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## PSB OP 100 Excavation Report

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## Site 100

Site 100 contains 17 constructions, seven of which comprise a patio-focused group in the site's center (Str. 100-8 to 14) while the remainder are dispersed in a rough line northwest and southeast of that nucleated aggregate over the lower Ulua terrace. In general, the largest platforms surround the aforementioned patio. Site 100 lies 8-55m northeast of the steep descent from the terrace to the river. A crew of six men labored for five days excavating five buildings at Site 100, four in the patio cluster (Str. 100-8, 10, 11, and 14) and one outlier to the northwest (Str. 100-16). A total of 30 person-days of work resulted in clearing ca. 38m<sup>2</sup>. The investigations were overseen by T. Johnson and E. Schortman.

### Structure 100-8

Structure 100-8 closes off the south side of the Site 100 patio. This low platform was investigated by means of Subop. 100B, a 1m-wide (east-west) by 4.22m-long (north-south) trench set against the approximate center of the building's north side. Suboperation 100B was carried down to a maximum depth of 0.59m into architectural fill, revealing a single construction phase.

### Excavation Lots

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Time Span</u>
100B/1	45 sherds 1 obsidian piece 1 chert piece	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100B/2	12 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100B/3	29 sherds	Fill	2
100B/4	6 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1

### Time Spans

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Construction Phase</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>Features</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	-	-	S.1	-	LC
2	Str. 100-8-1st	U.1-3	-	-	LC, EPC
3	-	-	S.2	F.1	-

### Time Span 1

The first period of activity recognized in Subop. 100B is the deposition of S.1, a light-brown, fine-textured, soft-compacted earth which slopes down 0.19m over 1.42m from south to north. Stratum 1 was exposed to a maximum thickness of 0.16m though its base was never identified. A nearly identical earth level uncovered on the west side of, and underlying construction associated with, Str. 100-10 (S.3) also dropped markedly in the direction of the Site 100 patio (see below, TS.2). The significance of this pattern continues to elude us. The relatively level patio surface seen today may have been broken by depressions during prehistoric occupation of the locus, possibly seasonal run-offs like those which currently cut through the terrace surface. Recovery of a few artifacts from this basal level points to a light occupation of the area later covered by Str. 100-8-1st during TS.1.

### Time Span 2

The north flank of Str. 100-8-1st initially consisted of a sheer cobble wall (U.1) standing 0.46m high and set 0.07m into S.1. Subsequently, the platform's north face was extended 0.72m northward into the patio by the addition of U.2 and 3. The latter is a densely packed cobble fill resting on S.1 and completely burying U.1. Unit 2 is the poorly preserved, northern retaining wall behind which U.3 is packed. This facing stands a preserved 0.28m high. When in use, U.2 probably ascended a full 0.46m, equivalent to the tops of U.1 and 3. Structure 100-8-1st's north flank, therefore, rises, 0.46m, is aligned 113 degrees (measured on U.1), and was added to at least once during TS.2.

### Time Span 3

Following abandonment of Str. 100-8-1st, S.2 was deposited, burying all but the uppermost construction stones. Stratum 4 is a dark brown, fine-textured, moderately hard-compacted soil in which root density increases with proximity to ground surface. Tumbled stone architectural debris (F.1) is included in this layer, extending 2.5m north of U.2. These displaced cobbles are densest in the immediate vicinity of U.2, decreasing in numbers with increasing distance from the platform. The quantities of debris included in F.1 indicate that Str. 100-8-1st has suffered considerable disruption since TS.2, an interpretation bolstered by the poor state of U.2's preservation.

### Structure 100-10

Structure 100-10 lies ca. 3m northeast of Str. 100-8 and 3.5m west of Str. 100-14. This edifice was investigated by means of a 10.45m-long (east-west), 1m-wide trench (Subop. 100C and J) set up on the building's approximate center-line (0.5m just east of the building's summit, separating Subop. 100C and J, was not dug). Excavations were carried down to a maximum depth of 1.6m below the summit, revealing two construction phases and occupation predating the raising of Str. 100-10.

