

Other's No. 12 Mazatl. Deer ~~Went~~ West - Tholoe
ACATL Recycled for arrow shafts - East. Together

May 15th 1992

I am beginning to get a conceptual picture in my mind about the placement of the temple of Mictlan Teccuhtli.

In the thin brown book titled "Mexican and Central American Mythology by Irene Nicholson" on Page 52 there is a list of Aztec deities with their corresponding compass points and their patron deities in which N° 6 Miquiztli, Death has North ^{as} its compass direction and its patron Tēciztēcātl "The Moon god, he who is to be found in the innermost twist of the conch shell."

Number 10 is Itzcuāntli, Dog - direction north, patron Mictlantecāhtli, god of Death.

Some of the considerations to keep in mind, as well as certain conditions I feel should be met before we can place this Temple are as follows:

① This temple should mark the end of the general counterclockwise ceremonial progressions of festivals marking calendrical focal points during various times of the year. These progressions have their origins in the direct north of the square at Coatlán where the temples of Xicotécutli and Cēma-coatl preside ~~of~~ over the beginnings of life, and of ~~the~~ time and the Calendar. Here too as almost every ^{source} ~~source~~ I have studied seems to indicate ~~that~~, all things find their endings upon the completion of particular cycles.

This seems to me to ^{offer} ~~have~~ two possible placements; either within Coatlán itself which I tend to reject on the grounds that life is not generated

in Mictlan

~~the~~ (the bones to be regenerated are always retrieved from here and taken somewhere else for rebirth)

and the fact that ancient sources tend to make a point of the fact that no fire was located ^{in the} ~~here~~,
^{home of Mictlantecuhli} which is inconceivable in the precinct which served as the homes of both Xuitēcuhli and Chantico-Cihuacoatl and the other possibility just to the west of Coatlan where it would form an important integral part of the small palace of penance and seclusion, used by the king when he withdrew to prepare for the great festivals and where as the selected heir to the throne he would undergo symbolic death and ~~then~~ rebirth during his coronation ritual.

This latter placement is my current ~~placement~~ preference

Since ~~the~~ location would also place this temple near the Mitcoapanteotzompanitli and also near the tezcatlacheo with its underworld symbolism while marking the ^{west} ^{west} ^{west} limit of the eastern half of the great square. The sketch below is a preliminary idea for this complex and not to be considered a final statement

