

# WK-11A: EL MIRADOR EXCAVATIONS CONTINUED – STRUCTURE O14-04

*Michelle E. Rich, Jennifer Piehl and Varinia Matute*

## Introduction

Research was initiated on Structure O14-04 during Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-Waka's third field season. This building is the second largest pyramid in the Mirador Complex, a temple acropolis in the southeastern corner of the site center. Structure O14-04, in conjunction with the even larger Structure O14-02 and a small triadic group atop a nearby rise, form the nexus of this ritual space. Stela 1 is positioned in front of Structure O14-04, and along its centerline access. The stela was originally identified by Ian Graham (unpublished field sketch by Graham, collection of the Corpus of Maya Hieroglyphic Inscriptions). Although related to the work completed during the previous two years in Operation WK-08 (Rich 2004, 2005), a new operation number was designated for excavations at Structure O14-04.

## Objectives

This report will describe and review excavation results at Operation WK-11 in relation to the following objectives outlined for this season's work:

- Gather general information regarding the construction sequence, chronology and function of Structure O14-04.
- Define the architectural characteristics of Structure O14-04, particularly whether or not the building's frontal platform was

constructed at the same time as the pyramidal base.

- Collect data determining the temporal relationship between Structure O14-04 and Stela 1.
- Evaluate the data from this excavation for clues regarding the relationship between this building and the previously excavated N14-12 (Operation WK-08), also within the Mirador Complex.

## Description of Area of Investigation

Structure O14-04 is a sizeable composite pyramid comprised of a frontal platform abutting a terraced pyramidal base, sitting atop a large basal platform (Fig. 1). The structure's frontal platform supports a shrine, and the pyramidal base supports a temple on its summit. The frontal platform measures approximately 4 m in height and the pyramidal base 12 m. The summit temple of Structure O14-04 was looted in modern times. A trench, approximately 2 m wide, bisects the temple slightly northwest of the primary axis of the building. Most of the looters' spoil was thrown off summit toward the northwest, where it collected on top of collapse.

The roughly square basal platform is 8 m in height. Each side is approximately 40 m in length. Cut stone is visible on all sides of the platform, and the back face of Structure O14-04 is contiguous with the basal platform itself. A

causeway off the northeastern corner of the basal platform leads to the largest pyramid in the Mirador Complex, Structure O14-02. A small rectilinear platform extension is located on the south side of the basal platform.

The primary axis of Structure O14-04 is oriented 20° north of west – approximately W 290° to E 110°. Correspondingly, the transverse axis is 20° east of north – approximately N 20° and S 200°. When N/S and E/W are used in this report to describe the orientation of excavation units or architectural features, it is the aforementioned axes of the building that are being referenced, not *cardinal* directions.

Stela 1 is positioned to the west of Structure O14-04. The area near the stela was also looted, and the stela was in fragments scattered around this pit. In 2004, Hugo Martínez and Efraín Peralta reassembled as much of the stela as possible, laying it out horizontally to the east of the loot hole. A rancho was built to protect the decaying monument. This stela is the only one of the three in the Mirador Complex that either was carved or has any carving preserved. According to project epigrapher Stanley Guenter, it dates to AD 657, and the shape of the stela and its relatively small size fit well with this date. Information provided by Guenter indicates clear date glyphs and the PE verb are present on the upper portion, while the lower section gives a name appearing to contain the glyph for jaguar. A standing figure is identifiable, and Guenter suggests it is male. The figure holds a double-headed serpent bar from whose mouths emerge god heads. The headdress of the figure includes a jaguar

emerging from a sun sign, just as on Stelae 12 and 35, and because of this it is possible the name could be that of K'inich B'ahlam. The inscription, however, is eroded and fragmentary, and not enough remains to be entirely certain (Guenter, pers. comm. 2005).

## Background

Fifty units were excavated during the 2005 field season. The units varied in size, and at times were slightly irregular, due to challenges posed by vertical slope and architectural configurations. Elevations were taken from 15 datums. The elevations of the 15 datum points are relative to the Central Datum in Plaza 2, which has an arbitrary height designation of 100 m. The table below lists the relative elevation for each datum (Tsesmeli, pers. comm. 2005). Datum 5 was lost when the tree into which it was set blew down in a storm in March.

Datum #	Elevation
1	147.574
2	147.565
3	146.103
4	150.925
5	Unavailable
6	150.510
7	150.378
8	159.149
9	152.332
10	157.886
11	147.715
12	150.008
13	147.218
14	145.234
15	144.417

General information for each unit is organized in Table 1. *Lots* refer to the lot

numbers excavated within each unit. Features were also assigned lot numbers as per Rich, Lee and Acuña's summary of Proyecto Arqueológico El Perú-*Waka's* use of the lot as a cataloging tool (2003:9). In certain instances, this report denotes a lot as a Feature Lot (FL) to increase clarity. *Datum* identifies the designated datum used in each unit, which in some cases was more than one. *Opening and Closing Elevations* are given in centimeters below datum ("cmbd"). On occasion, measurements were taken above the datum line; these are specified with "cmad." For the purposes of this report, each unit's opening and closing elevations will be given *in relation to the specific datum from which the measurements were taken*. All other elevations included in the text are given in centimeters below datum. *Dimensions* for each of the units are measured in meters.

As a complement to the text, Table 2 contains information detailing the type and quantity of artifacts recovered by lot, level and unit. These data will not be repeated, unless further discussion is warranted. Surface collections have unique lot numbers, but are designated by the level zero (0). Chronological information included in the text is based on preliminary field analyses of the ceramics. This information was provided by Griselda Pérez Robles, unless otherwise noted.

Excavation units are treated by spatial grouping, rather than in numeric order. Excavations into the basal platform and in the proximity of Stela 1 are examined first; followed by the excavations on the pyramid. A discussion follows each section, and a map with the location

of each excavation unit is included (Fig. 1). After this, interments are reviewed; then a short section is included that examines several test excavations conducted this year in the Mirador Complex by Juan Carlos Ramírez (this volume). Comments and conclusions are followed by an outline of plans for future research in the Mirador Complex, which concludes this report.

## **The Basal Platform and Stela 1**

The goal for these units was to determine the temporal relationship between Structure O14-04 and Stela 1. The date on the stela is AD 657, and an initial hypothesis was that the pyramid also dates to the Late Classic period.

### **WK-11A-06**

The placement of this unit was influenced by the looters' trench west of the current location of Stela 1. The exact position of the stela in antiquity is unknown, as no butt has been found in situ. The unit encompassed both a portion of the looters' pit and intact stratigraphy along its north side. Surface collections were made in the looters' pit prior to excavation (WK11A-6-0-3), and preliminary analysis indicates the ceramics date to the Late or Terminal Classic period. Only the undisturbed portion of the unit was excavated in Level 1. The level was closed at a well preserved plaster floor, visible in the north profile of the looters' pit. This floor was approximately 40 cm below the original ground surface, and is the terminal plaza floor. Excavation in the northern third of the unit continued in Level 2, and the terminal floor and the fill below were removed. This lot (Lot 11)

contained a single sherd, identified as the rim fragment of a monochrome orange tecomate, suggesting a Late Classic date for the fill below the floor. A possible penultimate floor was noted slightly below the terminal floor. This was only present in the northern portion of the unit, and was not positively identified as a floor. Lot 11 was closed when a uniform depth was reached across the entire unit. The subsequent lot (Lot 15) is characterized by large rubble fill with few artifacts. When the soil color changed from gray (10YR 6/1) to dark gray (2.5Y 4/1) Lot 17 was initiated. The dark gray matrix continued, 60-90 cm thick, until bedrock was identified.

A small aperture in the bedrock was noted in the unit's southwest corner. The hole opened into an area with a depth of 343 cm below Datum 3. Visual inspection revealed matrix inside the cavity, but no cultural material was identified. The slightly irregular walls of the cavity created an ovoid-shaped space. No further excavation occurred here because it was assumed this was a natural formation, several of which have been noted in other excavations at the site (Escobedo, pers. comm. 2005).

### **WK-11A-26**

This unit was located slightly to the north of the primary axis of Structure O14-04, midway between the stela and the frontal platform retaining wall. Four stratigraphic levels were identified, and characterized by few artifacts. Level 1 was comprised of humus and rubble and was closed at the terminal plaza floor, approximately 40 cm below original ground surface. Another plaster floor was defined in

Level 2, approximately 10 cm below the terminal floor. When this floor and 70 cm of fill was removed, a third floor was identified as Level 3. Both Levels 2 and 3 were devoid of artifacts. A 10-16 cm layer of fill was removed below the third floor, followed by a 50-60 cm layer of dark gray matrix above slightly undulating bedrock.

### **Discussion**

Units 6 and 26 were not the only units excavated into the basal platform. Units 25 and 46 were also located here, but these are more easily understood in the context of the units with which they are most closely associated. Data from Units 25 and 46 inform this discussion, however, these units are specifically reviewed in the relevant sections of this report.

The paucity of artifacts in Units 6 and 26 makes dating difficult. The stratigraphic sequence of both units is dissimilar, particularly in regard to the depth of bedrock and the number of floors encountered (Fig. 2); however, several explanations can be postulated to address these issues. A probable explanation for the discrepancy in bedrock depth is that the basal platform was built around an undulating surface, and the dark gray matrix present in both units was placed there to level the surface prior to construction. This matrix includes cultural material, and is similar in composition and function to the matrix found directly above bedrock in Operation WK-08 Units 11, 29 and 30 (Rich 2005). These excavations also suggest the Maya leveled off the undulating bedrock prior to constructing the summit plaza on which

Structures N14-12, N14-13 and O14-07 and Stela 3 are located.

Three floors were discovered in Unit 26 and only one in Unit 6. The terminal floor identified in Unit 6 corresponds to the final plaza floor in Unit 26, when accounting for a slight downward slant toward the outer perimeter of the platform to facilitate water drainage away from the structure. The absence of the two earlier floors near the stela can be explained if one compares the date of the stela to the date of the pyramid. Data described below firmly place the construction of Structure O14-04 in the Early Classic, in contrast to the Late Classic date of AD 657 for the stela. It was concluded the stela was erected several hundred years after the structure. The terminal plaza floor identified in both units is therefore associated with the erection of the stela, which occurred in the Late Classic in or after AD 657. The earlier plaza floors, present in Unit 26 but not in Unit 6, were removed during the placement of the stela. No monument-associated offering was recovered, but the extensive looting in this area may account for that.

### **Structure O14-04**

Excavation units on the frontal platform and pyramidal base are grouped into six clusters. They are the:

1. Western face of the frontal platform (the front of the structure);
2. North wall of the frontal platform;
3. West wall of the pyramidal base;
4. Shrine on top of the frontal platform;
5. First terrace of the pyramidal base; and,

6. Summit platform and temple.

### **West Face of the Frontal Platform**

Excavation on the frontal platform's west face focused on two objectives: defining the front of the structure, where it had been hypothesized a staircase should exist; and locating a wall that could be followed to the juncture of the frontal platform with the pyramidal base.

#### **WK-11A-01**

The purpose of this unit was to locate the frontal staircase. The basal and second treads of a small outset stair (FL 113) were preserved, but subsequent treads were destroyed by root perturbation. An eroded plaster floor abuts the basal tread, and appeared to lip up onto it. The staircase extended into Unit 23 to the south and Unit 5 to the north. Preliminary ceramic analysis indicates this unit dates to the Terminal Classic.

#### **WK-11A-02**

Unit 2, immediately west of Unit 1, also investigated the frontal staircase. Humus and rubble were excavated in Lot 02 until the matrix color changed and small rubble and ballast were encountered. This may indicate a possible terminal floor that was so eroded it was nearly impossible to identify. Clear evidence of a moderately preserved plaster floor was identified in Lot 04. It is this floor that abuts the stairs in Unit 1. The ephemeral floor in Lot 02 suggests the floor in Lot 04 is the penultimate floor.

### **WK-11A-23**

This unit was excavated in order to expose the southernmost stone of the basal tread identified in Unit 1. The floor level documented in Units 1 and 2 was revealed and followed east. The cornerstone of the stair was encountered near the eastern perimeter of the unit. Field analysis of the ceramic material indicates a Terminal Classic date for this unit.

### **WK-11A-05**

This unit was initiated to delimit the northern extent of the basal tread of the front outset staircase. This was identified, but excavation in Lots 07 and 19 uncovered much cut stone, including an oval alignment (FL 114), set on top of the same poorly preserved floor identified in front of the staircase. The interior space of this alignment was excavated in WK11A-05-2-56, yielding no data on the alignment's function. Preliminary ceramic analysis indicates Lot 07 can be assigned a Terminal Classic date.

### **WK-11A-25**

Unit 25 was placed within Units 1 and 2. Because humus and collapse were removed to expose a floor in Units 1 and 2, the first lot in this unit (WK11A-25-2-41) is Level 2. The floor was removed, and was solid plaster between 13-16 cm thick, with another floor located directly below in WK11A-25-3-42. This plaster floor was 10 cm thick, and terminated at what appeared to be another plaster floor 30-40 cm thick. No ballast or small rubble was present between the floors, and it was nearly impossible to

differentiate the floors in the unit profile. Excavation was difficult, because the plaster was extremely hard. WK11A-24-4-47 was a gray matrix (10YR 6/1) containing mid-sized rubble, and was terminated at a layer of very large boulders that made continued excavation impractical. Small pockets of the dark gray dirt characteristically encountered above bedrock in Operations WK-08 and WK-11 were noted in between the boulders. It is assumed the boulders represent basal platform fill above bedrock.

### **WK-11A-08**

Unit 8 was placed to the north of Unit 1. The units are not contiguous due to a large tree located between them. A well-constructed N/S oriented wall (FL 115) was discovered at the eastern end of Unit 8. Four courses of cut stone were intact, and Units 12 and 13 were established to follow this wall. A concentration of gray matrix was identified in front of the wall. It ranged from 55-20 cm thick and extended westward about 85-90 cm. This matrix was excavated as Lot 21. Below this was the plaster floor identified in Units 1 and 2, which was poorly preserved in this unit. Field analysis indicates a tentative Terminal Classic date for the sherds from Lot 21.

### **WK-11A-12**

Unit 12 was directly south of Unit 8. In this unit, the wall was five courses of stone high. A second wall (FL 116), running perpendicular to the first, was identified in this unit. It is the remaining portion of the north stair side wall of

the front outset staircase. Loten and Pendergast (1984:13) define a stair side as a vertical facing that forms the side of the stair and does not rise above the plane of the step.

