

APPENDIX B

Selected Stratigraphic Units

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This appendix provides supplementary data and illustrations for the thirty-eight Selected Stratigraphic Units (SSU) used in the chronological phasing of the Formative period occupation at Chalcatzingo (Chapter 5). Radiocarbon dates are given where pertinent, but it should be remembered that assignment of subphase to strata is made on the basis of ceramic composition and not according to the date indicated by radiocarbon samples. Comments on the radiocarbon dates are given in Chapter 5.

The level designations (in Roman numerals) apply only to each individual unit and do not refer to particular strata found across the site. That is, the levels in the profiles are not comparable to each other except in the few instances where several excavation units in a restricted area reflect the same depositional events. In these cases, the different units either were considered together as a single SSU (e.g., SSU 2, SSU 30, SSU 32, SSU 38) or, while taken as separate SSU's, were lumped together for purposes of discussion (SSU 12-13, SSU 16-19, SSU 35-36).

SSU 1 (Fig. B.1)

N-2: 3-6N/O-1E.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	LATE CANTERA
FLOOR	LATE BARRANCA- EARLY CANTERA
III	LATE BARRANCA
IV	AMATE
V	
VI	

Comments: The plow zone, Level I, was eliminated from the study because of its high percentage of eroded materials. The lower two levels, V and VI, were not utilized due to a virtual lack of cultural materials.

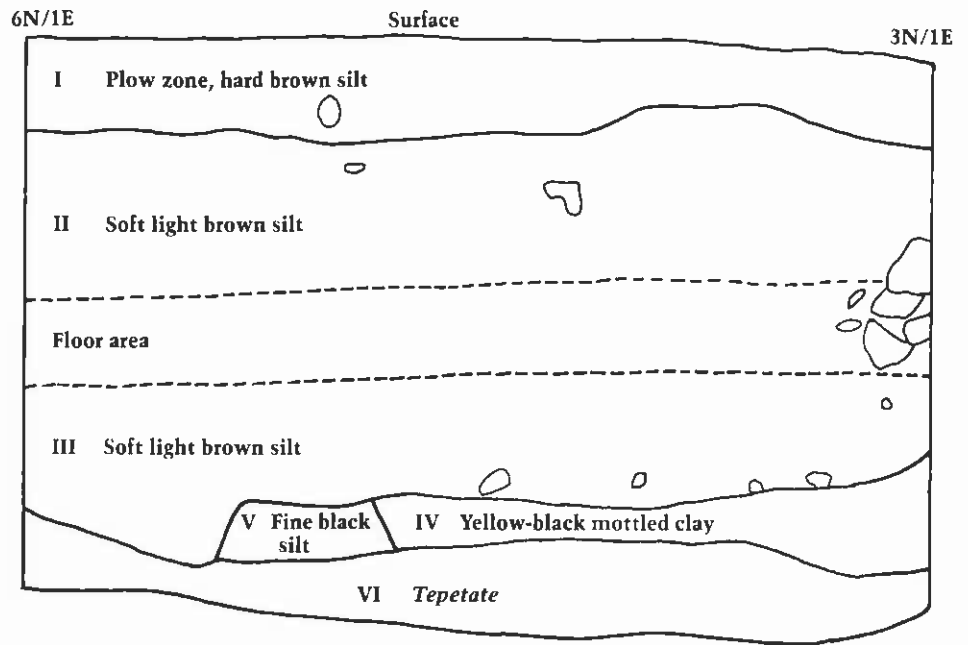


Figure B.1. SSU 1 profile: N-2, 3-6N/O-1E.

C-14 Dates:

Level III N-1954 770 ± 95 BC

SSU 2 (Fig. B.2)

T-6: 17-18S/O-2W, 11-12S/1-2E.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	LATE AMATE

Comments: In both units, the level above sterile tepetate is the only undisturbed stratum. Level IV predates the three-stage stone-faced platform with associated stela.

C-14 Dates:

Level IV N-1947 1000 ± 90 BC

SSU 3 (Fig. B.3)

N-7: 10-13N/O-1W.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	LATE CANTERA
III	EARLY CANTERA
IV	LATE AMATE
V	LATE AMATE

Comments: The plow zone, Level I, was the only level not used in the study. No structures were found in this unit.

C-14 Dates:

Level V N-1955 1070 ± 75 BC

SSU 4 (Fig. B.4)

T-9A: 8-10S/O-2W.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	LATE CANTERA
III	EARLY CANTERA
IV	LATE BARRANCA
V	LATE AMATE

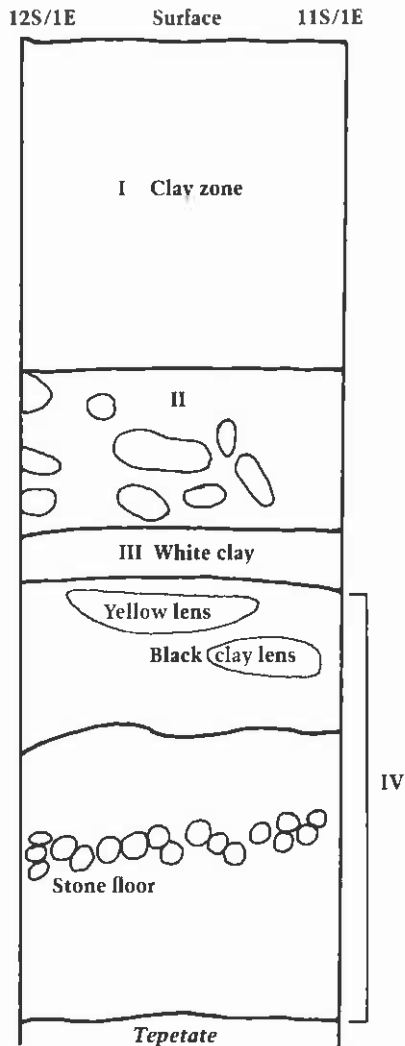


Figure B.2. SSU 2 profile: T-6, 11-12S/1-2E.

Comments: The plow zone, Level I, was not utilized in this study. Level III is an intrusive feature into Level IV, and contained large quantities of stone and sherds. The function of the feature is unknown. Level IV predates a stone construction and due to the high frequency of debris is considered a midden or dumping area contemporaneous with the T-9B structure.

C-14 Dates:

Level IV N-1416 1170 ± 135 BC

SSU 5 (Fig. B.5)

T-11: 1-2N/0-2E.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III LATE CANTERA
- IV EARLY CANTERA
- V LATE BARRANCA

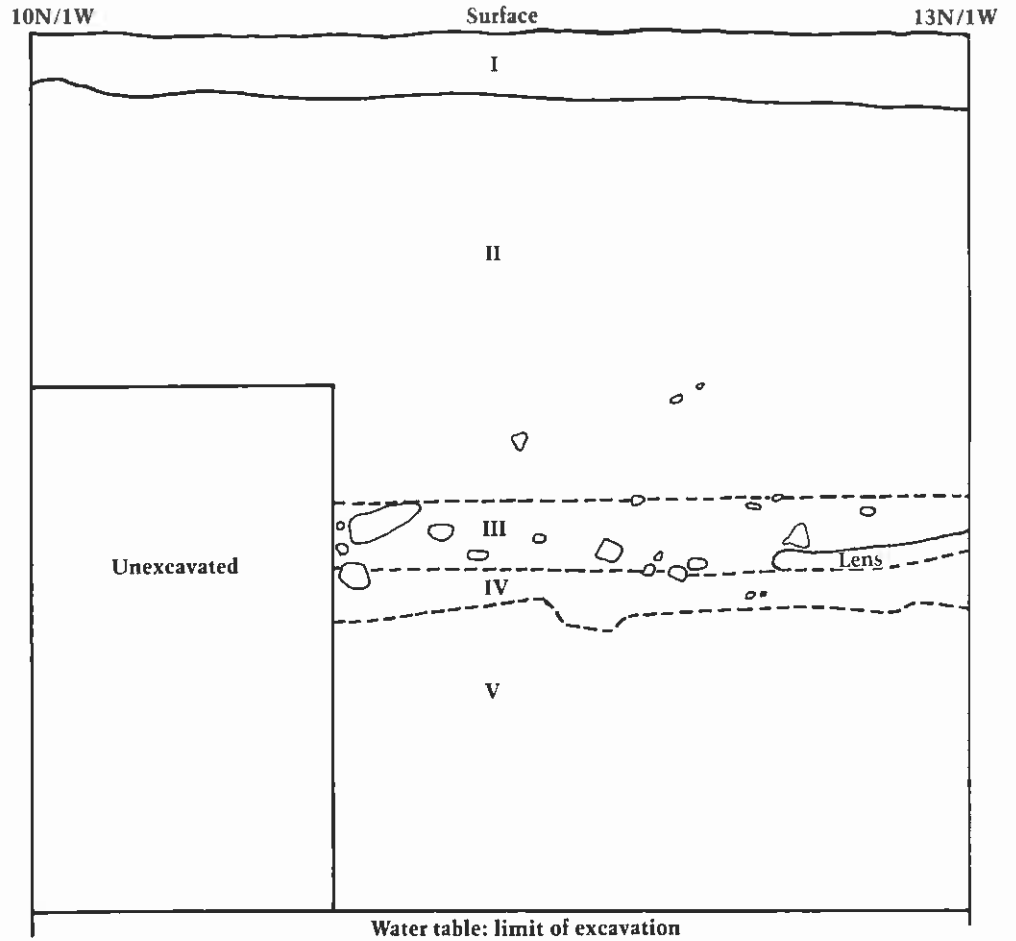


Figure B.3. SSU 3 profile: N-7, 10-13N/O-1W.

