

The Glyphic Corpus of Uxbenka, Toledo District, Belize

The Monumental Inscriptions

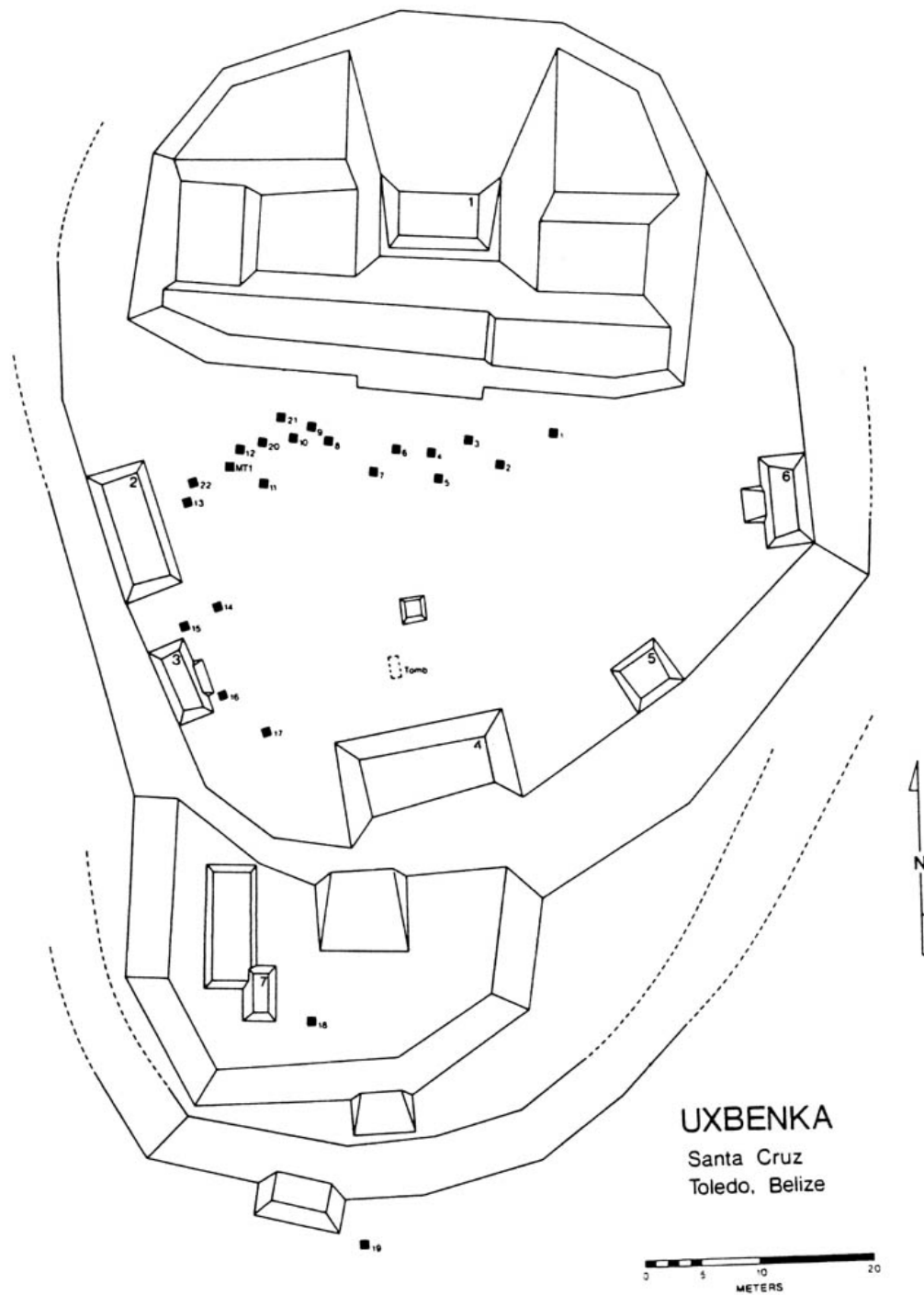


Figure 89. Plan Map of Uxbenka (Drawn by and Courtesy of Richard Leventhal [Leventhal 1992:Figure 11.1])

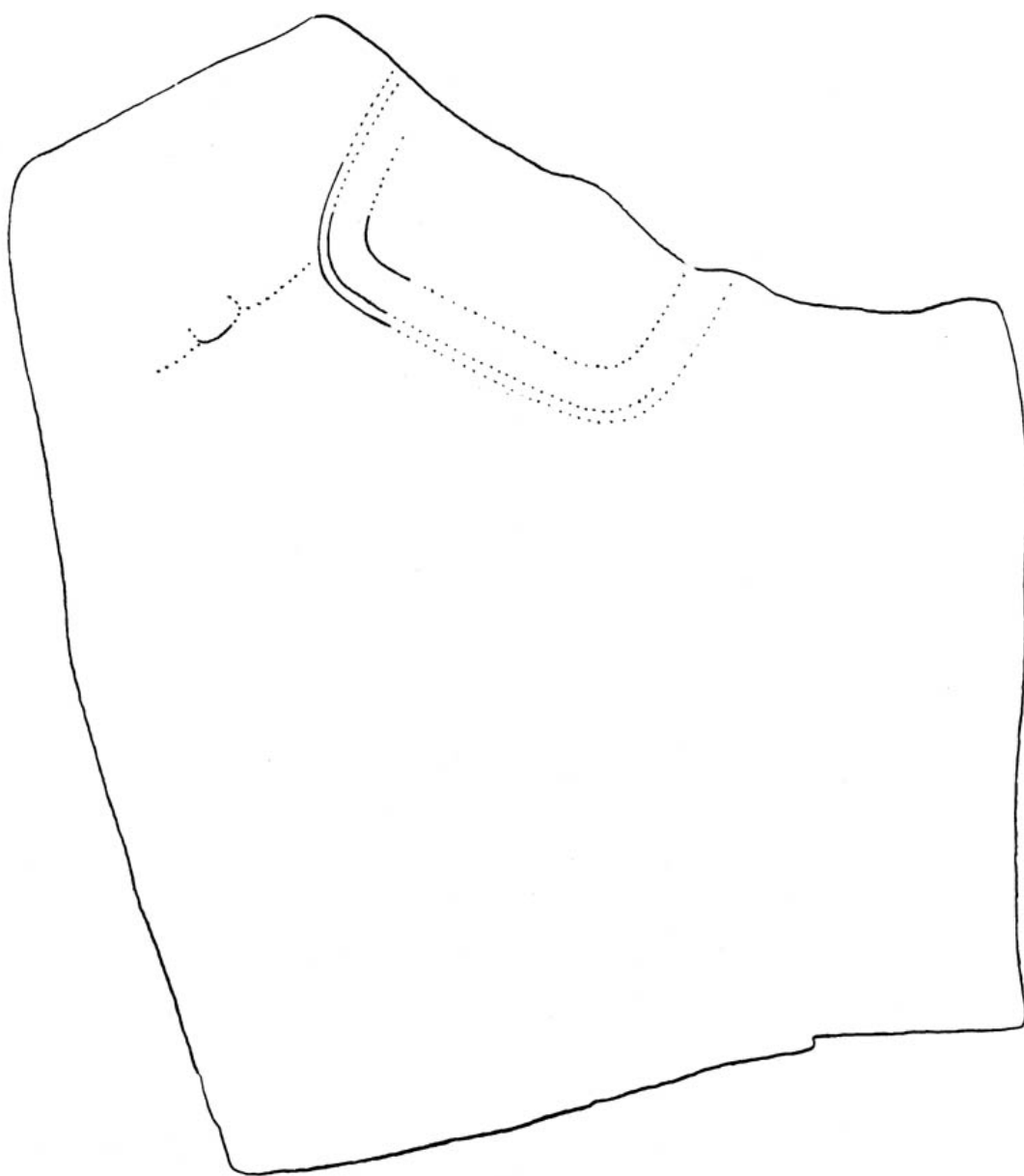


Figure 90. Uxbenka, Stela 3. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 3

Location: Stela 3 was first reported as a carved monument by the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 2001. The stela is located approximately three meters south of Structure 1, third from the right in a row of 13 monuments that originally lined the south face of Structure 1. The stela is still standing, but it is clear that this piece was thrust into the ground sometime after the initial breakage occurred.

Condition: Broken into at least four pieces. Due to erosion and continued exposure to the elements, little of the carving is still visible today.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular, but most likely the stela was rectangular-shaped.

Dimensions: (The following dimensions are for carved fragment only)

HT: .97 m
MW: .96 m
MTH: .18 m
RELS: 2 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The only image remaining today is a probable neckline of a now missing individual.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 90](#))
Phil Wanyerka (SBEP, Unpublished)

Photographic Preferences:

Richard Leventhal (SBAP, Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (SBEP, Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (SBEP, Unpublished)

Other References:

Phil Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Virtually nothing can be said with any degree of confidence or certainty concerning the image carved on this stela. Today, only the rough outlines of a partial neckline, presumably from a portrait of a standing figure is that can be seen.

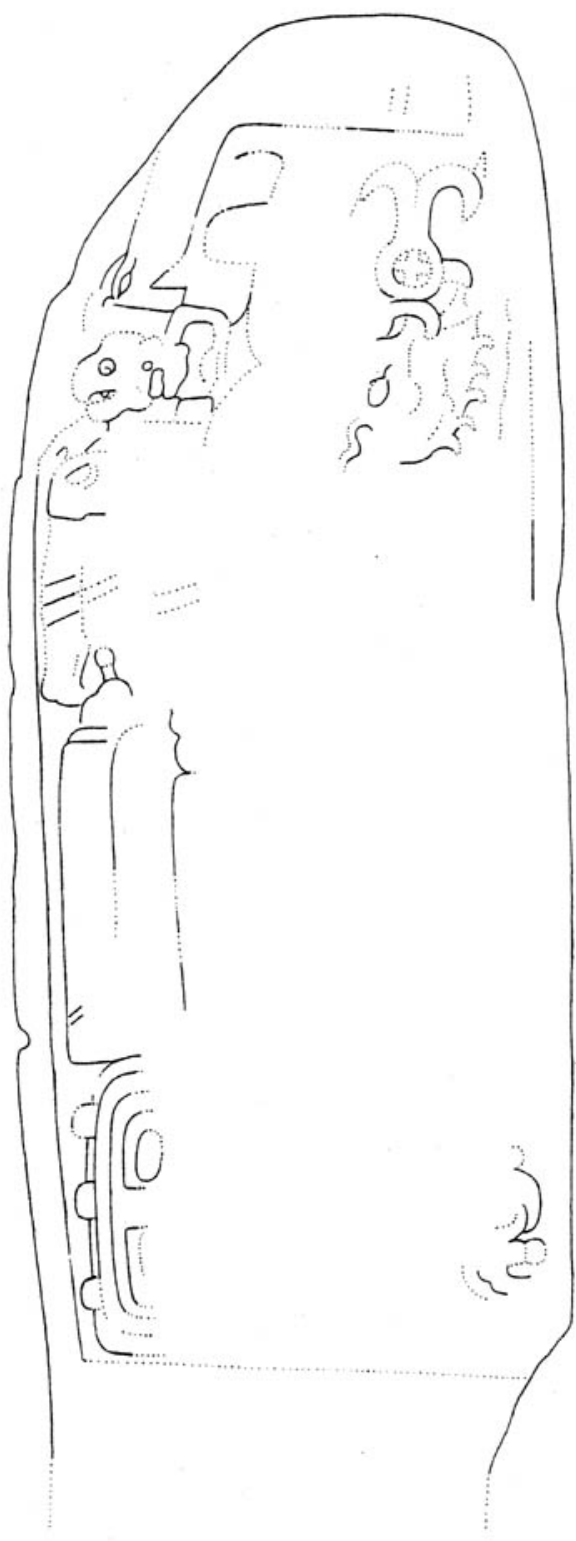


Figure 91. Uxbenka, Stela 5. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 5

Location: Stela 5 was first reported by Richard Leventhal in 1984 with the discovery of the site as part of his Southern Belize Archaeological Project. The stela is located on its side, approximately 8 meters south of Structure 1, the fourth stela from the right in a row of 13 monuments that originally lined the south face of Structure 1. The stela is still at the site today.

Condition: Intact, but severely eroded. Much of the stela's carved surface has either flaked or chipped off.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with well-dressed parallel sides that curve inward only the top left portion of the monument.

Dimensions:

HT: 3.20 m
MW: .84 m
HSA: 2.18 m
WSA: .80 m
WBC: .67 m
WTC: .84 m
MTH: .18 m
RELS: 7.1 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The image carved on Stela 5 features a portrait of a standing male figure. There is evidence that a single text column ran along the left edge of the figural scene; however, nothing can be discerned from it today.

Dedicatory Date: *Late Classic Period ?

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 91](#))
Phil Wanyerka (SBEP, Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (SBAP, Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (SBEP, Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (SBEP, Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1996:30)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 5 features an eroded portrait of a standing male figure who wears an elaborate headdress. At least two zoomorphic creatures can be seen as part of this figure's royal headdress. In addition, a short single text column can also be seen along the left edge of the monument. Unfortunately, nothing can be read of this text today. Finally, based on the shape of

the rough outlines, it would appear that the individual stands on or within a Witz Monster Pedestal.

