

What is SCRAP?

SCRAP stands for Stann Creek Regional Archaeology Project, and it focuses on preserving the culture and history of the ancient Maya of the Stann Creek District. The project team has been studying the Alabama site since 2014, led by Dr. Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown.

Where is the Alabama site?

Alabama is located at the Stann Creek District, along the eastern foothills of the Maya mountains in the East-Central Belize within an orange orchard, and it is close to the community of Maya Mopan.



Ball court for the Mesoamerican ballgame at Alabama

Why should you care about Alabama?

The Alabama site represents an important part of Belizean history and culture. Looking into the past can help us understand how the Maya dealt with urban planning, rapid population growth, and resource management. This information can help us address current issues in Belize and around the world.

What can you do to help preserve the Alabama site?

- Don't loot! Help protect the site for future research & education
- Share information about SCRAP
- Get involved with future excavations

Contact Information:

E-mail: scrap.arkey@gmail.com

Website: scraparchaeology.com

Telephone: +1 403-457-6061

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Stann Creek Regional
Archaeology Project



Part of the foundation of an ancient house with a garbage pile to the back

Who Lived at the Alabama site?

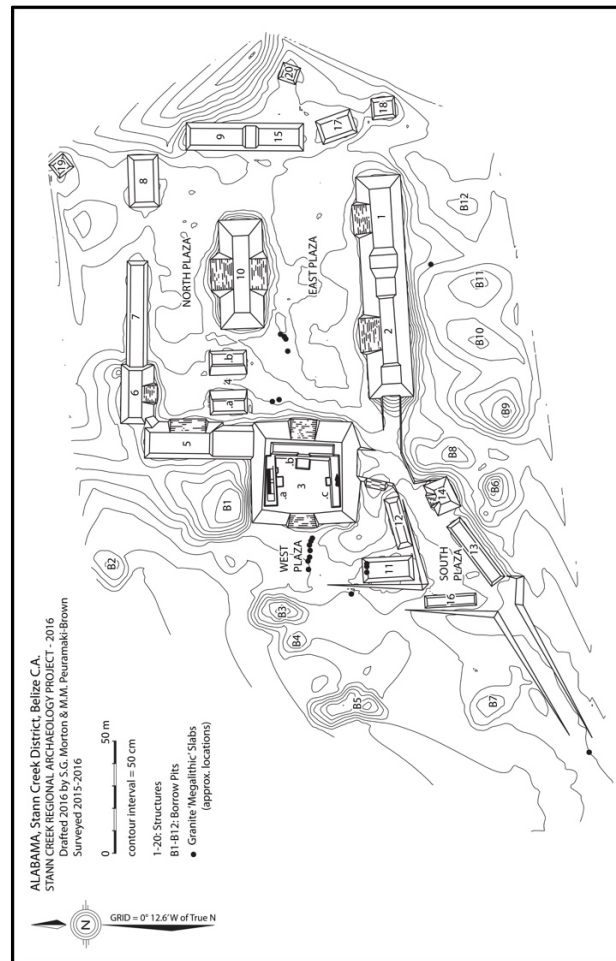
The Alabama site was occupied between at least 700AD and 900AD by ancient Maya people. It has been called a 'boom' town because of the relatively short period of time that people lived there. SCRAP's goal is to understand more about the daily life of Alabama citizens and why it was occupied for such a short time.

What is at the Alabama site?

Alabama is unique because of its monumental architecture, which is uncommon for a smaller population center. The Alabama epicentre consists of 20 main structures made primarily of granite, organized around four plazas. Some of the structures include a ballcourt, a ceremonial causeway, and several platforms which may have housed temples, palaces, and elite residences. The Alabama site also includes a settlement area surrounding the epicentre where common people lived.



Map of Alabama monumental core



What types of artifacts have been found at Alabama?

SCRAP has found a variety of pottery fragments, building material (daub), and different stone tools. These artifacts can tell us a lot about the people who lived at Alabama, for example:

- They lived in and around the monumental core from at least 700AD to 900AD.
- They had perishable houses made of wattle, daub, and thatch.
- They imported materials from far away, including obsidian (volcanic glass) from southern Guatemala (Ixtepeque & El Chayal)



Chert stemmed, straight base, side-notched biface (Terminal Classic to Early Postclassic)