

Ancient Social Integration in a Maya Neighborhood:

Investigation of Adjacent Residential Complexes near Caracol's Epicenter: Caracol Archaeological Project Investigations for 2014: A Continuation of the 2012 and 2013 Research Focus

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The 2014 season of the Caracol Archaeological Project constitutes the third field season of a three-year settlement sub-program designed to analyze an ancient Maya neighborhood with an intent to identify similarities and variation within and between neighborhood areas. These investigations build on a long-standing research interest by the project on Maya residential settlement at Caracol, Belize. However, unlike settlement studies in the Maya area that have sought to sample the widely dispersed residential remains found at most Maya sites predominantly through the use of test-pits, the recent Caracol settlement work combines test excavations with more intensive investigation focused on providing an assessment of the temporal, functional, and spatial dimensions of past social interactions.

Initial research on Caracol's residential groups began with sampling techniques that were similar to those used in most other Maya settlement studies (Puleston 1983; Rice and Rice 1990; Tourtellot 1988; Sabloff 1990). The first settlement work by the current project at the site was undertaken from 1987 through 1989; a sample of residential units was investigated, primarily with test-pits, along the sides of the Conchita Causeway (Jaeger 1987, 1991, 1994). These data were augmented by the investigation of additional residential groups located between the Conchita and Pajaro-Ramonal Causeways, again primarily through the use of test excavations (A. Chase and D. Chase 1989; D. Chase and A. Chase 2002). Following this research, another focused settlement sub-program was undertaken in the northeastern sector of Caracol; again, a series of residential groups were investigated through the use of test-pits and opportunistic investigation of open chambers and looted structures; however, two residential groups received more extensive excavation (D. Chase and A. Chase 1995, 2002). In the late 1990s, further settlement work was carried out on a smaller sample of residential groups in the southern part of

Caracol, again using test-pits and opportunistic sampling of looted structures (D. Chase and A. Chase 2002). Subsequently, research shifted to residential groups located immediately adjacent to the Caracol epicenter. As temporal control had been established, it was possible to focus efforts on intensive excavations, focusing on the investigation of multiple structures within a single residential group using both trenches and areal exposures in combination with test excavations. Often, only a single residential group in any settlement area was excavated during the field season in combination with other excavations carried out within the site epicenter itself (see season reports at www.caracol.org). What resulted from the more intensive investigation of residential groups adjacent to the Caracol epicenter was the recognition that these units demonstrated a great diversity in their artifactual repertoires and histories, even if they were ostensibly similar in overall surface plan (A. Chase and D. Chase 2010).

Beginning in 2008, concentrated excavations in adjacent residential groups were carried out in two parts of the site: the first was immediately southeast of the South Acropolis, where two residential groups were researched; the second was a series of residential groups south of the Northwest Group (a causeway hub), which further capitalized on investigations already carried out in this part of the site. The concentrated investigation of a dual-plaza residential group southwest of the Northwest Group proved particularly informative in demonstrating how a Maya residential unit developed over time. Research here enabled new insight to be gained as to the periodicity of ritual deposits in residential groups throughout Caracol (A. Chase and D. Chase 2013). The success of these investigations led directly to the current research.

The archaeological research identified for Caracol from 2012 through 2014 has focused on a concentration of residential groups that are thought to represent a “neighborhood” based on spatial proxemics and topography (Figure 1). The portion of the site being examined is located on a small plateau immediately east of the Machete Group, an elevated group located on an elevated knoll some 500 m southeast of Caracol’s epicentral B Plaza. The Machete Group is directly connected to the epicenter by means of its own causeway and was probably associated

with Stela 17 and Altar 10 (both monuments date to A.D. 849). The eastern building in the Machete Group, Structure L7, was excavated in 1986 and yielded one cache and four burials; two interments dated to the Early Classic – Late Classic transition and the other two burials were Late Classic in date; these investigations did not go to bedrock, so earlier remains may exist (A. Chase and D. Chase 1987:43); one of the burials was a re-entered tomb that had originally been consecrated in A.D. 614 (D. Chase and A. Chase 2003b). With the exception of the single building excavated in the Machete Group in 1986, however, no other archaeological research had been carried out on the plateau east of this terminus until the 2012 field season (the initial year of the current sub-program; see Figure 2),

The area being investigated consists of some 16 residential groups situated in close vicinity to each other around a flat karstic central area, referred to subsequently as the “Machete Plateau.” This plateau is surrounded in all directions by lower terraced agriculture fields. Based on both the 2012 and 2013 field seasons (as well as on past research at Caracol), it is fair to assume that most of these residential groups were to some extent contemporaneous. The spatial proximity of these various groups to each other also would indicate that they must have had past interaction. Based on the excavated data, it is possible not only to align the groups chronologically with each other but also to demonstrate if, and how, they related to and interacted with each other. When contextualized in terms of the previous settlement research, these data permit an educated discussion as to what constituted an ancient Maya neighborhood. Systematically collecting and analyzing similar archaeological materials from adjacent groups provides an appropriate database for: the examination of neighborhoods and their development over time; the economic, political, social, and ritual relationships among nearby groups; and, the impact of these organizational systems on the development, maintenance, and collapse of past urban patterns.

Even after more than two centuries of archaeological research, significant debate remains over the structure of Classic Maya society. Among the unanswered questions are: the number of

social levels maintained by the ancient Maya, how goods were manufactured and distributed, whether wealth could be accumulated, how labor was organized, how households interacted with each other, and whether kin lived in close proximity. Past archaeological investigations at Caracol, Belize have suggested: that middle levels of Maya society existed during the Classic Period (A.D. 550-780; see A. Chase 1992; D. Chase and A. Chase 2004); that markets were utilized to distribute goods made at the household level (A. Chase and D. Chase 2007; D. Chase and A. Chase 2013); and that the general populace benefitted from warfare (A. Chase and D. Chase 1989; D. Chase and A. Chase 2003a). However, the details of how (or if) the residential groups at the site were more broadly structured or knitted together has not been fully investigated. Elsewhere in Mesoamerica neighborhoods were a major organizing force (e.g., Smith 2010 for the Aztec) and we suspect that these integrative units were important to the Maya as well. We have previously suggested their importance in Postclassic Period northern Belize (D. Chase and A. Chase 1988). The data that have been collected from residential groups on the Machete Plateau are providing the information necessary to fully define the archaeological characteristics of an ancient Maya neighborhood. This permits a better understanding both of Caracol's spatial development and of its social structure – and, ultimately, of the sustainability of the ancient social, political, and economic system.

The Problem: What was the Nature of Ancient Maya Society? (from 2012 field report)

The structure of ancient Maya society is a matter of interpretation. Hieroglyphic texts have often been used to reconstruct popular overviews of ancient Maya society (Martin and Grube 2008). However, the glyphic writing only pertains to a small segment of Maya society and contains little information on ancient economy and broader social organization (e.g., Stuart 1993). Iconographic materials similarly offer a limited window into past social structure; they, too, are generally associated with the uppermost segment of Maya society (e.g. Finamore and Houston 2010; Schele and Miller 1986). Thus, textual and iconographic materials cannot be used to directly infer the patterns of life for the thousands of individuals who comprised the bulk of

ancient Maya society. In contrast to the iconography and the hieroglyphs, archaeological data demonstrate that there were different lifeway patterns not only in various regions of the Maya area (A. Chase and D. Chase 1992, 2003; Chase and Scarborough 2014), but also within different parts of the same Maya center (Becker 2003, 2009; A. Chase and D. Chase 2004, 2007; A. Chase et al. 2001).

Because Maya centers are often quite large, archaeological excavations generally only garner a small sample of the similarities and differences that are found among residential groups – and, often residential groups are “sampled” by means of a single plaza test-pit (e.g., Culbert 1975, 1977; Rice and Rice 1990; Tourtellot 1988). Exactly how representative the sample may be is usually a matter of speculation or statistical probability (e.g., Flannery 1976). The excavations that have been undertaken on the Machete Plateau tried to gain enough coverage within each residential group to determine when each group was founded, how each group developed over time, and what use-related materials are in evidence in the archaeology of each residential unit. This level of information permits an assessment of the integration, variation, and interaction that took place among residents in plazuela groups that presumably functioned as a neighbors.

The excavation program that has taken place at Caracol, Belize for the first 30 years of the project has resulted in the archaeological sampling of some 141 residential groups throughout the site. However, an attempt to adequately sample residences across the site generally had led excavations to be undertaken at some distance from each other, rather than in concentrated areas in close proximity to each other. The wider-scale investigations from this research program have revealed that the site’s ancient inhabitants participated in a Caracol “identity” that does not seem to have been present at other centers (A. Chase and D. Chase 2009; D. Chase and A. Chase 2004). The Late Classic Period occupants of Caracol’s residential groups had access to ritual (tombs; cache vessels), luxury (polychrome vases; jadeite), and quotidian (obsidian; flint) items that are restricted in their distribution at other sites, such as Tikal (Becker 1973, 1999, 2009;

Harrison 1999) or Calakmul (Braswell et al. 2004). However, this broadly noted similarity among Caracol's residential groups, while suggesting substantial on-site face-to-face interaction, does not mean that there are not differences within the site's household units. There are.

Excavations have also shown that: different amounts of ritual and luxury items occur in various groups (D. Chase 1998; D. Chase and A. Chase 2004, 2010); different residential groups manufactured a broad and varied range of materials (Cobos 1994; A. Chase and D. Chase 2007; Martindale Johnson 2008, 2014; Pope 1994); and, neighboring groups may have had different diets (A. Chase et al. 2001; Teeter and Chase 2004) and diverse developmental histories (A. Chase and D. Chase 1987; D. Chase and A. Chase 1994). While the homogeneity of access to ritual and luxury goods is striking (some 60% to 80% of the residential groups display these items), the variation that is in evidence in the archaeological data at Caracol is also suggestive of the existence of heterogeneous, but integrated, neighborhoods. "A neighborhood is a residential zone that has considerable face-to-face interaction and is distinctive on the basis of physical and/or social characteristics" (Smith 2010:139; 2011).

Identifying neighborhoods – and how they developed and were sustained over time – is important for understanding and demonstrating the spatial organization and integration of Caracol's ancient inhabitants. The kinds of artifactual remains and ritual patterns found within these households permits an assessment of similarities and differences among these adjacent plazuelas in terms of: construction techniques; manufacturing practices; quotidian consumption; and, ritual practices. Laboratory analysis of human remains found in these residential groups permits: skeletal analysis for age, sex, decoration, pathology, and possible genetic markers; isotopic analysis relevant to past diet; and, oxygen and strontium analysis (if appropriate) that would be relevant to an individual's origin (and possible migration). The systematic collection of archaeological data from a number of adjacent residential groups not only permits the analysis of their developmental histories relative to each other, but also will eventually position the overall neighborhood relative to broader events that impacted the site of Caracol.

Demonstrating the potential existence of neighborhoods and examining their development and interactions within the broader site of Caracol is also useful in other scholarly discussions having to do with comparative urbanism. Smith (2010:152) has noted that the “concept of neighborhood-as-community”... “plays a prominent role in current planning theory,” but “is based in part on untested assumptions about the social composition and processes of premodern neighborhoods.” Thus, these archaeological data may also prove useful for modern policy makers dealing with cities and urbanism.

Brief Summary of Research undertaken in 2012, 2013, and 2014

As noted above, the research that was undertaken in from 2012 through 2014 focused on residential groups associated with the Machete Plateau (Figures 1 and 2). During 2012 (see field report at www.caracol.org), five residential groups located in the northern part of the Machete Plateau were investigated. Two axial excavations and one large areal excavation were undertaken in the residential group anchored by Structure K26. Four axial excavations and one areal excavation were undertaken in the residential group anchored by Structure K19. Two axial excavations and two areal excavations were undertaken in the residential group anchored by Structure K13. Two axial and one areal excavation were undertaken in the residential group anchored by Structure K33. Finally, two axial excavations were undertaken in the residential group anchored by Structure L75. Three of the five plazuela units yielded caches and tombs dating to the Late Classic Period (groups anchored by Structures K19, K26, and K33); two groups did not yield this kind of ritual or mortuary material. All five residential groups produced evidence of Late Classic occupation. The earliest artifactual materials recovered dated to the Late Preclassic Period and only one residential group was possibly occupied at this time (group anchored by Structure K26). Two residential groups produced complete vessels dating from the Early Classic Period (groups anchored by Structures K13 and K26). Two unmapped groups were also located within this portion of the neighborhood: an unmapped plaza with three very low structures was located north of Machete; a slightly elevated residential group with four structures

was located in the relatively flat karstic area east of Machete (group anchored by Structure L75) and was dug during the 2012 field season.

During the 2013 field season (see field report at www.caracol.org), excavations were carried out in six residential groups immediately south of the area investigated during the 2012 field season (Figure 2). This part of the plateau is separated from the northern settlement groups investigated during the 2012 field season by a flat region that contains very eroded karst bedrock as well as areas of standing water (bajos). This portion of the plateau is bounded by hills to both the east and the west. Residential groups occupy each of the hills. During the 2013 field season, the residential groups anchored by Structures L7, L15, L19, L26, L41, and L75 were all archaeologically investigated.

Excavations in the Structure L19 group placed axial trenches in the northern, eastern, and south-central buildings. Structure L19, a 4 m high structure, produced 2 tombs dating to the Early Classic – Late Classic transition, as well as numerous caches that temporally spanned the early Early Classic through Terminal Classic Periods. The other two structures investigated in this residential group produced evidence of having been initially constructed in the Late Preclassic era. A single burial dating to the late Early Classic was recovered in the fill of the southern structure.

Excavations in the Structure L26 residential group focused on 6 buildings. A chultun burial of unknown date was recovered in front of the western building. The northern and southern buildings were also axially trenched, as were all three eastern buildings. Areal exposures were undertaken on the front of the southeastern east building and on a western alleyway. The lateral east buildings were apparently constructed in the Terminal Classic Period. While modified in the Terminal Classic Period, the central east building had been constructed at an earlier date; the axial trench through this structure produced 2 tombs that dated to the Late Classic Period and an earlier Early Classic burial in front of the building.

Also investigated during the 2013 field season were two other hilltop groups. The first was anchored by Structure L26. An axial trench through this building on either side of a large tree that sat aside this structure yielded the disturbed remains of a rear Late Classic tomb and a series of Late Classic caches and burials in front of the building. Two additional excavations were carried out in the L26 residential group, an areal investigation in front of the northern building that yielded Terminal Classic material and an axial trench through the southern building showing a single construction of Late Classic date. One final hilltop group, supporting both Structures L15 and L16, was investigated. Both low structures were axially trenched and dated to the Late Classic Period. Because there was no eastern construction in this group, an areal excavation was placed in the eastern part of the large open plaza and carried to bedrock; no features were encountered but there was unarticulated human bone within the plaza fill.

The final two residential units investigated during the 2013 field season were located on the flat ground in the middle part of the eastern extent of the Machete Plateau. Both are comprised of very low mounded buildings. The Structure L41 group is associated with its own reservoir and this feature was trenched during 2013 producing Late Classic trash. Axial units were placed on the northern, southern, and eastern buildings. The northern construction made use of a natural bedrock rise. The southern construction was built in the early part of the Late Classic Period. The small eastern platform overlay a Late Preclassic interment. Just east of the Structure L41 group was another residential group anchored by Structure L75. Structures L73 and L75 were both axial investigated and proved to date to the Late Classic Period. Two Late Classic interments and a series of caches were associated with Structure L75.

The research that was undertaken during the 2014 field season focused on the southernmost part of the Machete Plateau (Figures 1 and 2). This portion of the Machete Plateau is located on the last of the upland area before the lower lying agricultural terraces and the structures located in this section of the plateau were generally smaller in size than those to the north. Excavations undertaken during the 2014 field season completed the testing of all the

groups associated with the Machete Plateau, meaning that four groups were investigated on the plateau south of the 2013 area of research. Two of the groups, those anchored by Structures L31 and L35, are located on the summits of hills. The other two residential groups are located on a lower terrace that is situated above the surrounding agricultural fields to the south and west. For the northernmost hilltop group, anchored by Structure L31 and nicknamed Tonto, a single axial excavation was undertaken; no deposits were recovered. Four axial excavations were undertaken in the Structure L35 group, known as Sonrisa, resulting in the recovery of 1 interment and 5 caches (all in the eastern building). The groups anchored by Structures L48 and L56 are all composed of smaller buildings, none of which appear to be distinct from the others. Four axial excavation were placed in the Alegre Group, anchored by Structure L48, resulting in the recovery of 3 burials. Three axial excavations placed in the Dormir Group, anchored by Structure L56, resulted in the recovery of 1 burial and 1 cache in the eastern building and the debris from a lithic workshop in the northern building. As during the 2012 and 2013 field season, excavations in all of the residential groups selected for investigation during 2014 focused on any eastern constructions that are in these units because of the proven ability at Caracol of being able to obtain dateable primary deposits that are of comparative use both spatially and temporally (A. Chase and D. Chase 2013; D. Chase and A. Chase 1998). Two groups west of the Machete Plateau were also investigated during the 2014 field season in order to better contextualize the presumed neighborhood. Two structures were investigated in the larger residential group anchored by Structure C47 group, known as Renegon, resulting in the recovery of 8 interments and 12 caches. In the Vergonsoso residential group, Structure C38 was axially trenched, resulting in the recovery of 1 interment, 3 caches, and debris from a bone workshop. The data recovered from these investigations is being used to help to sort out similarities and differences within the Machete neighborhood ritual patterns and temporal parameters. All six residential groups investigated during 2014 produced evidence of Late Classic occupation and one produced extensive evidence of Early Classic material remains (Structure C47).

Alegre Residential Group: Structures L46-L54

Located on the southeastern tip of the Machete Plateau, the Alegre Residential Group consists of nine very low structures. The two eastern buildings in this group were trenched, as were the southern building and a structure seemingly located within the group's extensive plaza (see Figures 3 and 4). All of these investigations revealed that these buildings were largely single phase constructions. The southern and western structures appear to have been constructed upon an existing plaza surface whereas the eastern buildings showed no evidence of an engulfed surface. All of these constructions date to the Late Classic Period, although earlier materials were recovered within the plaza fill beneath Structure L51.

Structure L48

Structure L48 is the northernmost of the two eastern constructions; it is also larger than the southern eastern structure. The building platform rises less than half a meter above the plaza floor and appears to have been constructed directly on bedrock. Three burials were found associated with the building, all of Late Classic date; two were placed within the core of the building on bedrock and one was situated in the plaza to the front of the building. No caches were recovered, but finger bowls were included as offerings within one of the interments.

Operation C199B (Figures 4-6) was an axial trench into Structure L48 that measured 5.8 m in length by 2.0 m in width. Two crude facings were found with the building; one represents the western edge of the building platform; the other was a partial step-up approximately 0.90 m behind the front facing. No floors were recovered. The rear fill indicates a single construction effort on bedrock for this structure.

S.D. C199B-1 (Figures 8, 9, 11, and 13) represents an interment that was dug into bedrock and then covered with a series of large capstones. It is located directly west of the initial facing for Structure L48. The bones in the bottom of this cist did not appear to be articulated, but were rather loosely distributed except for concentrations on the northern and southern end of the interment. Analysis demonstrated that 2 adults were present in the burial

(based on teeth). One of the recovered individuals had tau-filed lower central incisors. A single miniature vessel (Figure 11a) dates this interment to the Late Classic Period. Also present was a piece of worked bone (Figure 13e) and 5 shell artifacts. The shell artifacts appear to have been manufactured from conch; one shell disc is present along with one set of hollow squares and one set of what appear to be earrings in profile (Figure 13a-d and 13f).

S.D. C199B-2 (Figure 9) was an interment placed within the building immediately behind the front step in a crude cist that rested on bedrock. The skeletal remains were not well preserved, but minimally 2 adults were present in this burial, 1 younger and 1 older; one deciduous upper molar from a 5-7 year old individual was also present and represents a third individual. While no formal grave goods appear to have accompanied the interment, two partial obsidian blades (Figure 10a and 10b) were recovered.

S.D. C199B-3 (Figures 10-13) represents an interment placed within a crude cist in the center of Structure L48. The skeletal material was not articulated and analysis showed that 3 adults were present in the interment: 1 male, 1 female, and 1 older. The individual in northern portion of interment had a jadeite inlay in an upper lateral incisor. Seven pottery vessels were recovered with the interment; all are Late Classic in date. A Belize Red “brandy snifter” (Figure 11b) was located at the northern extent of the interment and an eroded cylinder (Figure 11c) define the southern extent; one low bowl and one footed plate were located in the central portion of the interment; three finger bowl were also associated with the burial (Figure 11f-h). Other materials included in the burial were a carved shell, a perforated shell disk, and a piece of marine shell (Figure 13g-i), as well as three partial obsidian blades and 1 partial core (Figure 10c-f).

Structure L49

The southernmost eastern construction in Alegre rose approximately 0.25 m above the associated plaza. To provide comparative data to the northern eastern building, Structure L49 was also axially trenched. Based on the continuity of fill from bedrock to humus, the building appears to have been constructed as a single event.

Operation C199C (Figures 14 and 15) was an axial trench through Structure L49 that measured 5.2 m in length by 2.0 m in width. Apart from a concentration of larger stones on the western end of the excavation, no constructed features could be discerned once the humus was removed; a lower plan suggested the recovery of a plaza construction block within the core of this building platform (Figure 15). A partial quartzite bead (Figure 7b) was recovered from within the fill of the building and two large conch fragments (Figures 7c and 7d) were recovered immediately above bedrock.

Structure L50

The southern building in Alegre rose 0.75 m above the plaza surface, making it the tallest structure in the group. A single axial excavation was placed over this building, which showed that it had been constructed (presumably in the Late Classic Period) in a single phase atop an existing plaza surface.

Operation C199D (Figures 16 and 17) was an axial trench placed over Structure L50 that measured 4.8 m in length by 2.0 m in width. The excavation recovered three facings associated with the latest building, which had been constructed directly above a pre-existing plastered plaza surface. No deposits were encountered in this investigation, but recovered artifactual material included chert flakes, 2 cherts drills, and a jadeite chip (Figure 7e-k). the jadeite chip (Figure 7i) was recovered just above bedrock and was likely resultant from the construction of the plaza surface.

Structure L51

Rising some 0.60 m above the surrounding plaza, the shape of L51 was clearly visible without excavation and indicated a building that faced either north or south, indicating that the construction did not interface with the previously excavated buildings and suggesting that the building may have been a later addition to the plaza. Excavations did indeed find a preserved plaza surface beneath the central part of this edifice and some Terminal Classic sherd material.

Operation C199E (Figures 18-21) was an axial trench placed over Structure L51 that measured 6.9 m in length by 2.0 m in width. Both the northern and southern facings for this building were encountered and the southwest rounded corner of the construction was visible without excavation (see Figure 19). The central core of this building platform preserved the earlier plaza floor (see Figure 20). The well-preserved plaza floor was dug through in order to get a sealed sample of artifactual materials and a pottery vessel of probably Early Classic date was recovered (Figure 21). Also recovered in the fill of the construction were a jadeite chip (Figure 7l) and a piece of pyrite (Figure 7m). A partial olivella shell (Figure 7n) and a fragmentary stemmed macro-blade (Figure 7o) were recovered from beneath the plaza flooring.

Dormir Residential Group: Structures L55-L57

The Dormir residential group was quite small and consisted of three structures attached to a raised platform that had no construction on its southern side (Figure 22). All three structures were axially trenched (Figure 23) and all appeared to be single phase constructions dating to the Late Classic Period. A burial and a cache were recovered in association with the eastern building and the northern building had extensive lithic debris incorporated into its fill.

Structure L56

Located on the southeastern corner of the platform, Structure L56 was barely raised above its associated plaza (ca. 0.20 m). No true architectural features were associated with the building platform, but two special deposits confirmed its use as a ritual locus.

Operation C200B (Figures 25 and 26) was an axial trench placed over Structure L56 and dug to bedrock. The excavation was 3.8 m in length by 2.0 m in width. Large boulder dry core fill defined the eastern extent of this investigation. A single cache was found to the front of the building and a single interment had been placed in its core. Also recovered in the building fill was a partial olivella shell (Figure 24a).

S.D. C200B-1 (Figures 27 and 28) consisted of a single pottery face cache placed within the plaza fill in front of the building. A crude bird face is represented on the cache vessel,

dating it to approximately A.D. 690 (A. Chase and D. Chase 2013). No other materials were associated with this deposit.

S.D. C200B-2 (Figures 27 and 29) was designated for a crude cist that contained the fragmentary remains of a single adult, who was probably less than 35 years of age at the time of death. The cist was located within the building fill. No artifactual material accompanied the interment.

Structure L55

Structure L55 was the northernmost construction in the Dormir residential group. It rose approximately 0.50 m above the associated plaza surface. The building platform was formally constructed, as indicated by the recovery of parts of 3 facings. No formal deposits were recovered within the construction, but the building fill was full of lithic debris.

Operation C200C (Figures 30 and 31) was designated for the trench situated axially over Structure L55. In its final form, the excavation measured 4.5 m in length by 2.0 m in width (4 m at 2.0 m wide and a northern extension on the eastern side of 0.5 m by 1.0 m). The northernmost facing that functioned both as the platform and structure edge was readily visible without excavation. Parts of two other facings and an upper plaza surface were also recovered in the excavation. Unlike the other two structures in this group that rested directly on bedrock, this building was constructed upon an earlier ground level. The building fill contained debris from a chert workshop. A total of 3,133 chert artifacts were recovered from within the building fill within this excavation (samples of these lithic materials are illustrated in Figures 32-34). Also recovered were strombus shell fragments (Figure 24b-e) and clam shell fragments (Figure 24f-h).

Structure L56

The western structure in the Dormir residential group rose approximately 0.5 m above its associated plaza and represents a single construction effort. No formal deposits were recovered from its core.

Operation C200D (Figure 35 and 36) was an axial trench over Structure L56 that measured 4.8 m in length by 1.5 m in width. A series of crude facings and construction walls were encountered in the excavations. Large boulders comprised its western fill and these rocks were situated directly on bedrock; a thin underlying soil level was encountered beneath the construction on its eastern site. Artifactual material recovered from the core of the building included a clam shell fragment (Figure 24i) and a perforated partial quartzite ball (Figure 24j).

Sonrisa Residential Group: Structures L33-L38

The Sonrisa residential group is located on the southwestern-most hill associated with the Machete Plateau. It consists of four formal structures (Figure 37). Smaller building wings were appended to the northern and southern sides of the eastern building. Four excavations were undertaken in Sonrisa (Figure 38); the central eastern construction was trenched, as were the northern and western buildings. Additionally, a small reservoir in the southeastern portion of the plaza was half-sectioned. All of the recovered materials from this excavation dated to the Late Classic Period. The only formal deposits that were recovered in Sonrisa came from the eastern building, where five caches and 1 interment were recovered.

Structure L35

The primary eastern building in Sonrisa, Structure L35, rose 1.4 m above the associated ground surface (Figure 38a). While a possible facing was recovered on the summit of the building, no formal facings were encountered during the excavation of its western slope. However, two sequent plaza floors were recovered in front of the building and a plastered floor was also encountered within the core of the building; this interior floor overlay two face caches and a constructed chamber over an open chultun. All indications are that there were minimally two versions of Structure L35, both dating to the Late Classic Period.

Operation C201B (Figures 39, 40, and 42) consisted of an axial trench to Structure L35, measuring 6.0 m in length by 2.0 m in width. The trench was dug to bedrock and revealed 5 caches and 1 burial. Three of the caches were located in the plaza in front of the structure and

these all consisted of finger bowls; the two caches within the structure were both face caches. The burial had been placed within a chultun that was covered by a crude open-air chamber constructed out of large dry-core fill boulders. The burial chamber and the two face caches were both covered by a sealed plaster floor set over the dry-core fill. Isolated artifactual materials associated with Operation C201B included a conch shell fragment (Figure 41b) and a pyrite chip (Figure 41c). All of the artifactual remains from this investigation date to the Late Classic Period.

S.D. C201B-1 (Figure 42 and Figure 43c-f) consisted of 4 broken finger bowls set at the western base of Structure L35. No human digits were associated with this deposit.

S.D. C201B-2 (Figure 42, Figure 43b, Figure 44, and Figure 45) consisted of a lidded face cache set in the dry core fill immediately north of and above the chamber that capped the chultun entryway for S.D. C201B-6. The face cache faced west and contained the remains of a bob-white within it. The interior base of the container also yielded 107 jadeite chips, a chert chunk, and a single partial obsidian blade. Stylistically, this face cache dates earlier than the contents of the chultun (see A. Chase and D. Chase 2013), meaning that it may have been an heirloom.

S.D. C201B-3 (Figure 42 and Figure 43g) consisted of a single broken finger bowl set below the lower plaza floor at the northern extent of the excavation. No human digit was associated with this vessel.

S.D. C201B-4 (Figure 42 and Figure 43h) consisted of a single broken finger bowl set below the lower plaza floor at the western end of Operation C201B. No human digit was recovered in association with this vessel.

S.D. C201B-5 (Figure 42 and Figure 43a) was assigned to a broken face cache and lid found in the boulder fill beneath the interior plaster floor at the eastern extent of the excavation. This container is stylistically earlier than S.D. C201B-2, meaning that it (like S.D. C201B-2) was likely an heirloom deposited when S.D. C201B-6 was covered by an open-air chamber and sealed beneath a plaster floor.

S.D. C201B-6 (Figures 46-53) was assigned to the burials within the chultun that was built over by Structure L35 (Figure 39). The shaft of the chultun was open and covered by a crude chamber (see lower illustration in Figure 40). The entrance to the chultun dropped down to a ledge that existed between two underground chambers; the northern chamber was much larger than the southern chamber (Figure 47). Both chambers contained pottery vessels (Figure 48) and mostly disarticulated human remains (Figure 49; with one exception in the northern chamber). Smaller artifacts within the chamber included worked bone artifacts (Figure 52a-i), worked shell artifacts (Figure 52j-u), a burnt jadeite bead (Figure 52v), a limestone spindle whorl (Figure 52w) and a pyrite chip (Figure 52x), a hematite mosaic fragment (Figure 52y), 11 fragmentary obsidian blades (Figure 53a-k), and 1 obsidian lancet (Figure 53l). A total of 16 pottery vessels (Figures 50 and 51) were recovered from within the chamber; all date to the middle part of the Late Classic Period (Figures 50i and 50p are slightly earlier). One of the pieces is a Copador Polychrome tradeware, probably from Honduras (Figure 50k; Figure 51d). A total of 7 adults were recovered from within the chultun. The remains of two adults were located in the smaller Chamber 1; they were not associated with teeth and no sex identification was possible. Five adults were located in Chamber 2, only one of which appears to have been nearly complete in terms of post-cranial bone. One of the other adults in Chamber 2 could be sexed as a male. The teeth recovered from Chamber 2 were representative of 5 adults. There is evidence that some of the teeth were filed into tau-shaped decoration (upper central left incisor and lower central incisors). One upper right incisor had an empty inlay hole.

Structure L33

The northern side of the Sonrisa residential group was occupied by a building platform that rose approximately 0.9 m above the associated plaza (Figure 38b). Two possible facings were recovered on the southern side of the building platform, the lower one much cruder than the upper. Excavation also recovered the remains of an earlier plaza surface on the southern side of

the building. All indications are that Structure L33 was a single phase construction dating to the Late Classic Period.

Operation C201C (Figures 54 and 55) was assigned to an axial trench that bisected Structure L33. The investigation measured 5.5 m north-south by 2.0 m east-west and was dug to bedrock on its southern side. No deposits were encountered within the core of the building.

Structure L38

Structure L38 is a small edifice located on the western side of the Sonrisa residential plaza (Figure 38c). Excavation recovered the remains of two facings associated with the building platform. All indications are that this construction was built in a single phase and dates to the Late Classic Period.

Operation C201D (Figures 56 and 57) was assigned to the axial trench placed over Structure L38. It measured 3.8 m in length by 1.5 m in width and was dug to bedrock over its eastern half. No evidence of an earlier plaza surface was encountered in this investigation.

Sonrisa Reservoir

Located to the south of Structure L35 was a circular depression that was interpreted to be a constructed reservoir. This feature was half-sectioned (Figure 38d) and indeed showed that the bedrock had been excavated in this region and that there was a distinct layer above the bedrock that could have functioned as the bottom for the feature; the sides of the reservoir were made of a different colored fill with a large number of stones.

Operation C201E (Figure 58) was assigned for the 2 .8 m long by 1.0 m wide trench that was placed over the south side of the potential reservoir. Little artifactual material was recovered in this investigation.

Tonto Residential Group: Structures L30-L32

Located on a small hillock intermediate to the groups detailed above and the ones excavated during the 2013 field season was an amorously constructed set of buildings. While labeled a “residential” group, it is not arrayed in typical fashion for the other residential groups on

the Machete Platform. Mapped in 1985 by Stephen Houston as having three constructions (Figure 59), the eastern construction in this group is very problematic and the western construction is actually a long range construction that incorporates bedrock outcroppings on its western side. The western construction has an offset northern building platform that was the focus of the single excavation within this group. All indications are that the area was utilized in the Late Classic Period.

Structure L30

Offset to the east from the lanky western construction, Structure L30 was readily identifiable on the ground, rising some 0.9 m above the eastern plaza area. A single excavation was placed through this construction and excavated to bedrock (Figure 60a). The recovered artifactual material is indicative of a Late Classic date.

Operation C202B (Figures 61 and 62) was established as an axial trench over Structure L30. The investigation measured 5.8 m in length by 2.0 m in width. A facing indicated by large boulders comprised its eastern extent and there is no indication for more than a single building effort. It appears that the Maya constructed this building platform directly on bedrock with only minimal effort being expended.

Renegon Residential Group: Structures C44-C59

The Renegon residential group is located immediately west of the Machete Plateau. It is a rather large group that is well populated with buildings (Figure 63). It was selected for investigation in order to gain comparative artifactual material from a neighboring area that could be compared with the archaeological materials that had been recovered in association with residential group on the Machete Plateau. Excavation in two structures in Renegon revealed a long history of occupation that extended from the late Early Classic Period through the Terminal Classic Period. Investigation of Structure C54, the most prominent southern building, revealed stone base-walls, indicative of the high status of the group's occupants (A. Chase and D. Chase 2011). Excavation within the eastern building, Structure C47, revealed an extensive history of

ritual deposits associated with this construction that spanned the entire period of occupation for Renegon. Perhaps most significant was the recovery of a formally constructed Early Classic tomb in the heart of this building.

Structure C47

Dominating the eastern site of the Renegon residential group, Structure C47 was centrally placed in the plaza with a series of smaller structures behind it and to its south. The structure was actually longer than it was broad and rose approximately 1.75 m above the plaza ground surface. Excavation completely bisected the building (Figure 64a) and was dug to bedrock on its western side as well as in the center of the structure. Minimally two major architectural construction phases were recovered in the investigation. This locus was first used for ritual purposes in the late Early Classic Period and continued to be used through the Terminal Classic Period.

Operation C203B (Figures 65 and 66) was assigned to the trench that bisected the building. The trench measured 13.5 m in length by 2.0 m in width. Facings and partial flooring were found throughout the building core. A total of 12 caches and 8 interments were recovered in this investigation. Other burials probably once existed, but had been disturbed by the activity of the ancient Maya; isolated human skeletal remains were recovered within the excavation. Cranial and long bone fragments of an adult were recovered in in fill in the front of the building (Lot C203B/32-3); cranial and long bone fragments for a sub-adult came from the rear of the building (Lot C203B/47-4); and, one cranial piece was recovered in a different context in the rear of the building (Lot C203B/46-1). The amount of impressive artifactual material recovered within the fills of Structure C47 are also indicative of the amount of disturbance seen at this building locus over time. Specifically, the building fills contained worked marine shell (Figure 67a-e), a jadeite bead (Figure 115a), limestone bars (Figures 69, 99a, and 115b,c), a partial face cache (Figure 77a), partial finger caches (Figures 80a,b,h,j and 85a-d), and partial pottery vessels and censerware (Figures 82 and 85e). Even at the time of abandonment, burners were left on the front of the building; an impressive Terminal Classic burner, appliqued and modeled with a warrior

figure in cotton armour on its front (Figure 68), was found strewn across the front of Structure C47; further areal excavation would undoubtedly have recovered more of this vessel.

S.D. C203B-1 (Figure 70) The latest front step for the building rested directly over S.D. C203B-20. Originally constructed in the Early Classic Period, there are material indications that the Maya re-entered this chamber and constructed a square feature that functioned as a crude psychoduct in front of this step (see Pacal's tomb at Palenque for an analogous feature; Fitzsimmons 2009:130-131). This feature was labeled as S.D. C203B-1. It had been constructed at the same time as the final step. Initial excavation within its interior recovered a cache vessel (Figure 135d) that was later assigned to S.D. C203B-20 based on the presence of a matching counterpart (Figure 135c) within that interment.

S.D. C203B-2 (Figures 71, 72a, and 73a,b) was assigned to an interment placed directly into the rear fill of Structure C47. Teeth and cranial fragments indicate that the remains of two individuals were in this burial. One of these individual was an adult with possible initial drilling for an inlay on the central left incisor. The second individual was a subadult less than or equal to 10 years of age at the time of death based on 2 premolars. A possible obsidian lancet (Figure 73a) and a single ceramic footed dish accompanied the bodies and can be dated to the early part of the Late Classic Period.

S.D. C203B-3 (Figures 74 and 80c,d) was assigned to a cache of finger bowls that were found broken in the upper rear fill for Structure C47.

S.D. C203B-4 (Figures 74 and 80e-g) was assigned for a cache of finger bowls found south of S.D. C203B-3 in the rear fill for Structure C47; two were found lip-to-lip and one was fragmentary.

S.D. C203B-5 (Figures 72b,c, 73c-e, and 75) was a crypt burial that had been placed in the front portion of the summit of Structure C47. The capstones of the interment were found shortly after humus was removed from this portion of the platform. The crypt itself was full of dirt and was rather crudely constructed. The base of the crypt had been cut into one floor and

rested on an earlier plastered surface. The bone was poorly preserved, resulting in the recovery of the incomplete remains of one individual (based on long bones and hand fragments); one upper right canine had tartar and cusp wear. Two ceramic vessels had been set in the southern side of the crypt (Figure 72b,c) and permitted the deposit to be dated to the early part of the Late Classic Period.

S.D. C203B-6 (Figures 73f, 76, 77b, 78, 79, and 80i,j) was assigned to a face cache accompanied by at least two other partial vessels that had been set in the rear of Structure C47. The face cache had a broken lid, but a series of items were found within the vessel (Figure 78), including a limestone bar along with 75 jadeite, 9 spondylus, and 5 quartzite chips.

S.D. C203B-7 (Figures 70 and 81) was assigned to what appeared to be the outlines of a stone cist or crypt for a burial that was found west of the front step running into the southern excavation limit. As human bone fragments were recovered, it is likely that a southern extension would have recovered the rest of a body, but this deposit was not fully investigated.

S.D. C203B-8 (Figures 83 and 84) was assigned to a deposit of 8 finger bowls located in dry core fill immediately east of S.D. C203B-5 and possibly associated with this deposit.

S.D. C203B-9 (Figures 86a and 87-90) was assigned for the uppermost cache that was situated west of the frontal construction wall in Structure C47. This cache was set directly in a dirt fill matrix and contained a host of ritual items, including pieces of a Late Classic censer and censer lid as well as a large hollow human figurine (Figure 88b). One of the smaller slipped bowls in this cache contained in situ bird bone along with 3 obsidian lancets (Figure 88f). Part of an incurved bowl was also recovered along with 19 other slipped cache vessels. Other artifactual material recovered in association with this deposit included 30 broken obsidian blades (Figure 89), a large chert chunk (Figure 90a), 2 limestone bars (Figure 90c,d), a complete clam shell (Figure 90b), a quartzite chunk (Figure 90e), and 3 crab or shell fragments (Figure 90f-h). Also included within the matrix holding this deposit were a right human humerus and 3

human teeth. An upper central incisor contained a pyrite inlay and a lower left canine showed evidence of having been burnt; also present was a lower left premolar.

S.D. C203B-10 (Figures 70, 91c and 92-95) was a crypt burial set on bedrock in the plaza area on axis to and west of Structure C47. It was covered with capstones and measured approximately 2 m in length (north-south) by 0.75 m in width by 0.95 m in height. Five pottery vessels, all dating to the Late Classic Period, were recovered in association with this interment. Artifacts included in this burial consisted of worked bone and bone tubes (Figure 95a-f), a drilled animal canine (Figure 95h), and marine shell worked into discs and composite shapes (Figure 95g,i-p). At least 10 individuals were present in this interment, 9 adults and 1 subadult about 7 years of age based on teeth. Sex identification was difficult; however, mastoid processes on two individuals are indicative of being male and mastoid processes on another individual indicate a female. There are inlays or inlay holes in 15 teeth, representing minimally 3 individuals: 5 pyrite inlays; 5 jadeite inlays; and 5 holes. There is also evidence of filing on lower central incisors. Pyrite inlays are associated with two of the male mandibles, but no other sex identification is possible with the other inlays or inlay holes.

S.D. C203B-11 (Figures 96-98) was assigned to a discrete cluster of 9 finger bowls found below and slightly west of S.D. C203B-9 (Figure 97c-k). Eight other fragments of finger bowls were found within the general vicinity (Figure 97a,b,l-q). Nine fragmentary obsidian blades (Figure 98) and 1 marine shell were associated with the deposit; 2 limestone bars were in the immediate vicinity (Figure 99a,b).

S.D. C203B-12 (Figures 86b, 99b, and 100-102) was a cache placed in the front dirt fill of Structure C47 west of and lower than S.D. C203B-11. It rested at a level just above the beginning of the capstones for S.D. C203B-14 and was set above the western edge of this crypt burial. The deposit consisted of a footed incurved bowl (Figure 101a) a slab-footed collared bowl with decorated flange (Figure 101b) 4 finger bowls (Figure 101c-f), and two deep unslipped bowls (Figure 101g,h). The footed bowls (Figure 102) are extremely unusual and likely date to

the Terminal Classic Period; they were likely deposited after the re-entry of the burial that existed beneath them.

S.D. C203B-13 (Figures 99c, 100, and 103) was the final cache deposit found in the vicinity of the front construction wall for Structure C47. The vessels were associated with a niche the construction wall and were at a level lower than S.D. C203B-11, which was above this deposit. Twenty-one finger bowls (Figure 102a-u) and 1 ceramic bar (Figure 99c) were associated with this cache. An intermediate human phalange was also present and was probably associated with one of the finger bowls.

S.D. C203B-14 (Figures 91a and 104-109) was assigned to a crypt interment located to the west of and lower than the internal construction wall in Structure C47. The chamber measured approximately 1.55 m in length (north-south) by 0.5 m wide by 0.4 m in height. Five pottery vessels and 14 finger bowls were associated with the interment. The five pottery vessels all date to the Early Classic Period. Only half of one tripod cylinder (Figure 107c) was present in the burial; this vessel, along with the inclusion of the finger bowls suggests past disturbance. The bone is also not articulated. Artifactual material recovered from the burial included 4 almost whole obsidian blades (Figure 109), 2 pottery earrings (Figure 108a,b), 2 jadeite bead (Figure 108e,f), 11 shell beads (Figure 108g-j,l-r), a worked bone (Figure 108t), and part of a limestone mirrorback (Figure 108s). There were a minimum of 4 adult individuals within this burial based on teeth alone and more likely at least 5 adults given the ante-mortem tooth loss present on maxilla. One male who was greater than 35 years of age at time of death evinced substantial tartar on his anterior teeth. Another individual had a filed line on two of their upper central incisors.

S.D. C203B-15 (Figures 110-114) was assigned to a deposit deep in the center of Structure C47 that contained both a cache and burial. The cache and burial were placed into a pit that was dug into an earlier plaster floor were covered by 3 capstones. Two lidded cache vessels, one within the other, were set at the northeastern corner of the pit and the human bone was in the

center of the pit. The human bone represented 2 sub-adults, one 1.5 years of age and the other 5 years of age at the time of death. The age of these individuals and their association with the cache vessels may indicate that they were intentional offerings for this deposit. One cache vessel was located within the other. The smaller lidded cache vessel contained the skeletal remains of a bird, probably a bobwhite (Figure 112). The larger lidded cache vessel contained a wider variety of ritual items (Figure 11), including 1 conch shell disc (Figure 114a), 2 carved shell pendants (Figure 114b,c), fire coral (Figure 114d), 2 drilled olivella shells (Figure 114e,f), 1 stingray spine (Figure 114g), 5 drilled marginella shells (Figure 114h-l), 1 spondylus shell bead (Figure 114m), and jute shells. Below the deposit, an earlier architectural feature was found that was incorporated into the construction of the tomb for S.D. C203B-16, suggesting that S.D. C203B-15 was temporally sequent to, yet associated in some way, with the underlying burial.

S.D. C203B-16 (Figures 116-125) constituted the most surprising deposit in Structure C47 as it was a formally constructed tomb with entryway that dated to the Early Classic Period. The tomb was sealed under earlier floorings and associated with a construction wall that rested on bedrock. The tomb itself was also set into bedrock and the chamber measured 2.0 m in length (north-south), by 0.8 m in width by 0.9 m in height. The entryway added an addition 0.8 m of length to the north side and increased the height to 1.6 m. The total open air volume of the chamber was approximately 1.8 m³. Seven complete and one partial ceramic vessels occupied the southeastern portion of the chamber. Five of these vessels (Figure 122a,c-f) were placed alongside the wall of the chamber in front of what was a removable stone that hid a side chamber containing a cache (S.D. C203B-18). Besides 7 broken obsidian blades and 1 partial obsidian core (Figure 125), other artifacts from within this chamber included a 16.4 cm long jadeite tube (Figure 124a), 3 jadeite beads and 5 jadeite chips (Figure 124b-j), 2 malachite pieces, 10 other pieces of jadeite inlays or mosaics, drilled shells (Figure 124q,r,v), a stingray spine (Figure 124s), a shell disc (Figure 124u), worked bone (Figure 124t), and 4 worked river cobbles (Figure 124x,y,bb,cc). The human bone was not articulated in the chamber. The skeletal remains indicate

that there were minimally 2 adults with substantial ante-mortem tooth loss; one of these older adults was likely female. There may actually be two older adults and one adult, providing there was substantial tooth loss on the two older adults. Two skulls were present in the chamber, one to the southeast and one to the southwest. An empty inlay hole occurs in an upper premolar.

Perhaps the most spectacular vessel in the tomb was a blackware bowl with six incised cartouches (cover, Figures 122a and 123). The incised content of the cartouches represent some of the finest Early Classic Maya artwork found relating to both iconography and hieroglyphs. They were examined for glyphic content by Stephen Houston and David Stuart (personal communication, April 2014), who read the glyphs as an early version of a primary standard sequence as follows (see Figure 122): a. *yu-k'i-bi* (*k'i* syllable shown as black vulture with outstretched wings); b. *bi-?-la* (woodpecker [*bijmuut?*] in nest with insect, *ju[k]*) *ka?*; c. *by-yu-?*; d. *ya-ka?-NAAH-hi*; e. *4-TE' -?-AHK?-ku?*; f. *bi-ta-la-AJAW*. The iconographic elements of the vessel are also important; the prominent repetition of “bi” in three of the panels probably refers both to the unknown place called “Bital” (Chase et al. 1991:10) and also to a symbolic journey, possibly having to do with creation mythology, as indicated iconographically by the cartouches in Figures 122e and 122f. It is possible that 122e references a “1st” deity and that 122f references the “4th” world creation.

S.D. C203B-17 (Figure 130) was assigned to a deposit that could be seen in the northern section in the core of Structure C47. S.D. C203B-17 was clearly a burial that was off-section; it was not dug. However, eroded skull fragments and long bones were recovered from the section, but no teeth were found. Suture closure on the skull fragments indicates the individual in this burial was an adult.

S.D. C203B-18 (Figures 117-121 and 126-129) was assigned to a cache that was found in a hidden open-air niche at the base of the eastern wall of the S.D. C203B-16 tomb. A flat upright stone that had originally been mortared into the wall hid this small chamber. Like S.D. C203B-15 above the chamber, this cache consisted of a pair of encased vessels. A lidded cylinder

was enclosed within a set of lip-to-lip bowls. Outside of the bowls to their west (but within the secreted niche) were a large quartzite cobble (Figure 129i) and a large rounded stone (Figure 129j). Located within the innermost cache vessel were 2 carved “Charlie Chaplins” (Figure 129a,b), 1 drilled flamingo-tongue shell (Figure 129c), 1 shell bead (Figure 129d), 1 bone bead (Figure 129e), 1 jadeite bead (Figure 129f), and 2 jadeite chips (Figure 129g,h).

S.D. C203B-19 (Figures 73g-i, 131, and 132) was assigned to a concentration of sherds directly above the capstones for S.D. C203B-20 at its northern end tangent to the northern excavation limit for Operation C203B. These sherds turned into 2 reconstructable vessels (Figure 132) dating to the early part of the Late Classic Period. Three partial obsidian blades (Figure 73g-i) were also recovered in association with these materials.

S.D. C203B-20 (Figures 91b, 131, and 133-138) was assigned to a crypt burial set into bedrock directly beneath the front step for Structure C47. The crypt measured 1.8 m in length (north-south) by 0.7 m in width by 0.45 m in height. As mentioned in relation to S.D. C203B-1, it appears that S.D. C203B-20 was re-entered. The uppermost body found within the chamber appears to have been a later addition that was accompanied by a Belize Red dish and cylinder (Figure 135e,f). With the exception of 2 partial lidded face caches and 2 finger bowls from the fill of this interment (Figure 135a-d), the other 10 vessels in this crypt are consistent with a transitional date between the late Early Classic and the early Late Classic Period. The artifactual material from this chamber likely derives from the initial interment and includes 1 bone pin (Figure 136a), 1 bone awl tip (Figure 136ff), 1 drilled animal canine (Figure 136b), a set of jadeite earrings (Figure 136c,d), 3 jadeite beads (Figure 136e-g); 2 jadeite chips (Figure 136h,i), 1 pottery earring (Figure 136j), 21 items of worked shell (Figure 136k-ee), 1 complete obsidian lancet (Figure 137g), and 8 partial obsidian blades and lancets (Figure 137a-f,h,l). Also present in the deposit were pieces of worked chert that were reconstructable (Figure 138), possibly representative of knapping at the time of the interment. The remains of at least 6 human individuals are present. Only the individual bundled in the central area appears to have been

articulated in a fetal position; this is a male who exhibits frontal skull flattening. Two other males, one adult and one older adult, were also present in the interment. Based on two of the four mandibles recovered, two of the other individuals in the interment were adult females. There was substantial ante-mortem tooth loss in this sample. The sub-adult remains present in the interment were between 3.5 to 8.5 years old at the time of death. One upper left canine, of unknown association, had a pyrite inlay.

Structure C54

The architectural focus for the southern side of the Renegon plaza was Structure C54 and it was excavated with an axial trench (Figure 64b) that reached bedrock. This investigation revealed a structure with stone base-walls, but that probably was not vaulted based on the absence of vault-stones within the overlaying collapse. The building itself was a tandem-roomed construction with doorways that measures 1.4 m in width and walls that were 0.75 m thick. The front room of the construction measure 2.2 m in width; a 0.25 m step-up to the rear room; the dimensions of the rear room could not be measured as the back wall had completely collapsed. A broad frontal platform, extending 3.1 m into the plaza, characterized the northern side of Structure C54. Based on structural fills in the center of the building, it appears that there may have been two different phases for Structure C54. Even though no deposits were found with the building, it surely dates to the Late Classic Period.

Operation C203C (Figures 139 and 140) was assigned to the axial excavation through Structure C54 that measured 10.1 m north-south by 2.0 m east-west. With the exception of deeper probes within both interior rooms, one of which reached bedrock, only the overburden was excavated from this construction in order to ascertain its form. The only artifact of interest that was recovered was a piece of worked bone (Figure 141).

Vergonsoso Residential Group: Structures C35-C42

Located immediately northeast of the Renegon residential group and west of the Machete Plateau and the Conchita Causeway, the Vergonsoso residential group was selected for

investigation in order to gain “immediate neighbor” comparative information for the Machete residential complexes. The group is comprised of a series of long low platforms and conjoined buildings (Figure 142). Only the eastern building was investigated in the Vergonsoso residential group.

Structure C38

Structure C38 was the most noticeable eastern construction in Vergonsoso, rising approximately 0.8 m above the associated plaza area. It was investigated by a single axial trench (Figure 60b) which was dug to bedrock. Evidence for at least four building phases were recovered at this locus, as indicated by facings and plaster surfaces. The remains recovered at this locus all date to the Late and Terminal Classic Periods.

Operation C204B (Figure 143 and 144) was assigned to the axial trench through Structure C38, which measured 5.8 m in length (east-west) by 2.0 m in width. Three caches were located in the plaza to the west of the basal step of the building and a burial was found within the structure behind this step. A limestone bar (Figure 151b), usually associated with ritual at Caracol, was also recovered in the building fill. Also in the building fill in the front of the building was the debris from a deer-bone workshop (Figure 145). Isolated human skeletal remains also were recovered from the structural fills of the building; four human skull fragments and a zygomatic were recovered in the central core of the building (LotC204B/10); although no teeth were recovered, the long bones, ribs, and cranial material for a human subadult less than or equal to 1 year of age at death were found in the fill in the rear of the construction (Lots C204B/15-2 and C204B/17-2). Apart from modifications to various structural phases for Structure C38, the corner of a well-plastered feature that barely rose above bedrock was located in the archaeological section below the formal burial.

S.D. C204B-1 (Figures 146-148 and 149a-e) was assigned to a nested cache of ritual vessels placed immediately west of and below the level of the front step for Structure C38. A smaller, lidded face cache (Figure 147a) along with 4 finger bowls (Figure 147c-f) and the base

of another small cache vessel (Figure 147g) had been set within a larger face cache (Figure 147b). Within and on the bottom of the smaller face cache, 4 obsidian flakes and 1 obsidian chip had been placed (Figure 148 and 149a-e). Two human phlanges, one distal and one intermediate, were also recovered inside the larger face cache and were likely associated with the 4 finger bowls.

S.D. C204B-2 (Figures 146 and 150b) was assigned to a single finger bowl (Figure 150b) set into the plaza west of Structure C38. A single intermediate human phlange was recovered in association with this vessel.

S.D. C204B-3 (Figures 146, 150a, and 151a) was assigned to a very broken, lidded face cache that was set within the plaza near the southern limit of the excavation. A limestone bar (Figure 151a) was recovered in association with this cache and was probably located inside the vessel.

S.D. C204B-4 (Figures 149f-o and 152-154) was assigned to a formally constructed cist burial behind the front step of Structure C38. The cist measured 1.75 m in length (north-south) by 0.6 m in width. Based on the teeth that were recovered and on a mandible with ante-mortem tooth loss, a minimum of four individuals were present. One of these individuals was likely female and exhibits a partially burnt skull (orbit and sphenoid). A total of 9 ceramic vessels were located with this burial and four of them were partial vessels. Of the 4 partial vessels, 3 definitely can be dated to the Terminal Classic Period (Figure 153a,f,i). The complete vessel all date to the earlier part of the Late Classic Period. This suggests that this burial was possibly re-entered in the Terminal Classic Period and that other ritual was carried out, a fact supported by the presence of an incensario (Figure 153a) and by the presence of 10 partial obsidian blades (Figure 149f-o) that are often utilized in rituals (see Renegon above). Artifactual materials recovered in association with this burial include a burnt deer tine (Figure 154e), a carved shell disc (Figure 154a), 3 worked bones (Figure 154b,g,h), pieces of two carved bone rings (Figures 154c,d), and 2 pyrite chips (Figure 154e,f).

Significance

There is a long history of scholarly debate over the existence of ancient Maya cities and urban forms (e.g. Becker 1979). Because some researchers did not conceive of the Maya as having had true cities (characterizing them instead as “regal-ritual” centers; Sanders and Webster 1988), “neighborhoods in Classic Maya cities have received little attention from archaeologists” (Smith 2010:148). However, it has become evident that the Classic Maya had extensive cities that fell within the realm of “low density urbanism” (Fletcher 2009; Isendahl and Smith 2013); Caracol is an excellent example of an integrated, and substantially modified, low-density landscape (A. Chase et al. 2010, 2011; D. Chase et al. 1990). While some researchers (Robin 2003) have noted that neighborhoods must have existed in Maya cities, these have not generally been archaeologically identified or researched. In fact, it recently has been explicitly noted that Maya settlement clusters, or neighborhoods, “have yet to be subjected to a systematic and comprehensive analysis” (Smith 2010:148). Thus, the research undertaken here helps to remedy a gap in our understanding of Maya urbanism. The social composition of neighborhoods is important for understanding the spatial distribution of ethnic groups, social levels (status and class), religious differences, and occupational specializations.

The research carried out on the Machete Plateau in 2012, 2013, and 2014 has permitted several insights into this concentration of residential groups:

1. Several of the groups within this area appear to have started in the early part of the Late Classic Period and may have been due to in-migration to Caracol as a result of the successful wars carried out first at Tikal and then at Naranjo, thus mirroring processes seen in other parts of the world where post-war success drives prosperity (A. Chase and D. Chase 1999; D. Chase and A. Chase 2002, 2003a).

2. Nearest neighbors can be different statuses; this is clearly seen in the sizes and differences of the various residential complexes excavated. At least for the Machete Plateau, status does appear to correlate with area and height of a residential group, while the number of

structures present seems to correlate to some degree with the length of occupation for a given residential group.

3. Religion crossed statuses; while higher status residential groups may have had more “prestige” items in their ritual deposits, all status participated in the use of face caches and finger bowls – and even lower status residential groups had access to prestige items such as jadeite. Also possibly correlated with religion (or with status) were the use of tau-shaped filed teeth among the human occupants and an emphasis on the use of drilled animal canines for decorative purposes. Many of the eastern structures were the loci for multi-generational family interments, sometimes placed as single units but often placed sequentially within the same chamber.

4. The existence of a market economy (D. Chase and A. Chase 2014) is evident in the items that appear within the various residential groups. This can be seen in the presence of jadeite chips in caches in groups on the Machete Plateau that were of both lower and middle status and it can be seen in the ceramic tradewares that are distributed both within the neighborhood and beyond the neighborhood.

5. Manufacturing of lithics and bone was generally undertaken in smaller groups that were not of the highest status. The recovery of manufacturing debris within the cores of buildings is somewhat problematic and is largely dependent on the sampling and excavation strategy used; thus, in groups where not all structures were tested, it may still be possible that manufacturing was undertaken, but in general it would appear that high intensity manufacturing was not undertaken in high status residential groups, at least within this sector of the site.

6. Urban renewal was apparently practiced. The archaeology suggests that complete groups were demolished, removed, and then rebuilt in the Late Classic Period – with the ritual items from the earlier groups sometimes being incorporated into later deposits. Thus, there is great difficulty in assuming a full occupation history within excavation. These efforts appear to be greater than other areas previously tested.

7. Finally, there was a surprising amount of Terminal Classic ritual in many of the residential groups that were investigated. This includes the deposition of late cache vessels in association with the eastern structures of several groups. But, it also appears that earlier interments located within buildings were re-opened in the Terminal Classic Period and then re-consecrated, suggesting that some continuity existed between the Terminal Classic populations and the preceding inhabitants. These re-consecration events are fairly late and may have taken place at the same time across this area.

Within cities, neighborhoods come into being through a variety of bottom-up or top-down processes. It is suspected at Caracol that neighborhoods originally started with loose agglomerations of residential plazas whose residents may have been related in terms of kinship. Over time, as population pressure grew and the site expanded, the original form of a neighborhood may have been altered by factors beyond the strict control of individuals and households, such as politics, migration, and wealth. We have previously suggested that spacing of settlement at Caracol was regulated so that, during the Late Classic Period, plazuela groups were evenly spaced (A. Chase and D. Chase 2007:61), meaning that grown children could often not live near parents – mimicking a pattern found in some contemporary urban and suburban settlements. Given the proximity of the Machete neighborhood to the Caracol epicenter, it may also be possible that there was later interference from civic authorities in terms of the social composition of the Late Classic residents of this area. These kinds of pressures and changes may ultimately be identifiable in the archaeological record.

In summary, the research carried out in 2012, 2013, and 2014 has served a number of purposes. First, it provides detailed archaeological data on the development of a significant concentration of clustered residential groups. Second, it provides artifactual materials from these clustered groups that can be compared and contrasted. Third, it provides mortuary and skeletal data that can be used to define possible kinship relationships, reconstruct past diet, and identify any in-migration into these clustered residential units over time and space. Finally, the

conjunction of all of this information results in a detailed picture of at least one Caracol neighborhood that can be used to help reconstruct Caracol's urban development and the social, ritual, economic, and political organization of the ancient landscape. These data provide a baseline for understanding the evolution and integration of a Classic Maya neighborhood – and, as such, should also prove useful for comparative studies focusing on the impact of neighborhoods on the development and maintenance of both ancient and contemporary urban structures.

Acknowledgements

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TABLE 1:
Caracol Project Members: 2014 Field Season

Staff:

Directors

Arlen F. Chase	C1
Diane Z. Chase	C2

Lab and Field Director

Maureen Carpenter	C56
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Senior Field Supervisors

Lucas Johnson	C134
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Field Supervisors:

Erin Daugherty	C215
Rachael Kangas	C220
Alex Rivas	C188

Field Associate:

Eric Michael Patz	C223
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Field Assistants:

Angelica Nicole Costa	C221
Maura Giorsetti	C222
Serenela Mont Pelier	C224
Jacklyn Rumberger	C225
Taylor Sulouff	C226

Senior Clean-Up Crew:

Elyse Chase	C75
Lisa Lomitola	C183
Amy Morris	C111

Belizean Labor:

Kitchen

Angelica Meneses
Linda Aurora Meneses
Reyna Godoy

Field

Saul Galeano
Jaime Iglesias
Jose Bernabe Lopez
Nelson Alfonso Castellanos
Luis Alberto Mai
Minel Javier Camal
Carlos Ivan Mendes
Asterio Morales (fell ill week of Feb 3)
Roberto Pacheco
Eric Castaneda
Felix Uck
Javier Dominguez

Figures

- Cover: Pottery bowl in S.D. C203B-16 (also see Figure 122a).
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- Figure 2: Detailed map of residential groups within neighborhood area (after A. Chase and D. Chase 1987), showing groups excavated by year. Green circle [left central] is the Machete Terminus and the Tabanos residential group, both loci of excavation in 1986; red circles [north] show groups tested during the 2012 field season; blue circles [center] represent groups excavated during the 2013 field season; orange circles [south and west] show residential groups excavated during the 2014 field season to complete the testing program.
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Figure 36: Plans of crude facings and a construction wall within Operation C200D.

Figure 37: Plan of Sonrisa residential group, showing the locations of Operations C201B, C201C, C201D, and C201E.

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Figure 50: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C201B-6: a. Palmar Orange-Polychrome; b. Azucar Impressed; c. Martin’s Incised; d. Cohune Red; e. Tialipa Gouged-Incised; f. Bimbo Composite; g., h., j., l., m. Belize Red; i. Tialipa Brown; k. Copador Polychrome; n. Salada Fluted; o. eroded Tialipa Brown Fluted; p. Saxche Orange-Polychrome.

Figure 51: Photographs of pottery vessels from S.D. C201B-6.

