

towards the east and the west. Only a small part of the building is still standing, and from this it is seen that the ceilings of the rooms were built in the form of corbelled arch (fig. 89).

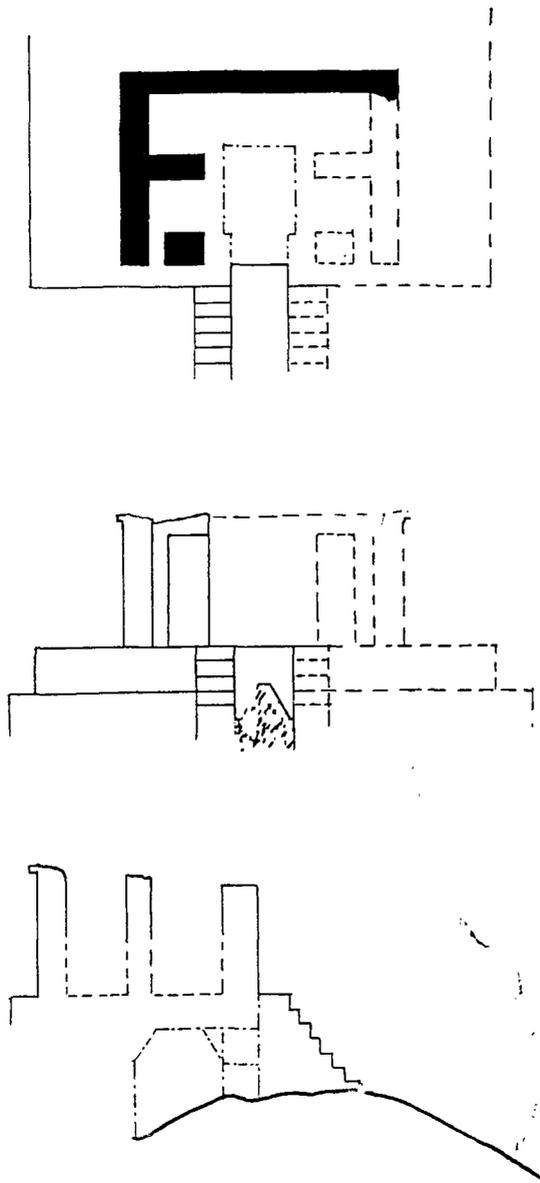


FIG. 87.—Comalcalco, Tab. Ground plan and section of Temple 1. Scale 1:200.

The exterior profile of the roof is similar to the roofs at Palenque, and there are likewise signs of stucco ornamentation on the roof slope. Charnay speaks of a roof comb on the Comalcalco

The walls of the Palace are stuccoed as also the sides of the arch, but in this latter place we again see a new feature. On the masonry of the arch great quantities of pot sherds have been plastered and over these the smooth coating of stucco has been applied. These broken pots must have been placed there because they would hold the stucco better than the rough wall. Among these sherds is one of a *coiled* pot (fig. 90).

A kind of window leads out to a small sunken court to the east of the Palace, and over this window lies the largest brick seen in the ruins, measuring 1.02 meters long, 50 c.m. broad, and 5 c.m. thick (fig. 91).

Apparently the central wall and the interior half of the arch was built first, and the exterior half of the arch made to lean against the central core. There is no *key slab*, as is the custom in all other Maya building. This is probably because of the use of baked brick as building material instead of the cut limestone used in other Maya cities (fig. 92).