Investigating Early Long-Distance Interaction in Caracol's Epicenter: Caracol Archaeological Project Investigations for 2016

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The 2016 field season constituted the second year of a three year program designed to find and investigate remains at Caracol that date prior to the site's Late Classic Period peak. All these investigations are located either within the site epicenter or in residential groups in close proximity to the central architecture. The 2016 season ran from the middle of January through the middle of March and involved 29 individuals (see Table 1). The 2016 program focused on 4 specific areas of excavation: (1) the summit plaza in the Central Acropolis; (2) Structure B34 in the Northeast Acropolis; (3) the constructions immediately west of the base of Caana, specifically Structure B37 and the Structure B36 platform; and, (4) a double-plaza residential group, nicknamed "Walled," that was located to the southeast of the epicenter (see Figure 1). This residential group is one of two residential complexes that lay within the walled portion of the site; the eastern building of the other residential group in this walled area, nicknamed "Rag," had been excavated during the 1985 field season (A. Chase and D. Chase 1987: 36-37) and the buildings in this group, subsequently renamed "Raleigh," were consolidated by the Belize Touristic Development Project in the late 1990s. All four loci that were selected for excavation had previously produced earlier remains, thus enhancing the probability of finding archaeological materials that pre-dated the Late Classic Period; three of the four locales selected for excavation in 2016 were continuations of research begun in 2015.

Background (incorporated from 2015 field report)

Significant debate remains over the connections that once existed between the Classic Period Maya and other Mesoamerican civilizations. In spite of more than two centuries of archaeological research, we are only beginning to understand the complex political and economic

relationships that spanned Mesoamerica. Particularly problematic are the ties between the great city of Teotihuacan in the central highlands of Mexico and the Maya peoples of both the highlands and lowlands. Most scholars agree that connections existed, but the timing, direction, and kind of contact remains unclear. It has been suggested by some researchers that Teotihuacan peoples were influential in the rise of various Maya centers to prominence; however, it is difficult to document face-to-face interactions and control as opposed to trade within the archaeological data. And, dates for contact also vary. Among the unanswered questions are: how closely intertwined were these civilizations; did exchange colonies exist between non-Maya peoples and the Maya to manage trade and political contact; did Teotihuacan insert itself into Maya politics; how early or late did these contacts take place; and, finally, what evidence exists in the archaeological record that can answer such questions?

For the Early Classic Period (A.D. 250-550), a time when Teotihuacan was viewed as active in the Maya area (Braswell 2003a), archaeological remains pertinent to this topic (e.g., finds showing clear Teotihuacan ties) are only sporadically found, usually providing intriguing hints at connections, but not definitive evidence for the precise nature of contact. However, an interment uncovered at Caracol in 2010 strongly suggests that direct contact took place between that site and Teotihuacan prior to A.D. 350 (A. Chase and D. Chase 2011) – and it is likely that other materials pertinent to Teotihuacan interaction exist in Caracol's archaeological record. The research carried out at Caracol for the 2015, 2016, and 2017 field seasons is focused on investigations that attempt to answer these questions through the intensive excavation of a series of residential areas in and adjacent to the Caracol epicenter. These areas already are known to contain remains from the appropriate time period(s) and have the potential of yielding materials related to central Mexican contact. Thus, it is hoped that this research design will provide data relevant to the timing and nature of long-distance relationships that existed in Mesoamerica during the Early Classic Period between the highlands and the lowlands, at least for Caracol.

The Problem: Caracol's Interactions with Teotihuacan? (incorporated from 2015 report)

Our views of how Maya civilization arose and interacted are constantly changing, being driven by recently collected archaeological data, the use of evolving epigraphic interpretations, and the application of new theoretical perspectives. One question that has remained relevant for a number of years is what impact other Mesoamerican civilizations had in the Maya area. In particular, there are two "mother cultures" from Mexico with whom the Maya are believed to have interacted, the Olmec of the Gulf Coast (Andrews 1990) and Teotihucan in highland Mexico (Braswell 2003a). While it is difficult to fully assess the existence of any early relationship between the Olmec and the ancient Maya (but see Inomata et al. 2013), there was certainly some kind of relationship between the ancient Maya and the Mexican city of Teotihuacan. However, exactly what kind of relationship existed remains a matter of a debate. As Clayton (2005:427) has noted: "On one extreme, Teotihuacan is believed to have significantly impacted the political development of Maya civilization. On the other, Teotihuacan's role in Maya politics is considered to have been largely inconsequential."

In the 1960s, Sanders and Price (1968) argued that Teotihuacan was responsible for the fluorescence of Maya civilization and the rise of state level society in that region. According to their position, the Maya were a prime example of a "secondary state" development. Early on, Maya iconography and hieroglyphs were also appended to this model to argue for a Teotihuacan conquest of the Maya region during the Early Classic Period (Proskouriakoff 1993:4-10), something still given some credence (Cowgill 2003). The iconography that appears on Early Classic carved stone monuments at Guatemalan sites like Tikal, Uaxactun, and Yaxha has been utilized in support of such an interpretation (e.g, Borowicz 2003; Hellmuth 1972), as have items from within the Early Classic burials from Tikal (Coe 1972; Coggins 1975, 1979).

More recently, a Teotihuacan entrada of conquest – or minimally of enthronement of an overlord (*kalo'mte')* in A.D. 378 (8.17.1.4.12 11Eb 15 Mak) – has also been identified in Maya

hieroglyphic texts (Martin and Grube 2008; Mathews 1985; Schele and Freidel 1990; Stuart 2000). And, the conjunction of Maya epigraphy with iconography and limited archaeological data has led to the persistent postulation that Teotihuacan could have been responsible for the rise of complex forms of Maya political organization (see Braswell 2003b:23-27). Yet, this is not necessarily the case.

While some have suggested unidirectional impact of Teotihuacan on the Maya, others have suggested bidirectional and repeated interactions between Teotihuacan and the Maya area. Teotihuacan itself has unearthed ceramic and artifactual material of Maya derivation that suggests that interaction took place throughout that site's history (Clayton 2005; Rattray 2001; http://archive.archaeology.org/0301/newsbriefs/teotihuacan.html) and Laporte (2003:215) argued that early Maya architectural forms, specifically an E Group (important architectural assemblages for early Maya ritual and solar observation), were replicated in the Ciudadela at Teotihuacan. Teotihuacan was viewed as attempting to control highland Guatemalan obsidian (Spence 1996) and possibly cacao on Guatemala's Pacific Coast (Hellmuth 1975). In the lowland Maya area, Early Classic ritual deposits that contain materials of clear Teotihuacan derivation have been recovered from several sites – particularly Altun Ha, Belize (Pendergast 1971), Becan, Mexico (Ball 1974), and Caracol, Belize (A. Chase and D. Chase 2011). At least the ones from Altun Ha and from Caracol antedate the events interpreted from the epigraphic record. While central Mexican green obsidian occurs throughout the Maya area (Moholy-Nagy 1999; Spence 1996), pottery vessels in the Maya area also have been ascribed a Teotihuacan origin (Ball 1983; Sharer 2003); but how either the ceramics or the obsidian came to be in the Maya region cannot be stated with any certainty. Importantly, recent isotopic analyses of human bone also has shed significant light on the interaction question: peoples from all over Mesoamerica are represented at Teotihuacan (Spence et al. 2004; White et al. 2002); in contrast, no one of Teotihuacan origin is found in the burials with Teotihuacan items at Copan (Sharer 2003), Tikal (Wright 2005a, 2005b), or Kaminaljuyu (White et al. 2000).

Early Caracol (incorporated from 2015 field report)

Caracol is an excellent location to examine the nature of Teotihuacan interaction with the ancient Maya. The site has a long history, one that precedes typical 4th century Early Classic Period Teotihuacan influence, being established in the Middle Preclassic Period (Chase and Chase 2005, 2006). Thus, incipient development and external impact can be assessed. Further, a Teotihuacan-related cremation occurs in the Caracol epicenter that can be bracketed by earlier and later primary deposits (A. Chase and D. Chase 2011). This important interment was recovered deep in the central plaza of the Northeast Acropolis and the deposit has been interpreted as the possible remains of an actual Teotihuacano who married into the Caracol royal family, perhaps as a trade envoy. This individual was buried sometime between A.D. 300 and A.D. 350 in a completely non-Maya style – in a Teotihuacan-style cremation pit with green obsidian artifacts, a possible warrior's costume that included a mirror and atlatl, and a sizeable ceramic assemblage of vessels that are both Maya and central Mexican, at least stylistically (see A. Chase and D. Chase 2011; D. Chase and A. Chase 2011 summarize typical Caracol burial patterns; Sempowski 1992, Sempowski and Spence 1994, Serrano 1993, and Sugiyama 2005 summarize Teotihuacan interment patterns). Burials with ceramics that are "Protoclassic" in date (ca. A.D. 50-300), or transitional from the Late Preclassic (B.C. 300 to A.D. 250) to the Early Classic Periods (A.D. 250-550), have been recovered from 6 residential groups in and around the Caracol epicenter. Another burial in the Northeast Acropolis, dating to A.D. 150, exhibits ceramic ties to the Guatemalan highlands around Kaminaljuyu (A. Chase and D. Chase 2005:22), a site that figures prominently in discussion of Maya-Teotihuacan interaction (Kidder et al. 1946; Sanders and Michels 1977). Other interments from Caracol contain later Early Classic cylinder tripods (e.g, A. Chase 1994:167-169) that have been linked – at least stylistically - to Teotihuacan (e.g., Ball 1983; Demarest and Foias 1993).

Thus, previous archaeological investigations indicate that Teotihuacan-related remains can be found at Caracol. Dated deposits from a variety of locales bracket the Early Classic Period, suggesting other potential areas for further detailed investigation. The existing archaeological data imply that there was some kind of relationship between Caracol and highland Mexico. Thus, it is hoped that this 3-year research program will generate other archaeological data relevant to the research question and of interest to a broad range of Mesoamerican scholars.

The 2016 Caracol Research (Season 2 of the 2015-2017 research program)

The research undertaken during the 2016 field season continued to focus excavation within architecture and plazas within Caracol's epicenter and in nearby residential groups that have already produced artifactual materials of the appropriate Protoclassic to Early Classic time periods (Figure 1). Excavation within the Walled Residential Group during 2016 in the area southeast of the B Plaza continued to encounter relatively early remains, but also found significant Late Classic materials, much as occurred during the 2015 excavation of the Ultimo Residential Group. Excavation within the large raised plazas in the epicenter was projected to lead to the recovery of early remains and, indeed, this was the case in all three excavations carried out in 2015 and in the two carried out in 2016. In the Northeast Acropolis, a deep plaza trench linked the center of the plaza containing the Teotihuacan interment with the excavation undertaken in Structure B34 during 2015. During 2016, deeper penetration was made within the front core of Structure B34. In the Central Acropolis, a large text excavation placed in the center of the plaza during 2015 encountered a Late Classic tomb, sidetracking the intent to go deeper into earlier levels. During 2016, this excavation was taken to bedrock and yielded Late Preclassic sherd material. On the western side of Caana, 2015 excavations through the Structure B36 platform encountered the eastern side of an earlier building that was areally exposed during the 2016 field season. Areal excavations and deeper probes were undertaken in Structure B37 during 2016, augmenting the archaeological data collected curing the 2015 field season.

As in 2015, the Northeast Acropolis was again a focus of the 2016 investigations. This is the one area at the site where previous excavations have encountered Protoclassic deposits and the Early Classic Period deposit with the strongest evidence for a direct Teotihuacan relationship. Excavation of Structure B34, the eastern "ancestral" temple of the Northeast Acropolis, in 1994 and 1995 recovered a series of deposits and refuse ranging from the Late Preclassic through the Terminal Classic Periods, indicating that the group had a long occupation history and was certainly occupied until the final abandonment of the site. Deeper probes in the associated plaza in 1994 and 1995 recovered buried Preclassic buildings and Protoclassic deposits, including a cache in the northern part of the plaza and a burial in the eastern side of the plaza that dated to approximately C.E. 150 and had 37 ceramic vessels and over 7000 shell and jadeite beads that were once sewn onto a cloth mantle (A. Chase and D. Chase 2005; Rich 2003). An Early Classic tomb also was recovered beneath the Terminal Classic palace on the summit of the northern building, Structure B33. In 2010, a plaza test-pit on the cross-axis of the northern and eastern earlier buildings resulted in the recovery of the Teotihucan-related cremation described above on the same eastern axis as the Protoclassic burial found in 1994 (A. Chase and D. Chase 2005). The 2015 trench was designed to show how the Teotihuacan burial was related to the deposits in Structure B34 and succeeded in revealing earlier ripped-out buildings as well as ritual activity that pre- and post-dated the Teotihucan cremation. Yet, no royal tombs have been recovered in the ancestral shrine for the Northeast Acropolis – unlike the Central Acropolis and Caana – and the building was left in a state of neglect and stone-robbed during the Terminal Classic Period. Thus, further investigation was called for within Structure B34.

The front portion of Structure B34 was not penetrated in the earlier excavations because investigation stopped when a Terminal Classic burial was found. A re-entered tomb tangent to the base of the building dates to the Late Classic and was intruded into this location. Thus, given the intense ritual focus on this building and its axis in the Protoclassic to Early Classic Period, it was an excellent candidate for a major deposit that dates to this era. Excavations carried out in 2016

reopened the front of 1994 trench with the intent of going deeper into the building core to define both earlier architecture and deposits associated with the front of this structure, something not accomplished by previous excavations.

Another locus for 2016 investigation was Caracol's Central Acropolis. The Central Acopolis platform rises almost 5 m above the surrounding terrain and surely obscures earlier buildings. Investigations undertaken so far have confirmed the high status of the group's occupants in the Late Classic Period and it would be interesting to see how the earlier inhabitants of this group compare with those in the Northeast Acropolis. Previous investigation in this group focused on Late to Terminal Classic Period remains and the burials that exist here. A looted tomb of early Late Classic date was excavated in the core of Structure A37, an eastern building in this group, in 1985 (A. Chase and D. Chase 1987:34) and three other Late Classic tombs were recovered from Structures A34, a northern building, and Structure A38, another eastern building, during the 1992 field season (D. Chase and A. Chase 1996:66). The basal tomb in Structure A37 had a painted capstone dating the construction of that chamber to either A.D. 577 or A.D. 582 (D. Chase and A. Chase 1996:75); it had been reentered and two additional bodies accompanied by pottery had been placed in the tomb some 100 years later (D. Chase and A. Chase, 1996, 2003). Areal clearing of the entire southeastern and southern edifices, Structures A38 and A39 were carried out in 1992, 1993, and 1995; these investigations recovered Late Classic and Terminal Classic remains. However, a deep excavation through the last plaza floor was made in 1993 behind Structure A38, penetrating almost 2 m of sterile marl before encountering a constructed wall. With the exception of slight investigation beneath the upper plaza floor to the front of both Structures A37 and 38 that encountered two Late Classic caches and two Late Classic burials, no further penetrating excavations were made into this plaza.

The investigations that were undertaken in the Central Acropolis in 2015 succeeded in demonstrating that the plaza fill wase full of Late Preclassic sherd material, but the central plaza excavation encountered an intact tomb that dated to the early Late Classic Period. The tomb was

in line with the central axis of Structure A34. Excavation of this chamber effectively shut down the ability to get through the upper fills to earlier architectural remains. Investigations during 2016 reopened the central plaza investigation and continued this excavation down to bedrock.

Yet another area of interest during 2016 was the raised area and constructions on the western side of Caana. During 2015, two trenches placed into the Structure B36 terrace had exposed the corners of an earlier structure and the long Structure B37 also had its western face exposed. During 2016, excavations continued in both of these locales. Structure B37 had the interior of the building investigated in an attempt to ascertain function. The two investigations that were undertaken on the B36 platform in 2015 (and that were 7 m apart) were connected to expose the front face of the buried structure. This earlier building was axially penetrated. Two Protoclassic-Early Classic burials were recovered in the fill just east of the southeast corner of this building in 2004 and an Early Classic tomb that was recovered in the plaza fill that same year that is on axis to the buried edifice (2004 field report available at www.caracol.org).

Two previously excavated residential groups were specifically selected for investigation because each had been the locus of recovered Protoclassic burials. During 2015, the eastern building in the residential group that is nicknamed "Ultimo" and that is located directly southeast of the Central Acropolis was investigated. A series of interments and caches were recovered in this excavation. The earliest burial found during 2015 dated to the Early Classic Period and one of the caches was also likely of Early Classic date; however, the majority of the recovered deposits were of Late Classic date. During 2016, excavation took place in the second residential group in the walled portion of the site immediately southeast of the Caracol epicenter. This second group had been cursorily investigated in 1993 and 1994; a collapsed tomb had been excavated within Structure B118 and a small test pit had been placed in the fronting plaza. The Structure B118 tomb contained an intact Protoclassic interment with ceramic vessels (reported on below) and a series of deposits dating to the Late Classic Period were found in the plaza in front

of this building (also included below). During 2016, four buildings were excavated within this double-group with a total of five trenches, all of which went to bedrock.

Excavations are described below in order of Operation number.

Walled Residential Group: Structures B113-B125

The southeastern epicenter limit of Caracol is defined by a formal wall. This wall borders the entry of the Machete Causeway into the downtown precinct and extends to the sink known as "Reservoir C." Two gateways penetrate the northern side of the wall and the western extent of this wall borders the Machete Causeway, ending in a lower balustrade that is bisected by a small via that leads into a residential group arranged around two conjoined plazas (see Figure 2), This double-plaza residential group was given the nickname "Walled" when it was preliminarily investigated in 1993 and 1994. The southern plaza is elevated above the northern plaza and contains taller constructions. The longest elevated construction, labeled as Structures B118 and B119 on the Caracol map, was penetrated by three trenches during the 2016 field season to determine construction activity and sequence for this edge of the southern plaza (Figure 3). One trench centered on Structure B118 and was placed over an already excavated collapsed tomb; a second was placed axially to Structure B119; and, the third was placed in between Structures B118 and B119 (Figure 4). This intermediate excavation demonstrated that Structures B118 and B119 were consolidated into a single building during the late Late Classic Period, but that prior to this era they had been separate structures linked by a lower platform surface. In the northern plaza of this residential group, axial trenches were made into Structures B115 and B116. Based on the recovered archaeological data, it appears that the northern plaza was a Late Classic addition to a pre-existing southern plaza; the southern plaza appears to have been initially established in the early part of the Early Classic Period.

Structure B118

Structure B118 rises 1.6 m above its associated plaza area. There are at least two different building stages indicated in the archaeological record. The first version of the building was

constructed in the early Early Classic Period and the substructure would have been more than 1 m in height; a reconstructable olla dating to this era (Fig. 23) was recovered in the fill for this building. The second version of Structure B118 was likely constructed in the early part of the Late Classic Period. Structure B118 is associated with 2 tombs, 3 burials, 7 caches, and 2 other problematic deposits. One tomb was found open and collapsed during mapping in 1985. The scattering of human bone and teeth in the humus on the western site of Structure B118 indicates that some looting of this chamber had likely taken place. This tomb was excavated in 1993 (Operation C95B) along with two small test pits, one in the plaza in front of Structure B118 (Operation C95C) and another some 10 m behind the building (Operation C95D). In 1994 Operation C95C was extended to the south in order to fully recover an interment found in 1993. In order to fully contextualize these remains, an axial trench (Operation C95E) was placed over Structure B118; this excavation recovered a series of deposits that included another tomb that was excavated in 2016. The southern side of an earlier version of Structure B118 was recovered in a trench (Operation C95H) placed in between Structures B118 and B119.

Operation C95B was assigned for the excavation of a collapsed tomb within Structure B118 that was completed in 1993 (Figures 5-12). Based on the recovered remains, it would appear that the tomb may have been reused in the Late Classic Period without disturbing the original inhabitants of the chamber. However, the later additions to the chamber may have been looted as bone was scattered in the soil and rock in the upper part of the chamber as well as over the front of Structure B118. The recovered bone from within the upper chamber represents the remains of at least three individuals; two of these were older adults and 1 was an adult. Forty-one teeth were recovered scattered in the upper fill, including 3 teeth with inlays (jadeite) or inlay holes. As noted, additional scattered human remains were recovered in the humus of excv. C95C, indicating the possibility that at these three more individuals could have been in the upper part of the C95B chamber. Two largely reconstructable vessels were also recovered in the soil layer high in the collapse chamber (Figure 10); these are of late Early Classic to early Late Classic date.

S.D. C95B-1 was designated for the intact bodies and tomb contents that were in the lower chamber offset sealed in packed dirt (Figure 7-9). The bottom part of the chamber is offset to the east from the upper part of the chamber and it may be that it was originally intended to be used as a "double-decker" tomb like the one in front of Structure A6 (Satterthwaite 1954). The chamber measures 2.0 m in length by 0.72 m in width and reached an overall height of 1.7 m (with the lower offset chamber being approximately 0.5 m in height). The remains of two individuals were recovered within the lower offset chamber, one nearly on top of the other. One individual was an adult female with nearly all her teeth present, but exhibiting heavy calculous deposition. The other individual was a male older adult with ante-mortem tooth loss of the posterior teeth. Six ceramic vessels were associated with these two individuals (Figure 11); one was a tripod blackware bowl with feet modeled as peccary heads and 3 incised floating "ancestor" faces; a second was a modeled "candelero;" another had a handle modeled like a bird and is similar to inverted vessels found in Tikal burials of a similar date (e.g. Laporte and Fialko 1995). A rectangular mirror back was also recovered in the chamber.

Operation C95C was assigned to a test excavation, measuring 1.5 m (north-south) by 1.8 m (east-west), set in front of Structure B118 and tangent to its front step (see Figures 5 and 6). This excavation was carried out in 1993 and recovered 2 burials, 4 caches, and 1 reconstructable vessel (Figures 13-15); all were Late Classic in date. A large amount of fragmentary adult human bone was also recovered (cranial, rib, vertebrae, hand, foot, long bone) in the humus layers that included 31 teeth from minimally 2 adult individuals. These teeth show evidence of tartar, wear, caries, and shoveling with 1 central incisor being notched. A large bifacial point was also recovered in the northeast corner of the excavation (Figures 12d and 13). This operation was expanded to the south (1.5 m by 0.75 m in 1994 in order to recover the remainder of the burial encountered in the southwest corner of the original excavation.

S.D. C95C-1 was assigned to a lip-to-lip finger cache set immediately in front of the last step for Structure B118 (Figures 13 and 16a). The vessels encased two human phalanges (distal and medial).

S.D. C95C-2 was assigned for a small lidded cache pot found south of S.D. C95C-1 (Figures 14 and 16b) and, again, tangent to the lowest building step.

S.D. C95C-3 was assigned to a single larger cache vessel (Figures 14 and 16c) placed in plaza fill immediately west of both S.D. C95C-1 and S.D. C95C-2.

S.D. C95C-4 was assigned for a concentration of 7 obsidian eccentrics located above the northern capstones for S.D. C95C-6 (see Figure 14; 1 eccentric was catalogued within the latter deposit).

S.D. C95C-5 was assigned to a fragmentary vessel (Figure 16d) located in a pit in the northwest corner of the excavation (Figure 14).

S.D. C95C-6 was assigned to an interment located beneath capstones that ran north to south through the excavation. The interment contained the remains of 3 individuals (Figure 15). The first individual was an adult. The pelvis could not be sexed in the field, but the mastoid process was viewed in the field as being potentially male and the mandible appears to be male. Individual 2 was a very small subadult probably about 1 year old that was located west of Individual 1; no teeth were recovered for this individual. Individual 3 was an adult and consisted of piled bones near the feet of Individual 1; this individual's tibia shows strong muscle markings; no teeth accompanied Individual 3. Two ceramic bowls of early Late Classic date accompanied this burial (Figure 17).

S.D. C95C-7 was assigned for an interment that was located in the southwest corner of excv. C95C (Figure 15). During the 1993 field season, only 1 vessel (Figure 18f) and the feet of the individual were recovered along with 1 bone pin with hieroglyphs (Figure 19a) and 1 bone pin with a carved blood-letting scene (Figure 19b; A. Chase et al. 2008: Fig. 5). During the 1994 field season, an extension excavation recovered the rest of the body associated with the

feet; the 1994 material was catalogued as "S.D. C95C-8" to keep it separate from the 1993 material, but here we have collapsed these materials into the original designation. As a result of the 1994 excavation, it is known that 1 young adult about 15 years of age, and probably a male, was the primary individual in the interment; he was headless, but a head was located between his legs. One of the teeth, an upper right lateral incisor shows evidence of slight hypoplasia. The teeth from the head match the age of the body. The body of a 5 year old child was also included within this interment. The 1994 excavation recovered 4 more ceramic vessels (Figure 18b-e) associated with this interment as well as a modeled bird lid (Figure 18a) as well as a host of artifactual material that included another bone pin, a awl, a shell scoop, a carved shell, and an unmodified marine shell (Figure 19c-g).

Operation C95D was assigned to a test excavation located 9.7 m east of eastern limit of excv. C95E in Structure B118 and on the same axis (Figure 5). The test pit was dug during the 1993 field season and measured 1.5 m by 1.5 m; it was dug to bedrock. A significant amount of debris from a bone workshop was recovered at this locale.

Operation C95E was assigned to a trench placed over and on axis to Structure B118 during the 2016 field season (Figures 6 and 22). This tench measured 6.0 m (east-west) by 1.5 m (north-south); with C95C, the axial excavation into Structure B118 measures 7.8 m by 1.5 m. Fragmentary human remains were recovered in the humus on the front slope of the building and likely came whatever was in the upper part of S.D. C95B-1. The fragmentary remains recovered during 2016 include long bones (femur, tibia, and ulna), a phalange (finger), and 2 teeth (upper 3rd molar and lower right 2nd molar). Besides a few pieces of censerware (Figure 20a-c) and worked slate (Figure 25a, b), and some worked shell (Figure 25h, i, l), a beautiful carved shell of a deer (Figure 25n) was also found in the front humus and possibly came from the disturbed deposit. Excavations at the summit recovered the remains of a facing running east-west (Figure 21), possibly representing the interior wall of a small room at the summit of Structure B118. Two caches and a burial were recovered within the fill of the summit to the east of S.D. C95B-1

(Figures 26 and 30); a reconstructable vessel was recovered from in front of a step in the lower western slope of Structure B118 (Figure 29). Also found in the front of the building was a carved round pedestal (Figures 24 and 29) similar to those used as supports for Caracol's altars. Two series of capstones were also uncovered within the front building fill (Figures 30 and 31); the lower set capstone was set over the second tomb recovered within Structure B118 (Figures 32-34).

S.D. C95E-1 was assigned to a cache set in the building core immediately east of S.D. C95B-1 and possibly deposited during the construction of this chamber; it was located 2 m from the eastern extent of the excavation (Figure 26). The cache consisted of a lidded barrel (Figure 27a) that contained a concentration of layered shells (see cover illustration and Figure 28); a shell concretion (Figure 28c) was placed above 2 spondylus shells (Figure 28a, b) that in turn were above 13 marine shells, 4 larger shell fragments, and 7 smaller shell fragments. A bone that was carved to resemble a stingray spine (Figure 28bb) was set between the two spondylus shells.

S.D. C95E-2 was assigned for a lip-to-lip finger bowl cache (Figure 27c, d) that was placed within the summit fill approximately 80 cm from the eastern extent of the excavation. The cache was accompanied by an obsidian blade (Figure 25f).

S.D. C95E-3 (Figure) was assigned to a partial vessel (Figure) that was broken in front of a step that was immediately above S.D. C95E-5. It may be that this Late Classic vessel represents the final use of Structure B118 in antiquity.

S.D. C95E-4 (Figure 30) was assigned to a burial in fill in the rear of Structure B118 and sealed by a plaster floor. Head was to the south and feet were to the north. The interment is of an adult with substantial wear on the right lower lateral incisor and right upper incisor, as well as substantial use-wear on the lower lateral incisor. Because not all the teeth are present, it is not possible to definitively say that the individual did not have filed or inlaid teeth.

A shell disc (Figure 25m) was found in the mix of bone and is possibly associated with the burial; a partial finger bowl (Figure 27b) was also recovered in this location.

S.D. C95E-5 was assigned to a possible second chamber with capstones above S.D. C95E-6 (Figures 31 and 32). Both animal and human bone was recovered beneath the capstones, but no associated artifacts. The human bone consists of 1 upper right canine, approximately 10 long bone fragments, and a foot bone.

S.D. C95E-6 was assigned to a tomb (Figures 31-34) recovered from beneath the front stairway for Structure B118 set approximately 1 m west of S.D. C95B-1. The tomb measures 1.9 m north-south by 0.8 m east-west and was 0.92 m in height. Two articulated and flexed individuals, one with head to the north and the other with head to the south, comprised the the top bodies in the chamber (Figure 33). The remains of probably a dozen individuals had been placed within the chamber. The mandibles of 6 individuals were recovered in the chamber, but the number of incisors recovered yielded a minimum count of 9 individuals. Based on the loose teeth that were recovered, however, it would appear that there were actually up to 12 or more individuals in this chamber. Five individuals had filed teeth and 5 individuals also had inlays or inlay holes in their teeth; no individuals appear to have had both inlays and filing. All the bodies are of older adults and there were both females and males present; no subadult remains were recovered. Eight whole vessels and three partial vessels were recovered in the chamber (including pieces of a basal-flanged bowl; see Figure 35). One of the cylinder vases (Figures 35b and 36b) from this chamber resembles similar ones from Tikal (Culbert 1993: Fig. 57) and the crack-lacing on this vessel indicates that it was not easily replaced, meaning that it may have been an import from that area (see also the Caracol 2012 Season Report: Figure 113h at www.caracol.org for another example). The artifacts (Figure 37) within the tomb included 1 jadeite bead, 2 shell beads, 2 shell discs, 2 worked shells, 1 shell ring, 1 worked shell, 5 marine shells, 2 bone needles, 1 bone pin, 1 bone needle fragments, 1 bone pin fragment, 1 worked bone fragment, 1 limestone bar, 1 hematite mirror tile, pyrite fragments, malachite chunks, 1 obsidian blade, 9 obsidian blade

fragments, 2 obsidian flakes, 2 bone beads, 22 slate fragments, 17 quartzite drills, 3 quartzite drill blanks, 2 quartzite tools, and 214 other pieces of quartzite.

Operation C95H was assigned to a trench that was placed in between Structures B118 and B119 (Figures 20k-q, 38-43). The trench was located across the building on its midline between excvs. C95E and C95F measured 7.6 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south. This excavation succeeded in finding the earlier southern side for Structure B118 (Figure 39) and the archaeology suggests that the two buildings were actually joined as one single construction in the Late Classic Period. Originally Structures B118 and B119 had been linked together by a lower (but still raised) platform surface. Based on the extensive Late Classic pottery smashed on this surface (e.g., Figure 42a) as well as pieces of worked bone (Figure 43s,u-w), worked shell (Figure 43j,l,m,o-r), and other stone tools (Figure 43a,b,e); the middle portion of the structure was raised to form a single long platform between Structures B118 and B119 in the late Late Classic Period. Early Classic pottery was in evidence both in the plaza fill (Figure 42b) and above a burial placed into the fill for the earlier plaza (Figure 46). The lower platform in excv. C95H was not penetrated, but likely dates to this earlier temporal horizon.

S.D. C95H-1 was assigned for the burial of an individual (Figure 44) that was about 18 months at the time of death and that was recovered below the front step of the Late Classic construction. Two teeth were recovered as well as a worked bone pin (Figure 43x).

S.D. C95H-2 was assigned for a complete, inverted basal flanged bowl (Figures 44 and 46), dating to the Early Classic Period, placed in plaza fill directly above the capstones for S.D. C95H-4.

S.D. C95H-3 was assigned for a human burial set into the plaza fill in front of structure (Figure 45). The interment was accompanied by 1 bone bead (Figure 43cc) and 1 shell fragment (Figure 43n). The human remains are from a single adult. No sex identification is possible and no teeth were recovered.

S.D. C95H-4 was assigned for a human burial (Figure 45) below a set of capstones found in the fill for the plaza that ran into the southern excavation limit. Only the adult legs of an individual were recovered. These remains were accompanied by 1 polished greenstone (Figure 43z) and 2 shell fragments (Figure 43h, i). The basal-flanged bowl above the capstones dates the deposit to the Early Classic Period.

Structure B119

Structure B119 represented a visible rise on the south end of the platform that contained Structure B118 on its northern end (Figures 1 and 2). The latest version of the Structure B119 substructure only rose some 1.0 m above the latest plaza surface, but its earlier version likely rose in a set of fairly well preserved stairs to a height of 1.1 m above a very early plaza floor with a later 0.4 m high bench placed on the floor. Excavation showed that it was probably a unified construction with Structure B118 in the Late Classic Period, but that it was its own building on an earlier horizon, probably linked by an intermediate lower platform to Structure B118 during the Early Classic Period.

Operation C95F was assigned to a 1.5 m north-south by 6.65 m east-west trench set on axis to Structure B119 (Figures 20d-h, 47-52). The trench located at least three formal plaza surfaces in its western extent, as well as portions of the northern facing of a dismantled structure on the middle surface (Figure 49). The burial of a child was found above the lowest plaza surface in fill but beneath capstones (Figure 52).

S.D. C95F-1 was assigned to the burial of a subadult (Figure 52), who was approximately 4 years old at time of death. The body was recovered deep in the plaza in front of the structure and was covered by capstones. The child's head was to the south; only the upper portion of the body was recovered. The individual shows evidence of possible cribra orbitalia. One jadeite bead was recovered with the child beneath the mandible. Over 100 shell fragments (conch, whelk, spiny oyster, clam; Figure 51y-aa, jj-ll, qq-bbb, mm, oo) were located above the capstones and 6 were recovered in the area of the body.

Structure B115

Structure B115 is one of three small eastern constructions associated with the lower plaza in the Walled Residential Group (Figures 1 and 2). It is the middle building and only rises 0.6 m above the associated plaza. It was tested in order to get an approximation of when this northern plaza was occupied. All of the archaeological data suggest that it was constructed in a single phase in the Late Classic Period.

Operation C95G was an axial trench placed over Structure B115 (Figures 54-66). The trench measured 5.5 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south. Additionally, a 1.1 m by 1.1 m extension was made on the south side of the trench to fully expose the capstones (Figure 60)above S.D. C95G-2. An upper right human canine and some isolated human cranial and long bone fragments were recovered from fill in front of the structure.

S.D. C95G-1 was assigned to two cache vessels (Figures 56 and 58) that were recovered in the plaza fill immediately west of the front facing for Structure B115 (Figure 57). Three shell fragments (Figure 59a-c) may also be associated with this deposit.

S.D. C95G-2 was assigned to a narrow tomb recovered in the core of Structure B115 (Figures 56, 59d-i, and 60-62). The chamber had a step on its southern side and measured 2.25 m in length by ca. 0.65 m in width by 0.82 m in height. The remains of two individuals were recovered in this chamber. One was an older adult with dental resorption. The other was a subadult that was not older than 4 years of age at time of death. Not enough teeth were recovered to be able to tell whether the older adult had filing or inlays. Two early Late Classic ceramic vessels (Figure 62) were recovered from within this chamber along with several smaller artifacts (Figure 59d-i) that included 1 marine shell, 2 shell fragments, 1 worked bone, 3 fragmentary obsidian blades, 11 slate fragments, 3 chert drills, and 1 piece of modified slate (as well as multiple lithic pieces).

S.D. C95G-3 was assigned to a burial recovered in bedrock in front of Structure B115 (Figure 56 and 63-66). After excavation, the deposit appears to be in the northern edge of

an infilled tomb set into bedrock (Figure 63). During the 2017 field season, this locale will be further investigated. The remains of at least 2 individuals were recovered; both were likely older adults with substantial ante-mortem tooth loss. Probable evidence of inflammation or infection is visible on one set of long bones. Fourteen ceramic vessels (Figures 64 and 65) were recovered in the northern end of this chamber along with 1 ceramic figurine (Figures 64b and 65a). Artifactual materials from the interment (Figure 66) included 3 chert points, 1 worked jadeite ball, 1 shell disk, 2 worked shells, 1 drilled bone tube, 1 bone awl, 1 bone pin, 1 partial bone pin, 5 obsidian blades, 2 partial obsidian blades, 1 river cobble, 1 piece of worked bone, 3 slate fragments, and 5 chert flakes.

Structure B116

Structure B116 is the southernmost eastern structure in the northern plaza of the Walled Residential Group (Figures 1 and 2). The structure rises 0.9 m above its associated plaza. Excavation revealed that the construction appears to have been built in a single effort, presumably in the Late Classic Period.

Operation C95I was an axial trench into Structure B116 (Figures 53 and 67-69). The axial trench measured 4.3 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south. Besides finding a series of 4 steps associated with the latest building (Figure 68), two earlier plaza floors were also in evidence beneath the constructed edifice. Only limited artifactual material was recovered (Figures 20r and 69) and no formal deposits were found within the structure.

Northeast Acropolis: Structures B30-B34

Immediately east of Caana and rising some 5 m above the enclosed plaza to its south, Caracol's Northeast Acropolis has been investigated over the course of a series of field seasons (Figure 70). Excavation first began in 1994 and then continued in 1995; it was further investigated from 2009 through 2011 and most recently in 2015 and 2016. A stabilization program was sponsored by the Caracol Archaeological Project and was undertaken by the Institute of Archaeology during 2012. During the 2010 field season a deep excavation into the

plaza of the Northeast Acropolis recovered an early Early Classic Period cremation that was representative of Teotihucan traditions (A. Chase and D. Chase 2011). Excavation at the front base of Structure B34 in 1994 and 1995 had recovered both the side of a Late Preclassic building and a Protoclassic burial dating to ca. A.D. 150 that was cut into this construction (A. Chase and D. Chase 2005), as well as a host of other caches and burials of Late Classic date; a Protoclassic and another Late Preclassic structure were uncovered in a test-pit placed in front of Structure B33, the northern building in the Northeast Acropolis, in 1995. To determine the stratigraphic relationship between Structure B34 and the 2010 cremation, a trench linking the two excavations was excavated during the 2015 field season, revealing a series of caches that predated and postdated the Teotihuacan burial as well as a dismantled Late Preclassic building.

Structure B34

Structure B34 is the ancestral shrine located that dominates the eastern side of the Northeast Acropolis. Even in its ruined state, Structure B34 rises 5.95 m above its associated plaza (Figure 71). The major excavation of this building was undertaken in 1994, when an axial trench was placed into the construction fill of the building and a deep plaza excavation was made to the front of the building (Figure 72). The plaza excavation was continued to bedrock in 1995, recovering a Late Preclassic building, the rear (northeastern) corner of which was found during the 2016 field season. As a result of the 1994 and 1995 excavations, 2 tombs, 4 burials, and at least 8 caches were recovered in association with this building. However, the front interior of the building was never fully penetrated because of a Terminal Classic burial that was located immediately behind the front balk for the structure. This area was finally excavated in 2016 (Figure 73), resulting in the recovery of at least 2 more caches, 1 new burial, and another vessel to go with a burial recovered in 1994. The northeast corner of the Late Preclassic building found in 1995 was also excavated. However, no significant deposits of early Early Classic date were found in the front fill of Structure B34.

Operation C117G was designated for the lower excavation inside the core of Structure B34 within the original axial trench placed over the building in 1994 (Figure 72). The original trench was reopened (Figure 71) in order to make the deeper penetration into the fill for Structure B34 behind the frontal balk for the building (Figures 73 and 74). Operation C117G officially measured some 6.5 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south. The re-excavation of excv. C117C recovered a series of artifactual materials in the original south wall of the excavation that were designated as S.D. C117G-1 (Figure 76a-f) and S.D. C117G-2 (Figures 75 and 76g). The actual deeper excavation, officially designated as excv. C117G, began as a trench 2.90 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south behind the balk for the building. This trench became progressively smaller the deeper it went because of the precariousness of the building's dry core fill. It did succeed in recovering a new Late Classic burial and a cached spondylus shell (Figure 77 and 78a) as well as series of 4 earlier floors that capped the buried Late Preclassic building.

S.D. C117G-1 was assigned to a partial Late Classic dish (Figure 76g) that was recovered in the south wall of the original Structure B34 trench. The dish was accompanied by some human bone. The position of this dish and the bone indicate that this vessel was likely a second pottery vessel accompanying S.D. C117C-1, recovered during the 1994 field season in association with a Late Classic fluted pottery cylinder (Figure 76h).

S.D. C117G-2 was assigned for a set of lip-to-lip finger cache vessels (Figure 76a-f) that were recovered as a result ofcleaning the original southern wall of excv. C117C; all were located just under the humus level covering Structure B34.

S.D. C117G-3 was assigned to a burial set immediately behind and below the constructed front balk for Structure B34 (Figure 79). The head of the individual was to the south and was not recovered; the legs indicate a possible subadult. A ceramic dish accompanied the burial (Figure 80b) and a perfume bottle (Figure 80a), designated in the field as S.D. C117G-5, was located a slight distance north of the burial but likely was associated with this interment.

S.D. C117G-4 was assigned to a single large spondylus shell (Figures 77 and 78a) that was set into the deep fill on axis to Structure B34.

S.D. C117G-5 was originally assigned to a ceramic perfume bottle (Figure 80a) that has been reassigned to S.D. C117G-3.

Central Acropolis: Structures A33-A40

Located in the west-central epicenter is the Central Acropolis. The platform supporting this complex rises approximately 6 m above the surrounding plaza levels upon which the rest of the Caracol epicentral structures are placed. Excavation during 2016 showed that bedrock is significantly higher beneath this complex, being only 4 m below the summit plaza. The Central Acropolisis plaza is surmounted by 9 mapped buildings (Figure 81). Two pyramids dominate the northern (A34) and eastern (A37) sides of the Central Acropolis; both pyramids rise 7 m above the summit of the acropolis plaza. A looted tomb, dating to the early part of the Late Classic Period, was encountered in the eastern pyramid in 1985; further excavations on axis to and at the base of Structure A37 in 1992 recovered a large lip-to-lip cache secreted behind the front steps of the pyramid, a Late Classic sacrificial burial immediately west of the lowest step, and a pair of face cache vessels in the plaza. Excavation of Structure A34 in 1992 recovered a re-entered tomb beneath the front stairway of the building with vessels dating to different time spans within the Late Classic Period; an emptied and collapsed tomb chamber was also found at the summit of the building (see D. Chase and A. Chase 1996). Structures A33, A38, and A39 each rise approximately 3 m above the summit plaza. Structure A38, investigated during 1992, included a Late Classic Period tomb within its frontal balk and a sacrificial burial in the plaza immediately in front of the balk; following excavation, this building was stabilized. The southernmost building of the Central Acropolis, Structure A39, was investigated during the 1992, 1993, and 1995 field seasons. Structure A39 has been stabilized and is an elaborate Late Classic Period palace structure consisting of 3 parallel rooms bounded on each end by a tandem room. Two earlier structures in a state of disrepair were encountered east of Structure A38 and two small platform

pads occupy the northeastern corner of the summit area. Excavations were carried out within the plaza of the Central Acropolis in 2015 and 2016 in an attempt to encounter earlier construction levels and buildings. What these excavations revealed is that there was a single earlier floor immediately above bedrock and that the entire complex was raised in a single effort prior to the early Late Classic Period. However, all of the visible constructions were built in the Late Classic Period.

Operation C206B was assigned to an areal excavation measuring 3 m north-south by 4 m east-west placed in the center of the plaza of the Central Acropolis so as to align with the axes of Structure A34 and Structure A37 (Figures 81-88). Two plaster floors were encountered in the excavation, one approximately 0.5 m below ground surface and the other approximately 0.7 m below ground surface. Deeper excavation in the eastern edge of the excavation revealed a marl-like fill with Preclassic ceramics. During 2015, the excavation did not penetrate the depths of the plaza because of the need to concentrate effort on the tomb located in the southwest corner of the investigation (Figure 84). During the 2016 field season, this excavation was extended to bedrock some 4 m below the current ground surface (Figures 83 and 84). The excavation was undertaken in the northern section of excv. C206B and measured 4 m east-west by 1.5 m north-south. A final plastered floor was found immediately above bedrock and the fill was full of Preclassic sherd material (Figure 87). A single animal burial (Figures 82 and 86) was recovered immediately above bedrock and sealed by the lowest plaza floor.

S.D. C206B-1 was assigned to the articulated, but headless, skeleton of an animal (Figures 82 and 86) buried on the bedrock 32 cm from the southern excavation limit and 29 cm from the eastern excavation limit (and sealed by the lower plaza floor). The animal was identified by Wendy Teeter from a photograph as potentially being a dog, raccoon, or coati, but she noted that the teeth were needed for a firm identification; no teeth were recovered.

West of Caana: Structures B36 and B37

Located to the west of Caana is an elevated platform that rises approximately 2 m above the B Plaza. This platform supports Structure B36 on its southern edge and it associated frontal terrace (Figure 1). Structure B36 was excavated during the 2004 field season and proved to be Late Classic in date. The building faced north and commanded a broad platform that extended north some 30 m from the base of the structure. Multiple excavations were made on the Structure B36 Platform in 2004, recovering a Terminal Classic structure and lines-of-stone dating to the same era, as well as a series of early Early Classic interments that were sealed in the platform fill. Excavations in 2015 and 2016 recovered a buried construction within this platform (Figures 89 and 91). Structure B37 was located immediately north of the Structure B36 platform and extended to the north for the rest of the extent of Caana's basal platform, some 75 m (Figure 107). During the 2004 field season, the southeast corner and a small portion of the building interior of Structure B37 was investigated and a small trench was excavated in the alley between the Structure B36 platform and Structure B37.

Structure B36 Platform

The summit of the Structure B36 Platform measures 23 m east-west by 29.5 m north south. Excavations into the platform in 2004 recovered an Early Classic tomb (in excv. C168E) and 2 Protoclassic burials (in excv. C168H) in the platform fill. Terminal Classic building pads surmount the surface of the platform (Figure 90) and the humus levels of the platform contain modeled-carved ceramics (see Figure 20t-x), confirming the dating of these line-of-stone buildings. Excavations were undertaken into the platform during 2015 in an attempt to find other early burials; these were not found, but a buried structure was encountered; this building had its entire front exposed during the 2016 field season and the building was also axially trenched (Figures 91 and 94). The upper front projection of this structure measures 10.4 m and extends 1.85 m east of the actual building platform (Figure 92). The platform itself must be at least 15 m broad. A 0.5 m plinth borders the eastern projection and is 0.4 m in height. The sherd material

within the platform fill overlying this structure confirms the earlier dating of the buried substructure (e.g., Figure 105). During 2016, the plaster floor on which this building rests was also penetrated, resulted in the recovery of an even earlier platform facing (Figures 93 and 94).

Operation C207E was assigned for an excavation that ran along the front of the buried building and extended 3.25 m east of this construction, eventually linking excv. C207B and excv. C207C in a single areal excavation (Figures 20s-x, 94-99). Initially, excv. C207E measured 3.25 m north-south and 4.9 m on its western side and 5.5 m on its eastern side; after the section was drawn, the remaining balk was also removed (Figures 91, 94), recovering lines-of-stone dating to the Terminal Classic Period (Figure 95). The excavation was designed to expose the front of the buried platform and especially its intact stairway. While only a single burial was formally identified within this investigation (Figure 97), other human bone was recovered that represents a child of 4 years or less in age (represented by a cranial frag and a mandible frag with a deciduous premolar). A deeper excavation measuring 2 m by 0.9 m was placed on axis to the buried platform and penetrated the lower plaza floor, finding the buried western edge of an even earlier platform (Figures 93, 94, and 96). This buried platform was over 1 m in height.

S.D. C207E-1 was assigned for an extended body placed in the dry core fill directly in front of the platform and south of the platform corner (Figure 97). Pieces of a broken ceramic dish (Figure 98) may have accompanied the burial. The burial was of a single individual who was an adult male with head to the south and "tau" filing on the lower teeth.

Operation C207G was designated for a 6.1 m long by 2 m wide axial excavation undertaken into the core of the earlier platform buried within the Structure B36 platform (Figures 93, 94, 100-102). The Terminal Classic re-use of the Structure B36 platform was confirmed by the recovery of 2 partial ceramic vessels (Figure 101) from this era in the humus of the trench. No formal deposits were encountered within the axis of the building, but a series of earlier steps and their resurfacing were in evidence in the eastern extent of this excavation (Figures 94 and 100).

Operation C207H was assigned to an areal excavation in line with the northern limit of the C207G trench. This investigation was carried out to determine if there was anything in the upper platform fill on the direct axis of the buried platform. This excavation measured 2.3 m north-south on its eastern side, 2.9 m north-south on its western side, and was 3.5 m long (east-west). No architectural features were encountered in this excavation, as it simply straightened out the longer section.

Operation C207F was assigned for a 4 m east-west by 2 m north-south excavation placed on axis to the buried platform and 6.03 m west of the western extent of C207H (Figures 103-107). It was dug down to the level of the earlier platform floor (Figure 104). The floor was only found along the western extent of the excavation where a facing was also found (Figure 105). Unlike the dry core fill encountered in most of the B36 platform, this part of the platform consisted mostly of earth fill. This fill yielded an abundance of early Early Classic sherd materials (Figure 106) as well as some artefactual material (Figure 107). The fill also produced 1 human cranial fragment, 1 human metacarpal, and 1 human upper right canine.