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Figure 53: Obsidan blade and blade fragments from S.D. C201B-6.

Figure 54: Caracol Structure L33 section, designated Operation C201C.

Figure 55: Plan of facings within Operation C201C.

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Figure 58: Cross-section of reservoir associated with Sonrisa excavation group, designated Operation C201E.

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Figure 67: Artifactual material from Operation C203B: a. marine shell (C203B/3-10); b. conch fragment (C203B/7-1); c. – e. worked shell (C203B/20-1); f. chert macro-blade stem fragment (C203B/20).

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Figure 69: Limestone bars recovered in Operation C203B/13.

Figure 70: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-1 and capstones over S. D. C203B-7 and S.D. C203B-10.

Figure 71: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-2.

Figure 72: Pottery vessels from S.D. C203B-2 (a.) and S.D. C203B-5 (b., c.): a. Saxche Orange-Polychrome; b. Molino Black; c. Machete Orange-Polychrome.

Figure 73: Obsidian blade and chip fragments from various S.D.s in Operation C203B: S.D. C203B-2 (a., b.); S.D. C203B-5 (c. – e.); S.D. C203B-6 (f.); S. C. C203B-19 (g. – i.).

Figure 74: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-3 and S.D. C203B-4.

Figure 75: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-5 and the capstones above the crypt.

Figure 76: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-6.

Figure 77: Hebe Modeled face caches: a. from fill (C203B/11); b. from S.D. C203B-6 (lot 21).

Figure 78: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-6 showing limestone bar in face cache.

Figure 79: Artifactual material from within S.D. C203B-6: a. limestone bar; b., c. sample of jadeite chips; d., e. spondylus chips; f., g. quartzite chips (chips represent largest and smallest samples).

Figure 80: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47: a., b. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/9); c., d. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/18); e. – g. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/19); h. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/20); i. eroded Pajarito Orange-Polychrome (C203B/21); j. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/21).

Figure 81: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-7.

Figure 82: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47 (C203B/23): a. Pantano Impressed; b. Miseria Appliqued.

Figure 83: Detail plan of S.D. C203B-8.

Figure 84: Pottery vessels from S.D. C203B-8: a. – h. Ceiba Unslipped.

Figure 85: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47 (C203B/25): a. – d. Ceiba Unslipped; e. possibly Torro Gouged-Incised.

Figure 86: Photographs of two caches in the front fill for Structure C47: a. S.D. C203B-9, looking east; b. S. D. C203B-12, looking east.

Figure 87: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-9.

Figure 88: Pottery associated with S.D. C203B-9 (C203B/27): a., c. Pedregal Modeled; b. modeled hollow figure; d. possibly eroded Tinaja Red; e. – x. Ceiba Unslipped; f. shows the in situ materials within the cache vessel, consisting of bobwhite bird bone and 3 obsidian lancets.

Figure 89: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-9 (C203B/27): b. – d. are from the vessel shown in Figure 85f.

Figure 90: Artifactual material associated with S. D. C203B-9 (C203B/27, unless otherwise noted): a. chert core tool; b. clam shell (C203B/28-2); c., d. limestone bars; e. quartzite chunk; f. – h. shell and crab claw fragments.

Figure 91: Photographs of burial crypts associated with Structure C47: a. S.D. C203B-14; b. S.D. C203B-20; c. S.D. C203B-10.

Figure 92: Cross-sections of S.D. C203B-10.

Figure 93: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-10.

Figure 94: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-10: a. San Julio Modeled; b. Tialipa Brown Modeled; c. Gallinero Fluted; d. undesignated type; e. erode Machete Oange-Polychrome.

Figure 95: Artifactual material associate with S.D. C203B-10: a. – c. worked bone; d. – f. bone tubes; g., i. – p. worked shell; h. drilled animal canine.

Figure 96: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-11.

Figure 97: Ceiba Unslipped cache vessels: a., b. from C203B/30; c. – k. associated with S.D. C203B-11 (C203B/31); l. – q. from C203B/32.

Figure 98: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-11 (C203B/31).

Figure 99: Bars from front of Structure C47: a. limestone bar (C203B/30); b. limestone bar (S.D. C203B-12; C203B/33); c. ceramic bar (S.D. C203B-13; C203B/34).

Figure 100: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-12 and S.D. C203B-13.

Figure 101: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-12 (C203B/33): a., b. undesignated types; c. – f. Ceiba Unslipped; g., h. possibly Valentin Unslipped.

Figure 102: Photograph of the two footed vessels (censers) from S.D. C203B-12.

Figure 103: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-13 (C203B/34): a. – u. Ceiba Unslipped; v. Ceiba Unslipped from C203B/35.

Figure 104: Detailed plan of capstones above S.D. C203B-14.

Figure 105: Cross-section of S.D. C203B-14.

- Figure 106: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-14.
- Figure 107: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-14 (C203B/36): a. Aguila Orange; b. eroded Dos Arroyos Orange-Polychrome; c. possibly Pucte Brown; d. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; e. probably Corriental Appliqued; f. – s. Ceiba Unslipped.
- Figure 108: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-14: a., b. pottery earrings; c., d. worked mussel shell; e., f. jadeite beads; k. jadeite fragment; g. – j., l. – q. shell beads; r. spondylus shell bead; s. limestone mirror back; t. worked bone.
- Figure 109: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-14.
- Figure 110: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-15 and the covering capstones.
- Figure 111: Pottery cache vessels associated with S.D. C203B-15: a., b. undesignated types.
- Figure 112: Detailed plans of the contents of the smaller cache vessel in S. D. C203B-15, stones above and bird bone below.
- Figure 113: Detailed plans of the larger cache vessel in S.D. C203B-15: upper plan showing the smaller vessel inside the larger one; lower plan showing the contents of the larger cache vessel.
- Figure 114: Artifactual materials from the larger cache vessel in S.D. C203B-15 (C203B/38; bird bone not shown): a. conch shell disk; b. spondylus shell pendant; c. oyster shell pendant; d. fire coral; e., f. drilled olivella shells; g. stingray spine; h. – l. drilled marginella shells; m. spondylus shell bead; n – q. jute snails (sample).
- Figure 115: Miscellaneous artifacts from rear fill of Structure C47: a. jadeite bead (C203B/41); b. limestone bar (C203B/44); c. limestone bar (C203B/49).
- Figure 116: Detailed plan of capstones for S.D. C203B-16 and associated architectural features.
- Figure 117: Short cross-section of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.
- Figure 118: Long cross-section of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.
- Figure 119: Photographs of interior of S.D. C203B-16: a. southern part of chamber with jadeite bar and two vessels visible; b. central portion of chamber before excavation; c. two tripod cylinders and a flowerpot in front of stone that hid S.D. C203B-18.
- Figure 120: Upper plan of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.
- Figure 121: Lower plan of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.
- Figure 122: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-16 (C203B/42): a. Lucha Incised; b., c. Caldero Buff-Polychrome; d. Quintal Unslipped; e., f., g. Pucte Brown; h. possibly Candelario Appliqued.
- Figure 123: Photographs of the cartouches on the vessel shown in Figure 122a and on the cover.
- Figure 124: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-16: a. jadeite tube; b. – p. jadeite beads and chips; q. drilled shells; r. drilled clam shells; s. stingray spine; t. worked bone; u., v. worked shell; w. river snail; x. white river pebble; y. black river pebble; z. chert chunk; aa. malachite chunks; bb. worked river cobble; cc. stone polishing tool.
- Figure 125: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-16.
- Figure 126: Photographs of S.D. C203B-18: a. cache in situ in niche; b. contents of smaller cache vessel.
- Figure 127: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-18: a., c. undesignated type; b. undesignated type.
- Figure 128: Detailed plans of contents of lower vessel and smaller vessel.
- Figure 129: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-18 (C203B/45; a. – h. inside smaller vessel; i. and j. outside vessels): a. shell “Charlie Chaplin,” b. bone “Charlie Chaplin,” c. flamingo-tongue marine shell; d. shell bead; e. bone bead; f. jadeite bead; g., h. jadeite chips; i. quartzite cobble; j. rounded stone.
- Figure 130: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-17.
- Figure 131: Detailed plan of capstones over S.D. C203B-20 and S.D. C203B-19 atop the capstones.
- Figure 132: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-19: a. Molino Black b. Machete Orange-Polychrome.
- Figure 133: Cross-section of S.D. C203B-20 and plan showing relationship between S.D. C203B-20 and S.D. C203B-7.
- Figure 134: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-20.
- Figure 135: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-20 (C203B/48): a., b. Hebe Modeled; c., d. Ceiba Unslipped (c. associated with S.D. C203B-1); e. San Pedro Impressed; f. Pala Incised; g. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; h. Pucte Brown; i. eroded Molino Black; j. Caldero Buff-Polychrome; k. possibly Veracal Orange; l. – p. eroded Machete Orange-Polychrome.

- Figure 136: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-20: a. bone pin; b. drilled animal canine; c, d. jadeite errings; e. - g. jadeite beads; h., i. jadeite chips; j. pottery earring; k., l. worked conch shell; m. burnt olivella shell; n. - u. worked conch shell; v. drilled marginella shell; w. - aa. worked mussel shell; bb. - ee. tusk shells; ff. worked bone awl tip.
- Figure 137: Partial obsidian blades and lancets associated with S.D. C203B-20.
- Figure 138: Worked chert that is reconstructable from within S.D. C203B-20.
- Figure 139: Structure C54 section, designated Operation C203C.
- Figure 140: Plan of Operation C203C, showing tandem room stone building with frontal platform.
- Figure 141: Worked bone associated with Structure C54 (C203C/8-9).
- Figure 142: Plan of Vergonsoso residential group, showing the location of Operation C204B.
- Figure 143: Structure C38 section, designated Operation C204B.
- Figure 144: Plans of Operation C204B.
- Figure 145: Worked animal bone from the core of Structure C54: a. - l. C204B/5; m. - x. C204B/7; y. - cc. C204B/9.
- Figure 146: Detailed plans of S.D. C204B-1, S.D. C204B-2, and S.D. C204B-3.
- Figure 147: Pottery cache vessels from S.D. C204B-1: a., b. Hebe Modeled; c. - f. Ceiba Unslipped; g. probably Hebe Modeled.
- Figure 148: Detailed plan of obsidian in base of S.D. C204B-1 (Figure 145a).
- Figure 149: Obsidian associated with S.D. C204B-1 (a. - e.) and with S.D. C204B-4 (f. - o.).
- Figure 150: Pottery vessels from S.D. C204B-2 (b.) and S. D. C204B-3 (a.): a. Hebe Modeled; b. Ceiba Unslipped.
- Figure 151: Possible limestone bars from Operation C204B: a. associated with S.D. C204B-3; b. from C204B/13.
- Figure 152: Detailed plans of S.D. C204B-4.
- Figure 153: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C204B-4: a. Pedregal Modeled, b., d., c. eroded Tialipa Brown; e. - h. eroded Machete Orange-Polychrome; f. Cohune Composite; i. Calabaso Gouged-Incised.
- Figure 154: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C204B-4: a. worked shell; b. - d. worked bone; e., f. pyrite chips; g., h. worked bone; i. burnt antler tine.

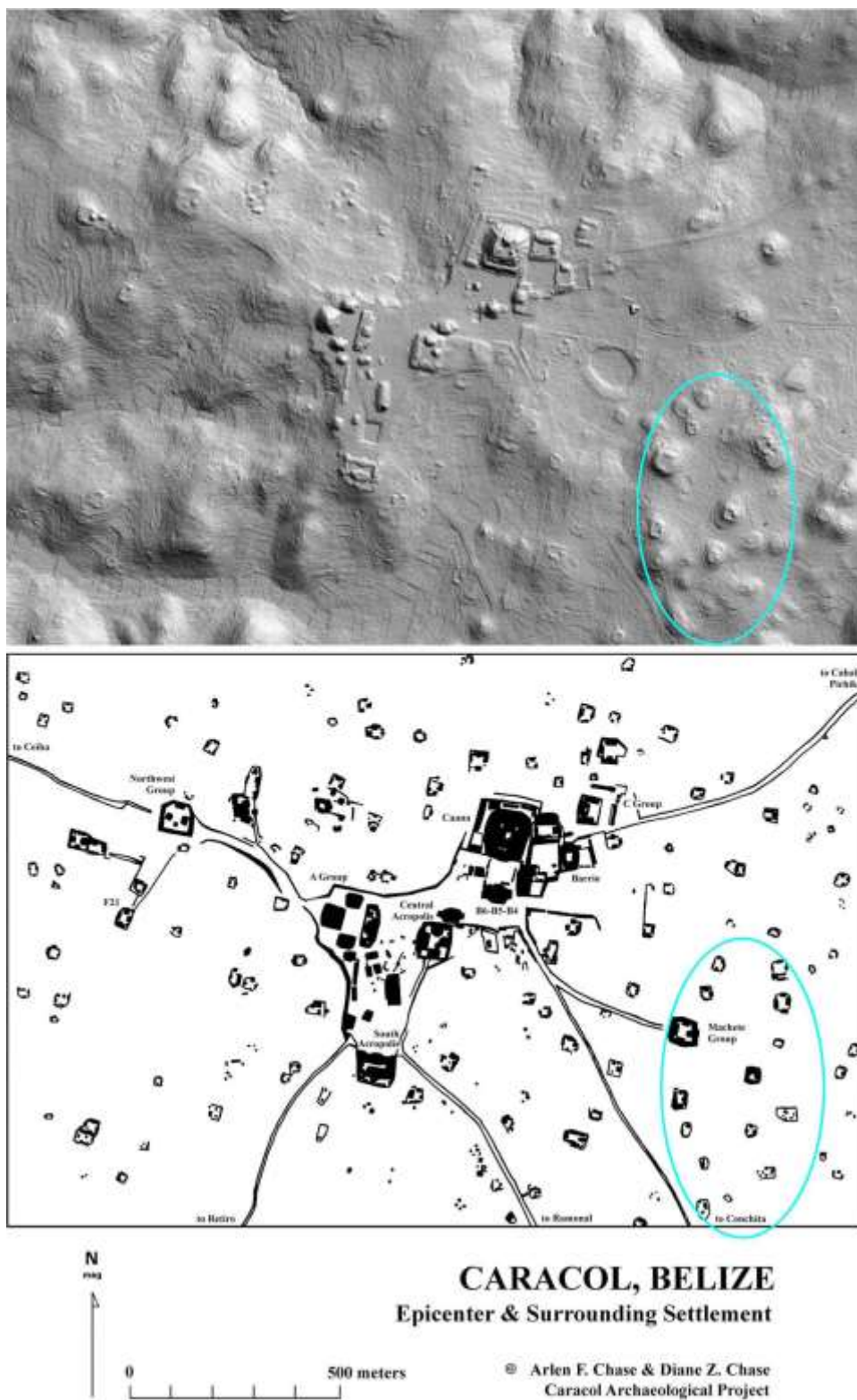


Figure 1: Machete neighborhood area that was archaeologically investigated from 2012 through 2014.

Alegre

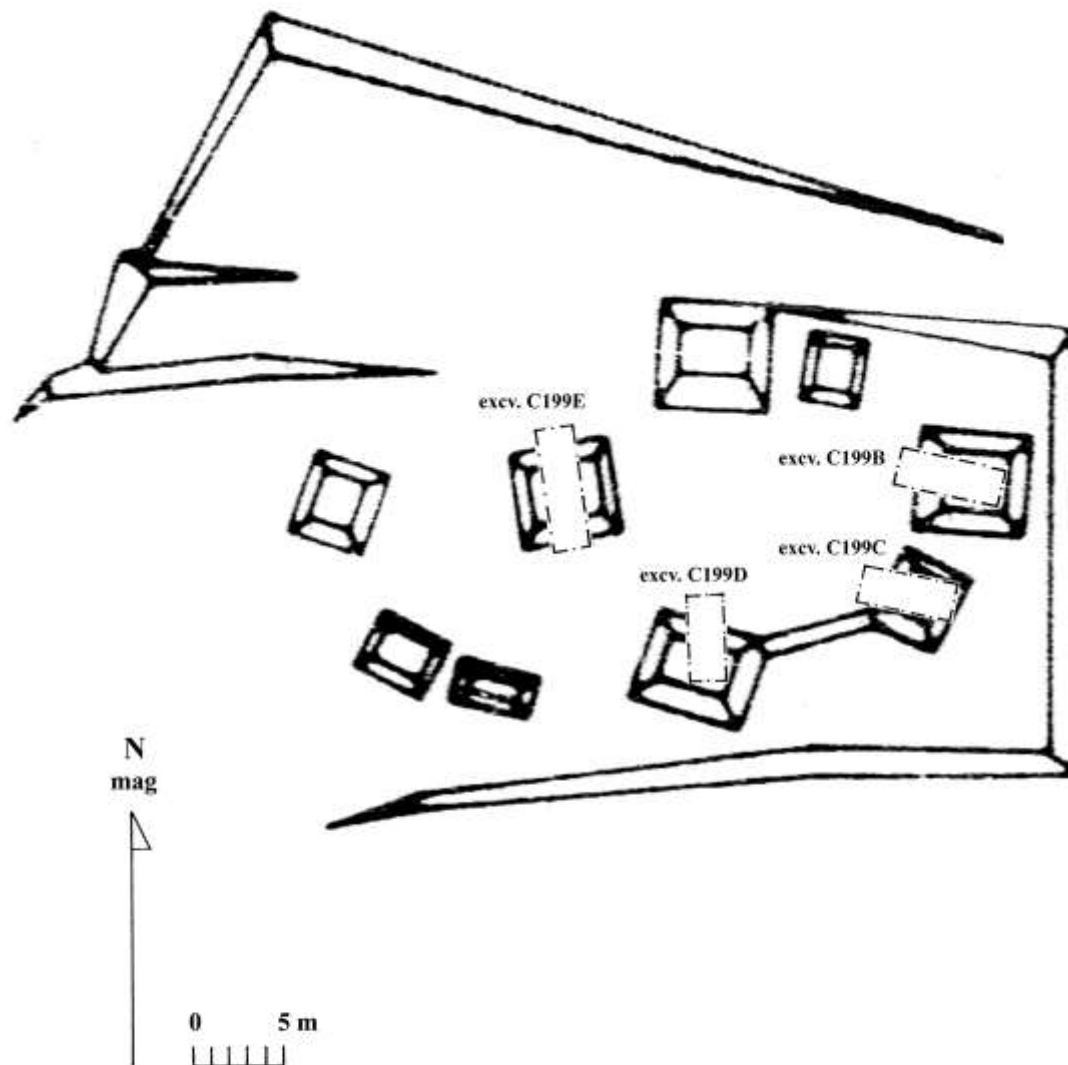


Figure 3: Plan of Alegre residential group, showing the locations of Operations C199B, C199C, C199D, and C199E.



a



b



c

Figure 4: Photographs of excavations in the Alegre residential group: a. Caracol Structures L48 and L49, looking east; b. Caracol Structure L50, looking south; c. Caracol Structure L51, looking north.

CARACOL Structure L48
excav. 199B

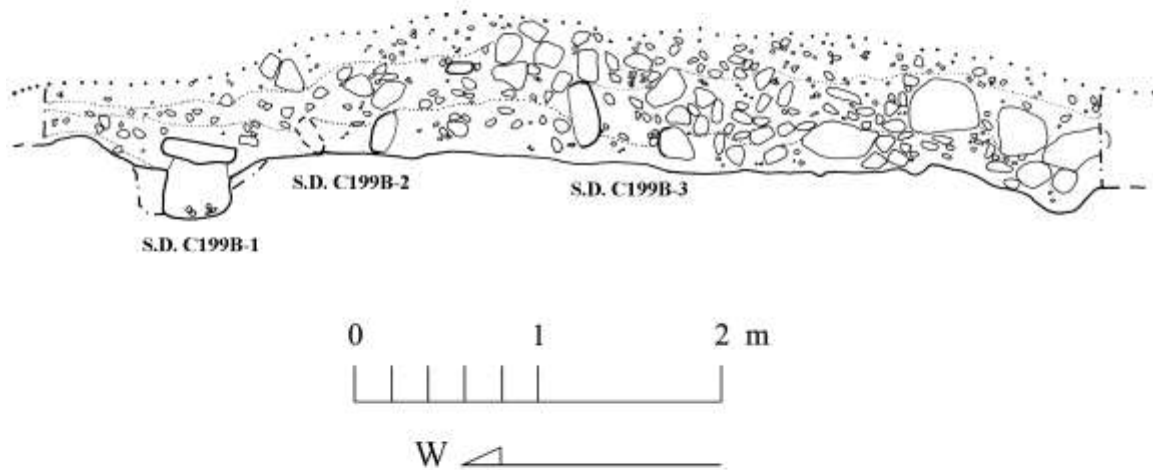


Figure 5: Caracol Structure L48 section, designated Operation C199B.

CARACOL Structure L48
excv. 199B

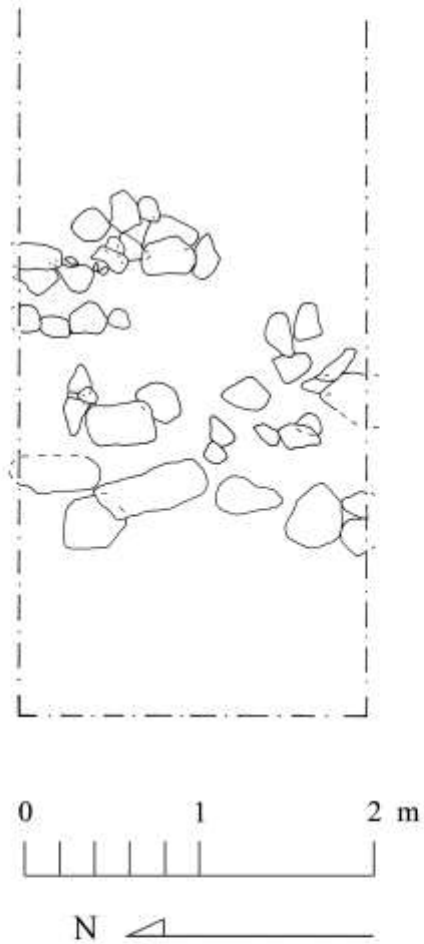


Figure 6: Plan of potential facings encountered beneath the humus in Caracol Structure L48, Operation C199B.

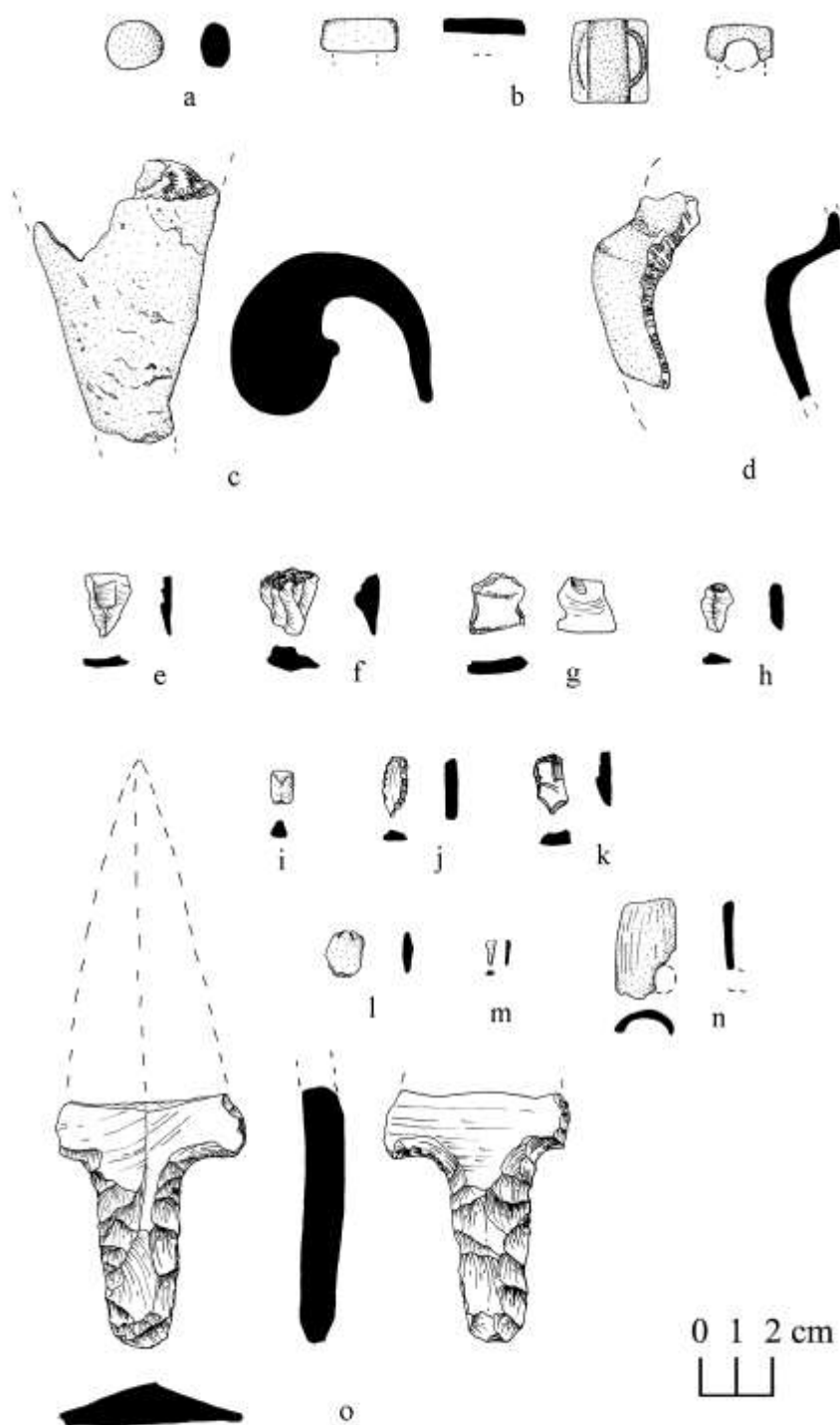


Figure 7: Artifactual material encountered in Operation C199: a. quartzite pebble (C199B/9-4); b. partial quartzite bead (C199C/6-1); c., d. strombus shell (C199C/8); e. – h. chert flakes (C199D/2-1); i., l. jadeite chips (C199D/8-3; C199E/5-2); j. k. chert drills (C199D/2-2); m. pyrite (C199E/7-9); n. olivella shell (C199E/10-3); o. partial stemmed macro-blade (C199E/9-5).

CARACOL Structure L48
excv. 199B

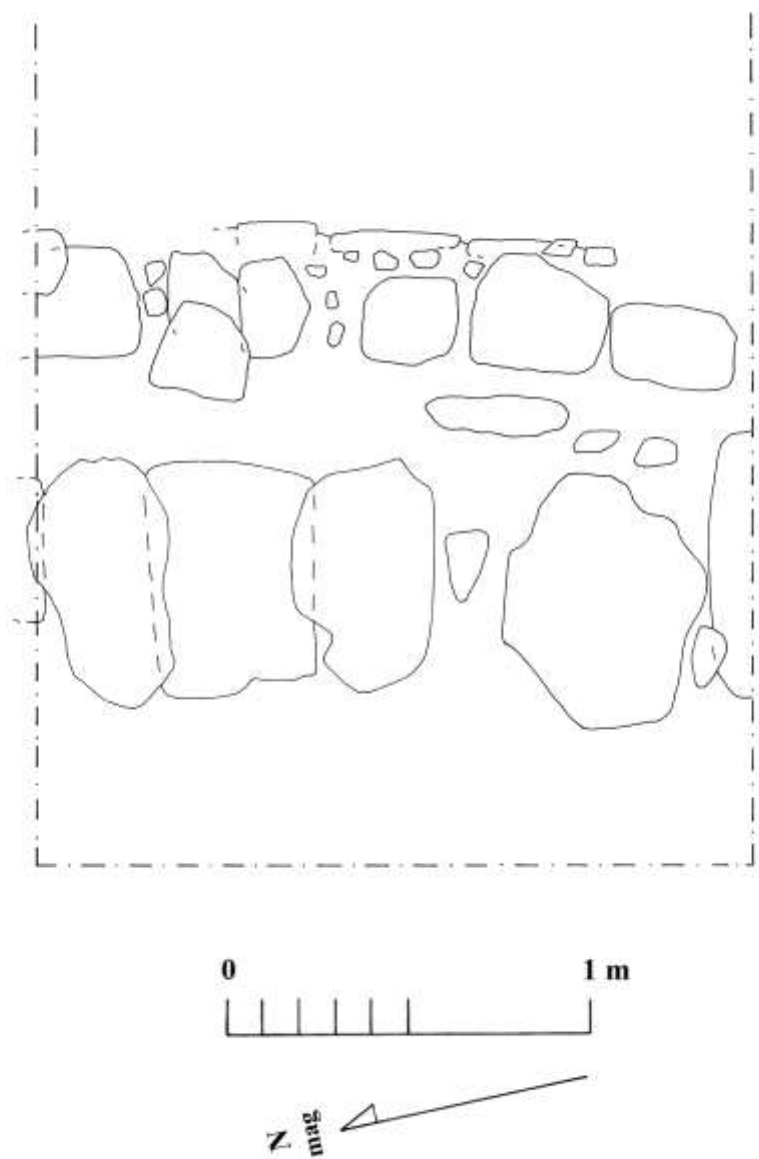


Figure 8: Capstones covering S.D. C199B-1 west of the front facing for Caracol Structure L48.

CARACOL Structure L48
excv. 199B

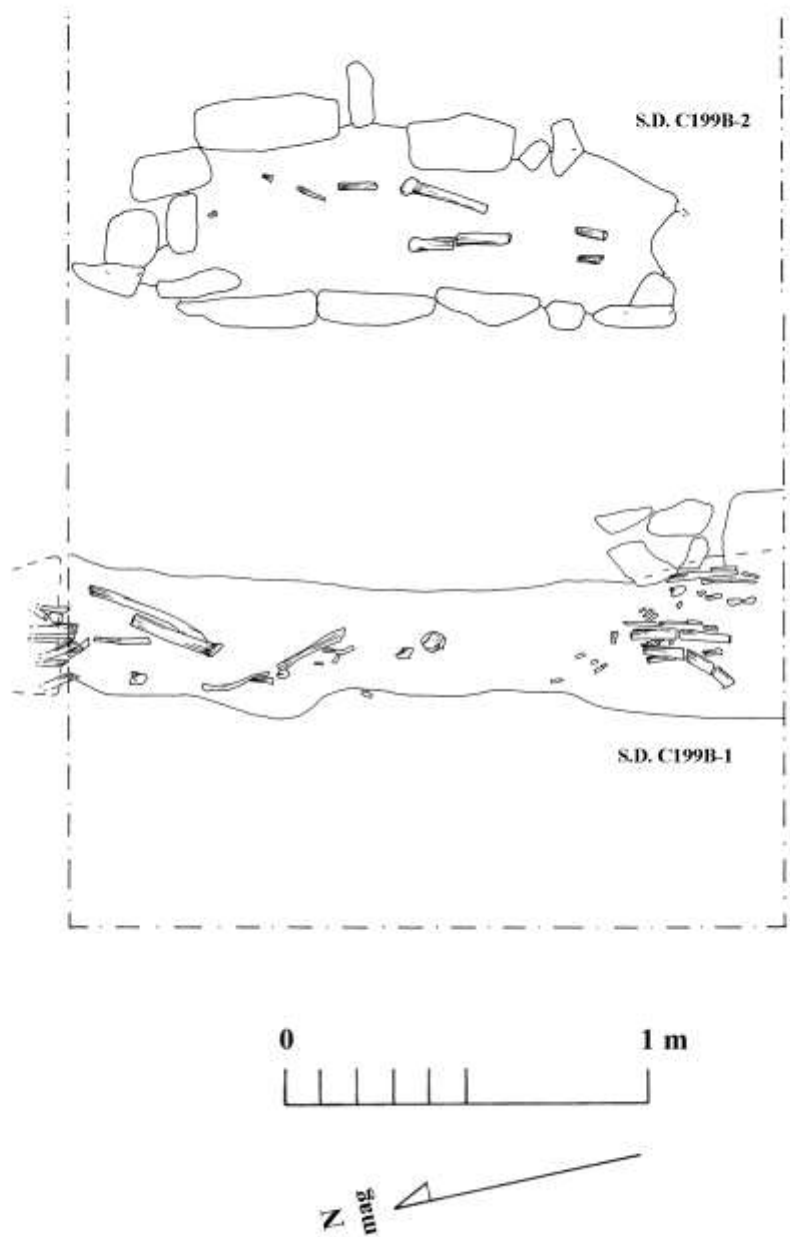


Figure 9: Detailed plans of S.D. C199B-1 and S.D. C199B-2.

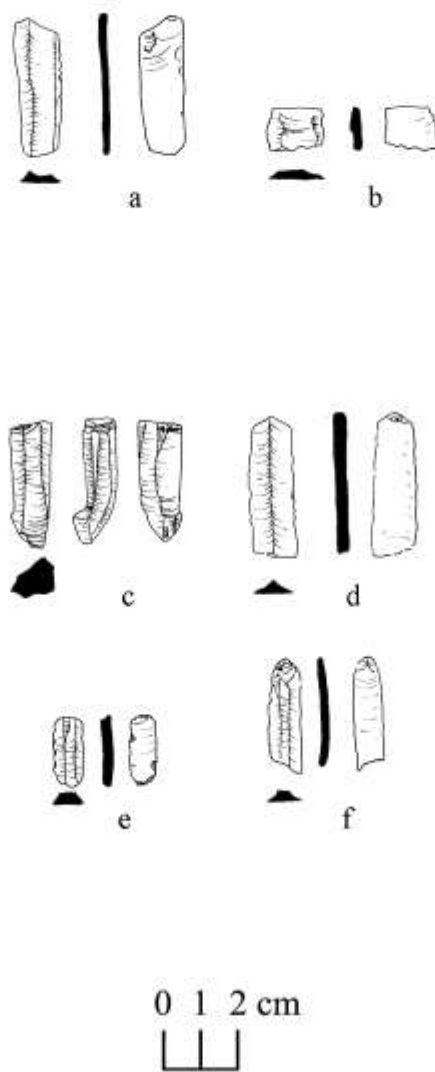


Figure 10: Obsidian associated with S.D. C199B-2 (a. and b.) and with S.D. C199B-3 (c. – f.).

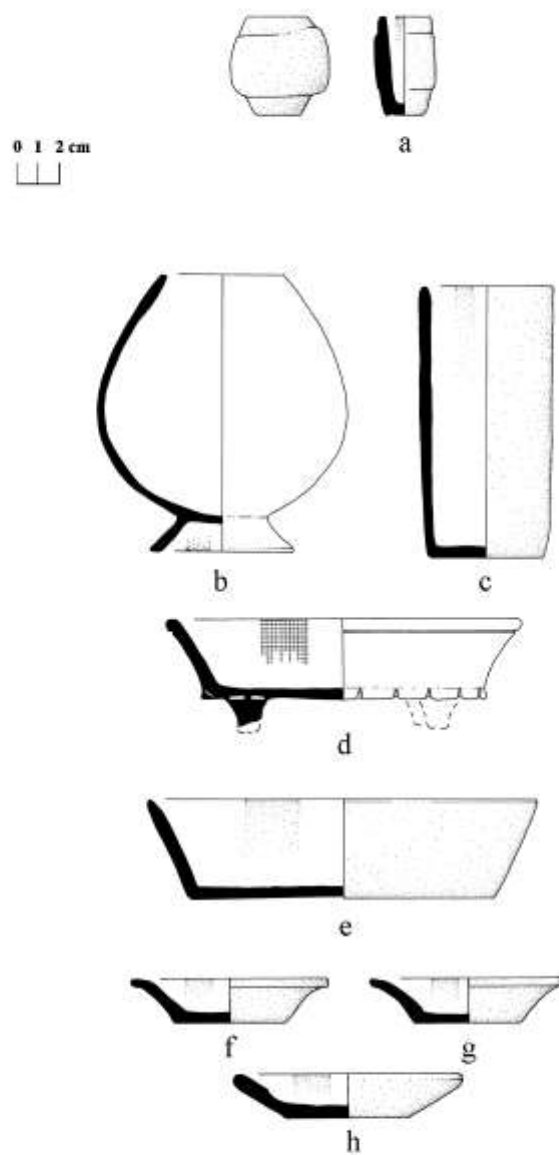


Figure 11: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C199B-1 (a.) and S.D. C199B-3 (b. – h.): a., c. eroded Tialipa Brown; b. eroded Belize Red; d. Calabaso Gouged-Incised; e. undesignated type; f. – g. Ceiba Unslipped.

CARACOL Structure L48

S.D. C199B-3

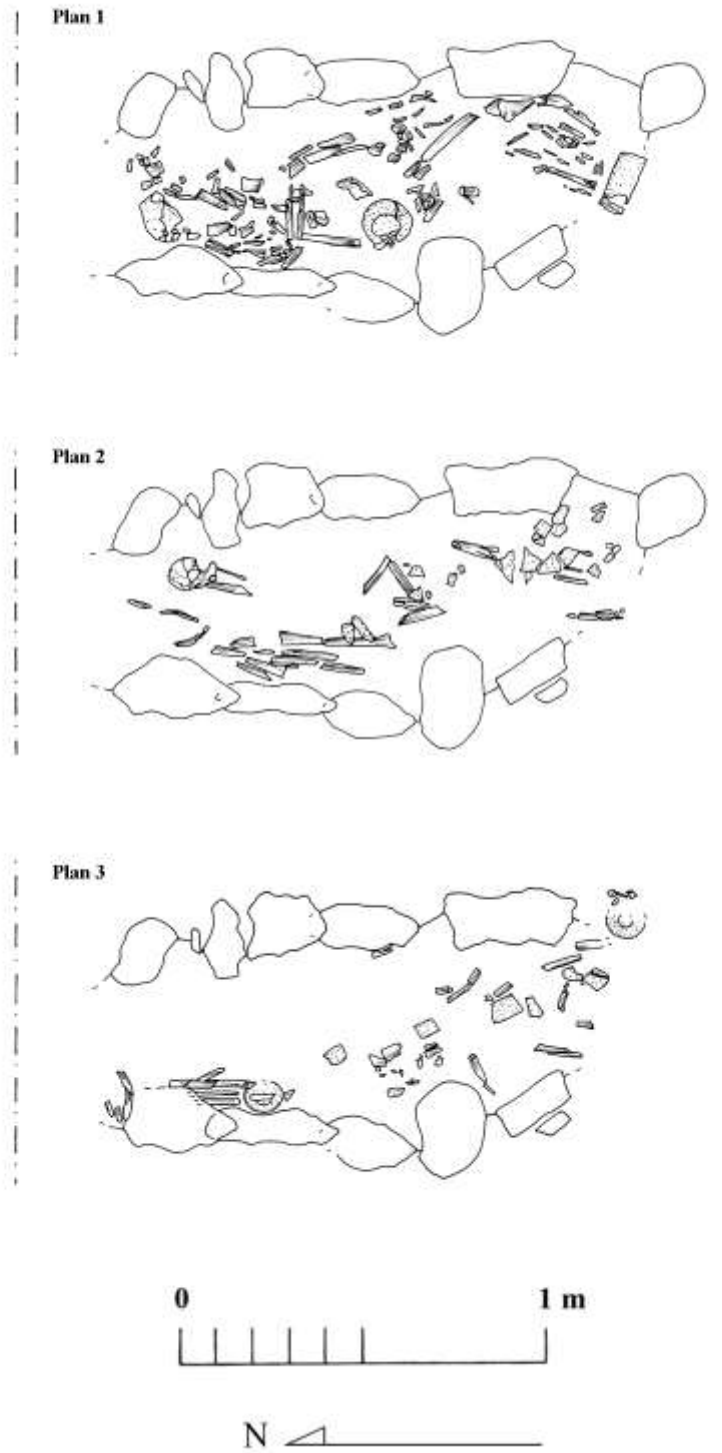


Figure 12: Detailed plans of S.D. C199B-3.

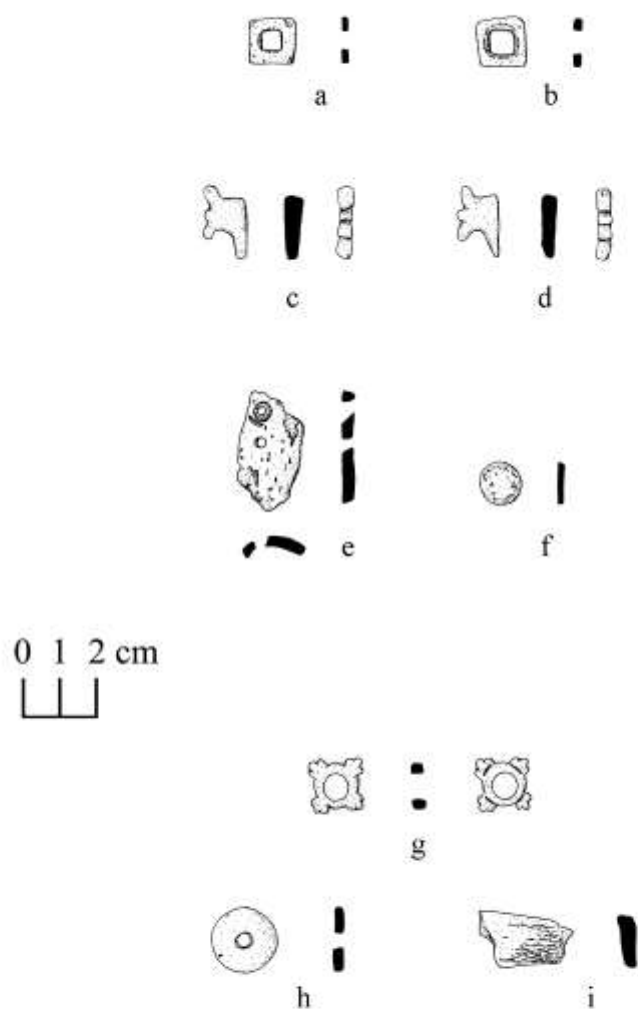


Figure 13: Artifacts from S.D. C199B-1 (a. – f.) and S.C. C199B-3 (g. – i.): all shell, except for e. which is worked bone.

CARACOL Structure L49
excav. C199C

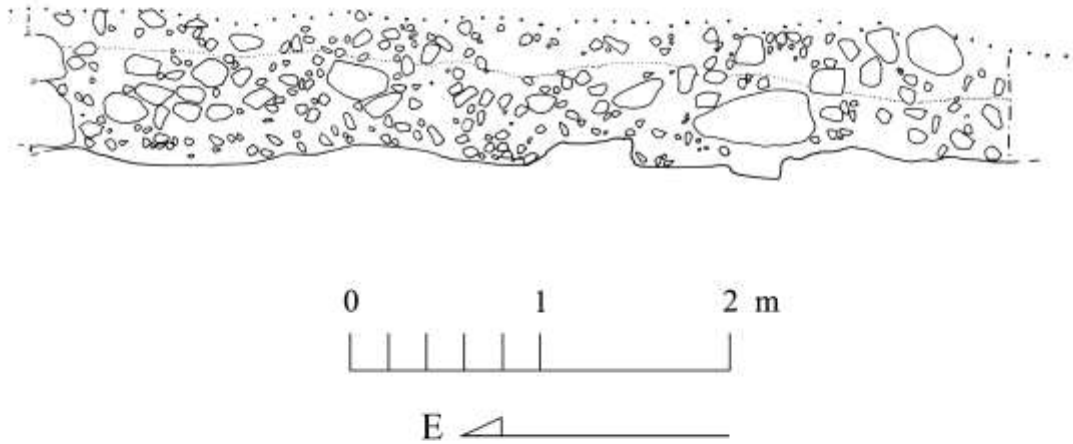


Figure 14: Caracol Structure L49 section, designated Operation C199C.

CARACOL Structure L49
excav. C199C

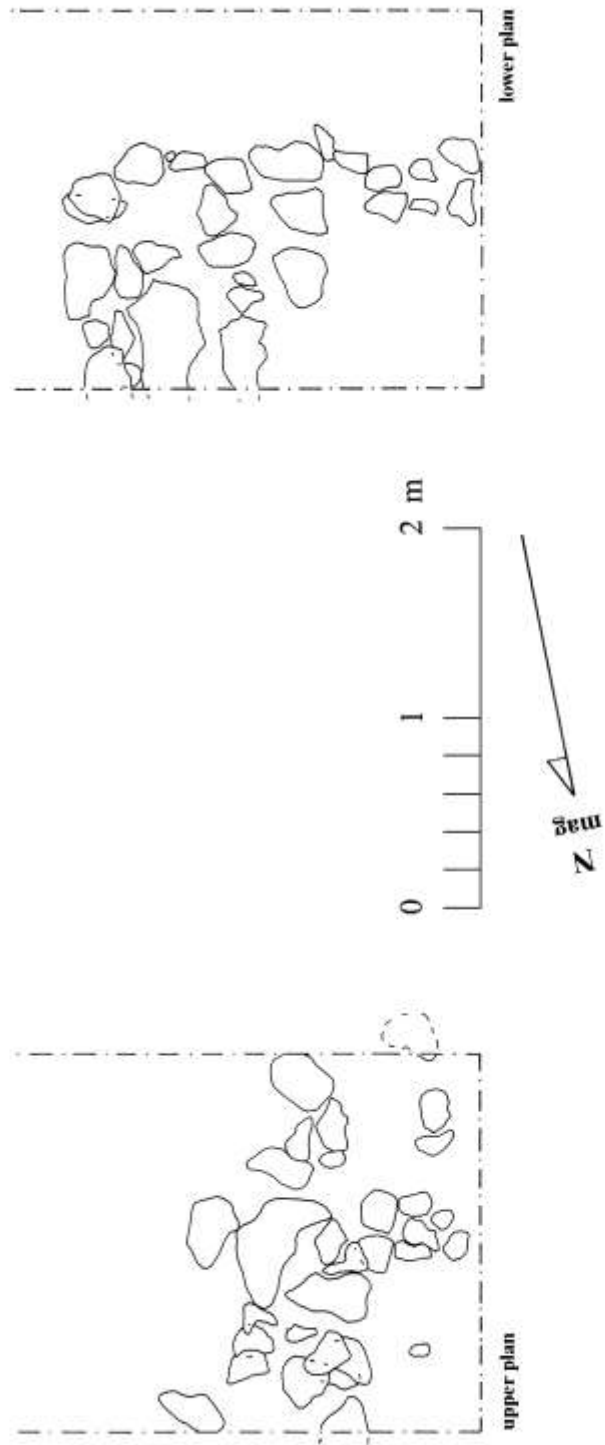


Figure 15: Plans associated with Operation C199C.

CARACOL Structure L50
excv. C199D

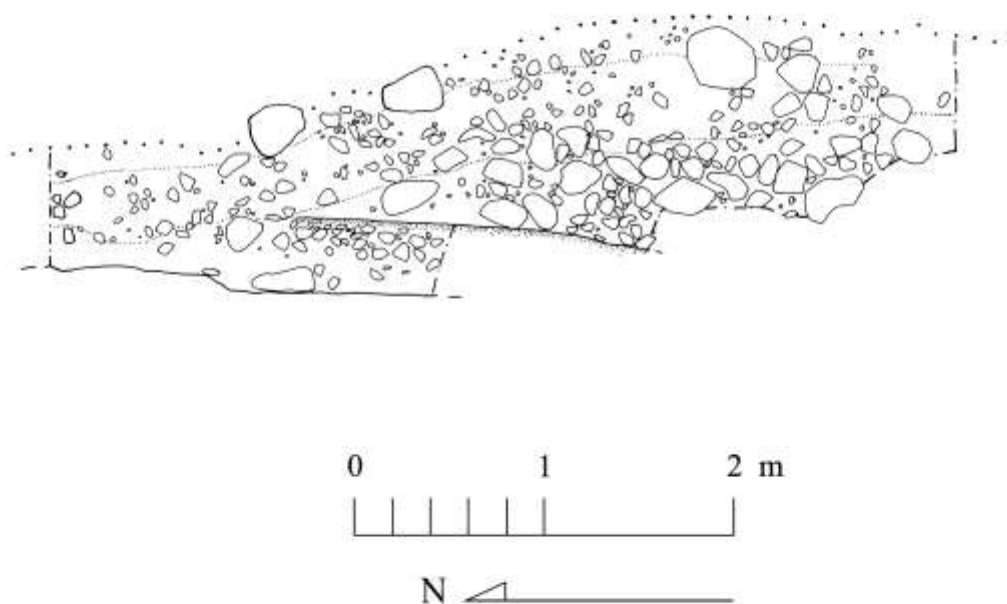


Figure 16: Caracol Structure L50 section, designated Operation C199D.

CARACOL Structure L50
excv. C199D

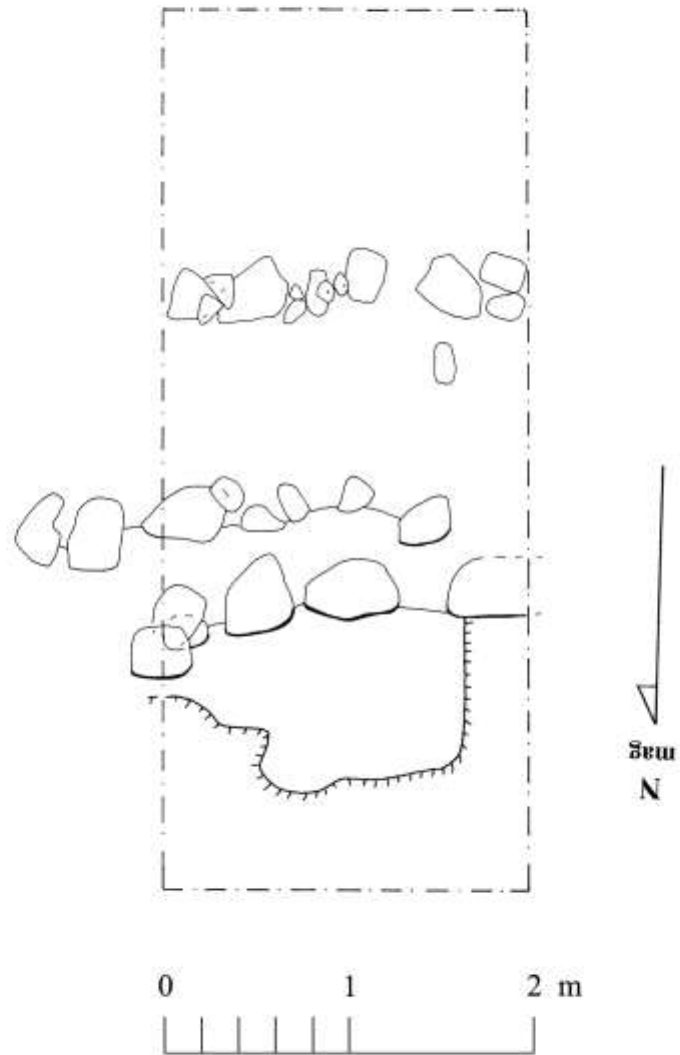


Figure 17: Plan of facings and floor associated with Structure L50.

CARACOL Structure L51
excv. C199E

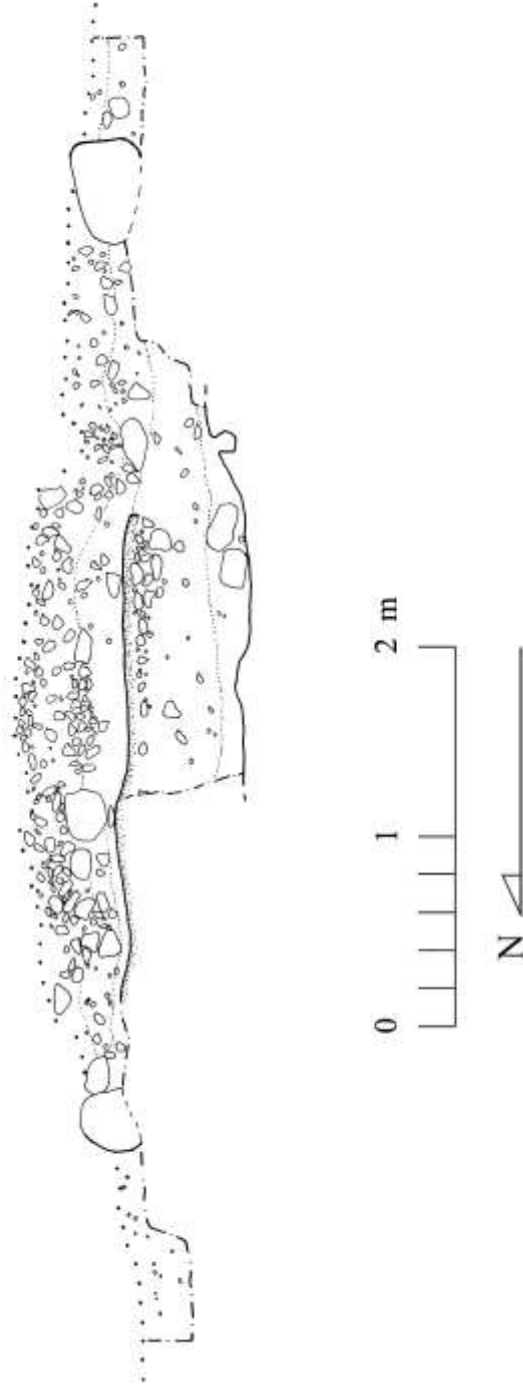


Figure 18: Caracol Structure L51, designated Operation C199E.

CARACOL Structure L51
excav. C199E

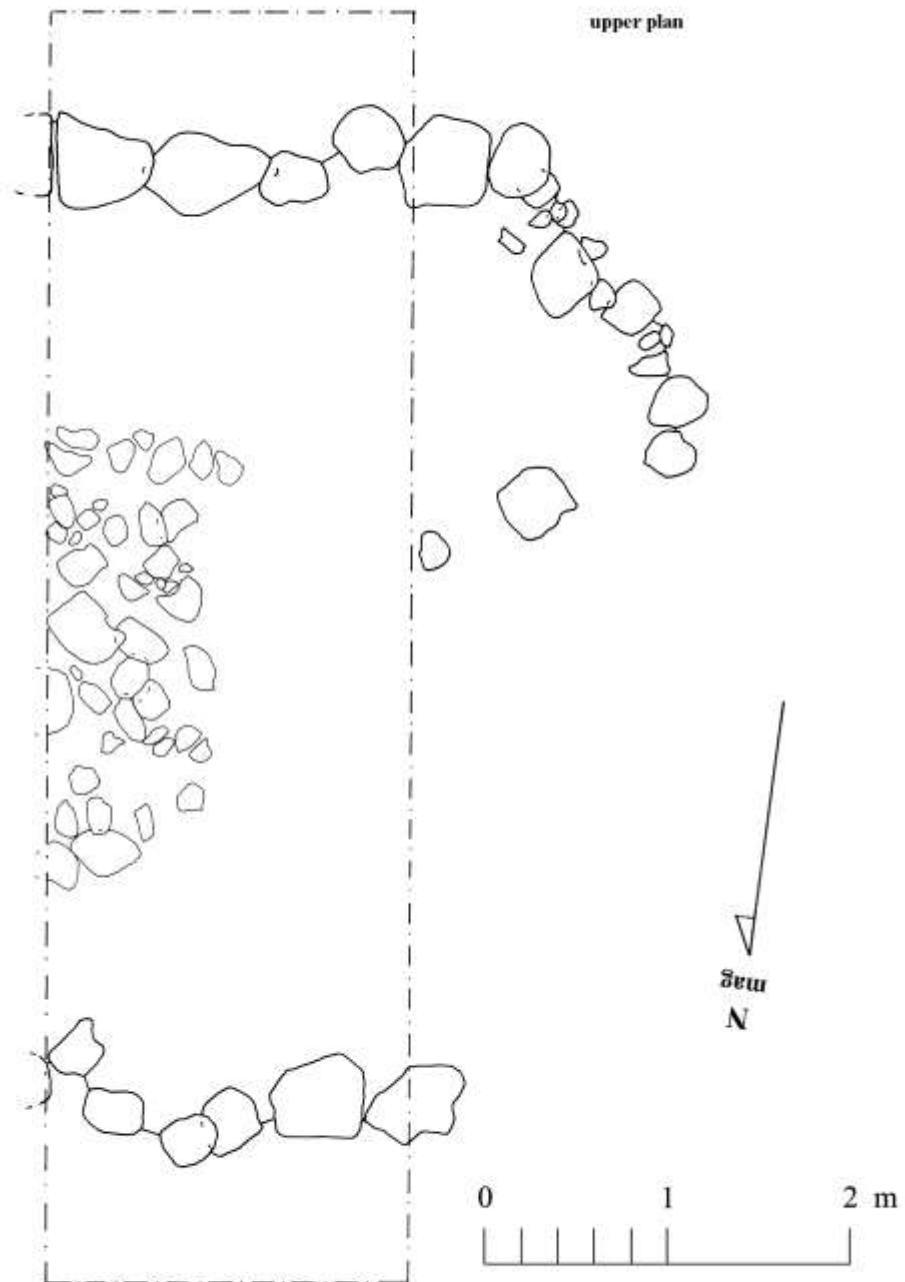


Figure 19: Upper plan of Caracol Structure L51.

CARACOL Structure L51
excav. C199E

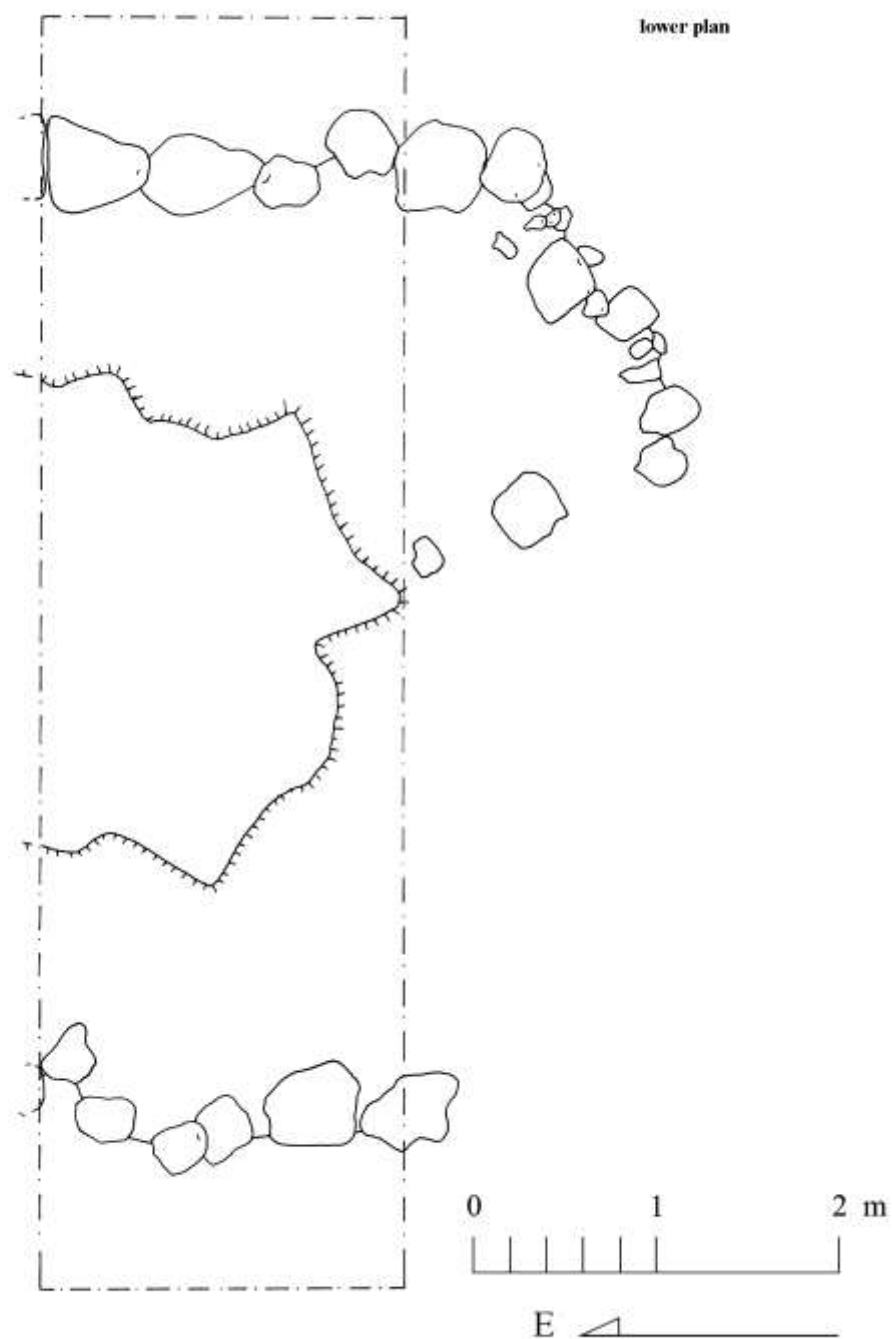


Figure 20: Lower plan of Caracol Structure L51, showing preserved plaza flooring below central feature.

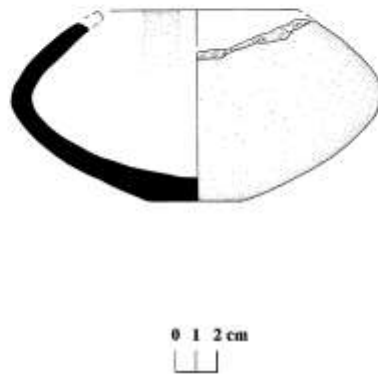


Figure 21: Pottery vessel recovered at the base of the deep excavation in Operation C199E (possibly Quintal Unslipped).

Dormir

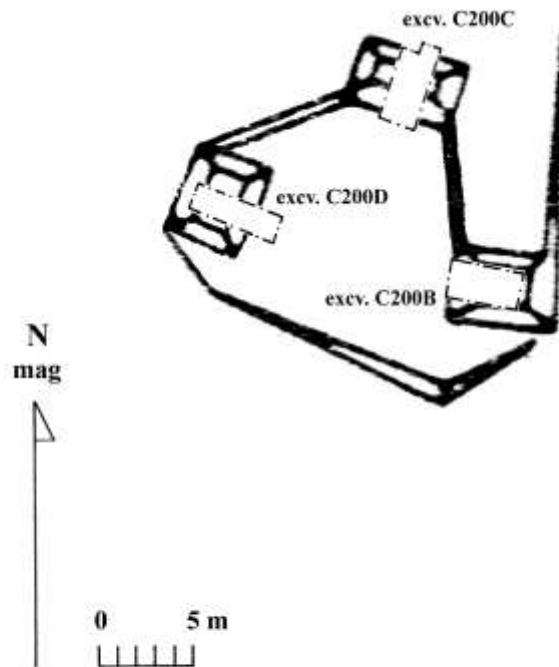


Figure 22: Plan of Dormir residential group, showing the locations of Operations C200B, C200C, and C200D.



a



b



c

Figure 23: Photographs of excavations in the Dormir residential group: a. Caracol Structure L56, looking south; b. Caracol Structure L55, looking north; c. Caracol Structure L57, looking west.