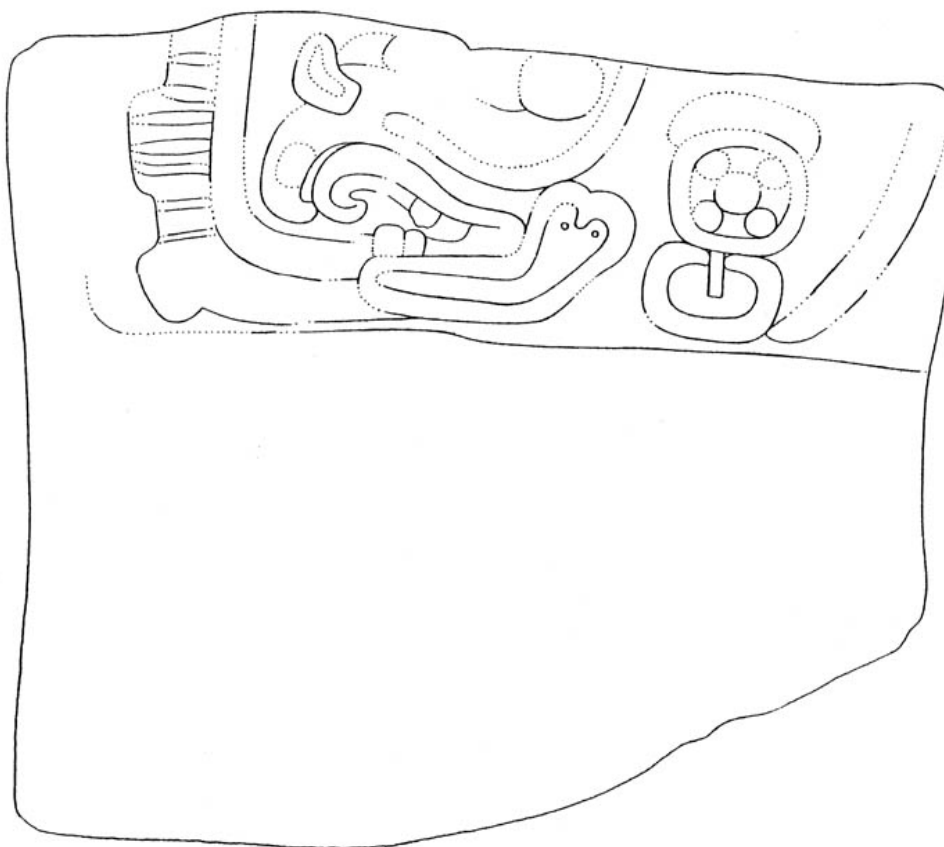


Figure 92. Uxbenka, Stela 6. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 6

Location: Stela 6, representing the base of the monument, was found standing approximately 6 meters south of Structure 1, the sixth stela from the right in a row of 13 monuments that originally lined the south face of Structure 1. Leventhal first reported it in 1984 as part of the Southern Belize Archaeological Project. The stela is still at the site today.

Condition: Broken. The upper half of Stela 6 has not been found or identified. The lower base of Stela 6 when originally reported contained a partially eroded image of a *Witz* Monster and a single hieroglyph. However, sometime during the interval between 1994 and 2001, a large section along the bottom left-hand corner of the surviving fragment has either flaked off or was looted.

Material: Fine –Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular? Although only the base of Stela 6 survives today, it is fairly clear that the monument was originally rectangular in shape.

Dimensions:

HT: .73 m
MW: .81 m
HSA: .25 m
WSA: .70 m
WBC: .74 m
WTC: .81 m
MTH: .18 m
RELG: 6.9 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The image carved on Stela 6 features an eroded portrait of a *Witz* Monster and a single hieroglyph.

Dedicatory Date: *Late Classic Period (?). Based on a cache associated with Stela 6, Jamison *et al.* (1991:6) date this monument to the Late Classic Period. In addition, the probable *Witz* Monster image, a motif popular during Late Classic times at sites throughout Southern Belize, is also a clear indication that Stela 6 probably dates to the Late Classic Period.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 92)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Jamison, Leventhal, and Roberston (1991:6)
Leventhal (1992:148)
Leventhal and Schele (nd:3-4)
Wanyerka (1996:31)

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 6 features a profile of the lower half of a *Witz* Monster Pedestal. The *Witz* Monster is a common sculptural motif among the Late Classic monuments of southern Belize (NLP Stela 1, 2, 7; Xnaheb Stela 1; Uxbenka Stela 14). In most cases, anywhere between one to three individuals are portrayed either standing or sitting atop a *Witz* Monster Pedestal. The stela contains a single hieroglyph located to the right of the *Witz* Monster's lower jaw. Unfortunately, the entire reading of this hieroglyph remains obscure. The glyph appears to begin with the third-person personal pronoun *u* followed by a T585a *b'i* sign; however, the lower sign is unique and looks very much like a variant form of the T145 *yi* sign. If correct, the glyphic combination may read something like *u-b'i* or *u-b'iy* perhaps having something to do with either the *Witz* Monster's "name" or something to do with "his road."

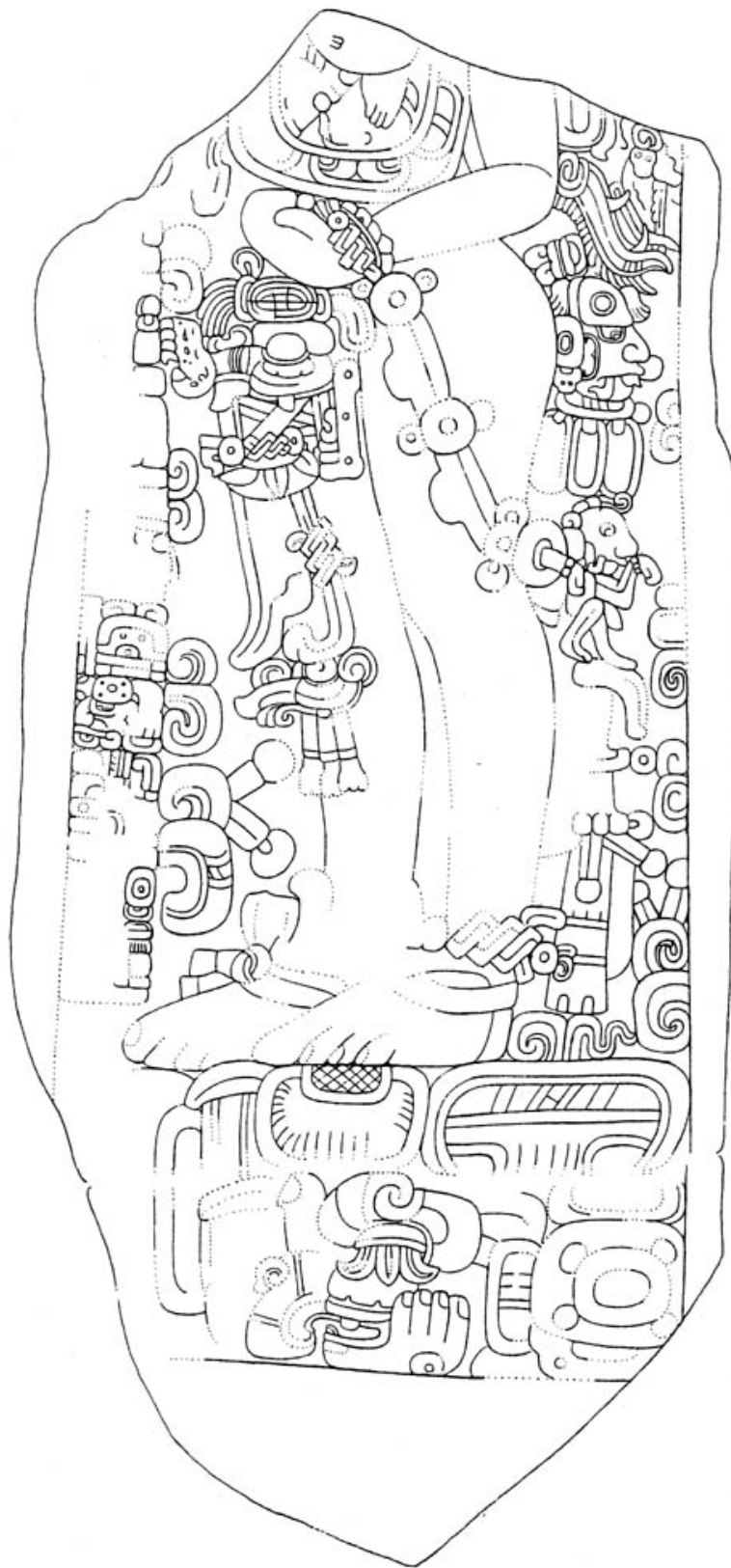


Figure 93. Uxbenka, Stela 11. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 11

Location: Stela 11 was originally found face-down, approximately 10 meters east of the middle of Structure 2, in the northern portion of the Main Plaza. The stela was first reported by Richard Leventhal in 1984 as part of his Southern Belize Archaeological Project. The monument is still at the site today, but has been moved from its original location several times since its initial discovery.

Condition: Broken into three pieces. The upper portion of Stela 11, that would have featured the head and headdress of the individual portrayed on this monument has never been located. Much of Stela 11 is now badly eroded and severely damaged. The left-hand side of Stela 11 is especially damaged. Shortly after its initial discovery, someone from the local community of Santa Cruz in 1985 intentionally defaced much of the carving on Stela 11 with a machete (Dunham and Leventhal nd: 2). In addition, in 1994 vandals attacked the site again, this time with spray paint, leaving graffiti on most of the monuments, including this one, at the site. In 2001, as part of the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project's fieldwork at Uxbenka, it was clear that at least two portions of the lower half of Stela 11 were broken off and presumably removed from the site. It is also clear that runaway milpa fires in the area around Uxbenka, has also damaged many of the monuments at the site, including Stela 11.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with well-dressed parallel sides.

Dimensions:

HT: 1.70 m
MW: .82 m
HSA: 1.54 m
WBC: .28 m
WTC: .82 m
MTH: .9 m
RELS: 2.9 mm
RELG: 3.3 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The image carved on Stela 11 features an elaborate portrait of an Early Classic ruler, a single ten glyph block text running down the left edge of the monument, and a short four glyph block toponymic location below the standing figure.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period. Based on the appearance of a well-known Tikal ruler's name *Chak Tok Ich'aak I* ("Jaguar Paw") it would appear that Stela 11 may date to sometime between his accession (8.16.3.10.2 11 *IK'* 10 *Sek* {7, August 360}) and his death (8.17.1.4.12 11 *Eb'* 15 *Mak* {15, January 378}) or shortly after. Schele and Looper (1996a:103) date Stela 11 slightly later to 9.0.2.0.0 (29, November 437). As argued in my dissertation, I favor a slightly later date, but a date earlier than the one advocated by Schele and Looper based on a number of different archaeological and epigraphic variables (see Wanyerka 2004).

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 93](#))
Linda Schele (In Fields 1989: Figure 10)

Linda Schele (In Grube *et al.* 1995: Figure 8)
 Linda Schele (In Jamison *et al.* 1991: Figure 2)
 Linda Schele (In Leventhal 1990: Figure 5)
 Linda Schele (In Leventhal 1992: Figure 11.5b)
 Linda Schele (In Leventhal and Schele nd: Figure 3)
 Linda Schele (In Schele and Grube 1994a:91)
 Linda Schele (In Schele and Grube 1994b:60)
 Linda Schele (In Schele andLooper (1996a: 103)
 Linda Schele (In Schele andLooper (1996b:56)
 Linda Schele (In Wanyerka 1991:Figure 42)
 Linda Schele (In Wanyerka 1996: Figure 4)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (1992: Figure 11.5a)
 Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
 Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
 Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Dunham (1990:465)
 Dunham *et al.* 1989:265-268)
 Dunham and Leventhal (nd: 1-2)
 Fields (1989:15)
 Grube *et al.* 1995:4)
 Healy and Awe (2001:61)
 Jamison *et al.* 1991: 2-5)
 Leventhal (1990a: 2-6)
 Leventhal (1990b: 134-137)
 Leventhal (1992:148-150)
 Leventhal and Schele (nd: 4-10)
 Schele and Grube (1994a:91)
 Schele and Grube (1994b:60)
 Schele andLooper (1996a: 103)
 Schele andLooper (1996b:56)
 Wanyerka (1991:63-71)
 Wanyerka 1996: 31)
 Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 11 is the earliest and perhaps the most important monument in all of southern Belize. Featured on Stela 11 is an extraordinary Early Classic portrait of a standing male figure facing left cradling a flaccid Double-Headed Serpent Bar. What makes this portrait extraordinary is the fine overall detail of the iconography and imagery, very reminiscent of many of the Early Classic monuments at Tikal, especially Tikal Stela 1, 2, 31, and 40. The individual is shown wearing an elaborate royal bet assemblage that includes portraits of the Sun God and *Chaak Xib' Chaak*. In addition, a fine-line portrait of an owl can be seen in the mouth of the Double-Headed Serpent just behind the ruler's left arm. One wonder's whether this is simply an iconic image or whether it may actually refer to the individual known as "Spearthrower Owl", the famous Teotihuacano responsible for the great upheaval to the early dynastic line of Tikal in AD.

378. If true, it might suggest that this monument is slightly later in date than previously believed (see Wanyerka 2004 for a full discussion of the date). By far, the most important element of this monument is the iconic reference to *Chak Tok Ich'aak I* that hangs from the front of this person's loincloth. This well-known "Jaguar-Paw" motif is also found on Uolantun Stela 1 and a similar version has been found on Tikal Stela 39 and all three versions clearly refer to the famous Tikal king *Chak Tok Ich'aak I*. Based on the iconography alone, Stela 11 is unlike any of the other monuments in all of southern Belize. It looks as if it were actually carved by a sculptor either trained in the iconographic conventions of Early Classic Tikal or a sculptor from the site itself.

Epigraphic evidence for a possible connection between Tikal and Uxbenka can also be seen from the highly eroded and broken section of text that runs along the left edge of the monument. Though most of the original text is now completely obliterated due to the machete attack in 1985, the text does include a parentage reference that states that someone was the "flower of" or "child of" (A6) a "divine person." Now that in itself is not unusual; however, what follows is extremely interesting. Located in the upper right-hand section of the glyph block at A10 are the partial remains of a glyph that looks very much like the main sign of the Tikal emblem Glyph. I have examined this glyph in close detail and believe this to be a true and direct reference to Tikal. Unfortunately, little of the overall text survives so it is not clear as to whom the text actually describes or the event commemorated by this monument, but it does seem clear that this person's father hailed from the site of Tikal. Therefore, I date stela 11 to the period just after the famous "entrada" event of AD 378. In fact, I think there is a good possibility that a member of the royal family, perhaps a brother of *Chak Tok Ich'aak I*, fled Tikal for southern Belize at the beginning of the Teotihuacan "entrada" (see Wanyerka 2004).