### **WK-11A-13**

The wall identified in Unit 8 was followed approximately 85 cm to the north, at which point it turned eastward for about 35 cm, then northward again. The wall appeared to be cornering eastward again, and Unit 16 was established in order to follow its course. Several artifacts of note were discovered in Unit 13: a small, flat, circular shell bead (HE#003); a laurel leaf biface fragment (HE#004); and a flake of green obsidian. Preliminary analysis of the ceramics provided a Terminal Classic date for this unit.

### **WK-11A-16**

The wall continued its “zig-zag” course in Unit 16, making several more turns east and northward. It was in poor condition and slumped, and excavation of the wall was not continued after this unit was completed. It was clear from the profile that the next portion of the wall was so badly damaged that further excavation would compromise its stability.

### **Discussion**

In this group of units, the front outset staircase and the northwest corner of Structure O14-04’s frontal platform were identified. The staircase extends west in front of the frontal platform about 2 m, and the tread width is 3 m. The shrine on top of the frontal platform,

described below, was accessed via this staircase. The straight and “zig-zag” portions of the wall are approximately 4.5 m long. The architectural configuration of this area is difficult to understand due to variable preservation; however, continued scrutiny suggests this may be an inset corner as defined by Loten and Pendergast (1984). Assuming symmetry south of the outset staircase, the front of the building would have measured 12 m in length. Ashy gray matrix noted at the corner of the outset staircase suggests burning activity took place above the floor. Because of the ritual nature of Structure O14-04, the burning may have been ceremonial in nature.

These excavations did not determine the function of the cut stone oval feature northwest of the staircase. The cut stones used to construct this feature were similar in size and shape to the stones forming the northwest corner of the frontal platform, which was missing quite a few cut stones. Because Terminal Classic sherds are common in the surface strata and rubble of this operation, it seems likely this stone feature represents a Terminal Classic modification using the available cut stone, perhaps already fallen from the building.

### **North Wall of the Frontal Platform**

The goal in this cluster of excavations was to identify the north wall of the frontal platform, and to clarify its relationship with the previously defined corner. A small lateral staircase was discovered.

### **WK-11A-03**

The purpose of Unit 3 was to define either a cultural or arbitrary level and use this information to initiate a trench toward the north face of the frontal platform. The unit was closed at the level of a poorly preserved plaza floor.

### **WK-11A-11**

This trench was adjacent to the south perimeter of Unit 3 and ran toward the building. The plaza floor identified in Unit 3 was followed for approximately 1 m until an irregular E/W alignment of stone was identified (FL 117). This may represent a Terminal Classic modification to the structure. Behind this, another floor, better preserved and at a higher elevation, was noted. This floor was followed south until another cut stone feature set directly on the floor was discovered (FL 118). The two cut stones of this feature were stacked, and slanted slightly south from the base to the top, forming the western balustrade of a lateral staircase. A second stacked cut stone feature was noted in the south unit profile (FL 119); however, the stones were different in appearance than those of the balustrade. These are rectangular as opposed to square. This feature appears isolated and its function is unknown.

Fragments of a stemmed laurel leaf biface were collected toward the northern end of the unit. The biface was burned, and spall fragments were also collected, suggesting burning in place. Additionally, incurving rim sherds with fluting were recovered in this unit. These are found almost exclusively in the Terminal Classic (G. Pérez, pers. comm. 2005).

### **WK-11A-18**

This unit was established to investigate various small alignments uncovered in Unit 11. Excavation revealed a fairly large quantity of cut stone. After the discovery of two stacked, cut stones in Unit 39 comprising the eastern balustrade (FL 120), and a stair side wall in Unit 33 (FL 121), the jumbled cut stone present in Unit 18 was recognized as collapse from a lateral staircase. It was removed in order to reveal a portion of the base of the staircase and associated plaza floor. A general utility biface fragment was collected. This unit also contained bolstered rim sherds and other ceramic material most likely dating to the Terminal Classic.

### **WK-11A-37**

The goal of this unit was to reveal the staircase indicated by the east stair side wall uncovered in Unit 33, and to link the excavations on the north side of the frontal platform. The stair treads were exposed, with the two lowest treads fairly well preserved, and the third tread partially intact. The rest of the staircase had mostly collapsed. The stair width is 3.5 m, and the treads are narrow, averaging 12 cm deep on the first and second tread. The height of the first and second stair treads is approximately 20 cm each. The staircase extends into Units 18 and 33. Preliminary ceramic analysis suggests Unit 37 dates to the Late Classic period.

### **WK-11A-39**

The eastern balustrade (FL 120) associated with the lateral staircase was discovered in this unit. A large vessel, broken in

situ, was found in the rubble in the northeast corner of the unit. It was 15-20 cm above the terminal floor, and is a striated jar dating to the Late or Terminal Classic. Stucco fragments collected in this unit show remnants of blue paint.

### **WK-11A-46**

Unit 46 is located 18cm north of the lateral staircase, and is within Units 18 and 39. Because humus and collapse were removed to expose the terminal floor in Units 18 and 39, the first lot in this unit (WK11A-46-2-91) is Level 2. Five successive plaster plaza floors were documented, with no fill or ballast present. The latest two floors in Levels 2 and 3 were each between 5 and 10 cm thick. The floor in Level 4 was approximately 20 cm thick; the floor in Level 5 was 12-14 cm thick and the Level 6 floor had the widest range of thickness, from 4-15 cm. This variation in the earliest floor was due to the undulating surface below it. The hard surface may have been bedrock, and no further excavation was undertaken. Only 15 small sherds were collected from this 1x1 m unit, but a Terminal Preclassic date has been suggested for Level 5.

### **Discussion**

Evidence collected in surface lots identifies Terminal Classic period use of Structure O14-04, including localized burning activity. The rectangular stacked stones (FL 119) may suggest terracing on the frontal platform, between the front and lateral outset staircases, but further evidence for this has not been discovered. The lateral staircase, bounded

by short balustrades, increased the access to the shrine room on top of the frontal platform. The first tread of the staircase and the balustrades were constructed on top of the penultimate floor, with the terminal floor lipping up onto both the tread and the balustrade. Symmetry is assumed, suggesting another lateral staircase exists on the south side of the frontal platform. The tentative Terminal Preclassic date for the plaza floor in WK11A-46-5-94 correlates with the data from Operation WK-11, indicating construction in this area began early and activity continued throughout the site's occupation. Finally, the location of bedrock near the surface in Unit 46 is at a higher elevation than bedrock in Units 6 and 26. This supports the contention that the basal platform was constructed around an extant, undulating natural rise.

### **West Wall of the Pyramidal Base**

Excavation in this area focused on locating the juncture between the pyramidal base and frontal platform of Structure O14-04. Furthermore, these excavations tested the hypothesis that the frontal platform represented a later addition to the pyramidal base.

### **WK-11A-04**

The purpose of this unit was to define a cultural or arbitrary level and use this information to initiate a trench toward the west wall of the pyramidal base. The unit was closed at the level of a poorly preserved plaster floor.

### **WK-11A-07**

This trench was adjacent to the eastern perimeter of Unit 4 and ran toward the building. A 10 cm thick layer of fine gray matrix was encountered 1 m east of the unit's western boundary. The plaster floor identified in Unit 4 was followed for approximately two more meters until a N/S oriented two-course step was discovered (FL 122). It measured 30 cm high. A second 20 cm high step was discovered on top of the first, 23 cm to the east (FL 123). A well-preserved E/W oriented wall, 63 cm in length, abutted the lower step (FL 124). Adjacent to this wall was a short N/S wall excavated in Unit 10 (FL 125). A mano fragment was collected above the floor in Lot 10. At the eastern end of Unit 7 in Lot 31, a tall N/S oriented wall was encountered (FL 126). It appeared to be a core face (Loten and Pendergast 1984:7). Analysis of the ceramics recovered in the collapse indicates a Terminal Classic date.

Near the steps, the fine gray matrix was on top of a hard, compact plaster matrix. An obsidian blade concentration (WK11A-07-1-23) was uncovered on top of this hard matrix, at the corner of walls FL 124 and FL 125. Six small prismatic blades were collected, ranging from 4.5 to 6.3 cm long. All the blades possessed intact proximal ends. The distal ends were broken.

### **WK-11A-20**

Unit 20 was excavated to determine if the core facing in Unit 7 continued. This unit was placed 4 m south of Unit 7, along the same axis as the core facing. The core face was

identified in the unit, but no facing stones were evident at higher elevations. It was only at lower elevations, along the shared perimeter of Units 20 and 10 that the facing stones were identified. Some characteristics of the sherds collected in this unit suggest a Preclassic date, but this is unconfirmed at the present time.

### **WK-11A-28**

Unit 28 was established to follow the facing stones identified in Unit 20. Here, the west wall of the pyramidal base (FL 127) was fully revealed (Fig. 3). Prior to the discovery of this finished wall, a thick, plaster-like backing masonry was also identified. The facing stones in the finished wall were uniform in shape, ranging from rectangular to square, with small stones set in as chinking between the cut stone. The wall is 18 courses at its highest preserved point, measuring approximately 2.75 m high. The wall is battered, slanting outward from base to top, and has an apron soffit and a two course high subapron. A two-stone wide outset panel is also present in this section of wall. Field analysis of the sherds from this unit indicates a Terminal Classic date.

### **WK-11A-10**

This trench was initiated to follow the short wall that cornered to the south in Unit 7 (FL 125). Excavation followed both the wall and the terminal floor in front of it for 70 cm until it disappeared. At this point, an ephemeral E/W alignment abutting the wall was identified (FL 128). The collapse and rubble behind this small alignment contained well-formed cut stones as

well as uncut stones. A large quantity of *Pachychilus spp.* (jute) shell was also present in the collapse. The plaster floor continued under this rubble.

This floor was followed until the juncture between the pyramidal base and frontal platform was discovered along the common boundary of Units 28 and 10. At this intersection, the north wall of the frontal platform (FL 129) was noted to continue beyond the west wall of the pyramidal base. Both walls were similar in appearance and construction (Fig. 3). Unit 33 was established to continue following the frontal platform's north wall to the west.

The matrix in the upper level of Unit 10 was light brownish gray (10YR 6/2), while matrix closer to the floor and architecture was more gray and of a finer texture (10YR 7/1-2). A poor quality general utility biface fragment was recovered near the floor at the north end of the trench. Fragments of modeled stucco and two small fragments of painted stucco were collected within the collapse. One of these was shaped like a reptilian eye, identical to those found in Unit 19, discussed below. Near the pyramid, a large tenoned stone sculpture of a human head (HE#014) was recovered. This example of architectural sculpture measured 63 cm in length, with the head measuring 37 cm in height. The face was slightly eroded, and carved in low relief. This suggests stucco was applied to it to enhance the facial features. A small ceramic whistle (HE#028), 3 cm in length, was also collected. Closer to the building, an increase in the quantity of sherds was noted. Preliminary

ceramic analysis suggests a Terminal Classic date for this unit.

### **WK-11A-33**

Unit 33 was established to follow the north wall of the frontal platform. Some fragments of modeled stucco were collected from the collapse matrix. They displayed geometric design motifs common to the other fragments of stucco found in this operation. The eastern stair side wall (FL 121) of the lateral staircase was discovered at the western boundary of the unit. It runs behind the north wall of the frontal platform. Lot 37 was initiated to expose the stairs. A small square feature (FL 130) comprised of one course of cut stone, faced on all four sides, was located in the northeast corner of the unit directly atop the floor. It measured 58 cm on the E/W axis by 52 cm on the N/S, which was not fully exposed. Its function is unknown.

Part of the floor was removed as WK11A-33-2-86, in order to clarify the relationship of the plaza floors on this side of the pyramid. As discussed in the description of Unit 46, the plaza near the structure was resurfaced multiple times. Thus, identification of the different floors was challenging, particularly when taking drainage slope and decay processes into account. Ceramic analysis suggests a Late Classic date for this unit.

### **WK-11A-34**

Located east of Unit 10, and connecting Units 7 and 20, the purpose of Unit 34 was to identify intact portions of the west wall of the

pyramidal base between Units 7 and 20. The wall was poorly preserved in this area; almost no facing stones were in situ. Much of it slumped into Unit 10, accounting for the concentration of cut stone noted in that trench. A Late Classic date has been proposed for this unit.

### **WK-11A-31**

Due to root disturbance caused by several live trees and destruction resulting from a treefall, very little information was gleaned from this unit. The objective was to locate the northwest corner of the pyramidal base by following the plaster floor and step discovered in Unit 7. Approximately 1 m of intact step was revealed, until root disturbance caused the in situ cut stone to be indistinguishable from the collapsed cut stone. The corner was never properly identified and no additional progress was made in this unit. The sherds collected in this unit date to the Terminal Classic.

### **Discussion**

These units provide much information about the architectural configuration of the Structure O14-04. Walls with the same facing stone and construction style suggest both the pyramidal base and the frontal platform were built during the same construction event. The west wall of the pyramidal base, however, was built afterwards, as it cleanly abuts the wall of the frontal platform that continues on beyond it. This, along with the preliminary dates for ceramics collected in sealed architectural contexts, disproves the hypothesis that the frontal platform represents a separate and later construction episode. The east stair side wall of

the lateral staircase also runs behind the north wall of the frontal platform, indicating the north wall was built after the staircase, but a more specific temporal relationship is uncertain.

The stucco fragments collected indicate Structure O14-04 was elaborately decorated. It is possible the hard matrix on which the obsidian concentration in Unit 7 was placed represents plaster that had melted and slumped off the walls before the blade offering was made. This may suggest the building had fallen into disrepair prior to the offering. Again, it was demonstrated that Structure O14-04 was a locus for activity in the Late and Terminal Classic, as evidenced by the sherds collected in Unit 10, but excavations described below date the construction of the Structure O14-04 to the Early Classic.

The *Pachychilus spp.* shell collected from Unit 10, as well as other units vary in size from small to large. None exhibit holes resulting from punching suggesting use as a food source. Their presence may corroborate the idea that some of the construction fill matrix in the Mirador Complex was acquired from the bajo to the north (see Rich 2005 for a similar discussion in relation to Structure N14-12).

### **Shrine on Top of the Frontal Platform**

The aim of excavations described in this section was to more clearly define the architectural characteristics of Structure O14-04. They revealed a small shrine atop the frontal platform.