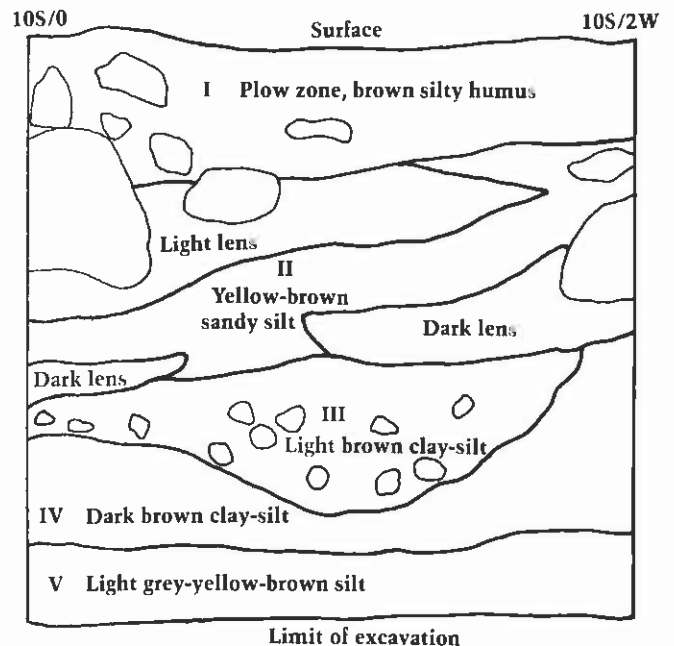


Figure B.4. SSU 4 profile: T-9A, 8-10S/O-2W.

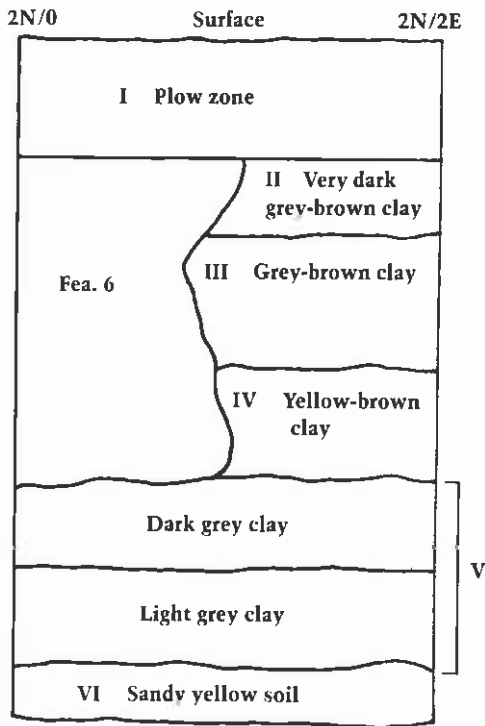


Figure B.5. SSU 5 profile: T-11, 1-2N/O-2E.

Comments: In Level II, the 50-55 cm level represents the floor level of the T-11 structure. Due to abundant intrusions on this terrace, this small area was the only undisturbed floor excavated in the interior of the structure. The level of this floor and the plow zone (Level I) materials above it were too eroded to be useful in sequence building.

Feature 6 is evident in the 2N, 0-2E profile of this unit. This feature, along with others on this terrace, was apparently intruded from the plow zone level. Annual plowing prohibits the determination of their relative age; however, minor amounts of post-Formative debris from the interior of these features indicates a later date for them.

C-14 Dates:

Level IV N-1709 630 ± 110 BC

SSU 6 (Fig. B.6)

T-15W: 37-38S/9-11E.

Level: Subphase:

I LATE AMATE

Comments: The lowest level, here designated Level I, was determined to be the only stratum likely to represent primary deposition. Two superimposed structures are evident in this unit. The earliest walls rest on Level I, while the

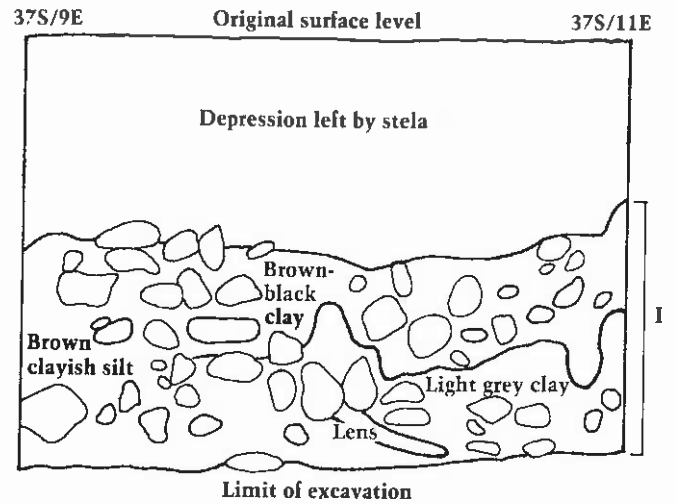


Figure B.6. SSU 6 profile: T-15W, 37-38S/9-11E.

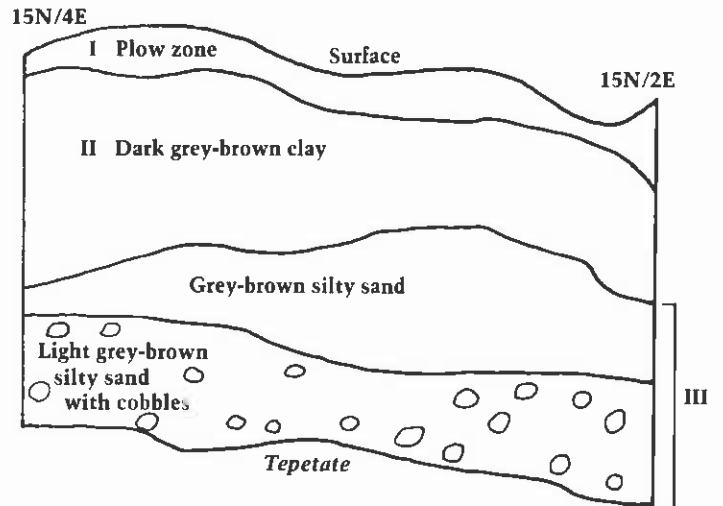


Figure B.7. SSU 7 profile: T-20, 15-16N/2-4E.

upper structure is a stone-faced platform which is associated with Monument 21 and which dates to the Cantera phase. Post-Formative ceramics were found clearly posterior to the platform, in the plow zone and outside the structure.

SSU 7 (Fig. B.7)

T-20: 15-16N/2-4E.

Level: Subphase:

I
II
III LATE CANTERA

Comments: The upper two levels represent a mixture of cultural debris due to later period construction and slope

wash, and thus were not included in this analysis.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 8

T-21: 25-27N/72-73W, Fea. 1 [see Fig. 4.29].