### Excavation Lots

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Time Span</u>
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100C/1	10 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	5
100C/2	57 sherds 1 obsidian piece	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	5
100C/3	9 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	5
100C/4	22 sherds	Fill	5
100C/5	43 sherds 1 obsidian piece 2 chert pieces 2 andesite pieces	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	5
100C/6	45 sherds 7 obsidian pieces 1 lithic fragment 10 <u>bajareque</u> fragments	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	5
100C/7	53 sherds 1 censer fragment 4 <u>bajareque</u> fragments 2 freshwater shell pieces	Mixed Fill and Terminal Debris	5
100C/8	28 sherds	Fill	3
100C/9	6 sherds 6 censer fragments	Occupation Debris (Primary)	2
100C/10	? artifacts	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/11	9 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/12	15 sherds 1 obsidian piece	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/13	7 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/14	13 sherds 1 obsidian piece 1 chert piece 1 andesite piece	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/15	45 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1

	2 obsidian pieces 2 chert pieces 1 andesite piece 1 <u>jute</u> shell		
100C/16	68 sherds 10 obsidian pieces 1 chert piece 1 <u>jute</u> shell	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/17	7 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1
100C/18	3 sherds	Fill	3
100J/1	17 sherds 1 obsidian piece	Mixed Fill and Occupation Debris	2,5
100J/2	? artifacts	Mixed Fill and Terminal Debris	5
100J/3	11 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	3,4
100J/4	16 sherds 1 <u>metate</u> fragment	Mixed Fill and Occupation Debris	1,2,5

#### Time Spans

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Construction Phase</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>Features</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	-	-	S.1-3	-	EC
2	Str. 100-10-Sub1	U.1-2	-	-	EC, LC
3	-	-	S.4	-	?
4	Str. 100-10-2nd	U.3-7	-	-	LC
5	Str. 100-10-1st	U.8-14	-	-	LC, EPC
6	-	-	S.4	-	-

#### Time Span 1

Deposition of S.1-3 comprises the first significant activity revealed in the Subop. 100C

and J excavations. Stratum 1, the bottommost soil level uncovered, is a dark reddish-brown, fine-textured, soft-compacted earth exposed to a maximum thickness of only 0.1m before disappearing into the base of Subop. 100C. Stratum 2 is nearly identical to underlying S.1, the two levels differing only slightly in color (S.2 has a slightly lighter hue than S.1). Stratum 2 is 0.34-0.53m thick and is buried by 0.5-0.61m of S.3. The latter is a light brown, fine-textured, soft-compacted soil underlying Str. 100-10-1st and 2nd construction in all portions of Subop. 100C and J. Stratum 3 drops roughly 0.29m over 6.75m east to west towards the Rio Ulua. It may well be that the descent is more precipitous westward of the last exposed segment of S.3 as the level is dropping sharply over the final 0.65m revealed in Subop. 100C. Recovery of scattered cultural material within S.1-3 points to a light occupation of the spot later occupied by Str. 100-10, prior to the construction of that edifice. No architecture is clearly associated with this span.

### Time Span 2

Construction of Str.100-10-Sub1 (U.1-2) is the major event recorded in TS.2. Structure 100-10-Sub1 appears to have been a surface-level construction defined by a low (1 stone, or ca. 0.1m high) cobble foundation, a fragment of which was uncovered on the east (U.2). Unit 2 is roughly 0.2m (1 rock) wide and set 0.07m into S.3, the top of the latter stratum possibly serving as Str. 100-10-Sub1's floor. The southeast corner of Str. 100-10-Sub1 was identified in Subop. 100J though the remaining foundations were not found. Lying 1.33m west of U.2 is a grouping of three cobbles which together define a space measuring 0.1m north-south by 0.14m east-west, open on the west (U.1). The largest rock is set vertically on the east side of this space protruding a scant 0.02m above S.3. The remaining stones are set flat and project 0.07-0.13m from beneath the larger cobble. The significance of this purposeful construction is unclear. Unit 1 may have served as supports for a wooden post sunk at least 0.33m into S.3, perhaps an element used to support Str. 100-10-Sub1's roof.

Because we cannot link U.1 and 2 definitively to each other, their inclusion within a single construction must remain a tentative interpretation. If these elements are part of Str. 101-10-Sub1, the edifice would be an earthen-floored construction delimited by stone footings and oriented approximately 358 degrees. The roof may have been supported by a center-post sunk into S.3 and bordered by stones to increase stability. No cultural deposits clearly associated with this time span were dated by stylistic or radiometric means. The raising of Str. 100-10-Sub1, therefore, is placed on the cusp between the Early Classic (diagnostics of which are found scattered through underlying S.1-3) and Late Classic (to which Str. 100-10-1st and 2nd pertain).