### **WK-11A-09**

This unit represents the first of many on top of the frontal platform. Light brown matrix mixed with rubble was removed to the level of two well preserved plaster floors, bisected by a single course step (FL 131) marking a doorway threshold. The 20 cm high step is oriented N/S. Additionally, a wall corner was revealed along the northern edge of this unit. It was two to four intact courses of cut stone. The E/W oriented portion of this wall was identified as the north doorjamb, while the N/S oriented portion was the exterior face of the west wall of the shrine room (FL 132). Unit 14 was established to follow the exterior wall. A Terminal Classic date was assigned to this unit, based on preliminary ceramic analysis.

### **WK-11A-14**

The exterior wall and step continued 2 m to the north. In this location, the step functioned more as a basal moulding of the wall. The lower floor to the west of the step/basal moulding was also exposed here. This is the terminal floor outside of the shrine room, defining what appears to be a terrace space. A tentative Terminal Classic date was assigned to this unit.

### **WK-11A-15**

Unit 15 was directly north of Unit 14. Another meter of the step/basal moulding was exposed, at which point the orientation trended east, and this feature continued beyond the perimeter of the unit. The terrace floor outside the shrine room was also revealed; however, the continuation of the west wall's exterior face was

not identified. Because this unit is close to the sloping northern edge of the frontal platform, the wall is assumed to have collapsed. This unit has been assigned to the Terminal Classic period.

### **WK-11A-19**

Located directly east of Unit 9, the purpose of Unit 19 was to further expose the area east of the step/basal moulding, associated with the higher of the two floors. This area was identified as the interior of the shrine room. Collapse was removed in Lot 33 to the level of the terminal interior floor. A 40 cm high bench (FL 133) was discovered 2 m east of the stair/basal moulding. This west-facing bench is comprised of two courses of cut stone. The profile in the northeast corner of the unit contained many flat slabs (lajas), as did the collapse excavated from the unit. These data suggest a vaulted room. Preliminary analysis dated the ceramic material from Lot 33 to the Late Classic period.

Lot 36 was a concentration of modeled stucco eyes. The four eyes were grouped together in the northwest corner of the unit. Three of these were identical, with two concentric circles around a lidded pupil. These eyes have been identified as reptilian, perhaps those of a crocodile. Each had a diameter of 14 cm. The fourth eye was not lidded, and measured 8 cm in diameter. Additional modeled stucco fragments were collected in this vicinity as Lot 40. These included another reptilian eye, "Z" and "L" shaped elements and several other pieces with geometric design motifs.

In the same northwest quadrant of the unit, the face of a modeled stucco larger-than-life head was discovered (Fig. 4). The head (WK11A-19-1-45) was located 105 cm south of the NW unit corner and 14 cm east of the west unit perimeter. The preservation of the head is fair, but the nose is missing and the mouth and lower jaw are damaged. The sculpture depicts a male head with tasseled goggle-eyes in the hair, an ornament below the nose and over the mouth, and one earflare on the right side of the face. The head was laying at an angle on the terminal interior floor of the shrine room, and the left earflare appears to have melted into the floor. The head was block-lifted and transported to the project's laboratory in Guatemala City, where it will undergo further analysis and conservation efforts.

### **WK-11A-22**

Located south of Unit 19, the purpose of this unit was to continue to delineate the interior space of the shrine room. After the removal of many flat slabs, the bench identified in Unit 19 was further exposed. A modeled stucco fragment of a circular element was collected, as well as one complete obsidian stemmed biface. The sherds from this unit have been provisionally assigned a Terminal Classic date.

### **WK-11A-17**

Unit 17 is located directly south of Unit 9. The purpose of this unit was to define the south doorjamb of the shrine room. Matrix and collapse were removed until the terminal interior floor and the 113 cm-wide doorjamb were exposed. The width of the doorway is 2 m as

defined by the two jambs. The exterior face of the southern portion of the shrine room's west wall (FL 134) and the step/basal moulding were also revealed on this side (south) of the doorway. The wall extended beyond the southern perimeter of the unit.

### **WK-11A-21**

The exterior face of the shrine room's west wall was followed in this unit, where it cornered to the east to form the southern wall of the shrine room (FL 135). The upper courses of this E/W-oriented wall slumped badly to the south. The step/basal moulding identified along the exterior face of the west wall did not continue on the south wall of the shrine room, but the terrace floor was identified.

### **WK-11A-27**

Situated directly east of Unit 21, the purpose of this unit was to continue to define the exterior face of the shrine room's south wall, as well as the terrace floor. This was accomplished in WK11A-27-1-55. Large quantities of modeled stucco fragments were collected in this lot, some of which appear to have been burned. Preliminary ceramic analysis dates this lot to the Terminal Classic.

The upper course of stone representing the face of the shrine room's interior southwest corner was identified when viewing Unit 27 from above. The matrix and collapse along this interior face were removed in WK11A-27-1-76, as they were located *inside* the room. The remainder of the bench identified in Units 19 and 22 was also exposed in this unit. A square

shaped feature was identified on top of the bench at its south end (FL 136). The feature was constructed with cut stone of the same type used in the walls, and was three courses high. Its function is presently unknown. It does not appear to exist on the opposite end of the bench. The profile in the southeast corner of this unit shows an alignment of what appear to be stacked vault stones which have collapsed to the south (FL 137).

### **WK-11A-41**

This unit was established on the centerline of Structure O14-04, inside the shrine room. It is situated between the step, bench, and the doorjamb. The objective was to define the construction sequence of Structure O14-04's frontal platform. In Lot 79, the previously identified terminal floor and fill below it were removed. Juan Carlos Melendez and Ana Lucia Arroyave conducted the ceramic analysis for this unit. Their work suggests this level dates to the Late Classic period. The penultimate plaster floor was identified 32.5-45.5 cm below the terminal floor, and was removed in Lot 81. This lot contained no artifacts. A third plaster floor was located another 12-22 cm below the penultimate floor. A single flat, circular rock approximately 35 cm in diameter was set on this floor along the structure's centerline. It left a depression on the plaster. Neither of these two floors was at the same elevation as the terrace floor outside of the shrine room. The fill in these lots was a tan color.

The third floor was excavated in WK11A-41-4-83, and the tan matrix subtly

changed to a grayish brown. The lot was closed when the matrix color changed to a very dark gray to black (10YR 3/1 or 2.5Y 3/1 to 2.5Y 2.5/1). This level measured 1.5 m, and ceramic analysis places this level firmly in the Early Classic. In the next lot, WK11A-41-5-88, a hard-packed matrix floor was encountered after excavating 1.6 m of fill that included mid-sized rubble. An Early Classic date was also suggested for the ceramics in this level. A mostly intact serving plate was recovered in this lot. It appears to have been placed directly into the fill during construction. It may have contained a perishable offering.

The matrix below the hard-packed floor was excavated as WK11A-41-6-106. It was also very dark gray to black in color, mixed with some cut stone. This level contained sherds dating to the Early Classic, with material tentatively dating to the Late or Terminal Preclassic period also represented. After 60 cm of fill was removed, the lot was closed at the level of an oval-shaped capstone. It was at a similar elevation to the terminal plaza floor identified in Unit 26. Prior to lifting the capstone an isolated human tooth (second right lower incisor) was discovered. The capstone was lifted on 17 April 2005 to reveal a vaulted tomb chamber designated Burial #024 (WK11A-41-7-112). The tomb will be reviewed later in this report. Miscellaneous sherds collected in the matrix of the tomb chamber tentatively date to the Late/Terminal Preclassic. These, however, are from surrounding construction fill. The vessels included with the interment date to the Early Classic.

## **WK-11A-24**

This unit was situated outside of the shrine room to the west of Unit 9, and aligned with the 2 m wide shrine room doorway. Collapse was removed in Lot 38 to the level of the terminal terrace floor, which was well preserved close to the shrine room's exterior walls. A N/S oriented ephemeral alignment was identified on top of the floor (FL 138). Its orientation corresponded to Structure O14-04's other N/S walls. West of the alignment, the terrace floor was either very poorly preserved or did not exist. A tentative Terminal Classic date was assigned to this lot.

The unit was then bisected along the alignment. Lots 46 and 49 were on its east side and 48 and 52 on the west. In WK11A-24-2-46, the terminal terrace floor and its fill were removed. The penultimate floor was identified 10-25 cm below. A portion of a general utility biface was collected in the fill. The penultimate floor was removed in WK11A-24-3-49, and after excavating approximately 30 cm of fill, the top course of a wall was revealed. This was identified as a mason's construction wall (FL 139). This wall was directly below the first alignment, but separated by 80 cm of matrix and two floors. Excavation was temporarily halted on this side of the wall, in order to excavate on the wall's exterior face.

In WK11A-24-2-48, fill was excavated on the exterior face of the construction wall. The two previously identified floors were not easily detectable outside of the wall. The wall was constructed of irregularly shaped large stones

and was rustic in appearance. The lot was changed when the fill matrix became looser and included smaller rubble. In the next lot, WK11A-24-2-52, the color of the matrix varied from a light pinkish-orange in the northern portion of the unit, to brownish in the center and grayish in the south. This lot was approximately 1.5 m deep, and closed when a very well preserved plaster floor was discovered. This floor was approximately 1 m higher than the hardpacked dirt floor in Unit 41.

## **WK-11A-47**

Because the well preserved floor at the base of the construction wall did not exist in Unit 41, Unit 47 (Fig. 5) was initiated to help elucidate this stratigraphic disparity. As the lot numbers suggest, at this point excavation in Unit 41 had not proceeded beyond the hard-packed matrix floor. Unit 47 was located within Units 24 and 9, and it ran perpendicular to the construction wall. The intention was to remove the north half of the construction wall. Because of the presence of an alignment and a small retaining wall behind the construction wall, the sequence of lots in this unit is awkward.

The terminal terrace floor had already been exposed in Units 24 and 9. The removal of this floor and its associated fill was completed in WK11A-47-2-95. Preliminary ceramic analysis dates this lot to the Late Classic. Despite the fact that the penultimate floor was visible in the eastern profile of Lot 95, it was not recognized as Level 3 (as in WK11A-24-3-49). This error affects the numbering of levels in all subsequent

lots in Units 47 and 50. Technically, each level designation should be one numeral greater,

Ceramics from the next lot (WK11A-47-2-97) suggest an Early Classic date, but this does not correlate with subsequent lots, which appear to contain material diagnostic of the Late Classic. This lot was closed when two aligned rocks (FL 140) that bisected the unit along the N/S central axis were uncovered. Excavation in WK11A-47-2-99 focused on only the western portion of the unit to determine if the two aligned rocks represented another wall. This lot was closed when the matrix changed color, and in WK11A-47-2-100 the western half of the unit was excavated to the level of the well preserved floor associated with the mason's construction wall Unit 24. The two rocks were removed, and the eastern half of the unit was excavated in WK11A-47-2-102. A small retaining wall (FL 141) was revealed, which sat directly on the floor. It was on the same vertical axis as the two aligned rocks. These uncut rocks of the retaining wall were stacked two courses high. In WK11A-47-2-105 the retaining wall was removed to expose the floor beneath, which is the same floor identified at the base of Unit 24. It was in a poor state of preservation in this portion of the unit. Some small patches of polished plaster were noted, but it was largely ballast underflooring that remained. Lots 102 and 105 are tentatively assigned a Late Classic date.

### **WK-11A-50**

Located within Unit 47, Unit 50 was established after discovering the vaulted tomb

chamber at the base of Unit 41. It was hypothesized that it might be less risky to access the tomb from the western wall, rather than accessing it from the roof. This plan seemed feasible because Unit 47 had already been excavated, approximately 1 m west of Unit 41. Only 3 m of vertical excavation remained until this area was at the same depth estimated for the base of the tomb, at which point a horizontal tunneling effort would be executed to reach the exterior tomb wall.

The well preserved plaster floor at the base of Unit 24 and 47 was removed in Lot 107. Approximately 10-15 cm beneath this floor was another floor, which was not as well preserved. When this floor was removed in Lot 108, an E/W oriented construction pen (FL 142) was identified in the northern third of the unit. Three courses of this wall, which was constructed of large, rough limestones, were removed to facilitate further excavation in the small unit. This lot, and all subsequent lots in this unit, dates to the Early Classic period according to preliminary ceramic analysis.

Two more courses of the construction pen were identified and removed in Lot 109. Underneath and to the north of this construction pen was another floor. It was not present in the southern two-thirds of the unit – only north of the construction wall. Some of this wall is visible in the unit's west profile, while the floor is only detectable in the unit's north wall (Fig. 6). Also identified in Lot 109 was a small hole in the SW unit corner, approximately 25 cm in diameter. Initial visual inspection revealed collapsed stones and matrix. As excavation continued in

Lot 110 and the gap became larger, it was identified as a cist burial. This interment was designated Burial #025 (WK11A-50-5-111) and will be reviewed later in this report.

As Lot 110 excavation progressed through a typical grayish-brown fill matrix, intermittent large boulders were present beneath the prepared floor surface to the north of the construction pen. At the base of this lot, the matrix transitioned to a blackish-gray soft matrix and beneath this was dry-laid rubble fill. The rubble was large, and very little matrix was noted. Excavation in this lot and unit terminated at this point, as it was apparent this large, loose rubble fill was not safe for further excavation or tunneling west toward the vaulted tomb chamber. The elevation of the rubble fill at the base of Unit 50 falls within the range identified for the fill at the base of Unit 25, adjacent to the frontal platform's outset staircase.

## **Discussion**

In these units, the majority of the interior and exterior of the small, vaulted shrine room atop the frontal platform was defined. Ceramic analysis indicates the activity associated with the last architectural phase dates to the Late or Terminal Classic. Both the interior and exterior of the room were probably decorated with an elaborate stucco frieze, as demonstrated by the large quantities of stucco fragments and the stucco head. No additional stucco elements were recovered that would suggest the presence of a body associated with the head. Excavations to date have not determined the original location of this sculptural element, but it is possible it was

a component of a decorative program associated with the shrine room. Its fair state of preservation implies it was not exposed to the natural elements for long, and must have been covered soon after coming to its final resting place on the terminal shrine room floor. There is no evidence to indicate the head was placed on the floor intentionally. The collection of stucco reptilian eyes discovered at a higher elevation than the head is vaguely suggestive of intentional placement due to their proximity to one another, but again, there is no firm evidence to support this.

