



**PRELIMINARY FIELD SEASON REPORT 2014
LAMANAI ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT
LAMANAI OP14-3**

Prepared by: Karen Pierce

Submitted to Dr. Elizabeth Graham February 6, 2015

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Acknowledgements

The Lamanai Archaeological Project has been supported by a number of individuals and groups over the years. First, both Drs. Elizabeth Graham and David Pendergast have given much of their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm toward this project and our research could not have been undertaken without their support and sharing of information from previous excavations. We are most grateful to them for the innumerable things each has done to help the Lamanai research projects develop and continue over the years. Additionally, both Stan Loten and Claude Belanger have contributed to the architectural foundations upon which this research has been built and we are grateful to them for the detailed plans and notes they provided. The Belize Institute of Archaeology staff members, including Dr. Jaime Awe, Dr. John Morris, Melissa Badillo, and Antonio Beardall have been most helpful and supportive. We look forward to working with each of them and their staff for many years to come as we all work together to better understand the ancient Maya of Belize.

Many thanks are given to the Lamanai researchers who provided information pertinent to our research at Ottawa this season including Mark Shelby, Laura Howard, and Norbert Stanchly. Louise Belanger created the excellent drawings of the cache artifacts. Liz Graham conducted an analyses of the ceramic sherds and artifacts from our excavations. Tom Guderjan assisted with obtaining residue analysis on the cache vessels. Helen Haines helped us with occasional supply pick-ups in Orange Walk Town and other support needs. Kerry Sagebiel patiently answered questions on Maya pottery. Tracie Mayfield and friends supplied much good humor and fun. Thank you all. Thanks also go to the UCL Institute of Archaeology students of Professor Graham who helped with the re-housing of Lamanai artifacts that had been disturbed during the termite invasion and the temporary toilet-room storage situation. We were also happy to have UCL PhD students Phil Austin and Lindsay Duncan help with all that charcoal removal, and volunteers Mark Wheeler and Bill Brown help with our closing excavations.

We would also like to thank our excavation and lab team for all their hard work with us during the 2014 field season—thanks go to Brenda Arevalo, Sonia Gonzalez Arevalo, Chico Arevalo, Sandro Corado, Kike Ruano, Oscar Ruano, Rene Uck, Joey Lopez, Tony Mejia, Martha Mejia, Diamaris Pott, Myran Resinos, and to the Lamanai Park Rangers for helping us with our work on site!!! Sonia and Brenda also contributed much in terms of logistics, moral support, friendship, and, most importantly—great meals and room service!

Finally, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the many men and women of Indian Church and San Carlos who have helped us in countless ways these past years. We look forward to working with them and enjoying their company for years to come.

The 2014 field season on N10-15/Ottawa was self-funded by Claude Belanger and Karen Pierce.

Lastly, we would like to pay tribute to Paula Gomez, a long-time friend of ours from Indian Church, who heartbreakingly died during our field season. She was so energetic, filled with life, and dearly loved—death came way too soon for her. Our sympathies go out to her family, including her son, Sandro Corado, one of our excavators. We will miss you, Paula.

-Karen Pierce

Cover Photo Left to Right: Joey Lopez, Rene Uck, Claude Belanger, and Sandro Corado during 2014 excavations.

Introduction

This report presents the results of archaeological research specific to Lamanai OP14-3 at Structure N10-15 in the Ottawa Group (Figure 1), in 2014 at the Maya site of Lamanai, located on the west bank of the New River Lagoon in the Orange Walk District of Belize (Figure 2). The work in 2014 was conducted as part of a long-term, on-going investigation of the site conducted by the Lamanai Archaeological Project under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth A. Graham, Principal Investigator. The 2014 field season at Lamanai operated under permit number **IA/H/2/1/14 (16)**, which was issued by the Belize Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History (NICH) to Dr. Elizabeth A. Graham.

The following report for Lamanai OP 14-3 is composed of twenty-six sections, the first of which is an **Excavation Summary** that presents the research objectives, theory, methods and a summary of the results of the research endeavors undertaken at N10-15 in 2014.

In addition to the fieldwork, other work we undertook at Lamanai included:

1. Mapping Structure N10-77 (referred to as Sub-Op 19 in this report)
2. The construction of new metal shelving in the northern room of the bodega and the cleaning and/or re-boxing of the termite-damaged artifacts, laboratory materials and books/notebooks (referred to as Sub-Op 20 in this report)
3. The curation of artifact collections that had been temporarily housed in the toilet rooms of the original on-site Museum building and their relocation to the northern room of the bodega (referred to as Sub-Op 20 in this report)
4. Preparation for replacing the roof of the previous on-site museum building (Museum of Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology), which houses a range of special collections, including small finds, flint exotics and the extensive collection of whole and reconstructed ceramic vessels (referred to as Sub-Op 20 in this report)
5. General upkeep and organization of on-site artifact collections housed in the Bodega, and temporary repair of the bat screening at the roof eaves, which needs to be replaced in the near future (referred to as Sub-Op 20 in this report)

Each of these is discussed in this report in the Sub-Op 19 and Sub-Op 20 Details sections.

These particular activities focused on the curation and the ongoing organization and maintenance of the on-site artifact collections and storage facilities; they were coordinated by Claude Belanger, Karen Pierce and Dr. Elizabeth Graham. Maintenance work to be completed later in 2014 on the Museum of Precolumbian Art was to be undertaken in collaboration with Lamanai Park Manager Liston Armstrong and the Institute of Archaeology. The cleaning and re-boxing of the “toilet room” artifacts was done under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Graham, by her UCL students and our temporary local staff members.

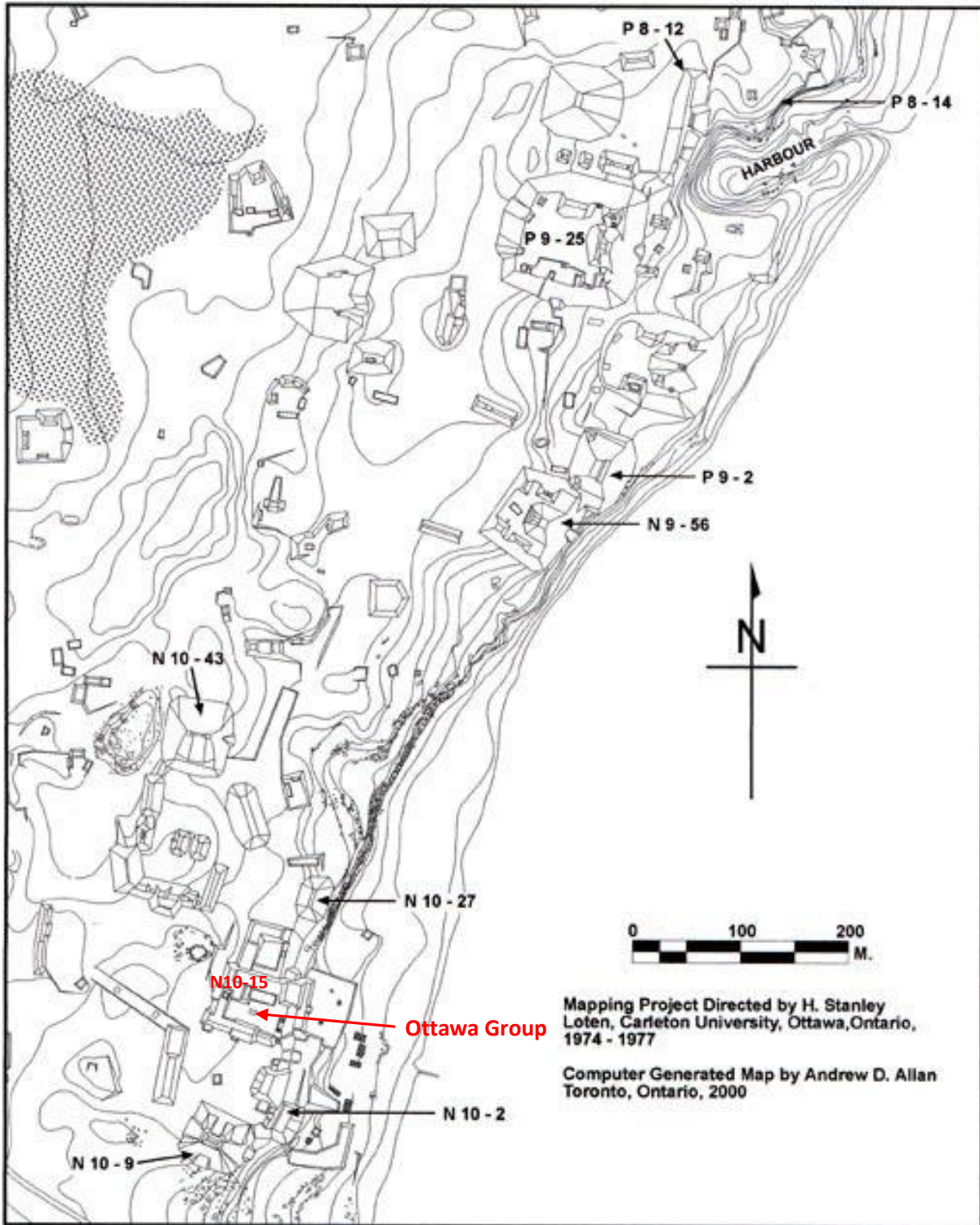


Figure 1. Map of Lamanai showing the concentration of structures running along the lagoon edge and indicating the location of the N10[3] Ottawa Group and Structure N10-15 at the NW side of that group. (after Pendergast 1981: Figure 3)

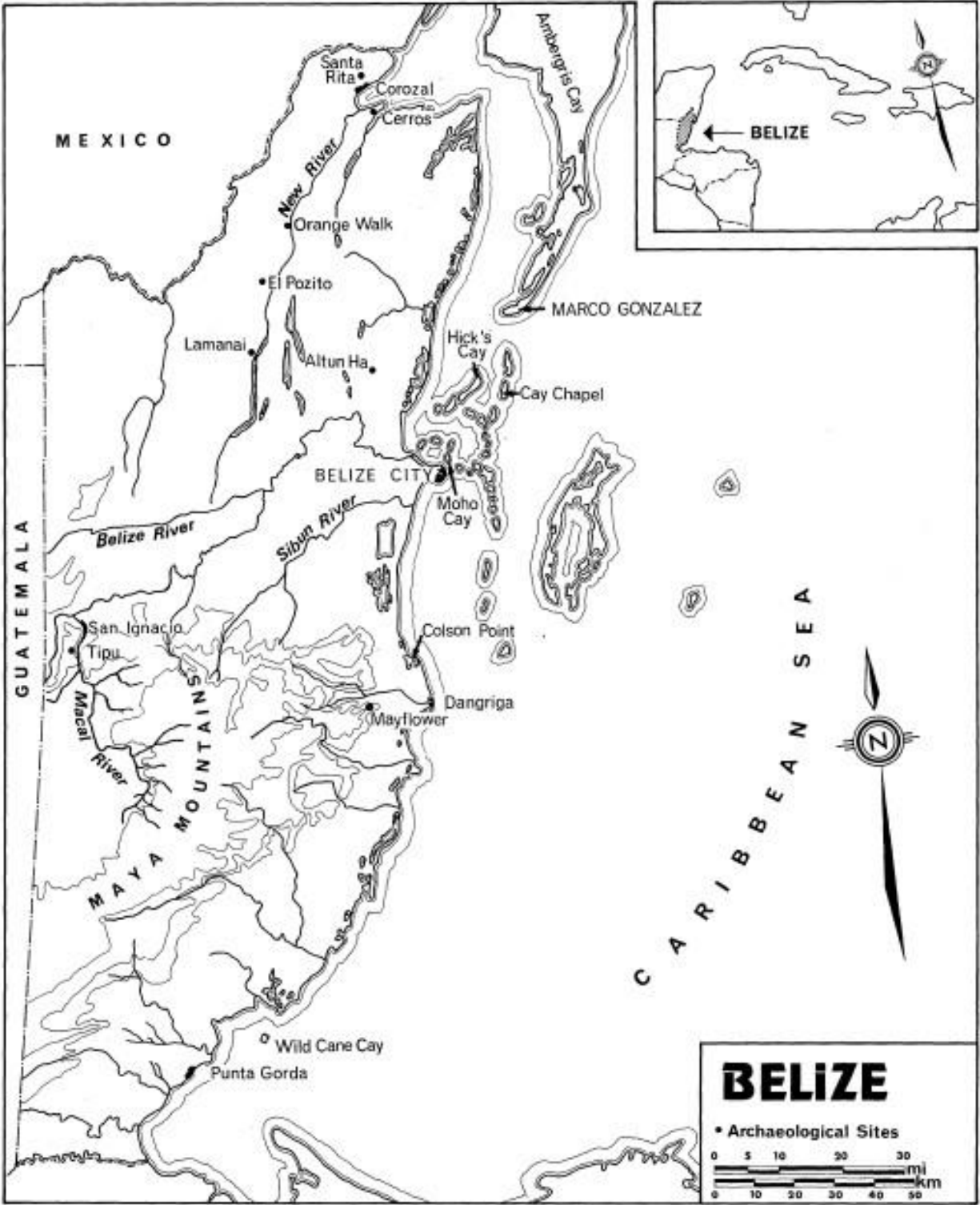


Figure 2. Map of Belize showing the location of Lamanai, selected other archaeological sites and modern settlements (from Pendergast 1981:30).

EXCAVATION SUMMARY

February 14, 2015; Revised May 10, 2015; Revised May 26, 2015; Revised June 26, 2015

Research Goals and Methods of the 2014 Field Season

The N10[3] Complex, nicknamed the Ottawa Group, is characterized as a multifaceted, multipurpose elite assemblage, likely both residential and administrative—a palace compound (Pendergast 1992:66, Graham 2004:231-240). According to Pendergast (1982:2) it is “almost certainly the most complicated assemblage of buildings at Lamanai”. In its mid-ninth century form the Ottawa Group consisted of at least six structures, one of which is Structure N10-15 occupying the west half of the north side of the N10[3] courtyard (Pendergast 1985:93). A long series of remodeling episodes took place at Structure N10-15 during the Late to Terminal Classic period as other structures in the Ottawa complex were razed (Pendergast 1985:95, 1986:231, 233). Our overall goal of the 2014 field season was to further refine the architectural construction sequence of Structure N10-15, obtain additional information pertinent to the sequence of the boulder filling that took place both in the courtyard and to the north of Structures N10-15 and N10-28, and to some degree, gain an understanding of N10-15’s relationship to the other structures in the Ottawa complex through time. Additionally, we wanted to take note of the different architectural construction features and construction methods and how these might have differed in different building phases, and to clarify some items on the plans and notes prepared by David Pendergast and Stan Loten during the Royal Ontario Museum excavations of this structure in the 1980s.

Overall this research “builds on twelve years of archaeological research directed by Dr. David M. Pendergast, Curator Emeritus of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), between 1974

and 1986. During the course of this large scale, ambitious project, Dr. Pendergast and his associates succeeded in defining the site's chronology, settlement characteristics and range of material culture types and architectural features (Pendergast 1981, 1985, 1986a, 1986b, 1990, 1991). This important research project documented the long duration of Maya occupation at Lamanai. Maize pollen recovered in sediments in the area known as 'the Harbour' indicates that the first Maya peoples settled at Lamanai by roughly 1500 BC (Pendergast 1991:338). The results of archaeological research revealed a long, unbroken sequence of Maya occupation at Lamanai through Preclassic and Classic times (Pendergast 1981). Excavations in the vicinity of the project camp also revealed that Lamanai survived the demographic and sociopolitical collapse that occurred at so many other major Maya sites in the Southern Lowland area during the ninth century AD. Dating of several prominent structures near the lagoon indicated that not only did Lamanai continue to be occupied beyond this period of major cultural transformations, but in a great many regards life at the site during Postclassic times was as vibrant and dynamic as it had ever been (Pendergast 1986b, 1990). The work of Dr. Pendergast at Lamanai has encouraged further investigations at the site in recent years in a variety of research areas, including household archaeology, ceramic analyses, symbolic flaked lithic tools and... archaeometallurgy. Research conducted since 1997 by Dr. Elizabeth Graham has focused on investigations in both Classic Period and Late Postclassic Period areas of the site [Graham 2004]" (Simmons 2005).

Research in the 1990s and 2000s at the Ottawa Group took place under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Graham during the LAP 1999 field school (Graham and Pendergast 1999) and other investigations in Ottawa have focused on the polychrome stucco façade on Structure N10-28 by Mark Shelby in 1998 and 1999 (Shelby 2000); excavations of structure N10-12 and N10-

77 conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Graham in 2002 (Graham 2004) in conjunction with other work in the Ottawa Group conducted by Claude Belanger as part of the Belize Tourism Development Project which included the removal of boulders from the courtyard and reconstruction of several structures in the group. At this same time and also under the direction of Dr. Elizabeth Graham, Structure N10-76 (Plant) was excavated by Christopher (Kip) Andres, who later focused on an access analysis of the Ottawa Complex (Andres 2005) as part of his dissertation research. Additional research has focused on ceramic petrography and isotopic analysis of human remains from burials in the Ottawa complex (Howie et al. 2010).

The driving research question behind the 2014 excavations at Structure N10-15 asks “Do changing architectural and caching features at the centrally located N10[3] Ottawa architectural group, and more specifically at Structure N10-15, reflect ideological changes at Lamanai during the Late to Terminal Classic Period that relate to Lamanai’s survival of the collapse?” The broad theoretical framework focuses on how elites legitimize their positions of power through ideology and takes into consideration the Maya political system and more recent views on the diversity of political structures that were present, and the Maya collapse, specifically those models that view the collapse as the delegitimization of dynastic authority.

Field Methods

Excavations on the north and east sides of structure N10-15 were conducted to explore architectural features, building access, and to investigate the architectural construction sequence. During the 2014 field season a total of 18 units were systematically excavated, covering a maximum total area of 122 square meters (approximately 195 cubic meters max.; however this figure is skewed because many of the units tapered down to the bottom due to instability issues).

Excavation units followed architectural features and dimensions varied (see Op Location Plan and Sub-Op records for unit locations and dimensions). The fieldwork was carried out with help from a crew of up to 12 people, but generally our local staff fluctuated between 6-8 field assistants from Indian Church and San Jose Succotz.

Excavation units were tied into a horizontal grid system that has two previously installed permanent concrete benchmarks on Structure N10-15. Vertical elevations were taken from floors and several temporary datum points, all of which were established from either one of our two permanent, concrete benchmarks. One of these permanent benchmarks is situated near the central door of N10-15 2nd, and is tied into the “above mean lagoon level” designation (amll) that has been used throughout the Lamanai Archaeological Project as a standard vertical reference designation (Simmons and Howard 2003). See the **Site Grid and Datum** section of this report for additional details.

Aside from humus and post abandonment accumulation, excavation primarily encountered building materials including plaster, marl, sascab, cobbles, and boulders, with the exception of Sub-Ops 7, 16, 17 and 18 which had more significant amounts of humus, PAA/collapse, and possibly 1980s backdirt overburden. All lots within the units were excavated in strata following architectural features and any visible cultural material was hand-collected in the field in plastic bags and zinc trays for processing in the archaeology laboratory. Screening was not carried out except for the marl/sascab fill excavated from the Sub-Op 2 cache areas, which was screened through ¼” metal mesh. Because of its fragile nature, charcoal from this area was collected in buckets and later spread out to dry and visually scanned for artifacts, but screening would have been damaging to the charcoal, which may be further analyzed in the future to identify wood species and microbotanicals. Artifact trays were transported to the

laboratory for processing by Karen Pierce and two local lab assistants, Brenda Arevalo and Sonia Gonzalez Arevalo. A total of 52 separate lots, LA 3101–LA 3153, were excavated at Structure N10-15 and its immediate environs during the 2014 field season (see **Lot Forms** section).

Laboratory Methods

The total quantity of artifacts recovered during the 2014 excavations at Structure N10-15 were relatively small as the majority of artifacts consisted of ceramic sherds recovered in wall and floor core, as opposed to middens which would generally yield many more artifacts, although a portion of artifacts were recovered from post abandonment accumulation on the north side of N10-15 2nd. Two complete vessels, a partial (shattered) vessel, a large jade “bead”, and 7 obsidian lancets were the most notable artifacts—the vessels were found in a sealed context. Along with a large volume of charcoal, these artifacts were found in Caches N10-15/9, Cache N10-15/10 and Cache N10-15/11 (a minor cache of 2 lancets and a reddish matrix). Additionally, painted modeled stucco fragments were found in several different Sub-Ops. Cursory portable XRF testing of these in June 2015 revealed that these were compositionally different from the modeled stucco fragments thought to be associated with Structure N10-28, which suggests that earlier phases of N10-15 may have also been decorated with painted modeled stucco.

All excavated cultural material was transported in plastic bags, buckets, or zinc trays from the field to the on-site laboratory at the Lamanai Archaeological Reserve where the artifacts were washed (with the exception of the modeled painted stucco fragments and those items slated for residue analysis), dried, sorted, counted, photographed and analyzed. The LAP procedures include sorting all washed artifacts by material, with the intent being that artifacts permanently

stored by material makes them easier to locate for future analysis. It is during this phase that culturally and/or temporally significant finds, termed Small Finds, are separated from other cultural material in their respective lots. Each Small Find is designated by its Lot number and a specific catalog number. A corresponding analysis form is filled out for each Small Find recovered at Lamanai. We identified one ceramic bead half as the only Small Find—other significant artifacts are cataloged as part of the cache and/or vessel documentation.

Although Lot and Operation (Sub-Op) Records are considered field forms, they are completed while laboratory processing is taking place. The Lot numbers/description were entered into the Lamanai Master Lot List, dated 20 Sept 2014. The Lamanai data recording system uses a number of different forms to record details (see Table 1). Lot, Sub-Op, Small Finds and Cache Records will be entered into LAP's archaeological database software program, *Superbase*, or other database, in the future as directed by Dr. Elizabeth Graham.

Cultural material that is not considered a Small Find or Cache, such as ceramic sherds, chert flakes, obsidian blades, bone, shell, and painted modeled stucco fragments were sorted by lot, photographed, counted and recorded in the Sub-Op Details section of this report (and on the LAP Artifact Count Form). Pottery sherds were analyzed by Dr. Elizabeth Graham, who will prepare a summary of the analysis. The material is well labeled and stored in our new zinc artifact boxes on the new metal shelves at the on-site bodega in the Lamanai Archaeological Reserve in the north room. With the exception of the artifacts from the caches, the remaining ceramic sherds are scheduled for re-burial during the 2015 field season. Samples of charcoal, plaster, resin, obsidian points, and a pottery vessel fragment with matrix were exported for further analysis.

Table 1. Description of Field and Laboratory Recording Procedures* (adapted from Simmons 2005:23).

Description	LAP System	2014 Field Season designation used
OPERATION	OP 014-03	OP indicates an operation, the 14 indicates the year in which the operation was assigned and carried out. The second number is assigned in chronological order and indicates the number of operations that have been assigned that year. For 2014 the N10-15 excavation was the 3 rd operation assigned. Each distinct area under investigation is assigned a separate operation that will track all lot numbers, burials, vessels, et al that are assigned for that project.
SUB-OP	Sub-Op 1 - 20	Sub-Op indicated a specific unit or sub-operation that is encompassed under the greater Op designation. For example in 2014 there were 18 individual excavation units and 2 additional mapping and infrastructure undertakings for a total of 20 Sub-Ops.
LOTS	LA 3101 – LA 3153 52 total lots assigned in 2014	Lot numbers are then assigned and numbered sequentially within each operation. A lot is a distinct area under investigation and can include, but is not limited to, an architectural feature, a 10-20 cm (or other) arbitrary level of soil, or any other significant deposit. A lot form is filled out (Appendix 1) for each distinct area under investigation and provides information such as thickness of deposit, date of deposit, and relationship to datum and/or surface. A master list of lots is maintained for reference and to aide in assignment of open lot numbers.
SMALL FINDS	LA 3140/1 1 total Small Finds recovered in 2014 From Sub-Op16	Culturally and/or temporally significant artifacts, termed small finds, are pulled from their lot and given a distinct catalog number. Attribute analyses are conducted and a separate form is completed for each small find that contains information such as the dimension, weight, provenience, and illustration. A master small find list is maintained for reference and ease in assignment of catalog numbers. All small finds are labeled and stored in the secure bodega at Lamanai.
CACHES	Cache N10-15/9, Cache N10-15/10 and Cache N10-15/11	Cache control numbers have typically been assigned according to the structure number, Cache N10-15/9 is the ninth cache recovered from Structure N10-15. There are detailed field and laboratory forms that require all caches to be systematically recorded. All relevant lots are recorded.

* Copies of all Operations/Sub-Op forms, Lot Record forms, Small Finds form, and cache forms are found in the last sections of this report.

Caches, Stratigraphy, Artifacts and Dating

Two of the caches recovered during the 2014 excavations provide the most secure dating evidence for the architectural sequence with which they are associated. These caches are Cache N10-15/9 and Cache N10-15/10. The caches are described and photographed in detail in the Sub-Op 2 section that follows. Cache N10-15/10 (LA 3107) had two shallow dish-form ceramic vessels (LA3107/1 and LA3107/2) placed lip-to-lip enclosing a volume of charcoal that nearly filled the space created within the vessels, 9 unremarkable white stones, and 5 obsidian lancets. The vessels are identified by Dr. Elizabeth Graham as typical Lamanai Terminal Classic polychrome forms, and during a site visit to Lamanai, Dr. Debra Walker noted that they are Palmar Orange/Tepua 2 or 3 related. Cache N10-15/9 (LA3108) contained the base of a highly fragmented Achiote black vase (per Dr. Debra Walker)—absent any rim sherds (LA3108/1)—with an incised line around the circumference near the bottom; a large jade “bead” (LA3108/2); and ~0.16cu meters of charcoal weighing 52kg, or 115 pounds.

All other dating is relative within the architectural stratigraphy and associated ceramic sherds cannot provide secure dating for these architectural features. As previously noted, the ceramic sherds recovered from floor ballast and wall core and other fill have been analyzed by Dr. Elizabeth Graham.

Additional information on the location of caches in N10-15 is included in the Construction History section that follows.

Backfilling and Consolidation

Following the completion of archaeological investigations in 2014, the architectural features that were exposed within the area of N10-15 referred to as N10-15 2nd, or the northern

addition, were backfilled with stones and marl from the excavated material, the steps were rebuilt using the original stones, and the floors were re-plastered. Architectural features encountered “above ground” in Sub-Op 16 were left exposed, as this is an area visited by tourists and it provided for viewing of additional features of later additions to the structure. Sub-Op 7 (and Sub-Op 16) exposed more of the north face of the north wall of N10-15 2nd, and this was also left exposed; however, excavations below the level of the Xix “floor”—the overall level of current foot-traffic—were backfilled and the floor was replastered. While the replastering of floors was taking place at the excavation units, repairs were also made to the disintegrating plaster on the south steps of N10-15 and the steps leading up to N10-18. The area where boulders were removed to further expose the north terraces at the east side of N10-15 in Sub-Op 11 was blocked off with a “boulder fence” to the south and north to prevent people from entering this area, which is slated to be further stabilized by Claude Belanger and in cooperation with the Belize Institute of Archaeology in 2015. The terrace face was reconstructed at Sub-Op 12 and the terrace ledge was replastered.

Research Questions for the 2014 Field Season

Structure N10-15 is one of six range-buildings ringing the perimeter of the courtyard of the N10[3] Group—nicknamed the Ottawa Group—an elite-residential palace/administration complex. Structure N10-15 is known to be one of the longest occupied structures among the existing structures (Pendergast 1986b:233). A portion of this work was based upon David Pendergast’s and Stan Loten’s Ottawa excavations that took place in the early 1980s, conducted under the auspices of the Royal Ontario Museum’s Lamanai Expedition.

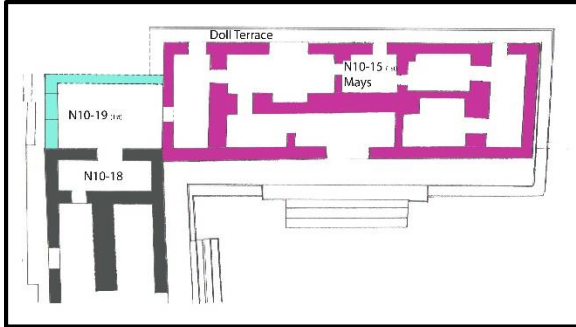
Investigations in 2014 focused on looking for access stairs at the north side of Structure N10-15, and further refining the construction sequence of the many remodeling episodes of this building.

In his dissertation, which looks in part at how access patterns at Ottawa changed through the Classic to Postclassic, Andres (2005:1993) noted regarding the Ottawa Group that “access from the north was only possible by passing through the buildings themselves and descending to the courtyard level via stairs”. No evidence of stairs has thus far been uncovered anywhere at the northern side of the Ottawa platform. How did one access Structure N10-15 from the north? This was a question we wanted to explore to see if there was evidence of stairs on the north side of N10-15. In looking for stairs at the center door of N10-15 1st, we did not find conclusive evidence of a staircase, but rather we found evidence of a platform feature, nicknamed “The Box”, at the foot of two steps that joined The Box to the original “Doll” platform of N10-15 1st, and that were later covered over to become part of a northern terrace and room extension, N10-15 2nd. The presence of a substantial amount of boulders prevented us from locating any access that may have been present for this phase of construction. A drop in the ground surface approximately 20 meters to the north of Fifteen suggests this is where access stairs may have been located in the later phases; however, it has not been excavated. Note: upon our return in 2015 we found that this area is now the new—wide and graveled—tourist pathway ramp leading from N10-27 (Stela Temple) to the north side of the Ottawa Group.

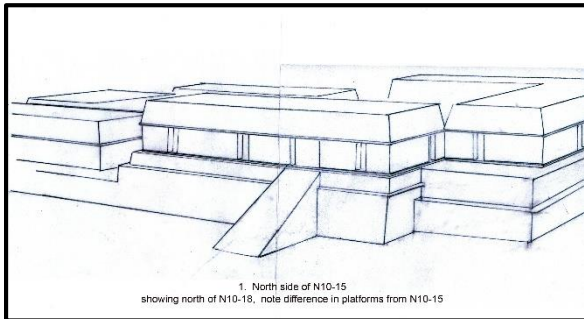
Construction History of Structure N10-15

Building upon Stan Loten’s architectural plans, sections and associated notes, plus David Pendergast’s field notes, we determined that there were six main phases (Figure 3) of Structure

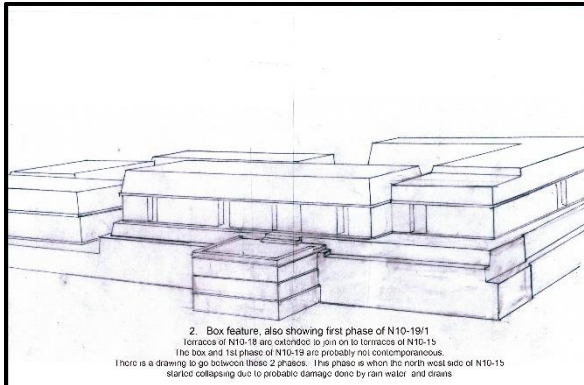
N10-15 which stands visible today, and which dates predominately to the Late to Terminal Classic period. Note that this structure was partly reconstructed in 2001 and 2002 by the Belize Tourism Development Project—herein referred to as TDP, so not all of the standing stub-walls are original. In addition to the main phases that have been identified, Pendergast (1985:95) noted that there were are a greater number of more minimal modifications to this structure than previously encountered elsewhere on site. The N10[3] complex is believed to have been occupied since at least the Middle Classic or earlier (Pendergast 1986b:231), so it is likely that there are previous structures or phases under the uppermost and currently visible phases of the N10-15 structure (a June 2015 test pit in the Ottawa Courtyard plaza floor confirmed this with a standing wall and terrace feature). This is important to note because as a structure was remodeled through time it often incorporated, added to, or sat upon an earlier structure(s). The features of previous phases can serve as the foundations of later phases, and 2014 excavations saw several examples of this. Whether this was an aspect of social memory, style conformity, or practicality could be argued. It is not always possible to assign dates to each remodeling because of the lack of primary context evidence, but earlier phases of the structure, or what lies deep beneath, are very likely to be Preclassic. We believe that earlier phases of the N10[3] group were different in their composition and orientation, as evidenced by platform layout of Structure N10-28 (Sub-Op 10), which shows that at least the eastern edge of the N10-15 platform was built on top of the lower terrace of N10-28. The Maya are known to have undertaken what appears to be near continuous architectural remodeling projects, and Structure N10-15 is no exception. The unusual thing though about this structure is that it appears to have endured as the other structures in the N10[3] group were demolished and covered over by a 4 meter deposit of boulders that was ultimately topped by a plaster floor.



Phase 1 is Mays, the structure atop the Doll Platform, aka N10-15 1st—a building with tandem rooms oriented on an east-west axis, flanked by transverse rooms. North at top.

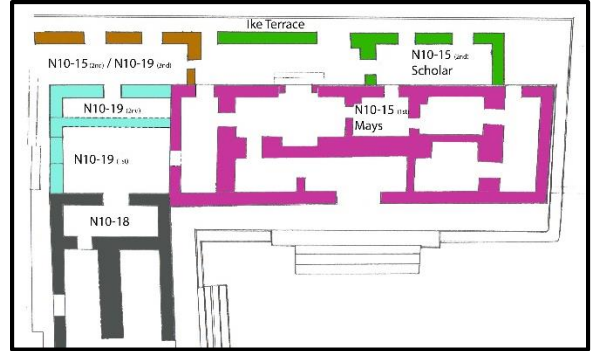


Phase 2 was the addition of a ramp or stair feature that overlaid the second terrace to abut with the Mays building. View from the north looking south.

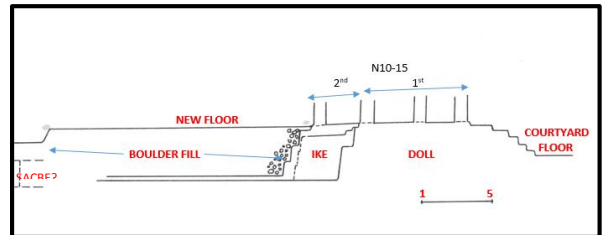


Phase 3 is the addition of a platform feature that seems to have been of primary importance, which we have nick-named “The Box”.

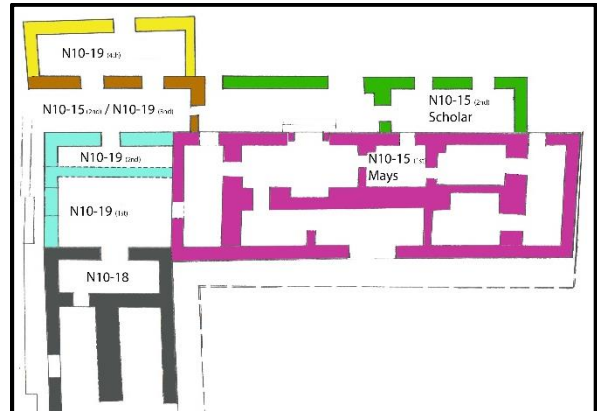
Figure 3. N10-15 architectural phases.