Structure B37

Structure B37 measures almost 75 m in length and runs north-south, being situated at the western base of Caana (Figure 108). The structure rises 0.5 m in height and is approximately 8 m wide. Excavations on the southern end of Structure B37 in 2004 recovered pieces of a large storage jar and faunal remains of deer. The long length of the building is unusual for Caracol, but is reminiscent of constructions at other sites that have been interpreted to be royal kitchens (A. Chase and D. Chase 2014:10). The relatively large number of mano and metate fragments recovered in the excavations undertaken in 2015, in combination with the faunal material, lends support to the presumption that Structure B37 was indeed an epicentral food preparation area. During the 2016 field season two areal excavations were placed on top of the building in order to try to gather information that would definitively answer the function of Structure B37. These excavations did not succeed in finding artifactual materials associated with the upper building

surface, but they did show that the superstructure for the building and the rear facing were in a bad state of repair. Penetration of the core of Structure B37 showed that it had been constructed during the Late Classic Period, in one case directly over a smashed assemblage of utilitarian pottery (Figures 112 and 113). Penetration of the floor surface upon which Structure B37 was built yielded materials of early Early Classic date similar to those found in excv. C207F.

Operation C208G was assigned to an areal excavation that measured 5.0 m north-south by 11.0 m east-west and that was placed 4.05 m north of the southern wall for Structure B37 (Figures 108-116). The rear wall of Structure B37 was recovered in this investigation, but in very poor repair (Figures 109 and 111). The rear interior of the building was excavated down to the underlying platform floor, finding reconstructable vessels lying on this earlier surface (Figures 109 and 112). This earlier platform floor was also penetrated and produced Early Classic sherd material as well as an earlier, buried east-west facing (Figure 115). Fragmentary human bone was found distributed throughout the Late Classic fill for Structure B37, but no discrete interments could be identified.

S.D. C208G-1 was assigned for almost complete pottery vessels (Figure 113) found smashed on the underlying platform floor and covered by the fill for Structure B37 (Figures 109 and 112). The majority of these buried pottery vessels had a utilitarian function and would have been consistent with a work area.

Operation C208H was assigned for a second areal excavation into Structure B37 (Figures 108 and 117-121). This investigation was placed 15 m north of the northern limit for excv. C208G and measured 3.0 m north-south by 11.0 m east-west. This excavation also penetrated the earlier surface upon which Structure B37 had been built (Figure 118); while the material in the core of Structure B37 was Late Classic (Figures 120 and 121) in date, the ceramics beneath the surface on which the building was constructed were Early Classic.

Significance

The archaeological investigations at Caracol that were undertaken during 2016 succeeded in finding earlier deposits. The deep excavation into the core of the Central Acropolis found a single formal floor immediately above bedrock, indicating that this plaza had been raised some 2.8 m in a single effort that likely dated to end of the Early Classic Period, re-using fill that contained a significant amount of Preclassic sherd material. The deeper penetration within Structure B34 in the Northeast Acropolis demonstrated that a significant deposit of Early Classic date had not been placed beneath the frontal stair of the earlier construction, something that would have been consistent with other Caracol patterns (e.g. D. Chase and A. Chase 2011). Further excavations in the Structure B36 platform confirmed that the platform had been constructed in the Early Classic Period and that there were significant earlier architectural constructions beneath the floor level that supported the platform. Excavations beneath Structure B37 also demonstrated the earlier dating of the supporting platform floor. Excavations within the double-plaza Walled Residential Group produced a mix of Early and Late Classic burials in and around the southern plaza and only Late Classic materials in the northern plaza. A significant amount of Early Classic material was recovered in the northern plaza area, indicating that this portion of the residential group would have been contemporary with the Teotihuacan presence within the Northeast Acropolis. When contextualized within previous Caracol research, the 2015 and 2016 excavation have provided significant new information that aids in the resolution of questions about the independent development of Classic Maya civilization at Caracol and the nature of Maya contact at Caracol with other Mesoamerican cultures. It is suspected that the 2017 field season will also add to this picture and help to further define the manifestations and kinds of cultural contact in the archaeological record, making the results of this archaeological work of interest to a broad spectrum of researchers working in Mesoamerica and beyond.

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TABLE 1:
Caracol Project Members: 2016 Field Season

Staff:

Directors

Arlen F. Chase	C1
Diane Z. Chase	C2

Lab and Field Director

Amy Morris	C111

Field Supervisors:

Adrian S.Z. Chase	C154
Angelica Nicole Costa	C221
Cheryl Foster	C211
Eric Michael Patz	C223
Jacklyn Rumberger	C225
Max Seidita	C207

Field Associate:

Benjamin Goldblatt	C233

Field Assistants:

Troy Cunio	C234
Texanna Day	C235
Danielle Young	C236

Senior Clean-Up Crew:

Maureen Carpenter	C56

Belizean Labor:

Kitchen

Angelica Meneses
Linda Aurora Meneses
Rosita Isadora Lolwani
Amanda Lizeth Hernandez

Field

Saul Galeano
Jaime Iglesias
Asterio Moralez
Roberto Pacheco
Julio Manuel Trujillo
Juan Carlos Howe
Jose Eduardo Castellanos
Gerson Salatiel Lopez
Erwin Santiago Choc
Gustavo Adolfo Mendez
Gustavo Adolfo Mendez, Jr.

Figures

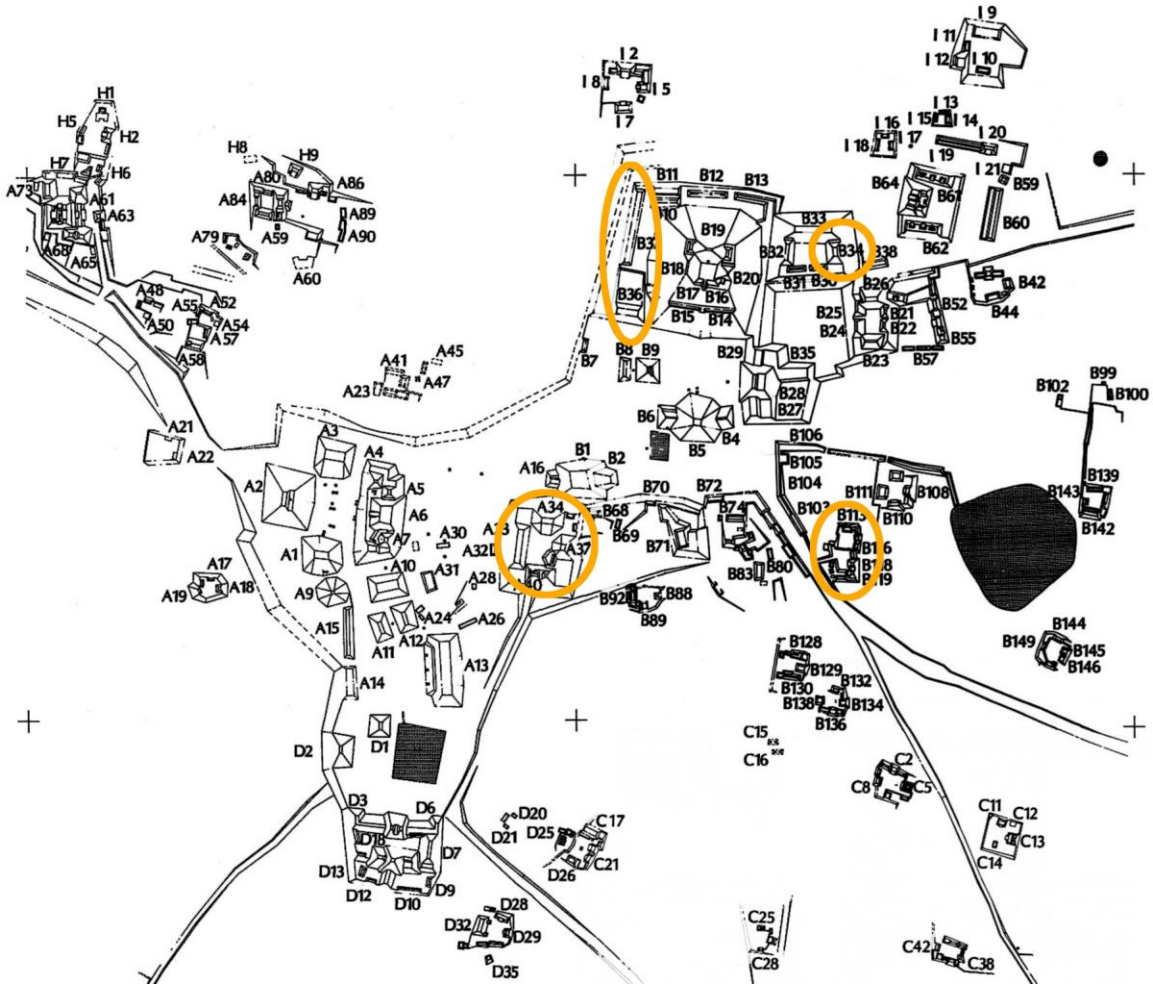

Figure 1: Map of Caracol epicenter showing the location of the excavations undertaken during the 2016 field season.

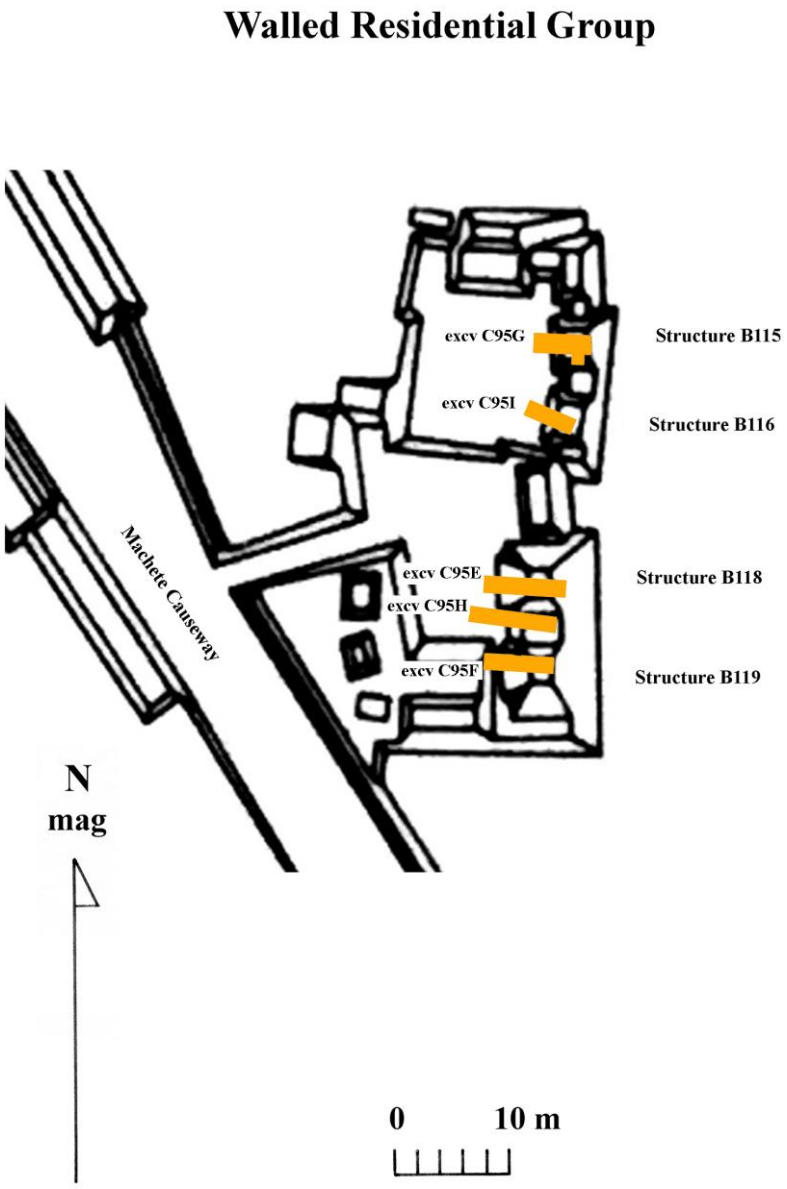

Figure 2: Plan of Walled Group, showing location of Operations C95E, C95F, C95G, C95H, and C95I.

Figure 3: Photograph of Walled Group looking north with Structure B118 in the foreground, showing Operations C95F, C95H, and C95E (south to north).

Figure 4: Photographs of Operation C95F (upper), Operation C95E (lower left), and Operation C95H (lower left).

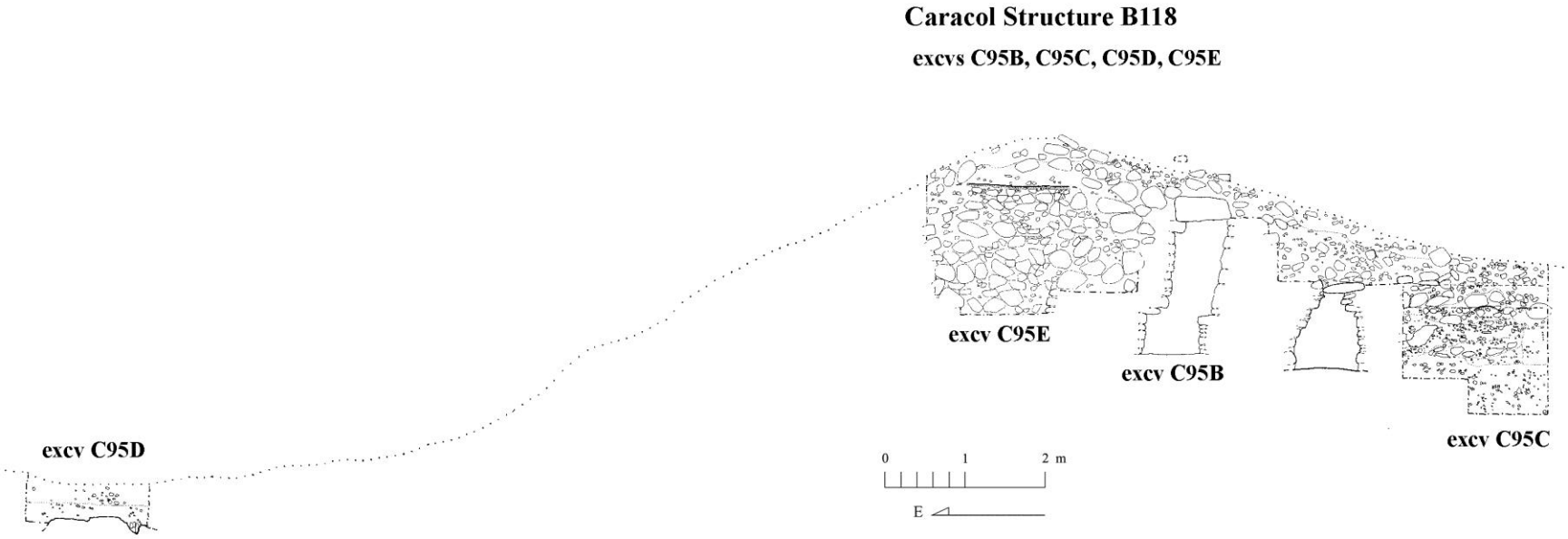

Figure 5: Expanded section showing Operation C95D behind and on axis to Structure B118.

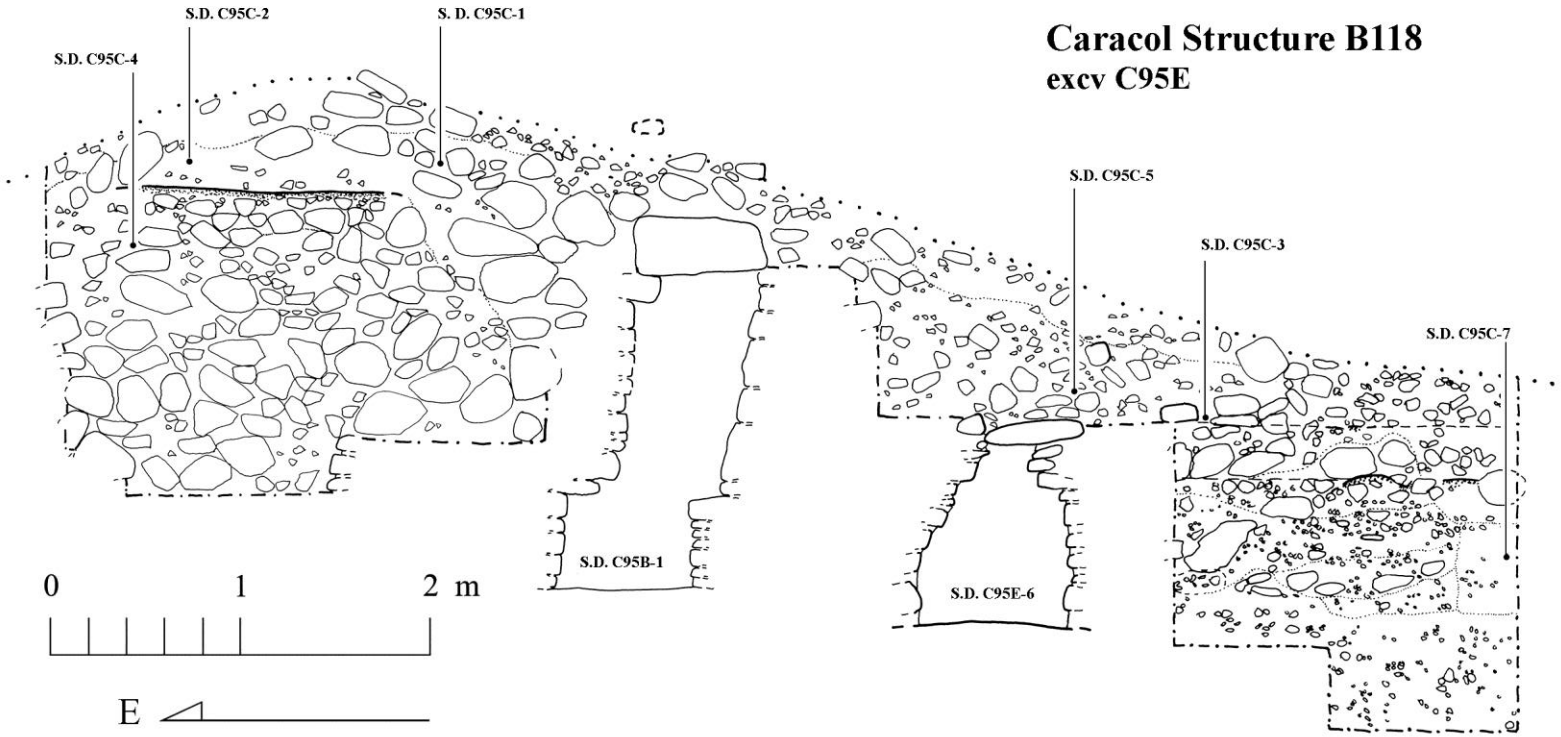

Figure 6: Section through Structure B118 showing Operations C95B, C95C, and C95E.

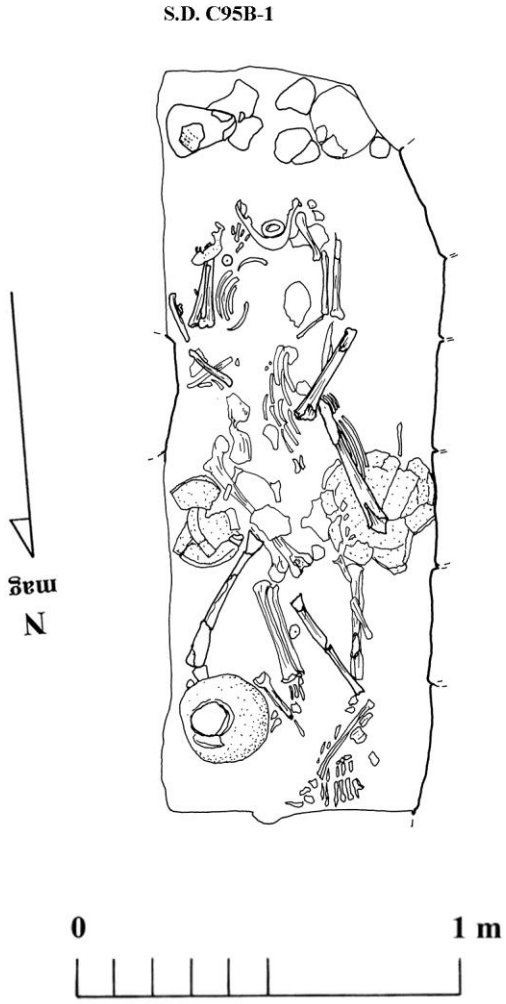

Figure 7: Plan of S.D. C95B-1.

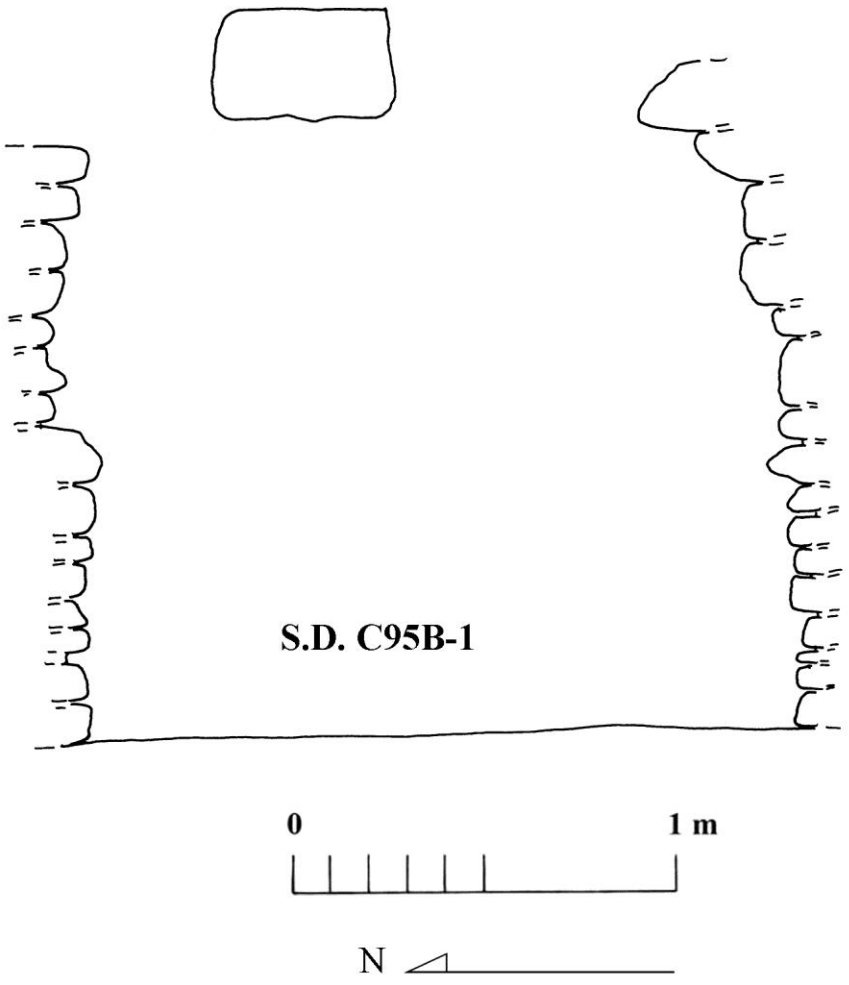

Figure 8: North-south cross-section of chamber for S.D. C95B-1.

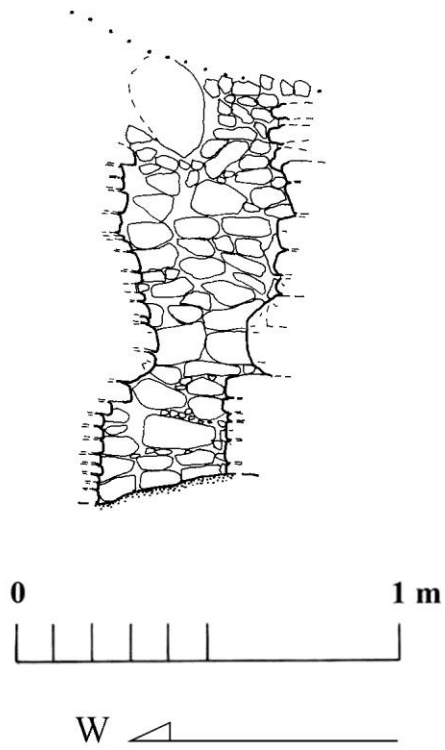

Figure 9: Elevation of south wall of chamber for S.D. C95B-1.

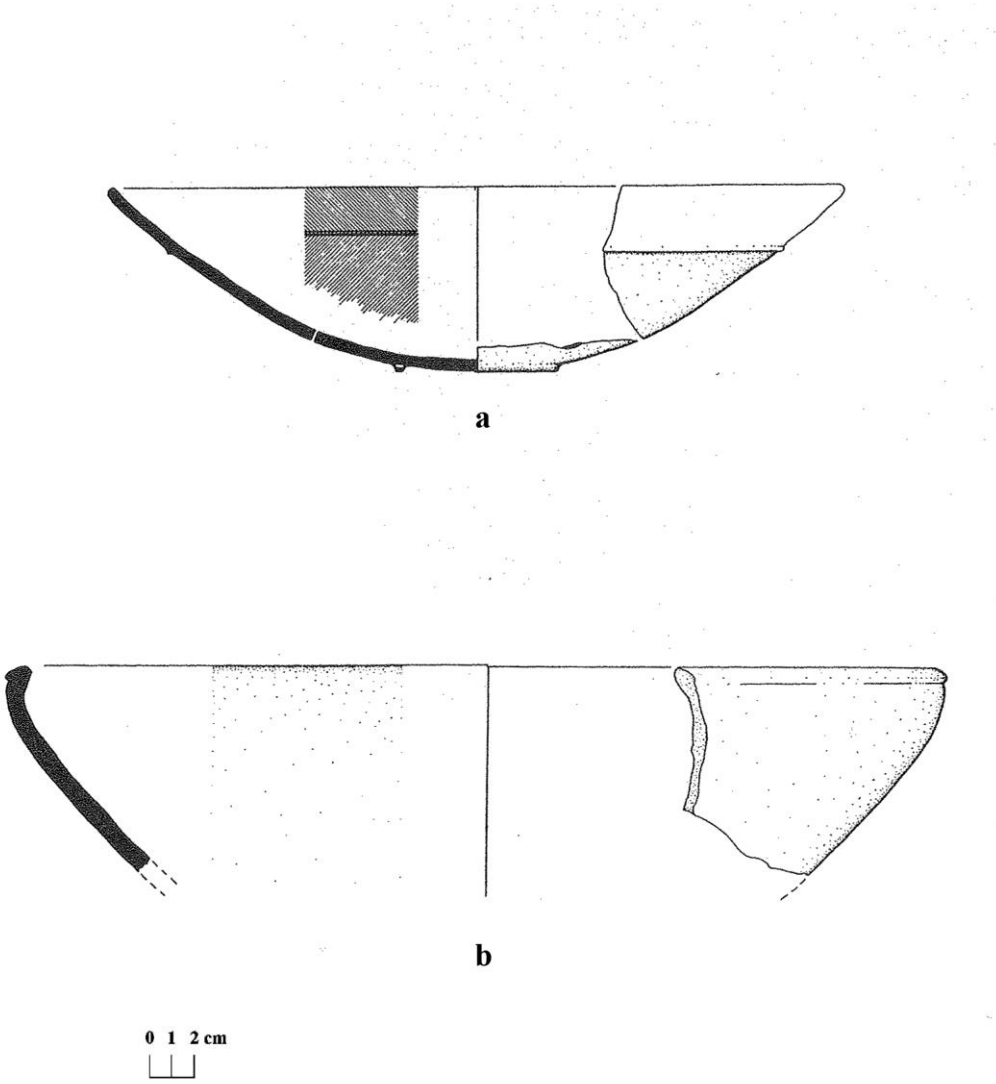

Figure 10: Ceramic vessels from upper part of S.D. C95B-1 chamber: a. Pajarito Orange Poychrome; b. Valentin Unslipped.

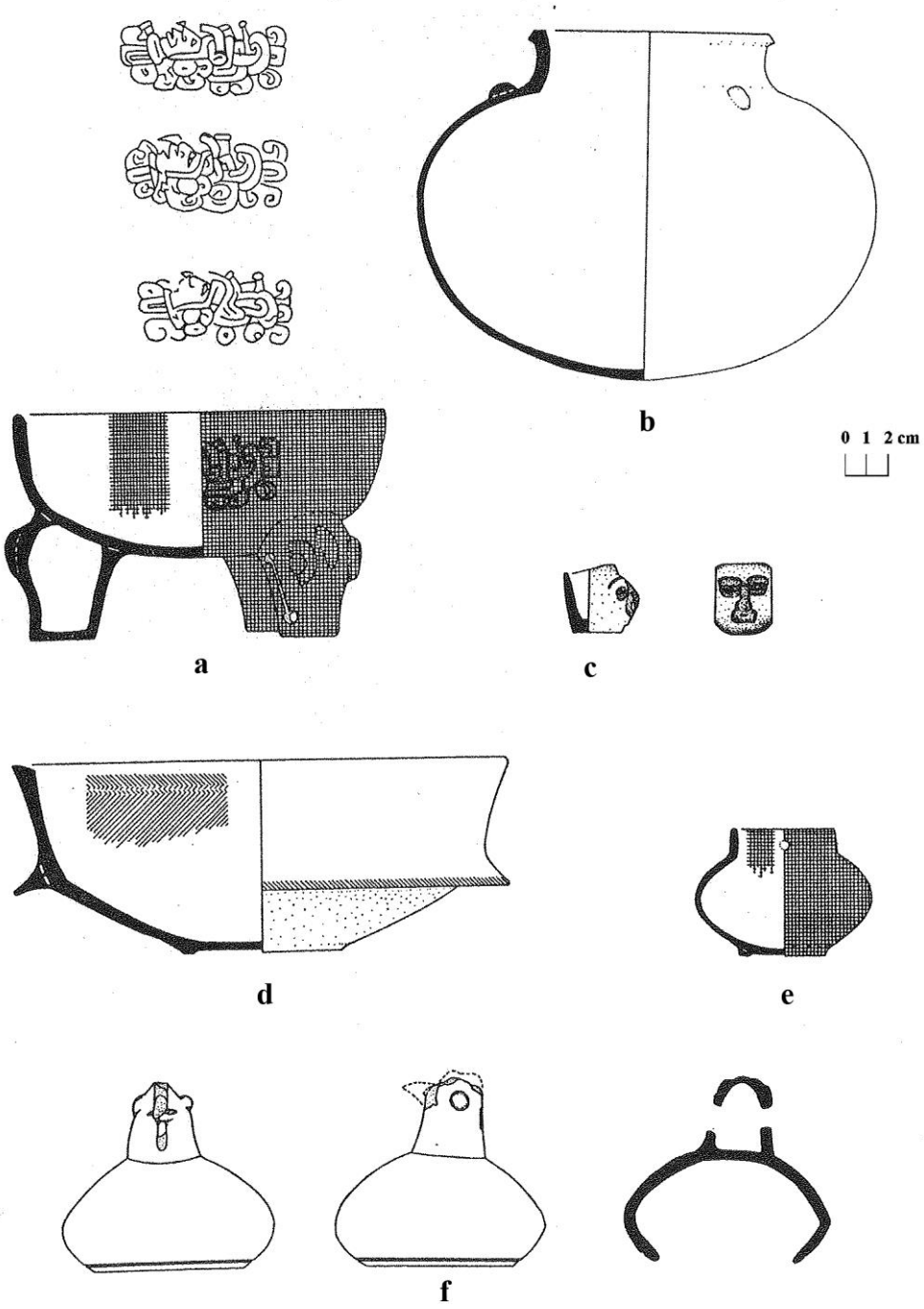

Figure 11: Ceramic vessels associated with the lower section of S.D. C95B-1: a. related to Pucte Brown; b. Quintal Unslipped c. undesignated type; d. Dos Arroyos Orange Polychrome; e. Pucte Brown; f. related to Pucte Brown.

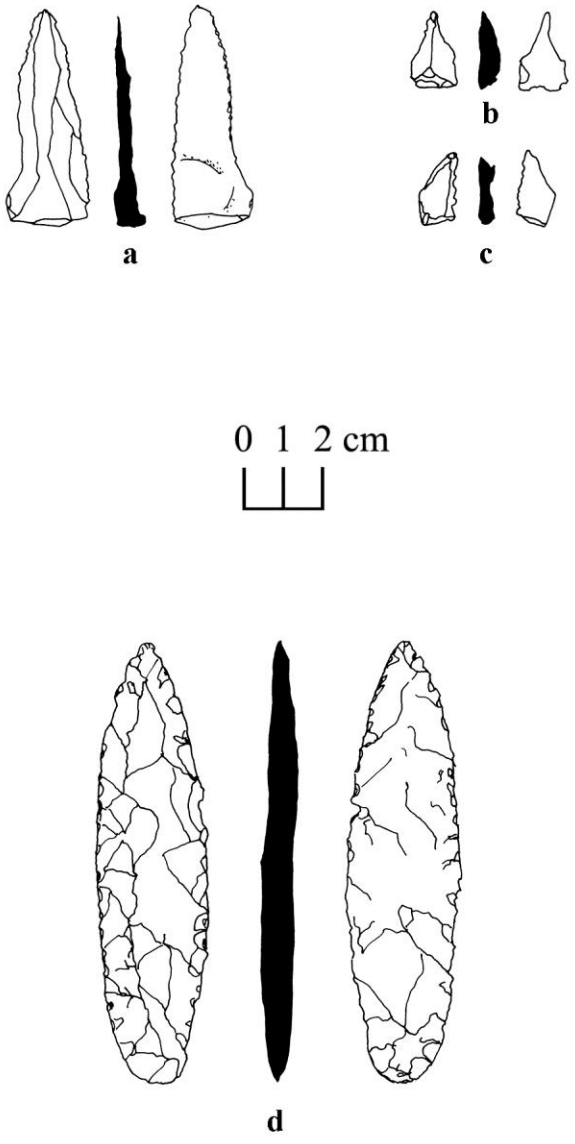

Figure 12: Artifactual material from Operations C95B (a-c) and C95C (d): a. chert flake tool fragment; b, c. quartzite drills; d. chert biface.

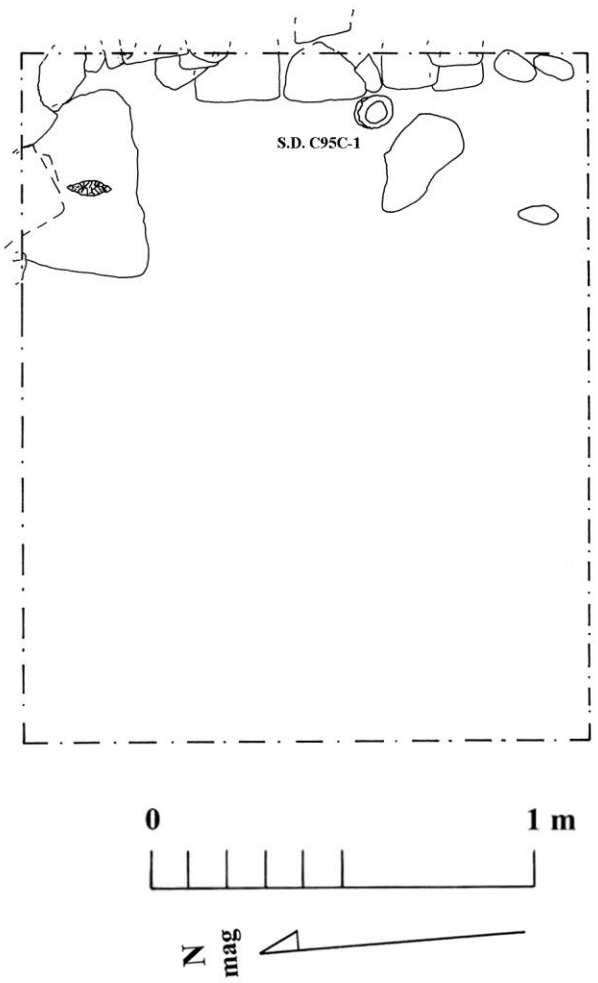

Figure 13: Upper plan of Operation C95C showing location of S.D. C95C-1 and a chert biface (Fig. 12d).

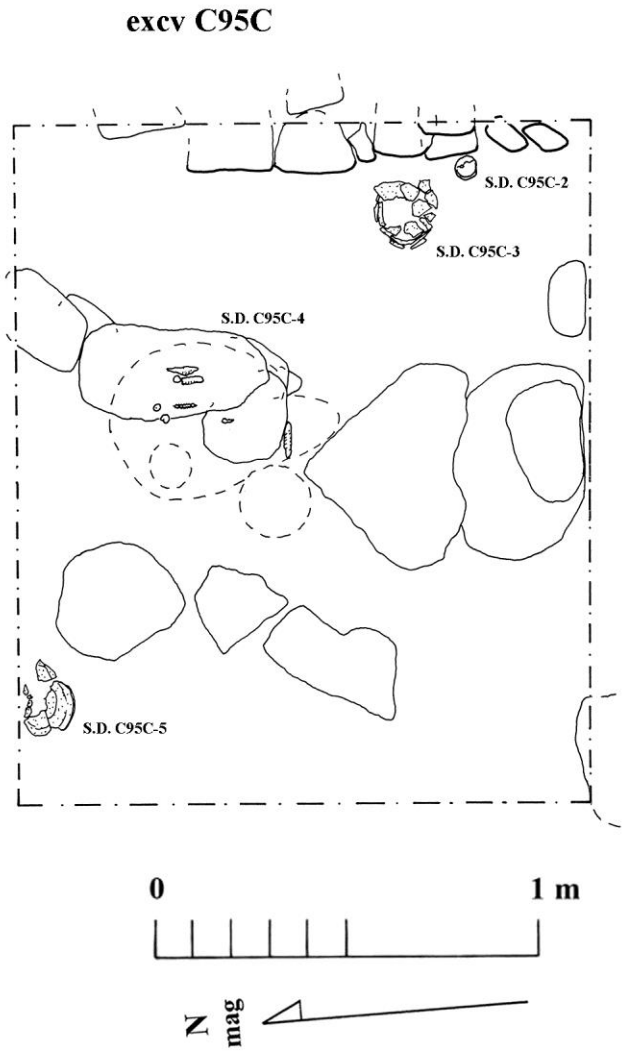

Figure 14: Middle plan of Operation C95C showing location of S.D.s C95C-2, C95C-3, C95C-4, and C95C-5.

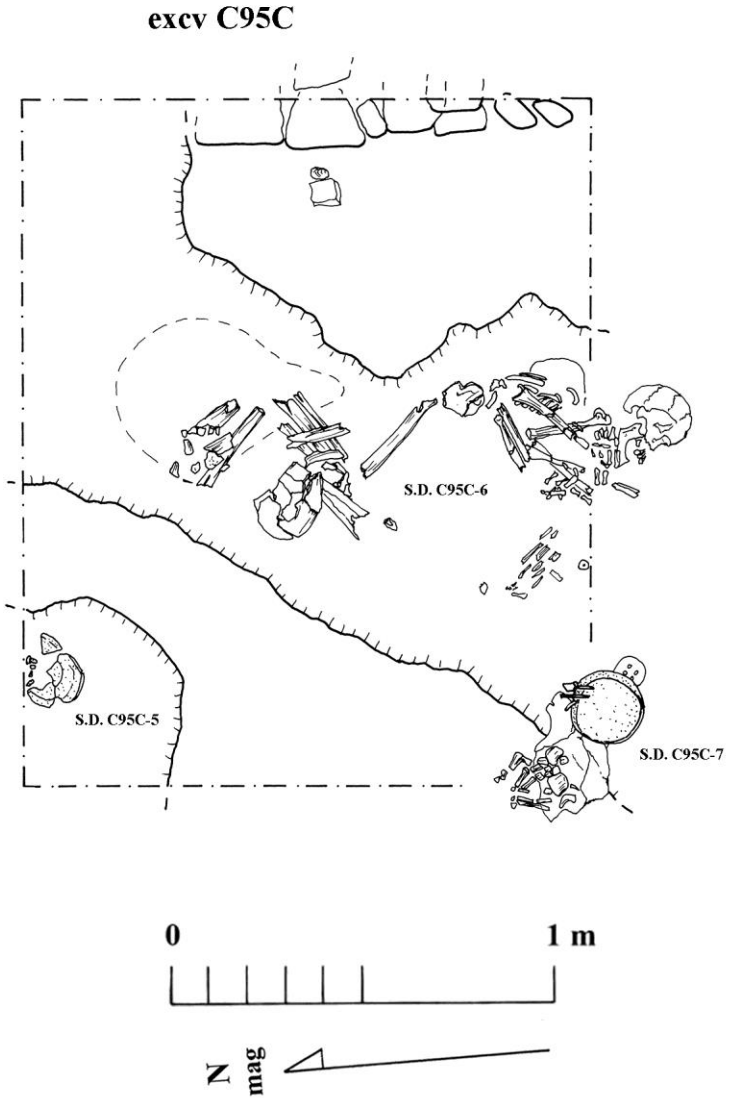

Figure 15: Lower plan of Operation C95C showing location of S.D.s C95C-5, C95C-6, and C95C-7.

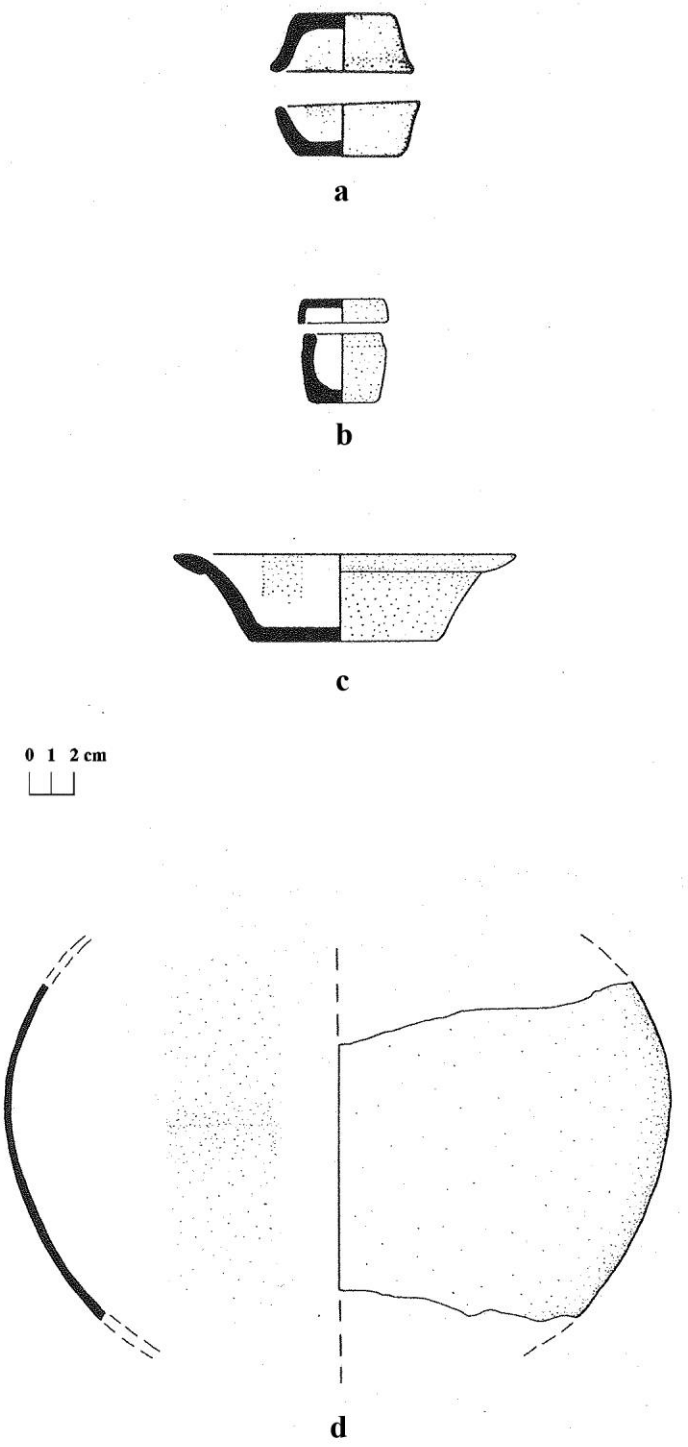

Figure 16: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D.s C95C-1 (a), C95C-2 (b), C95C-3 (c), and C95C-5 (d): a-c. Ceiba Unslipped; d. Valentin Unslipped.

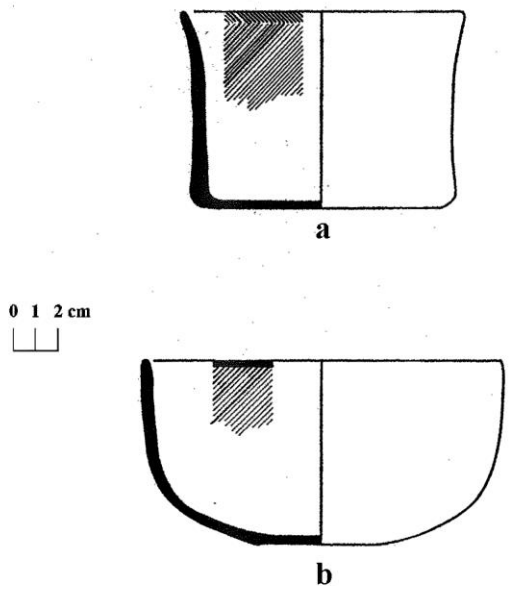

Figure 17: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95C-6: a, b. Monstera Orange Polychrome.

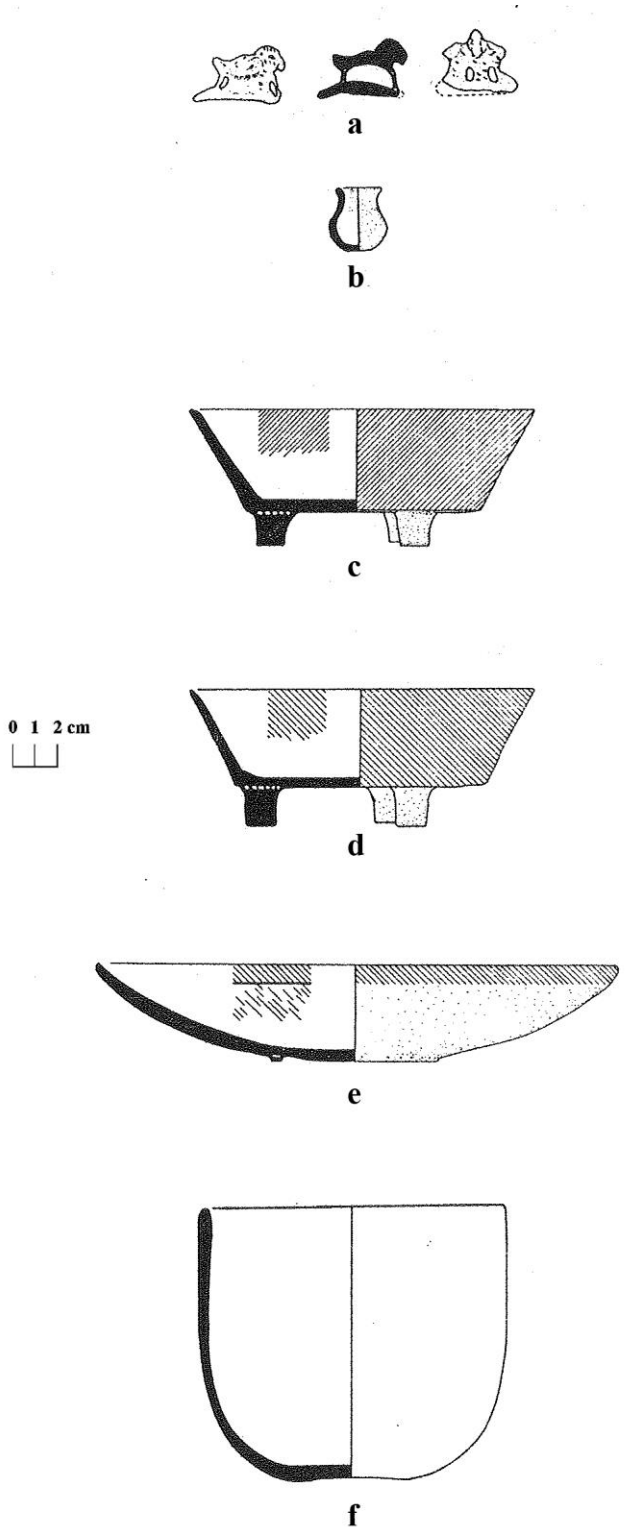

Figure 18: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95C-7: a. related to Maquina Brown; b. undesignated type; c, d. Veracal Orange; e. Machete Orange Polychrome; f. eroded Saxche Orange Polychrome.

