

RECENT INVESTIGATIONS IN THE PUUC REGION OF YUCATÁN

edited by

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Cover image: Stucco fragment from Kiuic, Yucatán, Mexico.

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Introduction

The scholarship assembled in this volume was first presented at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) in Austin, Texas, in April 2014. Some of the authors have chosen to publish their conference papers while others have expanded on their topics. As a collection, the papers demonstrate a myriad of approaches to the history of the Puuc region, incorporating archaeological, architectural, epigraphic, and iconographic studies. The geographic scope is also broad. Many of the recent and ongoing archaeological projects in the eastern Puuc region and its periphery are represented, including Dzehkabtún, H'wasil, Kabah, Kiuic, Labná, Sayil, Uxmal, and Xcoch, as well as the Chocholá ceramic tradition from the western Puuc. The projects are at various stages—some preliminary, others a portion of a larger investigation, while still others are revisiting older data—all with the aim to advance our field of study.

While this volume covers a wide range of topics, it is by no means an exhaustive view of the current state of the field nor does it include all the scholars involved in long term research in the Puuc region. Two additional papers from the SAA session were also left out of this publication, due to the authors' competing obligations. In Austin, Rebecca Hill presented her research on geochemical characterization of obsidian artifacts in the Bolonchén district and Maggie Morgan-Smith shared her work with archival documents and oral history from Rancho Kiuic. David Stuart was the session's discussant.

It has been many years since a volume dedicated solely to the Puuc region has been published. While Puuc research frequently appears in collected volumes on the Yucatán peninsula or the Terminal Classic period, we are pleased to have the opportunity to present this representative collection of ongoing work.

Meghan Rubenstein, editor