Phase 4 was a fairly big construction undertaking—although it may have happened in two separate phases—with a northward building extension across all of N10-15 and N10-19, requiring a new terrace. Walls were built, but then later torn down in a remodeling, so we don’t know what the initial Ike Terrace addition floor-plan looked like.



Phase 5 entailed filling of the entire plaza area to the north of Fifteen with boulders to bring it up to the level of the Mays interior floor surface. Scholar (see above) became the 5th building phase, with walls atop a new floor—aligning all the floor surfaces inside and outside the buildings. North at left.



Phase 6. Following the floor alignment of Phase 5 there is evidence of yet a further expansion to the north at N10-19, atop the new plaza floor. N10-15 was also expanded to the east, although it was never clear how the erratically-shaped footprint was to be interpreted, and this feature no longer exists.

Preliminary Research Results from the 2014 Field Season

Platform Feature—“The Box”: Sub-Op 4 & 8. Our primary findings this season include the identification of parallel N-S oriented terraces on the north side of N10-15, symmetrically aligned with the central (during the associated Phase 3) north door of N10-15 1st. We nicknamed this platform feature “The Box” (see Figure 3, Phase 3). With the addition of this unusual box-like feature two steps were added at that doorway. Two caches were incorporated into the construction of this feature which date this box-like addition, or at least its uppermost terrace level, to the Terminal Classic period. This feature sits upon a floor 3+ meters below the upper surface, and continues down below that floor level to an unknown depth.

Terrace Floor and North Platform Features: Sub-Op 11, 4 and 7. Clearing of boulders revealed that this same floor identified in Sub-Op 4 and terrace alignment is also present in the northeast corner of N10-15. This led us to consider the height of the Ottawa north platform, which has been, and remains unexcavated. However, clearing the bush approximately 20 meters north of Structure N10-15—immediately north of the area where the ground surface drops down—which is presumed to be the north edge of the expanded Ottawa platform, revealed what may be a north-south oriented sacbe coming into the platform near the centerline of N10-15 (see Figure 3, Phase 5). We hope to investigate this platform edge and possible sacbe further in future field seasons.

Buttress Feature: Sub-Ops 5 & 6. We also identified what we believe to be a buttress feature in Sub-Op 6 that was added to the NW corner of N10-15, possibly during Phase 3, to shore up apparent structural damage suggested by the lack of facing stones on the terrace face in Sub-Op 5, and possibly by an area of irregular stone work on the north wall of N10-15 1st at this location, although we are uncertain if this stonework is original or from the TDP reconstruction

of Structure N10-15 carried out in 2002-2003. This buttress feature appears to sit at the level of the second terrace, and possibly upon the terrace, although excavations did not extend below this level. Differential settlement may have contributed to instability and collapse of an area of the Doll terrace if the construction of the uppermost building took place atop a combination of an earlier more solid building, and an adjacent area of looser fill. It is also possible that there was a feature that was removed in this area, leaving behind part of its sub-structure. The Lamanai 1999 Field Season report mentions “a structural stability problem in the original northern perimeter wall [of Structure N10-15] that confronted the Maya builders” (Graham and Pendergast 1999), so it appears there were other structural problems with this structure. Photographs from the 1980s ROM excavations also reveal an area where the stonework was displaced on the south side of Structure N10-15 to the east of the center stairs (see Sub-Op 17 Details, page 7).

N10-15 Terrace Expansion to the North: Sub-Op 7 & 14. As N10-15 was expanded to the north, a new terrace, nicknamed “Ike”, was constructed parallel to the former terrace face. Excavations confirmed that this new terrace extended in an east-west orientation across the entire north side of the structure, but was later chopped at the terrace verge, presumably for the collection of dressed building stones from the terrace face, and covered over by an upper floor. This stands in sharp contrast to the way the former terrace was treated when the expansion took place—its stones and plaster surface were left intact. This may suggest changing access to labor or materials.

Possible Stages of N10-15 and N10-19 Expansion to West: Sub-Op 4, 7 & 14. Another feature discovered in association with The Box feature is a face (partially dismantled in ancient times) approximately one meter to the west that runs north-south and parallel to The Box feature—which could be evidence of a southward ninety-degree turn of the Ike terrace—

covering The Box feature when the Ike Terrace was added. If this is indeed the case, it suggests that the Ike expansion may have occurred in two separate phases—first with an addition at the east across the northern side of N10-15, and later extending this addition across to the west edge of N10-19, as Sub-Op 14 revealed the Ike terrace also extends along the northern side of N10-19; however, the current evidence does not permit a secure interpretation of this feature. At this location there is also a face, built on top of and aligned with the upper Doll terrace verge, and another feature that we have described as a hop-up unit resting on that same terrace.

Northeast Terrace Corner: Sub-Op 11. At the south, courtyard side of N10-15, the two-terrace platform is 2.7 meters high. Clearing the boulders at the northeast corner of N10-15 down to the bottom of the second terrace floor revealed a height change at the northeast corner where it became a 3.5 meter-high 2-terrace configuration across the north and west sides. This was completely covered during the Boulders phase of Ottawa, when boulders were placed to raise the floor level of both the courtyard to the south and the plaza to the north to be equal to the level of the top terrace of Structure N10-15.

Southeast Terrace Corner: Sub-Op 10. An excavation unit into the lower southeast terrace of N10-15 revealed that the southeast corner of N10-15 sits atop a buried lower terrace of N10-28 (nicknamed Tulip), indicating that the plaza floor was once lower than it is presently.

Caches: Sub-Op 1 & 2. As noted previously, in 2014 we encountered Cache N10-15/9 and Cache N10-15/10 under the floor of “The Box” feature at the foot of the two steps (Figure 4). Cache N10-15/10 featured lip-to-lip polychrome dishes filled with large charcoal fragments, nine unremarkable white stones, and five obsidian lancets—nested in a bed of charcoal. Cache N10-15/9, located slightly west and below the level of the first cache, was a large deposit of charcoal in which the base and some sherds of a highly fragmented Achiote black cylindrical

vase was found among three intentionally placed burnt stones a few centimeters under the uppermost surface of the charcoal deposit. Near the bottom of the mass of charcoal we found one large jade bead, situated as if it had been casually tossed in with the charcoal, which appears to have been burned elsewhere and subsequently placed here upon the lower terrace of the original Mays platform during construction of “The Box”.

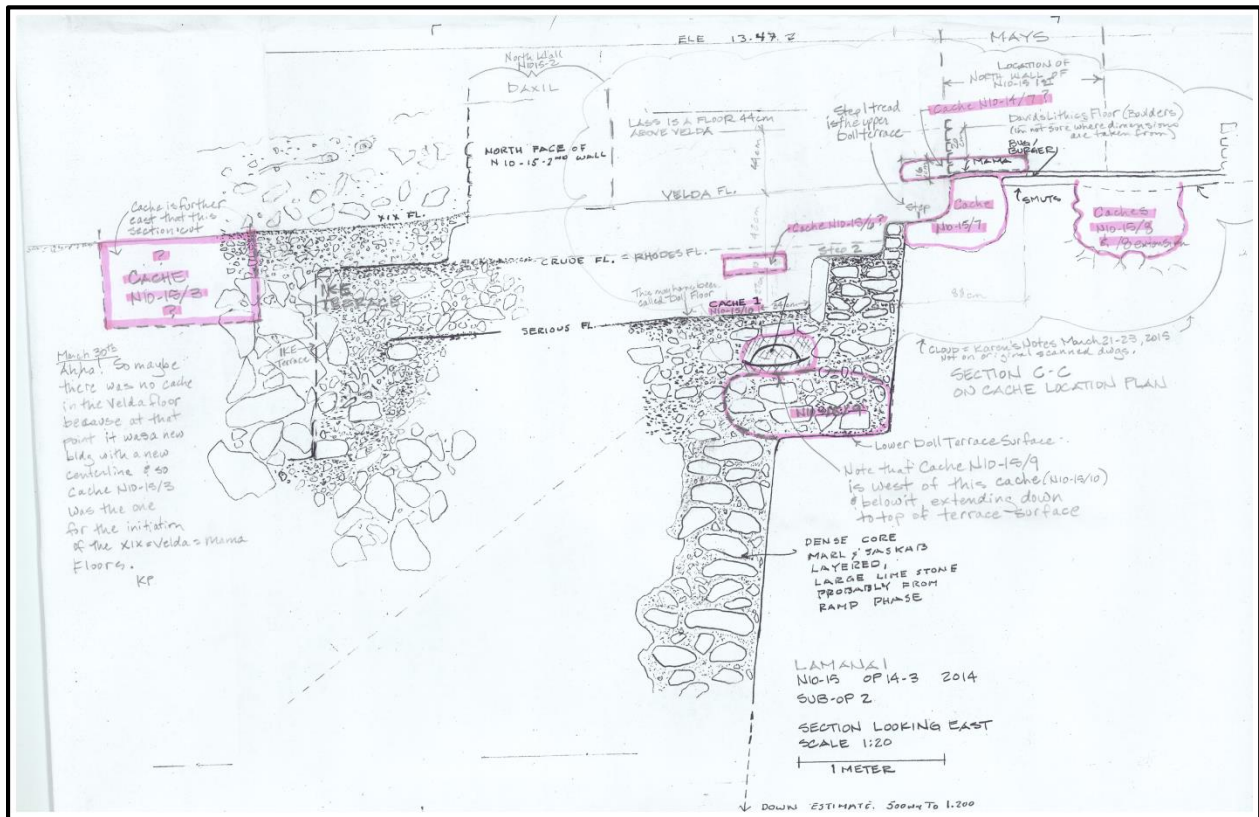


Figure 4. Section showing location of caches at the northern doorway of N10-15 1st, and in N10-15 2nd. This section is offset to incorporate the northern-most cache, N10-15/3. North is at the left.

Caches are our primary source of dating for the construction sequences of Fifteen. All caches encountered in Fifteen appear to be of Late to Terminal Classic date—occurring most frequently centered in the door areas on the primary axis (Figure 5). Depending on orientation, this structure could have two primary axes, as the building centerline seen from the north does

not align with the center as seen from the south-side, since 19 is not visible from this position. But, with the placement of the latest axial cache—Cache N10-5/3—the Northern axis of the building shifted more than 2 meters to the east, so Fifteen may have then been considered an entirely different building.

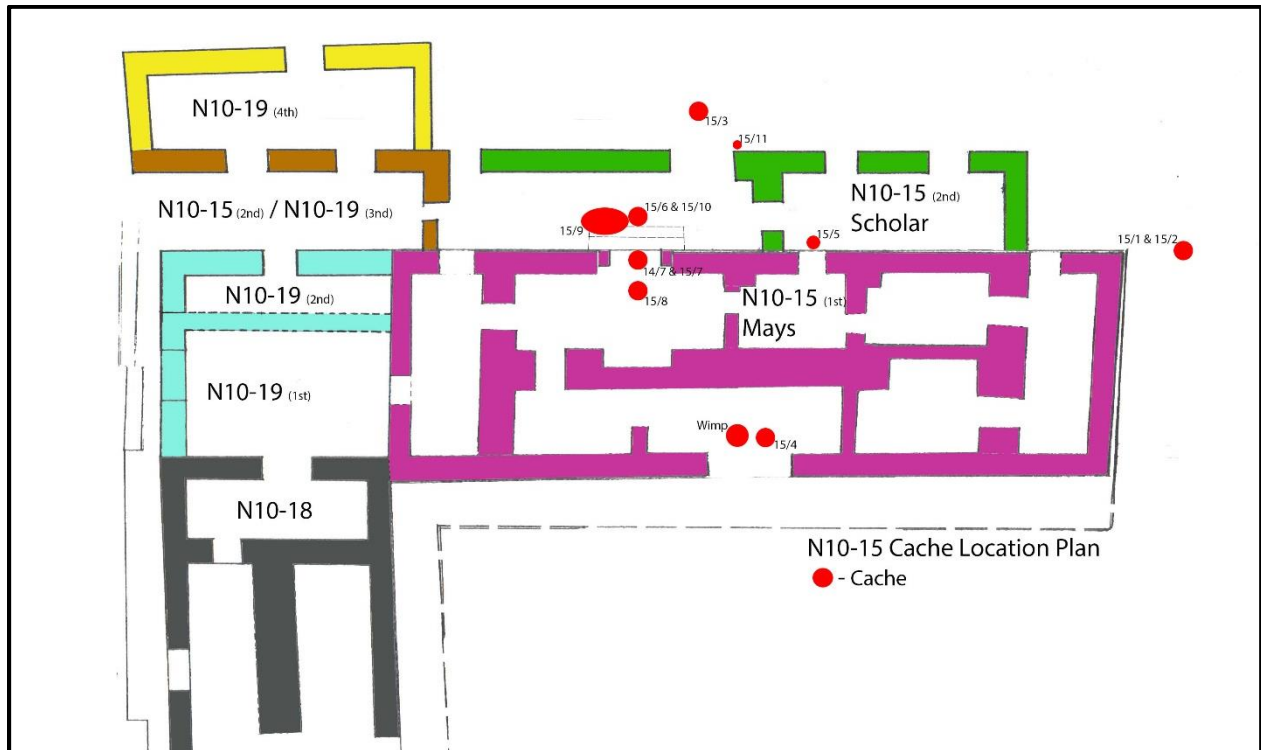


Figure 5. N10-15 cache location plan showing caches found in 2014 and 1980s.

Problems Incorporating Reconstructed Structures into Current Architectural Research

It should be noted that much of the stonework on the standing “stub walls” of N10-15 is not original, but was reconstructed during the 2002-2003 Tourism Development Project undertakings on the Ottawa Group, and therefore it is difficult to give accurate descriptions or make comparisons of stonework, masonry styles, and masonry joints to other structures. In some areas there was no standing wall in existence prior to reconstruction and decisions had to be made by the TDP crew as to where walls had existed when the building was in use by its former

occupants. Relying of course on the detailed excavation plans and notes recorded by Stan Loten, those responsible for reconstruction had to use their best judgment in cases of missing or ill-defined architectural features. As in most architectural excavation and recording, elements of the structure are often missing and one has to “connect the dots”. During our work at N10-15 we did note that the central (and only) doorway on the south side of the structure presently stands as but a meter wide, which seem highly unlikely in comparison to the doorways from other structures throughout the complex. Several of the Sub-Op Details that follow show photographs of the excavated walls from earlier years for comparison to what stands now.

Follow-Up Investigations for the Next Field Season

As Graham and Pendergast (1999) argued in their Lamanai Field Report, the Ottawa Group was clearly important in Lamanai’s history, and full excavation of the complex would provide a much clearer understanding of the chronological sequence of this elite residential group, and succession and political power as Lamanai transitioned from the Classic to the Postclassic. Although additional excavations have taken place at the Ottawa Group since that time, much remains to be done, as Ottawa is still far from being fully understood. Our findings in 2014 have provided more information on the construction sequence of a small portion of the Ottawa Group, but have also left us with some unanswered questions and a list of items to explore in future field seasons. These include:

- Trench through the central axis of the south stairs of N10-15 to establish the date of the stairs and terraces on the south side; and excavate below the courtyard floor level here to determine if the terraces continue further down

- Put a unit in the Ottawa courtyard floor to follow the face of the earlier platform that supported Structure N10-28, as revealed in Sub-Op 10, where it runs under the SE corner of N10-15, as this may provide information on the sequence of construction of N10-15 in relation to other structures and their razing
- Complete the excavation at the area of the two caches found in N10-15 this season by excavating through the floor to the east of where those caches were found
- Finish removing the collapse/post abandonment accumulation on the north side of Structures N10-15 and N10-19 (involves cutting a tree at the west side of Sub-Op 7)
- Continue to follow the line of stones and the floor cut that is just north of Sub-Op 7, and determine if there is any relationship between the wall at the big tree to the west and these stones; excavate the floor-cut for a possible cache or burial (Postclassic?), which could provide dating information
- Further north of this area of Sub-Op 7, expose the platform edge, platform access, and evidence of a sacbe leading to this platform (north of N10-15)
- Trench at the NW corner of the N10-15/N10-19 terrace platform
- Remove a portion of the boulder fill east of Structure N10-77 to determine the eastern extent of N10-77 and its relationship to Structure N10-17
- Complete the excavation of Structure N10-18 at its southern end

Our 2014 work at N10-15 built upon the strong foundations of Pendergast and Loten's previous excavations at this structure and they detected many of the architectural phases we have discussed; however they did not do any excavations that revealed The Box feature, or the apparent subsequent enclosure of it. Our study of their drawings, photographs and notes—

coupled with additional excavations—has given us a better understanding of the architectural sequence of Fifteen, and will allow us to compile this information into a more comprehensive format for the first time since Fifteen was originally excavated.

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Lamanai OP14-3

PRELIMINARY REPORT, Aug 25, 2014

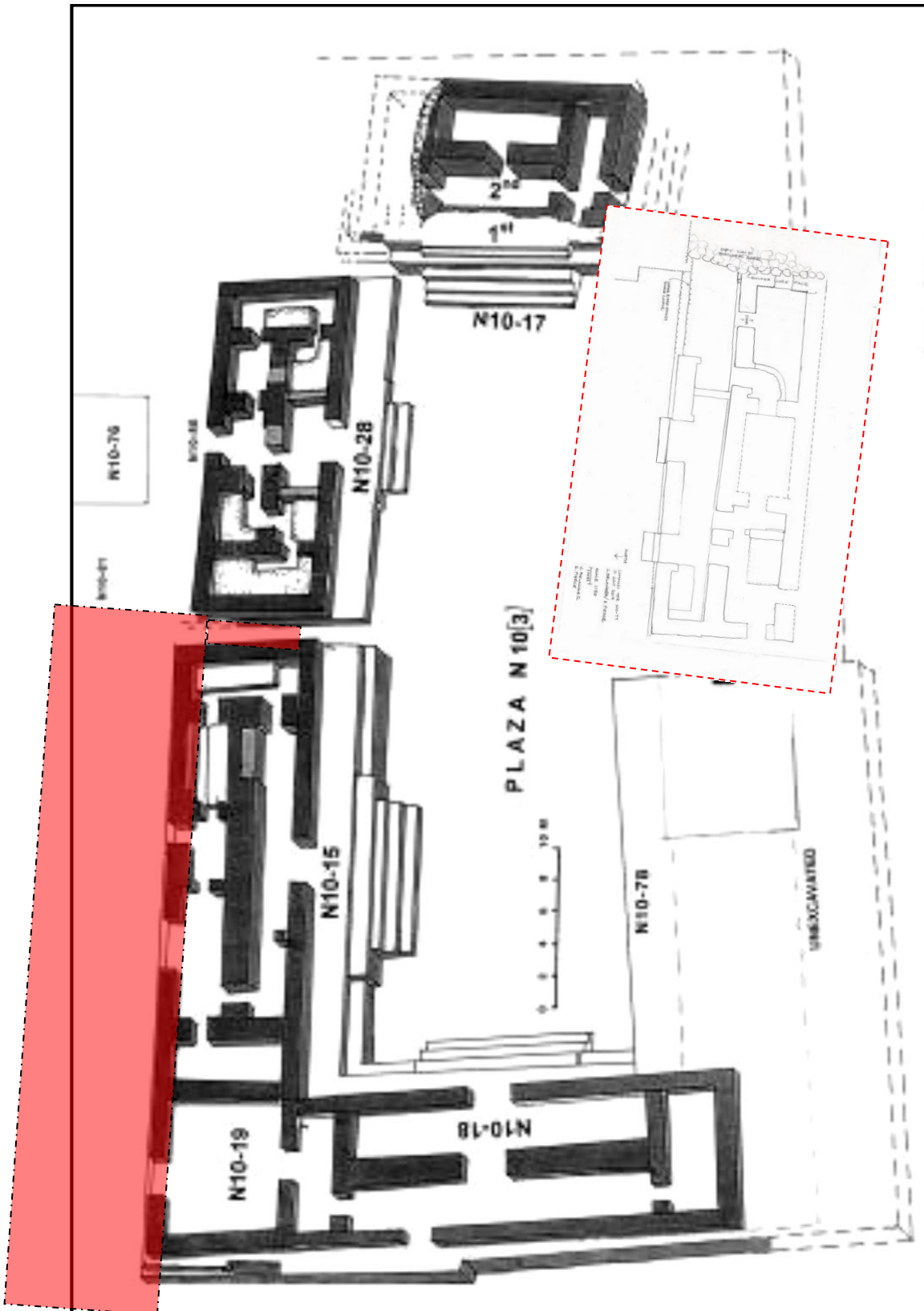
General Notes, Ottawa N10[3] Plan, N10-15 Phase Plan, N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plans,
Sub-Op Descriptions and Lot Numbers
May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

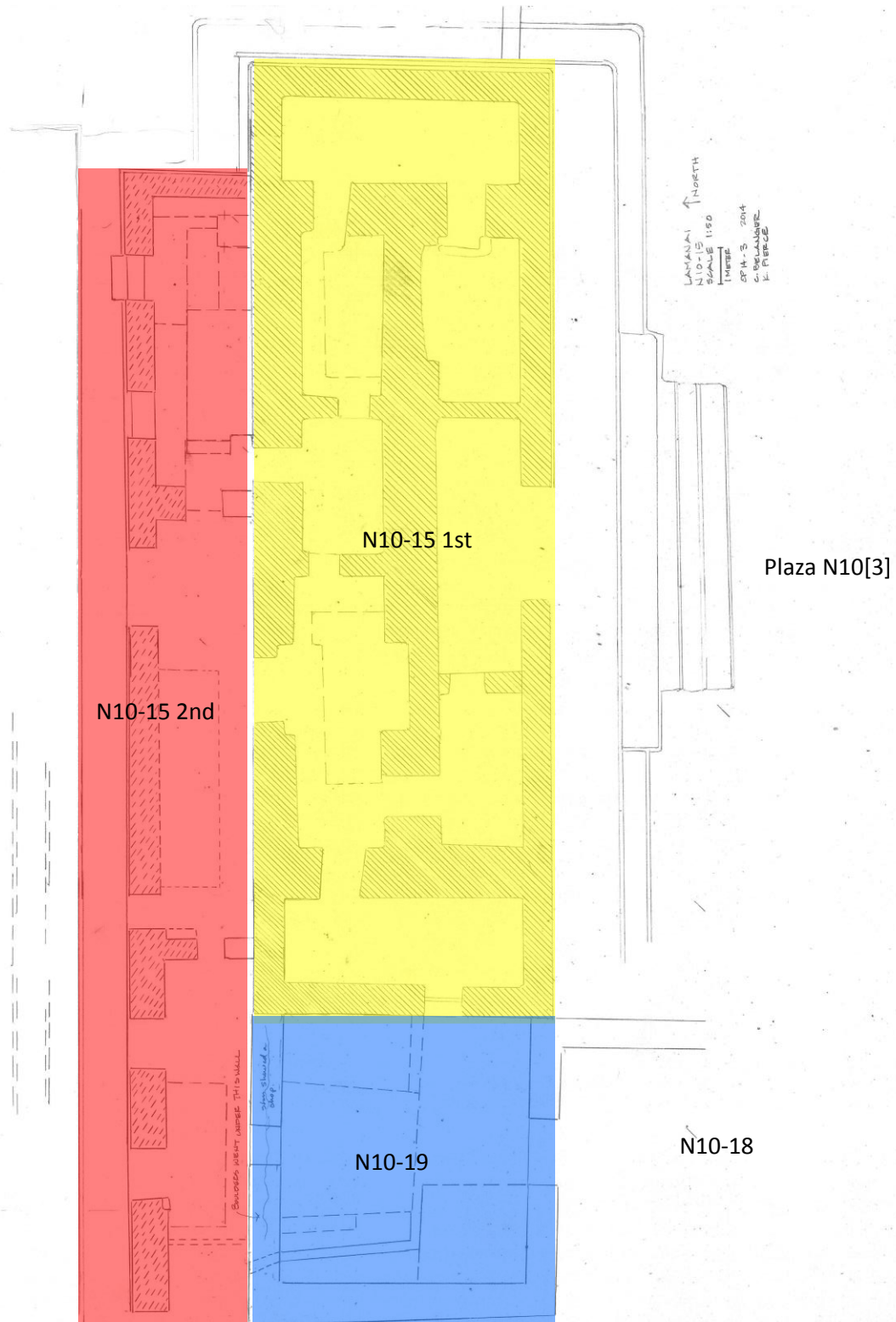
GENERAL NOTES FOR ALL SUB-OP DETAIL DOCUMENTS

1. All 2014 excavations at N10-15 are subsumed under one overall Lamanai Op number, Op14-3; however, each excavation unit opened in a separate location was assigned a Sub-Op number. In the field notes and computer files these are often referred to simply as Op numbers, 1-20.
2. A written field report will be issued in addition to the OP detail files found in a Dropbox file called "Lamanai 2014 Field Season Op Reports".
3. In photos, the North arrow is oriented to magnetic north, but for purposes of identifying the orientation of a photograph, consider the structure walls to be oriented N-S and E-W and not with magnetic north.
4. The scale stick in the photos is 1.0 meter, with 10cm increments. The north arrow is 26cm long, with 1cm increments.
5. There is redundancy in the photographs, but within these there may be some subtle differences. In many cases there are additional photographs in the project photo file.
6. Included with most photos is the date-taken, and sometimes the time is included when I found the sequence and pace of excavation informative.
7. All field drawing were scanned and are in a Dropbox file called "Lamanai 2014 Field Season Drawings". Many of the drawings in the OP details serve as place holders until more refined drawings are produced.
8. We gave our excavations "unit" numbers initially, until the starting Lot number was determined, so the field notes start with unit numbers, but then switch to OP numbers. There is a key to the conversion of unit numbers to Op numbers and lot numbers in the field notebook, although this is irrelevant for all of the completed field and lab forms.
9. For ease of conversation and note-taking we elected to call different areas of Structure N10-15 either N10-15 1st, or N10-15 2nd. See the structure identification plans below. N10-15 "the first" is what we have also called the "original" structure (although we recognize that so many changes have taken place it is near-impossible to call something the "original"). It is the southern lateral (?) part of the structure, from the north side of the E-W wall with the north door (at the 2 north steps) to the south. N10-15 2nd is the part of the structure that appears to be an "addition", or "extension" to the "original" structure, from the north door wall just referred to, to the more northern E-W wall. N10-19, which is a part of N10-15 (and N10-18), remains N10-19.
10. We gave nicknames to several features, and also tried to figure out Stan Loten's nicknames, so the equivalent is listed here when known. These are the main names we are dealing with in field notes and descriptions: **[finish defining]**
 - a. Serious Floor = Stan Loten's Crumpet Floor
 - b. Crude Floor = Stan Loten's Rhodes Floor, which wraps down at Ike terrace (from top of basal molding down ~30cm)
 - c. The Box, a newly exposed feature that is box-like, has parallel N-S terraces, and is capped by Serious Floor
 - d. Two Steps

- e. Cache 1—formally named Cache N10-15/10 (LA3107); at centerline and directly north of steps; lip-to-lip vessels
 - f. Cache 2--formally named Cache N10-15/9 (LA3108); west of centerline and north of steps spread over the width of terrace 2; large area of charcoal, smashed cylindrical vessel, jade bead
 - g. Hop-Up—a step-like feature sitting on terrace two
 - h. The Buttress
 - i. Mama Floor—the upper floor inside N10-15 1st (also seems to be contemporaneous with Stan Loton’s “Xix Floor” ??? confirm)
 - j. Xix Floor (the upper floor north of N10-15 2nd)
 - k. Velda Floor (the upper floor inside of N10-15 2nd) although it seems like there is a higher floor on the west end—I asked Claude for his input and we need to revisit Stan’s notes
 - l. Rhodes Floor (the second floor inside of N10-15 2nd)
 - m. Doll Platform—the terraces for N10-15 1st
 - n. Ike Terrace—the upper terrace north of N10-15 2nd (becomes Rhodes floor inside N10-15 2nd)
 - o. Mays—the primary (N10-15) building on the Doll platform
 - p. Daxil—the wall at the north side of N10-15 2nd
11. See below for list of sub-op & lot numbers.
12. GPS coordinates for Structure N10-15:
 June 26, 2014
 Benchmark GPS for nail datum at north doorway of N10-15 the2nd
 1965054.93m N
 324787.15m E
 27.98m MSL
 (4 satellites)
13. I took a photo record of N10-15 existing architecture, with photos taken of each room of the structure from all directions. Photos are keyed onto a floor plan. This can be used to see the stonework and how the structure is presently reconstructed.

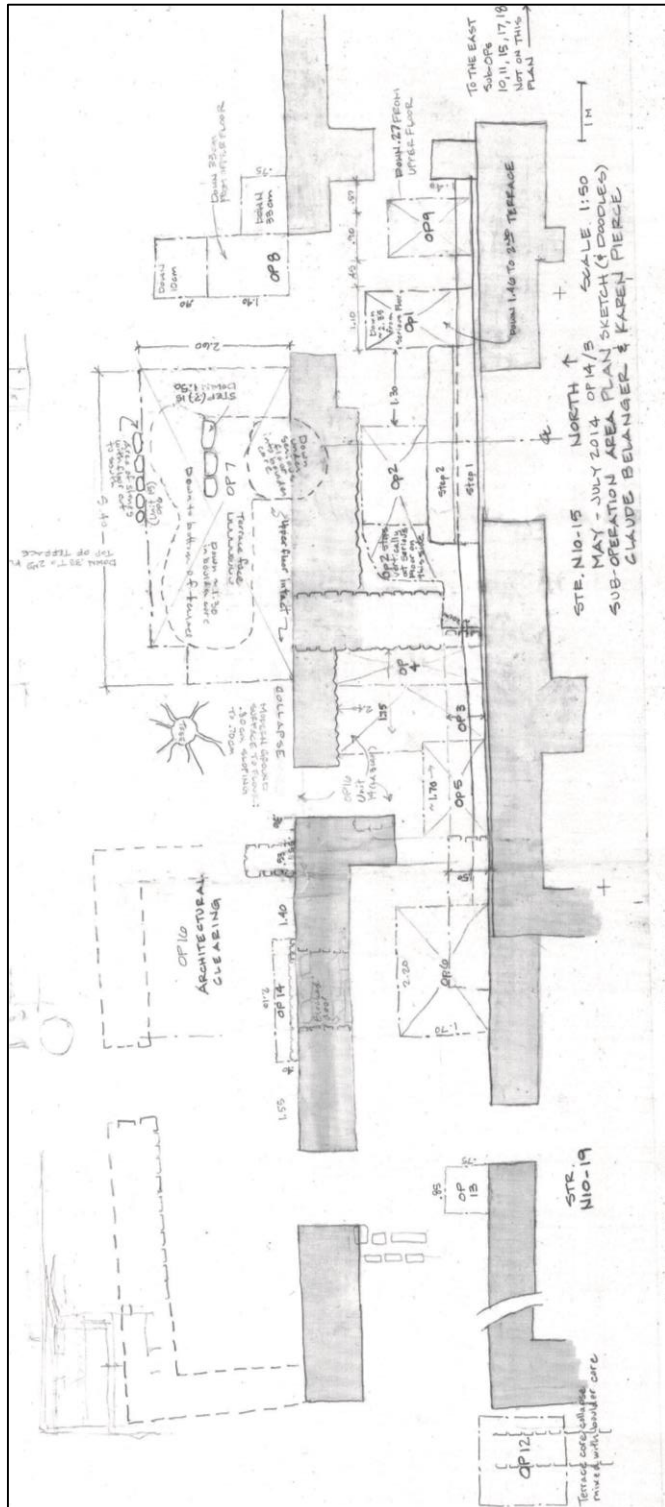


The Ottawa Group, Plaza N10[3]. North is on left. Structure N10-77 is overlaid within the red dashed lines and is approximately to scale and orientation. 2014 excavation area is shaded in red. (Modified from Graham 2004:229).

