



INSTITUTE OF MAYA STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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with Travis F. Doering, Ph.D. and Lori D. Collins, Ph.D.



Jim Reed,
Editor

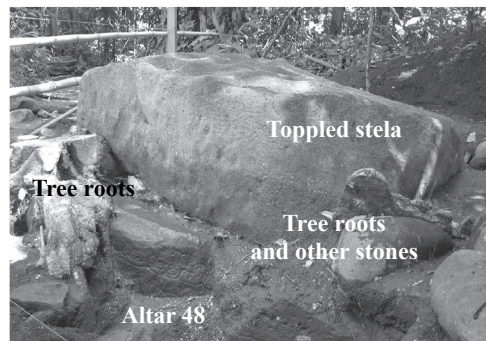
Important New Discovery at Tak'alik Ab'aj

New find sheds light on Early Maya Kingship

On March 10 of this year, researchers made an important archaeological discovery at the pre-Classic site of Tak'alik Ab'aj, which is located on the Pacific Ocean side of the Guatemalan mountain range in the department of Retalhuleu, Guatemala. The find concerns a large squared stone (probably an altar), the borders of which contain a short hieroglyphic text. The stone has been labelled Altar 48.

The text is said to be composed of four glyphic compounds and one of the compounds is said to record the ascension to the throne of a king of the city of Tak'alik Ab'aj.

An interesting side note is that your IMS newsletter editor Jim Reed led a group of Maya enthusiasts to the site of Tak'alik Ab'aj



Altar 48 is of great interest to researchers, as this pre-Classic site is emerging as a key to the transitional period between the pre-Maya and the Maya. The carved altar was found underneath another stone (perhaps a toppled uncarved stela) which is believed to have been intentionally placed over it to protect the imagery.



The carving on Altar 48 depicts a stylized crocodile or frog with a quadripartite cartouche (cave portal imagery) in its belly or on its back, in which an Izipan-style royal figure sits on a throne. Images on this page courtesy of Proyecto Nacional Tak'alik Ab'aj/DGPCN/IDAEH.

last summer. We walked on the trail that led by the toppled stela that also had a couple big trees growing right beside it. Little did we know one edge of the carved altar lay hidden below the trees' roots, under just a foot of soil!

The carved, squared altar is said to date from circa 200 BC, which at present is based solely on the style of the sculpture and the style of glyphic writing. At present, the earliest finds at Tak'alik Ab'aj date to 2,800 years ago.

Proyecto Nacional Tak'alik Ab'aj

Since 1987, Proyecto Nacional Tak'alik Ab'aj, on behalf of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Guatemala, has been excavating, consolidating, and conserving this important archaeological site and the national park in which it is located. The project is directed by Christa Schieber de Lavarreda and Miguel Orrego Corzo.

Once your IMS editor received notice of this great discovery, he personally contacted Christa. She kindly forwarded to him the two images that you see on this page and made a few comments about the significance of the find.

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The Institute of Maya Studies Newsletter is published 12 times a year by The Institute of Maya Studies, Inc. 3280 South Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33129. The Institute is a non-profit corporation. The newsletter is available to IMS members and by subscription. See Membership Application on page 7. ©2008 I.M.S. Inc.



New 7 Wonders of Nature Campaign

Over the past couple of years, the New 7 Wonders of the World campaign was a resounding success, in which more than 100 million votes were cast and which took democracy to a new global level. Chichén Itzá was chosen and it all will help bring a boost in tourism to the site. Now, the second campaign to choose the **New 7 Wonders of Nature**, organized by the non-profit New7Wonders Foundation, is off to a promising start: Some 200 nominations were submitted by some half a million people within the first few months of the campaign.



Lake Atitlán

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Vote for your nominees

Voting for nominees will continue through 12/31/2008. Then, a panel of experts will create a list of 21 candidates from which voters worldwide will elect the New 7 Wonders of Nature. The New7Wonders Panel of Experts, under the leadership of Prof. Federico Mayor, former Director-General of UNESCO, will select the 21 Finalists from the top-ranked Official Supported Nominees. The 21 finalists will then be put to an online world-wide popular vote. You can really make a difference!

Online, there is a live ranking of the top 77 nominees. Many are wonderful sites in Guatemala, Belize and Mexico that you may have already visited or heard of.

Shown below is how some of the sites in Central and South America are ranked within the top 77 as of April 15, 2008. There are also other various sites from the U.S. on the list.