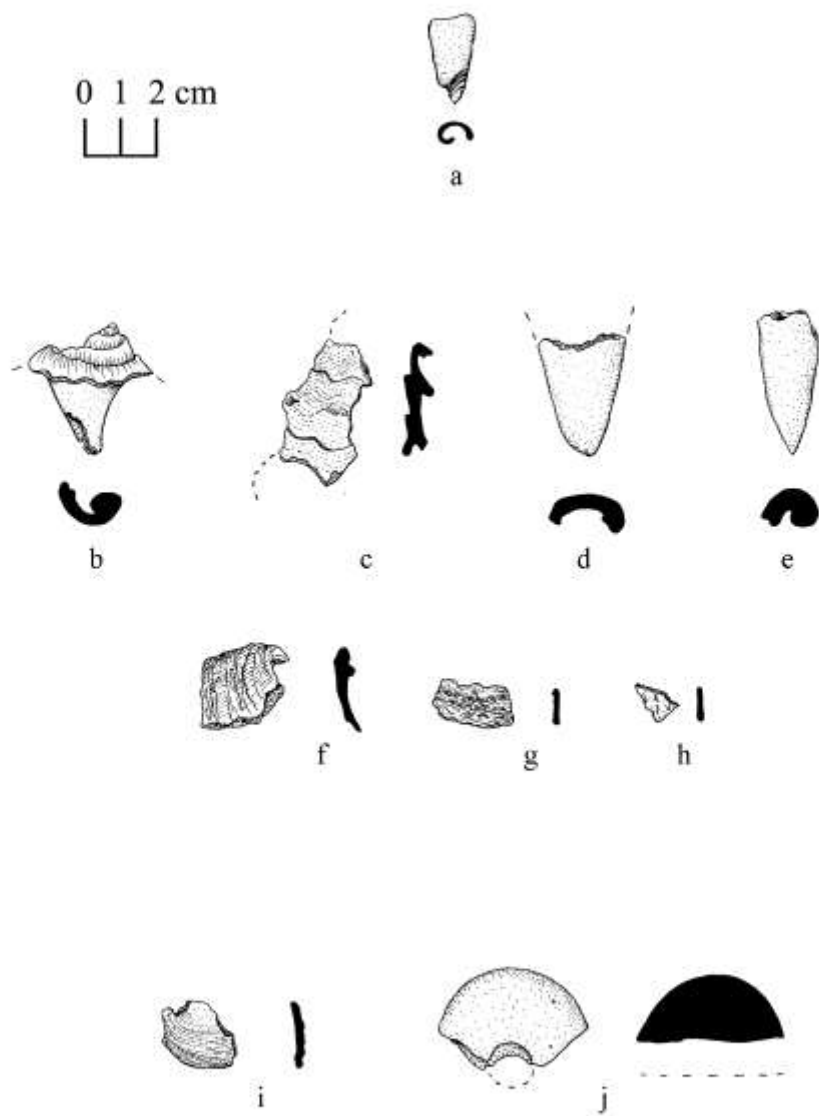


Figure 24: Artifactual material encountered in Operation C200: a. worked olivella shell (C200B/3-2); b. – e. stombus shell fragments (C200C/10-1; C200C/4-2; C200C/6-2; C200C/11-2); f. – i. clam shell fragments (f.-h. C200C5-1; i. C200D/8-2); j. perforated and partial quartzite ball (C200D/5-3).

CARACOL Structure L56
excav. C200B

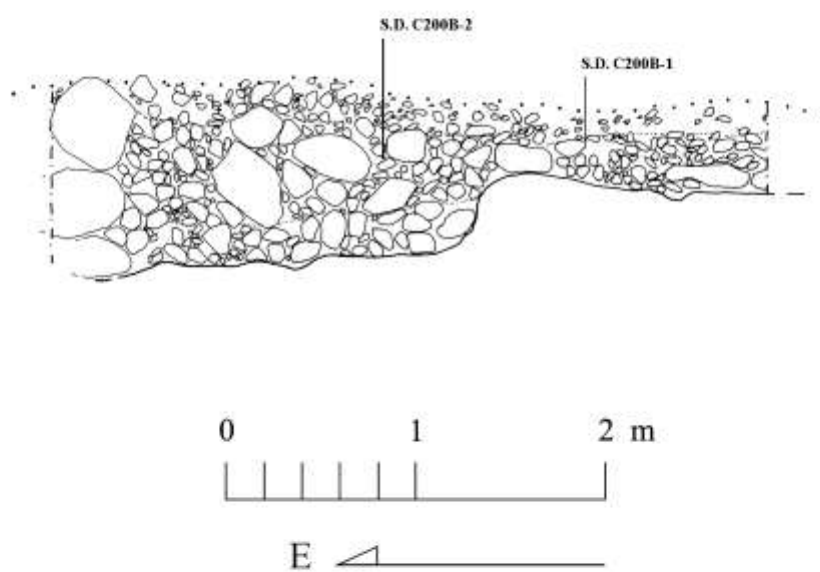


Figure 25: Caracol Structure L56 section, designated Operation C200B.

CARACOL Structure L56
excav. C200B

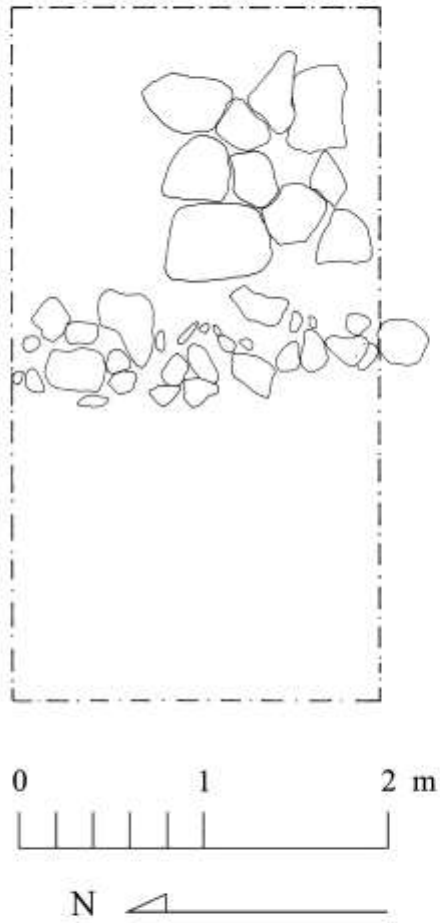


Figure 26: Plan of Operation C200B with humus removed.

CARACOL Structure 56
excav. C200B

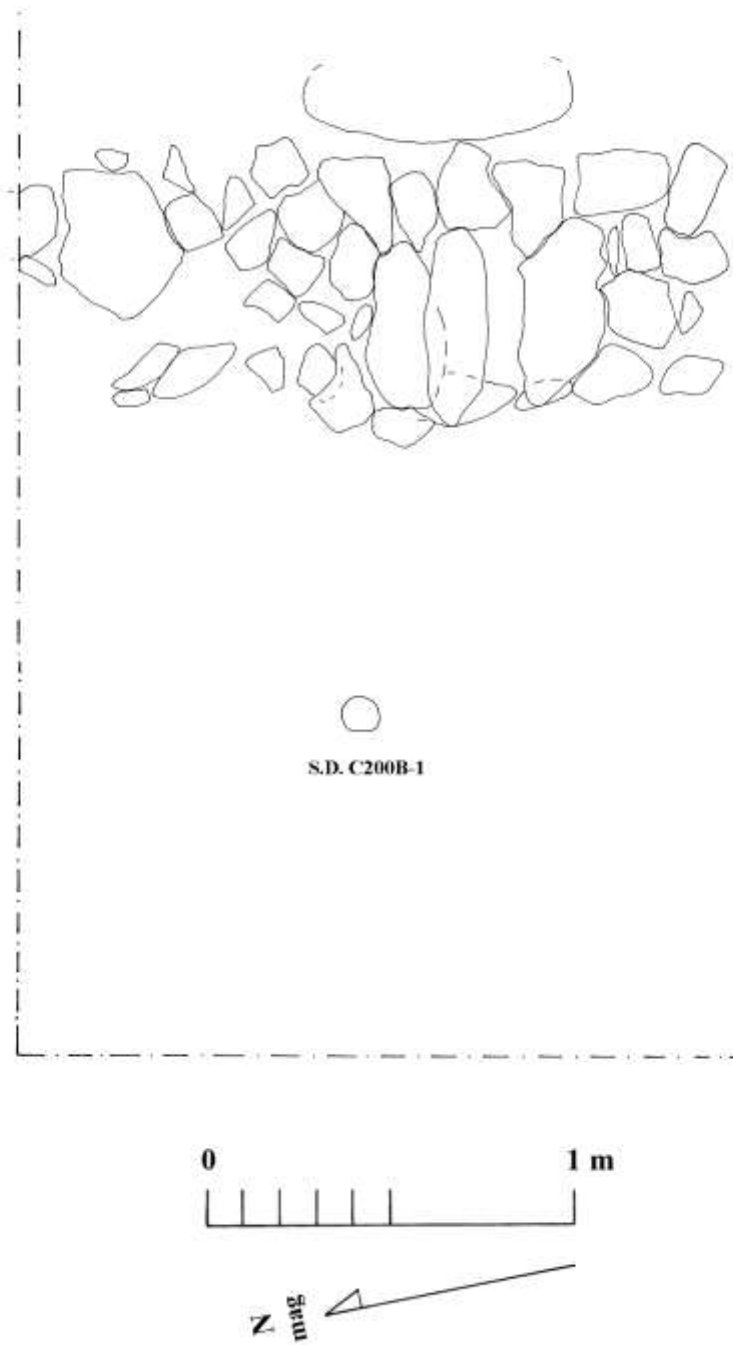


Figure 27: Detailed plan showing the location of S.D. C200B-1 and the capstones over S.D. C200B-2.

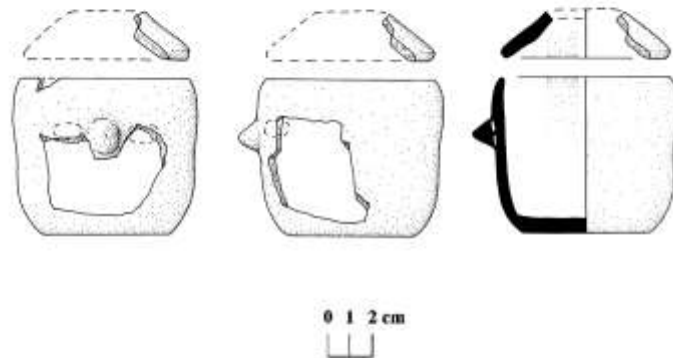


Figure 28: Hebe Modeled pottery vessel associated with S.D. C200B-1.

CARACOL Structure 56
exc. C200B
S.D. C200B-2

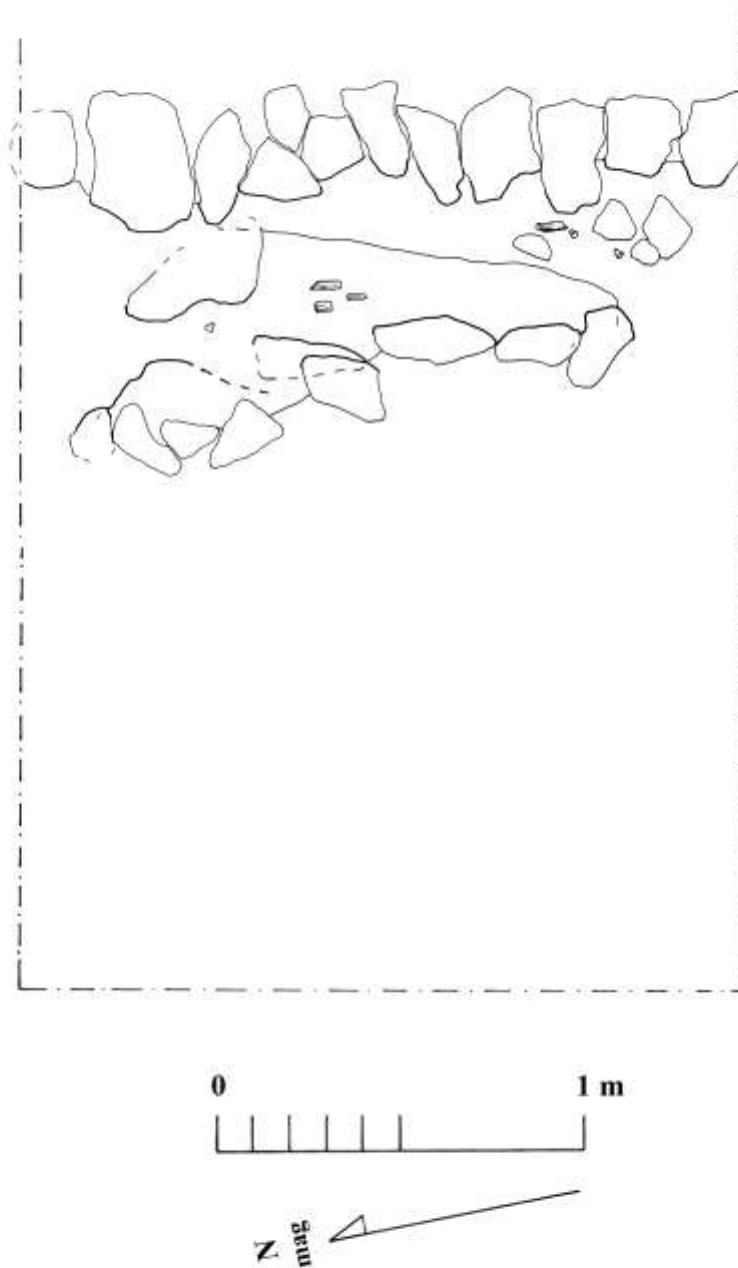


Figure 29: Detailed plan of S.D. C200B-2.

CARACOL Structure L55
excav. C200C

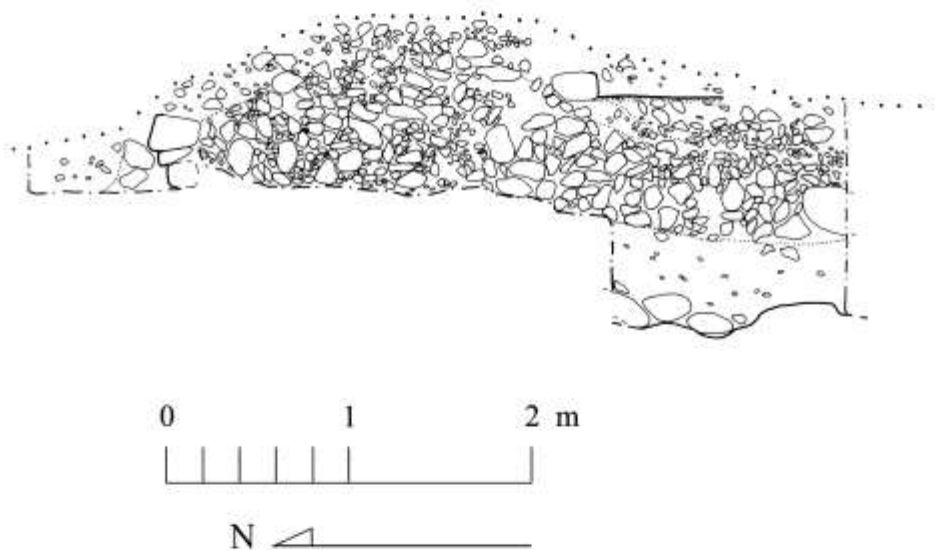


Figure 30: Caracol Structure L55 section, designated Operation C200C.

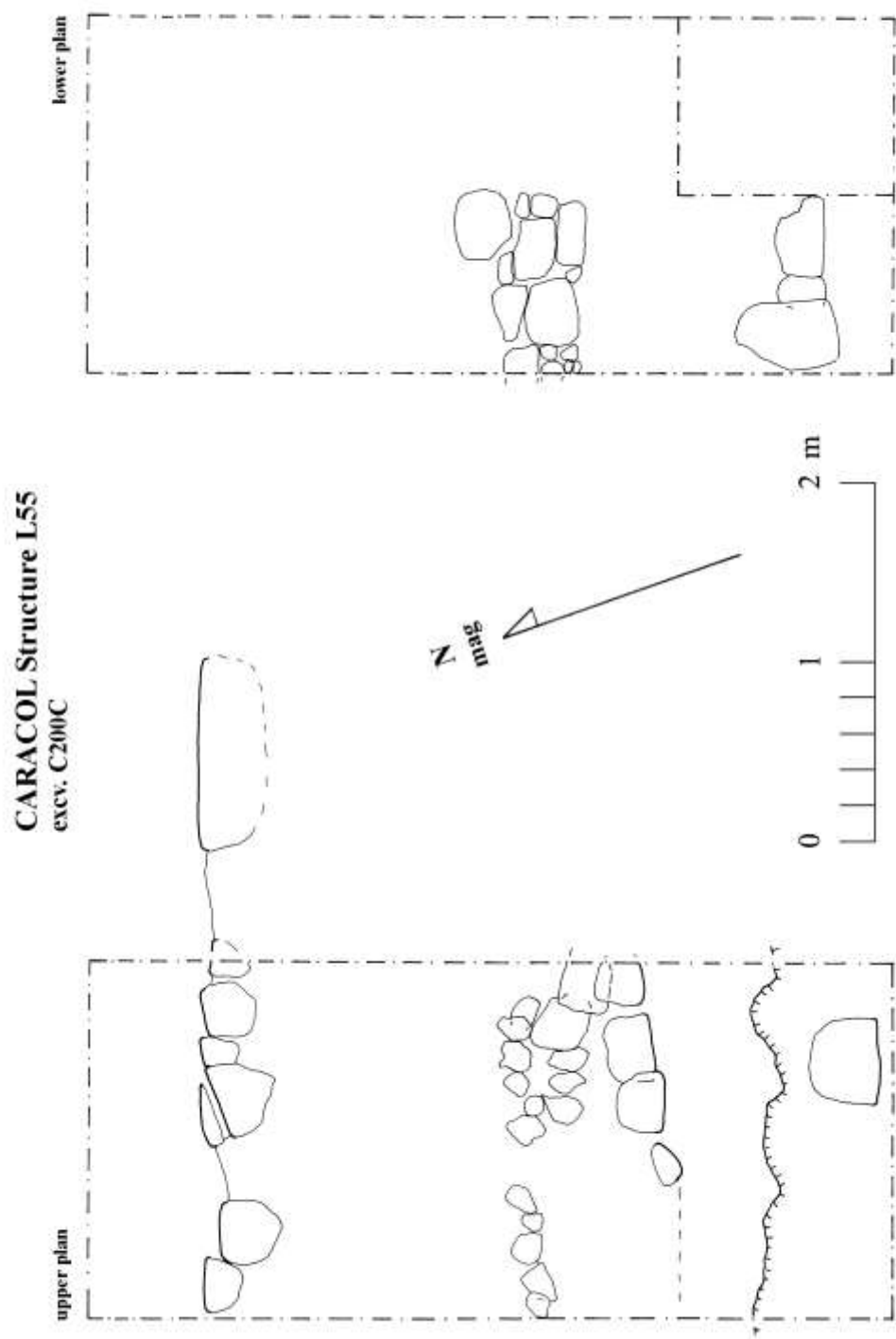


Figure 31: Plans of facings and features in Operation C200C.

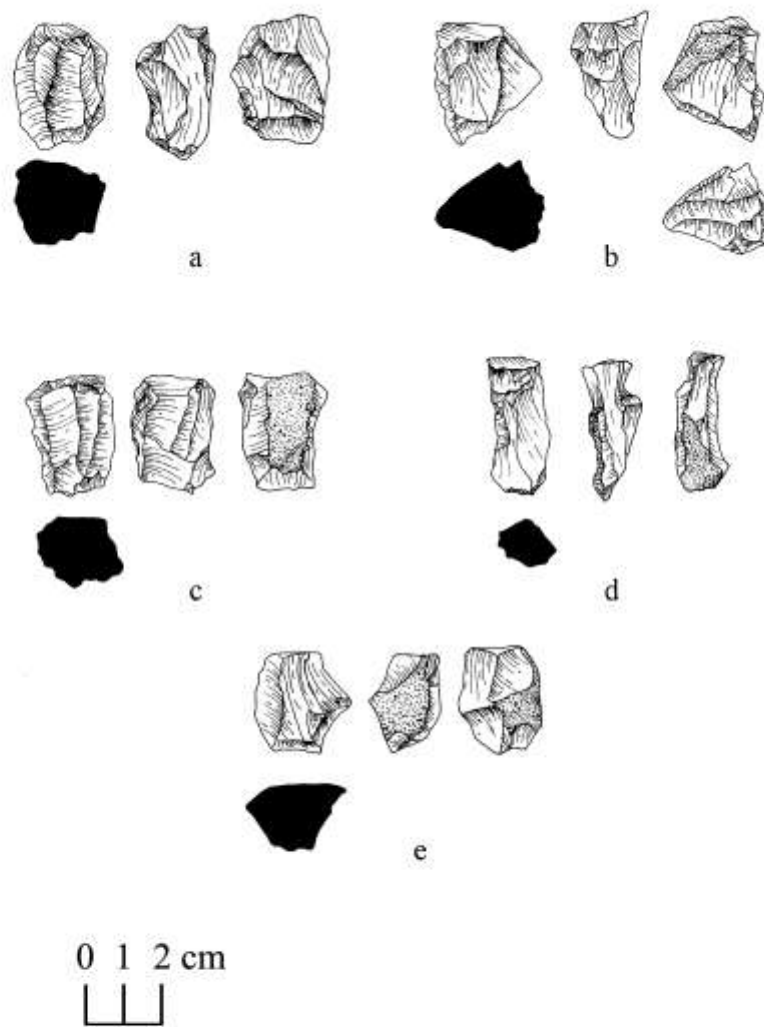


Figure 32: Chert artifacts from Operation C200C: a. – e. core fragments (C200C/4).

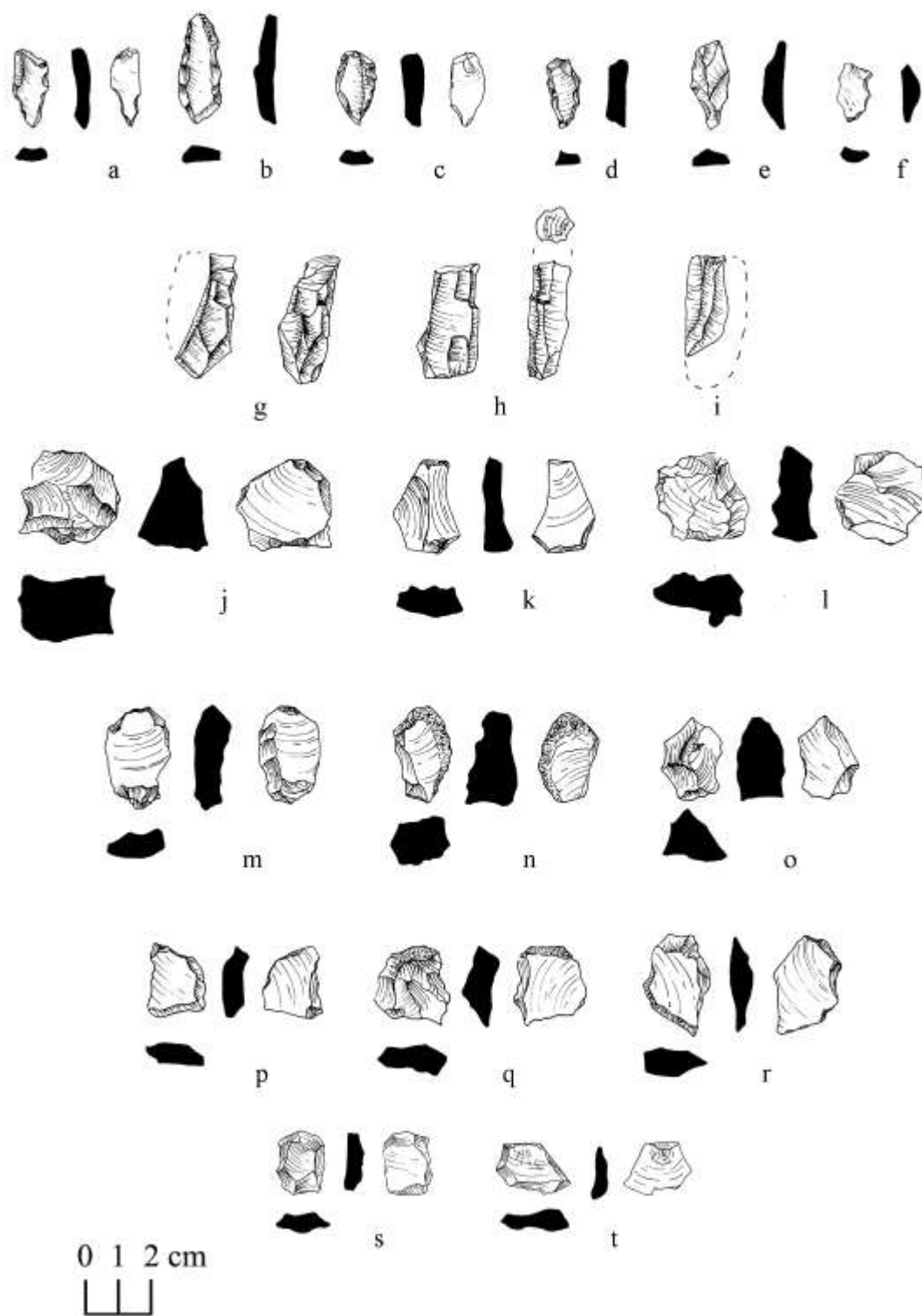


Figure 33: Chert artifacts from Operation C200C: a. – f. drills (C200C/5); g. – i. core fragments (C200C/9-8); j. – t. fragments (C200C/9-16).



Figure 34: Chert artifacts from Operation C200C: a., b., f., g. drills with cortex; c.- e., h.- j. facilitated platforms; k. – ff. drills with bulb thinning and removal.

CARACOL Structure L54
excav. C200D

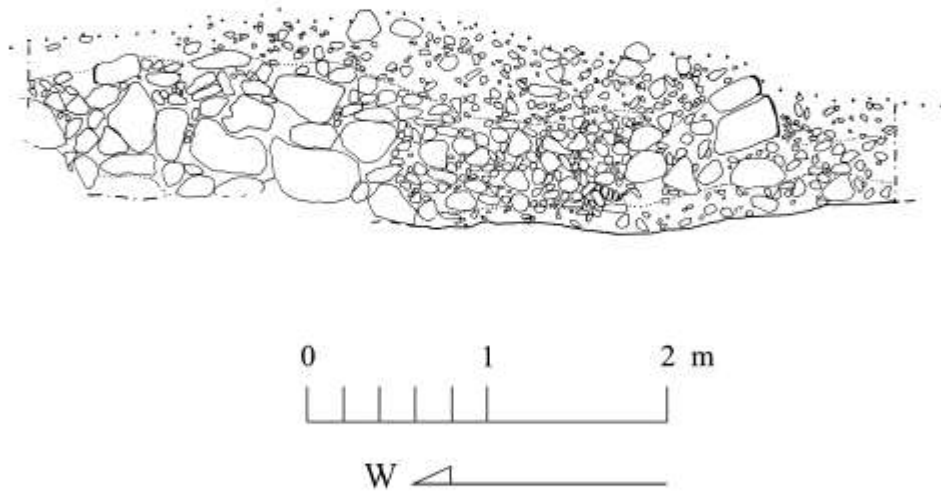


Figure 35: Caracol Structure L57 section, designated Operation C200D.

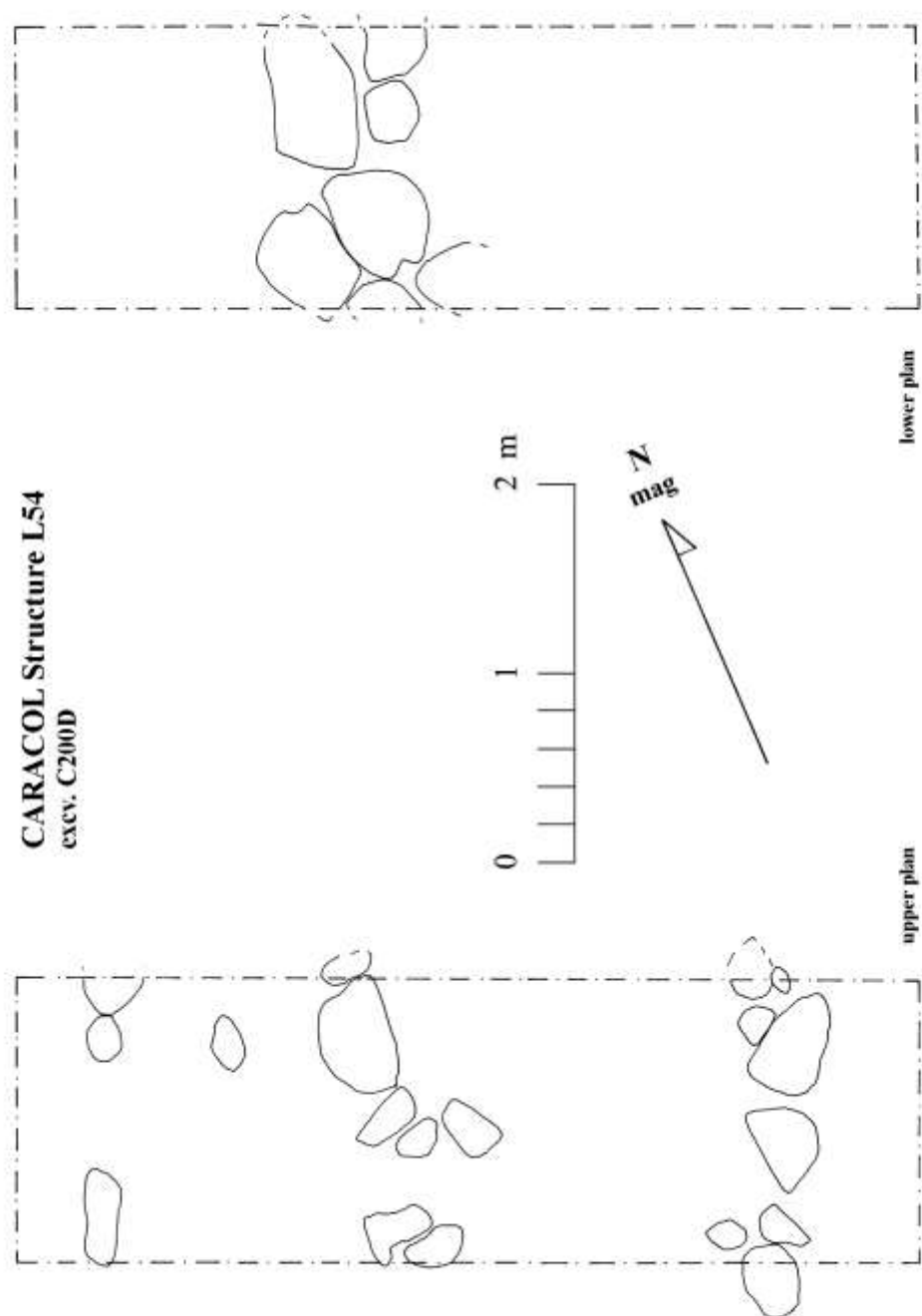


Figure 36: Plans of crude facings and a construction wall within Operation C200D.

Sonrisa

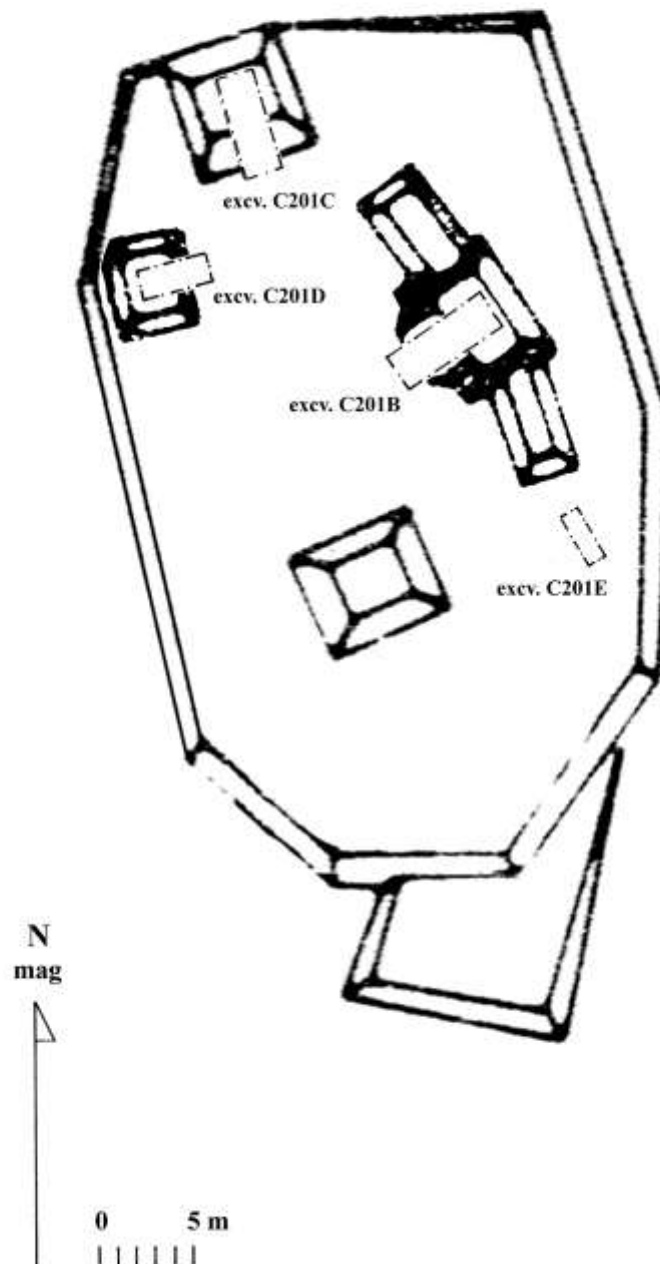


Figure 37: Plan of Sonrisa residential group, showing the locations of Operations C201B, C201C, C201D, and C201E.



Figure 38: Photographs of excavations in the Sonrisa residential group: a. Caracol Stucture L35, looking east; b. Caracol Structure L33, looking north; c. Caracol Structure L38, looking west; d. Sonrisa reservoir, looking east.

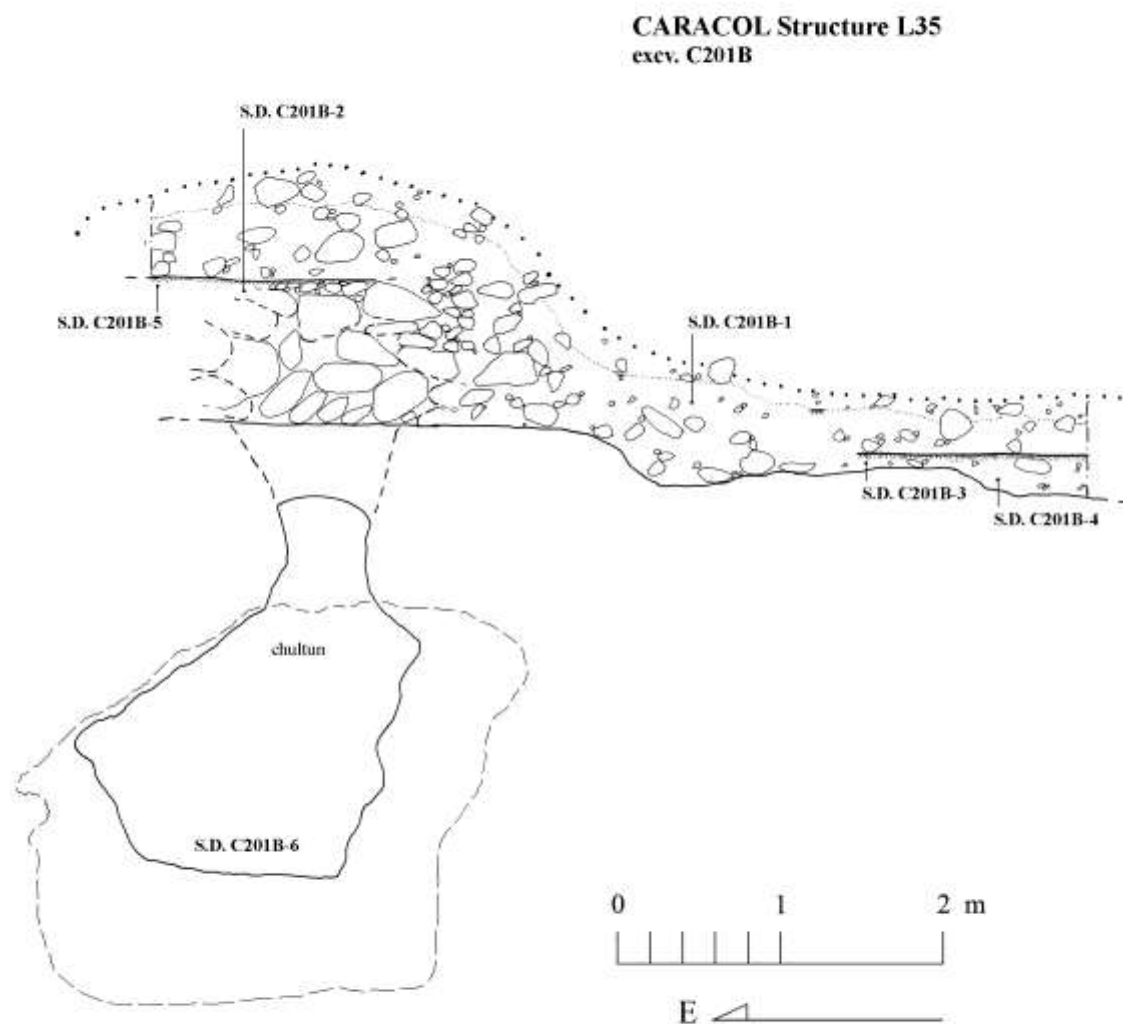


Figure 39: Caracol Structure L35 section, designated Operation C201B.

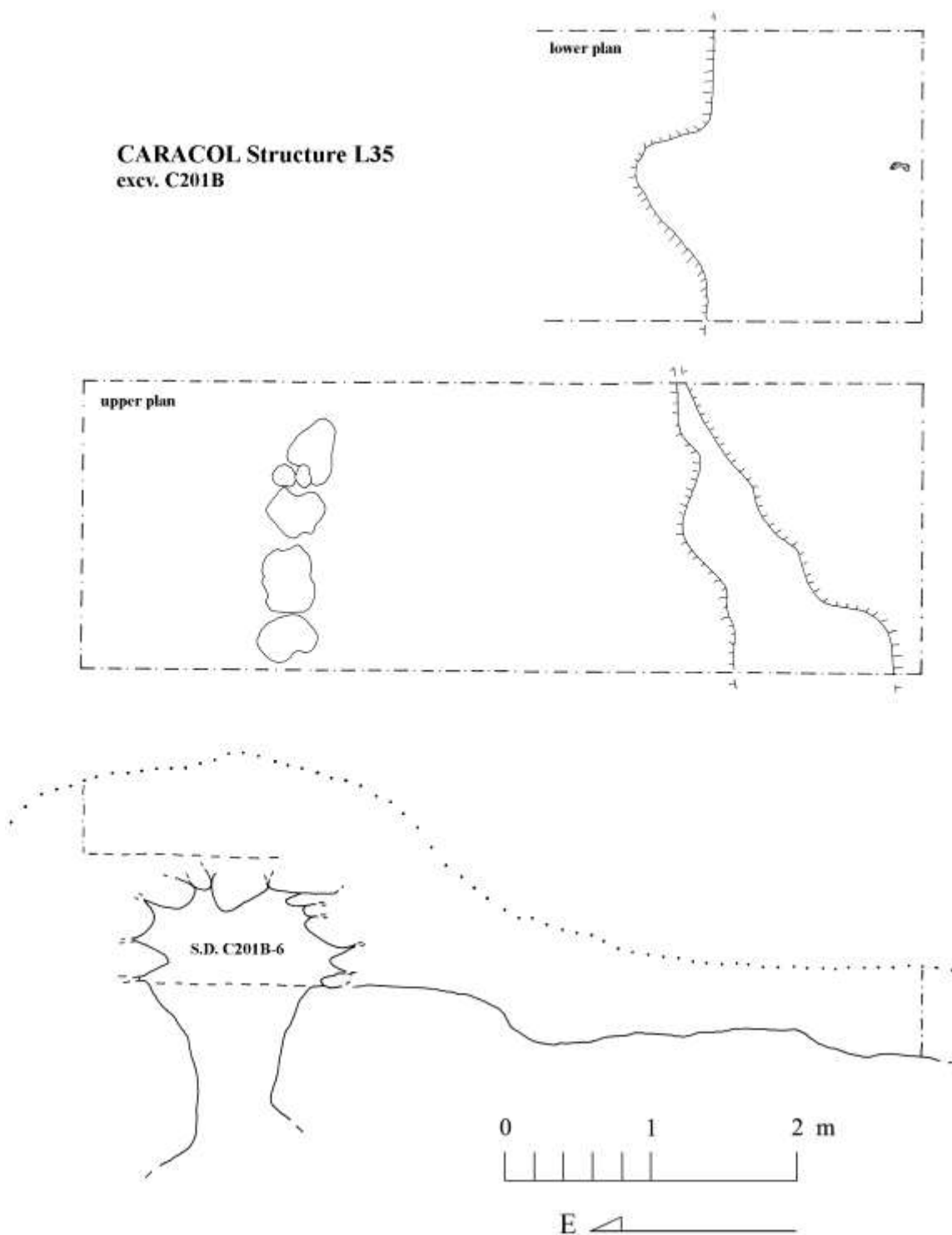


Figure 40: Caracol Structure L35, showing plans associated with the building and a section through the constructed chamber over the S.D. C201B-6 chultun.

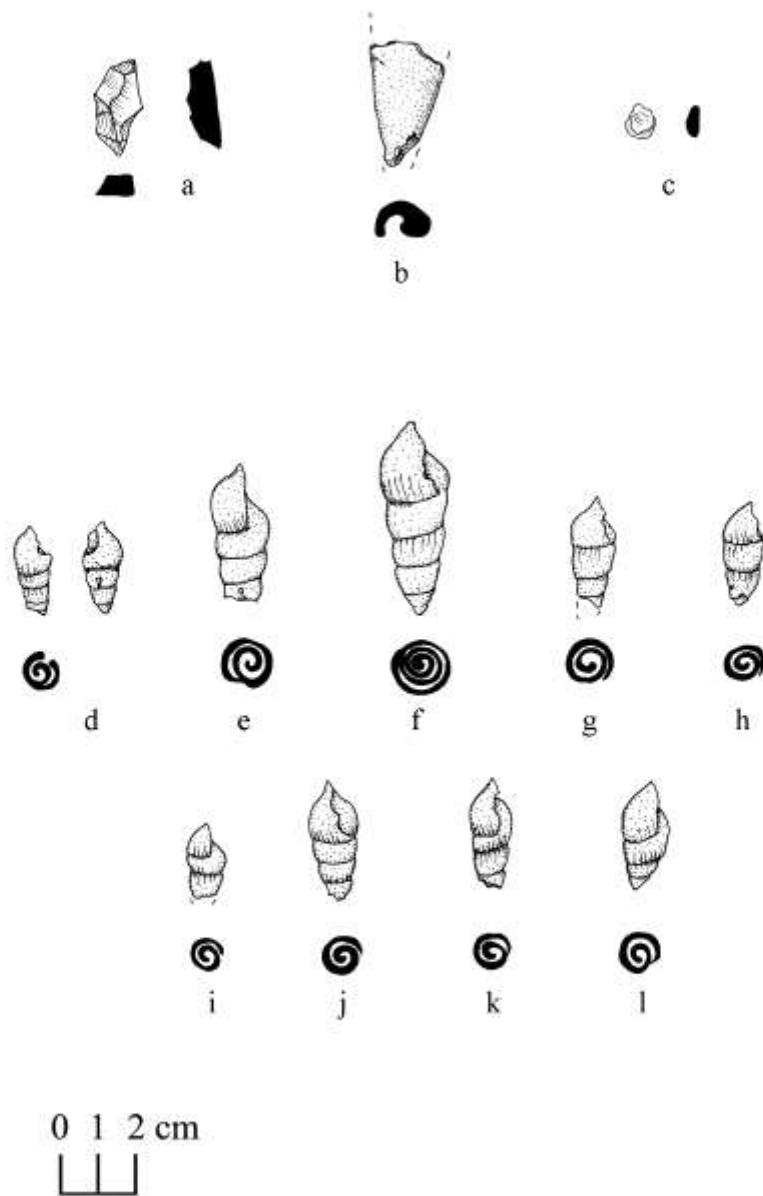


Figure 41: Artifactual materials from Operation C201B: a. quartzite chunk (C201B-3); b. conch fragment (C201B/7-1); c. pyrite chip (C201B/9-1); d. – l. river snails (C201B/21-1).

CARACOL Structure L35
excv. C201B

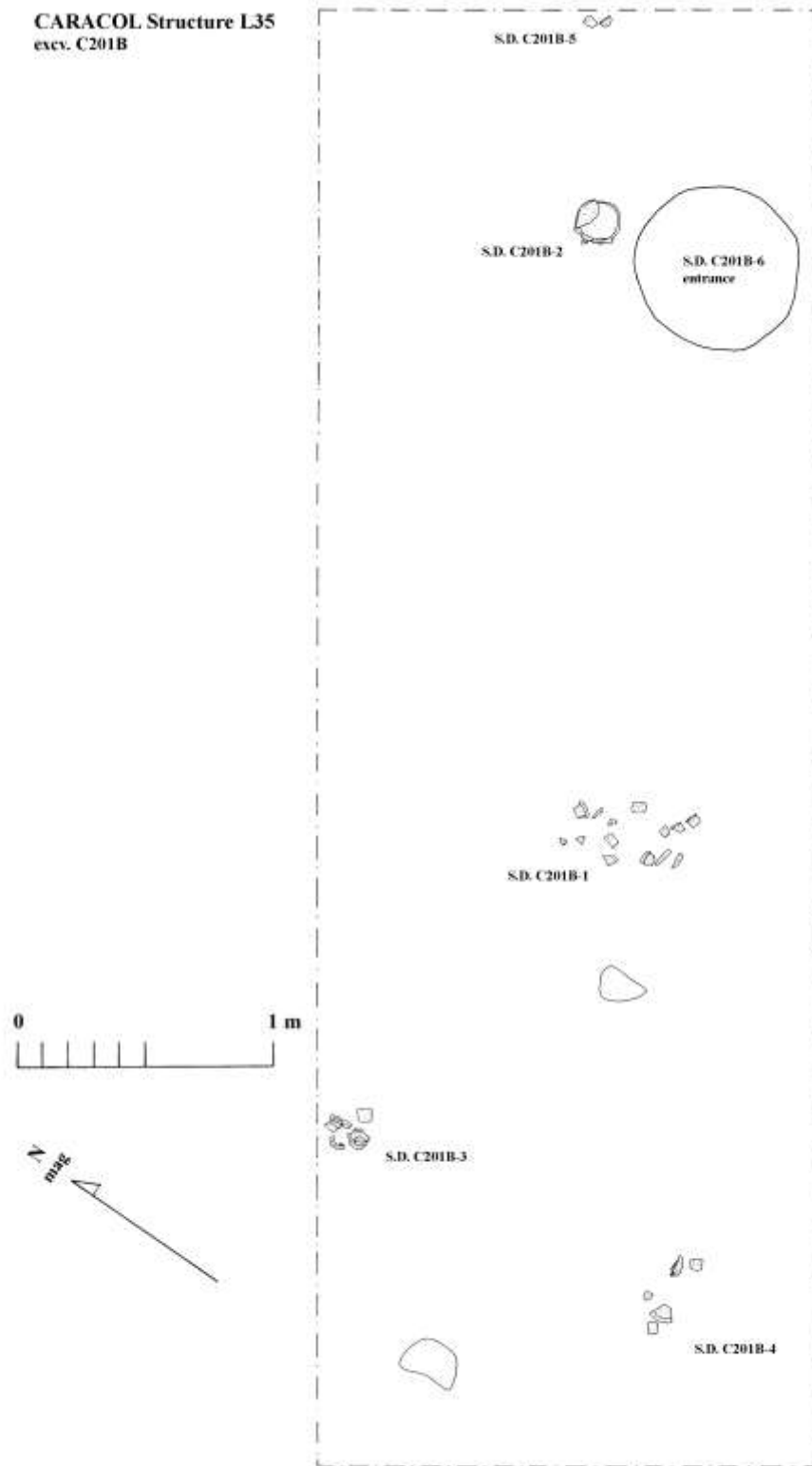


Figure 42: Detailed plan showing locations of the six special deposits in Operation C201B.

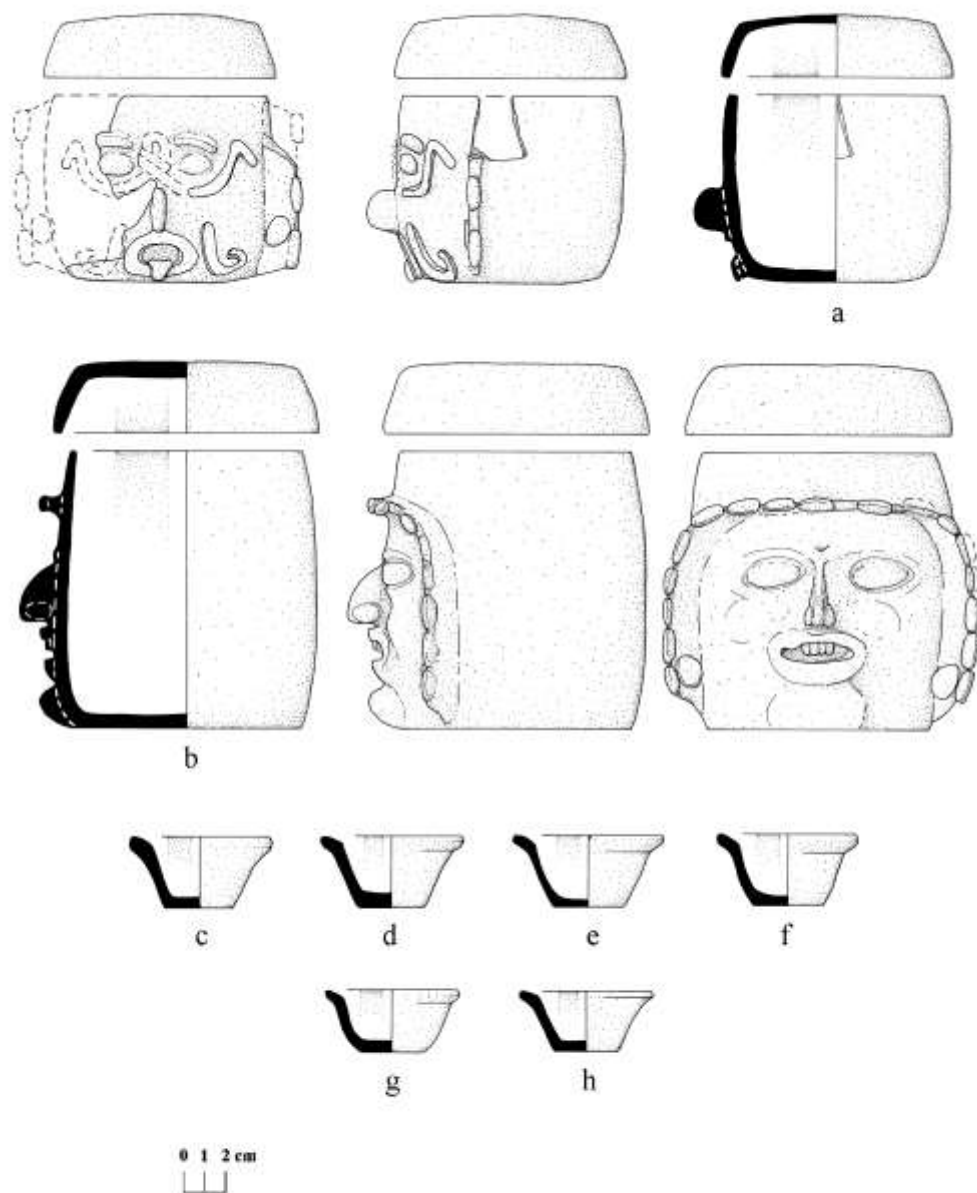
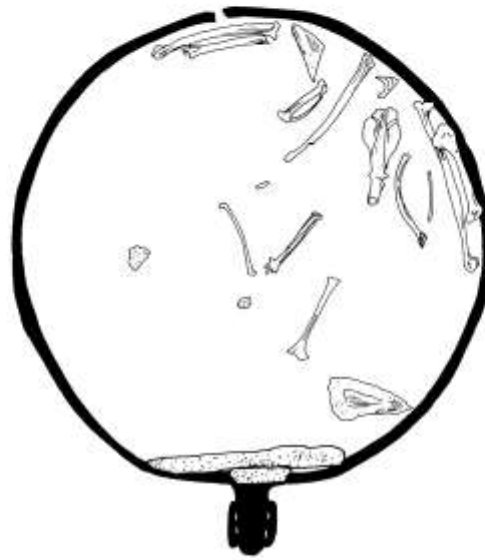


Figure 43: Pottery cache vessels from Operation C201B: a. Hebe Modeled (S.D. C201B-5); b. Hebe Modeled (S.D. C201B-2); c. – f. Ceiba Unslipped (S.D. C201B-1); g. Ceiba Unslipped (S.D. C201B-3); h. Ceiba Unslipped (S.D. C201B-4).

S.D. C201B-2



0 1 2 cm
└─┘



Figure 44: Plan of bird skeleton ("bobwhite;" Odontophoridae family) inside of S.D. C201B-2.

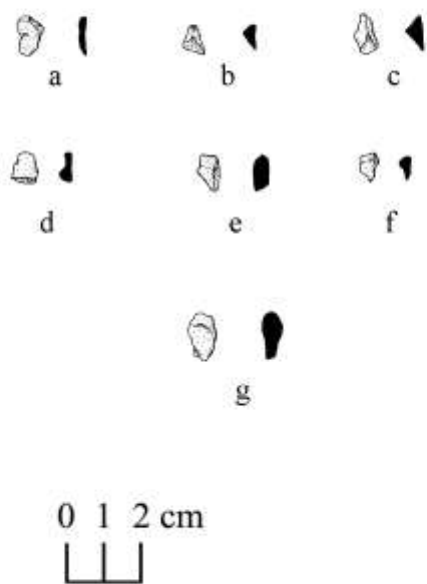


Figure 45: Artifactual material from S.D. C201B-2: a. – f. sample of jadeite chips; g. chert chunk.



a



b



c

Figure 46: Photographs associated with S.D. C201B-6: a. chultun entrance; b. ceramic vessels in chamber 1; c. ceramic vessels in chamber 2.

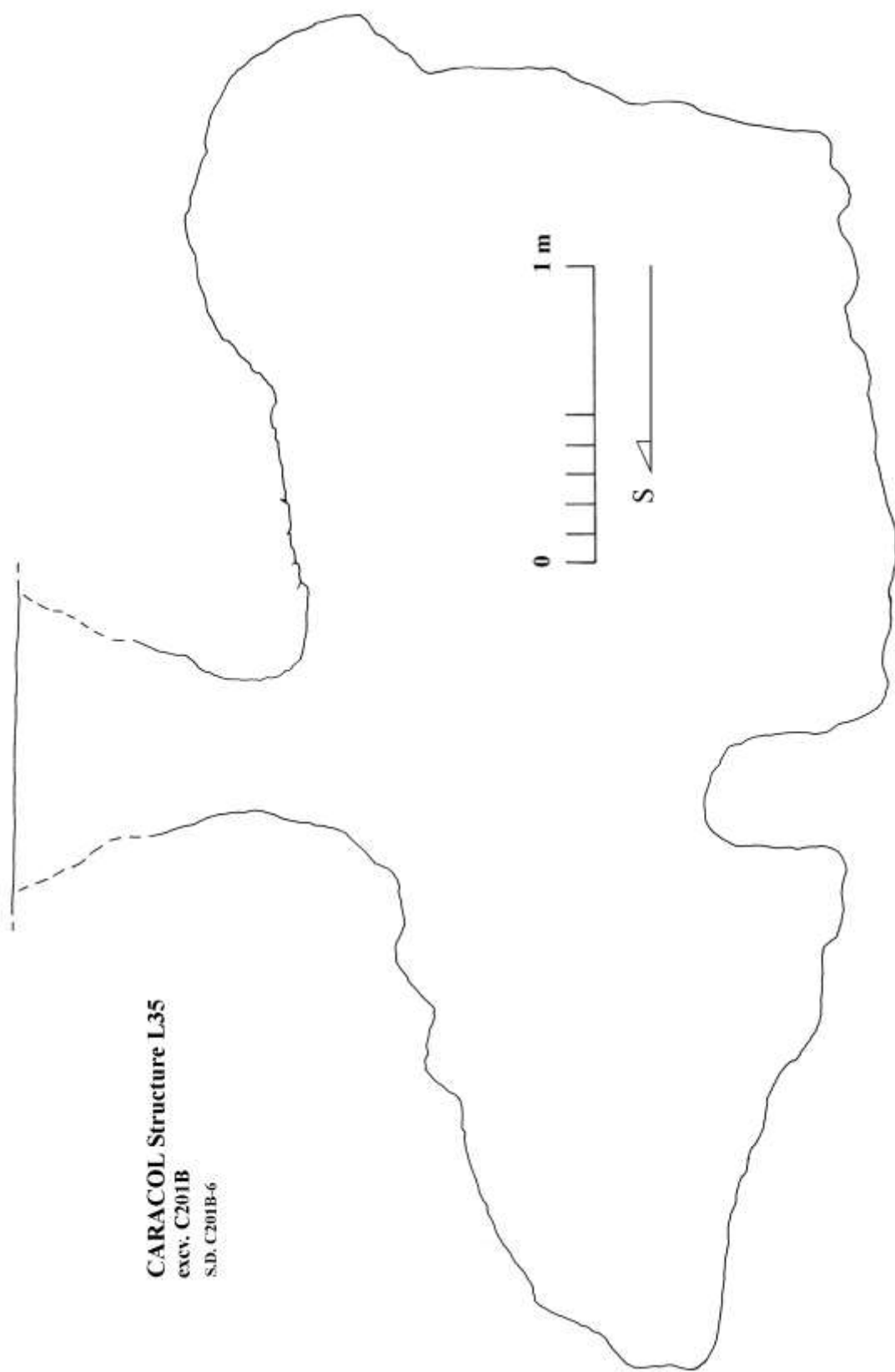


Figure 47: Detailed north-south cross-section of the chultun associated with S.D. C201B-6.

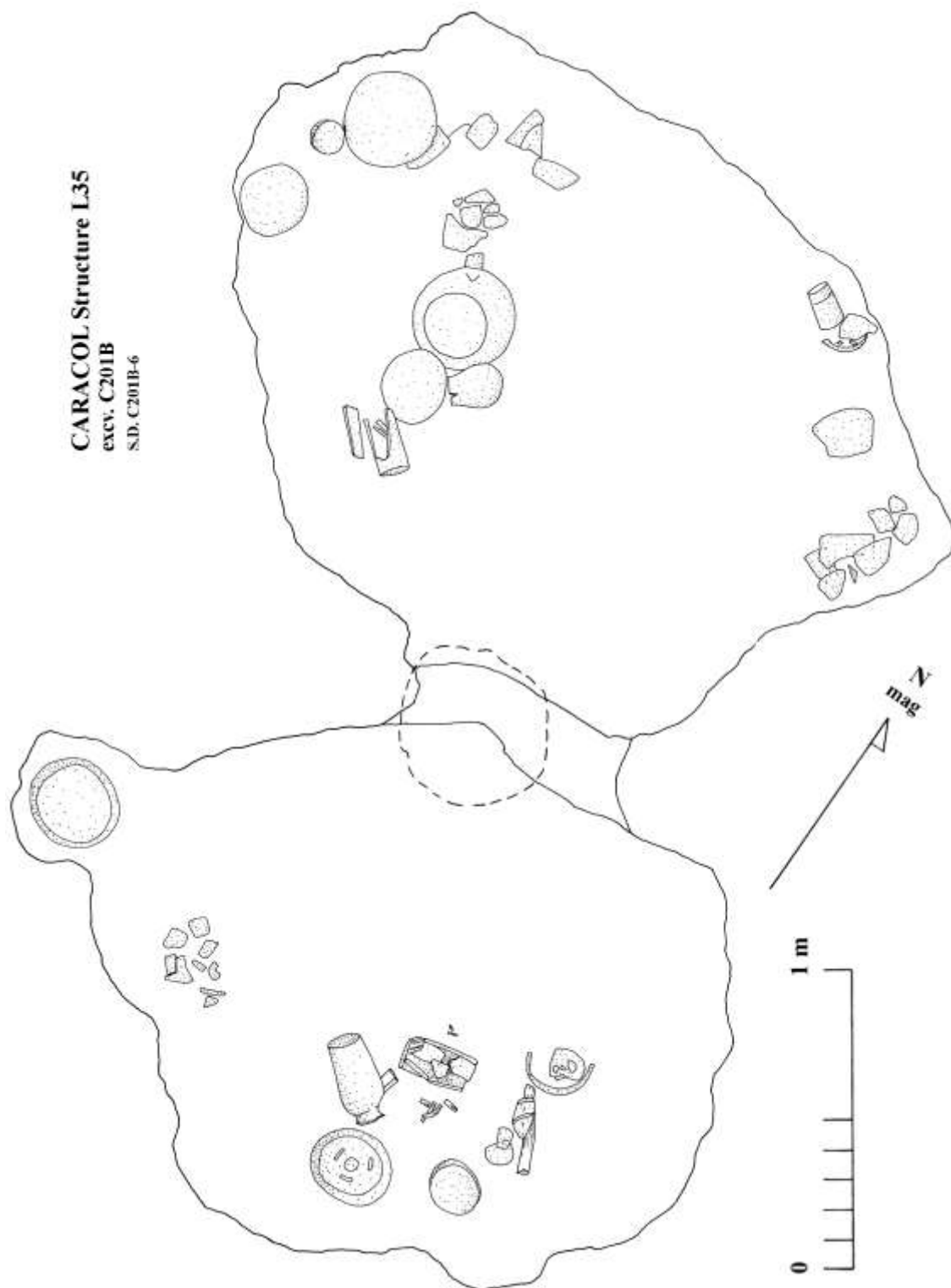


Figure 48: Detail plan of the ceramic vessels within the chultun associated with S.D. C201B-6.