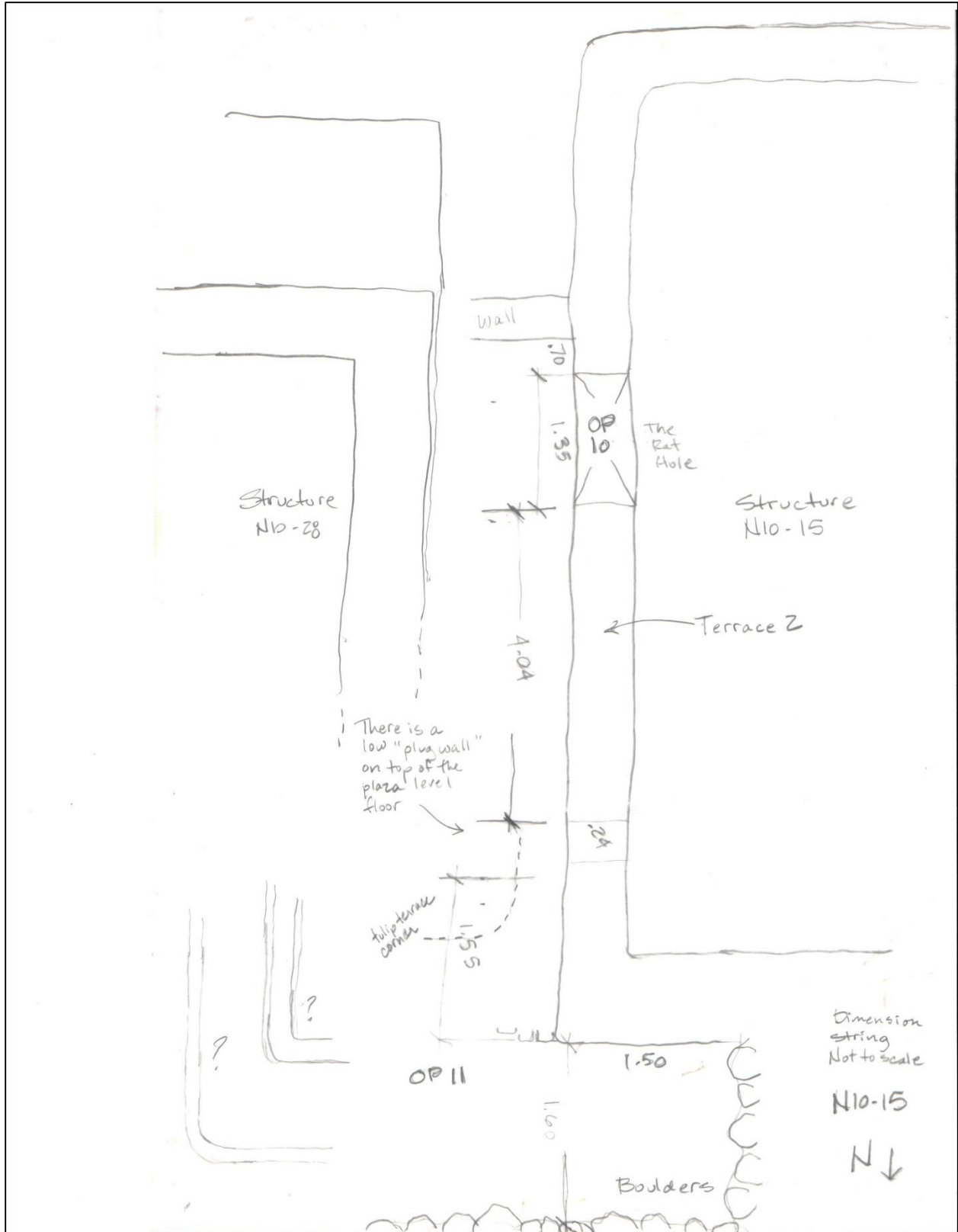


N10-15 STRUCTURE PLAN SKETCHES SHOWING SUB-OP LOCATIONS

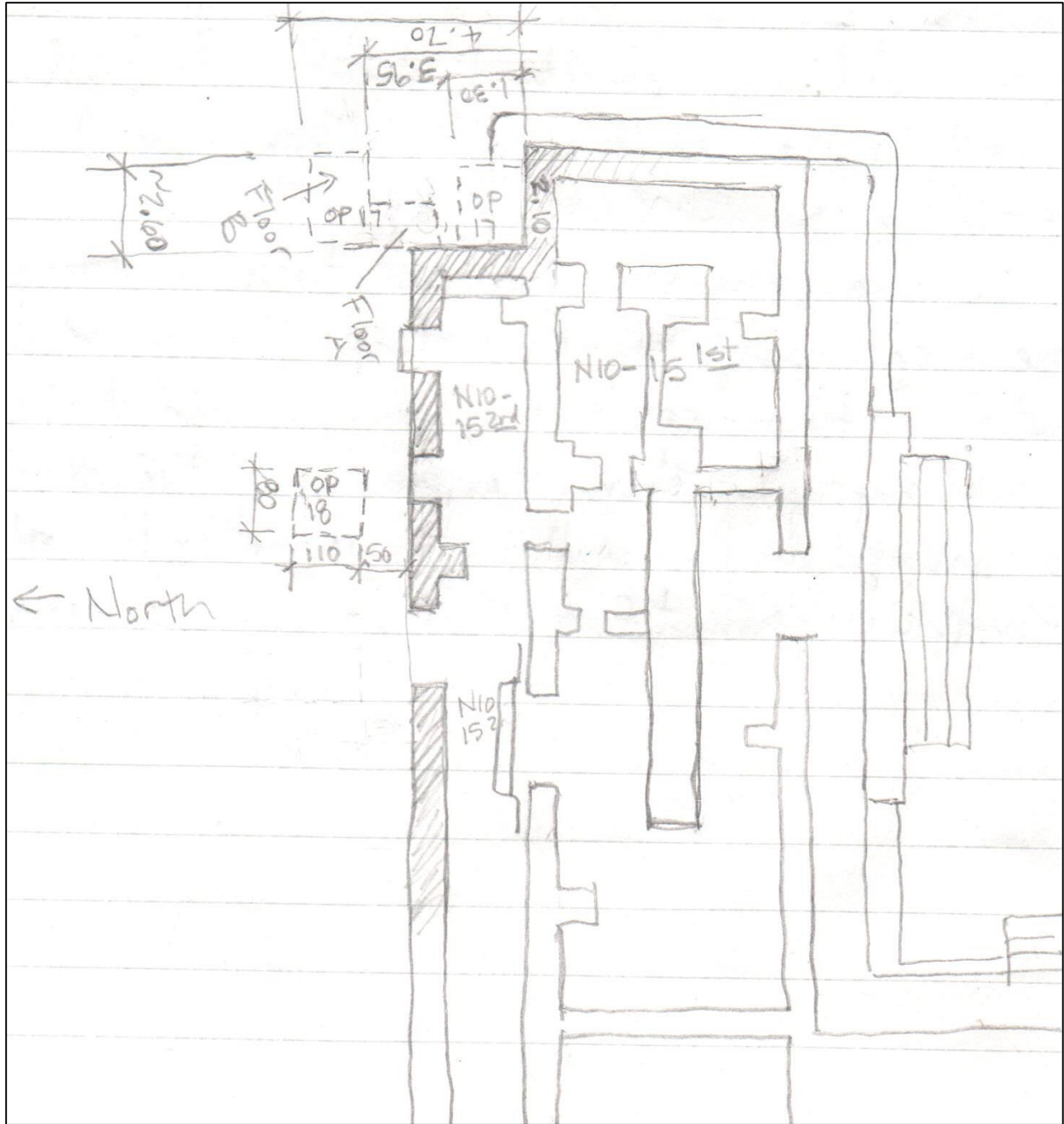
(Portions of this plan are used at the beginning of each of the Sub-Op Detail documents to identify the location of the Sub-Op).



Op Location Plan A (See Page 3: Location plans A, B & C are located in the area shaded in red, indicating the locations of 2014 excavations)



Op Location Plan B



Op Location Plan C. Field notebook sketch.

OP 14-3: SUB-OP DESCRIPTIONS AND LOT NUMBERS

SUB-OP 1 (Terrace at east side of the two steps to Serious Floor)

LA 3101 Upper floor (believed to be equal to Stan's "Velda and Spayed Floors") and including our "Crude Floor": from top of basal molding down ~15cm to start of boulder core (next lot)

LA 3102 Medium-sized dry laid boulder core down 50cm to "Serious Floor"

LA 3103 "Serious Floor" (believed to be equal to Stan's "Crumpet Floor")

LA 3104 Dry laid boulder core below "Serious Floor" down to bottom of unit

Sub-Op 2 (Two steps, Serious Floor & Caches)

LA 3105 Humus (believed to be predominately backfill from 1992, especially the area directly north of the steps) from the top of N10-15 1st basal molding down to the top of "Serious Floor" (aka Crumpet).

LA3106 "Serious Floor (aka Crumpet) plaster and subfloor

LA3107 Cache 1 area, formally named Cache N10-15/10 (LA3107), at centerline and directly north of steps

LA3108 Cache 2 area, formally named Cache N10-15/9 (LA3108), west of centerline and north of steps spread over the width of terrace 2

LA3142 "Serious Floor" above Cache 2 area

LA3143 Core of lower step above Cache 2 area

LA3144 Core of the "wall" unit at the west edge of Sub-Op 2 (this wall unit was not removed but was investigated by removing a small area of the facing stones and core just above serious floor between Sub-Op 2 and Sub-Op 4.

LA3145 North of and below the level of the bottom of Cache 2 and down 1.8 meters

Sub-Op 3 (Upper Terrace Verge of N10-15 1st, W of steps)

LA 3109 (West) Starting west of the N-S wall located just east of N10-15/N10-19 intersection and going west. Down from the top of N10-15 1st basal molding ~0.30m. Later extended and continued as Sub-Op 6.

LA3110 (East) Starting at the west edge of the two steps and extending west to the east side of the N-S wall just east of N10-15/N10-19 intersection. Down from the top of N10-15 1st basal molding ~0.30m. Part of this unit was likely to be backfill of 1980s excavations.

LA3137 Starting at the west edge of the two steps going west 2.5m and going down from the top of the upper terrace down to "Serious Floor".

Sub-Op 4 (West edge of Serious Floor, Hop-Up, N-S Terrace)

LA3111 Upper Floor

LA3112 Floor at base of basal molding

LA3113 Down to Serious Floor surface level

LA3114 Serious Floor

LA3115 Area A—Southeast side Hop-Up and E-W face of feature sitting upon terrace 2

LA3116 Area B Northeast side—marl, N-S terrace facing stones, and floor at ~3m below

LA3117 Area C Northwest side—dry-laid boulder core.

Note that Area D (southwest area) was part of Sub-Op 3 and not excavated vertically any further.

LA3136 Floor at base of Area B (equal to LA3134, Sub-Op 11)

Sub-Op 5 (Missing Terrace Face / Buttress Feature)

No lot numbers for this unit. Associated lots are LA3110 and LA3115

Sub-Op 6 (The buttress)

LA3118 Floor 1

LA3119 Floor 2

LA3120 Floor 3

LA3121 Dense core of buttress on the east side of the unit (C. Belanger said it is like Preclassic construction)

LA3122 Dry-laid boulder core on the west side and north side of the unit

Sub-Op 7 (North of N10-15 2nd: North edge of Serious Floor, and Ike terrace)

LA 3125 Humus/possible backdirt north of the N10-15 2nd North door (east side)

LA3126 Humus/possible backdirt north of the N10-15 2nd North door (west side)

LA3127 Upper floor (believed to be equal to Stan's "Xix Floor") from top of basal molding down ~30cm to top of "Rhodes Floor"

LA 3128 Dry-laid boulder core to the north of Ike terrace

LA 3129 Rhodes/Marty Floors

LA3130 Core of "Rhodes/Marty/Ike Terrace, which subsumes Serious Floor" and below it

LA3131 Serious Floor (aka Crumpet)

LA3132 Core of “Rhodes/Marty/Ike Terrace, below the level of Serious Floor”—down to bottom of unit.

Sub-Op 8 (NE Corner of Serious Floor & N-S Terrace East Edge)

LA 3149 Humus and backfill north of the N10-15 2nd North door

LA3150 Upper floor (believed to be equal to Stan’s “Xix Floor”) from top of basal molding down ~30cm to top of “Rhodes Floor”

LA 3151 From top of Rhodes Floor down ~52cm to top of “Serious Floor” (believed to be equal to Stan’s “Crumpet Floor”)

LA 3152 Core at the east edge of “Serious Floor” and below—down to bottom of unit.

Sub-Op 9 (Platform exploration east of N10-15 1st Two-Steps)

LA 3153 Upper floor (believed to be equal to Stan’s “Velda Floor”—covers the basal molding of N10-15 1st) and core down to “Crude Floor” (Rhodes)

Sub-Op 10 (Rat Hole in East Lower Terrace)

LA 3139 Core of N10-15 east terrace 2, above and overlapping apron molding at (possible stairside?) outset of N10-28 west terrace

Sub-Op 11 (Terraces at Northeast corner of N10-15)

LA3133 Removal of boulders to clear the northeast corner of the N10-15 terraces

LA3134 Floor 2.2 meters down from top of N10-15 Terrace 2 at NE corner

LA3135 Below floor that is 2.2 meters down from top of Terrace 2 at NE corner of N10-15

Sub-Op 12 (Terraces at Northwest corner of N10-19 & N10-15)

LA3123 Removal of humus and post-abandonment accumulation to locate the (chopped) north end of the terrace at the NW corner of N10-19.

Sub-Op 13 (Terrace or No terrace? at NW door of N10-19)

LA3124 Area from the top surface down to dry-laid boulder core running south under the north wall of N10-19

Sub-Op 14 (Terrace at west end of N10-15 2nd)

LA3138 Upper floor (believed to be equal to Stan Loton’s “Xix Floor”) from top of basal molding down ~30cm to top of “Rhodes Floor/Ike terrace”

Sub-Op 15 (Early Phase Northeast door of N10-15 1st)

No Lot Numbers

Sub-Op 16 (Architectural Clearing Inside and North of N10-15 2nd)

LA3140 Humus and collapse inside N10-15 2nd in the area of the 3rd door from the west (north of Sub-Op 5)

LA3141 Humus and collapse north of the N10-15 2nd North door. There may possibly be backdirt in this area.

Sub-Op 17 (Clearing floors to NE of the corner of N10-15)

LA3147 Removal of humus and post-abandonment accumulation to expose the surface of the upper (Xix?) floor at the northeast corner of N10-15

LA3148 From upper floor (Xix floor?) surface down to second floor (Rhodes/Marty?)

Sub-Op 18 (Terrace to the North of N10-15 2nd East side at second door)

LA3146 Removal of humus to expose the surface of the upper (Xix?) floor north of the second door from the east on N10-15 2nd, and down to the upper surface of the terrace (Rhodes/Marty/Ike). NO ARTIFACTS.

Sub-Op 19 (Mapping N10-77 and comparative photos)

No lot numbers

Sub-Op 20 (Repairs to Bodega & Old Museum)

No lot numbers



Thanks to Brenda, Sonia, Chico, Sandro, Kike, Oscar, Rene, Joey, Tony, Martha, Diamaris, Myran and the Lamanai Park Rangers!!!

Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

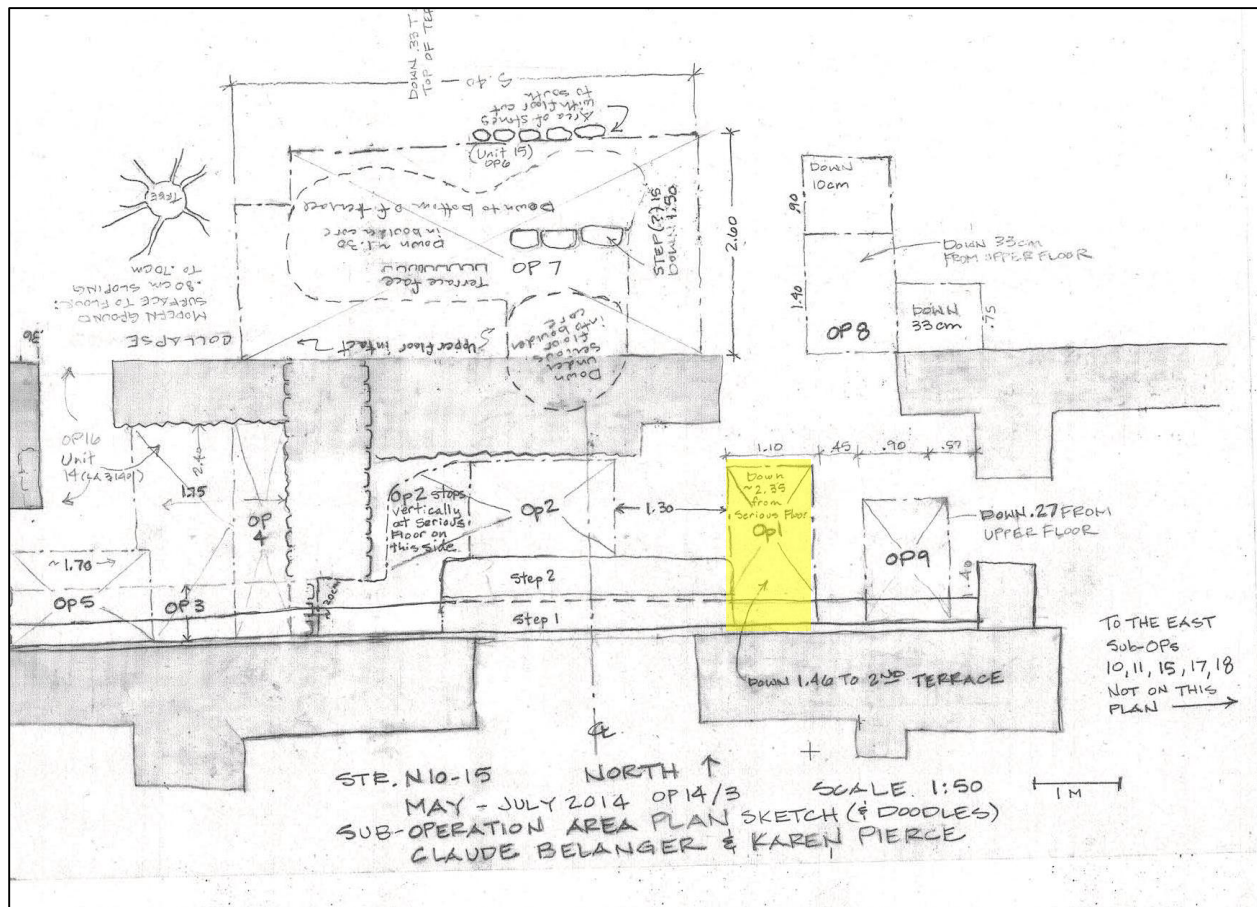
OP14-3: Sub-Op 1

(Terrace at east side of the two steps to Serious Floor)

May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

Excavation Photos & Notes; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts



N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 1 (Op1 on plan). Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location.



Photo 3712 (May 14) Looking northeast. Rene Uck is excavating Op1 at right. The area of two-steps is in foreground with "Serious Floor" "landing" to the north of the steps (photo scale rests on "Serious Floor").



Photo 3694 (May 14) Looking south.



Photo 3730 (May 14) Looking south.



Photo 3731 (May 14) Looking southwest.



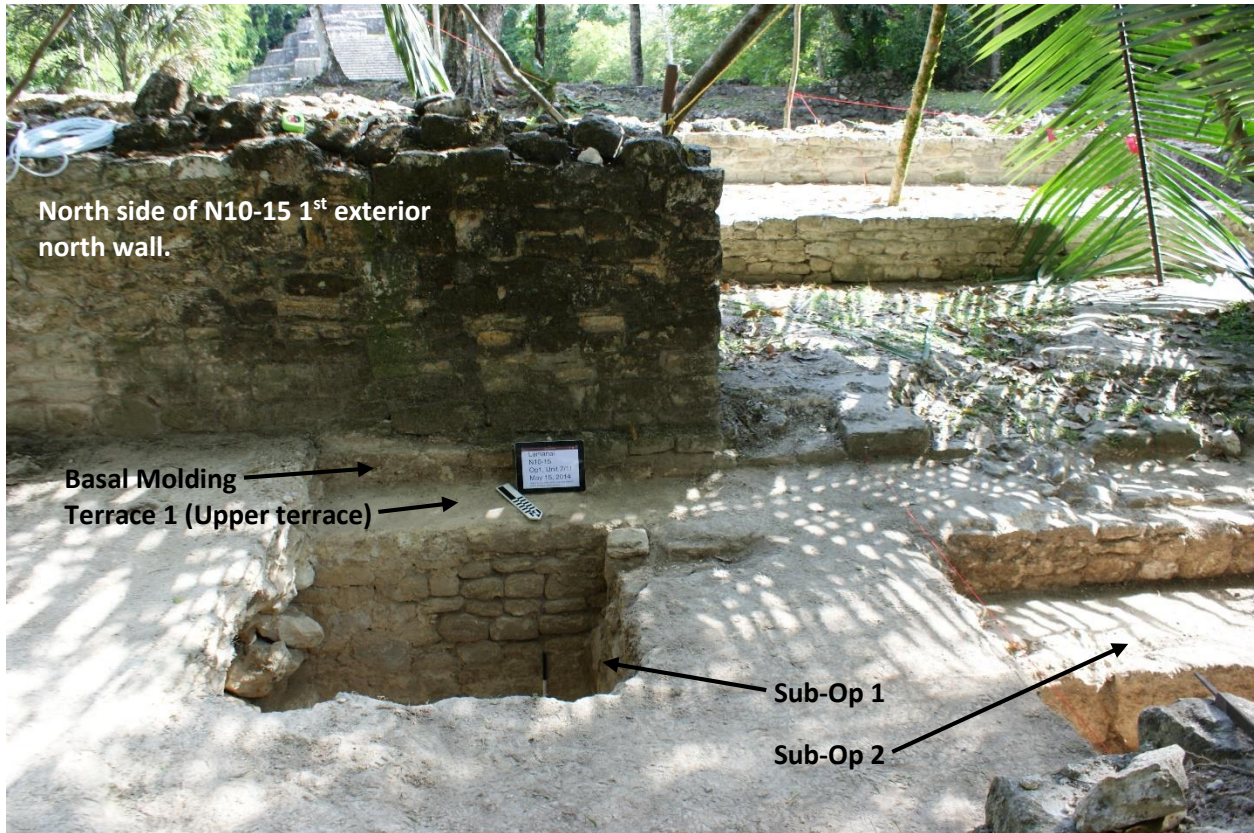
Photo 3733 (May 14) Looking west.



Photo 3734 (May 14) Looking east.



Photo 3719 (May 14) Looking east.



North side of N10-15 1st exterior north wall.

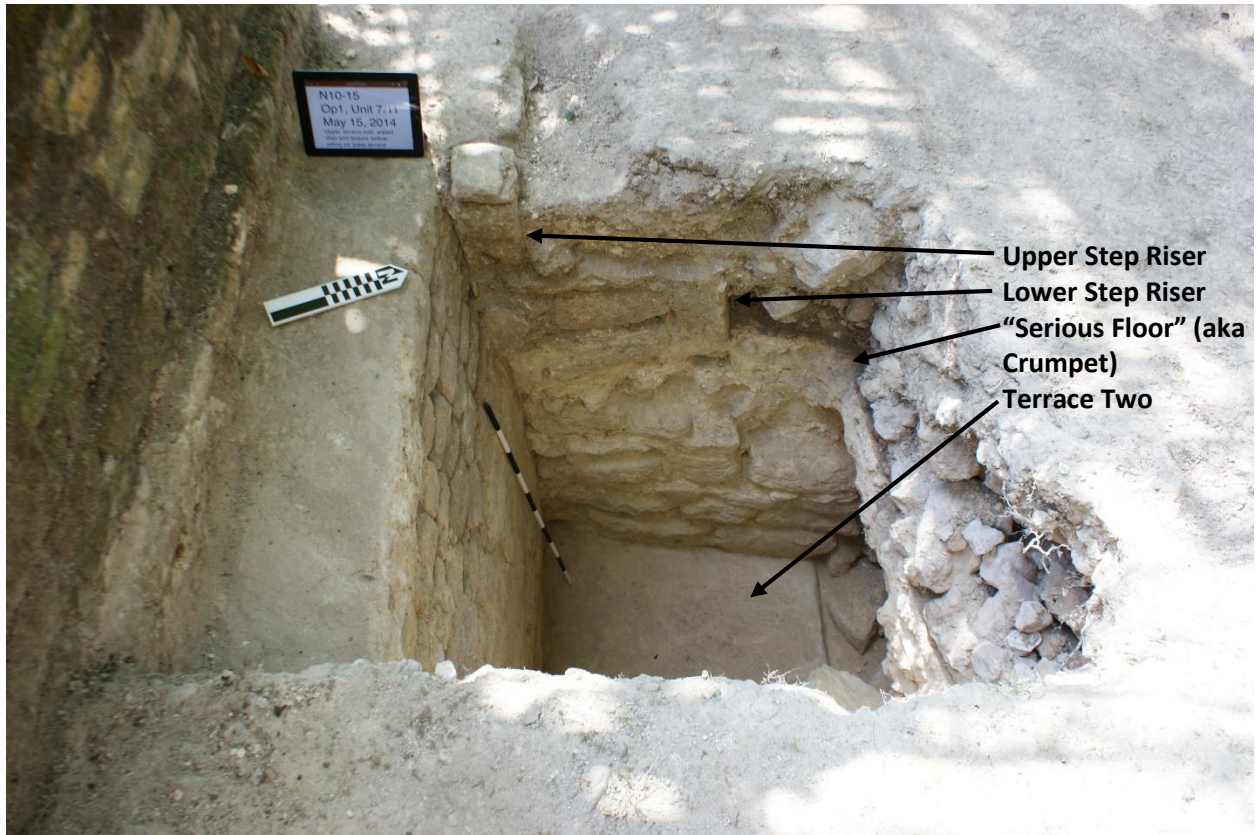
Basal Molding

Terrace 1 (Upper terrace)

Sub-Op 1

Sub-Op 2

Photo 1732 (May 15) Looking South.



N10-15
Op1, Unit 7.11
May 15, 2014
Photo 1724 (May 15) Looking West

Upper Step Riser
Lower Step Riser
"Serious Floor" (aka
Crumpet)
Terrace Two

Photo 1724 (May 15) Looking West.



Photo 3727 (May 14) Looking South.



Photo 3731 (May 14) Looking Southwest.



Photo 3801 (May 16) Looking Northwest. Note the floor we have designated as "Crude Floor", which more or less aligns with the surface of the upper terrace, but is more distinguishable as a floor surface in some areas than others, although the area over the two steps is likely to be backfill.



Photo 3836 (May 16) Looking North, with Sub-Op 1 lower right and Sub-Op 2 lower step at bottom left. Note the contrast in the matrix covering Serious Floor between the west and east sides—the west likely representing backfill of 1980s excavations.



Photo 1735 (May 15) Looking South. Note that plaster is mostly intact below Serious/Crumpet floor.



Photo 1741 (May 15) Looking East. Note the dense compact marl/sascab floor layer.....



Photo 1948 (May 21) Looking South.

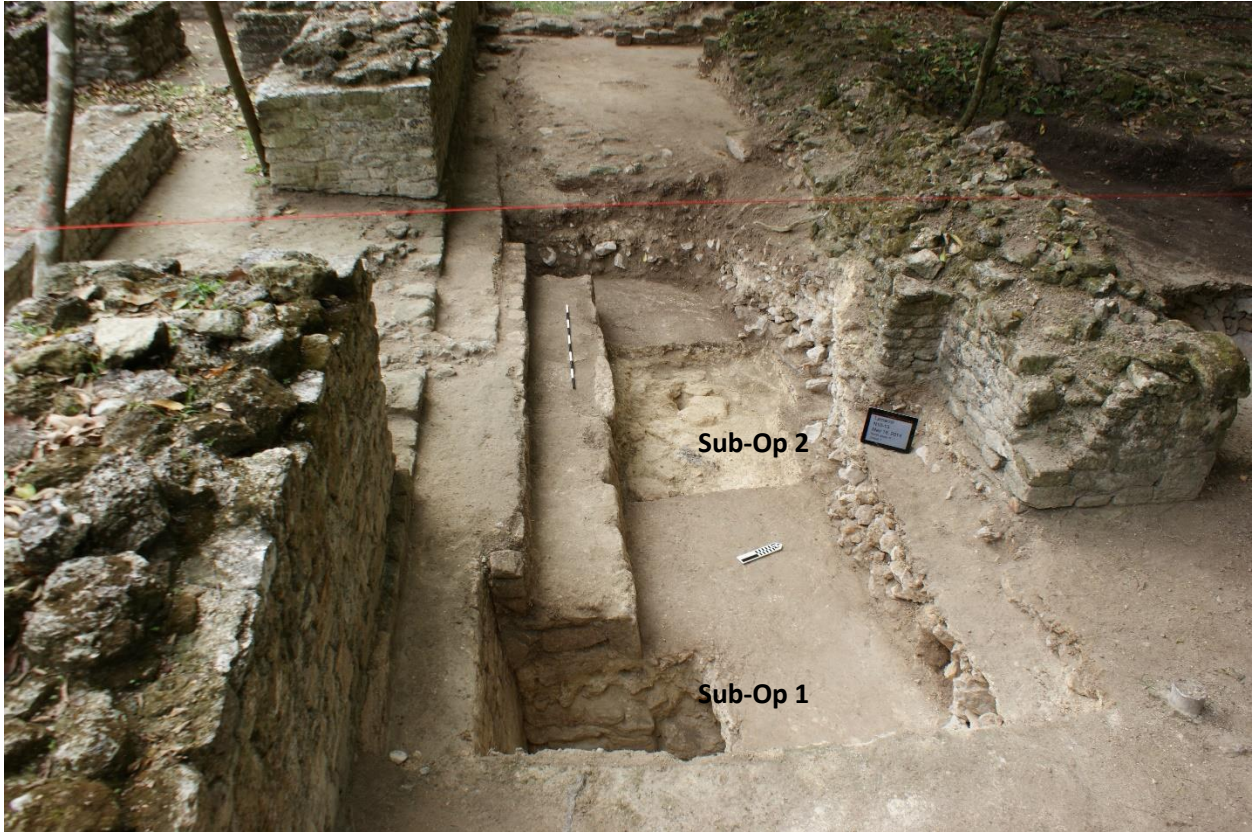


Photo 1829 (May 16) Looking West.

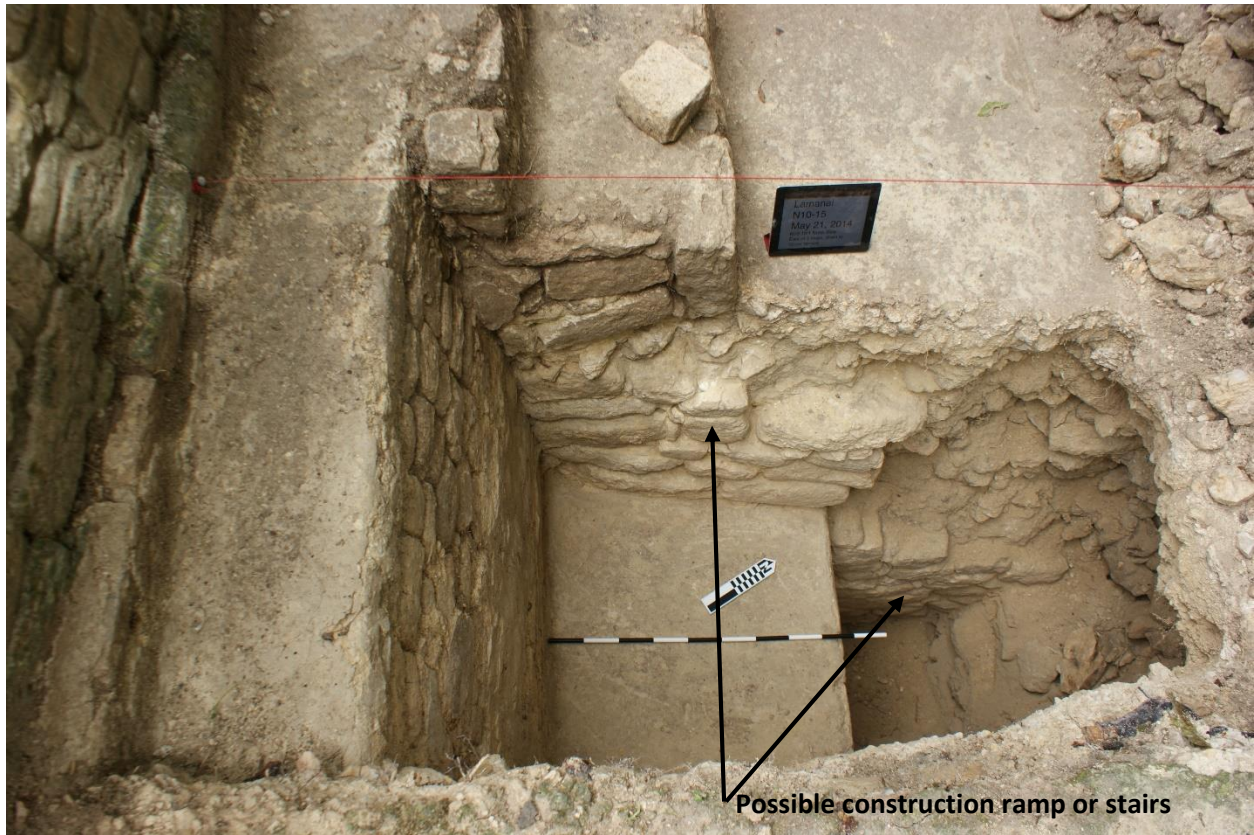


Photo 1929 (May 21) Looking West.



Photo 1934 (May 21) Looking West. Note patch of reddish (?) plaster on end of steps.



Photo 1948 (May 21) Looking South.



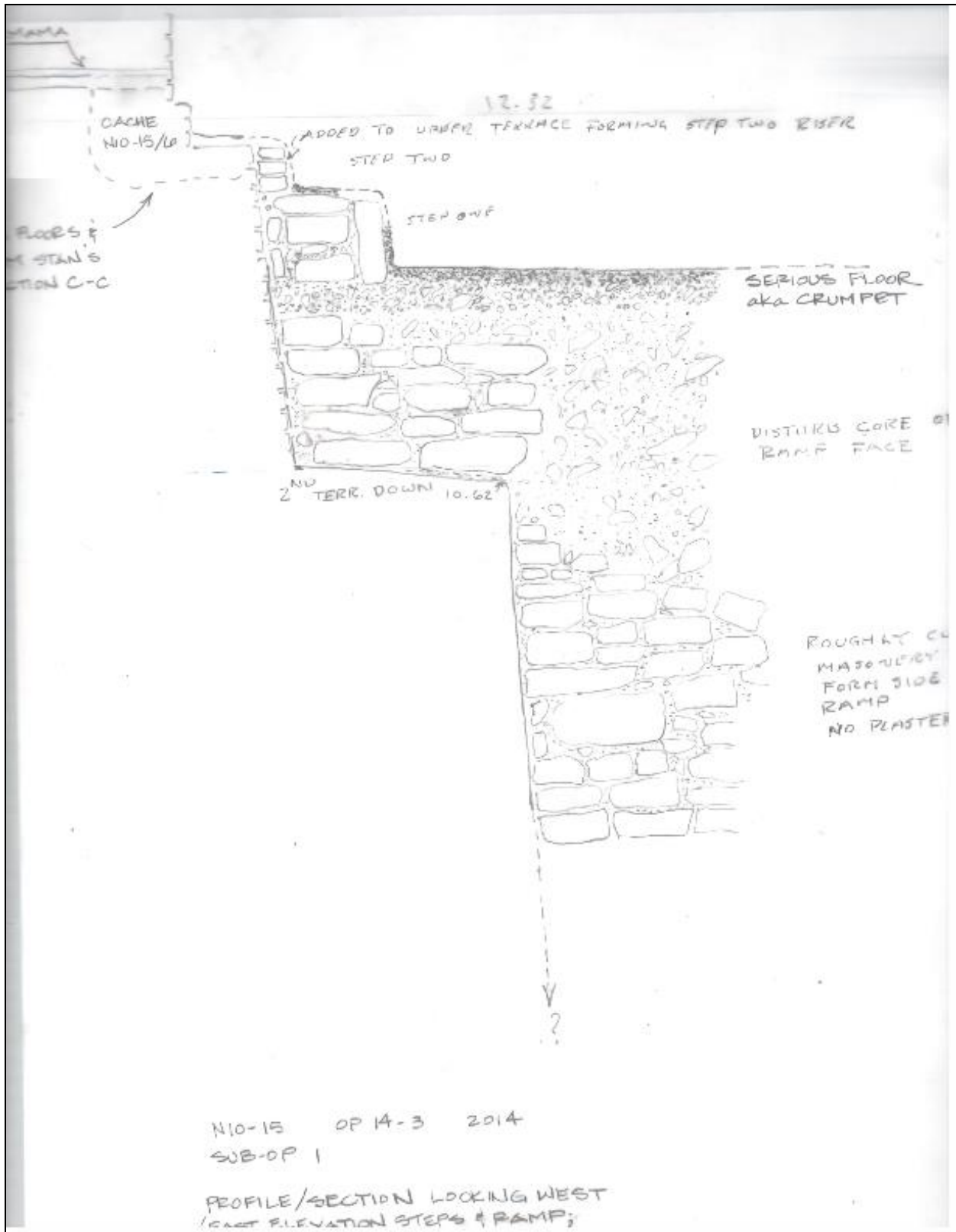
Photo 1977 (May 21) Looking East.