Level: Subphase:

I
II
III
IV LATE CANTERA
V LATE CANTERA
VI LATE CANTERA
VII LATE CANTERA
VIII EARLY CANTERA
IX MIDDLE BARRANCA

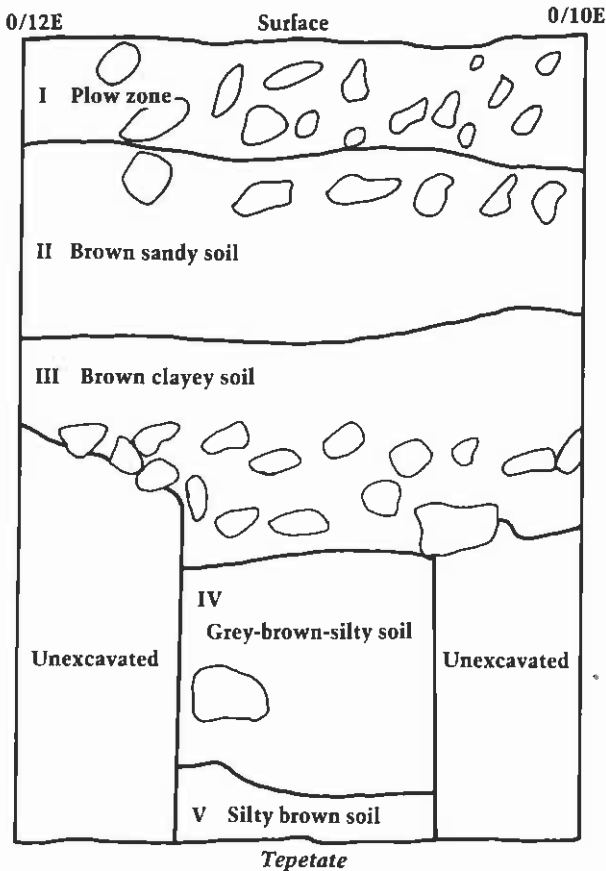


Figure B.8. SSU 11 profile: T-17, O-1N/10-12E.

Comments: Intrusive Fea. 1 was excavated using the alignment or configurations of dumped loads of sherds as indicators of natural levels or single acts of dumping. These levels were utilized in the sequence building (except for the plow zone and the first two levels of the feature) in the hopes that the patterns of dumping in the feature would provide finer temporal control. The use span of this feature, however, was apparently short except for the lowest two levels.

C-14 Dates:
Level IV N-1950 830 ± 85 BC

<i>Level:</i>	<i>Subphase:</i>
I	
II	
III	LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Level II of this unit is the matrix into which SSU 8 Fea. 1 was intruded. Levels I and II were not used in this study due to high frequencies of eroded materials.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 10
T-21: 6-7N/66-68W.

<i>Level:</i>	<i>Subphase:</i>
I	
II	LATE CANTERA
III	EARLY CANTERA

SSU 9
T-21: 25-27N/74-75W.

Comments: Level I was the plow zone and therefore not used in this study. Levels II and III were associated with parallel rock lines whose function was to retain downslope movement from the adjacent and higher T-23.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 11 (Fig. B.8)
T-17: 0-1N/10-12E.

<i>Level:</i>	<i>Subphase:</i>
I	
II	
III	
IV	LATE BARRANCA
V	EARLY BARRANCA

Comments: Although a talud wall and the remains of an earlier structure were found in the upper levels of this unit, the ceramics were deplorably eroded except in the lower two levels, IV and V, so only these two levels were utilized in this study.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 12-13 (Fig. B.9)
T-23: 7-9N/5-6E (SSU 12),
7-9N/6-7E (SSU 13).

<i>Level (both units):</i>	<i>Subphase:</i>
I	LATE CANTERA
II	LATE CANTERA
III	LATE CANTERA
IV	LATE CANTERA

Comments: These two adjacent units perforate two possible floors, one at Level II and the other at Level III. A possible intrusion of pottery vessels is evident in the 7-9N/6E profile, perhaps associated with nearby burials. The construction activity on T-23 was intense and apparently encompassed a relatively short time span. Areas within the structure were disturbed for the interment of individuals and for the fashioning of other specialized activity features.

Although there appears to have been no major disturbance in these two units, it is disconcerting to note that in the seriations conducted on these materials, the levels seriated upside down from the original stratigraphic order. While there are relatively few differences in the assemblages from top to bottom, and all these levels can be considered part of the Late Cantera subphase, caution must be exercised in using these levels for finer chronological divisions simply because of the possibility that they are disturbed.

C-14 Dates: None.

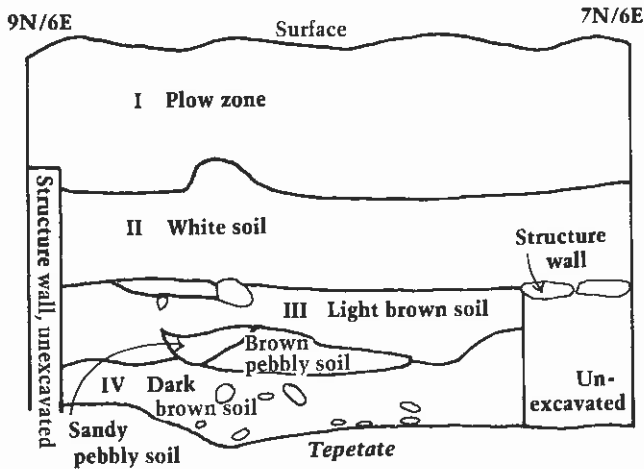


Figure B.9. SSU 12-13 profile: T-23, 7-9N/6E.

SSU 14 (Fig. B.10)
T-23: 35-36N/28-29E.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Levels I and II contained totally eroded materials and were not included in this study. Level III is a possible floor and is the only stratum used for sequence building.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 15
T-24: 20-21N/2-5E, Fea. 2.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III (Fea. 2) LATE CANTERA
- IV LATE CANTERA

Comments: The plow zone and underlying stratum of slope wash (Levels I and II), which both crosscut the slope of Level IV, were not used in this study. It is unclear whether Feature 2 in Level III postdates the slope wash zone, but it certainly postdates Level IV.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 16-19 (Fig. B.11)
T-25: 0-1S/0-7W in front of the altar (SSU 16), 1S-1N/0-1W (pozo; SSU 17), 0-1N/0-1E (SSU 18), 1-2N/4-5W (SSU 19).

Figure B.11. SSU 16-19 profile: T-25, 0/1E-2W.

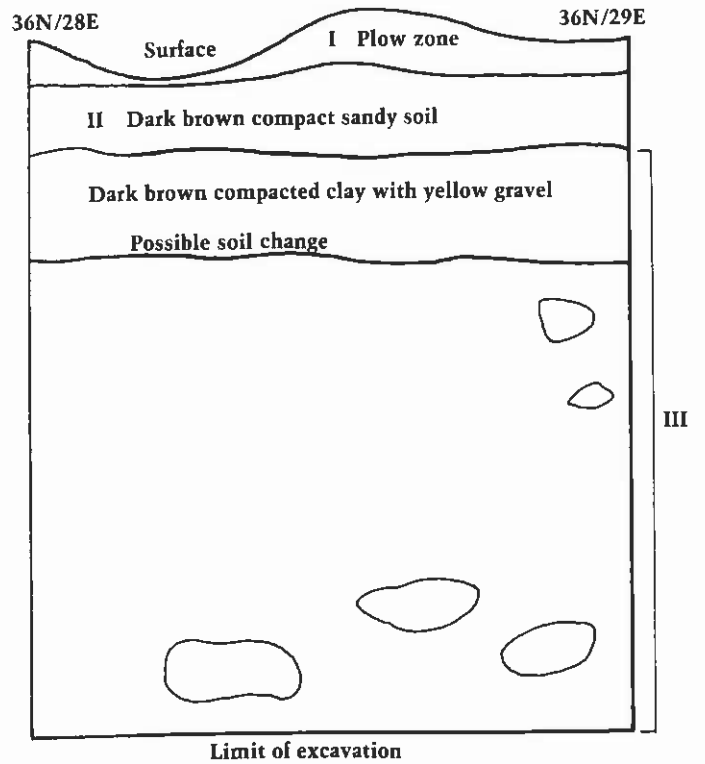
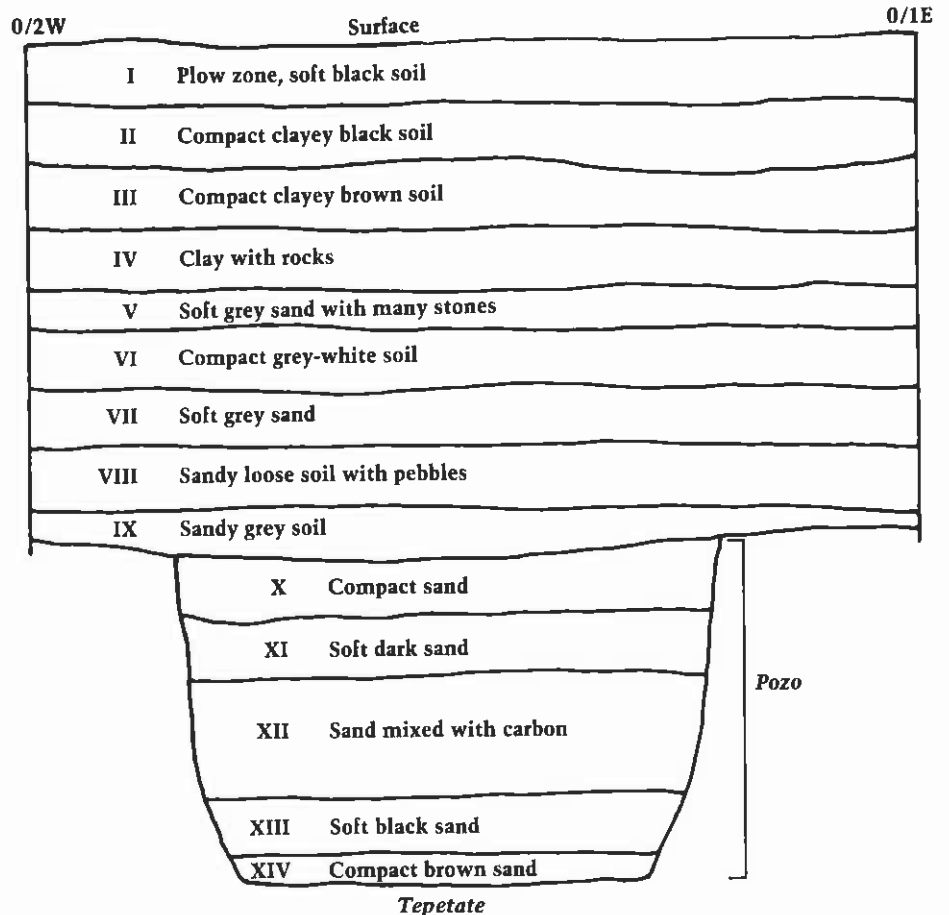


