

CORRIENTAL

LATITUDE 18° 27.3' N. (ESTIMATED)

LONGITUDE 89° 13.6' W. (ESTIMATED)

The ruins of Corriental lie about 26 km. slightly south of east of Lagunita and were visited February 16, 1938. The trip was made from the latter camp; lack of water at the ruins required overnight stops at the abandoned camp of San Juan. Leaving Lagunita, we found it necessary to return part way on the Sabana Central trail, taking the fork to the right which leads through the camp of Waca. From here the terrain is very hilly with dense growth, principally of escoba palms, in the low areas. In some of these are low wall-like constructions which do not extend across the valleys as do the check dams noted at Calakmul and which may have served to demarcate small fields. Camps passed before reaching San Juan are Zuts, La Muerta, and Primavera. There are numerous mounds along the trail, some rather extensive groups, but none show standing walls. To the east of San Juan is a single large hill beyond which the terrain is fairly level with areas of high forest and palm growth. The camp of Corriental is about an hour's ride beyond San Juan. Upon crossing a dry stream bed, we came to the ruins after 10 minutes' walk to the east.

One building resting on a pyramid 9 m. high included two masonry towers and four chambers (fig. 106). Only small sections of exterior facing are exposed. Some stone and plaster decoration remains on the south (pl. 38*a*) and east façades. The masonry of Room 1 is of carefully worked blocks, their faces measuring from 21 by

23 cm. to 21 by 26 cm. (pl. 38*b*). A cordholder of the south doorway is of the type used at Hormiguero, Structure II, Room 1 (fig. 46). From an offset at the spring line the vault rises 1.25 m.; the stones are large with the exposed face curved, as at Hormiguero Structure II. The spring line in the central chambers is 65 cm. higher than in the transverse end rooms, suggesting a corresponding difference in floor levels (fig. 107).

A doorway in the east wall of Room 4 opens into a circuitous passageway leading downward and to the east, then up to an exit in Room 2 (fig. 107*a*). Branching off from the south wall of the long east-west portion of the passageway is another extending downward and to the south (fig. 107*c*), which presumably opened through the platform stairway about 4 m. above the base of the pyramid (Perigny, 1908, plate 4, shows a passageway opening in ornamental tower at Rio Bec). The floor of the passageway is covered with debris but sections of it may have been stepped to agree with the ceiling. The masonry is very rough and does not seem to have been plastered. Portions of the passageway were crudely vaulted; others are finished with long slabs resting on the vertical walls.

Four low mounds were seen to the southwest of this structure; one supports the remains of a U-shaped building. Material found on the talus indicates that engaged columns formed part of the façade decoration.