrine structure situated roughly in the center of the C-001 plaza, was a low platform, 0.10 to 0.20 m in elevation, measuring approximately 2.60 m by 2.0 m in area (Figure 6). The single course high cut limestone retaining walls, that demarcated the structure's edge, were filled by a structure fill, Fill 6. Fill 6 is a 10YR 2/1 silty loam matrix containing medium limestone rubble inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts. The structure is oriented to the

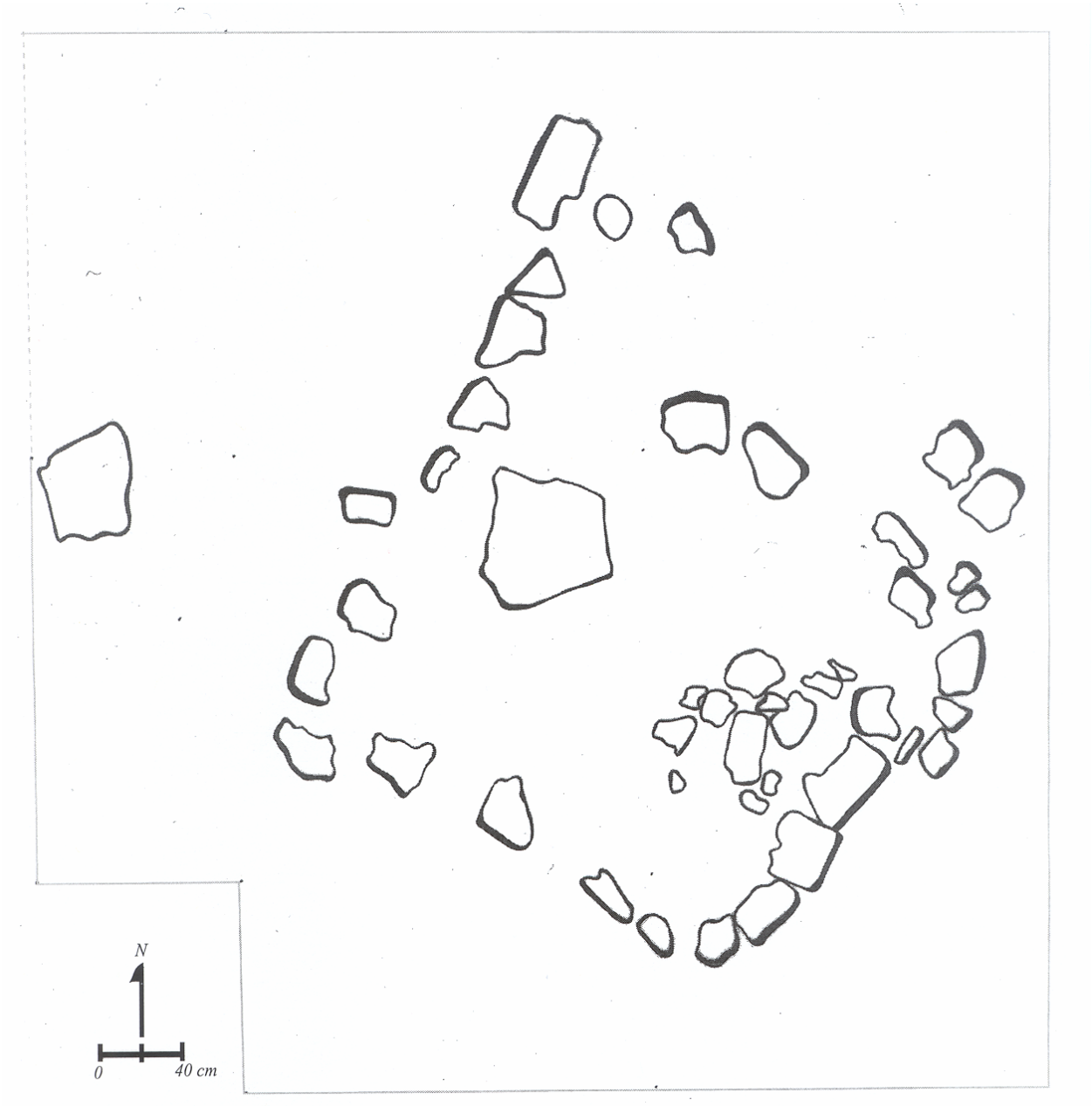

Figure 6: Structure 1, Altar 1, and stela fragments

intercardinal directions at an approximate 45° angle to the structures that surround the plaza which are oriented to the cardinal directions. Although Floor 0 was completely eroded throughout Operation 1, given the location of the structure's basal course, we suggest that it was built on the postulated Floor 0. Consequently, Structure 1 was located overlying Fill 1, the subfloor construction fill.

On the eastern side of Structure 1, we identified Altar 1 (Special Deposit 3), an altar that was composed of a mosaic of cut limestone (Surface 2), approximately 0.40m (NS) x 1.0m (EW; see Figure 6). Found on or in close proximity to this was a scatter of twenty-four special artifacts defined collectively as Special Deposit 11. These artifacts included 10 spondyllus shell beads (A4, 15-20, 22, 24, 25), 1 spondyllus shell pendant (A23), 2 jade beads (A12, 14), 1 shell pendant (A13), 3 incensario plug fragments (A3, 6, 11, 21), 1 ceramic figurine (A9), 1 ceramic figurine fragment (A2),1 mano groundstone fragment (A8), 1 ashware bowl (A1), and 3 incensario fragments fragments (A5, 7, 10; Figure 7) . We assume that that the collapse of Structure 1 scattered some items, suggesting that the original placement of all of the special artifacts was on or near the altar. Special Deposit 11 might represent the last ritual enacted at Altar 1 and Structure 1, and perhaps the last ritual enacted at C-001. Assessment of the ceramics from Special Deposit 11 indicates a Postclassic date (see LeCount, this volume).

Excavations of Special Deposit 3 removed the ultimate course of stones, Surface 2, revealing a second cache (Special Deposit 12). Special Deposit 12 contained a figurine and incensario fragment (A37, 38), which overlay a second layer of stones (Surface 3; Figure 8). The interior of Special Deposit 12 was characterized by Fill 7, a 10YR 2/1 loam fill with small limestone inclusions. Although Surface 3 (Special Deposit 12) does not extend into Fill 1, we believe that this earlier cache preceded the construction of Structure 1 and the deposition of Special Deposits 3 and 11. Special Deposit 12 may have been the original ritual cache/altar that was dedicated after the construction of Fill 1/Floor 0. At a later date, Structure 1 was built and the altar extended to the surface level of the structure with Special Deposit 11 being placed on top or near Surface 2 (Special Deposit 3).

The two stela fragments were identified in suboperations G and L, along the western edge of Structure 1. Given their proximity and the fact that they did not extend into Fill 1, these fragments were part of a larger stela that was placed on Structure 1, possibly on or near Special Deposit 3. Because of the poor preservation of the eastern wall of Structure 1, we believe that at some point the stela fell over, leaving the two largest pieces in their current position. Other fragments that were identified during excavations in Suboperations T, U, V, Y, X, however, were found to the southeast of Structure 1. Although the majority of these pieces fit together with the two other fragments, we cannot definitively explain how they ended up in those positions. According to our workers, there was a walkway at one time that went through the center of C-001, potentially causing the displacement of the smaller stela fragments.

Ritual Deposits Cut into Bedrock

Excavations that extended beneath Fill 3 uncovered seven ritual deposits cut into or placed on bedrock. Of these, six were ritually filled pits (Special Deposits 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10) and one, a burial (Special Deposit 5, 8, 9; Figure 9). Because these deposits underlie Fill 3, it is apparent that they preceded the construction of Structure 1, Altar 1 and 2, the stela fragments,