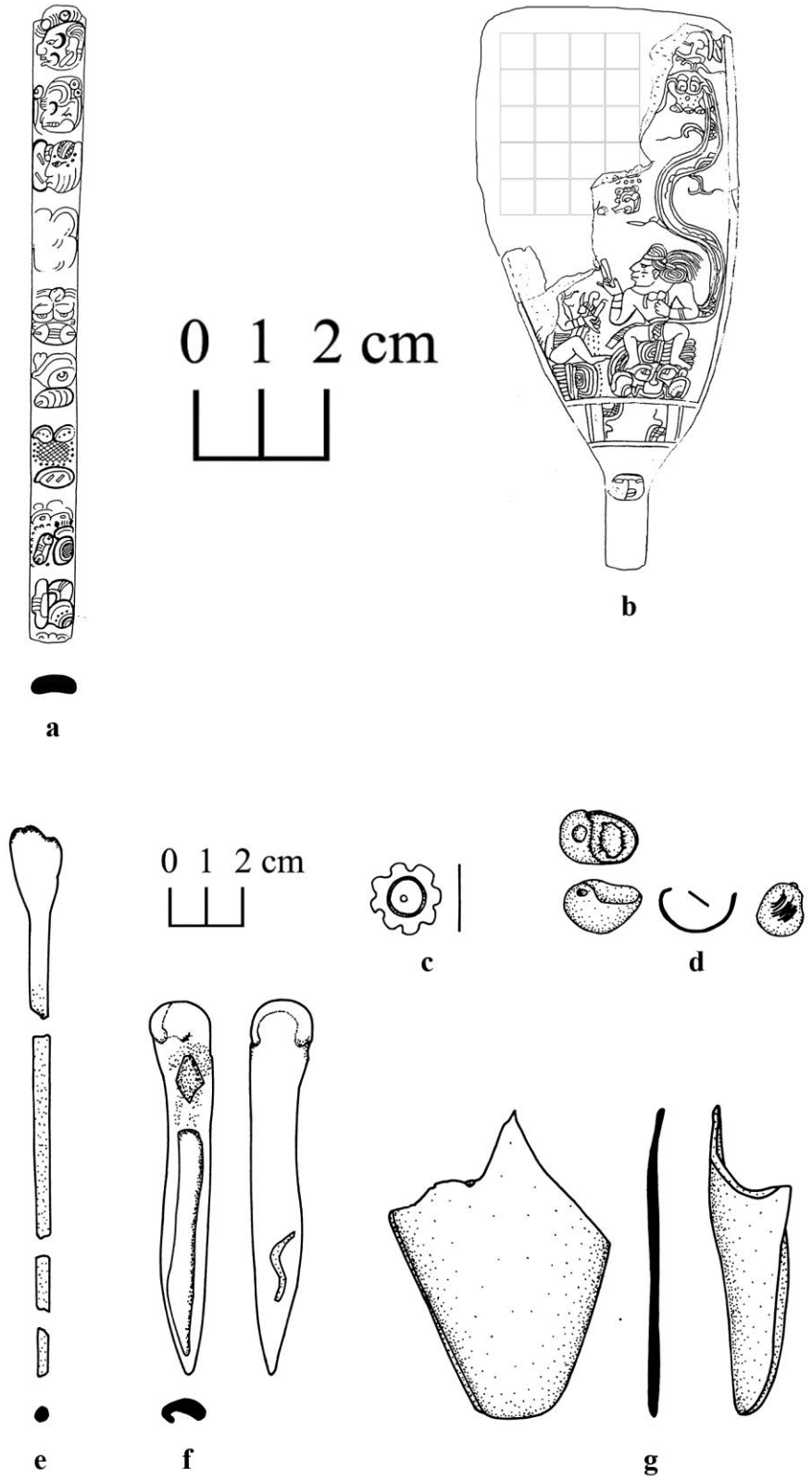

Figure 19: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C95C-7: a. carved bone pin with hieroglyphs; b. head of carved bone pin with blood-letting scene and vision serpent; c. carved shell disc; d. marine shell; e. bone pint; f. bone awl; g. fragmentary shell scoop.

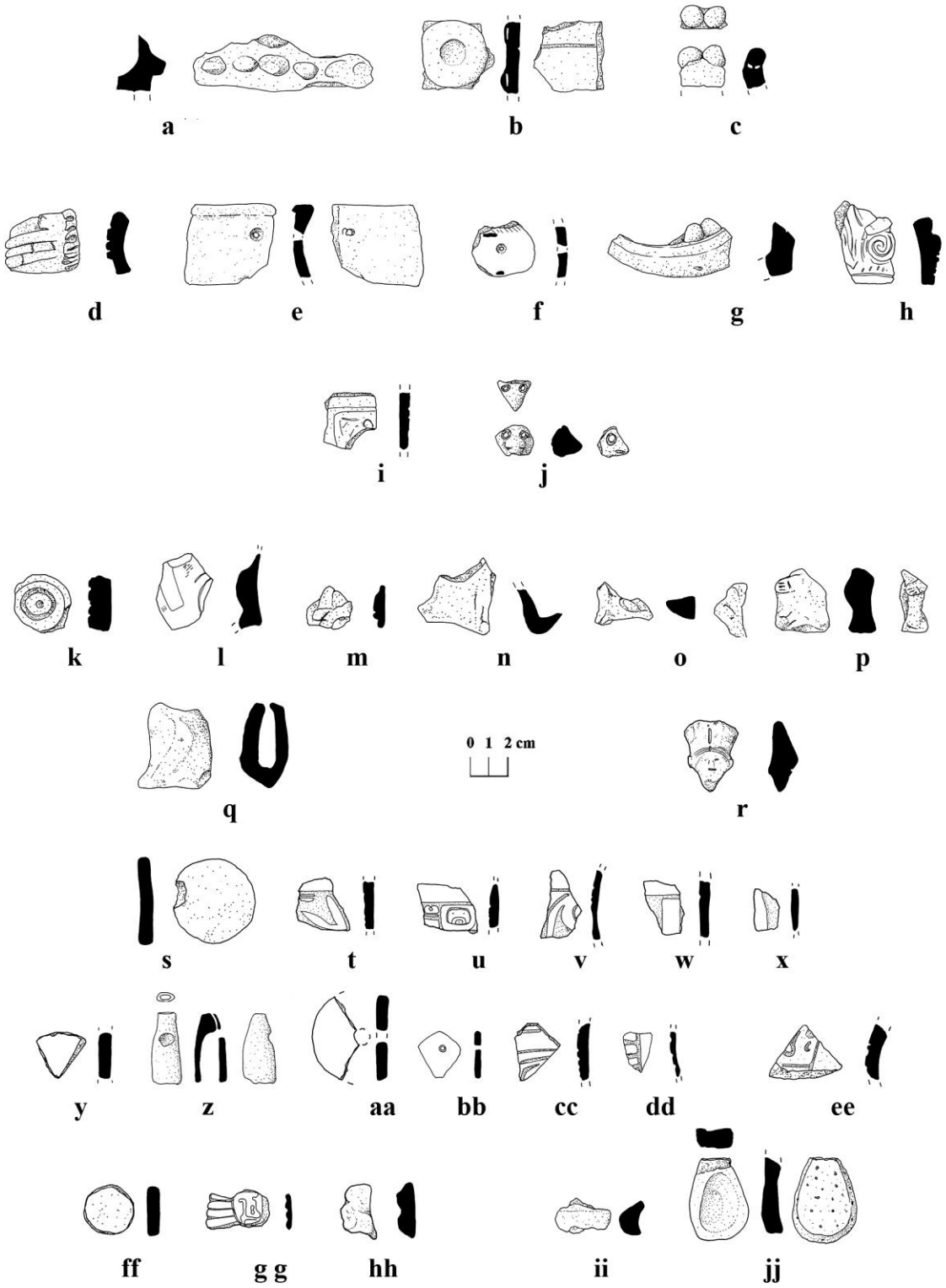

Figure 20: Censerware and miscellaneous ceramics from the 2016 field season: C95E (a-c); C95F (d-h); C95G (i,j); C95H (k-q); C95I (r); C207E (s-x); C207F (y-ee); C208G (ff-gg); C208H (ii-jj): a-d, g-I, k-m, gg-ii. censerware; e, f, aa, bb. drilled sherds; j adorno; n-r. figurine fragments; s, y, ff. rounded sherd; t-x. modeled-carved pottery; z. whistle end; cc-ee. Incised Early Classic pottery; jj. fragmentary spoon.

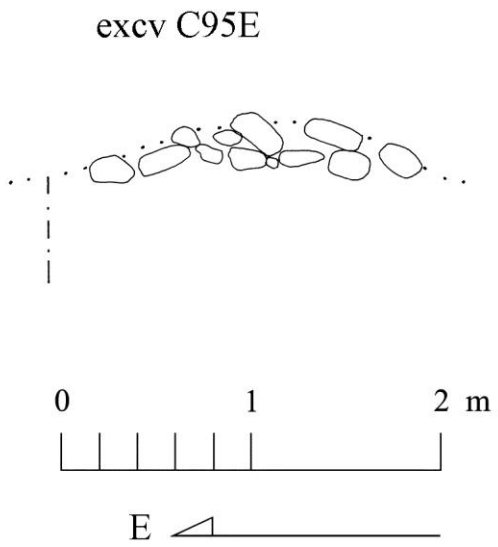

Figure 21: Elevation of northern facing on summit of Structure B118, possibly an interior room wall (see plan in Figure 22).

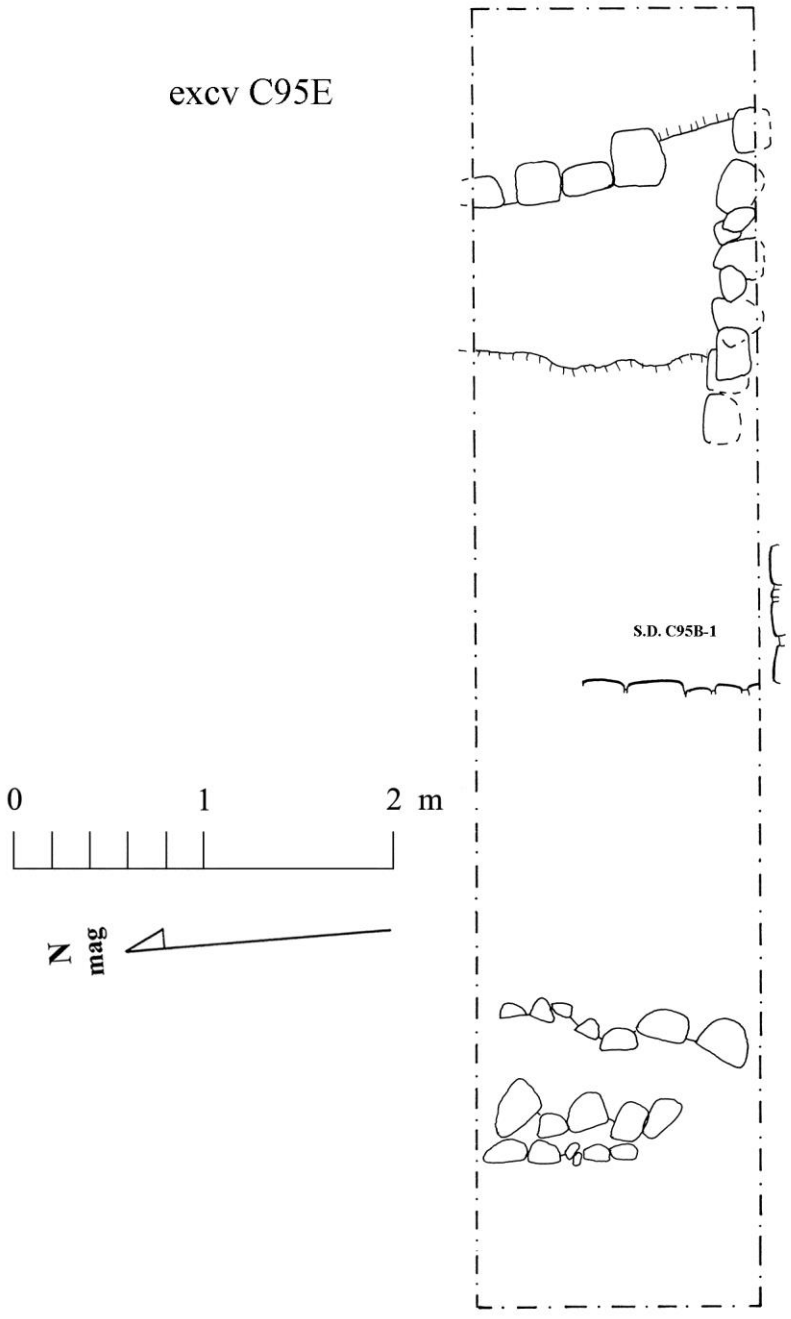

Figure 22: Upper plan for Operation C95E.

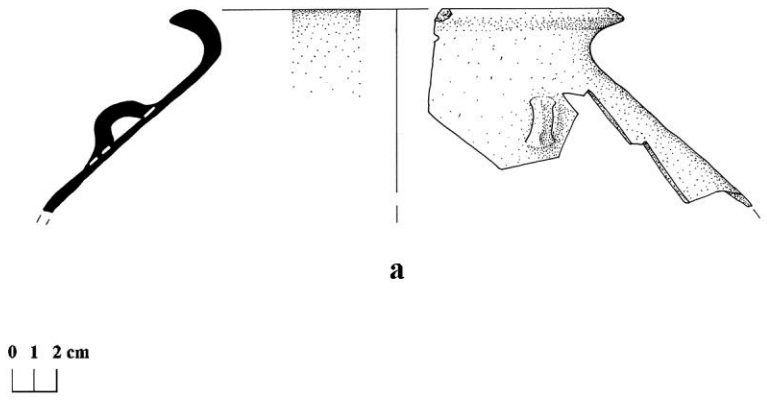

Figure 23: Ceramic olla from interior fill of Structure B118: a. possibly Sapote Striated.

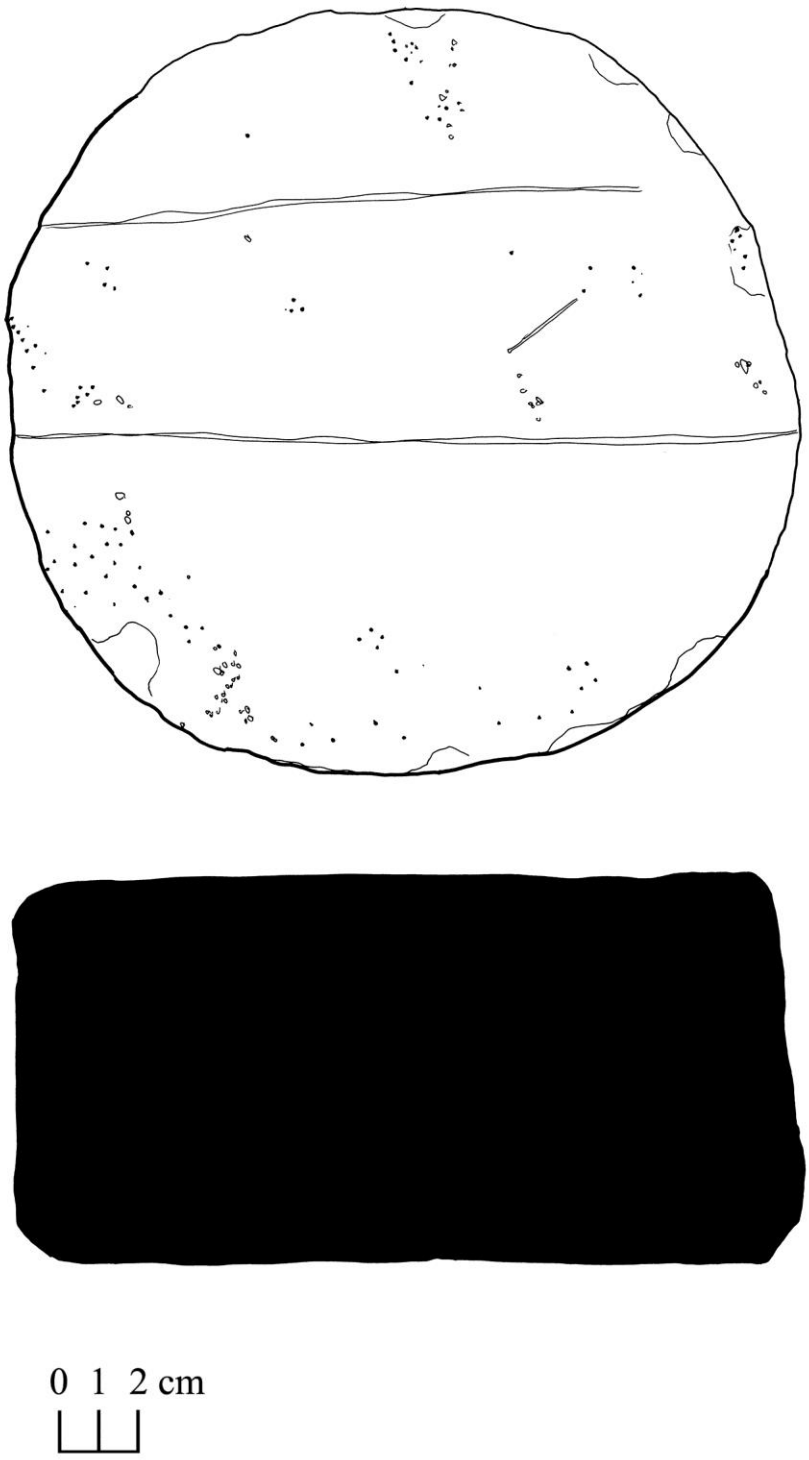

Figure 24: Rounded stone pedestal, possibly an altar support (see location of pedestal in Figure 28).

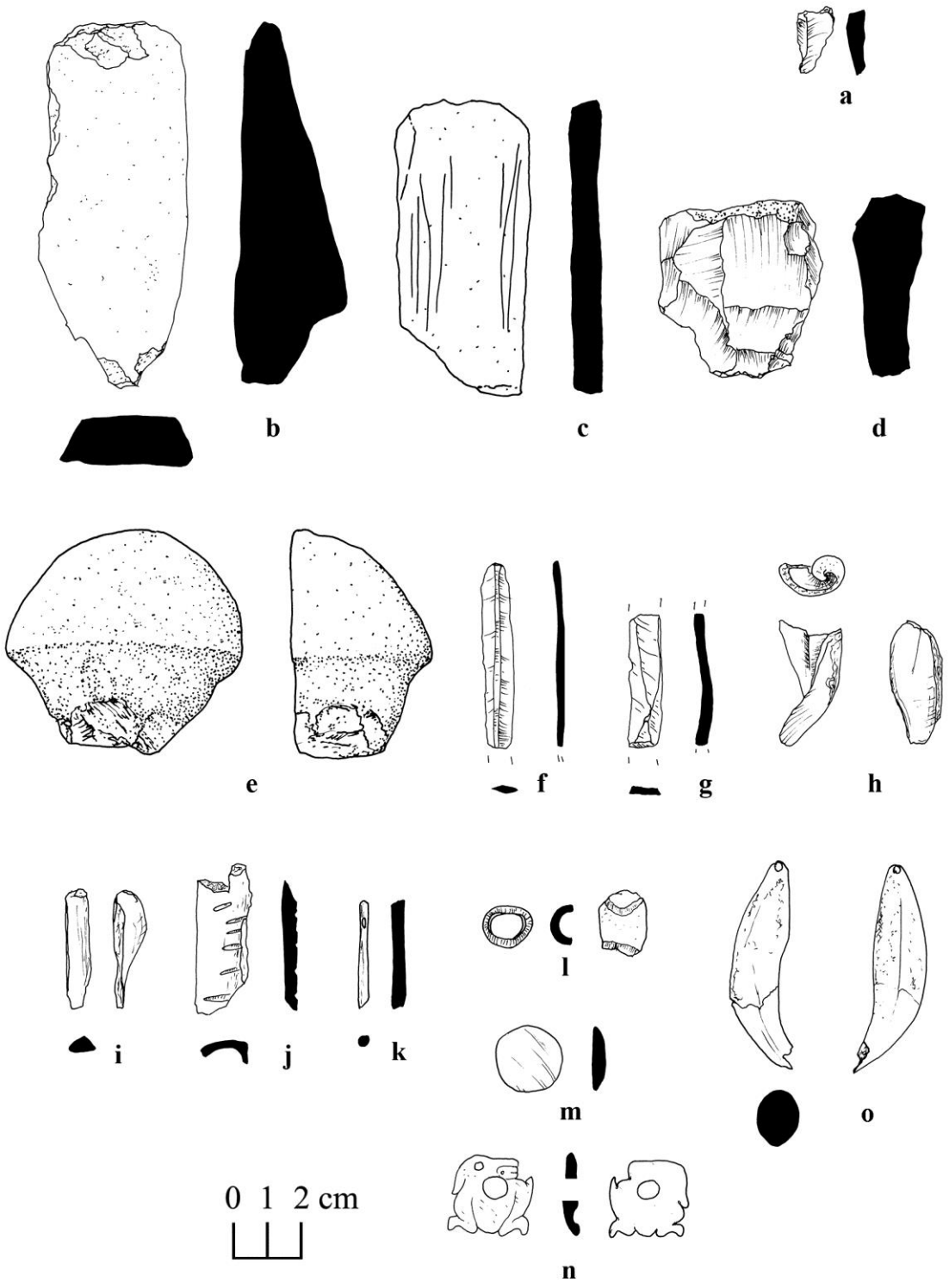

Figure 25: Artifactual material from general excavation of Operation C95E: a. chert drill; b, c. worked slate; d. chert flake tool; e. ground granite, possibly from overhanging mano; f. obsidian blade; g. quartzite blade; h, i, l. worked shell; j. bone rasper fragment; k. bone pin fragment; m. shell disc; n. carved shell deer; o. drilled canine (non-human).

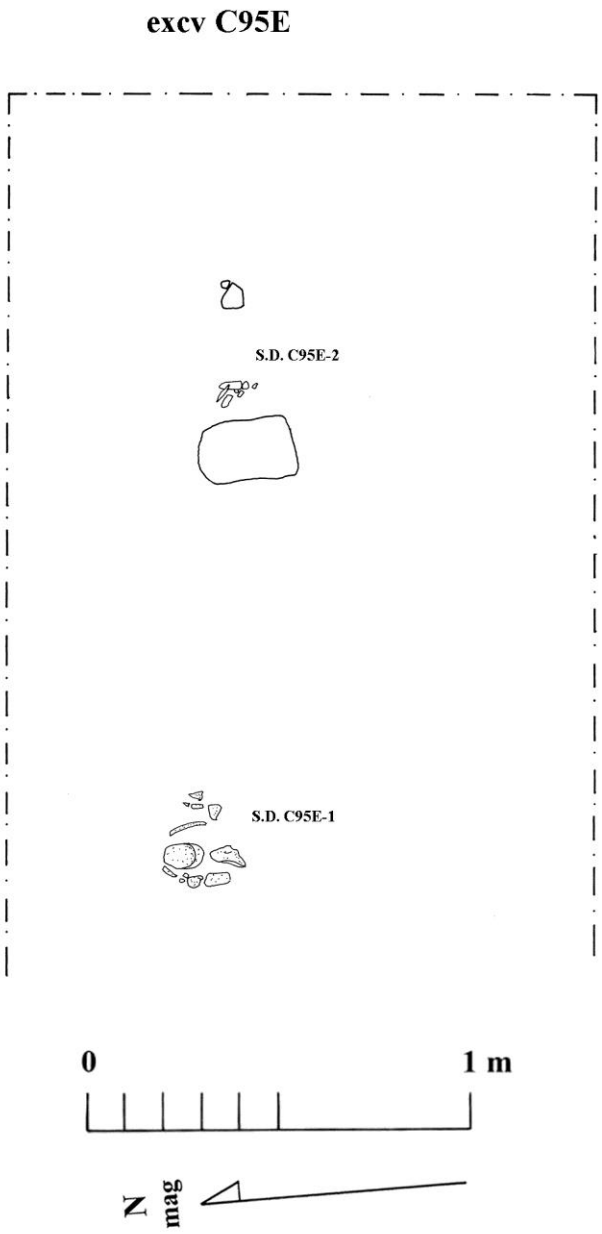

Figure 26: Plan of S.D. C95E-1 and S.D. C95E-2.

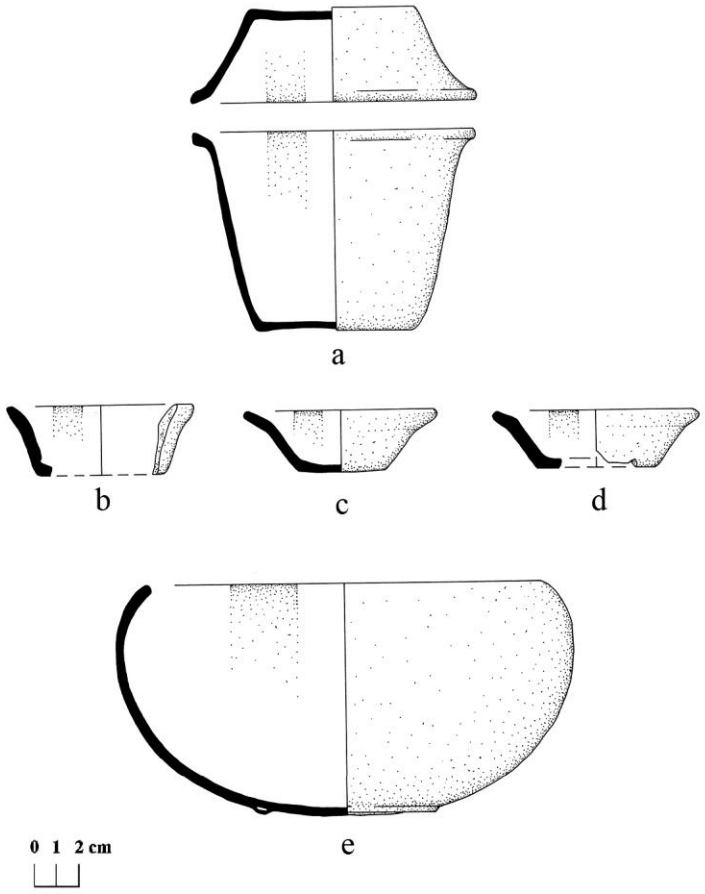

Figure 27: Ceramic vessels from S.D. C95E-1 (a), S.D. C95E-2 (c, d); and S.D. C95E-3 (e): a. undesignated type; b-d. Ceiba Unslipped; e. possibly eroded Tinaja Red.

Figure 28: Artifactual material associated with S.D. C95E-1: a, b. paired spondylus shells; c. oyster concretion (13 shells, 3 barnacles); d. turkey whelk; e-p, t. marine shells (turkey whelk, cat's paw, limpets, tubeworm, lady slipper, murex, scallop, baby conch); r, s. marine shell fragments; u-aa. abalone shell fragments; bb. bone worked into shape of stingray spine with side notching.

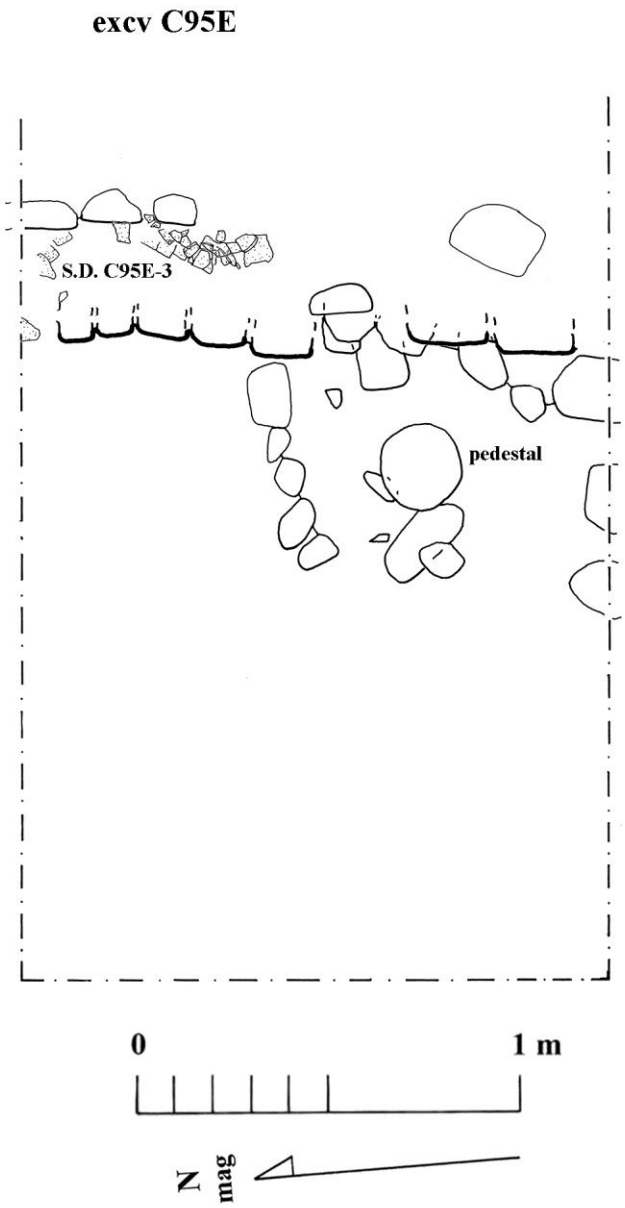

Figure 29: Plan showing the location of S.D. C95E-3 and rounded stone pedestal.

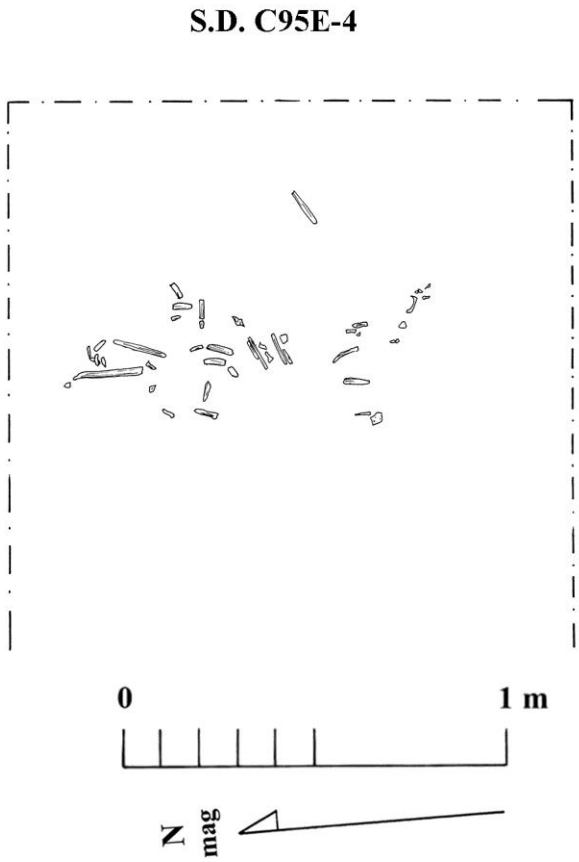

Figure 30: Plan of S.D. C95E-4.

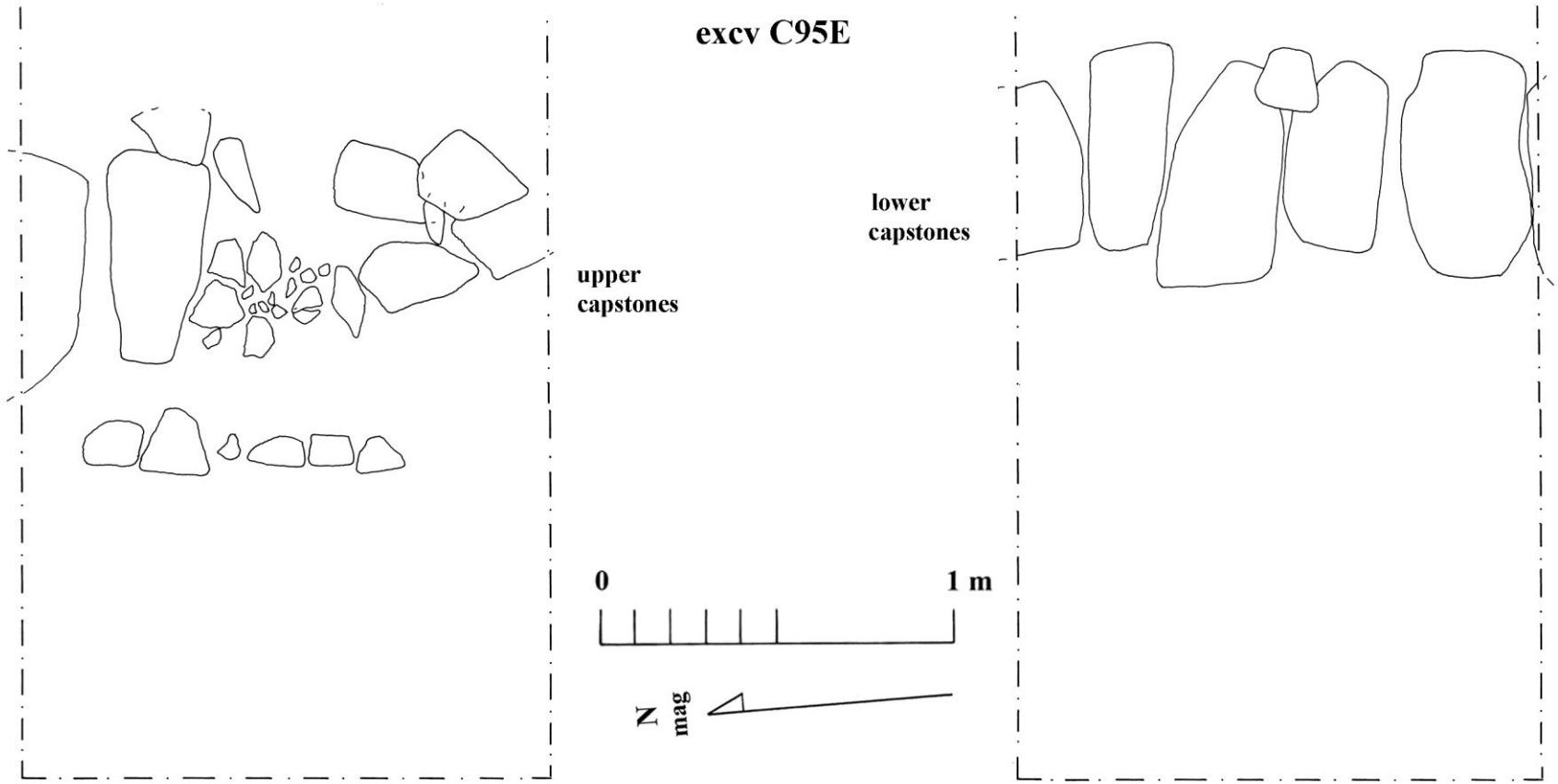

Figure 31: Plan of capstones associated with S.D. C95E-5 (upper) and S.D. C95E-6 (lower).

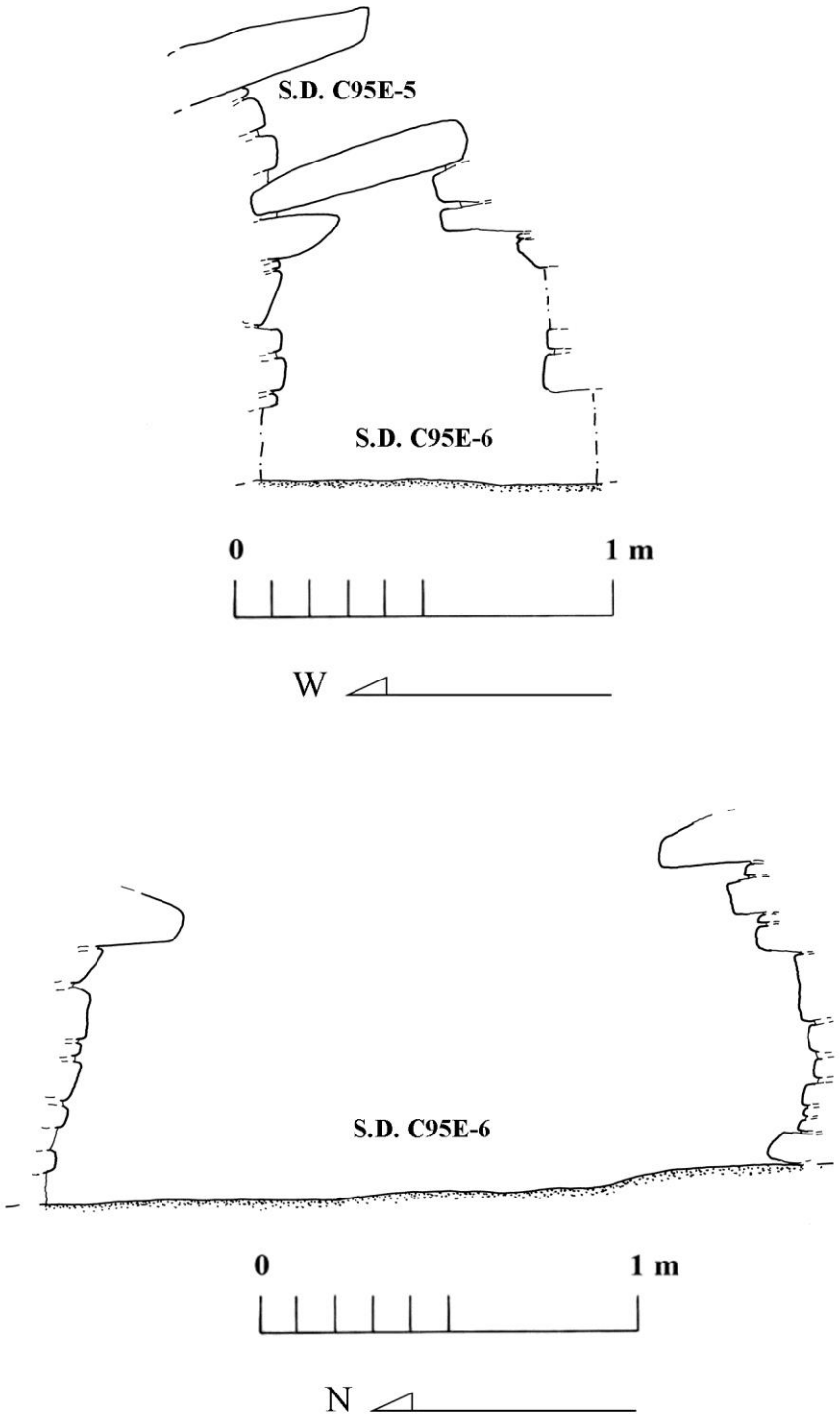

Figure 32: Cross-sections on S.D. C95E-5 and S.D. C95E-6.

Figure 33: Photograph of the upper bodies and ceramic vessels in S.D. C95E-6.

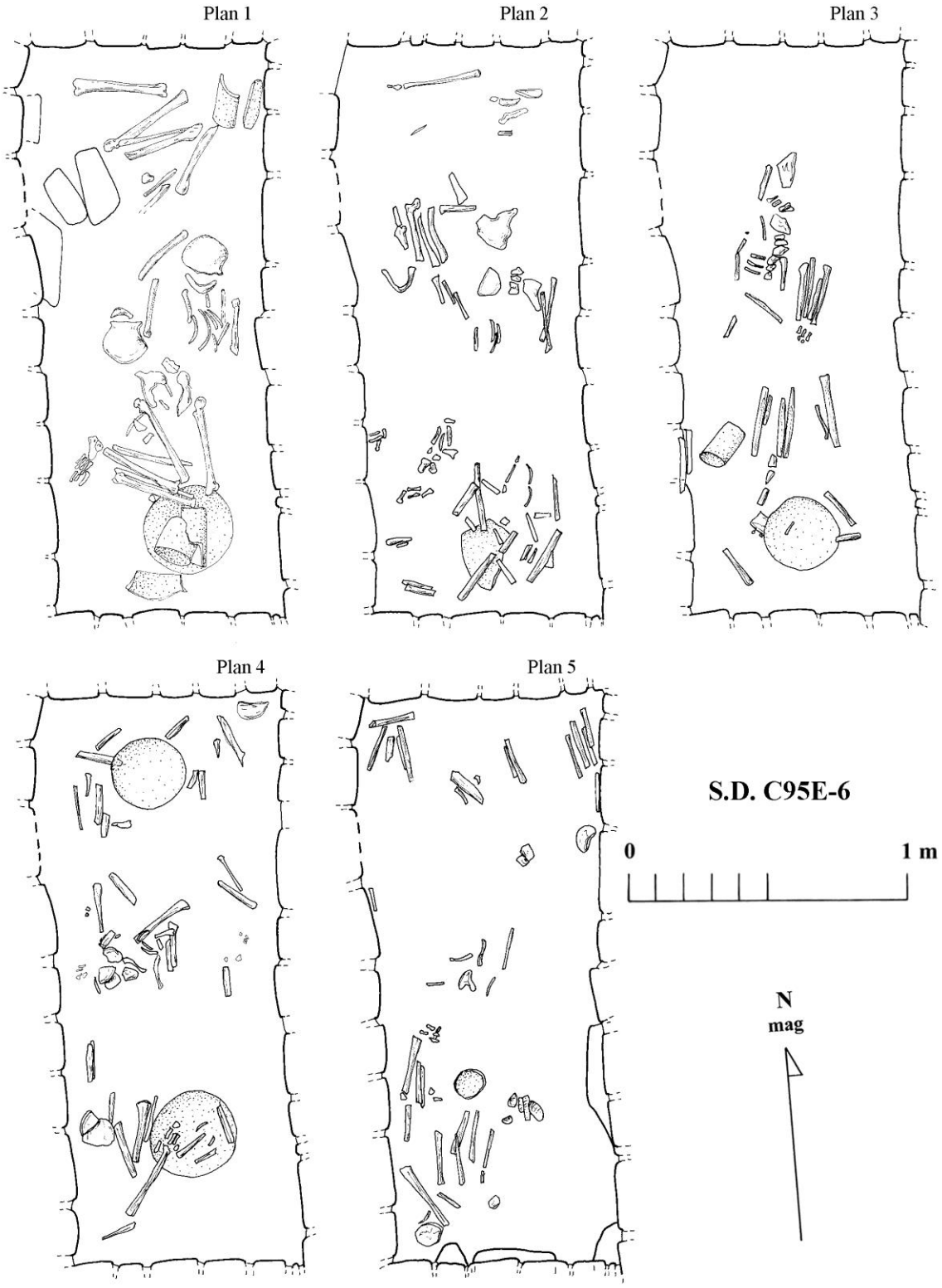

Figure 34: Plans of S.D. C95E-6.

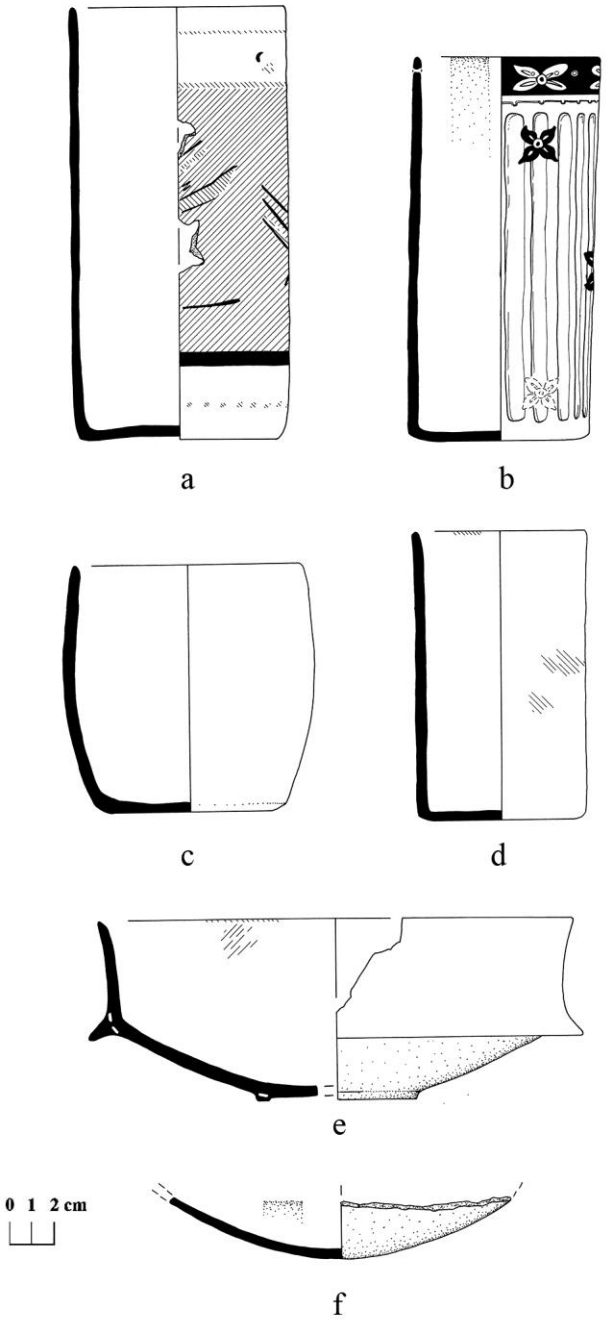

Figure 35: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95E-6: a. probably Cabrito Cream Polychrome; b. Mex Composite; c. eroded Botifela Orange; d. eroded Palmar Orange Polychrome; e Dos Arroyos Polychrome; f. Valentin Unslipped; g-k. Machete Orange Polychrome.

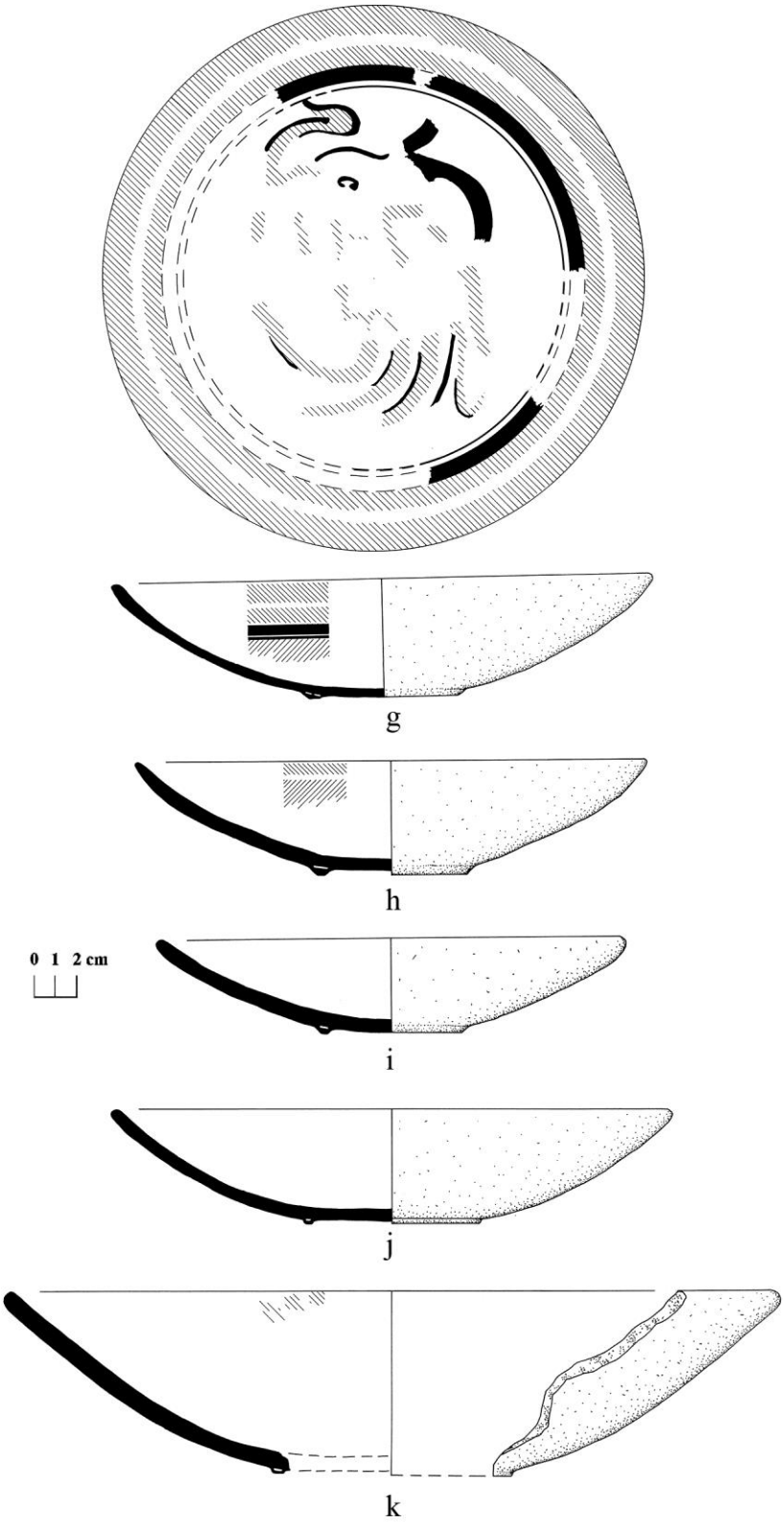

Figure 35: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95E-6: a. probably Cabrito Cream Polychrome; b. Mex Composite; c. eroded Botifela Orange; d. eroded Palmar Orange Polychrome; e Dos Arroyos Polychrome; f. Valentin Unslipped; g-k. Machete Orange Polychrome.

a b

Figure 36: Photograph of two of the cylinder vases from S.D. C95E-6.

