

EXPLORATION AND RESTORATION OF THE EAST PLATFORM AT THE LOST WORLD, TIKAL (STRUCTURES 5D-83 TO 5D-89)

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Note on the edition: *The space of the current paper was ceded for other discussions; therefore, it was not presented in the public sessions. It has been included in this volume, as it constitutes Part 9 of the Lost World's series fostered by the Symposium Commission of Archaeological Investigations in Guatemala.*

The East Plaza constitutes the primary space of the Lost World, and is defined by the presence of the Great Pyramid or Structure 5C-54. The east side of the plaza associated with the pyramid was delimited by the so-called East Platform, an architectural assemblage that complements said main structure.

The East Platform consists of a large basal platform built to provide support to three other structures (5D-84, 5D-86, and 5D-88), plus two additional buildings that occupy the middle sectors (5D-85 and 5D-87). This pattern corresponds to the buildings erected since the Preclassic period.

Both structurally and functionally, a pyramid on the west side of a patio (5C-54) and the long rectangular basal platform at east, integrated that which originated the oldest unit or architectural assemblage of Tikal, providing the diagnostic characteristics of the assemblages indistinctly denominated Assemblages of the Group E type (Ruppert 1940, Rathje et al. 1978; Chase 1985); Observatories (Aveni 1975; Aveni and Hartung 1989); Ritual Public Assemblages (Laporte and Morales 1993); Astronomic Commemoration Assemblages and/or Plaza 9 Pattern (Fialko 1988). The example found in the Lost World, Tikal, included four construction stages corresponding to the Preclassic period, plus two others corresponding to the Early Classic period, which were integrated to the corresponding versions of the West Pyramid and the East Platform.

The versions that correspond to the West Pyramid (Structure 5C-54) have been previously documented (Laporte and Fialko 1985, 1995; Laporte 1997). Now we are describing the buildings that specifically form the long basal platform (5D-84 to 5D-88), plus two additional platforms that were placed each against the extreme of the East Platform at a later stage (5D-83 and 5D-89). The Temple of the Skulls or Structure 5D-87 has been described previously, built late in the Late Classic period and occupying an important sector of the old East Platform (Laporte 2002), in order

to destroy the function this assemblage had along the centuries in the conformation of Tikal as a city.

In the following description of the contents of the offering and of the ornaments recovered in the different burials and caches, a number of papers previously published on the explorations conducted at the Lost World and the associated materials were examined (Salas and Pijoan 1982; Laporte and Fialko 1987; Wright 1996; Laporte 1999, 2000; Laporte and Iglesias 2004).

STRUCTURES 5D-84 AND 5D-88

The exploration of 5D-84 was conducted by Vilma Fialko from February 1981 to February 1982, while the remaining structures were part of Marco Antonio Bailey's work; 5D-85 from January to June 1981; 5D-86 from January 1981 to February 1982; 5D-87 from January 1981 to April 1982; 5D-88 from September 1981 to May 1982.

The evolution of the assemblage began early in the Middle Preclassic period (Eb or Pre-Mamom phase), as since the very earliest stages these were structures interconnected by access platforms (such as 5D-85 and 5D-87). Thus, the description of the evolutonal process of the different platforms cannot be detached from that of the neighboring platforms. Therefore –to facilitate the exhibition of the varied structures and their different construction stages- the data provided here will be correlated with each chronological stage.

EAST PLATFORM FOUNDATION AND THE EAST PLAZA LEVEL

A frontal bench 0.25 m high was defined, placed 3.70 m at west of Body 1 of the general foundation, in front of which it extends longitudinally along a north-south direction, at least between the extreme structures 5D-84 and 5D-88. The limestone bedrock lies 1.90 m under the surface associated with the upper floor.

Several tunnels were perforated to accomplish this complicated exploration. At 5D-84 one tunnel was opened on the east-west axis of the building by perforating the general foundation; the tunnel was initiated on the west front, with a total length of 22.50 m and average 1.50 m in width and height; all tunnels were added north-south prolongations of smaller dimensions, usually 0.75 m high and 1 m wide.

An additional large tunnel was perforated in this assemblage at 5D-86, the central structure of the East Platform. It was initiated at the Plaza of the Seven Temples and ended in a tunnel with auxiliary prolongations. Approximate length: 95 m.

Given the similarity among the features found inside the tunnels, considering the extended foundation shared, we are now presenting an example applicable to the different tunnels, in this case corresponding to the perforation under Structure 5D-84. The references of the horizontal dimensions were taken as of the frontal bench that extends lengthwise across the foundation.

- 00.00 m From the frontal bench to the collapse of Body 1.
- 05.70 m With the perforation of Body 1, a leveling floor with an inclination was defined across 2.50 m, perhaps meant to reach the presumed plaza level where it was integrated to the natural rock. In the tunnel under 5D-84, there was a cavity of 3.50 x 1.50 m, apparently carved, in the interior of which a dense deposit was found containing ceramic, bone and lithic materials assigned to the Eb ceramic assemblage (Deposit 13).
- 06.75 m Location of a north-south alignment, 0.15 m tall, possible evidence of some mutilated structure (this was also the case under 5D-84).
- 14.55 m Identification of a bench still showing a stucco lining, 0.20 m tall. It was not placed on any floor. Deposit 13 and the refills containing Eb materials strongly support the possibility that both walls (6.75 m and 14.55 m) were Eb architectural features, identified as 5D-84-1 (Figures 1 and 2).
- 17.00 m It was identified with Body 1 resting on the east side of the substructure identified as 5D-84-2 (Tzec phase). Refills were characterized by a weak consistency and the absence of mortar. The architecture –with no stucco signs- presents bodies with an average height of 0.90 m and 0.85 m platforms. At least the two first bodies explored suggested a molding (a flange with a 0.05 m ledge). It is inferred that the platform integrated four stepped bodies with a height not exceeding 4 m and a hypothetical width of 12.70 m, considering that its west front was mutilated.
- 18.00 m Identification of Body 1 at 5D-84-3 (Chuan phase). Three lower bodies were specified, averaging 0.90 m in height and 0.80 m for the platform, followed by a fourth body of 1.80 m that leads to the upper platform, at a height of 4.50 m and with a probable width of 14.70 m at the base. The bodies –still with a stucco lining and remains of a blue-black pigmentation- show molding features.
- 19.90 m A remodeling work was verified on version 5D-84-3, which involved the aggregation of two *talud*-like bodies that conformed projecting corners with respect to the four bodies platform. The height of each one of the aggregated sloping panels corresponded to two bodies of the remodeled version, which still left 0.80 m of the upper body exposed. The width, ledges included, was of 19.30 m.
- 22.45 m A construction period denominated 5D-84-4 was defined (Cauac phase), shown by a sloping wall with an estimated height of 2.40 m, a 12° incline, and with a platform width of 0.85 m, which probably supported a second body with a hypothetical height of 2.25 m and an 11° incline. These two bodies were projected, in relation with a platform integrated by four stepped bodies (an identical version of the Tzec and

Chuen platforms), which was virtually razed during the Manik times. Alike the preceding substructures, the west front was mutilated, and therefore, a hypothetical width of 24.30 m may only be proposed.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 1 (EB PHASE, MIDDLE PRECLASSIC PERIOD)

In Tikal, this horizon comprises two ceramic phases: Late Eb (BC 700-600), corresponding to the Middle Preclassic period, and Tzec (BC 600-400), corresponding to the beginning of the Late Preclassic period. The first reflects the most ancient architectural expressions at the site.

The deep excavation associated with Structures 5D-84 and 5D-86 has illustrated, with razed architectural remains, a foundation assigned to the Eb ceramic assemblage, in other words, to a Middle Preclassic stage. Stages 5D-84-1, 85-1, 86-1, 87-1, and 88-1 have been considered as such, and the combined information they provided have made it possible to consider several aspects of this ancient foundation.

On the natural bedrock –after a 0.30 m refill- the first floor of the assemblage was elaborated with a slope northwards. The alignment dated to the Eb phase had an approximate length of 106 m in a north-south direction. There is evidence, still, of the bases corresponding to Body 1 of the east and west sides, implying a width of 10.75 m. The height of the razed walls does not exceed 0.50 m, and some sectors of 5D-84-1 and 5D-86-1 show a better preservation. This evidence shows the stucco lining. Their virtual mutilation has impeded to define any other architectural trait, except that its frontal east wall was sustained on a floor. The foundation of the first stage was covered by the subsequent construction of the Tzec phase, with average 2.25 m of refill between both layers.

The occupation of the Eb phase was confirmed by the presence of three concentrations of materials, mainly ceramics. In the front space of 5D-84-1 we found a cavity carved in the rock containing a dense deposit of materials assigned to the latest part of the Eb phase (Layer 13; Figures 1 and 2). The very bad state of the refill associated with 5D-84-1, which risks dangerous collapse, made it impossible to excavate entirely the problematic deposit; therefore, only partial dimensions may be provided here: a length of 2.30 m from east to west featuring a semi-oval shape, but the extension to the south could not be corroborated; the relative height varies around 1.25 m. Two refill levels were observed: one with inclusions of loose stones, and the other made of packed earth.

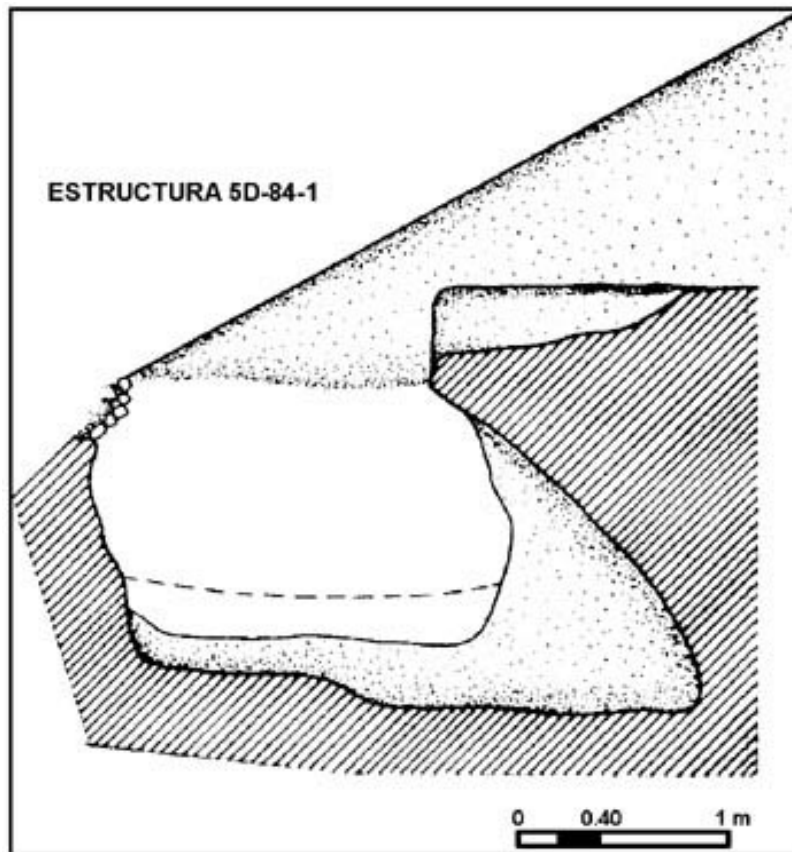


Figure 1. Problematic Deposit 13.

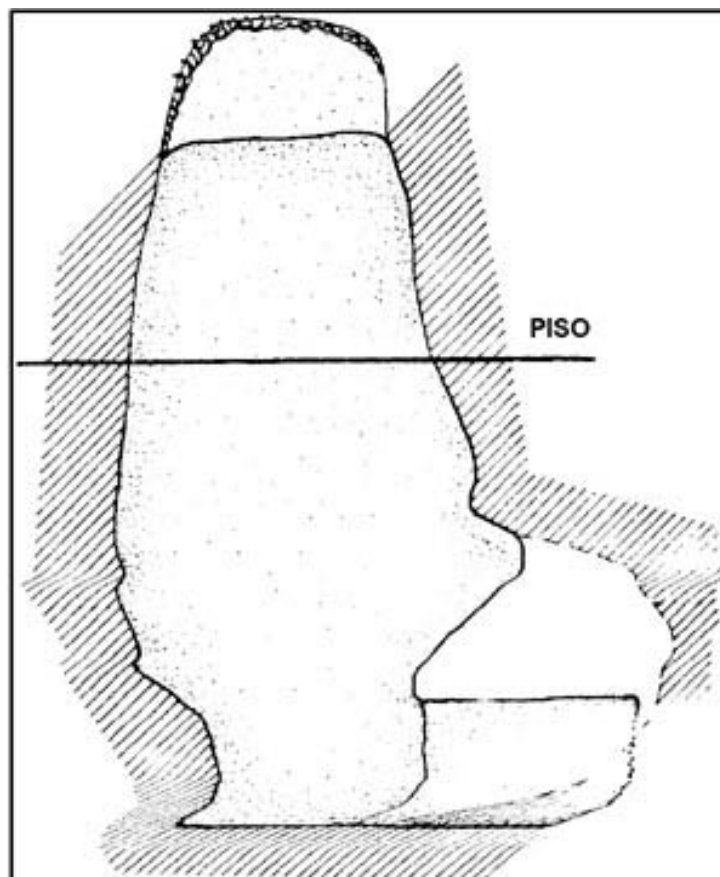


Figure 2. Problematic Deposit 13.

Floor

In turn, Deposits 6 and 12 were sealed by the superimposition of six floors associated with the east side of the East Platform of the Lost World, under the present Plaza of the Seven Temples. Deposit 12 –which may represent both examples-, is located adjacent to Body 1 on the southeast corner of Structure 5D-88 now at the surface, inside a cavity carved in the rock of approximately 4.50 m in diameter and 2.50 m deep, with a semi-ovoid plan ground, whose black earth refill contained a heavy concentration of materials.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 2 (TZEC PHASE, MIDDLE PRECLASSIC PERIOD)

The second constructive rendering of the East Platform is also known to exist under each one of the structures composing the assemblage, and they were denominated 5D-84-2, -85-2, -86-2, -87-2, and -88-2. The refill materials suggest it was built during the Tzec phase of the Middle Preclassic period. The combined features defined in the different excavations have resulted in a foundation, while the existing portion of the east and west walls rest on a stucco floor.

It corresponds to a platform integrated by four stepped bodies which reached a height of 4.40 m; the walls still present a molding feature. The structure was razed in the west front; however, a width averaging 13 m may be calculated. In several cases we were able to define that the lower body of the east side still has sectors with a height of 0.80 m.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 3 (CHUEN PHASE, LATE PRECLASSIC PERIOD)

The third foundation built under the East Platform of the Lost World corresponds to the Chuen phase, at the beginning of the Late Preclassic period. It lies beneath each one of the structures denominated 5D-84-3A, -85-3, -66-3, -87-3, and -88-3. The structure that dates to the Chuen span is almost identical to its preceding version: four stepped bodies with a total height of 4.80 m; the bodies still maintain the moldings, as well as the niches integrated to Body 1, together with blue-black stucco remains. The east and west fronts were razed, and all that is left of them are traits that do not exceed a height of 0.90 m, corresponding to the lower body; however, the foundation may be calculated to have an average width of 15 m.

Remodeling works during the Chuen span were accomplished on 5D-84-3, which consisted in the aggregation of two sloped projecting bodies with respect to the north-south direction of the original platform that presented four stepped bodies (version 3B). Each one of the aggregated sloping panels was equivalent to the height of two of the previous bodies. The height of 4.80 m was maintained, while the width of this remodeling has been calculated in 19.30 m.

This architectural version worked as an access platform between the space of the subsequent plazas of the Seven Temples and of the Lost World. The west side includes a stairway 8.60 m long formed by eight steps with risers and treads averaging 0.40 m. The upper platform was 7.15 m wide from east to west. The east side of the stairway had seven steps.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 4 (CAUAC PHASE, LATE PRECLASSIC PERIOD)

It represents a stage of accelerated growth in the area of the Lost World. The foundation built at that time is present beneath all of the East Platform structures, integrating the fourth version of their construction: 5D-84-4, -85-4, -86-4, -87-4, and -88-4. Notwithstanding the dimensions involved, it was almost entirely razed for subsequent construction activities accomplished during the Classic period. This construction stage allowed to confirm the presence of a vaulted temple located in its central area (5D-86-4), but it is uncertain whether other similar ones existed at the extremes of the foundation.

Very little information has remained about this platform, assigned to the Cauac phase. Only two sloping panels were found, conforming a block that projected from the longitudinal north-south platform, similar to the remodeling identified as 5D-84-3A. The longitudinal section of the platform includes four stepped bodies similar to those of the previous stages. The east side still shows clear evidence of Body 1, in the shape of a sloping panel, with a height of 2.05 m and a platform 0.62 m wide which supports Body 2, with a height of 1.40 m. Clearly, during this stage the height of the platform was increased to at least 5.25 m. The west front was virtually razed, and only one alignment with a height of 0.30 remained in place.

Nonetheless this destruction, in the central section, or beneath 5D-86, there are still entire sectors of this ancient construction, the first version to include a vaulted temple. The stairway has 12 steps with an average of 0.40 m for the risers and treads, with an approximate length of 9.90 m from north to south and with a landing at Step 9. The structure included one foundation integrated by three sloping bodies, decorated with moldings that presented depressions in the outset and inset corners. In the central sector of the east side (back area) there is only one sloping body nosing from the three stepped bodies: the two lower ones average 1.70 m in height with platforms of 1.40 m, while the upper body is 2.75 m tall.

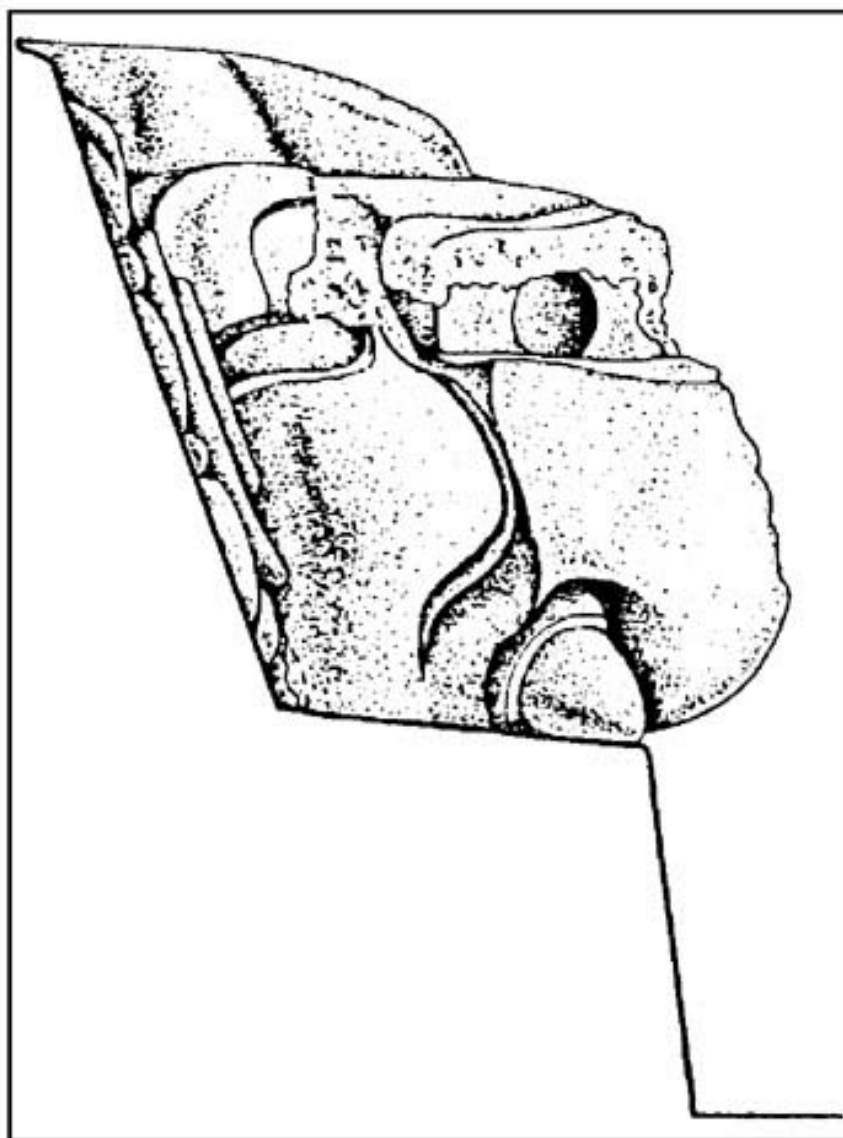


Figure 3. North section mask, Structure 5D-86-4.