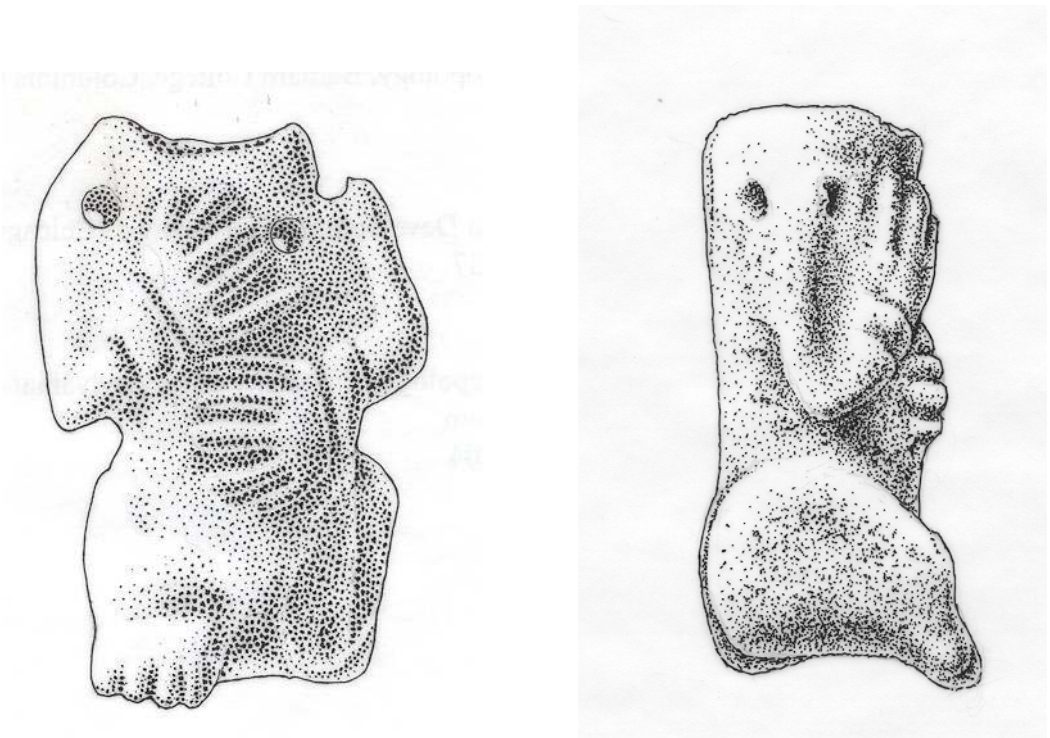

Figure 7: Figurine A9 found in cache on Altar 1, scale drawing

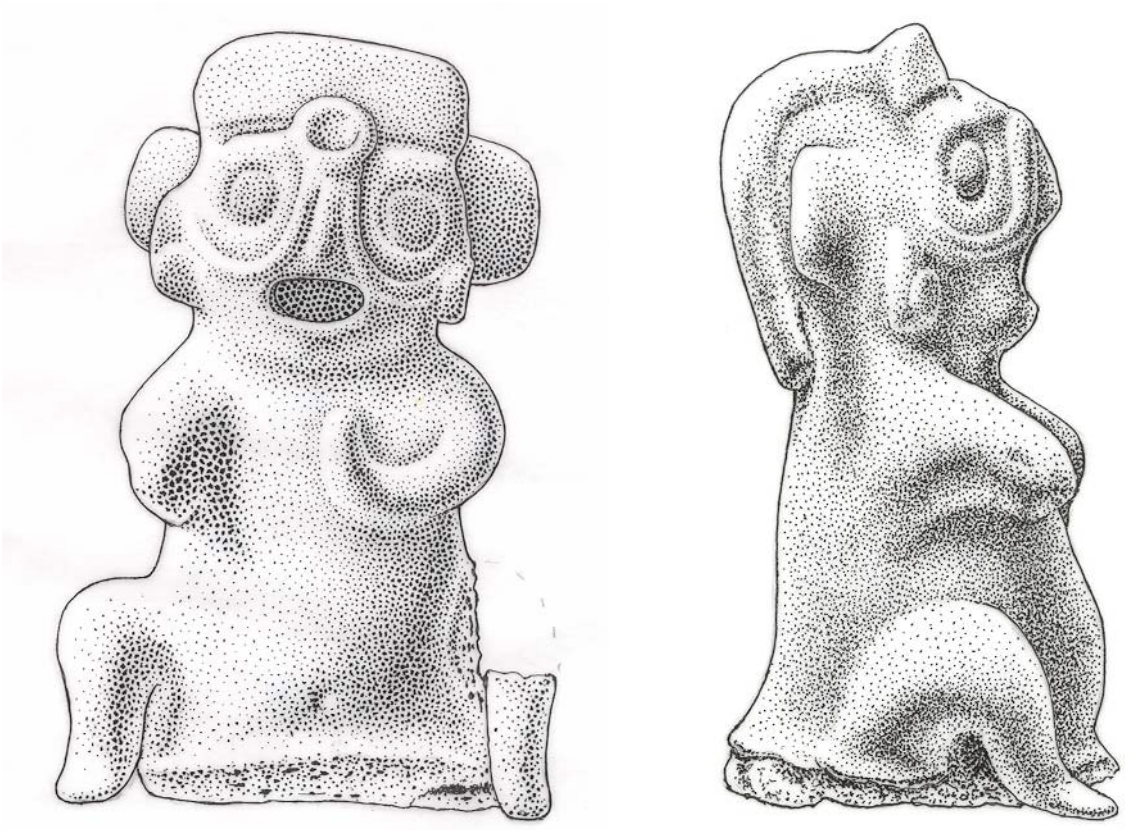

Figure 8: Figurine A37 found in cache on Altar 2, scale drawing

Figure 9: Artists reconstruction of bedrock in central plaza area showing location of Special Deposits 1, 4, 6, 7, 10 and Burial 1. North is to top of page and drawing width is 6 m.

and associated Special Deposits 3, 11, and 12. Although they are from different time periods, we believe that they are not completely unrelated. Rather, they may represent a general level of continuity and social memory that was linked through ritual activity conducted in the plaza center. As noted in the methodology section above, excavation units, originally 2x2m, were subdivided into 1x1m suboperations and sample collection grids to gain a finer grained understanding of the Special Deposits.

Special Deposit 1

Special Deposit 1 is a circular or oval pit cut into bedrock approximately 0.42m in depth and 4m (N-S) by 3m (E-W) in diameter, which underlies Fill 3. We are fairly certain that Structure 1, Special Deposit 3, and Altars 1 and 2 are later and completely unrelated construction episodes from Special Deposit 1. Once excavations were completed, we were able to understand the complicated depositional history of the bedrock deposits. Special Deposit 1 was filled with two primary matrices: Refuse 1, a 10YR 4/2 clay loam matrix with relatively few limestone inclusions, which overlies Fill 8, a 10YR 3/2 clay loam fill characterized by dense concentrations of large limestone inclusions. Refuse 1 underlies Fill 3, although the two fill contexts were nearly impossible to distinguish because of their compositional similarity. At first, we were unsure whether these constituted separate fill sequences. However, we did identify Surface 1, a 4-5cm thick sascab cap that underlies Fill 3 and overlies Refuse 1. Although it was identified solely in suboperations B and G, we argue that it was probably used to seal Special Deposit 1 in preparation for the laying of Fill 3. As well, differences in secondary artifact deposits suggest that Fill 3 and Refuse 1 were distinct fill episodes. While Fill 3 artifacts were sparse, artifacts from Refuse 1 were found in denser quantities, in some ways reminiscent of trash or refuse deposits. Refuse 1 is also of variable thickness, considerably deeper (approximately 20-30 cm thick) along its western edge in suboperation B in comparison to the eastern edge (less than 5cm in suboperation CC). As will be discussed in more detail later, the uneven distribution of Refuse 1 may be the result of a later reentry event into Special Deposit 5.

Fill 8 which underlies Refuse 1, comprised the vast majority of fill within Special Deposit 1. Based on the haphazard placement of fill stones in relation to special artifacts, it is difficult to discern whether the fill was simply a construction episode or a purposefully placed cache. The arrangement of limestone inclusions did not generally intimate the latter conclusion, although two large dressed stones were identified lying horizontally on the surface of suboperations BB and CC. In association with these two stones, we uncovered an intact square vessel (A64), lying a few centimeters to the southeast. Numerous special artifacts were recovered during excavations, including 11 stone and shell beads (A53, 55, 62, 63, 92, 93, 107, 108, 110, 116, 118), a shell pendant (A115), and 13 pieces of greenstone (A65, 66, 68-71, 73, 76-80, 114). The intact vessel in particular suggests its intentional placement rather than coincidental disposal in a refuse pit. Located directly above bedrock, we encountered a thin fill matrix which has been identified as Fill 17, a 10YR 2/1 compact clay loam with large stone inclusions. Contact between Fill 8 and Fill 17 was gradual and unclear since the transition into Fill 17 was indicated solely by the density and texture of the soil surrounding the limestone inclusions.

Special Deposit 2

While exposing the western half of Special Deposit 1, we identified Special Deposit 2, a small, circular pit dug into Special Deposit 1 and capped by a round piece of cut limestone, 0.27 m (NS) x 0.26m (EW) (Surface 4). The deposit was lined with a series of small cut stones that extended approximately 5-6cm below the capstone. At the base of the deposit, we found a piece of jade (A29). Because the capstone (Surface 4) was lying on the surface of Refuse 1 but under Fill 3, we suggest that Special Deposit 2 was cut into Special Deposit 1 prior to it being sealed and covered by Fill 3.

Special Deposit 6, 7, and 10

As we continued excavations to the north and south of Special Deposit 1, we realized that the area of deposits cut into bedrock also included a series of smaller circular pits (Special Deposits 6, 7, and 10). Excavations to define the northern extent of Special Deposit 1 documented Special Deposits 6 and 7. While adjacent Fill 8 (Special Deposit 1) was characterized by a compact limestone matrix, Fill 15 (Special Deposit 6) and Fill 16 (Special Deposit 7) consisted primarily of a 10YR 5/2 compact clay loam with fewer and smaller rubble inclusions. Special Deposits 6 and 7 were adjacent to one and another and the fill contexts nearly indistinguishable except for a single course of cut limestone rocks that divided the two Special Deposits. Special Deposit 6 included the northern half of suboperation RR, extending south to the northern third of suboperation SS with the line of stones demarcating it southern extent. Artifacts recovered from Special Deposit 6 included stone beads (A94, 99), a possible amber piece (A95), jade (A96, 97, 100), greenstone (A106), a fragment of a human humerus (A98), and an incensario (A105). Special Deposit 7 was primarily confined to suboperation SS, although it probably included a portion of suboperation CC. Artifacts recovered from Special Deposit 7 included a large chunk of unfinished jade (A113), two pieces of greenstone (A112, 117), a number of partial ceramic vessels (A72, 120, 122), and a figurine (A121).

Both Fill 16 (Special Deposit 7) and Fill 15 (Special Deposit 6) overlay bedrock. The adjacent Fill 8 of Special Deposit 1 was deeper because Special Deposit 1 was the deepest of the pits cut into bedrock. In addition to differences in fill compositions, at the base of excavations in these deposits, the distinctive outlines of the individual pits were cut into bedrock.

Once we removed the remaining fill from suboperations JJ, KK, PP, QQ, and RR, we identified a final circular pit, Special Deposit 10. Approximately 20 cm deep, Special Deposit 10 was filled by Fill 18, a 10YR 2/1 compact clay loam with medium to large stone inclusions. As we came down to the top of Special Deposit 10, we noticed a badly eroded plaster surface, approximately 20 cm (NS) x 40 cm (EW) along the southern edge of suboperation PP. Although few artifacts were recovered from this context, we did remove a complete micaceous ware ceramic bowl (A124) that was placed into the deposit. Immediately underlying Fill 18 was bedrock.

Special Deposit 4

During the excavations of the bedrock pits, we uncovered a ritual cache (Special Deposit 4) of seven, stacked miniature bowls (A54, 56-61) placed under a medium-sized limestone cap (Figure 10). Special Deposit 4 was found within Fill 3, likely placed in conjunction with this

Figure 10: Seven Cache Vessels from Special Deposit 4

phase of construction. Special Deposit 4 was located along the southeast edge of Special Deposit 1, only a few centimeters above bedrock. Because of this placement, we are relatively sure that it was used to mark or venerate Special Deposit 1. Given its central position with regard to Special Deposits 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, and 10, it may have been used to mark the deposits, no longer apparent once covered by Fill 3. The bowls themselves varied in diameter from 5 to 12 cm, the four largest placed together on the north side and the other three on the south. Soil inside the vessels was removed in the lab in order to take soil samples from the interiors of the bowls and keep the bowls intact during transportation. In one vessels, A119, we found a small piece of jade at the bottom. As well, we conducted pollen washes on the best preserved of the bowls to try and identify any botanical residues left inside.

Special Deposit 5-Burial 1

Special Deposit 5 (Burial 1, Individual 1) is a simple cist burial, approximately 2m long and a half meter wide, adjacent to the eastern edge of Special Deposit 1 (Figure 11). The burial is located primarily in suboperations DD and HH, with the northern and eastern edges extending into suboperations OO and NN. The pit itself was cut into the bedrock, the eastern half demarcated by natural bedrock formations. The individual was placed in an extended position; possibly face-up with the head oriented to the northeast. We recovered two femurs, two tibia, a humerus, fibula, radii, and a number of phalanges and tarsal bones. Placed among the lower leg bones were three pieces of jade and a number of fragmentary micaceous ceramic sherds.

