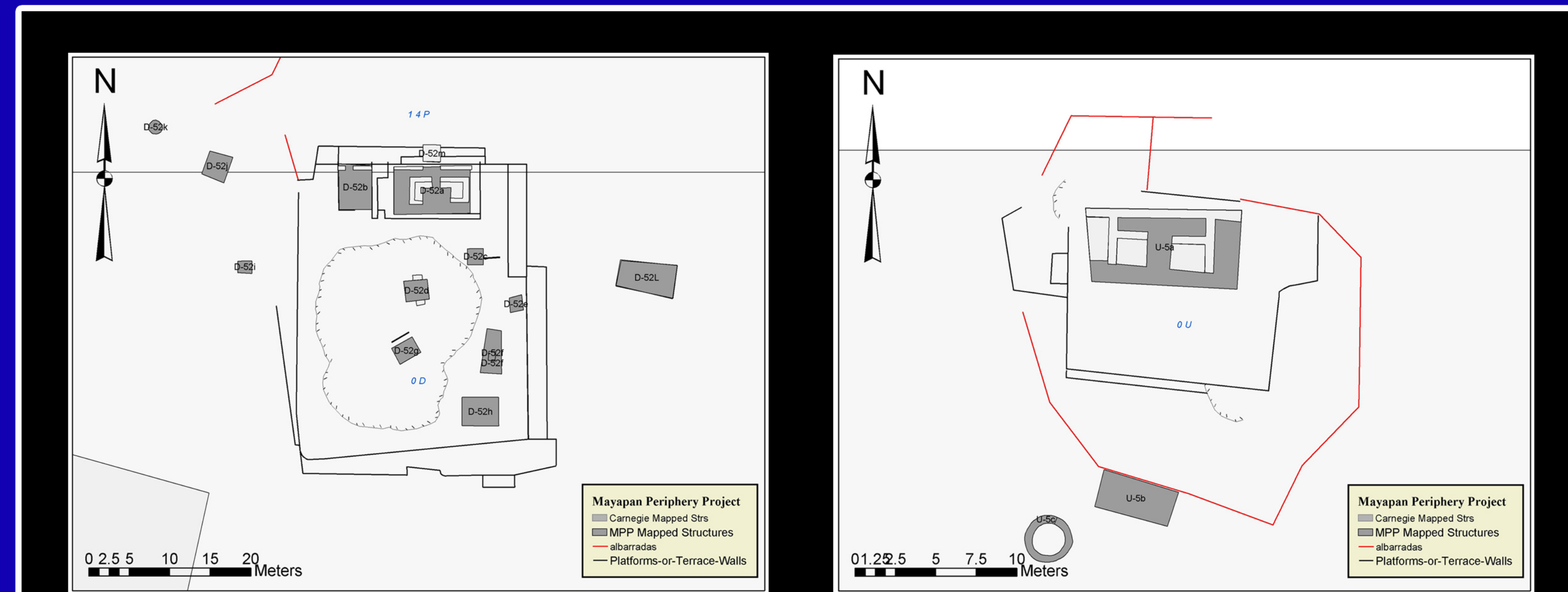


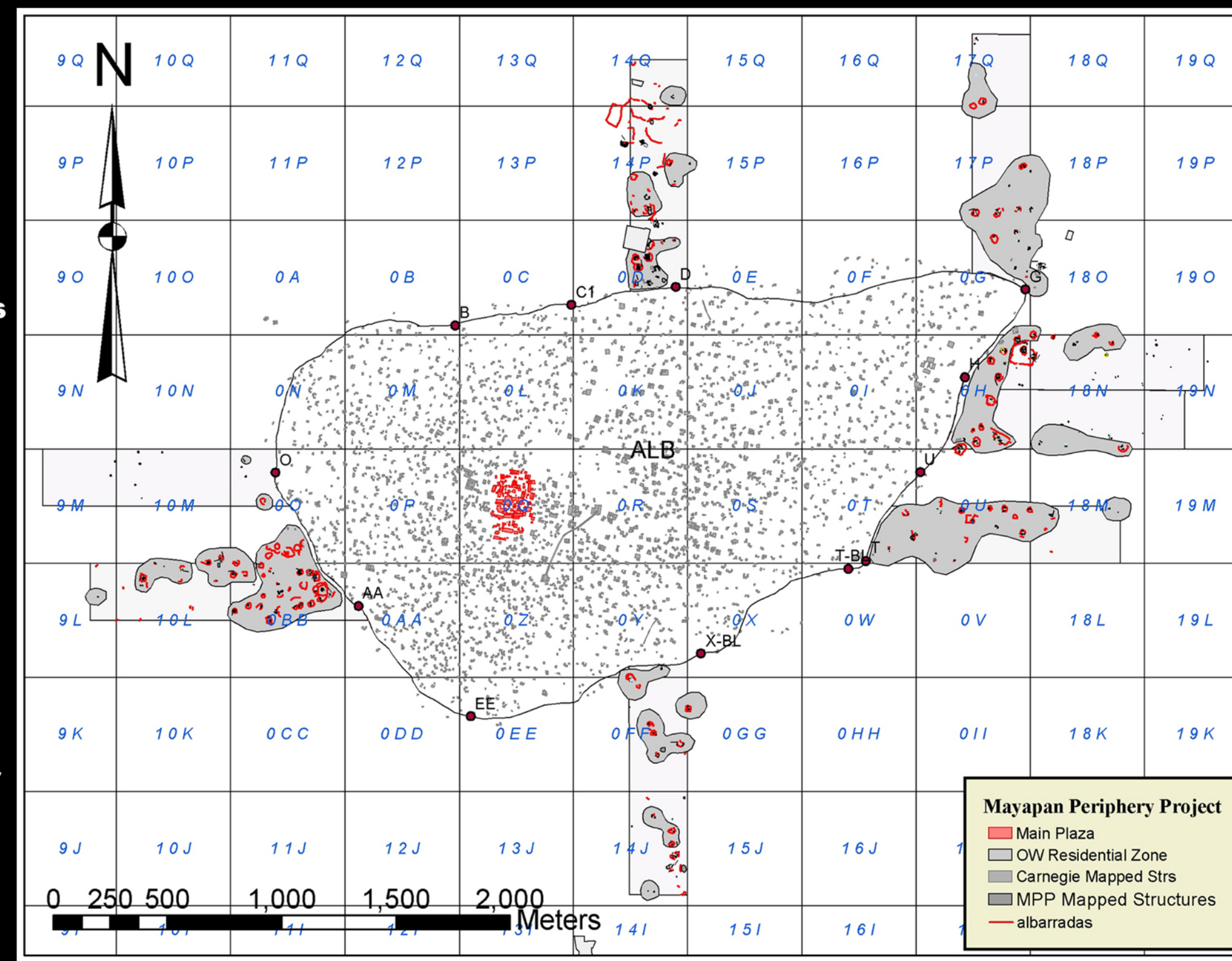
# Settlement Survey of Peripheral Mayapan, Mexico: Results of the Mayapan Periphery Project

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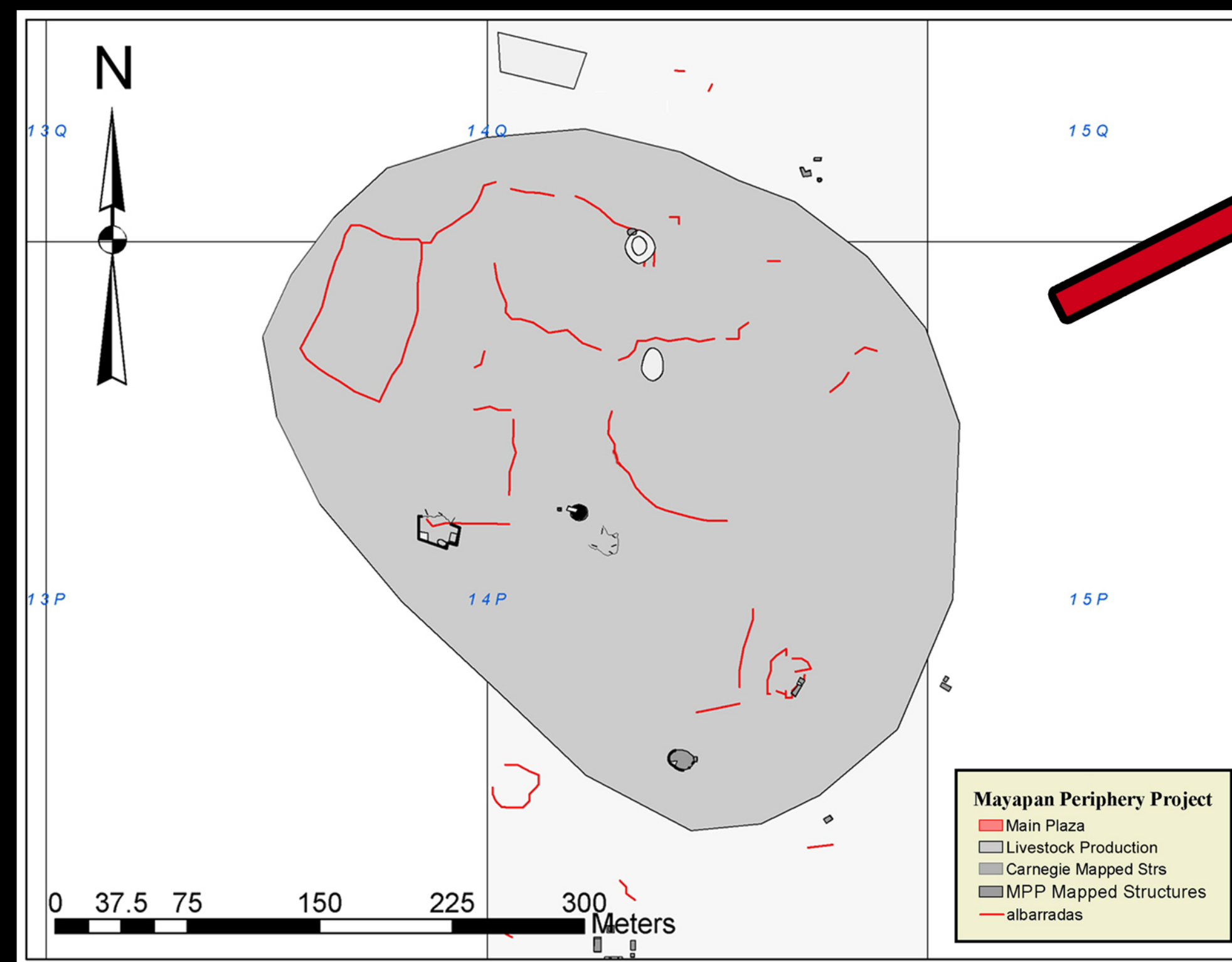
## RESIDENTIAL ZONES

Projecting my sample out over the entire study area suggests that there may be roughly 