On the upper platform three transversal chambers have remained in place, with evidence –though poor- of a vault. Chamber 1 measures 11.80 m long and 1.80 m wide: the west front wall is heavily damaged. This chamber included, on the east wall, two extraordinary zoomorphic masks –basically jaguar heads-, that defined the access to Chamber 2 (Figures 3 and 4). In the ear flares, the jaguars exhibited iconographic features with possible astronomical implications. They are 1.20 m high and 3 m long, so proportionally, their width is greater than their height. They are entirely lined with blue-black stucco and show incised semi-circles, allegorizing the spots of the jaguar skin; they have ear flares with iconographic traits of “stars and a half-moon”, and fangs projecting under the bulging under-lips. The arrangement of these sculptures within the inner space of a structure represents a unique trait among all the examples of the sculptural Late Preclassic *corpus* known to this day, given that the predominant pattern indicates they were used in outer spaces (Sanz 1997). Interestingly, they constitute the first non-ambiguous representation of jaguars seen in Tikal, as they have been executed in a style that has been defined as

naturalistic, and may constitute an early representation of *Nu Balam Chak*, one of the protector spirits of Tikal, associated with warfare activities.

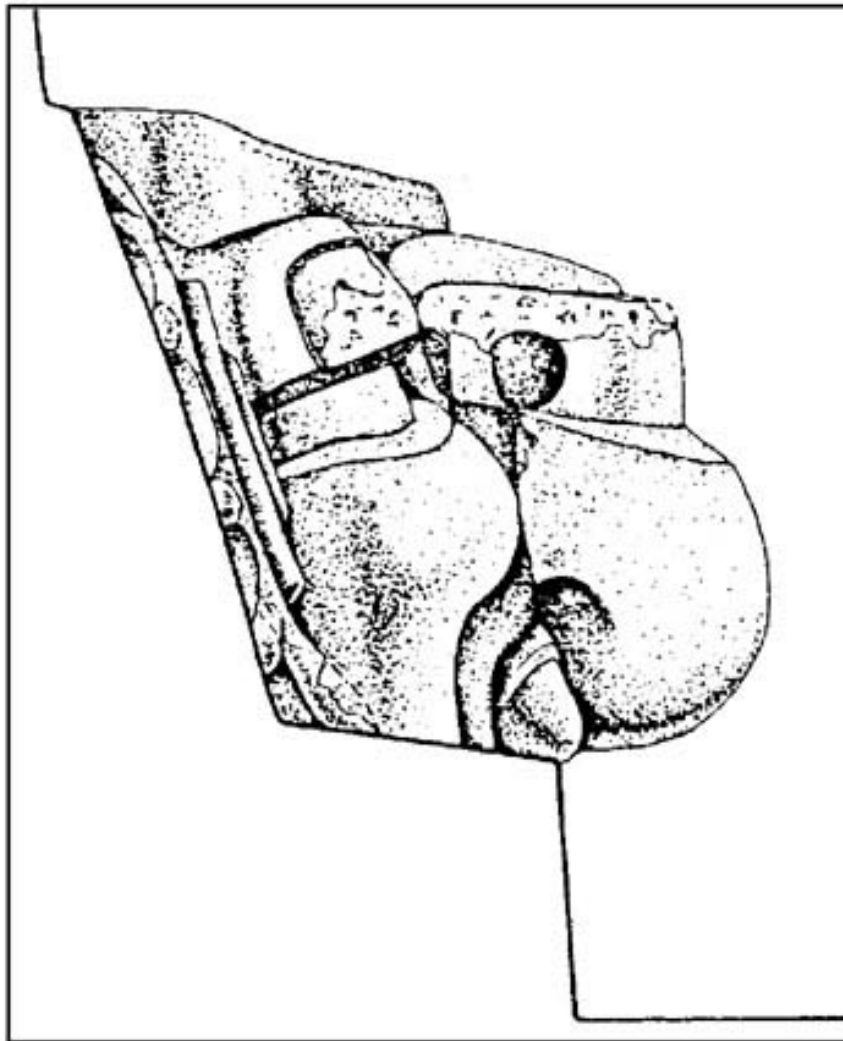


Figure 4. Mask located in the south section, Structure 5D-86-4.

The upper portion of the heads in these figures shows remains of the murals that framed them with not well designed signs in blue-black, red and yellow.

The masks defined a 1.70 m wide access and three steps that led to Chamber 2, which is 6.60 m long and 1.20 m wide. In turn, the dimensions of Chamber 3 are 9.65 m long and 2.40 m wide. They both include air vents and drainages in the walls that are still showing a stucco lining.

During the construction process of this vaulted temple, the tomb containing Burial 20 was deposited in the refill, on the upper platform of the earlier version 5D-86-3.

BURIAL 20

The tomb consisted of a rectangular space with dimensions of 1.80 x 0.40 m, and with an east-west orientation (Figure 5). The rather rustic walls presented an average height of 0.40 m, and were topped by four slabs, to house the primary and

indirect burial of a young adult male individual (21-35 years of age), deposited in an extended dorsal decubitus position with his extremities crossed, and oriented from east to west. The bone material shows a poor state of preservation, having identified a calotte fragment and an incomplete mandible, diaphysis of long bones and fragments of post-cranial bones. The skull shows intentional erected tabular deformation. This burial has no associated artifacts.

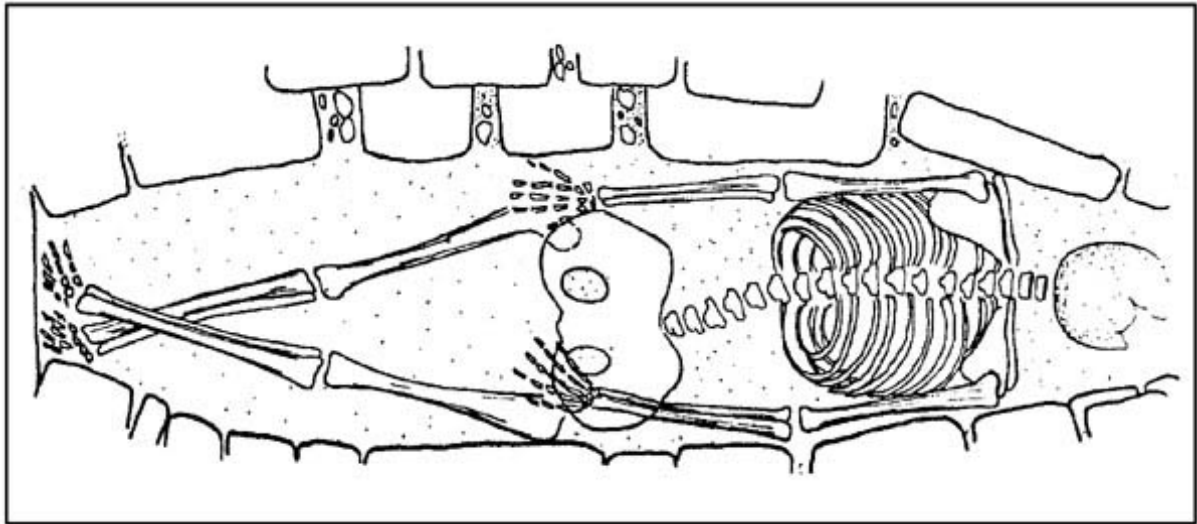


Figure 5. Floor plan of Burial 20 (north, upper section).

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 5 (MANIK 1 PHASE, EARLY CLASSIC PERIOD)

Since the beginning of the Early Classic period, the complexity of the East Platform increased remarkably by the construction of new versions that included a central temple (5D-86-5), two flat platforms at the ends of the foundation (5D-84-5 and -86-5), and two lower flat areas that allow communication through the upper part (5D-85-5 and -87-5). In other words, the model that considers three temples in the upper section of the extended foundation was not yet established; however, back in time some type of construction requiring stone walls and perishable roofs may have existed, but only one single small witness was found in the north section of 5D-84-5.

STAGES 5D-85-5 AND 5D-87-5

Both cases represented a platform with four stepped bodies and an average height of 4.70 m. The bodies had an average height of 1.15 m, with a 0.40 m slope and platforms of 0.85 m, with a length of 15.20 m on its west front. It included eight steps associated with the upper portion of Body 2, which seems to have served decorative purposes. These stepped bodies were used again in the subsequent construction stage represented by Manik 2. The platform suffered several remodeling works that resulted in its gradual elevation, and it is known that at least for the Manik 1 phase version of the Early Classic period, its height was of 4.60 m, to reach an altitude of 8.65 m in Manik 3.

STAGES 5D-84-5 AND 5D-86-5

In both extremes of the foundation and during Manik 1, the height climbed to 7.55 m, with a width of 28.30 m (that is to say, there were platforms of 2.85 m on top of the upper level). The architectural traits included two *talud*-shaped bodies with moldings to conjugate the changes and depressions in the outset corners, and there were remains of blue-black stucco. Notwithstanding the mutilation verified on the west front of Body 1, 5D-84-5 may be considered the best preserved building. It is possible that a temple was already built on top of this construction, considering that on the upper platform a part of the base of the north wall is still present, forming some kind of drainage. On the central area of the upper platform corresponding to this period, and during Manik 2, the tombs of Burials 24 and 25 were put in place, just like in 5D-86-5 with Burials 62 and 63.

STAGE 5D-86-5

The front stairway of the central temple shows evidence of several remodeling works accomplished in the present landing since the Cauac version, suggesting reuse during Manik 1 and perhaps during Manik. Within the refill that covered the previous 5D-86-4, there were stones with mural fragments featuring natural and geometric designs in red, black and orange color, possibly corresponding to the remains of the intentional mutilation verified in that version.

Architectural traits of the Manik 1 stage may be observed in Body 1 at the north and south sides. Also, part of the upper platform under the wall with the frieze in 5D-86-6 (Manik 2 phase) is still visible. A flight of a stairway was identified in association with one of the remodeling works verified at the landing level.

Interestingly, and in association with the normative axis of the structure –and consequently with the architectural assemblage itself-, under one of the East Plaza floors there is some kind of quadrangular bench and three postholes with a diameter of 0.15 m; it seems to be a quadrangular altar with dimensions of 2.80 x 2.90 m. It is probable that Stela 29 was set up during Manik 1, perhaps on the landing of the stairway or on the quadrangular bench at the foot of the structure.

It seems there was an intense ritual activity previous to the construction of the building associable to this stage, as well as of the plaza bench mentioned earlier. Some event with dramatic social implications took place in the deposit inside a large grave carved in the bedrock, involving the remains of 17 individuals among males, females and infants (Pijoan and Salas 1984), probably the victims sacrificed during a dedication event (Burials 22, 17 and 18; Figure 6). With the exception of several shell ornaments, they were accompanied by a ceramic offering of only two coarsely manufactured bowls and one phytomorph vase with a red slip (A-16 to 18, and 396), flint artifacts (L-76 to 78), 14 green stone hatchets (J-12 and 135), and ceramic discs. The utilitarian nature of the objects suggests that the sacrificed persons were not members of the elite. Some shell ornaments were accompanying the individuals, such as one bivalve necklace and a second necklace made with 112 tiny *prunum* snails (C-56 and 57). Comparatively, we should underline the wide geographical and

chronological distribution of this type of sacrifice, as reported in sites such as Cuello in Belize (Hammond 1991), Miramar in Chiapas (Agrinier 1978) and Salinas de los Nueve Cerros, in northern Alta Verapaz (Dillon 1977), among others.

In this respect, it is important to mention that this macabre event was a dedication to the construction of the radial platform located on the axis. If the construction of the platform was in fact related to the erection of a monument, which one might that have been? In previous occasions we have suggested that the ceramic, architectural and stratigraphic evidence shows conclusively that this platform could not have been built any later than AD 300, and the single contemporary monument known at Tikal is Stela 29 (8.12.14.8.15 – AD 292), which was found thrown away in an area close to Temple III (Jones and Satterthwaite 1982); therefore, the identity of the architectural assemblage that the monument was originally associated with is still debatable, so that the possibility that it was in fact the Lost World still stands as an appealing option.

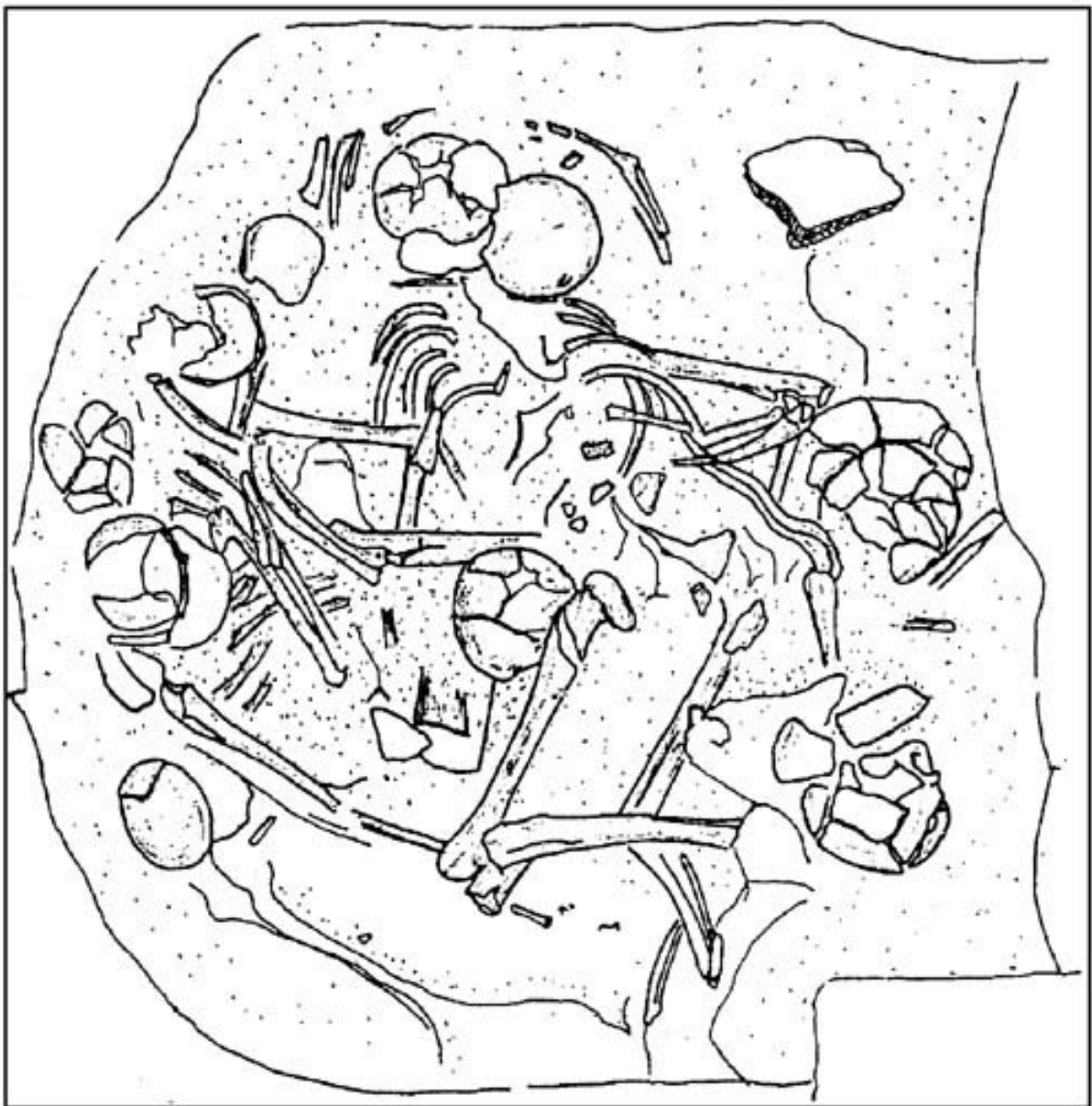


Figure 6. Floor plan of Burial 22 (north, upper section).

BURIAL 17

In an area situated in front of the structure is the secondary burial of an adult individual, whose sex could not be defined due to the limited elements available, which consisted of one fragment of a radius, another fragment of a fibula, and several bones of the hands and feet. With an indirect offering, as it is a part of Multiple Burial 22.

BURIAL 22

Placed inside a cavity carved in the rock at a depth of 1.45 under the surface, it has been assigned to Manik 1 (Burial 22). The burial was defined as a simultaneous, primary and indirect one, being integrated by approximately 17 individuals in a poor state of preservation, who could not be assigned a position due to the decay and accumulation of the bones. Five male adult individuals may be defined, together with five infants, two female adults and several undetermined ones. The skeletons were found under eight large limestones, among which one in particular may have been a fragment of a zoomorphic sculpture, apparently decapitated. As an offering, five bowls had been placed around the cavity, as well as a fragmented vase and part of a *mano*. In the north sector, inlaid in the rock, there was one utilitarian bowl with no handles, jammed by green stone hatchets. There were polisher fragments and one shell with the rim painted in red. There were ceramic discs with no perforations.

- One bivalve pendant (*Pectinidae*, *Lyropecten nodosus*; C-57)
- One necklace with 11 univalve pendants (*Prunum*; C-56)
- Two fragments of flint nodules with bark (L-76)
- Two flint slabs (L-77)
- One fragment of a quartz grinding stone (L-78)
- 14 polished and fragmented axes: eight were made of quartz, three of jadeite, one of albite, one of serpentine stone and one of limestone (J-12)
- One polished, formless axe, and one flake fragment, both quartzite (J-135)
- One vessel fragment (F-262)
- Miscellaneous materials (V-183)

- A-16: bowl, curved-convergent walls, straight neck, slightly everted, non thickened rim, rounded lip. Fragmented base; fragmented height; mouth 6 cm: height of the neck 3.2 cm. Ceramic type: Quintal Unslipped.

- A-17: Bowl, curved-convergent walls, straight neck, slightly inverted, non thickened rim, rounded lip. Fragmented base: mouth 8 cm: fragmented height: height of the neck 3 cm. Ceramic type: Quintal Unslipped.

- A-18: Flat bottom vase, possibly phytomorphic, straight-convergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 13.2 cm: height 28.5/28.8 cm; mouth 11.3 cm. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange or Sierra Red.

