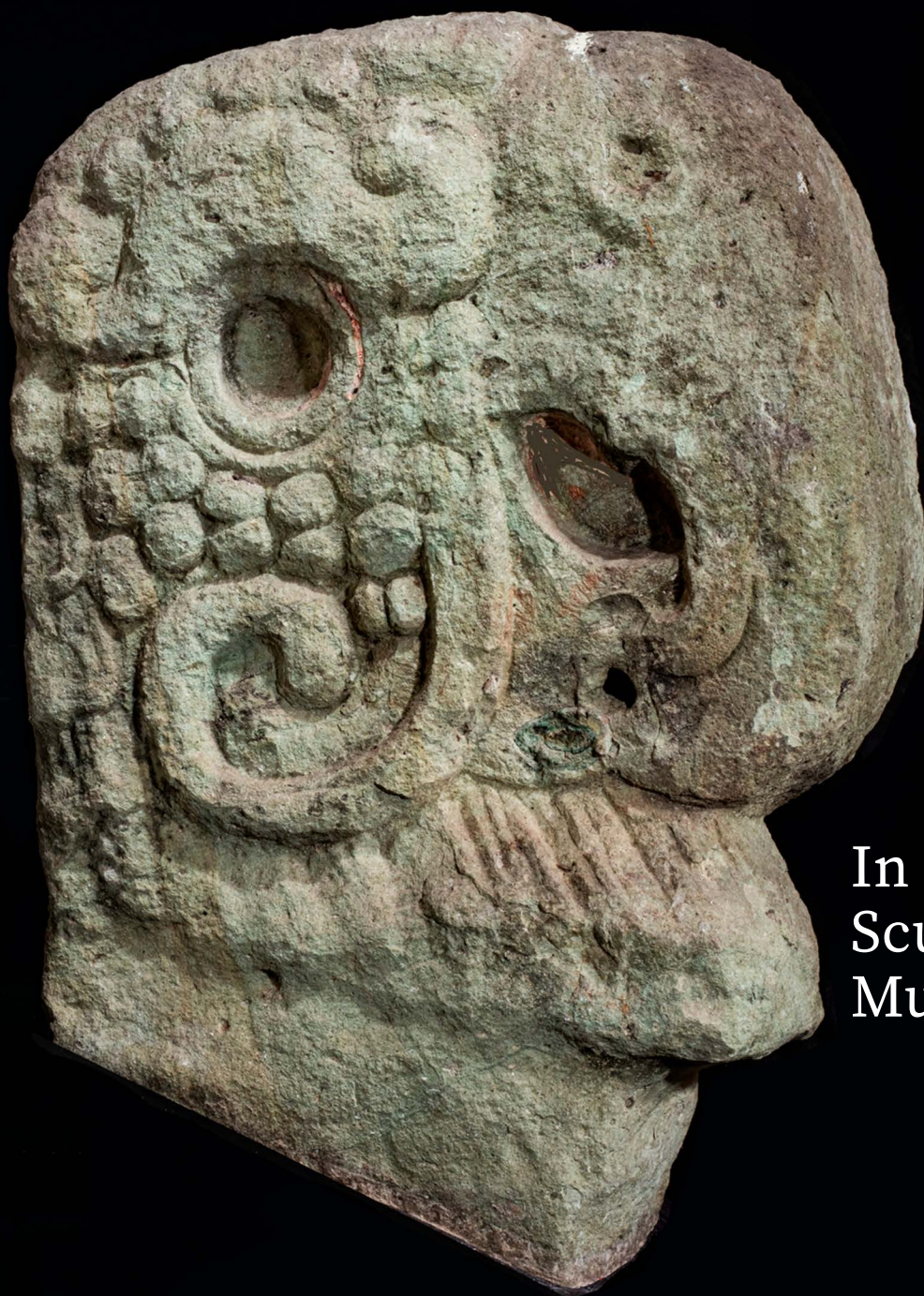


FLAAR



FLAAR
MESOAMÉRICA

Scarlet Macaw Maya Ballcourt Goalstones



In the Copan
Sculpture
Museum

Nicholas Hellmuth

February 2024



Scarlet Macaw Maya Ballcourt Goalstones

In the Copan
Sculpture
Museum

FLAAR Reports
FLAAR (USA) and FLAAR
Mesoamerica (Guatemala)

FLAAR Photo Archive
Publication Number 29

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras,
Publication Number 21

Nicholas Hellmuth
February 2024

Acknowledgements

We sincerely appreciate the permission from IHAH to photograph at night. You can get better photographs at night with a portable electric generator. We have donated these photos to IHAH.