The vertical excavation in Unit 41 provided important chronological data about the frontal platform. The final construction phase dates to the Late Classic. No artifacts were recovered in the level below; therefore, it is not possible at this time to date the penultimate construction episode. Below that is the earliest securely dated construction episode, which occurred in the Early Classic period in association with the construction of the vaulted tomb chamber. Sherds tentatively dated to the Late/Terminal Preclassic were found in the fill of this construction episode and Terminal Preclassic sherds were found inside the tomb. These were not associated with the ceramic vessels in the tomb or any of the other burial furniture, but may have been included in the fill of a previous construction episode. This, along with the dating of WK11A-46-5-94 to the Terminal Preclassic, suggests there may be an even earlier construction phase associated with Structure O14-04.

In Unit 47, the construction wall defined in Unit 24 was bisected and removed. The fill *outside* the wall (Unit 24, Lots 48 and 52) was markedly different than the fill *inside* the mason's wall. Unit 47, in conjunction with Unit 50, also provided data against which to compare the stratigraphy of Unit 41. Again, these stratigraphic sequences are markedly different. Inside the shrine room, the 2 m of fill below the three floors in Unit 41 was uniform in its composition, with the matrix only changing color once, securely indicating a single construction episode. In contrast, excavations outside the shrine room in Unit 47 revealed a stratigraphic sequence in which the composition and color of the fill changed repeatedly. The profile in this unit shows many layers of carefully laid fill. Only two floors were documented in the higher lots of the unit, and several other characteristics in the profile may or may not signify earlier floors. The implications of this repeatedly changing fill are unclear. Unit 50 also contains different stratigraphy than Unit 41. The excavation of this small pit at the base of Unit 47 suggests the westernmost edge of the frontal platform was modified in the Late Classic. This is also the period when the shrine room was constructed.

### **First Terrace of the Pyramidal Base**

As a result of following the shrine room's exterior walls, a terrace was defined outside the shrine room's south wall. This terrace was contiguous with the terrace on the west face of the pyramidal base. The units described in this section document the architectural configuration of this terrace. Full exposure of the terrace wall was attempted.

### **WK-11A-32**

Directly east of Unit 27, this unit was established to follow the shrine room's south exterior wall face identified in Units 27 and 21. Toward the eastern perimeter of Unit 32, the wall cornered to north (FL 143) and continued for 70 cm from the basal cornerstone. At this point the wall cornered again to the east (FL 144). A concentration of obsidian blades was encountered just above the floor. This was collected as Lot 68. Nine prismatic blades and blade fragments were collected, ranging from 1.8 to 6.5 cm long. Two of the blades were complete, seven possessed the proximal end but no distal end, and two were blade midsections. This concentration was very similar to the one found in Unit 7. The wall continues beyond the perimeter of the unit, and is followed in Unit 35. Sherds from Lot 62 indicate a Late Classic date for this unit.

### **WK-11A-35**

This unit was located to the east of Unit 32. As previously described, the south wall of the shrine room corners to the north and joins to another E/W oriented wall (FL 144). At this juncture, this wall may no longer be directly associated with the shrine room. The rear interior portion of the shrine room was never excavated due to the presence of several large trees. Therefore, the architectural configuration of the interior space is unknown and the exterior wall face exposed here is poorly understood. It was discovered in Unit 35 that the lower portion of E/W wall (FL 144) abuts a two-tiered outset corner (FL 145). Each tier is two courses high, with a total height of about 80 cm. The upper

portion of the E/W wall continues beyond the eastern perimeter of the unit. This was left uninvestigated for the present time. A large quantity of modeled stucco fragments were collected in close proximity to the wall, and exhibit motifs consistent with those recovered elsewhere on the building, including geometric and linear elements. A Late Classic date was assigned to the ceramic material from this unit.

### **WK-11A-36**

The southern face of the two-tiered outset corner was discovered in this unit. The lower tier is not completely intact, and slumps southward. A well-preserved patch of plaster floor was associated with the edge of the outset. This floor is at a lower elevation than the terrace floor adjacent to the exterior wall of the shrine room. Behind the small patch of floor was the N/S oriented first terrace wall on the pyramidal base (FL 146).

### **WK-11A-42**

The terrace wall continued in this unit, and the quantity of modeled stucco fragments decreased. One of the pieces of modeled stucco is a tassel, identical to that found on the stucco head in Unit 19. Preliminary ceramic analysis suggests this unit dates to the Late or Terminal Classic.

### **WK-11A-45**

The terrace wall continued in this unit, measuring approximately 80 cm high at its tallest preserved extent.

### **WK-11A-48**

The southern extremity of the terrace wall was delimited in this unit, but preservation was such that a corner was not definable.

## **Discussion**

The first terrace wall of the pyramidal base was documented in these units. The distance between the main walls of the pyramid excavated on the north side of the frontal platform and this terrace wall on the south side was estimated using Tsesmeli's survey data. From these data it was calculated the terrace wall is approximately 2 m east of the main walls. A step down was identified between the terrace floor outside of the shrine room to the first terrace of the pyramidal base. This step was documented at the southern edge of the two-tiered outset. The architectural configuration of the walls, particularly in Units 35 and 36, is not well understood and it is hoped additional excavation next season will provide clarification.

The Late Classic dates represented by the ceramic material in these units are consistent with the data found in surface excavations across the structure. The presence of an obsidian concentration similar to the one documented in Unit 7 suggests patterns of ritual behavior at Structure O14-04. It is estimated both concentrations were laid down in the Late or Terminal Classic period, because they were both deposited above the terminal floor.

## Summit Platform and Temple

Excavations were initiated on the summit of Structure O14-04's pyramidal base in order to understand more explicitly another aspect of the architectural configuration of the building. A masonry temple was discovered.

### WK-11A-29

This unit was situated to encompass a looters' trench that ran down the centerline axis of the collapsed temple at the summit of Structure O14-04. Information from the looting disturbance was used to orient the units: a partially exposed alignment of cut stone and some patchy preserved plaster provided indications about the orientation of the walls and level of the plaster flooring in the summit temple. Many flat slabs were also present in the looters' profile, indicating this room had been vaulted. As these features were cleaned, a surface collection was made (Lot 59). Initially Unit 29 was 2x2 m but was extended to 2x3 m. The original northern portion of the unit contained the base of the looters' trench. The central and southern portions were intact, with additional looters' debris atop the structural collapse, although most of it had been dumped down the northwest face of the pyramidal base.

Lot 63 encompassed the south profile of the looters' trench. The north profile was left untouched. Excavation of 1 m of collapsed vault stones and a small amount of matrix brought the central and southern portions of the unit down to the level of the base of the looters' trench in the northern portion of the unit. The interior face of the eastern, or rear, temple wall (FL 147) and

the terminal temple floor were exposed. The southern edge of the wall slumped back toward the east. The floor appeared to have been cut, either by the looters or in antiquity, toward the northern unit perimeter. Along the extreme northern edge of the unit a fine brown matrix was encountered. Preliminary analysis dates the ceramic material above the floor to the Late Classic. Modeled stucco fragments were collected in this lot.

Because of the disturbed area on the northern edge of Lot 63, the unit was extended 1 m to the north, bringing the northern edge of the unit flush with the north profile of the looters' trench. Excavation in this lot (Lot 71) was directly in the looters' trench, and the original base of that trench was difficult to identify. The quantity of surface matrix that accumulated since the looting occurred is unknown. The cut temple floor identified at the base of Lot 63 was not present here, except for a burned section remaining in the unit's new north profile, below what appeared to be the extent of the looters damage. An obsidian blade fragment and a medium-sized greenstone bead (HE#011) were recovered in fill in the northwest corner of the unit, and various alignments of stone were exposed underneath the soft, fine brown matrix. The presence of a single greenstone bead suggests something more elaborate, for example a cache or other deposit, may have been removed from the centerline of the summit room. The context of the fill matrix in the lot is definitely disturbed, but it is not clear if it was modern looting or ancient behavior, or some combination of the two, that was the cause.

The purpose of the subsequent lot (Lot 74) was to further expose three alignments in the north meter of the unit. This corresponds to the looted area of the summit. This context, however, is securely the below the level of where the terminal temple floor would have been, and is well below the looted zone. Two of these alignments were oriented N/S, one toward the eastern perimeter of the unit (FL 148) and the other further west (FL 149) and one E/W (FL 150). Lot 101 was excavated east of the easternmost alignment. These alignments were several courses high in some cases, and appeared to be construction walls. Both Lots 74 and 101 were undisturbed, and preliminary analysis indicates sherds collected from them date to the Early Classic. Many stucco fragments were recovered from Lot 101; perhaps they were simply included in the fill.

### **WK-11A-38**

Adjacent to southwestern perimeter of Unit 29, the purpose of Unit 38 was to find the west interior wall and/or southwest interior corner of the temple. A fragmentary portion of the west interior wall was identified (FL 151), however, no additional intact portions of the west wall were noted. It is likely the wall collapsed and fell off the summit. A single course high, E/W oriented alignment was also identified in this unit (FL 152). It did not continue into Unit 29, and was not the southern wall of the temple. If it had continued, it would have met the interior face of the eastern temple wall at approximately the center of the 3 meters of wall exposed. This alignment prompted speculation that more than one doorway into the summit temple may have

existed, demarcated by piers (such as those found at Structure N14-12 in Operation WK-08; see Rich 2004, 2005), but no substantial evidence for this idea has been collected.

### **WK-11A-40**

This unit was initiated in order to locate the interior southeast corner of the summit temple. Given the ambiguous information collected in Unit 38, it was hoped that following the east interior wall would lead to the corner. The corner was not located, as the southeastern portion of the wall had collapsed off the summit.

### **WK-11A-43**

This unit was west of Unit 38, placed to locate the exterior west wall of the temple. Once found, it was determined this wall continued beyond the northern perimeter of the unit. To the south, a tree was growing directly on top of the wall. Following the wall's trajectory, 1 m of space was left unexcavated and Unit 44 was initiated to define the remainder of this wall. A floor associated with the exterior face of the wall, outside of the summit temple, was identified at the base of this unit.

### **WK-11A-44**

The exterior west wall was followed in this unit. Excavation was challenging due to the extreme slope toward the exterior southeast corner of the pyramidal base. There was significant tree root disturbance in this unit, and floor identified in Unit 43 was not preserved here. An exterior corner was never identified and excavation did not continue due to time

constraints. This unit was tentatively dated to the Terminal Classic.

### **WK-11A-49**

This small test unit was placed in the interior space of the summit temple room. Lot 103, Level 2 represented the removal of the thin terminal floor. This was identified as a replastering event inside the room. In Lot 49 the second plaster floor was excavated, and the fill below it was removed until size constraints prevented further work. The objective of this unit was to collect sherds from the fill beneath the floor that might provide chronological data. No diagnostic sherds were recovered, but Lots 74 and 101 in WK11A-29 provided an alternate sealed context for dating the summit of the pyramidal base.

### **WK-11A-30**

This unit was comprised of a single lot, WK11A-30-0-60, and represented the cleaning of a disturbed area on the northwest exterior face of the summit temple. This was done in order to search for any architectural features that might be present in this exposed locale. The area is disturbed on a vertical axis, as opposed to a horizontal one, and seems an unlikely location for looters to target, but there was no evidence for a treefall or other explanation for this destruction. The results of the cleaning did not reveal any cut or faced stone, only dry-core fill. No further work was done in this area, and it was not included on the map illustrating the location of the units.

## **Discussion**

The summit of Structure O14-04 exhibits the same construction and use pattern as the remainder of the building: initial construction of the pyramidal base occurred in the Early Classic, with continued use through the Late/Terminal Classic period. Based on the suggestion of Preclassic era activity in the building's frontal platform, it is indeed possible that an even earlier construction phase exists inside the pyramidal base. It is, however, unclear at this point exactly when the masonry temple was constructed. The temple appears to have had a decorative program executed in stucco, as did the shrine room and other portions of the composite pyramid. The interior space of the room was small; on the E/W axis it measured a mere 1.6 m, while the length of the N/S axis is unknown. No interior wall or corners were located demarcating the southern perimeter of the room.

## **Interments**

Investigation of Structure O14-04 resulted in the discovery of two burials: a masonry tomb housing the remains of three individuals, and a burial cist carved out of fill that contained a single individual.

### **Burial #024**

The vaulted tomb chamber discovered on 17 April 2005 was entered on 23 April 2005, by means of removal of two vault capstones at the southern end of the chamber. The chamber is oriented northeast-southwest, perpendicular to the primary axis of the building. The vault is

constructed of large unworked stones, predominantly limestone and large chert cobbles, built atop walls composed primarily of large limestone boulders. The walls and vault were faced with mud, forming a chamber with the long axis measuring 2.6–2.7 m in length, 0.8–0.9 m wide and 1.2–1.4 m in height. The vaulted ceiling angled downward toward the northern end of the chamber. The base of the tomb chamber is 30–50 cm lower than bedrock at the base of Unit 26, but 60 cm higher than bedrock at the base of Unit 6. This variability is not surprising because the basal platform appears to have been constructed around undulating bedrock. These elevations, along with the large limestones comprising the walls of the tomb, suggest the chamber was constructed near the level of bedrock.

Access to the tomb chamber was gained through the roof. Jennifer Piehl and Michelle Rich were responsible for the documentation and excavation of the contents. As demonstrated by the dimensions, space inside the tomb was limited. The interments and the burial furniture occupied most of the available surface space within the chamber. Because of this, the documentation and removal of the contents proceeded from south to north. Time constraints also informed the excavation strategy, as the 2005 field season ended on 7 May 2005. The methodology implemented was based on the idea that final drawings of the contents of the tomb would be made using technology available through the computer software program Adobe Creative Suite.

Beginning after the documentation and removal of the three vessels at the southern end of the chamber, narrow strips along an E/W axis were cleaned, documented and removed. Because the individuals were stacked one on top of the other, it was necessary to repeat this process multiple times in the same area prior to moving northward. Large numbers of photographs were taken with a level camera, and were photostitched together using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Illustrator. Sketches were made of each layer of each strip, and certain elements of the tomb contents, for example, the vessels, prominent bones and the tomb walls were plan-mapped to provide cross-references to the photographs and sketches. This entire complement of information was used to generate a complete and accurate drawing of the tomb contents.

The chamber contained the remains of three individuals (Fig. 7). Two adult females were interred one atop the other during the same burial event. Both individuals were oriented with the head to the northern end of the chamber and laid in extended positions. The lower individual was placed in the chamber in a prone position, and was pregnant at time of death (Fig. 8). The upper individual was placed directly atop the lower, in a supine position (Fig. 9). Both individuals were young adults, between the ages of 25 and 35 years, and show little evidence of skeletal pathology. See Piehl (this volume) for a more detailed report of the analysis of each individual interred in the tomb.