- A-398: Globular bowl, short, with curved and divergent neck; direct rim thickened at the outside, rounded lip. Maximum diameter 19.5 cm; mouth 12.2 cm; height 19.0/20.5 cm. Ceramic type: Triunfo Striated.
- In addition, Burial 16 was deposited –because of its stratigraphic location it was of the Manik 1 stage- placed directly in the 5D-86-4 stairway (Cauac), prior to the construction of the new 5D-86-5 version.

BURIAL 16

Placed between the first and second step that cover the stairway of 5D-86-4, this is the first primary and direct burial of an adult male, deposited in a flexed position with an east-to-west orientation, presently in a very poor state of preservation, with some skull fragments and diaphysis of the long bones. One upper central inciseive with dental mutilation was also found. As an offering, there were two plates placed rim against rim, and two perforated bucklers, two snails and two round stones. The ceramic offering corresponds to samples whose types still fall in the Late Preclassic classification.

- One univalve pendant with perforation (of the *Naticidae* family, *Natica canrena* sp.; C-58)
- One univalve shell with no perforation (undefined species; C-639)
- Miscellaneous materials (V-182)
- A-19: Flat bottom dish, curved and convergent walls, direct and non thickened rim, rounded lip. It presents a slight grooving in the outer part below the rim: base 8.5 cm; height 7 cm; mouth 18 cm. Ceramic type: Polvero Black (?)
- A-20: Flat bottom dish, curved and convergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer slip, except for the base. Base 16.5 cm; height 5 cm: mouth 23 cm. Ceramic type: Sierra Red.

Finally, another significant event which took place at the time of building the 5D-86-5 version was the construction of the first expression of a vaulted tomb in the Lost World area, in an action contemporary to the lining of the jaguar masks in the Preclassic version of Structure 5D-86, that is to day, on the axis of the architectural assemblage, in the northwest sector of Chamber 1 of 5D-86-4, for depositing Burial 21.

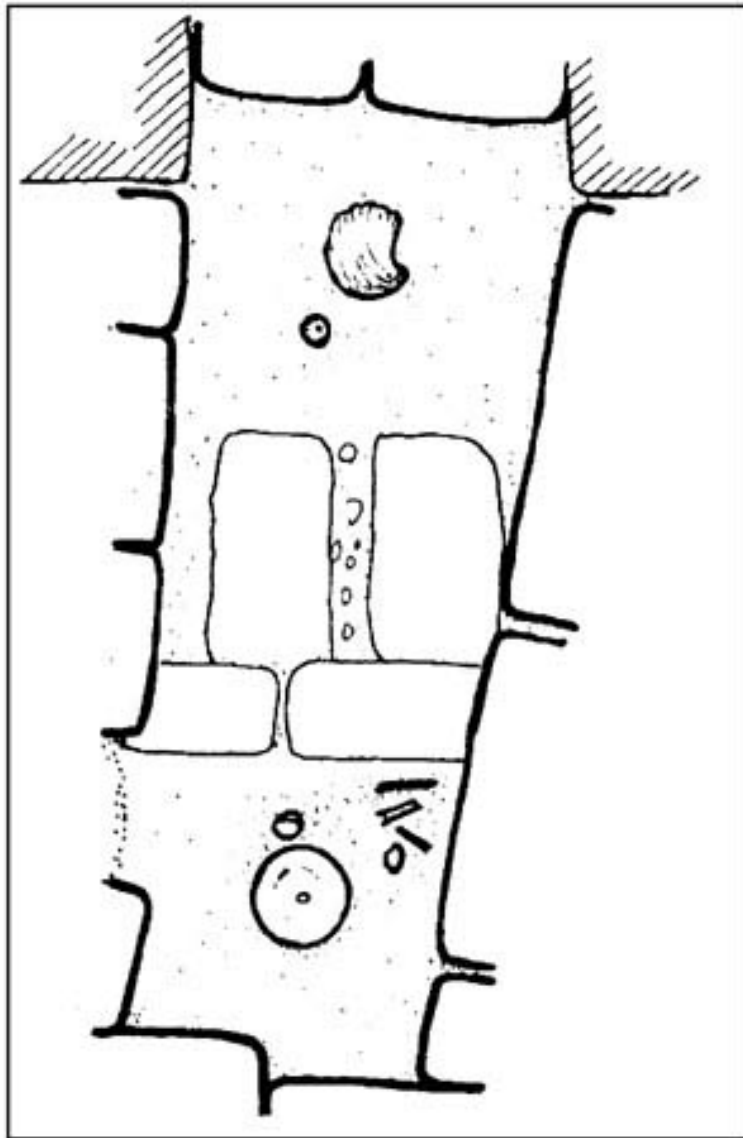


Figure 7. Floor plan of Burial 21 (north, in the upper section).

BURIAL 21

It contained an adult individual, probably a male, deposited in a tomb with a pentagonal section and therefore, divergent walls; the vault was elaborated with aligned and inwardly inclined slabs vertically placed, averaging a length of 0.75 m. It had no anchorage or keystone, and no cement or mortar (Figure 7). This peculiar chamber, located 1 m above the floor level, had a north-south orientation and a length of 2.35 m, an average width of 0.80 m, and a height of 1.15 m. There was evidence of removal and looting activities; therefore, the remains are of the secondary type and include six teeth and three incomplete metacarpal bones of a young adult individual (21-35 years), probably a female. The contents of the offering associated with this burial were removed during the remodeling works conducted at the building during the IV century AD, remaining in the interior only fragments of green stone ornaments –two beads and nine small incised adornments that were a part of some kind of mosaic (J-37 to 40), and shell, represented by a bracelet and 12 ornaments that are as well mosaic sections (C-85 to 88), one *Spondylus* shell with

no perforation (C-89) and an orange tetrapod vessel with mammiform supports and lid (A-202).

Nevertheless, the coincident introduction of a ritual offering during that architectural remodeling may indicate that the material obtained from the ancient looting was re-deposited, in a dedicatory action (Cache 10): it consisted of three Polychromed plates with mammiform supports, whose bottoms show designs that may have had astronomical connotations (A-209, 380, 381, 382); all this may have been consistent with the significance and localization of the tomb of this individual and with the meaning of the images depicted in the vessels.

Another piece that may have been a part of the same burial was a pectoral manufactured on a shell, which was found among the frontal collapses of the structure, perhaps a part of a different cache. This pectoral showed, on the ventral surface, four seriated glyphs in a single column which possibly represented one day, a verb, and some specific title, in the typical Early Classic fashion (C-84). On the dorsal surface there was a human silhouette in profile wearing a mask that represents the face of a zoomorphic deity with a long nose and a supra-orbital scale (Escobedo 1993). This design seems rather usual among materials associated with the Early Classic period, as observed in other shell artifacts, in molds and vessel scenes (Laporte and Fialko 1987; Iglesias 1987). Should our reconstruction of that offering be correct, it would clearly correspond to some high ranking individual connected with the leadership of the site, and probably represented an antecedent of the political events that led to a new collateral function for the Lost World, that is, one of a funerary kind.

- J-37 a bead with three perforations, made of jadeite
- J-38 six incised fragments of some mosaic or adornment, made of nephrite
- J-39 one bi-conical, perforated bead, made of jadeite
- J-40 three irregular incised fragments of some mosaic or adornment (two of them were made of jadeite and one was made of nephrite)
- C-85 a bracelet (undefined species)
- C-86 seven adornments or mosaics, cut sections (undefined species)
- C-87 three adornments or mosaics with an incised design (undefined species)
- C-88 other stirrup-shaped adornments or mosaics (undefined species)
- C-89 a bivalve shell with no perforation (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* sp.)
- C-84 a bivalve shell with a hieroglyphic inscription (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* sp.)

- A-202: Tetrapod dish with cylindrical, hollow, bulbous supports in its upper portion; the lower part of all the supports presents firing patches; the supports feature three elongated holes placed one at each side of their upper part, excepting the front; the bases of these supports present an inward inclination of the vessel, and they protrude from the vessel at the sides; concave base; straight walls; the rim is of the direct kind and shows thickening in its outer part, and the lip is perpendicular, showing a thickening in the joining section of the wall with the base; outer and inner orange slip; concave lid, with a thickened mouth; hollow, bulbous handle in its lower part, cylindrical in its upper part; the bulbous part presents nine grooves all around; inner and outer

orange slip; in the upper part the handle has entirely lost the slip and is also inclined, like the supports. Height of supports 6.0/7.4 cm; base 23.7 cm; height of walls 6.9 cm; mouth 22.2 cm; total height 15.5/15.7 cm; diameter of lid 23.9 cm; height of handle 4.5 cm; height of lid 10.1 cm; height of dish and lid 24.3/25.1 cm. Decoration: nine grooves in the lid handle. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

- A-209: Tetrapod place with hollow, mammiform, rattle supports, presenting two grooves 0.8 cm wide and 4.7 cm long, placed at the sides, and one circular hole with a diameter of 1 cm; concave base: straight divergent walls; everted rim thickened in the outer part, rounded lip. Height of supports 8 cm; base 34.7 cm; height of walls 2.5/2.9 cm; mouth 35.5 cm; total height 13.4 cm. Decoration: red and black on orange, the exterior is only orange; in the inner wall –on the orange base that covers the entire vessel- the rim was painted black; immediately under, inside a red band, there is a 1 cm wide red band; with a 0.3 cm separation, there is a line of the same color, 0.3 cm wide: the beginning of the bottom has been marked with a black line; the background presents a complicated geometric, abstract design. Ceramic type: Ixcario Orange Polychrome.
- A-380: Tetrapod dish with hollow mammiform supports; concave base; straight and divergent walls: direct rim slightly thickened in the exterior, perpendicular lip; due to the thickening of the rim and the basal breakage, the central portion of the wall has taken the shape of a panel 5 cm high, while in this area the hue is lighter than in the rest of the piece. Height of supports: 11.5 cm; base 27 cm: height of walls 7 cm, mouth 31.5 cm: total height 18.5 cm. Decoration: the lip is decorated with an incised line that runs all around the piece; inner and outer orange slip. Ceramic type: Aguila or Aguacate Orange.
- A-381: Tetrapod dish with hollow, mammiform supports with rattles: concave base; curved and divergent walls; beveled rim with exterior thickening, rounded lip. Height of supports: 8.5 cm: base 29.5 cm; height of walls 3 cm; total height 11.5 cm. Decorated in red and black/orange; outside, the wall is orange, except for two red bands 0.50 cm wide situated in the joining of the base with the wall and immediately under the rim, respectively; the rim shows alternate areas of red and orange, with a black, geometrical decoration; these areas are separated from one another by black lines; the joining of rim and wall is outlined by a black line, and immediately below there is a red band 0.5 cm wide; 0.3 cm below there is a red line 0.3 cm wide, while the rest of the wall is orange; the joining of the base with wall was highlighted with a black line; the base presents as its primary motif a sophisticated geometrical design in red and black; at both sides of this design there are five stylized frogs: the two corresponding to the extremes and the one in the middle are black, while the remaining two, placed in-between, are red. Ceramic type: Ixcario Orange Polychrome.
- A-382: Tetrapod-ish with hollow, mammiform support with rattles; flat base; curved and divergent walls; slightly everted rim, slight thickening in the outer part, rounded lip. Height of supports: 8.5 cm: base 34.2 cm: height of walls 4.5

cm; mouth 38.8 cm; total height 12.5 cm. Decoration in red and black/orange; in the exterior, the supports are red in the portion that looks to the outside, the wall is orange excepting for two red bands 10 cm wide located in the joining of the base with the wall and immediately below the rim; the decoration of the rim and the inner part of the vessel is very similar to that of vessel A-381, with the only difference that only three frogs were depicted at the sides, two painted red and the central one painted black. Ceramic type: Ixcanrio Orange Polychrome.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 6 (MANIK 2 PHASE, EARLY PRECLASSIC PERIOD)

The overall remodeling of all the structures formalizes a new construction stage that takes place at the beginning of the Manik 2 phase, around AD 300, in other words, the sixth stage for each one of these buildings. Given the complexity of each one of the temples that were being used at that time, we shall describe them individually.

STAGE 5D-84-6

A sixth version of Structure 5D-84 includes a foundation formed by three *talud*-shaped bodies; the third is the tallest one, and the corners include moldings. The vaulted temple with three chambers corresponds to this period. There is a possibility that the west front had an access stairway from Body 2. The height, up to the level of the temple's floor, averages 9.75 m, while its hypothetical width may have been of 24.30 m.

The temple connotes a severe collapse, being Chambers 1 and 3 the ones that suffered the greatest damage. The west edge of Chamber 1 still shows remains of an alignment in its middle sector. The back wall of Chamber 3 has entirely collapsed. The evidence obtained in Chamber 2 has yielded the best information to obtain a broader view concerning the overall dimensions of the temple. The original dimensions may have been of 15 m in length in a north-south direction, and 7.30 m in width, in an east-west direction. All three chambers integrating it, present the characteristics below.

In Chamber 1, the east wall presents three accesses that lead to Chamber 2. The two lateral elevated accesses at the north and south ends present two stairways (with risers of 0.30 m and treads of 0.35 m), to climb to the level of the elevated rooms of Chamber 2. The doorways of these accesses average a dimension of 0.90 m, while the width of the central access is of 2.40 m. All along the base of the wall there is a bench 0.18 m high and 0.35 m wide, that may have worked as an additional step.

Of the primary stage, Chamber 2 still exhibits an excellent blue-black stucco cover associated with the walls, a floor and a 0.28 m tall bench integrated to the east wall. Likewise, adjacent to the jambs at the interior of the west wall, there were bolts formed by a hollow space (0.24 x 0.20 m), to which a semi-oval stone of 0.20 x 0.06 m was integrated. The northeast end of this chamber still shows evidence of the springing line of the vault, at a height of 1.90 m from the floor level.

A step 0.40 m high and 2.25 m wide provides access to Chamber 3, with 10.65 m in length and 0.95 m in width. Notwithstanding this is the most collapsed chamber, we may still observe a remodeling of its north end, which conformed a vaulted chamber 0.52 m above the original level.

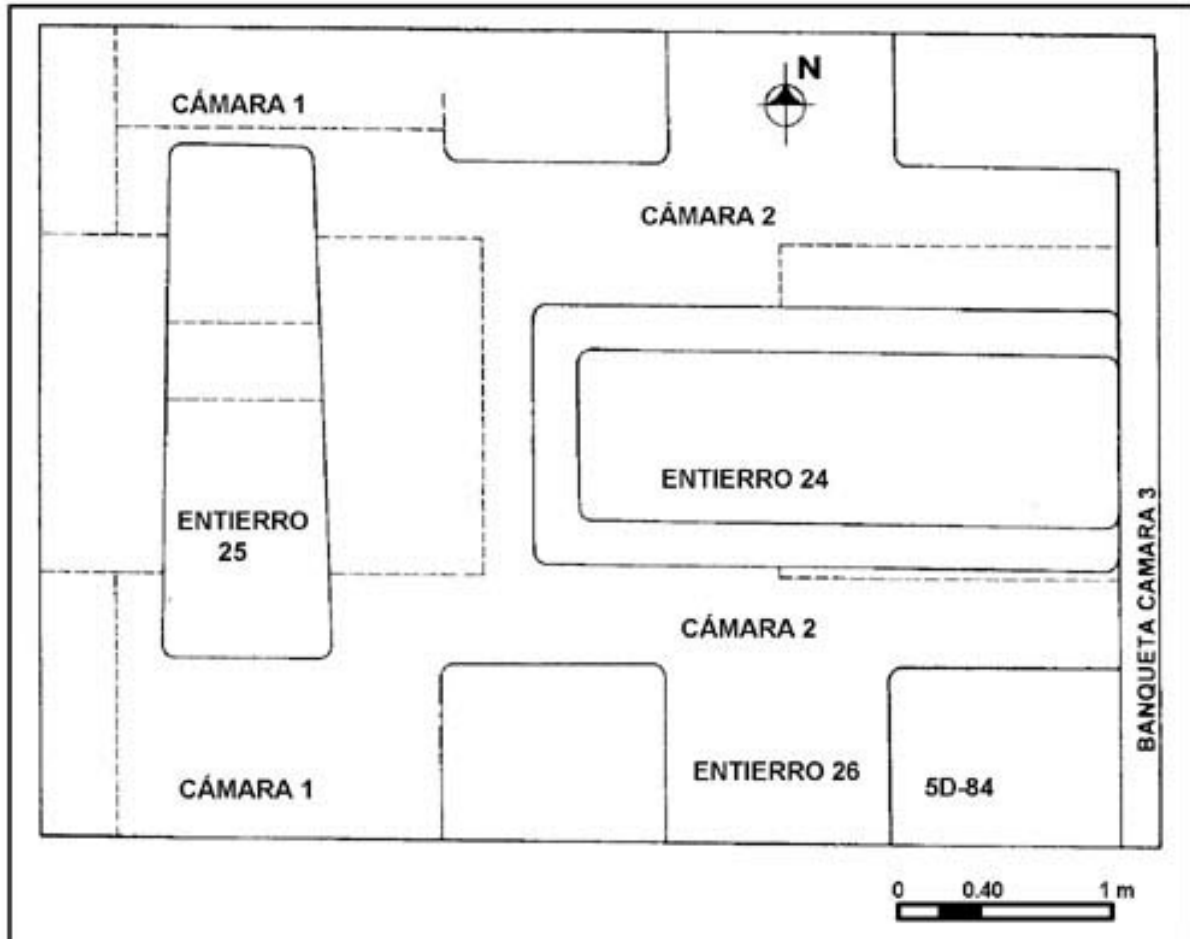


Figure 8. Floor plan of the upper building showing the location of three Burials, 5D-84.

Test pits were excavated in Chamber 1 (north and south ends); in Chamber 2 (north and south ends), and in Chamber 3 (middle section and north end), some of them to a depth of 4.90 m. Burials 24, 25, and 26 were discovered (Figure 8).

BURIAL 24

On the axis of Chamber 2, in a pit adjacent to the step that leads to Chamber 3, the floor was perforated, as well as a thick refill consisting of three superimpositions of slabs and limestones with cinnabar pigmentation, a part of a tomb's cover –at a depth of 1.38 m from the floor level- with the following dimensions: 2.43 m long from east to west, 0.75 m in width and 0.80 m in height, with a 91° orientation. It was sealed with six slabs averaging 0.95 m and a thickness of 0.30 m, some of which were cracked, possibly causing the collapse of a portion of the north wall. The inside was entirely covered by a thick coat of cinnabar (Figure 9).

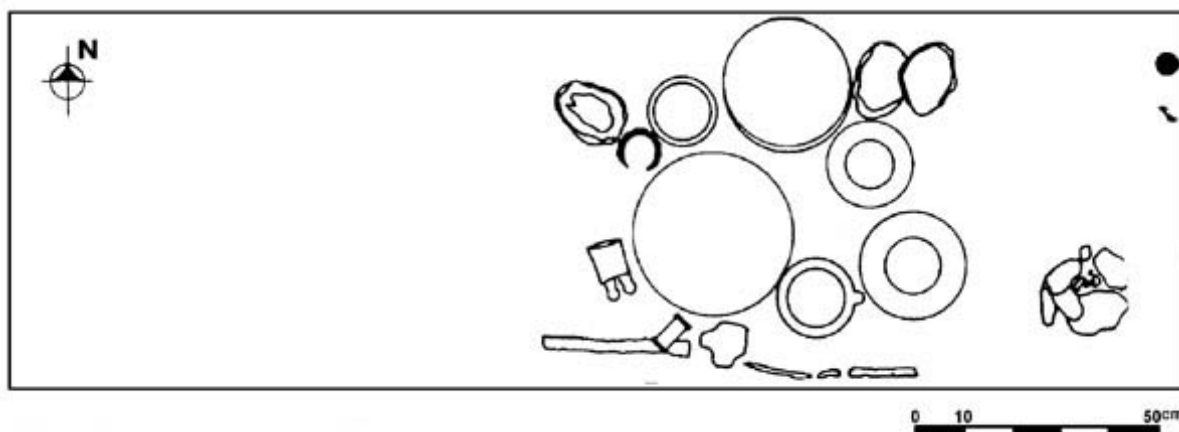


Figure 9. Floor plan of Burial 24.

