

2004

EPV 013 Webber Field Notes 2004

Charles Webber

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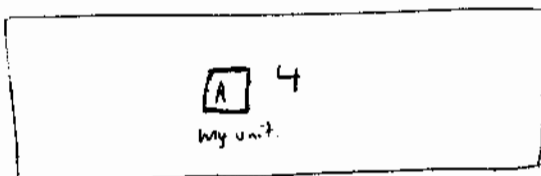
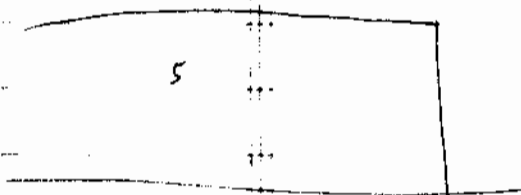
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12 July - 2004 / Charlie Webber

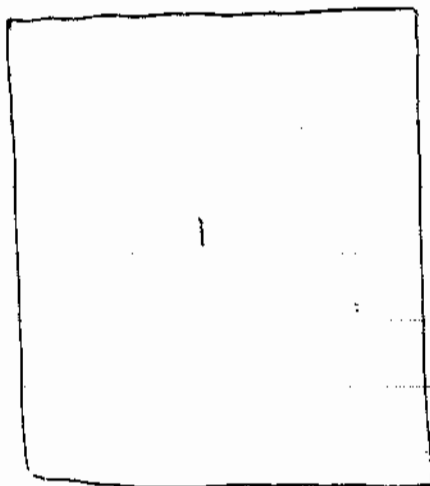
P04-13-001

Hello and good morning! Well after a week on team topo I have moved on to excavating a test pit on the summit of structure 5. I am excavating a 2 meter X 1 meter unit in the hopes of exposing a bench on the southern side of the middle summit room. This structure seems to be about 15 meters East to West by 8 meters North to south, the Northern side of this structure faces the southern side of the large structure which I believe is structure ONE. The eastern side faces structure 5 about 15 meters south of the structure is the river cut.



The Points for Unit A

	Northing	Easting	elev
NE	821	444	1011.20
NW	821	443	1011.20
SE	820	444	
SW	820	443	



So as I said the purpose of this unit is to start with a 1x1 meter unit and see what we find - hopefully some summit architecture - and then expand a unit following the architecture that we find. This first unit is in roughly the center of the

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PO4-~~13~~¹³-002

~~1/1/00~~

06/04/001 Unit A

BGS = below the NW corner
that has an elevation of 1011.

SE 1011.21 - 1006 cm c-5

NW ¹⁰¹¹ ~~1011~~.21 - 1008 cm

SW ¹⁰¹¹ ~~1011~~.21 - 1004 cm

NE ¹⁰¹¹ ~~1011~~.21 - 1008 cm

This lot is going to level out the unit to event a level surface from which to extend down in subsequent lots. I'm not taking out many rocks in this lot mainly just the dirt (top soil = Brown) to get a feel for what everything looks like. Found shards.

06/04/002 Unit A

Below the NW corner

SE ^{1006-995 BGS} ~~1006-995~~ 5-16

NE 1008-995 ^{BGS} 3-16

SW 1004-9947-17

NW 1008-996 ^{BGS} 3-15

lot 2 is directly below lot 1

in this lot we are heading down about 10 cm to find out what we can. Something that jumps out at you is the lack of shaped stone. Unlike structure 5 where the whole summit is littered with nice shaped block all we are finding here are small rounded cobble. We don't know what sort of damage this structure has sustained over the years. But so far the difference between the two is striking. We are also not finding any 'toba' - the easily shaped stone that would have been used in the superstructure. So in this lot we have taken out a layer of these small stones and hit another layer of jumbled small stones. We are still in the top soil of Brown soil.

found nothing

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PO4-13-003

06/04/003 Unit A

Below NW corner / 1365 of NW corner

SE 995-986 / 16-25 NE 995-⁹⁸¹~~980~~ / 16-30

SW 994-983 / 17-28 NW 996-⁹⁸¹~~980~~ / 15-25

in this lot we seem to have broken through the layer of small rounded cobble and come to a different soil ~~color~~ color.

the dirt is a more yellowish Brown / lighter brown than the first 15 cm or so of top soil it also contains rocks of much smaller size almost like today's crushed stone - it small and very angular, but mostly it's dirt. however a little deeper down we came back to the small rounded cobble like before so that was probably just an aberration caused by where we had stopped. however the soil looks much like Marchello's fill in str 1 found nothing.