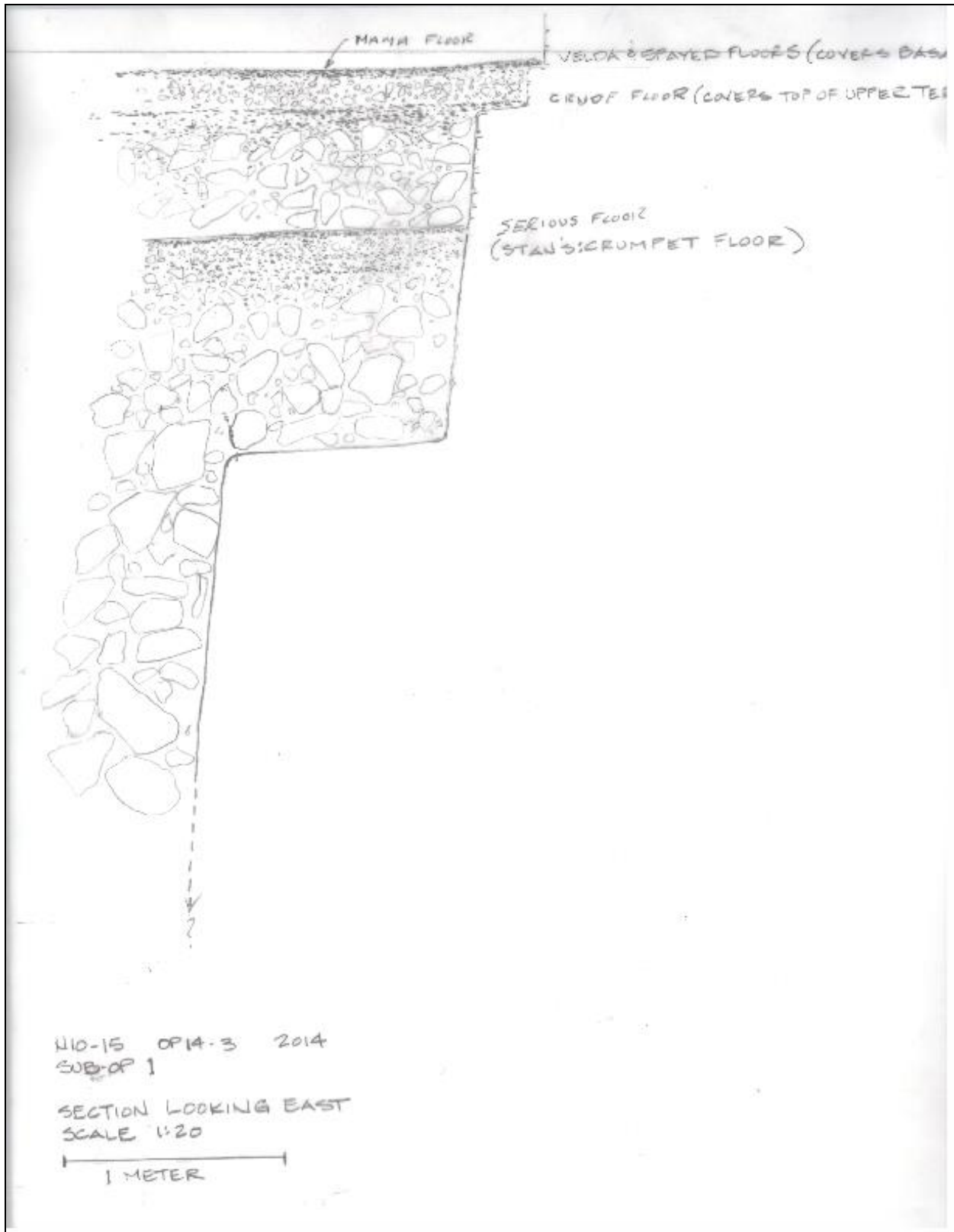
Photo 1956 (May 21) Looking South.



Photo 1971 (May 21) Looking East. Note patches of grey plaster on the terrace face.



Sub-Op 1 Profile/Section Looking West



Sub-Op 1 Profile/Section Looking East

LOT LA3101 POTTERY SHERDS AND OTHER ARTIFACTS:

Count = 94



Photo 5397



Photo 5400

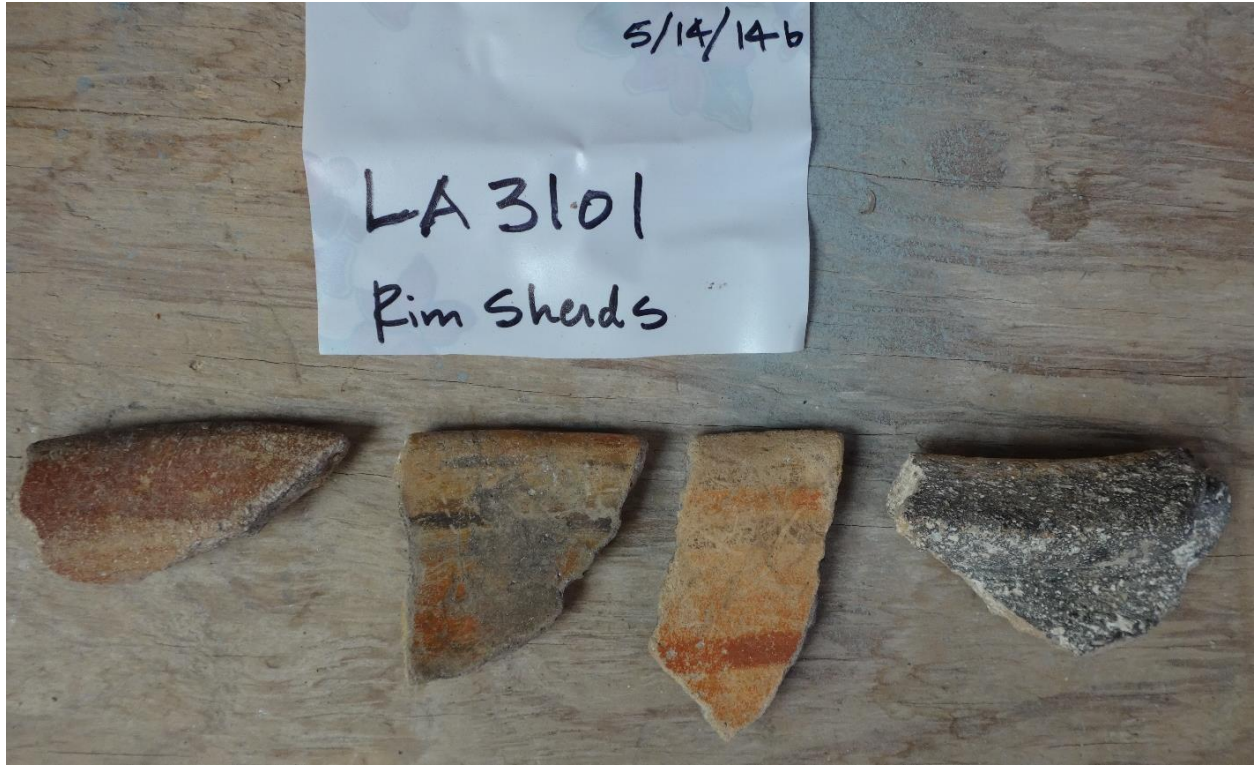


Photo 5401 Rim sherds from above photo, enlarged.



Photo 5404

LOT LA3102 POTTERY SHERDS AND OTHER ARTIFACTS:

Count = 60



Photo 5405



Photo 5409

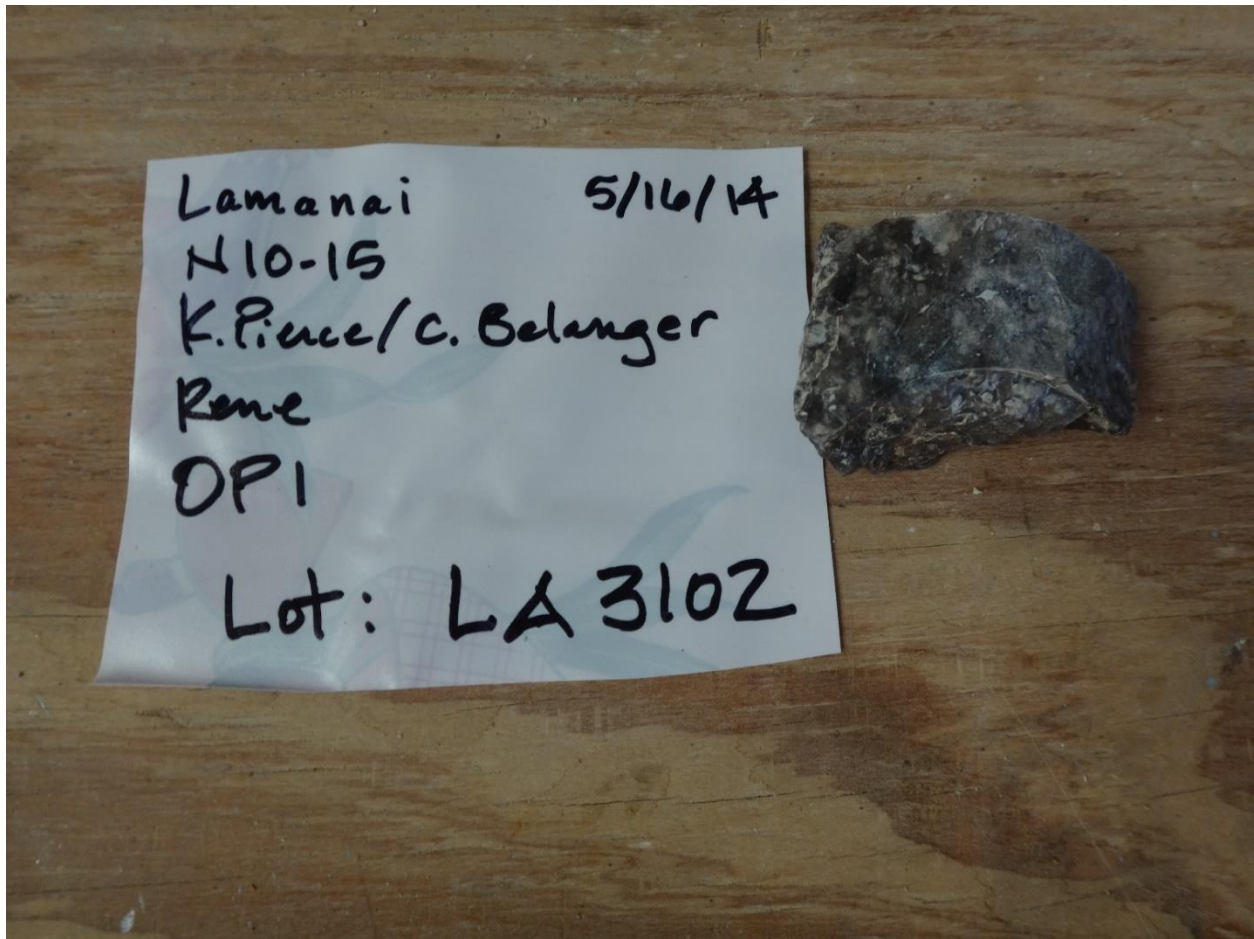


Photo 5413 Ground stone fragment

LOT LA3103 POTTERY SHERDS AND OTHER ARTIFACTS:

Count = 38



Photo 5417



Photo 5415

LOT LA3104 POTTERY SHERDS AND OTHER ARTIFACTS:

Count = 25? (or 1)

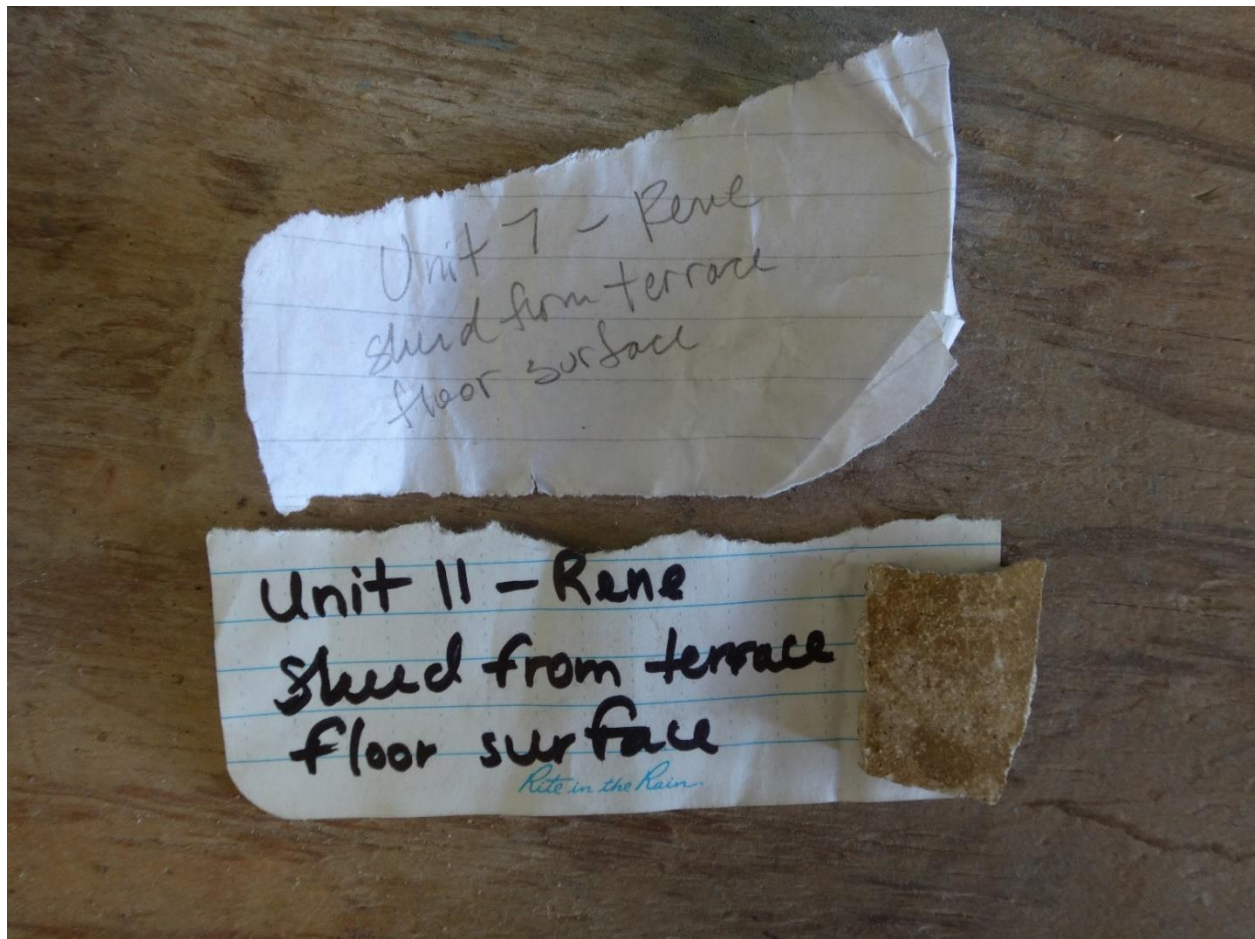


Photo 5418 Sherd from surface of lower terrace (terrace 2)

Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

OP14-3: Sub-Op 2

(Two-steps, Serious Floor & Caches)

May-July 2014

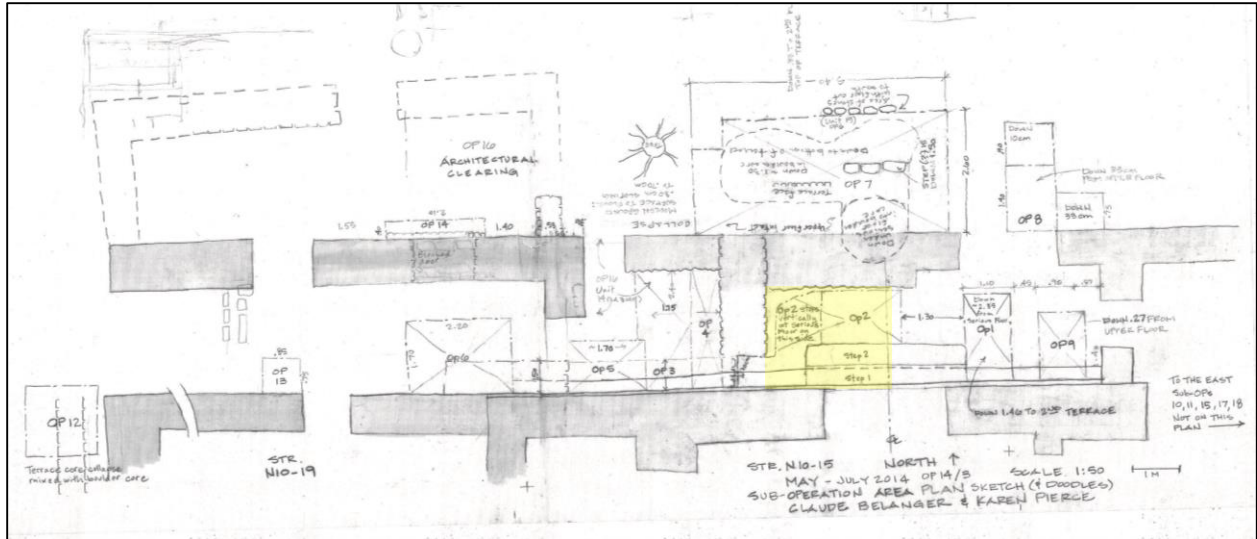
Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

Excavation Photos & Note; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts

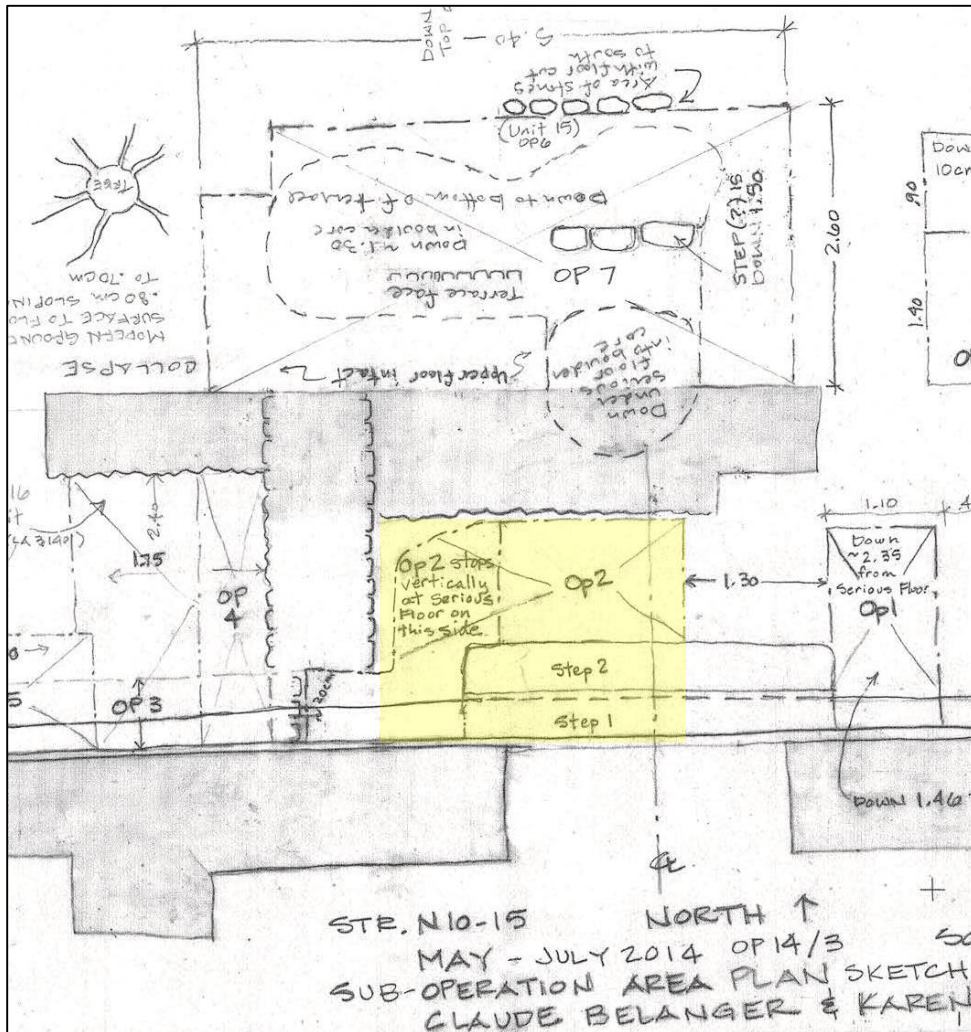
Opening of Excavation	Page 1-31
Cache 1 (aka Cache N10-15/10)	Page 32-67
Cache 2 (aka Cache N10-15/9)	Page 68-107
Continuing Excavation Below The Level of The Two Caches	Page 108-115
Wall Excavation to Find Chopped Edge of Serious Floor	Page 116-120
Backfilling	Page 121-124
Lot Locations, Sherd Photos, Cache Vessel & Artifact Drawings and Photos	Page 125-155



Charcoal on my mind...clearing trees for a new field adjacent to Lamanai, July 5, 2014.



N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 2 (Op2 on plan)
 Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location



Enlarged from above.

MANY YEARS EARLIER AT STRUCTURE N10-15.....



David Pendergast's 1980s Slide C117-1. Note this gives an indication of what was previously excavated in the area of the 2 steps at the north side of N10-15 1st.



David Pendergast's 1980s Slide C113-5 (DOLL N stair and overlying floors (HSL 7/14/1), from E)

Note—in this photograph it looks like there is a feature with a floor turn-up at the east side of these two steps, which was no longer present during our excavations.



David Pendergast's 1980s Slide C115-15. View from N of Cache N10-15/8 (background), showing pit of Cache 7 in foreground, doorway of MAZE at N, DOLL stair, MAZE wall at rear. Floor surrounding pit of Cache 8 is BUG/BURGER; capping floor, cut away at L&R, is MOMA.)

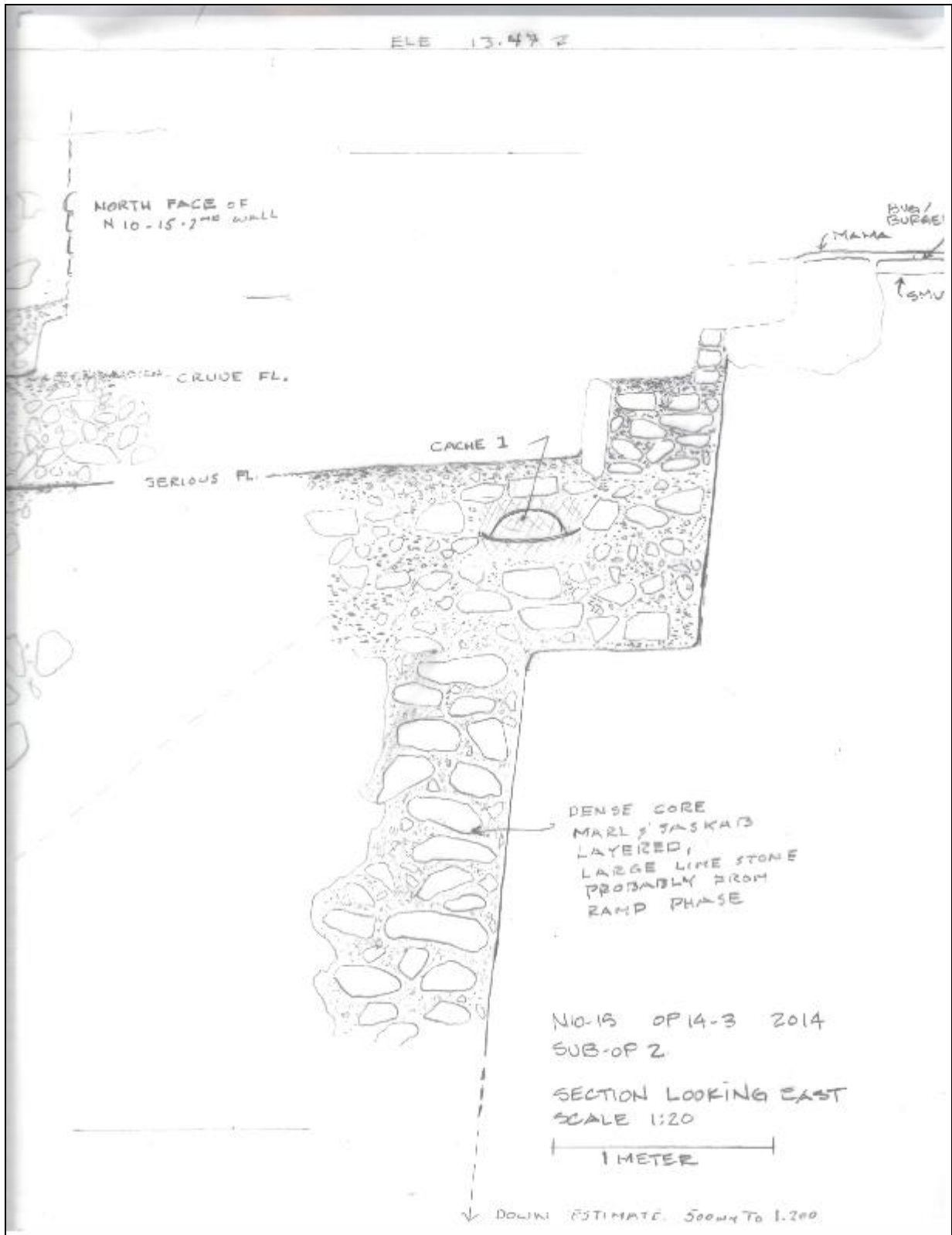


David Pendergast's 1980s Slides:

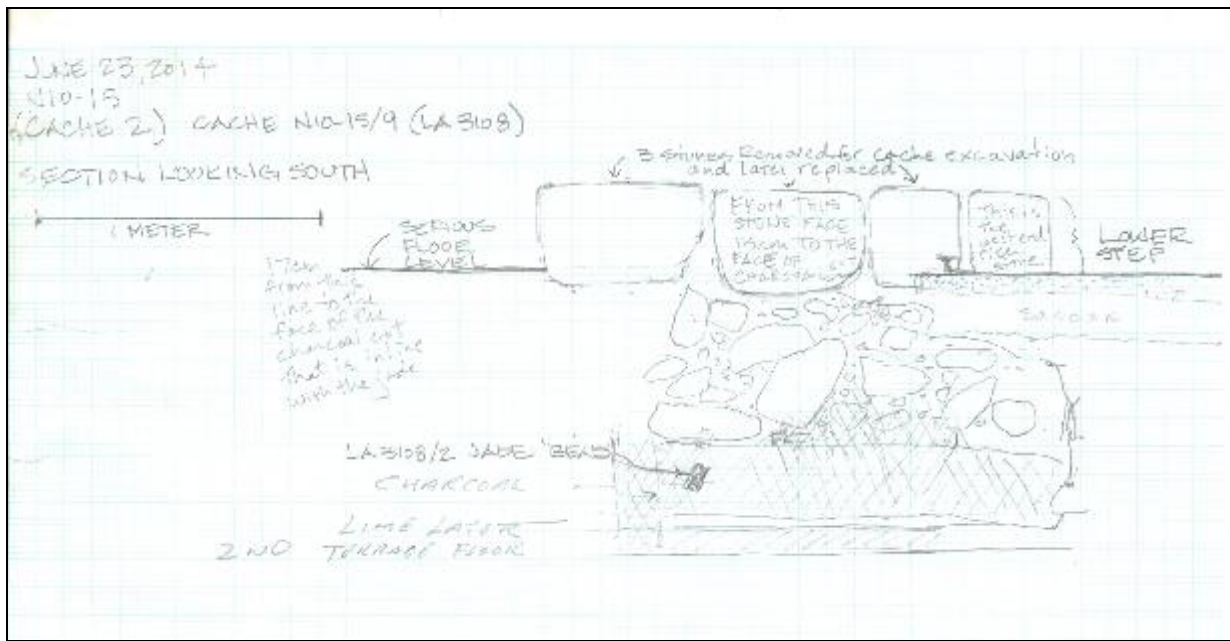
C115/11&13 Cache N10-15/7 from NE, upper vessel.....lower vessel

C116/1&13 Cache N10-15/8 from N pottery level.... flints level, from N

Check with David about his notes for these caches for clarification about location of cache 6 and 7.



Section looking east



Elevation/Section looking south at the two steps

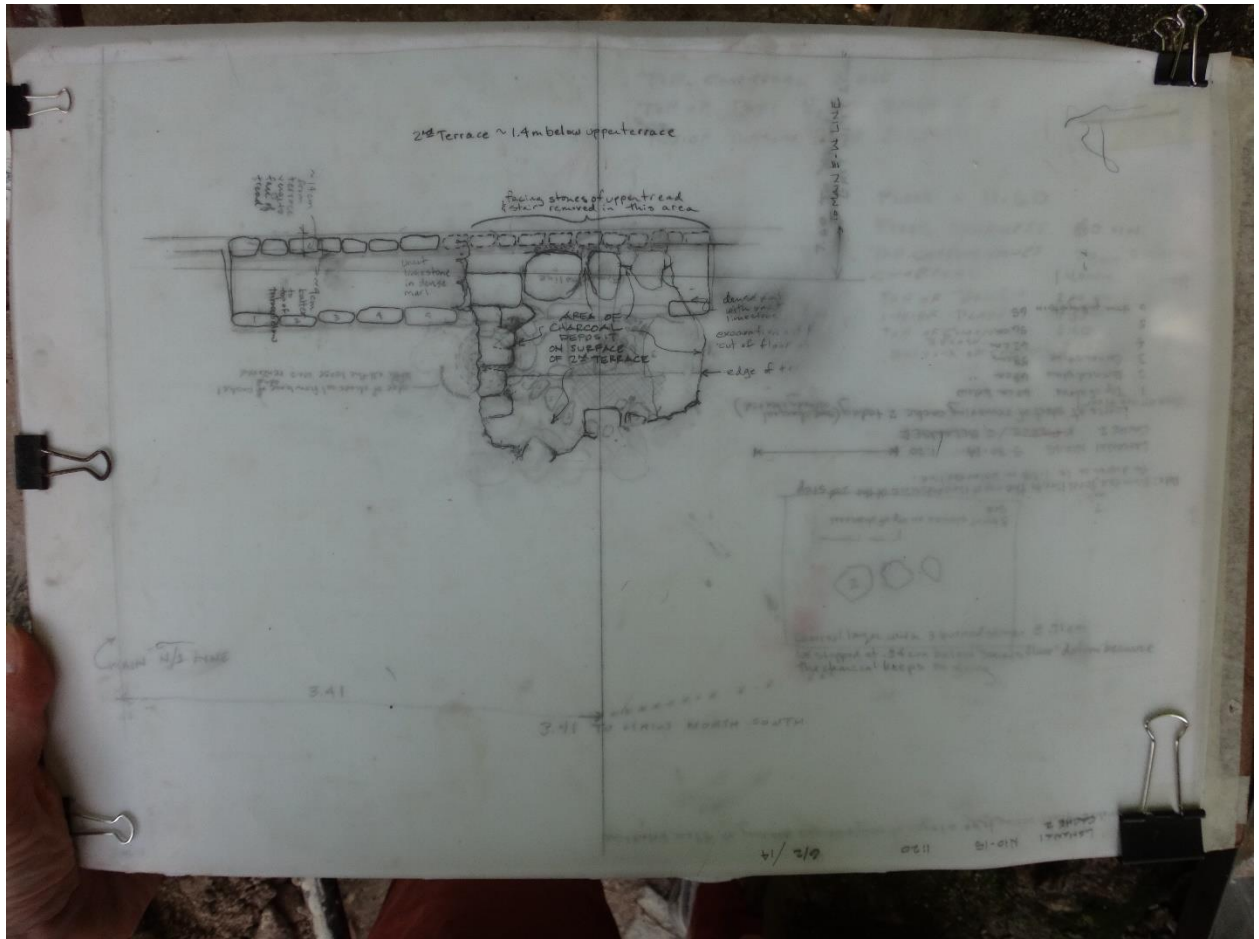
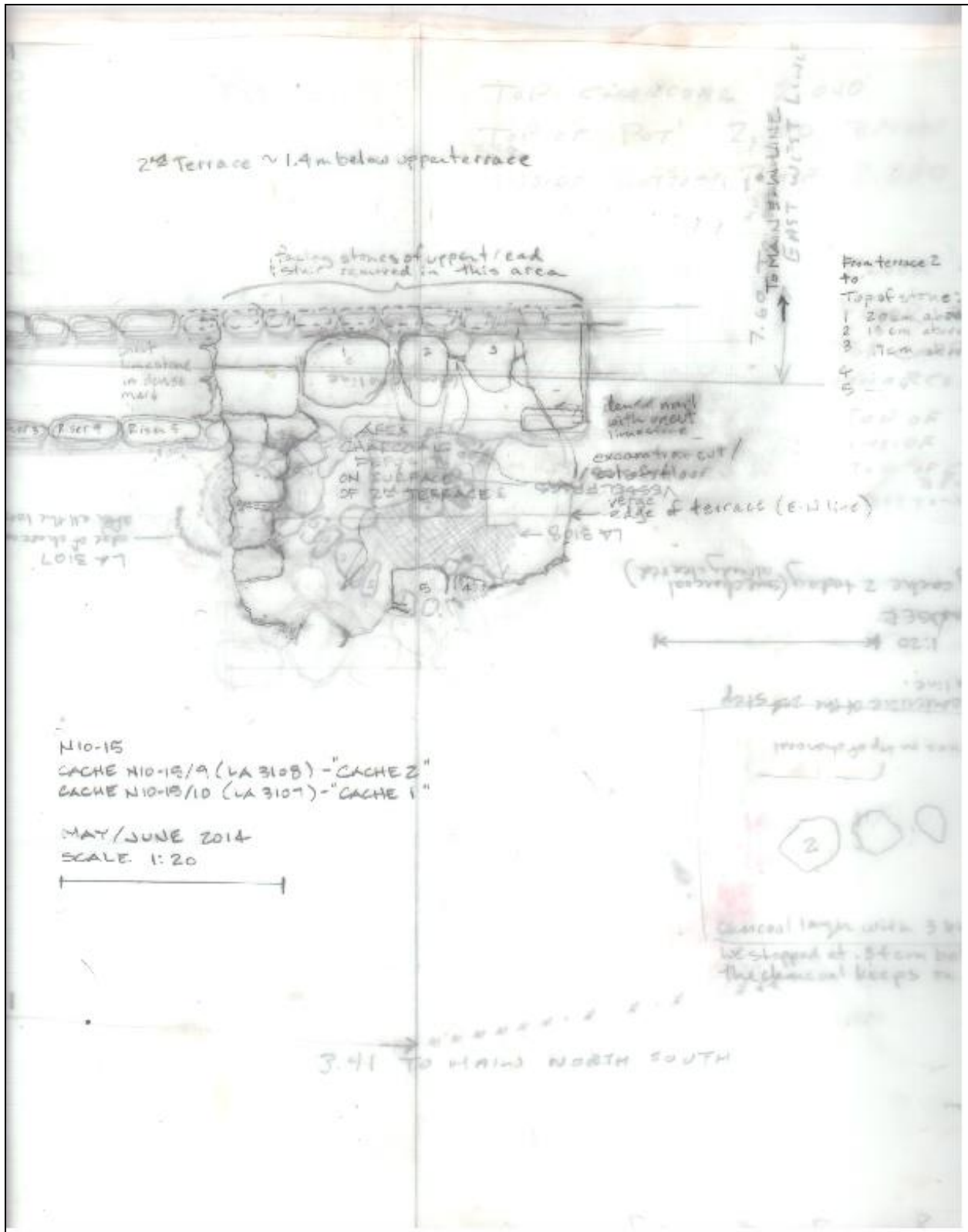


Photo 6048 3-Layered plan drawing of cache area



3-Layered plan drawing of cache area. South at top of photo.