This is the primary and indirect burial of an average adult individual (36-55 years of age), a female, deposited in an extended dorsal decubitus position, with sectors that were removed, probably due to the collapse of some portions of the tomb, which presented a west-to-east orientation. It shows a poor preservation, and includes the broken and incomplete skull, a fragment of the mandible, and fragments of long bones (left femur, a part of the iliac, and fragments of the left and right humerus bones). The skull presents an intentional erected tabular deformation. The bones were permeated with red paint (cinnabar). The contents of the ornament and the offering are as follows:

- A necklace composed of ten tubular and one semi-circular beads, made of jadeite and albite (J-47 and 49), and six spherical-sub-spherical shell beads of an undefined variety (C-96 and 97).
- Two perforated ear flares, made of jadeite (J-48).
- One bivalve pendant with perforation and two bivalve shells with no perforation, all of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* sp. (C-98, 99, and 100).
- Miscellaneous materials (V-139 to 142).
- A-73: Tetrapod dish, hollow conical supports, flat bottom, slightly straight-divergent walls, direct, thickened rim, beveled lip; lid with straight divergent walls and a flat upper section. Base 23.2 cm; height of walls 6 cm; height of dish 9.5/10 cm; height of lid 3.3 cm; diameter of the upper portion of the lid 23.7 cm; lower portion of the lid 25.2 cm; mouth 22 cm; height of supports 3 cm. Decoration: the outer part is decorated with four glyphs that extend up to the lid, with an incision at each side which also is continued in the lid; the upper portion of the lid presents a complicated design with a notched and incised decoration, being the main motif the face of a richly ornamented lord. Ceramic type: Urita Notched-Incised.
- A-74: Tetrapod, composite silhouette vase, with truncated conical and bulbous supports in the upper portion, solid, curved divergent walls in the lower part and straight walls in the upper part; this could be a miniature; the supports in its outer side have been painted red; direct, thinned rim, rounded lip; in the area close to the rim there are four tiny holes with a maximum

diameter of 0.5 cm. Height of the supports 2.9 cm; mouth 5.5 cm; maximum diameter 7 cm; height 9.2 cm. Decoration: the outer walls feature geometric and abstract designs in red, black and orange on buff. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

- A-75: Tripod bowl, hollow zoomorphic supports probably representing the face of a lizard, with two holes at the front and one at the back; curved convergent walls, direct, non-thickened rim, rounded lip; open spout 2.5 cm long and 2 cm wide; brown inner and outer slip up to the beginning of the neck; the rest of the body as well as the supports, show a rather coarse finishing; concave base. Mouth 8.5 cm; maximum diameter 11.5 cm; height 13.1/13.5 cm. Decoration of supports, possible lizards. Ceramic type: Pucte Brown.
- A-76: Plate or dish with annular base and basal flange, with concave lid, curved divergent walls, straight, non-thickened rim, rounded lip; lid with hollow cylindrical handle in its upper portion and then globular in the lower one; the lower portion has three circular holes of 1.3 cm, slightly shifted to one side. Base 12.4 cm; mouth 27.7 cm; height 13 cm; diameter of lid 31 cm: height of lid 14 cm; total height of dish and lid 26.4 cm. Outer decoration in red and black on buff or red, black and buff on orange; it is heavily damaged and has a black rim, below which, in the inside, there is a red band delimited in its lower portion by a thin black band; below this band there is an additional black line, all on an orange background that covers the entire interior; erosion has made it impossible to observe the design that ornament the outside, which seems to be of the abstract type, made in red, black and buff on orange. Ceramic type: Yaloche Cream Polychrome.
- A-77: Tetrapod cylinder, hollow, truncated, conical supports with rattles, bulbous in its upper portion, and with a hole in the upper part of their interior; concave base, curved divergent walls, direct, non-thickened rim, rounded lip; concave lid, solid zoomorphic handle representing an insect, the rim of the lid is black. Height of supports 5 cm in their outer part; mouth 10 cm: height 14.5 cm; diameter of lid 10.6 cm, height of lid 4 cm. Decoration: the design, in red, black and orange on buff depicts a bird with a rather complex design on its back; this design is repeated twice, and both representations are separated by black stripes; the rim is black, and inside and below there is a red stripe and a black line; the rest is orange; this could be a turkey; the design of the lid is orange and black on buff; the handle is an insect. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-78: Tetrapod cylindrical vase, hollow cylindrical supports with 10 small holes in the upper front; flat bottom; walls slightly curved and divergent in its upper part, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; concave lid, hollow zoomorphic handle representing a bird, possibly a heron. Height of supports 2.8 cm; base 8.7 cm; mouth 9.3 cm; diameter of lid 10.3 cm; height of lid 6.4/6.7 cm; height 20.7/21 cm; height of walls 11.4 cm. Decoration: the outer walls show six vertical bands of black glyphs, separated from one another by red and black bands, all on a buff background which in turn was placed on the orange base; the rim is black; the inside presents a red band under the rim, and all the rest is orange; the handle is representing a bird, the designs are

black, red and orange on buff; the sides of the bird display geometric designs. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

- A-79: Composite silhouette dish, annular base, straight divergent walls, direct rim, slightly beveled lip. Base 8 cm; mouth 16.5 cm; height 7.6 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-80: Composite silhouette dish, annular base, Z-angled, curved divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim and rounded lip. Base 8.2/8.5 cm; height 6.9/7.3 cm; mouth 19 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

BURIAL 25

The floor was perforated on the axis of Chamber 1 –to find a previous stucco level 8 cm below. A thick refill layer was removed, consisting of seven limestone slabs (with average 0.95 m in length and 0.30 m in width), aligned in a north-south orientation. The chamber was 2.70 m long from north to south, with a 0.70 m average width, and a height of 0.90 m (Figures 10 to 12). Both the walls and the interior of the slabs that sealed the tomb were covered with cinnabar. The tomb's floor corresponded to the level of the platform of the substructure identified as 5D-84-5, of the Manik 1 span.

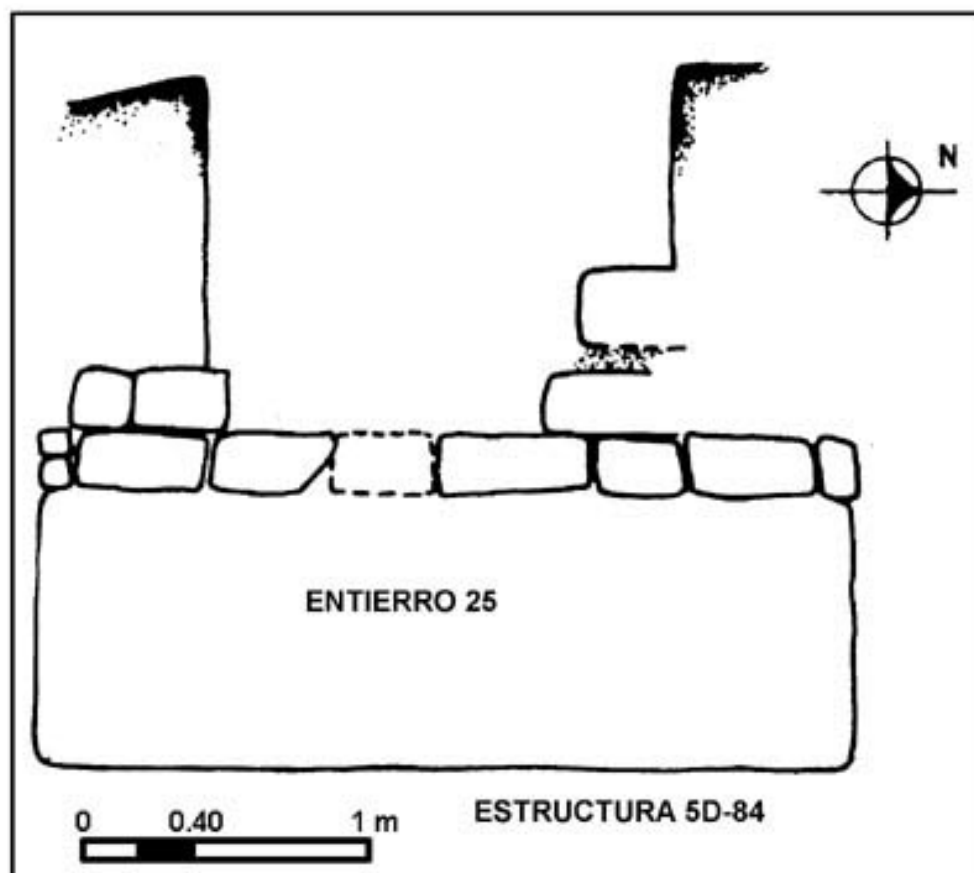


Figure 10. Section of the chamber, Burial 25.

This is the primary and indirect burial of a young male adult individual (21-35 years of age), deposited in an extended ventral decubitus position and with a north-south

orientation. It is poorly preserved, and consists of a head with a facial portion of mandible and incomplete post-cranial bones. The cranium presents an intentional erected tabular deformation and one lateral incisor has an inlay. The offering concentrates on the pelvic region. The content of the offering –pointing to the Manik 2 phase- is as follows:

- Two bivalve pendants with perforations (of the *Spondylidae* family; *Spondylus princeps* sp.; C-92 and C-93, associated with the cranium in the left sector, one on top of the other).
- One bivalve shell with no perforation (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* sp.; C-94).
- Two tubular beads and one flat bead or disc with perforation, made with a shell of an undefined species (C-90 and 91), probably part of a necklace.
- One stingray spine (C-95).
- One jadeite pectoral in the shape of a rectangle with four perforations (J-50), probably part of the same necklace with shell beads mentioned earlier.
- Fragments of what may have been a pyrite mirror.
- Miscellaneous materials (V-72).

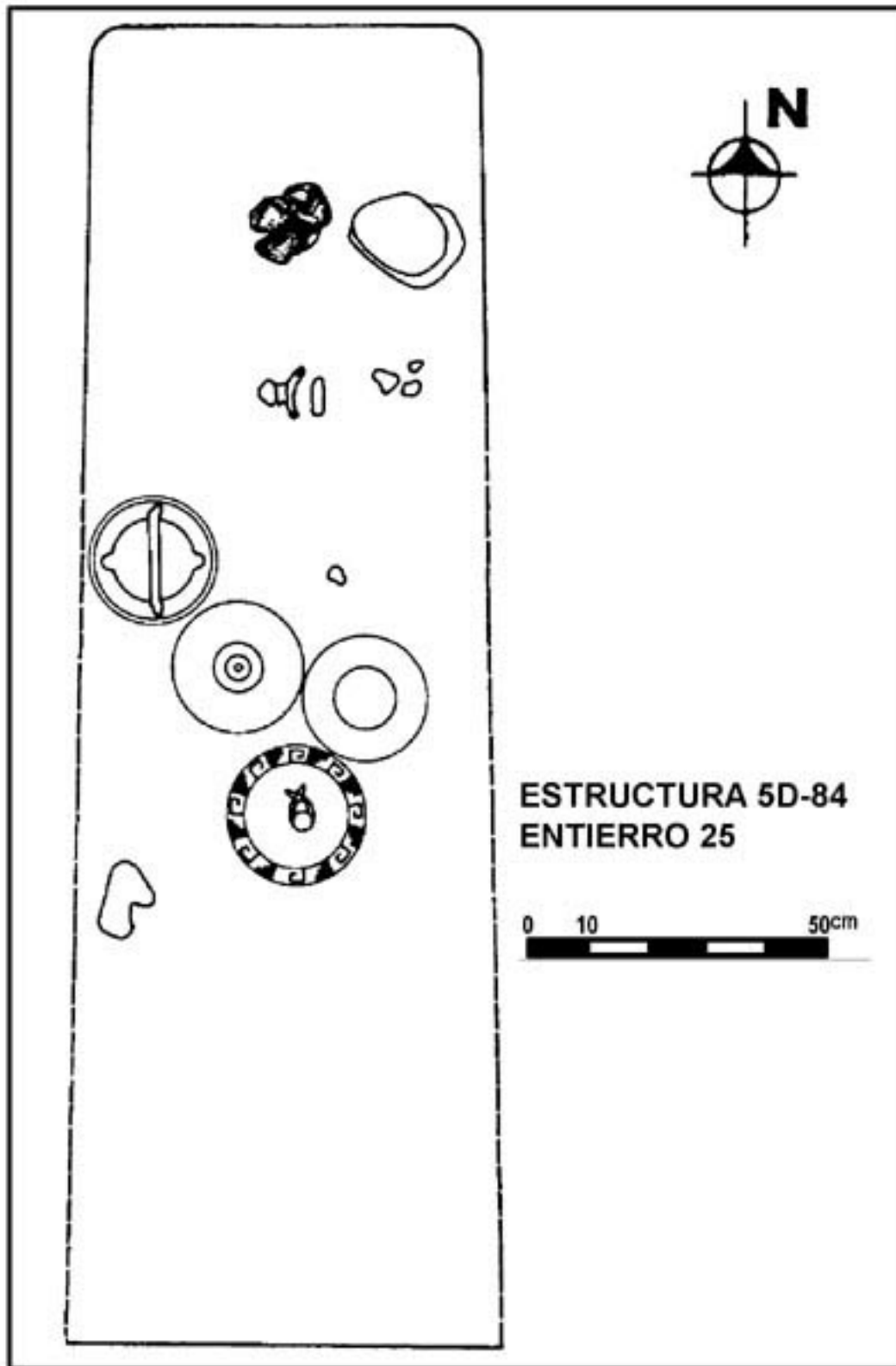


Figure 11. Floor plan of Burial 25 showing the position of offerings.

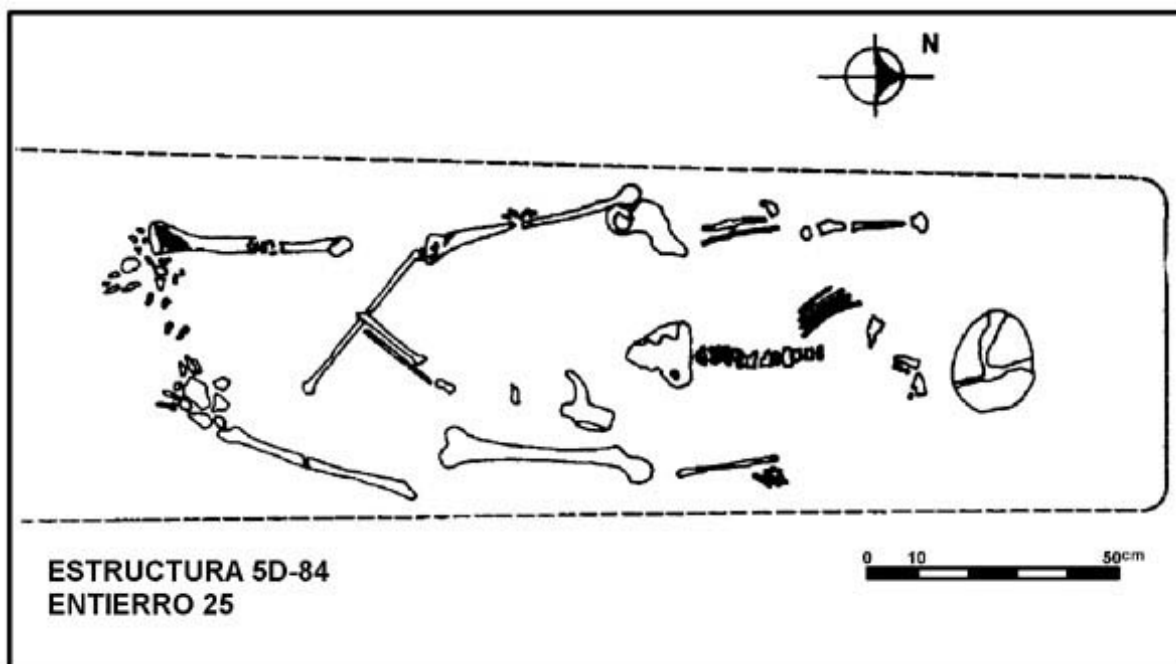


Figure 12. Floor plan showing the bone remains in Burial 25.