06/04/004 Unit A

Below NW corner / 1365 of NW corner

SE 986-981 / 25-30 NE 981-~~980~~946 30-~~65~~65

SW 983-976 / 28-35 NW 986-986 25-25

So things have gotten interesting! we found a wall running North to South on the east side of the unit. we also found what is possibly the bench running East to West about 50 cm south of the northern edge of the unit. it runs west from WALL 1 (to whom it ~~abuts~~ abuts) for about 60 cm - at this point it is unclear because it really disintegrates. At Anyrate we are only going down in a 50 cm NS X 60 cm EW area along the NE corner of the unit because of WALL 2 and some ~~other~~ other flat rocks found in the NW corner.

WALL 1: a rounded cobble wall of well chosen stones running N to S

~~WALL 2: a parallel bench running E to West abutting WALL 1~~

Found nothing

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PO4-~~13~~¹³-004

~~06~~ 06/04/005 Unit A

Below NW corner / BGS of NW corner

~~SE~~ 981 30-

NE 946 - 926 65 - 85

~~SW~~ 976 55-

~~NW~~ 946 25-

this lot only includes the NE corner

it is a 50 cm NS x 60 cm EW lot taking out loose rocks
& fill from the west side of WALL 1 and from the North side of wall 2
we are following these walls down - digging through very clayish fill

that is very similar to the fill exposed on str 1 orange brown - no shreds.

WALL ONE extends down 60 cm ^{or 15 courses} and the base ~~is~~ ^{is not} yet exposed.

~~WALL ONE~~ does not look as good as it promised to be and is
kind of in shambles after 2 courses

the west side of the trench is hard to tell if it is constructed of large flat
faced rock but its not nicely set at all and is very hard to see

so we are going to move north a Meter to gain more space to work
found nothing

06/04/006 Unit B

points for unit B NE 822 NW 822 SE 821 SW 821

elevation is unknown so we will measure depth from BGS of ~~the~~ SW corner
same corner as Unit A.

NE 5-15

SE 0-13

NW 10-15

SW 0-15

in this lot we are taking down the top soil to create a flat surface
from which to work. this is actually hard because of the large rounded cobble
that has tumbled from some where. these actually turned into what looks like a Modern
line - probably not Post Classic - but much later - no shreds - you can see it
extending west from the unit

13 JULY 2004 / charlie Webber

P04-13-005

Hello and Good morning! welcome to the second day of my excavations things are good today - after a night of watching Tommy Boy and a morning that is cool and cloudy I feel ready for anything! Anyway we have finished taking off the top soil from unit B and are preparing to head down further - who knows what age old mysteries will be solved today.

06/04/007 Unit B BGS From SW stake
NE 15 - 93 NW 15 - 94
SE 13 - 80 SW 15 - 87

Well this lot is a biggie - we must have taken out almost a square meter of soil and WALL ONE still keeps going! it is interesting to note that in all of this orange/brown fill we have found 1 censor prong, 1 shell and 2 weird pieces of rock - one of which looks like a piece of jewelry. The fill was the same as that found in unit A - a very sticky clay with very few inclusions and medium to large rocks placed in to take up space. So now what I have is a 2 meter long summit dividing wall running ~~East~~ North to South while the structure is oriented East to West. the fill was loose and easy to dig through.

Anyway so the wall keeps going and was covered/filled in with large rounded cobbles and orange Brown ^{Clay} fill. found sherd, shell + some thing else.

14 JULY 2004 / Charlie Webb

P04-~~13~~¹³ - 006

Hello and good morning! Well after all the rain of yesterday afternoon we didn't end up getting much done. - only that one lot, but it was a big one - so hopefully, it doesn't rain much today and we can start finishing up as I only have 2.5 days left of excavating since tomorrow is the worker party. Anyway, my guys seem ready to go so off I am

06/04/008 Unit C

Points for unit C: ^{No-This} NE 823 NW 823 SE 822 SW 822
^{Exit} NE 444 NW 443 SE 444 SW 443

Depths are taken from ~~the~~^{SE} corner from BGS of this corner.

NE	20-20	SE	0-13
the NW	20 23-23	SW	7-13

In this lot we are taking down the ~~to~~ soil in the ~~the~~ southern area of the unit to make it level so when we extend down in the next lot we will have a level surface from which to work. it was hard cause of large rocks but we did the best we could. found nothing

06/04/009 Unit C

NE	20-78	SE	13-45
NW	23-60	SW	13-49

In this unit we ran into some very large stones - much larger than the ones in the previous 2 units. these were mainly in the southern half of the unit but were spread throughout.