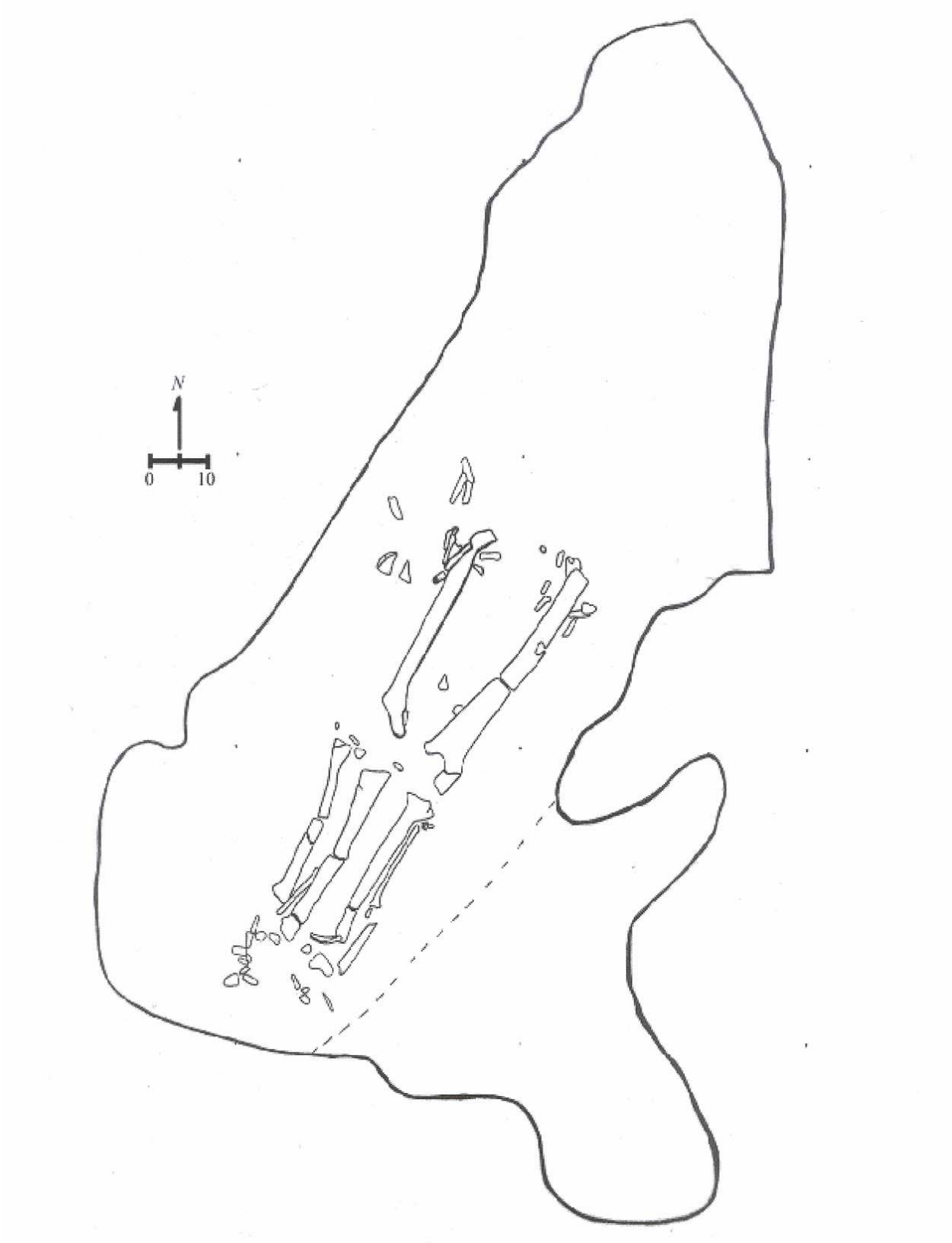

Figure 11: Burial 1

Because the burial is missing the torso, upper portions of the axial skeleton, and the skull, we now realize that Special Deposit 5 was reentered at a later date and bones removed; a common practice throughout Mesoamerica. During excavations, we identified what appeared to be the lower half of the appendicular skeleton, consisting primarily of leg bones. Blackmore's analysis in the lab revealed, however, that one of bones was a humerus and another, a femur, placed in opposite orientation to other bones in the burial. This activity, in large part explains why the stratigraphy around Special Deposit 1 and 5 were difficult to interpret. At the base of suboperation Z, we identified a dense concentration of stones similar to Fill 8, as well as a number of special artifacts, including jade, beads, and human bone. Although we initially thought this was a continuation of Special Deposit 1, we now realize that this was the topmost surface of Fill 9, part of the reentry episode into the deposit. Starting from the ultimate surface and working downward, Special Deposit 5 consists of Fill 14, Fill 9, Fill 10, and Fill 11. Fill 14 is a 10YR 4/2 clay loam matrix with relatively few small stone inclusions. Because it was uneven, Fill 14 may have been used to fill in the gaps of Fill 9. Fill 9 is a 10YR 5/2 clay loam matrix with large limestone inclusions that overlies Fill 10. Similar in color and inclusion type, Fill 10 was differentiated by a silty loam soil texture. Although Fill 9 overlies fill 10, it easily peeled away from 10, suggesting that the two may have been sequential construction episodes. Underlying Fill 10, Fill 11, a 10YR 6/1 compact silt loam with few limestone inclusions, was used to cover the burial itself. Within Fill 11, we also identified a few intact capstones that protected the remaining pieces of the skeleton. Once the capstones were removed, larger pieces of skeleton were immediately visible. Outside of the artifacts already mentioned, few artifacts were found in Fill 11.

Based on the stratigraphy, it appears that the fill episodes of Special Deposit 5 and Fill 3 were adjacent, reinforcing our interpretation that the burial was reentered during the construction of Fill 3 or cut into shortly after its completion. As a result, the articulation between Special Deposit 1 and burial 1 is completely obliterated, making it impossible to assess which one was cut into the bedrock first. The recovery of bone, ceramics, and special artifacts (A46-49) within the fill contexts of Special Deposit 5 may suggest that these were secondary interments used to venerate the location of the burial upon reentry. In Op. 1.NN.4, two pieces of ceramic and one fragment of a long bone were found lying horizontally between the interface of Fill 9 and 10. This may suggest that the lower two fills, 10 and 11, are part of the same episode, re-entry #1 (Special Deposit 9). Some time later, the burial was reentered again and the artifacts from Op 1.NN.4 placed as an offering and then covered by Fills 9 and 14, reentry episode #2 (Special Deposit 8). Other special artifacts and items recovered in these fill contexts may also result from the general disturbance that occurred during these reentry episodes, becoming mixed into the fill as secondary deposits. To determine whether or not these materials were intentionally placed, we need to see if any of the recovered bone from Fills 14, 9, and 10 refit with those found in Fill 11.

CONCLUSIONS

Excavations in the central plaza area illustrate the importance of understanding the sequence and utilization of constructions placed on top of and under plaza floors. Based on the preceding evidence, plazas are not simply vacant spaces but places of activity, construction, and ritual. Although it is difficult to discern the original intent of the bedrock pits (Special Deposits 1, 5, 6, 7, and 10), given the identification of elite markers, its relative centrality within the

group, and the intentional placement of whole ceramic vessels, we suggest that these deposits were ritual in nature rather than practical. The identification of features and deposits in the center of the plaza and correspondingly of C-001, may reflect Maya cosmological notions of centrality. Further reinforcing this idea is the recovery of a number of pieces of jade, greenstone, and spondlyous shell. The blue-green color of jade and greenstone is related to cosmological notions of centrality and has been envisioned as the *axis mundi* which connected the three levels of the universe (Schele and Freidel 1990). Freidel et al. (1993: 234-235) suggest that the deposition of precious items like jade and spondlyous invoked the act of creation and primordial aspects of the Underworld. Based on overall size, spatial centrality, elaboration of architecture, and the recovery of substantial elite markers and materials, it has been suggested that C-001 was home to Chan's community leaders. The ritual marking and utilization of the central plaza may have played an important role in establishing group identity and legitimating the authority and leadership of the group's occupants. The continual modification of the central plaza area also denotes the significance of memory and a connection to the past. Although it is difficult to establish whether later occupants were fully aware of the extent of modifications that occurred during the Preclassic, reentry into Special Deposit 5 illustrates the importance of this connection, whether fully conscious or not.

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OPERATION 2, C-001

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PURPOSE

Operation 2 at C-001, the central platform group at the Chan site, focused on Structure 2, the northern mound structure in the group (Figure 1). The surface morphology of the northern mound at C-001 is that of a linear or range structure with no surface evidence of a masonry superstructure. In the Maya area, linear mounds within platform groups, such as the northern mound at C-001, are often the remains of residential structures (Ashmore 1981). Within the regal complexes of Maya cities, rulers and other members of royal groups, often placed their residences in northern locations within platform groups or cities (e.g., Ashmore 1991; Ashmore and Sharer 2002; Coggins 1988). Royal families selected northern locations for their residences because the cardinal direction north represented power in Maya cosmological schemes. But what about in ordinary farming communities like Chan? Did leaders of a farming community also select a northern location for their residence? The purpose of the Operation 2 excavations was to determine the form and function of Str. 2 at C-001 to understand if it was a residence, and if so if it was a residence of Chan leaders. To answer this question areal excavations were opened across Str. 2 to expose final phase architecture. Surface collection ceramics from C-001 yielded ceramics dating back to the Middle Preclassic period (ca. 900 – 600 B.C.). Based on this evidence it was also hypothesized that Str. 2 might be a structure of great antiquity, perhaps the ancestral home of founding settlers of the Chan site. To assess this proposition penetrating excavations were opened to expose stratified architectural remains below final phase architecture to the depth of bedrock.

EXCAVATION METHODS

Suboperation Locations

Two types of excavations were conducted within Op. 2 – areal excavations to expose final phase architecture and penetrating excavations to expose the stratified architectural remains that spanned the construction and occupation sequence of Str. 2. Two old looters trenches existed in Str. 2. These were cleaned and drawn as suboperations A and B before excavations began on Str. 2 to provide a guide to subsequent excavations. The looters trench designated suboperation A was located along the northern/ rear face of Str. 2. The looters had not excavated into Str. 2 in this trench, they had just exposed the north facing retaining wall of Str. 2 (Figure 2). They excavated this wall to the level of bedrock and then proceeded to excavate into bedrock without disturbing any *in-situ* architectural remains – perhaps they had mistaken bedrock for part of the structure. The looters trench designated suboperation B was located on the southern side of Str. 2. It measured roughly 2 m (E-W) by 8 m (N-S) and entered axial into the center of Str. 2. Four 2 x 2 m suboperations (W, Y, Z, AA) were placed at the base of this looters trench to continue excavations to bedrock (see Figure 1).

A total of 22 contiguous excavation suboperations were opened in Op. 2 (C-AA; see Figure 1). Of these 19 were 2 m by 2 m suboperations (C-E, G-M, O-W, Y-AA), 1 was a 1 m by