- A-81: Annular base dish, basal flange, straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 9.5 cm; mouth 20 cm; height 7.0/7.3 cm; height of the wall 4.5 cm. Decoration: the central portion of the bottom includes an incised post-fired five-peaks star. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-82: Hollow zoomorphic vessel representing a bird (a macaw or a parrot); the head and the rest of the body show no communication, suggesting that the different parts of the vessel were separately manufactured; the body is entirely globular; there are large firing patches, the beak zone shows two holes, one at each side, and the back part of the head has a groove. Mouth 8.5 cm (the mouth is the seat of the vessel): maximum diameter 13.8 cm; height 13 cm. Decoration: it depicts a macaw or a parrot. Ceramic type: SD/Modeled, Aguila group.
- A-83: Inverted plate on its lid, both found inside vessel A-084. It is a plate or dish with an annular base, Z-angles, straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; it represents a stylized bird, which is repeated twice; apparently the base had no slip; conical truncated lid with semi-tubular hollow haft. Base 10 cm; mouth 22 cm; height 9.5 cm; lid diameter 23 cm; height of lid 14.5 cm. Decoration: the outer part in black and red on orange, representing a stylized bird that is repeated twice; the rim is black and the entire inside is orange, with the exception of a red band below the border; very poorly polish in relation with the other Polychrome types; the decoration of the lid was accomplished with simple designs consisting of red and black stripes on an orange base; polish was poor. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

- A-84: Annular base dish, Z-angled, straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 10.5 cm; mouth 23.3 cm; height 7.9 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-85: Annular base dish, Z-angles, the salient portion of the angle shows four clefts 3.5 cm long, for decoration; straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; outer and inner orange slip, although the base is entirely patched by firing; truncated conical lid with composite hollow handle, globular in the lower part and conical in the upper one; inner and outer orange slip on the lid. Base 12 cm; mouth 25 cm; height 10 cm; diameter of lid 26 cm; height of lid 10.0/10.5 cm; height of both dish and lid 19.5 cm. Decoration: the salient part of the angle shows four clefts; the upper part of the handle has two incised lines that cross, forming a cross. Ceramic type: Pucte Brown.
- A-86: Annular base dish or plate, basal flange, straight divergent walls, concave lid with anthropomorphic hollow handle. Base 11 cm; mouth 25 cm; height 11 cm; diameter of lid 25.8 cm; height of lid 13 cm; height of dish and lid 25 cm. Decoration: complex and abstract designs in red, gray, black and buff on orange at the outside, with a triple repetition of this identical motif, separated from one another by black panels; the rim is black, up to the outer half, and red inside, the red color extending in a band approximately 1 cm wide; the rest of the inner part is orange, with the exception of two small lines, one of which defines the limits between the red and the orange areas; the anthropomorphic handle includes a knotted necklace, painted on the lid; all around, there are geometrical designs in red, black and orange on buff. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

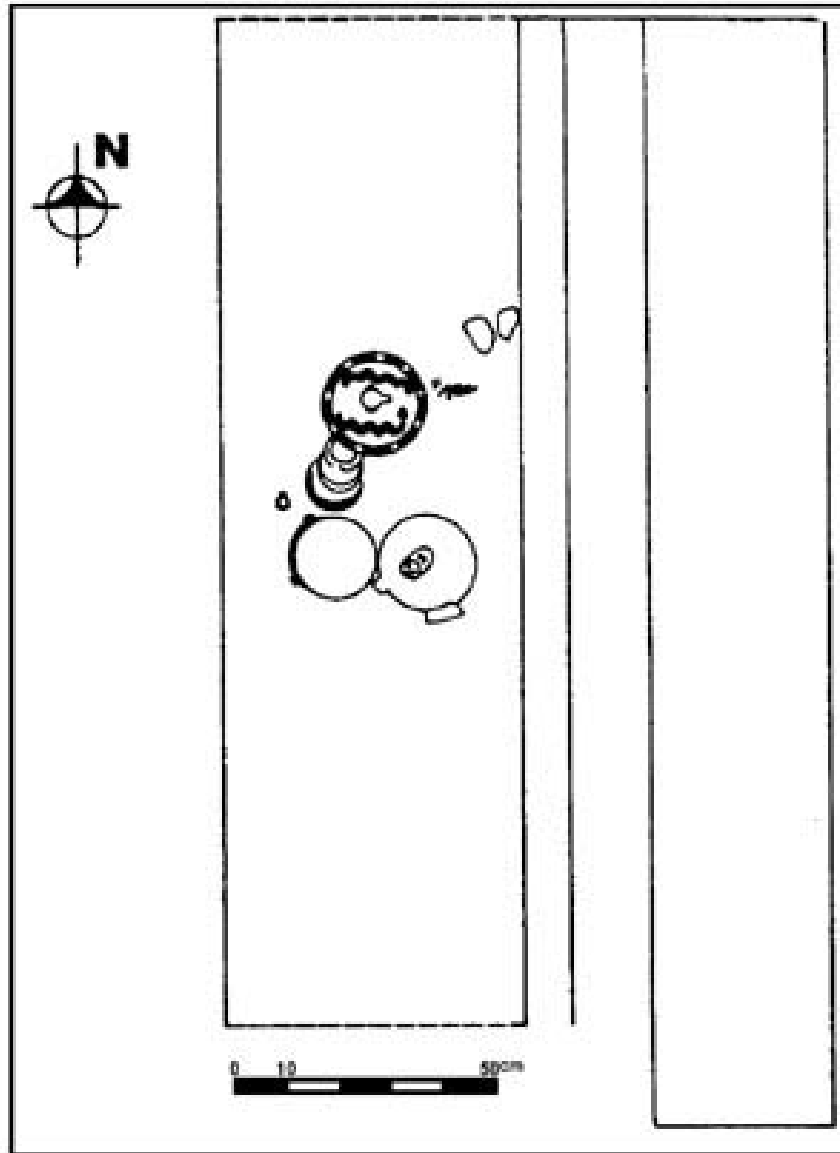


Figure 13. Floor plan of Building 26 showing the location of the offerings.

BURIAL 26

In the south precinct of Chamber 2, where a previous looting was attempted, the floor corresponding to a late remodeling work conducted at both the chamber and the floor level that supports the temple was perforated. A burial was revealed, introduced under a rather weak refill; it was not associated with a vaulted grave like Burials 24 and 25, and neither to a support floor. This was a primary and direct burial, merely consisting of the fragmentary evidence of an infant's skull (0-3 years of age), pushed into a cluster of stones adjacent to the east wall of the chamber. The offering may have occupied the pelvic area (Figure 13). Its poor preservation made it impossible to define a position, but it is possible that it was from north to south; the burial revealed cranial and teeth fragments. The offering –dating to the Manik 2 phase- included the following:

- Jadeite pectoral with two perforations (J-46), found inside vessel A-91.

- Shell fragments associated with vessel A-89; one ornament or paraphernalia resembling a shark's tooth (C-102), of an undefined material, and a tri-valve shell with no perforation (family of the *Spondylidae*, *Spondylus princeps* sp.; C-103).
- Set of 36 miniature and circular beads, made of jadeite, nephrite and albite (J-44), and 61 flat shell beads (C-101), found spread all around, evidently part of a necklace.
- Ear flare with five perforations associated with the green stone and shell bead necklace (J-45).
- One prismatic, gray obsidian blade (L-16).
- Miscellaneous materials (V-72).
- A-87: Annular base dish, Z-angled, straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip, open spout 3.4 cm long and 3.8 cm wide on the outside; base with no slip. Base 9.2/9.4 cm; mouth 17.5/17.9 cm; height 7.3/7.8 cm. Decoration: geometric designs in red and black on white or cream, at the outside; inside, it is orange with a small red stripe in the edge, and a black line separating both colors. Ceramic type: Yaloche Cream Polychrome.
- A-88: Hollow anthropomorphic figurine representing a crooked or hunchbacked individual; it has a hole at the base and two on his back; the eyes, ear flares and nostrils are punched, the mouth is incised, and the fingers of the hands and feet are insinuated with black lines; the base is flat. Found inside dish A-87. Height 9.5 cm. Decoration: painted in red and black on buff. Ceramic type: ND/Modeled of the Dos Arroyos group, affiliated to Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-89: Composite silhouette bowl, Z-angled, hollow, conical-truncated bulbous supports in the upper part; the outer side of the upper portion of the supports is painted red; they have three holes; a concave base, straight walls, direct, non thickened rim, perpendicular lip; concave lid with solid, zoomorphic handle representing a bird (turkey). Base 18 cm; mouth 15.8 cm; height 12 cm; height of wall 6.5 cm; height of support 5.5 cm; diameter of lid 17.9 cm; height of lid 8 cm; height of vessel and lid 19.5 cm. Entirely orange inner decoration excepting a red band in the rim and two slim black lines; one of them divides the red area from the orange one: black rim; the outer decoration represents the plumage of a rather stylized bird, in red, black and gray on buff; it features abstract designs all around. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-90: Composite silhouette dish, because of the connection with the supports integrated to the basal flange of the dish; hollow supports with rattles, that are semi-cylindrical in the lower part and bulbous in the upper part; tetrapod; straight divergent walls, direct, non thickened rim, slightly perpendicular lip; the base presents a hole on one side, practiced from outside in, probably with the purpose of "killing" the vessel. Base 17.2, mouth 16 cm, total height 9.5 cm; height of wall 5.5 cm; height of support 3.5 cm. Decoration: very complex outer designs in red, black, orange and gray on buff; orange interior, with the exception of a red band that covers the rim and its adjacent area; a slim black line was painted near the end of the red area; 0.2 cm below, there is a black

band 0.3 to 0.5 cm wide, and still 0.2 cm below, another black line is visible. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

- A-91: Convex base bowl, curved convergent walls, straight neck, slightly divergent in the upper part, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; the outer black slip is present as of the appliqué medial base to the lip, and in the inside it extends to the neck area; from the appliqué band and downwards there is no slip, and the surface presents striations. Base 6 cm; height 8.7/9.3 cm; mouth 8.5 cm; maximum diameter 13.5 cm; height of neck 1.9 cm. Decoration: appliqué band around the middle section of the body with impressed decoration. Ceramic type: ND/A Balanza group composite.
- * A-92: Bowl or mug, annular base, very thin curved convergent walls, curved divergent neck, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip, open spout 2.5 cm long and 2.1 cm wide, interior black slip, no outer slip; outside the spout and under the neck it presents small slip stains. Inside A-91. Base 4.5 cm; height 5.9/6.2; mouth 4.8 cm; maximum diameter 6.5 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Discordia Black.
- A-93: Bowl or mug, annular base or pedestal, very thin walls, curved convergent, straight divergent neck, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip, broken open spout, black inner slip, and outer slip up to the middle section of the body. Base 5.5/5.9 cm; height 6.6/6.9 cm; mouth 6.3 cm; maximum diameter 8.8 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Discordia Negro.

STAGE 5D-86-6

The basal platform consisted of four *talud*-shaped bodies, currently visible, with a total height of 10.65 m, averaging each 2.65 m, a 19° incline and a 0.50 m platform. There was a vaulted temple in the past, though no evidence of it was found.



Figure 14. Detail of a captive's stucco figure from frieze 5D-86-6.

In association with the upper platform there is a frieze with incised designs associated with the west wall. The frieze consisted of an incised panel that ranged from 0.50 to 0.60 m in height, and a length of 3 m from north to south. It represents, in red stucco, a scene with five captives kneeling down on one of their knees (Figure 14); one single rope is tying their hands at front; under their arms they are wearing a band that extends to their backs, and they are carrying the following objects:

- the captive at the north end is looking south, and carries in his back a deer head with a lily in its mouth;
- the central captive is also looking south, and carries a human head with a knot in the neck;
- the captive of the south end is looking north, as well as the fourth and fifth characters that appear severely damaged;
- they all show facial mutilations;
- a number of burnt sectors were observed.

Nevertheless, this would not seem to have been a much extended construction stage, as the frieze was partially destroyed as well as the supporting floor, and the deposit was located in the constructive stage subsequent to Burial 19.

STAGE 5D-85-6 AND 5D-87-6

In the two communicating areas of the three temples, that is to say, in Structures 5D-85 and 87, a sixth version was built. In both cases a stairway with 12 steps was added, both leading to the Upper Platform from the west side. It was not verified whether that remodeling work was also accomplished on the west front. The steps average treads and risers of 0.38 m. The length of the stairway at its base is of 4.20 m and its upper part was of 8.90 m.

STAGE 5D-66-6

The foundation consisted of three *talud*-shaped bodies, with an approximate height of 9.75 m; on top of it rested the first temple with evidence of having had a vault. This architectural version corresponded to the stage when Burials 62 and 63 were deposited. The west front, and as of Body 2, showed vestiges of a frontal stairway that led to the temple. The width of the foundation was calculated in 25.35 m.

The temple is in a poor state of preservation, and the front and back walls have collapsed entirely. Dimensions of 15.20 x 7.75 were estimated for the outer part of the temple. Chamber 1 was 1.25 m wide and 12.65 m long. The east wall presents ledges in the north and south ends, as well as three accesses to Chamber 2. The lateral north and south accesses, with a width of 0.95 m, included two steps that lead to rooms elevated 1.15 and 1.20 m respectively. The central access was 2.35 m wide. Chamber 2 was rectangular in shape, and dimensions were 10.35 x 0.95 m. There was no additional evidence of Chamber 3; however, a rectangular floor plan of 10.55 x 0.95 m was hypothesized.

BURIAL 62

In a pit excavated on the east-west axis of Chamber 2, at a depth of 1.80 m, there was a tomb with a rectangular floor plan oriented from east to west, with a length of 2.60 m and an average width of 0.85 m. The walls, 1.10 m tall, were covered with seven slabs averaging 1.10 x 0.40 x 0.22 m. The inner walls were lined with stucco, and it still exhibits vestiges of red pigment (cinnabar).

It contained the primary and indirect burial of a young male adult (21-35 years of age), deposited in extended dorsal decubitus position, and oriented from east to west. Preservation is poor, and it consists of cranial and post-cranial skeleton fragments; the bones are permeated with red paint. There is an upper canine showing pyrite inlays of the E-1 type.

The offering was deposited during the Manik 2 phase, and was placed on the chest, the stomach, and at both sides of the individual.

- One snail labret with a serrated rim (C-115)

- Three bivalve pendants with perforation (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* species; C-119 to 121)
 - Eight univalve pendants with perforation (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* species; C-123)
 - Five carving refuses (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* species; C-117, 118, 122).
 - A disc with no perforation which may have been the base of a mosaic (undefined species; C-641).
 - One gray obsidian blade (L-27)
 - One artifact (L-817)
 - One ear flare with four insinuated perforations (J-56)
 - One pectoral with a trilobe shape and three bi-conical perforations (J-57)
 - One phytomorphic bead with lateral perforation (J-58)
 - Eleven fragments of adornments or refuse fragments, jadeite (J-331)
 - One cylindrical bead, jadeite (J-204)
 - Miscellaneous materials (V 70, 144 to 155, and 168)
- A-167: Bowl or mug with an annular base, curved convergent walls, short straight divergent neck, pointed rim, open spout 2.5 cm wide and 3.5 cm long; the interior contained red pigment and some kind of perishable material which, due to the vessel's position, was found only in the spout section; inner black slip, no slip at the outside. Base 7.5 cm; height of the base 1.5 cm; maximum diameter 12 cm: mouth 9.8 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Balanza Black.
 - A-169: Flat bottom bowl, strongly curved convergent walls, short, divergent curved neck; direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; a sherd circularly cut corresponding to the Aguila-Red-Orange type was used as a lid; the slipped part of the "lid" is on the outside, while the inner part shows that the sherd was originally the annular base of a vessel; there was resin in the inside. Base 7 cm: maximum diameter 18 cm: mouth 11.2 cm; height 10.3 cm; no decoration. Ceramic type: Pucte Brown.
 - A-169: Bowl (mug), annular base, curved convergent walls, short, straight divergent neck, direct, non thickened rim, rounded lip; open spout 2.5 cm wide and 3.5 cm long; inner and outer black slip, almost entirely eroded in the outer part of the body, on the side opposite to the spout. Base 8.2 cm; height of base 2 cm; maximum diameter 13 cm; mouth 11.5 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Balanza Black.
 - A-170: Composite silhouette bowl, flat base, extremely straight divergent wall up to a height of 5 cm, where the angle suffers an abrupt change and the wall becomes curved and convergent; short, straight divergent neck, non thickened direct rim, rounded lip; it was coated with an orange slip which apparently extended from the break area of the body at the outside, to the beginning of the neck in the inside; there were three small bulges or appliqués in the break area of the body, probably four of them, but the vessel was fractured precisely where the fourth appliqué was probably placed; it was no longer there. Base 8.3 cm; height 8 cm: mouth 11 cm. Decoration: appliqués

present in the break area of the body. Ceramic type: ND/Appliqué of the Aguila group.

- A-171: Hollow zoomorphic vessel with red-orange slip representing a bird (a macaw or parrot); the wall of the head and the rest of the body have no communication whatsoever, suggesting that the different parts of the vessel were separately manufactured: the body was entirely globular in shape, and the mouth functioned as the base of the vessel; it had appliqués, which formed the wings and the tail. Mouth 9.5 cm (it worked as the base of the vessel); maximum diameter 13.5 cm; maximum height 14.5 cm. Ceramic type: ND/Molded, of the Aguila group.
- A-172: Composite silhouette dish, flat base, slightly straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip, open spout 4.5 cm wide and 3.5 cm long; inner and outer brown slip. Base 7.5 cm; height 7.5 cm; mouth 18 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Pucte Brown.
- A-173: Composite silhouette dish with lid and bird handle, annular base, basal flange, with six bulges and or appliqués (of which one was missing) that represented a turtle; slight direct divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; concave lid with zoomorphic hollow handle representing a bird (a duck or a heron), and painted brown or black; the beak area was painted red; the rest of it shows a polychrome decoration depicting the plumes of the bird; the interior is orange. Base 8.5 cm; height 6.5 cm: mouth 16 cm. Decoration: polychrome, entirely orange in the inside except for two slim black lines less than 0.1 cm wide, separated from one another by 1.5 cm; the rim area is red and 0.5 cm wide; at the outside, the red area of the rim is 0.2 cm wide and is separated from the rest of the wall by a thin black line: the rest of the wall and the upper part of the flange are decorated with orange and black designs on a buff ground, which are repeated all around the vessel; the basal flange shows the shape of a turtle and the handle is representing a bird. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-174: Composite silhouette dish with lid and cylindrical handle, annular base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; almost conical lid, hollow cylindrical handle. Base 11.3 cm; height 10 cm: mouth 23.5 cm; diameter of lid 23.5 cm; height of lid 14 cm: height of dish and lid 22 cm. Decoration: Polychrome, orange interior excepting a red band 0.9 cm wide placed immediately below the rim, which is black; the outer part has three panels separated by areas in black, displaying an abstract design in red, black and orange on buff; the lid has a polychromed decoration in red, black and orange on buff, and the interior is entirely orange. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-175: Tetrapod composite silhouette dish with bird handle, hollow bulbous cylindrical supports with three holes; concave base, straight divergent walls, non thickened rims, rounded lip; concave lid with hollow, zoomorphic handle representing a bird (turkey); the handle was added to the lid once it was manufactured, as no communication exists between both. Height of supports 7 cm: base 21 cm: height of walls 7 cm; mouth 23.3 cm; total height 14 cm;

diameter of lid 22.5 cm; height of lid 14.5 cm; height of dish and lid 28 cm. Decoration: polychrome, apparently the interior was entirely orange (very damaged for the limestone filtrations inside the tomb); black rim, walls decorated with designs of the abstract type in red and black on buff; the supports and base were orange: the lid represented a bird and had a polychromed decoration in red and black on buff, with designs depicting the plumage of the bird in the lid; brown interior. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

- A-176: Composite silhouette plate with macaw panels, annular base, basal flange, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 12 cm; height of walls 8.5 cm; mouth 33 cm; total height 12.5 cm. Decoration: polychrome, interior entirely orange except for a black line 0.1 cm wide placed 1.5 cm below the rim and of a red band in the area adjacent to the rim, 1.2 cm wide; the outer part shows four panels separated from one another by a black zone, and they include the representation of a flying bird (a macaw) in red and black on buff; the upper portion of the flange has also been decorated in red and black on a buff ground. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-177: Truncated conical lid, hollow handle with composite figure (bulbous in the lower part and cylindrical in the upper part); it is the lid of A-183 but was assigned a different number, as they were found disassociated from one another. Diameter 17 cm; height 10 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-178: Hollow zoomorphic vessel representing a monkey; basic brown slip, and above, black lines that complete the body of the animal (legs and tail); likewise, eyes, ears and mouth were emphasized; the mouth is the base of the vessel; the head and the tail were made with an appliqué, as the different parts of the vessel were not communicated with one another: the head presents hollows in the mouth and under the ears: apparently, the tail also served as a handle. Mouth 9.5 cm (it is the base of the vessel); maximum diameter 14 cm; maximum height 13 cm. Decoration: black lines representing the legs and tail of a monkey. Ceramic type: Alianza Black on Coffe, Pucte group.
- A-179: Composite silhouette dish (Z-angled), annular base: straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; open spout 2.8 cm long and 4 cm wide, orange interior, black rim, brown or orange exterior. Base 8.5 cm; height 5 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Alianza Black on Brown, Pucte group.
- A-180: Annular base dish, basal flange, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, perpendicular lip, concave lid with hollow zoomorphic handle representing the head of a feline (leopard) with open jaws showing its fangs and tongue. Base 13 cm; height of walls 6.6 cm: mouth 31.2 cm; total height 11.2 cm; diameter of lid 31 cm. Decoration: polychrome, entirely orange interior with the exception of a red band 1 cm thick located immediately below the rim, and two thin black lines 0.1 cm wide each, placed immediate below the red band and the other one 1.5 cm below the latter; in the outer part, the rim and its adjacent area (0.6 cm) are black, and immediately below there is a

cream line 0.3 cm wide; then the area continues with the main design, of the abstract type, in red, black and orange/cream and is repeated four times, in four panels, separated each by black areas; the upper part of the flange is decorated with the "hand bell" design in its triangular variety in black; the edge of the flange is red, and between the design and the red area there are two thin black lines (less than 0.1 cm wide each), always on a cream ground; the decoration of the lid is polychrome, in red, black and orange/cream: the feline body represented in the handle extends to the surface of the lid, and is orange and black: the area nearby the rim is decorated with a group formed by three simple designs in orange, black and red, respectively. This group is repeated five times all around the lid; the designs are separated from the rest of the lid in its upper part by two black bands (0.7 cm wide) and a red band (0.4 cm), and in its lower part by a black band (0.2 cm) and a red one 0.5 cm); the latter presents a 0.3 cm separation from the rim; the rim is red. Ceramic type: Yaloche Cream Polychrome.