Located below the figural scene in four glyph blocks is a toponymic location that seems to include a reference to a "water-sky cave or city" and its "flints and shields." Thus together, this could be a reference to warfare. Simon Martin (2001:5-6) has recently proposed that the "flint and shield" metaphor may actually be a reference to "warriors" or by extension a reference to an "army." Therefore the reference recorded on Stela 11 may in fact, be a glyphic reference to the presumable defeat of some unknown site at a location known as the "Water-Sky" Place.

Text:

A1: Missing	??
A2: T?.	??
A3: T?:?	?:?
A4: T?	??
A5: Missing	??
A6: T?.535:12	?.NIK:AJ
A7: T1029.ka	KA'AN.ka
A8: T?:1016.?:?	?:K'U.?:?
A9: T?	??
A10: T?.569?:?.?:?	?.MUTUL?:?.?:?

B1-C2: T1.150.501v.561g:1073?.1.257?:624:178?

u.ta.NAAB'.KA'AN:CH'EN.1.TOOK'?:PAKAL:la?

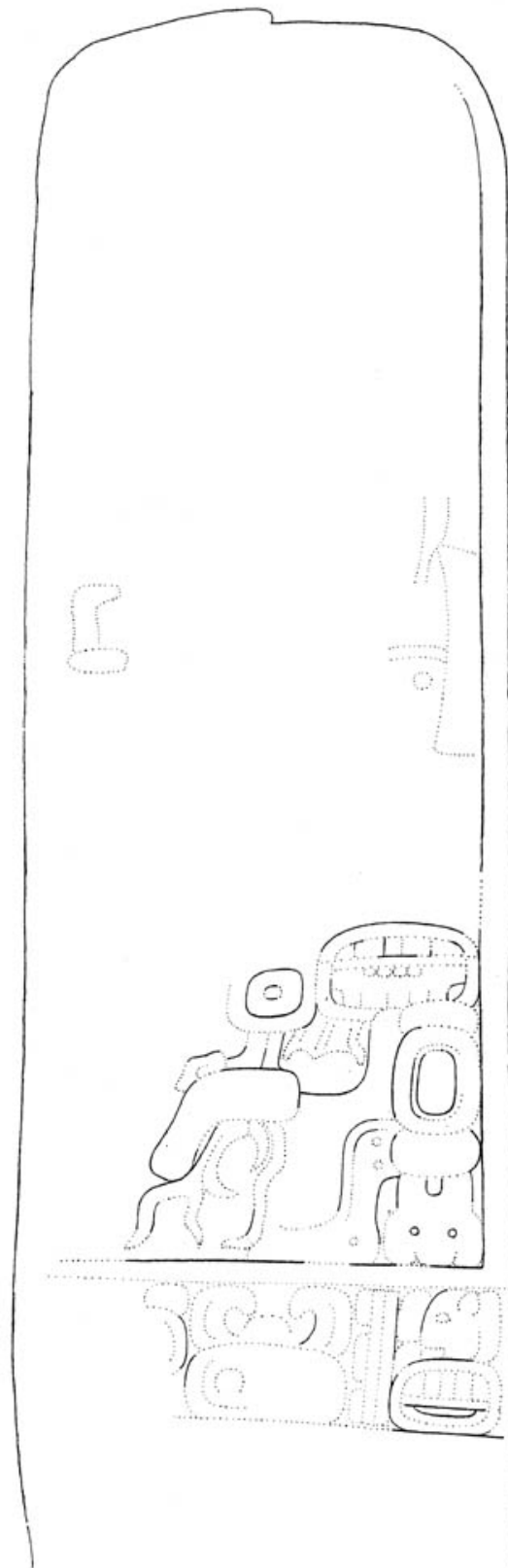


Figure 94. Uxbenka, Stela 14. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 14

Location: Stela 14 is located some 5 meters off the northeastern corner of Structure 3 along the western portion of the Main Plaza. The stela, still standing today at the site, was first reported by Richard Leventhal in 1984 as part of his Southern Belize Archaeological Project.

Condition: Intact; however, much of the upper portion of the stela has flaked off. The lower portion of Stela 14 is severely eroded and was carved in low relief. Only the vestiges of a carved image in the lower right-hand corner of the scene and three partial glyph blocks survive.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with well-dressed parallel sides.

Dimensions:

HT: 3.10 m
MW: .89 m
HSA: 1.20 m
WSA: .79 m
WBC: .79 m
WTC: .89 m
MTH: .18 m
RELS: 7.6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The original image carved of Stela 14 probably featured a portrait of a standing figure atop a *Witz* Monster Pedestal. The only visible image today is the *Witz* Monster Pedestal and three glyph blocks.

Dedicatory Date: Late Classic Period (?). Based on the partial outlines of an Initial Series Date that includes a probable 12 *k'atuns* statement, the date of Stela 14 can tentatively be placed at 9.12.0.0.0 10 *Ajaw* 8 *Yaxk'in* (28, June 672).

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 94)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1996:32)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 14 features an eroded portrait of a *Witz* Monster Pedestal whose profile head includes a T561a *Ka'an* infix. The upper portion of the figural scene probably contained an image of a standing ruler. Unfortunately, the entire upper part of Stela 14 has either flaked off or

has completely been erased due to erosion. The three glyph block text, visible just below the *Witz* Monster, cannot be read except for a possible 12 *K'atun* statement at B3.

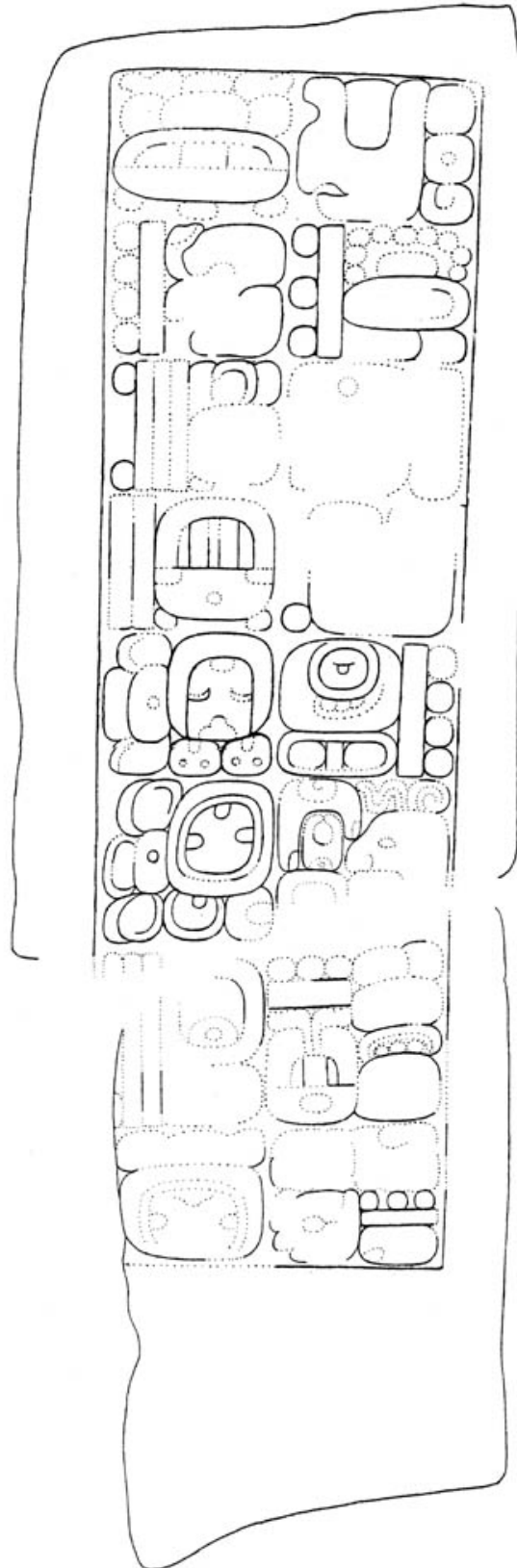


Figure 95. Uxbenka, Stela 15. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 15

Location: Stela 15 was originally located approximately 1 meter north of the northeastern corner of Structure 3, along the western portion of the Main Plaza. The stela was first reported by Richard Leventhal as part of his Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 1984. Stela 15 has been moved several times over the years and is now located atop Structure 3.

Condition: Broken in at least three pieces. The text is severely weathered, but an Initial Series date can be read. In 1994 vandals spray-painted graffiti on this monument in bright red paint.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with well-dressed parallel sides.

Dimensions:

HT: 2.68 m
MW: .80 m
HSA: 2.21 m
WSA: .57 m
WBC: .59 m
WTC: .76 m
MTH: .20 m
RELG: 11 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. Stela 15 contains the eroded remains of 16 glyph blocks.

Dedicatory Date: Late Classic Period. 9.17.10.0.0 12 *Ajaw* 8 *Pax* (28, November 780).

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 95](#))
Linda Schele (In Leventhal and Schele nd: Figure 5)
Linda Schele (In Wanyerka 1996: Figure 5)

Photographic References:

Leventhal (1992: Figure 11.4)

Other References:

Dunham *et al.* (1989: 263)
Leventhal (1990: 134)
Leventhal and Schele (nd: 10-11)
Wanyerka (1996:32-33)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 15 commemorates the 9.17.10.0.0 Period Ending, a Period Ending that was extremely popular in the hieroglyphic inscriptions of southern Belize. The text is also unusual in that features a reference to “fire-drilling” as part of the Lunar Series information. Unfortunately, the verb and protagonist are no longer legible, but the protagonist does carry the 28 *Winik* title, a royal title common among the ancient rulers of southern Belize and adjacent Guatemala.

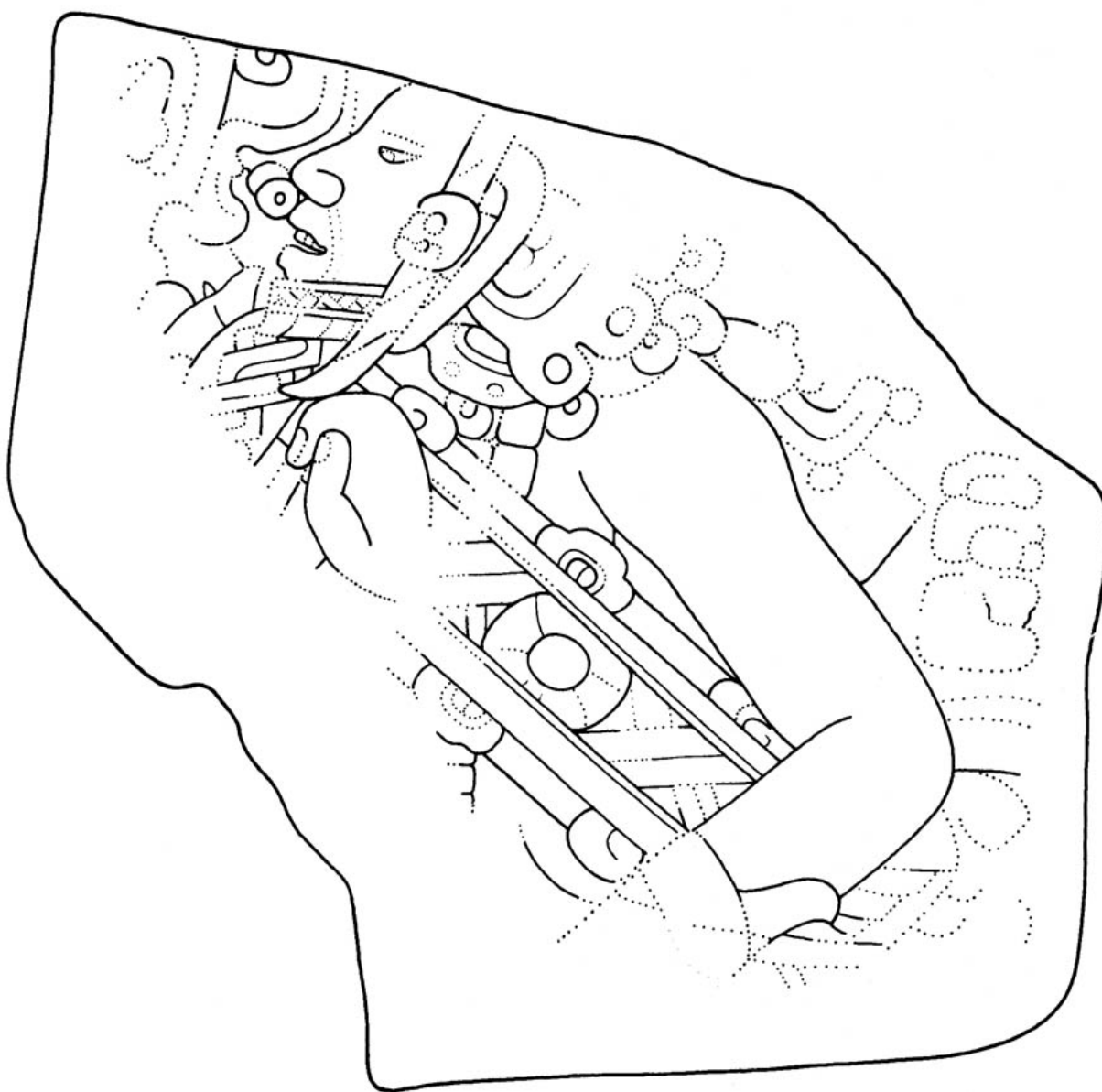


Figure 96. Uxbenka, Stela 18. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 18

Location: Stela 18 was originally located atop the first medial terrace, approximately 2 meters east of the southeastern corner of Structure 7. The stela is still located in this area today.

Condition: Broken in several large fragments. The base of Stela 18 is still in situ. The surviving carved fragment is partially eroded, especially along the right side of the monument.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular and presumably rectangular.