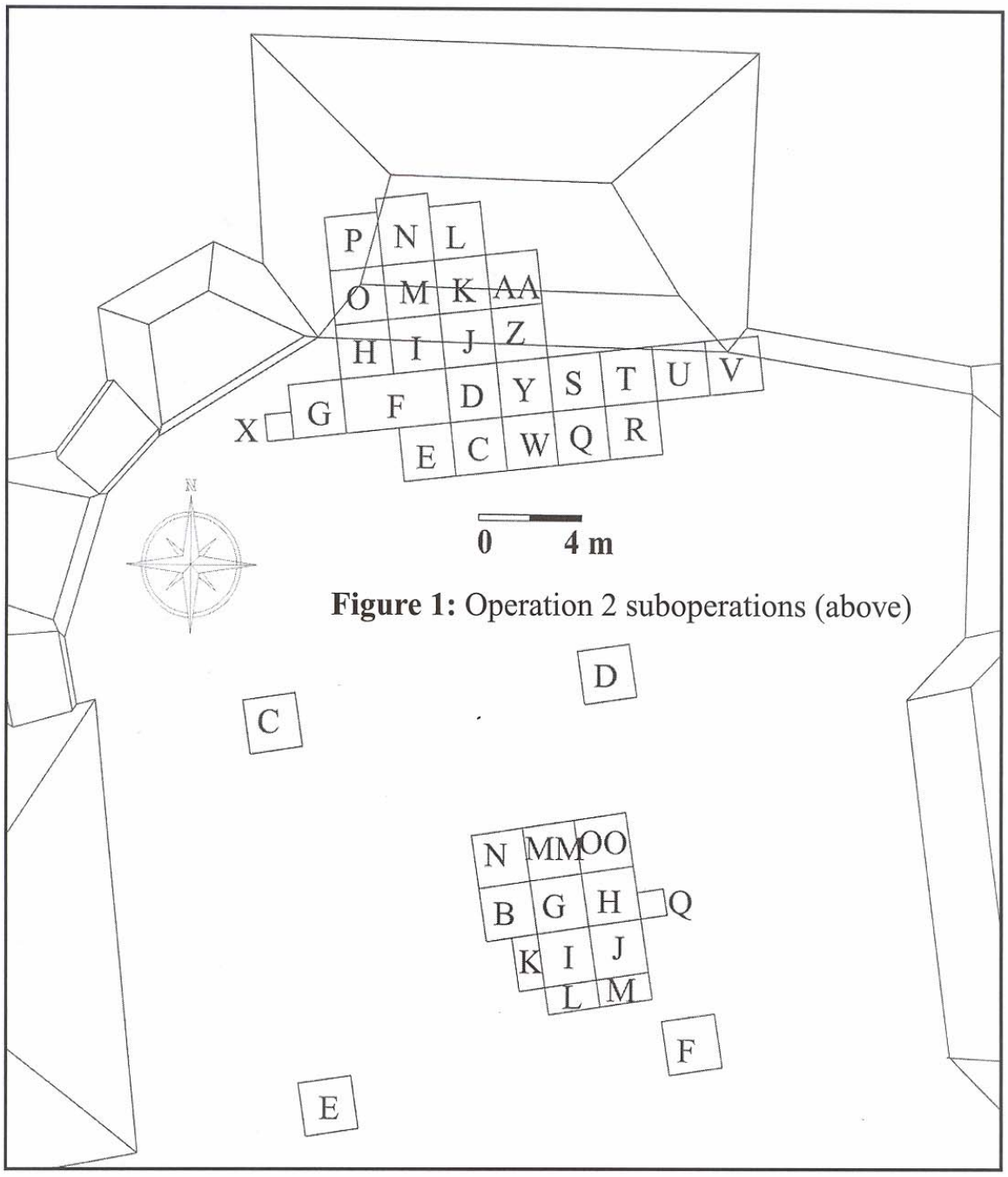

Figure 1: Operation 2 suboperations (above)

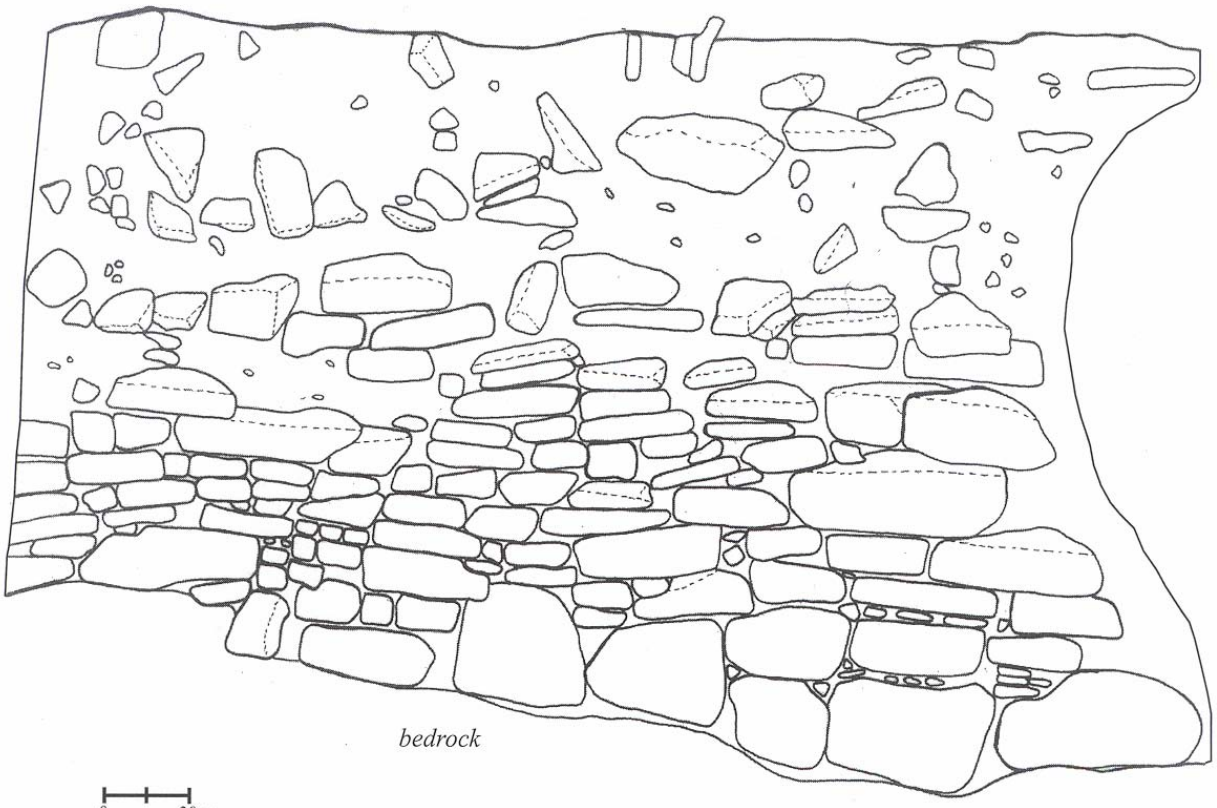

Figure 2: Profile of north facing retaining wall of Str. 2-2nd lower substructure from suboperation A

1 m suboperation (X), 1 was a 2 m (E-W) x 2.50 m (N-S) suboperation (N), and 1 was a 4 m (E-W) x 2 m (N-S) suboperation (F). The large size of suboperation F, which is larger than typical Chan site suboperations, was due to the presence of a large tree along the eastern edge of the suboperation, which prohibited the excavation of the eastern portion of the suboperation.

Suboperations C-V and X exposed final phase architecture. Suboperations J, K, W, Y, Z, and AA penetrated into the interior of Str. 2.

EXCAVATION RESULTS

General Stratigraphic Sequence

The stratigraphy of Str. 2 is characterized by the deposition of 27 fill and floor layers which formed 7 construction phases – Str. 2-1st to Str. 2-7th (Figure 3). Each construction phase will be described following the excavation sequence from latest to earliest phase. The section drawing of Str. 2 illustrated in Figure 3 can be used as the reference drawing to locate all construction phases.

Str. 2-1st

Str. 2-1st is the latest construction phase of Str. 2. Str. 2-1st consists of only minimal modifications to the Str. 2-2nd lower substructure stair. In this phase the plaza floor was raised to the level of plaza Floor 0 (see Blackmore, this volume) and a new basal step was added to the Str. 2 stair. The addition of the basal step was considered a new construction phase, rather than a sub-phase of Str. 2-2nd because a major modification of the entire C-001 plaza, in the form of raising the plaza level to the level of Floor 0, was required before this step could be constructed. At least in terms of Str. 2, the final raising of the C-001 plaza area, was followed by only minimal modifications to the northern structure.

The Str. 2-1st basal step was faced with cut limestone blocks and retained step Fill 19 a limestone rubble fill containing small and medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 2/1 silty loam matrix. The Str. 2-1st basal step overlay Floor 0 which was well preserved near Str. 2 but had been completely eroded in the center of the C-001 plaza (see Blackmore, this volume). Upon excavating the Str. 2-1st basal step, the buried remains of the largely dismantled Str. 2-2nd basal step were encountered.

Str. 2-2nd-a,b/c

Str. 2-2nd represents the single largest construction phase of Str. 2 and the substructure constructed during Str. 2-2nd times was also utilized in Str. 2-1st times. Str. 2-2nd had at least 2 and possibly three sub-phases.

Str. 2-2nd is a bi-level subrectangular substructure with a frontal (southern) axial stair containing four steps (Figure 4). Two low masonry benches were constructed on its upper structure. No masonry superstructure existed and based on findings of daub in the collapse of Str. 2-2nd (Collapse 1), the Str. 2-2nd superstructure was a wattle-and-daub building.

Str. 2-2nd-a was constructed on plaza Floor 1 which already existed at the time of the construction of Str. 2-2nd-a because Str. 2-3rd had previously been constructed on Floor 1. Floor 1 was well preserved both below and to the south of Str. 2-2nd-a.

