

round the base and also in the neighbouring woods, most of these blocks are square, with a carved face, and are generally supplied with stone dowels at their back, having without doubt been originally fixed in the wall, and formed part of some ornament in the facade. Besides these, there are other and more curious remains, among them are representations of human and animal figures, which the artist has embellished with hideous features and expressions. Many of the stones are buried or half buried in the ground, and some of the sculpture on them is of a rude character and time worn; A writer tritely remarks, that possibly many of these were originally objects of adoration and worship, but now exist as mute and melancholy memorials of ancient paganism.

Near the base of the mound, is an opening in the earth, the entrance to another of those extraordinary caves, alluded to elsewhere, it is called a Zenote, which are to be found in many places, and bear the same name, whether they are entirely open or subterranean. In this instance it is supposed to have been the source of the water supply of the ancient city.

The entrance is made by a broken yawning mouth, and so precipitous, as to require considerable care in making the descent before the water is reached, an extensive subterranean chamber with a very high roof, is encountered, from which chamber, passages branch off in many directions. Animal bones, and the remains of fires are found, evidencing the fact that refuge was obtained here, or possibly the place was once used as a human residence. An idol is found at the entrance of one of the passages. In many places the roof has caved in thereby choking up the passage, we were therefore inclined to think that under the circumstances, further investigation is hardly worth the candle, which it is necessary to take, to make the darkness visible, the temperature is terribly hot, particularly for those not accustomed to that of Yucatan. On arriving at the wa-