- A-181: Hollow zoomorphic vessel (very similar to vessel A-178) depicting a monkey; brown slip, with several areas painted black in order to make them stand out (mouth, ears, nose, eyes, tail); the extremities have been outlined by modeling them on the piece, no color was observed; the head and tail consist of appliqués, as the different parts of the vessel are not communicated with one another; the head has holes behind the ears, and it would seem that the tail also worked as a handle. Mouth 9.1 cm (base of the piece); maximum height 13.5 cm. Decoration: areas in black to make the mouth, ears, nose, eyes and tail stand out; modeling, to represent the extremities. Ceramic type: Alianza Black on Brown, Pucte group.
- A-182: Composite silhouette dish, flat base, slightly straight convergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip, open spout 4 cm long and 3 cm wide, outer and inner brown slip. Base 8.5 cm; height of walls 5.5 cm; mouth 18 cm; total height 7 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Pucte Brown.
- A-183: Tetrapod, composite silhouette dish (Z-angled), hollow cylindrical supports, bulbous in the upper portion with one hole each at the back, concave base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer orange slip. Height of supports: 5.5 cm; base 17 cm: height of base 5 cm: mouth 17.4 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

BURIAL 63

A test pit of 1 m² was placed on the axis of Chamber 1, with a depth of 1.55 m; a second tomb 2.40 m long, oriented east to west, 0.70 m wide and 0.65 m tall covered by six slabs was uncovered; the inside was lined with coarse stucco permeated with red pigment. The tomb was built on top of a floor that sealed a limestone refill with a quality mortar placed on the floor of the upper platform of 5D-88-5 (Manik 1). Clearly, it was looted in ancient times.

This is the indirect burial, now entirely removed, of a sub-adult (18 to 20 years of age), female individual whose poorly preserved remains include fragments of the

skull, mandible and post-cranial bones. The cranium shows possible tabular erected intentional deformation.

Though the orientation is unknown, we favor an east to west direction, as fragments of the cranium and some small ornaments were found at the east end of the chamber, while the vessels were concentrated at west.

- Two adornments, shoulder paths in the shape of stars (snail: C-111)
 - One bivalve pendant with perforation (of the *Spondylidae* family, *Spondylus princeps* sp.: C-113)
 - Two snail pendants with perforation (one of them could not be defined, while the other corresponds to the *Fascioliidae*, of the *Latirus cariniferus* sp.: C-108-109)
 - A necklace with 142 beads (*Dentaliidae*, of the *Dentalium eboreum* sp., C-110)
 - A necklace with 32 univalve pendants with perforation (of the *Olividae* family; C-112)
 - Five spherical-sub-spherical beads and two tubular beads (undefined species; C-105, 106 and 107)
 - One disc with perforation or flat bead (undefined species: C-104)
 - Two plain, semi-circular plates, perforated, jadeite (J-59 and 60)
 - Miscellaneous materials (V-143)
 - One fragment of an undefined bone artifact (O-602)
 - Fragmented vessel (F-123).
-
- A-191: Basal flange dish with annular base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer orange slip except for the base and the area below the basal flange, which shows no slip. Base 9.1 cm; mouth 21.1 cm; height 9.3 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-192: Annular base dish, basal flange, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, perpendicular lip. Base 12.3 cm; mouth 31.8 cm; height 12.4/12.9 cm. Decoration: orange interior, except for a thin black line 0.1 cm wide located 2 cm below the rim, and a red band 1.5 cm wide located immediately below the black rim; this color is also present 1 cm on the outer wall; the wall presents a polychrome decoration, and there is an abstract design in red, black, orange and gray/buff, which is repeated twice; both designs are limited and separated from one another by two large black areas; the upper portion of the flange is decorated with alternating circles and lines in red and black. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 7 (MANIK 2 PHASE, EARLY CLASSIC PERIOD)

Stage 5D-84-7, 5D-86-7, and 5D-88-7

Still during the span of the Manik 2 phase, perhaps only a few years following the construction of stage 6, a new constructive process was verified, involving a

foundation with architectural characteristics identical to those of the preceding version. The primary changes had to do with the temples, particularly the central temple 5D-86. The west front of the basement was integrated by four bodies averaging 2.50 m in height, a 17° incline and a 1.50 m platform. The bodies of the east side differ, for they average 2.70 m in height, a 19° incline and the platform is of 0.51 m.

In temple 5D-84 Chamber 2 was remodeled, with the elevation of the north and south rooms in approximately 0.90 m, and the aggregation of the access stairways mentioned before at the doorways that integrate Chamber 1. On the north edge of Chamber 3, the height was also increased in 0.52 m. The overall height of the structure was not modified. At the other end, 5D-88-7 had almost entirely collapsed, with the exception of Bodies 1 and 2 at the north and south sides. In spite of the poor state of preservation shown by the temple, we were able to confirm that the central chamber had both sectors enlarged, as mentioned for 5D-84, creating areas that average 3 m in length and 0.90 m in width.

In the central structure 5D-86-7, the stairway corresponding to this stage no longer included a landing associated with Body 2. The stairway was 12.40 m long. Preservation was poor, and only features of the lower section could still be observed. It consisted of 31 steps, with treads and risers averaging 0.30 m. The ledge was calculated in 2.30 m. Caches 91 and 92 consisting of concentrations of lithic materials were integrated to the lower flight of the stairway.

CACHE 91

It was located between the front bench and the foot of the stairway corresponding to stage 5D-86-7. It consisted of a cluster of over 800 obsidian flakes, eccentric cores, core fragments, flints and one jade bead.

CACHE 92

Located in the landing of the stairways, it corresponds to a level previous to the final occupational span. They are obsidian flakes. It could thus be an occupation occurred after the Early Classic period.

THE UPPER TEMPLE

Manik 2 was the time span when the Upper Temple was used until the final moment. Its overall dimensions, including the outer part of the temple, were of 13.50 m from north to south, and 8.25 m from east to west. It was integrated by three transversal chambers with the following characteristics:

Chamber 1: Dimensions were of 11.50 m long and 1.35 m wide. The number of accesses is unknown, as a consequence of the total collapse of the front wall; it has been assumed that it once had a central access around 2.50 m wide. Although the evidence is completely gone because of the total collapse of the frontal wall, it is

believed that it had only one central access instead of the three frontal ones of the neighboring 5D-84 and 5D-88.

Chamber 2: It was originally 9.70 m long and 1.10 m wide, with an access of a 1.70 m doorway. The chamber still has part of the vault at the north and south ends. It shows some final remodeling works that point to an even later stage, such as the partial closure of the south sector of the chamber, and a special access verified through a vaulted corridor towards Chamber 3, created at the time of closing, at the south end, a 1.70 x 1.10 m space that had a vaulted access integrated to Chamber 3, with a width of 0.75 m and a height of 1.75 m.

Chamber 3: This chamber was 10.60 m long and average 1.55 m wide, with an access 2.66 m wide. The middle section of the chamber shows outset corners, and the walls still show traces of red stucco.



Figure 15. Drawing of the frontal section corresponding to the fragment of Stela 39.

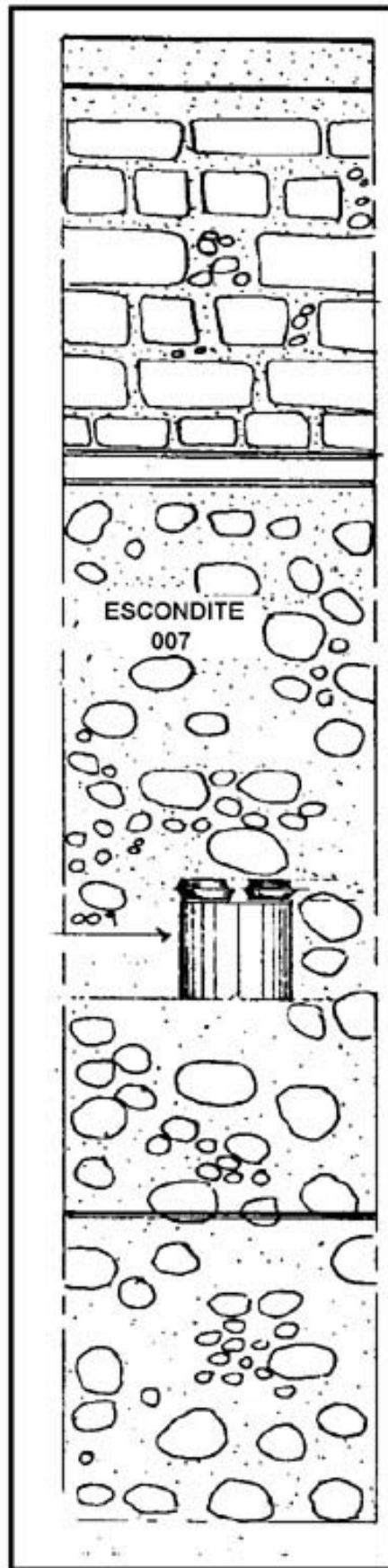


Figure 16. Profile of the test pit perforated in the upper chamber of 5D-86, showing location of caches.

STELA 39

An additional significant trait is the presence of the lower fragment of Stela 39, placed edge-on outside the axis, on the access step between Chambers 2 and 3, a reminiscence of the importance this structure had during the Early Classic period. The fragment is 1.50 m long, 0.60 m wide and 0.50 m thick (Figure 15). The front depicts a character with remarkably elaborated garments, while the back side features the corresponding inscription. The date of construction has raised controversies. Some favor a record of 8.17.0.0.0 – AC 376 (Ayala 1987) while on the other hand, others favor 8.19.0.0.0 – AC 416 (Schele and Freidel 1990). Like we are working with the monument in its original state, we find advisable to choose the first option. Those in favor of the later date believe that the dedicatory dates prior to Katun 19 commemorate specific events and not the closure of a calendar cycle, notwithstanding the well-known exceptions found at the site of El Zapote-Los Altos (Coggins 1983) or that of a jadeite plate, apparently looted from Rio Azul (Dütting 1987:198). Nothing would stand against the fact that Stela 39 may have been a third indicative case showing that the practice of celebrating the end of a cycle had taken place in earlier times.

In Chamber 1 a test pit was opened on its north extreme and down to a depth of 7 m. In Chamber 2 three pits were opened, one on the axis and the others at the north and south borders, with an average depth of 5 m. Also, several pits were perforated in Chamber 3, where several caches were recorded at different depths (Caches 7, 8, 9, 10: Figure 16), as well as the important Burial 19.

CACHE 7

It was located 0.30 m under the floor on the axis of Chamber 3. It includes 12 dishes, six of them in pairs; in one case several sea shells and animal bones were found inside. The pieces that served as lids presented a decoration with painted glyphs, at the base. There were traces of cinnabar.

- 12 adornments or shell paraphernalia with geometrical shapes, with scrolls or of the Chaplin type, of undefined species (C-46, 47, 50, 51 and 54).
- three bivalve pendants with perforation (family of the *Fissurelidae*, *Fissurele barbadensis* sp.; C-39)
- one bivalve pendant with perforation (family of the *Spondylidae*, *Spondylus princeps* sp.; C-52)
- one bivalve shell with no perforation (family of the *Lucinidae*, *Lucina pectinata* sp.; C-43)
- one spoon fragment (family of the *Spondylidae*, *Spondylus americanus* sp.; C-42)
- three spherical-sub-spherical beads and a tubular one, undefined species (C-44, 45, and 53)
- two discs with no perforation, nacreous, undefined species (C-48 and 49)
- two stingray spines (C-40 and 55)
- one raw material – coral (C-41)

- six perforated beads, of jadeite and albite (J-32, 34, 35, 36)
 - three polished, formless fragments, jadeite and nephrite (J-33)
 - two ceramic discs with no perforations (not numbered)
 - Miscellaneous materials (V-20)
- A-21: Convex base dish, slightly curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled lip, inner and outer red-orange slip, except for the base which has no slip. Base 14.5 cm, height 4.5 cm; mouth 21 cm. No decoration. It contains some kind of red pigment and specular particles, and is heavily fragmented; it contained pieces C-35, 36, and J-32, 34. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-22: Flat bottom dish, slightly curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 16.5 cm; height 4.3 cm; mouth 21 cm. Decoration: two glyphs delineated in black and placed at the base. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-23: Flat bottom dish with firing patches at the base, straight divergent walls, beveled non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer slip. Base 11.5 cm, height 4.2 cm; mouth 21.8 cm. No decoration. Three shells were found inside, as well as a bone or stone artifact, one snail, one green stone bead, one undefined shell artifact, one clay figurine representing an animal, one stingray spine and one undefined artifact (C-37 to 43; J-33, 35). Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-24: Dish with a slight convex base, direct divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled lip. Base 11 cm; height 5.4 cm; mouth 21.5 cm. Decoration: hieroglyphs delineated in black placed on the wall and part of the base. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-25: Flat bottom dish, curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer slip, except for the base; it features abundant firing patches, and the bottom shows circular, incised marks. Base 17 cm; height 4.6/5.3 cm; mouth 22 cm. No decoration. In the inside, red pigment was found and some kind of a specular ore, two beads (one made of bone and the other of green stone). Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-26: Dish with a slight convex bottom, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim and rounded lip; due to the unevenness of the rim, at times it shows some thickening; the outer part of the base presents two glyphs delineated in black; inner and outer slip, except for the base: the bottom shows black firing patches. Base 15.5 cm; height 3 cm; mouth 21.9 cm. Decoration: two glyphs delineated in black at the base. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
 - A-27: Flat base dish with curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip, inner and outer slip, except in the base: firing patches. Base 15.2 cm; height 5.5 cm; mouth 24.8/25.2 cm. No decoration. It contains a shell disc with 4.5 cm in diameter, a shell with 8.8 cm of maximum diameter with three

holes in one end: under this shell we found a disc of an undefined material, a slate plate, one green stone bead, one bone or shell bead, one shell incised figurine, 21 bone or tooth artifacts; an additional shell figurine (they both were found face down); the opposite end of the dish included one bone or shell tubular bead; all of these artifacts lie on a layer of red pigment and specular particles. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

- A-28: Flat base dish, curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; with firing patches. Base 15.3 cm; height 5.7/6 cm; mouth 25 cm. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-29: Flat base dish, curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, irregular lip, mostly beveled but with some perpendicular portions, firing patches at the bottom, inner and outer slip, except for the base. Base 15 cm; height 4 cm; mouth 22/22.5 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-133: Flat base dish, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer orange slip except for an unslipped base. Base 23/23.4 cm; height 14/14.5 cm; mouth 41.7 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-134: Dish with a slightly convex base; straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled rim; unslipped base, though it shows residues of black paint that may possibly represent a glyph. Base 24.4 cm; height 12.3/13 cm; mouth 43 cm. Decoration: possible glyph at the base. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-135: Dish with a slightly convex base, straight divergent walls; slightly everted rim, perpendicular rim; large black firing patches at the base and on the outer wall; groove on the rim. Base 11 cm; height 19.8/11.7 cm; mouth 32 cm. Decoration: grooved rim. Ceramic type: Pita Incised.

CACHE 8

Found on the floor of the upper platform of stage 5D-86-6 or Frieze, under the access of Chamber 3 of the final stage. It consists of a vase with a flat lid (A-30), with a miniature vessel at the inside representing a toad (A-31), in addition to some lithic pieces.

- paraphernalia of undefined stone material (L-8)
- three flint perforators (L9, 10, 11)
- two fragments of flint cores with bark (L-74)
- one fragment of flint core with bark (L-75)
- Miscellaneous materials (V-10)
- A-30: Cylindrical vessel or flat base container, straight walls, direct, slightly thickened interior rim, perpendicular lip; black slip on the outer wall; flat lid with outer and inner slip. Base 13.6 cm; height 13.2 cm; mouth 13.5 cm;

diameter of lid, 15.3/15.5 cm. No decoration. In the inside vessel A-31 was found, as well as different stone artifacts. Ceramic type: Balanza Black: see *Cache Cylinder*.

- A-31: Miniature zoomorphic bowl with heavily curved convergent walls, straight neck, everted non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer brown slip in the entire vessel: the middle section of the body depicts an animal, probably a toad. Base 3 cm. Neck 1.1 cm; mouth 3 cm; height 4.5 cm; diameter of the real usable space 2.5 cm. Decoration: an animal representation. Ceramic type: undefined.

CACHE 9

It was found 0.84 m below Cache 7, and consists of two pairs of dishes placed lip against lip, deposited on some sort of circular “altar” 0.40 m high and with a 0.40 m diameter made of burnt mud.

- 24 univalve shells with no perforation (family of the *Naticidae*, *Natica canrena* sp.; C-34)
- one univalve shell with no perforation (family of the *Nentidae*, *Nerita peloronta* sp.; C-38)
- two spherical sub-spherical beads, one tubular bead, one flat bead or disc, undefined species (C-35, 36 and 37)
- A-32: Convex base dish, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled rim; inner and outer slip of a red-orange color; large firing patches on the wall. Base 19 cm, height 6.2/7.9 cm, mouth 28.5/29.5. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-33: Flat base dish, straight convergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled lip, black firing patches on the wall and part of the base. Base 17.6 cm; height 6/6.7 cm; mouth 29/29.4 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-34: Dish with a slightly convex base, slightly curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled lip; inner and outer slip; it shows firing patches at the base and part of the wall. Base 18.5 cm; height 7.6/8.3 cm; mouth 29.5 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-35: Dish with a slightly convex base, curved divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip. Base 18 cm; height 7.4/8 cm; mouth 30 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

CACHE 10

It was found in association with the northwest end of Chamber 3's interior, at a depth of 1.10 m; it consists of fragments of complete vessels that include polychromed

dishes with mammiform supports, which may have corresponded to the removal described for Burial 21 of the Manik 1 stage.