Dimensions:

Upper Fragment:

HT: .47 m
MW: .80 m
HSA: .47 m
WSA: .80 m
MTH: 10 m
RELS: 4 mm

Base:

HT: .66 m
MW: .80 m
MTH: .12 m

Carved Areas: Front only. The image carved on Stela 18 features an Early Classic portrait of a Uxbenka ruler's face and upper torso.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period. Linda Schele was the first scholar to date Stela 18 to sometime between 8.17.0.0.0 and 9.0.0.0.0 based on the style and pose of the carving (Leventhal and Schele nd: 13). I would also agree with this date based on other archaeological and epigraphic evidence (see Wanyerka 2004).

Line Drawings:

Sue Darus (Unpublished)
John Hlucky (Wanyerka 1991: Figure 22)
John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 96](#))
John Montgomery (In Wanyerka 1996: Figure 6)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (1991: Figure 23)

Other References:

Dunham *et al.* 1989:265-268)
Healy and Awe (2001: 61)

Jamison *et al.* (1991: 2-3)
Leventhal 1990:134-135)
Leventhal 1992: 148)
Wanyerka (1991: 77-80)
Wanyerka (1996:33)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 18 features an Early Classic portrait of a ruler dressed in the guise of the “Skycracker Chaak” cradling a Double-Headed Serpent Bar under his arms (Wanyerka 1996:33). As part of this very specific costume, the ruler wears a helmeted headdress with a chinstrap that features a twisted piece of rope from which a small skull is mounted. He also sports a tripartite shell earflare assemblage and jade bead in his nose. Similar representations of this costume can also be seen on Tikal Stela 29, Tikal Stela 31, and El Zapote Stela 1. Located along the right-hand side of Stela 18 is a short two glyph block text. Unfortunately, the text is no longer legible.

Text:

pA1:	T16?:?	YAX:?
pA2:	T?	??

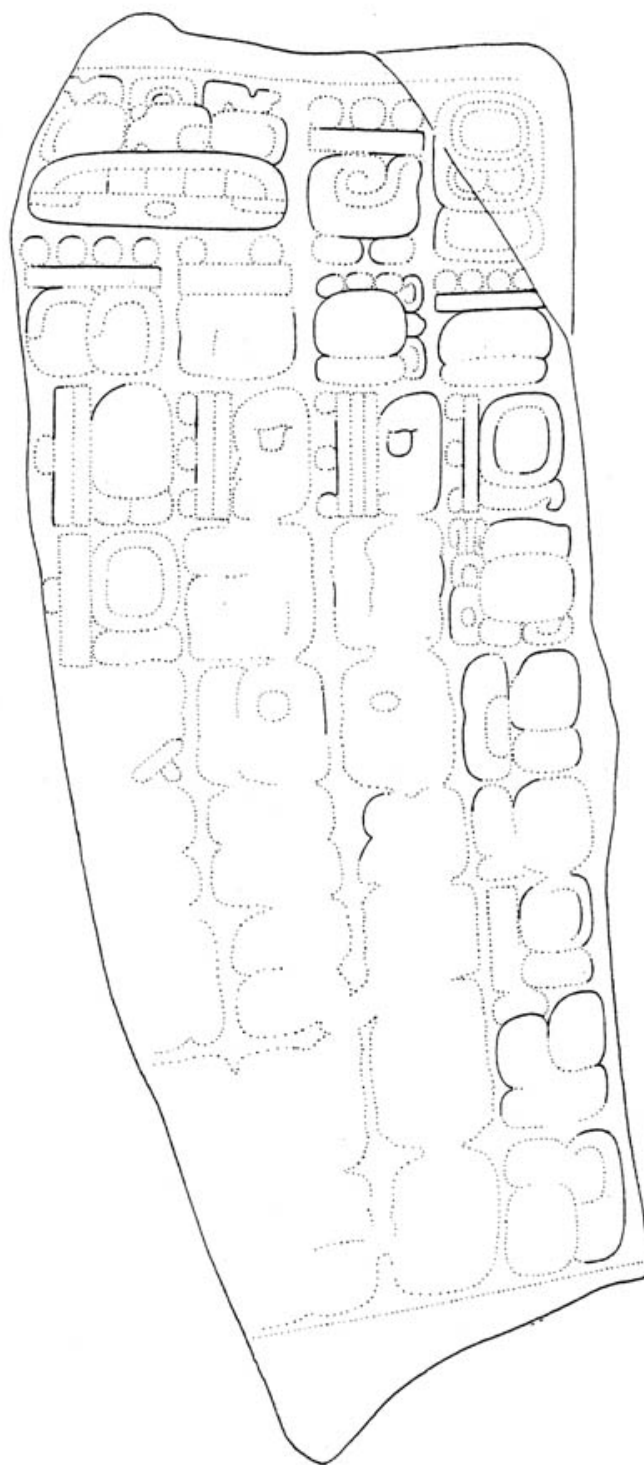


Figure 97. Uxbenka, Stela 19. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 19

Location: Stela 19 is located at the base of the hilltop that contains the Stela Plaza. The stela was first reported by Richard Leventhal in 1984 as part of his Southern Belize Archaeological Project.

Condition: Broken in two pieces. Because the monument was found face-up, most of the surface details of the text are now completely illegible. In 1994, vandals spray-painted graffiti on this monument in bright red paint.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with well-dressed parallel sides that curve inwards towards the bottom of the stela.

Dimensions:

HT: 1.76 m
MW: .81 m
HSA: 1.70 m
WSA: .86 m
WBC: .76 m
WTC: .81 m
MTH: .26 m
RELG: 14.6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. Contains the weathered remains of a 36 glyph block text.

Dedicatory Date: Late Classic Period. 9.12.11.13.11 3 *Chuwen* 4 *Kumk'u* (28, January 684).

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 97](#))
Linda Schele (In Leventhal and Schele nd: Figure 6)
Linda Schele (In Wanyerka 1996:Figure 7)

Photographic References:

Leventhal (Unpublished)
Leventhal (1992: Figure 11.3)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Dunham *et al.* 1989:268)
Leventhal (1990a:134-137)
Leventhal (1992: 147-148)
Leventhal and Schele (nd: 11)
Wanyerka (1996:33)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Stela 19 begins with an Initial Series date of 9.12.11.13.11 (3 *Chuwen* 4 *Kum'u*). Unfortunately, most of the remaining text is no longer legible. A Distance Number of perhaps 8 *k'ins*, 1 *winal*, and 3 *tuns* is partially legible at the top of columns C and D, but again, not enough detail survives to reconstruct the chronology. The enigmatic *y-itaj* verb may also be present at D5, but again, nothing else is legible except for the last glyph that appears to be the *B'akab'* title.

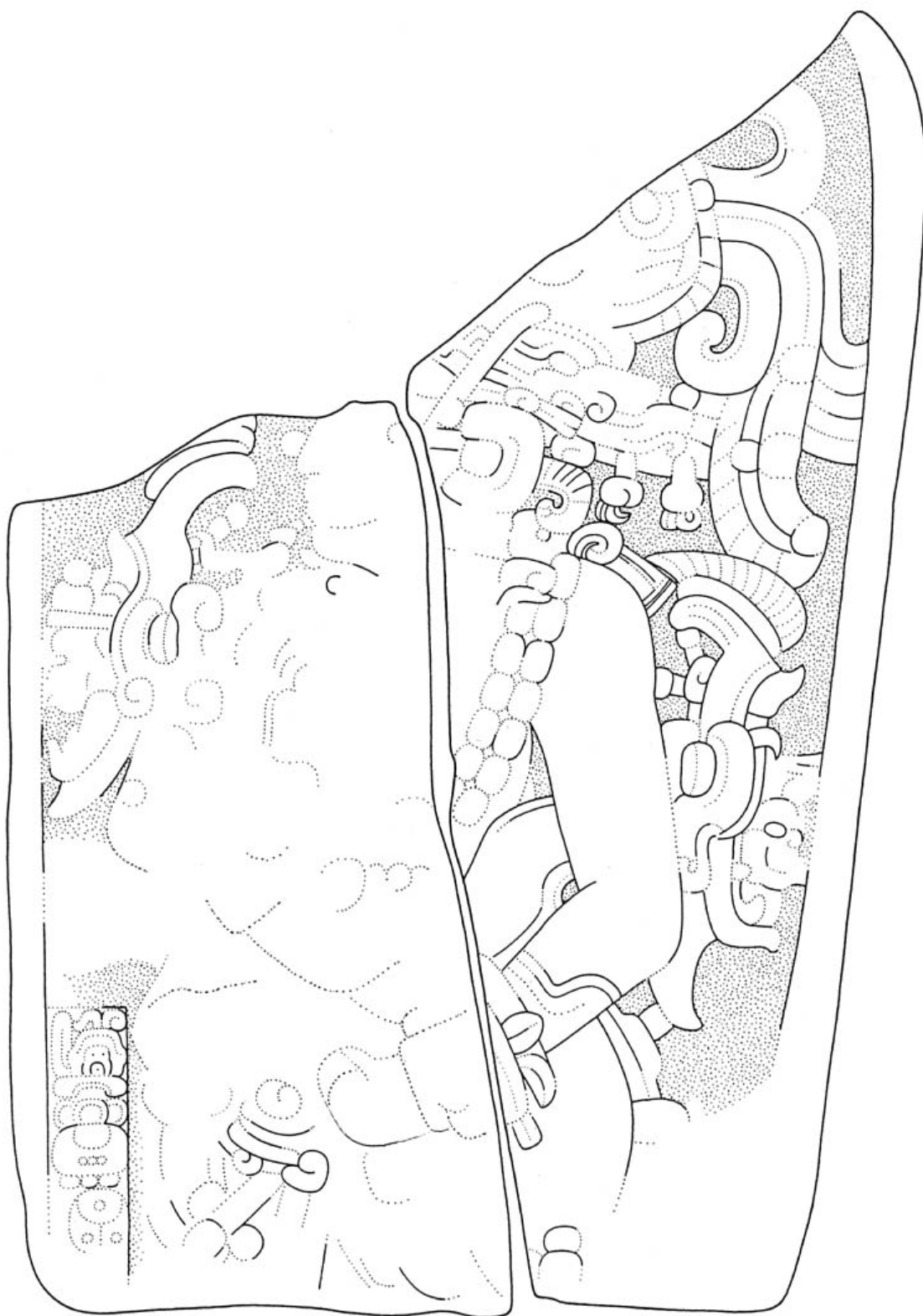


Figure 98. Uxbenka, Stela 21. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 21

Location: The left side of Stela 21 was originally located 11th from the right, in the row of 13 monuments that once lined the south face of Structure 1. It was first reported by Richard Leventhal in 1984 as part of his Southern Belize Archaeological Project. Subsequent to its discovery, the stela fragment was moved to an area east of Structure 3 where it was protected for some time under a thatched hut. In 1993, members of the Maya Mountains Archaeological Project (directed by Peter Dunham) discovered what would later be identified by myself in 1994, as the missing right hand side of Stela 21 in a looter's pit near Stela 15 (Dunham et al. 1993: 22). Today, both fragments sit side-by-side in the area east of Structure 3.

Condition: Broken into at least three pieces. The left side is extremely eroded, while the right side of Stela 21 was in an excellent state of preservation. Together, both pieces portray a portrait of an Early Classic ruler holding a Double-Headed Serpent Bar. Unfortunately, sometime after 1994, the right side of Stela 21 was spray-painted with graffiti by vandals in bright red paint and later turned up missing. While the SBEP was working at the site in 2001, a local villager, after seeing an earlier drawing of the monument, walked over to Structure 3 and picked up a very thin stone (now only 2 cm thick) containing a portion of the missing right-hand side of Stela 21. The upper half of the right side text is now missing and presumed lost. The villager stated that the reason he moved the stone was to protect it from looters.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular.

Dimensions:

	Left Side	Right Side	Overall
HT:	.76 m	1.03 m	
MW:	.39 m	.61 m	1 m
HSA:	.76 m	1.03 m	
WSA:	.35 m	.58 m	.93 m
WBC:	.39 m	.22 m	.61 m
WTC:	.37 m	.61 m	.98 m
MTH:	.17 m	.17 m	.17 m
RELS:	7.6 mm	7.6 mm	7.6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. The image carved on Stela 21 features a portrait of an Early Classic ruler and a short three glyph block text running along the lower left-hand side of the monument.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period. Linda Schele was the first scholar to date the left side of Stela 21 to sometime between 8.17.0.0.0 and 9.0.0.0.0 based on the style and pose of the carving (Leventhal and Schele nd:13). I would also, agree with the date based on other archaeological and epigraphic evidence (see Wanyerka 2004).

Line Drawings:

Sue Darus (In Dunham *et al.* 1993: Figure 20)
John Hlucky (In Wanyerka 1991: Figure 62)
John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 98](#))
Linda Schele (In Wanyerka 1996; Figure 8)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Dunham *et al.* 1989:268-269)
Dunham *et al.* (1993: 22-23)
Healy and Awe (2001:61)
Jamison *et al.* (1991:2-7)
Leventhal (1990:134-137)
Leventhal (1992: 148-150)
Wanyerka (1991:82)
Wanyerka (1996:33-34)

Commentary: Stela 21 features a royal portrait of an early Classic ruler facing left, holding a flaccid Double-Headed Serpent Bar. Emerging from the mouths of the Serpent bar are the profile heads of two ancestral deities. The individual is also dressed in an elaborate array of fine accoutrements, including jade beads, wristlets, and a huge jade earflare. The overall portrait of Stela 21 is very reminiscent of the individual featured on Uxbenka Stela 11 and Stela 18. Included in the headdress of this individual are profile heads of at least two zoomorphic creatures. Accompanying the figural scene is a short three-glyph block text, written in a single column format, along the left-side of the monument. The text is important for it may reinforce the notion that the individual named on Stela 11 was the “child of” a possible Tikal lord. Here on Stela 21 the texts states that the individual, presumably named on an upper piece of this monument, was the “child of” the “*Mi*” or *K’atun Ajawal*.”