Seven complete and intact ceramic vessels were included among the tomb offerings.

They all fall within the mid-Early Classic period, comparable to Manik II phase ceramics (AD350-400) at Tikal. Three of the vessels are Dos Arroyos group scutate-lidded polychrome vessels with ring bases, most likely Caldero Buff polychrome: Variety Unspecified (Debra Walker, pers.comm. 2005). Manik II phase ceramics from Tikal commonly possess effigy-handled lids (for examples see Culbert 1993; Laporte and Fialko 1995). Those from Burial #024, however, do not. The other four vessels are Balanza Black: Variety Unspecified basal-flanged open bowls. Six of these vessels appeared empty. The presence of bird bones in the seventh vessel suggests it is possible the other six once contained offerings, which would have decomposed and left little residue.

Three of the vessels were clustered at the feet of the individuals at the south end of the chamber. Two of these are basal-flanged polychrome vessels with scutate lids (AR#003 and #004). These vessels exhibit elaborate profile polymorphic heads on the vessel bodies and lids. The third vessel in this cluster is a basal-flanged Balanza Black bowl (AR#005). This vessel has post-fire incising on the interior wall of the bowl. It is a woven geometric design resembling a *pop* or mat motif. Some of the bones from the upper individual's left foot fell into this open bowl.

Four vessels were placed in the northern portion of the tomb chamber. Two basal-flanged Balanza Black bowls, one stacked inside the other, were situated directly west of the crania of the individuals (AR#007 and #008). Both of these vessels also exhibit post-fire incising in the

interior of the bowl. On the interior base of AR#007, the upper vessel, two birds are represented, while the interior base of AR#008 has a large *pop* motif, similar to that of AR#005. An 8 cm long cross-hatch design is present on the rim of vessel AR#008 as well. The third scutate-lidded vessel (AR#009) was placed north of the stacked Balanza Black vessels. The vessel is decorated with a polychrome basket design, and the lid and sides of the vessel are ridged. A tetrapod basal-flanged Balanza Black vessel (AR#010) completes the ceramic assemblage. This was placed in the northeastern corner of the tomb, above the heads of the two adult individuals. This vessel contained the bones of two birds (G. Pérez, pers. comm. 2005), and also has a post-fire *pop* element incised in its interior base.

Additional artifacts placed in the tomb chamber include two polychrome-stuccoed vessels fashioned out of a perishable material, for example wood or gourds (AR#011 and 012). Only the thin painted stucco survives, and it is very fragmentary. One of these stucco flake concentrations occupies the northern end of the chamber, and appears to have been a large plate with a polychrome design (AR#011). The colors identified in this stucco concentration include green, three shades of pink, black and white. The decomposition of this object occurred such that approximately half of the painted surface of the stucco has collapsed facedown. The remains of the second stuccoed object (AR#012) are located east of the two individuals, placed alongside the pelvis and upper leg elements. This object exhibits polychrome painting and modeled human face elements,

portions of three of which survive. The colors identified on the remains of this vessel are green, pinkish-orange, red-orange and black.

Samples of an unidentified organic element were collected from the floor of the tomb chamber, concentrated near the individuals. This may suggest the inclusion of a wooden pallet upon which one or both of the women were placed. Analysis of the samples will help to address this question. Large *Spondylus spp.* shell fragments and two greenstone earspools were associated with the crania of the adult individuals. A stingray spine was recovered from the pelvic region, and based on its vertical relationship to the two females, appears to have been placed between their bodies. Two pearls, two diminutive greenstone beads, three *Spondylus spp.* shell beads and an obsidian prismatic blade fragment complete the complement of burial goods associated with the individuals in this tomb.

## **Burial #025**

This was the interment of a single individual in a modest cist carved out of the construction fill of Structure O14-04's frontal platform, west of the shrine room and east of the stairway identified in Unit 1 (Fig. 10). Measuring 170 cm on the N/S axis and 55 cm E/W, the cist was situated approximately 2.5 m west of the Burial #024 chamber, about 1 m higher in elevation than the tomb chamber. The cist is oriented northeast-southwest, perpendicular to the primary axis of the building. The cist was accessed from the eastern side, leaving the other three walls and roof intact. No outline of

stones or any wall definition is visible in the chamber, and there were not a sufficient number of collapsed stones within the cist to represent fallen walls. The floor of the cist was a limestone ballast surface. Two intact stones in the southern portion of the chamber roof appear from the underside to be flat-laid, suggesting a capping feature. Wall matrix and several burnt limestone rocks, presumably from the roof, collapsed on top of the burial. These limestone rocks exhibited indications of smoke-blackening, possibly signifying burning within the cist. Large carbon samples were collected for future analysis.

The individual interred in the cist was placed with the head to the north and laid out in an extended supine position. The skeletal remains indicate an orientation approximately 23° east of north. The roof stones and fill that collapsed onto the skeleton displaced and partially destroyed some elements, but the skeleton was mostly articulated. Based on preliminary analysis of the skeletal material, the individual was a female of advanced age. Pathologies supporting this age estimate include vertebral body margins exhibiting extensive spinal arthritis, with some indications of arthritis on the vertebral facets, as well as resorption apparent on the mandible indicating antemortem tooth loss (Piehl, pers. comm. 2005). The individual will undergo complete analysis in 2006, to be executed by project osteologist, Jennifer Piehl. The cranial fragments appear to be covered with specular hematite, and a mineral pigment sample was collected from the matrix within the cranial vault to be analyzed at a later date.

The woman was interred with a Dos Arroyos Orange polychrome: Variety Unspecified basal flanged bowl below the knees. This vessel has a macaw motif on the exterior, and is quite similar to two vessels recently illustrated in Pellecer Alecio (2004:Figures 41, 42). A Triunfo Striated: Variety Unspecified water jar was also placed next to her right hip, with her right arm bent and positioned on the west side of the jar. A jade bead was found in the region of the mouth, and finally, a *Spondylus spp.* shell was associated with the cranium, as seen in Burial #024. Initial examination suggests these vessels date to the same general time period as the vessels in the tomb chamber, but further analysis is needed to clarify the relationship, if any, of the burial to the tomb.

## Discussion

The presence of the vaulted tomb chamber and the cist burial within Structure O14-04's frontal platform indicate that, as of the Early Classic period, this pyramid performed a mortuary function. There is some evidence an earlier incarnation of Structure O14-04 may have existed in the Preclassic, but both of the burial locales were positioned on the centerline axis at the base of the structure, and the bulk of the frontal platform was constructed in conjunction with these burial contexts. Three female interments in Structure O14-04 are provocative, but further research and analysis is necessary prior to formulating an explanation regarding their presence in the pyramid. Nevertheless, the burial context, vessels and other mortuary goods such as the stingray spine, attest to the privileged status of the women. They were likely

high elites and associated with powerful elements of society. Additionally, the exceptional quality of the Tikal-style vessels in Burial #024 appears to signify an integral role for El Perú-*Waka'* in the social and political spheres of the Early Classic Maya world.

## Comments on N14-12

As stated in the report summarizing field research conducted during 2004 in Operation WK-08 (Rich 2005), further investigation was necessary on the northern slope of the natural rise supporting the Mirador Complex's Structure N14-12 and two other associated structures. It is hypothesized a staircase exists along this slope, in accordance with the proposition that the natural rise is functioning in lieu of a human-constructed pyramidal base. Excavations carried out this year by Juan Carlos Ramírez test this hypothesis.

Units ES20A-38 and ES20A-39 were established at the base of the northern slope of the natural rise supporting Structure N14-12 (see Ramírez this volume for a full report of the test excavations carried out in El Perú-*Waka'*s site center during the 2005 field season). The location of Units 38 and 39 was calculated based on the centerline axis of Structure N14-12. A well preserved plaster floor was discovered in ES20A-38-3-4. This floor was followed in Unit 39, and a staircase was encountered at the base of the natural rise. Unit 39 revealed three stair treads. Preliminary analysis of ceramic material above the floor indicates a mixed context with both Early Classic and Late Classic dates represented. This may be due to collapse from

the natural rise collecting at its base. A mixture of Terminal Preclassic and Early Classic sherds was identified in the secure context beneath the floor in Unit 38. A Terminal Classic date was tentatively assigned to the lot above the staircase.

The staircase discovered by Ramírez on the north face of the natural rise suggests this topographic feature was indeed modified in order to function in lieu of a pyramidal base. Temples are always situated on top of large substructures, which have the form of stepped and truncated pyramids; the substructure is an integral part of the temple concept, symbolizing the removal of the temple from ordinary events conducted on the ground below (Andrews 1975:39). Modest Structure N14-12 can be characterized as a temple, and the natural rise as the stepped and truncated pyramid supporting it. Together, they appear to serve a ritual or ceremonial function as a component of the Mirador Complex. The Terminal Preclassic and Early Classic dates assigned to the ceramic material underneath the floor found by Ramírez correlate with the earliest activity date identified on the summit plaza in front of Structure N14-12 (Rich 2005). This was based on the recovery of a three-vessel cache assigned to the Terminal Preclassic period.

## **Comments and Conclusions**

The objectives outlined for the 2005 field season at Operation WK-11 were successfully accomplished. Sufficient data were collected to address many questions regarding construction sequence, chronology, architectural

characteristics and possible function of Structure O14-04. The structure consists of central and lateral staircases leading to a small shrine room atop the structure's frontal platform. The walls, where preserved, demonstrate it was decorated with apron moldings and balustrades in the style of the Early Classic buildings of the North Acropolis at Tikal. The frontal platform leads to a pyramidal base, which supports a series of terraces. At the summit of the pyramidal base is a masonry temple. An elaborate stucco program appears to have been executed on the structure. Preliminary analysis of ceramic material from the summit of the pyramidal base, and the stratigraphic sequence illustrated in the frontal platform, suggest an Early Classic date for the primary construction of the pyramid, with activity at the structure continuing into the Late to Terminal Classic.

These units were primarily horizontal excavations revealing the final construction phase, with a few units probing the stratigraphy of Structure O14-04. This pyramid shows the same temporal pattern demonstrated on the associated summit plaza supporting the triadic group in the Mirador Complex (WK-08). The earliest activity began in the Late Preclassic and extended into the Terminal Classic. While the buildings appear to function differently, Structure O14-04 serving a mortuary function and Structure N14-12 serving an as yet undefined ceremonial purpose, they are each components of a complex of buildings that did not function residentially. The Mirador Complex must be understood through a ritual framework.

Structure O14-04 and Stela 1 are positioned together on the large basal platform, with an associated causeway leading to Structure O14-02. The date on Stela 1 is AD 657. While this date falls within the pyramid's temporal range of use, it is minimally 300 years later than the construction of the structure. This temporal disjunct is not unusual, however, the eroded state of the monument provides few clues as to its relationship with the structure. The possible mention of K'inich B'ahlam on Stela 1 raises questions about his affiliation to the individuals interred in Structure O14-04. This will be a focus of the ongoing analysis of the data collected in Operation WK-11.

This season's research in Operation WK-11 produced data demonstrating a well-developed monumental architecture construction program at the site during the Early Classic period. Preliminary assessments of the artifact assemblage within the Burial #024 tomb chamber and material from sealed architectural contexts within Structure O14-04 corroborate a mid-fourth century AD date. In sum, excavations in Operation WK-11 represent the most complete Early Classic dataset to date at the site, and document the establishment and elaboration of a ritual program at El Perú-*Waka'*. These discoveries are helping to create a more complete understanding of this period in the history of El Perú-*Waka'*.

## **Future Research**

Goals for the 2006 field season include further definition of the architectural characteristics of Structure O14-04. Delimiting

the parameters of the shrine room, and determining the configuration of the stairway connecting the shrine room and summit temple are the first priorities. Additional work will be geared toward identifying earlier versions of Structure O14-04, particularly beneath the pyramidal base. Current evidence indicates the majority of the frontal platform was built in a single construction episode in the Early Classic period. Preliminary ceramic analysis on material from the summit also suggests an Early Classic construction date for the pyramidal base, but further research is necessary to test this hypothesis.

The cavity in bedrock documented in Unit 6 in front of Stela 1 should be inspected more thoroughly next field season. Because it is on the centerline, it is possible a ritual deposit is contained in this space. Testing the extension on the south side of the basal platform, as well as the causeway leading to Structure O14-02 are additional objectives. Finally, continuing the test excavations begun by Ramírez in the plaza between Structure O14-04 and the rise on which Structure N14-12 sits, and testing Structure O14-02, the largest pyramid in the tripartite Mirador Complex, will provide a more comprehensive picture of activity in the southeastern sector of El Perú-*Waka'*'s site center.