### Time Span 3

Structure 100-10-2nd is a low platform ascended on the west, patio side by a cobble-faced terrace (U.4) backed by a stone pavement (U.6a) overlain by a very hard, red-brown clay surface 0.01-0.04m thick (U.6b). Unit 4 rises 0.12m and the terrace it fronts is 1.1m wide east-west. Unit 6b was only preserved over the easternmost 0.44m of the terrace where it had been buried, and preserved, by later construction (U.11). Presumably, U.6a served as a stone subfloor originally covered by U.6b. Unit 5, abutted by U.6b, is a cobble wall rising 0.28m above the latter floor. This construction marks the western limit of the Str. 100-10-2nd summit and is backed by a fill composed of reddish-brown, fine-textured, moderately hard-compacted soil

(U.7). The only remnant of Str. 100-10-2nd's superstructure is U.3, a low cobble foundation (0.06m high by 0.24m across, set within U.7) which probably supported walls fashioned of perishable materials. Excavation seems to have revealed the southeast corner of a summit room defined by U.3 though large segments of the enclosure's eastern and southern foundations were missing, probably pillaged for stone used in the building of Str. 100-10-1st. No further evidence of rooms raised atop Str. 100-10-2nd's earthen summit was revealed in Subop. 100C nor was the eastern basal wall of the platform uncovered (this wall is most likely to be found in the unexcavated area separating Subop. 100C and J).

Structure 100-10-2nd is, therefore, an earth-filled, stone-faced platform that rises ca. 0.3m on the west, measures, maximally, 4.95m east-west, and is aligned 347 to 357 degrees. The edifice was originally topped with a perishable superstructure composed of at least one earth-floored room enclosed by low stone footings. Construction of Str. 100-10-2nd buried portions of Str. 100-10-Sub1 (U.1) by at least 0.17m of fill (U.7) though the earlier building's east foundation still lay at least 0.72m east of the platform.

#### Time Span 4

A period of soil deposition (the lower 0.2m of S.4) seems to have intervened between the abandonment of Str. 100-10-2nd and the raising of Str. 100-10-1st. Evidence for this interval comes exclusively from Subop. 100J on the east side of Str. 100-10 where U.2 (Str. 100-10-Sub1) rests ca. 0.2m below the base of U.8-9 (associated with Str. 100-10-1st; no sign of a comparable accumulation west of Str. 100-10 was noted). Unfortunately, no components of Str. 100-10-2nd could be directly related to U.1-2 and S.4 so the temporal relationship among these elements remains unclear. The portion of S.4 in question, therefore, appears to have been introduced sometime after TS.2 and prior to construction in TS.5. This interpretation is based on the argument that Str. 100-10-2nd served as an effective barrier to soil movement, S.4 collecting on the upslope (east) side of the platform and eroding down toward the Rio Ulua on the west. This hypothesis has the advantage of accounting for differences in the elevations of subsequent Str. 100-10-1st construction on the platform's west and east sides (see TS.5). It has the distinct disadvantage of relying on a putative stratigraphic relation between an unexcavated wall (Str. 100-10-2nd's east basal facing) and S.4. The foregoing interpretation must, in consequence, be treated as tentative.

Stratum 4 is a dark brown, fine-textured, moderately hard compacted soil with the quantity of included plant roots increasing towards modern ground surface. Stratum 4 is the uppermost soil level recorded in the Str. 100-10 excavations and was apparently deposited over a long span, interrupted in this particular area by the construction of Str. 100-10-1st and 2nd during the Late Classic. If TS.3 is correctly placed in the occupation sequence, the laying down of lower S.4 occurred sometime early in the Late, Classic.

#### Time Span 5

Raising Str. 100-10-1st extended the previous platform's east-west width and raised the summit by at least 0.22m, burying all earlier construction elements in the process. The western side of the platform was still mounted by a single, stone-faced terrace (U.12). Unit 12, however, was set 0.95m west of the previous basal facing (U.4). Unit 4 is now buried by the stone fill backing U.12 (U.13) creating a western terrace 0.22m high and 1.66m wide east-west. The U.6a terrace subfloor would still have been exposed during TS.5. Unit 5 is replaced as the west