1,700 structures located within 1km of the city wall. Of the 347 structures mapped, 176 are Postclassic dwellings. Projected out over to full study area, that represents some 880 new dwellings that can be considered part of the Postclassic settlement at Mayapan. Using the 5.7 persons per structure constant applied by the Carnegie project, that represents roughly 5,000 more residents, increasing the old estimate of roughly 12,000 to 17,000, a 42% increase. Most were basic commoner dwellings (above right) however some showed a labor investment and complexity suggesting a more affluent status (above left).



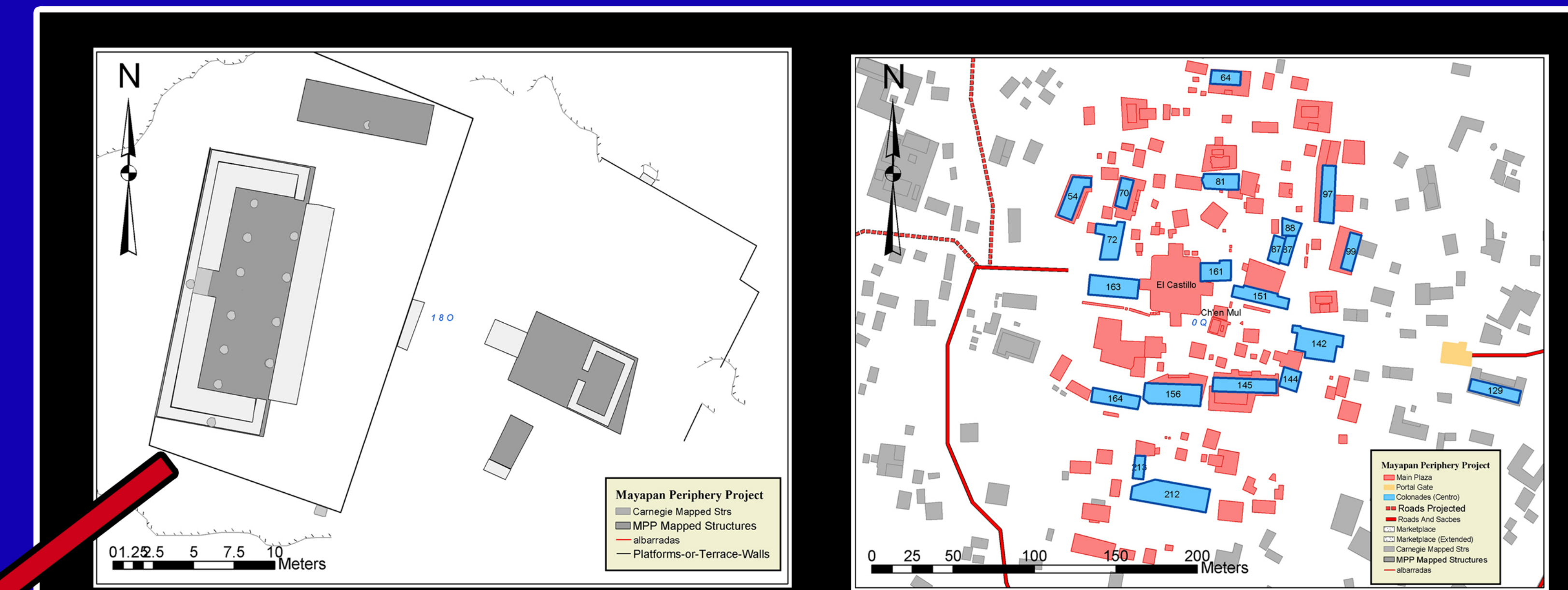
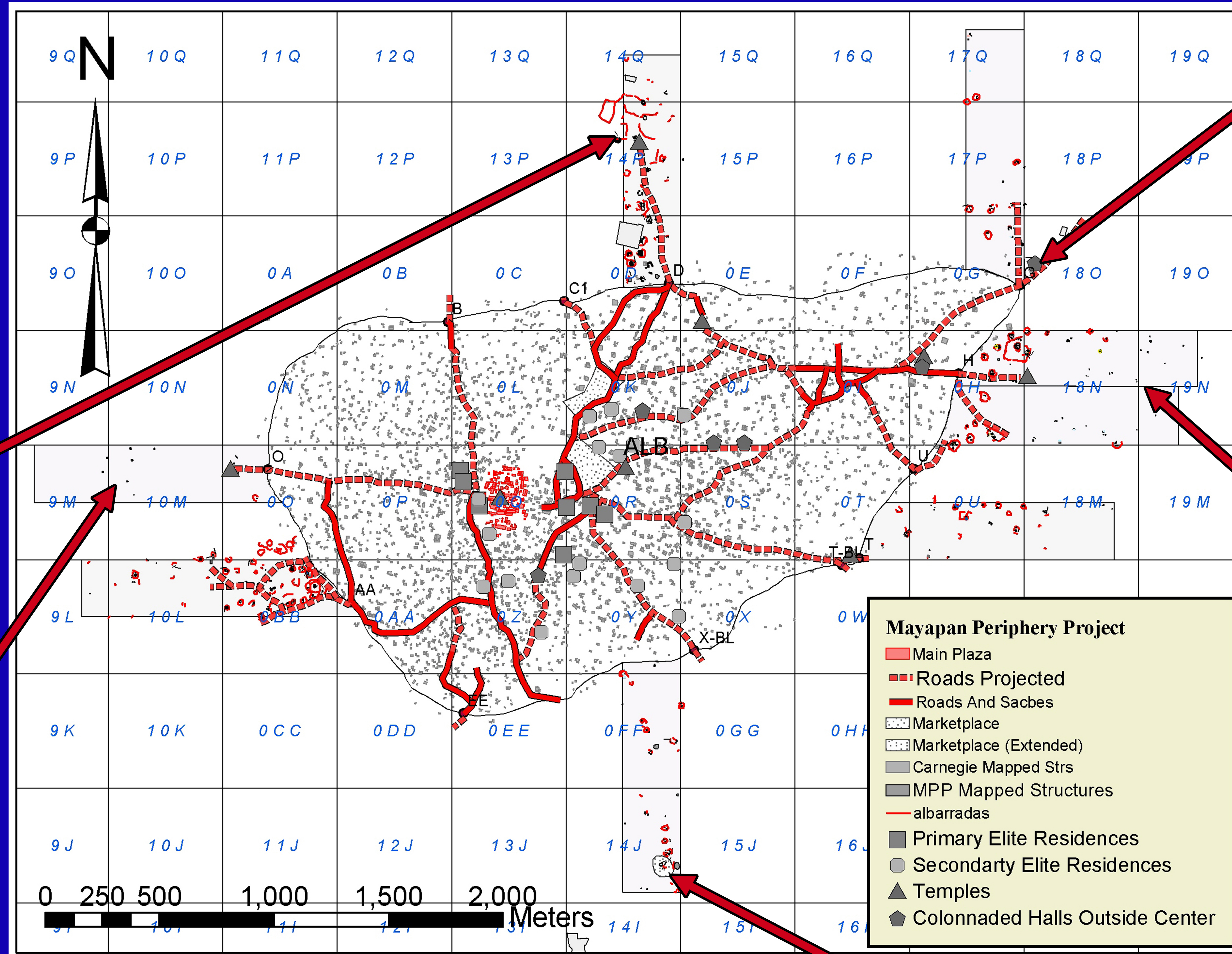
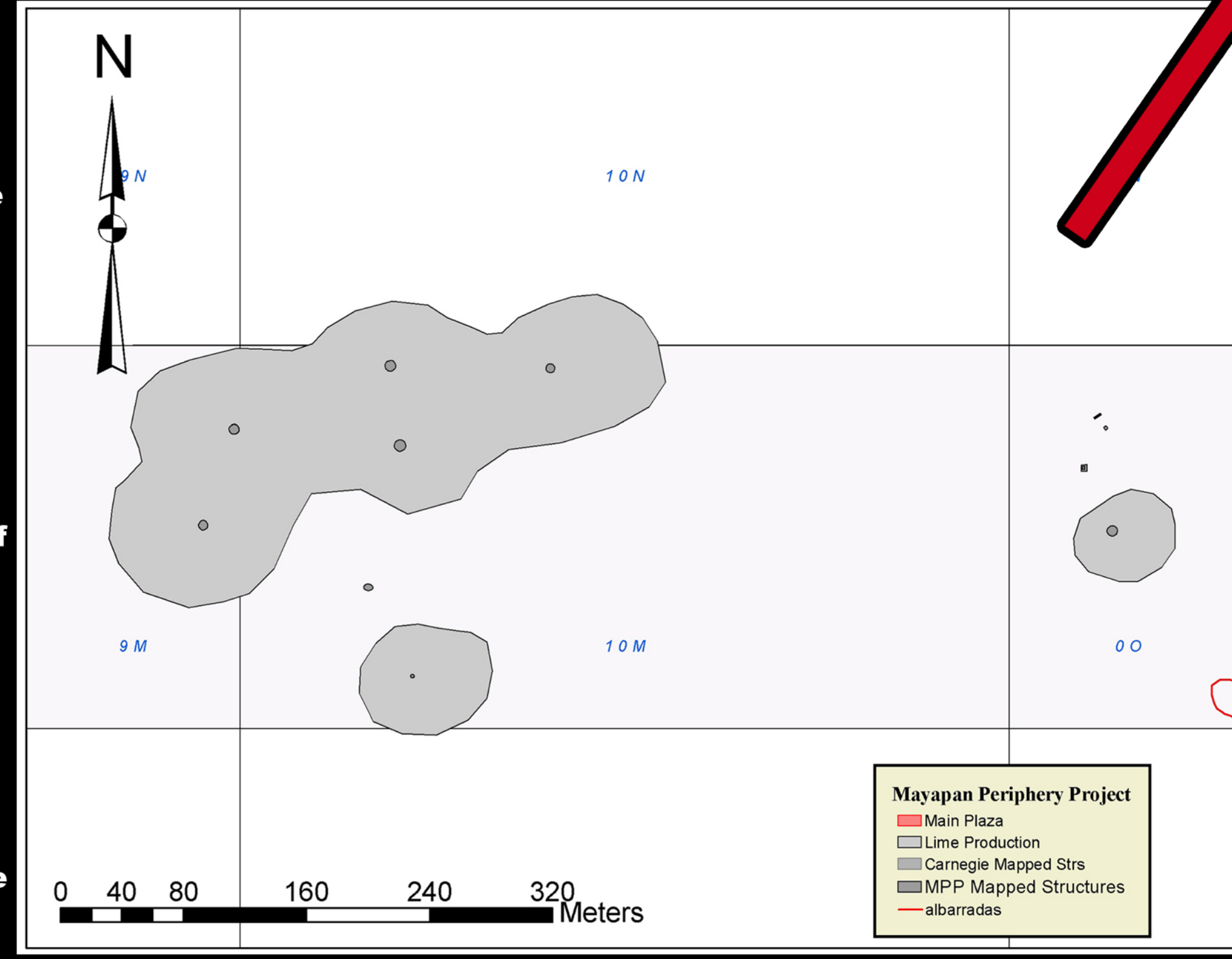
## LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

A livestock production zone was recorded to the north of the main site. It was marked by a series of very large stone wall (known locally as albarradas) enclosures. Albarradas are common as boundary walls surrounding residential groups. However, these enclosures lacked any indications of structures and were far larger than residential enclosures. Faunal studies at the site suggest that deer, turkey and other animals such as peccary were being raised (or at least consumed) at the site. It is likely that much of that food production took place in this zone. Interestingly, modern residents still maintain a large number of cattle ranches in this area suggesting that the area remains well suited to grazing animals.



