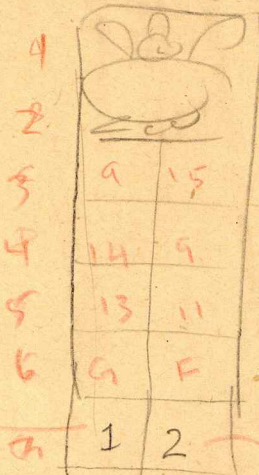


Stela 40, Piedras Negras.

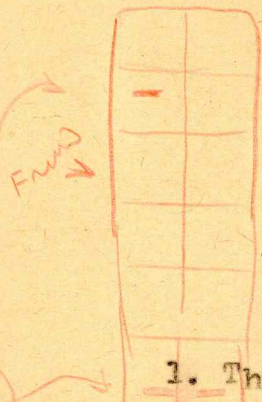
Memo re Supplementary Series on left side of stela, as observer faces stela from the front.

- to Sam for answering inquiry of Carl Guthe

Red notes added 1938 when S. was on floor.



Red = mainly reading the Red through



Latin 10 + 16E

1. The inscription on this side is badly eroded.
2. This edge is not flat, but curves inward at the back as suggested in drawing above. This makes it more difficult than usual to say just where the left margins of coefficients in left column are.
3. It appears probable that a fracture has carried away part of the left margin of the supposed coefficient of the glyph numbered 1 in the sketch above; but if so, subsequent erosion has smoothed the stone so that one cannot be sure.
4. Glyph 1: Measuring in the plane of rear part of the side (i.e. not at right angles to the front face of the stela), a procedure giving a greater rather than a less result, the distance from the left edge of the moon glyph to a point where we have surely reached the back surface of the stela, there is a maximum of 5 cms for the width of the area available for the coefficient of Glyph 1, without counting any space between glyph and coefficient. This is too little for a number over 15 without crowding. Though badly eroded, the right side of what may have been a bar can be made out, but its left side is not distinguishable.

Assuming the corner is here knocked off (which is probable) and projecting down a better preserved section above, the available space may be reasonably increased to 7 cms. The width of the dots of Glyph C (No. 2) is 3 cms; that of bar and dots in the last glyph of the panel is 5 cms. At the latter scale, 3 bars and dots would require 10 cms.

Poorly accidentally cut by 1938

5. I cannot see the two bars of the coefficient which Morley apparently attributes to this glyph: The right hand side of a bar, though eroded, is fairly sure - the left hand side is entirely gone; there is not sufficient surface of this bar left intact to say whether or not its was wide enough for division into two bars by a shallow incised line; such a line may have been there, but the evidence is all gone.

6. In view of the size of the glyphs, and coefficients elsewhere, I should hardly think  $\frac{7}{8}$  cms sufficient width to postulate a coefficient over 15; one over ten would require crowding; but there is nowhere any evidence that there was a plain margin at the rear edge, and several indications remain that there was none - so that there is the possibility that glyphs were carried slightly around the corner. The edge is so badly gone that this is a mere possibility.

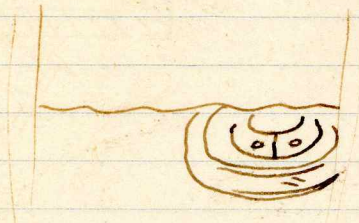
7. The glyph so far discussed is No. 1 in the sketch above, that is, the fifth in the left column (not counting Introducing Glyph,) on the left edge of the stela, looking at the stela from the front. The moon glyph outline in this glyph is quite plain and its form seems to fit those given for Glyph E by Teeple much better than those for Glyph D. It is surely one or the other for the outline of a small moon-glyph in the upper right hand corner of the glyph to the right (No. 2 in the sketch), with the outline of a grasping hand below it is fairly clear (Glyph C); and below this, the outline of the "elbow" in the upper right hand corner of Glyph 3 in the sketch is quite clear (Glyph B).

I take it that calculations require Glyph D and not Glyph E in our position No. 1. If this is so, I think the chances are against the coefficient having actually been carved as over fifteen, but this cannot be stated as certain. If a value of 20 or more would fit, the condition of the stone will allow for zero E (in which case the right edge of the supposed bar would be the edge of a border) or for 5 to 9 E, the space being sufficient for one bar and dots, though hardly for 3 bars and dots.

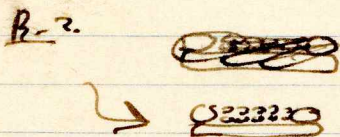
Certainly the condition of this stone is no good enough to warrant the rejection of a theory which works well in a satisfactory series elsewhere.

If this is a crucial question, we should make and send a cast of the glyph. It is too far gone for a photograph to be of much use. I can see the line in Morley's photograph, but I am quite sure that it was either rubbed out in transit, or is a mere line of discoloration.

RO side - B10.



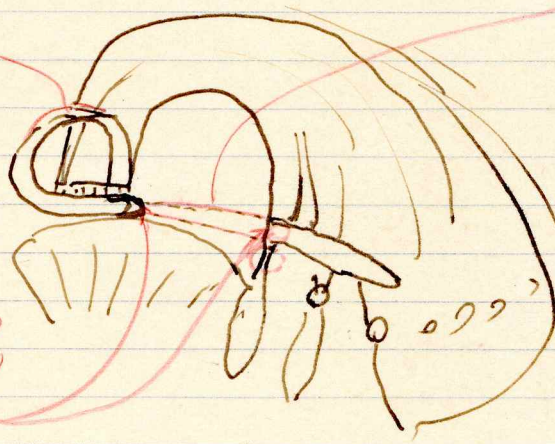
Simple line nose.  
stone somewhat eroded.  
Could say line runs to top  
with certainty, but it  
probably did.



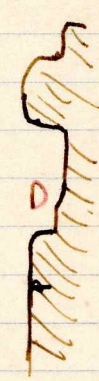
undercut of tooth  
in neck and (for  
nerves from

fracture allows  
restoring curve.

fracture surface  
tracing surface  
(smooth surface)  
on surface  
between ends  
of feather



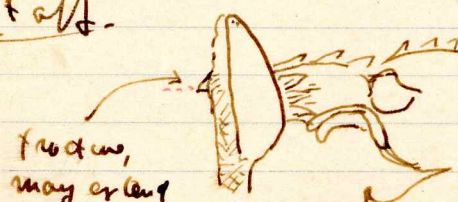
This area (arrow)  
border of washed then  
the small irregular  
area cut off by surface  
ridge formed by undercut feather  
- had space 5 mm under the feather  
circle in the tri. area; not outside



See also

Probably an under-cut feather.  
(No other undercutting on the stela.)

Stall.



fracture,  
may extend  
to tip.  
(lower part  
of ridge esp  
only.)

3 "human" teeth  
inside the main  
(or ridge edge of  
lower jaw).