

Middle America and the Caribbean

Trincheras

Years BP: 3000 - 450

Location: Northwestern Mexico (Sonora region).

Description: Sedentary or semi-sedentary horticulturalists of the desert and coastal regions of northwest Mexico. Interacted with pueblo regions of the southwest U.S. and may have traded Pacific shell with them.

OAT code: 1475 *OWC code:* NU77

Huatabampo

Years BP: 1800 - 500

Location: Northwestern Mexico (Sonora region).

Description: Sedentary or semi-sedentary horticulturalists of the coastal and desert regions of the Sonora region of northwestern Mexico.

OAT code: 1480 *OWC code:* NU75

Coahuila

Years BP: 8000 - 500

Location: Northeastern Mexico, southern Texas.

Description: Nomadic, desert-dwelling hunter / gatherers with a very low population density.

OAT code: 1485 *OWC code:* NU80

Early Mesoamerican Archaic

Years BP: 9600 - 7000

Location: Mesoamerica.

Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers subsisting on localized, seasonal resources.

OAT code: 1505 *OWC code:* NY30

Highland Mesoamerican Archaic

Years BP: 7000 - 4000

Location: Highland Mesoamerica.

Description: Semi-sedentary hunter / gatherers with some domesticated plants used seasonally. Reliance on domesticates increases during this tradition, as does sedentism.

OAT code: 1510 *OWC code:* NY40

Lowland Mesoamerican Archaic

Years BP: 7000 - 3800

Location: Lowland Mesoamerica in Belize and Mexico.

Description: Semi-sedentary hunter / gatherers with some domesticated plants used seasonally. Reliance on domesticates increases during this tradition, as does sedentism.

OAT code: 1512 *OWC code:* NY50

Highland Mesoamerican Early Preclassic

Years BP: 4000 - 2600

Location: Highland Mesoamerica.

Description: Sedentary village horticulturalists with a simple, decentralized political organization.

OAT code: 1515 *OWC code:* NY41

- Highland Mesoamerican Late Preclassic** *Years BP:* 2600 - 1700
Location: Highland Mesoamerica.
Description: Sedentary village horticulturalists living in politically centralized societies. Some urban centers are present late in this tradition. Ranking and / or stratification is present.
OAT code: 1520 *OWC code:* NY42
- Preclassic Maya** *Years BP:* 3800 - 1850
Location: Lowland Mesoamerica in Mexico, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.
Description: Sedentary horticulturalists living in villages and small cities. Political centralization increases during the period. Ranking and / or stratification is present.
OAT code: 1522 *OWC code:* NY52
- Olmec** *Years BP:* 3400 - 2100
Location: Gulf Coast of Mexico east of Veracruz to near the southern edge of Yucatan.
Description: Sedentary horticulturalists of the Gulf Coast. Political and religious centers present. Unique iconography and artifact styles appear and spread across central Mesoamerica.
OAT code: 1525 *OWC code:* NU95
- West Mexico Classic** *Years BP:* 1800 - 1100
Location: Western Mexico.
Description: Regional states of highly varying size and political centralization, but with widely shared iconography and artifact styles.
OAT code: 1530 *OWC code:* NU78
- Southern Mexican Highlands Classic** *Years BP:* 1700 - 1300
Location: Valley of Oaxaca and surrounding highland valleys of southern Mexico.
Description: Large, regional states of highland Mexico.
OAT code: 1535 *OWC code:* NU85
- Central Mexico Classic** *Years BP:* 2100 - 1300
Location: Valley of Mexico and surrounding highland valleys in north-central Mexico.
Description: Large, regional states of highland Mexico.
OAT code: 1540 *OWC code:* NU92
- Gulf Coast Classic** *Years BP:* 2100 - 800
Location: Gulf Coast of Mesoamerica.
Description: Localized states with a common iconography and artifact style.
OAT code: 1545 *OWC code:* NU98

- Classic Maya** *Years BP:* 2100 - 1100
Location: Lowland Mesoamerica in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador.
Description: Localized but interacting states based on sophisticated lowland agriculture.
OAT code: 1550 *OWC code:* NY53
- Postclassic Maya** *Years BP:* 1100 - 400
Location: Lowland Mesoamerica in Honduras, Mexico, Belize, and Guatemala.
Description: Small militaristic states.
OAT code: 1560 *OWC code:* NY54
- West Mexico Postclassic** *Years BP:* 1100 - 480
Location: Western Mexico.
Description: Small, militaristic regional states, many unified by the Tarascan empire.
OAT code: 1565 *OWC code:* NU76
- Central Mexico Postclassic** *Years BP:* 1300 - 430
Location: Central highland Mexico.
Description: Large regional states which conquered and unified many smaller city-states in highland Mexico.
OAT code: 1570 *OWC code:* NU93
- Southern Mexican Highlands Postclassic** *Years BP:* 1300 - 430
Location: Valley of Oaxaca and surrounding highland valleys of southern Mexico.
Description: Small, militaristic regional states.
OAT code: 1575 *OWC code:* NU87
- Early Caribbean** *Years BP:* 3000 - 1000
Location: Coastal Colombia and Venezuela, islands of the West Indies.
Description: Sedentary horticulturalists maintaining a diverse economy including collected plants, fish, and shellfish. Manufactured the first pottery in the region.
OAT code: 2040 *OWC code:* S045
- Late Caribbean** *Years BP:* 1000 - 500
Location: Coastal Colombia and Venezuela, islands of the West Indies.
Description: Sedentary horticulturalists and fishers living in politically centralized societies with ranking or stratification.
OAT code: 2045 *OWC code:* S051

Coclé *Years BP:* 2000 - 400

Location: Southern Panama.

Description: Sedentary horticulturalists and fishers living in large villages with a complex political organization, likely a chiefdom.

OAT code: 2145 *OWC code:* SB65

Chiriquí *Years BP:* 1200 - 500

Location: Southwestern Panama, southern Costa Rica.

Description: Sedentary horticulturalists and fishers living in large villages with a complex political organization, likely a chiefdom.

OAT code: 2150 *OWC code:* SA85

Paya *Years BP:* 1500 - 500

Location: Eastern Nicaragua, eastern Honduras.

Description: Semi-sedentary horticulturalists living in large villages, some with mounds reminiscent of the Maya region.

OAT code: 2155 *OWC code:* SA65

Nicoya *Years BP:* 3600 - 500

Location: Western Nicaragua, northwestern Costa Rica.

Description: Sedentary horticulturalists living in large villages with centralized political organization.

OAT code: 2160 *OWC code:* SA75