Figure B.10. SSU 14 profile: T-23, 35-36N/28-29E.



Level:	Subphase:
SSU 16	I
	III
	IV LATE CANTERA
	V LATE CANTERA
	VI LATE BARRANCA
	VII MIDDLE BARRANCA
	VIII MIDDLE BARRANCA
SSU 17	IX MIDDLE BARRANCA
	X MIDDLE BARRANCA
	XI } <i>Pozo</i> MIDDLE BARRANCA
	XII } MIDDLE BARRANCA
	XIII } MIDDLE BARRANCA
	XIV } MIDDLE BARRANCA
SSU 18	I
	II
	III
	IV LATE CANTERA
	V LATE CANTERA
	VI LATE BARRANCA
	VII MIDDLE BARRANCA
	VIII MIDDLE BARRANCA
SSU 19	II
	III
	IV LATE CANTERA
	V LATE CANTERA
	VI LATE BARRANCA
	VII MIDDLE BARRANCA

Comments: In these four related units, Levels I (plow zone), II, and III were not used in this study. Levels II and III were associated with the large rocks covering the face of the altar. Levels V–VIII and the *pozo* (pit; Levels X–XIV) are pre-altar occupation levels. The *pozo* feature was intruded into sterile *tepetate* from the level of *tepetate*.

C-14 Dates:

Pozo (lower levels) N-1702 670
± 100 BC

Pozo (upper levels) N-1710 1070
± 85 BC

SSU 20 (Fig. B.12)
T-25: 6–8S/3–4W.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	EARLY CANTERA

Comments: This unit is located behind the T-25 altar. The upper levels (I–III) are zones of erosion detained by the altar construction. Level IV predates altar construction and is undoubtedly an occupation zone due to the presence of large vessel fragments and large quantities of carbon.

C-14 Dates: None.

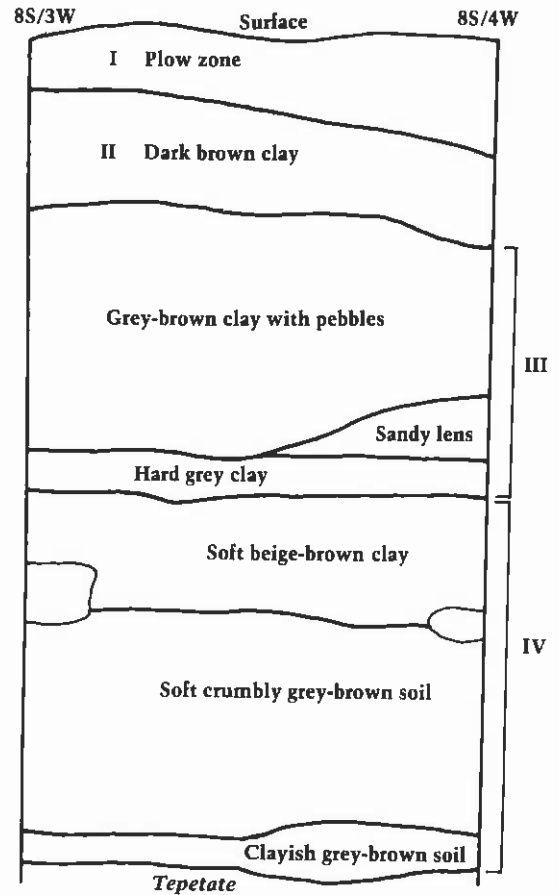


Figure B.12. SSU 20 profile: T-25, 6–8S/3–4W.

SSU 21 (Fig. B.13)
T-25: 2–4S/0–1E.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	EARLY–LATE CANTERA
VI	LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Levels I–IV were eliminated from this study due to high frequencies of eroded materials.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 22 (Fig. B.14)
T-25: 2.2–4S/2–3W.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	LATE BARRANCA
VI	LATE BARRANCA
VII	MIDDLE BARRANCA

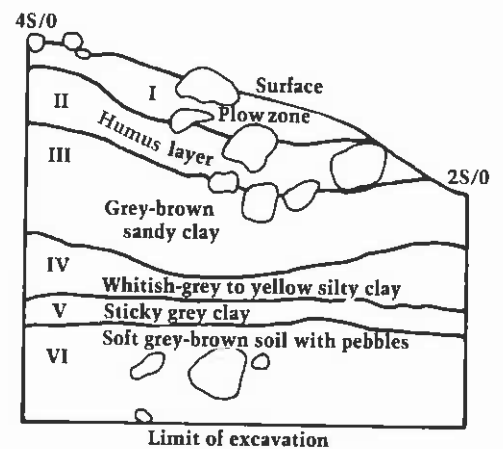


Figure B.13. SSU 21 profile: T-25, 2–4S/0–1E.

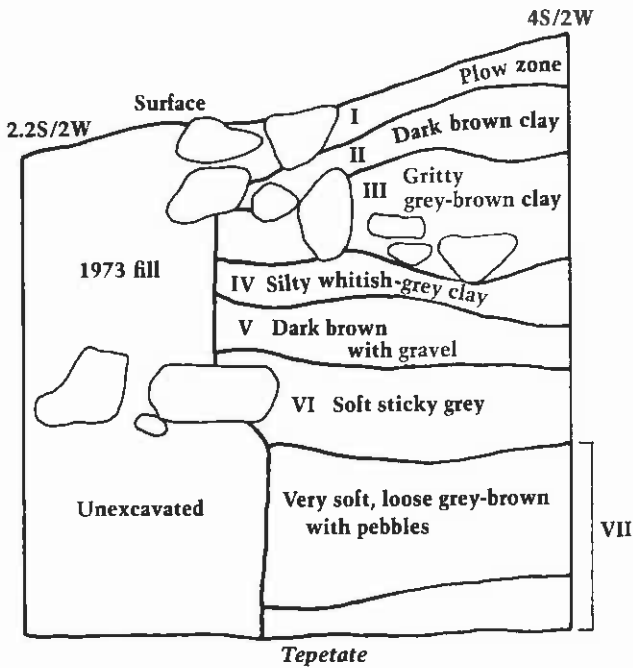


Figure B.14. SSU 22 profile: T-25, 4-2.2S/2-3W.

