

## **Research Contribution 5: Monuments from Museo del Camino Real de Hecelchakan, Campeche, Mexico**

### **Fieldwork**

Photographing the monuments in the Hecelchakan museum was made possible by then director of Campeche State Museums for INAH, Antropólogo Marco Antonio Carbajal Correa. In June, 2012, he accompanied me to the museum, roughly 60 km north of the city of Campeche (Figure 1). There, in the late afternoon, he introduced me to museum staff and I began the process of recording the Hecelchakan monuments. The museum itself is a beautiful 17<sup>th</sup> century residential structure with interior courtyard sitting directly on the main town square (Figure 2).

I completed a field sketch of the museum floor plan and, since there was no signage designating monument names or proveniences, I numbered the monuments arbitrarily in clockwise sequence (Figure 3). Monuments 1-3 were in an enclosed room, while 4-27 (Figures 4, 5) lined the open courtyard. As night fell, I began the photographic process, capturing Monuments 1-6 and 8-10 on that evening.

The following year, pleased with the results from 2012, Marco Carbajal drove me once again to the town of Hecelchakan. This time he made an appointment with the president (mayor) of the town, introduced me, and requested that the mayor arrange for meals and lodging for three days and nights so I could complete the photographic inventory of these all-important monuments. The results (from June 28, 2012 and June 18-20, 2013) are presented here as our Research Contribution 5.

– Bruce Love

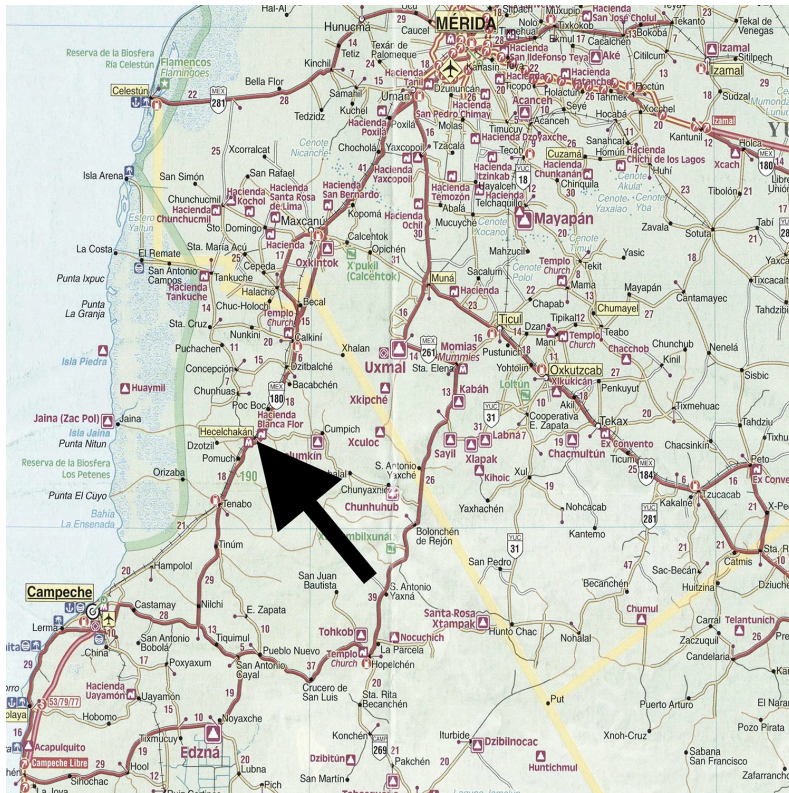


Figure 1. Vicinity Map. Source: Mundo Maya, Maya World. Edición Quimera (2007). <http://www.quimeramx.com>



Figure 2. Museum entrance. Source: [sic.cultura.gob.mx](http://sic.cultura.gob.mx)

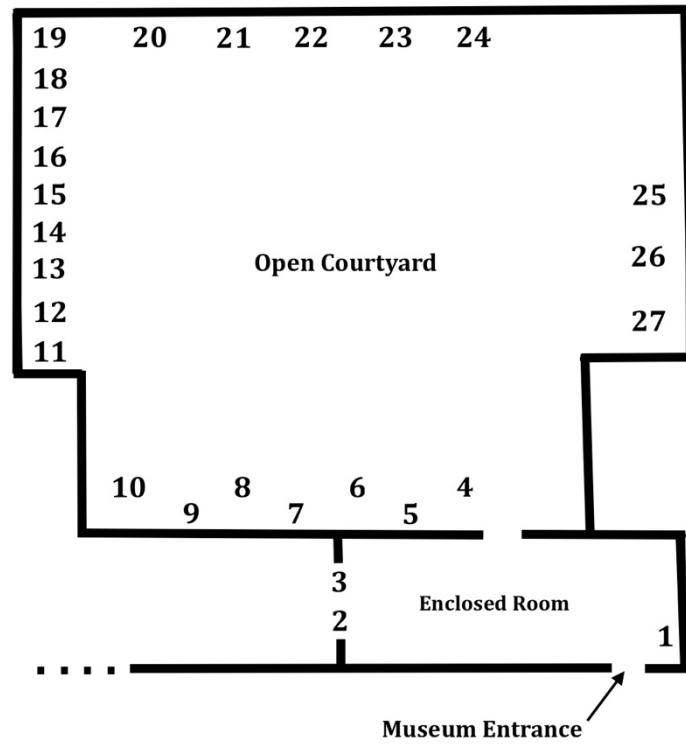


Figure 3. Museum layout. After field sketch by Love, June 28, 2012.



