

All the structures were built of brick laid in mortar, a rare feature in the Maya architecture. Remains of rooms were still standing, true Maya with corbelled vaults known as the Maya arch.

From the highest buildings we overlooked the surrounding absolutely flat country, dotted with innumerable mounds. Clusters of what looked like high trees generally turned out to be low trees on high mounds. There was much work in sight for us to do, and therefore, we decided to return to the town in order to arrange for the Indians to cut down the bush.

While we were roaming around to get a first idea of our work, the Mayor of Comalcalco, Don David Bosada, and one of his friends, Col. Manuel Graniel Gonzales, arrived. Both were interested in our activities and furnished us much information and help during our stay.

Our rough survey ended, we returned making a large cavalcade. Our entry into the town was quite formidable, riding six abreast down the main and only street of Comalcalco.

The greater part of the Indians do not pay taxes, but must do a certain amount of public work, such as clearing roads, every year. Often this obligation is abused by the authorities, but it seemed not to be so at Comalcalco. We asked for twenty men, and the following morning when we arrived at the ruins we found them waiting for us. At once they were set to cut bush at Temple 1, and by mid-day this temple lay bare, and the trees and bushes around the palaces were falling rapidly.

While the Indians were busy in this way we began to make ground plans of the buildings, and also sketches of several ornaments encountered.\*

Most of the temples lie on a huge artificial mound about 35 meters high and 175 meters along its eastern base. The sides of this mound contain so few burnt bricks that there is little doubt but that the entire structure was built up of dirt and held by brick retaining walls. Apparently the mound faces west, i. e., towards the setting sun, as two arms extend in this direction and form the side of a Plaza at the western foot of the mound. We called this the Palace mound, the structure investigated and mapped by Charnay.

\*The buildings were numbered as follows:

<i>Numbers Given by T. U. X.</i>	
No. 1.	Temple at South end of Palace Mound.
No. 2.	Temple Facing North.
No. 3.	Palace, East of No. 2.
No. 4.	Temple on Palace Mound Facing South.
No. 5.	Western of two Temples on Palace Mound Facing South.
No. N-1.	Main Temple of North Plaza, Facing East.
No. N-2.	Temple on North Side of North Plaza, Faces South.
No. N-3.	Temple on South Side of North Plaza, Faces North.

<i>Charnay's Numbers.</i>
Tower No. 1.
Tower No. 2.
Palace 3 and 4.
Not Reported.
Not Reported.
Mentioned but not mapped.
Mentioned but not mapped.
Mentioned but not mapped.