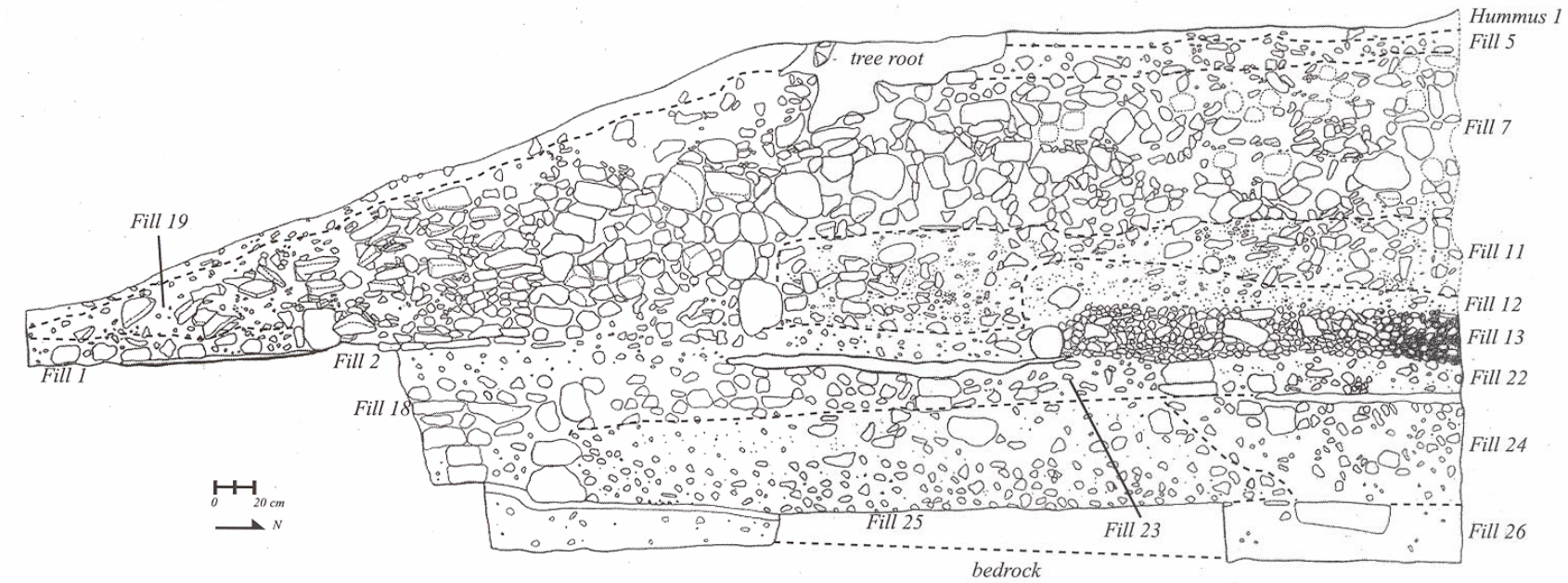

Figure 3: Stratigraphy of Str. 2

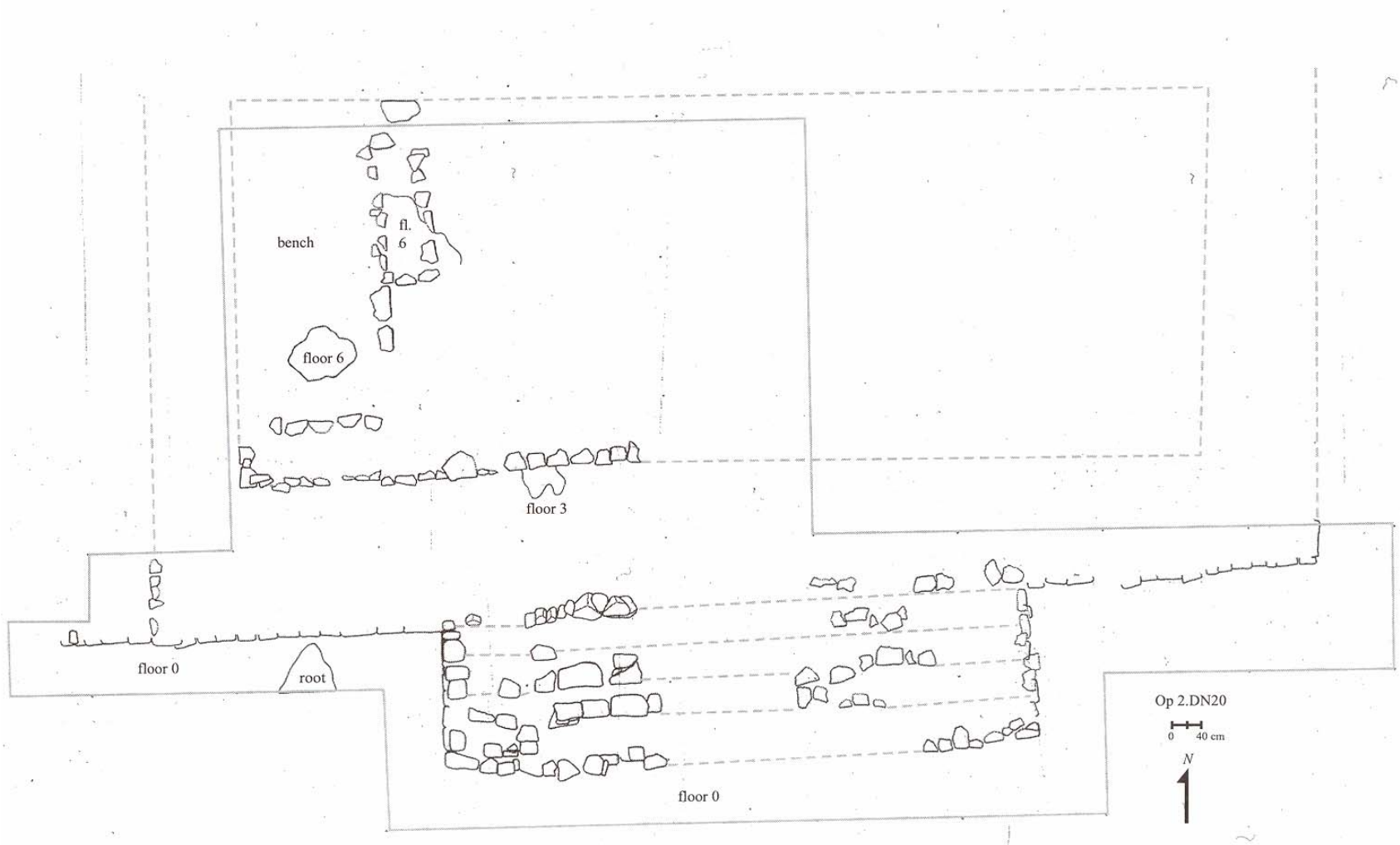

Figure 4: Plan view of Str. 2

The Str. 2-2nd-a lower substructure measures 16.20 m (E-W) by 9.80 m (N-S) by 1.35 m in height. The retaining walls which demarcate the substructure's facades were faced on all visible surfaces by cut limestone blocks and filled with Fill 7, a limestone rubble fill containing mostly medium and a few large sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/2 silty loam matrix. Patches of lighter grey-white matrix were also found within Fill 7 and these may be lime inclusions used to further consolidate the fill. Along the south/ front retaining wall of Str. 2-2nd-a the cut limestone block facade extends fully from Floor 1 to the top of the lower substructure which is capped by Floor 3, a Gley 1 8/N white plaster substructure floor that is approximately 2-3 cm thick. Where the front axial stair of Str. 2-2nd-a conceals the south facade it is constructed of large uncut cobbles. Along the north/ rear facade of Str. 2-2nd-a the lower substructure in constructed on bedrock. A foundation course of large uncut cobbles sits directly on bedrock and is surmounted by cut limestone blocks.

An axial stair with four steps was used to reach the summit of the lower substructure. The stair measures 7.20 m (E-W) by 2.00 m (N-S). The visible facades of each step riser were faced with cut limestone blocks. The foundation of each step riser was constructed directly on Floor 1 and where the riser facade was covered by a previous step and not visible, just as in the construction of the retaining walls of the lower substructure, the buried riser facade was faced with uncut cobbles. The basal step which was replaced in the construction of Str. 2-1st, had been largely dismantled and its cut limestone block facade was removed except for two blocks which were recovered in suboperation E.

The Str. 2-2nd-a upper substructure measures 13.40 m (E-W) by 5.40 m (N-S) by 0.10 cm in height. The retaining walls which demarcate the substructure's facades were constructed with 2 courses of cut limestone blocks and retained Fill 5, a limestone rubble fill containing small limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 3/2 loam matrix. The substructure is capped by Floor 6, a Gley 1 8/N white plaster substructure floor that is approximately 2-3 cm thick.

Based on surface morphology Str. 2-2nd-a had an eastern and western bench. Only the western bench was excavated. This sat on Floor 6 along the western edge of the upper substructure and measured 2.00 m (E-W) by 5.40 m (N-S) by 0.20 m in height. The retaining walls which demarcated the bench's facades were constructed with 1-2 courses of cut limestone blocks and retained Fill 15, a limestone rubble fill containing small and medium sized limestone inclusion in a 10 YR 2/1 silty loam matrix. No remains of the plaster surface that would have once capped this bench were found.

The Str. 2-2nd bench was subsequently remodeled in two ways: the bench was enlarged to the east along the northern half of the bench and the height of the southern portion of the bench was raised. As there is no contextual association between these two additions to the bench it is impossible to determine based on stratigraphy alone their sequence of construction or if indeed these remodelings were undertaken at the same time. Thus these remodelings of the bench are referred to as sub-phases Str. 2-2nd-b/c. The eastern extension of the bench measured 0.80 m (E-W) by 2.60 m (N-S) by 0.20 m in height. The retaining walls which demarcated the eastern extension's facades were constructed with 1-2 courses of cut limestone blocks and retained Fill 17, a limestone rubble fill containing small limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 2/1 silty loam matrix. The southern elevation of the bench measured 2.00 m (E-W) by 0.80 m (N-S) by 0.20 m in height. The retaining walls which demarcated the southern bench elevation's facades were constructed with 1-2 course of cut limestone blocks and retained Fill 20, a limestone rubble fill containing small and medium limestone inclusions and secondary

deposit artifacts in a 10 YR 2/1 silty loam matrix. No remains of the plaster surfaces that would have once capped either bench extension were found.

Str. 2-3rd

Str. 2-3rd was also constructed on Floor 1. The retaining walls of this subrectangular substructure were largely dismantled in the construction of Str. 2-2nd. All of the cut limestone block facing stones of its facades were removed, assuming that it originally had cut block facades. Perhaps the cut blocks were removed and re-utilized in the construction of Str. 2-2nd. Only the basal foundation course of large cobbles sitting on Floor 1 was discovered *in-situ.* These retained Fill 11, a limestone rubble fill containing a density of gravel sized inclusions surrounding small to medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 5/2 – 6/2 silty loam matrix. In suboperation J a few patch of Floor 9, which capped Fill 11 were uncovered, indicating that the Str. 2-3rd substructure was originally 0.55 cm in height. Floor 9 is a 2.5Y 8/1 white plaster substructure floor approximately 1 cm in thickness. The finding of floor fragments further suggests that when Str. 2-3rd was buried during the construction of Str. 2-2nd, it was buried largely intact except for the dismantling of its retaining walls. The southern facade of Str. 2-3rd was located 1 m north of the southern facade of Str. 2-2nd. As the north facade of Str. 2-3rd was not encountered in our excavations, it can only be said that the N-S dimension of this substructure was greater than 4 m. Nor were the eastern and western facades of the substructure contained within our excavations, thus it only can be said that the E-W dimension of the substructure was greater than 4 m. Given the substructure height of 0.55 m, a low stair or step may have been necessary to reach its summit. This stair or step was either dismantled during the construction of Str. 2-2nd or did not exist in our excavation area.

Str. 2-4th

Str. 2-4th is a 0.30 cm high subrectangular substructure. Like Str. 2-3rd, its retaining walls were dismantled down to the basal foundation course of large cobbles during the construction of Str. 2-3rd. Str. 2-4th was filled by Fill 13, a very distinctive loose limestone rubble fill containing small to medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts with little to no soil matrix. Fill 13, is capped by Floor 4, the 5Y 8/1 white plaster substructure floor of Str. 2-4th.

The southern facade of Str. 2-4th was located 1.30 m north of the southern facade of Str. 2-3rd. As its northern, eastern, and western facades were not encountered in our excavations its horizontal dimensions are not know, but it must have been larger than 4 m (E-W) and 2.50 m (N-S).

Str. 2-4th was constructed on Floor 7, a 5Y 8/1 soft powdery plaster floor that measured 8-9 cm in thickness. Since Floor 7 was preserved only to 1.70 m south of Str. 2-4th it is not certain if Floor 7 is a plaza floor or some other type of floor. If Floor 7 is a plaza floor it may equate with the Operation 1 plaza floor also called Floor 7 (see Blackmore, this volume). The ultimate designation of Floor 7 in Operation 2 awaits further stratigraphic assessment.

Before Str. 2-3rd was constructed the partly dismantled Str. 2-4th was covered by Fill 12, which was perhaps placed to protect the earlier substructure. Fill 12 is a compact soil and limestone rubble fill containing many fine gravel and small sized inclusions and secondary artifacts in a compact 10YR 4/2 silty loam matrix. Fill 12 seems to represent a construction fill episode in the construction of Str. 2-3rd, rather than the fill of a unique substructure that sits

sequentially between Strs. 2-3rd and 2-4th because no substructure retaining walls or floors were found associated with Fill 12. Although all of the buried substructures in the Str. 2 sequence were dismantled or eroded in some way, some evidence of the substructure floors and/ or retaining walls was always preserved. Thus it is likely that Fill 12 is a construction fill, although it remains possible that Fill 12 is the extremely poorly preserved remains of a unique buried substructure the predated Str. 2-3rd and postdated Str. 2-4th and sat on Floor 1.

Str. 2-5th

Str. 2-5th is a subrectangular substructure that measures 0.20 cm in height by 1.60 m (N-S) by at least 4.00 m (E-W). Both the northern and southern facades of the substructure were encountered in our excavations and these retaining walls comprised 2 courses of cut limestone blocks which retained Fill 23, a limestone rubble fill containing small and medium sized limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/1 clay loam matrix. No remains of the substructure floor that would have original capped Fill 23 were found.

Str. 2-5th is the narrowest, in terms of N-S dimension, of the substructures in the Str. 2 sequence. Unlike later substructures its retaining walls did not utilize a basal foundation course of large uncut cobbles. Perhaps the lower overall elevation of the substructure did not structurally necessitate a cobble foundation course.