We have possibly come to the end of the wall! unfortunately it seems to just kind collapse but we will see on the next page →

14 July 2004 /charlie Webber
06/04/009 Unit C

P04-13-007

continued

So it seems that the wall actually continued to the North end of the unit where it may stop or abut the south side of a northern terrace line. This line comes into play about 75 cm North of the south edge and runs east to west. ~~and~~ after talking to Marchello he thinks we are close to the wall but not there since it makes sense that the wall would be faced.

So the wall continues but at 30 cm North of the south edge is a large hole and beyond that point only the basal line shows up really well ~~that~~ though at 90 cm we get a few more cones preserved. found 2 sherds.

06/04/010 Unit A B6s in NE Corner - only from NW stnk
NE 926-896 / 45-105 B6s

in this lot we are taking down the excavation a little further to try and expose the base of the wall for sure and to see if there is a plaster floor. this is a 50 cm NS x 60 cm EW lot under 06/04/005. All we found under the wall was fill so the wall turns out to be cm high with cones in unit A.

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PD4-13-00

06/04/011 Unit A a 50 cm NS x 60 cm EW lot in the SE corner.
SE 476 - 736 / 35 - 75

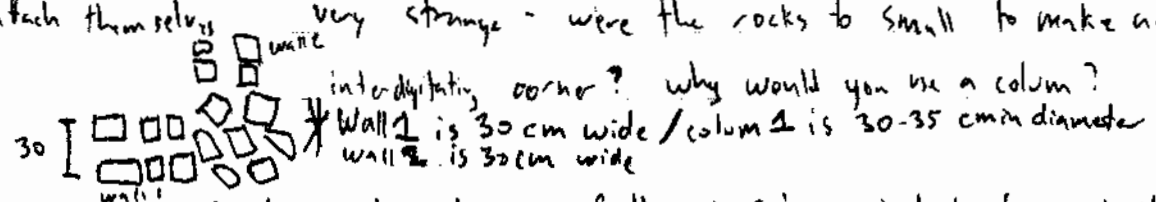
In this lot we are removing ~~the wall~~ what we saw as the bench originally and trying to find the Southern most extension of this wall - at least a cross wall so we can have some idea of what was happening with the wall. well we took out the stones and was very disoriented at first because the Southern 20 cm of this lot was a bit looking tumble / very loose fill. but as Marchello + I looked at it we all of a sudden thought 'column' which we thought was weird but as I excavated around it it certainly does form a rounded addition onto the southern end of the wall.

Found nothing

06/04/012 Unit D a 50 cm EW x 1 meter NS lot.

NE 2-10 NW 2-10
SE 0-20 SW 0-20

So in this lot we are looking to see what happens to the column we went East of unit A 50 cm so we have a 50 cm EW x 1 m NS lot. ok so this is pretty cool apparently we have 2 walls coming together - the SW corner? and instead of interdigitating there is a column 35 cm in diameter to which they attach themselves very strange - were the rocks too small to make an



I can't wait to do a plan drawing of this stuff! so instead of an inside wall we have an outside corner that seems to have been filled in by someone before the structure collapsed. I think there was a large superstructure over the top that looked like str 5 but is now the stone wall.

Found nothing

15 JULY 2004 Charlie Webber

P04-#3-009

Hello and good morning! Well today is a short day as we have the worker party / lunch during lunch but we still have a little time to expose more of the column

06/04/013 Unit D ~~North~~ Southern 25 cm of the unit ^{NS} 25cm X ^{EW} 50cm
S ~~W~~ 20 - 85 S ~~E~~ 20 - 55

In this lot we are taking down the Southern 25 cm of the Unit in order to expose the Eastern side of the column and ~~the~~ the Southern wall as expected the wall to the East of the column continues just like wall one and the column in fact is own independent unit so they must have built 4 columns then built up the walls around them. It's really cool to look at it's a much older structure than we expected to find I would guess that ~~was~~ when the Maya came they filled it in - much like they did for str 1 found nothing

06/04/014 Unit D North eastern corner 35cm NS X 25cm EW
NE 10 - 28

In this lot we dug down to nail down the inside corner of the structure and expose the real width of the walls. This worked well and after a few cm we had a clear sense of the inside corner - see lot form - found nothing