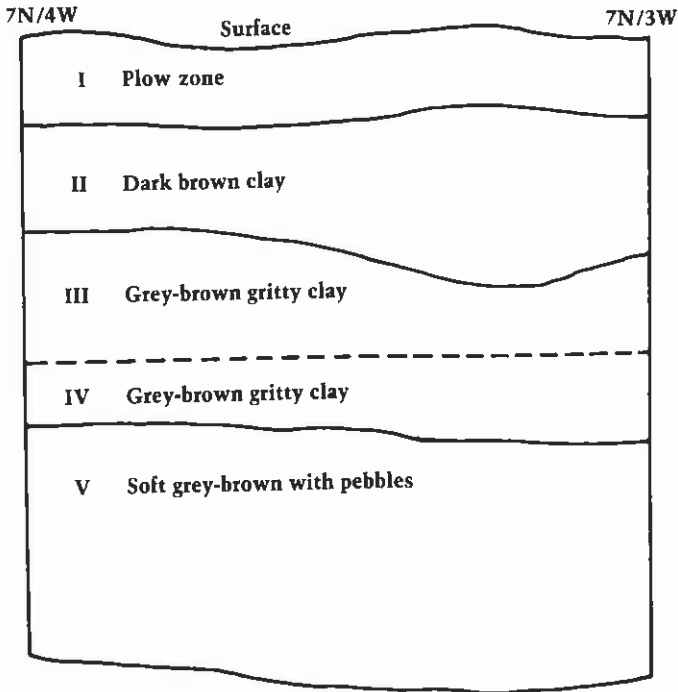


Figure B.15. SSU 24 profile: T-25, 4-7N/3-4W.

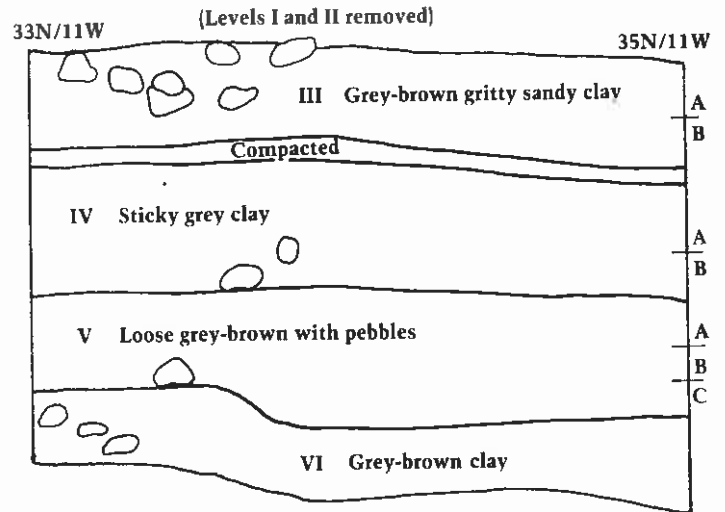


Figure B.16. SSU 25 profile: T-25, 33-35N/10-11W.

Comments: Levels I-IV contained high proportions of eroded materials and were not used in this study.
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 23

T-25: 2-4N/6-7W.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV LATE CANTERA
- V MIDDLE BARRANCA

Comments: Levels I-III contained high proportions of eroded materials and were not used in this study.
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 24 (Fig. B.15)

T-25: 4-7N/3-4W.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV LATE BARRANCA
- V MIDDLE-LATE BARRANCA

Comments: High percentages of eroded materials in Levels I-III resulted in their elimination from this analysis.
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 25 (Fig. B.16)

T-25: 33-35N/10-11W.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II

IIIA	LATE CANTERA
IIIB	EARLY CANTERA
IVA	LATE BARRANCA—EARLY CANTERA
IVB	LATE BARRANCA
VA	MIDDLE BARRANCA
VB	MIDDLE BARRANCA
VC	EARLY BARRANCA
VI	EARLY BARRANCA

Comments: The plow zone (Level I) and Level II were not used in this study. Level II was a zone of post-Formative intrusions. Levels IIIA and IIIB were occupation levels associated with a stone-faced platform.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 26

T-29: 3.8–4S/13–15W.

Level: *Subphase:*

I	
II	
III	EARLY CANTERA
IV	LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Levels I and II represent plow and slope wash zones, and were not used in this study. Both Levels III and IV were associated with stone constructions.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 27 (Fig. B.17)

S-39: 5–6N/4–5W.

Level: *Subphase:*

I	
II	LATE CANTERA

Comments: The plow zone (Level I) was not used in the analysis.

C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 28 (Fig. B.18)

PC: 0–3N/0–1E.

Level: *Subphase:*

I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	
VI	
VII	LATE AMATE

Comments: This unit perforated the platform mound (Str. 4) at the southern edge of the Plaza Central. Level VII was the only undisturbed stratum pertaining to a pre-mound construction period.

C-14 Dates:

Level VII N-1698 1660 ± 90 BC

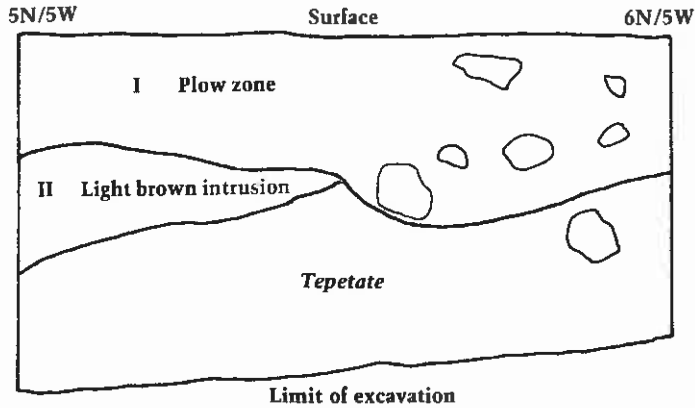


Figure B.17. SSU 27 profile: S-39, 5–6N/4–5W.

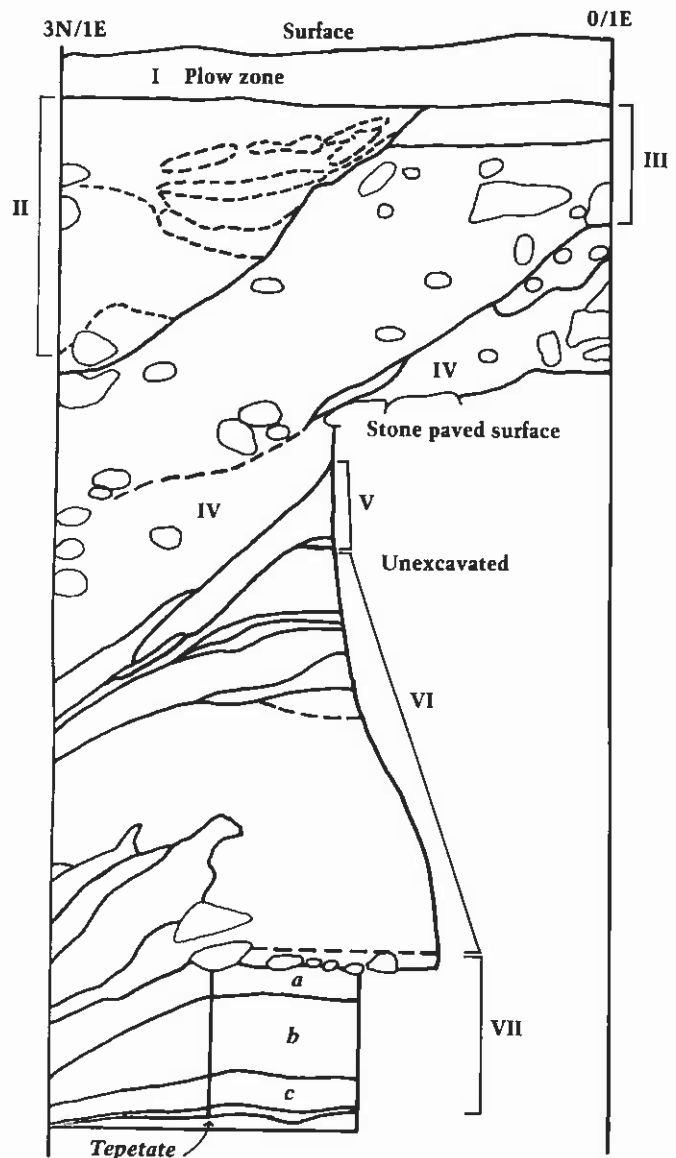


Figure B.18. SSU 28 profile: PC Structure 4, 0–3N/1E. Level II, Classic period rebuilding; III, Cantera phase rebuilding; IV, possible Cantera phase rebuilding; V–VI, Amate phase structure.