- 5) Cocos Island, Costa Rica
- 10) Lake Atitlán, Guatemala
- 15) Lake Titicaca, Bolivia/Peru
- 23) Platano Forest, Honduras
- 44) Belize Barrier Reef
- 46) Machu Picchu, Peru
- 51) Great Blue Hole, Belize
- 70) Agua Azúl Waterfalls, Mexico

Vote for your favorites and help move them further up the list at: www.new7wonders.com/nature/en/liveranking

Submitted by our good friend of the IMS in Puerto San José, Guatemala, Carlos Nolberto León Corado.



New Website Dedicated to Archaeology in Cuba

Recently, due to the increasing international desire to know what is going on archaeologically in Cuba, a new comprehensive and informative Website has been initiated. The site can be accessed at: www.cubaarqueologica.org



Site organizers intend the site to serve as a point of contact between the various organizations that are involved with the numerous aspects of archaeological investigations in Cuba. Here, they plan to divulge and share archaeological site reports of recent finds and discoveries as well as provide links to numerous publications



Newly discovered prehistoric rock art in Cuba's Cueva de La Cachimba. Photo courtesy of Fidel Navarrete Quinones.

Find out about 2012 online!

Thanks to our webmaster Frank May, the Institute of Maya Studies now maintains an area of our web site devoted to **Understanding 2012**.

Feel free to post your own comments or questions. Updated periodically, check out our 2012 link at: <http://mayastudies.org>

and magazines that for years have been dedicated to the study of archaeology in Cuba, including the magazine *El Caribe Arqueológico*. The whole site is structured with distinct sections including: Institutions, Events, Library, Education, Publications and Cultural Patrimony. And there is a nice section of petroglyphs from caves and other sites. They request the collaboration and opinions of all those interested in the archaeology of Cuba.



Important New Discovery at Tak'alik Ab'aj

continued from page 1

“The king mentioned in the relief could be the founder of a Maya dynasty here at Tak'alik Ab'aj. At the same time, this could also represent the birth of Maya culture in general.”

Christa also said that she and Miguel plan to present a formal paper to report on the finding at this year's Guatemalan Archaeological Symposium to be held in Guatemala City in July. The following is the actual abstract for their report that they submitted to the event coordinators:

The Discovery of Altar 48 at Tak'alik Ab'aj

Since 2005, Proyecto Nacional Tak'alik Ab'aj has been conducting a specific excavation program aimed at recovering information about the context of the sculptures at Tak'alik Ab'aj. This report will feature the discovery and excavation of a pre-Classic carved stone altar, designated Altar 48, that we accomplished in March 2008.

An uncarved monumental stela had been positioned carefully above Altar 48 in order to protect it, which gives a hint about the magnitude of the meaning of this altar.

Altar 48 portrays on its surface the beautiful design of a crocodile with the quatrefoil symbol of the cave or portal on its back. Inside the quatrefoil, a personage depicted with headdress

After the trees and roots were removed and the toppled stela was hoisted up and moved out of the way, workers washed and cleaned the surface of the altar to reveal its intricate details for the first time.

and loincloth, is seated on his throne in Maya fashion. On the side edges of the altar, there appear two mythological themes that are positioned on either side each of a four-component glyph block that features very-early-style glyphs. These four glyphs appear to refer directly to this personage.

The crocodile with the quatrefoil symbol on its back resembles the representations of a turtle with its shell in the form of the same symbol. The figure of the Maize god emerging from the open shell of a turtle is frequently found in Maya iconography relating to the creation of the world.

The four glyphs open the possibility to relate this powerful mythological theme to a real personage, a ruler, in Late pre-Classic times, when the early Maya system was “institutionalized” and the universal symbols “mint.” This style was to influence all later epochs of Maya development. Altar 48 at Tak'alik Ab'aj might be one of the earliest mythological representations of Maya cosmivision used for political purposes.

Additional comments by John Major Jenkins

The imagery on Altar 48 recently discovered at Tak'alik Ab'aj is very similar to that of Stela 8 from the site of Izapa. In addition, Izapa Stelae 10, 11, 67, 22, and Throne 2 are all related to the



Archaeologist Miguel Orrego Corzo contemplates the significance of the carved imagery of Altar 48.

iconography on the new carving. Much more can be assembled here to make a case for the ubiquity of this symbolism.