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Page 010

06/04/015 Unit E from ~~SE~~ SE stake

Points for E Northing: NE 824 NW 824 SE 823 SW 823

Easting: NE 444 NW 443 SE 444 SW 443

Elev

NE	22-25	NW	19-20
SE	0-12	SW	8-20

In this lot we are looking for the Northern wall of the str. it would be nice if this wall were clearly masonry - denoting that this early structure was filled in and covered with another. We may have found a line lying just below the surface and it may be just what we are looking for as it is a much different style - large flat rocks not the small ones seen before.
found nothing

06/04/016 Unit E ~~SE~~ SE stake a

NE 25-33

NW 20-30

~~SE~~

~~SE~~

In this lot we are going down in front of the wall (the North end of the unit) to try and find its depth. it turns out it is only preserved to one course of large shaped stone - fairly classic masonry stuff from what I gather - much different than what unit one + 2 look like.
Wall one seems to be about the south side of ~~the~~ wall 3 and is much deeper so was built much earlier
found nothing

16 JULY 2004 / Charlie Webber

P04-13-011

Unit Name	length	width	Height	alignment	courses	clinkiness
Wall one	227 NS	33	80 south end 6 north	360/180	South 15 North 1	Y
70-80 till 45cm from North end where it falls apart						
WALL 2	excavated to EW 25	30	75	9/270	13	Y
Wall 3	excavated to EW 100	58	17	90/270	1	N
column 1	diameter NS 33 diameter EW 36		75		13	N
Fill construction	195 NS	33 NE	70	360/180	6	N

LxWxD

unit name	largest rock	smallest rock	modal size	rock form	material / kind
Wall ONE	23x6x8	5x2x-	12x6x- 12x6x-	Rounded cobble	? Basalt?
Wall 2	17x6x-	7x4x-	15x5x-	rounded cobble	?
Wall 3	42x15x27	25x14x ³¹ 27	only 2 completely exposed rocks	shaped stone	Sedimentary
column 1	21x7x-	15x4x-	18x6x-	rounded cobble	?
Fill construction	50x15x20	12x8x-	30x10x-	rounded cobble	Basalt

16 JULY 2004 (Charlie Welton)

PO4-43-012

Structure 4

This structure has 2 obvious construction phases. There is an early construction of ~~the~~ small rounded cobble stones that was filled in to provide a platform ~~for~~ for the later Maya construction using large shaped stones.

The earliest visible construction phase seems to have been much smaller than the final phase visible from the surface. Its ~~the~~ western wall is the Eastern wall of our trench and it extends for a preserved 227 cm ~~between~~ the South East corner of unit A is the corner of the structure where Wall 2 extends to the East. The construction of walls one and 2 must have been labor-intensive because ~~stone~~ only small stones were used. These walls are now preserved to a height of 80 cm but probably once stood much taller. The interesting thing about this structure is how walls one and 2 corner - they use a column to connect them. This is very unusual as ~~the~~ people had heard of this happening but ~~no~~ no one had seen it. It is a free standing column of ^{stacked} cobble that walls one + 2 come to rest against but do not interdigitate with. It's very cool to look at and made this wall instantly more interesting. The ~~diameter~~ ^{width} of the walls is roughly the diameter of the column. It probably makes this a very fancy structure but no artifacts were found in these excavations to say definitively what was happening. It is interesting to note that the west wall of this structure seems to align with the Eastern face of the earlier monumental structure that Marchelle unearthed under what used to be the large Mayan temple before it was bulldozed, creating a possible plaza corner.

The first phase of the second construction phase was the filling in of the first structure with clay and rocks creating a platform surface. After this was done the builders wanted to extend the structure

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P04-13-013

to the west but since there wasn't any structure to fill in they had to make a rough platform to fill in the space. on the western wall of the trench is a line of fill stones that were purposely placed in to create a rough wall running parallel to Wall 1 but about 90 cm to the west of the wall this fill construction abutted the fill put in around the structure and extended the new platform west. It is interesting to note that the clay used for the fill in this structure is the same as that used in Marshall's large structure 1 once the early structure was filled in and the rough platform had been put in to elongate the rough platform a traditional Mayan shaped block structure was built on top - this structure probably looked a lot like structure 5 only taller but is now the stone wall and the large pile of stones that cross over this area. the only bit that remains of this later structure is a line of stones on the northern side of the structure - Wall 3 - these are large shaped block reminiscent of structure 5 - only one course is preserved

1

Phases - Wall ONE
Wall TWO
COLUMN) earliest phase of construction exposed, later filled in

2

~~Wall 3~~
~~fill construction~~) Fill construction built when above was filled in to make a rough platform
Wall 3 only exposed piece of platform built out of original structure and fill construction.