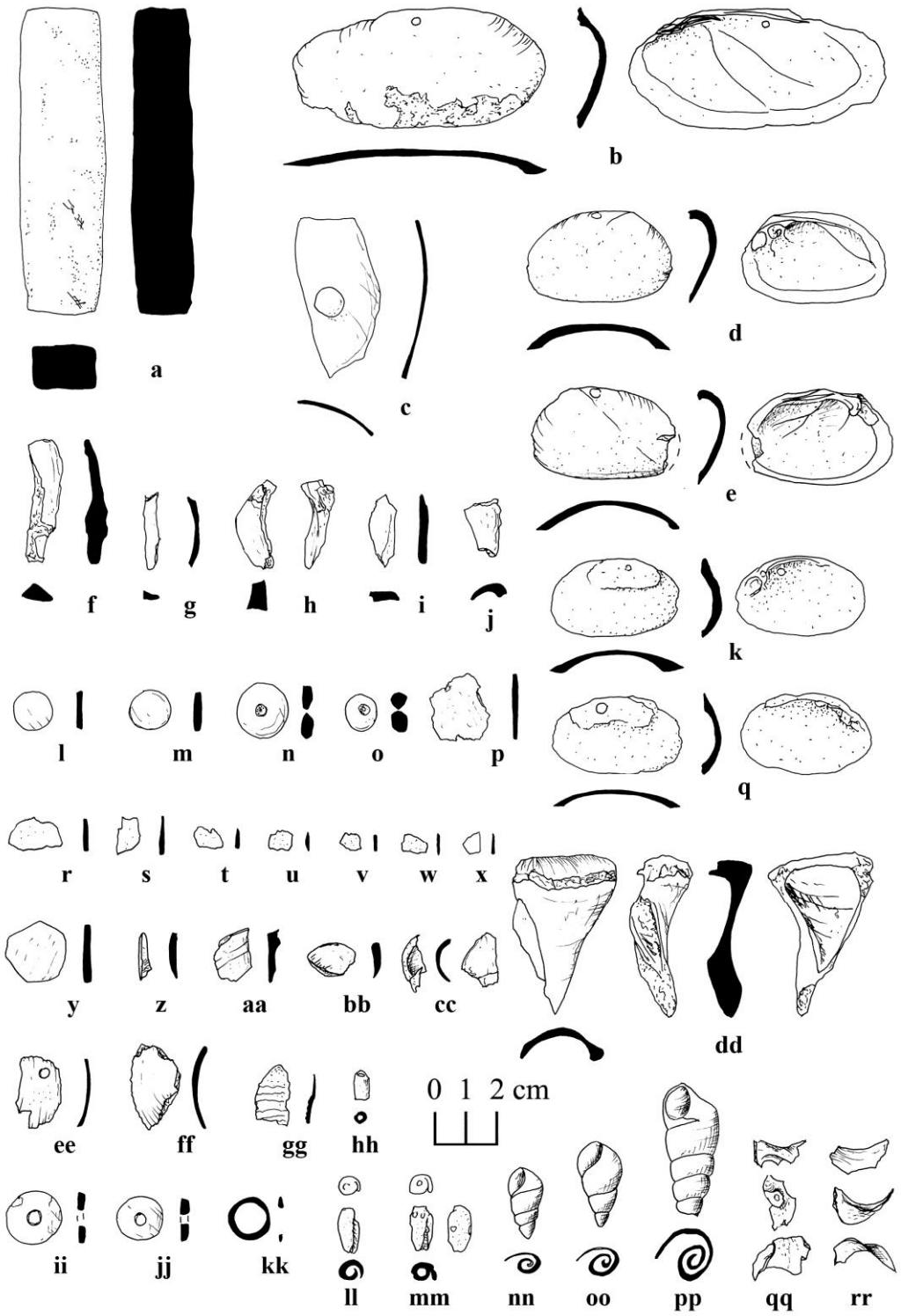

Figure 37: Artifacts from S.D. C95E-6: a. limestone bar; b, d, e, k, q. marine shells with drill holes; b. worked marine shell; f-j, z-dd, ff, gg, qq, rr. marine shell fragments; l, m. shell discs; n, o. shell beads; p-x. pyrite fragments; y. hematite mirror fragment; ee. drilled shell fragment; ii, jj. bone beads; hh. jadeite bead; kk. shell ring; ll, mm. olivella shells; nn-pp. river snail shells; ss. worked bone tube; tt. bone pin fragment; uu, vv. bone needle fragments; ww, xx. bone needles; yy. bone pin; zz. obsidian lancet; aaa. obsidian blade; bbb-iii. obsidian blade fragments; jjj, kkk. obsidian flakes.

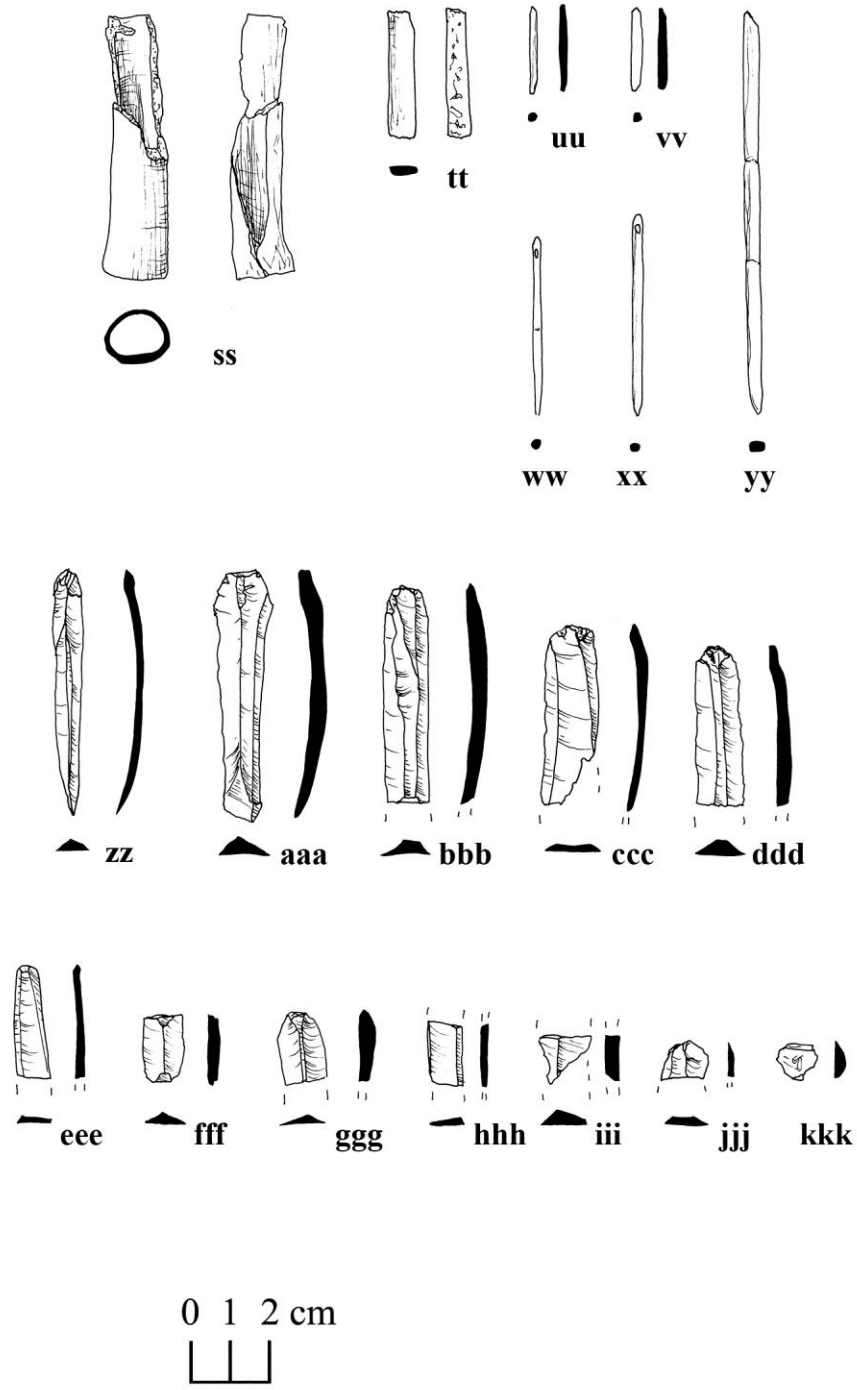

Figure 37: Artifacts from S.D. C95E-6: a. limestone bar; b, d, e, k, q. marine shells with drill holes; b. worked marine shell; f-j, z-dd, ff, gg, qq, rr. marine shell fragments; l, m. shell discs; n, o. shell beads; p-x. pyrite fragments; y. hematite mirror fragment; ee. drilled shell fragment; ii, jj. bone beads; hh. jadeite bead; kk. shell ring; ll, mm. olivella shells; nn-pp. river snail shells; ss. worked bone tube; tt. bone pin fragment; uu, vv. bone needle fragments; ww, xx. bone needles; yy. bone pin; zz. obsidian lancet; aaa. obsidian blade; bbb-iii. obsidian blade fragments; jjj, kkk. obsidian flakes.

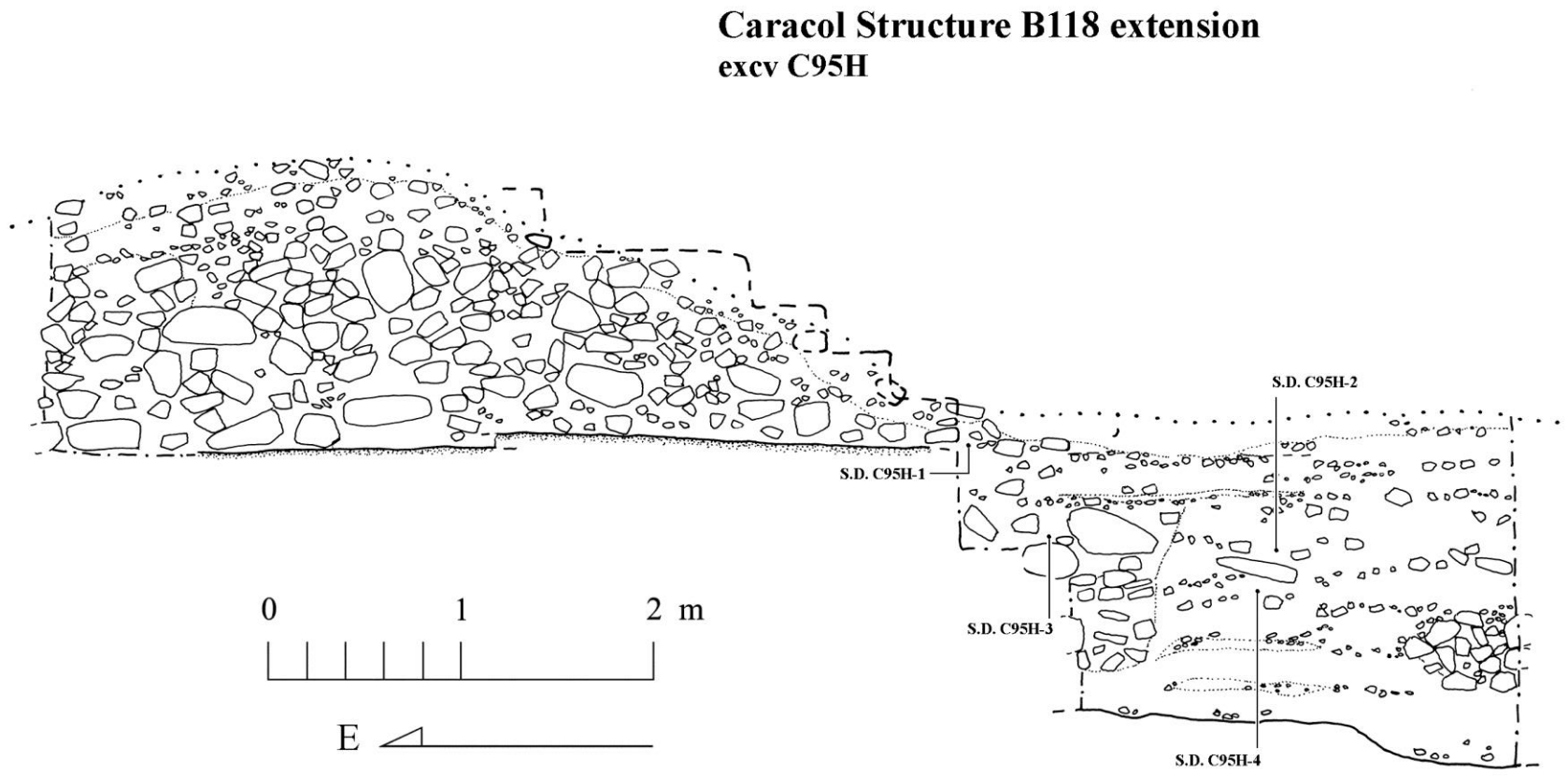

Figure 38: Section through Structure B118 extended platform showing operation C95H.

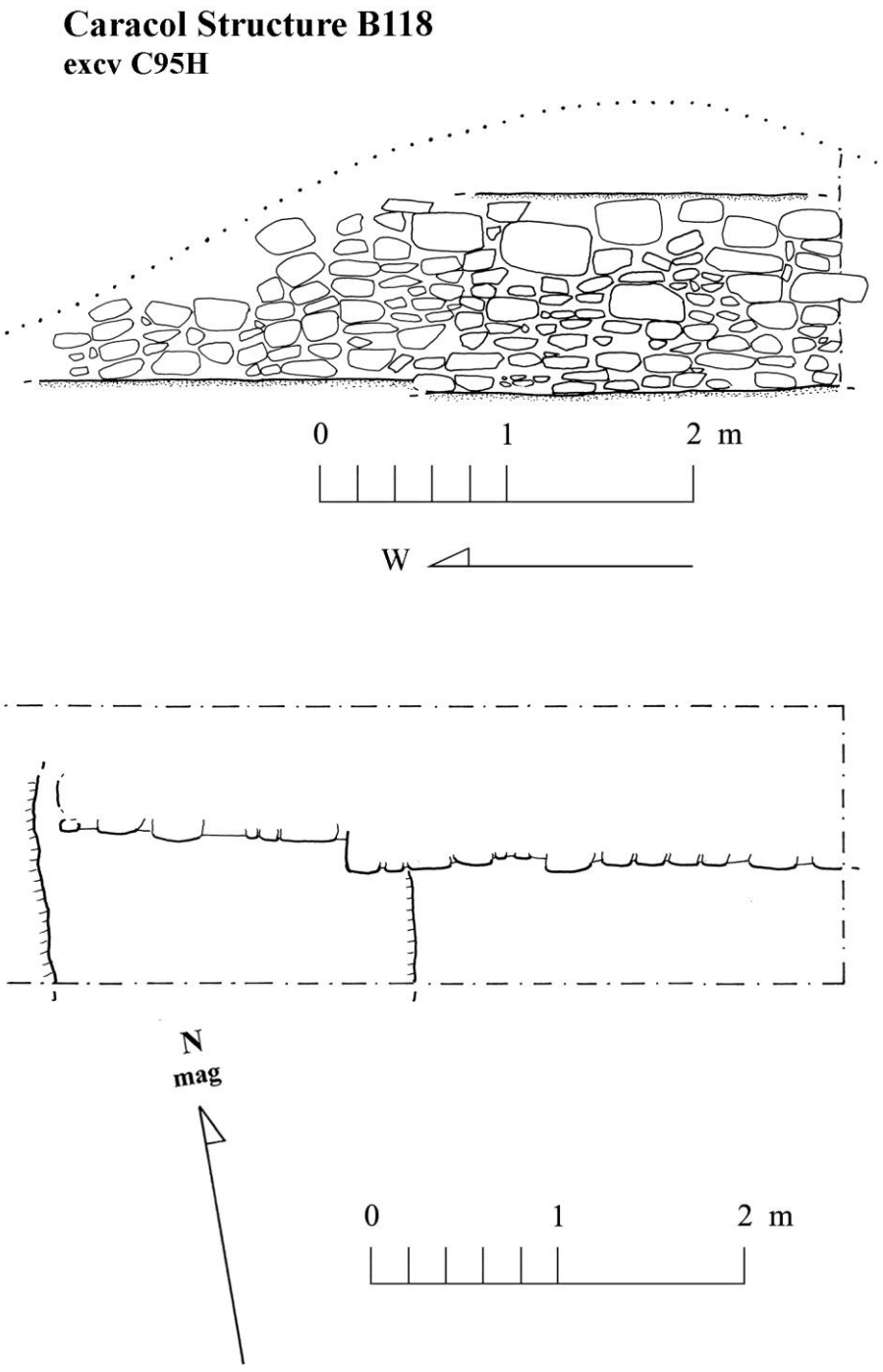

Figure 39: Elevation and plan of south side of Structure B118 covered by the building extension.

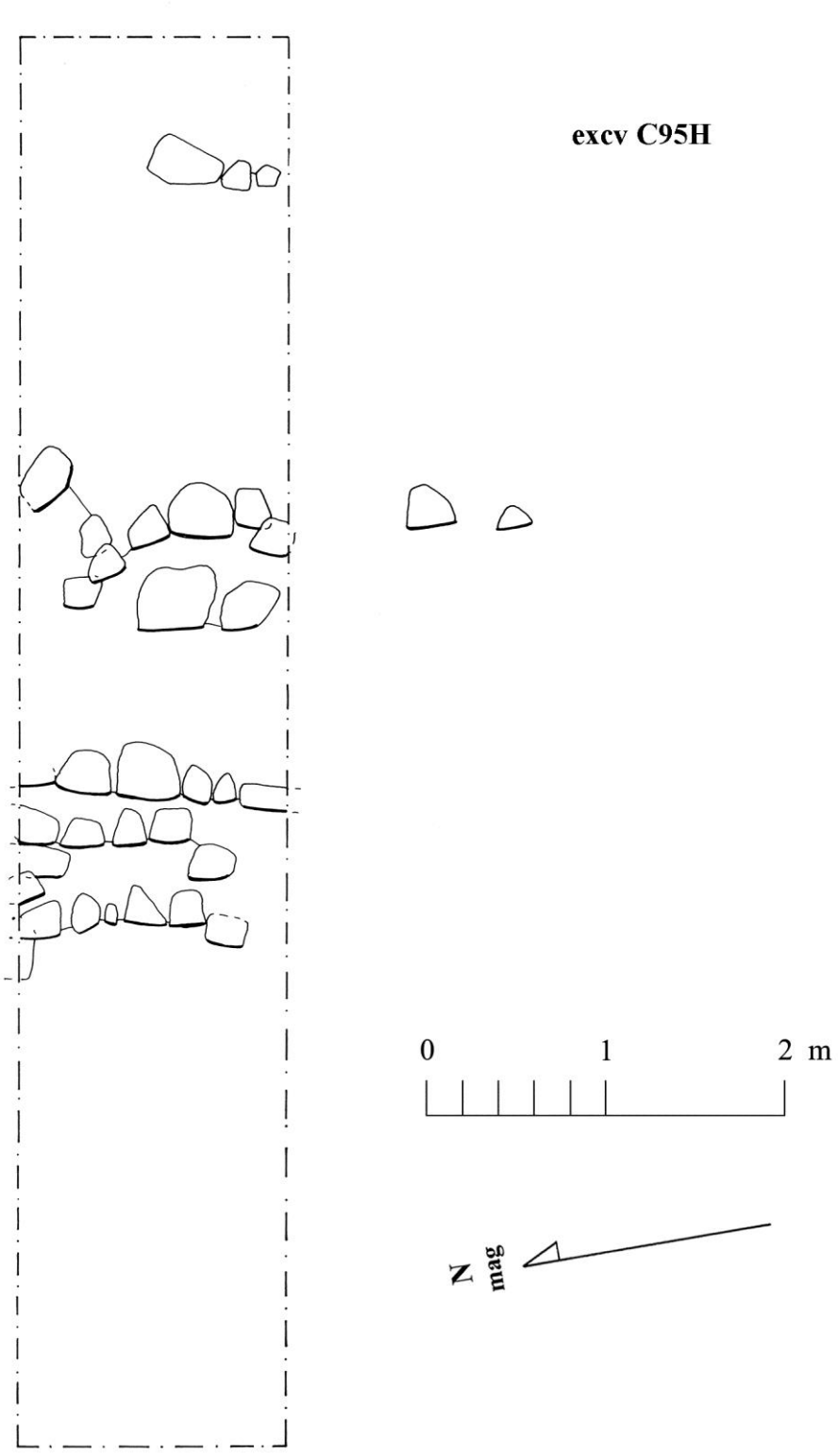

Figure 40: Upper plan of Operation C95H showing extension facing and stairs.

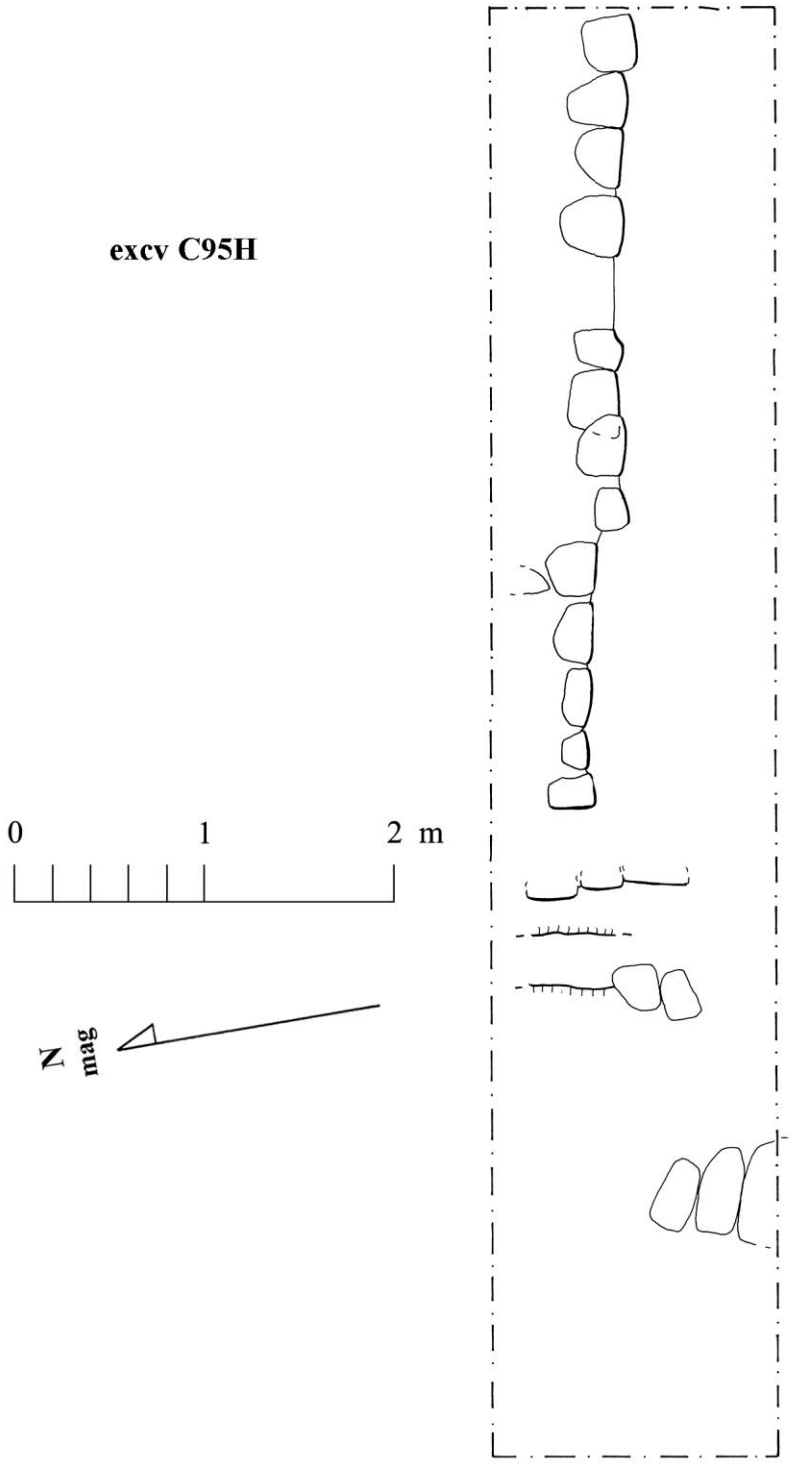

Figure 41: Lower plan of Operation C95H, showing capstones above S.D. C95H-4.

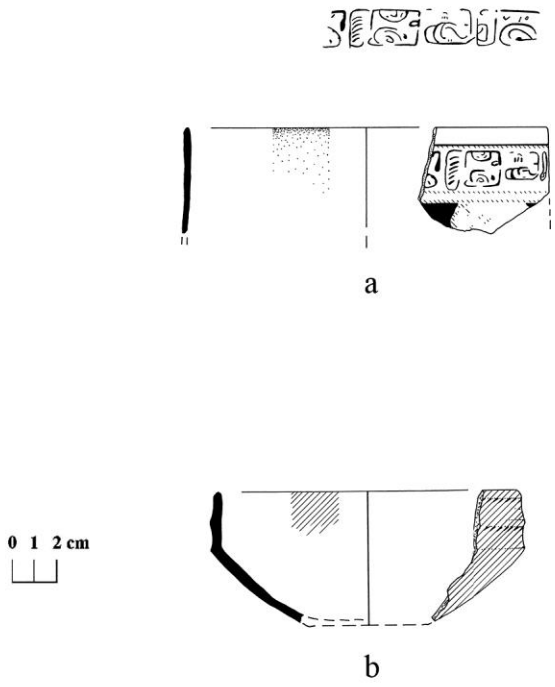

Figure 42: Miscellaneous ceramics from Operation C95H: a. Zacatel Cream Polychrome; b. possibly Topol Orange.

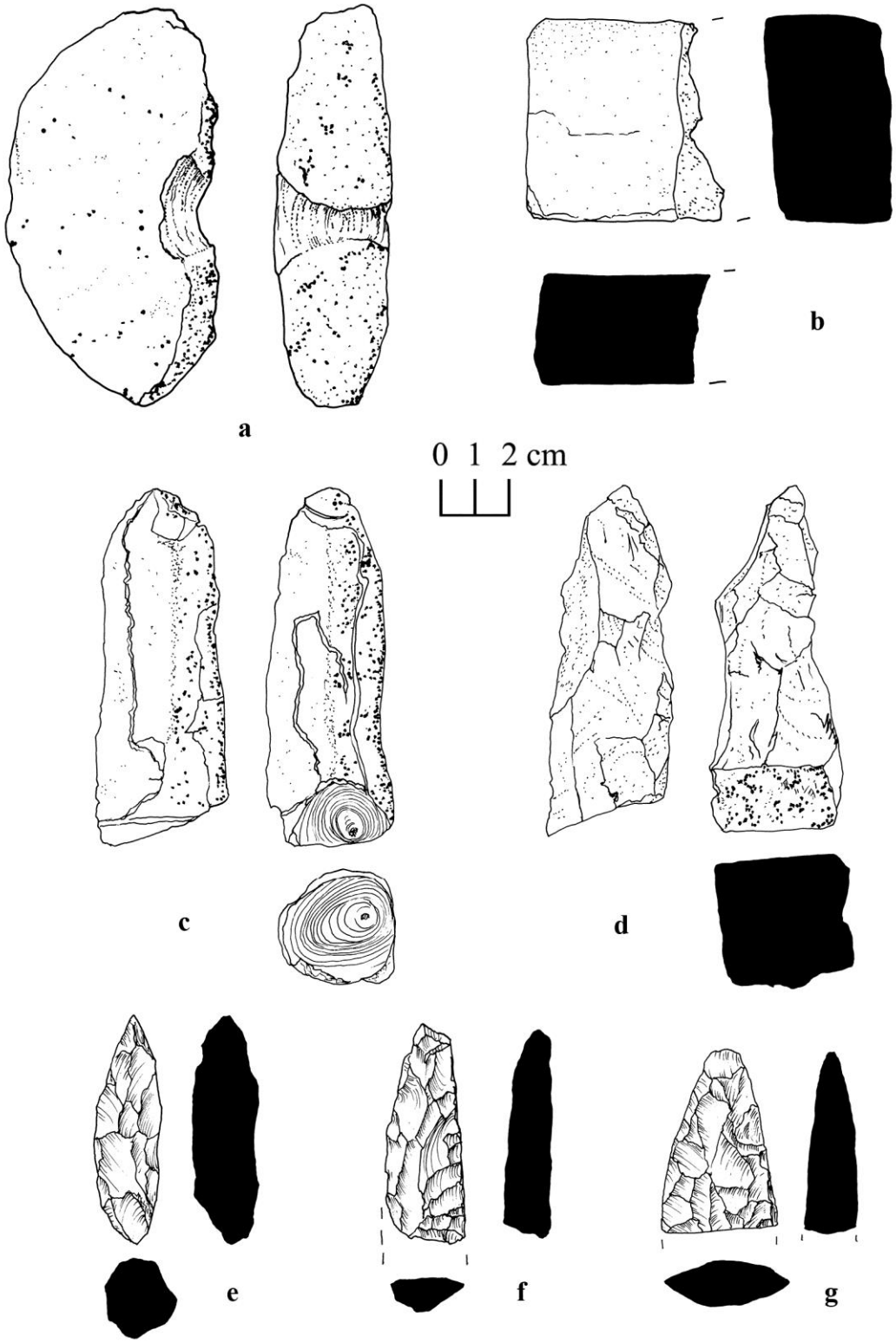

Figure 43: Artifacts from Operation C95H: a. rounded and drilled sedimentary stone; b. worked slate; c. calcite speleotherm; d. quartzite biface end; e. quartzite biface; f, g. quartzite biface end; h, i. tusk shells; j, l-q. worked shell fragment; k. marine shell; r. drilled shell pendent; s. carved bone pin; t, u, x-bb. worked bone; v. fragmentary bone awl; w. drilled animal tooth; z. polished greenstone fragment; cc. bone bead fragment.

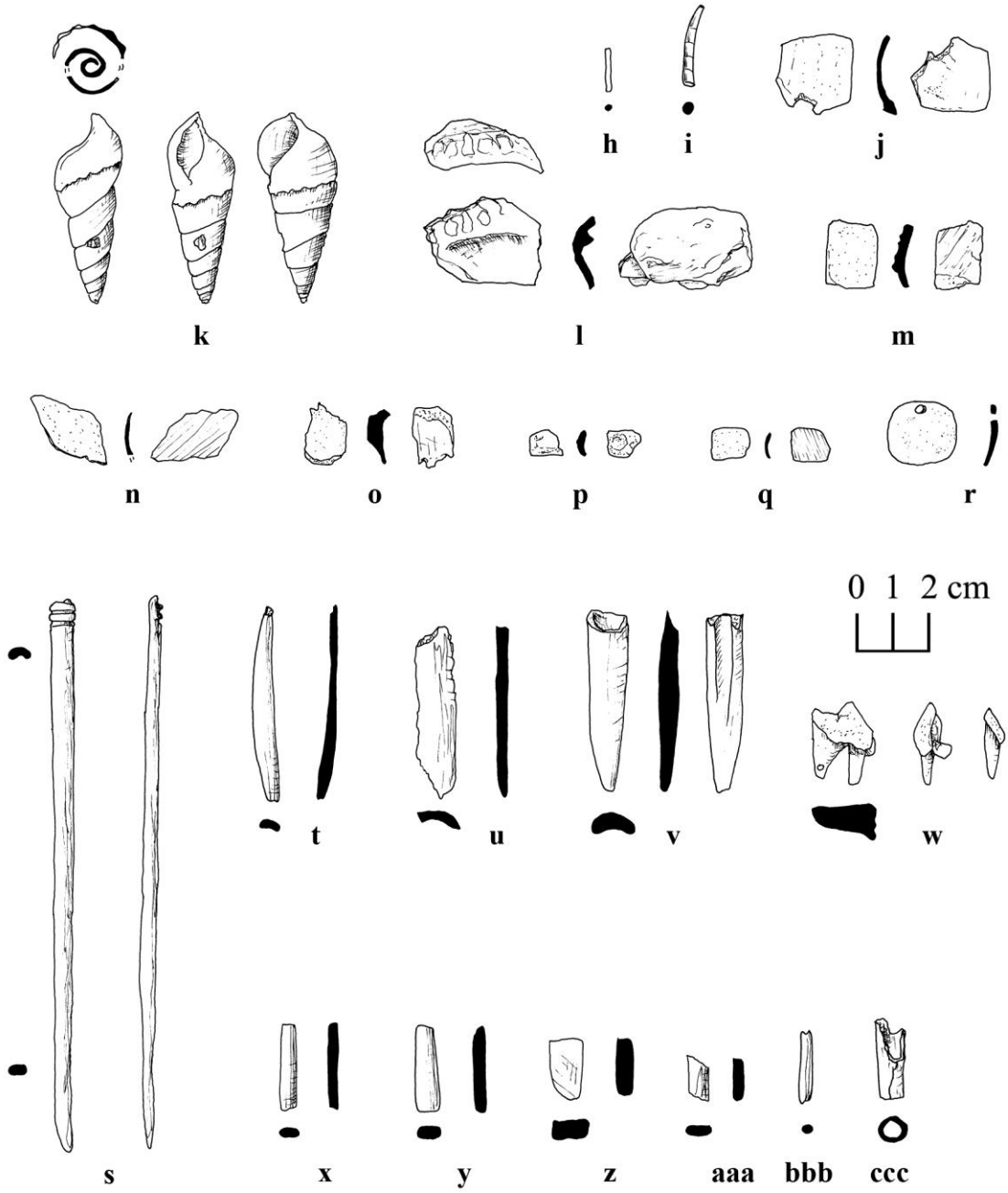

Figure 43: Artifacts from Operation C95H: a. rounded and drilled sedimentary stone; b. worked slate; c. calcite speleotherm; d. quartzite biface end; e. quartzite biface; f, g. quartzite biface end; h, i. tusk shells; j, l-q. worked shell fragment; k. marine shell; r. drilled shell pendent; s. carved bone pin; t, u, x-bb. worked bone; v. fragmentary bone awl; w. drilled animal tooth; z. polished greenstone fragment; cc. bone bead fragment.

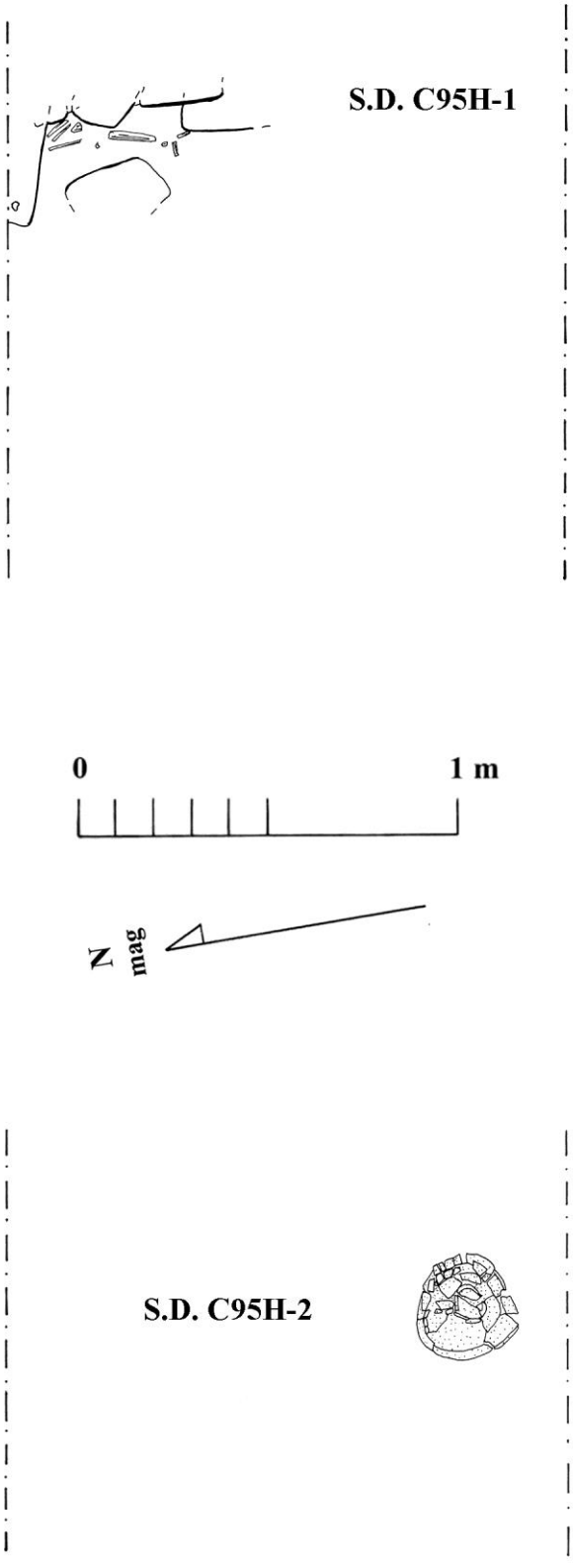

Figure 44: Plans of S.D. C95H-1 and S.D. C95H-2.

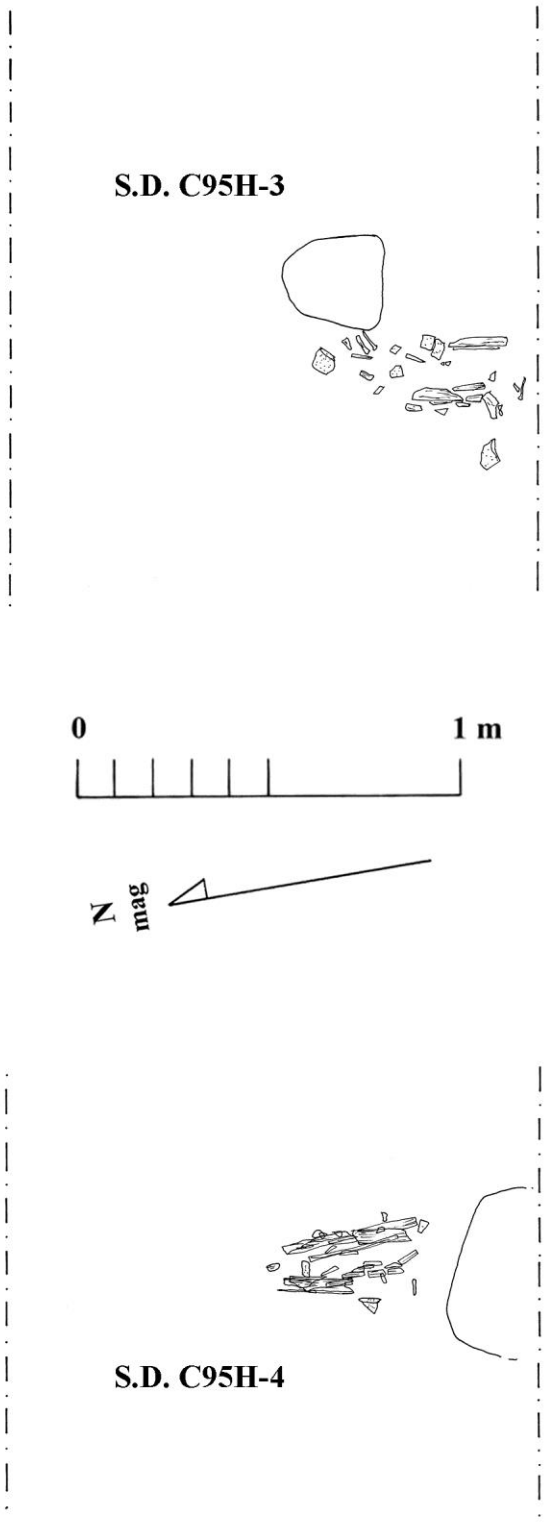

Figure 45: Plans of S.D. C95H-3 and S.D. C95H-4.

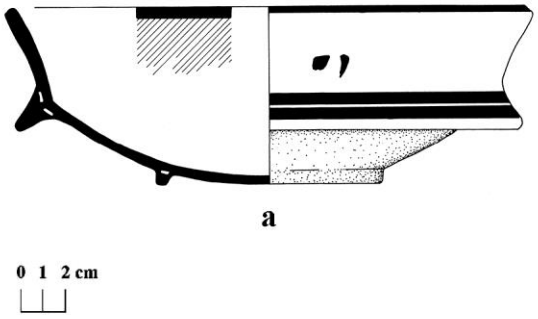

Figure 46: Ceramic vessel associated with S.D. C95H-4 (above its capstones): a. Caldero Buff Polychrome.

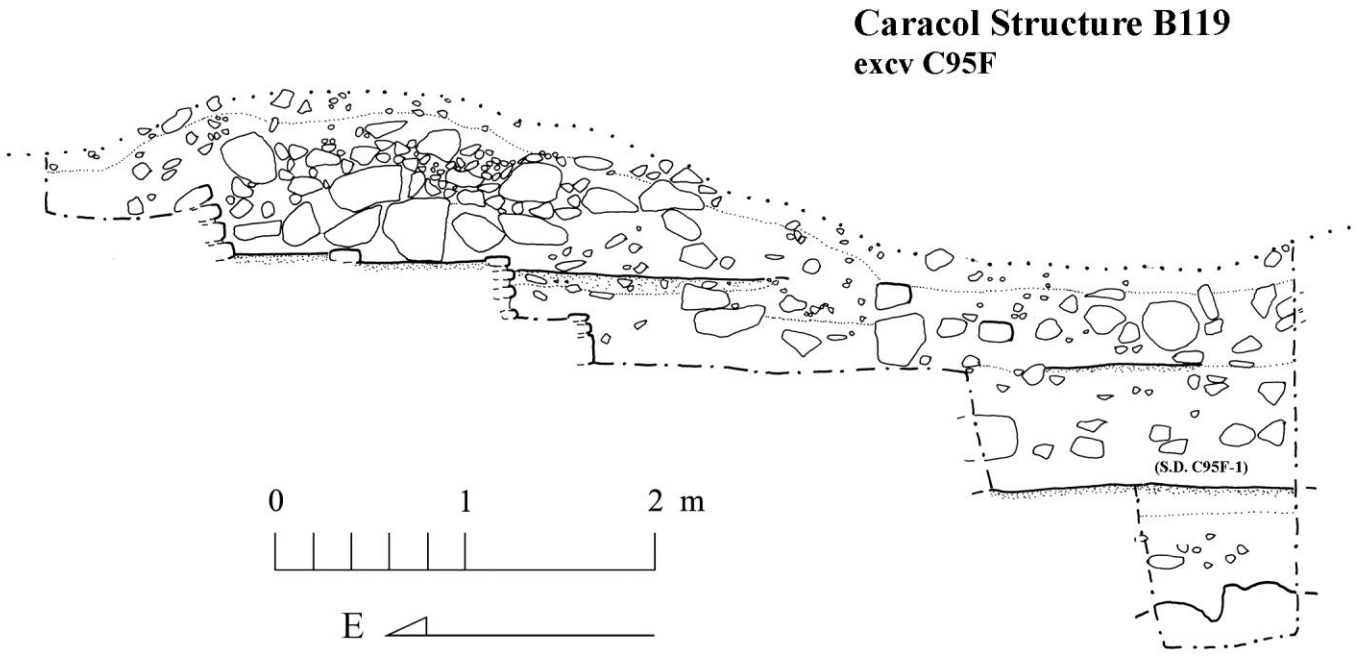

Figure 47: Section through Structure B119 showing Operation C95F.

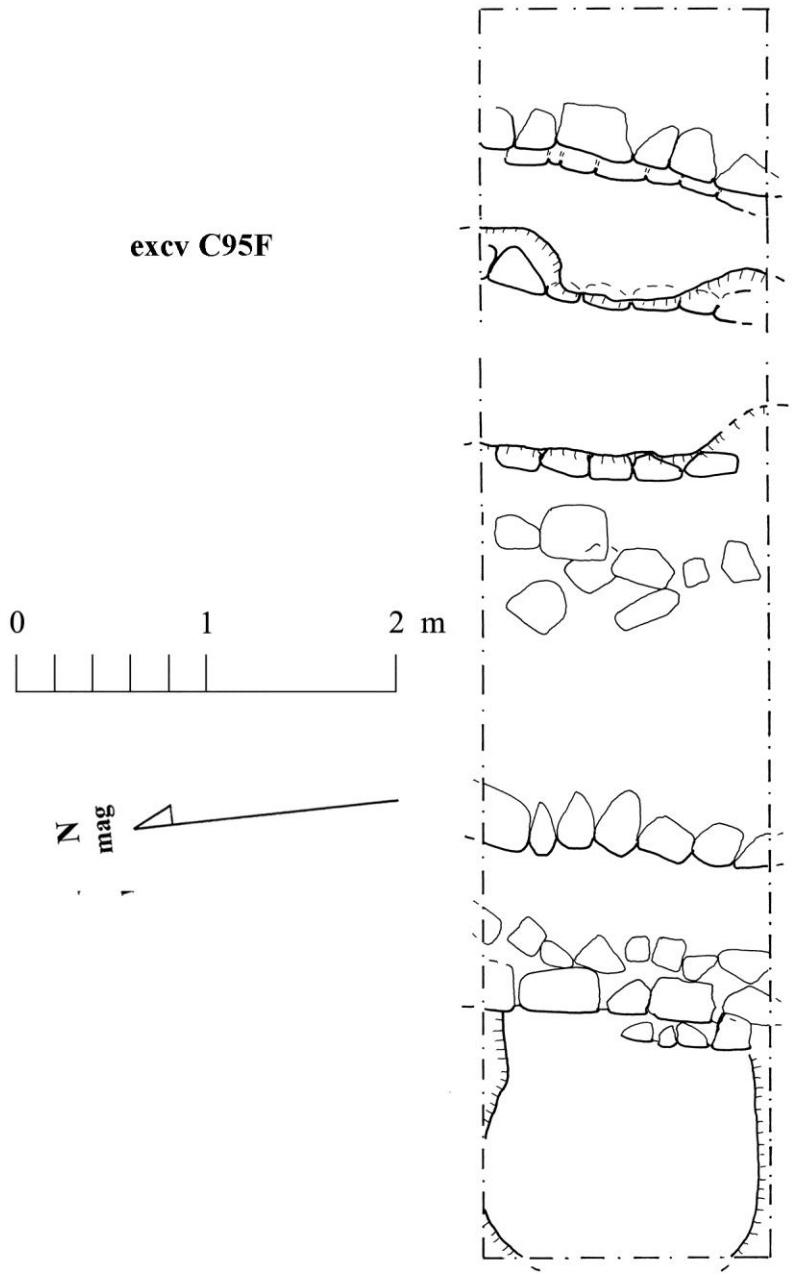

Figure 48: Plan of Operation C95F showing recovered facings.

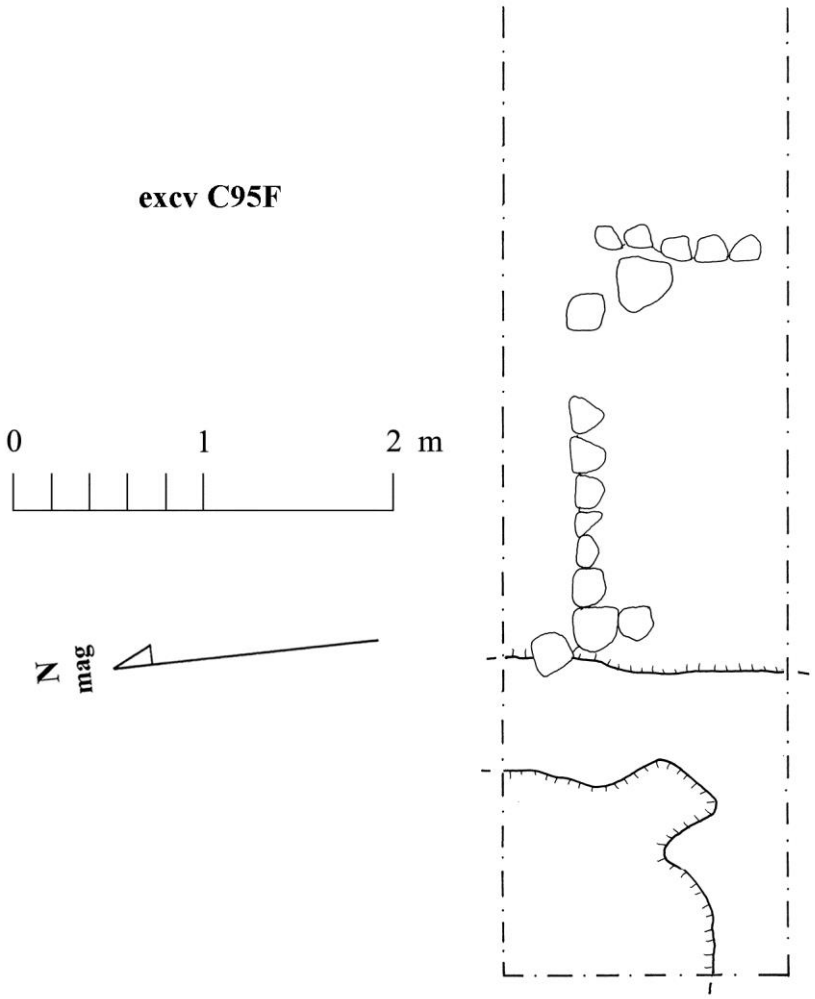

Figure 49: Lower plan of Operation C95F.