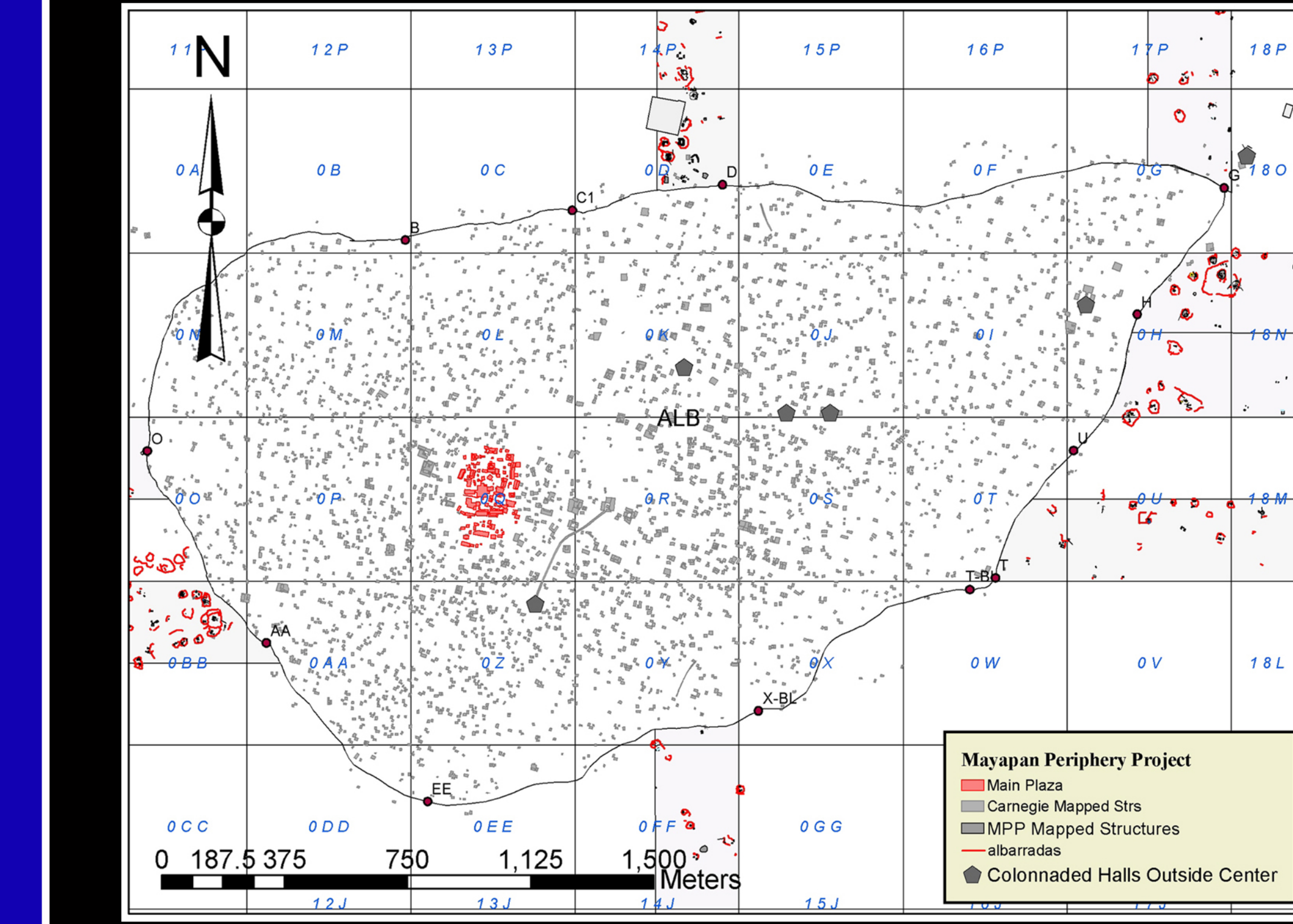
## LIME PLASTER PRODUCTION

Seven round lime production features were located to the west of the main site. This find is significant as the number of documented lime burn sites thus far recorded in Mesoamerica remains surprisingly small. As most settlements in the culture area used large quantities of this commodity, this lack of data is vexing. The placement of these features outside of the formal site boundary may suggest one reason that these features remain so poorly documented and the lime industry so little discussed or studied. They were clearly overlooked during the mapping of the area within the city walls. Hopefully, peripheral settlement studies of this sort may yield more examples of these important features in the future.