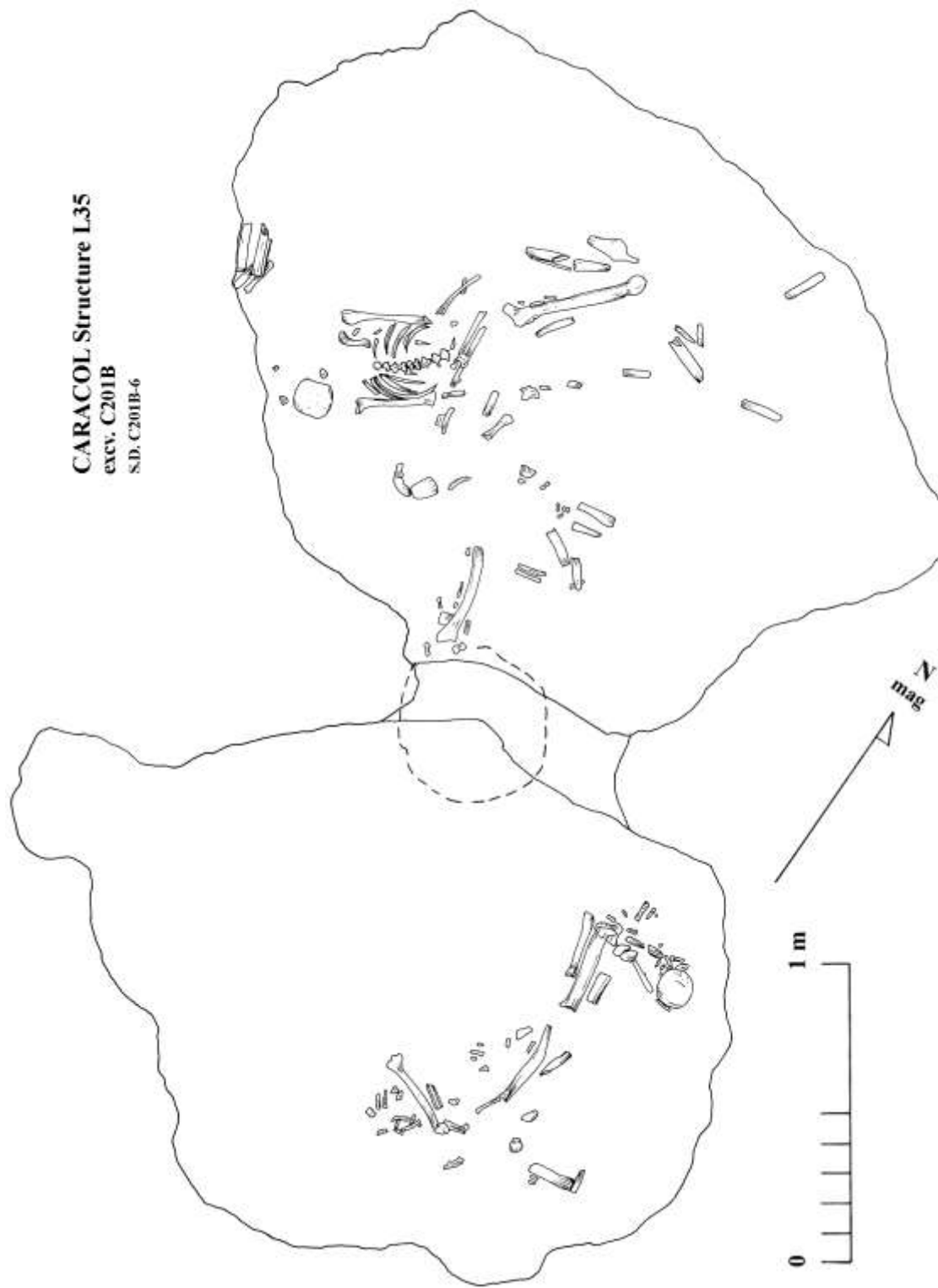


Figure 49: Detailed plan of the human bone within the chultun associated with S.D. C201B-6.

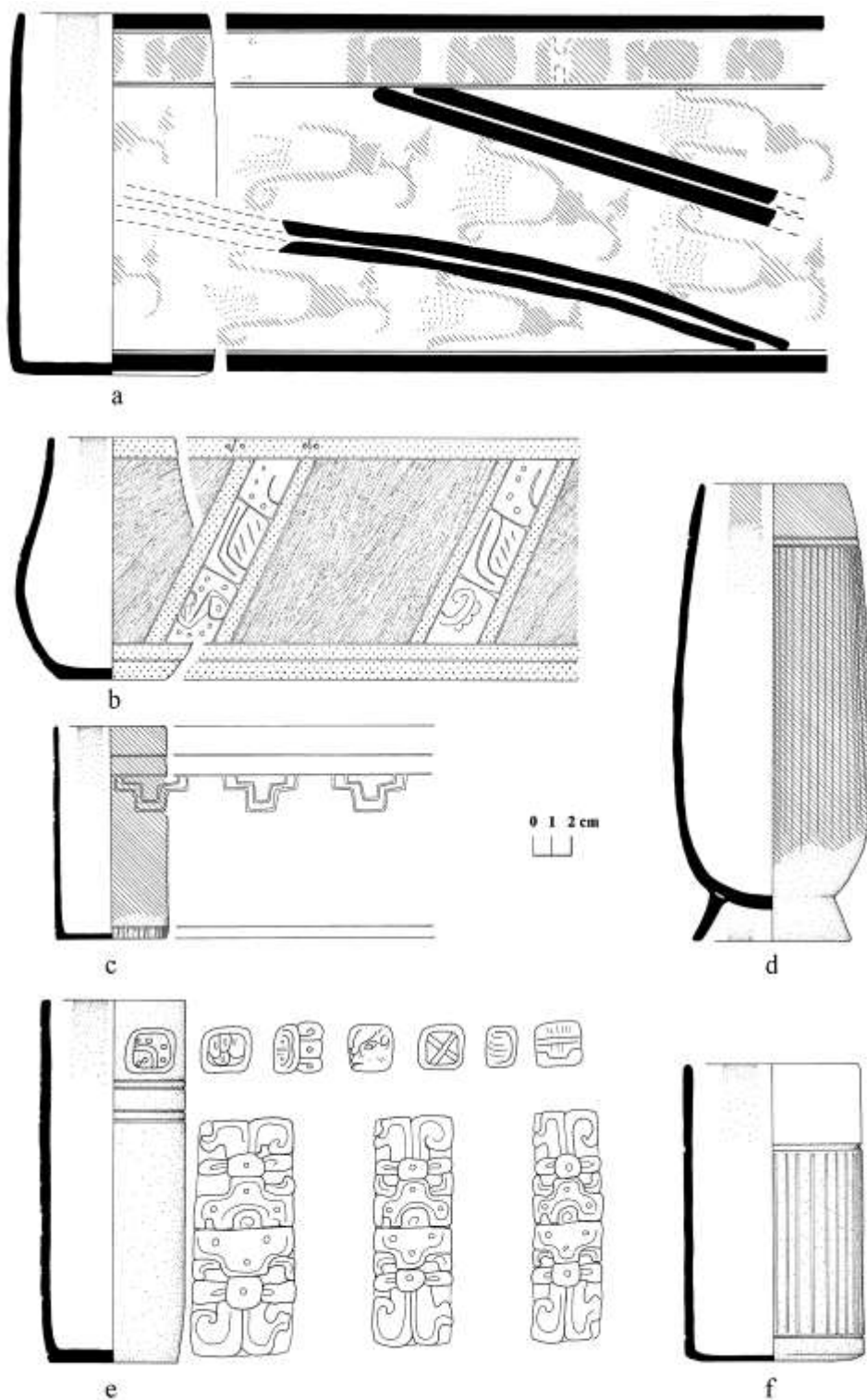


Figure 50: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C201B-6: a. Palmar Orange-Polychrome; b. Azucar Impressed; c. Martin's Incised; d. Cohune Red; e. Tialipa Gouged-Incised; f. Bimbo Composite; g., h., j., l., m. Belize Red; i. Tialipa Brown; k. Copador Polychrome; n. Salada Fluted; o. eroded Tialipa Brown Fluted; p. Saxche Orange-Polychrome.

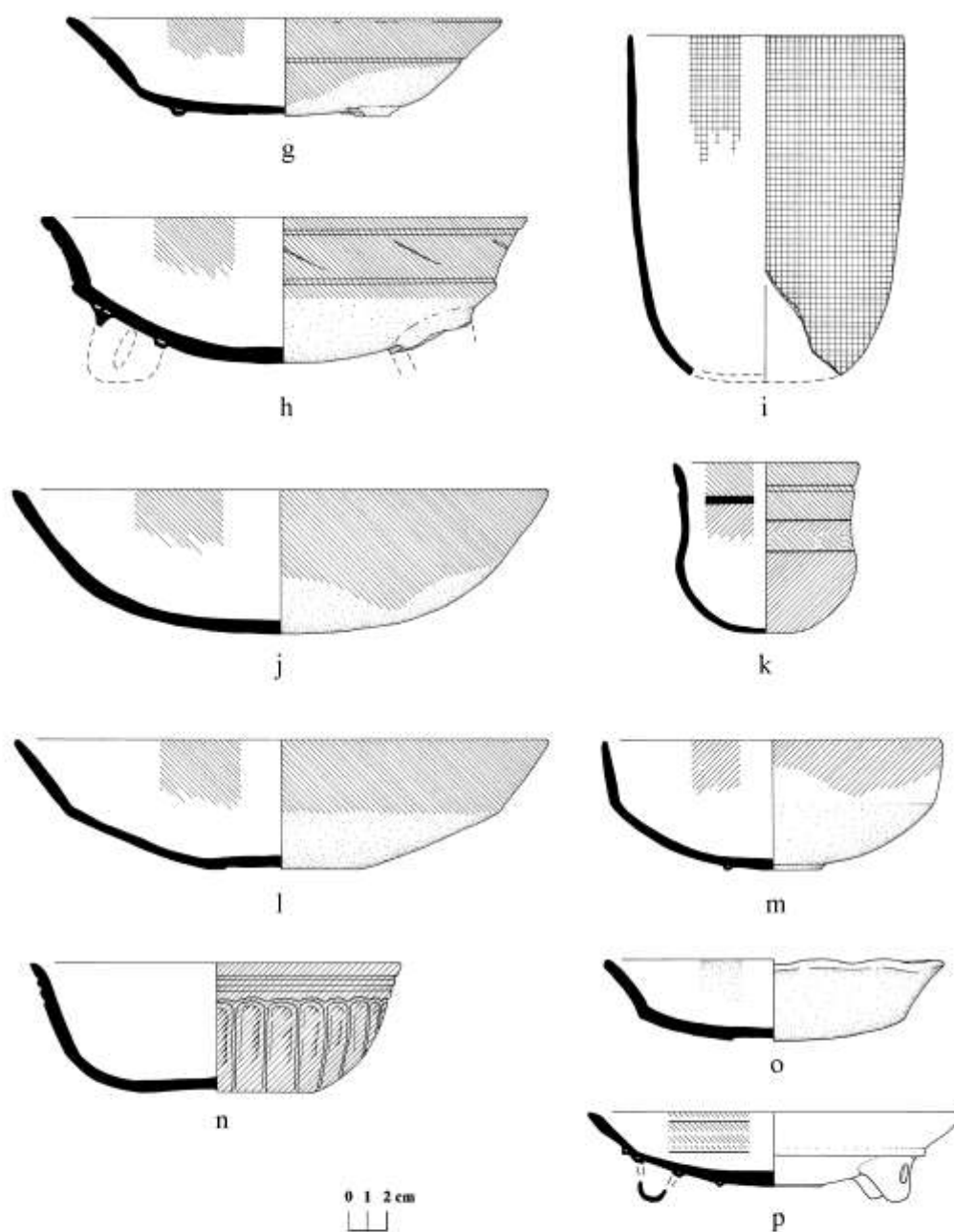


Figure 50: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C201B-6: a. Palmar Orange-Polychrome; b. Azucar Impressed; c. Martin's Incised; d. Cohune Red; e. Tialipa Gouged-Incised; f. Bimbo Composite; g., h., j., l., m. Belize Red; i. Tialipa Brown; k. Copador Polychrome; n. Salada Fluted; o. eroded Tialipa Brown Fluted; p. Saxche Orange-Polychrome.



a



b



c



d

Figure 51: Photographs of pottery vessels from S.D. C201B-6.

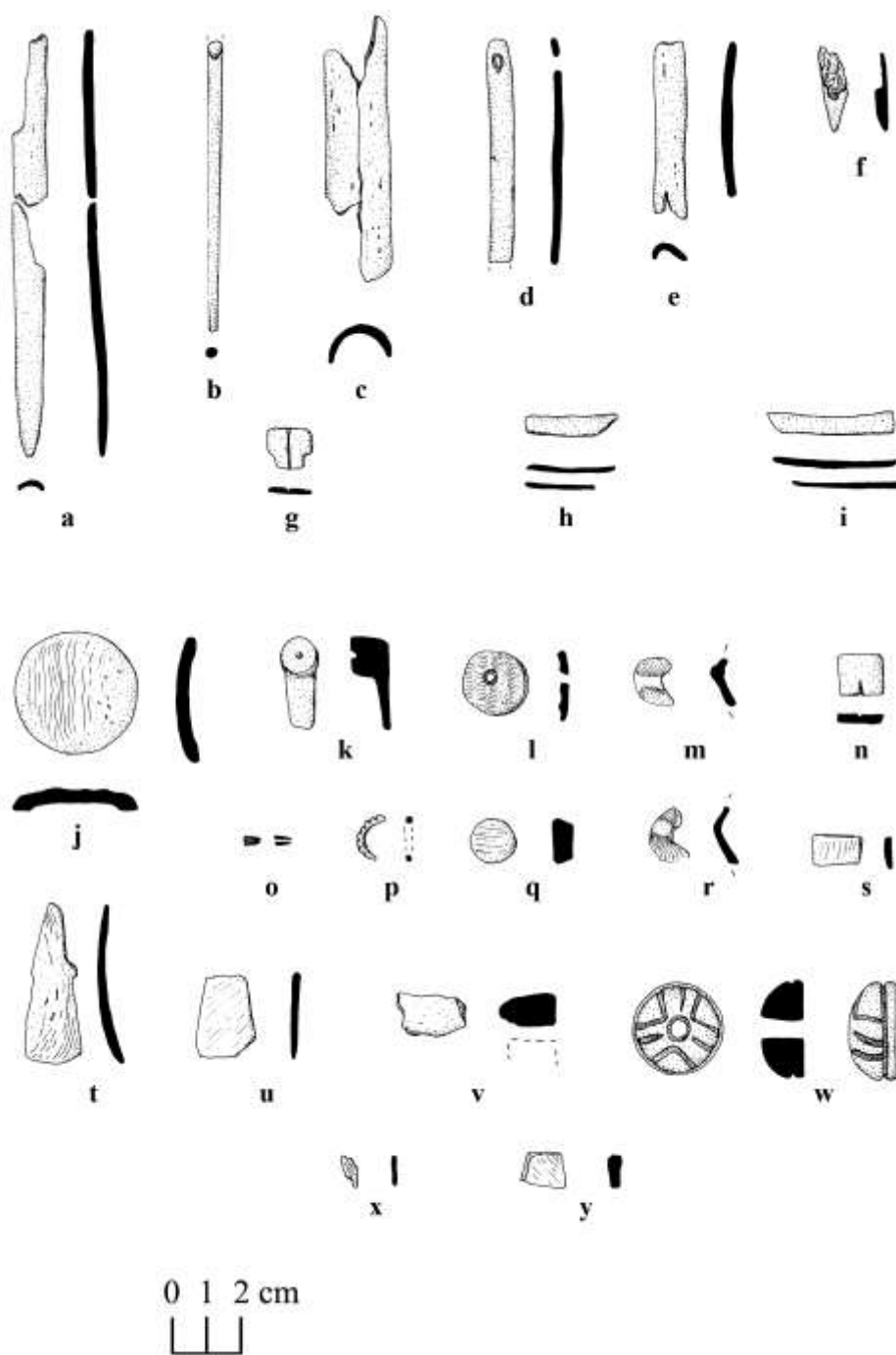


Figure 52: Artifactual material from S.D. C201B-6: a. – i. worked bone (a. is an awl; b. is a pin; d. is a needle); j. – n., q. – s. worked conch shell (k. is an earring); o. tusk shell fragment; p. unidentified marine shell; t., u. mussel shell; v. burnt jadeite bead fragment; w. limestone spindle whorl; x. pyrite chip; y. hematite mosaic fragment.

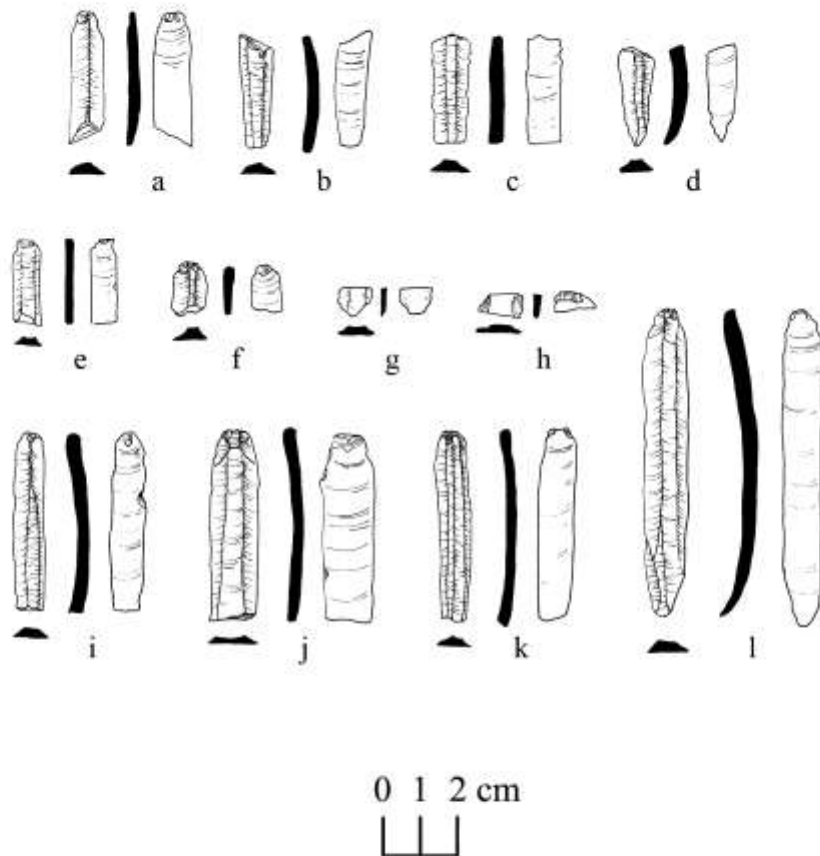


Figure 53: Obsidian blade and blade fragments from S.D. C201B-6.

CARACOL Structure L33
excv. C201C

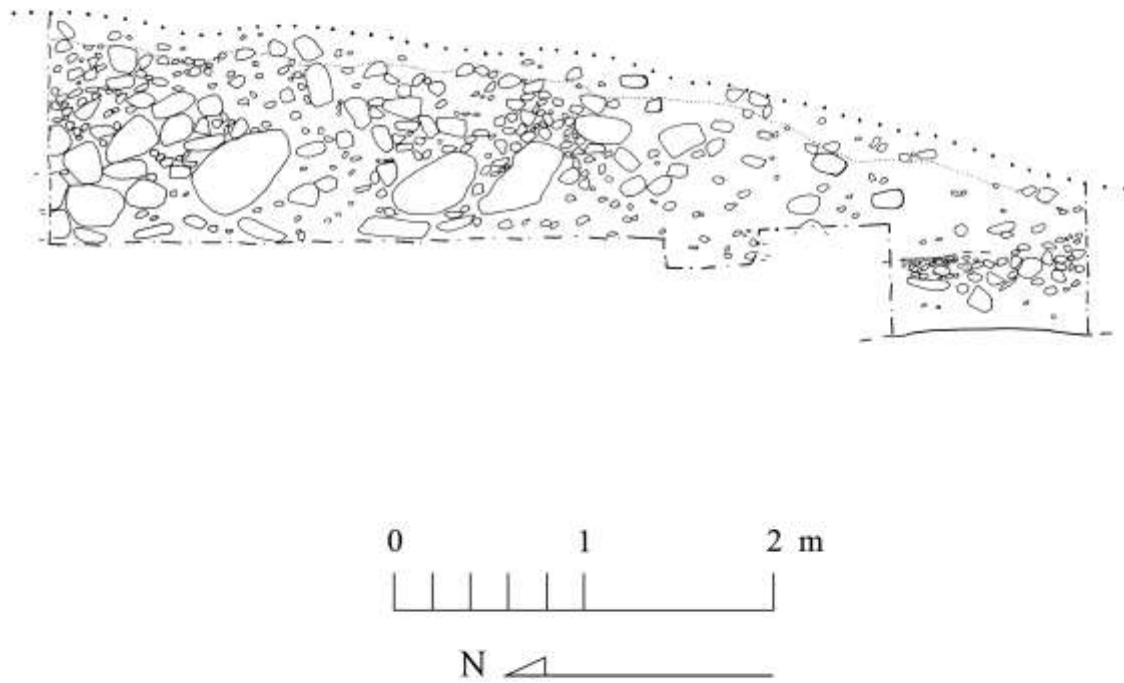


Figure 54: Caracol Structure L33 section, designated Operation C201C.

CARACOL Structure L33
excv. C201C

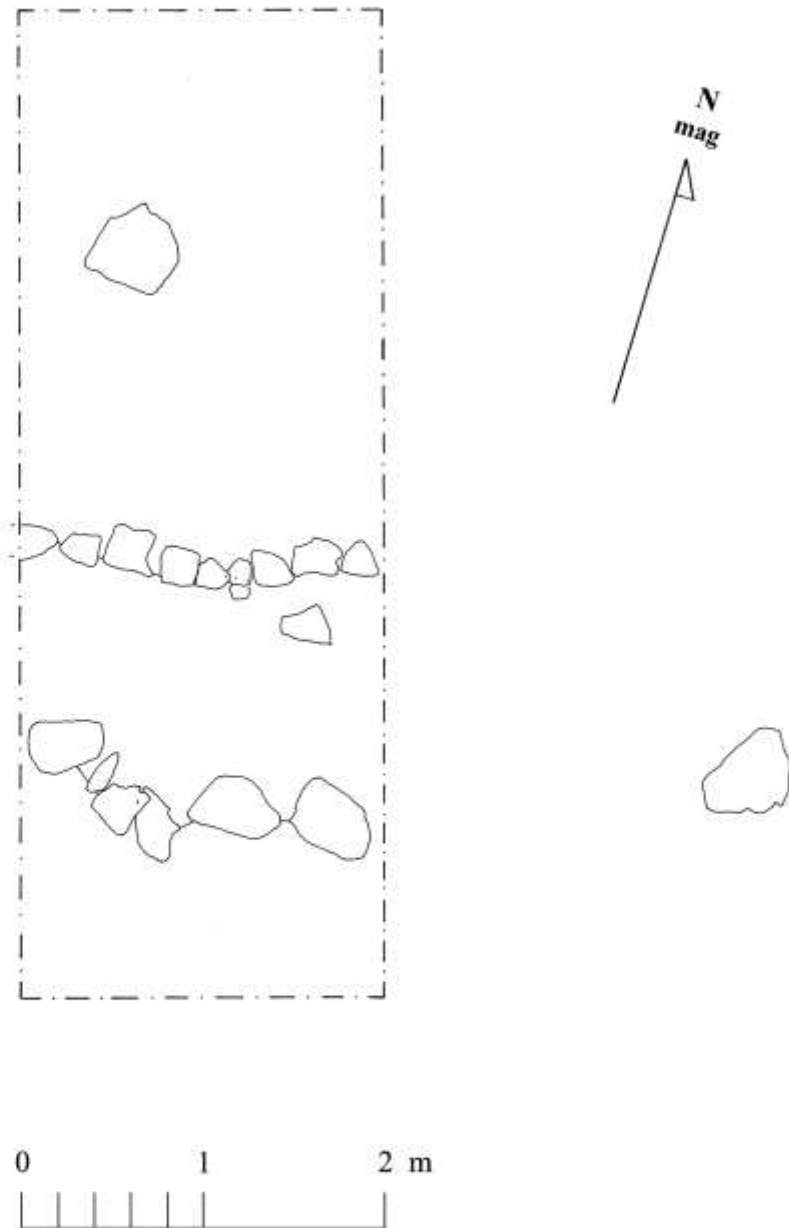


Figure 55: Plan of facings within Operation C201C.

CARACOL Structure L38
excv. C201D

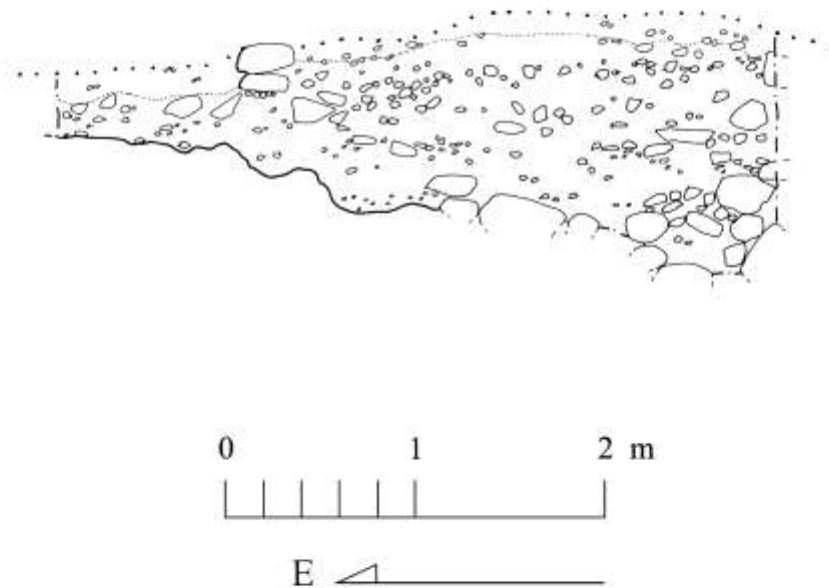


Figure 56: Caracol Structure L38 section, designated Operation C201D.

CARACOL Structure L38
excav. C201D

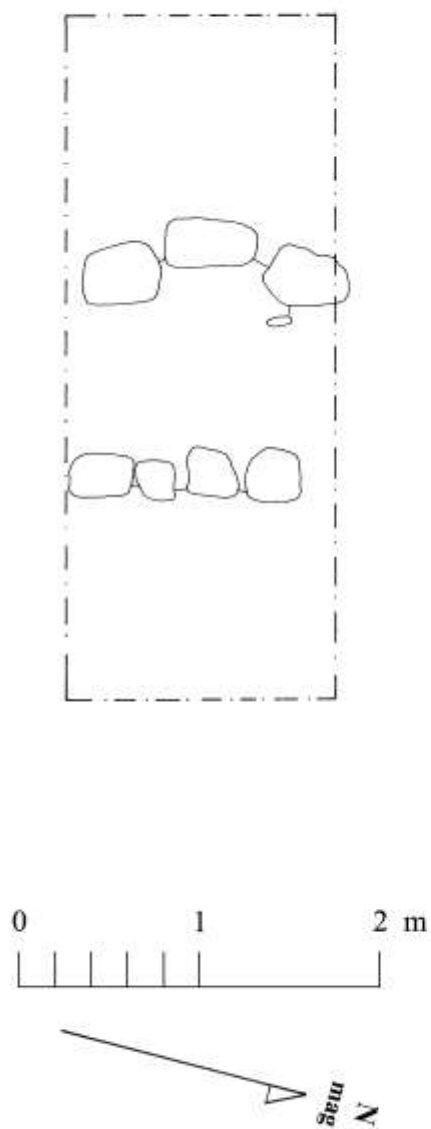


Figure 57: Plan of facings within Operation C201D.

Caracol excv. C201E

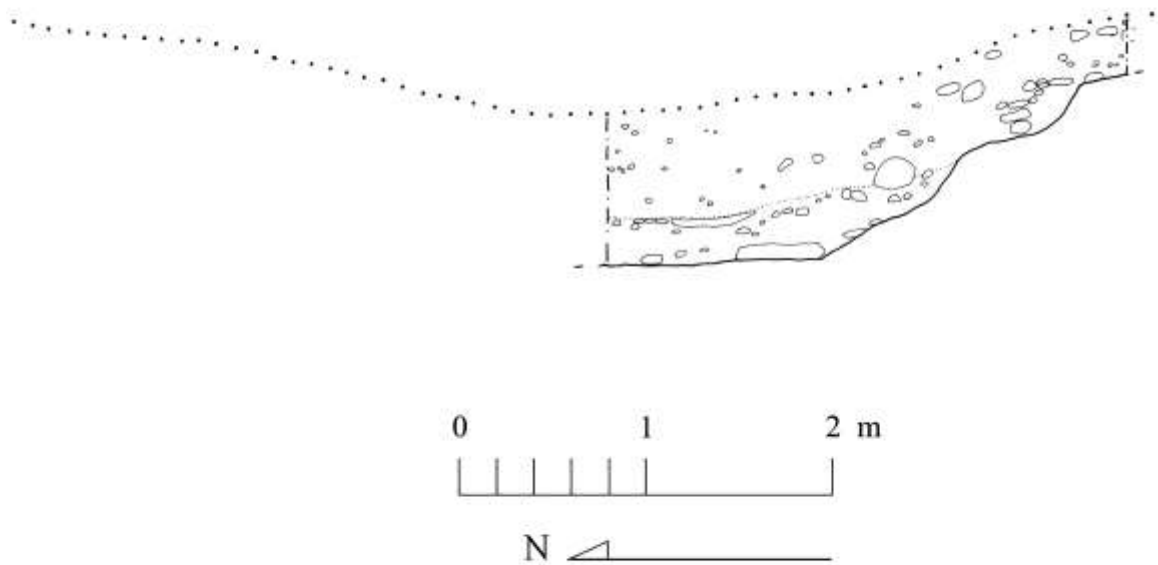


Figure 58: Cross-section of reservoir associated with Sonrisa excavation group, designated Operation C201E.

Tonto

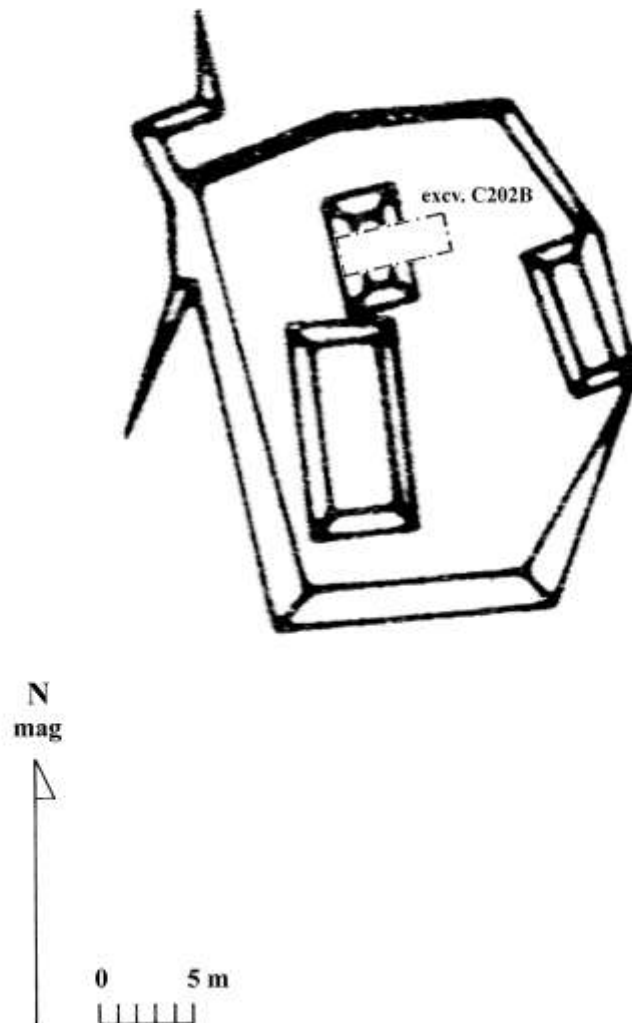


Figure 59: Plan of Tonto residential group, showing the location of Operation C202B.



a



b

Figure 60: Photographs of Tonto and Vergonsoso residential groups: a. Caracol Structure L30, looking west; b. Caracol Structure C38, looking east.

CARACOL Structure L30
excv. C202B

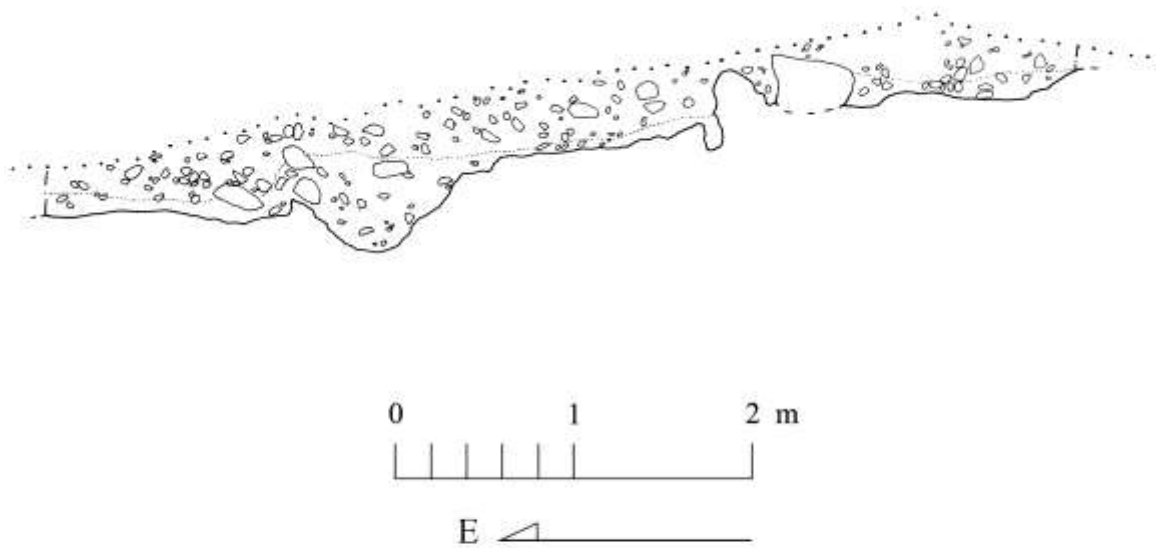


Figure 61: Caracol Structure L30 section, designated Operation C202B.

CARACOL Structure L30
excv. C202B

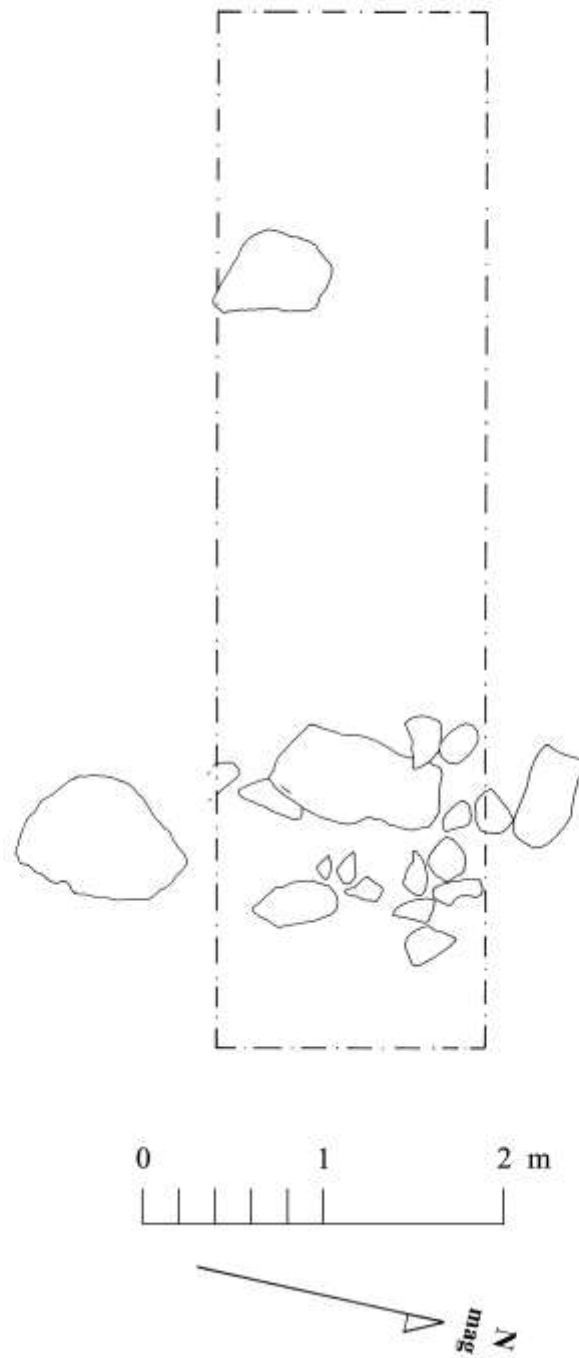


Figure 62: Facing associated with Operation C202B.

Renegon

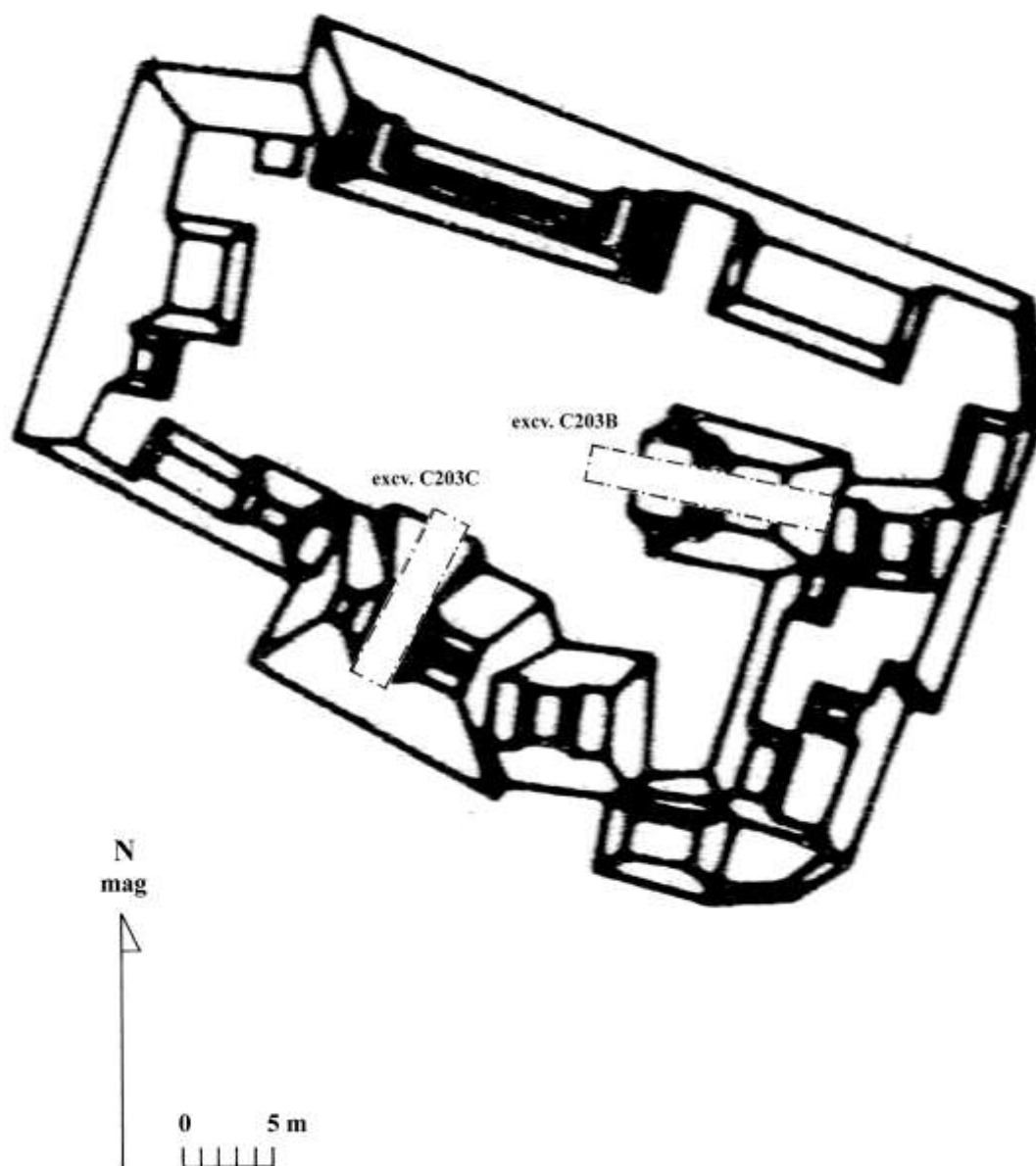


Figure 63: Plan of Renegon residential group, showing the locations of Operation C203B and C203C.



a



b

Figure 64: Photographs of excavations in Renegon residential group: a. Caracol Structure C47, looking east; b. Caracol Structure C54, looking south.

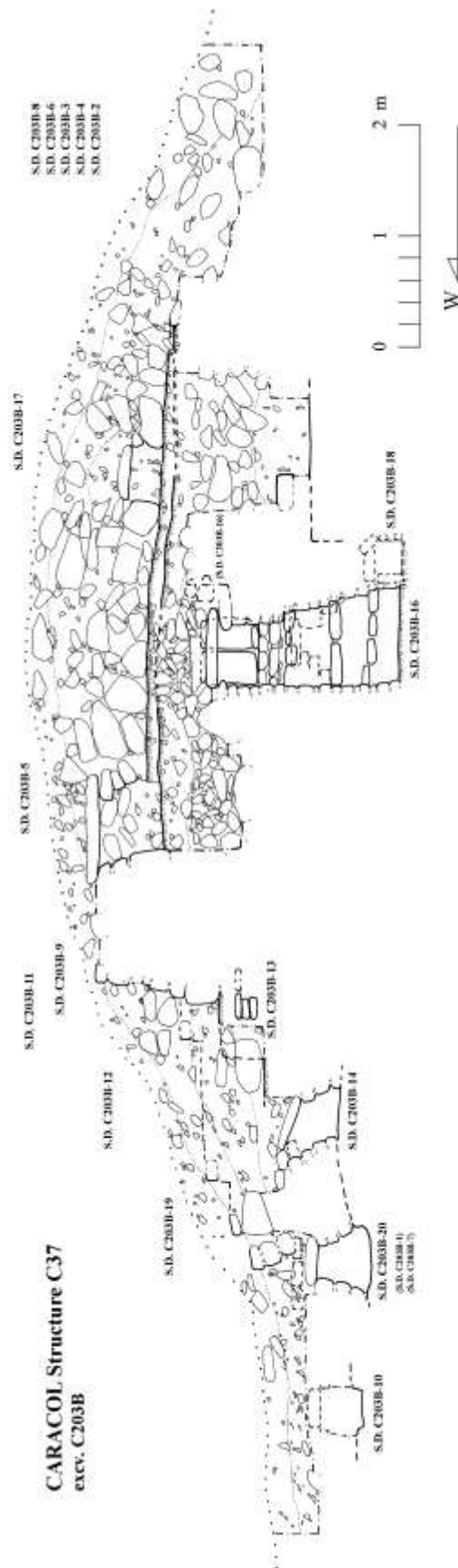


Figure 65: Caracol Structure C37 section, designated Operation C203B.

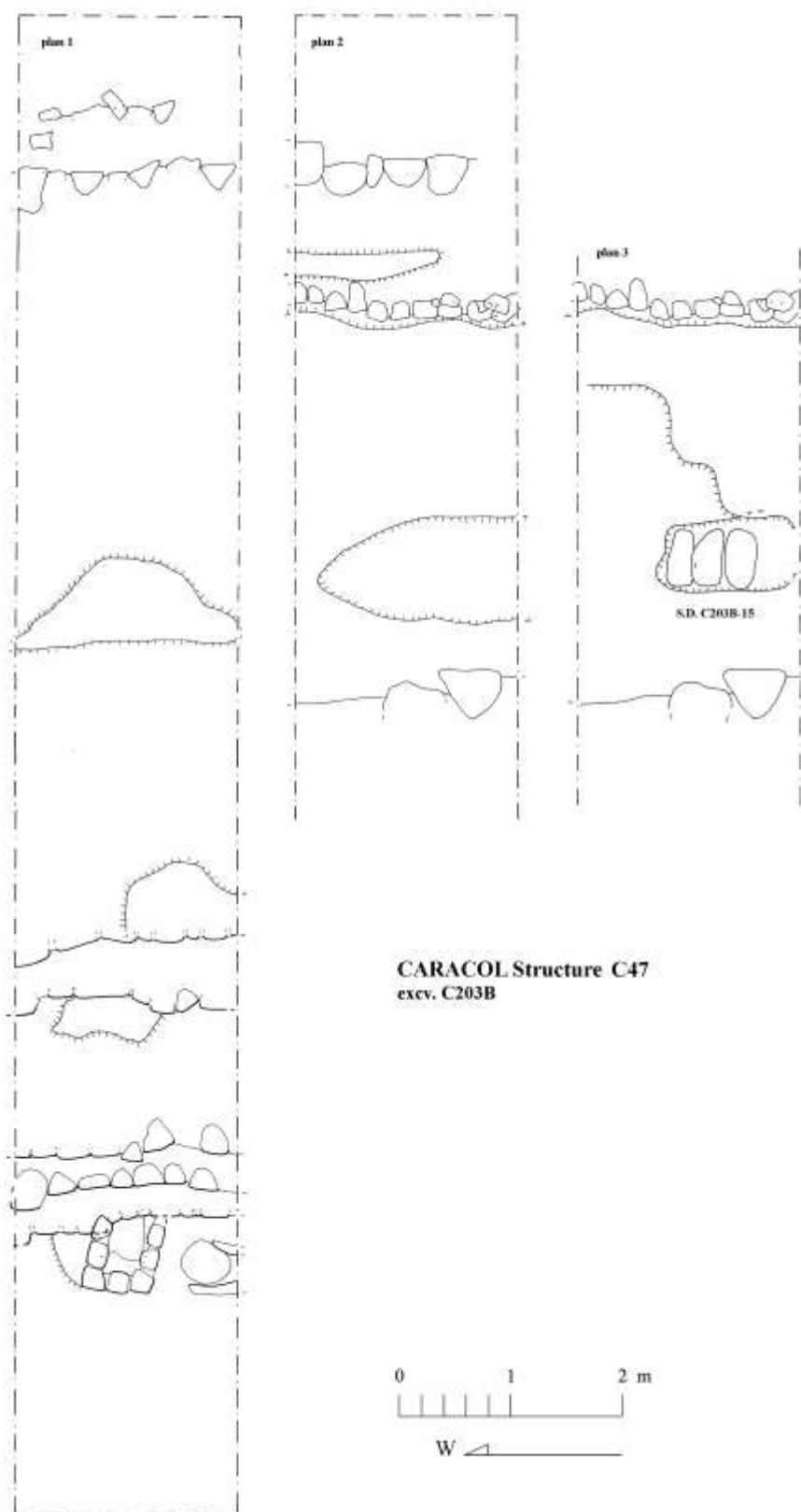


Figure 66: Detailed plans associated with Operation C203B.

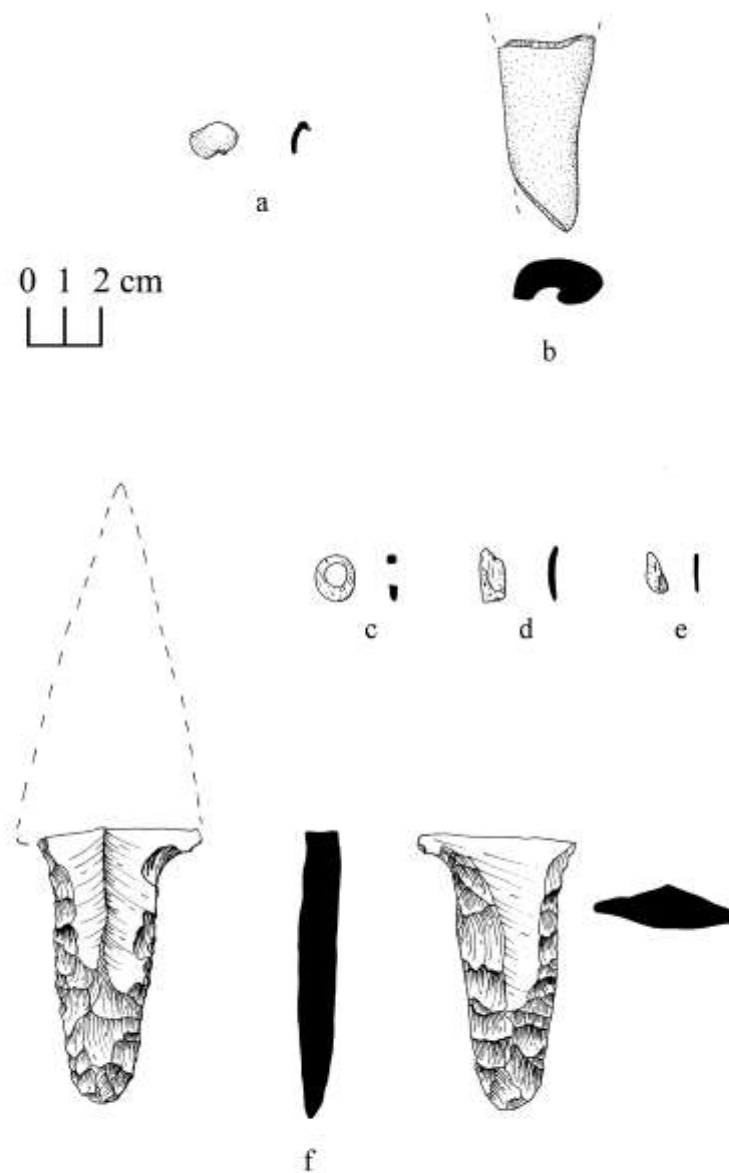


Figure 67: Artifactual material from Operation C203B: a. marine shell (C203B/3-10); b. conch fragment (C203B/7-1); c. – e. worked shell (C203B/20-1); f. chert macro-blade stem fragment (C203B/20).

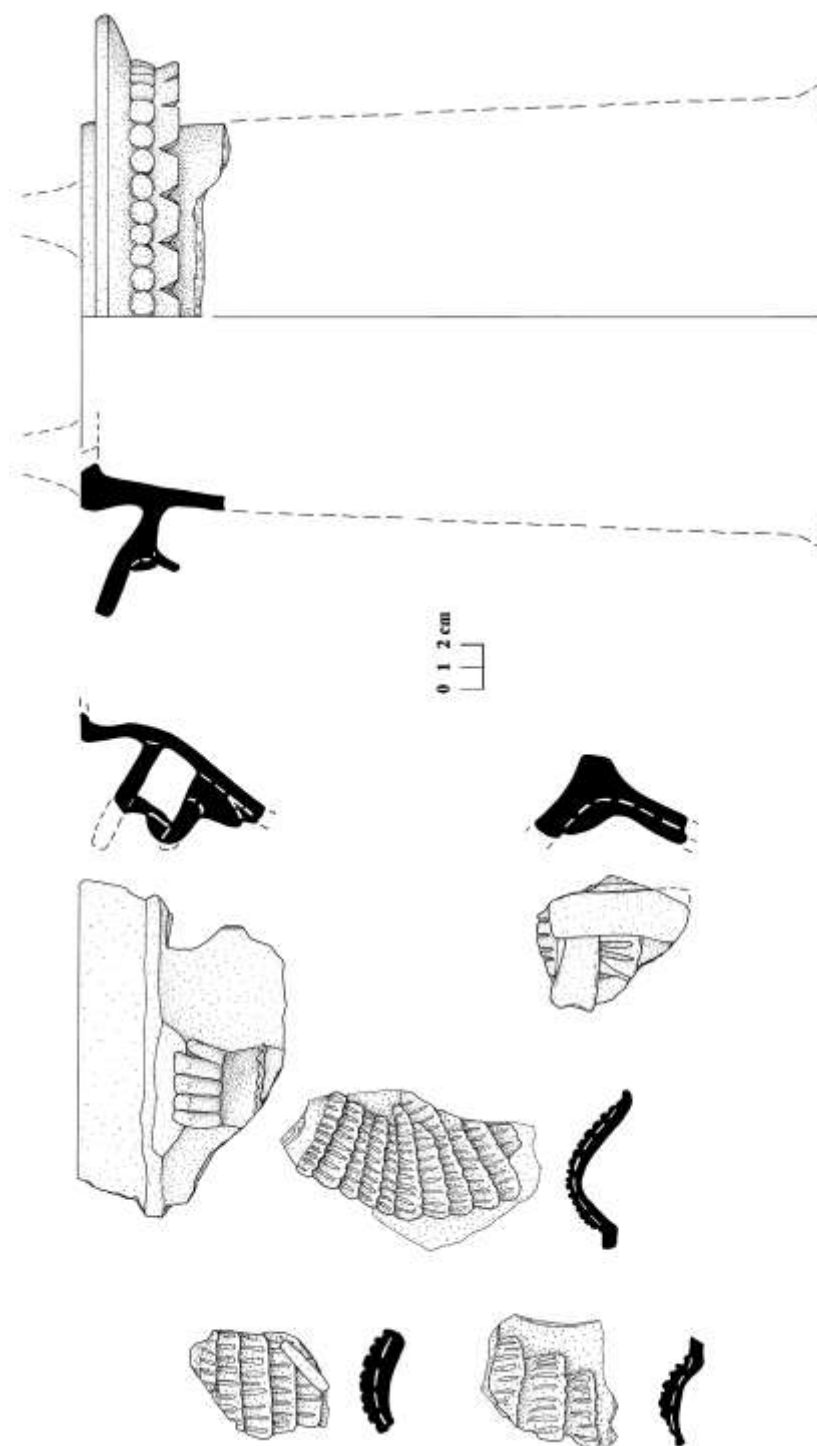


Figure 68: Modeled pottery burner scattered across the front of Structure C47 (Monterey Modeled).

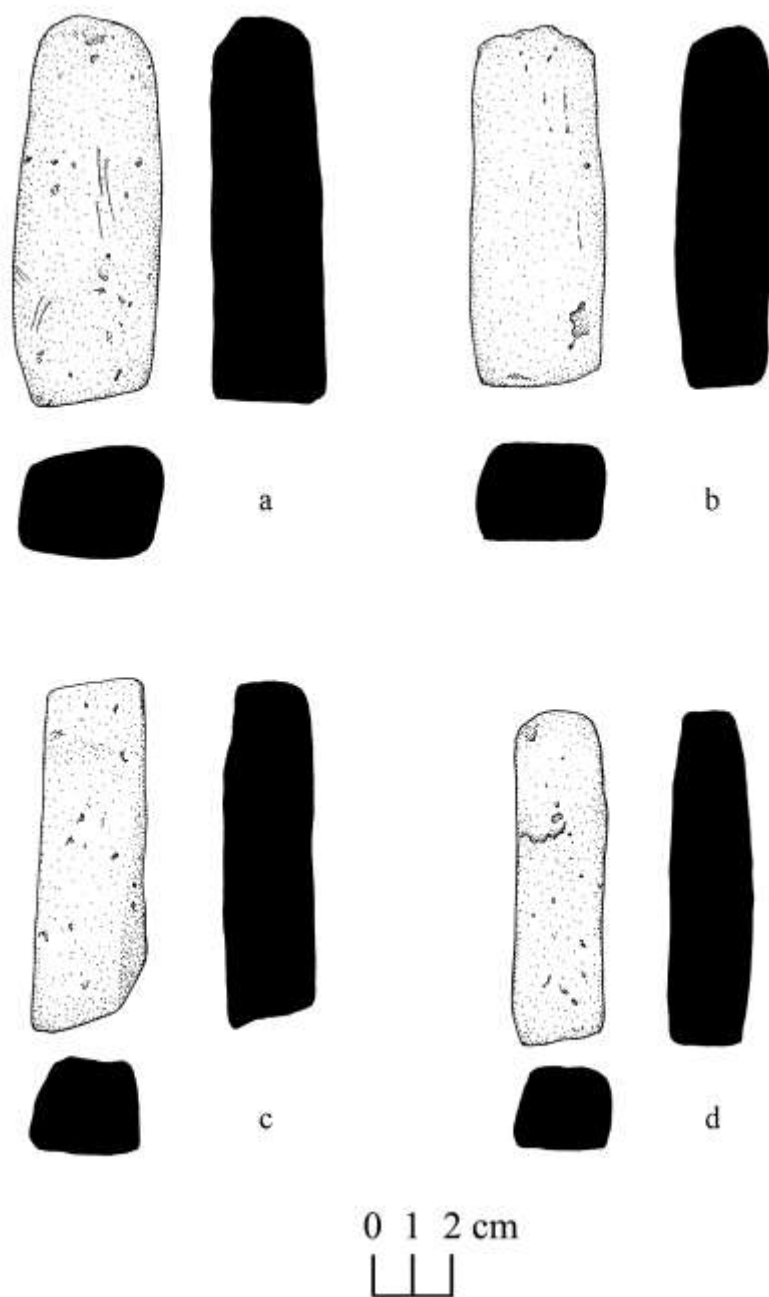


Figure 69: Limestone bars recovered in Operation C203B/13.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

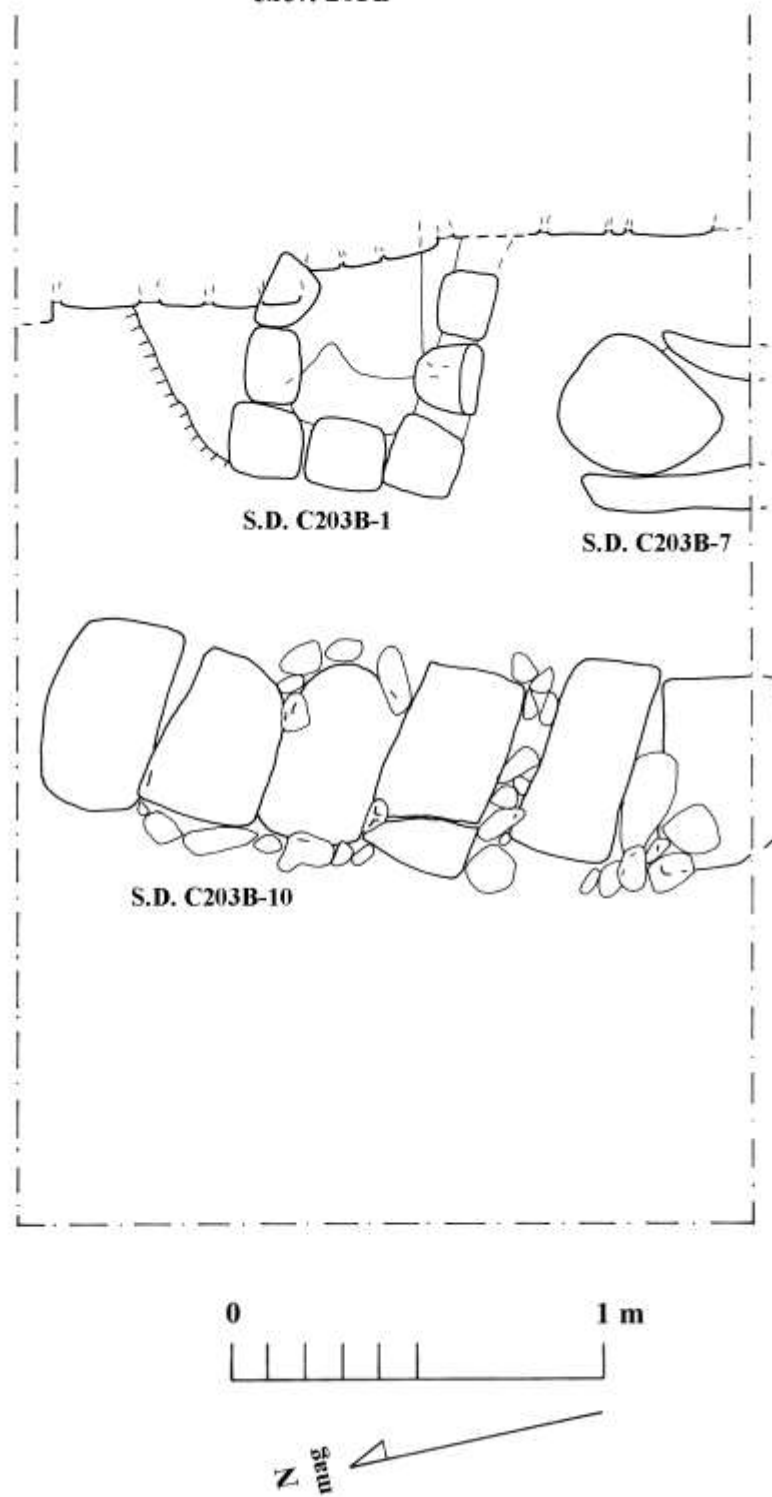


Figure 70: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-1 and capstones over S. D. C203B-7 and S.D. C203B-10.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

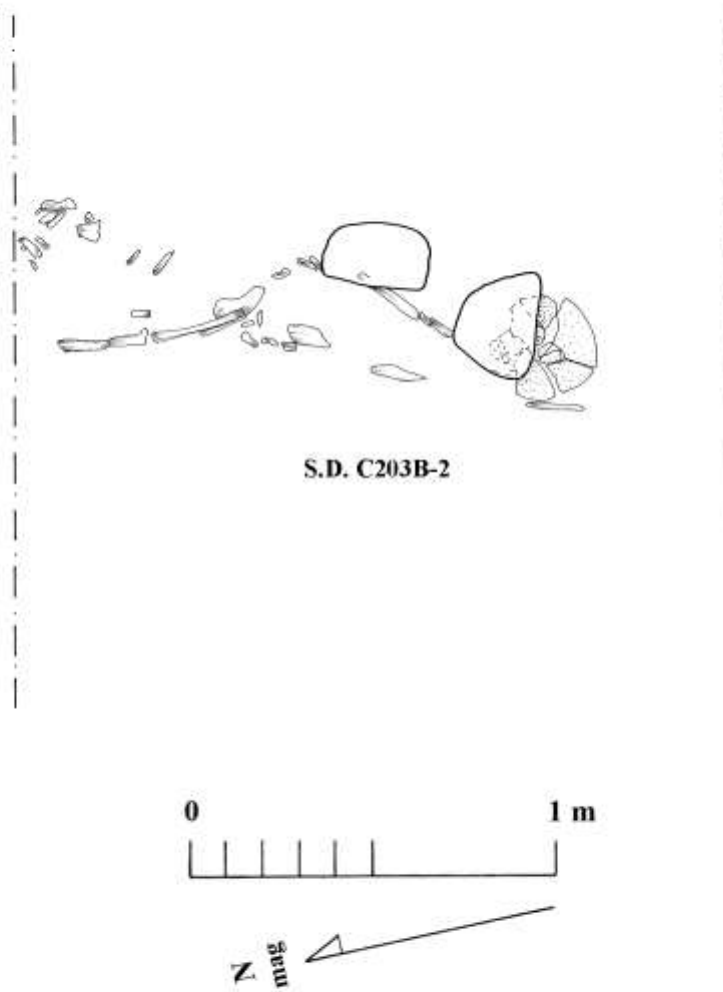


Figure 71: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-2.