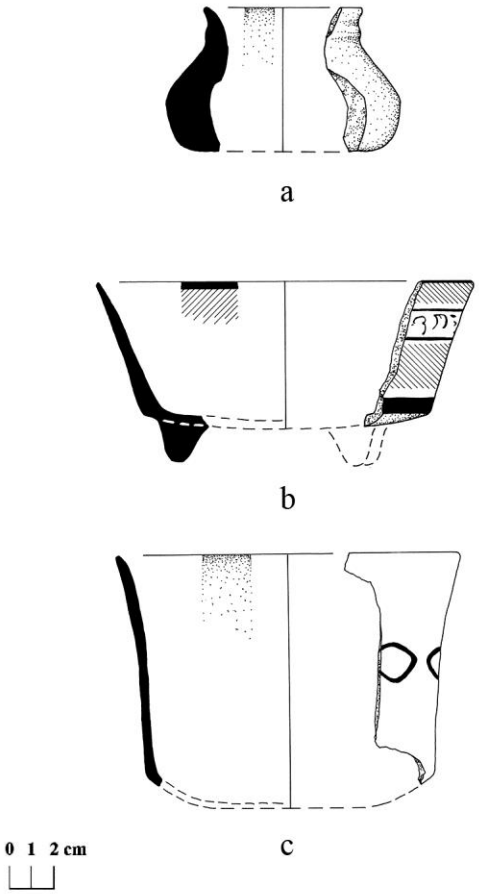

Figure 50: Ceramic vessels recovered in general contexts from Operation C95F: a. undesignated type; b. Benque Viejo Polychrome; c. Zacatel Cream Polychrome.

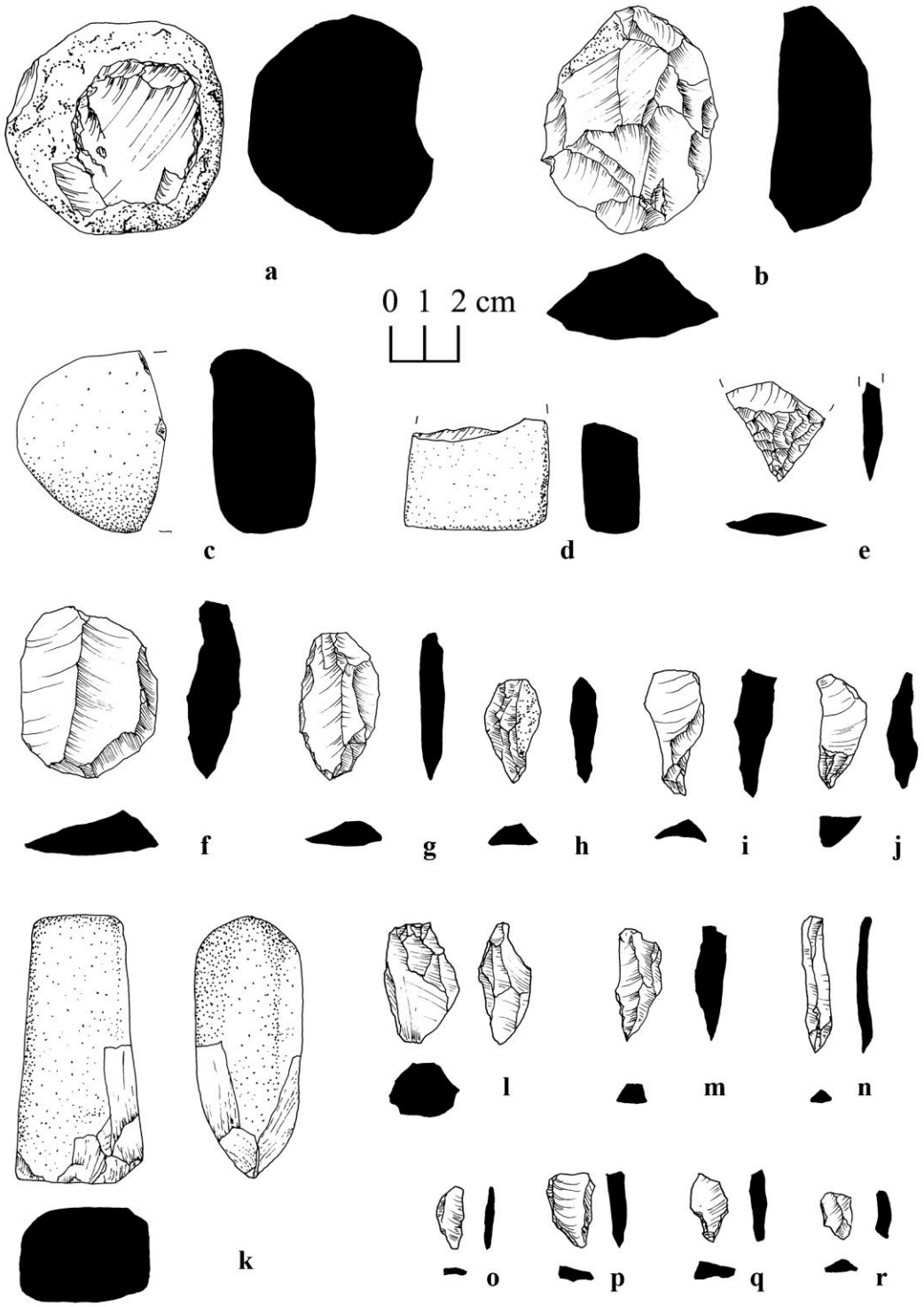

Figure 51: Artifacts recovered in general contexts from Operation C95F: a. chert hammerstone; b. chert biface scraper; c. quartzite mano end; d. worked slate; e. quartzite biface tip; f. quartzite flake tool; g. chert flake tool; h-j, m, o-r. quartzite drill; k. groundstone celt; l. quartzite core; n. quartzite blade; u. marine shell hinge fragment; v. bone pin fragment; w. bone awl fragment; x. drilled and worked shell; y-aa, jj-ll, qq-bbb. marine shell fragment; bb, ee-ii. worked bone fragment; cc. obsidian blade fragment; dd. hematite mirror fragment; mm. whelk shell fragment; nn, pp, river snail; oo. clam shell fragment.

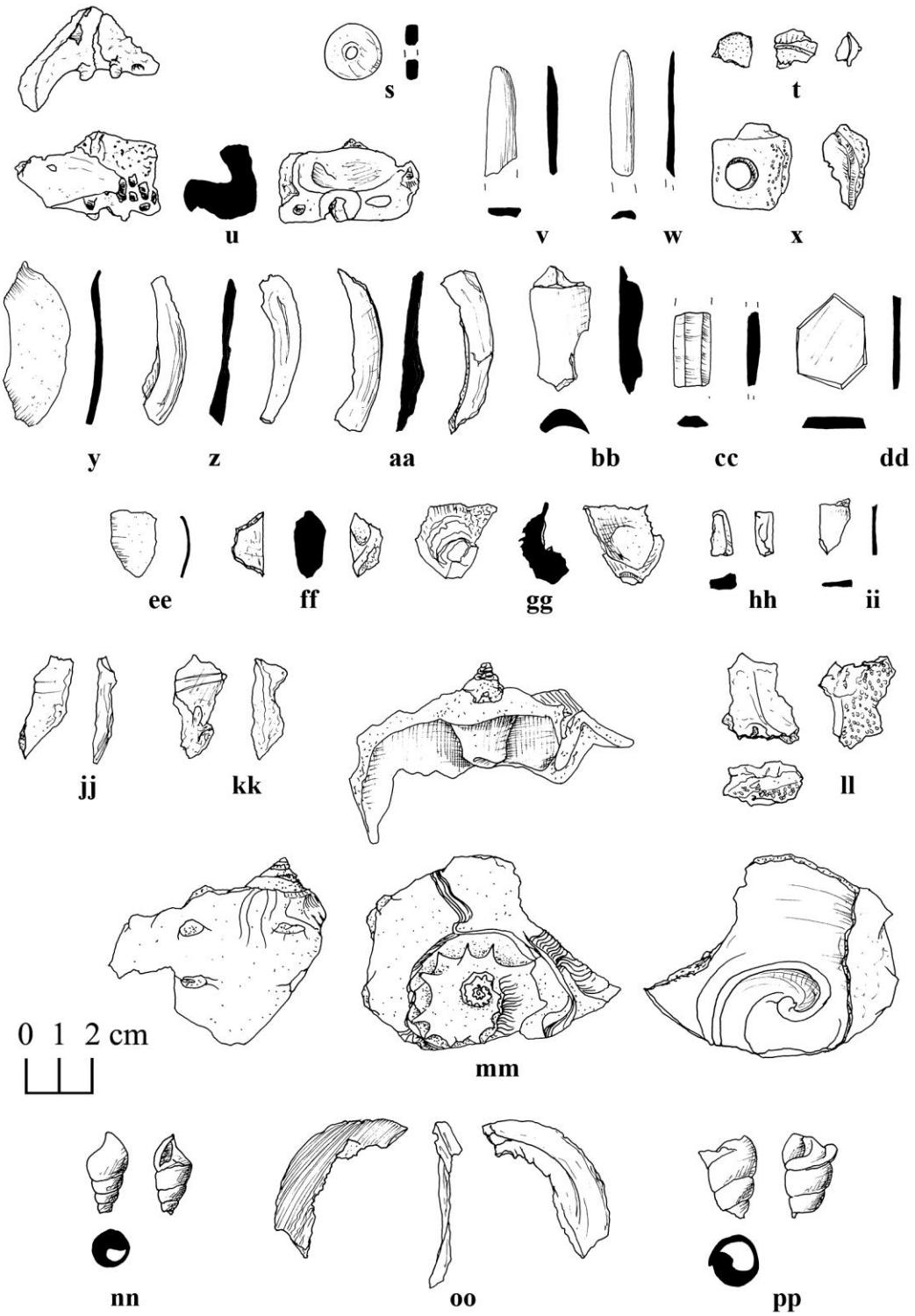

Figure 51: Artifacts recovered in general contexts from Operation C95F: a. chert hammerstone; b. chert biface scraper; c. quartzite mano end; d. worked slate; e. quartzite biface tip; f. quartzite flake tool; g. chert flake tool; h-j, m, o-r. quartzite drill; k. groundstone celt; l. quartzite core; n. quartzite blade; u. marine shell hinge fragment; v. bone pin fragment; w. bone awl fragment; x. drilled and worked shell; y-aa, jj-ll, qq-bbb. marine shell fragment; bb, ee-ii. worked bone fragment; cc. obsidian blade fragment; dd. hematite mirror fragment; mm. whelk shell fragment; nn, pp, river snail; oo. clam shell fragment.

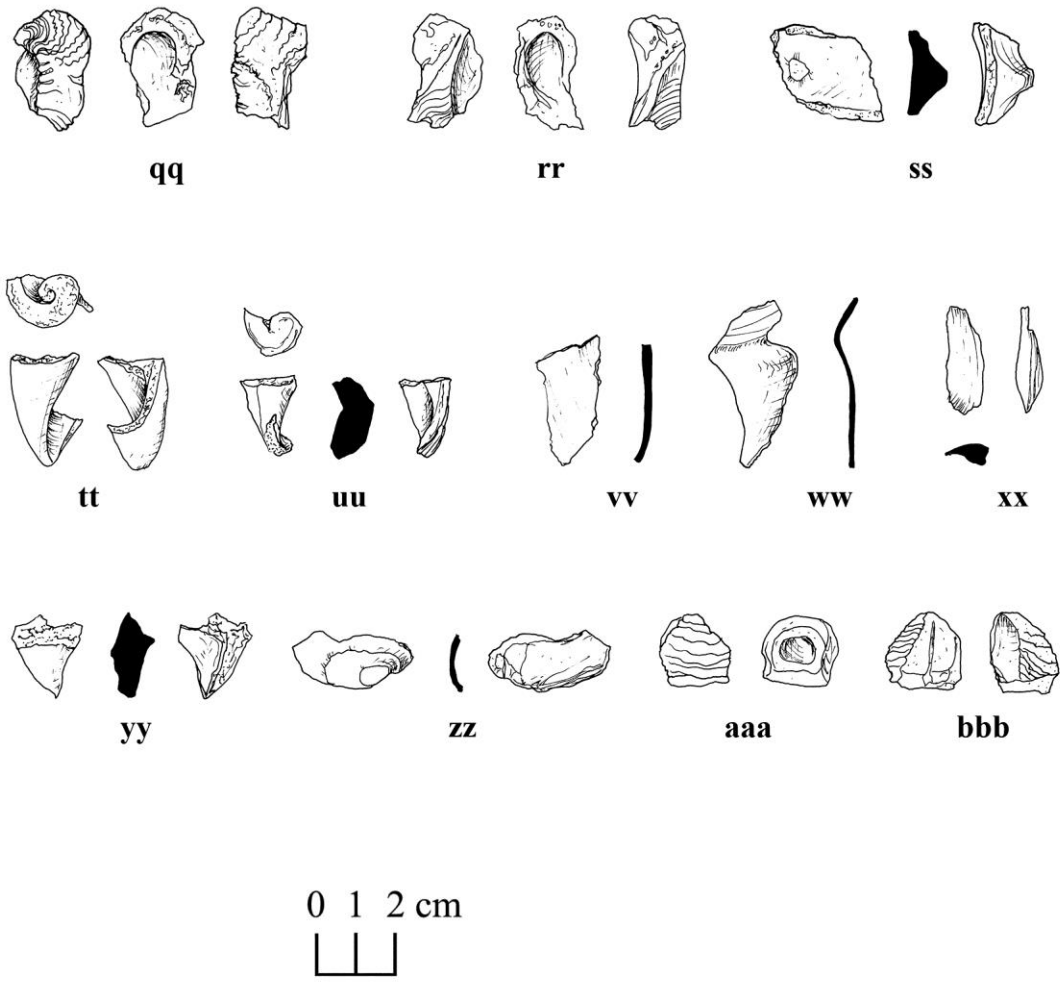

Figure 51: Artifacts recovered in general contexts from Operation C95F: a. chert hammerstone; b. chert biface scraper; c. quartzite mano end; d. worked slate; e. quartzite biface tip; f. quartzite flake tool; g. chert flake tool; h-j, m, o-r. quartzite drill; k. groundstone celt; l. quartzite core; n. quartzite blade; u. marine shell hinge fragment; v. bone pin fragment; w. bone awl fragment; x. drilled and worked shell; y-aa, jj-ll, qq-bbb. marine shell fragment; bb, ee-ii. worked bone fragment; cc. obsidian blade fragment; dd. hematite mirror fragment; mm. whelk shell fragment; nn, pp, river snail; oo. clam shell fragment.

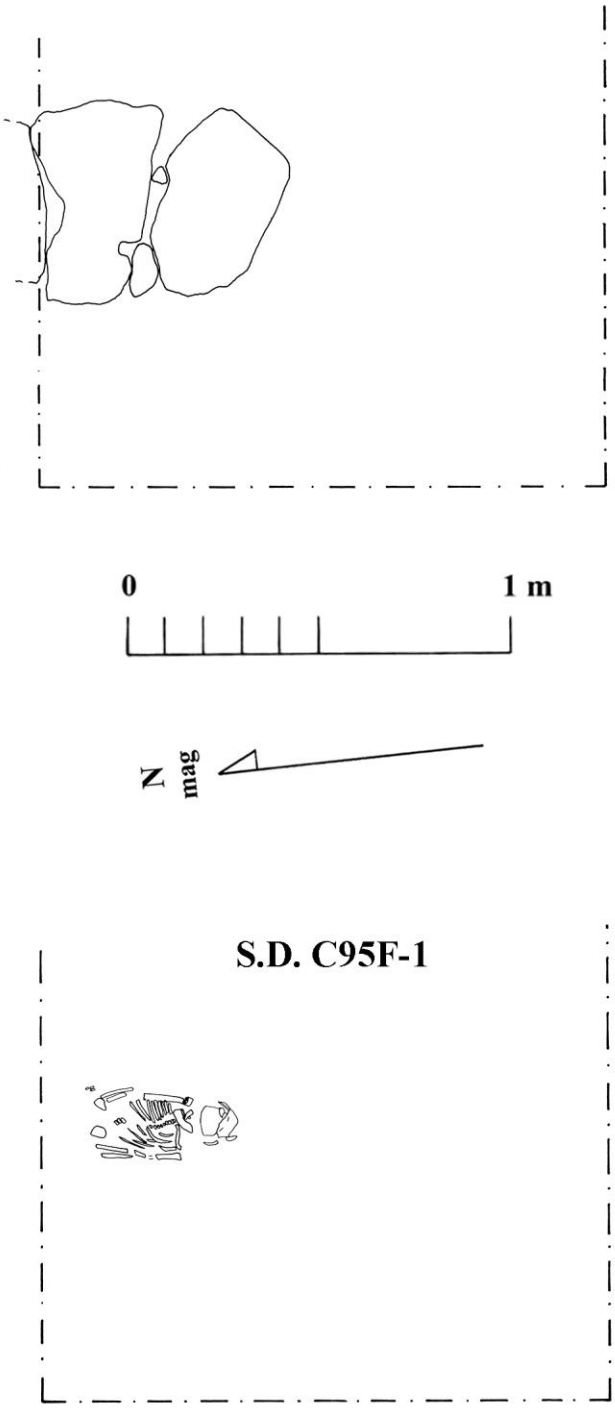

Figure 52: Plan of S.D. C95F-1 and its capstones.

Figure 53: Photograph of Operation C95G (upper foreground) and Operations C95I (upper back; lower).

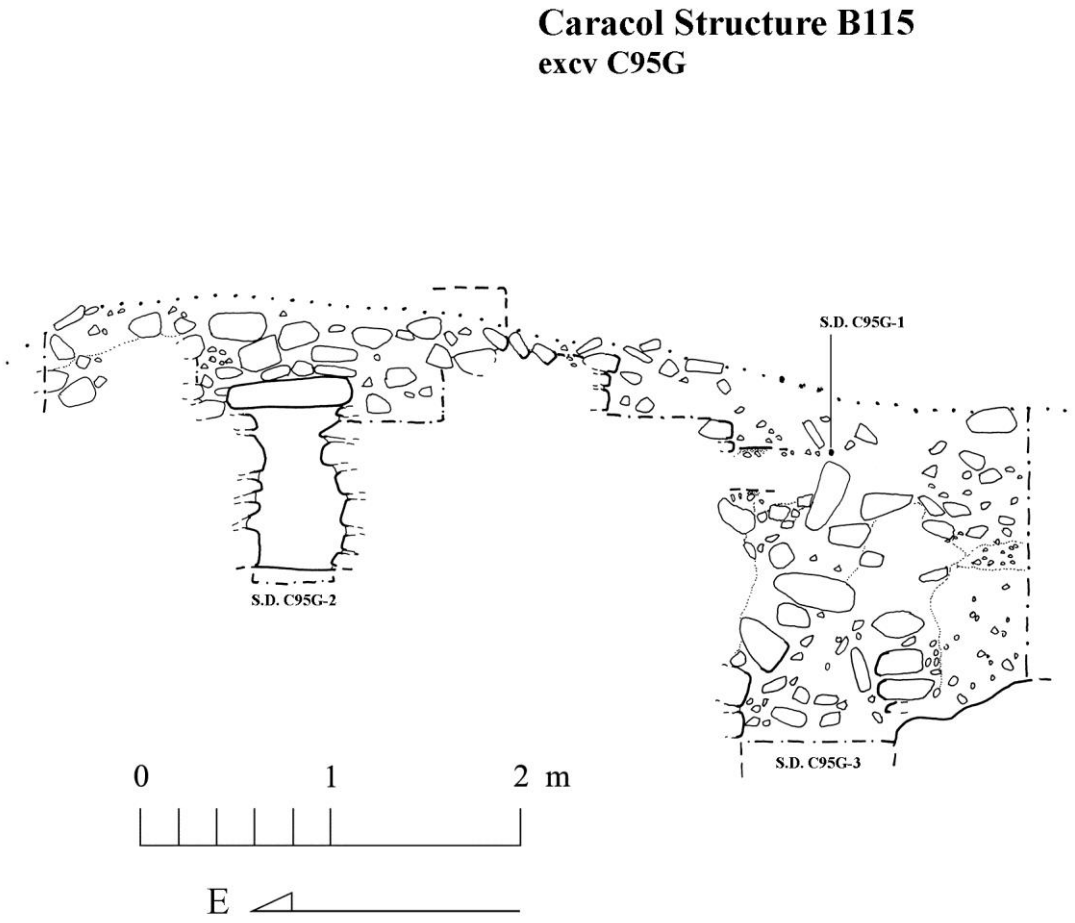

Figure 54: Section through Structure B115 showing Operation C95G.

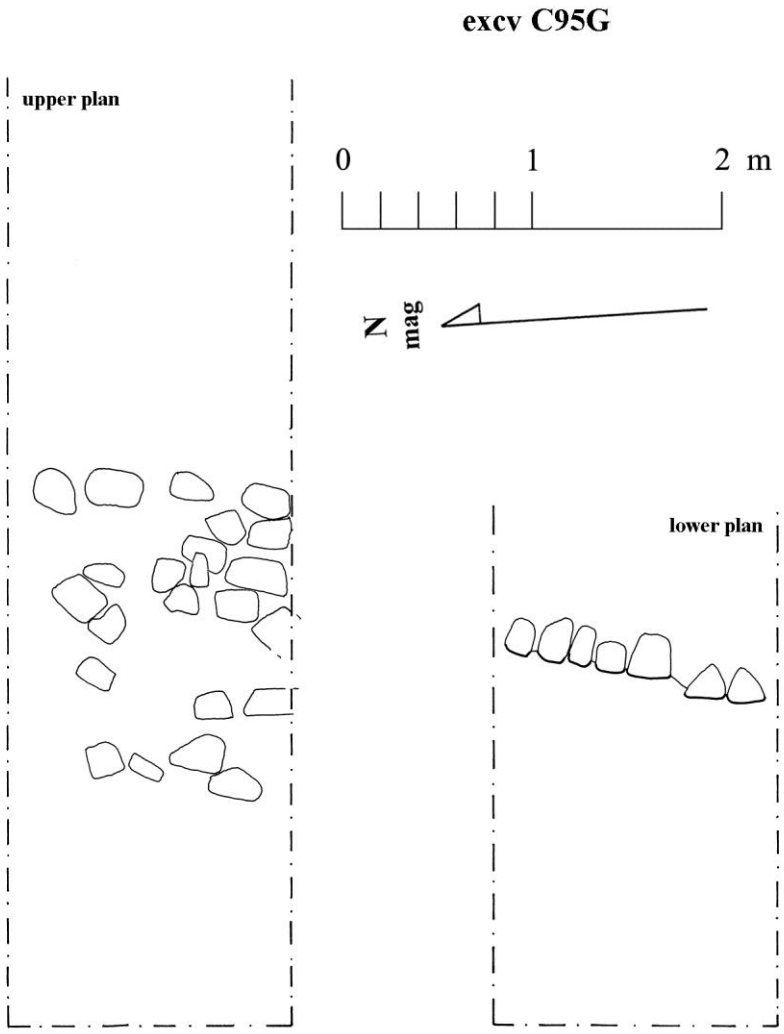

Figure 55: Plans of Operation C95G.

a

b

c

Figure 56: Photographs of S.D.s C95G-1 (upper), C95G-2 (lower left), C95G-3 (lower right).

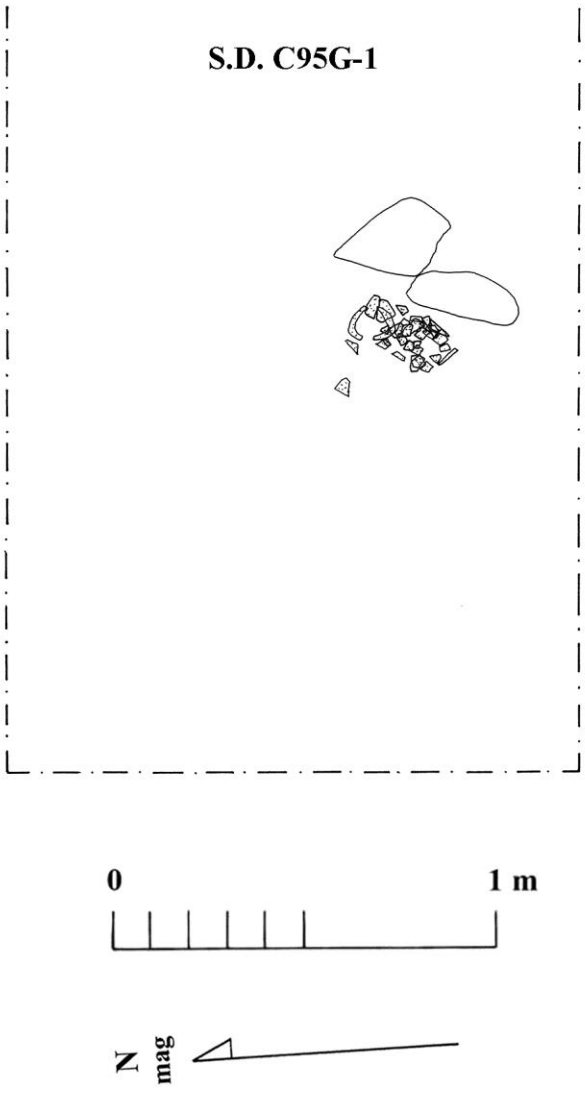

Figure 57: Plan of S.D. C95G-1.

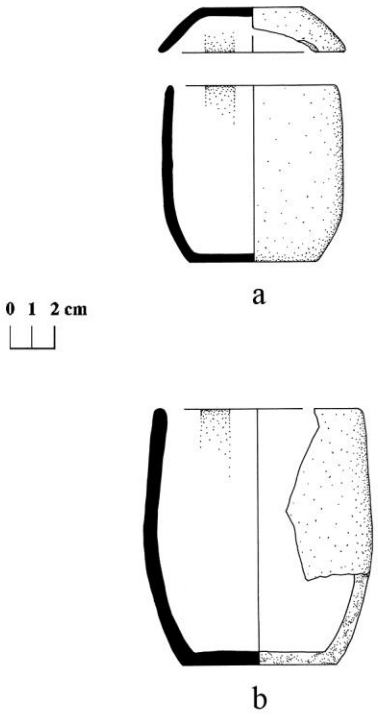

Figure 58: Ceramic vessels from S.D. C95G-1: a, b. related to Hebe Modeled.

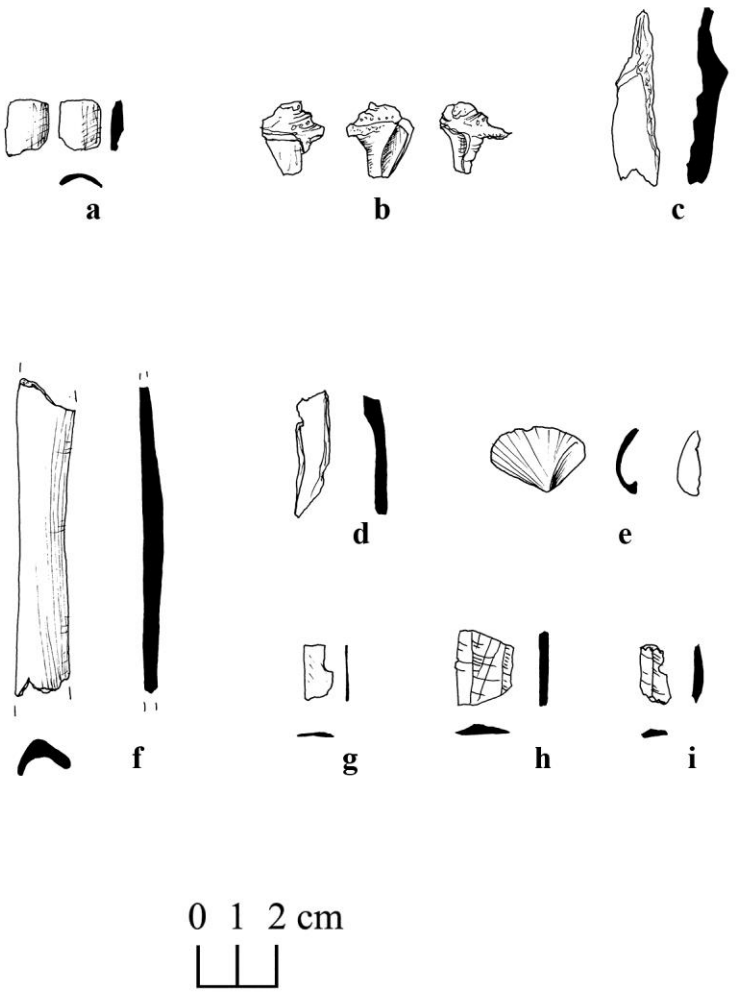

Figure 59: Artifacts associated with S.D. C95G-1 (a-c) and S. D. C95G-2 (d-i): a-d, g. marine shell fragment; e. marine clam shell; f. worked bone fragment; h, i. obsidian blade fragments.

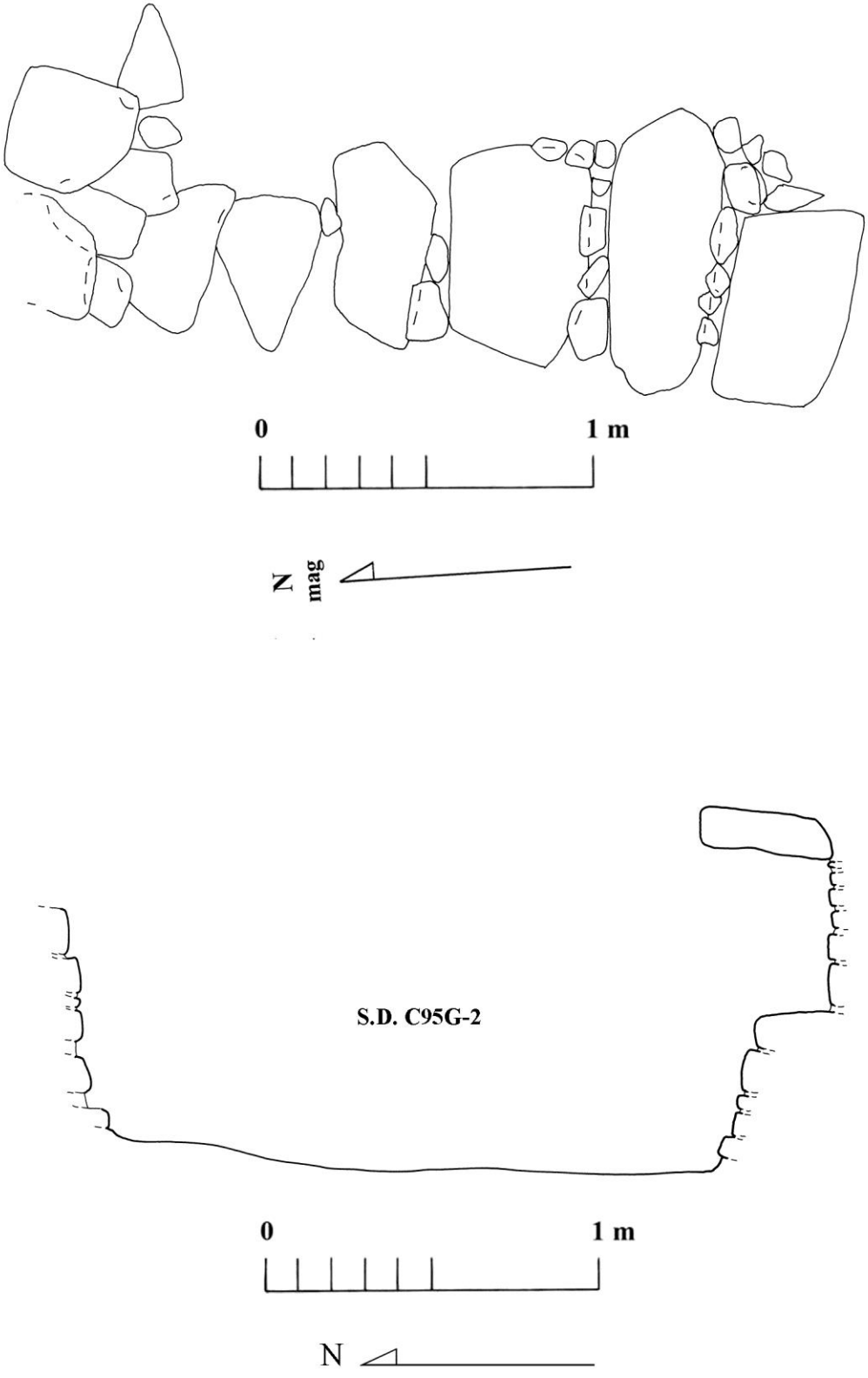

Figure 60: Capstones above S. D. C95G-2 and north-south cross-section through S.D. C95G-2 chamber.

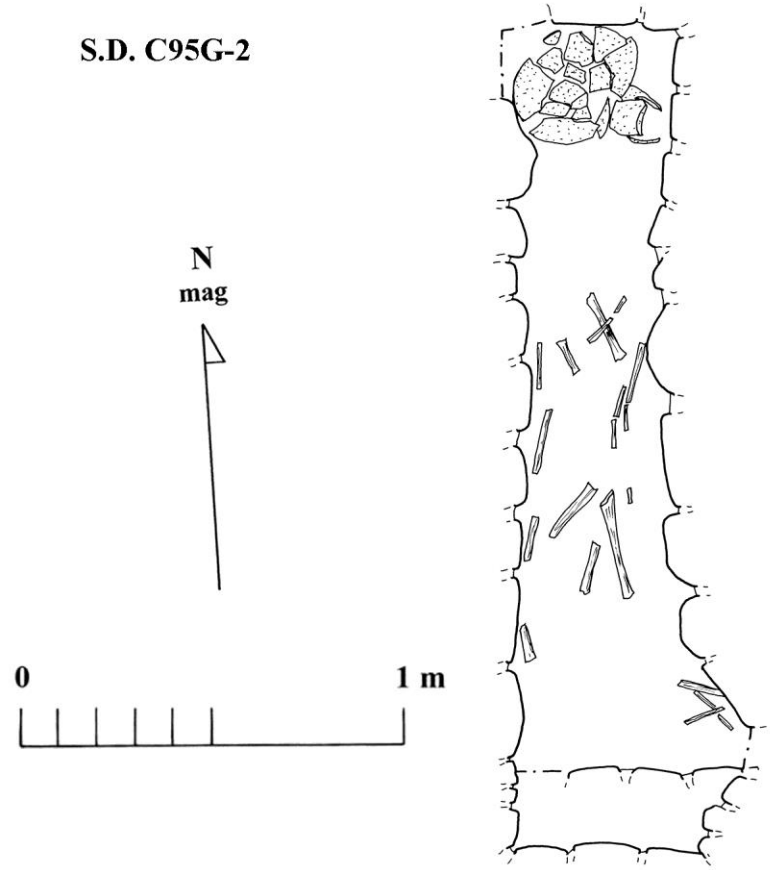

Figure 61: Plan of S.D. C95G-2.

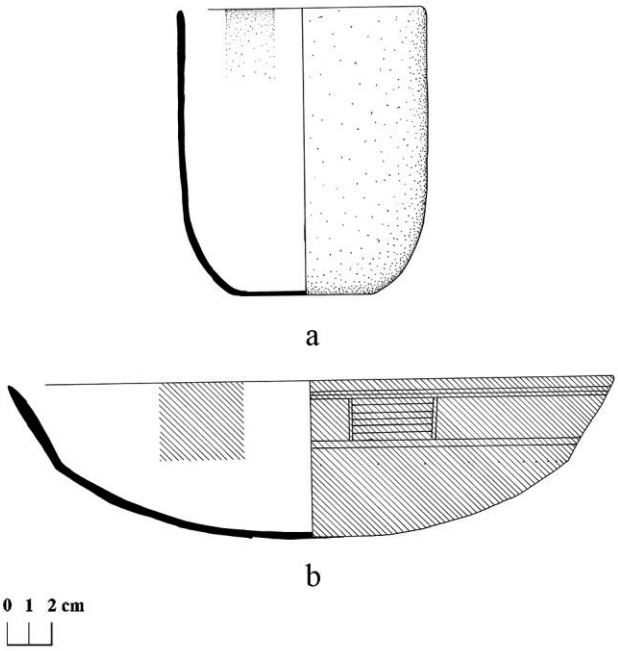

Figure 62: Vessels associated with S.D. C95G-2: a. eroded Tialipa Brown; b. Corozal Incised.

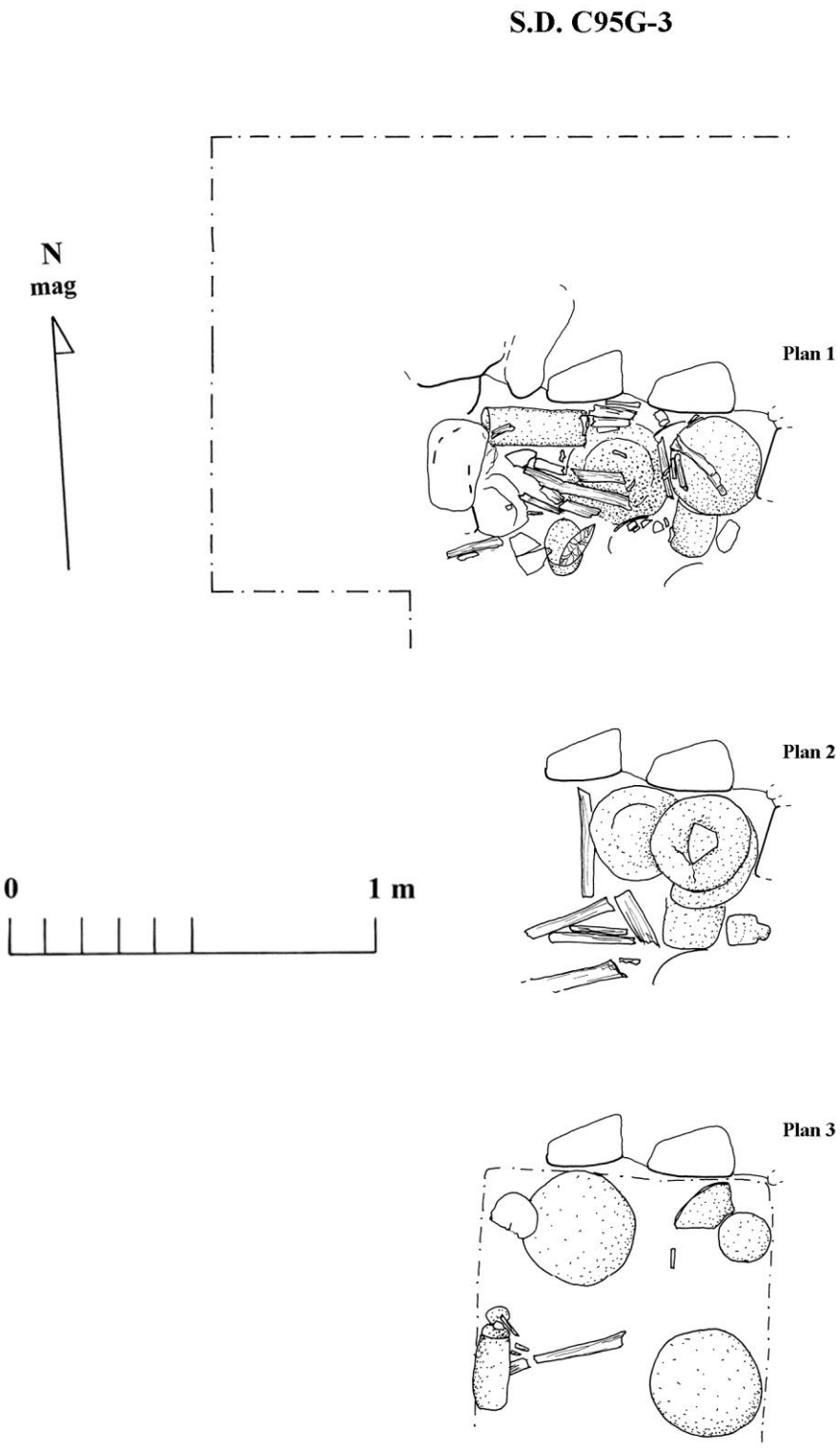

Figure 63: Plans of S.D. C95G-3.

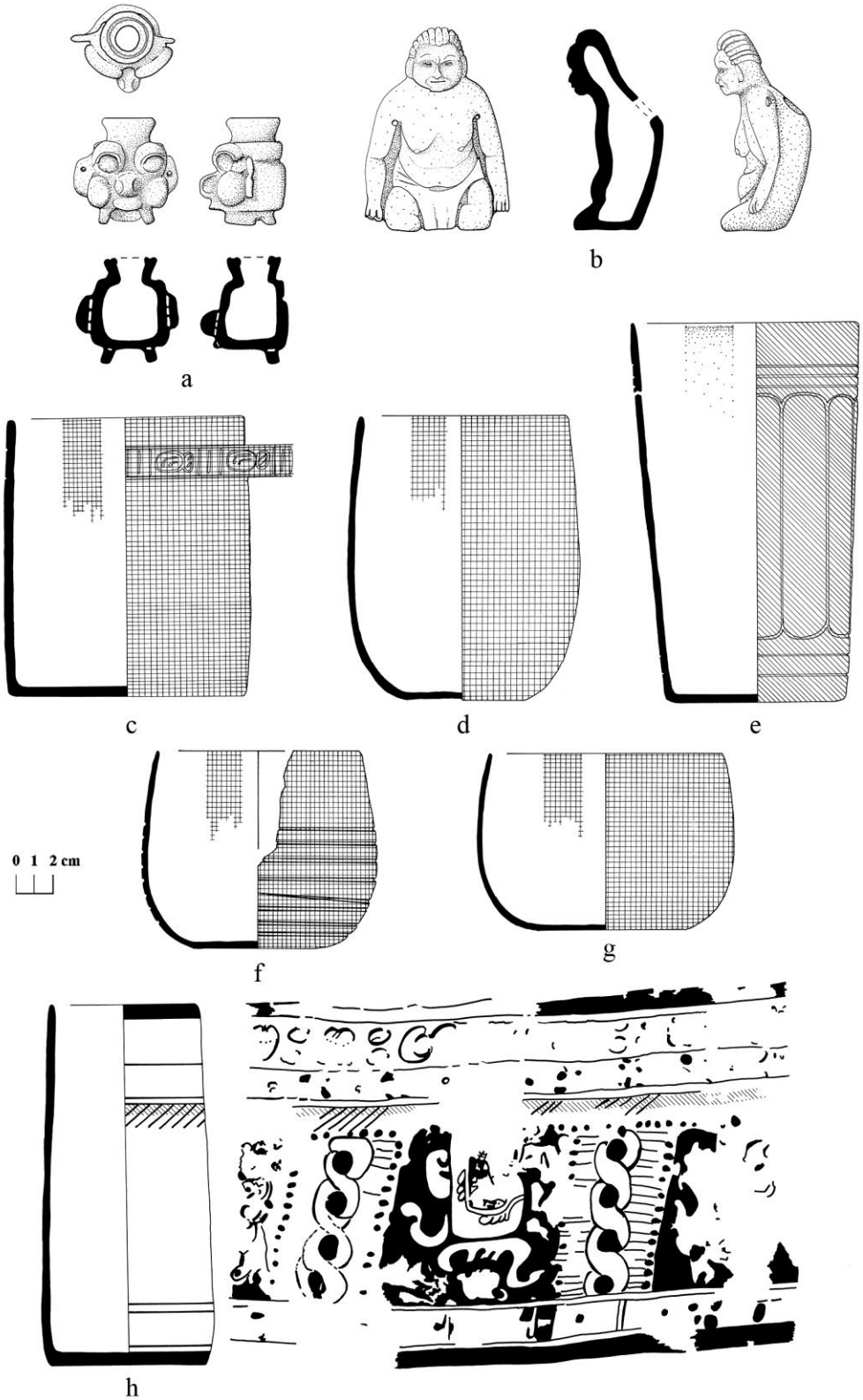

Figure 64: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95G-3: a. undesignated type; b. ceramic figurine; c. Tialipa Grouged-Incised; d, g. Tialipa Brown; e. Martins Incised; f. Tialipa Incised; h. Zacatel Cream Polychrome; i, j. San Pedro Impressed; k. Benque Viejo Polychrome; l. Belize Red; m-o. Machete Orange Polychrome.

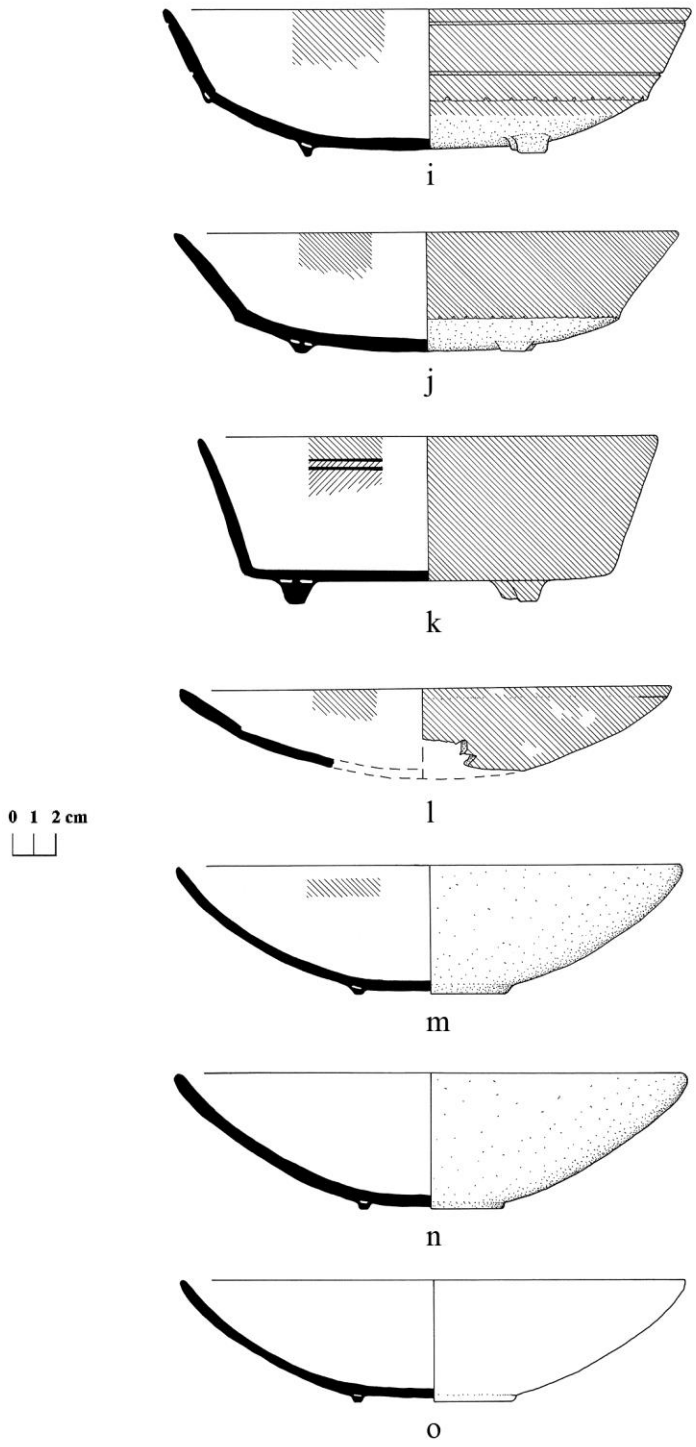

Figure 64: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C95G-3: a. undesignated type; b. ceramic figurine; c. Tialipa Grouged-Incised; d, g. Tialipa Brown; e. Martins Incised; f. Tialipa Incised; h. Zacatel Cream Polychrome; i, j. San Pedro Impressed; k. Benque Viejo Polychrome; l. Belize Red; m-o. Machete Orange Polychrome.

Figure 65: Photograph of ceramic materials associated with S.D. C95G-3: a. ceramic figurine; b. modeled miniature jar; c. incised cylinder; d. polychrome cylinder.