The astronomical aspect of this symbolism was explored in David Stuart's *Inscriptions from Temple XIX at Palenque* (2005), referencing the Classic Period “Starry Deer Crocodile” that originated in the crocodile carvings at Izapa (notably, Stela 25).

Tak'alik Ab'aj Altar 48 is part of an orchestra of iconographically similar carvings, all of which refer to the sun deity enthroned in the “mouth” or belly of the Milky Way. (A more detailed analysis is available online at: <http://Alignment2012.com/Takalik48.html>)

Congratulations to Christa Schieber de Lavarreda and Miguel Orrego Corzo of the Proyecto Nacional Tak'alik Ab'aj for making an important new discovery that helps us understand the relationship between Izapa and Tak'alik Ab'aj, between the ideological and cosmological insights formulated at Izapa and their later adoption by the Classic Period Maya.

A National Geographic video featuring the raising of the toppled stela with comments by Christa is available at: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/04/080407-maya-video-ap.html>

Combined by the editor from various reports, including the *Prensa Libre*, submitted by Carlos Nolberto León Corado of Guatemala, personal communications from archaeologist Christa Schieber de Lavarreda and independent Maya researcher John Major Jenkins, plus an online report by Erik Boot available at: <http://mayanewsupdates.blogspot.com>

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Tikal by way of Belize

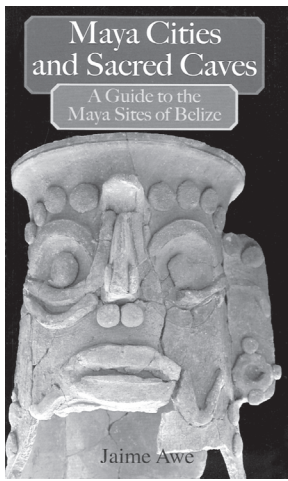
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Your guides **Jim Reed** and **John Major Jenkins** invite you to join our traveling Maya show! We'll visit eight Maya sites, and have the excavating archaeologists show us around three of them. Over the eight nights, we're staying at only three different hotels, but each is quite unique and interesting. We're including lots of great food, with all breakfasts and most dinners and lunches included. Enjoy Belizean and International cuisine, along with tropical bars and swimming pools. We've also got an air-conditioned vehicle! It will be a magical adventure!

Economically priced • Space is limited, join us by contacting Jim Reed now for an adventure brochure with more details and specific trip costs: 404-680-1644 • mayaman@bellsouth.net



The cover of the book features a large effigy censer depicting the jaguar god of the underworld that was discovered at Xunantunich.

Maya Cities and Sacred Caves

A Guide to the Maya Sites of Belize

A new book by Dr. Jaime Awe

Recently published by Cubola Books, and already in its second edition, this beautifully illustrated book will appeal to students, visitors and anyone interested in learning about the wonders and achievements of the ancient Maya civilization in Belize.

Dr. Jaime Awe is Director of the Belize Institute of Archaeology and continues to conduct archaeological investigations in various parts of the country. His introduction to the history and culture of the Maya and their predecessors presents a fascinating overview of how climatic events, trade and warfare influenced these early peoples. The book also contains a descriptive chronology of Mesoamerica from Paleo-Indian times to the aftermath of the Spanish conquest.

Within the pages of the book, Dr. Awe writes about ten archaeological sites (see map) and three caves. His up-to-date descriptions serve as an excellent guide to the ancient cities and sacred caves of the Maya lowlands that visitors to Belize would perhaps be most interested in.

Ten Maya Sites in Belize:

Santa Rita: "Ancient Chetumal"

During the Late Postclassic period, (from 1200 to 1500 AD), ancient Chetumal was part of a federation of Maya principalities known as the League of Mayapán. Santa Rita was situated on an important trade route that ran along the length of the Caribbean coast. It's known for its production of high quality cacao, which, along with marine products, achioté, honey, and vanilla, were also exported to its neighbors.

Cerros: "Maya Hill"

The site comprises 52.62 acres and includes three large architectural complexes dominating several plazas flanked by pyramidal structures. Two structures are known to possess facades with two-to-four-meter-high carved masks.

Lamanai: "Submerged Crocodile"

Lamanai has the longest known history of occupation in the Maya area. Eight major plazas of large structures make up Lamanai's central core. Adjacent to this complex there is an ancient harbour.

