Isamel Jan 16th
Stucco
N.W Corner
8
Debris
Izamal Jan 16th
Isamal

[[image - sketch of map or building ruins]]
Isamal Jan 16th

[[image - pencil drawing of landscape, with pyramid structure at center distance; palm trees at left and in foreground; entire image implies the structure and surround landscape are covered with vegetation]]
narrow stairway
steps or terraces
rounded corner
massive stones

[[image - drawing showing the silhouette of a structure, with annotations]]

room
4
Reclining figure
4
debris 20 ft

50

Isamel Jan 16
Isamal

The most imposing pile in this part of Yucatan is that formed by the cathedral or church adjoining the public square of Isamal. The ancient mound is extensive in area and about 25 feet high, the pyramidal superstructure having probably given way to the church while the broad terrace contains the arcaded court. This court occupies the full surface the slope being obscured by sub buildings and is reached by 3 stairways, one straight up the east side & two winding ones well walled up at the sides, nothing of the original surface is seen save this level.
[[image - drawing of draped female figure, seen from behind, holding an urn under her left arm]]
of the court.

Across from this in the west side of the square and a little back is a smaller mound of great interest. It is said that formerly it was connected with the church mound by underground passageways which were discovered while making excavations. This smaller mound is much reduced by the modern Osimalans but two conspicuous features still remain. One at the SE corner being the great stucco face and the other at the opposite corner its figure of a man in prostrate position.
Isamal Jan 16th

[[image - drawing of expansive view of church and large arched surrounding walls; palm tree in foreground]]
Isamel Jan 16th 98

[[image - sketch of top view of ruined pyramid]]
Began big md. by R.R.
2 Izamal
Great bend Mo.[?]
The mound like remnant of the ? incline on the [[strikeout]] square
[[strikeout]] block west of the public square rises above the roofs of
those dwelling which enclose it having a height of some 30 feet. It is
divided by fences separating various properties the lower houses and as
much being cultivated as gardens & c,
Izamal 2 2
Like [[?]] we had [[strikeout]] but [[/strikeout]] a stay all two large [[?] to
[[?]] even reverse the present remnants which includes their [[?] of long
size [[strikeout]] they are at the much being the largest known in
Yucatan [[/strikeout]].

I [[?]] deter fence paw[[?]] view but there is little if interest [[?] show the
capacity built [[?]] of [[undertored]] today [[/undertored]].

First in importance is the ground mound at the north side & c.
M4  [underlined] Izamal [underlined] Tuesday, Jan. 16

Few sites in which the [[strikethrough]] old [[strikethrough]] new culture is imposed upon then [?] old are more calculated to awaken the reminiscent habit, to lead to visualizing and speculative dreaming that this remarkable village of Izamal. Here on every hand the dismantled monuments of the ancient time rise out of the mantle of superpose works as is a giant refusing to be finally conquered beneath a multitude of liliputian enemies. Half a dozen prominent piles are thus discovered and from its house tops in form more of the mounds themselves. Only one of them ancient granite
Izamal Pollir

while here start a find fastence [[guess]] to be taken by our generous host to visit a nature hotter [[?]]
Palmelo

[[image - sketch of palm trees among mounds]]
Isamel 4

[[image - sketch of mound, pyramid and building complex with pyramid labeled A and mound labeled B]]
Isamal
2nd visit
Jan 23rd

Saw again its ruined pyramid the face & made a sketch of the head of the stucco figure opposite. The former is in a state of hopeless decay & the latter is fast falling to pieces. The colors visible are red and yellow in the prostrate figure

sketched in [[governors?]] house
photographed corridor & girls at well in back yard
23 mounds: a dozen ??
visited potter and made about ten views
visited hammock maker and made two views
Mills [] made views of church from [[Governors?]] & from mound.

William Henry Holmes -- Izamal, Mexico, 1895
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Scant justice has been done to Izamal by any of the travelers & explorers who having in view[?] the well preserved & splendid city of Chichen Itza have hurried by. Stephens & [Charney?] describe number[?] some of the pyramids that still stand[?] and relate[?] sketches[?] of the historic occupation. Maudsley seems to have given the place fuller attention but his work is not yet published.

Izamal
made a sort of fortress of the place that it is not regarded as certain that
much of the original work is really extant. Nothing is left exposed
of the original surface of hewn stone facing the stones having been used
in modern building but many cut stones are visible here & there and
about the lower slopes in their original positions or near them are
numerous quite large neatly hewn stones. Midway in the northern slope
of the structure is an opening which enters the mound in a sinuous
slightly descending passage that may or may probably does not pertain to the original work
Izamal 5

The great pyramid [insertion] is [insertion] in the northern part of the valley and seen [insertion] directly [insertion] in front of the train for many miles approaching from Merida. It is 80 ft in height & consists now of a great terrace 20 ft high & some 300 ft square at the top and a second pyramid 30 feet high placed at the northern margin of the terrace. The approach was [strikethrough] design [strikethrough] apparently probably from the south by stairways one reaching up to the first level and the other from the broad terrace surface to the temple which must have [strikethrough] surmounted [strikethrough] crowned the summit. The lower stairway is replaced by a Spanish way and the upper is so modified by recent military operations which
Izamal 3
North mass of a pyramidal temple the upper part a mean mound of south and stairs, the base presenting in two portions of exposed walls. superb colossal figures in stucco the whole divide up and hemmed in by high stone fence and the back yards of modern dwelling descended by the better of back ponds of modern dwelling permission to see these mound rules being given grudgingly by the people whose fences happen to inclose them.

It was possible to find distinct traces of six massive structures though many more are recorded & may be traced if time be given. None of these are massive
Isamal 2

is wholly suppressed [?] and hidden yet its great mass has the effect through hidden [?] an imposing and wonderful pile of the Spanish Cathedral that with [?] man where this old temple used to be and its long lines of arcades [?] while gesturing in the sun, its winding approaches & [?] out [?] structures supporting the base all that is noble and distinguished about the pile is given by the great pyramidal terrace & c.

Then again the strong central [?] the old and new, the downfall of the mighty [?] to give place to the puerile present is seen in the approach side of the square where [?]
[image - several sketches, including one of edge of mound of ruined building]
[[image - sketch of edge of building, with section of carved stone decorations around a carved face]]

Fig 21
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