Parque Arqueológico de Copán, the Museo de Escultura de Copán and museum in the town of Copan Ruinas, Honduras are all great places to visit; local people are hospitable and I have enjoyed visiting the park and the village museum in the town of Copan Ruinas in the late 1960's, 1970's, 1990's, and again when digital cameras became available, to return with higher resolution. We sincerely appreciate the assistance of the park rangers and local guides.

I also thank the capable team of FLAAR Mesoamerica who assisted with setting up the portable photo studio, lighting, etc.

We also appreciate the hospitality by the archaeologists working at Copan over decades.

The IHAH team at their headquarters initiated discussions with the FLAAR and FLAAR Mesoamerica team. We sincerely appreciate the initial reunion we had digitally with them.

The IHAH team at Copan provided cooperation and coordination. Manuel Espinoza was assigned to be with the FLAAR team each day; we sincerely appreciate his assistance.

During our early visits to photograph at Copan (1980's onwards), Oscar Cruz was the Regional Representative of IHAH. He was very helpful on each of our field trips. He is now retired, but we went to say hello to him on our February 2024 field trip.

There are probably thousands of photos of this sculpture with the waterbird eating the fish. I would estimate that the various Copan projects have plenty of photos, perhaps including 3-dimensional scans. But to study details it helps to have photographs at larger size and in good resolution. In a peer-reviewed journal article the images are It will help children in Honduras and neighboring

countries to learn about Maya cultural heritage.

One long-range goal is to "translate" iconographic, epigraphic, and archaeological documentation into Mayan Toons books by FLAAR (USA) and FLAAR Mesoamerica (Guatemala) to help school children around the world learn about the Classic Maya of Honduras with reliable archaeological and iconographic documentation (rather than copy-and-paste from normal websites).

But the first step is to find all the photos, scan them if done before digital cameras; process them so you can see the details at high resolution, and provide references in a bibliography to help professors and university students and the general public. But it would be great if primary and secondary school children also had this information in a format appropriate for their early years.

www.maya-ethnobotany.org
www.maya-ethnozoology.org
www.maya-archaeology.org

Our material for school children is www.MayanToons.org

www.digital-photography.org shows our camera equipment over the years.

Credits

Photographers

Nicholas Hellmuth
David Arrivillaga
Edwin Solares

Photography Assistants

Norma Estefany Cho Cu
Karla Esperanza Cho Cu
Luis Molina

Illustrator

Luis Molina

Organizer and Manager of the Field Trip

Vivian Hurtado

Driver of the two 4WD Pickup trucks that carried the equipment

Anibal Gabriel
David Arrivillaga

We sincerely thank the IHAH team in Copán for the cooperation and coordination provided

Ms.c Salvador Varela, regional representative of the West
Lic. Zoila Madrid, Head of World Heritage Site
Manuel Espinoza, Head of Security and Maintenance of the
Mayan Site of Copán
Hilario Vásquez, maintenance
Rita Martines, vigilant

Introduction to the Six Maya Ballgame Ballcourt Macaw Goalstones in the Copan Sculpture Museum

We include earlier photos of these scarlet macaw ballcourt ballgame goalstones in our FLAAR Reports on the ballcourt. But we also wish to have these as a “chapter” in the present separate report on what is specifically within the Copan Sculpture Museum. So we photographed all the macaw goalstones in February 2024, with special black background so each photo was totally focused on one single macaw goalstone.

There are two series of macaws; two relatively naturalistic, that I estimate are from a later stage of the ballcourt; and four earlier ones that are stylized, that I estimate are from the earlier stage of the ballcourt.

These macaw heads have been photographed thousands of times and are published all over the Internet and in articles, but 90% of those photos are snapshots. We dedicated time and effort and portable photo studio equipment, to accomplishing high quality photographs with better than average angle of lighting (based on our over 50-years of experience photographing in museums around the world). Plus we photographed each macaw head individually, without the other heads in the same scene. That required using black cloth as background. We used black paper and black cardboard for the underneath part. The February field trip had two double-cabin pickup trucks to bring the team and all the portable photo studio equipment, because each size and shape of object is best illuminated with a particular light. We had over five kinds of different portable studio lighting (different brands, different digital technologies (LED, fluorescent, etc.).



Scarlet macaw, Maya ballgame ballcourt goalstone, Copan Sculpture Museum.
Photo by Nicholas Hellmuth, Nikon D-810. 3:45pm, February 3, 2024.









The present photo album on the Scarlet Macaw Goalstones in the Copan Sculpture Museum is one of a dozen works-in-progress on Copan. Below is the list on the other sculptures and architecture and artifact photos that we are working on to make available as high-resolution photos albums.

