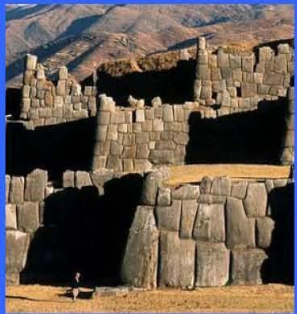


# THE HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

FROM PREHISTORIC TO MODERN TIMES



**The thirteenth Album:  
THE MEDIEVAL  
CENTRAL AMERICAN  
ARCHITECTURE**



**Albums of characteristic examples for the Educational course**

**by Dr. Konstantin I.Samoilov**

Almaty, 2017

**This series of albums generated for information purposes of the Educational course "The General History of Architecture": 2 credits / 30 hours of lectures.**

Until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, examples are grouped by region. In this period, the phenomenon of a single world architectural process begins to manifest itself. Since the last third of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, examples have been grouped by decades.

**Thirty albums illustrate the following topics:**

- the 1<sup>st</sup> Album: EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC-THEORETICAL SOURCES
- the 2<sup>nd</sup> Album: THE PREHISTORIC ERA'S ARCHITECTURE
- the 3<sup>rd</sup> Album: THE ANCIENT EGYPTIAN ARCHITECTURE
- the 4<sup>th</sup> Album: THE ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIAN ARCHITECTURE
- the 5<sup>th</sup> Album: THE ANCIENT GREEK ARCHITECTURE
- the 6<sup>th</sup> Album: THE ANCIENT ROMAN ARCHITECTURE
- the 7<sup>th</sup> Album: THE MEDIEVAL EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE
- the 8<sup>th</sup> Album: THE EUROPEAN RENAISSANCE'S ARCHITECTURE
- the 9<sup>th</sup> Album: THE MEDIEVAL MAGHREB'S, THE NEAR EASTERN AND THE CAUCASUS'S ARCHITECTURE
- the 10<sup>th</sup> Album: THE MEDIEVAL CENTRAL ASIAN ARCHITECTURE
- the 11<sup>th</sup> Album: THE ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL CHINESE ARCHITECTURE
- the 12<sup>th</sup> Album: THE MEDIEVAL SOUTHEASTERN AND EASTERN ASIAN ARCHITECTURE
- **the 13<sup>th</sup> Album: THE MEDIEVAL CENTRAL AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE**
- the 14<sup>th</sup> Album: THE EASTERN EUROPE MIDDLE AGES AND NEW TIMES ARCHITECTURE
- the 15<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WESTERN EUROPEAN AND THE NORTH AMERICAN NEW TIMES ARCHITECTURE

- the 16<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1870's
- the 17<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1880's
- the 18<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1890's
- the 19<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1900's
- the 20<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1910's
- the 21<sup>st</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1920's
- the 22<sup>nd</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1930's
- the 23<sup>rd</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1940's
- the 24<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1950's
- the 25<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1960's
- the 26<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1970's
- the 27<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1980's
- the 28<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 1990's
- the 29<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 2000's
- the 30<sup>th</sup> Album: THE WORLD'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE 2010's

Examples are distributed in chronological order of the construct completion.

**Images sources are indicated directly near with illustrations on each page.**

Architects and companies listed on the basis of aggregate data from different sources (for some objects from various sources indicate different authors). About some buildings listed authors in the available sources has not yet been found.

The Author expresses his gratitude to Internet resources – <https://www.google.com> ; <https://www.wikipedia.org> – which to provide the ability to collect an information.

*The 13<sup>th</sup> Album's front cover:*

**The Zapotec's town of Mitla, State of Oaxaca, Mexico, ~ 100 BC -** <http://www.delange.org/Mitla/Mitla.jpg>

**The Mayan Pyramid: the Sun -** [https://ae01.alicdn.com/kf/HTB1u5AwNVXXXXb\\_XFXXq6xXFXXxi/24x36-Central-America-Architecture-font-b-Maya-b-font-Culture-Stairs-Pyramid-Scenery-Landscape-Fabric-Silk.jpg](https://ae01.alicdn.com/kf/HTB1u5AwNVXXXXb_XFXXq6xXFXXxi/24x36-Central-America-Architecture-font-b-Maya-b-font-Culture-Stairs-Pyramid-Scenery-Landscape-Fabric-Silk.jpg)