summit margin by U.11, a cobble wall which rises 0.32m above U.6a and extends the summit 0.37m west of U.5. The latter wall and U.6b floor remnant are buried beneath U.11 construction. Structure 100-10-1st's eastern flank is delimited by a low (ca. 0.1m high) cobble facing (U.8) that gives way to a 1.28m wide earthen terrace. Unit 8 is backed by a dark brown, fine-textured, moderately hard-compacted earth fill (U.14) also noted underlying the summit where it buries U.7 by roughly 0.22m. This construction unit is indistinguishable from S.4 which overlies final-phase architecture. Unit 9, a cobble wall ascending 0.16m above the eastern terrace, defines Str. 100-10-1st's summit on this side. Like most terminal architecture on Str. 100-10, U.9 is poorly preserved. The platform's earthen summit probably supported a perishable superstructure set on stone footings, of which only a fragment of the western component has survived (U.10). Unit 10 is a 0.13m-high, 0.23m-wide cobble wall. This construction ran roughly north-south. Unit 8 sits 0.42m above the base of U.12, strongly suggesting that the descent of the land noted in the area of Str. 100-10 today was at least as marked when Str. 100-10-1st was built.

Structure 100-10-1st, therefore, is an earth-filled, stone-faced platform standing 0.58m on the west and rising 0.26m on the east to an earthen summit which, most likely, supported a perishable superstructure set on stone foundations. The edifice now measures 7.66m east-west and is oriented approximately 345 degrees (based on the best-preserved construction element, U.11). Both the east and west flanks were ascended via a single, low, cobble-faced terrace though the western, patio-side component is more formalized (with a stone surface) than is its eastern counterpart (backed and surfaced with earth).

### Time Span 6

Structure 100-10-1st is largely buried by the deposition of S.4, though portions of U.9-11 still protruded as much as 0.12m above ground surface when excavated. Tumbled architectural debris is not much in evidence in either Subop. 100C and J, indicating that Str. 100-10-1st suffered little disruption since TS.5.

### Structure 100-11

Structure 100-11 seals the north side of the Site 100 patio. It is one of the more complex buildings at the settlement, possessing a low projection built against the main platform's west side. Suboperation 100F, measuring 1m east-west by 5.94m north-south, was set against the approximate center of the projection's north face. Excavation was carried to a maximum depth of 0.75m into construction fill, revealing a single construction phase.

### Excavation Lots

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Time Span</u>
100F/1	? artifacts	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100F/2	17 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1,2
100F/3	89 sherds 2 obsidian pieces 4 <u>bajareque</u> fragments	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1

57 jute shells

100F/4	10 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100F/5	22 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100F/6	32 sherds	Fill	2

### Time Spans

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Construction Phase</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>Features</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	-	-	S.1	-	EC
2	Str. 100-11-1st, west projection	U.1-4	-	-	LC, EPC
3	-	-	S.2	F.1	-

### Time Span 1

Stratum 1, a light brown, fine-textured, moderately hard compacted soil, was deposited prior to construction of Str. 100-11-1st in TS.1. This earth level was uncovered to a maximum thickness of 0.18m before it was lost in the base of excavation. Recovery of a significant quantity of cultural material from the small portions of S.1 exposed in Subop. 100F implies a fairly intensive occupation of the area that was eventually covered by Str. 100-11-1st during TS.2.

### Time Span 2

Suboperation 100F exposed a narrow portion of the north basal wall and summit of Str. 100-11-1st's west projection. The north facing (U.1) is a cobble wall 0.35m high, set 0.11m into S.1. Backing U.1 for 1.6m on the south is a cobble surface terminating in a cobble wall standing 0.12m high (U.2). Unit 2 may mark the south margin of a stone-surfaced bench which is delimited on the north by U.1. Unit 3 is 0.54m south of U.2. The former is a 0.18m-high cobble wall running more-or-less parallel to U.1 and 2. The west projection's core consists of a red-brown, fine-textured, moderately hard-compacted soil (U.4). The top of this earth unit seems to have served as the unpaved summit floor south of U.2.

Structure 100-11-1st's west projection, therefore, stood 0.35m high, was aligned 75 degrees, and supported what looks to be a 1.6m-wide stone-surfaced bench rising above an earthen summit. Unit 3's significance is uncertain. It may mark the southern limit of the room enclosing the U.2 bench. Superstructure construction was of perishable materials.