Sub-Op 2 before Cache



Photo 3704 (May 14 10:31) Looking west.



Photo 3707 (May 14 10:32). Looking west. Note that the plaster on the steps, especially the risers, is mostly gone as compared to the 1980s photo of these steps.



Photo 3709 (May 14 10:33) Looking North.



Photo 3712 (May 14 10:33) Looking Northeast.



Photo 3721 (May 14 11:37) Looking West—Claude is removing a small area of charcoal



Photo 3724 (May 14 11:38) West at top. Small area of charcoal just under Serious Floor plaster.

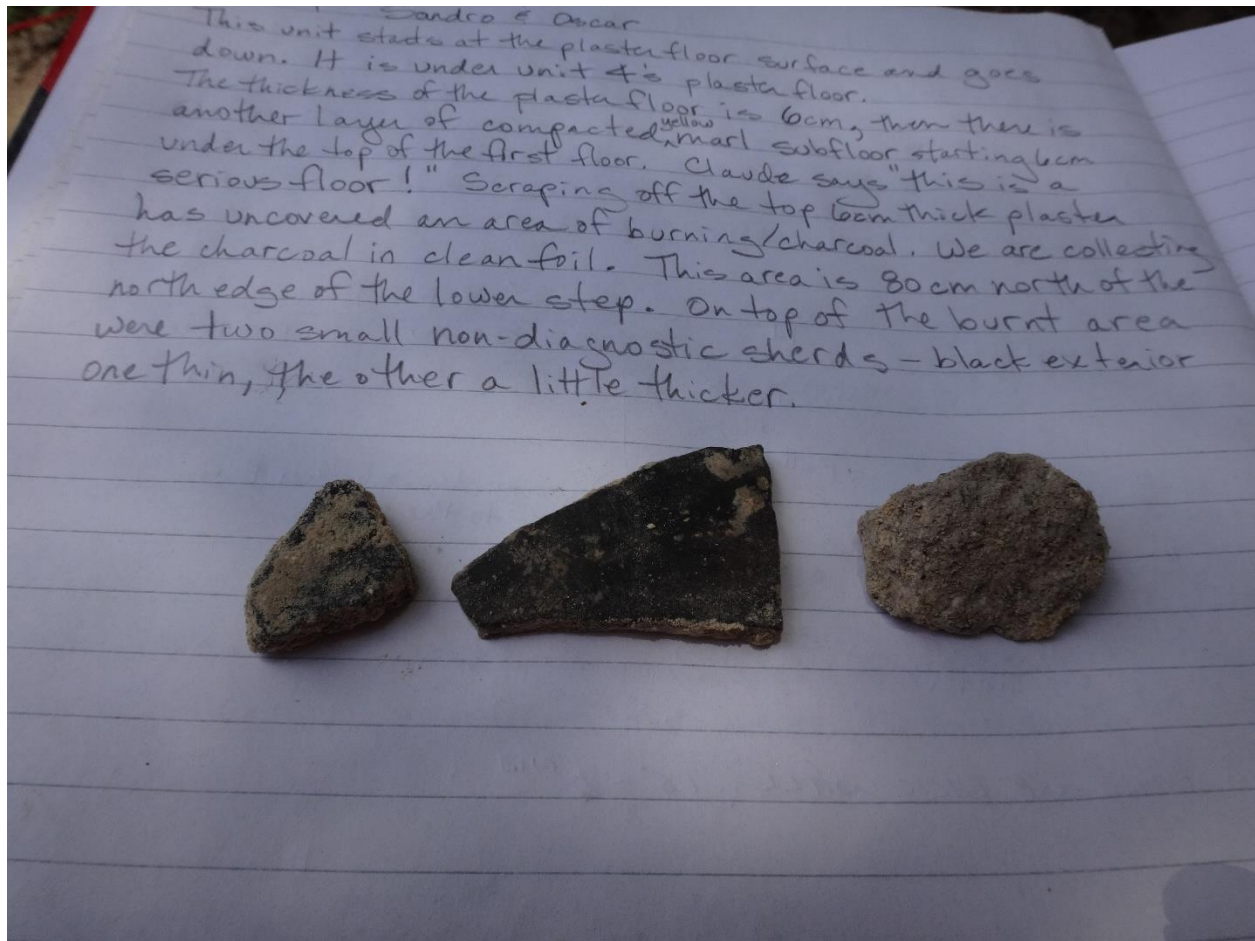


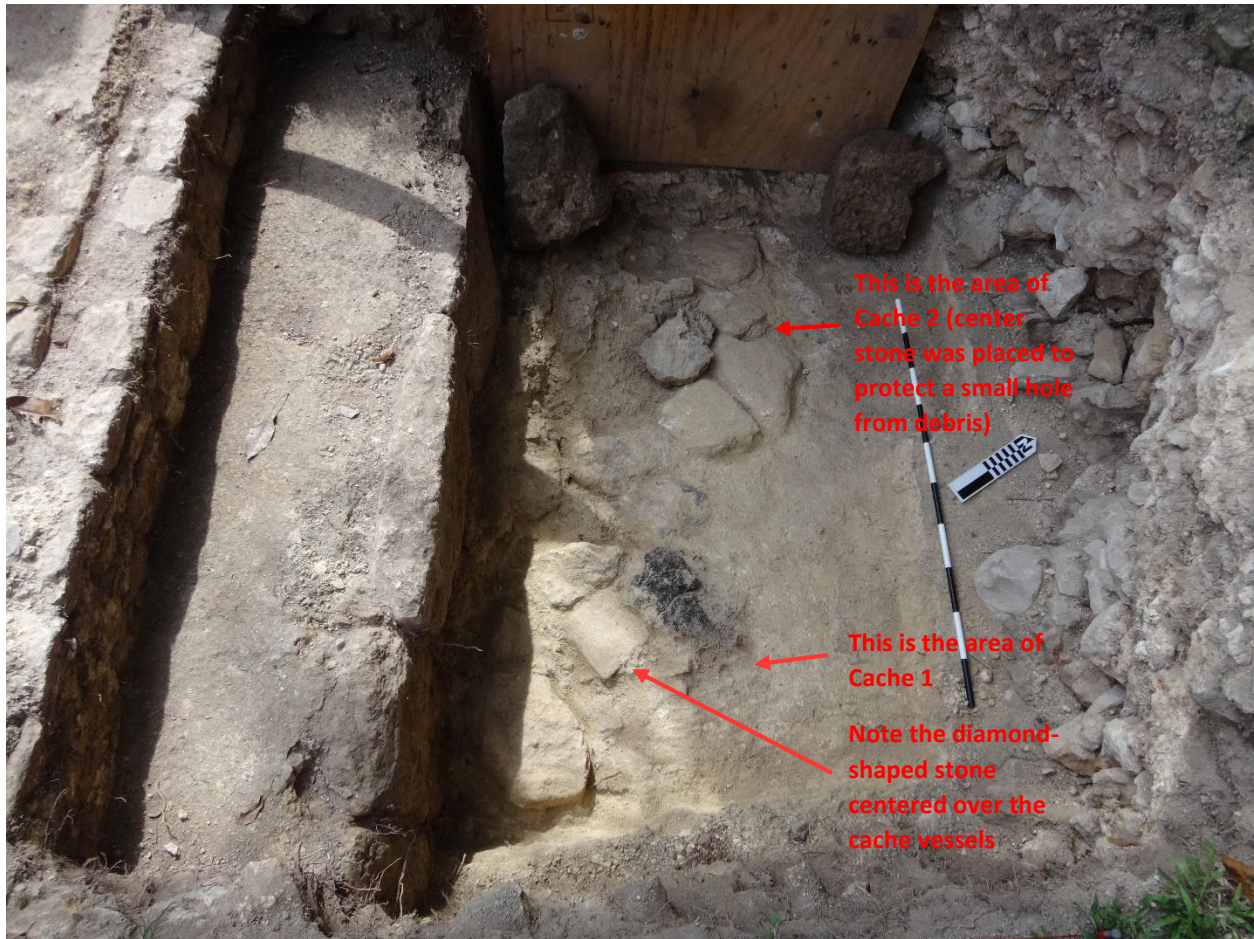
Photo 3726 (May 14 11:44) Sherds found in association with the previous charcoal area.



Photo 3738 (May 14, 1:15) Looking north.



Photo 3747 (May 14, 1:18) Looking west.



This is the area of Cache 2 (center stone was placed to protect a small hole from debris)

This is the area of Cache 1

Note the diamond-shaped stone centered over the cache vessels

Photo 3760 (May 14 3:19) Looking west.



Photo 3761 (May 14 3:19) Looking north.



Photo 3772 (May 15 2:37) Looking west at work in progress. Note: area north of stairs is covered with plywood so serious floor can be further exposed to the west and east before the area of charcoal and pillowy stones is further investigated.



Photo 3805 (May 16 11:05) Looking west—for context.



Photo 3836 (May 16 1:48) North at top. Note possible area of backfill at west edge of Sub-Op 1.



Photo 3897 (May 16 3:48) Looking east at the cache area at the base of the two steps and in the background our excavators are sitting on the wall stubs of the east side of N10-15 2nd.



Photo 3899 (May 16 3:49) Looking northeast.



Photo 3908 (May 16 3:54) Looking north.



Photo 3911 (May 16 3:58) Looking west.



Photo 3920 (May 16 4:01) Looking west.



Photo 1830 May 16 Looking west.



Photo 3927 (May 16 4:09) Looking southeast.



Photo 3928 (May 16 4:09) Looking south with Structure N10-9 (aka Jaguar Temple) in the background. The caches that we later found were under the floor at the bottom of these two steps. Cache N10-15/10 was at the center of the steps and Cache N10-15/9 was at the west half of the steps.

Cache N10-15/10 (LA3107) (Cache 1 in Field Notes)

A note about this cache from Liz Graham on May 21: “Claude might recognise this but Norbert got ones like this in a lip-to-lip cache, and so did we. Very typical of the Terminal Classic. This is AMAZING because if it pre-dates the stairs or even is contemporaneous, we have no other data like this on site. Proves that N10-15 is different.”

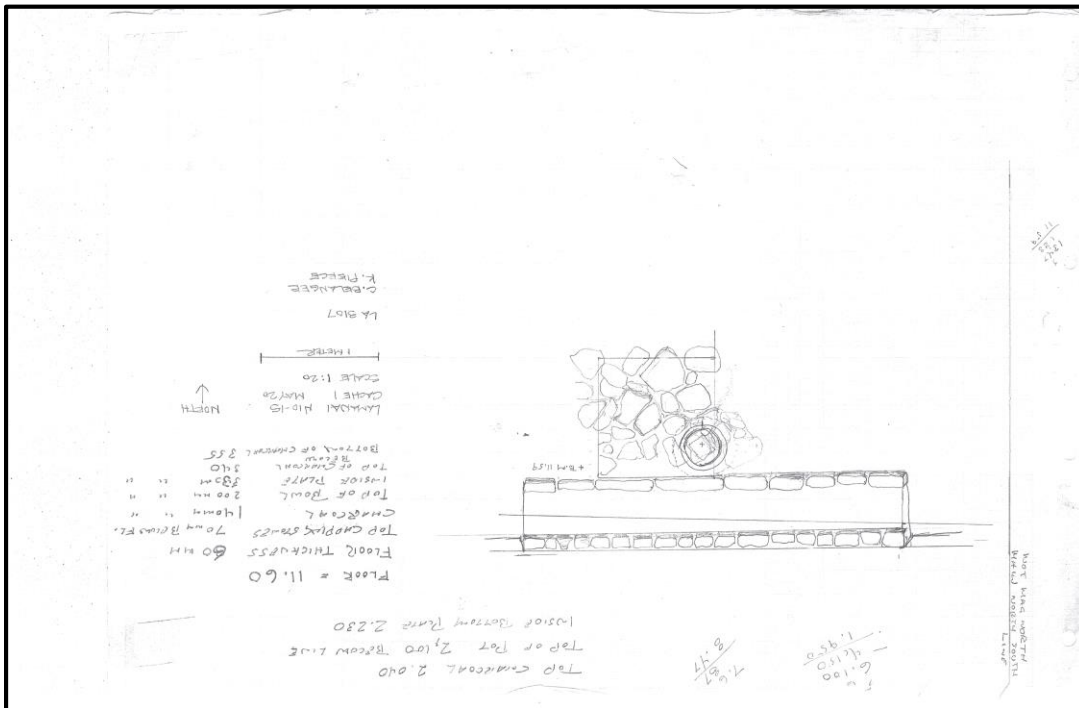
ASK LIZ IF SHE STILL THINKS THIS NOW HAVING SEEN IT ALL IN CONTEXT?



Photo 4072 (May 20 8:51) Looking north—Claude is mapping the area of caches.



Photo 4078 (May 20 8:53) North at top. Stones on top of caches under 1-meter planning frame.



Plan of cache at start of Cache 1 removal (layer 1 of 3 layers)



Photo 4086 (May 20) North at top. Claude removes stones over cache area.



Photo 4091 (May 20) South at top.



Photo 4096 (May 20) South at top. Cache 1 with diamond-shaped stone in center.



Photo 4092 (May 20) South at top. Note the bottom of the stone is red in color and appears to have been heated or burned.



Photo 4099 (May 20) South at top. Rene removes the diamond-shaped stone from the center of Cache 1



Photo 4103 (May 20 11:04) Looking south. Cache N10-15/10 aka Cache 1 (left) after stones are removed, exposing the extent of the charcoal area placed over the lip-to-lip vessels. Cache N10-15/9 aka Cache 2 area is the pit on the right, but at this point the only evidence of something special underneath was the stone arrangement that had been on top of this. Note the stones that have been removed from the area on the far right.



Photo 4105 (May 20) Looking south from atop the north wall of N10-15 2nd. Cache N10-15/10 aka Cache 1 (left) after stones are removed, exposing the extent of the charcoal area placed over the lip-to-lip vessels. Cache N10-15/9 aka Cache 2 area is the pit on the right, but at this point the only evidence of something special underneath was the stone arrangement that had been on top of this. Note the stones that have been removed from the area on the far right.



Photo 4113 (May 20) Looking south. Cache N10-15/10 aka Cache 1, upper layer of charcoal matrix.



Photo 4127 (May 20) North at top of photo. Lower step at bottom of photo. Removing the upper charcoal matrix.



Photo 4133 (May 20) North at top of photo. First peek of the upper cache vessel, LA3107/1.



Photo 4135 (May 20) Top of photo is south. Lip-to-lip cache vessels, LA3107/1 (top) and LA3107/2 (bottom) in a matrix of charcoal.



Photo 4146 (May 20) Looking south across the cache area, with the surface of Serious Floor to the left and right, and the two steps in the background.



Photo 4148 (May 20) Looking southwest. The lip-to-lip cache vessels, LA3107/1 (top) and LA3107/2 (bottom) of Cache N10-15/10 are visible here at the centerline of the steps and resting in a matrix of charcoal—under the floor level that is the north landing for the two steps. The second cache, N10-15/9, will later appear in the pit to the right of this cache.



Photo 1832 (May 20) South is at the top. Cache N10-15/10 cache vessels in situ.



Photo 4149 (May 20) Looking west. Lip-to-lip cache vessels, LA3107/1 (top) and LA3107/2 (bottom) in a matrix of charcoal.



Photo 4151 (May 20) South at top of photo. Lip-to-lip cache vessels, LA3107/1 (top) and LA3107/2 (bottom) in a matrix of charcoal. The vessels are complete, but too cracked to be removed as a single unit.



Photo 4155 (May 20) South at top of photo. Cache vessel LA3107/2 (bottom vessel) in a matrix of charcoal. Note the one piece of charcoal that is not completely carbonized.



Photo 4157 (May 20) North at top. Claude removes charcoal from cache vessel LA3107/2 (bottom vessel).



Photo 4168 (May 20) South at top of photo. . Cache vessel LA3107/2 (bottom vessel) with 9 white stones appearing within the charcoal. The smaller fragment of white stone fell in from surrounding matrix.



Photo 4173 (May 20) South at top. Cache vessel LA3107/2 (bottom vessel). 5 obsidian lancets rest on the bottom of the vessel.



Photo 4176 (May 20) South at top. Cache vessel LA3107/2 (bottom vessel) after contents are removed.



Photo 4184 (May 20) South at top. Relationship of cache N10-15/10 to lower step.



Photo 4186 (May 20) South at top. Cache N10-15/10—Area of roots, ash and charcoal immediately under the lip-to lip vessels.



Photo 4192 (May 20 3:11) South at top. Cache N10-15/10—Area of roots, ash and charcoal immediately under the lip-to lip vessels.



Photo 4191 South at top. Cache N10-15/10—Area of roots, ash and charcoal immediately under the lip-to lip vessels. Lower vessel, LA 3107/2, in tray at left as it was when removed.



Photo 4210 Upper vessel, LA 3107/1, as it was after removal from cache.



Photo 6775 Upper vessel, LA 3107/1, showing underside of vessel.



Photo 6777 Upper vessel, LA 3107/1, showing underside of vessel.



Photo 4211 (May 21 9:47) Looking east. Cache area after removal of cache 1, which was covered for the night and a little rain fell.



Photo 4229 (May 21 10:07) Looking southeast. Cache 1 the day after removal of contents and Cache 2 before ascertaining there was a second cache.



Photo 1903 (May 21) Looking east with the row of mossy stones on top of the north wall of N10-15 2nd and the cache area at the bottom of the two steps at the right.



Photo 1905 (May 21) Looking east. In the center of the photo is the E-W oriented outer wall of N10-15 2nd. To the left (north) of this wall Sub-Op 7 is in the foreground and Sub-Op 8 is in the background in front of the pile of whitish limestones. The uppermost floor, Xix floor, is exposed on this north side of the structure. To the right of the wall, the upper floor—Velda/Spayed floor (equal to Xix to the north and Mama to the south inside N10-15 1st) and Serious Floor at the base of the two steps that lead (south) into N10-15 1st, can easily be seen.



Photo 4210 (May 22) Looking east across the cache area.



Photo 4223 (May 21) Looking south across the cache area, with the surface of Serious Floor to the left and right, and the two steps in the background.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON CACHE 1 ARE IN THE LAST SECTION OF THIS DOCUMENT

Cache N10-15/9 (LA 3108) (Cache 2 in Field Notes)



Photo 1967 (May 21) Looking south. The first layer of stones after removing cache 1.



Photo 1986 (May 21) Looking south. The second layer of stones.



Photo 4343 (May 21) Looking northeast. Under the stones pictured in photo 1986 (above) was a soft matrix in which charcoal started to appear along with several black fragments of pottery. At this point we realized there may be another cache so we covered this area with plastic and plywood and emailed Liz. Excavation of this unit was not resumed until May 27.



Photo 2154 (May 27) North at top. Looking down from the upper step.



Photo 2147 (May 27) Looking north.



Photo 2149 (May 27) Looking northwest. The meter stick is on the lower step. The charcoal matrix of Cache N10-15/9 is just beginning to appear on the west side of the excavated area at the bottom of the two steps. On the east side of this excavated area, but closer to the floor surface (higher up), a dark spot can still be seen where the first cache, Cache N10-15/10 was removed and left a charcoal residue shadow.



Photo 2152 (May 27) Looking north.



Photo 2174 (May 27) Looking northeast.



Photo 2217 (May 30) East at top.



Photo 2224 (May 30) Looking north.



Photo 2246 (May 30) Looking west. The base of cache vessel 3108/1, a cylindrical vase, and fragments after some overlaying charcoal was removed. Several of the fragments are on top of one of three grey stones (burned?), which seem to have been purposefully placed. See next photo (2249).



Photo 2249 (May 30) Looking west. Three grey stones, which seem to have been purposefully placed, rest in the charcoal matrix after some charcoal and the base and fragments of cache vessel 3108/1 (a cylindrical Achiote Black vase) that rested on top of one of three grey stones (burned?), have been removed.



Photo 2251 (May 30) Looking southwest.



Photo 2258 (May 30) Looking north.



Photo 2259 (May 30) Looking northwest.



Photo 2266 (May 30) Looking west.



Photo 2268 (May 30) Looking north.

NOTE: AT THIS POINT A LARGE VOLUME OF CHARCOAL HAD BEEN REMOVED AND THERE APPEARED TO BE NO END IN SITE, SO WE CONTACTED LIZ GRAHAM. HER RECOMMENDATION WAS TO COVER THE AREA AND WAIT UNTIL PHIL AUSTIN, A PHD STUDENT FROM UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON/INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY, WHO SPECIALIZES IN CHARCOAL ANALYSIS AND HAS A FAIR AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE WITH IT. SO WE DID JUST THAT.



Charcoal removed May 30th from the upper portion of Cache 2



Photo 5784 (June 23) West at top. Liz Graham's doctoral student, Phil Austin, arrived from UCL and we resumed our excavation of this cache. Here he is removing charcoal and roots in a very cramped space.



Photo 5787 (June 23) Looking west. Note that there was a layer of soft matrix at the edge of the charcoal in some areas.



Photo 5796 (June 23) Looking west. Phil's trowel has hit the surface of the second terrace.



Photo 5797 (June 23) Looking west. Using Phil's fingertips to upper arm gives a sense of the depth of the charcoal in this area.



Photo 5799 (June 23) Looking south/southeast. The flat area at the base of the charcoal is the surface of terrace two.

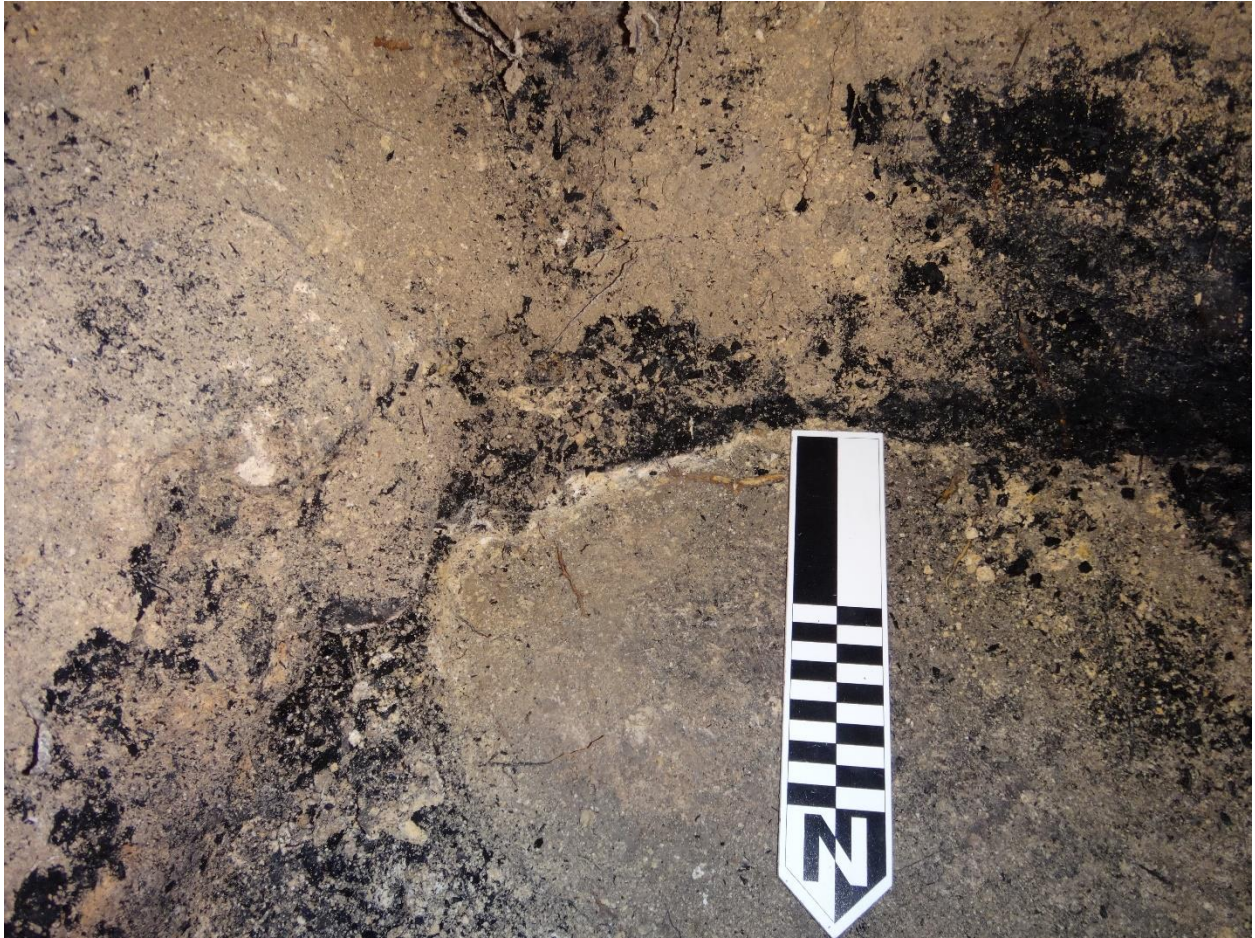


Photo 5803 Looking south/southeast. The flat area at the base of the charcoal is the surface of terrace two.



Photo 5812 (June 23) Looking west. North arrow is sitting on the surface of terrace 2. Note location of the jade bead/ornament.



Photo 5806 (June 23) Looking south. The north arrow, used for scale in this photo, is pointing up!



Photo 5819 (June 23) Karen is holding the jade bead/ornament.



Photo 5842 (June 24) Looking south at steps. The location of the jade bead in the layer of charcoal that was extending south under the lower step led to the removal of a portion of the step before further excavation of the charcoal and any other artifacts could take place.



Photo 5857 (June 24) Looking southwest at steps. The area of the charcoal has been covered for removal of a portion of the steps.



Photo 5873 (June 24) Looking west at the lower step as the stair plaster and core is removed.



Photo 5877 (June 24) Looking south at the lower step as the stair plaster and core is removed along with a small area of Serious Floor west of the step.



Photo 5883 (June 24) Looking east. Core of lower step at centerline.



Photo 5885 (June 24) Looking south. Core of lower step at centerline.



Photo 5893 (June 24) Looking south. Core of lower step at centerline.



Photo 5899 (June 24) Looking south. Note plaster on terrace face below level of steps.



Photo 5910 (June 24) Looking south. Note plaster on terrace face below level of steps.



Photo 5968 (June 25) Looking east. Looking down on cache 2 area on the surface of terrace two and north of it.



Photo 5967 (June 25) Looking east. Looking down on cache 2 area on the surface of terrace two and north of it.



Photo 6306 Charcoal from cache 2 drying on screens and cotton fabric in the old Lamanai caretaker's house north of the bodega.

Continuing Excavation Below The Level Of The Two Caches



Photo 5973 (June 25) Looking east.



Photo 6071 (June 27) Looking east. Sandro Corado removing stones. The buckets sit on terrace two.



Photo 6157 (June 28) Looking east.



Photo 6155 (June 28) Looking east.



Photo 6176 (June 28) Looking east. The meter scale sits on terrace two.



Photo 6175 (June 28) Looking east.



Photo 6180 (June 28) Looking west.



Photo 6172 (June 28) Top is north. Looking down—terrace 2 is at the bottom (south) of the photo.

Wall Excavation To Find Chopped Edge Of Serious Floor:



Photo 6182 (June 28) Looking west. LA 3144 Core of the "wall" unit at the west edge of Sub-Op 2 (this wall unit was not removed but was investigated by removing a small area of the facing stones and core just above serious floor between Sub-Op 2 and Sub-Op 4.



Photo 6134 (June 28) Looking east from Sub-Op 4. Plaster turn-up on Serious Floor, and chopped edge of floor. Note that this unit is already backfilled up to the level of the hop-up and "Serious Floor" (backfill indicated by blue highlight), in order to allow access to investigate the edge of Serious Floor.



Photo 6136 (June 28) Looking east at western edge of Serious Floor and plaster turn-up.



Photo 6147 (June 28) Looking west at Serious Floor under the thin wall or parapet-like feature.



Photo 6145 (June 28) Sherds from the core of the wall/parapet feature.

Backfilling and Plastering the Floors



Photo 6234 (June 28) Looking west across N10-15 2nd. The north wall and north door of N10-15 1st is on the left. Backfilling and rebuilding the lower step.



Photo 6297 (July 2) Looking west across N10-15 2nd. The north wall and north door of N10-15 1st is on the left. Placing floor ballast.

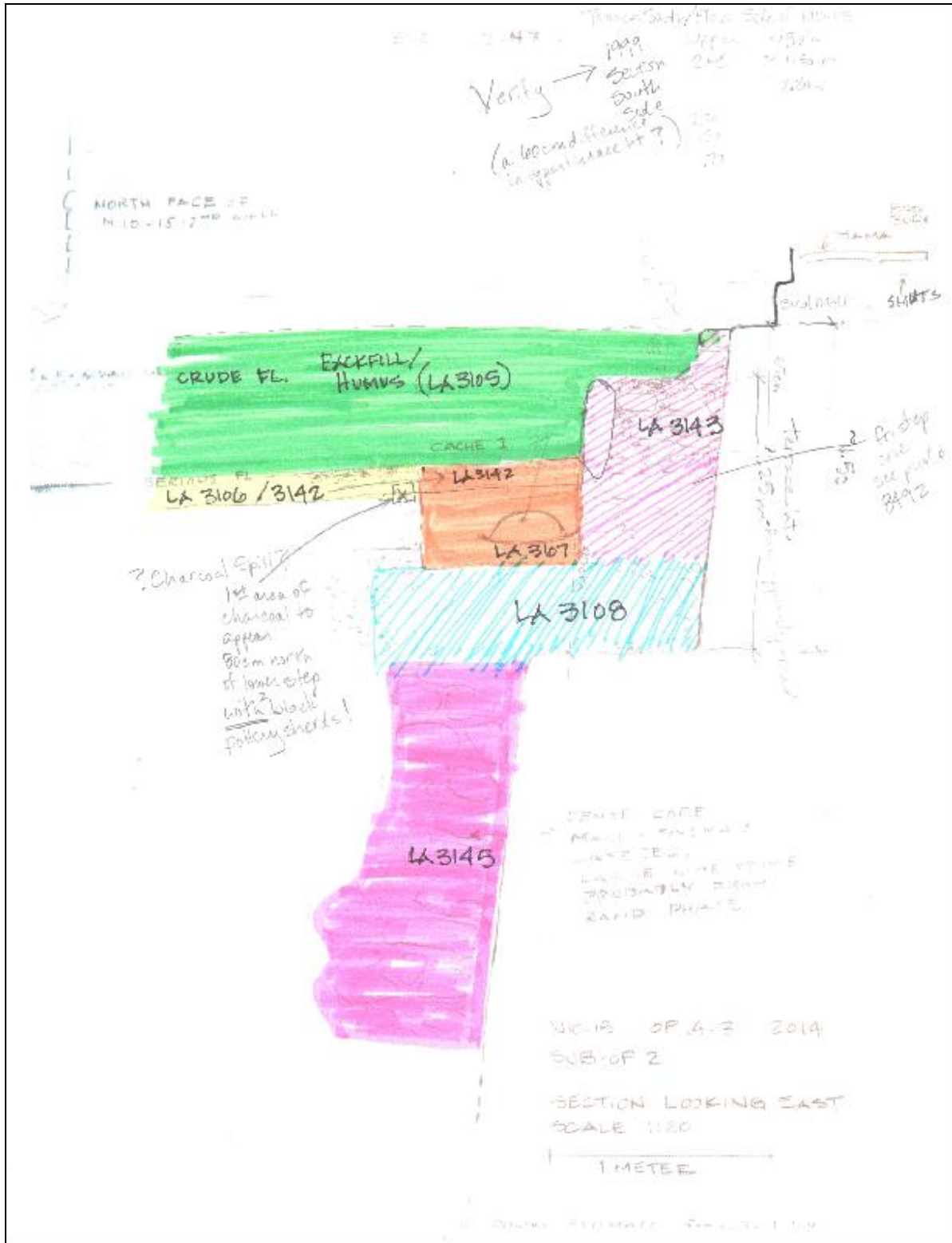


Photo 6663 (July 10) Claude is standing in N10-15 2nd at the north wall of N10-15 1st , just east of the north door.

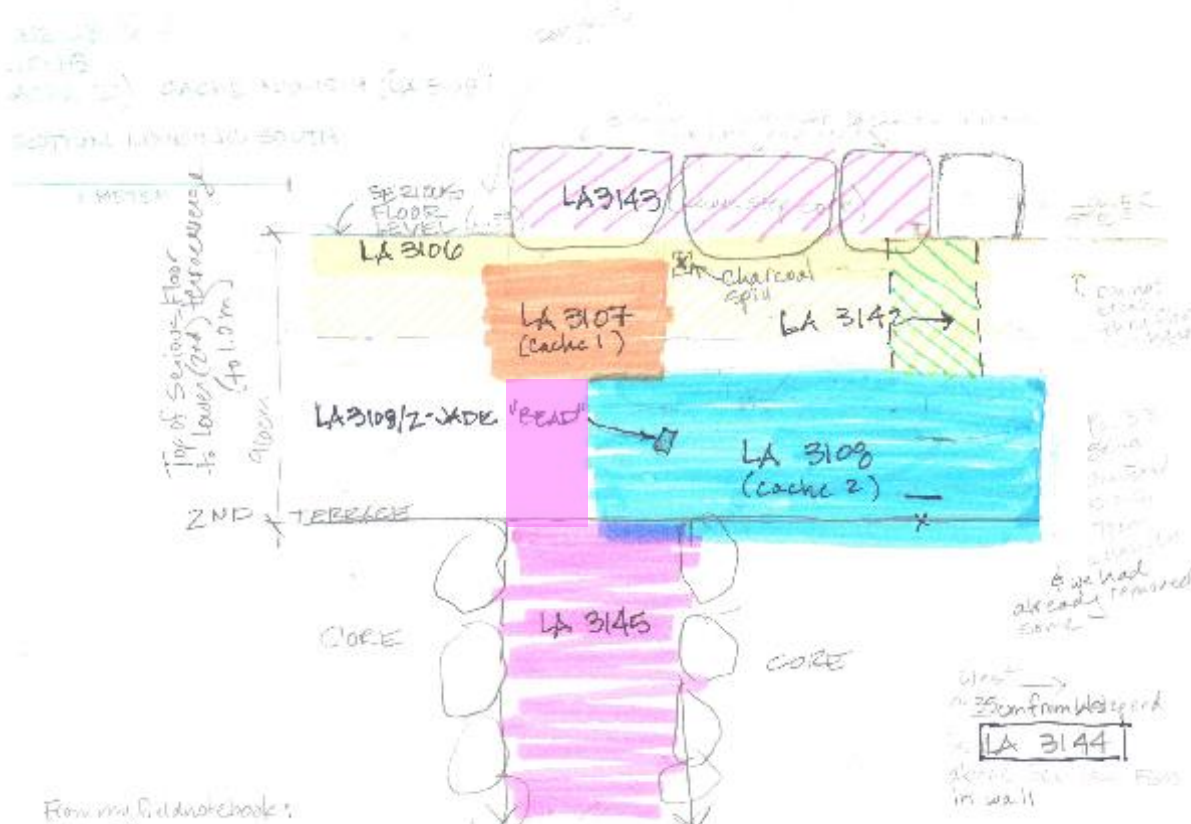


Photo 6664 (July 10) Looking west across N10-15 2nd. The north wall and north door of N10-15 1st is on the left.