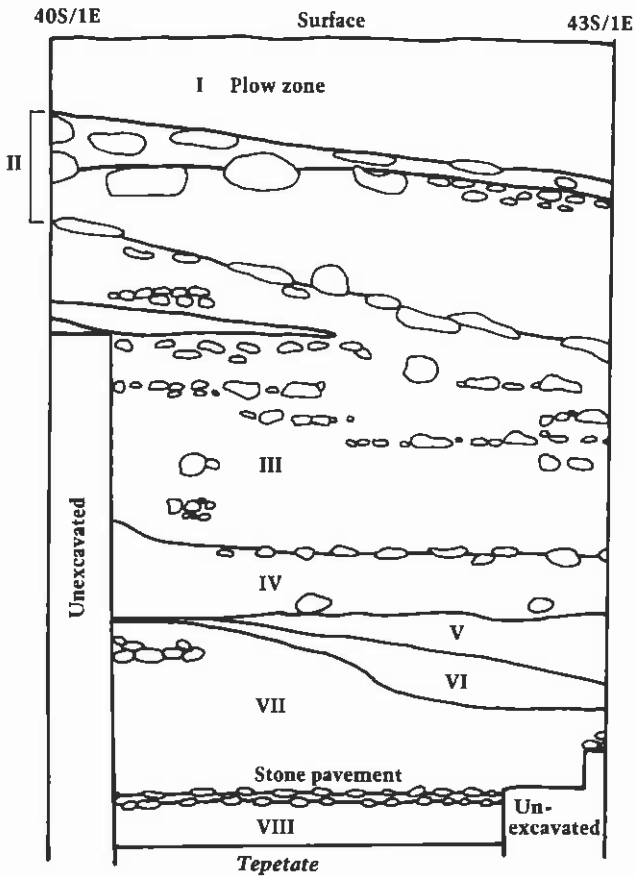


Figure B.19. SSU 29 profile: PC Structure 4, 40-43S/1E.

SSU 29 (Fig. B.19)
PC: 40-43S/0-1E.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V LATE AMATE
- VI LATE AMATE
- VII LATE AMATE
- VIII LATE AMATE

Comments: This unit also perforated PC Structure 4. The top 3 m (Levels I-IV) represent platform fill. A stone pavement sealed the pre-mound levels (V-VIII).
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 30 (Fig. B.20)
PC Trench: 68.6-70S/0-1E,
71-75S/0-1E.

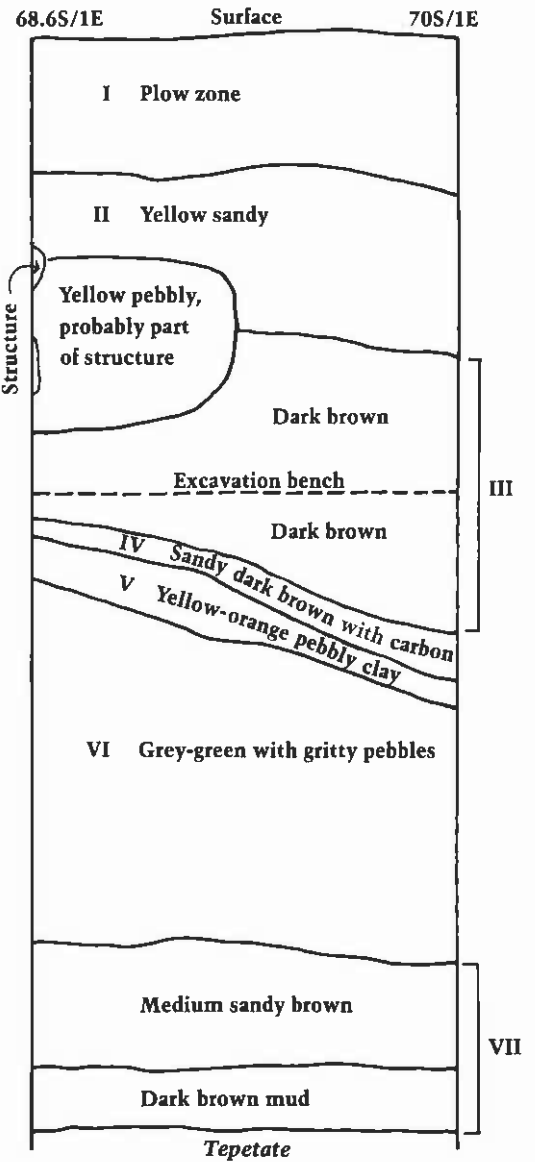


Figure B.20. SSU 30 profile: PC Trench, 68.6-70S/1E.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V
- VI EARLY CANTERA
- VII LATE BARRANCA-EARLY CANTERA

Comments: The upper strata of these two adjacent units (Levels I-V) represent heavy slope wash. The lower levels, VI and VII, were original ground surfaces.

C-14 Dates:
Level VII N-1409 1140 ± 100 BC

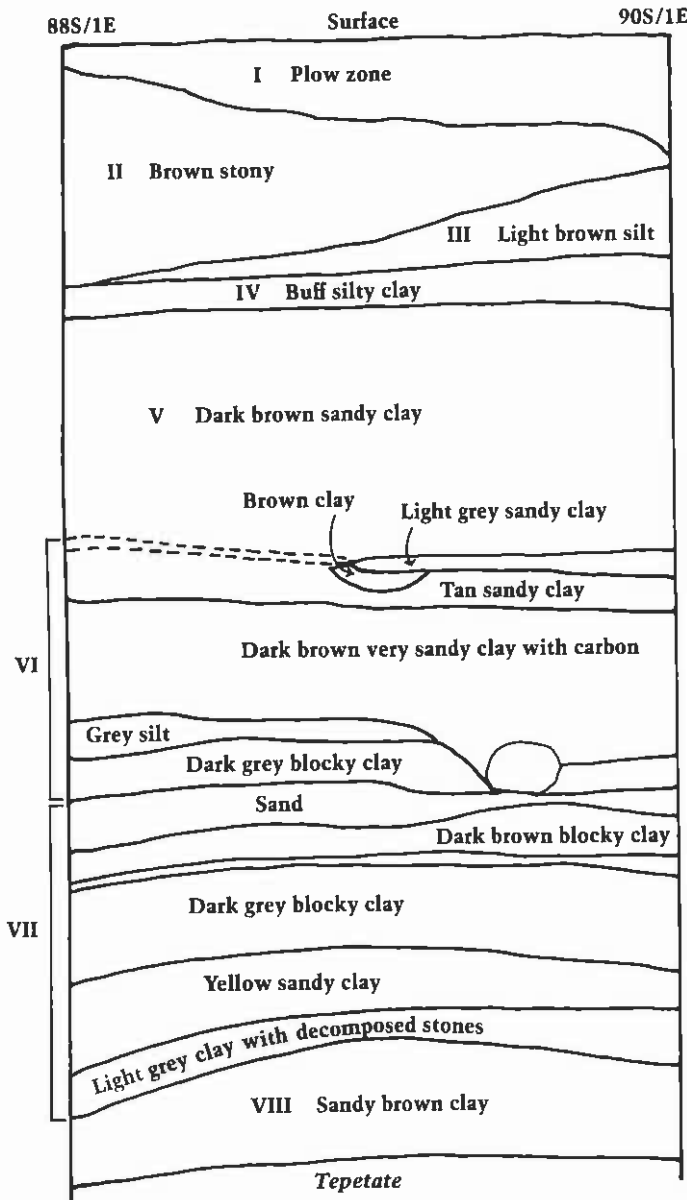


Figure B.21. SSU 31 profile: PC Trench, 88-90S/1E.

SSU 31 (Fig. B.21)
PC Trench: 87-90S/0-1E.

Level:	Subphase:
I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	LATE CANTERA
VI	EARLY CANTERA
VII	LATE BARRANCA
VIII	LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Levels I-IV are part of a zone of heavy slope wash and contained high frequencies of eroded materials; thus, they were eliminated from this study.