Altun Ha: "Rockstone Pond"

Altun Ha is a small, but surprisingly rich, major center occupied during the Classic period. The site was an



Visitors enjoy the view from high atop "Caana", the Sky Palace at Caracol.



Large nine-foot-tall stucco masks flank the central stairway of structure N9-56 at Lamanai.



Excavations by Jaime Awe, deep within Structure B4 at Cahal Pech, encountered layers of occupation from 1200 to 1000 BC.



The largest carved jade object ever found in the Maya area, this 9.75 lb. carved head of K'inich Ahau, the Sun God, was discovered in a tomb at Altun Ha.

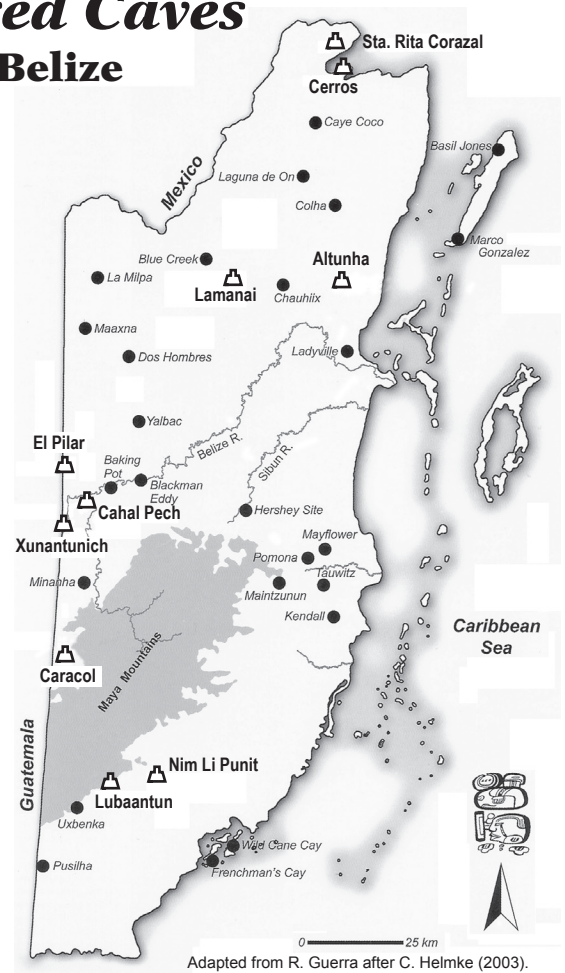
important link in the coastal trade routes, and had contact with the distant Teotihuacán at an early time in Maya history.

Caracol: "Snail"

Located on the western edge of the Maya Mountains within the Chiquibul Forest Reserve, Caracol was an enormous city. The metropolis, with its bustling markets, busy thoroughfares, craft workshops, and extensive farms, relied on an independent system of social and economic networks to maintain its vitality.

Cahal Pech: "Place of Ticks"

In the Late Preclassic period (300 BC to 250 AD), likely became one of the most



Adapted from R. Guerra after C. Helmke (2003).

Map of Belize showing the location of the ten archaeological sites featured in the book.

important centers in the Belize River Valley region. During the Classic period, Cahal Pech continued to grow and today's visitors can see 34 structures, most of which are located around seven courtyards. The site also contains two ballcourts, eight plain and one carved

El Pilar: "Water Hole"

Established during the Middle Preclassic period (880 to 300 BC), El Pilar became one of the largest Maya sites in Belize during the Classic period. The center

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Editor's note: In the '70s, I lived across the river from Xunantunich. We used to sleep on top of "El Castillo" on full moons!

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has a well-defined civic/ceremonial section that includes both public and private areas. East of the site core, in a section known as the Garden Area, archaeologist Anabel Ford and a foundation known as "Amigos de El Pilar" have conserved a small residential plaza in an effort to demonstrate the nature of Maya households and their connection to the surrounding ecology.

Xunantunich: "Stone Woman"

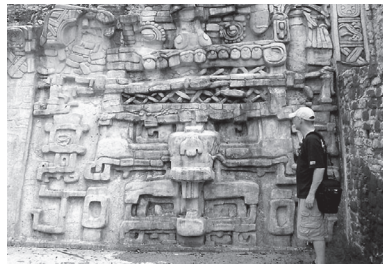
The epicenter of Xunantunich, which consists of four major architectural groups, sits on an artificially leveled limestone ridge almost 183 meters above sea level. From this core area, the site radiates outward, encompassing settlements that extend for several square kilometers. From the top of its most impressive structure, the 40-meter high "El Castillo", pyramid, you can get a great view of the surrounding Mopán River Valley and see the nearby border with Guatemala.