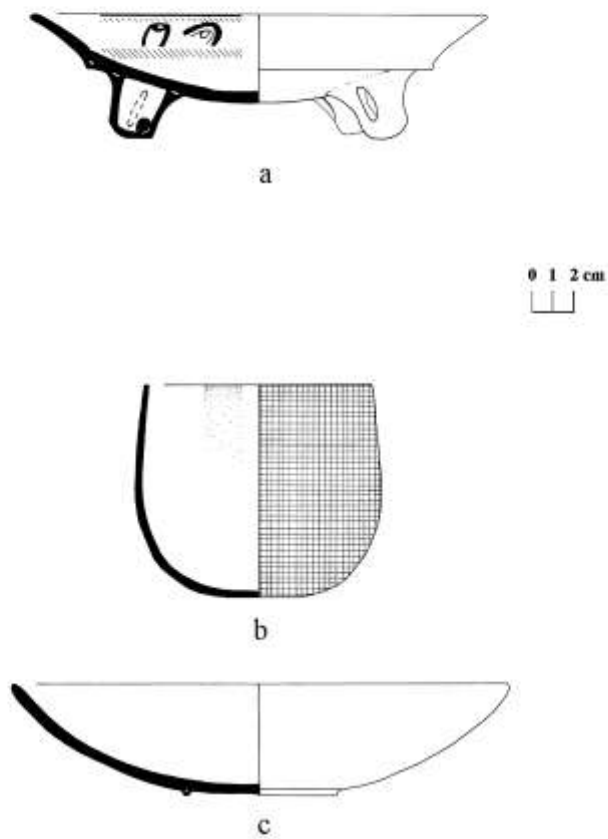


Figure 72: Pottery vessels from S.D. C203B-2 (a.) and S.D. C203B-5 (b., c.): a. Saxche Orange-Polychrome; b. Molino Black; c. Machete Orange-Polychrome.

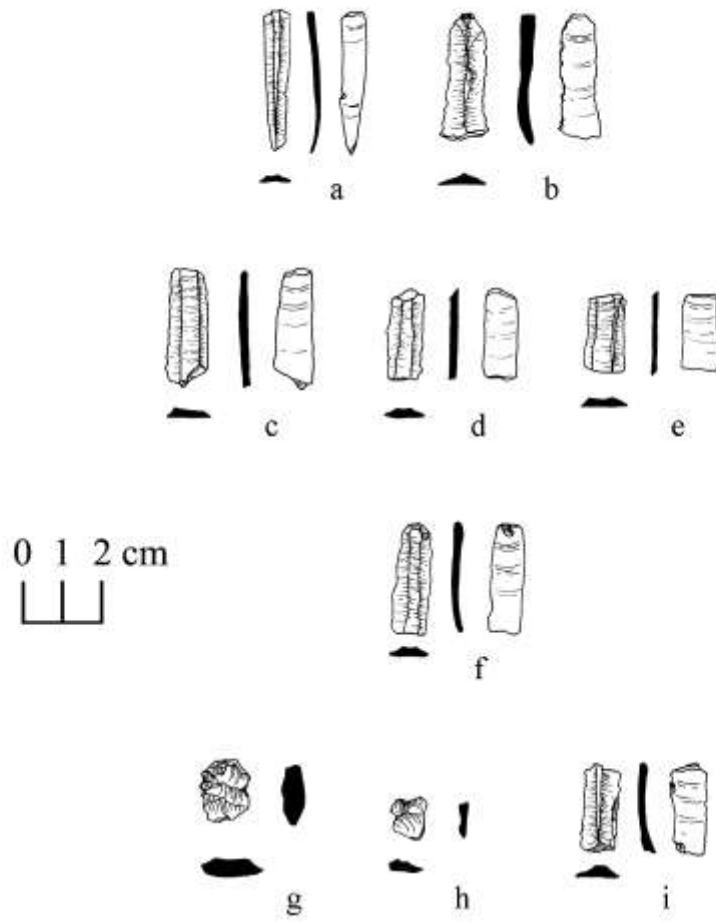


Figure 73: Obsidian blade and chip fragments from various S.D.s in Operation C203B: S.D. C203B-2 (a., b.); S.D. C203B-5 (c. – e.); S.D. C203B-6 (f.); S. C. C203B-19 (g. – i.).

Caracol Structure C47
excv. C203B

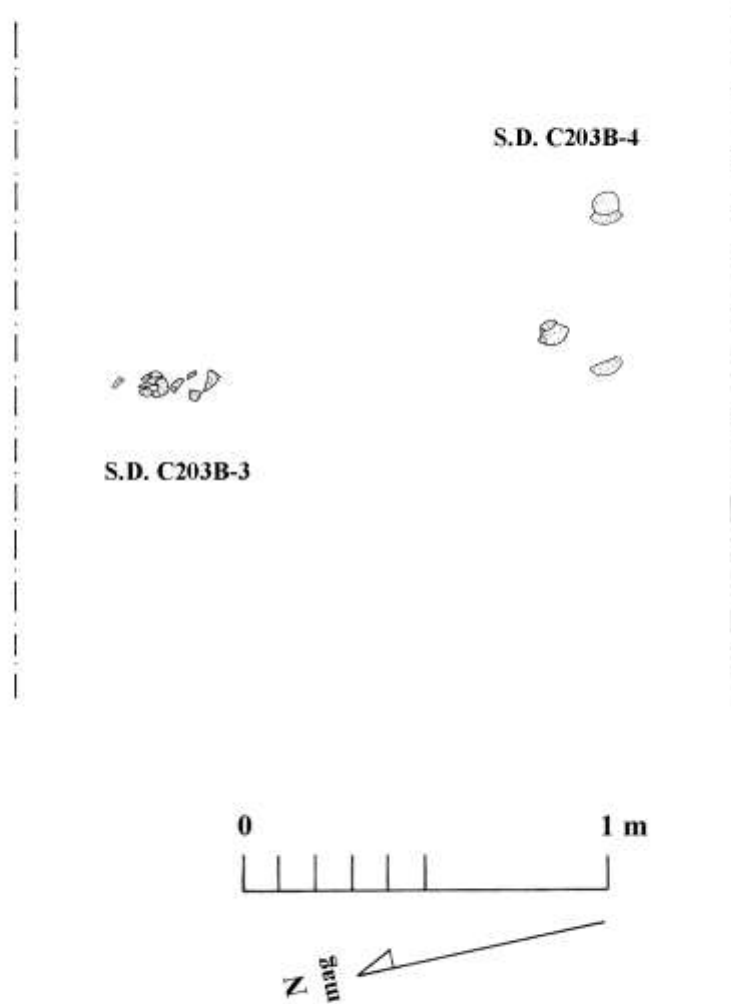


Figure 74: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-3 and S.D. C203B-4.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B
S.D. C203B-5

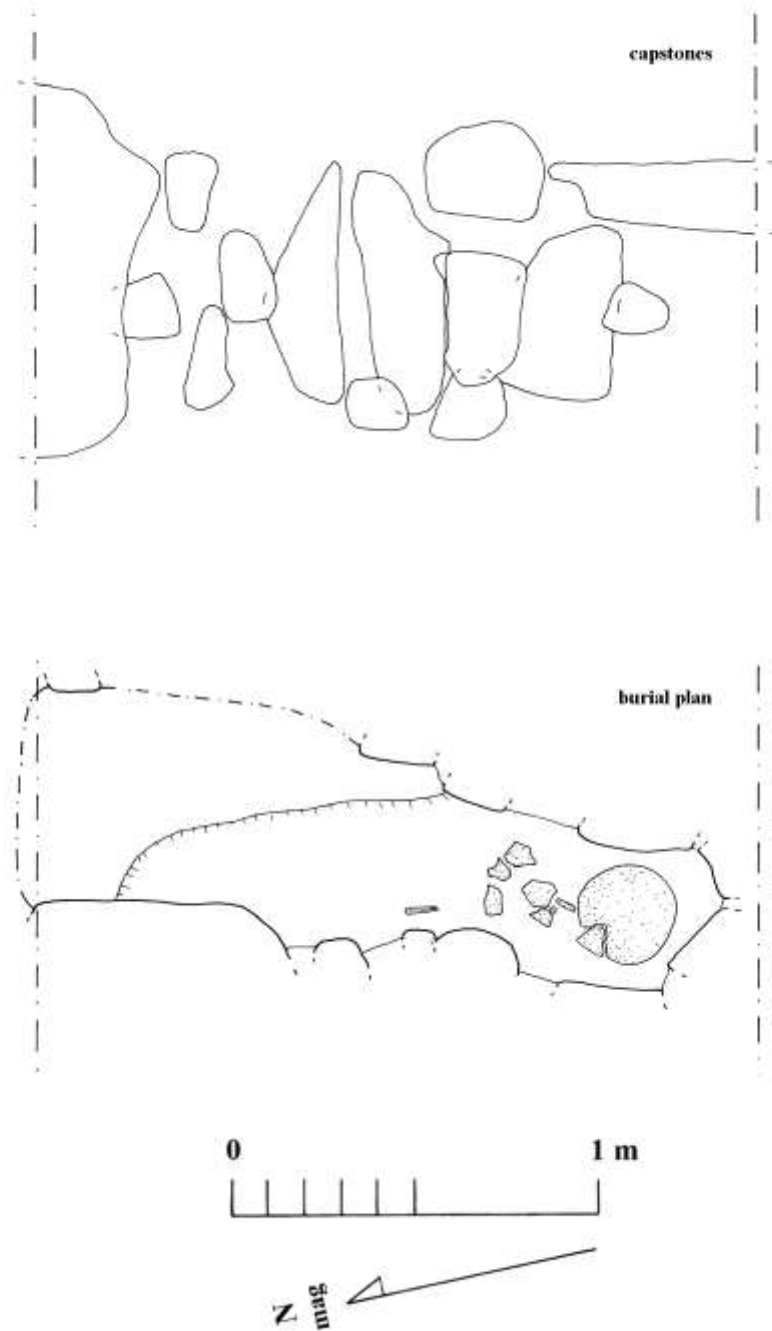


Figure 75: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-5 and the capstones above the crypt.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

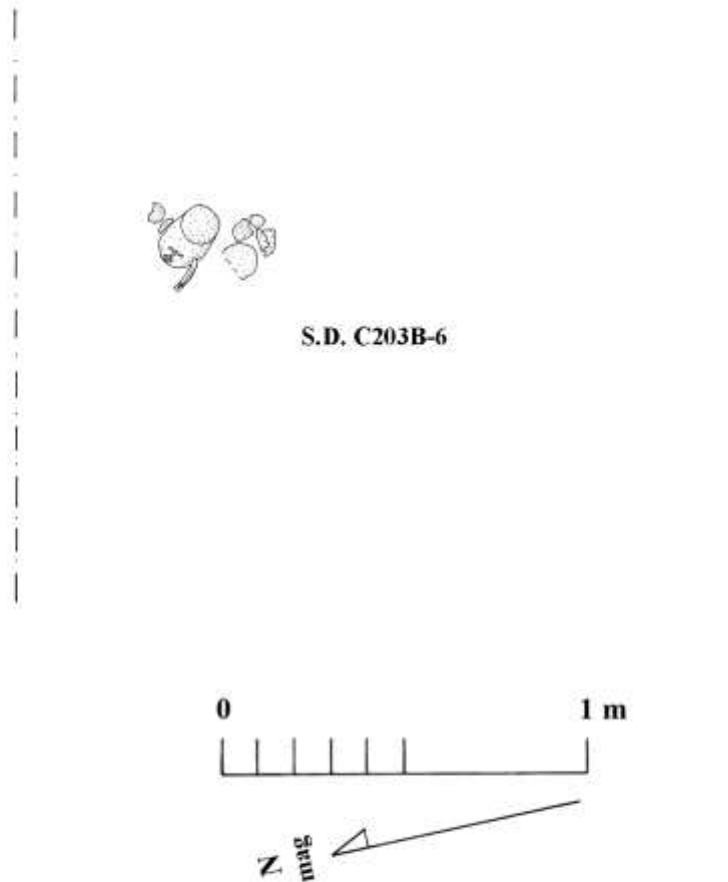


Figure 76: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-6.

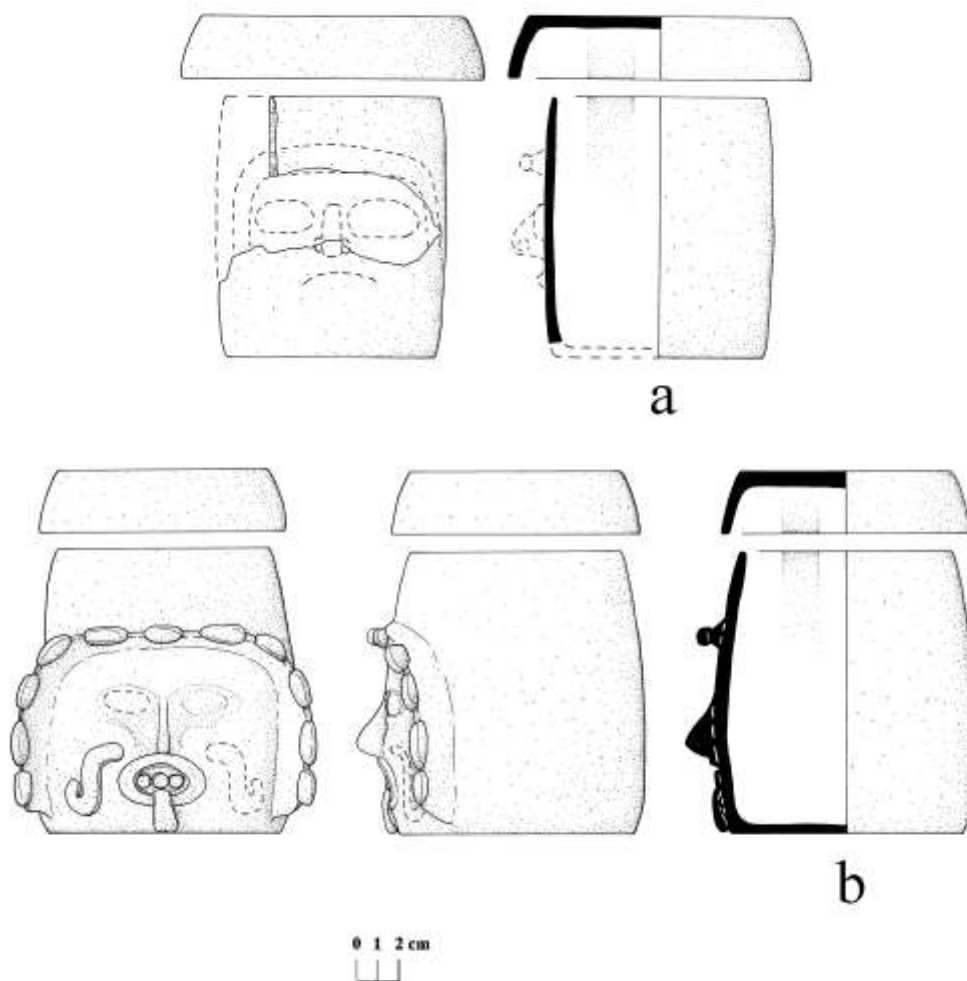
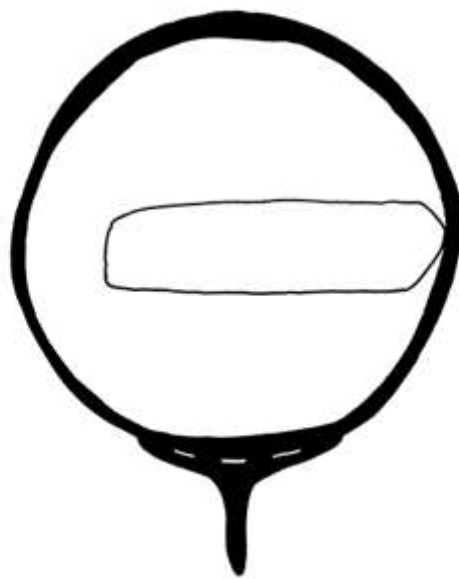


Figure 77: Hebe Modeled face caches: a. from fill (C203B/11); b. from S.D. C203B-6 (lot 21).

S.D. C203B-6



0 1 2 cm
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Figure 78: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-6 showing limestone bar in face cache.

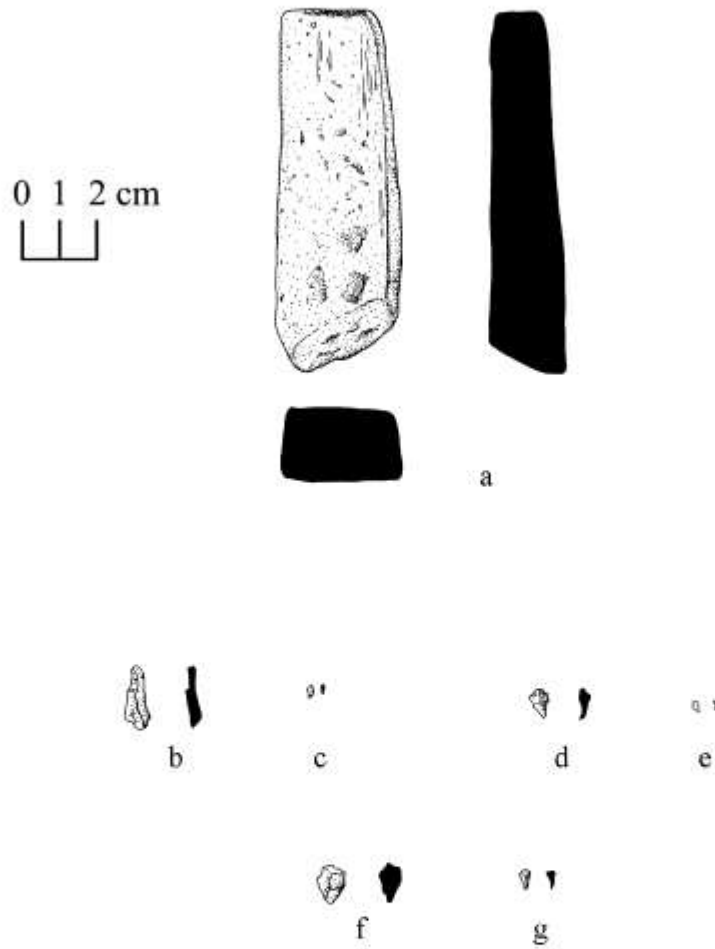


Figure 79: Artifactual material from within S.D. C203B-6: a. limestone bar; b., c. sample of jadeite chips; d., e. spondylus chips; f., g. quartzite chips (chips represent largest and smallest samples).

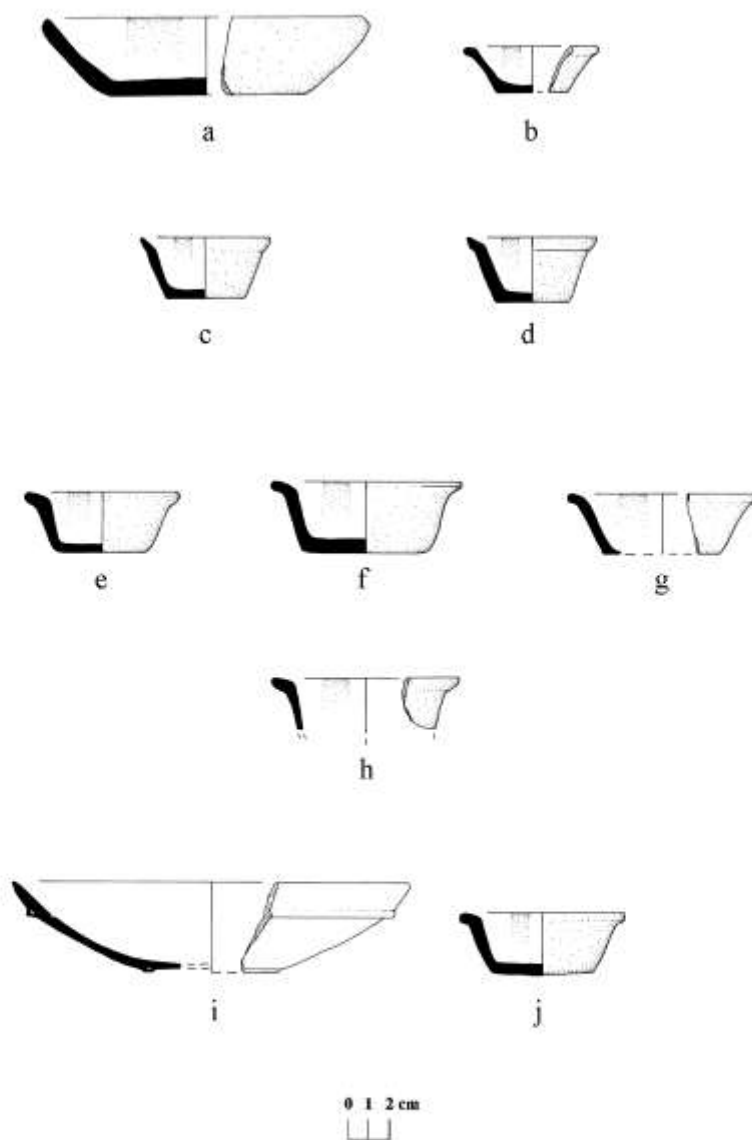


Figure 80: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47: a., b. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/9); c., d. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/18); e. – g. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/19); h. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/20); i. eroded Pajarito Orange-Polychrome (C203B/21); j. Ceiba Unslipped (C203B/21).

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

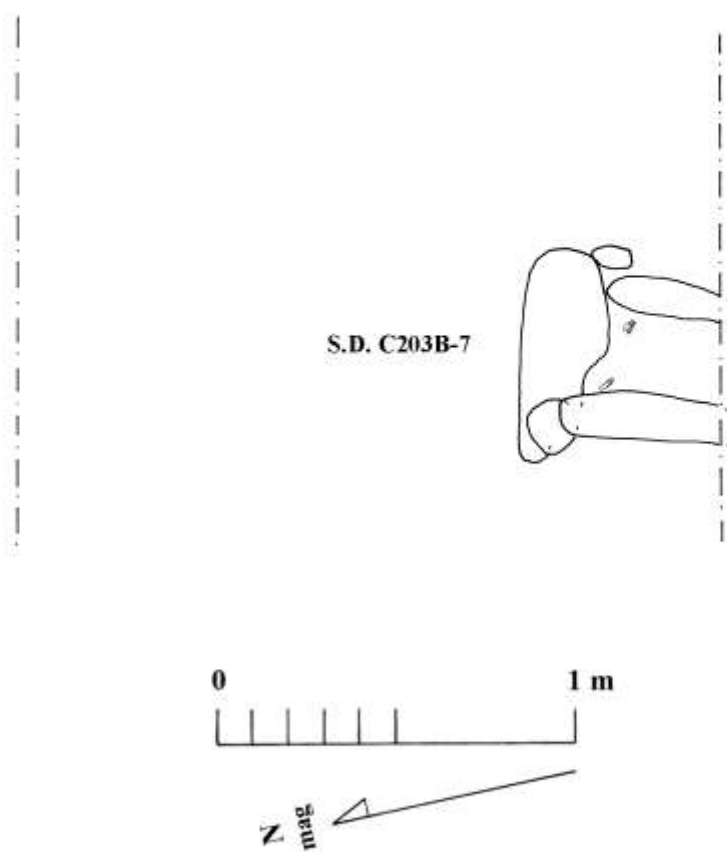


Figure 81: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-7.

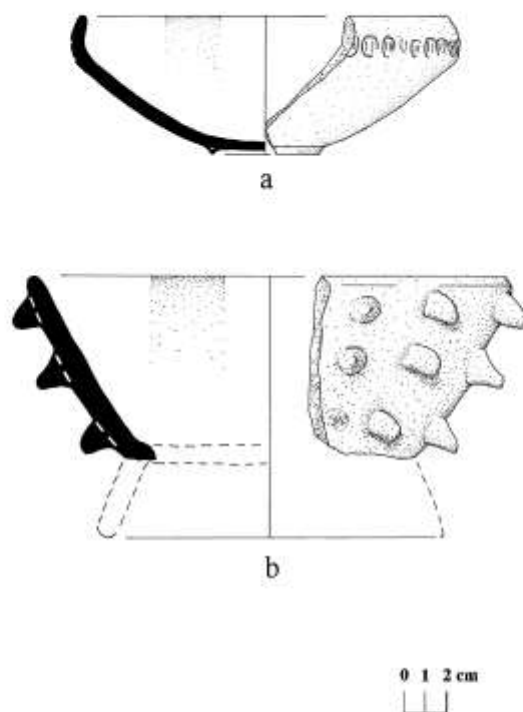


Figure 82: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47 (C203B/23): a. Pantano Impressed; b. Miseria Appliqued.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

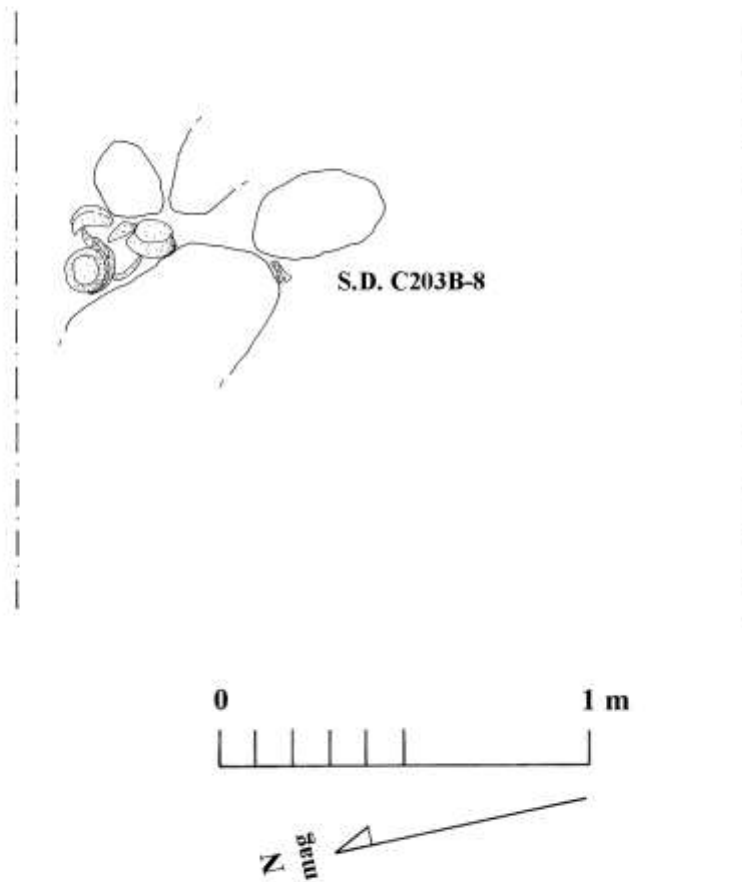


Figure 83: Detail plan of S.D. C203B-8.

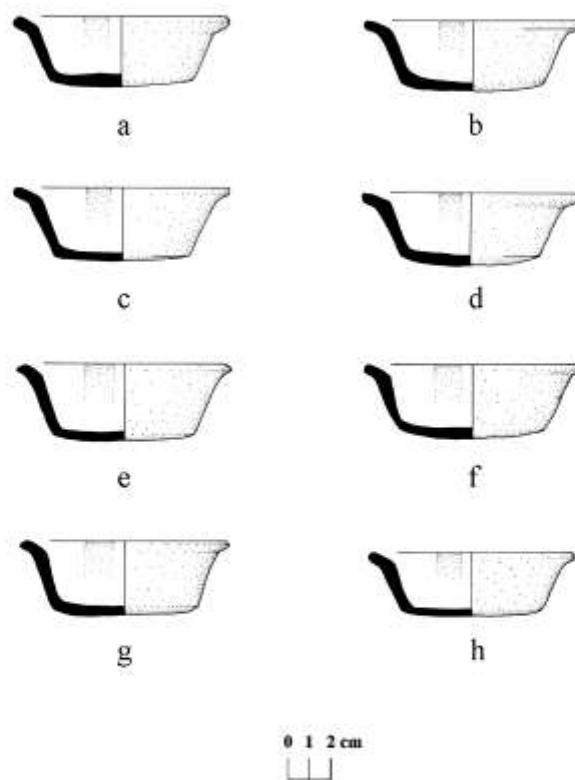


Figure 84: Pottery vessels from S.D. C203B-8: a. – h. Ceiba Unslipped.

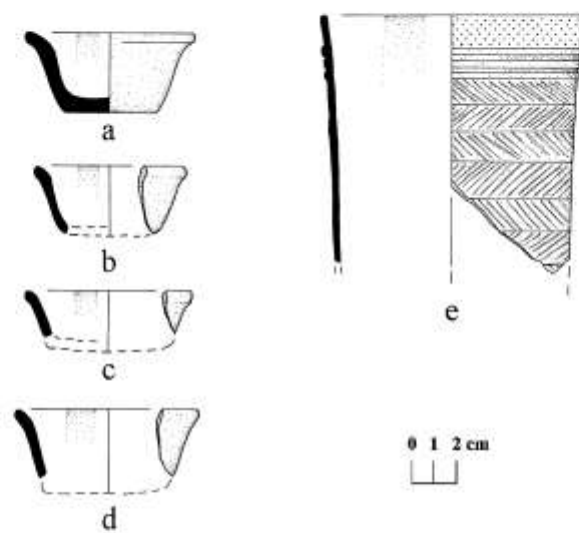


Figure 85: Partial pottery vessels from fill of Structure C47 (C203B/25): a. – d. Ceiba Unslipped; e. possibly Torro Gouged-Incised.



a



b

Figure 86: Photographs of two caches in the front fill for Structure C47: a. S.D. C203B-9, looking east; b. S. D. C203B-12, looking east.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B
S.D. C203B-9

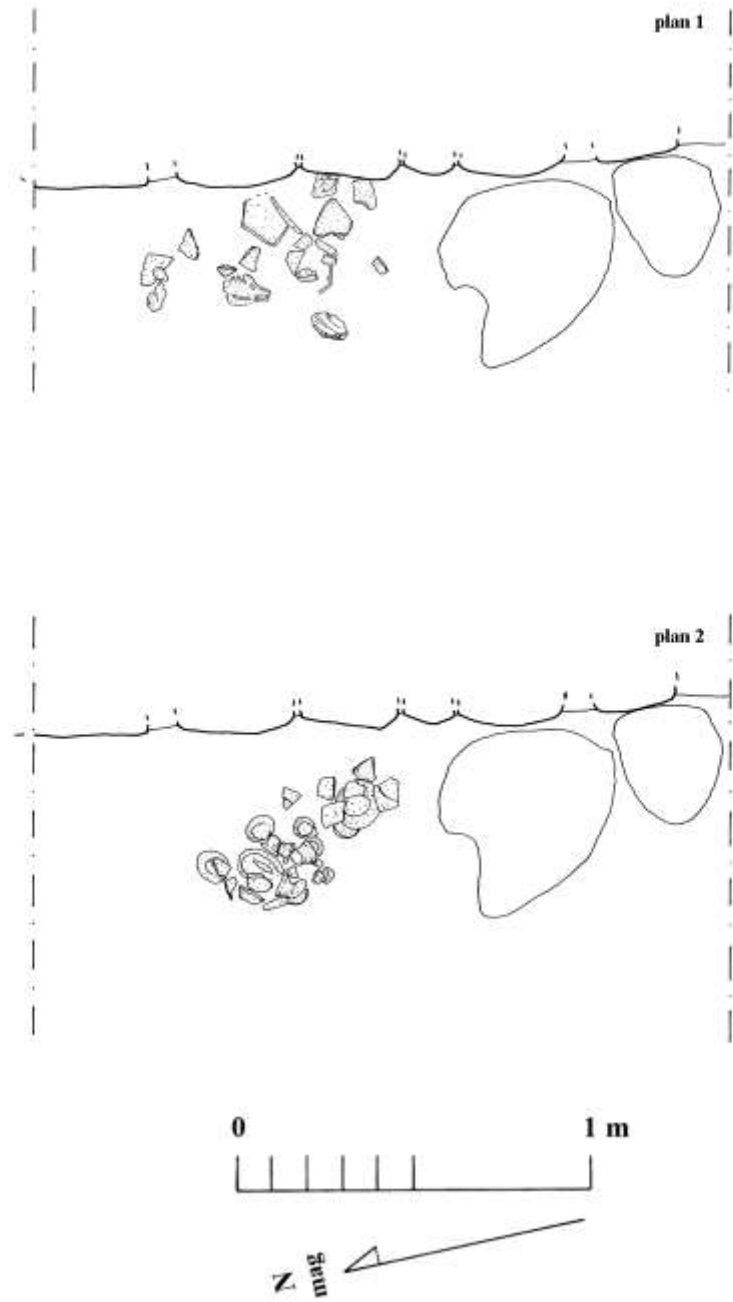


Figure 87: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-9.

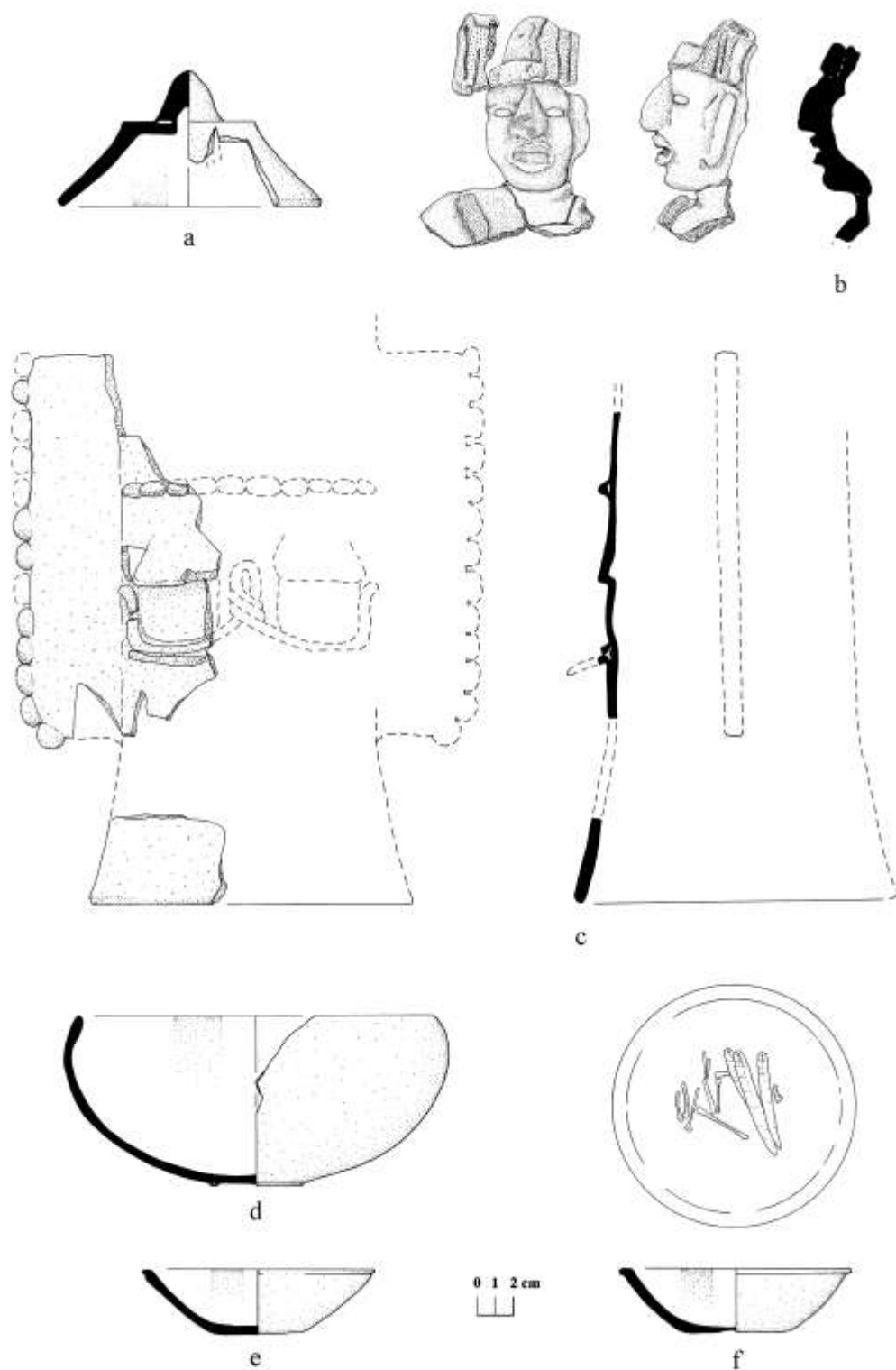


Figure 88: Pottery associated with S.D. C203B-9 (C203B/27): a., c. Pedregal Modeled; b. modeled hollow figure; d. possibly eroded Tinaja Red; e.- x. Ceiba Unslipped; f. shows the in situ materials within the cache vessel, consisting of bobwhite bird bone and 3 obsidian lancets.

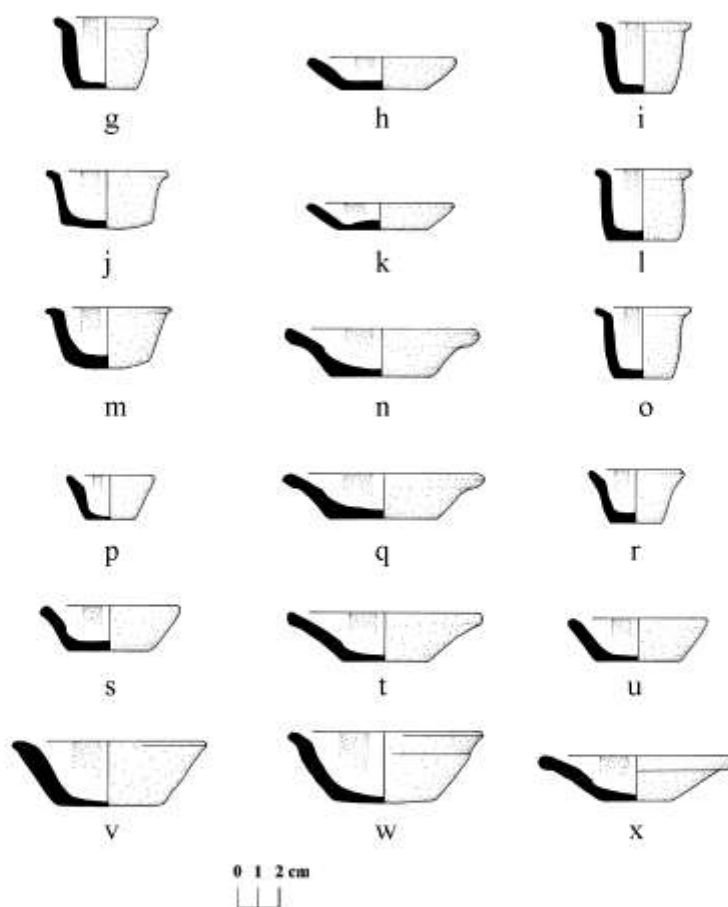


Figure 88: Pottery associated with S.D. C203B-9 (C203B/27): a., c. Pedregal Modeled; b. modeled hollow figure; d. possibly eroded Tinaja Red; e.- x. Ceiba Unslipped; f. shows the in situ materials within the cache vessel, consisting of bobwhite bird bone and 3 obsidian lancets.

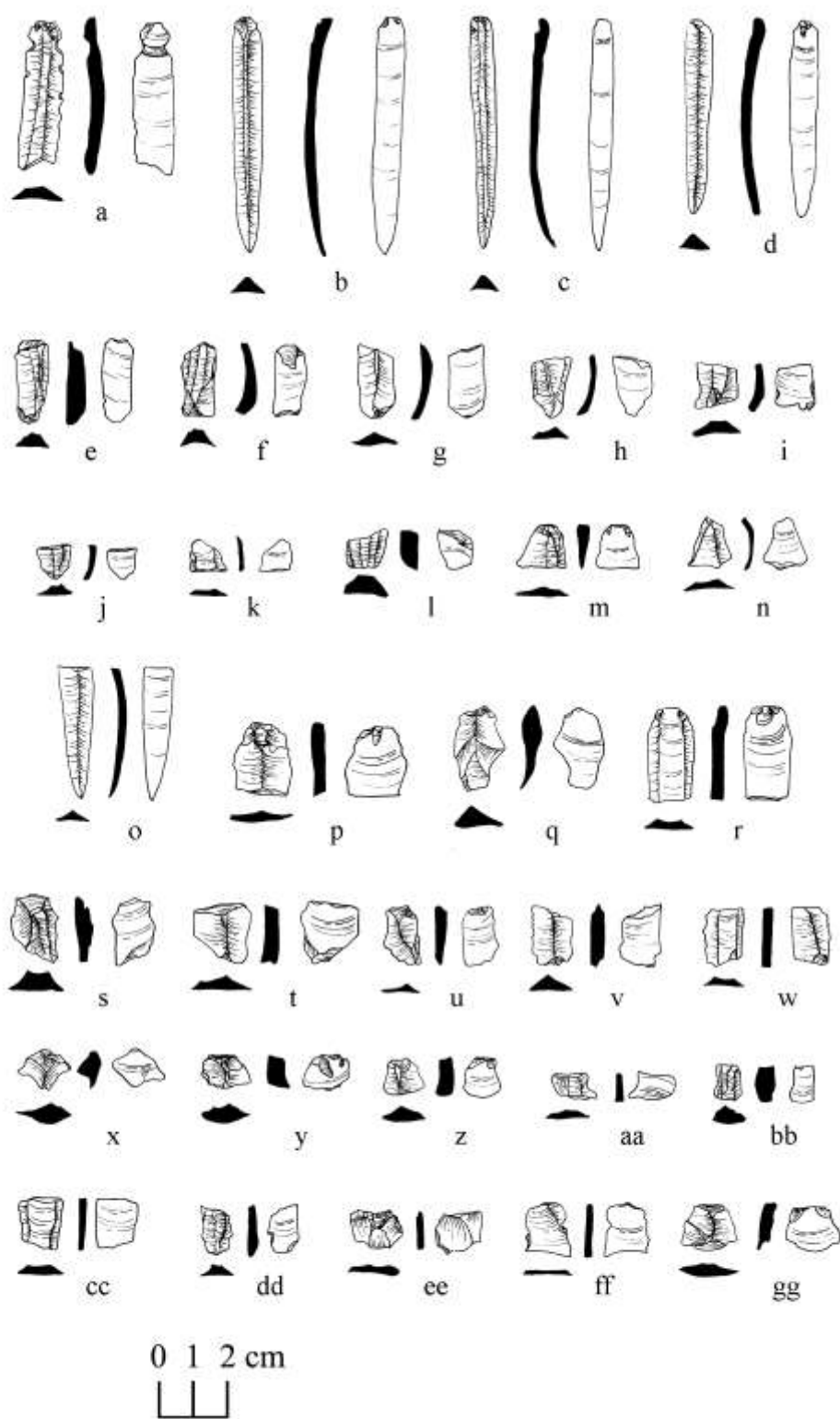


Figure 89: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-9 (C203B/27): b. – d. are from the vessel shown in Figure 85f.

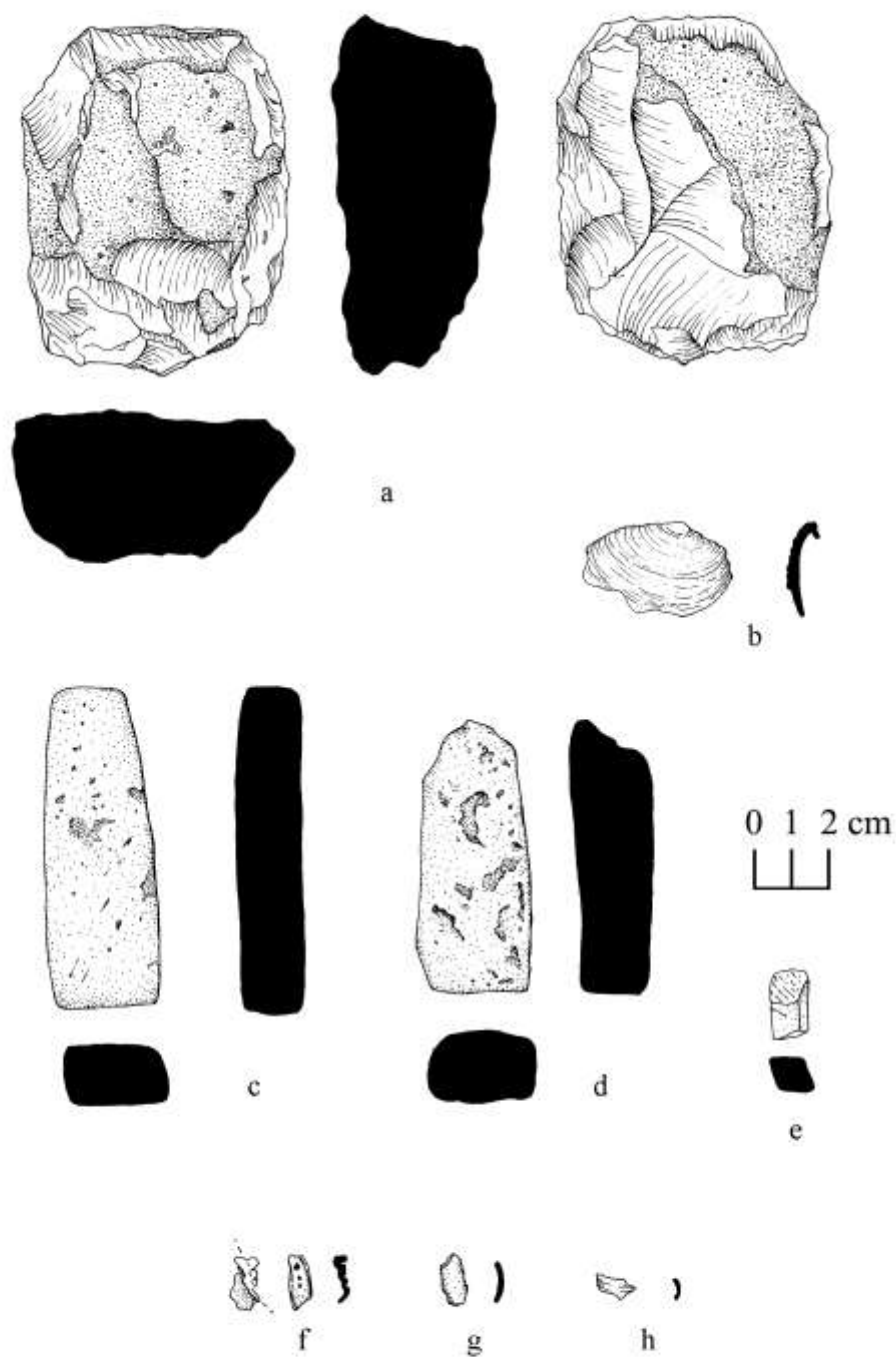


Figure 90: Artifactual material associated with S. D. C203B-9 (C203B/27, unless otherwise noted): a. chert core tool; b. clam shell (C203B/28-2); c., d. limestone bars; e. quartzite chunk; f. – h. shell and crab claw fragments.



a



b



c

Figure 91: Photographs of burial crypts associated with Structure C47: a. S.D. C203B-14; b. S.D. C203B-20; c. S.D. C203B-10.

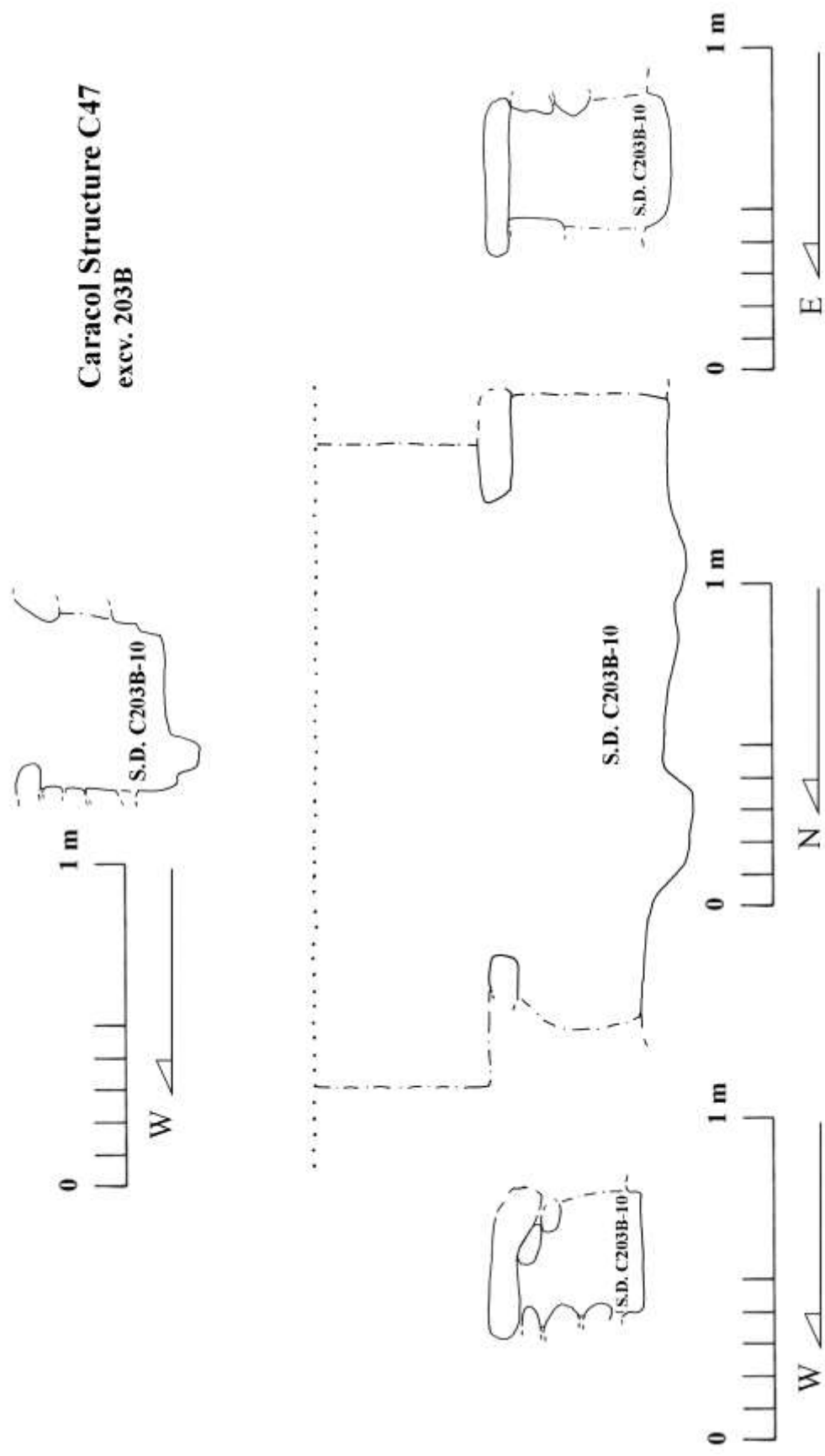


Figure 92: Cross-sections of S.D. C203B-10.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B
S.D. C203B-10

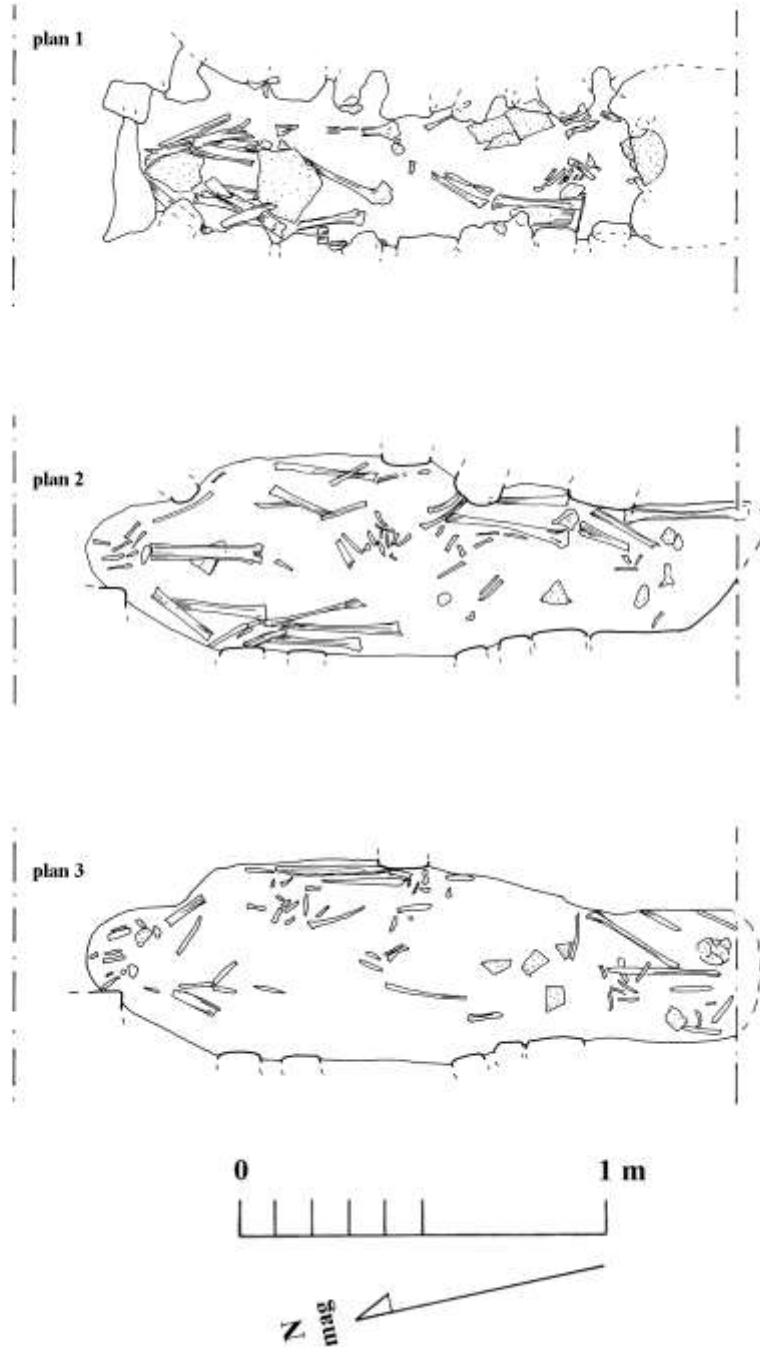


Figure 93: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-10.

Caracol Structure C47

excav. 203B

S.D. C203B-10

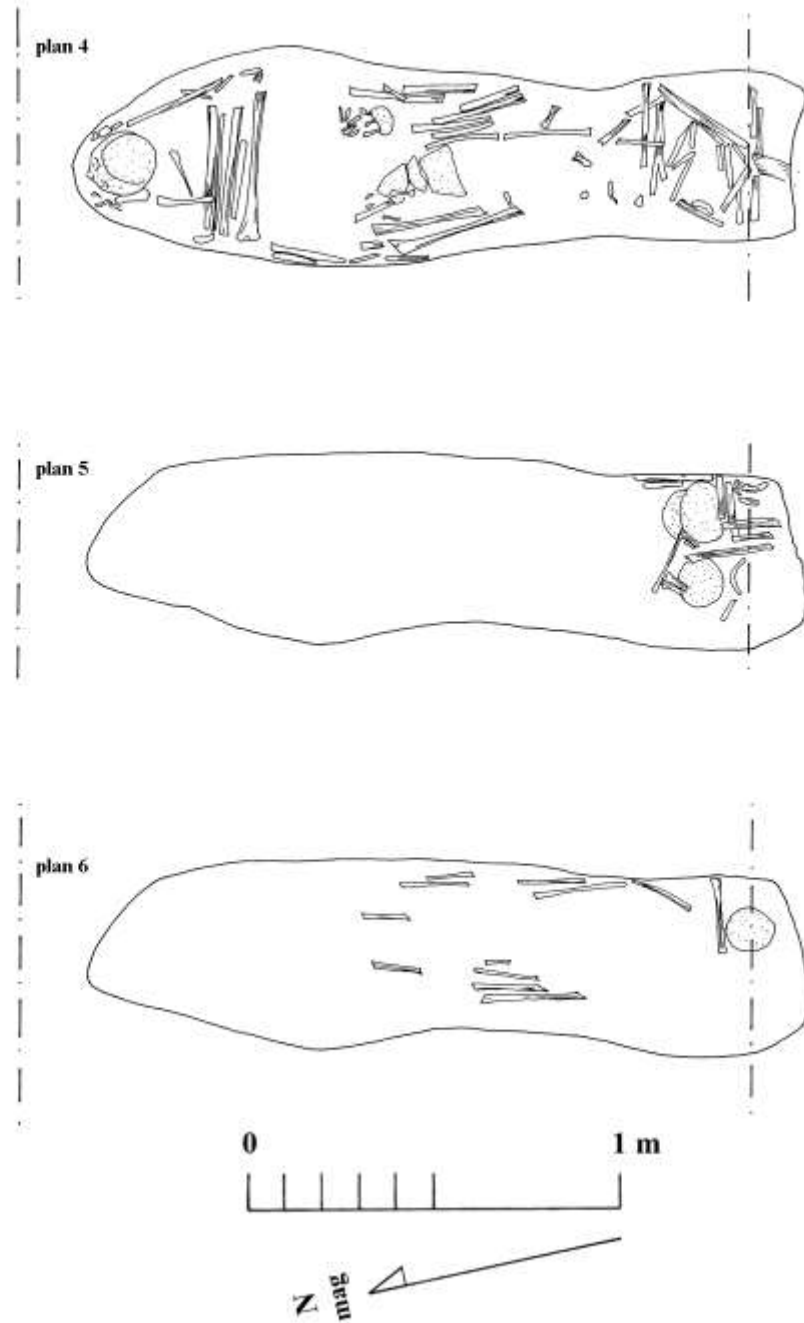


Figure 93: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-10.

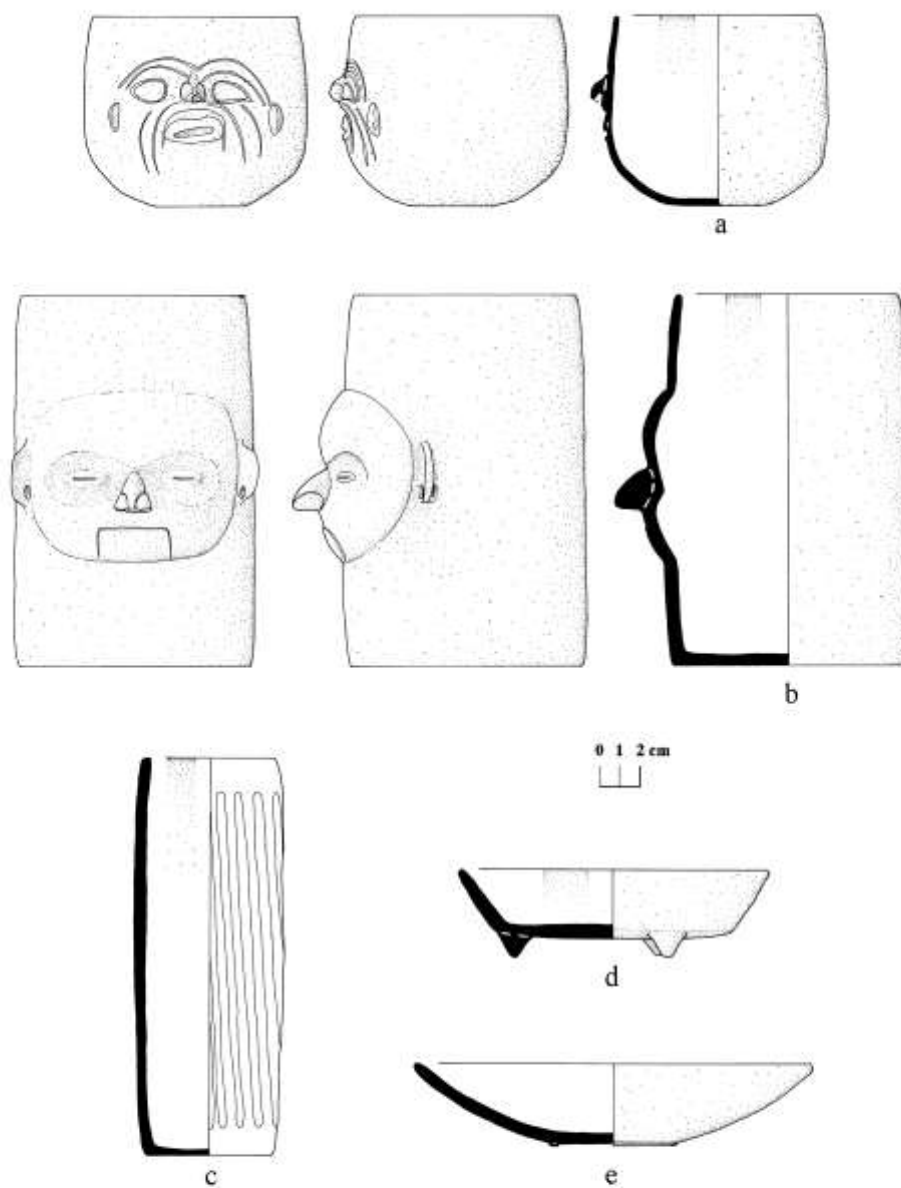


Figure 94: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-10: a. San Julio Modeled; b. Tialipa Brown Modeled; c. Gallinero Fluted; d. undesignated type; e. erode Machete Oange-Polychrome.