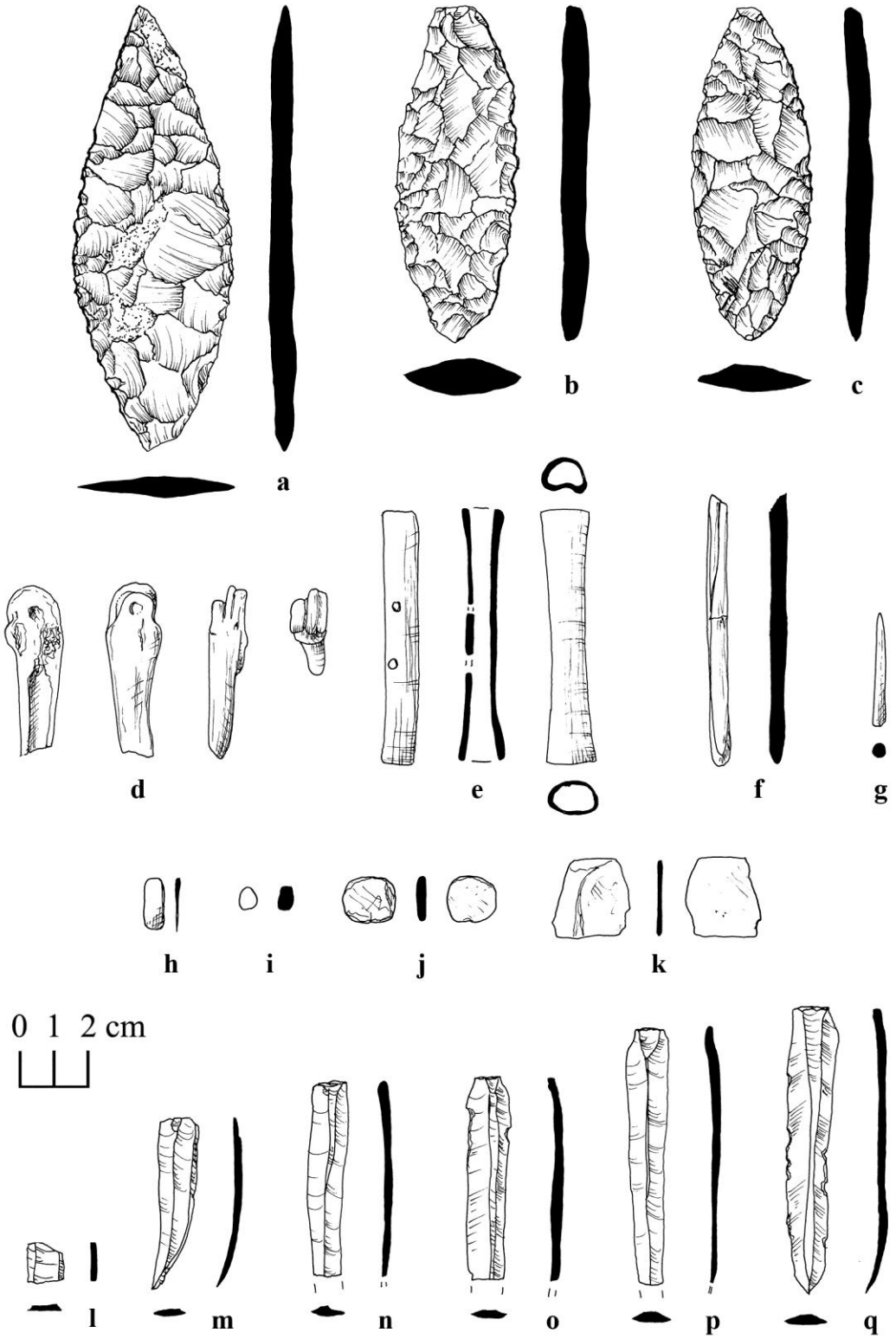

Figure 66: Artifacts associated with S.D. C95G-3: a-c. chert bifacial points; d. bone awl fragment; e. drilled bone tube; f, g. bone pin fragment; h, k. worked shell; i. worked jadeite (possibly inlay); j. shell disc; l. obsidian blade fragment ; m-q obsidian blade.

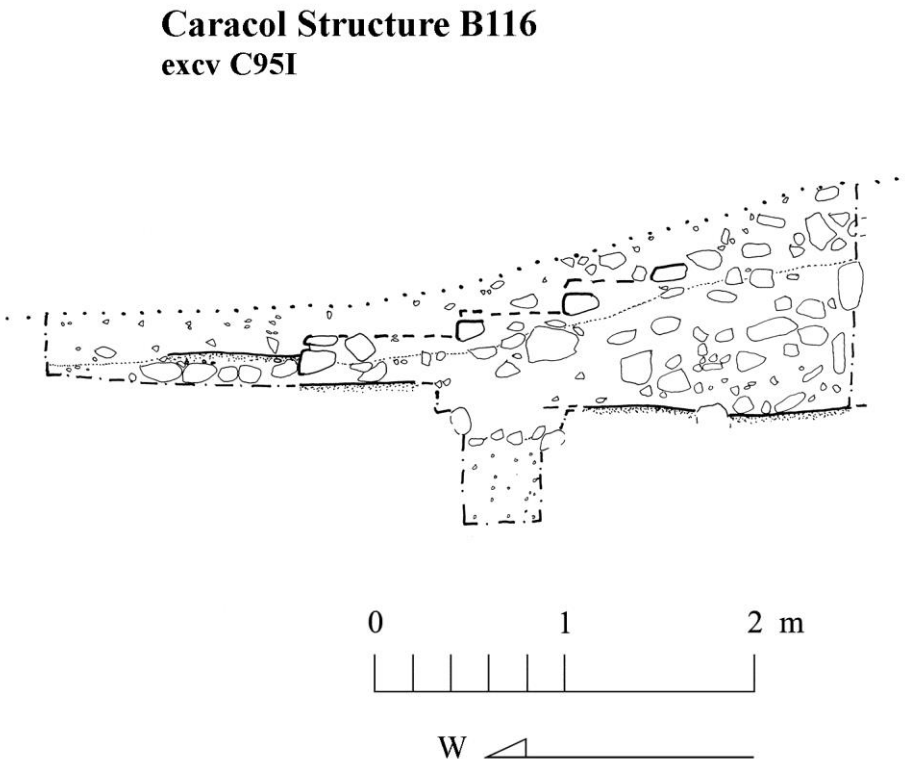

Figure 67: Section through Structure B116 showing Operation C95I.

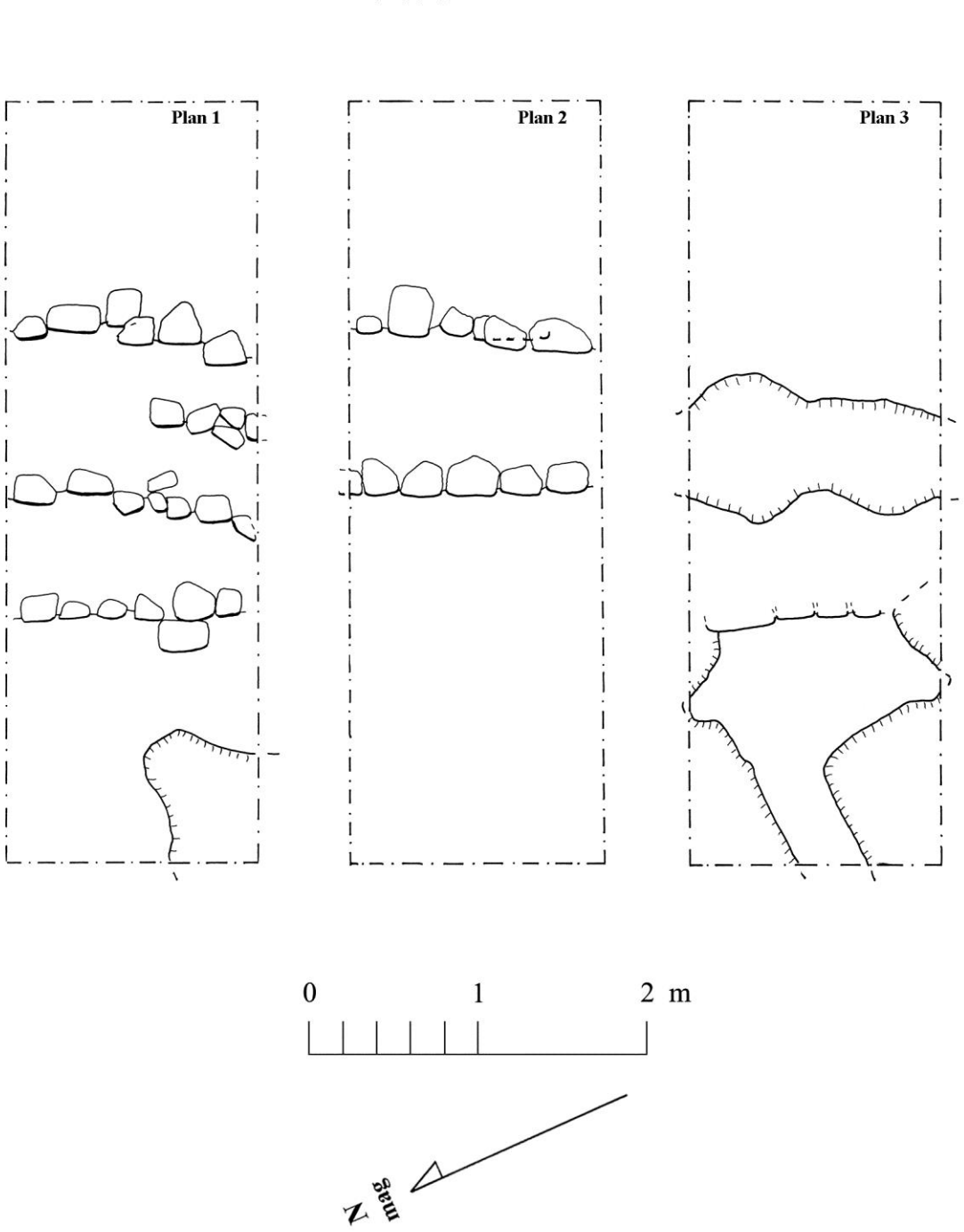

Figure 68: Plans of Operation C95I.

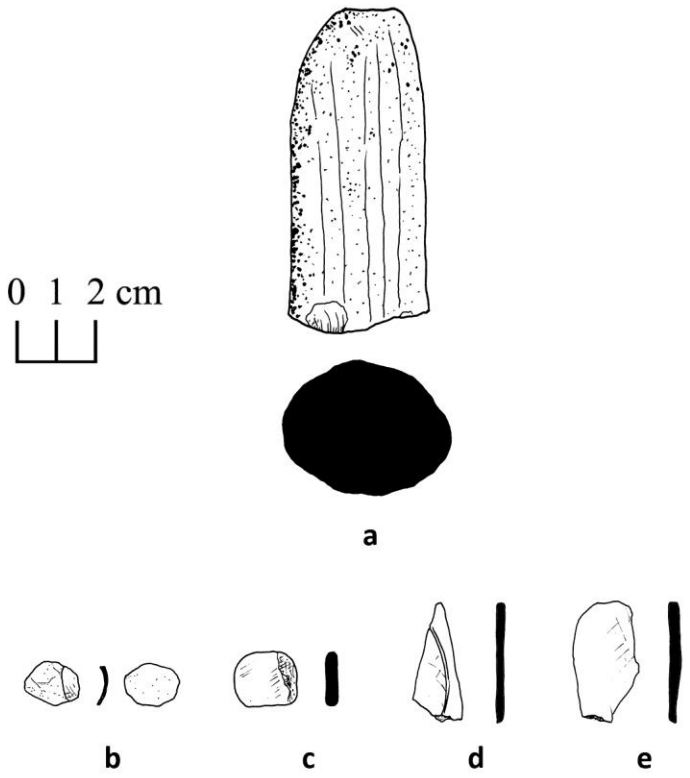

Figure 69: Artifactual material associated with Operation C95I: a. river cobble with grooved lines; b, c. worked marine shell; d, e. bone fragments from an awl.

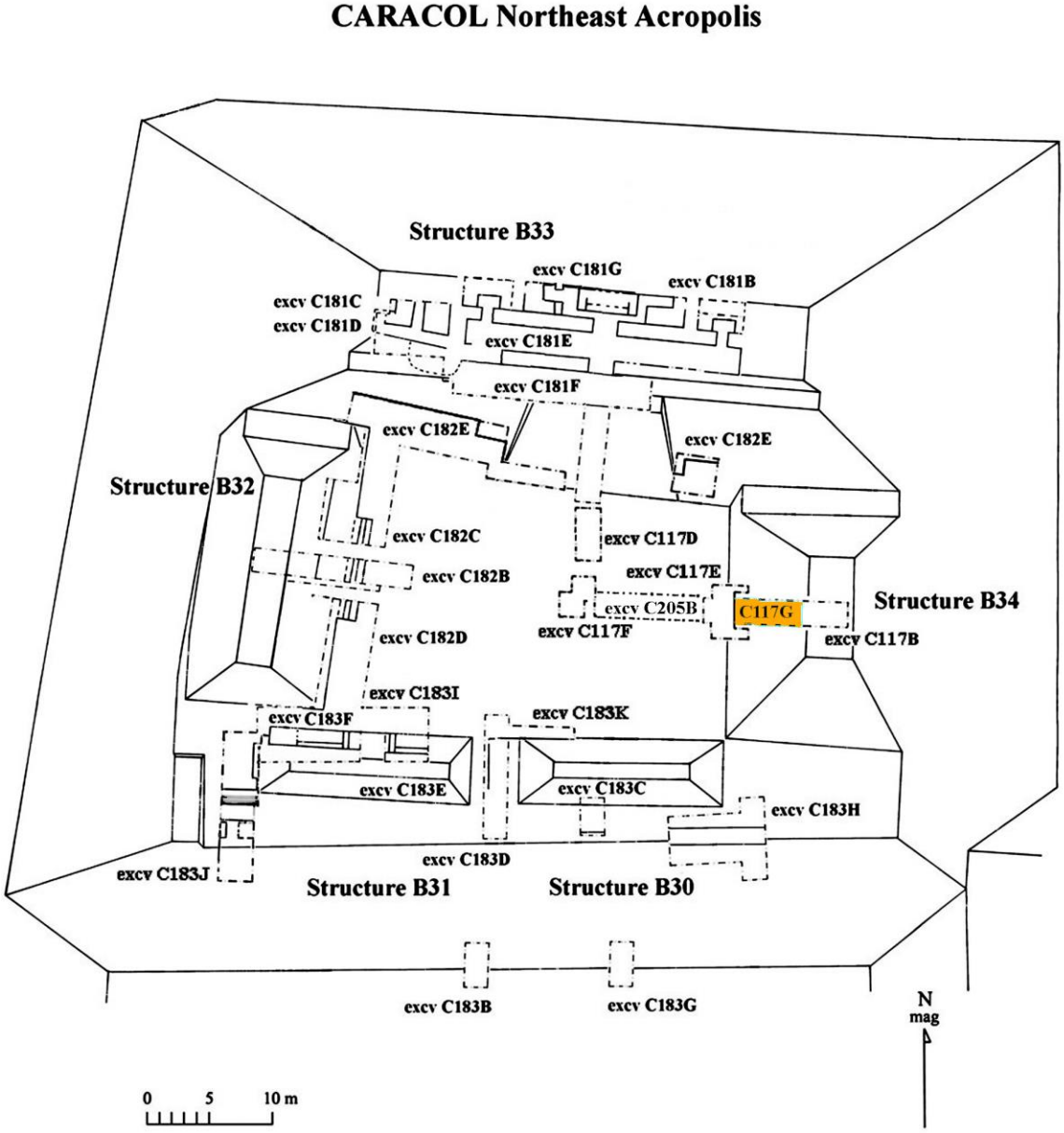

Figure 70: Plan of Caracol Northeast Acropolis showing location of Operation C117G.

Figure 71: Photographs of reopened trench into Structure B34 (upper) and Operation C117G (lower).

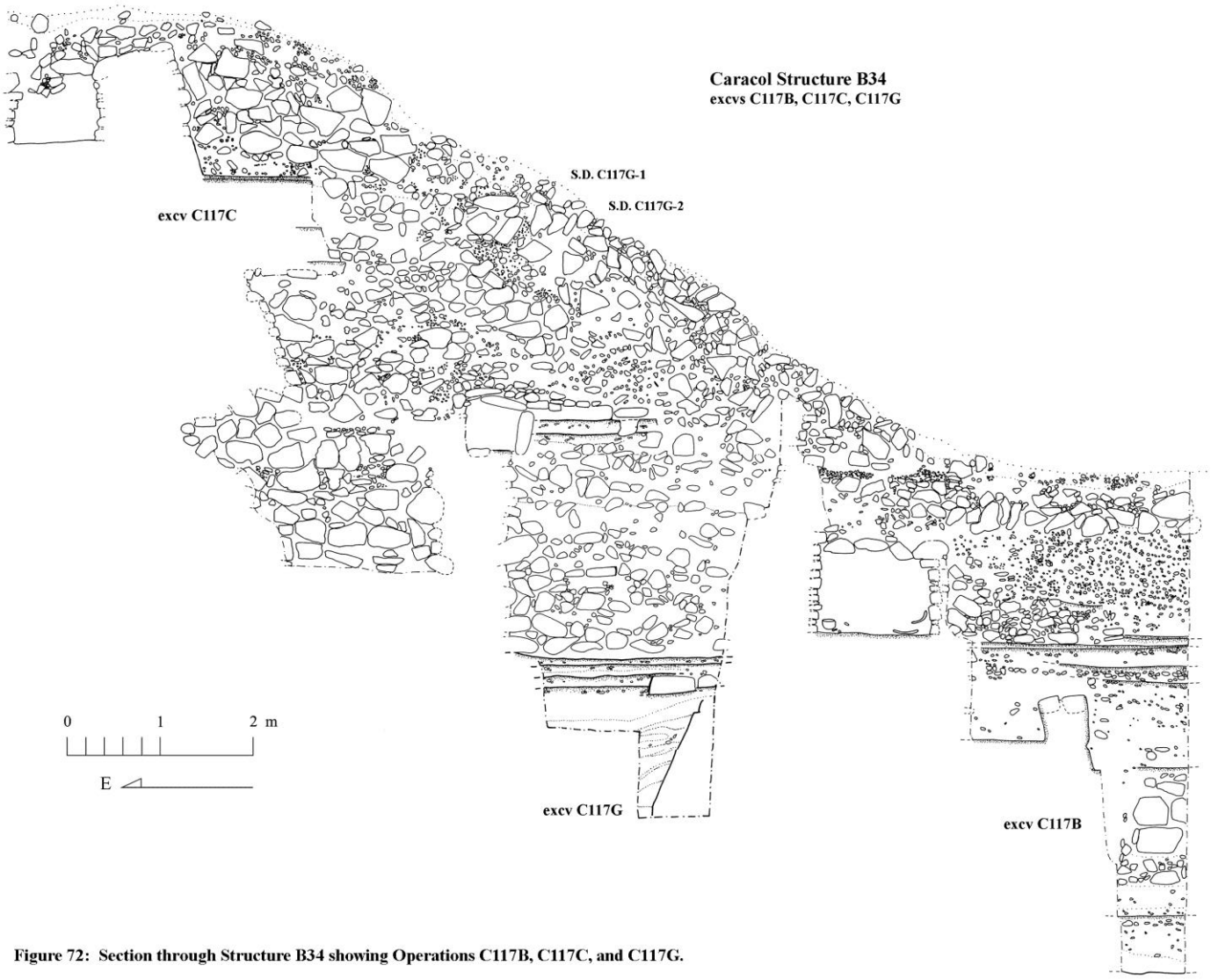

Figure 72: Section through Structure B34 showing Operations C117B, C117C, and C117G.

excv C 117G

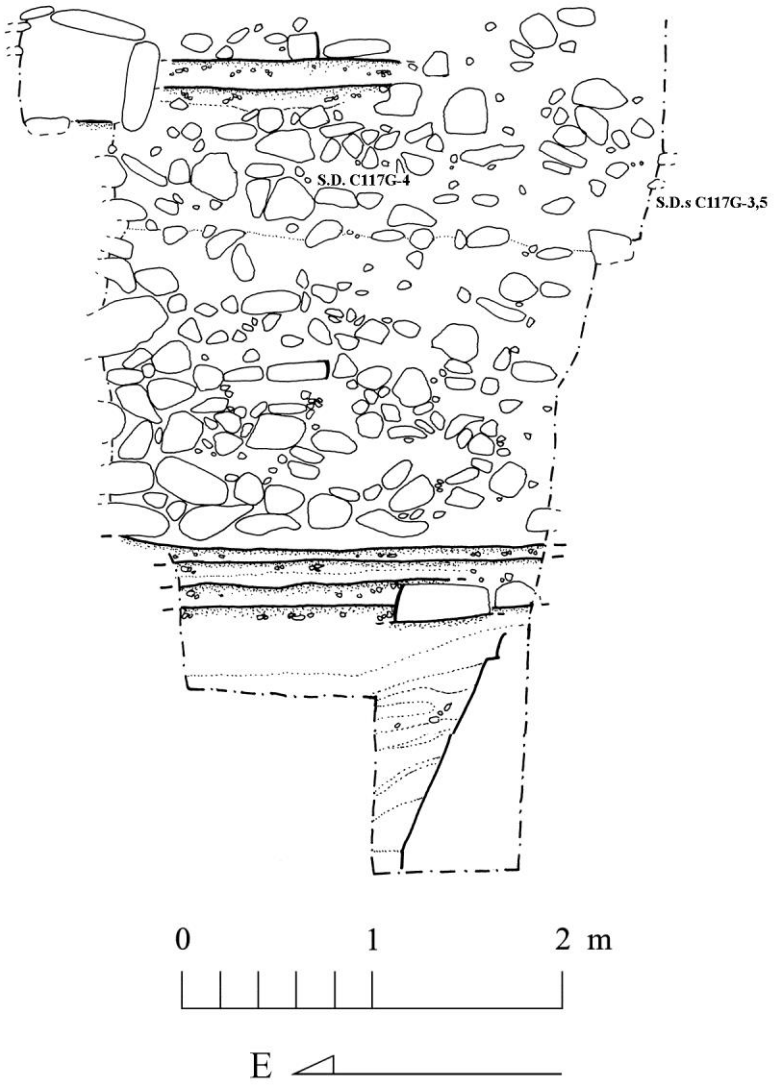

Figure 73: Section of Operation C117G.

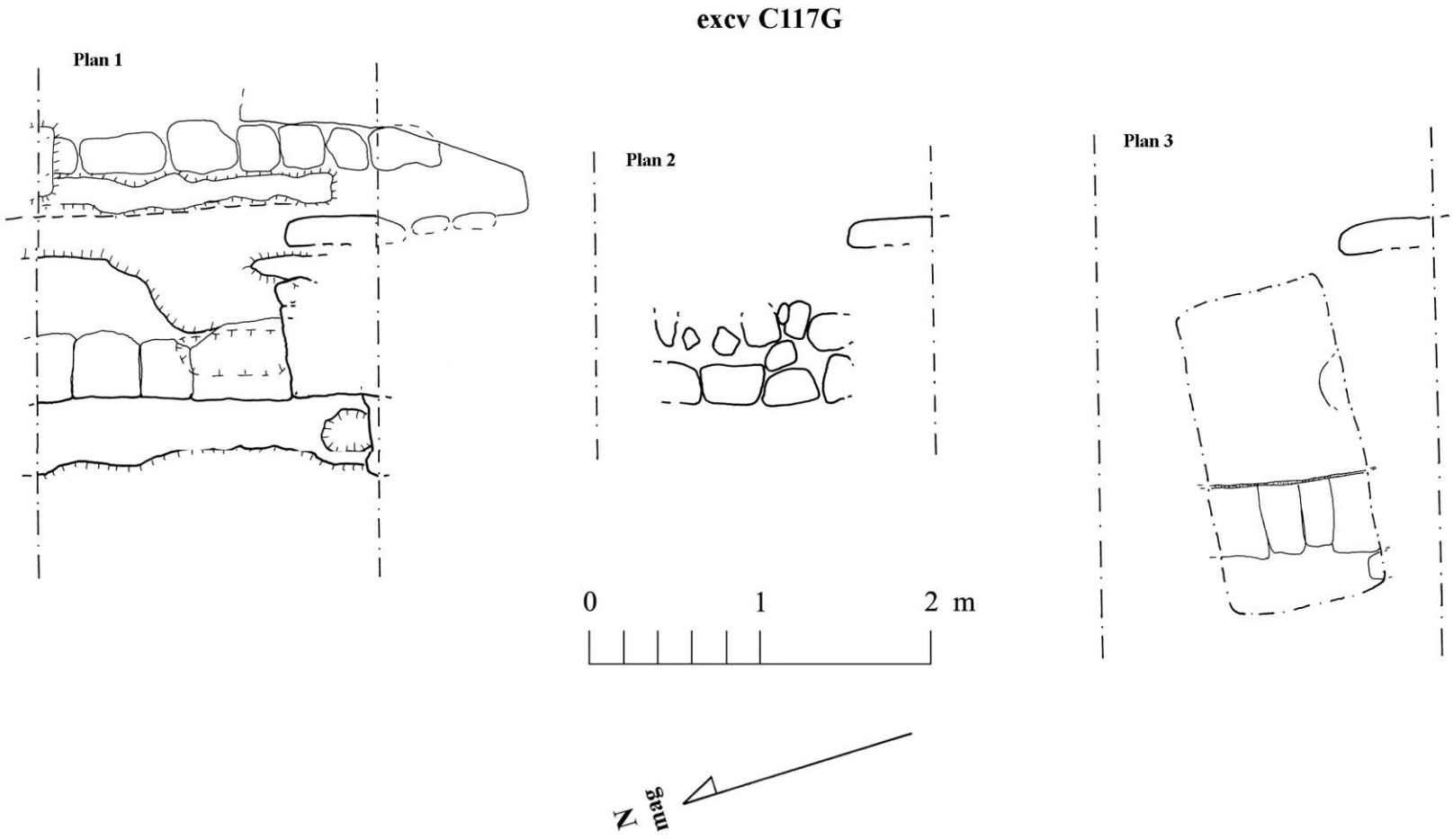

Figure 74: Plans of Operation C117G.

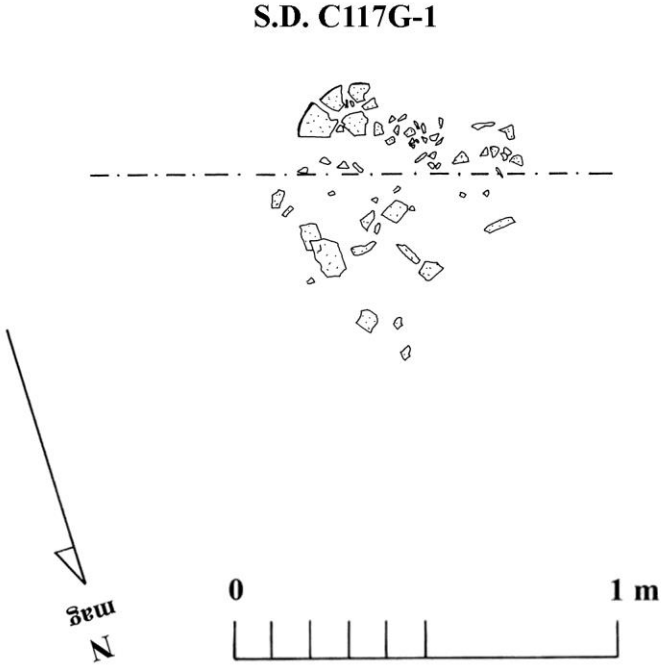

Figure 75: Plan of S.D. C117G-1.

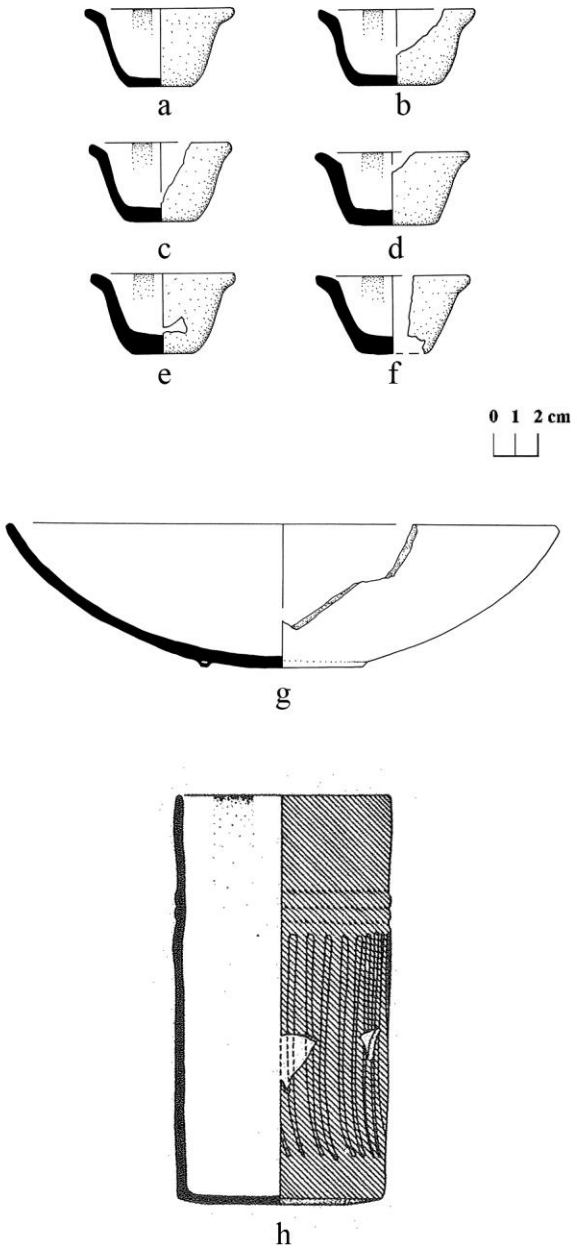

Figure 76: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C117G-1 (a-f) and S.D. C117G-2 (g, h): a-f. Ceiba Unslipped; g. Machete Orange Polychrome; h. Tenaja Fluted.

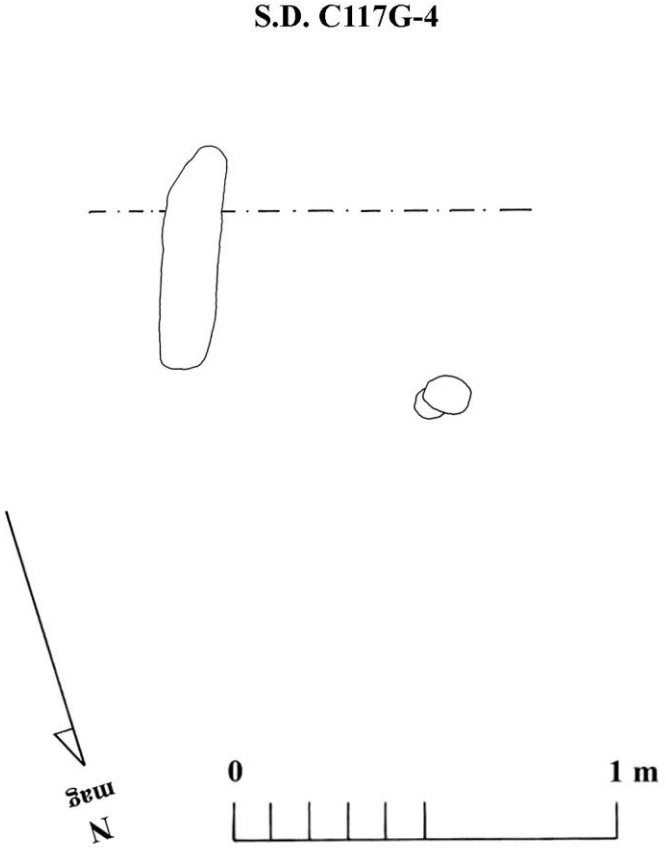

Figure 77: Plan of S.D. C117G-4.

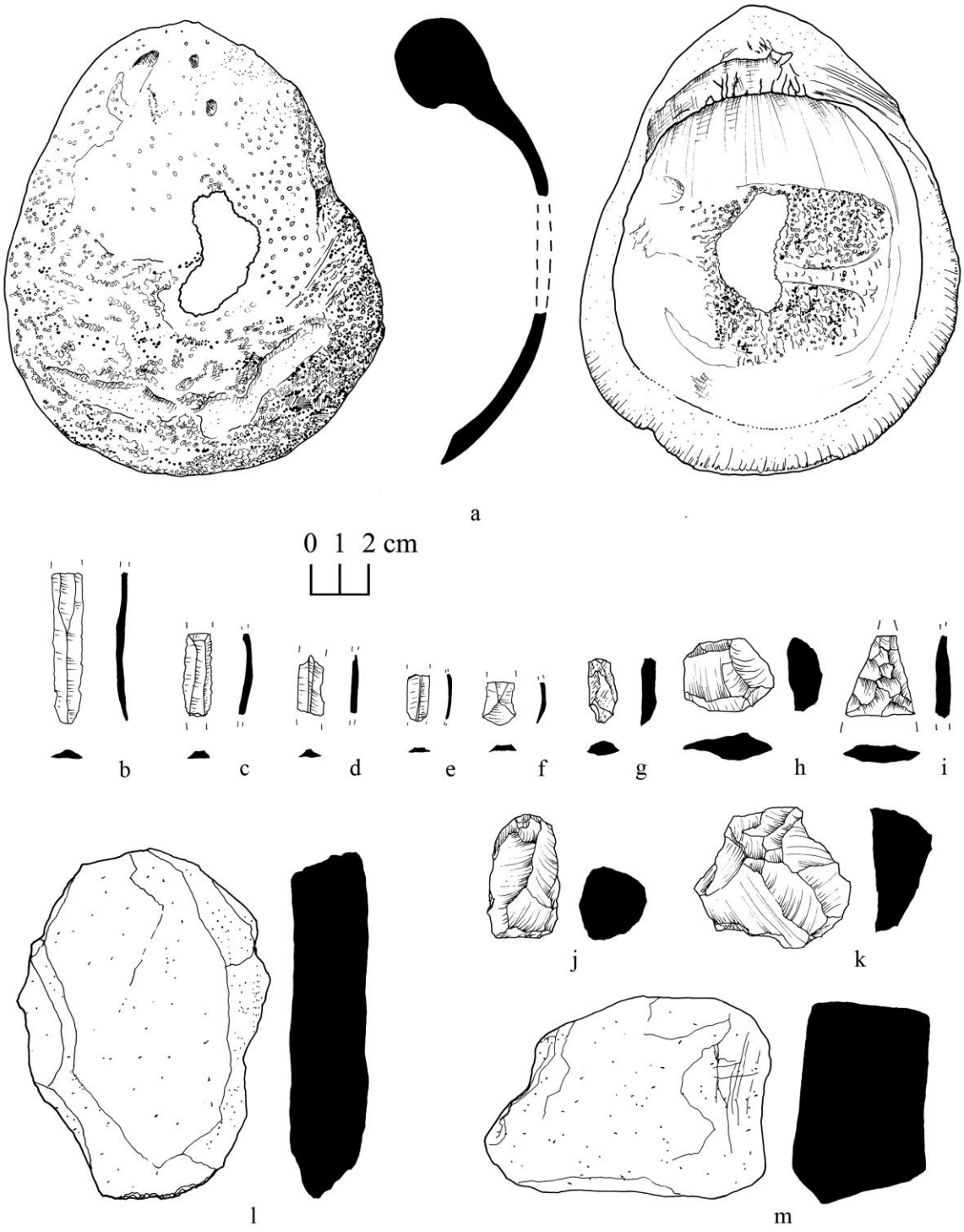

Figure 78: Artifacts from Operation C117G: a. spondylus shell; b-e. obsidian blade fragment ; f. slate fragment; g. quartzite drill; h, k. chert flake tool, i. chert biface tip; j. quartzite biface end; l, m. modified slate.

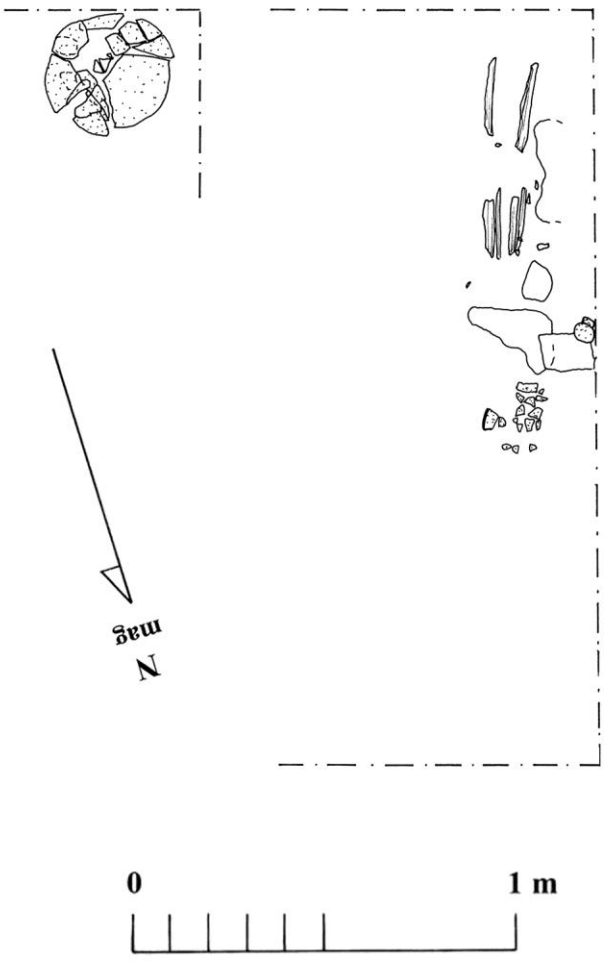

Figure 79: Plan of S.D. C117G-3.

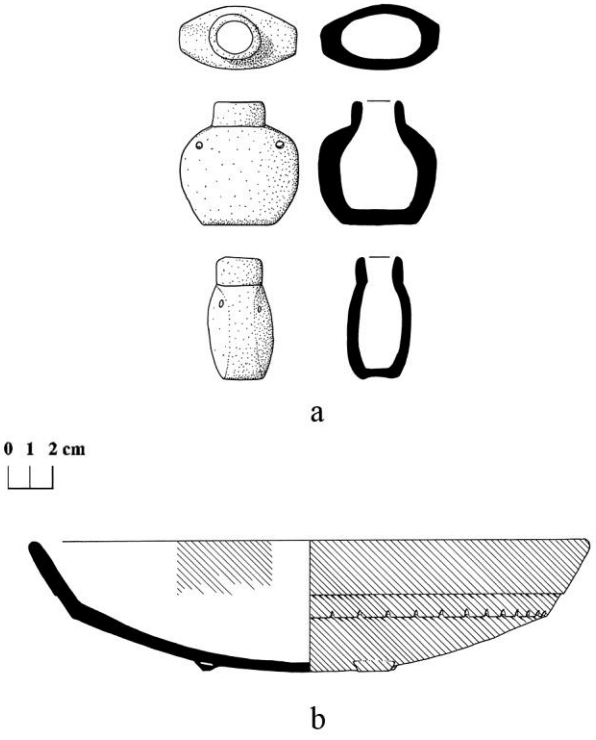

Figure 80: Ceramic vessels associated with S.C. C117G-3: a. undesignated type; b. San Pedro Impressed.

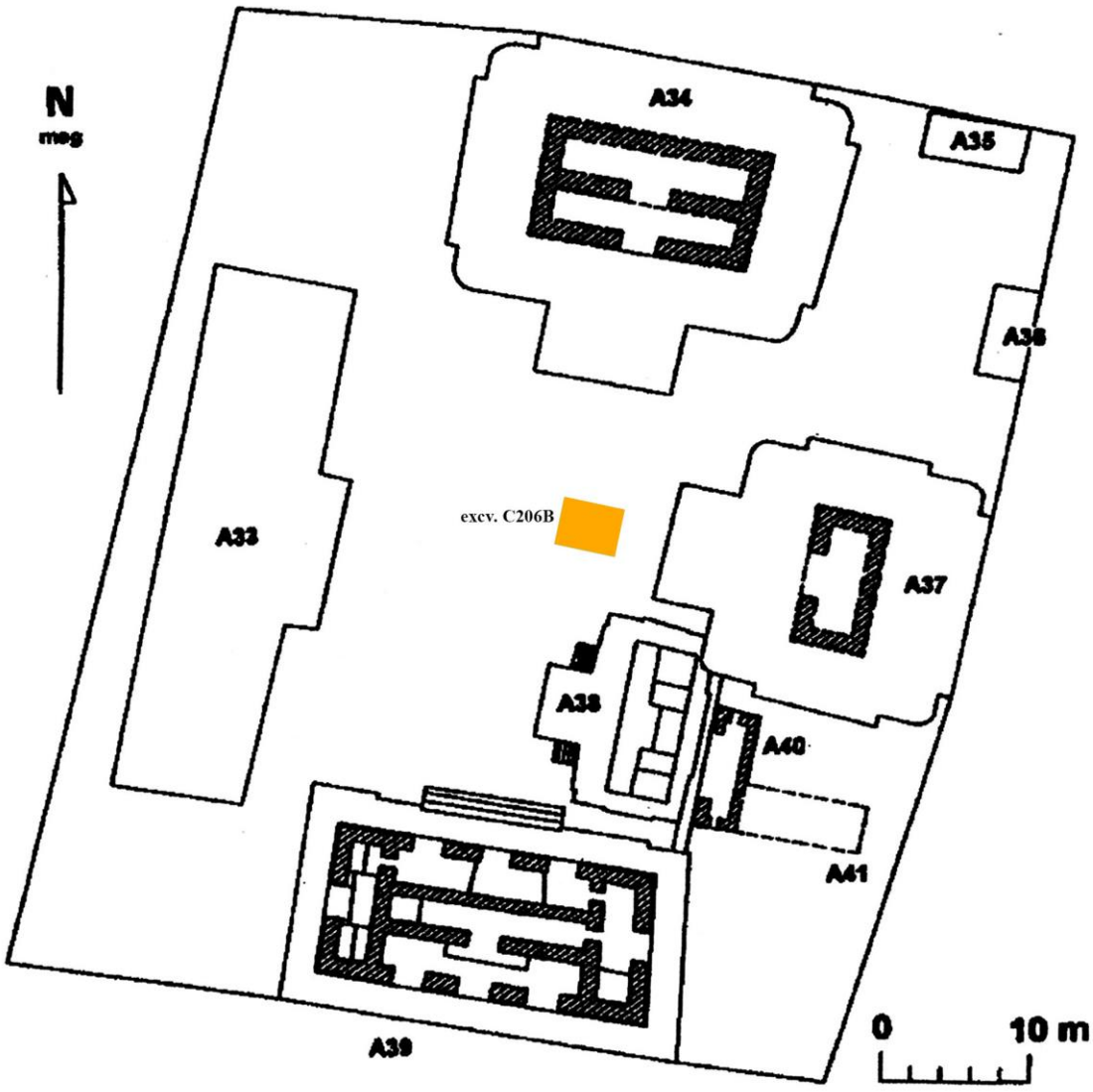

Figure 81: Plan of Caracol Central Acropolis showing location of Operation C206B.

Figure 82: Photograph of Operation C206B (upper) and of S.D. C206B-1 (lower).

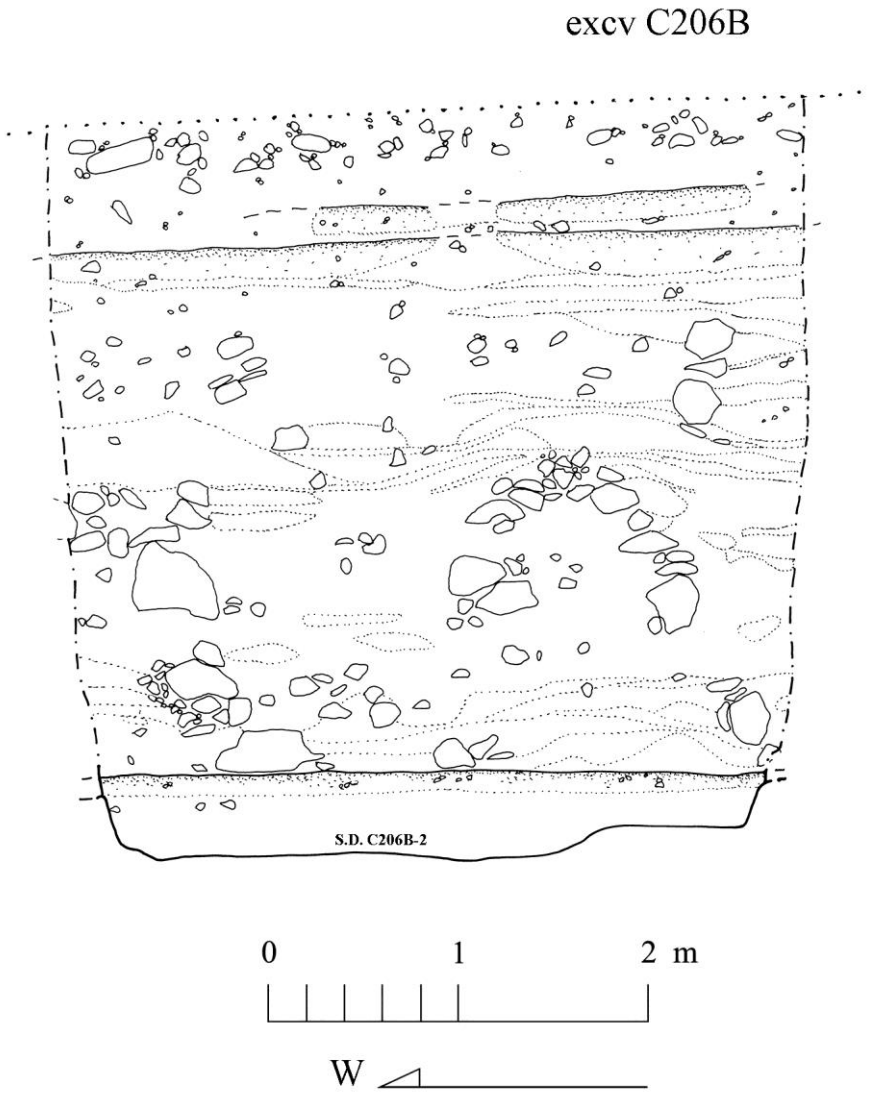

Figure 83: East-west section of Operation C206B.

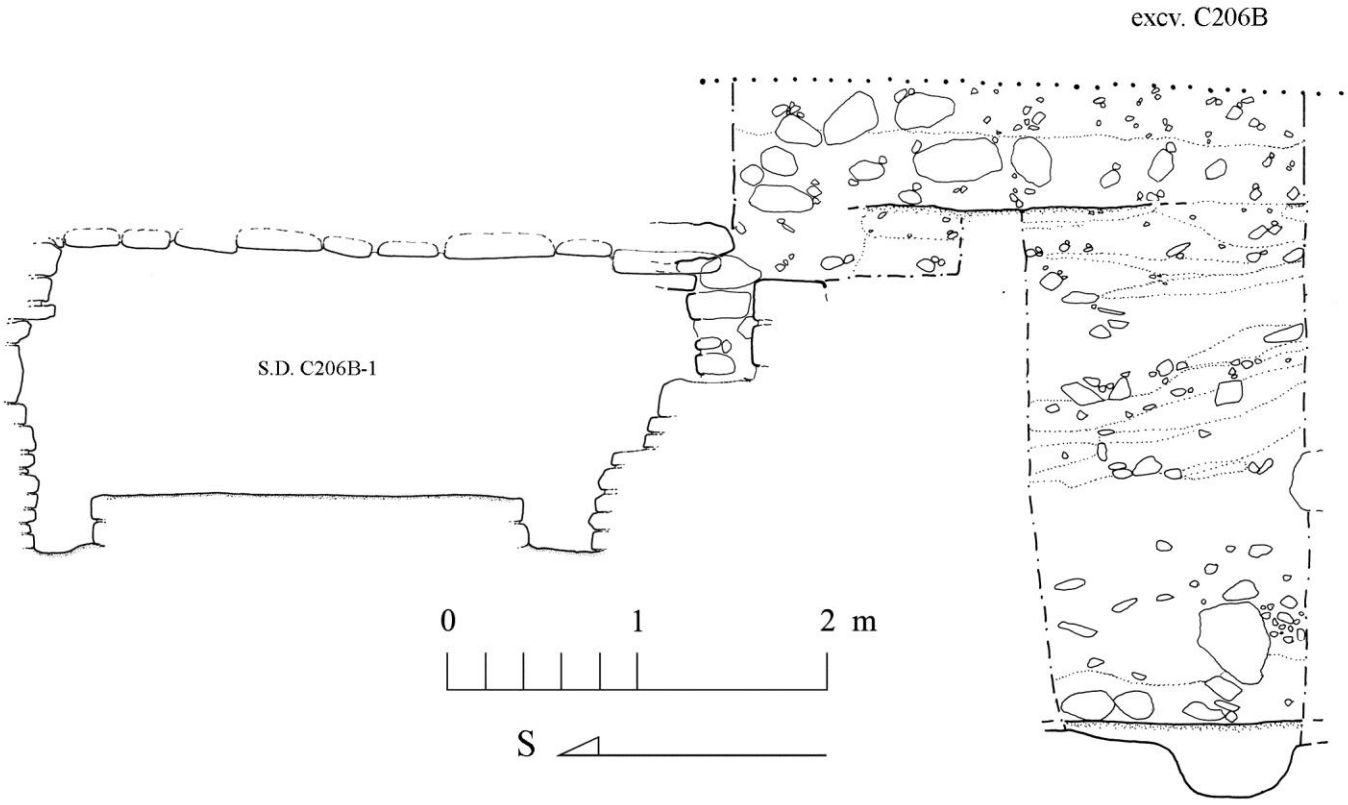

Figure 84: North-south section of Operation C206B.