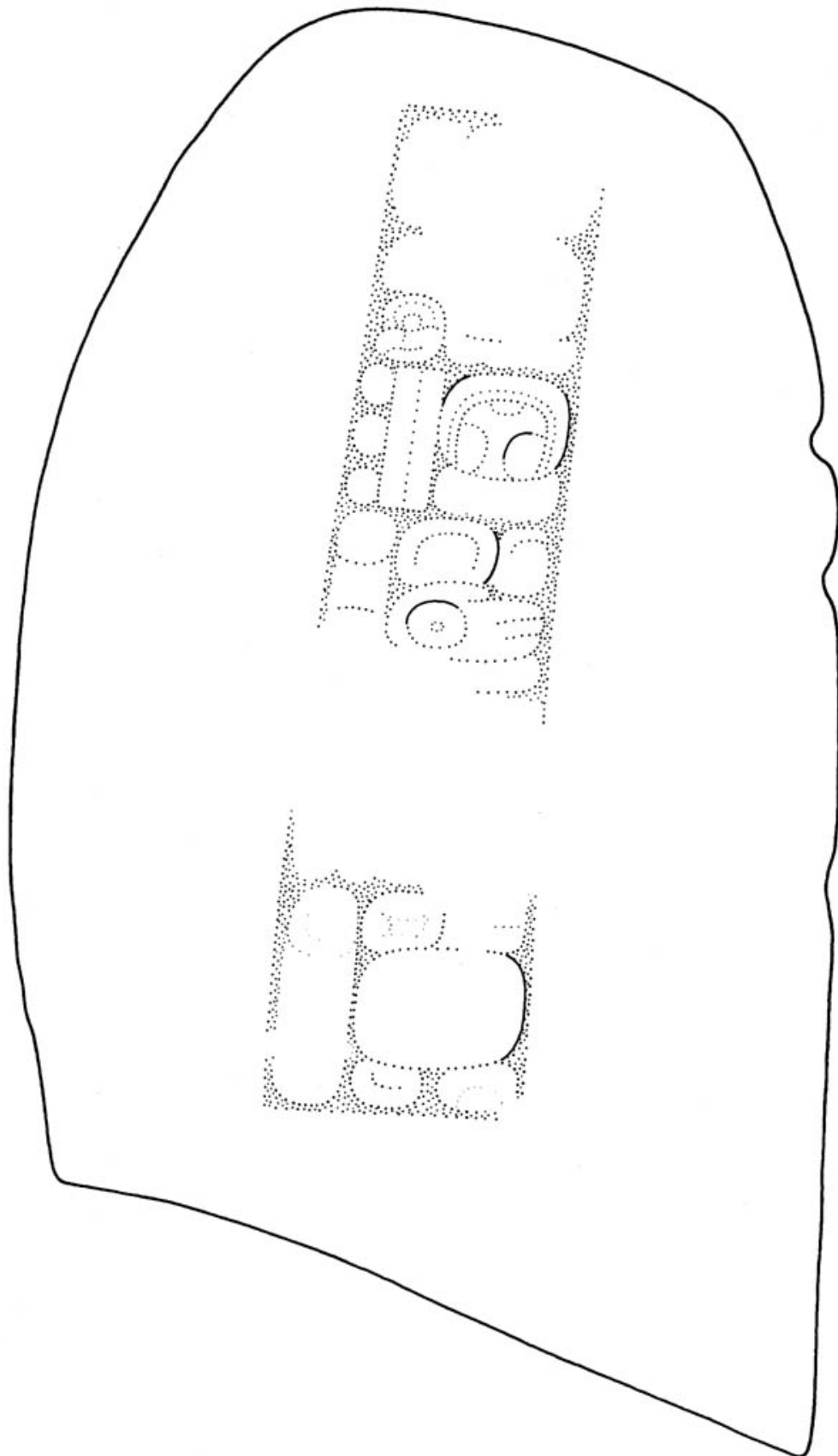


Figure 99. Uxbenka, Stela 22. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Stela 22

Location: Stela 22 was found face-up approximately 2 meters southeast of the northeastern corner of Structure 2. The stela was first reported in 1986 by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project. The stela is still at the site today.

Condition: Intact, but severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular with parallel sides that curve inwards towards the top and bottom of the monument.

Dimensions:

HT: 1.53 m
MW: .96 m
HSA: 1.03 m
WSA: .31 m
WBC: .96 m
WTC: .94 m
MTH: .18 m
RELG: 5.6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only. Contains a 6 glyph block text in single column format.

Dedicatory Date: Late Classic Period. 9.16.0.0.0 2 *Ajaw* 13 *Sek* (5, May 751)

Line Drawings:

John Hlucky (In Wanyerka 1991: Figure 68)
John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 99](#))
John Montgomery (In Wanyerka 1996: Figure 9)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1991: 85)
Wanyerka (1996: 34)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The text recorded on Stela 22 commemorates the 9.16.0.0.0 Period Ending. Written in an abbreviated Calendar Round form, the confirmation of this date comes from the “tun-in-hand” glyph at A4. The name of the protagonist is now totally obliterated, but he was clearly a Divine Lord, presumably of Uxbenka as the outlines of an Emblem Glyph can be seen at A6. Unfortunately, the main sign is no longer legible; however, its appearance does provide epigraphic evidence that Uxbenka was an Emblem-Glyph-bearing site during Classic times. One other thing that is interesting here is the fact that Uxbenka, like most of the inscriptions at

Pusilhá, is clearly spells its month names with Yukatek spellings. Here (A3) we see the month *Sek* spelled out phonetically as *se-ka* much like we see in the codices.

Text:

A1: T?:?	?:?
A2: TII[738?]??:?	KÁ[ka?]??:? (Ajaw)
A3: TXIII.520:25?	OXLAJUN.SE:ka (Sek)
A4: T13.528.116:713a:130	u.TUUN.ni:K'AL:wa
A5: T?:?:?	?:?:?
A6: T36.168?:130	K'U.AJAW?:wa

Miscellaneous Texts

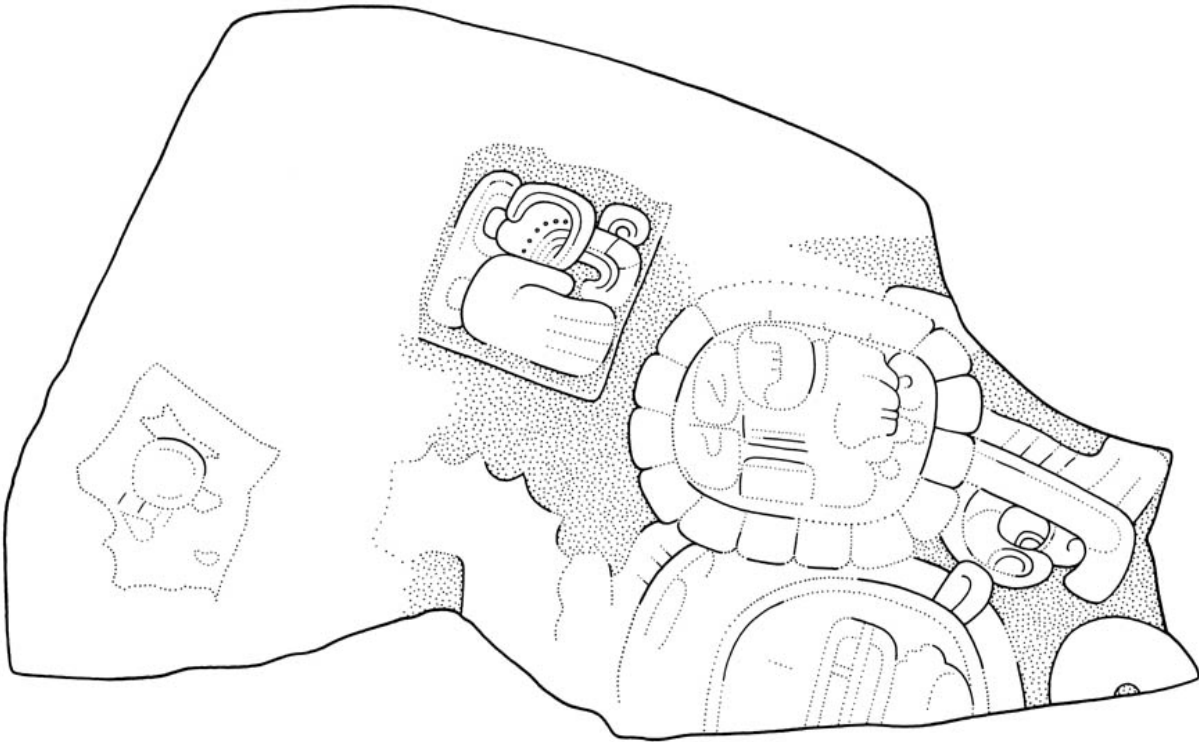


Figure 100. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Text 1. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Text 1

Location: Miscellaneous Text 1 was found in the northwest region of the Main Plaza, approximately 2 meters east of Stela 22. This fragment was found by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1988 and has not been relocated since its initial discovery. It is now feared lost.

Condition: Broken and more than half of the carved surface has flaked off.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

All dimensions are unknown.

Carved Areas: Front only. Contains a partially eroded figural scene that includes an image of a turtle and a single glyph block.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 100)

John Montgomery (In Wanyerka 1996: Figure 10)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1996: 34)

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Featured on Miscellaneous Text 1 is a partially eroded zoomorphic image of a turtle or *ak*. In addition, a partial image of a shield can also be seen below the turtle. It is not clear as to what this fragment represents to the overall image. Due to the severe level of flaking and erosion to the surface of this fragment, only a single glyph block exists today. The glyph block clearly records the “binding” or “wrapping of the *tuun*.”

Text:

pA1: T1.528.130:713a

u.TUUN.wa:K’AL

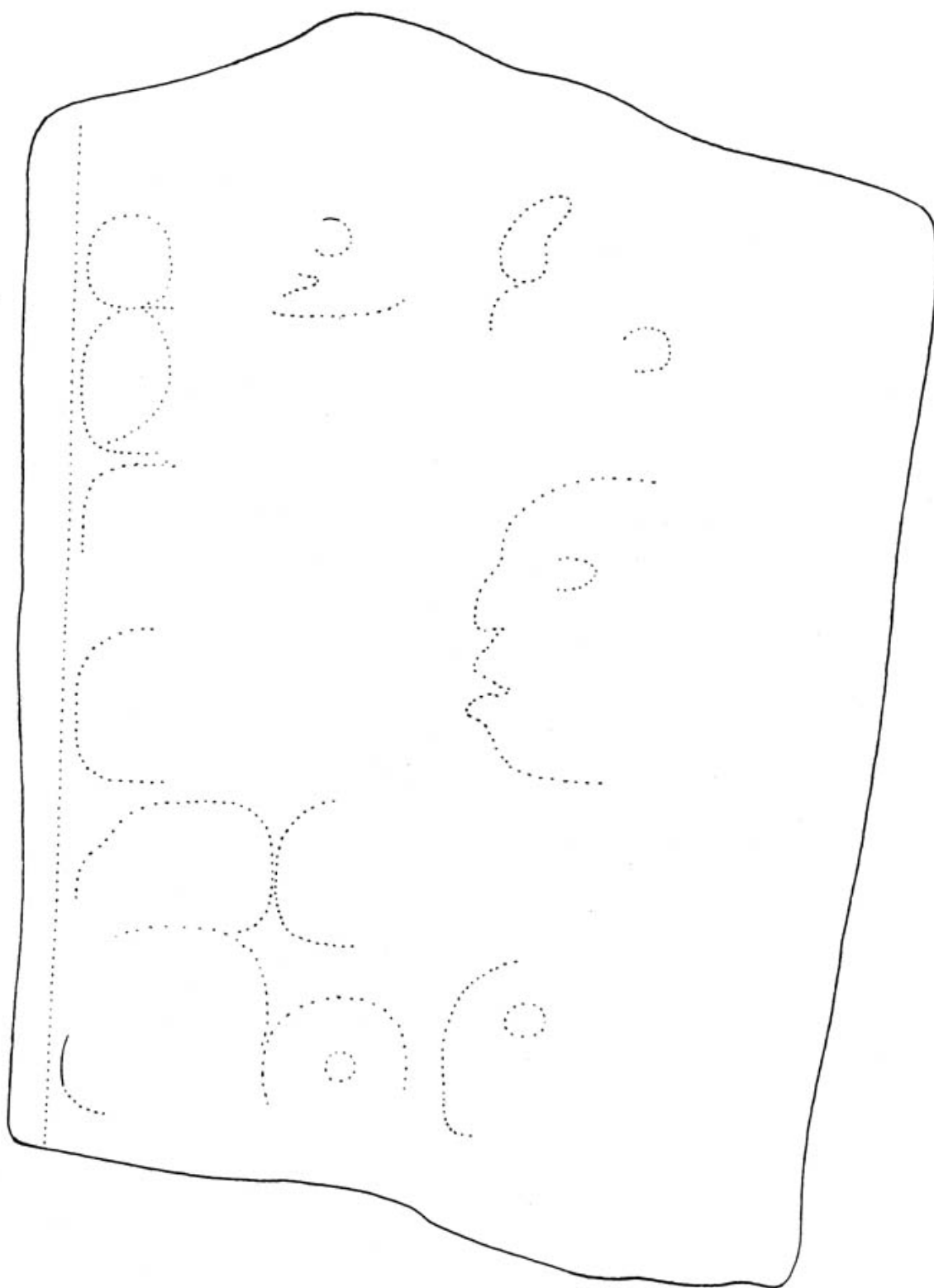


Figure 101. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Text 2, Front. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