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## Index of Figures

**Table 1:** Spreadsheet with general unit information (e.g. lots, datum, elevations...)

**Table 2:** Spreadsheet of artifact types and counts by unit, lot and level.

**Figure 1:** Rectified O14-04: Structure with units, datums, architecture and tomb location (Tsesmeli, Rich).

**Figure 2:** Unit 6 and 26 profiles (Rich, Matute, Piehl).

**Figure 3:** Walls at juncture between pyramidal base and frontal platform (Rich, Perez).

**Figure 4:** Stucco head (Rich, Sage)

**Figure 5:** Profile Unit 47 (Rich, Farr)

**Figure 6:** Profiles Unit 50 (Rich, Farr)

**Figure 7:** Burial #024 composite with HE#'s (Rich, Piehl)

**Figure 8:** Burial #024 lower individual (Piehl, Rich)

**Figure 9:** Burial #024 upper individual (Rich, Piehl)

**Figure 10:** Burial #025 (Rich, Piehl)

Table 1. Operation WK-11A Units 1 - 50, General Information

Unit	Lot	Datum	Opening Elevations (SE, SW, NE, NW, Center)	Closing Elevations (SE, SW, NE, NW, Center)	Dimensions E/W x N/S
1	01	1	80, 161, 76, 153, 135	85.5, 202, 81.5, 205, 159.5	2 x 2
2	02, 04	1	166, 179, 154.5, 168, 171	207, 209, 209, 211, 211	1 x 2
3	05	2	152, 152, 158, 157, 153	193, 193, 194, 188, 194	1 x 1
4	06	2	114, 128, 131, 142.5, 132	170, 175, 173.5, 175, 174	1 x 1
5	07, 19, 56	1	97, 159, 126, 178, --	148.5, 202, 188, 202, 170	Irregular <sup>1</sup>
6	03, 08, 11, 15, 17	3	108, 114, 55, 60, 124	297, 298, 298, 292, 295	1.5 x 1.5
7	09, 10, 22, 23, 31	2	110 cmad, 109, 89 cmad, 131, 41	65.5, 158, 70, 163.5, 159	5 x 1
8	12, 21	1	66, 143, 65, 142, 113	160, 182, 155, 181, 176.5	2 x .50
9	13, 20	4	31, 103.5, 30, 98, 63	140, 166, 140.5, 162, 143.5	2 x 2
10	14, 16, 39, 44, 57, 64, 66	2*, 7, 11	202 cmad, 194 cmad, 30, 68.5, --	153, 156, 159, 160, 19 cmad	1 x 5
11	18	2	28 cmad, 15 cmad, 146, 152.5, --	97, 101, 186, 189, 177	1 x 4
12	24	1	39.5, 95, 60, 105.5, --	61, 103, 160, 169, 115	1 x 1
13	25	1	60, --, 101, 124, 66	156.5, 153, 143, 156.5, 147	Irregular <sup>2</sup>
14	26	4	35, 96, 76, 127, 82	67, 170, 96, 184, 89	2 x 2
15	27	4	74, 102, 207, 262, 111	181, 196.5, 248, 257, 175	2 x 2
16	28	1	12.5, 66, 79, 110, --	85, 147, 142, 137, 140	2 x 1
17	29	4	54.5, 120, 31, 105, --	101, 183, 65.5, 171.5, 175	2 x 2
18	30	2	40, 55, 121, 137.5, 97.5	164, 116, 169, 175.5, 166.5	2 x 2
19	33, 36, 40, 45, 69	5, 6*	No disponible	57, 94, 57, 29, 88	2 x 2
20	32	7	62, 158, 96, 184, --	206, 304, 208, 297.5, --	2 x 1
21	34	6	123, 167, 13, 92, 89	168, 190.5, 83, 161, 163	2 x 1.5
22	35	5	No disponible	No disponible	2 x 1
23	37	1	146, 165, 143, 165, 155.5	197, 195, 198, 199.5, 196	1 x 1
24	38, 46, 48, 49, 52	4	116, 190, 105, 189, 147	229.5, 406, 226, 397, --	2 x 2
25	41, 42, 43, 47	1	197, 204, 200.5, 204, 201.5	307, 338, 336, 353, 343	1 x 1
26	50, 51, 53, 54	3	45, 46.5, 48, 48, 45	211, 208, 182.5, 191, 192	1 x 1
27	55, 76	6	76, 118.5, --, --, --	164, 169, --, 104, 35	2 x 2.5
28	58	7	38, 35, 61, 158, 56	103.5, 65.5, 185.5, --, 142	1.5 x 2
29	59, 63, 71, 74, 101	8	77, 83, 137, 113.5, 66.5	170, 180, 223, 319, 175	2 x 3
30	60	--	Área vertical	Área vertical	Irregular <sup>3</sup>
31	61	2	x, 50, 32, 113.5, 40	x, 154.5, 119, 148, 103	Irregular <sup>4</sup>
32	62, 68	6*, 9	51.5, 93, 71 cmad, 22 cmad, 18	142, 164, 71 cmad, 22 cmad, 42	2 x 1.5
33	65, 86	7*, 11	134, 171, 239.5, 291, 209	439, 439, 437, 441, 439	Irregular <sup>5</sup>
34	67	2	120 cmad, 85 cmad, 17 cmad, 35, --	5, 44, 76.5, 120, 54	8-.9 x 3
35	70	9	183, 219, 62, 84, 144	300, 321, 62, 84, 318	1.5 x 2
36	72	6	15, 100.5, 62 cmad, 53, 38	160.5, 159, 153, 158.5, 153.5	2 x 1.5
37	73	2*, 7	168, 243, 278, 310, 240	--, 284, 383, 348, 297	Irregular <sup>6</sup>
38	75	8	104, 130, 170, 157, 94	102, 185.5, 175, 170, 128	1 x 2
39	77, 82, 85, 89	2	8, 47, 53, 101.5, 48	162, 159, 148, 167.5, 160	1.5 x 1.5
40	78	8	117, 106, 81, 70.5, 87.5	180, 186, 95, 103, 137	1 x 1.5
41	79, 81, 83, 88, 106, 112	6*, 15	91, 100.5, 90, 105, 91.5	522, 518, 519, 520.5, 513	1 x 1
42	80	6	22, 149.5, 14 cmad, 105, 45	168, 181, 162, 163.5, 166	2 x 2
43	84	10	18, 77, 56, 99, --	126, 117, 126, 121.5, 118	1 x 1.5
44	87	10	42, 99, 22.5, 75, 58	147, 134, 135, 143, 136	1 x 1
45	90	12	117, 130, 31 cmad, 92, 50	154.5, 159, 118, 133, 125	2 x 2
46	91, 92, 93, 94, 96	2	160, 164.5, 165, 169, --	224, 217, 223, 228, 226	1 x 1
47	95, 97, 99, 100, 102, 105	6	123, 130, 121, 124.5, 124	363, 359, 358, 354.5, 359	1.9 x .8
48	98	12	120, 206, 10, 143, 119	127, 207, 155, 163, 186	2 x 2
49	103, 104	8	180, 183, 181, 184, --	248, 247, 244.5, 245, 252	.5 x .5
50	107, 108, 109, 110, 111	13*, 14	29, 32, 27.5, 29, --	--, 239, 250, 243, --	1 x .6

\* All elevations reported for units with multiple datums correspond to the datum marked with an asterisk.

<sup>1</sup> This unit was an "L" shape. The west perimeter measured 4.50m, the north 2.50m and the east 2.70m. From the SE corner, the unit perimeter extended west for 1.50m. After this, it cornered south for 1.8m, and then west for 1m to close the unit.

<sup>2</sup> This unit was an "L" shape. The west perimeter measured 2.70m, the north 1.20m and the east 1.9m. From the SE corner, the unit perimeter extended west for .50m. After this, it cornered south for .8m, and west for .7m to close the unit.

<sup>3</sup> Located on northwest exterior face of summit temple. Disturbed area on a verticle axis, therefore, the unit has no horizontal dimensions to report.

<sup>4</sup> Irregular due to a treefall. The unit perimeter measurements were: east-2.5m, north-3m, west-2.5m and south-2.5m.

<sup>5</sup> Irregular due to a treefall. The unit perimeter measurements were: east-2m, north-1.85m, west-2m and south-2m.

<sup>6</sup> Irregular because this unit connected Units 11, 18 and 33. The unit perimeter measurements were: east-2m, north-2.8m, west-1.45m and south-2.2m.





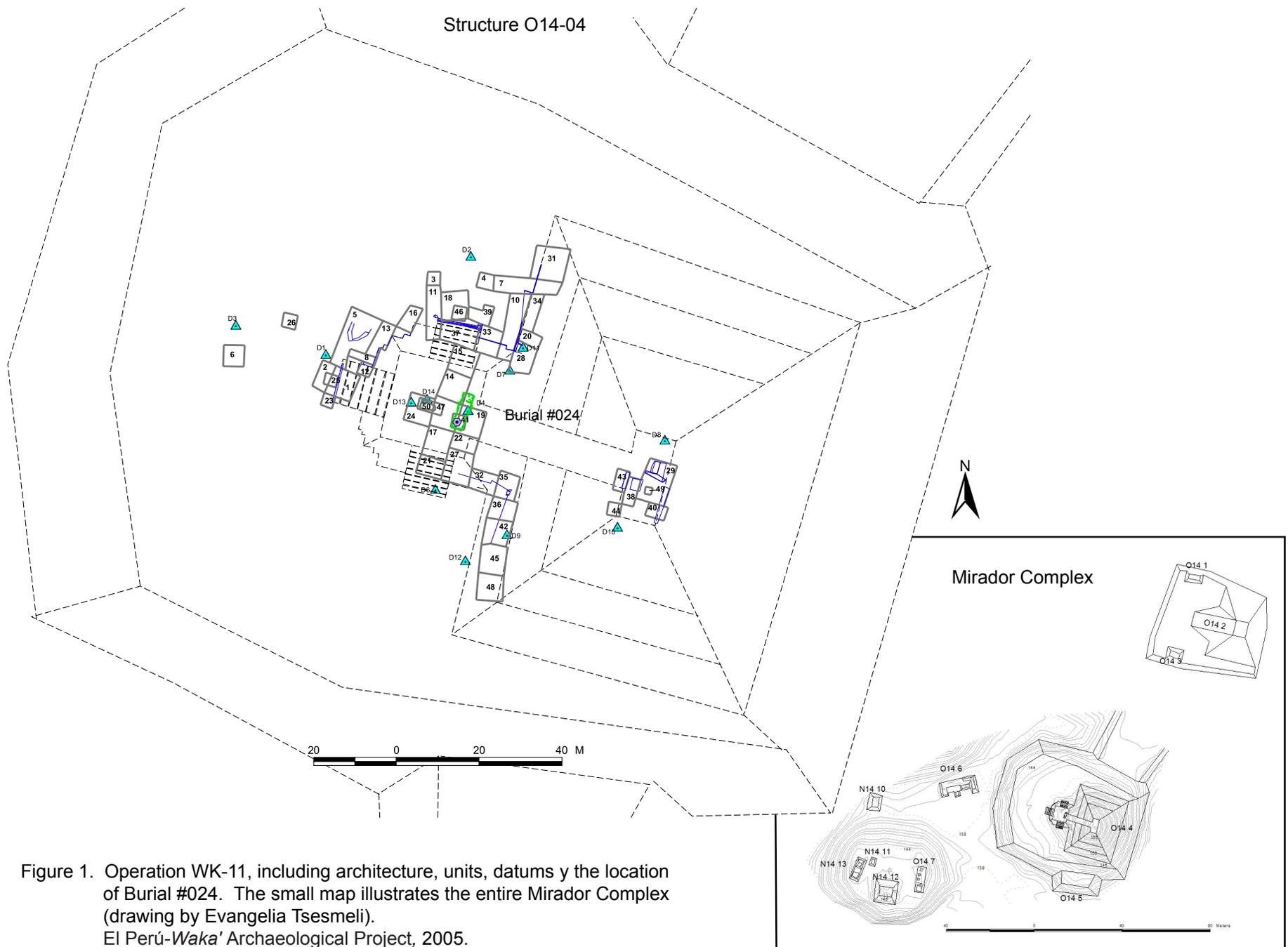


Figure 1. Operation WK-11, including architecture, units, datums y the location of Burial #024. The small map illustrates the entire Mirador Complex (drawing by Evangelia Tsesmeli).  
 El Perú-Waka' Archaeological Project, 2005.

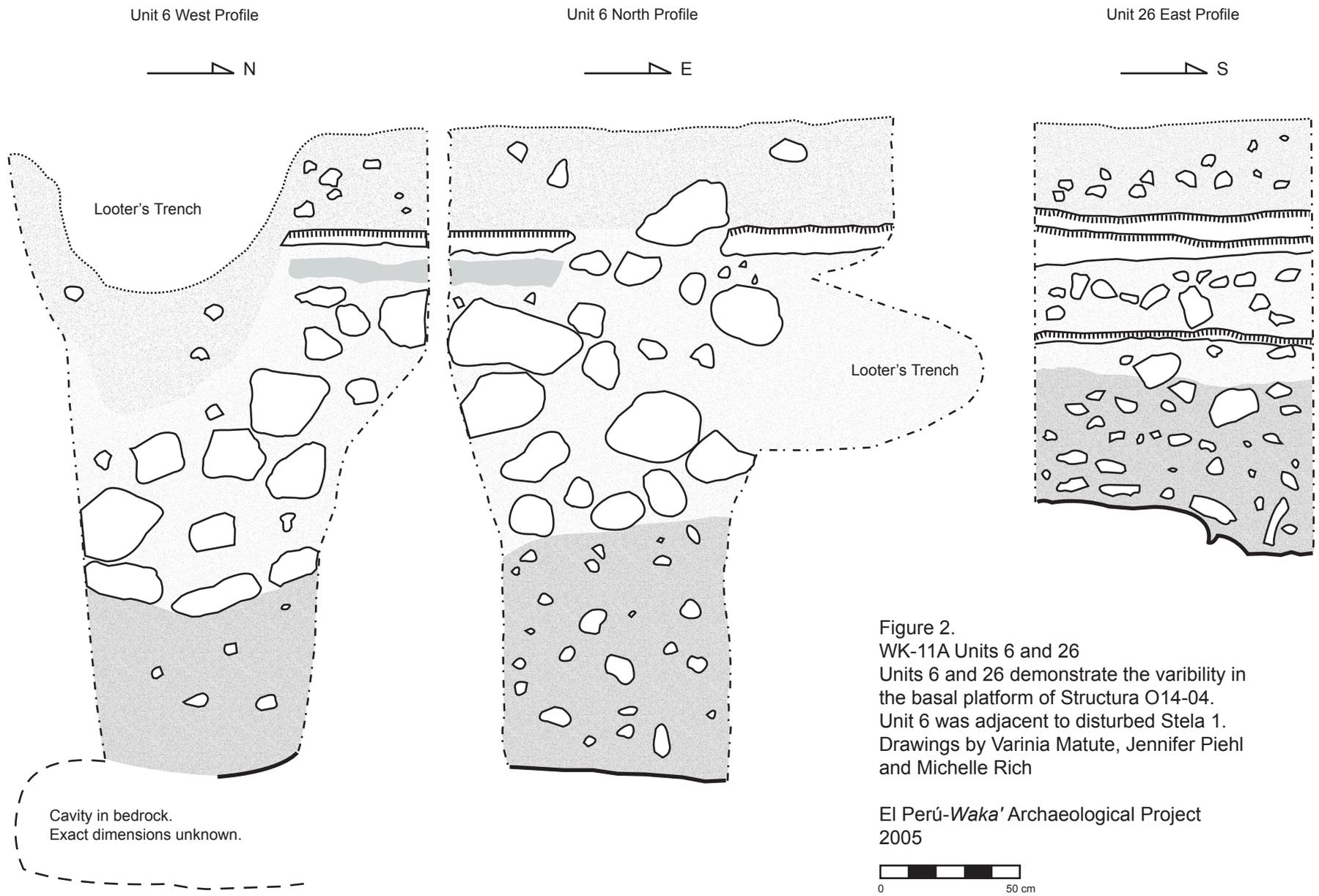
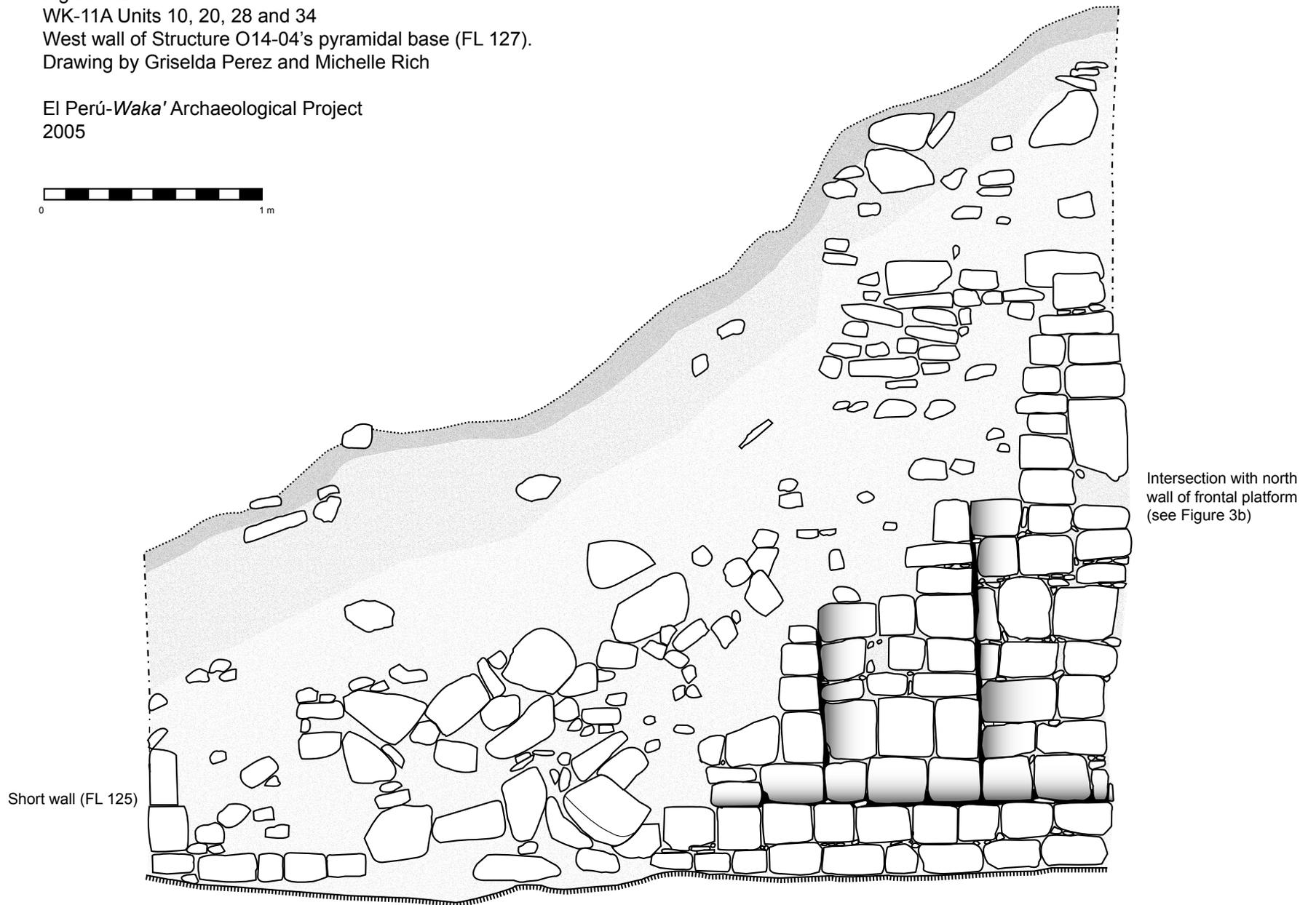