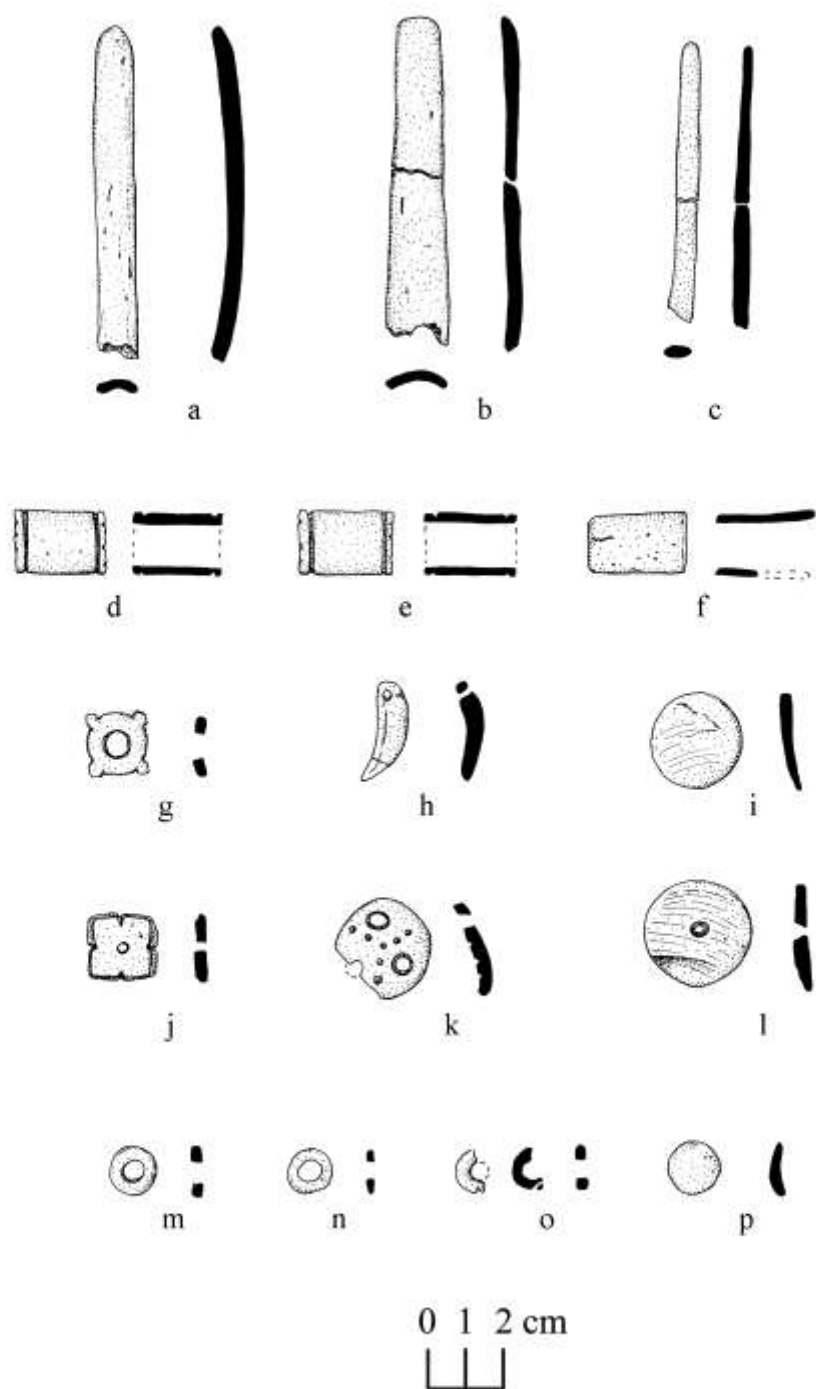


Figure 95: Artifactual material associate with S.D. C203B-10: a. – c. worked bone; d. – f. bone tubes; g., i. – p. worked shell; h. drilled animal canine.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

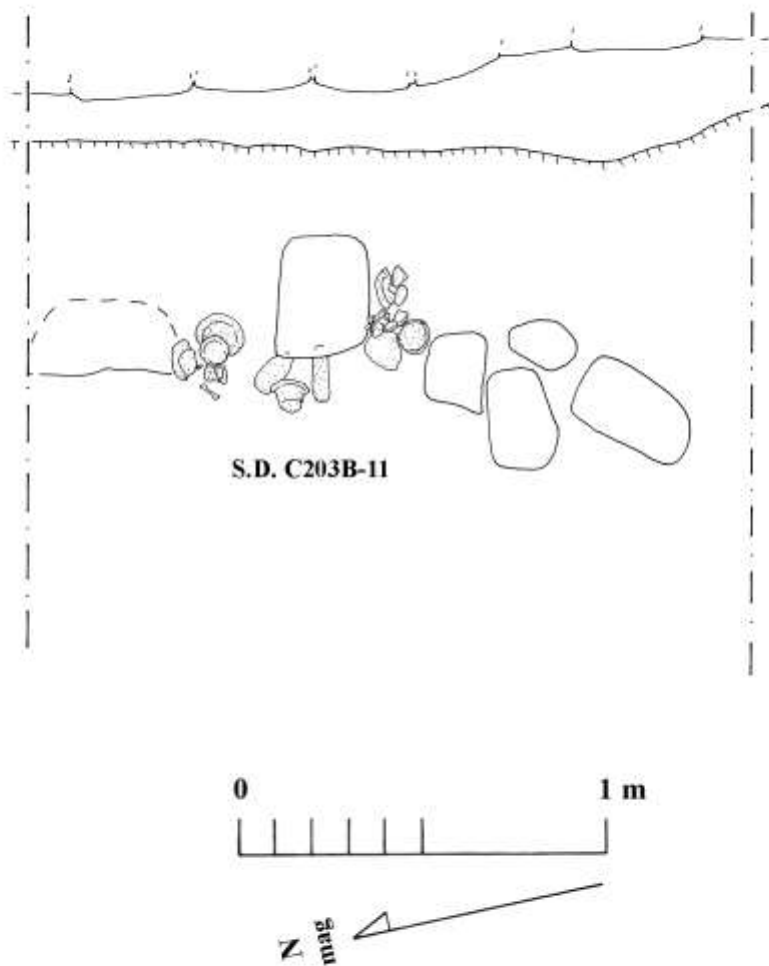


Figure 96: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-11.

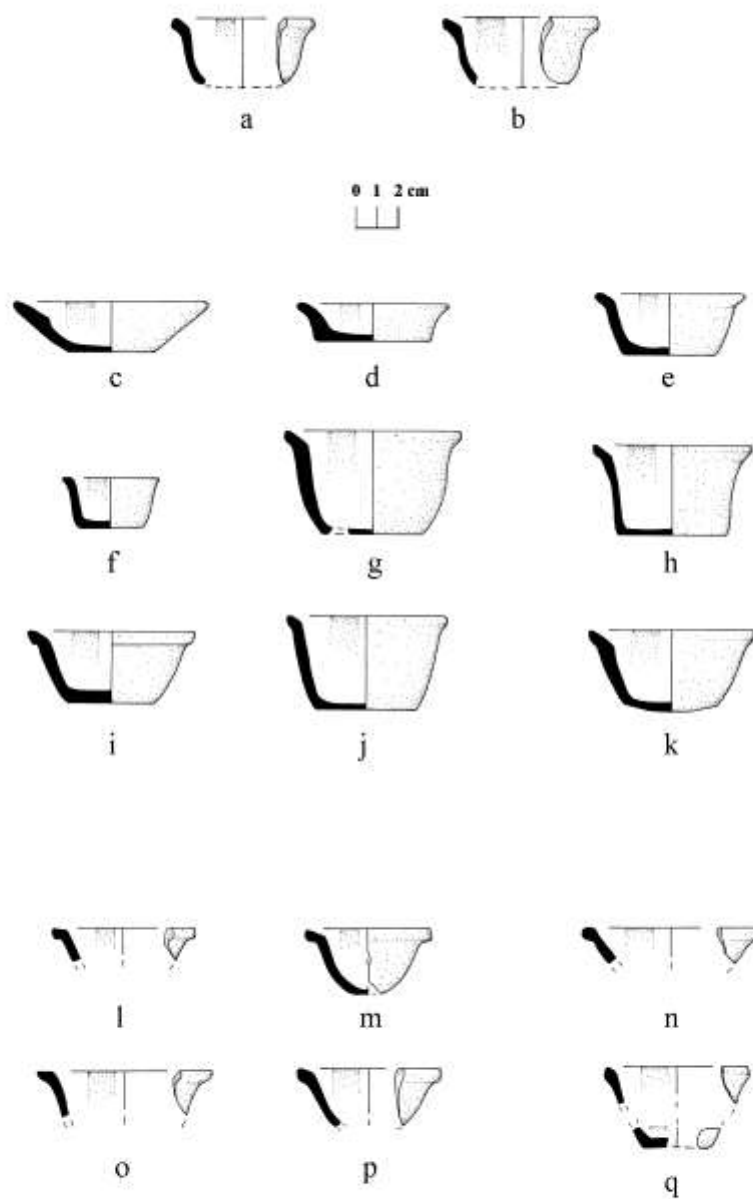


Figure 97: Ceiba Unslipped cache vessels: a., b. from C203B/30; c. – k. associated with S.D. C203B-11 (C203B/31); l. – q. from C203B/32.

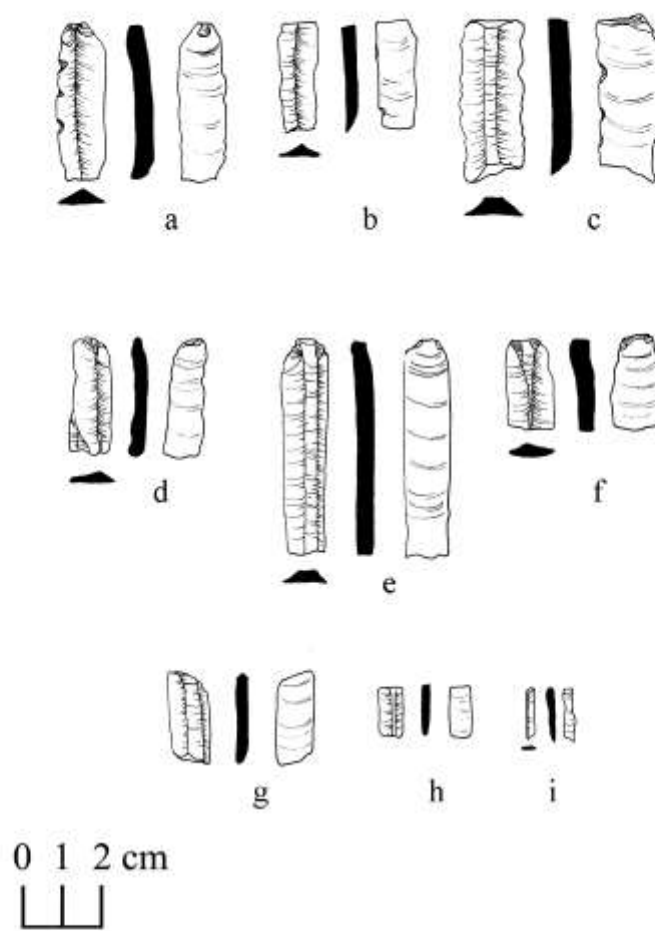


Figure 98: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-11 (C203B/31).

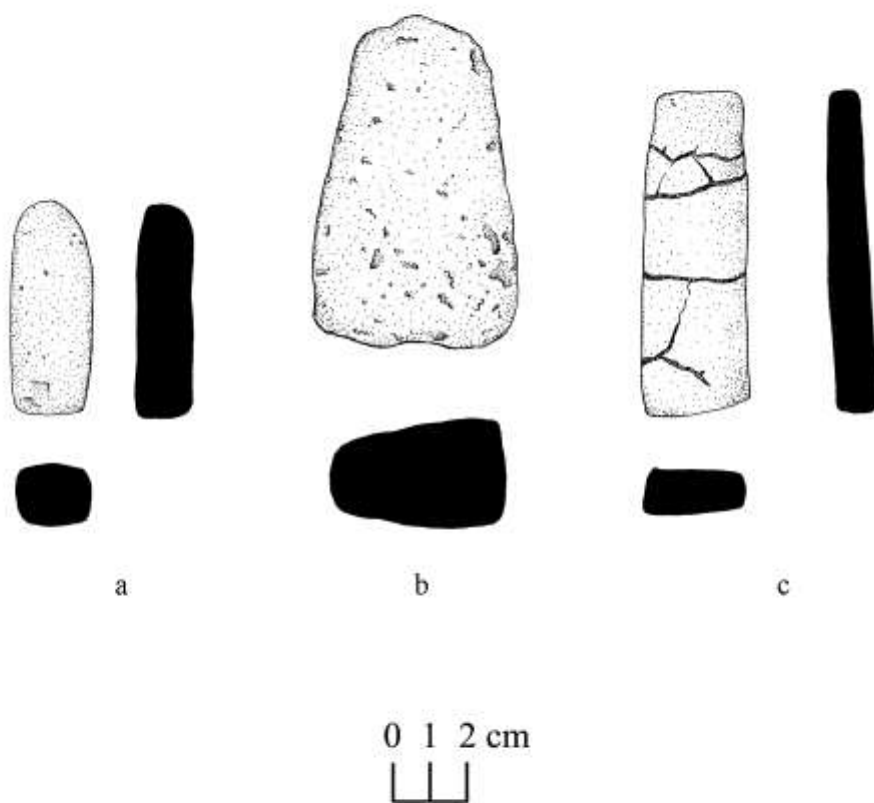


Figure 99: Bars from front of Structure C47: a. limestone bar (C203B/30); b. limestone bar (S.D. C203B-12; C203B/33); c. ceramic bar (S.D. C203B-13; C203B/34).

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

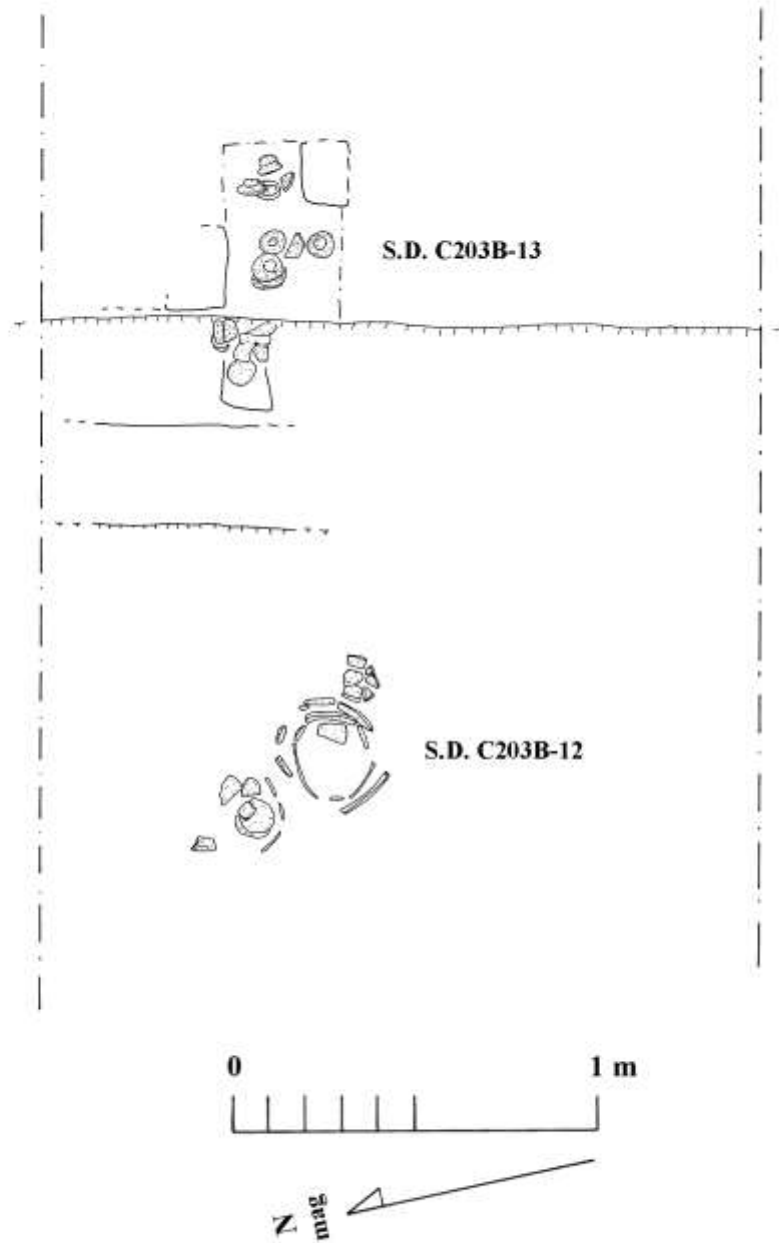


Figure 100: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-12 and S.D. C203B-13.

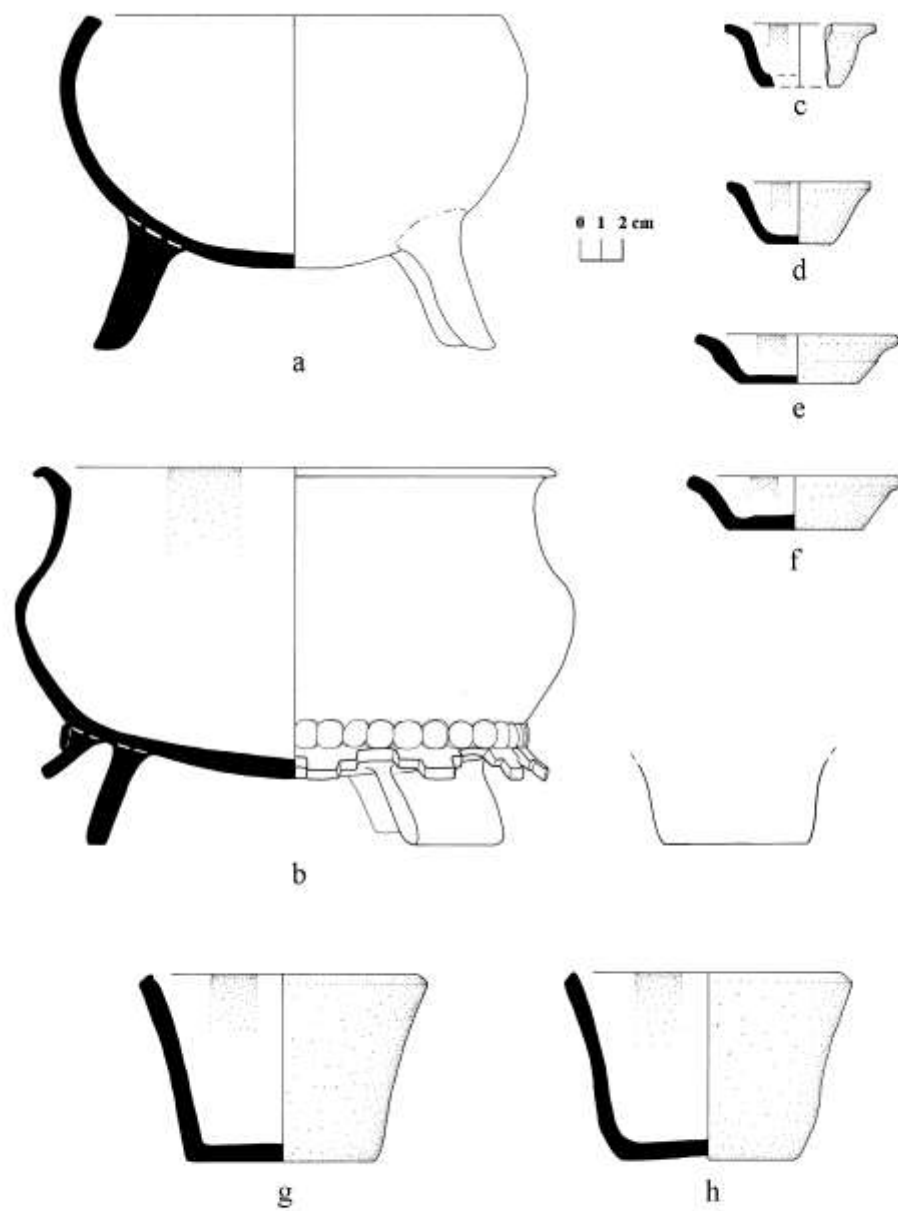


Figure 101: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-12 (C203B/33): a., b. undesignated types; c. – f. Ceiba Unslipped; g., h. possibly Valentin Unslipped.



a



b

Figure 102: Photograph of the two footed vessels (censers) from S.D. C203B-12.

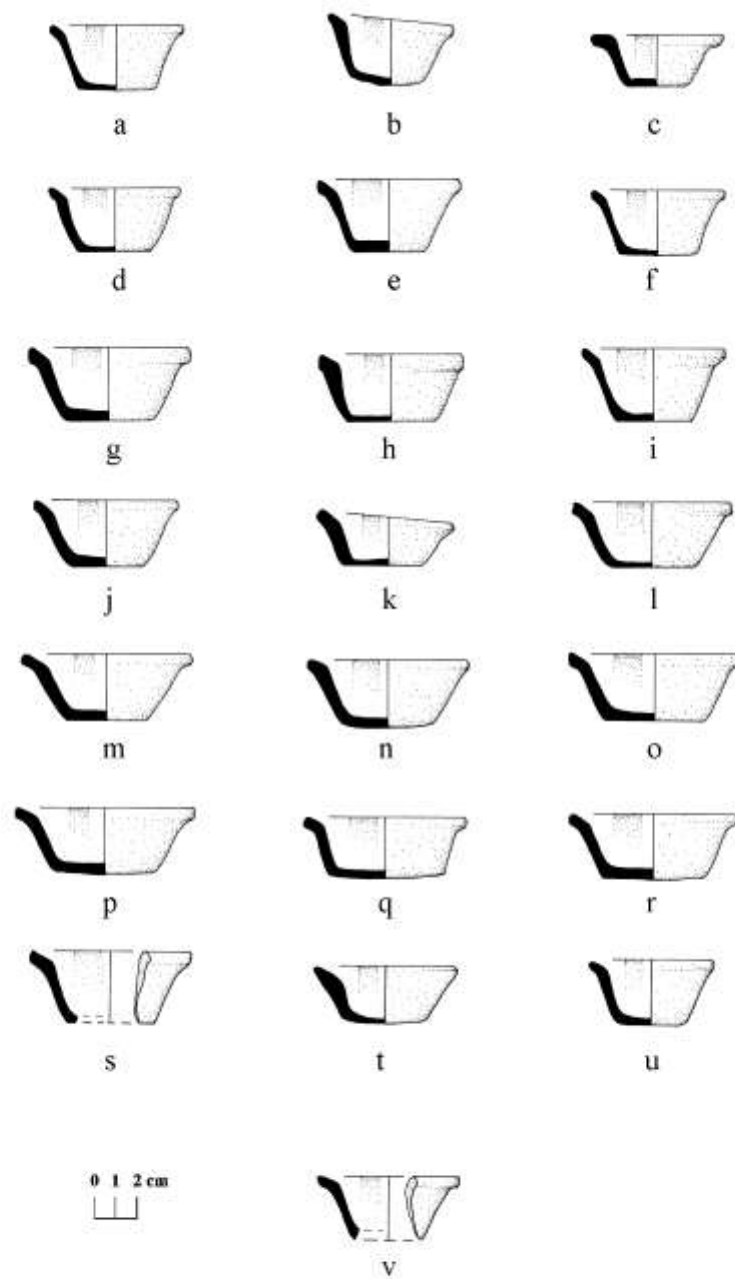


Figure 103: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-13 (C203B/34): a. – u. Ceiba Unslipped; v. Ceiba Unslipped from C203B/35.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

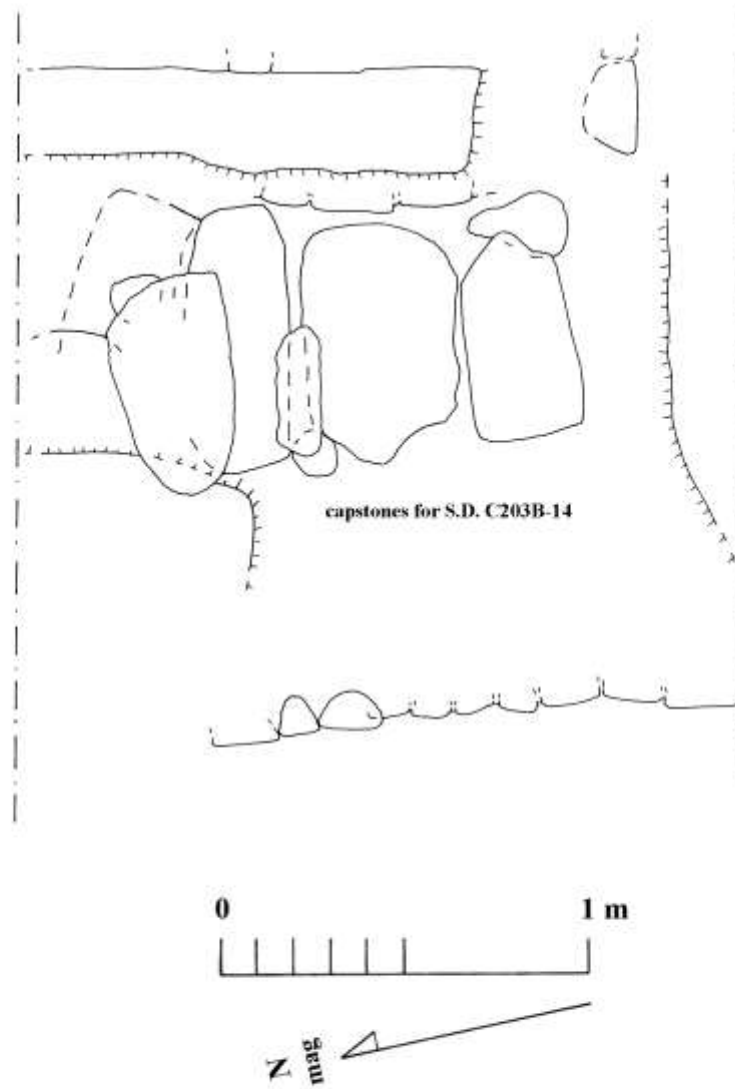


Figure 104: Detailed plan of capstones above S.D. C203B-14.

Caracol Structure C37
excav. C203B

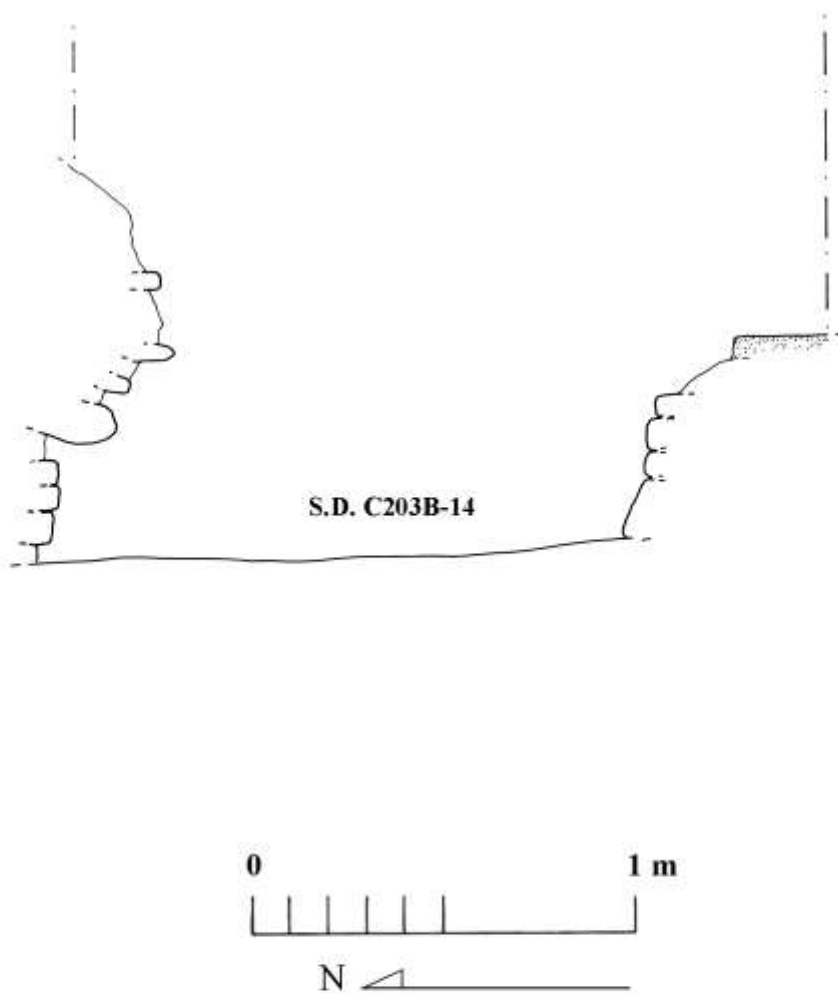


Figure 105: Cross-section of S.D. C203B-14.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B
S.D. C203B-14

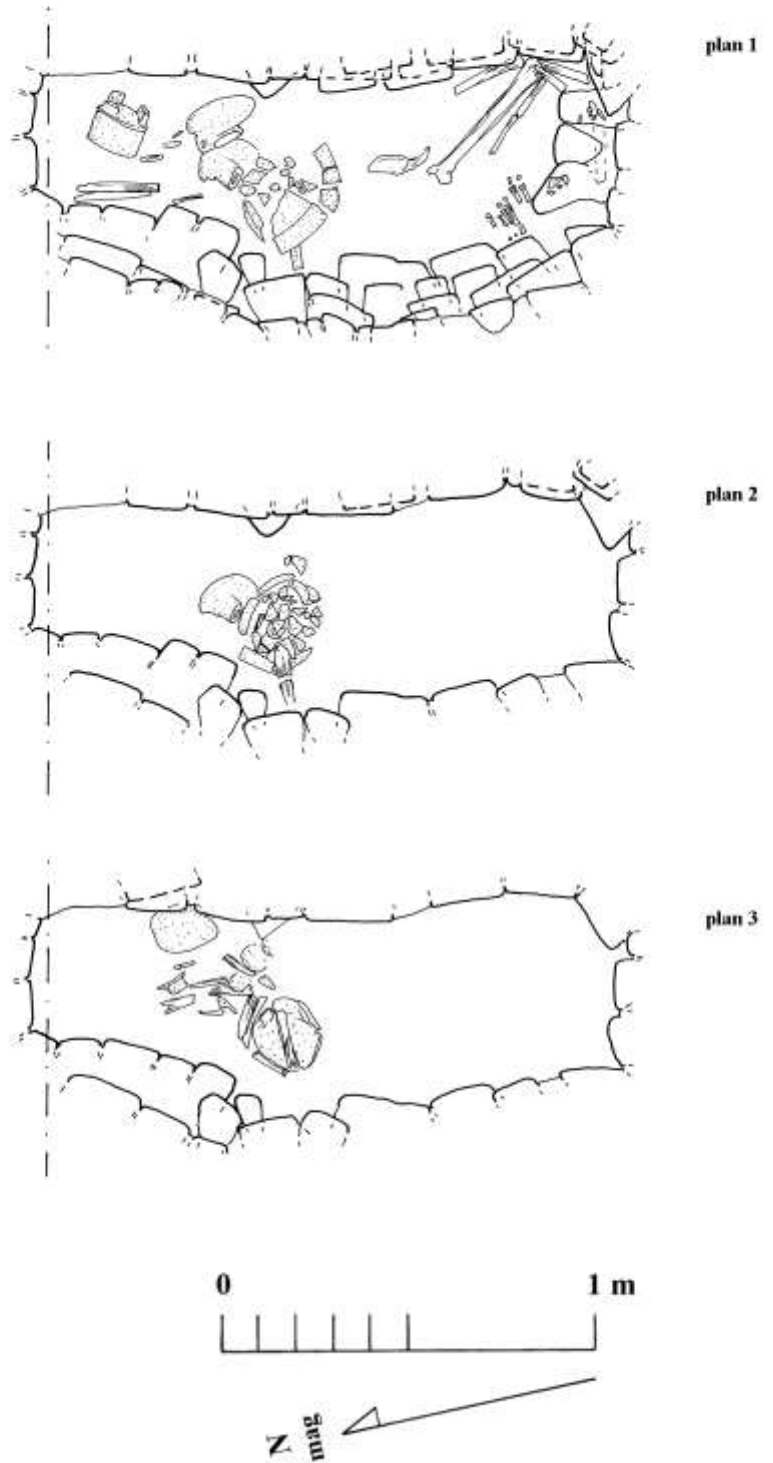


Figure 106: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-14.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B
S.D. C203B-14

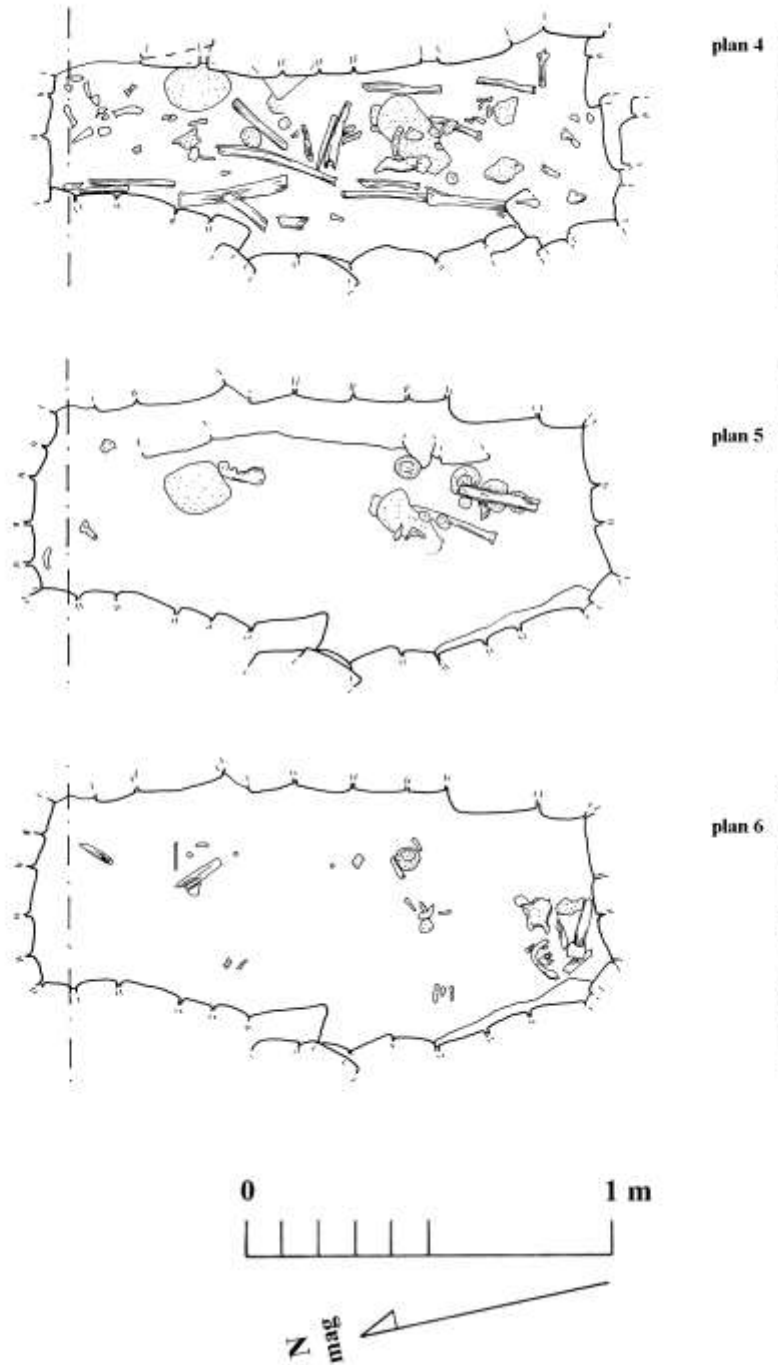


Figure 106: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-14.

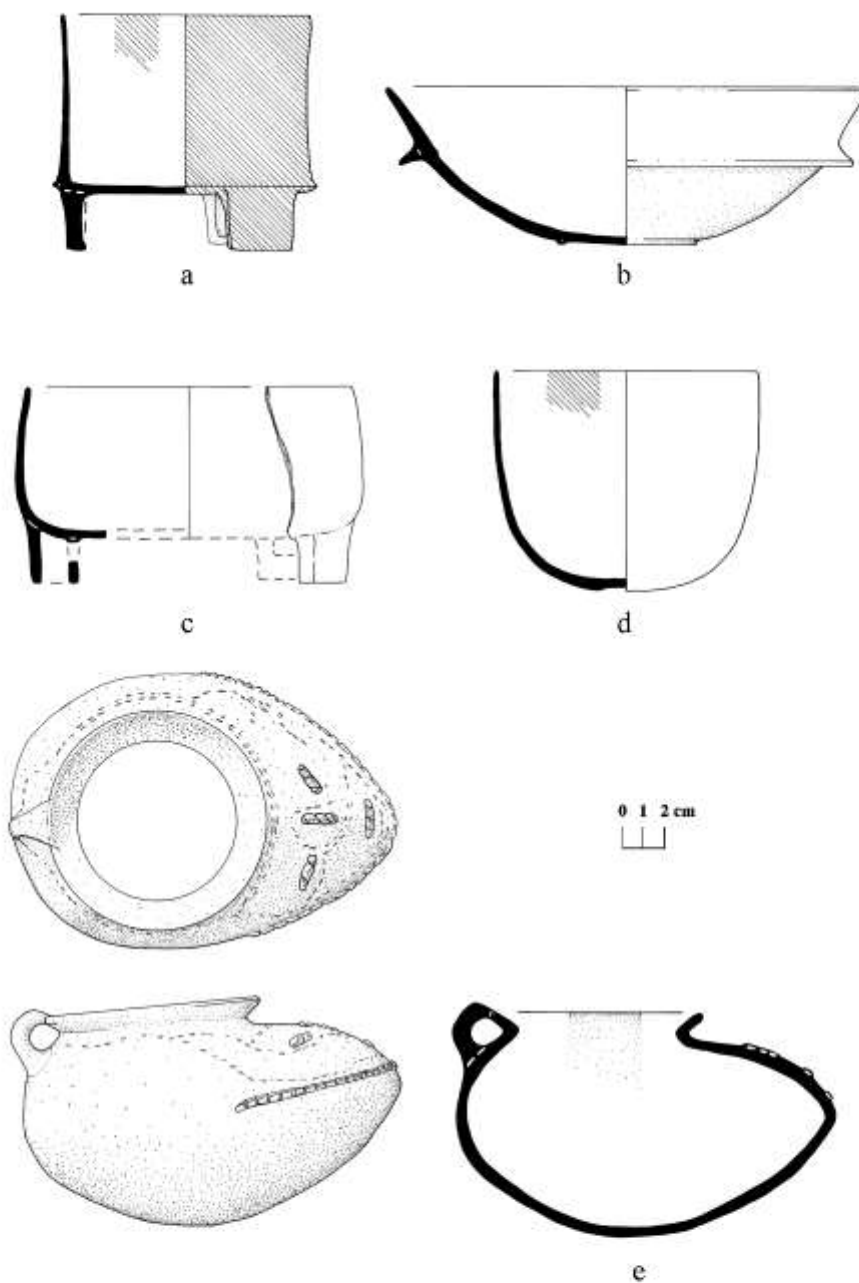


Figure 107: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-14 (C203B/36): a. Aguila Orange; b. eroded Dos Arroyos Orange-Polychrome; c. possibly Pucte Brown; d. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; e. probably Corriental Appliqued; f. – s. Ceiba Unslipped.

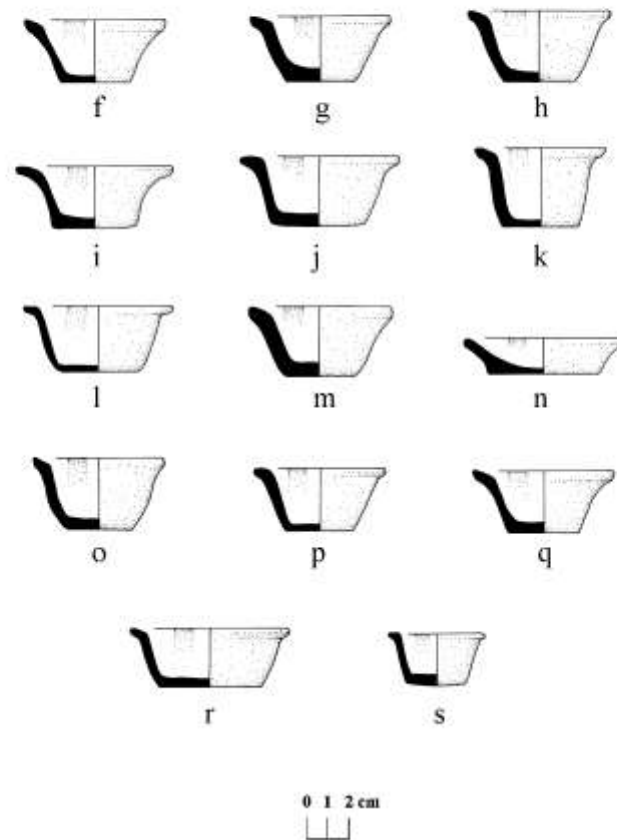


Figure 107: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-14 (C203B/36): a. Aguila Orange; b. eroded Dos Arroyos Orange-Polychrome; c. possibly Pucte Brown; d. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; e. probably Corriental Applied; f. – s. Ceiba Unslipped.

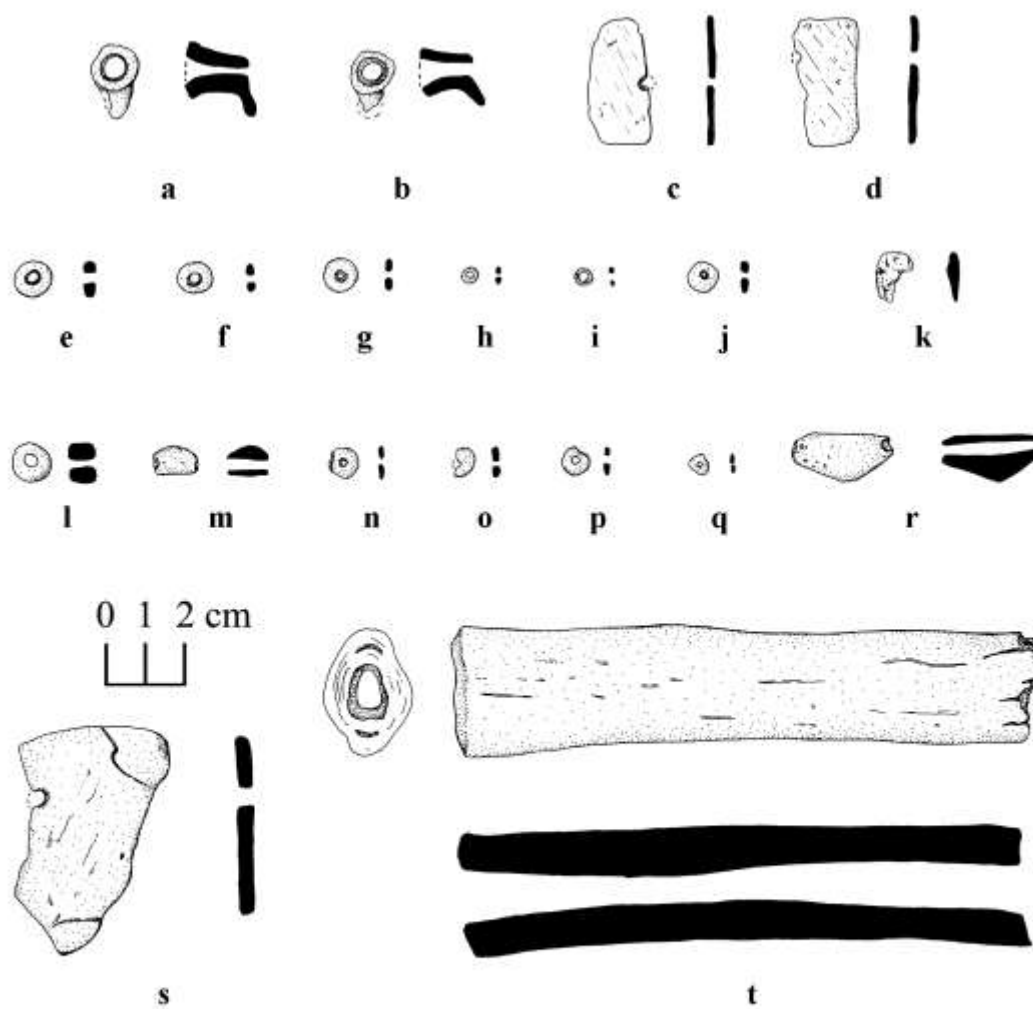


Figure 108: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-14: a., b. pottery earrings; c., d. worked mussel shell; e., f. jadeite beads; k. jadeite fragment; g. – j., l. – q. shell beads; r. spondylus shell bead; s. limestone mirror back; t. worked bone.

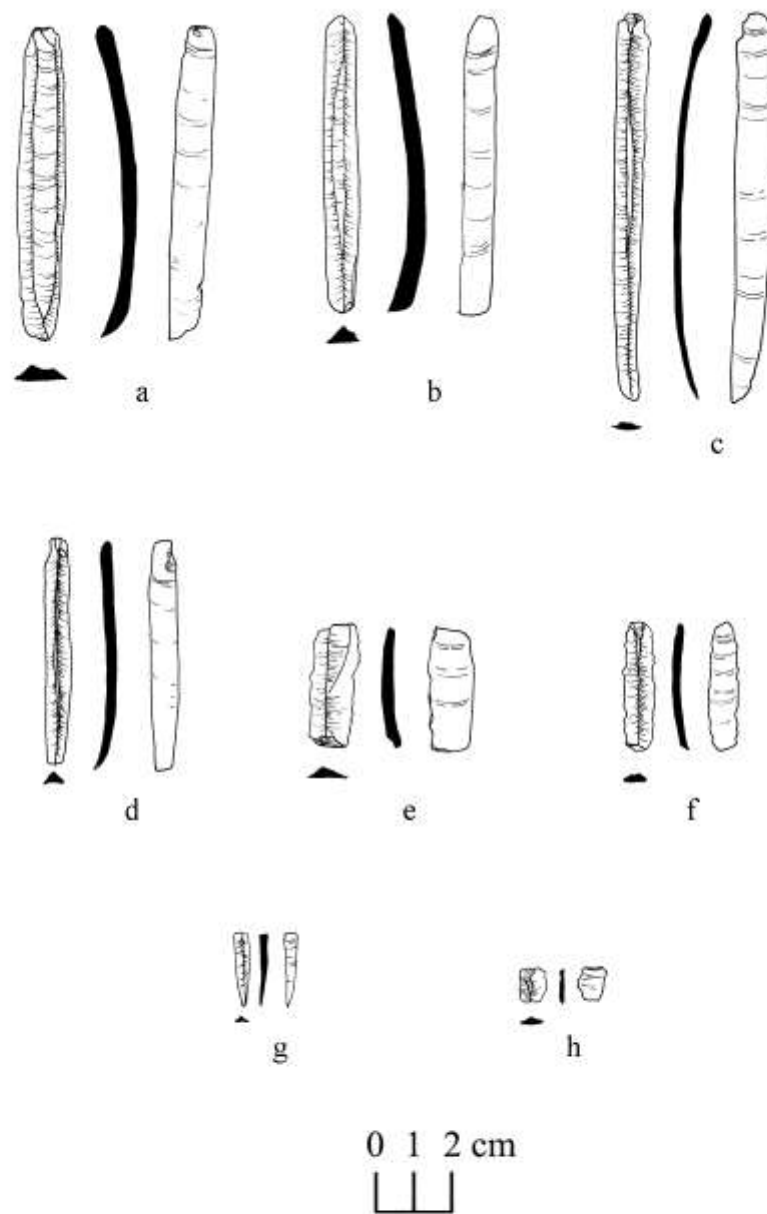


Figure 109: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-14.

Caracol Structure C37
excv. 203B
S.D. C203B-15

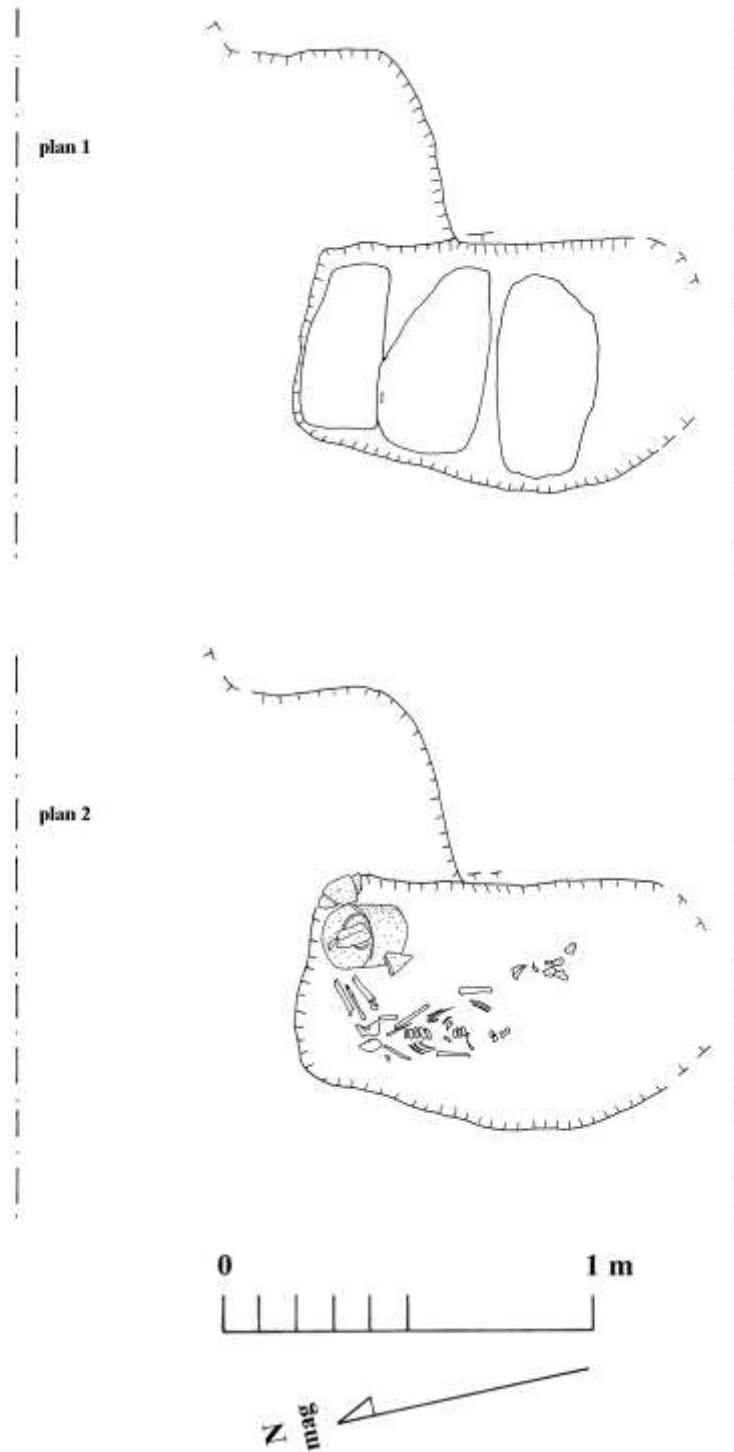


Figure 110: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-15 and the covering capstones.

Caracol Structure C37

excav. 203B

S.D. C203B-15

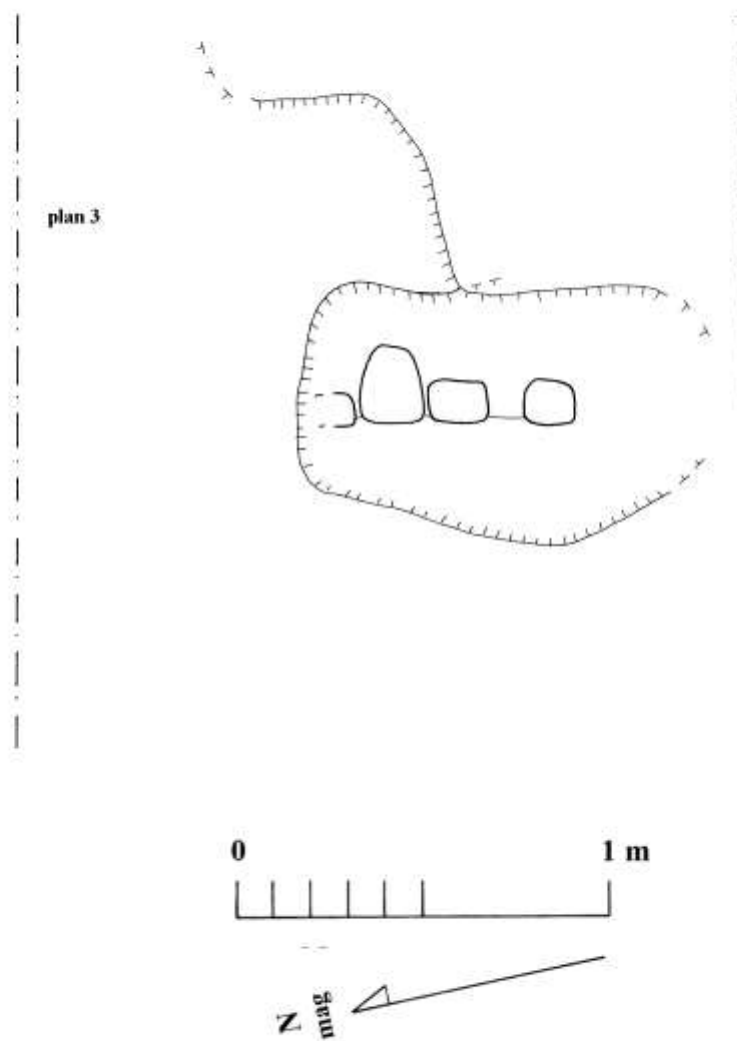


Figure 110: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-15 and the covering capstones.

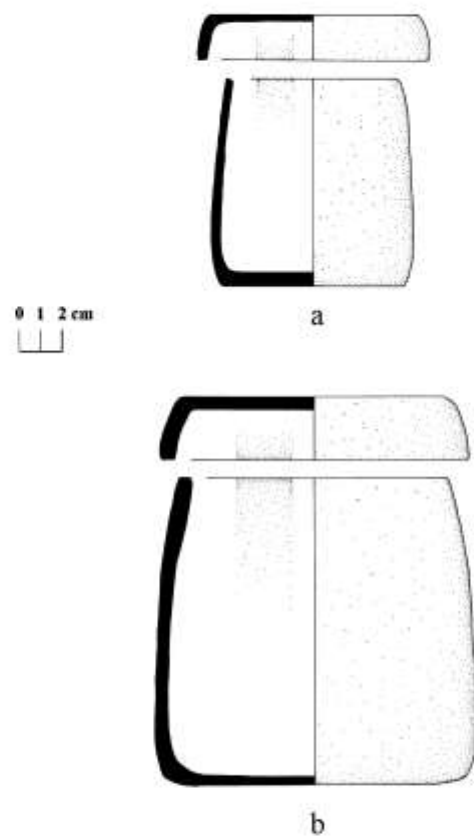


Figure 111: Pottery cache vessels associated with S.D. C203B-15: a., b. undesignated types.

S.D. C203B-15

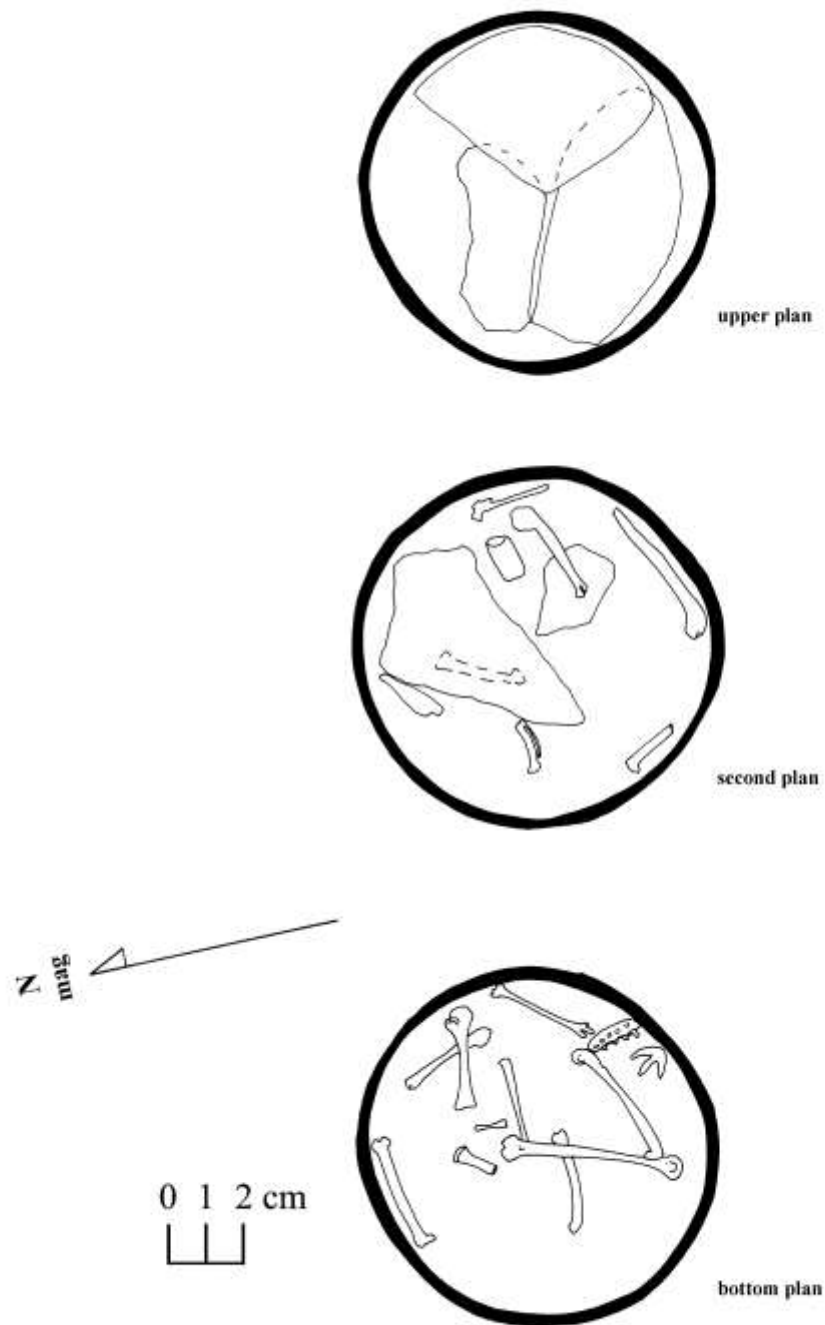


Figure 112: Detailed plans of the contents of the smaller cache vessel in S. D. C203B-15, stones above and bird bone below.

S.D. C203B-15

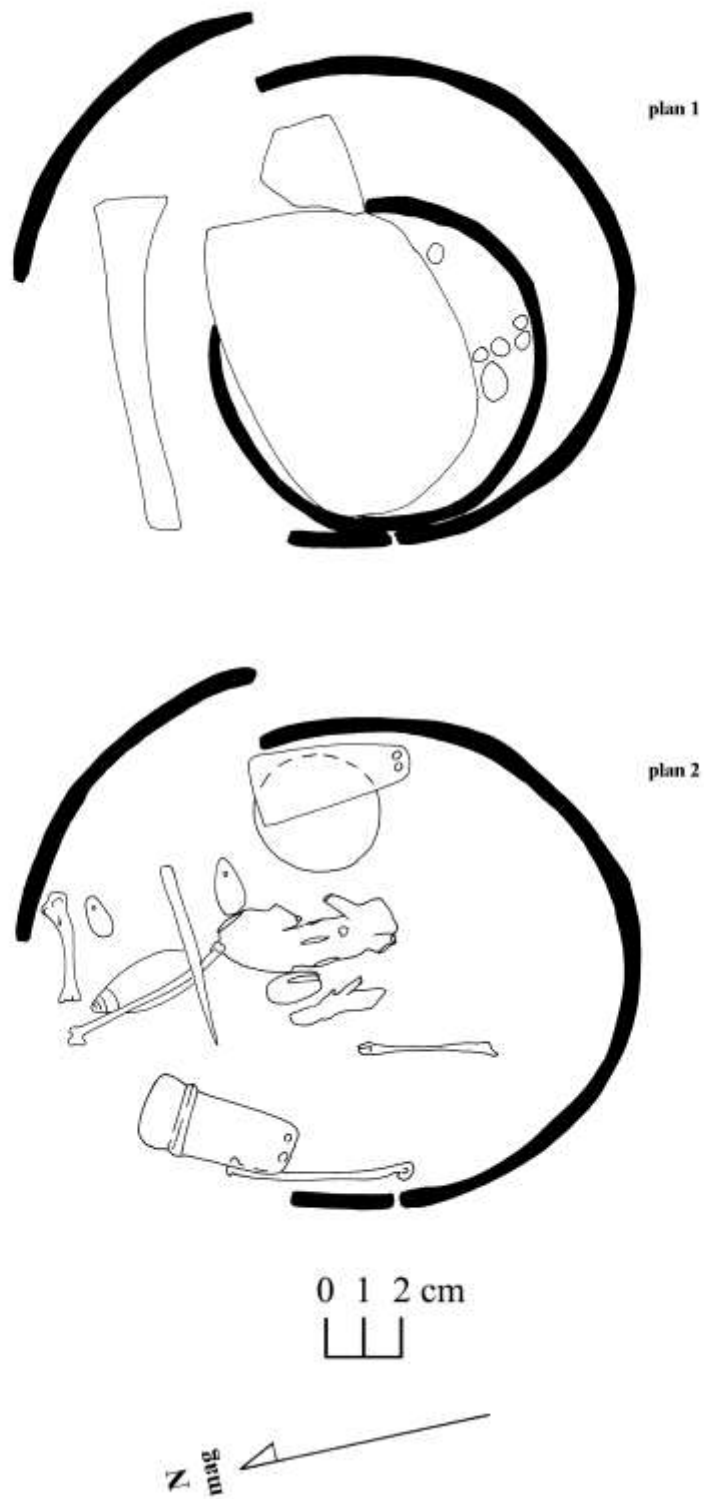


Figure 113: Detailed plans of the larger cache vessel in S.D. C203B-15: upper plan showing the smaller vessel inside the larger one; lower plan showing the contents of the larger cache vessel.

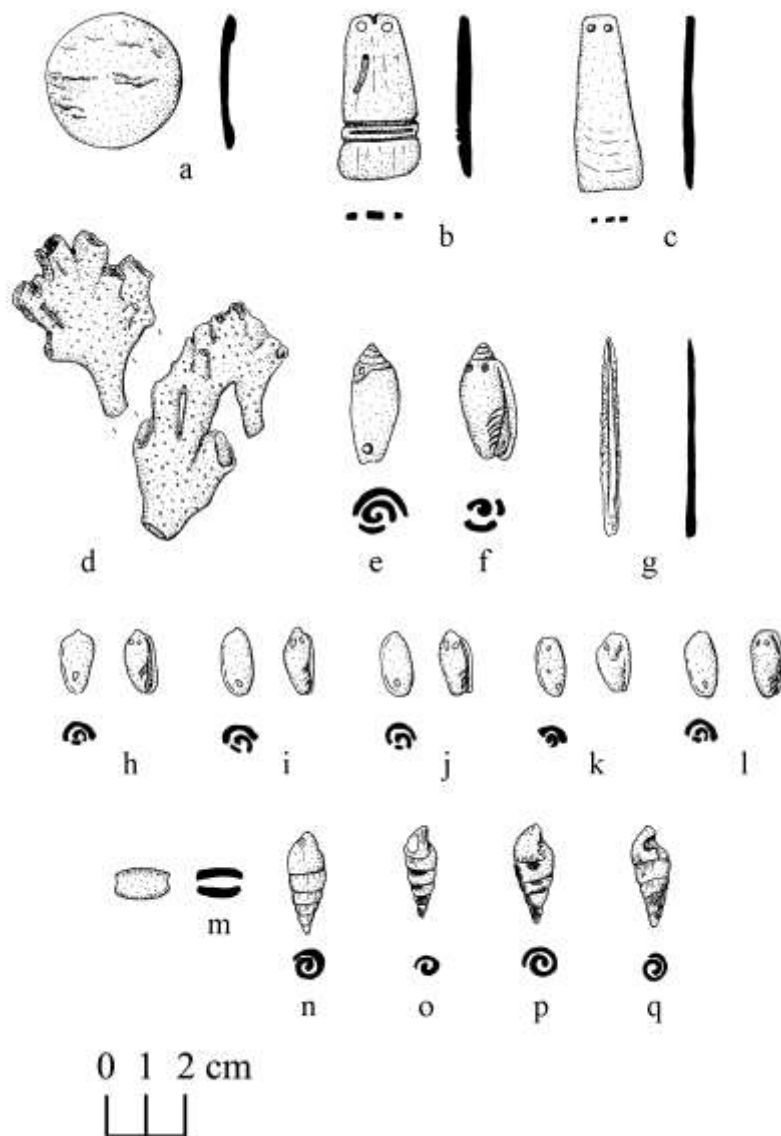


Figure 114: Artifactual materials from the larger cache vessel in S.D. C203B-15 (C203B/38; bird bone not shown): a. conch shell disk; b. spondylus shell pendant; c. oyster shell pendant; d. fire coral; e., f. drilled olivella shells; g. stingray spine; h. - l. drilled marginella shells; m. spondylus shell bead; n - q. jute snails (sample).