- one stingray spine (C-114)
- one nephrite bead (J-132)
- A-209: Tetrapod dish with rattle, mammiform hollow supports showing two grooves 0.8 cm wide and 4.7 cm long placed alongside, and one circular hole with a diameter of 1.10 cm; concave base; straight divergent walls; everted rim, thickened in the outer part, rounded lip. Height of supports 8 cm; base 34.7 cm; height of walls 2.5/2.9 cm, mouth 35.5 cm; total height 13.4 cm. Decoration: red and black on orange, outer part in orange only; the inner part is decorated as follows: on the wall and on the orange ground that covers the entire vessel, the rim has been painted black; immediately below and in the inside there is a red band 1 cm wide; with a 0.3 cm separation, there is a line of the same color, 0.3 cm wide; the beginning of the bottom is marked by a black line, and the bottom presents a complicated geometric, abstract design. Ceramic type: Ixcario Orange Polychrome.
- A-380: Tetrapod dish with hollow mammiform supports; concave base, straight divergent walls; direct rim, slightly reinforced at the outside, perpendicular lip; due to the reinforcement of the rim and the basal break, the middle section of the wall has taken the shape of a 5 cm tall panel, while in this area the color appears to be lighter than in the rest of the piece. Height of supports 11.5 cm; base 27 cm; height of walls 7 cm; mouth 31.5 cm; total height 18.5 cm. Decoration: the lip has been decorated with one incised line all around the piece; inner and outer orange slip. Ceramic type: Aguila or Aguacate Orange.
- A-381: Tetrapod dish with hollow mammiform supports with rattles: concave base; curved divergent walls: beveled rim thickened in the outside, rounded lip. Height of supports 8.5 cm; base 29.5 cm; height of walls 3 cm; mouth 34.3 cm; total height 11.5 cm. Decoration: red and black/orange; at the outside the wall is orange, except for two red bands 0.5 cm wide located at the junction of the base and the wall and immediately below the rim, respectively; the rim presents alternated red and orange areas, with a geometric decoration in black; these areas are separated from one another by black lines; the junction of the rim with the wall is marked by a black line; immediately below there is a 0.5 cm wide red band, and 0.3 m below, there is a red line 0.3 cm wide; the rest of the wall is orange; the junction of the base with the wall is marked by a black line; the primary motif of the base is a complex geometric design in red and black, and at both sides of this design there are five stylized frogs; the two located on the extremes and the central one are black, and the two in-between are red. Ceramic type: Ixcario Orange Polychrome.
- A-382: Tetrapod dish with hollow mammiform supports with rattles, flat base, curved divergent walls: slightly everted rim, slightly thickened at the outside, rounded lip. Height of supports 8.5 cm; base 34.2 cm; height of walls 4.5 cm; mouth 38.8 cm; total height 12.5 cm. Decoration: red and black/orange; at the outside the supports are red in the exterior portion, the wall is orange except

for two red bands 1 cm wide located at the junction of the base and the wall, and immediately below the rim; the decoration of the rim and the inner part of the piece is very similar to that of vessel A-381, with the only difference that at each side there are three frogs only, two red ones at the sides, and a black one in the middle. Ceramic type: Ixcario Orange Polychrome.

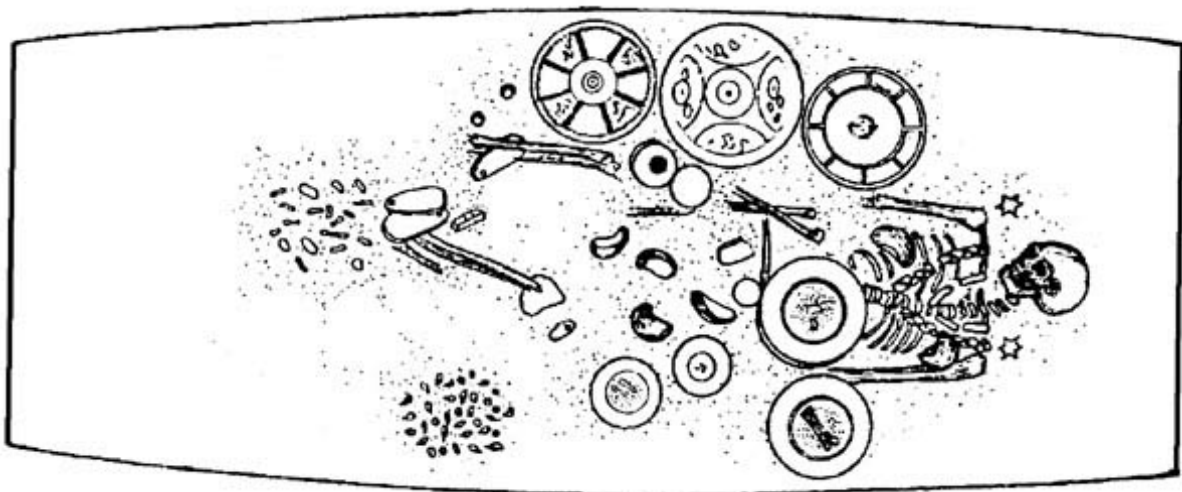


Figure 17. Floor plan of Burial 19 (north, in the upper section)

BURIAL 19

A test pit located on the axis of Chamber 2, and at a depth of 1.74 m, has revealed the upper portion of the tomb that contained Burial 19 (Figure 17). The tomb was introduced at the time of razing an upper floor of the stairway, as well as the support of the wall that included a frieze corresponding to Structure 5D-86-6. The tomb is a rectangular chamber 2.85 m long from east to west, with an average width of 1.02 m; the walls are 1.60 m tall. The interior is lined with stucco, permeated with cinnabar; the six slabs that sealed this space were as well permeated with cinnabar at their lower section; the average dimensions were of 1.25 x 0.45 m, with a thickness of 0.20 m.

Burial 19 is a primary, indirect burial of a mid-adult (35-55 years of age) male individual, deposited in an extended dorsal decubitus position and oriented east to west. The bone material shows a very bad state of preservation, and includes one cranium fragment, one mandible fragment, and portions of the post-cranial skeleton. The bones were permeated with red paint. The fragments of right cubitus and radius bones of a female individual were found in association, between two dishes.

He was attired with a necklace made of four tubular jade beads 12 to 13 cm long and 3 cm thick, combined with another necklace of slightly curved tubular beads, of shell stone and bone. This included as well ovoid sheets made of green stone of up to 20 cm in length. The materials included in the offering and ornamentation are the following:

- Ten pendants made of animal teeth; one of them possibly has a jade inlay (O-20)
- Miscellaneous materials (PNTV 022-023-093-122-136-184)
- Paraphernalia, several silex and flints, refuse (J-15)
- 100 paraphernalia (J-16)
- Four tubular beads, nephrite (J-17)
- 16 paraphernalia (J-18)
- One incised and perforated bead (spherical) (J-19)
- 94 paraphernalia (J-20)
- Rectangular jade “block” with three perforations, red pigment, albite-jadeite (J-21)
- Paraphernalia, ten plates with glyphs (J-22)
- Two incised ear flares in the shape of flower petals, with different perforations, jadeite (J-23)
- Paraphernalia, 3 perforated plates (J-24)
- Two bead fragments with different shapes; groovings (J-25)
- Paraphernalia, two bead fragments with an elaborated rim (J-26)
- Paraphernalia, four “eccentric” plates (crescent-shaped) (J-27)
- Paraphernalia, five narrow rectangular plates (J-28)
- Paraphernalia, five bead fragments (J-29)
- Paraphernalia, 26 jade fragments in the shape of a tear (J-30)
- Paraphernalia, seven fragments of large beads (J-31)
- Two polished inlays (J-133)
- Two plain plates each with a perforation in the central, upper portion, nephrite (J-41)
- One plain plate with three perforations, one at the upper center and two lateral ones. With a 5 mm frame in the form of a bas-relief. Nephrite (J-42).
- One plain plate entirely permeated with red pigment, probably cinnabar; no visible motif or carving, perforated, nephrite (J-13)
- Two polished inlays (J-133)
- Paraphernalia, pyrite (L-14 and 15)
- Undefined (L-60)
- One flint flake (L-71)
- One slate flake (L-72)
- 48 fragments of a possible slate stela (L-73)
- Small stucco sculptures on the pelvis; they consisted of four human faces that served as a support and one figurine, probably a handle.
- Abundant remains of red paint, possibly cinnabar, in the entire area, bone remains and some offerings.

C-50 to C-83

1	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC		
1	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, undefined shape		Undefined
1	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, undefined shape		Undefined
1	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, crescent shaped		Undefined
2	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, stars with perforation		Undefined
15	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, PLATES, 15 in showcase		Undefined
5			
3	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, of the rotary wheel type	Snail	
4	ADORNMENT-PARAPHERNALIA-MOSAIC, trilobite with inlay		Undefined
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
2	BIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION, it is alone, 11 682	Tellinidae	Tellina radiate
10	UNIVALVE PENDANT WITH PERFORATION	Olividae	Oliva sayana
2	NECKLACE WITH 420 AND 385 UNIVALVE PENDANTS with perforation	Olividae	Oliva sayana
1	NECKLACE with 59 BEADS skull-shaped, 28 of which are in the showcase	Olividae	Oliva sayana
1	NECKLACE with multiple BEADS	Olividae	Oliva sayana
1	NECKLACE, univalve PENDANTS representing skulls, combined with C-63	Olividae	Oliva sayana
1	NECKLACE, with 36 univalve PENDANTS	Olividae	Oliva sayana
1	BIVALVE SHELL WITH NO PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
1	BIVALVE SHELL WITH NO PERFORATION	Spondylidae	Spondylus princeps
2	SPHERICAL SUB-SPHERICAL BEADS		Undefined
3	TUBULAR BEAD, of a larger size		Undefined

- A-36: Annular base plate or dish, rounded Z-angled, basal flange, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip, concave lid with hollow zoomorphic handle representing a fantastic animal; the interior of the lid and the vessel present an orange slip. Base 11.5 cm; height 11 cm; mouth 26.5 cm; lid diameter 27.5 cm; height of lid 13.3 cm; height of dish and lid 23.8 cm. Decoration: designs in red, black and gray on buff, of the abstract type in the dish, and represented in the entire outer part of the wall, while inside the rim is red, with a black line that separates it from the rest of the wall and the bottom, which is orange; the lid has designs similar, as far as shape is concerned, to those of the dish, red and delineated in black; the handle represents a fantastic animal that extends throughout the surface. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-37: Basal flange dish, annular base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; concave lid with hollow composite handle which is semi-globular in the lower part, and tubular in a small portion of the upper end. Base 14.5 cm; height 12.2 cm; mouth 27.8 cm; diameter of lid 28 cm; height of lid 12.5 cm; full height of dish and lid 24.7 cm. Decoration: exterior decoration in red and black on buff, representing geometric and abstract designs; the inner part is entirely orange, except for two slim black lines located below the red lip; the lid has a decoration similar to that of the dish, and colors are the same; both the lid and the inner and outer parts of the dish present stains of red pigment in the same sector. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-38: Dish with a basal flange, annular base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; concave lid with hollow cylindrical handle and two slots at the sides; inner part with orange slip. Base 10 cm; height 12.5 cm; mouth 30.7 cm; diameter of lid 32.3 cm; height of lid 13.9 cm; full height 25.4 cm. Decoration: abstract and geometric designs in red, black and gray on buff at the outside; inside, below the black lip, there is a red band placed on an orange background; the lid shows a design and color similar to those of the dish. Ceramic type: Caldero Buff Polychrome.
- A-39: Flat bottom dish, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; the wall in the area nearby the base shows four tiny perforations, located two of them at each side of the vessel, in front of one another; inner and outer slip. Base 18.5 cm; height 5 cm; mouth 25 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-40: Flat bottom dish, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; "killed" by two equidistant holes placed at the center of the base, with a 0.7 cm diameter. Base 18.3 cm; height 5 cm; mouth 25 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-41: Composite silhouette bowl, flat base, unslipped, heavily curved divergent walls in the lower portion and curved convergent in the upper portion of the break, straight divergent short neck, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; the outer part is stained with remains of red pigment; a rounded sherd (probably of the Aguila Orange type) serves as lid, and was placed with

the slipped part downwards; the latter was smoked; the outer, unslipped part, showed stains of the same red pigment of the vessel. Base 6.3 cm; height 8.3 cm; mouth 10.2 cm; maximum diameter 13 cm; height of the neck 1.1 cm. Decoration: incised or nail-impressed in the middle section of the body. Ceramic type: Lucha Incised.

- A-42: Annular base mug, curved convergent walls, short straight divergent neck, direct rim, rounded lip; open spout 4 cm long and 2.3 cm wide; thin walls, black inner slip; in the outer part it extends only to 4 cm below the lip, while the rest of it, the base included, is regularly polished. Base 6.6 cm; height of base 14 cm; height 9.3/10 cm: mouth 8.5 cm; maximum diameter 9.5 cm. Ceramic type: Discordia Black.
- A-43: Tetrapod bowl or pot, hollow conical supports with two rounded holes each, and a small incision below each hole; curved convergent walls, vertical neck, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; interior slip; the outer slip only reaches to the decorated part; base and supports unslipped: concave lid with incised decoration, inner and outer slip; zoomorphic handle representing a bird with a long beak; the vessel and the lid show abundant stains of red pigment in the outer part, while the lid shows also some staining at the inside. Height of bowl 12.4/13 cm; mouth 10.7 cm; height of neck 3.5 cm; diameter of lid 11.5 cm; height of lid 5.7 cm: full height 18 cm; maximum diameter 14.7 cm. Decoration: appliqué impressed in the middle section of the body and with an incised decoration in the lid; the supports have probably combined the firing hole with the incision, so that they would produce a simple zoomorphic representation. Ceramic type: Balanza Group; lid, probably of the Lucha Incised type.
- A-44: Flat base bowl, curved convergent walls, short, curved divergent neck, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; as a lid it presents a rounded sherd, with the best slipped part looking up; this sherd probably belongs to the Aguila Orange type; both inside and out it shows stains of a red pigment. Base 3.5 cm; height 7.8 cm: mouth 7.6 cm; maximum diameter 11 cm; diameter of lid 8.6/9 cm. Decoration: two bands with small incisions or nail impressions, one located at the joint of the body and the neck, and the other in the middle section of the body, where four small bulges are also seen; the lower portion of the body and the base are poorly polished. Ceramic type: Lucha Incised.
- A-45: Annular base bowl, curved convergent walls, short, straight divergent neck, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip; inner and outer orange slip; it presents five bulges in the middle section of the body; the middle portion of the body shows stains of a red pigment. Base 4.2 cm; height 6 cm; mouth 7.6 cm: maximum diameter 9 cm. Decoration: 5 bulges in the middle section of the body. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.
- A-46: Z-angled dish with incipient pedestal base, straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, rounded lip, inner and outer slip. Base 8.5 cm; height of base 1.5 cm; height 6.7 cm; mouth 15 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

- A-47: Composite silhouette dish, annular base with signs of use: straight divergent walls, direct non thickened rim, beveled lip; inner and outer slip, except at the base. Base 8.2 cm; height 6.5/7 cm; mouth 23 cm. No decoration. Ceramic type: Aguila Orange.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 8 (MANIK 3 PHASE, EARLY CLASSIC PERIOD)

It is hard to indicate correlative changes in the five structures that compose the East Platform. Only specific features were defined in several structures, particularly in relation with 5D-84 in the north end and the section occupied by the connecting platforms 5D-85 and 5D-87 (both in their seventh modification).

STAGE 5D-84-8

The latest construction version was built during the Manik 3 stage. The architectural characteristics involved the *talud-tablero* combination, with a *talud* 1.95 m high and a 14° incline, a *tablero* 2.70 m high with a framed area of 2.10 m wide, and a 0.30 m wide frame (Figures 18 and 19). Only Body 1 was identified, still lined with red stucco. This architectural expression was virtually razed, and the only extant portion lies under the refills of platform 5D-83, added at a later stage. The reasons that led to the destruction of version 5D-84-8, the one that included the *talud-tablero* feature, to rehabilitate 5D-84-7, of a clear Maya style, may have been the reflection of sociopolitical change, though it is hard to explain why such covering was verified at the eastern section of the Lost World only, and not in other structures of the architectural assemblage which displayed as well this construction style.

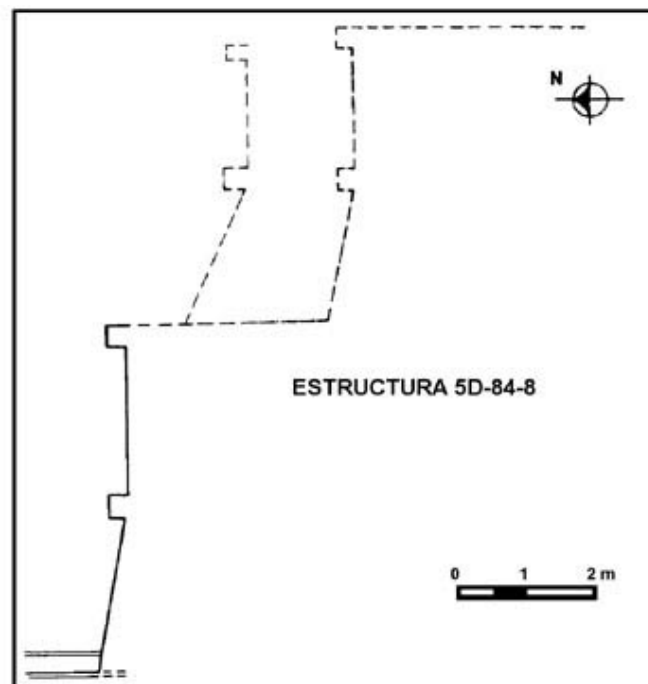


Figure 18. Detail of the *talud-tablero*, Structure 5D-84-8.

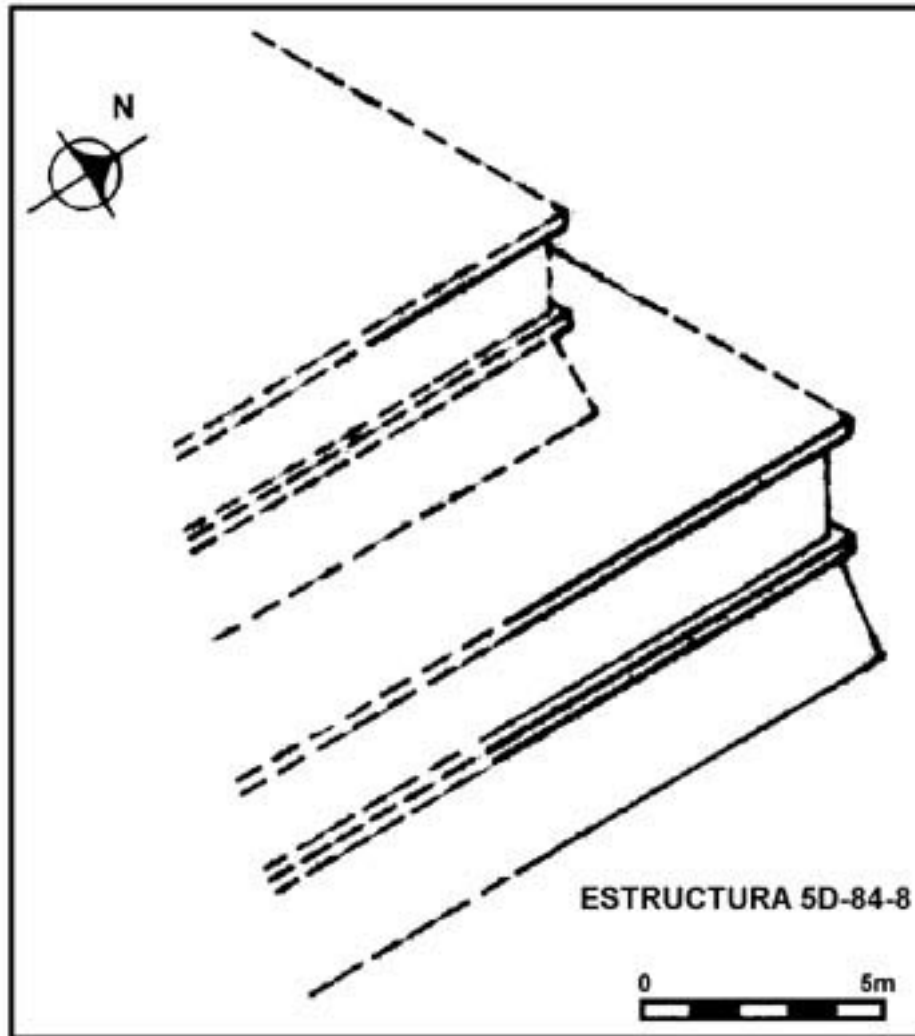


Figure 19. Detail of the *talud tablero*, Structure 5D-84-4.