### Time Span 3

After abandonment, Str. 100-11-1st's west projection was buried by the deposition of S.2. Stratum 2 is a dark brown, fine-textured, moderately hard-compacted earth which contains a considerable quantity of displaced architectural debris lying immediately north of U.1 (F.1). The tumbled stones of F.1 are densest in the immediate vicinity of U.1, decreasing in numbers with distance from the platform (F.1 extends 3.44m north of U.1). The large amount of architectural debris found in F.1 implies that Str. 100-11-1st's west projection experienced considerable disturbance in the centuries following TS.2.

### Structure 100-14

Structure 100-14 lies ca. 5m behind (east) of Str. 100-10, just beyond the limits of the Site 100 patio. This building was investigated by Subop. 100E, G, and H. The former is set slightly north of the structure's center-line, measures 1m north-south by 5.2m east-west, and extends completely across the building. Subop. 100G and H are small trenches dug to locate Str. 100-14-1st's northwest and southeast corners respectively. Excavations were carried to a maximum depth of 0.28m east of construction, revealing a single construction phase.

### Excavation Lots

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Time Span</u>
100E/1	18 sherds 2 <u>bajareque</u> fragments	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100E/2	24 sherds 2 obsidian pieces	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100G/1	1 sherd	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2
100H/1	15 sherds 17 obsidian pieces	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2

### Time Spans

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Construction Phase</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>Features</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	-	-	S.1,2	-	-
2	Str. 100-14-1st	U.1-2	-	-	LC, EPC
3	-	-	S.2	-	-

### Time Span 1

Stratum 1, an orange-brown, fine-textured, hard-compacted soil, underlies Str.100-14-1st construction and, consequently, seems to have been deposited prior to TS.2. The absence of cultural material attributable to S.1 may well be due to the limited portion of this earth level exposed in excavation (S.1 was revealed to a maximum thickness of 0.06m, its base not being located during our investigations). Unit 2, Str. 100-14-1st's western foundation, rests within the lower exposed portion of S.2, indicating that some of this light brown, fine-textured, hard-compacted soil was laid down prior to TS.2. At least 0.08m of S.2 must have been deposited on the building's east side to support the precarious outward (eastward) tilt of the U.1 stones.

Time Span 2

Structure 100-14-1st is a surface-level construction defined on the west and north by a foundation of flat-laid cobbles, measuring 0.1m high and 0.28m across (U.2). The eastern footing is constructed of cobbles set on end, slanting out to the east (U.1). Unit 1 stands 0.34m high and is ca. 0.2m wide. This eastern stone line simply stops at its southern terminus, no clear southeast corner being revealed in Subop. 100H. This corner was possibly left open as a means of entering the building. The earthen-floored room enclosed by U.1 and 2 measures approximately 2.54m east-west and 6m north-south. Overall, Str.100-14-1st covers 6.5m north-south by 3.13m east-west and is oriented 339-345 degrees.

Time Span 3

The years following Str. 100-14-1st's abandonment witnessed the deposition of the remainder of S.2, covering all but the very tops of U.1 and 2. The paucity of tumbled architectural debris revealed in excavations here probably results from the sparing use of stones in Str. 100-14-1st's construction. Nonetheless, this edifice seems to have been little disturbed since TS.2.

Structure 100-16

Structure 100-16 is an isolated platform lying roughly 59m north of the Site 100 patio group. The edifice was investigated via Subop. 100D, a 1m-wide (north-south) by 8.74m-long (east-west) trench which bisected the platform. Excavations were carried to a maximum depth of 0.62m into the summit, uncovering a single construction phase.

Excavation Lots

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Context</u>	<u>Time Span</u>
100D/1	56 sherds 1 enigmatic baked clay fragment	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1,2
100D/2	41 sherds	Terminal Debris (Secondary)	2

100D/3	84 sherds 107 <u>jute</u> shells	Midden (Primary)	2
100D/4	28 sherds 1 <u>mano</u> fragment 13 <u>jute</u> shells	Mixed Fill and Terminal Debris	2
100D/5	9 sherds	Occupation Debris (Secondary)	1,2
100D/6	6 <u>jute</u> shells 1 metal nail ? bone fragments 300+ insect/snail eggs	Midden (Primary) (Flotation Sample)	2

### Time Spans

<u>Time Span</u>	<u>Construction Phase</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Strata</u>	<u>Features</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	-	-	S.1,2	-	LC?
2	Str. 100-16-1st	U.1-4	-	-	EPC, LPC
3	-	-	S.2	-	-

### Time Span 1

Stratum 1, a red-brown, fine-textured, soft-compacted soil, underlies Str. 100-16-1st construction and seems to have been deposited prior to TS.2. This earth level was exposed to a maximum thickness of 0.34m, its base not being located during our investigations. Both U.1 and 2 sit well up within S.2, indicating that the lower 0.08-0.13m of this light brown, fine-textured, hard-compacted earth was laid down over S.1 but within TS.1. No excavation lots pertain solely to this initial time span. The few Late Classic ceramics recovered from lots 100D/3 and 4 hint at occupation on this spot predating the primary period of Str. 100-16-1st's use during the Postclassic. The paucity of these early diagnostic hints at a relatively minor Late Classic settlement in this portion of Site 100.