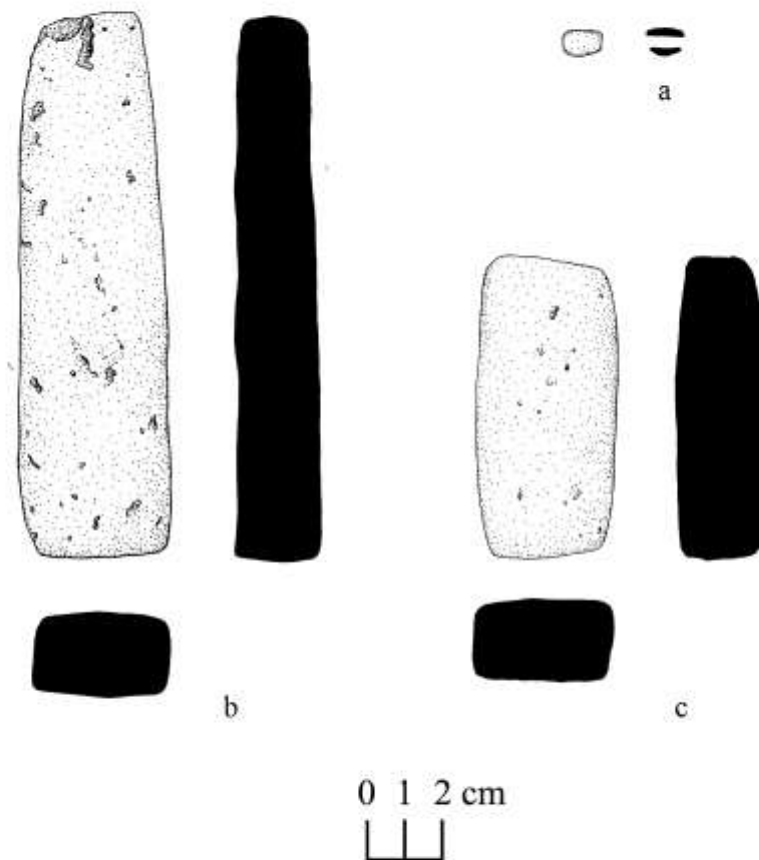


Figure 115: Miscellaneous artifacts from rear fill of Structure C47: a. jadeite bead (C203B/41); b. limestone bar (C203B/44); c. limestone bar (C203B/49).

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

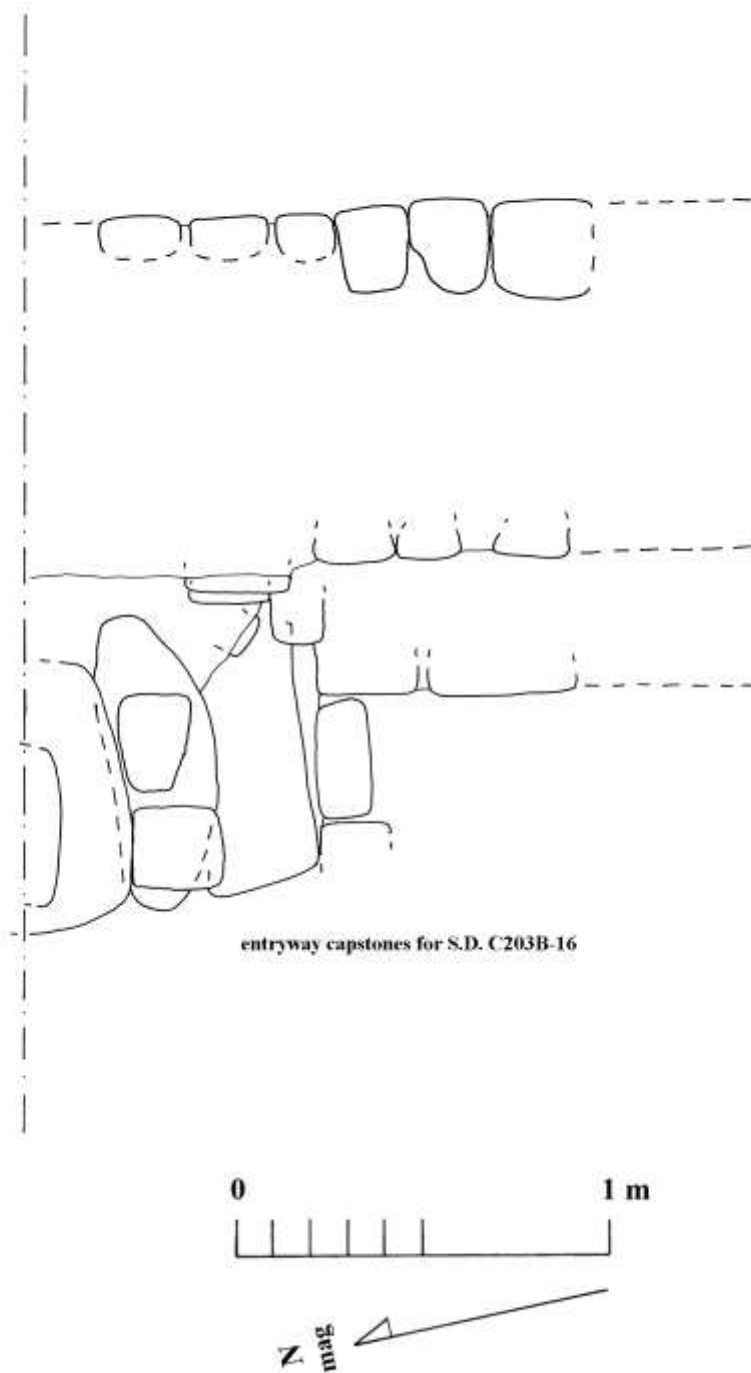


Figure 116: Detailed plan of capstones for S.D. C203B-16 and associated architectural features.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

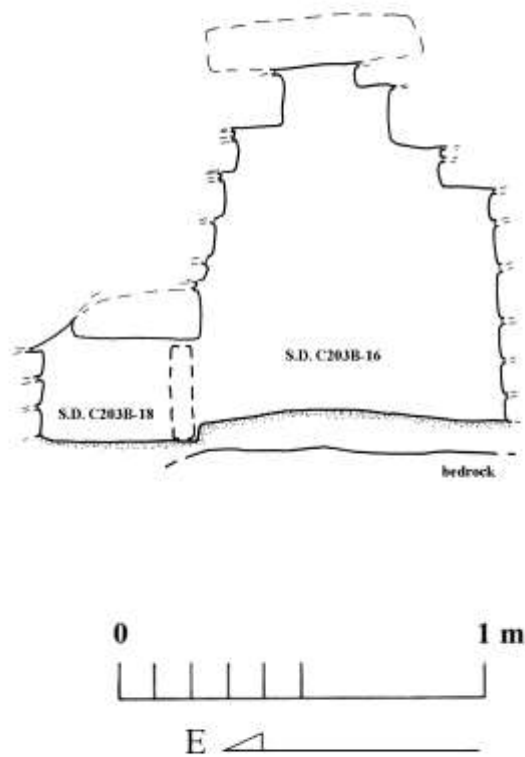


Figure 117: Short cross-section of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

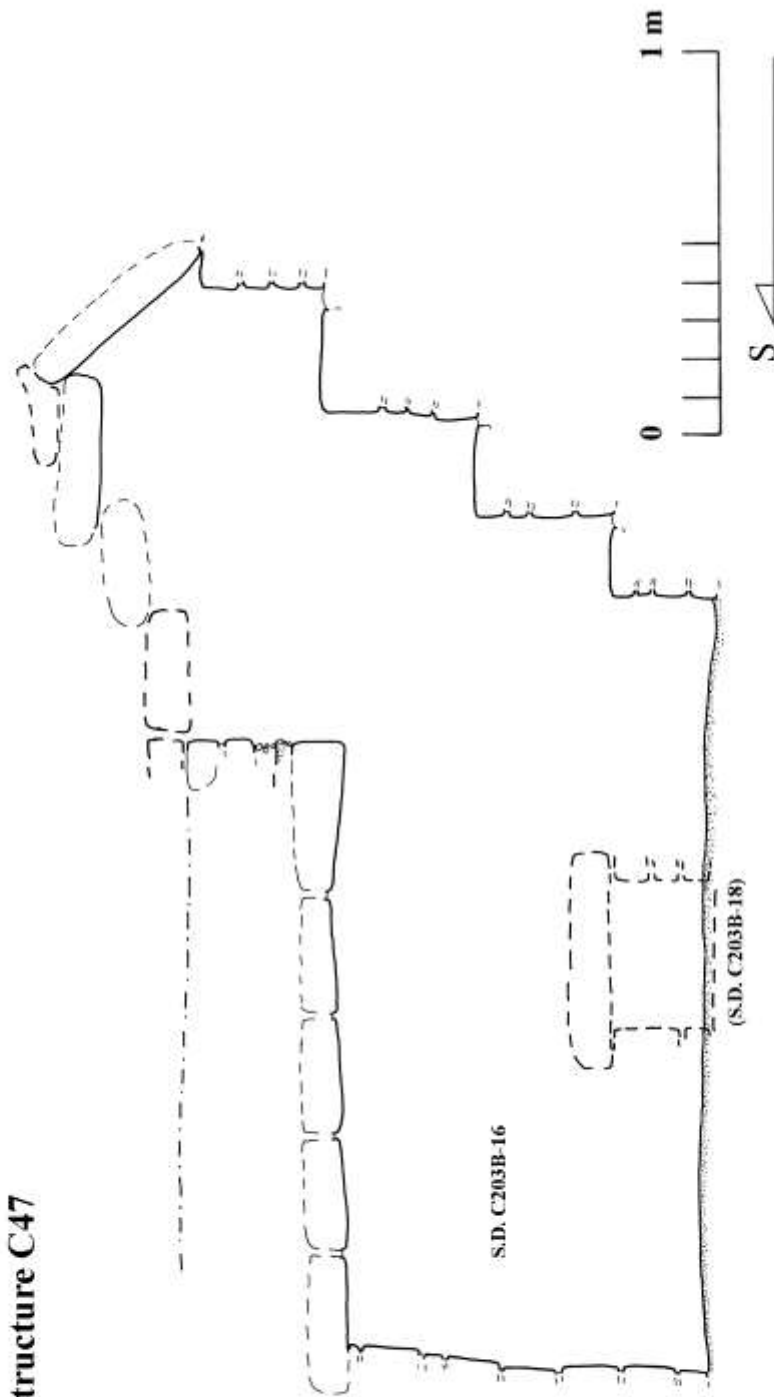


Figure 118: Long cross-section of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.

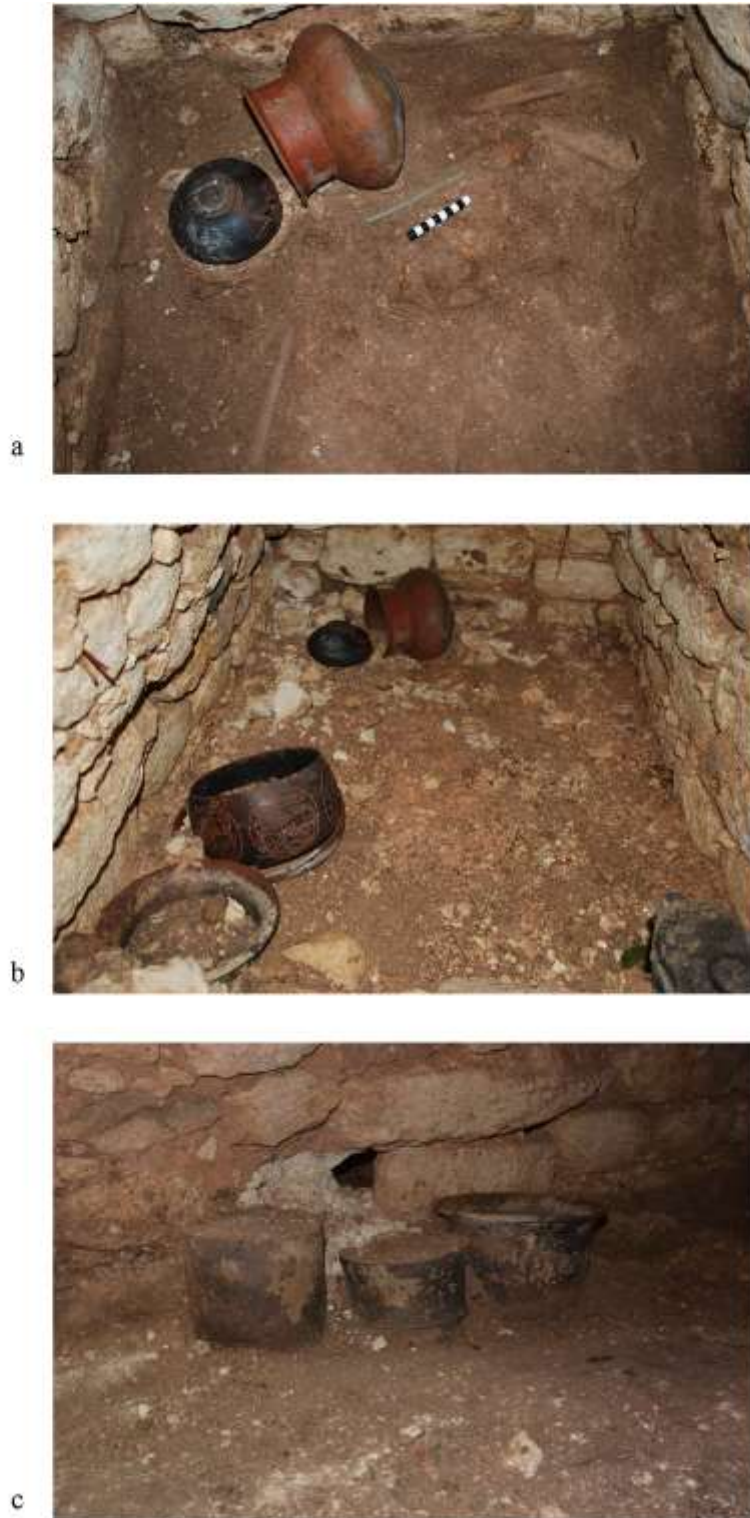


Figure 119: Photographs of interior of S.D. C203B-16: a. southern part of chamber with jadeite bar and two vessels visible; b. central portion of chamber before excavation; c. two tripod cylinders and a flowerpot in front of stone that hid S.D. C203B-18.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

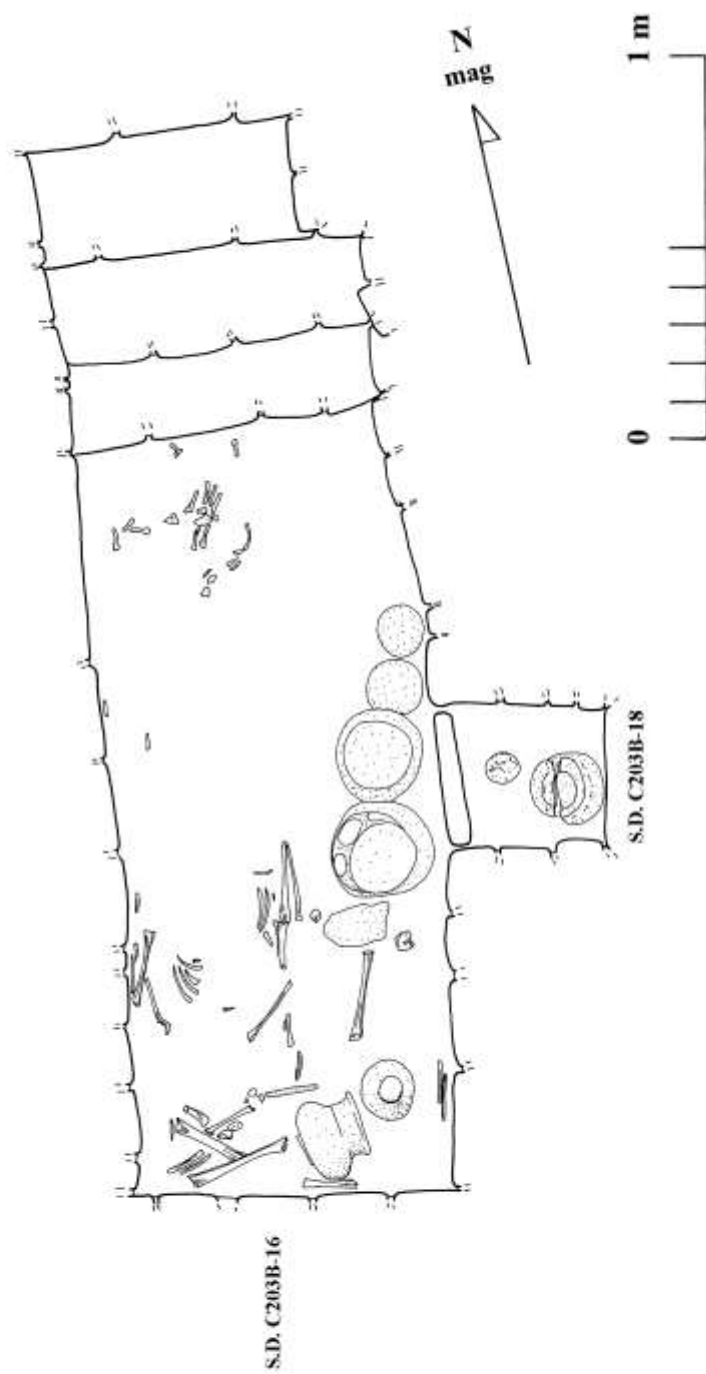


Figure 120: Upper plan of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B

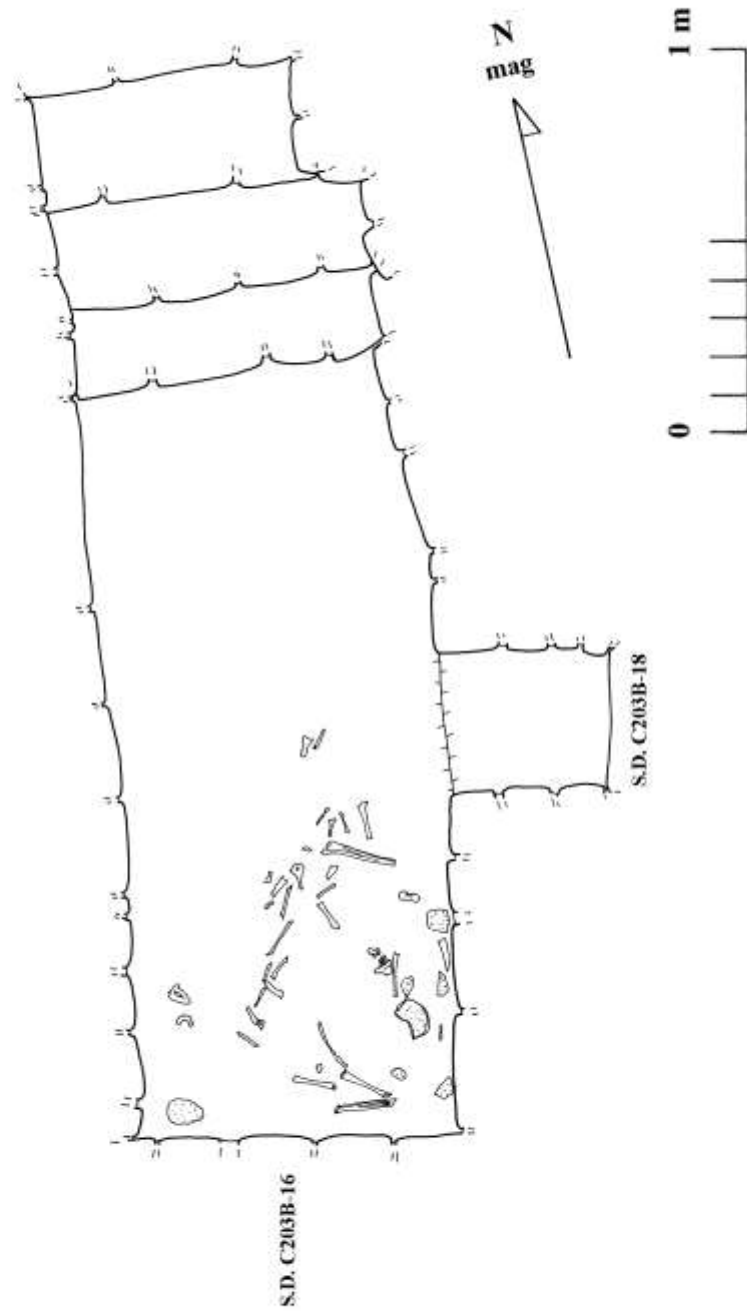


Figure 121: Lower plan of S.D. C203B-16 and S.D. C203B-18.

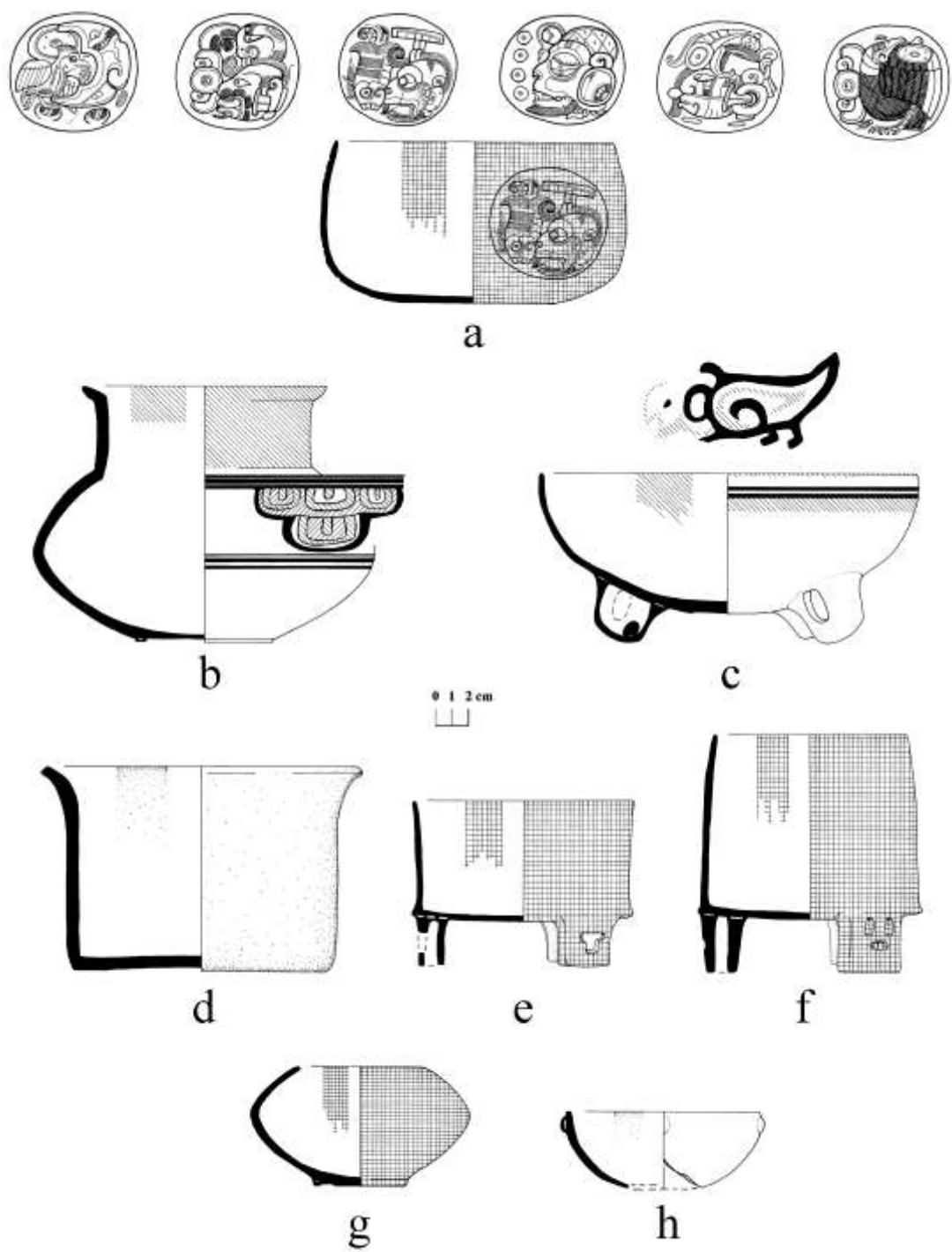


Figure 122: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-16 (C203B/42): a. Lucha Incised; b., c. Caldero Buff-Polychrome; d. Quintal Unslipped; e., f., g. Pucte Brown; h. possibly Candelario Appliqued.



a



b



c



d



e



f

Figure 123: Photographs of the cartouches on the vessel shown in Figure 122a and on the cover.

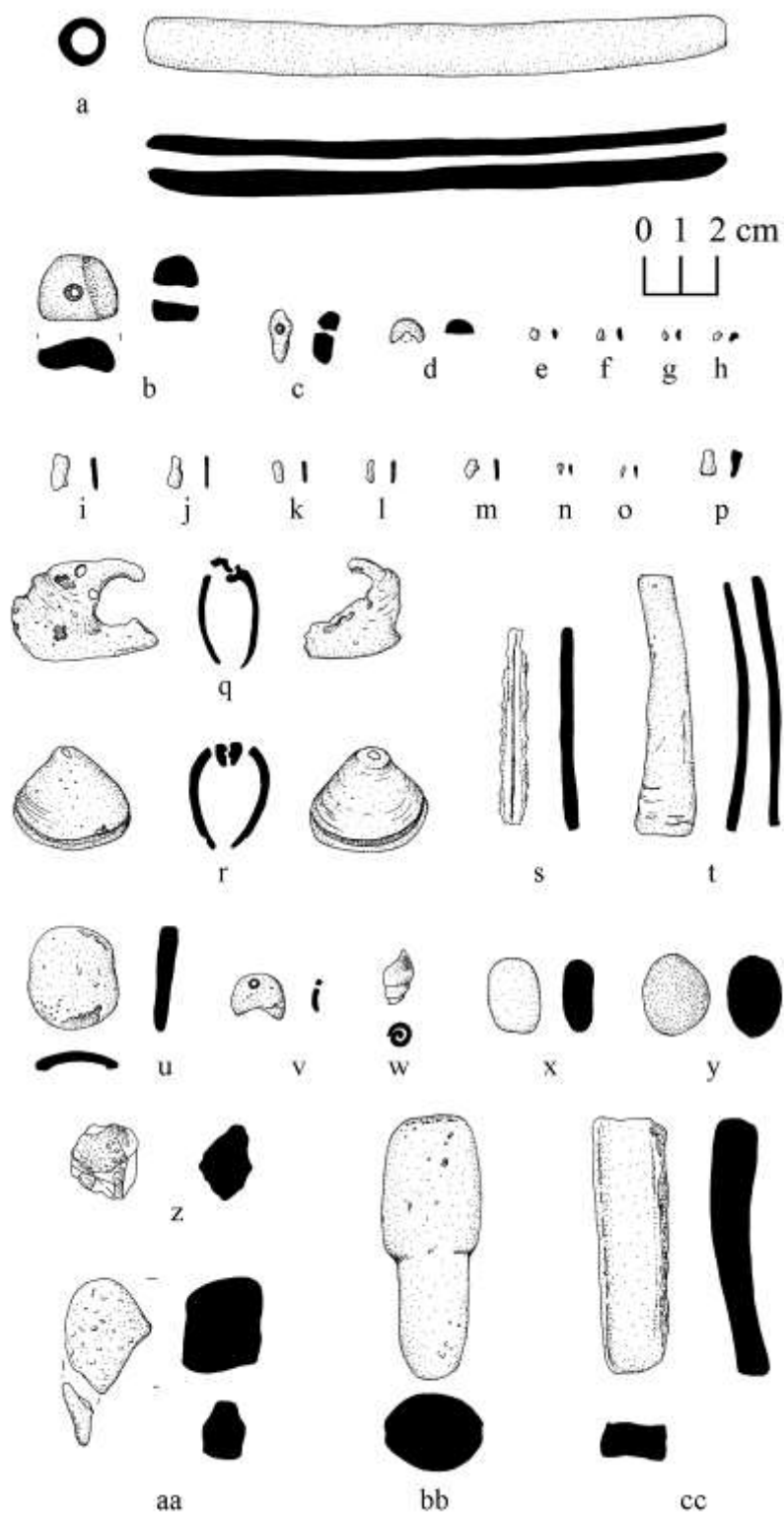


Figure 124: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-16: a. jadeite tube; b. – p. jadeite beads and chips; q. drilled shells; r. drilled clam shells; s. stingray spine; t. worked bone; u., v. worked stingray shell; w. river snail; x. white river pebble; y. black river pebble; z. chert chunk; aa. malachite chunks; bb. worked river cobble; cc. stone polishing tool.

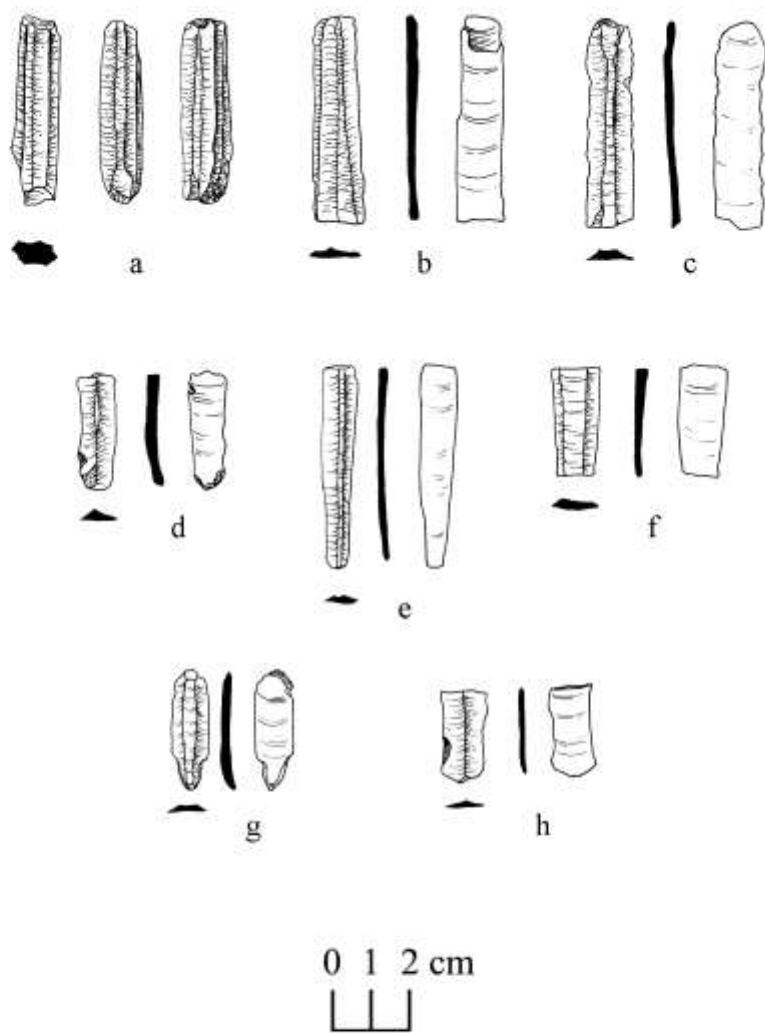


Figure 125: Obsidian associated with S.D. C203B-16.



a



b

Figure 126: Photographs of S.D. C203B-18: a. cache in situ in niche; b. contents of smaller cache vessel.

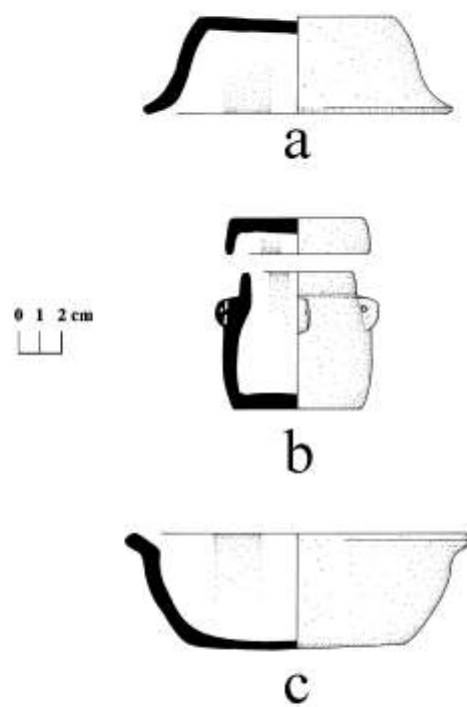


Figure 127: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-18: a., c. undesignated type; b. undesignated type.

S.D. C203B-18

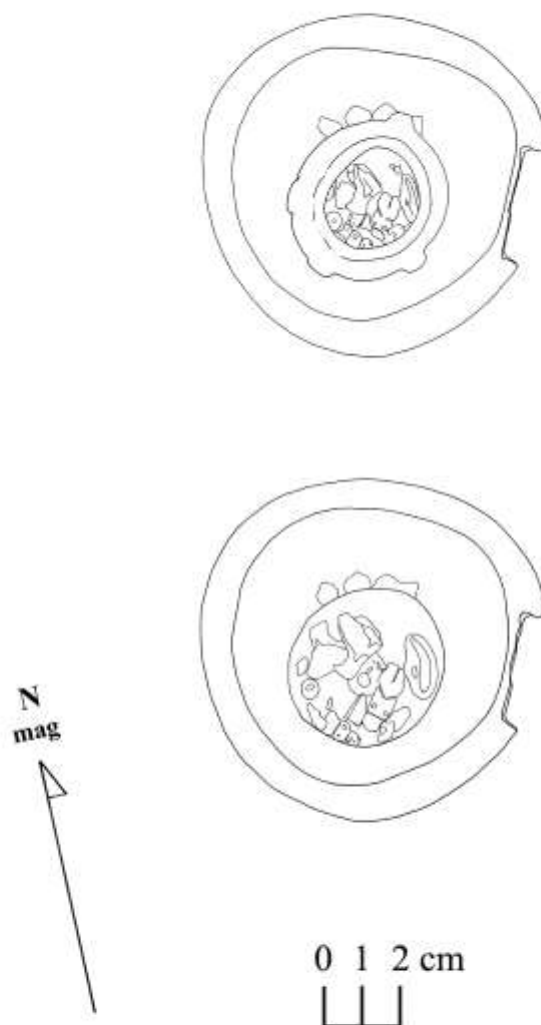


Figure 128: Detailed plans of contents of lower vessel and smaller vessel.

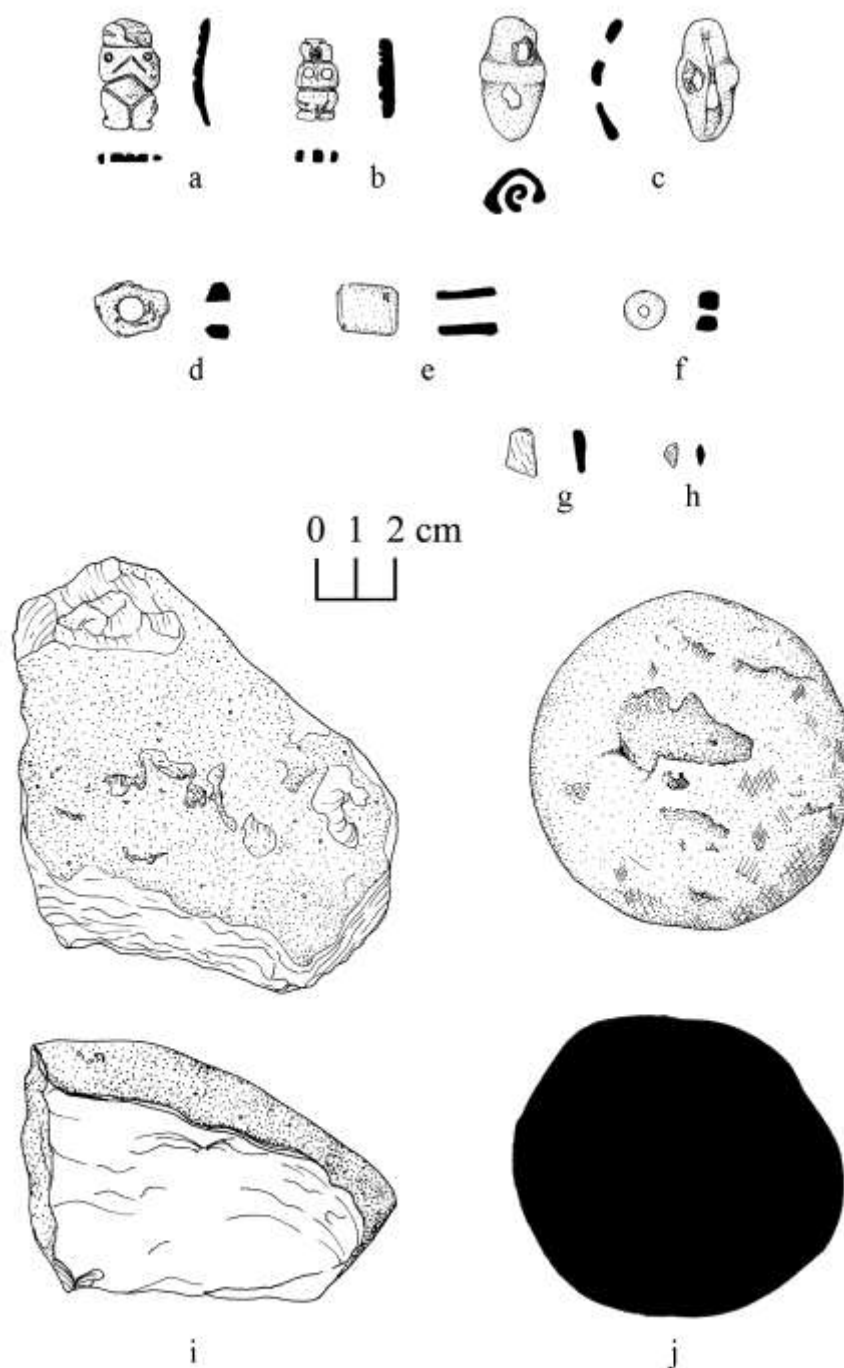


Figure 129: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-18 (C203B/45; a. – h. inside smaller vessel; i. and j. outside vessels): a. shell "Charlie Chaplin;" b. bone "Charlie Chaplin;" c. flamingo-tongue marine shell; d. shell bead; e. bone bead; f. jadeite bead; g., h. jadeite chips; i. quartzite cobble; j. rounded stone.

Caracol Structure C37
excv. C203B
S.D. C203B-17

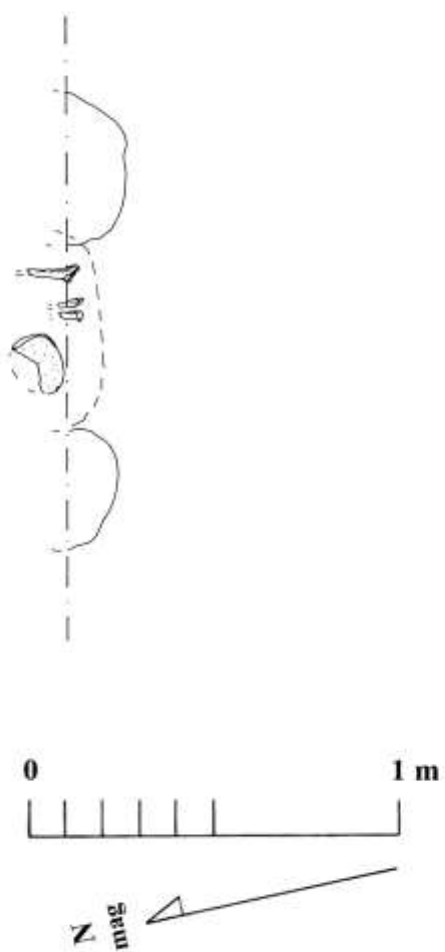


Figure 130: Detailed plan of S.D. C203B-17.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

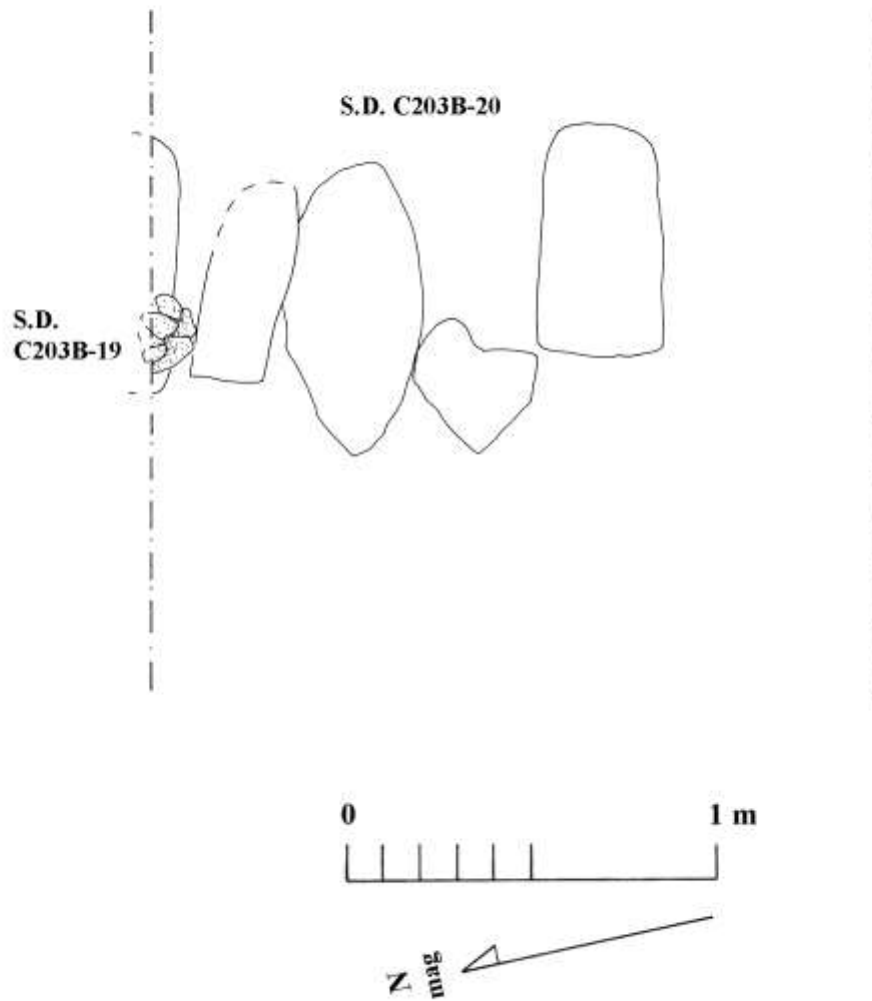


Figure 131: Detailed plan of capstones over S.D. C203B-20 and S.D. C203B-19 atop the capstones.

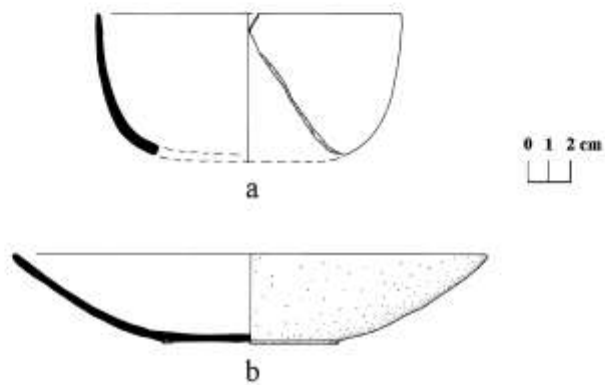


Figure 132: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-19: a. Molino Black b. Machete Orange-Polychrome.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B

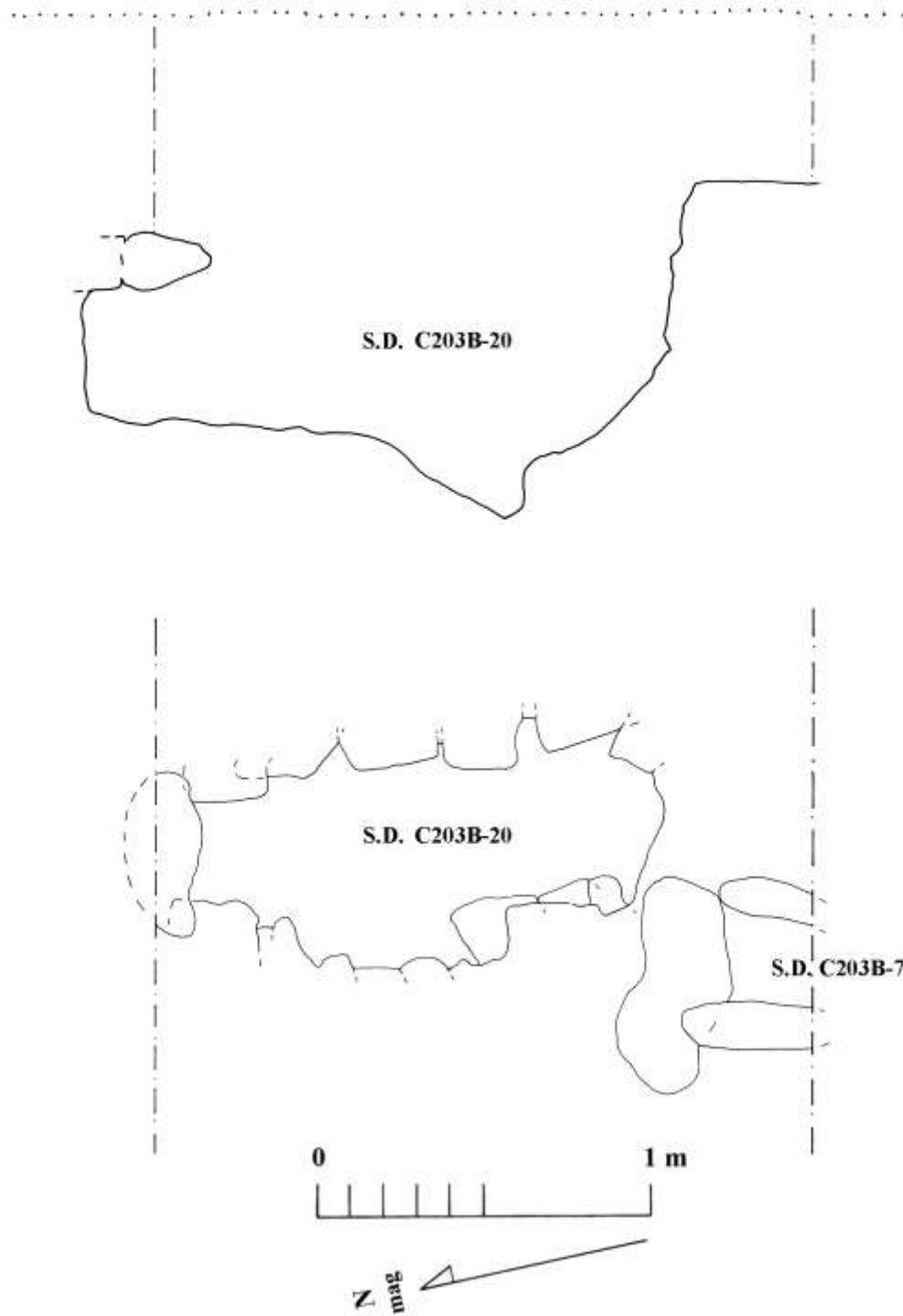


Figure 133: Cross-section of S.D. C203B-20 and plan showing relationship between S.D. C203B-20 and S.D. C203B-7.

Caracol Structure C47
excv. 203B
S.D. C203B-20

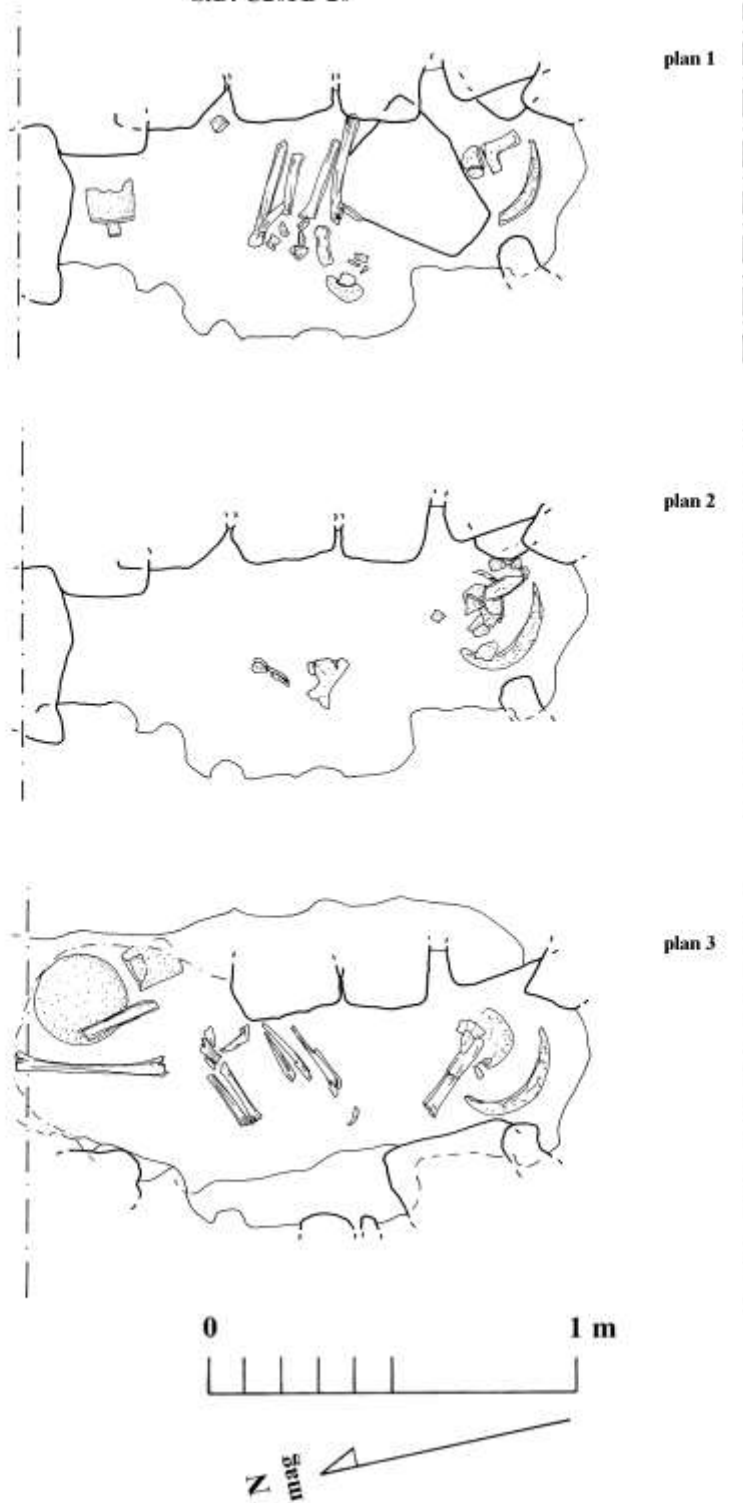


Figure 134: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-20.

Caracol Structure C47
excav. 203B
S.D. C203B-20

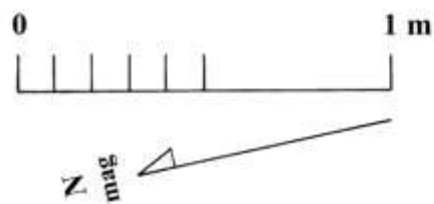
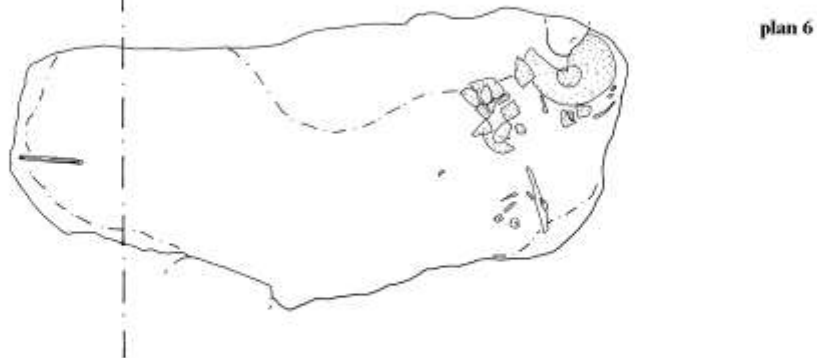
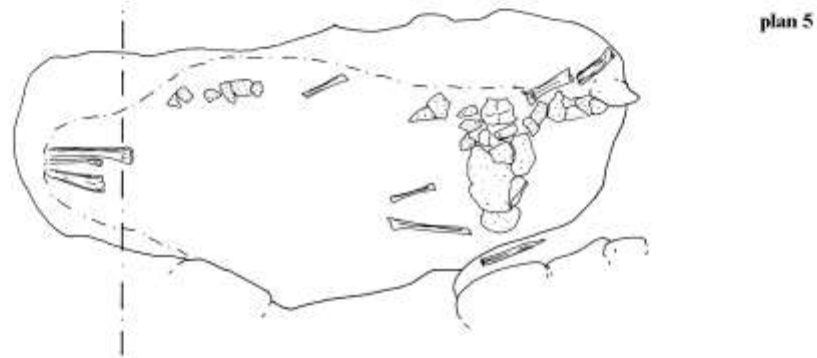
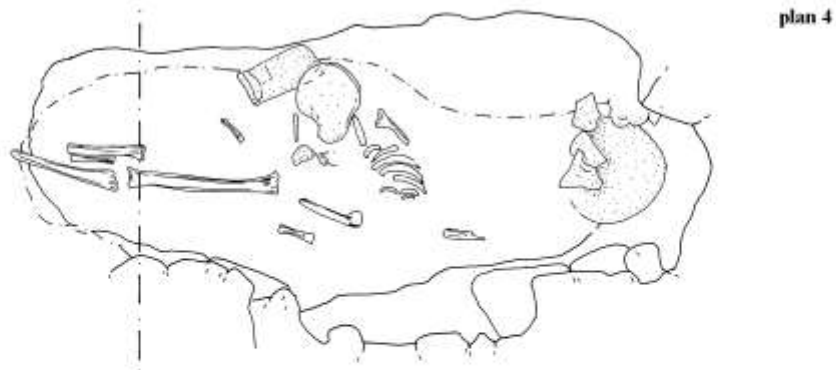


Figure 134: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-20.

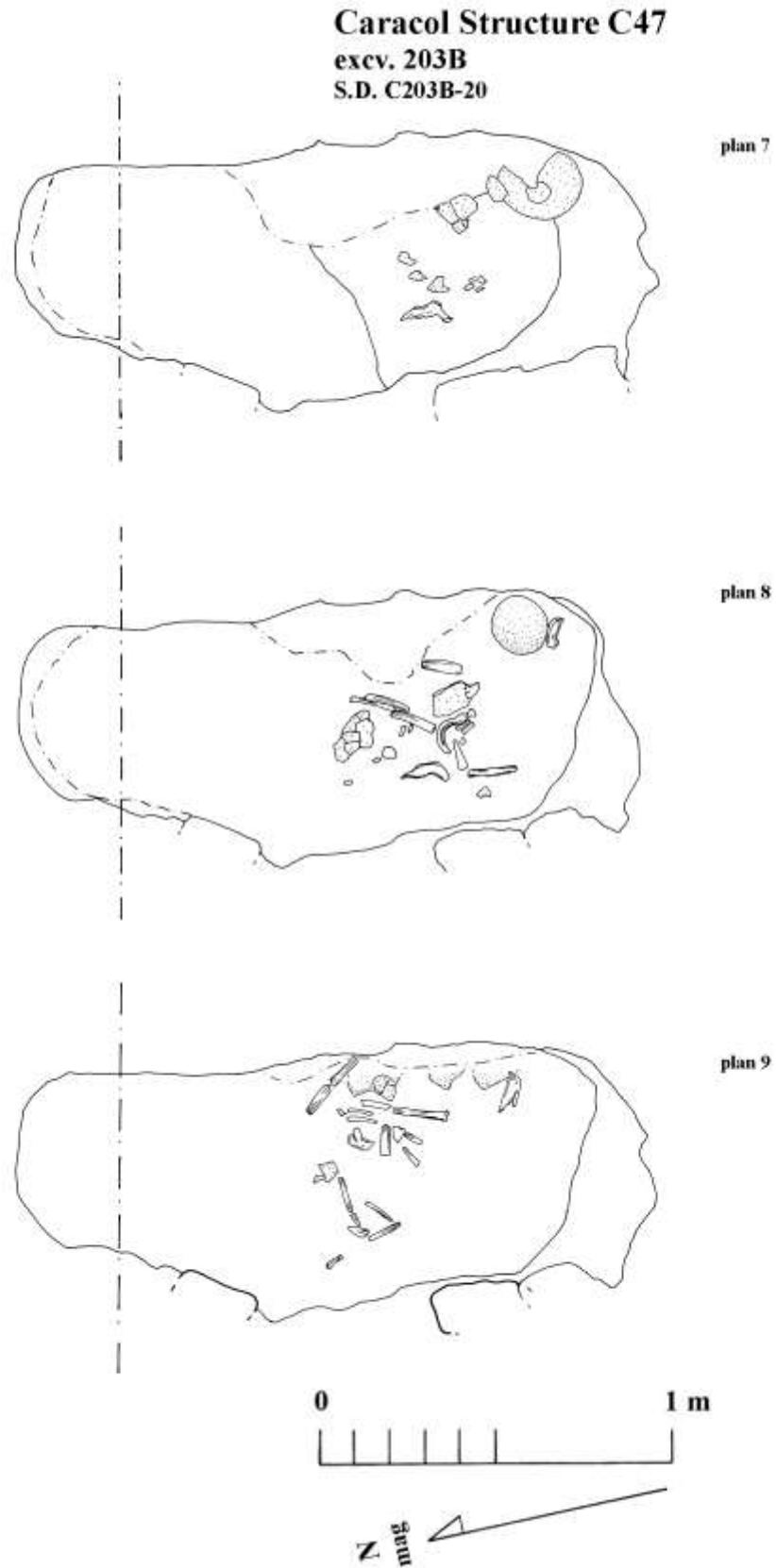


Figure 134: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-20.

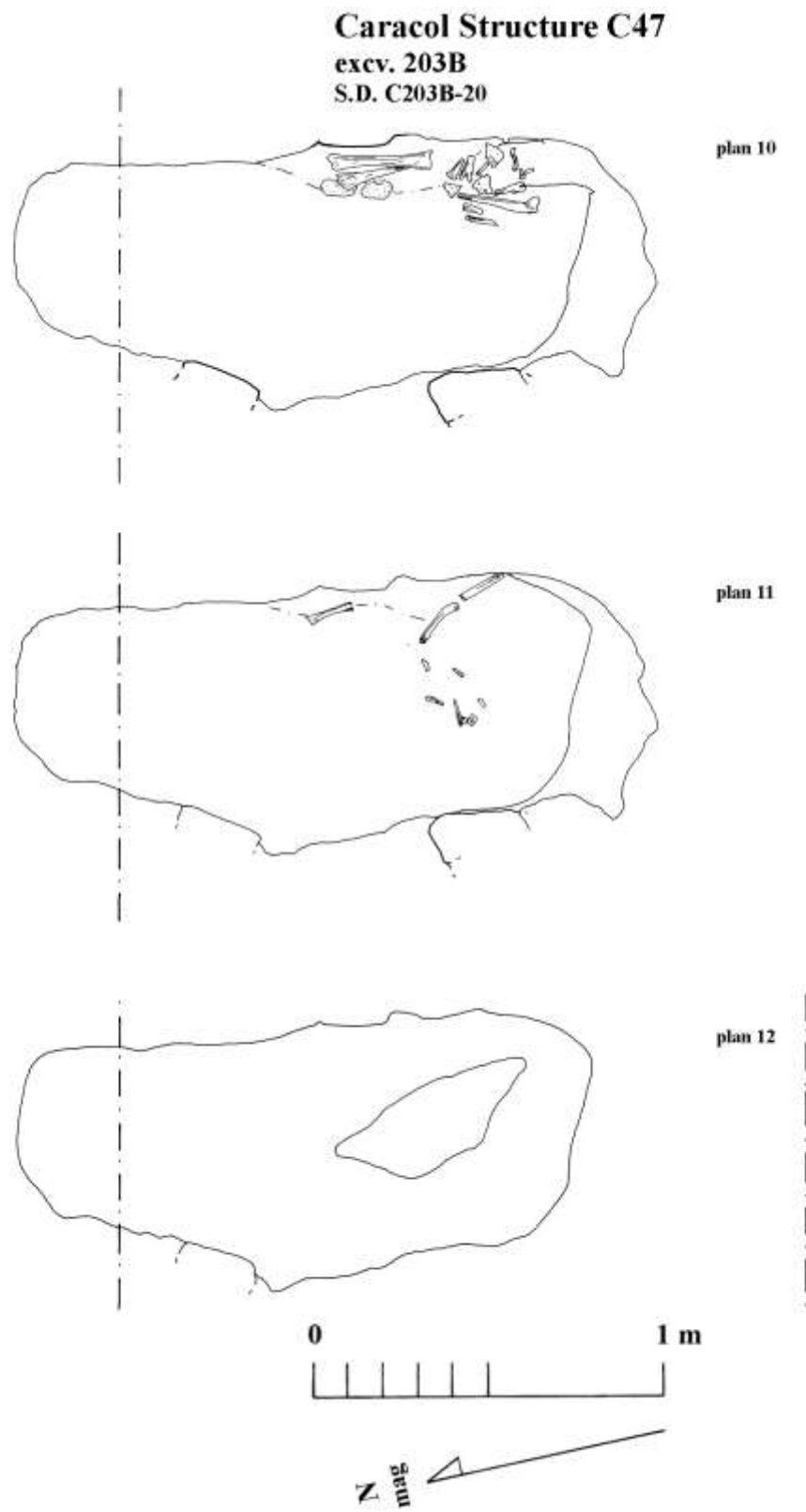


Figure 134: Detailed plans of S.D. C203B-20.