Nim Li Punit: "Big Hat"

This site, which was discovered by an oil company exploration team in 1976, is situated along the top of a ridge in the foothills of the Maya Mountains. To the east of the ridge, lie the flat coastal plains that extend all the way to the Caribbean Sea. The ceremonial center consists of three major groups with monumental architecture. Twenty monuments were discovered by archaeologists. Seven of these are caved stelae with dates that place them in the Late Classic period.



Dr. Jaime Awe is Director of the Belize Institute of Archaeology. Since 2000, he has coordinated excavations and conservation at Caracól, Altun Ha, Xunantunich, Cahal Pech, and Lamanai.



Twin masks of the Waterlily Serpent flank both sides of the central stairway of Structure B5 at Caracól.

Lubaantun: "Place of Fallen Stones"

Located not very far from Nim Li Punit, this beautiful site was constructed on the foothills overlooking the banks of the Columbia River. It is a relatively large regional center with numerous structures grouped around several courtyards. Their location, adjacent to fertile soils, allowed them to grow cacao, which they exported to their contacts in the Guatemalan highlands in exchange for obsidian, jade and other exotic items. The site flourished for a little more than 150 years, from 700 to 850 AD.

Sacred Caves:

The limestone terrain of Belize, Guatemala, and the Yucatán peninsula, contains thousands of caves, and Belize has some of the finest and most interesting. Archaeological investigations indicate that the Maya utilized cave sites from as early as 1000 BC. By Classic-period times, between 300–800 AD, data suggest that ritual activity in cave sites became regular and important aspects of Maya ceremonies.

Barton Creek Cave

Within this cave, artifacts, hearths, modified cave formations, and human skeletons were deposited on cave ledges as part of the ritual activities of the ancient inhabitants of the Barton Creek Valley.

Actun Tunich Muknal

The cave is approximately five kilometers in length and has a permanently active stream which flows through the major cave passage. Within one of its four ceremonial chambers, archeologists found the skeletal remains of 14 individuals, 150 ceramic vessels, several grinding stones and a variety of animal remains. The 14 individuals were sacrificed as part of agricultural fertility rituals in the cave.



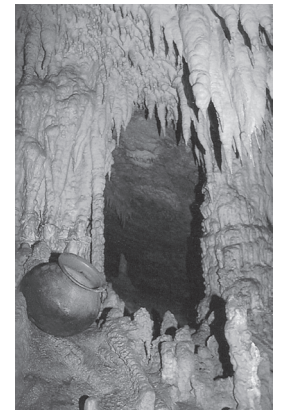
Costumed men from the village of Santa Cruz performing a deer dance ceremony.



The enormous sand passage within Actun Cabal, located deep within the Chiquibul Forest Reserve.



This ceremonial altar is located in a cathedral-like chamber deep within Che Chem Ha cave.



This large jar was found near the remains of an infant within the Actun Tunich Muknal cave.

Che Chem Ha Cave

This cave contains substantial evidence of ancient Maya ritual activity dating from the Middle Pre-classic period (900–300 BC) to the Late Classic period (700–900 AD). Numerous ceramic vessels, including extremely large clay pots or ollas were found deposited here. The clay pots were probably used in rain-inducing and agricultural rituals dedicated to the rain god Chaak or the moon goddess Ix Chel.

Maya Cities and Sacred Caves. All photos by Jaime Awe, Katia Paradis or from the Cubola Archives. ISBN 976-8161-10-8

Construction at Copán

By Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, P.E.

The famous Maya site of Copán on the Honduras side of the border with Guatemala was heavily influenced by the architectural style of Tikal which is located in the heart of the Petén lowlands. With Tikal spreading its political influence (which is becoming more apparent), this should be expected. *National Geographic* devoted a recent article to the arrival of Yax Kuk Mo from Tikal and his lineage's political and military domination of the region.

Petén-style buildings, which include re-entrant corners and fixed-end embedded wood lintels, are evident from the earliest buildings in the sub levels of Structure 10L-16 to the top of 10L-22. Petén rounded corners are also reported by excavators. This is also true of Quiriguá and El Puente, both sites having a strong affiliation with Copán.