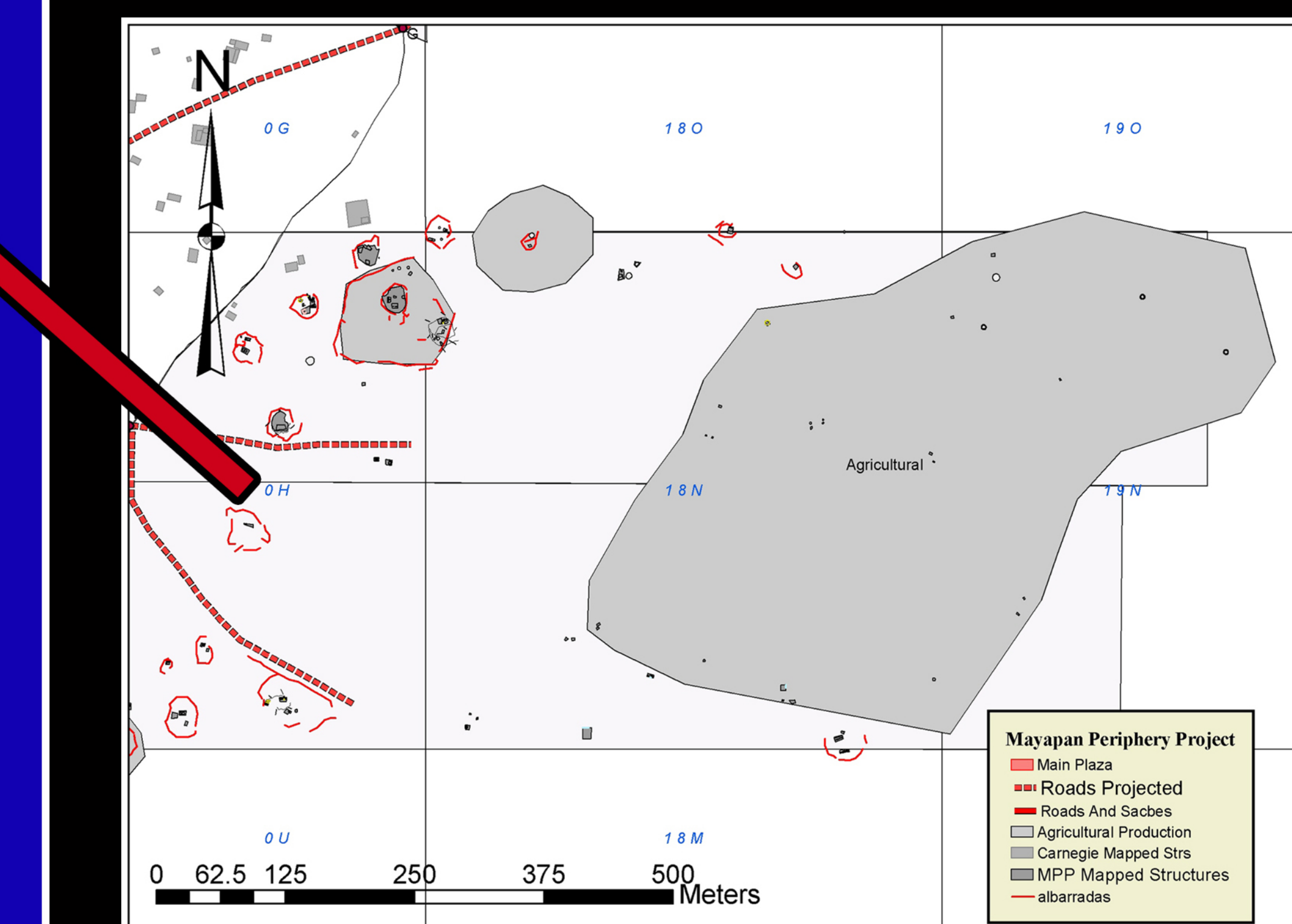
## COLONNADED HALL GROUPS

One of the most significant finds of the study was the 180-1 colonnaded hall group. This group was located just outside of Gate G, the easternmost entrance to the city. These structures are generally considered administrative in nature. The vast majority of the hall groups thus far recorded are located in the site's Main Plaza (above right). Four were already known outside of that ritual/administrative district, in addition to several located in Quad H at the Itzmal Ch'en temple cenote group. The location of this group near a major city gate suggests that it may have had something to do with controlling access to the site. According to ethnohistoric documents, three different lineages controlled access to the city from different cardinal directions.