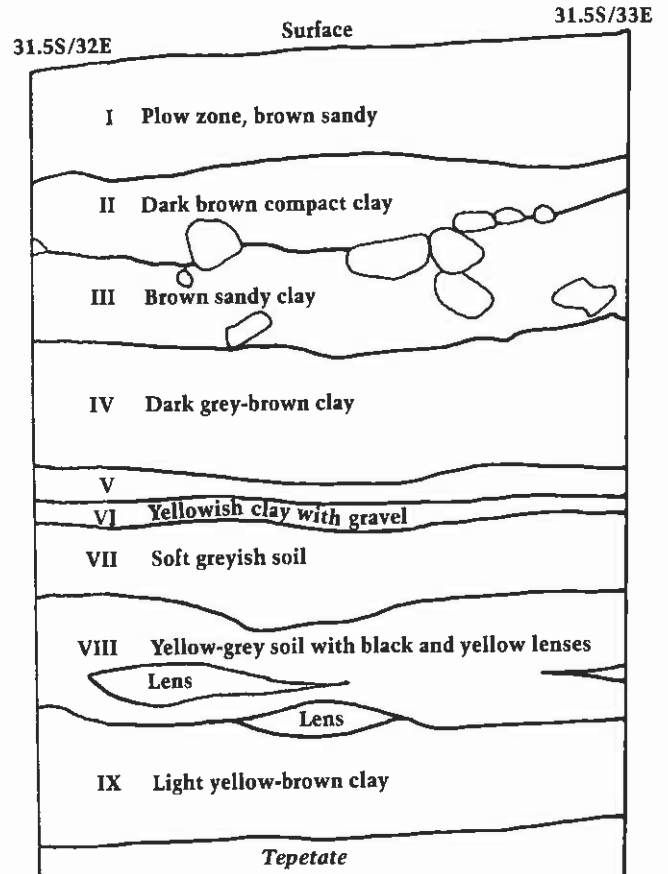


Figure B.22. SSU 32 profile: PC, 31.5S/32-33E.

C-14 Dates:
Level VII N-1407 1090 ± 85 BC

SSU 32 (Fig. B.22)
PC: 28-29S/33-34E, 31-32S/33-34E, 31-32S/35-36E, 31-32S/36-37E, 31-32S/37-38E, 31-32S/34-35E, 30-31.5S/32-33E.

Level:	Subphase:
I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	
VI	
VII	LATE AMATE
VIII	LATE AMATE
IX	

Comments: Levels VII and VIII were the only reliable levels with unmixed materials. The other strata were not used in this study.

C-14 Dates: None.

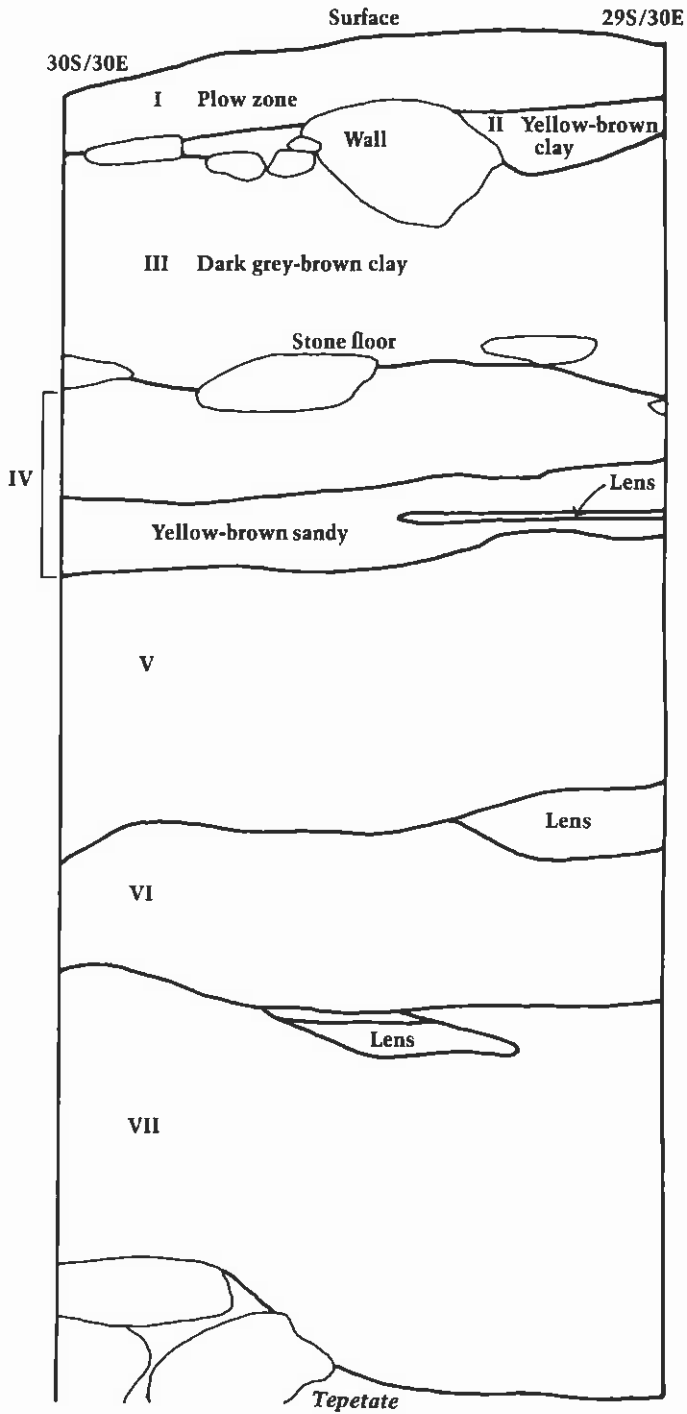


Figure B.23. SSU 33 profile: PC, 29-30S/30-31E.

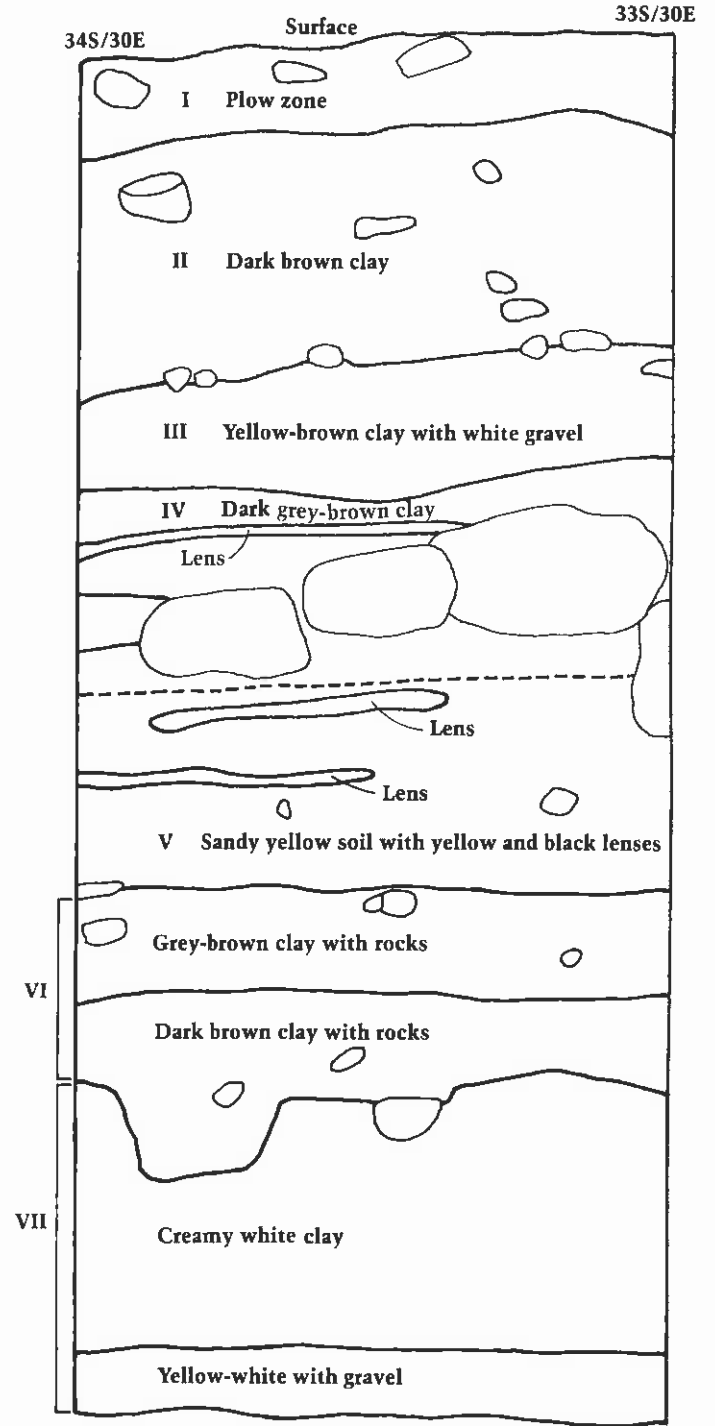


Figure B.24. SSU 34 profile: PC, 33-34S/30-31E.