**Inca sites at Cuzco Valley, Peru: the Saksaywaman (Arch.-Build.: Apu Val'pa Rimachi, Inka Mari-Kanchi, Akavana Inka, Kal'ya Kunchuy, 1471-1525) –** [http://images.nationalgeographic.com/wpf/media-live/photos/000/360/cache/sacsayhuaman-peru\\_36097\\_600x450.jpg](http://images.nationalgeographic.com/wpf/media-live/photos/000/360/cache/sacsayhuaman-peru_36097_600x450.jpg)

**The Inca site of Machu Picchu, Andes above the river Urubamba, Peru, 1440-1532 –** [http://www.dulichtet.com/data/gallery/fullsize//2010-05-19machupicchu-114\\_7708.jpg](http://www.dulichtet.com/data/gallery/fullsize//2010-05-19machupicchu-114_7708.jpg)

**Purpose of the 13<sup>th</sup> Lecture:**

To study the basic features of the Medieval Central American architecture.

**Tasks of the 13<sup>th</sup> Lecture:**

- To consider characteristic examples of specifically organized spaces and buildings;
- To accentuate the features of construction depending on the availability of building materials;
- To emphasize the difference between cult and dwelling buildings.

**Tasks for the self-research work:**

1. Study the change in the nomenclature of buildings and structures during the evolution of the Medieval Central American architecture
2. Analyze geometric parameters of main types of structures and buildings.

**Questions for the self-preparation:**

1. Accentuate the features of the Aztec architecture
2. Accentuate the features of the Inca architecture

**Themes of abstracts (16 pages, 40 000 characters, A4 format):**

1. The evolution of the Olmec Architecture
2. The evolution of the Zapotec's Architecture
3. The evolution of the Maya Architecture

**Examples for the 13<sup>th</sup> Lecture:**

**13.1** The Ancient and Medieval Central America: the Map and the Periodisation

**13.2** The Olmec Great Pyramid, La Venta, Tabasco, Mexico, 394 +/- 30 BC

**13.3** Mesoamerican Ballcourts: at Xochicalco, at Cobá, at Chichen Itza; Cross-sections; a Terminology (5<sup>th</sup> century BC – 10<sup>th</sup> century AD)

**13.4** The Monte Albán, the Zapotec's city on a hill, Central Oaxaca Valleys, Mexico, ~ 600 BC

**13.5** The Zapotec's town of Mitla, State of Oaxaca, Mexico, ~ 100 BC

**13.6** Mayan Pyramids (Mexico and Guatemala): the Magician; the Sun; the Temple of the Inscriptions; the El Castillo; the Tikal; the Tulum

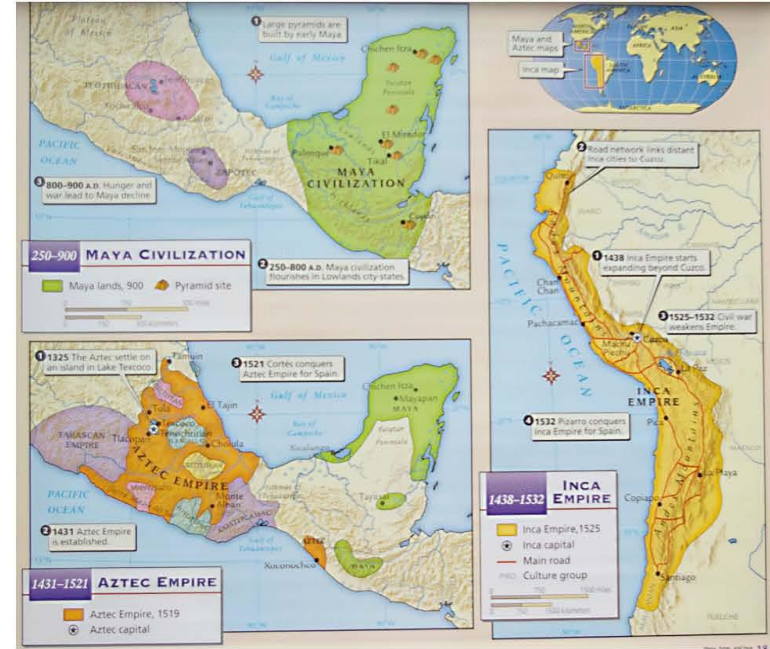
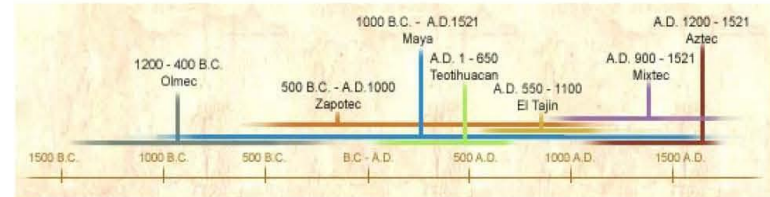
**13.7** Mayan Pyramids (Mexico and Guatemala): the Edificio-14, the Temple of the Two-Headed Snake Tikal, the Cobá, the Yaxha, the Nohoch Mul, the La Danta