Figure 2.  
 WK-11A Units 6 and 26  
 Units 6 and 26 demonstrate the variability in  
 the basal platform of Structura O14-04.  
 Unit 6 was adjacent to disturbed Stela 1.  
 Drawings by Varinia Matute, Jennifer Piehl  
 and Michelle Rich

El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project  
 2005

Figure 3a.  
WK-11A Units 10, 20, 28 and 34  
West wall of Structure O14-04's pyramidal base (FL 127).  
Drawing by Griselda Perez and Michelle Rich

El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project  
2005



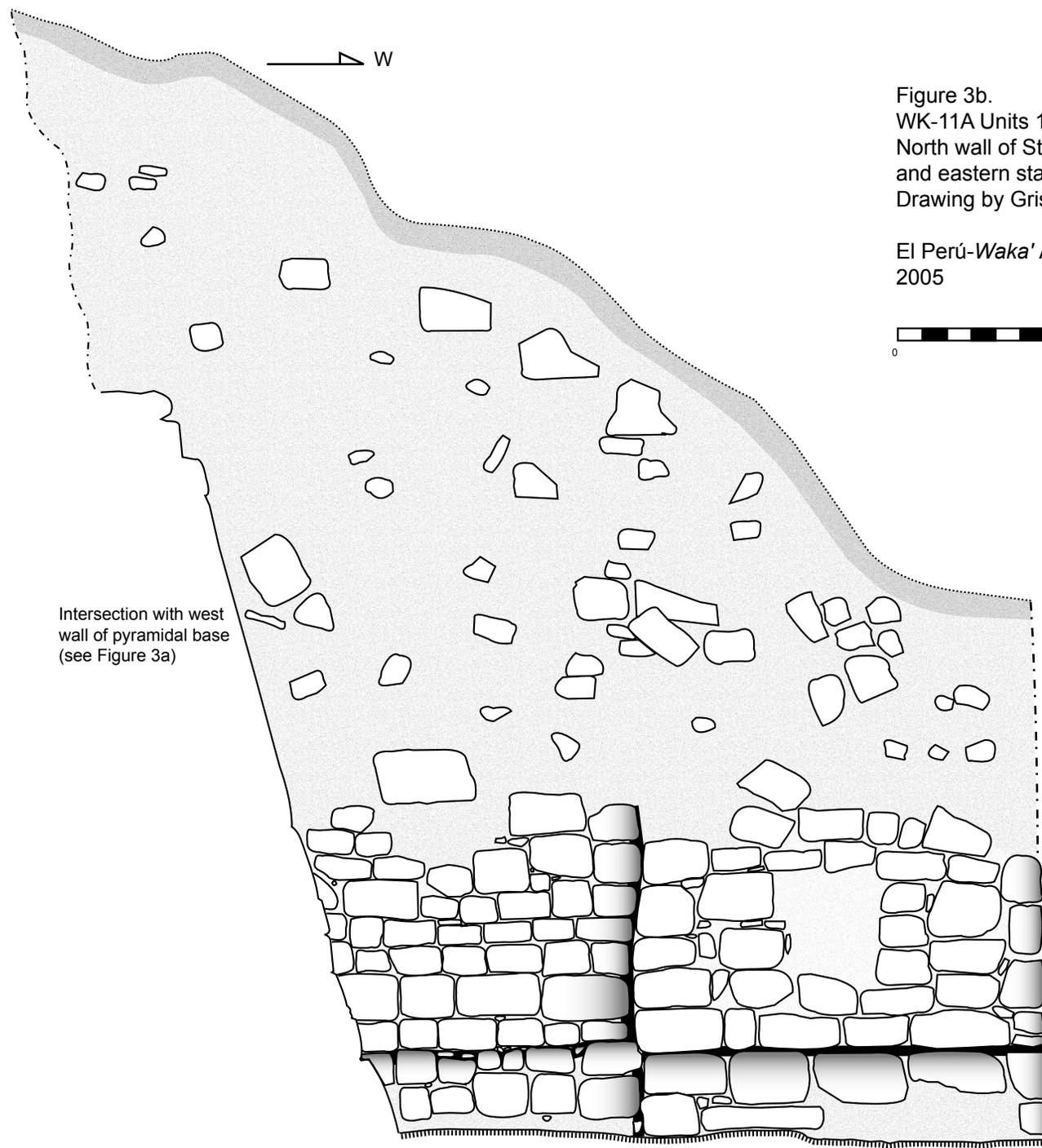
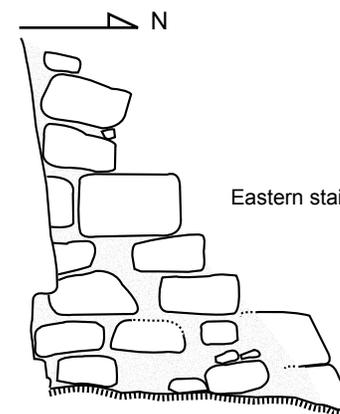


Figure 3b.  
 WK-11A Units 10 and 33  
 North wall of Structure O14-04's frontal platform (FL 129)  
 and eastern stair side wall of lateral staircase (FL 121).  
 Drawing by Griselda Perez and Michelle Rich

El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project  
 2005



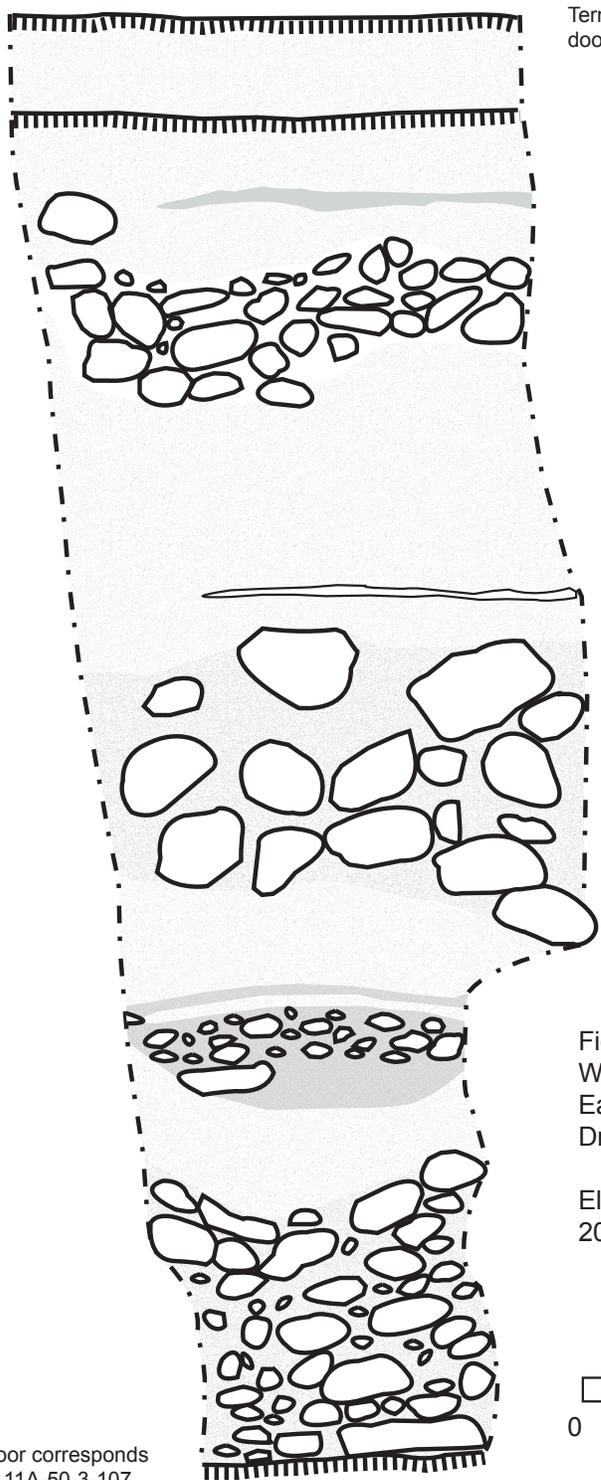
Intersection with west  
 wall of pyramidal base  
 (see Figure 3a)



Eastern stair side wall



Figure 4. WK-011A-19-1-45. Stucco head recovered above the terminal floor in the shrine room atop Structure O14-04's *adosada* (illustration by Sarah Sage). El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project, 2005.



Terminal floor directly outside the door of shrine room atop *adosada*.

This floor corresponds to WK-11A-50-3-107

Figure 5.  
WK-11A-47  
East Profile of Unit 47.  
Drawing by Michelle Rich and Olivia Farr