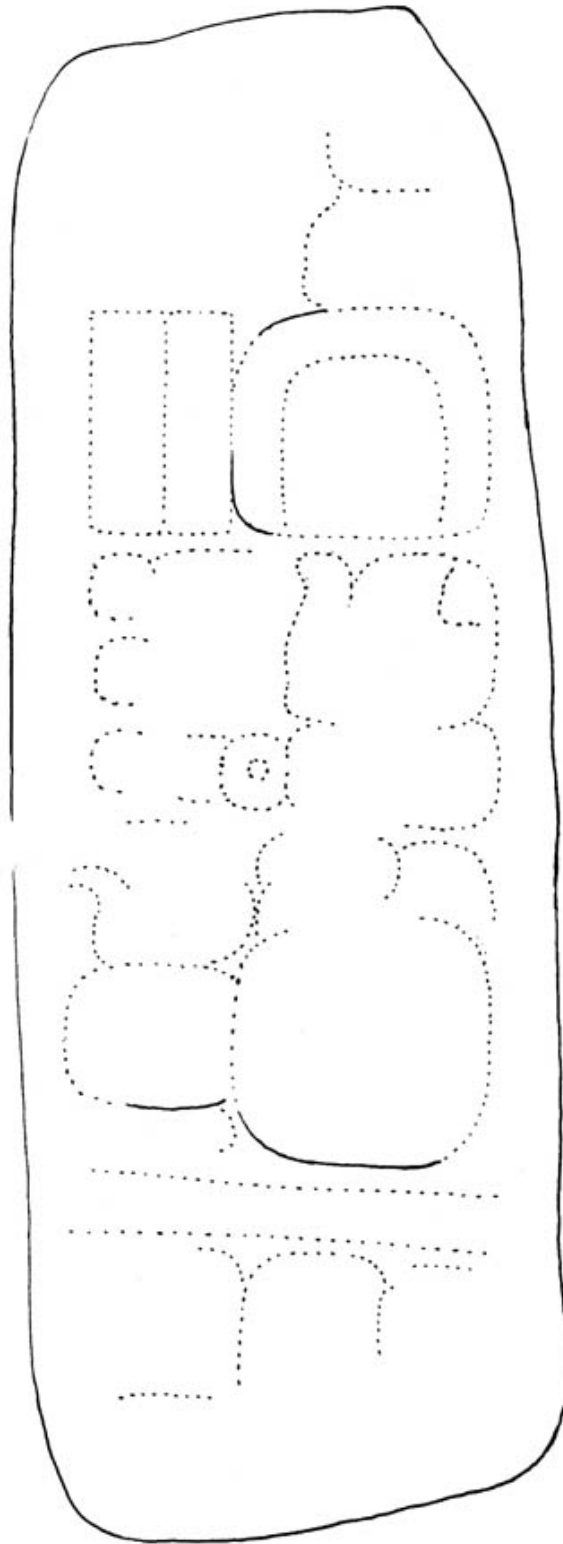


Figure 102. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Text 2, Side. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Text 2

Location: Miscellaneous Text 2 was originally found by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1984. Its original location is unknown, but today it lies directly east of Structure 2 near a group of broken monument fragments scattered around Stela 11.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Rectangular? This fragment represents a left-hand section of a text based on the text border visible along its edge.

Dimensions:

HT: .46 m
MW: .40 m
HSA: .46 m
WSA: .40 m
WBC: .36 m
WTC: .40 m
MTH: .16 m
RELG: 3 mm

Carved Areas: Front and Side. The front of Miscellaneous Text 2 contains 6 partially eroded glyph blocks and the side contains 5 partially eroded glyph blocks.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown

Line Drawings:

John Hlucky (In Wanyerka 1991: Figure 66)
John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 101](#) and [Figure 102](#))

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (1991: Figure 65)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1991: 84)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: While it is now clear that a hieroglyphic text was carved on two sides of this fragment, virtually none of the carving on the front can be read, except for a possible *Ajaw* title at pB2. The side of this fragment was identified as being carved in 2001 based on side lighting. The text contains a numerical coefficient (10) followed by a probable *tuun* sign. In addition, the text also contains the partially eroded outlines of another number (3) followed by the outlines of the T756 "bat-head" sign that can either read *xu/XUK/SOTZ*'. Unfortunately, not enough of the textual detail survives to ascertain the intended meaning.

Text:

Front Text

pA1: T?:?:?	?:?:?:?
pB1: T?	??
pA2: T?:?.	?:?.
pB2: T1000?	AJAW?
pA3: T?:?:?	?:?:?:?
pB3: T?:?	?:?

Side Text

pC1: T?:?.	?:?.
pC2: TX:528?	LAJUN:TUUN?
pC3: THL?:?.756:200?	OX.?:?.XU/XUK/PÍ
pC4: T?:?:?	?:?:?:?
pC5: T?:?.	?:?.

Miscellaneous Sculpture

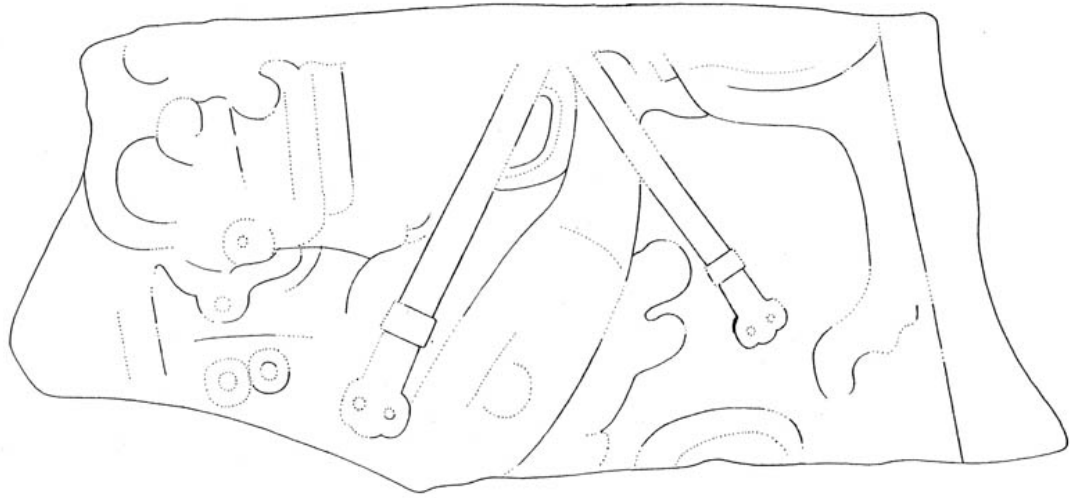


Figure 103. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 1. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 1

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 1 was originally found in the area east of Structure 2. It was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1984. The monument is still located at the site today and is located near a group of broken monument fragments near the northeastern corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .27 m
MW: .57 m
MTH: .20 m
RELS: 5.6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period (?). The style of the imagery featured on this fragment is highly reminiscent of the imagery found on Stela 11, 18, and 21.

Line Drawings:

John Hlucky (In Wanyerka 1991: Figure 60)
John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 103)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (1991: Figure 59)

Other References:

Wanyerka (1991:81)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image featured on Miscellaneous Text 1 includes at least two tubular beads and several scrolls. This fragment probably belongs to one of the 3 Early Classic stela at Uxbenka, in particular it closely resembles the iconographic program of Stela 21.

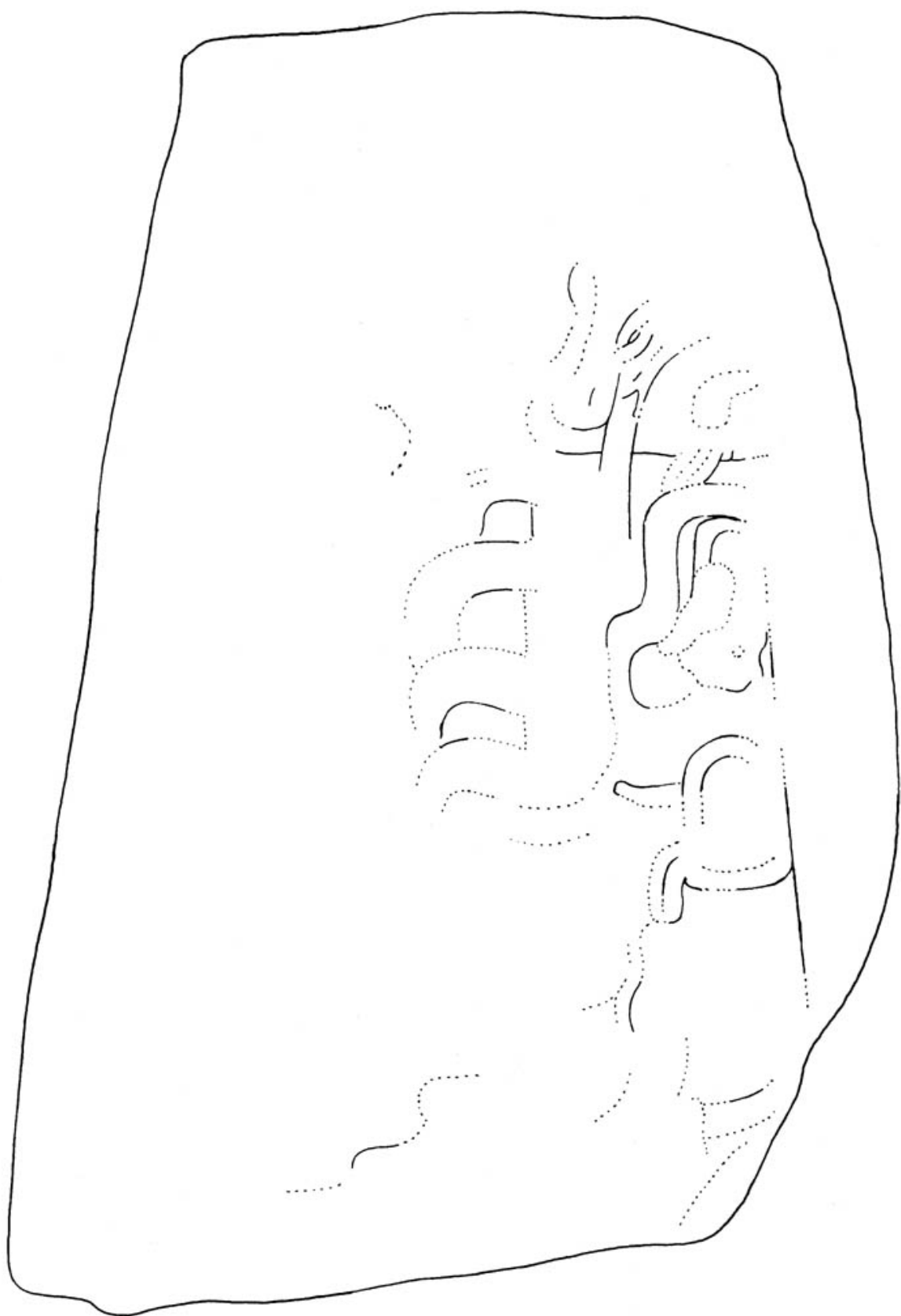


Figure 104. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 2. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 2

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 2 was originally found in the area east of Structure 2 in the vicinity of Stela 11. It was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1984. The monument is still located at the site today and is located near a group of broken monument fragments near the northeastern corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .58 m
MW: .88 m
MTH: .20 m
RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 104](#))
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001: 8)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image carved on Miscellaneous Sculpture 2 appears to part of an elaborate iconographic motif, possibly part of a headdress.

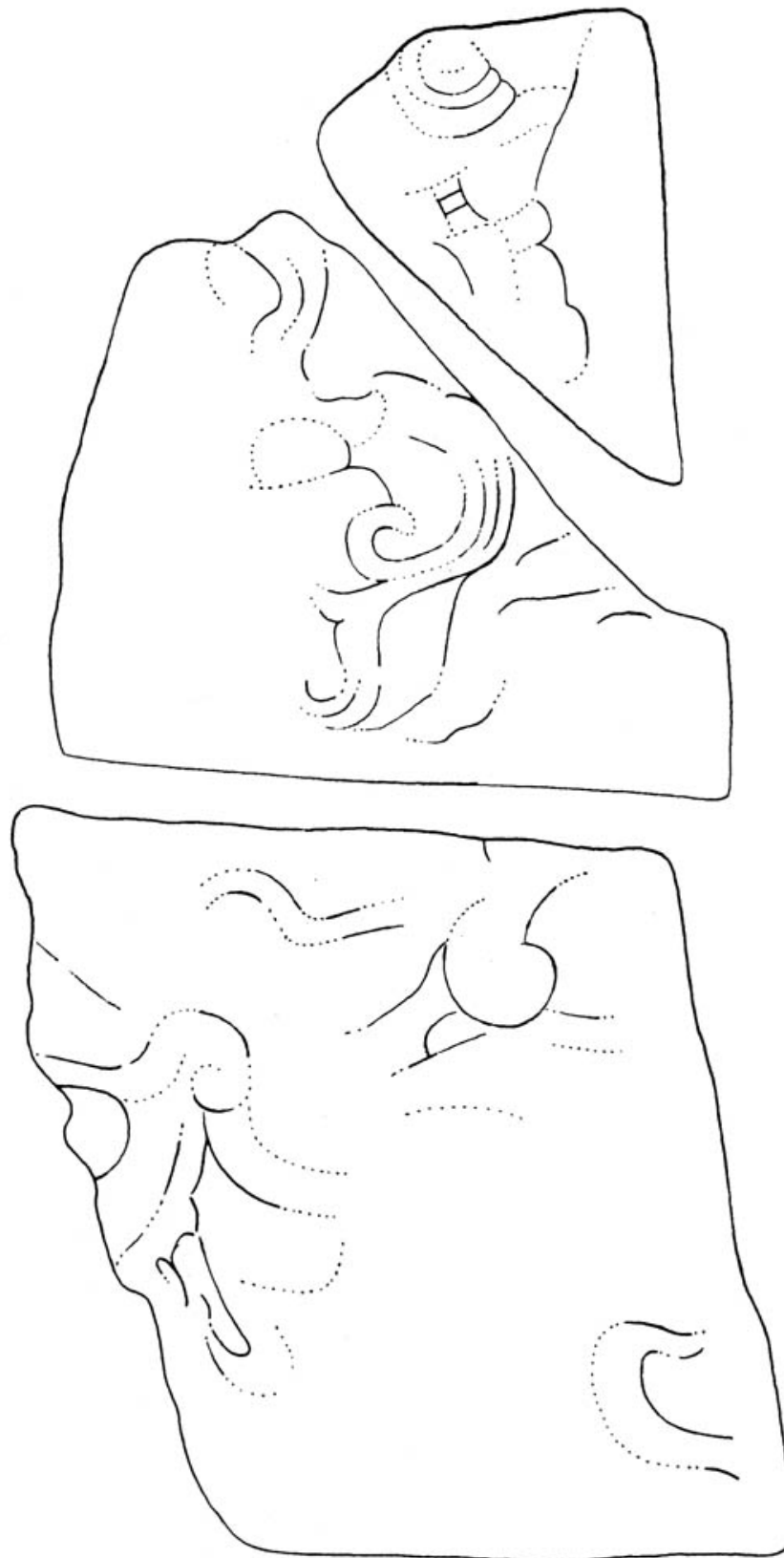


Figure 105. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 3. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 3

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 3 was originally found in the area east of Structure 2. It was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1984. The monument is still located at the site today and is still located near a group of broken monument fragments near the northeastern corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken in three pieces and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .20 m
MW: .59 m
MTH: .09 m
RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period (?). The style of the imagery featured on this fragment is reminiscent of the imagery found on Stela 11, 18, and 21.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 105)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)
Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001:8)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image featured on this fragment includes an open-mouthed serpent. It would appear that this fragment could either be a part of the missing left-hand serpent emerging from the Double-Headed Serpent Bar on either Stela 11 or Stela 18.