**13.8** Maya ruins: the Gateway at Labna; the Ruta Puuc; the Uxmal; the Hochob; the Pyramid of the Niches

**13.9** Inca sites at Cuzco Valley, Peru: the Saksaywaman (Arch.-Build.: Apu Val'pa Rimachi, Inka Mari-Kanchi, Akavana Inka, Kal'ya Kunchuy, 1471-1525); the Pikillacta (500-1200); the Tipon (early 15<sup>th</sup> century)

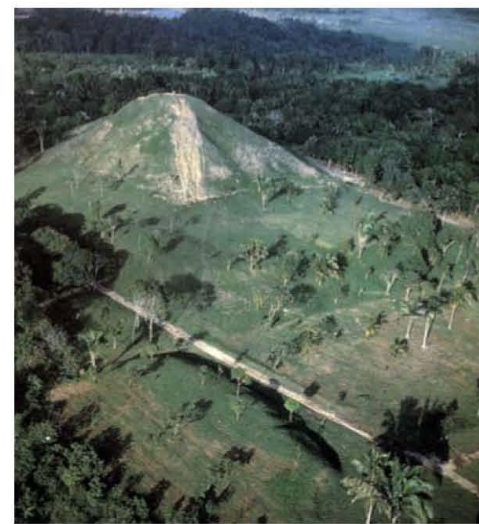
**13.10** The Inca site of Machu Picchu, Andes above the river Urubamba, Peru, 1440-1532

### 13.1 The Ancient and Medieval Central America: the Map and the Periodisation



Sources: [http://www.ducksters.com/history/aztec\\_maya\\_inca\\_map\\_lg.gif](http://www.ducksters.com/history/aztec_maya_inca_map_lg.gif) ; <https://gamedesigncksst.files.wordpress.com/2013/11/timeline.jpg> ; [http://newellta.weebly.com/uploads/3/0/7/8/30789823/748299\\_orig.gif](http://newellta.weebly.com/uploads/3/0/7/8/30789823/748299_orig.gif)

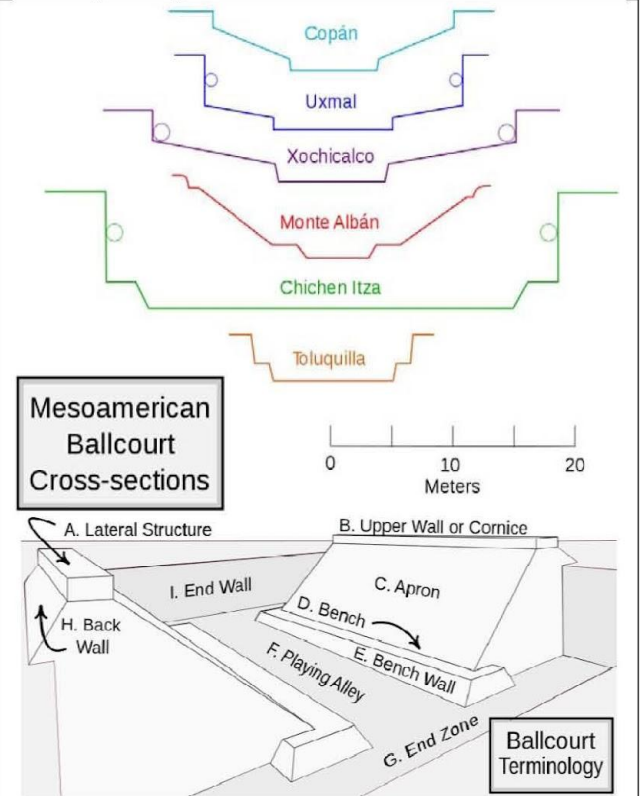
## 13.2 The Olmec Great Pyramid, La Venta, Tabasco, Mexico, 394 +/- 30 BC