Figure 4. From farthest to closest, Pieces 4-8. Source: [sic.cultura.gob.mx](http://sic.cultura.gob.mx)

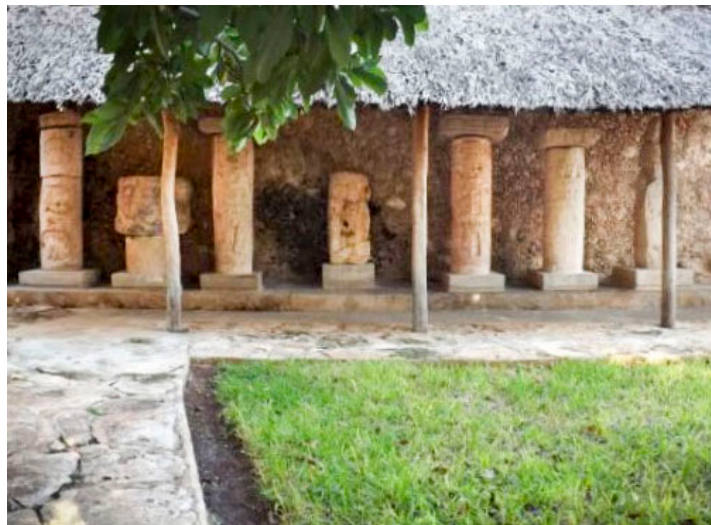


Figure 5. From left to right Pieces 11-17. Source: [www.zonaturistica.gob.mx](http://www.zonaturistica.gob.mx)

## Monuments



### HCK 1\*

Height at highest point: 1.66 m

Width at widest point: 0.74 m

Thickness: 0.29 m



### HCK 2

Height at highest point: 1.52 m  
Width of carved surface: 0.36 m  
Diameter of column: 0.47 m



### HCK 3

Height at highest point: 1.60 m  
Width of carved surface: 0.39 m  
Diameter of column: 0.46 m





**HCK 4** (left side, front, and right side)

Height at highest point: 1.57 m

Diameter of column: 0.56 m



**HCK 5**

Height at highest point: 1.52 m

Diameter of column: 0.57 m



**HCK 6** (left, left-front, right-front, and right sides)

Height at highest point: 1.58 m

Diameter of column: 0.57 m



**HCK 7**

Height at highest point: 2.41 m

Width at widest point: 0.87 m

Thickness: 0.23 m



### **HCK 8**

Height at highest point: 1.60 m

Diameter of column: 0.58 m



### **HCK 9**

Height at highest point: 1.54 m

Diameter of column: 0.54 m





### **HCK 10**

Height at highest point: 0.80 m

Width at widest point: 0.83 m

Thickness: 0.19 m



### **HCK 11**

Height at highest point (not including capital): 1.76 m

Diameter of column: 0.50 m

Height of capital: 0.18 m

Width of front of capital: 0.48 m

Width of left side of capital: 0.43 m

There are no carvings on right side or back of capital



### **HCK 12**

Height at highest point: 0.69 m

Front to back: 0.83 m

Side to side: 0.91 m



### **HCK 13**

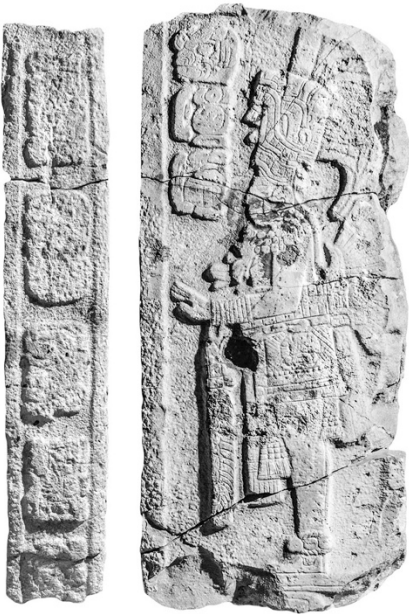
Height at highest point (not including capital): 1.90 m