LOT LOCATION SKETCHES, SHERD PHOTOS, CACHE VESSEL AND ARTIFACT DRAWINGS AND PHOTOS:



Section Looking East showing location of lots



From my field notebook:

From the upper terrace surface to the 2nd terrace surface is 1.44 down (15.31)
 (it's about 1.50 or thereabouts)

3.61 ~ 30cm from top of upper terrace to the 2nd terrace surface

1.98 ~ 1.5m from top of upper terrace to the 2nd terrace surface - 1.44m to the 2nd terrace

Cache vessel photo 6309



5-gallon bucket

weight of 3 buckets = 115 pounds

Charcoal drying Photo 6307

interior: 20cm dia x 30cm height Volume = $\pi r^2 h$
 1 5-gallon bucket = ~19,121 cu cm or 0.019 cu m x 3 buckets = 0.052 cu m

Area of charcoal according to plan & section: 1.3 E-W x 1.0 N-S x .4 h = 0.52 cu m
 to 0.67

Elevation looking south showing location of lots

LA 3105 Sherd Count = 454

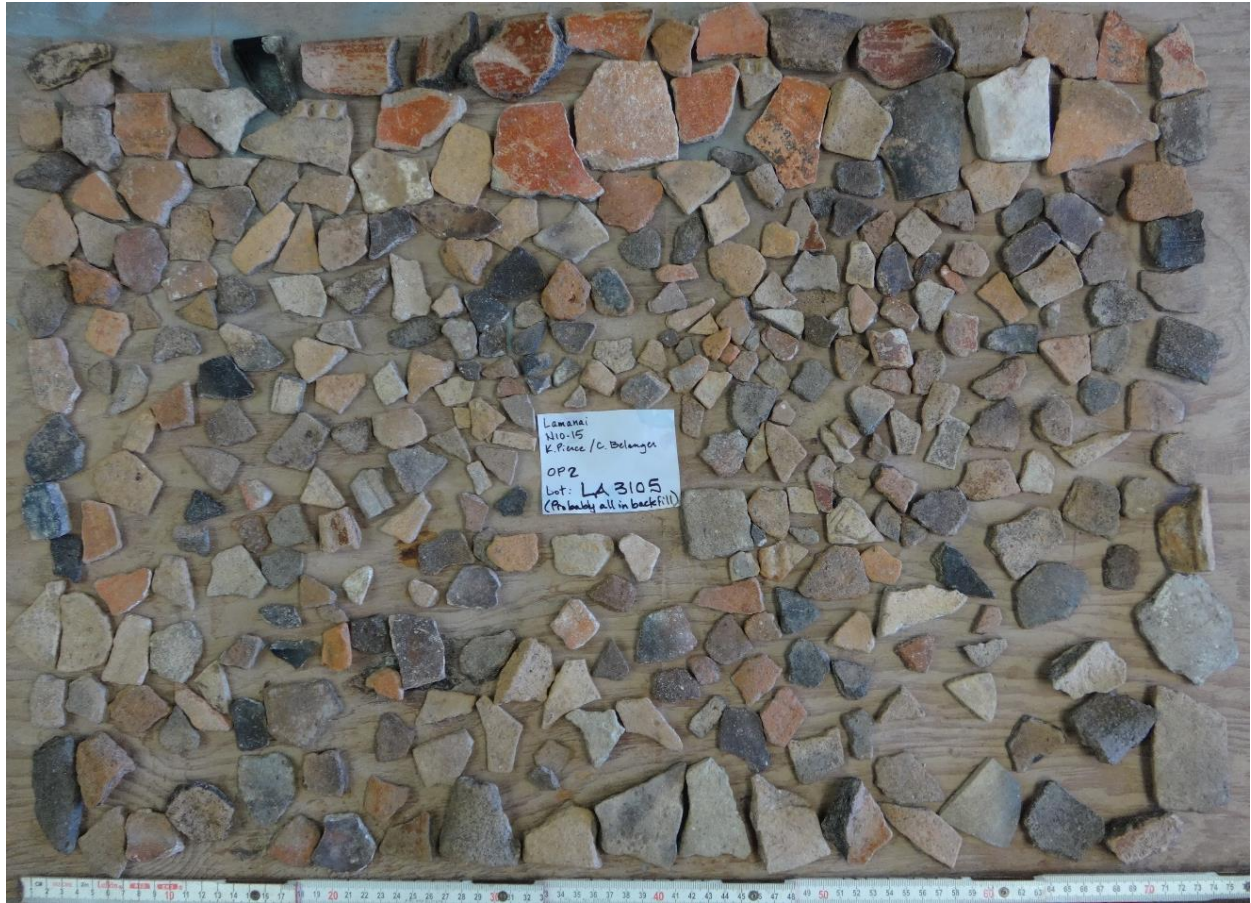


Photo 5422 LA3105—probably most of these sherds were in backfill



Photo 5435 LA3105—these sherds may not have been in backfill

LA3106 Sherd Count = 18



Photo 5432 LA 3106



Photo 5451 LA 3106 these were found in association with a small ~10cm diameter area of charcoal about 7cm under the surface of serious floor

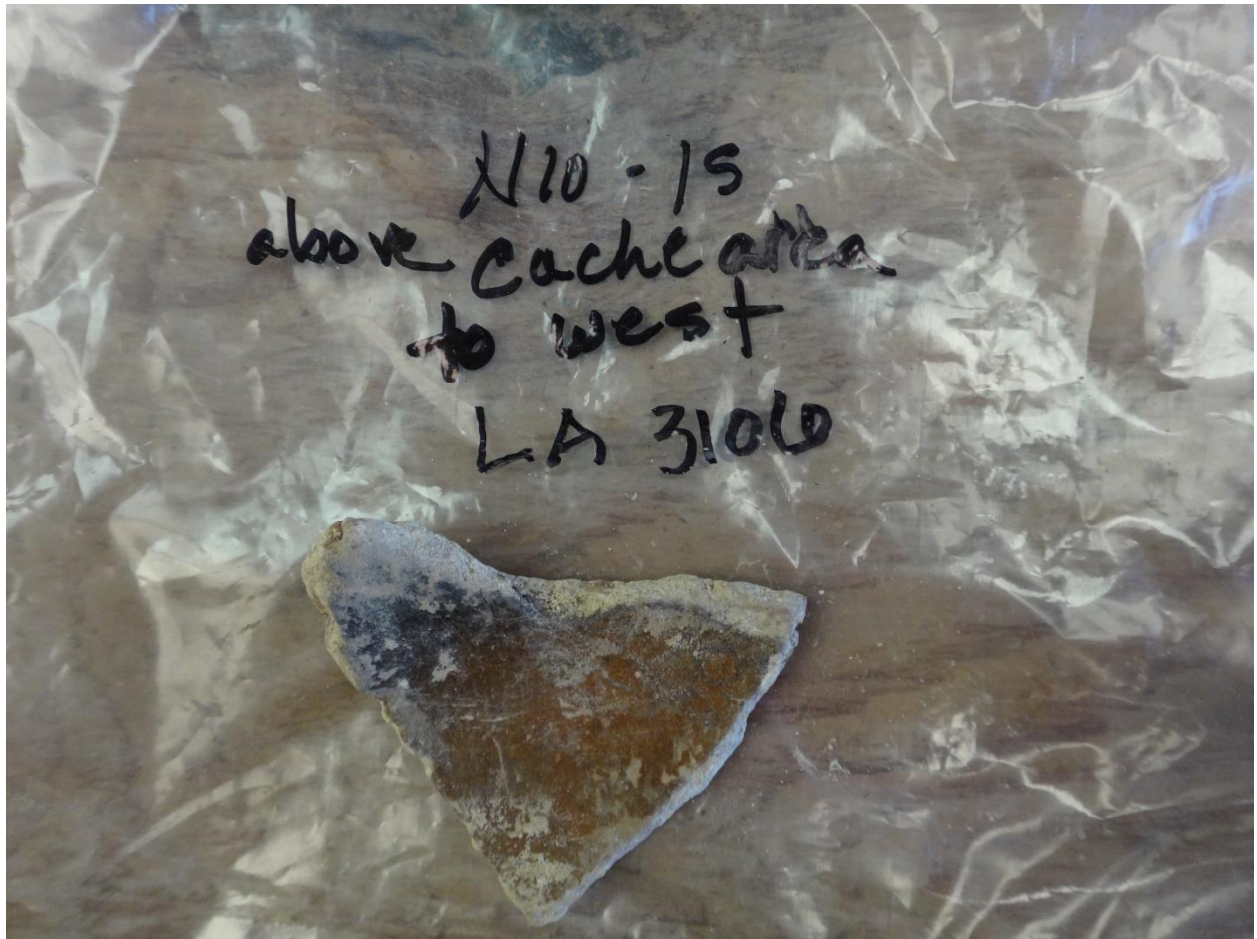


Photo 5453 LA 3106

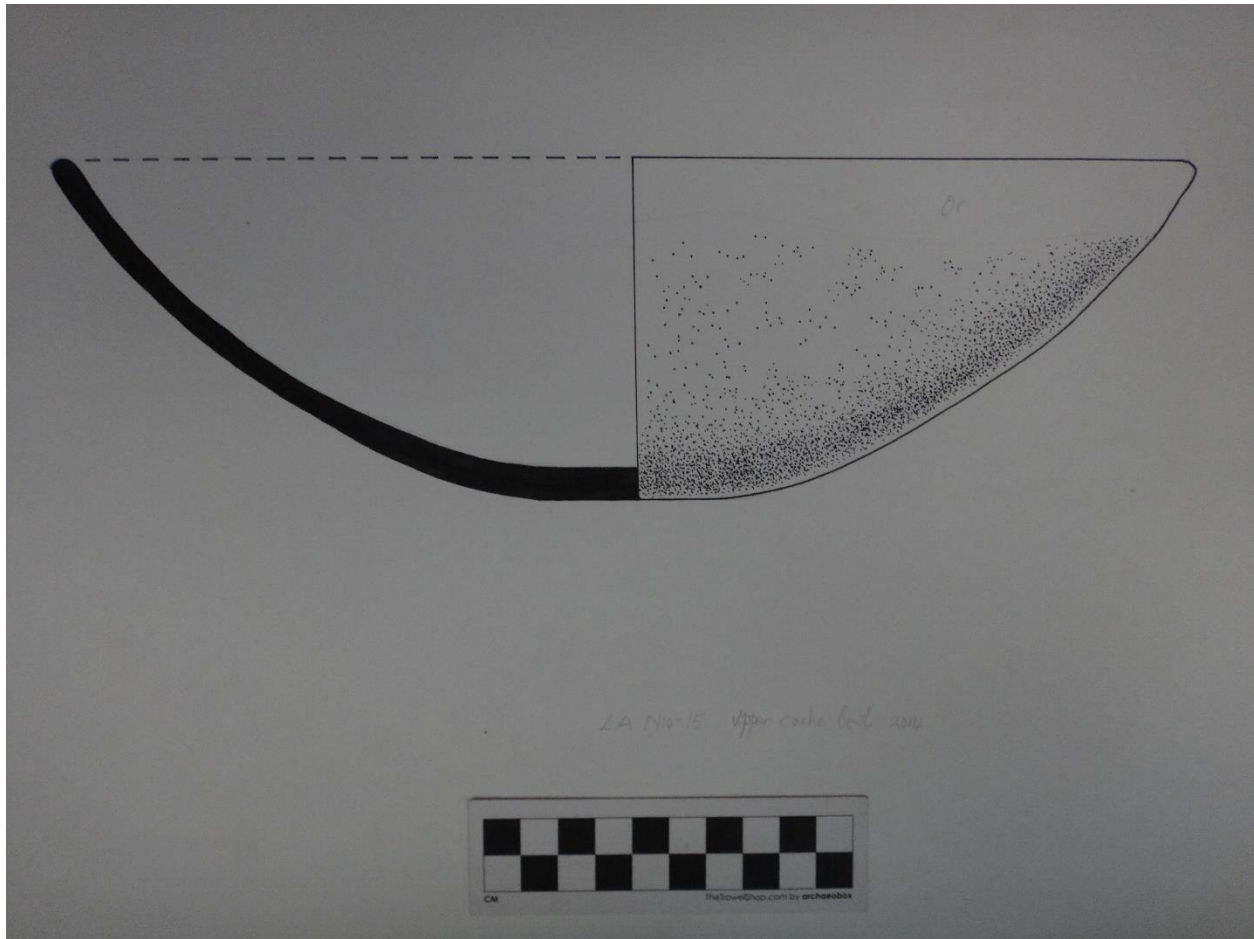


Photo 6818 Louise Belanger Illustration of Cache Vessel LA3107/1



Photo 6822 Louise Belanger Illustration of Cache Vessel LA3107/1



Photo 6856 Cache Vessel LA3107/1 Interior view



Photo 6777 Cache Vessel LA3107/1 Exterior view

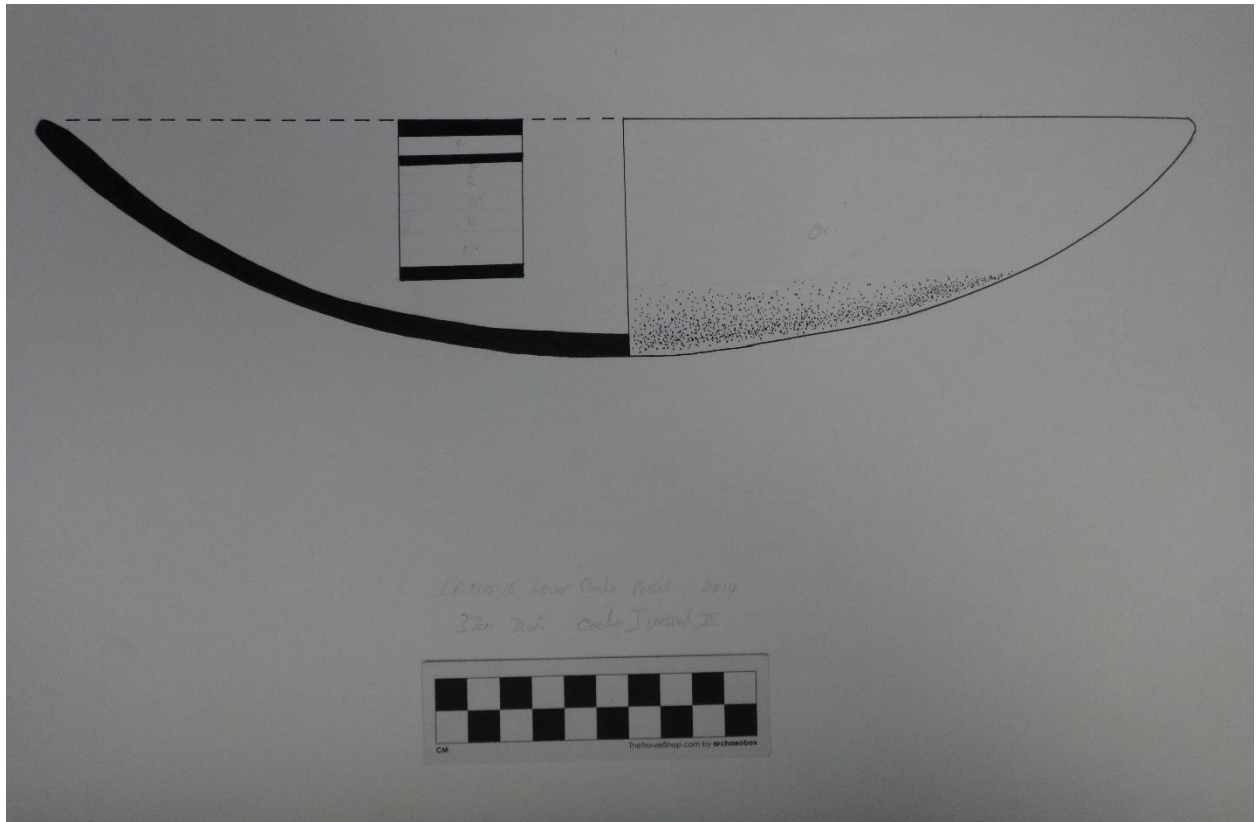


Photo 6820 Louise Belanger Illustration of Cache Vessel LA3107/2

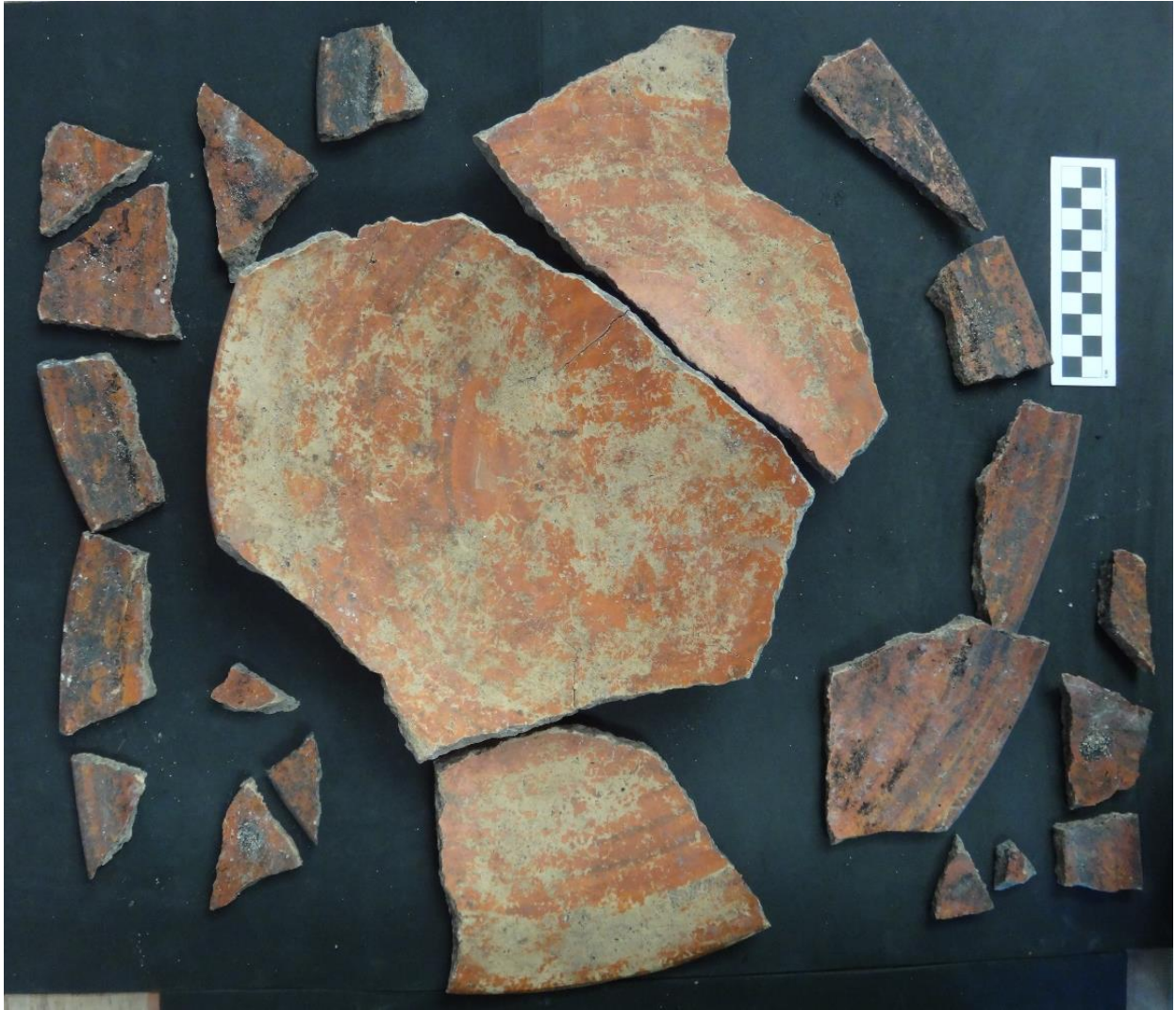


Photo 6886 Cache vessel LA3107/2 (attempted to keep vessel unwashed for residue analysis, but the 3 large pieces were inadvertently washed—the other fragments are still unwashed)



Photo 6864 The 9 (unwashed) unremarkable stones found within the charcoal inside the lip-to-lip cache vessels LA3107/1 and LA3107/2



Photo 5447 Enlarged photo of one of the (unwashed) stones found within the charcoal inside the lip-to-lip cache vessels LA3107/1 and LA3107/2



Photo 5450 Enlarged photo of one of the (unwashed) stones found within the charcoal inside the lip-to-lip cache vessels LA3107/1 and LA3107/2

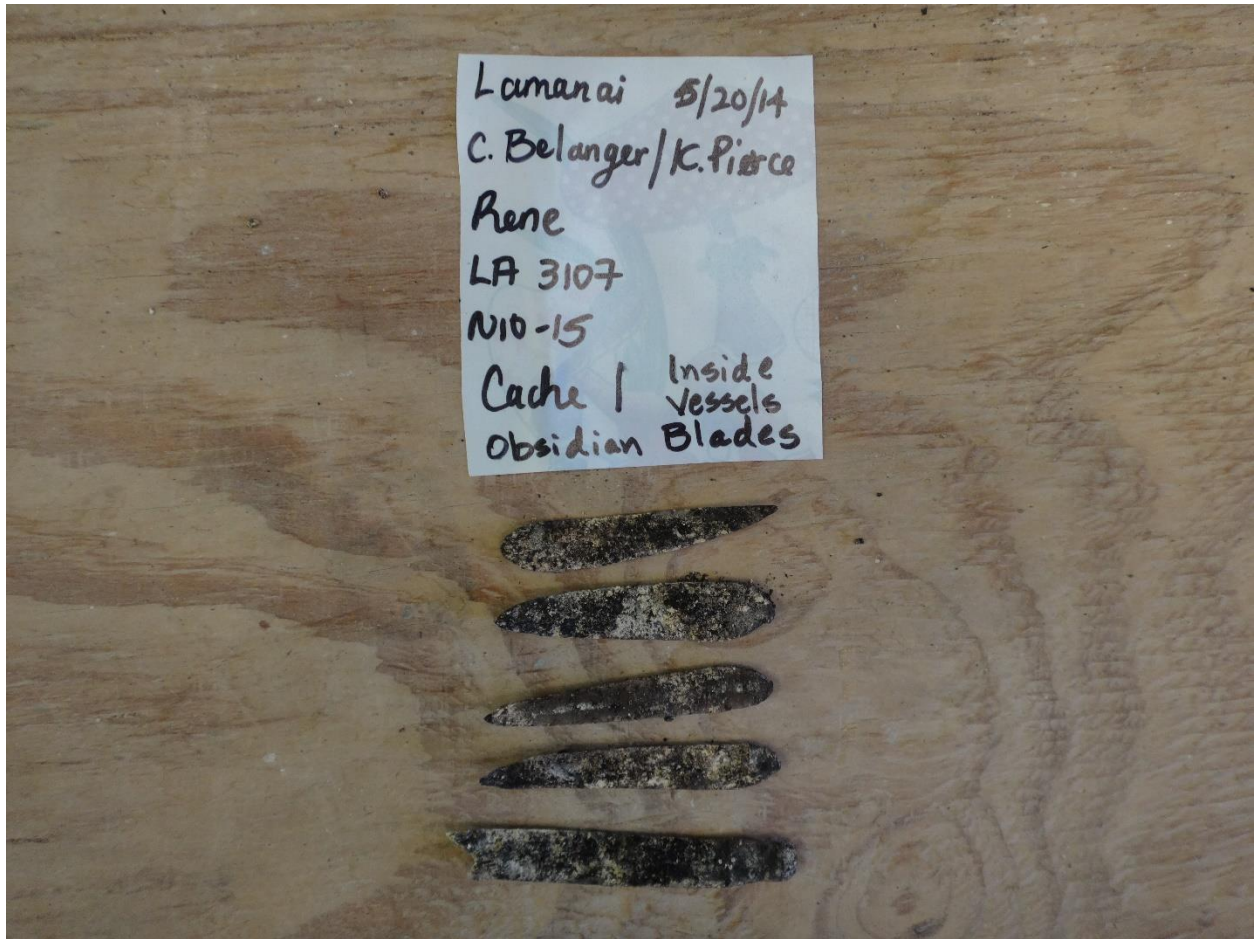


Photo 5441 The 5 (unwashed) obsidian lancets found within the charcoal inside the lip-to-lip cache vessels LA3107/1 and LA3107/2



Photo 5442 The 5 (unwashed) obsidian lancets found within the charcoal inside the lip-to-lip cache vessels LA3107/1 and LA3107/2

NOTE THAT THE CHARCOAL FROM CACHE 1 FILLED ONE 5-GALLON BUCKET, AND THERE ARE SEVERAL FOIL-PACKETS IN ADDITION. WEIGHT= 10 POUNDS.



Photo Cache 2 Vessel. A highly fragmented Achiotite black vase absent any rim sherds (LA3108/1) which was located in the charcoal and stones near the top of the cache. Vessel remains unwashed for residue analysis, therefore there has been no attempt at reconstruction thus far.

In the future we may reconstruct and photograph photo this vessel — it wasn't photographed because we kept it unwashed and protected for residue analysis.

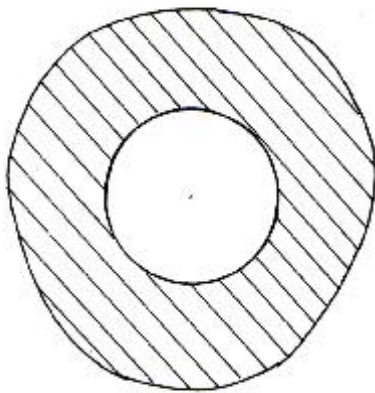
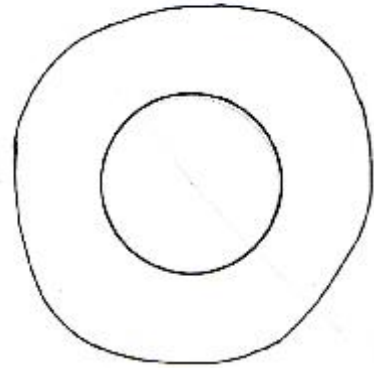
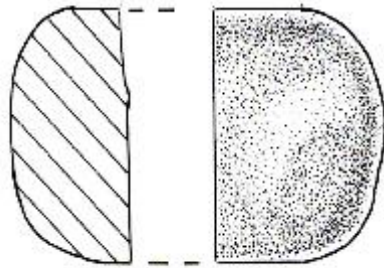
SMALL FINDS RECORD

LOT/CATALOGUE NUMBER:

LA 3108/2

SITE: LAMANAI		YEAR EXCAVATED: 2014	
PROVENIENCE:			
Structure: N10-15		Burial No: _____	
Cache No: (Two) Cache N10-15/29		Other (specify): _____	
Grid Reference: N10			
CHARACTERISTICS:			
Material: JADE		Category (e.g., use/function): Adornment?	
Description (1st level): BEAD		Type (specialization): UNKNOWN	
Description continued:			
2nd level: PERFORATED, POLISHED	3rd level: _____	4th level: _____	
REMARKS: We don't know how it was worn or displayed. Biconically drilled.			
DIMENSIONS:			
Length: _____		Thickness: _____	
Width: _____		Diameter: 6.6 cm, Hole dia. 3.19	
Other Dimensions? (SPECIFY): HEIGHT 4 cm Weight 288 grams			
REMARKS:			
Illustrate? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photo? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Float? <input type="checkbox"/> Screen? <input type="checkbox"/>			
ILLUSTRATION: See attached photos & drawing.			

Entered by: L. Delaney & Lij. Hoban



Jade Bead N^o 10⁵¹⁵ Cache II
Claude's March 2014 Jade Bead

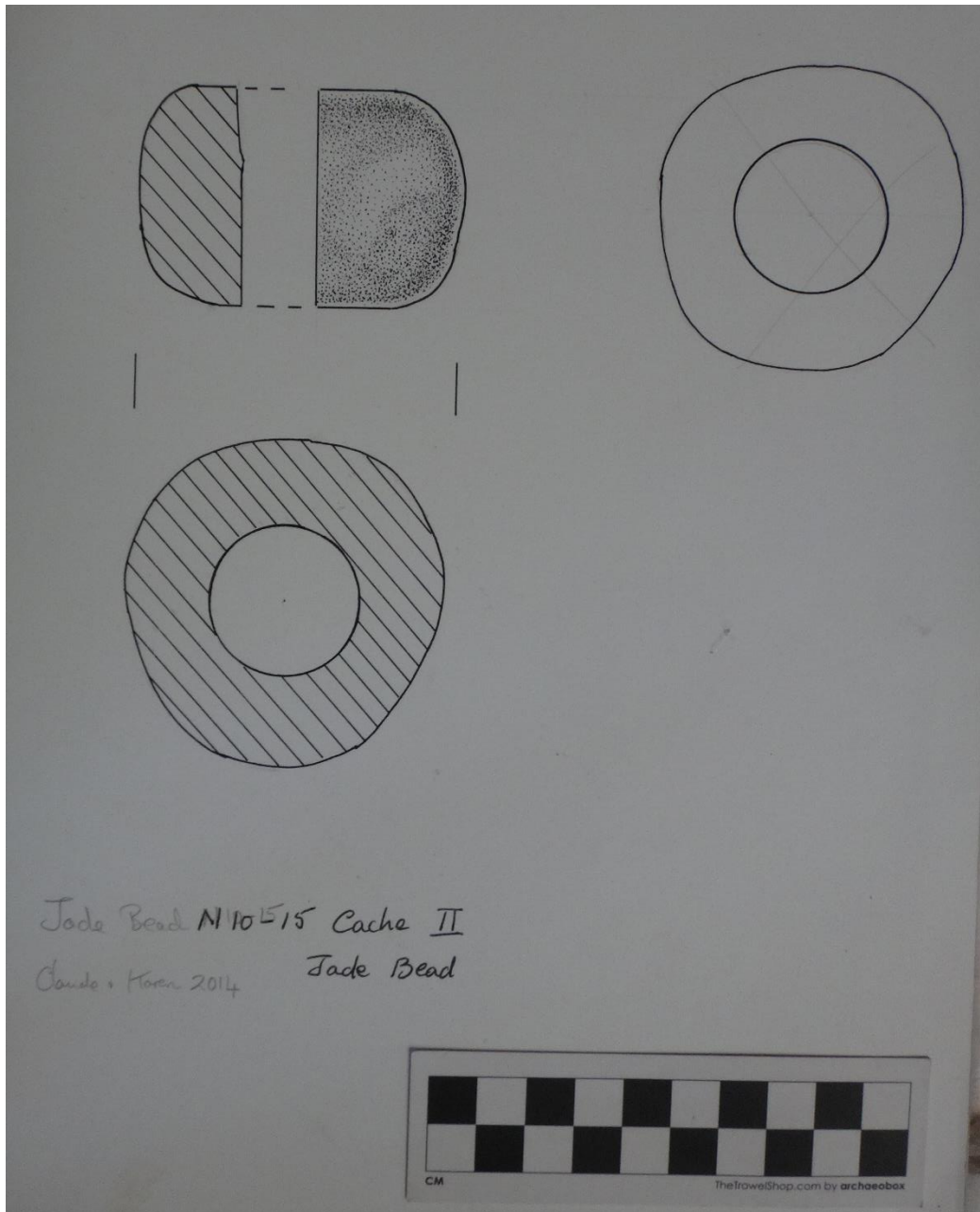


Photo 6817 Louise Belanger Illustration of Cache Jade Bead/Ornament LA3108/2 with scale



Photo 5819



Photo 5939



Photo 5940



Photo 5943

FORM FOR REGISTRATION C

Catalogue No.: <small>(If Use Only)</small>	Site: LAMANAI
Field No.: LA 3108/2	Type of Specimen: JADE BEADS
Description: STR. N10-15 LARGE DARK GREEN JADE BEADS SLIGHTLY AMORPHOUS SHAPE 288g. WIDTH 6.65 cm LENGTH 6.50 cm THICKNESS 4.40 HOLE DIA 3.19 cm BICENTRICALLY DRILLED, VELY SMOOTH INTERIOR WITH SLIGHT RIDGE WHERE TWO SIDES MET	
Acquisition/Project: LAMANAI ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT	
Literature on Specimen:	
Literature on Similar Specimens:	

RATION OF ANTIQUITIES

	District OW	Country BELIZE	Institute of Archaeology BELIZE
	Period & Phase LATE - TERMINAL CLASSIC		
	Associations: Cache N10-15/19 (LA 3108) LA 3108/2 jade bead LA 3108/1 Achote Black vase (highly fragmented with rim missing) Charcoal - 8 5-gallon buckets North side of N10-15/1st; cache was sealed by steps (two treads) added to N side of N10-15/1st.		
RIDGE	Photograph Print ✓	Drawing Sketch ✓	
	Negative	Seal	
	Permit No. 1A/H/2/1/14(16)	Accession No. 10316	
	Principal Investigator: ELIZABETH GRAYSON		
	Catalogued: ✓	IA Use Only: Entered:	
	IA Use Only: Comments:	IA Use Only: Present Location Building Room Shelf Level	



Photo 6307 Charcoal from Cache 2—the largest artifact of all.

NEED TO COMPLETE VESSEL FORMS AND CACHE FORMS,
AND MAYBE SMALL FIND FORMS FOR THE LANCETS—CHECK WITH LIZ

LA3142 Sherd count = 10



Photo 6578

LA 3143 Sherd count = 23



Photo 6579

LA 3144 Sherd count = 9



Photo 6575

LA 3145 Sherd count = 92



Photo 6584 Lot LA 3145, which has an associated lot of LA3106. (I think all these sherds are from just below Serious floor down to the top of the 2nd terrace level. There should be sherds from Sandro too, on June 27. On second thought, I think they were all combined into the same tray that we left in the unit until the lot was finished. Need to check my notes on this).