Sources: <http://www.quantumgaze.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/great-pyramid-la-venta.jpg> ; <https://photos.travelblog.org/Photos/135639/446806/f/4383116-La-Venta-Olmec-Ruins-0.jpg> ; [https://classconnection.s3.amazonaws.com/712/flashcards/3003712/png/screen\\_shot\\_2014-02-07\\_at\\_32835\\_pm-1440E42EE97070C2385.png](https://classconnection.s3.amazonaws.com/712/flashcards/3003712/png/screen_shot_2014-02-07_at_32835_pm-1440E42EE97070C2385.png)



### 13.3 Mesoamerican Ballcourts: at Xochicalco, at Cobá, at Chichen Itza; Cross-sections; a Terminology (5<sup>th</sup> century BC – 10<sup>th</sup> century AD)



Sources: [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e9/Xochicalco\\_ballcourt\\_2.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/e9/Xochicalco_ballcourt_2.jpg); [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/13/Coba\\_Ballcourt-27527.jpg/1920px-Coba\\_Ballcourt-27527.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/1/13/Coba_Ballcourt-27527.jpg/1920px-Coba_Ballcourt-27527.jpg); <http://www.historyonthenet.com/sites/default/files/styles/adaptive/public/field/image/800px-GreatBallCourt-interior.jpg?itok=k7XSctUF>; <http://cdn.c.photoshelter.com/img-get2/10000PijhbLEYFK4/fit=1000x750/Mexico-Coba-Mayan-Ruins-Sacred-Ball-Game-Hoop.jpg>; [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/00/Mesoamerican\\_Ballcourt\\_cross-sections\\_3.svg/1024px-Mesoamerican\\_Ballcourt\\_cross-sections\\_3.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/00/Mesoamerican_Ballcourt_cross-sections_3.svg/1024px-Mesoamerican_Ballcourt_cross-sections_3.svg.png); [https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/63/Mesoamerican\\_Ballcourt\\_terminology\\_schema.svg/1774px-Mesoamerican\\_Ballcourt\\_terminology\\_schema.svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/63/Mesoamerican_Ballcourt_terminology_schema.svg/1774px-Mesoamerican_Ballcourt_terminology_schema.svg.png)

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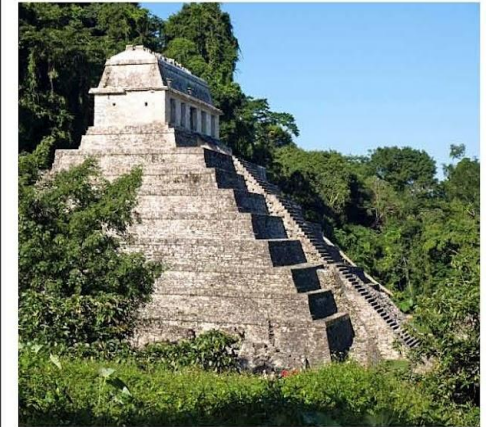
Sources: [https://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIBNzaNciv/AAAAAAAAAFdw/gqNLQ\\_Dp6o4/s640/MA+So+Platform+from+VG.jpg](https://4.bp.blogspot.com/_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIBNzaNciv/AAAAAAAAAFdw/gqNLQ_Dp6o4/s640/MA+So+Platform+from+VG.jpg) ;  
[https://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIA\\_461wI8/AAAAAAAAAFx4/3FSYzuEMVJg/s640/MA+bdg+H.jpg](https://4.bp.blogspot.com/_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIA_461wI8/AAAAAAAAAFx4/3FSYzuEMVJg/s640/MA+bdg+H.jpg) ;  
[https://2.bp.blogspot.com/\\_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIA\\_xPRfR8I/AAAAAAAAAFXw/YZpse1Hm80A/s640/MA+bdg+H+closeup.jpg](https://2.bp.blogspot.com/_uXDMPKN0Bic/TIA_xPRfR8I/AAAAAAAAAFXw/YZpse1Hm80A/s640/MA+bdg+H+closeup.jpg) ;  
<https://classconnection.s3.amazonaws.com/263/flashcards/2032263/png/411351750432350.png> ;

