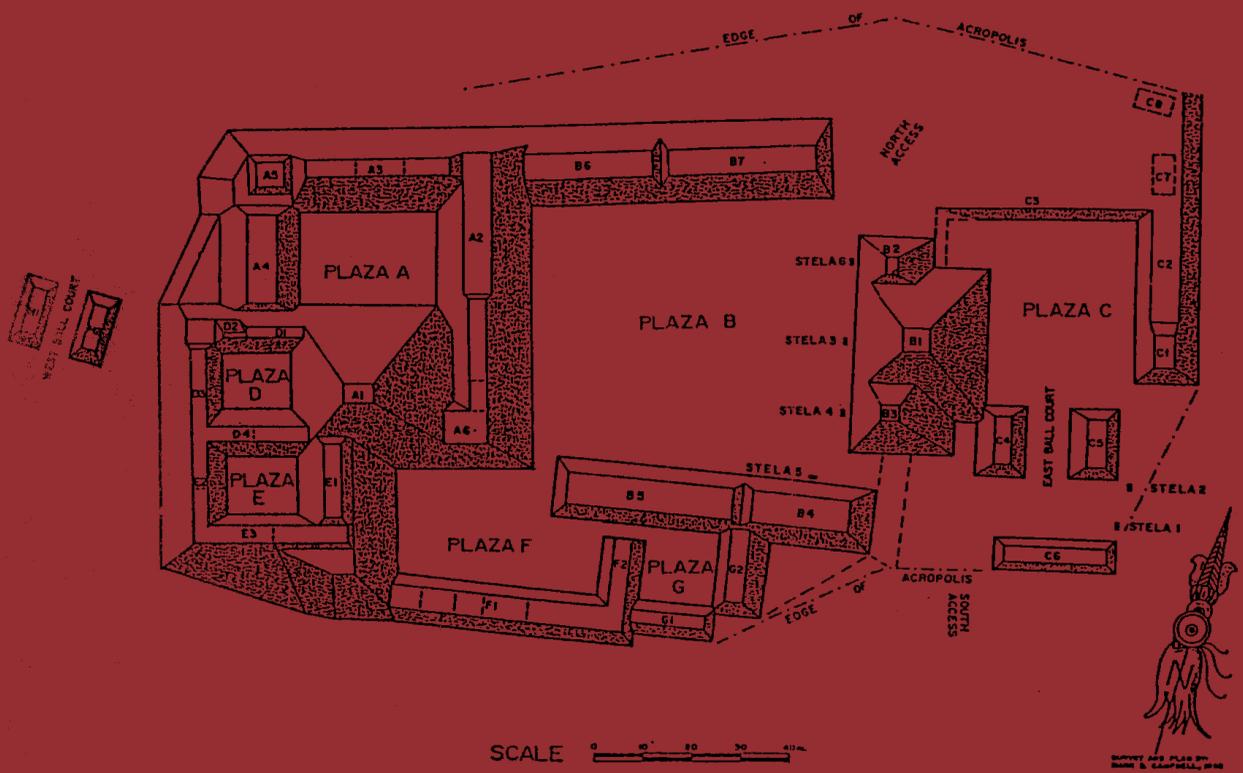


Latin American antiquity

A JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

CAHAL PECH, CAYO, BELIZE



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Latin American Antiquity (ISSN 1045-6635) is published quarterly in March, June, September, and December by the Society for American Archaeology, 900 Second St., N.E., Suite 12, Washington, DC 20002-3557. Subscription rates are \$40.00 for society members (\$105.00 for institutions and nonmembers) residing in Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Canada, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Libya, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sultanate of Oman, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, United States, or western Europe, and \$25.00 for members, institutions, and nonmembers in Latin America or any other country not listed above. To subscribe, change an address, or order back issues, please write to the Society for American Archaeology at the above address. Prepayment is required, payable in U.S. funds. *Latin American Antiquity* is not available for exchange. Claims for nonreceipt and for damaged copies must be made within 90 days (U.S.) or 180 days (non-U.S.) of the publication date for free replacement. Non-U.S. deliveries cannot be guaranteed; non-U.S. members and subscribers may purchase replacement copies at a 20% discount. *Latin American Antiquity* is printed by Allen Press, Lawrence, KS 66044.

Second class postage paid at Washington, D.C., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *American Antiquity*, % Society for American Archaeology, 900 Second St., N.E., Suite 12, Washington, DC 20002.

Latin American Antiquity

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Latin American Antiquity is indexed or abstracted in the *Hispanic American Periodicals Index* and *Academic Abstracts*.

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ISSN 1045-6635

Mortuary Practices and Skeletal Remains at Teotihuacan

Martha L. Sempowski and Michael W. Spence

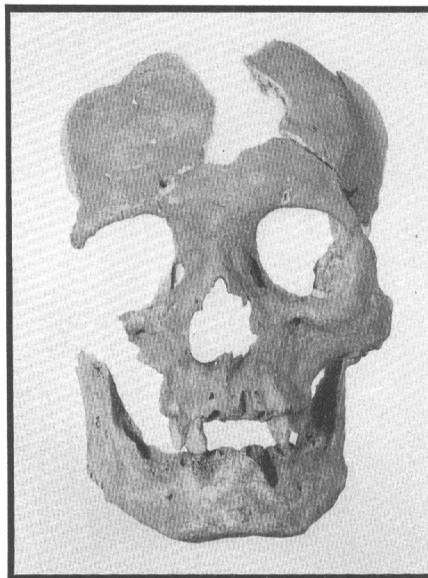
Addendum by Rebecca Storey

Edited by René Millon

Martha Sempowski's systematic presentation of mortuary data on 367 burials from over a century of excavation provides a good basis for comparison with mortuary treatment in other Mesoamerican centers, as well as a rich source for inferences regarding social differentiation. The status distinctions she has formulated, largely from the burials of the middle and lower ranges of Teotihuacan society, suggest that such distinctions may have increased and sharpened late in the city's history. Rebecca Storey's data supports such conclusions, while also supplying evidence of appalling infant mortality rates.

Michael Spence's forensic analysis of skeletal remains recovered from 1962 to 1974 is of major importance for its bearing on reconstructing aspects of the social organization of Teotihuacan. His work focuses specifically on customs governing residence and group affiliation within the city's apartment compounds. This volume will fill a major gap in the literature on Teotihuacan, and will be of interest to Mesoamerican specialists as well as scholars investigating "high civilizations" and urban environments.

8½ x 11, 464 pages, 34 halftone photos, 13 line illustrations, index
ISBN 0-87480-413-2, Cloth \$100.00



Volume 3, Urbanization at Teotihuacan, Mexico

*Publication of this book has been supported by a grant
from the National Endowment for the Humanities, an
independent federal agency.*



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