Photo 6902

Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

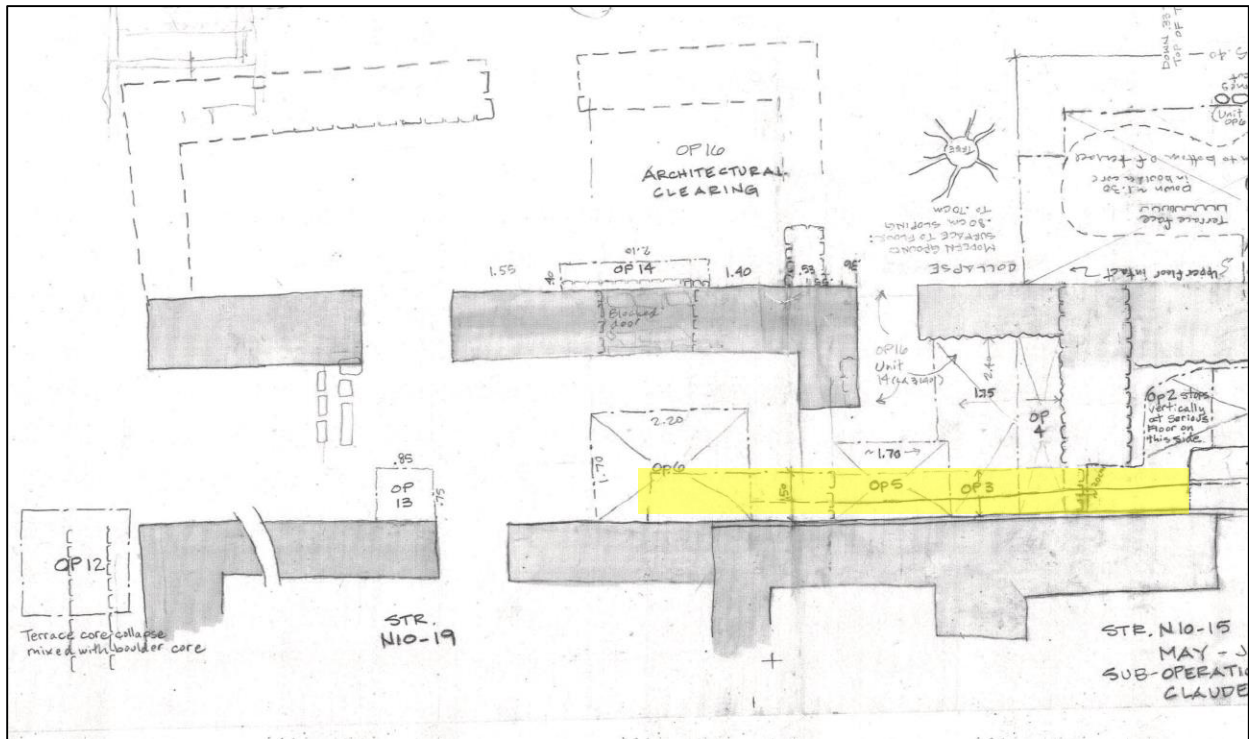
OP14-3: Sub-Op 3

(Upper Terrace Verge of N10-15 1st, W of Steps)

May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

Excavation Photos & Note; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts



N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 3 (OP3 on plan). Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location.



Photo 1993 (May 21) Looking southwest. Exposing the upper terrace at the north side of N10-15 1st.



Photo 3807 (May 16) Looking southwest. The upper terrace is coming into view in the foreground.



Photo 3919 (May 16) Looking west from the two-steps. Serious Floor is cut through at the bottom of the steps.



Photo 3818 (May 16) Looking east.



Photo 3808 (May 16) Looking south. The following is a series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding (tape measure rests on basal molding) and the upper terrace verge (edge).



Photo 3809 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3810 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3811 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3812 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3825 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3813 (May 16) Looking south. In the center is the perpendicular N-S "wall" described on the Lot and Op records. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3814 (May 16) Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge.



Photo 3815 Looking south. Series of photos (through 3815) going from east to west on the north side the N10-15 1st north wall showing basal molding and upper terrace edge. In this photo the wall intersection between N10-15 and N10-19 can be easily seen, as the walls are not aligned, but since walls were reconstructed during the 2001-2003 TDP project, we are uncertain if this misalignment was original or a factor of reconstruction.

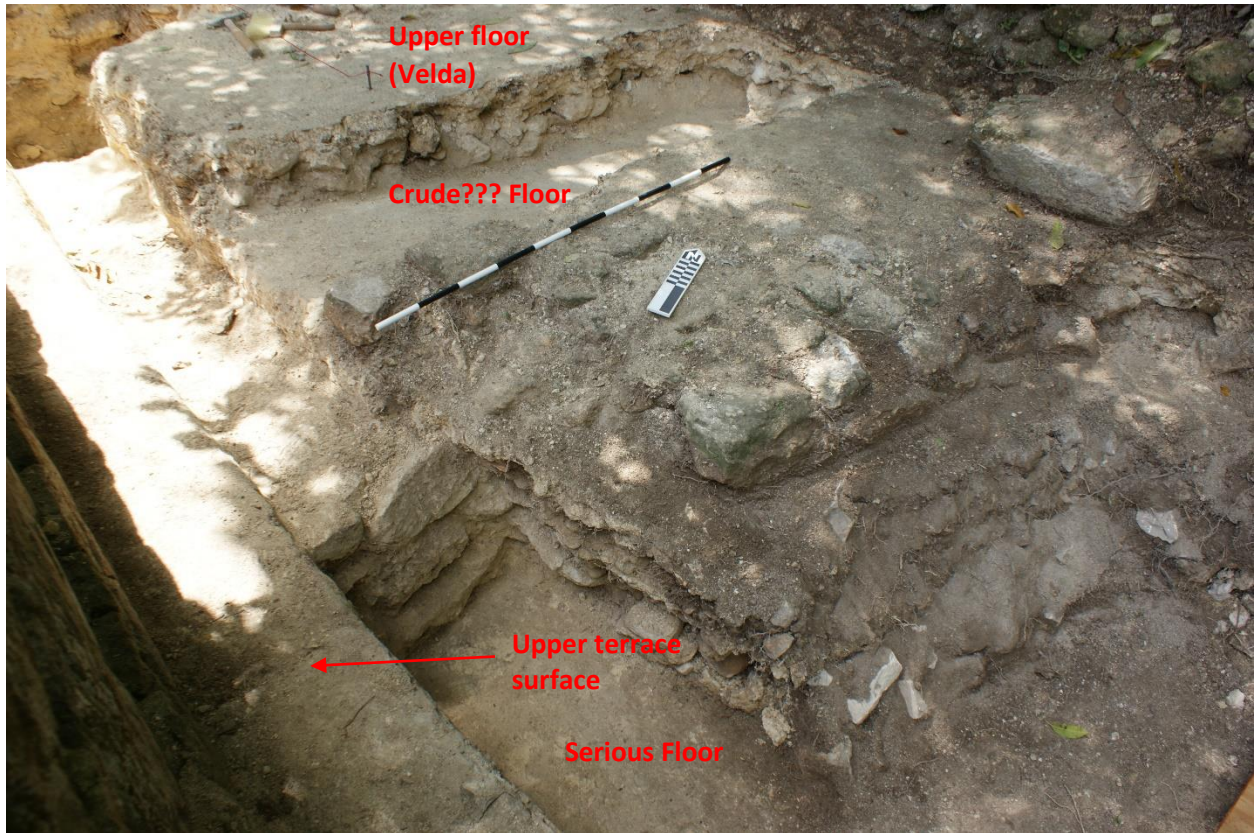


Photo 2008 (May 22) Looking northwest.



Photo 2004 (May 22) Looking west.

LA3109 Sherd Count = 26



Op3 Lot??? Photo 5613

LA3110 Sherd count = 4



LA 3137 Sherd Count = 39



Photo 5615 Lot LA 3137



Photo 5617 Lot LA3137



Photo 5645 Lot LA3137



Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

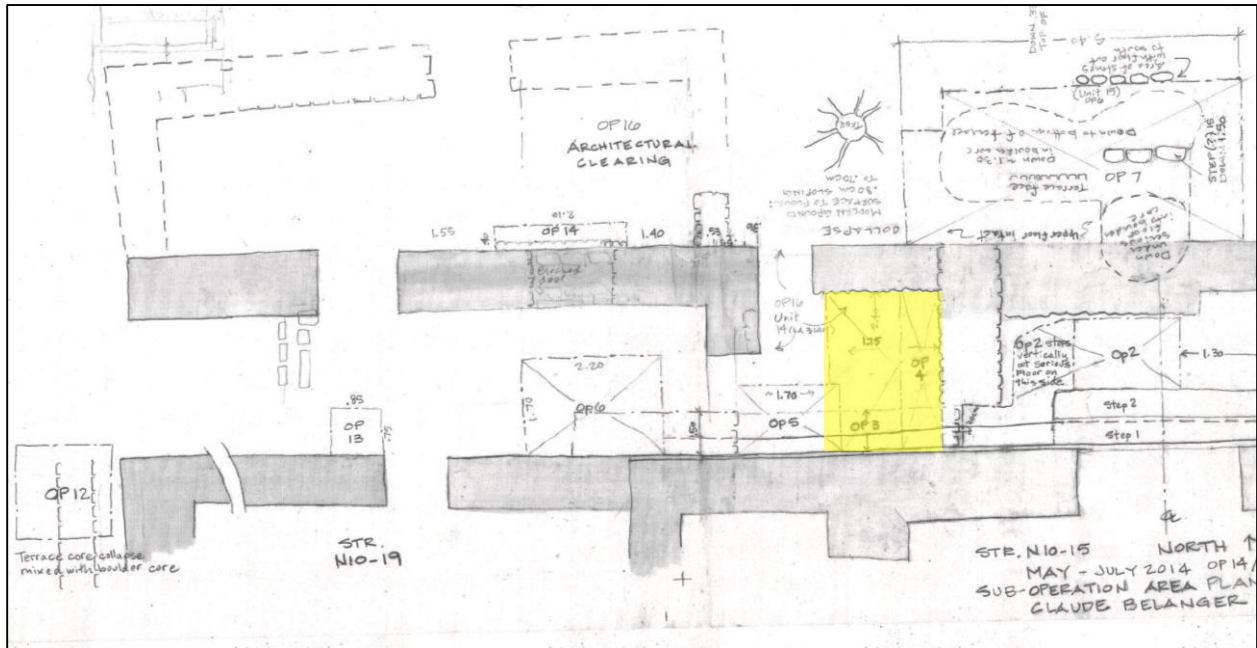
OP14-3: Sub-Op 4

(West edge of Serious Floor, Hop-Up, N-S Terrace)

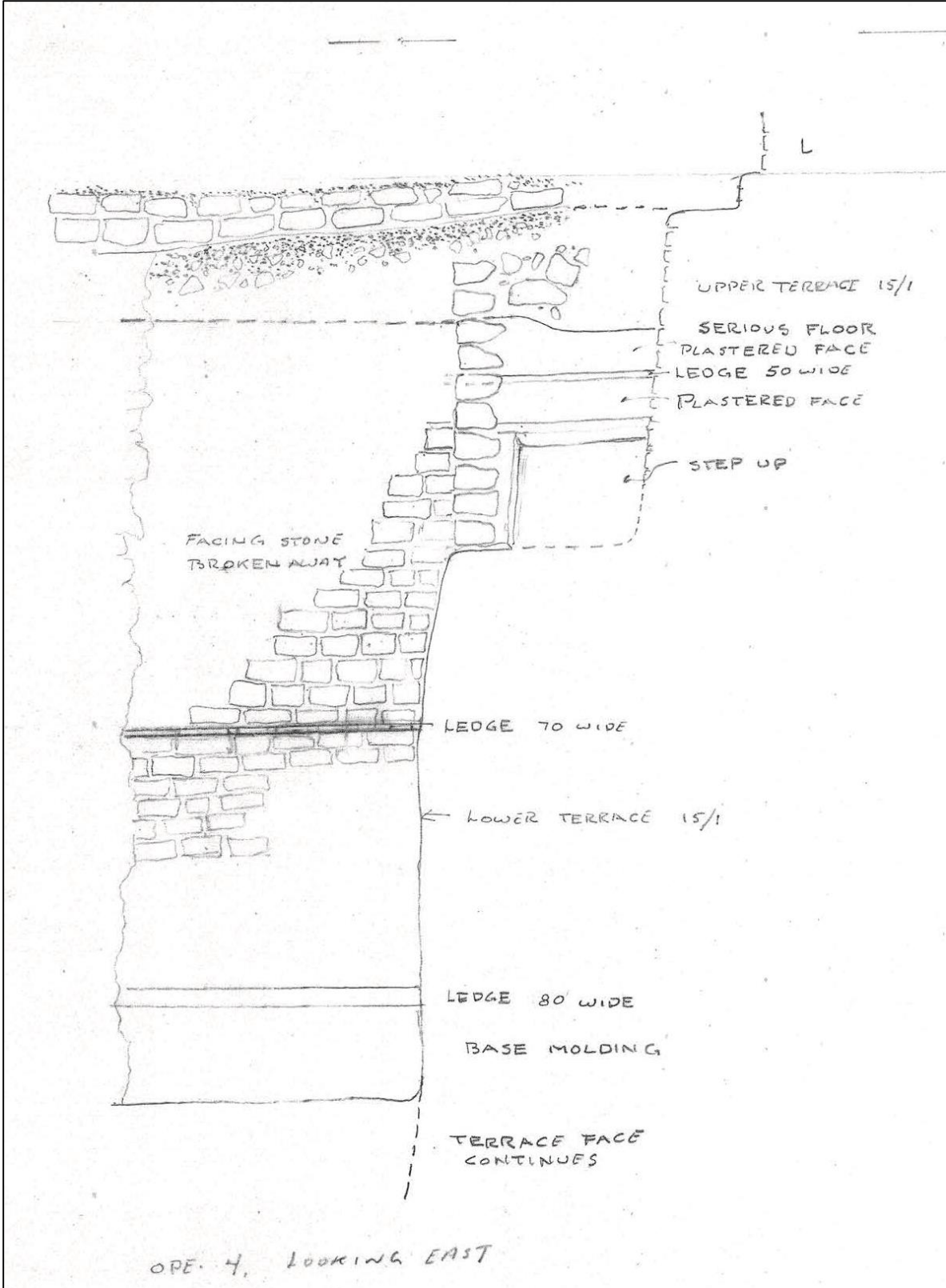
May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

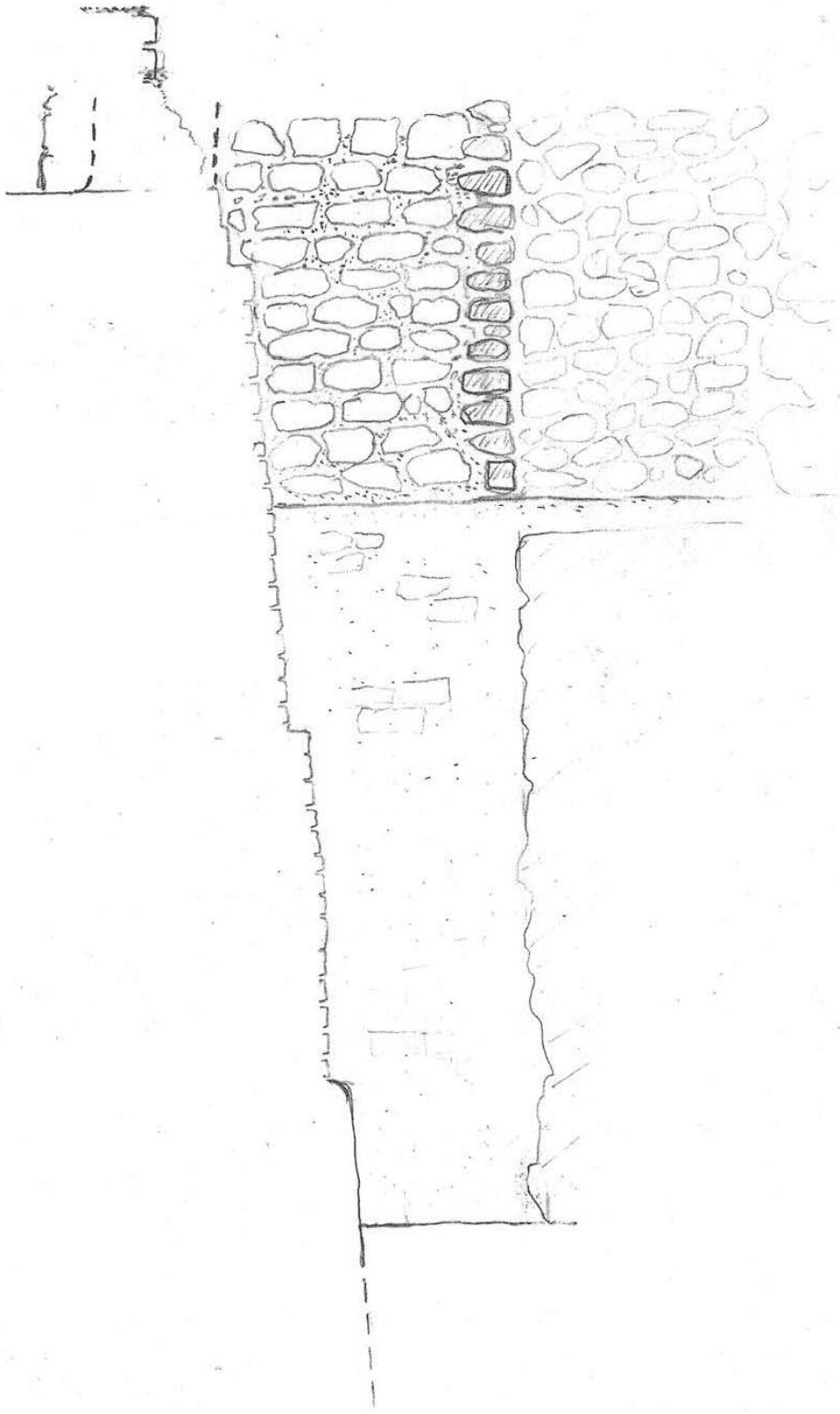
Excavation Photos & Note; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts



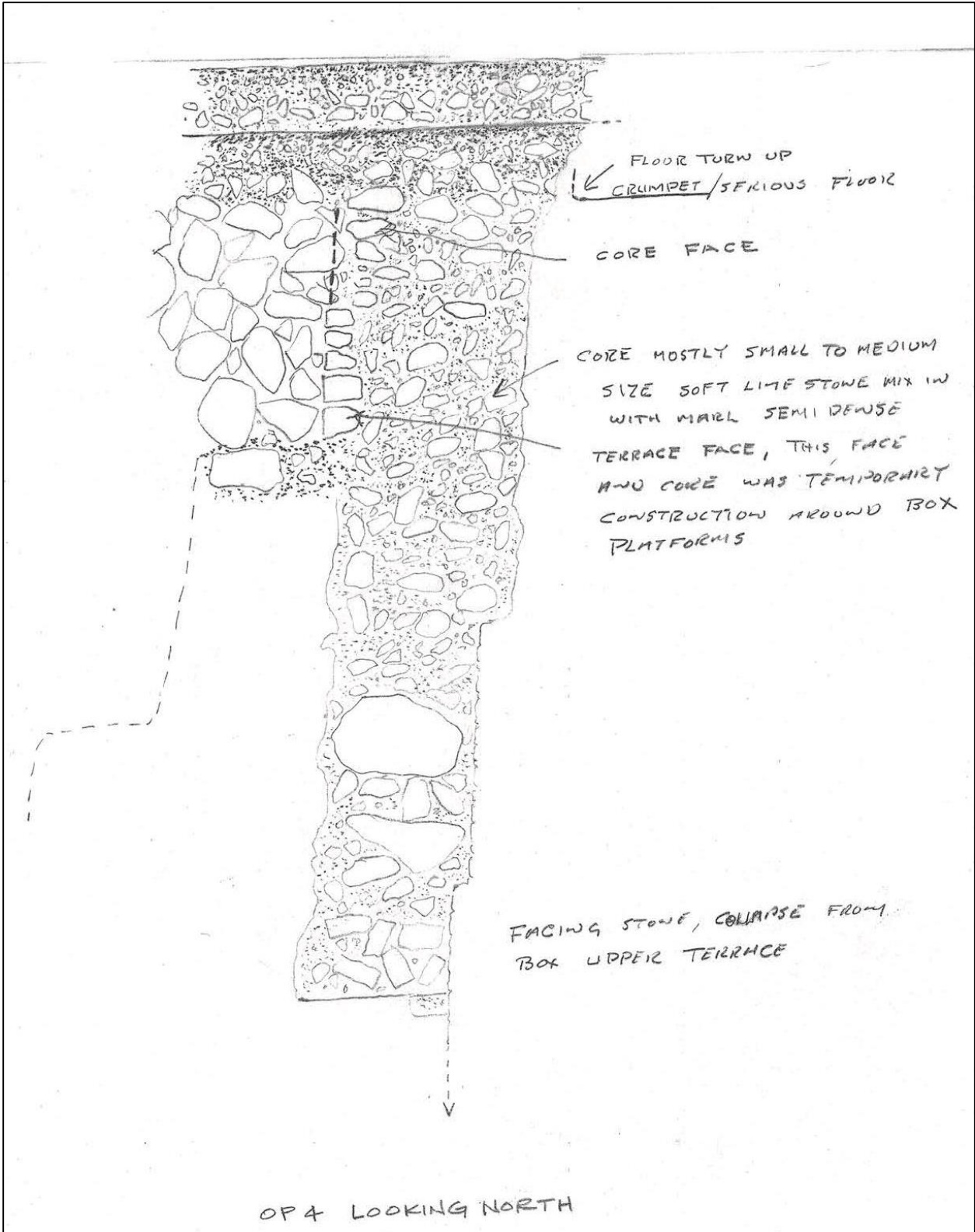
N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 4 (Op4 on plan). Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location.



ELC 12.38



OP 4 Looking SOUTH



54

OP 4

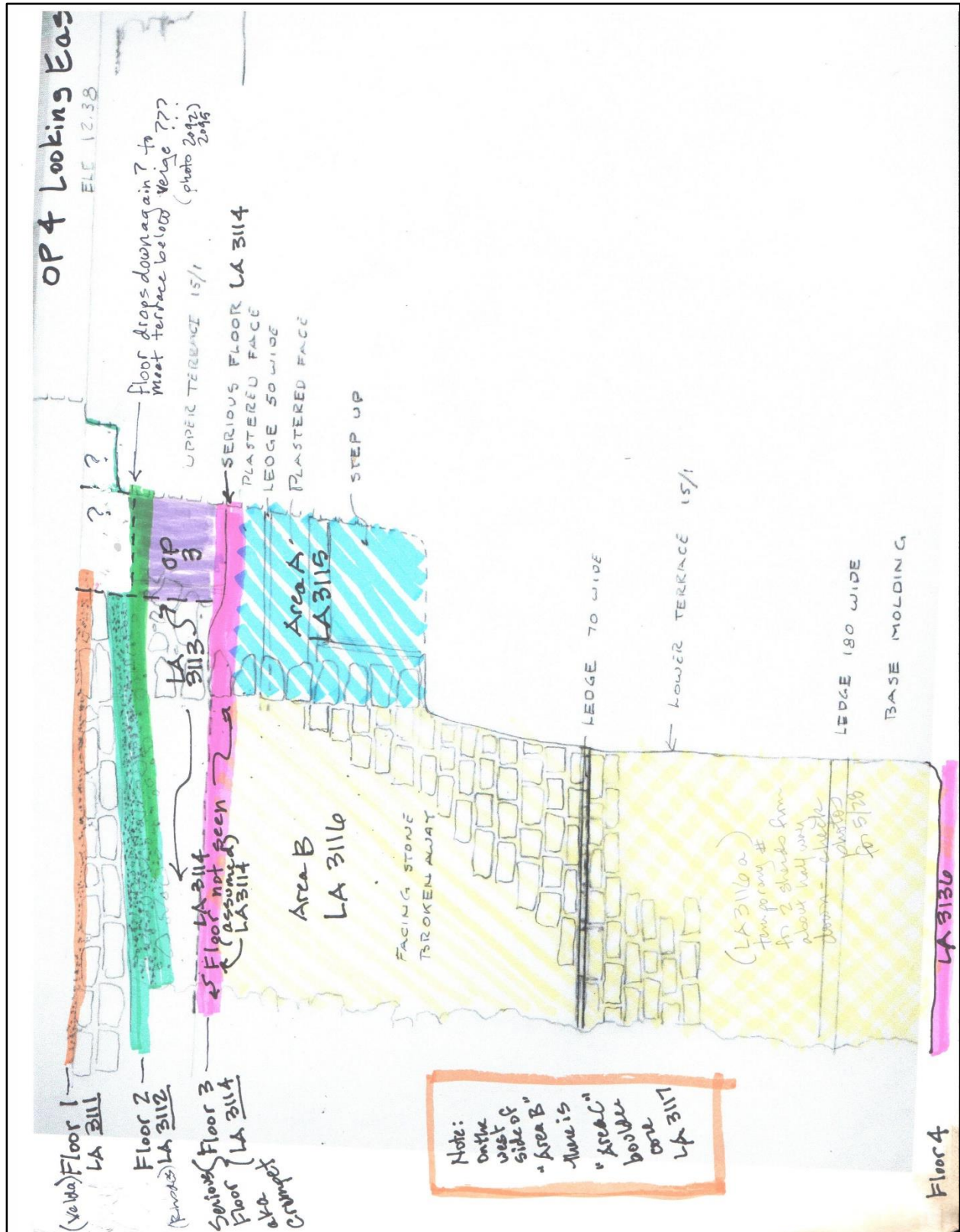
1m North ↓

Plan sketch of core changes
Op 4 - Divided in 4 Areas: A, B, C, D

North Wall of N10-15 first phase



Field Notes Page 54 showing plan sketch of the 4 different areas of this Sub-Op 4



Lot Number locations

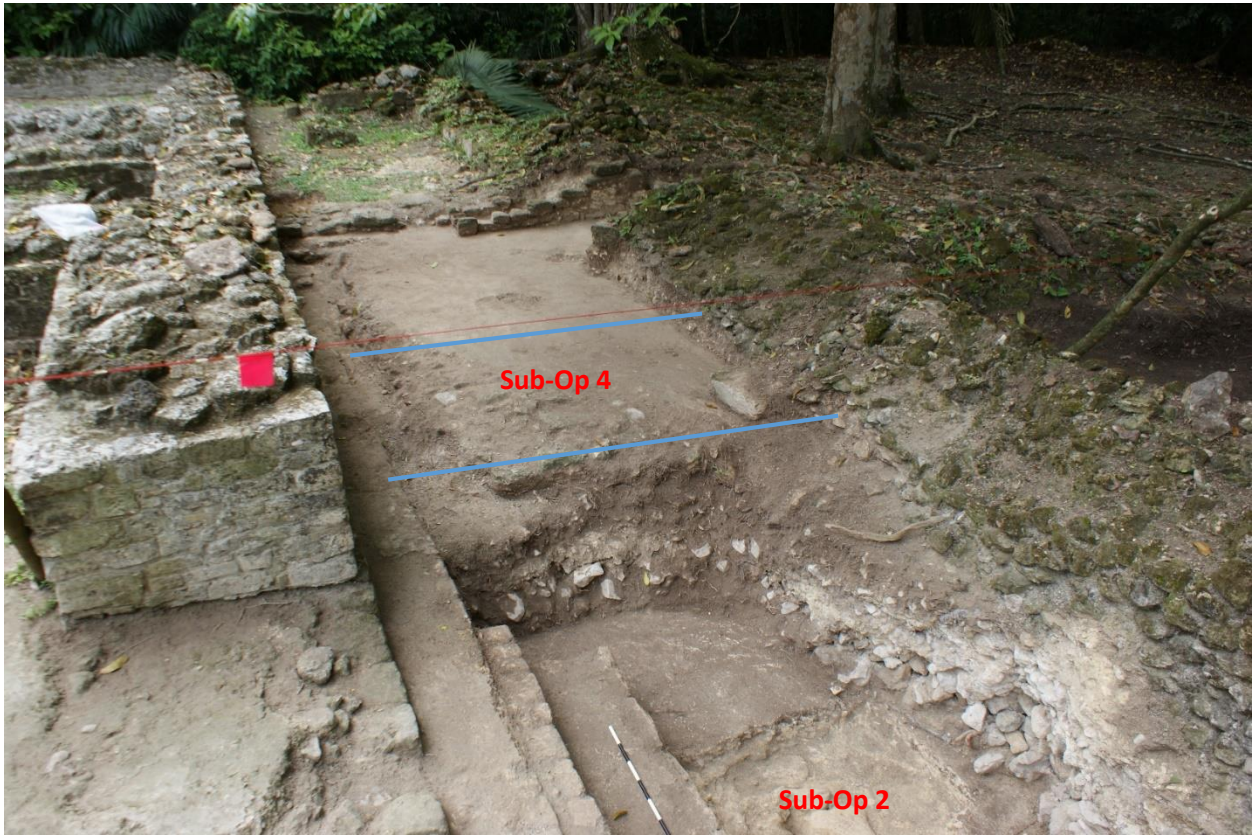


Photo 1811 (May 17) Looking west. Location of Sub-Op 4 is between the blue lines.



Photo 2129 (May 27) Looking south. For context.



Photo 2013 (May 22) Looking north.



Photo 4445 (May 23) North is at the top. Looking down from wall of N10-15 1st at upper Terrace and excavation units. Sub-Op 5 is hole on left. Sub-Op4 is hole in center (with Hop-Up feature) and Sub-Op 2 is hole on right. Crude/Rhodes Floor intersects the terrace face between these units.



Photo 4578 (May 26) Looking north.



Photo 4587 (May 26) Looking west.



Photo 4593 (May 26) South at top.



Photo 4597 (May 26) Looking northeast.



Photo 4606 (may 26) Looking southwest.



Photo 2046 (May 26) Looking east.



Photo 2092 (May 27) Looking southeast.



Photo 2095 (May 27) Looking east.

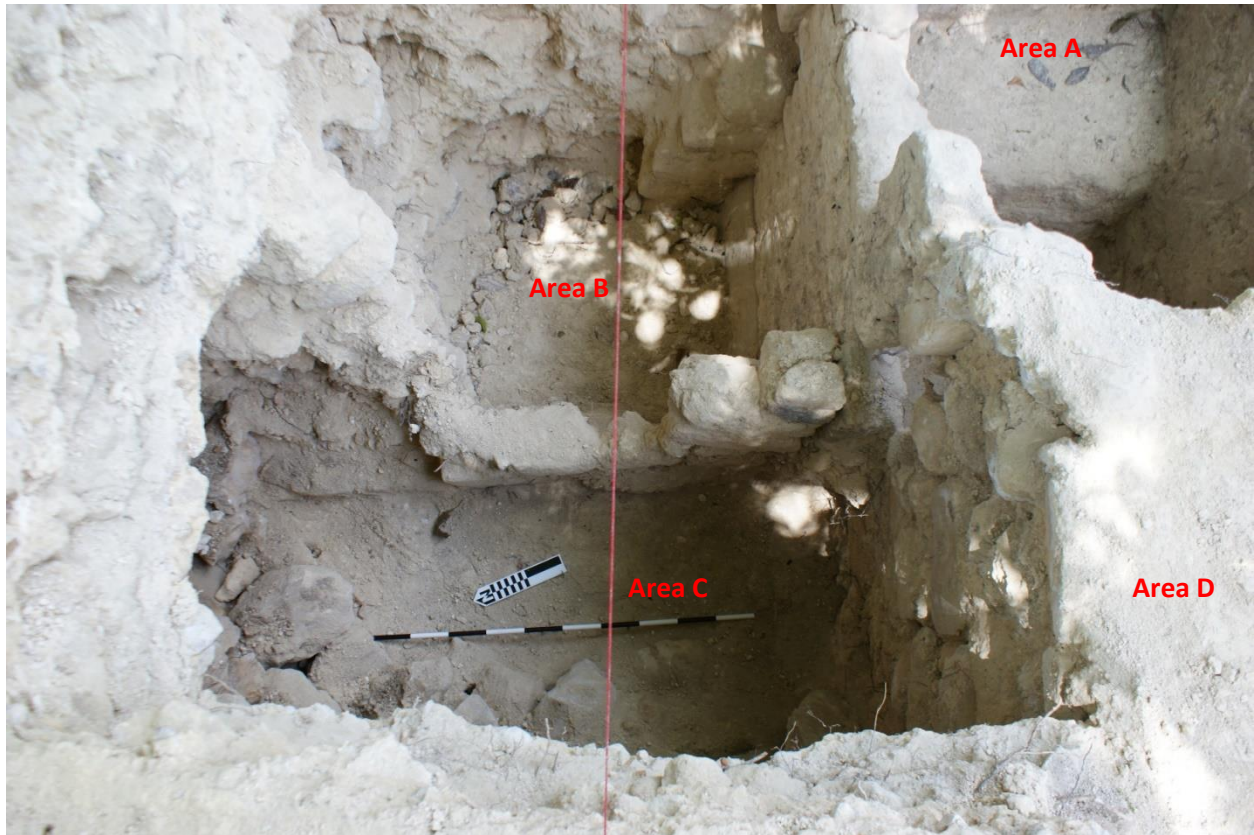


Photo 2096 (May 27) Top is east.



Photo 2098 (May 27) Looking east.



Photo 2100 (May 27) Looking east.



Photo 2103 (May 27) Top is east.



Photo 4716 (May 27) Looking south.



Photo 2104 (May 27) Looking northeast.

FLOORS:

- Upper pink line is uppermost floor at this area, Velda Floor, it covers the basal molding of N10-15 1st.
- Middle green line is our Crude Floor (Stan Loten's Rhodes Floor)—note that from N to S it slopes up appreciably, and to the N it runs under the wall above it.
- Lower blue line is the level of Serious Floor, which ends with a west facing plaster turn-up under the facing stones above it. Red lines in the photo are excavation measuring lines.



Photo 2105 (May 27) Looking northeast.



Photo 2107 (May 27) Looking north.



Photo 2108 (May 27) Facing north. In the upper right corner note that Crude/Rhodes floor runs under wall to the north.



Photo 5605 (June 20) Facing north. Close-up of above floor detail. Note how Crude/Rhodes Floor can be difficult to detect when not cleared of the core that sits upon it.



Photo 2112 (May 27) Looking down from upper terrace. North at top. Note that the depth of excavation in all Areas (A, B, C, D) is approx. level with the top of Terrace 2 of N10-15 1st.



Photo 5607 (June 20) Looking down and east. Detail of west edge of Serious Floor as it turns down to a ledge and then to the tread of the Hop-Up feature. An E-W face intersects it.



Photo 4622 (May 27) Looking southeast. Detail of Serious Floor/The Box Terrace Ledge/E-W face. See above photo.

Note the Serious Floor takes a dip down as it goes south—possibly from use-wear?



Photo 4621 (May 27)Looking southeast. Detail of The Box Terrace Ledge/E-W face. See above photo. This photo is taken just below the photo above.



Photo 4628 (May 27) Looking southeast. Detail of The Box Terrace Ledge/E-W face. See above photo.



Photo 5608 (June 20) Looking down and east. Detail of the Hop-Up feature—lot LA 3115.



Photo 2115 (May 27) Looking northwest.