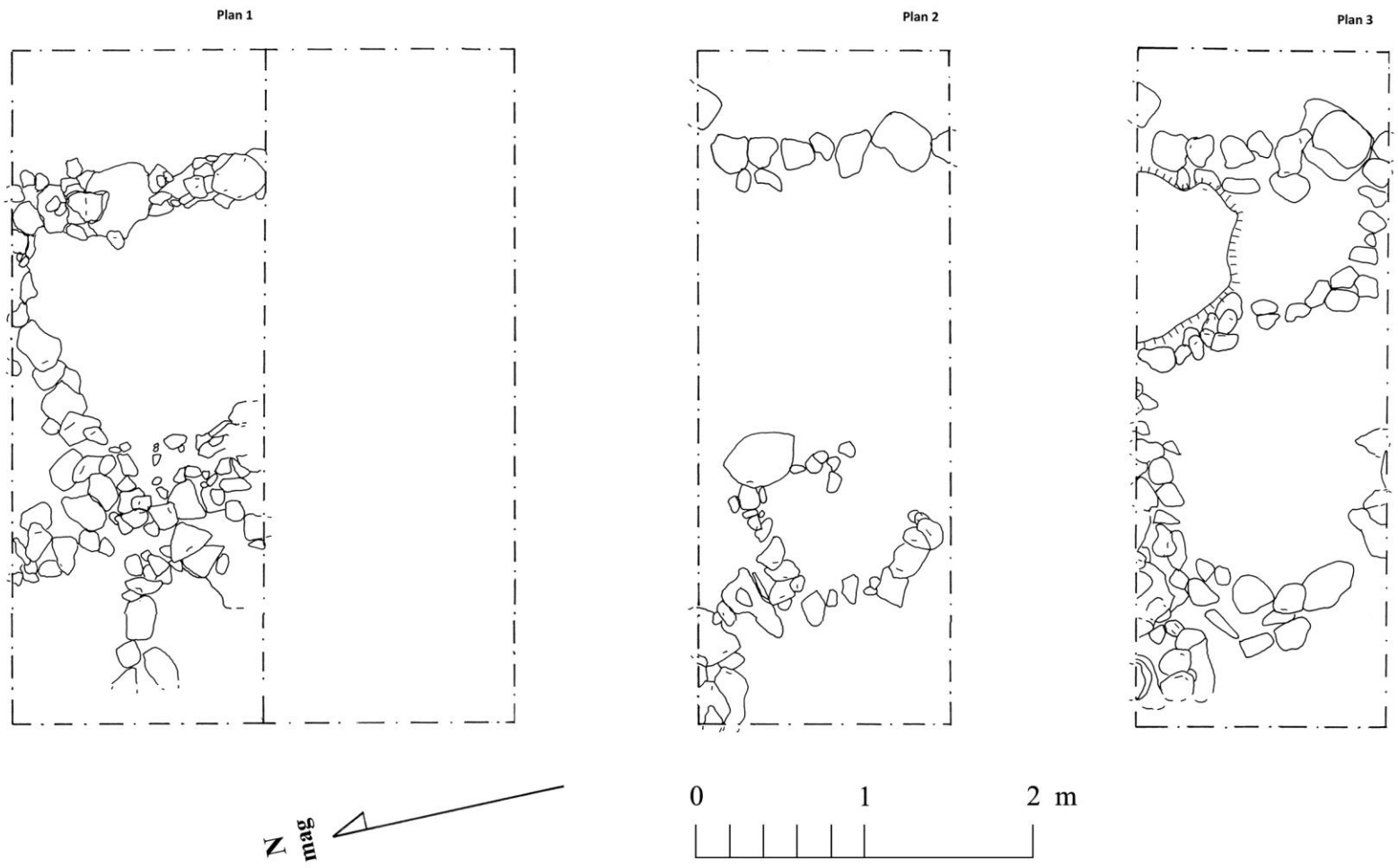

Figure 85: Plans of Operation C206B.

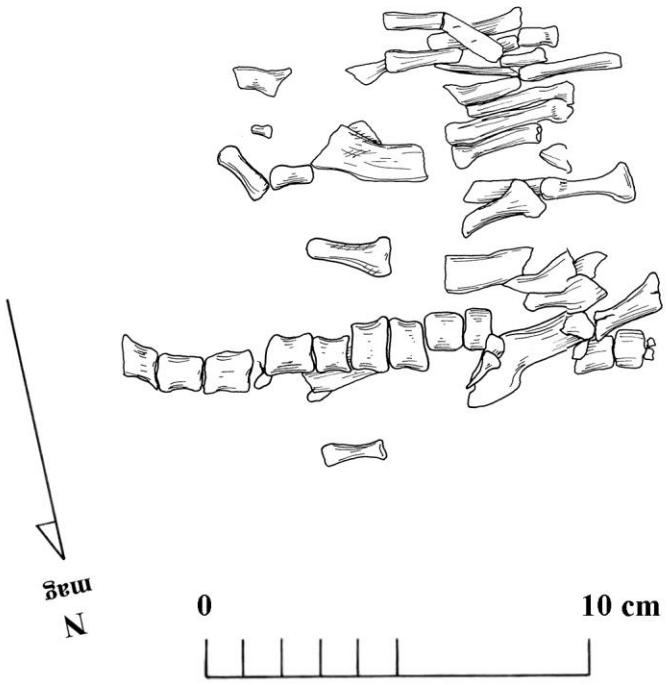

Figure 86: Plan of S.D. C206B-2.

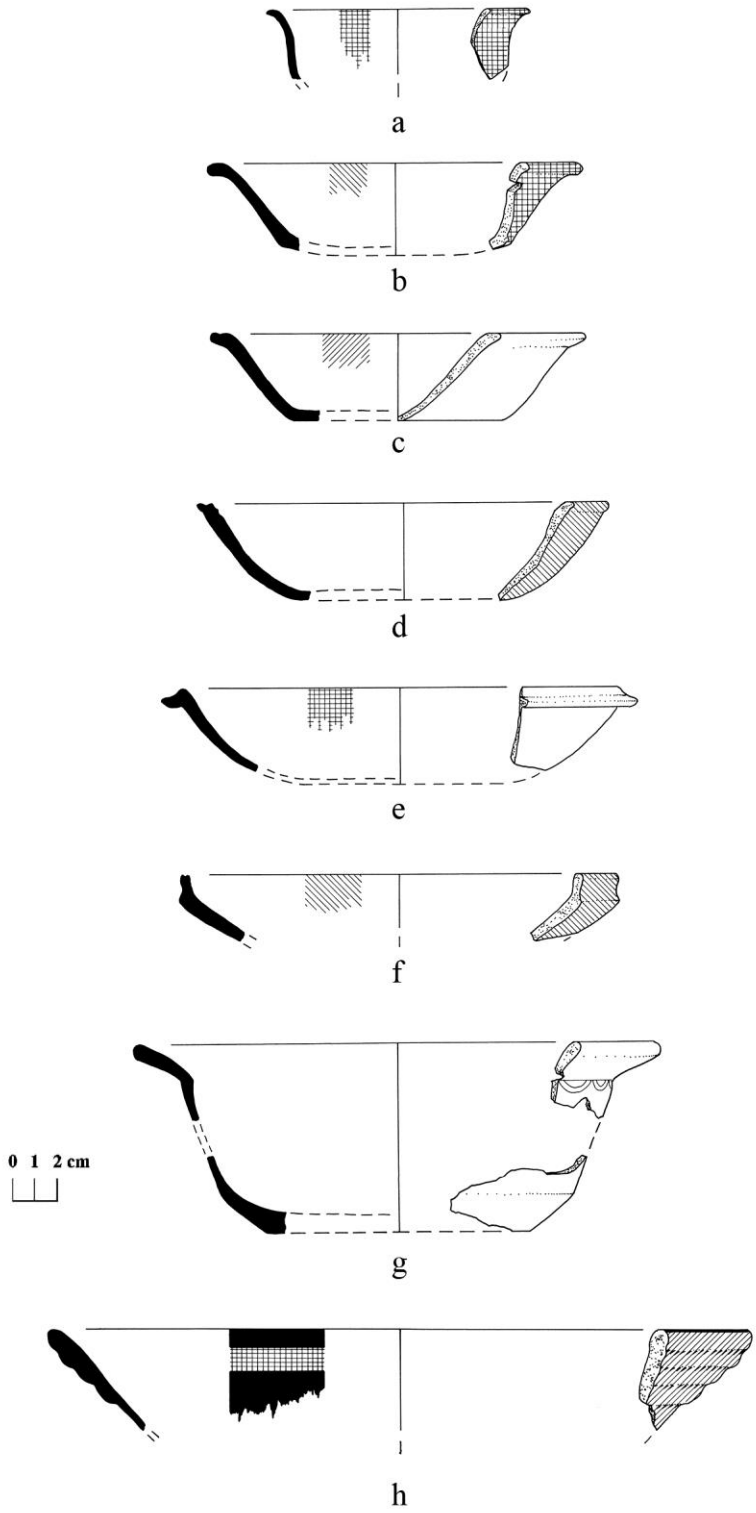

Figure 87: Ceramic material from Operation C206B: a, b, e. Boxcay Brown; c. Topol Orange; d. Joventud Red; f. Sierra Red; g. eroded Xtabcab Incised; h. related to Topol Orange.

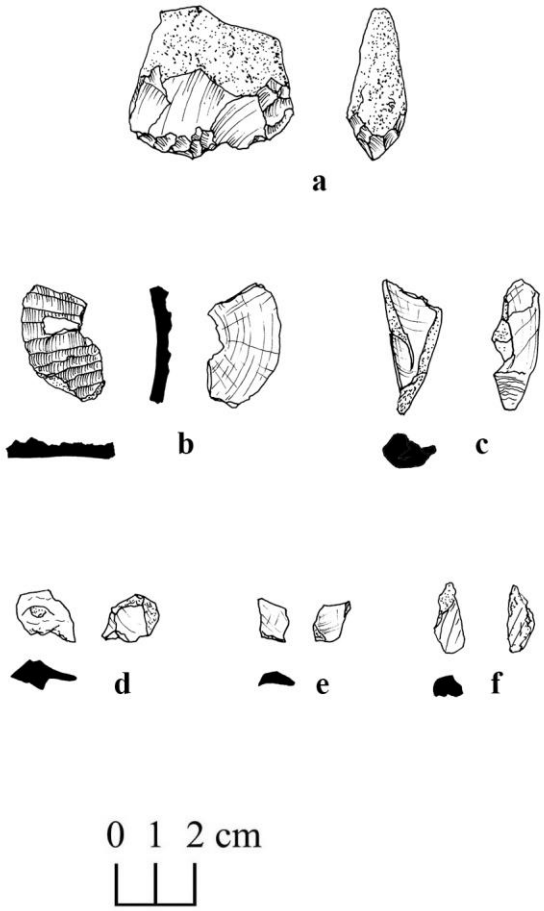

Figure 88: Artifactual material from Operation C206B: a. chert biface (celt); b. spondylus shell fragment; c. conch shell fragment; e-f. burnt marine shell fragment.

Figure 89: Photograph of Operation C207 looking north.

Figure 90: Overlay of architectural features recovered in 2016 with those recovered in 2004.

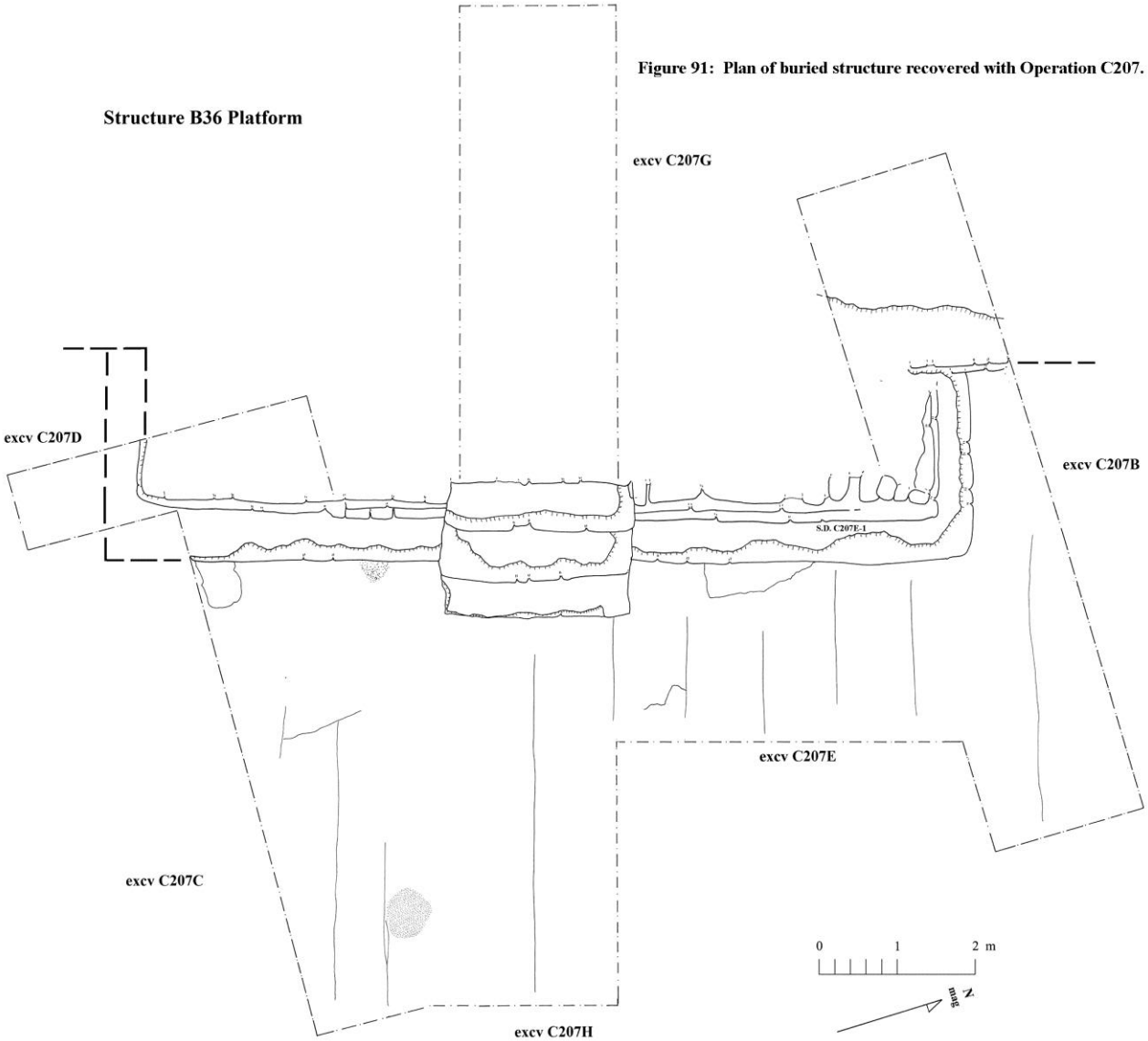

Figure 91: Plan of buried structure recovered with Operation C207.

Figure 92: Photograph of front of buried structure in Structure B36 Platform looking north (upper) and south (lower).

Figure 93: Photograph of excavations associated with Structure B36 Platform buried structure: beneath supporting floor (upper); looking west (lower left); looking east (lower right).

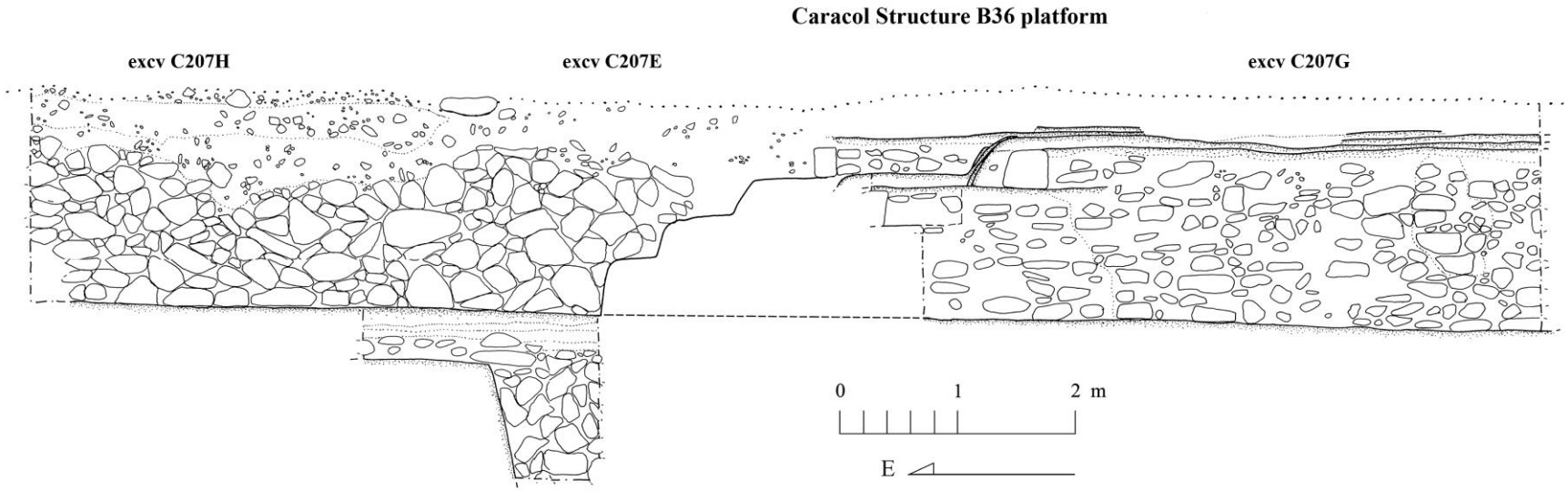

Figure 94: Section of excavation through Structure B26 Platform showing burign buiding and Operations C207E, C207G, and C207H.

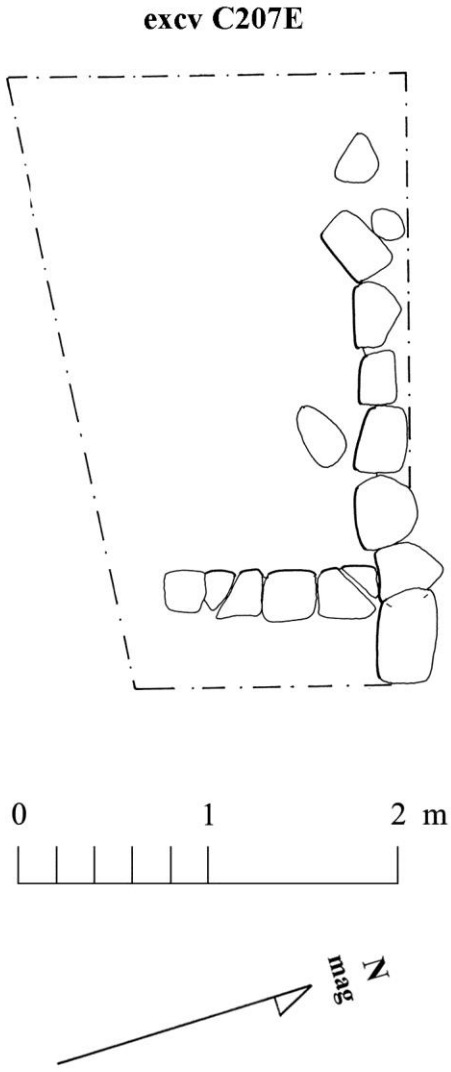

Figure 95: Plan of Terminal Classic line-of-stones in Operation C207E.

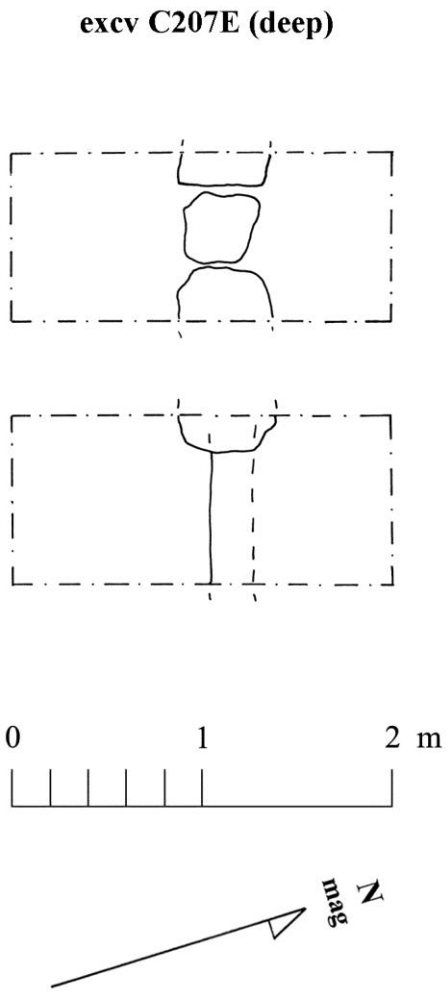

Figure 96: Plans of deep excavations through supporting plaster floor in Operation C207E.

S.D. C207E-1

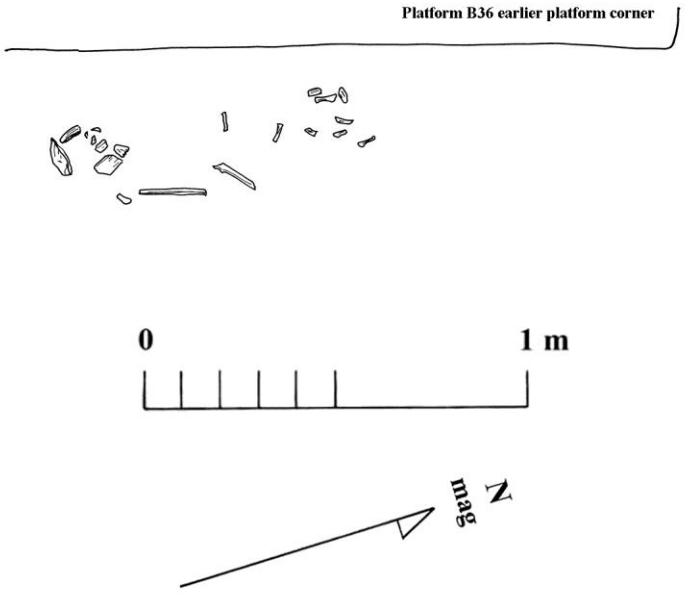

Figure 97: Plan of S.D. C207E-1.

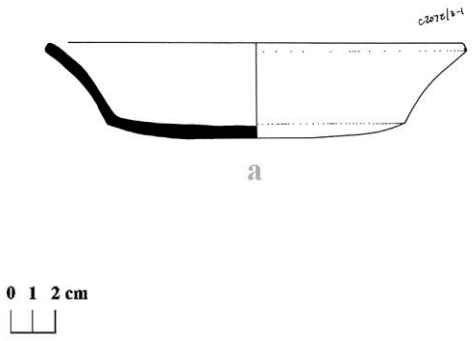

Figure 98: Ceramic vessel associated with Operation C207E: a. undesignated type.

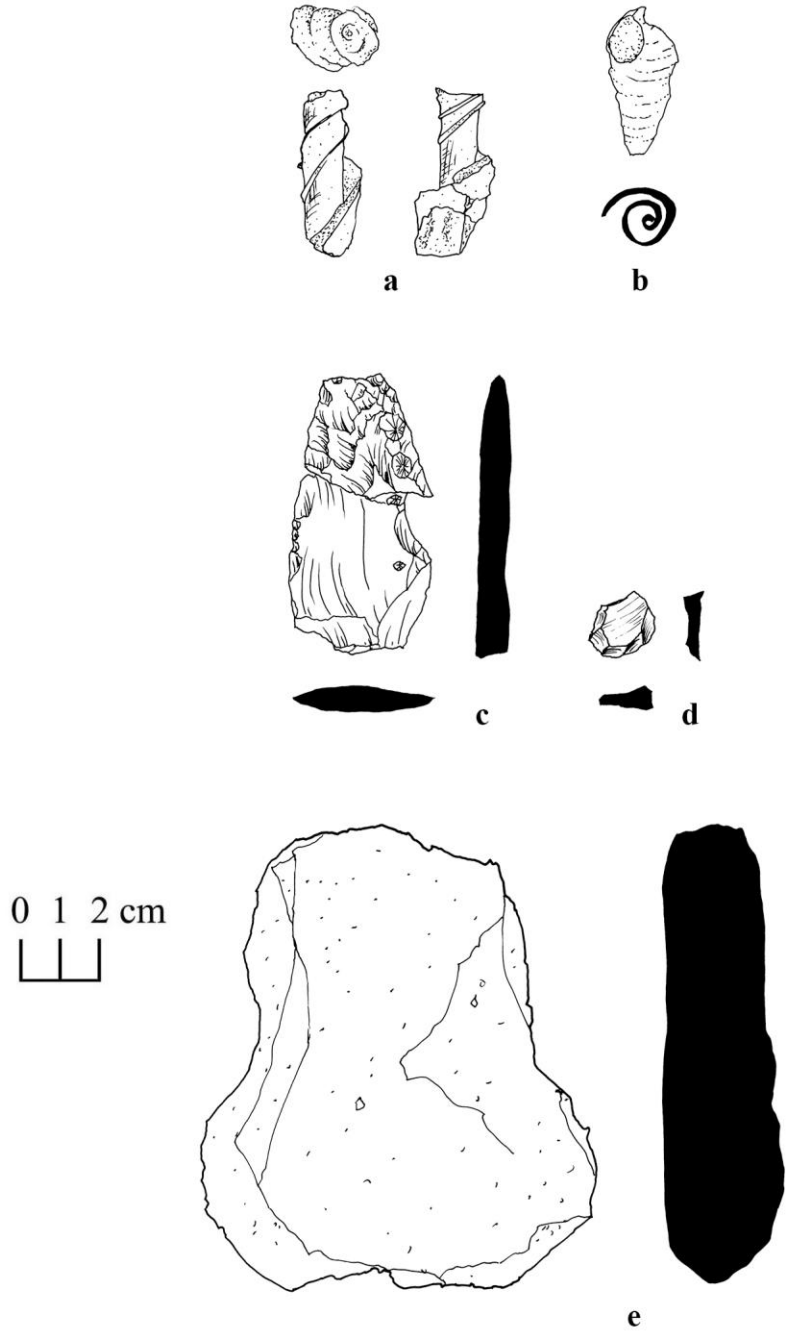

Figure 99: Artifactual material associated with Operation C207E: a. conch shell fragment; b. marine shell; c. burned chert biface; d. chert platform reduction flake; e. worked slate.

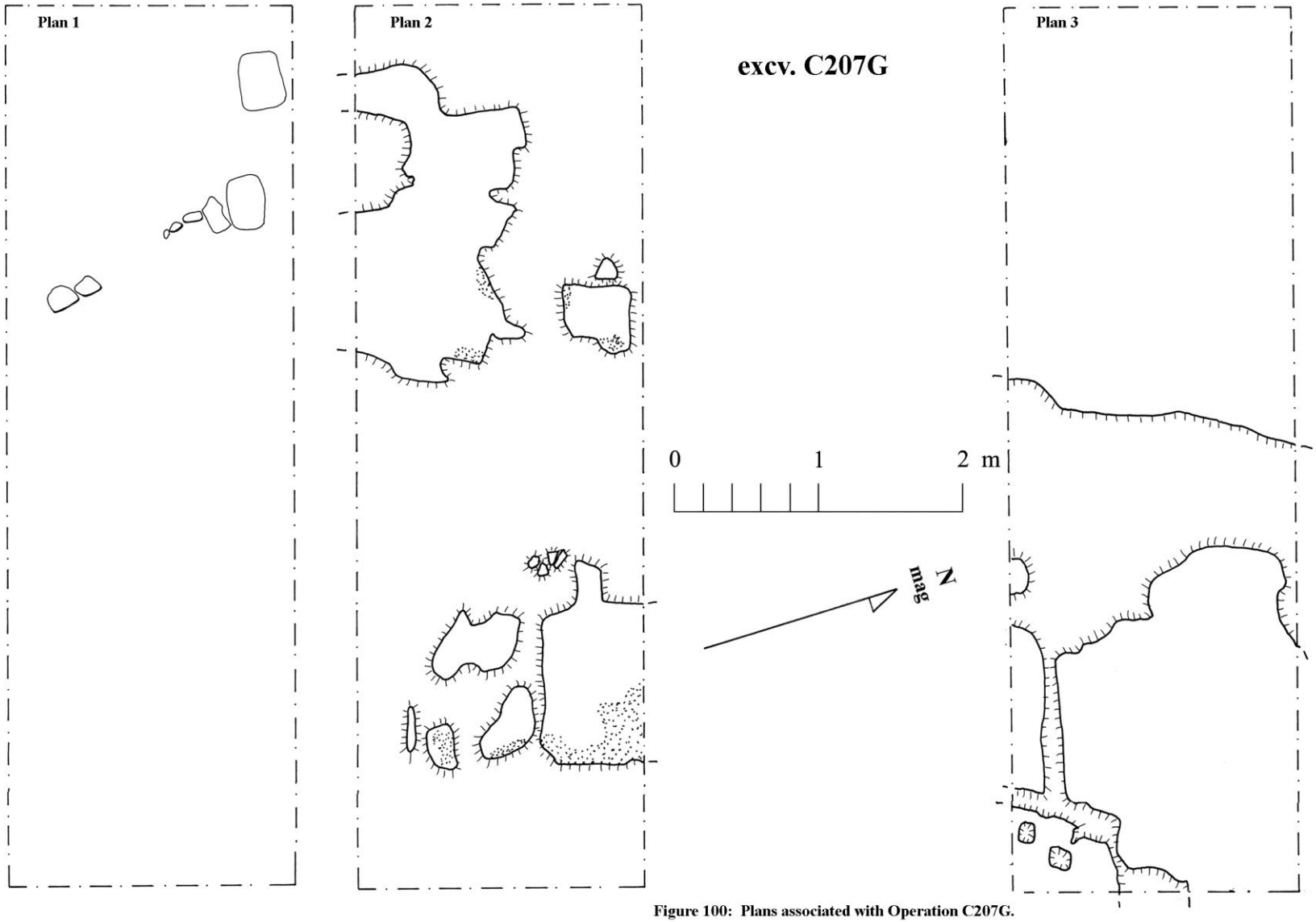

Figure 100: Plans associated with Operation C207G.

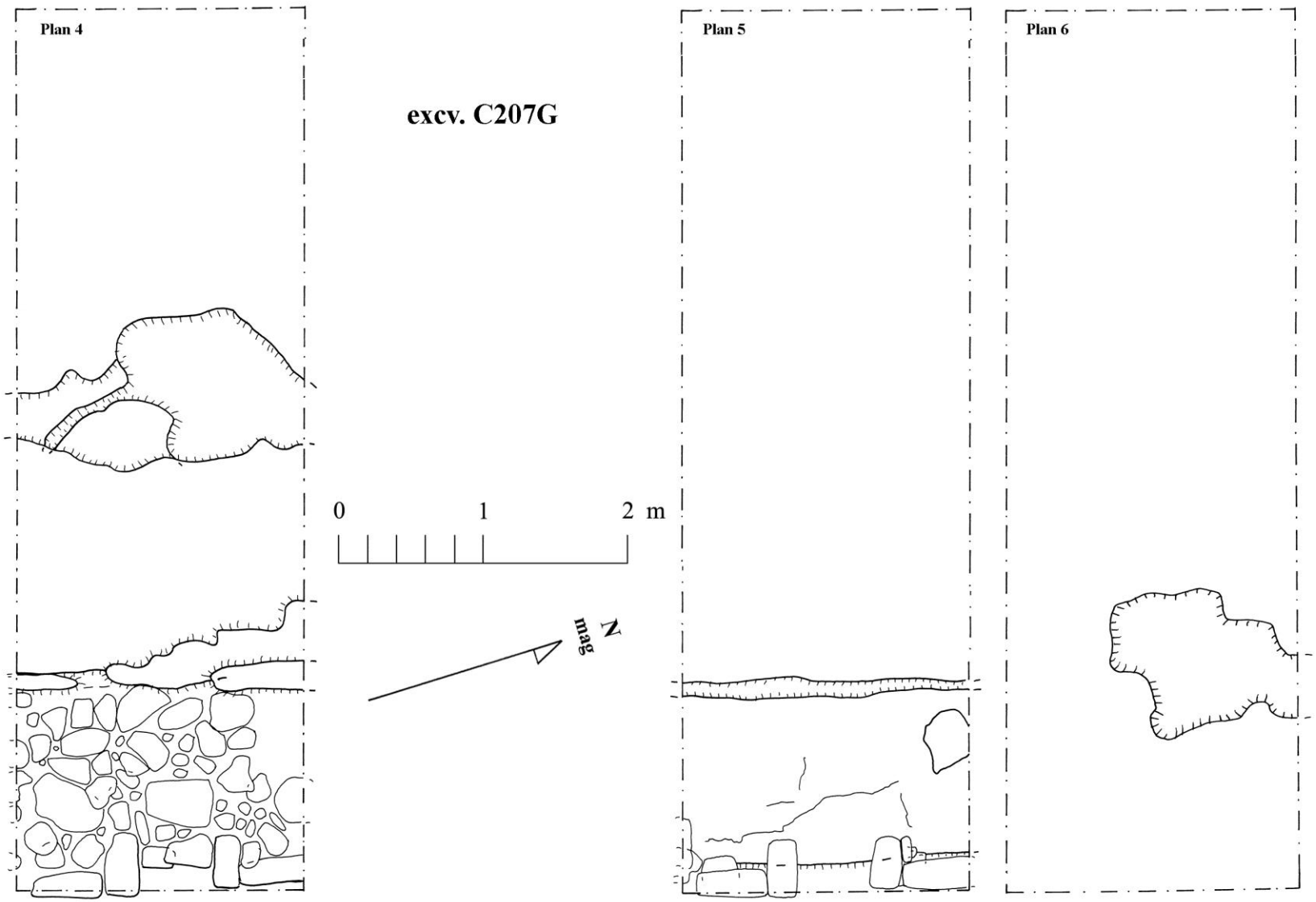

Figure 100: Plans associated with Operation C207G.

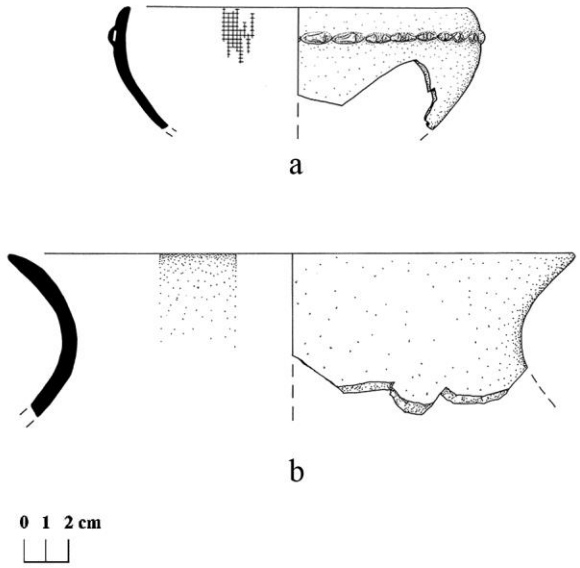

Figure 101: Ceramic vessels from humus levels of Operation C207G: a. Chaquiste Impressed; b. Valentin Unslipped.

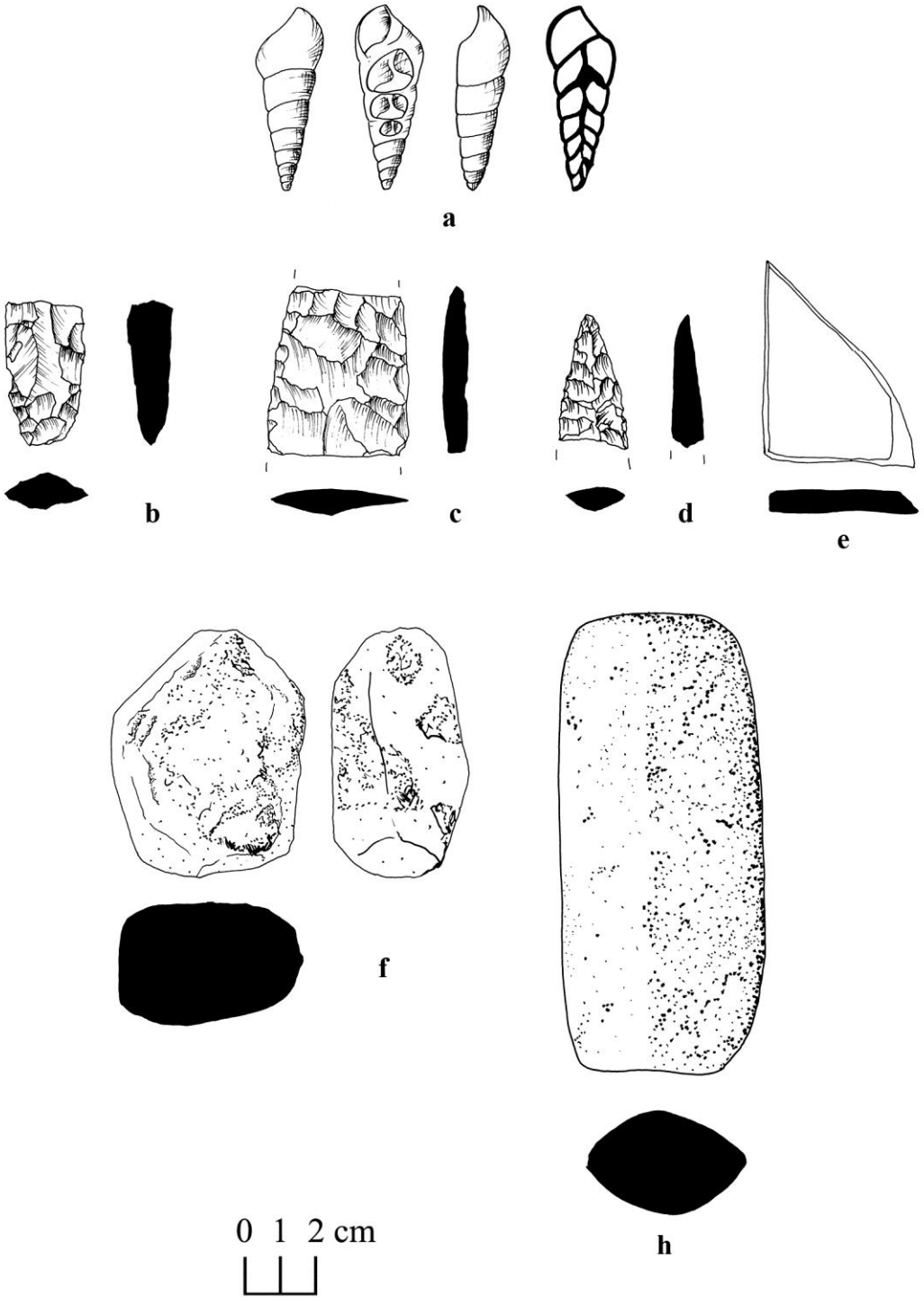

Figure 102: Artifactual materials from Operation C207G: a. worked marine shell; b. chert biface end; c. chert biface midsection; d. chert biface tip; e. worked slate; f. pounding stone; g. quartzite mono.

Figure 103: Photographs of Operation C207F, looking south (upper) and lookin west (lower).

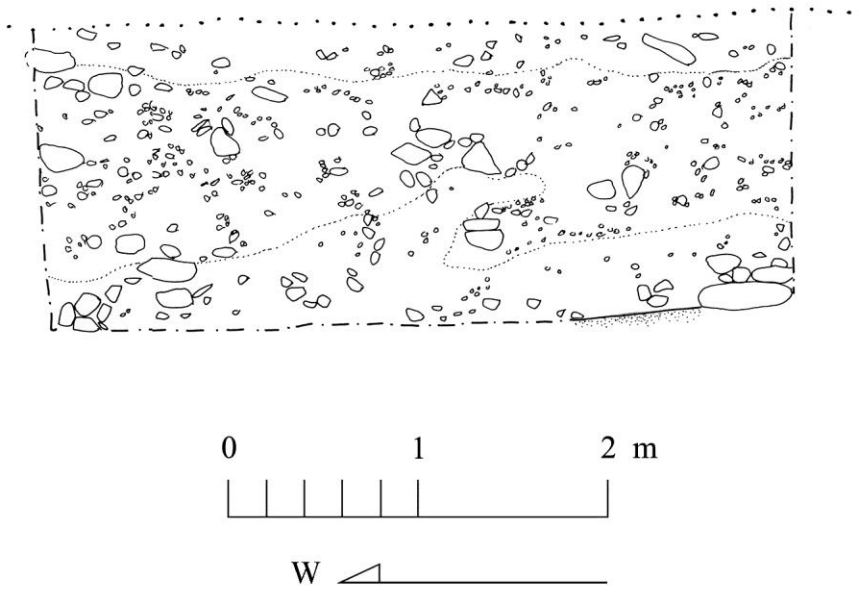

Figure 104: Section for Operation C207F.

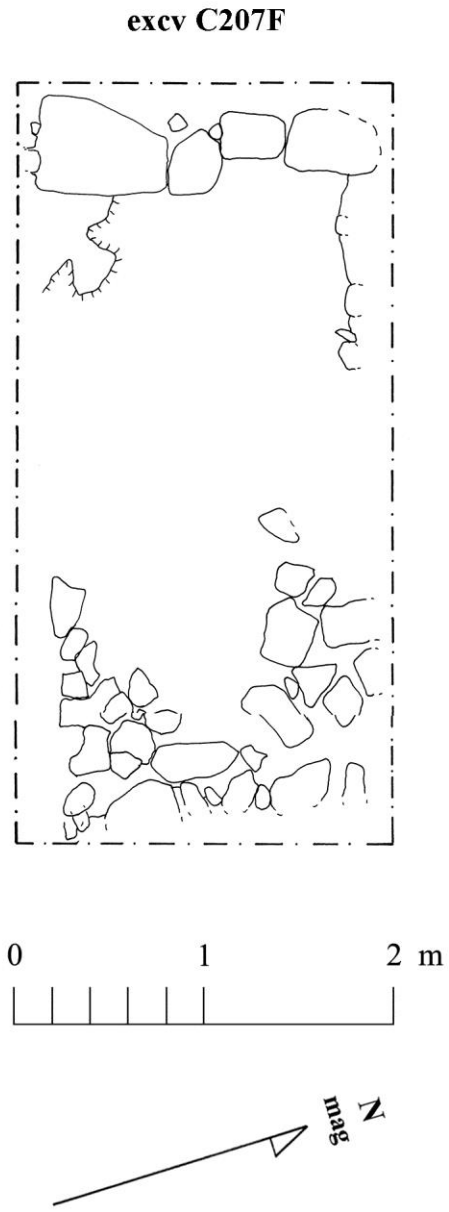

Figure 105: Plan of Operation C207F.

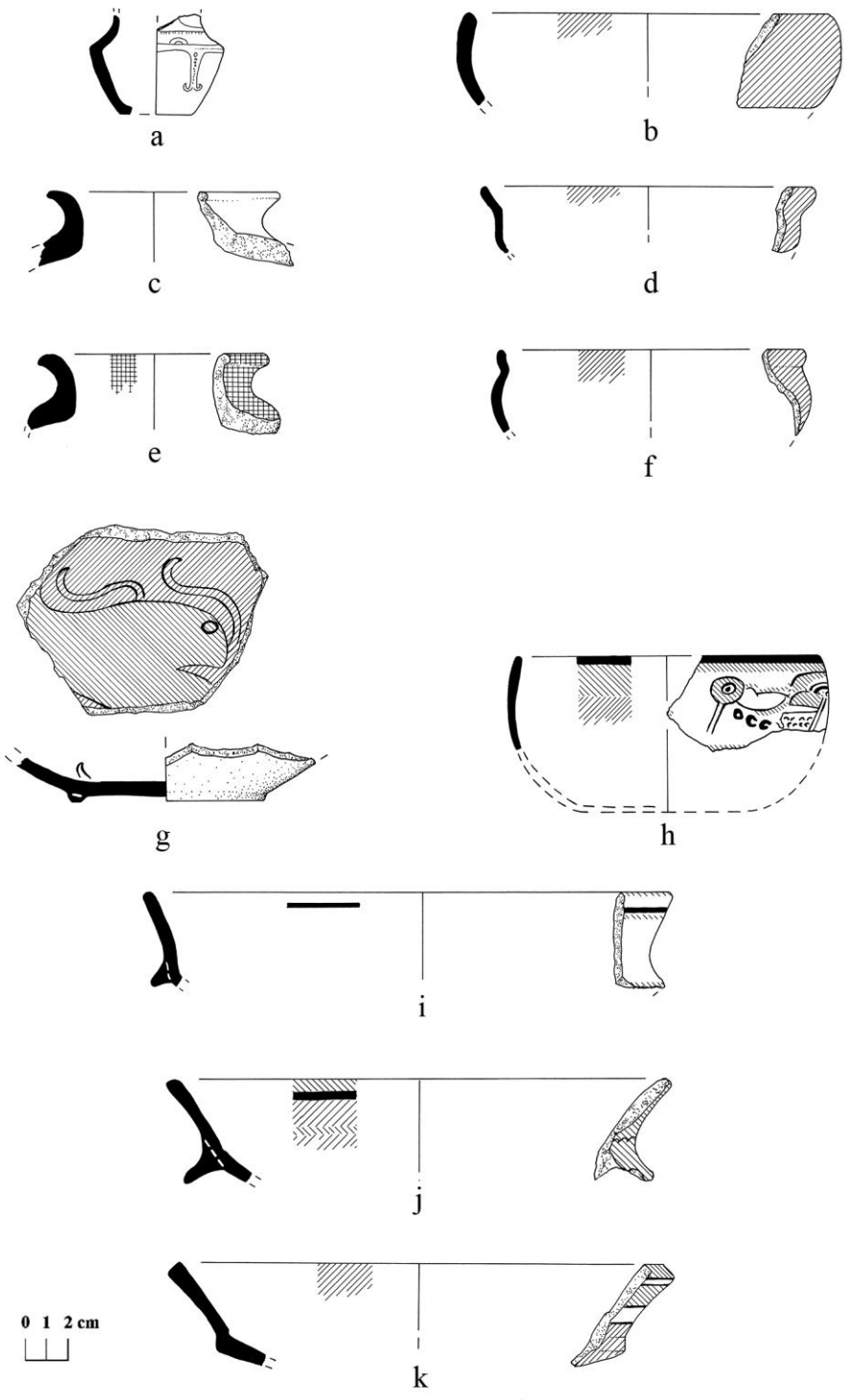

Figure 106: Ceramic materials recovered in fill of Operation C207F: a. unnamed Cream Incised; b, d, f, m, o, p, s. Topol Orange; c. Quintal Unslipped; e, u. Pucte Brown; g-k. Dos Arroyos Polychrome; l. Fama Buff; n, r, t. Dos Hermanos Red; q. eroded Topol Orange; v, w, x. possibly Corriental Incised; z. possibly Dos Hermanos Red; y, aa, bb. related to Corriental Incised, but unslipped; cc. undesignated type.