16 JULY 2004 /charlie Webber

P04-13-014

WALL ONE:

A North to south running line orientated $360/180$. this wall extends from a well preserved Southern end ≈ 227 ~~EM~~ ^{15 courses in height - 80 cm} to a poorly preserved Northern end of one course ^{- 6 cm} in height. the Northern end abuts wall 3, a later addition. Wall one is a very nice wall \approx 3 courses thick of small rounded cobble with chinking stones at about 45 cm. South of the Northern end it ~~starts~~ abruptly ends with only the first course extending to ~~the~~ wall 3. on Wall ones ~~with~~ Southern end it abuts the Column.

WALL TWO

An East to West Running wall, wall two is orientated at $90/270$. This wall extends East from the abutment with the Column for an unknown distance but was well preserved for the 25 cm that was exposed. it is very similar to wall one. it is preserved to a height of 13 courses or ≈ 75 cm.

COLUMN

Preserved to a height of 75 cm this odd construction is a circular stack of stones independent of walls one and 2 that ~~serves~~ ^{serves} as the ^{SW} corner to the early structure. 4 these columns seem very unusual and are not often found usually more northern in gent. and the Yucatan. walls one + 2 abut the column on its Eastern + Northern sides. it is made up of long thin flat stones stacked in a ~~circle~~ circle - it looks very cool. I would imagine that because of the small size of the stones 4 columns were made at the 4 corners then connected with walls. diameter of column = width of walls

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P04-#3-015

FILL Construction:

this is a rough North to South running wall made of stacked cobbles that were placed with much more care than the fill right next to the structure.

~~the fill next to the structure:~~ they possibly filled in the structure then wanted to expand it west so built a rough platform roughly the height of the preserved first structure. This could have given them the base from which to build the larger later platform.

This unit runs roughly parallel to wall one for 195 cm ending on the North about 70 cm from wall three in a stack of 4 rocks and ending on the south about 30 cm from the Southern end of unit A about where the column ends in a stack of 4 rocks. This wall was obviously never meant to see the light of day cause of its rough appearance but it would have worked well holding in fill.

WALL THREE:

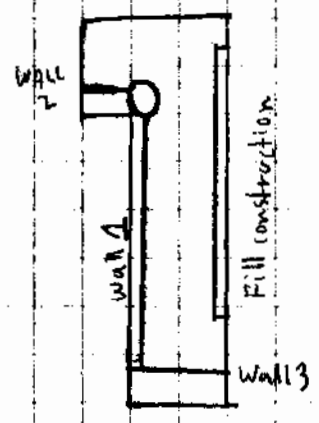
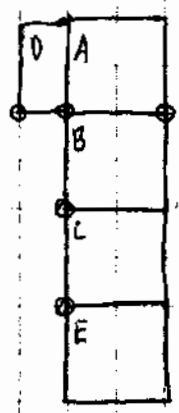
Wall three is about all that seems to be left of the ^{later} Mayan structure that once stood above the original structure. It is a much different construction style than walls one + 2 using large shaped stone. In the 100 cm of the wall exposed there are 2 fully exposed rocks + part of another.

This wall is only faced on one side as the back side would have held in the fill that was ^{Filling/} covering the earlier structure.

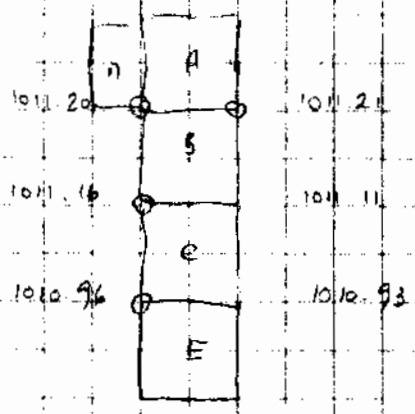
This wall is orientated at 90/270 and is one course high.

