

SACBEY.

Lying to the South East of Uxmal, and to the South West of Nocacab, equidistant about five kilometres, lies Sacbey, which offers interesting studies. Knowledge of it was gained by some old walls being seen on an eminence to the right of the road going South and a little further on the same side of the road, the principal ruins of this place consist of three irregularly disposed buildings, one faces the South, and measures fifty three feet front by twelve feet six inches deep, it has three doorways, which are peculiarly small; The second building, a little further South, is about the same size as the other, and has three apartments, with two columns in the centre doorway; The third building is in such an advanced state of decay, that not even measurements could be taken. Near as the ruins were to the village, the village priest had never seen them, they stand about a hundred feet from the path, but are so completely buried amongst the trees, as to escape notice.

A short distance beyond, is one of the most interesting monuments of antiquity in Yucatan, it is a broken platform or roadway of stone, about eight feet wide and eight or ten inches high, crossing the road and running off into the woods on either side, the indians say the way traversed the country from Kabah to Uxmal, and that it is called Sacbey by them which in the Maya tongue, means "a paved way of pure white stone," it was the only instance of a tradition that had been heard in this vicinity, Stephens is of opinion that this part of the country offers unbroken ground for future exploration. The place is now known as Xhaxché.