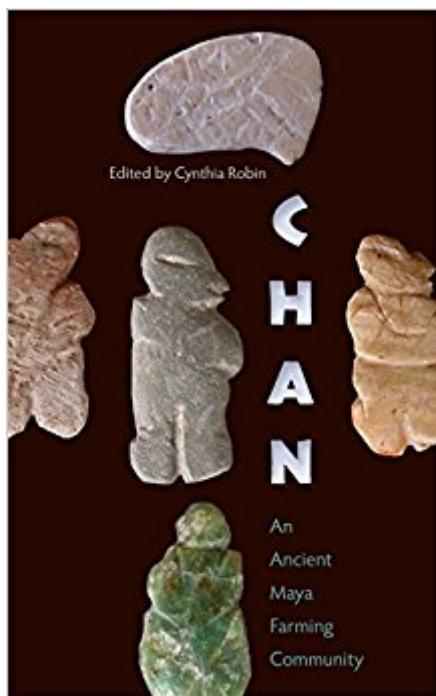


The book was found

Chan: An Ancient Maya Farming Community (Maya Studies)



Synopsis

The farming community of Chan thrived for over twenty centuries, surpassing the longevity of many larger Maya urban centers. Between 800 BC and 1200 AD it was a major food production center, and this collection of essays reveals the important role played by Maya farmers in the development of ancient Maya society. Chan offers a synthesis of compelling and groundbreaking discoveries gathered over ten years of research at this one archaeological site in Belize. The contributors develop three central themes, which structure the book. They examine how sustainable farming practices maintained the surrounding forest, allowing the community to exist for two millennia. They trace the origins of elite Maya state religion to the complex religious belief system developed in small communities such as Chan. Finally, they describe how the group-focused political strategies employed by local leaders differed from the highly hierarchical strategies of the Classic Maya kings in their large cities. In breadth, methodology, and findings, this volume scales new heights in the study of Maya society and culture.

Book Information

Series: Maya Studies

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: University Press of Florida (June 3, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0813039835

ISBN-13: 978-0813039831

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 6.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #5,468,345 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in Books > History > Americas > Central America > Belize #424 in Books > History > Americas > Central America > Guatemala #1003 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Mayan

Customer Reviews

"What stands out in the Chan research is the variability and complexity of the strategies for living in this small community--clearly not the faceless homogeneous masses at the bottom of the socio-economic scale, but a diverse group of people in households who were successful for some 2,000 years in maintaining a balance in the face of a changing political landscape around them"--Heather McKillop, author of *In Search of Maya Sea Traders* This book is more than

theory-building, it is paradigm-changing. Cynthia Robin and her colleagues have discovered how the farming village of Chan achieved sustainability in the tropics for two thousand years, in contrast to the three cities that emerged nearby but only lasted two hundred years and then collapsed. The successes of Chan in managing their rainforest, soils, population relative to resources, society, and religion embody lessons for today. There is no other book like it, clearly demonstrating from the ground up how a society can adapt to a challenging environment by understanding and respecting it, thereby avoiding the population explosions, environmental degradations and collapses of the competitive big cities. "Payson Sheets, University of Colorado, Boulder The farming community of Chan thrived for over twenty centuries, surpassing the longevity of many larger Maya urban centers. Between 800 BC and 1200 AD it was a major food production center, and this collection of essays reveals the important role played by Maya farmers in the development of ancient Maya society. Chan offers a synthesis of compelling and groundbreaking discoveries gathered over ten years of research at this one archaeological site in Belize. The contributors develop three central themes, which structure the book. They examine how sustainable farming practices maintained the surrounding forest, allowing the community to exist for two millennia. They trace the origins of elite Maya state religion to the complex religious belief system developed in small communities such as Chan. Finally, they describe how the group-focused political strategies employed by local leaders differed from the highly hierarchical strategies of the Classic Maya kings in their large cities. In breadth, methodology, and findings, this volume scales new heights in the study of Maya society and culture.