But while the style may be Petén, Copán's construction is purely local. Petén building construction follows the classical Maya technology of two wall faces of limestone masonry laid in lime-mortar and the cavity between the walls filled with lime-mix concrete.

At Copán, Quiriguá and El Puente, the masonry is largely ashlar blocks of tuffa laid in clay mortar. Tuffa is a sandstone-like sedimentation and relithification of volcanic ash. It can be very soft, capable of being carved with fingers, but if properly lithified, it is, well, tuff. It has been used

extensively by many civilizations, including the Romans, and it is the primary building stone of the Colosseum.

This construction method is to be expected in these three Maya sites since they are in the vicinity of the volcanic Central American ridge. Tuffa is easily accessible and easy to work with, being at the same time easy to cut but strong.

Many of the area's famous stelae are reported to be in andesite. This crystalline volcanic igneous rock related to granite and grano-diorite (as the famous obelisks from Egypt's Aswan quarries) is much harder but extremely difficult to cut.

That may be the reason why it was not used for building material but exclusively for stelae (which explains the pristine conditions of the famous monuments, as opposed to the softer limestone stelae of the Petén and points north). Tuffa is about the same strength as limestone while andesite is much stronger than both. Both are siliceous in chemistry and, therefore, more resistant to acidic rains than limestone.

The other local technology is the almost exclusive use of clay as a bedding material for mortar. Clay being sediment of the weathering by-products of igneous and igneo-metamorphic rocks, it is also extremely available in the region. It is not that the Copanecos did not use lime; lime kilns have been found in the sites, but not for mortar. The use of lime was mostly confined to floor and wall plastering.

Evidence of lime plastered floors can be seen from the lower levels of construction. The same applies to plastered walls (falsely called stucco). Some deposits of limestone exist east of Copán, which could have been mined to make quick-lime. But probably due to the abundance of excellent local clay, this was the preferred material for mortar bedding.



Copán masonry of tuffa ashlar bedded in clay mortar.



Quiriguá masonry of tuffa ashlar bedded in clay mortar.



Copán Temple 22 showing Petén-style wood fixed-end lintel embedded in the masonry.

What is strange is that the local Maya didn't think of mixing these materials. The addition of silicate dry clay or volcanic ash to a lime mortar mix would result in hydraulic cement leading to true concrete (and stucco). There is no evidence of this mixture having been used.

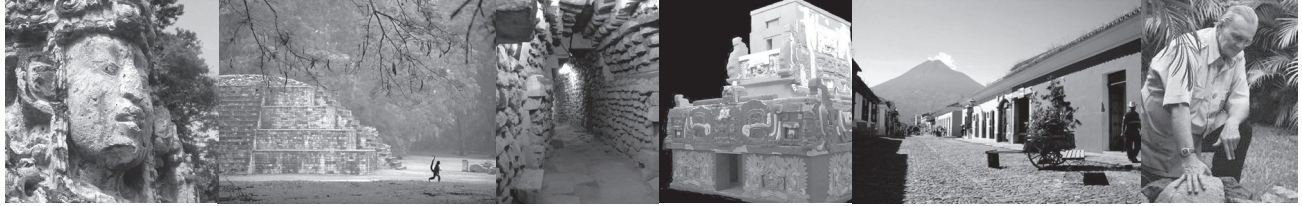
The very lowest (and oldest) levels of construction seen under Structures 10L-16 and 10L-26 are of solid adobe, also mixed with local clay reinforced with vegetable fiber.



Copán Sub 10L-T16 showing Petén-style re-entrant corner.

Institute of Maya Studies' Line-up of Presentations!

May 14: Travel, Art & Archaeology • A New Video by Jim Reed



Ruler 18 Rabbit The Beautiful Plaza at Copán Muchos Tunnels La Rosalila La Antigua, Guatemala Jay Ridinger, Jade

“Copán–Guatemala Highlands Maya Adventure – Part One”

During the summer of 2007, Jim Reed led a great group of IMS members and other Maya enthusiasts on a wonderful adventure to the Mayalands. As is his style, Jim created a beautiful set of DVD videos to later gift to the adventurers to document and enhance their experiences and memories. At the same time, his efforts offer all a great opportunity to “relive the magic”. In part one, see the National Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology of Guatemala. See the magnificent site of Copán and its wonderful museum. We spend a fantastic evening with famous Copán resident, archaeologist David Sedat and visit his personal Maya ritual steam bath. See the beautiful city of La Antigua, Guatemala, and delve into the world of Maya jade, with the discoverers of the whereabouts of Maya jade quarries, Mary Lou and Jay Ridinger. You have to see it to believe it ... it really is something special!

