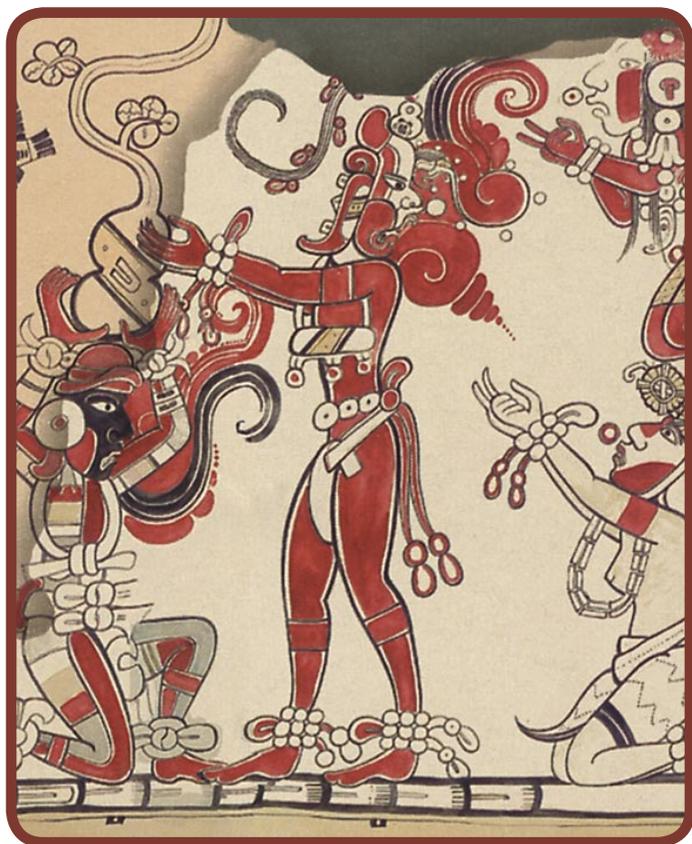




Smithsonian Center for Materials Research and Education

Topics in Conservation Lecture



SCMRE Theater
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
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Piecing together the Maya past: conservation at San Bartolo, Guatemala

**Harriet (Rae) Beaubien
Sr. Objects Conservator, SCMRE**

The chance discovery of extraordinary mural paintings dating to the Maya Preclassic put a previously unknown site, located in a remote corner of Guatemala's Petén biosphere reserve, on the map in 2001. Since then, archaeological field investigations at San Bartolo have unveiled almost all of the elaborately decorated Mural Room and, in explorations throughout the site, produced compelling evidence of a small sophisticated urban center. This talk brings a conservator's-eye view to the archaeological endeavor, with a focus on activities both on-site and in the project's laboratory in Antigua.

February 24, 2005 at 10:45 am