Cauac Monster, Cosmic Monster with Quadripartite Badge Headdress, Crocodile, Deer and God N, Copan CPN 25, Altar of Stela M
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 1,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 1

Scorpion, Venus, Moon Goddess with Rabbit Companion, Celestial Deities on Sky Band Motifs on Copan Structure 8N-66C Bench Front
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 2,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 2

Copan Ceramic Incensario Lids, Local adaptation of Teotihuacan Style
Volume I, Photos in full-page Height, Vertical Format
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 3,
Maya Ceramics of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 1A

Copan Ceramic Incensario Lids, Local adaptation of Teotihuacan Style
Volume II, Vertical Format
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 4,
Maya Ceramics of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 1B

Full-Figure Personified Maya Hieroglyphs on front of Bench in Copan Str. 9N-82, House of the Bacabs, Sepulturas Group
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 5,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 3

Beards on Kings and Deities at Copan
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 6,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 4

Paddler God Faces and Hieroglyphs at Copan
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 7,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 5

Cauac Monsters at Copan, especially in Stacks on Corners of Palaces and Mythical Structures
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 8,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 6

Copan Maya Ballgame Players, Maya Outfits: Chest Protector & Deflector and Thigh Protector Mexican Ballgame Outfits: Yoke, Hacha and Ballgame Handstone
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 9,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 7

*Copan Maya Ballcourt Architecture & Scarlet Macaw Logo Goal Stones
Stepped Areas were as important as Playing Field down the Center*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 10,
Maya Architecture of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 1

*Maya Ballcourt Architecture
3-Dimensional Architectural Reconstruction Drawings by David Morgan*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 11,
FLAAR Drawings Archive Segment, Publication Number 1.

Toads, Iconography as Bufo Toad, Epigraphy as Uinal Hieroglyph of Copan, Honduras
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 12,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 8

Bats in Sculpture and Hieroglyphic Inscriptions of Copan, Honduras
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 13,
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 9

Samples of Classic Maya Ceramics of Copan, Honduras
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 14,
Maya Ceramics of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 2

*Jade and Greenstone Craftsmanship of Copan, Honduras
Finished Jade Ornaments plus Documentation of Jade Working on Raw Stone*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 15
Artifacts of Jade, Obsidian, Flint (Chert) and other Materials of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 1.

*Full-Figure Personified Maya Hieroglyphs: Bench Front of the "Harvard Bench" inside Copan Structure 9M-
146 of Group 9M-18*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 16
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 10

*Iconography of Incense Scattering and Maya Hieroglyphs,
Face-Variant Long-Count Glyphs on Nim Li Punit Stela 15, Belize*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 17
Maya Sculptures of Belize, Publication Number 1

*The Story of the Blom Plate: a Masterpiece of Mayan Iconography
and Primary Standard Sequence, PSS, Hieroglyphs, Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico*
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 18
Iconography of Maya Ceramics of Mexico, Publication Number 1
Primary Standard Sequence, PSS, Maya Hieroglyphs in the FLAAR Photo Archive, Publication Number 1

Tlaloc, Yearsign and other Teotihuacan Motifs in Classic Maya Art at Copan, Honduras
FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 19
Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 11

Full-Figure Personified Hieroglyphs, Tlaloc, Yearsign, Calendrical Deities, Birds, Mammals, Copan Structure 26, (Temple 26, façade overlooking the Hieroglyphic Stairway below)

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 20

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 12

Full-Figure Personified Hieroglyphs on Copan Stela 63,

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 21

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 13

Copan Stela D, CPN 7, Full-Figure Personified Hieroglyphs

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 22

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 14

Crocodiles in Stone Sculpture of Copan: Altar T, CPN 25 (Altar of Stela M), Los Sapos

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 23

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 15

Loincloth Apron Face on Stelae, Bench Fronts and other Sculptures at Copan, Honduras and Profile/Half Frontal Deity Face on Altars at Copan, Honduras; Hieroglyph T1017

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 24

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 16

Quadripartite Badge Headdress and Cosmic Monster at Copan, Honduras

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 25

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 17

Skulls and SKULL RACK, Copan, Honduras

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 26

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 18

Theobroma cacao Pods on Copan Stone Sculpture, Copan Sculpture Museum

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 27

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 19

White Male Pelican eating a Fish, 3-Dimensional Copan Stone Sculpture, Copan Sculpture Museum

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 28

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 20

Scarlet Macaw Maya Ballcourt Goalstones In the Copan Sculpture Museum

FLAAR Photo Archive Publication Number 29

Maya Sculptures of Copan, Honduras, Publication Number 21