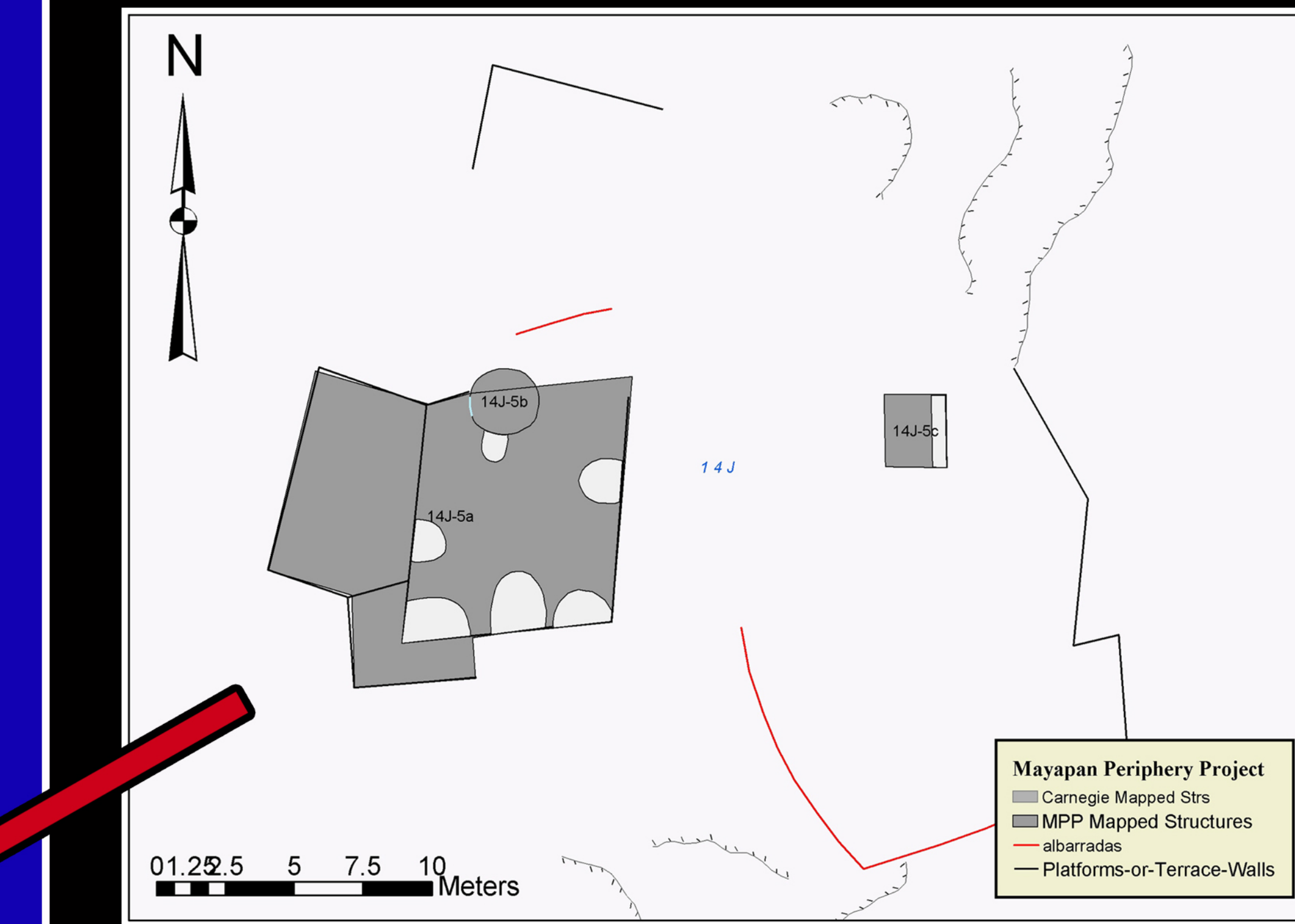
## AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

A zone of agricultural field production was located to the east side of the site. This area was marked by the presence of a large number of small stone platforms and larger round structures that appear to be field outbuildings and granaries. Unlike all other classes of architecture recorded at the site, these features were located in the low areas between the many small hillocks that dot the terrain. This placement is consistent with agricultural functions as these low areas contain the deepest soil in an area that is known for unusually thin topsoils. Unlike residential groups, these features are not surrounded by any kind of boundary wall. However, modern milpa fields are fenced with wood from clearing. The same may have been the case here.



## PERIPHERAL MARKETPLACE

A small outlier settlement, D'zan Tun Ch'en, was documented south of the site. At the heart of this small settlement was a large structure of unusual form. This group, 14J-5, appears to represent a marketplace structure and ancillary structures. The main structure is a three roomed structure with a series of semi-round benches believed to be stall spaces located in the main room. There is a small round storage structure that is accessed from inside of the main structure. The interpretation of this area as a marketplace is supported by soil phosphate analysis which showed this group to have levels many times higher the background level and other structure groups tested. An adjacent structure group contained a very large residence surrounded a series of storage features.



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