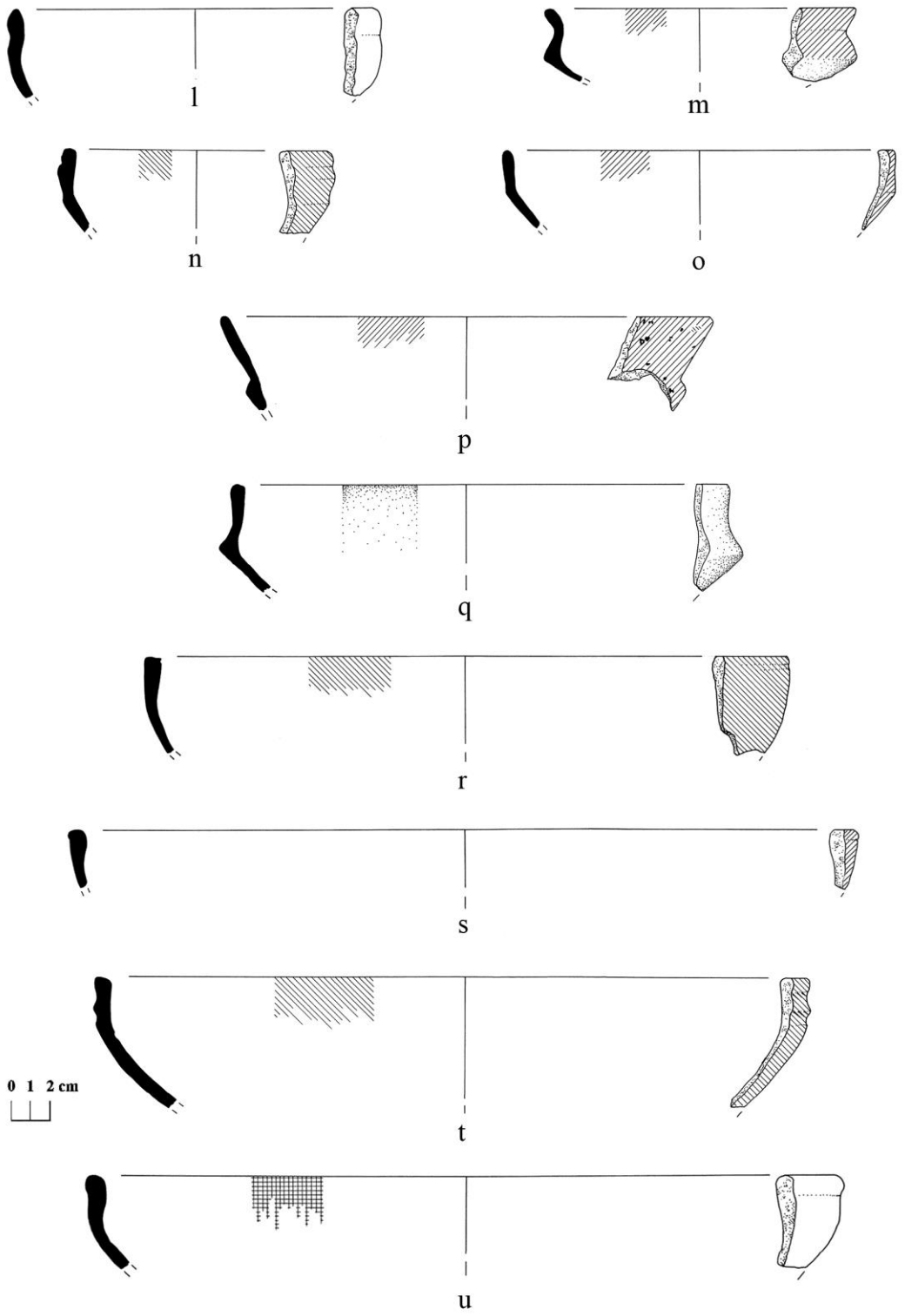

Figure 106: Ceramic materials recovered in fill of Operation C207F: a. unnamed Cream Incised; b, d, f, m, o, p, s. Topol Orange; c. Quintal Unslipped; e, u. Pucte Brown; g-k. Dos Arroyos Polychrome; l. Fama Buff; n, r, t. Dos Hermanos Red; q. eroded Topol Orange; v, w, x. possibly Corriental Incised; z. possibly Dos Hermanos Red; y, aa, bb. related to Corriental Incised, but unslipped; cc. undesignated type.

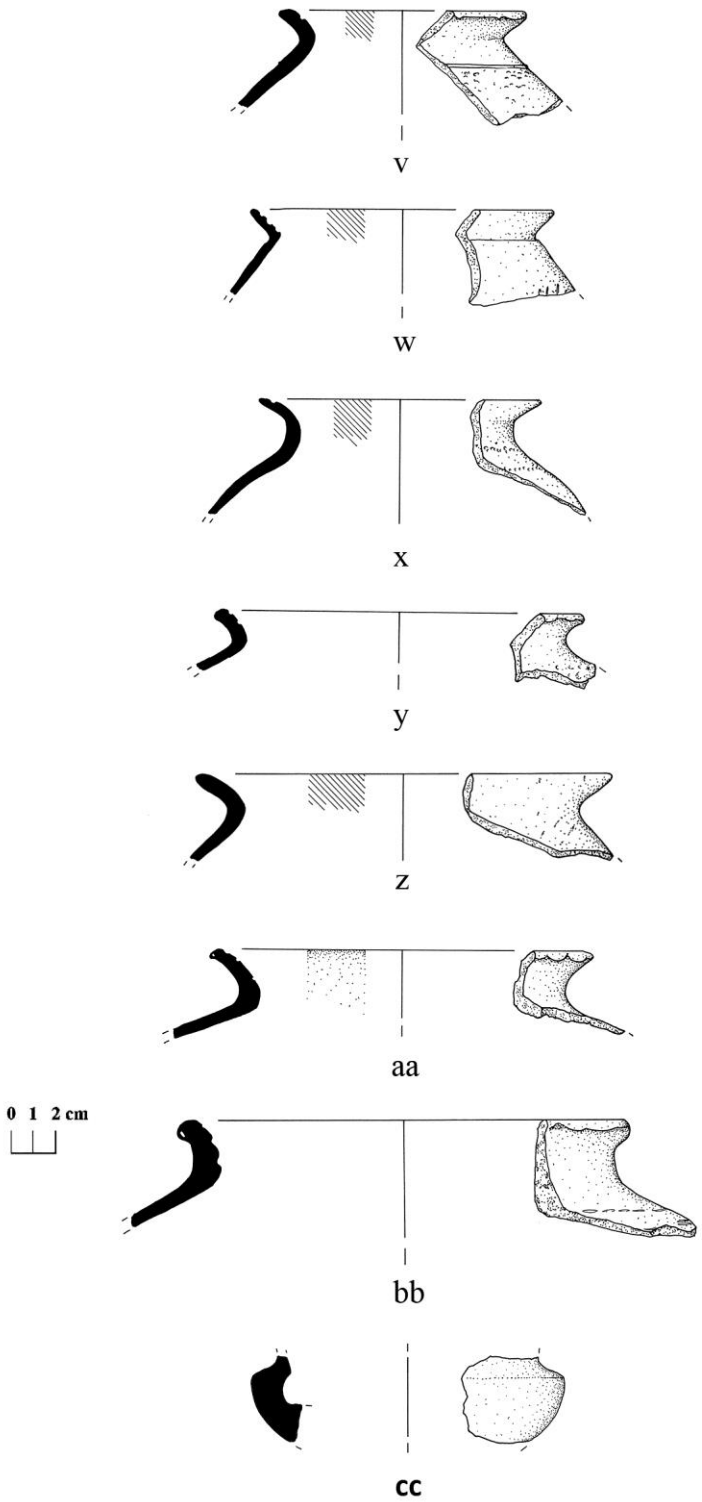

Figure 106: Ceramic materials recovered in fill of Operation C207F: a. unnamed Cream Incised; b, d, f, m, o, p, s. Topol Orange; c. Quintal Unslipped; e, u. Pucte Brown; g-k. Dos Arroyos Polychrome; l. Fama Buff; n, r, t. Dos Hermanos Red; q. eroded Topol Orange; v, w, x. possibly Corriental Incised; z. possibly Dos Hermanos Red; y, aa, bb. related to Corriental Incised, but unslipped; cc. undesignated type.

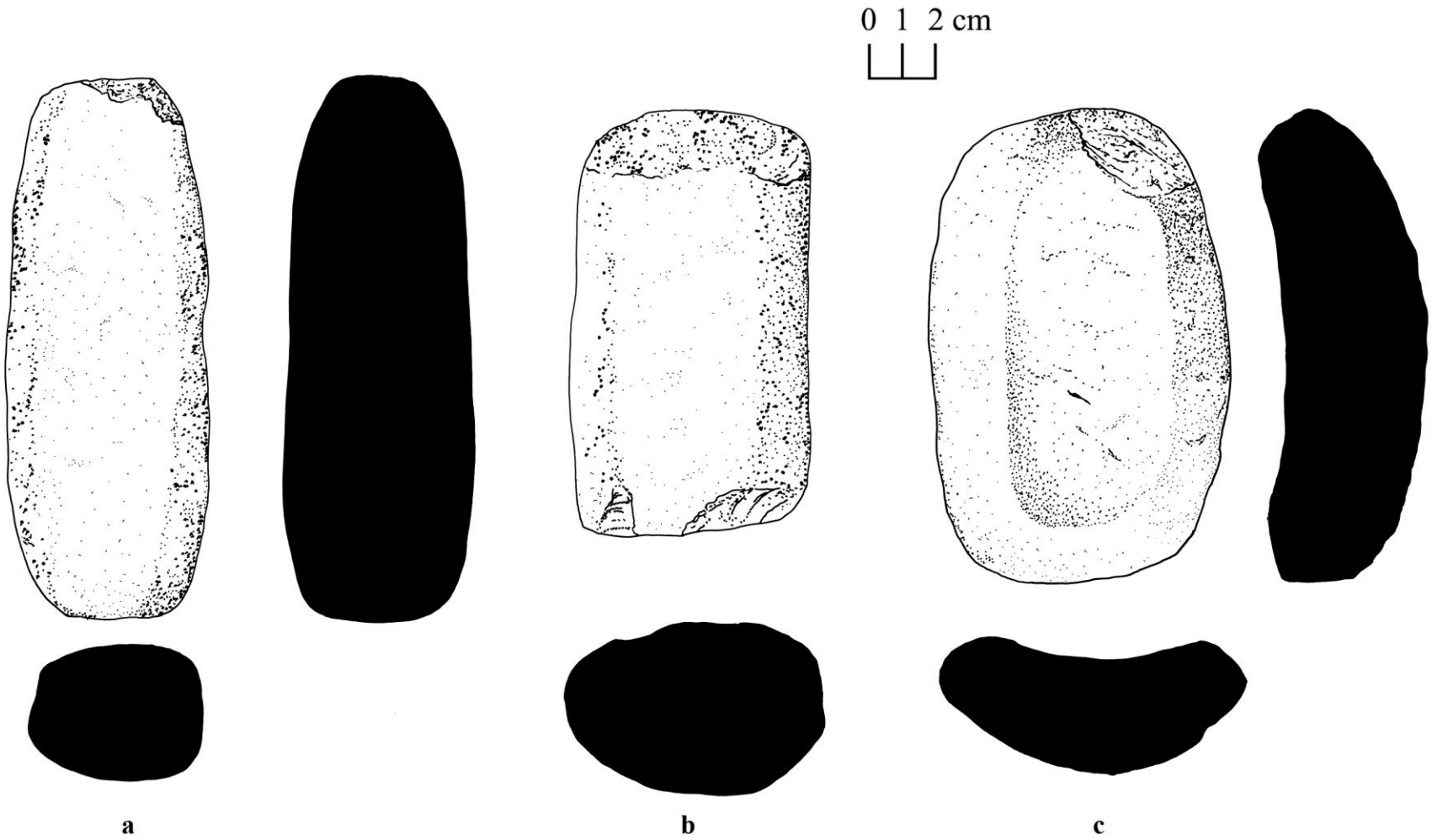

Figure 107: Artifactual materials associate with Operation C207F: a-c. granite mano fragments; d, f. quartzite flake tool; e. quartzite drill; g. marine shell; h. spondylus shell fragment; i. clam shell fragment; j-l. worked bone.

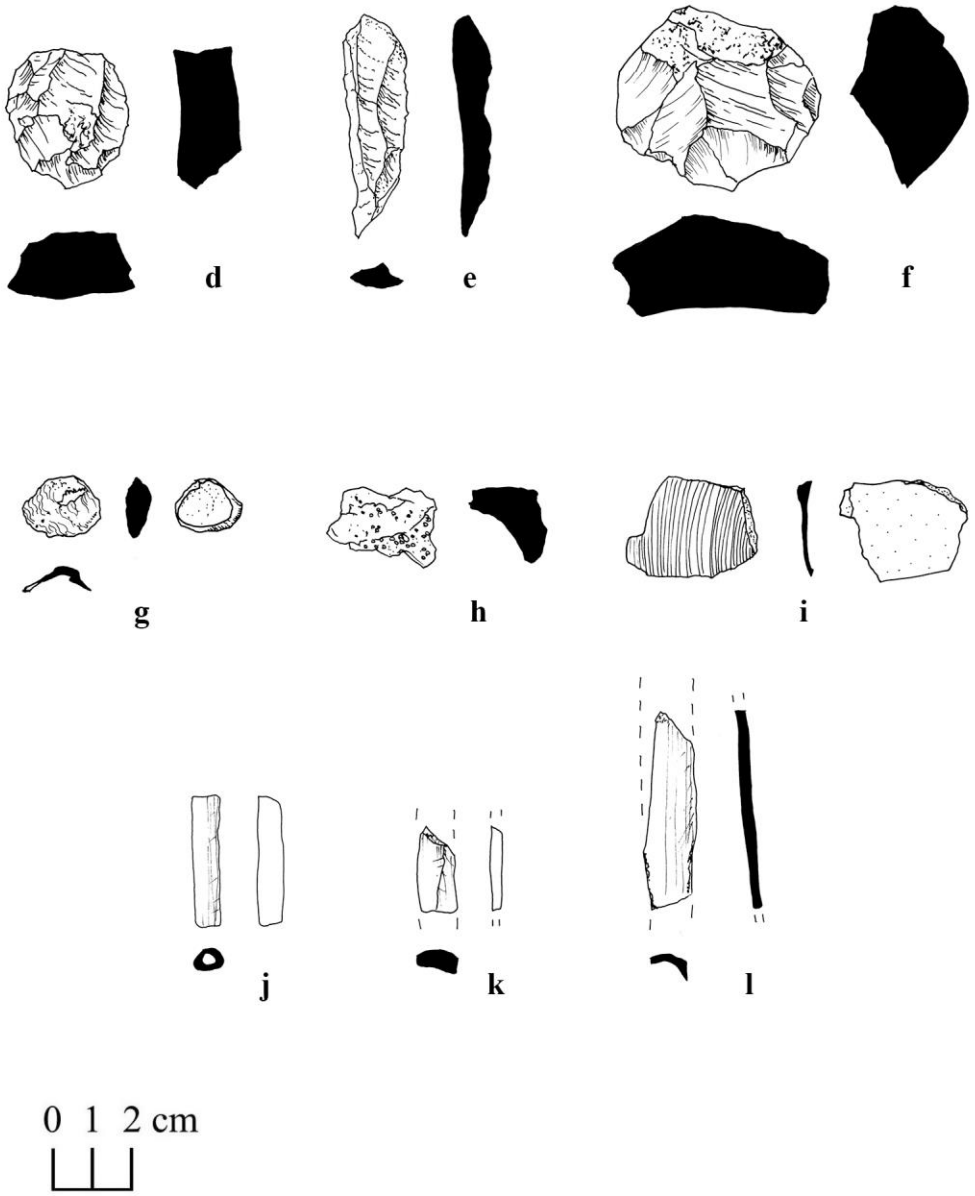

Figure 107: Artifactual materials associate with Operation C207F: a-c. granite mano fragments; d, f. quartzite flake tool; e. quartzite drill; g. marine shell; h. spondylus shell fragment; i. clam shell fragment; j-l. worked bone.

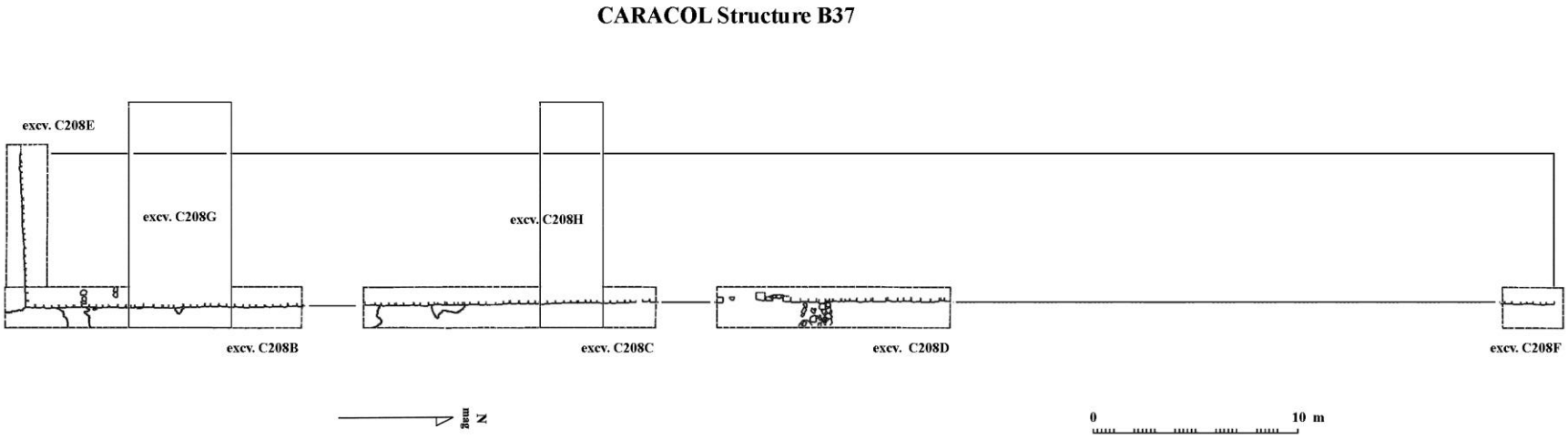

Figure 108: Plan of Structure B37 showing locations for Operations C208G and C208H.

Figure 109: Photographs of Operation C208G: rear wall (upper); rear wall and S.D. C208G-1 (middle); deep excavation (lower).

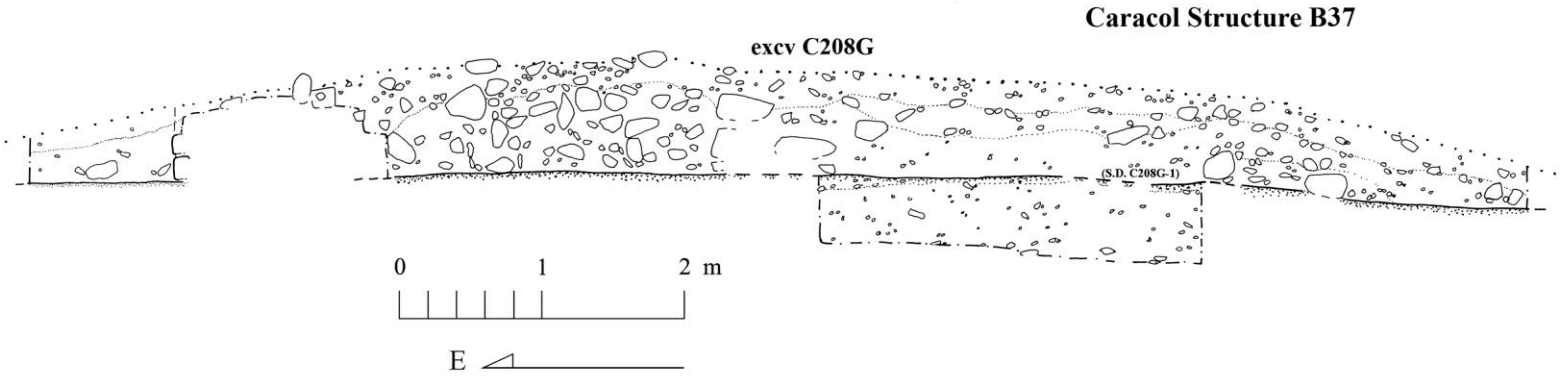

Figure 110: Section through Structure B37 showing Operation C208G.

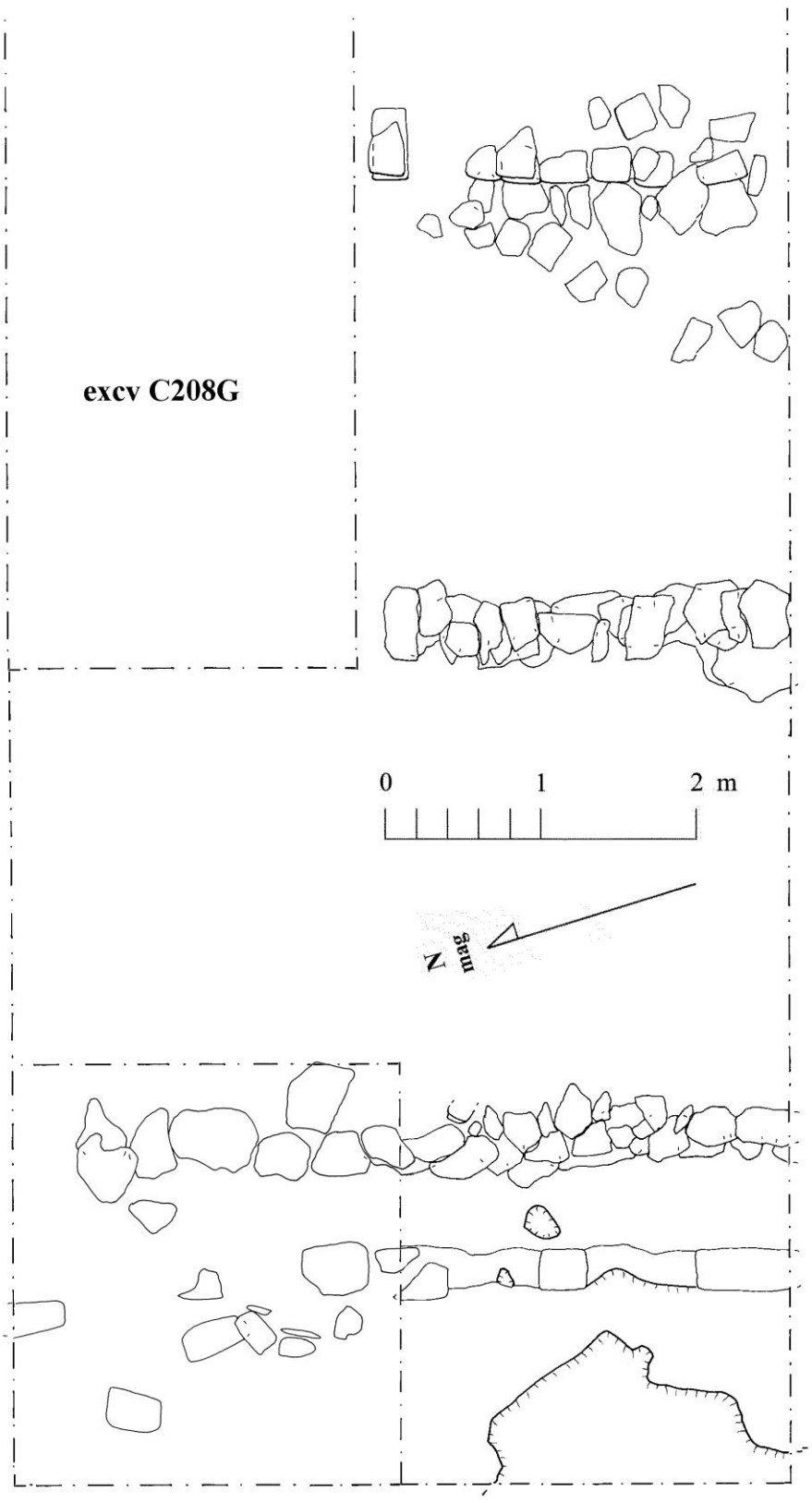

Figure 111: Upper plan for Operation C208G.

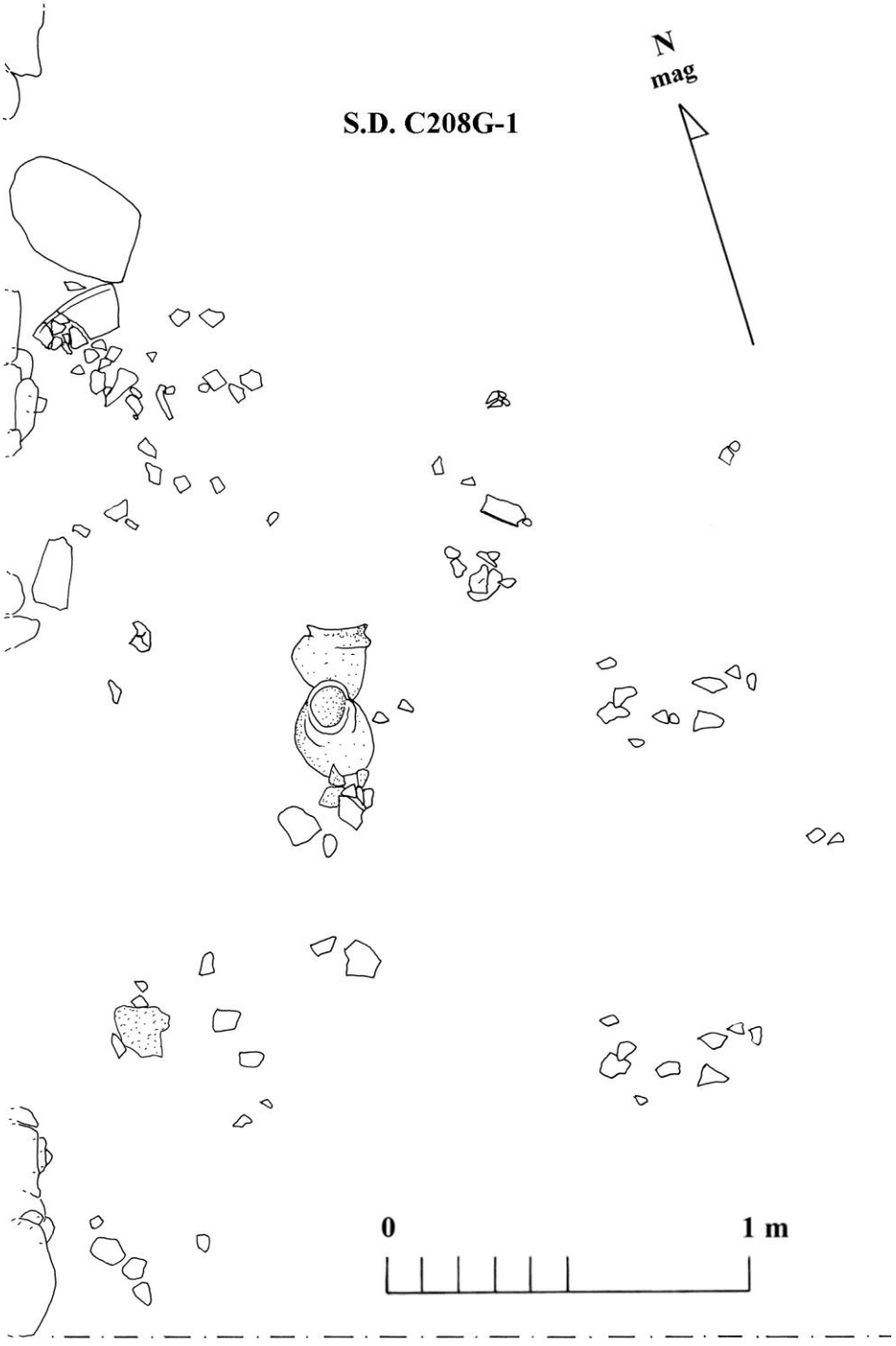

Figure 112: Plan of S.D. C208G-1.

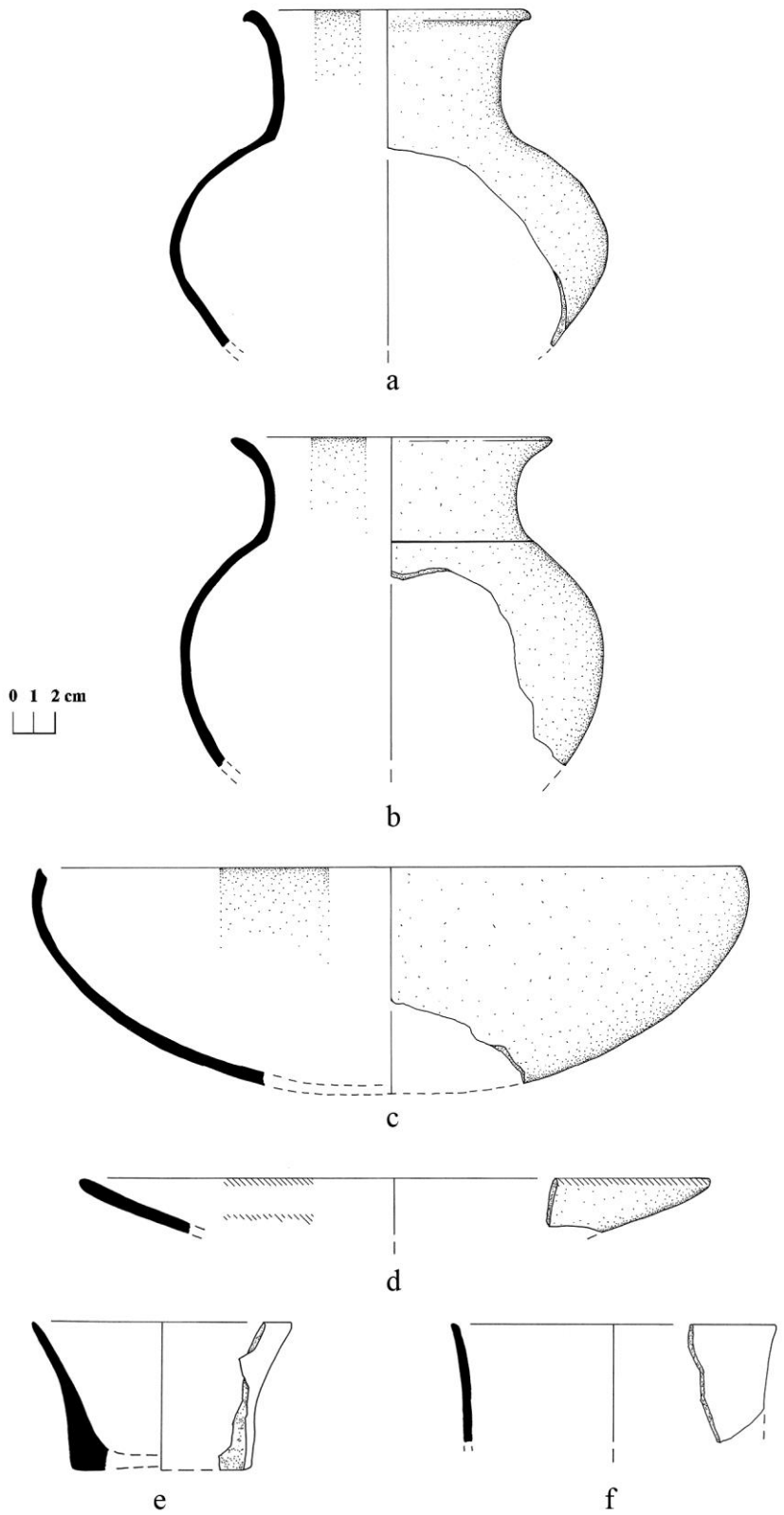

Figure 113: Ceramic vessels associated with S.D. C208G-1: a-c. Valentin Unslipped; d. possibly Fallabon Red-on-Orange; e, f. eroded Zacatel Cream.

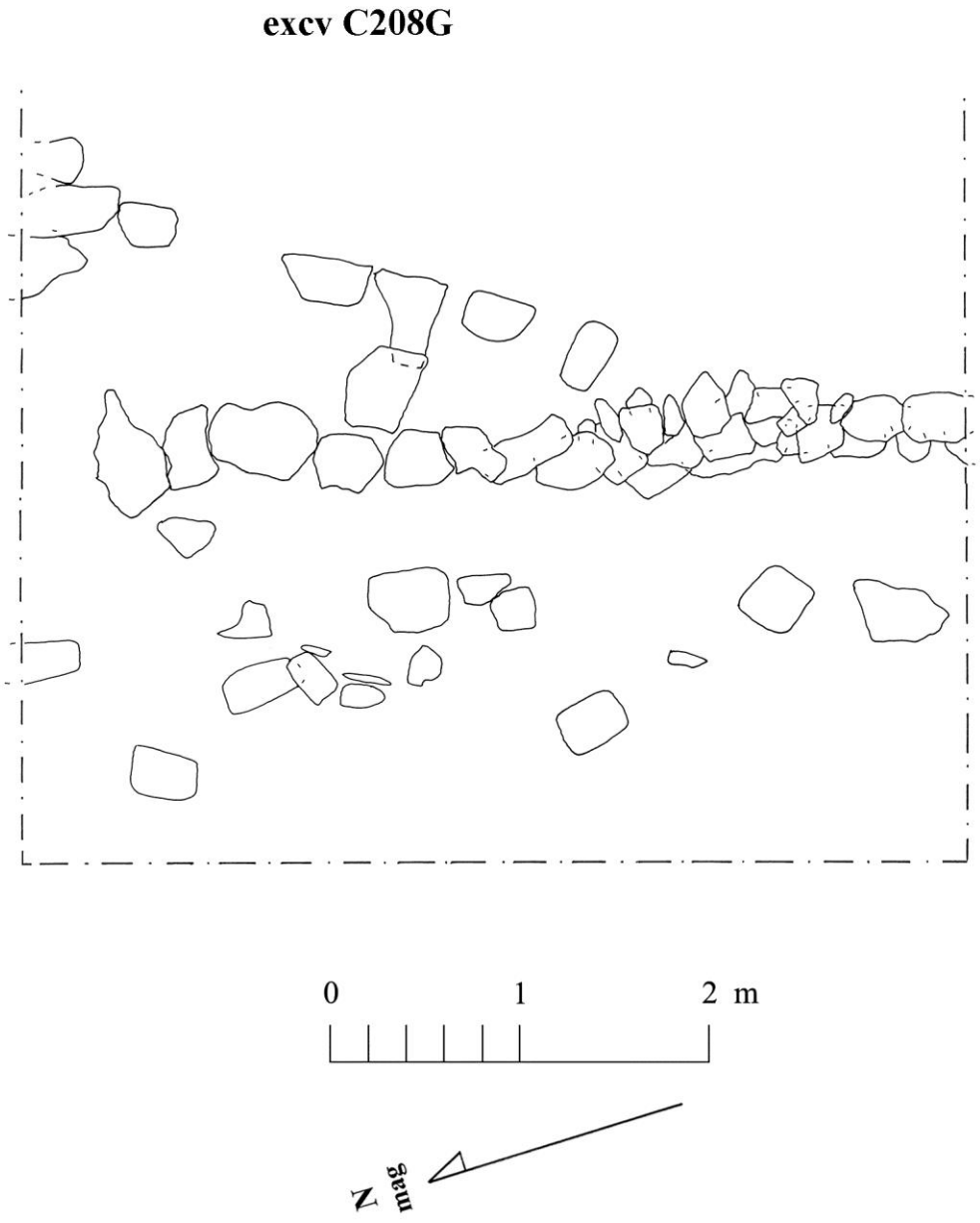

Figure 114: Plan of rear of Operation C208G showing facing beneath S.D. C208G-1.

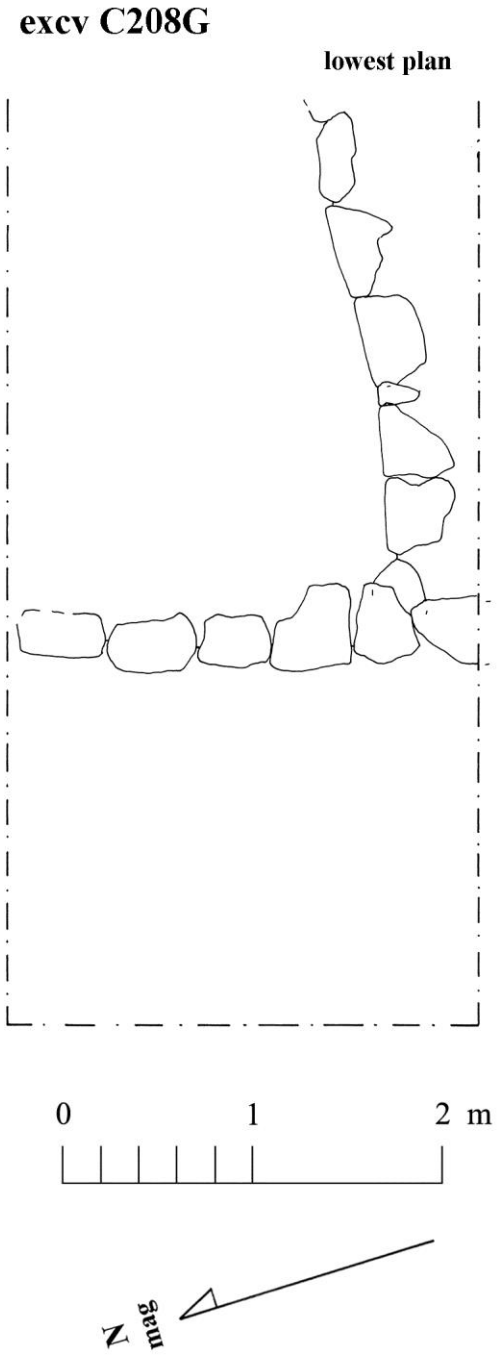

Figure 115: Plan of lower facings recovered in Operation C208G.

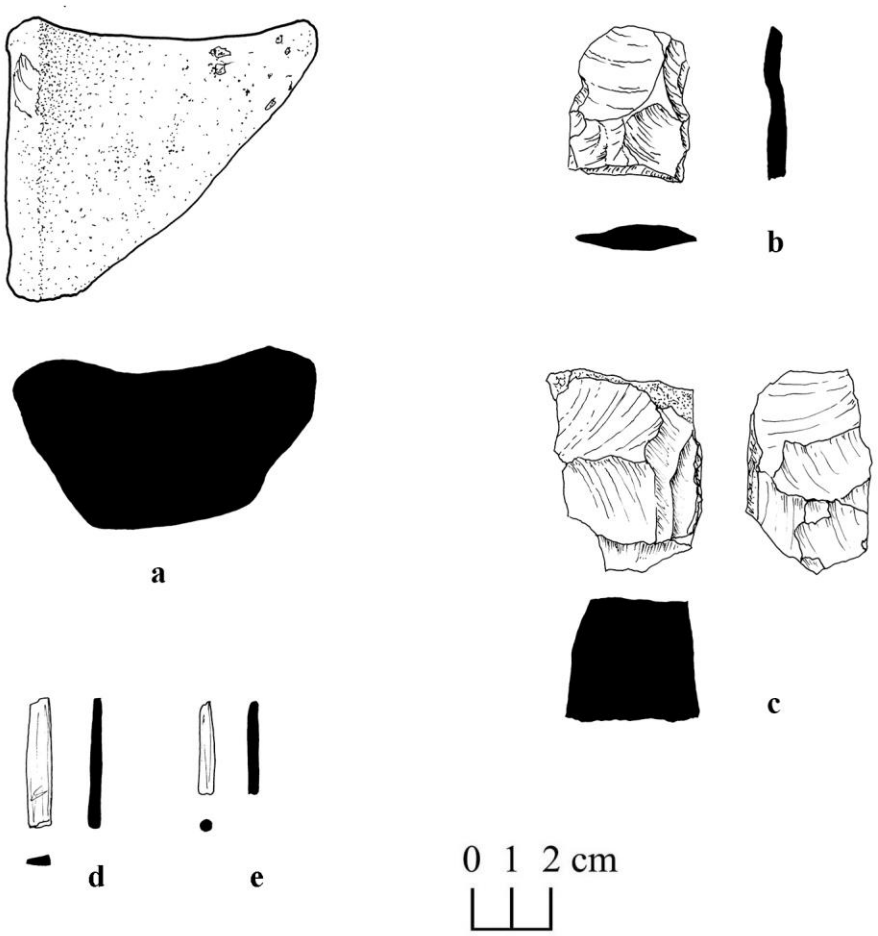

Figure 116: Artifactual materials associated with Operation C208G: a. quartzite metate margin; b. chert biface base; c. chert core tool; d, e. worked bone.

Figure 117: Photograph of Operation C208H.

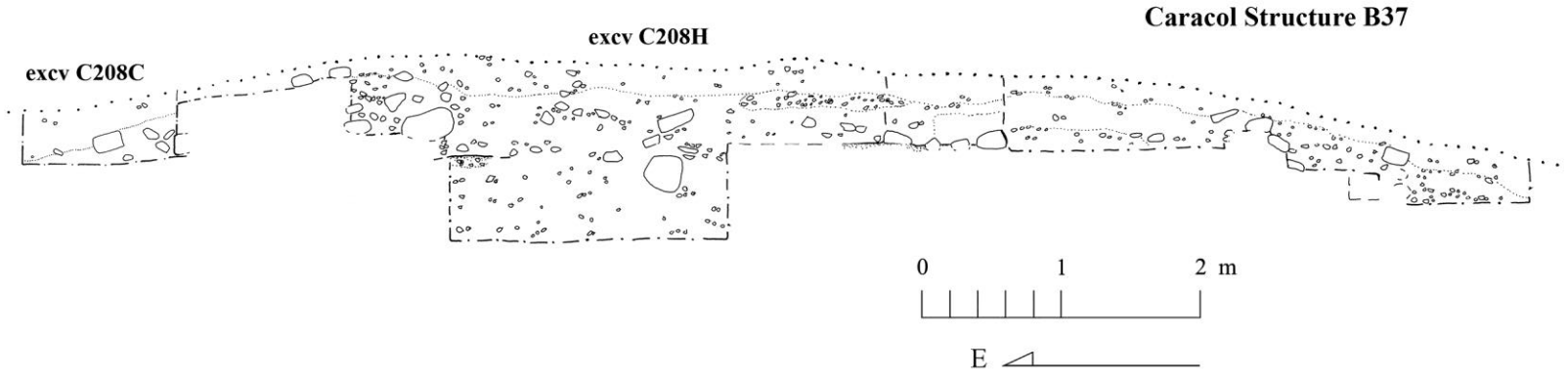

Figure 118: Section through Structure B37 showing Operation C208H.

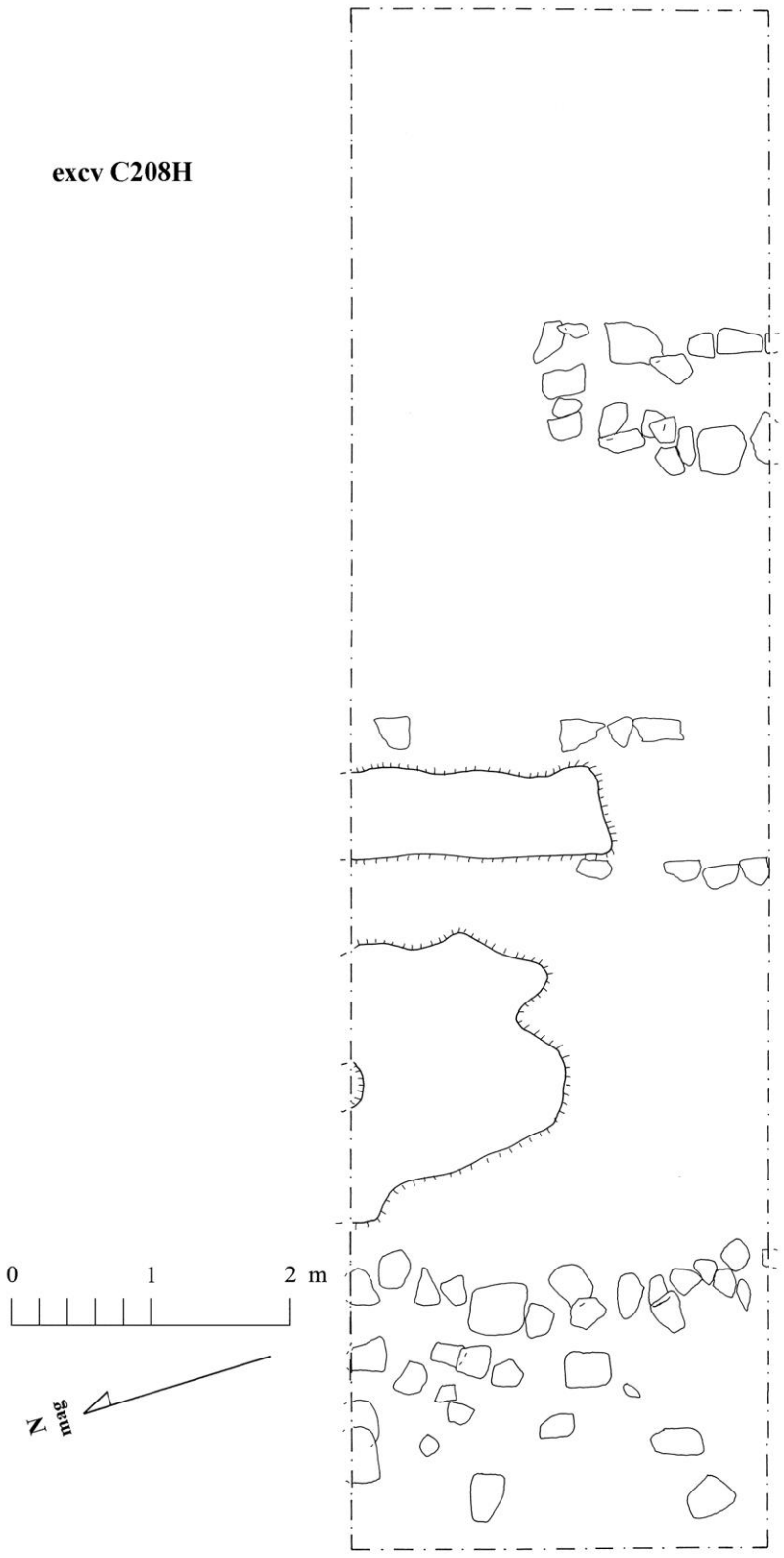

Figure 119: Plan of Operation C208H.

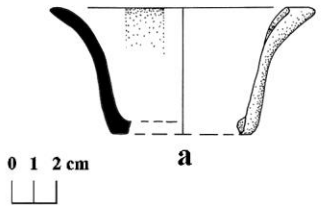

Figure 120: Ceramic vessel associated with Operation C208H: a. possibly Ceiba Unslipped.

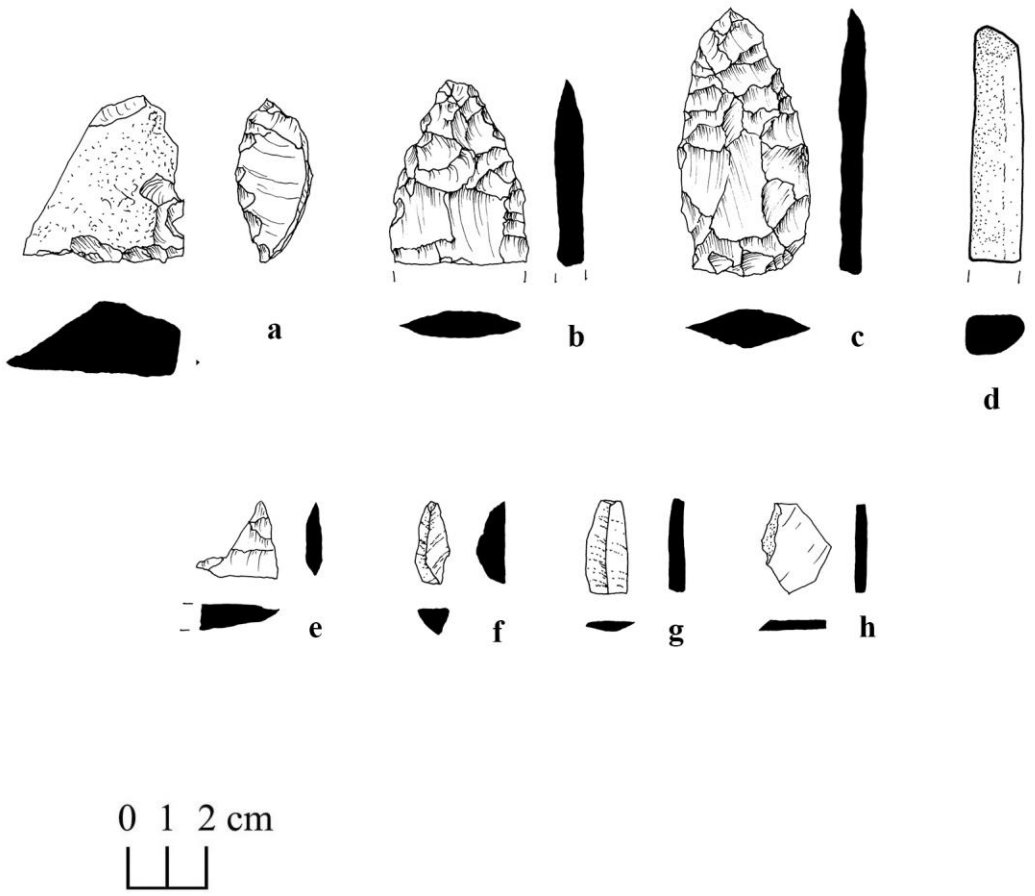

Figure 121: Artifactual material associated with Operation C108H: a. quartzite flake tool; b, c. chert biface; d. stone bar (river cobble); e. chert biface margin; f. quartzite drill; g. quartzite blade; h. hematite mirror fragment.