### 13.5 The Zapotec's town of Mitla, State of Oaxaca, Mexico, ~ 100 BC



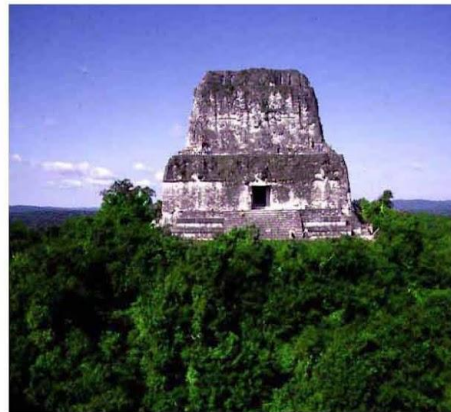
Sources: [http://www.oaxacamb.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/ngalleries/mitla/mq\\_6066.jpg](http://www.oaxacamb.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/ngalleries/mitla/mq_6066.jpg) ; <https://images.robertharding.com/preview/RM/RH/HORIZONTAL/1242-40.jpg> ; <http://www.anotherthink.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Temple-amid-the-ruins.jpg> ; <http://www.delange.org/Mitla/Mitla.jpg>

### 13.6 Mayan Pyramids (Mexico and Guatemala): the Magician; the Sun; the Temple of the Inscriptions; the El Castillo; the Tikal; the Tulum



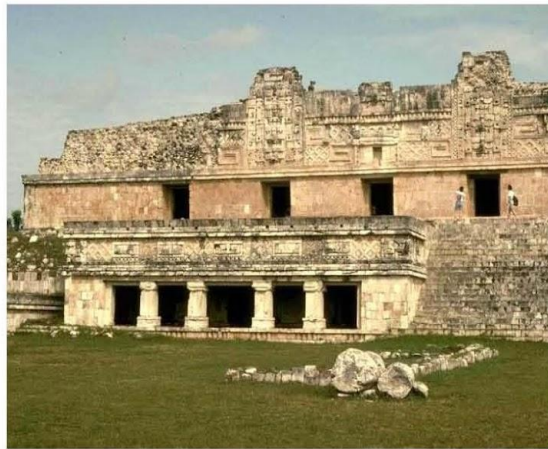
Sources: <http://www.ralphmag.org/HM/pyramid-uxmal1000x666.jpg> ; [https://ae01.alicdn.com/kf/HTB1u5AwNVXXXb\\_XFXXq6xXFXXxi/24x36-Central-America-Architecture-font-b-Maya-b-font-Culture-Stairs-Pyramid-Scenery-Landscape-Fabric-Silk.jpg](https://ae01.alicdn.com/kf/HTB1u5AwNVXXXb_XFXXq6xXFXXxi/24x36-Central-America-Architecture-font-b-Maya-b-font-Culture-Stairs-Pyramid-Scenery-Landscape-Fabric-Silk.jpg) ; [http://resources.touropia.com/qfx/b/2010/06/pyramid\\_of\\_the\\_sun-1.jpg](http://resources.touropia.com/qfx/b/2010/06/pyramid_of_the_sun-1.jpg) ; <http://www.ancient.eu/uploads/images/display-3102.jpg> ; <http://www.maya.newmentor.net/palenque008b.jpg> ; <http://www.openminds.tv/wp-content/uploads/image-233.jpg>

### 13.7 Mayan Pyramids (Mexico and Guatemala): the Edificio-14, the Temple of the Two-Headed Snake Tikal, the Cobá, the Yaxha, the Nohoch Mul, the La Danta