SSU 33 (Fig. B.23)
PC: 29-30S/30-31E.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	LATE AMATE
V	LATE AMATE
VI	EARLY AMATE
VII	EARLY AMATE

Comments: Levels I-III represent the plow zone and mound fill or wash zones, and were not used in this study.
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 34 (Fig. B.24)
PC: 33-34S/30-31E.

Level: Subphase:

I	
II	
III	
IV	
V	LATE AMATE
VI	LATE AMATE
VII	EARLY AMATE

Comments: Levels V-VII predate the stone pavement and were the only levels used from this unit. The upper levels (I-IV) are zones of mixed materials.
C-14 Dates: None.

SSU 35-36 (Fig. B.25)
PC Str. 1: 112-114S/0-2W (trash pit feature; SSU 35), 114-116S/0-2E (SSU 36).

Level: Subphase:

I	
FEATURE (SSU 35)	LATE CANTERA
II	
III	EARLY CANTERA
IV	EARLY CANTERA
V	LATE BARRANCA
VI	LATE BARRANCA
VII	LATE BARRANCA
VIII	LATE BARRANCA
IX	MIDDLE BARRANCA
X	MIDDLE BARRANCA
XI	EARLY BARRANCA
XII	EARLY BARRANCA
XIII	EARLY BARRANCA
XIV	EARLY BARRANCA

Comments: The SSU 35 trash pit was an intrusive feature which disturbed the stone walls in Levels II and III. This feature postdates the construction activity of Level II and predates the interment of Burial 19. It contained a large amount of debris and also a small stone sculpture.

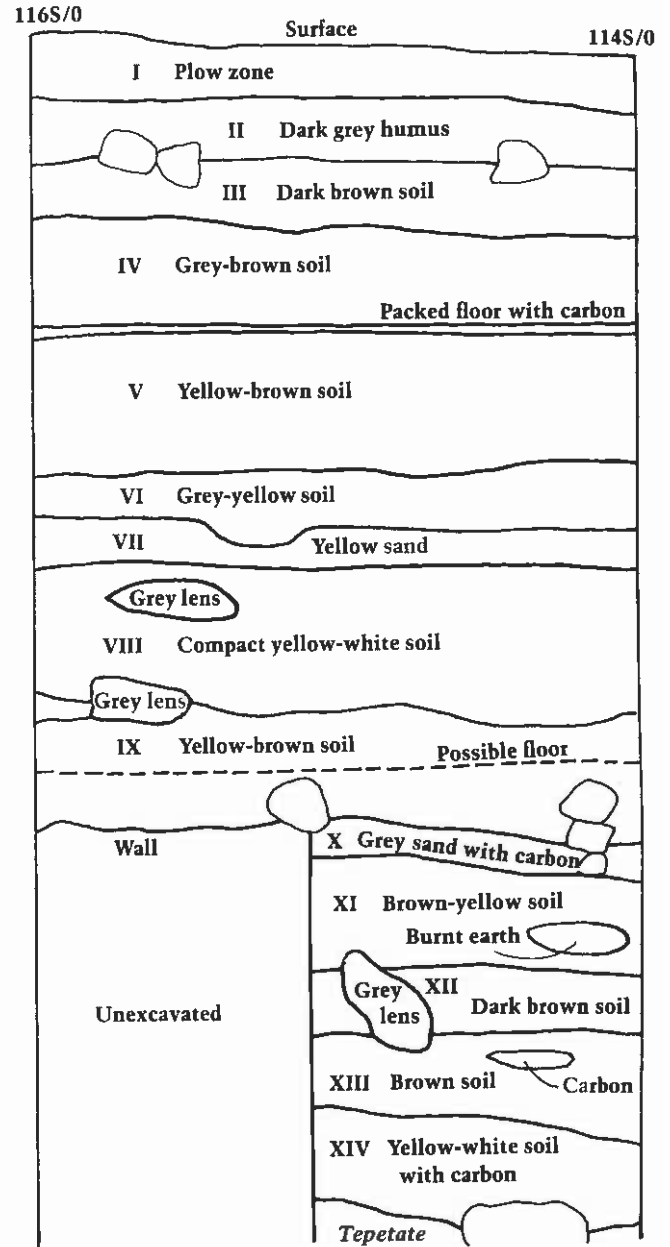


Figure B.25. SSU 35-36 profile: PC Structure 1, 114-116S/O.

Levels I (plow zone) and II of SSU 36 were not used due to high frequencies of eroded materials. The lower levels constitute a series of floors.

C-14 Dates:

Level II	N-1404	710 ± 70 BC
Level VIII	N-1705	820 ± 100 BC
Level XIII	N-1704	220 ± 95 BC

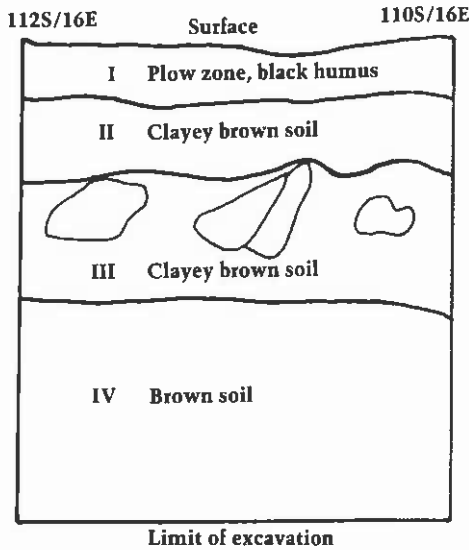


Figure B.26. SSU 37 profile: PC Structure 3, 110-112S/16-18E.

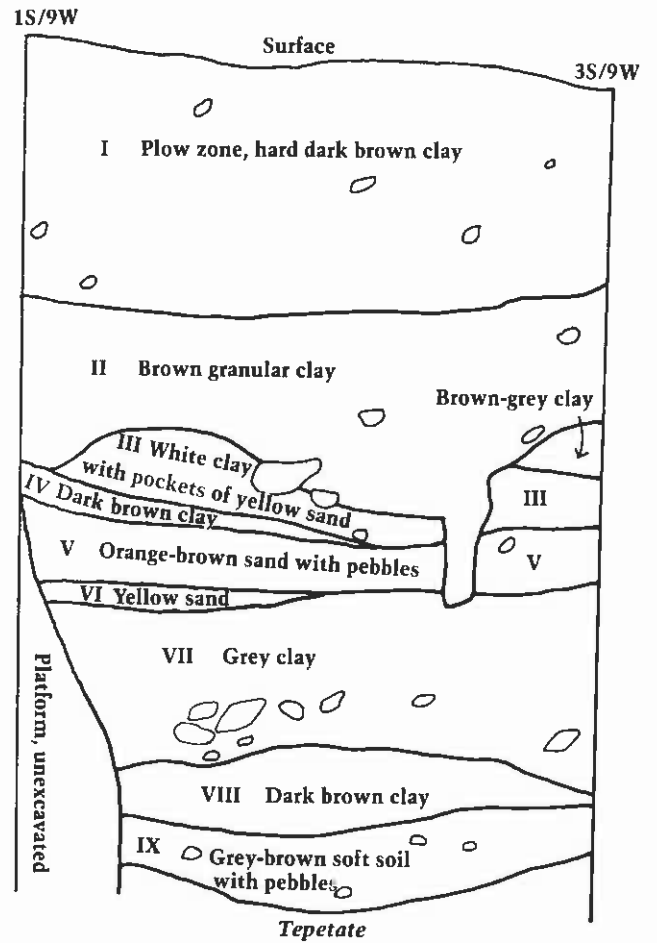


Figure B.27. SSU 38 profile: T-6, 1-3S/9-10W.

SSU 37 (Fig. B.26)

PC Str. 3: 110-112S/16-18E.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV LATE BARRANCA

Comments: Unfortunately, due to a bag labeling error during excavations, the upper levels of this unit could not be reliably determined. The lowest level (IV) contains no construction activity; however, within this level there are indications of a possible hearth area nearby.

C-14 Dates:

Level IV N-1412 1040 ± 135 BC

SSU 38 (Fig. B.27)

T-6: 3-4N/9-10W, 0-3S/9-10W,
0.5-1.5S/10-12W, 0.5-1.5S/12-13W.

Level: Subphase:

- I
- II
- III
- IV
- V LATE AMATE
- VI LATE AMATE
- VII LATE AMATE
- VIII LATE AMATE
- IX LATE AMATE

Comments: Levels V-IX represent undisturbed strata on T-6. A possible platform structure of Amate phase date is also present.

C-14 Dates: None.