### Time Span 2

Structure 100-16-1st is a low, earthen platform faced with a scattering of large cobbles on its east and west flanks. The western and eastern basal walls (U.1 and 2 respectively) were barely discernible in excavation and seemed to have served less as retaining units than as a rock veneer over a hearting of light brown, fine textured, hard compacted soil with a few included stones (U.4). Unit 1 stands 0.17m high and is 0.35m across while U.2 rises 0.32m and is 0.35m wide. Based on the stratigraphic position of apparent architectural tumble east of U.2, it appears

that the latter was set 0.05-0.07m into the pre-existing ground surface. Differences in elevation between U.1 and 2 imply that the original ground level ascended ca. 0.1m from east to west within the area encompassed by Str. 100-16-1st. The platform's earthen summit measures 3.29m east-west. If a superstructure was raised atop the building all traces of it have long since disappeared. The only summit architecture identified in Subop. 100D is a pit (U.3) extending a reconstructed 0.56m down below the putative summit floor and 0.25m into S.1. Unit 3 has a diameter of 0.47m (based on the construction's exposed east-west dimension) and is distinguished from surrounding fill and overlying S.2 by the soft compaction of the soil it contains and the relatively large quantities of jute shells found within the pit's boundaries.

Structure 100-16-1st, therefore, is an earthen platform with a veneer of scattered, large cobbles. The building rises 0.17-0.32m, measures 4.11m east-west, and supported a perishable superstructure into the floor of which a deep pit was excavated. The cavity's purpose remains unknown. Proximity of Str. 100-16-1st's summit to current ground surface, coupled with the near identity of U.3's fill with the soil burying the pit, S.2, raises the possibility that U.3 was dug after the platform's abandonment. Walls were insufficiently well preserved to determine Str. 100-16-1st's alignment.

### Time Span 3

Following desertion of Str. 100-16-1st, all but the uppermost 0.03-0.08m of U.1 and 2 were buried by S.2. The paucity of displaced architectural debris revealed in Subop. 100D, mostly on the building's east side, probably results from the sparing use of stone in the original construction. There is no evidence that Str. 100-16-1st was significantly disturbed by natural or cultural processes postdating TS.2 (the excavation of U.3 being a possible exception).

### Test Pit

A single, 1x1m test pit (Subop. 100I) was excavated ca. 40m southeast of the Site 100 patio on the north bank of a short, deep seasonal tributary of the Rio Uluu. Surface collections in this area netted moderate quantities of lithic debris, suggesting that this relatively isolated area might have been a focus of stone tool manufacture. Suboperation 100I was carried down to a maximum depth of 0.63m revealing the same sequence of earth levels uncovered in excavations throughout Site 100; i.e., a reddish-brown, fine-textured, hard-compacted soil overlain by a stratum identical to its lower counterpart in all respects save for its brown color. No architecture and few artifacts of any kind were recovered here.

### Chronological Summary

The first attested period of occupation at Site 100 dates to the Early Classic. Evidence for settlement at this time was uncovered from beneath Strs. 100-10-2nd and 100-11-1st's western projection. It is likely that further, deeper excavations at Site 100, especially in the area of the main patio group, would have unearthed further evidence of this early use of the locus. Nevertheless, Early Classic occupation at Site 100 seems slight compared with Late Classic residence at the settlement and is not associated with substantial constructions.