Str. 2-5th was constructed on Floor 8, a 5Y 8/1 soft powdery plaster floor that measured 3-5 cm in thickness. Since Floor 8 was preserved only to the north of Str. 2-5th it is not certain if Floor 8 is a plaza floor or some other type of floor. If Floor 8 is a plaza floor it may equate with the Operation 1 plaza floor called Floor 2 (see Blackmore, this volume). The ultimate designation of Floor 8 in Operation 2 awaits further stratigraphic assessment.

During the construction of Floor 7 and Str. 2-4th fill was placed to the north (Fill 22) and south (Fill 18) of Str. 2-5th to level the area for the construction. Fills 18 and 22 are quite similar in composition. Both are limestone rubble fills containing small and medium limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 4/3 silty loam matrix. The fills can be distinguished as Fill 18 has a higher density of small limestone inclusions than Fill 22.

Str. 2-6th

Str. 2-6th is the earliest masonry substructure to be constructed in the Str. 2 sequence. Str. 2-6th is a subrectangular substructure that measures 0.25 cm in height by at least 4.50 m (N-W). Its E-W dimension is unknown as only a 2 m E-W portion of the structure was contained within our excavations. The southern facade of the substructure was fully preserved below Str. 2-5th, but the northern facade of the substructure appears to have been completely dismantled during the construction of Str. 2-5th, including whatever foundation course may have existed. Str. 2-6th was constructed on Floor 10, a Gley 1 8/N white plaster floor that measured 4-5 cm in thickness. As with Floors 7 and 8, it is not clear what type of floor Floor 10 is. As well Floor 10 appears to be lower than any floors encountered in the central plaza area (Operation 1) as bedrock slopes downwards towards the northern limit of C-001. The southern facade of the substructure consisted of two retaining walls, a visible southern retaining wall that was constructed with 2 course of cut limestone blocks and a second uncut cobble retaining wall that was set back 0.40 m to the interior of the substructure. Floor 10 and Str. 2-6th were built in tandem, as Floor 10 was constructed with a 10 cm lip which was molded to fit the foundation course of cobbles of the

interior retaining wall of the substructure. Fill 27, a circa 1 cm thick 10YR 7/1 silt lens was placed directly on Floor 10 only in the area where Str. 2-6th was to be constructed. The substructure fill, Fill 25, is a limestone rubble fill containing gravel, small and medium limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 5/1 silty loam matrix.

At the basal center point of Str. 2-6th below Fill 25 a small piece of jade was placed on Floor 10. This piece of jade may set out the foundational center for the masonry substructures in the Str. 2 sequence.

During the construction of Floor 8 and Str. 2-5th fill was placed to the north (Fill 24) of Str. 2-6th to level the area for the construction of Str. 2-5th. Fill 24 is a limestone rubble fill containing small and medium limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10YR 3/2 clay loam matrix.

Str. 2-6th and Floor 10 were constructed on Fill 26, a soil and limestone rubble fill containing flecks and chunks of sascab and small limestone inclusions and secondary deposit artifacts in a 10 YR 2/2 clay loam matrix. Fill 26 directly overlies bedrock.

Str. 2-7th

Str. 2-7th represents the earliest construction in the Str. 2 sequence. Str. 2-7th is represented by two post-holes cut into bedrock. Thus it seems that the earliest construction in the Str. 2 sequence was some kind of fully perishable structure built directly on bedrock.

CONCLUSION

The excavations of Str. 2 reveal a complex depositional history of architectural remains on the north side of the C-001 plaza. Seven distinct construction phases have been identified to date, Strs. 2-1st to 7th. Earlier substructures were often partly dismantled in the construction of later substructures, and this dismantling most often took the form of removing the facing stones, likely cut blocks, from substructure facades.

The full architectural plan of the latest construction phases Strs. 2-1st and 2nd were exposed. These comprise a bi-level substructure elevated 1.45 m above the plaza floor of C-001, which could be ascended by an axial stair with four steps. The bi-level substructure supported a wattle-and-daub superstructure, which contained two benches located within a single room. The architectural plans of Strs. 2-1st and 2-2nd are consistent with that of a domestic structure. Artifacts found in association with Str. 2-1st and 2nd comprised a full range of domestic items including, manos and metates, spindle whorls, obsidian blades, chert tools, serving, storage, and cooking vessels, etc. Based on field analysis Strs. 2-1st and 2nd could have been residences, but only future laboratory analyses of the artifacts from the Str. 2 assemblages will definitively designate the function of this structure.

Ceramic lots analyzed from Str. 2 fill contexts yielded dates from Terminal Preclassic to Late Classic times, although no fill lots were analyzed from either Str. 2-1st or its earliest construction phases. Terminal Classic and Postclassic ceramics were also identified in Humus 1 above Str. 2 (see LeCount, this volume). Clearly the complex construction history of Str. 2 also corresponds to a temporally lengthy construction sequence. Thus it is plausible that this structure was one of the initial structures constructed at Chan, possibly by pioneer or founding families. Throughout its history Str. 2 may have been an actual or public residence of a leading family at the Chan site. Two large platform groups (C-002 and C-003) are located to the east of

C-001. Unlike the C-001 architecture, which appears to be largely public and ritual in form, the architecture at neighboring platform groups C-002 and C-003 appears to be largely domestic based on surface morphology (excavations have yet to be conducted at these groups). Future comparative analyses of architectural and artifact remains from the postulated domestic structures at C-002 and C-003 and those from Str. 2 will be critical in defining the function and meaning of Str. 2 at C-001.

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APPENDIX A

CHAN PROJECT 2003

Terms, Procedures, and Records

Terms and Procedures

The basic units of excavation are organized in a hierarchical structure within the site or terrace set. Sites and terrace sets are defined during the Chan survey and all excavations are designated with a site or terrace set number to link the excavation and survey databases. Within each site or terrace set a hierarchical sequence of excavation units are organized including operations, suboperations, lots, special deposits, special artifacts, samples. All of these designations must be made at the time of excavation and recorded on appropriate forms and tags. An additional designation, the context, which may cross-cut other designations, must also be made during excavation and recorded on appropriate forms but is not recorded on tags.

Unit	Designation	Sequential Ordering
Operation	1	within site or terrace set
Suboperation	A	within operation
Lot	1	within suboperation
Special deposit	D1	within operation
Special artifact	A1	within lot
Samples	F1, P1, B1,R1, S1,M1,L1	within lot
Context	Context name+1	within operation

Label Syntax (sp. deposit #s proceed sp. artifacts and samples)

Op.1.A.1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1, special deposit D1)
Op.1.A.1.A1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1, special artifact A1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.A1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1, sp. deposit D1, sp. artifact A1)
Op.1.A.1.B1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1, sample B1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.B1	(op. 1, subop. A, lot 1, sp. deposit D1, sample B1)

Additionally all special artifacts and samples must be assigned a horizontal location within their suboperation. For systematic special collections the horizontal location is designated by a quadrant designation as described on the reverse side of the sample form and the label syntax is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.B1.5ne	(sample from location 5ne in a 4/16 quad collection grid)
Op.1.A.1.D1.B1.5ne	(sample from location 5ne in a 4/16 quad collection grid)

For special artifacts and spot samples the horizontal location is designated as the distance north and the distance east of the southwest corner of the suboperation. Thus ‘1,1’ locates a special

artifact or spot sample to be 1m north and 1m east of the southwest corner of the suboperation. The label syntax is as follows:

Op. 1.A.1.B1.1,1 (sample from 1m N and 1m E of SW corner of subop)
Op. 1.A.1.D1.B1.1,1 (sample from 1m N and 1m E of SW corner of subop)

Operation
An operation is the investigation (excavation or otherwise) of a clearly defined unit within the site or terrace set. Most often, an operation will refer to the excavations associated with a single structure, plaza, or exterior area. For terrace sets a single operation number will usually suffice for the excavations of all terraces in the set. The systematic post-hole testing of a site or area within a site will also be designated as an operation.

Operation numbers (e.g., Op.1) are ordered sequentially across all excavations of the Chan project starting in 2003 with Op.1. All operation numbers are assigned by the field director – this avoids confusion and the possible duplication of numbers. The field director will have an operation log for recording all operation numbers.

At the start of a new operation the operation supervisor starts a new operation form. This form is an overview of the work conducted as part of the operation. At the close of the operation the operation supervisor returns to the operation form to complete the form. All excavation units must be assigned to an operation.

Suboperation
A suboperation is a clearly defined unit within the operation. The suboperation breaks the investigation of an operation into manageable units of study. Most often, a suboperation will refer to a single excavation unit, typically of 2m by 2m, 2m by 1m, or 1m by 1m area. Suboperations within an operation may be contiguous or non-contiguous. The systematic post-hole testing of a site or area within a site will also be designated as a suboperation.

Suboperations (e.g., Op.1.A) are assigned sequentially within the operation by the operation supervisor. The location of new suboperations is determined by the operation supervisor in consultation with the field director.

At the start of a new suboperation the operation supervisor starts a new suboperation form. This form is an overview of the work conducted as part of the suboperation. At the close of the operation the operation supervisor returns to the suboperation form to complete the form. All excavation units must be assigned to a suboperation.

Lot
The lot is the smallest unit of excavation within the suboperation. A lot may be a cultural or natural stratum within a suboperation or an arbitrary level within a cultural or natural stratum within a suboperation. Most lots will correspond to cultural or natural strata, but in certain cases, for instance when an excavator first encounters a thick fill layer, the excavator may define multiple arbitrary excavation lots within the larger fill layer to ascertain its homogeneity. Under no circumstances may lots be larger units than individual cultural or natural strata. Lots may be

arranged vertically and/or horizontally within a suboperation. For systematic post-hole testing suboperations each post hole is assigned a lot number.

Lot numbers (e.g., Op.1.A.1) are assigned sequentially within the suboperation by the operation supervisor. Lots are generally designated by the operation supervisor, but if questions arise the field director should be consulted.

At the start of a new lot the operation supervisor starts a new lot form. This form contains all basic excavation information for the lot. At the close of the lot the operation supervisor returns to the lot form to complete the form. All excavation units must be assigned to a lot.

In-situ and *non-in-situ* lots are excavated differently. *Non-in-situ* lots are excavated as a single unit and all artifacts from the lot are bagged together. Examples of *non-in-situ* lots include humus, fill, disturbed, mixed, unknown, and some collapse and agricultural contexts. *In-situ* lots are excavated in 1m by 1m quadrants and artifacts from individual quadrants are bagged separately. Examples of *in-situ* lots include walls, occupation, floor, surface, refuse, and some collapse and agricultural contexts. This procedure allows operation supervisors to maintain 1m by 1m provenience of artifacts from *in-situ* contexts when excavating a 2m by 2m or 2m by 1m suboperation. The label syntax for artifact bags from quadrants is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.NW	(artifacts from the NW quadrant of lot 1)
Op.1.A.1.NW.D1	(artifacts from the NW quadrant of lot 1 in sp. deposit 1)

Special Deposits

Special deposits are deposits which the excavator thinks are especially important and/or found *in situ.* Special deposits are clearly defined cultural units of excavation. Excavators are likely to encounter seven types of special deposits on the Chan project:

chultun
pit
hearth
burials
caches
rock clusters
soil stains

A special deposit is always excavated separately from its matrix, perhaps even with several intra-feature lots. Special deposits may extend across multiple suboperations. In this case, when possible, although the special deposit is excavated as a separate unit, it is also excavated as part of multiple suboperations. Special deposit designations are used to flag our attention to particularly important deposits and special deposit numbers will only be assigned in these cases.