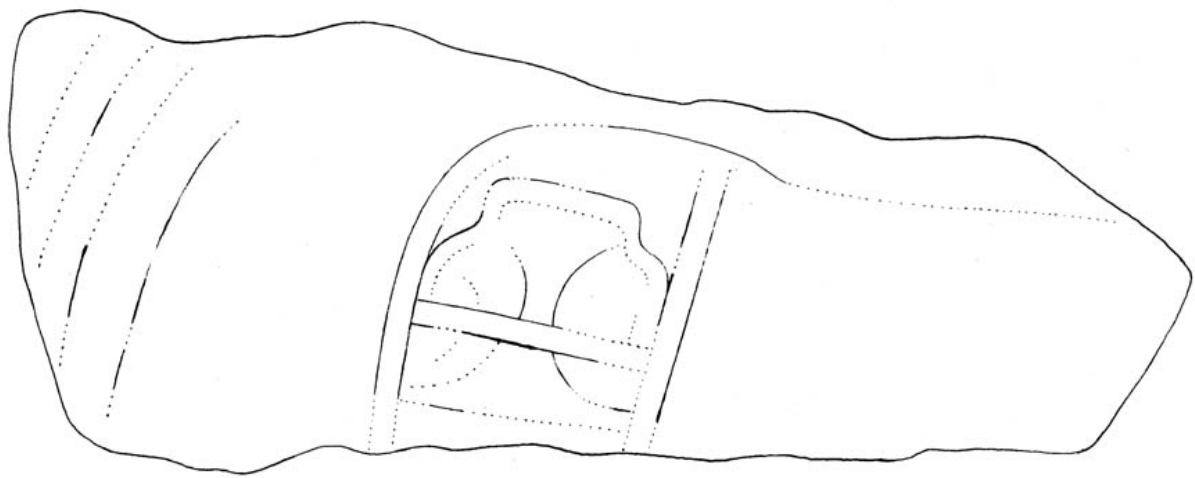


Figure 106. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 4. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 4

Location: Unknown. Miscellaneous Sculpture 4 was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1988. This fragment could not be relocated.

Condition: Broken, flaked, and eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .11 m

MW: .42 m

MTH: Unknown

RELS: Unknown

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 106)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: Featured on this fragment is the faint outlines of either a glyphic element or some iconographic motif. The possible appearance of feathers along the left edge of this fragment suggests that it was probably a part of a royal headdress.

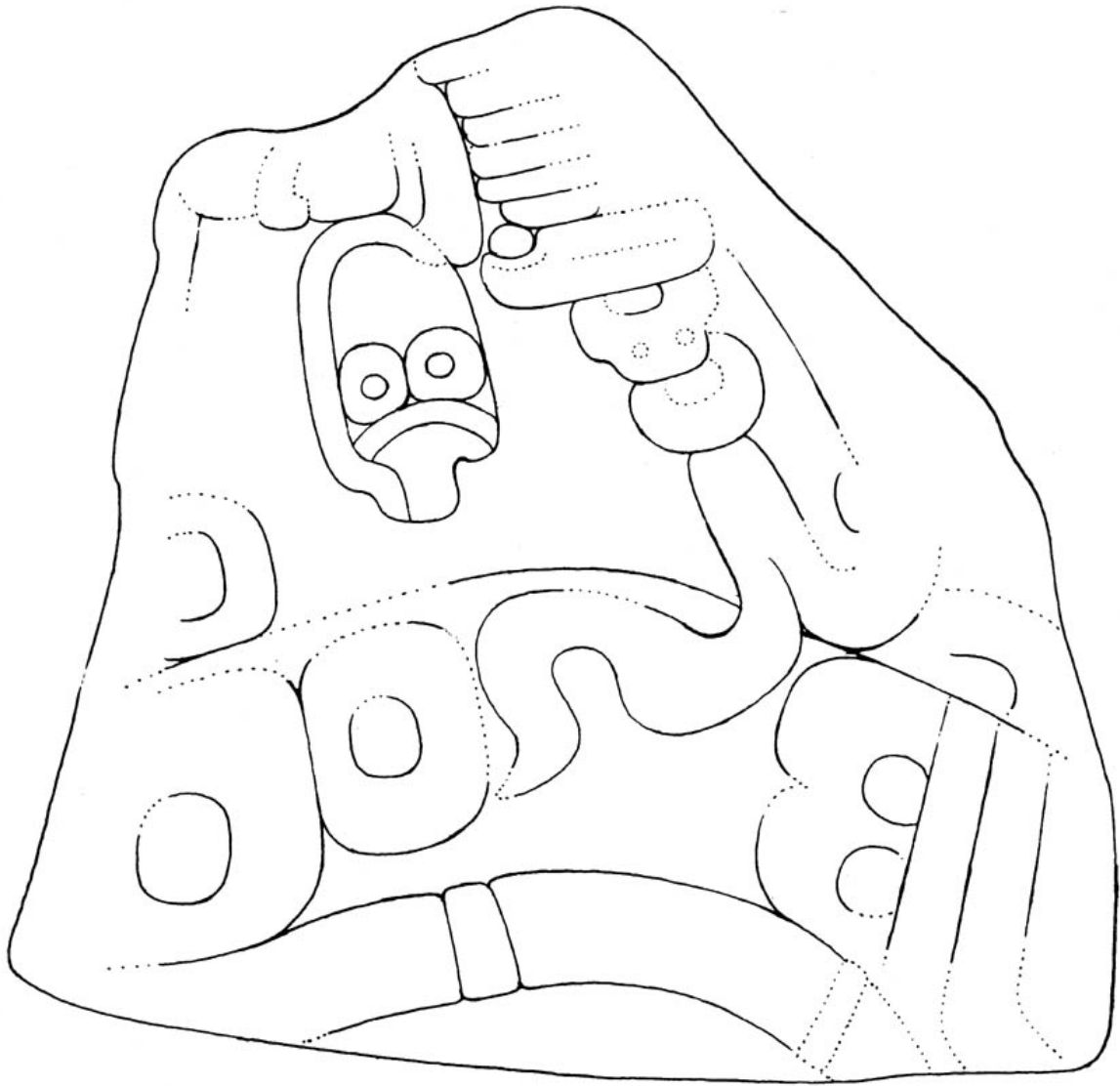


Figure 107. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 5. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 5

Location: Unknown. Miscellaneous Sculpture 5 was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1988. This fragment could not be relocated.

Condition: Broken and slightly chipped along its edges.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions: Unknown.

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period (?). This fragment appears to be a part of the upper portion of a now missing headdress, probably from either Stela 11, 18, or 21.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 107)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image featured on Miscellaneous Sculpture 5 appears to be the upper portion of a royal headdress. Unfortunately it cannot be matched at this time to any of the three Early Classic monuments.

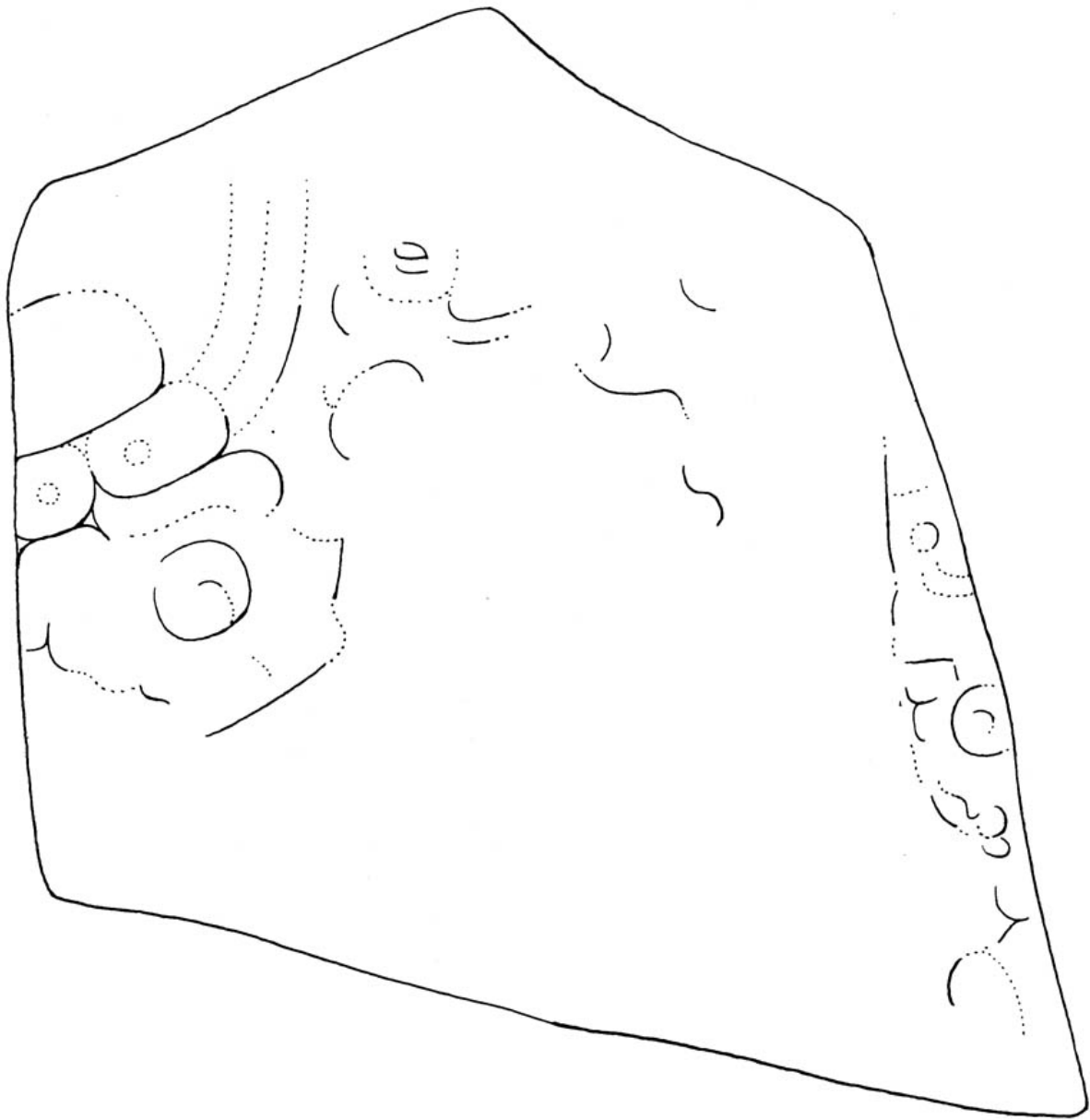


Figure 108. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 6. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 6

Location: Unknown. Miscellaneous Sculpture 6 was first reported by the Southern Belize Archaeological Project in 1988. This fragment could not be relocated.

Condition: Broken and much of the surface has flaked off.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .45 m

MW: .40 m

MTH: Unknown

RELS: Unknown

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period (?). The style of imagery featured on this fragment is reminiscent of the imagery found on Stela 11, 18, and 21.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 108)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Richard Leventhal (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image featured on this fragment includes a small profile head of a bird-like creature and the vestiges of some other iconographic motif, none of which can be interpreted.

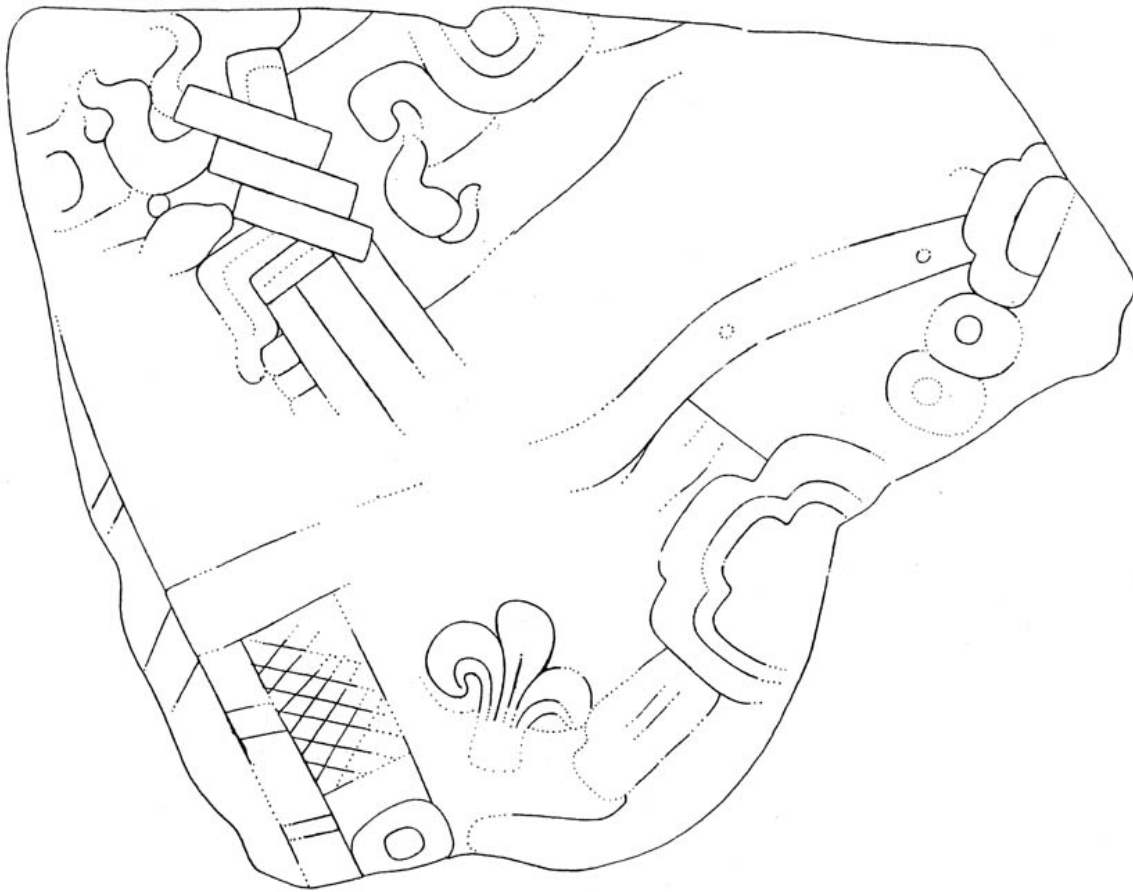


Figure 109. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 7. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 7

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 7 was found by the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 2001. It was located near a looter's pit behind Stela 14, off the northeast corner of Structure 3.