Diameter of column: 0.48 m

Height of capital: 0.17 m

Width of front of capital: 0.77 m

There are no carvings on sides or back of capital



**HCK 14 (left side and front)**

Height at highest point: 1.18 m

Width at widest point: 0.52 m

Thickness: 0.27 m

There is no carving on the right side



### **HCK 15**

Height at highest point (not including capital): 1.68 m

Diameter of column: 0.50 m

Height of capital: 0.22 m

Width of front of capital: 0.85 m

Width of left side of capital: 0.56 m

Width of right side of capital: 0.59 m

There is no carving on back of capital



### **HCK 16**

Height at highest point (not including capital): 1.56 m

Diameter of column: 0.48 m

Height of capital: 0.19 m

Width of front of capital: 0.71 m

Width of left side of capital: 0.52 m

Width of right side of capital: 0.55 m

There is no carving on back of capital



**HCK 17**

Height at highest point: 1.91 m

Width at widest point: 0.35 m

Thickness: 0.39 m





### **HCK 18**

Height at highest point: 1.71 m

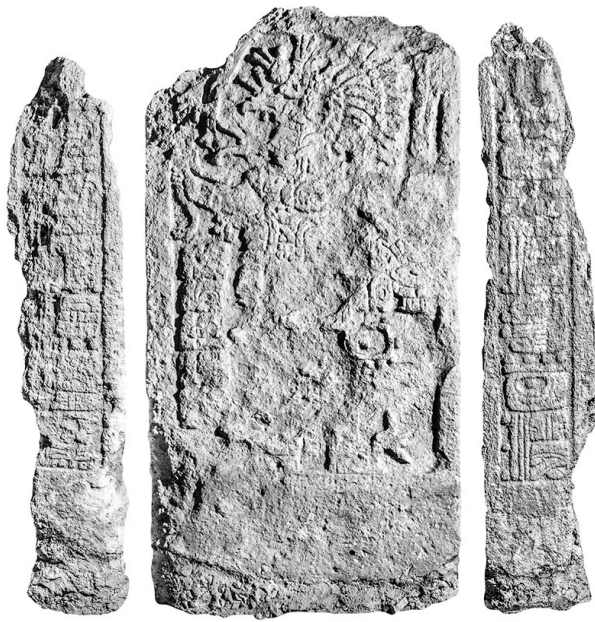
Diameter of column: 0.45 m



### **HCK 19**

Height at highest point: 1.58 m

Diameter of column: 0.44 m



**HCK 20** (left side, front, and right side)

Height at highest point: 1.62 m

Width at widest point: 0.86 m

Thickness: 0.35 m



## **HCK 21**

### **Upper piece**

Height at highest point: 1.11 m

Width at widest point: 0.83 m

Thickness: 0.22 m

### **Lower piece**

Height at highest point: 0.39 m

Width at widest point: 0.48 m

Thickness: 0.10 m

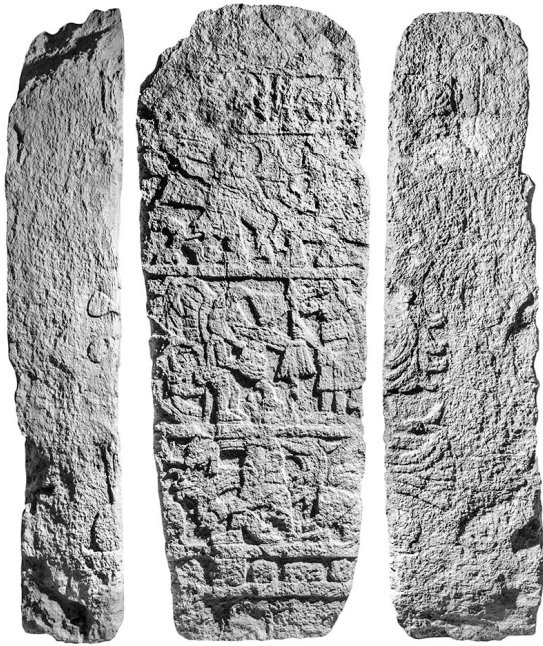


**HCK 22**

Height at highest point: 1.59 m

Width at widest point: 0.56 m

Thickness: 0.24 m



**HCK 23** (left side, front, and right side)

Height at highest point: 2.01 m

Width at widest point: 0.73 m

Thickness: 0.41 m



**HCK 24** (left side, front, and right side)

Height at highest point: 0.99 m

Width at widest point: 0.83 m

Thickness: 0.31 m



### **HCK 25**

Height at highest point: 1.45 m

Width at widest point: 0.91 m

Thickness: 0.31 m



### **HCK 26**

Height at highest point: 1.80 m

Width at widest point: 0.93 m

Thickness: 0.37 m





### HCK 27

Height at highest point: 0.56 m

Width at widest point: 0.44 m

Thickness: 0.33 m

\*Monument numbers are assigned arbitrarily due to lack of information regarding monument names or proveniences (see Museum Layout, Figure 3).

**Suggested citation:** Love, Bruce. "Monuments from Museo del Camino Real de Hecelchakan." *Contributions to Mesoamerican Studies*, October 19, 2018. <https://brucelove.com/research/contribution-005>



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