May 21: IMS General Meeting:

“Three-Dimensional Spatial Technologies and Mesoamerican Archaeology”

A suite of integrated spatial technologies that are incorporated under the label of High Definition Documentation Survey (HDDS) allows numerous aspects of Mesoamerica’s material record to be viewed and analyzed from a variety of perspectives. These technologies, which include an integration of both cutting-edge and conventional methods, allow researchers to move seamlessly among multiple scales of analysis. These scales range from the individual artifact, to the feature and depositional context, to the built and natural environments (e.g., architecture, site and settlement patterns, landscapes, and regions).



Monument and architectural scanning at Crystal River Archaeological site, Citrus County, FL

At the center of these methods is three-dimensional laser scanning, a non-contact and non-destructive technique that captures extremely accurate and robust spatial data that can then be processed and used to address a multitude of preservation, restoration, and research issues. Case studies from the authors’ Mesoamerican projects will be used to highlight several archaeological applications. Presented by the dynamic duo of:

Travis F. Doering, Ph.D. and Lori D. Collins, Ph.D.,
Directors of the Alliance for Integrated Spatial Technologies,
Office of Research and Scholarship, University of South Florida, Tampa.



Long-range scanning of Preacher’s Cave, Eleuthera, Bahamas.

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Upcoming Events at IMS:

May 7: *IMS Board Meeting*
All IMS members are welcome to attend.

May 14: *Travel, Art & Archaeology*
“Copán–Guatemala Highlands Maya Adventure – Part One” – Witness a beautiful and colorful documentary of an exciting tour of the Mayalands, artistically created by **Jim Reed**.

May 21: *IMS General Meeting*
“Three-Dimensional Spatial Technologies and Mesoamerican Archaeology” – High Definition Documentation Survey (HDDS) allows numerous aspects of Mesoamerica’s material record to be viewed and analyzed from a variety of perspectives. At the core of it all is three-dimensional laser scanning. Case studies from the authors’ Mesoamerican projects will be used to highlight several archaeological applications. Presented by **Travis F. Doering**, Ph.D. and **Lori D. Collins**, Ph.D., both of the University of South Florida, Tampa.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

May 9–10: *Symposium*
“Legacy of Mesoamerican Civilizations and Peoples Conference” – Theme of the Institute for Mesoamerican Studies Symposium at the University of Albany, located in Albany, NY. Get more info at: www.albany.edu/ims

May 10: *Lecture*
“Yukatecan Gods from 1560–1980” – by Bruce Love, PhD, President of CRM TECH, an archaeological consulting firm. The Pre-Columbian Society of the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Get more info at: www.precolumbian.org

July 22–Ongoing: *Museum Exhibition*
“Aztec to Zapotec: Selections From the Ancient Americas Collection” – at the Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL. Get more info at: www.omart.org/galleries/exhibitions/aztec/aztec.html
October 31, 2008 – April 19, 2009
Museum Exhibit

“The Aztec World” – Within the span

of 200 years, the Aztecs went from a nomadic group to one of the most powerful and influential societies ever, leaving behind a legacy that lives on today. At the Field Museum of Chicago, IL. Get more info at: www.fieldmuseum.org

Announcing a new: *Online Exhibition*
“The Cultures and History of the Americas” – The Library of Congress presents an online exhibition featuring fifty highlights from the more than 4,000 rare books, maps, documents, paintings, prints, and artifacts that make up the Jay I. Kislak Collection. This exhibition explores several themes, including the pre-Columbian cultures of Central America and the Caribbean. It’s a preview of the permanent Kislak space to open in the Thomas Jefferson Building in Washington, D.C. Check out: www.loc.gov/exhibits/kislak



Please note that all articles and news items for the IMS newsletter must be submitted to the Newsletter Editor by the second Wednesday of the month. E-mail articles, photos or news items to mayaman@bellsouth.net or forward by postal mail to: Jim Reed, 219 13th Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309



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May 21: IMS General Meeting:
“Three-Dimensional Spatial Technologies and Mesoamerican Archaeology”
with

Travis F. Doering, Ph.D. and Lori D. Collins, Ph.D.

Close-range scanning of sculpture in the Museo Popol Vuh, Guatemala.