Sources: [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-aLhblN\\_Y2II/USB7la5cCI/AAAAAAAAAFnU/3kZYDEKJJXk/s1600/reforma-double-pyramid-edificio-14.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-aLhblN_Y2II/USB7la5cCI/AAAAAAAAAFnU/3kZYDEKJJXk/s1600/reforma-double-pyramid-edificio-14.jpg) ; <http://tropixtraveler.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/314-Guatemala-Yaxha-.jpg> ; [http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/poets/a\\_f/bronk/temple.jpg](http://www.english.illinois.edu/maps/poets/a_f/bronk/temple.jpg) ; [http://newmedia.thomson.co.uk/live/vol/0/beaf54281259e419e3de3e53ee0dcc862092c3d2/1080x608/web/CARIBBEANMEXICOMEXICOCON\\_MEXMEXICO-CARIBBEANCOASTMEXICORESORTSCOBAMAYANTRADITIONS.jpg](http://newmedia.thomson.co.uk/live/vol/0/beaf54281259e419e3de3e53ee0dcc862092c3d2/1080x608/web/CARIBBEANMEXICOMEXICOCON_MEXMEXICO-CARIBBEANCOASTMEXICORESORTSCOBAMAYANTRADITIONS.jpg) ; <http://www.sandinmysuitcase.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/Coba-Gautier-Poupeau.jpg> ; [http://aroundtheworldwithjustin.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/GOPR7632\\_01.jpg](http://aroundtheworldwithjustin.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/GOPR7632_01.jpg)

### 13.8 Maya ruins: the Gateway at Labna; the Ruta Puuc; the Uxmal; the Hochob; the Pyramid of the Niches



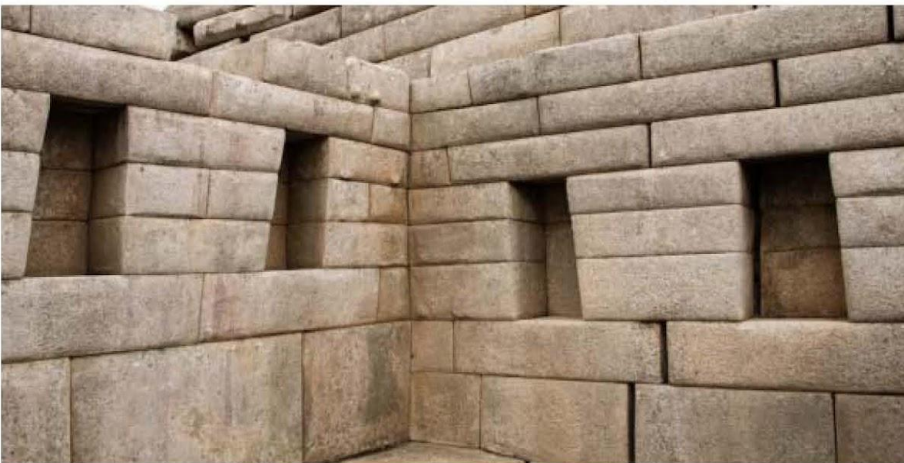
Sources: <http://mydigitalcarpet.com/mexico03/images/labna/lab0957m.jpg> ; <https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b8/Hochob.jpg> ;  
<http://www.maya-aztec.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/uxmal007.jpg> ;  
[https://resources.stuff.co.nz/content/dam/images/1/f/z/a/z/e/image.related.StuffLandscapeSixteenByNine\\_620x349\\_1fz6ev.png/1481250546240.jpg](https://resources.stuff.co.nz/content/dam/images/1/f/z/a/z/e/image.related.StuffLandscapeSixteenByNine_620x349_1fz6ev.png/1481250546240.jpg) ;  
<http://for91days.com/photos/Yucatan/Uxmal%20Maya%20Uxmal%20Uxmal%20Maya%20Ruins%2020131208%20for91days.com.JPG> ; <http://bl.com.ua/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/taijin-720x481.jpg>