The Late Classic marks the period of major demographic growth and building activity at Site 100. Four of the five excavated buildings date to this interval (Str. 100-16-1st is the

exception) and all investigated portions of the locus appear to have been settled now. Early Postclassic use of Site 100 seems to be limited to continued use of Late Classic buildings and the possible raising of Str. 100-14-1st. This building's construction style, especially the use of cobbles set at an angle to create the eastern footing (U.1), is more typical of Early Postclassic than Late Classic construction. The above information, taken together with the mix of artifacts diagnostic of both periods found in excavated collections from Str. 100-14-1st, implies that the edifice was raised sometime during the transition between these two intervals. Early Postclassic diagnostics are fairly prevalent in terminal debris contexts at Site 100, indicating that population at the site may not have declined significantly between these periods. Recovery of Early Postclassic temporal markers from the fill of late additions on Strs. 100-8-1st (U.3) and 100-10-1st (U.13) supports the notion that Late Classic constructions were renovated and used during the subsequent interval.

The Site 100 patio appears to have been abandoned during the Late Postclassic, occupation now shifting to the settlement's peripheries (it is difficult to distinguish Early and Late Postclassic occupations using small artifact collections and it is possible that the Site 100 patio may have housed a small number of people during the final precolumbian centuries). Structure 100-16-1st, on the far northern site margins, was raised at this time, making it one of the only late prehistoric buildings known from the Gualjoquito hinterland. Both temporally diagnostic material associated with Str. 100-16-1st and the nature of the platform's architecture, with the sparing use of stone over earth fill, strongly favor such a temporal placement.

### Architectural Summary

The only architecture tentatively assigned to the Early Classic at Site 100 is a surface-level construction the earthen floor of which is defined by low cobble footings. It is possible that the edifice's roof was supported by a wooden pole set 0.33m into a pre-existing earth level and surrounded on three sides by stones to increase the post's stability. All rocks used in construction are unfaced and most likely derived from the nearby Rio Ulua channel.

Late Classic constructions at Site 100 are built in much the same way as those recorded elsewhere in central Santa Barbara. The earthen cores of platforms are retained by walls fashioned of cobbles (primarily basalt) with diameters ranging from 0.05-0.5m in diameter. Most rocks used in construction have diameters of 0.15-0.3m. Few stones are intentionally faced, and even then it is difficult to distinguish intentional from natural modifications. The builders did show a tendency to place stones so that their naturally flatter faces were oriented outward. Mud mortar was used to hold rock walls together and spaces between larger cobbles were commonly filled in with small pebbles. The patio-facing sides of buildings were ascended in several cases by low, stone-faced terraces 0.1-0.22m high and 1.1-1.66m across (Strs. 100-10-1st and 2nd). Whether the inward-looking facades of all patio constructions were built in this fashion remains unknown. Terrace surfaces of both earth and stone were identified, the clearest example of a terrace pavement being found on Str. 100-10-2nd (U.6a). Even here, however, it appears that the stones acted as a subfloor originally covered with a layer of fine-textured, hard clay (U.6b). Late Classic terraces and, perhaps, stone facings throughout the settlement may have all been originally plastered with this material. Terraces ended in stone-faced step-ups, 0.16-0.32m high, to earthen-floored summits. Superstructures were apparently fashioned of perishable constructions set atop, in two cases (Str. 100-10-1st and 2nd) at least, cobble foundations 0.06-0.13m high. A possible cobble-faced bench was located atop Str. 100-11-1st's

west projection (U.2), standing a reconstructed 0.24m high and measuring 1.6m across. The two platforms for which we have sufficient information, Strs. 100-10-1st and 2nd, are 7.66m and 4.95m wide (east-west) respectively.

Late Classic structure orientations range between 343-357 degrees. There is little evidence that the builders tried to align their edifices to common azimuths even within the Site 100 patio group.

Structure 100-14-1st, an edifice raised directly on ground surface, seems to have been built sometime during the Late Classic/Early Postclassic transition. The earthen-floored room of this buildings is delimited by stone foundations, 0.1-0.35m high, which most likely supported perishable upper walls. Overall, Str. 100-14-1st measures 3.13x6.4m and is aligned 339 to 345 degrees.

Early Postclassic building efforts appear to be restricted to additions made to Strs. 100-8-1st (U.2 and 3) and 100-10-1st (U.12 and 13). Both constructions consist of cobble fill piled up against an earlier basal facing and terrace, respectively, retained by walls fashioned of the same material standing 0.46m and 0.22m high.

Structure 100-16-1st is the only construction clearly datable to the Postclassic. This low (0.17-0.32m high), 4.11m-wide (east-west) platform is built almost entirely of earth. Stones are used sparingly to define the east and west flanks, possibly functioning as a veneer to slow erosion rather than as substantial fill retaining units. Cobbles used in construction are unmodified and fairly large, ranging from 0.2-0.4m in diameter.