Charlie Webber - 13 -
 July 2004 excavation plan
 06/04 units A B L D E
 structure 4, El Pansiso

- N 820 -
- N 821 -
- N 822 -
- N 823 -
- N 824 -



444 443



63

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p04-13-

Final Notes addition - see Section - Datum is 13cm BGS from
SE stake of Unit A

Unit NAME	TOP MEASURE	BOTTOM MEASURE
WALL ONE*	S = 12 M = 20 N = 78	S = 88 90 M = 86 N = 90
WALL TWO	16	80
WALL three	40	58
Column	10	90
Fill construction	15	105

* wall one is long enough + variable enough that I took a
South Middle + North Measurement.

n 40cm to bottom of
hair dryer

Time Start

3:44 - 7 = 3

49 Moist dk brn (79.5g*)
Damp clumpy best friable

48 - 50 = 2
51 - 54 = 3
56 - 58 = 2
10

lt brn appears

50 Wet lt brn (78.9g*)
Damp pasty not friable
Very much like clay.

4:08 - 11 = 3
13 - 15 = 2
17 - 20 = 3
21 - 23 = 2
10

lt tan appears

★ Dried Wgt

7/7

7/8

7/7

447

Δ

5:00

1 112.1
 2 119.0
 3 111.5
 4 113.6
 5 112.3
 6 117.7
 7 120.8
 8 5:23
 20 121.6
 21 120.8
 22 124.4
 25 122.9
 26 116.8
 27 117.6
 28 120.3*
 28 121.3
 6:04
 49A 117.4
 50A 123.1

8 120.3
 9 119.7
 10 117.7
 13 119.2
 16 112.2
 SH 18 115.7
 CH 19 119.6
 5:46
 29 121.3
 30 No Sample
 32 126.0
 33 116.4
 CH SH 34 123.1
 35 123.5
 37 128.7
 38 126.6

Phosphate Analysis of El Paraiso and El Cafetal

Overview

Using the methodology described previously, 4 Patio areas of El Paraiso (Figure 1) and the long narrow open area (approximately 75m x 150m) of El Cafetal (Figure 2) were systematically sampled to identify possible locations of human activity such as middens or burials. Samples were taken at the interface between the top 2 soil strata or in the case of El Cafetal, 30 to 40 cm whichever came first. In those instances where a floor or cobbled patio surface was encountered, floor scrapings or the soil closest to the cobble surface was taken for analysis. In the course of the survey, all cultural material found was collected and stored for future evaluation. The material consisted predominantly of sherds although several fragments of obsidian blades were also found. No modern materials were found at El Cafetal.

Results indicate that in general, the phosphate levels at El Cafetal were higher than those of El Paraiso. At El Paraiso some high readings may be attributed to modern horticultural activity or outhouses, other readings suggest possible middens. El Cafetal, revealed 7 or 8 locations of high levels of phosphate most of which were in close proximity to structures (see El Cafetal below).

El Paraiso

Areas of high phosphate concentration in Patio 1 and Patio 2 may be attributed to outhouses and horticultural activities respectively. However samples at Patio 2 were taken 60cm below the surface and contain evidence of sherds, suggesting the location of a midden . A high concentration in the northeast corner of Patio 3 and in the north end of Patio 4 suggest possible middens at these locations. Floor samples from Room 1 in Structure 11 (06/03/06, Unit A) suggests a food storage room or midden. A high phosphate reading (>350 mg/kg) was obtained from the floor of a wall or room on the outside of the southwest corner of structure 9 (06/02/32, Unit N). Charcoal debris of well defined corn husks in association with the sample suggests more recent activity perhaps representing a modern midden.

El Cafetal

The phosphate concentration contour map of El Cafetal (see figure 2) reveals areas of high concentration ($>100\text{mg/kg}$) nearby structures 8 (south and north), 9 (south and north), 10 (north east) and 13 (west). These concentrations suggest possible middens in close proximity to these structures. There is also an area of relatively high concentration in a band south of structure 9 from structure 8 to 10 suggesting a pathway between the structures.

In contrast to El Paraiso, there are areas of high concentration at the south end of the patio in the open area north of structure 4 and east of structure 5. In El Paraiso high phosphate values were not found in open patio areas, suggesting that the open area at El Cafetal may have been used for different activities than in El Paraiso, perhaps as a feasting place.

Samples of relatively high artifact (sherd) density of greater than 10 pieces, have little correlation to phosphate concentration. A relatively low phosphate area south of structure 8 and east of structure 6 yielded 25 and 23 pieces whereas a high phosphate concentration on the northeast corner of structure 10 yielded 18 samples, suggesting different activities resulted in the artifact deposition.