Special deposits (e.g., Op.1.A.1.D1) are assigned sequentially within the operation by the operation supervisor. Special deposits are determined by the operation supervisor in consultation with the field director.

Each time a new special deposit is encountered, the operation supervisor starts a new special deposit form. This form contains a general description of the special deposit. At the close of the special deposit the operation supervisor returns to the lot form to complete the form. Only deposits that merit special attention will be assigned a special deposit designation.

Special Artifact

Special artifacts are artifacts with the excavator thinks are especially important and/or found *in situ.* Applying a special artifact number allows the excavator to keep track of individual artifacts. The location of all special artifacts must be drawn on appropriate lot forms, designated by a location north and east of the southwest corner of the associated suboperation and specified on the special artifact form and tag with the following label:

Op.1.A.1.A1.1,1	(sp. artifact located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop A)
Op.1.A.1.D1.A1,1,1	(sp. artifact located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop A)

The only exception to providing a horizontal location for a special artifact is if it is found in the screen, in which case the horizontal location must be indicated as screen on the sp. artifact form.

Special artifacts (e.g., Op.1.A.1.A1) are assigned sequentially within the lot by the operation supervisor. Special artifacts are generally designated by the operation supervisor, but if questions arise the field director should be consulted. Minimally special artifacts must be sketched on the lot form and assigned a horizontal location within the suboperation (unless found in the screen). In many cases special artifacts will be photographed and drawn on field plans.

Each special artifact is recorded on a separate special artifact form. Only artifacts that merit special attention will be assigned a special artifact designation.

Samples

A key methodology of the Chan project is rigorous and systematic collection of samples. Consistent collection and recording of all samples is critical. Seven types of samples will be systematically collected across all excavations:

Flotation	(designated by 'F')
Pollen	(designated by 'P')
Botanical	(designated by 'B')
Radiocarbon	(designated by 'R')
Sediment	(designated by 'S')
Micromorphology	(designated by 'M')
Plaster	(designated by 'L')

Samples (e.g., Op.1.A.1.F1 or P1 or B1 or R1 or S1 or M1 or L1) are assigned sequentially within the lot by the operation supervisor. Samples are generally designated by the operation supervisor, but if questions arise the field director should be consulted. The horizontal location of all samples must be designated on the sample form and tag as discussed below. The only exception to providing a horizontal location for a sample is if a botanical sample is found in the screen, in which case the horizontal location must be indicated as screen on the associated tag.

Operation supervisors will be responsible for collecting and recording seven types of samples across their excavations. There are different protocols for collecting different types of samples.

Botanical and Radiocarbon Samples (B and R)

Botanical and Radiocarbon samples are collected whenever encountered during excavations. As carbonized plant remains may be used for radiocarbon dating as well as botanical analysis care must be taken in handling botanical samples and operation supervisors must decide in the field which carbonized plant remains will be processed for botanical analysis alone vs. botanical and radiocarbon analysis. Radiocarbon samples should be handled only with metal trowels or other nonorganic implements (plastic and hands should never be used). Radiocarbon samples should be sealed in aluminum foil and placed in a film canister. Smokers should be especially careful to avoid handling charcoal or other datable materials. Typically the largest carbonized samples from datable contexts are selected for radiocarbon analysis. Because of their size these samples can most easily be identified by a paleoethnobotanist without contaminating the sample. The label syntax for radiocarbon samples is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.R1 (radiocarbon sample 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.R1 (radiocarbon sample 1)

Because botanical samples are fragile and the cell structure within samples can be damaged by moisture build-up within tin foil, botanical samples not being processed for radiocarbon analysis will be placed in a film canister protected by a small amount of cotton. As the cotton and plastic of the film canister contaminate the sample, once a botanical sample is processed in this way it can not subsequently be used for radiocarbon analysis. Thus operation supervisors must take care in the field to identify radiocarbon samples and process them appropriately. The label syntax for botanical samples is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.B1 (botanical sample 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.R1 (botanical sample 1)

The location of all botanical and radiocarbon samples (unless found in the screen) will be designated by a location north and east of the southwest corner of the associated suboperation and specified on the sample form and tag with the following label:

Op.1.A.1.B1.1,1 (sample located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop)
Op.1.A.1.D1.R1,1,1 (sample located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop)

Flotation and Pollen Samples (F and P)

Flotation and pollen samples are collected on a 1m grid across *in-situ* deposits. Heavy fraction samples from flotation analysis will be used for microartifact analysis as well as botanical analysis. The label syntax for flotation and pollen samples collected on a 1m grid (from quadrants) is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.F1.NW (flotation from the NW quadrant of lot 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.F1.NW (flotation from the NW quadrant of lot 1 in sp. deposit 1)

Additional spot flotation samples should be taken from the area surrounding any botanical collection. Center samples (on a 4m grid) should be taken from *non-in-situ* deposits such as fill and some collapse. In terms of label syntax center samples carry no suffix, e.g.:

Op.1.A.1.F1 (center flotation sample from lot 1)

Each flotation sample comprises 10 liters of sediment. Flotation samples should be collected in cloth bags. Pollen/Phytolyth samples should be taken at every location where a flotation sample is taken. Care should be taken in collecting pollen samples because contamination can easily occur from airborne contemporary pollen. Pollen samples should be taken from a newly uncovered surface to avoid contamination. Pollen samples comprise 1 handful of sediment and should be collected in paper bags. The label syntax for flotation and pollen samples is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.F1 (flotation sample 1)
Op.1.A.1.P1 (pollen sample 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.F1 (flotation sample 1)
Op.1.A.1.D1.P1 (pollen sample 1)

Plaster Samples (L)
Plaster samples are collected as center samples on a 4m grid across plaster floors. A plaster sample of 2cm by 2cm should be placed in a plastic container and protected with cotton. The label syntax for plaster samples is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.L1 (plaster sample 1)

Spot plaster samples may also be taken as needed with the location of the sample N and E of the SW corner of the suboperation noted on the label as follows:

Op.1.A.1.L1.1,1 (plaster sample 1m N and 1m E of SW corner)

Sediment Samples (S)
Sediment samples are collected on a 50cm grid across all *in-situ* contexts with the exception of refuse contexts. The label syntax for sediment samples taken on a 50cm grid is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.S1.5ne (5th sediment sample in a 2m by 2m subop)

Sediment samples are collected on a 2m grid (center of each 2m by 2m suboperation) for refuse contexts. In terms of label syntax there is no suffix for center samples, e.g.:

Op.1.A.1.S1 (center sediment sample)

Sediment samples should be collected in plastic whirlpack bags. One whirlpack bag (4 oz) of sediment is collected per sample (with the exception of bulk samples, discussed below). The sample label is written on the exterior of the whirlpack bag and on a piece of paper covered by tape which is inserted into the whirlpack bag.

8 oz bulk sediment samples will be taken vertically down each major exposed profile. These samples will be used to assess bulk density, particle size, and organic C, in addition to in-field phosphorous and ICP/AES multi-chemical extraction.

Micromorphology Samples (M)
Micromorphological samples are collected opportunistically or along a grid across a well preserved floor or surface area. The label syntax for micromorphological samples is as follows:

Op.1.A.1.M1 (micromorphological sample 1)

If micromorphology samples are collected vertically from a section their exact location will be marked on the section drawing and documented via photography. If micromorphology samples are collected across a horizontal surface, they will be designated by a location north and east of the southwest corner of the associated suboperation and specified on the sample form and tag with the following label:

Op.1.A.1.M1.1,1 (sample located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop)
Op.1.A.1.D1.M1,1,1 (sample located 1m N and 1m E of the SW corner of subop)

Horizontal micromorphology samples, like verticle micromorphology samples will be photographed *in-situ.* Bulk sediment samples (8 oz) will be taken from an area adjacent to each micromorphology sample.

Micromorphology samples will be collected in square metal containers and wrapped in plastic and tape for secure transportation.

Context
The context is perhaps the most salient unit of analysis. Because operation supervisors may not initially know what context they are excavating in, context designations will be assigned by operation supervisors as soon as these are known. The context is a cross-cutting designation that refers to a whole cultural or natural stratum across all of the suboperations where the individual cultural or natural stratum occurs. For instance a single floor of a house that extends across 5 suboperations and has thus been assigned multiple suboperation and lot numbers is unified by a unique context designation.

Operation supervisors are likely to encounter 12 types of contexts on the Chan project:

unknown
mixed
disturbed
humus
occupation
collapse
floor
surface
wall

fill
refuse
agriculture

Context subtypes are also defined within each major context type:

Unknown

Mixed

Disturbed
- backdirt
- indeterminate

Humus

Occupation
- material on top of floor or surface related to use
- terminal use debris
- indeterminate

Collapse
- general
- specific
- indeterminate

Floor
- plaza floor
- plaza floor ballast
- structure floor
- structure floor ballast
- bench floor
- bench floor ballast
- other floor
- other floor ballast
- indeterminate

Surface (non-floor surface)

Wall
- retaining wall
- free-standing wall
- indeterminate

Fill
- general fill

fill below plaza floor
fill below structure floor
fill below bench floor
fill below other floor
indeterminate

Refuse
localized refuse
non-localized refuse
indeterminate

Agricultural
terrace bed
terrace wall
terrace fill
terrace matrix
non-terrace agricultural surface
indeterminate

Contexts (e.g., Refuse1, Floor1 etc.) are assigned sequentially within the operation by the operation supervisor. Contexts are determined by the operation supervisor in consultation with the field director.

Each time a new context is encountered and identified, the operation supervisor starts a new context form. This form contains a general description of the context. Throughout the excavation of the context, which may span the excavation of numerous suboperations, and at the close of the context the operation supervisor returns to the context form to complete the form. All excavation units must be assigned to a context.

Field Records

There are 9 field excavation forms used on the Chan project: Operation forms, Suboperation forms, Lot forms, Special Deposit forms, Special Artifact forms, Burial forms, Cache forms, Sample forms, and Context forms. These forms must be filled out in the field by the operation supervisor during excavations. As each form is quite detailed they are discussed separately from this more general overview of terms, procedures, and records.

In addition to the field excavation forms there are 3 additional types of field records used on the Chan project: field tags/labels, field drawings, and field photography.

Field Tags/Labels
Each bag of artifacts, special artifact, and sample receives two field tags or labels, one tied around the bag and one placed inside the bag. For artifacts and special artifacts each field tag is stamped with the following information:

1. Op.Subop.Lot (e.g., Op.1.A.1)
2. Special Deposit (e.g., D1)
3. Special Artifact (e.g., A1.1,1)
4. Context (e.g., Floor 1)
4. Date (e.g., DDMMYYYY or 29042003)
5. Initials of supervisor (e.g., CB)
6. Number of bags of artifacts within the lot (e.g., Bag 1 of 2)

Field Drawings

In addition to the sketches on the lot forms, three types of field drawings will be completed per excavation: plans, sections, and elevations. All field plans will be drawn at a scale of 1:10 and sections and elevations will generally be drawn at a scale of 1:20. All field drawing should contain all suboperation corners for horizontal reference and a number of elevations for vertical reference. On all sections the vertical identification of lots should be indicated. All field drawings should include the following information:

1. Scale (graphic as well as verbal)
2. North arrow
3. Title of drawing
4. Listing of all suboperations and lots represented
5. Date (e.g., DDMMYYYY or 30042003)
6. Initials of supervisor (e.g., CB)
7. Drawing number (e.g., Op.1.DN1)

Drawing number are assigned sequentially within the operation and are assigned by the operation supervisor in consultation with the field director. The operation supervisor will have a form for recording drawing numbers throughout the season.

