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Introduction

The information obtained in this thesis was a product of an archaeological rescue carried out in the Dzibilchaltún site, Yucatán, during the construction of the Pueblo Maya museum in the year 1993. Work included investigations of the localization and the possible functions in pre-Hispanic times, the perished material structures found in an apparently empty space in the site, as well as the explication of their presence in that context.

The exploration work and the excavation were done under the direction of archaeologist Rubén Maldonado, then director of the Dzibilchaltún project. The subsequent studies in 1997 at the site resulted in the analysis of recouped cultural materials, which have been manifested in several subsequent reports and two license-theses completed.
It was necessary to select an area for the Maya Pueblo Museum construction at the site Dzibilchaltún from the archaeology map made by the MARI group (Middle American Research Institute) during the 60’s, that did not contain archaeological remains and yet was next to the center of the site. The place selected for the construction of the new Museum was located close to the center of the site and 80 meters to the north of Sacbé 1 (Figure 1). After this apparently empty space was chosen at Dzibilchaltún, a very meticulous pre-inspection was done, resulting in a detection of several pre-Hispanic structures that did not appear in the plan.

The rescue work in this area was implemented precisely because the discoveries of these vestiges. The architectonic analysis of all the ceramics, lithic, and the interpretation of them constitute the most of the information contained in this thesis.

The most important points and arguments discussed in this thesis are aimed at determining the role of the materials found, to interpret the area, and the particular spaces in which they were found. Such arguments are also directed to demonstrate the functionality the structures had in the place, in terms of habitation and production. The results of the investigations on the functionality of domestic units that are located in studies of similar cases realized in others places will be of considerable value.

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Figure 1: Trazo Museo del Pueblo Maya