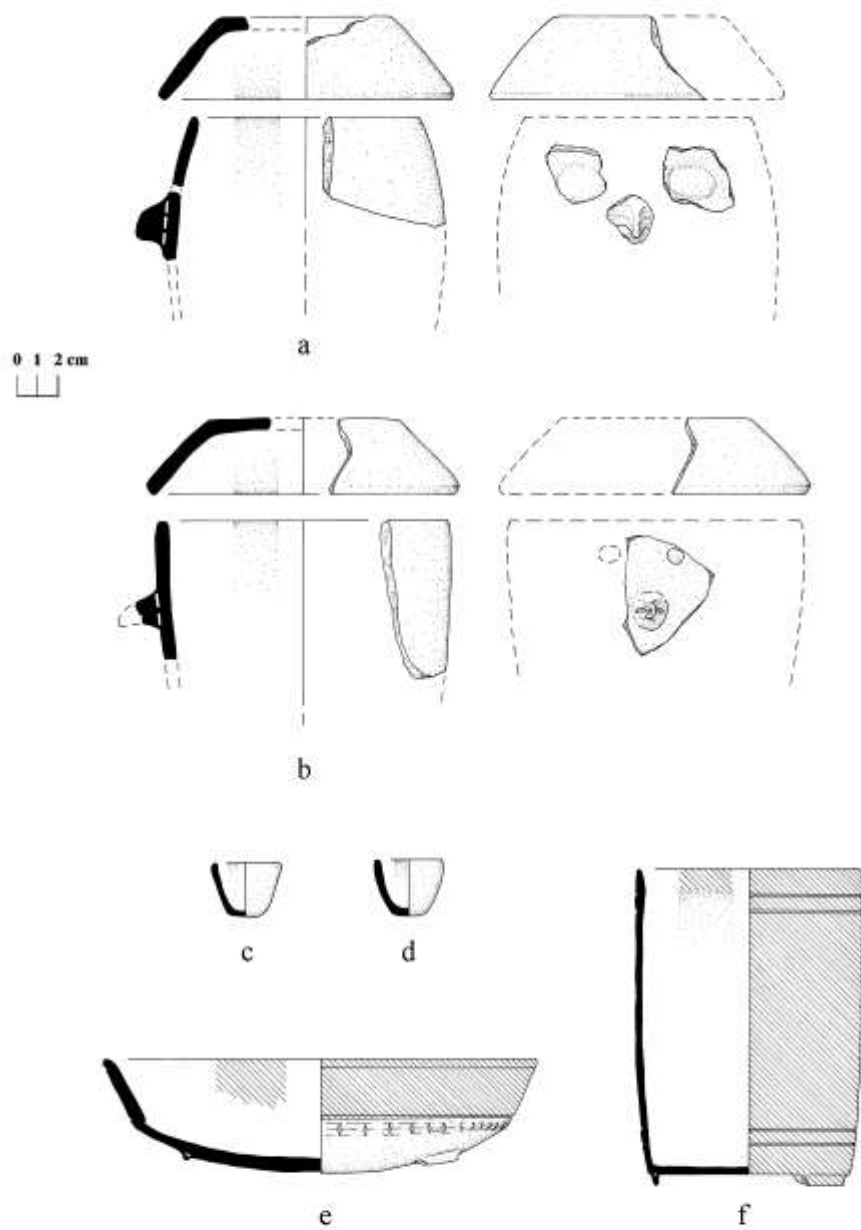


Figure 135: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-20 (C203B/48): a., b. Hebe Modeled; c., d. Ceiba Unslipped (c. associated with S.D. C203B-1); e. San Pedro Impressed; f. Pala Incised; g. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; h. Pucte Brown; i. eroded Molino Black; j. Caldero Buff-Polychrome; k. possibly Veracal Orange; l. – p. eroded Machete Orange-Polychrome.

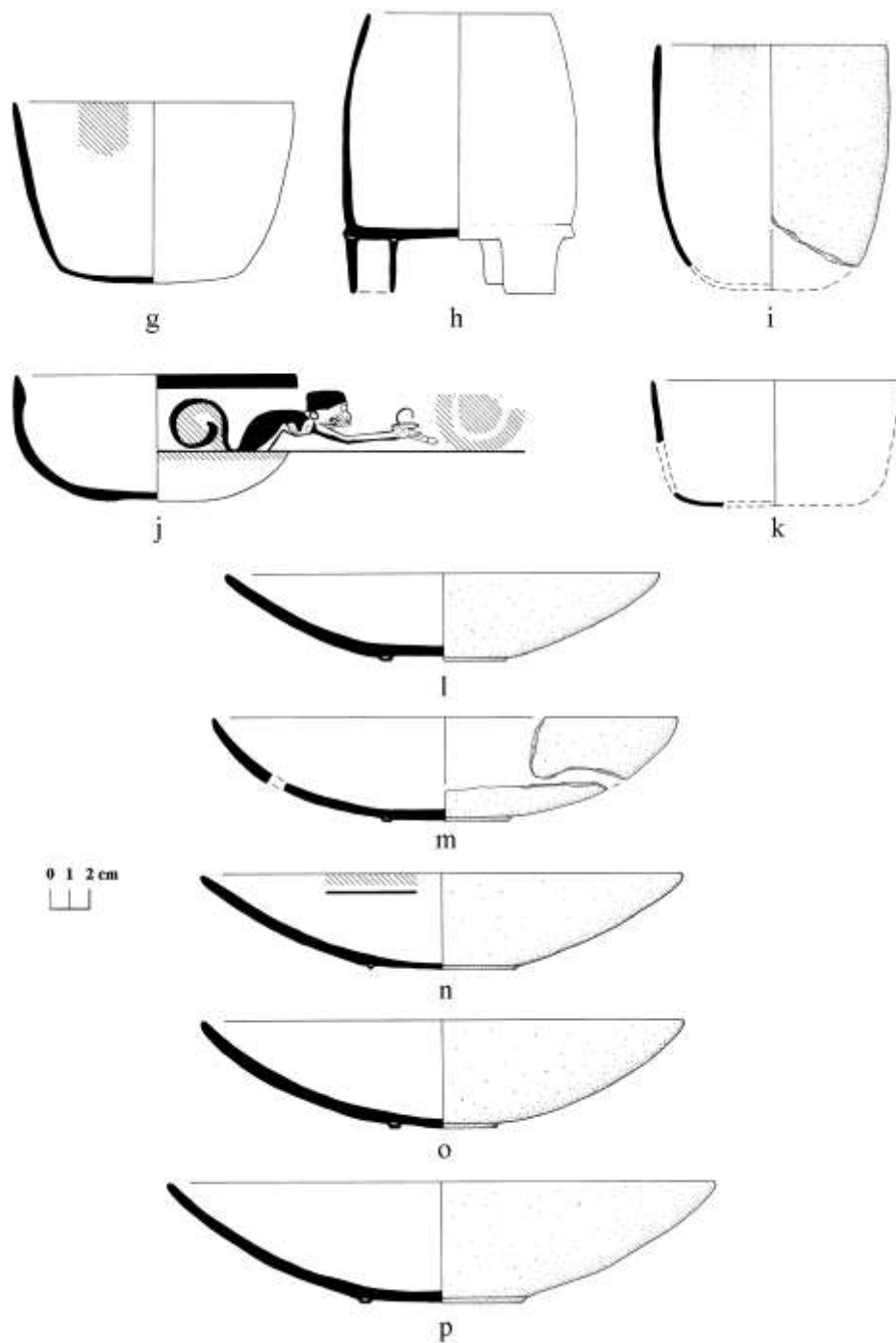


Figure 135: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C203B-20 (C203B/48): a., b. Hebe Modeled; c., d. Ceiba Unslpped (c. associated with S.D. C203B-1); e. San Pedro Impressed; f. Pala Incised; g. eroded Saxche Orange-Polychrome; h. Pucte Brown; i. eroded Molino Black; j. Caldero Buff-Polychrome; k. possibly Veracal Orange; l. – p. eroded Machete Orange-Polychrome.

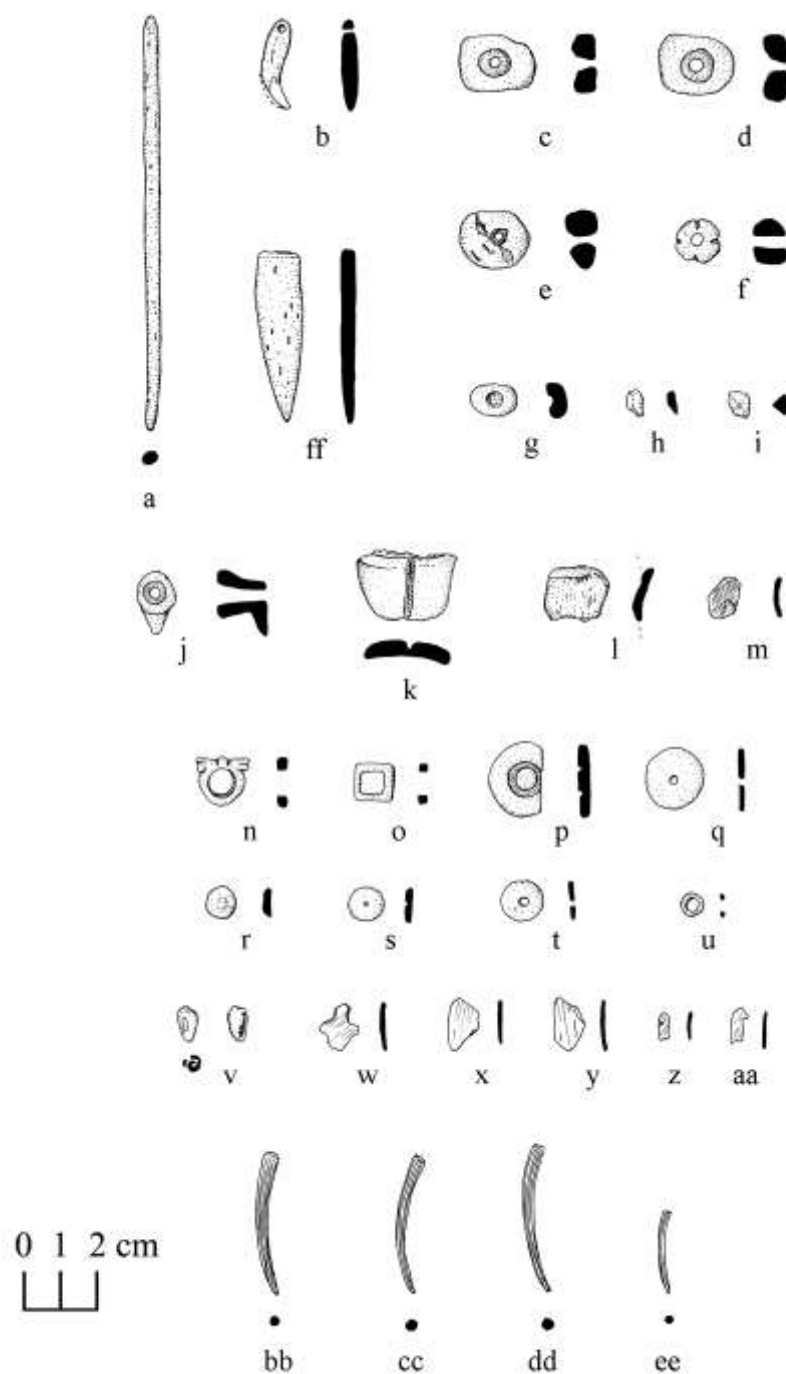


Figure 136: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C203B-20: a. bone pin; b. drilled animal canine; c, d. jadeite errings; e. - g. jadeite beads; h., i. jadeite chips; j. pottery earring; k., l. worked conch shell; m. burnt olivella shell; n. - u. worked conch shell; v. drilled marginella shell; w. - aa. worked mussel shell; bb. - ee. tusk shells; ff. worked bone awl tip.

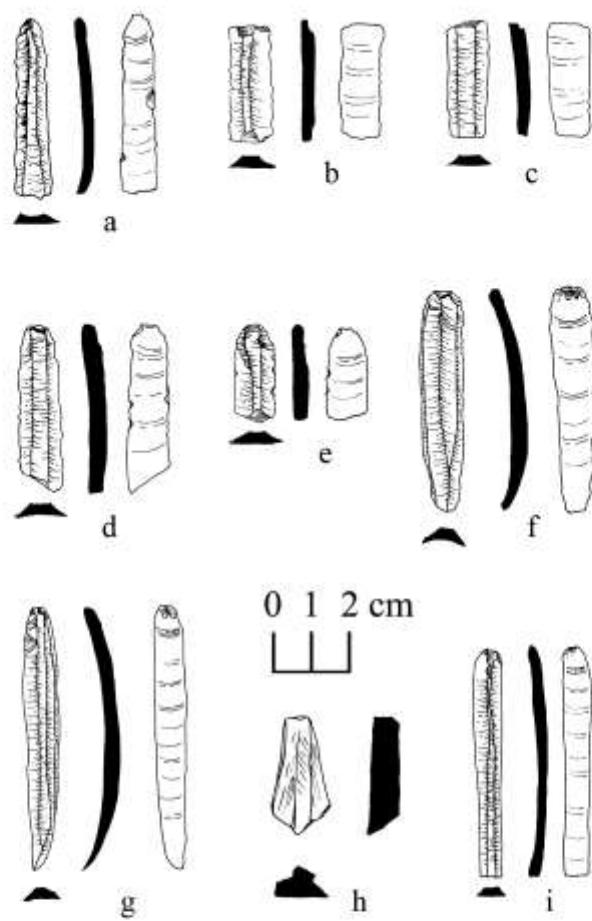


Figure 137: Partial obsidian blades and lancets associated with S.D. C203B-20.

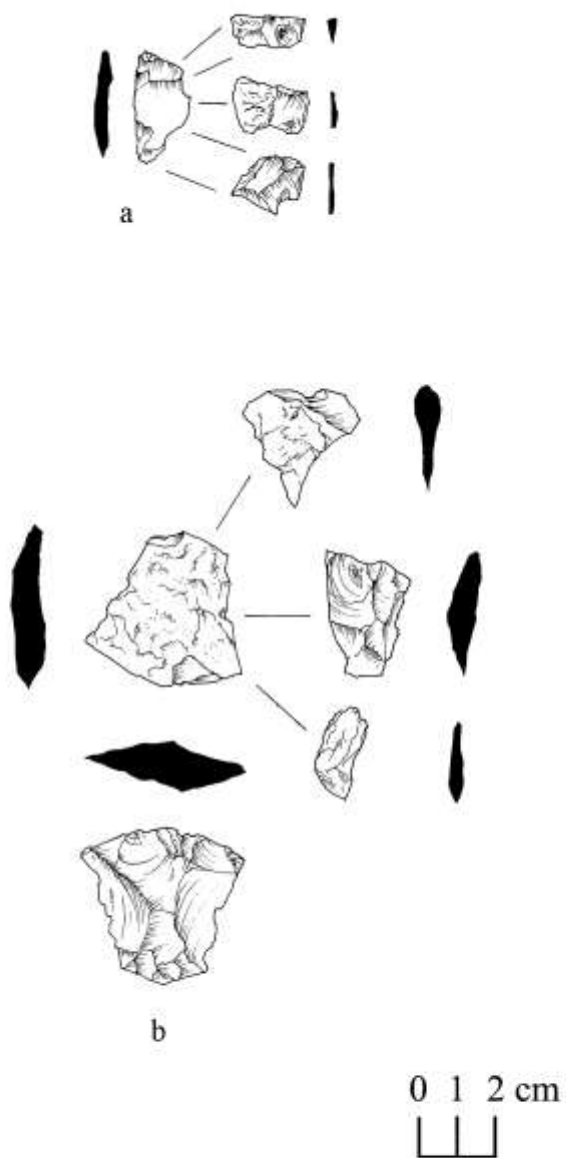


Figure 138: Worked chert that is reconstructable from within S.D. C203B-20.

CARACOL Structure C54
excv. C203C

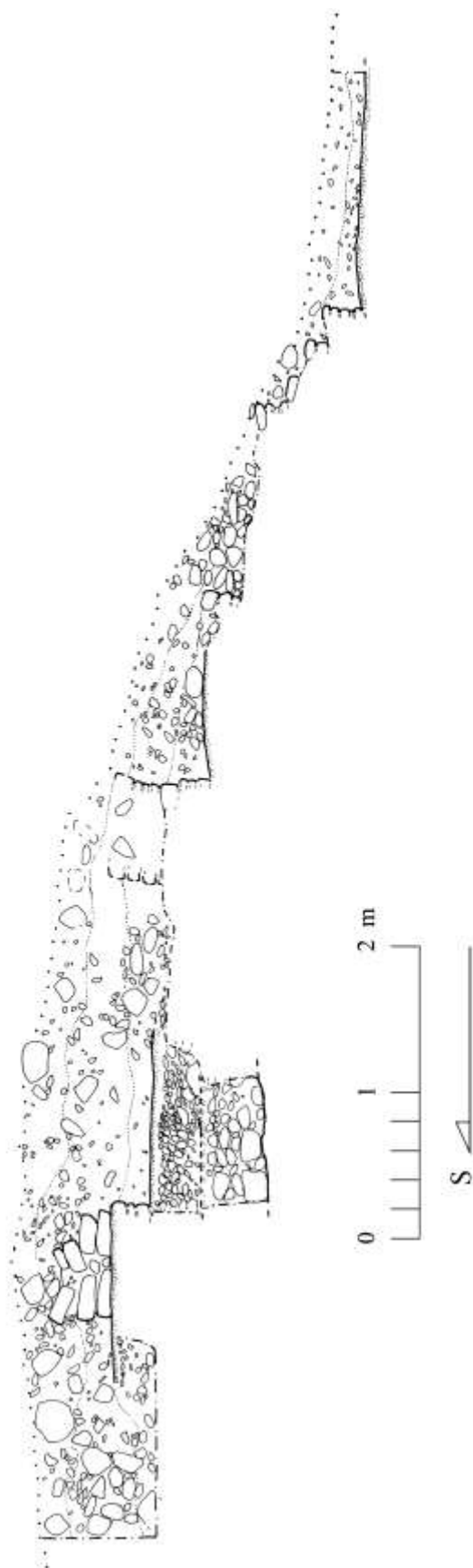


Figure 139: Structure C54 section, designated Operation C203C.

CARACOL Structure C54
excav. C203C

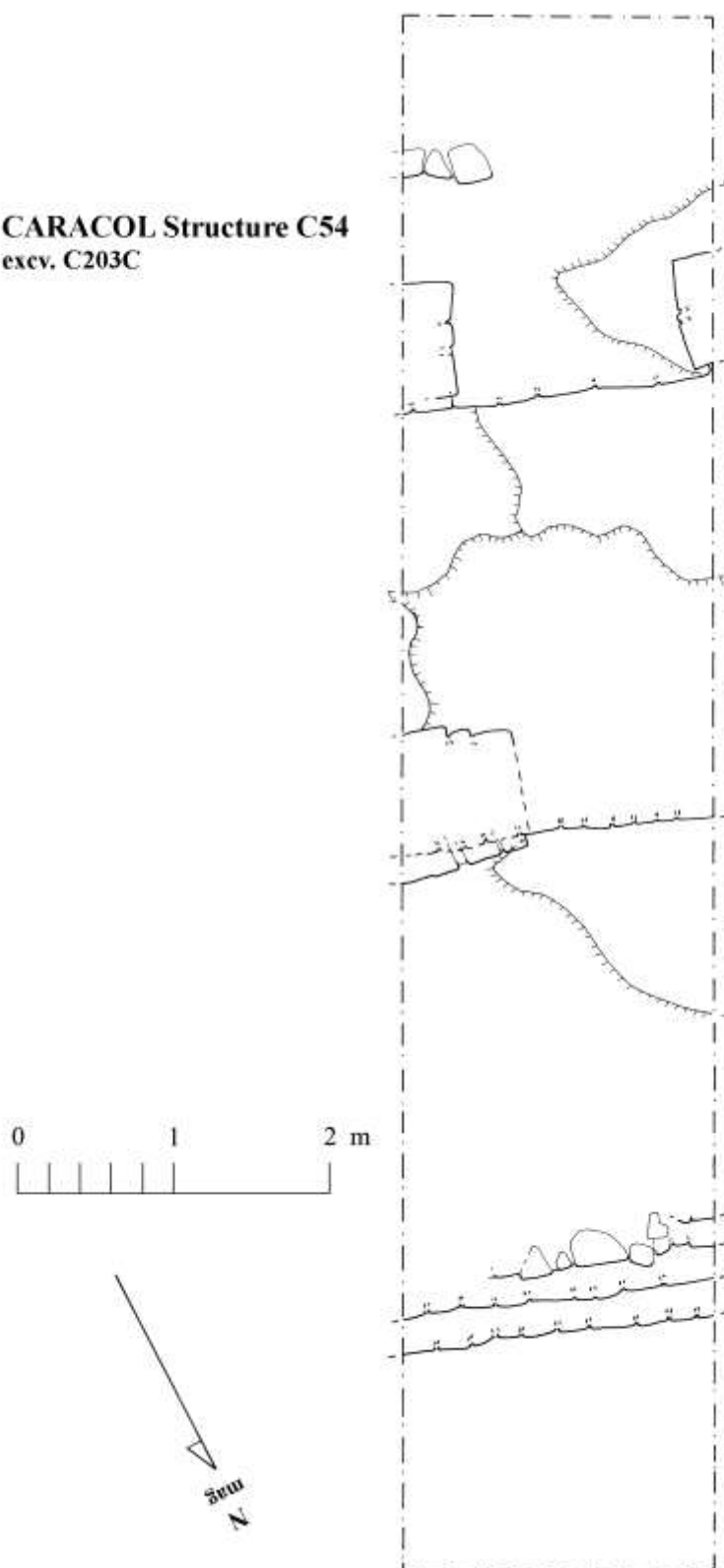


Figure 140: Plan of Operation C203C, showing tandem room stone building with frontal platform.

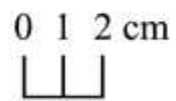


Figure 141: Worked bone associated with Structure C54 (C203C/8-9).

Vergonsoso

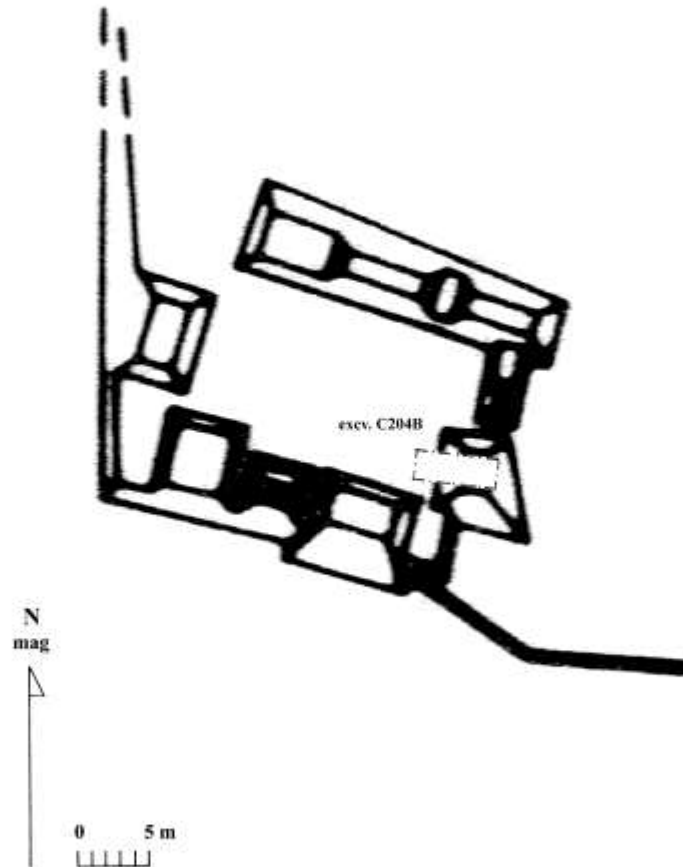


Figure 142: Plan of Vergonsoso residential group, showing the location of Operation C204B.

CARACOL Structure C38
excv. C204B

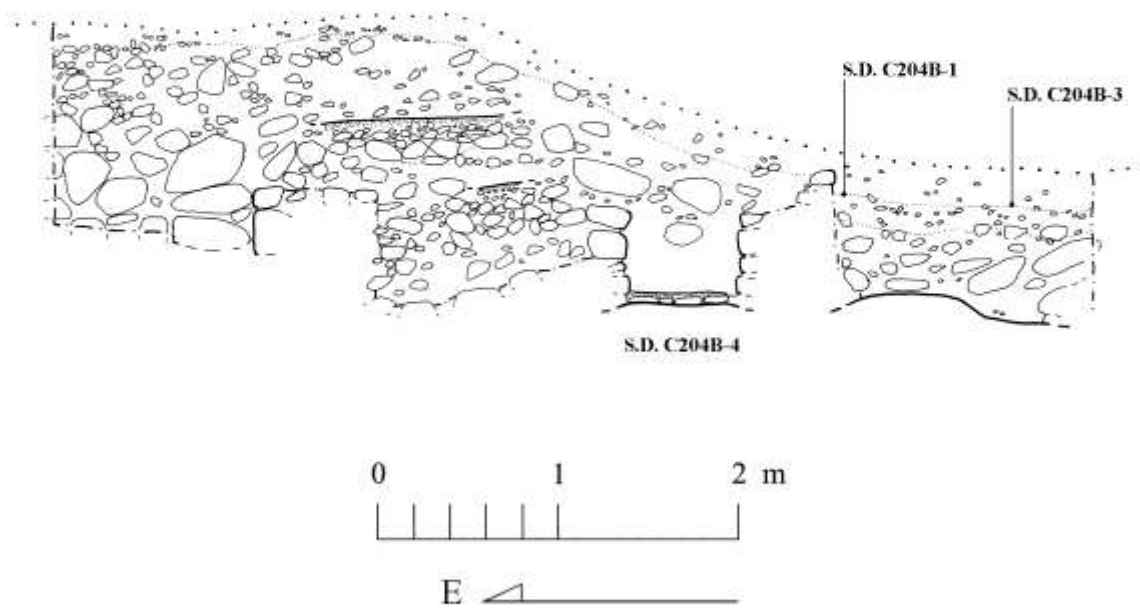


Figure 143: Structure C38 section, designated Operation C204B.

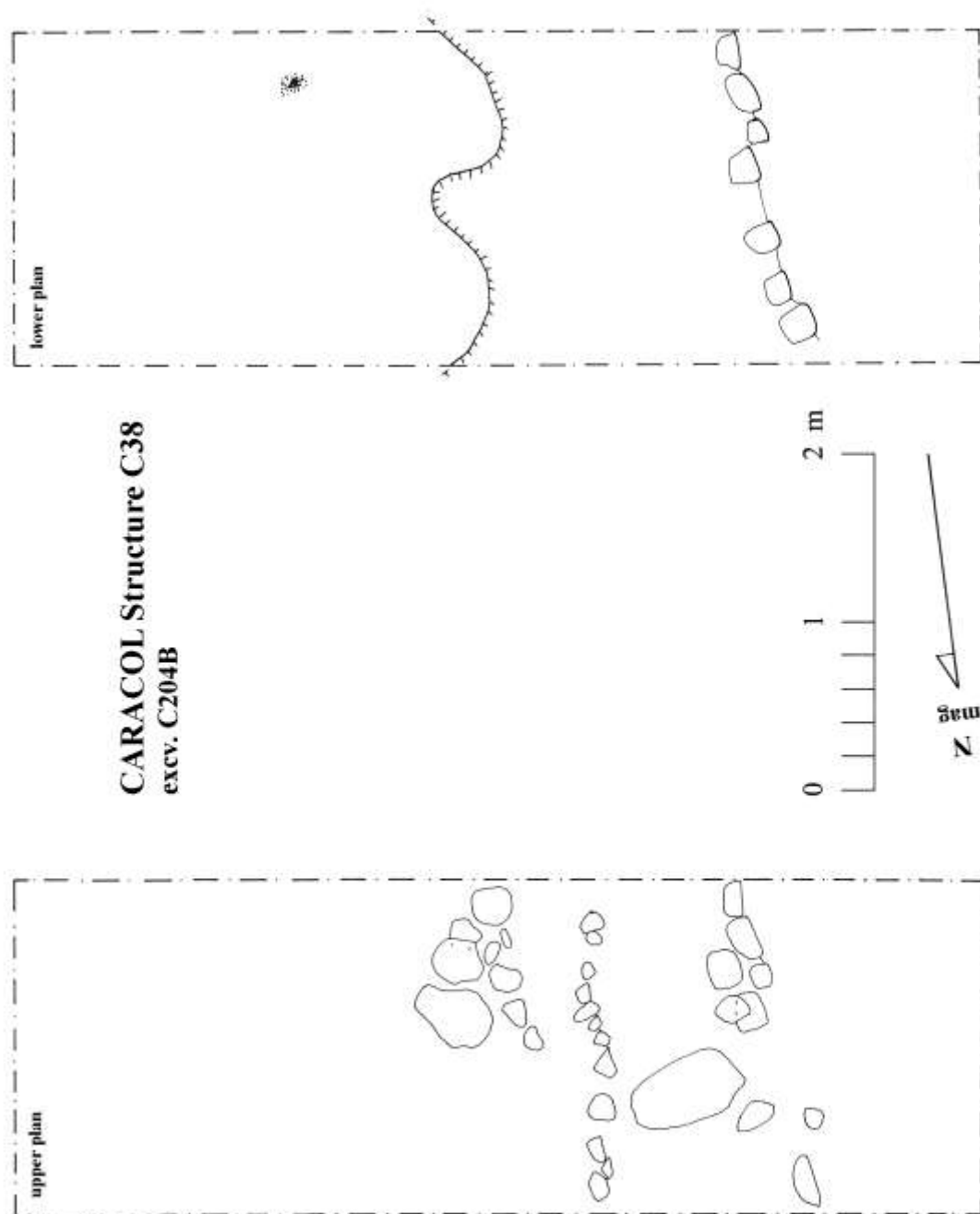


Figure 144: Plans of Operation C204B.

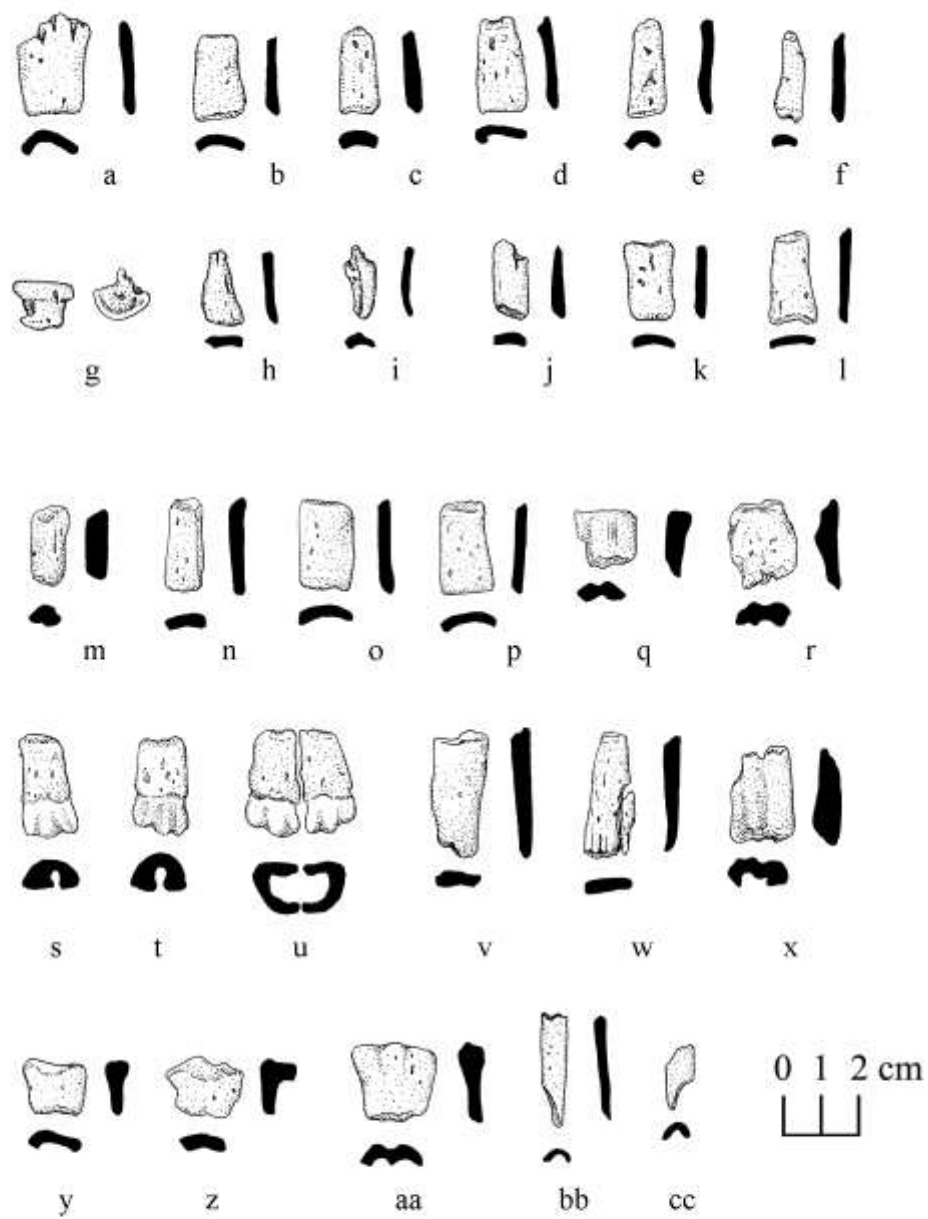


Figure 145: Worked animal bone from the core of Structure C54: a. – l. C204B/5; m. – x. C204B/7; y. – cc. C204B/9.

CARACOL Structure C38
excv. C204B

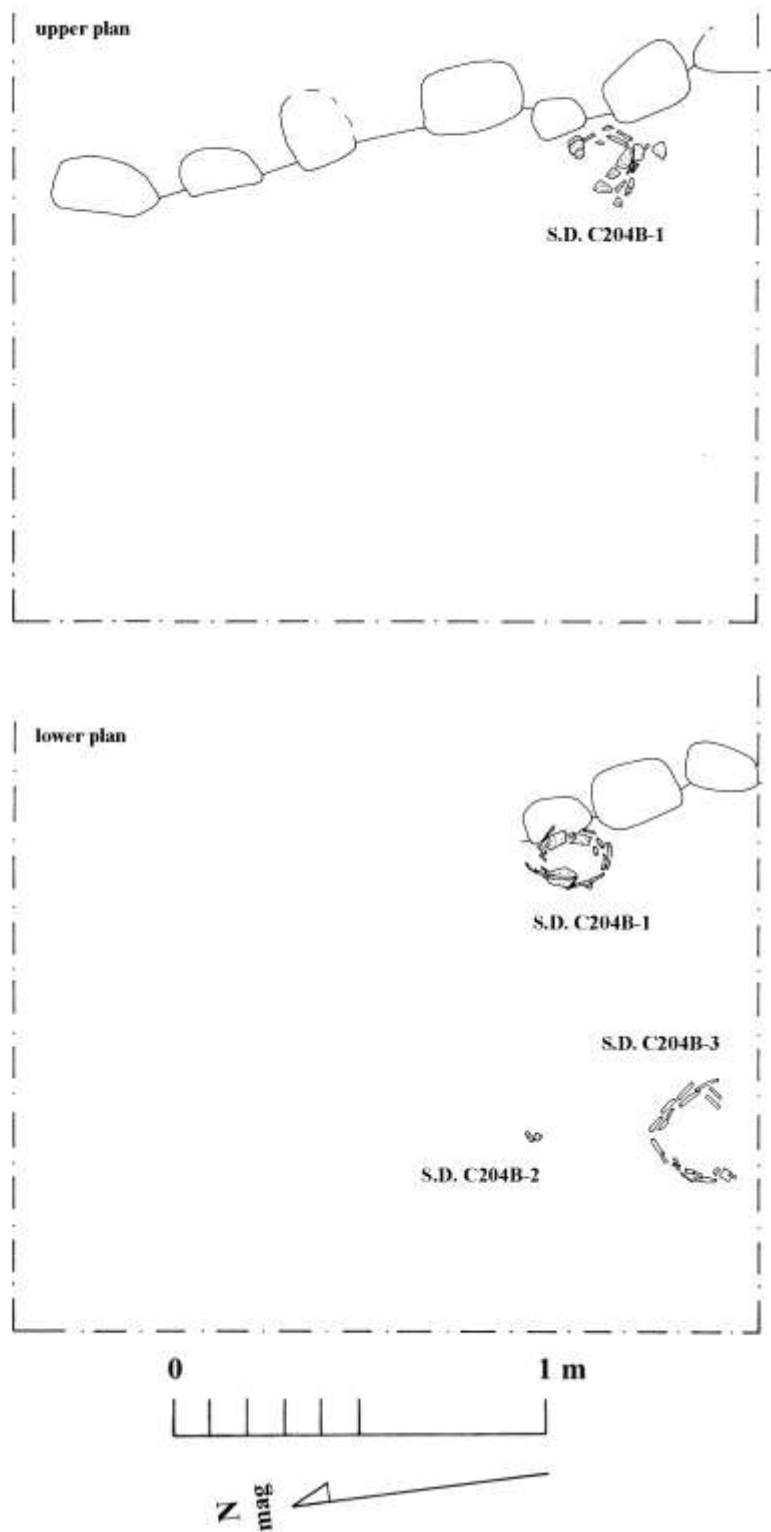


Figure 146: Detailed plans of S.D. C204B-1, S.D. C204B-2, and S.D. C204B-3.

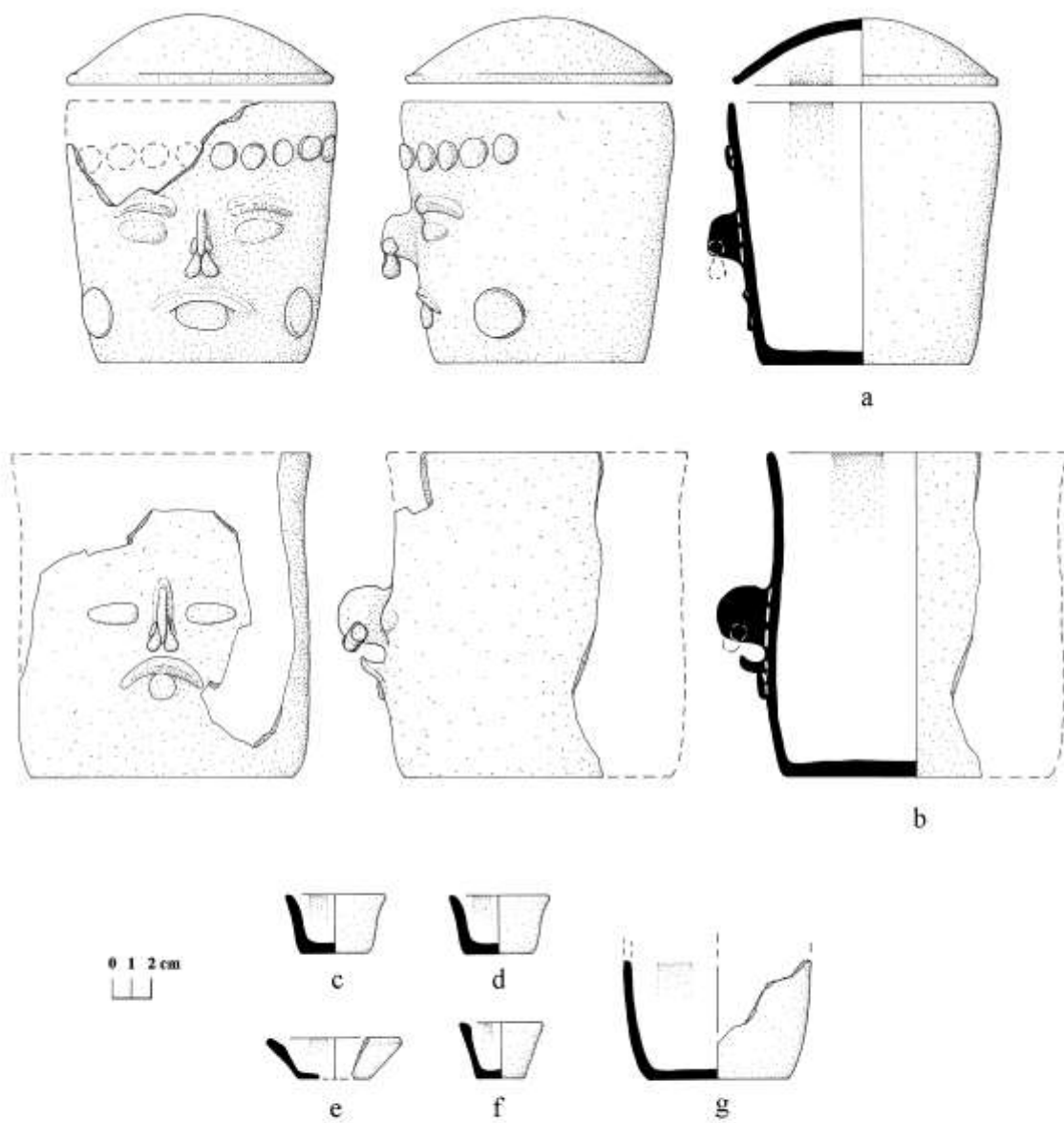


Figure 147: Pottery cache vessels from S.D. C204B-1: a., b. Hebe Modeled; c. - f. Ceiba Unslipped; g. probably Hebe Modeled.

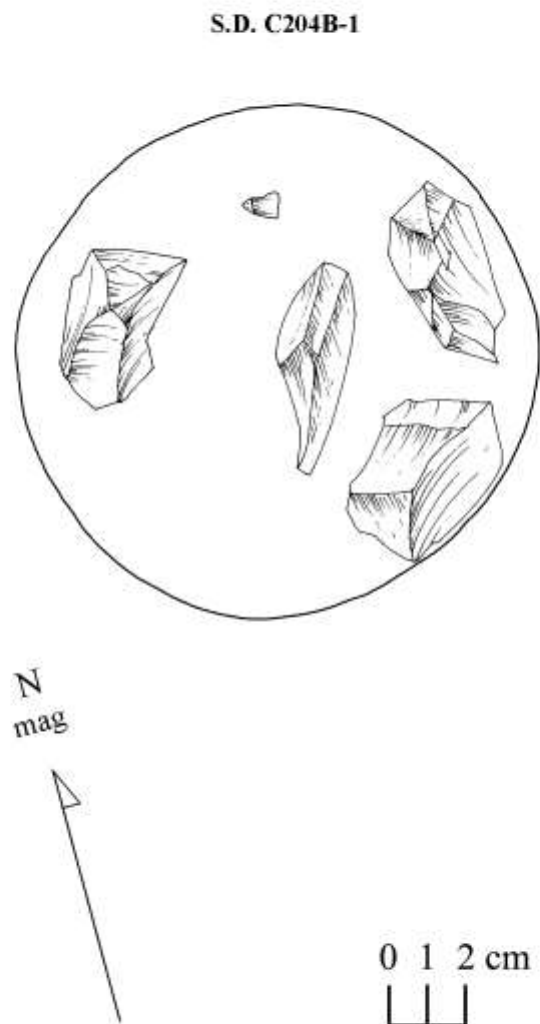


Figure 148: Detailed plan of obsidian in base of S.D. C204B-1 (Figure 145a).

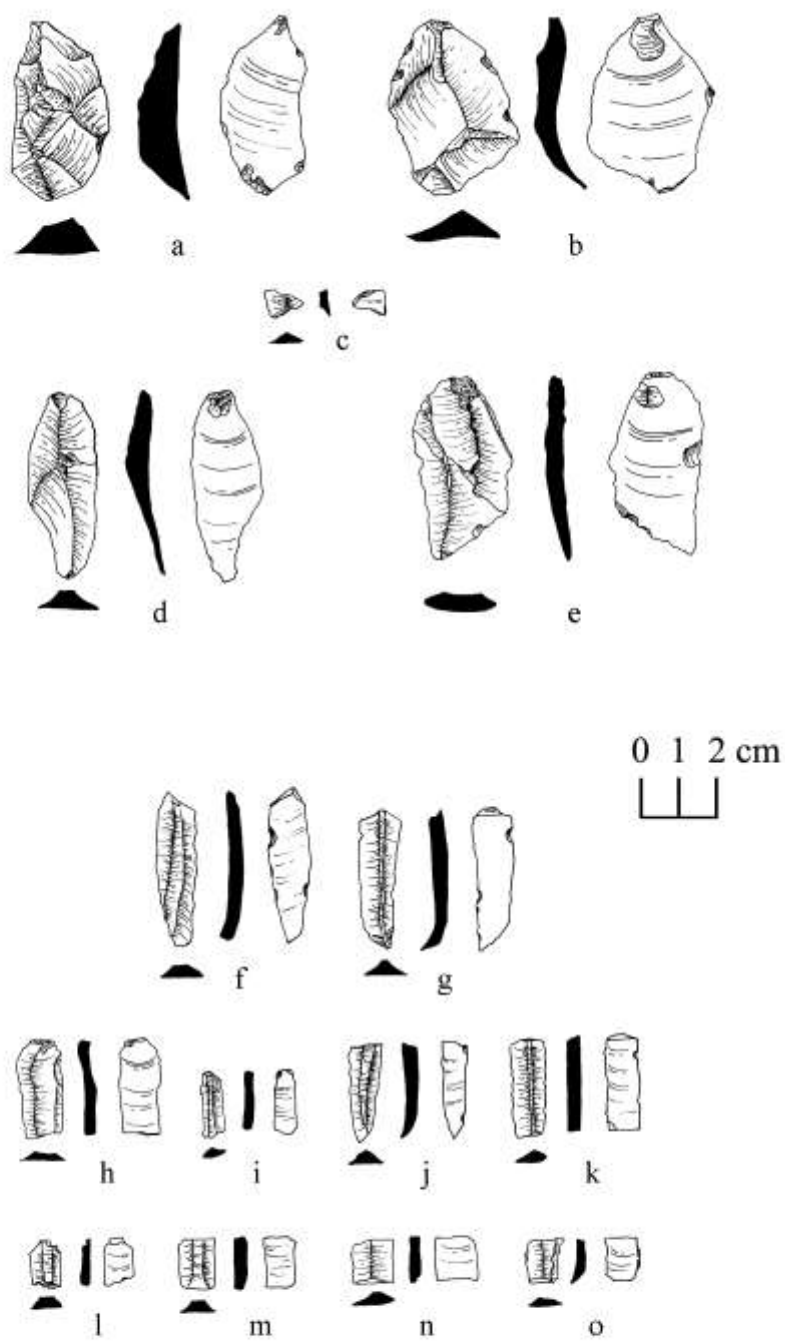


Figure 149: Obsidian associated with S.D. C204B-1 (a. – e.) and with S.D. C204B-4 (f. – o.).

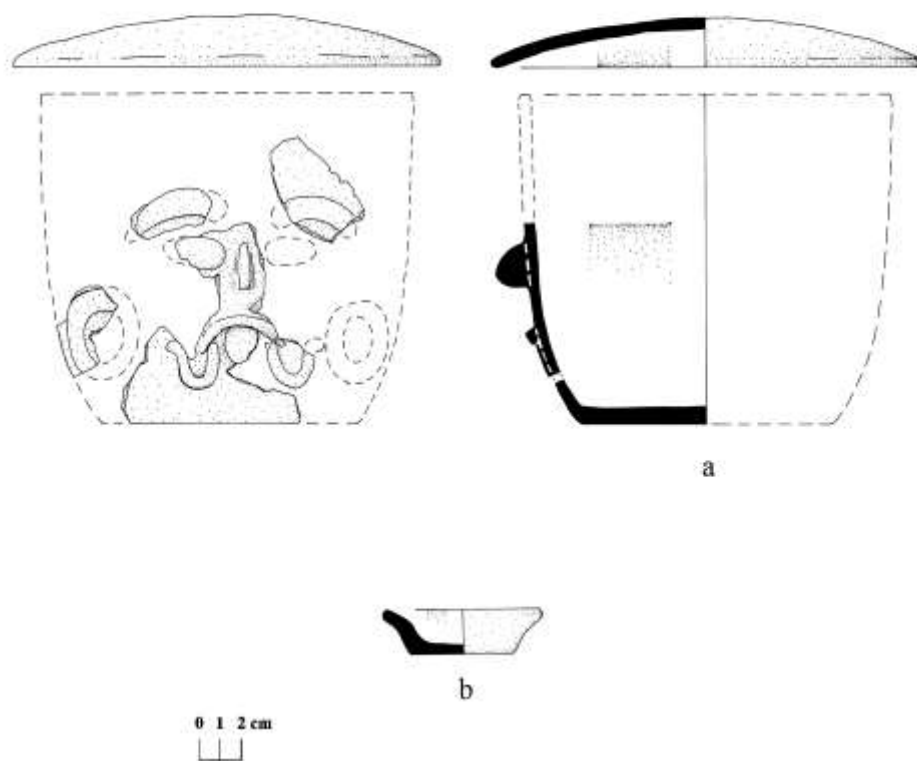


Figure 150: Pottery vessels from S.D. C204B-2 (b.) and S. D. C204B-3 (a.): a. Hebe Modeled; b. Ceiba Unslipped.

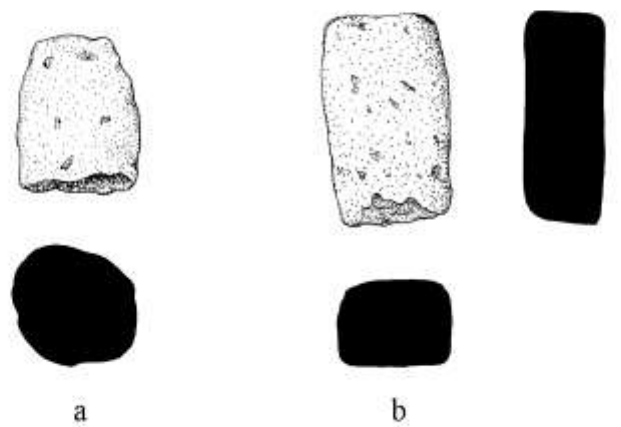


Figure 151: Possible limestone bars from Operation C204B: a. associated with S.D. C204B-3; b. from C204B/13.

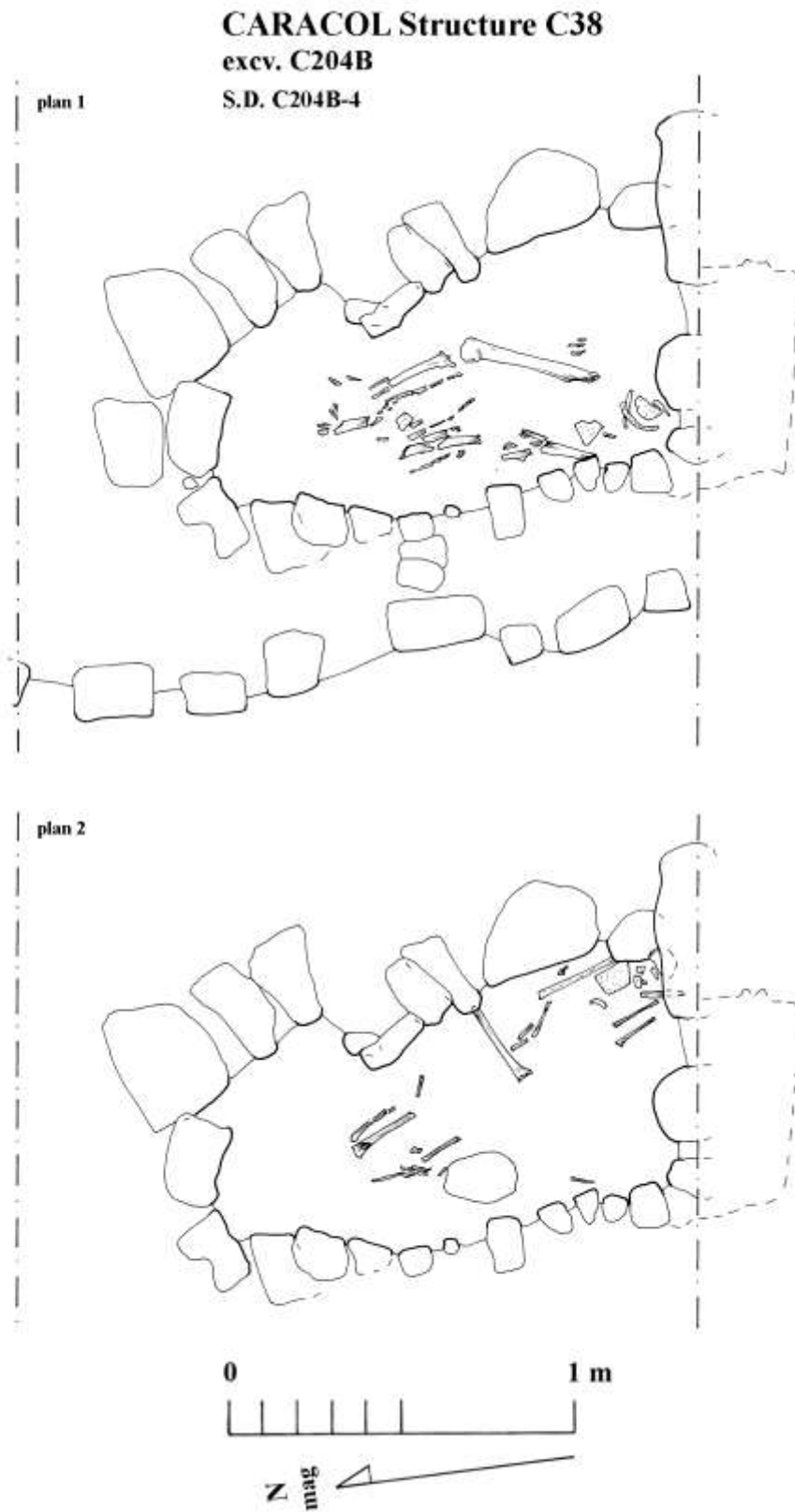


Figure 152: Detailed plans of S.D. C204B-4.

CARACOL Structure C38
excv. C204B
S.D. C204B-4

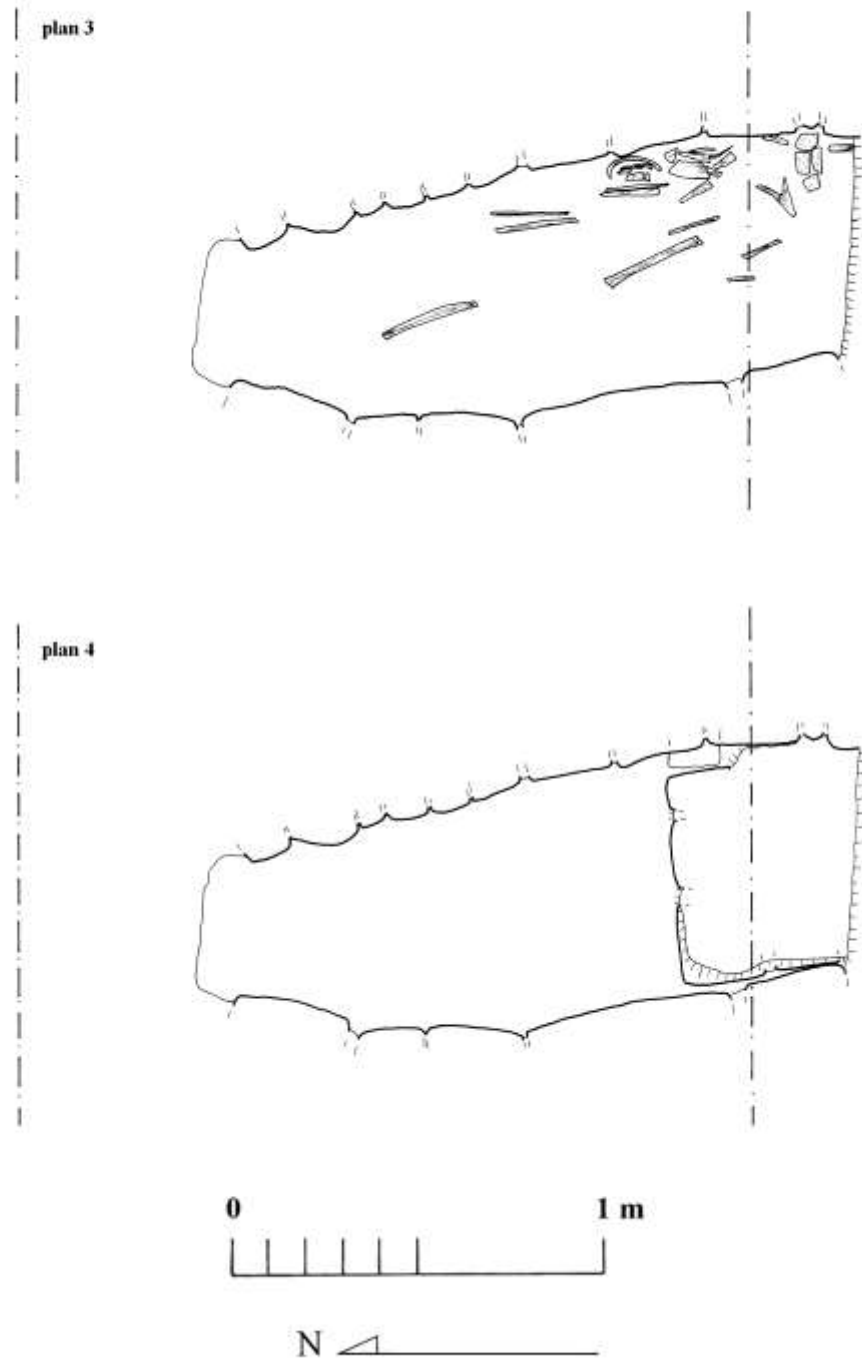


Figure 152: Detailed plans of S.D. C204B-4.

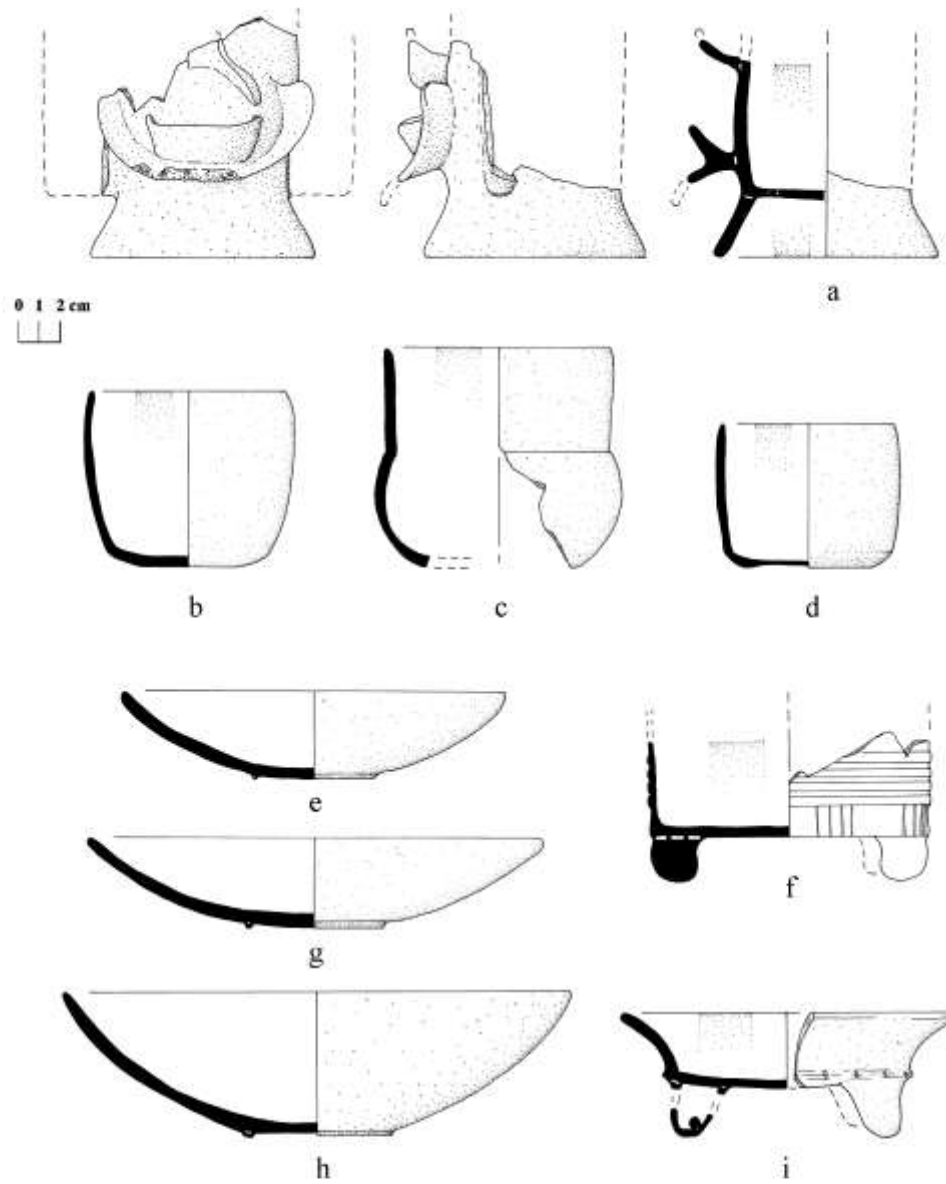


Figure 153: Pottery vessels associated with S.D. C204B-4: a. Pedregal Modeled, b., d., c. eroded Tialipa Brown; e. – h. eroded Machete Orange-Polychrome; f. Cohune Composite; i. Calabaso Gouged-Incised.

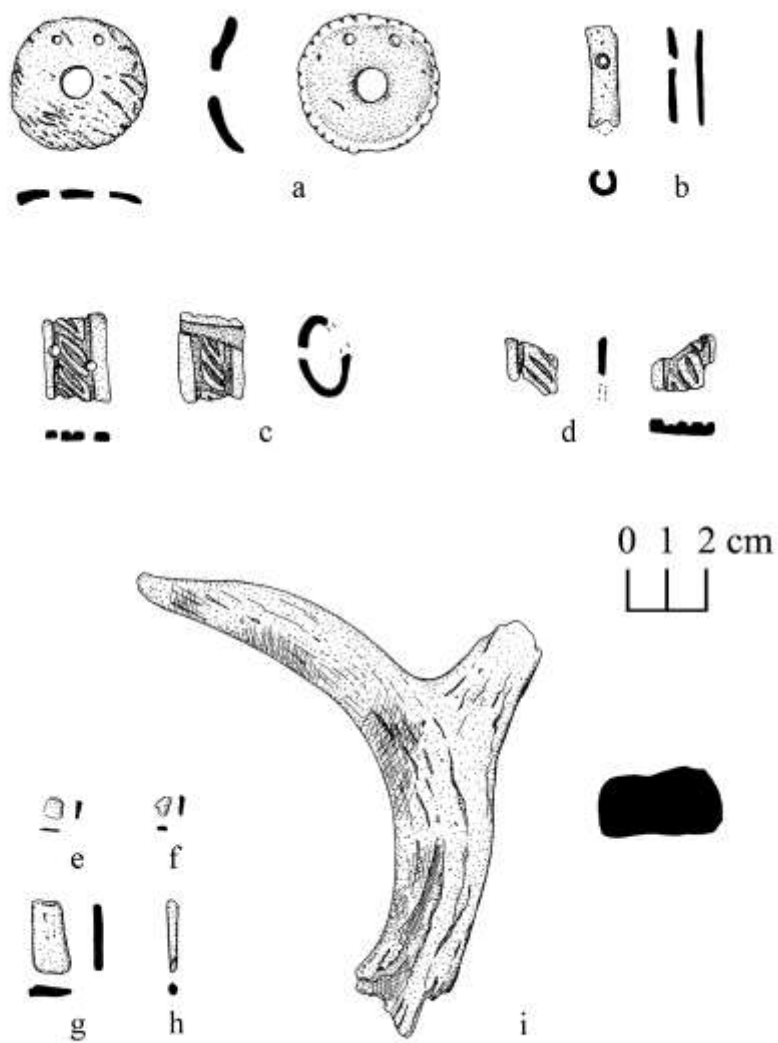


Figure 154: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C204B-4: a. worked shell; b. – d. worked bone; e., f. pyrite chips; g., h. worked bone; i. burnt antler tine.