Photo 4640 (May 27) Looking south. Joey and Rene. Hardhat require before boulder core was stabilized (more or less).



Photo 4641 (May 27) Looking south.



Photo 4645 (May 27) Looking down and west.



Photo 2119 (May 27) Looking west. The western part of Sub-Op 5, to the left of the raised area of floor and floor ballast, has been backfilled.



Photo 2123 (May 27) Looking west. The western part of Sub-Op 5, to the left of the raised area of floor and floor ballast, has been backfilled.



Photo 4661 (May 27) Looking east. Karen standing on the Hop-Up with notebook resting on Upper Terrace of N10-15 1st.



Photo 4663 (May 27) Looking south. Claude is sweeping the surface of Crude/Rhodes Floor. I think!?!?



Photo 5610 (June 20) Looking west in Area A. The east face of a possible construction core face sitting upon terrace 2. With Crude/Rhodes Floor on top of it.???????????

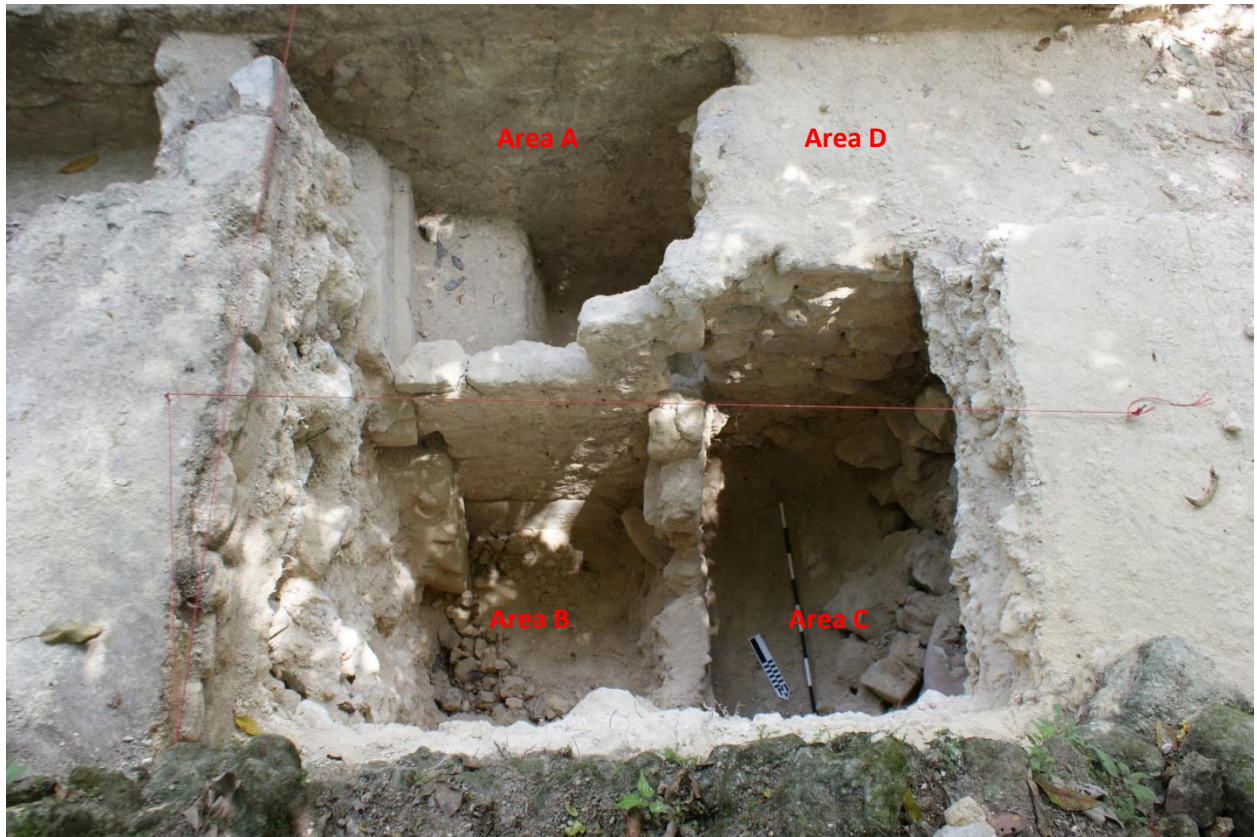


Photo 2133 (May 27) Looking South



Photo 2135 (May 27) Looking southeast.



Photo 2137 (May 27) Looking south.



Photo 2140 (May 27) Looking southeast.



Photo 2144 (May 27) Looking west.



Photo 2145 (May 27) Looking west.



Photo 4652 (May 28) Looking northeast.



Photo 4877 (May 28) Claude descends to have a look.



Photo 4881 (May 28) Spectators (Sandro, Karen, Joey) watching Claude's descent.



Photo 5319 (June 13) Looking east. Note the relationship of the 2 faces that sit upon Terrace 2.



Photo 5675 (June 20)



Photo 2208 (May 28) Top is west. Looking down in Area B. E-W oriented Terrace 2 of N10-15 1st is on the left. The N-S oriented shallow terraces that begin at the west edge of Serious Floor are at the bottom of the photo.



Photo 2213 (May 28) Top is north. Looking down in Area B. E-W oriented Terrace 2 of N10-15 1st is at the bottom of the photo. The N-S oriented shallow terraces that begin at the west edge of Serious Floor are photo on the right.



Photo 2209 (May 28) Top is west. Looking down in Area B. E-W oriented Terrace 2 of N10-15 1st is on the left. The N-S oriented shallow terraces that begin at the west edge of Serious Floor are at the bottom of the photo.



Photo 5658 (June 20) Looking down. Top is north.



Photo 5659 (June 20) Looking down. Top is north. Note verge of Terrace 2.



Photo 5665 (June 20) Looking west. Boulder core, construction core face, fill core, floor core.....



Photo 5683 (June 20) Looking west. Floor core over dry-laid boulder core (see previous phot for orientation).



Photo 6189 (June 28) Looking west. Serious Floor in foreground with some stones removed from the parapet-like feature to reveal the edge of serious floor.



Looking down. East at top.

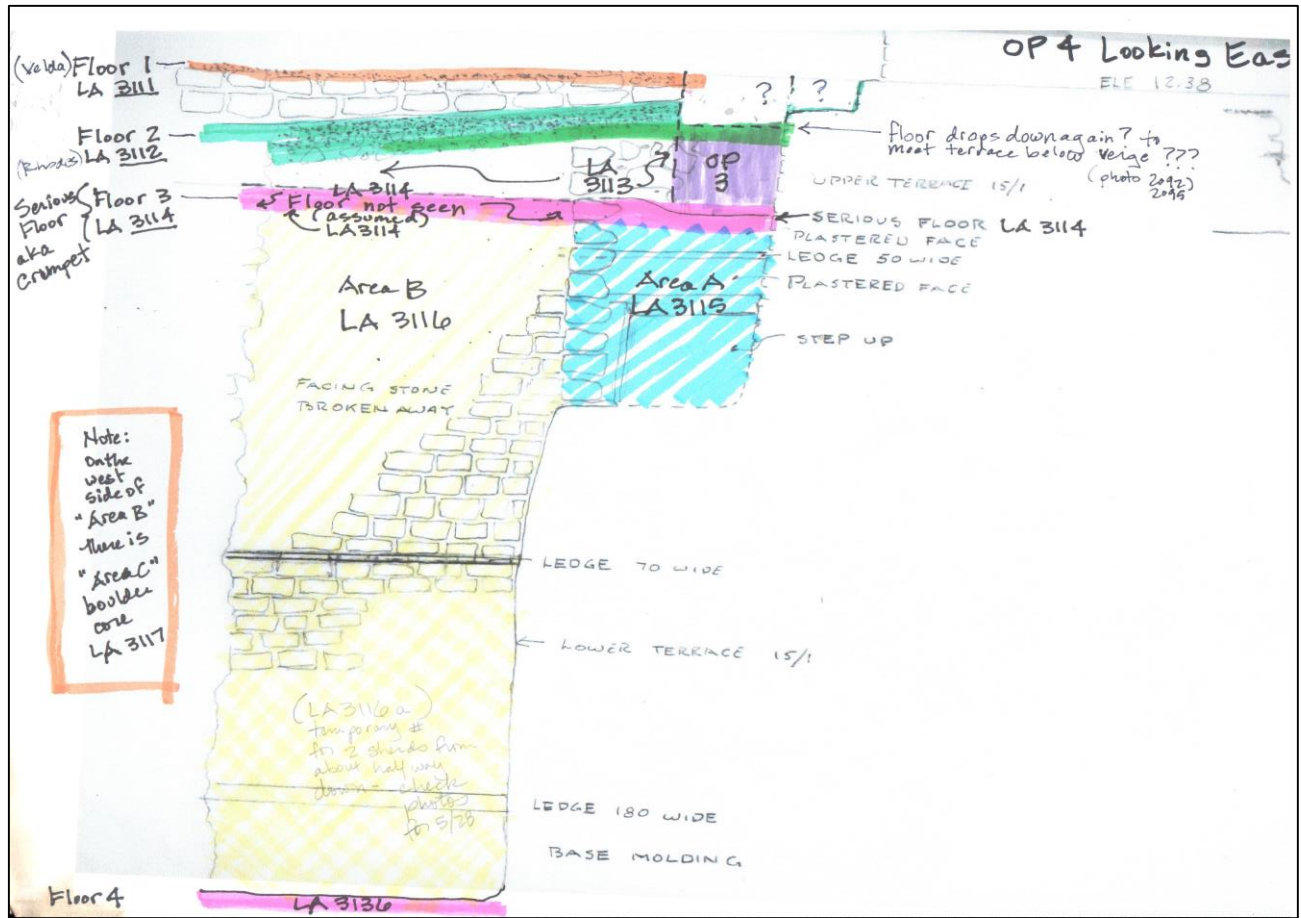


Looking down. North at top.



Photo 6134 (June 28) Looking east from Sub-Op 4. Plaster turn-up on Serious Floor, and chopped edge of floor. Note that this unit is already backfilled up to the level of the hop-up and "Serious Floor" (backfill indicated by blue highlight), in order to allow access to investigate the edge of Serious Floor.

LOT NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS



LA3111 No Sherds

LA3113 No Sherds

LA3114 No Sherds

LA3115 No sherds

LA3117 No sherds

LA3136 No sherds

LA 3112 Sherd Count = 7



Photo 5629 Lot LA3112

LA3116 Sherd Count = 29



Photo 5618 LA3116



Photo 5624 LA 3116



Photo 6616



Photo 4914 (May 28) Same as above.

Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

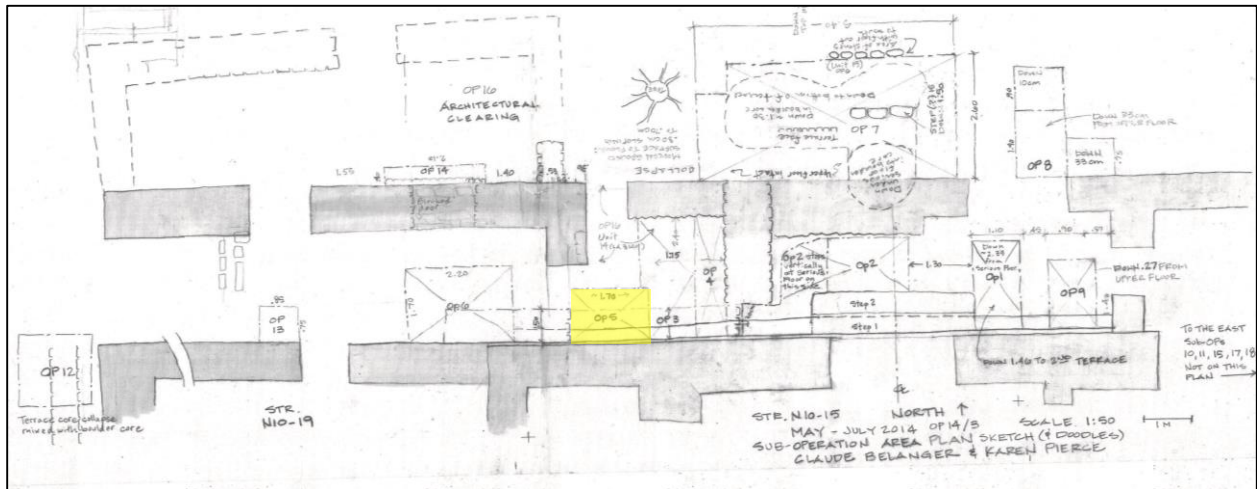
OP14-3: Sub-Op 5

Sub-Op 5 (Missing Terrace Face / Buttress Feature)

May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

Excavation Photos & Note; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts



N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 5 (Op5 on plan). Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location.

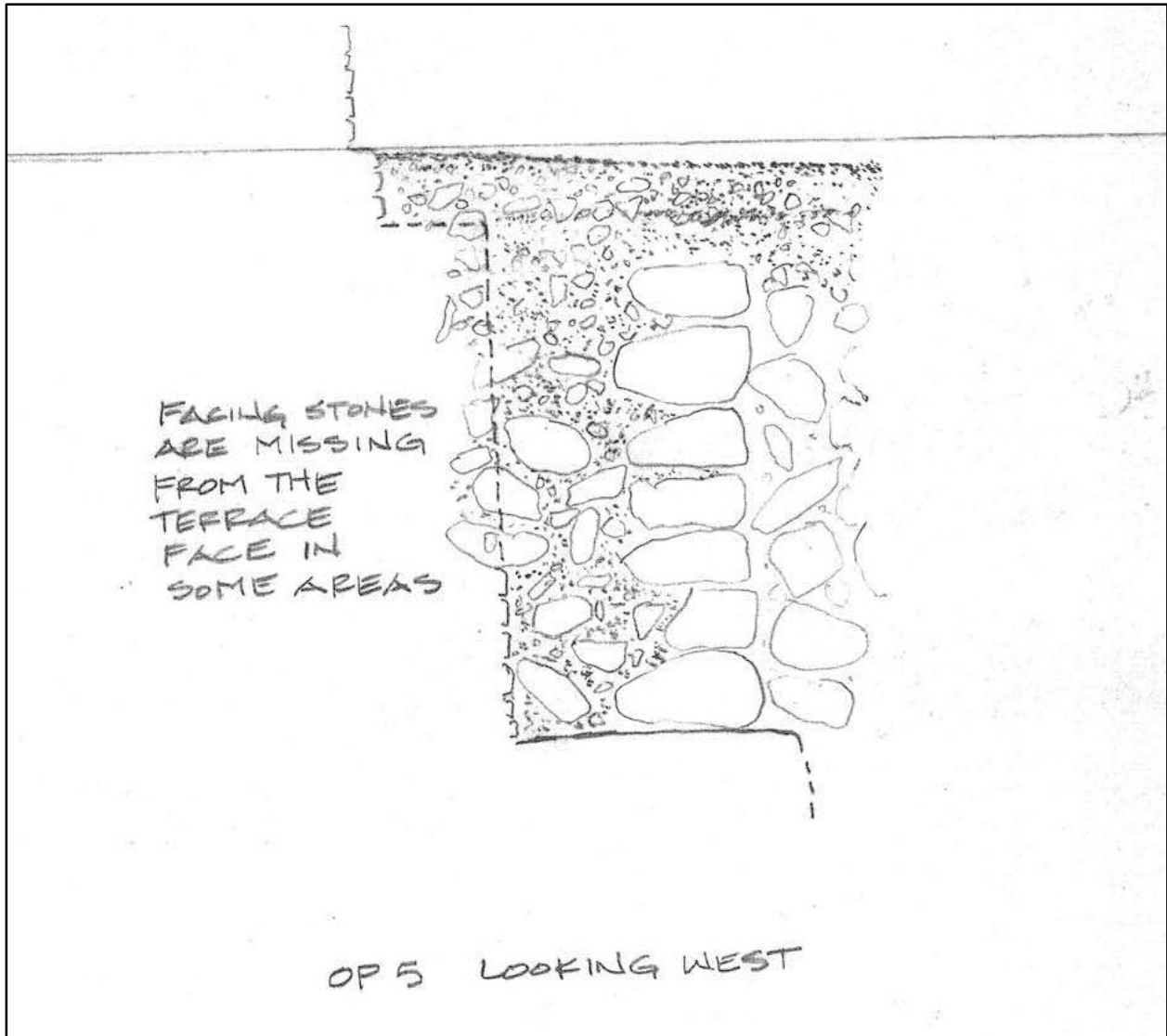
LAMANAI
N10-15 OP14-3 2014

SECTIONS & ELEVATIONS

SCALE 1:20



C. BELANGER
K. PIERCE



OP 5 LOOKING WEST

Section Looking West



Photo 4366 (May 22 9:13) Looking south at the north wall of N10-15 in an area where terrace facing stones are missing.



Photo 4385 (May 22)



Photo 4415 (May 22) Red painter plaster fragments from unit.



Photo 4422 (May 22)



Photo 5082 (June 2)



Photo 4386 (May 22 1:26)



Photo 2017 (May 22)



Photo 2034 (May 26) Looking south



Photo 2046 (May 26) Looking east.



Photo 2051 (May 26) Looking East.



Photo 2053 (May 26) Looking East. Note that the terrace face in Sub-Op 5 does not have much remaining plaster, whereas the terrace face to the east of this does have plaster, suggesting this may have been exposed for a period of time.



Photo 2055 (May 26) Looking northeast.



Photo 2074 (May 26) Looking west.



Photo 2037 (May 26) Looking south.

Lamanai Structure N10-15

PRELIMINARY FIELD REPORT AUGUST 2014

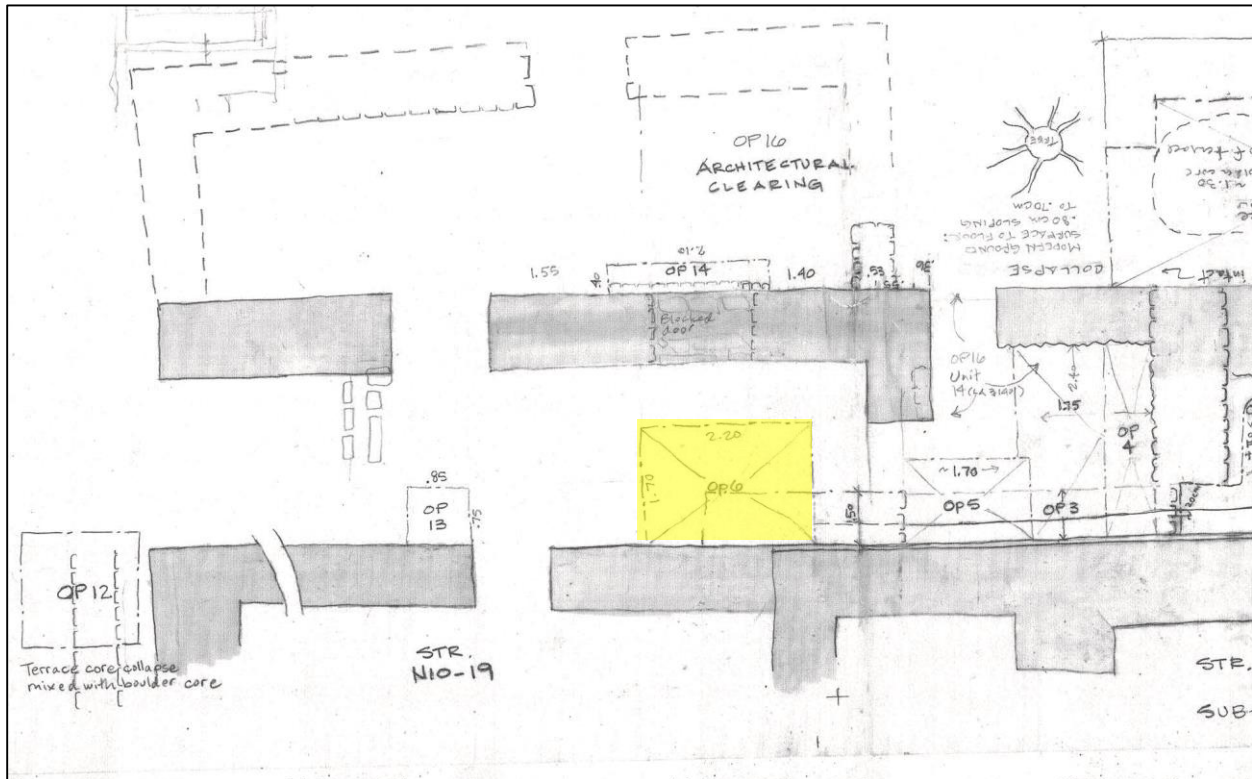
OP14-3: Sub-Op 6

(The buttress)

May-July 2014

Karen Pierce and Claude Belanger

Excavation Photos & Notes; Plans, Profiles & Sections; Artifact Photos & Counts



N10-15 Sub-Op Location Plan showing the location of Sub-Op 6 (Op6 on plan). Grey highlight indicates solid walls and yellow highlight is the Sub-op location.



Photo 3890 (May 16 2:53) Looking south at the intersection between N10-15 and N10-19, where there is a distinct change in the basal molding stones and the offset walls of the two structures rest on a single stone.

NOTE: This offset alignment may be a factor of reconstruction during the TDP project, but to confirm we need to look at photos of the wall prior to this is any can be located. The thick joints in the stonework could either be from original repairs to the structure, or from TDP reconstruction.

FROM STAN LOTEN'S 1980s NOTES ABOUT THIS CORNER:

7.47.2 Corner going down below "VELDA" and therefore stratigraphically equivalent to MAYS/DOLL. This could be west/n. corner of MAYS (MAYS is the primary DOLL building).



Photo 3894 (May 16 2:53) Looking south.



Photo 3964 (May 17 3:24) Looking west.

CLAUDE--what are these floors? See my lot descriptions (pasted below for your convenience) and tell me if you agree. We need to revisit Stan's notes for this west end.

LA3118 **Floor 1**. Uppermost floor (well above the level where basal molding is on N10-15 1st). This floor has smaller ballast and is approx. 9-10cm thick. I think Floor 1 is Stan's SLAG and FRAIL floors combined—top surface is 13cm above Velda.

LA 3119 **Floor 2** in this area of N10-15 1st (believed to be equal to Stan's "Velda and Spayed Floors"). Covers the basal molding of N10-15 1st.

This floor has fist-sized and larger ballast, and from the top of Floor 2 down to the top of Floor 3 is approx. 17cm thick

LA 3119 **Floor 3** in this area of N10-15 1st. Believed to be "Crude Floor" and equal to Stan's "Rhodes Floor" which is the upper terrace to the north side of N10-15 1st. This floor runs under the north wall.

This lower floor is made of very yellow plaster-marl and larger pillow stones starting about 5 cm under the plaster layer. Like Serious Floor, it is difficult to define where the floor ends as it goes down into the layers of pillow stones mixed with sascab/marl.



Photo 3966 (May 17 3:24) Looking west.



Photo 3968 (May 17 3:24) Looking west.



Photo 3970 (May 17 3:24) Looking west.



Photo 4001 (May 19 10:29) Looking west.



Photo 4010 (May 19 10:33) Looking west.



Photo 4017 (May 19 10:40) Looking south.



Photo 4023 (May 19 10:41) Looking east.



Photo 4035 (May 19 1:06) Looking west.



Photo 4066 (May 19 3:55) Looking down. Top is east.



Photo 4069 (May 20 8:37) Looking east. Sandro and Claude are discussing this change in the matrix. Claude concluded that the stone unit behind Sandro, which sits upon the second terrace, is a buttress that was used to repair structural damage. There were some chunks of red painted plaster found in here, so it could be possible that there was a decorative element that was destroyed before N10-15 was expanded to the north.



Photo 4231 (May 21 10:15) Looking south. Buttress unit.



Photo 4242 (May 21 10:18) Looking east.



Photo 4244 (May 21 10:18) Looking east. Detail of stonework in buttress feature.



Photo 4256 (May 21 10:24) Looking north.



Photo 4260 (May 21 10:24) Looking down. North at top.



Photo 4266 (May 21 10:29) Looking southwest.



Photo 4273 (May 21 10:31) Looking southeast.



Photo 4274 (May 21 10:31) Looking down. North at top.



Sub-Op 1 Photo 4276 for comparison (especially to 4266 above). Looking south. The basal molding, upper terrace, and lower terrace are apparent, whereas in Sub-Op 6 the basal molding and upper terrace are absent, and there is a mere suggestion of the lower terrace, but no plastered surface.



Photo 4305 (May 21 12:03) Looking south. Buttress unit is partially excavated.



Photo 4306 (May 21 12:04) Looking south. Buttress unit is partially excavated.



Photo 4308 (May 21 12:03) Looking south. Buttness unit is partially excavated.



Photo 2017 (May 22 10:10) Looking west. Blue bag sits on the north wall of N10-15 1st. Sub-Op 5 in foreground, Sub-Op 6 is behind it. Excavation of Sub-Op 6 is finished and the unit will be backfilled.



Enlarged detail Photo 2017 above, showing west edge of Sub-Op 6. FLOORS SEEM TO APPEAR AT DIFFERENT LEVELS HERE THAN WEST OF THE TWO-STEPS.



Photo 4453 (May 23) Looking north. Kike rebuilding the buttress unit as part of backfilling.



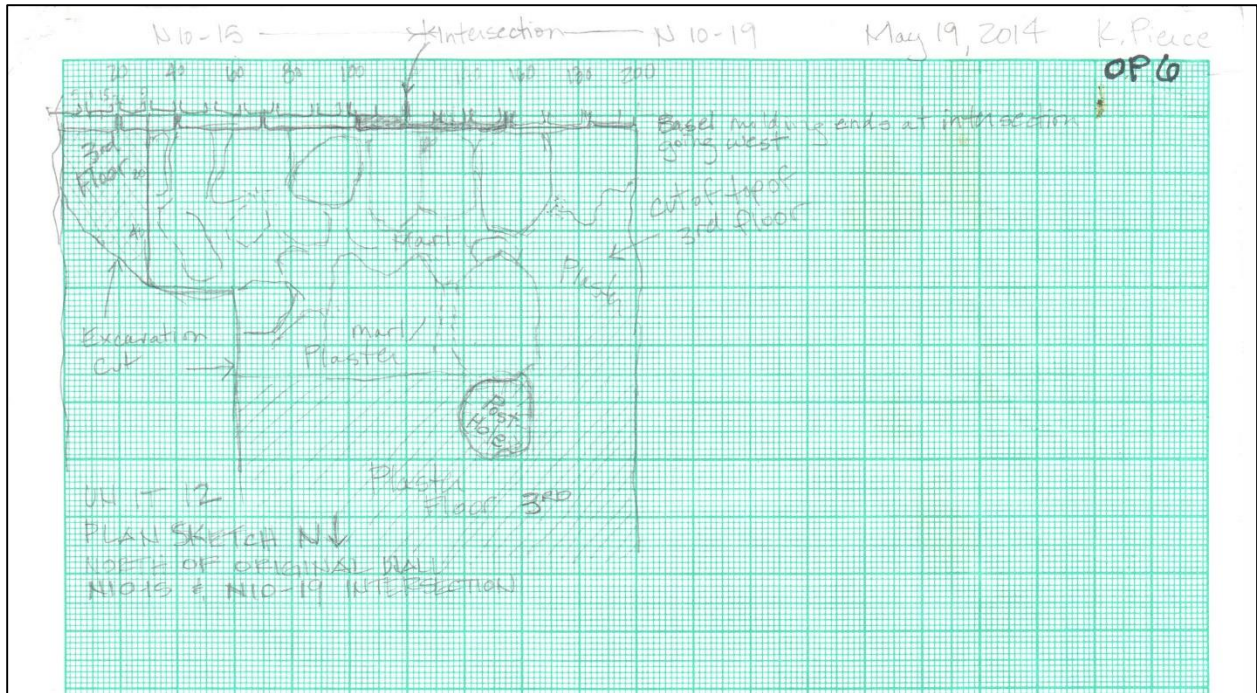
Photo 4450 (May 23) Looking north. Rebuilding buttress unit.



Photo 4454 (May 23) Looking north.



Photo 4575 (May 26) Looking northwest.



Sub-Op 6 Plan sketch of stonework just below Floor 3, at intersection of N10-15 and N10-19.

Lot LA 3118 Sherd Count = 5

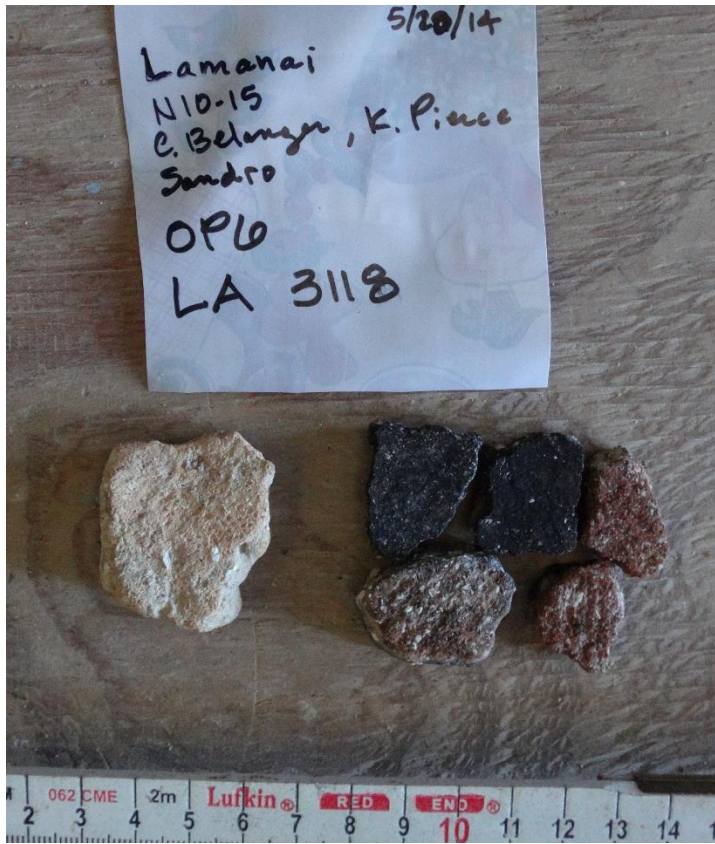


Photo 5469

Lot LA 3119 Sherd Count = 1

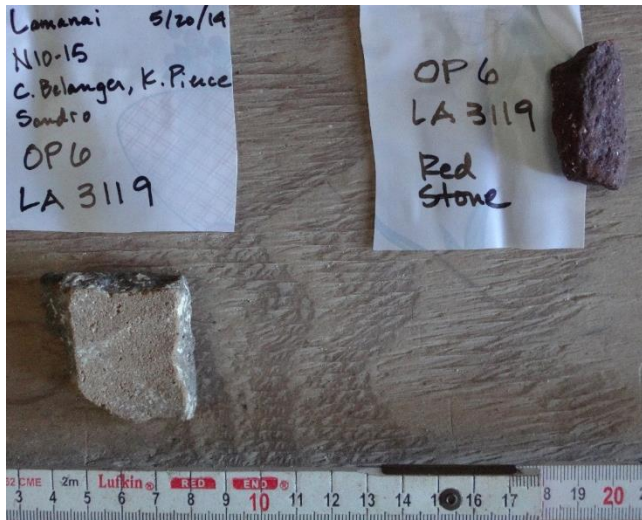


Photo 5473 pottery sherd, plus dark red stone (right)

Lot LA 3119, 3119 and 3120 Sherd Count = 5



Photo 5476

Lot LA 3121 Sherd Count = 6



Photo 5466

Lot LA3122 Painted plaster fragments



Photo 5458 Lot LA3122 Red painted plaster fragments
The big hunk of red-painted plaster came from here too—



Photo 4619 (May 26 4:03)

Lot LA 3122 Sherd Count = 11

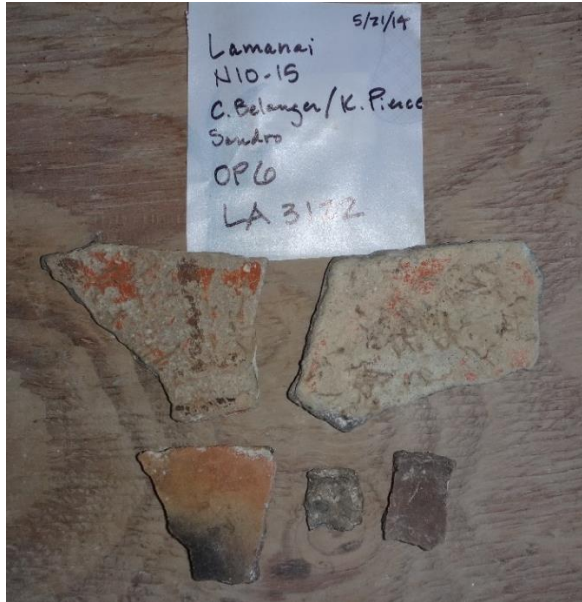


Photo 5461



Photo 5468 (same as above)

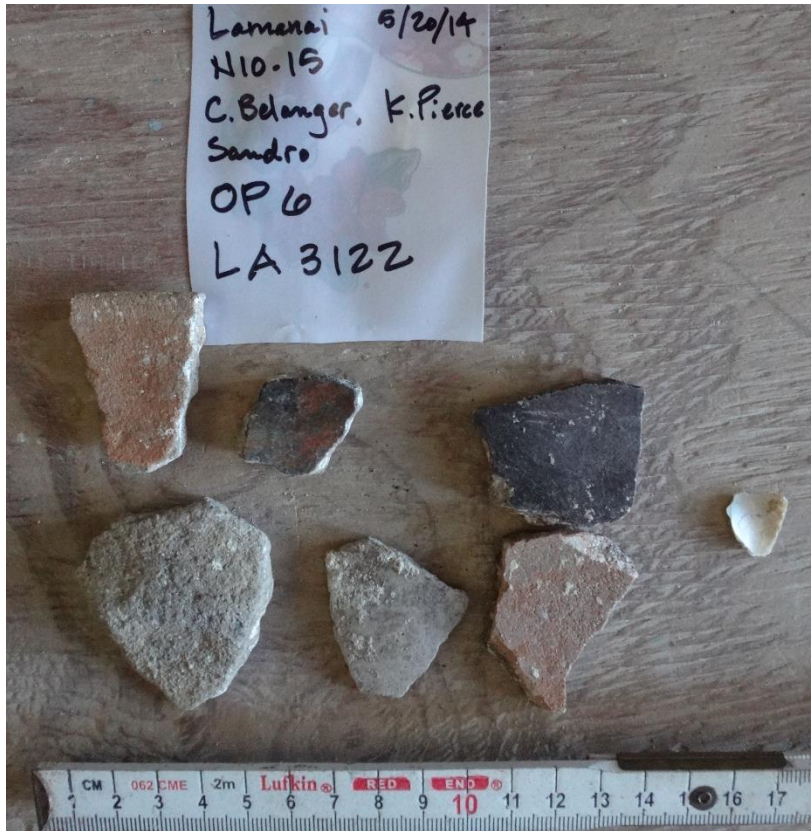


Photo 5471