What stands out in the Chan research is the variability and complexity of the strategies for living in this small community "clearly not the faceless homogeneous masses at the bottom of the socio-economic scale, but a diverse group of people in households who were successful for some 2,000 years in maintaining a balance in the face of a changing political landscape around them." Heather McKillop, author of *In Search of Maya Sea Traders* This book is more than theory-building, it is paradigm-changing. Cynthia Robin and her colleagues have discovered how the farming village of Chan achieved sustainability in the tropics for two thousand years, in contrast to the three cities that emerged nearby but only lasted two hundred years and then collapsed. The successes of Chan in managing their rainforest, soils, population relative to resources, society, and religion embody lessons for today. There is no other book like it, clearly demonstrating from the ground up how a society can adapt to a challenging environment by understanding and respecting it, thereby avoiding the population explosions, environmental degradations and collapses of the

competitive big cities. "Payson Sheets, University of Colorado, Boulder" Chan offers a synthesis of compelling and groundbreaking discoveries gathered over ten years of research at a single archaeological site in Belize. The contributors develop three central themes, which structure the book. They examine how sustainable farming practices maintained the surrounding forest, allowing the community to thrive for two millennia. They trace the origins of elite Maya state religion to the complex religious belief system developed in small communities such as Chan. Finally, they describe how the group-focused political strategies employed by local leaders differed from the highly hierarchical strategies of the Classic Maya kings in their large cities. In breadth, methodology, and findings, this volume scales new heights in the study of Maya society and culture. Cynthia Robin is associate professor of anthropology at Northwestern University and assistant curator at the Field Museum in Chicago. She is the coeditor of *Gender, Households, and Society*.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Chan: An Ancient Maya Farming Community (Maya Studies) HOMESTEADING: Farming For Beginners (Animal Books, Food, Farming, Beekeeping, Animal Farm) (Breeding Animals, Backyard, Farming Books, Farming for Dummies, ... Agriculture Business, Mini Farming Book 1) MINI FARMING MADE EASY FOR BEGINNERS (bonus with Home-Mushroom Guide): DIY Guide To Grow Your Own Organic Foods and Plants (Mini farming, Homesteading, ... Gardening, Mini Farming For Beginners) backyard farming: The beginner's guide to create your own self sufficient backyard (Backyard Farming Essentials - Mini Farming - Urban Gardening - Self Sustainability - Backyard Homestead) Backyard Farming: Your Guide to Building the Ultimate Self Sustainable Backyard Mini Farm (Backyard Farming Essentials - Mini Farming - Urban Gardening - Self Sustainability - Backyard Homestead) The Complete Guide to Organic Livestock Farming: Everything You Need to Know about Natural Farming on a Small Scale (Back-To-Basics Farming) The Ancient Maya of the Belize Valley: Half a Century of Archaeological Research (Maya Studies) Perspectives on the Ancient Maya of Chetumal Bay (Maya Studies) War Owl Falling: Innovation, Creativity, and Culture Change in Ancient Maya Society (Maya Studies) To Be Like Gods: Dance in Ancient Maya Civilization (Linda Schele Series in Maya and Pre-Columbian Studies) Maya Python for Games and Film: A Complete Reference for Maya Python and the Maya Python API The Starters Guide To: Backyard Farming: Grow Natural Foods through Backyard Farming, Homesteading, Healthy Living and The Importance of Seed Saving! Farming Handbook for Minecraft: Master Farming in Minecraft: Create XP Farms, Plant Farms, Resource Farms, Ranches and More! (Unofficial Minecraft Guide) (MineGuides) Gardening: The Complete Guide To Mini Farming (gardening climatic, gardening herbs, ornamental plant, Square Foot Gardening, Small

Space Gardening, Mini Farming For Beginners) Mini Farming: Urban Mini Farming Beginners Guide! - Backyard Farm Growing And Gardening For Natural Organic Foods, Self Sufficiency And Reliance, Homesteading, ... Growing & Gardening, Grow Fruit Indoors) Ancient Agriculture: From Foraging to Farming (Ancient Technology) Alexander: The Great Leader and Hero of Macedonia and Ancient Greece (European History, Ancient History, Ancient Rome, Ancient Greece, Egyptian History, Roman Empire, Roman History) National Geographic Investigates: Ancient Maya: Archaeology Unlocks the Secrets of the Maya's Past Ancient Maya Daily Life (Spotlight on the Maya, Aztec, and Inca Civilizations) Chronicle of the Maya Kings and Queens: Deciphering The Dynasties of the Ancient Maya

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)