It has been assumed that the foundation of the final stage corresponding to the west front was formed by three bodies with the following dimensions: the two lower ones averaged a height of 2.25 m with 1.45 m for the platform, while the third body was the tallest one and averaged a height of 4.40 m, with inclines that ranged from 10° to 26°.

STAGE 5D-85-7 AND 5D-87-7

In this final version of three stepped bodies, the Manik 3 platform covered the Manik 2 stairway, as well as the salient bodies of temples 5D-84 and 5D-88; the platform reached a height of 8.60 m above the plaza level. The two lower bodies averaged a height of 2.25 m, while the third reached a height of 3.80 m.

CONSTRUCTION STAGE 9

(IK PHASE, LATE CLASSIC PERIOD)

Early in the Late Classic period, major changes took place at the East Platform, predicting the change of function that was going to take place, a crucial moment in the history of the Lost World, as an assemblage established several centuries back in time. This change began around the end of the VI century during the Ik phase of the Late Classic period, and was mostly centered around Structure 5D-87, one of the sections of the platform that connected the upper temples of the common foundation. Shortly after this change would become larger, although always centered around 5D 87, a structure we have previously documented with the name of Temple of the Skulls (Laporte 2002).

STAGE 5D-87-8

The refills previous to the construction of this palace structure were added to the East body of substructure 5D-87-5 (Manik 1), and a part of 5D-87-6 (Manik 2); the palace included one single range chamber on a stepped foundation, and had five access doors; the central one shares an axis with Structure 5D-96, at the Plaza of the Seven Temples. It has been dated to Manik, during its transition to Ik.

RESTORATION PROCESS IN STRUCTURE 5D-84

- The Upper Temple was restored; currently, it only includes fragments of the frontal wall for the dimensioning of the structure (Figures 20 and 21). The back wall of Chamber 1, which is divided by Range Chamber 2, is still standing in a rather good shape. It has undergone the restoration of all of its features, including the three accesses that communicate with Chamber 2, representing the modifications of the final stage.
- The central access was restored in its entire width uncovering the access to Chamber 3 and including the accessing step to that chamber. Likewise, the north and south sectors of Chamber 2 were restored showing the modifications accomplished during the final stage, as well as the three accesses formed as of the Frontal Chamber.
- In regard to the back Chamber, or Chamber 3, only its frontal or west wall was restored, because the back wall had collapsed entirely and no evidence of stone alignments was available. This sector was completed with fillers for securing the mound on the east side.
- The front side of the mound was repaired and covered with grass once again, because no architectural feature of the stairway had survived. Restoration actually began in the upper platform that led to Chamber 1.
- As to the lateral or north side, we benefited from the wonderful preservation evidenced by its upper body. The consolidation works and the possibility of showing the groups of cornices of different levels, provide visitors with a clear notion of what Early Classic architecture was about. At the same time, this

consolidation helped to support the north wall of the Upper Temple, which was fragile.

- The south side of the Upper Temple as well as the upper body of the foundations was consolidated on the base provided by the upper platform of the adjacent building 5D-85.

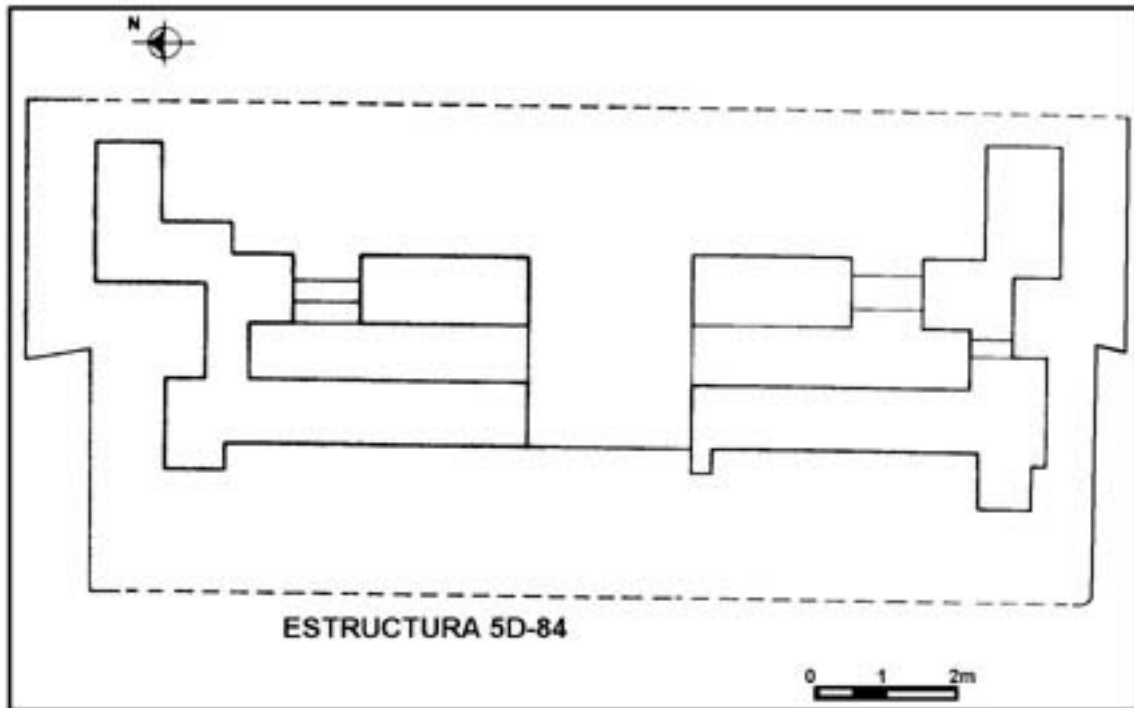


Figure 20. Plan view of the upper building during the Late Classic period.

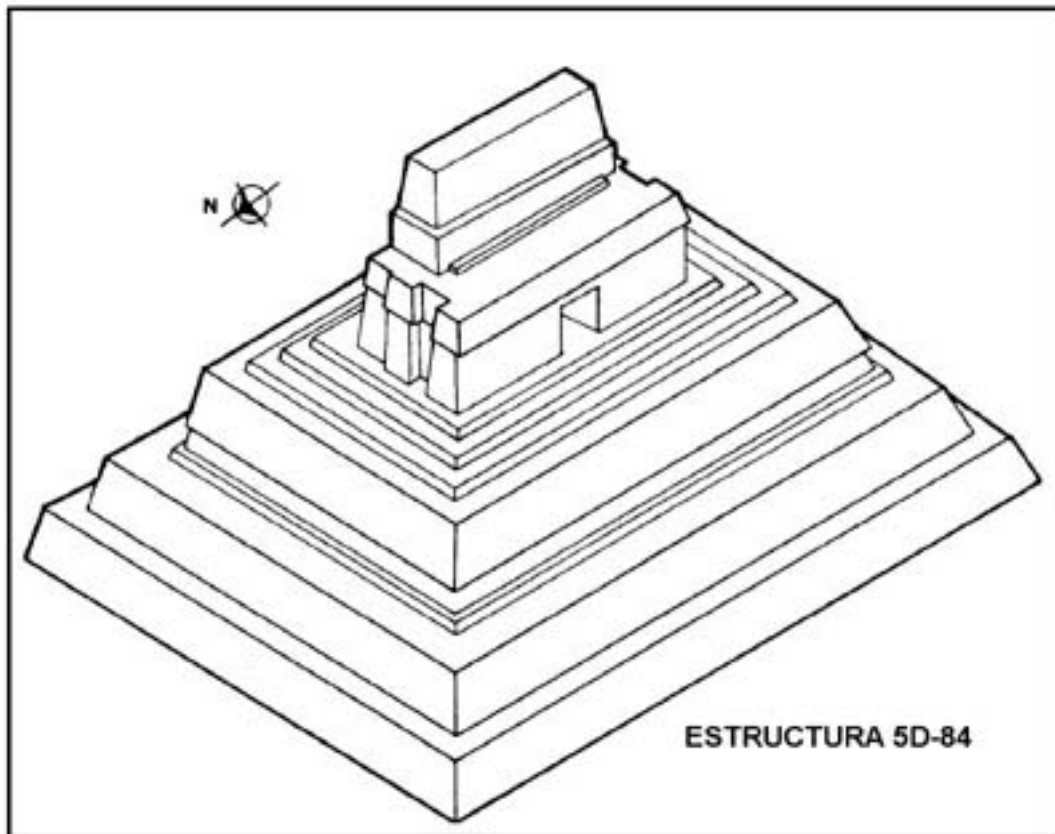


Figure 21. Construction model for the last stage of Structure 5D-84.

RESTORATION PROCESS AT STRUCTURE 5D-86

In general, the preservation of the building was not too encouraging to conduct restoration works, although its proximity to Building 5D-87 on one side, and its category as the building that marked the axis in the E Group type Assemblage on the other, led to the undertaking of several consolidation and partial restoration works.

The foundation was consolidated in that which had to do with the archaeological explorations conducted. The multiple tunnels and pits were refilled and repaired. In the foundation, repairs were made on the walls of a tunnel that perforated the building from the west side, to reach the Chambers of the 5D-86-4 (Cauac) stage; Chamber 2 houses the magnificent jaguar masks that decorated this space. During the consolidation and reinforcing of these walls, it was decided to leave at sight the space occupied by Burial 21, the one with a pentagonal section, as we considered it to be an interesting trait at the time of touring the place.

The restoration effort was focused on the Upper Temple, which evidenced a poor state of preservation. There were no remains of the frontal west wall; in other words, the back of the vaults were the only features fit to be used to show the presence of a frontal wall and of a first chamber. The back wall of Chamber 1 and the access to Chamber 2 were well preserved. This was the best preserved chamber, up to the spring line of the vaults and the sections at the extremes. The access to Chamber 3 and the West wall of that chamber were well preserved too. Chamber 3 had partially

lost its East or rear wall, but consolidation works have reinforced and dimensioned the chamber through restoration of the North rear wall. The one corresponding to the South end showed a rather good preservation, and still presented standing portions of the vault.

Other than this, only those minor buildings that represented later modifications were repaired, with the purpose of leaving visible evidence.

TWO ADDITIONAL PLATFORMS FROM THE EAST SECTOR OF THE LOST WORLD IN THE LATE CLASSIC PERIOD

The changes that led to the eventual positioning of the Lost World have remarkably transcended in the section related to the E Group type Assemblage, where multiple versions had been built since the Middle Preclassic period. The final obstruction of the direct passage between Lost World and the Plaza of the Seven Temples from the north and south extremes was achieved through the integration of two structural units:

- The aggregation of platform 5D-89 at the southeast edge of the plaza gave way to the formation of a corner on the southeast edge of the assemblage.
- The construction of 5D-83 joined the East Platform together with Structure 5D-82, which not far from the Reservoir of the Temple occupied the northeast edge of the assemblage.

We should say that this process developed gradually, as some features had already been built late in the Early Classic period.

STRUCTURE 5D-89

The other platform that achieved some significance in the remodeling process of the East Plaza during the Ik phase was 5D-89, which jointly with its similar one 6D-9 formed the southeast apex of the Lost World. Marco Antonio Bailey was in charge of this exploration work, conducted between March and July, 1982.

Unconnected wall fragments found under 5D-89 suggest the previous presence of several minor construction features. The three versions of the Late Classic period finally formed a platform which included stairways to the Lost World and the Plaza of the Seven Temples.

STAGE 5D-89-1

The Ik span of the Late Classic period featured a platform whose minimum height was of 7.60 m. Though severely mutilated, it still showed signs of moldings on the west and east façades. The length at the base has been calculated in 11.25 m. No information could be obtained about an associated stairway. Inside, remains of unconnected and razed walls were detected, a fact that led us to consider the presence of one or two earlier constructions built during the Early Classic period.

STAGE 5D-89-2

During the Imix span, and at least on the east side, probable remodeling works were conducted, that included the aggregation of chambers interrelated with other chambers identified in a substructure of 6D-11 associated with the Plaza of the Seven Temples.

STAGE 5C-89-3

The late stage of Imix may be defined as a platform intended to integrate accesses on the east and west fronts. The structure's orientation was similar (21°) to the one indicated in 5D-83. A bayonet stairway that integrated Body 1, from the plaza level and with a southwards orientation, was identified: from the platform of Body 1, it climbs a second flight of steps to Body 2, now oriented west. A chamber associated with a previous stage of 5D-89 (5D-89-2) was partially examined.

The west side shows evidence of a collapsed stairway with remains of three steps whose treads and risers average 0.32 m, and of a stairway 5.50 m long with ledger of 1.70 m. A total nine steps were inferred to the platform that supports a second body or bench not larger than 0.40 m. The third body, severely collapsed, may have had a height of 4 m.

STRUCTURE 5D-83

5D-83 was built on several floors of the Early Classic period; inside, there were mutilated remains of two benches that run parallel on a north-south direction, apparently corresponding to the IV century AD (Manik 2 phase). However, it was only in the V century AD (Manik 3 phase) when the earlier formal parallel platforms were built, with merely a peculiar passage way or conduit between one another. The reason for its abrupt deviation of 21° at the east of the north has not been fully clarified so far, though perhaps it had something to do with the direction of the ancient *sacbe*. This structure was explored by Vilma Fialko from the month of February 1981 to March 1982.

Later remodeling works indicate that 5D-83 fulfilled a dual function. The façade oriented towards the Lost World features a joining wall integrated by three bodies and one lateral stairway adjacent to 5D-84, while towards the Plaza of the Seven Temples there is a bench and a *talud* that belonged to the Ballgame built around the beginning of the Late Classic period (Ik phase). The different architectural details are now obscure, as a consequence of the multiple secondary features of later aggregations, among which there are benches and small benches placed on top of the upper platform.

Its process of evolution may be summarized as follows:

- On a natural bedrock level, an artificial refill was put in place, sealed with the lower floors integrated to a *sacbe* which during the Preclassic and Early Classic periods used to communicate with the Lost World.

- The middle sector of the platform still show the bases of that which once was the eastern border of two parallel benches, apparently aligned following a north-south direction. The higher one was 0.60 m tall, and no traces of a floor were found in its upper section. They correspond to the Manik span.
- Two contemporary parallel platforms with a north-south alignment were built during Manik 3, having been denominated 5D-83-1A (East Platform), and 5D-83-1B (West Platform).

STAGE 5D-83-1A

It included one single *talud* 4.82 m tall, with a 62° incline. Several remodeling works were accomplished on it, and therefore, the height may have climbed to 5.20 m, while the width of the upper platform was of 3.05 m; the length, in a 21° direction, may have been of 35 m, implying that it was abutted to the limiting structures 5D-82 and 5D-84.

STAGE 5D-83-1B

It is located west; even though there is no corroboration, the possibility exists that it was integrated by only one body with a maximum height of 5.25 m; the virtually vertical wall rests on the floor and may have suffered several remodeling works that led to its gradual widening towards west. There is a strong possibility that part of the west edge was reused for the final stage of construction of the building. The upper platform may have had a width of 3.50 m with a length of 35.30 m and a 21° direction, alike its homologous 5D-83-1A; it was abutted to the limiting structures 5D-82 and 5D-84.

STAGE 5D-83-2

During the transition from Manik 3 to Ik, 5D-83-1A and B were covered, to build the initial version of the Ballgame. It was then when the tomb corresponding to Burial 64 was introduced in the east wall of 5D-83-1B, which was looted before long.

BURIAL 64

This is a vaulted tomb oriented from east to west, which was looted in ancient times. It is 2.75 m long, 1.05 m tall and 0.60 m wide. The inside of the tomb shows burning evidence, with a thick layer of ash and only a few sherds, charred bones and one grinding stone fragment. It is a secondary burial, as a consequence of the looting suffered, and the cremation of the tomb. The buried person was a mid-adult (35-55 years of age) male individual, who presented fragments of cranium, mandible, and a few post-cranial segments very poorly preserved. As reported by the analysis of the bone remains, perhaps there was a second individual, represented by several diaphysis of long bones and one occipital bone of a mid-adult (35-55 years of age) male individual. No offerings or ornaments were preserved. Chronology: Ik.

The following characteristics were defined for this stage:

- The upper platform included three benches in association with the north edge.
- The east side already included a frontal bench and a *talud*, typical of Ballgame patios; the sloping panel is 3.80 m tall, featuring a 32° incline in the intermediate section.

STAGE 5D-83-2A

This stage, corresponding to the Imix phase, is characterized by the aggregation on the east side of a bench and sloping panel in the lower portion of that corresponding to 5D-83-2, in such a way that the façade, in relation with the Ballgame, included a frontal bench and two sloping panels on the plaza floor. The building widens 2 m towards east.

STAGE 5D-83-2B

Still during the Imix span, the west and south sides are added two lower bodies, while the east side shows the aggregate of a frontal bench 2.90 m wide. The upper platform was raised 0.90 m, and the surface covered with limestone slabs. It seems that this is the stage to which the remains of a bayonet stairway identified in the southwest corner would correspond, located approximately nearby Body 1 of Structure 5D-84. In platform 5D-80 of the Plaza of the Seven Temples, parallel to the east to 5D-83, three superficial trenches corroborate that it shares characteristics similar to those of the frontal bench and sloping panel described in 5D-83.

GENERAL COMMENTS

It is clear, therefore, that the construction sequence of the East Platform –together with the West Pyramid of the Group E type Assemblage- represents all the construction stages occurred in the Lost World throughout the 15 centuries of occupation documented. Being the core of the architectural assemblage, it is clear that all changes occurred have to do with the modifications present in this assemblage.

Changes reflect at least three major aspects:

- Adaptation to novel styles, many of which perhaps emerged or were designed for the assemblage itself.
- The gradual growth of the assemblage, mainly through an accretion process, given that the dimensions of the space would be maintained throughout the centuries. Thus, growth was mainly vertical.
- The historic events which may be associated with the function and the political shifts occurred in the city for many centuries are reflected in the construction that shows the East Platform as an integral part of one of the major architectural assemblages.

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Figure 1 Problematic Deposit 13

Figure 2 Problematic Deposit 13

Figure 3 Mask in the north section, Structure 5D-86-4

- Figure 4 Mask in the south section, Structure 5D-86-4
- Figure 5 Plan view of Burial 20 (north, in the upper section)
- Figure 6 Plan view of Burial 22 (north, in the upper section)
- Figure 7 Plan view of Burial 21 (north, in the upper section)
- Figure 8 Floor plan of the upper building showing the location of three burials, 5D-84
- Figure 9 Plan view of Burial 24
- Figure 10 Cut of enclosure of Burial 25
- Figure 11 Plan view of Burial 25 showing the location of offerings
- Figure 12 Plan view of bone remains, Burial 25
- Figure 13 Plan view of Burial 26 showing the location of offerings
- Figure 14 Detail of stucco figure of a captive, frieze present in 5D-86-6
- Figure 15 Drawing of frontal section of Stela 39's fragment
- Figure 16 Profile of pit perforated in 5D-86's upper chamber, showing location of caches
- Figure 17 Plan view of Burial 19 (north, in the upper section)
- Figure 18 Detail of *talud-tablero*, Structure 5D-84-8
- Figure 19 Detail of *talud-tablero*, Structure 5D-84-8
- Figure 20 Floor plan of upper building during the Late Classic period
- Figure 21 Construction model for the last stage of Structure 5D-84