Field Photography

Photography is an important part of the excavation process. We will photograph everything with one camera, a Nikon digital camera, which will allow us to capture black and white and color images. In order to standardize this process, the field director, or other designated photographer, will be available and should be called upon to take these shots. Photographs should be taken before, during, and after an excavation is complete. Individual suboperation should be photographed as they are excavated and more expansive photographs of whole cultural contexts should be taken as larger area excavations are completed. All special artifacts, special deposits, unknown deposits, and cultural deposits (such as floors, walls, etc.) should be photographed. It is always better to take too many photographs rather than too few. All field photographs should be labeled with:

1. Scale (graphic)
2. North Arrow
3. Op.Subop.Lot.SpDeposit.SpArtifact (e.g., Op.1.A.1.D1.A1)
4. Context (e.g, Refuse1)
5. Date (e.g., DDMMYYYY or 30042003)
6. Initials of supervisor (e.g., CB)

The photographer will keep a running log of all photographs.

Lab Records

Operation supervisors are responsible for filling out lab record forms for all artifact bags, special artifact bags, and sample bags brought into the lab each day after excavations are complete. This helps us keep track of where the artifacts and samples are. Bags cannot be left in the lab for processing without the completion of the lab record form. The lab record form consists of the following information:

1. Op.Subop.Lot.SpDeposit.SpArtifact	(e.g., Op.1.A.1.D1.A1)
or	
Sample #	(e.g., Op.1.A.1.B1.1,1)
2. Context	
3. Date	(e.g., DDMMYYYY or 30042003)
6. Initials of supervisor	(e.g., CB)
7. Number of bags	(e.g., Bag 1 of 2)

APPENDIX B

CHAN PROJECT 2003

Excavation Forms

Eleven standardized forms were used for recording excavation data. Three forms describe the basic units of excavation, the operation, suboperation, and lot. One form describes the cultural contexts which cross-cut these units of excavation. Two forms describe special deposits and artifacts encountered during excavation, which warrant special attention and recording. Three additional forms, the burial form, individual form, and burial analysis form provide the additional recording necessary to document burials. Finally there are two sample forms, a general sample form for the recording of flotation, pollen, botanical, radiocarbon, sediment, and plaster samples, and a separate form for the recording of micromorphology samples. This appendix contains:

CHAN PROJECT OPERATION SUMMARY FORM 2003

Op:	**Site #:**
Supervisor:	**Excavators:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**

Op Size (in sq m): _____sq m

Purpose:

Total # of Subops: **List of all Subops:**
Total # of Contexts: **List of all Contexts:**
Total # of Sp Deposits: **List of all D#s:**
Total # of Sp Artifacts: **List of all A#s:**

Comments (with Context matrix and sketch of op locations on back)

CHAN PROJECT SUBOP SUMMARY FORM 2003

Op:	**Subop:**
Supervisor:	**Excavators:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**

Subop Size: NS_____m x EW_____m

Purpose:

Overall Elevations	**Datum #**	
	Top	**Bottom**
NW		
NE		
SE		
SW		
C		

Total # of Lots:
List of all Lot #s:

List of Sample #s

F#s
P#s
B#s
R#s
S#s

Comments (with matrix on back):

CHAN PROJECT LOT FORM 2003

Op:	Subop:	Lot:
Context:	Sp Deposit D#	Sp Artifact A#
Start Date:	End Date:	Supervisor:

NS m	EW m	Excavators:
Ex Type: Whole 4Quad 2Quad		Screen Size: 1/4 1/8 None
Tools: Trowel Handpick Pick Shovel Dentalpick Other		

Purpose:

Sediment Description

Munsell: (field)	Munsell: (moist)
Matrix Type: Humus Sascab Bedrock Decomp LimeSt Other (see texture)	
Texture: S SL L SL S CL Clay Mixed Other (see matrix type)	
Inclusions: Gravel WwCobble Rubble DrStone R+DrSt Mixed None Other	
Inclusion Size: 0-1cm 1-6cm 6-25cm 25-50cm >50cm Mixed None	
Disturbance: Light(Erosion/Lt Rodent) Mod(TreeFall/Hv Rodent) Heavy(Looting) None	
Comments:	

Artifacts

Ceramics Chert Obsidian GrStone Slate Daub Faunal Human None Other:	
Density: Low Mod Heavy None	Orient: Vertical Horizontal Mixed None

Associated Lots

Above:	Below:	Adjacent:

N

Datum #

	Top	Bottom
NW		
NE		
SE		
SW		
C		

W **E**

S

Comments:

CHAN PROJECT CONTEXT FORM 2003

Context:	**Subtype:**
Op:	**Supervisor:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**

Context Size: **NS_____m x EW_____m**

Description:

Total # of Lots:
List of all Subop.Lots:

Associated Contexts

Above:	**Below:**	**Adjacent:**

Sediment Description

Munsell: **(field)**	**Munsell:** **(moist)**
Matrix Type: **Humus Sascab Bedrock Decomp LimeSt Other (see texture)**	
Texture: **S SL L SL S CL Clay Mixed Other (see matrix type)**	
Inclusions: **Gravel WwCobble Rubble DrStone R+DrSt Mixed None Other**	
Inclusion Size: **0-1cm 1-6cm 6-25cm 25-50cm >50cm Mixed None**	
Disturbance: **Light(Erosion/Lt Rodent) Mod(TreeFall/Hv Rodent) Heavy(Looting) None**	
Contact: **Abrupt Clear Gradual Diffuse / Smooth Wavy Irregular Broken**	
Comments:	

On reverse sketch context and location of subops

CHAN PROJECT SPECIAL DEPOSIT FORM 2003

Op:	**Subop:**	**Lot:**
Context:	**Sp Deposit D#**	**Sp Artifact A#**
Above:	**Below:**	**Adjacent:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**	**Supervisor:**

Associated Special Deposits:

Associated Lots:

Associated Special Artifacts:

Reason for Special Deposit Designation:

Description of Special Deposit:

(draw deposit and matrix on reverse)

CHAN PROJECT SPECIAL ARTIFACT FORM 2003

Op:	**Subop:**	**Lot:**
Context:	**Sp Deposit D#**	**Sp Artifact A#**
Start Date:	**End Date:**	**Supervisor:**

Associated Special Artifacts:

Reason for Special Artifact Designation:

Description of Special Artifact:

CHAN PROJECT BURIAL FORM 2003

Op:	**Subop:**	**Lot:**
Burial #:	**Sp Deposit D#**	**Context:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**	**Supervisor:**
Excavators:		
Describe Excavation Methods:		

Total # of Individuals:
List of I #s:
Total # of Sp Artifacts:
List of A #s:

Disturbance: Light Moderate Heavy
Burial Type: Simple Lined Cist Crypt Tomb Other: **Description:**
Comments:

On reverse sketch shape of grave within subops and location of excavation quadrants

CHAN PROJECT INDIVIDUAL FORM 2003

Individual #:		**Burial #:**
Op:	**Subop:**	**Lot:**
Context:	**Sp Deposit D#**	**Supervisor:**
Start Date:	**End Date:**	**Excavators:**

Total # of Sp Artifacts:
List of A #s:

Disturbance: Light Moderate Heavy
Position 1: Flexed Extended Seated Other:
Position 2: Prone Supine Right Left Other:
Condition: Primary Secondary Other:
Orientation Feet-to-Head in Degrees:
Head Facing: Up Down Right Left
Cranial Deformation: Yes No **Description:**
Dental Decoration: Yes No **Description:**
Comments:

On reverse list parts present and side

CHAN PROJECT FIELD BURIAL ANALYSIS FORM 2003

Op:	**Subop:**	**Lot:**
Burial #:	**Sp Deposit D#**	**Bone #:**
Context:	**Date:**	**Supervisor:**

Element:
Side:
Anterior side: Facing Up Facing Down
Proximal End Pointing:
Epiphyses: Yes No If yes, anterior posterior both
Age Estimation and criteria:

Description of identifiable pieces:
Length of Long Bone (cm):
Comments:

CHAN PROJECT SAMPLE FORM 2003

Op:	Subop:	Lot:
Context:	Sp Deposit D#	Sp Artifact A#
Supervisor:	Excavators:	
Start Date:	End Date:	

Flotation/Pollen

F#	P#	Center	4 Quad	2 Quad	Other		
Spot F#							
Spot P#							
NS Coord							
EWCoord							

Botanical/RadioCarbon

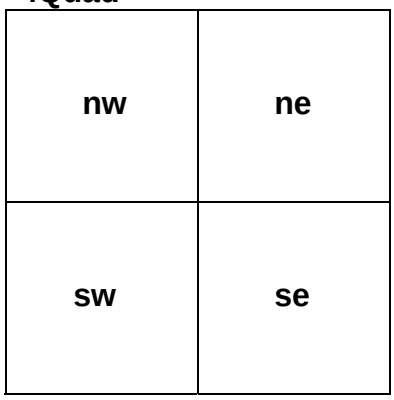
B# or R#							
NS Coord							
EWCoord							

Soils

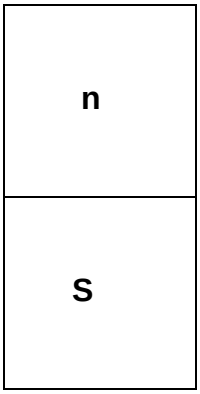
S#	Center	4 Quad	4/16 Quad	2 Quad	2/8 Quad	Other	
Spot S#							
NS Coord							
EWCoord							

Comments:

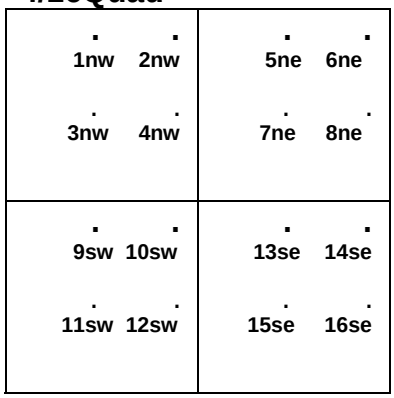
4Quad



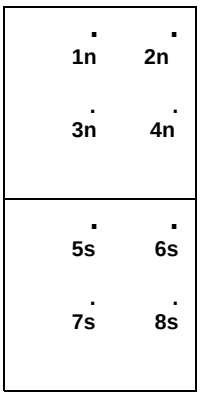
2Quad (ns)



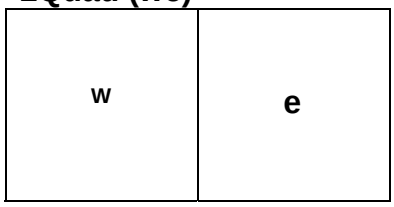
4/16Quad



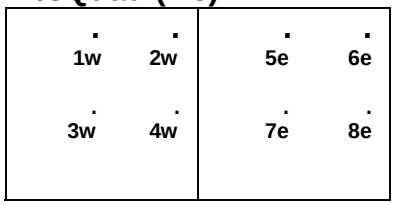
2/8Quad (ns)



2Quad (we)



2/8Quad (we)



CHAN PROJECT MICROMORPHOLOGY FORM 2003

Op:	Subop:	Lots:
Context:	Sp Deposit D#	DN:
Start Date:	End Date:	Supervisor:

M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	
M#	Lots:
Size: m	Below Datum: m
Location ________________ from _________________ corner: m	

On reverse discuss reason for micromorphology sampling