El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project  
2005



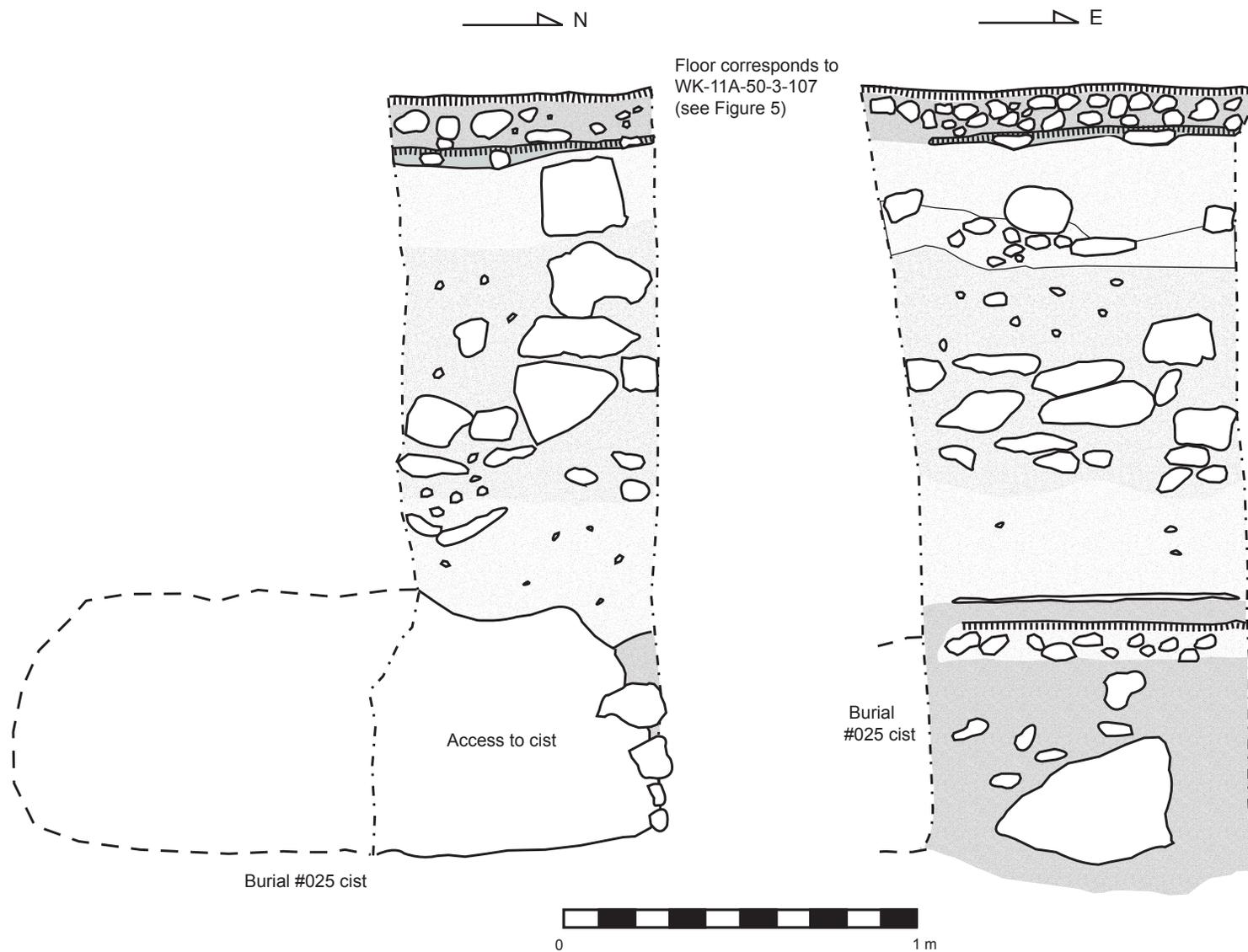
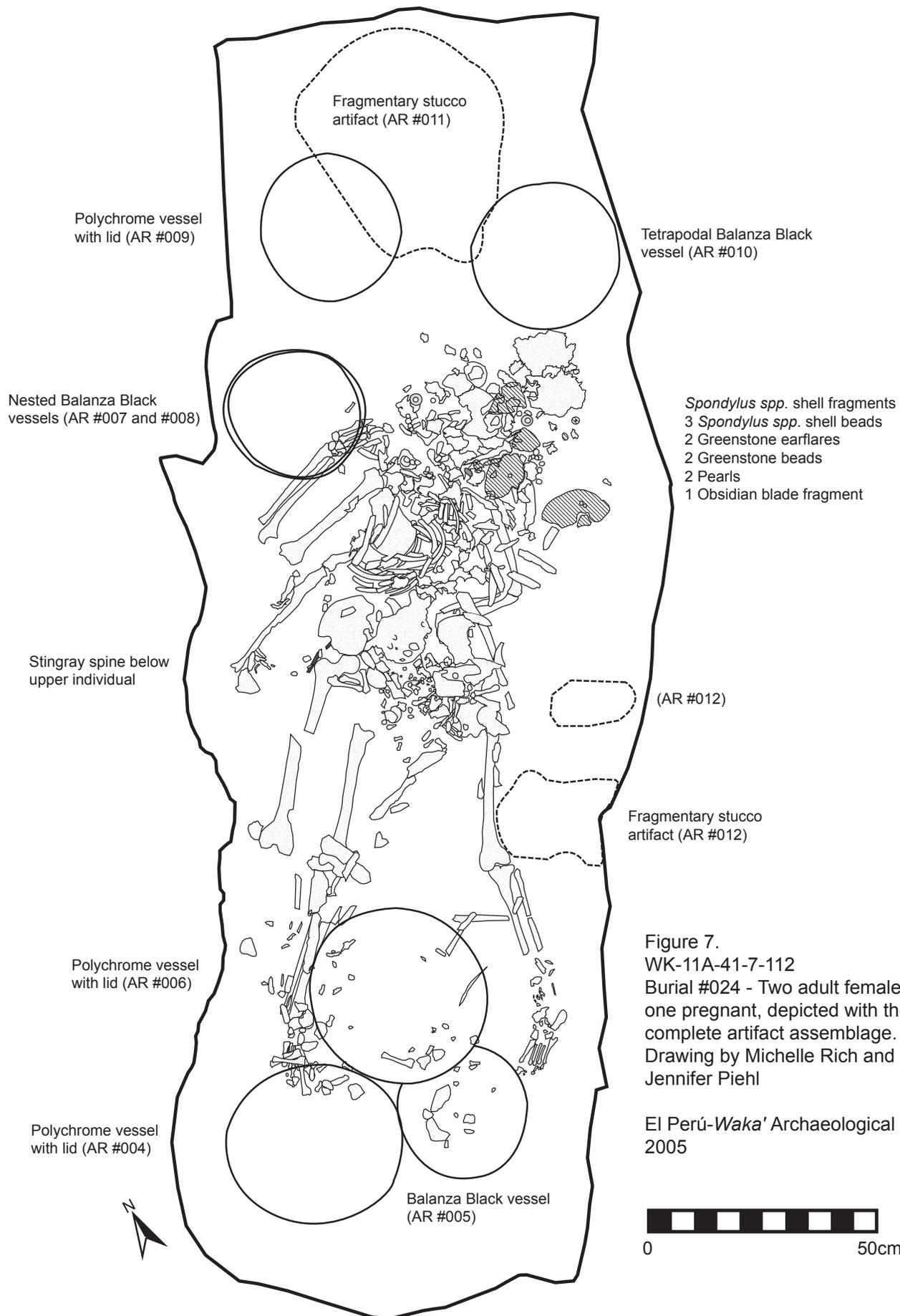


Figure 6. WK-011A-50. West and north profiles of Unit 50. Note lower floor in the north profile appears cut, most likely to due to construction of Burial #025 cist (drawings by Michelle Rich and Olivia Farr). El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project, 2005.



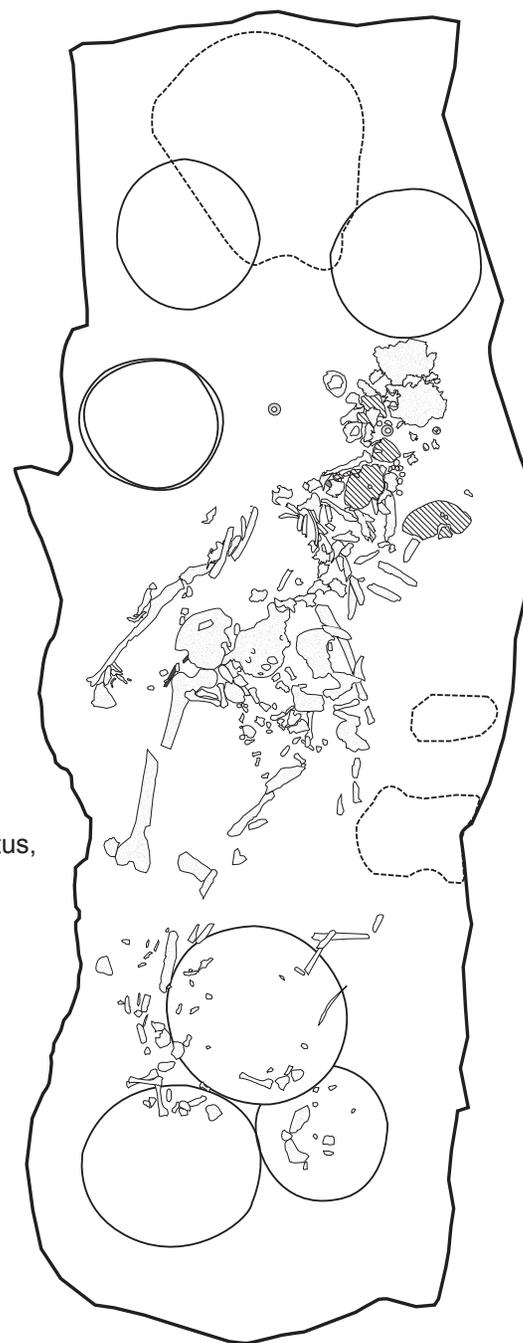
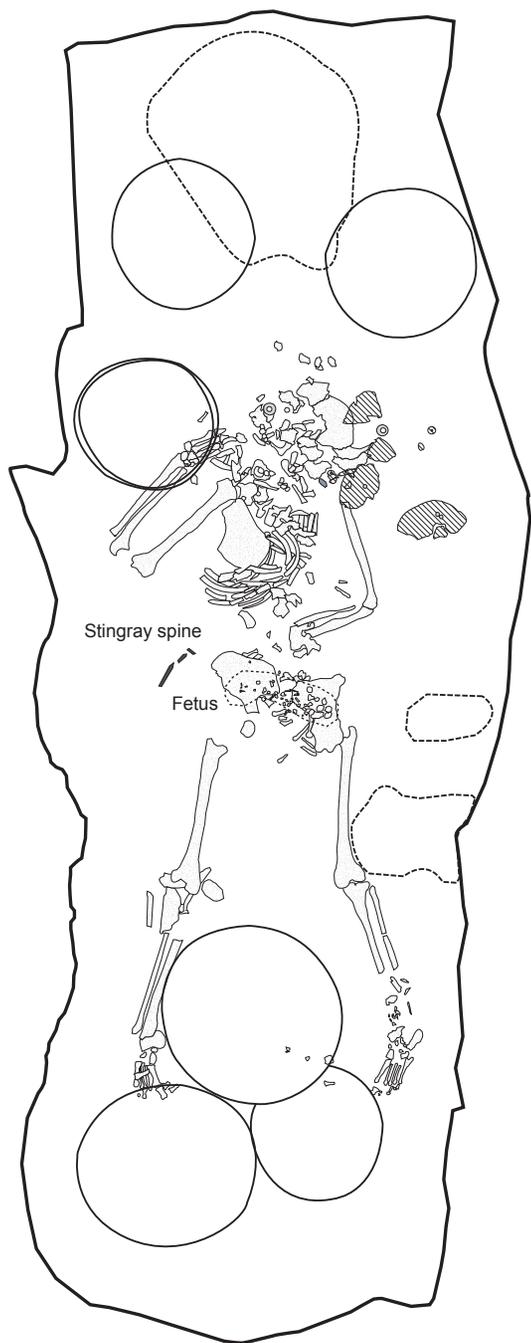


Figure 8 (left), Lower individual and fetus,  
Figure 9 (right), Upper individual.  
WK-11A-41-7-112

Burial #024  
Drawing by Michelle Rich and  
Jennifer Piehl

El Perú-Waka' Archaeological Project  
2005



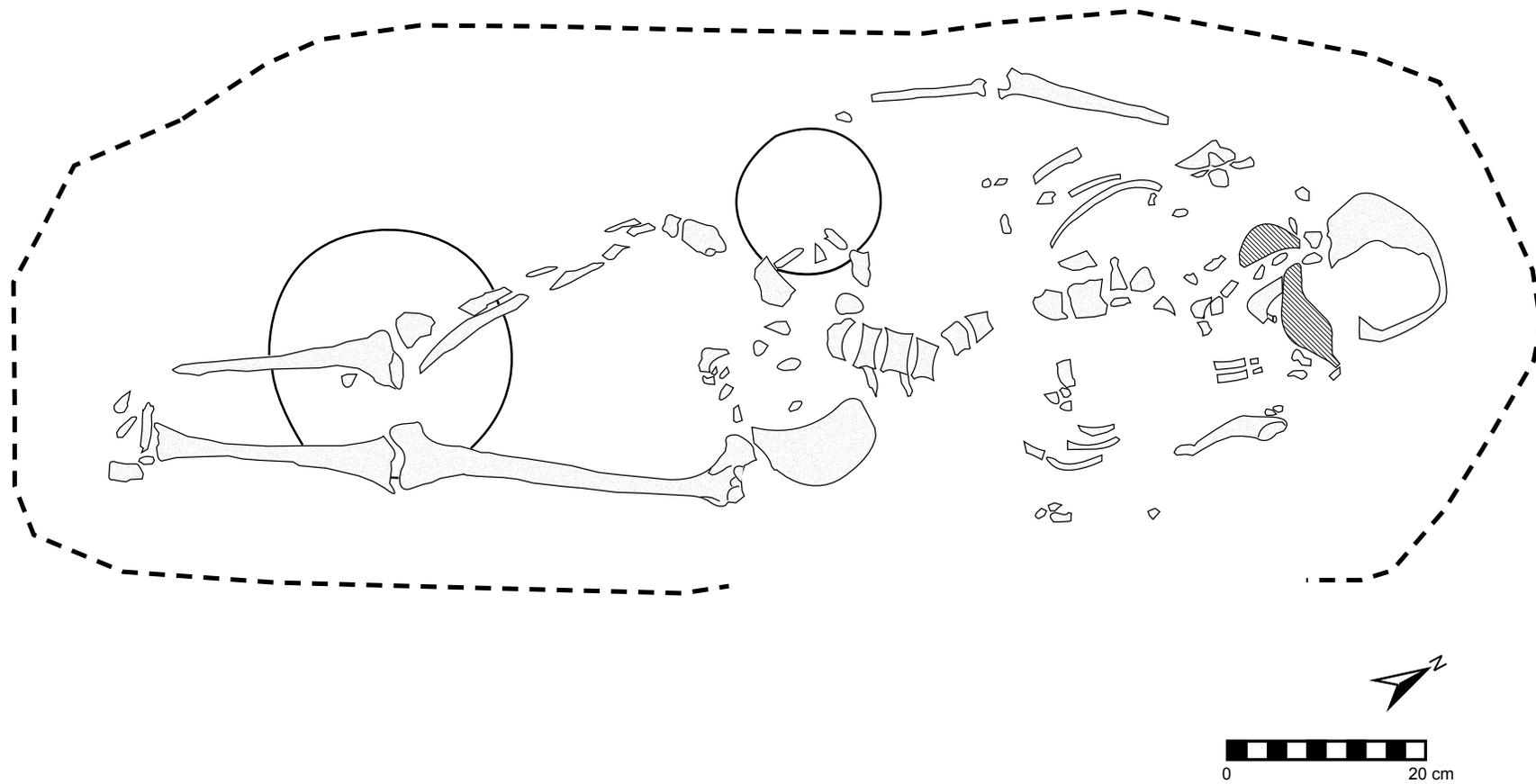


Figure 10. WK-011A-50-5-111. Burial #025 with *Spondylus* spp. shell associated to cranium, Triunfo Striated water jar (AR# 002) at pelvis and Dos Arroyos polychrome bowl (AR# 003) below knees. Perimeter of cist is estimated based on length and width measurements (drawing by Michelle Rich and Jennifer Piehl). El Perú-*Waka'* Archaeological Project, 2005.