Condition: Broken in two pieces and the fragment is shipped and eroded along the breakage.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .51 m
MW: .51 m
MTH: .18 m
RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: *Early Classic Period (?). The style of the imagery featured on this fragment is reminiscent of the imagery found on Stela 11, 18, and 21.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 109)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001:8)
Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The image featured on this fragment appears to be a part of the Double-Headed Serpent Bar featured on Stela 18. The “mat” sign, located in the upper left-hand corner of the fragment appears to match the “mat” sign located below the individual's chinstrap.

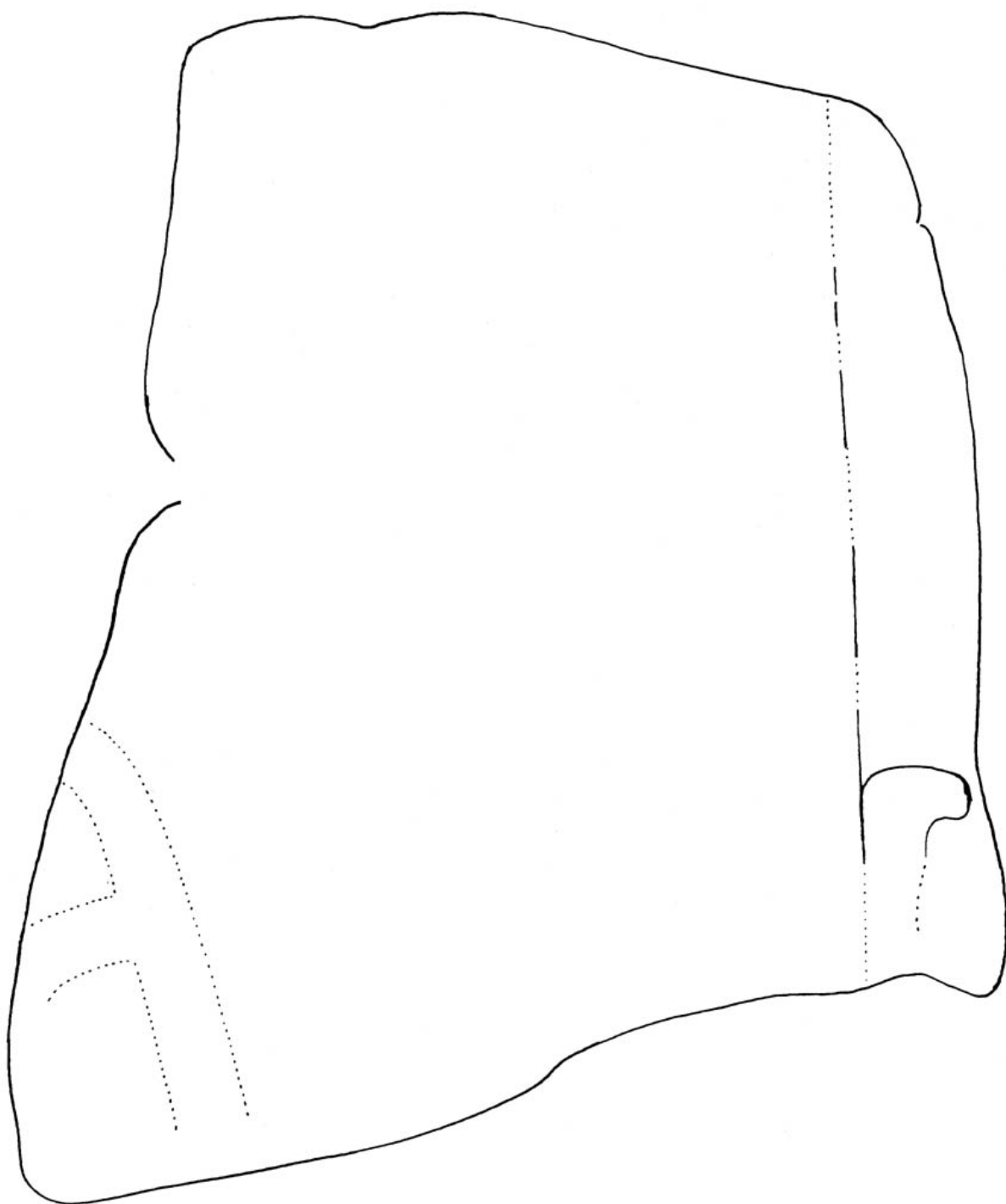


Figure 110. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 8. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 8

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 8 was found by the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 2001. It was located near a looter's pit behind Stela 14, off the northeast corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .31 m

MW: .17 m

MTH: .36 m

RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 110)

John Montgomery (In Wanyerka 2001: Figure 33)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Jack Sulak (Unpublished)

Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001:8)

Wanyerka (2004)

Commentary: The severely eroded image featured on this fragment appears to be an unknown iconographic motif.

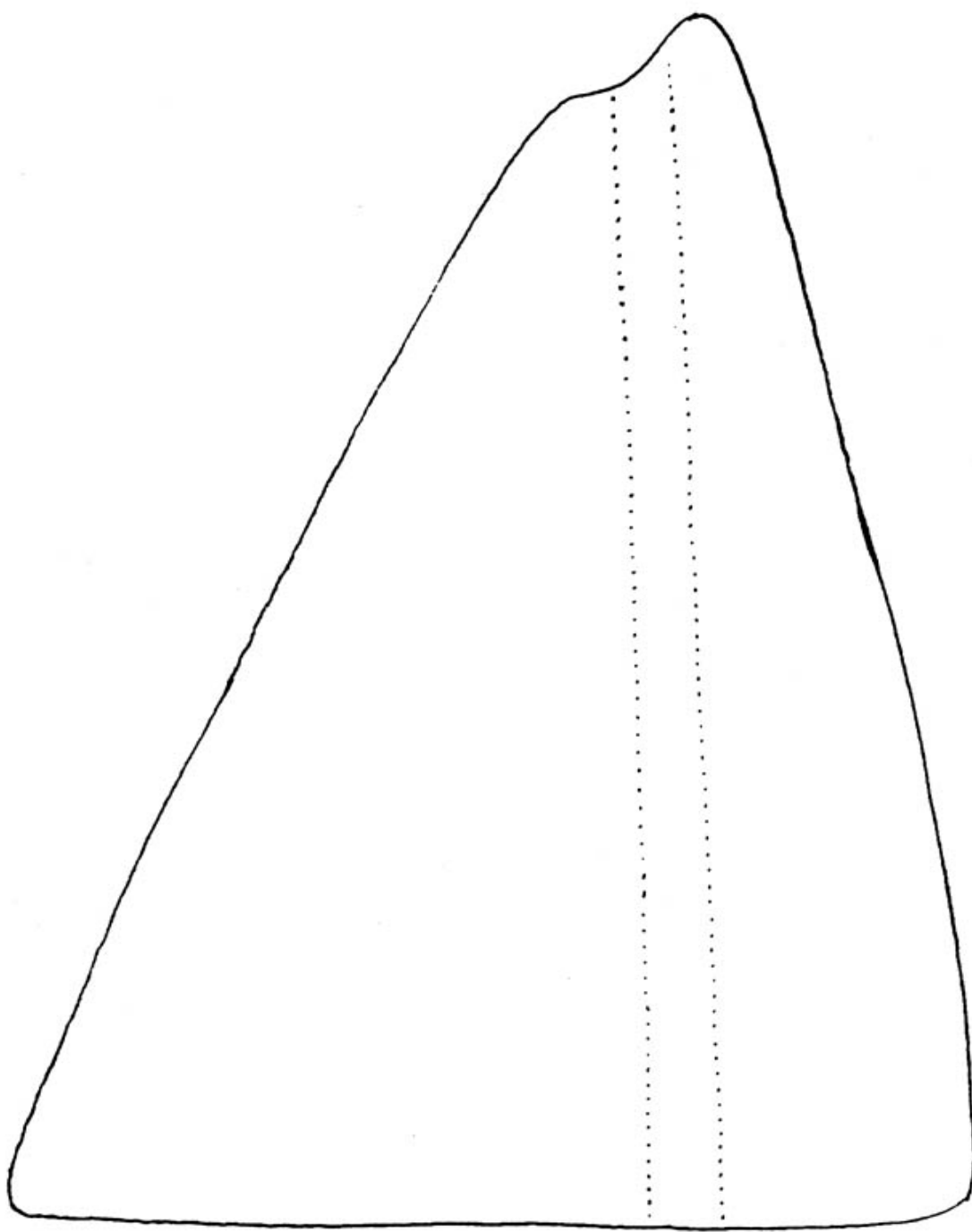


Figure 111. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 9. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 9

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 9 was first reported by the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 2001. It was found in a monument scatter around Stela 11, off the northeast corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcaerous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular. The fragment probably represents a scene or text border.

Dimensions:

HT: .20 m
MW: .15 m
MTH: .10 m
RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, Figure 111)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001:8)

Commentary: The image featured on this fragment is a text border.

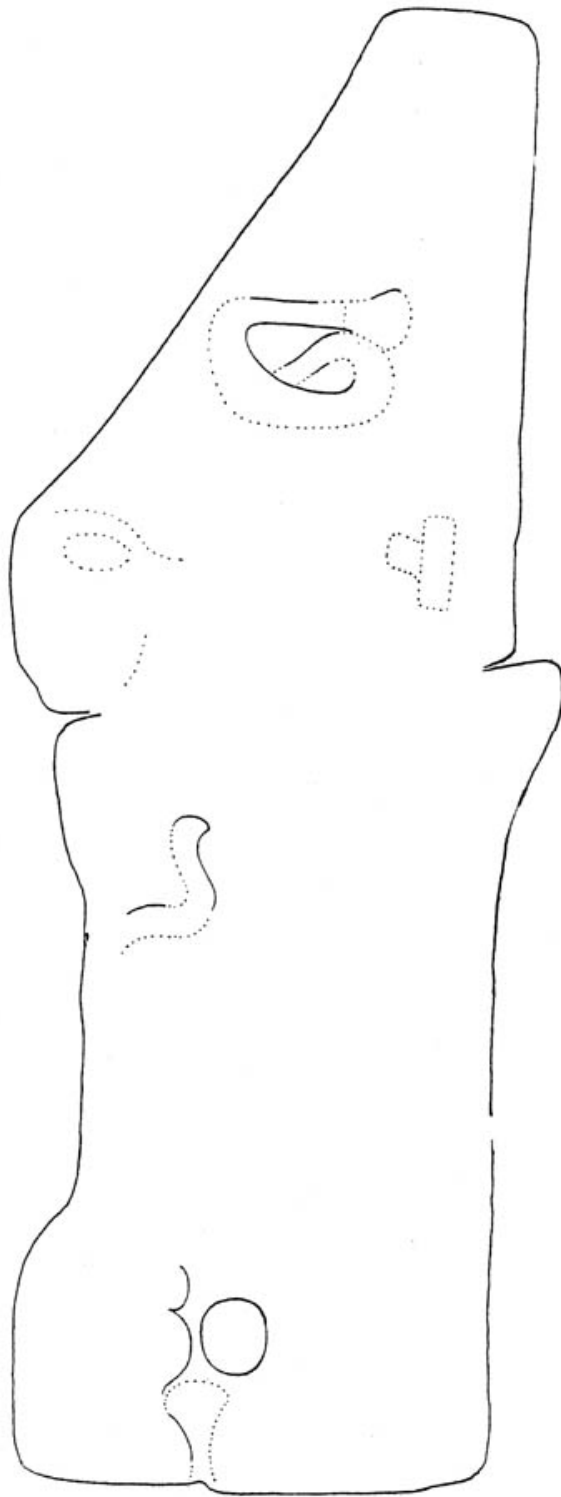


Figure 112. Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 10. (Drawing by John Montgomery)

Uxbenka, Miscellaneous Sculpture 10

Location: Miscellaneous Sculpture 10 was first reported by the Southern Belize Epigraphic Project in 2001. It was located in a monument scatter near Stela 11, off the northeast corner of Structure 2.

Condition: Broken and severely eroded.

Material: Fine-Grained Calcareous Sandstone (Mudstone)

Shape: Irregular.

Dimensions:

HT: .56 m
MW: .20 m
MTH: .09 m
RELS: 6 mm

Carved Areas: Front only.

Dedicatory Date: Unknown.

Line Drawings:

John Montgomery (SBEP, [Figure 112](#))
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Photographic References:

Jack Sulak (Unpublished)
Phil Wanyerka (Unpublished)

Other References:

Wanyerka (2001:8)

Commentary: The image featured on this fragment depicts an iconographic motif, probably part of a headdress.