**13.9 Inca sites at Cuzco Valley, Peru:  
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Sources: [http://images.nationalgeographic.com/wpf/media-live/photos/000/360/cache/sacsayhuaman-peru\\_36097\\_600x450.jpg](http://images.nationalgeographic.com/wpf/media-live/photos/000/360/cache/sacsayhuaman-peru_36097_600x450.jpg) ; [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_mInUvooot5c/Vb0ZaGFSZZI/AAAAAAAAAHFE/5wD6ADvA9NE/s1600/calle%2Brecta.JPG](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_mInUvooot5c/Vb0ZaGFSZZI/AAAAAAAAAHFE/5wD6ADvA9NE/s1600/calle%2Brecta.JPG) ; <http://www.machupicchuperutravels.com/images/pikillacta.jpg> ; <http://www.qerostours.com/images/images-qeros-tours/peru-tours/cusco-tours/south-valley/tipon-inca-complex.jpg>

### 13.10 The Inca site of Machu Picchu, Andes above the river Urubamba, Peru, 1440-1532



Sources: <https://www.ancient.eu/uploads/images/2331.jpg?v=1431031288> ; <https://richedwardsimagery.files.wordpress.com/2016/01/the-main-temple-at-machu-picchu-peru-exemplifies-the-incas-design-architectural-and-construction-skills-in-a-culture-without-writing.jpg?w=584> ; <http://media.dreamplango.com/resources/dpq/760x520/54d73dd5-d1b3-41ae-9326-7f58f5a757d2.jpg> ; [http://www.dulichtet.com/data/gallery/fullsize//2010-05-19machupicchu-114\\_7708.jpg](http://www.dulichtet.com/data/gallery/fullsize//2010-05-19machupicchu-114_7708.jpg)



**Recommended educational and scientific-theoretical sources:**

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2. XOCHICALCO: BALL-COURTS (TEOTLACHTLI) / OCTOBER 13, 2014/ - URL: <http://uncoveredhistory.com/mexico/xochicalco/xochicalco-ballcourts/>
3. Jim & Carole's Mexico Adventure. - URL: <http://cookjmx.blogspot.com/2010/09/oaxaca-part-2-monte-alban-zapotec-city.html>
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8. The Puuc Hills: Apex of Mayan Architecture / January 4, 2016, Maya Mexico Road Trips Travel, Richard Quinn. - URL: <http://www.rcquinn.com/?p=5195>
9. El Tajín / From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. - URL: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El\\_Tajín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El_Tajín)
10. List of Mesoamerican pyramids / From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. - URL: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Mesoamerican\\_pyramids](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Mesoamerican_pyramids)

## Briefly about the Author



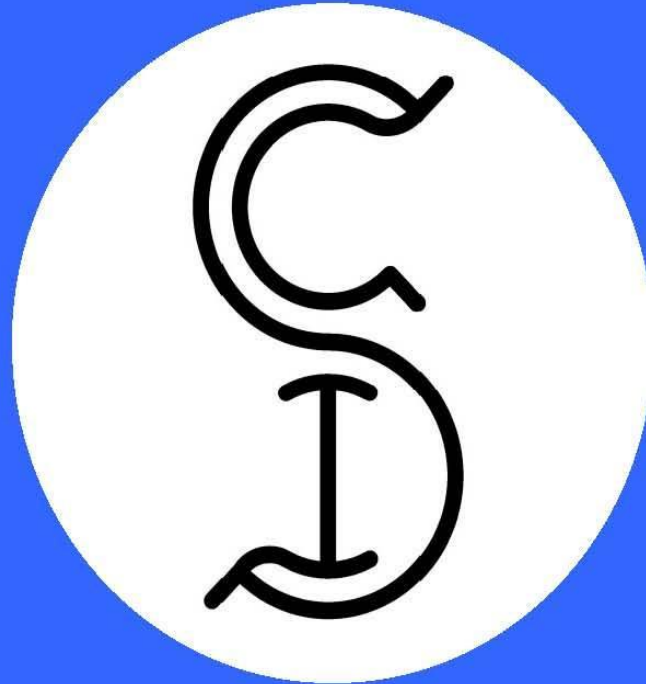
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The thirteenth Album: THE MEDIEVAL CENTRAL AMERICAN ARCHITECTURE.  
– Almaty, 2017. – 18 p.